

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL TRENCHING:
LAND OFF VICTORY WAY, BARTON-UPON-HUMBER, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE**

Planning Reference: pre-application
NGR: TA 03985 22652
AAL Site Code: BAWV 21
Museum Accession Number: BNGL
OASIS Reference Number: allenarc1-431356



Report prepared for Prospect Archaeology
On behalf of Wren Kitchens

By
Allen Archaeology Ltd
Report Number AAL 2021107

October 2021



Allenarchaeology



Contents

Executive Summary	1
1.0 Introduction.....	2
2.0 Site Location and Description.....	2
3.0 Planning Background	2
4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	3
5.0 Aims and Objectives	4
6.0 Methodology	4
7.0 Results	4
Trenches 1 - 7	4
8.0 Discussion and Conclusions.....	6
9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology.....	6
10.0 Acknowledgements	6
11.0 References.....	6

List of Plates

Plate 1 Trench 1, looking northwest, scales 1m.....	5
Plate 2 Sondage dug into Trench 1, looking southeast scales 1m	5

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 Context Summary.....	7
Appendix 2 Figures	9

List of Figures

Figure 1 Site location outlined in red	9
Figure 2 Trench location plan	10
Figure 3 Representative sections	11

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Cover image: Trench 10 looking east

Executive Summary

- Prospect Archaeology, on behalf of Wren Kitchens, commissioned Allen Archaeology Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land off Falkland Way, Barton-upon-Humber, North Lincolnshire, prior to submission of a planning application for an industrial development.
- The site is located in an area of moderate archaeological interest, with evidence for later prehistoric, Roman and medieval activity in the area. A trackway potentially of Romano-British date is recorded as a cropmark running across the site. Previous evaluation trenching of the northern half of the site however did not identify any archaeology.
- Seven trenches were excavated across the proposed development area. No archaeological finds or features were identified. The results suggest a negligible potential for the proposed development area.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Prospect Archaeology, on behalf of Wren Kitchens commissioned Allen Archaeology Limited (AAL) to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land off Falkland Way, Barton-upon-Humber, prior to submission of a planning application for an industrial development.
- 1.2 The excavation, recording and reporting conformed to current national guidelines, as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2020), and the Historic England document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (2015) and a specification prepared by Prospect Archaeology (Field 2021).
- 1.3 The archive will be compiled in line with best practice (AAF 2011; CIfA 2014) and will be submitted to North Lincolnshire Museum within six months of the completion of the report, where it will be stored under the museum accession code BNGL.

2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Barton-upon-Humber is a town in North Lincolnshire, approximately 9km southwest of Hull. The Humber Estuary is located to the north. The site is close to the south bank of the Humber, on the eastern side of Barton-upon-Humber, c.1.5km from the town centre, in an arable field off Falkland Way. It is bounded by Victory Way to the west, Falkland Way to the south, and hedge boundaries to the east and north. The site is centred at NGR TA 03985 22652, is 2.4ha in area and lies at a height of c.3m AOD.
- 2.2 The drift geology on the site comprises tidal flat deposits of clay and silt which covers a bedrock geology of Welton Chalk (<http://mapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 The evaluation was undertaken prior to submission of a planning application for an industrial development. In agreement with the Historic Environment Officer at North Lincolnshire Council, a programme of trial trenching is being undertaken in order to provide further information on the nature and extent of the archaeological resource. This report will be submitted with the application to allow the planning authority to allow the application to be determined and to establish the nature and extent of any further mitigation that may be required.
- 3.2 The approach adopted is consistent with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), with the particular sections of relevance being Paragraph 194 of *Section 16* (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 2021).

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 Prehistoric activity in the parish is attested by scatters of worked flints and the isolated discovery of artefacts such as stone axes (Bryant 1994, 5–12). Until recently, evidence of Iron Age activity was rare in the immediate vicinity of the site and limited to a number of coins from South Ferriby and Winteringham, a poorly located upper part of a quern, probably from the Humber margins and an Iron Age pit at Glebe Farm, 750m to the southeast of the present site (Bryant 1994, 10–11). Archaeological investigations undertaken in advance of residential development to the west of Falkland Way have also identified ditched enclosures, a north – south driveway and cremations of Iron Age date (AAL 2013).
- 4.2 Evidence for settlement at Barton-upon-Humber during the Roman period comes from several sites. A concentration of these sites is located in the East Acridge area of the town (Bryant 1994), to the west of this site and there seems little doubt that some form of settlement, probably of 2nd to 4th century AD date, existed in this area. Excavations at Glebe Farm prior to the construction of a factory, some 750m southeast of the site, revealed a small enclosed settlement of 2nd to 4th or 5th century date, along with at least two trackways (ibid. 19-20). A cropmark runs northeast across the site and has been presumed to be of Roman date based on a shared alignment with features exposed at Glebe Farm.
- 4.3 The Anglo-Saxon core of settlement in Barton-upon-Humber is focussed on both St. Peters Church and East Acridge. The Saxon settlement appears to have extended beyond the enclosed core and remains dating to the period have been revealed over an area between Norman Close and Barrow Road. In addition, over 200 inhumation burials dating from the late 5th to the late 7th century AD have been uncovered at Castledyke South c.700m to the west-southwest, and it is believed the cemetery may have contained as many as 600 burials in total (Bryant 1994).
- 4.4 The place name Barton-upon-Humber is found within the Domesday Survey of 1086 AD as Baer-tun, from the Old English meaning ‘the barley farm or outlying grange’ (Cameron 1998). The Domesday Record indicates there were two main landowners at the time of the survey; Earl Hugh held two bovates of land at Barton-upon-Humber, whilst land previously held by Ulf was given to Gilbert of Ghent, comprising 13 carucates of land to the geld. Gilbert had seven ploughs, and 63 villans and 16 bordars with nine ploughs, and 42 sokemen and 67 bordars with 10 ploughs. There was a church and a priest and two mills, rendering 40 shillings, and a market and a ferry rendering £4 (Morgan and Thorn 1986).
- 4.5 The works undertaken to the west of Falkland Way have identified an extensive area of agricultural ditched enclosures predominantly of Saxo-Norman to medieval date, as well as at least one timber structure. The works have also exposed the course of two east – west aligned trackways, with flanking ditches and metalling surviving in places. These are believed to represent the ‘Barrow Middle Way’ and ‘Barrow Low Way’ connecting the two neighbouring settlements of Barton and Barrow (AAL 2013, AAL 2020, AAL 2021).
- 4.6 Barton-upon-Humber began to decline in the 14th century; a direct result of the prosperity of the medieval ‘new town’ of Kingston upon Hull, established by King Edward I in 1293. However, enclosure of the parish at the end of the 18th century allowed some growth and development in the town, particularly as numerous brickworks developed along the

Humber foreshore to exploit the readily available clays and the transport links provided by the river.

- 4.7 A four trench archaeological evaluation of the northern end of the current application area, 1.1ha in size, was carried out in 2008 (AAL 2008). The trenching targeted the putative Romano-British trackway feature, which appeared as a slight earthwork visible only in the topsoil, suggesting a more recent date.

5.0 Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The purpose of the archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains and for this information to be used to determine mitigation strategies appropriate to the proposed development, either prior to or following determination of the application.

6.0 Methodology

- 6.1 The evaluation methodology entailed the excavation of 7no 30m x 1.8m trenches in the remaining 1.3ha of the proposed development area. In each trench all topsoil, subsoil and underlying non archaeological deposits were removed by mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. This was undertaken down in spits of 0.1m thickness until the first archaeological horizon or natural geology, whichever was encountered first.
- 6.2 A full written record of the archaeological deposits was made on standard AAL context recording sheets. All excavated sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. Photography formed an integral part of the recording strategy and all photographs incorporated scales, an identification board and directional arrow, as appropriate.
- 6.3 Each deposit or layer was allocated a unique identifier (context number) consisting of three digits and accorded a written description, e.g. 101; a summary of these are included in Appendix 1.
- 6.4 Fieldwork was undertaken over two days; 13th and 14th September 2021 and was supervised by Jonathan Milton.

7.0 Results

Trenches 1 - 7

- 7.1 None of the seven trenches revealed any archaeological finds, features or deposits, exposing only a natural stratigraphic sequence. This was fairly consistent throughout the site. The earliest deposit was the natural geology, a brown blue compact clay. Covering this layer was a brown compact clay subsoil, 0.35m average thickness, which in turn was sealed by a dark brown clay silt topsoil, c.0.30m in thickness.



Plate 1 Trench 1, looking northwest, scales 1m

- 7.2 A sondage was excavated by machine in Trench 1 to ascertain the natural deposit and this was confirmed.



Plate 2 Sondage dug into Trench 1, looking southeast, scales 1m

- 7.3 During the evaluation in 2008 a trench was positioned over the cropmark interpreted at the time as a possible Romano-British trackway, exposing nothing more than a slight hollow in the topsoil reflecting the position of the cropmark. Trenches 2 and 3 during the current phase of work were also positioned to investigate this feature. The banks and trackway were not identified within the trenches. A series of closely spaced survey points were taken along the northeast edge of Trench 3 to determine whether the earthworks were identifiable at this point, but there was no noticeable change in the topography that corresponded with the feature.

8.0 Discussion and Conclusions

8.1 The trial trenching did not identify any features or deposits of archaeological interest, suggesting a negligible archaeological potential for the proposed development area. As in the 2008 phase of works, there was no evidence for the cropmark feature in the trenches, and in this area, it was not even visible as a slight earthwork.

9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

9.1 The trial trenching methodology was appropriate for the site and revealed no archaeological finds or features.

10.0 Acknowledgements

10.1 AAL would like to thank Prospect Archaeology, and their client Wren Kitchens for the commission.

11.0 References

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Appendix 1 Context Summary

Trench 1

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/depth (m)	Interpretation
100	Layer	Dark brown clay silt	-	-	0.34	Topsoil
101	Layer	Brown compact clay	-	-	0.36	Subsoil
102	Layer	Brown blue compact clay	-	-		Natural geology

Trench 2

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/depth (m)	Interpretation
200	Layer	Dark brown clay silt	-	-	0.24	Topsoil
201	Layer	Brown compact clay			0.44	Subsoil
202	Layer	Brown blue compact clay	-	-		Natural geology

Trench 3

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/depth (m)	Interpretation
300	Layer	Dark brown clay silt	-	-	0.18	Topsoil
301	Layer	Brown compact clay			0.30	Subsoil
302	Layer	Brown blue compact clay	-	-		Natural geology

Trench 4

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/depth (m)	Interpretation
400	Layer	Dark brown clay silt	-	-	0.22	Topsoil
401	Layer	Brown compact clay			0.32	Subsoil
402	Layer	Brown blue compact clay	-	-		Natural geology

Trench 5

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/depth (m)	Interpretation
500	Layer	Dark brown clay silt	-	-	0.24	Topsoil
501	Layer	Brown compact clay			0.30	Subsoil
502	Layer	Brown blue compact clay	-	-		Natural geology

Trench 6

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/depth (m)	Interpretation
600	Layer	Dark brown clay silt	-	-	0.20	Topsoil
601	Layer	Brown compact clay			0.34	Subsoil
602	Layer	Brown blue compact clay	-	-		Natural geology

Trench 7

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/depth (m)	Interpretation
700	Layer	Dark brown clay silt	-	-	0.26	Topsoil
701	Layer	Brown compact clay			0.26	Subsoil
702	Layer	Brown blue compact clay	-	-		Natural geology

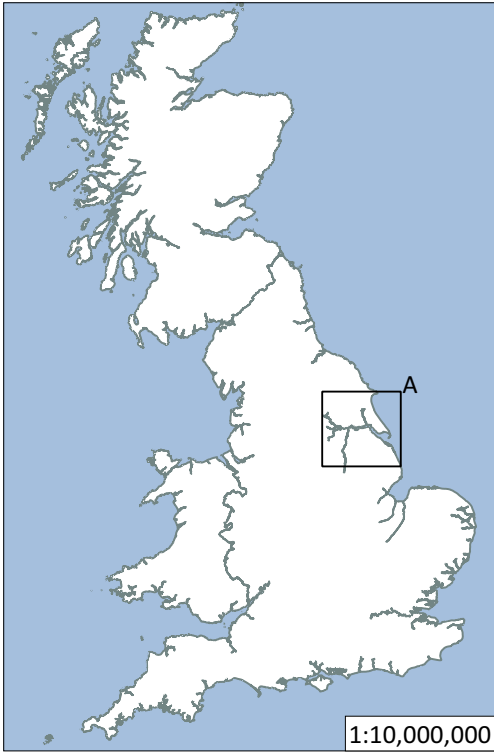


Figure 1: Site location outlined in red

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Site Code	BAVW 21
Scale	1:10,000,000 1:1,000,000 1:25,000 @ A4
Drawn by	V Zoppi
Date	27/09/2021

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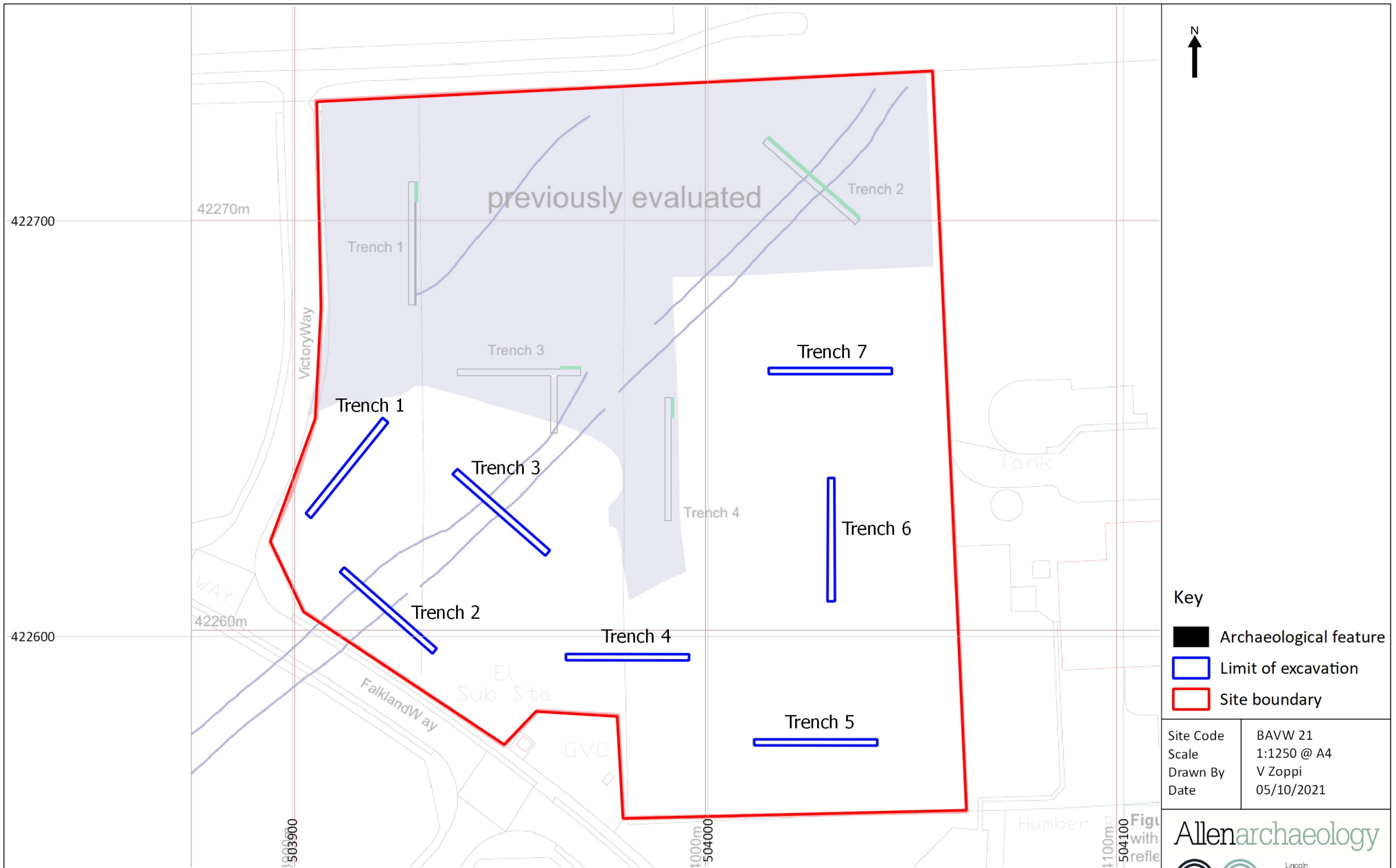
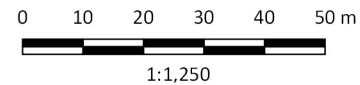


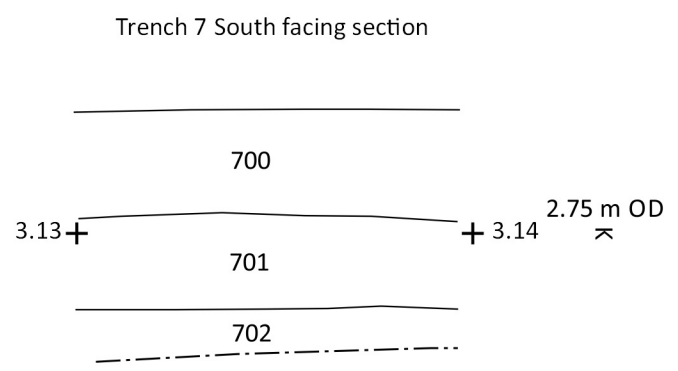
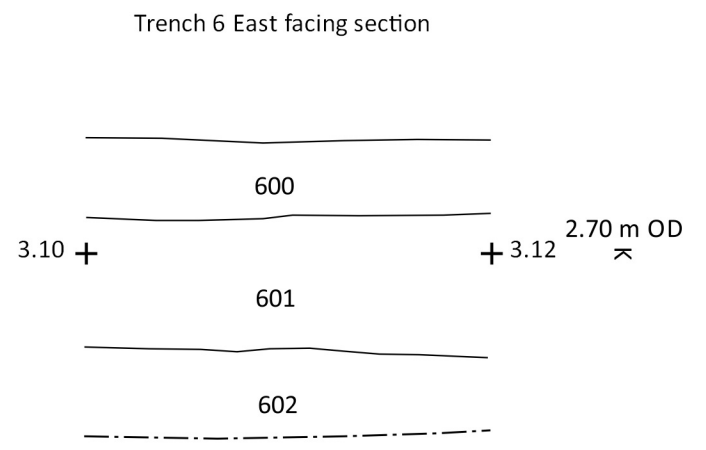
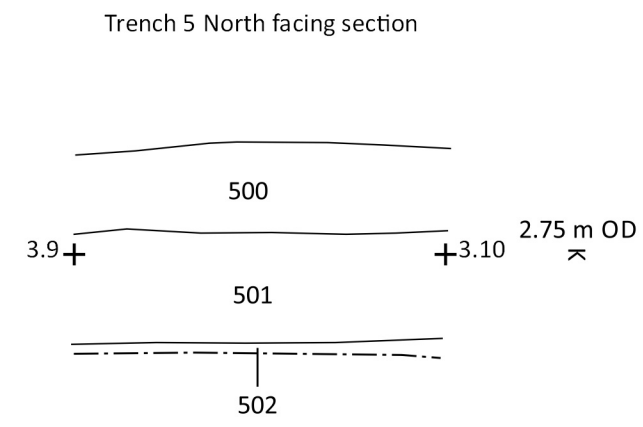
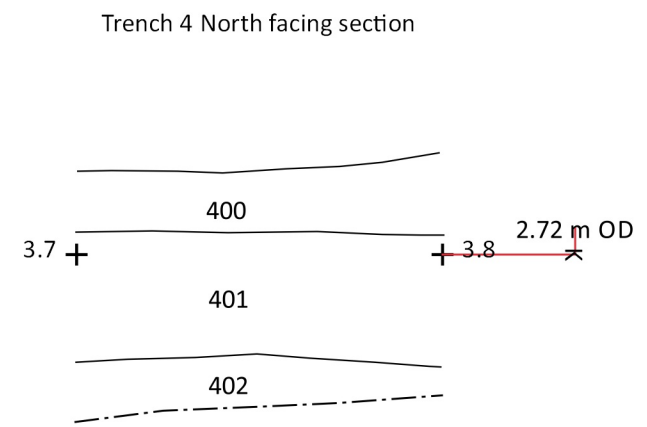
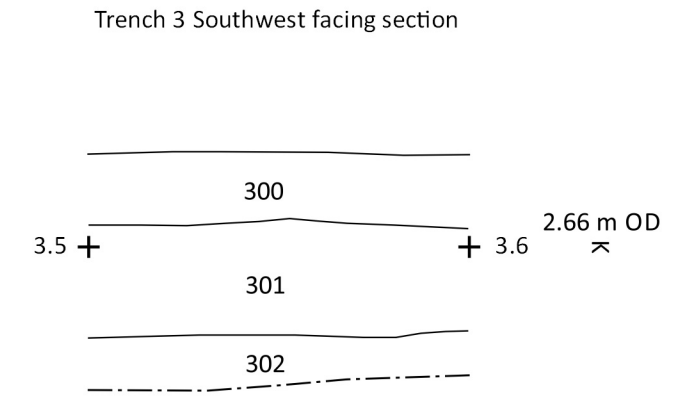
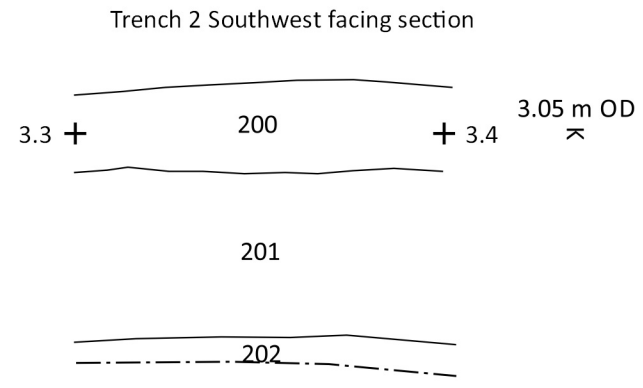
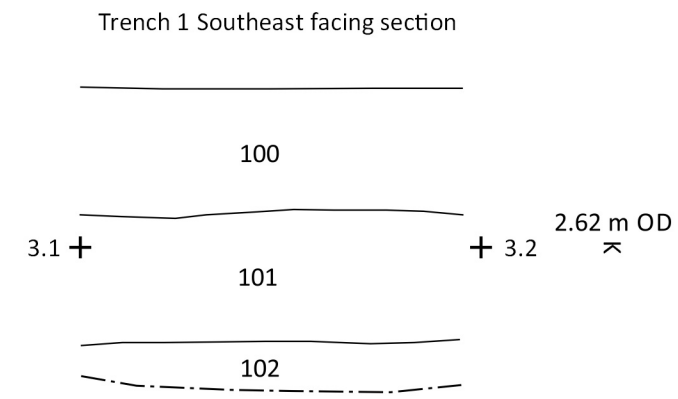
Figure 2: Site location with trenches in blue



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Key

- + Section
- Cut
- Deposit
- · - Limit of excavation

Site Code	BAVW 21
Scale	1:20 @ A3
Drawn by	V Zoppi
Date	05/10/2021

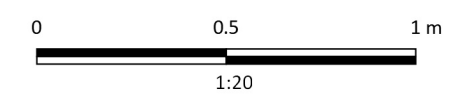


Figure 3: Representative sections



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