LAND OFF STATION ROAD
LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATION NO:
PRE-APPLICATION

PCA REPORT NO: R13418
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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

Land Off Station Road
Long Melford, Suffolk

An Archaeological Evaluation

Quality Assurance

Project no: K5696 **Report no: R13418**

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Land Off Station Road, Long Melford, Suffolk: Archaeological Evaluation

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ABSTRACT

During August and September 2018, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd carried out an archaeological evaluation of farmland off Station Road (B1064), Long Melford, Suffolk. The work, which was commissioned by Gladman Developments Ltd through their archaeological consultant Pegasus Group, was carried out in support of a planning application for the residential development of the land that is being prepared for submission to Babergh District Council. The evaluation consisted of the excavation of sixty 30m trial trenches, which were positioned to investigate anomalies shown on the results of a geophysical survey of the site and to test apparently 'blank' areas.

The evaluation identified the fragmented remains of a Later Neolithic Grooved-Ware vessel, presumed to be a votive offering, buried in a small pit. The vessel had been truncated by modern ploughing but the small number of base sherds suggests that it had probably been broken prior to deposition in the pit. The fill of the pit was collected and processed, but no significant palaeoenvironmental remains were found and it contained no fragments of human bone.

Other archaeological features within the site consisted of quarry pits, predominately dating to the later post-medieval and modern periods but including one small quarry pit of possible medieval date, and post-medieval and later field boundaries. Residual sherds of Roman and medieval pottery and fragments of brick/tile indicate activity dating to these periods in the general vicinity.

No evidence was encountered by the evaluation for any cut feature associated with the circular cropmark recorded by the Suffolk Historic Environment Record and interpreted as a possible prehistoric barrow; similarly, the cropmark was not detected by the geophysical survey, suggesting that it probably relates to superficial changes or disturbance to the ploughsoil or surface vegetation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 During August and September 2018, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of farmland off Station Road (B1064), Long Melford, Suffolk (NGR: TL (5)8637 (2)4469; Fig. 1). The work, which was commissioned by Gladman Developments Ltd through their archaeological consultant Pegasus Group (Pegasus), was carried out in support of a planning application for the residential development of the land that is being prepared for submission to Babergh District Council (BDC).

1.2 Due to the archaeological potential of the site and in accordance with *National Planning Policy Framework* paragraph 189 and 190 (DCLG 2018), Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) advised the applicant and BDC that a programme of archaeological investigation should be carried out prior to the determination of planning permission.

1.3 Informed by the results of a heritage desk-based assessment prepared by Pegasus (Pegasus 2018) and a geophysical survey undertaken by Pre-Construct Geophysics (PCG 2017), it was agreed, following discussions between SCCAS and Pegasus, that the evaluation would consist of a 4% sample evaluation of the proposed development area (equating to 60no. 30m trial trenches at 1.8m wide, a total of 1800 linear metres; Fig. 2).

1.4 The requirements for the evaluation were outlined in *Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation at Land to the East of Station Road, Long Melford*, issued by SCCAS on 16th April 2018 (SCCAS 2018), which was referred to in the preparation of the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) by PCA (PCA 2018).

1.5 All work relating to the project was carried out in accordance with the approved WSI, in addition to guidelines set out in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003), *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2017) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (CIfA 2014b).

1.6 The project was managed in accordance with the Historic England procedural

document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (HE 2015).

1.7 All artefactual material will be held in storage at PCA Cambridge until ownership of all such archaeological finds are transferred and the archive is deposited with the SCCAS Store or the relevant recipient museum. A copy of this report will accompany the archive when it is deposited with the museum stores.

2 SITE BACKGROUND

2.1 Site location, topography and geology

2.1.1 The site, which covers an area of 8.23ha, is located on the southern edge of Long Melford, a small town that lies off the A134, *c.* 19km to the south of Bury St Edmunds (Fig. 1). It comprises parts of two agricultural fields (Plates 1 and 2) and is bounded to the northwest by a public footpath that follows the route of a dismantled railway, to the north by a track that runs along the bank of a small stream, to the south and east by agricultural land and to the southwest by the gardens of houses fronting on to Station Road.

2.1.2 Topographically, the site is situated on the lower, northwest facing slope of a hill that overlooks the valley of the River Stour to the west. The ground descends from approximately 45m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the eastern edge of the site to 33m aOD at its western edge.

2.1.3 There is an abrupt change in ground level at the southeastern edge of the northern field (approximately between Trenches 22 and 24) which is presumed to be the result of modern activity, possibly associated with the construction of the nearby railway embankment.

2.1.4 The bedrock geology of the site consists of undifferentiated Cretaceous rocks of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Formation, Newhaven Formation and Culver Formation (BGS 2018). The chalk is overlain by superficial glacigenic deposits of the Lowestoft Formation (diamicton), consisting of chalky till with outwash deposits of sand and gravel, with Head deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel occurring along the western edge of the site.

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

2.2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been presented in detail in the heritage desk-based assessment (HDBA) prepared by Pegasus (Pegasus 2018) and the site has been subject to a geophysical survey (PCG 2017).

2.2.2 The HDBA concluded that there are no designated heritage assets within the site and the only undesignated heritage asset relates to a cropmark of a possible ring ditch (Fig.

5), possibly a Bronze Age barrow, although this was not identified by the geophysical survey or the current evaluation.

2.2.3 Although there is evidence for a large amount of prehistoric and Roman activity in the surrounding area, including two Roman villas and a nearby Roman settlement at Long Melford, the results of the geophysical survey indicated that the potential for intensive remains dating to these periods to occur within the site was low.

2.2.4 Evidence for medieval activity within the wider area is plentiful, although this is predominantly focused to the north of the site, within the historic core of Long Melford. During the medieval period, the land within the site was likely to have been part of the agricultural hinterland to the medieval settlement at Long Melford. On this basis, the potential for significant medieval archaeology within the site was also considered to be low.

2.2.5 There was a good correlation between the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey and features encountered in the trial trenches, supporting the considerations of the geophysical survey in relation to the low potential of the site to contain significant archaeological remains.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The main aim of the investigation, as stated in the WSI (PCA 2018, 6), was to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site by trial trenching and to test the effectiveness of the geophysical survey technique by targeting geophysical anomalies and apparently 'blank' areas. This was achieved through the identification, sample excavation and recording of the archaeological remains that were encountered by the evaluation and determining their location, extent, date, character and state of preservation.

3.2 To determine the significance of the results of the evaluation in a local, regional and national context (as appropriate), reference has been made to the East Anglian regional research agendas:

- *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties: 1. Resource Assessment* (Glazebrook 1997);
- *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties: 2. Research Agenda and Strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000);
- *Regional Research Framework for the Eastern Region* (Medlycott and Brown 2008);
- *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).

4 METHODOLOGY

General

4.1 The archaeological evaluation consisted of sixty 30m trial trenches (a total of 1800 linear metres at 1.8m wide; Fig. 2). Generally, these were distributed evenly across the site in order to provide a representative sample of the development area. Some trenches were located specifically to target possible archaeological features shown as anomalies on the results of the geophysical survey.

Metal-detecting

4.2 Prior to the mechanical excavation of the trenches, the area of each trench and a 2m strip either side was scanned by an experienced metal detectorist, thereby providing a surface scan of *c.* 15% of the proposed development area. Once the trenches were open, the spoil heaps and all features exposed in the trenches were scanned for finds. The metal detector was not set to discriminate against iron.

Excavation methodology

4.3 The trenches were opened under archaeological supervision using a 13-tonne tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed geological substrate or the surface of the archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first. The topsoil and subsoil were stored separately in temporary bunds along the sides of the trenches. Exposed surfaces were hand-cleaned to define archaeological features and deposits and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. With the agreement of SCCAS, machine-dug sondages were excavated through a selection of quarry pits and natural features.

Recording Methodology

4.4 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m aOD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica GPS unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.

4.5 All hand-excavation, investigation and recording was carried out in accordance with PCA's *Operations Manual I: Fieldwork Induction Manual* (Taylor and Brown 2009). Linear features were investigated by means of 1m-wide slots within the trenches. Where stratigraphic relationships between features could not be discerned in plan,

relationship slots were also excavated and these were recorded as part of the GPS survey and noted on the relevant context sheets. Discrete features were half-sectioned, photographed and recorded by a cross-section scaled drawing at an appropriate scale (either 1:10 or 1:20).

4.6 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the evaluation process. Digital colour photographs were taken of the general site and archaeological features and deposits.

4.7 Artefacts and ecofacts were collected by hand and assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from the site (CIfA 2001; Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981).

Environmental sampling

4.8 Environmental sampling was carried out in accordance with *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (EH 2011). Two bulk samples were taken from a Later Neolithic pit and a post-medieval ditch to establish the palaeoenvironmental potential of the deposits and to extract and identify micro- and macro-botanical remains and small artefacts that are not readily recovered by hand-collection, such as metalworking debris and bones of fish and small animals.

5 QUANTIFICATION OF ARCHIVE

5.1 Paper Archive

Context register sheets	4
Context sheets	78
Section register sheets	1
Sections at 1:10 & 1:20	28
Trench record sheets	60
Photo register sheets	8
Small finds register sheets	2
Environmental register sheets	1

5.2 Digital Archive

Digital photos	300
GPS survey files	4
Digital plans	1
Access database	1

5.3 Physical Archive

Pottery	901g
Ceramic building material (CBM)	4.87kg
Small Finds	35
Animal bone	282g
Shell	107g
Environmental bulk samples	2
Environmental bulk samples (10 litre buckets)	8

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

6.1 Summary

6.1.1 Sixty 30m trial trenches (a total of 1800 linear metres at 1.8m wide) were excavated in accordance with the approved trench plan (Fig. 2). Archaeological remains were identified in seventeen trenches (Trenches 11, 12, 14. 23, 24, 27, 42, 43, 47, 48, 50, 52, 53, 55, 58, 59 and 60; Figs 3 and 4); naturally-formed features were identified in Trenches 29, 38 and 43 and there were no archaeogical features in the remaining trenches. The archaeological features included: the remains of a Later Neolithic Grooved-Ware vessel in a small pit; a possible medieval quarry pit; more extensive post-medieval and modern quarrying activity; and post-medieval and modern field boundaries. Full details of the archaeological features and deposits encountered by the evaluation are given in Appendix A and are summarised below.

6.1.2 The geological substrate (103), a glacigenic deposit, was light to mid brown or yellowish brown silty clay with inclusions of fine to course chalk and occasional flint pebbles. On the lower slopes this changed to orangey brown sandy silt with bands and patches of poorly sorted gravel, derived from glacial outwash. On the lower slopes in the western part of the site, the geological substrate was overlain by colluvium (179), typically occurring as mid brown clayey silt with few inclusions and where present measuring up to 0.6m thick. Abraded pottery sherds dating from the Late Iron Age to the early Roman period were recovered from the colluvium.

6.1.3 The subsoil (102), which was similar in colour but slightly more silty than the colluvium, ranged in thickness between 0.25m and 0.45m, although in places it was absent, having been ploughed into the overlying ploughsoil (101). Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the subsoil, unless otherwise stated. The ploughsoil was typically a mid brownish grey clayey silt with an average thickness of *c.* 0.36m.

6.1.4 A number of linear features were observed within some of the trenches (e.g. Trench 20) that could clearly be seen on the ground surface. At first it was assumed that these were the product of (modern) agricultural wheel rutting. Several of these features were tested. These features are in fact the product of 'subcasting' of oil seed rape seed. In this process the seed is distributed into disturbed soil behind widely spaced tines (HGCA 2009).

6.2 Neolithic (4000BC to 2300BC)

Trench 50

6.2.1 In the northern part of the trench were the fragmentary remains of a Grooved-Ware Neolithic vessel, embedded in a small pit that was only big enough to contain the sherds [126] (Figs 4, 6 and 7, Plates 3, 4 and 5). The vessel had been truncated and fractured by ploughing, but the small number of base sherds suggests that the vessel may have been broken prior to deposition. The dark grey fill of the vessel (125) was fully excavated, sampled and processed, but was found to contain no human bone or significant palaeoenvironmental remains. The vessel potentially represents the deposition of a votive offering.

6.3 Medieval (1066 to 1485)

Trench 52

6.3.1 Trench 52 contained medieval quarry pits [133], [159] and [161] (Figs 4 and 6, Plate 6). Pit [133] was a vertical-sided (in parts undercutting) sub-circular pit. The visible part of this feature measured 1.5m long by 1m wide by 0.79m deep. The fills of this feature (130) and (131) contained brick/tile fragments and sherds of pottery. The brick/tile comprised small sandy fragments of undatable material and the pottery was medieval, dating to the late 12th-14th century. Pit [159] was circular with near vertical sides. It was 2m long, over 1.5m wide and 0.4m deep. This pit appeared to truncate pit [161], a similar feature. Pit [161] was a steep, near vertical-sided pit. It was 1.5m long, over 1m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.4m (base not attained).

6.4 Post-medieval to modern (1485 to present)

Trench 11

6.4.1 Trench 11 contained an east to west oriented ditch [172] that also passed through Trench 27 (Figs 3 and 9). This ditch was not excavated within Trench 11, but a slot was excavated through this ditch [166] in Trench 27 situated to the west.

Trench 12

6.4.2 Trench 12 contained a north-northeast to south-southwest oriented post-medieval ditch [178] (Figs 3 and 9, Plate 7). It was 1.6m wide and 0.70m deep. It's fill (177) contained post-medieval brick and peg tiles, animal bone and a complete, but heavily corroded, rusted iron fitting.

Trench 14

6.4.3 Trench 14 contained two north to south oriented post-medieval ditches (Figs 3 and 9). Ditch [168] was 0.36m wide and 0.11m deep. It's fill (167) contained post-medieval peg tiles and oyster shell. Ditch [170] was 0.75m wide and 0.15m deep. Two body sherds from a fine Roman greyware vessel derived from the fill of ditch [170]. However, the sherds were small and abraded and are probably residual.

Trench 23

6.4.4 Two north to south oriented small ditches, [174], [176], and a large quarry pit [182] were encountered in this trench (Figs 3 and 9). Ditch [174] was 0.90m wide and 0.20m deep. Post-medieval peg tiles and animal bone fragments were recovered from its fill (173). Ditch [176] was 1m wide and 0.17m deep. 16th to 18th-century pottery and post-medieval peg tiles were recovered from its fill (175). Quarry pit [182] was recorded in plan but not excavated. It is believed this feature is the same feature seen in Trench 24 [180] to the west.

Trench 24

6.4.5 Trench 24 contained a large quarry pit [180] (Figs 3 and 9, Plates 8 and 9). This large feature was investigated by machine-excavation prior to backfilling. The full extent of the quarry pit was not established. It occupied 20m of Trench 24. An 8m long machine slot at its southern edge revealed that it was 1.7m deep (at its edges). Its fill (129) contained a small assemblage of abraded Roman brick and tile fragments. Given its abraded state and the known post-medieval quarrying activity elsewhere on site, it seems likely (though not certain) that the Roman material in this feature is redeposited.

Trench 27

6.4.6 An east to west oriented ditch which was also identified in Trench 11 was encountered in this trench. It was 2.1m wide and 0.95m deep (Figs 3 and 9, Plate 10). The fill (165) contained fragments of post-medieval tile, animal bone and pieces of coal and clinker which may have derived from the railway nearby. Redeposited Roman and medieval pottery and Roman brick was also recovered from the fill of this ditch.

Trench 42

6.4.7 Trench 42 contained a north to south oriented ditch [148] (Figs 4 and 8) which is probably the same as ditch [146] in Trench 55. The ditch contained residual fragments

of Iron Age pottery. The ditch was 1.8m long, 0.90m wide and 0.81 m deep.

Trench 43

6.4.8 Two ditches, [154] and [155], were identified in this trench. Ditch 154 was oriented approximately northeast to southwest and measured 1.4m wide by 0.86m deep (Figs 4 and 8; Plate 11). Some fragments of animal bone was recovered from the fill of this ditch. Ditch [155] was oriented east to west and measured 1.3m wide by 0.3m deep. Its fill (156) contained post-medieval peg tiles and pottery dating to the late 18th-19th century.

Trench 47

6.4.9 Trench 47 contained a large quarry pit [139] that occupied most of the trench (Fig. 4, Plate 12). A machine slot recorded its depth as 1.4m below the base of the trench. Post-medieval peg tiles were recovered from the fill (138) of this quarry pit.

Trench 48

6.4.10 Trench 48 contained a quarry pit [135] that extended approximately 13m down the length of the trench (Figs 4 and 6); a machine-excavated slot demonstrated that it had a depth of 1.6m. Its fill (134) contained fragments of clay pipe and post-medieval tile, residual sherds of medieval pottery, an iron nail and animal bone.

Trench 52

6.4.11 A post-medieval quarry pit [137], at least 5m wide, was identified in Trench 52 (Figs 4 and 6). Pottery dating to the 16th-18th centuries and post-medieval peg tile was recovered from its fill (136). A fragment of redeposited Roman brick/tile was also recovered.

6.4.12 A large ditch for a land drain ran through the middle of the trench. This feature was investigated in Trench 54.

Trench 53

6.4.13 Trench 53 revealed part of a large quarry pit [124], considered to be post-medieval in date (Figs 4 and 6). The extent of this feature was recorded but it was not excavated.

Trench 54

6.4.14 An east to west oriented ditch [127] containing a large 19th/20th-century field drain was identified in this trench (Figs 4 and 6). This feature was also observed in Trench 52. The fill of this drain contained post-medieval bricks and pegs tiles as well as redeposited Roman pottery.

Trench 55

6.4.15 Trench 55 contained a north to south oriented ditch [146] (Figs 4 and 6). It was 1.5m wide and 0.82m deep and its fill (145) contained 19th-century pottery and brick/tile.

Trench 58

6.4.16 Trench 58 contained a quarry pit [122], which was *c.* 5m in diameter (Figs 4 and 6). Following hand-excavation, a machine-excavated slot demonstrated that it was 1.5m deep. Its fill (120) contained post-medieval peg tiles, bone and shell.

Trench 59

6.4.17 Trench 59 contained a series of small, highly irregular discrete shallow features [107], [109], [111], [113], [115], [117]. They were all *c.* 0.3m across and varied in depth from 0.05m to 0.1m (Figs 4 and 6). Because of their even spacing, these features were excavated as potential postholes, however they were too shallow and irregular for this interpretation. These features may result from modern agricultural activity (e.g. ploughing). Small sandy fragments of undatable brick/tile was recovered from the fills of [107], [109], [117]. A fragment of medieval pottery was recovered from feature [115].

6.4.18 Trench 59 also contained sub-circular pit [119], which measured 2.4m long by at least 1.8m wide (Figs 4 and 6). It was excavated to a depth of 0.29m. Its fill (118) contained 19th-century/modern material, including slate, concrete and iron nails, and some residual post-medieval peg tile and mortar.

Trench 60

6.4.19 Trench 60 contained narrow, north to south oriented ditch [105]. It was 0.38m wide and 0.14m deep (Figs 4 and 6). No finds were recovered from its fill.

6.5 Natural features

Trench 29

6.5.1 Trench 29 contained a tree-throw [144], measuring 0.79m wide by 1m long by 0.18m deep (Fig. 4). No finds were recovered from this feature.

Trench 38

6.5.2 Trench 38 contained feature [142], which was probably formed by tree root disturbance (Fig. 4). It was 1m in diameter and 0.41m deep. It had shallow sides and a flat base. The fills (140) and (141) contained small, sandy fragments of undatable brick/tile.

Trench 43

6.5.3 Trench 43 contained tree-throw [164], which measured 1.8m long by at least 1m wide and had an irregular base and shallow, variably sloping sides (Fig. 4). It contained a sherd of medieval pottery dating to the 12th to 14th century and a sherd of residual Roman pottery.

7 THE FINDS

7.1 Prehistoric pottery *by Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne*

Introduction

7.1.1 A small assemblage of prehistoric pottery, comprising 93 sherds (473g), was recovered from the evaluation. The pottery derived from three contexts: subsoil (101); fill (125) of pit [126]; and fill (147) of ditch [148]. The assemblage can be split into two main periods, the Late Neolithic (LN, 90 sherds, 437g) and the Later Iron Age (LaIA, 2 sherds, 5g). The single sherd (31g) recovered from the subsoil (101) could only be dated to the broad pre-Middle Iron Age period (<MIA). A small assemblage (165g) of pottery crumbs (<1g) were also recovered during the evaluation. No other phases of archaeological work have been undertaken at the site, therefore this report describes the totality of the prehistoric pottery recovered. The ceramics are in a stable condition. This report provides a quantified description of the assemblage with a brief discussion.

Table 1: Pottery quantification by context

Context	Cut	Feature type	Trench	No.	Wt (g)	Overall context spot date	Fabrics
101	-	Subsoil	n/a	1	31	<MIA	FQ1
125	126	Pit	50	90	437	LN	G1
147	148	Ditch	42	2	5	LIA (res)	Q1

Methodology

7.1.2 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the *Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group* (PCRG 2009). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric group (sherds broken in excavation were refitted and counted as single entities). Sherds weighing less than 1g were classified as crumbs (total 165g) and were recorded by context, fabric (where visible) and weight in the catalogue, but do not form part of this analysis. Sherd type was recorded, along with technology (all classifiable pottery within this assemblage was handmade), evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim and base forms were described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue and were assigned vessel numbers. Where possible, rim and base diameters were measured, and surviving percentages noted. All pottery was subject to sherd size

analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter were classified as 'small' (83 sherds, 89.2% BSC) of the assemblage); sherds measuring 4-8cm were classified as 'medium' (7 sherds, 7.5% BSC), and sherds over 8cm in diameter were classified as 'large' (1 sherd, 1.2% BSC).

Assemblage characteristics

7.1.3 A small range of pottery fabrics were recorded (Table 2). The total site assemblage only contained three sherds that could be definitively assigned to a single vessel, based on the number of rim (1) and base (2) sherds recovered. However, based on similarities in form and fabric, it is likely the whole LN assemblage relates to a single vessel.

Table 2: Fabric Series

FQ1	Rare to sparse fine to very coarse calcined flint
Q1	Rare to sparse fine sand
G1	Sparse to moderate, moderate to coarse blocky grog

Later Neolithic

7.1.4 The LN assemblage comprised the dominant portion of the assemblage (90 sherds, 437g), all of which derived from fill (125) of pit [126] (Plates 3–5). The sherds were composed of a relatively fine grog fabric (G1) and exhibited a relatively fine finish, with the temper only rarely protruding through the walls of the sherds. The sherds were comparatively thick walled (0.8-1cm) and quite uniform in appearance, and are likely to derive from a single, relatively straight walled tub-like vessel. A single rim was present in the period assemblage, which was of a simple, flat-topped form. The two base sherds recovered were also of a simple, flat form. A proportion of the sherds (38 sherds, 42.2% of the period assemblage by sherd count) exhibited distinctive decoration on the sherd exteriors. This decoration comprised multiple horizontal thick incised grooves, which form raised ridges between them. In the case of four of the sherds, the resulting ridges were slashed vertically.

7.1.5 The grog temper, relatively thick-walled nature and distinctive decoration of the sherds suggests a LN Grooved-Ware attribution, with the sherds possibly forming part of a straight sided tub-like vessel common to the tradition. Grooved-Ware is normally split into the various sub-styles created by Smith (1956), Longworth (1971) and subsequently revised by the same and Garwood (1999), however it has been increasingly recognised that many of the traits present in the various sub-styles are

less tightly defined than previously thought. As a result, the various Grooved-Ware substyles can perhaps better be seen as points on a continuum, rather than distinct separate entities. The use of grooved lines can be found in all three substyles; however, the simple rim and extensive nature of the grooved decoration suggests that a Clacton-Woodlands substyle designation may be more appropriate. This substyle was current in the earlier 3rd millennium BC and is the most common substyle found in East Anglia (Thomas 2002). The presence of these sherds, which are likely to all derive from a single vessel in a discrete feature suggests the pot may have been deliberately deposited. The formal deposition of Grooved-Ware in pits is a feature of Late Neolithic practice, building and elaborating on earlier traditions of selection and deposition in pits (Pollard 2002). Although the precise interpretation of such deposits is under review, it is generally accepted that Grooved-Ware associated pit depositions are unlikely to relate to mundane daily routine but may instead relate to more formalised symbolic meanings or practice.

Later Iron Age

7.1.6 The LaIA assemblage comprised two sherds (5g), which derived as residual finds from fill (147) of ditch [148], which were composed of a fine sand fabric (Q1). The fabric, as well as the relatively well-finished appearance of the sherds, suggests a Later Iron Age designation is appropriate. However, the sherds were both undiagnostic body sherds, therefore further analysis or refining the broad date range is not possible.

Discussion

7.1.7 The assemblage mainly consisted of Grooved-Ware tradition pottery dating to the Later Neolithic (c. 3100-2200 BC), as well as a small residual assemblage of pottery dating to the Later Iron Age (400/350 BC-AD 50). A single <Middle Iron Age sherd (4000-400/350 BC) was also recovered from the subsoil.

7.2 Roman pottery *by Katie Anderson*

7.2.1 Two body sherds (3g) from a fine sandy micaceous greyware vessel derived from context (169)/[170], Trench 14. The sherds were small and abraded and therefore could be residual. The fabric suggests an early to mid-Roman date (AD40-200).

7.2.2 A sherd of grog-tempered ware (19g) may be either Iron Age or early Roman in date and was found in the colluvium layer (179). A sherd of Romano-British red micaceous ware (RBRM) was found in the same layer.

7.2.3 A sherd in the form of a flat bowl base, made in a red colour-coated ware (RBRC), was found in fill (165) of ditch [166] and a jar rim of a short, everted, simple type and made in a grog-tempered ware (RBGG), was recovered from tree throw [164], fill (163).

7.2.4 Other sherds of Romano-British pottery could not be assigned to a form: another sherd of the grog-tempered ware (RBGG) was found in the modern drain [127], (fill (128), while a sherd of a fine greyware (RBGW) came from the topsoil (101).

7.3 Post-Roman pottery *by Chris Jarrett*

Introduction

7.3.1 A small assemblage of pottery was recovered during the evaluation, amounting to 32 sherds, weighing 358g. The pottery types recovered range in date from the later medieval to the modern periods. The pottery is in a fragmentary state and relatively few vessels can be assigned confidently to a vessel shape. Eight sherds (21%) are abraded, while ten sherds (26%) are residual. The pottery therefore appears to have been mostly deposited under tertiary conditions. The pottery was recovered from eleven contexts, which consisted of mostly ditch fills and a small number of pits.

7.3.2 The fabrics were examined under x20 magnification and recorded using a system of mnemonic codes based on common name. As far as possible these comply with those laid out in the Suffolk Ceramic Type Series. The pottery was recorded and quantified for each context by fabric, vessel form and decoration using sherd count, weight and estimated number of vessels (ENV). The information was recorded in a database format and can be found with the site archive. The pottery is discussed by its types and distribution.

The pottery types

7.3.3 The range of pottery-types and the forms that occur in the ware are shown in Appendix B, Table 1. The quantification of the pottery by period is as follows:
Medieval: 16 sherds, 14 ENV, 141g
Post-medieval: 16 sherds, 15 ENV, 217g

Medieval

7.3.4 One of the main types of medieval pottery in the assemblage were the coarse ware fabrics (MCW, MCW2 and MCW3), which have a micaceous matrix and probably

represent a tradition covering south-west Suffolk, North-west Essex and south-eastern Cambridgeshire (Sudds 2018). These wares account for a total of six sherds, 6 ENV, 92g and were mostly found as non-diagnostic sherds in many of the deposits (see Appendix B, Table 2). These sherds may have been derived from jars, however, there is no evidence for sooting on any of this material, which possibly indicates cooking pots are not present in the assemblage. This is very unusual as cooking pots usually constitute a notable quantity of any medieval pottery assemblage. There are a few sherds that were probably derived from jugs and these consist of fragments of handles: a vertical loop strap handle made in MCW2 was noted in fill (165) of ditch [166], while an iron-stained quartz-tempered MCW fabric (fill (131) of pit [133]) survives as a hollow rod handle which opens into the body of the vessel. It is very unlikely that the handle is a spout.

7.3.5 The Essex sandy orange ware fabric (ESOW) was also one of the more frequent medieval pottery types in the assemblage (see Appendix B, Table 2), although it consisted solely of undiagnostic sherds and often of a very small size (see Appendix B, Table 2 for the distribution of this ware). A few sherds of Hedingham ware (HFW1) were recorded and this was solely found fill (131) of pit [133] and represented by a plain undiagnostic sherd and a fragment of a green-glazed late 12th or 13th-century jug decorated with fine, even vertical strips, possibly made with a tool.

Post-medieval

7.3.6 The post-medieval component of the pottery assemblage consists of mostly red earthenwares from Essex (PMRE) and other sources (GRE and later LPME). These wares (see Appendix B, Table 2) occurred as mostly undiagnostic sherds and were scattered throughout the post-medieval stratigraphy (see Appendix B, Table 2). A small number of forms could be identified and included the clubbed rim of a bowl made in the Essex ware (fill (175), ditch [176]) and the collared rim of a flower pot made in Late post-medieval unglazed earthenware (LPME), which was recovered from the topsoil (101). The splayed base of a vessel made in late slipped redware (LSRW) has an internal white slip and a clear glaze on both surfaces: it possibly represents a local version of Sunderland-type slipware and was found in fill (155), ditch [156]. From the same deposit was recovered the battered rim of an 18th- or 19th-century London stoneware (ESWL) tankard. The only 'modern', factory made ceramics in the assemblage consist of the gently scalloped rim of a creamware (CRW) plate and the base of a yellow ware (YELW) oval dish, both of which are probably 19th century in

date and were found together in fill (155), ditch [156].

Distribution

7.3.7 The distribution of the pottery is shown in Appendix B, Table 2, which records for each context that pottery was recovered from, the cut number (where relevant), the trench location, a description of the deposit and its phasing. For each context the quantity of the pottery is given using sherd counts, ENV and weight, as well as the pottery types and the forms present in those wares, which are ordered by period, while a spot date for the deposition of the context is also given.

Significance and potential of the assemblage and recommendations for further work

7.3.8 As the assemblage is in such a fragmentary condition and has little meaning, then the only significance of the pottery is to indicate the presence of possible 12th-14th century dated medieval and post-medieval activity on the study area. The only potential of the pottery is to date the contexts in which it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on the pottery, although if further archaeological work is undertaken on the study area and new finds of pottery are made, then the importance of this pottery should be reviewed.

7.4 Ceramic building material *by Amparo Valcarcel*

Introduction and methodology

7.4.1 The application of a 1kg masons hammer and sharp chisel to each example ensured that a small fresh fabric surface was exposed. The fabric was examined at x20 magnification using a long arm stereomicroscope or hand lens (Gowland x10). London codes were used for matched fabrics and stone. Fabrics unique to Suffolk were prefixed with LMD, thus LMD1, LMD2, LMD3 etc.

7.4.2 This medium sized assemblage (107 fragments, 4.87 kg) is characterised by large groups of post-medieval peg tiles and bricks and a much smaller Roman component. Most of the material collected (57%) is represented by roofing material recovered from layers and fills of pits, drain and ditches. No floor or wall tiles were found during the excavation. The stone assemblage was represented by four examples of slate. The assemblage has been quantified and is presented in Appendix B, Table 3.

Roman (8 examples, 458 g)

7.4.3 All the ceramic building material is in a fragmentary and abraded condition which would suggest that it may have been redeposited. Furthermore, Roman fabrics appear in post-medieval contexts. The forms shown by tegulae [147], undiagnostic tiles [129] and [136] and bricks [118][129][165]. The first century to early second century Radlett group (AD 50-120) dominates with four examples, with one fragment of London sandy group 2452 (AD 55-160) and late calcareous fabric 3026 group (AD140-350), suggesting limited late Roman activity or basement truncation due to later post-medieval activity. A local yellow fabric (LMD3), was recorded made of a very fine yellow matrix with abundant fine quartz and chalk fragments.

Post-medieval (94 examples, 4.14 kg)

7.4.4 Post-medieval bricks form a larger component of the ceramic building material assemblage. Two fabrics are presented although the vast majority are made of the very fine red sandy fabric [3046type]. Most of the fragments are small, with no complete dimensions. A small assemblage of transitional bricks was recovered, all of which were found to be made from local clays. Brick from fill (177) of ditch [178] is wide (122 mm), shallow (43 mm) with sunken margins, indicating an AD 1450/1600 date, but it is possible that this fabric continued to be used later.

Roofing (61 examples, 3.15 kg)
LMD1: Medium-coarse opaque quartz inclusions, occasional clear quartz set in fine red matrix (38 examples, 1.58 kg)
LMD2: abundant coarse rose quartz <1mm. Very course moulding sand, occasional iron oxide (22 example, 1.55 kg.)
Bricks (7 examples, 940 g)
3046type: Very sandy fabric with frequent coarse quartz (6 examples, 120 g.)
3065type: extremely sandy fabric with abundant coarse quartz occasional dark red iron oxide, white flint/shell inclusions. (1 example, 820 g.)

7.4.5 Peg tiles are quite numerous on the site, indicating new phases of rebuilding and repair to the roofing of buildings. The roofing assemblage is largely unremarkable with only roofing tiles. The peg tiles are made of local fabric groupings. New fabrics were documented: LMD1 and LMD2. It is likely that much of the roofing tiles and bricks found in the site were obtained from tileries situated close by.

Undatable fragments (27 fragments, 65 g.)

7.4.6 A cluster of chipped fragments made of sandy fabrics was collected from different fills. The fragments are abraded and small and cannot be associated to any period.

Mortar

7.4.7 A single sample of mortar were found in fill [118] of pit [119] is made of hard dark grey lime mortar with chalk inclusions (<1mm), suggesting a late post-medieval date.

Stone (4 examples, 35 g)

7.4.8 Four small fragments of slate were collected from fill (118) of pit [119]. Slate may have once been used as roofing stone or indeed as possible coursing levels in the wall core. In the absence of any definable nail holes however it is not possible to determine their function.

Recommendations

7.4.9 The building material assemblage produced a substantial quantity of post-medieval building material, and the Roman period would seem to be poorly represented. However, most of the Roman material was in a highly fragmentary is a true representation of their presence.

7.4.10 A variety of post-medieval fabric types are present, suggesting that the material was obtained from a variety of local production sites. Futhermore, it seems likely that most bricks and peg tiles were made at brickyards situated much closer to the area. Although that is a high variety of fabrics, the forms preserved on the site only consists in bricks and roofing material. It is important to point out that no post-medieval floor tile was found, probably indicating that the settlement was far away of this area.

7.4.11 It seems probable, given the poor condition of the building material assemblage that much of it was reclaimed from redeposited episodes elsewhere. In summary, this is a very abraded assemblage, representing different phases of redeposition at the area through the years. All the material should be discarded. No further work is recommended.

7.5 The metal and small finds *by Märit Gaimster*

7.5.1 In total, around 35 individual metal and small finds were recovered by the metal detecting search and trial trenching; they are listed in Appendix B, Table 4. With the exception of ten objects from post-medieval pits and ditches, all finds came from topsoil layer (101). Along with numerous iron nails and pieces of lead waste the assemblage also provides a number of more diagnostic and dateable objects. These are predominantly small portable objects, such as buttons and other dress accessories, likely to have been lost by travellers or passers-by in the area. Two lead shots, one slightly flattened from impact, may reflect the use of the area as a shooting ground sometime in the post-medieval period. Lead shots were used for fire arms during the period *c.* 1500–1800. Other material such as iron-working waste represented by a smithing-hearth bottom (SF 16) would be more indicative of the dumping of waste and refuse.

7.5.2 The earliest dated objects comprise two copper-alloy belt accessories dating from the late medieval to early modern periods (SF 13). A small and delicate belt loop, used to hold down the loose end of a strap or belt, has a decorative collared knop on the frame. It has a direct parallel to two medieval finds from Meols in the Wirral (Griffiths et al. 2007, pl. 22 nos 1450–51). A delicate double-loop buckle has lobed knops at either end of the central strap bar and moulded rosettes at either end of outer frame. Buckles of this characteristic design are frequent finds in contexts dating from the period c. 1550–-1650 (cf. Cunningham and Drury 1985, fig. 26 nos 11-12; Margeson 1993, fig. 17 no. 174; Whitehead 2003, 66 no. 407), although they may represent a particularly characteristic 16th-century type (cf. Egan 2005, fig. 17 no. 88). Another tentatively medieval object may be represented by the moulded fragment of a pendant-like object from topsoil in Trench 13. Of later post-medieval date is the fragment of a plain frame for an 18th-century shoe buckle with a separate spindle for the strap chape (SF 2; cf. Whitehead104 no. 667). A similar date is likely for a copper-alloy blazer/livery button with a characteristic cone-shaped seating for the loop or shank at the back (cf. Noël Hume 1969, fig. 23 type 8). A further three buttons, of pewter and copper alloy, are less diagnostic and could date from the 19th or early 20th centuries; they include a domed uniform button featuring a cipher of three letters below a crown.

Significance and recommendations for further work

7.5.3 Beyond a possible association with late medieval to early modern settlement in the

vicinity, the metal and small finds from Long Melford provide little significant information for a broader understanding of the site. No further work is recommended at this stage for these finds. Relevant objects should however be included in any future publication of the site. For this purpose a number of corroded iron objects would require X-ray for a full identification; parallels also need to be sought for some copper-alloy objects. These recommendations are included in the finds table.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

8.1 Animal bone *by Ryan Desrosiers*

Introduction

8.1.1 The evaluation presented eight trenches containing nine features yielding a total of 35 fragments of animal bone. These remains, weighing a total of 281.6g, are comprised of taxa from the taxonomic order Mammalia (Appendix C, Table 1). This section details the assessment of these faunal remains and presents any recommendations for future work.

Methodology

8.1.2 The animal bone recovered from Long Melford was identified and recorded to species level whenever possible. In the case of unidentifiable fragments, like long bone shaft fragments or vertebral fragments, classification into size classes (e.g. cattle sized, sheep sized, or rat sized) as per Rielly (2018) was attempted. During the recording of individual elements recovered, attributes including, species, bone portion, taphonomy, pathology, or anthropogenic alteration to elements were noted. Attempts were made by the analyst to refit all possible elements within contexts, with the total number of fragments being additionally noted.

8.1.3 The majority (92%) of the animal bone found in the course of trenching at Long Melford was collected by hand, with the remaining 8% recovered through environmental sampling. Once brought back from site to PCA's office, all bones were washed by hand using tepid water (roughly 20-25°C), and medium to firm bristled toothbrushes. Specimens found within environmental samples, have been subjected to flot processing, which separates heavy residue (e.g. stones, bone, or pottery) from lighter residue (e.g. charcoal, seeds, or insects) through submergence of soil samples into a closed circulating water system.

Assemblage description

8.1.4 Evaluation trenching at Long Melford yielded 35 fragments of animal bones from nine features within eight trenches. After attempting to refit, 35 fragments were further reduced to a total of 27 specimens. At least three common domesticated species, including cattle (*Bos taurus*), horse (*Equus ferus caballus*) and sheep/goat (Ovicaprid) are present within the Long Melford assemblage (see Appendix C, Table 1).

8.1.5 Given the relatively small assemblage present, these elements are not statistically significant. Overall, the state of preservation of the Long Melford assemblage is relatively poor for smaller fragments, but larger fragments display little evidence of extraneous taphonomic factors influencing preservation. No specimens from Long Melford display direct evidence of human consumption or alteration in the form of cut markings or evidence of sawing.

8.1.6 Within Trench 12, the single fill (177) of post-medieval ditch [178] yielded a total of 10 fragments comprised of cattle-sized cervical vertebra fragments and sheep-sized rib fragment and a possible radius fragment.

8.1.7 Trench 23 presented three unidentifiable sheep-sized long bone shaft fragments contained within the singular fill (173) of a post-medieval ditch [174].

8.1.8 A singular cattle proximal metacarpal shaft fragment was recovered from a fill (165) of a post-medieval ditch within Trench 27.

8.1.9 Trench 42 contained a single feature, a post-medieval or possibly modern ditch ((147) [148]), presenting three unidentifiable mammal bone fragments.

8.1.10 Two features within trench 43 presented faunal remains. One reasonably fragmented (n=7) cattle distal femur epiphysis and an unidentifiable shaft fragment were contained within fill (151) of a post medieval ditch [154]. Two worn adult horse tooth fragments (lower canine and lower premolar 2) were recovered from the single fill (156) of a late 18th-19th century ditch [155].

8.1.11 Trench 48 presented a single sheep-sized possible thoracic vertebral fragment recovered within (134) of a late 12th to14th-century pit [135].

8.1.12 A Neolithic pit ((125) [126]) found within Trench 50 contained three unidentifiable mammal bone fragments.

8.1.13 Finally, Trench 58 yielded three fragments of faunal remains from (120) of pit [122]. One left cattle radius fragment and a left ovicaprid humerus fragment was recovered from this feature.

Significance and recommendations for further work

8.14 A brief assessment of the faunal remains present suggests that possibly cattle and likely sheep played substantial role in the subsistence economy during the various phases at Long Melford. No further work is recommended for these finds.

8.2 Shell *by Ryan Desrosiers*

8.2.1 A total MNI for shells recovered is 5 individuals (Appendix C, Table 2). Notching resulting from processing of specimens for consumption was displayed within assemblage.

8.3 Charred plant remains *by Kate Turner*

Introduction

8.3.1 This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of the environmental remains in two bulk soil samples taken during the archaeological evaluation of the site. Samples were collected from a pit and a ditch, the context information for which is given in Table 3 below.

8.3.2 The aim of this assessment is to:

- Give an overview of the contents of the assessed samples;
- Determine the environmental potential of these samples;
- Establish whether any further analysis is necessary.

Table 3: Context information for environmental samples

Context No.	Feature No.	Context type	Context category	Environmental Sample No.	Preliminary Phase	Interpretation
125	126	Fill	Pit	1	Late Neolithic	Possible cremation
147	148	Fill	Ditch	2	Post med/modern	Ditch cutting under subsoil

Methodology

8.3.3 Two environmental bulk samples, of five and twenty-four litres in volume respectively, were processed using the flotation method; material was collected using a 300 µm

mesh for the light fraction and a 1 mm mesh for the heavy residue. The heavy residue was then dried, sieved at 1, 2 and 4 mm and sorted to extract artefacts and ecofacts. The abundance of each category of material was recorded using a non-linear scale where '1' indicates occasional occurrence (1-10 items), '2' indicates occurrence is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' indicates presence is frequent (31-100 items) and '4' indicates an abundance of material (>100 items).

8.3.4 The light residue (>300 µm), once dried, was scanned under a low-power binocular microscope to quantify the level of environmental material, such as seeds, chaff, charred grains, molluscs and charcoal. Abundance was recorded as above. A note was also made of any other significant inclusions, for example roots and modern plant material.

Results

8.3.5 For the purposes of this discussion, samples will be discussed individually, in order to assess environmental potential. Cultural material collected from the heavy residues has been catalogued and passed to the relevant specialists for further assessment. A full account of the sample contents is given in Appendix C, Table 3.

Sample <1>, context (125) - fill of pit [126]

8.3.6 Sample <1> was collected from the fill of a pit dated to the Later Neolithic. Recovery of environmental remains from feature [126] was generally poor; an abundance of heavily fragmented wood charcoal was reported, however no specimens of a suitable size for species analysis were recognised (>4 mm in length/width). Seeds were absent, with the exception of a single modern example of orache (Atriplex sp.) found in the flot. Modern roots and insect remains were identified in this sample, along with shells of the subterranean snail *Cecilioides acicula*, which may be indicative of post-depositional disturbance.

8.3.7 Cultural material contained in the heavy residue included burnt flint and a large concentration of fragmented pot.

Sample <2>, context (147) – fill of ditch [148]

8.3.8 Sample <2> was taken from the fill of a post-medieval ditch undercutting the subsoil. Carbonised cereals were frequent in this context, including a large concentration of

bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum/durum*), and several grains of barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and rye (*Secale cereale*). A proportion of indeterminate grains were also recorded, which were too heavily carbonised to be speciated. This is likely a result of the temperature and duration at which they were burnt. A small amount of cereal chaff was found but was also too damaged to be identified.

8.3.9 An assemblage of charred seeds accompanied the grain, largely of species associated with agriculture, such as stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*), pea (*Fabaceae* spp.), grasses (*Poaceae* spp.) and sedges (*Carex* sp.). Wood charcoal was similarly abundant, although fragmentation rate was again high, and less than five sizeable pieces were found.

8.3.10 Modern seeds, rootlets, insects and burrowing snails were reported in the flot residue, likely evidence of bioturbation, along with small animal bone, vitrified material and coal. Low frequencies of animal bone, burnt clay and pottery were extracted from the residue.

Discussion

8.3.11 A rapid assessment of the environmental remains in the samples indicates that cereals, particularly bread wheat, may have been cultivated or consumed in the region during the post-medieval use of the site. A small amount of barley and rye was also identified, which suggests that mixed agriculture was perhaps being undertaken during this period. Grains that were too damaged to be speciated were abundant; this level of degradation is likely to be the result of prolonged or high temperature combustion. The material found in this deposit could comprise grains that have been accidentally burnt during cooking or parching, or perhaps spoiled specimens that were being disposed of; it is unlikely that such a large amount of viable grain would have been deliberately burned. Chaff was minimal in this sample set, which, whilst bread wheat produces more fragile and combustible chaff than hulled wheats, could be evidence that processing was being carried out in another location.

8.3.12 Carbonised weed seeds were also recovered from the post-medieval deposit; the majority of species identified were those often associated with agriculture and horticulture, such as peas and wild grasses. As these are found in conjunction with crop material, it is possible that they were unintentionally collected with the wheat

during the harvesting process or were perhaps growing wild in the vicinity of the site. The recorded wood charcoal is likely to constitute the waste from small scale domestic fires.

8.3.13 Evidence of bioturbation, in the form of non-contemporary seeds, roots, snails and insect remains, was recorded to some degree throughout the assemblage, which raises the possibility of post-depositional disturbance among smaller remains.

Recommendations for further work

8.3.14 Preservation of environmental remains in the post-medieval deposits was good, whilst the Later Neolithic assemblage was less promising. The recommendations for additional work are outlined below. A summary of this assessment should be included in any future publications.

Wood Charcoal

8.3.15 Preservation of wood charcoal was good in the sample set, though the majority of the observed specimens were heavily fragmented. Neither of the assessed contexts contained a large enough concentration of material to warrant additional specialist analysis, however a small number of sizeable pieces were present in sample <2>. Radiocarbon dating could be undertaken on suitable material if desired, although the results could be skewed by the 'old tree' effect as the heavily fragmented charcoal could not be identified to species. Sample 1 was also a shallow feature directly below the ploughsoil, so the potential for contamination is considered to be high, as indicated by the quantity of modern rootlets present.

Plant Macrofossils

8.3.16 Sample <2> yielded an abundance of cereals and charred weeds. Complete quantification and specialist analysis of this material is suggested prior to publication, as it may yield information on the types of agriculture that may have been undertaken in the local area. This material may also be used to answer questions on diet and economy during the occupation of the site.

Recommendations for future excavations

8.3.17 A rapid assessment has shown that carbonised material has the potential to be preserved on this site. Should future interventions be undertaken this should be

reflected in the environmental sampling strategy, and samples should, where possible, be collected from well-sealed deposits, with little evidence for post depositional disturbance.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Neolithic

9.1.1 The small pit [126] within Trench 50 containing the fragmentary Grooved-Ware Neolithic pot was the only prehistoric feature recorded on the site. As noted, it seems unlikely that this was a cremation as there was no evidence of human bone in the fill of this vessel. Whether this feature is an isolated example is uncertain. There was clearly some Neolithic and early Bronze Age activity in the nearby area suggested by the numerous worked flints recovered nearby during metal detecting *c.* 600 m north of the site (SHER ref. MSF 29626, 29632 – see Pegasus 2018).

9.1.2 The formal deposition of Grooved-Ware in pits is a feature of Late Neolithic practice, building and elaborating on earlier traditions of selection and deposition in pits (Pollard 2002). Although the precise interpretation of such deposits is under review, it is generally accepted that Grooved-Ware associated pit depositions are unlikely to relate to mundane daily routine but may instead relate to more formalised symbolic meanings or practice.

9.2 Iron Age and Roman

9.2.1 No features dating to the Iron Age or Roman periods were found in the evaluation trenches. There was some residual Roman material, predominately fragments of tile/brick, within some of the features which probably derived from the nearby Roman settlement (Pegasus 2018). Small quantities of residual Iron Age and Roman pottery were recovered from the colluvium at the west of the site (179). Two residual sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from fill (147) of ditch [148] in Trench 42; the pottery is residual as ditch [148] is the same as ditch 146 in Trench 55 which contained 19th-century finds.

9.3 Medieval

9.3.1 The only features that are presumed to be medieval were found in Trench 52. The form of pits [133], [159] and [161] suggests they were used for small-scale quarrying/extraction. Whether this was for the marly silty-clay natural into which they were cut or for the flint cobbles contained within this deposit is difficult to determine. The pot contained in these features was medieval, dating to the late 12th-14th century. These medieval extraction features appear to be on a much smaller scale that the post-medieval extraction pits nearby.

9.3.2 During the medieval period the site was in the agricultural hinterland of Long Melford. The extraction pits were presumably away from the focus of medieval settlement. These extraction pits probably represent small-scale sporadic activity from the settlement to extract useful material from the marly natural.

9.4 Post-medieval and modern

9.4.1 The majority of the features on this site were dated to the post-medieval period. A number of large quarry pits were recorded: Trench 23 [182]; Trench 24 [180]; Trench 47 [139]; Trench 48 [135]; Trench 52 [137]; and Trench 53 [124]. The quarry pits were deeper and more extensive than the medieval quarry/extraction pits in Trench 52 described above. Post-medieval pegs ties were recovered from their fills. The quarry pits seem to be located where the marly natural was near the surface. This marly clay-silt deposit may have been suitable for brickmaking (or some aspect of it). Four of these quarry pits were tested with the machine. These features appear as anomalies on the geophysical survey.

9.4.2 Several post-medieval agricultural ditches were recorded: Trench 12 [178]; Trench 14 [168] and [170]; Trench 23 [174] and [176]; and Trench 43 [154] and [155]. These ditches, which are shown on the results of the geophysical survey (PCG 2017), were probably 16th to early 19th-century agricultural field boundaries (see map regression in Pegasus 2018).

9.4.3 The site contained the remains of several 19th-century/modern agricultural ditches, most of which are shown on the results of the geophysical survey: Trench 27 [166]; Trench 42 [148]; Trench 54 [127]; Trench 55 [146]; and Trench 60 [105]. A pit of unknown function was also recorded in Trench 59 [119].

9.4.4 The Neolithic vessel recovered from pit [126] is a significant discovery and it is possible that other pits containing ritual/ceremonial deposits may be located nearby.

9.4.5 However, he majority of the features investigated by the evaluation date to the post-medieval or later periods and comprise quarry or extraction pits and agricultural features of limited interest. Some earlier medieval extraction activity is also represented.

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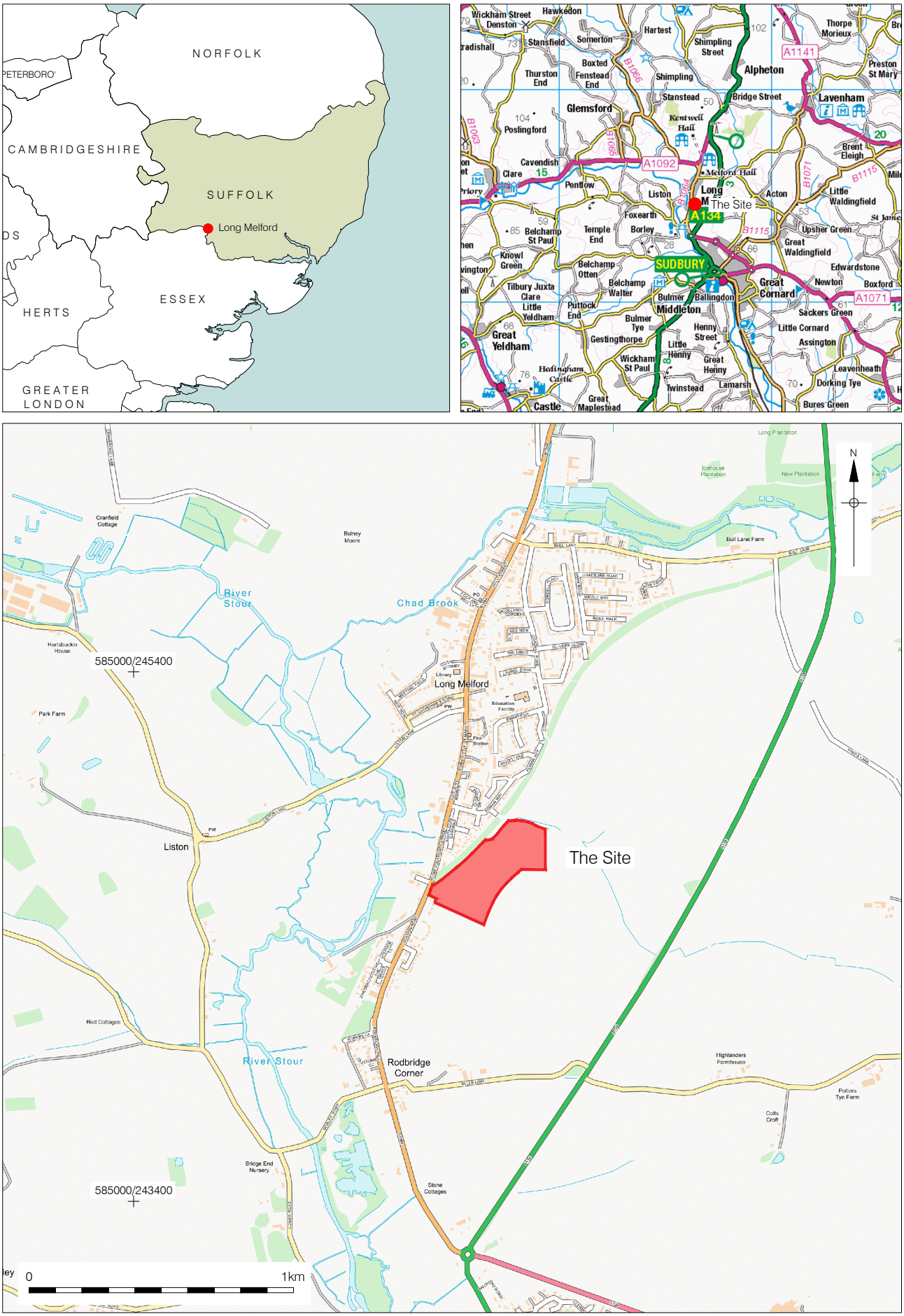
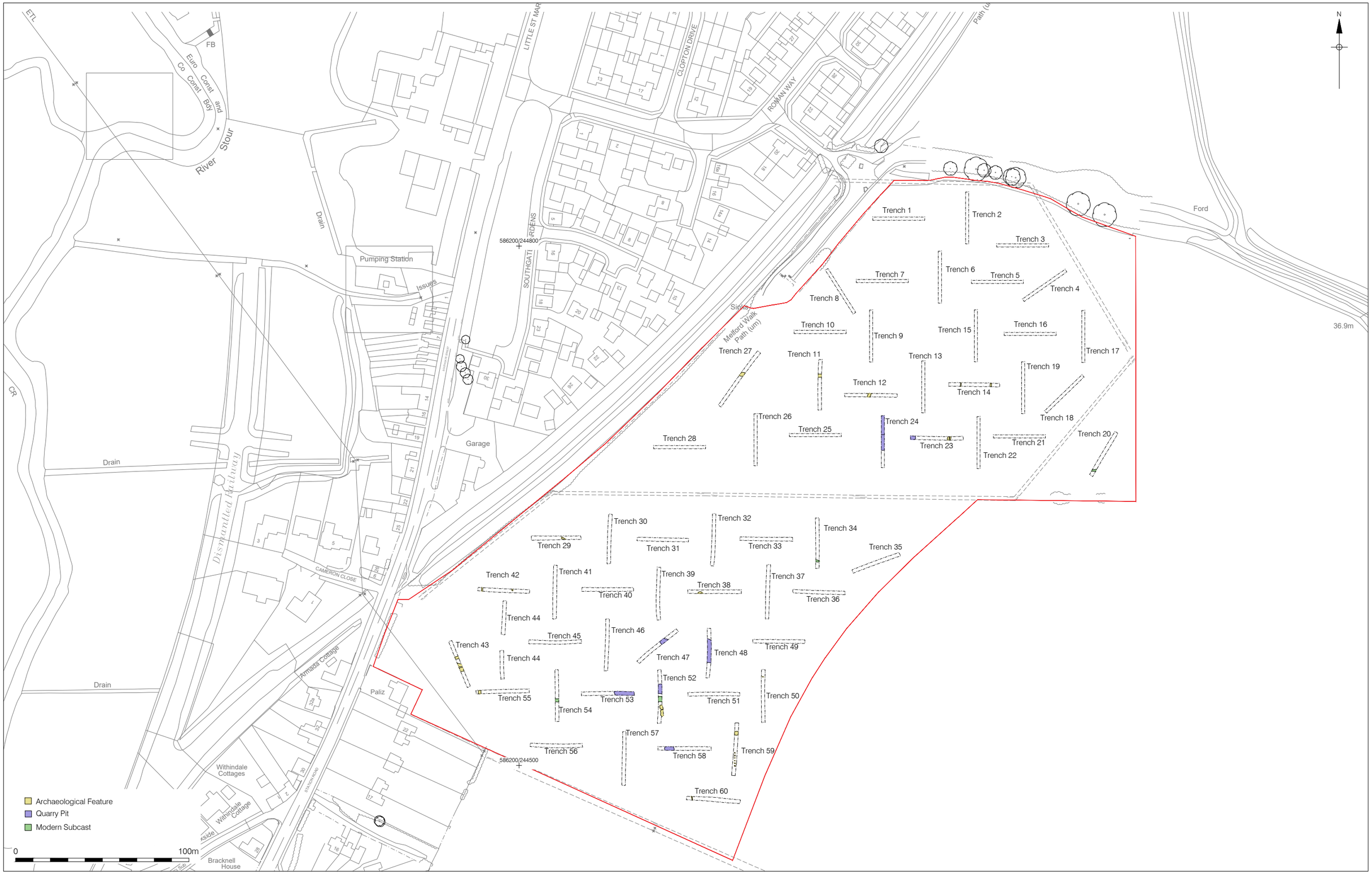
ILLUSTRATIONS



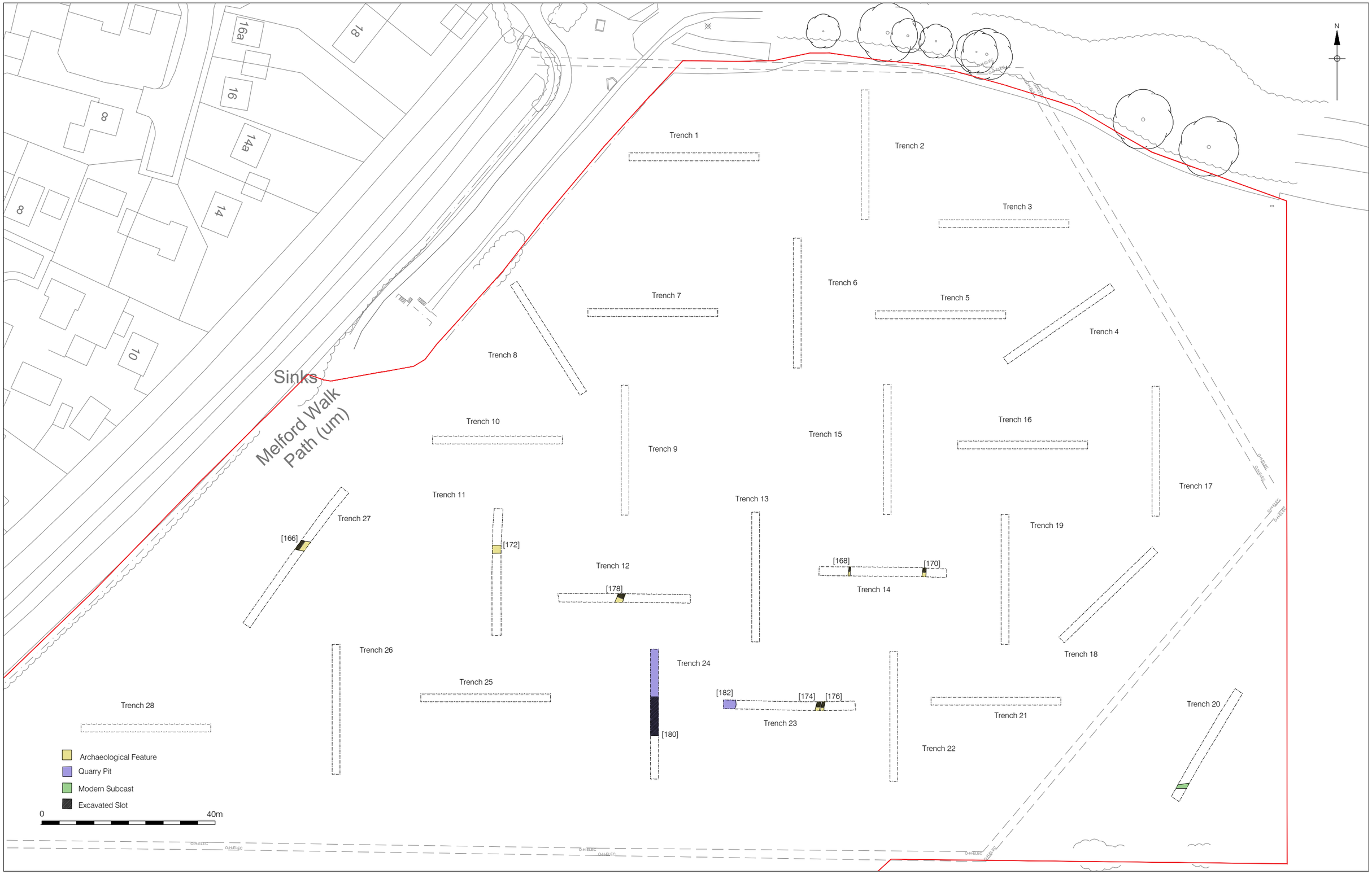
05/10/18 RS

Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000, 1:250,000 & 1:20,000 at A4



05/10/18 RS

Figure 2
Trench Location
1:2000 at A3



05/10/18 RS

Figure 3
Detailed Trench Plan, North of Site
1:800 at A3

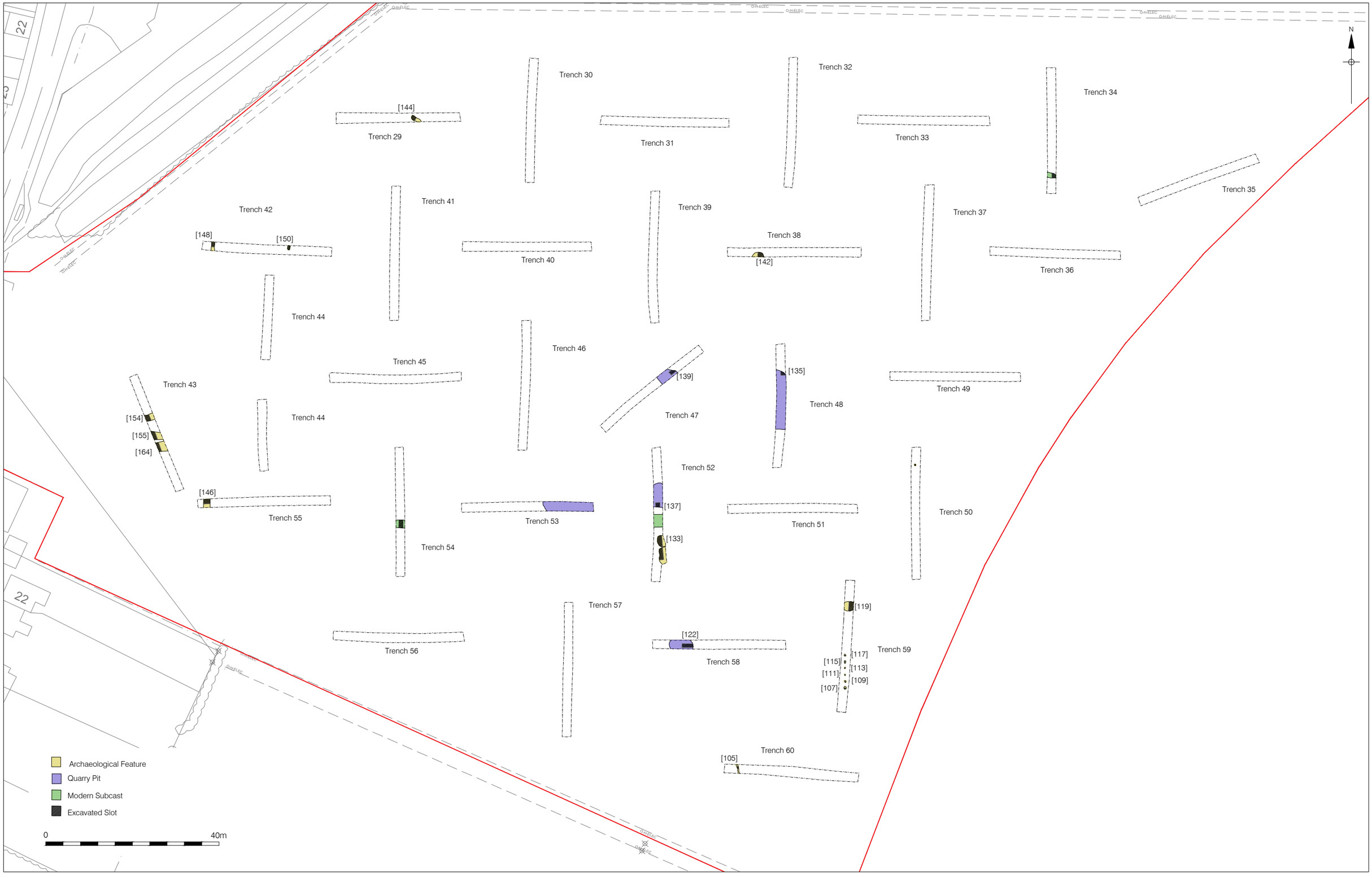


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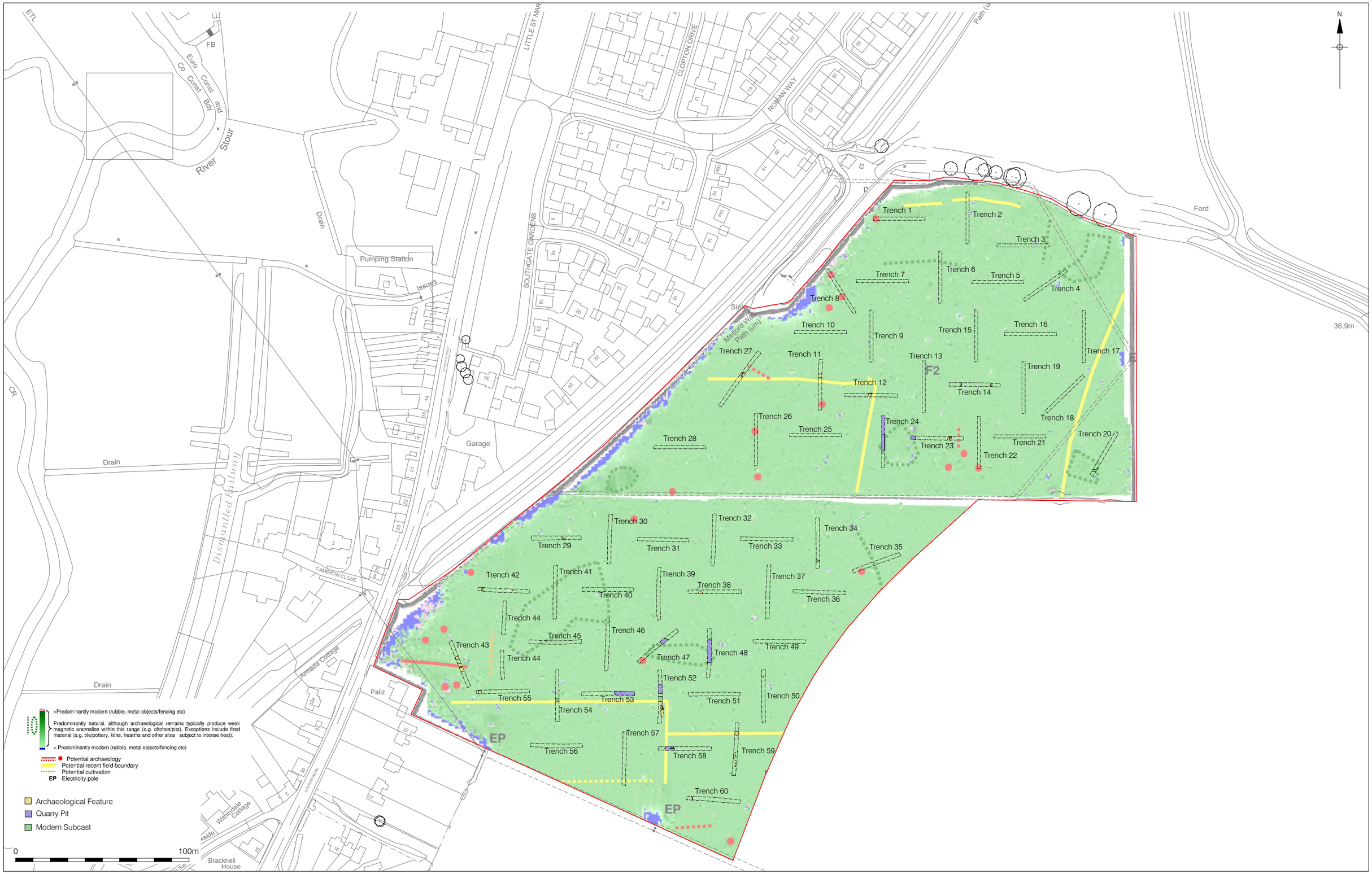
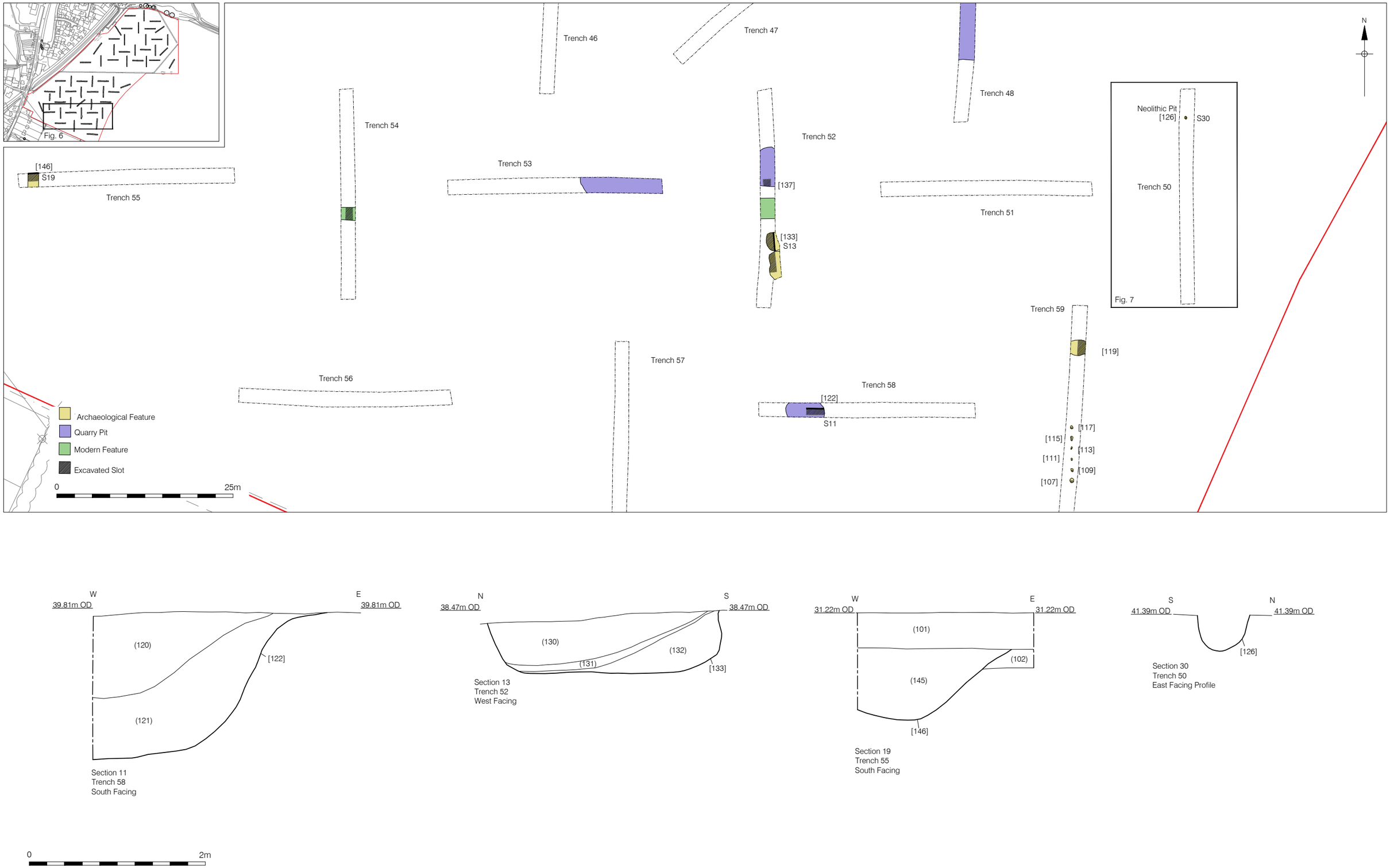
Figure 4
Detailed Trench Plan, South of Site
1:800 at A3



05/10/18 RS

Figure 5
Geophysics Interpretation
1:2000 at A3



Section 11
Trench 58
South Facing

Section 13
Trench 52
West Facing

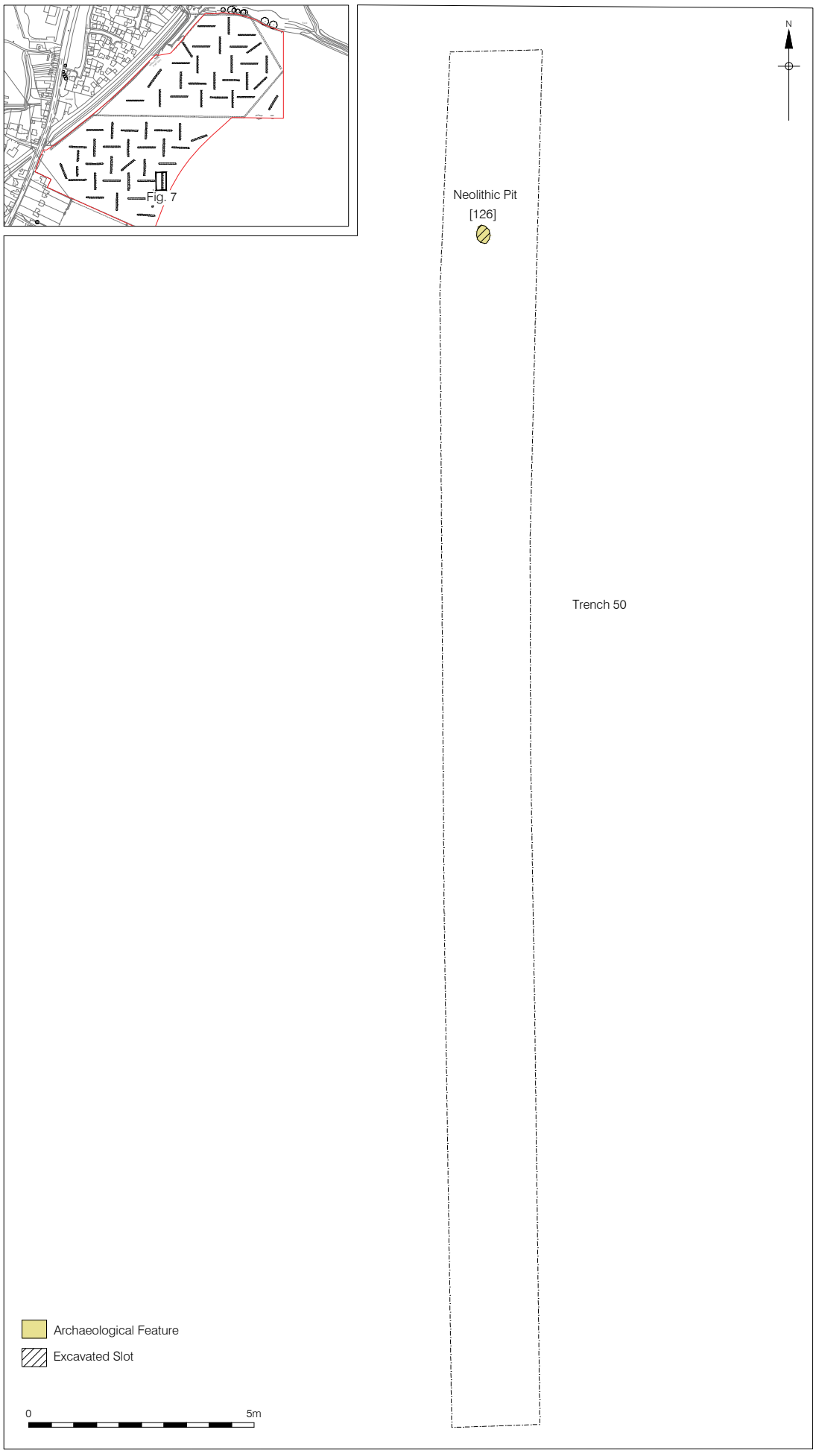
Section 19
Trench 55
South Facing

Section 30
Trench 50
East Facing Profile

0 2m

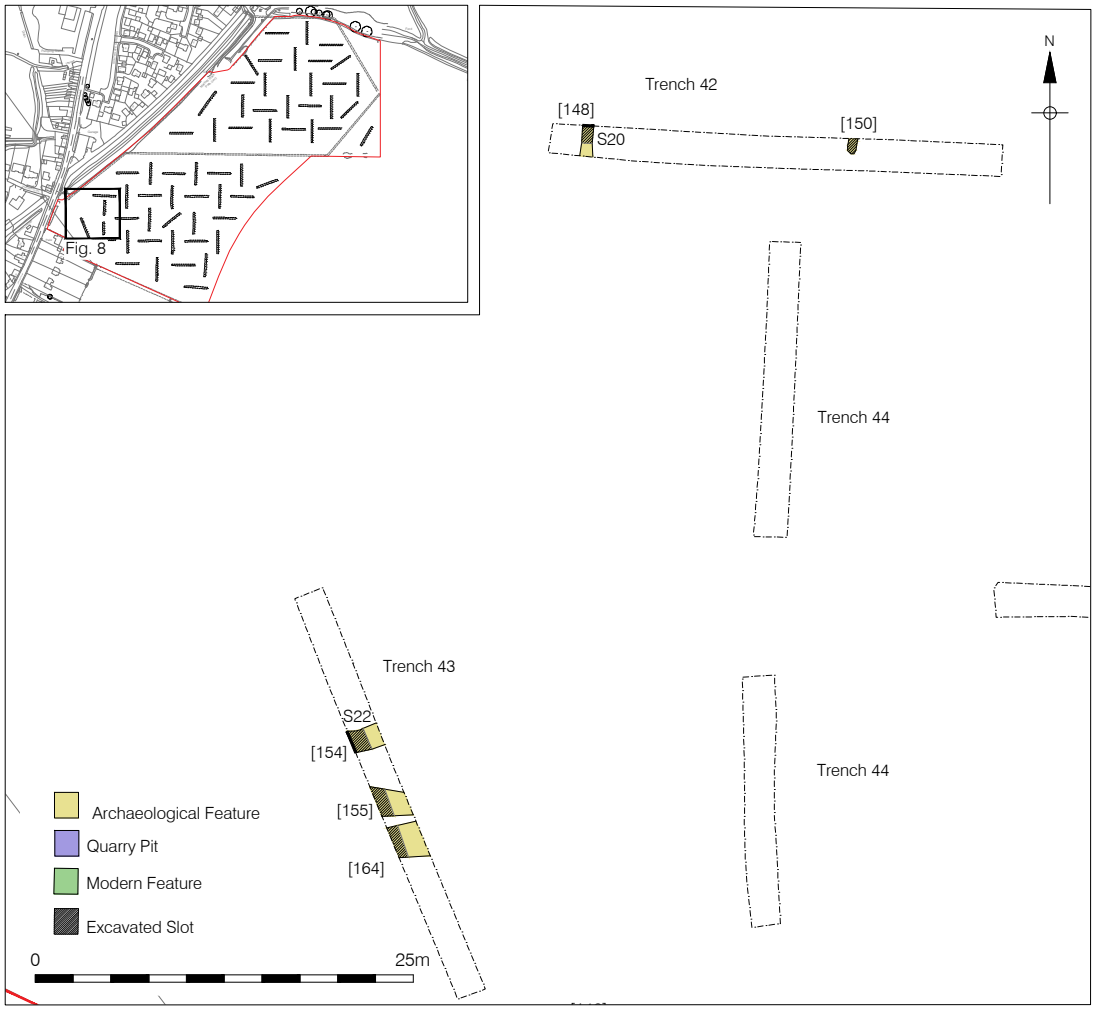
05/10/18 RS

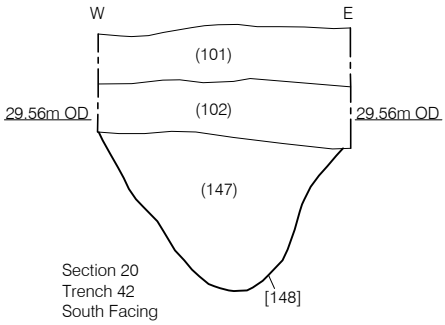
Figure 6
Trenches 50, 52, 55 and 58 Detailed Plan and Sections
Inset 1:10000; Plan 1:500; Sections 1:40 at A3

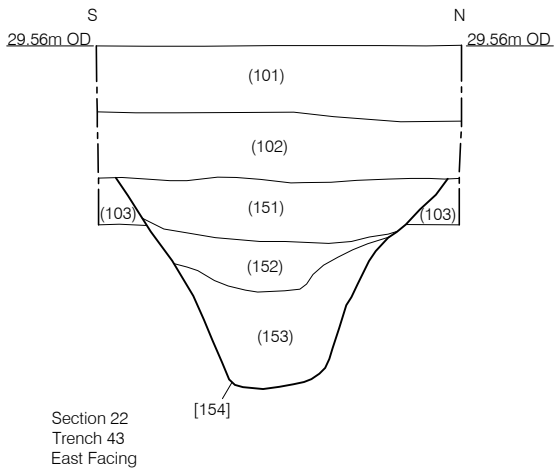


22/11/18 RS

Figure 7
Trench 50
Inset 1:10000; Plan 1:125 at A4

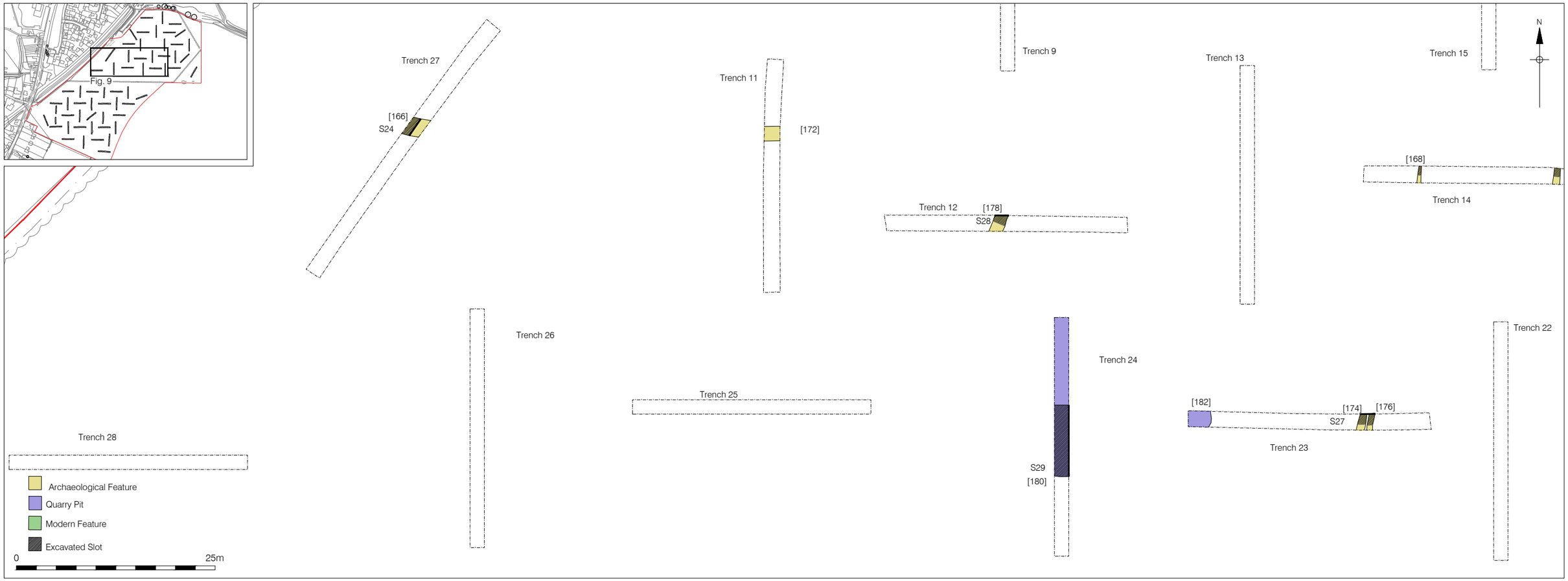


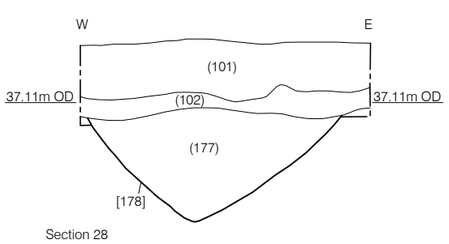




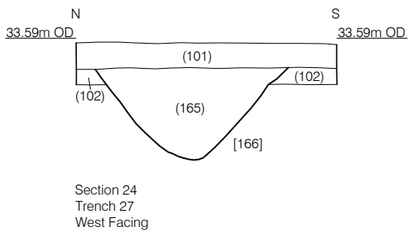
05/10/18 RS

Figure 8
Trenches 42 and 43
Inset 1:10000; Plan 1:500; Sections 1:40 at A4

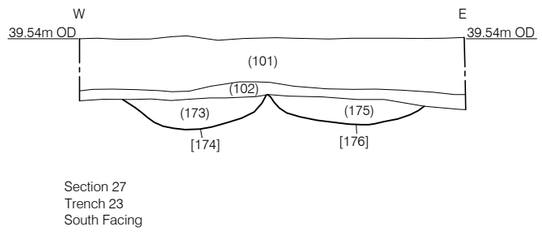




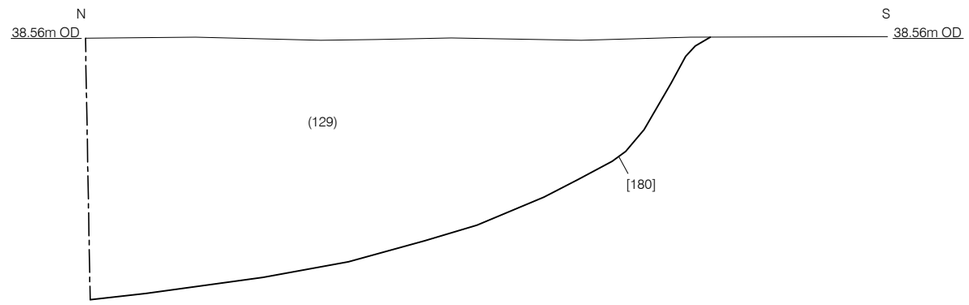
Section 28
Trench 12
South Facing



Section 24
Trench 27
West Facing



Section 27
Trench 23
South Facing



Section 29
Trench 24
West Facing

05/10/18 RS

Figure 9
Trenches 12, 27, 23 and 24 Plan and Sections
Inset 1:10000; Plan 1:500; Sections 1:40 at A3

PLATES

Plate 1: Northern part of the site, looking north

Plate 2: Looking eastwards across the southern part of the site

Plate 3: Fragmentary Neolithic Grooved-Ware vessel in pit [126], prior to excavation (scale 20cm)

Plate 4: Pit [126] following excavation, viewed in plan (scale 20cm)

Plate 5: Sherds of Neolithic Grooved-Ware pottery from pit [126]

Plate 6: Trench 52, medieval quarry pits [133], [159] and [161] (from left to right), looking east (scales 2m and 1m)

Plate 7: Trench 12, post-medieval ditch [178], looking north (scale 2m)

Plate 8: Trench 24, large quarry pit [180] in foreground with chalk-flecked geological substrate at the far end of the trench, looking south (scales 2m and 1m)

Plate 9: Trench 24, machine-excavated slot in quarry pit [180], base recorded at 1.9m below ground level, looking east

Plate 10: Trench 27, post-medieval ditch [166], looking southeast (scale 2m)

Plate 11: Trench 43, ditch [154], looking southwest (scale 1m)

Plate 12: Trench 47, showing chalk-flecked geological substrate in the foreground and quarry pit [139] at the far end of the trench, looking southwest (scales 1m)

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT REGISTER AND TRENCH INFORMATION

Context No	Cut	Trench	Type	Category	Period
101	101	All	Layer	Topsoil	-
102	102	All	Layer	Subsoil	-
103	103	All	Layer	Natural	-
104	104	60	Fill	Ditch	19th/20th century
105	105	60	Cut	Ditch	19th/20th century
106	107	59	Fill	Unknown	modern
107	107	59	Cut	Unknown	modern
108	109	59	Fill	Unknown	modern
109	109	59	Cut	Unknown	modern
110	111	59	Fill	Unknown	modern
111	111	59	Cut	Unknown	modern
112	113	59	Fill	Unknown	modern
113	113	59	Cut	Unknown	modern
114	115	59	Fill	Unknown	modern
115	115	59	Cut	Unknown	modern
116	117	59	Fill	Unknown	modern
117	117	59	Cut	Unknown	modern
118	119	59	Fill	Pit	19th/20th century
119	119	59	Cut	Pit	19th/20th century
120	122	58	Fill	Pit	post-medieval
121	122	58	Fill	Pit	post-medieval
122	122	58	Cut	Pit	post-medieval
123	124	53	Fill	Pit	post-medieval
124	124	53	Cut	Pit	post-medieval
125	126	50	Fill	Pit	Neolithic
126	126	50	Cut	Pit	Neolithic
127	127	54	Cut	Drain	19th/20th century
128	127	54	Fill	Drain	19th/20th century
129	180	24	Fill	Pit	post-medieval
130	133	52	Fill	Pit	medieval
131	133	52	Fill	Pit	medieval
132	133	52	Fill	Pit	medieval
133	133	52	Cut	Pit	medieval
134	135	48	Fill	Pit	post-medieval
135	135	48	Cut	Pit	post-medieval
136	137	52	Fill	Pit	post-medieval
137	137	52	Cut	Pit	post-medieval
138	139	47	Fill	Pit	post-medieval
139	139	47	Cut	Pit	post-medieval
140	142	38	Fill	Pit	post-medieval
141	142	38	Fill	Pit	post-medieval

Context No	Cut	Trench	Type	Category	Period
142	142	38	Cut	Pit	post-medieval
143	144	29	Fill	Tree-throw	post-medieval
144	144	29	Cut	Tree-throw	post-medieval
145	146	55	Fill	Ditch	19th/20th century
146	146	55	Cut	Ditch	19th/20th century
147	148	42	Fill	Ditch	19th/20th century
148	148	42	Cut	Ditch	19th/20th century
149	150	42	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
150	150	42	Cut	Ditch	post-medieval
151	154	43	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
152	154	43	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
153	154	43	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
154	154	43	Cut	Ditch	post-medieval
155	155	43	Cut	Ditch	post-medieval
156	155	43	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
157	158	57	Fill	Sub-casting	modern
158	158	57	Cut	Sub-casting	modern
159	159	52	Cut	Pit	medieval
160	159	52	Fill	Pit	medieval
161	161	52	Cut	Pit	medieval
162	161	52	Fill	Pit	medieval
163	164	43	Fill	Tree-throw	post-medieval
164	164	43	Cut	Tree-throw	post-medieval
165	166	27	Fill	Ditch	19th/20th century
166	166	27	Cut	Ditch	19th/20th century
167	168	14	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
168	168	14	Cut	Ditch	post-medieval
169	170	14	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
170	170	14	Cut	Ditch	post-medieval
171	172	11	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
172	172	11	Cut	Ditch	post-medieval
173	174	23	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
174	174	23	Cut	Ditch	post-medieval
175	176	23	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
176	176	23	Cut	Ditch	post-medieval
177	178	12	Fill	Ditch	post-medieval
178	178	12	Cut	Ditch	post-medieval
179	179		Layer	Colluvium	Multi period
180	180	24	Cut	Pit	post-medieval
181	182	23	Fill	Pit	post-medieval
182	182	23	Cut	Pit	Post-medieval

Trench Information

Trench	Alignment	Length (m)	Max Machine depth (m)	Topsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Natural depth End 1 (mOD)	Topsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Natural depth End 2 (mOD)	Trench Summary
1	E-W	30	0.71	0.35	0.71	0.71	0.45	0.2	0.2	No archaeological features present
2	N-S	30	0.75	0.4	0.75	0.75	0.4	-	-	No archaeological features present
3	E-W	30	0.7	0.35	0.58	0.6	0.36	0.58	0.58	No archaeological features present
4	NE-SW	30	0.73	0.32	0.61	0.64	0.35	0.72	0.72	No archaeological features present
5	E-W	30	0.75	0.31	0.73	0.75	0.31	0.74	0.74	No archaeological features present
6	N-S	30	0.73	0.34	0.71	0.73	0.34	0.69	0.69	No archaeological features present
7	E-W	30	0.75	0.36	0.74	0.75	0.36	0.72	0.72	No archaeological features present
8	NW-SE	30	0.91	0.45	0.9	0.91	0.3	0.65	0.65	No archaeological features present
9	N-S	30	0.69	0.31	0.62	0.63	0.29	0.56	0.56	No archaeological features present
10	E-W	30	0.71	0.4	0.7	0.71	0.4	0.7	0.7	No archaeological features present
11	N-S	30	0.65	0.35	0.41	0.5	0.31	0.61	0.61	Ditch [172]
12	E-W	30	0.85	0.33	0.51	0.45	0.31	0.36	0.36	Ditch [178]
13	N-S	30	0.41	0.38		0.4	0.33	0.38	0.38	No archaeological features present
14	E-W	30	0.43	0.35	0.41	0.43	0.32	0.36	0.36	Ditch [170], Ditch [168]
15	N-S	30	0.68	0.36	0.52	0.68	0.32	0.42	0.42	No archaeological features

Trench	Alignment	Length (m)	Max Machine depth (m)	Topsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Natural depth End 1 (mOD)	Topsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Natural depth End 2 (mOD)	Trench Summary
										present
16	E-W	30	0.61	0.31	0.52	0.53	0.28	0.48	0.48	No archaeological features present
17	N-S	30	0.4	0.32	-	0.33	0.34	0.37	0.37	No archaeological features present
18	NE-SW	30	0.38	0.33	-	0.36	0.32	0.36	0.36	No archaeological features present
19	N-S	30	0.43	0.31	0.41	0.41	0.37	-	0.37	No archaeological features present
20	NE-SW	30	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	No archaeological features present
21	E-W	30	0.39	0.31	-	0.32	0.31	-	0.31	No archaeological features present
22	N-S	30	0.43	0.41	-	0.43	0.32	-	0.32	No archaeological features present
23	E-W	30	0.4	0.32	0.43	0.4	0.35	-	0.35	Ditch 174, Ditch 176 and Quarry Pit 182
24	N-S	30	1.2	0.4	0.66		0.32		0.32	Quarry Pit [180]
25	E-W	30	0.45	0.39	0.4	0.45	0.3	0.34	0.34	No archaeological features present
26	N-S	30	0.56	0.4	0.55	0.56	0.31	0.39	0.39	No archaeological features present
27	NE-SW	30	0.9	0.3	0.88	0.9	0.25	0.55	0.55	Ditch [166]
28	E-W	30	0.8	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.8	0.8	No archaeological features present
29	E-W	30	0.62	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.35	0.62	0.6	No archaeological features present
30	N-S	30	0.67	0.38	0.29	0.67	0.33	0.64	0.64	No archaeological features

Trench	Alignment	Length (m)	Max Machine depth (m)	Topsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Natural depth End 1 (mOD)	Topsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Natural depth End 2 (mOD)	Trench Summary
										present
31	E-W	30	0.5	0.37	0.45	0.45	0.37	0.5	0.5	No archaeological features present
32	N-S	30	0.69	0.35	-	0.35	0.36	0.69	0.69	No archaeological features present
33	E-W	30	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.45	0.45	No archaeological features present
34	N-S	30	0.3	0.3	-	0.3	0.3		0.3	No archaeological features present.
35	NE-SW	30	0.36	0.36	-	0.3	0.36		0.36	No archaeological features present
36	E-W	30	0.51	0.36	0.51	0.51				No archaeological features present
37	N-S	30	0.56	0.34	0.54	0.54	0.36	0.56	0.56	No archaeological features present
38	E-W	30	0.3	0.3	-	0.3	0.3		0.3	No archaeological features present
39	N-S	30	0.34	0.33	-	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.34	No archaeological features present
40	E-W	30	0.67	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.37	0.67	0.67	No archaeological features present
41	N_S	30	0.8	0.33	0.65	0.65	0.33	0.65	0.65	No archaeological features present
42	E-W	30	0.6	0.33	0.6	0.6				Ditch 148
43	NW-SE	30	0.99	0.36	0.89	0.99	0.38	0.7		Tree throw [164], Ditch [155]
44	N-S	30	0.7	0.3	0.4				0.7	No archaeological features present

Trench	Alignment	Length (m)	Max Machine depth (m)	Topsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Natural depth End 1 (mOD)	Topsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Natural depth End 2 (mOD)	Trench Summary
45	E-W	30	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.48	0.48	No archaeological features present
46	N-S	30	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	No archaeological features present
47	NE-SW	30	0.34	0.34	-	0.34	0.3	0.3	0.3	Quarry Pit [139]
48	N-S	30	0.35	0.35	-	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	Quarry Pit [135]
49	E-W	30	0.5	0.28	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5	No archaeological features present
50	N-S	30	0.44	0.25	-	0.25	0.25	0.35	0.35	Buried pot, possible cremation [126]
51	E-W	30	0.5	0.23	0.5	0.5	0.24	0.5	0.5	No archaeological features present
52	N-S	30	0.48	0.3	-	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.8	Pit [133], Pit [159], Pit [161], land drain, quarry pit [137]
53	E-W	30	0.5	0.27	0.5	0.5	0.27	0.43	0.43	Quarry Pit [124] - planned not excavated
54	N-S	30	0.49	0.3	0.48	0.82	0.3	0.49	0.49	Land drain [127]
55	E-W	30	0.67	0.45	0.67	0.67	0.42	0.63	0.63	Ditch [146]
56	E-W	30	0.5	0.3	0.48	0.48	0.3	0.5	0.5	No archaeological features present
57	N-S	30	0.45	0.25	0.39	0.39	-	-	0.38	No archaeological features present
58	E-W	30	0.56	0.38	-	0.38	0.32	0.24	0.38	Quarry Pit [122]
59	N-S	30	0.48	0.37	0.48	0.48	0.31	0.4	0.4	Agricultral/modern features [107], [109], [111],[113], [115], [117]. Pit [119].

Trench	Alignment	Length (m)	Max Machine depth (m)	Topsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 1 (m)	Natural depth End 1 (mOD)	Topsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Subsoil max depth End 2 (m)	Natural depth End 2 (mOD)	Trench Summary
60	E-W	30	0.34	0.24	-	0.24	0.33	-	0.33	No archaeological features present

APPENDIX B: FINDS

Table 1. Range of pottery types and their forms

Fabric code	Expansion	Fabric date range	No. of sherds	ENV	Weight (g)	Form
Iron Age/Roman						
IAGT/RBGG	Iron age/roman grog-tempered ware	Iron Age-early Roman	1	1	19	Unidentified
Roman						
RBGG	Roman grog tempered	Romano-British	2	2	10	Jar, unidentified
RBGW	Romano-British greyware	Romano-British	1	1	9	Unidentified
RBRC	Romano-British red colour coated	Romano-British	1	1	19	Bowl or dish
RBRM	Romano-British red micaceous	Romano-British	1	1	13	Unidentified
Medieval						
ESOW	Essex sandy orange wares	Late 12th-14th century	7	6	31	Unidentified
HFW1	Hedingham ware	Mid 12th-M.13th century	3	2	18	Jug, unidentified
MCW	Medieval coarseware	Late 12th-14th century	1	1	40	Unidentified
MCW2	Medieval coarseware 2	12th-14th century	3	3	35	Jug, unidentified
MCW3	Medieval coarseware 3	12th-14th century	2	2	17	Unidentified
Post-medieval						
CRW	Creamwares	1730-1760	1	1	7	Plate, dinner-size
ESWL	English stoneware, London-type	Mid 17th-early 20th century	1	1	12	Tankard
GRE	Glazed red earthenware	16th-18th century	2	2	29	Unidentified
LPME	Late post-medieval unglazed earthenwares	18th-20th century	4	4	58	Flower pot, unidentified
LSRW	Late slipped redware	18th-19th century	2	1	38	Unidentified
PMRE	Post-medieval redwares, Essex type	16th-18th century	4	4	31	Bowl, unidentified
UNID	Unidentified		1	1	17	Unidentified
YELW	Yellow ware	Late 18th-19th century	1	1	25	Dish, oval

Table 2. Distribution of the pottery showing for each context containing the pottery, which feature and trench it was derived from, its phase, the quantification and the fabrics and forms present and a spot date for the deposit

IA/R: Iron Age/Roman, R: Roman, M: medieval, PM: post-medieval

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Preliminary phasing	SC	ENV	Weight (g)	Pottery types (and forms)	Spot date
101	-		Topsoil		10	10	89	R: RBGW (unidentified); M: ESOW (unidentified), MCW2 (unidentified), MCW3 (unidentified); PM: LPME (unidentified, flower pot), PMRE (unidentified)	18th-20th century
114	115	59	Unknown	modern	1	1	2	M: ESOW (unidentified)	Late12th-14th century
128	127	54	Drain	modern	1	1	6	R: RBGG (unidentified)	Roman
131	133	52	Pit	late med/post-med	5	4	68	M: HFW1 (jug, unidentified), MCW (unidentified), MCW3 (unidentified)	Late12th-14th century
134	135	48	Pit	post-med/modern	1	1	3	M: ESOW (unidentified)	Late12th-14th century
136	137	52	Pit	post-med/modern	1	1	8	PM: PMRE (unidentified)	16th-18th century
155	155	43	Ditch	post-med/modern	12	10	154	M: ESOW (unidentified), PM: CRW (plate, dinner-size), ESWL (Tankard), GRE: (unidentified), LPME (unidentified), LSRW (unidentified), UNID (unidentified), YELW (dish, oval	Late18th-19th century
163	164	43	Tree throw	post-med/modern	2	2	10	R: RBGG (jar); M: MCW2 (unidentified)	12th-14th century
165	166	27	Ditch	post-med/modern	2	2	43	R: RBRC (bowl or dish); M: MCW2 (jug)	12th-14th century
175	176	23	Ditch	post-med/modern	1	1	13	PMRE (bowl)	16th-18th century
179	179		Colluvium	prehistoric to	2	2	32	IA/R:	Late Iron

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Preliminary phasing	SC	ENV	Weight (g)	Pottery types (and forms)	Spot date
				modern				IAGT/RBGG ((unidentified); R: RBRM (unidentified)	Age-early Roman

Table 3: Quantification of the CBM

Context	Cut	Trench	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date
101	101		LMD1;LMD2	Post-medieval peg tiles	6	1600	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
106	107	59	UNK	Small sandy fragments	4					Undateable
108	109	59	UNK	Small sandy fragments	4					Undateable
116	117	59	UNK	Small sandy fragments	2					Undateable
118	119	59	LDM2; LMD3;3046;3101PM	Post-medieval bricks, peg tiles and mortar	10	50	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
120	12	58	LMD1	Post-medieval peg tiles	7	1600	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
128	127	54	3046;LMD1;LMD2; UNK	Post-medieval bricks and peg tiles (one burnt)	11	1450	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
129	180	24	3060;2452;3026;UNK	Early and late Roman brick and tiles; small sandy fragments	5	50	300	140	300	140-300
130	133	133	UNK	Small sandy fragments	4					Undateable
134	135	48	LMD1;LMD2	Post-medieval peg tiles	3	1600	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
136	137	52	3060:LMD1:LMD2	Roman Radlett fragment; post-medieval peg tiles	8	50	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
140	142	38	UNK	Small sandy	4					Undateable

Context	Cut	Trench	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date
				fragments						
142	148	38	UNK	Small sandy fragments	2					Undateable
147	148	42	3060	Early Roman Radlett tegula	1	50	120	50	120	50-120
155	156	43	LMD1;LMD2	Post-medieval peg tiles	6	1600	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
156	155	43	LMD2	Post-medieval peg tiles	1	1600	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
165	166	27	LMD3	Roman local brick	1	50	300	50	300	50-300
166	165	27	LMD1	Post-medieval peg tiles	5	1600	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
167	168	14	LMD1;LMD2	Post-medieval peg tiles	3	1600	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
173	174	23	LMD2	Post-medieval peg tiles	1	1600	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
175	176	23	LMD1;LMD2	Post-medieval peg tiles	5	1600	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900
177	178	12	3065;LMD1;LMD2	Post-medieval brick and peg tiles	6	1450	1900	1600	1900	1600-1900

Table 4: Quantification of the small finds

Context	SF	Trench	Description	Object date	Pot date	Recommendations
101	2		Copper-alloy shoe buckle; incomplete; plain frame with rounded corners, drilled for separate spindle; W c. 65mm	c. 1720-1790s		
	3		Iron nail; complete with square-section shank and small slightly pyramidal head; L 68mm; curved shank suggest extracted item			**discard**
	6		Lead melting waste; 15 x 20mm flat piece			**discard**
	8		Copper-alloy solid cast domed ?button; diam. 11mm; ht. 4mm; attached/corroded to transverse short length of iron wire			**x-ray**
	9		Copper-alloy crotal bell; cast body fragment only with circumferential rib			
	10		Lead sheet patch/waste; oval and folded double in antiquity; W c. 35mm; L c. 50mm			**discard**
	13		Copper-alloy belt accessories; two separate:			
			complete strap loop; D-shaped with separate rivet and collared knop on the frame; W 12mm; L 22mm	late medieval		
			double-loop buckle; incomplete with lobed	c.1550-		

Context	SF	Trench	Description	Object date	Pot date	Recommendations
			knops at either end of strap bar, and moulded rosettes on the loops; W 20mm; L c. 45mm	1650		
	14		Copper-alloy disc; thin and well-made but corroded and with no visible signs of decoration; unlikely to be a coin; diam. 33mm; 1mm thick			**x-ray**
	15		Lead melting waste; irregular piece; L 35mm			**discard**
	16		Iron-working waste; incomplete smithing-hearth bottom; diam. 130mm; ht. 50mm			
		Tr 13	Four metal objects, metal-detected from spoil heap:			
			Copper-alloy button; complete livery/blazer form with raised cone for copper-alloy fixing loop; diam. 15mm	18th century		
			Copper-alloy fitting; diamond-shaped cast with stepped surface with raised central diamond-shaped setting for ?now lost gem or inlay; stepped body decorated with pattern of parallel grooves; central circular hollow at the back with possible remains of ?iron pin/shank; W 16mm+; ht. 27mm; hollow diam. 15mm			**further identify**
			Copper-alloy fitting; narrow top end of cast object with moulded decoration; lug at the back has transverse perforation with remains of iron pin/wire; W (top) 8mm; possibly harness pendant?			**further identify**
			Lead shot; slightly flattened from impact; diam. 13mm	c. 1500-1800		
		Tr 19	Copper-alloy ?melting waste or metal ore; solid lump metal-detected from spoil heap			**further identify**
		Tr 36	Copper-alloy uniform button; complete single-shell domed with copper-alloy wire loop for fixing; cast with cypher below St Edward's/Queen's crown; traces of gilding; metal-detected from spoil heap:	19th to 20th centuries		**further identify**
		Tr 37	Pewter or tombac button; complete livery/blazer form with loop at the back; plain with slightly bevelled edge; diam. 17mm	19th to 20th centuries		
		Tr 49	Three metal objects; metal-detected from spoil heap:			
			Copper-alloy button; complete livery/blazer form with loop at the back for fixing; plain but tinned face; diam. 14mm	19th to 20th centuries		
			Copper-alloy ?melting waste or metal ore; solid amorphous lump			**further identify**
			Lead sheet waste; cut strip with one pointed end; folded over in antiquity; W 20mm; L 85mm			**discard**
		Tr 50	Three metal objects; metal-detected from spoil heap:			
			Copper-alloy cast sheet fragment; undiagnostic			**discard**
			Lead melting waste; two small pieces			**discard**
		Tr 51	Two metal objects; metal-detected from spoil heap:			
			Copper-alloy mount/washer; incomplete; 14 x 11mm+; central hole with bevelled	19th to 20th		**discard**

Context	SF	Trench	Description	Object date	Pot date	Recommendations
			edges; undiagnostic	centuries		
			Lead shot; diam. 11mm	c. 1500-1800		
118			Iron nails; two heavily corroded; fill of post-medieval pit [119]		n/a	**discard**
134			Iron nail; heavily corroded; L 115mm; curved shank suggest extracted item; from post-medieval pit [135]			**discard**
155			Five metal objects from post-medieval ditch [156]:			
			Iron fitting; incomplete and heavily corroded; tapering round-section body with flattened oval terminal; L 60mm+; terminal W 30mm; possibly from chest			**x-ray**
			Iron strap/binding; heavily corroded of thin sheet; W 25mm; L 210mm+			**discard**
			Iron nails; three heavily corroded; one complete; L 95mm			**discard**
165		Tr 27	Iron nail; four heavily corroded fragments; from post-medieval ditch [166]			**discard**
177		Tr 12	Iron fitting; complete but heavily corroded; round-section body with one end flattened to circular terminal, likely perforated for fixing; the other end curved into hook perpendicular to terminal; L 175mm; terminal diam. 20mm; from post-medieval ditch [178]		n/a	**x-ray**

APPENDIX C: ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1: Quantification of animal bone by trench and context

Trench	Context	feature	Species	Wt (g)	No.	Element	Anatomical region
Neolithic							
50	125/[126]	Pit	Unidentifiable	0.5	1	Unidentifiable	Unknown
50	125/[126]	Pit	Unidentifiable	0.5	1	Unidentifiable	Unknown
50	125/[126]	Pit	Unidentifiable	0.5	1	Unidentifiable	Unknown
Post-medieval							
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Cattle Sized	8.5	1	Cervical vertebrae	Axial
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Cattle Sized	7.5	1	Cervical vertebrae	Axial
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Cattle Sized	2	1	Cervical vertebrae	Axial
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Cattle Sized	0.5	1	Cervical vertebrae	Axial
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Cattle Sized	2	1	Cervical vertebrae	Axial
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Cattle Sized	0.5	1	Cervical vertebrae	Axial
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Sheep Sized	0.5	1	Rib	Axial
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Sheep Sized	0.5	1	Rib	Axial
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Sheep Sized	2.5	1	Rib	Axial
12	177/[178]	Ditch	Sheep Sized	2.5	1	cf. radius	Fore
23	173/[174]	Ditch	Sheep Sized	3.5	1	Unidentifiable	Fore/Hind
23	173/[174]	Ditch	Sheep Sized	3	1	Unidentifiable	Fore/Hind
23	173/[174]	Ditch	Sheep Sized	1	1	Unidentifiable	Fore/Hind
27	165/[166]	Ditch	Bos taurus	89.5	1	Metacarpal	Fore
42	147/[148]	Ditch	Unidentifiable	0.5	1	Unidentifiable	Unknown
42	147/[148]	Ditch	Unidentifiable	0.5	1	Unidentifiable	Unknown
42	147/[148]	Ditch	Unidentifiable	0.5	1	Unidentifiable	Unknown
43	151/[154]	Ditch	Bos taurus	95.6	7	Femur	Hind
43	151/[154]	Ditch	Unidentifiable	8	1	Unidentifiable	Hind
43	156/[155]	Ditch	Equus caballus	5	1	Lower Canine	Cranial
43	156/[155]	Ditch	Equus caballus	2	1	Lower PM2	Cranial
48	134/[135]	Pit	Sheep Sized	9	2	Vertebra	Axial
58	120/[122]	Pit	Ovicaprid	11.5	2	Humerus	Fore
58	120/[122]	Pit	Bos taurus	23.5	1	Radus	Fore

Table 2: Quantification of the mollusc shell from post-medieval deposits

Trench	Category	Context	Genus	Species	Element	Landmark	Count	Wt (g)	Side	Notching
14	Ditch	167/[168]	Ostrea	edulis	Valve	Hinge	1	6.5	R	N
58	Pit	120/[122]	Ostrea	edulis	Valve	Hinge	1	12.5	R	Y
58	Pit	120/[122]	Ostrea	edulis	Valve	Hinge	1	16.5	L	Y
58	Pit	120/[122]	Ostrea	edulis	Valve	Hinge	1	10	R	N
58	Pit	120/[122]	Ostrea	edulis	Valve	Hinge	4	61	L	N
58	Pit	120/[122]	Ostrea	edulis	Valve	Body	1	0.5	U	N

Table 2: Assessment of environmental samples

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant

Sample No.		**1**	**2**
Context No.		**125**	**147**
Feature No.		**126**	**148**
Volume of bulk (litres)		**5**	**24**
Volume of flot (millilitres)		**14**	**80**
Method of processing		**F**	**F**
HEAVY RESIDUE			
Bone			
Animal Bone			1
Other Material			
Burnt Clay			1
Burnt Flint		3	
Pottery		4	1
Flot Residue			
Charcoal			
Charcoal >4 mm		1	1
Charcoal 2 - 4 mm		3	3
Charcoal <2 mm		4	4
Frags. of ID size		x	<5
Seeds			
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow		1
Apiaceae spp.	Carrots		1
Atriplex sp.	Oraches	1	
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen		1
Juncus sp.	Rushes		2
Lemna sp.	Duckweed		1
Trifolium hybridum	Alsike clover		1
Viola sp.	Violets		1
Burnt seeds			
Anthemis spp.	Chamomiles		1
Anthemis cotula	Stinking chamomile		3
Asperula sp.	Woodruffs		1
Carex spp.	Sedges		1
Chenopodium sp.	Goosefoots		1
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen		

Sample No.		**1**	**2**
Context No.		**125**	**147**
Feature No.		**126**	**148**
Volume of bulk (litres)		**5**	**24**
Volume of flot (millilitres)		**14**	**80**
Method of processing		**F**	**F**
Fabaceae spp. (indet cotyledon)	Peas		1
Fabaceae spp. (indet complete)	Peas		2
Juncus sp.	Rushes		1
Poaceae spp. - indet.large	Grasses		2
Poaceae spp. - indet. medium	Grasses		2
Rumex spp.	Docks		1
Unknown			1
Cereals			
Hordeum sp.	Barley		1
Secale Cereale	Rye		1
Triticum aestivum/durum	Bread wheat		4
Cereal - indet. chaff			1
Cereal - indet. Caryopses			4
Other plant macrofossils			
Roots/tubers		2	3
Terrestrial snail shell			
Cecilioides acicula		3	2
Juveniles - undiff.			1
Other remains			
Insect remains		1	2
Insect eggs/worm cases		1	2
Small animal bone			1
Vitreous material			3
Coal		1	2

APPENDIX D: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-324834

Project details

Project name	Station Road, Long Melford
Short description of the project	Sixty 30m long evaluation trenches were excavated at Station Road, Long Melford. An isolated fragmentary Neolithic Grooved-Ware vessel was found, presumed to be a votive offering. Medieval and post-medieval quarrying of the marly natural was recorded on site in addition to several post-medieval and later agricultural ditches.
Project dates	Start: 13-08-2018 End: 27-08-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Late Neolithic
Significant Finds	POT Late Neolithic
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'''Sample Trenches'''
Development type	Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH LONG MELFORD Station Road, Long Melford
Postcode	CO10 9HB
Study area	10 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 8637 4469 52.068689721201 0.719442779113 52 04 07 N 000 43 09 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 30m Max: 30m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA

Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project design originator	PCA Central
Project director/manager	Simon Carlyle
Project supervisor	Alexander Pullen
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Gladman Developments Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Physical Contents	''Animal Bones'',''Ceramics''
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Digital Contents	''none''
Digital Media available	''Database'',''Survey''
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Paper Contents	''none''
Paper Media available	''Context sheet'',''Drawing'',''Map'',''Photograph'',''Plan'',''Report'',''Section'',''Survey ''

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land Off Station Road, Long Melford, Suffolk: Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	A G Pullen
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Pampisford
Description	A4 Grey Literature Report c. 70 pages.

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