Archaeological and geoarchaeological evaluation on land west of Low Road, Dovercourt, Essex, CO12 3TR

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1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (102 trial-trenches) was carried out on land to the west of Low Road, Dovercourt, Essex in advance of the redevelopment of the site into a housing estate. Cropmarks on the development site included two ring-ditches, a square enclosure and several linear features set within a wider landscape of significant prehistoric and Romano-British remains. Evaluation located one of the ring-ditches and the square enclosure, which contained Bronze Age and possible Iron Age pottery respectively. Eighteen ditches, pits and a gully contained finds (pottery and worked flint) of prehistoric date. A further ten ditches, pits and a ground hollow contained finds (pottery and ceramic building material) of Romano-British date. Most of the prehistoric and Romano-British remains were concentrated on high ground in the northern third of the site. Four pits ranged in date from the medieval to post-medieval/modern periods, and by the late 19th-century eight field boundary ditches had divided the site into nine fields within which had been dug 20 modern rubbish pits.

Geoarchaeological evaluation (9 test-pits) revealed a basic sequence of gravels, sands, silt and clay, resting on Red Crag and London Clay, which can be linked with the geology of earlier work at Spring Meadow School, built on the former Gants (Pounds) Farm site, and with the SSSI at Little Oakley.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report for an archaeological and geoarchaeological evaluation on land west of Low Road, Dovercourt, Essex, which was carried out between 13th March to 12th April 2019. The work was commissioned by NEEB Holdings Ltd and undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in advance of the construction of a housing estate.

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* (CIfA 2014a), *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

by Emma Holloway

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.

The site is located within an area of high archaeological potential. Assessment of aerial photographs and mapping reveal cropmark features plotted within the development site (Fig 1). The cropmarks show linear features, probably ditches or droveways, a large pit, a

square enclosure and two circular ring-ditches. The ring-ditches could be evidence of ploughed-out round barrows.

To the south-west of the site there are a number of key prehistoric settlements. Along the coastline at the southern part of Mill Bay, evidence of occupation during the Neolithic period has been recorded. This includes Windmill Hill-style pottery and evidence of flint work, including axe-finishing (HER 3334; Warren *et al* 1939, 178-210). The northern part of Mill Bay revealed unusual flint and Beaker pottery dating to the early Bronze Age (HER3333). A Bronze Age sickle has also been recorded in the Mill Bay area, near the groyne (HER 7457). At Dovercourt site 2, old land surfaces have been recorded in the upper and middle foreshore which contained sparse artefacts and charcoal spreads (HER 13716). This area was investigated at by T Wilkinson and P Murphy in 1995. They note that the old land surface is not a geological substratum but is the largely intact surface horizon of buried soil (palaeosol). This is the horizon upon which most prehistoric occupation is located, although in places it has been truncated down to the palaeosol subsoil horizons (Wilkinson & Murphy 1995, 2). Different beach sedimentation between modern and prehistoric land surfaces is likely caused by changes to coastal barriers causing areas to be more protected or more exposed (Wilkinson & Murphy 1995, 59). Although little archaeological work has been carried out within Dovercourt, there are numerous find spots for prehistoric artefacts. Of most significance was a site known as Gant's Pit (HER 3394). This was an area where aggregates were extracted in 1914. Palaeolithic flints including 208 hand-axes were retrieved alongside contemporary animal bones. There are also numerous find spots of worked flints from the Palaeolithic to Neolithic and Bronze Age periods recorded close to the Gant's pit site (HER 3370-6 and HER 46179). Test-pits dug within the grounds of Spring Meadow School in 2001 revealed a number of Palaeolithic artefacts recorded within a layer of of river gravel, sitting on top of horizontally bedded sand (HER 3394).

Roman remains in the area have been recorded to the southeast at Mill Bay where a red hill (evidence of salt production) was recorded as having been destroyed during work on sea defences in 1958 (HER 7457). To the northeast at Main Road, a number of small trenches were dug prior to the construction of a bungalow. Fragments of *septaria* and burnt flint were found alongside Early Iron Age and Roman pottery (HER 7471-2). At Clarke Road an excavation in 1954-5 revealed at least four Roman ditches and a hearth (HER 3400). There are also a couple of Roman find spots. These include a Roman coin found on the beach between Dovercourt and Irlam's beach (HER 3368) and a brooch in the form of a panther with red enamelled spots was found in 1881, alongside a round seal box lid and a bronze mount (HER 3367).

Evidence of Anglo-Saxon and medieval occupation is limited. Approximately 978m to the east-north-east an Anglo-Saxon iron spearhead was recorded (HER 3405). To the northeast at Clarke Road, excavation revealed burials that were thought to be Anglo-Saxon although no dating evidence was found to confirm this (HER 3402). A ditch recorded at the Clarke Road dates to the 11th century and was re-cut at later dates (HER 7460). The parish church *c* 1.08 km to the northeast is constructed out of septaria rubble and limestone. The nave dates to the 12th century with later additions and changes (HER 3395 and HER 3399).

Dovercourt was a key location for the defence of Britain during WWII. There were a number of pillboxes and anti-aircraft sites along the edge of the coast (HER 10658, HER 10669, HER 21369, HER 21370, HER 21416 and HER 42456).

The site has been used for arable farm in the past. However from around 1952 the north side was used as a football ground until it was returned to arable use in 1970.

4 Aims

Geoarchaeological evaluation was undertaken to allow for the assessment of geological deposits. Used to create a deposit model it will specifically aim to determine: the site stratigraphic sequence to the depth that may be impacted upon by the development; the potential for artefact and faunal containing gravels; and the depth and extent of Pleistocene/potential Pleistocene deposits.

Archaeological evaluation was undertaken at this site to ascertain the location, extent, date and character of any surviving archaeological deposits to help ECCPS determine if further archaeological investigations are required ahead of the proposed development.

5 Geoarchaeological evaluation

The results of the geoarchaeological evaluation carried out by Peter Allen can be found as Appendix 5 at the back of this report.

6 Results (Figs 2-21)

As per the WSI, 104 archaeological trial-trenches, each 30m long by 1.8m wide, were laid out across the development site. Trenches T1 and T3 were located within an area of scrub along the northern edge of the site and in agreement with ECCPS were not excavated. All of the trenches were stripped using a mechanical excavator under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist.

The trenches were stripped through modern ploughsoil (L1, 0.27-0.8m thick) onto natural clay (L2). Patches of colluvium (L3) was recorded in 25 trenches (L3, 0.04-0.62m thick), mostly located in the centre of the site where it slopes downhill (see Appendix 2 for depths per trench). All modern features appeared to be cut through L3, with L3 sealing earlier features.

No significant archaeological remains were identified in 45 of the trenches: T2, T4, T6, T13, T15, T19, T35, T40, T41, T46, T47, T48, T49, T51, T54, T55, T56, T57, T59, T62, T64, T70, T75, T76, T77, T80, T81, T82, T83, T84, T85, T86, T87, T88, T90, T91, T92, T93, T94, T95, T97, T98, T100, T102 and T103.

Prehistoric (Figs 2-3, 9-14, 16 and 18-21)

Most of the prehistoric features are concentrated in the middle of the development site around trenches T31, T33, T34, T37 and T42 (Fig 3). A small number of features were located further to south in trenches T60, T63, T68, T78 and T96.

A small quantity of pottery, possibly dating to the Bronze Age, came from ditch F45 (T33) and F48 (T34). These ditches correspond to the location of a circular cropmark thought to be a ring-ditch. The ditches were U-shape in profile, 0.9m wide by 0.4m deep (F45) and 1.87m wide by 0.37m deep (F48). No internal features were present within the areas exposed by the evaluation trenches. Bronze Age and possible Bronze Age pottery sherds also came from ditch F56 (T60) and pits F55 (T60) and F78 (T68). Ditch F56 was 0.8m wide and 0.28m deep, pit F55 at least 1m by 0.9m and 0.2m deep, and pit F78 0.4m diameter by 0.18m deep.

Trench T31 was positioned over the cropmark of a possible square-enclosure. Ditches F99 and F104 appear to be part of this cropmark. Pottery from F104 was dated as later prehistoric, possibly Iron Age, but pottery from F99 could only be identified as being prehistoric. The ditches were wide but shallow at 0.76m wide by 0.13m deep (F99) and 0.97m wide by 0.17m deep (F104).

Five ditches (F22, F26, F61, F67, F74), a gully (F7), pit (F37) and ditch/pit (F3) also produced pottery of prehistoric date. In T37, prehistoric ditch F67 cut undated ditch F73, which appeared to be a recut of undated ditch F79/F80. It is also likely therefore, that

undated ditch F65, which is aligned with ditches F73 and F79/F80 (and F22 in T42), is also of a prehistoric date. Ditches F22, F65, F73 and F79/F80 are aligned ENE to WSW and average 0.74m wide and 0.16m deep. Ditch F67 is also aligned ENE to WSW but turned 90° to a NNW to SSE alignment, it averaged 0.67m wide by 0.21m deep. Ditch F74 was aligned NE to SW, and was 0.9m wide by 0.29m deep.

Photograph 1 Pit F78, looking W

Photograph 2 Trench T31 with F104 in the foreground, looking SW

Photograph 3 Ditches F67, F73 and F79/F80, looking ENE

Photograph 4 Ground hollow F64/F90, looking NE

Romano-British (Figs 2-3, 7-12, 15, 18 and 20-21)
Most of the Romano-British features are concentrated in the middle of the development site around trenches T23, T24, T25, T29, T30, T36 and T37 (Fig 3). Two features were located further to south in trenches T45 and T69.

Romano-British features included a large ground hollow, possibly a watering-hole or pond (F64/F90) in T37. The feature was at least 14.5m long by 12.5m wide and 0.5m deep, and appears to have been lined with gravel (0.09m thick) after a period of silting. Late Roman (late 3rd to 4th century) pottery was recovered from both the gravel and earlier silty-clay layer. Two pieces of peg-tile in the top fill of the feature show it had backfilled gradually, with the peg-tile possibly becoming incorporated into the fill after a period of settling.

Three Romano-British ditches (F71, F100 and F121) measured between 0.66-1.65m wide and 0.22-0.33m deep. None were obviously aligned with other excavated ditches. Seven pits and a pit/tree-throw (F20, F36, F69, F85, F91/F96 and F110) also contained Romano-British pottery or ceramic building material. They were of various sizes and shapes, the smallest being *c* 0.8m in diameter by 0.14m deep (F20) and the largest over 13m by 7m and 0.52m deep (F91/F96). Ditch F93 (T72) contained small abraded sherds of lava quern, suggesting the pit could be either of Romano-British or medieval date.

Medieval to post-medieval (Figs 2, 5-6, 9 and 21)
Pit F111 (T7) contained pottery of medieval date, pit F103 (T31) contained peg-tile and could date from the medieval to the post-medieval period (14th century onwards), and pits F25 and F83 (T14) contained finds of post-medieval to modern date.

Modern (Figs 4, 5-17 and 18-19)
Eight backfilled field boundary ditches crossed the development site (Fig 4). All but one (field boundary 1) are visible on the 1875 6-inch OS map and remained in use until at least the mid 20th century.

Eight sections were excavated through field boundary 1 (FB1): F9 (recut) and F17 (T65), F16 (T58), F18 (T44), F30 (recut) and F31 (T30), F42 (T72), F66 (T36), F92 (T16), F117 (T8). The boundary was aligned NNW to SSE, recorded for a distance of 383m and was on average 1.33 wide and 0.42m deep. Material of 19th- to early 20th-century date was recovered from the backfill. This ditch was not visible on the 1875 6-inch OS map, suggesting it had been backfilled before the survey was made. This ditch also corresponds to one of the aerial cropmark plots.

One section was excavated through field boundary 2 (FB2): F112 (T26). The boundary was aligned NNW to SSE, recorded for a distance of 196m and in the one excavated section was 1.48m wide and 0.63m deep. Material of 19th- to early 20th-century date was recovered from the backfill. This ditch is likely to correspond to one of the aerial cropmark plots, although the plot is slightly out of alignment with the location of the ditch.

Three sections were excavated through field boundary 3 (FB3): F21 (T43), F23 and F24 (T42), and F63 (T38). The boundary was aligned ENE to WSW, recorded for a distance of 255m and was on average 1.72m wide and 0.54m deep. Material of 19th- to early 20th-century date was recovered from the backfill.

Four sections were excavated through field boundary 4 (FB4): F1 (T89), F5 (T79), F8 (T72), F54 (T101), F59 (T58) and F60 (T50). The boundary was aligned NNW to SSE, recorded for a distance of 352m and was on average 1.04m wide and 0.35m deep. Material of 19th- to early 20th-century date was recovered from the backfill.

Photograph 5 Field boundary ditch F5 (FB4), looking NNW

Three sections were excavated through field boundary 5 (FB5): F11 and F15 (T67), F41 (T39) and F62 (T53). The boundary was aligned NNW to SSE, recorded for a distance of 179m and was on average 2.04m wide and 0.76m deep. Material of 19th- to early 20th-century date was recovered from the backfill.

Four sections were excavated through field boundary 6 (FB6): F10 (T74), F13 (T73), F14 (T69) and F27 (T68). Ditch F12 ran parallel to F13 in T73 and is probably associated with this boundary, possibly an earlier alignment. The boundary was aligned ENE to WSW, recorded for a distance of 247m and was on average 1.41m wide and 0.48m deep. Material of 19th- to early 20th-century date was recovered from the backfill.

One section was excavated through field boundary 7 (FB7): F116 (T7). Parallel but undated ditch F118 is probably associated with this boundary, possibly an earlier alignment. The boundary was aligned ENE to WSW, recorded for a distance of 193m and in was on average 1.12m wide and 0.21m deep. Material of 19th- to early 20th-century date was recovered from the backfill.

Five sections were excavated through field boundary 8 (FB8): F19 (T45), F98 (T31), F108 (T37), F122 (T23) and F132 (T17). The boundary was aligned NNW to SSE, recorded for a distance of 240m and was on average 1.47m wide and 0.32m deep. No modern material was recovered from the backfill but the ditch not only corresponds to one of the aerial cropmark plots but also to a ditch plotted on the 1875 6-inch OS map. As excavated, the ditch does appear to continue further to the south than that plotted on the OS map.

Twenty pits either contained finds of 19th- to 20th-century date or were stratigraphically later than features which contained finds of this date: F6 (T78), F29 (T61), F43 (T5), F49

(T16), F72 (T21), F75-F77 (T21), F81/F82 (F28), F94 (T9), F95 (T22), F97 (T31), F107 (T26), F113 (T27), F123 (T20), F125 (T20), F127/F133 (T12), F128 (T17), F129 (T20) and F130 (T11). Mostly located to the north of the development site, the pits appeared to contain rubbish likely generated from the houses and farm buildings along Oakley Road. The smaller pits were generally over 1m in length/wide and exceed 0.5m deep (ie F123, F125) but most were larger. Many of the largest pits were not fully excavated as most exceeded safe dig depths. Those containing asbestos were also not excavated due to contamination. One gully of the same date (F106, T26) was also excavated.

Photograph 6 Modern pit F43, looking W

Undated and natural (Figs 2, 5-19 and 21)
Seventeen ditches, fourteen pits, three tree-throws, one gully, one posthole and one pit/natural feature were all undated (see Appendix 1). Three natural features were also excavated. Ditches F2 (T96) and F53 (T104) could possibly be a part of the same ditch aligned NNW to SSE. A small cluster of four undated pits and an undated ditch in trench T69 surround Roman pit F36 and may be associated with it.

Photograph 7 Roman pit F36 and undated pits F32-F35 in T69, looking NNW

7 Finds

7.1 Pottery and ceramic building material

by Dr. Matthew Loughton

The evaluation uncovered 495 sherds of pottery, ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) and baked clay with a weight of just over 20kg and 42 vessels (rim EVREP) while the rim EVE is 13.75 (Table 1). The ceramic and pottery assemblage includes material of prehistoric, Roman, 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 Roman pottery was classified according to the fabric groups outlined in *CAR* **10** (Symonds and Wade 1999) and the post-Roman pottery using the fabric groups from *CAR* **7** (Cotter 2000) and Cunningham (1985).

Ceramic material	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
Prehistoric	70	*14.1*	625	*3.1*	9	0.36	3
Roman	78	*15.8*	1,223	*6.0*	16	1.28	10
Medieval to post-medieval	123	*24.8*	7,820	*38.5*	64	12.11	29
Ceramic Building Material (CBM)	110	*22.2*	9,762	*48.1*	89	-	-
Baked clay	114	*23.0*	865	*4.3*	8	-	-
All	**495**		**20,295**		**41**	**13.75**	**42**

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Sherds of pottery, ceramic building material and baked clay were recovered from 75 features and one layer (Table 2). Most features only contained small quantities of pottery and ceramic finds, and only a small number contained more substantial assemblages. For example, the largest assemblages by sherd count came from pits F6 (x35) and F91 (x49), and posthole F124 (x75). As regards the sherd weight, the three heaviest assemblages came from ditch F117 (1,534g), pit F95 (2,986g) and pit F43 (6,601g).

Context	Context type	No.	%	Weight g	%	MSW g
F1	Ditch	2	*0.4%*	40	*0.2%*	20
F4	Pit	2	*0.4%*	6	*0.0%*	3
F5	Field boundary ditch	11	*2.2%*	87	*0.4%*	8
F6	Pit	35	*7.1%*	302	*1.5%*	9
F7	Gully	1	*0.2%*	4	*0.0%*	4
F9	Field boundary ditch	3	*0.6%*	25	*0.1%*	8
F11	Field boundary ditch	2	*0.4%*	2	*0.0%*	1
F13	Field boundary ditch	3	*0.6%*	93	*0.5%*	31
F15	Field boundary ditch	4	*0.8%*	180	*0.9%*	45
F18	Field boundary ditch	4	*0.8%*	47	*0.2%*	12
F19	Field boundary ditch	2	*0.4%*	19	*0.1%*	10
F20	Pit	1	*0.2%*	5	*0.0%*	5
F22	Ditch	1	*0.2%*	34	*0.2%*	34
F25	Pit	9	*1.8%*	217	*1.1%*	24
F26	Ditch	2	*0.4%*	3	*0.0%*	2
F29	Pit	3	*0.6%*	15	*0.1%*	5
F30	Field boundary ditch	2	*0.4%*	13	*0.1%*	7
F36	Pit	10	*2.0%*	26	*0.1%*	3
F37	Pit	1	*0.2%*	3	*0.0%*	3
F40? (or F10)	Ditch (or Field boundary ditch)	1	*0.2%*	90	*0.4%*	90
F42	Field boundary ditch	2	*0.4%*	85	*0.4%*	43
F43	Pit	11	*2.2%*	6,601	*32.5%*	600
F45	Ring-ditch	8	*1.6%*	141	*0.7%*	18
F49	Pit	4	*0.8%*	165	*0.8%*	41
F54	Field boundary ditch	2	*0.4%*	1,200	*5.9%*	600
F55	Pit	2	*0.4%*	31	*0.2%*	16
F56	Ditch	3	*0.6%*	75	*0.4%*	25
F59	Field boundary ditch	7	*1.4%*	67	*0.3%*	10
F60	Field boundary ditch	4	*0.8%*	33	*0.2%*	8
F61	Ditch	2	*0.4%*	4	*0.0%*	2
F63	Field boundary ditch	3	*0.6%*	2	*0.0%*	1
F64	Pit?	2	*0.4%*	226	*1.1%*	113
F66	Field boundary ditch	1	*0.2%*	10	*0.0%*	10
F67	Ditch	3	*0.6%*	17	*0.1%*	6
F68	Ditch	12	*2.4%*	132	*0.7%*	11

F69	Pit/tree-throw	6	*1.2%*	213	*1.1%*	36
F71	Ditch	3	*0.6%*	267	*1.3%*	89
F72	Pit	2	*0.4%*	71	*0.4%*	36
F73	Ditch	3	*0.6%*	34	*0.2%*	11
F74	Ditch	10	*2.0%*	92	*0.5%*	9
F75	Pit	3	*0.6%*	115	*0.6%*	38
F76	Pit	6	*1.2%*	177	*0.9%*	30
F77	Pit	2	*0.4%*	20	*0.1%*	10
F78	Pit	23	*4.7%*	148	*0.7%*	6
F81	Pit	8	*1.6%*	103	*0.5%*	13
F82	Pit	9	*1.8%*	68	*0.3%*	8
F83	Pit	17	*3.4%*	1,160	*5.7%*	68
F85	Pit	3	*0.6%*	12	*0.1%*	4
F90	Ground hollow	10	*2.0%*	227	*1.1%*	23
F91	Pit	49	*9.9%*	833	*4.1%*	17
F93	Ditch	2	*0.4%*	2	*0.0%*	1
F94	Pit	5	*1.0%*	643	*3.2%*	129
F95	Pit	6	*1.2%*	2,986	*14.7%*	498
F96	Pit	1	*0.2%*	69	*0.3%*	69
F98	Field boundary ditch	5	*1.0%*	130	*0.6%*	26
F100	Ditch	1	*0.2%*	71	*0.4%*	71
F103	Pit	1	*0.2%*	11	*0.1%*	11
F104	Ditch	7	*1.4%*	26	*0.1%*	4
F106	Gully	1	*0.2%*	10	*0.0%*	10
F107	Pit	8	*1.6%*	150	*0.7%*	19
F110	Pit/tree-throw	3	*0.6%*	90	*0.4%*	30
F111	Pit?	2	*0.4%*	12	*0.1%*	6
F112	Field boundary ditch	7	*1.4%*	121	*0.6%*	17
F113	Pit	1	*0.2%*	48	*0.2%*	48
F116	Field boundary ditch	2	*0.4%*	81	*0.4%*	41
F117	Field boundary ditch	18	*3.6%*	1,534	*7.6%*	85
F121	Ditch	5	*1.0%*	31	*0.2%*	6
F122	Field boundary ditch	1	*0.2%*	8	*0.0%*	8
F123	Pit	8	*1.6%*	132	*0.7%*	17
F124	Posthole	75	*15.2%*	353	*1.7%*	5
F125	Pit	10	*2.0%*	124	*0.6%*	12
F127	Pit	5	*1.0%*	75	*0.4%*	15
L1	Topsoil	2	*0.4%*	48	*0.2%*	24
Total		**495**		**20,295**		**41**

Table 2 Number and weight of pottery, CBM and baked-clay by context

Prehistoric pottery

There were 70 sherds of handmade prehistoric pottery with a weight of 625g and three vessels (rim EVREP) or 0.36 according to the rim EVE (Table 3). The mean sherd weight is only 9g. As can be seen from Table 3, these sherds are found in a variety of flint, sand, and grog tempered fabrics although three fabrics (HMF D, HMS I and HMG M) account for the majority of sherds by count and by sherd weight.

Fabric Group		Description	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g	Rims	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
HMF	B	Flint small to medium	2	*2.9*	2	*0.3*	1	0	0.00	0
	C	Flint small to medium with occasional large	2	*2.9*	44	*7.0*	22	0	0.00	0
	D	Flint small to large, poorly sorted	16	*22.9*	87	*13.9*	5	0	0.00	0
HMFS	E	Flint and sand, small to medium	3	*4.3*	42	*6.7*	14	0	0.00	0
HMS	F	Sand, small to medium with occasional large flint	2	*2.9*	34	*5.4*	17	0	0.00	3
	G	Sand small very common	4	*5.7*	53	*8.5*	13	0	0.00	0
	H	Sand, small common	4	*5.7*	18	*2.9*	5	0	0.00	0
	I	Sand, small to medium	8	*11.4*	102	*16.3*	13	3	0.28	1
HMG	M	Grog sometimes with sand or flint	29	*41.4*	243	*38.9*	8	3	0.08	2
		Total	**70**		**625**		**9**	**6**	**0.36**	**3**

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

Sherds of prehistoric pottery were found in 18 features and one layer (Table 4). Most features only produced one to three sherds (Table 4) and only three features (F45, F78, F104) contained larger assemblages. The largest assemblage is the 23 sherds with a weight of 148g from pit F78.

Context	Context type	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g	Rim	Base	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
F7	Gully	1	*1.4*	4	*0.6*	4	0	0	0.00	0
F11	FBD	2	*2.9*	2	*0.3*	1	0	0	0.00	0
F22	Ditch	1	*1.4*	34	*5.4*	34	0	0	0.00	0
F26	Ditch	1	*1.4*	2	*0.3*	2	0	0	0.00	0
F37	Pit	1	*1.4*	3	*0.5*	3	0	0	0.00	0
F45	Ring-ditch	8	*11.4*	141	*22.6*	18	3	1	0.28	1
F55	Pit	2	*2.9*	31	*5.0*	16	0	0	0.00	0
F56	Ditch	3	*4.3*	75	*12.0*	25	0	2	0.00	0
F61	Ditch	2	*2.9*	4	*0.6*	2	0	0	0.00	0
F64	Pit?	1	*1.4*	18	*2.9*	18	0	0	0.00	0
F67	Ditch	3	*4.3*	17	*2.7*	6	0	0	0.00	0
F74	Ditch	3	*4.3*	13	*2.1*	4	0	0	0.00	0
F78	Pit	23	*32.9*	148	*23.7*	6	3	0	0.09	2

F82	Pit	3	*4.3*	16	*2.6*	5	0	0	0.00	0
F90	Ground hollow	1	*1.4*	21	*3.4*	21	0	0	0.00	0
F93	Ditch	2	*2.9*	2	*0.3*	1	0	0	0.00	0
F104	Ditch	7	*10.0*	26	*4.2*	4	0	1	0.00	0
F121	Ditch	4	*5.7*	20	*3.2*	5	0	0	0.00	0
L1	Ploughsoil	2	*2.9*	48	*7.7*	24	0	0	0.00	0

Table 4 Prehistoric pottery from all contexts (FBD = field boundary ditch)

Dating this material is difficult as there is very little diagnostic material and only three vessels. A small cup (?) with a diameter of 85mm and vessel height of *c* 55mm came from ring-ditch F45 (77) (Fig 22), and from pit F78 (20, 21) was a wide bucket urn (diameter 240mm) with a flat topped rim and a jar (?) with a slightly everted rim. The small cup does not appear to be a crucible as there are no traces of any metal residues or signs of burning. This object resembles Middle Bronze Age small cup-sized vessels of bucket urn form from Lodge Farm, St Osyth, Essex (Lavender 2007, 72-74 fig. 51 nos. 79, 83). However, similar looking miniature pots and miniature barrel jars are also known from Early and Middle Iron Age assemblages at Stanway (Sealey 65-66 fig. 26 no. 50) and Longbridge Deverill Cow Down (Brown ed. 2012, 146-147 fig. 3.18 no. 7, 158, 160 fig. 3.25 no. 3). The HMF pottery sherds from the quarry pit/erosion hollow F82 (26) may preserve traces of a haematite coating. A small body sherd from the pit F55 (7) is decorated with lines of combed decoration. The only other sherd of note came from the ditch F56 (4) and consists of a small fragment of base and lower body wall which is decorated with a series of fingernail impressions on the exterior surface. A date during the Bronze Age for this material is likely although the possibility of some Early Iron Age material cannot be ruled out. One sherd of handmade pottery tempered with sand, from ground hollow F90 (43), is somewhat harder and better fired than the rest of the handmade pottery, and is possibly of Late Iron Age date.

Roman pottery

There was a modest collection of Roman pottery with 78 sherds with a weight of 1,223g (Table 6) and 10 vessels (rim EVREP) while the rim EVE is 1.28 (Table 7). The mean sherd weight is relatively high at 16g although some of the material, notably the sherds from F90 and F110, is worn and abraded. This material was recovered from 10 features (Table 8) although most only contained one or two small sherds of Roman pottery. In contrast, pit F91 produced a relatively more substantial assemblage with 48 sherds with a weight of 832g and six vessels (rim EVREP) while the rim EVE is 0.69 (Tables 6-7).

Fabric code	**Fabric description**	**Fabric date range guide**
Roman:		
AJ	Dressel 20 amphorae	1st-early 3rd century AD
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	Mid 1st-late 1st century AD
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	2nd century AD
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	Roman (primarily mid 1st-2nd century)
GX	Other coarse wares, principally locally produced grey wares	Roman
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered wares	Mid 1st-2nd/3rd century
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	Early 2nd-4th century AD
TN	Mortaria, Oxford red/grey fabric with cream slip	3rd-4th century AD

Table 5 Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	%	Weight (g)	%	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	Base
AJ	Dressel 20 amphorae	2	*2.6*	96	*7.8*	48	0	0	0
BASG	South Gaulish plain samian	2	*2.6*	13	*1.0*	7	0	0	0
BACG	Central Gaulish plain samian	3	*3.8*	90	*7.4*	30	2	0	1
DJ	Coarse oxidised and related wares	20	*25.6*	56	*4.6*	3	0	0	3
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	43	*55.1*	476	*38.9*	11	11	0	3
HZ	Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares	5	*6.4*	413	*33.8*	83	0	0	1
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	1	*1.3*	33	*2.7*	33	1	0	0
TN	Mortaria, Oxford red/grey fabric with cream slip	2	*2.6*	46	*3.8*	23	1	0	0
Total		**78**		**1,223**		**16**	**15**	**0**	**8**

Table 6 Details on the Roman pottery

Fabric Group	Fabric description	Forms	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
BACG	South Gaulish plain samian	Drag. 31	0.34	1
GX	Other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares	Lid Cam 46/311 Cam 251 Cam 277 (2)	0.77	7
KX	Black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware	Cam 305B	0.07	1
TN	Mortaria, Oxford red/grey fabric with cream slip	Young M22	0.10	1
Total			**1.28**	**10**

Table 7 Roman pottery quantification

Cxt	Context type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g	Rim	Handle	Base	Rim EVREP	Rim EVE
F15	FBD	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0.00
F20	Pit	1	5	5	0	0	0	0	0.00
F36	Pit	10	26	3	0	0	0	0	0.00
F69	Pit/tree-throw	3	71	24	2	0	0	2	0.15
F85	Pit	3	12	4	0	0	0	0	0.00
F90	Ground hollow	6	159	27	1	0	2	1	0.10
F91	Pit	48	832	17	10	0	4	6	0.69

F98	FBD	2	15	8	0	0	0	0	0.00
F110	Pit/tree-throw	3	90	30	2	0	1	1	0.34
F121	Ditch	1	11	11	0	0	1	0	0.00

Table 8 Quantities of Roman pottery from specific contexts (FBD = field boundary ditch)

Early Roman pottery is generally absent except for one worn sherd of southern Gaulish Samian (fabric BASG) with rouletted decoration, which is either from the Drag. 24/25 (pre-Flavian) or the Drag. 29 (typically 1st century AD) (Webster 1996, 37, 40). This sherd came from ground hollow F90 (44), which it is also worth noting contained a possible sherd of Iron Age handmade pottery. Most of the Roman pottery can be dated from the mid to late Roman period and approximately from the 2nd to the 4th century AD. For example: the Central Gaulish (BACG) Drag. 31 bowl from pit/tree-throw F110 appeared around AD 150 (Webster 1996, 35); the Cam 305B in fabric KX (black-burnished ware (BB2) types in pale grey ware) from F69 dates from *c* AD 275 until the end of the Roman period; from ground hollow F90 a large rim sherd from an Oxford mortaria (fabric TN) of Young's type M22 is dated to AD 240-400 (Young 1977, 76-77); and pit F91 contained rims from five vessels (rim EVREP) in fabric GX (other coarse, principally locally-produced grey wares), with examples of the Cam 46/311, Cam 251 and Cam 277 (x2). The Cam 277 dates from the early/mid 2nd to the late 3rd/early 4th century AD while the Cam 46/311 and Cam 251 appeared from the Claudian-Neronian period until typically the early 2nd century AD, although they apparently continued to be made after this date. Finally, from ground hollow F90, a piece of coarse greyware pottery (Fabric GX) was cut down into a small ceramic disc with a diameter of 65mm.

Post-Roman pottery

There were 121 sherds with a weight of just under 8kg and 30 vessels (rim EVREP) while the rim EVE is 13.11 (Table 10). This material was recovered from 25 structures although only three (F6, F43, F125) produced assemblages with 10 or more sherds (Table 11). It is also worth noting the 11 mostly complete vessels including several small jars and bottles, which were recovered from pit F43. The majority of the post-Roman pottery is modern and from wares which date from *c* AD 1750 onwards. Much of this material is probably from the later 19th to early 20th century. Two of the modern wares (F45M & F48D) account for 79% of the post-Roman pottery assemblage by sherd count and 80% by weight (Table 10). These two fabric categories consist of ribbed marmalade containers, small narrow mouthed jars (marmalade jars, blacking bottles) and occasional ginger beer and gin bottles. In contrast, earlier medieval (fabrics F10, F13, F20, F21, F22) and post-medieval (fabrics F40, F46, F47, and F50) wares are rare.

Fabric code	**Fabric description**	**Fabric date range guide**
F10	St Neots-type ware	10th-13th century
F13	Early Medieval sandy wares	1025/1050-1225
F20	Medieval sandy greywares	1150/1175-1375/1400
F21	Colchester-type ware	13th-14/15th century
F22	Hedingham ware	*c* 1140-1350
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	*c* 1500-19th/20th century
F45M	Modern English stoneware	19th-early 20th century
F46	Netherlands, Anglo-Netherlands and English tin-glazed earthenwares	16th-mid 18th century
F47	Staffordshire-type white stoneware	18th century
F48B	English porcelain	19th century
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	Late 18th-19/20th century
F48E	Yellow ware	19th century
F50	Staffordshire-type slipware	Mid 17th-19th century AD
F51A	Late slipped kitchenware	19th-early 20th century

Table 9 Post-Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g	Rim	Base	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
F10	St Neots-type ware	1	1	1	0	0	0.00	0
F13	Early medieval sandy wares	4	32	8	0	0	0.00	0
F20	Medieval sandy greywares	2	48	24	0	1	0.00	0
F21	Colchester-type ware	2	17	9	0	0	0.00	0
F22	Hedingham ware	2	12	6	0	0	0.00	0
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	7	78	11	0	0	0.00	0
F45M	Modern English stoneware	33	5,814	176	14	6	9.08	12
F46	Netherlands, Anglo-Netherlands and English tin-glazed earthenwares	3	15	5	0	0	0.00	0
F47	Staffordshire-type white stoneware	1	451	451	1	0	1.00	1
F48B	English porcelain	3	837	279	3	0	1.12	2
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	62	454	7	14	11	0.83	12
F48E	Yellow ware	1	1	1	0	0	0.00	0
F50	Staffordshire-type slipware	1	49	49	1	0	0.06	1
F51A	Late slipped kitchenware	1	10	10	1	0	0.02	1
Total		**123**	**7,820**	**64**	**34**	**18**	**12.11**	**29**

Table 10 Details on the post-Roman pottery

Context	Context type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g	Rim	Base	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
F1	FBD	1	1	1	0	0	0.00	0
F5	FBD	9	16	2	0	0	0.00	0
F6	Pit	30	180	6	7	3	0.39	7
F9	FBD	1	1	1	0	0	0.00	0
F15	FBD	2	51	26	1	0	0.06	1
F19	FBD	2	19	10	0	0	0.00	0
F25	Pit	1	12	12	0	0	0.00	0
F29	Pit	2	13	7	0	0	0.00	0
F43	Pit	11	6,601	600	11	0	10.35	11
F49	Pit	1	12	12	0	1	0.00	0
F60	FBD	3	19	6	0	0	0.00	0
F63	FBD	1	1	1	0	0	0.00	0
F81	Pit	5	60	12	2	1	0.12	1
F83	Pit	3	53	18	0	1	0.00	0
F94	Pit	3	44	15	1	0	0.06	1
F95	Pit	2	51	26	0	1	0.00	0
F106	Gully	1	10	10	1	0	0.02	1
F107	Pit	8	150	19	0	2	0.00	0
F111	Pit?	2	12	6	0	0	0.00	0

F112	FBD	7	121	17	4	1	0.39	2
F113	Pit	1	48	48	0	0	0.00	0
F117	FBD	3	6	2	2	0	0.06	1
F122	FBD	1	8	8	0	0	0.00	0
F123	Pit	8	132	17	2	2	0.18	1
F125	Pit	10	124	12	2	4	0.28	2
F127	Pit	5	75	15	1	2	0.20	1
Total		**123**	**7,820**	**64**	**34**	**18**	**12.11**	**29**

Table 11 Number and weight of post-Roman pottery from features (FBD = field boundary ditch)

Noteable vessels include a modern English stoneware (fabric F45M) jar with a transfer label for: Virol Bone Marrow/A preparation of Bone-Marrow/An Ideal Fat Food for Children & Invalids, which came from pit F107 (81). A modern stoneware (fabric 45M) jar from the pit F125 (90) preserves the remains of a black transfer printed label: [PR]IZE MED[AL F]OR MARMALADE LONDON 1862 while the underside of the base was marked: NEWCASTLE[indicating that it was made by Malings of Newcastle for James Keiller and Sons in the late 19th century. A sherd of modern Staffordshire-type white earthenware (fabric F48D) pottery from field boundary ditch F112 (50) preserved part of a transfer printed label for Dundee Marmalade. Pit F94 (32) contained a complete modern stoneware (fabric F45M) one-handled ginger beer bottle with a height of 23cm, which was stamped: BOLL & DUNLOP/DISTILLEERDERY/A[-]1821/ROTTERDAM on the upper body. A modern stoneware (Fabric 45M) ginger beer bottle from pit F94 (32) has a transfer printed label for: PURE BEER (set within a flag)/]AR WOODDE[. Finally, another modern stoneware vessel (fabric 45M) from pit F127 (91) was stamped:]DE MARK/AEC (?).

Pit F43 contained a large part of a teapot (lacking the lid, end of the spout, and handle) with a transfer decorated-purple floral design as well as two complete ginger beer bottles, and five compete small modern stoneware jars or blacking bottles (fabric 45M), and one partially-complete jar (fabric F47). One of the stoneware jars was stamped: GEORGE SKEY & [ ] [TAM]WORTH and was made at George Skey's Wilnecote Works, Tamworth, Staffordshire, which operated from 1860 until 1936 when it was taken over by Doulton. One of the ginger beer bottles was stamped JOSIAH RUSSELL//BOURNE 3 DENBY and was made at the Denby pottery in Derbyshire.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

There was a small collection of Roman, medieval and post-medieval CBM with 110 sherds with a weight of 9,762g and a mean sherd weight of 89g (Table 12). This material came from 38 features although most only contained one to three sherds of CBM and the largest assemblage is only of 14 sherds with a weight of 1,107g from pit F83 (Table 13). Ten features (F40?, F42, F69, F71, F90, F95, F96, F98, F100, and F117) produced small quantities of Roman CBM including pieces of brick, tegula and flue-tile, suggesting the presence of a nearby Roman building. The sherd of combed-decorated Roman box flue-tile (92g), which is slightly worn, came from ditch F71. Another sherd of note is a piece of *tegula* from natural depression F69 (16) with a lower cut-away, which although it is incomplete is of the type C4, C5, C56 or D15, and can be broadly dated to AD 160-380 (Warry 2006, 63).

Most of the post-Roman CBM consists of peg-tile (Table 12) which was recovered from 25 features: F1, F5, F13, F18, F25, F30, F49, F59, F60, F63, F64, F66, F72, F75, F76, F77, F81, F82, F83, F94, F95, F98, F103, F116, and F116. One piece of peg-tile from linear F5 (54) is marked with a small signature of an X. Peg-tile only became widespread from the mid 13th century AD onwards (McComish 2015, 33). For Essex it has been argued that peg-tile was in general use from the 14th century onwards (Ryan and

Andrews 1993). A piece of pan-tile with a weight of 59g was recovered from quarry pit? F49 (79). Pan-tile dates from the 17th century onwards (McComish 2015, 40-41).

A complete unfrogged brick with dimensions of 220mm x 110mm x 65mm, which corresponds to an 18th/early 19th century 'red brick' according to Ryan's Essex brick typology (Ryan 1996, 95), came from pit F95 (33). A possible flooring brick (?) with dimensions of 250mm x 100mm x 35mm, in dense pale green/yellow coloured fabric (or limestone?) and with smoothed and worn surfaces, came from field boundary ditch F54 (3).

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW
Roman				
RT	Roman t*egula*	10	773	77
RB	Roman brick	3	213	71
RBT	Roman brick or tile (general)	4	64	16
RFT	Roman flue tile	1	92	92
Post-Roman				
PT	Peg-tile	70	1,809	26
PANT	Pan-tile	1	59	59
BR	Brick	17	6,701	394
Slate		4	51	13
	Total	**110**	**9,762**	**89**

Table 12 CBM by period and type

Context	Context type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g
F1	FBD	1	39	39
F5	FBD	2	71	36
F6	Pit	5	122	24
F9	FBD	1	22	22
F13	FBD	3	93	31
F15	FBD	1	127	127
F18	FBD	4	47	12
F25	Pit	8	205	26
F30	FBD	2	13	7
F40 (or F10)	Ditch (or FBD)	1	90	90
F42	FBD	2	85	43
F49	Pit	3	153	51
F54	FBD	2	1,200	600
F59	FBD	7	67	10
F60	FBD	1	14	14
F63	FBD	2	1	1
F64	Pit?	1	208	208
F66	FBD	1	10	10
F69	Pit/tree-throw	3	142	47
F71	Ditch	3	267	89

F72	Pit	2	71	36
F75	Pit	3	115	38
F76	Pit	6	177	30
F77	Pit	2	20	7
F81	Pit	3	43	14
F82	Pit	6	53	9
F83	Pit	14	1,107	79
F90	Ground hollow	3	47	16
F94	Pit	2	599	300
F95	Pit	4	2,935	734
F96	Pit	1	69	69
F98	FBD	2	70	35
F100	Ditch	1	71	71
F103	Pit	1	11	11
F116	FBD	2	81	41
F117	FBD	5	1,318	264
Total		**110**	**9,762**	**89**

Table 13 Quantities of CBM by features (FBD = field boundary ditch)

Baked clay

There was a small assemblage of baked clay with 114 sherds with a weight of 865g and a mean sherd weight of 8g (Table 14). This material was recovered from ten features although a large proportion came from ditch F68 and posthole F124 (Table 14).

Context	Context type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g
F4	Pit	2	6	3
F9	FBD	1	2	2
F26	Ditch	1	1	1
F29	Pit	1	2	2
F68	Ditch	12	132	11
F73	Ditch	3 (joining)	34	-
F74	Ditch	7	79	11
F91	Pit	1	1	1
F98	FBD	1	45	45
F124	Posthole	75	353	5
	Total	**114**	**865**	**8**

Table 14 Quantities of baked clay by features (FBD = field boundary ditch)

Summary

Table 15 provides a brief dating summary for the features which produced datable ceramic finds. The majority of features are modern (19th-early 20th century) with a small number of prehistoric (probably Bronze Age) and Roman features. Finally, there are rare early medieval and post-medieval features. It is possible that ditch F104 might date to the later prehistoric period and could be Iron Age.

Cxt	Prehistoric pottery	Roman pottery	Post-Roman pottery	CBM	Overall date approx.
F1	-	-	F48D	PT	19th-early 20th century
F4	-	-	-	BC	?
F5	-	-	F40, F45M, F46, F48D, F48E	PT	19th-early 20th century
F6	-	-	F20, F40, F45M, F46, F48D	BR, Slate	19th-early 20th century
F7	HMS	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F9	-	-	F13	BR	19th-20th century
F11	HMF	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F13	-	-	-	PT, BR	14th-19th century
F15	-	GX	F10, F50	BR	Mid 17th-19th century
F18	-	-	-	PT	14th century onwards
F19	-	-	F13	-	1025/1050-1225
F20	-	GX	-	-	Roman
F22	HMF	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F25	-	-	F40	PT, BR	16th-19th century
F26	HMS	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F29	-	-	F13, F48D	-	19th-early 20th century
F30	-	-	-	PT	14th century onwards
F36	-	GX (BOW?)	-	-	Roman?
F37	HMF	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F40? (or F10)	-	-	-	RT	Roman
F42	-	-	-	RT (worn) BR	19th-early 20th century?
F43	-	-	F45M, F47, F48B	-	19th-early 20th century
F45	HMF, HMS	-	-	-	Bronze Age?
F49	-	-	F48D	RB, PT, PANT	19th-early 20th century
F54	-	-	-	Floor, BR?	19th-early 20th century
F55	HMFS	-	-	-	Bronze Age?
F56	HMG	-	-	-	Bronze Age?
F59	-	-	-	PT	14th century onwards
F60	-	-	F45M, F48D	PT	19th-early 20th century
F61	HMF, HMS	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F63	-	-	F48D	PT	19th-early 20th century
F64	HMG	-	-	PT	14th century onwards?
F66	-	-	-	PT	14th century onwards
F67	HMF, HMFS, HMS	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F69	-	GX, KX (Cam 305B/AD 275-end Roman)	-	RT LCA (AD 160-380)	3rd-4th century

F71	-	-	-	RFT, RT	Roman
F72	-	-	-	PT, BR	19th-early 20th century
F74	HMS	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F75	-	-	-	PT	14th century onwards
F76	-	-	-	BR, PT	19th-early 20th century
F77	-	-	-	PT	14th century onwards
F78	HMG	-	-	-	Bronze Age?
F81	-	-	F21A, F45M, F48B, F48D	PT	19th-early 20th century
F82	HMF	-	-	PT	?
F83	-	-	F20, F49	PT, BR	15th-19th century
F85	-	GX	-	-	Roman
F90	HMS	BASG, GX TN (Young M22/ AD 240-400)	-	RBT	Roman, later 3rd-4th century
F91	-	AJ, DJ, HZ, GX (Cam 46/311, 251, 277)	-	-	2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century
F93	HMG	-	-	-	Prehistoric
F94	-	-	F45M, F48D	PT, BR	19th-early 20th century
F95	-	-	F40, F48D	RT, PT, BR	19th-early 20th century
F96	-	-	-	RT	Roman
F98	-	GX	-	RBT, PT	?
F100	-	-	-	RT	Roman
F103	-	-	-	PT	14th century onwards
F104	HMF, HMS	-	-	-	Later Prehistoric (Iron Age?)
F106	-	-	F51A	-	19th-early 20th century
F107	-	-	F45M, F48D		19th-early 20th century
F110	-	BACG	-	-	2nd century
F111	-	-	F22	-	*c* 1140-1350
F112	-	-	F45M, F48D	-	19th-early 20th century
F113	-	-	F48D	-	19th-early 20th century
F116	-	-	-	PT, BR	19th-early 20th century
F117	-	-	F48D	RB, PT, BR	19th-early 20th century
F121	HMF	GX	-	-	Roman?
F122	-	-	F21	-	13th-14/15th century
F123	-	-	F45M, F48D	-	19th-early 20th century
F125	-	-	F48D, F45M	-	19th-early 20th century
F127	-	-	F48D, F45M	-	19th-early 20th century
L1	HMS	-	-	-	-

Table 15 Approximate dates for the individual features and layers

7.2 Small finds, glass, clay pipe and other non-ceramic finds

by Laura Pooley

Small finds

Five numbered small finds came from four contexts, F93, F104, F117 and L1 (see Table 16). The most interesting is part of a biconical, plain ceramic spindlewhorl (SF2) from ditch F104 (Fig 22). The spindlewhorl is not itself datable, but was found with later prehistoric (possibly Iron Age) pottery. Thirty+ small fragments of degraded lava quern (SF1) from ditch F93 could be of Romano-British or medieval date. An incomplete plough ard (SF3) from ditch F117, and a copper-alloy button (SF4) and slate pencil (SF4) from L1, are all of post-medieval/modern date.

Small finds no.	Context	Finds no.	Description
1	F93	34	30+ fragments of degraded lava quern, 359.3g, Romano-British or medieval.
2	F104	40	**Fig 22**. A quarter of a ceramic (baked clay) spindlewhorl, broken across the spindle hole, biconical and undecorated, *c* 25mm long, c 25mm wide (c 50mm diameter), 25mm high, spindle hole probably c 11mm diameter, 13.1g. Not datable in itself but found with later Prehistoric (?Iron Age) pottery.
3	F117	82	Incomplete plough ard with tip missing, heavily corroded, 175mm long, shaft is 45mm wide by 15mm thick, blade is 80mm across, 272g, probably 19th-20th century.
4	L1	-	Small copper-alloy button, plain, with raised shouldered cone on the reverse and a broken loop, 19mm diameter, 3.3g, 18th century.
5	L1	-	Fragment of slate pencil (4.2g), 19th-20th century.

Table 16 Small finds

Glass, clay pipe and other finds

All of the glass, clay pipe, heat-altered stone, ironwork (that was not given a small find number), slag, shell, unworked stone and coal waste has been catalogued and recorded in Table 17.

Glass: Eight complete or almost complete glass bottles and jars had been dumped in pit F43. Included among the assemblage were: two codd bottles of H Parsons, Manningtree; two torpedo-shaped mineral water bottles of Caley, Norwich; a bottle of Cobbold & Co Brewers, Ipswich; a milk bottle; a Bovril jar; and a jam/condiment jar (Photograph 8). Seventeen fragments of glass (347.3g), also came from seven other contexts. All of the glass is of 19th- to 20th-century date.

Clay pipe: Eight post-medieval clay pipe stems were found in six contexts (F1, F5, F6, F30, F72, F117). The only stem of interest was from F1 (52) which included the inscription IDAM (Fig 22).

Iron and other metalwork: An undated iron nail came from F69, fragments of modern iron nails from F54 and F63, and a strip of agricultural ironwork (probably 19th to 20th century) from F6. A metal door sign for P&P Campbell the Perth (Perthshire) dye works was found in F95.

Slag/metalworking debris: Slag was recovered from field boundary ditch F63 and ground hollow F90.

Photograph 8 Glass bottles from modern pit F43

Heat altered stone: Thirty-two pieces of burnt flint (363.8g) and a piece of burnt sandstone-quartzite (9.5g) were recovered from 13 contexts of prehistoric, medieval and modern date. 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 either whitened (calcified) or discoloured various shades of grey, pink and red. Some of these flints, especially those from prehistoric features, may have derived from flint pebbles used as pot boilers. Sandstone-quartzite has superior thermal properties, being less prone to fracture. Some prehistoric deposits of burnt stones in Essex have been found to be dominated by sandstone-quartzite (Crummy *et al* 2007, 18-19) and in such a case they must have been specifically sought out and selected. Here, a single piece of sandstone-quartzite among the burnt flint does not suggest any selective process.

Shell: A snail shell came from F5 (1.4g), a mussel shell from F6 (1.7g) and an oyster shell (31.4g) from F60.

Unworked stone: Twenty-eight fragments of septaria (2.5kg) came from F69, F91 and F117 and a fragment of slate (15.8g) from F6.

Coal waste: Five fragments of coal waste (28.5g) came from F1, F5 and F60.

Context no.	Finds no.	Description
F1	52	**Clay pipe:** Fragment of clay pipe stem, IDAM around stem (2.2g) (Fig 22). **Glass:** Fragment of flat blue/green glass (1.2g) and flat clear glass (2.3g), post-medieval. Discarded. **Coal:** Three waste fragments of coal (20.5g), post-medieval/modern. Discarded.
F5	54	**Clay pipe:** Fragment of clay pipe stem (4.1g), post-medieval. Discarded. **Shell:** Snail shell (1.4g). Discarded. **Coal:** Waste fragment of coal (1.5g), post-medieval/modern. Discarded.
F6	55	**Iron:** Flat, rectangular strip of iron, broken at one end, 60mm long, 15mm wide, 10mm thick, 19.2g, probably a fragment of 19th-20th century agricultural ironwork. Discarded. **Clay pipe:** Three fragments of clay pipe stem (2.9g), post-medieval. Discarded. **Glass:** Base of a black glass bottle (151.6g) and six fragments of glass (40.7g) (clear, cloudy and with a blue/green tinge), one of which includes the partial inscription [...]**WO**[...] / [...]**II**[...], 19th-20th century. Discarded. **Slate:** Fragment of slate (15.8g), post-medieval/modern. Discarded. **Shell:** Fragment of mussel shell (1.7g). Discarded.
F7	56	**Burnt flint:** Four pieces of burnt flint, crazed, and burnt white/grey and red, 38.0g. Discarded. **Burnt sandstone-quartzite:** One piece of burnt sandstone-quartzite, crazed and burnt pink, 9.5g. Discarded.
F9	59	**Burnt flint:** Three pieces of burnt flint, crazed and burnt white/grey and pink, 12.1g Discarded.
F13	57	**Glass:** Incomplete clear glass bottle stopper (26.3g), cylindrical with an expanded circular head (broken), probably 19th-20th century. Discarded.
F19	62	**Burnt flint:** Piece of burnt flint, crazed and burnt pink/grey, 11.0g. Discarded.
F26	65	**Burnt flint:** Three pieces of burnt flint, crazed, burnt white/grey and pink, 25.9g Discarded.
F29	66	**Burnt flint:** Three pieces of burnt flint, crazed, burnt white, red and black/red, 19.5g. Discarded.
F30	68	**Clay pipe:** Fragment of clay pipe stem (3.5g), post-medieval. Discarded.
F32	70	**Burnt flint:** Two pieces of burnt flint, cracked with the outer surface burnt red, 55.8g. Discarded.
F33	70	**Burnt flint:** Piece of burnt flint, cracked with a slight reddish-tinge, 34.7g. Discarded.
F34	71	**Burnt flint:** Piece of burnt flint, crazed and burnt white/grey, 5.4g. Discarded.
F40	73	**Burnt flint:** Eight pieces of burnt flint, cracked and crazed, burnt white/grey and pinky-red, 103.4g. Discarded.
F43	75	**Glass:** Eight glass bottles, all 19th-20th century. 1) Complete Codd bottle with marble still in place, H PARSONS MANNINGTREE, 235mm high, 631.8g. 2) Almost complete Codd bottle with marble still in place but damage to mouth piece, H PARSONS MANNINGREE, 235mm high, 622.1g. 3) Complete torpedo-shaped bottle with flat base, CALEY on one side, CALEY / TRADE MARK / NORWICH on the other, 212mm high, 485.4g. 4) Complete torpedo-shaped bottle with flat base, CALEY / EAU ARTIFICIELLE on one side, CALEY / TRADE MARK / NORWICH on the other, 212mm high, 470.0g. 5) Incomplete green glass bottle with neck and mouth broken and missing, COBBOLD & CO / BREWERS / IPSWICH, 190mm high, 372.0g. 6) Complete Victorian milk bottle, glass has a green tinge, A 639 on base, 145mm high, 295.6g. 7) Complete brown glass Bovril jar with screw cap mouth, 4OZ / BOVRIL / LIMITED on one side, 4OZ / BOVRIL / LIMITED / 520 on the other, BOTTLE MADE IN ENGLAND on the bottom, 78mm high, 141.1g.

		8) Complete jam or condiment wax seal glass jar, clear glass, round but with four flat panels on each side, RD NO 429904 around neck, 2262 on base, 80mm high. **Cork:** Nine fragments of cork bottle stoppers (3.3g). Discarded.
F53	2	**Burnt flint:** Two pieces of burnt flint, crazed and burnt white/grey, 13.6g. Discarded.
F54	3	**Nail:** Three fragments of iron nail shank, square-sectioned, 28-31mm long (one curved) and 8.9g, 19th-20th century. Discarded.
F60	6	**Coal:** Waste fragment of coal (6.5g), post-medieval/modern. Discarded. **Shell:** Oyster shell (31.4g). Discarded.
F63	11	**Glass:** Two fragments of glass, clear and olive green (3.4g), 19th-20th century. Discarded. **Nail:** Corroded iron nail, head might be present but too corroded to be certain, square-sectioned shank, 75mm long, 21.1g, 19th-20th century. Discarded. **Slag:** One piece of slag, 147.7g.
F69	16	**Nail:** Complete iron nail, probable square-sectioned shank, oval slightly domed head c 14mm by 11mm, 55mm long, 9.8g, undated. **Stone:** Twelve pieces of septaria/mudstone (1.7kg). Discarded.
F72	29	**Clay pipe:** Fragment of clay pipe stem (1.6g), post-medieval. Discarded.
F78	20	**Burnt flint:** One piece of burnt flint, burnt red, 1.4g. Discarded.
F81	25	**Glass:** Head and neck of a glass bottle, olive green (82.9g). Two fragments of glass, one clear and one with a green tinge (3.8g), 19th-20th century. Discarded.
F85	28	**Stone:** Large lump of unworked sandstone, possibly a glacial erratic (5.5kg). Discarded.
F90	43	**Slag:** Large lump of slag (978.9g).
F91	30	**Stone:** Fifteen small fragments of septaria/mudstone (18.2g). Discarded.
F93	34	**Burnt flint:** Two pieces of burnt flint, crazed and burnt white/grey/red, 12.9g. Discarded.
F95	33	**Metal sign:** Rectangular door sign with rounded top, 235mm high, 92mm wide, AGENT FOR / P &P / CAMPBELL / THE / PERTH / DYE / WORKS, 19th-20th century.
F107	81	**Glass:** Fragment from the base of a clear glass vessel, including part of the footring (19.3g), 19th-20th century. Discarded.
F117	82	**Clay pipe:** Fragment of clay pipe stem (1.2g), post-medieval. Discarded. **Stone:** Fragment of septaria/mudstone (747.6g). Discarded.
F122	87	**Burnt flint:** Piece of burnt flint, crazed and burnt white/grey, 30.1g. Discarded.
F129	92	**Glass:** Fragment from the body of a clear glass bottle, partial inscription includes [...]**ON** / [...]**NG BOTTLE** (15.9g), 19th-20th century. Discarded.

Table 17 Glass, clay pipe and other finds by context

7.3 Worked flints

by Adam Wightman

Sixty-three worked flints were recovered during the evaluation work. Twenty-two of these were recovered from nine archaeological features (F3, F5, F6, F22, F26, F45, F55, F69 and F78) and the remaining forty-one were from the ploughsoil (L1). Four of the worked flints were residual in contexts dated to the Roman (pit F69) and post-medieval (ditch F5 and pit F6) periods, and eighteen were recovered from contexts dated as prehistoric on the basis of pottery dating evidence, stratigraphic relations or the nature of fills (F3, F22, F26, F45, F55 and F78).

Four prehistoric ditches contained worked flints (F3, F22, F26 and F45). The flints from ditches F3 and F26 are not closely datable. A small bladelet which could date to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic was recovered from ditch F45 and a probable retouched blade from F22 most likely dates to the Early Neolithic. A well-made end/horseshoe scraper was found in pit F55 (Neolithic/Bronze Age). All of these features contain worked flints in such low quantities that it is possible that they could be residual in the contexts from which they were recovered.

Pit F78, which has been dated to the Bronze Age based on the pottery dating evidence, contained the largest assemblage of worked flints from the site (ten pieces). Six were flakes, four of which were hard hammer struck and exhibit no evidence of platform preparation. Flakes with these characteristics are common in Bronze Age assemblages. A waste fragment and two fragments of flake cores could also be Bronze Age in date. However, one flake appears to have been detached using a soft hammer and another appears to have a prepared platform. This suggests that these pieces were created in the Mesolithic or Neolithic periods when more care was taken during the knapping process. In addition, a retouched blade (broken into three pieces), which almost certainly dates to the Early Neolithic, was also recovered from the pit. It is most likely that the pit contains residual worked flints, although the possibility that the pottery sherds from the pit could date to the Neolithic period cannot be ruled out.

Context	Finds no.	Artefact type	Cortex %	Soft/hard hammer	Modification
F3	51	flake	0	hard	
F5	54	flake (piercer/borer)	15	hard	semi-abrupt
		waste flake	10		
F6	55	waste flake	0		
F22	63	waste flake	60	hard	
		flake/blade (retouched)	0		shallow
F26	65	waste fragment	10		
		waste flake	40	hard	
F45	78	waste fragment	25		
		bladelet	0		
F55	7	flake (end scraper)	60	hard	abrupt, some invasive
F69	16	flake	5		use-wear/edge damage
F78	20	flake	0	hard	use-wear/edge damage
		flake	0	hard	use-wear/edge damage
		flake	50	hard	
		blade (retouched)	0		semi-abrupt
		flake	0	hard	
		waste fragment	0		
		flake	0	hard	use-wear/edge damage
		flake	0	soft	
		core fragment	0		
		core fragment	40		

Table 18 Worked flints recovered from archaeological features

The worked flints recovered from the ploughsoil were collected by the excavation team while in transit between the trenches and during the machine excavation of the trenches themselves. Forty of the worked flints recovered from the ploughsoil are likely to date to the prehistoric period. Eighteen of the flints are unmodified flakes, many of which are broken or exhibit edge damage most likely caused by recent agricultural activity. Most of the flakes retain little or no cortex (although this could be due to a collection bias) and with the exception of two pieces, all are hard hammer flakes with no evidence of platform preparation.

A further thirteen flakes have been retouched. These include seven probable scrapers (five of which are broken), one retouched notch and one piecer/borer. With the exception of a small button or thumbnail scraper (Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age), the retouched tools are not typologically diagnostic and date broadly to the later prehistoric period (Mesolithic-Bronze Age). A retouched flint nodule appears to have been retouched and is best classified as a 'tool-of-convenience'. Tools of this type are most common in the Bronze Age. Four blades were collected from L1, including two which have been retouched. A small, neatly-made bladelet with retouch on both lateral edges is likely to date to the Mesolithic period, whereas the other three blades are more likely to be Early Neolithic in date.

A fragment of polished axe, which is almost certainly Neolithic in date, was also recovered from the surface of the ploughsoil. Polished axes are associated with the clearance of woodland to create farmland which was taking place in the Neolithic. It would have originally been mounted onto a wooden handle and held in place by leather and fibre thongs (Butler, 2005). The fragment is badly damaged and only 47mm in length. The flint is light grey in colour and is probably local to East Anglia. In cross section the axe is lenticular or double convex and appears to have a facetted side (Type C of Field & Woolley's (1984) commonly used typology for Neolithic axes). However, without more of the axe being present, it is difficult to say for certain that the edges have not simply been ground down to blunt them rather than having deliberately created side facets (in which case the axe would be a Type B rather than C). The axe fragment is polished on the undamaged side and on the edge. It is likely that the axe was polished over its entire surface. However, the grinding of the surviving axe surface was not sufficiently deep to remove all of the flaking scars, which may also suggest that the fragment came from near the butt end which is often left in a flaked state to create friction when hafting making it more secure (Butler, 2005).

In addition to the prehistoric flint, a single gunflint (33mm x 30mm x 9mm) was collected during the fieldwork. It is a spall gunflint with rounded corners on both the leading edge (which creates the spark) and the heel (rear end). The leading (striking) edge is almost blunt. This could be a result of heavy use or because the edge was heavily retouched to strengthen it. It also appears to be damaged, probably as a result of striking the steel. Both lateral edges have been bevelled. The blank on which the gunflint was produced is bioconvex, which suggests that the gunflint spall was detached from the ventral face of a flake (a flaked flake) (Torben Bjarke Ballin 2012). De Lotbiniere has proposed four basic gunflint types (1984), of which this piece would be classified as a D-shaped gunspall (although one of the corners of the heel edge is square as opposed to rounded). It was made using a dark grey mottled flint probably acquired in the East Anglian region. D-shaped spall gunflints were produced in Britain from around 1650 until the end of the 18th century (De Lotbiniere 1984). It is probable that the gunflint was used in a musket and is evidence of hunting occurring in this area.

In conclusion, the majority of the worked flints belong to a period of prehistoric activity which spans from at least the Early Neolithic period (and probably the Mesolithic) to the Bronze Age. In addition, the recovery of a gunflint suggests that a musket was being fired on the site sometime in the late 17th or 18th century, presumably by a hunter.

7.4 Animal bone

by Alec Wade

The excavation produced a total of 82 pieces of bone weighing 1.618kg from thirteen contexts of prehistoric, Roman, medieval, post-medieval/modern or modern date. All the assemblage was recovered by hand.

The assemblage was recorded using a system based upon the rapid method devised by S.J.M Davis (Ancient Monuments Laboratory Report 19/92).

Briefly, all the bone and teeth fragments are examined but only a restricted suite of skeletal parts are recorded as a matter of course – these being chosen because they are relatively easy to identify and represent most regions of the mammalian body (head, girdles, limbs and feet). When these parts are present in enough numbers, they can provide the maximum useful information regarding sex, age, butchery practice and metrical data.

These skeletal parts are referred to here as the **parts of skeleton always counted** or POSAC for short.

The remaining pieces of bone are referred to as **non-countable specimens** (NCS) and consist largely of undiagnostic fragments. Beyond a basic level of quantification (see Quantification of assemblage table in appendix), these are of no further interest unless these are found to offer the only evidence for the presence of a species otherwise not represented amongst the POSACs. Where this is the case the presence of the species is noted by a (+) sign in the following distribution table.

The bone was found to be in fair condition and eighteen POSACs were identified and recorded. The following table shows their distribution by context, species and period.

Context	Type	Species	Prehistoric	Roman	Medieval	Post-medieval/ modern	Modern
F13	FBD	Pig					(+)
F15	FBD	Hare					1
F22	Ditch	Cattle	(+)				
F25	Pit	Horse				1	
F30	FBD	Hare					3
F60	FBD	Pig Chicken (cock)					1 (+)
F75	Pit	Pig Sheep/goat					1 (+)
F90	Ground hollow	Cattle Horse Sheep/goat		5 1 (+)			
F91	Pit	Cattle		2			
F111	Pit	Cattle Horse			1 1		
F117	FBD	Sheep/goat					1

Table 19 POSAC and species distribution by context and date.
(+) denotes the presence of the species noted amongst the otherwise non-countable specimens (NCS) from the context. FBD = Field boundary ditch.

The main domestic species of horse, cattle, sheep/goat (where no distinction between the species was possible), pig and chicken were all represented in the assemblage. The minimum number of individual animals represented is 1 for each species by period. The only wild species to be identified was hare – the skeletal remains of at least two individuals were found in field boundary ditches F15 and F30.

Probably the most interesting part of the assemblage was from F90, possibly a watering-hole or pond, of Roman date. This produced a very small amount of bone including part

of a sheep or goat's humerus that had been butchered (signs of carcass dismembering) as well as cattle and horse bone.

The tarso-metatarsal of a cock was recovered from field boundary ditch F60. It appears to have small vertical cut marks across the base of the spur, presumably resulting from of its attempted removal or perhaps just the removal of the horny part of the spur.

8 Environmental assessment

by Lisa Gray MSc MA ACIfA Archaeobotanist

Introduction – aims and objectives

Fives samples were presented for assessment. They were taken from a series of pits ditches and a tree-throw that were either undated or dated as Bronze Age.

The aims of this assessment are to determine the significance and potential of the plant macro-remains in the samples and consider their use in providing information about diet, craft, medicine, crop-husbandry, feature function and environment.

Sampling and processing methods

These samples were taken and processed by Colchester Archaeological Trust and using a Siraf-type flotation device. Flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve then dried.

Once with the author the flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 40x. The whole flots were examined. The abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in the sample were recorded. A magnet was passed across each flot to record the presence or absence of magnetised material or hammerscale.

Identifications were made using uncharred reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers *et al.* 2006; Charles 1984; Fuller 2007; Jacomet 2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (Stace 2010). Latin names are given once and the common names used thereafter. Low numbers of non-charcoal charred plant macro-remains were counted. Uncharred plant remains, fauna and magnetic fragments were given estimated levels of abundance unless, in the case of seeds, numbers are very low in which case they were counted.

At this stage numbers given are estimates but where only one item is present that has been noted. Identifiable charred wood >4mm in diameter has been described as that. Charred wood <4mm diameter are described as 'flecks'. Samples this size are easier to break to reveal the cross-sections and diagnostic features necessary for identification and are less likely to be blown or unintentionally moved around the site (Asouti 2006, 31; Smart & Hoffman 1988, 178-179). Fragments smaller than this and larger then 2mmØ were scanned incase any fragments of twig or roundwood survived.

Results

Plant remains

Charred plant remains were the only type of plant remain present in these samples. Samples from tree-throw F51, pit F55 and ring-ditch F45 contained identifiable charcoal, none twigs or roundwood. The sample from ring-ditch F45 also contained one poorly preserved wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grain.

Fauna

No faunal remains were found in these samples.

Artefacts

No artefactual remains were found in these samples.

Context	Finds number	Sample number	Sample volume (L)	Flot volume (L)	Charred plant remains					Uncharred plant remains
					Grains			>4mm charcoal fragments	<4mm charcoal flecks	Root/rhizome fragments
					a	d	p	a	a	a
F51 undated tree-throw	1	1	10	0.02	-	-	-	2	1	1
F55 Bronze Age pit	8	2	20	0.015	-	-	-	2	1	2
F57 undated ditch	9	3	10	0.05	-	-	-	-	1	2
F78 Bronze Age pit	21	4	10	0.05	-	-	-	-	1	1
F45 Bronze Age ring-ditch	78	5	40	0.025	1	1	2	2	1	1

Table 20 Flot contents

Key to Table 20
a = abundance [1 = occasional 1-10; 2 = moderate 11-100; and 3 = abundant >100];
d = diversity [1 = low 1-4 taxa types; 2 = moderate 5-10; 3 = high];
p = preservation [1 = poor (family level only); 2 = moderate (genus); 3 = good (species identification possible)

Discussion

Biases in recovery, residuality, contamination

Nothing with regards biases in recovery, residuality or contamination was highlighted for any of these samples at the time of writing.

Quality and type of preservation

The plant remains in these samples were preserved by charring. Charring of plant macrofossils occurs when plant material is heated under '…reducing conditions…' where oxygen is largely excluded (Boardman & Jones 1990, 2) leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to biological and chemical decay (Campbell *et a*l. 2011, 17). These conditions can occur in a charcoal clamp, the centre of a bonfire or pit or in an oven or when a building burns down with the roof excluding the oxygen from the fire (Reynolds 1979, 57).

No plant remains were preserved by mineralisation (Green 1979, 281) or silicification (Robinson & Straker 1990), which means that there is no archaeobotanical evidence for the cess disposal or slow-burning aerated fires. No waterlogged plant remains were present meaning that the area was well-drained with no evidence of standing or running water.

Potential and significance

At the time of writing it is clear that there is the potential for more charred plant remains to be found if this investigation goes to excavation stage. The charcoal fragments in tree-throw F51, pit F55 and ring-ditch F45 are of identifiable size and may provide information about wood used as fuel and taxa suitable for radiocarbon dating. The wheat grain in

ring-ditch F45 is unlikely to be identifiable beyond genus and the absence of chaff and other grains also means that identification is limited.

A search of the Archaeology Data Service 2019 provided no other archaeobotanical reports from Dovercourt. If it is the case that no other archaeobotanical work has been carried out then these and any future archaeobotanical finds will have local and possible regional significance and can be compared with archaeobotanical work carried out in other parts of Harwich (Gray 2019; Keir 2016).

Recommendations for further work on this sample
If further excavation takes place at this site then bulk soil sampling is recommended because it is clear that charred plant remains survive here. The charred plant remains may be suitable for radiocarbon dating as may suitable charcoal taxa.

Aside from this, further work on this sample will not be necessary unless more samples are taken at the site that would allow comparisons with other charred plant remain assemblages and feature types.

9 Discussion

Archaeological evaluation on land west of Low Road, Dovercourt revealed significant archaeological remains dating to the prehistoric, Romano-British and modern periods which had survived in a good state of preservation.

The earliest archaeological remains from the development site were pieces of worked flint dating to the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic period. Most of these were residual, found scattered through later-dated features and in the ploughsoil. Prehistoric worked flint and pottery sherds, including pieces dated to the Bronze Age and possibly the Iron Age, were also recovered from eighteen features (ditches, pits and a gully). Most of these features were concentrated along the northern third of the site on the high ground of the peninsula away from the flood plain.

The earliest prehistoric features dated to the Bronze Age. The most significant of which is a probable ring-ditch in T33-T34. This ring-ditch was visible as a cropmark and evaluation has shown that the ditch does survive, although no internal features were present within the area exposed by the evaluation trenches. The ring-ditch was probably part of a Bronze Age barrow and, as plotted, the cropmark would suggest that the barrow has a diameter of *c* 24m diameter. It is larger than the barrows excavated at Ardleigh (3-20m diameter), Brightlingsea (4-12m diameter) and St Osyth, Birch and Chitts Hill (3.8-8m diameter) (Brown 1999; Clarke & Lavender 2008; Germany 2007; CAT Report 289; Crummy 1977), but a Middle Bronze Age barrow at Great Tey was 27m in diameter externally (23m internally) (Pooley & Brooks forthcoming). Further investigation of the ring-ditch and any associated internal or external features (including burials) would be needed to confirm the identification and precise date of this feature. The small cup from ring-ditch F45 could possibly be from an associated burial.

A second round cropmark to the southwest (T78) unfortunately corresponds to both the location of a curved prehistoric gully and a modern pit, so at present it is uncertain if the cropmark marks the position of another ring-ditch or the pit. A further four ring-ditch cropmarks are known within 0.75-1.5km to the southwest/west of the development site (EHER 3331, 3510, 3534, 17736).

The cropmark of a square-enclosure was also investigated (T31). Pottery from the ditches dated to the later prehistoric period, possibly the Iron Age, but further investigation would be needed to confirm the size, shape, function and precise date of the enclosure. This enclosure is *c* 40m to the north of trench T37 where a group of probable prehistoric ditches could be associated with it.

Also concentrated on high ground were ten features dating to the Romano-British period including a few ditches, pits and a ground hollow which was possibly a watering-hole or pond. Little Oakley Roman villa (EHER 3313) is located 1.4km to the southwest and recent excavations at the former Delfords factory site 960km NE revealed a Romano-British rectilinear field-system (CAT Report 1185). Evidence from this current evaluation would indicate small-scale Roman activity on the development site, probably dating to the 3rd to 4th century. The watering-hole/pond would suggest animals were being kept/grazed on the site but, although three ditches were present, there was no obvious indication at present of a formalised division of the landscape into fields. Romano-British pits in trenches T29-T30 also appear to correspond to one of the irregular cropmarks.

There was little medieval or post-medieval activity evident (four pits and residual finds). The most dominant features on the development site was eight modern field boundary ditches (FB1-FB8). Seven were plotted on the first edition 6-inch OS map of 1875 dividing the landscape into nine fields. Field boundary 1 (FB1) is not visible on this map indicating that it was backfilled before 1875, when it was presumably replaced by field boundaries 4 (FB4) and 8 (FB8). These boundaries are visible on OS maps until at least the mid-20th century. Field boundaries 1, 2 and 8 were visible as cropmarks, although as plotted the cropmarks of boundaries 2 and especially 8 are slightly out of alignment with the actual location of the ditches. No trace of the cropmarks aligned northeast to southwest was visible on the ground.

In summary, evaluation revealed significant archaeological remains concentrated along the ridge of high ground in the northern third of the development site, particularly around trenches T23-T45. If further archaeological investigation were to take place it should be focussed around these trenches and the potentially significant prehistoric and Romano-British remains located there.

10 Acknowledgements

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12 Abbreviations and glossary

Bronze Age	period from *c* 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find.
ECC	Essex County Council
ECCHEA	Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHER	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
late Prehistoric	period from *c* 4,000 BC to AD 43 (Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age)
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to *c* 1500
Mesolithic	period from *c* 10,000 – 4000BC
modern	period from *c* AD 1800 to the present

natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
Neolithic	period from *c* 4000 – 2500 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	**O**nline **A**cces**S** to the **I**ndex of Archaeological Investigation**S**, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from *c* AD 1500 to *c* 1800
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
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

13 Contents of archive

Finds: five boxes

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:
The report (CAT Report 1420)
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 Repor 1420)
ECC evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation
Graphics
Site digital photos and log
Survey data

14 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 COLEM 2019.23.

Distribution list:
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Date: 31.5.2019

Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Trench	Finds no.	Interpretation	Soil Description	Period
L1	All	92, 95	Ploughsoil	soft moist medium dark grey brown silty clay	Modern
L2	All	-	Natural	firm dry moist light medium orange brown silty clay	Glacial
L3	T66	-	Colluvium (redeposited natural)	moist medium grey brown clayey silty	Undated
F1	T89	52	Field boundary ditch (part of FB4)	friable firm dry moist light medium grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F2	T96	-	Ditch (possibly continues as F53 in T104)	friable dry medium orange grey brown clayey silt	Undated
F3	T96	51	Ditch/pit	soft friable dry medium orange grey clayey silt	Prehistoric
F4	T96	53	Pit	dry orange grey clayey silt	Undated
F5	T79	54	Field boundary ditch (part of FB4)	friable firm dry medium grey brown silty clay and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F6	T78	55	Pit	friable firm moist medium orange grey brown clayey silt with brick flecks,	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F7	T78	56	Gully	firm moist light grey brown silty clay	Prehistoric
F8	T72	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB4)	soft friable moist medium grey brown clayey silt with charcoal flecks,	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F9	T65	59	Field boundary ditch (part of FB1)	firm moist medium grey brown clayey silt with charcoal flecks, brick flecks,	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F10	T74	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB6)	firm moist medium dark grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks,	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F11	T67	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB5)	firm moist dark grey brown silty clay	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F12	T73	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB6)	friable dry medium grey brown silty clay with brick flecks, tile flecks, and inclusions of: gravel (2%) stone (4%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F13	T73	57	Field boundary ditch (part of FB6)	firm moist medium grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks,	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F14	T69	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB6)	firm dry medium grey clayey silt with brick flecks, tile flecks,	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F15	T67	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB5)	firm moist medium grey brown clayey silt	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F16	T58	58	Field boundary ditch (part of FB1)	soft moist medium grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, daub flecks, and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F17	T65	-	Field boundary	firm moist light medium grey brown	Modern, 19th-early

			ditch (part of FB1)		20th century
F18	T44	60	Field boundary ditch (part of FB1)	soft moist light medium grey brown silty with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, and inclusions of: stone (3%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F19	T45	62	Field boundary ditch (part of FB8)	friable moist medium grey brown silty clay	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F20	T45	61	Pit	friable medium grey brown silty clay	Roman
F21	T43	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB3)	friable wet dark grey brown clayey silt with charcoal flecks, daub flecks, and inclusions of: stone (3%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F22	T42	63	Ditch	soft friable medium orange brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: gravel (5%)	Prehistoric
F23	T42	-	?Field boundary ditch (part of FB3)	Unexcavated?	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F24	T42	-	?Field boundary ditch (part of FB3)	Unexcavated?	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F25	T14	64	Pit	soft moist medium grey brown silty clay and inclusions of: stone (50%)	Post-medieval/ modern, 16th-19th century
F26	T68	65	Ditch	firm moist light orange grey brown silty clay	Prehistoric
F27	T68	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB6)	friable moist dark grey silty clay	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F28	T67	-	Ditch	firm moist light medium orange grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks,	Undated
F29	T61	66, 67	Pit	hard dry medium grey brown sandy clay with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: stone (5%) tile/brick (1%) pot (1%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F30	T30	68	Field boundary ditch (part of FB1)	friable firm dry medium dark grey brown silty sand and inclusions of: gravel (5%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F31	T30	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB1)	friable firm dry dark grey brown silty sand and inclusions of: gravel (5%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F32	T69	76	Pit	hard dry light medium orange grey silty clay	Undated (burnt flint)
F33	T69	70	Pit	hard dry light medium orange grey	Undated (burnt flint)
F34	T69	71	Pit	firm medium orange grey brown	Undated (burnt flint)
F35	T69	-	Pit	firm moist light medium orange grey brown silty clay	Undated
F36	T69	69	Pit		Roman?
F37	T63	72	Pit	firm dry medium brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks,	Prehistoric
F38	T69	-	Ditch		Undated
F39	T71	-	Ditch	firm moist dark brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks,	Undated
F40	T72	73	Ditch	firm moist light medium orange grey silty clay	Undated (burnt flint)

F41	T39	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB5)	very soft wet very dark grey brown loamy with charcoal flecks, oyster flecks, brick flecks, tile flecks,	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F42	T72	74	Field boundary ditch (part of FB1)	firm moist light medium orange grey brown with charcoal flecks,	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F43	T5	75	Pit	very soft moist dark orange grey brown sandy loam with brick flecks, tile flecks,	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F44	T16	-	Ditch		Undated
F45	T33	77, 78	Ring ditch (continues as F45 T34)	firm hard dry light grey silty sand and inclusions of: stone (0%)	?Bronze Age
F46	T10	-	Ditch	soft moist medium yellow brown sandy silt and inclusions of: stone (5%)	Undated
F47	T10	-	Ditch	loose soft moist medium yellow brown sandy silt	Undated
F48	T34	-	Ring ditch (continues as F45 T33)	firm dry light grey silty sand and inclusions of: stone (0%)	?Bronze Age
F49	T16	79	Pit	soft moist medium grey brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: stone (40%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F50	T31	-	Pit	soft moist medium grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Undated
F51	T104	1(s)	Tree-throw	friable light grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks	Undated
F52	T104	-	Natural (not on plan)	friable moist medium orange brown silty clay	Post-glacial
F53	T104	2	Ditch (possibly continues as F2 in T96)	firm grey brown silty clay	Undated (burnt flint only)
F54	T101	3	Field boundary ditch (part of FB4)	firm dry moist medium grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: stone (1%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F55	T60	7, 8	Pit	firm dry medium grey clayey silt with charcoal flecks,	?Bronze Age
F56	T60	4	Ditch	firm dry light grey clayey silt	?Bronze Age
F57	T60	9	Ditch	firm dry medium grey clayey silt with charcoal flecks,	Undated
F58	T60	-	Ditch	firm dry very light grey clayey silt	Undated
F59	T58	5	Field boundary ditch (part of FB4)	firm moist light grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F60	T50	6	Field boundary ditch (part of FB4)	firm moist medium grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F61	T52	10	Ditch	soft moist medium grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, brick flecks,	Prehistoric
F62	T53	-	Field boundary	Continuation of Post-Medieval field	Modern, 19th-early

			ditch (part of FB5)	boundary, not excavated	20th century
F63	T38	11	Field boundary ditch (part of FB3)	firm dry moist medium grey brown sandy clay with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, and inclusions of: stone (10%) tile/brick (5%) pot (5%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F64	T37	12	Backfill of F90	firm dry medium grey clayey silt and inclusions of: stone (4%)	Medieval/post-medieval+ (peg-tile)
F65	T37	-	Ditch	firm dry medium grey clayey silt	(?Prehistoric)
F66	T36	13	Field boundary ditch (part of FB1)	soft dark brown sandy silt	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F67	T37	14, 22	Ditch	firm dry medium grey silty sand and inclusions of: stone (6%)	Prehistoric
F68	T36	15	Ditch	soft moist medium brown clayey silt with brick flecks, and inclusions of: tile/brick (5%)	Undated
F69	T29	16	Pit/tree-throw	friable dry medium grey brown clayey silt and inclusions of: stone (45%)	Roman, 3rd-4th century
F70	T29	-	Pit	friable dry medium grey brown clayey silt and inclusions of: stone (3%)	Undated
F71	T36	17	Ditch	soft moist medium grey brown silty clay and inclusions of: gravel (10%)	Roman
F72	T21	29	Pit	friable firm dry medium grey brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: stone (14%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F73	T37	24	Ditch (recut of F79?)	firm dry medium grey silty sand and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Undated (?Prehistoric)
F74	T37	23	Ditch		Prehistoric
F75	T21	18	Pit	firm moist medium dark orange grey brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: gravel (1%) stone (1%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F76	T21	19	Pit	firm moist medium grey brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: stone (1%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F77	T21	83	Pit	firm moist medium dark orange grey brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: gravel (1%) stone (1%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F78	T68	20, 21	Pit	firm moist light medium grey brown silty clay	Bronze Age?
F79/F80	T37	-	Ditch	soft friable dry moist medium grey brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Undated (?Prehistoric)
F81	T28	25	Upper fill of pit F82	friable moist light medium dark grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, and inclusions of: stone (5%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F82	T28	26	Pit	light grey brown clayey silt with flecks of charcoal and inclusions of stone. Gravelly orange brown sand	?Post-medieval
F83	T14	27	Pit	soft moist medium grey brown silty clay and inclusions of: stone (25%)	Post-medieval/ modern, 15th-19th

					century
F84	T30	-	Pit	soft moist medium grey brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: stone (15%)	Undated
F85	T30	28	Pit	soft moist medium dark grey brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, and inclusions of: stone (30%)	Roman
F86	T30	-	Gully	soft moist medium grey brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: stone (1%)	Undated
F87	T16	-	Pit	moist medium dark brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: gravel (50%) stone (0%)	Undated
F88	T16	-	Pit	firm moist dark brown silty clay	Undated
F89	T16	-	Pit	soft moist dark brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: stone (50%)	Undated
F90	T37	41, 42, 43, 44, 45	Ground hollow (watering hole/ pond)	soft friable moist wet medium dark grey sandy silt clay with charcoal flecks, daub flecks, brick flecks, tile flecks, and inclusions of: gravel (9%) stone (17%)	Roman, 3rd-4th century
F91	T30	30, 31	Pit (part of F96)	firm dark brown grey silty sand and inclusions of stone	Roman, 2nd-late 3rd/early 4th century
F92	T16	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB1)	moist dark brown	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F93	T72	34	Pit	firm dry light yellow brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: stone (1%)	Roman/medieval
F94	T9	32	Pit	loose soft moist medium orange grey brown sandy loam with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, tile flecks, and inclusions of: gravel (20%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F95	T22	33	Pit	loose soft moist medium orange grey brown sandy loam with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, tile flecks, and inclusions of: gravel (10%) stone (10%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F96	T30	-	Pit (part of F91)	friable firm dry dark grey brown silty sand and inclusions of: stone (10%)	Roman
F97	T31	-	Pit	friable firm dry dark grey brown silty sand and inclusions of: stone (10%)	Modern (cuts F98)
F98	T31	36	Field boundary ditch (part of FB8)	friable firm dry light medium grey brown silty sand and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F99	T31	37	Ditch	firm dry moist light medium grey brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Prehistoric? (flint)
F100	T24	38	Ditch	loose moist medium yellow brown silty and inclusions of: stone (1%)	Roman
F101	T24	-	Pit/natural	loose dry light yellow brown sandy silt and inclusions of: stone (1%)	Undated
F102	T31	-	Tree-throw	soft moist medium grey brown	Undated

				sandy silt clay with charcoal flecks, daub flecks, and inclusions of: stone (5%)	
F103	T31	39	Pit	firm moist medium grey brown silty clay sand with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Medieval/post-medieval+ (peg-tile)
F104	T31	40	Ditch	firm dry medium grey brown silty sand and inclusions of: stone (5%)	Later Prehistoric (Iron Age?)
F105	T32	-	Ditch	firm dry light medium yellow grey sandy silt with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: stone (10%)	Undated
F106	T26	47	Gully	firm medium grey sandy silt and inclusions of: stone (0%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F107	T26	81	Pit	firm dry medium dark grey loamy	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F108	T37	-	Field boundary ditch (part of FB8)	soft friable medium orange brown silty sand and inclusions of: stone (3%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F109	T25	-	Pit	friable moist light grey brown silty sand and inclusions of: stone (5%)	Undated
F110	T25	48	Pit/tree-throw	friable dry medium grey brown silty sand and inclusions of: stone (2%)	Roman, 2nd century
F111	T7	49	Pit?	soft moist medium grey brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: stone (40%)	Medieval, *c* 1140-1350
F112	T26	50	Field boundary ditch (part of FB2)	firm hard dry dark grey silty sand and inclusions of: stone (0%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F113	T27	80	Pit	soft moist medium yellow orange grey brown sandy loam with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: gravel (10%) stone (10%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F114	T18	-	Ditch	soft friable medium brown clayey silt and inclusions of: stone (7%)	Undated
F115	T18	-	Natural		Post-glacial
F116	T7	84	Field boundary ditch (part of FB7)	soft moist medium grey brown sandy silt clay	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F117	T8	82	Field boundary ditch (part of FB1)	soft moist dark grey brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, and inclusions of: stone (7%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F118	T7	-	Ditch, possibly associated with FB7	firm moist medium grey brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: stone (5%)	?Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F119	T23	86	Tree-throw	soft moist light medium orange grey brown sandy silt	Undated
F120	T23	-	Pit	soft moist medium dark grey brown sandy silt and inclusions of: stone (1%)	Undated
F121	T23	85	Ditch	firm moist light medium grey brown sandy silt and inclusions of: stone (5%)	Roman?
F122	T23	87	Field boundary ditch (part of FB8)	soft dry medium grey sandy silt	Modern, 19th-early 20th century

F123	T20	-	Pit	firm dry medium brown sandy silt	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F124	T17	89	Posthole	firm dry medium grey silty clay and inclusions of: gravel (1%)	Undated
F125	T20	90	Pit	firm medium grey brown sandy silt clay with charcoal flecks, and inclusions of: stone (1%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F126	T20	-	Ditch	soft moist medium grey brown sandy silt clay	Undated
F127/ F133	T12	91	Pit	loose soft moist medium orange grey brown sandy silty loam with charcoal flecks, brick flecks	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F128	T17	-	Pit	firm dry medium yellow orange grey brown sandy silt loam with charcoal flecks, brick flecks, tile flecks,	Modern
F129	T20	94	Pit	firm moist medium grey brown sandy silt clay and inclusions of: stone (0%)	Modern, 19th-early 20th century
F130	T11	-	Pit	soft moist medium grey brown sandy loam	Modern
F131	T17	-	Natural	soft moist medium yellow brown sandy silt	Post-glacial
F132	T17	93 (finds lost)	Field boundary ditch (part of FB8)	soft moist medium yellow grey brown sandy silt	Modern, 19th-early 20th century

Appendix 2 Depths of layers by trench

Trench	Depths		Trench	Depths		Trench	Depths
T1	Not excavated		T30	L1 (0.48-0.5m thick)		T59	L1 (0.35-0.44m thick) L3 (0.14-0.2m thick)
T2	L1 (0.4-0.5m thick) L3 (0.3m thick)		T31	L1 (0.44-0.46m thick)		T60	L1 (0.56-0.65m thick)
T3	Not excavated		T32	L1 (0.3m thick)		T61	L1 (0.46m thick) L3 (0.34m thick)
T4	L1 (0.3m thick)		T33	L1 (0.3-0.42m thick)		T62	L1 (0.4-0.46m thick)
T5	L1 (0.3m thick)		T34	L1 (0.3m thick)		T63	L1 (0.35m thick) L3 (0.45-0.6m thick)
T6	L1 (0.4m thick)		T35	L1 (0.32-0.45m thick)		T64	L1 (0.33-0.4m thick) L3 (0.4-0.47m thick)
T7	L1 (0.34-0.43m thick)		T36	L1 (0.38-0.39m thick)		T65	L1 (0.33m thick) L3 (0.37-0.52m thick)
T8	L1 (0.45-0.55m thick)		T37	L1 (0.3m thick)		T66	L1 (0.35-0.4m thick) L3 (0.3-0.45m thick)
T9	L1 (0.4-0.5m thick)		T38	L1 (0.27-0.3m thick) L3 (0.06-0.1m thick)		T67	L1 (0.3-0.4m thick) L3 (0.2-0.35m thick)
T10	L1 (0.4m thick)		T39	L1 (0.35-0.4m thick)		T68	L1 (0.3-0.37m thick) L3 (0.23-0.25m thick)
T11	L1 (0.35m thick)		T40	L1 (0.34-0.55m thick)		T69	L1 (0.44-0.5m thick) L3 (0.1-0.32m thick)
T12	L1 (0.4m thick)		T41	L1 (0.38-0.50m thick)		T70	L1 (0.3-0.4m thick) L3 (0.55-0.6m thick)
T13	L1 (0.35-0.5m thick)		T42	L1 (0.4m thick)		T71	L1 (0.32-0.45m thick) L3 (0.35-0.48m thick)
T14	L1 (0.36-0.56m thick)		T43	L1 (0.35-0.46m thick)		T72	L1 (0.36-0.45m thick) L3 (0.3-0.49m thick)
T15	L1 (0.5m thick)		T44	L1 (0.39-0.45m thick) L3 (0.04m thick)		T73	L1 (0.36-0.4m thick) L3 (0.35-0.39m thick)
T16	L1 (0.36-0.5m thick)		T45	L1 (0.36-0.4m thick) L3 (0.04-0.14m thick)		T74	L1 (0.35-0.38m thick) L3 (0.4-0.62m thick)
T17	L1 (0.35-0.4m thick)		T46	L1 (0.59-0.7m thick)		T75	L1 (0.35-0.5m thick)
T18	L1 (0.44-0.49m thick)		T47	L1 (0.65m thick)		T76	L1 (0.38-0.45m thick)
T19	L1 (0.3m thick) L3 (0.35m thick)		T48	L1 (0.4-0.44m thick)		T77	L1 (0.35-0.45m thick)
T20	L1 (0.4m thick)		T49	L1 (0.46-0.52m thick) L3 (0.24-0.33m thick)		T78	L1 (0.4m thick)
T21	L1 (0.4-0.5m thick)		T50	L1 (0.44-0.5m thick) L3 (0.25-0.28m thick)		T79	L1 (0.38-0.41m thick)
T22	L1 (0.4m thick)		T51	L1 (0.38-0.55m thick) L3 (0.1-0.23m thick)		T80	L1 (0.35-0.38m thick)
T23	L1 (0.4m thick)		T52	L1 (0.4-0.46m thick) L3 (0.12-0.18m thick)		T81	L1 (0.34m thick)
T24	L1 (0.35m thick)		T53	L1 (0.51-0.36m thick)		T82	L1 (0.38-0.4m thick)
T25	L1 (0.4m thick)		T54	L1 (0.45-0.48m thick)		T83	L1 (0.4m thick)
T26	L1 (0.3m thick)		T55	L1 (0.38-0.44m thick)		T84	L1 (0.4m thick)
T27	L1 (0.3m thick)		T56	L1 (0.33-0.49m thick) L3 (0.31-0.39m thick)		T85	L1 (0.35-0.4m thick)
T28	L1 (0.59-0.8m thick)		T57	L1 (0.33-0.44m thick) L3 (0.29-0.39m thick)		T86	L1 (0.3m thick)
T29	L1 (0.35m thick)		T58	L1 (0.35m thick) L3 (0.29-0.38m thick)		T87	L1 (0.4-0.43m thick)

Trench	**Depths**		**Trench**	**Depths**		**Trench**	**Depths**
T88	L1 (0.37-0.4m thick)		T94	L1 (0.4m thick)		T100	L1 (0.42-0.46m thick)
T89	L1 (0.34-0.48m thick)		T95	L1 (0.35m thick)		T101	L1 (0.3m thick)
T90	L1 (0.39-0.48m thick)		T96	L1 (0.31-0.33m thick)		T102	L1 (0.4-0.44m thick)
T91	L1 (0.44-0.45m thick)		T97	L1 (0.3-0.4m thick)		T103	L1 (0.31-0.34m thick)
T92	L1 (0.4-0.46m thick)		T98	L1 (0.4m thick)		T104	L1 (0.47-0.53m thick)
T93	L1 (0.35-0.38mm thick)		T99	L1 (0.4m thick)			

Appendix 3 Pottery and ceramics catalogue

FBD – field boundary ditch

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight g	Rim	Base	Form	Comments	Date
F1	FBD	52	CBM	-	X	1	39	-	-	Peg-tile	14mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F48D	X	1	1	0	0			19th-20th century
F4	Pit	53	CBM	-	X	2	6	-	-	Baked clay	small, worn	?
F5	FBD	54	CBM	-		2	71	-	-	Peg-tile	15mm thick, signature X?	Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F40	X	2	6	0	0			1500-19th/20th century
			Pottery	F46	X	1	2	0	0			17th-18th century
			Pottery	F45M	X	1	1	0	0			19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F48D	X	4	6	0	0			19th-20th century
			Pottery	F48E	X	1	1	0	0			Late 18th-19th century
F6	Pit	55	CBM	-	X	1	16	-	-	Slate	Green	?
			CBM	-	X	3	35	-	-	Slate		?
			Pottery	F40	X	1	11	0	0			1500-19th/20th century
			Pottery	F45M	X	4	45	1	0			19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F48D	X	10	65	2	3	Plate	Willow pattern	19th-20th century
			Pottery	F46	X	2	13	0	0			17th-18th century
			Pottery	F48D	X	8	20	3	0	Plate		19th-20th century
			Pottery	F48D	X	4	22	1	0			19th-20th century
			Pottery	F20	X	1	4	0	0			1150/1175-1375/1400
			CBM	-	X	1	71	-	-	Peg-tile	some burning, small fragment	Post-Medieval
F7	Gully	56	Pottery	HMS G		1	4	0	0			Prehistoric
F9	FBD	59	CBM	-	X	1	2	-	-	Baked clay		?
			Pottery	F13		1	1	0	0			1025/1050-1225
			CBM	BR		1	22	-	-			Medieval-Post Medieval
F11	FBD	37	Pottery	HMF B		2	2	0	0		Black	Prehistoric
F13	FBD	57	CBM	-	X	2	48	-	-	Peg-tile	10, 13 mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight g	Rim	Base	Form	Comments	Date
			CBM	-		1	45	-	-	Brick	yellow, red nods	Medieval-Post Medieval
F15	FBD	58	CBM	-		1	127	-	-	Brick		Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F10		1	2	0	0			10th-12th century
			Pottery	F50		1	49	1	0	Dish	Press-moulded dish with combed decoration, plain bevelled rim with piecrust decoration	Mid 17th-18th/early 19th century
			Pottery	GX		1	2	0	0		?	Roman
F18	FBD	60	CBM	-	X	4	47	-	-	Peg-tile	12, 14, 15 mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
F19	FBD	62	Pottery	F13		1	9	0	0			1025/1050-1225
			Pottery	F13		1	10	0	0			1025/1050-1225
F20	Pit	61	Pottery	GX		1	5	0	0			Roman
F22	Ditch	63	Pottery	HMF D		1	34	0	0		Brown surface	Prehistoric
F25	Pit	64	CBM	-	X	7	162	-	-	Peg-tile	11, 12, 13, 15 mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
			CBM	-	X	1	43	-	-	Peg-tile	worn	Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F40		1	12	0	0			1500-19th/20th century
F26	Ditch	65	CBM	-	X	1	1	-	-	Baked clay		?
			Pottery	HMS I		1	2	0	0		Black fine sand	Prehistoric
F29	Pit	67	Pottery	F13		1	12	0	0			1025/1050-1225
			Pottery	F48D	X	1	1	0	0			19th-20th century
			CBM	-	X	1	2	-	-	Baked clay	small fragment	?
F30	FBD	68	CBM	-	X	1	9	-	-	Peg-tile		Medieval-Post Medieval
			CBM	-		1	4	-	-	Peg-tile		Medieval-Post Medieval
F36	Pit	69	Pottery	GX		10	26	0	0			Roman
F37	Pit	72	Pottery	HMF D		1	3	0	0			Prehistoric
F40 (or F10)	Ditch (or FBD)	46	CBM	-		1	90	-	-	Roman tegula	light beige, sandy fabric	Roman
F42	FBD	74	CBM	-		1	33	-	-	Roman tegula	? very worn	Roman?
			CBM	-		1	52	-	-	Brick	small fragment	Post-Medieval
F43	Pit	75	Pottery	F47		1	451	1	0	Jar	Complete, small storage jar/container	18th-19th century

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight g	Rim	Base	Form	Comments	Date
			Pottery	F48B		1	827	1	0	Tea pot	Mostly complete, lacking end of spout, lid and handle, purple floral transfer decoration	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F45M		1	748	1	0	Bottle	Gin bottle, BOLL & DUNLOP/ DISTILLEERDERY/ A[-]1821/ROTTERDAM	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F45M		1	636	1	0	Storage jar	Complete, ribbed body (marmalade jar)	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F45M		1	215	1	0	Small jar	Half of jar	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F45M		1	1326	1	0	Bottle	Complete	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F45M		1	834	1	0	Bottle	Complete	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F45M		3	1054	3	0	Jar	Three complete jars, stamped GEORGE SKEY & []LD/[TAM[WORTH	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F45M		1	510	1	0	Bottle	Complete, ginger beer bottle stamped JOSIAH RUSSELL//BOURNE 3 DENBY	1887-1949
F45	Ring-ditch	77	Pottery	HMS I		7	100	3	1	Cup	small cup (or crucible?)	Prehistoric
			Pottery	HMF C		1	41	0	0			Prehistoric
F49	Pit	79	CBM	-	X	1	10	-	-	Peg-tile		Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F48D		1	12	0	1		Blue transfer printed design	19th-20th century
			CBM	-		1	84	-	-	Roman brick		Roman
			CBM	-		1	59	-	-	Pan tile		Medieval-Post Medieval
F54	FBD	3	CBM	-		2	1200	-	-	Brick	250 x 100 x 35mm pale green/yellow, smooth up surface, dense fabric (limestone?), flooring brick?	Post-Medieval
F55	Pit	7	Pottery	HMFS E		2	31	0	0		Black surface, combed impression	Prehistoric
F56	Ditch	4	Pottery	HMG M		3	75	0	2		Oxidised surface, dark core, sand, rare grog, fingernail imp around base	Prehistoric
F59	FBD	5	CBM	-	X	7	67	-	-	Peg-tile	12mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
F60	FBD	6	CBM	-	X	1	14	-	-	Peg-tile	13mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F48D	X	1	4	0	0			19th-20th century
			Pottery	F45M	X	1	9	0	0			19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F48D	X	1	6	0	0			19th-20th century

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight g	Rim	Base	Form	Comments	Date
F61	Ditch	10	Pottery	HMF D		1	3	0	0		oxidised surface, dark core, flint fine to coarse	Prehistoric
			Pottery	HMS G		1	1	0	0		fine sand	Prehistoric
F63	FBD	11	CBM	-	X	2	1	-	-	Peg-tile		Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F48D	X	1	1	0	0		Willow pattern	19th-20th century
F64	Pit?	12	CBM	-	X	1	208	-	-	Peg-tile	19 mm	Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	HMG M		1	18	0	0		black core, lighter brown surface	Prehistoric
F66	FBD	13	CBM		X	1	10	-	-	Peg-tile	9 mm thick, preg-hole 12 mm	Medieval-Post Medieval
F67	Ditch	14	Pottery	HMS H		1	5	0	0		Black fine sand	Prehistoric
		22	Pottery	HMF D		1	1	0	0		black core, lighter brown surface	Prehistoric
			Pottery	HMFS E		1	11	0	0		Oxidised surface, darker core, flint and some sand	Prehistoric
F68	Ditch	15	CBM	-		12	132	-	-	Baked clay		?
F69	Pit/tree-throw	16	CBM	-		2	107	-	-	Roman tegula	lower cut away Warry type C4/5/56 or D15	160-380
			CBM	-		1	35	-	-	Roman tegula	orange, yellow nodules	Roman
			Pottery	KX		1	33	1	0	Cam 305B		AD 275-end Roman
			Pottery	GX		1	33	1	0	Lid		Roman
			Pottery	GX		1	5	0	0			Roman
F71	Ditch	17	CBM	-		1	92	-	-	Roman flue tile	combed decoration, worn	Roman
			CBM	-		2	175	-	-	Roman tegula	worn	Roman
F72	Pit	29	CBM	-		1	30	-	-	Peg-tile	15 mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
			CBM	-		1	41	-	-	Brick		Post-Medieval
F73	Ditch	24	CBM	-		3	34	-	-	Baked clay	Object 56 x 30 x 29mm	Prehistoric?
F74	Ditch	23	Pottery	HMS H		3	13	0	0			Prehistoric
			CBM	-		7	79	-	-	Baked clay		?
F75	Pit	18	CBM	-	X	3	115	-	-	Peg-tile	13, 14, 15 mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
F76	Pit	19	CBM	-	X	5	163	-	-	Peg-tile	12, 13, 14 mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
			CBM	-		1	14	-	-	Brick		Medieval-Post Medieval
F77	Pit	83	CBM	-	X	2	20	-	-	Peg-tile		Medieval-Post Medieval

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight g	Rim	Base	Form	Comments	Date
F78	Pit	20	Pottery	HMG M		21	143	1	0	Urn	orange, black core, flat rim from urn	Prehistoric
			Pottery	HMG M		2	5	2	0	?	black	Prehistoric
F81	Pit	25	Pottery	F21A		1	9	0	0			1200-1550
			CBM	-	X	3	43	-	-	Peg-tile		Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F45M		1	32	0	0			19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F48B		2	10	2	0			19th century
			Pottery	F48D		1	9	0	1			19th-20th century
F82	Pit	26	CBM	-	X	6	52	-	-	Peg-tile	16 mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	HMF D		3	16	0	0		Brown/red surface (haematite coating?), black core	Prehistoric
F83	Pit	27	CBM	-	X	12	356	-	-	Peg-tile	13, 14, 15 mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
			CBM	-		1	44	-	-	Brick		Post-Medieval
			Pottery	F40	X	2	9	0	0			1500-19th/20th century
			Pottery	F20		1	44	0	1			1150/1175-1375/1400
			CBM	-		1	707	-	-	Brick	pale cream/yellow as example from F54 (3), flooring brick?	Post-Medieval
F85	Pit	28	Pottery	GX		3	12	0	0			Roman
F90	Ground hollow	41	Pottery	TN		2	46	1	0		CAR 193, fig. 4.22 no. 60; Young M22	AD 240-400
		42	Pottery	BASG		1	3	0	0		?, very worn, most of slip worn off	1st century AD
		43	Pottery	BASG		1	10	0	0		Very worn, most of slip worn off, rouletting band -Drag. 24/25 or Drag. 29	1st century AD
			CBM	-		2	20	-	-	Roman brick/tile	Worn	Roman
		44	Pottery	HMS F		1	21	0	0		Black grey surface, better fired	LIA?
		45	CBM	-	X	1	27	-	-	Roman brick/tile		Roman
			Pottery	GX		2	100	0	2		Disc 65 mm diam.	Roman
F91	Pit	30	Pottery	HZ		2	216	-	-			Roman
			Pottery	DJ		4	18	0	2			Roman
			Pottery	DJ		1	20	0	1			Roman
			Pottery	AJ		2	96	0	0		Dressel 20	Roman

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight g	Rim	Base	Form	Comments	Date
			Pottery	DJ		15	18	0	0			Roman
			CBM	-		1	1	-	-	Baked clay		?
			Pottery	GX		18	236	8	0		Cam 46/311, Cam 251 (lid), Cam 277?	Roman
		31	Pottery	HZ		3	197	0	1			Roman
			Pottery	GX		3	31	2	0		BSW?	Roman
F93	Ditch	34	Pottery	HMG M		2	2	0	0			Prehistoric
F94	Pit	32	CBM	-	X	1	97	-	-	Peg-tile	10 mm thick, peg hole 10-15 mm diam	Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F45M		1	41	0	0	Bottle	Ginger beer bottle: PURE BEER/]AR WOODDE[	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F48D		2	3	1	0		Blue transfer printed design	19th-20th century
			CBM	-		1	502	-	-	Brick	67 x 93+ x 70+mm orange	Post-Medieval
F95	Pit	33	CBM	-	X	1	193	-	-	Roman tegula		Roman
			CBM	-	X	2	116	-	-	Peg-tile		Medieval-Post Medieval
			Pottery	F40		1	40	0	0			1500-19th/20th century
			Pottery	F48D		1	11	0	1		Blue transfer printed design	19th-20th century
			CBM	-		1	2626	-	-	Brick	Unfrogged 220 x 110 x 65mm, red brick?	18th-early 19th century
F96	Pit	35	CBM	-	X	1	69	-	-	Roman tegula	17mm thick	Roman
F98	FBD	36	CBM	-		1	53	-	-	Peg-tile	13mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
			CBM	-	X	1	17	-	-	Roman brick/tile		Roman
			Pottery	GX		1	5	0	0			Roman
			Pottery	GX		1	10	0	0			Roman
			CBM	-		1	45	-	-	Baked clay		?
F100	Ditch	38	CBM	-		1	71	-	-	Roman tegula	?	Roman
F103	Pit	39	CBM	-	X	1	11	-	-	Peg-tile	15 mm thick	Medieval-Post Medieval
F104	Ditch	40	Pottery	HMS F		1	13	0	0		half of spindle whorl, brown oxidised surface, blacker core	Later Prehistoric?
		100	Pottery	HMF D		4	4	0	0		Black	Later Prehistoric?
			Pottery	HMF D		1	6	0	1			Later Prehistoric?
			Pottery	HMF C		1	3	0	0		oxidised surface brown, dark core	Later Prehistoric?

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight g	Rim	Base	Form	Comments	Date
F106	Gully	47	Pottery	F51A		1	10	1	0			19th-early 20th century
F107	Pit	81	Pottery	F45M		4	72	0	1	Jar	Virol Bone Marrow Medicine jar/A Preparation of Bone-Marrow/An ideal Fat Food for Children & Invalids	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F48D		2	14	0	0			19th-20th century
			Pottery	F48D		1	24	0	1			19th-20th century
			Pottery	F45M		1	40	0	0			19th-early 20th century
F110	Pit/tree-throw	48	Pottery	BASG		3	90	2	1	Bowl	Drag. 31, worn, slip worn off, some burning	Roman
F111	Pit?	49	Pottery	F22		2	12	0	0	Rouen-style jug	Relief plastic decoration (lines, pellets), glazed	c.1140-1350
F112	FBD	50	Pottery	F48D		4	32	1	1	Dish		19th-20th century
			Pottery	F45M		3	89	3	0	Jar	Dundee Marmalade Jar	19th-early 20th century
F113	Pit	80	Pottery	F48D		1	48	0	0			19th-20th century
F116	FBD	84	CBM	-	X	1	60	-	-	Peg-tile	16mm thick, some mortar (reused?)	Medieval-Post Medieval
			CBM	-		1	21	-	-	Brick		PM-Modern
F117	FBD	82	CBM	-		2	129	-	-	Roman brick	35mm thick	Roman
			CBM	-	X	1	3	-	-	Peg-tile		Medieval-Post Medieval
			CBM	-		10	210	-	-	Baked clay		?
			CBM	-	X	1	19	-	-	Brick		Post-Medieval
			CBM	-		1	1167	-	-	Brick	130+ x 105 x 62mm, no frog, Red Brick?	18th-early 19th century
			Pottery	F48D		3	6	2	0			19th-20th century
F121	Ditch	85	Pottery	GX		1	11	0	1			Roman
			Pottery	HMF D		4	20	0	0		Black surface, interior more oxidised-brown	Prehistoric
F122	FBD	87	Pottery	F21		1	8	0	0			1200-1550
F123	Pit	88	Pottery	F45M		1	29	0	0			19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F48D		7	103	2	2		Green transfer printed design, mark: Davenports LTD 10 LANTHE	19th-20th century
F124	Posthole	89	CBM	-		75	353	-	-	Baked clay	?	?

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Find Type	Fabric Group	Discard	No.	Weight g	Rim	Base	Form	Comments	Date
F125	Pit	90	Pottery	F48D		4	33	2	0			19th-20th century
			Pottery	F48D		1	4	0	0			19th-20th century
			Pottery	F45M		5	87	0	4	Jar	[P]RIZE ME[DAL] [F]OR MARMALADE LONDON 1862//NEWCASTLE[, James Keiller Sons Dundee Marmalade Jar, Malings of Newcastle	c.1880's
F127	Pit	91	Pottery	F48D		3	29	0	1			19th-20th century
			Pottery	F45M		1	27	1	0	Jar	Ribbed marmalade jar	19th-early 20th century
			Pottery	F45M		1	19	0	1	Jar	stamped]DE MARK//AEC	19th-early 20th century
L1	Ploughsoil	92	Pottery	HMS G		2	48	0	0		Brown surface, darker black core	Prehistoric

Appendix 4 Animal bone catalogue

POSAC / Skeletal parts recovered by context

NISP = Number of individual skeletal parts

Context	Skeletal part	Taxon	NISP	Cut	Chopped	Hacked
F15	Mandible	Lepus (hare)	1	No	No	No
F25	Femur - distal epiphysis	Equus caballus (horse)	1	Yes	Yes	No
F30	Humerus - distal complete	Lepus (hare)	1	No	No	No
F30	Scapula-Coracoid	Lepus (hare)	1	No	No	No
F30	Tibia - distal complete	Lepus (hare)	1	No	No	No
F60	Humerus - distal metaphysis	Sus (domestic pig)	1	No	Yes	No
F75	Radius - distal metaphysis	Sus (domestic pig)	1	No	No	No
F90	Mandible	Bos (domestic cattle)	1	No	No	No
F90	Mandibular tooth : M1/2	Equus caballus (horse)	1	No	No	No
F90	Mandibular tooth : M2	Bos (domestic cattle)	1	No	No	No
F90	Metacarpal - distal complete	Bos (domestic cattle)	1	No	No	Yes
F90	Radius - distal epiphysis	Bos (domestic cattle)	1	No	No	No
F90	Radius - distal metaphysis	Bos (domestic cattle)	1	No	No	No
F91	Mandibular tooth : M1	Bos (domestic cattle)	2	No	No	No
F111	Humerus - distal complete	Bos (domestic cattle)	1	No	Yes	Yes
F111	Scapula-Coracoid	Equus caballus (horse)	1	No	No	No
F117	Metapodial - distal metaphysis	Ovis/Capra (sheep/goat)	1	No	No	No

Quantification of animal bone assemblage by context, number of individual skeletal pieces (NISP) and weight (g)

POSAC = Parts of skeleton always counted
NCS = Non-countable specimen
NISP = Number of individual skeletal parts (POSAC + NCS)

Context	POSAC	NCS	NISP	Weight (g)
F13	0	1	0	30
F15	1	0	1	4
F22	0	1	1	40
F25	1	0	1	52
F30	3	39	42	28
F60	1	1	2	48
F66	0	3	3	66
F75	1	2	3	16
F82	0	1	1	50
F90	6	9	15	480
F91	2	3	5	32
F111	2	1	3	746
F117	1	3	4	26
Total	**18**	**64**	**81**	**1618**

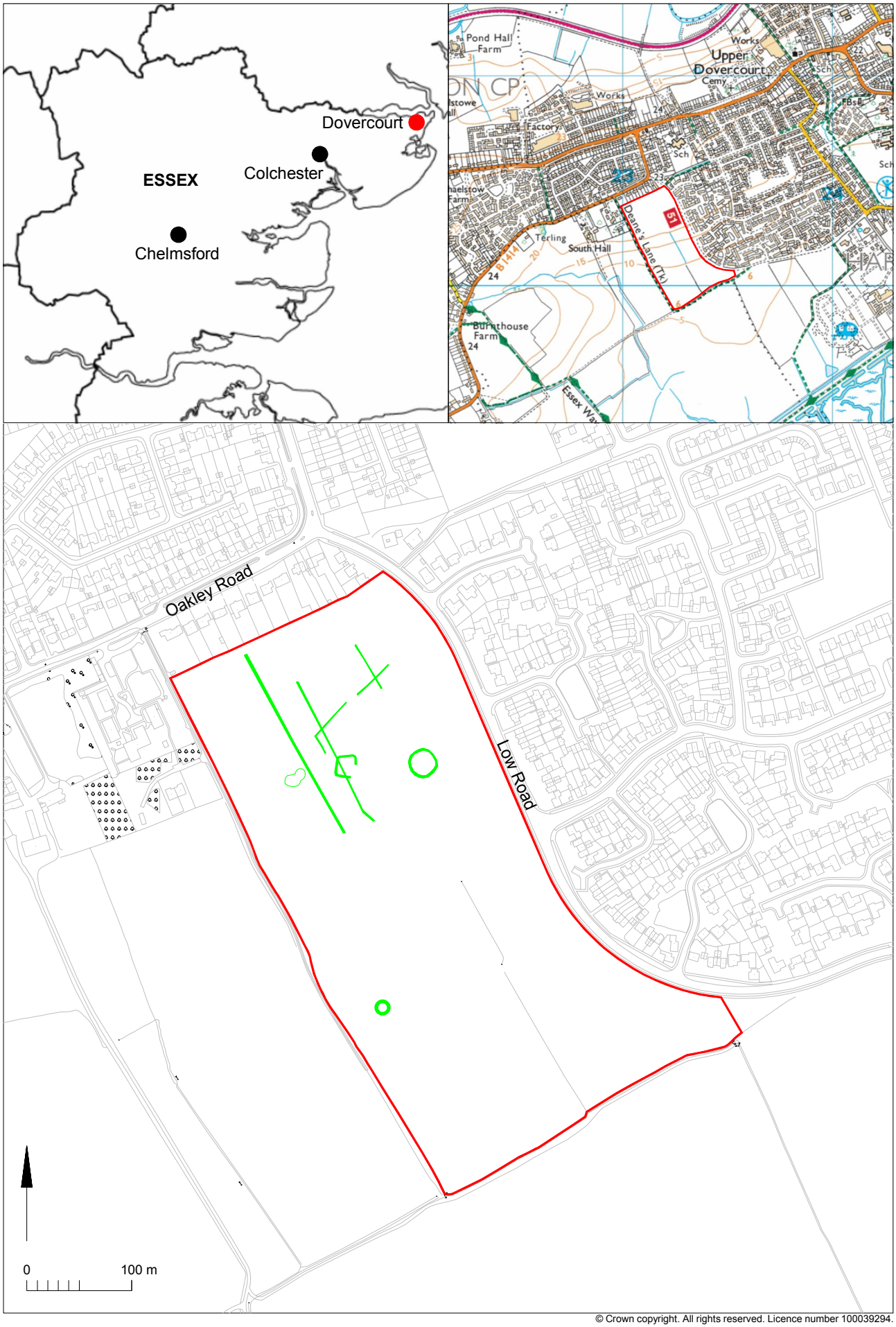

Fig 1 Site location and cropmarks (in green) plotted from aerial photographs.

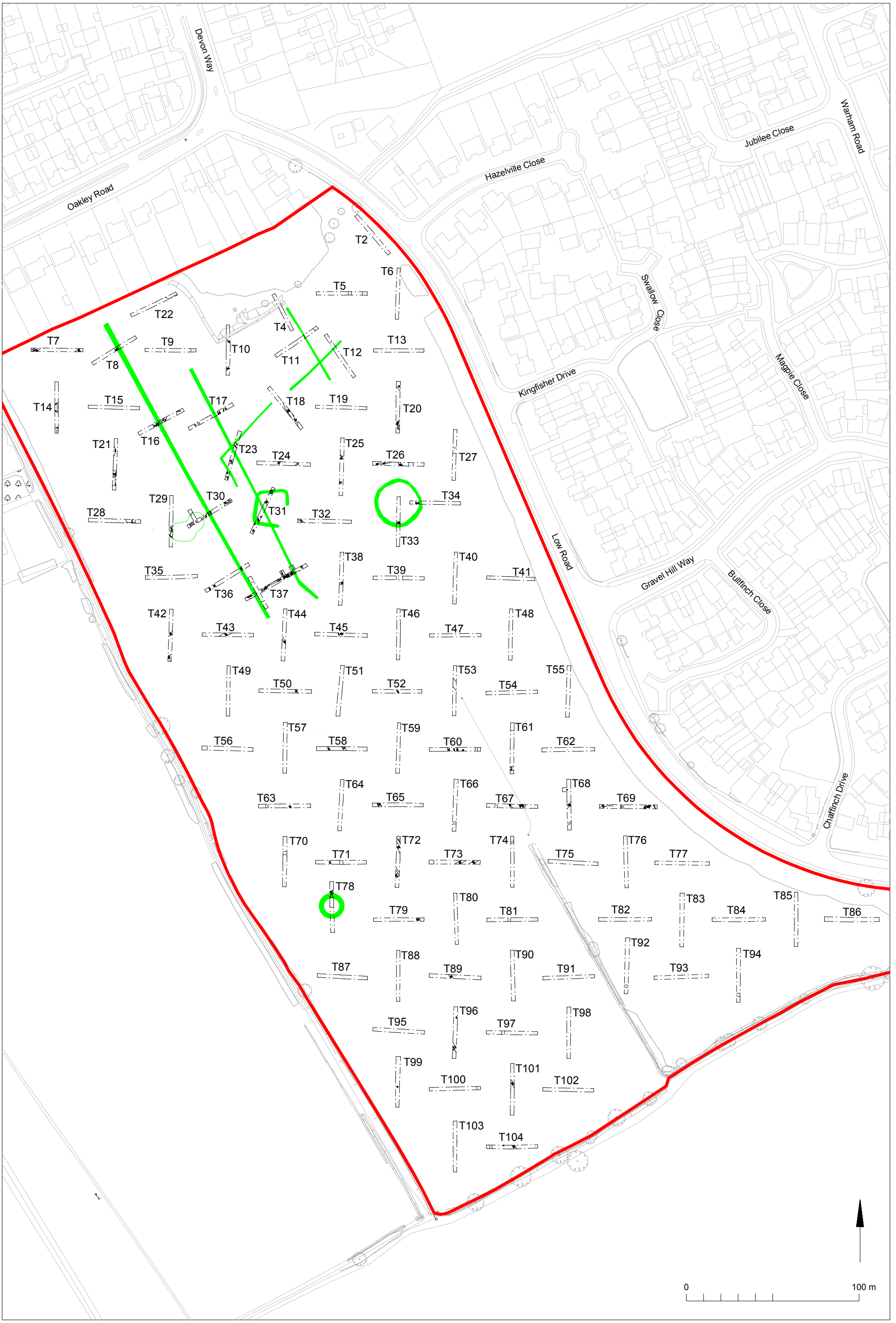

Fig 2 Results shown in relation to the cropmarks (plotted in green)

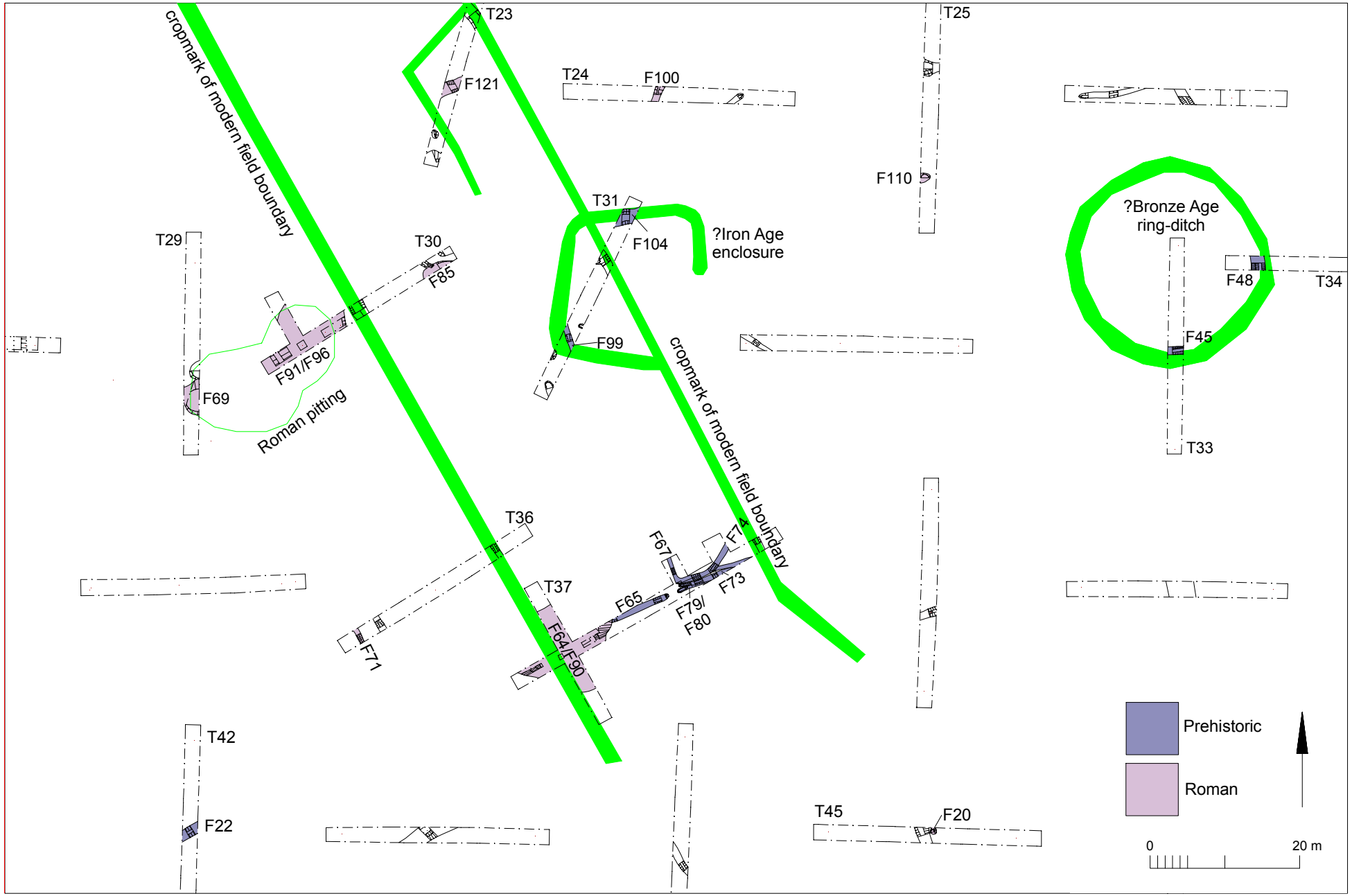

Fig 3 Close-up phased plan of trenches T23, T24, T25, T29, T30, T31, T33, T34, T36, T37, T42 and T45 with prehistoric and Romano-British features labelled and shown in relation to the cropmarks (green)

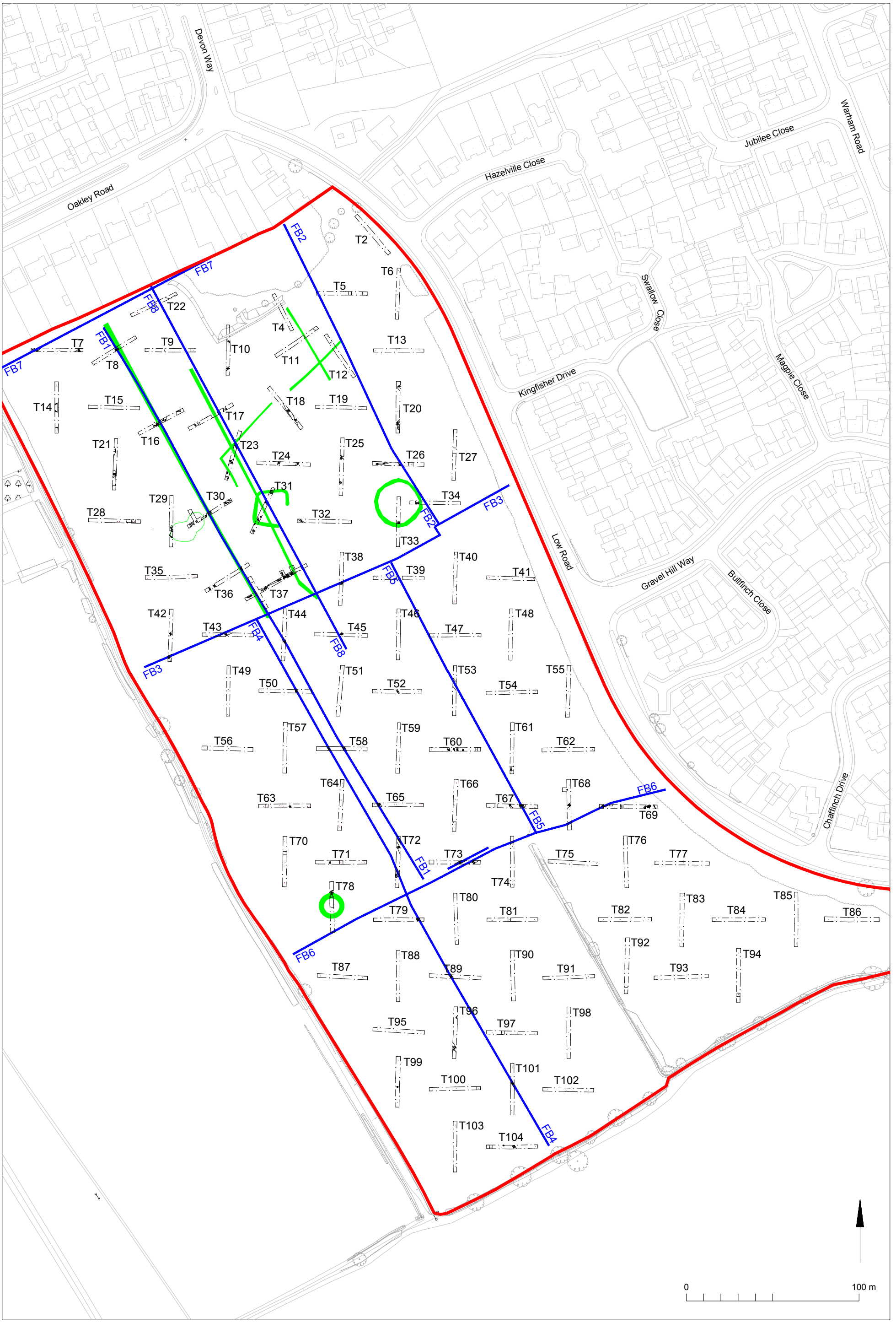

Fig 4 Results with modern field boundary ditches (FB1-FB8) shown in blue (as per 1875 6-inch OS map)

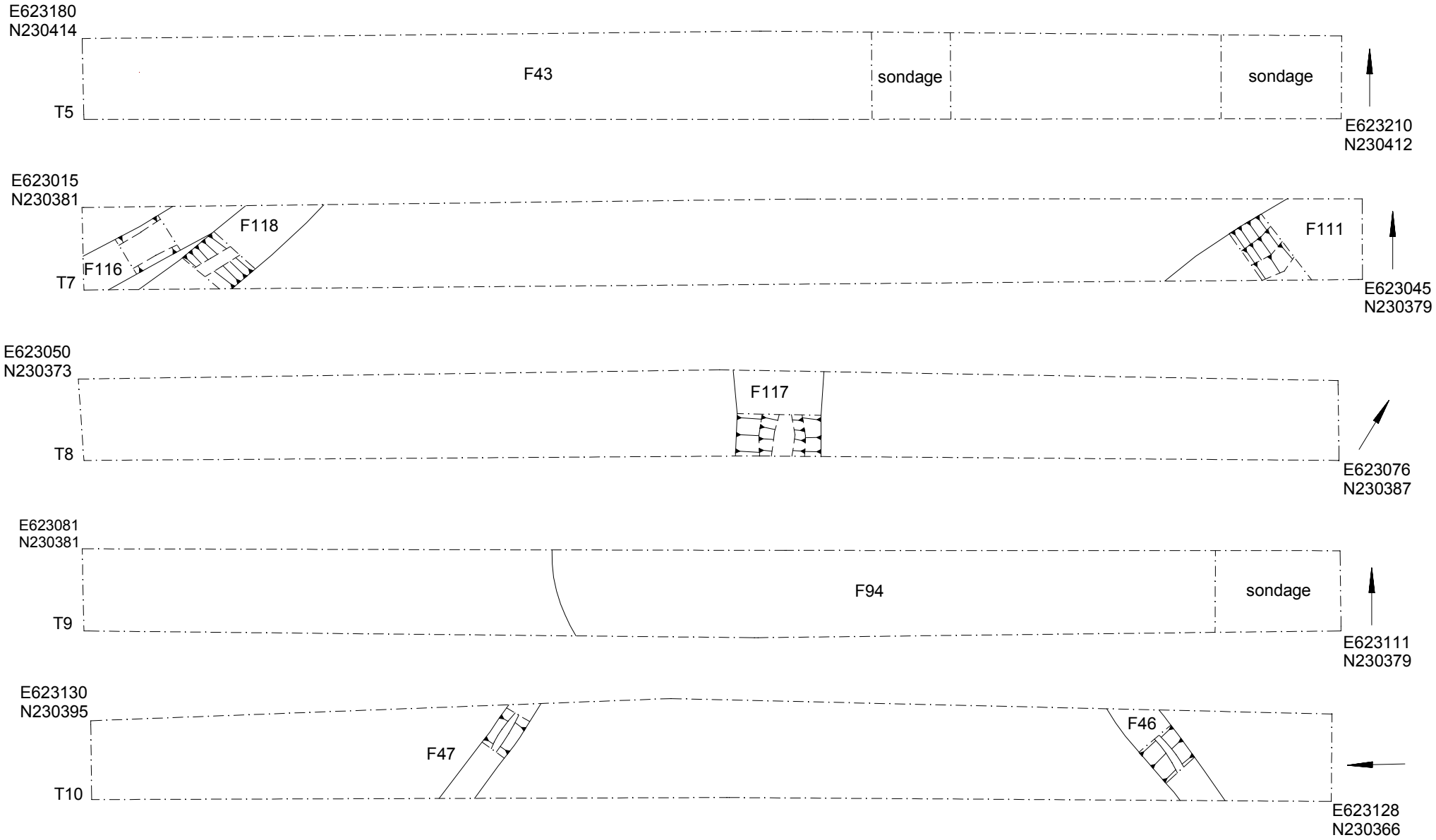

Fig 5 Trenches 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10

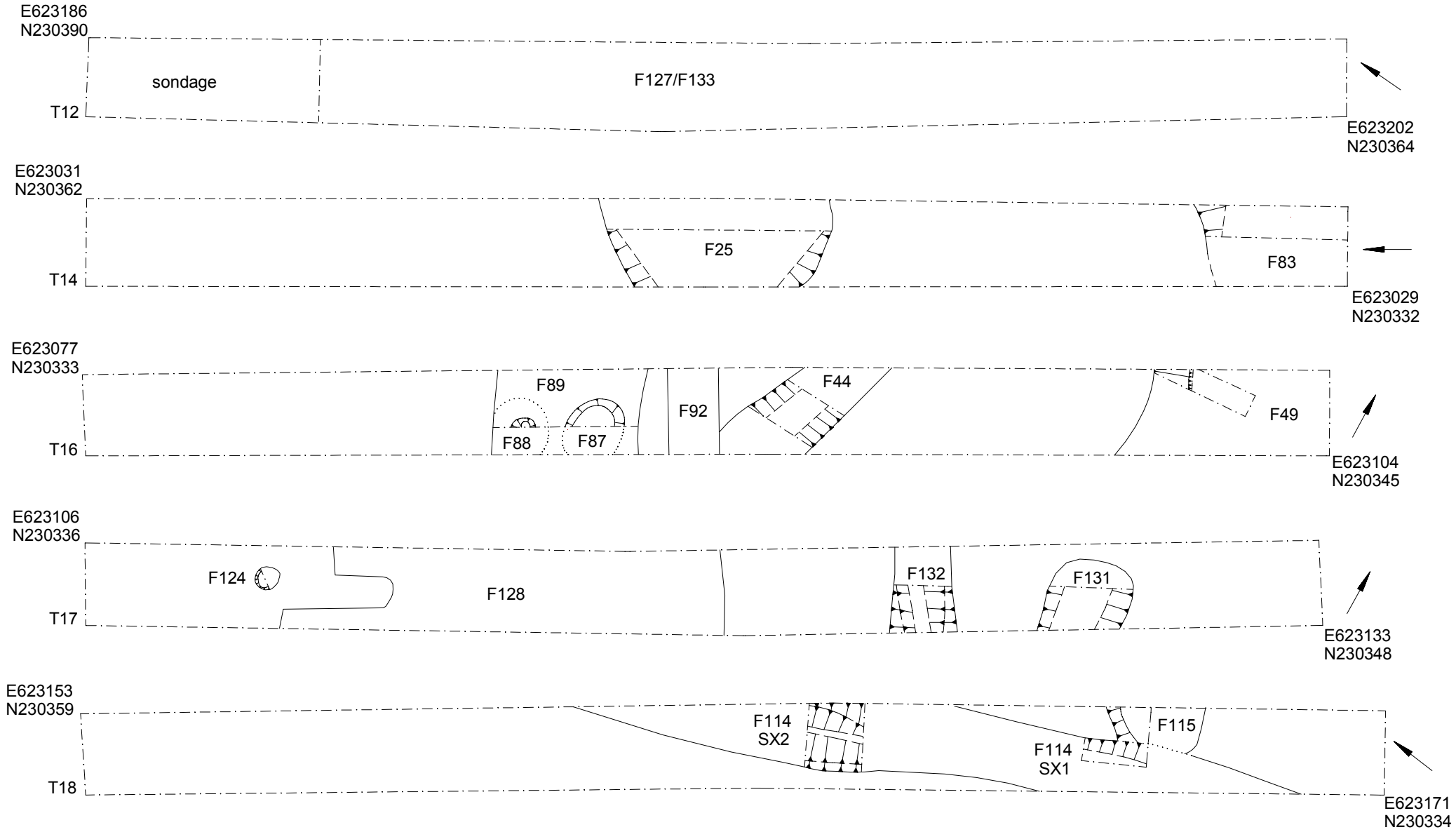

Fig 6 Trenches 12, 14, 16, 17 and 18.

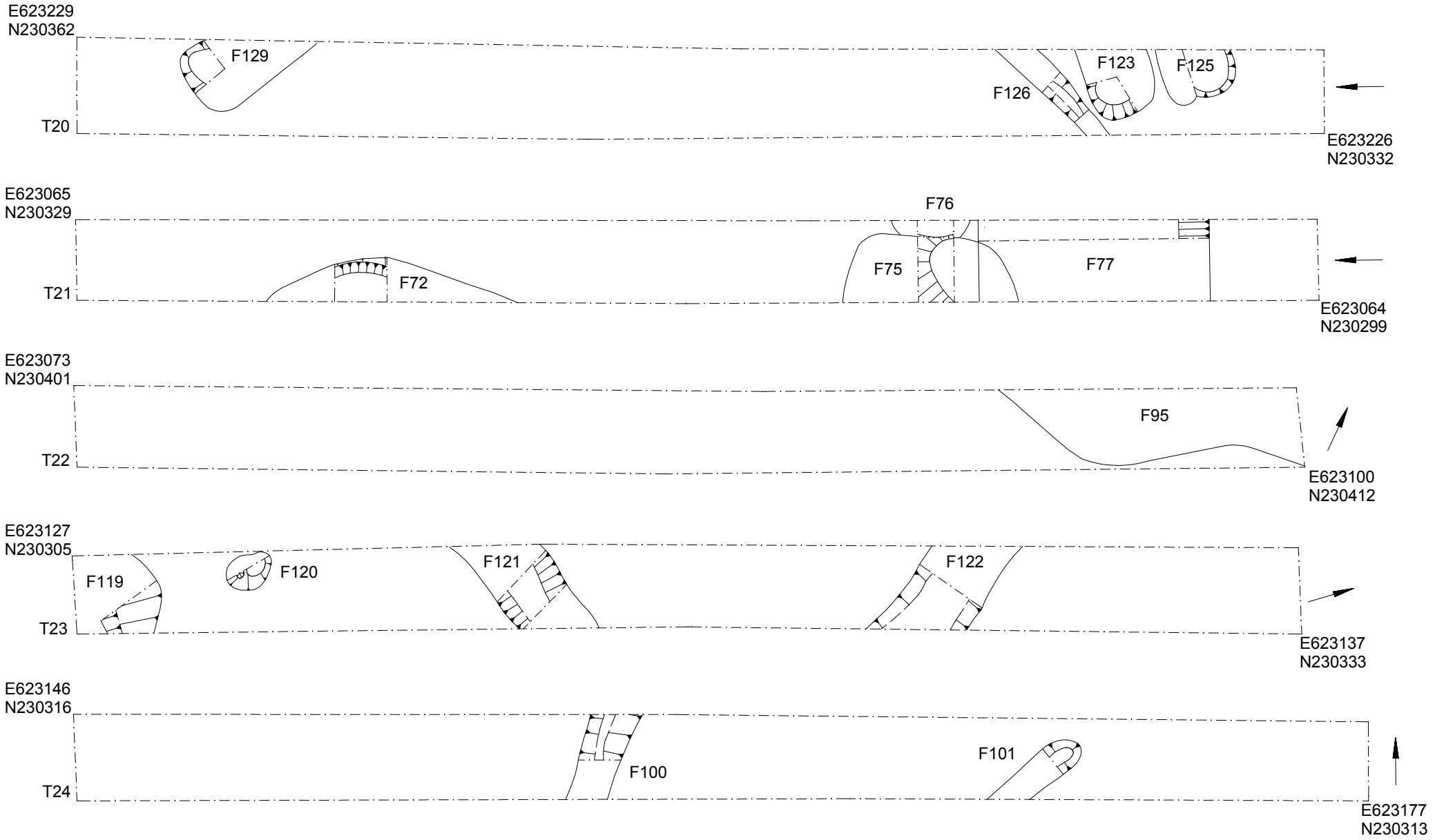

Fig 7 Trenches 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24.

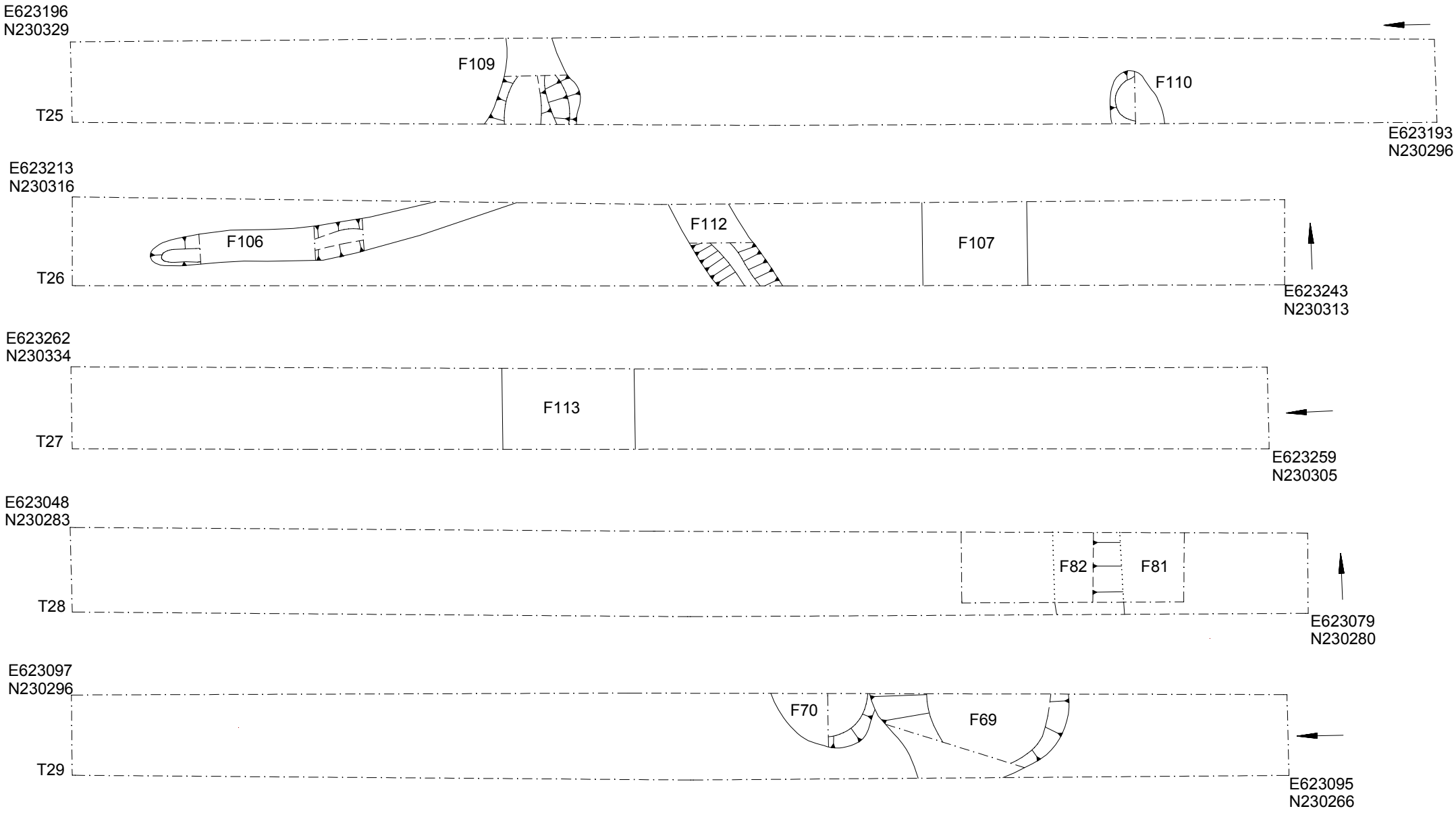

Fig 8 Trenches 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29.

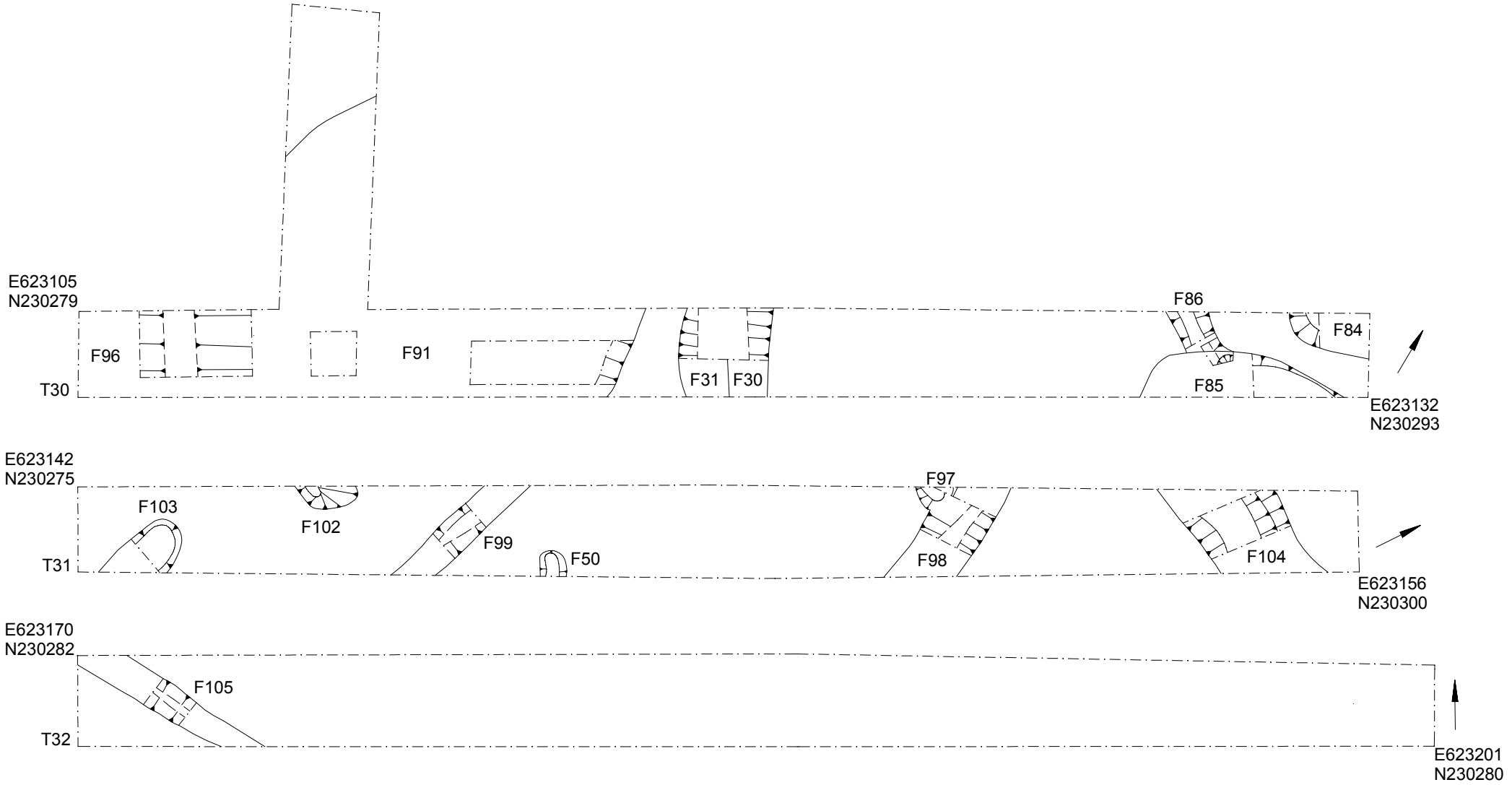

Fig 9 Trenches 30, 31 and 32.

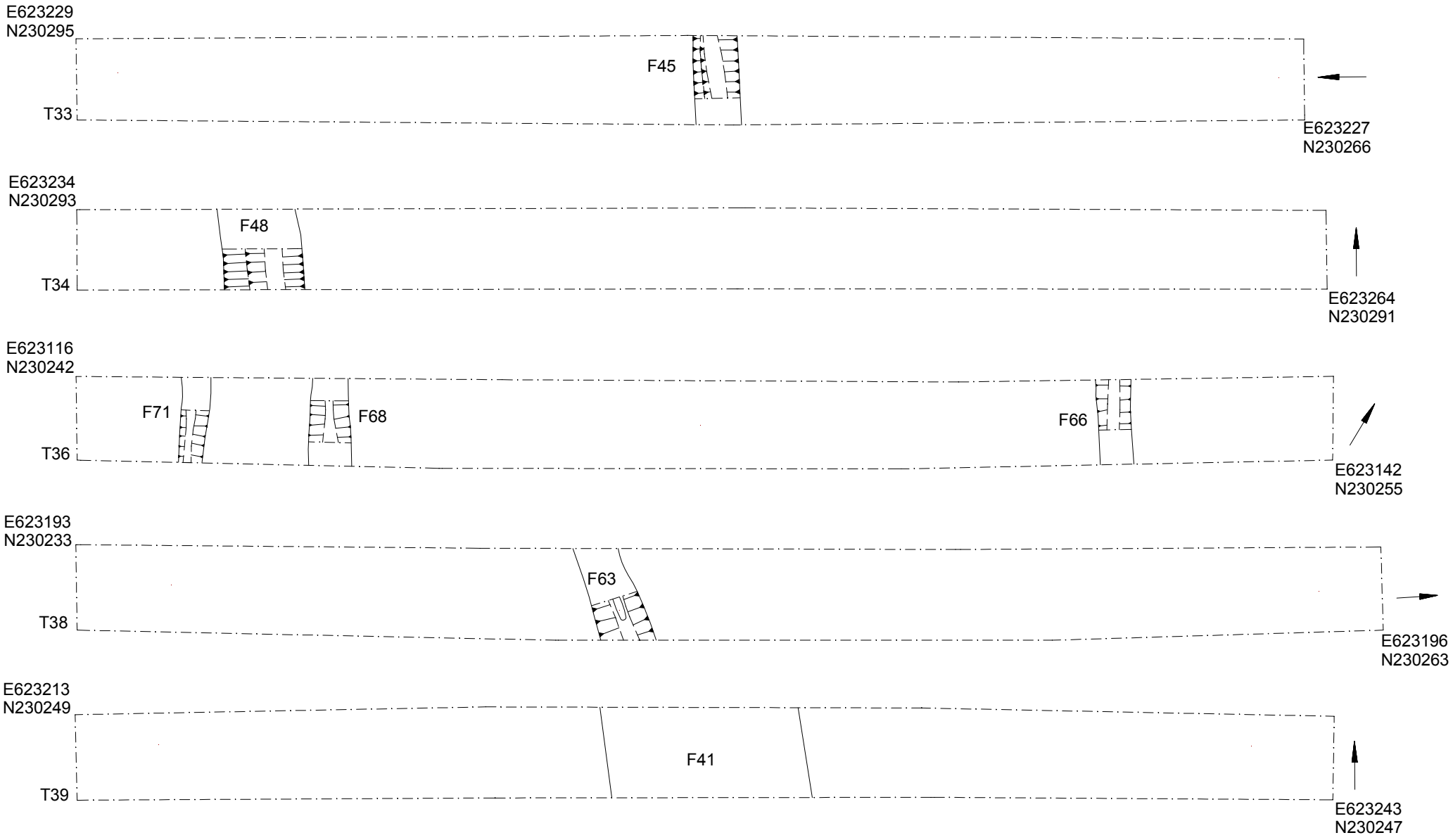

Fig 10 Trenches 33, 34, 36. 38 and 39.

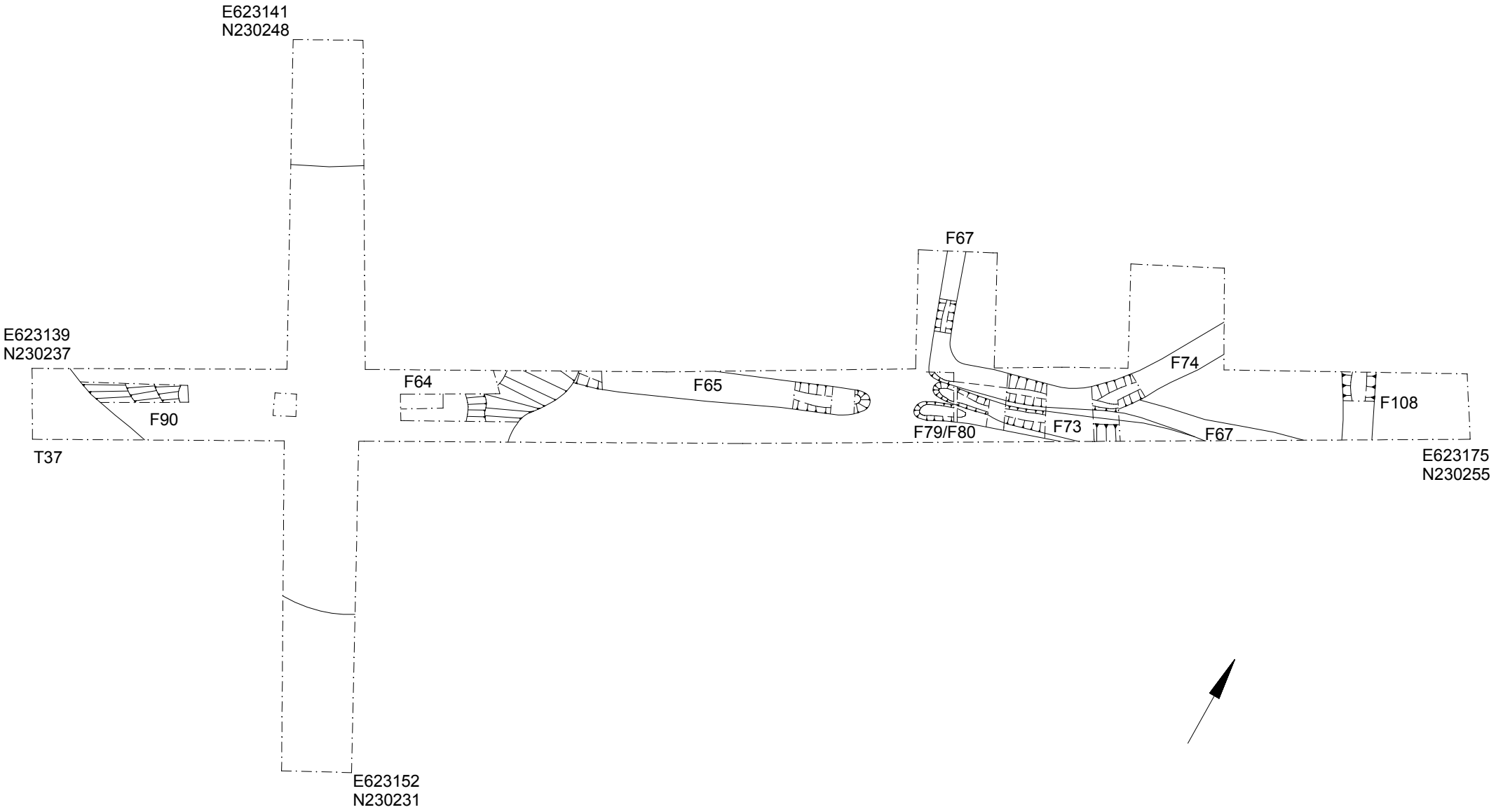

Fig 11 Trench 37.

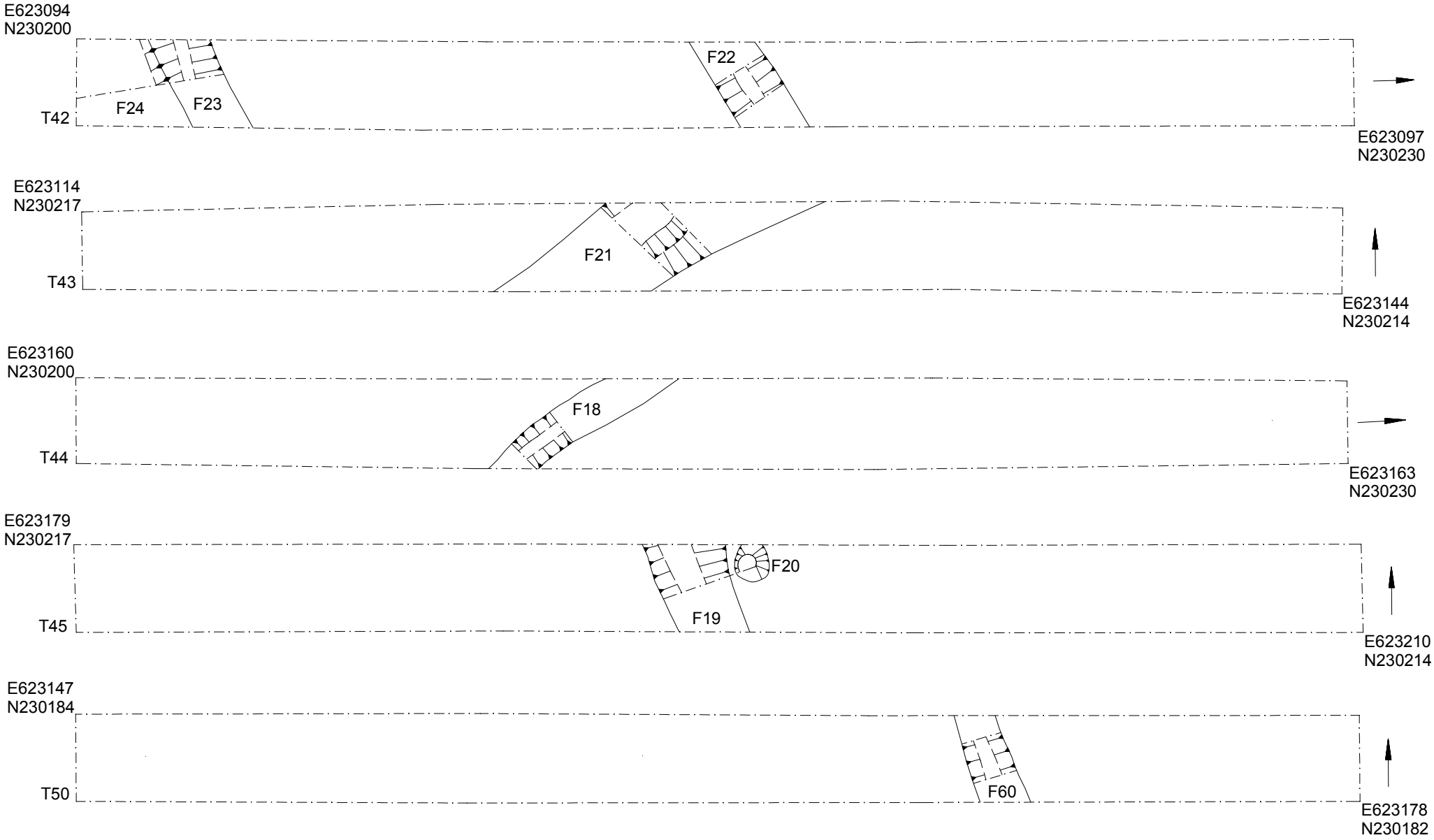

Fig 12 Trenches 42, 43, 44, 45 and 50.

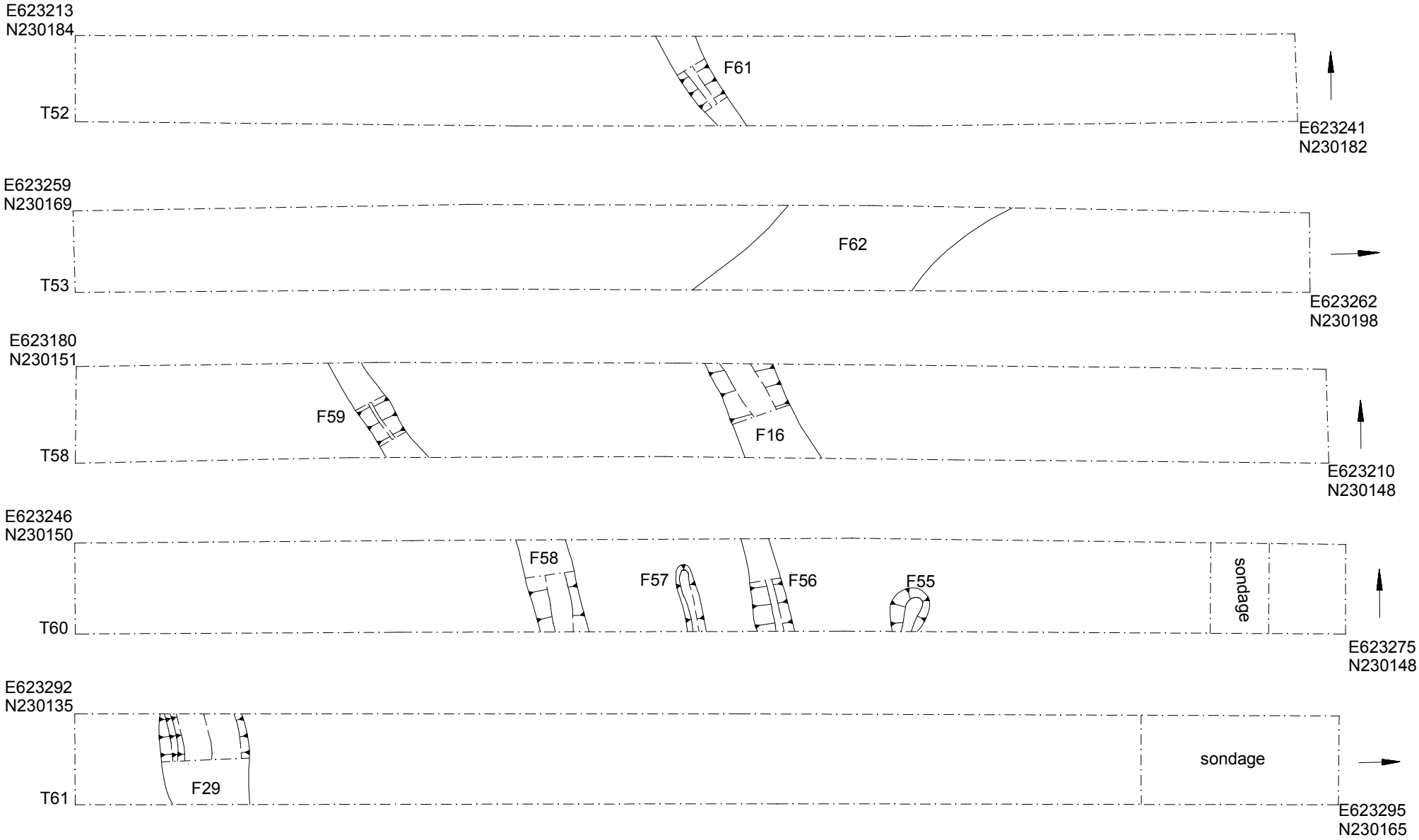

Fig 13 Trenches 52, 53, 58, 60 and 61.

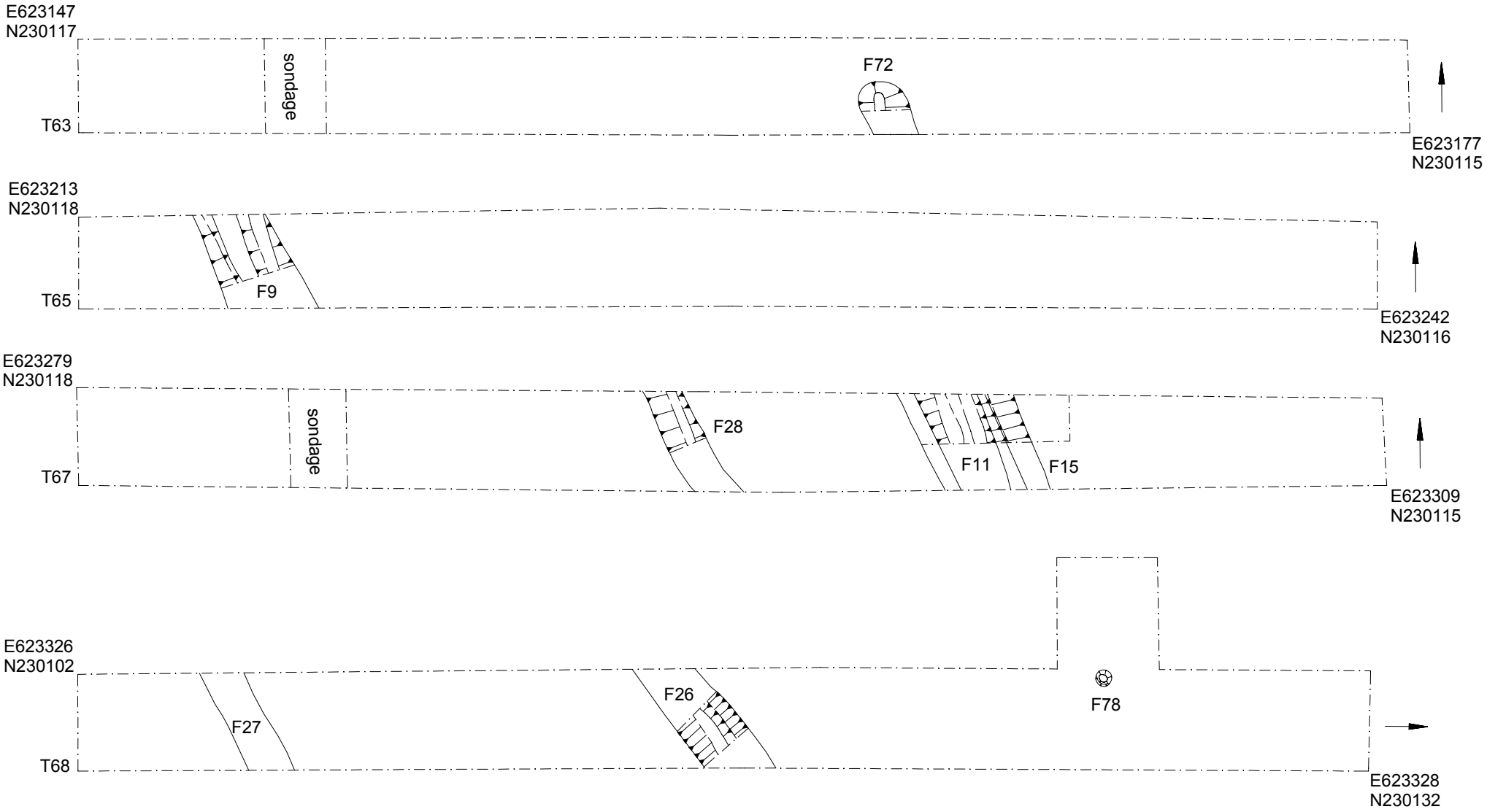

Fig 14 Trenches 63, 65, 67 and 68.

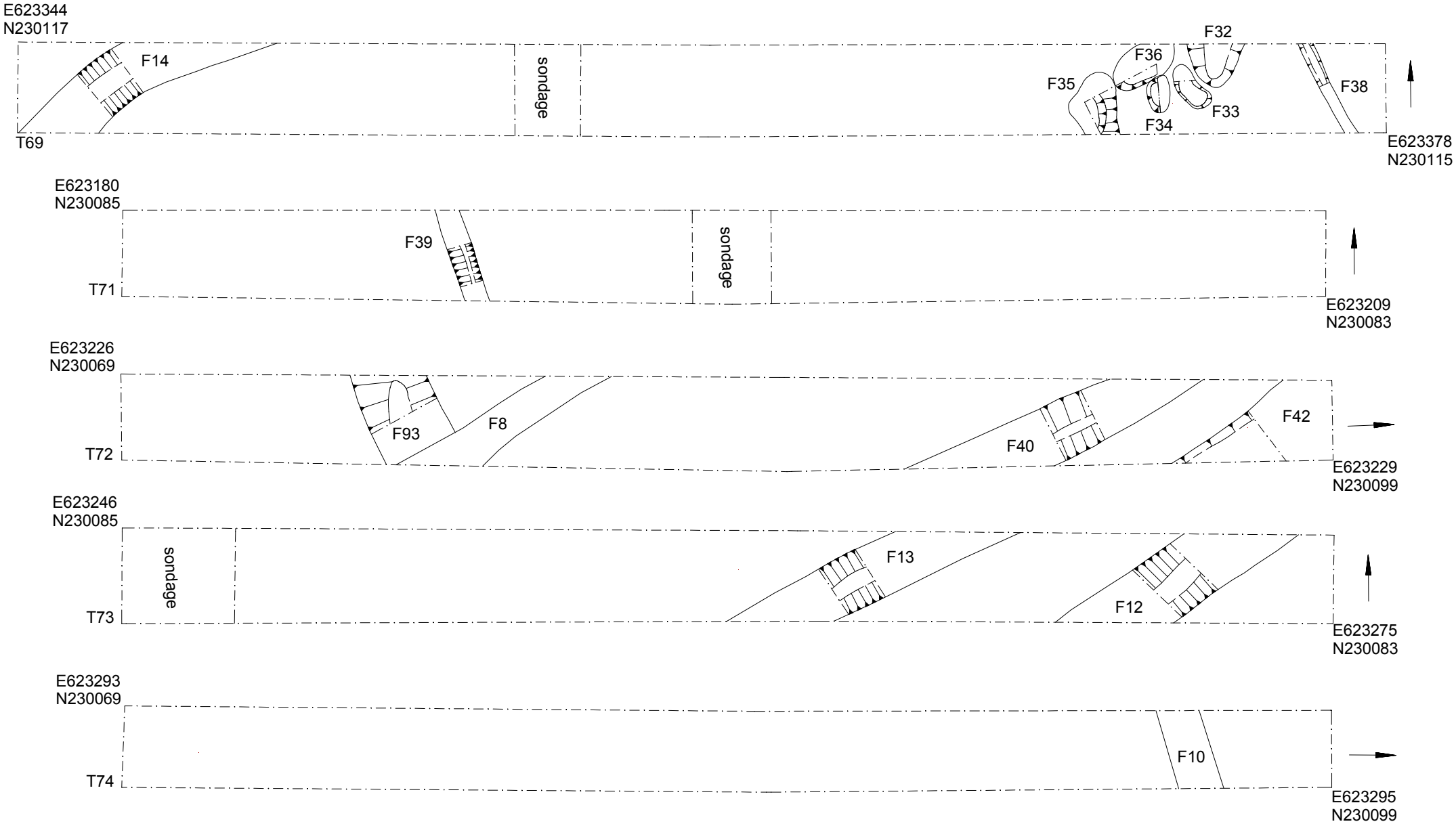

Fig 15 Trenches 69, 71, 72, 73 and 74.

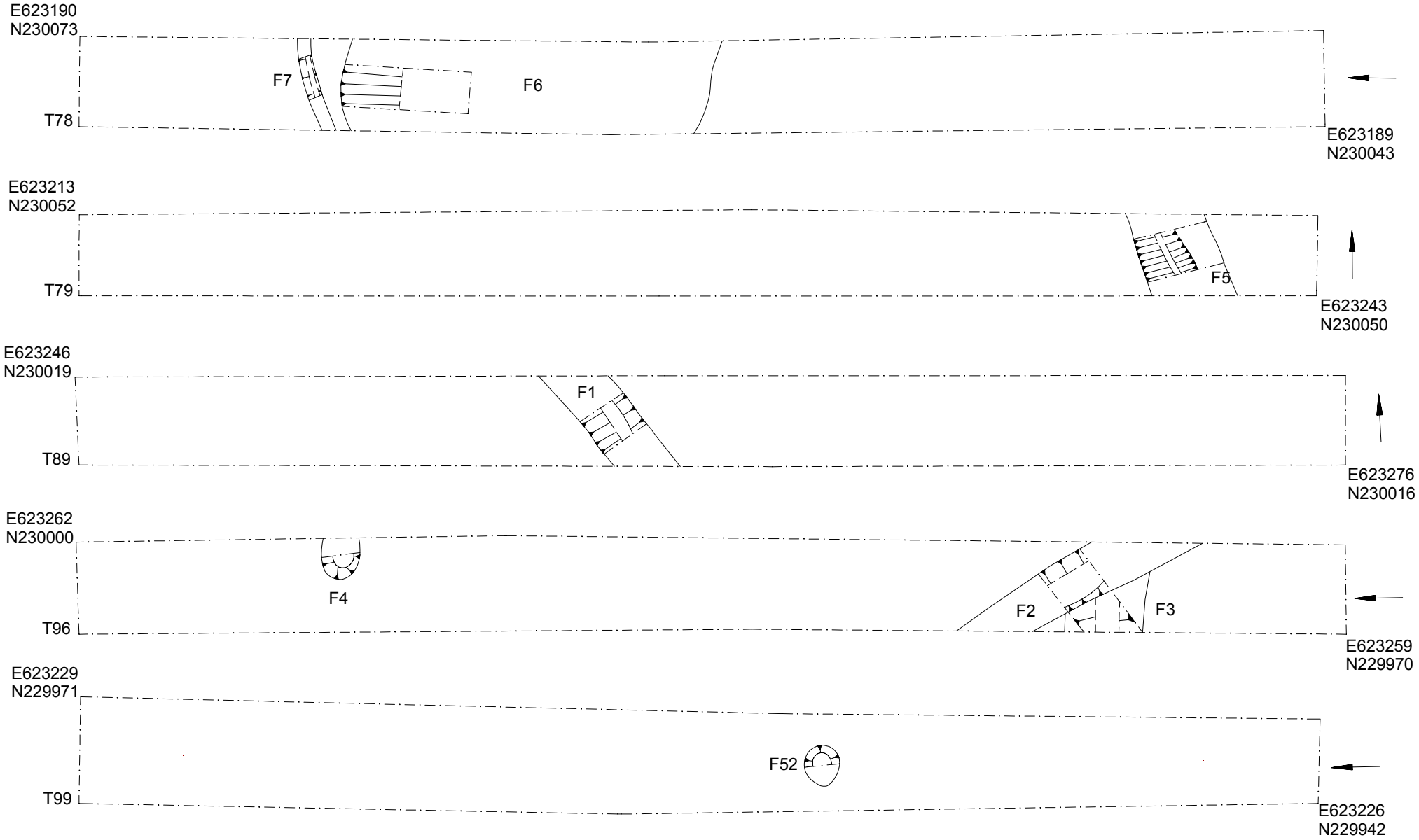

Fig 16 Trenches 78, 79, 89, 96 and 99.

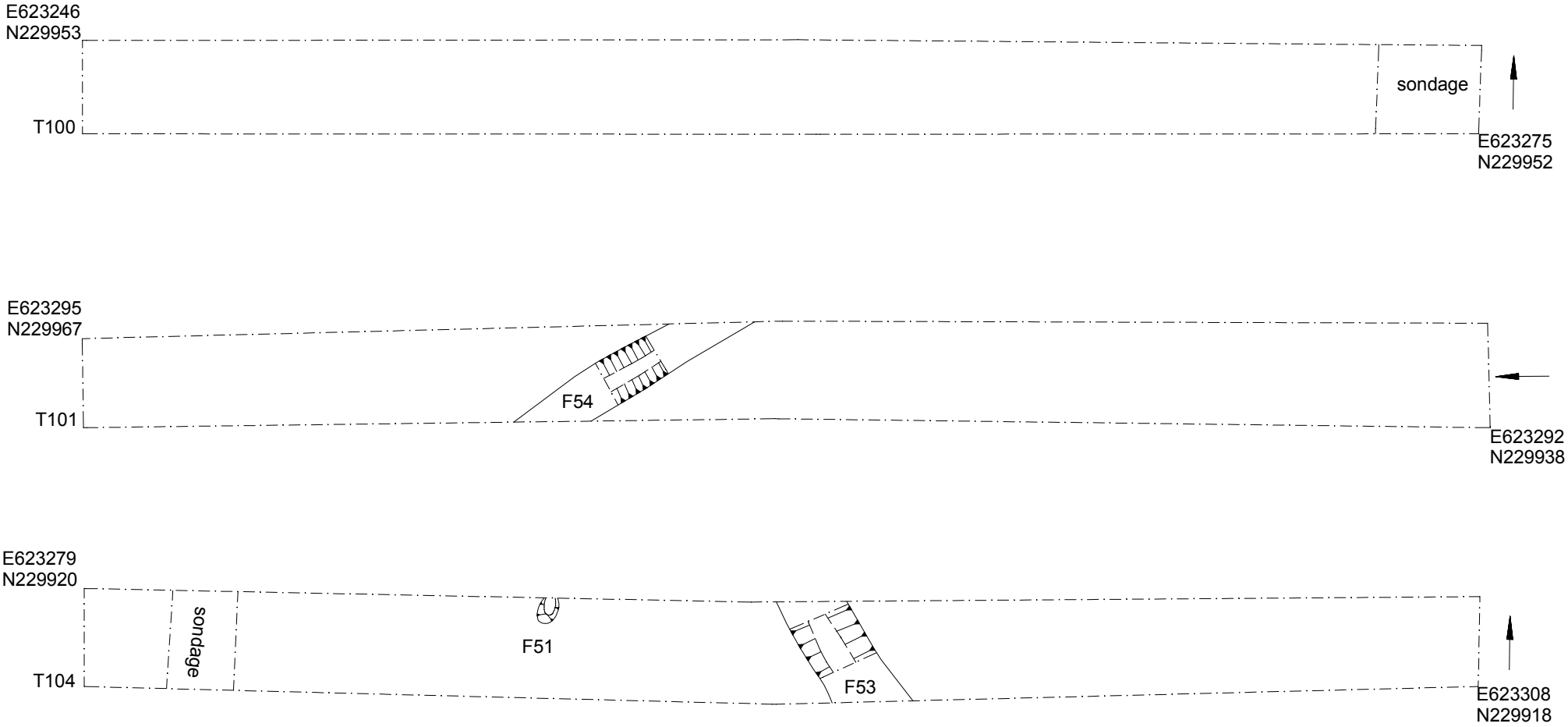

Fig 17 Trenches 100, 101 and 104.

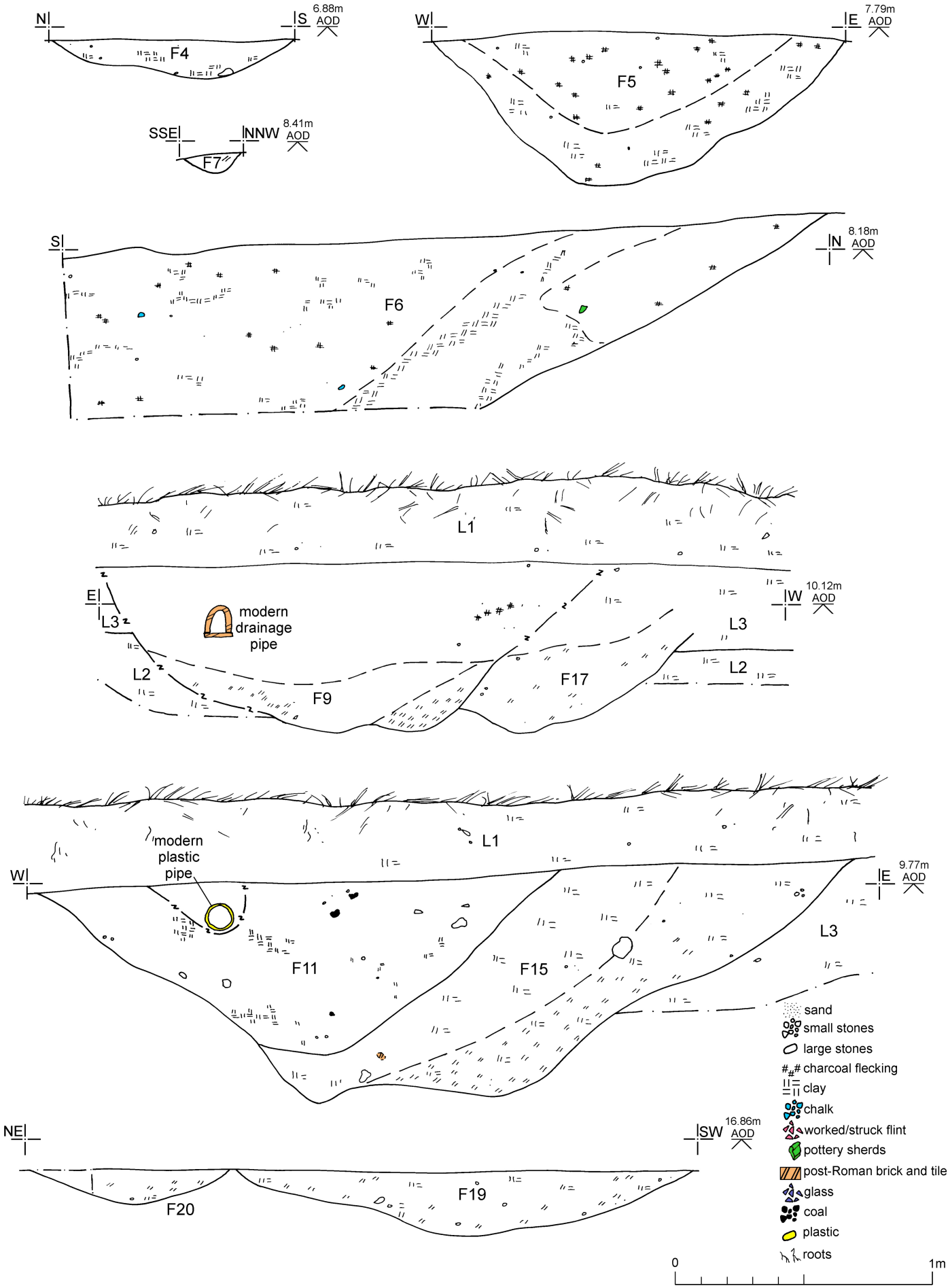

Fig 18 Feature sections.

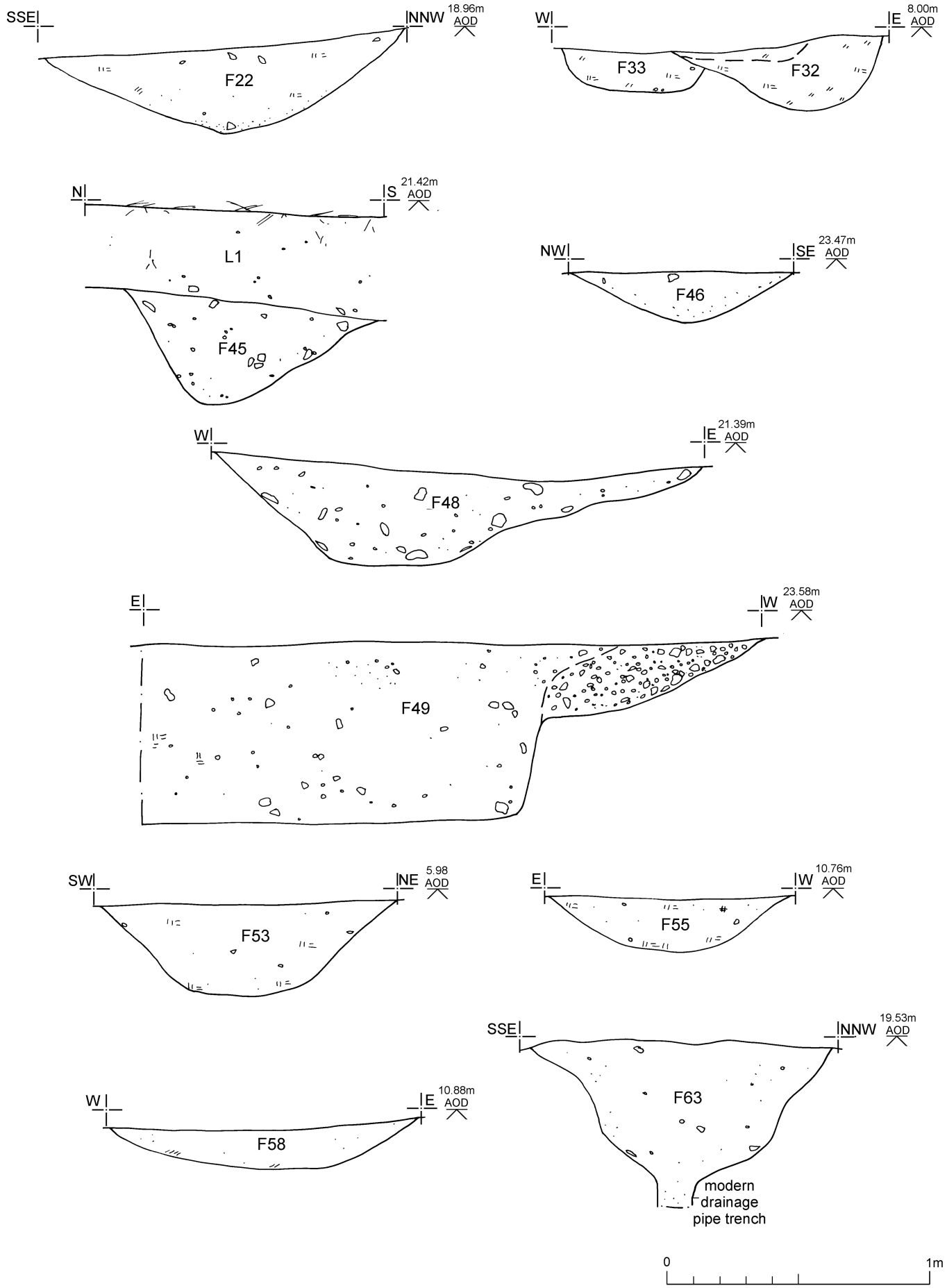

Fig 19 Feature sections.

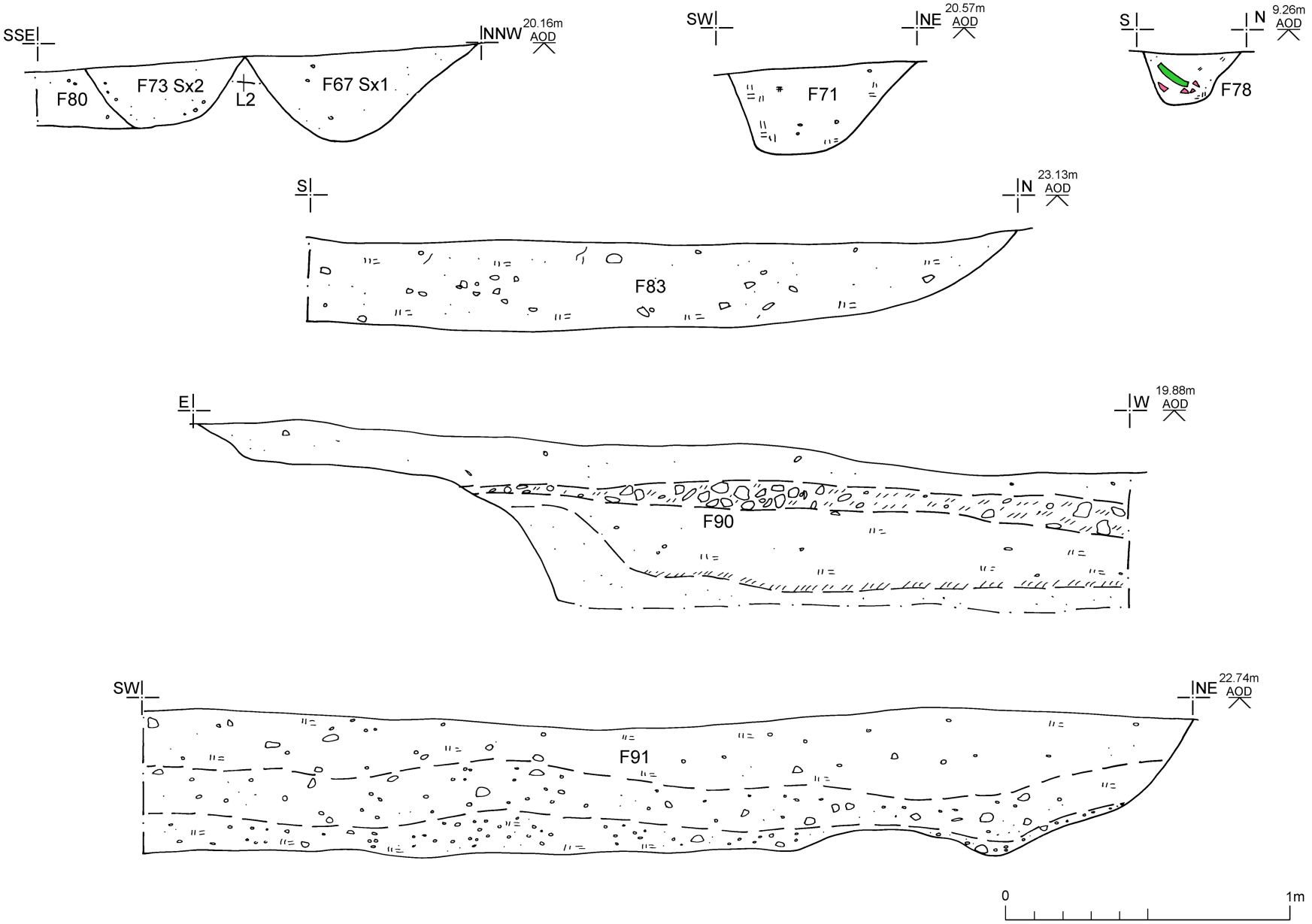

Fig 20 Feature sections.

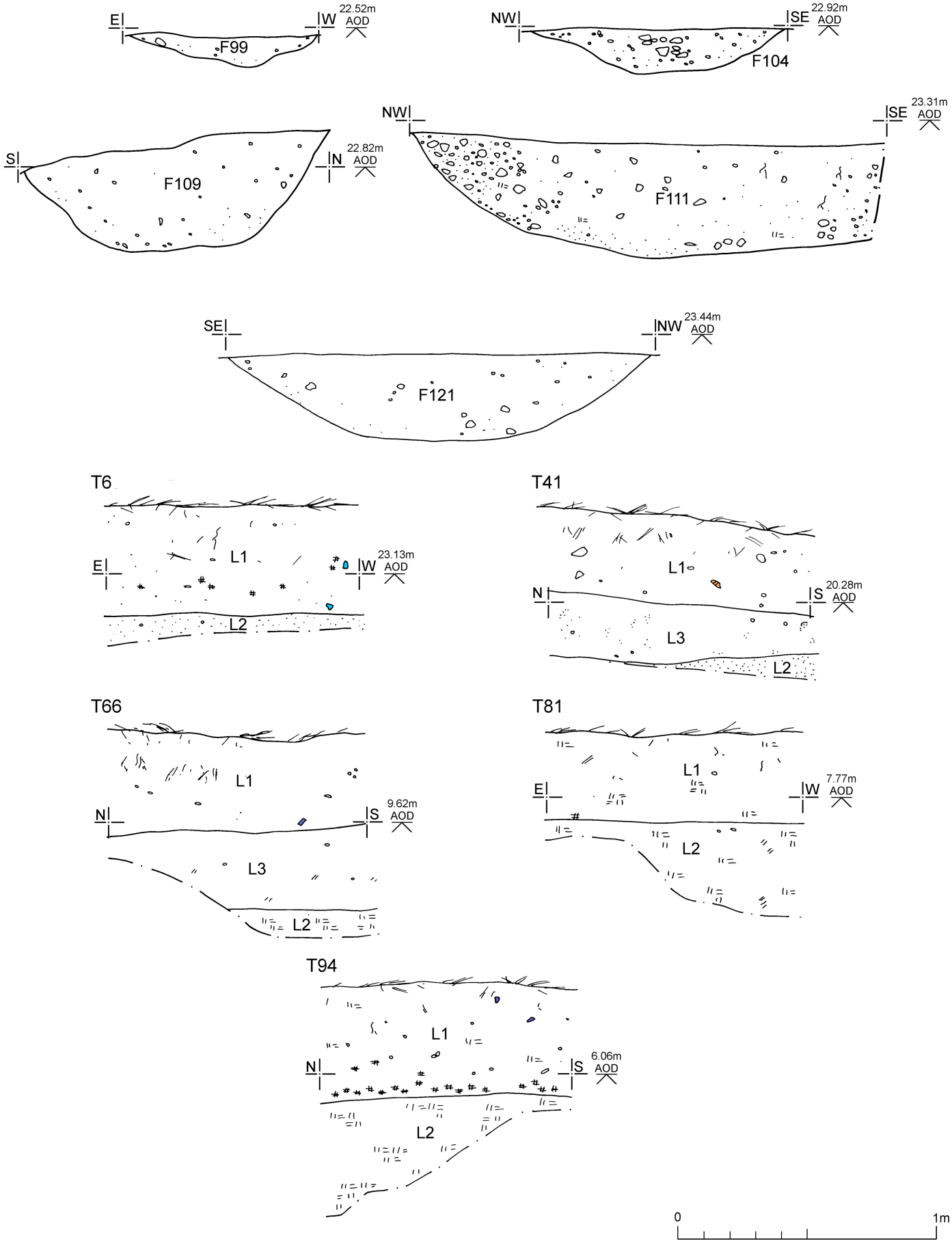

Fig 21 Feature and representative sections.

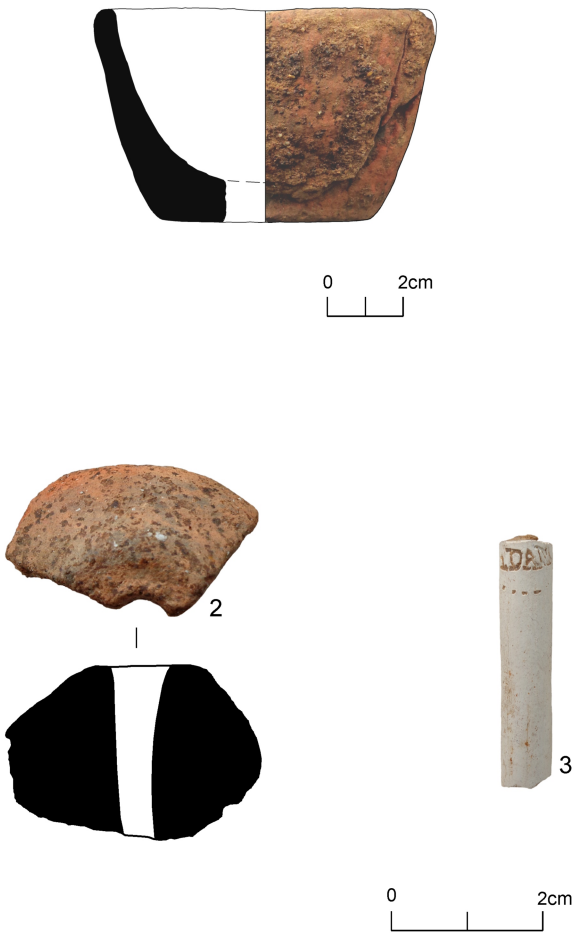

Fig 22 Prehistoric cup from F45 (1), spindlewhorl from F104 (2) and inscribed clay pipe stem from F1(3).

REPORT ON THE QUATERNARY GEOARCHAEOLOGY AT LOW ROAD, DOVERCOURT, ESSEX

Site Visit 1 + 3 April 2019

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Low Road Site, Dovercourt, Essex

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LOW ROAD SITE, DOVERCOURT

SITE INVESTIGATION

Summary

A geoarchaeological assessment was carried out on the 1st and 3rd June 2019 at a site immediately west of Low Road, Dovercourt (Figure 1). A basic sequence of gravels, sands, silt and clay, resting on Red Crag and London Clay, was established which can be linked with the geology of earlier work at Spring Meadow School, built on the former Gants (Pounds) Farm site, and with the SSSI at Little Oakley.

Local Geology and Geomorphology

A flat-topped ridge of higher ground runs SW – NE in the Dovercourt area (Figure 1). The ridge is underlain by London Clay, overlain by Red Crag on its south-eastern flank (Figure 2).

On the ridge a train of gravels occurs, the Oakley Gravel, part of the Kesgrave Sands and Gravels, representing the bed of the former course of the Thames when it flowed across Essex towards Suffolk c.575,000 years ago (Figure 3). Bridgland et al. (1990) recognise the Oakley Gravel to be present at the Low Road site at between 18.8 and 23 mOD, ranging from silty sand to matrix-supported gravel. The variable nature of the deposits show conditions varied from low to high energy and the sedimentology, particularly the sedimentary structures, a cold-climate braided river.

Two channels are thought to be incised into the Oakley Gravel (Figure 4).

At Little Oakley, approximately 1.5km to the south-west, a channel cut into the Oakley Gravel is infilled with the Little Oakley Silts and Sands. The fine-grained nature of the deposits represent a low energy depositional environment under

temperate conditions. The sediments are highly fossiliferous, including pollen, molluscs, ostracods, mammals and fish within a deposit of fine sand with silt, clay and occasional pebbles. The deposit is up to 4 m thick and has been buried by up to 3 m of colluvium. The sediments are thought to be the only recognised deposits representing an interglacial period during the Cromerian period from around 550,000 years.

On the north side of the ridge, the Upper Dovercourt 'Palaeolithic' Gravel infills a channel cut into the northern end of the ridge at c.20 mOD and along the gentle north-east facing slope above 15 mOD, forming a terrace of the Stour. The Gravel, of post-Anglian (post – 480,000 years ago) age, has yielded a large number of handaxes of Palaeolithic date and various species of Pleistocene fauna. From the Gants Farm/Spring Meadow Primary School/Pound Farm investigations, there appear to be three stratigraphic horizons:

A. Gravels, yielding artefacts and environmental information (top)
B. Sands, silts and clays with minor gravel beds have the potential to yield environmental information, with some possibility of artefacts, possibly of estuarine origin.
C. The Red Crag, with no archaeological or environmental interest (base).

In the light of the Low Road investigations, the above model may need some modification.

Local Palaeolithic Archaeology

A former quarry in the Upper Dovercourt Gravel, Gants Farm Pit (also known as Pound Farm Pit) has been claimed as the richest hand-axe locality in Essex (e.g., Roe, 1968; Wymer, 1985, 1999). In addition to over 200 well-made biface/al implements (hand-axes), the deposits here are a particularly rich source of hand-axe finishing flakes, as was noted by S.H. Warren (in Wymer, 1985; cf. Warren, 1926). There was also a significant vertebrate fauna, including extinct rhinoceros (*Dicerorhinus kirchbergensis*) large fallow deer (*Dama dama ?clactoniana*), horse

(*Equus* sp.), halibut (*Hippoglossus* sp.) and indeterminate elephant (Underwood, 1913; Warren 1933; Sutcliffe *et al*. 1979; Wymer 1985).

Archaeological trenching in 2001 and 2006 (Bridgland et al., 2001; Bridgland, 2006) showed that in the eastern part of the site there was *in situ* sandy gravel within which a number of artefacts and mammalian fossil fragments were found, the first to be discovered since the original gravel pit was in operation and confirming the archaeological richness of the site. To the west the gravels give way to finer-grained sediments (laminated sands, silts and clays). To the south, the gravel thins significantly, implying that the reserve of archaeological useful deposit is localised. The 2006 trenching suggested that the quarry might have covered only a small area, making the prolific finds there the more significant.

The Gants Farm/Pound Farm site lies approximately 1.0 km from the Low Road site and is now occupied by Spring Meadow Primary School and a remnant of Pound Farm (Figure 5).

Low Road Site Investigations

Methodology

Nine test pits were sunk with a view to establishing the stratigraphic sequence above Red Crag and London Clay. The test pits were approximately 1.8 x 1.8 m at the ground surface, but narrowed with depth. The pits were sunk to a maximum of 4.0 m, but most were approximately 3.0 m deep, due to ground conditions such as ingress of groundwater and indications of sidewall collapse.

As the test pits were more than 1.2 m deep, they were recorded by observing the material brought by the digger, by making stratigraphic logs of one sidewall, using a surveying staff as scale, and by photographing the sections. From these, stratigraphic and photographic logs were constructed.

The pits were selected to give a down-slope profile through the deposits,

Site Topography

The part of the site investigated lay above the London Clay and Red Crag, on ground sloping southwards from just below 24 m mOD to approximately 16 mOD. The location of the trial pits is shown in Figure 5.

Test Pits

Details of the test pits are given in Tables 1 – 9 and Figures 7 – 15. A sketch section, Figure 16, shows the relationship of the pits to one another.

Test Pit 4

This Pit lies on the high ground at the north end of the site at 23.8 mOD. The beds are horizontal. The lowest bed (4.6) shows cross-bedding indicative of fluvial deposition, but the next bed (4.5) shows a suite of pebbles, mostly flint with minor amounts of vein quartz, variously rounded ('Tertiary' flint) and sub-angular, typical of the Kesgrave/Oakley Sand and Gravel. However it is poorly sorted, lacks bedding and is set in a clayey matrix, indicating it is not in its original condition and has been redeposited. Above that beds 4.4, 4.3 and 4.2 show a fining-upward sequence from clayey gravelly sand to silty fine sand with occasional flints, interpreted as colluvial deposits in waning climatic conditions. The silty component in the upper part may indicate an aeolian input.

Test Pit 12

This pit, at 23.7 mOD, occupies a similar topographic position to TP4, but has a very different stratigraphy. Although much deformed, a sequence of beds of gravel, sand and clays (12.3 to 12.9) can be discerned, resting on brecciated fine sand and silty clay (12.10). The clays and sands indicate a quieter environment of deposition, possibly estuarine, with a later input of colluvial gravel in saturated conditions leading to deformation by loading. The overlying clayey, silty sand (12.2) is thought to be colluvial, again with the silt suggesting an aeolian input.

Test Pit 25N

This pit is at 23.7 mOD, again occupying the hill-top position. The beds are horizontal. The basal clay (25N.4) is mottled, indicating repeated wetting drying. Four samples were taken for Ostracoda to help determine the environment of deposition, but none were found. Over this were gravelly sandy clay (25N.3) and clayey gravel (25N.2), thought to be the equivalent of 12.9 to 12.3, but not deformed. The sequence is considered to be estuarine.

Test Pit 25S

This pit, at 22.8 mOD, lies on the upper of a slope, losing height southwards. The bedding is horizontal, but with deformation. The basal bed comprises a yellow sand (25S.7) with lenses of clay, giving way upwards to brown sands interbedded with clay seams (25S.6) showing deformation by loading (25S.6 – 25S.4). Beds 25S.7 to 25S.4 are considered to be the equivalent of 12.10 to 12.3 and of estuarine origin. Above this, 25S.3 is thought to be colluvial and the clay of 25S.2 may be a local infilling of a minor depression.

Test Pit 32

This pit, at 22.2 mOD, lies on the south-facing slope. The beds are horizontal and the sequence is not dissimilar from that of TP25S. The basal bed (32.5) comprises medium to fine yellow sand with thin clay lenses, succeeded upwards by a medium to fine brown sand (32.4) and a sandy clay (32.3), all showing horizontal beds or laminae and considered to be estuarine (equivalent of 12.10 to 12.3). This sequence is overlain by a poorly sorted clayey, sandy pebbly bed (12.2), of colluvial origin.

Test Pit 38

This pit, at 21.15 mOD, extends the sequence to older deposits. The sequence is horizontally bedded. At the base, fine to medium sands, initially grey (38.9) but becoming yellow (38.8), give way upwards to a laminated, brecciated grey clay (38.7). The fine nature of the deposits suggest quiet water estuarine deposition. This is followed by medium to coarse sand, which yielded several large flints up to 25 cm in diameter, a very large piece of hard, fine-grained sandstone thought to be sarsen and several pieces of whale bone (38.6). The whale bone is typical of the basal Red Crag, though the bed is not typical of the Crag. This is followed by a sequence of

medium and fine to medium sands, initially yellow (38.5) and the brown, becoming coarser upwards (38.4 and 38.3). This appears to be the equivalent of 25S.7and 25S.4 and 32.5 and 35.4, of estuarine origin.. The uppermost bed is a stony, clayey medium sand (38.2), a colluvial deposit, the equivalent of 4.4A.

Test Pit 34

This pit, 20.9 mOD, is offset to the east of the main north-south alignment of the test pits, to give lateral information about the stratigraphy. At the base is a yellow-brown medium sand (34.5). This gives way upwards to interbedded sands and laminated clay (3.4.4), similar to the Red Crag of TP 38 (38.6). This is succeeded by a cross-bedded yellow-brown medium to coarse sand (34.3) and then brown sand with no apparent bedding (34.2), the equivalent of 38.5 to 38.3.

Test pit 42

This pit at 20.4 mOD, is offset to the west of the main north-south alignment of the main test pit alignment. A basal silty clay (42.5) is followed by a pebbly, clayey sand (42.4). Both may be part of an estuarine sequence. Above this is a manganese-rich sandy crag with boxstones (42.3c), and then brown sand, initially rich in comminuted shells (42.3b) the concentration of shells lessening upwards (42.3a). This is the equivalent of the Red Crag of TP 38 (38.6). The crag is succeeded by a brown medium to coarse sand, with a slightly indurated yellow sand near its upper surface (42.2). This may be the equivalent of 32.4, an estuarine deposit.

Test Pit 46

This pit at 17.8 mOD, established the lower limit of the Pleistocene sequence and comprised brecciated London Clay. The contact between the London Clay and the higher deposits was not exposed, but the London Clay in TP46 is at 17.1 mOD and the London Clay was not reached at 17.4 mOD in TP 42, so the junction would appear to be between those two heights.

Site geology

From the test pit data, the following informal stratigraphy can be constructed

Ground surface (A)

1 Soil and subsoil

2 Silty sand (?with wind-blown element) (4.2, 12.2)

3 Sand

Colluvium (B)

4 Sandy gravel

5 Clayey sandy gravel, often mottled
(4.5, 4.4, 4.3, 25S.3, 32.2, 38.2)

Fluvial (C)

6 Coarse sandy gravel (4.6)

?Estuarine (D)

7 Sands and clays, frequently showing deformation structures

8 Brown sands
(12.9 to 12.3, 25N.4 to 25N.2, 25S7 to 25S.4, 32.5 to 32.3, 34.3, 34.2, 38.5 to 38.3, 42.2)

?Red Crag (E)

9 Sands and clays, comminuted Red Crag shells and whale bone Fragments (34.4, 38.6, 42.3)

10 Estuarine 'Yellow' sands, possibly part of the Red Crag (34.5, 38.9 to 38.7, 42.5, 42.4)

Bedrock (F)

11 London Clay (46.1)

Association D shows up clearly in brown colour on aerial photography (Figure 5)

Contribution of this investigation to the local geoarchaeology

This work throws new light on the local stratigraphy. The sands and silts attributed to the Oakley Gravels (Bridgland et al., 1990) and, as similar material is recoded at the Gants Farm suite (Bridgland et al., 2006), they are more likely to relate to the Red Crag and to extend across to the north side of the Oakley ridge.

The cold stage cryoturbation structures mentioned by Bridgland et al. (1990) are more likely to be density loading structures, caused the sediments deforming under saturated conditions.

Potential for artefacts or environmental information

No material of Palaeolithic or significant environmental material was found.

Contribution to the local stratigraphy
The laminated

Recommendation:

I suggest a watching brief is kept during the groundworks stage in the area above 22 mOD.

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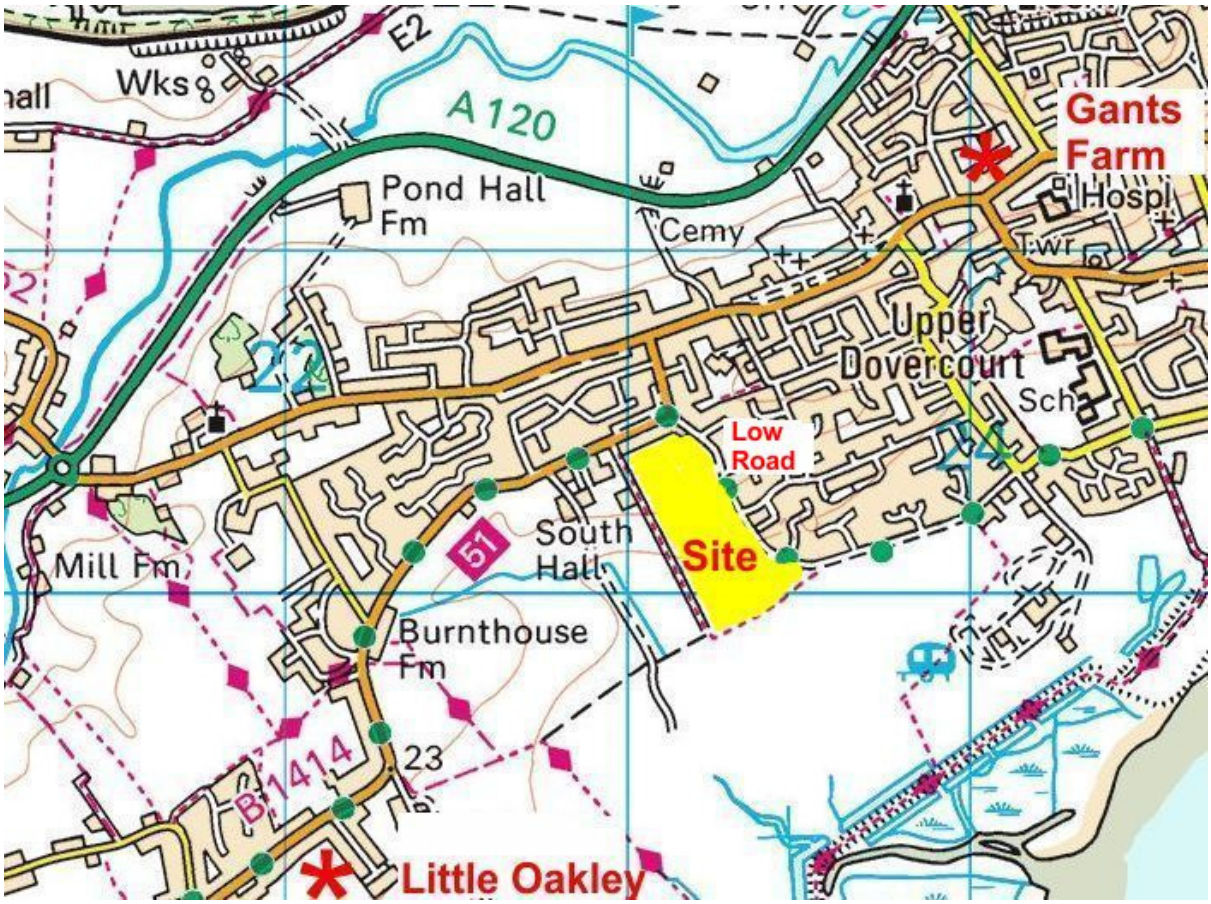
Figure 1

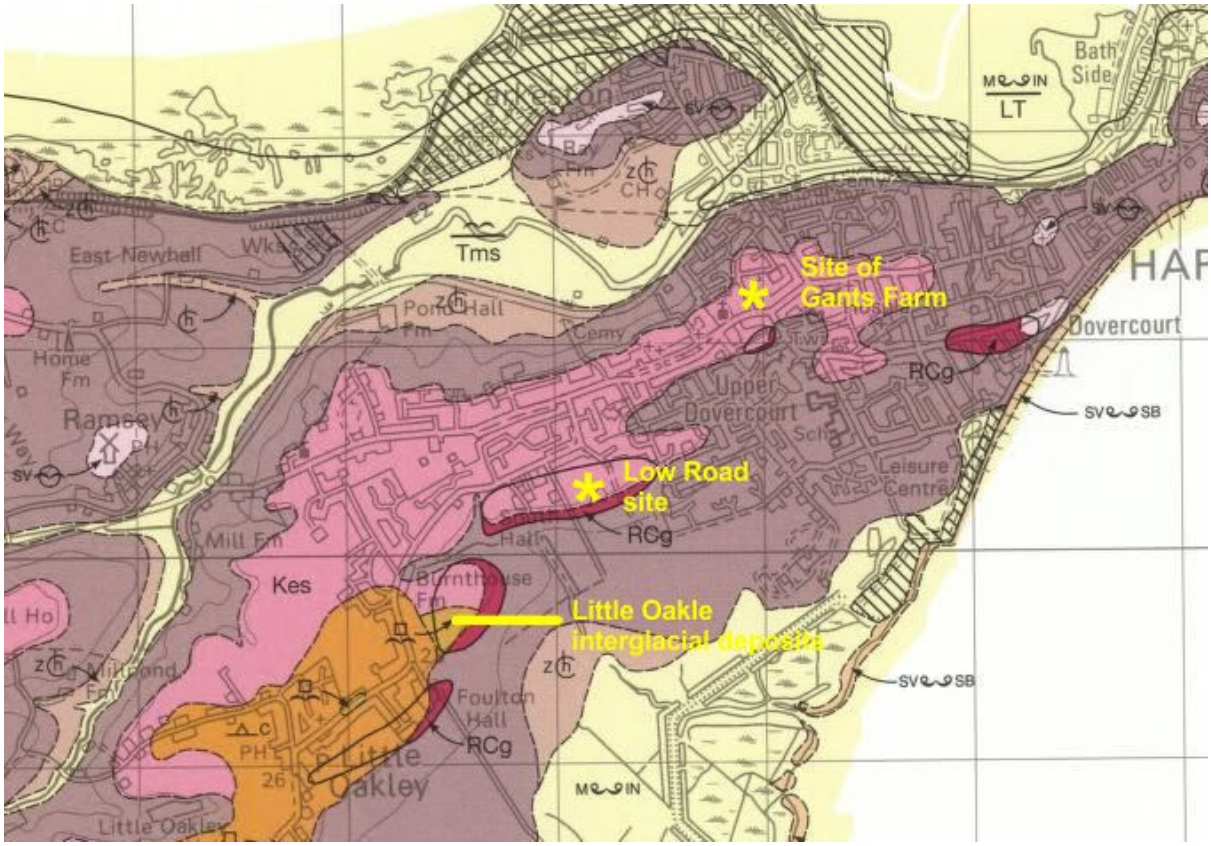
Location of the Low Road Site



(Map: Ordnance Survey)

Figure 2

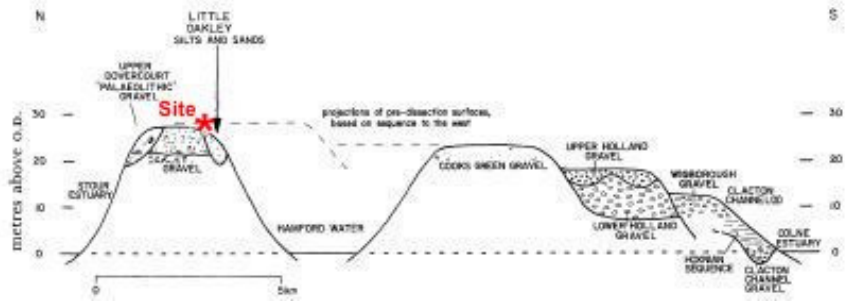
Geology of the Dovercourt area



(British Geological Survey)

Figure 3

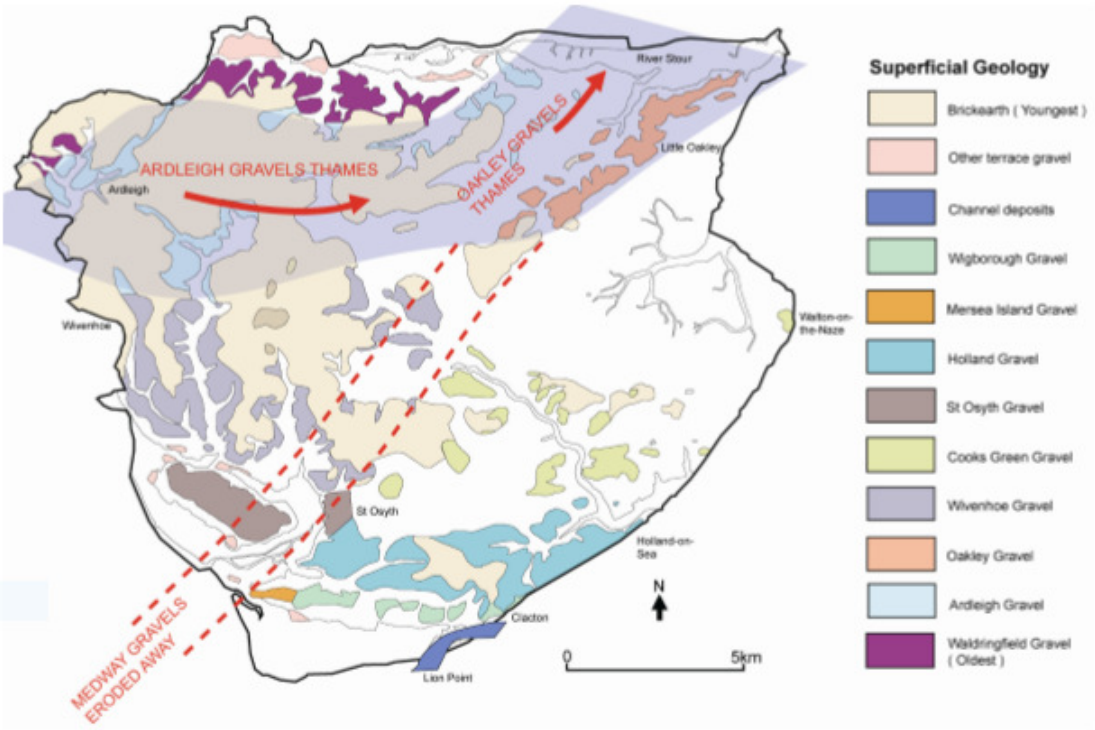
Transverse Section Through the Terraces and Gravel Deposits of the Tendring Plateau.



(Bridgland et al., 1990)

Figure 4

Reconstruction of Pre-Anglian Drainage During Deposition of the Oakley Gravels.



(Map: Essex Council Council)

Figure 5

Low Road Site; Location of Test Pits

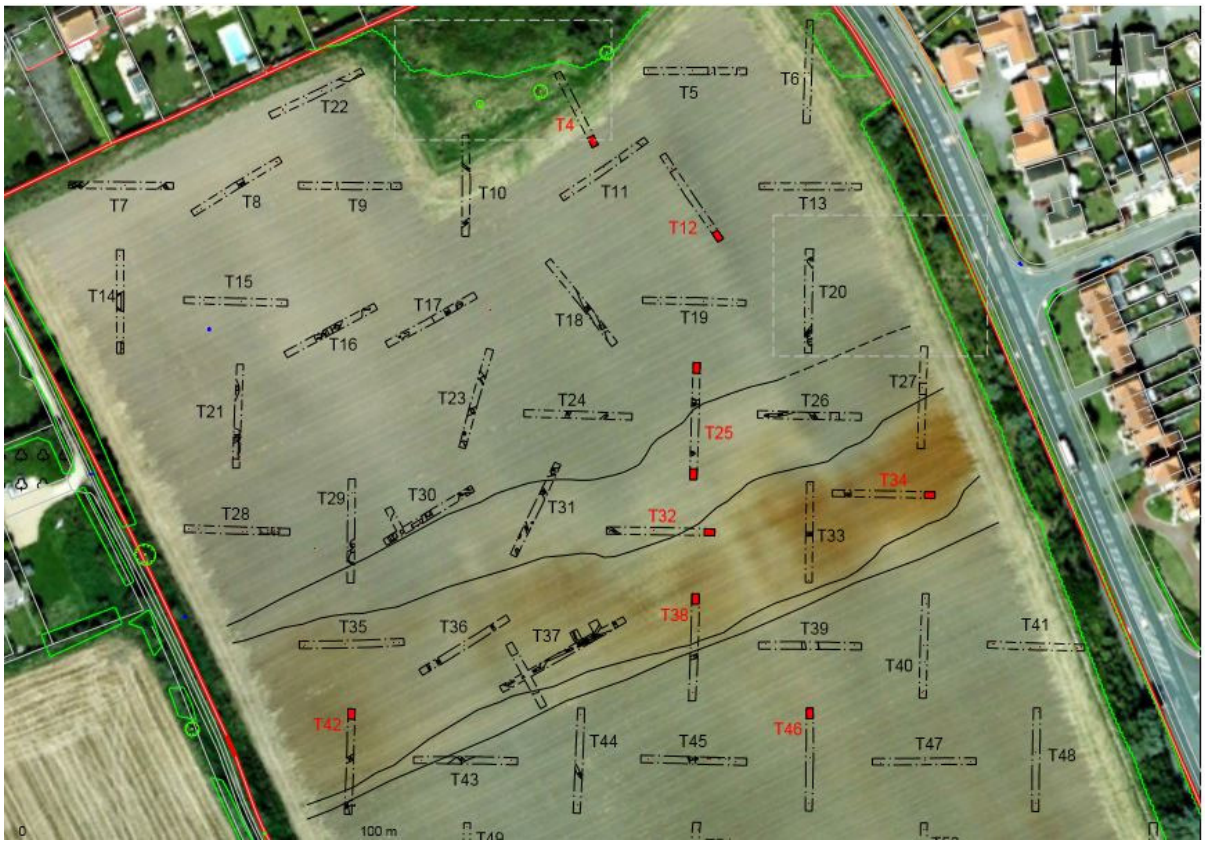


Table 1

Test Pit 4, Stratigraphic Log

Ground Surface c.23.8 mOD

Beds horizontal but of variable thickness

Unit	m bgs	mOD	Thick (m)	Description	Sample
4.1	0.0 – 0.4	23.8 – 23.4	0.4	Soil	
4.2	0.4 – 1.1	23.4 – 22.7	0.7	Silty fine sand, occasional sub-angular flint, clast modal size 1.5 cm, max 4.0 cm. The silts may indicate an aeolian input No overt bedding	
4.3	1.1 – 1.3	22.7 – 22.5	0.2	Clayey medium sand, grey with brown-orange mottling	
4.4	1.3 – 1.6	22.5 – 22.2	0.3	Clayey gravelly sand, clast mode 4.0 cm, max 5.3 cm	
4.5	1.6 – 2.4	22.2 – 21.4	0.8	Coarse sandy gravel, mottled grey and brown, clasts rounded to sub-angular, modal size 2.5 cm, max 20.0 cm	200 litres sieved
4.6	2.4 – 3.1	21.4 – 20.7	0.7	Gravelly coarse sand, clasts rounded to sub-angular, mode 2.0 cm, max 12.5 cm	

m bgs – metres below ground surface OD – Ordnance Datum L - litres

Figure 6

Low Road site; Test Pit 4, Photographic Log

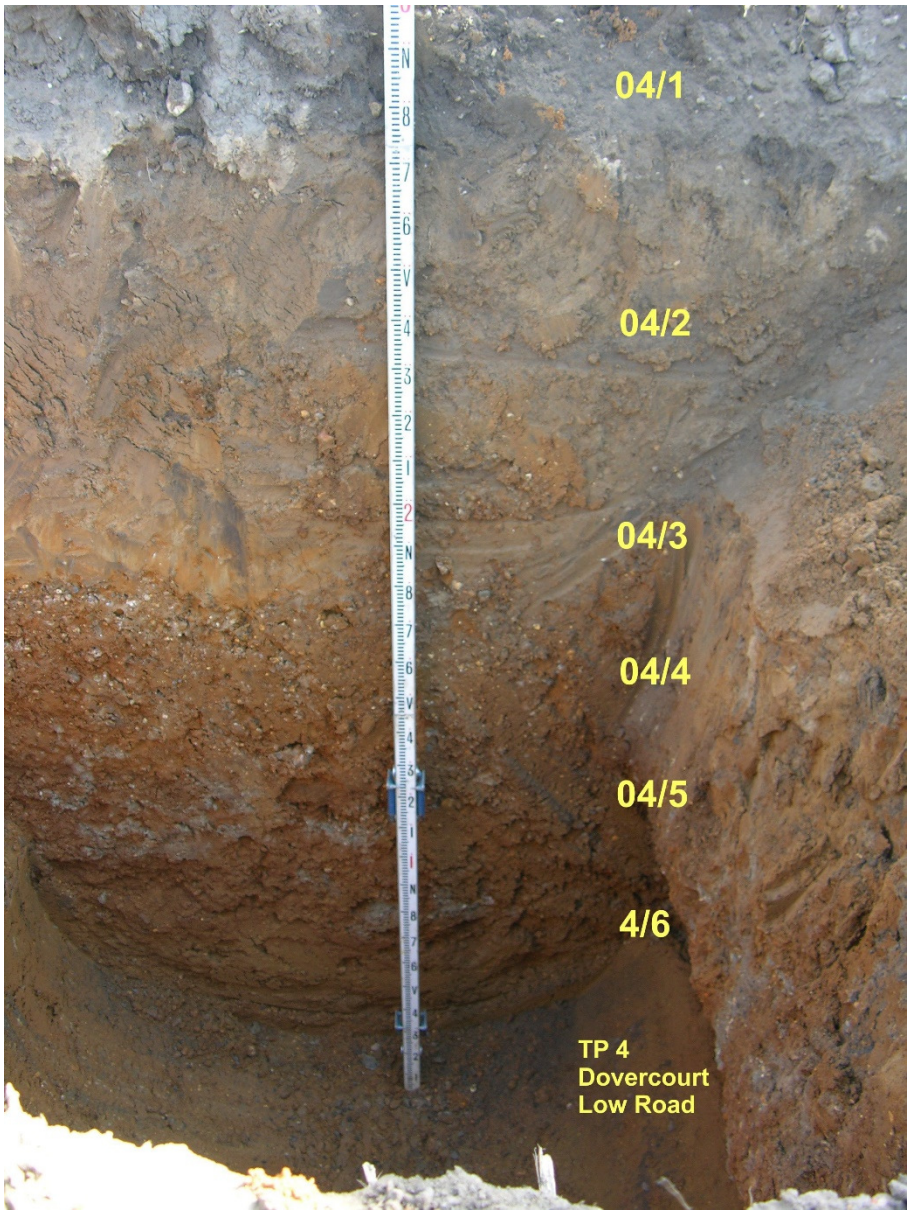


Figure 7

Clasts from TP 4.5

Table 2

Test Pit 12 Stratigraphic Log

Ground Surface c.23.7- mOD

Beds highly deformed

Unit	m bgs	mOD	Thick (m)	Description	Sample
12.1	0.0 – 0.3	23.7 – 23.4	0.3	Soil	
12.2	0.3 – 0.6	23.4 – 23.1	0.3	Clayey, silty sand	
12.3	0.6 – 1.4	23.1– 22.3	0.8	Clayey gravel, deformed into 12.4	
12.4	0.6 - – 1.3	23.1 – 22.4	0.7	Stony sand	
12.5	1.2 – 2.0	22.5 – 21.7	0.5	Clay, grey with brown mottles. Highly deformed, undulating upper limit, descending into 12.10	
12.6	1.4 – 1.6	22.3 – 22.1	0.2	Stony clay	
12.7	1.6 – 1.8	22.1 – 21.7	0.2	Sand lens, horizontal	
12.8	1.8 – 2.0	21.9 – 21.6	0.2	Stony sand, forming core of deform structure	
12.9	1.8 – 2.4	21.9 21.3	0.6	Sandy gravel with clay periphery, forming outer part of deform structure	
12.10	2.1 – 2.6	21.7 – 21.1		Clayey, silty, fine sand	

m bgs – metres below ground surface OD – Ordnance Datum L – litres

Figure 8

Low Road site; Test Pit 12, Photographic Log

Table 3

TP 25N Stratigraphic Log

Ground Surface c.23.7 mOD

Beds horizontal but of variable thickness

Unit	**m bgs**	**mOD**	**Thick (m)**	**Description**	**Samples**
25N.1	0.0 - 0.3	23.7 – 23.4	0.3	Soil	
25N.2	0.3 – 0.7	23.4 – 23.0	0.4	Clayey gravel	
25N.3	0.7– 0.9	23.0 – 22.8	0.2	Silt/clay	
25N.4	0.9 – 2.0	22.8 – 21.7	2.1	Brown clay with grey mottles	4 samples taken for Ostracoda. None found.

m bgs – metres below ground surface OD – Ordnance Datum L - litres

Figure 9

Low Road site; Test Pit 25N, Photographic log

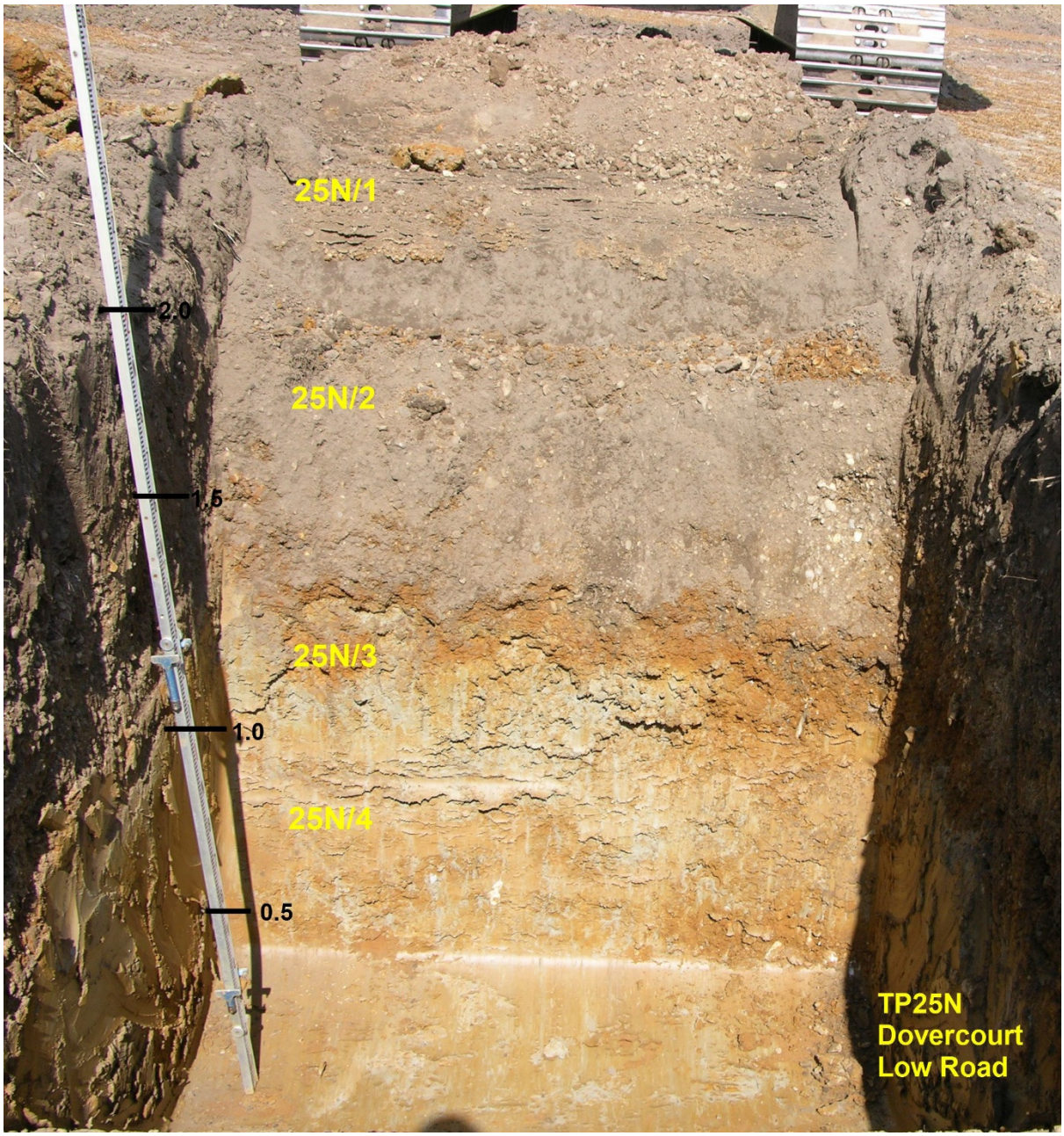


Table 4

Test Pit 25S Stratigraphic Log

Ground Surface c.22.8 mOD

Beds horizontal but of variable thickness

Unit	m bgs	mOD	Thick (m)	Description	Sample
25S.1	0.0 – 0.2	22.8 – 22.6	0.2	Soil	
25S.2	0.2 – 0.4	22.6 – 22.4	0.2	Clay	
25S.3	1.0 – 1.4	22.4 – 22.1	0.3	Poorly sorted gravelly sand	
25S.4	1.4 – 1.6	22.1- 21.4	0.4	Interbedded brown sand and brown-grey sandy clay, deformed	
25S.5	1.5 – 3.0	21.4 - 19.2	1.5	Clayey brown sand	
25S.6	2.0 – 2.5	19.8 - 19.3	0.5	Brown sand	
25S.7	2.5 – 3.0	19.3 – 19.8	0.5	Yelllow sand	

m bgs – metres below ground surface OD – Ordnance Datum L - litres

Figure 10

Low Road site; Test Pit 25S, Photographic Log

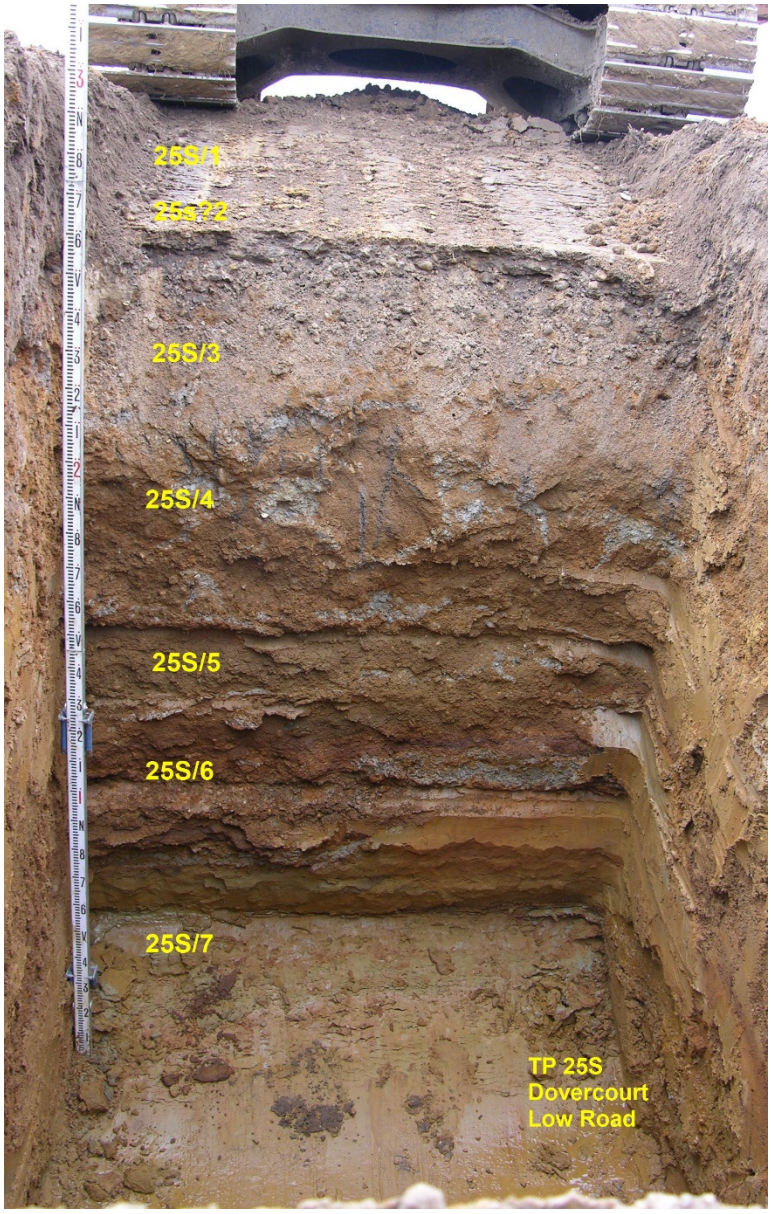


Table 5

Test Pit 32 Stratigraphic Log

Ground Surface c.22.2 mOD

Beds horizontal but of variable thickness

Unit	m bgs	mOD	Thick (m)	Description	Sample
32.1	0.0 – 0.3	22.2– 21.9	0.3	Soil	
32.2	0.3 – 0.7	21.9 - 21.5	0.4	Clayey, sandy, gravelly colluvium, larger clasts in lower part	
32.3	0.7 – 1.1	21.5 – 21.1	0.4	Sandy clay, mottled grey and brown, more so in upper part	
32.4	1.1 – 1.9	21.1 - 20.3	0.8	Medium-fine sand, horizontally bedded, brown	
32.5	1.9 – 3.1	20.3 – 19.1	1.2	Medium -fine sand, yellow, horizontal bedding, with thin clay lenses	

m bgs – metres below ground surface OD – Ordnance Datum L - litres

Figure 11

Low Road site; Test Pit 32, Photographic Log

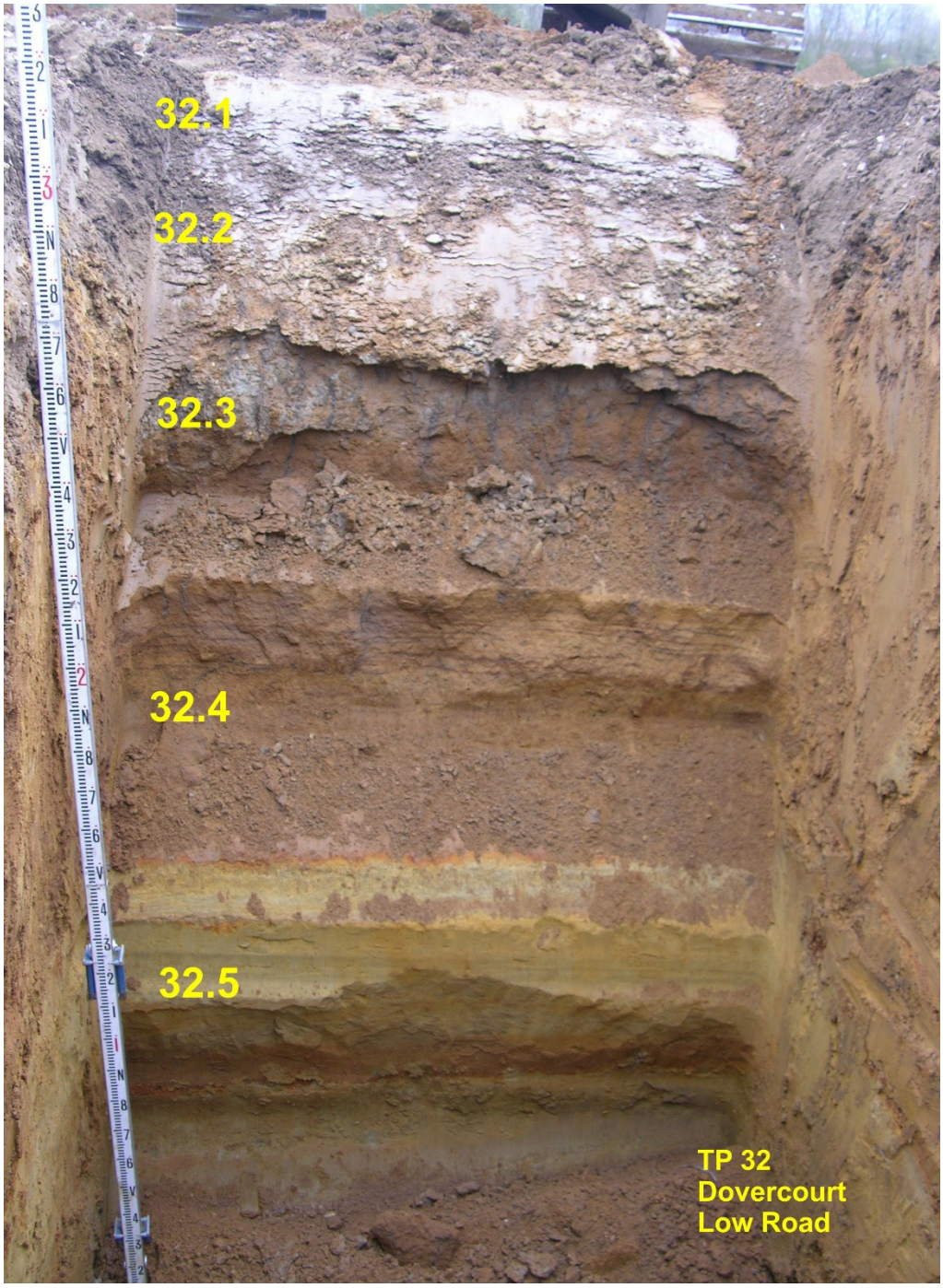


Table 5

Test Pit 38 Stratigraphic Log

Ground Surface c.21.2 mOD

Beds horizontal but of variable thickness

Unit	m bgs	mOD	Thick (m)	Description	Sample
38.1	0.0 – 0.3	21.2– 20.9	0.3	Soil	
38.2	0.3 – 0.9	20.9 - 20.3	0.6	Stoney, clayey medium sand	
38.3	0.9 – 1.7	20.3 – 19.5	0.8	Medium sand, horizontally bedded	
38.4	1.7 – 1.9	19.5 - 19.3	0.2	Medium-fine sand, horizontally bedded, brown	
38.5	1.9 – 2.3	19.3– 18.9	0.4	Medium -fine sand, yellow, horizontal bedded	
38.6	2.3 – 2.5	18.9 – 18.7	0.2	Medium-coarse sand with large flints (max 25 cm), whale bone fragments, hard sandstone (?sarsen), 40 cm	
38.7	2.5 – 2.6	18.7 – 18.6	0.1	Grey clay, laminated, brecciated, mottled grey and brown	
38.8	2.6 – 2.9	18.6 – 18.3	0.3	Fine-medium sand, yellow	
38.9	2.9 – 3.2	18.3 – 18.0	0.3	Medium-fine sand, grey	

m bgs – metres below ground surface OD – Ordnance Datum L – litres

Figure 12

Low Road site; Test Pit 38, Photographic Log

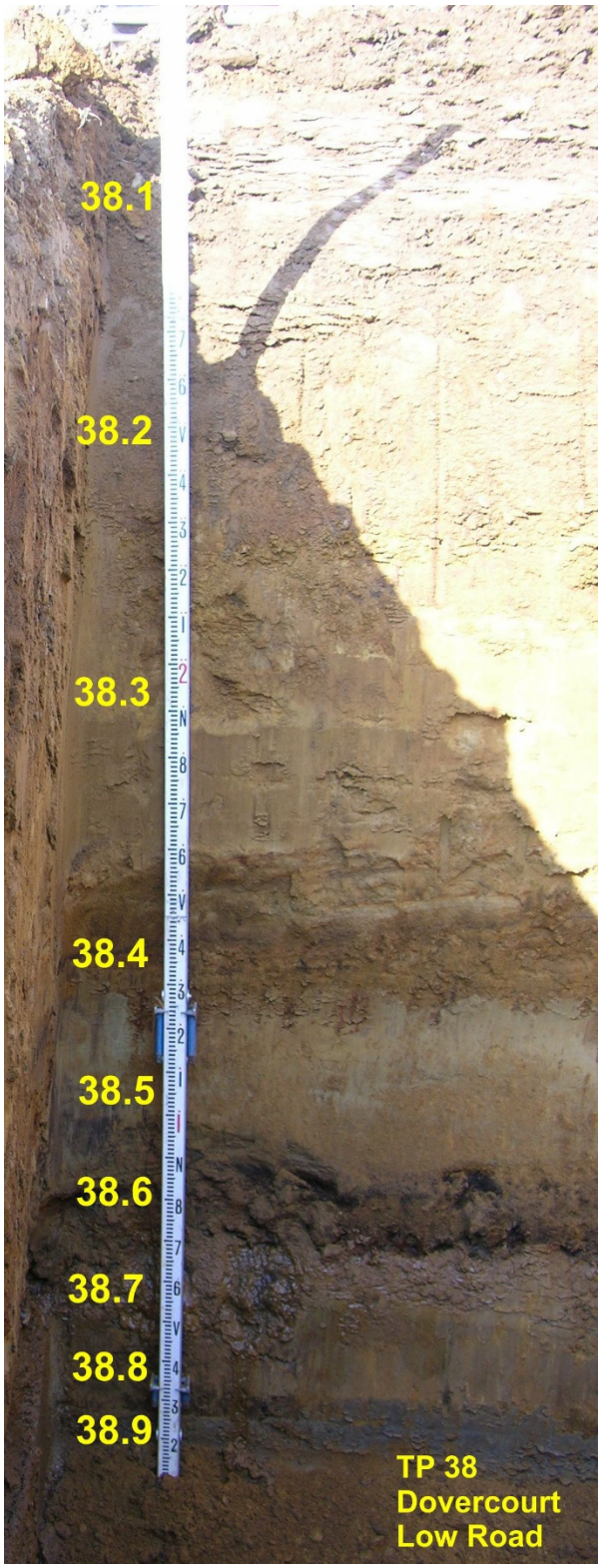


Figure 13

Fine-grained sand stone from TP 38.6

Figure 14 Whale bone fragments from TP 38.6

Table 5

Test Pit 34 Stratigraphic Log

Ground Surface c.20.9 mOD

Beds horizontal but of variable thickness

Unit	m bgs	mOD	Thick (m)	Description	Sample
34.1	0.0 – 0.2	20.9– 20.7	0.2	Soil	
34.2	0.2 – 1.1	20.7 - 19.8	0.9	Brown sand, no overt bedding	
34.3	1.1 – 1.8	19.8 – 19.1	0.7	Medium-coarse sand, yellow-brown, horizontal and cross-bedding	
34.4	1.8 – 2.4	19.1 - 18.5	0.6	Interbedded sands and laminated clays	
34.5	2.4 – 3.0	18.5 – 17.9	0.6	Medium -fine sand, yellow-brown	

m bgs – metres below ground surface OD – Ordnance Datum L – litres

Figure 15

Low Road site; Test Pit 34, Photographic Log

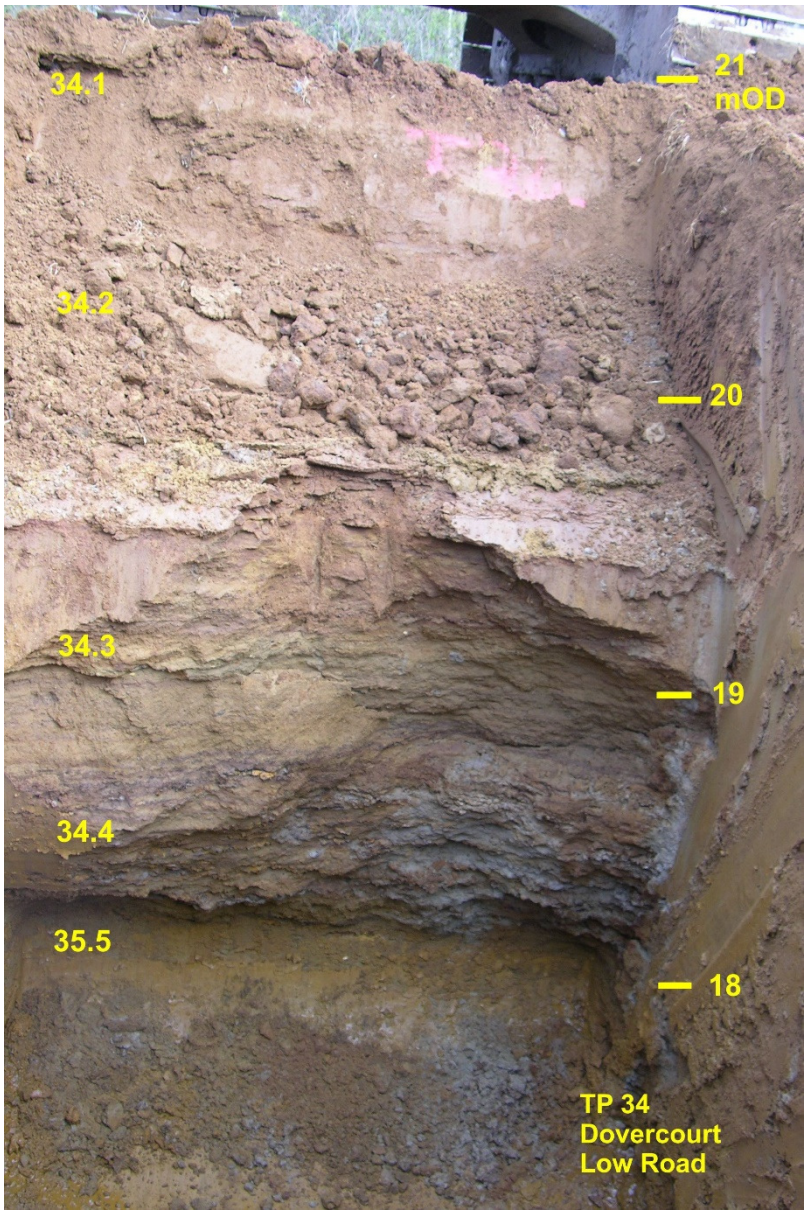


Table 5

Test Pit 42 Stratigraphic Log

Ground Surface c.20.4 mOD

Beds horizontal but of variable thickness

Unit	m bgs	mOD	Thick (m)	Description	Sample
42.1	0.0 – 0.2	20.4 – 20.2	0.2	Soil	
42.2	0.2 – 1.0	20.2 - 19.4	0.8	Medium-coarse brown sand	
42.3	1.0 – 1.7	19.4 – 18.7	0.7	b. 1.0-1.5 m bgs Brown sand with comminuted crag shells, lessening in concentration upwards a. 1.4 – 1.5 m bgs Manganese-rich sandy crag with boxstones	
42.4	1.7 – 1.8	18.7 – 18.6	0.1	Pebbly, clayey sand	
42.5	1.8 – 3.0	18.6 – 17.4	1.2	Silty clay, grey	

m bgs – metres below ground surface OD – Ordnance Datum L – litres

Figure 16

Low Road site; Test Pit 42, Photographic Log

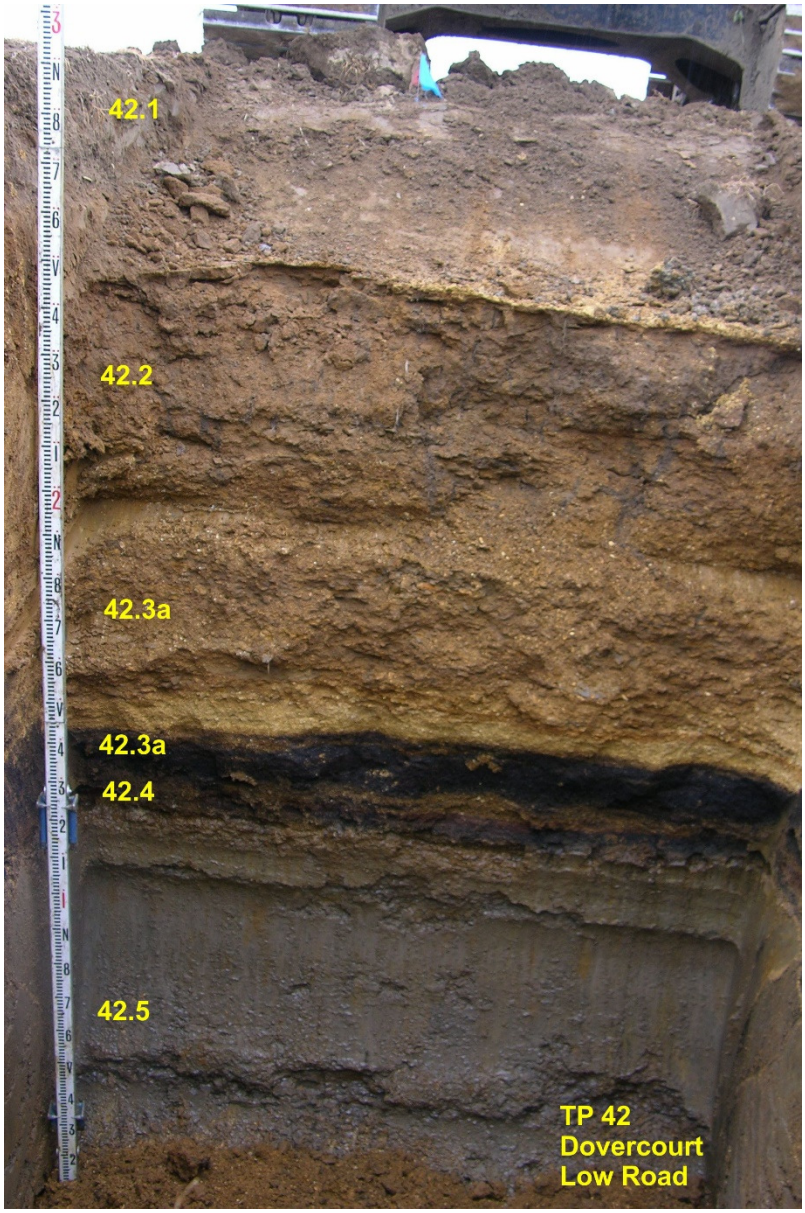


Table 5

Test Pit 46 Stratigraphic Log

Ground Surface c.17.8 mOD

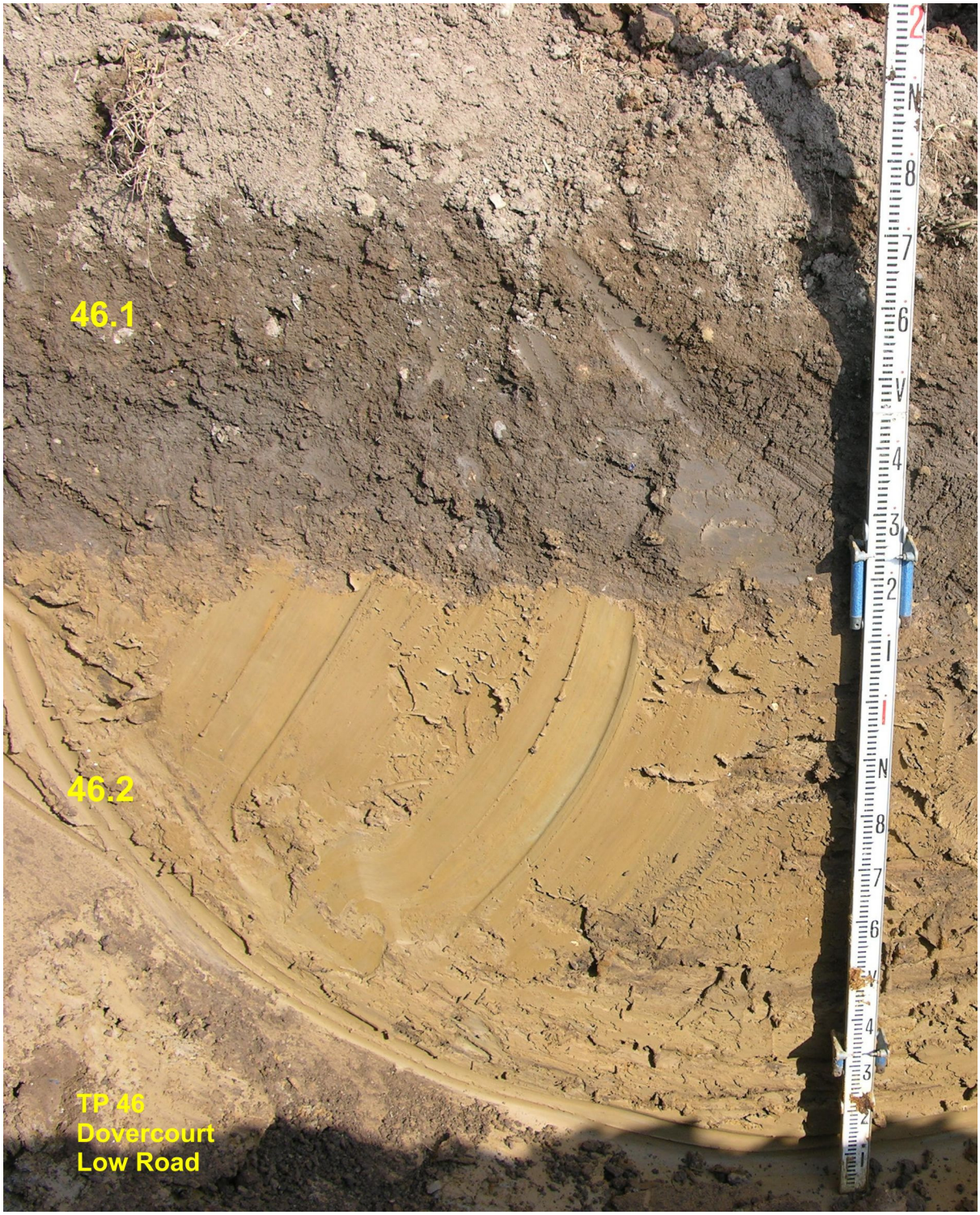
Beds horizontal but of variable thickness

Unit	**m bgs**	**mOD**	**Thick (m)**	**Description**	**Sample**
46.1	0.0 – 0.7	17.8– 17.1	0.7	Soil	
46.2	0.7 – 1.9	17.1 - 15.9	1.2	London Clay, brecciated	

m bgs – metres below ground surface OD – Ordnance Datum L - litres

Figure 17

Low Road site; Test Pit 46, Photographic Log



OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

OASIS ID: colchest3-344553

Project details

Project name	Archaeological and geoarchaeological evaluation on land west of Low Road, Dovercourt, Essex, CO12 3TR
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation (102 trial-trenches) was carried out on land to the west of Low Road, Dovercourt, Essex in advance of the redevelopment of the site into a housing estate. Cropmarks on the development site included two ring-ditches, a square enclosure and several linear features set within a wider landscape of significant prehistoric and Romano-British remains. Evaluation located one of the ring-ditches and the square enclosure, which contained Bronze Age and possible Iron Age pottery respectively. Eighteen ditches, pits and a gully contained finds (pottery and worked flint) of prehistoric date. A further ten ditches, pits and a ground hollow contained finds (pottery and ceramic building material) of Romano-British date. Most of the prehistoric and Romano-British remains were concentrated on high ground in the northern third of the site. Four pits ranged in date from the medieval to post-medieval/modern periods, and by the late 19th-century eight field boundary ditches had divided the site into nine fields within which had been dug 20 modern rubbish pits. Geoarchaeological evaluation (9 test-pits) revealed a basic sequence of gravels, sands, silt and clay, resting on Red Crag and London Clay, which can be linked with the geology of earlier work at Spring Meadow School, built on the former Gants (Pounds) Farm site, and with the SSSI at Little Oakley.
Project dates	Start: 13-03-2019 End: 12-04-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	17/02168/OUT - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	2019/01f - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	HWLR19 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM: 2019.23 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	DITCHES Late Prehistoric
Monument type	PITS Late Prehistoric
Monument type	RING-DITCH Bronze Age
Monument type	DITCHES Bronze Age
Monument type	PITS Bronze Age
Monument type	DITCHES Iron Age
Monument type	DITCHES Roman
Monument type	PITS Roman
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	PITS Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES Modern
Monument type	PITS Modern
Significant Finds	SPINDLEWHORL Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Modern
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Mesolithic

Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Early Neolithic
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX TENDRING HARWICH land west of Low Road, Dovercourt
Postcode	CO12 3TR
Study area	14.1 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 23250 30180 51.924728184289 1.247274455714 51 55 29 N 001 14 50 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 5.7m Max: 23.32m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Emma Holloway
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Nigel Rayner
Type of sponsor/funding body	Owner
Name of sponsor/funding body	NEEB Holdings Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Physical Archive ID	COLEM: 2019.23
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Archive ID	COLEM: 2019.23
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Archive ID	COLEM: 2019.23
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological and geoarchaeological evaluation on land west of Low Road, Dovercourt, Essex, CO12 3TR: March-April 2019
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pooley, L.
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Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 ringbound loose-leaf
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html

Entered by Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org)
Entered on 31 May 2019