


Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief
Associated with Road Improvements Scheme
at A14 Rookery Crossroads,
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk

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**Department for
Transport**

funding roads through  **HIGHWAYS
AGENCY**

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Summary

Project Name	A14 Rookery Crossroads, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk
SMR Numbers	RGH014, RGH032, RGH041 & RGH042
Dates of work	28 th September 2004 to 27 January 2006
OASIS ID	chrisbir1-15457

A programme of archaeological work resulting from development proposals for road improvement works associated with the A14 at Rookery Crossroads, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk was identified through an archaeological assessment by RPS Consultants. Mitigation strategies were formulated by RPS Consultants and made in association with Suffolk County Council. These involved a General Watching Brief that was carried-out on all areas of ground works associated with the road scheme where a potential for archaeological remains had been identified. Modern finds of 20th century date and later and a small quantity of struck flints being recovered from subsoil deposits during the General Watching Brief. No further archaeological finds and no archaeological features or deposits were present. A Comprehensive Watching Brief was carried out at three sites; Two Mile Spinney, Rookery Crossroads and Millfield Plantation. Few archaeological remains were encountered. Activities in the area during the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age were indicated by the recovery of struck flints mostly from subsoil deposits.

The precise origin and function of two mounds at Two Mile Spinney remains unknown, though they are known to be of post-medieval date. There are four mounds within an enclosure shown on the location on Ordnance Survey maps of c.1887 and c.1904 and an enclosure can also be seen on Hodgkinson's map of 1783 and the Ordnance Survey first edition of 1837 indicating they were present during the late 18th century onwards. The two northernmost mounds were destroyed during the 1969 widening of the A14. They are not prehistoric burial mounds as no evidence was recovered to indicate this though they may well have been landscaped features to resemble burial mounds. It is possible they were constructed as rabbit warrens for commercial purposes though the observed present animal burrows seen within the mounds may be just that. The remains of two medieval cottages (variously named on cartographic sources as 'Spinney Cottages' and 'Eldo Cottages') were seen to the east of the mounds and are probably of late 19th/early 20th century date.

Previously unknown archaeological remains were revealed at Rookery Crossroads and comprised medieval and post-medieval ditches probably representing land partition and agricultural use during these periods. There appears to be no correlation with earthworks identified at this location, confirming a date of 19th century date. The results of a topographical survey of these earthworks within the road corridor to the north of Ravenwood Hotel and the two mounds at Two Mile Spinney are presented. The relocation of a milestone at Rookery Crossroads was carried-out and required a photographic survey to be made. The results of the photographic survey are included in the report.

No archaeological remains were present at Millfield Plantation and there was no evidence for the existence of a Roman Road postulated to have been in this area.

This contractor's report (CB001R) details how Chris Birks undertook these works on behalf of Mowlem Civil Engineering and describes the methodologies, results and conclusions of the archaeological works.

1.0 Introduction

A programme of archaeological work was required to replace by record any archaeological features, deposits and structures that would be damaged or destroyed by the road improvement scheme. As a comprehensive study of the relevant sources regarding the known archaeological/historical evidence in the area of the road scheme had been previously carried-out, repetition of this research was not made as

part of the present archaeological works for obvious time- and financial reasons. The programme involved:-

- Photographic Survey
- Topographical Survey
- General Watching Brief. A general watching brief shall be conducted on all areas of ground works and entail intermittent archaeological monitoring
- Comprehensive Watching Brief. A comprehensive watching brief will entail full-time archaeological presence during ground works at locations shown on Drawings 28935/OV/3019 to 3021 (see Figures 7 to 9 inclusive in the Environmental Statement)
- Evaluation by trial trenching of the two mounds at Two Mile Spinney (Drawing no. 28935/OV/3019)

The scope of archaeological works had been identified following a Stage 3 DMRB Archaeological Assessment for the A14 Rookery Crossroads produced by RPS Consultants outlining the known archaeological issues and included in an Environmental Statement (March 2002). This included a review of the relevant Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM), listed building, aerial photographs, historic map information and the results of walkover surveys. It also details fieldwork that consisted of test pit monitoring, trial trenching, topographical survey and photographic survey. For full details see *A14 Rookery Crossroads, A Stage 3 DMRB Archaeological Assessment*. The archaeological evidence and summary of impact assessment detailed 7 areas of local, regional and county importance. They are detailed in full in the *Archaeological Assessment* and presented within the Environmental Statement (*Appendix 10*) and are summarised in Table 1, of this report. Further mitigation against wholesale removal by the development was necessary to satisfy the planning condition stipulated by Suffolk County Council.

Table 1: Summary of impact assessment on archaeological features that may be affected by the proposed road improvement scheme

Feature Code	Description	Impact of Scheme on Feature	Impact Assessment
RPS 2	Mounds	Major Adverse	Moderate Adverse
RPS 3b	Enclosure	Major Adverse	Slight Adverse
RPS 10	Milestone	Major Adverse	Slight Adverse
RPS 11	Mill Field	Slight adverse/neutral	Slight adverse/neutral
RPS 12	Field Banks	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse
RPS 18	Roman Road	Neutral/Uncertain	Neutral/Uncertain
RPS 28	Linear Bank	Major Adverse	Neutral

A meeting was held on 28 September 2004 between David Mason (Mowlem Civil Engineering), Jane Betts (RPS Consultants) and Chris Birks to discuss the archaeological requirements. Site visits were made to the relevant areas for inspection and discussion.

A meeting between Jude Plouviez (Senior Archaeological Officer, Suffolk County Council) and Chris Birks was held on 29 September 2004 to discuss the archaeological requirements of the project, and issues raised in the above meeting. A Project Design (Written Scheme of Investigation), my reference CB001, details how Chris Birks (hereafter 'the Contractor') would undertake these works and was prepared in response to an invitation from Mowlem Civil Engineering (hereafter 'the

Client') to provide a Project Design and quotation for undertaking works. A Draft copy of this Project Design was submitted to Jude Plouviez for consideration.

A meeting was held on 01 October 2004 between Phil Ford (Project Manager, Mowlem Civil Engineering) and Chris Birks to discuss the archaeological works, finalise an appointment contract and arrange a work programme.

2.0 Methodology

2.1 Introduction

A Project Design (CB001) was prepared by the Contractor and submitted to Jude Plouviez, Suffolk County Council for approval prior to commencing works. One alteration to the proposed methodology for excavation of the two mounds at Two Mile Spinney was requested and involved the excavation the mounds in quadrants rather than in halves, as proposed. The Project Design was amended accordingly and then approved.

The following methodologies were employed for the programme of archaeological works.

2.2 General requirements for all elements of work

A 360° hydraulic-type excavator (approximately 20 ton) with toothless ditching bucket and qualified driver was provided by the Client and used during any mechanical excavations. Topsoil and/or subsoil deposits were removed by mechanical hydraulic-type 360° excavator in spite of no more than 0.1m and under constant archaeological supervision and direction, unless archaeological features or undisturbed 'natural' features were encountered.

All exposed surfaces, archaeological features/deposits and spoil were metal detected by an experienced and registered detectorist dedicated to the project. Relevant finds were collected, bagged and labelled and retained for inspection by appropriate finds specialists.

Areas requiring manual excavation and recording of archaeological features, structures and/or deposits were suitably fenced and with appropriate warning signage.

Drawings of service runs were consulted prior to any excavations and permits to dig were issued by the Client.

The use of on-site toilet and accommodation/tool store facilities was provided by the Client.

Environmental samples were taken from any suitably sealed, water saturated deposits in accordance with guidelines set out in *A guide to sampling archaeological analysis* (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994).

Time (depending on the scale and type of archaeological remains) was required to carry-out this work and the Client was expected to acknowledge this, and that further excavation or other incursion upon archaeological remains was not carried out until completion.

The fieldwork of each site was monitored and approved as meeting requirements by Jude Plouviez, Senior Archaeological Officer at Suffolk County Council at appropriate times.

2.3 Photographic Survey

A photographic survey of the *in-situ* milestone at Rookery Crossroads has already been made as part of the *Archaeological Assessment*. Photographs (digital, 35mm colour transparencies and black & white film) were taken during and following

relocation of the milestone to a site adjacent to the new road line at Rookery Crossroads. The precise location was determined through discussions between the Client, RPS Consultants and Suffolk County Council.

2.4 Topographical Survey

A topographical survey has already been made by RPS Consultants to record the external characteristics of the mounds (RPS 2, see Table 1, Figure 16).

A topographical survey has also been made of the linear earthworks (RPS 28, see Table 1, Figures 13, 14, 15 and 17) within the road corridor to the north of Ravenwood Hotel.

A copy of the survey data was provided by RPS Consultants with permission for reproduction in this Contractor's archaeological report.

2.5 General Watching Brief

A general watching brief was carried out on all areas of ground works. The level required was intermittent archaeological monitoring. Attendance by the Contractor at weekly progress meetings held by the Client was agreed and carried out during the project.

- Any archaeological features, deposits and structural remains were sample excavated by hand, as shown below;

Linear feature	10% (not exceeding a total length of 10m, otherwise a 5% sample will be excavated)
Structural Remains	50%
Pits & post-holes	100%
Burials	100%
Mounds	100%

- Any archaeological features and deposits were recorded on Chris Birks *pro-forma* context sheets. Drawings were made at appropriate scales (1:10/1:20/1:50) depending upon level of detail required and a photographic record was made using digital, 35mm colour transparencies and black & white film.

2.6 Comprehensive Watching Brief

A comprehensive watching brief entailed full-time archaeological presence during topsoil/subsoil stripping at locations shown on Drawings 28935/OV/3019 to 3021 (Sites 1 to 3, see Figures 1 to 12 inclusive). The identified areas were mechanically excavated removing deposits in spits of no more than 100mm under constant archaeological attendance and direction until archaeological remains or undisturbed natural deposits were encountered. Manual excavation and recording techniques were employed as per General Watching Brief (section 2.5, above).

Each site was marked-out according to Drawing Nos. 28935/OV/3019 to 3021 respectively (Figs. 10, 11 and 12) unless otherwise stated in the results. Service plans were consulted and each site was CAT-scanned prior to excavation. Any known or identified services were marked using line spray paint and avoided during excavations. Appropriate Permits to Dig were issued by Mowlem Civil Engineering.

Time (depending on the scale and type of archaeological remains) was required to carry-out this work and the Client was expected to acknowledge this, and that further excavation or other incursion upon archaeological remains was not carried out until completion.

Provision for the monitoring of archaeological works by Jude Plouviez, Suffolk County Council was made by the Contractor and a site visit was carried out at each area of Comprehensive Watching Brief.

2.7 Evaluation by Trial Trenching

Evaluation by trial trenching was required of the two earthwork mounds at Site 1 - Two Mile Spinney (Drawing No. 28935/OV/3019, Figures 2 to 6 and 10). This formed a part of the Comprehensive Watching Brief at the site and the results are presented in the same section of the report. A 360° mechanical excavator (approximately 20 ton) with toothless ditching bucket and qualified driver, and dumper truck was supplied by the Client. The two areas required initial clearance of vegetation (including tree cover), after environmental/ecological assessment, under constant archaeological attendance. Each mound was excavated in opposing quadrants, extending c.2m beyond the visible circumference and recorded before 100% excavation. Deposits were removed in spits of no more than 0.1m under constant archaeological attendance and direction, until archaeological deposits or undisturbed natural deposits were encountered. Where the excavations exceeded 1.2m in depth, quadrant edges were stepped prior to deeper excavation for safety reasons. Exposed surfaces, sections and spoil were metal detected and all archaeological finds were collected, bagged and labelled for processing and analysis by relevant finds specialists. Any archaeological features or deposits were manually excavated and recorded. Sections and plan drawings were made at appropriate scales of 1:10/1:20/1:50 depending upon the level of detail required. Sufficient time was allowed by the Client for the Contractor to complete these works and no further excavation was carried out until these had been completed, to the approval of Jude Plouviez, Suffolk County Council, who monitored the works.

Trees growing on the mounds at Site 1 - Two Mile Spinney were removed by contractors (tree surgeons) prior to excavations commencing and arranged by the Client. The mounds were excavated in quadrants, initially by wheeled JCB-type mechanical excavator, then by mechanical hydraulic-type 360° excavator. For safety reason, due to the proximity to the existing A14 carriageway, only the northern quadrants of mound 1 were excavated. Spoil was stored at appropriate locations on each site using a dumper truck and qualified driver.

2.8 Post-excavation Analysis and Report

Artefactual remains recovered during excavations were cleaned, catalogued and analysed by relevant finds specialists (at Suffolk County Council) following fieldwork, in accordance with *Standards and Guidelines for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001).

An assessment of the recorded evidence was made in accordance with *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

The analysis of stratigraphic/structural records, artefactual and environmental materials was made for inclusion in the final site report.

A draft copy of this report was submitted to the Client, RPS Consultants and The Highways Agency for comments. These were considered by the Contractor and some alterations to the report were made, details of which will be forwarded accordingly. A copy of the report was also submitted for consideration by Jude Plouviez, Suffolk County Council for its approval prior to producing the final version. Comments were received on 11 May 2006 and any required amendments have been considered and made prior to submission of the final report.

The final report has been submitted to Suffolk County Council, to archive, the Client and the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Science.

An OASIS online form will be completed and submitted to the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, including an uploaded .pdf version of the report.

The archive will be prepared in a form suitable for microfilming on behalf of RCHME, if required. It will be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and submitted to the relevant authority in Suffolk for long-term storage.

Excepting those covered by the Treasure Act of 1996, all archaeological materials will remain the property of the landowner/s. A formal agreement will be sought regarding any items of regional or national significance for donation of finds to an appropriate Museums Service.

2.9 Timetable, Resources and Additional Information

Details regarding the work programme, works & cost implications, staffing, general conditions, quality standards, health and safety and insurance are presented.

2.9.1 Work Programme

Site attendance/duration was agreed with Phil Ford, Project Manager, Mowlem Civil Engineering, Jude Plouviez, Suffolk County Council and Jane Betts, RPS Consultants. A meeting was held on 01 October 2004, and summary minutes were supplied to Jude Plouviez (unable to attend due to pre-planned annual leave).

2.9.3 Works and Cost Implications

Any additional works as instructed by Suffolk County Council, RPS Consultants or the Client were not included in costs or timetable. Any outside those listed the Project Design (CB001) were considered as variations to the scope of archaeological works and were subject to additional charges and timescale, as agreed with the Client.

Contingency sums were included when preparing costs regarding the treatment of Human Remains/Burials and scientific techniques & methods and any were made in agreement with the Client and Jude Plouviez, Suffolk County Council.

2.9.4 Staffing

The project was managed and co-ordinated by Chris Birks who accepted responsibilities for finance, standards, health & safety issues and liaison with the Client, Suffolk County Council, RPS Consultants, site management and curators. A full resume can be provided upon request.

An experienced metal detectorist, Andy Barnett was deployed to the project during fieldwork stages.

Finds processing, cataloguing and specialist works were carried out by the Archaeology Service at Suffolk County Council, managed by Nichola Goffin.

2.9.5 General Conditions

The Draft Project Design (CB001) was approved by Jude Plouviez prior to the production of the final Project Design and preparation of costs. Amendments were made as requested.

Work did not commence until a written letter of appointment (Requisition No. 195004 30.09.2004 Phil Ford) was received from the Client, agreeing to all costs and conditions as detailed in the Project Design.

Details of any soil contamination and above grounds hazards were required from the Client. The potential of the area being contaminated by toxins must have been adequately investigated or plans for a pre-project investigation of ground conditions outlined. Archaeological works were not carried out until this was completed. No costs for the collection, analysis or removal of contaminated soils, tree-surgery, removal of undergrowth or hedges were accepted by the Contractor.

No responsibility was accepted for any delay or failure in meeting agreed deadlines resulting from circumstances beyond reasonable control. These included long periods of adverse weather conditions, ground contamination, vandalism, delays in

the development programme, the presence of protected flora and fauna, unexploded ordnance or severe flooding.

A working day of 7.5 hours was operated by the Contractor.

2.9.6 Quality Standards

The *Code of Practice* and the *Code of Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) was adhered to. The Contractor is a member of the IFA at MIFA level (membership number 4762).

Works were carried out according to guidelines set out in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003).

Provisions for the monitoring of archaeological works by Jude Plouviez, Suffolk County Council was made at agreed project stages. Jane Betts, RPS Consultants was appraised on progress during the project.

2.9.7 Health and Safety

All work was carried out to standards defined in the *Health and Safety at Work Act 1974*, *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992* and *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (SCAUM 1997). Health and safety advice was sought from Suffolk County Council's Health and Safety Officers as required.

Risk Assessments and statutory notices were prepared. All archaeological staff and site visitors were required to read the Risk Assessments. Copies were provided to the Client for inclusion in the health and safety plan/file as required.

Access to the health and safety policies of all other contractors on site was required in compliance with *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*.

Protective clothing and equipment was provided as required.

2.9.8 Insurance

The Contractor has Public Liability Insurance (£5million cover), Personal Accident and Employers Liability Insurance (£10million cover). Full details can be provided upon request.

3.0 Geology and Topography

The solid geology of the area of the road scheme comprises Cretaceous Chalk including Red Chalk. Overlying glacial drift deposits comprise mostly Boulder Clay with areas of outwash sands and gravels (Dennison 1995). Land is relatively flat at heights of between c.55m and c.60m OD with much of the present land use being arable with areas of pasture and woodland.

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

A summary of the known archaeological and historical remains as detailed in the assessment report is provided. Further information regarding the archaeological and historical background can be seen in the *Stage III DMRB Archaeological Assessment, A14 Rookery Crossroads Improvement Scheme* (RPS 2002). A summary of the results of the Walkover Survey, Photographic Survey, Geotechnical Watching Brief, Topographical Survey and Trial Trenching is also provided (*Appendix 11*) and full details can be seen in the assessment report.

An axe of palaeolithic (c.500000-9000BC) date is recorded in the SMR from the general Rougham area. No further remains of this date are known from the area though a number of handaxes have been found at Warren Hill, Mildenhall.

Mesolithic (c.9000-4000BC) sites are known at Lackford and Home Heath and flint scatters of probable later mesolithic date have been identified at Wangford, Lakenheath, Barham and West Stow. No evidence relating to activities during this period, however, are known from the immediate area.

Activities during the neolithic (c.4000-2000BC) period are evidenced by a causewayed enclosure intersecting a cursus monument at Fornham and a further causewayed site is known at Kedington (Plouviez/Freke, *pers. comm.*). Early neolithic finds were recovered during an archaeological evaluation in 1999 at Moreton Hall east to the north-west of Home Farm at the eastern end of the road scheme. This is the only entry in the SMR for remains of this period in the area.

An early Bronze Age settlement site has been excavated at Mildenhall and Middle Bronze Age metalwork has been found at Great Barton. Seven hundred and twenty three suspected unknown early Bronze Age barrows are present within Suffolk. Map evidence (1887 OS and 1904 OS) clearly show two earthwork mounds to the north-west of Two Mile Spinney and the 1887 map shows a boundary to the north of the mounds that suggests they had been in existence prior to this date. They were designated as 'Tumuli' (mounds that cover a burial) after c.1965, possibly coincidentally at the same time as a second excavation of such mounds at Sutton Hoo was being carried out. Probably the northernmost of the two mounds at Two Mile Spinney was investigated by the excavation of a trench through its centre by A.R. Edwardson in 1951. It revealed "an old ground surface with fragments of tile, Woolpit Bricks and clay pipes" that dates the mound to post-1587. A further 2 mounds of the original "Four Hills" (as per cartographic evidence) are known to have been destroyed during widening of the A14 in 1960. An 18th or 19th century ploughshare was discovered underneath one of the mounds. Edwardson concluded that the mounds were of 18th or 19th century date and probably present sand dumps formed during nearby quarrying.

Iron Age (650BC-AD43) hillforts are known at Bury and Barnham and settlements are known from river valleys and in the south-east and north-west of the county (Dennison 1995). Late Iron Age coins have been found at Moreton Hall School immediately north-west of the road scheme and an Iron Age site is recorded at Eldohouse Farm north of Two Mile Spinney. A possible prehistoric ring ditch has been identified to the south east of Blackthorpe and east of Northorpe though no further information is available.

Roman (AD43-AD410) sites are numerous and widespread throughout Suffolk. A major Roman road from Chelmsford to Ixworth is known to have passed through Roman settlements at Melford and Pakenham in a north-east-to-south-west orientation and it is possible that may extend through the area of the road scheme at Millfield Plantation and to the east of Blackthorpe. No evidence of extant earthworks that would have been associated with such a road is, however, known at this location. Further Roman settlements include Sicklemere to the south-west of the road scheme and Great Barton to the north. Other occupational evidence is recorded at Moreton School to the north-west of the scheme and a Roman structure at Lake Farm, Rougham Green that may represent a villa. Excavation of one of a set of tumuli on Eastlow Hill proved these to be of Roman date, and remains of a burial in a lead coffin were present.

The place names of many of the villages and parishes have their origin in the Anglo-Saxon (AD410-AD1066) period, for example Rougham, Blackthorpe and Newthorpe may be of Saxon date. Bury St Edmunds was 'a major market town, royal vil and

monastic centre by the 9th century' (Dennison 1995) and there are likely to have been satellite settlements around the town at this time. Southgate Farm to the south-west of the road scheme and a site to the north of Great Barton have produced evidence of this whilst coins of Canute (AD1016-1035) have been recovered from Rougham Church (Dennison 1995). Evidence for the site of a Saxon stone cross was recorded during the Eldohouse Farm evaluation previously mentioned, to the north of Two Mile Spinney.

The area was divided during the medieval (AD1066-1530) period between the hundred of Thedwestry, further divided between Beyton and Rougham parishes, both of which appear in the Domesday Book of 1086 (as 'Begatona' and 'Ruhham' respectively). The western area was controlled by St. Edmunds Abbey. It was noted (Dennison 1995) that Rougham, which comprised eight manors, was allocated to the Saxon Earl Ulfketel in a period prior to the 11th century (within the Saxon period). The manor of Betton was in the possession of Roger de Ratlesden on behalf of Hugh de Montfort in 1086 and by 1316 it had formed part of the abbey estates. At the Dissolution of the Monasteries it was sold to the Bacon family (Dennison 1995). The settlement pattern and around the area of the road scheme is quite complex. Rougham consisted of a village but also contained a number of satellite hamlets (including Blackthorpe within the area of the road scheme), in addition to isolated moated sites of individual manors. The moated sites of wealthy landowners of this area are particularly well preserved in the area, for example at Rougham Place, although none are located within the area of the road scheme itself. Many elements of the medieval settlement pattern remain intact whilst others were deserted, for example an early manorial complex at Rougham Hall. Several late medieval sites are listed on the SMR within the area of the road scheme. These comprise Grade II* Listed 15th century Wealden House at Blackthorpe, a Grade II Listed barn of late 15th/ early 16th century date east of Blackthorpe and the 16th century site of Rougham Hall and gardens. The 1996 searching and documentary search for Eldohouse Farm established the possible area of a monastic grange. The open fields around medieval settlements comprised strip cultivation or ridge and furrow. The remnants of ridge and furrow are evidenced by early OS maps to the south-east of Rougham Green.

The post-medieval period has seen substantial changes to the landscape including the transformation from the feudal three-field system following the agrarian revolution and the accompanying enclosure of lands that took place during the 18th and 19th centuries (RPS 2002). Rougham Hall was relocated to a new site during the post-medieval period. In 1645 the manor of Rougham Hall, which probably coincided with much of the eastern part of the road scheme, was sold to John Drury. The manor had passed to the Kedington family by 1670 (Dennison 1995). Further to the west and immediately north of the road scheme, the Manor of Eldo or Old Haugh was centred on Eldo Farm. The land was a grange or outlying farm of the abbey during the medieval period and by 1542 was let by the crown to Sir Arthur Darcy, at which time the farm comprised sheep pasture (Dennison 1995). Rougham parish was enclosed by Parliamentary Act in 1813 resulting in the formation of new field boundaries across formally open fields. Some areas, including Rougham Heath within the area of the road scheme remained open land (Dennison 1995). Twenty sites of post-medieval or modern date have been identified within the area of the road scheme from the SMR, walkover survey or map research. These include 1885 and 1892 map references to "old gravel pits" to the north of Broom Plantation and further 1885 and 1892 map references to "old gravel pits" also to the north of Two Mile Spinney and to the east of Gorse Wood. The site of a chalk pit on Rougham Heath is shown on maps of 1813 and 1892. Two now demolished 20th century buildings shown on a 1985 map, whilst further farm buildings shown on an 1885 map which were demolished by 1904. A 1783 map shows milestones on the north side of

Two Mile Spinney at north of Four Winds and at Rougham Heath Crossroads. The latter is still in situ. An 1813 map reference to "Mill Field" suggests the former location of a windmill here whilst earthworks to the north of Rookery House are shown on maps of 1813 and 1892 and on aerial photographs and are thought to be post-medieval in date. 1885 and 1813 maps show a fishpond to the north west of Rougham Hall farm, this feature was also noted by initial walkover survey as a dry hollow. A further walkover survey observation is the site of Rough or Bury St Edmunds USAAF airfield. A field name reference of "good field" has been identified on an early edition OS map (RPS 2002) though no further information is available.

Listed buildings comprise a clutch of five listings to the east of Blackthorpe. These are; the former Rookery House which dates to the 16th century, Layers Breck Farmhouse and 15th century Wealden House, 17th-18th century Blackthorpe Farmhouse, Smithy Cottage dated to the 17th century and a barn to the east of Blackthorpe Farmhouse dated from the 15th/early 16th century in its first use.

5.0 Results

5.1 Introduction

The results are presented for each element of the programme of archaeological works. Numbers in brackets relate to context numbers allocated during fieldwork and a summary is provided in Appendices 1 to 4.

The weather during fieldwork varied between dry, sunny periods to both slight and heavy rainfall. One day was lost to extremely wet weather conditions.

Works at each of the Comprehensive Matching Brief sites were approved by Jude Plouviez as having been correctly carried out by the Contractor as per the Project Design.

5.2 Photographic Survey

The relocation of the milestone at Rookery Crossroads to a site adjacent and to the north-west of the new road line was carried out on 27 January 2006 and a photographic survey was made.

A selection of photographs is provided and a full record will be submitted with the archive.

Plate 1. Relocation of milestone



Plate 2. Placing milestone at new location, looking south



Plate 3. Milestone in new location



Scale is 0.5m

Plate 4. Milestone in relation to new carriageway, looking south



5.3 Topographical Survey

The Contractor, RPS Consultants and Suffolk County Council agreed that as a topographical survey had already been carried out as part of the *Archaeological Assessment*, a further survey was not required and that the results of the existing survey be included in this report. Information relating to the topographical survey of two mounds at Two Mile Spinney and linear earthworks within the road corridor to the north of Ravenwood Hotel was provided by RPS Consultants. The results of the topographical surveys are presented in Figures 13 to 16 of this report and an overlay of the archaeological features revealed at Rookery Crossroads upon the relevant topographical survey is provided in Figure 17. Full descriptive details can be seen in the *Stage III DMRB Archaeological Assessment* (RPS Consultants 2002).

5.4 General Watching Brief

Areas across the entire road scheme were subjected to archaeological monitoring in agreement with Cade Plouviez (Suffolk County Council) and Jane Betts (RPS Consultants). Only those areas where works may have posed a threat to any possible archaeological remains were monitored. These included some areas at Home Farm at the eastern end of the road improvement scheme, Sow Lane to the north of Rookery Crossroads, the area to the west of Ravenwood Hotel and the construction of a new access road at Top Gorse Track (Fig. 1)

Typically throughout the road scheme, topsoil extended c.0.3m in depth and overlay a mid to dark brown clayey sand subsoil of c.0.4m to 0.6m depth. These overlay an undisturbed natural of mixed light to medium brown sands and sandy clays with areas of flint nodules above a solid chalk geology.

Two prehistoric struck flints and small quantities of modern finds of 19th and 20th century date (and later) were recovered from subsoil deposits during excavations. The struck flints were forwarded to a specialist for analysis and report. The modern finds were retrieved, identified, recorded and then discarded.

The General Watching Brief produced no further archaeological finds and there were no archaeological features or deposits present.

5.5 Site 1: Two Mile Spinney (SMR RGH014)

Site 1 was located to the north of the present A14 carriageway at Two Mile Spinney towards the western end of the road improvement scheme and comprised an area measuring c.100m along the southern boundary, c.62m along the northern boundary and a maximum width of c.43m (Figs. 1 and 2). It lay on reasonably level ground at c.59m OD falling slightly from the western end towards the east. Ground cover prior to excavations was mixed woodland, grass and sedges, and there was considerable evidence of rabbit infestation across most of the site and in particular on and around the mounds. Unfortunately, due to a technical problem, no digital photographs are available for inclusion in the report.

Excavation of the two mounds was carried out initially and included an area that measured approximately 30m in width (Fig. 2). The excavation of Mound 1 was not possible to the south-east of the mound due to the close proximity of the existing A14 carriageway, for safety reasons. This would have required the inner of the two lanes to be closed under traffic management and was not accepted by the Contractor as a viable option. This area was subsequently closely monitored when excavations associated with the new carriageway were carried out. The area including Mound 2 measured approximately 22m in length. Initial clearance of vegetation (grasses,

shrubs and trees, in particular on Mound 1) was carried out (and monitored) at both mounds, which removed c.0.1m of topsoil in the process.

Excavations of Mound 1 (M[1], Figs. 3 and 5) showed that it had a maximum, central depth of c.1.9m reducing gradually to zero at a radius of c.7m. The mound was composed of a dark brown humic and heavily rooted topsoil cover [3] of c.0.3m depth over a mid orange brown sand [4] that was heavily tunnelled by rabbits. There were indications of tipping within this deposit though they were not especially clear due to the considerable animal burrowing (not illustrated). It contained moderate amounts of small to medium flint gravels that reduced in amounts and became more silty and of a slightly darker brown colour towards the interface with the underlying undisturbed 'natural' deposits. These comprised mixed mid orange brown sands and clays and yellow fine sands with occasional medium sub-angular flint inclusions. The siltier lower element of deposit [4], in retrospect, may represent a separate deposit though it was not identified as such during excavations (and hence not allocated an individual context number). A copper alloy toy soldier of modern date was recovered from fill [4] within a rabbit burrow and is almost certainly intrusive. No further finds were recovered. A curvilinear ditch [5] was identified at the base and outer edge of the mound that measured c.0.6m wide by a maximum depth of 0.5m and contained a dark brown sand [6] not dissimilar from the present topsoil. Despite the difference in colour, the uppermost part of fill [6] was not distinctive from the fill of the mound, especially where much animal burrowing and root disturbance was evident. Due to the reach of the mechanical excavator, also, and the wet conditions at the time of excavation, some further disturbance of the deposits was caused. Therefore, there was no clear cut, and hence relationship, visible in plan or section until the depth at which the ditch cut the underlying 'natural' deposits (Figs. 3 and 5). No finds were recovered from [6]. It is possible the material from the ditch was used for the construction of the mound though whether there would have been sufficient material purely from the ditch remains questionable. The almost complete lack of dating evidence precludes any secure dating of the mounds or the ditch. Subsoil deposits [12] were present to the exterior of the ditch (described below). The ditch was seen to be not present to the south of the mound during the subsequent General Watching Brief of Two Mile Spinney and was most probably truncated during construction of the existing, immediately adjacent A14 carriageway.

Mound 2 (M[2], Figs. 2, 4, and 6) was of similar dimensions to Mound 1 though slightly larger at c.16m diameter and 1.95m depth. A dark brown sand and heavily rooted topsoil [7] extended c.0.3m deep and the main body of the mound comprised a mid to dark orange brown sand [8], also heavily disturbed by animal burrowing. Similar to Mound 1, there were moderate amounts of small to medium flint gravels inclusions within deposit [8] that reduced in quantities and had a higher silt element towards the base of the deposit. A curvilinear ditch [9] was present that measured c.0.6m wide by a maximum depth of 0.45m and surrounded the mound. As with Mound 1, the dark brown sand fill [10] of the ditch was not dissimilar from the overlying topsoil, though equally there was no clear distinction of the uppermost part of the fill of the ditch from deposit [4], and therefore no clear relationship. Again, the ditch was more clearly visible in plan and section where it cut the underlying 'natural' deposits. Subsoil deposits [12] were present to the exterior of the ditch. No finds were present other than a lead alloy pendant or bracelet charm from topsoil [7] and the lack of dating evidence as stratified finds precludes any further information relating to the construction, use or disuse of the mound. The contour survey showed the mound to be of smaller dimensions than those observed during excavations, probably due to the high density of vegetation (including tree growth) present during the survey preventing accurate location of the base of the mound. No evidence of the trench excavated by Edwardson in 1951, thought to have been through the centre of the mound, was present.

Modern and Second World War finds were recovered from topsoil deposits of both mounds and comprised horse shoes, tin cans and vehicle suspension mounts. These were recorded and then discarded. No archaeological finds were present.

The remainder of the area of the Comprehensive Watching Brief to the west and east of the mounds displayed a dark brown sand topsoil [11] between 0.3m and 0.5m depth. A mid to light brown silty sand subsoil [12] extended between 0.5m and 0.8m across the site except for the area surrounding the two mounds where it extended no further than c.0.1m in depth. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were present. Modern finds as those recovered during excavation of the two mounds were present within pits and unstratified in both topsoil and subsoil deposits. There were two large pits of modern refuse including tyres and metal parts of vehicles, seemingly associated with the nearby airbase and use of this area during the Second World War, and later (not illustrated). The undisturbed natural deposits comprised a mixture of mid orange brown sands and clays with occasional areas of flint nodules. The remains of brick footings associated with modern cottages (c. early 20th century; marked on the 19th Ordnance Survey map as 'Eldo Cottages') were observed within the southwest part of the site (Fig. 2). No archaeological finds, features or deposits were present.

5.6 Site 2: Rookery Crossroads (SMR RGH032)

Site 2 was located to the south of the present A14 carriageway east of Rookery Crossroads and north of Ravenwood Hall Hotel (Figs. 1 and 7 to 9). It comprised an area approximately triangular in shape measuring c.70m along its maximum length by c.21m maximum width in an approximate east-to-west orientation. The land to the south of the road corridor was underlain by a gravelly sandstone, specifically due to the ditches and banks of this area (see Topographical Survey). The linear earthworks extended beyond the edge of the road corridor towards the south and therefore it was not possible to examine them during archaeological excavations, except for their northernmost limit. Ground cover prior to excavation was primarily long grass with mixed woodland nearby.

Plate 5. General photograph of excavations in progress at Site 2, Rookery Crossroads



Topsoil comprised a dark brown fairly humic dark brown silty sand and extended a maximum of 0.3m in depth. The underlying very soft mid orange brown slightly clayey sand subsoil extended a maximum of 0.7m, deepest at the southern edge of excavation where it formed the northern part of a bank. Finds recovered from these

deposits were mostly of modern date and included fragments of a decorated Refined earthenware teacup and a fragment of china from a jam jar, all dated to the 19th century. An overlay of the following archaeological features on the topographical survey is provided in Figure 17.

Two approximately east-west orientated linear features [1] and [5] were identified and extended c.30m from the southeast edge of excavation towards the west. They were sample excavated by 9 sondages and recorded in section (Figs. 8 and 9).

Plate 6. Sondage during excavation of ditches at Site 2 - Rookery Crossroads



Ditch [1] extended to a maximum depth of 0.3m and displayed a fairly shallow-sided profile with a slightly concave base. The width varied between 1.1m and 1.4m. It contained a light to mid grey silty sand single fill [2]. A large fragment of a medieval coarseware bowl and a piece of fired clay were recovered from [2]. No further finds were recovered. The ditch extended beyond the southeast corner of the area of archaeological excavation and beyond the extents of the road improvement scheme. Whilst it extended to the west of the excavation area, it was not seen during general monitoring in this area.

A wide (c.2m) curvilinear feature was identified at the southern edge of excavation, and extending beyond, in a north-south orientation gradually turning to an east-west orientation where it seemingly joined ditch [1]. It comprised two ditches [3] and [9]. Relationships between these three ditches were investigated by the manual excavation of 3 sondages (Fig. 8). The fills [4] and [10] of ditches [3] and [9] were a virtually indistinguishable light to mid grey silty sand, also almost identical to fill [2] of ditch [1]. One residual struck flint and a medieval buckle were recovered from [4], a fragment of post-medieval brick and a further medieval buckle were recovered from [10]. It seems probable that ditch [9] is a recut of the earlier medieval ditch [3]. Ditch [3] appeared to have been contemporary with ditch [1] where they intersected (Section 4) and ditch [9] was seen to have completely recut and replaced ditch [3] (Section 5) further to the west.

Ditch [5] measured c.28m in length in an approximate east-west orientation. It extended to a maximum depth of 0.3m and displayed a fairly steep-sided profile with a slightly concave flattish base. The width varied between 0.8m and 0.9m with a wider section at 1.3m where it turned to become ditch [7] (see below). It contained a light to mid grey silty sand single fill [6] that produced a single fragment of animal bone and fragments of coal, charcoal and iron pan (a natural concretion).

Plate 7. Section through ditch [5] during excavations at Site 2 - Rookery Crossroads



Ditch [7] lay in an approximate north-south orientation and was a continuation of the eastern end of ditch [5]. It displayed the same physical characteristics as [5] though slightly shallower with a maximum depth of 0.24m. It contained a single light to mid grey silty sand single fill [8], same as fill [6] of ditch [5] and produced no finds. Ditch [7] was seen to cut, and therefore post-date, ditch [1] (Figs. 7 and 8; section numbers 19 – 21 inclusive).

Terminating ditch [11] extended c.1.6m to the site from the southern edge of excavation in a north-south orientation. A sondage was manually excavated and showed a maximum depth of 0.52m (Fig. 9, Section 2). It measured c.1.6m at its widest point and contained a mid grey silty sand fill [12] that produced 6 sherds of medieval pottery and a piece of burnt flint. The very small and highly fragile fragments of indiscernible prehistoric pottery (0.005m) were also recovered from [12] though they did not survive beyond collection. They are most likely residual in origin.

The bank identified from the topographical survey measured 0.9m higher than the ditches to the east and west (at c.57.20m OD and the base of the ditches at c.56.60m OD) and was formed by topsoil. The archaeological features described lay at c.56.30m OD and therefore some 0.9m below the top of the bank and c.0.3m below the base of the ditches. There was no observed correlation between the excavated archaeological remains and the overlying earthworks (Fig. 17).

5.7 Site 3: Millfield Plantation (SMR RGH042)

Site 3 was located to the north of the present A14 carriageway at Millfield Plantation (Figs. 1 and 12) in order to investigate the possibility that the *in-situ* remains of a Roman Road (RPS 18 of the *DMRB Archaeological Assessment*) lay within this part of the road corridor. The Roman Road would have been in an approximate north-to-south orientation and therefore it was agreed with Jude Plouviez and Jane Betts that a single trench would be sufficient and appropriate to investigate whether any remains of the road were present. The remainder of the site was archaeologically monitored during subsequent excavations associated with carriageway works.

The trench extended east-to-west across the extent of the site and measured approximately 2m in width. A possible post-hole was identified approximately mid point along the trench that was therefore extended to a size of approximately 25m by 5m to investigate whether any further possible archaeological features were present.

Plate 8. General view of excavations at Site 3 – Millfield Plantation



A dark brown humic sand and very heavily rooted topsoil [1] extended c.0.3m in depth and overlay a dark brown sandy subsoil [2] that extended between 0.1m and 0.2m deep. Three worked flints were recovered from subsoil [2]. The undisturbed natural deposits comprised a light to medium brown silty sand and had a great number of tree roots extending into it across the whole area, understandably as the previous land-use was as a plantation. Manual excavation of the possible post-hole proved it was not archaeological in origin having very irregular sides and base and most likely associated with a small tree-bole. No further archaeological finds were present and there were no archaeological cut features or deposits, nor were there any indications of the Roman Road.

6.0 The Finds

6.1 Introduction

Finds recovered during the project were collected for processing, cataloguing, analysis and report by relevant specialists at Suffolk County Council. Processing and cataloguing was carried out by Anna West, medieval and Post-medieval finds were analysed and reported upon by Richenda Goffin and flints by Dr Colin Pendleton. They are described in the following sections.

6.2 General Scheme (SMR RGH041)

6.2.1 Introduction

Finds were collected from a single context during excavations associated with the general road improvement scheme (*Appendix 5*).

6.2.2 Worked Flint

Two fragments of worked flints were collected from findspot 01. These are catalogued below.

Large rolled flint, probably natural, though there are flakes scars, but none of these

show bulbous ends.

Large irregular core with some long flakes and some squat flakes removed but also showing marked pressure/crushing damage which could be modern. Unpatinated. The core is later prehistoric in date.

6.3 Site 1: Two Mile Spinney (SMR RGH014)

Two objects were recovered from 2 contexts at Site 1: Two Mile Spinney. These were allocated individual small find numbers (*Appendix 6*). Small find 1000 was recovered from the fill [04] of Mound 1 and is a (probably) copper alloy toy soldier of modern date. Small find 1001 was recovered from topsoil [07] find from mound 2. It is a (probably) lead alloy pendant or bracelet charm in the design of a drummer boy. It is likely that both these finds date to the period of the Second World War.

6.4 Site 2: Rookery Crossroads (SMR RGH032)

Finds were collected from 7 contexts at Site 2: Rookery Crossroads (*Appendices 7 and 8*).

6.4.1 Pottery

A total of 16 fragments of Post-Roman pottery were recovered, weighing 0.219kg. The ceramics are medieval and post-medieval in date.

Medieval

Eight fragments of medieval pottery were found in the fills of two ditches. A large fragment of a medieval coarseware bowl was recovered from ditchfill [2]. The vessel has a squared beaded rim (Suffolk type C1). It is made of a reddish brown fabric which has darker grey surfaces. Although some sandy wares cannot be provenanced to an individual production centre, but are rather given the collective term of 'coarseware', the ware is similar to descriptions of other coarsewares produced at Great Horksley and Mile end (Drury and Petch 1971). Similar fabrics have also been identified at Cedars Field, Stowmarket (Anderson 2004). Further fragments of a coarser, more oxidised ware, also of medieval date, were identified in ditchfill [12].

Post-medieval

Two post-medieval vessels were recovered amongst the stratified finds [13]. Seven fragments of a decorated Refined white earthenware teacup were present, dating to the 19th century. An abraded fragment of Ironstone ware, from a jar of jam or marmalade is also of a similar date.

6.4.2 Ceramic building material

Ceramic building material was recovered from two contexts (2 fragments @ 0.612kg). A fragment of post-medieval brick was present in ditchfill [10], and a small piece of post-medieval roof tile was identified as an unstratified find from [13]. The brick is made from a fine, uniformly orange fabric which contains clay pellets and grog. The lower surface has a covering of medium-sized moulding sand. The fabric is a variant which was used in East Anglia in the early post-medieval period, probably from the sixteenth century (Drury 1993).

6.4.3 Fired Clay

A small and abraded piece of fired clay with no discernable features was present in fill [2] of ditch [1].

6.4.4 Worked flint

Eleven fragments of worked flint were collected, and are catalogued below by context number:

A single small snapped flake possibly from the edge of a core was recovered from ditchfill [2]. It is probably of later prehistoric date.

An irregular, crude, core-like tool was found in ditchfill [4]. It has crude bifacial retouch around the edges, and a number of incipient cones of percussion. It is probably later Bronze Age/Iron Age in date.

A simple flake core with a few flakes removed, some of which were quite long. Unpatinated. Glacial or gravel type of flint. Probably Neolithic or Early (?) Bronze Age. From topsoil deposit [13].

Small flake with pronounced ripples. Crude retouch or use wear on one edge. Unpatinated. Probably Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. From topsoil deposit [13].

Snapped flake with well controlled parallel flake scars on dorsal face. Retouch on both edges. Probably Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. From topsoil deposit [13].

Irregular large core producing one small blade and several squat and frequently hinged flakes. Glacial or gravel based flint. Unpatinated. Probably Later Bronze Age or Iron Age. From subsoil deposit [14].

Natural flint with unpatinated battered edges, cause unknown but artificial. Probably glacial flint utilised in (?) prehistory. From subsoil deposit [14].

Small flake with somewhat irregular edge retouch or use wear. Unpatinated. Difficult to date but probably Later Bronze Age or Iron Age. From subsoil deposit [14].

Flake with pronounced ripples and diagonal end. Obtuse striking angle. Very light retouch, including slight notch. Unpatinated. Difficult to date but probably Later Bronze Age or Iron Age. From subsoil deposit [14].

Squat flake with hinge fracture and natural striking platform. Retouch/use wear on edges. Difficult to date but probably Later Bronze Age or Iron Age. From subsoil deposit [14].

Snapped low quality flake with natural striking platform. Limited retouch on one edge. Difficult to date but probably Later Bronze Age or Iron Age. From subsoil deposit [14].

Two pieces of burnt flint were collected from ditchfill [6] and [12].

6.4.5 Metalwork

A small twisted fragment of waste lead was found topsoil deposit [14]. It has been recorded as a bulk artefact since it is likely to be modern.

6.4.6 Miscellaneous

Small fragments of coal, charcoal and iron pan (a natural concretion) were collected from [6], with a further piece of clinker-type fuel ash slag in subsoil deposit [14]. A fragment of hard dense stone was also recovered from this context. It has two worked edges.

6.4.7 Animal bone

A single fragment of animal bone was present in ditchfill [6]. The fragmentary bone which consists mainly of the shaft, is part of the front limb or radius of a sheep.

6.4.8 Small Finds

Six small finds were recovered in total from Site 2 (*Appendix 8*). Two buckle fragments were found in the ditchfill [10], one of which is medieval. A second medieval buckle was present in the ditchfill [4]. The remainder of the small finds were recovered from subsoil deposits.

6.4.9 Discussion

Small quantities of medieval pottery were recovered from the fill [2] of ditch [1] and the single fill [12] of ditch [11]. In both cases the pottery dates to the 12th-14th century. A fragment of brick found in ditchfill [10] is post-medieval in date. Some of

the small finds are also medieval in date, although in most cases where stratified they are also associated with later finds. The exception to this is SF 1002 which was found in ditchfill 04.

6.5 Site 3: Millfield Plantation (SMR RGH042)

6.5.1 Introduction

Finds were collected from a single context at Site 3: Millfield Plantation (*Appendix 9*).

6.5.2 Worked Flint

Three fragments of worked flint were recovered from the subsoil [2]. These are catalogued below:

Small well patinated flake with possible re-utilisation at the distal end in the form of unpatinated (steep) retouch. Mesolithic or Neolithic plus later prehistoric?

Irregular core with a few blades and flakes removed. Unpatinated dark grey and black. Probably Neolithic but could be later.

Core-like flint fragment probably resulting from crushing and other damage (could be recent). Unpatinated possibly recent?

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7.0 Conclusions

Despite the potential for *in-situ* archaeological remains being present within the area of the road improvement scheme at A14 Rookery Crossroads, few were encountered.

The General Watching Brief produced modern finds of 19th and 20th century date, and later, and only a small quantity of prehistoric struck flints were recovered from subsoil deposits. No further archaeological finds and no archaeological features or deposits were present.

The Comprehensive Watching Briefs carried out at Two Mile Spinney, Rookery Crossroads and Millfield Plantation also produced few archaeological remains. Activities during the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age were indicated in the area of the road improvement scheme by the recovery of struck flints, mostly from subsoil deposits.

The precise origin and function of the two mounds at Two Mile Spinney remains unknown, though they are thought to have been constructed between 1600AD and 1887AD, established through an evaluation by trial trenching of the southern mound as part of the Stage 2 DMRB Archaeological Assessment (RPS Consultants, 2002). Excavations of the (probably) northern mound were carried out by A.R. Edwardson in 1951 who initially considered them to be possible Bronze Age barrows and later suggested they were of 18th century date. The lack of dating evidence from present excavations was disappointing and does not provide any further information as to when the mounds were constructed, used or went into disuse. A silty sand deposit was identified during the evaluation that produced post-medieval tile fragments and was interpreted as a ploughsoil pre-dating the mound, and this deposit may be the same as the silty component of the composite fill of the mounds recorded during the present excavations. A ditch surrounding the northern part of Mound 1 was seen though there was no clear evidence to confirm a date or relationship of the ditch with the mound. A similar ditch was also identified during the excavation of Mound 2 and fully enclosed the mound. It had been identified during the previous evaluation that produced post-16th century finds from its fill. It showed evidence of having been recut in the trial trench, though such evidence was seen during the present excavations. Also, there was no evidence that the upcast of the ditch was used to form an outer bank as previously suggested. Whether there would have been sufficient material from the ditches to construct the mounds themselves seems unlikely. Despite there being no ditch present to the north east of Mound 1, it is highly likely it did encircle the mound, as observed for Mound 2, and that it was truncated during the construction of the present A14 carriageway to the immediate south of the mound. The precise nature of the ditches remains unknown though their presence does, however, suggest that the mounds were not simply sand dumps as the products of sand/gravel extraction pits. No evidence of such pits was seen during the present excavations at Two Mile Spinney.

Four mounds are marked on the c.1887 and c.1904 OS maps so they were clearly in existence at this time, the two southernmost mounds are known to have been excavated during widening of the road in 1969. The Ordnance Survey first edition map of 1837 and Hodgkinson's map of 1783 also show an enclosure at this location though no direct indication of the mounds themselves. This may purely be due to the scale at which the maps were recorded and the presence of the enclosure (as seen on the later maps) may indicate that the mounds existed at this time. It has been suggested (Plouviez, *pers. comm.*) that the mounds may be rabbit warren mounds as a possible circular example is known at Knettishall in Suffolk, though these are generally linear in shape, such as one in Sutton, and of a later date. The present-day animal burrows seen within the mounds may be just that and do not necessarily

support this possible interpretation. The mounds showed no characteristics of a Bronze Age burial mound and produced no related finds or features and it is certain that they are not prehistoric burial mounds.

The modern-made ground noted during the walk-over survey in July and November 2001 to the west of the southernmost mound appeared to have been as a result of activities associated with the US air force base during World War 2 and comprised dumps of refuse. The walkover survey showed no surviving evidence at ground level of the two modern cottages (variously known from cartographic sources as 'Spinney Cottages' and 'Eldo Cottages') at Two Mile Spinney. Sub-surface remains were seen to the east of both mounds during the General Watching Brief of this area. The cottages are seen on OS maps of 1904, 1946 and 1972 but not on maps of 1887 and 1892 and must therefore post-date 1892. The building material remains observed during the present excavations suggest a probable late 19th century date but no further information was forthcoming.

A system of previously unknown medieval (12th to 14th centuries) and post-medieval (16th century onwards) ditches was present at Rookery Crossroads. This consisted of approximately north-to-south and east-to-west ditches that most probably represent land partitioning arrangements for agricultural use during these periods. A further medieval ditch terminated within the south-western part of the site that contained small quantities of highly fragmented and abraded sherds of prehistoric pottery. It had been considered whether this ditch had origins earlier than the medieval period, based upon the presence of this pottery, though there was no physical evidence of recutting of the ditch and it seems more likely that the pottery was residual. Some of the ditches showed evidence of re-cutting and this no doubt represents continued use and division of the land in this area. It is probable the ditches revealed during excavation represent the division of land known to have occurred in this area during the medieval period AD1066-1530. Whether this occurred during the time at which much of the land in the area was controlled by St Edmunds Abbey (post-AD1316) is unknown. No further information relating to the near earthworks at Rookery Crossroads was gained, partly as they extended beyond the limits of the new road corridor. A bank and associated ditches appeared to be formed by topsoil deposits that produced 19th century pottery finds which is consistent with these earthworks appearing on maps of 1813 and 1892. They are no doubt representative of further land enclosure during the 18th and 19th centuries following the agrarian revolution. The results of the topographical surveys have been presented in this report and an overlay of the excavated evidence at Rookery Crossroads shows no correlation to the surface topography.

The photographic survey of the relocation of the Milestone at Rookery Crossroads was carried out and a sample of the photographs has been included in the report.

No archaeological remains were present at Millfield Plantation and there was no evidence for the existence of a Roman Road postulated to have been in this area. It is probable that should the known Roman Road to the north of this site have extended this far south that it would lie further east than the present excavations.

Given the paucity of archaeological remains present and that the information provided by these contributes little to current recent aims and objectives for East Anglia, it is proposed that no submission to a recognised archaeological publication is made.

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- SCAUM 1997 *Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992 and Health and Safety in Field Archaeology*

Appendix 1. Context Summary - General Scheme (SMR RGH041)

Context No.	Type	Trench/Area	Description	Initials/Date
1	F	RGH041	Find spot	CAB/Dec04

Appendix 2. Context Summary - Site 1: Two Mile Spinney (SMR RGH014)

Context No.	Type	Trench/Area	Description	Initials/Date
1	M	RGH014	Master no. for mound 1	CAB/Oct 04
2	M	RGH014	Master no. for mound 2	CAB/Oct 04
3	D	RGH014	Dark brown humic topsoil of [1]	CAB/Oct 04
4	D	RGH014	Mid orange brown sand single fill of [1]	CAB/Oct 04
5	C	RGH014	Ditch – mound 1	CAB/Oct 04
6	D	RGH014	Dark brown sand single fill of [5]	CAB/Oct 04
7	D	RGH014	Dark brown sand topsoil of [2]	CAB/Oct 04
8	D	RGH014	Mid to dark orange brown sand single fill of [2]	CAB/Oct 04
9	C	RGH014	Ditch – mound 2	CAB/Oct 04
10	D	RGH014	Dark brown sand single fill of [9]	CAB/Oct 04
11	D	RGH014	General no. for topsoil deposits – dark brown humic sand	CAB/Oct 04
12	D	RGH014	General no. for subsoil deposits - mid to light brown silty sand	CAB/Oct 04

Appendix 3. Context Summary - Site 2: Rookery Grounds (SMR RGH032)

Context No.	Type	Trench/Area	Description	Initials/Date
1	C	RGH032	Ditch	CAB/Oct04
2	D	RGH032	Light to mid grey silty sand fill of [1]	CAB/Oct04
3	C	RGH032	Ditch	CAB/Oct04
4	D	RGH032	Light to mid grey silty sand fill of [3]	CAB/Oct04
5	C	RGH032	Ditch	CAB/Oct04
6	D	RGH032	Light to mid grey silty sand fill of [5]	CAB/Oct04
7	C	RGH032	Ditch	CAB/Oct04
8	D	RGH032	Light to mid grey silty sand fill of [7]	CAB/Oct04
9	C	RGH032	Ditch	CAB/Oct04
10	D	RGH032	Light to mid grey silty sand fill of [9]	CAB/Oct04
11	C	RGH032	Ditch termination	CAB/Oct04
12	D	RGH032	Mid grey silty sand fill of [11]	CAB/Oct04
13	D	RGH032	General no. for topsoil deposits - humic dark brown silty sand	CAB/Oct04
14	D	RGH032	General no. for subsoil deposits - mid orange brown slightly clayey sand	CAB/Oct04

Appendix 4. Context Summary - Site 3: Millfield Plantation (SMR RGH042)

Context No.	Type	Trench/ Area	Description	Initials/Date
1	D	RGH042	General number for topsoil deposits - dark brown humic sand	CAB/Nov04
2	D	RGH042	General number for subsoil deposits - dark brown sandy subsoil	CAB/Nov04

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Appendix 5. Finds Summary - General Scheme (SMR RGH041)

Context	Flint fragments		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	
01	2	430	Unstratified
Total	2	430	

Appendix 6. Finds Summary - Site 1: Two Mile Spinney (RGH014)

Small Find No	Context	Period	Material	Object	Comments	Spotdate
1000	04	Post-med	Cu alloy?	Toy soldier	Uniformed soldier with backpack	Modern
1001	07	Post-med	Lead alloy?	Pendant or bracelet charm?	Drummer boy with suspension loop	Modern

Appendix 7. Finds Summary - Site 2 - Rookery Cross, Rougham (RGH 032)

Context	Pottery		Worked Flint		CBM		Animal Bone		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
2	2	0.027	1	0.00					Fired clay 1 @ 0.001kg	L12th-14th C
4			1	0.099						
6							1	0.004	Charcoal 1@ 0.003kg, Burnt flint 1 @ 0.015kg Coal 1@ 0.017kg	
10					1	0.594				
12	6	0.077							Burnt Flint 1@ 0.015kg	L12th-14th C
13	8	0.115	3	0.064	1	0.018				Unstratified
14			6	0.202					Lead 1 @ 0.020kg Stone 1 @ 0.257kg Shovel marker 1@ 0.020kg	Subsoil
Total	16	0.219	11	0.366	2	0.612	1	0.004		

Appendix 8. Small Finds Summary - Site 2 - Rookery Cross, Rougham (RGH 032)

Period	Material	Object Name	No of frags	Weight (kg)	Length (cm)	Width (cm)	Diameter (cm)	Comments
MED	COPPER	Buckle	1	0.006	37	22	0	Double loop frame, no pin or central bar
PMED	COPPER	Buckle	2	0.004	0	0	0	Ornate decorative buckle in two frags, 18th c or later, poss shoe buckle
MED	COPPER	Buckle	1	0.006	40	30	0	Complete double oval buckle with decorative knobs in centre of end sides.
MED	COPPER	Strap-end	1	0.003	25	15	0	Folded sheet with two perforations for rivets, worn, gilded, 14th C
PMED	SILVER	Coin	1	0.002	0	0	21	Very worn, possibly William III sixpence 1694-1702
PMED	IRON	Weapon	2	2.360	240	0	0	Rectangular bar of iron, square in section, iron rod through suspension loop

Appendix 9. Finds Summary Site 3 - Millfield Plantation (RGH 042)

Context	Worked Flint	Spotdate
No	Wt/g	
02	126	Redeposited prehistoric
Total	3	26

Appendix 10 Environmental Statement – Cultural Heritage

The following details the Cultural Heritage Section 5 of the Environmental Statement (RPS/Parkmen R4310b/ES Report/A14 ES Final, March 2002).

5 Cultural Heritage

Site Context

- 5.1 RPS Consultants have produced a Stage 3 DMRB Archaeological Assessment for the A14 Rookery Crossroads (*A14 Rookery Crossroads, A Stage 3 DMRB Archaeological Assessment*) outlining the known archaeological issues.
- 5.2 The Stage 3 Assessment Report includes a review of the relevant Sites and Monuments Record, Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs), listed buildings, aerial photographic information, historic map information and the results of walkover surveys. It also details fieldwork in the form of test pit monitoring, trial trenching, topographical survey and photographic survey.
- 5.3 This report provides an assessment of the known and potential archaeological resources within the vicinity of the route realignment proposal including their presence, character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and relative quality, in order to make an assessment of their worth.

Methodology

- 5.4 A desk based study was undertaken on the archaeological and historical background of the area to assess the potential for archaeology. The sources consulted were:
- The Suffolk County Sites and Monuments Record;
 - The National Monuments Record;
 - Listed buildings information from the National Monuments Record Centre and English Heritage;
 - Registers of Historic Parks and Gardens published by English Heritage;
 - Early edition O.S. maps from the Bodleian Library;
 - Scheduled Ancient Monument data from English Heritage.
- 5.5 The desk (based) study and initial walk-over surveys were conducted in order to identify archaeological features which might be affected by the proposed realignment and to assess the significance of impacts on affected sites. A 600m corridor each side of the route was used as a basis for consultation regarding archaeological sites and listed buildings.
- 5.6 Archaeological field surveys were undertaken in November 2001 in order to locate and characterise potential sites and features which had not been identified from the desk (based) study. The procedures for archaeological evaluation, topographical survey and photographic survey were consolidated within an RPS Consultants specification of works dated July 2001. The following procedures were agreed by the Suffolk County Archaeological Officer.
- a) a systematic walk-over survey of the realignment corridor (July and November 2001)
 - b) a photographic survey of a milestone (November 2001)
 - c) a geotechnical test pit watching brief (October 2001)
 - d) a topographical survey of two extant earthwork mounds at Two Mile Spinney and banks and hollows to the south east of Rookery Crossroads (November 2001)
 - e) a programme of trial trenching at Two Mile Spinney and on both sides of the A14 at Rookery Crossroads.

- 5.7 The full methodologies utilised for these surveys are presented in the Stage 3 Assessment Report. Archaeological importance has been assessed using as guidance the criteria set out in Annex 4 of PPG16 (Planning and Policy Guidance Notes 16, 1990), modified to take account of the whole range of site values, not just scheduled monuments. These criteria are also endorsed by the DMRB Volume 11 (Section 3, Part 2.8). Each site has been assessed for importance on a scale of 1 to 5 (National, Regional or County, District or Local, Unimportant, Uncertain, respectively). The adverse impacts of the proposed scheme on each site has then been assessed on a scale of 1 to 5 (Large, Moderate, Slight, Neutral, Uncertain, respectively). The overall effect has then been assessed as a combination of the two classifications according to the following scale:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Large Beneficial |
| 2 | Moderate Beneficial |
| 3 | Slight Beneficial |
| 4 | Neutral |
| 5 | Slight Adverse |
| 6 | Moderate Adverse |
| 7 | Large Adverse |
| 8 | Uncertain |

Baseline

- 5.8 The following legislation and guidance is relevant to the potential impacts of the scheme on cultural heritage:
- *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)* (as amended by the *National Heritage Act (1983)*)
 - *Town and Country Planning Act (1990)* (as amended by the *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)*)
 - *Highways Act (1980 Section 105A)*
 - *Planning Policy Guidance (Notes) on Planning and the Historic Environment (PPG15)*
 - *Planning Policy Guidance (Notes) on Archaeology and Planning (PPG16)*
 - *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Vol. 7* (August 1994)
 - *Towards a Balance with Nature, Highways Agency, Nov. 1999.*
- 5.9 A full description of features present within the study area, and a summary of the archaeology of the region are given in the Stage 3 Assessment Report.

Impact Assessment

Field Survey Results

- 5.10 Areas discussed below and cultural heritage features in the study area are shown in Figure 7 (*of the Environmental Statement*). Figures 8 and 9 (*of the Environmental Statement*) show the locations investigated during the trial pitting and trial trenching exercise.
- 5.11 A walk-over survey within Millfield Plantation revealed no earthworks suitable for survey. There was no evidence of possible windmill site RPS 11 on the ground within Mill Field. Similarly the relevant area of Rougham Heath to the south west of Rookery Crossroads was found to contain no significant earthworks which might require further survey. A milestone (RPS 10) was located adjacent to the A14 road-side ditch, immediately west of the existing crossroads. The milestone was poorly set and was leaning to one side. Its former inscription was illegible.

- 5.12 A walk-over survey to the south east of Rookery Crossroads demonstrated the existence of a bank feature adjacent to the existing road (RPS 28). Further field banks were noted on the ground within the sparsely wooded area immediately to the south east of the existing junction and bordering the southern side of the existing rough grassland plot to the east. These boundaries relate to features shown on 19th century O.S. maps. Two unconsolidated earthen spoil mounds were also noted within the scrub plot. These are clearly of recent original topsoil dumps associated with construction works. The eastern extent of the improvement scheme on the southern side of the existing A14 road contains rather more vague earthworks of uncertain derivation including a broad bank orientated approximately north-south which may relate to a boundary. A depression was also noted in the north west corner of the existing field which is likely to have been a dew pond. These earthworks (noted as RPS 12) form elements of a series of earthworks within this field, the most well defined of which (including a ditch and well) are located to the south of the impact corridor. A walk-over was also conducted on the line of the proposed track to Ravenwood Hall Hotel. No significant earthworks were noted although the area was much disturbed by use as a bicycle recreation area.
- 5.13 A walk-over survey at Two Mile Spinney confirmed the location of the two extant mounds (RPS 2) within a former enclosure. Both mounds were tree covered, the northern most with several pines. Modern made ground was noted banked against the western mound and raising the ground level to the west of the southernmost mound. No further features of interest were noted. No evidence of "Spinney Cottages" (RPS 3) (shown on maps of 1906 and 1972 but absent on the O.S. map of 1892) was visible.
- 5.14 The milestone (RPS 10) has been recorded photographically. Geotechnical test pit monitoring encountered no significant archaeological features or horizons. A topographical survey was undertaken and is described in the Stage 3 Assessment Report.

Trial Trenching

- 5.15 Six trenches (trenches 4-6 and 10-11) were excavated, three within Mill Field and three within Millfield Plantation. The latter were not excavated due to tree cover within the plantation. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered. No artefacts of medieval or earlier date were recovered from the topsoil of the trenches, further suggesting a lack of significant occupation activity in this area. There was no evidence of the Roman Road (RPS 15) within the Millfield Plantation trenches. Trenches 1-3 produced similar negative results. This area therefore has a low archaeological potential.
- 5.16 A single trench was designed to determine the significance of the earth bank RPS 28 (as noted during walk-over survey). However, it is now clear (due to consultation with the property manager) that this area was landscaped circa 1985, at which time this earthwork was deposited. This was confirmed by trench 7 as a section clearly showed the modern derivation of this bank. The bank was not sealed by the topsoil and showed no evidence of maintenance. These findings are consistent with a late 19th century origin as suggested by the map sources.
- 5.17 Trial trenching at Two Mile Spinney was hampered by tree cover on the northern mound and it was decided in consultation with the County Archaeological Officer that only the southern mound would be targeted for evaluation. The mound was found to comprise pure coarse sand with evidence of tipping. These deposits sealed a silty sand deposit interpreted as a buried ploughsoil pre-dating the mound. Several peg tile fragments dateable to the post-medieval period were recovered from the ploughsoil. A ditch was excavated at the edge of the mound deposits and produced post 16th century finds including bottle glass. The excavators have suggested that the up-cast of the ditch may have been used to construct the mound. If so the mound could be regarded as a carefully landscaped feature, perhaps intended to resemble a burial mound. The mounds (shown on the O.S. map of 1887) have previously been regarded as probable sand dumps associated with road construction and the above

re-interpretation, if correct, would be of some significance. It remains possible that the ditch and mound are unrelated however.

- 5.18 In total there are two sites of national importance, nine sites of regional/county importance, thirteen sites of local importance, one unimportant site and four sites of uncertain importance within the Study Area, seven of which may be affected by the scheme. The overall effect of the proposed A14 Rookery Crossroads Scheme is assessed to be Slight Adverse. Table 5.1 below summarises the results of the impact assessment, whilst further details are given below.

Table 5.1 - Summary of impact assessment on cultural heritage features which may be affected by the proposed scheme

Feature	Importance of Feature	Impact of Scheme on Feature	Impact Assessment
RPS 2 Mounds	Local/Regional/County	Major Adverse	Moderate Adverse
RPS 3b Enclosure	Local	Major Adverse	Slight Adverse
RPS 10 Milestone	Local	Major Adverse	Slight Adverse
RPS 11 Mill Field	Local/Uncertain	Slight adverse/neutral	Slight adverse/neutral
RPS 12 Field Banks	Regional/County/Uncertain	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse
RPS 18 Roman Road	Regional/County	Neutral/Uncertain	Neutral/Uncertain
RPS 28 Linear Bank	Unimportant	Major Adverse	Neutral

RPS 2, Mounds

- 5.19 The remaining two earthwork mounds of "Four Hills" would be removed by the realignment of the road to the north of Two Mile Spinney. Archaeological evaluation (*by trial trenching*) of the southern of the two mounds has resulted in the identification of a possible bank and perimeter ditch. This would be typical of a prehistoric barrow or tumulus. However, dating evidence from beneath the mound and from the possibly associated ditch is of post 16th century date in concert with the findings of the 1951 investigation by AR Edwardson. Both the 1951 and the present investigations found that the mounds are comprised of unstratified sand. The earlier investigation recovered 18th century pottery, brick and clay pies and as a consequence these "tumuli" are thought to be dated to the 18th/19 century. The interest of these features is the possibility that the mounds were carefully landscaped features possibly even made to resemble prehistoric mounds. The impact is characterised as **large adverse** but the effect at present should be regarded as **moderate adverse**.

Impact Assessment: Moderate Adverse

RPS 3b, Enclosure

- 5.19 The northward realignment at Two Mile Spinney may also have a **large adverse** effect upon the existing enclosure and any remains of structures which were present at the site in the mid 20th century.

Impact Assessment: Slight Adverse

RPS 10, Milestone

- 5.20 The creation of a grade separated junction at Rookery Crossroads would entail removal of the topsoil ahead of mounding for raised embankments. The walk-over survey revealed no earthwork features of note within Rougham Heath. The creation of the junction would have a **large adverse** impact but a **slight adverse** effect on the surviving milestone.

Impact Assessment: Slight Adverse**RPS 11, Mill Field**

- 5.21 A small area in the southern part of "Mill Field" would be affected by the northern realignment to the north of Rookery House. The place name on the 1813 title map suggests the site of a windmill although no evidence of this remains on the ground. There remains a slight chance that this feature would be encountered. The probable close proximity of a Roman road to Millfield and the "Good Field" at RPS 26 to the east (indicating possible settlement in that area) was taken as indicative of the possible settlement activity in this area. However trial trenching within the route realignment corridor within Mill Field produced no evidence of archaeological features or earthwork features. There is likely to be a **neutral/slight adverse** impact and **slight neutral** effect upon the site.

Impact Assessment: Slight Adverse/neutral**RPS 12, Field Banks**

- 5.22 At Rookery Crossroads a new alignment would impact upon earthwork sites to the north of The Ravenwood Hall Hotel (formerly Rookery House). The earthworks, including field banks which appear on maps of 1813 and 1892 are considered to be of average (regional/county) importance given the relative rarity of earthworks of any period within the County. The impact upon these field banks and more ephemeral earthworks, including a possible Roman road within the pasture field is likely to be **moderate adverse** with a **slight adverse** effect on an archaeological resource.

Impact Assessment: Slight Adverse**RPS 18, Roman Road**

- 5.23 The postulated route of a Roman road between the Roman settlements at Pakenham and Melford, which runs to the east of Blackthorn, a very close to the eastern end of the road realignment, may be affected. No evidence of the road was noted by the walk-over surveys and the road is not visible on aerial photographs. Impact upon this as yet unconfirmed road alignment is **neutral/uncertain**. The possible Roman road line may be located approximately 670 metres to the east of the existing Rookery Crossroads junction, whilst the eastern extent of the road alignment is some 650 metres to the east of the junction. Given the inexact nature of the data and the possibility that remains of the Roman road may be affected by the scheme, archaeological evaluation by means of trial pitting has been conducted at the eastern end of the scheme. The evaluation found no evidence for the presence of the road or associated features within Millfield Plantation. This evidence cannot fully confirm that the Roman road would not be impacted, however, the evaluation in conjunction with map research has reduced the likelihood to minimum levels.

Impact Assessment: neutral/uncertain**RPS 28, Linear Bank**

- 5.24 This linear bank feature is located to the immediate east of Rookery Crossroads and is orientated north west/south east. Since trial trenching, combined with local information, has confirmed a very recent date for its deposition as waste sand from construction work at Ravenwood Hall Hotel the effect of the loss of this feature is **neutral**.

Impact Assessment: neutral

Mitigation

5.25 The results of the desk based analysis, walk-over surveys, trial trenching and topographical survey were discussed with the County Archaeological Officer. The following procedures were agreed based on these discussions:

- Photographic survey of the milestone at Rookery Crossroads in situ and relocation to the equivalent site adjacent to the new road line.
- Topographical Survey in order to record the external character of the mounds ahead of damage by evaluation by trial trenching.
- Further recording of the mounds in the form of an enhance watching brief ahead of or in concert with the construction programme.
- Topographical survey of the linear earthworks within the impact corridor to *(the)* north of Ravenwood Hall Hotel. A watching brief to be conducted here as mitigation.
- A watching brief during topsoil stripping/site clearance in case of the Roman road known to have run between Pakenham and Melford and to the east of Blackthorpe is located within the impact corridor there.

Residual Impacts

5.26 Since there is no scope for preservation in situ of any of the identified archaeological features the proposed archaeological mitigation would ensure preservation by record. Thus the residual impact on known archaeology is assessed to be **Slight Adverse**. None of the other archaeological sites within the Study Area would be affected by the proposal.

(italics added)

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Appendix 11 Extract from the Stage III DMRB Archaeological Assessment

The following details the results of the Walkover Survey, Photographic Survey, Geotechnical Watching Brief, Topographical Survey and Trial Trenching of the *Stage III DMRB Archaeological Assessment* (RPS Consultants, R4310b/RM SAH Aa01 VF/A14 Rookery Crossroads, March 2002). Full details can be seen in this document.

- 6.22 Walkover survey within Millfield Plantation (Area A) revealed no earthworks suitable for survey. There was no evidence of possible windmill site (RPS 11) on the ground within Mill Field. Similarly the relevant area of Rougham Heath (Area D) to the south west of Rookery Crossroads was found to contain no significant earthworks which might require further survey.

The milestone (RPS 10) was located adjacent to the A14 road-side ditch, immediately west of the existing crossroads. The milestone was poorly set and was leaning to one side. Its former inscription was illegible.

- 6.23 Walkover survey to the south east of Rookery Crossroads (Area C) demonstrated the existence of a bank feature adjacent to the existing road (RPS 28). Further field banks were noted on the ground within the sparsely wooded area immediately to the south east of the existing junction and bordering the southern side of the existing rough grass plot to the east. These boundaries relate to features shown on 19th century O.S. maps. Two consolidated earthen spoil mounds were also noted within the scrub plot. These are clearly of recent origin as topsoil dumps associated with construction works. The eastern extent of the improvement scheme on the southern side of the existing A14 road contains rather more vague earthworks of uncertain derivation, including a broad bank orientated approximately north south, which may relate to a boundary. A depression was also noted in the north west corner of the existing field which is likely to have been a dew pond. These earthworks (noted as RPS 12) form elements of a series of earthworks within this field the most well defined of which (including a ditch and well) are located to the south of the impact corridor. Walkover was also conducted on the line of the proposed track to Ravenwood Hall Hotel. No significant earthworks were noted although the area was much disturbed by use as a bicycle recreation area.

- 6.24 Walkover Survey at Two Mile Spinney (Area E) confirmed the locations of the two extant mounds (RPS 2) within a former enclosure (see Figure RPSC 4). Both mounds were tree covered the northern most with several pine trees. Modern made ground was noted banked against the western side and raising the ground level to the west of the southernmost mound.

No further features of interest were noted. No evidence of "Spinney Cottages" (RPS 3) (shown on maps of 1946 and 1972 but absent on the O.S. map of 1892) was visible.

Photographic Survey

- 6.25 The milestone (RPS 10) has been recorded photographically. Full results are provided within Appendix 6.

Geotechnical Watching Brief

- 6.26 Geotechnical test pit monitoring within Areas A, C, D and E encountered no significant archaeological features or horizons. Full results are provided within Appendix 6.

Topographical Survey

- 6.27 Topographical survey of Area C recorded the bank and possible pond feature (features 12h and 12g) within the pasture field and other vague features (Figure RPS 6 of Appendix 6). Three linear banks were also recorded to the west (see Figures RPSC 7 and RPSC 8 of Appendix 6). Feature 12b orientated north west/south east is shown on the c1887 O.S. map and the O.S. map of 1904 (Figure 7 of Appendix 6)

and bordered the east side of the former track to Rookery House. Feature 12c separated the woodland to the north west of Rookery House from an agricultural plot on the north side of the woods in *circa* 1904 (as is the case today). This boundary is a realignment northwards of the former boundary shown on the 1887 O.S. map. The earlier boundary was identified as a bank on the ground (Feature 12d) and its northern extent (in close proximity to the impact corridor) was surveyed (see Figure RPSC 7 of Appendix 6).

- 6.28 Topographical survey of the mounds within Area E plotted the contours of the features in plan and provided cross sections demonstrating their surface characteristics and profiles. The mounds (mounds 1 and 2) were found to be uniform in height, outline and state of preservation suggesting a common origin (see Figures 9 and 10 of Appendix 6).

Trial Trenching

- 6.29 The full trenching results are provided within Appendix 6. Six trenches (trenches 4-6 and 10) were excavated within Area A, three within Mill Field and three within Millfield Plantation. The latter were hand excavated due to tree cover within the plantation. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered within Area A. No artefacts of medieval or earlier date were recovered from the topsoil's of the trenches further suggesting a lack of significant occupation activity in this area. There was no evidence of the existence of the Roman road (RPS 18) within the Millfield Plantation trenches.
- 6.30 The three trenches within Area B (trenches 1-3) produced similar negative evidence. This area therefore has low archaeological potential.
- 6.31 A single trench within Area C was designed to determine the significance of the earth bank RPS 28 (as noted during walkover survey). However, it is now clear (due to consultation with the property manager) that this area was landscaped *circa* 1985 at which time this earthwork was deposited. This was confirmed by trench 7 whose section clearly showed the modern elevation of this bank. A further trench (8) was excavated to the south to partially intersect the Millfield bank (Feature 2c – see Figure 7 of Appendix 6) as noted above. The bank was not sealed by the topsoil and showed no evidence of maintenance. These findings are consistent with a late 19th century origin as suggested by the map source.
- 6.32 Trial trenching at Two Mile Spinney was hampered by tree cover on the northern mound and it was decided in consultation with the County Archaeological Officer that only the southern mound would be targeted for evaluation. The mound was found to comprise pure coarse sand with evidence of tipping. The topsoil sealed a silty sand deposit interpreted as a buried ploughsoil pre dating the mound. Several peg tile fragments datable to the post medieval period were recovered from the ploughsoil. A ditch was excavated at the edge of the mound deposits and produced post 16th century finds including bottle glass. The excavators have suggested that the up-cast of the ditch may have been used to construct the mound. If so the mound could be regarded as a carefully landscaped feature, perhaps intended to resemble a burial mound. The mounds (shown on the O.S. map of 1887) (see Figures RPSC 13 of Appendix 6) have previously been regarded as probable sand dumps associated with road construction (screening) and the above re-interpretation, if correct, would be of some significance. It remains possible that the ditch and mound are unrelated however.

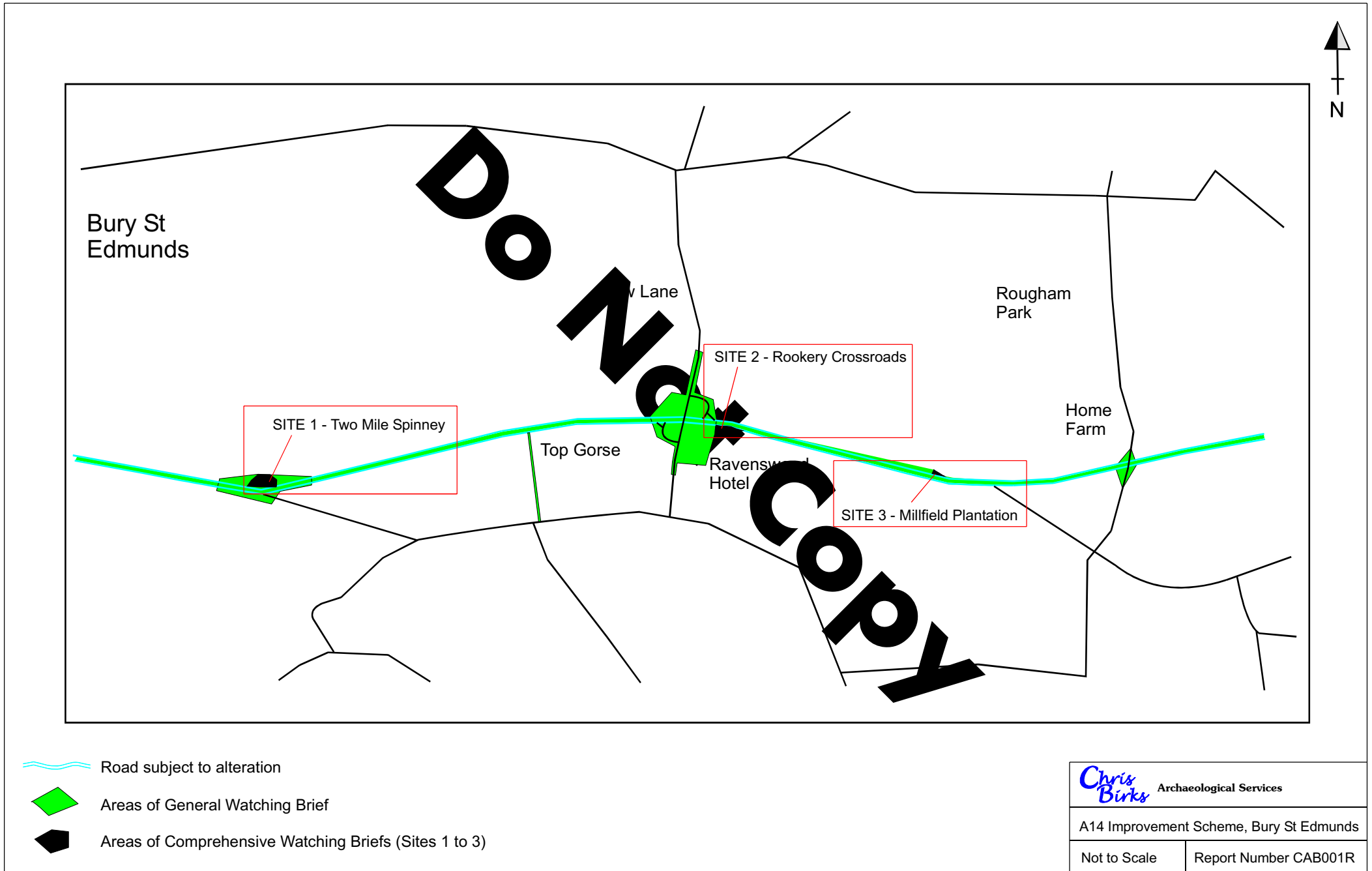
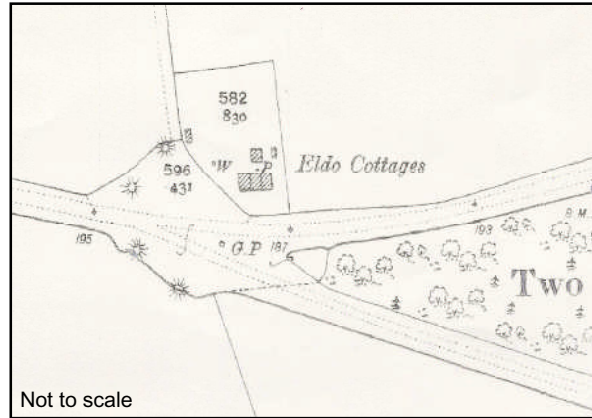
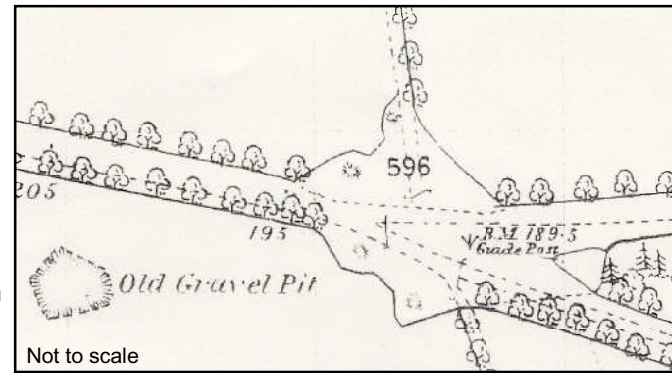


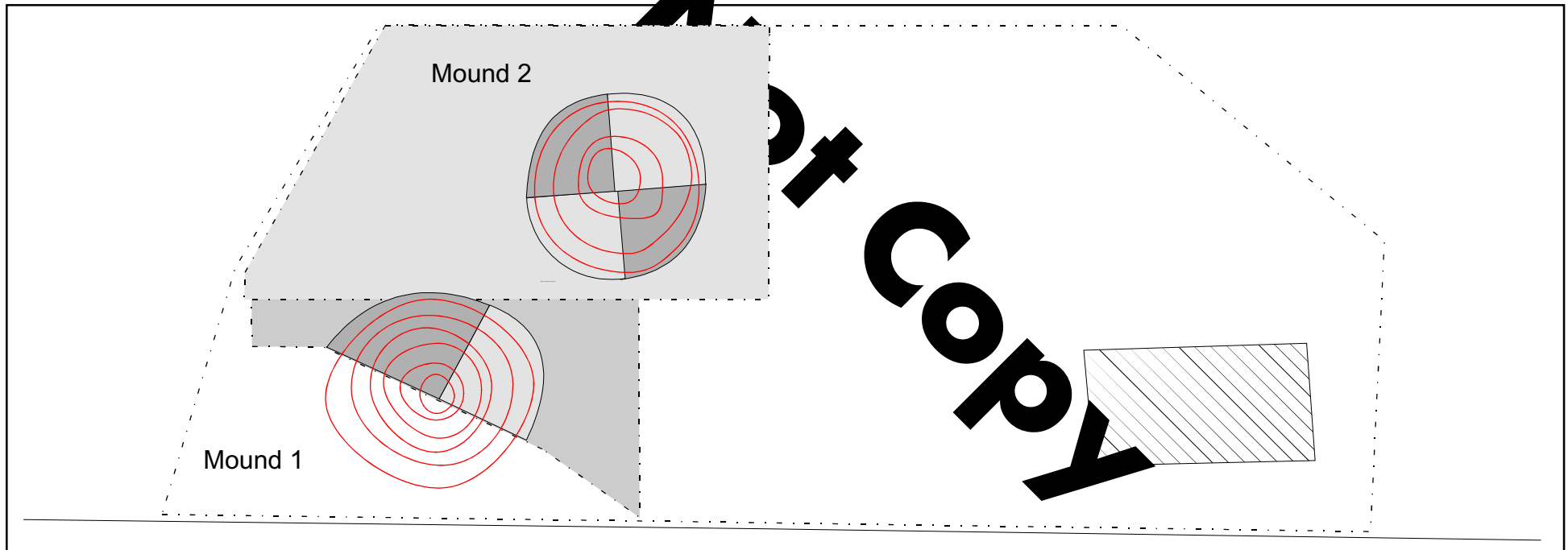
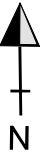
Figure 1. Approximate Location of Comprehensive & General Watching Briefs






Extract from
c.1904 OS
Map



Extract from
c.1887 OS
Map



-  Areas of mounds excavated
-  Excavated quadrants
-  Approximate location of remains of cottage foundations

A14 Carriageway



Chris Birks Archaeological Services

A14 Improvement Scheme, Bury St Edmunds

Scale 1:500

Report Number CAB001R

Figure 2. Site 1 - Two Mile Spinney Plan Drawing

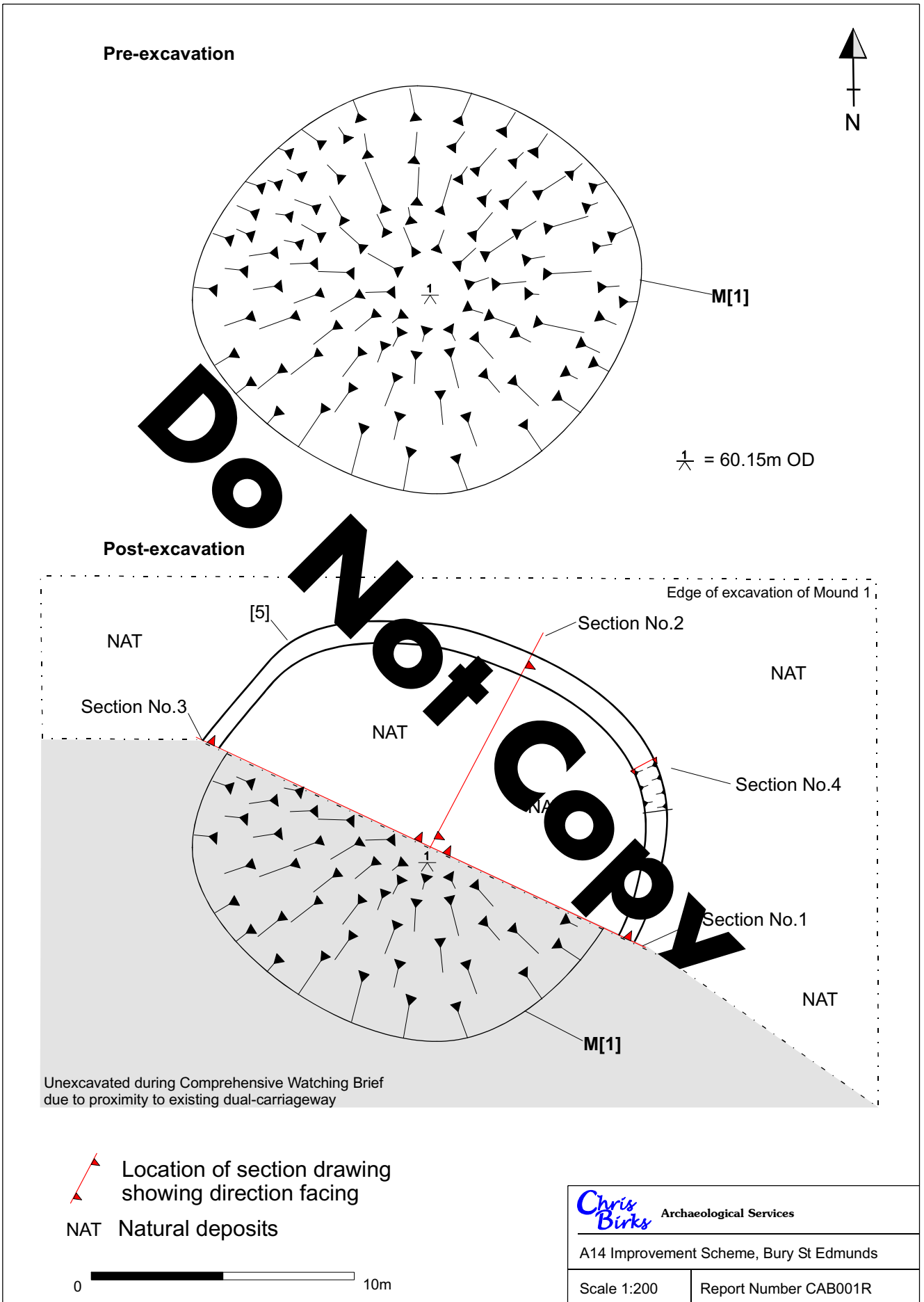


Figure 3. Site 1 - Two Mile Spinney, Mound 1 Plan Drawing

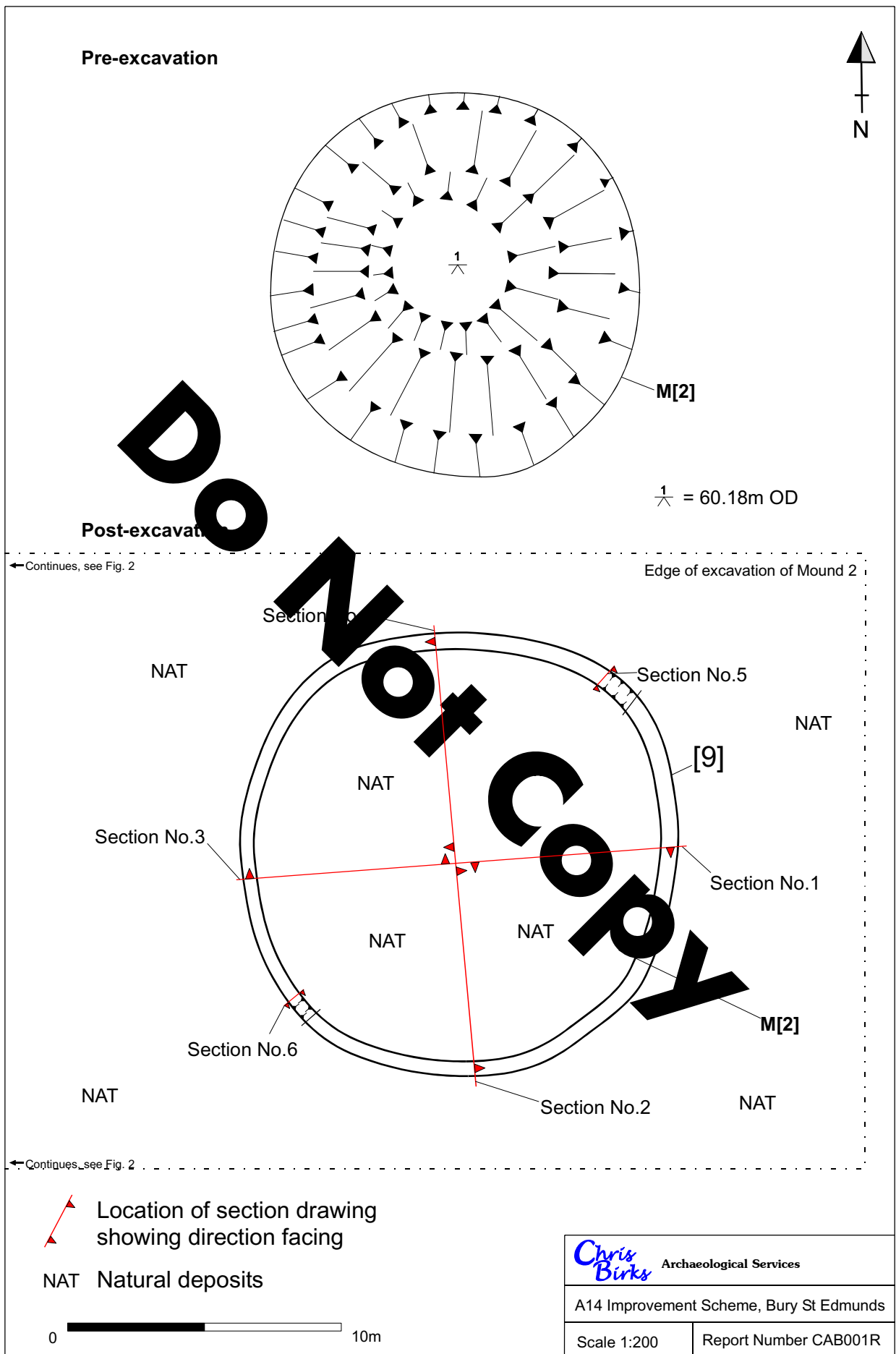


Figure 4. Site 1 - Two Mile Spinney, Mound 2 Plan Drawing

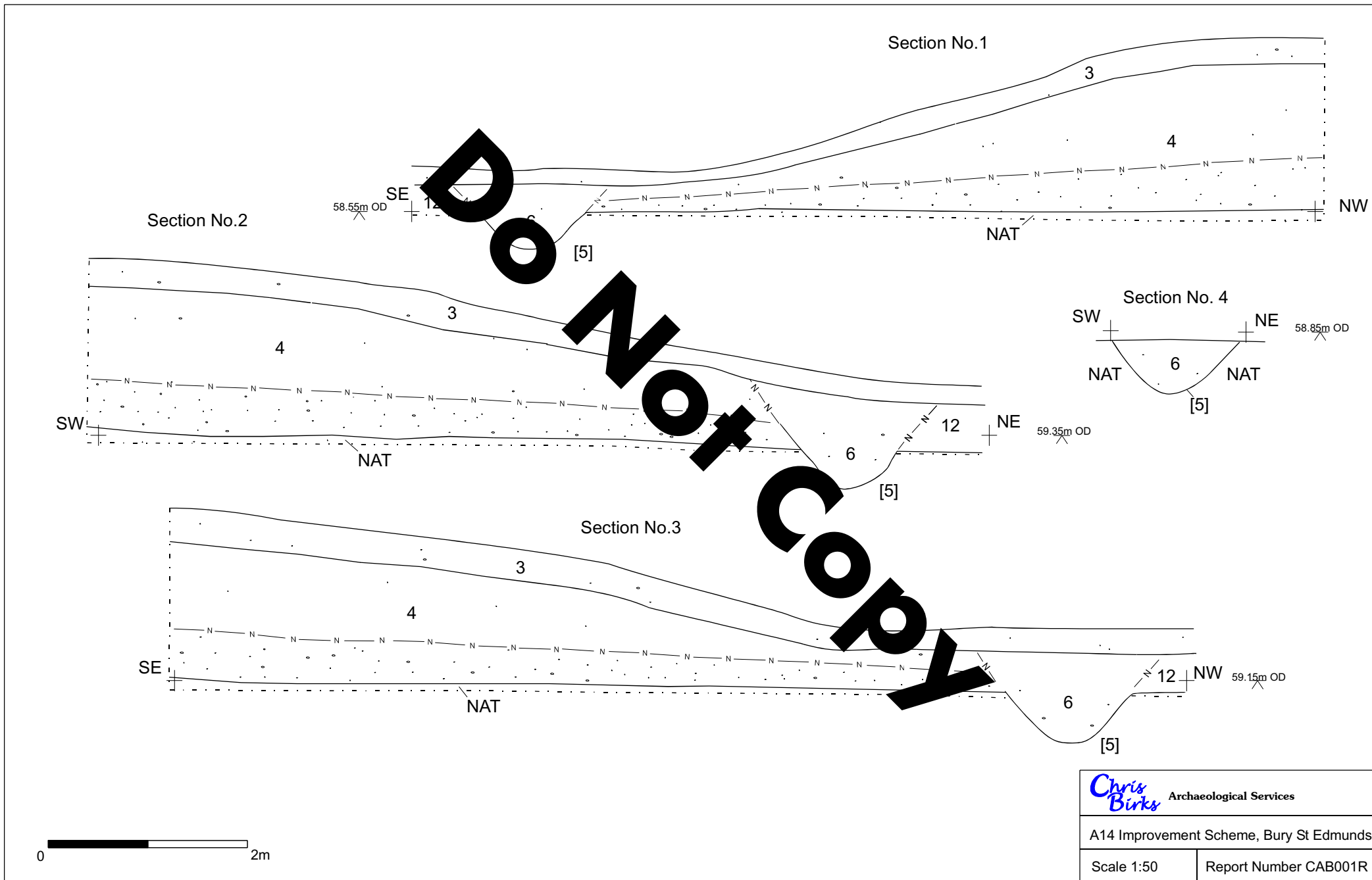



Figure 5. Site 1 - Two Mile Spinney, Mound 1 Section Drawings

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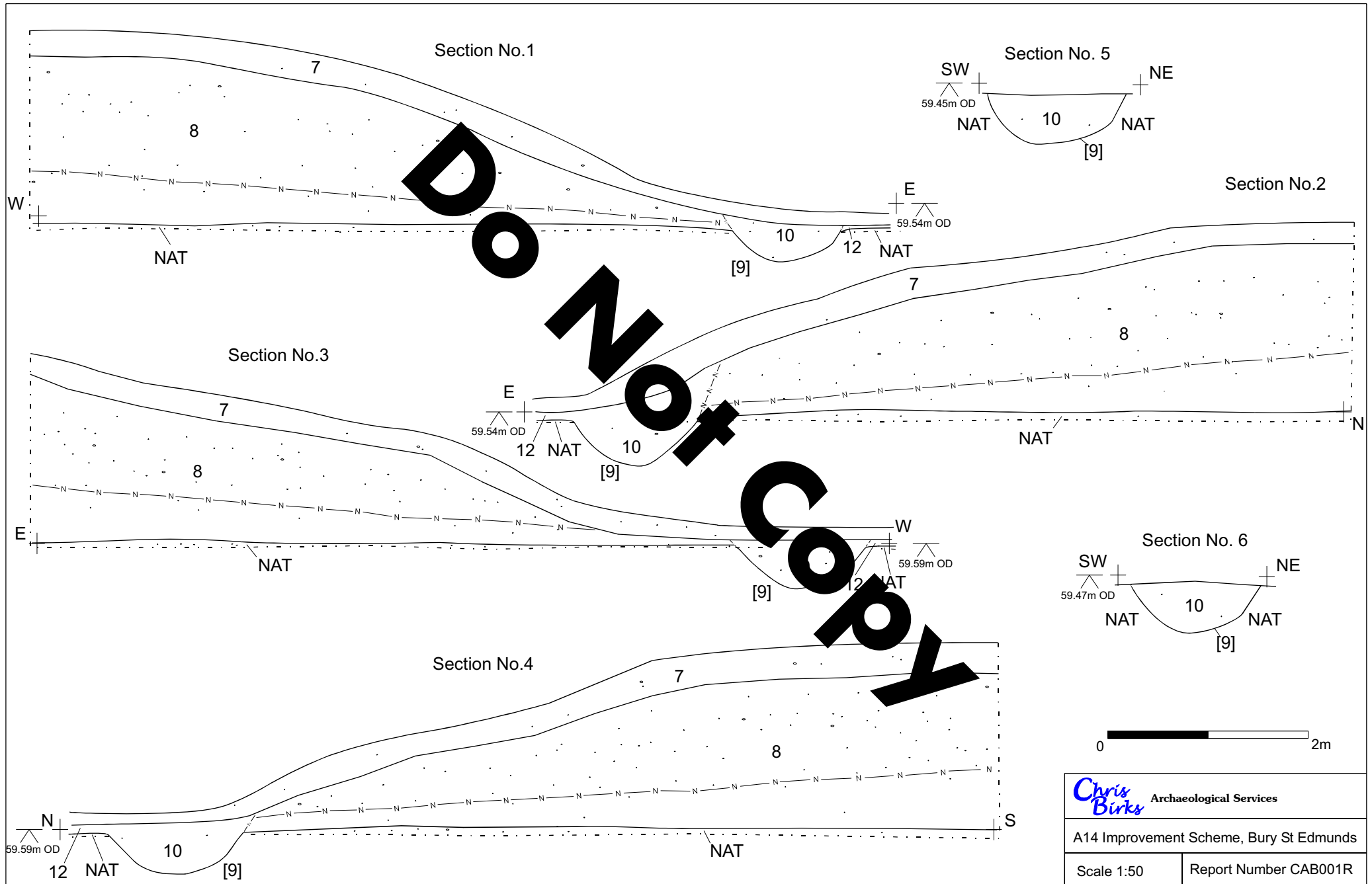


Figure 6. Site 1 - Two Mile Spinney Mound 2 Section Drawings

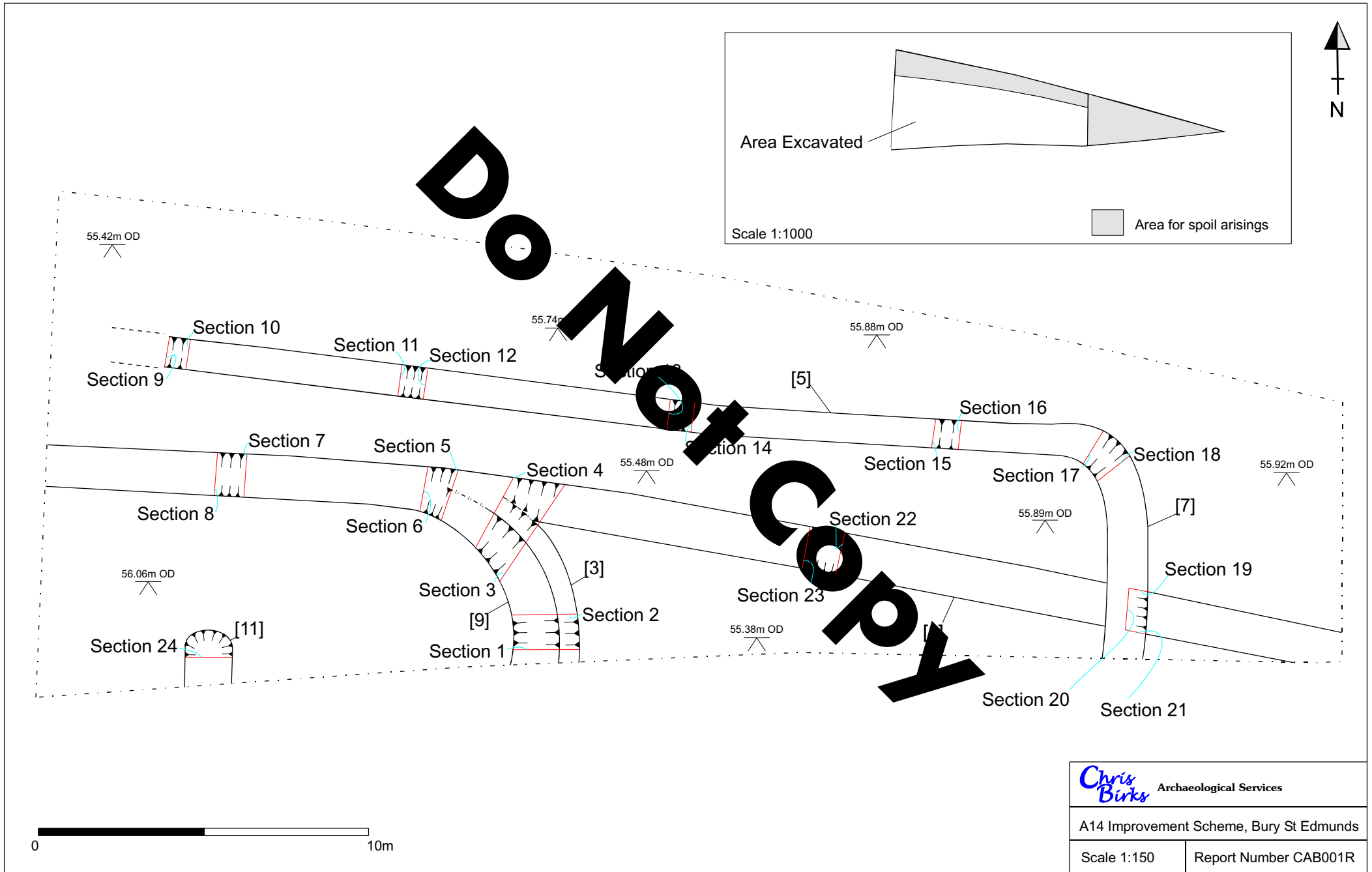


Figure 7. Site 2 - Rookery Crossroads Plan Drawing

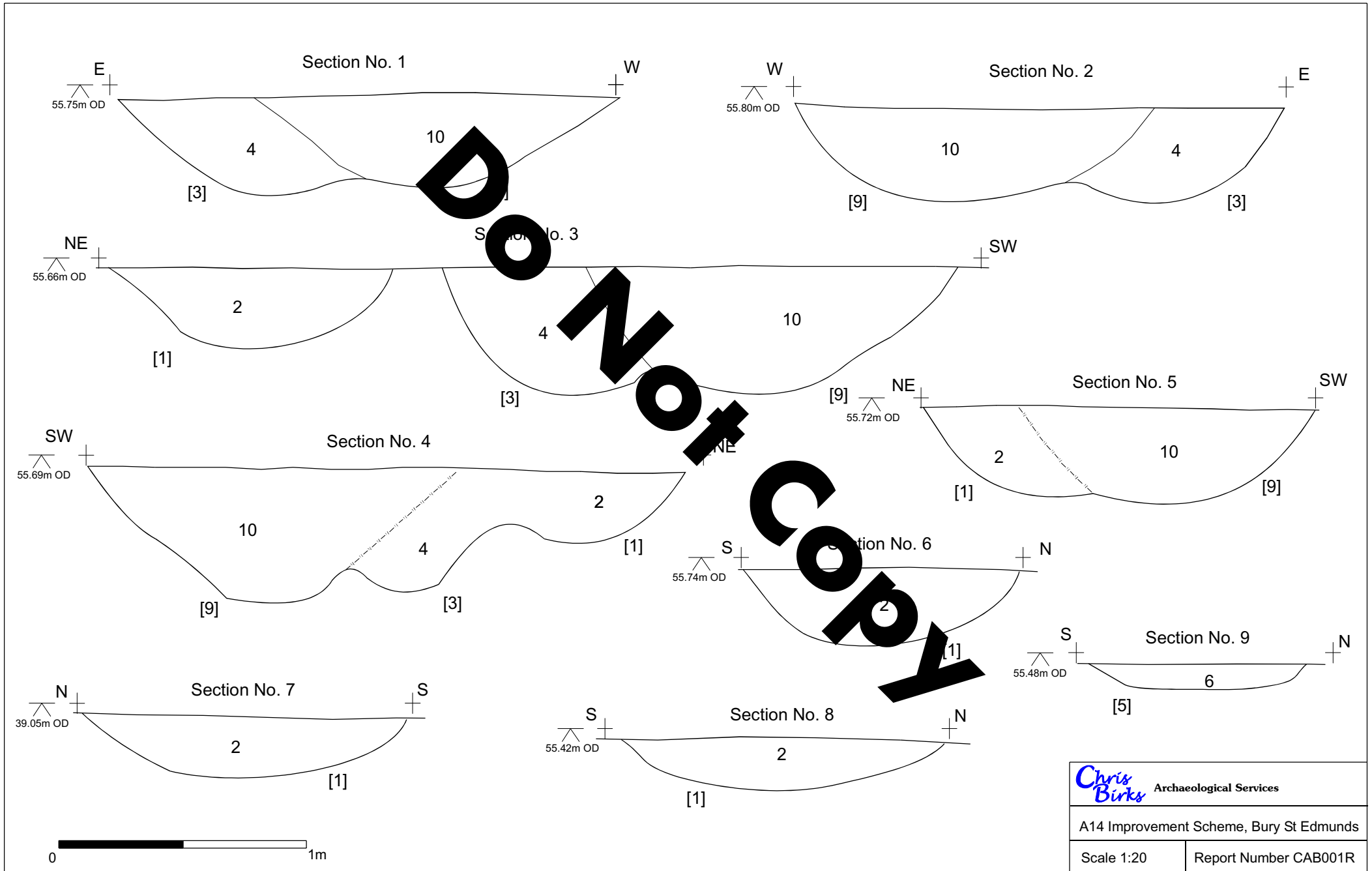


Figure 8. Site 2 - Rookery Crossroads Section Drawing Numbers 1 to 9

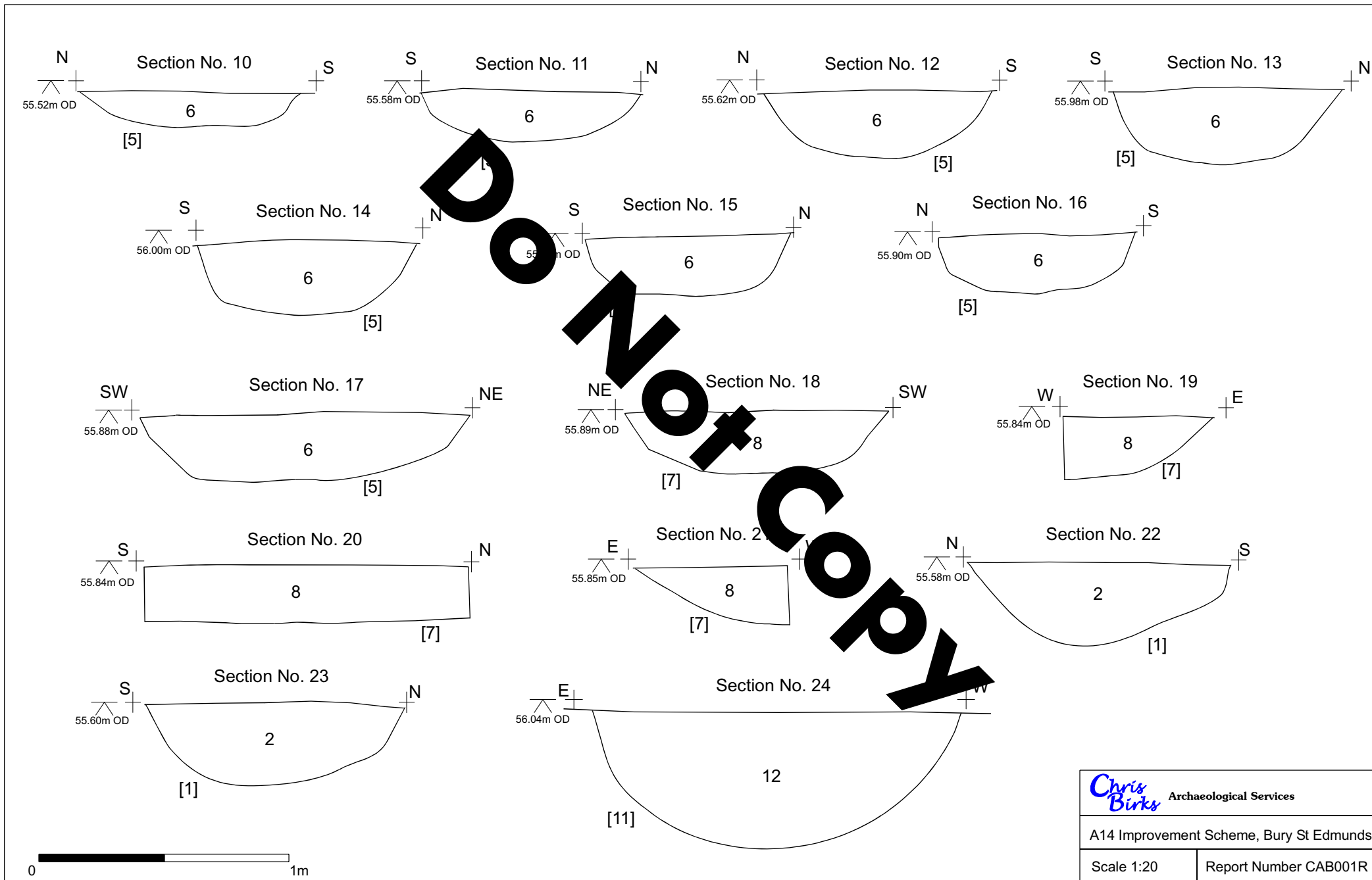
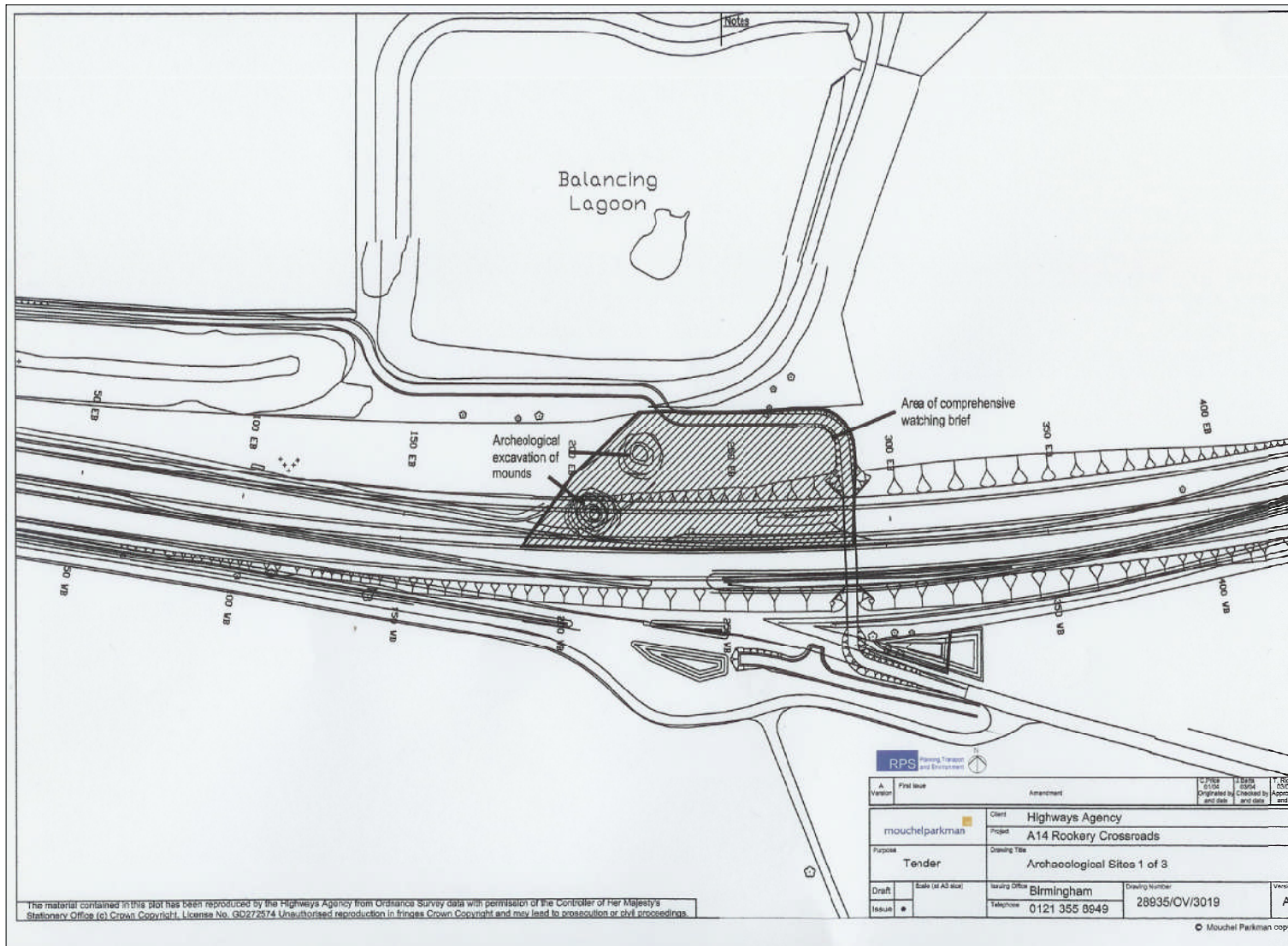


Figure 9. Site 2 - Rookery Crossroads Section Drawing Numbers 10 to 24

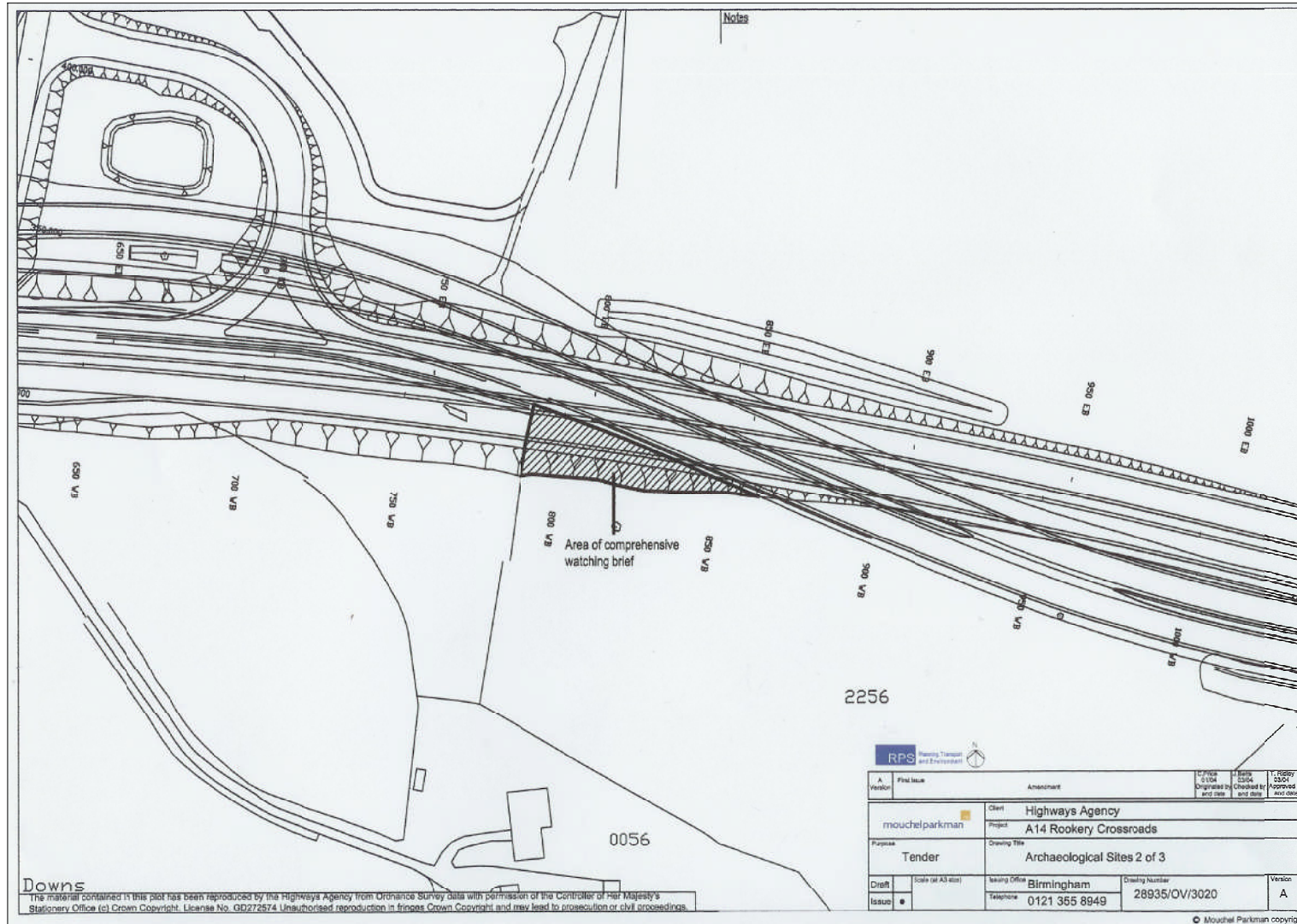
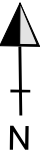


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Figure 10. Drawing Number 28935/OV/3019. Area of Comprehensive Watching Brief - Site 1 - Two Mile Spinney

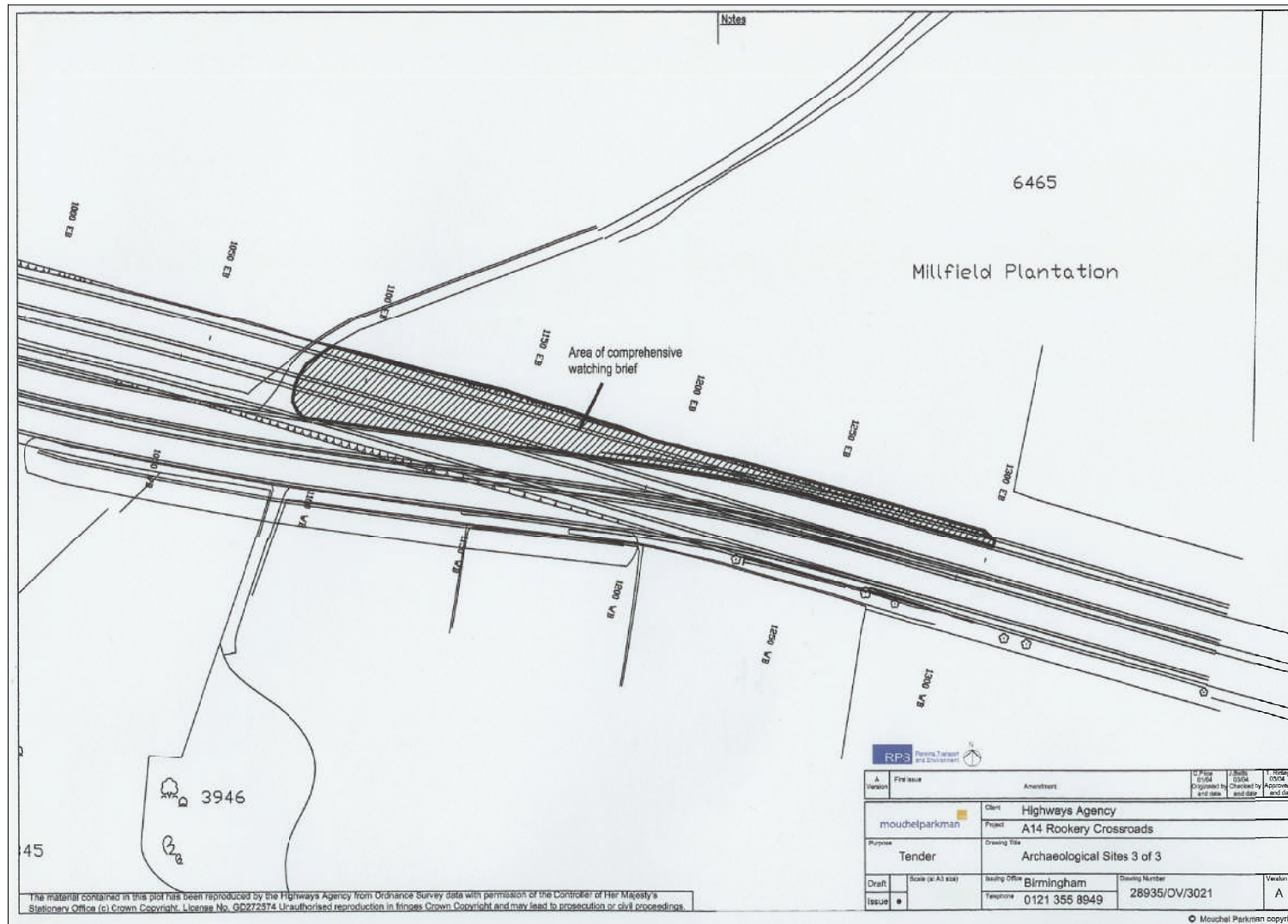


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Figure 11. Drawing Number 28935/OV/3020. Area of Comprehensive Watching Brief - Site 2 - Rookery Crossroads



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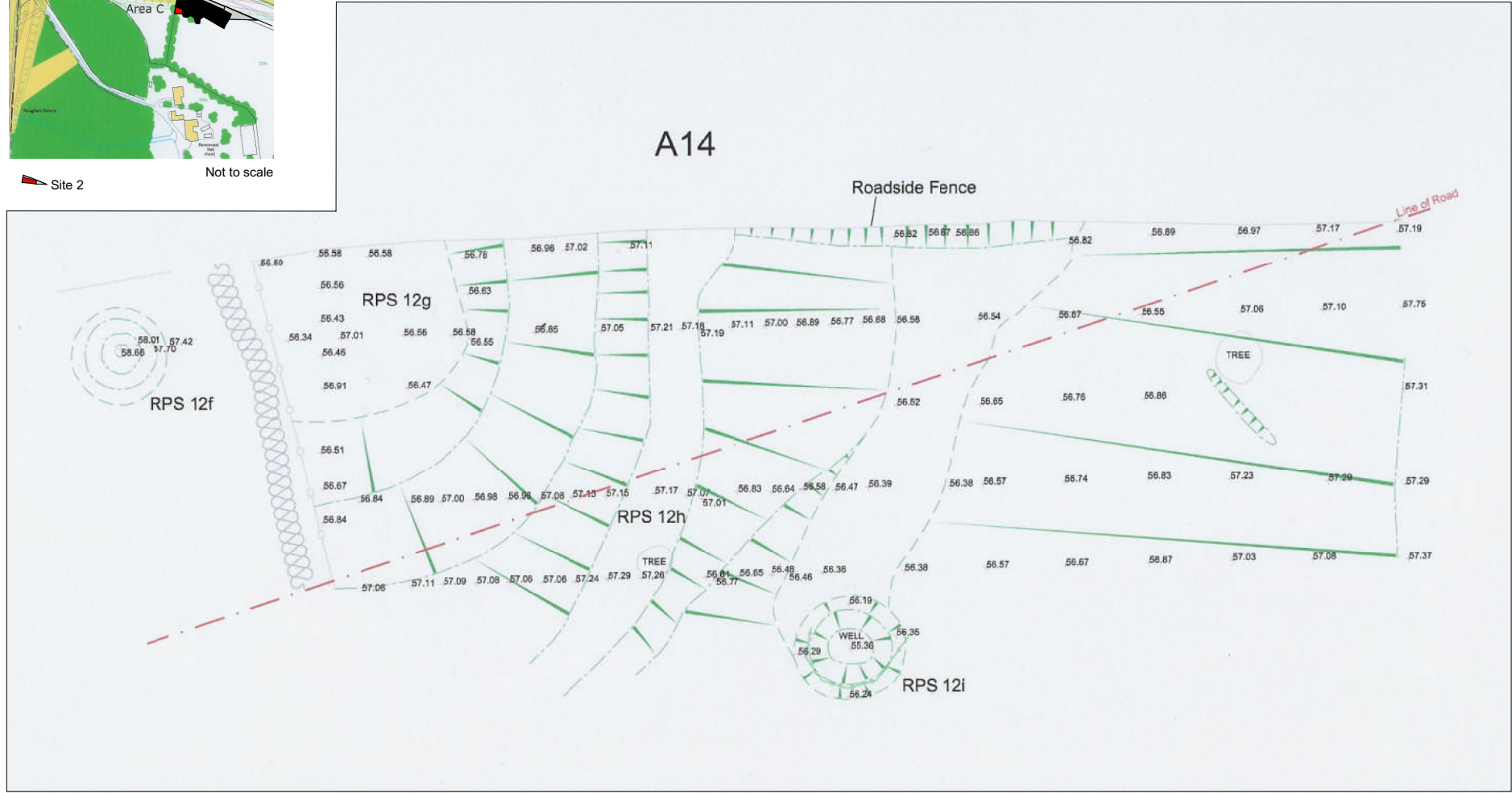
Figure 12. Drawing Number 28935/OV/3021. Area of Comprehensive Watching Brief - Site 3 - Millfield Plantation

Approximate location of survey



Site 2

Not to scale



This drawing was provided by RPS Consultants for inclusion in the report.

The original drawing is Figure No. RPSC 6

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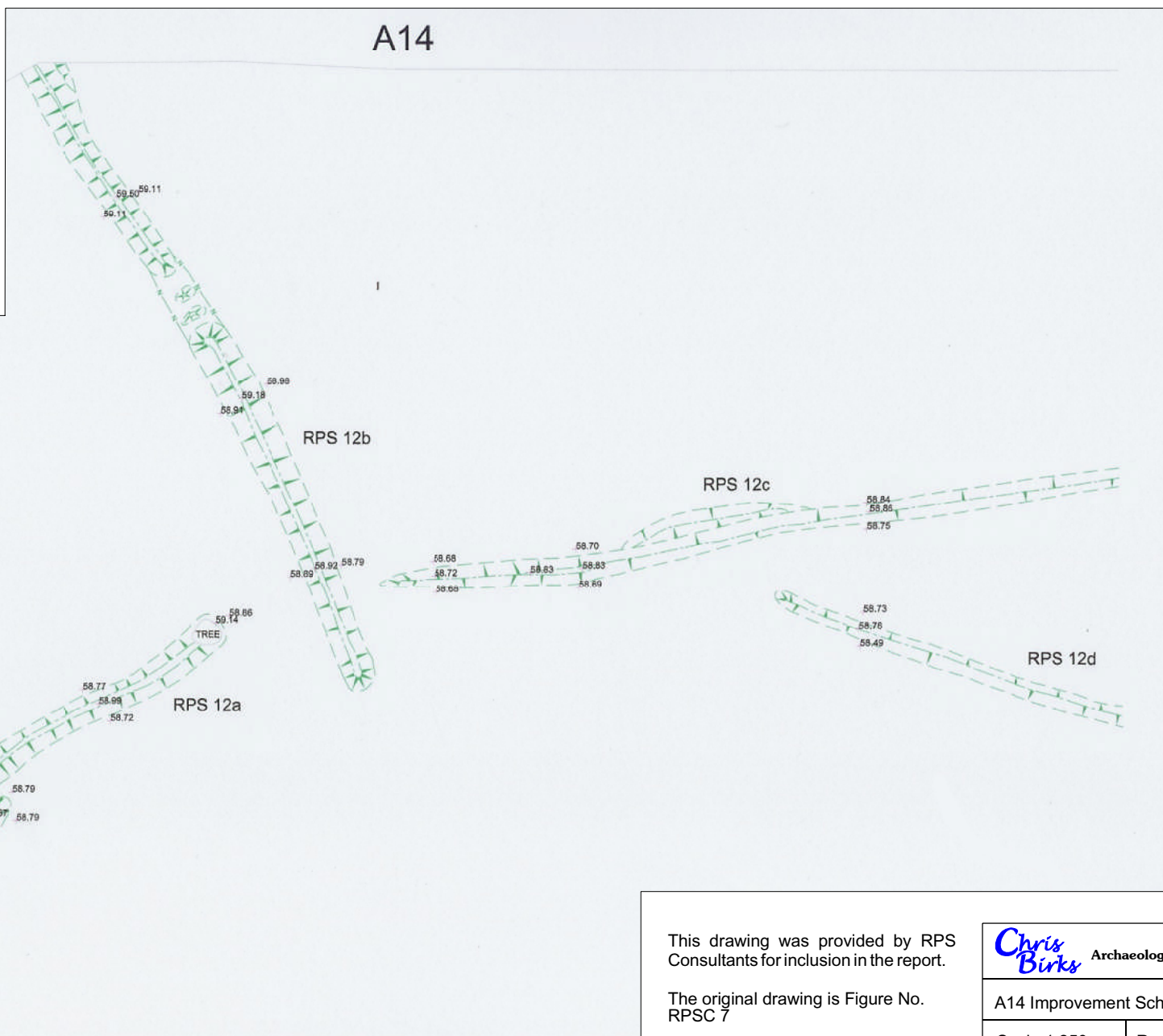
Figure 13. Topographical Survey of Archaeological Features at Ravenwood Hall

Approximate location of survey



Site 2

Not to scale



This drawing was provided by RPS Consultants for inclusion in the report.

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Figure 14. Topographical Survey of Archaeological Features at Ravenwood Hall

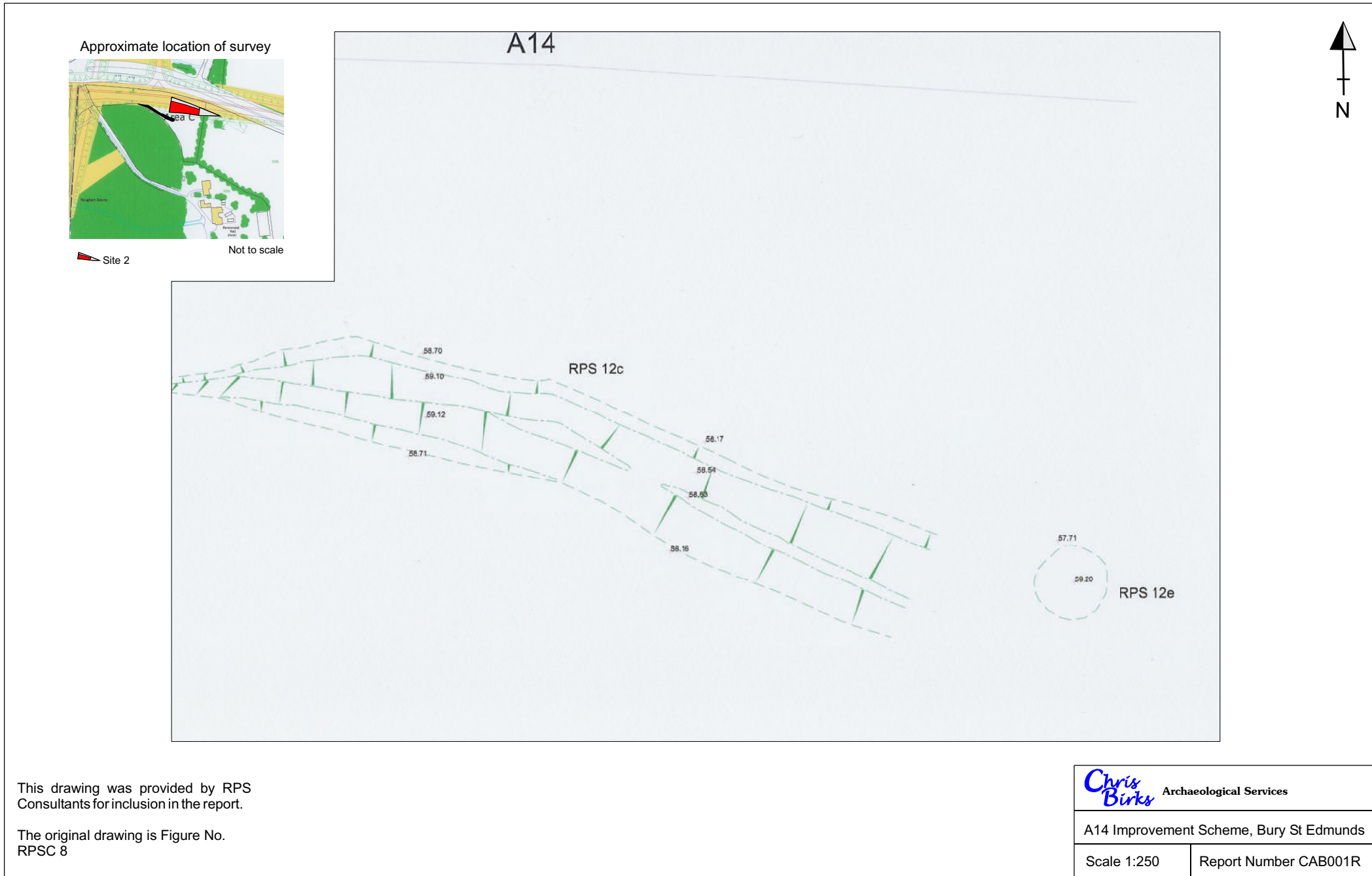
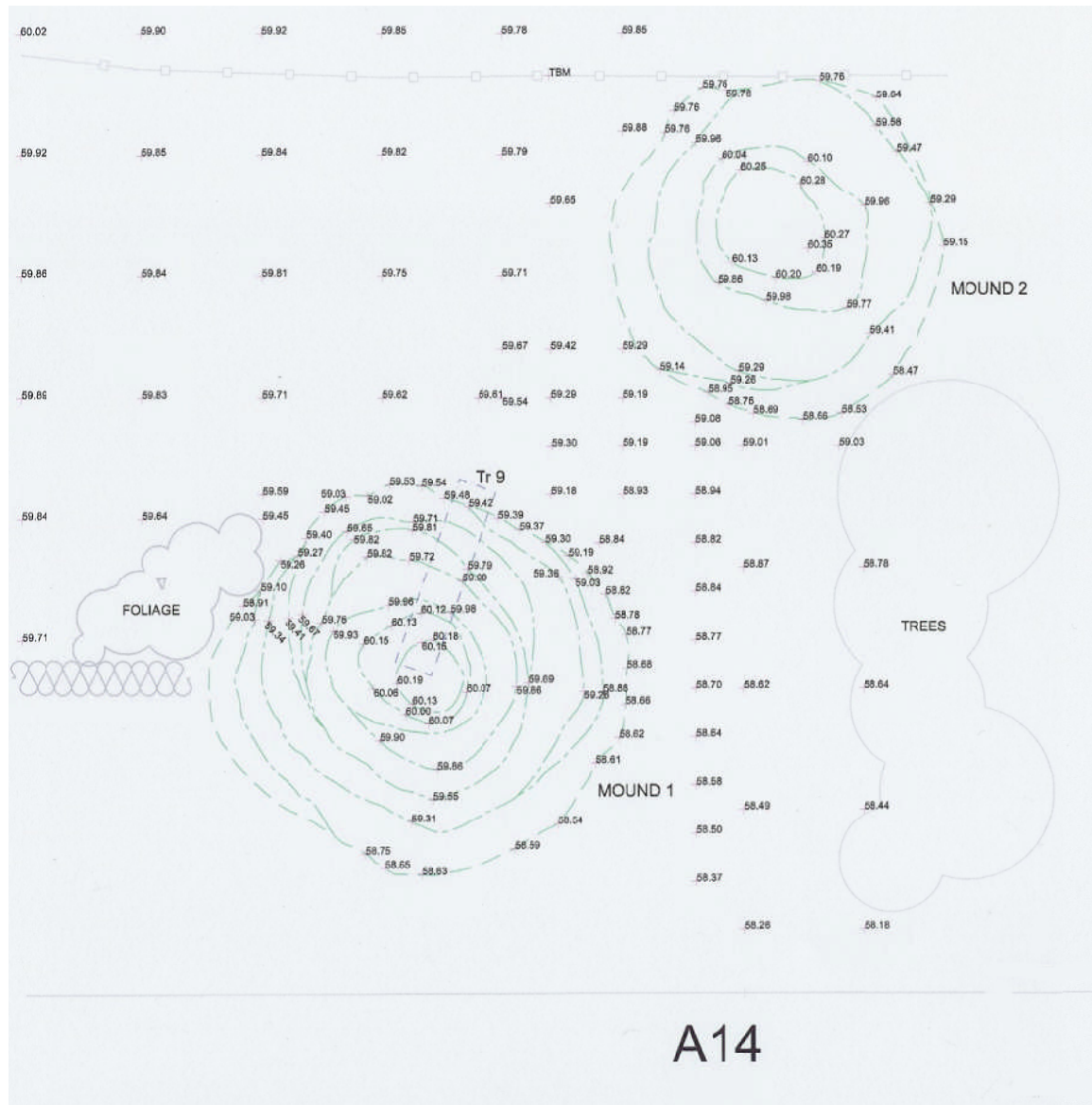
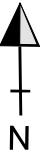


Figure 15. Topographical Survey of Archaeological Features at Ravenwood Hall



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The original drawing is Figure No. RPSC 9

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Figure 16. Topographical Survey of the Mounds at Two Mile Spinney

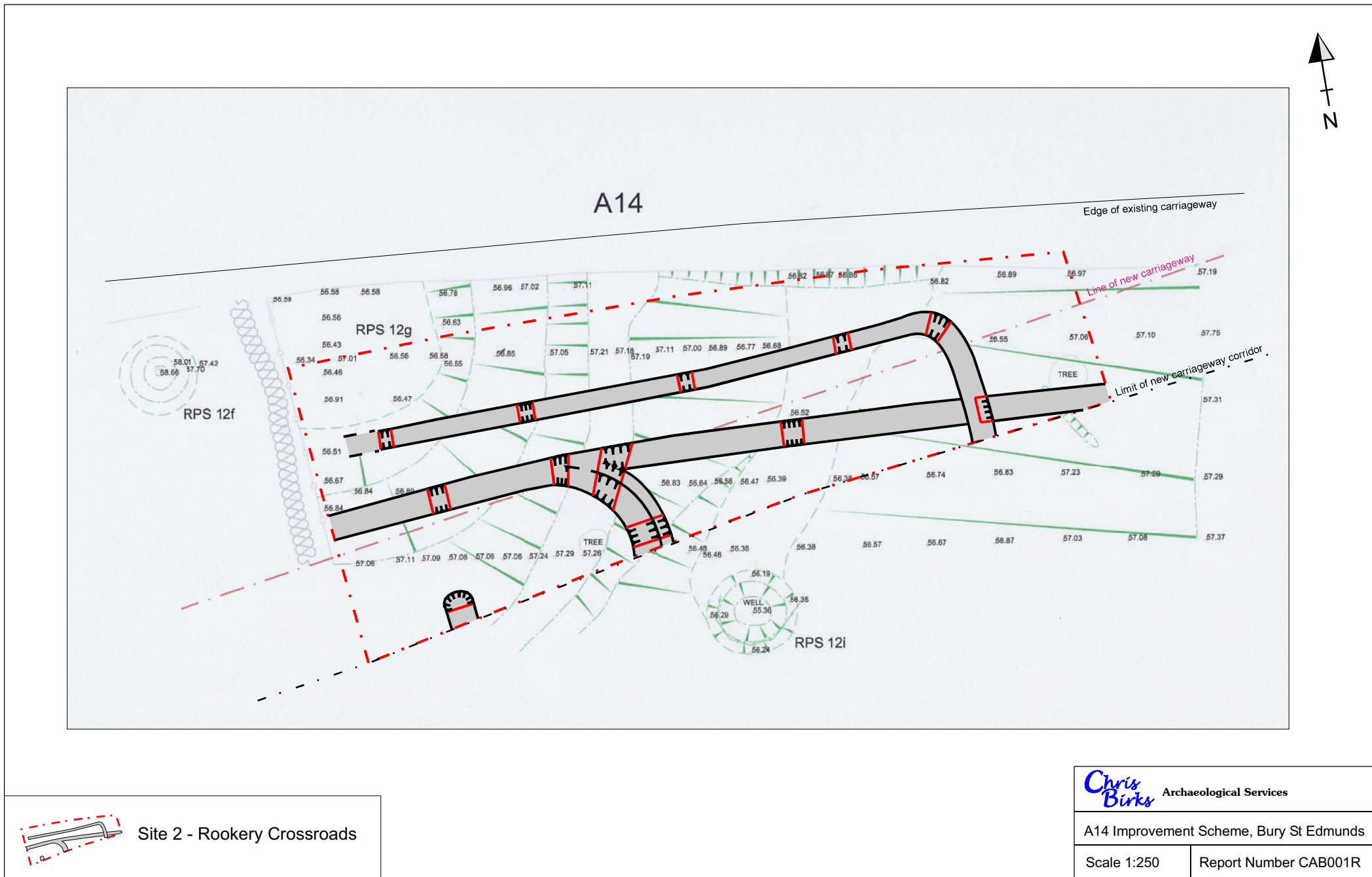



Figure 17. Overlay of excavated evidence and topographical survey at Site 2 - Rookery Crossroads

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