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Land off Dover Road, Deal:

An Archaeological Evaluation Report

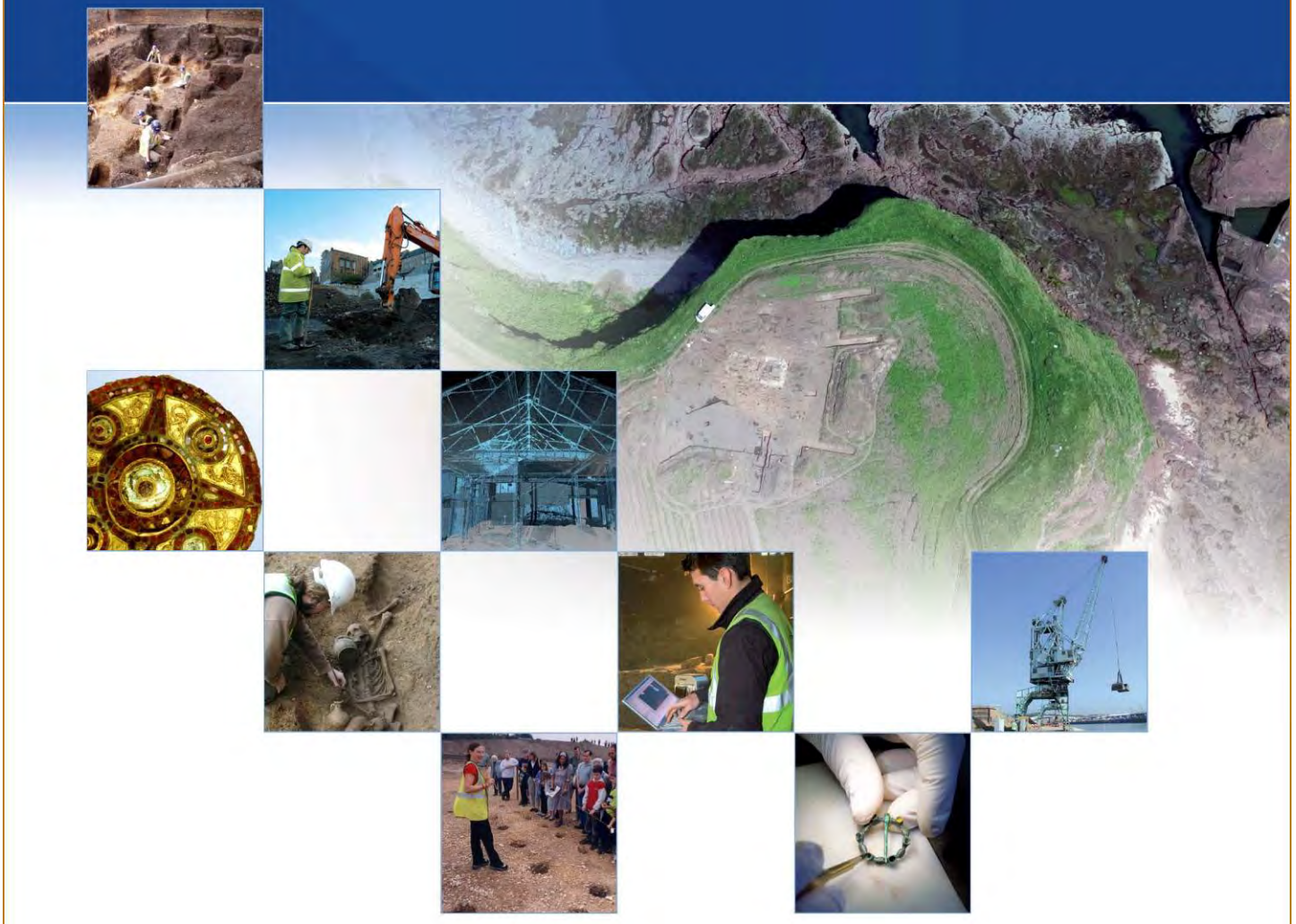
Planning Reference: Pre Determination

National Grid Reference Number: TR 36704 49572

AOC Project No: 33601

Site Code: DRD17

Date: January 2018



AOC Archaeology Group

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Land off Dover Road, Deal:

An Archaeological Evaluation Report

On Behalf of:	**WYG** **Arndale Court** **Headingley** **Leeds** **West Yorkshire** **LS6 2UJ**
National Grid Reference (NGR):	**TR 36704 49572**
AOC Project No:	**33601**
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Date of Fieldwork:	**November-December 2018**
Date of Report:	**January 2018**

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Non-Technical Summary

During November and December 2017 AOC Archaeology Group undertook an archaeology evaluation at the site know as Land off Dover Road, Deal TR 36704 49572, on behalf of WYG Group. The work comprised the excavation of 23 trenches measuring 30.00m x 2.00m.

This report comprises the results of the evaluation. A total of eight trenches were negative (i.e. no archaeological remains) whilst the remaining 15 trenches contained archaeological features of varying levels of significance. The geological horizon varied across the site between hard reddish brown clay to yellow brown clay and clay with flint or chalk. Four phases of archaeological remains were recorded on site. The first phase is thought to date to the late Bronze Age to early/mid Iron Age, remains of which were located in Trench 19 only and within a large pit. The second period of activity was during the Early to Mid Iron where settlement activity is indicated across the central area of the site. The third period of activity dates Late Iron Age/Roman period and was only observed in Trench 15 within a linear ditch. The final period of activity dates to the Roman period in the form of abraded pottery from trenches 7, 15 and 20. The trenches were overlain by a reddish brown clay silt *subsoil which in turn was overlaid by a layer of modern topsoil.*

It has been highlighted by the Archaeological Officer for Kent County Council, that should the proposed development be granted planning permission, and the current scheme remains unchanged, further mitigation works may need to be conducted.

Publication of the evaluation findings will be carried out through a short summary of the fieldwork submitted to the local fieldwork roundup. An OASIS form has also been completed and an electronic copy of the evaluation report will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). The site archive will be prepared in accordance with local and national guidance and will be held at AOC London offices until a suitable archive depository is made available.

1 Introduction

1.1 This report documents the results of the archaeological evaluation at Dover Road, Deal, Kent. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TR 36704 49572 (Figure 1).

1.2 The site is located amid undulating open countryside on the southern border of Upper Walmer, now a suburb of Deal. The land ranges in height between 37m and 44m above Ordnance Datum, sloping down to the north-east. The proposed development area is divided between a larger area of paddocks and bordered by a tree plantation on the south side of the site. A small area for stables and car parking is set aside at the north-west corner of the area. The application site area is approximately 3.9 hectares in extent.

1.3 Prior to this phase of site works, an Archaeological Appraisal was carried out for the site (WYG 2017), followed by a Geophysical Survey (Magnitude Surveys 2017; AOC Archaeology 2017).

2 Planning Background

2.1 The local planning authority is Dover District Council. Archaeological advice to the council is provided by Ben Found, Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.

2.2 An archaeological appraisal was carried out by of WYG Group Limited in 2017 (WYG 2017), as a phase of investigations. The second phase was a series of geophysical surveys carried out by Magnitude Surveys and AOC Archaeology, both in 2017. The results from the western extent of the site suggested that majority of anomalies appeared to be modern, comprising paddock boundaries, a pitch, animal feeders and troughs. In the north-west edge, was possible dumping of material during the construction of Dover Road. Ploughing activity was noted along with a curvilinear anomaly in the north of the site in close proximity to another concentric anomaly. The survey team suggested that this may represent a boundary connected to the former farm of King's Barn or that it could relate to the Romano-British settlement located adjacent to the northern boundary of the survey area.

2.3 AOC Archaeology conducted a survey of the north and north-east parts. This identified a complex of linear and curvilinear trends in the central northern areas of the site. Discrete pit-like anomalies were also identified across the survey area.

2.4 The works have been carried out as part of the pre-determination works associated with a residential development on land off Dover Road, Deal. The evaluation was required to clarify the extent and significance of archaeological remains, inform the assessment of potential heritage impacts and the design of an appropriate mitigation strategy, as required.

2.5 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WYG 2017) was prepared as a method statement for the archaeological evaluation, which was approved by the monitor, Ben Found, Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.

2.6 This report summarises the results of the archaeological evaluation on the site investigation works.

3 Geology and Topography

3.1 The bedrock geology for the development site is composed of the sedimentary Seaford Chalk Formation. This is overlain by clay and silt head, which is recorded across the proposed development area (British Geological Survey 2017). No boreholes are recorded within the proposed development area.

3.2 The site sloped from south to north east with the topsoil horizon measuring 43.93mOD at Trench 8 to a low of 39.20m in Trench 18.

4 Archaeological and Historical Background

4.1 The archaeological background draws upon the research carried out as part of an archaeological appraisal of the site (WYG 2017), as well as the results of two recent geophysical surveys within the site (Magnitude Surveys 2017; AOC Archaeology 2017). The bracketed numbers within the text refer to HER identifier numbers.

Historic Environment Record

4.2 While no recorded heritage assets are located within the boundary of the application site itself, the development is located within a rich archaeological landscape. The Kent Historic Environment Record records a number of undesignated heritage assets immediately north and west of the site. It is evident that the northern and western outskirts of the site were the location of substantial occupation in the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods.

4.3 An excavation immediately north of the application site at Downlands, conducted by Canterbury Archaeological Trust in 2004 and 2005, identified extensive Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British activity (MKE21093 = TR 34 NE 258; MKE43008 = TR 34 NE 132 & EKE9351). Bronze Age and Iron Age activity was evident in extensive pitting with an east/west boundary ditch. The quantity of domestic waste suggested nearby settlement. In addition, an oval cropmark of potential Bronze Age date has been identified immediately west of the application site (MKE6689 = TR 34 NE 58), as have two inhumations from re-used prehistoric storage pits (MKE17580 = TR 34 NE 231; EKE5263). These inhumations were found in the course of a watching brief immediately west of the proposed development and were associated with pottery of middle to later Iron Age date (EKE5263).

4.4 Early Romano-British boundary ditches were also identified at the Downlands excavation (now Thistledown), alongside the isolated burials of a horse and child. At the end of the 2nd century AD the site was levelled and a large aisled building was constructed on the site, which directly abuts this current development. Further Romano-British activity was identified in the south-west corner of the same excavations which also abuts the current proposed development area (MKE97869 = TR 34 NE 341 & EKE10085). The excavator has proposed that the quantity and character of material found suggests the nearby presence of a villa. Finally, 19th-century mapping records a courtyard farmstead, King's Barn, on the north-west edge of the development site (MKE88050 = MKE88050).

5 Aims of the Investigation

5.1 The overall aim of the archaeological evaluation excavation is to evaluate both the geophysical survey anomalies, as well as areas of poorer resolution/ blank areas, which may be masking previously unrecorded archaeological remains, and to identify previously unrecorded archaeological remains, including presence/absence, form, date, survival and significance, within the application site. The results of this evaluation will be used to confirm areas where there are no significant archaeological remains on the site, or to identify selected areas of archaeological interest requiring the attention of further archaeological excavation/ monitoring or preservation in situ.

5.2 The trenching array proposed by Ben Found, Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council, has the following aims (as stated in e-mail correspondence of 20/10/2017):

- "predict…the range of archaeological material that may be present" through a trench sample of 5%;
- Investigate whether Roman-period archaeological features identified during excavations at Thistledown (Downlands), to the immediate north of the proposed development area, continue into the site itself;

- Target anomalies apparent on the geophysical results; and
- Target potential features identified from aerial photographs by the Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.

5.3 Specific objectives of the archaeological work are to:

- Excavate archaeological evaluation trenches as identified in this document;
- Identify any archaeological features and deposits of interest;
- Excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits, at an appropriate level, in order to characterise their form, character, survival and significance;
- While a full post-excavation assessment is not required at this stage, sufficient post-excavation assessment should be undertaken to confidently interpret archaeological features identified during site works, and to assess recovered artefacts and samples to identify the potential scope for detailed analysis in any future mitigation;
- Report the results of the archaeological work and any post-excavation assessment and place them within their local and regional context;
- Identify the potential extent and nature of archaeological remains within the development site and whether a further programme of archaeological mitigation will be required; and
- Compile and deposit a site archive at a suitable repository.

5.4 The archaeological work should be carried out in accordance with Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation (2014), and the Kent County Council's Manual for Specifications Part B: Evaluation – Trial Trenching Requirements.

6 Methodology

6.1 A WSI prepared by WYG Group (WYG 2017) and a Risk Assessment/Method Statement (RAMS) prepared by AOC (2017) defined the site procedures for archaeological evaluation, in agreement with Ben Found, Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council. These documents detailed how the evaluation would be undertaken. All work was carried out in accordance with local and national guidelines (CIfA 2014, EH 2006, EH 1991). Provision was made for a report as defined in the WSI.

6.2 The programme of archaeological works comprised of 23 no. 30m long trenches by 2m wide to be excavated within the limits of the site.

6.3 The site comprised a single field (split into areas by fencing), with the trenches located to target features identified in the geophysical survey, as well as 'negative' areas (Figure 2). The negative areas were intended to assess whether the geophysical survey missed potential archaeological features.

6.4 The archaeological evaluation was carried out during November and December 2017. The machining was carried out using a JCB 3CX excavator with a flat bladed ditching bucket under the constant supervision of the Supervisory Team lead by Ian Cipin (Project Officer).

6.5 A unique site code DRD17 was assigned to the project by AOC Archaeology prior to commencement of works.

6.6 An OASIS online record was initiated, and key fields completed on detailed location and creator forms.

6.7 The evaluation was supervised by Ian Cipin, Project Officer (AOC), under the overall direction of Catherine Edwards (Operations Manager). Ben Found, Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council monitored the site on behalf of the Kent County Council, and Simon McCudden, WYG Group on behalf of the client.

6.8 In the field, context numbers were allocated according to trench number e.g. context 2102 is in Trench 21. In this report, the table of stratigraphy lists the stratigraphic sequence by trench and a full list of all features is given in Appendix A, the context register.

7 Results

Negative Trenches (Figures 2 and 18)

7.1 No archaeological remains were encountered in seven out of the 23 excavated trenches. The negative trenches were 1, 2, 3, 6, 12, 22 and 23. Trenches 4 and 5 were also negative however plough furrows were recorded in both trenches; seven in Trench 4 and six recorded in Trench 5. The trench layout is shown on Figure 2.

7.2 Natural was observed in all trenches but varied between chalk, a hard reddish brown clay, reddish brown gravel and yellow brown clay. Overlying the natural in Trench 23 was a 0.32m thick layer of made ground recorded as (2302), a chalk deposit with inclusions of brick and assorted modern debris. A subsoil horizon was recorded across all trenches and observed as a 0.13m to 0.37m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt. The final deposit was modern topsoil measuring between 0.10m and 0.30m thick.

Positive Trenches (Figures 2)

7.3 Trench 7 (Figure 5)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
701	0.12m	42.68m – 42.56m	Topsoil
702	0.08m	42.56 – 42.48m	Subsoil
703	0.20m+	42.48m+	Natural

7.3.1 Trench 7 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was roughly aligned north-south (Figure 2).

7.3.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 7 was (703), a hard reddish brown clay, interpreted as the natural deposit, recorded at an upper height of 42.48mOD and lowest height of 41.54mOD due to the slope. Cutting into the natural deposit was pit [707], a sub circular pit measuring 1.10m x 1.00m x 0.31m deep, at an upper height of 42.48mOD. The pit was filled by three deposits (706), (704) and (705), which were observed as a mid yellow brown clay, a dark black brown silty clay with burnt flint and a mid grey brown silty clay respectively. In total, 21 sherds of pottery were recovered from (705) and have been dated to the early/mid Iron Age (600-400 BC). An environmental sample taken from (705), contained a moderately large number of wheat/barley and some oat/rye cereal grains with some weed seeds. These may have been processed for storage or consumption. Also recovered from the sample was a piece of flint debitage and fire cracked flint. The fill also contained fragmentary animal bone to degraded to identify.

7.3.3 A possible activity horizon was recorded in Trench 7 as (708), a layer of hard orange brown clay. The layer measured 6.00m x 1.80m and recorded at an upper height of 42.01mOD. No dating evidence was recovered from the deposit, although a prehistoric date is possible.

7.3.4 Overlying the above was (702), a 0.08m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (701), a 0.12m thick layer of topsoil.

Plate 1 – Trench 7 with [707] in the foreground

7.4 Trench 8 (Figure 6)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
801	0.10m	43.93m – 43.83m	Topsoil
802	0.20m	43.83m – 43.63m	Subsoil
803	-	43.63m+	Natural

7.4.1 Trench 8 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly northeast-southwest (Figure 2).

7.4.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 8 was (803), a firm mid reddish brown clay with natural flint inclusions, interpreted as the natural deposit recorded at a height of 43.43mOD and 41.18mOD. A possible linear was recorded in the trenches as [805], measuring 2.25m wide x 5.25m long. The

feature was very diffuse with a similar fill to the natural, only slightly more silty and darker in colour and with inclusions of flint, stone, and fragmentary brick. It is possible that this is the remains of a furrow or other localised later disturbance.

7.4.3 Overlying the above, was (802), a 0.20m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (801), a 0.10m thick layer of topsoil.

Plate 2 – Trench 8

7.5 Trench 9 (Figure 7)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
901	0.10m	43.42m – 43.32m	Topsoil
907	0.20m	43.32m – 43.12m	Subsoil
902	0.10m	43.12m+	Disturbed Natural or Activity Horizon

7.5.1 Trench 9 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).

7.5.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 9 was (902), a firm reddish brown silty clay with frequent inclusions of flint, occasional charcoal and baked clay flecks. This deposit could be a disturbed horizon or a possible activity horizon. Cutting into (902), was a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch, [904], measuring 2.00m x 1.32m x 0.14m deep at an upper height of 42.80mOD. The linear was filled with (903), a dark grey brown silty clay with inclusions of fire cracked flint, flint debitage, baked clay fragments and an assemblage of 41 sherds of pottery which have been identified as dating to the early/mid Iron Age 600-400 BC. An environmental sample was taken from the deposit only contained

very small fragments of charcoal and one cereal caryopses, with no other charred plant matter present.

7.5.3 A plough furrow was also recorded in the trench as [906], with a dark grey and brown silty clay fill (905).

7.5.4 Overlying the above was (907), a 0.20m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (901), a 0.10m thick layer of topsoil from which came a fragment of clay tobacco pipe.

Plate 3 – Trench 9

7.6 Trench 10 (Figure 8)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1001	0.30m	42.96m – 42.66m	Topsoil
1002	0.18m	42.66m – 42.48m	Subsoil
1003	0.10m	42.48m – 42.38m	Natural

7.6.1 Trench 10 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).

7.6.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 10 was (1003), a firm reddish brown silty clay with frequent inclusions of flint. Cutting into (1003), was [1005], a shallow pit measuring 1.25m x 1.35m x 0.06m deep. The pit was filled by (1004), a dark grey brown silty clay with rare inclusions of charcoal,

fragmentary animal bone to degraded to identify and 12 sherds of early to mid-Iron Age pottery dated to 600-400 BC.

Plate 4 – Shallow Pit [1005]

7.6.4 Overlying the above was (1002), a 0.18m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (1001), a 0.30m thick layer of topsoil.

7.7 Trench 11 (Figure 9)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1101	0.25m	42.13m – 41.88m	Topsoil
1102	0.12m	41.88m – 41.76m	Subsoil
1104	-	41.76m+	Possible Activity Horizon
1103	-	41.76m+	Natural

7.7.1 Trench 11 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly northnorthwest and southsoutheast (Figure 2).

7.7.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 11 was (1103), a bright mid yellow brown clay, interpreted as the natural deposit, recorded at heights of 41.69mOD and 40.98mOD. Overlying three quarters of the trench was deposit (1104), a 10.00m x 2.00m layer of mid grey yellow brown silty clay with inclusions of fire cracked flint. This layer has been interpreted as a possible activity horizon. It was discussed on site that no further excavation would take place at this stage as this would be carried out as part of the mitigation.

7.7.3 Cutting into the natural, where the activity horizon was not present, was the remains of an animal burrow [1106], which contained fractured animal bones identified as juvenile cattle bones, surrounded by a light grey clay silt (1105).

7.7.4 Overlying the above was (1102), a 0.20m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (1101), a 0.25m thick layer of topsoil.

Plate 5 – Trench 11

7.8 Trench 13

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1301	0.12m	42.11m – 41.99m	Topsoil
1302	0.20m	41.99m – 41.79m	Subsoil
1303	-	41.79m	Possible Activity Horizon

7.8.1 Trench 13 was split into two trenches due to the presence of a horse paddock fence line that could not be removed. As such a bulk measuring approximately 1.00m was retained in line with the fence line, reducing the trench length to 29.00m. The trench 2.00m wide and was aligned roughly northwest-southeast (Figure 2).

7.8.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 13 was (1303), a hard light reddish yellow brown silty clay with occasional fire crack flint, baked clay, rare charcoal and moderate flint. This layer has been interpreted as a possible activity horizon relating to the prehistoric activity on site and as such it was determined that this deposit would be better excavated during mitigation rather than during the evaluation, when its extent and context can be properly investigated.

7.8.3 Overlying (1303), was (1302), a 0.20m thick layer of mid orangey grey brown silty clay, interpreted as buried soil, which in turn was overlaid by (1301), a 0.12m thick layer of dark grey brown silty clay topsoil.

Plate 6 – Trench 13 showing fire cracked flint horizon

7.9 Trench 14 (Figure 10)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1401	0.12m	41.64m – 41.52m	Topsoil
1402	0.33m	41.52m – 41.19m	Subsoil
1403	-	41.19m+	Natural

7.9.1 Trench 14 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figure 2).

7.9.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 14 was (1403), hard light reddish yellow brown clay recorded at a height of 40.08mOD at the north and 41.30mOD to the south. Cutting into the natural were two pits and two linears. Pit [1407] was recorded as a sub-circular feature measuring 0.90m x 0.65m x 0.30m deep, at an upper height of 40.27mOD. The pit was filled with three fills recorded as (1406), (1405) and (1404). The primary fill (1406), was a 0.10m thick mid grey brown clay silt with no inclusions. The secondary fill of (1405), was a 0.23m thick light yellow brown silty clay with inclusions of frequent chalk. The final fill (1404), was a 0.21m thick deposit of light reddish brown silty clay with inclusions of small flint and stone. No datable finds were observed.

7.9.3 Pit [1415], was located approximately 1.10m west of the above pit. The pit was smaller than the above, measuring 0.80m x 0.30m and was filled with (1414), a dark reddish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal. The pit is thought to relate to the same phase of activity as [1407]. No finds were observed. Adjacent to [1415], was narrow linear [1409], aligned northwest-southeast, measuring 2.10m x 0.65m x 0.26m deep, at an upper height of 40.27mOD. The linear was filled by

(1408), a dark red brown clay silt with inclusions of baked clay flecks, charcoal and natural flint. No dating evidence was observed.

7.9.4 A similar and possible contemporary linear was located approximately 2.00m south of the above, was northwest - southeast linear [1411], measuring 2.00m x 0.65m. The linear was filled by (1410), a mid red brown silty clay with frequent stones, moderate chalk fragments, baked clay flecks and charcoal. No dating evidence was recovered.

7.9.5 Cutting into [1409] was linear [1413]. The linear was narrow, measuring 0.30m wide and was traceable for 2.05m. The linear was filled by (1408), a mid reddish brown clay. No dating evidence was observed for this feature.

7.9.6 Overlying the above was (1402), a 0.33m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (1401), a 0.12m thick layer of topsoil which contained a single sherd of post medieval pottery, clay tobacco pipe and peg tile.

Plate 7 – Excavated Pit [1407]

7.10 Trench 15 (Figure 11)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1501	0.15m	41.36m – 41.21m	Topsoil
1502	0.30m	41.21m – 40.91m	Subsoil
1503	0.10m	40.91m+	Natural

7.10.1 Trench 15 measured 20.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).

7.10.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 15 was (1503), a hard light yellow reddish brown clay with moderate stones and flint recorded at heights of 40.33mOD and 40.95mOD. Cutting into the natural were two linears, [1505] and [1507]. Linear [1505] was aligned northeast-southwest measuring 2.0m x 1.15m x 0.18m deep. The concave ditch was filled by (1504), a hard light yellow brown silty clay with frequent flint, small natural stones and occasional charcoal, recorded at an upper height of 40.54mOD. Pottery sherds recovered from the fill, totalling six sherds, have been dated to the late Iron Age to Early Roman. Also recovered were fragmentary animal bone which were too degraded to identify.

7.10.3 The second linear was recorded as [1507], an east-west aligned ditch, measuring 2.30m x 0.80m 0.10m+ deep. The ditch was filled by (1506), a soft dark reddish brown clay silt with moderate baked clay flecks, rare charcoal and natural flint and stone. The function for the linears is unknown but are likely part of localised settlement activity.

7.10.4 Overlying the above was (1502), a 0.30m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (1501), a 0.15m thick layer of topsoil.

Plate 8 – Linear [1505]

7.11 Trench 16 (Figure 12)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1601	0.25m	39.62m – 39.37m	Topsoil
1602	0.20m	39.67m – 39.17m	Subsoil
1603	0.40m	39.17m – 38.99m	Natural

7.11.1 Trench 16 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figure 2).

7.11.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 16 was (1603), a bright yellow brown clay interpreted as natural and recorded at an upper height of 38.99mOD and 38.22mOD. Cutting into the natural was a single feature recorded as [1605]. Pit [1605], was sub circular in shape, gradual sloped sides and a concave base, measuring 1.0m x 1.30m x 0.15m, at an upper height of 38.36mOD. The pit was filled with (1604), a mid grey yellow brown sandy clay with a single sherd of pottery dated to the early to middle Iron Age, between 600-400 BC.

7.11.3 Overlying the above was (1602), a 0.20m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (1601), a 0.25m thick layer of topsoil.

Plate 9 – Trench 16

7.12 Trench 17 (Figure 13)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1701	0.25m	39.69m – 39.44m	Topsoil
1702	0.14m	39.44m – 39.30m	Subsoil
1703	0.15m	39.30m – 39.15m	Natural

7.12.1 Trench 17 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast, sloping north to south (Figure 2).

7.12.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 17 was (1703), a bright yellow brown clay interpreted as natural and recorded at an upper height of 39.15mOD and 37.47mOD. Cutting into the natural was a single feature recorded as [1705]. Linear ditch [1705], was aligned northeast-southwest, with gradual sloped sides and a concave base measuring 2.00m x 1.50m x 0.34m at an upper height of 38.01mOD. The ditch was filled with (1704), a pale greyish yellow brown sandy clay with inclusions of rare charcoal, natural flint, fire cracked flint and a finds assemblage of fragmentary animal bone, 19 sherds of pottery dated the early to middle Iron Age 600-400 (BC) and four small fragments of perforated clay slab.

7.12.3 Overlying the above was (1702), a 0.14m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (1701), a 0.25m thick layer of topsoil.

Plate 10 – Trench 17

7.13 Trench 18 (Figure 14)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1801	0.25m	39.20 – 38.95m	Topsoil
1802	0.15m	38.95m – 38.80m	Subsoil
1803	-	38.80m+	Natural

7.13.1 Trench 18 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figure 2).

7.13.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 18 was (1803), a bright yellow brown clay interpreted as natural and recorded at an upper height of 38.87mOD. Cutting into the natural was a single feature recorded as [1805]. Linear ditch [1805], was aligned northnortheast-southsouthwest measuring 1.65m x 2.75m at an upper height of 37.95mOD. The ditch was filled with (1804), a pale greyish yellow brown sandy clay similar to the linear ditch recorded in Trench 17, with an inclusion of two sherds of pottery dated to the early to middle Iron Age 600-400 (BC).

7.13.3 Overlying the above was (1802), a 0.15m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (1801), a 0.25m thick layer of topsoil.

Plate 11 – Trench 18

7.14 Trench 19 (Figure 15)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
1901	0.15m	40.15m – 40.00m	Topsoil
1902	0.15m	40.00m – 39.85m	Subsoil
1903	0.14m	39.85m+	Natural

7.14.1 Trench 19 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 2).

7.14.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 19 was (1903), a hard reddish brown clay with occasional natural flint and stone, recorded at an upper height of 39.85mOD. Cutting into (1903) was a single pit recorded as [1905]. The sub circular pit measured 2.00m x 3.10m, at an upper height of 39.78mOD. The pit was filled by (1904), a soft mid grey brown silty clay, with frequent natural stone and flint inclusions. Seven sherds of flint tempered pottery were recovered from the pit. Six sherds date to the early to middle Iron Age 600-400 (BC), whilst a single sherd has been identified as late Bronze Age - Early to Mid Iron Age (800-600 BC).

7.14.3 Overlying the above was (1902), a 0.15m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (1901), a 0.15m thick layer of topsoil.

7.15 Trench 20 (Figure 16)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
2001	0.30m	39.73m – 39.40m	Topsoil
2002	0.20m	39.40m – 39.20m	Subsoil
2003	-	39.20m	Natural

7.15.1 Trench 20 measured 30.00m x 2.00m and was aligned roughly northwest-southeast (Figure 2).

7.15.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 20 was (2003), which varied between bright yellow brown clay and large patches of chalk, recorded at an upper height of 39.31mOD and 38.70mOD. Overlying the natural in the western half of the trench, were a series of deposits interpreted as possible occupation horizons, surfaces or demolition horizons. Layer (2004), was recorded as a dark grey brown silty clay, with inclusions of large flint nodules, measuring 2.00 x 10.70m. No datable finds were recovered from this layer. Layers (2007), and (2008), are the same deposit truncated by a later dated feature. The layer was recorded as a dirty grey white reddish brown mix of chalk and silty clay, recorded at an upper height of 39.15mOD. It was noted during the investigation that the deposit could have been the remains of a prepared surface, a possible subbase for a surface or possible a demolition horizon for a previous structure.

7.15.3 Cutting into [2007], was pit [2006] and linear [2010]. Pit [2006] was sub oval in shape, measuring 0.80m x 1.0m, at an upper height of 39.25mOD. The pit was filled by a mid brown grey clay with frequent chalk inclusions, with no datable finds observed. Linear [2010], was aligned north-south, measuring 1.20m x 0.30m wide. The linear was filled by (2009), a mid reddish brown silty clay with moderate inclusions of natural flint and stone. The feature may be a gully, based on its shape.

7.15.4 A possible tree throw or pit was recorded to the east of the above. Pit [2013], was irregular shaped, measuring 1.54m x 0.86m, at an upper height of 38.90mOD. The pit was filled with two deposits, the primary fill (2011), a light yellow brown silty clay with occasional flint, which was overlaid by (2012), a yellow white grey chalk with silt. No finds were observed in the feature.

7.15.5 Cutting into the natural was a series of small possible pits recorded as [2027], [2031], [2033], [2035], [2037] and two larger pits recorded as [2019] and [2029]. All of the small pits contained the same fill, recorded as a dark mid grey brown silty clay with moderate flint and rare charcoal, (2026), (2030), (2032), (2034), (2036). Fills (2032), (2034), and (2036), all contained rare fire crack flint. No datable finds were observed in the features. The pits were all sub circular in shape, the largest measuring 0.46m x 0.60m, whilst the smallest measured 0.30m x 0.36m. Larger pit [2019], was truncated by later activity and measured in plan, 0.92m by 0.54m. The pit was filled with a mid red brown silty clay. Pit [2029], measured 0.80m x 1.04m and was filled with a similar fill to the smaller pits above (2028). The lack of finds from the features suggested that they are not related to domestic waste dumping but are still likely to relate to a nearby settlement activity.

7.15.6 Two small linears, roughly aligned north-south, were recorded cutting into the natural and recorded as [2023] and [2025]. Linear [2023] measured 1.24m x 0.14m whilst, [2025] measured 1.38m x 0.14m. Both were filled with the same deposit of mid grey brown clay silt moderate inclusions of natural flint. No datable finds were collected and due to the very narrow nature of the features, their function is unclear.

7.15.7 At the far eastern extent of the site was linear [2039], a roughly north-south ditch, measuring 2.00m x 1.46m, recorded at an upper height of 38.75mOD. The ditch was filled with (2038), a mid grey brown clay silt with frequent flint nodules and rare charcoal. No dateable finds were observed.

7.15.8 Truncating linears [2023] and [2025] and pit [2019], was linear gully [2021]. The northeast-southwest gully measured 3.48m x 0.36m at an upper height of 38.87mOD. The gully was filled by (2020), a mid reddish brown silty clay with inclusions of flint and chalk with rare charcoal. The function of the feature is unclear but it may relate to land management.

7.15.9 Truncating the above, was roughly north-south linear [2016]. The ditch had gradual sloped sides and measured 1.60m x 2.00m x 0.30m+ at an upper height of 38.90mOD. The ditch was primarily filled by (2014/2017), a dark brown grey silty clay with frequent chalk, fire crack flint, flint debitage, animal bone, a flint flake, baked clay flecks, charcoal and abraded Roman pottery. Overlying (2014/2017) was a very thin deposit of chalk which maybe intrusional but was solely located within the extent of ditch. Due to the size and shape of the feature its probable that this functioned as a boundary ditch.

7.15.10 Overlying the above was (2002), a 0.20m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (2001), a 0.20m thick layer of topsoil.

Plate 12 – Trench 20 – Linear [2016].

Plate 13 – Trench 20

7.16 Trench 21 (Figure 17)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
2101	0.20m	40.34m – 40.14m	Topsoil
2102	0.30m	40.14m – 39.84m	Subsoil
2103	-	39.84m	Natural

7.16.1 Trench 21 measured 20.00m x 2.00m and was aligned northnortheast-southsouthwest (Figure 2).

7.16.2 The earliest deposit within Trench 21 was (2103), a hard reddish compacted chalk, recorded at an upper height of 38.91mOD. Overlying the natural was layer (2108), a layer of mid reddish brown clay which has been identified as a possible activity horizon. The layer extended to 6.32m x 1.80m but not the full length of the trench. Cutting into the natural, were the deposit was not present, was large rectangular cut [2114], measuring 3.00m x 0.66m. The feature was filled by (2113), a grey reddish brown silty clay, with moderate flint and occasional baked clay. No dating evidence was recovered. Cutting into (2113), were two small pits recorded as [2110] and [2112]. Pit [2110], measured 0.40m x 0.44m whilst [2112] measured 0.40m x 0.50m. The pits were filled by (2109) and (2111), a dark grey brown clay silt, with both containing fire crack flint and baked clay fragments but no datable finds.

7.16.3 Two postholes or small pits [2105] and [2107], were recorded cutting into possible activity horizon (2108). The features measured 0.24m x 0.22m and 0.24m and 0.28m respectively and were filled with a hard white chalk (2104) and (2107). It is possible that these represent post pads.

7.16.4 Overlying the above was (2102), a 0.30m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt, interpreted as subsoil, which in turn was overlaid by (2101), a 0.20m thick layer of topsoil.

Plate 14 – Trench 21 showing possible post pads, [2105] and [2107].

8 Finds (Appendix B)

8.1 The finds assemblage included pottery sherds, animal bone, CBM, Clay tobacco pipe, flint environmental samples.

8.2 Eighty-seven sherds (1301g), from an estimated thirty-six vessels, are tempered with crushed, burnt flint (FLIN). They are predominately body sherds from handmade vessels, including jars, with the exception of a number of rim sherds from contexts (705), (903) and (1904). Four sherds (60g) from context (903) and one small body sherd (4g) from (1904) have incised/tooled decoration (NCD). Eighteen body sherds, one (3g) from context (1504) and seventeen (280g) from context (903) are flint and sand tempered (FLIN SAND). One sherd from (903) is a base/rim of a hand formed vessel (Jon Cotton *pers comm*). The date range for these sherds is early/middle Iron Age (600-400BC), with the exception of the sherd with incised/tooled decoration from (1904) which has a date range of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age (800-400BC).

8.3 Five sherds of grog tempered pottery were identified in (1504) including, one sherd with combed decoration; all are body sherds apart from a hand formed base (12g). The pottery from context (1504) has a date range of late Iron Age to early Roman.

8.4 In addition to the pottery, four small fragments of perforated clay slab were also identified in (1704).

8.5 Sixteen sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from two contexts; (703) and (2014). Fill (703) contained fifteen fragments (124g) of fine London Oxidized Ware (LOXIF) (90-160AD) jar. The single sherd (7g) of unsourced fabric from (2014) is much abraded.

8.6 Three sherd of Post Medieval Redware (PMR) (1580-1900) was identified; two sherds (26g) of flower pot in context (1201) and one sherd (8g) of PMR in context (1401).

8.7 No further work is recommended on the Roman and post medieval pottery. However, the assemblage of prehistoric pottery should undergo a further, minimal assessment by a regional specialist to establish local form and fabric types. Should further work be undertaken, the vessels with rim/base fragments of early/middle Iron Age from (705) (903) and (904) warrant illustration (Jon Cotton *pers comm)*.

8.8 One (49g) fragment of post medieval tile was identified in context (1401). No further work is recommended.

8.9 A total of 92 fragments of animal bone were found in three contexts. The 86 (383g) fragments of articulate bone from context (1105) are cattle- possibly from a single juvenile (Matilda Holmes *pers comm*). The remainder of the animal bone from contexts (705) (4,1g), (1004) (1, <1g), (1504) (2, 1g) and (1704) (1, 3g) are fragmentary and too incomplete to establish any further information. No further work is recommended.

8.10 A total of three clay tobacco pipe stems were recovered from contexts (901) (1,4g) and (1401) (2,8g). No further work is recommended.

8.11 The flint assemblage consists mostly debitage and fire cracked flint, with one flake recovered from context (2014). The debitage and flake are like late prehistoric in date (Jon Cotton *pers comm*). Debitage was recovered from context (705), (903), and (2014). One flake, from context (2014), displaying retouch on the dorsal and ventral sides, the former concentrated around a shallow notch (Jon Cotton *pers comms*). A total of 14.1kg of fire cracked flint was recovered from (705), (903), (1704) and (2014). No further work is recommended.

8.12 Of the two samples that from the Early-Middle Iron Age ditch was almost devoid in remains bar a single cereal caryopses that could be residual. Iron Age pit [707], however contained a moderately large number of wheat/barley and some oat/rye cereal grains with some weed seeds. These may have been processed for storage or consumption. Charred plant and charcoal remains have the potential to survive on this site, and the presence of grain in the pit may suggest storage and other settlement and domestic activity in the immediate vicinity. Although there is a lack of charcoal in these two samples, the present of charred gran may suggest its presence is possible in other archaeological features. Further work has been recommended.

9 Conclusions

9.1 During the course of the evaluation on site the nature and extent of the archaeological potential was observed. A full sequence of natural deposits and ploughed topsoil was recorded across the whole site, as well as linear ditches, gullies, pits of various sizes and possible *in-situ* activity horizons, ranging in date from the late Bronze Age to early Iron Age (800-400BC) through to the Roman period. Some of the features indicated on the geophysics were observed within the trenches, however that was not the case across the site. Upon excavation, many trenches had natural variations, such as trenches 1-6 which had both clay and chalk within the trenches. These variations however do not tally with the geophysical survey and as such may not be a contributing factor, unless the results are geological variations at a deeper level. It is possible that it's use as a riding school (movement of the horses) may have somewhat contributed to the results, as no features were observed in the topsoil or subsoil.

9.2 Natural deposits were identified across the full extent of the site area, ranging from hard reddish brown clay to yellow brown silty clay or flint and chalk. The natural horizon undulates across the site as the topography drops.

9.3 Archaeological remains appear to date from four possible periods on site with a cluster of undated but probable archaeological features. The negative trenches seem to be located towards the western half of the site with the central and northern areas having an array of activity. Prehistoric remains dating to late Bronze Age to early Iron Age (800-400BC) and the early/middle Iron Age, were identified in nine trenches. The location of the trenches suggests that the is a central corridor of prehistoric remains across the site and suggests further settlement activity is present elsewhere either on or off site. Trenches located to the north of the site, in Trench 20, indicate probable Roman activity which ties in with the second aim of the works, ie to investigate whether Roman-period archaeological features identified during excavations at Thistledown (Downlands), to the immediate north of the proposed development area, continue into the site itself.

9.4 Later activity was recorded within a number of trenches in the form of linears identified as furrows. Most appear to have been heavily ploughed out during later periods which explain their shallow nature.

10 Recommendations

10.1 Due to the prehistoric and Roman remains identified on site, it has been indicated by Ben Found, Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council, that should the proposed development be granted planning approval and the current scheme remains unchanged, further mitigation works may need to be conducted on site in the form of a strip, map and record and detailed excavation.

11 Publication and Archive Deposition

11.1 The site archive will comprise all artefacts, environmental samples and written and drawn records. It is to be consolidated after completion of the whole project, with records and finds collated and ordered as a permanent record. Archaeological finds rarely have any monetary value but they are an important source of information for future research, included in museum exhibits and teaching collections. The Chartered Institute of Archaeologists (CIfA 2015) and the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA 1993) recommend that finds are publicly accessible and that landowners donate archaeological finds to a local museum.

11.2 On completion of the project AOC will discuss arrangements for the archive to be deposited with the County's archaeological archive storage facility (when available) and with the developer/landowner. Following completion of each stage or the full extent of the fieldwork (as appropriate) the site archive will be prepared in the format agreed with the County's archaeological archive storage facility (when available). The excavation archive will be security copied (microfilmed) and a copy deposited with the National Archaeological Record (NAR).

11.3 Landowner consent will be required to allow transfer of any finds to County's archaeological archive storage facility. A Deed of Transfer will be drawn up by the County's archaeological archive storage facility for signing by the landowner. The complete finds inventory and further finds information can be provided to the landowner, on request.

11.4 The site archive will be deposited with the County's archaeological archive storage facility within one year of the completion of fieldwork (if no further work is required). It will then become publicly accessible.

12 Bibliography

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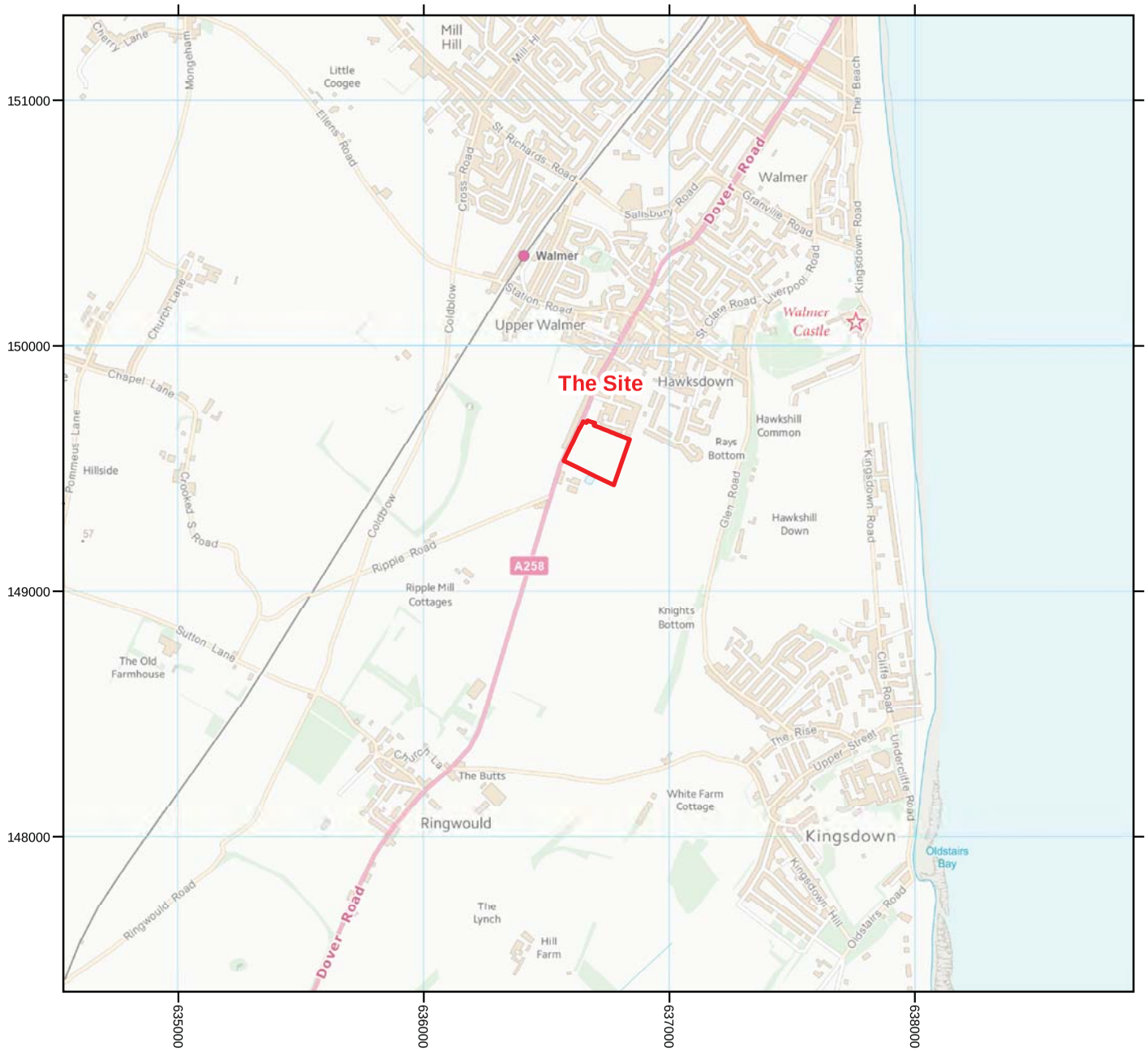


Figure 1:
Site Location

0 1 Kilometres

North

1:25,000 @ A4

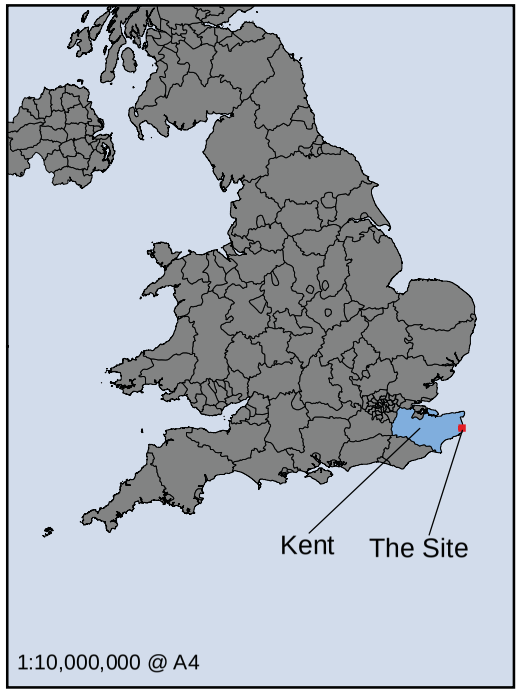


Figure 2: Detailed Site and Trench Location Plan

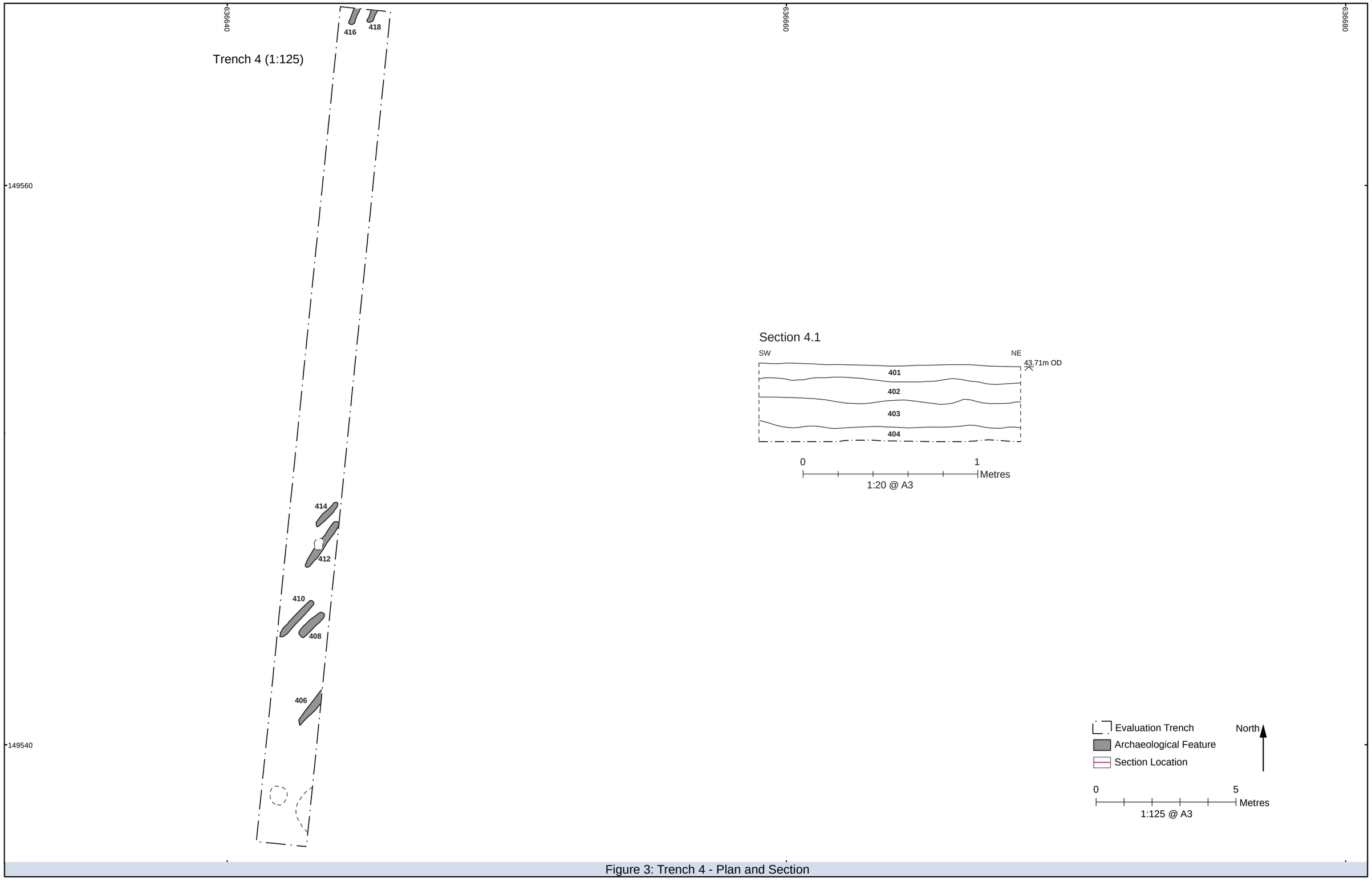


Figure 3: Trench 4 - Plan and Section

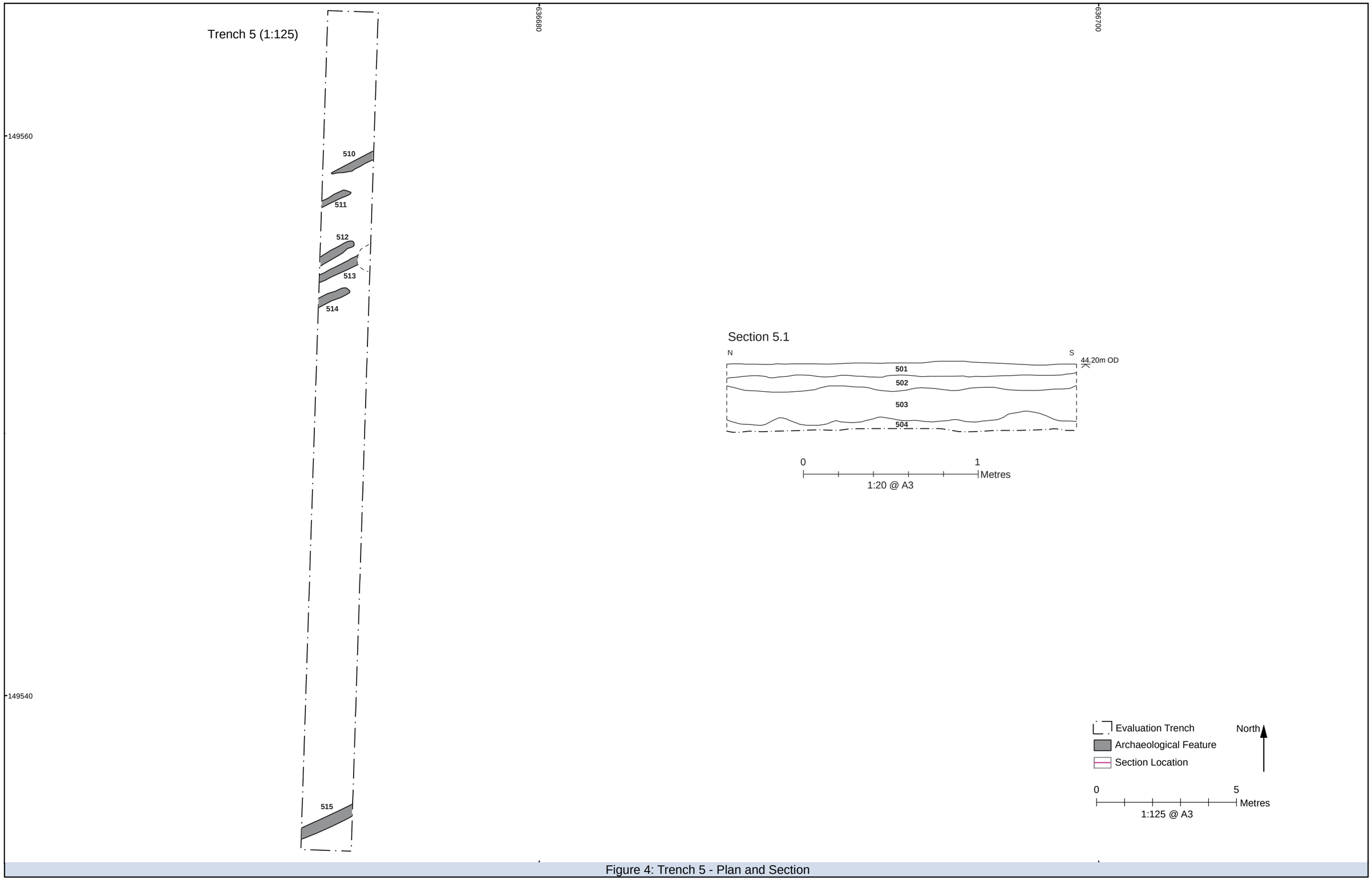


Figure 4: Trench 5 - Plan and Section

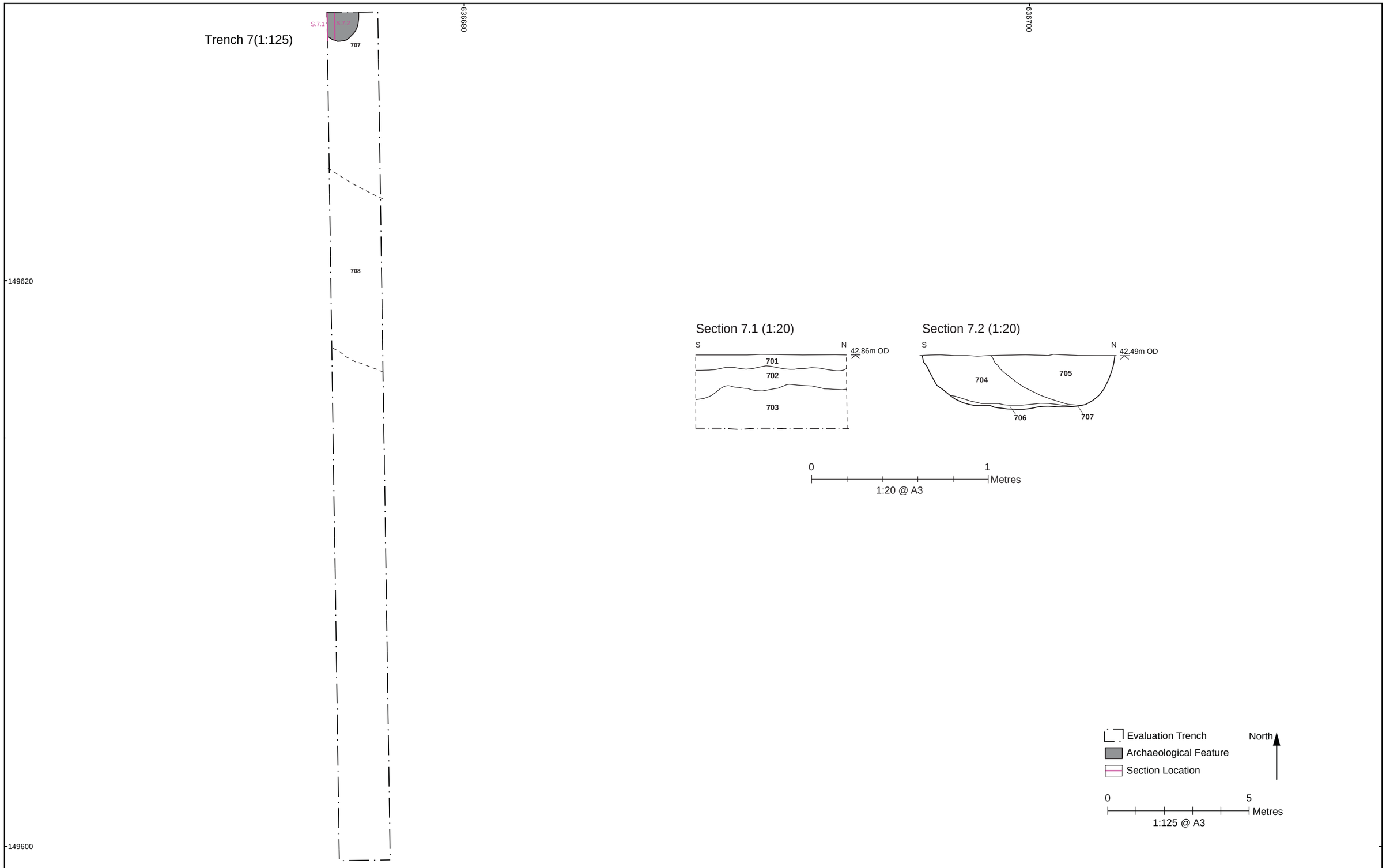


Figure 5: Trench 7 - Plan and Sections

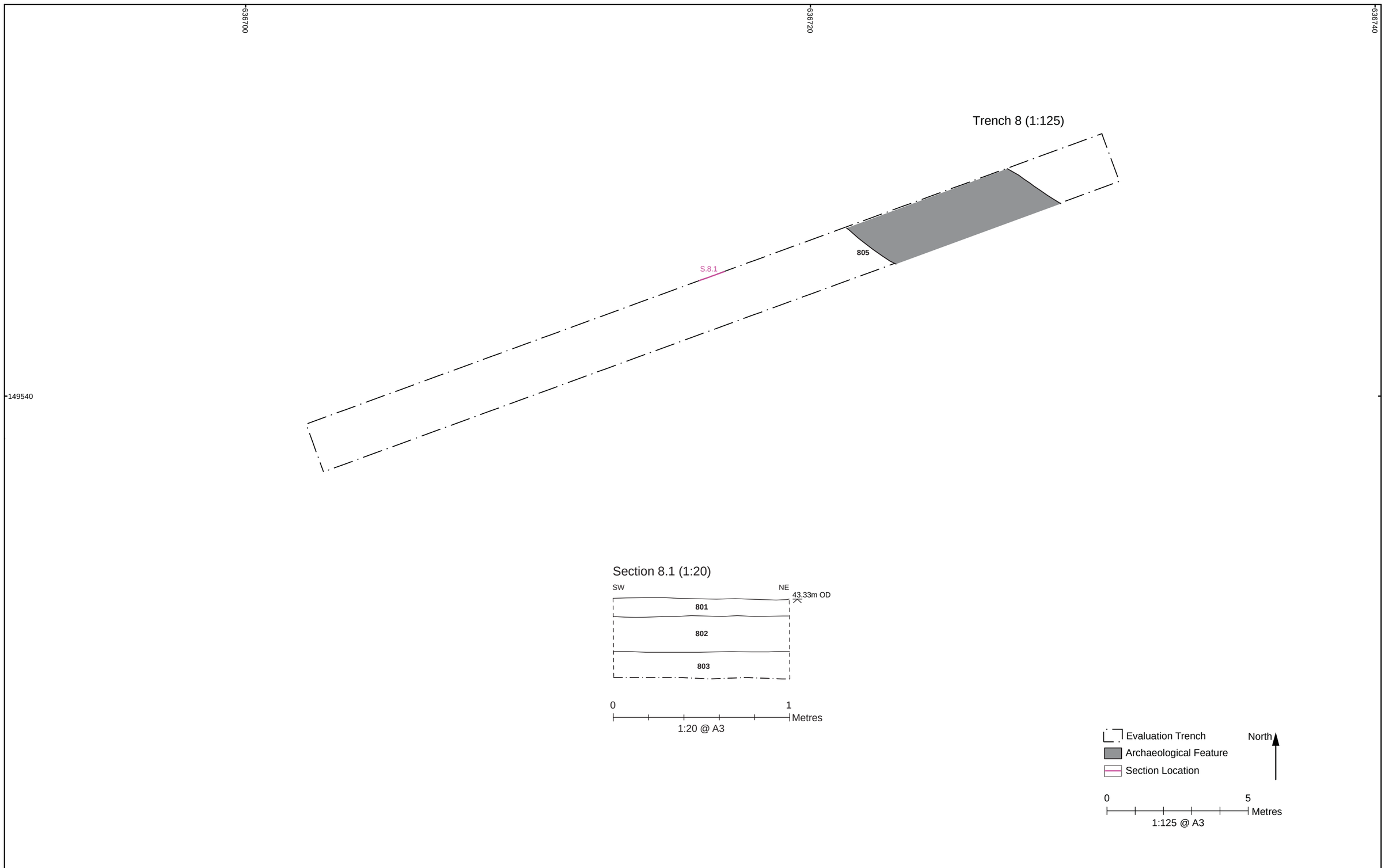


Figure 6: Trench 8 - Plan and Section

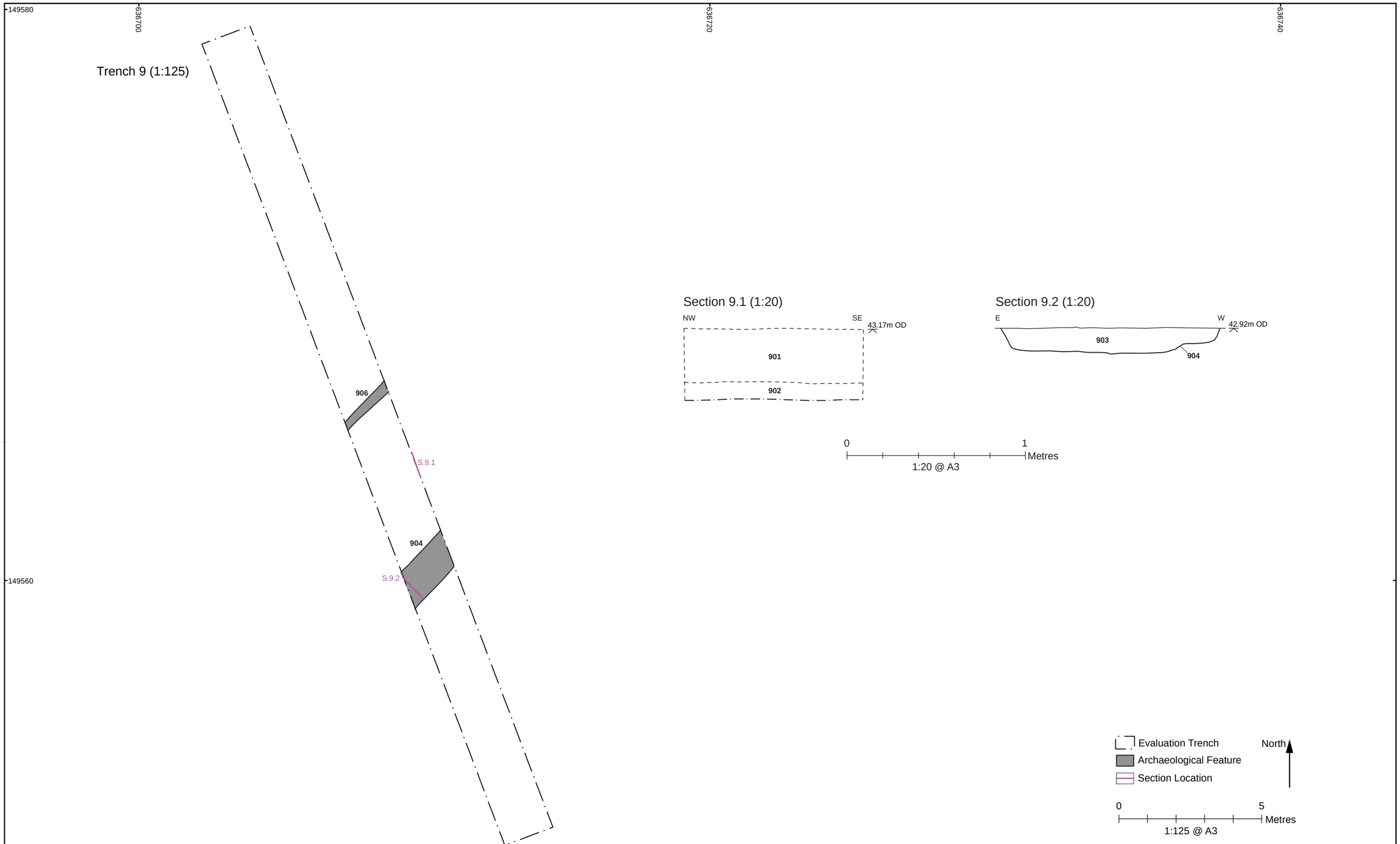


Figure 7: Trench 9 - Plan and Sections

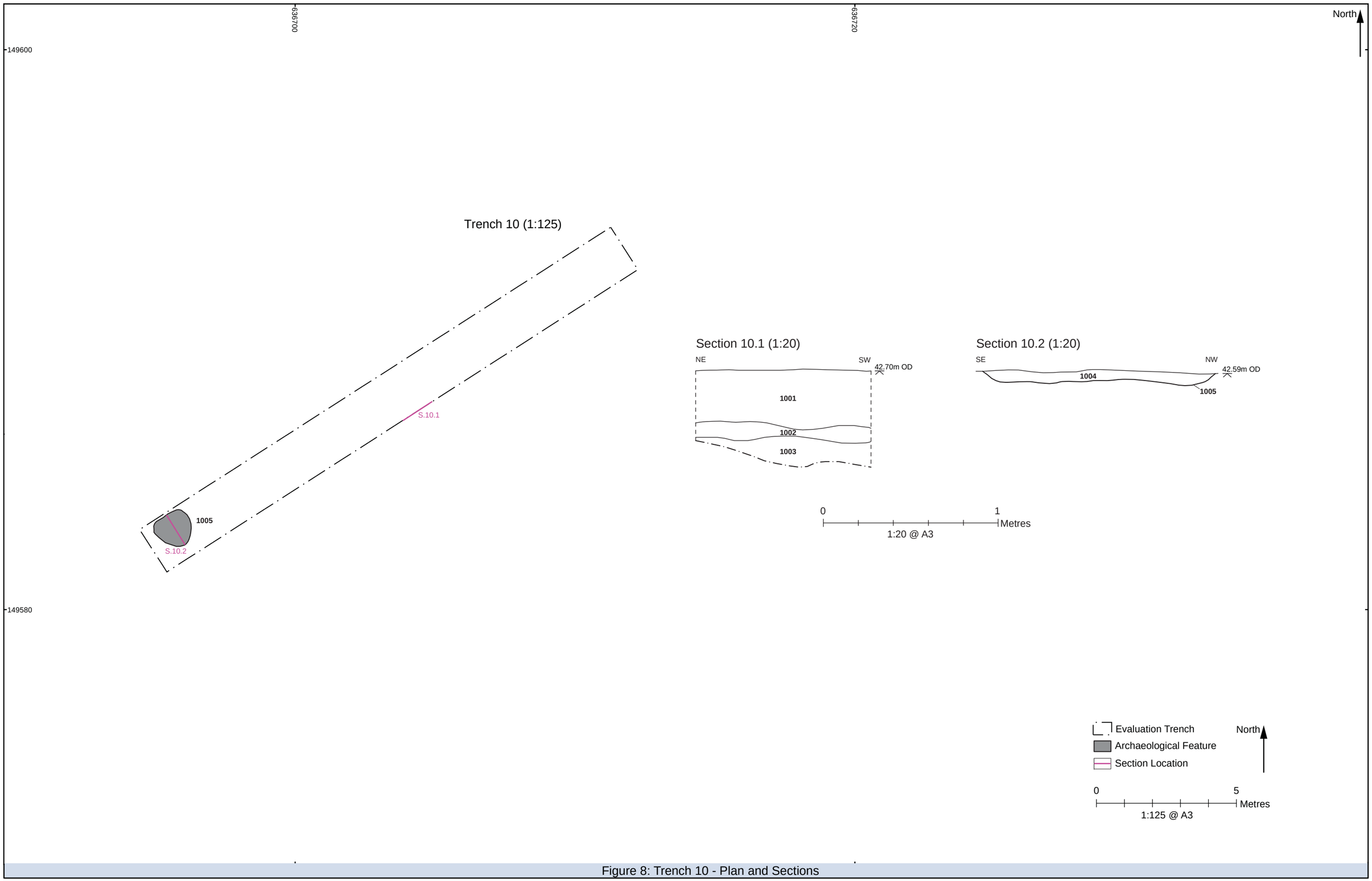


Figure 8: Trench 10 - Plan and Sections

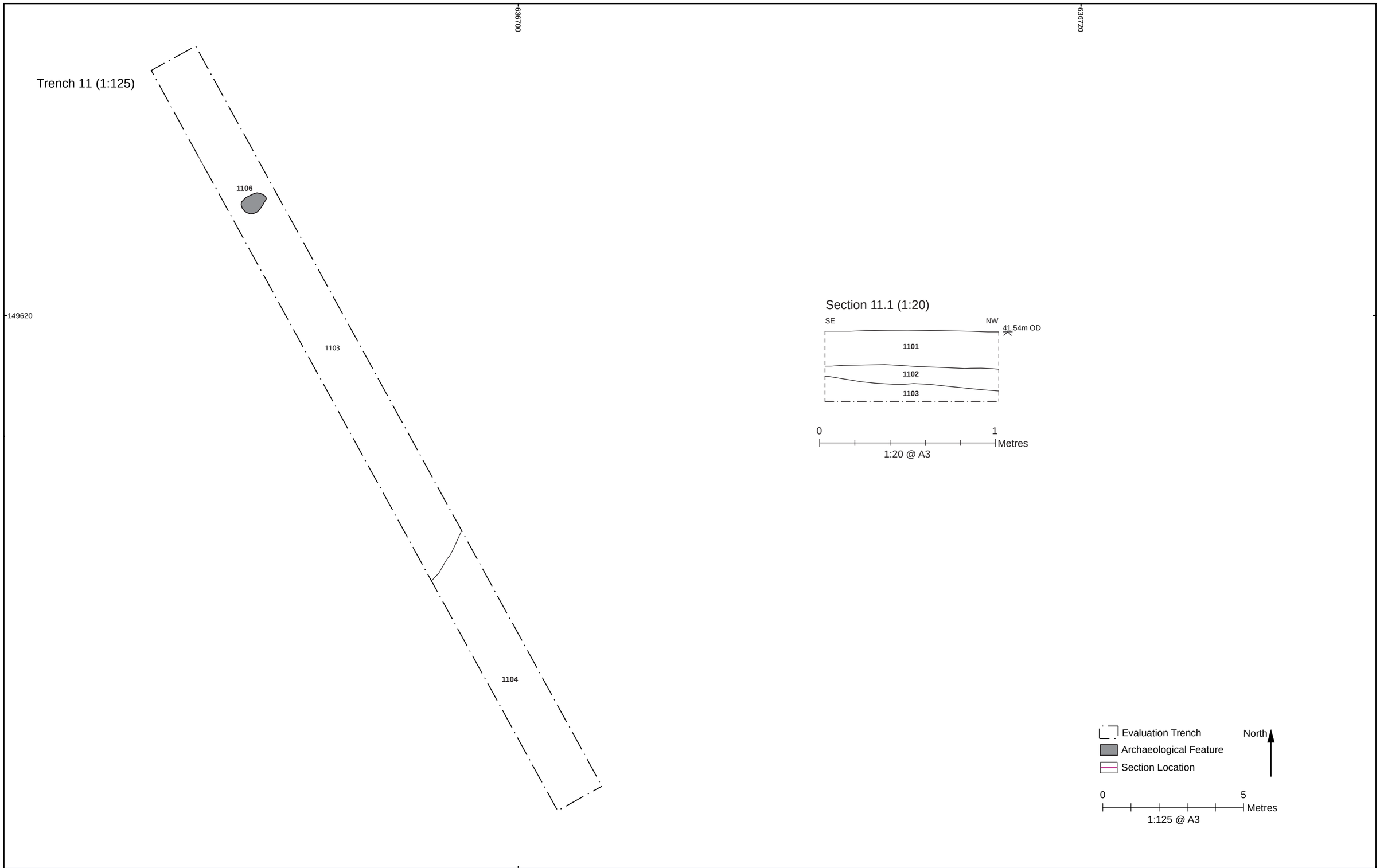


Figure 9 : Trench 11 - Plan and Section

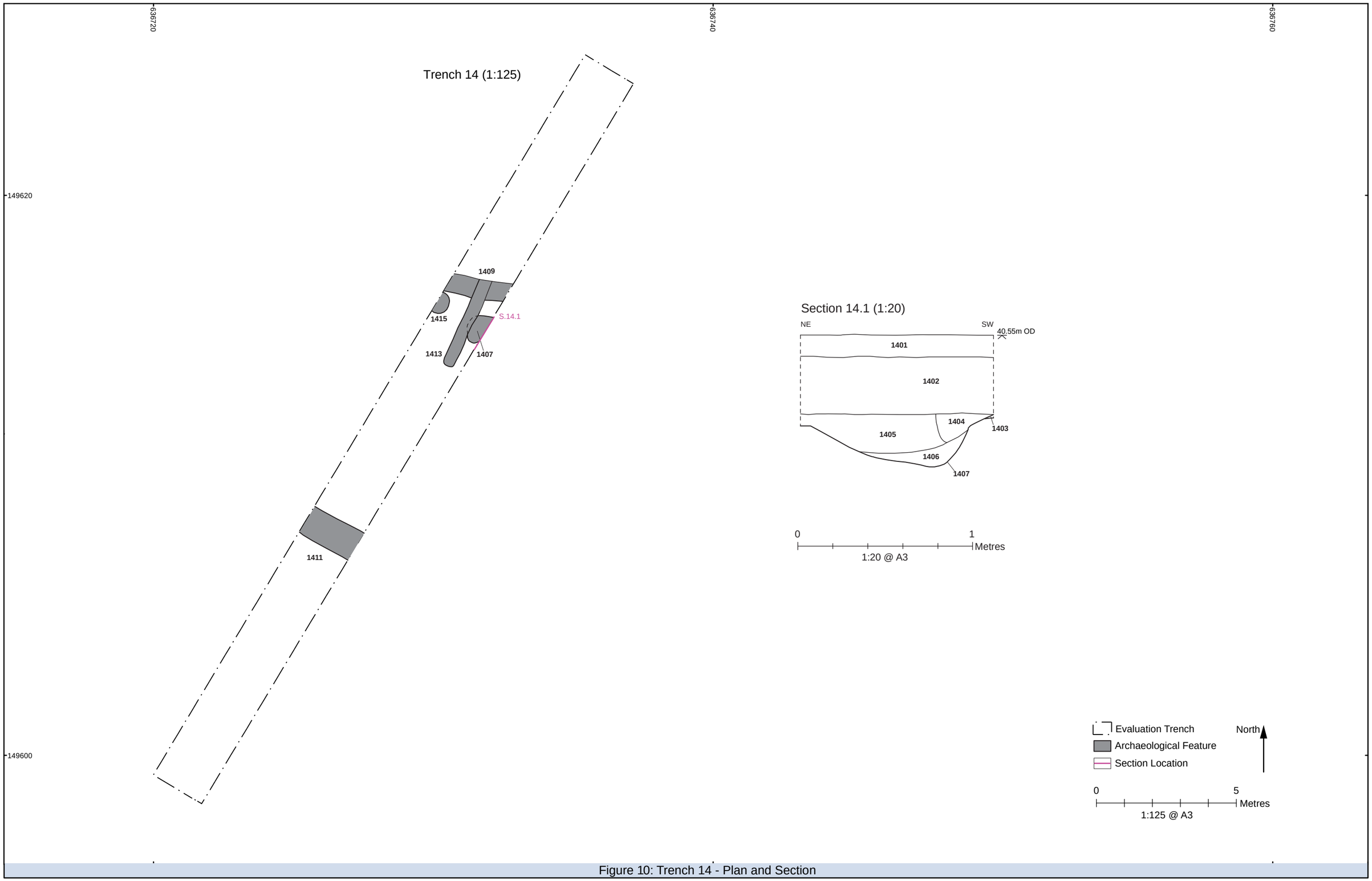


Figure 10: Trench 14 - Plan and Section

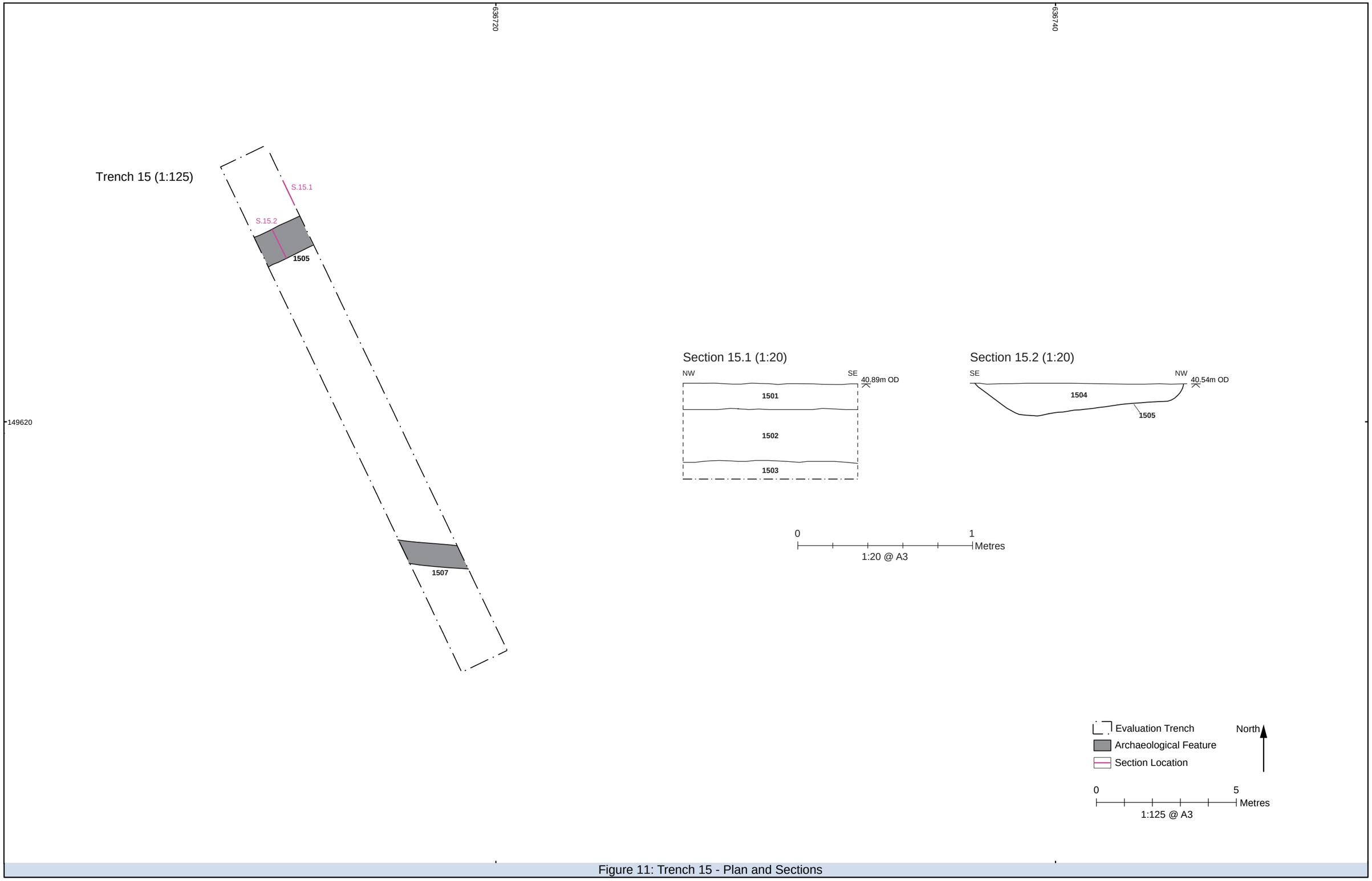


Figure 11: Trench 15 - Plan and Sections

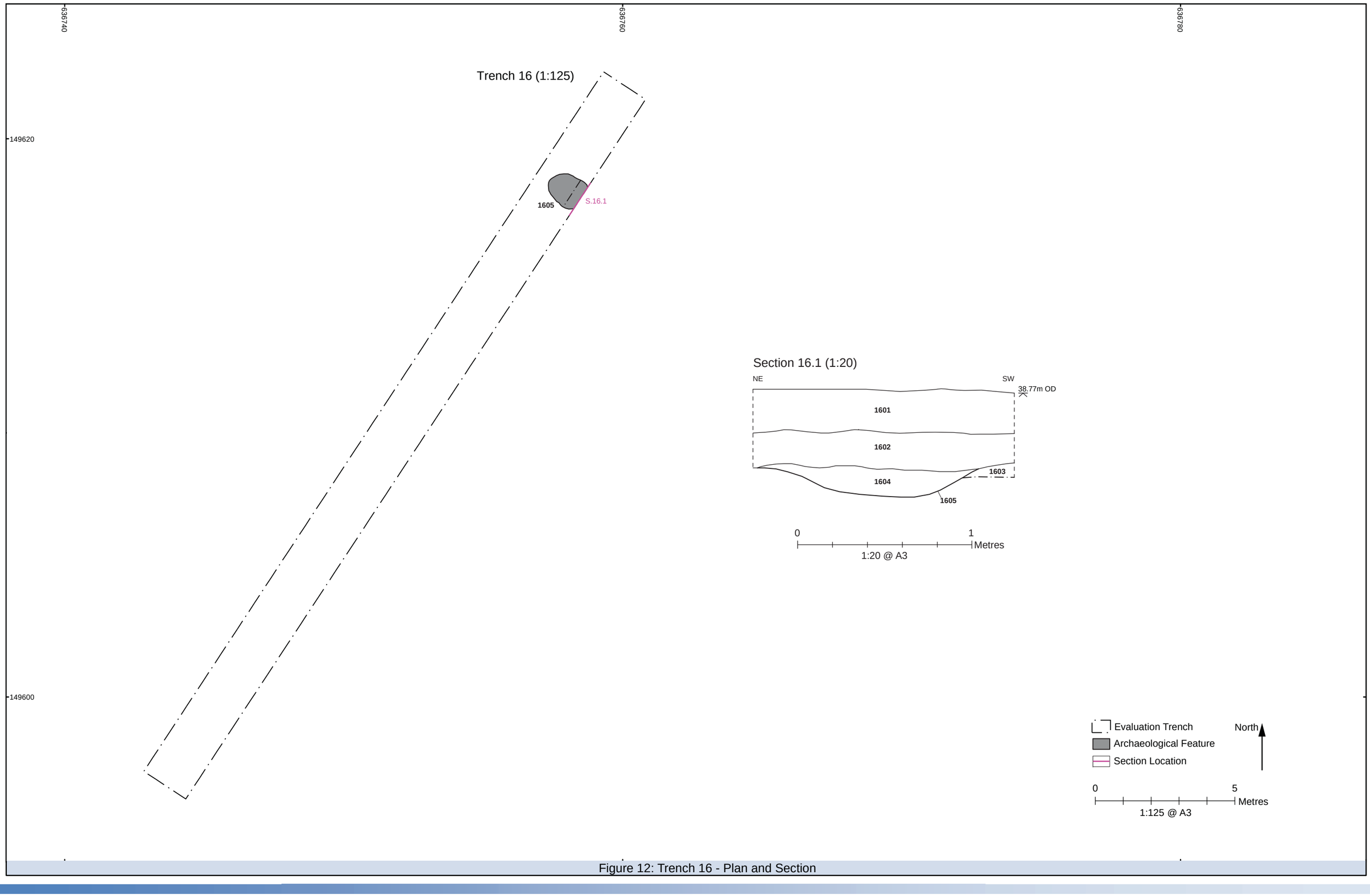


Figure 12: Trench 16 - Plan and Section

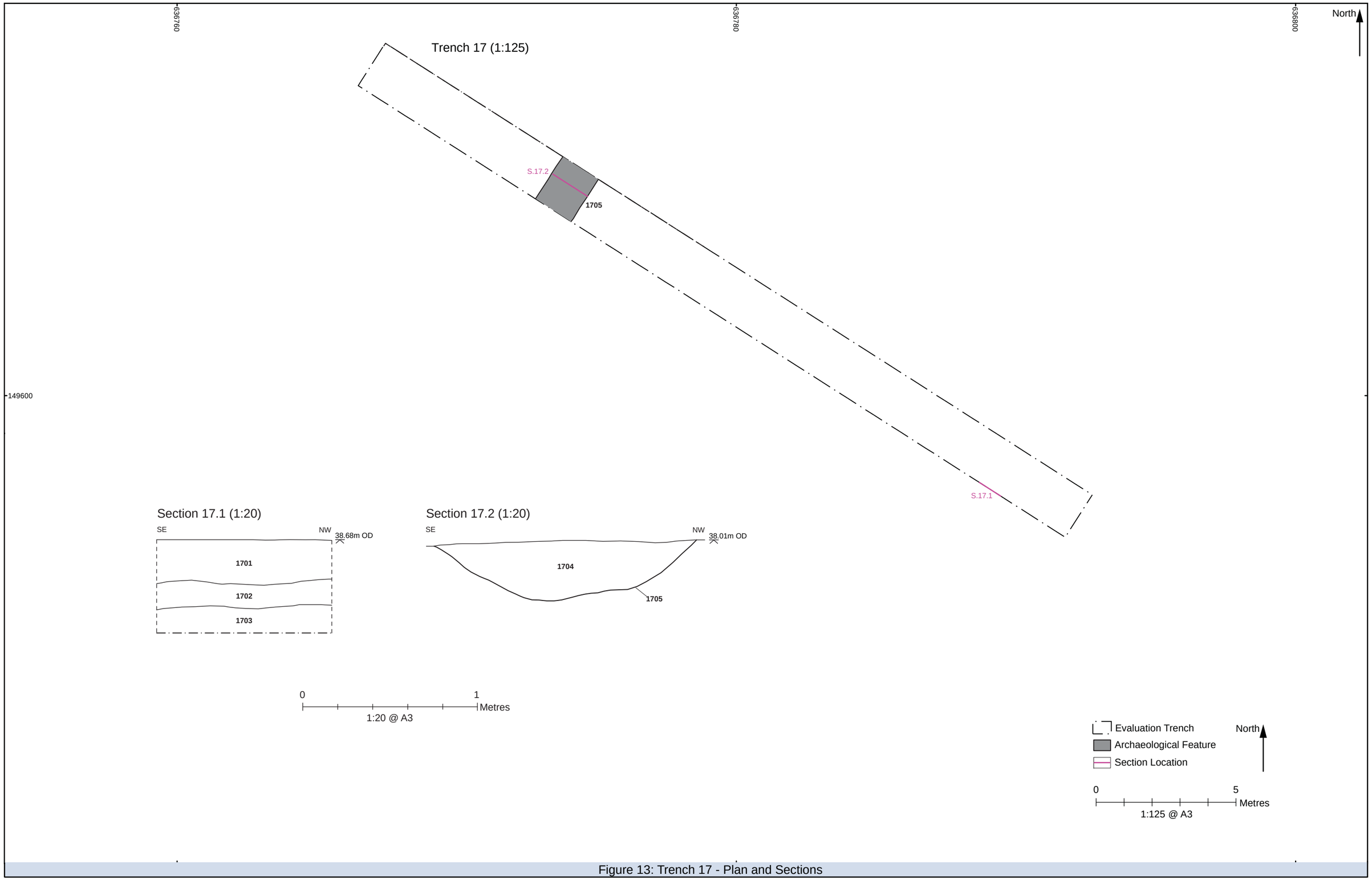


Figure 13: Trench 17 - Plan and Sections

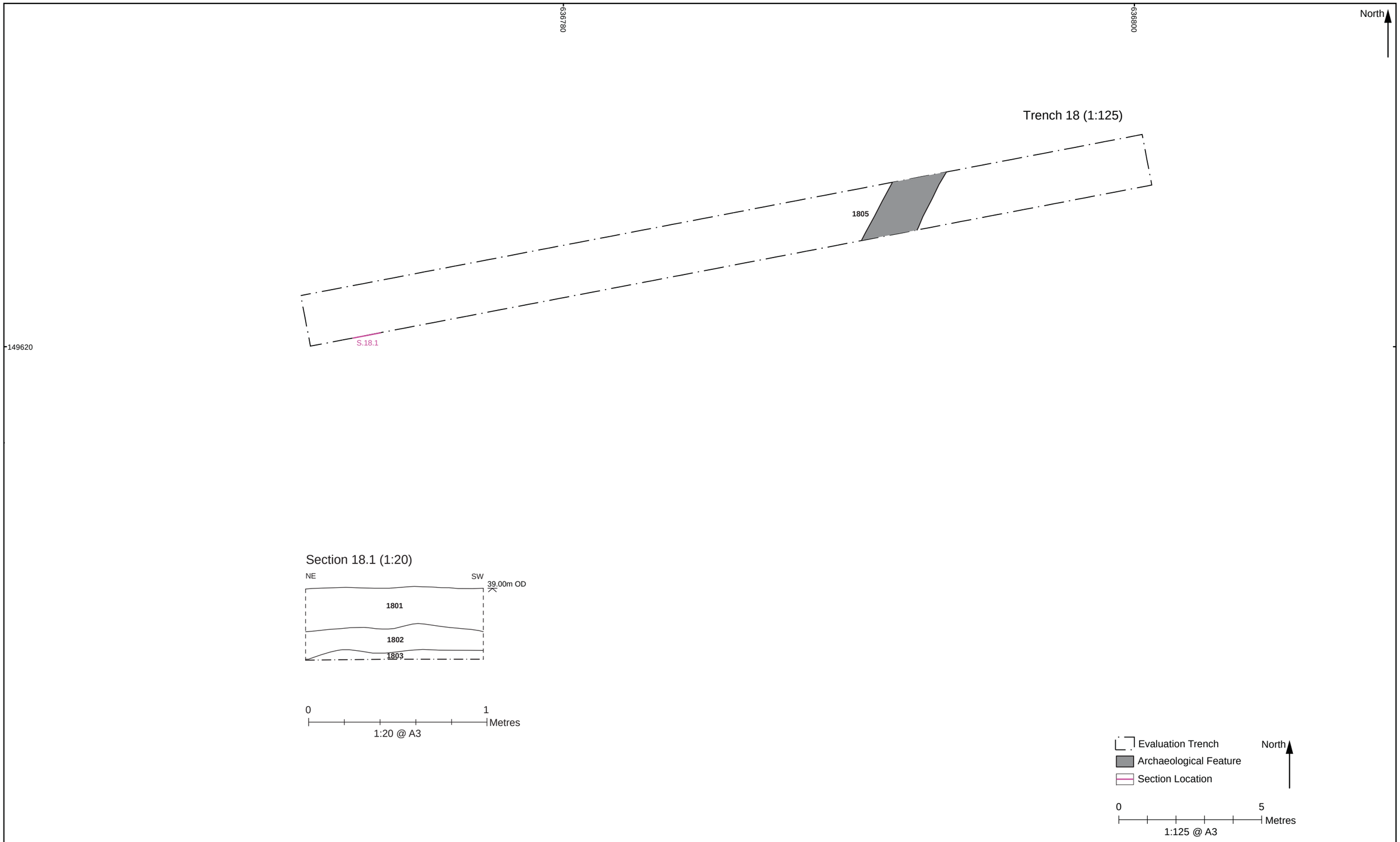


Figure 14: Trench 18 - Plan and Section

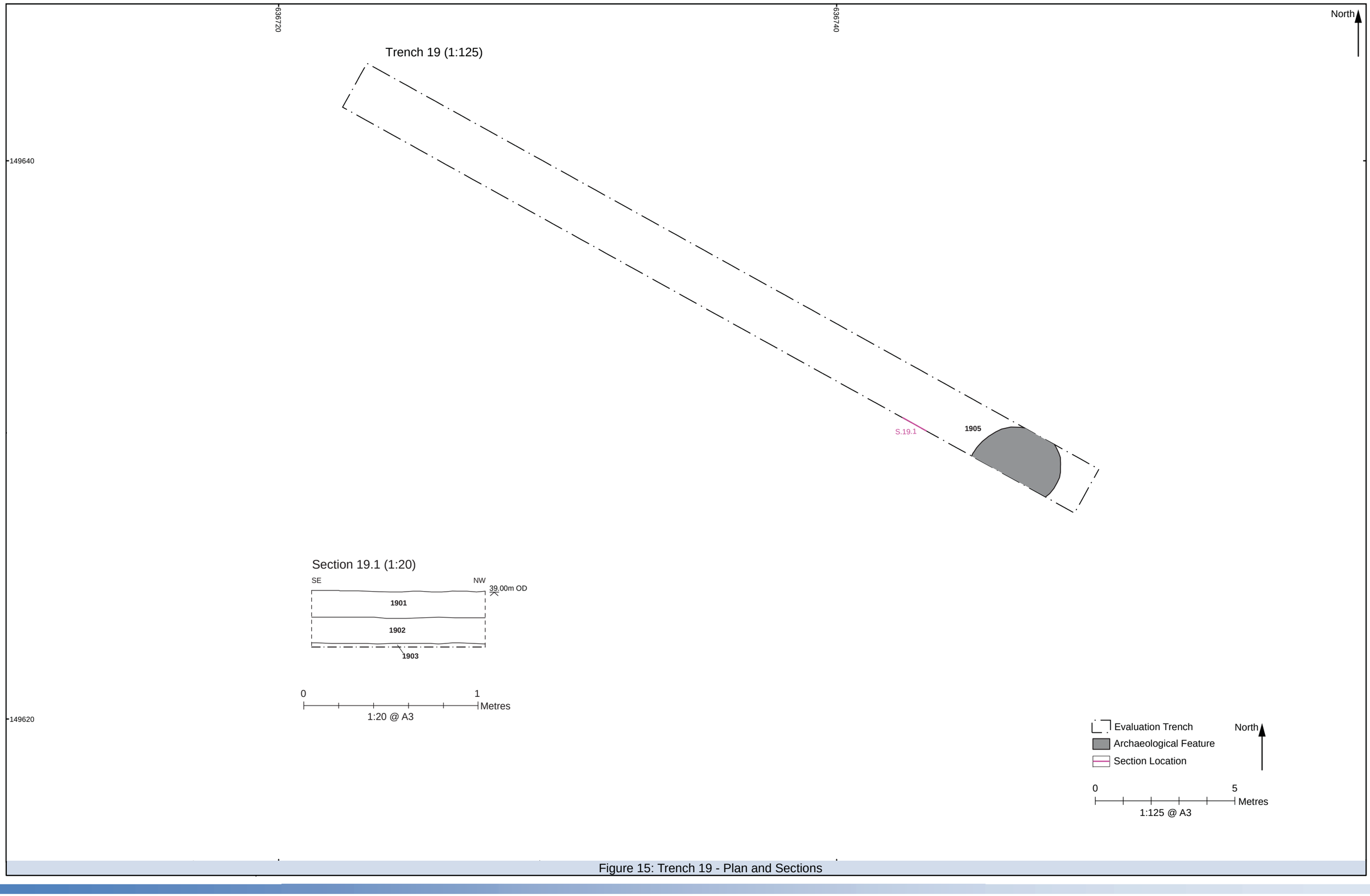


Figure 15: Trench 19 - Plan and Sections

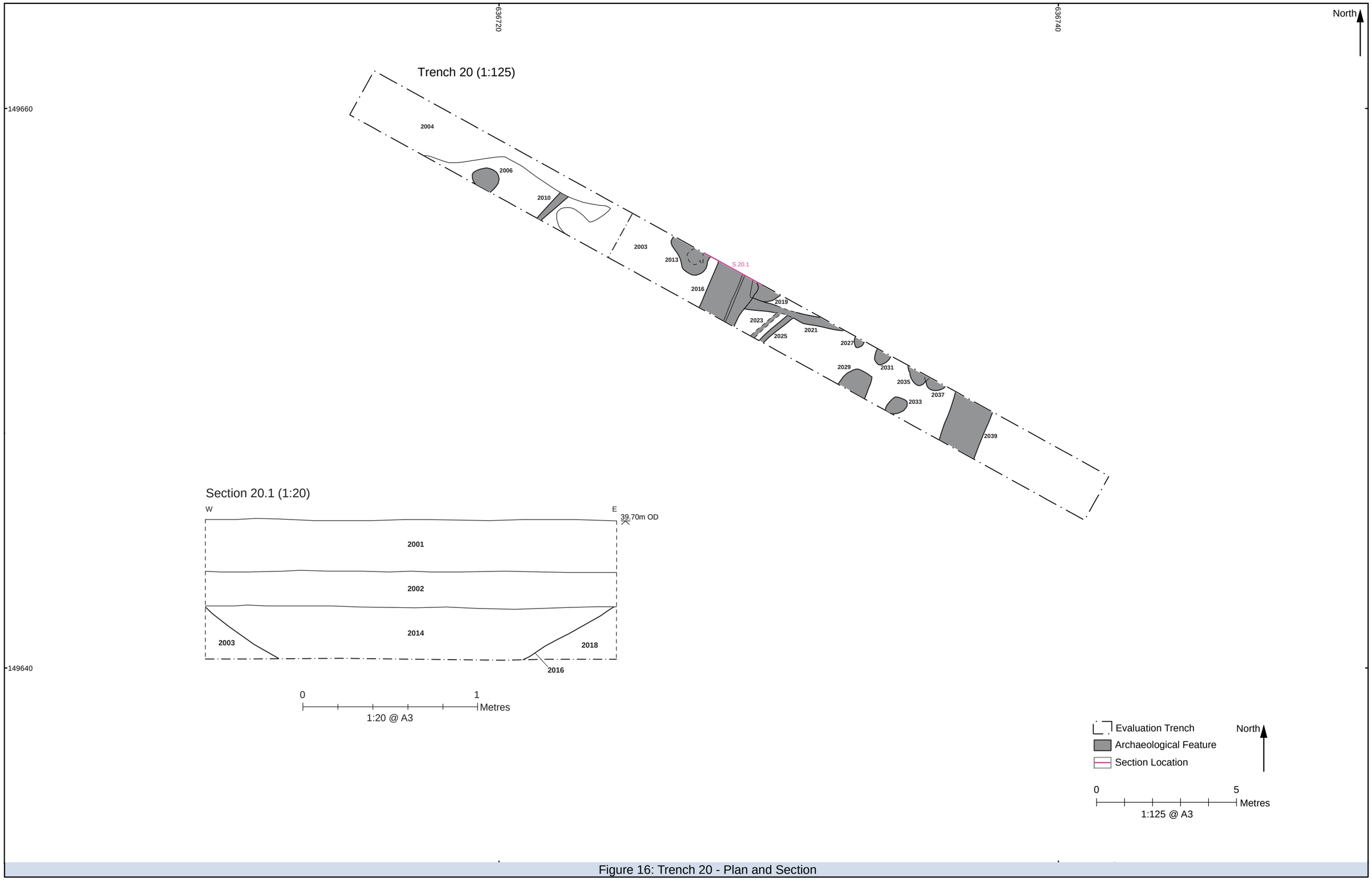


Figure 16: Trench 20 - Plan and Section

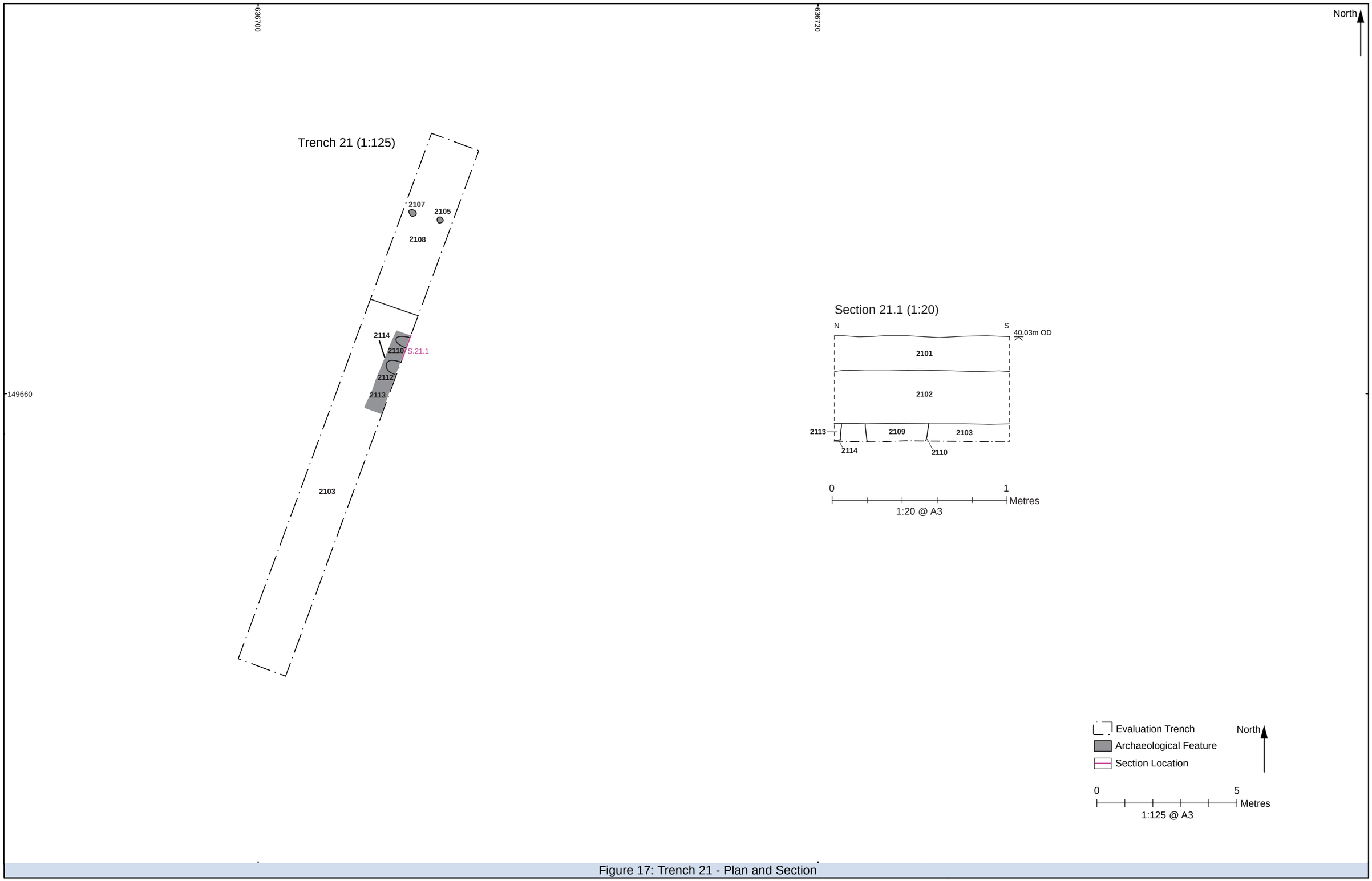
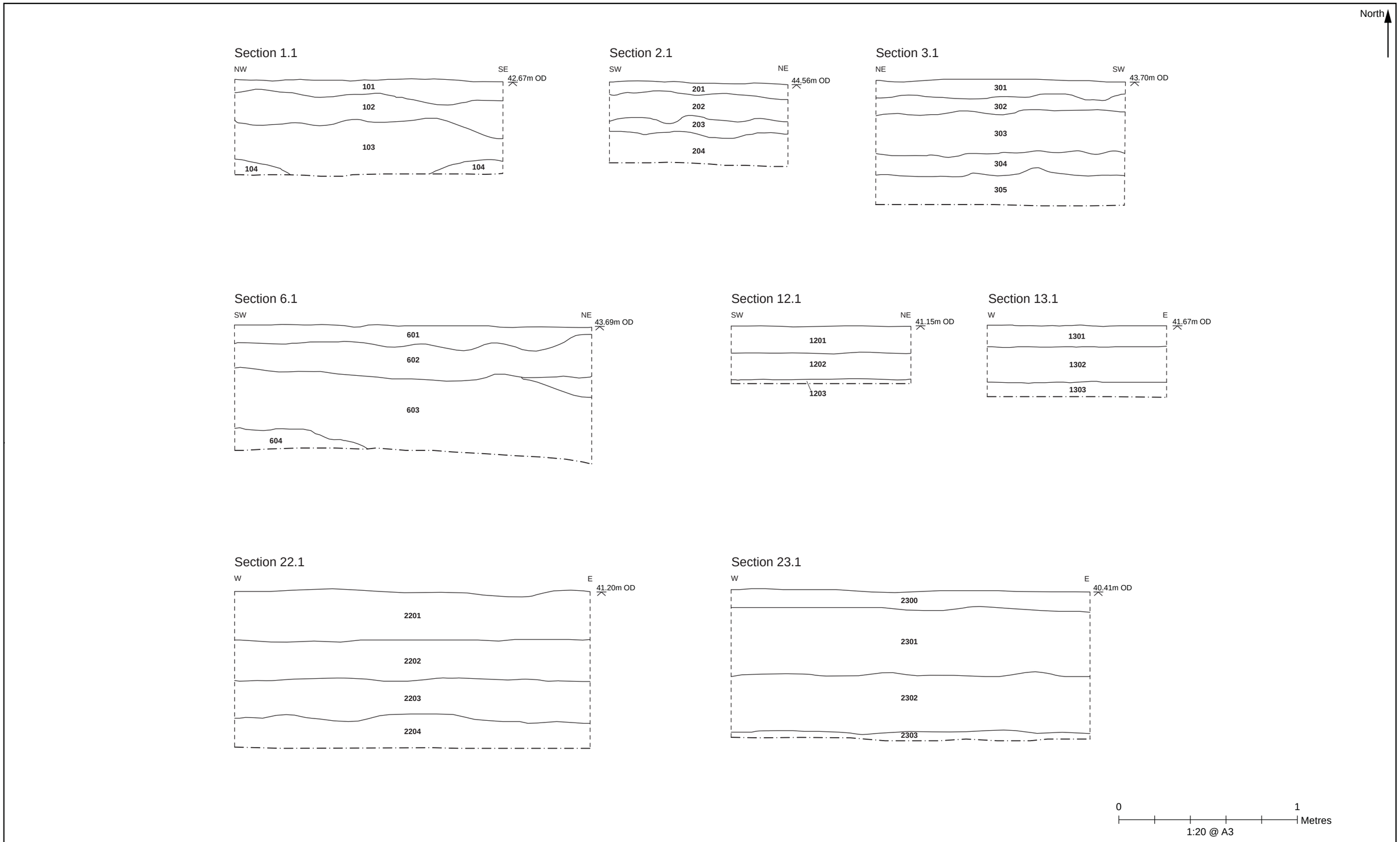


Figure 17: Trench 21 - Plan and Section



Figures 18: Trenches 1, 2, 3, 6, 12, 13, 22 and 23 - Sample Sections

Appendices

AOC Archaeology Group

Appendix A – Context Register

	Context Register			
Context No.	**Context Description/Index code**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**
101	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.11
102	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	
103	Hard Reddish Brown Clay	Trench	Trench	
104	Natural Chalk Layer	Trench	Trench	
201	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.11
202	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.13
203	Mid reddish brown gravel	Trench	Trench	0.12
204	Natural Chalk	Trench	Trench	0.18
301	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.11
302	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.13
303	Dark Brownish Red Clay	Trench	Trench	0.22
304	Dark brownish red clay with gravel inclusions	Trench	Trench	0.22
305	Dark brownish red clay with flint inclusions	Trench	Trench	0.22
401	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	-
402	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	-
403	Firm reddish brown clayey gravel	Trench	Trench	-
404	Natural chalk	Trench	Trench	-
405	Fill of [406]		-	-
406	Linear plough furrow	1.25	-	-
407	Fill of [408]		-	-
408	Linear plough furrow	1.10	-	-
409	Fill of [410]		-	-
410	Linear plough furrow	1.75	-	-
411	Fill of [412]		-	-
412	Linear plough furrow	2.00	-	-
413	Fill of [414]		-	-
414	Linear plough furrow	1.10	-	-
415	Fill of [416]		-	-
416	Linear plough furrow	0.75	-	-
417	Fill of [418]		-	-
418	Linear plough furrow	0.50	-	-
501	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.08
502	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10
503	Silt/Clay natural	Trench	Trench	0.18
504	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.06
505	Fill of [511]	1.15	-	-
506	Fill of [512]	1.30	-	-
507	Fill of [513]	1.20	-	-

508	Fill of [514]	1.25	-	-
509	Fill of [515]	1.25	-	-
510	Cut - Plough furrow	-	-	-
511	Cut - Plough furrow	-	-	-
512	Cut - Plough furrow	-	-	-
513	Cut - Plough furrow	-	-	-
514	Cut - Plough furrow	-	-	-
515	Cut - Plough furrow	-	-	-
516	Fill of [510]	1.25	-	-
601	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.14
602	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.16
603	Hard reddish brown clay	Trench	Trench	0.40
604	Natural chalk	Trench	Trench	0.11
701	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.12
702	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.80
703	Hard reddish brown clay	Trench	Trench	0.20
704	Fill of Pit [707]	-	-	-
705	Fill of Pit [707]	-	-	-
707	Cut of pit	-	-	-
708	Dark orangy brown clay with burnt flint	-	-	-
801	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10
802	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20
803	Firm, mid reddish brown clay	Trench	Trench	-
804	Fill of [805]	>2.25	5.25	-
805	Linear E-W wide ditch, possibly a deposit rather than cut	>2.25	5.25	-
901	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.3-0.4
902	Iron Age layer/deposit	Trench	Trench	0.10
903	Fill of Ditch [904]	>2.0	1.32	0.14
904	Cut of ditch	>2.0	1.32	0.14
905	Fill of plough furrow [906]	>2.0	0.35	-
906	Cut of plough furrow	>2.0	0.35	-
1001	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30
1002	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.18
1003	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
1004	Fill of Pit [1005]	1.25	1.35	0.06
1005	Cut of Pit	1.25	1.35	0.06
1101	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.2-0.25
1102	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.1-0.12
1103	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
1104	Deposit	10.00	2.00	-
1105	Fill of burrow [1105]	0.90	0.65	0.10
1106	Cut of burrow	0.90	0.65	0.10
1201	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15
1202	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15

1203	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
1301	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.12
1302	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	2.00
1303	Iron Age Deposit	Trench	Trench	-
1401	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.12
1402	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.37
1403	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
1404	Fill of Pit/PH [1407]	>0.65	>0.33	0.21
1405	Fill of Pit [1407]	>0.65	>0.44	0.23
1406	Fill of [1407]	>0.65	>0.55	0.10
1407	Sub circular Cut of Pit	>0.9	>0.65	0.30
1408	Fill of Linear [1409]	>2.1	0.65	-
1409	Cut of Linear - NE-SW aligned	>2.1	0.65	-
1410	Fill of Linear [1411]	>2.0	0.65	-
1411	Cut of Linear	>2.0	0.65	-
1412	Fill of Linear [1413]	>2.05	0.30	-
1413	Cut of Linear	>2.05	0.30	-
1414	Fill of Pit [1415]	0.80	0.30	-
1501	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15
1502	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30
1503	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
1504	Fill of Ditch [1505]	>2.0	1.15	0.18
1505	Cut of Ditch	>2.0	1.15	0.18
1506	Fill of Linear [1507]	>2.3	0.80	<0.01
1507	Cut of Ditch	>2.3	0.80	<0.01
1601	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.25
1602	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20
1603	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
1604	Fill of Pit [1604]	1.30	1.00	0.15
1605	Cut of Pit	1.30	1.00	0.15
1701	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.22-0.25
1702	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.14
1703	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
1704	Fill of Linear [1705]	>2.0	1.50	0.34
1705	Cut of Linear	>2.0	1.50	0.34
1801	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.2-0.25
1802	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15
1803	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
1804	Fill of Linear [1805]	>2.75	1.65	-
1805	Cut of linear	>2.75	1.65	-
1901	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15
1902	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15
1903	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
1904	Fill of Pit [1905]	3.10	>2.0	-
1905	Sub circular Cut of Pit	3.10	>2.0	-
2001	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30
2002	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20

2003	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
2004	Deposit/Spread	10.70	2.00	-
2005	Fill of Pit [2006]	1.00	0.80	-
2006	Cut of Pit	1.00	0.80	-
2007	Deposit	4.90	1.40	-
2008	Deposit	1.60	1.26	-
2009	Fill of Pit [2010]	1.20	0.30	-
2010	Cut of Linear	1.20	0.30	-
2011	Fill of Pit [2013]	1.54	0.86	-
2012	Fill of Pit [2013]	0.64	0.50	-
2013	Cut of Pit	1.54	0.86	-
2014	Fill of Ditch [2016]	>2.0	1.60	-
2015	Fill of Ditch [2016]	>2.0	0.08	-
2016	Cut of Linear	>2.0	1.60	-
2017	Fill of Ditch [2016]	0.56	0.26	-
2018	Fill of pit [2019]	0.92	>0.54	-
2019	Cut of Pit	0.92	>0.54	-
2020	Fill of [2021]	>3.48	0.36	-
2021	Cut of Linear	>3.48	0.36	-
2022	Mid greyish brown clayey silt, moderate flint - Fill of [2023]	>1.24	0.14	-
2023	Cut of Linear	>1.24	0.14	-
2024	Fill of [2025]	>1.38	0.14	-
2025	Cut of Linear	>1.38	0.14	-
2026	Fill of Pit [2027]	>0.36	>0.30	-
2027	Cut of Pit	>0.36	>0.30	-
2028	Fill of Pit [2029]	>1.04	>0.86	-
2029	Cut of Pit	>1.04	>0.86	-
2030	Fill of Pit [2031]	0.50	0.46	-
2031	Cut of Pit	0.50	0.46	-
2032	Fill of Pit [2033]	0.60	0.46	-
2033	Cut of Pit	0.60	0.46	-
2034	Fill of Pit [2035]	0.64	0.44	-
2035	Cut of Pit	0.64	0.44	-
2036	Fill of Pit [2037]	0.60	0.34	-
2037	Cut of Pit	0.60	0.34	-
2038	Fill of Linear [2039]	>2.0	1.46	-
2039	Cut of linear			
2101	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20
2102	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30
2103	Natural	Trench	Trench	-
2104	Fill of PH [2105]	0.24	0.22	-
2105	Cut of Posthole	0.24	0.22	-
2106	Fill of PH [2107]	0.24	0.22	-
2107	Cut of Posthole	0.24	0.22	-
2108	Deposit	6.32	1.80	-
2109	Fill of Pit/PH [2110]	0.44	0.40	-
2110	Cut of Pit/PH	0.44	0.40	-

2111	Fill of Pit/PH [2112]	0.50	0.40	-
2112	Cut of Pit/PH	0.50	0.40	-
2113	Fill of [2114]	3.00	0.66	-
2114	Rectangular cut	3.00	0.66	-
2201	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.28
2202	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.23
2203	Silt clay head	Trench	Trench	0.2-0.25
2204	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.18
2300	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10
2301	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.37
2302	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.32
2303	Natural	Trench	Trench	0.05

Appendix B – Specialist Reports

The Finds from Dover Road, Deal (DRD17)

Kylie McDermott

The Pottery

Introduction

A very small assemblage of prehistoric, Roman and post medieval pottery sherds from an evaluation at Dover Road, Deal (DRD17) has been assessed. The pottery is poorly preserved, mostly in an abraded and fragmentary condition, with the exception of the prehistoric pottery.

Methodology

The assemblage in this report has been quantified using sherd count and weight (g), was identified with reference to the Museum of London Pottery Code Expansions and recorded on an excel spreadsheet, to be included with the site archive.

Prehistoric

The sherds of prehistoric pottery in the assemblage consists of late Bronze age to Late-Iron Age/Roman vessels (Table 1) (Jon Cotton *pers comm*).

context	fabric	form	dec	shd no	env	w (g)	comments	Illus	E-L DATES	Ctx Spot date
603	FLIN			1	1	15			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	E/M IA 600-400 (BC)
705	FLIN	JAR		20	6	407	rim	yes	E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	E/M IA 600-400 (BC)
	FLIN			1	1	56			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	
903	FLIN			14	14	316			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	E/M IA 600-400 (BC)
	FLIN SAND			16	1	225		yes	E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	
	FLIN SAND	JAR		1	1	55	hand formed base/rim		E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	
	FLIN		NCD	4	1	60	rim	yes	E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	
	FLIN			2	1	91			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	
	FLIN			2	1	24			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	
	FLIN	JAR		2	1	83	rim	yes	E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	

1004	FLINT			12	2	48			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	E/M IA 600-400 (BC)
1504	GROG			3	2	3			Late IA-Roman	Late IA-Roman
	GROG			1	1	12	hand formed base		Late IA-Roman	
	GROG		COMB	1	1	13			Late IA-Roman	
	FLIN SAND			1	1	3			Late IA-Roman	
1604	FLIN			1	1	12			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	E/M IA 600-400 (BC)
1704	FLIN			11	1	103			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	E/M IA 600-400 (BC)
	FLIN			8	1	54			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	
				4	1	29	perforated clay slab frags		E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	
1804	FLIN			2	2	15			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	E/M IA 600-400 (BC)
1904	FLIN		NCD	1	1	4			late BA to E-M IA (800-600 BC)	late BA to E/M IA (800-600 BC)
	FLIN			4	1	8			E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	
	FLIN	JAR		2	1	5	rim	yes	E-M IA 600-400 (BC)	

Eighty-seven sherds (1301g), from an estimated thirty-six vessels, are tempered with crushed, burnt flint (FLIN), the flint ranging from 1mm to 3mm in size. They are predominately body sherds from handmade vessels, including jars, with the exception of a number of rim sherds from contexts (705), (903) and (1904). Four sherds (60g) from context (903) and one small body sherd (4g) from (1904) have incised/tooled decoration (NCD). Eighteen body sherds, one (3g) from context (1504) and seventeen (280g) from context (903) are flint and sand tempered (FLIN SAND). One sherd from (903) is a base/rim of a hand formed vessel (Jon Cotton *pers comm*).
The date range for these sherds is early/middle Iron Age (600-400BC), with the exception of the sherd with incised/tooled decoration from (1904) which has a date range of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age (800-400BC).

Five sherds of grog tempered pottery were identified in context (1504) including, one sherd with combed decoration; all are body sherds apart from a hand formed base (1,12g). The pottery from context (1504) has a date range of late Iron Age to early Roman.

In addition to the pottery, four small fragments of perforated clay slab were also identified in context (1704).

Roman
Sixteen sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from two contexts; (703) and (2014).

Context (703) contained fifteen fragments (124g) of fine London Oxidized Ware (LOXIF) (90-160AD) jar. The single sherd (7g) of unsourced fabric from (2014) is much abraded.

Post medieval

Three sherd of Post Medieval Redware (PMR) (1580-1900) were identified; two sherds (26g) of flower pot in context (1201) and one sherd (8g) of PMR in context (1401).

Conclusion

The small assemblage of pottery is representative of household domestic items. No further work is recommended on the Roman and post medieval pottery. However, the assemblage of prehistoric pottery should undergo a further, minimal assessment by a regional specialist to establish local form and fabric types. Should further work be undertaken, the vessels with rim/base fragments of early/middle Iron Age from (705) (903) and (904) warrant illustration (Jon Cotton *pers comm)*.

The CBM

One (49g) fragment of post medieval tile was identified in context (1401).
No further work is recommended.

The Animal Bone

A total of 92 fragments of animal bone were found in three contexts.

The 86 (383g) fragments of articulate bone from context (1105) are cattle- possibly from a single juvenile (Matilda Holmes *pers comm*).

The remaindered or the animal bone from contexts (705) (4,1g), (1004) (1, <1g), (1504) (2, 1g) and (1704) (1, 3g) are fragmentary and too incomplete to establish any further information.

No further work is recommended.

The Clay Tobacco Pipe

A total of three clay tobacco pipe stems were recovered from contexts (901) (1,4g) and (1401) (2,8g).

No further work is recommended.

The Flint

The flint assemblage from Dover Road, Deal (DRD17) consists mostly debitage and fire cracked flint, with one flake recovered from context (2014). The debitage and flake are like late prehistoric in date (Jon Cotton *pers comm*).

Debitage was recovered from environmental Sample <1>, context (705) (7,92g) and Sample <2> Context (903) (3,9g), as well as context (2014) (1, 10g).

One flake (9g) was recovered from context (2014), displaying retouch on the dorsal and ventral sides, the former concentrated around a shallow notch (Jon Cotton *pers comms*).

A total of 14.1kg of fire cracked flint was recovered from context (705) Sample 1 and context (903) Sample 2, during residue sorting. Additionally, fire cracked flint was present in contexts (1704) (1, 56g) and (2014) (1, 22g).

The presence of Roman pottery in context (2014) indicates that the flint found in this context is likely residual.

No further work is recommended.

Charred plant and charcoal remains assessment

During evaluation trenching at Dover Road, Deal Kent by AOC Archaeology Group (K. McDermott pers. comm.) two small bulk samples were taken; one from the basal fill of Iron Age pit 707, and a second from the basal/primary or main fill of the Early-Middle Iron Age ditch 904 (Table 1) to help characterise the nature of the archaeology and determine the level of palaeo-environmental preservation.

Samples of 10 and 30 litres were taken in the field, of which 10 litres of each was processed for assessment. Standard flotation methods were employed by Kylie McDermott (AOC Archaeology Group). Flots were retained on 300µm mesh and residues on 1mm mesh, and fractionated into >4mm, >2mm and >1mm for sorting. The flots and any material sorted from the residues (retents) were provided for assessment of the charred plant and charcoal remains. The residues of all samples recommended for analysis should be fully sorted under illuminated magnification (illuminated magnifier and stereo-binocular microscope) and extracted (Table 2); see recommendations.

Aims and requirements

Charred plant and charcoal remains

Each sample flot was assessed for charcoal and charred plant remains (Table 2). The aims of assessment were to : -

- determine the presence, quantity, quality and diversity of palaeo-environmental remains to aid in the understanding and interpreting the features, the activity and economy of the site, and indicate the archaeological and palaeo-environmental significant of the assessed remains
- characterise the nature of assemblages and thus the activities performed on site
- determine the palaeo-environmental and radiocarbon potential of the charred assemblages
- indicate the nature of preservation and provide sampling recommendations should any further fieldwork be conducted
- make recommendations for suitable analyses as, and if, necessary
- select an appropriate suite of samples for analysis

Full proposals for further fieldwork sampling, further processing of existing samples, and analysis are suggested.

Sample	***Feature***	***Context***	***Deposit***	***Sample taken***	***Sample processed***
Iron Age					
1	Pit 707	705	lower	10 L	10 L
Early-Middle Iron Age					
2	Ditch 904	903	Lower/primary	30 L	10 L

Table 1. List of samples assessed

Assessment Methods

Charred plant and charcoal

The 2 unsorted packaged flots (wrapped in paper towel) were carefully unwrapped on large trays, and the dried encrusted flots adhering to the paper were carefully brushed free onto trays and carefully decanted temporarily into glass beakers. Both were 'dirty' with dry fine soil dust so were shaken in a sieve to remove the dried <300µm fraction. Sample 1 still retained soil so was re-floated in warm water with dilute hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and washed on a 300µm mesh and oven dried at low temperatures in the AEA laboratory facilities.

Flots were sieved and fractionated into >4mm, >2mm and <2mm fractions; any charcoal >4mm and >2mm and any plant remains (nut shell fragments or cereal caryopses etc.) removed. Any elements sorted from the retents (Table 2) was amalgamated with that fractioned from the flots (Table 3). All material from the flots, and material supplied by AOC sorted from the residues (retents), was scanned under x7.5 – x45 magnification using a stereo-binocular microscope. The high quantity of wiry entangled roots required consierbel re-sieving and microscope work to disentangled to free any charred plant or charcoal remains.

The presence of charred plant and charcoal remains is recorded in Table 3. The volumes of flot are the charred remains (excluding those from retents) and modern rooty material separately, and the presence of various charred remains and charcoal are recorded.

ASSESSMENT RESULTS

The results of the assessment of the charred plant and charcoal remains from the 2 samples are presented in Tables 2 and 3. Rapid assessment of the material elements supplied (Table 2), indicated the presence of charred grain, but some of the other material included modern weed seeds, small Fe nodules (*contra* charred plant), and a small pottery fragment (*contra* charcoal).

	Sample 1 (705)	***Sample 2 (903)***
Material supplied	*Assessment*	
Flot	✓	✓ >0.1ml
Modern roots	Modern roots	-
Charred plant	Charred grain Modern weed seeds Fe nodule	Modern weed seeds
Charcoal	-	Pottery >1g

Table 2. Rapid assessment of the material elements supplied

Feature	*Context*	*Sample*	*vol proc / taken (litres)*	*Flot vol (ml) Charred / roots*	*grain*	*legume/ pea / lentil*	*weed seeds /chaff*	*charcoal >4mm pieces*	*charcoal <2mm (ml)*	*Notes*	*analysis*
Early-Middle Iron Age											
Ditch 904	903	2	30 / 10	0 / 5	1	- / -	-	-	-	V small microscopic charcoal flecks (some modern seeds)	
Iron Age											
Pit 707	705	1	10 / 10	1 / 10	20	- / -	B / -	-	1	Some fine charcoal etc-	

KEY: A*** = > 75; A**= >20; A=10-20; B= 5-9; C= 1-5. LW = LARGE WOOD; RW = ROUNDWOOD ANALYSIS: C = CHARCOAL; P = CHARRED PLANT REMAINS, C14

Table 3. Assessment of charred plant and charcoal remains from Dover Road, Deal

Charred Plant and Charcoal Remains

The amount of charred matter was very small (1ml) and the quantity of tangled modern roots moderate. The presence of modern fine fibrous roots indicates some bioturbation and the increased potential for intrusion of material down macropores (root/worm holes) and for biotic mixing

All the charred remains were >1mm and there was very little fine charred detritus which often comprises the majority, if not a significant proportion, of the flot.

Charred plant remains

Twenty cereal caryopses were present in the sample from Iron Age pit 707 and included predominantly what/barley but some oat/rye seemed present. It was accompanied by a number of field weed seeds and several species were present. One cereal caryopses was present in the sample from ditch 904, and no other charred plant matter was present in this sample.

Charcoal

Charcoal was very sparse. No coarse (>4mm, ie, readily identifiable) was present in either samples and only a small quantity (1ml) of charcoal >2mm was present in the sample from Iron Age pit 707.

Other remains

No palaeo-environmental remains were present.

Discussion

Character of the assemblages and nature of the sampled features

Of the two samples that from the Early-Middle Iron Age ditch was almost devoid in remains bar a single cereal caryopses that could be residual. Iron Age pit 707, however contained a moderately large number of wheat/barley and some oat/rye cereal grains with some weed seeds. These may have been processed for storage or consumption

Charred plant and charcoal remains have the potential to survive on this site, and the presence of grain in the pit may suggest storage and other settlement and domestic activity in the immediate vicinity. Although there is a lack of charcoal in these two samples, the present of charred gran may suggest its presence is possible in other archaeological features

Sample size and sampling strategies

Samples of only 10 litres were processed for assessment; this was only 50% of the sample material from ditch 904. It is clear that samples size of even 10 litres (pit 707) that the processing of a larger samples would certainly increase the recovery of charred weed seeds, and potentially of chaff.

PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL POTENTIAL AND SIGNIFICANCE

The presence of the grain-rich sample in the Iron Age pit clearly suggest domestic settlement activity in the vicinity, and the presence of charred weed seeds provides the potential for defining the nature of the soils (acid, sandy, chalky, wet well drained) and possibly the season of cultivation (spring or winter crop). The cereals seem to be at least two species and thus this feature, and the site as a whole, has the potential for providing information about the local Iron Age farming economy,

The lack of chaff may suggest processing of the crop either elsewhere on site or offsite; if the latter this assist in determining the nature, character and function of the site as a whole

Charcoal is sparse in the two samples assessed. Ditch fills are not always ideal contexts for charred plant and charcoal remains recovery unless there is clear evidence of discard and dumping, of anthropogenic activity (artefacts and other ecofacts etc.). However, based on the presence of charred cereal grain in the pit,

it seems likely that burning may occur in the vicinity and the there is a possibility of recovering useful charcoal assemblages from the site as a whole, if not these two samples specifically.

Charcoal would have the potential to provide information on the species selection and nature of the timber used for fires, fuel or construction and artefactual use, and of the burning activities (general, domestic or craft industry). The analysis could provide information on the nature and management of the exploited woodland resource (coppicing, pollarding)of exploited woodland. The range of tree spies may provide some indication of the environment of the exploited woodland..

RECOMMENDATIONS

Analysis could be considered of the sample from the Iron Age pit 707.

A programme of targeted samples should be taken from appropriate dated or datable features should further larger scale fieldwork be undertaken. This should include a range of feature types (pits, furnaces, ovens, dumps in ditches etc.) and be representative of each phase of activity and representative spatially across each phase as excavated.

Charred plant remains

1.1 Only the sample from pit 707 (sample 1) is worth considering for further analysis

2. Charcoal and radiocarbon dating

2.1 No further work from these samples, and there is nothing to indicate enough activity to warrant radiocarbon dating.

3. Tasks (AOC)

On completion of any analysis, or if no analysis will be pursed the flots should be returned to AOC and re-united with the archive, and residues/retents at AOC discarded.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Kylie McDermott (AOC Archaeology Group) for providing the samples and sample information.

Appendix C – Oasis Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-299243

Project details	
Project name	Dover Road, Deal, Kent
Short description of the project	AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by WYG Environment Planning Transport Ltd (hereafter WYG) on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd, to undertake an archaeological geophysical (gradiometer) survey to investigate the potential for buried archaeological remains on land off Dover Road, Deal, Kent (centred at TR 36701 49603). A total of 0.7 hectares were surveyed and the results of the survey have identified the following. The results of the survey identified no definitive archaeological anomalies in the survey area. A number of discrete geophysical trends that are potentially of an archaeological origin were detected. These are further supported by evidence from a previous survey to the west of this, as well as HER results which indicate that these trends may join larger linear anomalies which could possibly be of an archaeological origin. Furthermore a number of discrete pit like anomalies have been interpreted, however they are tentative on the grounds that the area contains a significantly high amount of ferrous spikes most likely as a result of modern activity, thus suggesting these pits could also be modern. These pits do however have the potential to be archaeological in origin, given the proximity of the site to where inhumations in pits were uncovered just to the west. A number of large areas of magnetic disturbance most likely the result of modern activity were also recorded. This was particularly evident in the results in the far north and west and along the northern boundary. The high number of ferrous spikes and areas of modern disturbance may be attributed to the land being currently used as horse paddocks, with a number of electric fences and horse equipment present in the survey area at the time. Following the survey and Archaeological trial trench survey of 23 trenches was undertaken, uncovering prehistoric settlement activity along with later Roman activity.
Project dates	Start: 21-09-2017 End: 08-12-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	51808 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	33601 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	DRD17 - Sitecode

Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 4 - Regularly improved
Monument type	DITCH Late Bronze Age
Monument type	DITCH Late Prehistoric
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Monument type	SURFACE Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	CERAMIC Roman
Significant Finds	FLINT Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	"Geophysical Survey","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination
Solid geology	CHALK (INCLUDING RED CHALK)
Drift geology	Unknown
Techniques	Magnetometry
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	KENT DOVER DEAL Dover Road, Deal, Kent
Postcode	CT14 7PF
Study area	0.7 Hectares
Site coordinates	TR 36701 49603 51.195856449072 1.388314241972 51 11 45 N 001 23 17 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 35m Max: 40m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	AOC Archaeology Group
Project brief originator	WYG Planning Transport
Project design originator	WYG Planning Transport
Project director/manager	James Lawton
Project director/manager	Catherine Edwards

Project supervisor	Ian Cipin
Project supervisor	Kimberley Teale
Type of sponsor/funding body	Consultant
Name of sponsor/funding body	WYG Group
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	AOC Archaeology Group
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Geophysics"
Paper Archive recipient	AOC Archaeology
Paper Media available	"Notebook - Excavation"," Research"," General Notes","Report"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Dover Road, Deal, Kent
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Lawton, J. Teale, K
Other bibliographic details	51808
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	AOC Archaeology Group
Place of issue or publication	York
Project bibliography 2	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	LAND OFF DOVER ROAD, DEAL: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Edwards, C
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	AOC Archaeology
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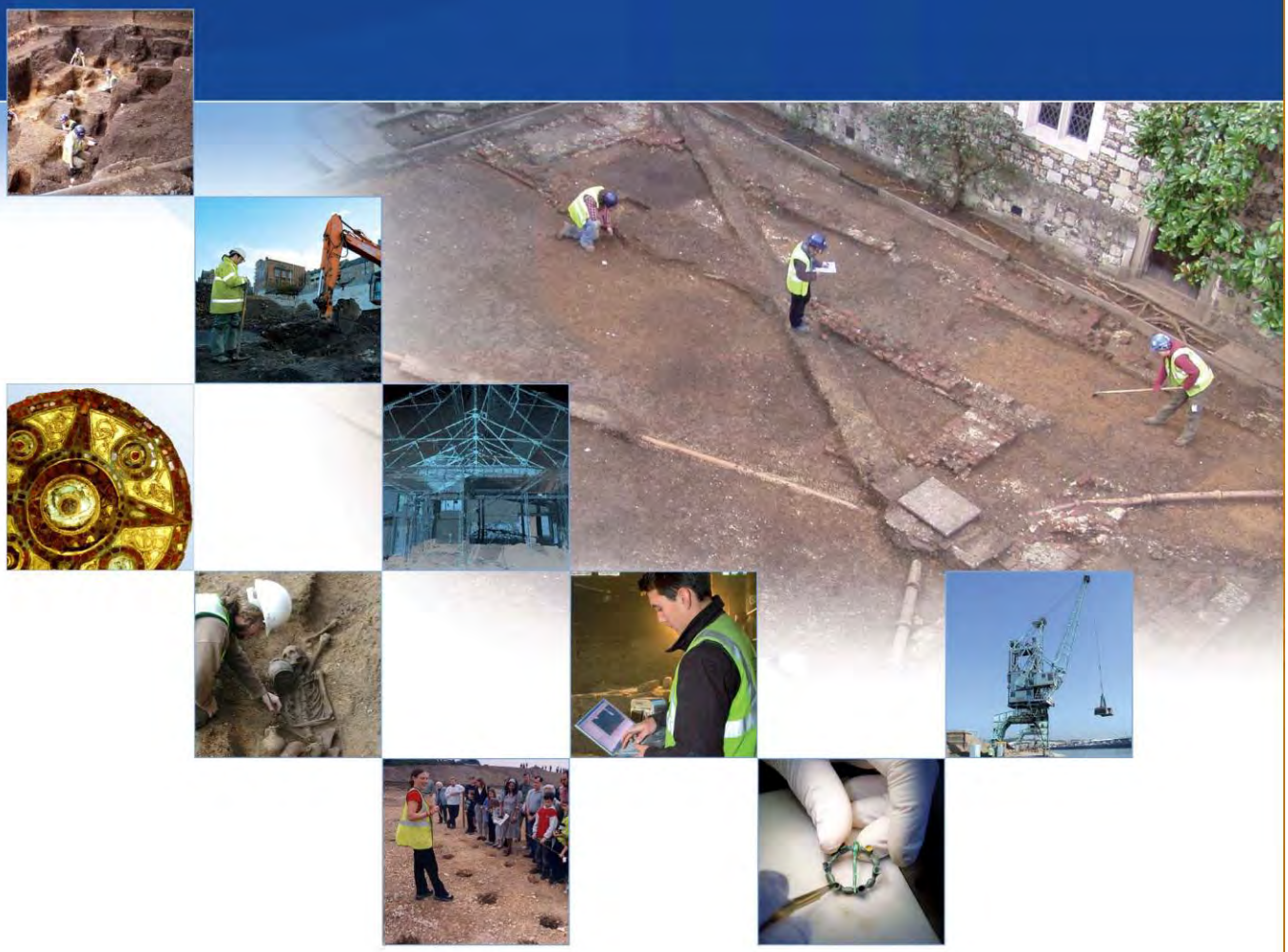
Description	Evaluation report with illsutrations, plates and specialist reports



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