



WAYSIDE FARM, 5A FORDHAM ROAD, ISLEHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION





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CAMBRIDGESHIRE**


ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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CONTENTS

	Abstract	
1.0	Introduction	
2.0	Site Description	
3.0	Planning Policies	
4.0	Archaeological Background	
5.0	Project Aims	
6.0	Project Objectives	
7.0	Fieldwork Methodology	
8.0	Description of Results	
9.0	Deposit Model	
10.0	Discussion & Conclusion	
11.0	Archive Deposition	
12.0	Acknowledgments	

Bibliography

Appendix 1	Deposit Tables
Appendix 2	Finds Concordance
Appendix 3	Specialist Reports
Appendix 4	OASIS Sheet

Figure 1	General Location Plan	1:1250
Figure 2	CHER Data – Monument Records	1:10000
Figure 3	CHER Data – Previous Arch Investigations	1:10000
Figure 4	CHER Data – Listed Buildings	1:10000
Figure 5	Trench Location Plan	1:250
Figure 6	Trench Plan, Sections & Photographs	1:10/1:100
Figure 7	Sections & Photographs	1:10
Figure 8	Sections & Photographs	1:10
Figure 9	Trench Plan, Sections & Photographs	1:10/1:100
Figure 10	Trench Plan, Sections & Photographs	1:10/1:100
Figure 11	Trench Plan, Sections & Photographs	1:10/1:100
Figure 12	Sections & Photographs	1:10
Figure 13	Sections & Photographs	1:10/1:100
Figure 14	OS Map Regression	



Abstract

In February 2017, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation on land at Wayside Farm, 5a Fordham Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 6427 7367), as part of a scheme of pre-planning archaeological works in advance of a housing development and associated works.

The trial trenching has revealed three phases of activity at the site. The earliest phase encountered relates to several shallow pit features concentrated in the south-west corner of the site. Only one of these features has revealed any datable evidence which was a copper alloy jetton dating to the early 14th century.

The second phase of activity is the formation of the subsoil. Which is most likely a post-medieval agricultural soil. With the final phase being the formation of the topsoil which is currently being used for modern agriculture.

Despite the high potential for medieval activity on the, only a single feature could provide a confirmed medieval date, potentially being dated to the early 14th century. The majority of features encountered on site are considered natural in origin.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

In February 2017, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation on land at Wayside Farm, 5a Fordham Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 6427 7367), as part of a scheme of pre-planning archaeological works in advance of a housing development and associated works.

A design brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) (Stewart, G. dated 5th December 2016) required an evaluation comprising of four 30x1.80m trenches, one 20x1.80m trench and one 15x1.80m trench.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located to the south-west of the village of Isleham, Cambridgeshire, which is located approximately 9km south-east of the cathedral city of Ely. The site lies east of Fordham Road on a single parcel of agricultural land. The village of Isleham is located on a fen island.

The bedrock geology is described as Zig Zag chalk formation. This is a sedimentary rock formed in warm chalk seas during the Cretaceous period. No superficial deposits have been recorded at this location (BGS, 2017).

3.0 PLANNING POLICIES

The archaeological investigation is to be carried out on the recommendation of the local planning authority, 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 development framework is the *East Cambridgeshire Local Plan (S 6.16.4; 2015)*.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Figs. 2, 3 & 4)

The following archaeological background draws on the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER) (1km search centred on the site), Historic England PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) (Fig. 2 & 3). There are 86 monument entries, 18 events records and 34 listed building entries within the 1km search area. Two Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM) also fall within the search radius. The site lies to the south-west of Isleham, outside of the medieval core of the village.

Records from the prehistoric period include a Paleolithic hand axe (19231) found 450m to the north-west and two Mesolithic antler axes (07622) found 850m to the north of the site area. Two significant possible prehistoric records are located 750m to the west (17114) and 800m to the south-west (17115) of the site area. 17114 refers to three undated ring ditches located in close proximity to each other, while 17115 refers to another complex of



ring ditches dated tentatively to the bronze age, with the possible site of a barrow indicated by aerial photography. 11125 refers to another ring ditch located 900m south-west of the site area, while 11711 refers to a Bronze Age socketed copper-alloy axe head found on the periphery of the search radius to the west-north-west of the site. Another possible barrow (MCB16798) tentatively dated to the Bronze Age, was located 900m south-south-west of the site area. Closer to the site, evidence for late prehistoric settlement activity, in the form of possible prehistoric features and a sherd of pottery, was recorded in an evaluation 150m to the west of the site area at Hall Barn Road (CB15281), while CB15282, an evaluation carried out 300m west-north-west of the site, uncovered a feature containing prehistoric pottery.

There is limited evidence of Roman activity both in the medieval core of Isleham and in the wider landscape. The closest Roman records to the site refer to a sherd discovered 400m to the south-west of the site (11894) near to a "known Romano-British finds scatter". This probably refers to a scatter Roman pottery found 150m further to the south-west (10866). A brooch was found 800m to the west of the site area (16203), while metal-detecting found Roman metalwork (11708) 200m to the north of 16203. 850m to the north-west of the site area, a Roman saddle quern was discovered during metal-detecting (10864). In the same area, a kilometre to the west of the site, was the location of a Roman Villa (11661). On the northern periphery of the medieval core of Isleham, 950m to the north-north-east of the site area, Roman finds and field systems were discovered during an evaluation at Ellwoods Close (MCB20917), while on the edge of the search radius also to the north-north-east, an evaluation on Land Rear of Church Lane (MCB20915) produced Roman finds and evidence of Roman field systems, which was consistent with a subsequent excavation carried out on the same land by Britannia Archaeology Ltd in 2016.

The only Saxon monument record (MCB20918) returned by the CHER search in the immediate vicinity of the site refers to a small number of Saxon sherds found during the evaluation at Ellwoods Close.

The medieval period accounts for a large amount of the monument records returned of the records returned. The most significant record returned in terms of the development of Isleham was 07529, referring to the scheduled remains of Isleham priory and those of the associated earthworks to the north of the priory (07528). The alien priory, located approximately 650m to the north of the site area, is thought to have been founded around AD 1100. By 1440, the priory and its lands had been seized and granted to Pembroke College, Cambridge, and after the Reformation the chapel was converted into a barn. The priory lies 100m to the south-west of Saint Andrews church (07951), a building of Norman design with possible Anglo-Saxon origins. A Medieval record relevant to the site area is 16866, which refers to the discovery of medieval clunch extraction activity and a possible croft located 250m to the north-east. Naturally, the largest concentration of medieval monument records are located in the medieval core of the village centred 750m to the north of the site, including a number of records (such as 19721 and 19713) that refer to finds from individual test pits across the centre of Isleham from two HEFA test-pitting exercises designated ECB3883 and ECB3889.

Development in the post medieval period is dominated by the construction of additional buildings in the area of the medieval village core. The post-medieval period saw the



establishment of Isleham Hall and associated gardens (DCB1409 and 19362 respectively) in the 16th Century, which still survives as separate dwellings 800m to the north-north-west. Located 500m to the north of the site area are a group of three scheduled 19th Century lime kilns. The majority of the 34 listed building entries returned by the CHER search relate to this period. The nearest listed building to the site, an 18th Century House, lies 350m to the north east and is grade II listed.

5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The CCC HET brief stated that the evaluation should aim to determine, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened should be studied (Stewart, G. Brief, Section 3.1).

6.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Specific objectives outlined in the brief stated 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 should 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: *eg* the basal contacts of peats over former dryland surfaces; distinct landuse or landmark change in urban contexts

7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The CCC HET Brief required an adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened. The precedent exists whereby a 5% sample of a site is deemed to constitute an adequate representative sample. In this case of four 30x1.80m trenches, one 20x1.80m trench and one 15x1.80m trench set out in a systematic grid formation was a suitable sample area.



A professional metal detector was used to scan the machined spoil heaps and exposed surfaces. A programme of Bucket sampling was conducted where 90 litres of spoil was hand sorted from each soil horizon at both ends of the single trench. Demonstrably modern finds were not retained.

A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was used to machine down to the first archaeological horizon. All excavation work thereafter was undertaken by hand. The archaeology was recorded using pro-forma record sheets, drawn plans and section drawings. Appropriate photographs were taken.

8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figs. 6 - 13)

A total of six trenches were cut, trenches 1, 3 – 5 measured 30x1.8m, trench 2 measured 15x1.8m and trench 6 measured 20x1.8m. The description of each trench are as follows.

8.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was orientated north-east to south-west and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.71m. The trench contained seven archaeological features: posthole **1006**, stakehole **1008**, pit **1010**, pit **1012**, pit **1018**, animal burrow **1022**, and pit **1024**.

Posthole **1006** (0.48m x 0.35m x 0.35m) was sub-circular in shape, with steeply sloping sides down onto a concave base. Posthole **1006** contained a single fill **1007**, consisting of dark grey brown, very compact, clayey silt, with occasional rounded and sub-angular chalk inclusions. This feature contained no finds.

Stakehole **1008** (0.16m x 0.14m x 0.15m) was circular in shape, with vertical sloping sides onto a concave base. Stakehole **1008** contained a single fill **1009**, consisting of a mid orange-grey brown, compact, clayey silt, with occasional small, rounded chalk inclusions. The feature contained no finds.

Pit **1010** (0.49m+ x 0.82m+ x 0.19m) was sub-circular in shape, with gently sloping sides on to a shallow concave base. Pit **1010** contained a single fill **1011** which consisted of a mid orange-grey brown, compact, clayey silt, with frequent rounded and sub-angular chalk inclusions. The feature contained no finds.

Truncating posthole **1006**, stakehole **1008** and cutting pit **1010**, is pit **1012**. Pit **1012** (1.38m+ x 0.96m+ x 0.23m) was sub-circular in shape, with gently sloping sides onto a shallow concave base. Pit **1012** contained a single fill **1013**, consisting of a mid orange-grey brown, compact, clayey silt, with frequent rounded and sub-angular chalk inclusions. The feature contained a single copper alloy jetton, weighing 8g, dated to the first half of the 14th century (Marsden, 2017). A 10L sample of fill **1013**, the residue contained some small, abraded sherds of likely prehistoric pot. The flot also contained two goosefoot (*Chenopodium sp.*) seeds, as well as matted herbaceous material. These were fresh in appearance and did not appear to have been preserved through waterlogging, so are judged to be modern intrusions. The flot also contained a small number of live Symphyla, a small subterranean relatives of centipedes (Law, 2017).



Pit **1018** (1.40m+ x 0.60m+ x 0.15m) was sub-circular in shape, with gently sloping sides onto an uneven-flat base. Pit **1018** contained a single fill **1019**, which consisted of a mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt, with frequent sub-angular chalk inclusions. The feature contained no finds.

Animal burrow **1022** (0.24m x 0.25m x 0.30m+) was circular in shape with vertical sloping sides on the south-east edge of cut, the north-west edge of cut undercuts the edge of the trench and continues beyond the limit of excavation, this feature has been interpreted as an animal burrow. Animal burrow **1022** had a single fill **1023** which consisted of a mid grey-orange brown, compact, clayey silt with infrequent sub-angular chalk inclusions. The animal burrow contained no finds.

Truncating animal burrow **1022** was pit **1024** (1.07m+ x 0.70m+ x 0.21m), which was sub-circular in shape, with gently sloping sides onto an uneven concave base. Pit **1024** contained a single fill **1025** which consisted of a mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt, with frequent sub-angular chalk inclusions. No finds were present in this feature.

8.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was orientated north-west to south-east and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.46m. The trench contained a gully **1020** (1m+ x 0.42m x 0.07m) which was linear in plan for c.7m with a north-west to south-east orientation, before curving towards the south-west for c.1m. The gully was very shallow and had gently sloping sides leading to a shallow concaved base. Gully **1020** contained one fill, **1021** consisted of a mid yellow brown, compact clayey silt, with moderate small sub-angular chalk inclusions. The feature contained no finds.

8.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was orientated north-east to south-west and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.37m. The trench contained one posthole **1004** (0.38m x 0.30m x 0.12m) which was sub-rectangular in shape, with moderate to steep sloping sides onto a concave base. Posthole **1004** contained one fill, **1005** which was a dark grey brown, firm clayey silt, with moderate small angular chalk inclusions. The feature contained no finds.

8.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was orientated north-west to south-east and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.48m. The trench contained one pit **1014** (0.40m+ x 0.49m x 0.35m) which had been heavily truncated by modern ploughing. Pit **1014** contained one fill, **1015** which consisted of a mid yellow-grey brown, firm clayey silt, with moderate small to medium angular and sub-angular chalk inclusions. The feature contained no finds.

Trench 4 also contained treebole **1016** (0.50m+ x 0.50m x 0.24m) which was irregular in shape. Treebole **1016** contained a single fill which consisted of a mid yellow-grey brown firm clayey silt, with moderate small to medium angular and sub-angular chalk inclusions. No finds were present in the natural feature.



8.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was orientated north-east to south-west and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.52m. The trench contained a series of natural features, no features of archaeological origin were present. This might be evidence of when the field was under woodland as seen in the OS map from 1853 and 1953.

8.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was orientated north-east to south-west and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.72m. The trench contained no archaeological features.

9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Figs. 6, 9 - 13)

The deposit model was generally consistent across the site, with areas of subsoil present in the western half of the site.

In all trenches the top of the stratigraphic sequence was topsoil layer **1000**. This comprised of a dark grey brown friable clayey silt, with moderate small angular chalk inclusions.

Beneath topsoil **1000** in sample sections 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 5B, 6A and 6B was subsoil layer **1001**, which comprised of a mid yellow-grey brown firm clayey silt, with moderate small to medium sized angular chalk inclusions.

In sample sections 1B and 6B colluvial layer **1002** was present beneath subsoil layer **1001**. Colluvium **1002** comprised of a mid orange brown clayey silt, with frequent small to medium angular and sub-angular chalk inclusions.

At the base of the stratigraphic sequence was Natural geology **1003**, comprising of compact light yellow-grey white chalk.

The measurements for the deposit model for each trench are as follows:

Sample section 1A

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.30m. This layer overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 1B

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.42m. This layer overlay subsoil layer **1001** which was up to 0.14m thick, to a maximum depth of 0.56m. This layer overlay colluvial layer **1002** which was 0.07m thick, to a maximum depth of 0.63m. This layer overlay natural **1003**.



Sample section 2A

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.34m. This layer overlay subsoil layer **1001** which was up to 0.14m thick to a maximum depth of 0.46m. This layer overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 2B

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.28m. This layer overlay subsoil layer **1001** which was up to 0.16m thick to a maximum depth of 0.44m. This layer overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 3A

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.37m. This layer overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 3B

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.32m. This layer overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 4A

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.48m. This overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 4B

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.41m. This overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 5A

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.41m, this overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 5B

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.39m. This overlay subsoil layer **1001** which was up to 0.13m thick, to a maximum depth of 0.52m. This layer overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 6A

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.26m. This overlay subsoil layer **1001** which was up to 0.10m thick, to a maximum depth of 0.46m. This overlay natural **1003**.

Sample section 6B

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a maximum depth of 0.31m. This overlay subsoil layer **1001** which was up to 0.30m thick, to a maximum depth of 0.61m. This overlay colluvial layer **1002**, which was up to 0.11m thick, to a maximum depth of 0.72m. This overlay natural **1003**.



10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The archaeological background for the site suggested that there was a moderate to high potential for medieval evidence on the site. Given that the site is situated close to peripheral industrial activity related to clunch extraction (CHER 16866).

Map regression has shown that the field was wooded from the 1st edition OS 1886 where the field appears to have had the trees removed by the 1902 revision OS. By the time of the 1953 revision of the OS map trees re-appear on site. It is probable that natural features seen in the trenches can be related to the wooded areas seen in the OS maps.

The evaluation has revealed three phases of activity on the site, which are as follows:

The earliest phase encountered relates to several shallow pit features concentrated in the south-west corner of the site. Only one of these features has revealed any datable evidence, feature **1012**, which contained a copper alloy jetton dating to the c.13-14th century. It is not possible to determine if the copper alloy jetton was deposited within fill **1013** or residual and brought into the pit via animal action or ploughing. Analysis of the soil sample taken from fill **1013** revealed a small quantity of heavily degraded, probable, prehistoric pot sherds. It is not known the function of the shallow pits at present, as the pits are far too shallow to be associated with clunch extraction. From evidence seen in the map regression (Fig.14) it is possible that the pits could have resulted from the digging out of trees present on the site from 1886 – 1902.

The rest of the archaeological features present on the site are undated.

The second phase of activity is the formation of the subsoil. Which is most likely a post-medieval agricultural soil. With the final phase being the formation of the topsoil which is currently being used for modern agriculture.

Despite the high potential for medieval activity on the, only a single feature (**1012**) could provide a confirmed medieval date, potentially being dated to the early 14th century. The majority of features encountered on site are considered natural in origin.

11.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The final archive will be deposited with the Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (CHET). The digital archive will be stored with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).



12.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Britannia Archaeology would like to thank Mr John Carpenter for commissioning and funding the project.

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The site was excavated by Matthew J. Baker and Adam Leigh of Britannia Archaeology Ltd.



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English Heritage 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	SW - NE	9.87m	24
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1A	NW Side, NE End	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.30m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1003	0.30m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
1	NE – SW	9.99m	25
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1B	SE Side, SW End	NW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.42m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1001	0.42 – 0.56m	Subsoil: Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1002	0.56 – 0.63m	Colluvium: Mid orange brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1003	0.63m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	

TRENCH 2

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
2	SW - NE	10.33m	20
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2A	NW Side, NE End	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.34m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1001	0.34 – 0.46m	Subsoil: Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1003	0.46m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
2	NW - SE	10.15m	22
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2B	SW Side, NE End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.28m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1001	0.28 – 0.44m	Subsoil: Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1003	0.44m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	

TRENCH 3

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
3	SW - NE	10.67m	3
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3A	NW Side, NE End	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.37m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1003	0.37m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	



Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
3	NE - SW	10.15m	4
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3B	SE Side, SW End	NW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.32m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1003	0.32m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	

TRENCH 4

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
4	NW - SE	11.09m	12
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
4A	NE Side, NW End	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.48m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1003	0.48m+	Natural:	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
4	SE - NW	10.76m	11
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
4B	SW Side, SE End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.42m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1003	0.42m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	

TRENCH 5

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
5	NE - SW	10.74m	17
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
5A	NW Side, NE End	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.41m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1003	0.41m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
5	SE - NW	10.28m	18
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
5B	SE Side, SW End	NW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.39m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1001	0.39 - 0.52m	Subsoil: Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1003	0.52m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	



TRENCH 6

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
6	NE - SW	10.12m	14
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
6A	SE Side, NE End	NW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.26m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1002	0.26 - 0.46m	Subsoil: Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1003	0.46m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
6	SW - NE	9.96m	15
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
6B	NW Side, SW End	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.31m	Topsoil: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt.	
1001	0.31 - 0.61m	Subsoil: Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1002	0.61 - 0.72m	Colluvium: Mid orange brown, firm, clayey silt.	
1003	0.72m+	Natural: Light yellow-grey white, compact, chalk.	



APPENDIX 2 – FINDS CONCORDANCE

FEATURE CONTEXT	FEATURE TYPE	LAYER/FILL CONTEXT	LAYER/FILL DESCRIPTION	SPOT DATE	POTTERY /g(sherds)	A Bone /g(number)	CBM /g(number)	Other /g(number)
		1000 1001	Topsoil Subsoil	Modern			CBM - 152 (3)	
1004	Pit	1005	Fill of Pit	Early 14th century				Jetton - 8g (1)



APPENDIX 3 – SPECIALIST REPORT

Coin assessment – Dr Adrian Marsden (Numismatist)

Norfolk County Council Identification & Recording Service

Copper Alloy Jetton

The copper alloy jetton, an English issue, a crude derivative of an Edwardian long cross penny with the legends replaced by dashes, Mitchiner 165, dated c.1300-50. Little wear so we may suppose a loss date in the first half of the 14th century or a little later, perhaps c.1300-70.

Sample Flot and Residue Assessment – Matt Law MSc ACIfA, L-P: Archaeology

Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Methodology
3. Data Assessment
4. Assessment of potential
5. Recommendations

Table of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Sample Data (excluding Snails)

Appendix 2 – Snails

1. Introduction

1.1 This report is an assessment of the flot and heavy fraction residues from an environmental sample from a prehistoric pit fill at Wayside Farm, 5A Fordham Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire.

1.2 The sample was processed in a Siraf-style flotation tank and sorted following standard procedures (Kenward et al. 1980).



2. Methodology

2.1 The sample was processed by flotation sieving in a Siraf-style tank. Flot was retained on a 250 micron mesh and the residue on a 1mm mesh.

2.2 Flot

2.2.1 These remains were sorted and assessed by L – P: Archaeology's environmental archaeologist. Flots were weighed and scanned under a low power binocular microscope whilst wet and, if no waterlogged organic material was present, were air dried before being examined again.

2.3 Heavy Fraction Residue

2.3.1. The residue was air-dried and weighed when dry. Artefacts and biological remains were recovered and recorded. The remaining residue (geological material) was discarded.

3. Data Assessment

3.1.1. The flot and residue were sorted and assessed by L – P: Archaeology's environmental archaeologist.

3.2 Overview of Preservation Conditions and Preservation Type

3.2.1 The flot contained a relatively high quantity of root material. Shells were well-preserved within the flot and residue.

3.3 Diversity in the Samples

3.3.1 The flot and residue both contained snail shells. The residue contained an assemblage of small, abraded sherds of likely prehistoric pot. The flot also contained two goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.) seeds, as well as matted herbaceous material. These were fresh in appearance and did not appear to have been preserved through waterlogging, so are judged to be modern intrusions. The flot also contained a small number of live Symphyla, small subterranean relatives of centipedes.

4. Assessment of potential

4.1.1 All of the artefacts have been extracted, bagged and quantified.

4.1.2 The snail assemblage is dominated by *Pupilla muscorum*, with lesser quantities of *Helicella itala*, *Vallonia* spp., *Cochlicopa lubrica*, *Trochulus striolatus* and *Cepaea* sp. These are indicative of an open, relatively dry environment with short-sward (likely



grazed) grass. Shells of *Cecilioides acicula* are also present. This is a subterranean species which can live up to 2 metres underground – the shells are likely to be modern intrusions in this context.

5. Recommendations

5.1 The non artefactual/ ecofactual element of the sorted residue has been weighed and discarded.

5.2 No further work is recommended for any of the material, including the snail assemblage

5.3 It is recommended that the snail assemblage and pot sherd be retained with the site archive. All other biological remains may be discarded.

Appendix 1 - Sample Data

Context	Sample	Volume (L)	Weight after processing	Seeds (count)	Pot (sherd count)	Other inclusions
1013	1	10	Flot weight (wet): 10g. Residue weight (dry): 2664g	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp. x 2	1 (5g)	Matted herbaceous material. Live Symphyla. Frequent chalk rubble.

Table 1: sample data (excluding snails)

Appendix 2 – Snails from context 1013

Catholic/ ubiquitous

<i>Cepaea</i> sp.	1
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica</i>	2
<i>Trochulus striolatus</i>	1

Open Country

<i>Pupilla muscorum</i>	65
<i>Vallonia costata</i>	6
<i>Vallonia</i> cf. <i>excentrica</i>	1
<i>Helicella itala</i>	8

Subterranean

<i>Cecilioides acicula</i>	32
----------------------------	----



APPENDIX 4 – OASIS SHEET

OASIS FORM - Print view

<https://oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm>

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

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OASIS ID: britanni1-278226

Project details

Project name	Wayside Farm, 5a Fordham Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire
Short description of the project	In February 2017, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation on land at Wayside Farm, 5a Fordham Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 6427 7367), as part of a scheme of pre-planning archaeological works in advance of a housing development and associated works. The trial trenching has revealed three phases of activity at the site. The earliest phase encountered relates to several shallow pit features concentrated in the south-west corner of the site. Only one of these features has revealed any datable evidence which was a copper alloy jetton dating to the early 14th century. The second phase of activity is the formation of the subsoil. Which is most likely a post-medieval agricultural soil. With the final phase being the formation of the topsoil which is currently being used for modern agriculture. Despite the high potential for medieval activity on the, only a single feature could provide a confirmed medieval date, potentially being dated to the early 14th century. The majority of features encountered on site are considered natural in origin.
Project dates	Start: 06-02-2017 End: 08-02-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB 4891 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	PITS Uncertain
Monument type	POSTHOLES Uncertain
Significant Finds	JETTON Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location



Country England
Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE ISLEHAM Wayside Farm, 5a
Fordham Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire
Postcode CB7 5QU
Study area 0.5 Hectares
Site coordinates TL 6427 7367 52.336053282711 0.411353352838 52 20 09 N 000 24 40 E Point
Height OD / Depth Min: 9.96m Max: 11.09m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator Martin Brook
Project director/manager Martin Brook
Project supervisor Matt Baker
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body Mr John Carpenter

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER
Physical Archive ID ECB 4891
Physical Contents "Metal"
Digital Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER
Digital Archive ID ECB 4891
Digital Contents "Metal"
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER
Paper Archive ID ECB 4891
Paper Contents "Metal"
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)



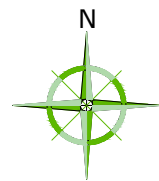
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Title	Wayside Farm, 5a Fordham Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Baker, M. J.
Other bibliographic details	R1153
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Britannia Archaeology Ltd
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Description	A4 bound report with A3 pull out figures
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Entered by	Matthew Baker (m.baker@brit-arch.com)
Entered on	3 March 2017

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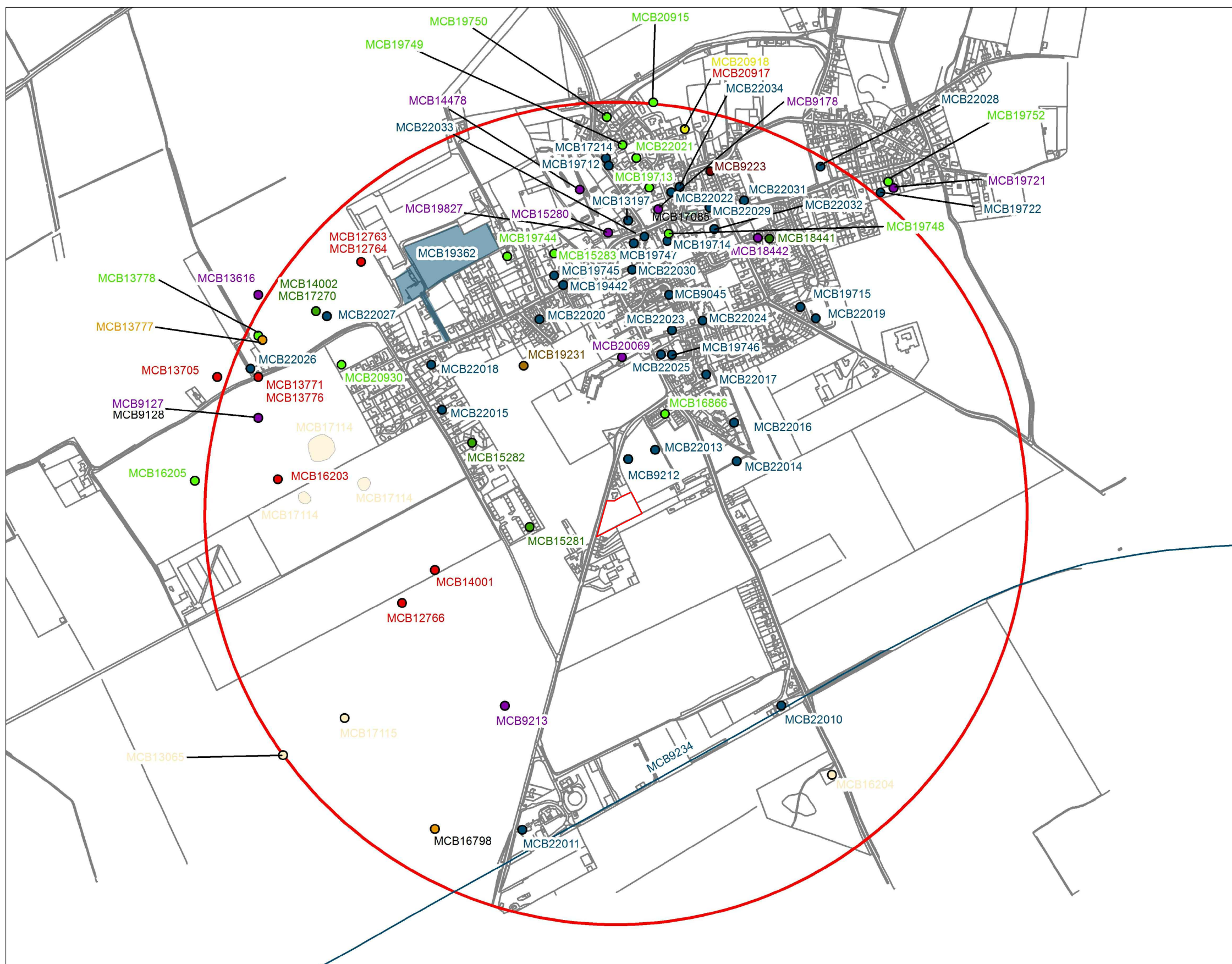
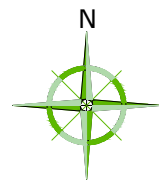


-  HER Search Area
-  Archaeological Event
-  Scheduled Monuments
-  Site Boundary

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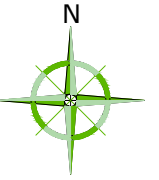
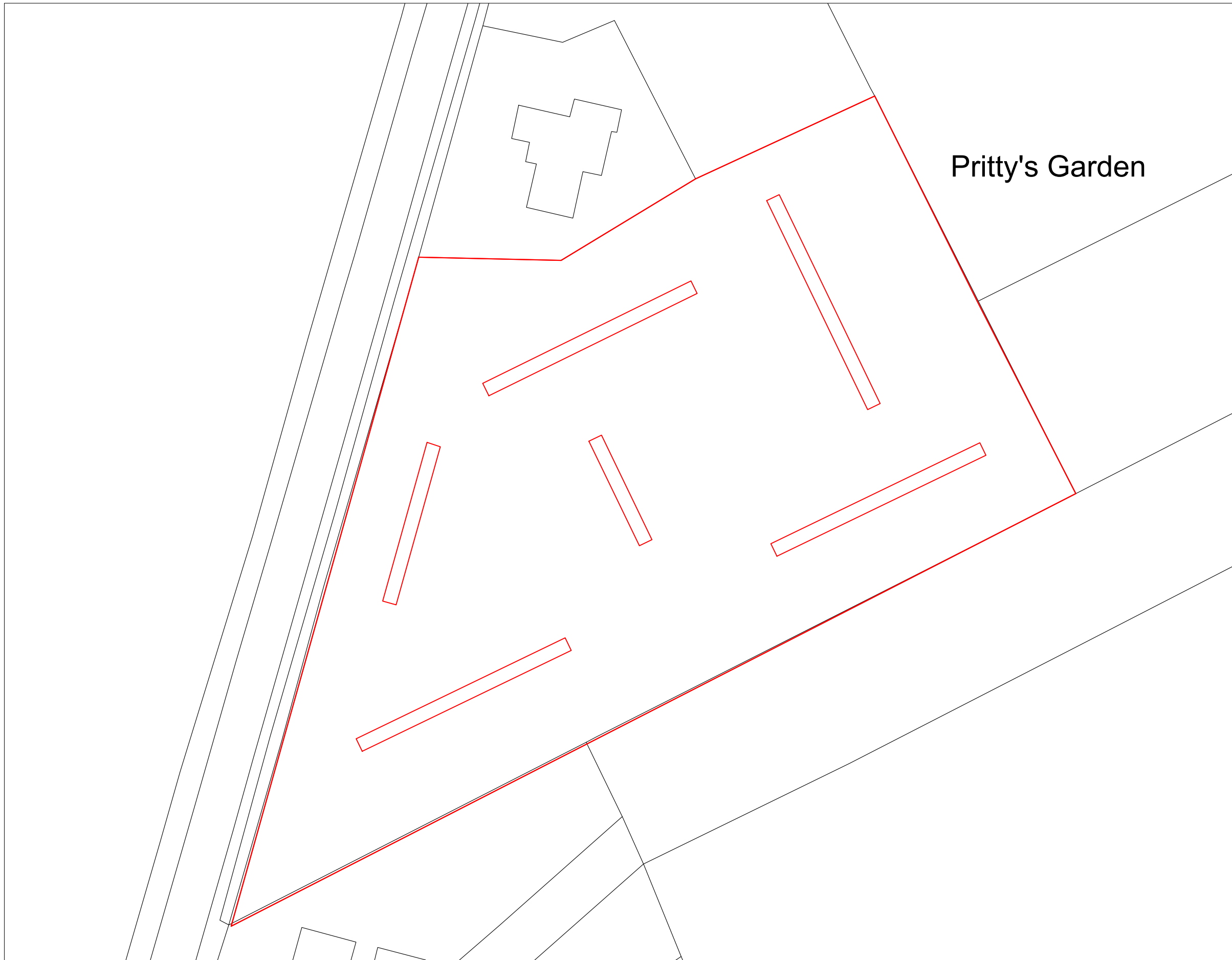


- HER Search Area
- Undated Record
- Multiperiod Record
- Modern Record
- Post-medieval Record
- Medieval Record
- Anglo Saxon Record
- Roman Record
- Iron Age Record
- Bronze Age Record
- Neolithic Record
- Mesolithic Record
- Palaeolithic Record
- Site Boundary



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Pritty's Garden

-  Trench
-  Site Boundary

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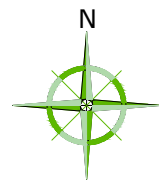
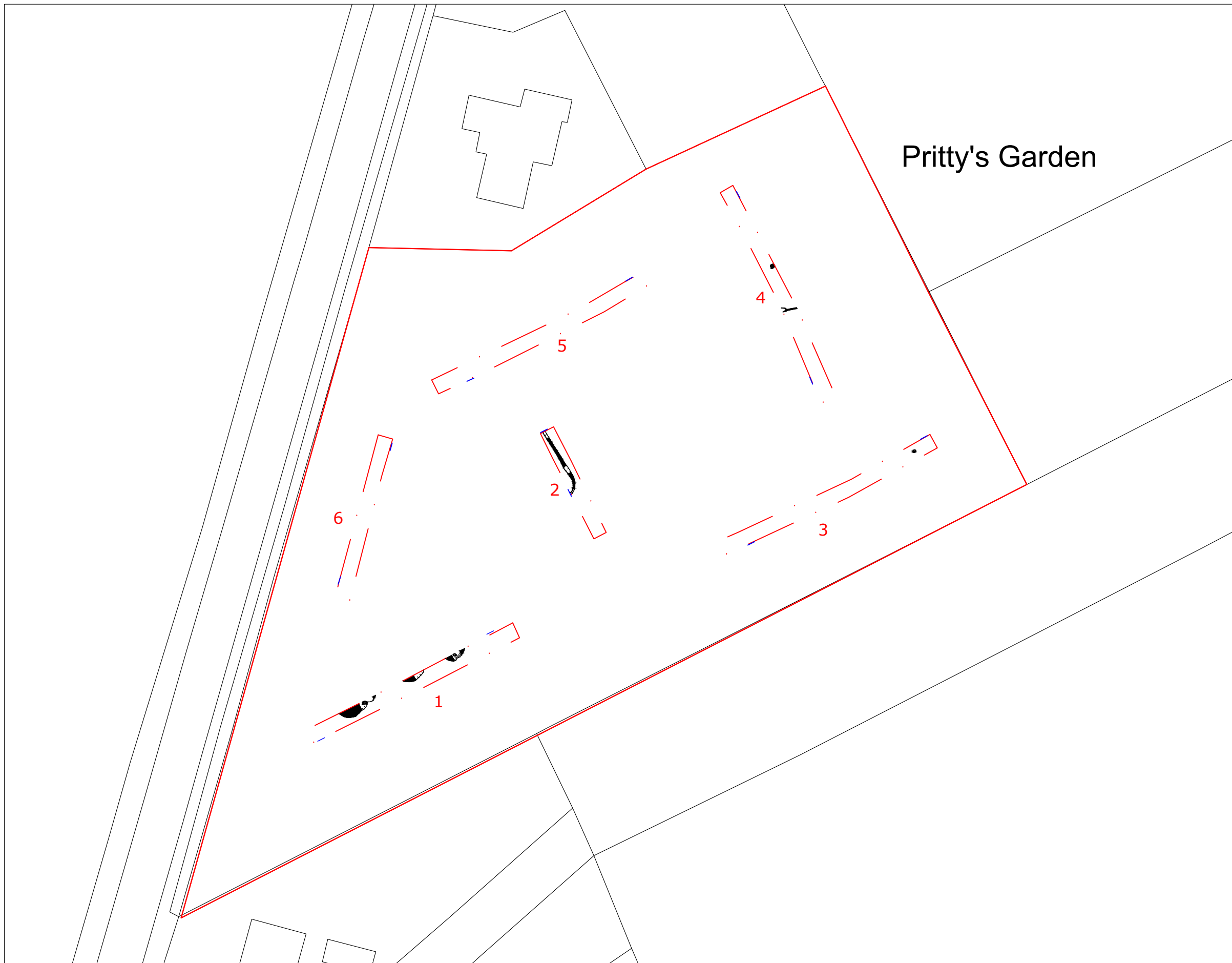
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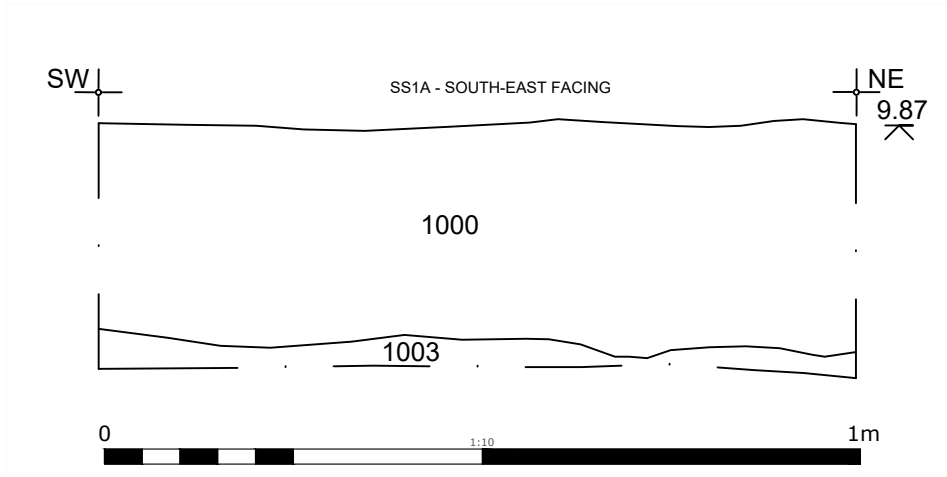
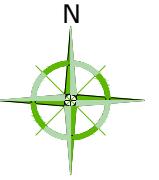
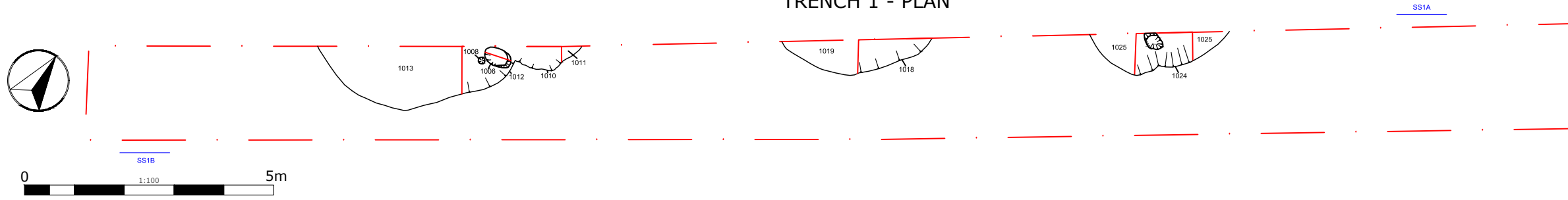
Pritty's Garden

-  Sample Section
-  Trench
-  Site Boundary

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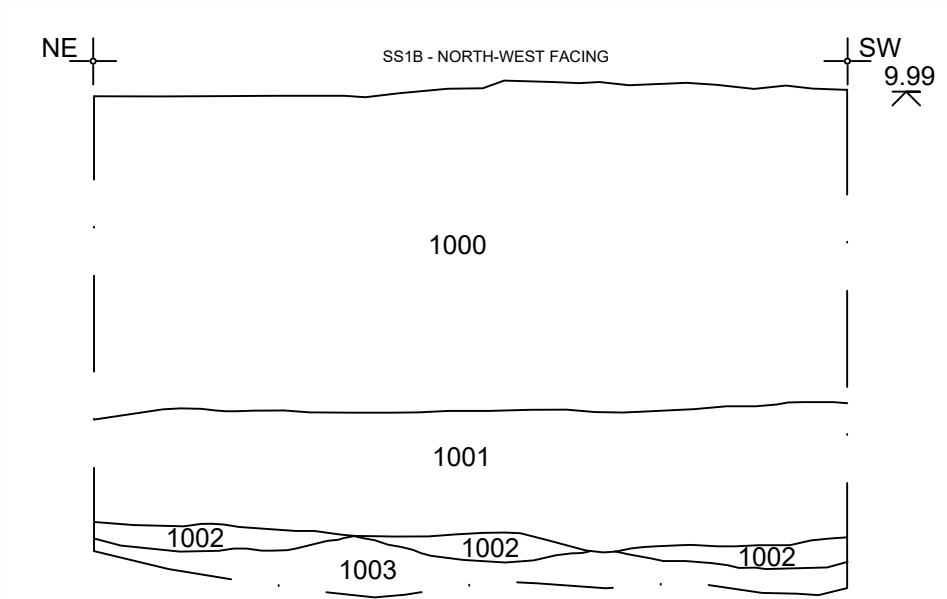
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DP25: SAMPLE SECTION 1A



DP24: TRENCH 1



DP26: SAMPLE SECTION 1B

-  Sample Section
-  Section Line
-  Excavated Feature
-  Trench

NGR: 564274 273670 REF: P1177

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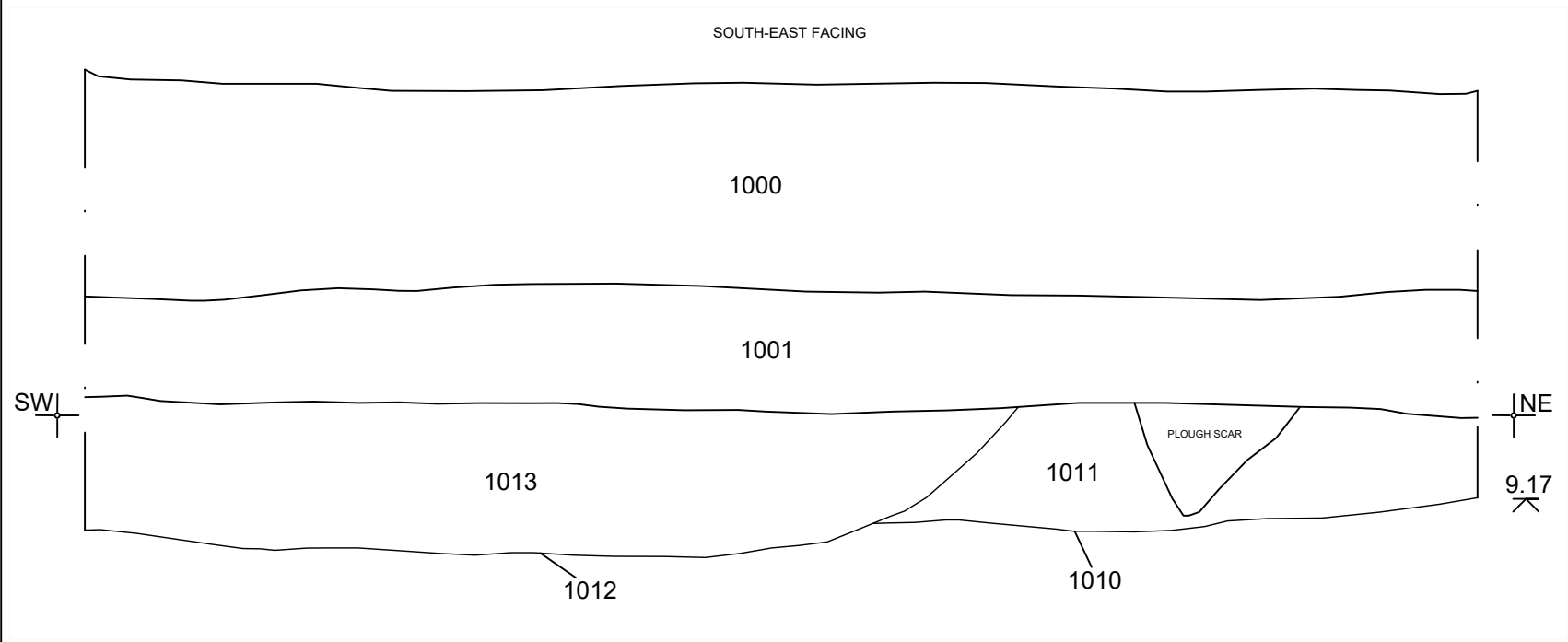
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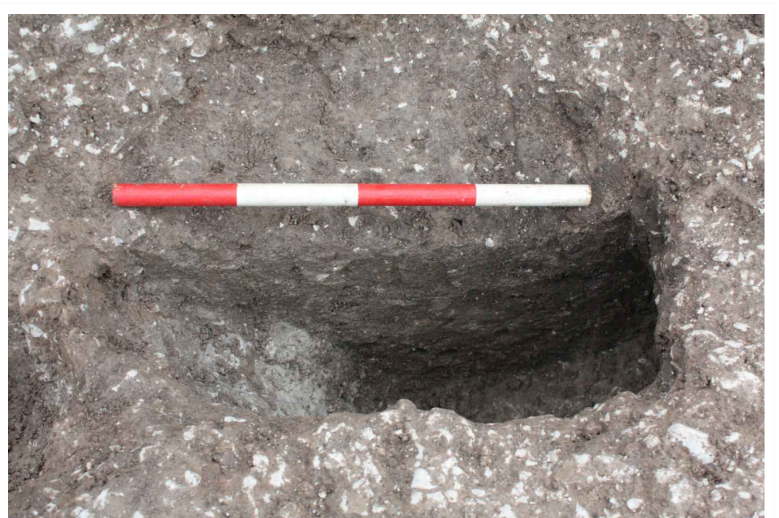
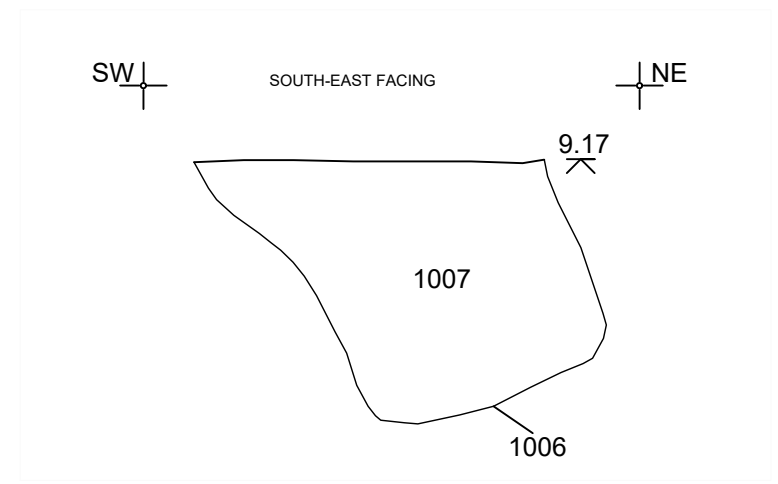
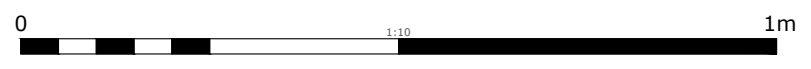
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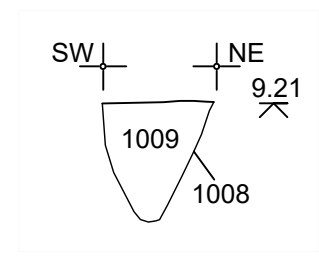
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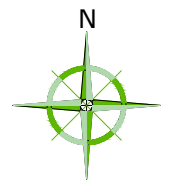
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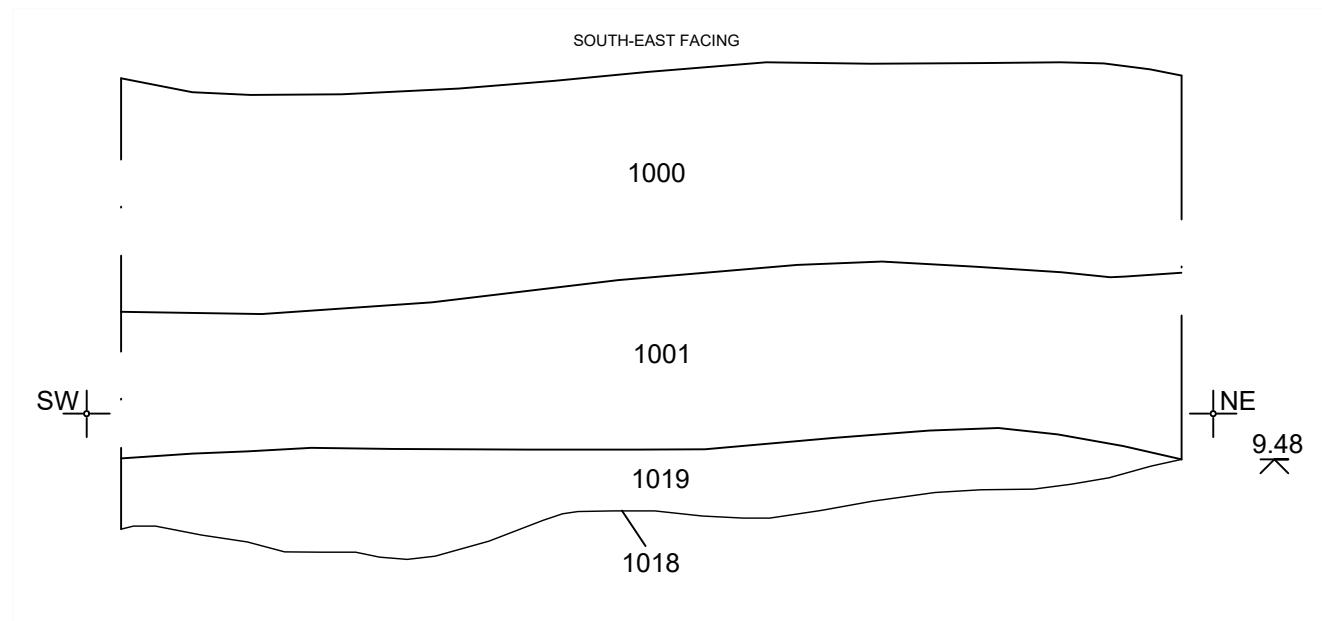
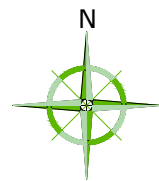


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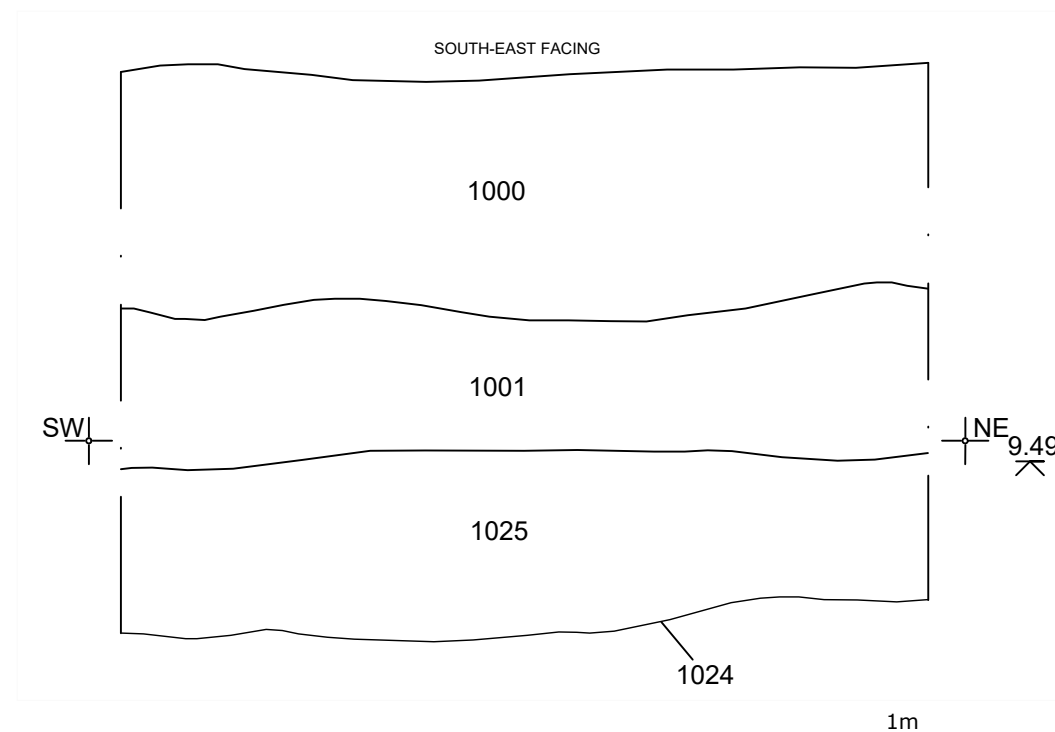


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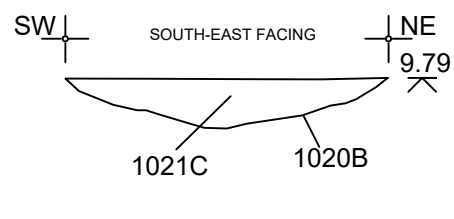
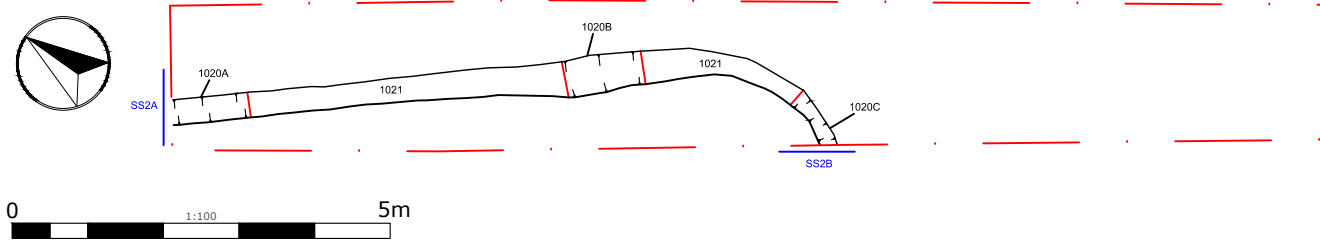
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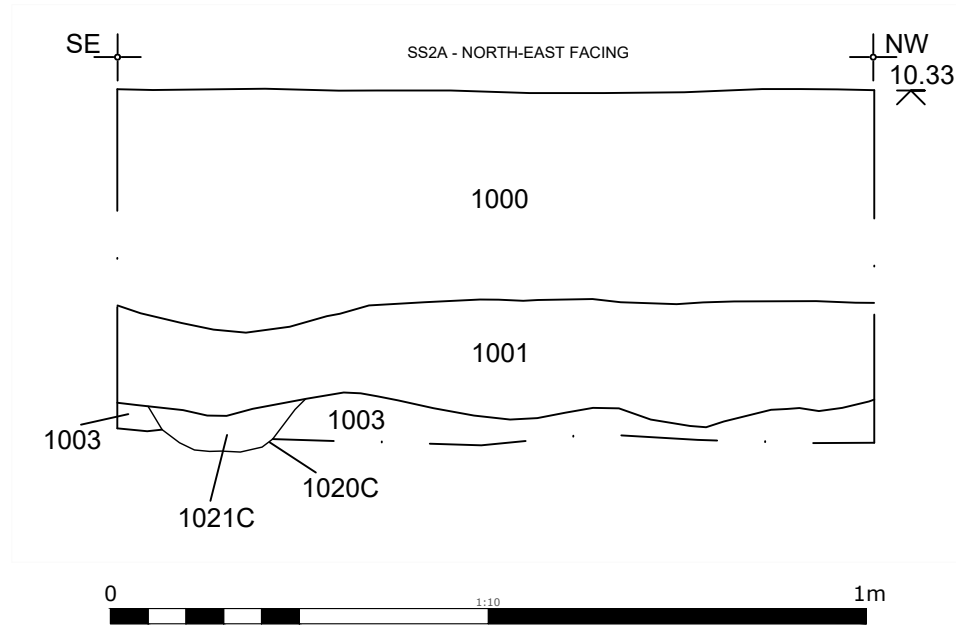
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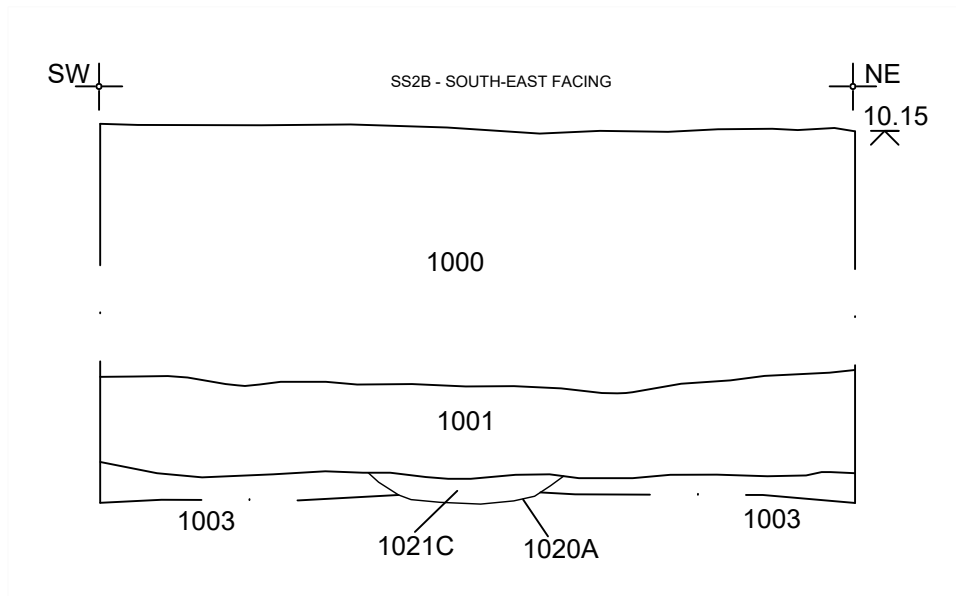
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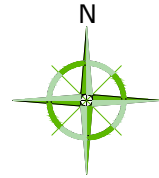
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DP22: SAMPLE SECTION 2B



DP23: TRENCH 2



-  Sample Section
-  Section Line
-  Excavated Feature
-  Trench

NGR: 564274 273670 REF: P1177

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DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PLAN, SAMPLE SECTIONS, FEATURES AND PHOTOGRAPHS

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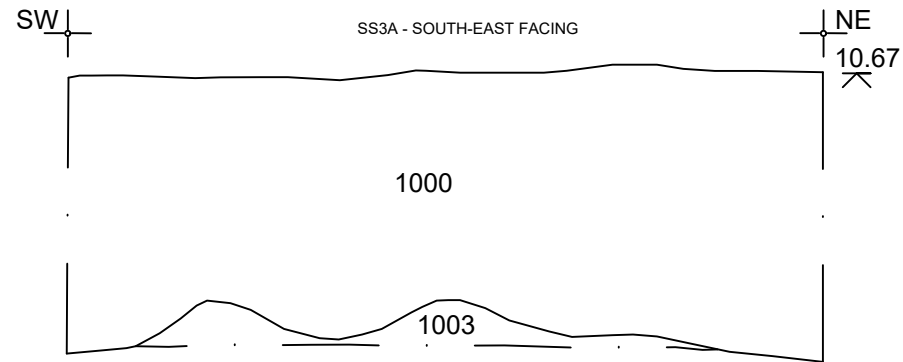
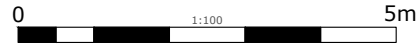
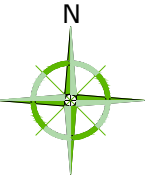
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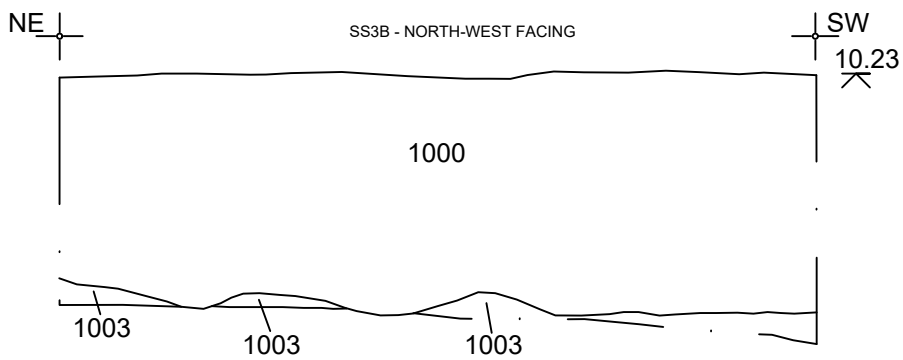
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AUTHOR: MJB FIGURE: 9
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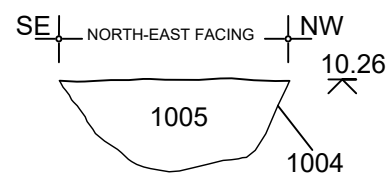
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DP 2: TRENCH 3



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-  Trench

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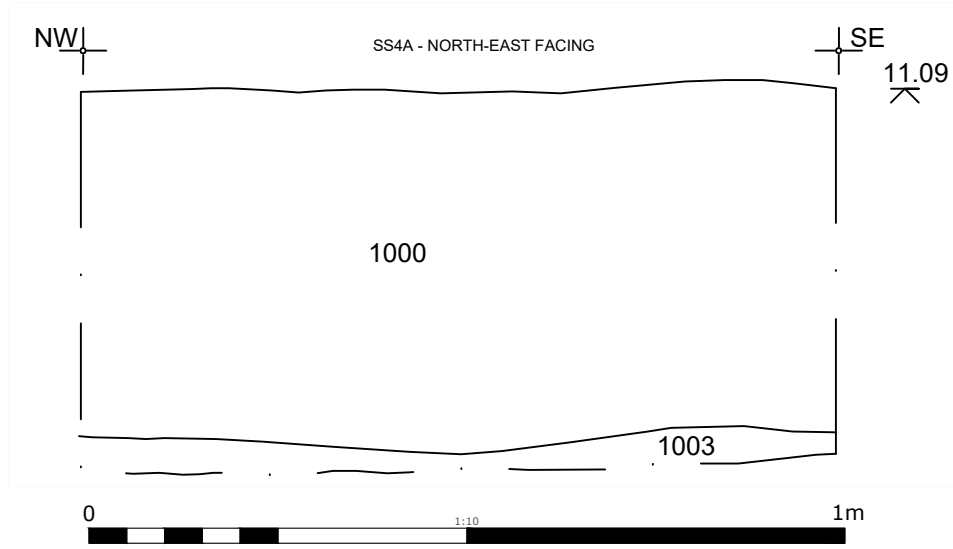
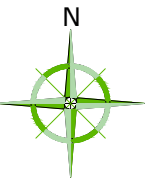
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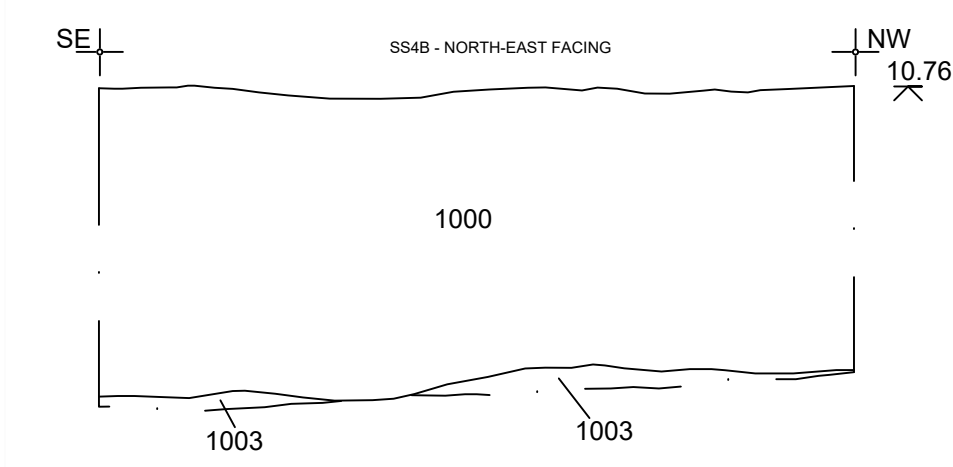
DATE: FEB 2017 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1

AUTHOR: MJB
APPROVED: DPM
FIGURE: 10

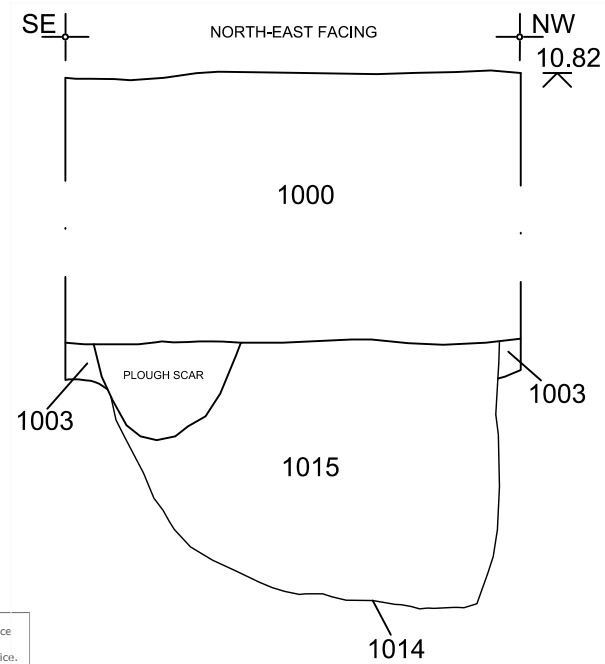
TRENCH 4 - PLAN



DP12: SAMPLE SECTION 4A







DP11: SAMPLE SECTION 4B



DP 8: FEATURE 1014

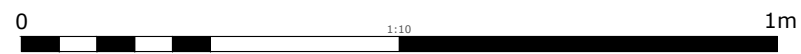
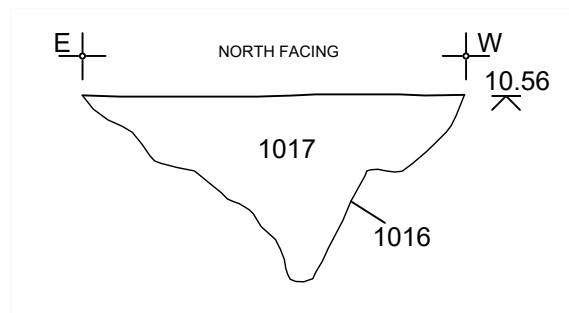


DP10: TRENCH 4

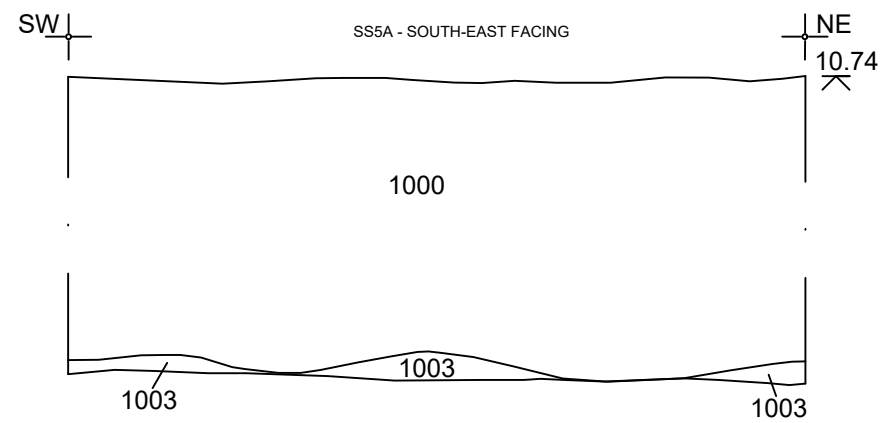
-  Sample Section
-  Section Line
-  Excavated Feature
-  Trench

NGR: 564274 273670	REF: P1177	
PROJECT: WAYSIDE FARM, 5A FORDHAM ROAD, ISLEHAM, CAMBS		
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PLAN, SAMPLE SECTIONS, FEATURE AND PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT: KJ CARPENTER AND SON		
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DATE: FEB 2017	PLOT: A3	VERSION: 1
AUTHOR: MJB	FIGURE: 11	
APPROVED: DPM		

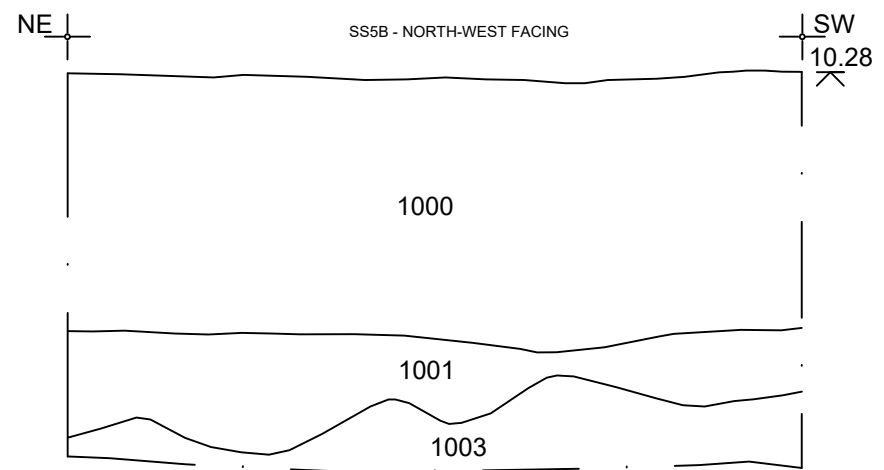
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DP 9: TREEBOLE 1016



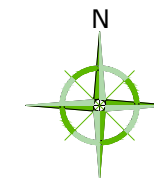
DP 17: SAMPLE SECTION 5A



DP 18: SAMPLE SECTION 5B



DP 16: TRENCH 5



NGR: 564274 273670 REF: P1177

PROJECT: WAYSIDE FARM, 5A FORDHAM ROAD, ISLEHAM, CAMBS

DESCRIPTION: SAMPLE SECTIONS, TREEBOLE AND PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT: KJ CARPENTER AND SON

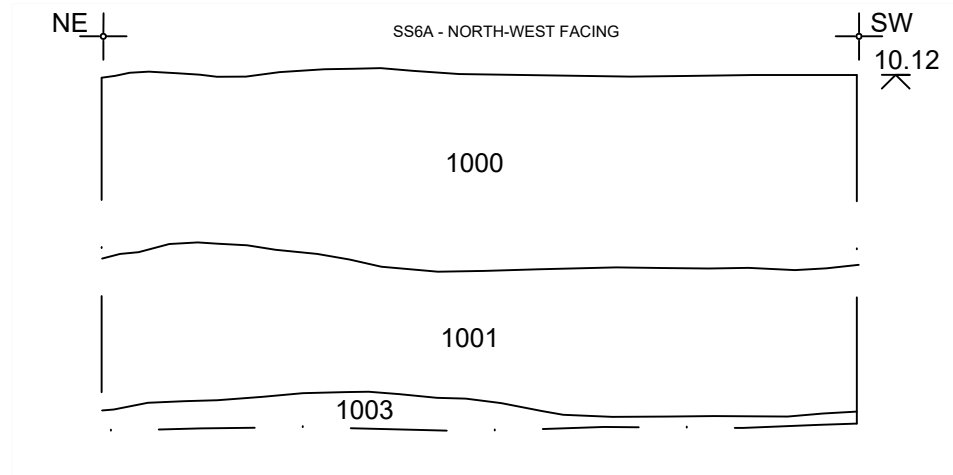
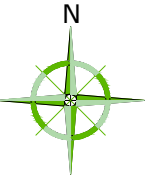
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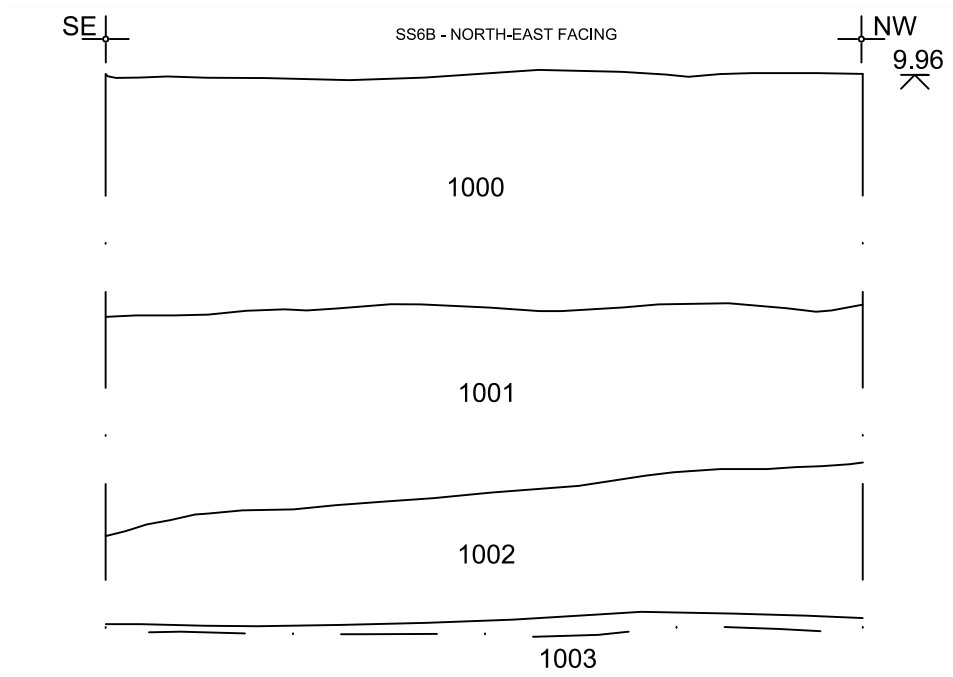
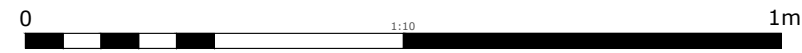
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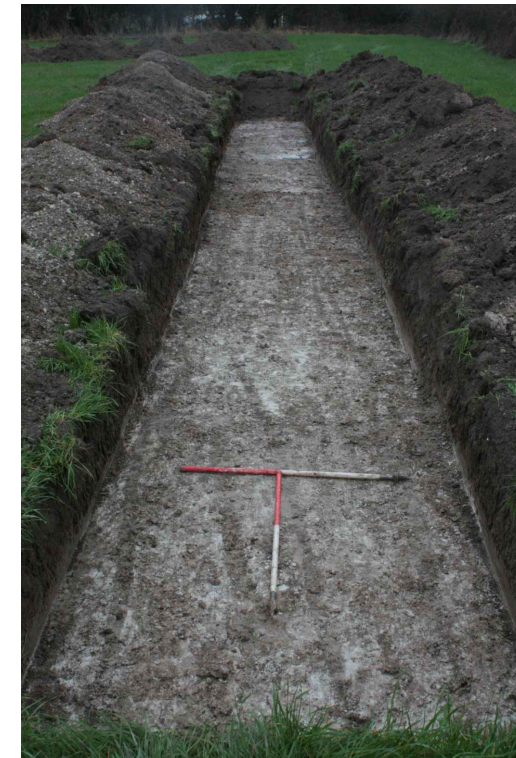
AUTHOR: MJB APPROVED: DPM FIGURE: 12



DP 14: SAMPLE SECTION 6A



DP 15: SAMPLE SECTION 6B



DP 13: TRENCH 6

NGR: 564274 273670	REF: P1177	
PROJECT: WAYSIDE FARM, 5A FORDHAM ROAD, ISLEHAM, CAMBS		
DESCRIPTION: SAMPLE SECTIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS		
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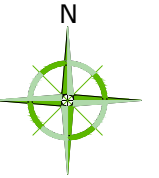
1st ed. OS 1886



2nd ed. OS 1903



3rd ed. OS 1953



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PROJECT:	WAYSIDE FARM, 5A FORDHAM ROAD, ISLEHAM, CAMBS		
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AUTHOR:	MJB	VERSION:	1
APPROVED:	DPM	FIGURE:	14