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# **14 WOOLLARDS LANE, GREAT SHELFORD, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**





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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

Prepared on behalf of:  
Mr Michael Gunn

By:  
Matthew J. Baker MA, BA (Hons)

Britannia Archaeology Ltd  
**Unit 2, The Old Wool Warehouse,  
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk,  
IP33 3PH**  
T: 01449 763034  
[info@britannia-archaeology.com](mailto:info@britannia-archaeology.com)  
[www.britannia-archaeology.com](http://www.britannia-archaeology.com)  
Registered in England and Wales: 7874460

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14 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire  
Archaeological Evaluation  
Project Number P1195

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## **Abstract**

From the 1st to 5th September Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation in advance of the erection of extensions and alterations to dwelling (no.14) and erection of new dwelling and associated infrastructure and works at 14 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire (TL 4625 5197).

The archaeological background for the site suggested that there was a high potential for medieval to post medieval archaeology on the site, given its location close to the medieval village core. The evaluation revealed three phases of activity on the site.

The earliest phase encountered can be dated to the medieval period, and relates to a ditch terminus and a pit located in the southern end of trench 1. Pit **1006** contained two sherds of pottery dated to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, possibly AD 1100 to 1150. Ditch terminus **1006** was dated from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. Pit **1008** contained no datable evidence, however, as it is cut by pit **1006** it is possible to suggest that pit **1008** would have a similar date.

Analysis of the soil samples taken from these features has revealed evidence of direct deposition of food processing waste into ditch **1004** and pit **1006** while they were open represented by charred grains and small charcoal fragments. Pit 1006 also contained 2 fish vertebrae further representing the deposition of food waste

It is likely that the above all relates to domestic activity associated with the former medieval core of the village.

The second phase dates to the post-medieval period, with a series of larger pits located on the western end of trench 1. Pits **1019**, **1021** and **1023** have all been dated from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, based on the pottery assemblages recovered from their fills.

The third phase of activity is the formation of the soil layer **1002** and **1015**, which based on the ceramic evidence can be dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in characterising the archaeology located at the site. The main potential for the site was centred on the medieval and post-medieval periods which is represented by the features and finds recovered.



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

From the 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> September Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation on behalf of Mr Michael Gunn as a condition of a planning application S/0650/17/FL, in advance of the erection of extensions and alterations to dwelling (no.14) and erection of new dwelling and associated infrastructure and works at 14 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire (TL 4625 5197 - Fig. 1).

The project was in response to a design brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) (Thomas. A, dated 15th June 2017) which required a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the threatened available area. A 5% sample of the site has been suggested as being sufficient to accomplish this. This constitutes 25m of excavated area, forming two 10.00m x 1.80m trenches arranged in an L shape and a single 5.00 x 1.80m trench.

## 2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located in the southern area of the core of the village of Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire, which is located approximately 5km south of the city of Cambridge. The site lies on the north side of Woollards Lane.

The bedrock geology is described as West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation – Chalk. Sedimentary Bedrock. This was formed approximately 94 to 100 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment was previously dominated by warm chalk seas (BGS, 2017).

Superficial deposits at the site are described as River Terrace Deposits, 2 – Sand and Gravel. These superficial deposits formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was previously dominated by rivers (BSG, 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). The relevant local planning policy is the *South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework Development Control Policies (2007)*.

### 3.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLG March 2012)

The NPPF recognises that 'heritage assets' are an irreplaceable resource and planning authorities should conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance when considering development. It requires developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner



proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. The key areas for consideration are:

- The significance of the heritage asset and its setting in relation to the proposed development;
- The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance;
- Significance (of the heritage asset) can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction, or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification;
- Local planning authorities should not permit loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred;
- Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.

### **3.2 South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework Development Control Policies (2007)**

The local development framework for South Cambridgeshire deals with the development on archaeological sites in Chapter 8. Policies CH1 and CH2 are relevant to archaeology and state the following:

- Policy CH/1 Historic Landscapes - Planning permission will not be granted for development which would adversely affect or lead to the loss of important areas and features of the historic landscape whether or not they are statutorily protected.
- POLICY CH/2 Archaeological Sites - Archaeological sites will be protected in accordance with national policy. Where it is deemed that there is archaeological potential, the developer will be required to commission an archaeological evaluation to define the character and condition of any remains. This will include the character and depth of remains together with the impact of development upon the remains together with any mitigation measures to avoid unnecessary damage.

## **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2)**

The following archaeological background utilises the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER) (1km search centred on the site), Historic England PastScape ([www.pastscape.org.uk](http://www.pastscape.org.uk)), and the Archaeological Data Service ([www.ads.ahds.ac.uk](http://www.ads.ahds.ac.uk)) (ADS) (Fig. 2, 3 & 4).



Investigations at 49 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, in 2011 (ECB3519) approximately 150m west of the site revealed eight undated linear features, five pits and a post hole. All the features were sealed by a 17<sup>th</sup> century deposit which was identified through all 3 excavated trenches.

Saxon and medieval activity can be seen in the data returned by the CHER search. Most notably the medieval church of St Mary (04924) is only located 350m west of the site. The church incorporates many medieval graves and medieval stained glass. The church itself is mainly early 15<sup>th</sup> century and is a good example of the work of the period. Numerous find spots of Saxon and medieval date are located North West of the site and to the north east of the church. This area marks the historic medieval core of the village. MCB18280, MCB18284, MCB 18298, MCB18299 and MCB18291 all relate to multi-period finds predominantly Saxon and medieval pottery sherds. The medieval pottery recovered from these areas largely dates from the 12-14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The majority of the records returned by the CHER search, date to the post-medieval period. The closest record to the site lies just 50m to the south east (MCB18288) which relates to a small quantity of pottery dating from the late medieval period to the 18-19<sup>th</sup> century. similar records are noted to the north east and east of the site, MCB19760 and MCB18287.

The closest listed building (DCB6415) to the site is located 100m to the south west. The record refers to no's 19 & 20 Wollards Lane, a pair of 18<sup>th</sup> century cottages. Timber framed and plaster rendered with a steeply pitched thatched roof the building consisted of two storeys. The buildings are situated on the southern edge of the former village green.

Given the above and the sites location on the edge of the former medieval village core, the likelihood of encountering archaeological remains dated to the medieval and post medieval periods is **high**.

## 5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The CCC HET brief states 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 (Thomas, A. Brief, Section 3.1).

## 6.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Research objectives for the project are 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: *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 requires 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. This constitutes 25m of excavated area, forming two 10.00m x 1.80m trenches arranged in an L shape and a single 5.00 x 1.80m trenches.

A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket will be used to machine down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation work will be undertaken by hand unless agreed with CCC HET (Fig. 5).

The archaeology will be recorded using pro-forma record sheets, drawn plans and section drawings and appropriate photographs will also be taken. A contingency day rate has been provided should the work take longer than expected due to additional trenching requirements, bad weather, or any other unforeseen delays.

In the event that important archaeological remains are identified, a site meeting will be held with the client and the CCC HET planning archaeologist to discuss the significance of the remains and decide on the scope of further excavation and recording.



## 8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figures 7 - 22)

The evaluation consisted of linear trial trenching to sample the proposed development area. Two trenches measuring 18m were excavated. A reduction in the total length of the trenches was required as trench 1 was positioned close to a garden wall and patio on its northern end, and on its western end the trench length was significantly reduced because of trees and other well rooted plants in the garden boarder. Trench 2 measured 3.80m in length, reduced on its southern end by 1.20m as a waste water service was encountered.

The fieldwork for the evaluation portion of the project was undertaken between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2017.

Features encountered within the trenches included pits, a ditch terminus and larger pits

### 8.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 measured 14.68m in total with 8.90m orientated north to south and a 5.78m extension orientated east to west forming an 'L' shape, which was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.27m. The trench contained five features.

Ditch terminus **1004** (1.04m+ x 0.84m x 0.25m) was linear in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Ditch terminus **1004** contained a single fill **1005**, consisting of a mid brown grey, firm, sandy silt, with frequent inclusions of small to medium flints. The feature contained a single sherd of medieval coarseware, weighing 10g, the fabric is typical of the mid to late 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century period. A 10L sample was taken from fill 1005 for environmental processing and produced abundant charred grains and snail shells with lesser quantities of small charcoal fragments.

Pit **1008** (0.32m+ x 0.74m x 0.27m) was of an unknown shape with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. Pit **1008** contained a single fill **1009**, which consisted of a mid grey brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional inclusions of sub-angular flints. No finds were present within the features.

Cutting pit **1008** was pit **1006** (0.34m+ x 0.95m x 0.17m) was of an unknown shape with moderate sloping sites and a shallow concave base. The feature contained two sherds of pottery, the first was an early medieval ware, weighing 1g, and the second was a St Neots type ware, weighing 6g. The combination of these two fabrics suggests a date somewhere around the 12<sup>th</sup> century, possibly AD1100 to 1150. A 10L sample was taken from fill 1007 for environmental processing and produced abundant charred grains and snail shells with lesser quantities of small charcoal fragments. Two fish vertebrae, some small mammal bone, small fossils (reworked from underlying geology) and earthworm granules which were recent intrusions.



In the western most end of the trench were a series of intercutting features, dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century. Due to the depth and restrictions on site for stepping the trenches these features were only partially excavated.

Pit **1021** (1.80m+ x 1.56m x 0.11m+) is of an unknown shape and depth with moderately sloping sides. Only a single fill was encountered **1022** which consisted of a firm, mid yellow brown, sandy silt, with occasional sub-angular flint inclusions. The fill contained a single body sherd of glazed red earthen ware, weighing 8g, which can be dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> century. A fragment of post medieval roof tile, weighing 39g, was also recovered from fill **1022**, which had been heavily mortared on both surfaces which suggests that the roof tile was reused prior to its depositing into pit **1021**.

Pit **1019** (0.70m x 0.23m x 0.09m+) is of an unknown shape with moderately sloping sides and an unknown base. Only a single fill was encountered **1020**, which was a friable, dark grey-red brown, with occasional small to medium flint inclusions. The fill contained a single shattered fragment of glazed red earthen ware, weighing 7g, which is dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Large pit **1023** (2.50m+ x 1.80m+ x 0.22m+) present on the westernmost end of trench 1, truncating both pits **1019** and **1021**. Is of an unknown shape, with shallow to moderate sloping sides and an unknown base. The earliest fill encountered was **1024** which was a firm, mid blue-grey brown, silty sand, with frequent inclusions of sub-angular flint stones and frequent inclusions of small to medium sized chalk stones. This fill contained two sherds of post medieval red ware, weighing 33g, and date to the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> century. Four brick fragments, weighing 596g, were also found in this fill, however, they can only be broadly dated to within the post medieval period. Sealing fill **1024** was fill **1025** which was a firm, mid yellow-grey brown with frequent inclusions of small to medium chalk stones and moderate inclusions of sub-angular flints. No finds were present in this fill.

## Trench 2

Trench 2 measured 3.80m in length, which was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.91m. The trench was reduced in length as a waste water pipe was encountered on its southern end.

Trench 2 contained no archaeological features, however, a solution hollow was excavated and found to extend underneath the natural **1003**. The fill of this solution hollow **1017** (0.50m+ x 0.22m+ x 0.68m) was a loose, pale yellow grey, silty sand, with rounded and sub-angular flints. The solution hollow contained two sherds of pottery weighing 12g in total. The first sherd was a glazed red earthen ware, weighing 10g, dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> century, the second sherd was a refined white earthen ware, weighing 2g, dated to the late 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century. The assemblage is too small to provide an accurate date for the solution hollow, although a date from the 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century is likely.



## 9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Fig. 7 - 9)

The deposit model varies across the two trenches and the deposit model for each trench will be given below:

### Trench 1

The top of the stratigraphic sequence was topsoil layer **1000**. This comprised of a mid orange brown, friable sandy silt with a clay component. This layer was present to a maximum depth of 0.36m. This layer represents a modern garden soil, spread across the site. Pottery recovered from this layer give a date range from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Beneath topsoil **1000** was subsoil layer **1001**, comprising of a mid yellow- grey brown, firm silty sand. This layer was present to a maximum depth of 0.64m. This layer may represent a buried garden soil. Three small body sherds of pottery were recovered from this layer, weighing 9g in total. One sherd of interest is an abraded Early Saxon ware, which is most likely residual. The remaining sherds consisted of glazed red earthen ware and transfer printed ware providing a date range from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century for this layer.

Below subsoil layer **1001** was buried soil layer **1002**, comprising of a mid grey brown, firm, silty sand, with frequent inclusions of sub-angular flints. This layer was present to a maximum depth of 1.16m. Twelve sherds of pottery were recovered from this layer, weighing 67g in total. These included late post medieval ware, refined white earthenware and transfer printed ware, all dated from the 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century. The layer also produced eight CBM fragments, weighing 2614g in total. Six of these pieces were roof tile fragments and two large brick fragments, dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century. The presence of this building material may suggest that this represents remnants of demolition from a previous structure on site, seen in the first edition OS map.

At the base of the stratigraphic sequence in trench was Natural Geology **1003**, comprised of mid orange yellow, compact, sandy clay with occasional sub-angular and rounded flint pebbles.

### Trench 2

The top of the stratigraphic sequence is topsoil layer **1000**, which comprised of a mid orange brown, friable, sandy silty with a clay component. This layer was present to a maximum depth of 0.15m. This layer represents a modern garden soil.

Beneath topsoil layer **1000** were five layers of made ground, consisting of layers **1010** which was a layer of compacted sand a flint stones. This layer was present to a maximum depth of 0.31m. Below this layer was layer **1011**, which was a mid yellow grey, loose, silty sand which was present to a maximum depth of 0.37m. This sealed layer **1012** which is a layer of Asphalt present to a maximum depth of 0.48m. Below this layer was layer **1013** which consisted of compacted crushed chalk and sand, present to a maximum depth of 0.53m, which overlays layer **1014** which is a layer of fine sand present to a depth of



0.56m. These layers likely represent successive resurfacing of the area to the rear of the property present on the site.

These layers of made ground overlay layer **1015**, which consisted of a mid brown grey, firm, silty sand, with moderate sub-angular flint inclusions. Which is present to a maximum depth of 0.80m. Five sherds of pottery were recovered from the layer, weighing 28g, the sherds included transfer printed ware, and three sherds of refined white earthenware dated from the 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century and a single base sherd of English stone ware dated from the 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century. If the sherds are contemporary then a date from the 19<sup>th</sup> – early 20<sup>th</sup> century is likely for this layer. It is possible that this is contemporary if not the same as **1002** located in trench 1.

Layer **1015** overlay layer **1016**, which comprised of a mid yellow-grey brown, firm, silty sand, with occasional inclusions of sub-angular flints, and frequent inclusions of chalk. No pottery was found in this layer, however a single fragment of heavily mortared curved roof tile, weighing 57g, was recovered from this layer, which can only broadly date this layer to the post medieval period.

The base of the stratigraphic sequence in trench 2 is natural geology **1003**, which comprised of a pale grey white, compacted chalk, with degraded chalk fragments common on its surface.

## 10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The archaeological background for the site suggested that there was a high potential for medieval to post medieval archaeology on the site, given its location close to the medieval village core.

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

The earliest phase encountered can be dated to the medieval period, and relates to a ditch terminus and a pit located in the southern end of trench 1. Pit **1006** contained two sherds of pottery dated to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, possibly AD 1100 to 1150. Ditch terminus **1006** was dated from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. Pit **1008** contained no datable evidence, however, as it is cut by pit **1006** it is possible to suggest that pit **1008** would have a similar date. This fits in with the CHER data which lists similar dates for (MCB18280, 18284, 18298, 18299 and 18291)

Analysis of the soil samples taken from these features has revealed evidence of direct deposition of food processing waste into ditch **1004** and pit **1006** while they were open represented by charred grains and small charcoal fragments. Pit 1006 also contained 2 fish vertebrae further representing the deposition of food waste. In addition both features contained snail shells which were predominantly country species suggesting the features formed in an open grassy environment. Pit 1006 contained the bones of small mammals



(including a shrew mandible) which may have been exploiting the insects and snails which were drawn to the food waste in the pit.

It is likely that the above all relates to domestic activity associated with the former medieval core of the village.

The second phase dates to the post-medieval period, with a series of larger pits located on the western end of trench 1. Pits **1019**, **1021** and **1023** have all been dated from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, based on the pottery assemblages recovered from their fills.

The third phase of activity is the formation of the soil layer **1002** and **1015**, which based on the ceramic evidence can be dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in characterising the archaeology located at the site. The main potential for the site was centred on the medieval and post-medieval periods which is represented by the features and finds recovered.

## **11.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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We would also like to thank Andy Thomas, Cambridgeshire his advice and assistance throughout the project.

Britannia would also like to thank the specialists who worked on the finds from this project: Mr Andy Fawcett (Pottery; Britannia Archaeology).

The site was excavated by Matthew Baker, Louisa Cunningham and Andy Fawcett of Britannia Archaeology Ltd.



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English Heritage PastScape [www.pastscape.org.uk](http://www.pastscape.org.uk)

Archaeological Data Service (ADS) [www.ads.ahds.ac.uk](http://www.ads.ahds.ac.uk)

English Heritage National List for England



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[www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england](http://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	E - W	16.18	6
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1	S side, W end	N Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.21m	Topsoil: Mid orange brown, friable, silty sandy clay.	
1001	0.21-0.52m	Subsoil: Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, sandy silt.	
1002	0.52-0.91m	Buried Soil: Mid grey brown, firm, silty sand with frequent inclusions of sub-angular flint stones.	
1003	0.91m+	Natural: mid orange yellow, compact, sandy clay with occasional sub-angular and rounded flint pebbles.	

### Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)
1004	Ditch Terminus (1.04m+ x 0.84m x 0.25m) Linear in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base.	1005	Mid grey brown, firm, sandy silt with frequent inclusions of small to medium sized flint pebbles.	12 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> century	Pot sherd 1/10g
1006	Pit (0.34m+ x 0.95m x 0.17m) Unknown shape, with moderately sloping sides and a shallow concave base.	1007	Mid grey brown, firm, sandy silt, with occasional inclusions of sub-angular flints.	12 <sup>th</sup> century (AD1100 – 1150)	Pot sherd 2/7g
1008	Pit (0.32m+ x 0.74m x 0.27m) Unknown shape, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base.	1009	Mid grey brown, firm, sandy silt, with occasional inclusions of sub-angular flints.	-	-
1019	Pit (0.70m x 0.23m x 0.09m) Unknown shape, with moderately sloping sides and an unknown base	1020	Dark grey brown, friable, silty sand, with occasional small to medium flint inclusions.	16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> century	Pot sherd 1/7g
1021	Pit (1.80m+ x 1.56m x 0.11m+) Unknown shape, with moderately sloping sides and an unknown base.	1022	Mid yellow brown, firm, sandy silt, with occasional inclusions of sub-angular flints.	16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> century	Pot sherd 1/8g  CBM – Roof tile 1/39g
1023	Large Pit (2.50m+ x 1.80m+ x 0.22m+) Unknown shape, with moderately sloping sides and an unknown base.	1024	Mid blue-grey brown, firm, silty sand with frequent inclusions of sub-angular flints and small to medium chalk stones.	16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> century	Pot sherd 2/33g  CBM – Brick fragment 4/596g
		1025	Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, silty sand, with frequent inclusions of small to medium chalk stones and moderate inclusions of sub-angular flints.	-	-



## TRENCH 2

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
2	E-W		3
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2A	N side E end	S Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.17m	Topsoil: Mid orange brown, friable, sandy, silty clay	
1010	0.17-0.31m	Made ground: Light orange yellow, compact, sandy gravel.	
1011	0.31-0.37m	Made ground: Mid yellow grey, loose, silty sand.	
1012	0.37-0.48m	Made ground: Dark blue grey, compact, Asphalt.	
1013	0.48-0.53m	Made ground: Light yellow white, compact, sandy chalk.	
1014	0.53-0.56m	Made ground: Mid yellow orange, firm, sand.	
1015	0.56-0.84m	Subsoil: Mid brown grey, firm, silty sand, with moderate inclusions of sub-angular flint stones.	
1016	0.84-0.93m	Subsoil: Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, silty sand, occasional sub-angular flint stones.	
1003	0.93m+	Natural: light yellow white, compact, chalk with solutions hollow	

## Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)
N/A	Natural Solution Hollow (0.50m+ x 0.22m+ x 0.68m) Circular in plan, irregular undercutting sides with an irregular base	1017	Pale yellow grey, loose, silty sand, with moderate inclusions of sub-angular and rounded flints	18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century	Pot sherd 2/12g



## **APPENDIX 2 – Specialist Reports**

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. This report presents an assessment of biological remains from bulk sediment samples taken during the course of an archaeological investigations at 14 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire.
- 1.2. A total of 2 samples of 10 litres volume were processed and assessed.

### **2. Methodology**

- 2.1. The samples were processed in a Siraf-style flotation tank. The washover or flots were caught on a 250µm mesh sieve. The residue was retained on a 1mm mesh sieve.
- 2.2. Flots and residues were air dried and examined under a low-power binocular microscope at 10x magnification.
- 2.3. Biological remains were extracted and stored in labelled glass tubes.

### **3. Results**

- 3.1. Estimated abundance of biological remains in the samples are recorded in APPENDIX 1.
- 3.2. The flots contained approximately 20% modern root material. This may have resulted in some recent intrusive material entering the contexts sampled.
- 3.3. The flots and residues contained abundant snail shells, charred grains and common charcoal. The residue of sample 2, from pit fill (1007), also contained animal bone and fish bone.

### **4. Discussion**

- 4.1. Both samples contained abundant charred grains with lesser quantities of small charcoal fragments. These represent the direct deposition of food processing waste into the ditch and pit while they were open. The large quantities present are unlikely to be the result of intrusive material being carried into the fills post-deposition by the action of roots, earthworms or burrowing snails.



- 4.2. Both samples also contained abundant snail shells. These were predominantly open country species such as *Helicella itala*, *Pupilla muscorum*, *Vertigo pygmaea* and *Vallonia* spp., as well as intermediate species like *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Trochulus* sp., suggesting that the features formed in an open, grassy environment. Several shells of the subterranean *Cecilioides acicula* were present. These are recent intrusions.
- 4.3. Pit fill (1007) contained two fish vertebrae. These also represent deposition of food waste into the pit.
- 4.4. Pit fill (1007) contained a number of small mammal bones, including part of the mandible of a shrew (*Sorex* sp.). This may have been exploiting the insects and snails drawn to the food waste within the pit.
- 4.5. The residue of pit fill (1007) contained some small fossils, reworked from the underlying geology, and some earthworm granules, most likely recent intrusions and evidence of a biologically active soil profile.

## **5. Statement of Potential and Recommendations**

- 5.1. Charred grain represents evidence of food that was consumed on the site. Its analysis is recommended to inform an understanding of the site economy.
- 5.2. The snails and small mammal remains are indicators of the site environment. Their analysis is recommended.
- 5.3. The assemblages of charcoal and fish bone are judged too small to carry any interpretative value. No further work is recommended for these.



## 6. Appendix 1 – Biological Remains

Sample Number	1		2	
	1005		1007	
Context Number	1005		1007	
Context Description	Ditch terminus		Pit fill	
Weight after processing	11g (wet)	620g (dry)	19g (wet)	2513g (dry)
% modern roots	c20		c20	
	Flot	Residue	Flot	Residue
Charred Grain	D		C	E
Charcoal <2mm			E	D
Charcoal 2-4mm			E	E
Charcoal >4mm	E		E	
Seeds	E		E	
Bone		D		D
Fish Bone				E
Snails	C	E	B	D
Earthworm Granules				E
Fossils				E

Biological remains from 14 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford. Abundance codes A: >200, B: 200-100, C: 100-50, D: 50-10, E >10.



### APPENDIX 3 - CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

FEATURE CONTEXT	FEATURE TYPE	LAYER/FILL CONTEXT	LAYER/FILL DESCRIPTION	SPOT DATE	POTTERY /g (sherds)	CBM /g(number)
n/a	n/a	1000	Topsoil	16th - 20th century		
n/a	n/a	1001	Subsoil	16th - 20th century	3/9g	
n/a	n/a	1002	Buried soil	19th - 20th century	12/67g	8/2614g
1004	Ditch Terminus	1005	Ditch Fill	12th - 14th century	1/10g	
1006	Pit	1007	Pit Fill	12th century	2/7g	
n/a	n/a	1015	Subsoil	19th - 20th century	5/28g	
n/a	n/a	1016	Subsoil	Post-medieval		1/57g
n/a	n/a	1017	Solution hollow	18th - 20th century	2/12g	
1019	Pit	1020	Pit Fill	16th - 18th century	1/7g	
1021	Pit	1022	Pit Fill	16th - 18th century	1/8g	1/39g
1023	Large Pit	1024	Pit Fill	16th - 18th century	2/33g	4/596g



## APPENDIX 4      Oasis Form

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: **britannia1-288318**

### Project details

Project name	14 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire
Short description of the project	From the 1st to 5th September Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at 14 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire (TL 4625 5197). The archaeological background for the site suggested that there was a high potential for medieval to post medieval archaeology on the site, given its location close to the medieval village core. The evaluation revealed three phases of activity on the site. The earliest phase encountered can be dated to the medieval period, and relates to a ditch terminus and a pit located in the southern end of trench 1. Analysis of the soil samples taken from these features has revealed evidence of direct deposition of food processing waste into ditch 1004 and pit 1006 while they were open represented by charred grains and small charcoal fragments. Pit 1006 also contained 2 fish vertebrae further representing the deposition of food waste. It is likely that the above all relates to domestic activity associated with the former medieval core of the village. The second phase dates to the post-medieval period, with a series of larger pits located on the western end of trench 1. Pits 1019, 1021 and 1023 have all been dated from the 16th to 18th centuries, based on the pottery assemblages recovered from their fills. The third phase of activity is the formation of the soil layer 1002 and 1015, which based on the ceramic evidence can be dated to the 19th to 20th centuries. The archaeological evaluation has been successful in characterising the archaeology located at the site. The main potential for the site was centred on the medieval and post-medieval periods which is represented by the features and finds recovered.
Project dates	Start: 17-07-2017 End: 18-07-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB5161 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Medieval
Significant Finds	A. BONE Medieval



Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE GREAT SHELFORD 14 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire
Postcode	CB22 5LZ
Study area	0 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 4625 5197 52.146193754142 0.137653472359 52 08 46 N 000 08 15 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0m Max: 0m

#### Project creators

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

#### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire HER
Physical Archive ID	ECB 5161
Physical Contents	"Environmental", "Animal Bones", "Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge HER
Digital Archive ID	ECB 5161
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental"





Digital Media available "GIS", "Moving image", "Spreadsheets", "Text"  
Paper Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER  
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Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental"  
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

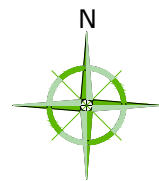
**Project  
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
Title 14 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire  
Author(s)/Editor(s) M. Baker  
Other bibliographic details R1195  
Date 2017  
Issuer or publisher Britannia Archaeology Ltd  
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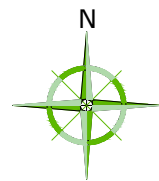
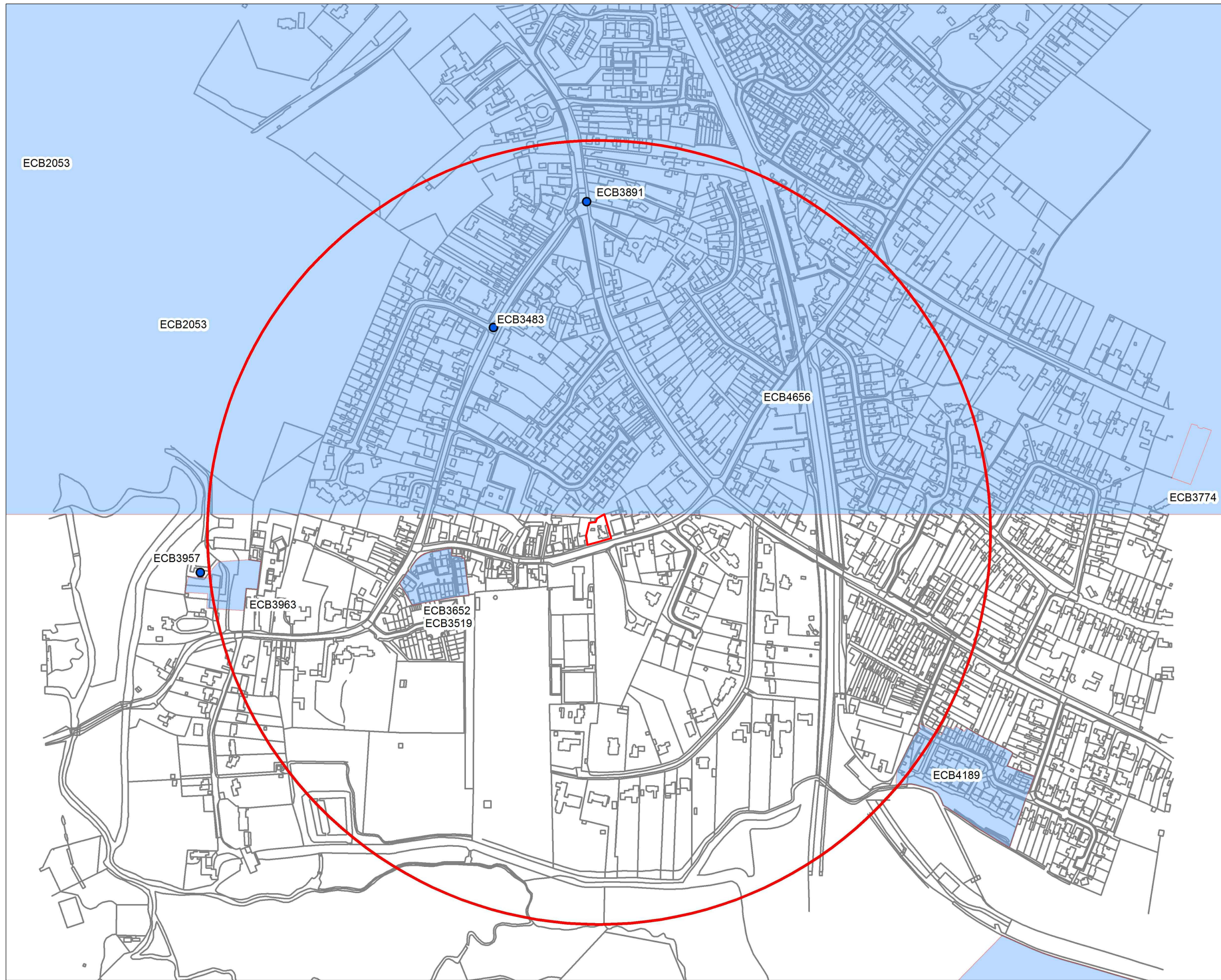


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- Modern Record
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- Bronze Age Record
- Neolithic Record
- Mesolithic Record
- Palaeolithic Record
- Site Boundary

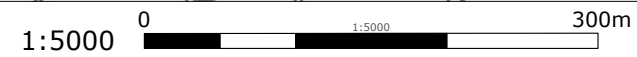


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APPROVED:	MB	FIGURE:	<b>2</b>

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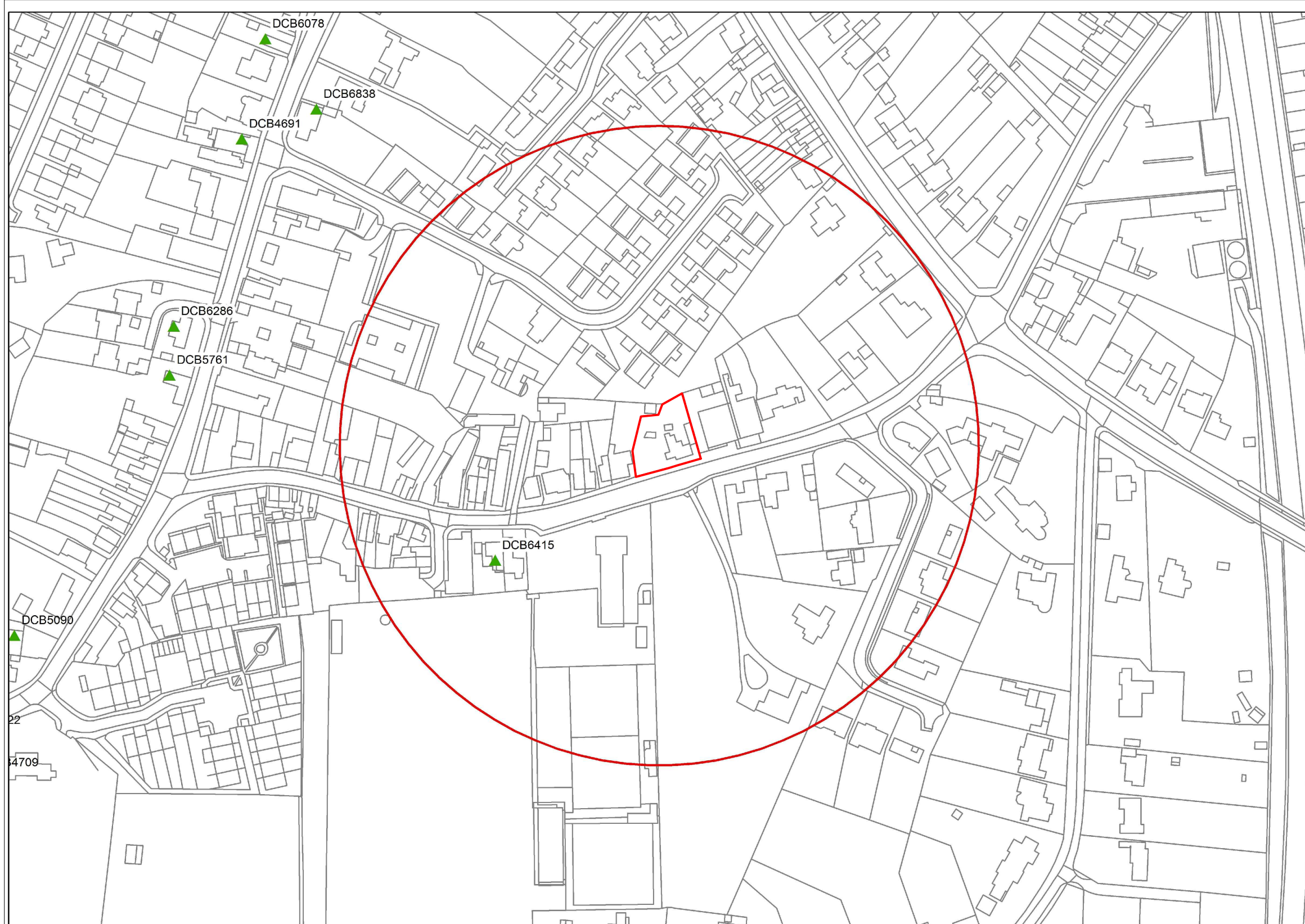
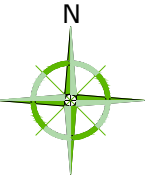







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-  HER Search Area
-  Grade I
-  Grade II\*
-  Grade II
-  Site Boundary

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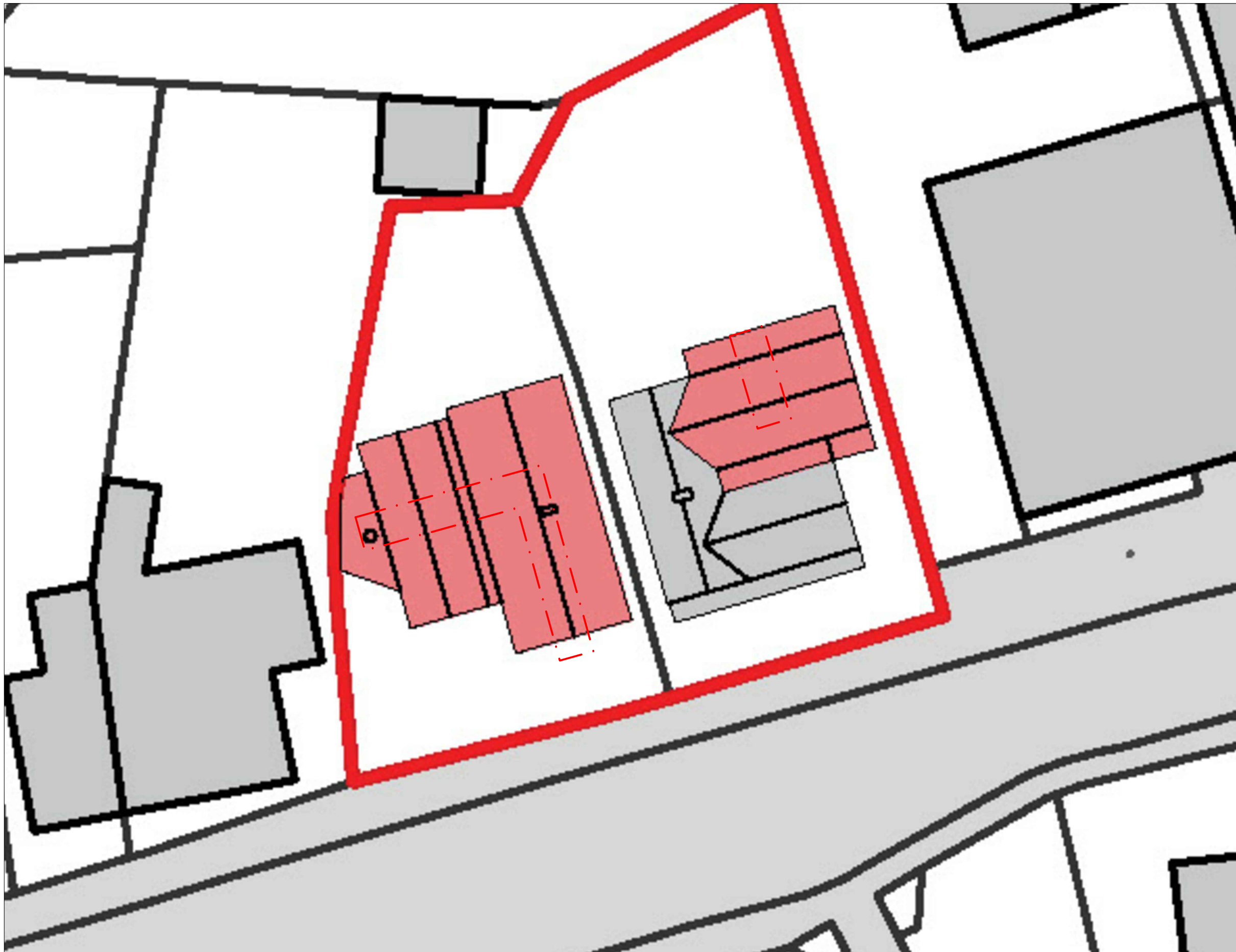
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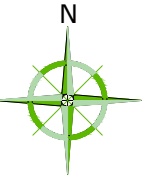
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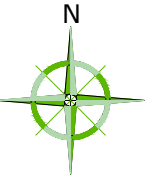
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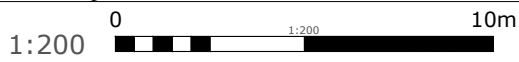


-  Trench
-  Site Boundary

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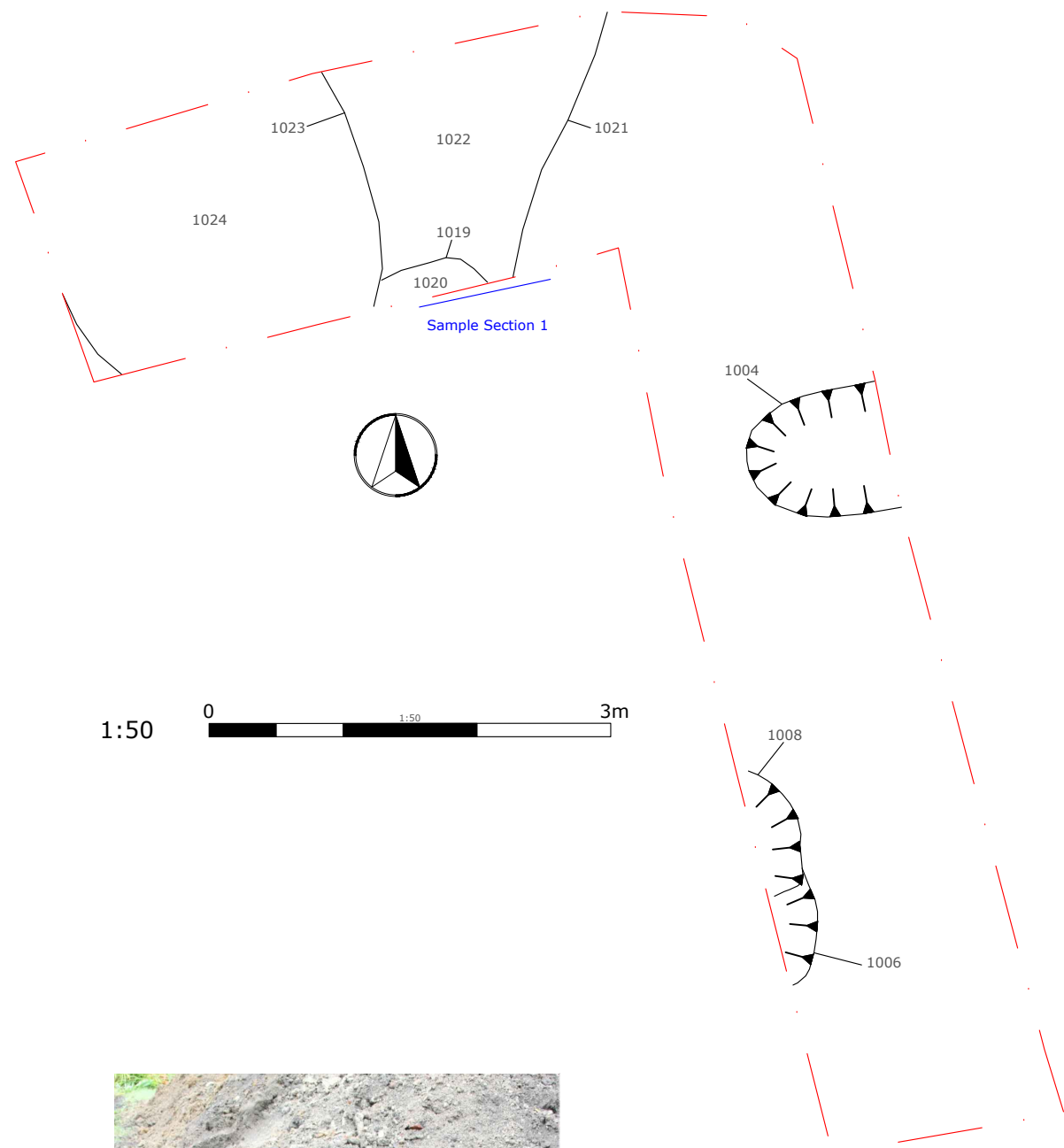


- Trench
- Site Boundary



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<small>DESCRIPTION:</small> TRENCH LOCATION PLAN	
<small>CLIENT:</small> MICHAEL GUNN	
<b>BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD</b>	
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<small>VERSION:</small> 1	
<small>AUTHOR:</small> MJB	<small>FIGURE:</small> 6
<small>APPROVED:</small> MB	



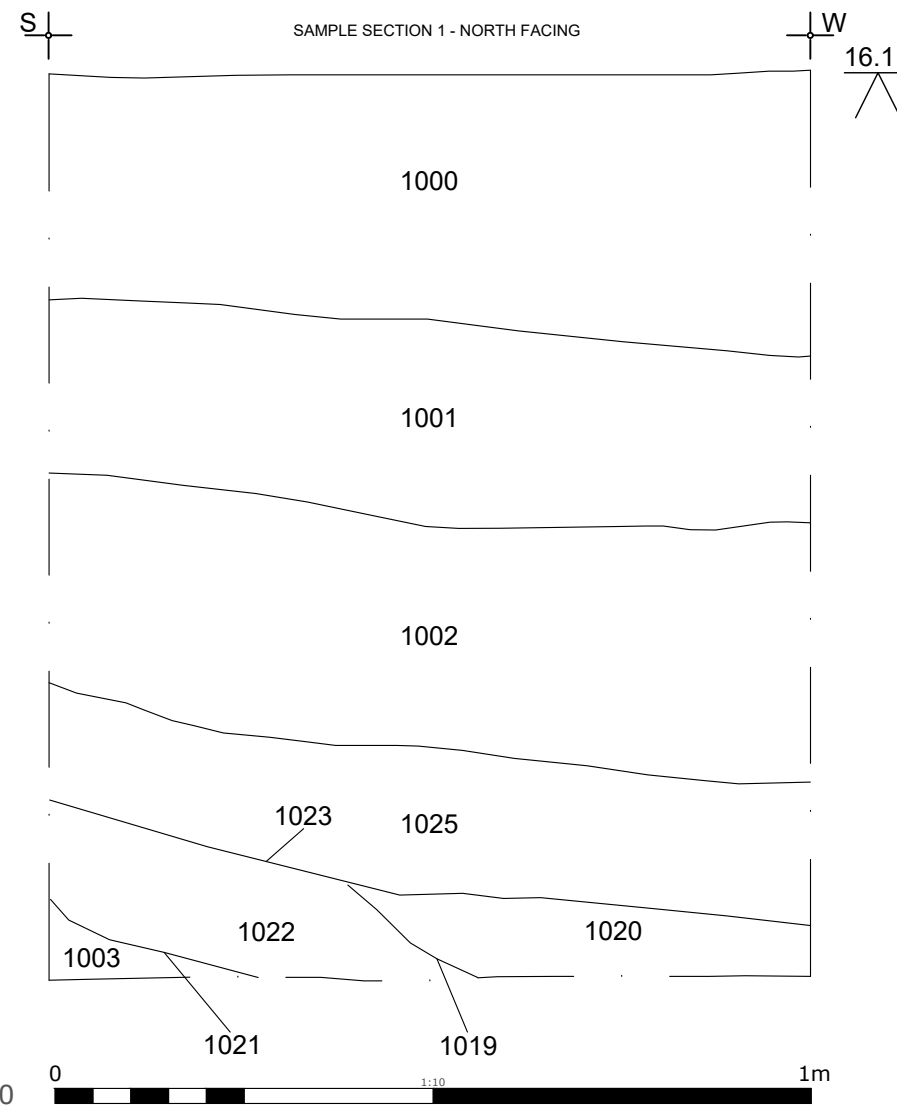
DP 8 - South View of Trial Trench 1



DP 7 - West View of Trial Trench 1

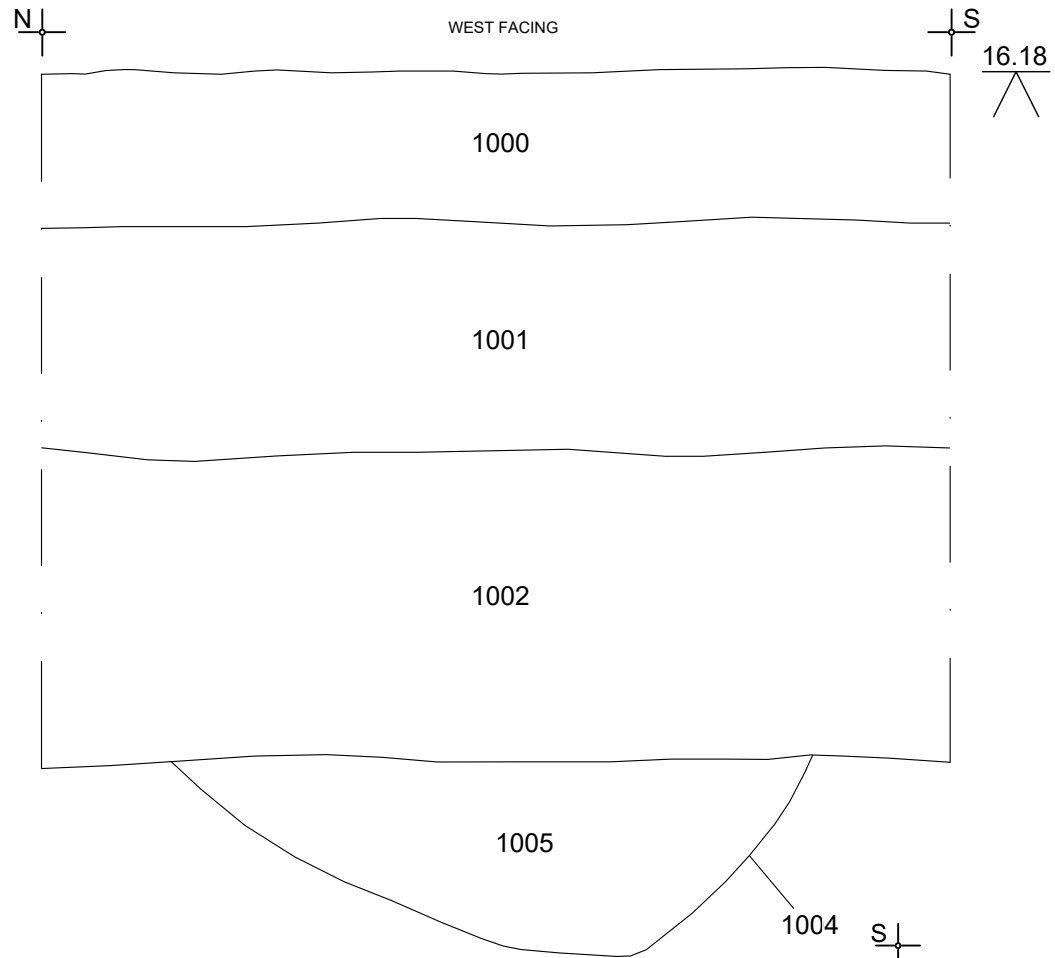


DP 6 - Sample Section 1

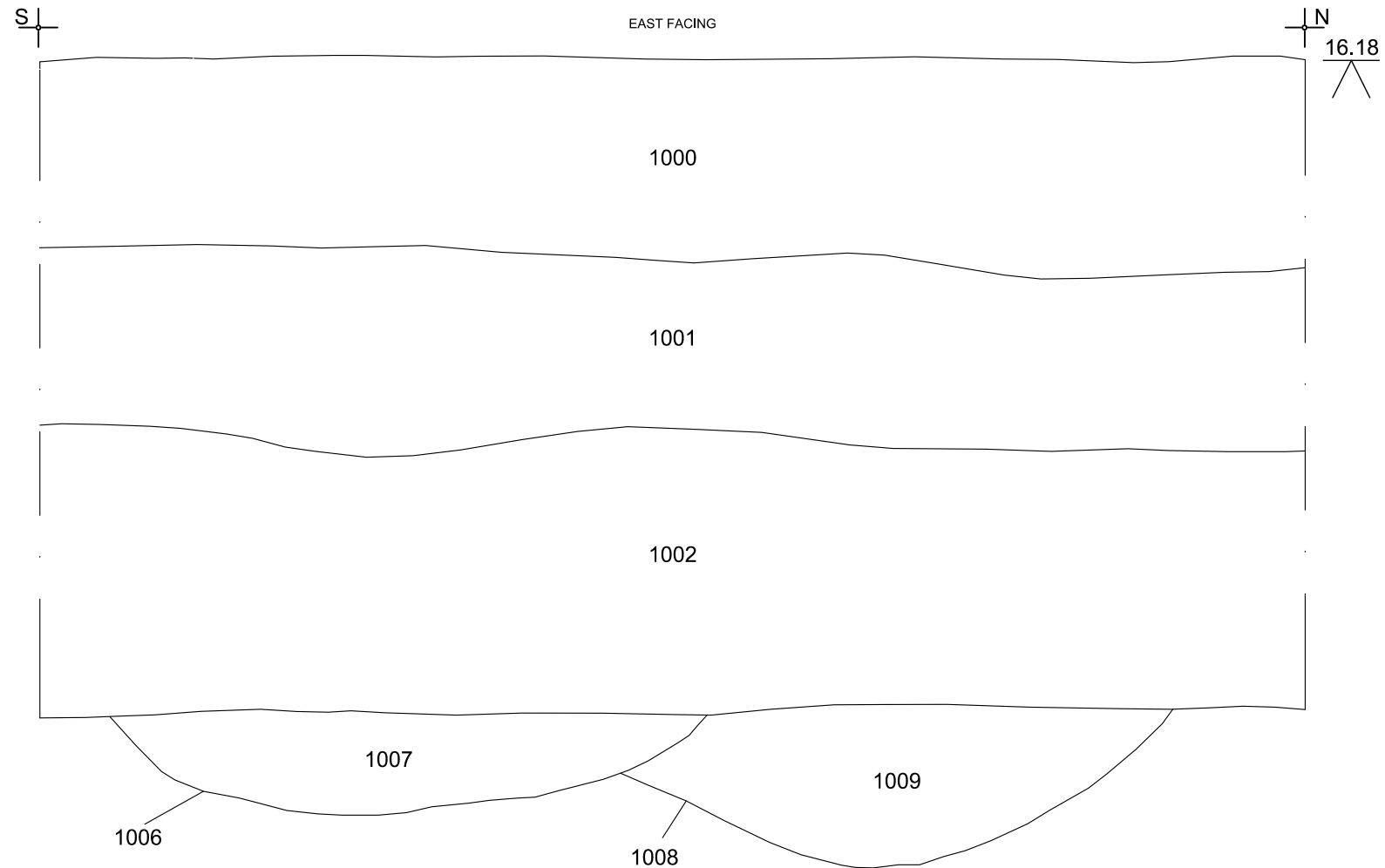


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AUTHOR:	MJB	VERSION:	1
APPROVED:	MB	FIGURE:	7

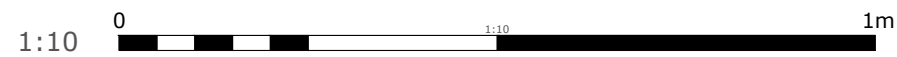




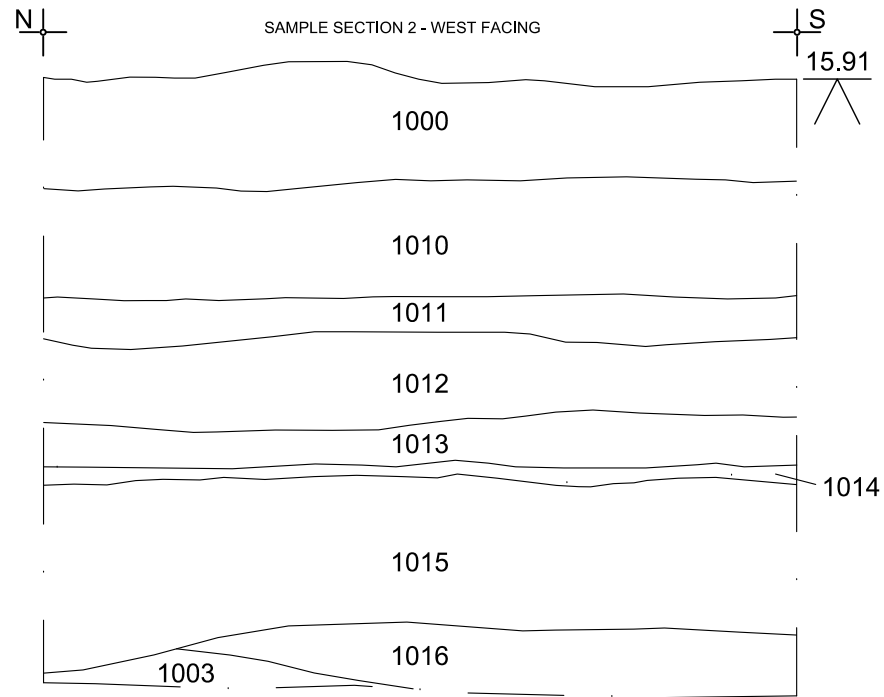
DP 2 - Pits 1006 & 1008



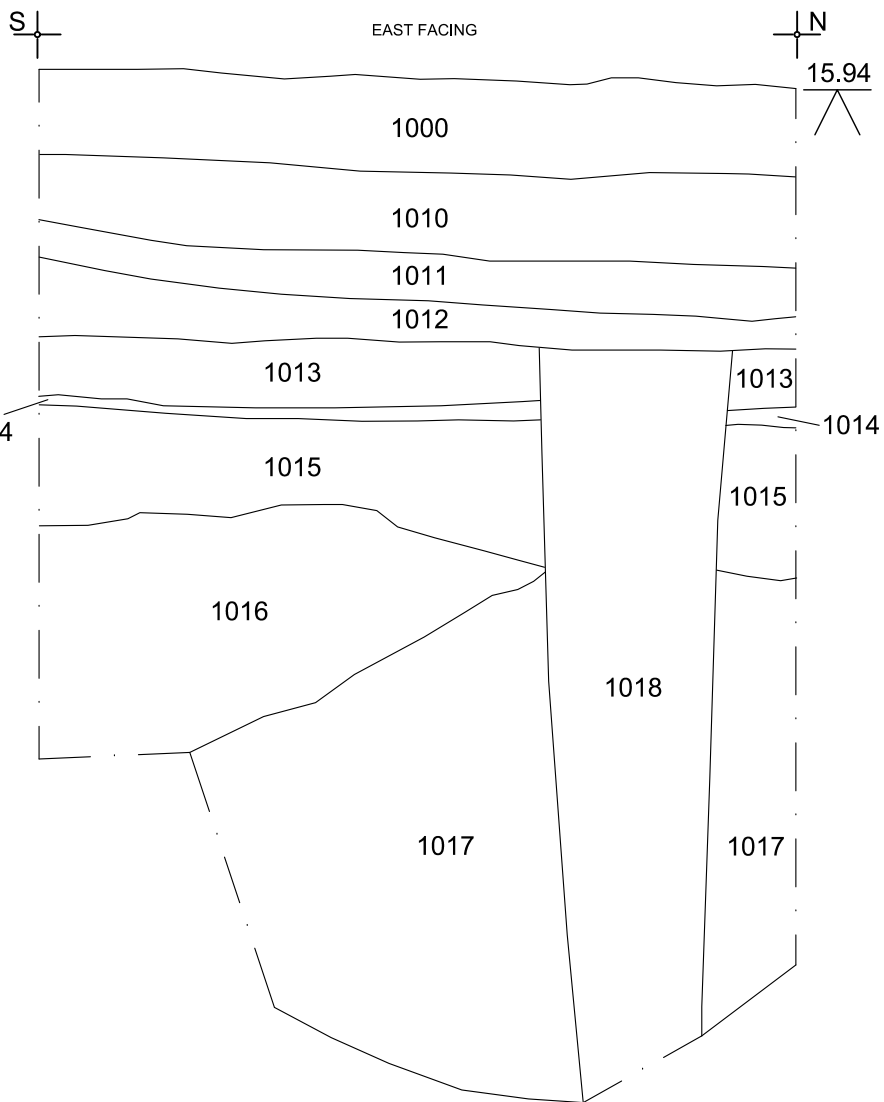
DP 1 - Ditch Terminus 1004



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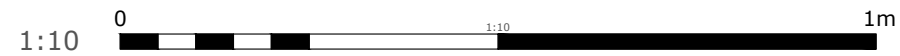
DP 4 - Sample Section 2



DP 5 - Solution Hollow 2017 & Postpipe Void 1018



DP 3 - Trench 2



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DESCRIPTION: TRENCH 2, SAMPLES SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT: MICHAEL GUNN		
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DATE: OCT 2017	PLOT: A3	VERSION: 1
AUTHOR: MJB	FIGURE: 8	
APPROVED: MB		