

Archaeological Evaluation of land the
Former Paddock, Way Hill, Minster,
Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4HS



NGR: 632324 165239

Site Code: WHW-EV-23

Planning Application: TH/22/0558

12/07/2023

V2

SWAT Archaeology

The office, School Farm Oast

Graveney Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8UP

Email: info@swatarchaeology.co.uk

Tel: 01795 532548 and 07885700112

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Summary

*Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at the Former Paddock, Way Hill, Minster, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4HS. A Planning Application (TH/22/0558) was approved by **Thanet** District Council for the erection of 1 No. two storey 5-bed detached dwelling. Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC) advised Thanet District Council (TDC) that a programme of archaeological investigations take place prior to development, therefore Thanet District Council requested that an Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken in order to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development area (PDA).*

The work was carried out by SWAT Archaeology in May 2023, in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological specification produced by SWAT Archaeology (SWAT Archaeology, 2023) and in discussion with the Senior Archaeological Officer at KCCHC.

The results of the evaluation identified limited Early-Roman archaeological remains within the proposed development area. Archaeology was present within 1 of the 2 trenches. This consisted of a single linear feature that produced pottery dated to the Late Iron Age – Early Roman period in trench 1. The PDA was situated across a moderate incline on the south slopes of the Isle of Thanet. A superficial geology of unstructured chalk with periglacial striations aligned NNW-SSE was observed at the base of trench 1, whereas trench 2 was located in a large localized depression, in-filled in the modern era, with no underlying geology reached at the base of the trench.

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1. Introduction

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Mr Paul Dickerson to carry out an archaeological evaluation at the Former Paddock, Way Hill, Minster, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4HS.

1.1.2 The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification previously produced by SWAT Archaeology (SWAT Archaeology, 2023). The evaluation fieldwork was carried out on the 11th and 12th May 2023.

1.1.3 The archaeological evaluation was implemented at the request of KCCHC to clarify the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development area (PDA) and to ascertain the impact the development may have on the potential archaeological horizon.

1.1.4 This report summarizes the results of the evaluation and considers the potential impact to the archaeological resource resulting from the proposed development to determine whether any further archaeological mitigation will be required.

2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

2.1.1 At the time of the evaluation, the PDA was surrounded in its entirety by an open grass meadow, with two small outhouses and a small storage building on its northwest edge. The PDA is centered on NGR 632324 165239, measuring approximately 430sq. m (0.43ha) in size.

2.1.2 Ground levels are around 32.4m AOD at the southwest of the site and around 34.4m AOD at the northeast of the site. Historical map regressions show that the PDA has been used for arable farmland from at least 1872.

2.1.3 The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the PDA (Proposed Development Area) is set on bedrock geology of Thanet Formation Sand, Silts and Clays. Superficial deposits are recorded as Head 1 Clay and Silt. (British Geological Survey, accessed 31/5/23)

3 Planning Background

3.1.1 The Proposed Development Area was granted planning permission (F/TH/22/0558) TDC for the erection of 1 No two storey 5-bed detached dwelling on the 3rd March 2023.

3.1.2 The Local Planning Authority placed condition (3) on the planning consent:

“3 A) No development shall take place until the applicant (or their agents or successors in title) have secured and reported a programme of archaeological field evaluation works, in accordance with a specification and written timetable, which shall be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority.

B) No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, (following completion of the archaeological evaluation works) has secured the implementation of any safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation and recording, in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

C) The archaeological safeguarding measures, investigation and recording shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed specification and timetable.

D) Within 6 months of the completion of archaeological works a Post-Excavation Assessment Report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The Post-Excavation Assessment Report shall be in accordance with Kent County Council's requirements and include:

a. a description and assessment of the results of all archaeological investigations that have been undertaken in that part (or parts) of the development;

b. an Updated Project Design outlining measures to analyse and publish the findings of the archaeological investigations, together with an implementation strategy and timetable for the same;

c. a scheme detailing the arrangements for providing and maintaining an archaeological site archive and its deposition following completion.

E) The measures outlined in the Post-Excavation Assessment Report shall be implemented in full and in accordance with the agreed timings.

GROUND: *To ensure appropriate assessment of the archaeological implications of any development proposals and the subsequent mitigation of adverse impacts through preservation in situ or by record.”*

3.1.3 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation land at the Former Paddock, Way Hill, Minster, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4HS, carried out by SWAT Archaeology. The evaluation, which comprised of 2 evaluation trenches, measuring 18.5m and 19.9m in length and 2m in width, was conducted on 11th-12th May 2023 according to the agreed written specification (SWAT Archaeology, 2023).

4 Archaeological and Historical Background

4.1 Introduction and Wider Archaeological Landscape

4.1.1 The PDA is located in an area with very high archaeological potential. Thanet is known to have rich surviving archaeological remains with particular importance of Pre-Historic, Romano-British and Saxon. This report focuses on archaeological background within the immediate 500m of the PDA as the Kent Historic Environment Record (HER) shows 137 historical records within 1km of the PDA, with the scheduled monument of Minster Abbey also standing only 1.5km to the southwest. (Kent HER website)

4.2 Previous Archaeological Investigations on Site

4.2.1 There have been no previous archaeological investigations carried out within the bounds of the PDA or in the immediate vicinity.

4.3 Archaeology Within the Immediate Area

4.3.1 There are several recorded sites on the KCCHC HER within a 500m radius of the PDA, this section will detail those sites.

4.3.2 Undated cropmarks

The following table displays the undated cropmarks that have been recorded on the HER within a 500m of the PDA.

HER Number	Description
TR 26 NW 87	Two enclosures, a number of ring ditches and possible banjo enclosures to the northeast of Minster. These are considered to be the remains of round houses and an Iron Age and Romano-British enclosed farmstead
TR 36 NW 176	A ring ditch identified to the south of the runway at Manston Airport on Cottage Hill
TR 36 NW 1100	A number of linear cropmarks observed to the north of Minster Farm
TR 36 NW 179	A sub-circular cropmark feature to the northeast of Minster
TR 36 NW 178	Enclosure feature
TR 36 NW 378	Complex of linear features
TR 36 NW 241	A macula cropmark feature consisting of pit features
TR 36 NW 1128	Probable chalk pit, westernmost of a line of three between Way hill and Thorne hill
TR 36 NW 1130	Probable chalk pit, east of Wayborough House
TR 36 NW 1135	Two ring ditches
TR 36 NW 1127	Probable chalk pit, middle of a line of three between Way hill and Thorne hill

Table 1. Undated cropmarks within 500m radius of the PDA

4.3.3 Prehistoric

TR 36 NW 1165 420m northwest of the PDA, during excavation on the East Kent Access Route (EKA) Zone 21 by Oxford & Wessex Archaeology, seven probable Bronze Age flexed / crouched inhumations and one cremation were recorded running SW-NE along

a boundary.

TR 36 NW 1162 During Zone 20 of the same EKA excavations, a Bronze Age ring ditch was recorded roughly 400m northwest of the PDA.

TR 36 NW 1164 Along the same chalk ridge, another Bronze Age ring ditch was recorded in Zone 21 of the EKA excavations.

TR 36 NW 193 420m northwest of the PDA, a bronze hoard, distributed by ploughing, was identified during construction of the Monkton gas pipe line in 1984.

TR 36 NW 382 Approximately 450m northeast of the PDA, a pit containing Early Iron Age to Middle Iron Age pottery was recorded during excavations at laundry road in 1995 by The Trust for Thanet Archaeology.

4.3.4 Roman

An extensive Romano-British landscape of funerary, habitation and industrial use has been recorded, centred roughly 350m north northeast of the PDA at the top of the chalk ridge of the South Thanet hills, over the course of multiple different excavations. This includes inhumation and cremation burials, sunken feature buildings, a substantial trackway and a ladder settlement. This landscape likely extends wider to include agrarian land use and field divisions seen as some of the undated cropmarks noted previously (e.g. probable enclosed farmstead TR 26 NW 87). The details of this landscape are listed below.

TR36 NW 182 During construction of the Monkton gas pipeline in 1984, a number of pits containing Romano-British material were exposed and interpreted to form a fairly considerable industrial/settlement site dating from the late 1st – 4th Century AD. (Trust for Thanet Archaeology). Alongside this, a Potin Coin was metal detected (TR 36 NW 183). Similar discoveries were made during excavations at Manston Airfield during the Second World War, thought to be a continuation of the same landscape further to the north (TR 36 NW 184).

TR36 NW 1137 Excavations undertaken by Oxford & Wessex Archaeology during

construction of the EKA recorded a Romano-British ladder settlement in EKA Zone 20, with a substantial 3m wide trackway running NW-SE from the centre of the settlement (TR 36 NW 1138), confirmed to continue NW into EKA Zone 29. An additional 20m diameter circular enclosure recorded to the side of the trackway was interpreted as a large animal corral (TR 36 NW 1136). Recorded within the settlement were 5 Romano-British SFBs, some with hearths and ovens along with 3 infant / neonatal burials (TR 36 NW 1155) and 2 additional small cemeteries: one with 3 inhumation and 3 cremation burials (TR 36 NW 1156), one with one inhumation and 2 cremation burials (TR 36 NW 1157). This landscape was seen to continue northwards and westwards into EKA Zone 29 with Romano-British ditches, pits, gullies and 2 cremation burials recorded (TR 36 NW 1175).

4.3.5 Medieval

TR 36 NW 1049 Roughly 350m northwest of the PDA, a Medieval enclosure ditch was recorded during excavations by Oxford & Wessex Archaeology around the construction of the EKA.

TR 36 NW 1049 Grade II* listed Tudor Cottage, Way hill of 16thC origin lies 240m southwest of the PDA.

TR 36 NW 522 Grade II* listed Wayborough Manor of 15th& 16thC origin lies roughly 500m Southwest of the PDA.

4.3.6 Post-Medieval

The prominent post-medieval landscape features close to the PDA were chalk pits, adding to the previously described line of 3 undated chalk pit crop marks between Way hill and Thorne hill:

TR 36 NW 329 Way chalk pit, visible from the 1871 OS map onwards as “old chalk pit”, roughly 100m south of the PDA

TR 36 NW 328 Dellside chalk pit, visible from the 1871 OS map onwards as “old chalk pit”, roughly 400m northwest of the PDA

There are also multiple houses and farms from the Post-Medieval period close to the PDA:

TR 36 NW 1013 Way house & Wayborough House

TR 36 SW 180 Rose Cottage & Pansy Cottage

MKE 86917 Wayborough Farm

MKE 86961 Wayborough Farm

5 Aims and Objectives

- 5.1.1 The specific aims of the archaeological fieldwork were set out in a written scheme of investigation produced by SWAT Archaeology (SWAT Archaeology, 2023) and approved by KCCHC prior to the work starting (see below):

“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, Roman, Early Medieval and later archaeological activity.

The programme of archaeological work should be carried out in a phased approach and will commence with evaluation through trial trenching. This initial phase should determine whether any significant archaeological remains would be affected by the development and if so what mitigation measures are appropriate. Such measures may include further detailed archaeological excavation, or an archaeological watching brief during construction work or an engineering solution to any preservation in situ requirements.

This specification sets out the requirements for trial trenching on the site and any further archaeological work, such as detailed excavation work or a watching brief, would need to be subject to further specifications.”

(SWAT Archaeology, 2023. Paragraphs 6.1-6.3)

- 5.1.2 Additionally, to these specific aims laid out within the written specification the archaeological evaluation aimed to:

- Make available information about the archaeological resource within the PDA by reporting on the results of the evaluation
- Place the results of the evaluation into the wider known archaeological and historical landscape
- Assess the significance of the results.

6 Methodology

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in the WSI (SWAT Archaeology, 2023) and carried out in compliance with the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (CifA, 2014). This includes:

"The general methodology for the archaeological evaluation is set out in the KCC Part B of this specification (attached). The initial evaluation will comprise seven (7 No.) machine-excavated trenches (c.25m x 1.8m) giving a sample size of approximately 4.9%. The proposed trench layout will need to be agreed with the County Archaeologist, an indicative plan is attached (Figure 2). Each trench will be machine excavated down to the archaeological or natural horizon. The position of each trench will be scanned with a CAT detector to ensure that unknown services will not be encountered.

There will also be an allowance of c.15m of contingency trenching which could be used if it would help address the aims set out above."

(Paragraphs 7.1-7.2)

6.2 Fieldwork

6.2.1 As stated above, 2 trenches were excavated within the proposed development area.

6.2.2 A 3t 360 tracked mechanical excavator with a 1.5m wide ditching bucket was used to remove the intact topsoil sealing: in trench 1, subsoil, sealing a colluvial deposit in, to reveal the natural geology and the archaeological horizon; in trench 2, a sequence of at least seven modern made ground deposits, with no underlying geology discovered to a depth of 1.4m below the surface in a small test pit.

6.2.3 Where appropriate trenches or specific areas/ features were subsequently hand-cleaned to reveal features in plan and carefully selected cross sections through the features were excavated to establish the character of the archaeology, relationships between features and to obtain cultural material.

6.3 Recording

6.3.1 A complete photographic record was maintained on site that included working shots, during mechanical excavation and following archaeological investigations. Additionally, the site, trenches and specific features were photographed with a drone to help illustrate location and context.

6.3.2 A complete drawn record of the evaluation trenches and excavated interventions was maintained, comprising of both plans and sections, drawn to the appropriate scales (1:20). The site was also surveyed using GPS to record the position of the trenches, features and interventions and to record coordinates and aOD heights.

6.3.3 A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. A full list is presented *Appendix 1*. Layers and fills are identified in this report thus (100), whilst the cut of the feature is shown as [100]. 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 2 202+, Trench 3 301+).

7 Monitoring

7.1.1 Communication with the Senior Archaeological Officer for Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation comprised of emails.

8 Results

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 A total of 2 evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision.

8.1.2 Figure 1 is a site location plan, figure 2 is a plan showing trench locations, figure 3 shows the trench locations overlaid with the development plan, figure 4 is an individual trench plan of trench 1 showing plans and sections and figure 5 is an individual trench plan of trench 2 also showing plans and sections. Figures 6-9 show the trench plans overlaid on historical OS maps.

8.1.3 Appendix 1 provides the stratigraphic sequence and contextual information of the trenches.

8.2 Stratigraphic Deposit Sequence

The 2 trenches excavated were located across the PDA encompassing a moderate NNW-SSE incline on the south Thanet hills. Trench 2 was located across the centre of a visible depression into the hillside, measuring approximately 30m long and 12m+ wide, extending towards to incline down to Way Hill road to the NW, aligned NE-SW. This resulted in a different deposit sequence from that observed in trench 1.

The stratigraphic deposit sequence observed in trench 1 comprised topsoil sealing the trench to a depth of 0.44m, overlaying subsoil to a depth of 0.66m, overlaying a colluvium (not present at the NE 5m of the trench, higher up the incline) to a depth of 0.82m. An underlying geology of unstructured chalk with periglacial striations aligned NNW-SSE, infilled with orange silt clays was observed at the base of Trench 1

Trench 2 had an observed stratigraphic deposit sequence of a consistent made ground overburden (200) sealing the trench to a depth of 0.27m, overlaying a sequence of at least 7 made ground deposits, to a depth of at least 1.4m (observed in Test Pit 1). No underlying geology was reached at the base of trench 2.

8.3 Archaeological Narrative

8.3.1 Archaeology was identified in 1 of the 2 trenches, trench 1.

8.3.2 Trench 1

Trench 4.1 was excavated on a NE-SW alignment and measured 18.5m long x 2.0m wide, with a maximal depth of 0.82m at the SW end and 0.54m at the NE end before underlying geology was reached. Colluvial deposit (102) was observed across all but the NE most 5m of the trench, sealed by subsoil (101) and sealing the underlying geology

and archaeology observed in the trench. (102) was a 0.16m thick moderate to soft light brown silt with occasional sub angular flint inclusions (*Plate 6*).

Approximately 1.6m from the SW end of the trench was linear [105], measuring 0.76m wide x 0.50m deep and continuing E-W through the trench (*Plates 4&5*). [105] was rectilinear in plan with steep inwards sloping sides and a flat base and contained two fills: (103) and (104). Upper fill (103) was a 0.37m thick soft to moderately compact mid to dark brown grey slightly clayey silt with occasional chalk fleck inclusions and produced ceramic material dating from 50BC-75AD, along with oyster, mussel and mollusk shell, and an Fe object. Basal fill (104) was a 0.50m thick friable light brown with yellowish hue silt with moderate chalk flecks and small to large sub angular flint inclusions.

The trench was excavated onto an underlying geology of 50% Unstructured Chalk with 50% periglacial striations aligned NNW-SSE and infilled with light brown orange silt clay. (*Plate 3, Figure 4*)

8.3.3 Trench 2

Trench 4.2 was excavated on a NE-SW alignment and measured 19.9m long x 2.0m wide, with a maximal depth of 0.93m. The trench was situated across a visible depression in the hillside measuring approximately 30m long and 12m+ wide extending towards to incline down to Way Hill road to the NW, aligned NE-SW (*Plate 1*). Due to the continuing depth of modern made grounds beyond the 0.93m depth of the majority of the trench, Test Pit 1 was excavated at the SW end of the trench, measuring 2.3m long and with a maximal depth of 1.4m below the surface, where made ground was observed to continue to greater depths (*Plate 8*).

Overburden (200) was observed to seal the entire length of the trench to a depth of 0.27m. (200) was a friable dark grey humic slightly clayey silt with frequent chalk and small sub angular flint and peg tile inclusions. It looked to be a redeposited, messy topsoil, not intact.

Underlying (200) was a sequence of 7 subsequent made grounds (201)-(207) overlaying one another with their deposition starting from the SW end of the trench, with more

recent deposits observed laying progressively further NE along the trench (*Plate 9, sample section 2, figure 5*). Sealed only by overburden (200), made ground (201) in turn sealed the NE 15m of the trench and was a 0.39m thick moderately compact mid greyish brown slightly clayey silt with very frequent chalk fleck and piece inclusions, moderate small to medium sub angular flints and occasional fragments of peg tile. This then overlaid made ground (202), also sealing the NE 15m of the trench, a 0.27m+ thick friable dark grey silt with frequent chalk fleck inclusions. (202) formed the base of the majority of the trench. (202) was deposited to the NE of, and overlaid on, made ground (203), a 0.56m thick moderately compact light brown with a yellowish hue, slightly clayey silt with very frequent chalk flecks, clinker and peg tile fragment inclusions and produced concrete that had inclusions of clinker. (203) was deposited to the NE of, and overlaid on, made ground (204), a 0.43m thick friable dark grey silt with very occasional chalk flecking and occasional small sub angular flint inclusions. (204) was deposited to the NE of, and overlaid on, made ground (205), a 0.42m thick friable light grey with yellowish hue, sandy slightly clayey silt with frequent chalk flecks and occasional fragments of peg tile that was located against the SW end of the trench. (205) was overlaid on made ground (206), a 0.82m thick friable mid brownish grey slightly clayey silt with frequent small sub angular flint, chalk flecks, fragments of peg tile and clinker inclusions, found at the SW end of the trench. (206) was overlaid on made ground (207), a friable mid brown slightly clayey silt with frequent chalk flecks and moderate small sub angular flint inclusions, found at the base of Test Pit 1, starting 1.4m below the surface.

Due to the great depth of modern made grounds, the trench was not excavated onto any underlying geology. Trench 2 was absent of archaeology. (*Plate 7, Figure 5*)

9 Finds

9.1 Pottery

Pot was recovered from upper backfill (103) of linear [105], comprising 10 sherds weighing a total 298g and all dating from the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period, 50BC-75AD.

(*Appendix 4*)

9.2 Shell

Fragments of shell were recovered from the upper backfill (103) of linear feature [105] comprising 245g oyster shell, 10g common whelk shell and 8g common mussel shell.

(Appendix 5)

9.3 Ferrous Metal Object

A single uncertain and incomplete ferrous metal artefact was recovered from the upper backfill (103) of linear feature [105]. It comprised a rectangular shaped bar weighing 130.9g that could be a fragment of a form of ingot. *(Appendix 6)*

10 Discussion

10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 The archaeological evaluation at the Former Paddock, Way Hill, Minster, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4HS has demonstrated the limited presence of archaeological activity within the extent of the proposed development area. The natural geology was encountered across the SE of the PDA at an average depth between 0.54 and 0.82m below the existing ground surface. Due to the presence of a large depression infilled in the modern era, no natural ground was encountered at the base of trench 2 at the NW of the PDA.

10.2 Archaeological Narrative

10.2.1 Preservation conditions for an archaeological horizon were clearly divided between the two trenches excavated in this investigation. Within the bounds of the visible depression described previously as surrounding Trench 2, there is no potential for preservation of an archaeological horizon, with modern made grounds seen to a depth of 1.4m+. Outside of this area, preservation conditions are good, with historical map regression showing the area as open farmland only.

10.2.2 The modern made grounds present in Trench 2 are possibly due to landscaping of the steep incline between the field the PDA is situated in and the Way Hill road to the NW in the early part of the 20th Century. The state of this area of incline subtly changed multiple times according to historical OS maps, with the area initially a broad wooded incline extending out from the Way Hill road to slightly to the west of the position of trench 2 according to the 1877 OS (*Figure 6*), turning to a bare bank with pond

according to the 1898 OS (*Figure 7*). The 1907 OS map shows the area as a broad wooden incline with pond (*Figure 8*). By the 1942 OS map, the formerly broad incline is made significantly narrower and steeper against the edge of the Way Hill road (*Figure 9*). This incline appears to have been landscaped, with the field edge built up to a plateau closer to the road. This would explain the presence of built up modern made ground deposits observed in Trench 2. It should be noted, however, that as Trench 2 is slightly off the line of this slope, its modern backfills might be due to a previously existing depression by the side of Way Hill road.

10.2.3 Another potential explanation for the depression in the ground (and modern backfill deposits observed) at Trench 2 is that it could represent a former chalk pit that is not present on the previously discussed historical maps. In the approximate 1km distance between Wayborough Hill (300m west of the PDA) and Thorne Hill Farm (850m east of the PDA) there are 8 potential chalk pits: 3 are present on historical maps, TR 36 NW 328 Dellside chalk pit, TR 36 NW 329 Way chalk pit, TR 36 NW 331 Thorne Hill chalk pit; the remaining 5 are not present on historical maps, TR 36 NW 1130, TR 36 NW 1128, TR 36 NW 1127, TR 36 NW 1129, TR 36 NW 1122. Given the density of chalk pits in the immediate vicinity that are not recorded on historical maps, it is possible that the depression centred on Trench 2 was an unrecorded backfilled chalk pit that has not been visible as a crop mark like those listed above, due to its truncation by Way Hill road.

10.2.4 A single archaeological feature was observed, an E-W aligned linear with recovered pottery dating the feature to the LIA-ER period. This feature is associated with the wider Romano-British landscape observed within the vicinity, with the ferrous metal object recovered a possible fragment of a form of ingot. As a lone ditch feature, this would take the form of land management necessary for land division and agrarian farming at the periphery of the more habitational Romano-British landscape seen with the recorded ladder settlement roughly 350m north northwest (TR36 NW 1137, Oxford Wessex Archaeology 2019), potentially as a small farming enclosure similar to that seen in nearby cropmarks (e.g. TR 36 NW 87).

10.3 Conclusions

10.3.1 The archaeological investigation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and

objectives of the specification and has established the limited presence of significant archaeological remains within the PDA that can be placed within a wider Romano-British archaeological context. 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.

10.3.2 The investigation has also established an area of the site that has undergone truncation and made ground such that no archaeological or geological horizon was observed at a depth of 1.4m+ below surface level. The intact horizon observed in Trench 1 was encountered between 0.54m and 0.82m below surface level. Dependent on the method of construction of the driveway / car parking area being similar to that of the trackway leading to it (200mm excavation with geotextile and gravel), there is potential that the driveway / car park construction may not impact the archaeological horizon.

11 Acknowledgements

11.1 SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Mr Paul Dickerson for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Simon Mason, Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation. Site Survey and illustrations were produced by Jonny Madden of Digitise This. The fieldwork was undertaken by Alistair McKeever and Dan Worsley MA. The report was written by Alistair McKeever and edited by Dan Worsley MA. The project was managed by Dr Paul Wilkinson PhD MCifA.

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Appendix 1 – Trench Tables

Trench 1 Dimensions: 18.5m x 1.8m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 33.59mOD Ground level at SW end: 33.06mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(100)	Topsoil	Soft / friable black grey humic silt loam with moderate chalk flecks and sub angular flint inclusions	NE - 0.00-0.18m SW - 0.00-0.44m
(101)	Subsoil	Moderate to firm slightly brownish grey clayey silt with occasional chalk fleck and small sub-angular flint inclusions	NE - 0.18-0.54m SW - 0.44-0.66m//
(102)	Colluvium	Moderate to soft light brown silt with occasional sub angular flint inclusions	0.66-0.82m
(103)	Upper Fill of Linear [105]	Soft to moderately compact mid to dark brown grey slightly clayey silt with occasional chalk fleck inclusions. Produced (Fe Object), (Pot), (Oyster Shell), (Mussel Shell), (Mollusc Shell)	0.82-1.19m
(104)	Basal Fill of Linear [105]	Friable Light brown with yellowish hue silt with moderate chalk flecks and small to large sub angular flint inclusions.	1.19-1.32m
[105]	Cut of Linear	Rectilinear with steep inwards sloping sides and a flat base aligned E-W	L- 1.8m+ W- 0.76m D- 0.50m
Nat	Natural	50% Unstructured Chalk with 50% periglacial striations aligned NNW-SSE and infilled with light brown orange silt clay	NE- 0.54m+ SW- 0.82m+

Trench 2 Dimensions: 19.9m x 1.8m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 33.46mOD Ground level at SW end: 33.41mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(200)	Made Ground	Friable Dark grey Humic slightly clayey silt with frequent chalk and small sub angular flint and peg tile inclusions. Looks to be a redeposited messy topsoil, not intact.	0.00-0.27m
(201)	Made Ground	Moderately compact mid greyish brown slightly clayey silt with very frequent chalk fleck and piece inclusions, moderate small to medium sub angular flints and occasional fragments of peg tile.	0.27-0.66m
(202)	Made Ground	Friable dark grey silt with frequent chalk fleck inclusions	0.66-0.93m+
(203)	Made Ground	Moderately compact light brown with a yellowish hue, slightly clayey silt with very frequent chalk flecks, clinker and peg tile fragment inclusions. Produced concrete that had inclusions of clinker.	0.27-0.90m+ (0.56m thick)

(204)	Made Ground	Friable dark grey silt with very occasional chalk flecking and occasional small sub angular flint inclusions.	0.19-0.80m+ (0.43m thick)
(205)	Made Ground	Friable light grey with yellowish hue, sandy slightly clayey silt with frequent chalk flecks and occasional fragments of peg tile.	0.16-0.58m
(206)	Made Ground	Friable mid brownish grey slightly clayey silt with frequent small sub angular flint, chalk flecks, fragments of peg tile and clinker inclusions.	0.58-1.40m
(207)	Made Ground	Friable mid brown slightly clayey silt with frequent chalk flecks and moderate small sub angular flint inclusions. Excavation stopped at this level. Only present at base of Test Pit	1.40m+

Appendix 2 – Plates



Plate 1. SSW facing Situating shot of the PDA within a meadow, showing the clear drop in ground level surrounding Trench 2 (spoil piles to the right)



Plate 2, North facing working shot - machine excavation of Trench 2



Plate 3. NE facing drone plan of Trench 1, showing linear [105] (to the right) and underlying geology of unstructured chalk with periglacial striations.



*Plate 4. N facing plan
of linear [105]. Scale
1m*



*Plate 5. E facing
section of linear
[105]. Scale 1m*



Plate 6. NW facing Sample Section 1 of Trench 1, showing the end of the NE (uphill) extend of colluvium (102). Scale 1m



Plate 7. ENE facing drone plan of Trench 2, showing a series of modern made grounds (202)-(206)

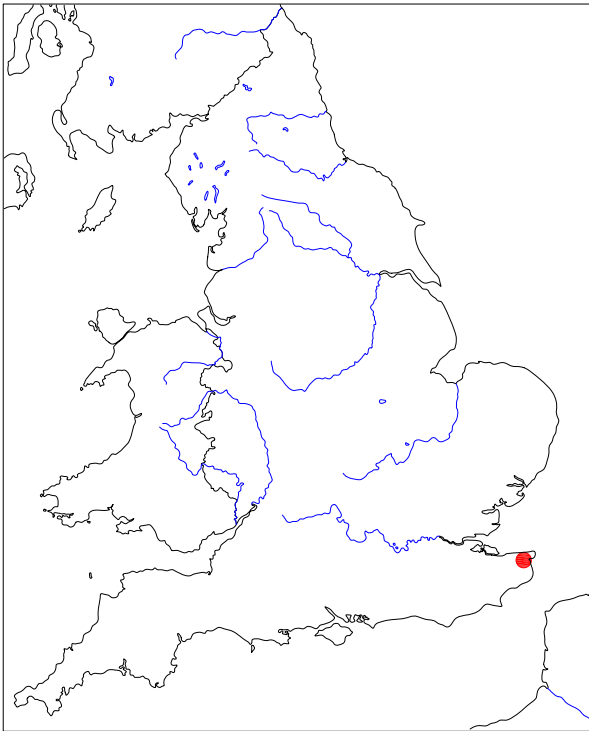


Plate 8. NW facing section of Test Pit 1 in Trench 2, showing modern made ground to a depth of 1.4m+. Scale 1m

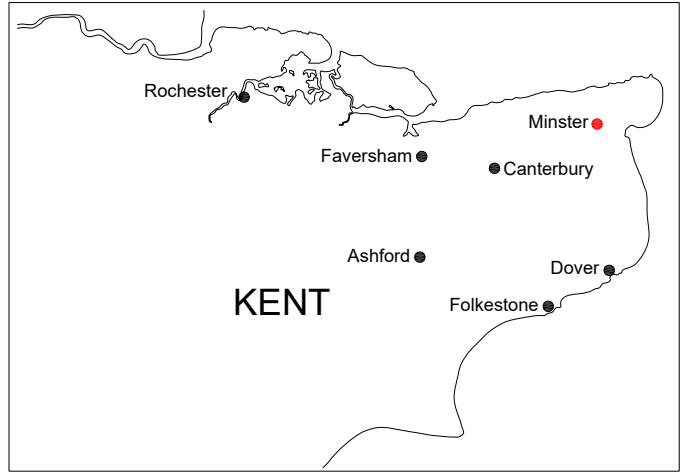


Plate 9. NW facing Sample Section 2 of Trench 2, showing the edge of Test Pit 1 and made grounds deposited sequentially from the SW (from the left). Scale 1m

NOT TO SCALE



NOT TO SCALE



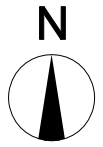
1:50000@A4



Figure 1: Site Location Plan

0m

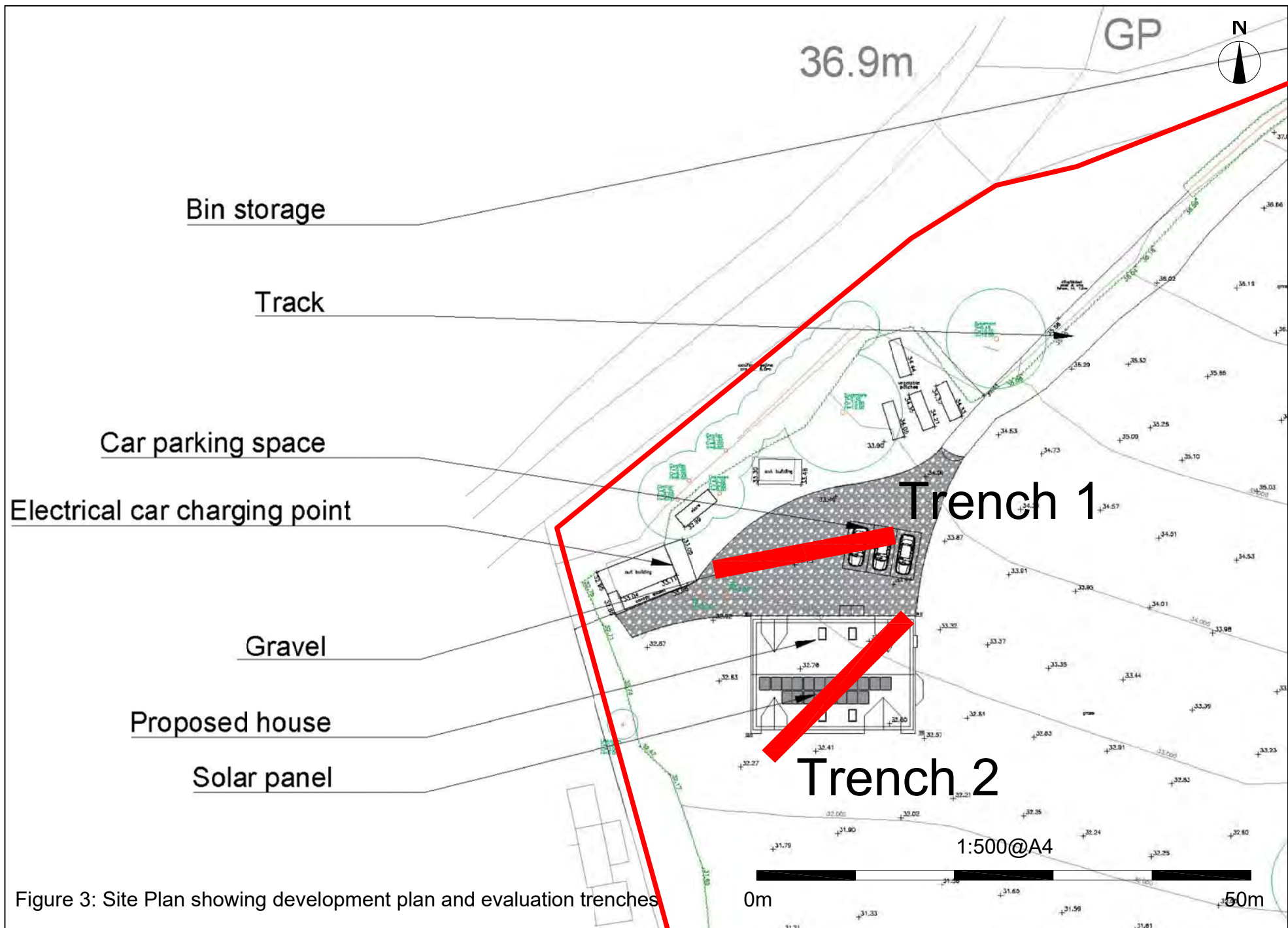
5km



1:1250@A4



Figure 2: Trench Layout



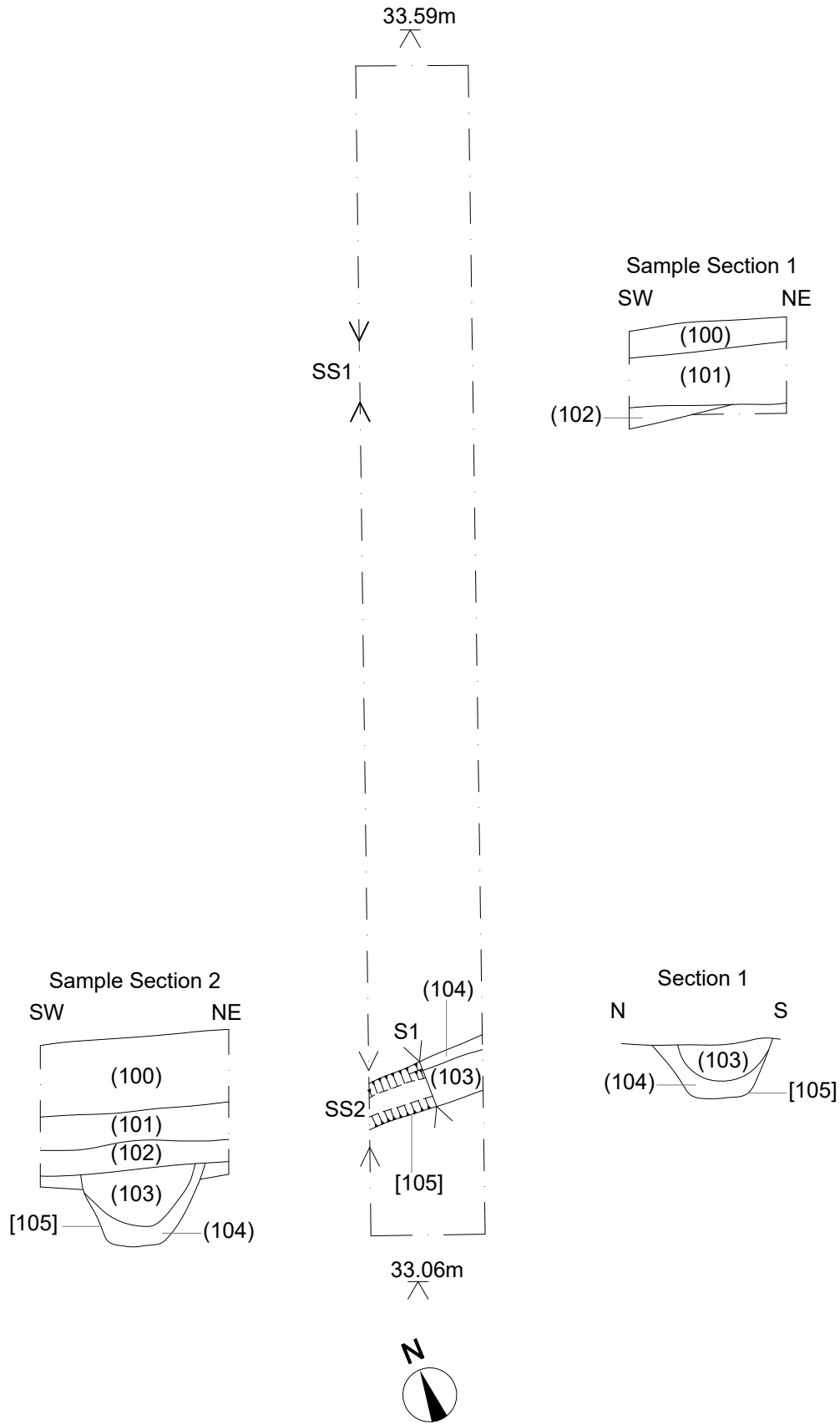
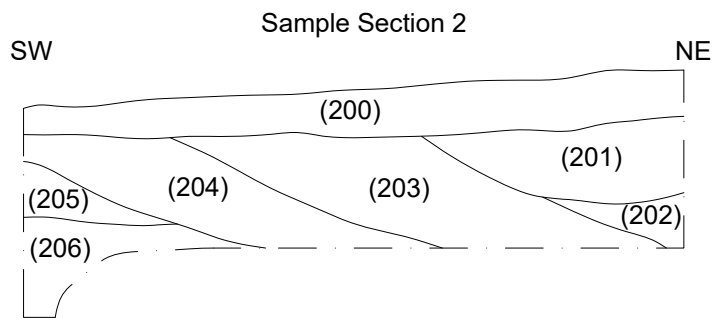
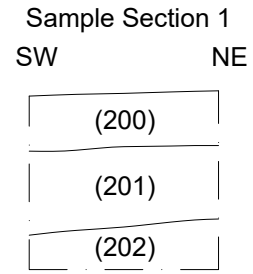


Figure 4: Trench 1 Plan and sections





1:100@A4



Figure 5: Trench 2 Plan and sections 0m

10m

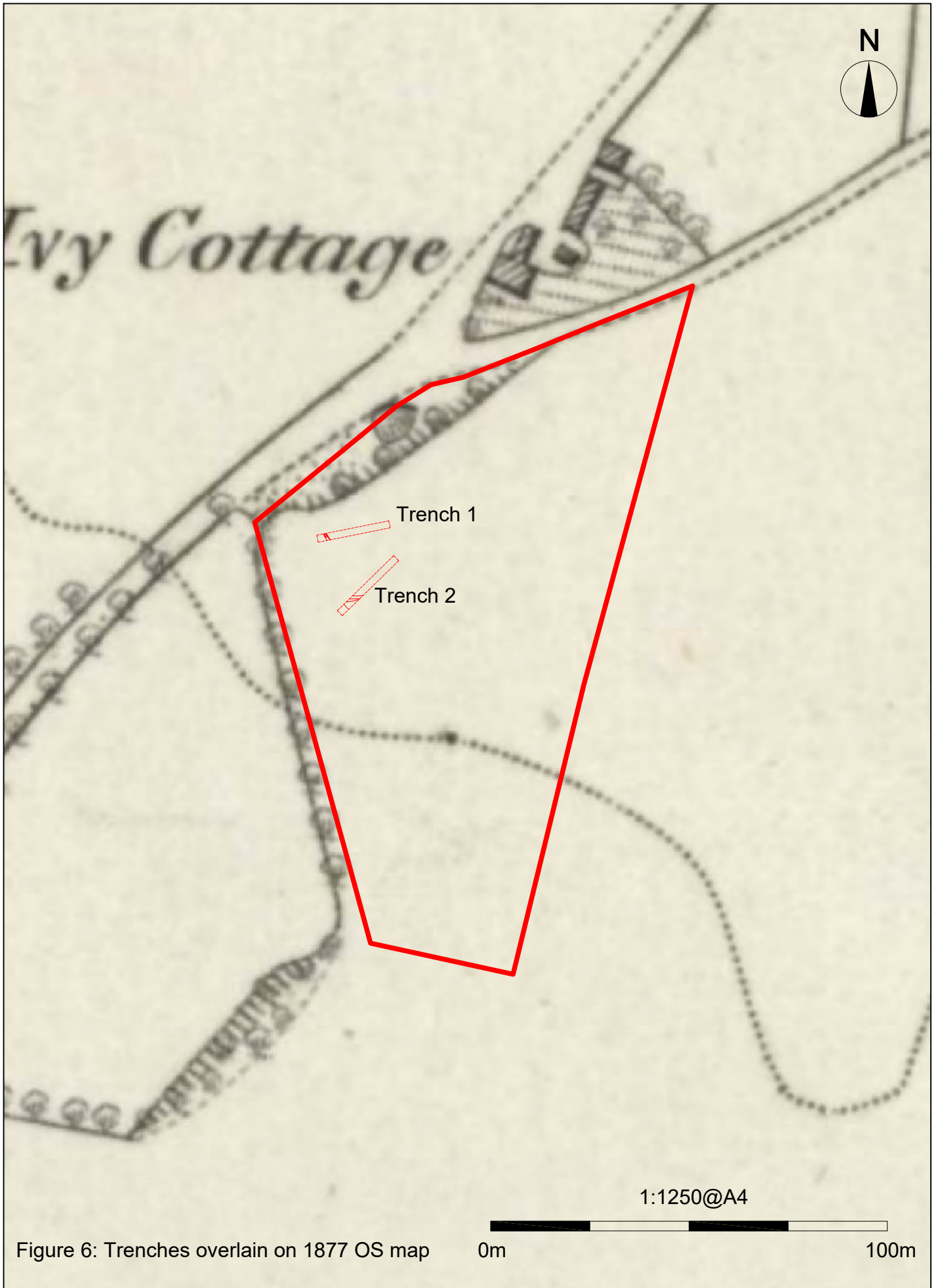


Figure 6: Trenches overlain on 1877 OS map

0m

100m

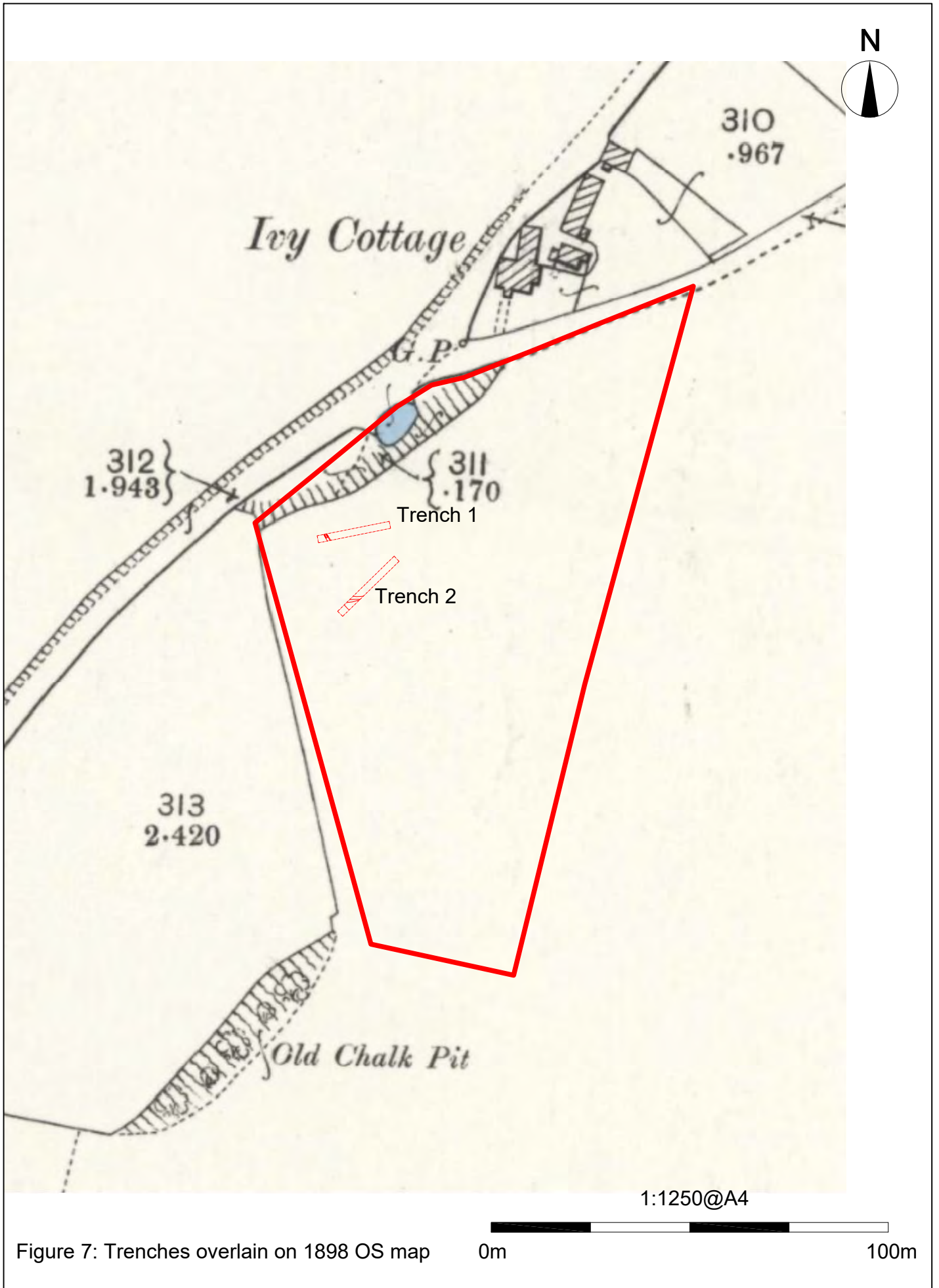
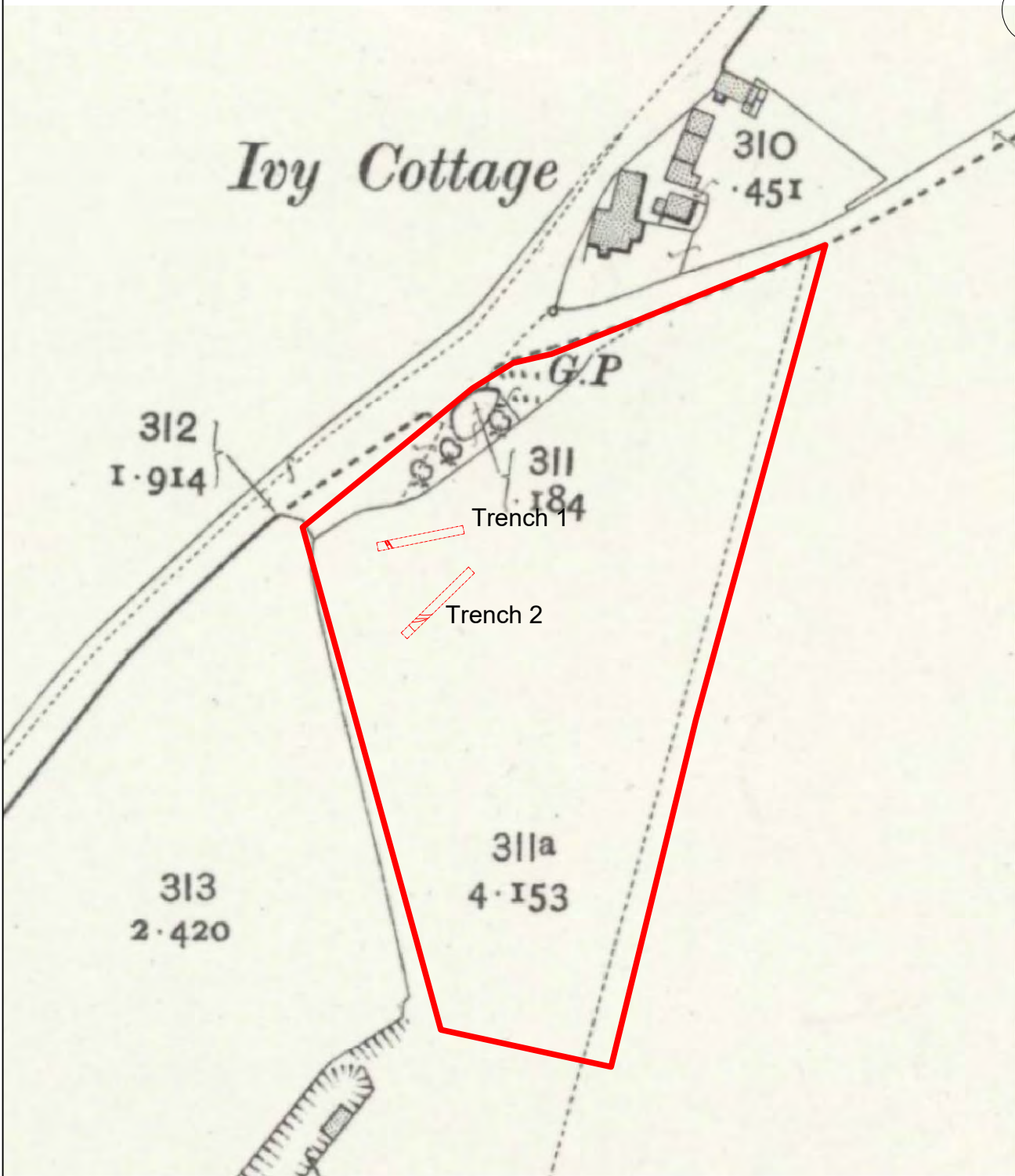
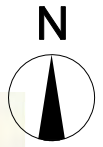


Figure 7: Trenches overlain on 1898 OS map



1:1250@A4



Figure 8: Trenches overlain on 1907 OS map

0m

100m

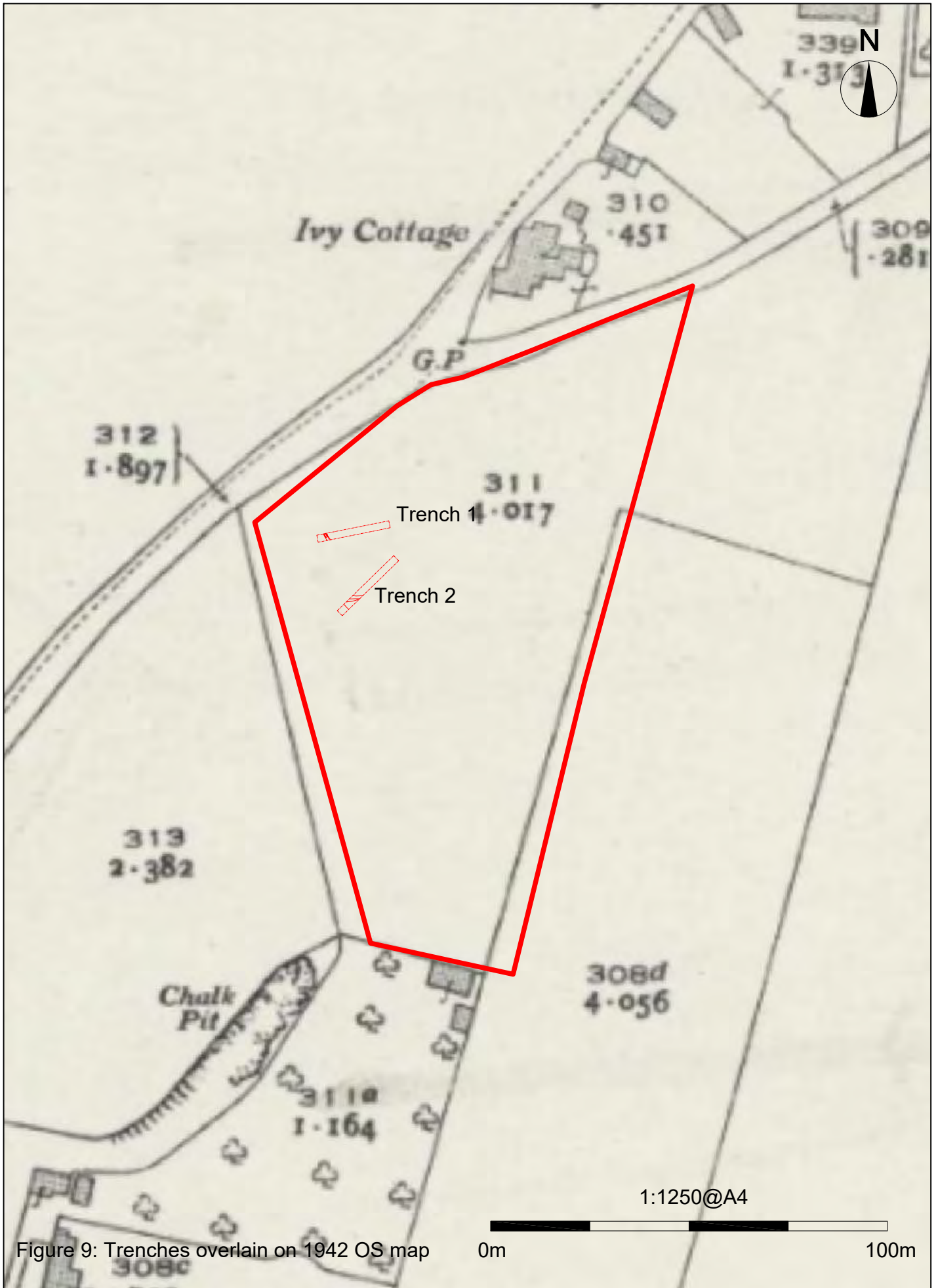


Figure 9: Trenches overlain on 1942 OS map

**A catalogue of the pottery
recovered during an archaeological evaluation at
Way Hill,
Way,
Minster-in-Thamet,
Kent**

Site Code: WHW-EV-23

Analyst: Paul Hart

Last updated: 22.05.2023

For: Swale and Thames Archaeology Survey Company

Contents

1. Period Codes employed
2. Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery assemblage
 - 2.1. Methodology
 - 2.2. Abbreviations used in 2.3.
 - 2.3. Catalogue: Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery

Appendix

3. Period-based review: listings and notes
 - 3.1. Late to Latest Iron Age, 50 BC to 50 AD

1. Period Codes employed

<i>Period</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Date (circa)</i>		
Late Iron Age	LIA	50	- 0	BC
Latest Iron Age	LIA-ER	0	- 50	AD
Early Roman	ER	50	- 150	AD

Dating

- > : To/or later.
- / : Or/or indicating a preference within a broader range.

2. Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery assemblage

2.1. Methodology

The sherds were examined in good light using a hand lens of x10 magnification and were catalogued on a context, total quantity, bulk weight (calculated to the nearest gram), period, ware type, estimate of the number of vessels per ware, condition and date preference basis. They are listed in date order from the earliest to the latest. No information about the contexts or their stratigraphic relationships was known unless stated. In the notes, the pieces are typically plain or less diagnostic body sherds unless stated otherwise.

All dates given are *circa*.

It should also be noted that:

- All form and decorative pieces are noted and described in the catalogue and their presence is highlighted by the inclusion of the word 'DRAW' (which does not mean that such pieces necessarily need to be drawn for archive level reporting or for publication).
- The material has been bagged by period and separated into DRAW-ables (which do not necessarily need to be drawn for archive level or final site reports or publication) and body sherds.

2.2. Abbreviations used in 2.3.

Wear

- L : Light
- M : Moderate
- C : Chipped

Dating

- > : To/or later
- / : Or/or indicating a preference within a broader range

2.3. Catalogue: Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery

<i>Context:</i>	Information on the nature of the context if known.				
<i>Start date:</i>	Likely commencement date of the context based on the pottery evidence.				
<i>End date:</i>	Likely end date of the context based on the pottery evidence.				
<i>Dating:</i>	General implications.				
<i>Comments:</i>	Highlighting elements, wares and issues of particular note.				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
	Notes.				
(103) [105]			10 sherds		298 g
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	Likely after 50 BC.				
<i>End date:</i>	Potentially by 50 AD.				
<i>Dating:</i>	All 'Belgic' style grog tempered, more likely post 50 BC (could be slightly earlier) and could date up to 75 AD (or even after). Given a lack of any oxidised material or obviously late/Romanising traits however, all could well date prior to 50 AD, though noting this is a small sample only.				
<i>Comments:</i>	Small to large sherds, all in dark reduced colours. 2 bases, no rims and 1 subtly decorated piece (incised combing). Considering the group as a whole, probably LIA>LIA-ER. DRAW: 2 bases (not worth drawing).				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
2	LIA>ER	'Belgic' style grog tempered	?1	C M	50 BC - 75 AD
	Small thinnish walled body, neatly smoothed exteriors and strongly pitted interiors.				
1	LIA>ER	'Belgic' style grog + sparse flint	1	C L	50 BC - 75 AD
	Large base, very thick-walled floor, thick side, base angle present, heavily concreted. DRAW (nwd).				
7	LIA>ER	'Belgic' style grog + sparse flint	1	L	50 BC - 75 AD
	Small sherds and fragments and 2 large sized sherds, most from a base with minimal exterior angle present. 1 small body sherd potentially same vessel, showing subtle light broad combing on exterior. DRAW (nwd).				
Totals			10 sherds		298 g

Appendix

3. Period-based review: listings and notes

Below is the basic data that was compiled during the cataloguing process, which is to be included or inform the summaries and the assessment that will be produced for the subsequent assessment report. It is included here to aid the site analysis process prior to the production of said report.

3.1. Late to Latest Iron Age, 50 BC to 50 AD

<i>Relationship</i>	<i>In contexts</i>	<i>Sherds</i>	<i>Vessels</i>
Residual	(103) [105].	10	3
Total		10	3

All Belgic style grog tempered.

(103) [105]. Parts of 2 bases and 1 small body sherd with subtle combing. All reduced. Little specific data, but more likely 50 BC - 50 AD.

Appendix 5 - Catalogue of Shell

Site Code and Manager: WHW-EV-23 DW

Context fill n.o 103

Context cut n.o 105

MNI 10

Weight of sample: 245g

Additional Comments

Common whelk: MNI - 1. weight 10g. Unmeasurable fragment.

Common Mussel: MNI- 2. weight 8g. Max length 37mm, Max width 22mm. Max length 35mm, max width 23mm.

Appendix 6 - Small Finds

ASSESSMENT OF THE REGISTERED SMALL FIND FROM WAY HILL, MINSTER, KENT (WHW-EV-23).

Simon Holmes MA

INTRODUCTION

The archaeological evaluation at Way Hill, Minster, Kent, produced a single registered small find; an iron object.

The artefact has been registered within the site archive and assigned a unique Small Find number (SF:) and has been air dried.

The state of preservation of the artefact though not intact, is relatively stable. The artefact is currently unidentifiable due to the extent of the encrustation adhering to it and will require x-ray to assess its condition and aid further identification.

CATALOGUE

THE FERROUS METAL OBJECT

SF: 1 (103) [105] c. 50 BC-75 AD. Uncertain and incomplete artefact, comprising a rectangular-shaped bar. The bar although flat, has a slight concave cross-section and straight outer edges. Length: 100mm. Width: 50mm. Thickness: 6mm. Weight: 130.9g.

The artefact could be a fragment of a form of ingot, perhaps an Iron Age currency bar. It is recommended therefore, that the archaeological landscape within the Way Hill area, is studied for evidence of iron-working industry as smithing into bars or billets can often be found on smelting sites, such as the billets from the Roman settlement at West Hawk Farm, Kent (Historic England, 2018).

RECOMMENDATIONS

In addition to x-ray to assess its condition and aid further identification, the artefact may require illustration - to be determined after x-ray.

REFERENCES

Historic England. 2018. Pre-industrial Ironworks: Introductions to Heritage Assets. Historic England. Swindon.