



OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX– PHASE 1

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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Abstract

In August 2016 and April 2017, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Land at Old Chicken Farm, Thorpe Road, Little Clacton, Essex (Grid Ref: 618100/218800) as part of a scheme of archaeological works, ahead of the erection of housing. A brief issued by the Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS) required an archaeological investigation in the form of trial trenches.

The archaeological background suggested that the site had a specific potential for prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site. The first phase of works required the excavation of nine trial trenches measuring 50.00m x 1.80m and a single 15.00 x 1.80m.

Unfortunately no archaeological finds or features were encountered in the trenches. The evaluation revealed one main phase of activity at the site which was associated with modern cultivation including the installation of land drains. The lack of sub soil at the site is suggestive of some form of intrusive landscaping taking place in the later 20th century when the site was in use as a chicken farm.

Due to the lack of archaeological finds and features in Phase 1, a recommendation for no further archaeological fieldwork in the Phase 2 area has been suggested.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

In August 2016 and April 2017, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Land at Old Chicken Farm, Thorpe Road, Little Clacton, Essex (Grid Ref: 618100/218800) as part of a scheme of archaeological works, ahead of the erection of housing. A brief (Gascoyne, A. 3rd June 2016) by Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS) (Gascoyne, A. dated 3rd June 2016) required a programme of linear trial trenching to sample 4% of the available area (with 1% contingency). The project was split into two phases. The first phase required the excavation of nine trial trenches measuring 50.00m x 1.80m and a single 15.00 x 1.80m (Fig. 5) to be excavated using a 360° tracked, mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located 1.30 km east of the village of Little Clacton and covers an area of 4.10 Ha (Fig. 1). The site lies in the parish of Little Clacton and is situated at approximately C. 22.00m AOD.

No records from the British Geological survey were available for the underlying geology on the site, however previous geotechnical work on the site revealed that the superficial deposits consisted of stiff clays with pockets of sand throughout. Approximately 250.00m to the east of the site the BGS records a pocket of Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup (sand and gravel), (BGS, 2016) The bedrock geology is Thames Group Clay, a Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period when the local environment was dominated by deep seas, (BGS, 2016).

The site is bordered by Thorpe Road to the west and Holland road to the North. Access to the site is down a private drive accessed from Thorpe road. This leads to the detached house that lies in the western portion of the site. Residential properties lie both to the east and south of the assessment site. Currently the majority of the land is vacant and could be described as been given over to pasture while a small portion of the land in the western part of the site forms part of the garden for the residence. Other parts of the land near the residence were part of the old chicken farm that used to occupy this area of the site. The area of woodland in the south east of the site also contained a small natural pond

3.0 PLANNING POLICIES

The archaeological investigation is to be carried out on the recommendation of Tendring District Council, following guidance laid down by the *National Planning and Policy Framework* (NPPF, DCLD 2012) which replaced *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5, DCLG 2010) in March 2012. The relevant local planning policy is the *Tendring District Local Plan* which states:



3.1 *Tendring District Local plan (2007)*

The Tendring District Local Plan 2007 deals with the development on archaeological sites in Policy EN29; this states the following:

Policy EN29 – Archaeology

- Development will not be permitted where the Council considers that it will adversely affect nationally important archaeological sites and their setting.
- Permission will be refused where development proposals do not satisfactorily protect archaeological remains of local importance. Where applications are submitted on sites where information indicates that there are likely to be archaeological remains, the Council will expect to be provided with the results of an archaeological evaluation prior to the determination of an application. The evaluation should seek to define:

A. the nature and condition of any archaeological remains within the application site;

B. the likely impact of the proposed development on such features; and

C. the means of mitigating the impact of the proposed development in order to achieve preservation “in situ” or, where this is not merited, the method of recording such remains prior to development. Where development is permitted on sites containing archaeological remains, any planning permission will be subject to conditions and/or formal agreements requiring appropriate excavation and recording in advance of development and the publication of the results.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2 & 3)

The following archaeological background utilises the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) (1km search centred on the site), Historic England PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) and the Colchester Archive Access Point in Colchester Library (Figs. 2-3). Where possible the Essex HER preferred reference has been used. The EHER search returned 32 records in total including historic monuments and listed buildings.

4.1 Prehistoric (750000 BC – 43A D)

Essex has a rich record of prehistoric activity and archaeological sites. Fertile land and an abundance of natural resources means that the area has always been an attractive location for settlement.



The EHER returned two records of prehistoric date, neither of which are located within the assessment site. The oldest record (MEX1034365) relates to three pieces of possible worked flint, possibly Lower Palaeolithic to Late Bronze Age in date, that were recovered during a field walking survey at Oakwood Industrial park approximately 300m south east of the assessment site.

The second record dates from the Iron Age (MEX1040021) and refers to a monitoring exercise that took place 250m from the assessment site, on an EDF Energy Networks Cable Route, and records that a ditch was encountered that contained a fragment of Iron Age Pottery.

While the wider landscape contains evidence of limited prehistoric activity, there is no record of any such activity on the assessment site. There are a number of undated cropmarks in the surrounding fields that are designated as undated which could potentially be of prehistoric date. The EHER returned one example record (2917), which relates to the possible location of a barrow.

4.2 Romano-British (43AD – c. 410AD)

The Romano-British period marked a significant change in development for the wider area with *Camulodunum* (Colchester) becoming the Roman Capital of Britannia. Little Clacton is located approximately 22km south east of *Camulodunum* and located near a Roman road connecting the capital to the coast.

Much of Britain remained virtually unchanged in the years shortly after the Roman invasion of 43 AD; however East Anglia experienced significant development both in settlements and villa building as well as road construction.

The EHER returned one entry dating to the Roman period (MEX1034363). A single sherd of Roman greyware was found approximately 300m south east of the assessment site. The pottery was found as part of a field walking exercise on the extension to Oakwood Business Park. The find was probably the result of agricultural practice rather than any kind of significant archaeological anomaly.

There is no direct evidence for Roman activity on the assessment site and limited evidence for more Roman activity in the search area. While there was a Roman find recorded in the field walking exercise at Oakwood Business Park (MEX1034363) this was the only one in the search area. The lack of Roman evidence in the area may be considered a little unexpected especially given the sites location near the Roman capital of *Camulodunum*.

4.3 Anglo-Saxon (early medieval) (c.410AD – 1066AD)

The withdrawal of Roman authority in Britain in the early 5th Century AD and the dominance of the Anglo-Saxons in the south and east of England led to significant



changes in settlement distribution. Many of the Roman settlements, such as Colchester, waned in significance and new settlements were established. Settlement patterns persisting throughout Iron Age and Roman Britain did not necessarily continue into the Anglo-Saxon period.

The settlement of Clacton was established within this period. The origins of the name Clacton is believed to have come from the name of a man associated with the estate, which in old English (Anglo – Saxon) is referred to as *Clacc*. The combination of this name with the old English words *ing* and *tūn*; *ing* meaning followers and *tūn* meaning an enclosed farmstead or dwelling, (Mills, A.D. 2003). The name may also be a derivative of the anglo-scandinavian name *Klax*, (Reaney, P. H. 1935).

The EHER search returned no records dating from this period and there is no direct evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity on the assessment site and limited evidence for more substantial settlement activity in the wider area.

4.4 Medieval (1066 AD – 1540 AD)

The medieval period in Little Clacton is better represented in both primary and secondary sources with four archaeological records and three listed building records within the search area.

The entry in Domesday Book of 1086 AD, records the village of Clacton (now separated as two villages; Great and Little Clacton) in the Tendring Hundred and County of Essex. The total population was 152 households (very large) comprising 47 villagers, 95 smallholders and 10 slaves. The total tax was assessed at 20 geld units which was a very large amount. The village had nine lord's plough teams and 23 men's plough teams, 20 acres of meadow, pasture with 141 sheep, woodland with 400 pigs, one mill and one fishery. The ownership of many manorial demesnes passed to Norman aristocrats after the Conquest and however Clacton remained under the control of the Bishop of London St Paul. (Morris, J. 1985). With such a large population for the time and the high value attached to the land it is fair to say that Clacton was a settlement of some significance before the conquest of 1066 AD. It is also in the medieval period where the name of Little Clacton is first used, in 1321 AD, (Walker, K. 1958).

Clacton appears to have prospered more than the surrounding area after the Conquest with a significant rise in livestock and value. The Bishop of London St Paul, to whom the lands were granted, appears numerous times in the Domesday survey. The value of Clacton from the information and its setting appears to have lain in its rich pasture of the marshlands, its ready access to the sea and also therefore the capital, (Walker, K. 1598).

The earliest record (MEX1040022) for this period returned by the EHER relates to a monitoring of an EDF Energy Networks cable route approximately 430m east of the assessment site. The excavations uncovered a number of medieval features the most



significant of which was the site of a small, medieval rectangular structure with a burnt patch, identified as an oven or a hearth. It was not clear from the excavations however if the structure was domestic or agricultural in function or even if it was permanent.

Medieval finds were encountered during the field walking exercise associated with the Extension to the Oakwood Business Park (MEX1034364). The density of the finds overall was low and consisted of a single sherd of an 11th– 12th century cooking pot, a further six sherds of medieval pottery and two sherds of 15th – 16th century pottery. 29 pieces of medieval/late medieval tile were found as well, however these and the other finds that were encountered are probably the result of agricultural practice rather than settlement.

A series of cropmarks dating to the medieval period have been identified in the search area. One (16989) located in a field approximately 430m south east of the assessment site; delineate the location of a possible medieval field boundary and a small rectangular enclosure. The second record (16988) refers to a field located 400m south west of the assessment site containing cropmarks that are believed to mark the location of a series of linear features and possible pits.

The first listed building record (MEX1010205) returned by the EHER search relates to the parish church of St James and is designated Grade II*. The church is located in the centre of Little Clacton approximately 1.20 km west of the assessment site. The church is 12th century on origin and the Nave was lengthened and rebuilt in the early 14th century. The bell tower contains three bells the oldest of which was cast by Robert Crouch in 1437. It is believed that he only cast thirteen bells and this is the only one in Essex. Archaeological intervention in 2007 monitored the removal of a cement render which revealed architectural features not previously seen including an arch in the north chancel wall, (Andrews, D. 2007).

The final two records (MEX1010121 and MEX1010201) both refer to timber framed dwellings with possible construction dates in the early 16th century. The first (MEX1010121) called Oak House, is located approximately 210m south west of the site while the second, (MEX1010201) named, Clacton Grove House, is located 900m north east of the assessment site.

Medieval activity in the search area seems to relate to domestic farming activity. The village centre developed near the parish church of St James on either side of the old highway, (TDC. 1994). It is worth noting that through the medieval period the lands of Little and Great Clacton remained in the possession of the office of the Bishop of London, that is until 1545 (six years after the dissolution of nearby St Osyth's Priory) when the lands passed into the hands of traditional manorial lords and their descendants.



4.5 Post-medieval and modern (1540AD – Present)

Clacton and subsequently Little Clacton are reasonably well-documented, especially in cartographic sources, towards the latter half of the post-medieval period. The EHER search returned one monument record and six listed building entries.

The earliest record for this period (MEX1040578) returned by the EHER search relates to the site where a demolished post mill may have stood. A broad date of 1540 to 1900 is given as no clear construction date can be ascertained. Located at Foot's Farm, approximately 650m south west of the site, the post mill is believed to have stood at or very close to Foot's Farm, (which was formerly in Little Clacton). The evidence for this comes from a description contained in documentary sources detailed in a book; Farries, K. Essex Windmills, Millers and Millwrights, volumes 1 to 5, 1981 – 1988.

Two of the listed building entries date to the 17th century. One (MEX1010111) relates to Willow Farmhouse, which is Grade II listed, and is located approximately 530m south west of the assessment site. The second (MEX1010194) also refers to a timber framed house, named Westbourn Cottage. This dwelling is, located in Little Clacton itself, 1.14 km west of the site, the building is Grade II listed and has a thatched roof.

The earliest maps of the area show the village of Little Clacton but give very little detail. They confirm the rough location in relation to surrounding towns and villages. Bowen's Map of Suffolk dates to 1749 and shows pictorial representations of the village. It shows a basic layout of the roads, major dwellings and the church. Andre and Chapman's map from 1777 shows more detail of the buildings of Little Clacton and the study area can clearly be identified as an area of open fields with no sizeable or important structures on it.

The continued expansion of Little Clacton in the 18th century can be seen in the construction of more buildings in the search area. The final three listed building records (MEX1010202, MEX1010196 and MEX1010195) returned by the EHER search all date to the 18th century. One of the records is close to the assessment site (MEX1010195), approximately 200m west, and relates to a timber framed house called Reedlands Farm. This structure has a construction date of between 1733 and 1766 AD. The next record (MEX1010196) also relates to a timber framed dwelling, also close to the site, 260m north and named Parkgate Farmhouse it is also Grade II listed. The construction date for this building is broad and is placed between 1700 and 1799 AD.

The final record (MEX1010202) relates to a timber framed barn approximately 870m north west of the assessment site. The barn also has a broad construction date, which lies somewhere between 1700 and 1799 AD and it is Grade II listed.

The EHER search returned four records (MEX49982, MEX49983, MEX49984 and MEX49985) dating to the modern period. All of these were related to world war two infrastructures and all date from 1939 to 1945 AD. Two of the records (MEX49983 and



MEX49985) refer to Road Barriers that were placed on the west side of Little Clacton approximately 1.10 km east of the assessment site. By 1946 these barriers had been removed and only slight evidence for their placement in aerial photos remained. One of the records (MEX49984) is for Anti-Tank Pimples (which have since been destroyed) that bridged the gap between the road barrier (MEX 19983) across London Road and the Vicarage itself. The final record (MEX49982) relates to a Pillbox, located just north of the centre of Little Clacton and 1.18 km north west of the assessment site. The pillbox is unusual, shaped square at its north west end and pointed at its south east end it constitutes a very substantial structure with 15 inch concrete walls and an entrance on its south west side. In each of the two walls that form the point there are loopholes which are 3'9" in width but only 11" high. They have no flaring but are formed square. This indicates that they are most likely for the placement of Vickers Machine Guns. The structure is sunk deep into the ground so that only 3'9" is above ground level with a further 6' below the surface.

The civil fortification of Little Clacton follows the very common trend for small settlements across the southern and eastern coast which was expected to be the first line of defence should the invasion from mainland Europe take place.

Importantly the ordnance survey map from 1974 shows that the structure that is present in the western section of the site and forms part of the Thorpe Road Chicken Farm was yet to be built securing this dwelling as modern in date.

4.6 Undated

The EHER search produced 11 undated records. Two of these records (MEX1034366 and MEX1042635) relate to undated findspots. MEX1034366 refers to the fieldwalking exercise undertaken at the Extension to Oakwood Business Park, the undated find is assumed to be the result of agricultural practice rather than any kind of settlement activity and no details or description of the object is given. The second undated findspot (MEX1042635) is located 450m east of the assessment site. No details on the find were recorded in the EHER.

The rest of the undated records (2917, 2977, 2979, 2980, 3155, 3659, 16987, 16988, 16989, 17245, 18345, 50944) returned by the EHER search all relate to cropmarks in the fields surrounding the assessment site. Some of these cropmarks are particularly interesting and have spurred investigations in the area before, for example south of the assessment site at the Extension to Oakwood Business Park. One record (2980) returned by the EHER search relates to a series of cropmarks 100m west of the assessment site which appear to show the remains of an elaborate field system which includes linear features, a ring ditch as well as rectangular and oval enclosures. Another set of cropmarks (16987) are located just 150m to the north of the assessment site and appear to show the remains of relic field boundaries.



While there is a substantial amount of cropmarks in the surrounding area none are recorded on the assessment site and none of those which have been recorded appear to extend through the boundaries of the site.

Given the research results, there is a low potential for the presence of prehistoric features or finds, however given the topography and geography the site has a **medium** potential for results from this period.

Despite the presence of a singular Roman find to the immediate south, the potential for Roman finds or features on the assessment site is **low**.

The Anglo-Saxon origins of Clacton would suggest reasonable levels of activity in the wider area. Its entry in the Domesday survey of 1086 shows that at the time of the conquest Clacton was fairly wealthy and well established. No records were returned from this period in the search area and consequently there is a **low** potential for Anglo-Saxon finds and features on the assessment site.

Little Clacton remained a small, rural settlement during the medieval period. The layout of the village and the distribution of medieval buildings, features and finds from the EHER indicate that the assessment site was on the very periphery of settlement activity. The potential for finding archaeology of a medieval date is **low**.

Substantial residential development in the village is recorded from the 17th century onwards, with most of the listed buildings dating to this period. Only one other record for this period was returned by the EHER search and no other post-medieval finds or features have been recorded on or close to the site. The potential for post-medieval and modern features is **low**. It should be noted that some residual modern finds will be present due to manuring.

5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The evaluation is required of the development area to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified.

The trial trenching was required to:

- Identify the potential for roadside activity/settlement.
- Identify any evidence of prehistoric occupation.
- Identify the potential for medieval activity.
- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.



- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

6.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Research objectives for the project were in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24 (Medlycott, 2011).

Specific objectives outlined in the brief state that a particular importance be placed on:

- the amount of truncation to buried deposits,
- the presence or absence of a palaeosol or 'B' horizon,
- the preservation of deposits within negative features,
- site formation processes.

An assessment of the environmental potential of the site through examination of suitable deposits must also be arranged with a suitably qualified specialist. Attention should be paid:

- to the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features, and to soil pollen analysis;
- to the retrieval of plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits located.
- provision for the absolute dating of critical contacts should be made: e.g. the basal contacts of peats over former dryland surfaces; distinct landuse or landmark change in urban contexts

7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The ECCPS brief required a 4% sampling of the site, with a 1% contingency should this be required. This was initially to be achieved via the excavation of seventeen trial trenches measuring 50.00m x 1.80m in advance of the construction of the housing development and associated works (Fig. 5). Works began in August 2016, initially 8 of the 17 trenches were excavated however work had to be ceased due to ecological reasons. Subsequently the site was split into two phases and following the removal of the ecological constraints on Phase 1 work could again continue. It became apparent on returning to the site that one of the trenches in the Phase 1 area could not be excavated due to service constraints. Combined with the current truncation level of the ground in this area and following discussions with the ECCPS archaeologist the excavation of the trench was abandoned. In total, 9 trenches were excavated in the Phase 1 area.



A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was used to machine down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation work will be undertaken by hand.

8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figs. 8 - 11).

The trench plan agreed with the ECCPS Archaeologist and was designed give reasonable coverage to the whole site targeting those areas most likely to be disturbed by the development.

8.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was orientated north to south and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.28m. The trench three periglacial features. No archaeological features or finds were present in the trench.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.20m. This layer overlay natural **1001**.

8.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was orientated north east to south west and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.29m. The trench contained one modern land drain and two periglacial features. No archaeological features or finds were present in the trench.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.12m. This layer overlay natural **1001**.

8.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was orientated north to south and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.39m. The trench contained a single periglacial feature. No archaeological features or finds were present in the trench.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.29m. This layer overlay natural **1001**.

8.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was orientated east to west and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.10m. No archaeological finds or features were present within the trench.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.06m. This layer overlay natural **1001**.

8.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was orientated north to south and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.32m. The trench contained three modern land drain.



Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.22m. This layer overlay natural **1001**.

8.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was orientated north west to south east and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.18. The trench contained two modern land drains and two periglacial features no archaeological finds or features were present within the trench.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.12m. This layer overlay natural **1001**.

8.7 Trench 7

Trench 7 was orientated north west to south east and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.33m. The trench contained two land drains and two periglacial features. No archaeological finds or features were present.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.29m. This layer overlay natural **1001**.

8.8 Trench 8

Trench 8 was orientated broadly north-west to south-east and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.30m. The trench contained a single land drain and four periglacial features. No archaeological finds or features were present within the trench.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.21m. This layer overlay natural **1001**.

8.9 Trench 9

Trench 9 was orientated north to south and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.25m. No archaeological features or finds were present in the trench.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.22m. This layer overlay natural **1001**.

9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Figure 8 - 10)

The deposit model was consistent across the site, with topsoil **1000** overlaying the natural deposits **1001**.

In all trenches at the top of the stratigraphic sequence was topsoil layer **1000**. This comprised a mid-grey brown firm silty clay, with occasional small sub-angular flint pebble inclusions. This layer was present to a maximum depth of 0.29m in Sample Section 3.



At the base of the stratigraphic sequence in all trenches was Natural Geology **1001**, comprising mid yellow brown, compact silty clay with. In areas of the site (predominantly in the west) small bands of sand were noted in the natural geology. These appear to be fluvial deposits associated with the periglacial activity recorded in the trenches.

10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The archaeological background suggested that the site had a specific potential for prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site, unfortunately no archaeological finds or features were encountered in the trenches. The evaluation revealed one main phase of activity at the site which was associated with modern cultivation, including the installation of land drains.

The relatively shallow depth of the natural geology on the site and the lack of any subsoil suggests that the site has been subject to landscaping. According to the background research the site was used as agricultural fields through the post medieval period which would typically produce an agricultural sub soil. This would be expected to be evidenced in the stratigraphy however it is missing. This is suggestive of some form of intrusive landscaping taking place in the later 20th century when the site was in use as a chicken farm.

10.1 Recommendations and Potential

The evaluation was successful in characterising the potential for archaeology at the site. The lack of any archaeological features or finds suggests that the site has been subject to truncation in the later 20th century. Giving the complete lack of features or finds in the Phase 1 area it is not unreasonable to assume that this extends into the Phase 2 area in the north. Therefore trenching on the remaining northern portion of the site is likely to prove negative and it is recommended that no further archaeological works be undertaken in the Phase 2 area.

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Archaeological Data Service (ADS) www.ads.ahds.ac.uk

Historic England National List for England
www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england

DEFRA Magic <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/website/magic>



APPENDIX 1 – DEPOSIT TABLES

TRENCH 1

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
1	N-S	22.25m	DP15
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1	E Side S End	W Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.20m	Topsoil: Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1001	0.20m+	Natural: Mid yellow brown, compact, silty clay.	

TRENCH 2

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
2	NW-SE	21.61m	DP13
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2	SE Side SW End	NW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.12m	Topsoil: Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1001	0.12m+	Natural: Mid yellow brown, compact, silty clay.	

TRENCH 3

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
3	N-S	22.37m	DP14
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3	E Side S End	E Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.29m	Topsoil: Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1001	0.29m+	Natural: Mid yellow brown, compact, silty clay.	

TRENCH 4

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
4	E-W	21.90m	DP16
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
4	S Side W End	N Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.06m	Topsoil: Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1001	0.06m+	Natural: Mid yellow brown, compact, silty clay.	

TRENCH 5

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
5	N-S	21.51m	DP12
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
5	E Side N End	E Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.22m	Topsoil: Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1002	0.22m+	Natural: mid yellow brown, compact, silty clay.	



TRENCH 6

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
6	NW-SE	22.06m	DP10
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
6	NE Side NW End	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.12m	Topsoil: Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1001	0.12m+	Natural: Mid yellow brown, compact, silty clay.	

TRENCH 7

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
7	NW-SE	22.17m	DP11
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
7	NE Side NW End	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.29m	Topsoil: Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1001	0.29m+	Natural: mid yellow brown, compact, silty clay.	

TRENCH 8

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
8	NW-SE	21.91m	DP9
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
8	NE Side Middle	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.21m	Topsoil: Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1002	0.21m+	Natural: mid yellow brown, compact, silty clay.	

TRENCH 9

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
9	N-S	22.32m	DP18
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
9	E Side N End	W Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.22m	Topsoil: Mid grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1002	0.22m+	Natural: mid yellow brown, compact, silty clay.	



APPENDIX 2 – OASIS FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: **britanni1-258607**

Project details

Project name	CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX
Short description of the project	In August 2016 and April 2017, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Land at Old Chicken Farm, Thorpe Road, Little Clacton, Essex (Grid Ref: 618100/218800) as part of a scheme of archaeological works, ahead of the erection of housing. A brief issued by the Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS) required an archaeological investigation in the form of trial trenches. The archaeological background suggested that the site had a specific potential for prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site. The first phase of works required the excavation of nine trial trenches measuring 50.00m x 1.80m and a single 15.00 x 1.80m. Unfortunately no archaeological finds or features were encountered in the trenches. The evaluation revealed one main phase of activity at the site which was associated with modern cultivation at the site which included the installation of land drains. The lack of sub soil at the site is suggestive of some kind of intrusive landscaping taking place in the later 20th century when the site was in use as a chicken farm. Due to the lack of archaeological finds and features in Phase 1, a recommendation for no further archaeological fieldwork in the Phase 2 area has been suggested.
Project dates	Start: 26-07-2016 End: 26-05-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LCLTR16 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded



Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX TENDRING CLACTON ON SEA CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX
Postcode	CO16 9RU
Study area	4.1 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 618100 218800 51.833352322938 1.800618088889 51 50 00 N 001 48 02 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0m Max: 0m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Dan McConnell
Project director/manager	Dan McConnell
Project supervisor	Martin Brook
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Sole Bay Developments Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Essex HER
Digital Archive ID	LCLTR16
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Essex HER
Paper Archive ID	LCLTR16
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
------------------	---

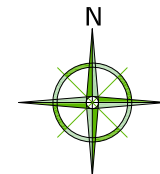
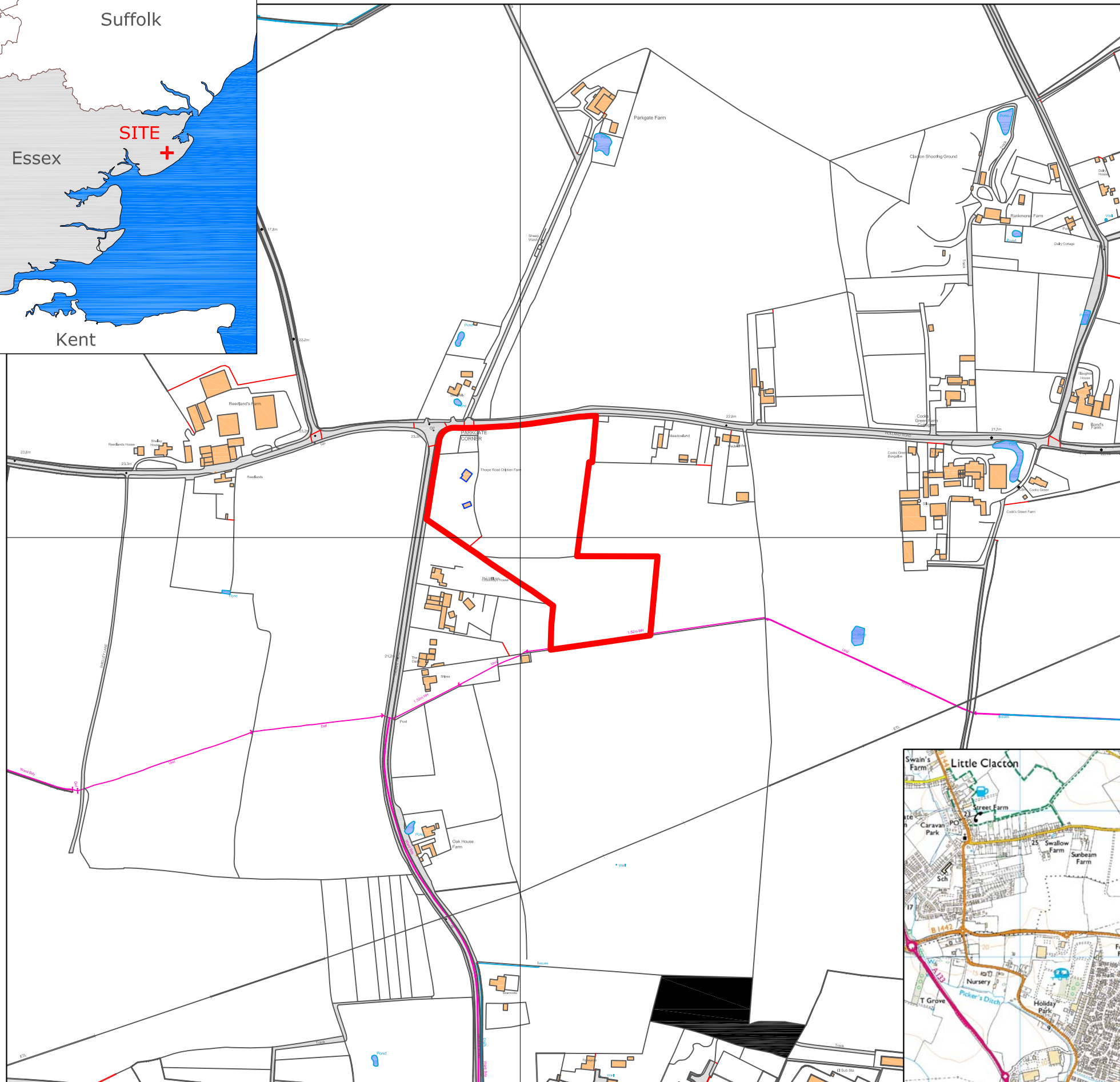
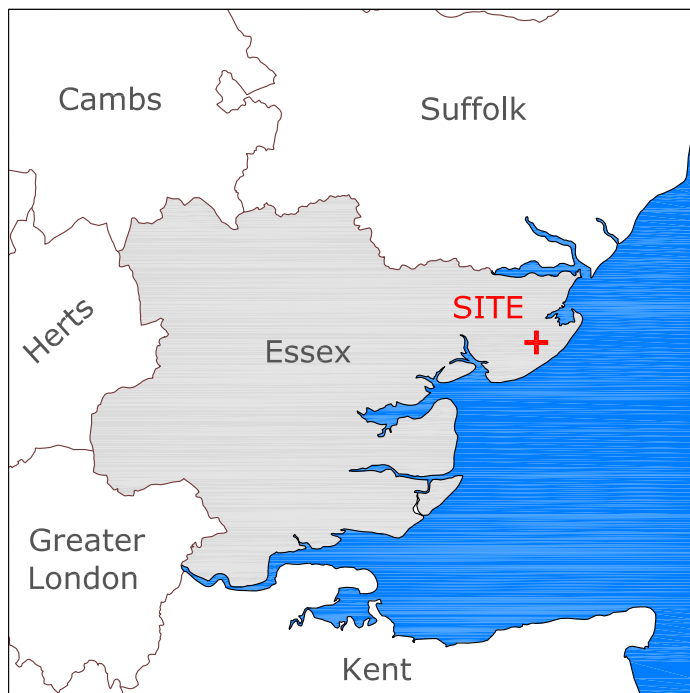


Old Chicken Farm, Thorpe Road, Little Clacton, Essex – Phase 1
Archaeological Evaluation

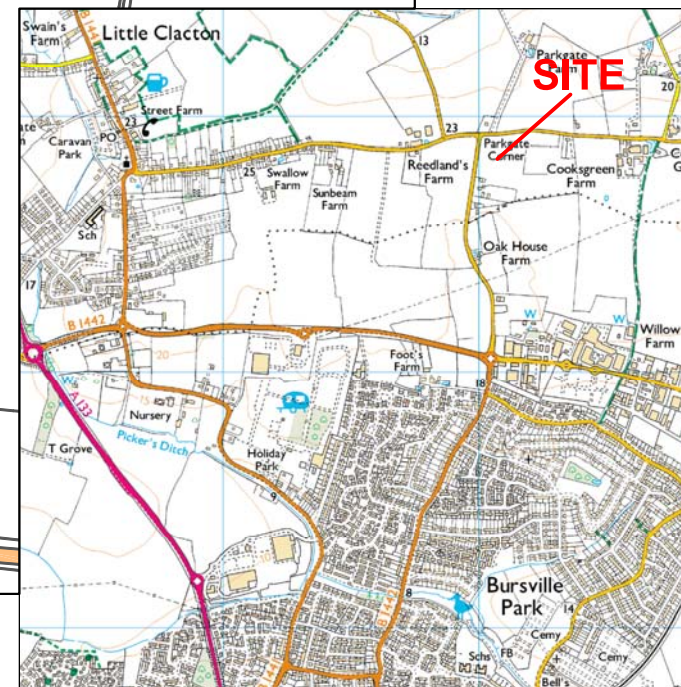
Title	OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX - PHASE 1
Author(s)/Editor (s)	M. Brook
Other bibliographic details	R1162
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Description	A4 bound report with A3 pull-out figures
URL	www.britannia-archaeology.com
Entered by	Martin Brook (martin@brit-arch.com)
Entered on	3 May 2017

OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](mailto:HistoricEngland@ Historic England) for OASIS help and advice
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Site Boundary



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0 1:5000 300m

618100

218800

NGR: 618100 218800 REF: P1156

PROJECT: OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX

DESCRIPTION: GENERAL LOCATION PLAN

CLIENT: SOLE BAY DEVELOPMENTS LTD

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



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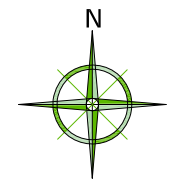
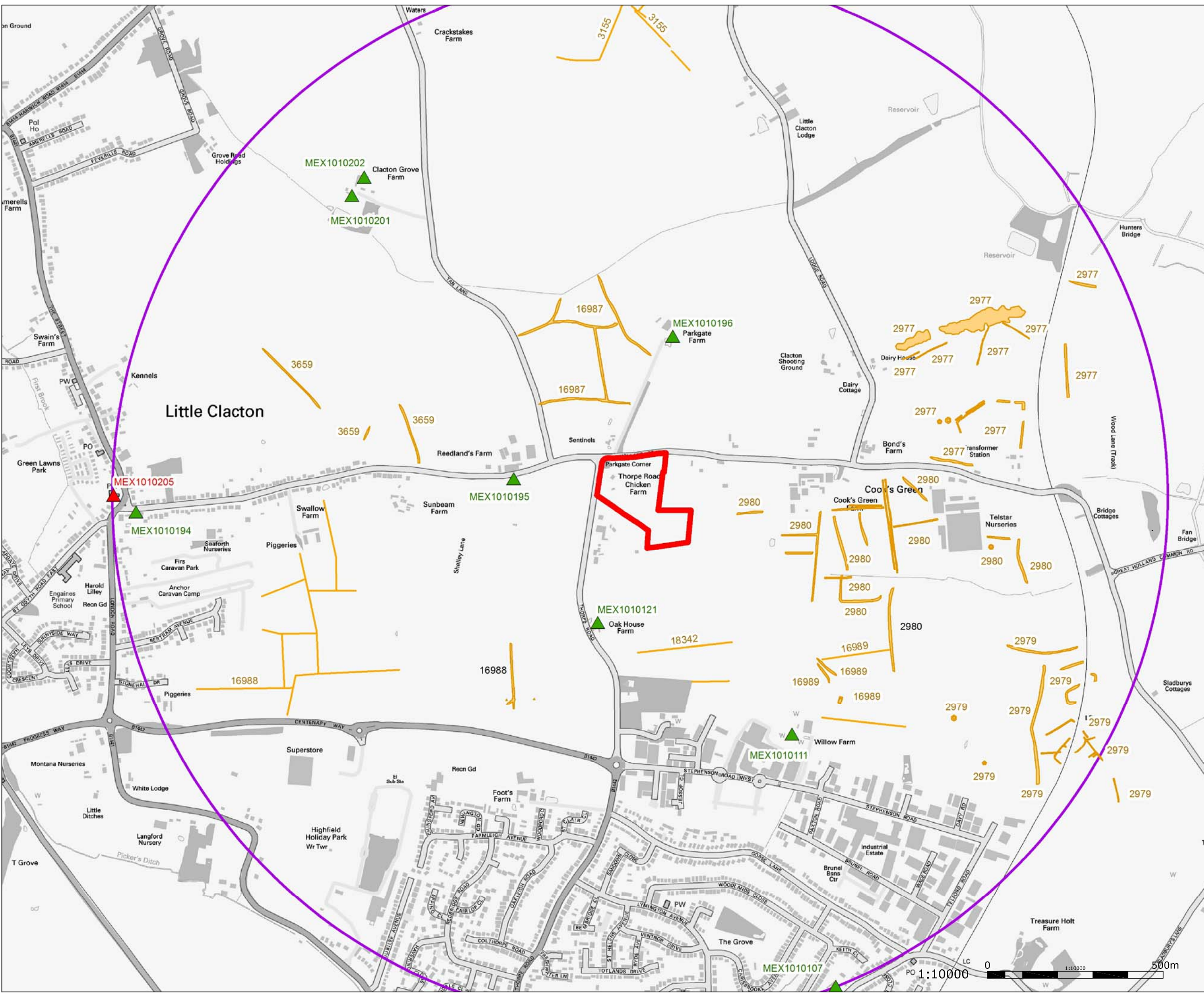
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DATE: APRIL 2017 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1

AUTHOR: DPM
APPROVED: MB

FIGURE: 1



-  HER Search Area
-  Grade II*
-  Grade I
-  NMP Data
-  Site Boundary

NGR:	618100 218800	REF:	P1156
PROJECT:	OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX		
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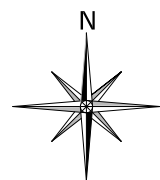


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DATE:	APRIL 2017	PLOT:	A3	VERSION:	1
AUTHOR:	DPM	FIGURE:	3		
APPROVED:	MB				

Scale: 1:10000
0 500m



- Trench
- Site Boundary

NGR: 618100 218800 REF: P1156

PROJECT: OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX

DESCRIPTION: PHASED DEVELOPMENT PLAN WITH TRENCH LAYOUT

CLIENT: SOLE BAY DEVELOPMENTS LTD

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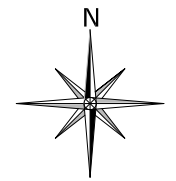
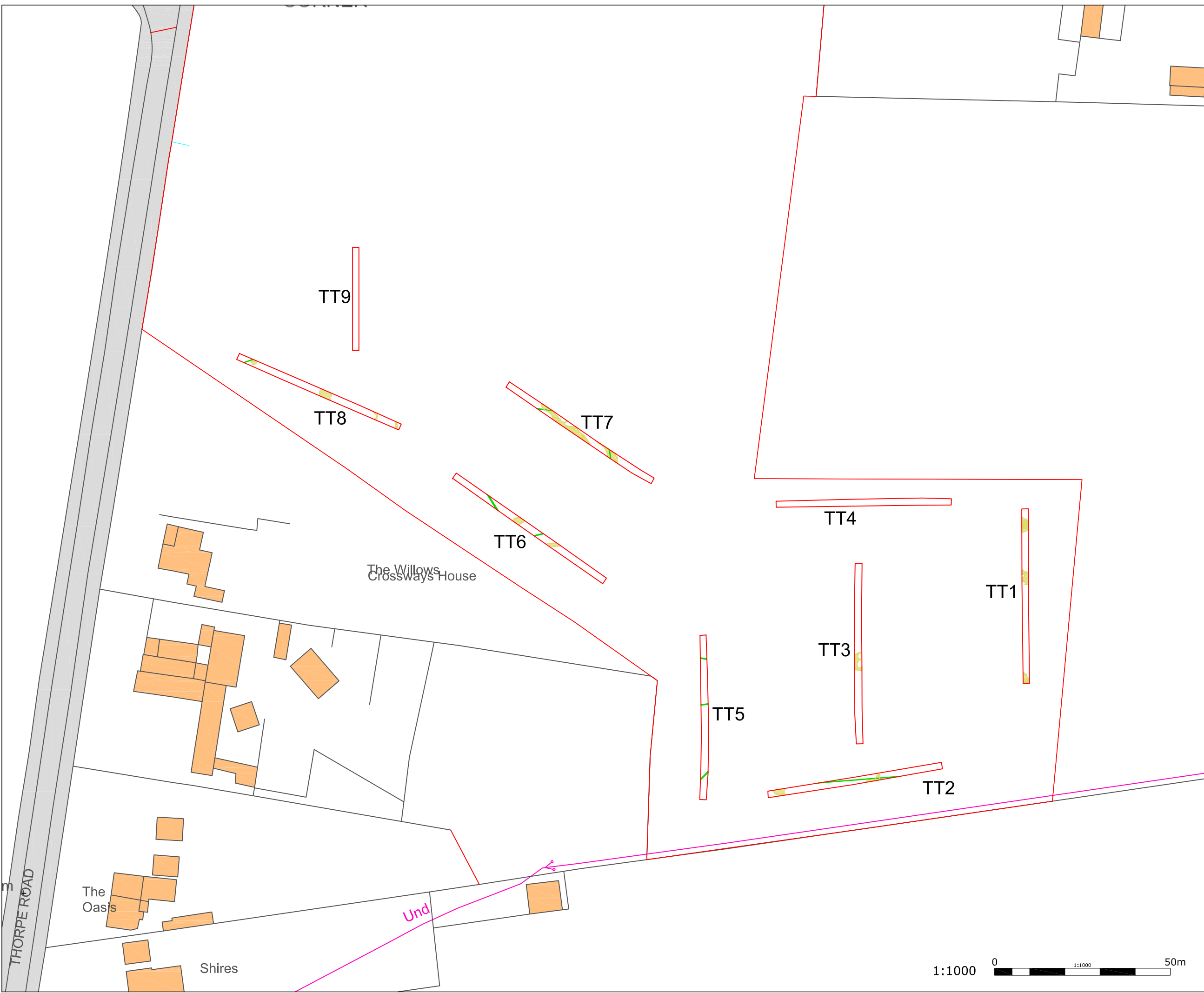
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FIGURE: 4

Footpath Link to neighbouring development 1:1000 0 1:1000 50m



-  Periglacial Feature
-  Land Drain
-  Trench
-  Site Boundary

NGR: 618100 218800 REF: P1156

PROJECT: OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX

DESCRIPTION: OVERALL TRENCH LOCATION PLAN SHOWING PERIGLACIAL FEATURES & LAND DRAINS

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FIGURE: **5**



THORPE ROAD

TT9

TT8

TT7

TT6

TT4

TT1

TT3

TT5

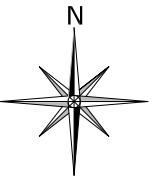
TT2

The Willows
Crossways House

The
Oasis

Shires

Und



TT9

SS9

TT8

SS8






TT7

SS7

TT6

SS6

SS4

-  Sample Section
-  Periglacial Feature
-  Land Drain
-  Trench
-  Site Boundary

NGR: 618100 218800 REF: P1156

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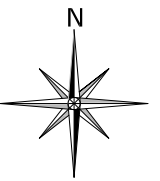
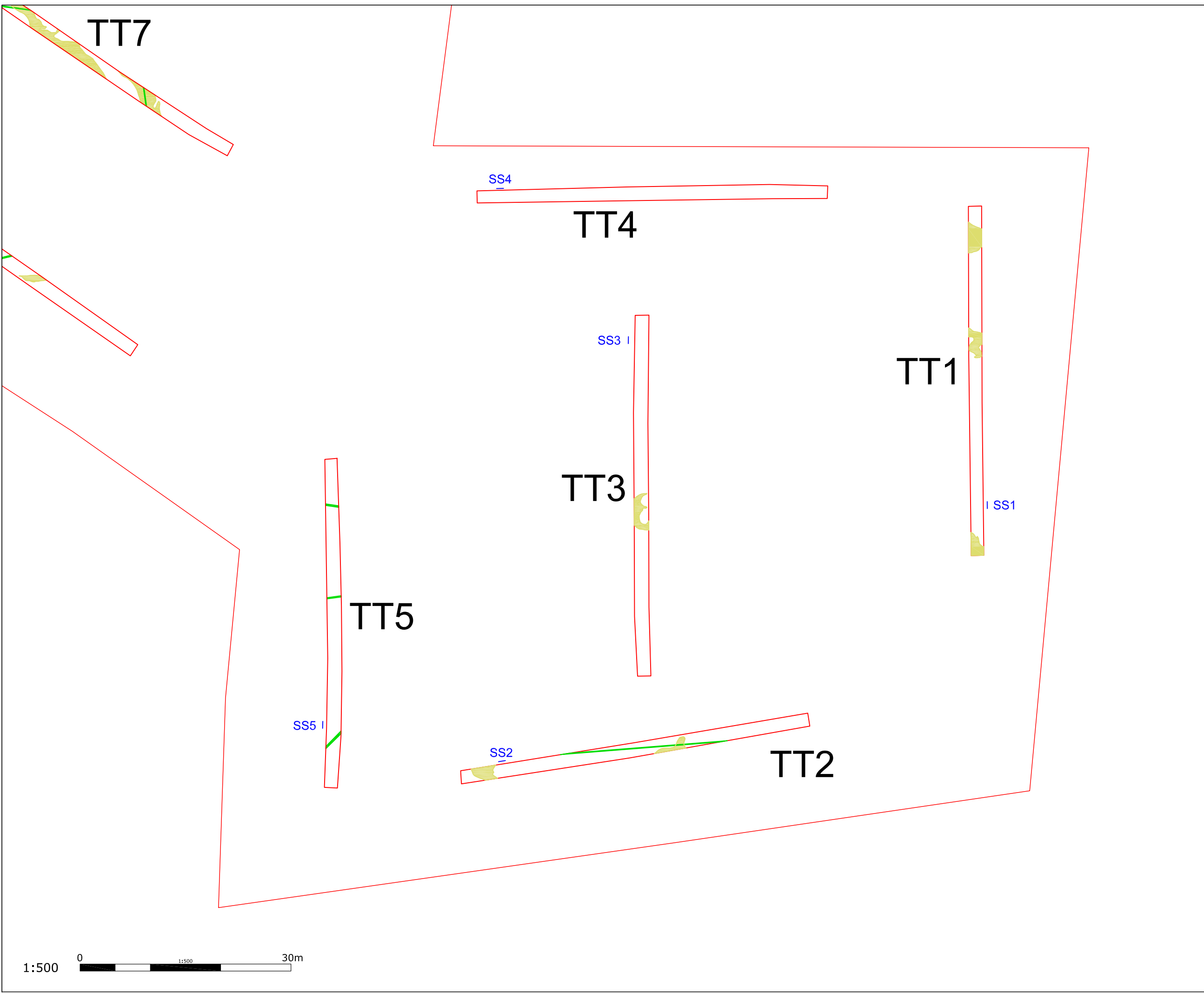
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AUTHOR: DPM APPROVED: MB

FIGURE: 6

1:500 0 1:500 30m



- Sample Section
- Periglacial Feature
- Land Drain
- Trench
- Site Boundary

NGR: 618100 218800 REF: P1156

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OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX

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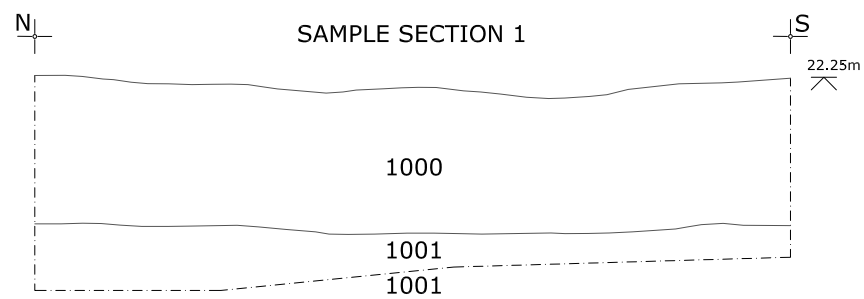
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FIGURE:
7

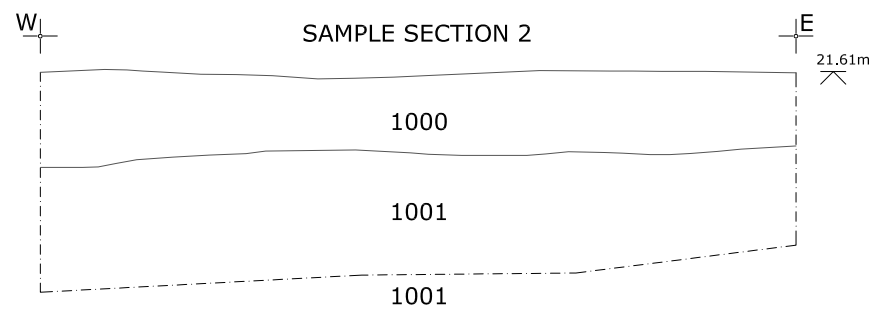




1:10 0 1:10 50cm



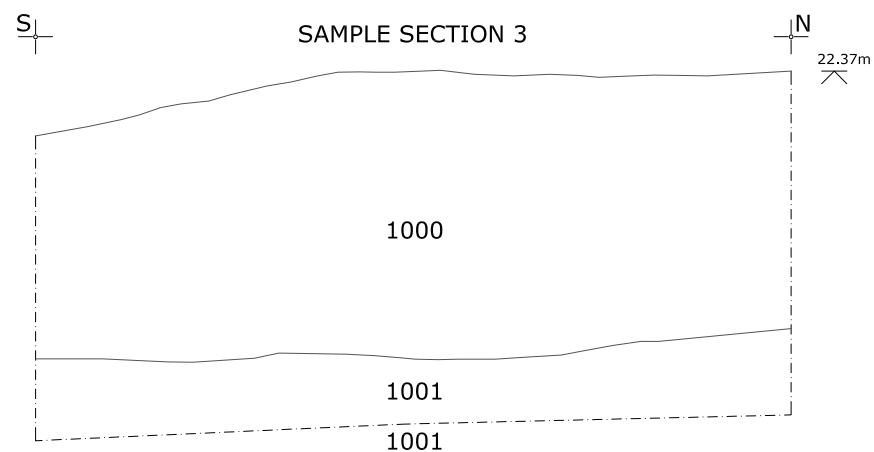
DP 15 - SS1 - VIEW E



1:10 0 1:10 50cm



DP 13 - SS2 - VIEW N



1:10 0 1:10 50cm



DP 14 - SS3 - VIEW W

NGR: 618100 218800 REF: P1156

PROJECT: OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX

DESCRIPTION: SAMPLE SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS

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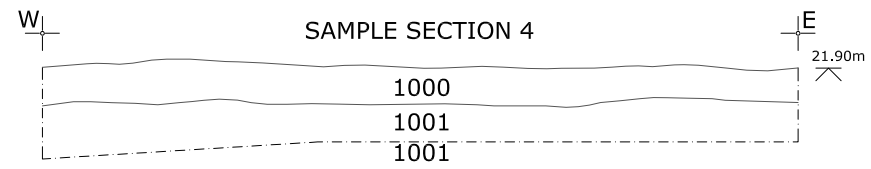
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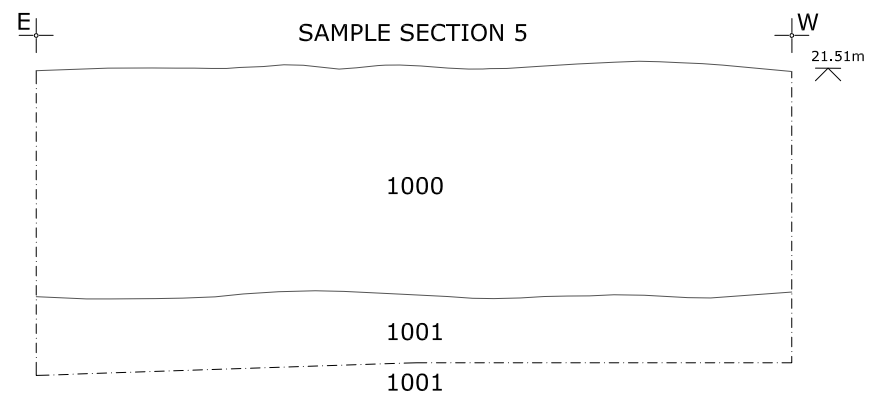
FIGURE: 8



1:10 0 1:10 50cm



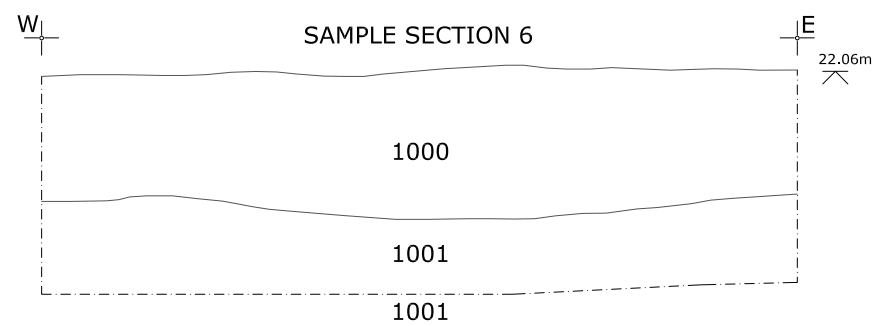
DP 16 - SS4 - VIEW N



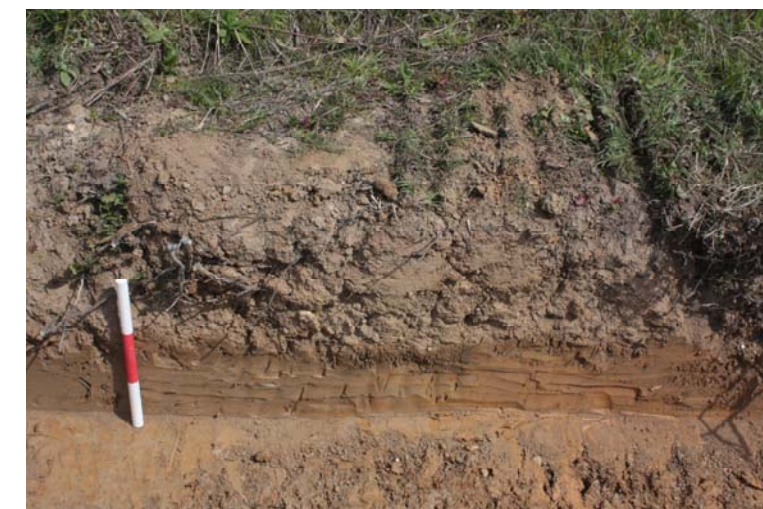
1:10 0 1:10 50cm



DP 12 - SS5 - VIEW S

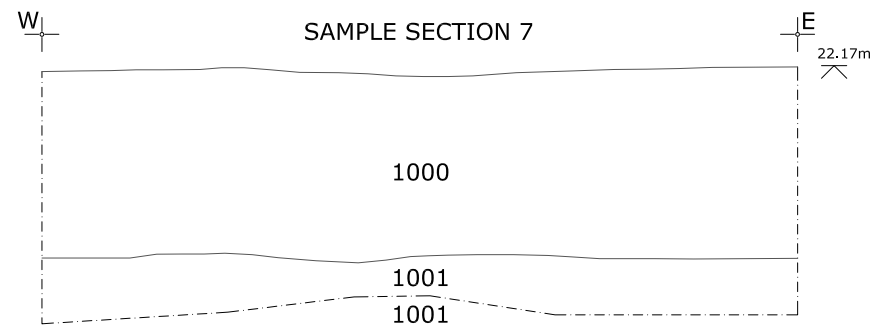


1:10 0 1:10 50cm



DP 10 - SS6 - VIEW N

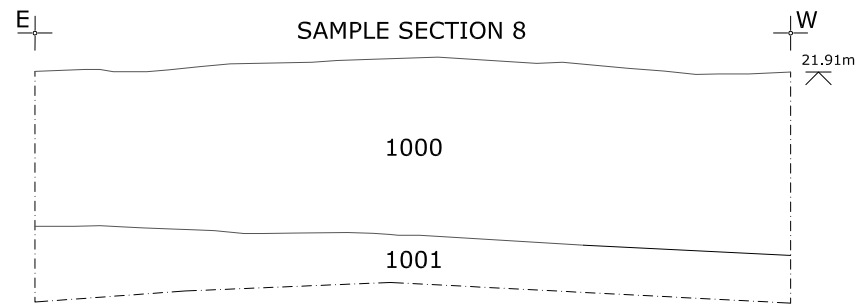
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		VERSION:	2
AUTHOR:	DPM	FIGURE:	9
APPROVED:	MB		



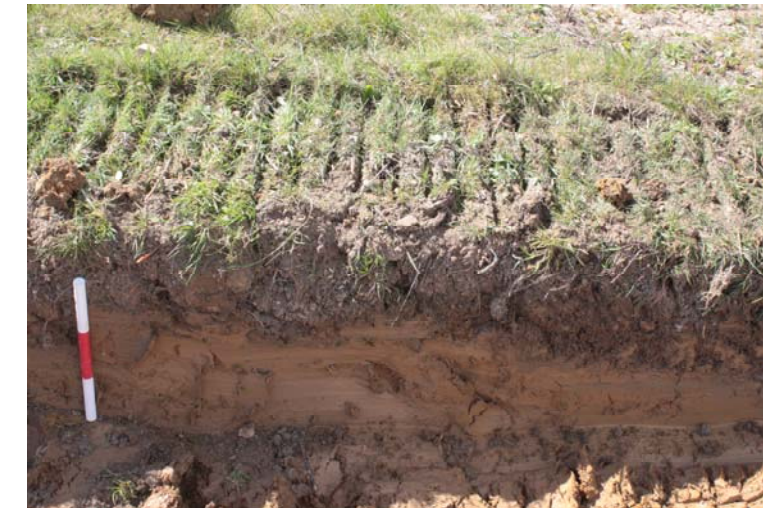
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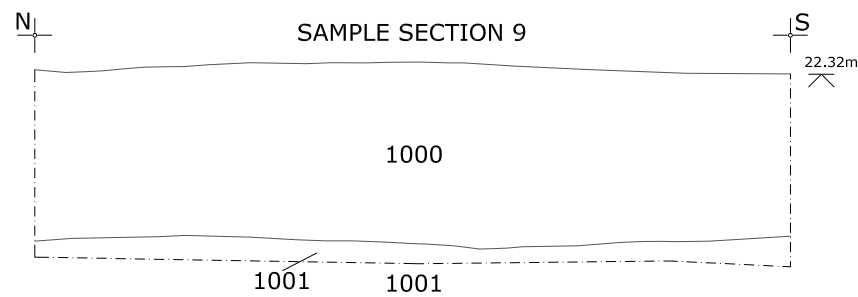
DP 11 - SS7 - VIEW N



1:10 0 1:10 50cm



DP 9 - SS8 - VIEW S



1:10 0 1:10 50cm



DP 18 - SS9 - VIEW E

NGR: 618100 218800 REF: P1156

PROJECT: OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX

DESCRIPTION: SAMPLE SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT: SOLE BAY DEVELOPMENTS LTD

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AUTHOR: DPM APPROVED: MB FIGURE: 10



DP 1 - TT1 - VIEW S



DP 6 - TT6 - VIEW W



DP 17 - TT9 - VIEW S

NGR:	618100 218800	REF:	P1156
PROJECT:	OLD CHICKEN FARM, THORPE ROAD, LITTLE CLACTON, ESSEX		
DESCRIPTION:	TRENCH PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT:	SOLE BAY DEVELOPMENTS LTD		
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VERSION:	2		
AUTHOR:	DPM	FIGURE:	11
APPROVED:	MB		