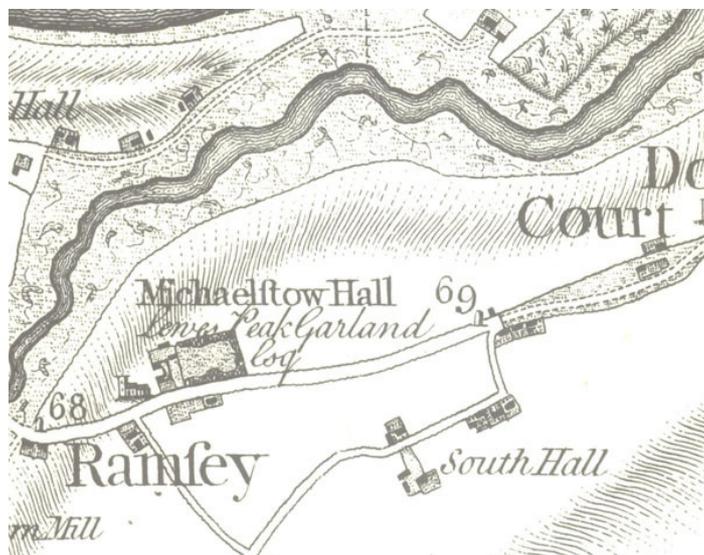


Archaeological evaluation (Phase 1) on land east of Pond Hall Farm, Stour Close, Harwich, Essex, CO12 5ET

May 2019



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Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Archaeological background	1
4	Aims	2
5	Results	2
6	Finds	6
7	Conclusion	12
8	Acknowledgements	13
9	References	13
10	Abbreviations and glossary	14
11	Contents of archive	14
12	Archive deposition	15

Appendix 1	Context list	16
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Figures	after p18
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OASIS summary

List of photographs, maps, tables and figures

Cover: extract from Chapman and André's map of Essex, 1777

Photograph 1	T50 trench shot, looking southwest	3
Photograph 2	T71 trench shot, looking south	5
Photograph 3	T81 trench shot, looking north	6

Map 1	Essex XXI.SW, rev. 1986; pub. 1898	13
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Table 1	Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery	7
Table 2	Number and weight of pottery, CBM and baked-clay from features	7
Table 3	Details on the prehistoric pottery fabrics represented in the assemblage	8
Table 4	Prehistoric pottery from features and layers	8
Table 5	Post-Roman pottery fabrics recorded	8
Table 6	Details on the post-Roman pottery	8
Table 7	Number and weight of post-Roman pottery from features	8
Table 8	CBM by period and type	9
Table 9	Quantities of CBM by features	10
Table 10	Quantities of baked clay by features	10
Table 11	Approximate dates for the individual features and layers	10
Table 12	Non-ceramic finds	11

Fig 1	Site location
Fig 2	Phase 1 trenching results
Fig 3	Start of phase 2 trenching results
Fig 4	Trenches 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54 and 55
Fig 5	Trenches 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62 and 63
Fig 6	Trenches 64, 65, 66, 67, 69 and 70
Fig 7	Trenches 71, 72, 73, 74, 75 and 76
Fig 8	Trenches 77, 78, 79, 81, 141 and 156
Fig 9	Feature sections
Fig 10	Feature sections
Fig 11	Feature sections
Fig 12	Feature sections
Fig 13	Representative sections

1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation of thirty-four trial trenches was carried out as part of phase one at land east of Pond Hall Farm, Stour Close, Harwich, Essex in advance of a multi-purpose redevelopment of the site. Forty-nine features were uncovered – twenty-four ditches, eight pits, four gullies, three ditches/pits, one pit/pond, one quarry pit, one pit/natural feature, one pit/posthole, one pit/hollow, a ditch/gully, a land drain and a posthole – indicating two phases of human activity on the site, the first located in the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age, the second in the 19th and early 20th centuries, when the area was utilised as farmland following a programme of land reclamation during the mid 19th century.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the report for an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land east of Pond Hall Farm, Stour Close, Harwich, Essex, which was carried out during the 13th to the 23rd May 2019. The work was commissioned by Jonathan Martin of Q + A Planning Ltd on behalf of Harding Estates (East Anglia) Ltd and undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) as part of a hybrid application for development of employment floorspace (including start up units) consisting of: 1) Outline approval for development of the site to create employment units, café/restaurant units, public house, drive through restaurants, cinema, hotel as well as up to 297 dwellings including landscaping, open space and associated routes of access, internal estate roads and car parking. 2) Full approval for the creation of retail shop units, food store, petrol station, and associated highway and infrastructure works including a new roundabout on the A120.

In response to consultation with Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS), Historic Environment Advisor Teresa O'Connor advised that in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2018).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a brief detailing the required archaeological work, written by Teresa O'Connor (ECCPS 2018). Subsequently, a written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2019).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*, and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England (EAA 14 and 24)*. This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (ClfA 2014a)*, *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (ClfA 2014b)*.

3 Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex and the Brief (ECCPA). EHER records area accessible via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>.

A desk-based assessment (DBA) was submitted along with the planning application which provides a brief overview of the known archaeology within the development area (CAT Report 741 by Howard Brooks). A summary of the results of the DBA is presented below.

The DBA identified one archaeological or heritage site within the boundary of the development site – a World War II pill-box. This pill-box is one of the few surviving

defences associated with the former 'Stanier Line' constructed to protect Harwich from a landward attack during the Second World War. Standing in a field on the brow of a hill the pill-box has been identified as a Type FW3/22 concrete pill-box with its entrance on the east side.

An additional forty-nine archaeological or heritage sites were identified within the DBA as being located close to the development site (ie within 1km radius). Above ground remains include two historic churches (St Michael's, Ramsey (700m SW) and All Saints, Dovercourt (750m E)), seven other listed buildings, and a number of pill-boxes and spigot mortar positions (now mostly vanished) associated with the Stanier Line (see above).

The DBA identified the most important below-ground archaeological remains as being clustered in Upper Dovercourt, generally 1km east of the application site. These included prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains, and the nationally important group of Palaeolithic remains from Gants Pit. The Anglo-Saxon or medieval predecessor to Michaelstow Hall may also be located close to the church to the southwest. To this summary should be added the results of recent archaeological work to the east of the development site at the former Delfords Factory (CAT Report 1185). Archaeological investigations revealed Early Iron Age pits and possibly a couple of ditches, a Romano-British rectilinear field-system, medieval field boundaries, an 18th-century pit and a number of modern features.

In summary, the DBA notes that much of the land within the development area would have been unsuitable for settlement with map evidence suggesting that the area had been reclaimed from marshland prior to c 1840. These areas of marshland were being reclaimed from the medieval period onwards and formed a valuable resource for the adjoining settlements. In the Roman period such marshland areas could have been utilised for salt-making and other industrial activities.

The proposed development lies within an area of reclaimed marshland in an area of potential for waterlogged alluvial silts in this floodplain environment, which have the potential to hold important palaeo-environmental evidence relating to the interaction of human and natural processes and vegetational, climatic and coastal changes in the history of this part of the Tendring peninsula.

Geophysical survey (see Fig 3)

As part of the current development a geophysical survey was carried out in February 2019 (Magnitude Surveys 2019). The results confirmed the existence of a palaeochannel network in Areas 1 and 5 with agricultural disturbance in Areas 1, 3, 4, and 5 in the form of drainage systems and field boundaries, confirmed by historical maps. The results of this survey has been used to inform the positioning of the archaeological evaluation trenches (see below). The full geophysics report will be included as an appendix in the final site report.

4 Aim

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to record the extent of any surviving archaeological deposits, and to assess the archaeological potential of the site to allow the ECCHEA to determine if further investigation is required.

5 Results

Thirty-eight trial-trenches were laid out across the development site. These included trenches T141, T149 and T156, originally due to be excavated in another phase of this evaluation, which were instead excavated during this phase to facilitate the construction of a road. The trenches were 30m long and 1.8m wide with the exception

of T50 and T52, which were 50m long and 1.8m wide. All of the trenches were stripped using a mechanical excavator under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist.

Four layers were recorded. A modern topsoil (L1, c 0.15-0.84m thick) extended across the entire site. For the most part, L1 overlay a subsoil (L3, c 0.12-0.42m thick) which sealed natural (L2, encountered at a depth of 0.44-0.77m below current ground level). In the area of T71, within the eastern part of the site, L1 sealed another, distinct subsoil (L4, c 0.26-0.36m thick), while in the area of T50, to the north of the site, and T81, in its southeast corner, L1 directly overlay L2. Sondages were excavated in trenches T48, T52, T58, T61, T63, T64, T65, T67, T69, T71, T72, T73, T77, T78, T79, T141 and T156 to ensure the natural had been reached.

No significant archaeological remains were identified in 14 of the trenches: T53, T58, T59, T60, T61, T63, T64, T65, T67, T68, T69, T78, T80, T141, T149 or T156.

Trench 47 (T47): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Field boundary ditch F21, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, lay on a NNW-SSE alignment and was 2.06m wide and 0.78 deep. The feature continues to the south southeast as F21 (T66) and F12 (T79).

Trench 49 (T49): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Ditch F33, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, was aligned ENE-WSW and was 1.5m wide and 0.67m deep.

Trench 50 (T50): 50m long by 1.8m wide

Pit or in-filled pond F46, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, extended beyond the limit of excavation (LOE) and so its full dimensions could not be determined, but its exposed extent was 2.9m wide and 0.9m deep.

Field boundary ditch F48 was of 19th- to early 20th-century date. It was aligned NNW-SSE, and continues to the SSE as F28/F29 (T62). The feature was not excavated.

Undatable pit F47 extended beyond the LOE but its exposed extent was 0.38m wide and 0.27m deep. Pit F49, which lay adjacent to F47, was 2.37m wide and 0.37m deep.



Photograph 1 T50 trench shot – looking southwest

Trench 51 (T51): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Undatable ditch F45 was aligned NNW-SSE and was 0.59m wide and 0.08m deep. The feature continues to the south southeast as F39 (T56).

Natural feature F50 was 1.08m wide and 0.11m deep.

Trench 52 (T52): 50m long by 1.8m wide

Undatable pit F25 extended beyond the LOE but its exposed extent was 0.75m wide and 0.23m deep.

Undatable ditch/gully F26 was aligned NNE-SSW and was 1.03m wide and 0.28m deep.

Undatable gully F27 was aligned NE-SW and was 1.31m wide and 0.39m deep.

Trench 54 (T54): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Undatable pit/ditch terminus F31 was 0.92m wide and 0.18m deep.

Undatable gully F32 was aligned NE-SW and was 0.21m wide and 0.08m deep.

Trench 55 (T55): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Ditch F35, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, was aligned ENE-WSW and was 0.5m wide and 0.17m deep. The feature continued to the east northeast as F42 (T56) and F40 (T57).

Ditch F37 was of 19th- to early 20th-century date. It lay on an ENE-WSW alignment and was 1.02m wide and 0.6m deep. It continued to the east northeast as F36 (T56) and F41 in (T57).

Trench 56 (T56): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Ditch F36, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, was aligned ENE-WSW and was 1.33m wide and 0.57m deep.

Undatable ditch F38 lay on a NNW-SSE alignment, and was 0.72m wide and 0.42m deep.

Undatable ditch F39 was aligned NNW-SSE and was 1.03m wide and 0.41m deep.

Ditch F42, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, was aligned ENE-WSW and was 0.52m wide and 0.27m deep.

Ditch F43, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, lay on an ENE-WSW alignment. The feature was not excavated.

Trench 57 (T57): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Two ditches of 19th- to early 20th-century date, F40 and F41, were excavated. They lay parallel to each other on an ENE-WSW alignment. F40 was 0.99m wide and 0.52m deep; F41 was 0.99m wide and 0.32m deep.

Posthole F44, which was of 18th- to 20th-century date, was 0.26m wide and 0.19m deep.

Trench 62 (T62): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Field boundary ditch F28, which was of 18th- to early 20th-century date, was aligned NNW-SSE and was 1.53m wide and 0.47m deep. Field boundary ditch F29, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, was a re-cut of F28. It was also aligned NNW-SSE and was 2.76m wide and 0.26m deep.

Trench 66 (T66): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Field boundary ditch F21 was of 19th- to early 20th-century date. It was aligned NNW-SSE and was 2.07m wide and 0.78m deep.

Pit/posthole F13, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, was 0.4m wide and 0.35m deep.

Trench 70 (T70): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Undatable ditch F14 lay on a NW-SE alignment and was 0.48m wide and 0.28m deep.

Undatable pit F15 was 0.7m wide and 0.19m deep.

Trench 71 (T71): 30m long by 1.8m wide

?Bronze Age / Early Iron Age ditch F19 was aligned E-W and was 1.64m wide and 0.6m deep. The feature was cut by ?Bronze Age / Early Iron Age gully F18, which was aligned NW-SE and was 0.37m wide and 0.09m deep.

Undatable pits F16, F17 and F20 were excavated. They were 0.4-1.16m wide and 0.09-0.47m deep.



Photograph 2 T71 trench shot – looking south

Trench 72 (T72): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Undatable pit F30 was 0.52m wide and 0.1m deep.

Trench 73 (T73): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Medieval/post-medieval pit F10 and undatable possible pit F11 were excavated. The former feature was 0.54m wide and 0.11m deep, the latter 0.62m wide and 0.42m deep.

Trench 74 (T74): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Undatable ditch F8 lay on a NNW-SSE alignment and was 0.78m wide and 0.34m deep.

Trench 75 (T75): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Undatable ditch F5 was aligned NW-SE and was 0.7m wide and 0.21m deep.

Trench 76 (T76): 30m long by 1.8m wide

?Prehistoric pit/ditch F24 was aligned E-W and was 0.73m wide and 0.18m deep. The feature was not observed in T75, to the west, or T77, to the east, and so it must either lie on an irregular alignment, or else is an elongated pit.

Trench 77 (T77): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Undatable ditch F22 lay on a NW-SE alignment and was 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep.

Trench 79 (T79): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Field boundary ditch F12, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, lay on a NNW-SSE alignment and was 2.33m wide and 0.56m deep.

Trench 81 (T81): 30m long by 1.8m wide

Ditch F1, which was of 19th- to early 20th-century date, was aligned NW-SE and was 2.45m wide and 0.33m deep.

Iron Age ditch F2 lay on a WNW-ESE alignment and was 1.97m wide and 0.21m deep.

Undatable ditch F3 was aligned WNW-ESE and was 0.77m wide and 0.19m deep.

Iron Age quarry pit F6 extended beyond the LOE, and so its full dimensions could not be ascertained. An exploratory slot was excavated to a maximum safe working depth of 1.2m, whereupon excavation of the feature ceased.

Undatable pit/natural feature F7 also extended beyond the LOE, and so it was not possible to determine its actual dimensions, but its exposed extent was 2.46m wide and 0.45m deep.

Tree-throw F4 was excavated.



Photograph 3 T81 trench shot – looking north

6 Finds

6.1 Pottery and CBM

by Dr Matthew Loughton

The evaluation uncovered 75 sherds of pottery, ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) and briquetage/baked clay with a weight of just over 5 kg and eight vessels (rim EVREP) while the rim EVE is 0.52 (Table 1). The ceramic and pottery assemblage includes material of prehistoric, later medieval and post-medieval date. The prehistoric pottery was classified into fabric groups on the basis of the type of inclusions (flint, sand, grog, organic), their size, frequency, and sorting, using the scheme developed by Brown (1988) to record prehistoric pottery from Essex. The post-Roman pottery using the fabric groups from *CAR 7* (2000) and Cunningham (1985).

Ceramic material	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
Prehistoric	6	8.0%	24	0.4%	4	0.00	0
Medieval / post-medieval	27	36.0%	408	7.5%	15	0.52	8
Ceramic Building Material (CBM)	37	45.3%	4,940	90.1%	145	-	-
Baked clay/briquetage	8	10.7%	111	2.0%	14	-	-
All	75		5,483		73	0.52	8

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Sherds of pottery, ceramic building material and baked clay were recovered from 19 features although most only produced a small quantity of ceramic finds and only three features – ditch F1, field boundary ditch F12, and field boundary ditch F29 – produced relatively larger assemblages (Table 2).

Feature	Feature Type	Nr.	%	Weight g	%	MSW/g
F1	Ditch	10	13.3%	1,635	28.3%	164
F2	Ditch	3	4.0%	7	0.1%	2
F6	Quarry pit	1	1.3%	5	0.1%	5
F10	Pit	1	1.3%	13	0.2%	13
F12	Field boundary ditch	9	12.0%	1,704	29.5%	189
F13	Pit/post hole	2	2.7%	2	0.0%	1
F18	Gully	1	1.3%	8	0.1%	8
F19	Ditch	1	1.3%	4	0.1%	4
F21	Field boundary ditch	2	2.7%	51	0.9%	26
F24	Ditch	7	9.3%	108	1.9%	15
F28	Field boundary ditch	6	8.0%	58	1.0%	10
F29	Field boundary ditch	10	13.3%	1,497	25.9%	150
F33	Ditch	3	4.0%	88	1.5%	29
F40	Ditch	6	8.0%	38	0.7%	6
F41	Ditch	2	2.7%	56	1.0%	28
F43	Ditch	4	5.3%	8	0.1%	2
F44	Posthole	2	2.7%	5	0.1%	3
F46	Pit or backfilled pond	4	5.3%	166	2.9%	42
F48	Field boundary ditch	1	1.3%	30	0.5%	30
Total		75		5,483		73

Table 2 Number and weight of pottery, CBM and baked-clay from features

Prehistoric Pottery

There was a small quantity of handmade flint and sand tempered prehistoric pottery with six sherds with a weight of 24 g (Table 3). There were no rims or decorated sherds. This material was recovered from four features (Table 4).

Fabric Group	Description	No.	Weight (gr.)	MSW/gr.	Rim
HMF	Handmade with flints	2	12	6	0
HMS	Handmade with sands	4	12	3	0
Total		6	24	4	0

Table 3 Details on the prehistoric pottery fabrics represented in the assemblage

Feature	Feature Type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g	Rim
F2	Ditch	3	7	2	0
F6	Quarry pit	1	5	5	0
F18	Gully	1	8	8	0
F19	Ditch	1	4	4	0

Table 4 Prehistoric pottery from features and layers

The small quantity of handmade pottery coupled with the absence of any diagnostic sherds makes it difficult to date this material with any precision. However, the sand-tempered fabrics from ditch F2 and quarry pit F6 could date to the Iron Age while the flint-tempered pottery from gully F18 and ditch F19 could be from the Bronze Age or Early Iron Age.

Post-Roman pottery

There was a modest collection of post-medieval pottery with 27 sherds with a weight of 408g and eight vessels (rim EVREP) while the rim EVE is 0.52 (Table 6). Small quantities of post-medieval pottery were recovered from 11 features (Table 7) and this material generally dates to the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	c 1500-19th/20th century
F45M	Modern English stoneware	19th-early 20th century
F48B	English porcelain	19th century
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	Late 18th-19/20th century
F48E	Yellow ware	19th century

Table 5 Post-Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g	Rim	Base	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	5	115	23	2	0	0.10	2
F45M	Modern English stoneware	3	198	66	0	2	0.00	0
F48B	English porcelain	2	3	2	0	0	0.00	0
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	16	76	5	6	3	0.42	6
F48E	Yellow ware	1	16	16	0	1	0.00	0
Total		27	408	15	8	6	0.52	8

Table 6 Details on the post-Roman pottery

Cxt	Feature type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g	Rim	Base	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
F1	Ditch	2	192	96	0	1	0.00	0
F12	Field	1	11	11	0	0	0.00	0

	boundary ditch							
F13	Pit/posthole	2	2	1	0	0	0.00	0
F29	Field boundary ditch	5	50	10	2	0	0.07	2
F33	Ditch	1	25	25	0	1	0.00	0
F40	Ditch	6	38	6	2	2	0.30	2
F41	Ditch	1	16	16	0	1	0.00	0
F43	Ditch	4	8	2	1	0	0.04	1
F44	Posthole	1	3	3	1	0	0.05	1
F46	Pit or backfilled pond	3	33	11	2	0	0.06	2
F48	Field boundary ditch	1	30	30	0	1	0.00	0
Total		27	408	15	8	6	0.52	8

Table 7 Number and weight of post-Roman pottery from features

Ceramic building material (CBM)

There was a small collection of Roman, medieval, and post-medieval CBM with 34 sherds with a weight of 4,940g and a mean sherd weight of 145g (Table 8). This material came from 10 features although ditch F1 produced the majority of this material (Table 9). Most of the CBM consists of brick and peg-tile fragments. A modern (19th-20th century) frogged brick fragment was recovered from ditch F1 as well as a large part of an unfrogged brick with dimensions of ? x 101 mm x 61 mm which according to Ryan's Essex brick typology is possibly a London Stocks brick, which dates from the late 18th to the first half of the 20th century (Ryan 1996, 95). A rim from a possible machine-made sewer pipe (?) in a dense, hard fired, purple coloured fabric with a silver sheen, was recovered from field boundary ditch F12, this dates from the mid 19th to the 20th century. A possible 19th century 'Dutch clinker-type' brick (Ryan 1996, 96) in a dense yellow coloured fabric, unfrogged and with dimensions of 145+ x 70+ x 35 mm was also recovered from field boundary ditch F12. Finally, a large part of either a brick or a paver, with smooth un-sanded sides, a broad very shallow frog covered with mortar (?), came from ditch F39.

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW
Post-Roman				
PT	Peg-tile	11	362	33
PANT	Pan-tile	1	40	40
BR	Brick	19	2,947	155
BR?	Brick?	1	1,348	1,348
MPIPE?	Modern sewer/drain pipe?	1	156	156
Slate		1	87	87
Total		34	4,940	145

Table 8 CBM by period and type

Feature	Feature Type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g
F1	Ditch	8	1,443	180
F10	Pit	1	13	13
F12	Field boundary ditch	8	1,693	212
F21	Field boundary ditch	2	51	26
F28	Field boundary ditch	5	55	11
F29	Field boundary ditch	5	1,447	289
F33	Ditch	2	63	32
F41	Ditch	1	40	40
F44	Posthole	1	2	2
F46	Pit or backfilled pond	1	133	122
Total		34	4,940	145

Table 9 Quantities of CBM by features

Baked clay/briquetage

There was a small assemblage of baked clay and briquetage with eight sherds with a weight of 111g and a mean sherd weight of 14 g (Table 10). This material was recovered from just two features: ditch F24 and field boundary ditch F28 (Table 10). Ditch F24 contained a possible briquetage object, such as a support or a clip/spacer(?).

Feature	Feature Type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g
F24	Ditch	7	108	
F28	Field boundary ditch	1	3	3
Total		8	111	14

Table 10 Quantities of baked clay by features

Summary

Table 11 provides a brief dating summary for the features which produced datable ceramic finds. The majority of features are post-medieval/modern (18th-early 20th century) with four or possibly five prehistoric features (F2, F6, F18, F19, F24?) dating to the Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and Iron Age.

Feature	Prehistoric Pottery	Post-Roman pottery	CBM	Overall date approx.
F1	-	F40 F45M	BR frogged BR unfrogged PT	19th-20th century
F2	HMS	-	-	Iron Age
F6	HMS	-	-	Iron Age
F10	-	-	PT	Medieval / post- medieval
F12	-	F40	BR PT MPIPE Slate	19th-early 20th century
F13	-	F48D	-	19th-early 20th century

F18	HMF	-	-	Bronze Age / Early Iron Age?
F19	HMF	-	-	Bronze Age / Early Iron Age?
F21	-	-	PT	Medieval / post- medieval
F24	-	-	Briquetage	Prehistoric?
F28	-	-	BR PT	18th-20th century
F29	-	F40 F48B F48D	BR PT	19th-early 20th century
F33	-	F45M	PT	19th-early 20th century
F40	-	F45M F48D	-	19th-early 20th century
F41	-	F48E	PANT	19th-early 20th century
F43	-	F48B F48D	-	19th-early 20th century
F44	-	F40	BR	18th-20th century
F46	-	F40 F48D	BR	19th-early 20th century
F48	-	F48D	-	19th-early 20th century

Table 11 Approximate dates for the individual features and layers

6.2 Heat-altered stone, glass, clay pipe and other finds

by Laura Pooley

All of the heat-altered stone, glass, clay pipe, ironwork, shell and coal waste has been catalogued and recorded in Table 12.

Twenty-eight fragments of burnt flint and a piece of burnt sandstone came from prehistoric features F6, F18 and F19, and undated features F7 and F36. Due to its poor thermal properties, flint has a tendency to fragment when heated and then rapidly cooled. Most of the flints are cracked with surface crazing and whitened (calcified) or discoloured various shades of white, grey, pink and red. The flints from prehistoric features may have derived from flint pebbles used as pot boilers.

Aside from the piece of clay pipe which is of post-medieval date, all of the remaining finds probably date to the 19th-20th century. They came from eight modern features.

Context	Finds no.	Description
F6, pit	5	Burnt flint: Large flint nodule burnt pink (161.2g) and 14 pieces of burnt flint – cracked, crazed and burnt white/grey (44.6g). Discarded.
F7, pit/tree-throw	3	Burnt flint: Three fragments of burnt flint (12.1g), cracked, crazed and burnt white/grey and a fragment of burnt sandstone (40.4g). Discarded.
F13, pit/posthole	18	Glass: Fragment of vessel glass (1.6g), 19th-20th century. Discarded.
F18, gully	7	Burnt flint: Five fragments of burnt flint (11.8g), cracked, crazed and burnt white/grey with one burnt red (11.8g). Discarded.
F19, ditch	8	Burnt flint: Four small fragments of burnt flint (5.3g), cracked, crazed and burnt white/grey. Discarded.
F21, ditch	13	Clay pipe: Fragment of clay pipe stem (2.2g), post-medieval. Discarded.

		Coal waste: Fragment of coal waste (14.7g), post-medieval/modern. Discarded.
F28, ditch	11	Iron: Complete iron nail, round-sectioned shank, ?round head (13.7g), 115mm long, 19th-20th century. Discarded.
F29, ditch/pit	12	Glass: Two small fragments of glass (4.7g), 19th-20th century. Discarded.
F33 Fill A, ditch	14	Coal waste: Fragment of coal waste (15.9g), post-medieval/modern. Discarded.
F36, ditch	16	Burnt flint: Single piece cracked, crazed and burnt pinkish-grey (31.7g). Discarded.
F40 Fill E, ditch	20	Glass: Four fragments of bottle glass, including the neck and rim of a black glass bottle (69.1g), 19th-20th century. Discarded. Shell: Fragment of oyster shell (10.7g). Discarded. Iron: Roughly rectangular fragment of iron, flat (16.5g), 40mm by 30mm and 10mm thick, 19th-20th century. Discarded. Rubber: Rubber fitting (51.7g), modern. Discarded.
F44, posthole	23	Coal waste: Fragment of coal waste (4.2g), post-medieval/modern. Discarded.
F46, pit/pond	24	Glass: Fragment from the base of a brown glass beer bottle (42.7g),]ESTER[on body, B on base, 19th-20th century. Discarded.

Table 12 Non-ceramic finds

6.3 Worked flint and animal bone

by Adam Wightman

Four pieces of worked flint came from three contexts.

F12 (finds no.17): 1) Secondary flake, hard-hammer struck, later prehistoric (Mesolithic-Bronze Age). 2) Core fragments, probably a blade core which was conical in shape before breaking, with additional removal from the break, Mesolithic/Early Neolithic.

F14 (finds no.6): Large retouched flake, hard-hammer struck, semi-abrupt/abrupt retouch on both lateral edges with some evidence of usewear, may have been used as a scraper and a cutting tool (?multi-tool), Early Neolithic-Bronze Age.

F36 (finds no.16): Retouched flake, possibly a piercer/borer with retouched notches (multi-tool), retouched on both right-lateral and left-lateral dorsal face, mostly abrupt, some semi-abrupt, later prehistoric (Mesolithic-Bronze Age).

Two pieces of animal bone (218g) came from modern ditch F1 (finds no.1). One was a fragment from the tibia of a large mammal (horse/cattle) and the other a complete pig tibia with unfused proximal end. Both are in a poor condition and can be discarded.

7 Conclusion

Forty-nine features were uncovered during archaeological evaluation at this site. They originated from the Bronze Age, Iron Age and the medieval/post-medieval and modern periods, or else were undated. They consisted of twenty-four ditches, eight pits, four gullies, three ditches/pits, one pit/pond, one quarry pit, one pit/natural feature, one pit/posthole, one pit/hollow, a ditch/gully, a land drain and a posthole.

Activity at this site can be divided into two main phases. Within the southeast corner of the site, a number of features – a quarry pit, three ditches and a gully – yielded a modest amount of artefactual evidence dating to the period from the Bronze Age to the

Early Iron Age, indicating that the site witnessed some degree of activity during the later prehistoric era. These remains were located within an area of high ground close to other prehistoric deposits recently recorded at Delfords, some 365m east northeast (CAT Report 1185), and on land east of Low Road, Dovercourt, 670m south southwest (CAT Report 1420). The presence of these features suggests that one or more sites of prehistoric human occupation may lie in the vicinity of this part of the investigation area.

The majority of archaeological remains uncovered during this investigation, however, date to the post-medieval and modern periods, predominantly to the 19th and early 20th centuries during which – following a programme of land reclamation around the mid 19th century which saw the area drained – it was utilised as farmland. Two NNW-SSE aligned boundary ditches indicated on late 19th-century OS mapping of the area which subdivided the field into separate plots appear to have been exposed by the excavations, the first as F21 in T47 and T66, and F12 in T79, the second as F48 in T50 and F28/F29 in T62 (see Map 1 below). Both of these boundary ditches were detected by the geophysical survey of the site, as were the ditches F36/F37/F41 and F35/F40/F42. The remaining archaeological deposits found across the site dating to this period were almost certainly related to agricultural activity.



Map 1 Essex XXI.SW, rev. 1986; pub. 1898

8 Acknowledgements

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9 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------|---|
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| CAT Report 741 | 2013 | <i>A desk-based assessment of the archaeological remains on and around land east of Pond Hall Farm, Dovercourt</i> |

CAT Report 1185	2019	<i>Archaeological evaluation, excavation and monitoring at the former Delfords Factory, 606 Main Road, Harwich, Essex, CO12 4LP: June 2017 – November 2018</i>
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
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10 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c 500 – 1066
Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
Palaeolithic	period c 800,000 BC to c 10,000BC
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
WSI	written scheme of investigation

11 Contents of archive

Finds: none retained

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1419)

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photos and log

Site section drawings

Inked section drawings

Digital record

Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds log)

The report (CAT Report 1419)

ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Graphics

Site digital photos and log

Survey data

12 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under accession code [requested](#).

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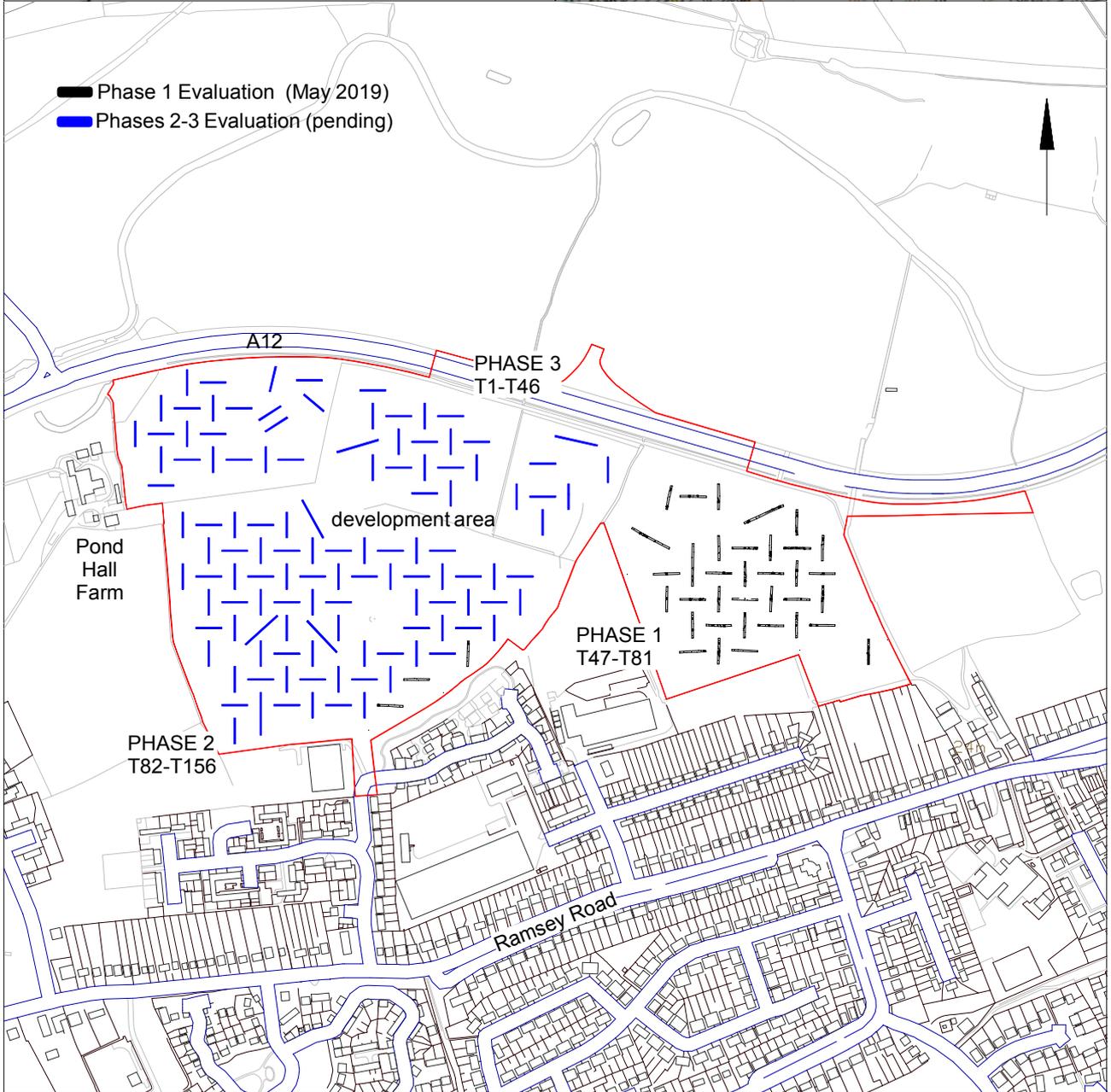
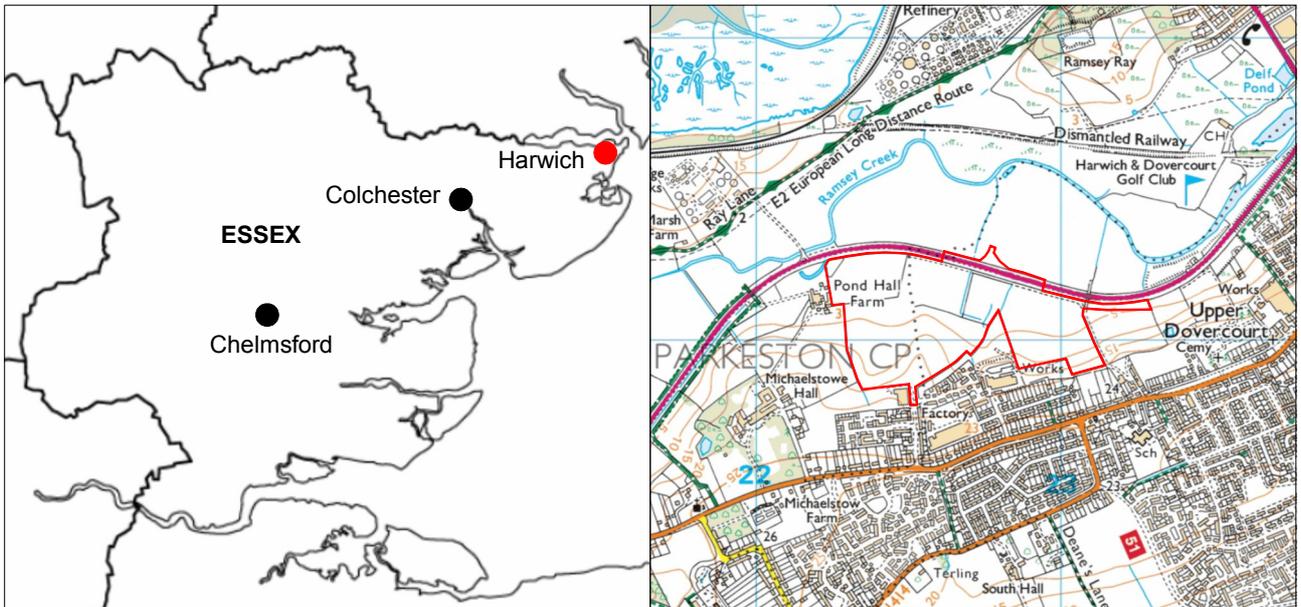
Date: 07.06.2019

Appendix 1 Context list

Context number	Trench number	Finds number	Feature / layer type	Description	Date
L1	All	-	Topsoil	Soft, moist dark brown/black sandy-silt	Modern
L2	All	-	Natural	Firm/hard, dry light/medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silty-clay	Post-glacial
L3	All	-	Subsoil	Soft, moist medium yellow/brown sandy-silty-clay	Undatable
L4	T71	-	Subsoil	Medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undatable
F1	T81	1	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 10% stones	19th-20th century
F2	T81	2	Ditch	Soft, moist medium/dark grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Iron Age
F3	T81	-	Ditch	Soft, moist light/medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undatable
F4	T81	-	Ditch	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt	Undatable
F5	T75	-	Ditch	Soft, moist light/medium grey/brown clayey-silt	Undatable
F6	T81	5	Quarry pit	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt	Iron Age
F7	T81	3	Pit / natural feature	Soft, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 1% stones	Undatable
F8	T74	-	Ditch	Soft, moist/wet light grey clayey-silt	Undatable
F9	-	-	-	Voided	-
F10	T73	4	Pit	Soft, moist medium grey sandy-silty-clay with charcoal flecks	Medieval / post-medieval
F11	T73	-	?Pit	Loose, moist dark brown/black sandy-silty-clay	Undatable
F12	T79	17	Field boundary ditch	Soft, moist medium/dark grey/brown clayey-silt with 1% stones	19th-early 20th century
F13	T66	18	Pit / posthole	Soft, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay	19th-early 20th century
F14	T70	6	Ditch	Firm, moist light orange/grey/brown silty-clay with 1% stones	Undatable
F15	T70	-	Pit	Firm, moist light grey silty-clay	Undatable
F16	T71	-	Pit	Soft/friable, dry medium/dark grey/brown clayey-silt	Undatable
F17	T71	-	Pit / hollow	Soft/friable, dry/moist light/medium yellow/grey/brown clayey-silt with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F18	T71	7	Gully	Firm/moist, light/medium orange/grey sandy-silt	?Bronze Age / Early Iron Age

F19	T71	8, 9	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt	?Bronze Age / Early Iron Age
F20	T71	-	Pit	Firm, moist light/medium orange/grey/brown sandy-silt	Undatable
F21	T66	13	Field boundary ditch	Firm, moist/wet medium yellow/grey/brown silty-sandy-clay with charcoal flecks	19th-early 20th century
F22	T77	-	Ditch	Firm, moist light/medium grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F23	T60	-	Natural feature	Soft, wet light blue/grey silty-clay	Undatable
F24	T76	10	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with 1% stones	?Prehistoric
F25	T52	-	Pit	Friable/firm, dry light/medium grey/brown clayey-silt with 1% stones	Undatable
F26	T52	-	Ditch / gully	Friable/firm, dry/moist medium grey/brown clayey-silt with frequent manganese fleck and pieces	Undatable
F27	T52	-	Gully	Soft, moist medium yellow/grey sandy-silty-clay	Undatable
F28	T62	11	Field boundary ditch	Firm, moist medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay	18th-20th century
F29	T62	12	Field boundary ditch	Friable/firm, moist dark grey silty-clay	19th-early 20th century
F30	T72	-	Pit	Soft, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silty-clay with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F31	T54	-	?Ditch / pit	Soft, wet light/medium grey silty-clay	Undatable
F32	T54	-	Gully	Soft, wet light grey silt	Undatable
F33	T49	14, 15	Ditch	Upper fill: soft, medium blue/grey clayey-silt with occasional stones, CBM and coal pieces; lower fill: soft, light blue/grey/orange silty-clay	19th-early 20th century
F34	T43	-	Pit	Firm, dry light grey silty-clay	Undatable
F35	T52	-	Ditch	Soft, wet medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay	19th-early 20th century
F36	T56	16	Ditch	Firm, moist medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay	19th-early 20th century
F37	T55	-	Ditch	Soft/firm, moist/wet medium orange/grey/brown/black silty-clay	19th-early 20th century
F38	T56	-	Ditch	Friable/firm, moist light orange/grey silty-clay	Undatable
F39	T56	-	Ditch	Friable/firm, moist, light/medium orange/grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F40	T57	19, 20	Ditch	Soft, moist/wet dark brown/black silty-clay	19th-early 20th century
F41	T57	21	Ditch	Soft, moist/wet light blue/grey clayey-silt	19th-early 20th century
F42	T56	-	Ditch	Soft, wet medium yellow/grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F43	T56	22	Ditch	Soft, moist dark grey/brown sandy-	19th-early 20th

				loam with charcoal flecks	century
F44	T57	23	Posthole	Very soft, moist medium grey/brown clayey-silt	18th-20th century
F45	T51	-	Gully	Soft, dry light/medium grey clayey-silt	Undatable
F46	T50	24	Pit / backfilled pond	Very soft, wet medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and CBM flecks	19th-early 20th century
F47	T50	-	Pit	Firm, moist light grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F48	T50	25	Field boundary ditch	Firm, dry very dark grey/brown loam with charcoal and CBM flecks	19th-early 20th century
F49	T50	-	?Ditch / pit	Soft, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F50	T51	-	Natural feature	Firm, moist medium orange/grey/brown clay	Undatable



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Fig 1 Site location (phase 1 shown black, phases 2-3 shown blue).



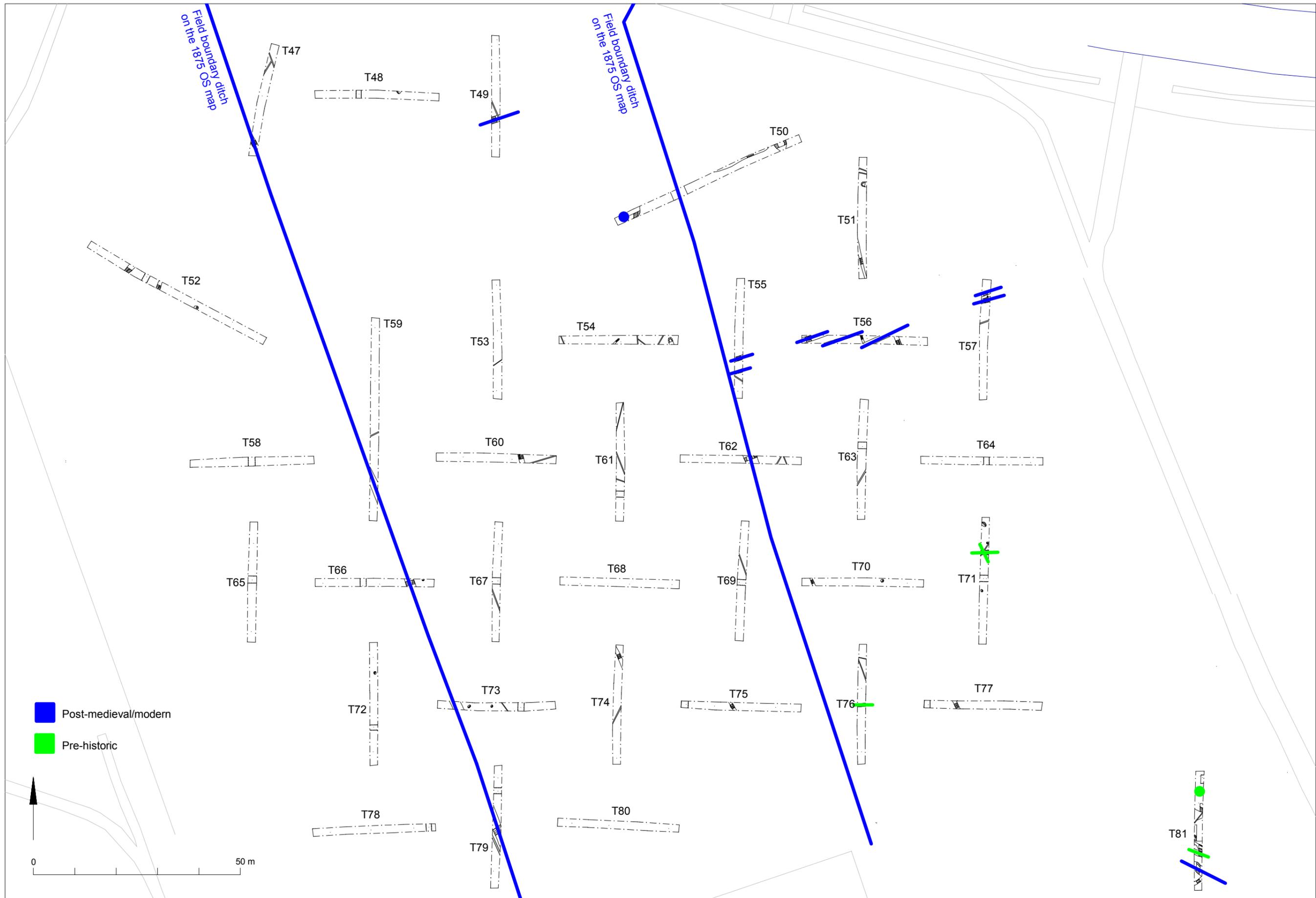
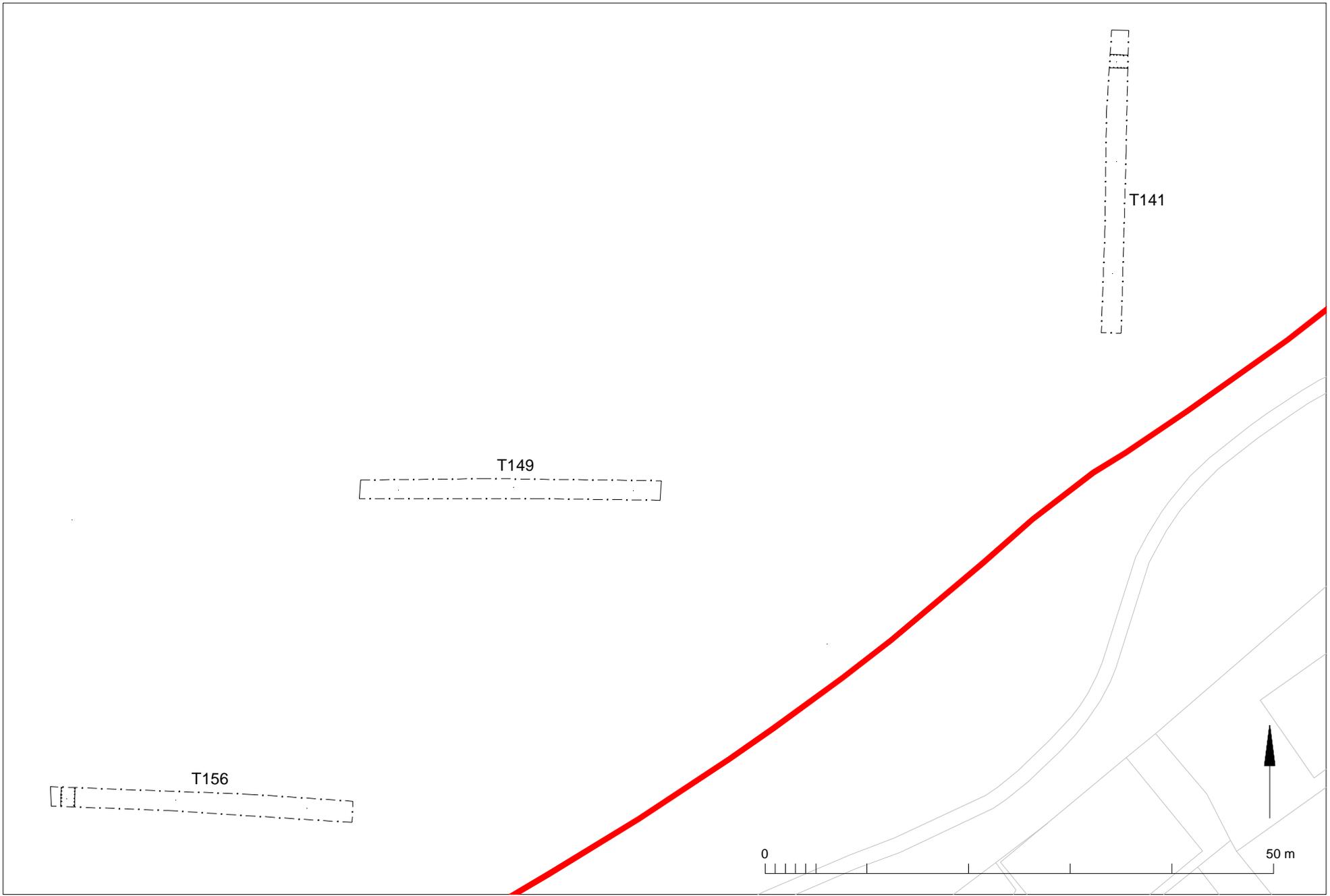


Fig 2 Phase 1 trenching results.



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Fig 3 Start of phase 2 trenching results.

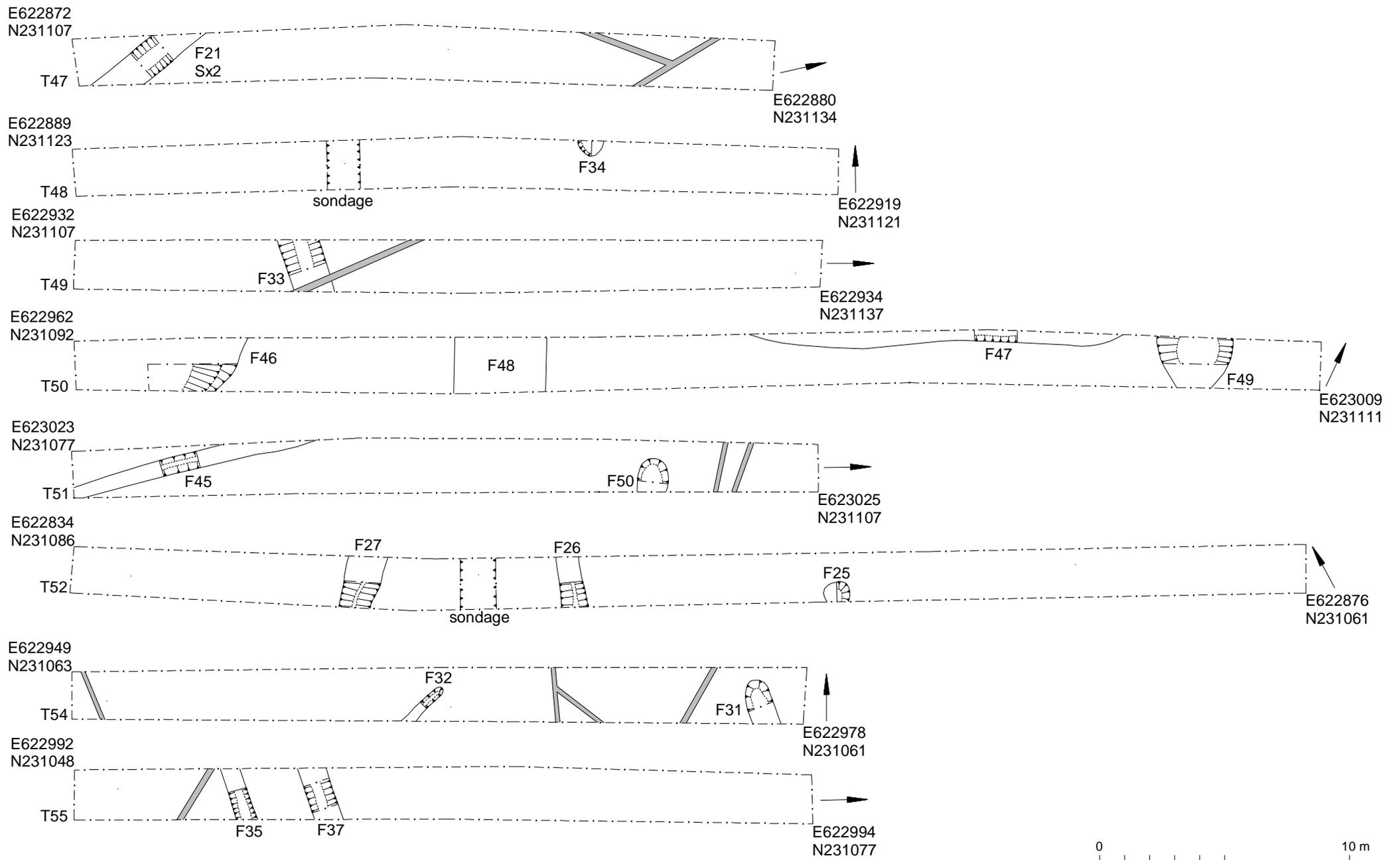


Fig 4 Trenches 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54 and 55.

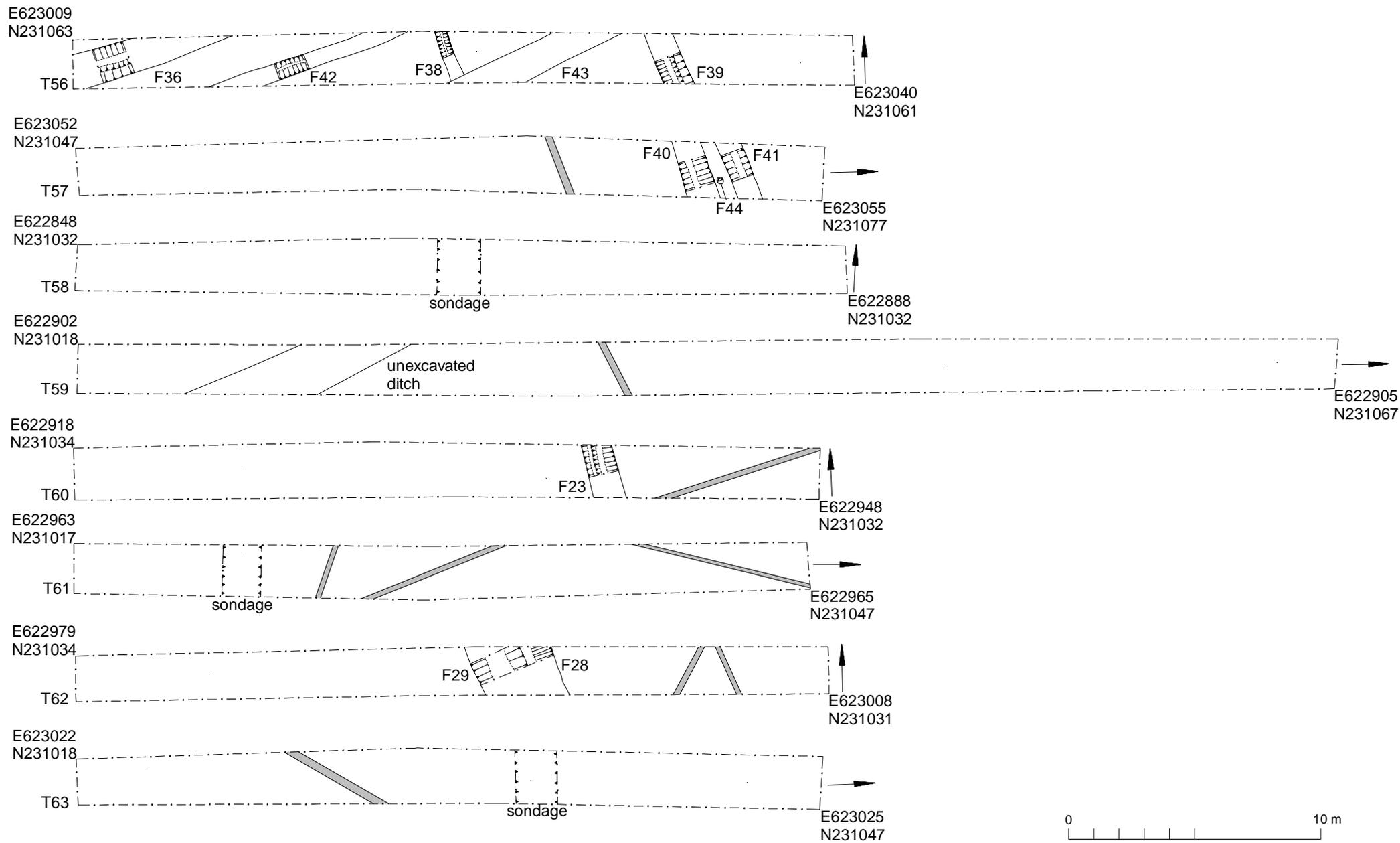


Fig 5 Trenches 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62 and 63.

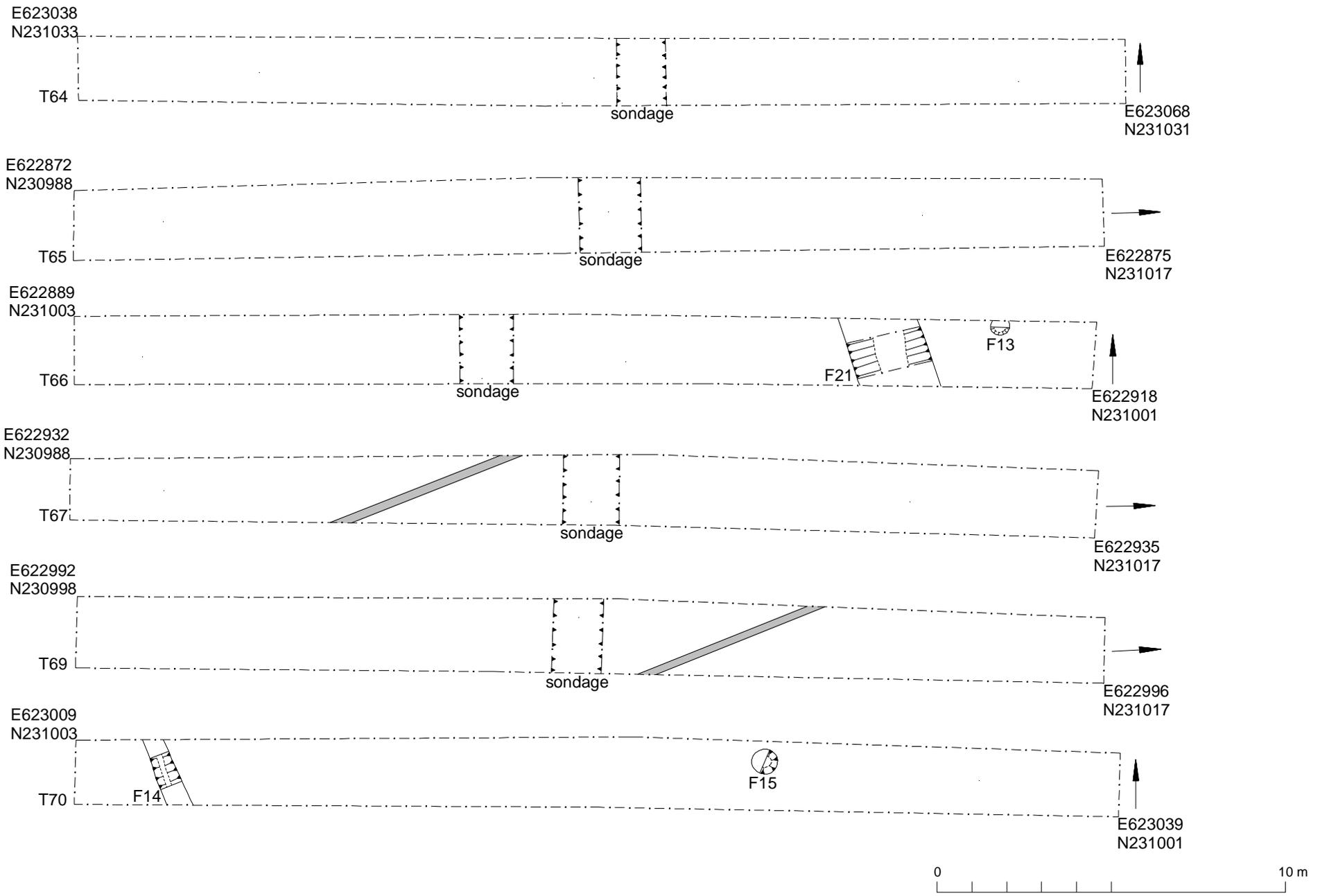


Fig 6 Trenches 64, 65, 66, 67, 69 and 70

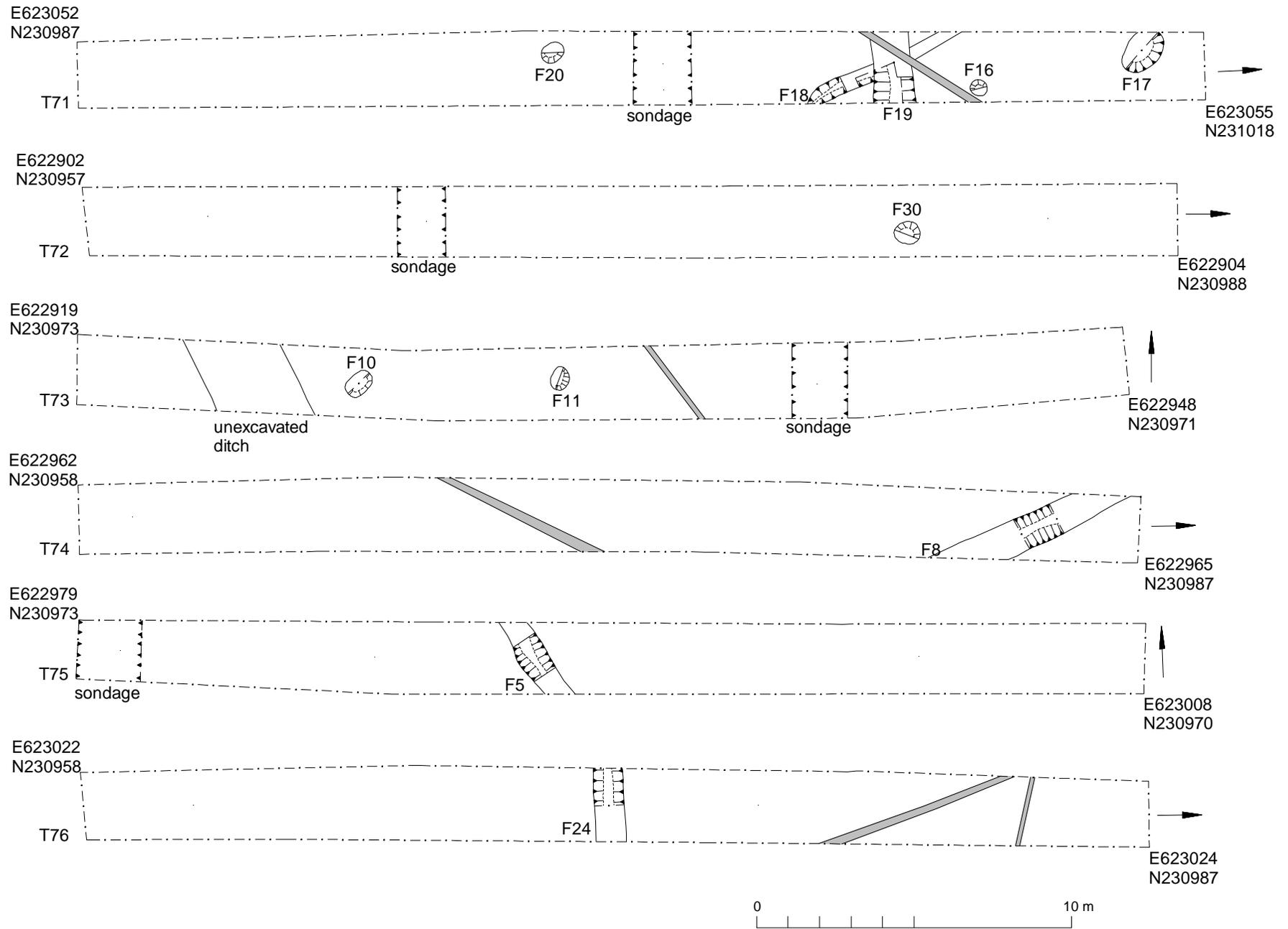


Fig 7 Trenches 71, 72, 73, 74, 75 and 76.

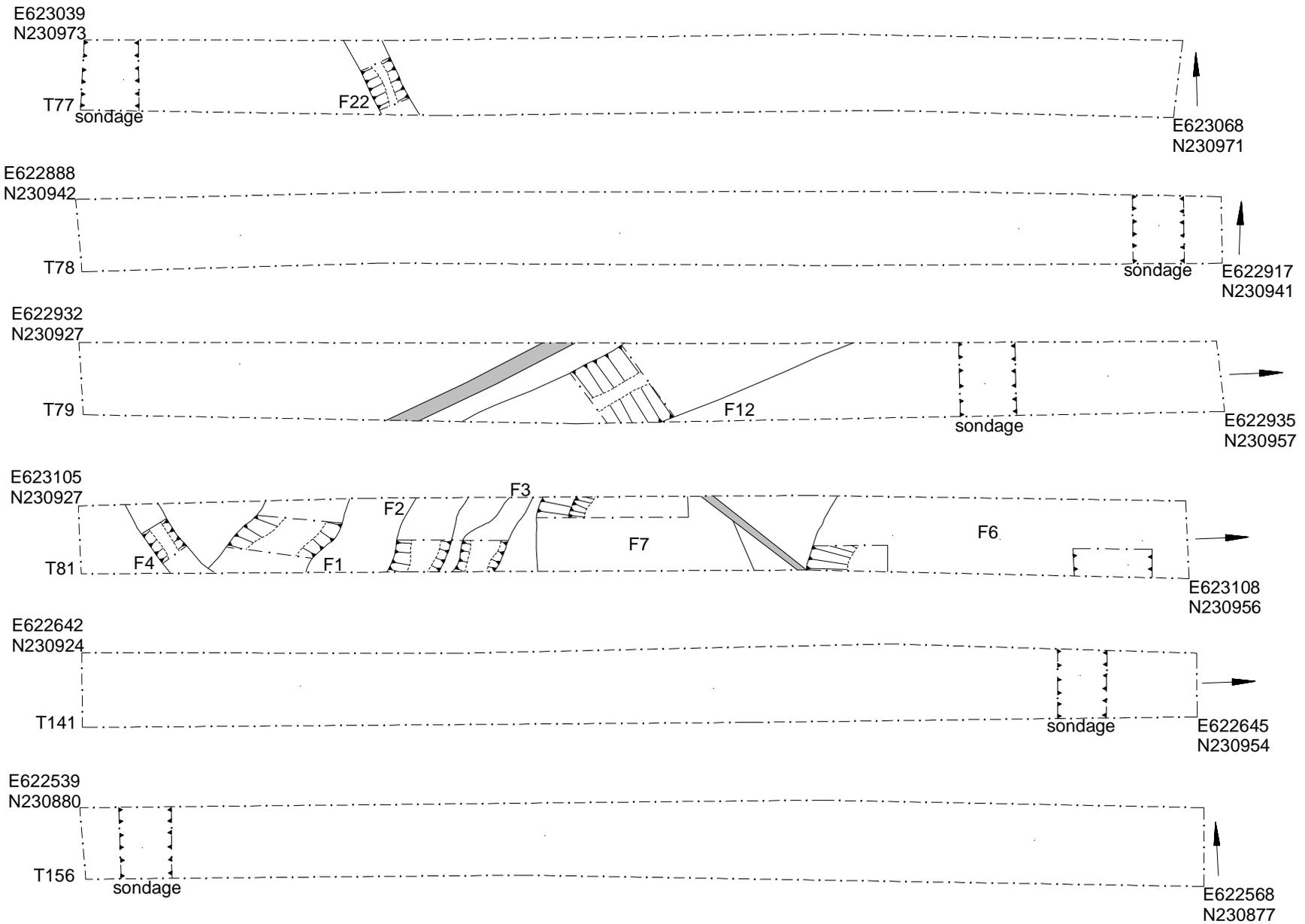


Fig 8 Trenches 77, 78, 79, 81, 141 and 156.

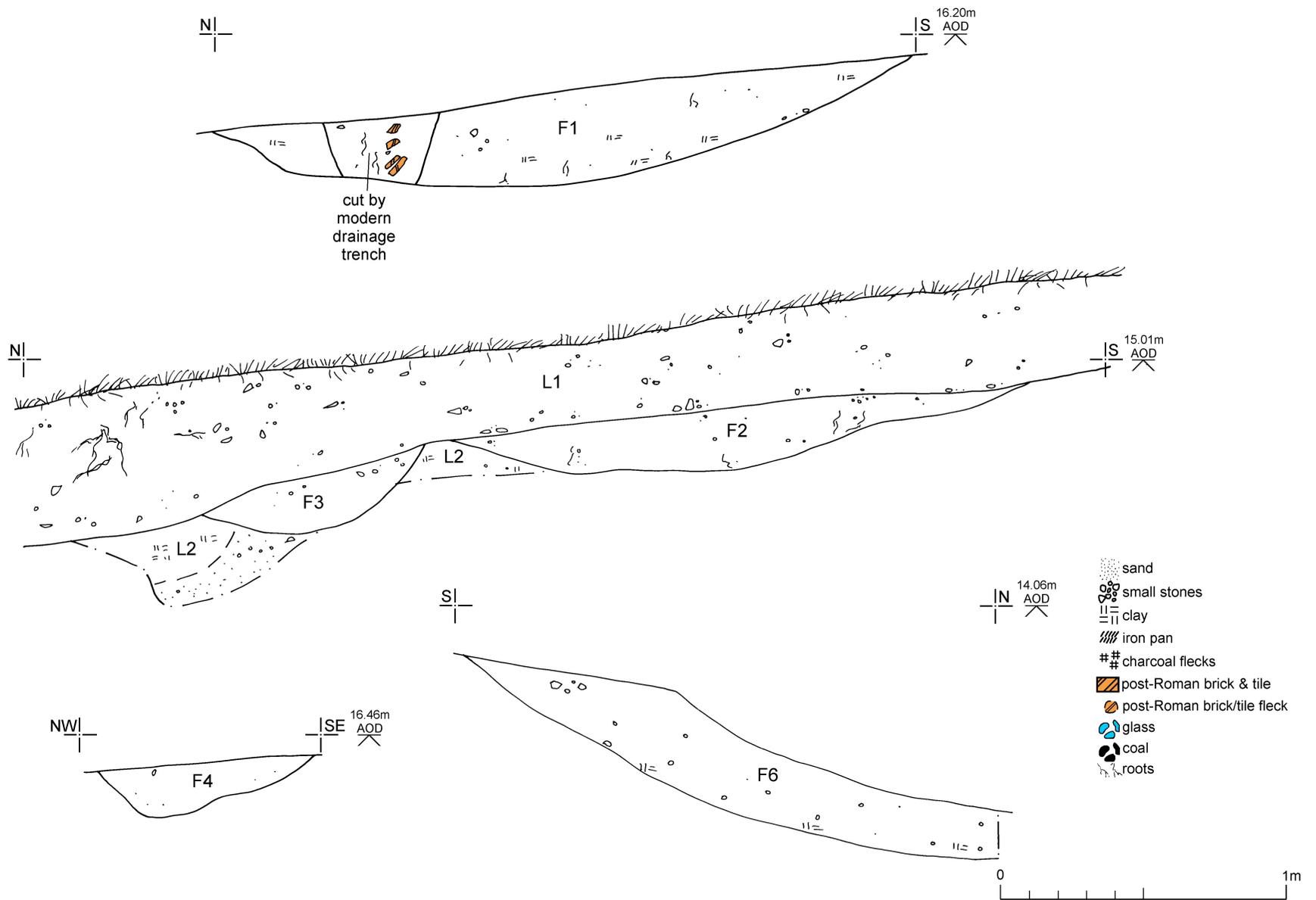


Fig 9 Feature sections.

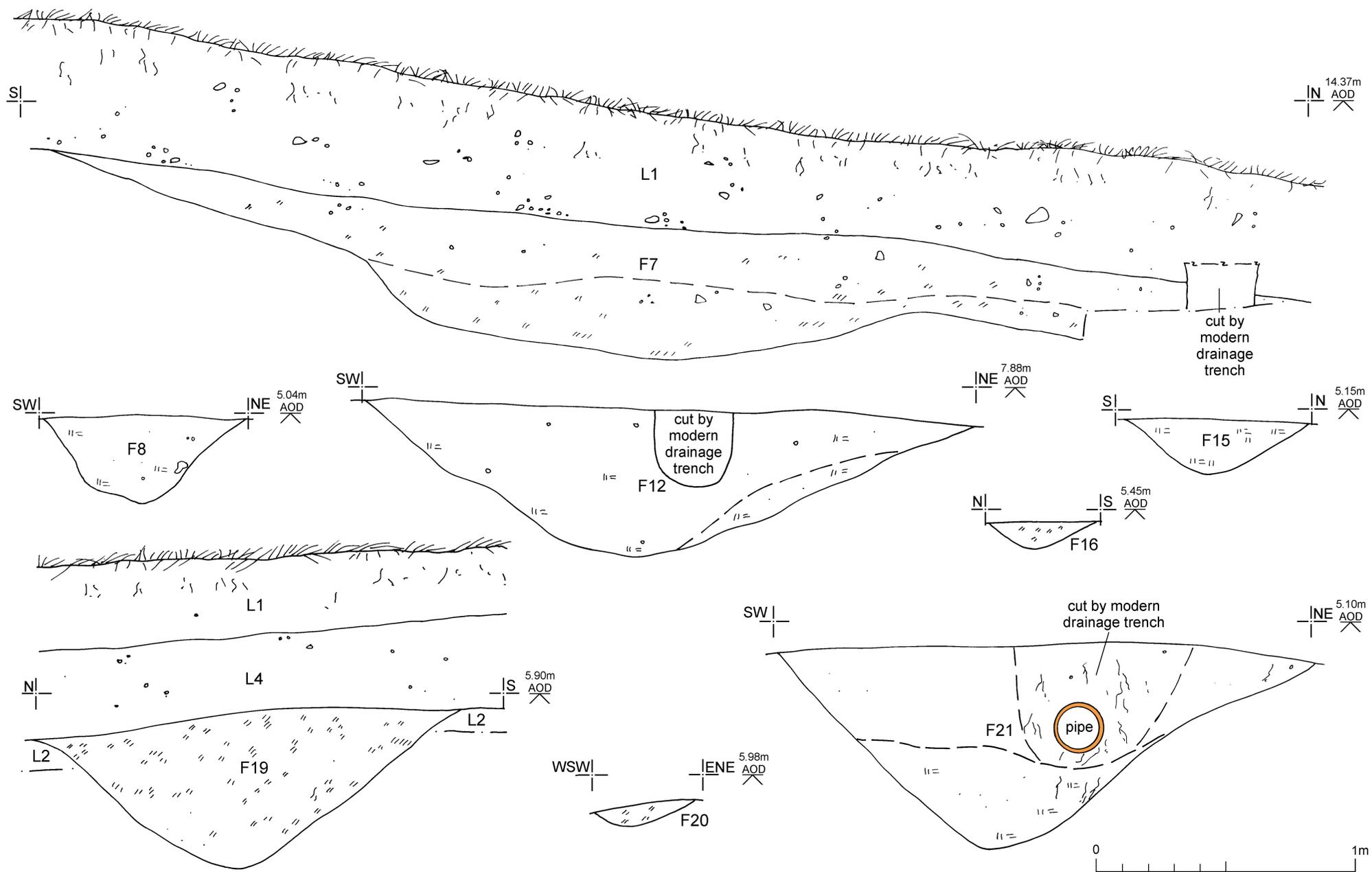


Fig 10 Feature sections.

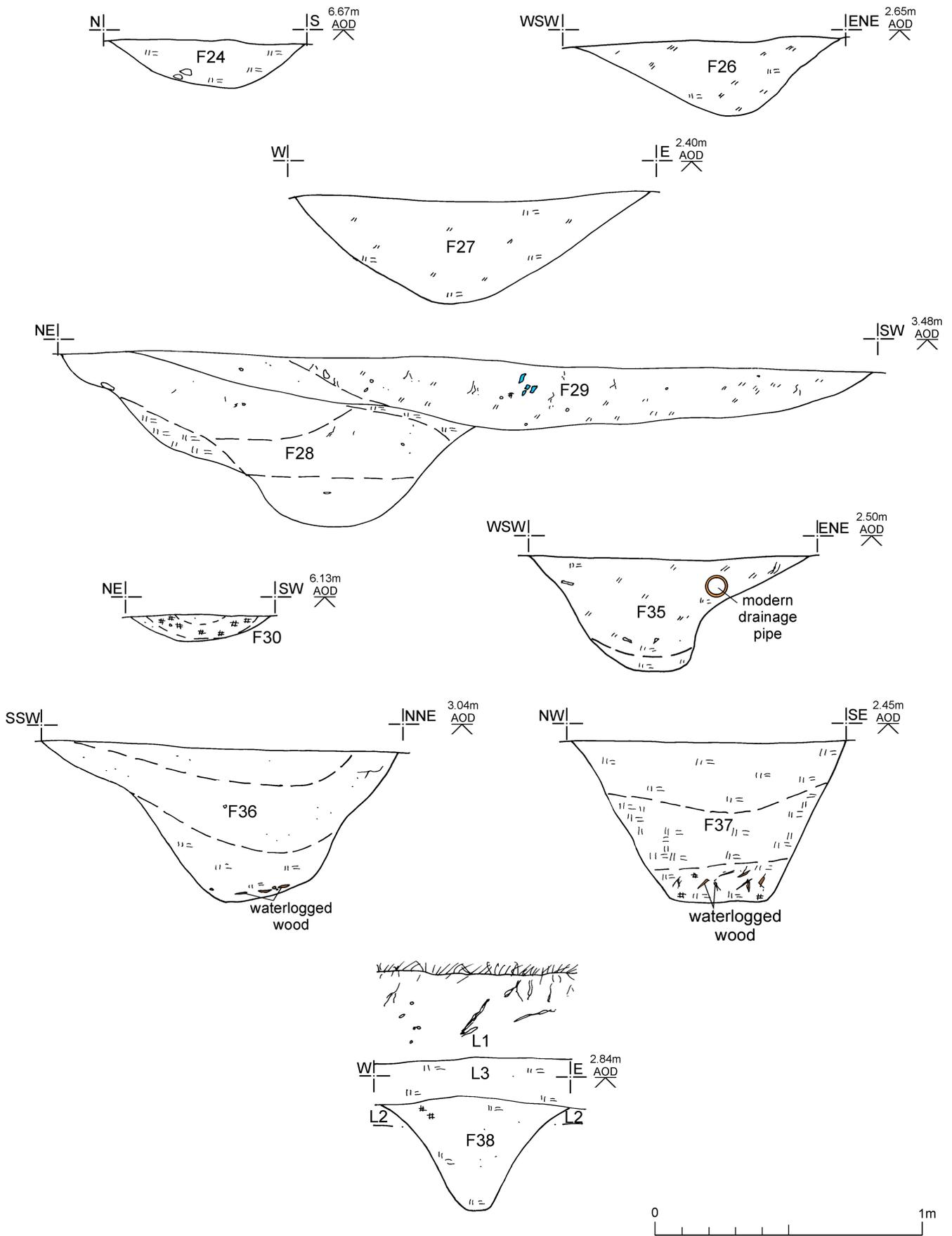


Fig 11 Feature sections.

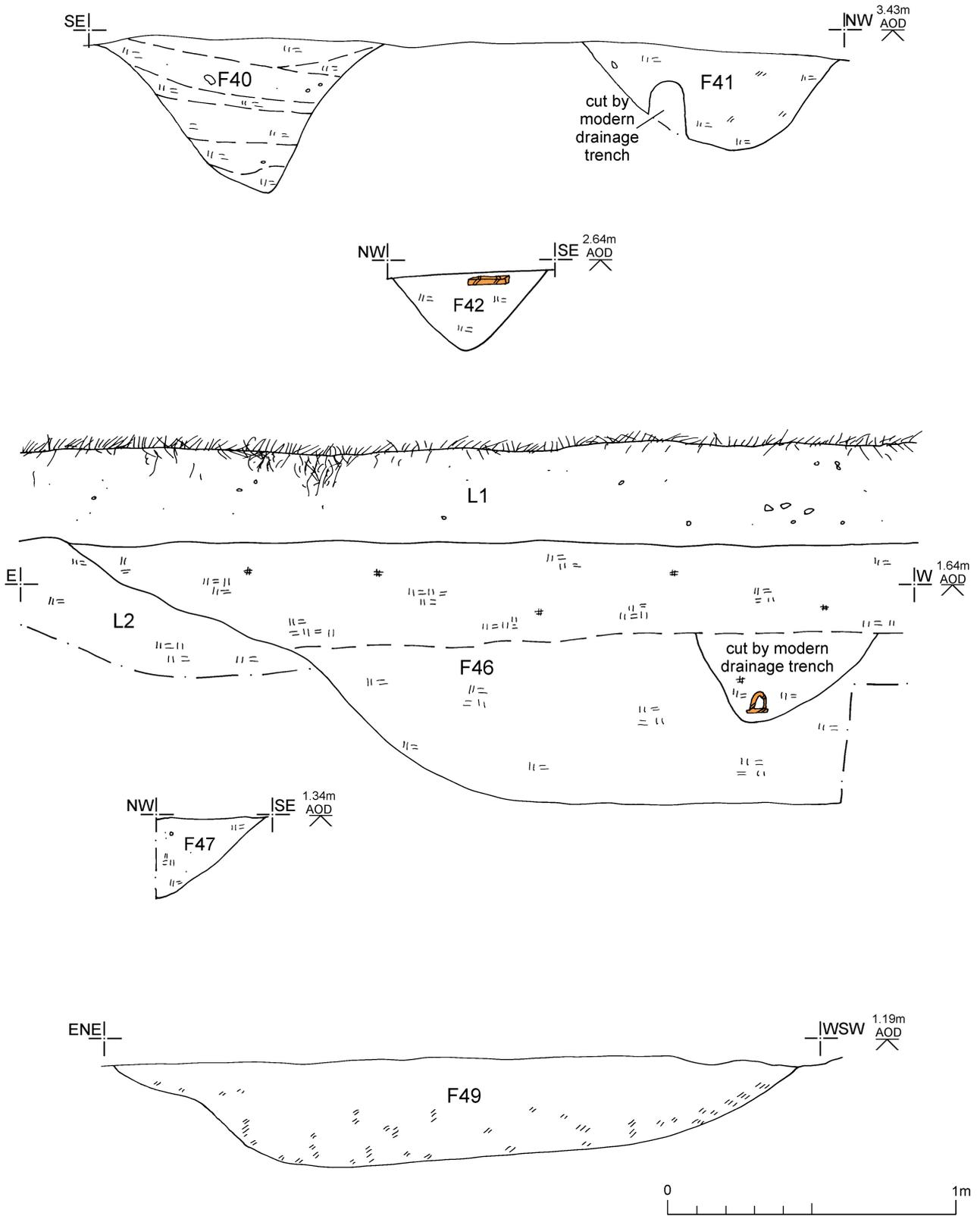


Fig 12 Feature sections.

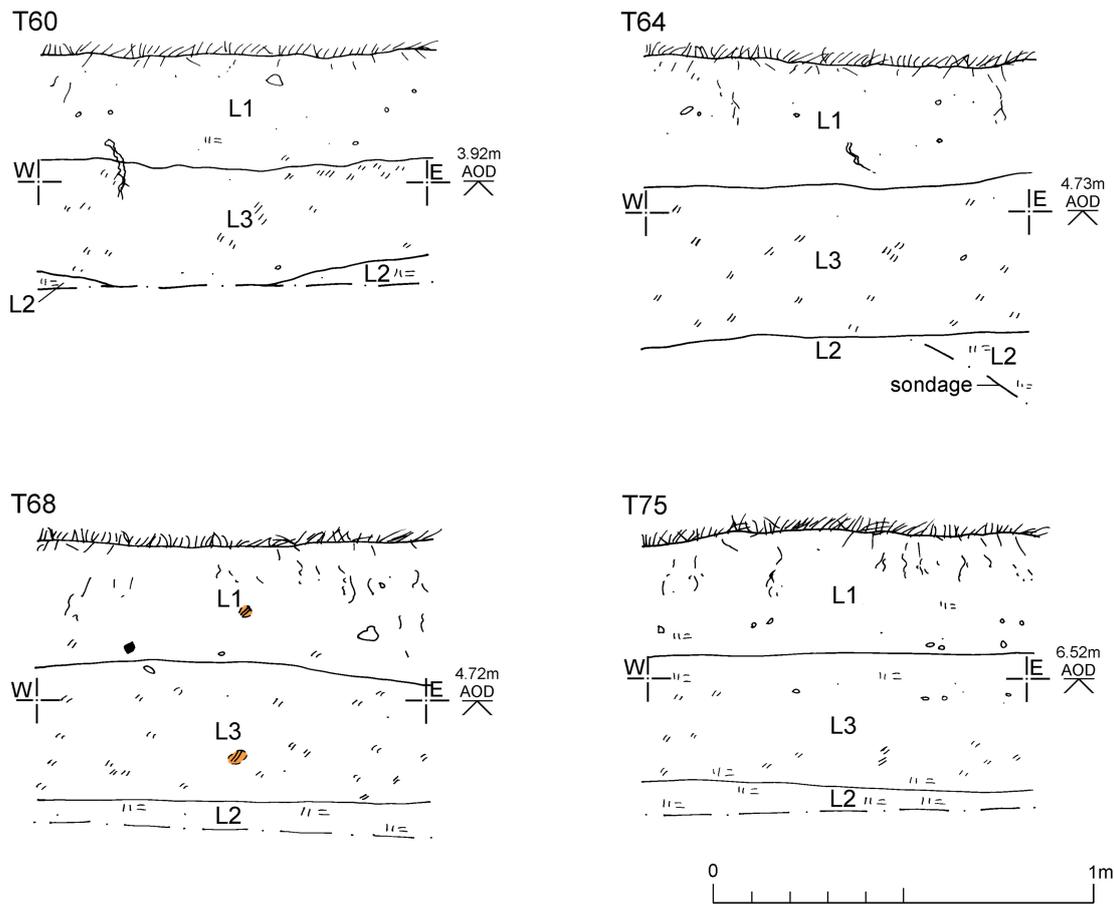


Fig 13 Representative sections.

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OASIS ID: colchest3-346701

Project details

Project name	Historic building recording and archaeological evaluation on land east of Pond Hall Farm, Stour Close, Harwich, Essex
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation of thirty-four trial trenches was carried out as part of phase one at land east of Pond Hall Farm, Stour Close, Harwich, Essex in advance of a multi-purpose redevelopment of the site. Forty-nine features were uncovered - twenty-four ditches, eight pits, four gullies, three ditches/pits, one pit/pond, one quarry pit, one pit/natural feature, one pit/posthole, one pit/hollow, a ditch/gully, a land drain and a posthole - indicating two phases of human activity on the site, the first located in the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age, the second in the 19th and early 20th centuries, when the area was utilised as farmland following a programme of land reclamation during the mid 19th century.
Project dates	Start: 13-05-2019 End: 23-05-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	18/12j - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	14/01431 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	HWPH19 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	DITCH Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	QUARRY PIT Iron Age
Monument type	PIT/NATURAL FEATURE Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval

Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	FIELD BOUNDARY DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	FIELD BOUNDARY DITCH Modern
Monument type	PIT/POSTHOLE Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT/POSTHOLE Modern
Monument type	PIT/HOLLOW Uncertain
Monument type	GULLY Bronze Age
Monument type	GULLY Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Bronze Age
Monument type	NATURAL FEATURE Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCH/GULLY Uncertain
Monument type	GULLY Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH/PIT Uncertain
Monument type	POSTHOLE Post Medieval
Monument type	POSTHOLE Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Modern
Significant Finds	SEWER PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	SEWER PIPE Modern
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Modern
Significant Finds	PAN-TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	PAN-TILE Modern
Significant Finds	BURNT STONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	COAL WASTE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	COAL WASTE Modern
Significant Finds	IRON NAIL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	IRON NAIL Modern
Significant Finds	FLINT Mesolithic
Significant Finds	FLINT Neolithic
Significant Finds	FLINT Bronze Age
Methods & techniques	""Geophysical Survey"";""Sample Trenches""

Development type Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
 Prompt Planning condition
 Position in the planning process Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country England
 Site location ESSEX TENDRING HARWICH land east of Pond Hall Farm, Stour Close
 Postcode CO12 5ET
 Study area 28.64 Hectares
 Site coordinates TM 22733 31140 51.933554717572 1.240388741561 51 56 00 N 001 14 25 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 0.76m Max: 16.37m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust
 Project brief originator HEM Team Officer, ECC
 Project design originator Laura Pooley
 Project director/manager Chris Lister
 Project supervisor Nigel Rayner
 Project supervisor Mark Baister
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
 Digital Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Digital Archive ID HWPH19
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
 Paper Archive recipient Colchester Museum
 Paper Archive ID HWPH19
 Paper Media available "Drawing", "Photograph", "Report", "Context sheet"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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