

Archaeological Evaluation on Land Adjacent to the North and West of Franks Farm, Dartford Road, Horton Kirby, Kent

Site Code: FFD-EV-23

NGR Site Centre: 554864 168482

Planning Application Number: SE/22/01172



Report for;

Graham Simpkin Planning Limited

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Summary

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Graham Simpkin Planning Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the north and west of Franks Farm, Dartford Road, Horton Kirby in Kent. The archaeological programme was monitored by the Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.

The archaeological evaluation consisted of 10 trenches, which recorded a relatively common stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology. Despite the archaeological potential of the surrounding area and the favourable preservation conditions recorded no archaeological finds or features were present within any of the trenches excavated.

The archaeological evaluation has therefore been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification and has assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Principal Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Graham Simpkin Planning Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the north and west of Franks Farm, Dartford Road, Horton Kirby in Kent (Figure 1).

1.1.2 A planning application (PAN: SE/22/01172) for the erection of polytunnels and creation of new non-impounding irrigation reservoir and associated works was submitted to Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of SDC, requested that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

1.1.3 The following conditions were attached to the planning consent:

Prior to the commencement of works for the construction of the reservoir, the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, will secure:

- i. archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority;*
- ii. further archaeological investigation, recording and reporting, determined by the results of the evaluation, in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority; and,*
- iii. a programme of post excavation assessment and publication.*

Reason; To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined, recorded, reported and disseminated in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework

(SE/22/01172, Condition 9, 26th January 2023)

1.1.4 The archaeological evaluation, which comprised the excavation of 10 trenches measuring between 25m and 50m in length and 1.8m in width, was carried out over the course of two days in August and September of 2023 (see Table 1 below). The evaluation was carried out in accordance with an archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by SWAT Archaeology (2023), prior to commencement of works.

1.2 Timetable

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

Task	Dates	Personnel/Company
Submission of the Written Scheme of Investigation	31 st May 2023	SWAT Archaeology
Archaeological Evaluation – Fieldwork	31 st August 2023 – 1 st September 2023	SWAT Archaeology
Archaeological Evaluation Report	This document	SWAT Archaeology

Table 1 *Timetable for the archaeological programme of works*

1.3 Site Description and Topography

1.3.1 The site is centred on NGR 554864 168482 and within the boundary of a working farm within agricultural and pastoral land located to the north of Franks Farm, west of the A225 Dartford Road. It lies on the boundary with Dartford borough to the north. The land rises from Dartford Road, evening out as it reaches the location of the proposed polytunnels.

1.3.2 The application site and wider land, comprising approximately 65 hectares of arable land, is owned and operated by W B Chambers, a farming operation established in 1952 and focussing on the cultivation of soft fruit. WB Chambers operates from 12 farms across Kent and the south-east, including the adjoining 166-hectare Homefield Farm (within Dartford Borough), on which it has an agricultural tenancy, and is used for the production of raspberries, strawberries, blackberries, and asparagus.

1.3.3 East of the site, there are groups of residential properties along Dartford Road, with a grouping to the southeast of the site, close to the junction with Franks Lane, and one to the north of the site, close to the border with Dartford. Between these, the application site rises gently behind the landscape mounds that line the west side of the road. To the east, the land drops away into the Darent Valley.

1.3.4 The evaluation area was divided into two areas, Area A to the west and Area B to the east (Figure 2). Ground levels vary within the undulating area from height of approximately 66.2m Ordnance Datum (OD) to 72.7m OD within the western extent of the site (Area A) and at approximately 60m OD within the eastern extent of the site (Area B). The Geological Survey of Great Britain shows that the eastern extent of the site is located on Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation – Chalk, sedimentary bedrock formed between 93.9 and 72.1 million years ago during the Cretaceous period. To the west Thanet Formation – Sand is recorded, sedimentary bedrock formed between 59.2 and 56 million years ago during the Palaeogene period. No superficial deposits are recorded.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report has been produced to provide initial information regarding the results of the archaeological evaluation. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Senior Archaeological Officer (KCC) of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The proposed development area is located close to a number of archaeological sites which are identified on the KCCHER database. About 350m south are undated earthworks (TQ 56 NW 97) and just to the west flint implements have been found (TQ 56 NW 67). About 200m NE is a Neolithic/Bronze Age site including pits and soil marks (TQ 56 NE 56) and just to the north additional soil marks of pits (TQ 56 NE 55). To the NW corner of the site soil marks of rectangular enclosures (TQ 56 NE 54) exist.

2.1.2 A planning application report, which includes consultation information with the Senior Archaeological Officer at KCC, states that:

The area of proposed works contains evidence of multi-period land use and activity since the prehistoric period. There are some undated cropmarks to the east which may represent pit activity and there are metal detectorists finds nearby.

(Application Report reference 22/01172/FUL, dated 19 December 2022)

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General Aims

3.1.1 The specific aims of the archaeological fieldwork were set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (SWAT Archaeology 2023; 6) as stated below;

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

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

3.2 General Objectives

3.3 General Aims

3.3.1 The specific aims of the archaeological fieldwork were set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (SWAT Archaeology 2023; 6.1-6.2) as stated below;

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

- The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation is to establish or otherwise the presence of any potential archaeological features which may be impacted by the proposed development. The aims of this investigation are to determine the potential for archaeological activity and in particular the earlier prehistoric and also any Roman, early medieval and later archaeological activity.

3.4 General Objectives

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

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts, or ecofacts within the specified area;
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition, and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;

- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in the Specification (SWAT Archaeology 2023) and carried out in compliance with the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (CIfA 2014).

4.2 Fieldwork

4.2.1 A total of 10 out of the planned 11 evaluation trenches were excavated (Figure 2). Each trench was initially scanned by a metal detector for surface finds prior to excavation. Excavation was carried out using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, removing the overburden to the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon, under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

4.2.2 Where appropriate, trenches, or specific areas of trenches, were subsequently hand-cleaned to reveal features in plan and carefully selected cross-sections through the features were excavated to enable sufficient information about form, development date, and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded without prejudice to more extensive investigations, should these prove to be necessary. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with KCC and CIfA standards and guidance. A complete photographic record was maintained on site that included working shots; during mechanical excavation, following archaeological investigations and during back filling.

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

4.3 Recording

4.3.1 A complete drawn record of the evaluation trenches comprising both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections) was undertaken. The plans and sections were annotated with coordinates and OD heights.

- 4.3.2 Photographs were taken as appropriate providing a record of excavated features and deposits, along with images of the overall trench to illustrate their location and context. The record also includes images of the site overall. The photographic record comprises digital photography and drone photography. A photographic register of all photographs taken is contained within the project archive.
- 4.3.3 A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. A full list is presented in Appendix 1. Layers and fills are identified in this report thus (101), whilst the cut of the feature is shown as [101]. Context numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes. Each number has been attributed to a specific trench with the primary number(s) relating to specific trenches (i.e., Trench 1, 101+, Trench 2, 201+, Trench 3, 301+, etc.).

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 All trenches were mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision. Trenches were positioned in order to cover as many areas of the site as possible as set out in the WSI. Relocation and re-orientation of the trenches was required when on site obstacles were present.
- 5.1.2 The site, as shown on Figure 2, provides the trench layout with Figure 3, Figure 4 and Figure 5 illustrating the results for each individual archaeological evaluation trench. Plates 1-13 consist of photographs of features and selected trenches that have been provided to supplement the text.
- 5.1.3 Appendix 1 provides the stratigraphic sequence and contextual information for all trenches, with the location of Representative Sections provided on each Trench plan (Figures 3-5).

5.2 Stratigraphic Deposit Sequence

- 5.2.1 A relatively consistent stratigraphic sequence was recorded across the majority of the site comprising topsoil sealing an intact subsoil, which overlay the natural geological deposits.
- 5.2.2 The topsoil generally consisted of mid to dark grey brown sandy silt, with moderate rounded and angular stones, topped with agricultural stubble, overlying the subsoil which consisted of mid grey brown silt clay. Natural geology largely comprised Thanet Formation silty clay with areas of Chalk within higher ground towards the eastern extent of the site (i.e. Area B, see below).

5.3 Archaeological Narrative

5.3.1 For the purpose of this report the site has been divided into two areas, Area A to the west and Area B to the east (Figure 2). Area A, the location for the proposed reservoir, was evaluated using six trenches measuring 50m in length while Area B contained four 25m long trenches. Trench 11, which was located to the south of Area B was not excavated because it was within an existing access track.

Area A

Trench 1 (Figure 3, Plate 3)

5.3.2 Within the south-western extent of Area A (Figure 2), Trench 1 was excavated on an NE-SW alignment and measured approximately 50m in length, 1.8m in width with a maximum depth of 0.40m (Figure 3). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 70.65m OD and 67.3m OD.

5.3.3 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 1.

Trench 2 (Figure 3, Plate 4)

5.3.4 Trench 2 was located within the central southern area of the site (Figure 2) and was excavated on a NE-SW alignment. This trench measured 50m in length, 1.8m in width and a maximum depth of 0.40m (Figure 3). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 67.8m OD and 69.1m OD.

5.3.5 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 2.

Trench 3 (Figure 3, Plate 5)

5.3.6 Located within the southern extent of Area A (Figure 2), Trench 3 was excavated on an NW-SE alignment and measured 50m in length with a maximum depth of 0.38m. Natural geology was recorded at a level between 68.86m OD and 72.47m OD.

5.3.7 A modern feature containing Victorian ceramic was investigated within the southern extent of this trench, no significant archaeological finds or features were present.

Trench 4 (Figure 3, Plate 6)

5.3.8 Within the eastern extent of the Area A (Figure 2), Trench 4 was excavated on an NE-SW alignment and measured approximately 50m in length with a maximum depth of 0.38m. Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 66.57m OD and 67.37m OD.

5.3.9 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 4.

Trench 5 (Figure 4, Plate 7)

5.3.10 Trench 5 was located within the central area of the site (Figure 2) and was excavated on a NW-SE alignment. This trench measured 50m in length, 1.8m in width and a maximum depth of 0.7m (Figure 4). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 67.98m OD and 66.6m OD within the trench which deepened towards the centre (see Representative Sections, Figure 4).

5.3.11 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 5.

Trench 6 (Figure 4, Plate 8)

5.3.12 Trench 6 was located within the northern area of the site (Figure 2) and was excavated on a NE-SW alignment. This trench measured 50m in length, 1.8m in width and a maximum depth of 0.40m (Figure 3). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 65.14m OD and 65.97m OD.

5.3.13 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 6.

Area B

Trench 7 (Figure 4, Plate 9)

5.3.14 Within the northern extent of Area A (Figure 2), Trench 7 was excavated on an NE-SW alignment and measured approximately 25m in length, 1.8m in width with a maximum depth of 0.40m (Figure 3). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 70.65m OD and 67.3m OD.

5.3.15 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 7.

Trench 8 (Figure 5, Plate 10)

5.3.16 Trench 8 was located within the eastern area of the site (Figure 2) and was excavated on a NW-SE alignment. This trench measured 25m in length, 1.8m in width and a maximum depth of 0.29m (Figure 4). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 67.98m OD and 59.99m OD.

5.3.17 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 8.

Trench 9 (Figure 5, Plates 11 and 12)

5.3.18 Located within the southern extent of Area B (Figure 2), Trench 3 was excavated on an NW-SE alignment and measured 25m in length with a maximum depth of 0.39m. Natural geology was recorded at a level between 59.84m OD and 59.89m OD.

5.3.19 Within the northern extent of the trench the natural geology comprised Thanet Formation silt clay (903) with Chalk present within the central area of the trench (904). Within the southern extent of the trench light to mid grey brown silty clay (905) was present and test pitted to a depth of 1.25m in order to confirm that it was natural geology.

5.3.20 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 9.

Trench 10 (Figure 5, Plate 13)

5.3.21 Trench 10 was located within the western extent of the site (Figure 2) and was excavated on a NE-SW alignment. This trench measured 25m in length, 1.8m in width and a maximum depth of 0.28m (Figure 4). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 59.64m OD and 60.58m OD.

5.3.22 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 10.

Trench 11

5.3.23 Trench 11 was not excavated due to the location within an existing access track.

6 FINDS

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 No archaeological finds were retrieved during this evaluation.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The archaeological investigation on land to the north and west of Franks Farm, Dartford Road, Horton Kirby in Kent has investigated the extents of the proposed development area using ten trenches, measuring between 25m and 50m in length and 1.8m in width. The natural geology was encountered within all trenches at an average depth of approximately 0.32m below the existing ground surface, directly underlying subsoil and topsoil. Truncation of the upper geological surface was minimal and largely due to plough scaring.

7.1.2 Despite the archaeological potential of the site no archaeological finds or features were recorded within any of the trenches. The recording of an intact subsoil across the majority of the site suggested that preservation conditions are favourable.

7.2 Conclusions

- 7.2.1 The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification and has assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Senior Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

8 ARCHIVE

8.1 General

- 8.1.1 The Site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, and digital data, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 8.1.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site/accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises 1 file/document case of paper records and A4 graphics. The Site Archive will be retained at SWAT Archaeology offices until such time it can be transferred to a Kent Museum.

9 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 9.1.1 SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Graham Simpkin Planning Limited for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Wendy Rogers, Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council, for her advice and assistance.
- 9.1.2 David Britchfield BA (Hons) MCIfA carried out the archaeological fieldwork; illustrations were produced by Ravelin Archaeological Services. David Britchfield produced the draft text for this report. The Project Manager for the project was Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA, FRSA of SWAT Archaeology.

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11 APPENDIX 1 – TRENCH TABLES

Trench 1 Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.40m Ground Level: 67.50m OD – 70.85m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(101)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.04
(102)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.04-0.20
(103)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.20-0.40+

Trench 2 Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.40m Ground Level: 67.50m OD – 70.85m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(201)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.05
(202)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.05-0.20
(203)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.20-0.40+

Trench 3 Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.38m Ground Level: 69.09m OD – 72.70m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(301)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.05
(302)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.05-0.23
(303)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.23-0.38+

Trench 4			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.38m			
Ground Level: 66.80m OD – 67.60m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(401)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.07
(402)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.07-0.23
(403)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.23-0.38+

Trench 5 RS1			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.50m			
Ground Level: 66.27m OD – 66.75m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(501)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.30
(502)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.30-0.45
(503)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.45-0.50+

Trench 5 RS2			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.70m			
Ground Level: 66.27m OD – 66.75m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(501)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.25
(502)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.25-0.55
(503)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.55-0.70+

Trench 5 RS3			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.40m			
Ground Level: 66.27m OD – 66.75m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(501)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.03

Trench 5 RS3			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.40m			
Ground Level: 66.27m OD – 66.75m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(502)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.03-0.25
(503)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.25-0.40+

Trench 6			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.25m			
Ground Level: 65.32m OD – 66.15m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(601)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.02
(602)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.02-0.18
(603)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.18-0.25+

Trench 7			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.30m			
Ground Level: 58.68m OD – 59.80m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(701)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.03
(702)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.03-0.18
(703)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.18-0.30+
(704)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact marled Chalk with occasional flint (Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation)	0.30+

Trench 8			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.29m			
Ground Level: 59.28m OD – 59.35m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(801)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.15

Trench 8			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.29m Ground Level: 59.28m OD – 59.35m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(802)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.15-0.29
(803)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.29+
(804)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact marled Chalk with occasional flint (Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation)	0.29+

Trench 9			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.39m Ground Level: 60.03m OD – 60.18m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(901)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.03
(902)	Layer	SUBSOIL – Mid grey brown silt clay with moderate rounded and angular flint	0.03-0.21
(903)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.21-0.39+
(904)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact marled Chalk with occasional flint (Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation)	0.39+
(905)	Layer	NATURAL – Light to mid grey brown silt clay with frequent angular and rounded stone with chalk flecks	0.39-1.25+

Trench 10			
Dimensions: 50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.28m Ground Level: 59.76m OD – 60.70m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1001)	Layer	TOPSOIL – Mid dark grey/brown sandy silt with moderate rounded and angular stone topped with agricultural stubble	0.00-0.02
(1002)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact orange brown silt clay with frequent flint and patches of gravel (Thanet Formation)	0.02-0.12
(1003)	Layer	NATURAL – Compact marled Chalk with occasional flint (Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation)	0.12-0.28+

12 APPENDIX 2 – HER FORM

Site Name: *Land to the North and West of Franks Farm, Dartford Road, Horton Kirby in Kent*

SWAT Site Code: FFD-EV-223

Site Address: As above

Summary. *Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Graham Simpkin Planning Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the north and west of Franks Farm, Dartford Road, Horton Kirby in Kent. The archaeological programme was monitored by the Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.*

The archaeological evaluation consisted of 10 trenches, which recorded a relatively common stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology. Despite the archaeological potential of the surrounding area and the favourable preservation conditions recorded no archaeological finds or features were present within any of the trenches excavated.

The archaeological evaluation has therefore been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification and has assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Principal Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

District/Unitary: Sevenoaks District Council & Kent County Council

Period(s): prehistoric, modern

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) NGR 554864 168482

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: August 2023 and September 2023

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

Geology: Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation – Chalk and Thanet Formation – Sand. No superficial deposits recorded.

Title and author of accompanying report: D Britchfield (2023) Archaeological Evaluation on Land to the North and West of Franks Farm, Dartford Road, Horton Kirby in Kent. SWAT Archaeology Ref. FFD-EV-2023

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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Date: 26/09/2023

PLATES

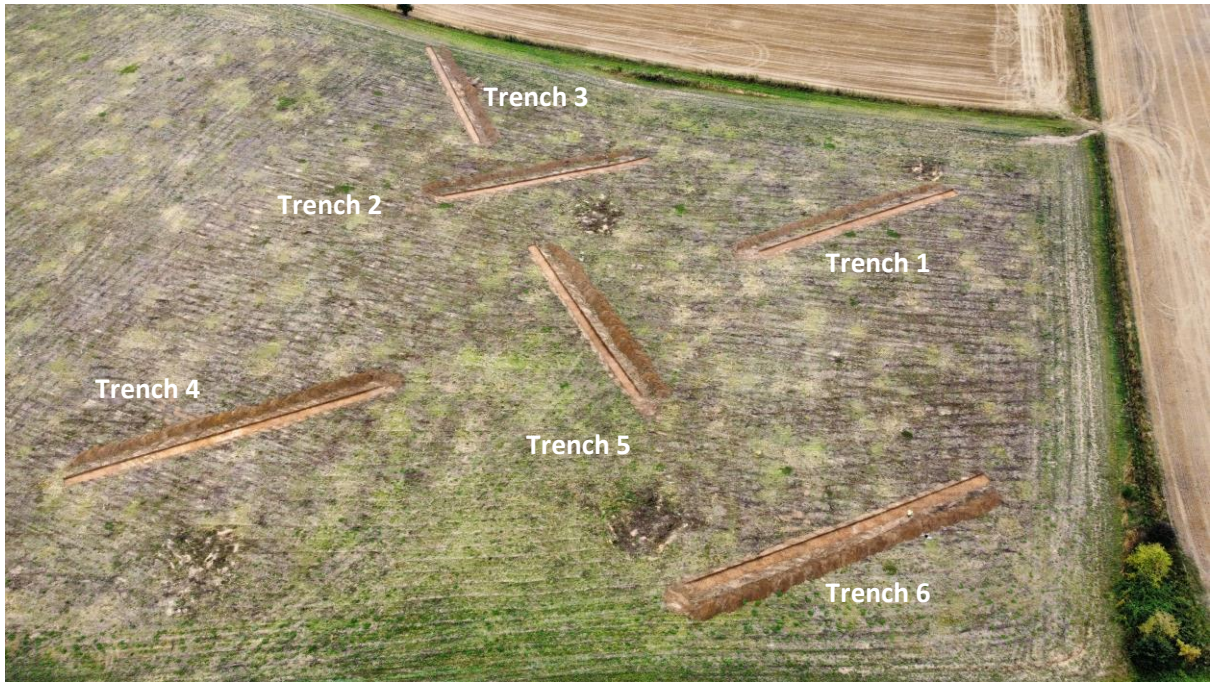


Plate 1 Area A aerial photograph, taken obliquely, viewed from the north (with trench numbers added)

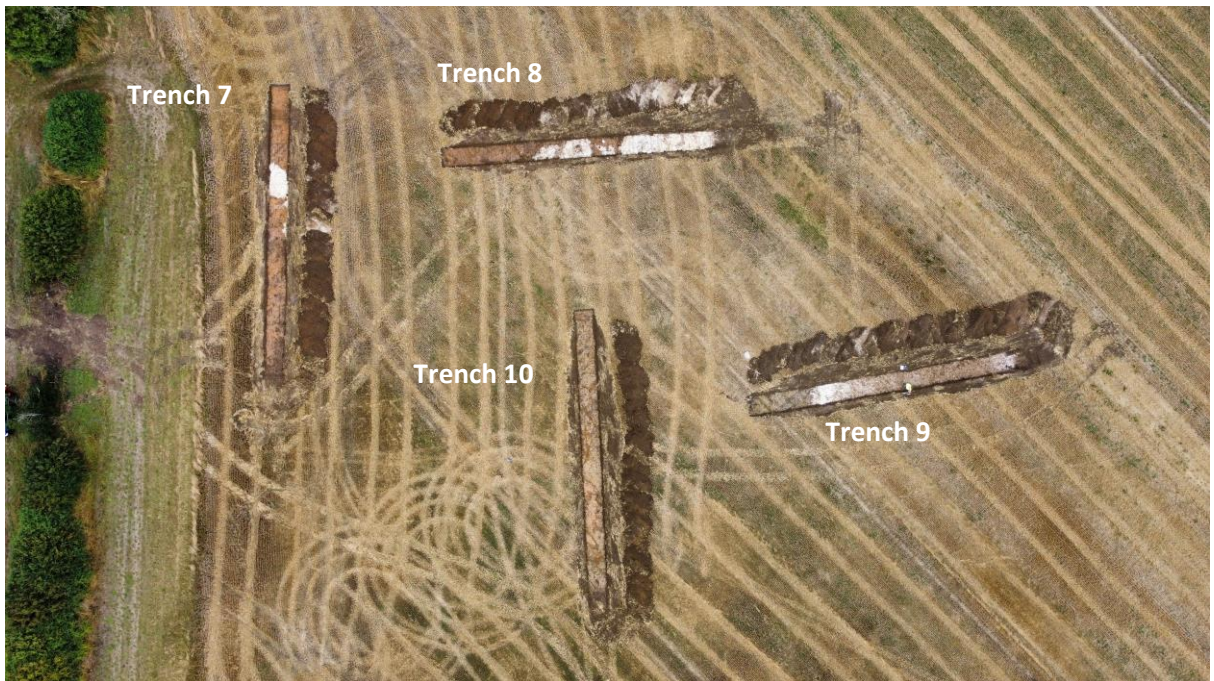


Plate 2 Area B aerial photograph (with trench numbers added)



Plate 3 Trench 1, viewed from the east



Plate 4 Trench 2, viewed from the east

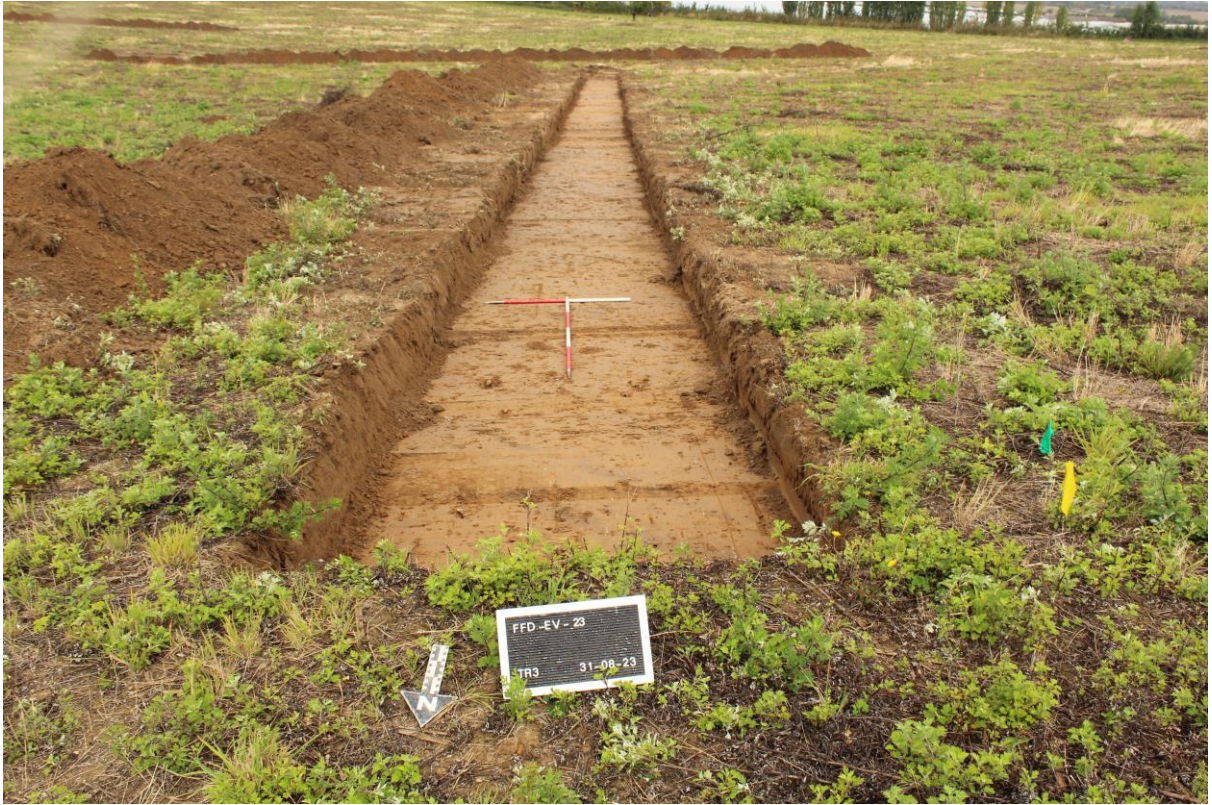


Plate 5 Trench 3, viewed from the north



Plate 6 Trench 4, viewed from the west



Plate 7 Trench 5, viewed from the north



Plate 8 Trench 6, viewed from the east



Plate 9 Trench 7, viewed from the west



Plate 10 Trench 8, viewed from the northeast



Plate 11 Trench 9, viewed from the north with Test Pit 9/1 shown in the foreground

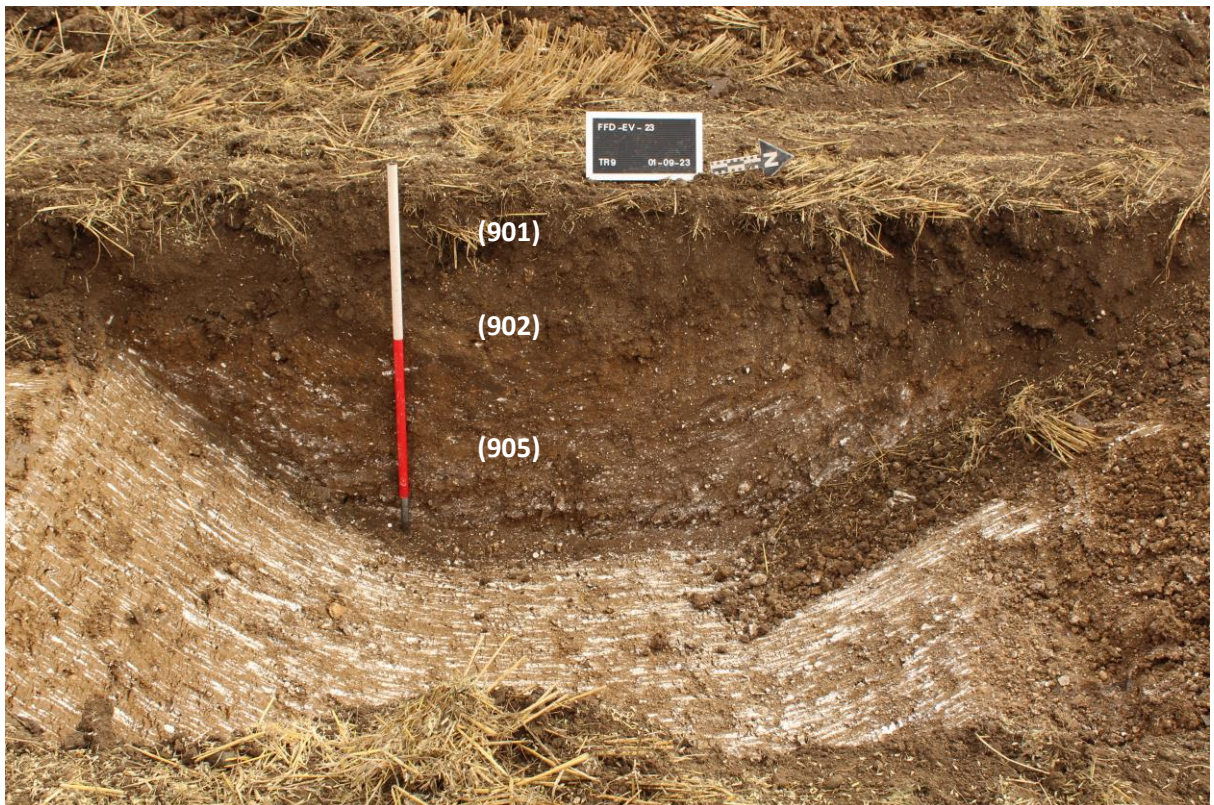


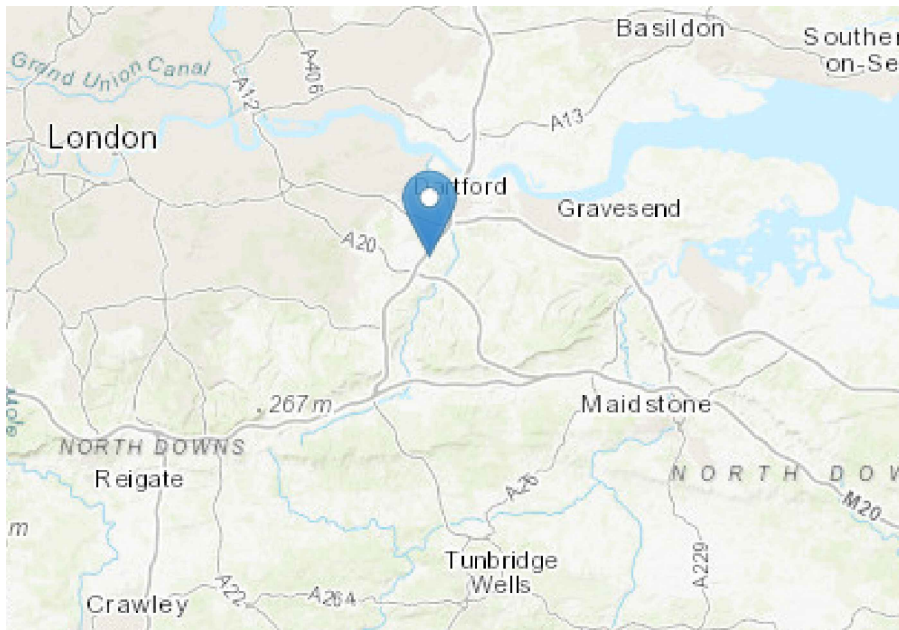
Plate 12 Trench 9, Test Pit 9/1, viewed from the east



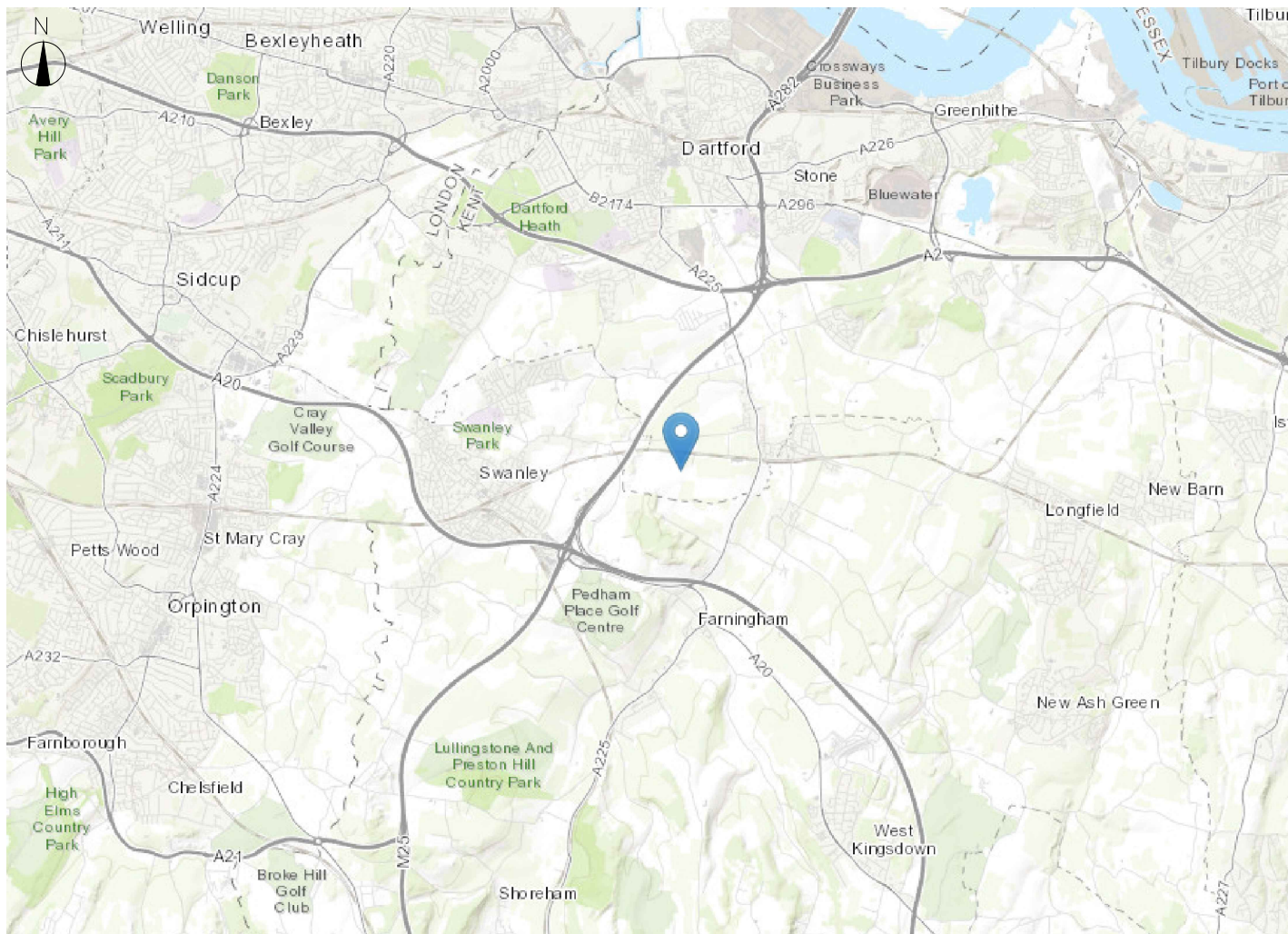
Plate 13 Trench 10, viewed from the east



Map of UK (NTS)



Map of North Kent (NTS)



Courtesy of National Library of Scotland

Key
 Site Location

Figure 1 Site Location Plan

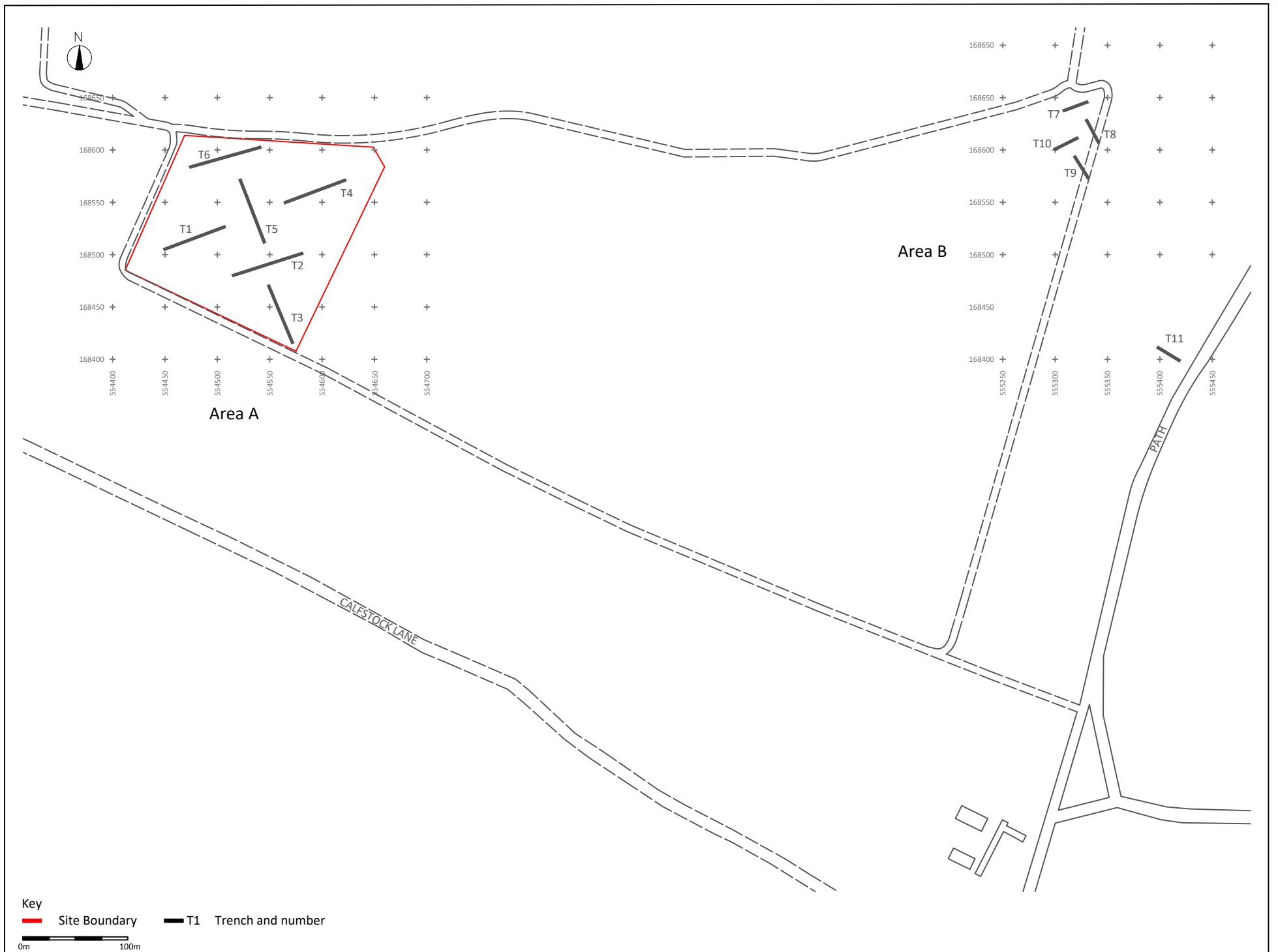


Figure 2 Site Plan

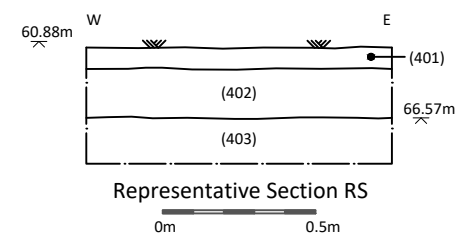
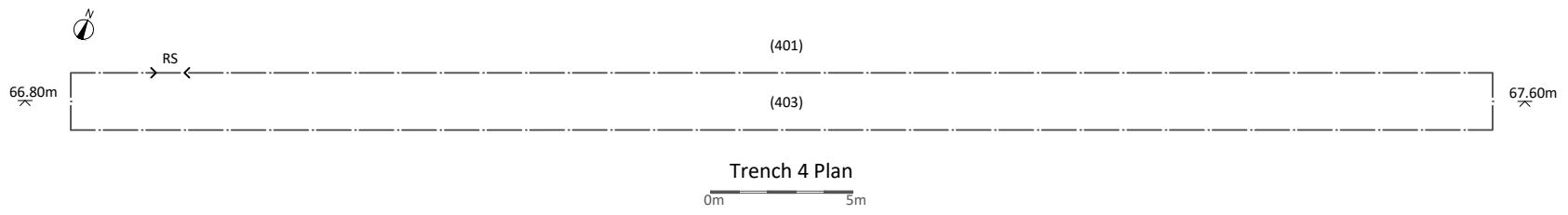
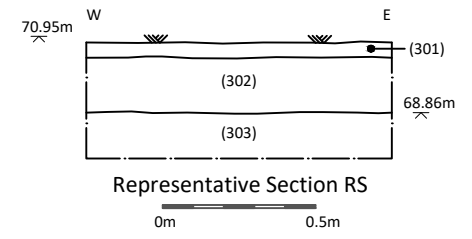
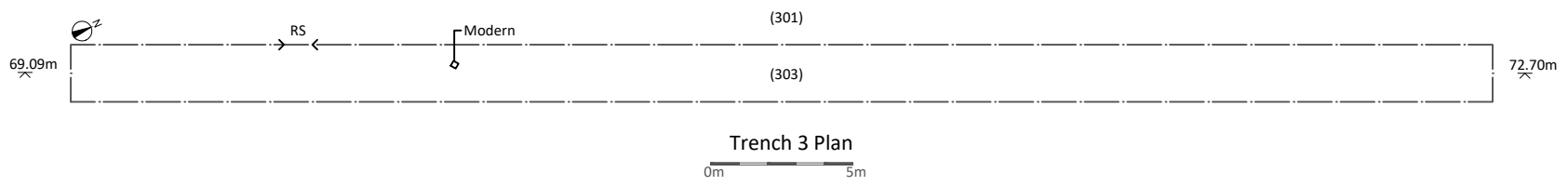
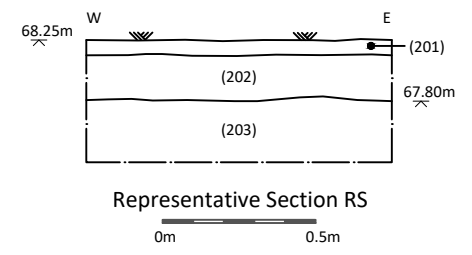
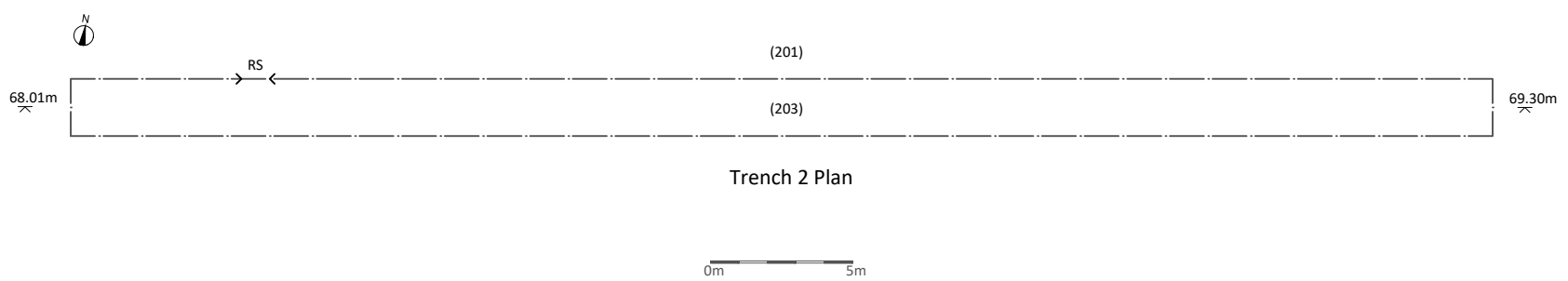
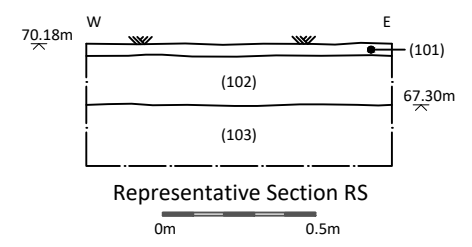
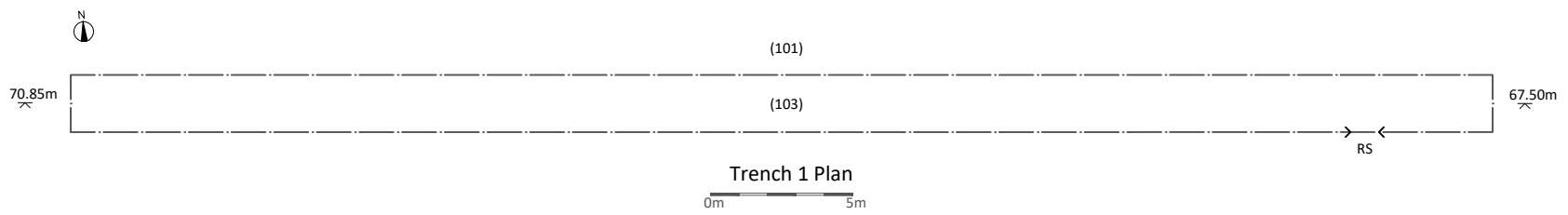


Figure 3 Trench 1 to 4 Details

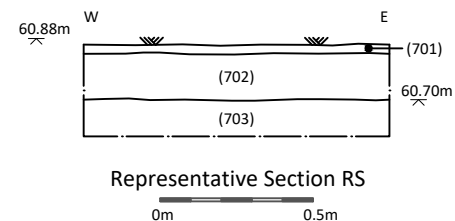
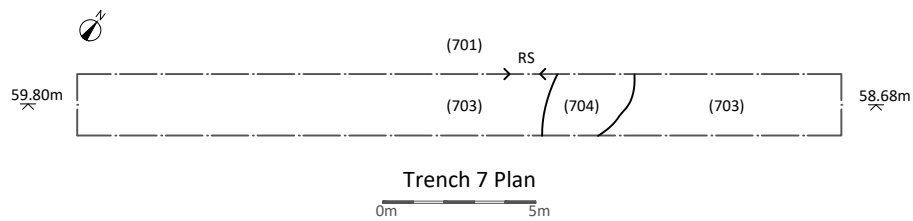
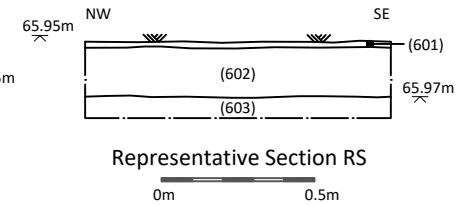
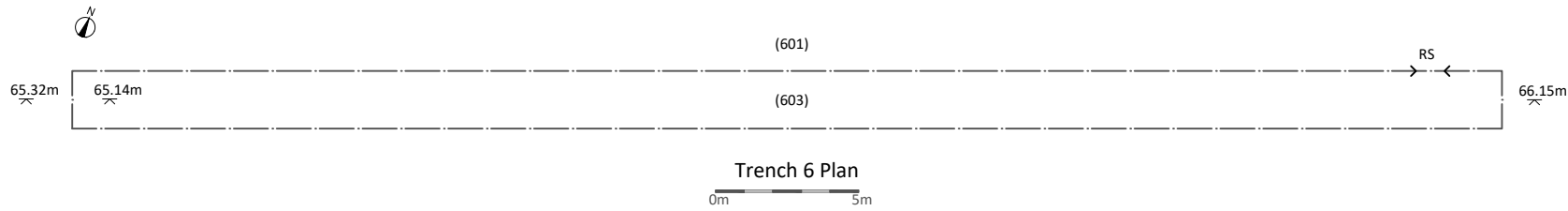
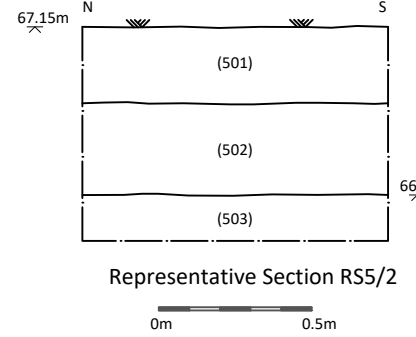
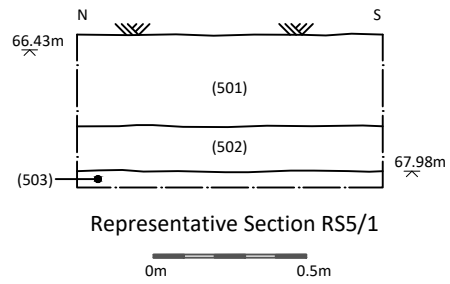
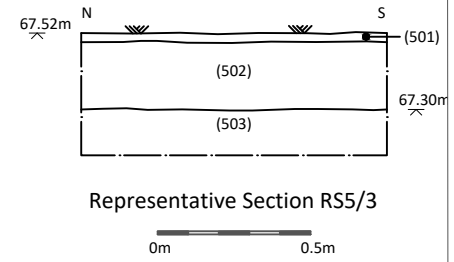
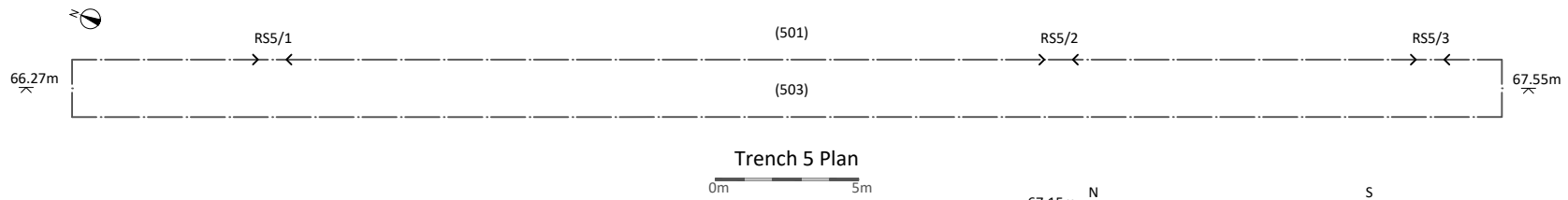


Figure 4 Trenches 5 to 7 Details

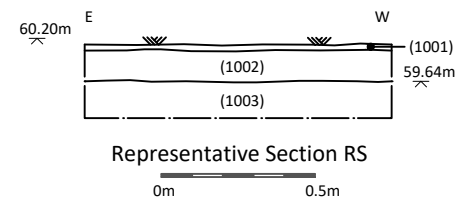
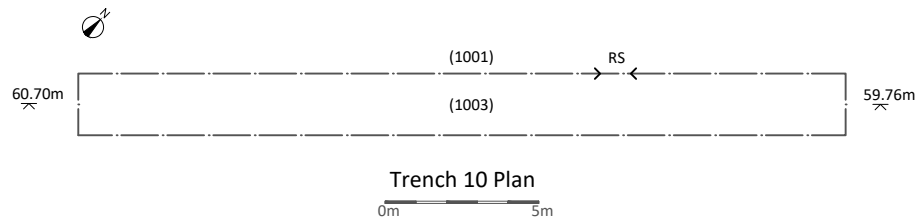
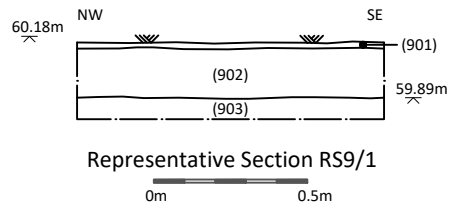
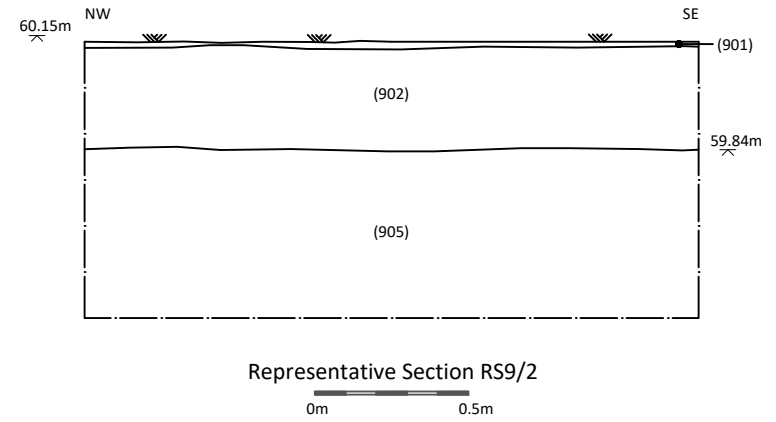
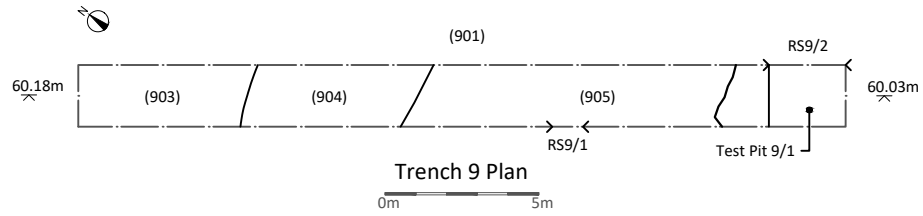
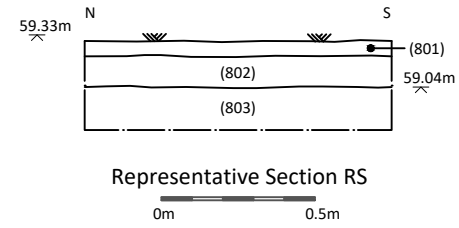
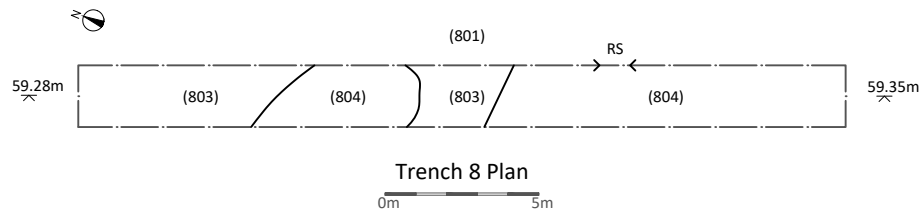


Figure 5 Trenches 8 to 10 Details