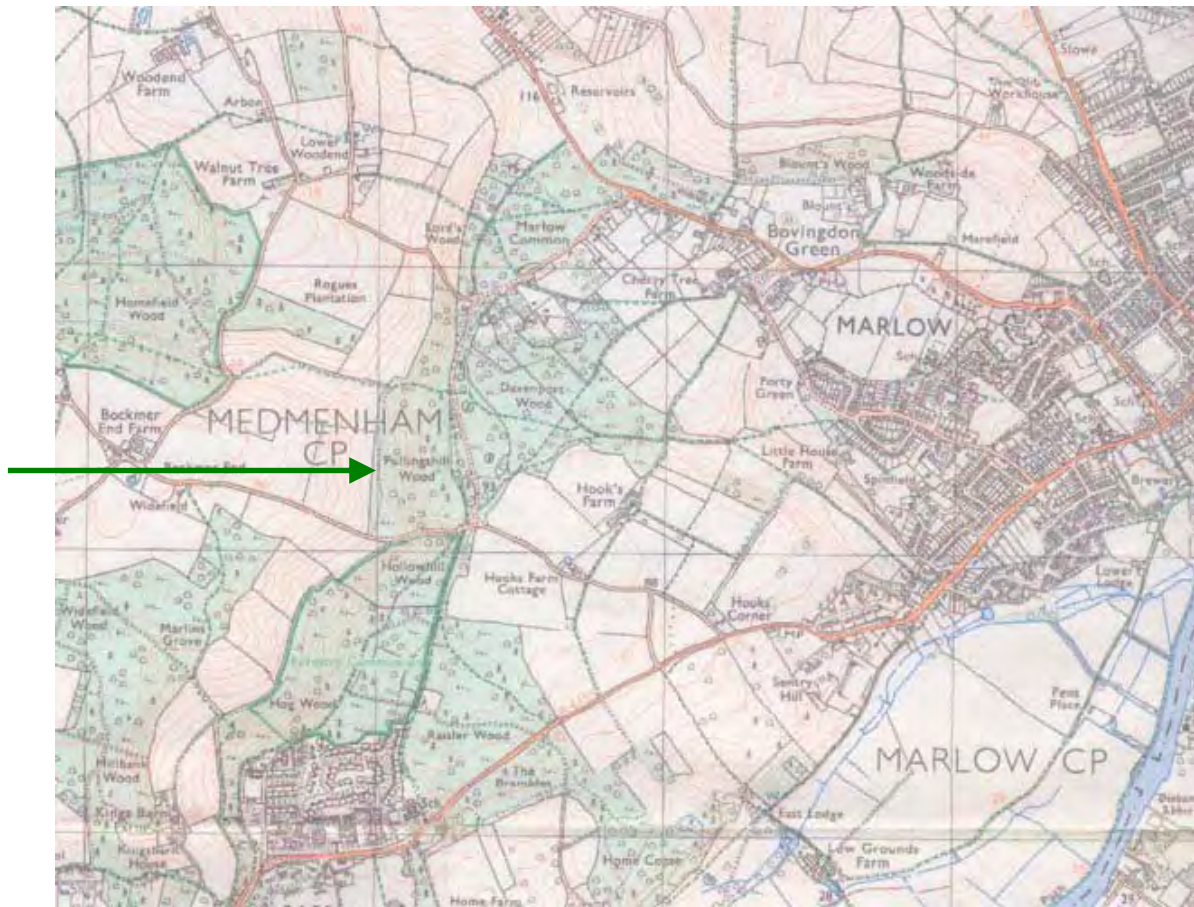


Archaeology in Marlow

- *Archaeology in Marlow* set up a project to research and record four sites of historical interest in the local area
- The project is named **ROMADAM**:
 - **R**ecording **O**f **M**arlow **A**nd **D**istrict **A**ncient **M**onuments
- The sites we are investigating are:
 - The WW1 training trenches in Pullingshill wood, part of Marlow Common
 - An earthwork enclosure in Warren wood
 - The hill-fort at Medmenham which is also the possible site of Bolebec's castle
 - The hill-fort at Danesfield
- **This project is funded by the Local Heritage Initiative**

Modern OS map location

Pullingshill
Wood



1st edition OS map 1880's

Pullingshill
Wood



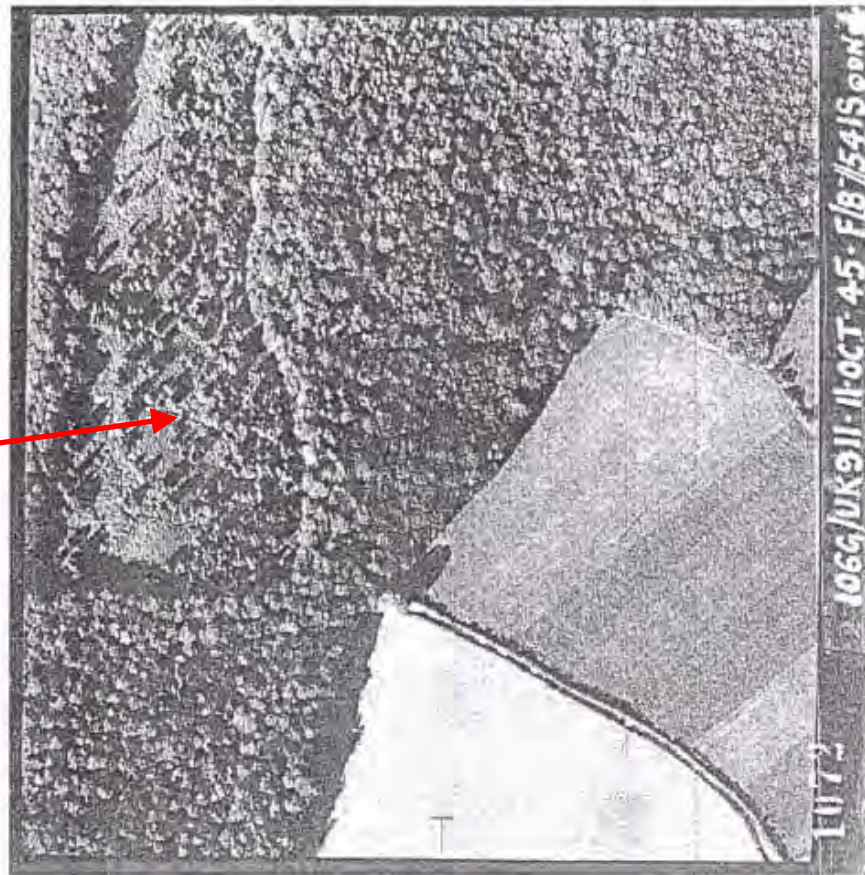
1925 OS map

Pullingshill
Wood



1945 MOD Aerial photo

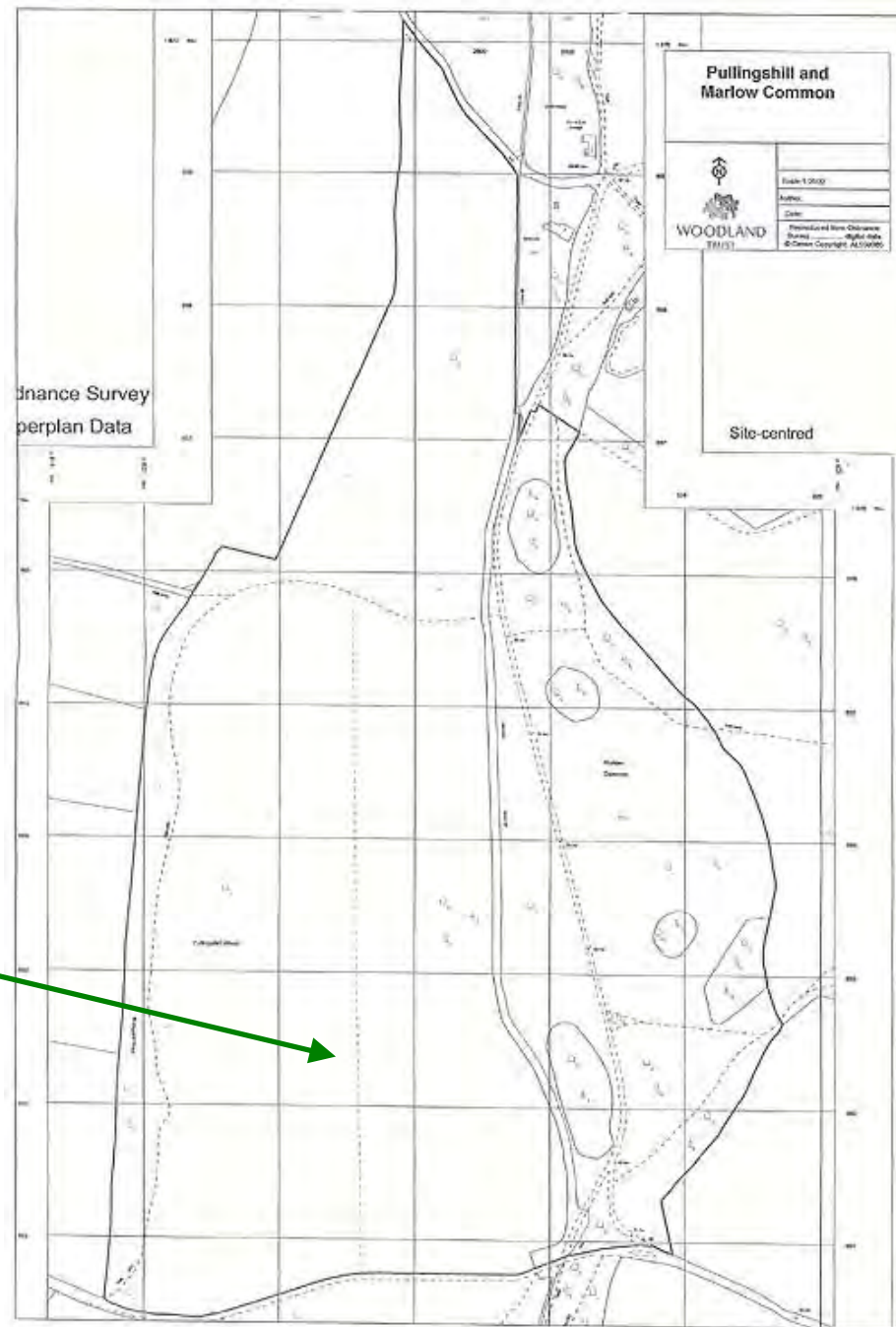
Trench Area



Woodland Trust Map

Note Boundary bank and
enclosures

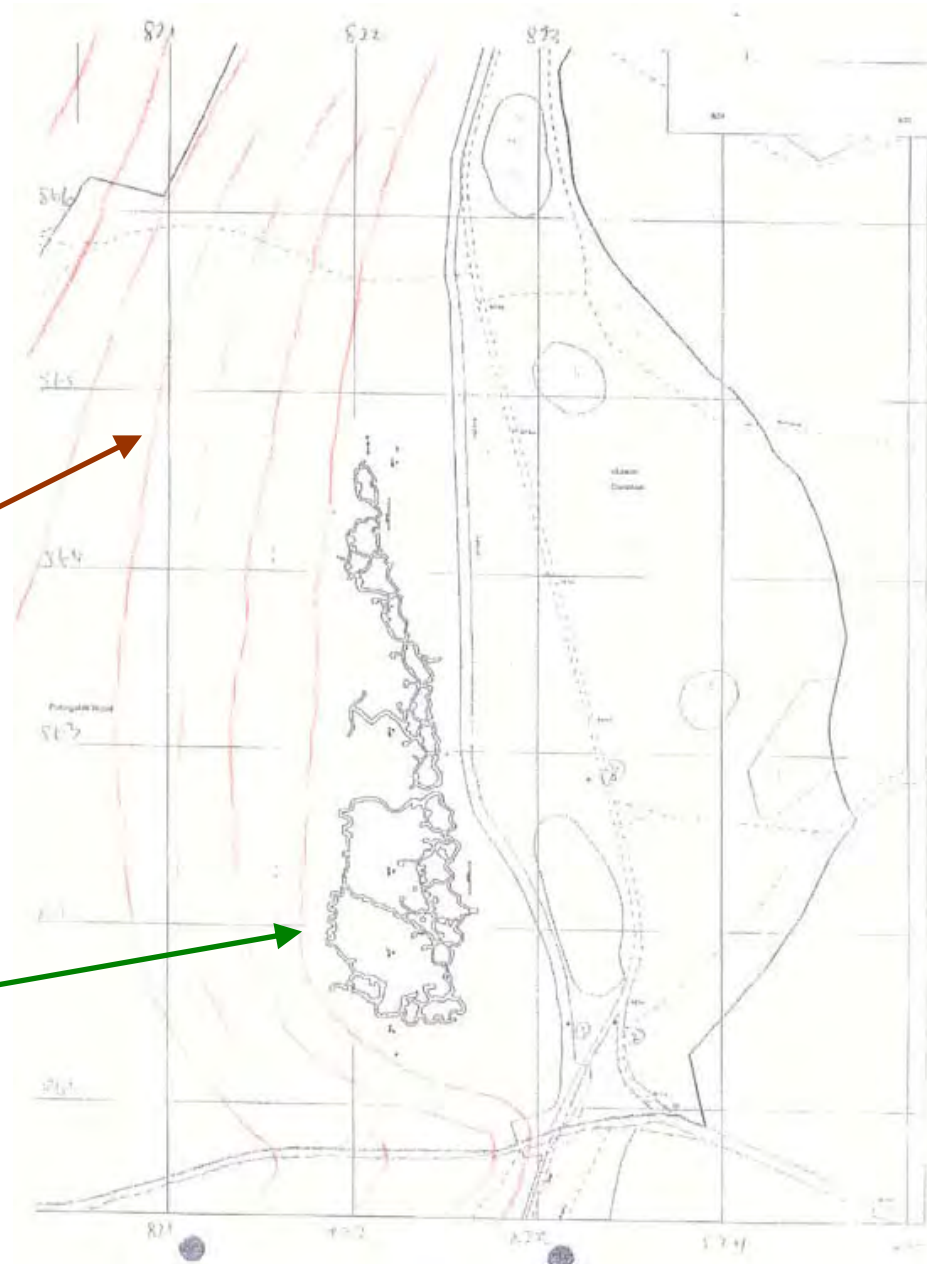
Area of
Trenches



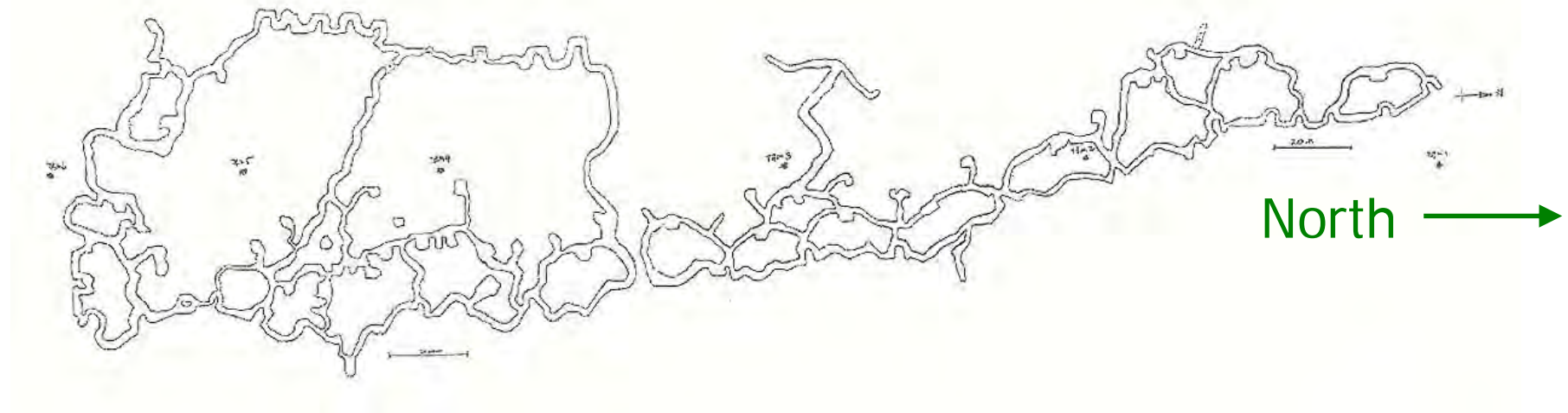
Woodland Trust map
with position of
trenches and contour
lines

Contour Lines

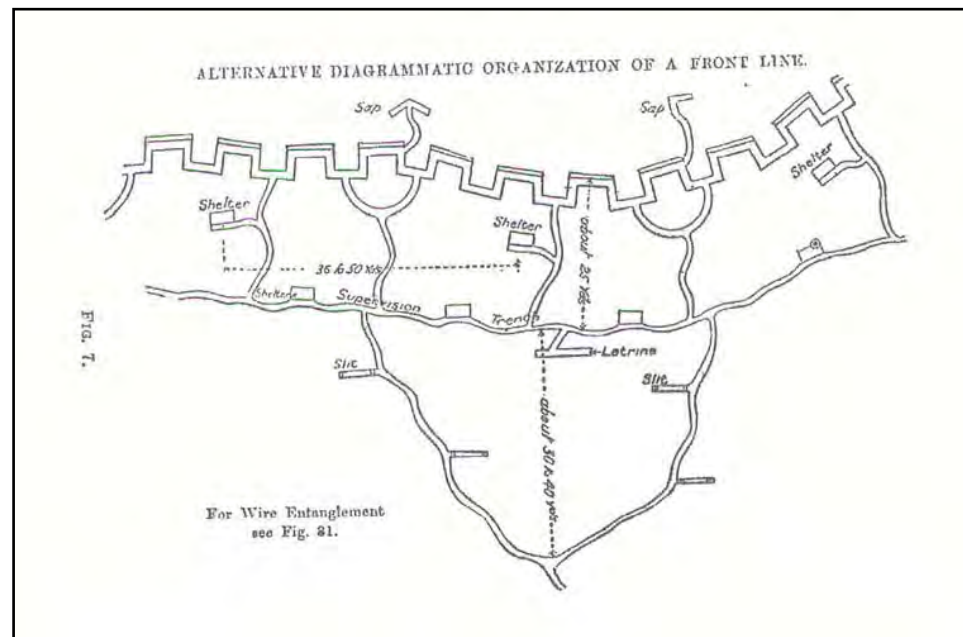
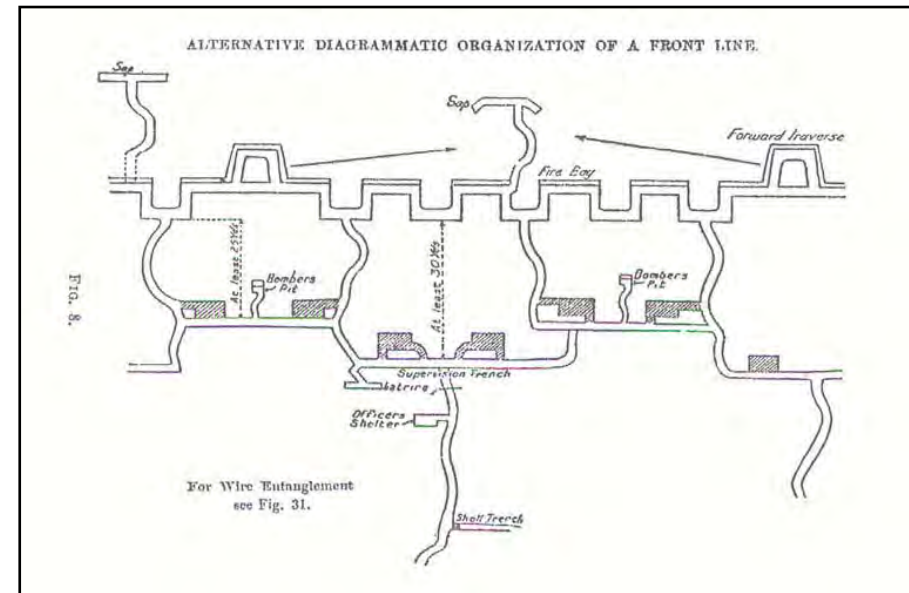
Position of
Trenches



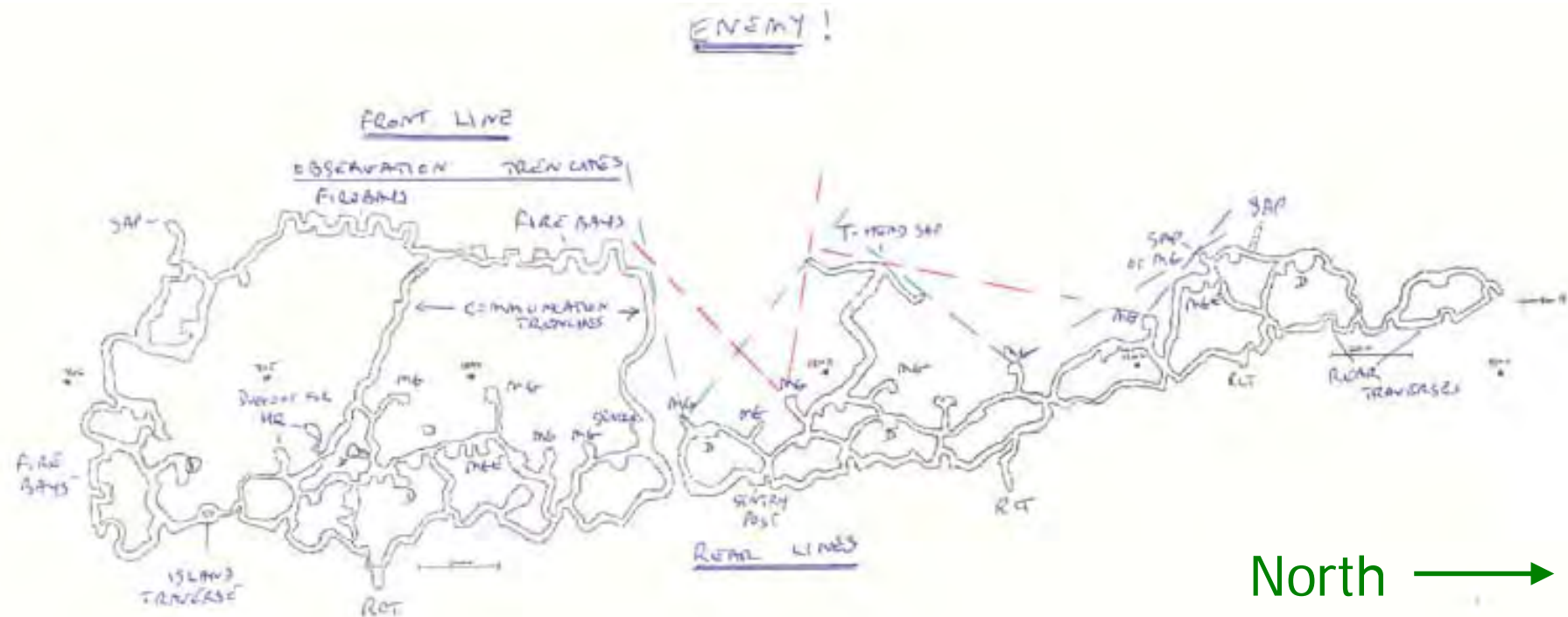
Larger plan of Trenches



Copies of MOD plans



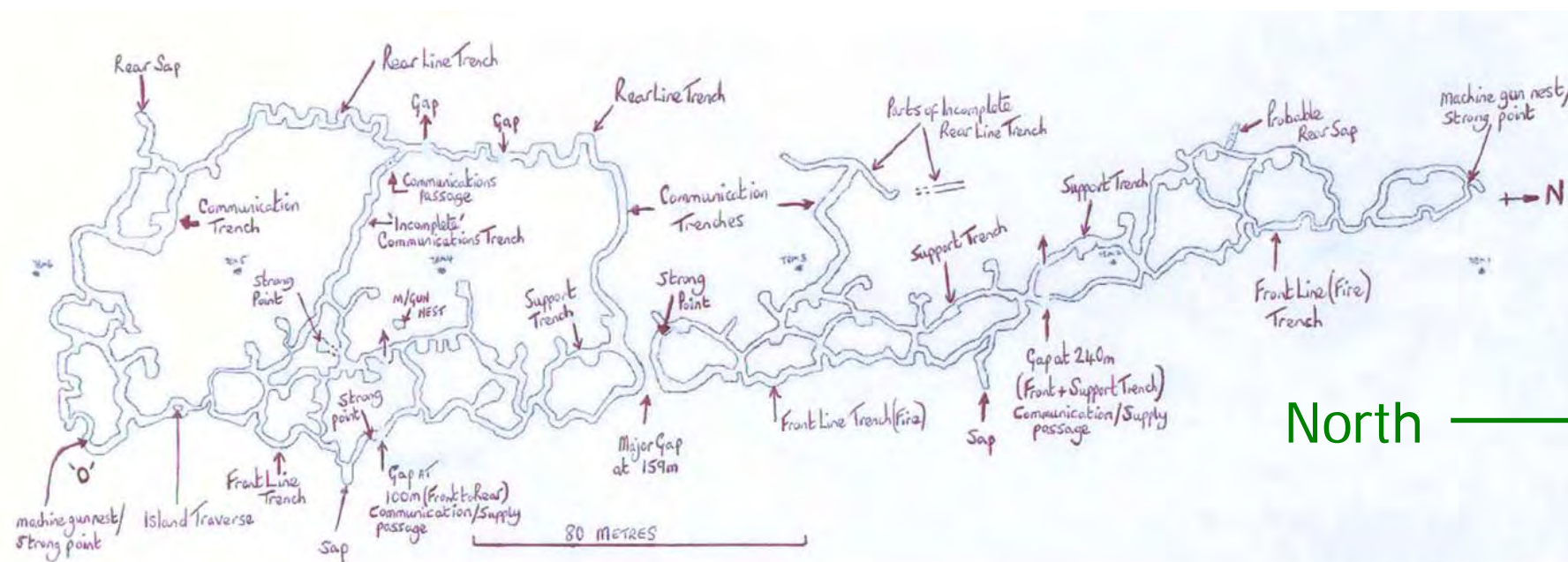
M Brown interpretation of trench layout



MG = MACHINE GUN POST WITH SUPPORT EQUIPMENT (MGE)
 RET = COMMUNICATION TRENCH TO RETREAT/RESERVE AREA
 D = DUMP (SHELLS, LAMPS)

--- } FIELDS OF INTERFERENCE
 --- } FIRE FROM MACHINE GUNS

D Dawson interpretation of trench layout





Photos of troops in
Marlow





Troop activities in
Marlow



PULLINGSHILL WOOD TRAINING TRENCHES

TROOP INVOLVEMENT

Results of library search of Bucks Free Press Papers 1914 - 1916

- **27/11/14:** General Sir George Higginson encourages District Council to host volunteers.
- **7/5/15:** Brigade of Guards agree to send 1200 troops of 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards and 700 men of 4th Battalion to be housed under canvas at Bovington Green
- **4/6/15:** 3rd Battalion under Colonel Corry arrive at Bovington
- **18/6/15:** 4th Battalion arrive and " During the week the men have been busily involved in their training. The range at Quarry Woods has been used for firing parties nearly every morning and trench digging, and field exercises have been carried out in the woods to the north of the town".
- **23/7/15:** 3rd Battalion depart for active service. RAMC troops arrive.
- **19/11/15:** Bovington Camp closed after poor weather. Troops billeted in the town
- **24/12/15:** Arrival of 2000 Royal Engineers - billeted in Marlow, Maidenhead and Cookham
- **31/3/16:** troops help to repair effects of bad weather including flooding and trees down.
- **August 1916:** last record of troops in Marlow

Trenches



More Trenches



More Trenches



Measuring trench profiles





Setting up
squares
and taking
readings



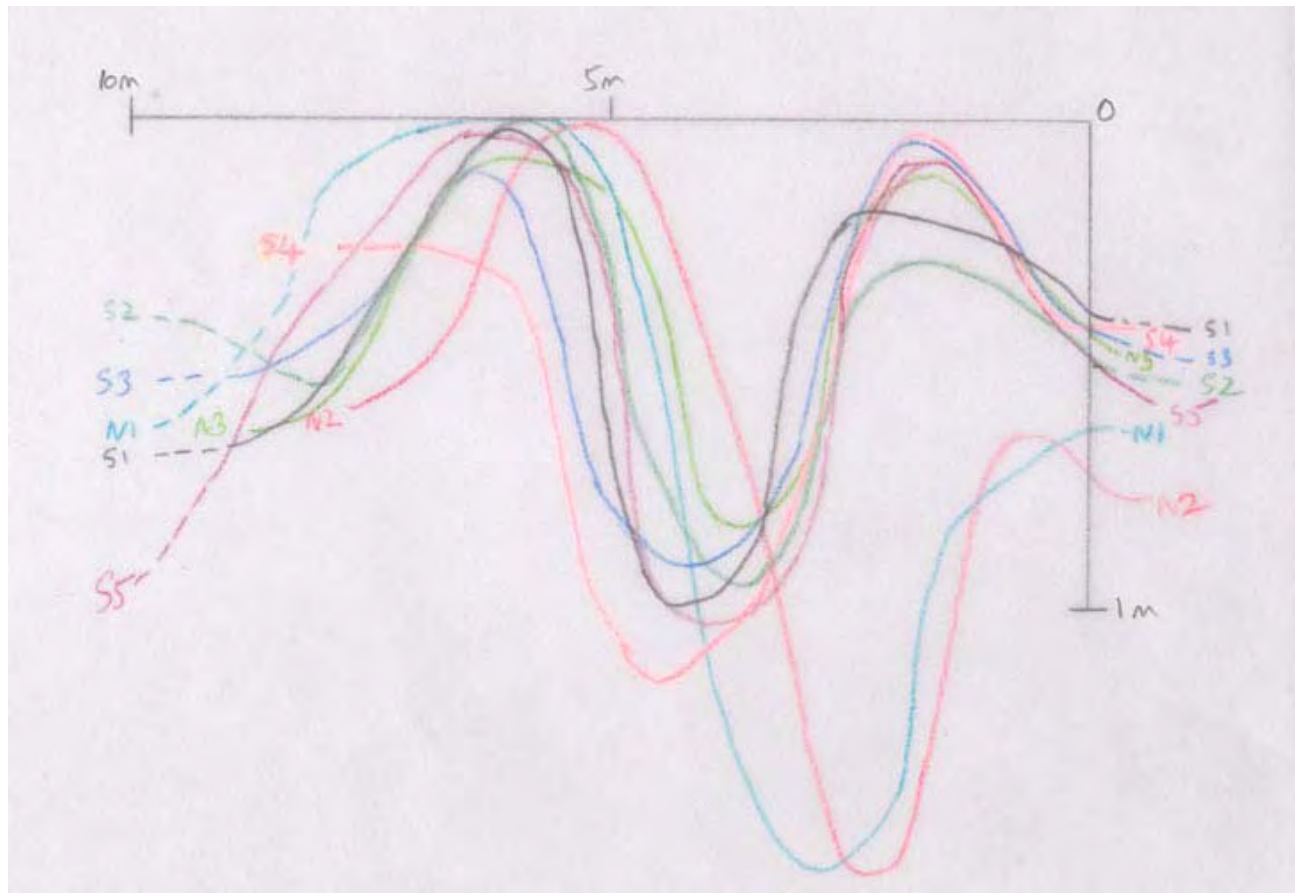
Reference
point and
another
trench



The
Boundary
bank and
one of our
helpers



Series of profile measurements



Positions of profile measurements



Archaeology in Marlow

Surveying at Pullingshill Wood World War 1 training trenches
April to November 2005

- We had 3 initial training days to view the area and agree a method
- We spent 16 weekends surveying all the 20m squares
- We surveyed 62 20m squares
- We took over 3500 readings
- Our final alignment from tbn 1 to tbn 6 was within 2 metres
- The total area surveyed is over 6 acres
- The total length of all the trenches is about 1400 metres

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

To:

- The Woodland Trust who allowed us to trample all over their property and didn't mind if we put a few blobs of white marking paint on their trees (John Brown and Mike Hyde)

To:

- All the members of AIM, who came out and helped make the measurements

To:

- Mike Farley (former Bucks CC archaeologist who helped us get started),
- Martin Brown (M O D archaeologist who has provided an interpretation of the plan),
- Danny Dawson (local Historian with special interest in WW1 trenches, who showed us his interpretation of the plan),
- David Axworthy (AIM member who looked through all the newspaper archives in Wycombe library)