

# Archaeological evaluation on land south of Darsham Station, Darsham, Suffolk, IP17 3PH

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**by Dr Elliott Hicks**

with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton, Laura Pooley, Alec Wade and Lisa Gray  
figures by Chris Lister, Ben Holloway and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Ben Holloway with Robin Mathieson, Sarah Veasey, Oliver Windridge,  
Nicholas Pryke, Bronagh Quinn, Megan Seehra and William Bateson

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## **Colchester Archaeological Trust**

Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk,  
Colchester,  
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785  
email: [eh2@catuk.org](mailto:eh2@catuk.org)

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## 1 Summary

An archaeological evaluation (sixty-seven trial-trenches) was carried out on land south of Darsham Station, Darsham, Suffolk in advance of the proposed construction of 110 new dwellings with associated infrastructure. Sixty-three features were uncovered during this investigation: twenty-five ditches, twenty-three pits, seven postholes, six gullies, a charcoal-rich pit and a ditch or pit. An evaluation carried out along the eastern and southern borders of the site in 2018 revealed a single prehistoric ditch. Further prehistoric remains were similarly found during this evaluation, but the main period of activity here occurred during the 12th to the 14th century, during which time a small low-status domestic settlement existed here. A number of post-medieval and modern features likely associated with agricultural activity were also excavated, including two ditches which are depicted on late 19th-century Ordnance Survey mapping of the area.

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation on land south of Darsham Station, Darsham, Suffolk which was carried out from 6th to 23rd September 2021. The work was commissioned by Graham McCormick of M Scott Properties Ltd in advance of the construction of 110 new dwellings with associated infrastructure, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

The Local Planning Authority (East Suffolk District Council: Planning reference pre-application) was advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS) that this site lies in an area of high archaeological importance, and 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 2019).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* detailing the required archaeological work written by Gemma Stewart (SCCAS 2020a), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the SCCAS brief and agreed with SCCAS (CAT 2021).

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)* (2016), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England (EAA 14 and 24)*. This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), as well as the SCCAS *Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2020b).

A summary report will be prepared for the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. It will be submitted to SCCAS by the end of the calendar year.

## 3 Archaeological and landscape background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record ([archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)), SCC invoice number 9507513.

### Geology

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale<sup>1</sup>) shows the bedrock geology of the site as Crag group – sand, with superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation – sand and diamiction.

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<sup>1</sup> British Geological Survey – <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>



### Historic landscape

The development site is located in an area defined as *rolling estate claylands and ancient estate claylands* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment.<sup>2</sup> Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map it is defined as Landscape type 5.1 (meadow or managed wetland – meadow).<sup>3</sup> This may mean archaeological remains have a higher chance of survival as there is not damage from ploughing. The landscape immediately around the site is characterised as: Landscape sub-type 4.1 (common pasture – built margin), 1.1 (pre-18th century enclosure – random fields) and 1.4 (pre-18th century enclosure – irregular co-axial fields).

### Archaeology<sup>4</sup> (Fig 2)

(All measurements are taken from the centre point of the development site to the centre point of the archaeological site).

This background is focused on results within a 1km radius of the site.

**Prehistoric:** Prehistoric remains within the search area are scarce but do include the findspot of a Mesolithic flint tranchet axe, a ditch containing Bronze Age pottery and a pit containing a Bronze Age flint on Main Road (DAR 040, 0-157m S and E). A sherd of prehistoric pottery was recovered during an evaluation on land between Station Garage and Railway Cottage (DAR 021, 613m NNE) and flints were recorded during monitoring at Trusson's Mere (DAR 033, 829m E). An Iron Age antler comb was also found along the bank of the River Yox during sewerage operations (YOX 002, 424m SSW).

**Roman:** No Roman remains have been recorded within the search area, but a Roman coin has been found within the vicinity.

**Anglo-Saxon & medieval:** The site is located to the northeast of the historic core of Yoxford (YOX 034, 895m SW). The parish was variously listed in the Domesday survey of 1086 as 'Gokesford' and 'Lokesfort', and prior to 1066 was held by Manni and Norman respectively (ECDC 2019; 3). An Anglo-Saxon brooch has been recovered within the search area.

The Church of St Peter was built in the late 14th to early 15th century with later additions. It is primarily constructed out of flint with stone and white brick dressings. The church was substantially restored and partially rebuilt in 1868 and 1920. References to a church feature in the Domesday book but it is not known if the current church lies at the same location as its predecessor. A couple of burials that may predate the chapel were observed during archaeological monitoring undertaken in 2019 (Church YOX 007 and Churchyard YOX 043, 964m SW).

Darsham Old Hall lies to the northeast of the site. The Grade II Listed former manor house was built in the 15th century and alterations and extensions were subsequently added. The manor house is situated within an estate of some twenty-four hectares. The hall is recorded on early mapping including Ogilby's 1675 road map of England and Wales and Hodgkinson's 1783 map of Suffolk (YOX 012, 777m). Archaeological investigation at the current house confirmed it is located within the footprint of the original house. Medieval finds were also recovered from excavated soil. The current Darsham Hall is a farmstead depicted on 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping (DAR 059, 748m NE)

It is thought that a deserted medieval village lies approximately 875m southeast of the current site (YOX 026, 876m SE).

Within the grounds of Cockfield Hall is a small rectangular moat, two arms of which still survive (YOX 001, 824m SE).

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

<sup>3</sup> The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3, 2008, Suffolk County Council.

<sup>4</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

Previous archaeological investigations within the search area have revealed medieval features and finds. These include medieval road frontage remains uncovered opposite Darsham garage during Sizewell C trenching (DAR 045, 600m NE), ditches and pottery on land between Station Garage and Railway Cottage (DAR 021, 613m NE), a post-hole and a pit on land behind Station Garage (DAR 027, 660m NE) and finds from monitoring at the Old Butcher's Shop (YOX 016, 810m SW).

**Post-medieval to modern:** Yoxford is framed by three country house parks which were largely laid out in the late Georgian period (Cockfield Hall, The Rookery and The Grove). The parks are unusual in that they still retain their mansions, gardens, and many subsidiary buildings.

Cockfield Hall is said to date from 1613, with a Victorian upper storey with fancy gables and 'Tudor' decorative motifs. The north wing of the house is 16th-century in date with rebuilding work and alterations carried out in the 1650s, the 1840s and in 1986, as well as substantial remodelling in the mid 20th century after bomb damage. The Historic England Grade I Listed hall is situated within a thirty-one hectare estate of historic parkland which abuts the current site (YOX 006, 510m WSW. YOX 055, 768m WSW). Within the estate multiple structures are recorded on early mapping or still survive and are now listed. These include the early 19th-century coach house and barn (DSF10911, 420, SW), the Dairy Range (which was originally a c 16th-century former stable), a residential and general storage area with a 19th-century facade (DSF11477), the mid 19th-century Dovecote (DSF10229), one mid 16th-century Gateway (DSF11885) and two early to mid 19th-century Gateways (DSF10230 & DSF12079), the early 18th-century Lodge (DSF10208), mostly mid 16th-century walling enclosing irregular gardens (DSF10907), the mid 16th-century Gatehouse (DSF11169) and Cockfield Hall farmhouse (YOX 055, 768m WSW).

Comprising some c 48.5 hectares, The Rookery is a substantial area of parkland with a large house and dates to at least the 18th century as it appears on Hodskinson's 1783 map of Suffolk. Around 1808, owner Robert Howlett pulled down the original house and built a new one on the same foundations (YOX 013, 1049m SSW).

The Grove is a c 14.2 hectare estate of parkland with a Georgian mansion including a walled kitchen, an orangery, an icehouse and fishponds. The original house is thought to have had its origins in the medieval period and to be located approximately where the present kitchen garden is (YOX 008, 1049m SSW).

There are a number of medieval and post-medieval farmsteads recorded within the search area that appear on early mapping. To the immediate southwest of the site is The Gables, a late 16th- to early 17th-century timber-framed farmhouse (DSF10233, 361m SW). Isolated farms near the site include Beveriche Manor Farm, which is laid out in a dispersed plan with the farmhouse detached from the agricultural buildings and is thought to date to the 16th century and later (YOX 056, 845m SW). Another farmstead, Trustan's Farm, is laid out in a regular F-plan with an additional range and detached elements and is thought to date to the 16th or 17th century (DAR 060, 575m ESE).

Transportation links in the area are key features within the local landscape. They include a post-medieval road, part of the trading route known as the Earlsway which closed in 1793 (YOX 018, 1022m NW). Recent archaeological work by Cotswold Archaeology as part of Sizewell development has revealed evidence for earlier settlement along the former roadside (R Abrahams, pers. comm, 27 July 2021). A bridge over the River Yox is visible on historic mapping at least as early as 1783 (YOX 012, 565m SSW). The site lies adjacent to the main East Suffolk railway line between Ipswich and Lowestoft. The line was opened in 1859 and is still in use (SUF067, 124m E). Darsham railway station was built at the same time as the line (DAR 019, 476m NNE). Garth House was constructed from two 1890s (or earlier) wooden-bodied Great Eastern railway coaches (DAR 020, 700m NNE).

**Undated:** Cropmarks of an ?oval enclosure is recorded outside, but parallel to Hill Farm boundary (YOX 014, 1,008m NW). Undated ditches have been recorded within the grounds of

Cockfield Hall during archaeological investigations (YOX 019, 774m SW and YOX 039, 755m WSW). An undated flint and mortar feature was also recorded during monitoring on land adjacent to Sycamore Cottage (YOX 017, 959m SW).

#### **Listed buildings<sup>5</sup>**

Thirty-two listed buildings (1 Grade I, 2 Grade II\* and 29 Grade II), located close to the historic core of Yoxford, are situated within the 1km search radius. They date from the medieval period through to the early 19th century and are primarily located within the Cockfield Hall estate and along Yoxford High Street (orange dots on Fig 2). Key buildings related to the site are mentioned by period above.

## **4 Aims**

The aims of the evaluation were to:

- excavate and record any archaeological deposits that were identified within the evaluation trenches.
- identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the evaluation trenches, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

## **5 Methodology**

Sixty-seven trial-trenches were laid out across the development site. The trenches were 20m-30m long by 1.8m wide (totalling 3,546m<sup>2</sup>), providing a 5% sample of the site.

The trenches were mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision. All archaeological horizons were excavated and recorded according to the WSI (appended to this report).

There was sufficient excavation to give evidence for the period, depth and nature of all archaeological deposits. For linear features 1m wide sections were excavated across their width to a total of 10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, were 50% excavated. There were no complex archaeological structures.

CAT uses a multi-context recording system assigning feature (F) and layer numbers (L) to distinct archaeological contexts, with separate finds numbers allocated to material recovered from these contexts. Individual records of excavated features and layers were entered on pro-forma record sheets with registers compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

The evaluation trenches and all features were surveyed by GPS with sections drawn by hand at 1:10 or 1:20. All trenches and features were digitally photographed with a scale and north arrow.

## **6 Results (Figs 3-14)**

Sixty-seven trial trenches were machine-excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist. The trenches were 30m long by 1.8m wide except trenches T49, T54, T64 and T66 which were 20m long by 1.8m wide. For the most part, the trenches were cut through modern ploughsoil (L1, c 0.11-0.28m thick) onto natural sands and gravels (L2, encountered at a depth of 0.11-0.39m below current ground level). Within the southern part of the evaluation area, at the base of the valley, L2 was sealed by a subsoil or hillwash layer (L3, c 0.08-0.21m thick).

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<sup>5</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

A complete context list with fill and soil descriptions can be found in Appendix 1. All of the features had one single fill, were sealed by L1 or L2 and cut into L3.



**Photograph 1** T64 rep sx – looking east-southeast

There were no archaeological remains in trenches T2, T3, T4, T6, T10, T12, T13, T14, T15, T18, T20, T25, T26, T30, T35, T38, T41, T42, T43, T50, T52, T53, T54, T57, T60, T61, T63 or T64.

**Trench 1 (T1)** (Figs 3, 5 and 11; Photograph 2)

Pit F1 lay at the northern end of the trench. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation (LOE) and so its full dimensions could not be ascertained but its exposed extent was 0.98m wide and 0.1m deep. It was sub-oval in shape with an irregular profile. The feature produced one sherd of 16th-18th century pottery weighing 1g and three sherds of 12th-14th century pottery weighing 3g. F1 cut pit F4 which had a similarly sub-oval shape and irregular profile and also extended beyond the LOE, its exposed dimensions being 0.88m wide and 0.08m deep. The feature contained two sherds of 12th-14th century with a weight of 5g.

Ditch F2 was situated at the southern end of the trench. It lay on a NE-SW alignment, had a V-shaped profile with a concave base, and was 0.52m wide and 0.17m deep. It yielded a single sherd of 12th-14th century pottery weighing 1g.

**Trench 5 (T5)** (Figs 3, 5 and 11)

Pit F3 stood at the western end of the trench. It was sub-oval in shape with an irregular profile and extended beyond the LOE, but its exposed dimensions were 1.4m wide and 0.6m deep. Twenty-two sherds of pottery with a weight of 115g giving a date range from the late 12th to the 14th century were recovered from the feature, including some derived from two cooking pots.

Undatable posthole F5 stood at the centre of the trench. It was 0.18m wide and 0.15m deep.

Undatable ditch F6 lay at the eastern end of the trench. The feature was oriented NE-SW and was 0.69m wide and 0.14m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile.



**Photograph 2** T1 trench shot – looking north northeast

**Trench 7 (T7)** (Figs 3, 5 and 11)

Ditch F14 was uncovered at the centre of the trench. It was aligned NE-SW and was 1.16m wide and 0.48m deep with steeply-sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained one sherd of 12th-14th century pottery weighing 8g. The feature continued on to T11, to the southwest, where it was recorded as F15.

**Trench 8 (T8)** (Figs 3, 5 and 11)

Two gullies, F9 and F10, lay within the northern half of the trench. They were both aligned NE-SW with U-shaped profiles and were 0.61m wide and 0.18m deep and 0.47m wide and 0.21m deep, respectively. The former feature produced no dating evidence but two sherds of prehistoric pottery with a weight of 1g were recovered from the latter.

**Trench 9 (T9)** (Figs 3, 5 and 11; Photograph 3)

Field boundary ditch F13 lay at the centre of the trench. It was oriented NW-SE and was 1.78m wide and 0.59m deep with a V-shaped profile. It produced one sherd of 18th-20th century pottery with a weight of 2g. The feature continued on to the southeast, where it was recorded as F19 (T16), F16 (T17), F17 (T23) and F35 (T24).

Ditch F8 was located to the south of F13. It was aligned WNW-ESE, was 3.3m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.61m whereupon excavations ceased due to the need to stay within safe working depths. The feature could not be augered to establish its depth due to the consistency of its fill. The feature yielded thirty-nine sherds of 12th-14th century pottery with a weight of 173g, including pieces of a cooking pot and another cooking pot or cauldron. A heat-affected stone was also recovered from this feature.

Medieval or post-medieval ditch F11 was situated to the north of F13. It lay on a NE-SW alignment, was 0.74m wide and 0.11m deep and had a shallow U-shaped profile. Posthole F12 was cut into the surface of F11. It was 0.19m wide and 0.07m deep. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature but it must have dated to the medieval period or later.

Undatable posthole F7 lay to the north of F11. It was 0.33m wide and 0.18m deep.





**Photograph 3** T9 trench shot – south southwest

**Trench 11 (T11)** (Figs 3, 5 and 11)

Ditch F15 passed through the northern half of the trench on a NE-SW alignment and was 1.39m wide and 0.42m deep with a U-shaped profile. The feature contained three sherds of 12th-14th century pottery with a weight of 12g, as well as a single sherd of Late Iron Age or early Roman pottery weighing 1g. It represented a continuation of ditch F14 in T7, to the northeast.

**Trench 16 (T16)** (Figs 3, 5 and 12)

Field boundary ditch F19, which dated to the 19th to the 20th century, was uncovered in the eastern half of the trench. The feature lay on a NW-SE alignment and was 1.43m wide and 0.38m deep. It had steeply-sloping sides and an even base with a concave depression at its northeastern end. A single sherd of 16th-18th century pottery weighing 1g was recovered from the feature. It represented a continuation of F13 in T9, to the northwest, and carried on to the southeast, where it was recorded as F16 (T17), F17 (T23) and F35 (T24).

**Trench 17 (T17)** (Figs 3 and 6)

19th- to 20th-century field boundary ditch F16, which stood at the southern half of the trench, was oriented NW-SE and was 0.85m wide and 0.1m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It represented a continuation of F13 in T9 and F19 in T16, to the northwest, and continued on to the southeast, where it was recorded as F17 (T23) and F35 (T24). The feature was not excavated.

**Trench 19 (T19)** (Figs 3, 6 and 12)

Undatable pit F18, which lay in the northern half of the trench, was 1.16m wide and 0.17m deep. It had moderately-sloping sides and an even base.

**Trench 21 (T21)** (Figs 3, 6 and 12)

Pits F22, F23 and F24 were scattered through the trench. They were 0.26-0.34m wide and 0.11m deep and had U-shaped profiles. None of the features yielded any dating evidence.

**Trench 22 (T22)** (Figs 3, 6 and 12)

Undatable gullies F25, F26 and F27 passed through the eastern half of the trench on a NE-SW alignment. They were 0.53-0.72m and 0.05-0.15m deep with irregular profiles.

**Trench 23 (T23)** (Figs 3 and 6)

Field boundary ditch F17, which dated to the 19th-20th century, lay on a NW-SE alignment. It represented a continuation of F13 in T9, F19 in T16 and F16 in T17, to the northwest, and

carried on to the southeast, where it was recorded as F35 (T24). The feature was not excavated.

**Trench 24 (T24)** (Figs 3 and 6)

19th- to 20th-century field boundary ditch F35 passed through the southern half of the trench on a NW-SE orientation. It represented a continuation of F13 in T9, F19 in T16, F16 in T17 and F17 in T23, to the northwest. The feature was not excavated.

**Trench 27 (T27)** (Figs 3 and 6)

Undatable posthole F20 lay at the eastern end of the trench and was 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep.

**Trench 28 (T28)** (Figs 3, 6 and 12; Photograph 4)

Ditch F28 was located at the southern end of the trench. It was oriented WNW-ESE and was 1.44m wide and 0.29m deep with a U-shaped profile. The feature produced a sherd deriving from a bowl or frying pan dating to the 15th or 16th century weighing 7g as well as one sherd of 11th-13th century pottery with a weight of 6g and three sherds of 12th-14th century pottery with a weight of 5g.

Undatable posthole F21 stood just to the north of F28. It was 0.48m wide and 0.39m deep.



**Photograph 4** T28 trench shot – looking north northeast

**Trench 29 (T29)** (Figs 4, 7 and 12)

Undatable posthole F29 stood at the western end of the trench, and was 0.48m wide and 0.17m deep.

Undatable pit F30 lay within the eastern half of the trench. It had a U-shaped profile and was 0.53m wide and 0.14m deep.

**Trench 31 (T31)** (Figs 4, 7 and 12)

Undatable ditch F31 passed through the eastern end of the trench on a NE-SW alignment. It had a U-shaped profile with a slightly concave base and was 0.63m wide and 0.27m deep.

**Trench 32 (T32)** (Figs 3, 7 and 12)

Ditch F38, which was 16th- to 18th-century in date, ran along the trench on a NE-SW alignment. It was 0.89m wide and 0.27m deep with a U-shaped profile. A single sherd of 12th-14th century pottery weighing 7g was recovered from the feature. The ditch continued on to trench T39, to the south, where it was recorded as F40.

**Trench 33 (T33)** (Figs 3 and 7)

Undatable quarry pit F37 lay at the western end of the trench. The feature extended beyond the LOE; an exploratory slot was machine-excavated but its depth was not recorded.

**Trench 34 (T34)** (Figs 3, 7 and 12)

Undatable pit F36 was uncovered within the northern half of the trench. It was 0.57m wide and 0.41m deep and a V-shaped profile with steeply-sloping sides.

**Trench 36 (T36)** (Figs 4, 7 and 12)

Undatable ditch F34 passed through the northern end of the trench on a NNW-SSE alignment and was 0.43m wide and 0.11m deep with an irregular profile.

Undatable pit F33 was located to the south of F34. It was 0.35m wide and 0.11m deep and had an irregular profile.

**Trench 37 (T37)** (Figs 4, 7 and 12)

Undatable pit F32 was uncovered at the centre of the trench. It had an irregular profile and was 0.42m wide and 0.21m deep.

**Trench 39 (T39)** (Figs 4, 8 and 12)

Ditch F40 lay at the centre of the trench. It was oriented NE-SW and was 1.09m wide and 0.27m deep with moderately-sloping sides and an even base. The feature contained two sherds of 16th-18th century pottery with a weight of 3g.

Undatable ditch F41 passed through the western end of the trench on a N-S alignment and was 1.18m wide and 0.15m deep. It had moderately-sloping sides and a slightly uneven base.

Undatable pit F42 lay to the west of F41. It was 0.47m wide and 0.1m deep with a U-shaped profile.

**Trench 40 (T40)** (Figs 4, 8 and 12)

Undatable pit F39 was located in the southern half of the trench. It was 0.47m wide and 0.08m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile.

**Trench 44 (T44)** (Figs 4, 8 and 13; Photograph 5)

Field boundary ditch F49, which was of 19th- to 20th-century date, was uncovered in the centre of the trench. It lay on a WNW-ESE alignment and was 3.66m wide and 0.56m deep with an irregular profile. Two sherds of pottery dating from the late 11th to the 13th century weighing 2g and a single sherd of 16th-18th century pottery were recovered from the feature. It continued on to the east, where it was recorded as F45 in T45 and F44 in T46.





**Photograph 5** T44 trench shot – looking north northeast

**Trench 45 (T45)** (Figs 4 and 8)

Field boundary ditch F45, which dated to the 19th-20th century, passed along the trench on a WNW-ESE orientation. The feature was not excavated as it was a continuation of F49 in T44.

**Trench 46 (T46)** (Figs 4, 8 and 12)

Undatable gully F43 was uncovered in the northern half of the trench. It was oriented NW-SE and was 0.56m wide and 0.14m deep with a slightly U-shaped profile.

16th- to 19th-century field boundary ditch F44 lay at the centre of the trench and was aligned WNW-ESE. The feature was not excavated as it was a continuation of F49 in T44.

**Trench 47 (T47)** (Figs 4, 8 and 12)

Two gullies, F46 and F48, lay at the eastern end of the trench. Both features had slightly U-shaped profiles; the former was oriented ENE-WSW and was 0.38m wide and 0.14m deep, the latter was aligned NE-SW and was 0.63m wide and 0.23m deep. F46 yielded seven sherds of 12th-14th century pottery weighing 23g. Ditch F48 contained four sherds of 12th-14th century pottery weighing 34g and fifty-five pieces of daub and baked clay, with some daub fragments having preserved wattle voids.

**Trench 48 (T48)** (Figs 4, 8 and 12)

Undatable pit F47 was situated in the northern half of the trench and was 0.55m wide and 0.12m deep. The feature had a shallow U-shaped profile with a slightly concave depression towards the southeastern end of its base.

**Trench 49 (T49)** (Figs 4, 9 and 13)

Ditch/pit F50 lay at the centre of the trench. It was aligned NNE-SSW and was 2.31m wide and 0.31m deep. It contained a fragment of post-medieval brick, as well as a single sherd of 11th-13th century pottery weighing 27g and four sherds of 12th-14 century pottery weighing 51g.

**Trench 51 (T51)** (Figs 4, 9 and 13)

Two pits, F52 and F53, lay at the northern end of the trench. F52 was 0.72m wide and 0.37m deep; F53 extended beyond the LOE but its exposed extent was 0.77m wide and 0.5m deep. Both had U-shaped profiles, with steeply-sloping sides and slightly uneven bases. No dating evidence was recovered from the former feature but the latter yielded a single sherd of pottery weighing 21g which likely dated to the Iron Age.

Undatable posthole F51 was situated to the west of F52. It was 0.34m wide and 0.21m deep.

Undatable ditch F56 passed through the southern half of the trench on a NW-SE alignment. It had a shallow U-shaped profile and was 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep.

**Trench 55 (T55)** (Figs 4, 9 and 13)

Undatable pit F57 was uncovered at the southern end of the trench. It was 0.6m wide and 0.11m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile.

**Trench 56 (T56)** (Figs 4, 9 and 13; Photograph 6)

Pit F55 lay at the centre of the trench. It was 0.81m wide and 0.2m deep with a U-shaped profile. Two sherds of prehistoric pottery weighing 2g were recovered from the feature.

Ditch F54 extended through the eastern end of the trench on a NW-SE alignment. It had a slightly irregular U-shaped profile and was 1.2m wide and 0.41m deep. It produced a single sherd of pottery weighing 21g which dated from the late 12th to the 13th century.



**Photograph 6** T56 trench shot – looking west northwest

**Trench 58 (T58)** (Figs 4, 9 and 13)

Undatable pit F58 lay in the eastern half of the trench. It was 0.88m wide and 0.19m deep and had a U-shaped profile.

**Trench 59 (T59)** (Figs 4, 9 and 13)

Undatable pit F59 was uncovered in the northern half of the trench and was 0.61m wide and 0.16m deep with a U-shaped profile.

**Trench 62 (T62)** (Figs 4, 9 and 13)

?Medieval ditch F62 was situated in the eastern half of the trench. It was oriented N-S, had a U-shaped profile, and was 1.13m wide and 0.39m deep. The feature produced twenty-eight fragments of quernstone.

**Trench 65 (T65)** (Figs 4, 10 and 13)

Undatable pit F61 was uncovered in the eastern half of the trench. It was 1.03m wide and 0.33m deep with a U-shaped profile.

**Trench 66 (T66)** (Figs 4, 10 and 13)

Undatable pit F60 lay at the centre of the trench. It was 0.57m wide and 0.38m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a slightly irregular base.

**Trench 67 (T67)** (Figs 4, 10 and 13)

Undatable pit F63 was located in the western half the trench. It was 0.71m wide and 0.24m deep and had a U-shaped profile.

## 7 Finds

### 7.1 Pottery

*by Dr Matthew Loughton*

The excavation uncovered 198 sherds of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) with a weight of just over 2.2kg and EVE of 0.82 (Table 1). The mean sherd weight is low at 11g and the assemblage is heavily fragmented. CBM accounts for the majority of this material by weight (Table 1).

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
Pottery	108	536	5	0.82
CBM	90	1,732	19	-
<b>All</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>2,268</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0.82</b>

**Table 1** Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

Sherds of pottery and ceramics were recovered from 22 features (Table 2). The largest assemblage came from ditch F48 with 59 sherds with a weight of 587g, followed by ditch F8 with 46 sherds with a weight of 182g, and pit F3 with 22 sherds with a weight of 115g. The largest assemblage by sherd weight is 91,066g from field boundary ditch F49 (Table 2).

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F1	Pit	9	12	1
F2	Ditch	2	5	3
F3	Pit	22	115	5
F4	Pit	2	5	3
F8	Ditch	46	182	4
F10	Ditch	2	1	1
F11	Ditch	2	3	2
F13	Field boundary ditch	2	4	2
F14	Ditch	1	8	8
F15	Ditch	6	16	3
F19	Field boundary ditch	1	1	1
F28	Ditch	7	20	3
F38	Ditch	5	9	2
F40	Ditch	2	3	2
F46	Gully	7	23	3
F48	Ditch	59	587	10
F49	Field boundary ditch	11	1,066	97
F50	Ditch/pit	6	150	25
F53	Pit	1	21	21
F54	Ditch	1	21	21
F55	Pit	3	7	2
F61	Pit	1	9	9
	<b>Total</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>2,268</b>	<b>11</b>

**Table 2** Quantities of pottery and CBM from specific features and contexts

### Prehistoric pottery

There was a small quantity of hand-made prehistoric pottery which was tempered with flint (HMF) or sand (HMS). Five sherds with a weight of 24g were recovered from ditch F10, pit F53 and pit F55. The absence of any diagnostic elements means it is difficult to accurately date this material although the sherd from pit F53 which is tempered with fine sand and some mica could date to the Iron Age. Finally, there was one small sherd (1g) of Late Iron Age/early Roman Romanising coarse ware pottery which came from ditch F15.

### Post-Roman pottery

Post-Roman pottery was recorded according to the Suffolk medieval pottery type series (<https://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/pottery-type-series>) while the number of vessels was determined by rim EVE (estimated vessel equivalent) (Table 3).

There was a modest assemblage of post-Roman pottery with 102 sherds with a weight of 511g and EVE of 0.82 (Tables 4-5). Post-Roman pottery was recovered from 17 features although ditch F8 (39 sherds, 174g, EVE:0.09) and pit F3 (22 sherds, 115g, EVE:0.24) contained a large proportion of this material (Table 6). The majority of this material dates from the late 11th or 12th century to the 14th century and consists of various oxidised and weakly oxidised sandy wares (fabric MCW) including some Waveney valley sandy ware (WVSW) (Table 4). The vessels show a bias towards cooking pots with thickened flat-topped (B2), thickened flat-topped internal bead (B2a) and beaded (C1) rims (CAR 7, 50 fig. 27) in fabrics MCW (medieval sandy coarseware) and WVSW (Waveney valley sandy ware) (Table 5). There was also a possible ceramic cauldron or cooking pot with a thickened incipient flange (B2c). Other vessel forms present in the assemblage include large bowls/pancheons in fabrics WVCMMW (Waveney valley coarseware micaceous) and WVSW (Waveney valley sandy ware), a possible jug in fabric WVSW (Waveney valley sandy ware) and a bowl in fabric WVSW (Waveney valley sandy ware) (Table 5). Finally, there was a bowl or frying pan in fabric LMT (late medieval and transitional ware) which is slightly later, dating to the 15th to 16th century, which came from ditch F28. Many of the medieval pottery sherds have traces of sooting and burning, suggesting that they represent domestic rubbish from a nearby settlement. It is also worth noting the absence of any decorated pottery or sherds with glazes or slips in the medieval pottery assemblage.

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
COLC	Colchester-type ware	Late 13th-mid 16th century
EMWE	Essex-type EMW (Fabric 13)	11th-13th century
GRE	Glazed red earthenwares	16th-18th century
HCWREDO	Hedingham coarseware reduced	Late 12th-13th century
LMT	Late medieval and transitional wares	15th-16th century
LPME	Late post-medieval unglazed earthenwares	18th-20th century
MCW	Medieval sandy coarseware	12th-14th century
MCWG	Medieval coarseware gritty	Late 11th-13th century?
MCWM	Medieval coarseware micaceous	12th-14th century
MSSCW	Medieval south Suffolk coarseware	12th-14th century
PMRE	Post-medieval redwares Essex type	16th-18th century
PMRW	Post-medieval redwares	16th-18th century
WVCMMW	Waveney Valley coarseware micaceous	Late 12th-14th century
WVSW	Waveney Valley sandy ware	12th-14th century

**Table 3** Post-Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
COLC	Colchester-type ware	2	2	1	0.00
EMWE	Essex-type EMW	1	27	27	0.00
GRE	Glazed red earthenwares	2	4	2	0.00
HCWREDO	Hedingham coarseware reduced	1	21	21	0.11

LMT	Late medieval and transitional wares	1	7	7	0.03
LPME	Late post-medieval unglazed earthen-ware	1	2	2	0.07
MCW	Medieval sandy coarseware	41	193	5	0.24
MCWG	Medieval coarseware gritty	3	8	3	0.02
MCWM	Medieval coarseware micaceous	1	8	8	0.00
MSSCW	Medieval south Suffolk coarseware	1	1	1	0.00
PMRE	Post-medieval redwares Essex type	2	3	2	0.00
PMRW	Post-medieval redwares	1	1	1	0.00
WVCMW	Waveney Valley coarseware micaceous	2	14	7	0.03
WVSW	Waveney Valley sandy ware	43	220	5	0.32
<b>Total</b>		<b>102</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.82</b>

**Table 4** Details on the post-Roman pottery

Context	Feature type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	EVE
F1	Pit	4	4	1	0.00
F2	Ditch	1	1	1	0.00
F3	Pit	22	115	5	0.24
F4	Pit	2	5	3	0.00
F8	Ditch	39	174	4	0.09
F13	Field boundary ditch	1	2	2	0.07
F14	Ditch	1	8	8	0.03
F15	Ditch	3	12	4	0.03
F19	Field boundary ditch	1	1	1	0.00
F28	Ditch	5	18	4	0.03
F38	Ditch	1	7	7	0.08
F40	Ditch	2	3	2	0.00
F46	Gully	7	23	3	0.06
F48	Ditch	4	34	9	0.03
F49	Field boundary ditch	3	5	2	0.02
F50	Ditch/pit	5	78	16	0.03
F54	Ditch	1	21	21	0.11
<b>Total</b>		<b>102</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.82</b>

**Table 5** Quantities of post-Roman pottery from specific features

Fabric group	Form	EVE
HCWREDO	All	0.11
	?	0.11
LMT	All	0.03
	Bowl/frying pan	0.03
LPME	All	0.07
	?	0.07
MCW	All	0.24
	Cooking pot B2	0.16
	Cooking pot B2A	0.03
	Cooking pot B2C/cauldron	0.05
MCWG	All	0.02
	?	0.02
WVCMW	All	0.03



	Large bowl/pancheon	0.03
WVSW	<b>All</b>	0.32
	Bowl	0.06
	Cooking pot B2A	0.12
	Cooking pot C1	0.03
	Jug?	0.08
	Large bowl/pancheon	0.03
<b>Total</b>		0.82

**Table 6** Post-Roman pottery quantification via vessel form

There was a small quantity (5 sherds at 8g) of post-medieval pottery in fabrics GRE, PMRE and PMRW dating to the 16th to 18th century (Table 4). This material was recovered from pit F1, field boundary ditch F19, ditch F40 and field boundary ditch F49.

#### **Ceramic building material (CBM)**

There were 90 sherds of CBM with a weight of just over 1.7kg with a mean sherd weight of only 19g (Table 7). CBM was recovered from 13 features although most of this material by sherd count came from ditch F48 while most of the CBM via sherd weight came from field boundary ditch F49 (Table 8).

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
<b>Post-Roman</b>				
PT	Peg-tile	1	2	2
BR	Brick	14	1142	82
<b>Undated</b>				
Baked clay		65	192	3
Daub		10	396	39
<b>Total</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>19</b>

**Table 7** Building material by period and type

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F1	Pit	5	8	2
F2	Ditch	1	4	4
F8	Ditch	7	8	1
F11	Ditch	2	3	2
F13	Field boundary ditch	1	2	2
F15	Ditch	2	3	2
F28	Ditch	2	2	1
F38	Ditch	4	2	1
F48	Ditch	55	553	10
F49	Field boundary ditch	8	1061	133
F50	Ditch/pit	1	72	72
F55	Pit	1	5	5
F61	Pit	1	9	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>19</b>

**Table 8** Quantities of CBM from specific features and contexts

Baked clay and daub accounts for the bulk of the CBM by sherd count and was recovered from 10 features although ditch F48 (55 sherds at 553g) contained most of this material (Table 9). All of the daub fragments came from ditch F48, some of which had preserved wattle voids with diameters ranging from 15mm to 25mm.

Context	Description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
F1	Pit	1	1	1
F2	Ditch	1	4	4
F8	Ditch	7	8	1.14
F11	Ditch	1	1	1
F15	Ditch	2	3	1.5
F28	Ditch	2	2	1
F38	Ditch	4	2	0.5
F48	Ditch	55	553	10.05
F55	Pit	1	5	5
F61	Pit	1	9	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>75</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>7.84</b>

**Table 9** Quantities of baked clay and daub from specific features and contexts

Other types of CBM are rare and limited to occasional pieces of medieval/post-medieval peg-tile (ditch F11) and brick fragments (pit F1, field boundary ditch F13, field boundary ditch F49, ditch/pit F50) (Table 7). The only substantial brick fragment came from field boundary ditch F49 and is un-frogged with dimensions of ? mm x 122 mm x 62 mm and dates to the post-medieval period.

### Conclusion

Table 10 summarizes the dating evidence for the features which contained dateable pottery and ceramics. The majority of features date to broadly the same period, the 12th to the 14th century, with occasional pottery dating to the later 15th to 16th century. There are three features dating to the prehistoric period (F10, F53, F55) and a small number which date to the post-medieval (F1, F19, F40, F50), post-medieval/modern (F49) and modern periods (18th-20th century) (F13).

Context	Description	Prehistoric	Post-Roman	CBM	Date approx.
F1	Pit	-	MCW, PMRW	BR	16th-18th century
F2	Ditch	-	MSSCW	-	12th-14th century
F3	Pit	-	WVSW (Cooking pot B2A), WVCMW, MCW (Cooking pot B2B)	-	Late 12th-14th century
F4	Pit	-	MCW	-	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	-	MCW, MVSW (Cooking pot B2A), MCW (Cooking pot B2C or cauldron), COLC	-	Late 13th-14th century
F10	Ditch	HMF	-	-	Prehistoric
F11	Ditch	-		PT	Medieval/post-medieval
F13	Field boundary ditch	-	LPME	BR	19th-20th century <sup>6</sup>
F14	Ditch	-	WVCMW (Large bowl/pancheon)	-	Late 12th-14th century
F15	Ditch	RCW?	MVSW (Cooking pot B2A)	-	12th-14th century
F19	Field boundary ditch	-	GRE	-	18th-20th century <sup>7</sup>
F28	Ditch	-	MCWG, WVSW, LMT (Bowl/frying pan)	-	15th-16th century
F38	Ditch	-	WVSW (Jug?)	-	16th-18th century <sup>8</sup>
F40	Ditch	-	PMRE	-	16th-18th century

<sup>6</sup> Dating altered due to the presence of a horseshoe.

<sup>7</sup> Dating altered as feature was found to be a continuation of F13.

<sup>8</sup> Dating altered as feature was found to be a continuation of F40.

Context	Description	Prehistoric	Post-Roman	CBM	Date approx.
F46	Gully	-	WVSW (Bowl), MCW	-	12th-14th century
F48	Ditch	-	WVSW (Cooking pot C1), MCW	-	12th-14th century
F49	Field boundary ditch	-	GRE, MCWG	BR (unfrogged)	16th-19th century <sup>9</sup>
F50	Ditch/pit		EMW, WVSW (Large bowl/pancheon), MCWM	BR	Post-medieval
F53	Pit	HMS	-	-	Iron Age?
F54	Ditch	-	HCWREDO	-	Late 12th-13th century
F55	Pit	HMF	-	-	Prehistoric

**Table 10** Approximate dates for the individual features

## 7.2 Small finds

by Laura Pooley

The only small finds from the site were fragments of lava quernstone (SF1 and SF2). A medium-sized fragment was recovered as a surface find from topsoil north of T23 (SF1) and 28 small fragments came from ditch F62 (SF2). As much of the dating evidence recovered from the site is medieval, it is most likely that these fragments of quernstone were in use during this period.

SF1, L1 (north of T23), finds no. 23. Fragment of lava quernstone, no distinguishing features, abraded. 142.4mm long, 123.7mm wide, 57.4mm thick, 1.67kg

SF2, F62, finds no. 67. Twenty-eight fragments of lava quernstone, small and abraded pieces, 151.5g.

## 7.3 Miscellaneous finds

by Laura Pooley

Twenty-three pieces of burnt flint (658.0g) came from seven features (F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F18 and F48) which were either undated or produced medieval finds. The flint was cracked and crazed, and burnt various shades of white, grey and red.

Post-medieval/modern finds including clay tobacco pipe stems, bottle glass, coal/clinker, agricultural ironwork (including early 19th to 20th century horseshoes) and snail shells came from modern features F49 and F13.

A fragment of coal/clinker and a snail shell also came from F46.

Context	Finds or <sample> no.	Description
Burnt (heat-altered) stone (discarded)		
F5	5	11 pieces of flint, cracked and crazed, burnt white and grey, 102.9g.
F6	6	Two pieces of flint, cracked and crazed, burnt white, 44.3g.
F7	7	Four pieces of flint, cracked and crazed, burnt grey, 17.3g.
F8	8	Piece of flint, cracked, burnt red, 1.8g.
F9	10	Large flint nodule, cracked and crazed, burnt deep red, 286.6g.
F18	18	Two pieces of flint, cracked and crazed, burnt white and grey, 43.3g.
F48	27	Two pieces of burnt flint, cracked and crazed, burnt grey inside with a reddish-pink surface, 161.8g.
Clay tobacco pipe (discarded)		
F13	13	Fragment of stem, 2.6g.

<sup>9</sup> Dating altered due to the presence of a horseshoe and on the basis of historical cartographic evidence.



F49	29	Fragment of stem, 1.4g.
Glass		
F13	13	Fragment of post-medieval/modern bottle glass, green, 12.3g.
F49	29	Two fragments of bottle glass, clear and dark green, 19th-20th century, 68.9g.
Shell		
F13	13	Snail shell, 0.6g.
F46	<3>	Snail shell, 10.3g
Coal/clinker		
F46	<3>	Fragment, 0.6g
F49	29	Two fragments, 0.9g.
Post-medieval/modern agricultural ironwork and other modern metalwork (all discarded except for the horseshoe from F13, retained as complete and undamaged)		
F13	13	Large iron horseshoe with toe-clip dating from the early 19th to 20th century (Sparkes 1976), 155mm long, 180mm wide, 462g. Shotgun cap, modern, 4.3g. Seven small fragments of unidentifiable iron, 11.0g.
F49	29	Large iron horseshoe with toe-clip dating from the early 19th to 20th century (Sparkes 1976), c 180mm long and c 215mm wide but difficult to measure as rather mangled (plough damage), 816g. Two fragments of modern iron nail, square-sectioned shank, oval-pointed heads, 16.8g.

**Table 11** Miscellaneous finds listed by find type and context

#### 7.4 Animal bone by Alec Wade

The evaluation produced fourteen pieces of animal bone (weighing 64g) from five features ranging in date from medieval (pits F3 and F4) post-medieval (ditch/pit F50) and a post-medieval/modern (field boundary ditch F13 and field boundary ditch F49). The bone was generally in poor condition.

Two domestic species were identified from the medieval contexts, sheep/goat (no distinction being possible due to a lack of diagnostic features) and pig. Pig was identified solely from surviving tooth fragments. Teeth are often the most durable part of the skeleton and this, along with the general paucity of recovered animal bone may indicate that ground conditions were generally unfavourable to its preservation.

The three pieces of bone from pit F50 had a brownish orange surface staining often associated with waterlogged conditions. A fragment of a sheep or goat metatarsal from this context had also been dog gnawed.

Post-medieval/modern field boundary ditch F49 and post-medieval/modern field boundary ditch F13 produced the remains of several small wild species including rabbit, field vole and possibly brown rat.

Context	Find or <sample> number	No. of pieces	Weight (g)	Species	Comments
F3	<1>	1	4	Sheep/goat	Complete upper molar (M1/M2)
F4	4	2	4	Pig	Fragments of a canine tooth in poor condition
F13	13	1	1	Rodent (Brown rat?)	Tibia fragment in poor condition
F49	29	2	6	Field vole	Complete left and right femurs from a single animal
		2	2	Rabbit	Tibia fragments in poor condition
		3	1	Unidentified	Unidentified small fragments

F50	31	2	42	Horse?	Metapodial diaphysis fragment in poor condition. Brownish orange staining
		1	4	Sheep / goat	Metatarsal diaphysis fragment in poor condition with indications of dog gnawing. Brownish orange staining.
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>64</b>		

**Table 12** Animal bone by context

## 8 Environmental assessment

by Lisa Gray, Archaeobotanist

Six samples (Table 1) were taken during the evaluation. Samples 1, 2 and 4 produced no environmental remains, so only three samples were sent for assessment. The aims of this assessment are to evaluate the preservation of plant macro-remains, make recommendations for future sampling, and determine the significance and potential of the plant macro-remains.

Sample	Feature	Feature Type	Sampling notes	Provisional date	Sample volume (L.)
1	F3	Pit	50% sampled	medieval	40
2	F18	Pit	35% sampled	undated	30
3	F46	Gully	-	medieval	20
4	F47	Pit	50% sampled	undated	10
5	F48	Ditch	-	medieval	30
6	F61	Pit	50%	undated	20

**Table 13** Samples presented for assessment

### Sampling and processing methods

Samples were taken and processed by Colchester Archaeological Trust. Once with the author the flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 45x. The whole flots were examined. The abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in each sample were recorded.

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; Jacomet 2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (Stace 2010). Latin names are given once, and the common names used thereafter.

At this stage, to allow comparison between samples, numbers have also been estimated but where only a low number of items are present, they have been counted. Identifiable charred wood >4mm in diameter has been separate from charred wood flecks. Fragments 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). Charred wood flecks <4mm diameter have been quantified but not recommended for further analysis unless twigs or roundwood fragments larger than 2mmØ were present.

### Results (Table 14)

#### Quality and type of preservation

The plant remains in these samples were preserved by charring. Charring occurs when plant material is heated under reducing conditions where oxygen is largely excluded leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to decay (Boardman & Jones 1990, 2; Campbell *et al.* 2011, 17). There was no evidence of waterlogging or mineralisation.

#### Bioturbation and contamination

Evidence of possible bioturbation present in the form of modern rootlet fragments, terrestrial mollusca and earthworm cocoons but not in abundant quantities.

**The plant remains (Table 14)**

Charcoal fragments were the most frequent charred plant remains in these samples with fragments of identifiable size present in medieval ditch F48 (sample 5) and undated pit F61 (sample 6).

Sample	Feature	Feature type	Sample volume (L.)	Flot volume (Litres)	CPR – charcoal flecks <4mm Ø	CPR – Identifiable charcoal > 4mm Ø	UPR – Root/rhizomes	FAUNA – Terrestrial mollusca	FAUNA – Earthworm cocoons
3	F46	Gully	20	0.005	3	-	3	1	-
5	F48	Ditch	30	0.250	2	3	3	2	-
6	F61	Pit	20	0.05	1	1	3	1	1

**Table 14** Plant macro-remains and faunal remains. Key: Abundance: 1 = 1-10, 2 = 11-100, 3 = >100; CPR = Charred plant remains; UPR: Uncharred/dried waterlogged plant remains

**Potential, significance and recommendations**

The soil type is 'Soilscape 18', slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (Cranfield University 2021). These soil conditions preserve charred and mineralised plant macro-remains (Campbell et al. 2011, 5).

It is clear that charred plant remains are present at this site so whole-earth/bulk soil sampling should be continued if further archaeological work takes place. There is no evidence in these evaluation samples for waterlogged preservation conditions and if those conditions are encountered during excavation sampling will need to account for this.

The charcoal fragments in each sample are of identifiable size. These may provide information about fuel use and some of these fragments may be suitable for radiocarbon dating.

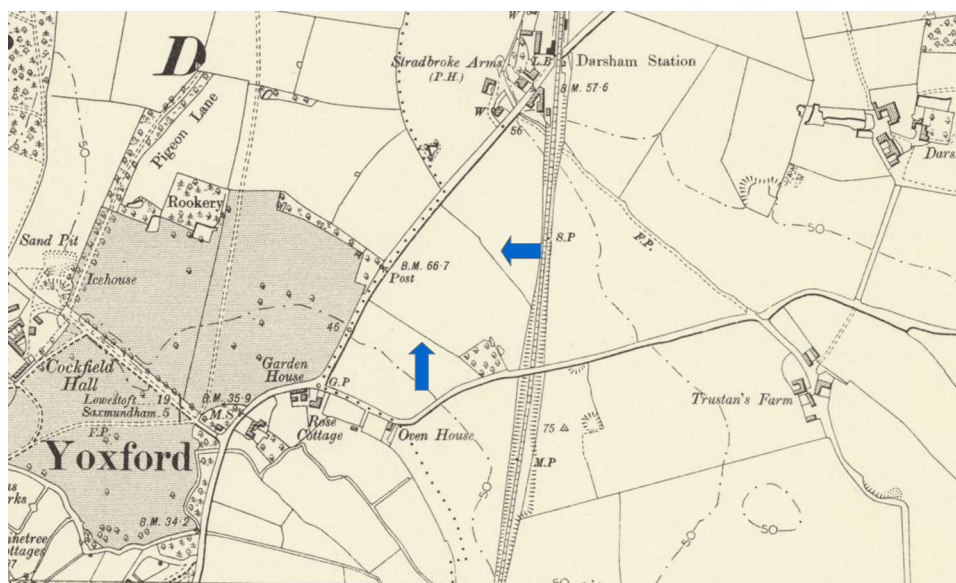
**9 Discussion**

Sixty-three features were uncovered during this evaluation: twenty-five ditches, twenty-three pits, seven postholes, six gullies, a charcoal-rich pit and a ditch or pit. These features were fairly evenly distributed across the site, with a concentration in its northwestern corner and a scatter through its southern half. Only a modest amount of artefactual evidence was recovered, and consequently thirty-six features could not be dated.

The presence of a small number of features producing prehistoric pottery sherds suggests that the earliest phase of human activity at the site occurred during this period. Only one of these sherds could be closely dated, to the Iron Age. An evaluation carried out by Suffolk Archaeology along the southern and eastern borders of the present site in 2018 uncovered one prehistoric ditch to the northeast, and the abovementioned remains likely represent an extension of this activity. The main period of activity at the site, however, was during the 12th to the 14th century. The medieval features uncovered produced a modest amount of pottery, much of it derived from cooking vessels. A number of these sherds exhibited evidence of blackening, but none had any decoration or glazing. Some quern fragments and sheep or goat and pig bone was also recovered from medieval contexts. This activity was concentrated in the north of the site, which may have been related to the remains of what may have been domestic plots dating to the 12th-14th century fronting onto what is now the A12 uncovered during excavations by Cotswold Archaeology

approximately 600m to the north in 2019 (Cotswold Archaeology 2020). In the southern half of the site, one medieval ditch produced an assemblage of daub, some of which still had traces of wattle voids, indicating that a posted structure stood in the vicinity during this period. Together, these remains suggest that a small low-status domestic settlement existed here during this period. This investigation therefore has the potential to contribute to the research objectives outlined in the East of England Research Framework by shedding further light on forms of medieval rural settlement and the landscape features which shape these patterns of occupation (Medlycott 2011, 70).

A number of post-medieval and modern features were also excavated. Two ditches corresponded to field boundary ditches which formerly subdivided the site depicted on early 20th-century Ordnance Survey mapping of the area (see Map 1 below). The other post-medieval or modern features uncovered were likely similarly the product of agricultural activity here during these periods.



**Map 1** Extract Suffolk L.N.W, Revised: 1903, Published: 1905 (historic field boundary ditches indicated by the blue arrows)

## 10 Acknowledgements

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## 12 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c 500 – 1066
Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain, can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c AD 1500

modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	<b>O</b> nline <b>A</b> ccess to the <b>I</b> ndex of <b>A</b> rchaeological <b>I</b> nvestigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD1200 and continued in use to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
SCC	Suffolk County Council
SCCAS	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services
SCHER	Suffolk County Historic Environment Record
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation

### 13 Contents of archive

**Finds:** part of one box

#### **Paper and digital record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1711)

SCCAS evaluation brief

Original site record (trench record sheet, sections)

Site digital photographic log

#### **Digital record**

The report (CAT Report 1711)

SCCAS evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log

Graphic files

Survey data

### 14 Archive deposition

The paper archive and finds are currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, but will be permanently deposited with SCCAS under Parish Number DAR 061. The archive will be deposited in line with SCCAS guidance (SCCAS 2019).

**Distribution list:**

Graham McCormick, M Scott Properties Ltd  
Rachael Abraham, SCCAS  
Suffolk County Historic Environment Record



**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk,  
Colchester,  
Essex, CO2 7GZ  
tel.: 01206 501785  
email: [eh2@catuk.org](mailto:eh2@catuk.org)

*checked by:* Philip Crummy  
*date:* 25.11.21

**Appendix 1 Context list**

Context Number	Trench number	Finds Number <sup>10</sup>	Feature / layer type	Description	Date
L1	All	23	Ploughsoil	Hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay	Modern
L2	All	-	Natural	Hard, dry medium orange/brown clay	Post-glacial
L3	T30-31, T36-38, T40-67	-	Accumulation / hillwash	Firm, moist medium brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F1	1	1	Pit	Firm, moist medium brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks and 3% stones	16th-18th century
F2	1	2	Ditch	Friable, moist medium brown sandy-silty- clay with daub flecks and 5% stones	12th-14th century
F3	5	3, <1>	Pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and daub flecks and 6% stones	Late 12th-14th century
F4	1	4	Pit	Firm, dry medium brown sandy-clay with 5% stones	12th-14th century
F5	5	5	Posthole	Firm, dry dark grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks and 5% stones	Undatable
F6	5	6	Ditch	Firm, dry medium orange/brown sandy- silty-clay with 8% stones	Undatable
F7	9	7	Posthole	Hard, dry dark orange/grey silty-clay with charcoal flecks and 10% stones	Undatable
F8	9	8, 9	Ditch	Hard, dry medium grey/brown clay with charcoal, daub and CBM flecks and 40% stones	Late 13th-14th century
F9	8	10	Gully	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F10	8	11	Ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	Prehistoric
F11	9	12	Ditch	Firm, dry medium orange/brown sandy- silty-clay with charcoal and daub flecks and 5% stones	Medieval / post-medieval
F12	9	-	Posthole	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks and 5% stones	Undatable
F13	9	13, 14	Field boundary ditch	Firm, dry dark grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and CBM flecks	19th-20th century
F14	7	15	Ditch	Firm/hard, dry medium yellow/grey/brown silty-clay	Late 12th-14th century
F15	11	16, 17	Ditch	Firm, moist medium brown silty-clay	12th-14th century
F16	17	-	Field boundary ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	19th-20th century
F17	23	-	Field boundary ditch	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	19th-20th century
F18	19	18, <2>	Charcoal-rich pit	Hard, dry dark grey/brown/black clay with charcoal and CBM flecks and 25% stones	Undatable
F19	16	19	Field boundary	Hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay	19th-20th

<sup>10</sup> Fragments of what were thought to be pottery were recovered from F6 but were later identified as iron pan. Pottery sherds were recovered from F18 and a piece of CBM from F30 but these finds were lost.



			ditch	with CBM flecks	century
F20	27	-	Posthole	Friable, moist medium grey/brown silty clay with 2% stones	Undatable
F21	28	-	Posthole	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks and 5% stones	Undatable
F22	21	-	Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown clay with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F23	21	-	Pit	Firm, dry medium/dark grey/brown clay with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F24	21	-	Pit	Firm, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F25	22	-	Gully	Firm/hard, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F26	22	-	Gully	Firm/hard moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F27	22	-	Gully	Firm/hard, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F28	28	20	Ditch	Hard, moist medium orange silty-clay with 6% stones	15th-16th century
F29	29	-	Posthole	Hard, dry medium/dark grey/brown clay with 15% stones	Undatable
F30	29	21	Pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay	Undatable
F31	31	-	Ditch	Hard, dry dark grey/brown clay with charcoal and CBM flecks	Undatable
F32	37	-	Pit	Firm, moist medium orange/grey silty-clay with 5% stones	Undatable
F33	36	-	Pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with daub flecks and 5% stones	Undatable
F34	36	-	Ditch	Firm, dry medium orange/brown silty-clay with 10% stones	Undatable
F35	24	-	Field boundary ditch	Firm, moist dark brown silty-clay	19th-20th century
F36	34	-	Pit	Firm, moist medium orange/grey silty-clay with charcoal flecks and 13% stones	Undatable
F37	33	-	Pit	Firm, moist dark brown silty-clay	Undatable
F38	32	24	Ditch	Firm, moist medium orange/brown silty-clay with charcoal and daub flecks and 5% stone	16th-18th century
F39	40	-	Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with 5% stones	Undatable
F40	39	25	Ditch	Hard, dry medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and CBM flecks	16th-18th century
F41	39	-	Ditch	Hard, dry medium grey/brown clay with 20% stones	Undatable
F42	39	-	Pit	Firm, dry dark grey/brown clay with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F43	46	-	Gully	Firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F44	46	-	Field boundary ditch	Firm, moist dark brown silty-clay	19th-20th century
F45	45	-	Field boundary ditch	Firm, moist dark brown silty-clay	19th-20th century

F46	47	26, <3>	Gully	Firm, moist medium grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal flecks	12th-14th century
F47	48	<4>	Pit	Hard, dry medium/dark grey/brown clay with charcoal, daub and CBM flecks	Undatable
F48	47	27, 28, <5>	Ditch	Firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay with charcoal and daub flecks	12th-14th century
F49	44	29, 30	Field boundary ditch	Firm, dry medium orange/grey silty-clay with charcoal and CBM flecks, 5% stones and occasional CBM pieces	19th-20th century
F50	49	31	Ditch / pit	Hard, dry medium grey/brown clay with charcoal and CBM flecks, 15% stones and occasional CBM pieces	Post-medieval
F51	51	-	Posthole	Friable, dry medium grey/brown silty-sand with 5% stones	Undatable
F52	51	-	Pit	Firm, dry medium orange/grey silty-sand with charcoal flecks and 5% stones	Undatable
F53	51	34, 35	Pit	Friable, dry medium orange/grey silty-sand with charcoal flecks and 10% stones	?Iron Age
F54	56	32	Ditch	Loose/soft, dry light yellow/orange sandy-silt with 5% gravel and 5% stones	Late 12th-13th century
F55	56	33	Pit	Loose, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Prehistoric
F56	51	-	Ditch	Firm, dry medium grey silty-clay with 5% stones	Undatable
F57	55	-	Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F58	58	-	Pit	Firm, moist medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F59	59	-	Pit	Firm, moist dark grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Undatable
F60	66	-	Pit	Loose, dry medium orange/brown sand with 5% stones	Undatable
F61	65	36, <6>	Pit	Loose, dry dark grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal and CBM flecks	Undatable
F62	62	37	Ditch	Loose, dry medium orange/brown sand with 3% stones	?Medieval
F63	67	-	Pit	Loose, dry medium grey/brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks	Undatable

**Appendix 2 Pottery list**

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	TR	NR	GR.	MSW	Rim	Handle	Base	Soot	Burn	Residue	Abraded	Fabric Grp	Typology	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F1	Pit	1			1	1	1								PMRW					16th-18th century
F1	Pit	1			3	3	1					X			MCW					12th-14th century
F2	Ditch	2			1	1	1								MSSCW				? Grey fine sand	12th-14th century
F3	Pit	3		5	2	22	11	2	0	0					WVSW	Cooking pot B2A			Buff/or oxid, abundant sand	12th-14th century
F3	Pit	3		5	1	3	3								WVSW				Oxid abundant sand	12th-14th century
F3	Pit	3		5	3	16	5	1	0	0	X				WVSW	Cooking pot B2A	0.05	230		12th-14th century
F3	Pit	3		5	1	6	6								WVCMW				Oxid, grey fine sand, smoother some mica	12th-14th century
F3	Pit	3		5	3	41	14				X	X			MCW	Cooking pot B2	0.16	150	Blocky rim	12th-14th century
F3	Pit	3		5	1	4	4								MCW				Oxid	12th-14th century
F3	Pit	3		5	4	6	2	0	0	1					MCW				Dull pale buff to grey, abundant fine sand	12th-14th century
F3	Pit		1	5	3	7	2								WVSW				Buff sandy	12th-14th century
F3	Pit		1	5	4	10	3	1	0	0		X			MCW	Cooking pot B2A	0.03	?	Burnt black, sandy	12th-14th century
F4	Pit	4			1	2	2								MCW				Oxid, black core abundant sand	12th-14th century
F4	Pit	4			1	3	3								MCW					12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	8		9	1	7	7								MCW				Buff grey surf, fine sand, some mica	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	8		9	4	5	1								WVSW				Oxid or, abundant sand	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	8		9	1	2	2					X			MCW				Black abundant fine sand	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	8		9	1	7	7	0	0	1					WVSW				Thumbed base, black surf, buff core, sand, ore thumbed base, black, surf, buff	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	8		9	6	21	4	0	0	1		X			WVSW				Or oxid, black surf, abundant fine sand	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	8		9	1	2	2								WVSW				Oxid, black int, abundant fine sand, ore	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	8		9	4	18	5	0	0	1		X			MCW				Br to grey, black ext, abundant fine sand	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	9		9	9	48	5	0	0	1	X	X			MCW				Buff abundant sand	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	9		9	2	6	3				X	X			MCW				Completely black, abundant fine sand	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	9		9	6	20	3	1	0	0	X	X			WVSW	Cooking pot B2A	0.04	230	Brown, grey core, common fine sand, ore, rare c sand & fl	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	9		9	1	18	18	1	0	0	X	X			MCW	Cooking pot B2C/ cauldron	0.05	260	Abundant fine sand, Cotter p137 f89, 109	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	9		9	1	18	18	0	0	1	X	X			MCW				Br grey core, abundant fine sand	12th-14th century
F8	Ditch	9		9	2	2	1								COLC				Orange oxid, white slip, sparse fine sand	12th-14th century
F10	Ditch	11		8	2	1	1								HMF				Brown darker core, sparse ang fl	Prehistoric

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Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	TR	NR	GR.	MSW	Rim	Handle	Base	Soot	Burn	Residue	Abraded	Fabric Grp	Typology	EVE	Diam.	Comments	Date
F13	Field boundary ditch	13		9	1	2	2	1	0	0					LPME		0.07	90		18th-20th century
F14	Ditch	15		7	1	8	8	1	0	0					WVCMW	Large bowl/pancheon	0.03	300	Brown/buff, grey core, sparse/mod sand rare mica	Late 12th-14th century
F15	Ditch	16		11	3	12	4	1	0	0		X		X	WVSW	Cooking pot B2A	0.03	170	Buff grey core, abundant sand rare mica, sparse white calc ins	12th-14th century
F15	Ditch	16		11	1	1	1								RCW			?Crumb	Late Iron Age – early Roman	
F19	Field boundary ditch	19		16	1	1	1								GRE					16th-18th century
F28	Ditch	20		28	1	7	7	1	0	0		X			LMT	Bowl/ frying pan	0.03	250		15th-16th century
F28	Ditch	20		28	1	6	6								MCWG			Abundant sand	Late 11th-13th century	
F28	Ditch	20		28	3	5	2								WVSW			Common sand	12th-14th century	
F38	Ditch	24		32	1	7	7	1	0	0		X			WVSW	Jug?	0.08	110	Buff, abundant fine sand, rare ore	12th-14th century
F40	Ditch	25		39	2	3	2								PMRE			Glaze	16th-18th century	
F46	Gully	26		47	2	16	8	1	0	0					WVSW	Bowl	0.06	260	Buff abundant sand sparse calc lumps grey core	12th-14th century
F46	Gully	26		47	1	4	4					X			WVSW			Orange grey core abundant sand black (burnt) int	12th-14th century	
F46	Gully	26		47	4	3	1								MCW			Black sandy, slightly smooth	12th-14th century	
F48	Ditch	27		47	2	19	10					X			WVSW			Sandy grey core	12th-14th century	
F48	Ditch	27		47	1	11	11	1	0	0					WVSW	Cooking pot C1	0.03	240	Dark br abundant sand	12th-14th century
F48	Ditch	27		47	1	4	4								MCW			Pale buff to grey, abundant sand	12th-14th century	
F49	Field boundary ditch	29		44	1	3	3								GRE					16th-18th century
F49	Field boundary ditch	29		44	2	2	1	1	0	0					MCWG	?	0.02	?		Late 11th-13th century?
F50	Ditch/pit	31		49	1	27	27	0	0	1	X				EMWE			Thin-w, ir-reg, wheel-f, oxid br, sandy some coarser & black grains, nr emwe	11th-13th century	
F50	Ditch/pit	31		49	1	7	7				X	X			WVSW			Oxid, or abundant fine sand	12th-14th century	
F50	Ditch/pit	31		49	1	22	22	1	0	0	X	X			WVSW	Large bowl/ pancheon	0.03	420	Black surf, grey core, abundant fine sand	12th-14th century
F50	Ditch/pit	31		49	1	14	14	0	0	1					WVSW			Buff, grey darker surface, abundant fine sand	12th-14th century	
F50	Ditch/pit	31		49	1	8	8								MCWM			Black surf, pale buff grey core, common sand sparse coarser sand, rare mica or mcw?	12th-14th century	
F53	Pit	34			1	21	21				X		X		HMS			Oxid, or, black core, sparse coarse sand, fine mica odd	Prehistoric	
F54	Ditch	32		56	1	21	21	1	0	0					HCWREDO	Jug/ small thick-walled jar?	0.11	130	?Grey, slightly rough, abundant fine round sand, rare c sand, & mica. Wheel-made, ribbing on neck	Late 12th-13th century
F55	Pit	33		56	2	2	1								HMF			Brown, black core, common fine fl	Prehistoric	

**Appendix 3 CBM list**

Cxt	Feature type	Find no.	Soil S no.	Trench	NR	GR.	MSW	Typology	Sub-type	MNI	L.	BR.	TH.	Burnt	Overfired	Abraded	Comments	Date
F1	Pit	1			3	3	1	BR		0							Crumbs	Medieval/ post-medieval
F1	Pit	1			1	1	1	Baked clay		0								?
F1	Pit	1			1	4	4	BR		0							?	Medieval/ post-medieval
F2	Ditch	2			1	4	4	Baked clay		0								?
F8	Ditch	8		9	2	1	1	Baked clay		0							Chalk nodds	?
F8	Ditch	8		9	2	3	2	Baked clay		0				X				?
F8	Ditch	8		9	2	1	1	Baked clay		0				X				?
F8	Ditch	9		9	1	3	3	Baked clay		0							Chalk nodds	?
F11	Ditch	12		9	1	1	1	Baked clay		0							Chalk nodds	?
F11	Ditch	12		9	1	2	2	PT		0							?	Medieval/ post-medieval
F13	Field boundary ditch	13		9	1	2	2	BR		0								19th/20th century
F15	Ditch	16		11	1	1	1	Baked clay		0							Chalk nodds	?
F15	Ditch	16		11	1	2	2	Baked clay		0								?
F28	Ditch			28	2	2	1	Baked clay		0				X				?
F38	Ditch	24		32	4	2	1	Baked clay		0								?
F48	Ditch	28		47	10	396	40	Daub		0							Several wattle/ stakeholes 15, 20-25 mm	?
F48	Ditch		5	47	45	157	3	Baked clay		0				X			Chalk nodds	?
F49	Field boundary ditch	29		44	7	7	1	BR		0								Medieval/ post-medieval
F49	Field boundary ditch	29		44	1	1054	1054	BR	Unfrogged	0	?	122	62			X	Pink buff, silver mica red nodds, smoothed polished up surf?	Post-medieval
F50	Ditch/pit	31		49	1	72	72	BR		0	?	?	?	X			Yellow with pale nodds	Medieval/ post-medieval
F55	Pit	33		56	1	5	5	Baked clay		0				X				?
F61	Pit	36		65	1	9	9	Baked clay		0				X			Oxid black core	?

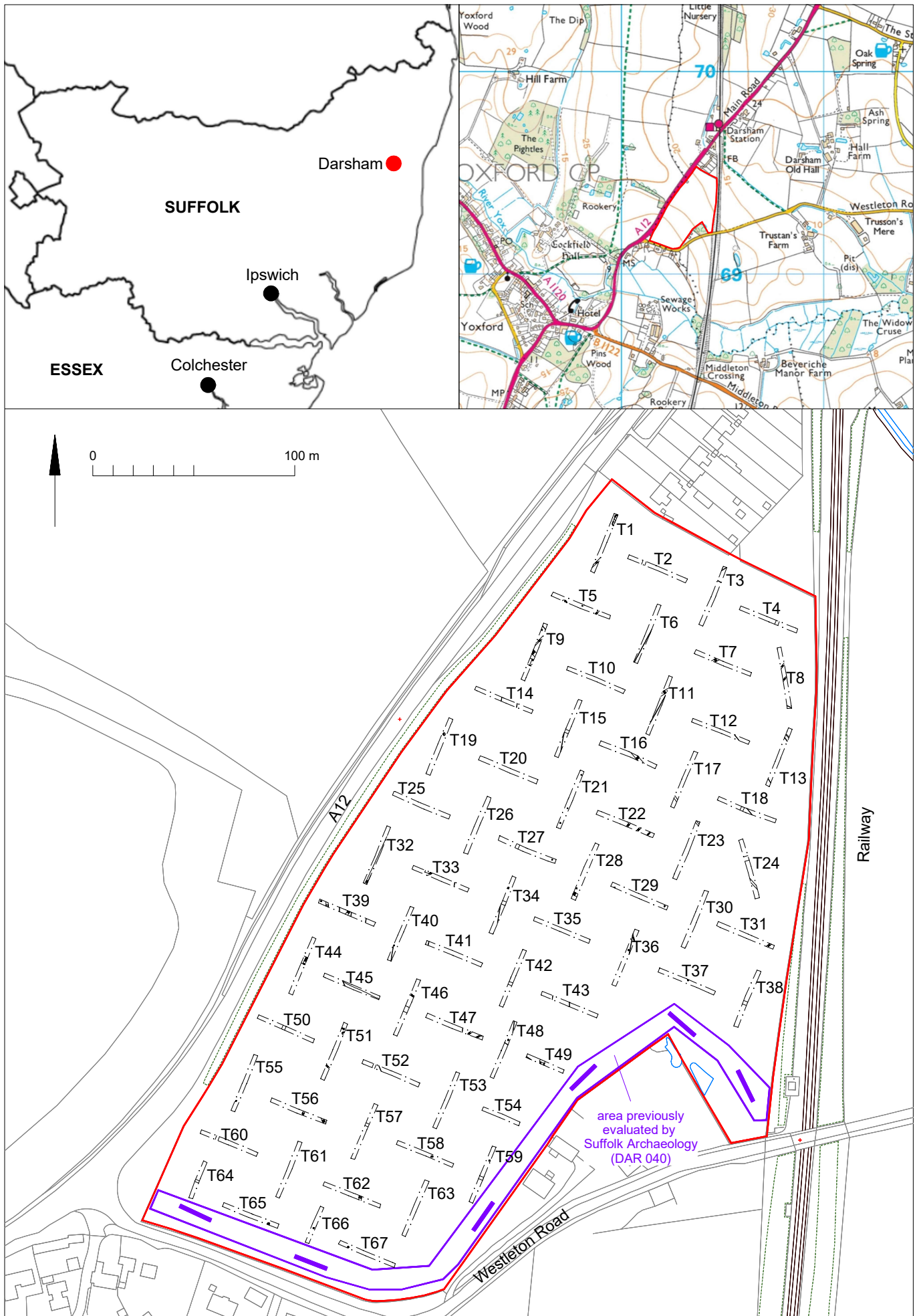


Fig 1 Site location.







Fig 3 Results, north of site. (s = sondage, d = land drain)



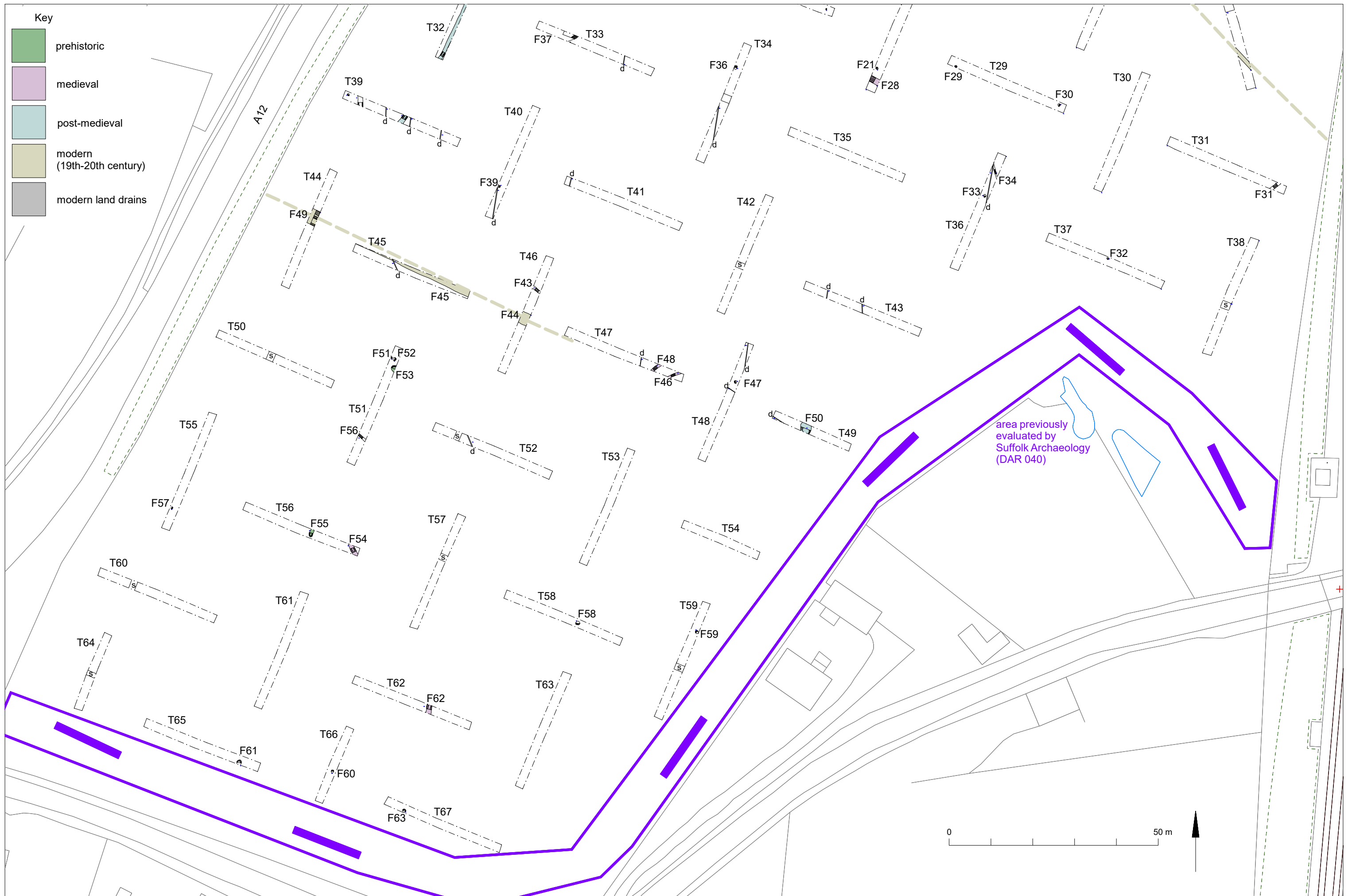


Fig 4 Results, south of site. (s = sondage, d = land drain)

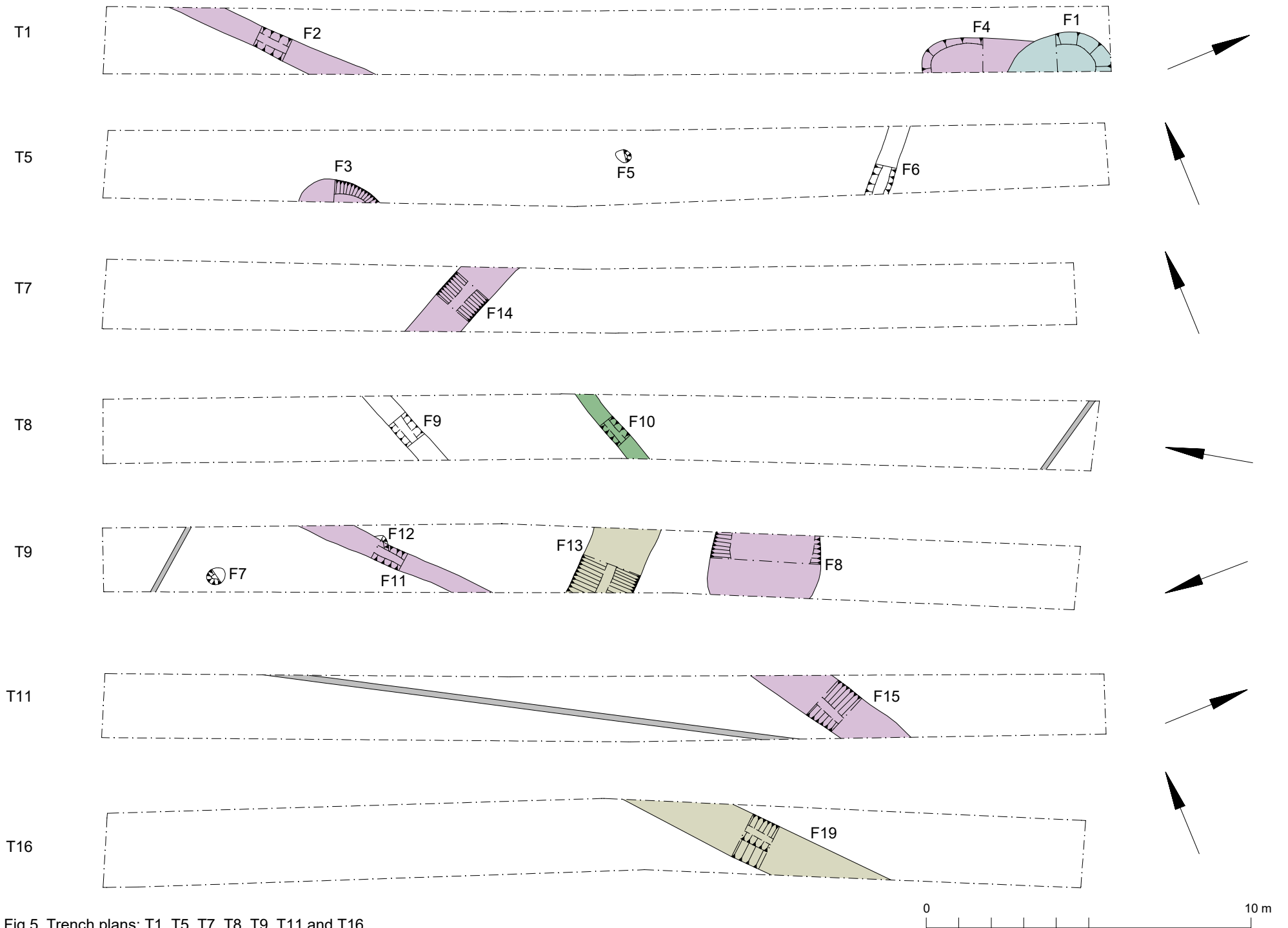


Fig 5 Trench plans: T1, T5, T7, T8, T9, T11 and T16

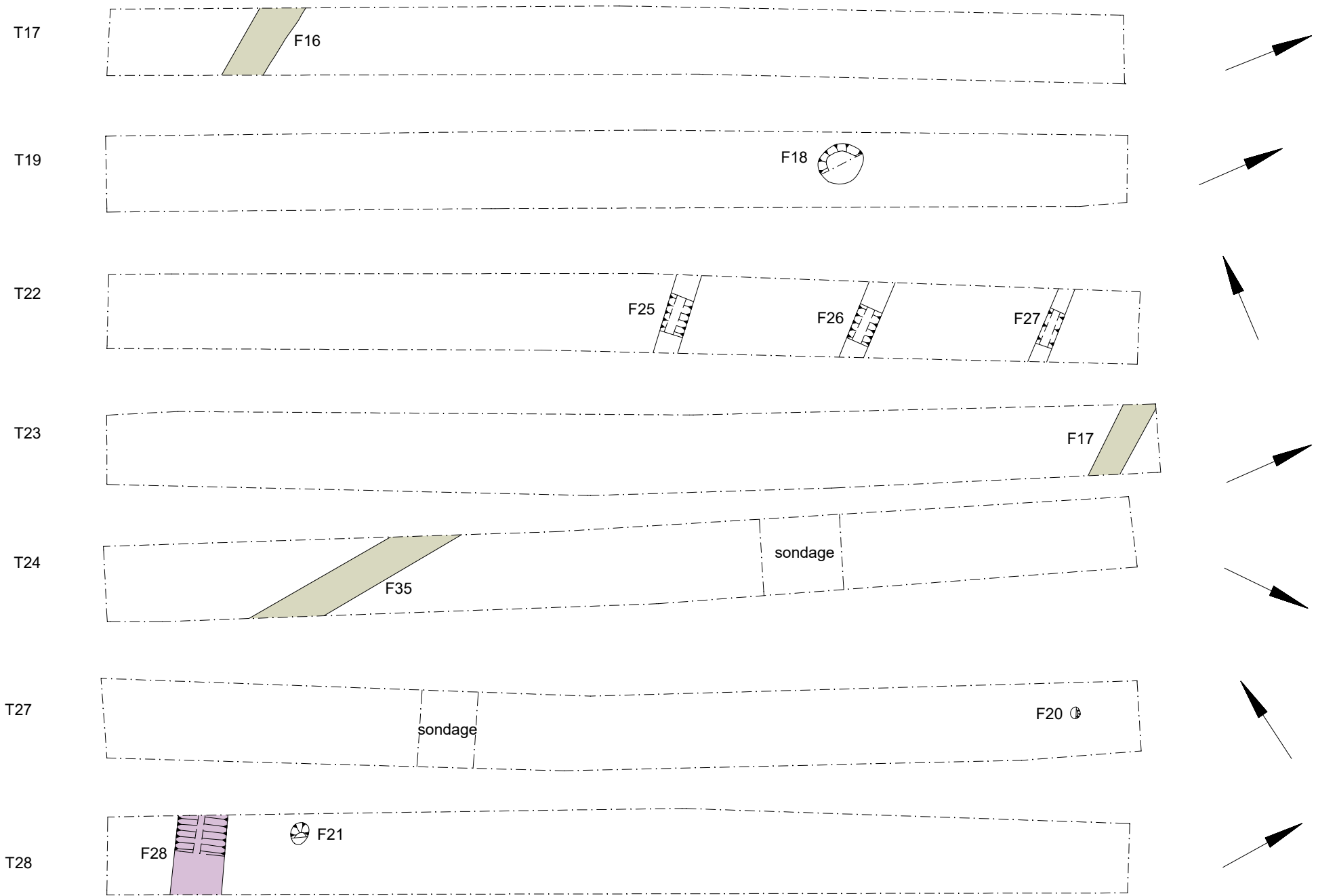


Fig 6 Trench plans: T17, T19, T22, T23, T24, T27 and T28



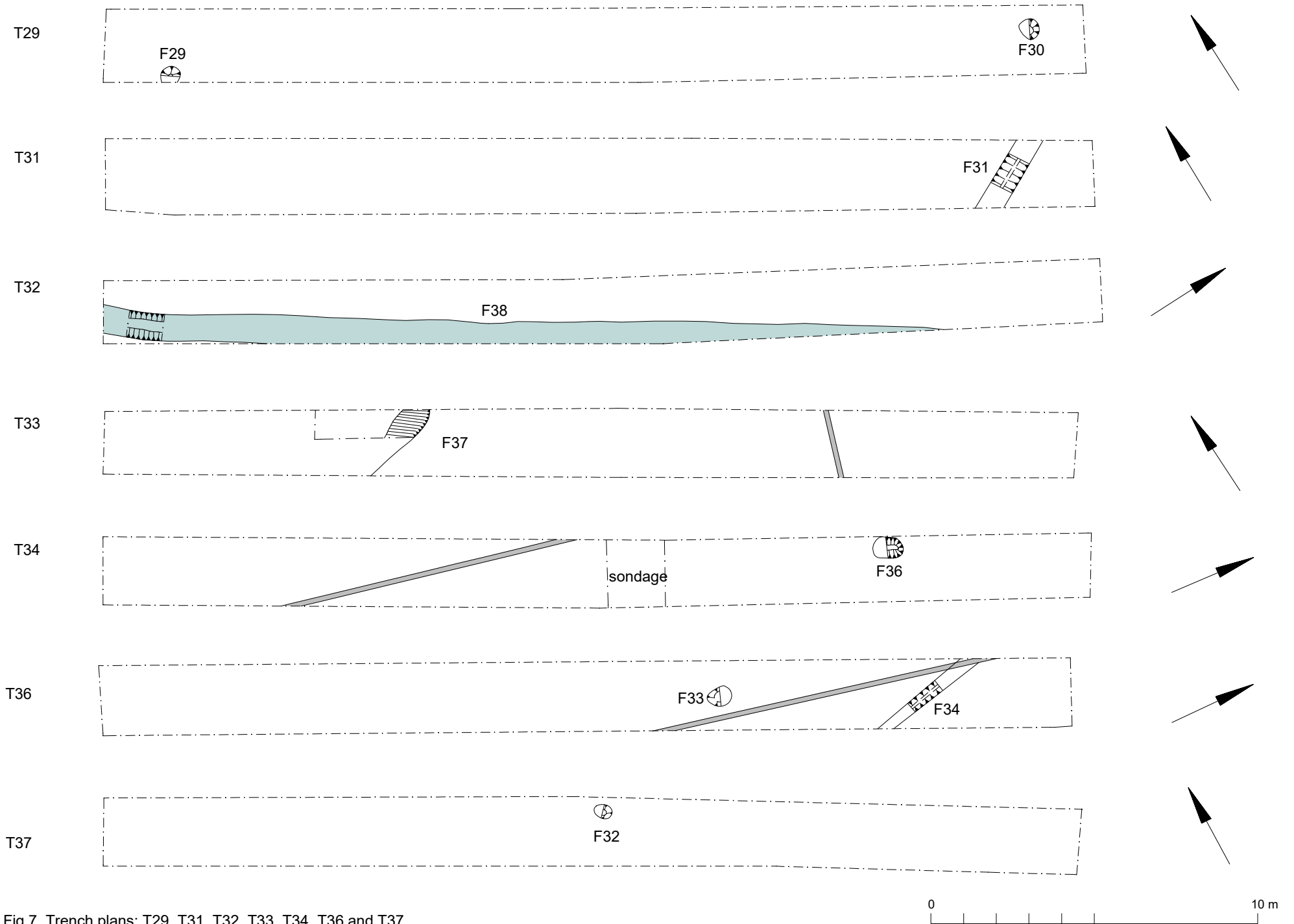


Fig 7 Trench plans: T29, T31, T32, T33, T34, T36 and T37

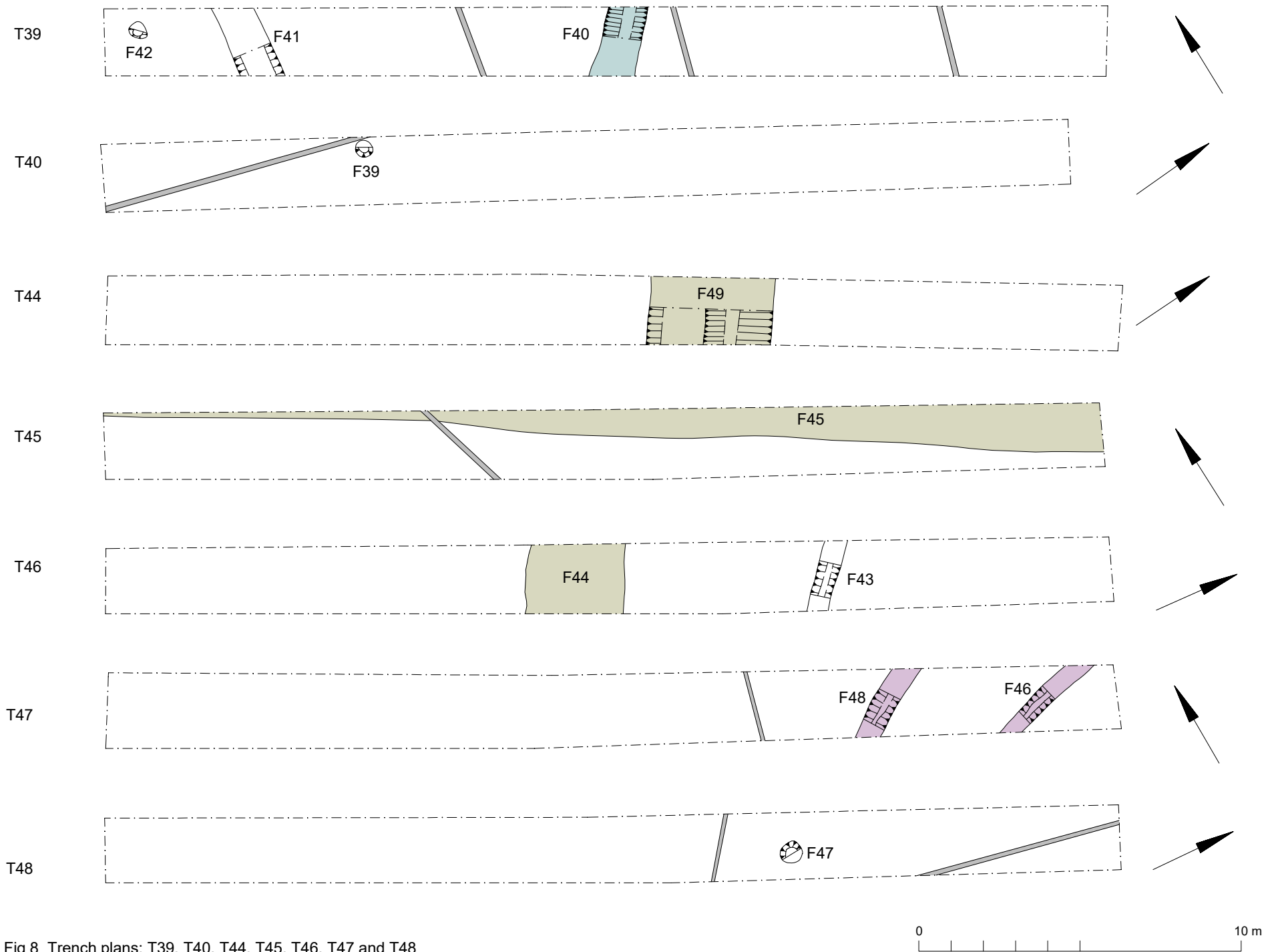


Fig 8 Trench plans: T39, T40, T44, T45, T46, T47 and T48

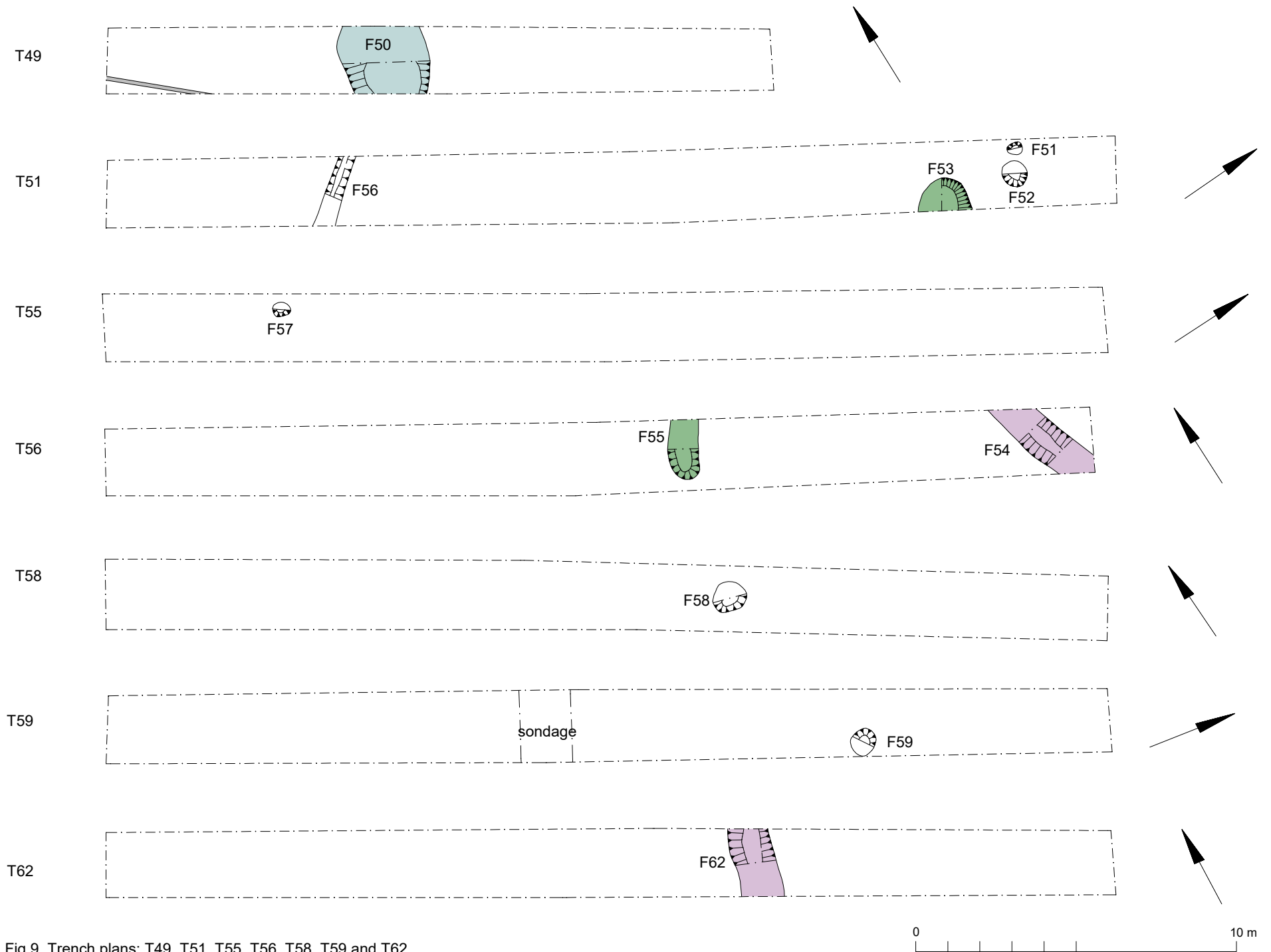


Fig 9 Trench plans: T49, T51, T55, T56, T58, T59 and T62

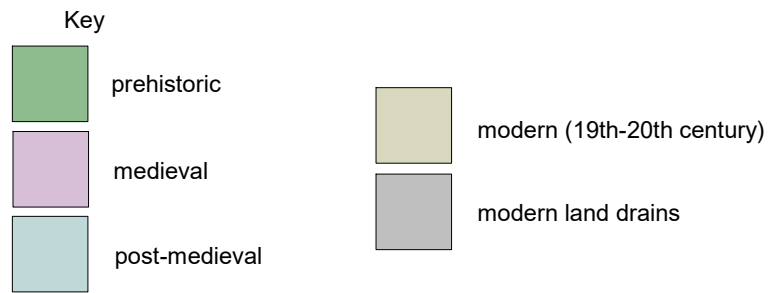
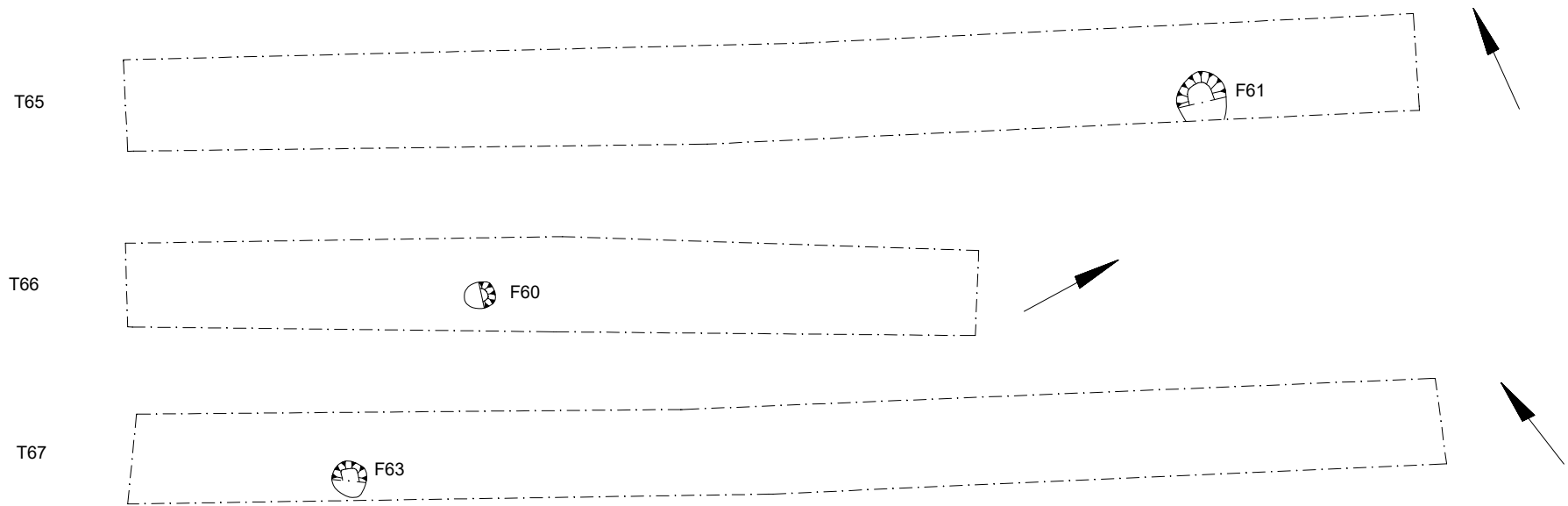


Fig 10 Trench plans: T65, T66 and T67



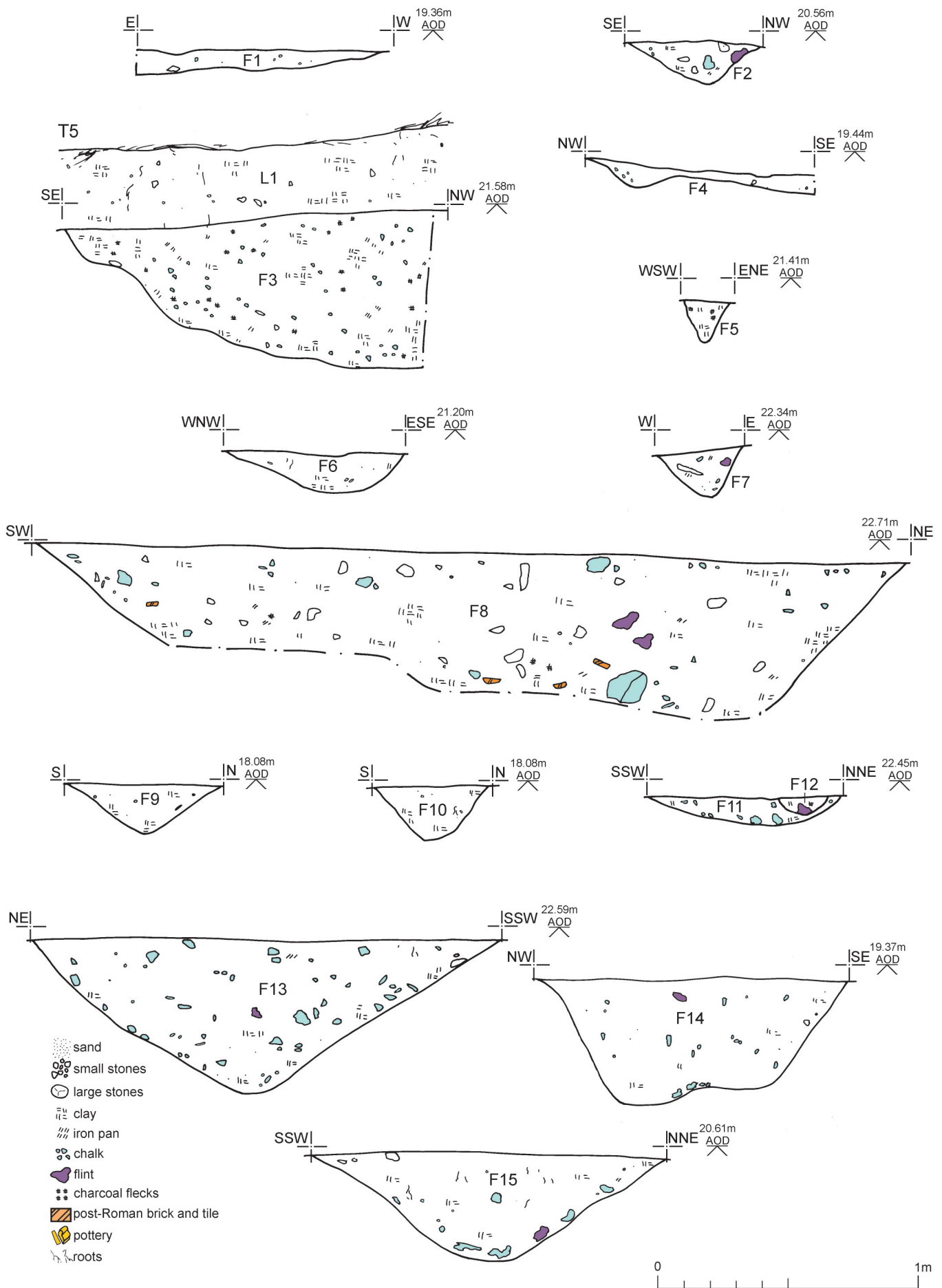


Fig 11 Feature sections.



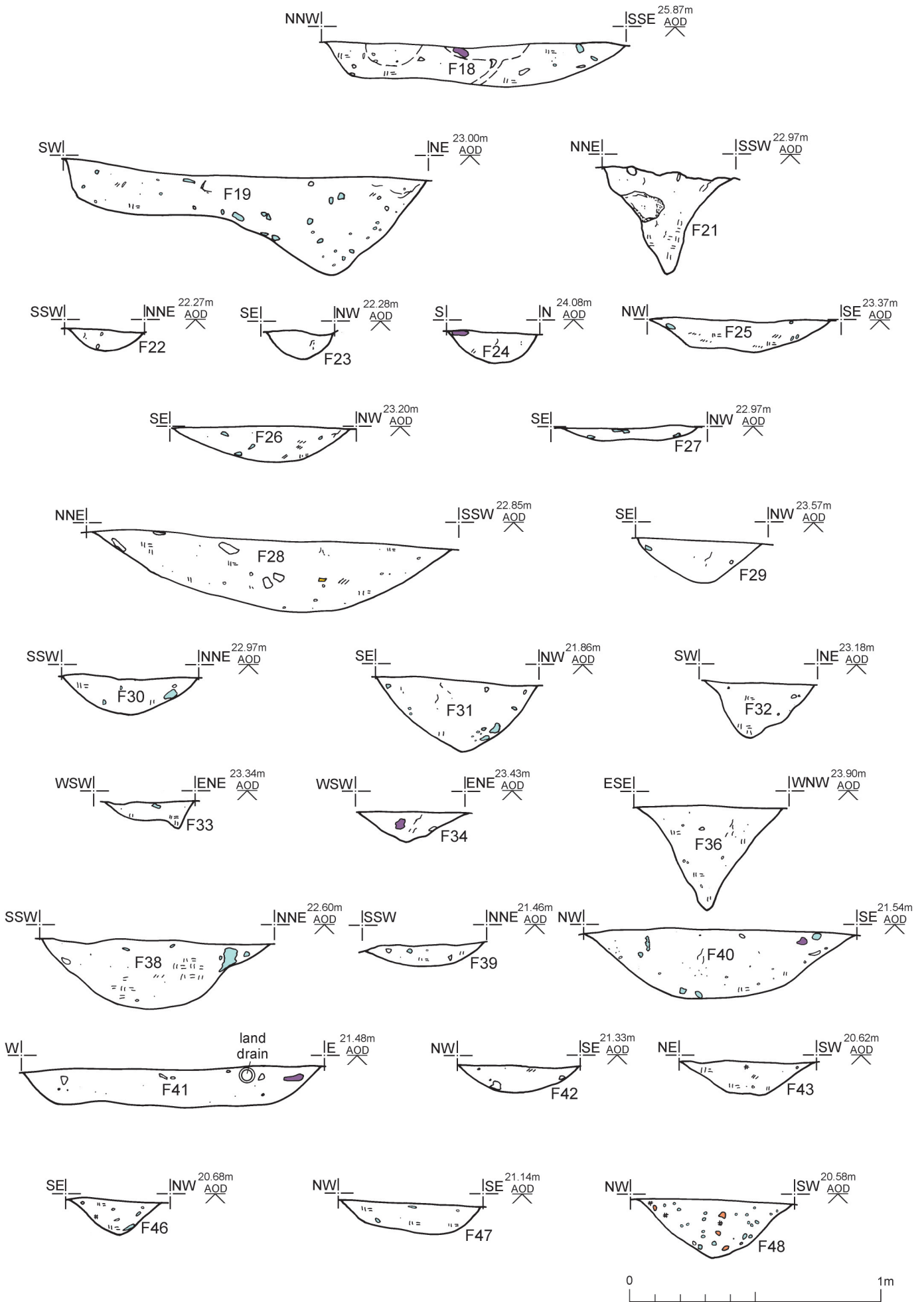


Fig 12 Feature sections.

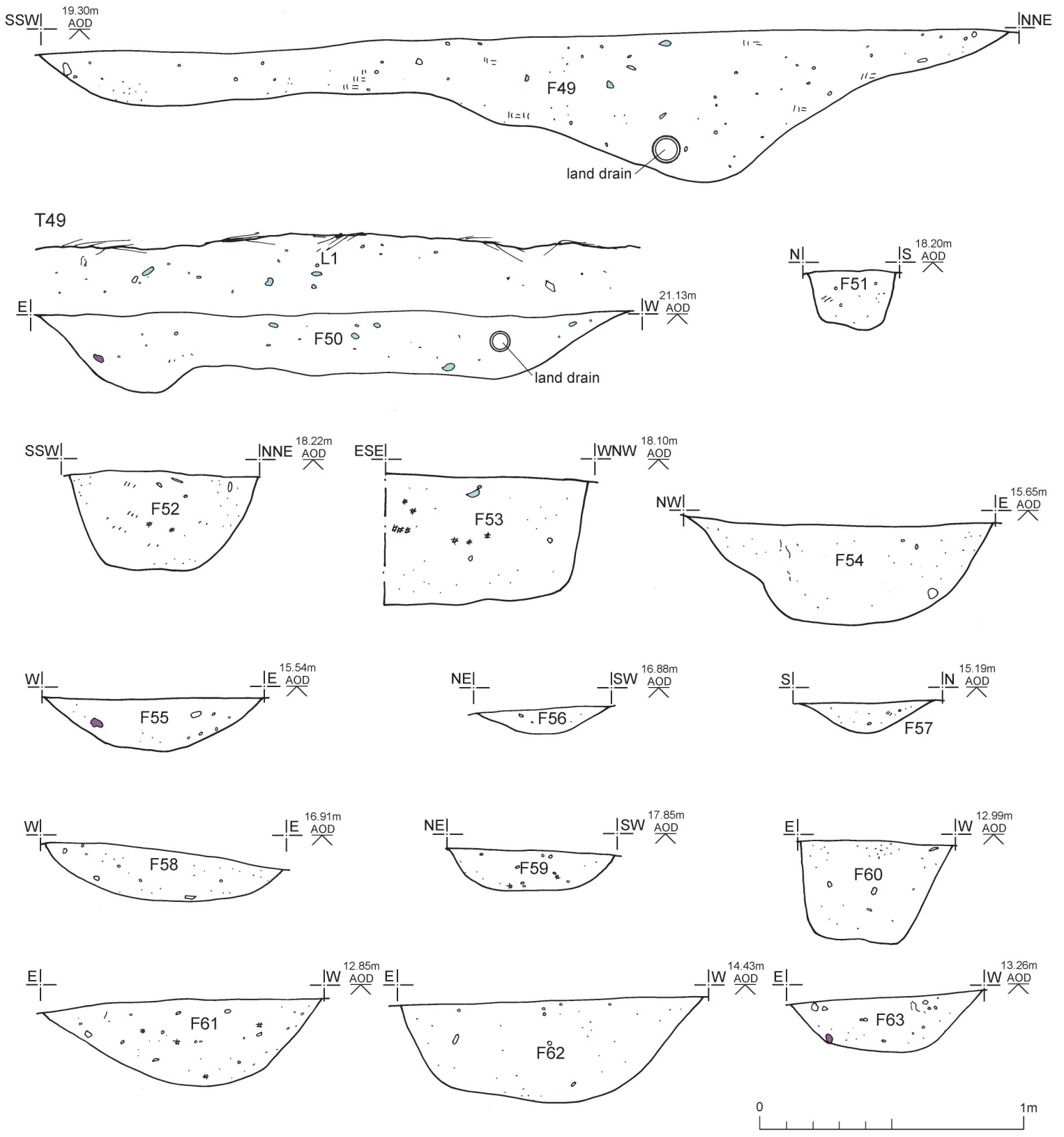


Fig 13 Feature sections.

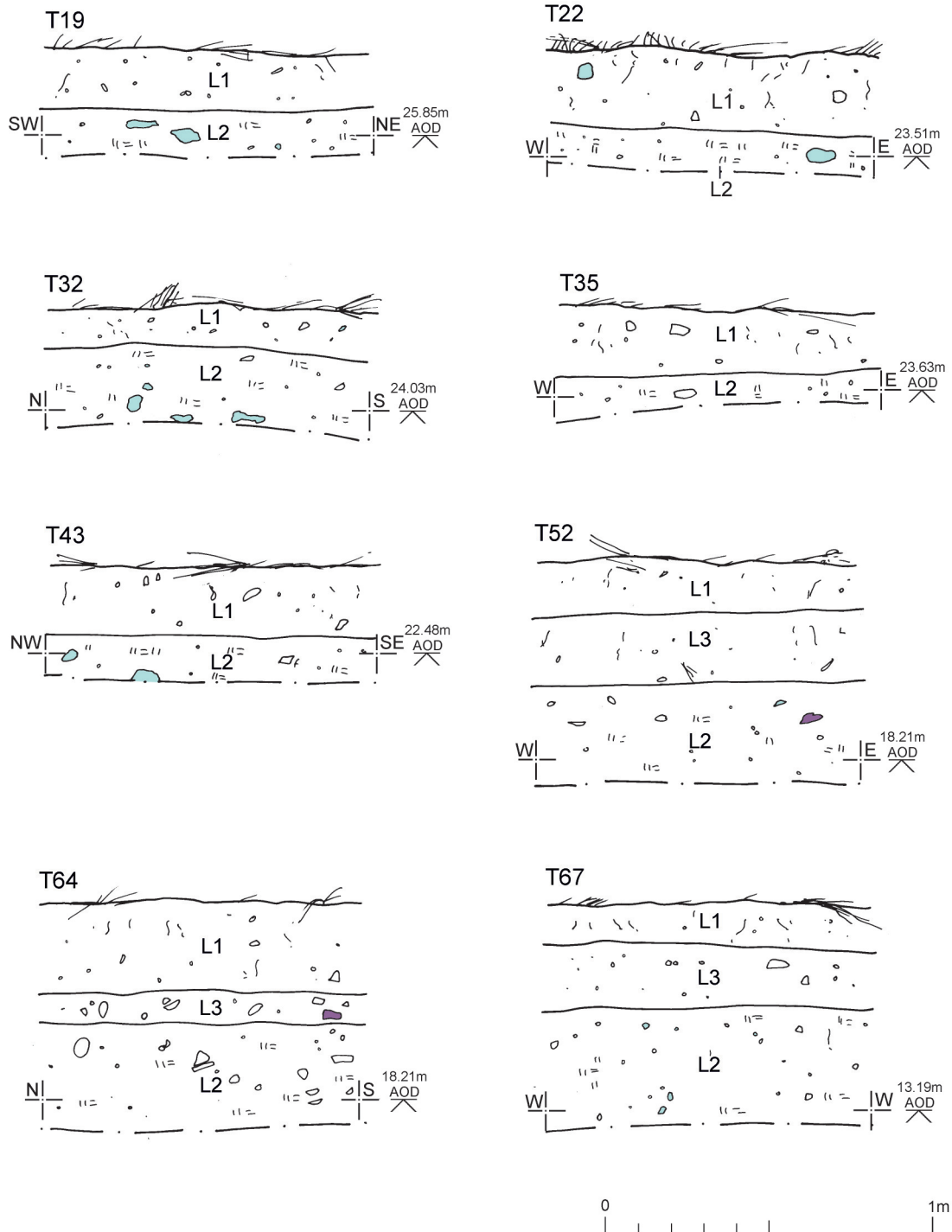


Fig 14 Representative sections.

## Summary for colchest3-424784

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-424784
Project Name	Archaeological evaluation on land south of Darsham Station, Darsham, Suffolk
Activity type	TRIAL TRENCH
Project Identifier(s)	2021/06f
Planning Id	pre-planning
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	06-Sep-2021 - 23-Sep-2021
Location	Land south of Darsham Station, Darsham, Suffolk NGR : TM 40310 69310 LL : 52.2693926272791, 1.52069143228532 12 Fig : 640310,269310
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Suffolk District : East Suffolk Parish : Darsham
Project Methodology	Sixty-seven trial-trenches were laid out across the development site. The trenches were 20m-30m long by 1.8m wide (totalling 3,546m <sup>2</sup> ), providing a 5% sample of the site. There was sufficient excavation to give evidence for the period, depth and nature of all archaeological deposits. For linear features 1m wide sections were excavated across their width to a total of 10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, were 50% excavated. There were no complex archaeological structures.

Project Results	<p>An archaeological evaluation (sixty-seven trial-trenches) was carried out on land south of Darsham Station, Darsham, Suffolk in advance of the proposed construction of 110 new dwellings with associated infrastructure. Sixty-three features were uncovered during this investigation: twenty-five ditches, twenty-three pits, seven postholes, six gullies, a charcoal-rich pit and a ditch or pit. An evaluation carried out along the eastern and southern borders of the site in 2018 revealed a single prehistoric ditch. Further prehistoric remains were similarly found during this evaluation, but the main period of activity here occurred during the 12th to the 14th century, during which time a small low-status domestic settlement existed here. A number of post-medieval and modern features features likely associated with agricultural activity were also excavated, including two ditches which are depicted on late 19th-century Ordnance Survey mapping of the area.</p>
Keywords	<p>Ditch - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types  Pit - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types  Boundary Ditch - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types  Vessel - MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus  Rotary Quern - MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p>
HER	Suffolk HER - unRev - STANDARD
HER Identifiers	DAR 061
Archives	<p>Physical Archive - to be deposited with Suffolk Archaeological Service  Documentary Archive - to be deposited with Suffolk Archaeological Service  Digital Archive - to be deposited with Suffolk Archaeological Service  Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive</p>