



**Land off Ashmead  
Drive, Gothington**

**Archaeological and  
Heritage  
Assessment**

Prepared by:  
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Ltd**

On behalf of:  
**L&Q Estates**

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## Executive Summary

- S1 This report has been prepared by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Limited (EDP) on behalf of L&Q Estates and presents the results of an archaeological and heritage assessment of land at South Gotherington. This document has been produced in support of the submission of an Outline planning application for residential development within the site, which in itself is a re-submission of an application submitted in 2016.
- S2 This report concludes that the site does not contain any designated heritage assets, such as world heritage sites, scheduled monuments, registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields or listed buildings, where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical retention and/or preservation *in situ* and against development.
- S3 The historic and modern settings of each of the designated assets within the application site's wider zone of influence have been assessed, and it is determined that the significance of these assets would in no way be adversely affected by the form of development proposed within the site, either in terms of an effect on their physical form/fabric or through change to their settings. This position is supported by a planning inspector in April 2018 commenting on the previous application.
- S4 The site has been the subject of a geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation. This identified that the northern part of the site contained a series of archaeological features representing late Bronze Age to middle Iron Age activity. The archaeological remains are not of sufficient quality or significance to warrant preservation *in situ* but would require an appropriate programme of archaeological work to excavate and record any significant archaeological remains, secured as an appropriately worded condition. This position was established with the archaeological advisor in relation to the 2016 application.

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## **Section 1**

### **Introduction**

- 1.1 This report has been prepared by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Limited (EDP), on behalf of L&Q Estates, and presents the results of an archaeological and heritage assessment of land at South Gotherington, Gloucestershire. This document has been produced in support of an outline planning application for residential development within the site.
- 1.2 The application represents a submission of an application which was submitted in 2016 (16/00901/OUT). This was refused and was appealed in 2017 (APP/G1630/-W/17/3175559), with the inspector's decision being issued in April 2018. The current scheme represents a similar scheme to that submitted in 2016.
- 1.3 The first aim of this assessment is to consider the available historical and archaeological resources for the application site and to establish its likely potential in accordance with the requirements of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2019).
- 1.4 In accordance with the requirements of the NPPF, desktop sources have been augmented through the completion of a walkover survey, which in this case was undertaken in September 2015.
- 1.5 The second aim of this report is to assess the possible impacts of the proposed development on surrounding designated heritage assets through changes to their settings.

#### **Location and Boundaries**

- 1.6 The site is located at the southern extent of the village of Gotherington and lies c.7km to the south-east of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. It comprises a single field, which is a large arable field traversed by several public footpaths. The northern, eastern and western limits of the site are bounded by residential houses and roads accessed via Malleson Road, whilst arable fields form the southern boundary of the site, with the urban village of Bishop's Cleeve c.1.4km beyond.
- 1.7 The total area of the site is c.6.28 hectares (ha). It is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SO 96158 29375; its location and layout is shown on **Plan EDP 1**.

#### **Site Description**

- 1.8 The report accompanies an Outline planning application with means of site access from Ashmead Drive to be determined, (layout, scale, appearance and landscaping reserved for subsequent approval) for the erection of up to 50 dwellings, public open space,

earthworks, structural landscaping, car parking, and all other ancillary and enabling works.

### **Geology and Topography**

- 1.9 With regard to the underlying solid geology, the site is located on sedimentary bedrock of the Charmouth Mudstone Formation, with superficial deposits of Cheltenham sand and gravel recorded across the entirety of the site ([www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk)).
- 1.10 In the wider landscape, Gotherington is enclosed on three sides (north, east and south) by outlying hills and limestone escarpments of the Cotswold Hills. To the west lies the wide expanse of the River Severn Valley, which remains level until it encounters the Malvern Hills in neighbouring Worcestershire.
- 1.11 Nottingham Hill, situated c.1.8km south-east of the site, comprises one of the highest points in the area, at c.280m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The site is generally flat at c.60m aOD, positioned on the eastern edge of the Severn Valley, at the foot of the Cotswold Hills.

## Section 2 Methodology

### Assessment and Data Collection Methodology

- 2.1 This report has been produced in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2017). These guidelines provide a national standard for the completion of desk-based assessments.
- 2.2 The assessment initially involved consultation of readily available archaeological and historical information from documentary and cartographic sources. The major repositories of information comprised:
- The Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record (HER), which contains records of known archaeological sites, monuments and findspots, within the vicinity of the application site;
  - Maps and documents held by Gloucestershire Archives;
  - The National Heritage List for England, curated by Historic England;
  - Aerial photographs held by the Historic England Archive at Swindon; and
  - Records made during a site visit in September 2015.
- 2.3 This report provides a synthesis of relevant information for the site derived from a search area extending up to 1km from its boundary, hereafter known as the ‘study area’, to allow for additional contextual information regarding its archaeological interest or potential to be gathered.
- 2.4 The information gathered from the repositories and sources identified above was checked and augmented through the completion of a site visit and walkover. This walkover considered the nature and significance of known and/or potential archaeological assets within the site, identified visible historic features and assessed possible factors which may affect the survival or condition of known or potential assets.
- 2.5 This report thereafter concludes with an assessment of its likely archaeological potential, made with regard to current best practice guidelines. The report is supported by the results of a geophysical survey and trial trenching which has been undertaken within the site (**Appendices EDP 1 and 2**)
- 2.6 In addition, this report also considers the nature and significance of any effects arising beyond the boundary of the application site, i.e. in terms of the settings of designated heritage assets, as defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF.

## Setting Assessment Methodology

2.7 When assessing the impact of proposals on designated heritage assets beyond the boundary of a development site, it is not a question of whether there would be a direct physical impact on that asset, but instead whether change within its 'setting' would lead to a loss of 'significance'.

2.8 Historic England (HE) guidance set out in *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning, Note 3, The Setting of Heritage Assets* (GPA3, HE 2017). This provides a best practice framework for the identification, and then assessment, of potential setting effects for heritage assets.

2.9 With regards to surrounding designated heritage assets, Historic England's GPA3 defines 'setting' as:

*"The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate the significance or may be neutral."*

2.10 Paragraph 9 of GPA3 adds the following:

*"Setting is not a heritage asset, nor a heritage designation, though land within a setting may itself be designated. Its importance lies in what it contributes to the significance of the heritage asset. This depends on a wide range of physical elements within, as well as perceptual and associational attributes pertaining to, the heritage asset's surroundings."*

2.11 Annex 2 of the NPPF defines 'significance' as "...the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting". The four 'interests' outlined in the definition above will be used to identify the significance of those designated assets considered in **Section 4** of this report.

2.12 It clearly follows that, because setting is not itself a heritage asset, it cannot be 'harm'd', and instead its importance derives from the contribution it makes to the significance of a heritage asset. Therefore, paragraph 29 of Historic England's *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment*, (GPA2, 2015) sets out the following in respect of a heritage asset's significance:

*"Change to heritage assets is inevitable but it is only harmful when significance is damaged. The nature and importance of the significance that is affected will dictate the proportionate response to assessing that change, its justification, mitigation and any recording which may be needed if it is to go ahead."*

2.13 Thus, insofar as a development proposal may have an ‘indirect’ effect on a designated heritage asset, it would do so by virtue of the change it would bring about in the portion of the asset’s significance which is derived from its ‘setting’. However, it must be acknowledged that the scale of any ‘harm’ to the heritage asset is defined in terms of the totality of its significance.

2.14 On a practical level, the HE guidance (2017) identifies an approach to the assessment of setting effects in relation to development management, which is based on a five-step procedure:

- “1. Identify which heritage assets and their settings are affected;*
- 2. Assess the degree to which these settings and views make a contribution to the significance of the heritage asset(s) or allow significance to be appreciated;*
- 3. Assess the effects of the proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on that significance or on the ability to appreciate it;*
- 4. Explore ways to maximise enhancement and avoid or minimise harm; and*
- 5. Make and document the decision and monitor outcomes.”*

2.15 As far as Step 2 is concerned, the HE guidance (2017) outlines the following relevant observations:

*“The second stage of any analysis is to assess whether the setting of a heritage asset makes a contribution to its significance and the extent and/or nature of that contribution...this assessment should first address the key attributes of the heritage asset itself and then consider:*

- The physical surroundings of the asset, including its relationship with other heritage assets;*
- The asset’s intangible associations with its surroundings, and patterns of use;*
- The contribution made by noises, smells, etc to significance, and*
- The way views allow the significance of the asset to be appreciated.”*

2.16 Thereafter, the guidance notes that *“...this assessment of the contribution to significance made by setting will provide the baseline for establishing the effects of a proposed development on significance”*. This is Step 3 of GPA3 (HE 2017).

2.17 The background research involved a review of the significance, character and setting of each designated heritage asset capable of being affected, to understand the likelihood of them experiencing a loss of significance as a result of the proposed development.

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## **Section 3 Planning Guidance**

### **Legislation**

- 3.1 The *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act* of 1990 is the primary legislative instrument addressing the treatment of listed buildings and conservation areas through the planning process.
- 3.2 Section 66 of the *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act* 1990 sets out the local authority's statutory duty, where development proposals would affect a listed building or its setting. It states that:

*"...In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses".*

### **National Planning Policy**

- 3.3 The revised NPPF was published in 2019 and Section 16 sets out the government's approach to the conservation and management of the historic environment, including both listed buildings and conservation areas, through the planning process. The opening paragraph (paragraph 184) recognises that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.
- 3.4 Paragraph 189 concerns planning applications, stating that:
- "In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation."*
- 3.5 Paragraph 193 considers the weighting given within the planning decision with regard to impacts on designated heritage assets, stating that:

*“When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance. “*

3.6 Paragraph 194 considers the level of harmful effects on designated heritage assets and states that:

*“Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of:*

- a) Grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional;*
- b) Assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II\* listed buildings, grade I and II\* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.”*

3.7 With regard to the decision-making process, paragraphs 195 and 196 are of relevance. Paragraph 195 states that:

*“Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to (or total loss of significance of) a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or total loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply:*

- a) The nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and*
- b) No viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and*
- c) Conservation by grant-funding or some form of not for profit, charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and*
- d) The harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.”*

3.8 Paragraph 196 states that:

*“Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.”*

- 3.9 The threshold between substantial and less than substantial harm has been clarified in the Courts. Whilst the judgement relates specifically to the impact of development proposals on a listed building, paragraphs 24 and 25 of *Bedford BC v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government* [2013] EWHC 2847 remain of relevance here in the way they outline the assessment of ‘harm’ for heritage assets:

*“What the inspector was saying was that for harm to be substantial, the impact on significance was required to be serious such that very much, if not all, of the significance was drained away.*

*Plainly in the context of physical harm, this would apply in the case of demolition or destruction, being a case of total loss. It would also apply to a case of serious damage to the structure of the building. In the context of non-physical or indirect harm, the yardstick was effectively the same. One was looking for an impact which would have such a serious impact on the significance of the asset that its significance was either vitiated altogether [i.e. destroyed] or very much reduced.”*

- 3.10 In other words, for the ‘harm’ to be ‘substantial’, and therefore require consideration against the more stringent requirements of paragraph 195 of the NPPF compared with paragraph 196, the proposal would need to result in the asset’s significance either being “*vitiated altogether or very much reduced*”. Quite evidently, this represents a very high threshold to be reached.

- 3.11 Finally, with regard to non-designated heritage assets, paragraph 197 states that:

*“The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.”*

### **Local Planning Policy – JCS**

- 3.12 Tewkesbury Borough Council adopted the *Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy* (JCS) in 2017.
- 3.13 Working in partnership with Gloucester City Council and Cheltenham Borough Council, the JCS guides development in the wider area up to 2031.
- 3.14 The following policy comprises that which is relevant to the Historic Environment and is relevant to the proposed development within the site, taken from the JCS:

### **Policy SDS - Historic Environment**

1. *“The built, natural and cultural heritage of Gloucester City, Cheltenham town, Tewkesbury town, smaller historic settlements and the wider countryside will*

*continue to be valued and promoted for their important contribution to local identity, quality of life and the economy;*

2. *Development should make a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness, having regard to valued and distinctive elements of the historic environment;*
3. *Designated and undesignated heritage assets and their settings will be conserved and enhanced as appropriate to their significance, and for their important contribution to local character, distinctiveness and sense of place. Consideration will also be given to the contribution made by heritage assets to supporting sustainable communities and the local economy. Development should aim to sustain and enhance the significance of heritage assets and put them to viable uses consistent with their conservation whilst improving accessibility where appropriate;*
4. *Proposals that will secure the future conservation and maintenance of heritage assets and their settings that are at risk through neglect, decay or other threats will be encouraged. Proposals that will bring vacant or derelict heritage assets back into appropriate use will also be encouraged; and*
5. *Development proposals at Strategic Allocations must have regard to the findings and recommendations of the JCS Historic Environment Assessment (or any subsequent revision) demonstrating that the potential impacts on heritage assets and appropriate mitigation measures have been assessed.”*

### **Local Planning Policy – Gotherington Neighbourhood Plan**

- 3.15 *Gotherington Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in September 2017. This contains Policy GNDP08 – Development Affecting Non-Designated Heritage Assets which states that:*

*“Development proposals affecting buildings and other historic features on the emerging Local List of non-designated heritage assets and their setting, including the one identified below, will be expected to preserve and enhance such assets and their setting.*

*Proposals that would lead to the harm or loss of such assets will be assessed as to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.*

*Where the loss of such an asset is proposed and accepted suitable arrangements should be made for recording of that asset and, if appropriate, preservation elsewhere in the village.”*

- 3.16 Although it is clear that the development of a Local List of historic buildings is an aspiration, there is as yet no indication that such a list has been drawn up or any criteria published against which to include such buildings on a list.

**Local Planning Policy – Tewkesbury Borough Plan 2011-2031 (Pre-submission Version), July 2019**

3.17 Tewkesbury Borough Council is preparing a Local Plan which is currently as draft in a pre-submission version. This contains a number of policies of relevance, although as only a pre-submission draft, carry limited weight.

3.18 This includes policy HER 2 in relation to listed buildings, which states that:

*“Alterations, extensions or changes of use to Listed Buildings, or development within their setting, will be expected to have no adverse impact on those elements which contribute to their special architectural or historic interest, including their settings.*

*Any proposals which adversely affect such elements or result in the significant loss of historic fabric will not be permitted. Any alterations, extensions or repairs to the Listed Buildings should normally be carried out using the traditional materials and building techniques of the existing building.”*

3.19 It should be noted that this policy indicates that any proposals that lead to harm to a listed building will be refused. However, the NPPF allows for a planning balance to be undertaken taking into account the public benefits of the scheme. As such, this policy is not deemed to be NPPF compliant and, should it be adopted in its current form, should carry little weight.

3.20 It also includes Policy HER4, in relation to Archaeological Sites and Scheduled monuments, and states that:

*“Scheduled Monuments and sites of national archaeological importance will be preserved in situ. Development which would lead to substantial harm or loss of these sites and their setting should be wholly exceptional and will not normally be permitted. Where development will cause harm or loss, provision should be made for excavation and recording with an appropriate assessment and evaluation. The appropriate publication/curation of findings will be expected.”*

3.21 Policy HER5, covers ‘locally important’ heritage assets, and states that:

*“Locally Important Heritage Assets will be conserved having regard to the significance of the asset and its contribution to the historic character of the area.*

*Proposals affecting a Locally Important Heritage Asset and/or its setting will be expected to sustain or enhance the character, appearance and significance of the asset.*

*Proposals that seek the preservation and/or enhancement of these assets will be encouraged.*

*Historically important groups of farm buildings will be protected from proposals for destructive development or demolition.”*

- 3.22 The supporting text notes that these 'non-designated' heritage assets will be identified on the Council's 'Local List' which it intends to publish in due course. This has yet to be published.
- 3.23 The plans and policies identified above have been considered in the preparation of this assessment.

## Section 4 Existing Information

### Introduction

- 4.1 The application site does not contain any designated 'heritage assets', such as scheduled monuments, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens or registered battlefields, where there would be a presumption in favour of preservation *in situ* and against development proceeding.
- 4.2 All designated heritage assets located within the 1km study area were assessed to gauge the potential for, and significance of, indirect ('setting') impacts from the proposed development of the site. These consist of one Grade II\* listed building and 28 Grade II listed buildings, the locations of which are shown on **Plan EDP 1**.
- 4.3 Furthermore, additional designated heritage assets, which were located beyond the 1km study area, were assessed in terms of establishing whether the site could be considered to be within a part of the setting which would contribute to their significance. These were primarily identified during desk-based work, including information contained within the listings on the National Heritage List for England, and were augmented through site visits.
- 4.4 This analysis identified that one scheduled monument, situated c.1.7km distant from the site, had the potential to experience change within its setting. This was assessed further during a site visit, to ascertain its setting and relationship to the site. No further designated heritage assets were identified through this analysis which were deemed to require further consideration.
- 4.5 There are no previously recorded, non-designated heritage assets within the site. However, National Mapping Programme (NMP) data indicates that the majority of the site has been utilised for arable cultivation from at least the medieval period onwards, given the presence of reduced and/or ploughed-out ridge and furrow earthworks adjacent to the west of the site.
- 4.6 Further to this, there are 36 HER records in the wider 1km study area, indicating activity dating from the prehistoric to the modern periods. Their locations are identified on **Plan EDP 1**.

### Designated Heritage Assets

- 4.7 There are no designated heritage assets within the boundary of the application site, where there would be a presumption in favour of physical preservation.
- 4.8 The identification of designated heritage assets beyond the site, that may potentially be affected by the proposed development (Step 1 of the HE guidance (HE 2017)), was

determined, in the first instance, through an initial map analysis, then subsequently augmented and confirmed through a field visit.

### **Listed Buildings**

- 4.9 There are no listed buildings located within the proposed development site, although there are 29 within 1km, comprising one Grade II\* listed building and 28 Grade II listed buildings. With the exception of the Grade II listed buildings located at Manor Farm and Truman's Farm to the east of Gotherington, all are located within the historic settlements of either Gotherington village or Woolstone hamlet.
- 4.10 The only Grade II\* listed building within the 1km study area is the Church of St Martin de Tours (**1091692**), situated c.730m north of the site in Woolstone.
- 4.11 This church is considered further in the **Site Walkover** section below due to its higher designation (grade), its form (churches often serve as notable landmark features, widely visible from the surrounding landscape), and because of its slightly elevated position on the upward slope of Crane Hill, allowing for possible inter-visibility with the site.
- 4.12 Of the 28 Grade II listed buildings within the 1km study area, only two were identified as potential sensitive receptors to the proposed development within the site, principally due to their proximity to it. These are:
- The Holt (**1091679**), situated c.25m south-east of the site, on Cleeve Road; and
  - The Homestead (**1340165**), situated c.60m north-west of the site, off Long Furlong.
- 4.13 Both of these buildings are considered further in the **Site Walkover** section below.
- 4.14 The remaining 26 Grade II listed buildings located within 1km of the site comprise a broad range of structures, including numerous domestic cottages and houses, five farmhouses, several churchyard monuments, a barn, stables and a dovecote. The spatial distribution of these 26 listed buildings (see **Plan EDP 1**) illustrates the original linear development of Gotherington and Woolstone settlements, with large areas in between the listed buildings gradually becoming infilled by development, with a period of significant expansion occurring in Gotherington in the 1970s. Verey (1999) describes Gotherington as *"quite a large village retaining a number of 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century houses and cottages, all rather swamped by late 20<sup>th</sup> century development"*.
- 4.15 Therefore, the positions of the remaining listed buildings, not only in relation to the site, but also in relation to their surroundings (i.e. streetscenes), are such that it is considered highly unlikely that they would experience a loss of significance as a result of the proposed development scheme being implemented.
- 4.16 In each case, their functions, forms and locations are such that they clearly do not possess any inter-relationships of potential significance or inter-visibility with the site. Instead, in the overwhelming majority of cases, their settings are focussed on the historic

core of the settlements and main route-ways from which they have expanded outwards over time.

- 4.17 None of the 26 listed buildings are visible from the site due to intervening modern development and/or vegetation (i.e. mature trees and hedgerows), and as such it is considered that none of them could potentially experience an indirect effect from the development, as a result of change to their 'setting'.
- 4.18 This position was verified in the field during the course of the field visit and assessment of the site's wider environs, where it was also established that there would be no 'in combination' views of the assets and the site when viewed from elsewhere.
- 4.19 Accordingly, as none of the remaining 26 listed buildings are considered to represent a potentially sensitive receptor, in terms of the form of development proposed within the site, they are not considered further within this assessment report.

#### **Scheduled Monuments**

- 4.20 The scheduled monument comprising Nottingham Hill Camp (**1004864**), situated c.1.7km south-east of the application site, was also identified as a potential sensitive receptor to the proposed development within the site, due to the significantly elevated position it maintains over the surrounding landscape (which includes the site).
- 4.21 With this in mind, this scheduled monument has been selected for detailed assessment which follows in the **Site Walkover** section below.

#### **Non-designated Heritage Assets**

##### ***Palaeolithic–Iron Age (c.500,000 BC–AD 43)***

- 4.22 Prior to the archaeological geophysical survey and evaluation undertaken in 2016, there are no prehistoric heritage assets recorded within the site. However, there are nine recorded by the Gloucestershire HER within the study area.
- 4.23 The closest of these assets to the site comprises a possible later prehistoric to Roman settlement (**4441**), situated c.135m west, beyond Gotherington Caravan Park. The possible settlement was identified as incomplete cropmarks during a rapid examination of aerial photography, carried out in 2005 as part of the National Mapping Programme (NMP). The cropmarks, which comprise at least two rectangular, one irregular and one circular enclosure, are yet to be investigated by intrusive survey, and as such, their origins are currently unknown. Furthermore, the features are complicated by the presence of geological cropmarks and are overlain by ploughed-out ridge and furrow cultivation across the area, making interpretation even more difficult. In any case, there is nothing to suggest that these features extend into the site.

- 4.24 Approximately 470m to the west of the possible prehistoric settlement is a possible later prehistoric to Roman enclosure (**5407**), again identified as cropmarks during the 2005 NMP. Finds recovered from the ploughsoil here include flints, a bronze fragment, Roman Severn Valley ware pottery sherds (**5408**) and post-medieval sherds, indicating prolonged activity at this site. However, similarly to **4441** above, the pattern of the cropmarks is confused by the furrows of former ridge and furrow cultivation and by numerous soil marks of natural origin, and as such, their full extent is unknown. As the features are c.900m distant from the site, it is highly unlikely that they extend into it.
- 4.25 The remaining prehistoric assets recorded within 1km of the site appear to be concentrated immediately to the north of Bishop's Cleeve, in particular around Homelands Farm, c.700m south of the site. Here, an enclosure (**37012**) is recorded, thought to be of late prehistoric date. The feature was initially identified as cropmarks during the 2005 NMP and was later recorded during a geophysical survey in 2009 across the area. Subsequent to this, the enclosure was partially excavated in 2010 during a trial trench evaluation. Trench 14 picked up the enclosing ditch, which was described as "*wide and deep*", with steep sides infilled by a series of fills. A shallower ditch may be interpreted as an internal subdivision or a shallower portion of the ditch enclosing the site as a whole. Iron Age pottery recovered from Trench 14 dated the feature to the late prehistoric period.
- 4.26 The geophysical survey mentioned above detected a second enclosure (**37011**), which was also partially excavated during the trial trench evaluation in 2010. Trench 8 yielded a single sherd of middle Bronze Age pottery.
- 4.27 Similar enclosure features have been recorded on the opposite side of Cleeve Road, and comprise the remains of a sub-rectangular enclosure and associated linear features, possibly of late Iron Age date (**34489**). Where excavated, the enclosure ditch measured 1.3m wide, with a maximum depth of 0.27m, infilled with a single clay fill, however, in this instance no dating evidence was recovered.
- 4.28 During the 2010 trial trench evaluation mentioned above, a pair of curvilinear ditches, possibly representing a ring ditch (**37013**), were recorded slightly to the west of **37011**. The full extent of the feature was not identified in the evaluation work carried out and it is uncertain what function this possible ring ditch may have had.
- 4.29 Further possible prehistoric enclosures (**4440**) are recorded immediately north of **37011**, also recorded during the 2005 NMP. With regard to this record, the HER states that "*it was a fairly hurried plot and description, and there were inadequate reference points*", furthermore, the cropmarks are obscured by the remains of ridge and furrow and natural features. As such, the accuracy of this record is dubious and, combined with its distance from the site, it is not considered to affect its archaeological potential.
- 4.30 Conclusive Iron Age activity is recorded on the southern periphery of the search area, and takes the form of an Iron Age settlement, with later Romano-British activity present (**20562**). An archaeological excavation undertaken in 2005 revealed mid to late-Iron Age enclosures, pits, postholes, drip gullies and two human burials. Sparse evidence for a

probable Romano-British field system was also identified. All of the features were truncated to varying degrees by plough furrows dating to both the medieval and post-medieval periods.

- 4.31 The final, previously recorded prehistoric asset in the study area comprises a pit or post hole (**37010**), excavated within an evaluation trench south of Homelands Farm. This feature is tentatively dated to the Mesolithic period since it contained a single piece of worked flint, possibly of that period, within a secondary fill.
- 4.32 Geophysical survey and trial trenching undertaken on the site to support the 2016 application identified an area of late Bronze Age to middle Iron Age within the northern part of the site (see **Appendices EDP 1** and **2** and discussed further below). This was not of such significance or quality to warrant preservation *in situ* but is likely to require a further scheme of mitigation excavation secured as a suitably worded condition.

#### **Romano-British (AD43–410)**

- 4.33 There are no Romano-British heritage assets recorded on the Gloucestershire HER within the application site and there are only three in the study area.
- 4.34 As discussed above, the cropmark site recorded by **5407** has produced Roman material (chiefly Severn Valley ware) mainly from the western edge of the field, adjacent to a grassed field displaying undulations and surface irregularities (**5408**).
- 4.35 Fragments of what were thought to be Roman masonry (**5492**) were uncovered in 1873 at Woolstone, during restoration of the Church of St Martin de Tours, situated c.700m north of the site. Excavation for a pipe into church in March 1971 revealed no further evidence for Roman buildings at this site.
- 4.36 The remaining entry for this period relates to a “*Roman period ditch*” (**37014**), recorded c.885m south of the site, near Homelands Farm. The feature was recorded during a geophysical survey across the area in 2009, and was subsequently partially excavated in an evaluation trench in 2010. The ditch was U-shaped in profile and only a pair of Romano-British pottery sherds were recovered from the single fill layer infilling the ditch.
- 4.37 Based on the available evidence and the general paucity of Roman archaeology in the study area, there is considered to be a low potential for the site to contain archaeological remains from this period. This is supported by the geophysical survey and trial trenching undertaken within the site in 2016.

#### **Early Medieval (AD 410–1066)**

- 4.38 There are no early medieval heritage assets identified on the Gloucestershire HER within the application site and only one tentative record in the wider study area.
- 4.39 The record represents the possible site of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery (**22348**) located by metal detecting on the southern periphery of the study area. The only accompanying

description with the record is that the exact site location was 'under investigation' as of October 2003 and is therefore of little interpretive use.

- 4.40 Based on the available information, the site is considered to have a low potential to contain archaeology from this period.

#### **Medieval (AD 1066–1485)**

- 4.41 There are no medieval heritage assets identified on the Gloucestershire HER within the application site, although the majority of the site was recorded during the 2005 NMP (through aerial photograph interpretation), which identified the remains of ridge and furrow earthworks within the site. A firm date has not yet been given to the features, but it is likely that they belong to the medieval period. The features would suggest that the site formed part of the farmed hinterland during this period. Indeed, the aerial photographs reviewed for this assessment (see **Aerial Photographs** below) confirm that the majority of the site was once covered in ridge and furrow, although this is no longer extant.
- 4.42 Further to this, there are 12 medieval heritage assets recorded within the wider 1km study area.
- 4.43 The medieval core of Gotherington (**8786**) is recorded c.150m north of the site, on Malleson Road. Gotherington appears as *Godrinton* in the Domesday Survey of 1086, meaning farmstead associated with a person named *Guthere*, whilst nearby Woolstone (**8819**) was recorded as *Olsendone*, meaning *Wulfsige's Farmstead*. Both names would suggest that the settlements have agricultural origins.
- 4.44 Situated just beyond the north-eastern corner of the site is the former location of a moated farmhouse (**5410**), the remains of which were leveled and buried during the construction of houses along Ashmead Drive and Aggs Close during the 1970s. The moat was originally "square and of a large size", but was recorded as having been filled in by 1898. There is no visible evidence for the moat surviving above ground today. A second HER entry (**5388**) is present on the northern side of Malleson Road, which comprises a continuation of the asset recorded by **5410**. There is nothing to suggest that these features extend into the site, nor were any earthwork features observed on any aerial photographs viewed at the Historic England Archive as part of this assessment.
- 4.45 Immediately adjacent to **5388** and likely associated with it, is the recorded location of a medieval to post medieval settlement site (**4444**), once visible as earthworks to the north of Hales Farm on Malleson Road. Two areas of rectilinear earthworks were recorded from aerial photographs, and are thought to represent either possible settlement earthworks or old land boundaries. The earthworks have subsequently been levelled, but the site probably represents part of the medieval settlement pattern of Gotherington.
- 4.46 A second medieval to post-medieval settlement site (**4443**) is recorded c.520m east of the site, at Truman's Farm on Manor Lane. Rectilinear earthworks covering an area of c.1ha were recorded from aerial photographs. The features have been interpreted as a

possible former area of settlement, including elements such as tofts (house plots), bounded by ridge and furrow.

- 4.47 The deserted medieval village (DMV) of Upper Gotherington (**5399**) is recorded c.780m east of the site, on the opposite side of the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Railway. The settlement of Upper Gotherington was recorded at Manor Farm in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Numerous mounds and depressions are present surrounding the manor, suggesting the sites of buildings.
- 4.48 The site of a medieval chapel (**7575**) is recorded partially within the boundary of the Upper Gotherington DMV, on Manor Lane. The Victoria County History states that there was a chapel and chantry at Gotherington in 1359, when there was a dispute between the Rector of Cleeve and Tewkesbury abbey. No later references were found however, 'local tradition' places the site near Manor Farm. As the location of the chapel is entirely based on unsubstantiated information, this record is not considered to be entirely accurate or useful.
- 4.49 Approximately 320m south of the site is a medieval or post-medieval rectangular banked enclosure (**39297**), recorded from aerial photographs. The enclosure may represent a stock enclosure or pound and comprises a linear bank which partially encloses a rectangular area to its south. The feature is situated adjacent to both the parish boundary and Cleeve Road and is abutted to the north by extant ridge and furrow.
- 4.50 A large area of "well preserved" ridge and furrow (**7311**) is recorded on the slopes of Crane Hill and Oxenton Hill, c.900m north of the site. The earthworks cover many fields and ascend very steep slopes in certain places. This would suggest that the land in the local area possessed considerable value, to warrant ploughing in difficult terrain.
- 4.51 The remaining two assets attributed to this period within the study area comprise possible trackways, allowing access to the outlying hills and slopes surrounding Gotherington. Approximately 860m east of the site are a series of linear earthworks (**39284**) in the western part of Gotherington Wood. The discontinuous straight and sinuous ditches generally extend north-west/south-east up a coombe. The tracks have been cut into the hillside and take a number of different courses, probably representing the collective result of centuries of route ways up the coombe.
- 4.52 A second, possible hollow way (**26927**) was recorded from aerial photographs as lying between fields of ridge and furrow at Woolstone, c.710m north of the site.
- 4.53 Based on the available evidence, it is considered that the site was situated within the farmed hinterland of Gotherington throughout the medieval period and, therefore, has a moderate potential to contain further low value archaeological remains and deposits related to farming. This is supported by the geophysical survey and trial trenching undertaken within the site in 2016.

### **Post-medieval and Georgian (AD 1485–1837)**

- 4.54 Other than the evidence of ploughed-out ridge and furrow within the site, surviving only as buried remains (which may extend into the post-medieval period), there are no post-medieval or Georgian heritage assets identified on the Gloucestershire HER within the application site and there are only four in the wider study area.
- 4.55 The closest of these assets to the site comprises the Countess of Huntingdon Free Church (**8344**), situated c.180m north-east, at a prominent location in the village, where Cleeve Road joins Malleson Road. The non-designated church was built in 1833 with an inscription that states “*The gift of the Hon. Henry Augustus Berkeley Craven*”, who donated the land on which the church was built.
- 4.56 The remaining three post-medieval and Georgian assets within 1km of the site are all located at the peripheries of the study area.
- 4.57 Approximately 1km to the north of the site at Crane Hill, is the site of three limestone quarries and an associated trackway (**26928**), which were mapped from aerial photographs in 2004. The quarries exploited a small outcrop of oolitic limestone, the processing of which destroyed medieval ridge and furrow (**7311**) in two fields.
- 4.58 Several, large limestone slabs (**42168**) were observed during the creation of a stream diversion trench at Homelands Farm, Bishop's Cleeve, c.1km to the south of the site. The slabs probably date to the 18<sup>th</sup> or early-19<sup>th</sup> century, and formed part of a track known as the ‘new road’. The slabs may have originated from the quarries at Crane Hill.
- 4.59 The final, previously recorded asset attributed to this period in the study area, comprises a post-medieval dewpond (**39301**), visible as an earthwork to the north of Dean Farm, c.1km south-west of the site. The dewpond measures 9m long by 8m wide and is orientated north–south. It would have provided water for livestock in all of the adjoining fields and yards.
- 4.60 None of these assets are considered to contribute to the potential for archaeological deposits on the site.
- 4.61 Therefore, based on this evidence, it is considered that the site continued to be utilised for farming throughout these periods and has little potential to contain archaeological remains, other than ‘low’ value features associated with former agricultural practices. This is supported by the geophysical survey and trial trenching undertaken within the site in 2016.

### **Victorian and Modern (AD 1837–Present)**

- 4.62 There are no previously identified Victorian or modern heritage assets within the application site, as recorded on the Gloucestershire HER. There are four in the wider study area.

- 4.63 The site of Woolstone Mill (**7308**) is recorded c.685m north of the site at Grange Farm. A water mill is marked on a map of 1877, however no remains are visible today.
- 4.64 The route of the now disused Great Western Railway (GWR), Cheltenham and Honeybourne line (**11184**), runs on a roughly north–south alignment through the eastern part of the study area. Opened in 1904-6, it was one of the last main lines to be built in the UK. It provided the GWR its own line from Birmingham to Gloucester, via Stratford-upon-Avon, and from Honeybourne to Cheltenham. British Rail closed the line in 1979, following a derailment.
- 4.65 A World War II motor transport park and/or a post-war military storage depot (**4715**) is recorded c.630m south of the site at Homelands Farm, Bishops Cleeve. The military site is visible as cropmarks, left by structures which have subsequently been cleared away. The area comprises a series of (probably) concrete square platforms that each measure circa 23m square and are linked by trackways, with an entrance from Gotherington Lane. Immediately adjacent to this area are a series of undated cropmarks (**36724**), the regularity of which suggests a modern origin. The features are likely associated with the World War II motor park, although it is unclear what the marks represent.
- 4.66 None of these assets are considered to contribute to the potential for archaeological deposits on the site. Therefore, the site has little potential to contain any archaeological remains from these periods, other than ‘low’ value remains related to agricultural activity, e.g. plough soils and field boundaries. This is supported by the geophysical survey and trial trenching undertaken within the site in 2016.

### **Undated**

- 4.67 There are no undated, non-designated heritage assets within the site and only three in the study area, as recorded on the Gloucestershire HER.
- 4.68 There are two undated, non-designated buildings situated within the study area, one of which comprises a dovecote (**13978**) located in the north of Gotherington village, and the other comprises a sheepwash (**27640**) at Manor Farm. Although undated, it is likely that these assets belong to the post-medieval period. Neither is considered to influence the archaeological potential of the site.
- 4.69 The only other undated asset within the study area comprises a series of concentric rectilinear cropmarks (**22158**), situated c.600m north of the site. The features were recorded from an aerial image accessed from a dubious online source in 2000, and as such, this record is considered to be of little interpretive use by account of its limited accuracy.

### **Geophysical Survey and Trial Trenching**

- 4.70 A geophysical survey was undertaken across the site in 2016 (**Appendix EDP 1**). This identified a rectilinear enclosure complex in the north of the site. A former field boundary was identified, and an extant path or track was detected. Anomalies of uncertain origin are likely to be due to natural or agricultural causes.
- 4.71 The geophysical survey was tested through trial trenching undertaken in 2016 (**Appendix EDP 2**). This identified an area of archaeological interest identified in the north of the site, corresponding with the results of the geophysical survey. It comprised a number of large linear and curvilinear features. These seemed to form at least two possible round enclosures within a larger rectilinear enclosure, as well as some further out-lying ditches that may be associated or related to another adjacent enclosures. Late Bronze Age/early middle Iron Age pottery point to a peak in activity at the site during the late Bronze Age and middle Iron Age. There was also an Early Bronze Age thumbnail scraper and one sherd of Roman pottery recovered from the ditches, hinting at both earlier and later activity in the area. There was also evidence for post-medieval agricultural activity in the form of plough furrows and drains.
- 4.72 The consultation response from the previous application confirmed that although there is the presence of archaeology within the site, that it wasn't of sufficient preservation to warrant preservation *in situ* but would need suitable mitigation secured by a condition.

### **Historic Landscape Character**

- 4.73 Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) data, provided by Gloucestershire County Council, indicates that the entirety of the site falls within category A: "*former un-enclosed cultivation - now enclosed*". More specifically, within this category, the site comprises less irregular enclosure, partly reflecting former un-enclosed cultivation patterns (HLC Primary Type A2). This primary type consists of small (generally between c.1 and 7ha) fields with some boundaries appearing to echo former open field divisions. This enclosure pattern contains numerous co-axial boundaries, and in particular shares boundaries along former headlands, often with very straight boundaries (Hoyle, 2006).
- 4.74 The site represents a common form of post-medieval enclosure, and there is little surviving of the earlier landscape, such as ridge and furrow (which has been entirely ploughed-out). As such, the site has no more than a low (i.e. local) historic landscape value.

### Previous Archaeological Investigation

- 4.75 The site has not been subject to any previous archaeological investigation, as listed on the Gloucestershire HER. However, a number (ten) have been conducted in the wider study area, occurring between 1983 and 2015. Their locations are illustrated on **Plan EDP 1** (areas shaded purple), and a summary of the investigations is provided below. Where relevant, the results of these investigations are discussed above.
- 4.76 In 1983, a watching brief (**14001**) was undertaken on a housing development in Gotherington. The exact area monitored is uncertain, but was probably on the south side of Malleson Road. No significant finds or deposits were observed.
- 4.77 The next recorded intrusive survey to occur within the study area, took place in 2009, and comprised a geophysical survey (**34200**) at Cleevelands, Bishop's Cleeve, c.1km south-west of the site. The survey confirmed the presence of enclosures, settlement remains and hut circles of possible late prehistoric or Roman date at several locations to the south-west of the farm. The results of the geophysical survey warranted an archaeological evaluation (**35562**), which took place the following year. The excavation of 77 trenches was undertaken by Cotwold Archaeology from January to February 2010. The trenches revealed a variable density of archaeological remains across the site, with features dating from the Bronze Age to the modern period in the three areas of excavation.
- 4.78 A second geophysical survey took place in 2009 within the study area, in this instance, Homelands Farm was surveyed (**34377**), c.600m south of the site. Five separate fields were assessed covering an area about 40ha. Field 2 revealed a zone of archaeological anomalies, specifically in the western half, indicating the presence of possible Iron Age enclosures, field systems and other ephemeral settlement remains. Field 3 showed much disturbance caused by the ploughed-out remains of a former World War II military camp. Field 4 revealed the remains of a sub-rectangular enclosure and associated linear features possibly of Late Iron Age date. Field 5 showed few archaeological features, although a single linear feature was recorded in the south-western part of the field. It was evident in each of the fields that former ridge and furrow had truncated many of the earlier features.
- 4.79 In 2010, an archaeological evaluation of 82 trenches were excavated by Cotswold Archaeology at Homelands Farm (**37007**). The trenches all measured 50m by 1.80m and were targeted onto locations of geophysical anomalies previously recorded by the 2009 survey (**34377**). A pit/post hole of possible Mesolithic date was recorded, along with possible prehistoric enclosures, a possible Iron Age ring ditch and a Roman ditch. Medieval or post-medieval furrows and a WWII military camp were also recorded. Many of the trenches excavated across the whole area were found to contain no archaeological interest.
- 4.80 A watching brief (**42167**) was maintained by Bristol and Regional Archaeological Services between June and October 2011, during groundworks associated with the construction of a new access road, c.1km south of the site. This work revealed little apart from some

limestone slabs which appear to have been the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century makeup of the existing track to the side of the stream.

- 4.81 In 2014 a geophysical survey (**47474**) was undertaken c.210m north-east of the site, in advance of a proposed development at Moat Farm, Gotherington. The main findings from the survey was a distinct linear pattern indicating surviving traces of ridge and furrow cultivation. These findings did not provide any clear evidence for the presence of an identifiable archaeological site.
- 4.82 In the same year, and as part of the same proposed development at Moat Farm, a total of eight trenches were excavated during a trial trench evaluation (**47475**). These identified a series of undated shallow linear features of unknown function within the western half of the proposed development site. The impression of water staining in the fill could suggest that they functioned as a form of water drainage channels, although no dating evidence was recovered. Trench 8 identified a series of large shallow linear gullies and possible small pits, both truncated through later ploughing.
- 4.83 The final recorded events to occur within the study area comprise a geophysical survey (**47797**) carried out c.825m south of the site in 2015, and a later trial trench evaluation (**47798**) at the same location. The geophysical survey detected anomalies due to ridge and furrow cultivation, and the subsequent evaluation only revealed further evidence for medieval ridge and furrow, although some 12<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recorded.
- 4.84 The majority of archaeological evidence found during the investigations within the study area has been found around Homelands Farm, to the north of Bishop's Cleeve, some 600m to the south of the site. Where investigations have occurred within close proximity to the site, the only features observed comprise 'low value' remains, including ridge and furrow cultivation and undated shallow linear features of an unknown function. As such, these results are not thought to influence the archaeological potential of the site.

### **Early Maps**

- 4.85 Maps held by the Gloucestershire Archives were consulted to inform this assessment. The earliest consulted map detailing the area of the proposed development is the Gotherington Inclosure Map 1807 (**Plan EDP 2**).
- 4.86 At this time, the site was under the ownership of at least three different people, perhaps most notable of which was the Hon. Henry Augustus Berkeley Craven, who is briefly mentioned above (paragraph 4.55) and who owned large parts of Gotherington during the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. This map depicts the site as divided into at least eight fields, the names of which include Long Furlong, Hincham Land, Lammas Ground, Coblers Orchard and Plat Meadow. Some of these names are clear indicators of the site's former land use, in particular, meadow and orchard. In the wider landscape, the individual plots and buildings of Gotherington are depicted, as are the main route-ways through the settlement. The only boundaries that have remained the same since this time, are the north-western corner of the site and parts of the eastern boundary.

- 4.87 Earliest available Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping, comprises the 1st Edition of 1884 (**Plan EDP 3a**), which shows the site as divided into six fields, with four footpaths traversing them. The thin westernmost field of the site comprised an orchard at this time, as did many of the fields surrounding the settlement. In general, the buildings and farmsteads within Gotherington are more clearly depicted on this edition map, with features such as the medieval moat at Moathouse Farm being shown.
- 4.88 By the 1903, Second Edition OS map (**Plan EDP 3b**), there had been some minor boundary loss within the site, reducing the number of fields within it down to four. Other than this, very little change occurred within the vicinity of the site, although the land bordering the north, was labelled White's Farm by this point.
- 4.89 The site and surrounding landscape appear unchanged for quite some time, until the 1972 OS map (not illustrated), whereby new housing developments such as The Lawns, Ashmead Drive and Aggs Lane were constructed. Also by this time, further boundary loss had occurred within the site, resulting in the site's present form of two fields.
- 4.90 By 1994, the village had expanded further, with buildings constructed along the northern boundary of the site, and the installation of the caravan park to the west of the site.
- 4.91 The historic maps have demonstrated that the application site was in agricultural use throughout the mid-19<sup>th</sup> to late-20<sup>th</sup> century and no other notable heritage or archaeological features were identified within the site.

### **Aerial Photographs**

- 4.92 A total of 41 aerial photographs, covering the application site and its immediate environs, were identified within the collection maintained by the Historic England Archive at Swindon.
- 4.93 The available images span the period from May 1946 to October 2002 and add detail to the land use and development sequence shown on the assessed historic maps.
- 4.94 The aerial photographs show cropmarks related to former ridge and furrow cultivation across the majority of the site, which do not survive as above ground earthworks. This confirms the agricultural use of the site from at least the medieval period.
- 4.95 Within the site, the ridge and furrow earthworks were entirely ploughed out by the 1970s.
- 4.96 The alignment and extent of the ridge and furrow cropmarks and earthworks suggests that the field boundaries around the site, which cut across the cropmarks and earthworks, are the result of post-medieval enclosure.
- 4.97 Otherwise, there were no features related to archaeology or heritage noted on any of the aerial photographs.

### **Site Walkover**

- 4.98 The site was visited in September 2015 to assess the current ground conditions and topography, as well as to confirm the continuing survival of any known archaeological remains and to identify any hitherto unknown remains of potential significance. It was also designed to assess the setting of surrounding designated heritage assets.
- 4.99 At the time of the visit, the low crop cover across the large field of the application site enabled good visibility of the natural topography and the identification of potential earthworks, however the thin, pasture field in the west of the site was heavily overgrown with scrubby grass.

### **Non-designated Assets**

- 4.100 Although unrecorded by the HER, an area of isolated ridge and furrow earthworks were noted in the field to the west of the site (**Image EDP 1**). This is distant from any contemporary heritage assets, that would otherwise give it a contextual or group value, as a remnant of a once much wider pattern of former ridge and furrow across the majority of the site (which does not survive) and wider landscape surrounding Gotherington (see **Aerial Photographs**). As such, it is of 'low' importance, in terms of its heritage value.
- 4.101 The surviving ridge and furrow earthworks noted adjacent to the site further confirm the agricultural use of the land, from at least the medieval period onwards.

### **Designated Assets**

- 4.102 In accordance with paragraph 189 of the NPPF, this section identifies those heritage assets that may be affected by the proposed development.
- 4.103 More particularly, this section addresses **Steps 1** and **2** of the five-step approach to setting assessment that is described in the relevant Historic England guidance (HE 2017).
- 4.104 This section then goes on to assess the likely impact of the implementation of the proposed development upon the setting and significance of the heritage assets whose settings it is determined are capable of being affected, specifically addressing **Steps 3** and **4** of the five-step approach to setting assessment described in the guidance (HE 2017).
- 4.105 All designated heritage assets identified in this section are detailed on **Plan EDP 1**. Supporting images that illustrate the findings of the assessment are included, where appropriate, (see **Images EDP 2- 7**).

## Listed Buildings

### **The Holt**

- 4.106 This Grade II listed building (**1091679**) comprises a late-19<sup>th</sup> century detached house, positioned on a slight bend along Cleeve Road, c.25m south-east of the site. Originally known as Pound House and designed by Joseph Peart, the building is constructed of roughly coursed squared and dressed limestone with dressed stone quoins and a thin stone slate roof. The subtle architectural detail of the building is focussed on its eastern aspect, which fronts onto Cleeve Road. This would suggest that it is from here that the building was originally intended to be appreciated. There are later-19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century extensions to rear, where a mature, well enclosed garden backs onto the south-eastern aspect of the site. Behind a tall, ivy clad fence, a public footpath passes the northern elevation of the house, which provides access to the main field of the site.
- 4.107 It is clear that the significance of this building, or its “*special architectural or historic interest*”, is primarily derived from the high evidential, historic and aesthetic value of its standing fabric.
- 4.108 The current, immediate setting of The Holt is defined by its surrounding enclosed gardens, which to the front (east), comprises a low local stone wall with mature evergreen trees planted behind (**Image EDP 2**), and to the rear (west), a well enclosed mature garden, with a mix of mature trees and dense shrubs along its northern boundary (**Image EDP 3**). The wider setting of the asset is defined by its position fronting onto Cleeve Road, which is the main, historic north-south road passing through Gotherington settlement and forms the most common ‘experience’ of this asset, albeit a fairly glimpsed experience.
- 4.109 In reality there are no views towards the application site from this asset as it is screened by mature trees present in the front garden of the house, the non-designated built form on either side of the asset, as well as its surrounding mature enclosed gardens. Therefore, the site is not considered to form part of the ‘experience’ of this asset, which is for the most part, limited to glimpsed views of the building from Cleeve Road to the east.
- 4.110 In any event, there is no evidence of any historic links to the application site, or any suggestion that views in the direction of the application site contribute to the significance of The Holt. It is considered that the proposed development will result in no change to the asset or the elements of its setting which contribute to its significance.

### **The Homestead**

- 4.111 The Grade II listed The Homestead (**1340165**), comprises a 17<sup>th</sup> century house positioned at the end of a (now private) historic track-way known as Long Furlong, c.60m north-west of the site. The building was constructed of square-panelled timber framing with rendered brick infill, under a thatched roof with decorative ridge thatching. The house represents one of the earliest houses to be built on the western aspect of the village.

- 4.112 It should be noted that Historic England have the building incorrectly placed on their National Heritage List for England (NHLE) website, where it is marked as on the south side of Long Furlong, almost within a caravan park. The building is in fact located approximately 50m north of this location, although shares the same access as the caravan park, which is Long Furlong.
- 4.113 The significance of this listed building is primarily derived from the special architectural and historic interest of its physical fabric, which comprises rendered brick set within a timber frame, under a thatched roof. The setting of the asset has been compromised by the introduction of a modern caravan park in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, which is immediately evident on the approach to the asset, also the building has had a rather insensitive extension added onto it, which has altered the asset's original setting. The immediate setting of the asset comprises its well enclosed mature gardens, which contains a detached stone barn of a contemporary period as the house.
- 4.114 Intervening mature vegetation prohibits any experience of the landscape to the east and south-east (**Image EDP 4**) from this listed building and therefore, the proposed development will be wholly screened from the asset. Furthermore, a modern housing development of 17 has been undertaken in the field immediately between the asset and the western boundary of the site, which totally screens the site from view, in the unlikely event of the mature vegetation being removed in the future.
- 4.115 There is no evidence of any historic links to the application site, or any suggestion that views to the east or south-east contribute to the significance of the asset. Therefore, the proposed development will result in no change to the asset or the elements of its setting which contribute to its significance.

#### ***The Church of St Martin de Tours***

- 4.116 The only Grade II\* listed building within the study area comprises the Church of St Martin de Tours (**1091692**), situated c.730m north of the site, in the hamlet of Woolstone. The core of the church dates to the 14<sup>th</sup> century, and it was restored in 1873 by John Middleton for the Rector G.G. Coventry. The church is built of random ashlar and random squared and dressed limestone with a stone slate roof.
- 4.117 The church is situated in the core of the medieval hamlet of Woolstone, and it would have been from here, that the rest of the settlement expanded. The asset is neatly enclosed by a local stone wall to the south and mature hedgerows to the east, north and west. The well maintained, enclosed graveyard (which includes four Grade II listed monuments), forms the church's immediate setting (**Image EDP 5**), and it is from here and Woolstone Lane that the church is primarily 'experienced'.
- 4.118 The wider setting of the church comprises the linear hamlet of Woolstone, which contains numerous Grade II listed buildings, which contribute strongly to the asset's village/hamlet setting, as do other later buildings. The nestled location of the church, at the foot of an outlying Cotswold hill (Crane Hill), contributes to the asset's rural setting. Finally, the approach into the settlement along Woolstone Lane, from which all these elements can

collectively be appreciated, forms a key aspect of its current setting. As such, the site forms no part of the identified setting of the church.

- 4.119 As illustrated by **Image EDP 6**, intervening vegetation and mature trees present to the south of the church are such that they prohibit any inter-visibility between the asset and the site. The church is further screened from the site by intervening built form of Gotherington.
- 4.120 This position was verified in the field during the course of the field visit and assessment of the site's wider environs, where it was confirmed that the site makes no contribution to the setting of the asset and it was also established that there would be no 'in combination' views of the asset and the site when viewed from publically accessible land elsewhere.
- 4.121 There is no evidence of any historic links to the site, or any suggestion that views in the direction of the site, contribute to the significance of the church. Furthermore, the site is not considered to form part of the 'experience' of this asset, and in any case, views from the church in the direction of the site are totally screened by mature vegetation, trees and built form.

## **Scheduled Monuments**

### ***Nottingham Hill Camp***

- 4.122 The monument (**1004864**) includes a promontory fort situated on a natural limestone plateau overlooking the wide valleys of the Dean (in the west) and Langley (in the east) Brooks. The plateau is divided from the surrounding ground by two defensive banks and ditches all surviving as earthworks. The medial ditch has been partially backfilled and re-used as a bridleway and the remaining sides of the fort are defended by steep natural scarps.
- 4.123 The fort on Nottingham Hill is considered to have a particularly strong "*strategic and territorial significance*" and despite some disturbance by quarrying, will contain archaeological and environmental evidence relating to the construction and longevity of the hillfort.
- 4.124 The national importance of this scheduled monument is predominantly derived from the archaeological and historic interest of the designated area. It is clear that the greater part of the significance of the scheduled monument lies in its earthwork and buried remains, rather than its wider setting. However, elements of the scheduled monument's setting are considered to make a contribution to its significance.
- 4.125 The significance of the hillfort derives from the dramatic topography and commanding views it would have enjoyed over the landscape to the east and west. This explains why such a strong, highly prominent site was chosen. The commanding views and dramatic topography are thus the elements of the asset's setting which contribute to its

significance as a heritage asset. There are no known historic links between the scheduled monument and the land within the site and no evidence to suggest that any view to or from the land within the site is of significance to the scheduled monument or its setting.

- 4.126 The panoramic views and commanding position of the asset have been undermined by the presence of substantial wooded belts which encircle much of the perimeter of the designated area. However, due to a clearing between Gotherington Wood and Bushcomb Wood, parts of the site are visible from the western slopes of Nottingham Hill. Despite this, views of the site are not possible from within the scheduled area, nor are views of the scheduled earthwork remains possible from the site (**Image EDP 7**). Therefore, the application site is not considered to form part of the setting or experience of this scheduled monument from within the designated area itself.
- 4.127 There is no evidence of any historic links to the application site, and in any case, in the context of the existing settlement at Gotherington, the proposed development would cause no discernible change to the setting of the scheduled monument and would not harm its significance as a designated heritage asset.
- 4.128 In terms of the experience of the scheduled monument from beyond the designated area, for the most part, woodland covering the slopes obstructs any appreciation of the earthwork remains of the asset from the wider landscape to the west; the physical form of the scheduled monument is not in itself a visible feature in the wider landscape. In this way, there is no suggestion that the site forms part of any valued or significant view of the scheduled monument from the wider landscape.
- 4.129 Therefore, the implementation of the proposed development would result in no change to the setting of the asset and its significance would in no way be diminished.

## Section 5 Conclusions

- 5.1 This archaeological and heritage assessment concludes that the application site does not contain any scheduled monuments, registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields or listed buildings, where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation *in situ* and against development.
- 5.2 Potential impacts upon the settings of nationally designated heritage assets in the wider study area have been considered. Detailed assessment focussed on the Grade II listed buildings of The Holt (**1091679**), located c.25m south-east of the site; and the Grade II listed The Homestead (**1340165**), located c.60m north-west of the site; and the Grade II\* listed Church of St Martin de Tours (**1091692**), located c.730m north of the site. In addition, the scheduled Nottingham Hill Camp (**1004864**), located c.1.7km south-east of the application site was subject to detailed assessment.
- 5.3 Accordingly, the assessment concludes that the implementation of the proposed development will not result in an adverse impact on, harm to, or loss of significance from any of the identified designated heritage assets, either in terms of an effect on their physical fabric or through changes to their wider setting. This position is supported by an inspector in their conclusions regarding the previous application within the site.
- 5.4 A geophysical survey and trial trenching undertaken within the site had identified an area of late Bronze Age to middle Iron Age activity present within the northern part of the site. It has been established through the previous application that this is not of sufficient quality to warrant preservation *in situ*. However, it is likely that the area will need to be mitigated through a suitable programme of archaeological works secured as a condition on any successful application.
- 5.5 As such, it is considered that the site would comply with requirements of both local and national planning policy.

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<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

### List of Consulted Maps

Gotherington Inclosure Map 1807  
The First Edition Gloucestershire Ordnance Survey Six-Inch Map – XIX.NE 1884  
The Second Edition Gloucestershire Ordnance Survey Six-Inch Map – XIX.NE 1903  
The 1923 Edition Ordnance Survey Map  
The 1954-55 Edition Ordnance Survey Map  
The 1972-78 Edition Ordnance Survey Map  
The 1994 Edition Ordnance Survey Map

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## Images



**Image EDP 1:** View of the surviving ridge and furrow earthworks to the west of the site, looking south. This image illustrates the heavily overgrown nature of the earthworks, restricting visibility, and the enclosed nature of the field in which they lie.



**Image EDP 2:** View of The Holt looking north-west (in the direction of the site), taken from Cleeve Road. This image illustrates the enclosed nature of the asset from the roadside. However, the road also comprises part of the wider setting of the asset, as it would, once, have been a prominent building on the main approach into the village from Bishop's Cleeve.



**Image EDP 3:** View of the south-eastern boundary of the site, looking towards The Holt from within the site. This image illustrates how the mature boundary of The Holt's rear garden prevents any intervisibility with the site.



**Image EDP 4:** View in the direction of The Homestead, taken from the north-western corner of the of the site. This image illustrates the lack of intervisibility between the asset and the site due to mature hedgerow boundaries. In any case, a modern housing development is being constructed beyond the field boundary, between the asset and the site.



**Image EDP 5:** View of the Grade II\* listed Church of St Martin de Tours, looking north, taken from Woolstone Lane. This image illustrates the asset's immediate setting, which comprises its enclosed graveyard, fronted by a low, local stone wall.



**Image EDP 6:** View in the direction of the site, taken from the south facing graveyard of St Martin de Tours church. This image illustrates the screening effects of intervening vegetation, with the most prominent feature in the landscape comprising the Cotswold Hills in the far distance.



**Image EDP 7:** View of Nottingham Hill Camp looking south-east from within the site. This image illustrates the heavily wooded nature of the hill, and where a break in the wood is present, the scheduled earthwork remains are not discernible.

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## **Appendix EDP 1 Geophysical Survey Report**

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# **GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT G1639**

**Land at South Gotherington  
Gloucestershire**

**GSB**  
**PROSPECTION Ltd**

*Celebrating over 25 years  
at the forefront of  
Archaeological Geophysics*



**Client:**



**On Behalf Of:**



# GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT

Project name: Land at South Gotherington  
Job ref: G1639  
Client: The Environmental Dimension Partnership (EDP)  
Survey dates: 25 – 26 April 2016  
Report date: 16 May 2016  
Field Co-ordinator: Richard Collins BSc  
Field team: Samuel Wood  
Jack Lerner  
  
Report written by: Jon Tanner BSc MSc CPIfA  
CAD illustrations by: Leanne Swinbank BA  
Report approved by: Dr John Gater MCifA FSA  
Project Director: Dr John Gater MCifA FSA  
Version number and issue date: V1: 16 May 2016  
Amendments:

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## APPENDICES

Appendix A	Technical Information: Magnetometer Survey Method
Appendix B	Technical Information: Magnetic Theory

## DIGITAL CONTENT (CD)

- Minimally Processed Greyscale Images and XY Trace Plots in DWG format
- DWG Viewer
- Digital Copies of Report Text and Figures (both PDF and native formats)

## 1 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The survey detected a rectilinear enclosure complex in the north of Area 1. A former field boundary was identified, and an extant path or track was detected. Anomalies of uncertain origin are likely to be due to natural or agricultural causes. Ridge and furrow cultivation was located in Area 2, and relatively modern ploughing was recorded in Area 1.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Background synopsis

GSB Prospection Ltd. were commissioned to undertake a geophysical survey of an area proposed for residential development. This survey forms part of an archaeological investigation being undertaken by **The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd. (EDP)** on behalf of **J J Gallagher Ltd.**

### 2.2 Site Details

<b>NGR / Postcode</b>	SO961294 / GL52 9UH
<b>Location</b>	The site is located c.7km to the south-east of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire at the southern extent of the village of Gotherington. It comprises two fields bounded by residential houses on Cleeve Road to the east and minor roads off Malleson Road to the north. Arable fields form the southern boundary of the site.
<b>HER/SMR</b>	Gloucestershire HER
<b>District</b>	Tewkesbury
<b>Parish</b>	Gloucestershire County
<b>Topography</b>	Flat
<b>Current Land Use</b>	Crops
<b>Soils</b>	Soils are Evesham 2 (411b) association slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils. Some slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged non-calcareous clayey and fine loamy of fine silty over clayey soils. Landslips and associated irregular terrain locally. Also: Badsey 2 (511i) association well drained calcareous fine loamy soils over limestone gravel. Some similar soils affected by groundwater (SSEW 1983).
<b>Geology</b>	Bedrock: Charmouth Mudstone Formation – mudstone. Superficial deposits: Cheltenham sand and gravel (BGS 2016).
<b>Archaeology</b>	None known within the survey area. Several prehistoric and Romano-British enclosures are recorded in the vicinity of the site, as are Medieval and Post-Medieval settlements. Ridge and furrow cultivation is known from aerial photographs and is extant in Area 2 (EDP 2016).
<b>Survey Methods</b>	Detailed magnetometer survey (fluxgate gradiometer)
<b>Study Area</b>	7ha

### 2.3 Aims and objectives

To locate and characterise any anomalies of possible archaeological interest within the study area.

## 3 METHODS, PROCESSING & PRESENTATION

### 3.1 Standards & Guidance

This report and all fieldwork have been conducted in accordance with the latest guidance documents issued by Historic England (EH 2008) (then English Heritage) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2002 & ClfA 2014).

### 3.2 Survey methods

Detailed magnetic survey was used as an efficient and effective method of locating archaeological anomalies.

Technique	Instrument	Traverse Interval	Sample Interval
Magnetometer	Bartington Grad 601-2	1m	0.25m

This project was carried out in accordance with a WSI submitted to Gloucestershire County Council  
More information regarding this technique is included in Appendix A.

### 3.3 Data Processing

The following schedule shows the basic processing carried out on the data used in this report:

1. *De-stripe*
2. *De-stagger Magnetic Data*

### 3.4 Presentation of results and interpretation

The presentation of the data for each site involves a greyscale plot of processed data. Magnetic anomalies have been identified, interpreted and plotted onto the 'Interpretation' drawings. The minimally processed data is provided as a greyscale image on the CD together with an XY trace plot in CAD format. A CAD viewer is also provided.

When interpreting the results several factors are taken into consideration, including the nature of archaeological features being investigated and the local conditions at the site (geology, pedology, topography etc.). Anomalies are categorised by their potential origin. Where responses can be related to very specific known features documented in other sources, this is done (for example: Abbey Wall, Roman Road). For the generic categories levels of confidence are indicated, for example: probable, or possible archaeology. The former is used for a confident interpretation, based on anomaly definition and/or other corroborative data such as cropmarks. Poor anomaly definition, a lack of clear patterns to the responses and an absence of other supporting data reduces confidence, hence the classification "possible".

## 4 RESULTS

- 4.1 A number of ditch-like anomalies were detected in the north of Area 1. They appear to form a series of rectilinear enclosures, with subdivisions and some internal discrete responses that may be of archaeological origin. The two north-south components of the enclosure [1] lie either side of a former field boundary shown on historic mapping but not detected; allowing for inaccuracies of the map, either of the responses could represent the boundary, or it could be a double-ditched field division. The southern "leg" of the complex [2] is close to an undetected field boundary shown on the 1884 OS map, but it is not an exact correlation. The mapping shows the boundary continuing beyond the anomaly at both extremities and it does not match the return to the north of anomaly [2]. The anomalies classified as *Possible Archaeology* in Figure 4 are therefore interpreted as representing a discrete enclosure complex. The general rectangular layout of the complex and its approximate alignment with (or right-angle to) former field boundaries at [1] and [4] hint at a medieval or post-medieval date, although this is of course a highly tentative interpretation.
- 4.2 A linear anomaly [3] passes through the enclosure complex and coincides with an extant track or pathway that is depicted on the 1887 OS map. The track is absent from the 1807 Gotherington Inclosure map.
- 4.3 An intermittent chain of dipolar anomalies [4] correlates with a former field boundary recorded on historic mapping.
- 4.4 A number of weak trends are visible in the dataset. Whilst possibly natural, these may result from past agricultural activity. A few pit-like anomalies are weak, ill-defined and form no obvious pattern and are classed as *Uncertain Origin*.
- 4.5 A series of broad, parallel and relatively widely spaced linear anomalies in Area 2 represent a past ridge and furrow cultivation regime. This area is shown as being planted with trees perhaps an orchard, on historic mapping as late as 1973.
- 4.6 Closely spaced, narrow linear responses that are barely visible above the magnetic background are due to relatively recent ploughing.
- 4.7 Several areas of magnetic disturbance are typical of responses associated with relatively modern remains, perhaps landscaping or dumped material.
- 4.8 Ferrous responses adjacent to boundaries are due to fences and gates. Smaller scale ferrous anomalies ("iron spikes") are present throughout the data, and their form is best illustrated in the XY trace plots. These responses are characteristic of small pieces of ferrous debris in the topsoil and are commonly assigned a modern origin. The most prominent of these are highlighted on the interpretation diagram

## 5 DATA APPRAISAL & CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 Historic England (then English Heritage) Guidelines (EH 2008) Table 4 states that the average response on mudstone is poor, but results on sand and gravel can be variable. However, the detection of a complex of ditch-like anomalies and ridge and furrow agriculture suggests that the survey has been effective in identifying any archaeological features.

## 6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 A series of enclosure ditches was detected in the north of Area 1.
- 6.2 A path or track, still in existence but recorded on historic mapping, was identified. A former field boundary was located.
- 6.3 Several weak trends and discrete anomalies are of uncertain, but probably natural or agricultural origin.
- 6.4 Ridge and furrow agriculture was identified in Area 2, and more recent ploughing was detected in Area 1

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Site Location



Title:

Site Location Plan

Client:

The Environmental Dimension  
Partnership

Project:

G1639 Land at  
South Gotherington

**GSB**  
PROSPECTION Ltd



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Scale:

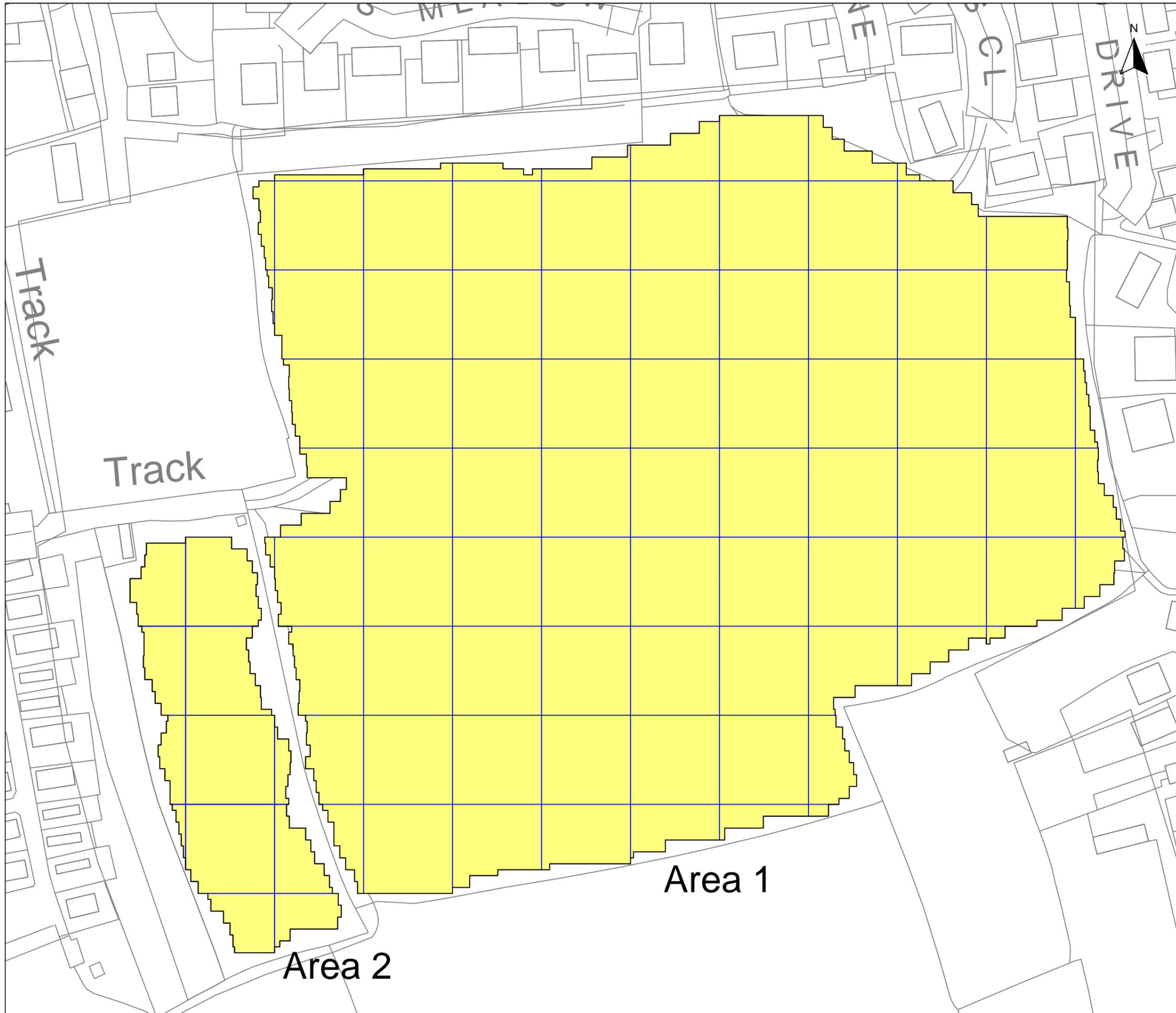
0 metres 2000



1:50000 @ A4

Fig No:

1



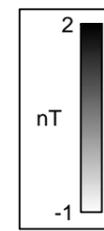
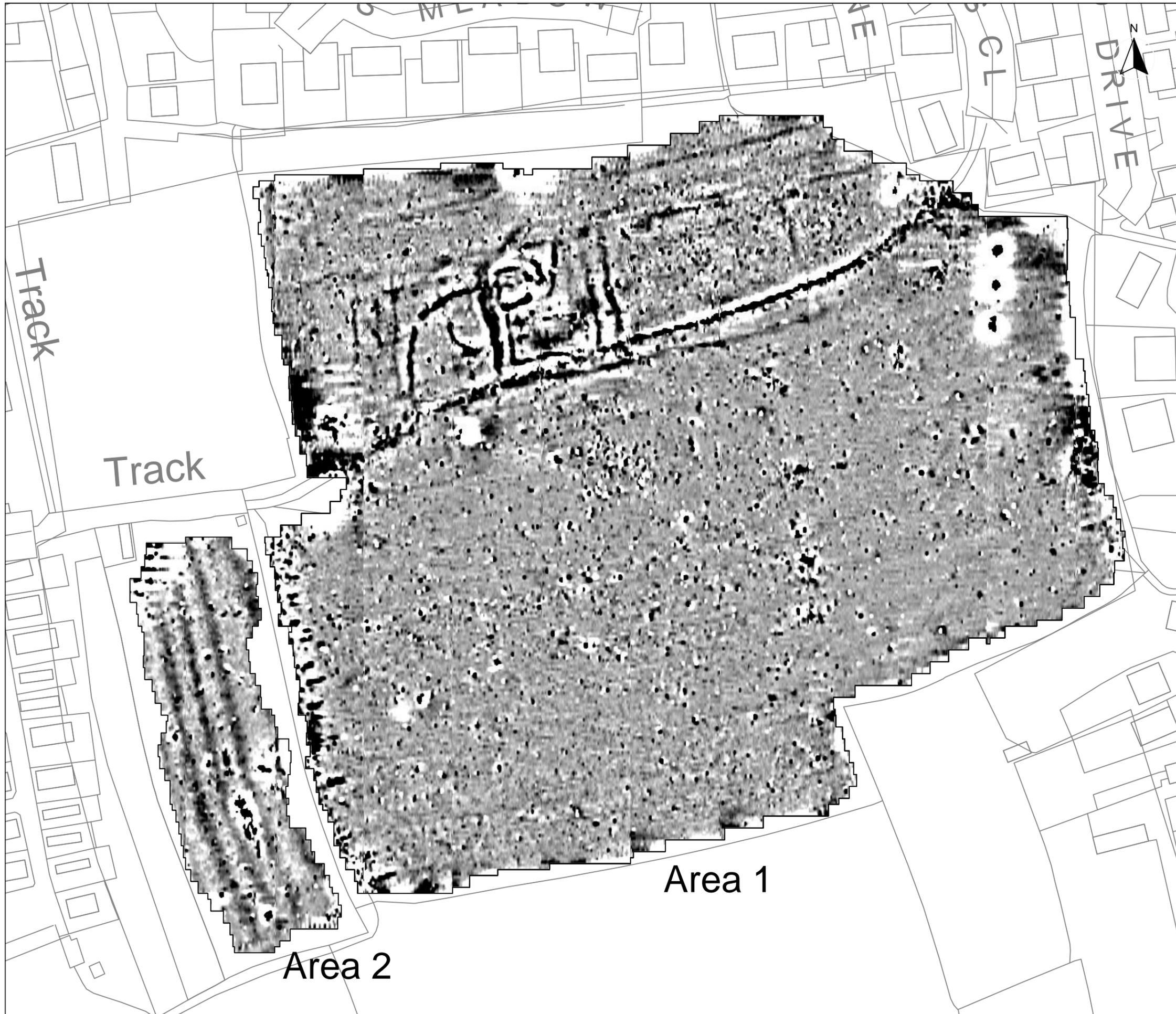
 Magnetometer Survey Area  
 Showing 30m Grids

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Title:	Location of Survey Areas	
Client:	The Environmental Dimension Partnership	
Project:	G1639 Land at South Gotherington	
Scale:	 0 metres 50 1:1250 @ A3	Fig No: 2



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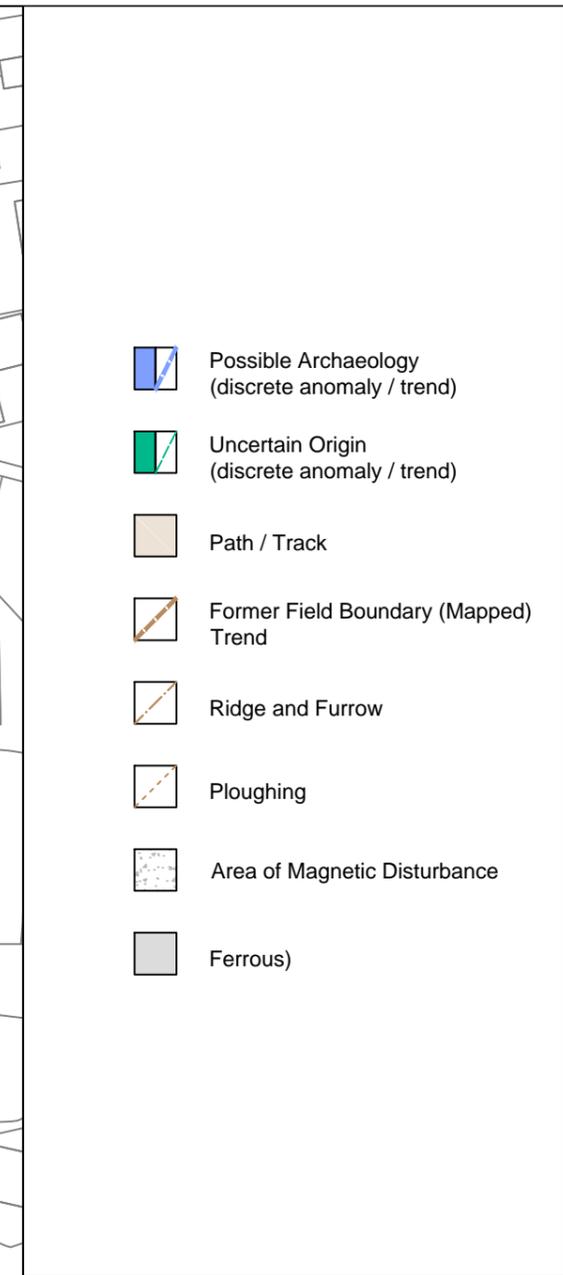
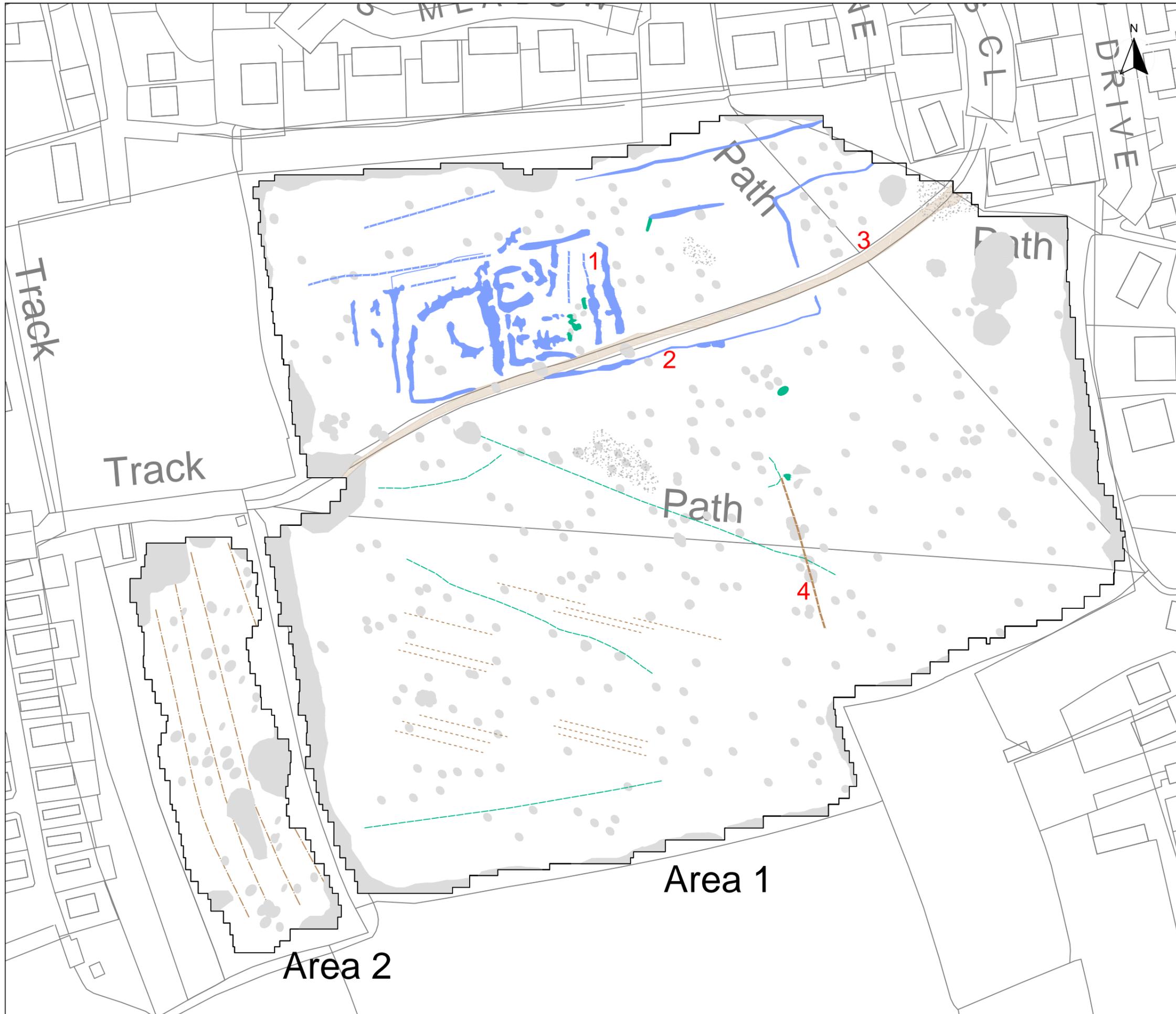
Title: Magnetometer Survey  
Greyscale Plots

Client: The Environmental Dimension Partnership

Project: G1639 Land at South Gothington

Scale: 0 metres 50  
1:1250 @ A3

Fig No: 3





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Title: Magnetometer Survey Interpretation

Client: The Environmental Dimension Partnership

Project: G1639 Land at South Gothington

Scale: 0 metres 50  
1:1250 @ A3

Fig No: 4

## Appendix A - Technical Information: Magnetometer Survey Method

### Grid Positioning

For hand held gradiometers the location of the survey grids has been plotted together with the referencing information. Grids were set out using a Trimble R8 Real Time Kinematic (RTK) VRS Now GNSS GPS system.

For CARTEASY<sup>N</sup> collected data each data point had its position recorded using a Trimble R10 Real Time Kinematic (RTK) VRS Now GNSS GPS system. The geophysical survey area is georeferenced relative to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

An RTK GPS (Real-time Kinematic Global Positioning System) can locate a point on the ground to a far greater accuracy than a standard GPS unit. A standard GPS suffers from errors created by satellite orbit errors, clock errors and atmospheric interference, resulting in an accuracy of 5m-10m. An RTK system uses a single base station receiver and a number of mobile units. The base station re-broadcasts the phase of the carrier it measured, and the mobile units compare their own phase measurements with those they received from the base station. This results in an accuracy of around 0.01m.

Technique	Instrument	Traverse Interval	Sample Interval
Magnetometer	Bartington Grad 601-2	1m	0.25m
Magnetometer	CartEasy <sup>N</sup> cart system (Bartington Grad 601 sensors)	0.75m	0.125m

### Instrumentation: Bartington Grad601-2 / GSB CARTEASY<sup>N</sup> Cart system

Both the Bartington and CARTEASY<sup>N</sup> instruments operate in a gradiometer configuration which comprises fluxgate sensors mounted vertically, set 1.0m apart. The fluxgate gradiometer suppresses any diurnal or regional effects. The instruments are carried, or cart mounted, with the bottom sensor approximately 0.1-0.3m from the ground surface. At each survey station, the difference in the magnetic field between the two fluxgates is measured in nanoTesla (nT). The sensitivity of the instrument can be adjusted; for most archaeological surveys the most sensitive range (0.1nT) is used. Generally, features up to 1m deep may be detected by this method, though strongly magnetic objects may be visible at greater depths. The Bartington instrument can collect two lines of data per traverse with gradiometer units mounted laterally with a separation of 1.0m. The CARTEASY<sup>N</sup> system has four gradiometer units mounted at 0.75m intervals across its frame – rather than working in grids, the cart uses an on-board survey grade GNSS for positioning. The cart system allows for the collection of topographic data in addition to the magnetic field measurements.

The readings are logged consecutively into the data logger which in turn is daily down-loaded into a portable computer whilst on site. At the end of each site survey, data is transferred to the office for processing and presentation.

## **Data Processing**

Zero Mean Traverse	This process sets the background mean of each traverse within each grid to zero. The operation removes striping effects and edge discontinuities over the whole of the data set.
Step Correction (Destagger)	When gradiometer data are collected in 'zig-zag' fashion, stepping errors can sometimes arise. These occur because of a slight difference in the speed of walking on the forward and reverse traverses. The result is a staggered effect in the data, which is particularly noticeable on linear anomalies. This process corrects these errors.
Interpolation	When geophysical data are presented as a greyscale, each data point is represented as a small square. The resulting plot can sometimes have a 'blocky' appearance. The interpolation process calculates and inserts additional values between existing data points. The process can be carried out with points along a traverse (the x axis) and/or between traverses (the y axis) and results in a smoother greyscale image.

## **Display**

XY Trace Plot	This involves a line representation of the data. Each successive row of data is equally incremented in the Y axis, to produce a stacked profile effect. This display may incorporate a hidden-line removal algorithm, which blocks out lines behind the major peaks and can aid interpretation. The advantages of this type of display are that it allows the full range of the data to be viewed and shows the shape of the individual anomalies. The display may also be changed by altering the horizontal viewing angle and the angle above the plane.
Greyscale Plot	This format divides a given range of readings into a set number of classes. Each class is represented by a specific shade of grey, the intensity increasing with value. All values above the given range are allocated the same shade (maximum intensity); similarly all values below the given range are represented by the minimum intensity shade.

## Interpretation Categories

In certain circumstances (usually when there is corroborative evidence from desk based or excavation data) very specific interpretations can be assigned to magnetic anomalies (for example, *Roman Road, Wall, etc.*) and where appropriate, such interpretations will be applied. The list below outlines the generic categories commonly used in the interpretation of the results.

<i>Probable Archaeology</i>	This term is used when the form, nature and pattern of the response are clearly or very probably archaeological and /or if corroborative evidence is available. These anomalies, whilst considered anthropogenic, could be of any age.
<i>Possible Archaeology</i>	These anomalies exhibit either weak signal strength and / or poor definition, or form incomplete archaeological patterns, thereby reducing the level of confidence in the interpretation. Although the archaeological interpretation is favoured, they may be the result of variable soil depth, plough damage or even aliasing as a result of data collection orientation.
<i>Industrial / Burnt-Fired</i>	Strong magnetic anomalies that, due to their shape and form or the context in which they are found, suggest the presence of kilns, ovens, corn dryers, metal-working areas or hearths. It should be noted that in many instances modern ferrous material can produce similar magnetic anomalies.
<i>Former Field Boundary (probable &amp; possible)</i>	Anomalies that correspond to former boundaries indicated on historic mapping, or which are clearly a continuation of existing land divisions. Possible denotes less confidence where the anomaly may not be shown on historic mapping but nevertheless the anomaly displays all the characteristics of a field boundary.
<i>Ridge &amp; Furrow</i>	Parallel linear anomalies whose broad spacing suggests ridge and furrow cultivation. In some cases the response may be the result of more recent agricultural activity.
<i>Agriculture (ploughing)</i>	Parallel linear anomalies or trends with a narrower spacing, sometimes aligned with existing boundaries, indicating more recent cultivation regimes.
<i>Land Drain</i>	Weakly magnetic linear anomalies, quite often appearing in series forming parallel and herringbone patterns. Smaller drains will often lead and empty into larger diameter pipes and which in turn usually lead to local streams and ponds. These are indicative of clay fired land drains.
<i>Natural</i>	These responses form clear patterns in geographical zones where natural variations are known to produce significant magnetic distortions.
<i>Magnetic Disturbance</i>	Broad zones of strong dipolar anomalies, commonly found in places where modern ferrous or fired materials (e.g. brick rubble) are present. They are presumed to be modern.
<i>Service</i>	Magnetically strong anomalies usually forming linear features indicative of ferrous pipes/cables. Sometimes other materials (e.g. pvc) cause weaker magnetic responses and can be identified from their uniform linearity crossing large expanses.
<i>Ferrous</i>	This type of response is associated with ferrous material and may result from small items in the topsoil, larger buried objects such as pipes, or above ground features such as fence lines or pylons. Ferrous responses are usually regarded as modern. Individual burnt stones, fired bricks or igneous rocks can produce responses similar to ferrous material.
<i>Uncertain Origin</i>	Anomalies which stand out from the background magnetic variation, yet whose form and lack of patterning gives little clue as to their origin. Often the characteristics and distribution of the responses straddle the categories of <i>Possible Archaeology</i> and <i>Possible Natural</i> or (in the case of linear responses) <i>Possible Archaeology</i> and <i>Possible Agriculture</i> ; occasionally they are simply of an unusual form.

Where appropriate some anomalies will be further classified according to their form (positive or negative) and relative strength and coherence (trend: weak and poorly defined).

## Appendix B - Technical Information: Magnetic Theory

Detailed magnetic survey can be used to effectively define areas of past human activity by mapping spatial variation and contrast in the magnetic properties of soil, subsoil and bedrock. Although the changes in the magnetic field resulting from differing features in the soil are usually weak, changes as small as 0.2 nanoTeslas (nT) in an overall field strength of 48,000nT, can be accurately detected.

Weakly magnetic iron minerals are always present within the soil and areas of enhancement relate to increases in *magnetic susceptibility* and permanently magnetised *thermoremanent* material.

Magnetic susceptibility relates to the induced magnetism of a material when in the presence of a magnetic field. This magnetism can be considered as effectively permanent as it exists within the Earth's magnetic field. Magnetic susceptibility can become enhanced due to burning and complex biological or fermentation processes.

Thermoremanence is a permanent magnetism acquired by iron minerals that, after heating to a specific temperature known as the Curie Point, are effectively demagnetised followed by re-magnetisation by the Earth's magnetic field on cooling. Thermoremanent archaeological features can include hearths and kilns and material such as brick and tile may be magnetised through the same process.

Silting and deliberate infilling of ditches and pits with magnetically enhanced soil creates a relative contrast against the much lower levels of magnetism within the subsoil into which the feature is cut. Systematic mapping of magnetic anomalies will produce linear and discrete areas of enhancement allowing assessment and characterisation of subsurface features. Material such as subsoil and non-magnetic bedrock used to create former earthworks and walls may be mapped as areas of lower enhancement compared to surrounding soils.

Magnetic survey is carried out using a fluxgate gradiometer which is a passive instrument consisting of two sensors mounted vertically 1m apart. The instrument is carried about 30cm above the ground surface and the top sensor measures the Earth's magnetic field whilst the lower sensor measures the same field but is also more affected by any localised buried field. The difference between the two sensors will relate to the strength of a magnetic field created by a buried feature, if no field is present the difference will be close to zero as the magnetic field measured by both sensors will be the same.

Factors affecting the magnetic survey may include soil type, local geology, previous human activity, disturbance from modern services etc.

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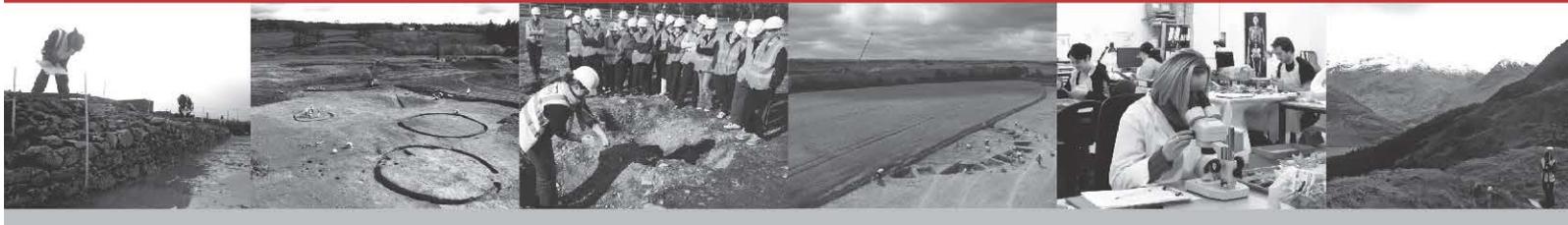
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**Appendix EDP 2**  
**Trial Trenching Report**

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# Land at South Gotherington

## Gloucestershire

### Archaeological Evaluation

**Date:** June 2016

**By:** Stephen Hourihan

**Project Officer:** Colm Moloney and Mark Collard

**Client:** The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd for JJ Gallagher Ltd

**Project Code:** LASG16

## Land at South Gotherington

### Gloucestershire

### Archaeological Evaluation

**Client** The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd for JJ  
Gallagher Ltd

**Project Code** LASG16

**Prepared By** Stephen Hourihan

**Illustrated By** Jonathan Millar

Rev Number	Description	Undertaken	Approved	Date
1.0	Final	SH	MC	30/06/17
2.0	Revised after EDP review	MC	MC	05/07/16

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## 1. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

<b>Project Name:</b>	Land at South Gotherington
<b>Location:</b>	Gloucestershire
<b>NGR:</b>	SO 96158 29375
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	1 – 10 June 2016
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Cheltenham Museum and Art Gallery
<b>Site Code:</b>	LASG16

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of land at South Gotherington, Gloucestershire, between 1 and 10 June 2016. The works were carried out by Rubicon Heritage Services UK Ltd. for The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP), the client's heritage consultant, on behalf of JJ Gallagher Ltd.*

*The Fieldwork comprised 18 trenches totalling 750 linear metres. One large area of archaeological interest was identified in the north of the site, corresponding with the results of the geophysical survey. It comprised a number of large linear and curvilinear features. These seemed to form at least two possible round enclosures within a larger rectilinear enclosure, as well as some further out-lying ditches that may be associated or related to another adjacent enclosure/s. Late Bronze Age/Early Middle Iron Age pottery point to a peak in activity at the site during part of the prehistoric period, but many of the ditches were inter-cutting indicating more than one phase of activity between the Late Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age. There was also an Early Bronze Age thumbnail scraper and one sherd of Roman pottery recovered from the ditches, hinting at both earlier and later activity in the area. There was also evidence for post-medieval agricultural activity in the form of plough furrows and drains.*

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Project background**

- 2.1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation, conducted between 1 and 10 June 2016, at land at South Gotherington, Gloucestershire (NGR: SO 96158 29375, Figure 1). The work was undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd for The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP), the client's heritage consultant, on behalf of JJ Gallagher Ltd.
- 2.1.2 The evaluation was required in relation to an outline application for planning consent to be submitted to Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC) for residential development of the site. Following consultation by EDP with Charles Parry, Archaeologist for Gloucestershire County Council (acting as archaeological advisor to the local planning authority (TBC), it was recommended that a programme of trial trench evaluation of the site be carried out prior to determination of the planning application.
- 2.1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)* for archaeological evaluation prepared by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd and approved in advance of the works by Mr Parry.
- 2.1.4 The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014)*, the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Gloucestershire (GCC 1996)* the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2 (English Heritage 1991)*, and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide (Historic England 2015)*. The works were monitored by Mr Parry including a site visit on 8 June 2016.

### **2.2 Site Location & Description**

- 2.2.1 The proposed development site is two agricultural fields of 7 ha in area, located to the south of the village centre of Gotherington (Figure 1). The site comprises two fields, one under arable cultivation, the other is rough grassland. The northern, eastern and western limits of the site are bounded by residential properties and roads; arable fields form the southern boundary.

### **2.3 Archaeological Background**

- 2.3.1 An *Archaeological and Heritage Assessment* has been prepared by EDP on behalf of JJ Gallagher Ltd in connection with the application for planning consent, and reference should be made to that report for the full archaeological background (EDP 2016). In summary, it was determined that beyond ploughed out ridge and furrow earthworks (identified from aerial photographs) there are no previously recorded heritage assets within the site, but the potential for previously unrecorded buried archaeological remains to exist was highlighted.

- 2.3.2 A possible prehistoric settlement, visible as cropmark enclosures on aerial photographs, lies c.135m to the west of the site. Further cropmarks, visible c.600m to the west of the site seem to be a prehistoric to Roman enclosure; finds of flint, pottery and metalwork from the ploughsoil in that area indicate occupation from the prehistoric through the Roman and into the post- medieval period. There is evidence for more extensive settlement and occupation from c.700 m (and beyond) to the south of the site, on the north side of Bishop's Cleeve, with evidence from evaluation and excavation for settlement activities and enclosures recorded from the Iron Age into the Roman period.
- 2.3.3 There is limited evidence for Early Medieval activity within the vicinity of the site, with a record in the Historic Environment Record of a possible Anglo-Saxon cemetery c.500m to the south, but no further details are available.
- 2.3.4 The site appears to have been in agricultural use through the medieval period, around the village of Gotherington, which is recorded in the Domesday Book and the core of which lay to the north of the site. A moated farmhouse lay just to the north-east of the site before its demolition in the 1970s, but no features associated with it appear to have extended into the site. Undated, but presumed to be medieval, remains of ridge and furrow earthworks were recorded on the site during the 2005 National Mapping Programme of aerial photographic evidence for the area.
- 2.3.5 The site continued to be in agricultural use through the post-medieval and modern periods.
- 2.3.6 A geophysical survey of the site, carried out in April 2016 by GSB Prospection Ltd, detected a rectilinear enclosure complex in the north of Area 1 (the large arable field). A former field boundary was identified, and an extant path or track was detected. Anomalies of uncertain origin were thought likely to be due to natural or agricultural causes. Ridge and furrow cultivation was located in Area 2 (the scrubby western field), and relatively modern ploughing was recorded in Area 1.

### 3. AIMS & METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 The Aims and objectives of the evaluation

3.1.1 In accordance with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CifA 2014), the evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable the local planning authority to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department of Communities and Local Government 2012). The aims of the evaluation were to:

- Establish the archaeological significance or otherwise of anomalies highlighted on the geophysical survey.
- Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered.
- Establish the nature of the activity on the site.
- Identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site.
- Provide further information on the archaeology of the site from any archaeological remains encountered.
- Provide results that can be used to inform any potential need for further archaeological evaluation or mitigation works.

3.1.2 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:

1. To define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;
2. To attempt to characterise the nature and preservation of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning and extent of features present on the site;
3. To recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence which will attempt to determine the complexity of the horizontal and vertical stratigraphy present, and to recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples;
4. To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present;
5. To define any research priorities that may be relevant should further field investigation be required; and

6. To establish the significance of the archaeology encountered on site. The objectives of the evaluation are to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality.

## 3.2 Methodology

- 3.2.1 The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Ltd between 1 and 10 June 2016. A total of 12 trenches measuring 50 m long, and 6 measuring 25 m long, all 1.8 m wide, were excavated at the locations shown on the attached plan (Figure 2).
- 3.2.2 Trench 3 was moved slightly to the west of the location indicated in the WSI, to lie outside the safety exclusion zone of an overhead cable.
- 3.2.3 A contingency was in place for up to another 1350 square metres of trenching, to be deployed to expand these trenches if the archaeological remains require definition or clarification. This trenching was not required.
- 3.2.4 The trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using a Trimble R6 GPS unit and scanned for live services by trained staff using CAT and Genny equipment. All information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. It should be noted that, where possible, data was collected and stored digitally and in a format suitable for long term storage by the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).
- 3.2.5 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavators with flat-bladed grading buckets. All trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision. Non-significant overburden was removed in shallow spits until the first archaeological horizon or undisturbed geological substrate were exposed. Thereafter any identified deposits were cleaned and investigated by hand to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date.
- 3.2.6 All archaeological deposits and features were subjected to appropriate levels of investigation. The investigative work was carried out in such a way as to not compromise the integrity of the feature with regards to future study.
- 3.2.7 All spoil heaps were examined for finds both visually and through use of a metal detector.
- 3.2.8 All identified deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with: *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recording to post-excavation. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (English Heritage). No deposits were identified during the evaluation that required sampling for palaeoenvironmental remains at this stage.
- 3.2.9 The finds and artefact collection policy was concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work. As dating of the contexts was a high priority all finds and artefacts were retained. Rubicon Heritage treats all retained finds in accordance with the English Heritage guidance document: *A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds* (English Heritage, 1995) and the UKIC's document *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC, 1990). The artefacts identified during the evaluation originated

mainly from prehistoric activity– comprising Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery, a flint scraper and a flint flake. One sherd of Roman pottery was also recovered (see Appendix 3 for details).

- 3.2.10 The archive from the evaluation is currently held by Rubicon Heritage Services UK Ltd at their offices in Tewkesbury (see Section 7). A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix 3, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## **4. THE EVALUATION RESULTS**

### **4.1 Geology and general stratigraphy**

4.1.1 The underlying geology of the study site comprises Charmouth Mudstone Formation. Superficial deposits across the site are recorded as the Cheltenham Sand and Gravel series, (British Geological Survey On-line Viewer accessed May 2016). On the ground the upper levels of the substratum presented as a mix of orangey brown sandy clay and silty gravel in the northern part of the site, generally to the north of the farm track across the centre of the site but as a more blue-grey clay to the south. The subsoil consisted of a mix of orangey brown clayey sand and light brown loamy clay, and had a depth of between 0.20 and 0.60 m.

4.1.2 The topsoil consisted of a greyish brown silty sand and measured between 0.20 m and 0.35 m in depth.

### **4.2 Trench Records**

4.2.1 Only trenches where archaeology was identified are described in this section. Trenches 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 did not contain any archaeological features, except for some traces of ridge and furrow ploughing. For further details on each feature and trench see Appendix 1.

4.2.2 Trench 1, aligned N-S. Figures 2-5; Plates 1 to 4

Four E-W orientated ditches and a single pit were identified in Trench 1. The sub-circular pit (1007) was located at the south of the trench and was truncated by the southernmost of the ditches (1005) which was 1.43 m wide and 0.28 m deep. Located to the north of these was a second larger ditch (1009) which was 3.56 m wide and had a depth of 0.76 m. Two further ditches (1003 and 1012) were noted to the north of this and measured 0.75 m and 1.21 m wide respectively. The ditch fills were all very similar – yellowish brown clayey silts – and contained no dateable finds. Three of the four ditches (1005, 1009 and 1012) correspond to the geophysical survey results.

4.2.3 Trench 2, aligned E-W. Figures 2,3 and 6; Plates 5 to 7.

Seven ditches were identified in Trench 2 all orientated roughly N-S with the majority of them corresponding to the geophysical survey results. The most easterly of the ditches (2001) was 1.39 m wide, 0.58 m deep and contained five fragments of animal bone within its fill (2002). This ditch may be a continuation of ditch 4003 in Trench 4, which contained Middle Iron Age pottery.

Located to the west of this was the second ditch (2003) which terminated within Trench 2. It contained animal bone and one piece of Late Bronze Age/early Middle Iron Age pottery within its fill (2004). Further to the west was a third ditch (2005) which contained a single fill (2006)

and measured 0.87 wide and 0.37 m deep. Two further ditches (2007 and 2009) were noted close to each other and parallel. A possible curvilinear ditch (2011) was identified just to the west of the two possible field drains and measured 1.22 m wide and 0.30 m deep, but no finds were recovered from this. The last ditch (2013), the westernmost identified in the trench, terminated within the trench.

#### 4.2.4 Trench 3, aligned N–S. Figures 2, 3, 7 and 8; Plates 8 to 12.

Trench 3 contained five ditches (from which a number of sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered), a possible pit or post-hole and one other possible pit.

The southernmost feature was a circular pit (3005) which measured 0.55 m in diameter and 0.43 m deep. It was filled by a single fill (3006) which contained six fragments of animal bone and 1 fragment of undiagnostic fired clay. Located directly to the north was a large E–W orientated ditch 3003, which measured 4.93 m wide and 1.13 m deep. It contained a single fill (3004) from which 45 fragments of animal bone, six sherds of Iron Age pottery, two sherds of Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery and three sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered.

Another possible pit (3009), was identified to the north of 3003. Protruding from under the western baulk of the trench it measured 0.54 m wide and 0.26 m deep and contained a single fill (3010). Located to the north of this were a series of three ditches intercutting ditches. The southernmost ditch (3011) was the earliest, measuring 0.42 m in depth. This was cut by 3013 to the north. It measured 0.48 m deep and contained 39 fragments of animal bone, two sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery, two sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery and five sherds of Iron Age pottery. This in turn was cut by the latest of the three ditches 3015 which measured 0.92 m wide and 0.82 m deep and contained six fragments of animal bone.

The final ditch (3007) identified in Trench 3 was located toward the north of the trench. It measured 2.22m wide and 0.85 m deep and contained a single fill (3008) from which five fragments of animal bone and two sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered.

All of the ditches identified in Trench 3 during the evaluation trenching correspond to the results of the geophysical survey.

#### 4.2.5 Trench 4, aligned E-W. Figures 2, 3 and 9 Plates 13 to 15.

There were seven features identified in Trench 4 – consisting of linear and curvilinear ditches. Iron Age pottery was recovered from the majority of these ditches.

The most significant of these features was identified as part of curvilinear enclosure ditch (4003/4008) located toward the western end of the trench. It measured just under 4 m wide and 0.62 m deep and contained two fills from which five fragments of animal bone, five sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery and one sherd of general prehistoric pottery was recovered. This was

cut by two N-S orientated ditches 4007 and 4010 which measured 1 m wide and 3.2 m wide respectively. While no pottery was recovered from ditch 4007, three sherds of Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery were identified in ditch 4010.

4.2.4 Three further ditches were identified to the east of ditch 4010 which were earlier than it (4014, 4018 and 4016). The earliest of these – 4016 which contained no artefacts – was heavily truncated by the other two (4014 and 4018). The relationship between curvilinear ditch 4003/4008 and the ditches to the west of 4010 could not be single-minded within the trench due to the later truncation.

4.2.5 Ditch 4014 contained one sherd of Iron Age pottery in its fill and it was truncated by ditch 4010 on its eastern side. Ditch 4018 contained both prehistoric pottery and one sherd of Roman Severn Valley ware (which is most likely intrusive in nature given the rest of the pottery recovered is prehistoric in date). A small post-hole/pit (4020) was also identified at the base of ditch 4018. All of the ditches identified in Trench 4 during the evaluation trenching correspond to the results of the geophysical survey.

4.2.6 Trench 5, L-Shaped E-W and N-S. Figures 2, 3 and 10; Plates 16 to 18.

A number of features were identified in Trench 5 which consisted of four linear features (three orientated N-S and one E-W) and two post-holes. The ditches are thought to be prehistoric in origin as they contained Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery.

A N-S orientated ditch (5008) was identified at the eastern end of the E-W aligned part of the trench. It measured 3 m wide and 0.84 m deep and contained a single fill (5009) from which animal bone and three sherds of Iron Age pottery was recovered. Located 4 m to the west were the other two N-S orientated ditches which abutted each other. The largest of these (5012) measured 1.5 m wide and 0.84 m deep while the smaller (5010), which ran parallel to 5012, measured 0.55 m wide and 0.12 m deep and is thought to be a gully associated with the larger ditch. As stated above both ditches contained Late Bronze Age/early-Middle Iron Age pottery sherds.

One E-W orientated ditch (5014/5016) was identified to the west of these ditches. It measured 0.95 m wide and 0.26 m deep and terminus was noted within the evaluation trench. Four sherds of prehistoric pottery were also recovered from this ditch.

Two shallow post-holes (5004 and 5006) were also identified in the N-S aligned part of the evaluation trench. They contained no diagnostic material.

All of the ditches identified in Trench 5 during the evaluation trenching correspond to the results of the geophysical survey.

4.2.7 Trench 6, aligned E-W. Figures 2, 3 and 11; Plates 19 and 20.

Two ditches were identified in Trench 6. Ditch (6003) was located toward the western end of the trench and was orientated NE-SW. It measured 1.05 m wide, 0.26 m deep and contained no dateable material. This ditch was not identified during the geophysical survey.

The second ditch (6005) was orientated N-S and was significantly larger, measuring 3.35 m wide and 0.76 m deep and corresponds to an anomaly identified during the geophysical survey. Within the evaluation trench it was noted that the ditch seemed to curve slightly to the northwest. It contained a single fill (6006) from which one sherd of Late Bronze Age/early-Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered.

#### 4.2.8 Trench 7, aligned SE-NW. Figures 2, 3 and 12; Plates 21 to 24.

There were three linear ditches identified in Trench 7, none of which appeared on the geophysical survey. The first of the ditches (7003) was located 5 m from the south-eastern end of the trench and was 0.96 m wide and 0.23 m deep. Located 3 m to the NW was a significantly larger ditch (7005) which measured 5.9 m wide but was only 0.35 m deep. It was filled by a single fill (7006) from which animal bone and an early Bronze Age flint scraper were recovered. The third ditch (7007) – orientated E-W – was identified at the north-western end of the trench and measured 1.8 m wide and 0.4 m deep.

#### 4.2.9 Trench 10, aligned N-S. Figures 2 and 13; Plate 25.

A single large ditch (10003) was identified in Trench 10. It measured 4.3 m wide and had a depth of 0.40 m. Some animal bone, one flint flake and three sherds of Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery were recovered from its fill (10004). No evidence of this ditch was identified in the geophysical survey.

### 4.3 The Finds Evidence

The artefacts identified during the investigation comprised mainly of Bronze Age/Iron Age pottery with the exception of one flint scraper from ditch 7005 and one flint flake from ditch 10003. One sherd of Roman pottery was also recovered but is most likely intrusive in nature (see Appendix 2 for details). The find provides good dating evidence for the majority of features identified, indicating a peak in activity at the site between the Late Bronze Age and the Early Middle Iron Age.

## 5. DISCUSSION

- 5.1.1 Eight of the 18 trenches (Trenches 1 to 7, and 10) contained features of archaeological interest. The results confirmed what the geophysical survey had identified– a concentration of ditches within an overall rectilinear plan in the north of the site. It is difficult to determine the exact layout of the activity represented by the features from the available evidence but it is clearly a series of enclosures, modified and re-established over time. Trenches 3 and 4 both seemed to contain elements of round enclosures which can also be seen on the geophysical survey. These seem to be located within a larger rectangular enclosing element as detected in Trenches 2 (2003) and 5 (5010, 5008), and perhaps Trench 6.
- 5.1.2 To the north there seems to be further large E–W aligned ditches that are not so clearly represented on the geophysical survey. These also contained prehistoric material and may represent field systems associated with the main enclosure/s focus or may indeed represent further adjacent enclosure/s. Trench 10 also contained a ditch of similar character to those in the north of the site.
- 5.1.3 The majority of the ditches investigated contained pottery, although not in large quantities, the diagnostic elements of which date from the Late Bronze Age/ Early Middle Iron Age. There was further pottery that could only be identified as prehistoric. On the basis of the pottery it is suggested that the main activity on the site occurred between the Late Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age. There were also suggestions of earlier (Early Bronze Age thumbnail flint scraper) and later (sherd of Roman pottery) activity in the area. The latter as single abraded sherd of pottery and is most likely intrusive within the upper fills of the earlier features. There was no evidence for settlement activity within this period.
- 5.1.4 The density of the features and the inter-cutting of numerous ditches (e.g. in Trench 4) indicates more than one phase of activity, reinforced by the range of dates of the pottery assemblage from the Late Bronze Age through into the Middle Iron Age.
- 5.1.5 The ditches associated with the enclosure also contained a notable amount of animal bone which has been identified as mainly cattle and cattle/horse, with indications of butchery. The presence of this animal bone within the ditches could be interpreted as the result of the disposal of domestic food waste but it may also be the result of other uses of the site. This together with the domestic character of the pottery indicates that the enclosure/s was potentially an inhabited settlement site.
- 5.1.6 This enclosure would not have existed in isolation and it may well tie in with other known prehistoric activity in the area. For example, cropmarks point to prehistoric settlement sites located 135 m and 600 m to the west (the latter of which is likely to have Roman phases) and
-

excavation at Homelands Farm to the south, on the northern side of Bishop's Cleeve has revealed the existence of Late Bronze Age settlements and enclosures (Jo Vallender, EDP, pers. comm.).

- 5.1.7 The evaluation has confirmed the presence of archaeological features in the northern section of the site only and the only features identified in the southern part of the site were related to ridge and furrow ploughing. The drainage characteristics of the underlying geology may have dictated this distribution of activity – the land to the south of the trackway which seems to have been a medieval plough headland, running approximately east-west across the site, was observed to be slightly lower than that to the north where the settlement focus lay. There was a clear contrast in the appearance of the underlying clays in the two parts of the site, with that to the south grey-blue in colour, perhaps as a result of gleying through poorer drainage.

## 6. REFERENCES

EDP (The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd) 2016 *Land at South Gotherington, Gloucestershire, Archaeological and Heritage Assessment*, EDP report H\_EDP3036\_03

## 7. ARCHIVE STATEMENT

The site archive is comprised of the following materials:

Item	Quantity
Trenching and context recording sheets	66
GPS Plans	1 Digital
Field Drawings	34
Digital Photographs	186
Registers (Context, finds, drawing, photo)	2
Samples	N/A

The archive material is contained within one box.

Until the archive can be deposited with the relevant curatorial facility it (the archive) is currently stored in the offices of Rubicon Heritage Services UK Ltd.

## APPENDIX 1 CONTEXT REGISTER

Context no.	Trench No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Spot date
1000	1	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Greyish brown clayey loam	
1001	1	Layer			0.6	Subsoil. Orangey brown clayey sand	
1002	1	Layer				Natural. Orangey brown clay	
1003	1	Cut		0.75	0.35	Cut of an E-W aligned ditch	
1004	1	Deposit		0.75	0.35	Fill of 1003. Mid-yellowish brown clayey silt.	
1005	1	Cut		1.43	0.28	Cut of a NE-SW aligned ditch.	
1006	1	Deposit		1.43	0.28	Fill of 1005. Mid-yellowish brown clayey silt.	
1007	1	Cut	0.7	0.46	0.19	Cut of a sub-circular pit, truncated by ditch 1005.	
1008	1	Deposit	0.7	0.46	0.19	Fill of 1007. Mid-yellowish brown clayey silt	
1009	1	Cut		3.56	0.76	Cut of an E-W aligned ditch	
1010	1	Deposit		3.56	0.63	Upper fill of 1009. Deliberate backfill. Greyish brown clayey silt.	
1011	1	Deposit		3.29	0.2	Basal fill of 1009. Natural silting. Yellowish brown chalky gravel.	
1012	1	Cut		1.21	0.46	Cut of an E-W aligned ditch	
1013	1	Deposit		1.21	0.46	Fill of 1012. Mid-yellowish brown clayey silt	
2000	2	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Greyish brown clayey loam	
2001	2	Cut		1.39	0.58	Cut of a N-S aligned ditch	

Context no.	Trench No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Spot date
2002	2	Deposit		1.39	0.58	Fill of 2001. Light greyish brown clayey silt	
2003	2	Cut		1.23	0.45	Cut of a N-S aligned ditch which terminates in the trench.	Bronze Age/Early Iron Age
2004	2	Deposit		1.23	0.45	Fill of 2003. Light blackish brown clayey silt. One piece of Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery recovered from fill.	Bronze Age/Early Iron Age
2005	2	Cut		0.87	0.37	Cut of a NE-SW aligned ditch.	
2006	2	Deposit		0.87	0.37	Fill of 2005. Mid-greyish brown clayey silt.	
2007	2	Cut		0.83	0.38	Cut of a possible field drain, aligned N-S.	
2008	2	Deposit		0.83	0.38	Fill of 2007. Mid-greyish brown clayey silt.	
2009	2	Cut		0.88	0.24	Cut of a possible field drain, aligned N-S.	
2010	2	Deposit		0.88	0.24	Fill of 2009. Mid-greyish brown clayey silt.	
2011	2	Cut		1.22	0.3	Cut of a N-S aligned ditch which seems to curve slightly to the NW.	
2012	2	Deposit		1.22	0.3	Fill of 2011. Mid-greyish brown clayey silt.	
2013	2	Cut		0.96	0.41	Cut of a possible field drain terminating in the trench	
2014	2	Deposit		0.96	0.41	Fill of 2013. Mid-greyish brown clayey silt	
2015	2	Layer			0.25	Subsoil. Orangey brown clayey sand	
2016	2	Layer				Natural. Orangey brown clay	
3000	3	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Greyish brown clayey loam	
3001	3	Layer			0.2	Subsoil. Orangey brown clayey sand	

Context no.	Trench No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Spot date
3002	3	Layer				Natural. Orangey brown clay	
3003	3	Cut		4.93	1.13	Cut of an E-W ditch.	Iron Age
3004	3	Deposit		4.93	1.13	Fill of 3003. Blackish brown clayey silt. One piece of Iron Age pottery recovered	Iron Age
3005	3	Cut	0.55	0.53	0.43	Cut of a pit/post-hole	
3006	3	Deposit	0.55	0.53	0.43	Fill of 3005. Blackish brown clayey silt.	
3007	3	Cut		2.22	0.85	Cut of an E-W aligned ditch.	Iron Age
3008	3	Deposit		2.22	0.85	Fill of 3007. Light greyish brown silty clay. Possible Iron Age pottery recovered	Iron Age
3009	3	Cut	1.13 visible	0.54	0.26	Cut of a possible pit or ditch terminus.	
3010	3	Deposit	1.13 visible	0.54	0.26	Fill of 3009. Blackish brown clayey silt.	
3011	3	Cut			0.42	Cut of an E-W ditch, truncated to the north by 3013.	
3012	3	Deposit			0.42	Fill of 3011. Greyish brown sandy clay with inclusion of stone and charcoal	
3013	3	Cut			0.48	Cut of an E-W ditch, truncated to the north by 3015.	Iron Age
3014	3	Deposit			0.48	Fill of 3013. Greyish brown sandy silt. Iron Age pottery recovered.	Iron Age
3015	3	Cut		0.92	0.82	Cut of an E-W aligned ditch.	
3016	3	Deposit				Fill of 3015. Yellow/Grey brown sandy clay	

Context no.	Trench No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Spot date
4000	4	Layer			0.2	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown sandy silt	
4001	4	Layer			0.3	Subsoil. Orangey brown sandy silt	
4002	4	Layer				Natural. Orange sandy gravel	
4003	4	Cut		3.90	0.67	Cut of a curvilinear ditch, most likely the same ditch as 4008.	Iron Age
4004	4	Deposit		1.5	0.28	Upper fill of 4003. Greyish brown sandy silt with inclusions of animal bone. Iron Age pottery recovered.	Iron Age
4005	4	Deposit		1.75	0.39	Basal fill of 4003. Light greyish brown clayey silt with inclusions of animal bone and Iron Age pottery	Iron Age
4006	4	Cut		1	0.21	Cut of a shallow N-S aligned ditch which truncates ditch 4003/4008	
4007	4	Deposit		1	0.21	Fill of 4006. Mid-greyish brown sandy silt with inclusions of animal bone	
4008	4	Cut		1.75	0.62	Cut of a curvilinear ditch, most likely the same ditch as 4003.	Iron Age
4009	4	Deposit		1.7	0.3	Fill of 4008. Greyish brown sandy silt with inclusions of animal bone. Iron Age pottery recovered.	Iron Age
4010	4	Cut		3.2	1.08	Cut of a large N-S aligned ditch.	Iron Age

Context no.	Trench No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Spot date
4011	4	Deposit		3.2	0.48	Upper fill of 4010. Dark brown clayey silt with inclusions of animal bone and Iron Age pottery	Iron Age
4012	4	Deposit		2.6	0.1	Middle fill of 4010. Light orangey brown silty clay.	Iron Age
4013	4	Deposit		2.5	0.5	Basal fill of 4010. Dark greyish brown clayey silt with inclusions of animal bone and Iron Age pottery.	Iron Age
4014	4	Cut		2	0.8	Cut of a N-S aligned ditch, truncated to the north by 4010 and truncating 4016 to the east	Iron Age
4015	4	Deposit		2	0.8	Fill of 4014. Mid-greyish brown sandy silt with inclusions of animal bone and Iron Age pottery.	Iron Age
4016	4	Cut		2	0.43	Cut of a heavily truncated N-S aligned ditch	
4017	4	Deposit		2	0.43	Fill of 4016. Light greyish brown silty clay.	
4018	4	Cut		2.2	0.4	Cut of a N-S aligned ditch.	Iron Age/Roman
4019	4	Deposit		2.2	0.4	Fill of 4018. Mid-greyish brown sandy silt with inclusions of animal bone and possible Romano British pottery	Iron Age/Roman
4020	4	Cut	0.4	0.36	0.24	Cut of a small pit or post-hole at the base of ditch 4018.	
4021	4	Deposit	0.4	0.36	0.24	Fill of 4020. Greyish brown sandy silt.	
4022	4	Deposit		0.9	0.32	Fill of 4008. Greyish brown sandy silt with inclusions of animal bone. Iron Age pottery recovered.	Iron Age

Context no.	Trench No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Spot date
5001	5	Layer			0.25	Topsoil. Mid-brown clayey loam	
5002	5	Layer			0.31	Subsoil. Light brown loamy clay	
5003	5	Layer				Natural. Orange sandy clay	
5004	5	Cut	0.29	0.27	0.09	Cut of a post-hole.	
5005	5	Deposit	0.29	0.27	0.09	Fill of 5004. Mid/dark brown silty clay	
5006	5	Cut	0.46	0.37	0.05	Cut of a post-hole.	
5007	5	Deposit	0.46	0.37	0.05	Fill of 5006. Greyish brown clayey silt.	
5008	5	Cut		3	0.84	Cut of a N-S aligned ditch.	
5009	5	Deposit		3	0.84	Fill of 5008. Brownish orange sandy clay with inclusions of animal bone and pottery recovered	
5010	5	Cut		0.55	0.12	Cut of a gully running parallel with 5012.	Bronze Age/Iron Age
5011	5	Deposit		0.55	0.12	Fill of 5010. Brownish orange sandy clay containing animal bone and pottery.	Bronze Age/Iron Age
5012	5	Cut		1.5	0.84	Cut of a N-S aligned ditch.	Bronze Age/Iron Age
5013	5	Deposit		1.5	0.84	Fill of 5012. Light greyish brown sandy clay containing animal bone and Bronze Age/Iron Age pottery.	Bronze Age/Iron Age
5014	5	Cut		0.95	0.26	Cut of an E-W aligned ditch which terminates in the trench.	Bronze Age/Iron Age
5015	5	Deposit		0.95	0.26	Fill of 5014. Light to mid-grey clayey silt containing animal bone and Bronze Age/Iron Age pottery.	Bronze Age/Iron Age

Context no.	Trench No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Spot date
5016	5	Cut				Same as 5014	
5017	5	Deposit				Same as 5015	
6000	6	Layer			0.2	Topsoil. Mid-greyish brown silty sand	
6001	6	Layer			0.4	Subsoil. Mid-yellowish brown clayey silt.	
6002	6	Layer				Natural. Mid-brownish orange sandy clay.	
6003	6	Cut		1.05	0.25	Cut of a NE-SW aligned ditch.	
6004	6	Deposit		1.05	0.25	Fill of 6003. Mid-yellowish brown sandy clay.	
6005	6	Cut		3.55	0.76	Cut of a N-S aligned ditch, slightly curving to the NNW	Iron Age
6006	6	Deposit		3.55	0.76	Fill of 6005. Mid-yellowish brown silty clay containing animal bone and Iron Age pottery.	Iron Age
7000	7	Layer			0.23	Topsoil. Mid-greyish brown silty sand	
7001	7	Layer			0.6	Subsoil. Mid-yellowish brown clayey silt.	
7002	7	Layer				Natural. Mid-brownish orange sandy clay.	
7003	7	Cut		0.96	0.23	Cut of an E-W aligned ditch.	
7004	7	Deposit		0.96	0.23	Fill of 7003. Orangey brown sandy silt.	
7005	7	Cut		5.9	0.35	Cut of a wide shallow E-W aligned ditch	Prehistoric
7006	7	Deposit		5.9	0.35	Fill of 7005. Orangey brown sandy silt containing, bone, a flint scraper and pottery.	Prehistoric
7007	7	Cut		1.8	0.4	Cut of an E-W aligned ditch.	

Context no.	Trench No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Spot date
7008	7	Deposit		1.8	0.4	Fill of 7007.	
10000	10	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Mid-greyish brown silty sand	
10001	10	Layer			0.3	Subsoil. Mid-yellowish brown clayey silt.	
10002	10	Layer				Natural. Mid-brownish orange sandy clay.	
10003	10	Cut		4.3	0.4	Cut of a wide ditch which seems to be terminating to the west of the trench	Bronze Age?
10004	10	Deposit		4.3	0.4	Fill of 10003. Dark brownish grey clayey sand containing animal bone and pottery.	Bronze Age?

## APPENDIX 2 ASSESSMENT OF FINDS AND ANIMAL BONE

C Jane Evans with Rob Hedge and Elizabeth Pearson (Worcestershire Archaeology)

### 1 Introduction

An analysis of artefacts from an archaeological evaluation at Gotherington, Gloucestershire, was undertaken on behalf of Rubicon Heritage. The finds came from Trenches 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10.

### 2 Aims

The aims of the analysis were as follows:

- to identify, sort, spot date, and quantify all artefacts;
- to describe the range of artefacts present;
- to assess the significance of the artefacts.

This report covers artefacts of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman date.

### 3 Methods

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. They were scanned, identified, quantified and dated to period. Detailed analysis by fabric was not undertaken, though diagnostic fabrics were taken into consideration for spot dating, and are commented on below. Detailed fabric identification where mentioned reference the Worcestershire pottery fabric-type series – available at [www.worcestershireceramics.org](http://www.worcestershireceramics.org).

Broad spot dates were produced where possible for each context. All information was recorded on an Access database.

No artefacts from environmental samples were examined.

### 4 Results

The discussion below is a summary of the finds and of their associated contexts by period (Table 1 and 2). Where possible, dates have been allocated and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary. The finds were fragmentary and abraded but included diagnostic fabrics and forms, and provided valuable dating evidence for the site.

Period	object specific type	count	weight(g)
Early Bronze Age	worked flint	1	6.1
Late Bronze Age-early Iron Age	Pot	7	91
Late Bronze Age-early Middle Iron Age	Pot	5	65
Middle Iron Age	Pot	6	31
Iron Age	Pot	20	184
Prehistoric	Pot	24	155
Prehistoric	worked flint	3	10.2

Roman	Pot	1	6
Undated	animal bone	334	5100
Undated	fired clay	4	38

Table 1 Quantification of site assemblage by period

Trench	context	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	period/spot date
2	2002	animal bone	Fragment	5	95	Undated
	2004	earthenware	Pot	1	9	Late Bronze Age-early Middle Iron Age
		animal bone	Fragment	1	6	
	2006	animal bone	Fragment	3	15	Undated
2012	animal bone	Fragment	17	186	Undated	
3	3004	animal bone	Fragment	45	834	Undated
		earthenware	Pot	6	66	Iron Age
		earthenware	Pot	2	25	Late Bronze Age-early Iron Age
		earthenware	Pot	3	15	Middle Iron Age
		earthenware	Pot	7	37	prehistoric
	3006	animal bone	Fragment	6	42	Undated
		earthenware	fired clay	1	5	
	3008	animal bone	Fragment	5	83	Iron Age
		earthenware	Pot	2	4	
	3010	animal bone	Fragment	6	25	Undated
	3012	animal bone	Fragment	18	481	Undated
	3014	animal bone	Fragment	39	767	Undated
		earthenware	Pot	5	12	Iron Age
earthenware		Pot	2	25	Late Bronze Age-early Iron Age	

Trench	context	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	period/spot date
		earthenware	Pot	2	11	Middle Iron Age
	3016	animal bone	Fragment	6	76	Undated
4	4004	animal bone	Fragment	29	147	Middle Iron Age
		earthenware	Pot	1	5	
		earthenware	Pot	4	14	
	4005	animal bone	Fragment	5	48	prehistoric
		earthenware	Pot	1	16	
	4007	animal bone	Fragment	2	138	Undated
	4011	animal bone	Fragment	38	790	Undated
	4013	animal bone	Fragment	30	333	Late Bronze Age-early Iron Age/prehistoric
		earthenware	fired clay	1	6	
		earthenware	Pot	1	13	
		earthenware	Pot	2	42	
	4015	animal bone	Fragment	4	173	Iron Age
		earthenware	Pot	1	61	
	4019	animal bone	Fragment	9	59	Roman, AD 3rd-4th (prehistoric)
Earthenware		fired clay	1	24		
Earthenware		Pot	2	9		
Earthenware		Pot	1	6		
5	5002	Earthenware	Pot	1	3	prehistoric
	5009	animal bone	Fragment	18	322	Iron Age/prehistoric
		Earthenware	Pot	1	16	
		Earthenware	Pot	2	21	
	5011	animal bone	Fragment	1	17	
		Earthenware	Pot	3	17	

Trench	context	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)	period/spot date
		Earthenware	Pot	1	6	Late Bronze Age-early Middle Iron Age/ Iron Age
	5013	Earthenware	Pot	2	8	Iron Age
		Earthenware	Pot	1	6	Late Bronze Age-early Middle Iron Age
	5015	animal bone	fragment	3	13	prehistoric
		Earthenware	fired clay	1	3	
		Earthenware	Pot	1	1	
	5017	animal bone	fragment	11	91	prehistoric
		Earthenware	pot	4	12	
6	6006	animal bone	fragment	12	146	Late Bronze Age-early Middle Iron Age
		Earthenware	pot	1	27	
7	7006	animal bone	fragment	10	150	early Bronze Age
		Flint	Worked flint	1	6.1	
10	10004	Earthenware	pot	2	28	Late Bronze Age-early Iron Age
		Flint	Worked flint	2	4.1	prehistoric
10	10004	animal bone	fragment	11	63	Late Bronze Age-early Middle Iron Age
		Earthenware	pot	1	17	

Table 2 Spot-dating by context

#### 4.1 Prehistoric pottery

Sixty-two sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered (Tables 1–3). The assemblage included some diagnostic fabric, form and decorated sherds that suggested a date range from the Late Bronze Age-early Iron Age, through to the Middle Iron Age. Some less diagnostic sherds, however, could only be attributed a broadly prehistoric date. The pottery provides the best dating evidence for activity on the site and is discussed below by trench.

trench	Count	weight(g)	average weight
2	1	9	9
3	29	195	7
4	12	160	13
5	16	90	6
6	1	27	27
10	3	45	15
total	62	526	8

Table 3 Prehistoric pottery by trench

#### Trench 2

A single body sherd in a shell-tempered was recovered from the fill of ditch 2003 (fill 2004). This fabric is found in Bronze Age assemblages in the region and continued in use into the earlier Middle Iron Age fabric (cf Worcestershire fabric 4.3).

#### Trench 3

This produced the largest assemblage of prehistoric pottery. The majority came from ditch 3003 (fill 3004), with further sherds from ditch 3007 (fill 3008), and ditch 3013 (fill 3014). The ditch 3003 assemblage included the flat-topped rim in shell-tempered ware, from a form typical of Late Bronze Age to early Iron Age assemblages in the region, but also the rim from a Malvernian ware jar with duck-stamped decoration, typical of Middle Iron Age assemblages. Another rim, in a sandy fabric was also consistent with a Middle Iron Age date. A second stamped sherd, also in Malvernian ware, was recovered from ditch 3013.

#### Trench 4

Small quantities of prehistoric pottery were recovered from ditches 4003 (fills 4004, 4005), ditch 4010 (fill 4013) and ditch 4018 (fill 4019). The sherd from the basal fill of ditch 4003 (fill 4005) was not closely datable, but was in a shell-tempered fabric, perhaps suggesting a *tpq* in the earlier Middle Iron Age. The upper fill of this ditch (fill 4004) produced a stamped sherd in Palaeozoic limestone-tempered ware, indicating a more certain Middle Iron Age date. The basal fill of ditch 4010 (fill 4013) produced a rim in a sandy fabric, with finger nail decoration, likely to be Late Bronze Age to early Iron Age in date. This was associated with two sherds in shell-tempered ware, consistent with this date. Ditch 4018 produced a vesicular sherd, possibly originally shell-tempered, but this was associated with the Roman sherd described below.

#### Trench 5

Further small quantities were recovered from a range of features in Trench 5. The finds from ditch 5008 (fill 5009) included a flat-topped rim in a shell-tempered fabric. This is not closely datable without more detailed study for parallels; it could be a Late Bronze Age or Middle Iron Age form; based on the fabric it is perhaps unlikely to be later than earlier Middle Iron Age. Gully 5010 (fill 5011) produced only body sherds; three in Malvernian ware are likely to be Iron Age, but a shell-tempered sherd could be earlier. Ditch 5012 (fill 5013) produced only three sherds; the presence of two sherds in Palaeozoic Limestone tempered ware suggests an Iron Age date rather than earlier. The pottery from ditch 5014 (fill 5015) and ditch 5016 (fill 5017) was in a vesicular fabric only broadly datable to the prehistoric period.

#### Trench 6

Ditch 6005 (fill 6006) produced a single body sherd in shell-tempered ware, broadly dated to the Late Bronze Age to earlier Middle Iron Age.

#### Trench 10

Three sherds were recovered from ditch 10003 (fill 10004). The best dating came from a fragmentary rim in a vesicular, sand-tempered fabric which had finger-impressed decoration and dates broadly to the Late Bronze Age to early Iron Age.

#### 4.2 Roman pottery

A single sherd from a Severn Valley ware, pulley-rim jar was found in ditch 4018 (fill 4019) dating broadly to the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD.

#### 4.3 Fired clay

Very small quantities of undiagnostic fired clay were recovered from trenches 3, 4 and 5.

#### 4.4 Flint by Rob Hedge

Context	Description	Count	Weight (g)	Date	Comments
7006	Thumbnail scraper	1	6.1	Early Bronze Age	23mm in diameter, on thick flake of coarse-grained orange-brown flint
10004	Flake fragment	1	1.9	Prehistoric	Flake fragment on mottled light blue-grey flint
10004	Flake	1	2.2	Later prehistoric	Crude flake on mottled mid brown-grey flint

Table 4 Worked Flint

Three pieces of worked flint were recovered: an early Bronze Age thumbnail scraper, and a flake fragment and chunk which were not typologically diagnostic and are assigned a broad 'Prehistoric' date.

Although undiagnostic, the flake fragment is similar in raw material (mottled light blue-grey with iron staining) to examples recovered during recent archaeological evaluation at Truman's Farm, for which a Mesolithic to early Neolithic date was suggested (Hedge in Bradley 2016, 7). A degree of edge-damage, likely to be post-depositional, was observed, and the piece is thought to be residual.

The flake appears relatively fresh and unabraded, and typologically is consistent with the extremely casual flintworking in the later Bronze Age or later. It may, therefore, be contemporary with the later prehistoric pottery recovered from the same context, although an earlier date cannot be ruled out.

Although finds of earlier prehistoric flint are relatively uncommon in this area, recent discoveries suggest that with more investigations, the picture is changing (e.g. Bradley 2014, 2015; Lovett 2015). The possibility that the environs of Nottingham Hill may be a focus for prehistoric activity during the Mesolithic or early Neolithic, and continuing into the early Bronze Age, is worthy of note.

#### 4.5 Animal bone by Elizabeth Pearson

A total of 334 fragments (5.1kg) of animal bone was hand-collected on site, predominantly from Late Bronze Age to early Iron Age contexts, with some from Middle Iron Age and Roman contexts. The assemblage was generally well preserved, consisting of mainly cattle and cattle/horse size bones, of which a large proportion were butchered. Sheep/goat bones were noted but were a minor component of the assemblage. There was some potential for providing ageing and measurement data.

The material was concentrated mostly in trenches 3 and 4, a pattern of deposition which mirrors that of the artefactual evidence. The preservation and quantity of bone recovered is relatively good compared to material of a similar date elsewhere in the surrounding area and in the West Midlands region to the north, considering the date of the deposits. This is probably due partly to the local soils developed on Cheltenham Sand and Gravel (British Geological Survey 2016) which contains limestone gravel, base-rich deposits being conducive to good preservation of animal bone.

#### 5 Significance

The finds provide evidence for some level of activity dating from the early Bronze Age to the Middle Iron Age with additional, slight, evidence for Roman activity dating to the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> century.

Should further excavation be carried out on the site, there is the potential to recover quantities of animal bone suitable for analysis, and of a size that is regionally rare for this date.

#### 6 Bibliography

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British Geological Survey, 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer*, available at <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>, accessed 23 06 2016

Lovett, P, 2015 *Archaeological Investigations at Yew Tree Farm, Bushcombe Lane, Woodmancote, Gloucestershire*, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire Archaeology, report **2217**, dated 1 May 2015

## APPENDIX 3 OASIS REPORT

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at South Gotherington, Gloucestershire	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at of land at South Gotherington, Gloucestershire, between 1 and 10 June 2016. The works were carried out by Rubicon Heritage Services UK Ltd. for The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP), the client's heritage consultant, on behalf of JJ Gallagher Ltd. The fieldwork comprised 18 trenches totalling 750 linear metres. One large area of archaeological interest was identified in the north of the site, corresponding with the results of the geophysical survey. It comprised a number of large linear and curvilinear features. These seemed to form at least two possible round enclosures within a larger rectilinear enclosure, as well as some further out-lying ditches that may be associated or related to another adjacent enclosure/s. Late Bronze Age/Early Middle Iron Age pottery point to a peak in activity at the site during the part of the prehistoric period, but many of the ditches were inter-cutting indicating more than one phase of activity between the Late Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age. There was also an Early Bronze Age thumbnail scraper and one sherd of Roman pottery recovered from the ditches, hinting at both earlier and later activity in the area. There was also evidence for post-medieval agricultural activity in the form of plough furrows and drains.	
Project dates	1-10 June 2016	
Project type	Field Evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical survey	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land at South Gotherington, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M2/ha)	7ha	
Site co-ordinates	SO 96158 29375	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Rubicon Heritage Services UK Ltd	
Project Brief originator	Gloucestershire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) Originator	Rubicon Heritage Services UK Ltd	
Project Manager	Mark Collard	
Project Officer	Colm Moloney	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum	Pottery, animal bone, flint
Paper	Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum	Registers, trench recording sheets, context sheets, survey sheets. Plans and sections
Digital	Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum	Digital photographs; survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Rubicon Heritage 2016 <i>Land at South Gotherington, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . Unpublished report for Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd.		

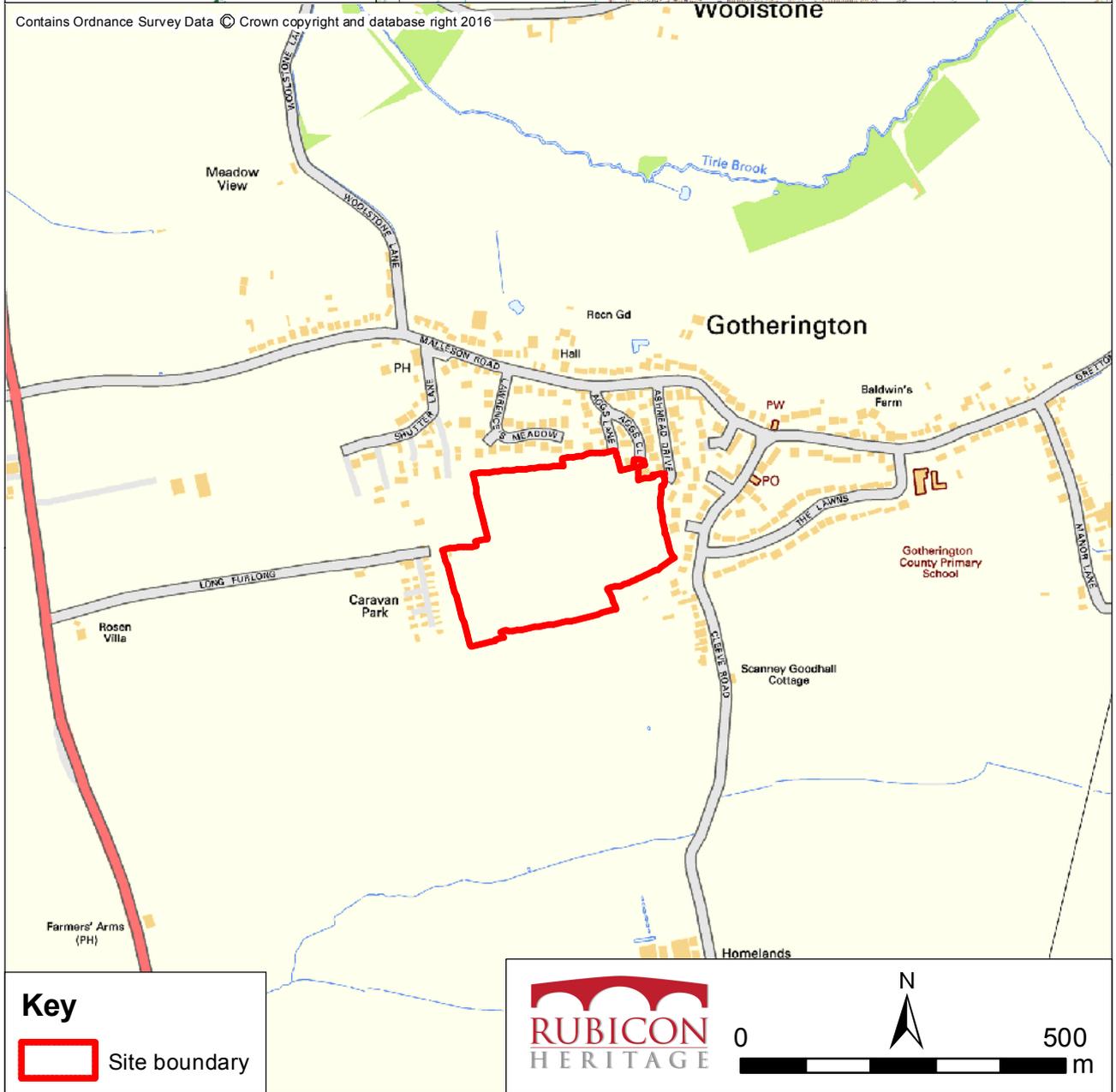
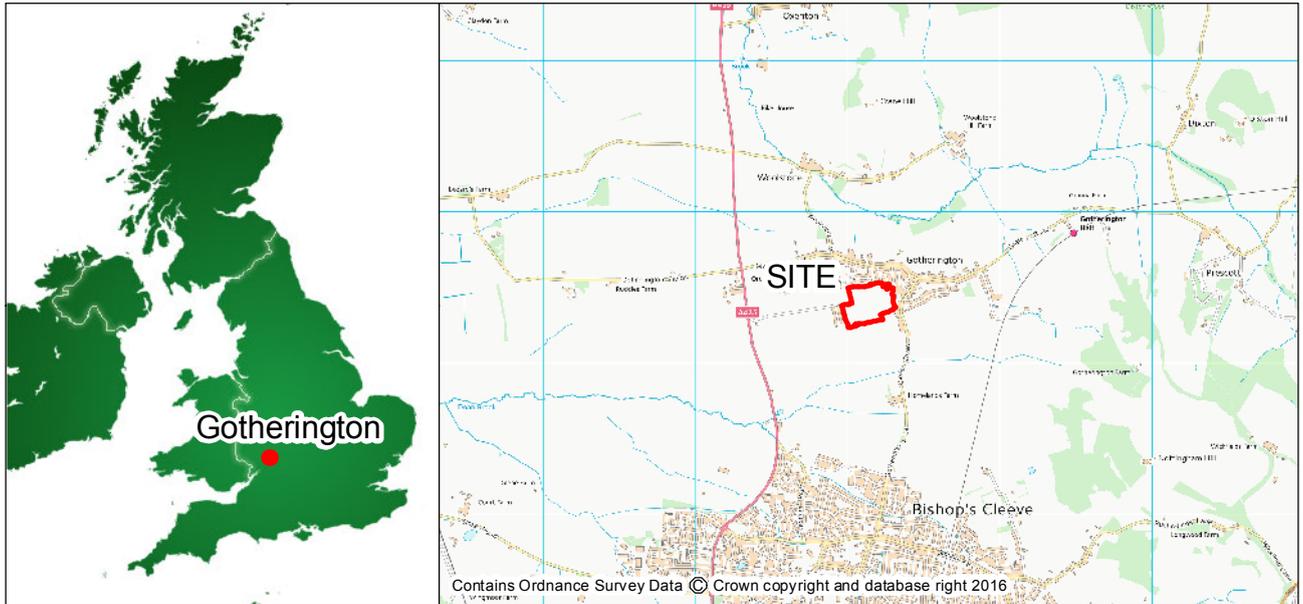


Figure 1 - Gotherington, Gloucestershire: Site location.

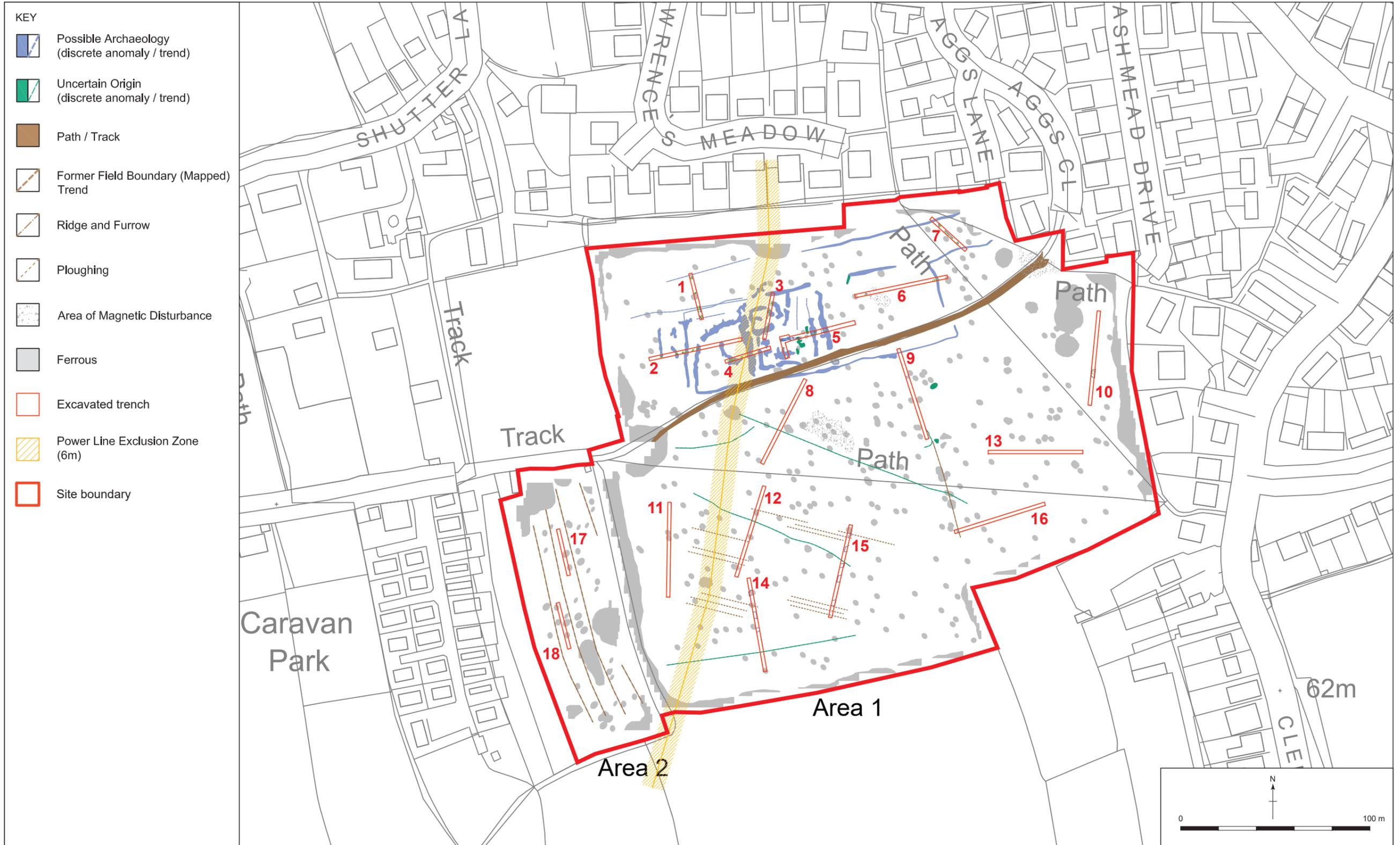


Figure 2 - Site layout with geophysics interpreted results and excavated trenches.

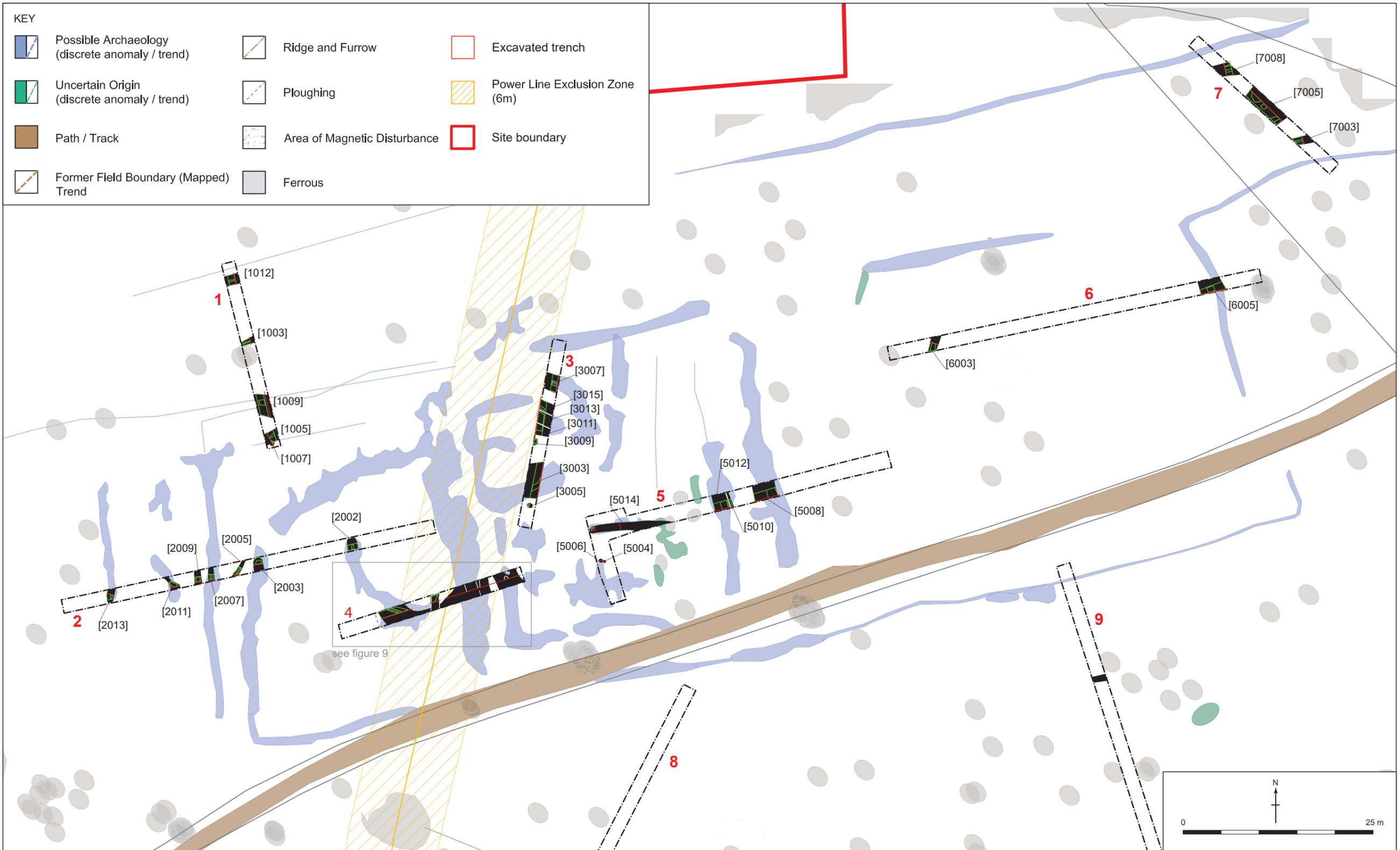


Figure 3 - Excavated detail, Trenches 1 to 9.

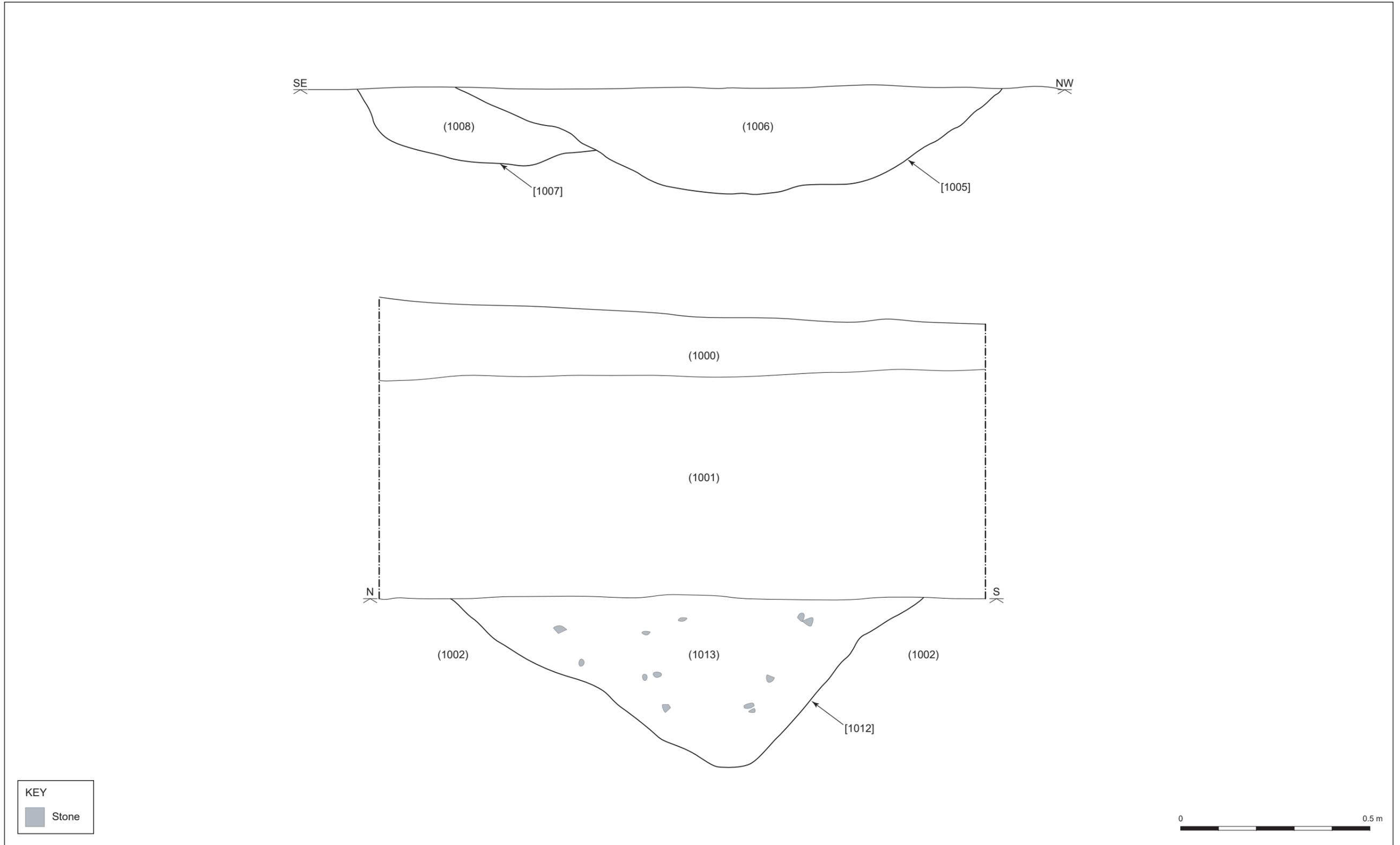


Figure 4 - Trench 1: Sections through ditches 1005 and 1012.

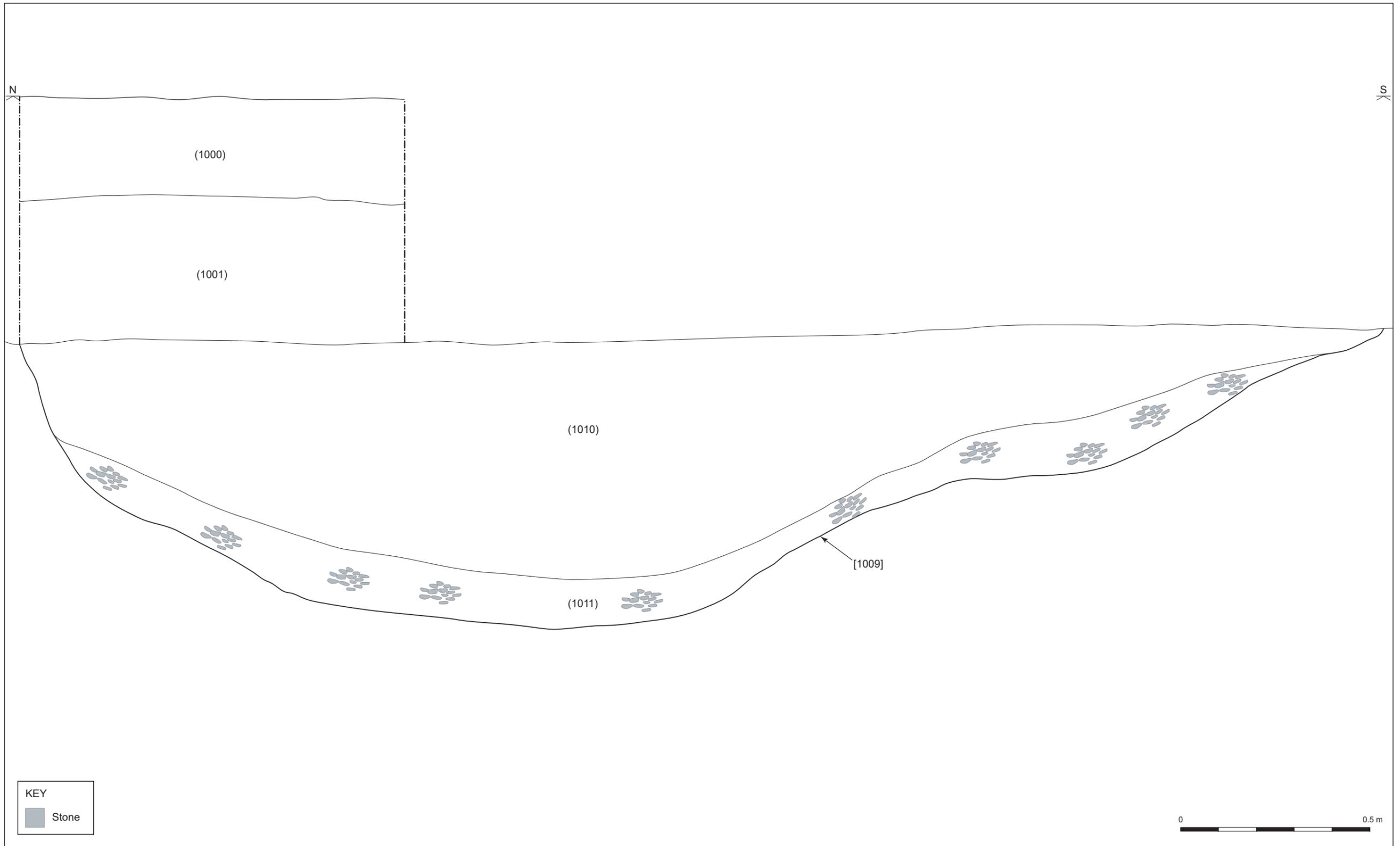


Figure 5 - Trench 1: Section through ditch 1009.

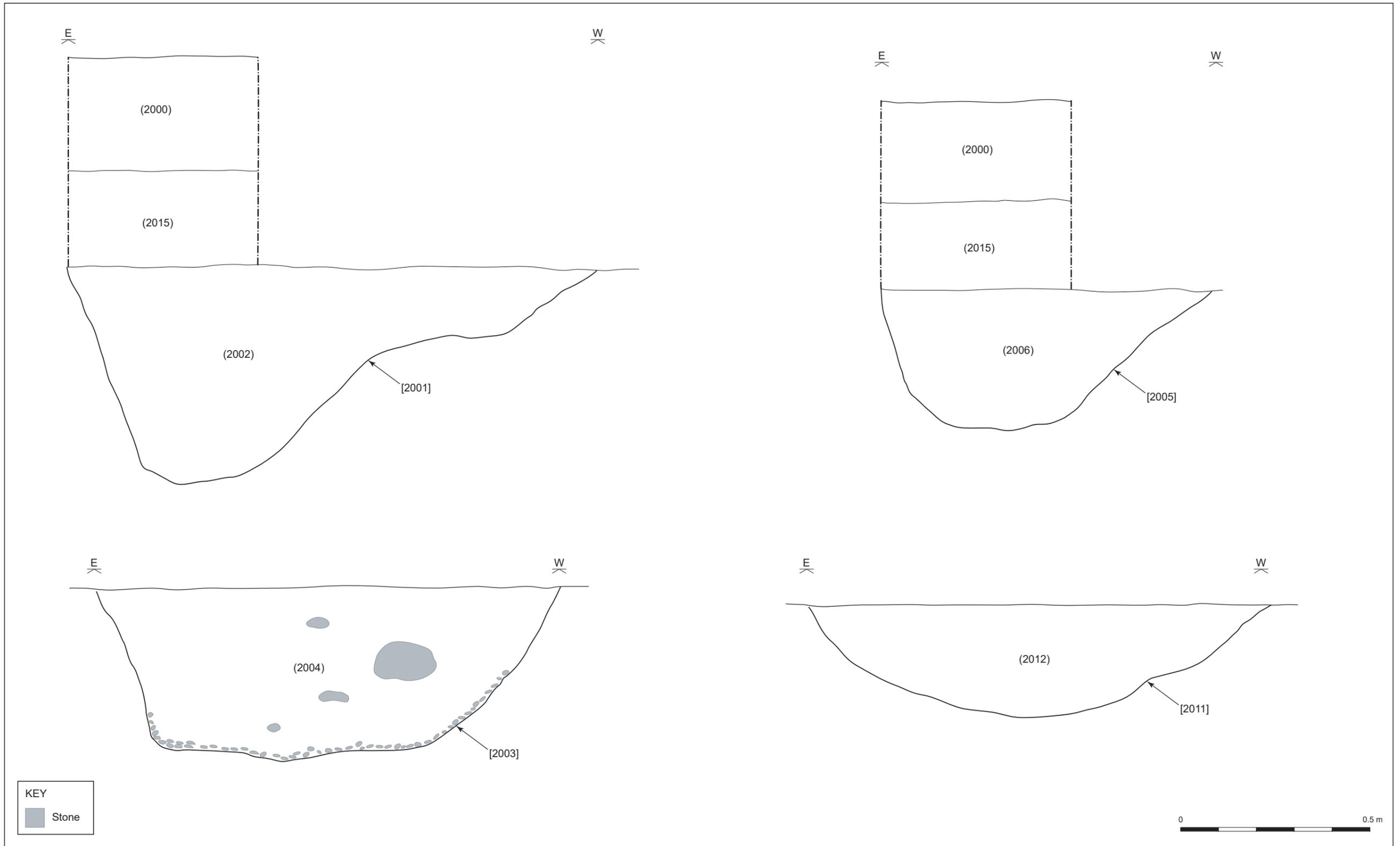


Figure 6 - Trench 2: Sections through ditches 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2011.

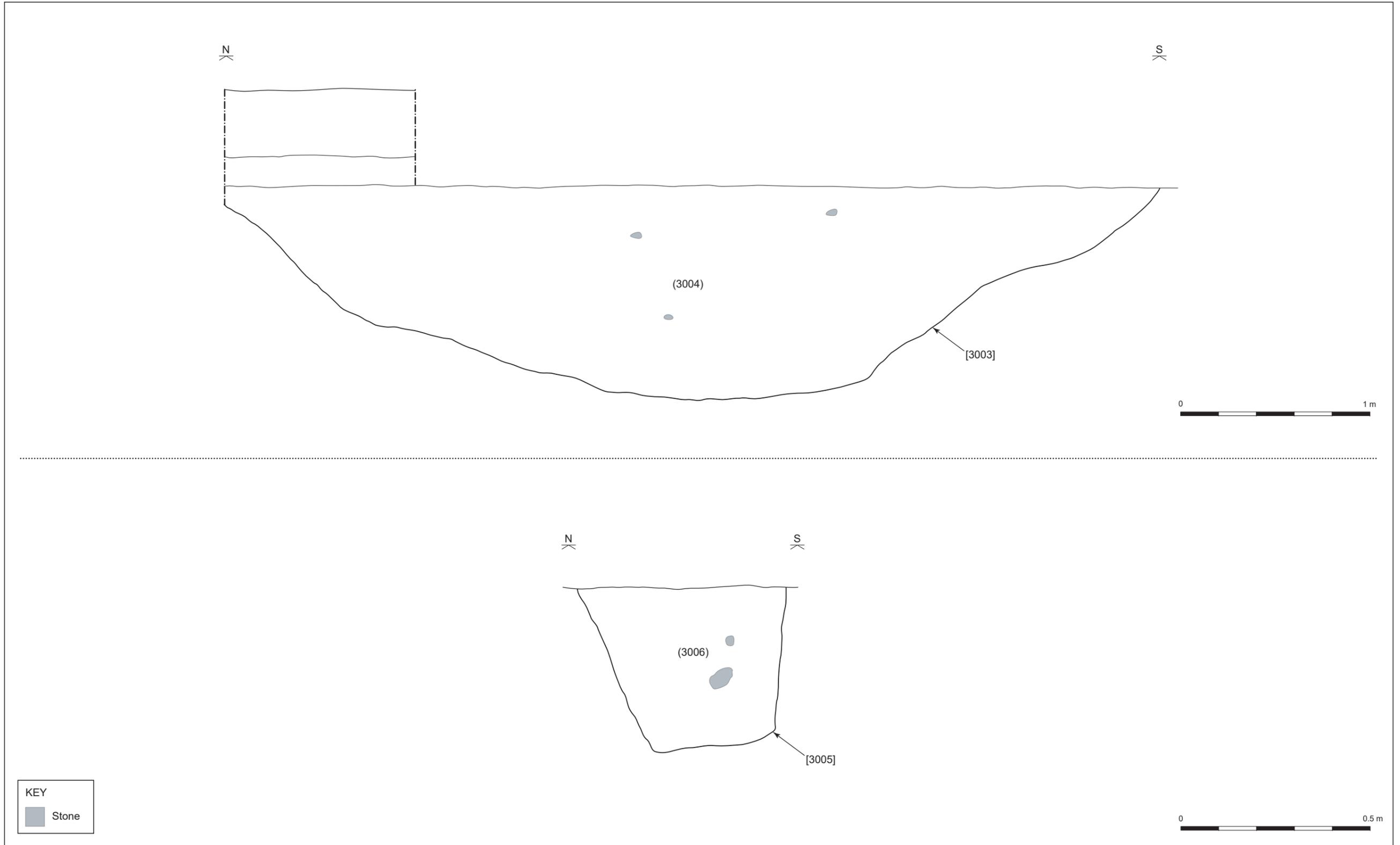


Figure 7 - Trench 3: Sections through ditches 3003 and 3005.

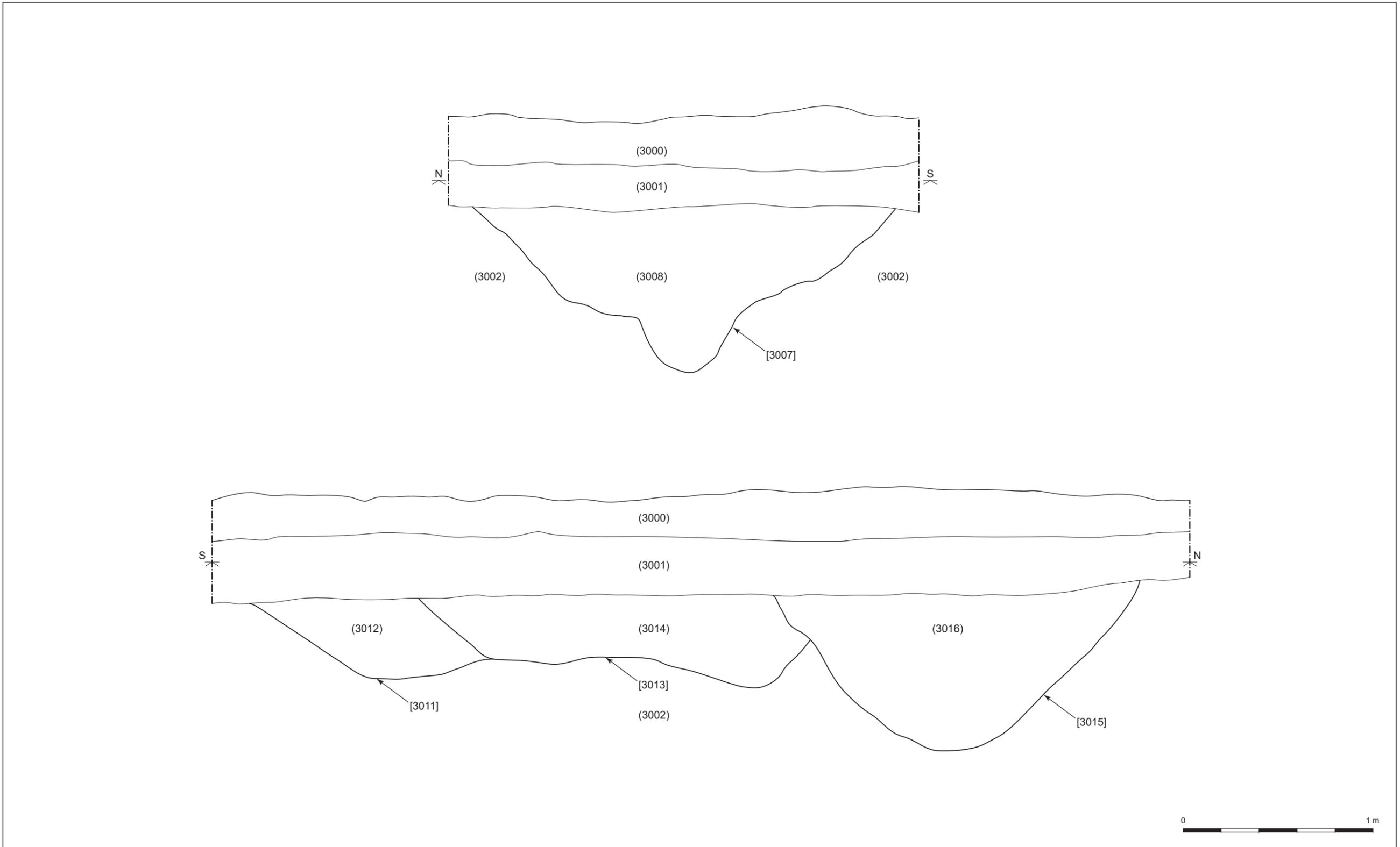


Figure 8 - Trench 3: Sections through ditch 3007 and intercutting features 3011, 3013 and 3015.

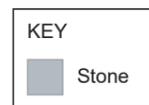
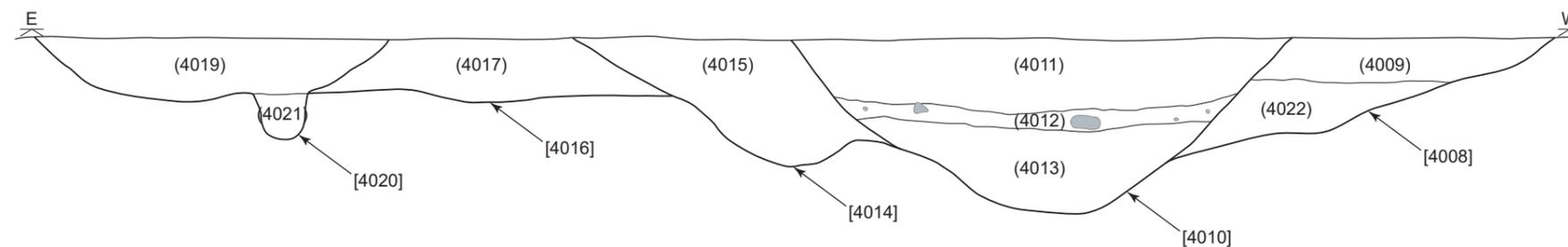
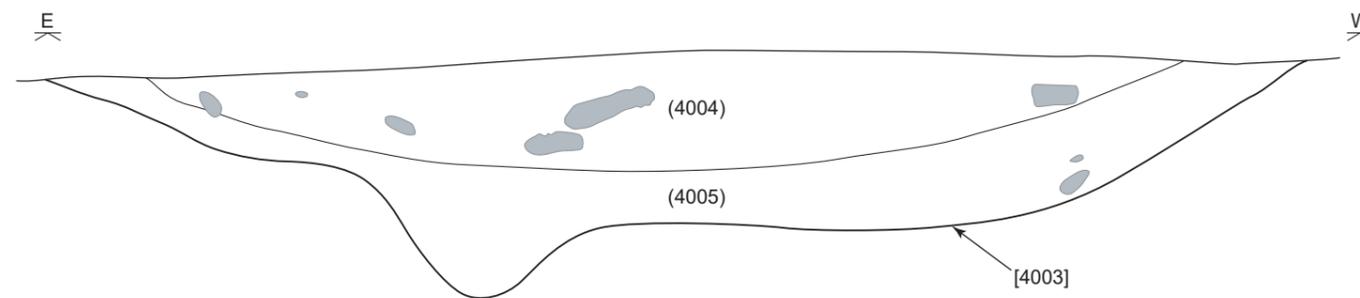
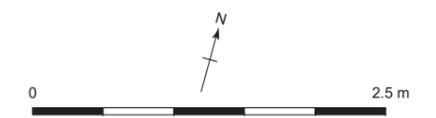
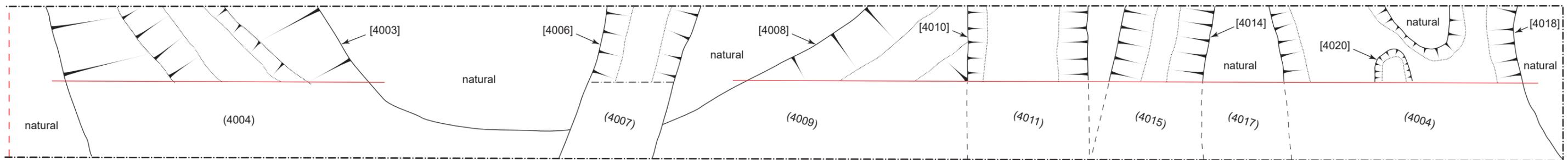


Figure 9 - Trench 4: Detailed plan and sections through ditches 4003, 4008, 4010, 4014, 4016 and 4020.

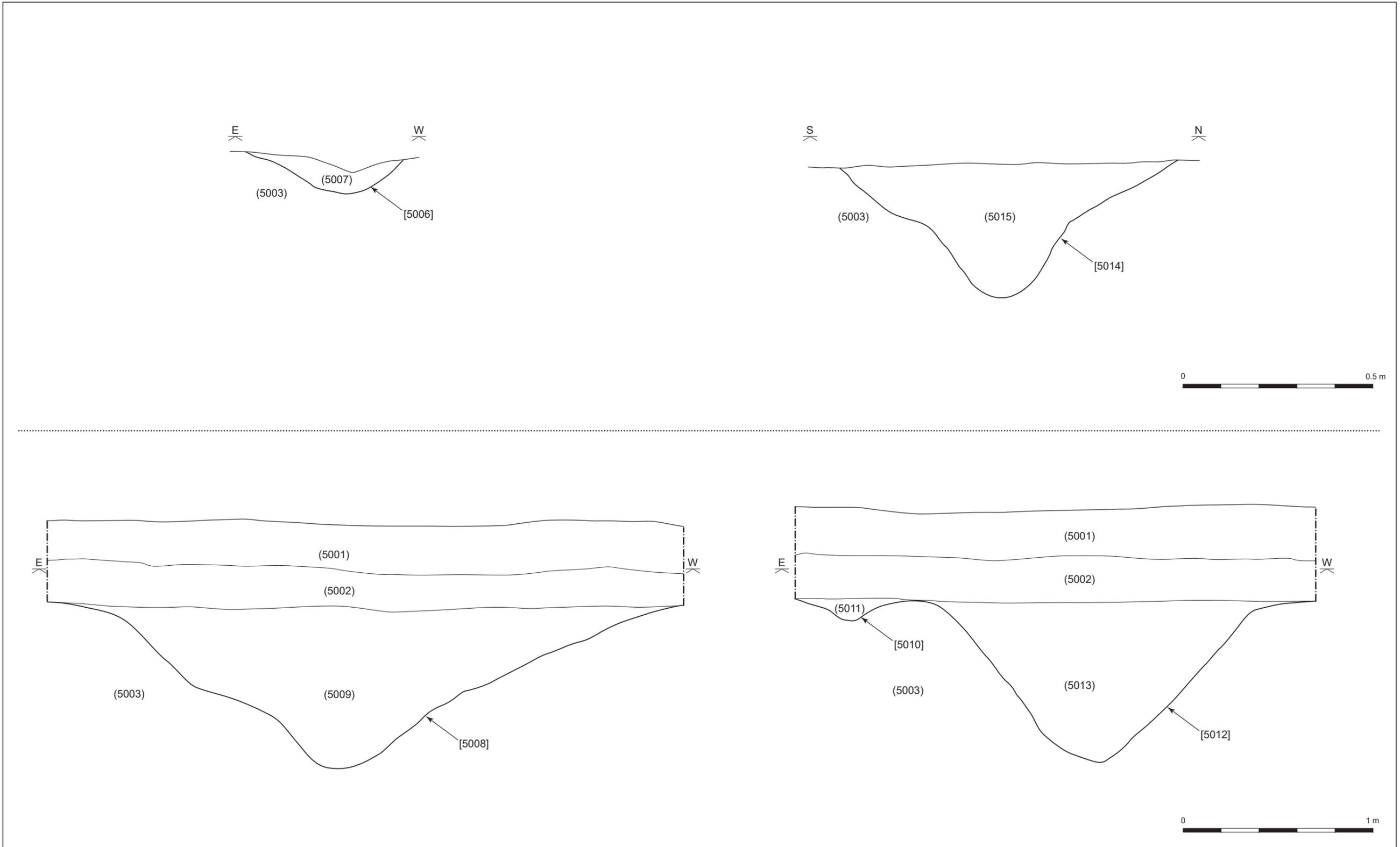


Figure 10 - Trench 5: Sections through ditches 5006, 5014, 5008, 5010, and 5012.

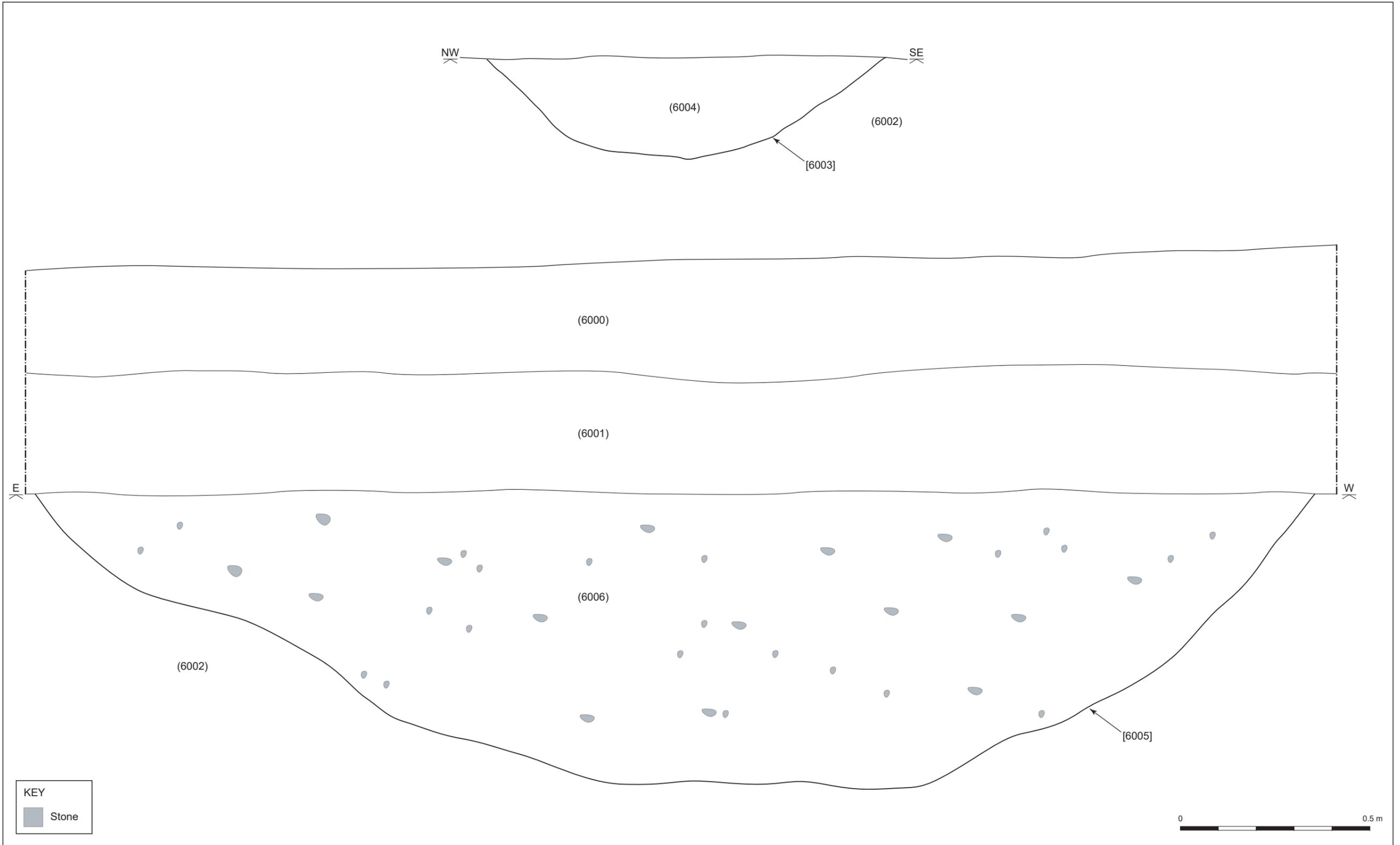


Figure 11 - Trench 6: Sections through ditches 6003 and 6005.

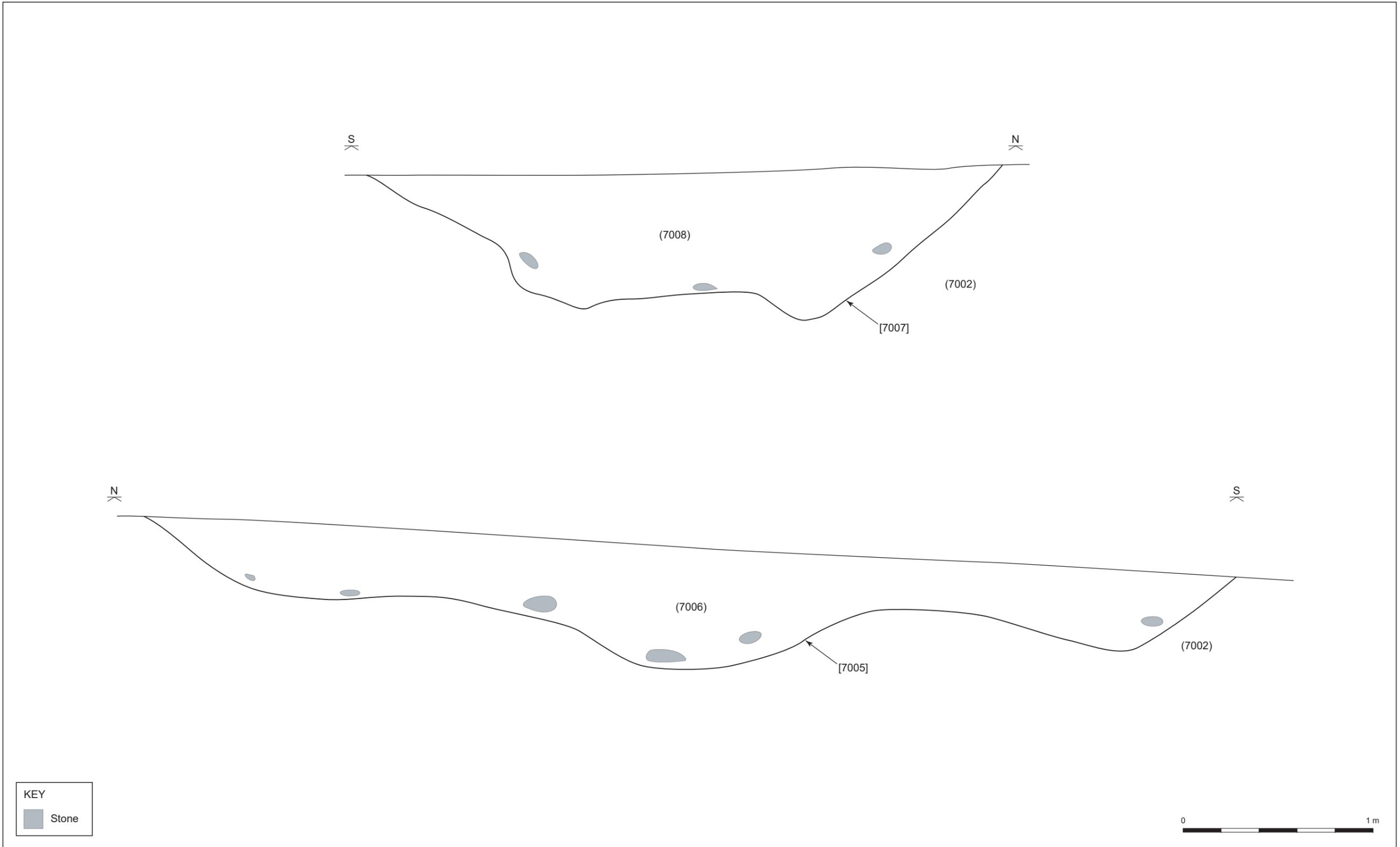


Figure 12 - Trench 7: Sections through ditches 7007 and 7005.

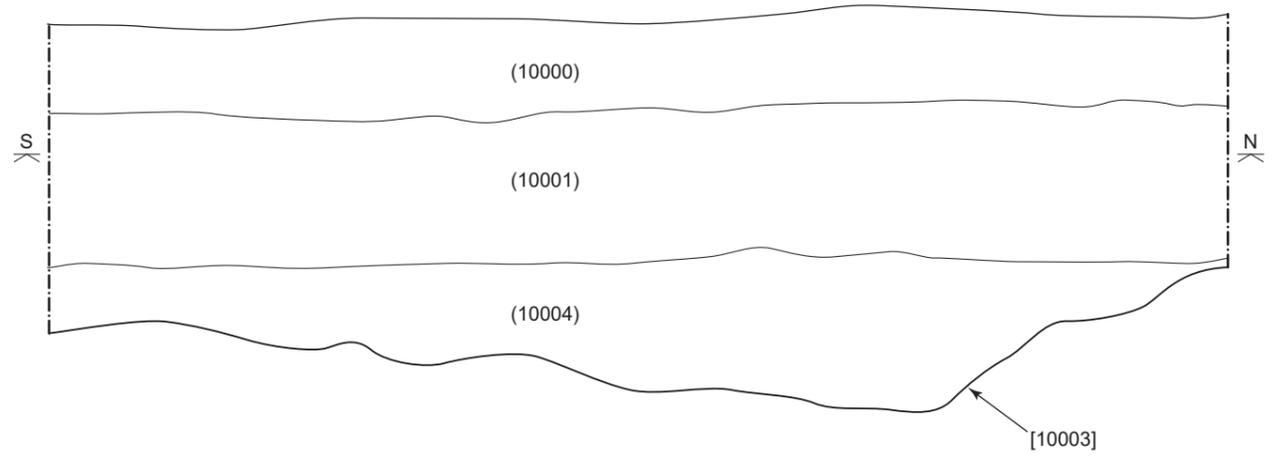


Figure 13 - Trench 10: Section through ditch 10003.



Plate 1 - View of features in Trench 1, facing south.



Plate 2 - West-facing section of 1003.



Plate 3 - East-facing section of 1005 and 1007.



Plate 4 - West-facing section of 1009.



Plate 5 - North-facing section of 2001.



Plate 6 - North-facing section of ditch terminus 2003.



Plate 7 - North-facing section of 2011.

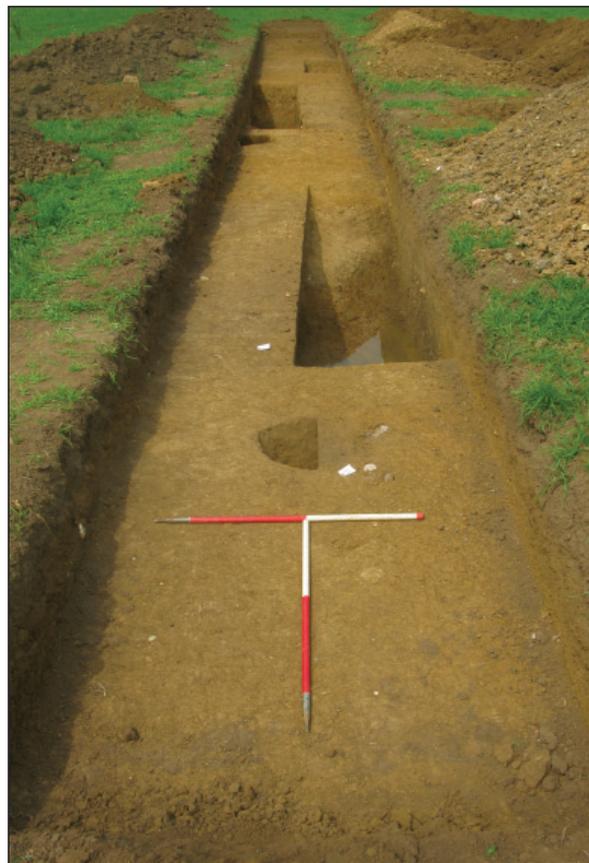


Plate 8 - View of features in Trench 3, facing north.



Plate 9 - East-facing section of 3009.



Plate 10 - West-facing section of 3003.



Plate 11 - West-facing section of 3005.



Plate 12 - West-facing section of 3007.



Plate 13 - View of enclosure ditch 4003-4008 and ditch 4007 in the centre, facing west.



Plate 14 - North-facing section of ditch 4003-4008.



Plate 15 - View of ditches 4010 and 4014, facing E.



Plate 16 - North-facing section of 5008.



Plate 17 - View of ditch 4018 with post-hole 4020 at the base, facing SW.



Plate 18 - South-facing section of 5012 and 5010.



Plate 19 - Southwest-facing section of 6003.



Plate 20 - View of 6005, facing NW.



Plate 21 - View of features in Trench 7, facing NW.



Plate 22 - West-facing section of 7003.



Plate 23 - View of 7005, facing East.



Plate 24 - West-facing section of 7007.

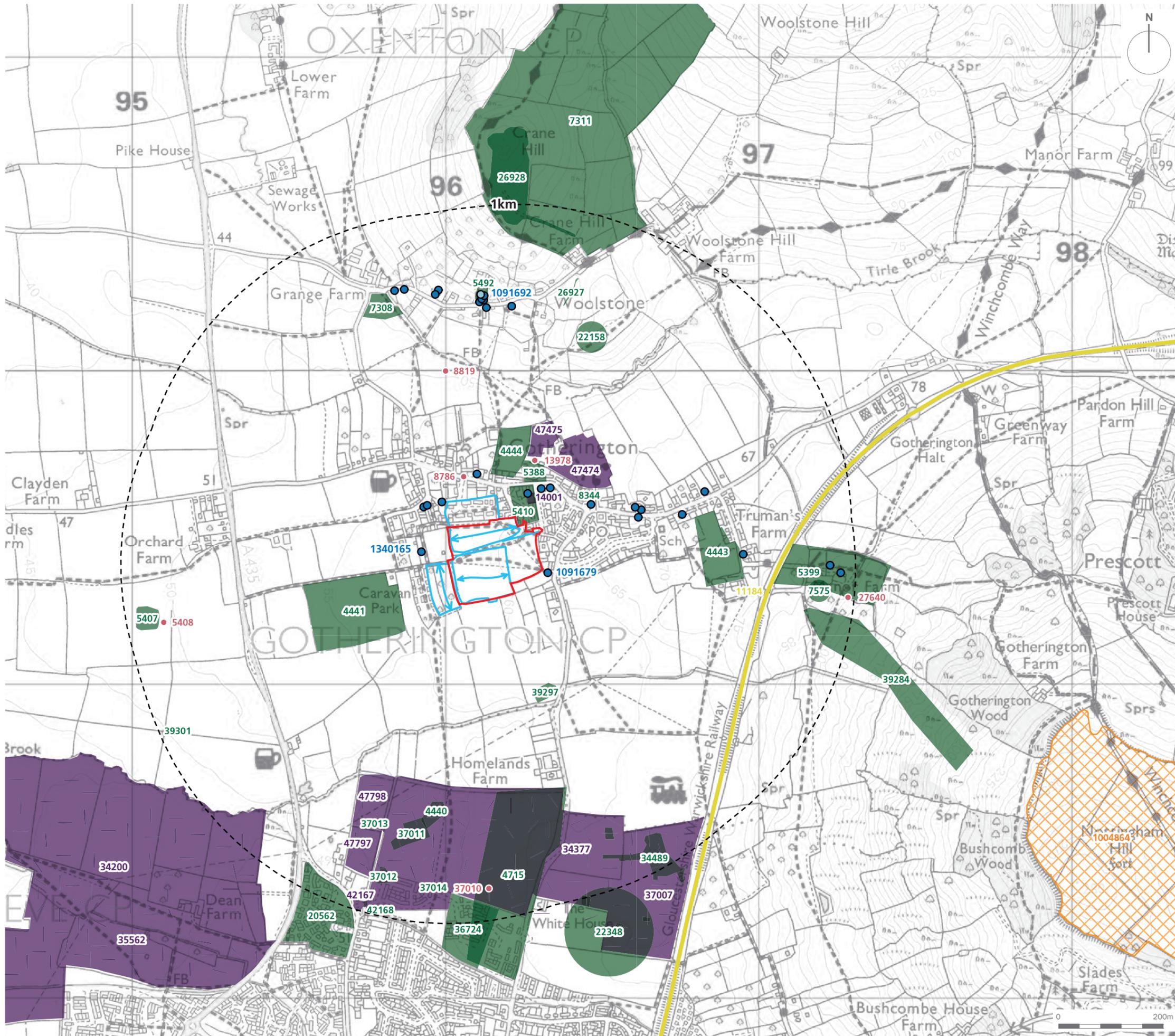


Plate 25 - East-facing section of 10003.

## Plans

- Plan EDP 1** Known Designated and Non-designated Heritage Assets  
(edp3036\_d005b 26 September 2019 LB/RG)
- Plan EDP 2** Extract from Gotherington Inclosure Map 1807  
(edp3036\_d012b 26 September 2019 AL/RG)
- Plan EDP 3a** Extract from Gloucestershire OS Six-Inch Map – XIX.NE 1884 (1st Edition)  
(edp3036\_d013b 26 September 2019 AL/RG)
- Plan EDP 3b** Extract from Gloucestershire OS Six-Inch Map – XIX.NE 1903  
(edp3036\_d014b 26 September 2019 AL/RG)

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- Site Boundary
- Range Ring (1km Interval)
- Scheduled Monument
- Listed Building**
- Grade II\*
- Grade II
- 7311 HER Monument
- 47474 HER Event
- HER Line
- 13978 HER Point
- NMP Line

client  
**L&Q Estates**

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project title  
**Land off Ashmead Drive, Gotherington**

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drawing title  
**Plan EDP 1: Known Designated and Non-designated Heritage Assets**

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drawing number	<b>edp3036_d005b</b>	checked	<b>RG</b>
scale	<b>Refer to scale bar</b>	QA	<b>TB</b>



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 Approximate Site Boundary

client  
**L&Q Estates**

project title  
**Land off Ashmead Drive, Gotherington**

drawing title  
**Plan EDP 2: Extract from Gotherington Inclosure Map 1807**

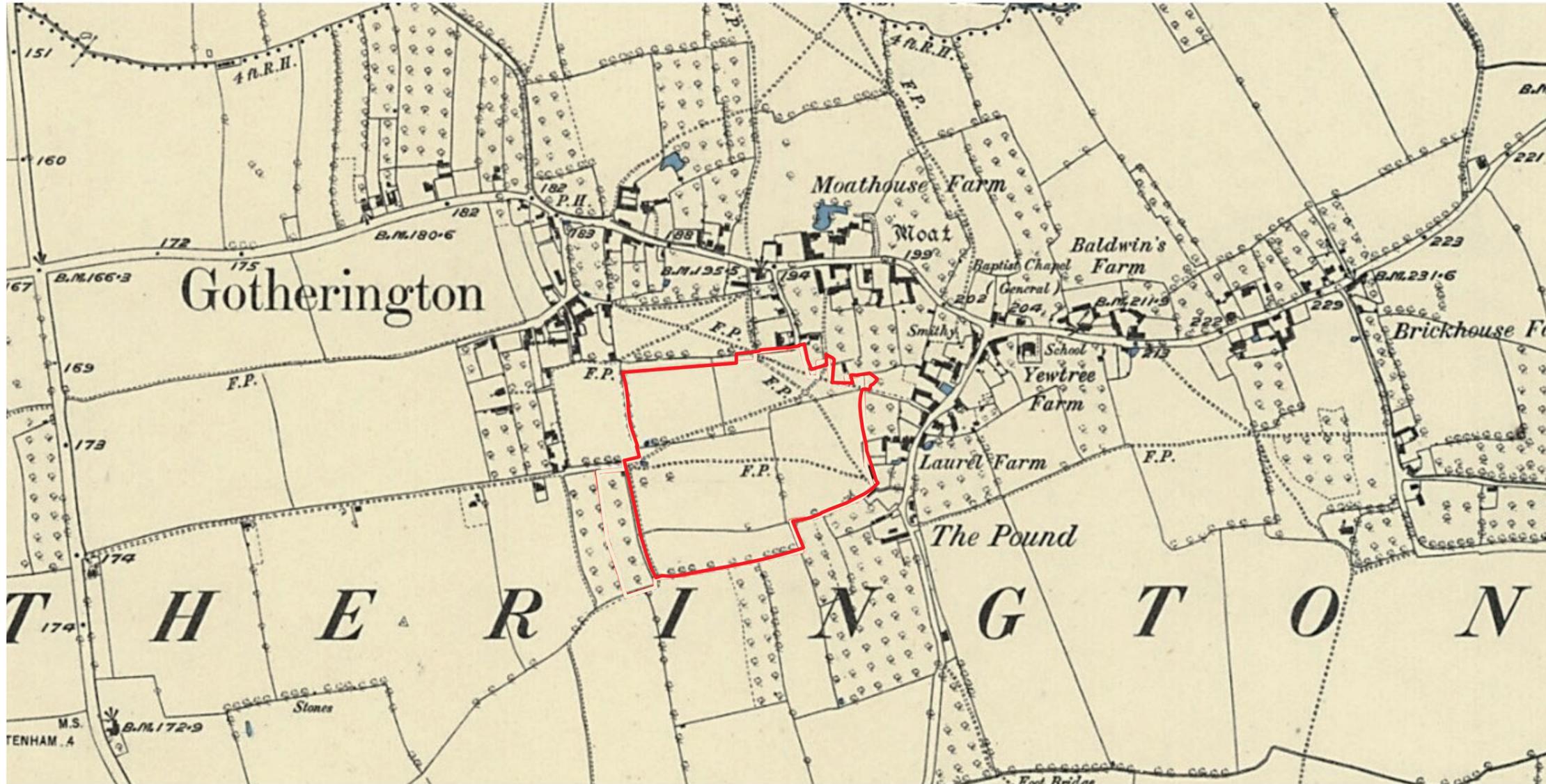
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**Land off Ashmead Drive, Gotherington**

drawing title  
**Plan EDP 3a: Extract from Gloucestershire OS Six-Inch Map - XIX.NE 1884 (1st Edition)**

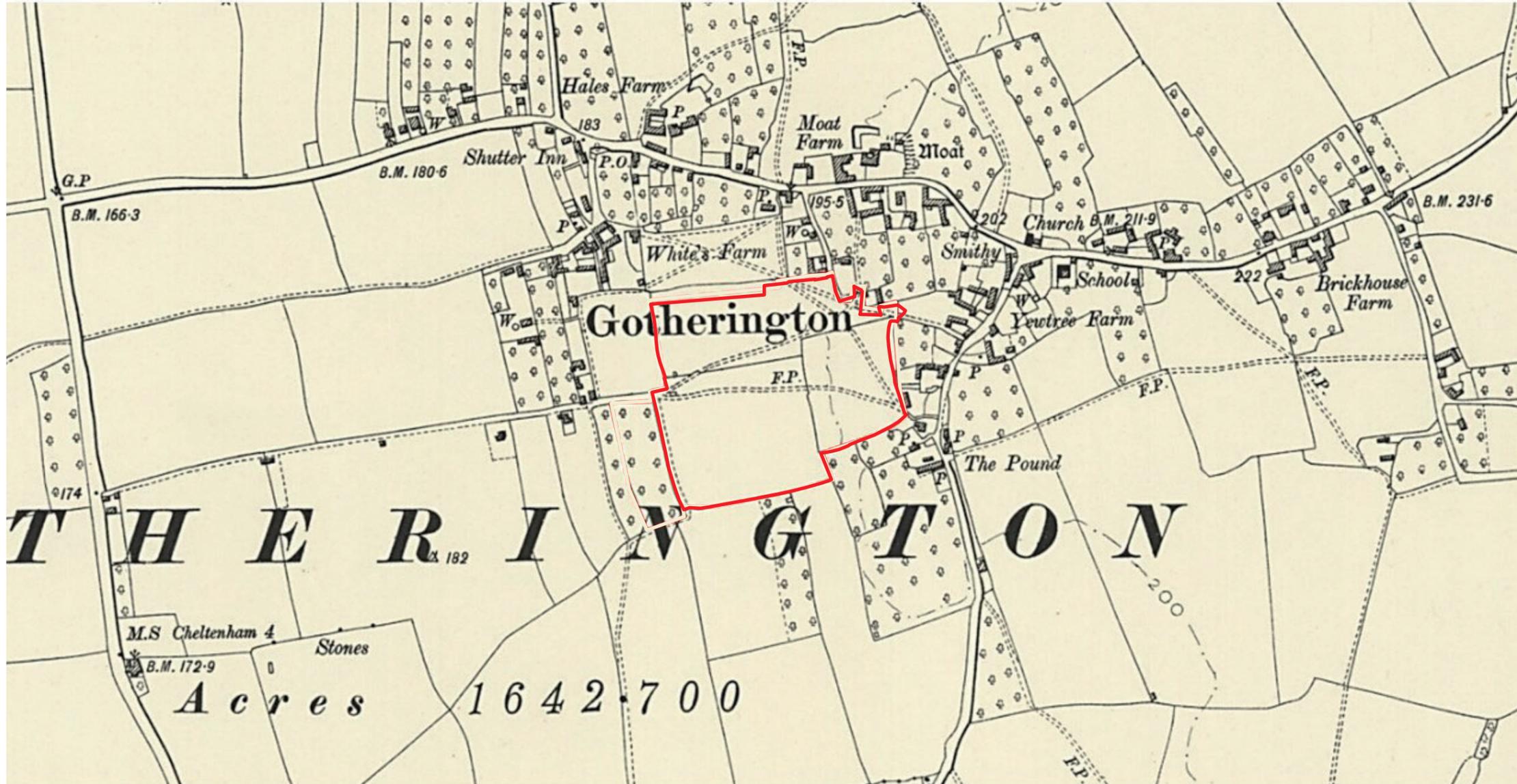
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Approximate Site Boundary



client  
**L&Q Estates**

project title  
**Land off Ashmead Drive, Gothington**

drawing title  
**Plan EDP 3b: Extract from Gloucestershire OS Six-Inch Map - XIX.NE 1903**

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