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# SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM, FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION





**SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM,  
FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

Prepared on behalf of:  
Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne  
1st Fressingfield Scout Group  
Southern Norfolk Scouts  
The Old Forge  
New Street  
Fressingfield  
IP21 5PG

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Registered in England and Wales: 7874460

<b>Site Code</b>	FSF 076	<b>NGR</b>	TM 255 771
<b>Planning Ref.</b>	4410/16	<b>OASIS</b>	britanni1-302282
<b>HER Inv. No.</b>	9206360		
<b>Approved By:</b>			<b>Date</b> January 2018

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## **Abstract**

*From the 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological evaluation by means of trial trenching on behalf of Mr Andrew Alders-Dunthorne of the 1st Fressingfield Scout Group prior to construction of a new Scout HQ on the site at Red House Farm, Fressingfield (NGR TL 255 771). The requirement for the evaluation consisted of linear trial trenching to sample the foot print of the proposed development. The design brief required a programme of trial trenching to investigate the proposed development area. Seven trial trenches were excavated covering the footprint and surrounding area of the Scout HQ and the access road, 4 trenches measured 30.00m x 1.80m and the remaining 3 measured 20.00m x 1.80m.*

*The archaeological background for the site suggested that there would be a high potential for post-medieval activity associated with outlying field systems, and a moderate potential for medieval activity of a similar nature. The presence of Roman remains was considered relatively low and the potential for all other periods was negligible.*

*The archaeological evaluation encountered one phase of activity relating to the post-medieval field systems. This is represented by the only archaeological feature on the site, ditch **1003** which was a large and deep post-medieval field boundary located in trench 3 at the southeast area of the site. The ditch was found close to the extant Red House Farm and was likely a boundary associated with it.*

*Despite the moderate potential for medieval activity on the site, no features from this period were encountered. The evaluation was, however, successful in identifying evidence of post-medieval field systems in this area.*



## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

From the 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological evaluation by means of trial trenching on behalf of Mr Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne of the 1st Fressingfield Scout Group prior to construction of a new Scout HQ on the site at Red House Farm, Fressingfield (NGR TL 255 771). The requirement for the evaluation consisted of linear trial trenching to sample the foot print of the proposed development. The design brief required a programme of trial trenching to investigate the proposed development area. Seven trial trenches were excavated covering the footprint and surrounding area of the Scout HQ and the access road, 4 trenches measured 30.00m x 1.80m and the remaining 3 measured 20.00m x 1.80m.

## **2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION**

The site is located at the western end of the village of Fressingfield on a roughly rectangular parcel of land to the south of New Street.

The bedrock geology is described as Crag Group – Sand. A sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 0 to 5 million years ago in the Quaternary and Neogene Periods, when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas (BGS, 2017).

Superficial deposits at the site are described as Lowestoft Formation – Diamicton. A superficial deposit formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period, when the local environment was previously dominated by ice age conditions (U) (BSG, 2017).

## **3.0 PLANNING POLICIES**

Planning permission was granted subject to archaeological conditions, the rest of the site will be subject to a separate evaluation.

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 replaces Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5, DCLG 2010). The relevant local planning policy is the Mid Suffolk Local Plan (1998).

## **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2 & 3)**

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) (1.5km search centred on the site), English Heritage 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).



### *Significant records*

The development area lies adjacent to the site of a post-medieval windmill (post mill) (FSF 032) which was demolished in 1928. A roundhouse associated with the mill survives and is used for storage.

White House farm is a 16<sup>th</sup> century, timber framed, Grade II listed building (NHLE: 280001) and lies approximately 100m to the west of the site on New Street.

Priory House is based around a 16<sup>th</sup> century timber framed hall and is Grade II listed (NHLE: 280003) and lies 85m from the south-eastern boundary of the site.

### *Previous Work*

Britannia Archaeology undertook a geophysical survey of the site using a dual fluxgate gradiometer in 2014 prior to and in support of the current application. The survey identified four pre 1885 enclosure ditches on the northern half of the site. These are likely associated with the post-medieval field systems on the outskirts of the village.

### *Remaining Records*

The search returned 25 monument records and 10 events within the 1km search area. The earliest record (SBK 031) dates to the Romano-British period and records the location of pottery scatter 925m south-west of the site.

The majority of records are located between 400m and 1200m to the north-east of the site in the village core and identify medieval activity associated with the current development of Fressingfield. The Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul (FSF 023) lies at the centre and two artefact scatters to the east (FSF 049) and west (FSF 081) indicate a concentration of activity around this centre. An Anglo-Saxon bronze fragment was also recorded at FSF 049.

Harleston Hall (FSF 050), Fressingfield Hall (FSF 008) and Tithe Barn (FSF 013) all have medieval origins and lie 974m north-east, 1180m east-north-east and 1230m east of the site respectively.

Archaeological work in the village has identified post-medieval buildings (ESF 21224) adjacent to the Old Vicarage, earlier building occupation of the site at Street Farm (ESF 22352) and a late medieval/post-medieval pit at the Old Post Office on Church Street (ESF 24734).

Given the above, the site has a high potential for post-medieval activity associated with outlying field systems, and a moderate potential for medieval activity of a similar nature.



The presence of Roman remains is considered relatively low and the potential for all other periods is negligible.

## 5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS/CT brief states that the evaluation should aim to (Abraham, R. Brief, Section 4.2)

- 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.

Both the WSI, fieldwork and resulting report/archiving will be undertaken in accordance with the Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2017 (SCCAS/CT).

## 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).

## 7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The SCCAS/CT brief required 170m of trenching in advance of the construction of a new Scout HQ. The trenching covered 5% of the development area including the footprint of the HQ building and access road, which consisted of four 30.00m x 1.80m trenches and three 20.00m x 1.80m trenches.

A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was used to machine down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation work was undertaken by hand (Fig. 4). Trenches were signed off by SCCAS/CT prior to backfilling.

The archaeology was recorded using pro-forma record sheets, drawn plans and section drawings and appropriate photographs were also taken.





## 8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figs. 5 – 8)

### Trench 1

Trench 1 measured 30.00m x 1.80m, orientated east-west and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.42m. It contained no archaeological features.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.31m. This layer overlay subsoil **1001** present to a depth of 0.40m with a thickness of 0.09m. This overlay natural geology **1002**.

### Trench 2

Trench 2 measured 30.00m x 1.80m, orientated Northeast - Southwest and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.37m. It contained no archaeological features.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.27m. This layer overlay subsoil **1001** present to a depth of 0.35m with a thickness of 0.08m. This overlay natural geology **1002**.

### Trench 3

Trench 3 measured 30.00m x 1.80m, orientated Northwest-southeast and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.41m. 1 large ditch was found.

Ditch **1003** (1.80m x 3.08m x 1.43m) was linear in plan in plan with steep sides and a concave base. It was excavated in a 1.00m slot and contained two fills. Primary fill **1004** consisted of a dark blue grey, firm clayey silt with moderate small-large flint inclusions. Secondary fill **1005** consisted of a mid yellow brown, compact clayey silt with frequent flint and stone inclusions. A clay pipe stem dating to c.1860 was found as well as fragments of post-medieval/early modern pottery and CBM. The ditch cut subsoil 1001. It is likely a large post-medieval/early modern boundary ditch associated with the adjacent Red House Farm on the south side of the site.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.35m. This layer overlay subsoil **1001** present to a depth of 0.40m with a thickness of 0.05m. This overlay natural geology **1002**.

### Trench 4

Trench 2 measured 30.00m x 1.80m, orientated Northeast - Southwest and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.35m. It contained no archaeological features.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.28m. This layer overlay subsoil **1001** present to a depth of 0.35m with a thickness of 0.07m. This overlay natural geology **1002**.



### Trench 5

Trench 2 measured 20.00m x 1.80m, orientated Northwest - Southeast and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.42m. It contained no archaeological features.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.35m. This layer overlay subsoil **1001** present to a depth of 0.42m with a thickness of 0.07m. This overlay natural geology **1002**.

### Trench 6

Trench 2 measured 20.00m x 1.80m, orientated Northwest - Southeast and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.38m. It contained no archaeological features.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.30m. This layer overlay subsoil **1001** present to a depth of 0.38m with a thickness of 0.08m. This overlay natural geology **1002**.

### Trench 7

Trench 2 measured 20.00m x 1.80m, orientated Northwest - Southeast and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.39m. It contained no archaeological features.

Topsoil layer **1000** was present to a depth of 0.33m. This layer overlay subsoil **1001** present to a depth of 0.39m with a thickness of 0.06m. This overlay natural geology **1002**.

## 9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Figs. 5 - 8)

The deposit model was consistent across the site.

At the top of the stratigraphic sequence across the trench was topsoil **1000**, a dark grey brown, firm clayey silt with moderate sub-angular flint inclusions. It was present to a maximum depth of 0.35m in sample section 5.

Beneath topsoil **1000** was subsoil **1001**, which consisted of a mid orange brown, compact clayey silt with frequent sub-angular flint inclusions. This layer was present to a maximum depth of 0.42m in sample section 5.

The base of the stratigraphic sequence across the trench was natural geology **1002** which was a mid yellow orange, compact sandy clay with frequent sub-angular and rounded flint and stone inclusions.



## **10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

The archaeological background for the site suggested that there would be a high potential for post-medieval activity associated with outlying field systems, and a moderate potential for medieval activity of a similar nature. The presence of Roman remains was considered relatively low and the potential for all other periods was negligible.

The archaeological evaluation encountered one phase of activity relating to the post-medieval field systems. This is represented by the only archaeological feature on the site, ditch **1003** which was a large and deep post-medieval field boundary located in trench 3 at the southeast area of the site. The ditch was found close to the extant Red House Farm and was likely a boundary associated with it.

Despite the moderate potential for medieval activity on the site, no features from this period were encountered. The evaluation was, however, successful in identifying evidence of post-medieval field systems in this area.

## **11.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Britannia Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne of the 1<sup>st</sup> Fressingfield Scout Group for commissioning and funding the works.

We would also like to thank Rachel Abraham of SCCAS/CT for her help and advice throughout.

The site was excavated by Dan McConnell, Matt Baker, and Louisa Cunningham 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

[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>

Historic England National List for England

<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list>

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



## APPENDIX 1 – DEPOSIT TABLES

### Sample Section 1

Trench No	Orientation	Height aOD	Shot No
1	E-W	48.70	DP 1
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1	W End	S Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.31m	Topsoil – Dark grey brown, firm, clayey silt with moderate sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1001	0.31-0.40m	Subsoil – Mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt with frequent sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1002	0.40m+	Natural – Mid orange yellow, compact, sandy clay with frequent sub-angular and rounded flints and stone inclusions.	

### Sample Section 2

Trench No	Orientation	Height aOD	Shot No
2	NE-SW	48.56	DP 3
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2	Middle	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.27m	Topsoil – Dark grey brown, firm, clayey silt with moderate sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1001	0.27-0.35m	Subsoil – Mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt with frequent sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1002	0.35m+	Natural – Mid orange yellow, compact, sandy clay with frequent sub-angular and rounded flints and stone inclusions.	

### Sample Section 3

Trench No	Orientation	Height aOD	Shot No
3	SE-NW		DP 14
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3	NW End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.35m	Topsoil – Dark grey brown, firm, clayey silt with moderate sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1001	0.35-0.40m	Subsoil – Mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt with frequent sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1002	0.40m+	Natural – Mid orange yellow, compact, sandy clay with frequent sub-angular and rounded flints and stone inclusions.	

### Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)
1003	Ditch (1.80m+ x 3.08m+ x 1.43m) Linear in plan with steep sides and a concave base, on a N-S orientation. Cuts subsoil 1001.	1004	Primary Fill. Dark blue grey, firm clayey silt with moderate small-large flint inclusions.	1860-early 20 <sup>th</sup> century	Pot, CBM, clay pipe
		1005	Secondary Fill. Mid yellow brown, compact clayey silt with frequent flint and stone inclusions.		



#### Sample Section 4

Trench No	Orientation	Height aOD	Shot No
4	NE-SW		DP 6
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
4	SW End	NW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.28m	Topsoil - Dark grey brown, firm, clayey silt with moderate sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1001	0.28-0.35m	Subsoil - Mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt with frequent sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1002	0.35m+	Natural - Mid orange yellow, compact, sandy clay with frequent sub-angular and rounded flints and stone inclusions.	

#### Sample Section 5

Trench No	Orientation	Height aOD	Shot No
5	NW-SE		DP 7
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
5	SE End	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.35m	Topsoil - Dark grey brown, firm, clayey silt with moderate sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1001	0.35-0.42m	Subsoil - Mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt with frequent sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1002	0.42m+	Natural - Mid orange yellow, compact, sandy clay with frequent sub-angular and rounded flints and stone inclusions.	

#### Sample Section 6

Trench No	Orientation	Height aOD	Shot No
6	NW-SE		DP 10
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
6	NW End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.30m	Topsoil - Dark grey brown, firm, clayey silt with moderate sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1001	0.30-0.38m	Subsoil - Mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt with frequent sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1002	0.38m+	Natural - Mid orange yellow, compact, sandy clay with frequent sub-angular and rounded flints and stone inclusions.	

#### Sample Section 7

Trench No	Orientation	Height aOD	Shot No
7	NW-SE		DP 11
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
7	SE End	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.33m	Topsoil - Dark grey brown, firm, clayey silt with moderate sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1001	0.33-0.39m	Subsoil - Mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt with frequent sub-angular flint inclusions.	
1002	0.39m+	Natural - Mid orange yellow, compact, sandy clay with frequent sub-angular and rounded flints and stone inclusions.	



## APPENDIX 2 – OASIS FORM

OASIS FORM - Print view

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

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: britanni1-302282

### Project details

Project name	Scout Headquarters, Red House Farm, Fressingfield
Short description of the project	From the 5th - 8th December 2017, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological evaluation by means of trial trenching on behalf of Mr Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne of the 1st Fressingfield Scout Group prior to construction of a new Scout HQ on the site at Red House Farm, Fressingfield (NGR TL 255 771). The requirement for the evaluation consisted of linear trial trenching to sample the foot print of the proposed development. The design brief required a programme of trial trenching to investigate the proposed development area. Seven trial trenches were excavated covering the footprint and surrounding area of the Scout HQ and the access road, 4 trenches measured 30.00m x 1.80m and the remaining 3 measured 20.00m x 1.80m. The archaeological background for the site suggested that there would be a high potential for post-medieval activity associated with outlying field systems, and a moderate potential for medieval activity of a similar nature. The presence of Roman remains was considered relatively low and the potential for all other periods was negligible. Despite the moderate potential for medieval activity on the site, no features from this period were encountered. The evaluation was, however, successful in identifying evidence of post-medieval field systems in this area
Project dates	Start: 05-12-2017 End: 08-12-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P1213 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	FSF 076 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	""Targeted Trenches""



Development type Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)  
Prompt Planning condition  
Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

#### Project location

Country England  
Site location SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK FRESSINGFIELD Scout Headquarters, Red House Farm  
Postcode IP21 5PN  
Study area 1.8 Hectares  
Site coordinates TM 2549 7705 52.34454938075 1.31087764811 52 20 40 N 001 18 39 E Point  
Lat/Long Datum WGS 84 Datum

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation Britannia Archaeology Ltd  
Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body  
Project design originator Matthew Adams  
Project director/manager Matthew Adams  
Project supervisor Matt Baker  
Type of sponsor/funding body developer  
Name of sponsor/funding body Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne, 1st Fressingfield Scouts

#### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No  
Digital Archive recipient Suffolk HER  
Digital Archive ID FSF 076  
Digital Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"  
Digital Media available "GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"  
Paper Archive recipient Suffolk HER  
Paper Archive ID FSF 076  
Paper Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"



OASIS FORM - Print view

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

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Matrices", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

**Project  
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
Title Scout Headquarters, Red House Farm, Fressingfield, Suffolk: Archaeological Evaluation  
Author(s)/Editor(s) Louisa Cunningham  
Other bibliographic details R1184  
Date 2018  
Issuer or publisher Britannia Archaeology Ltd  
Place of issue or publication Bury St Edmunds  
Description A4 bound report with pull-out A3 figures  
URL <http://www.britannia-archaeology.com/>  
  
Entered by Louisa Cunningham (louisa@brit-arch.com)  
Entered on 4 January 2018

## OASIS:

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## **APPENDIX 3 APPROVED WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) on behalf of Mr Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne of the 1st Fressingfield Scout Group in order to fulfil part of planning condition 25 of approved application 4410/16. This relates to the archaeological work required prior to construction of a new Scout HQ on the site at Red House Farm. Condition 26 requires the implementation and completion of the archaeological work set out in this WSI and the design brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) (Abraham, R. dated 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017).

This scope of this WSI does not include the area of new residential housing on the northern half of the site which is covered by conditions 6 and 7. Also, it does not cover any additional work required (excavation, monitoring, etc) following the results of this evaluation and for which a new brief will be issued if necessary.

This WSI presents a programme of archaeological investigation by means of archaeological trial trench evaluation to assess the nature and potential of the site, and to determine the need for any future site investigations at Red House Farm, Fressingfield, Suffolk (NGR TM 255 771). The design brief requires a programme of trial trenching to investigate the proposed development area. Six trial trenches measuring 30.00m x 1.80m will be excavated covering the footprint and surrounding area of the Scout HQ and the access road, using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

### **2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION (Fig. 1)**

The site is located at the western end of the village of Fressingfield on a roughly rectangular parcel of land to the south of New Street.

The bedrock geology is described as Crag Group – Sand. A sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 0 to 5 million years ago in the Quaternary and Neogene Periods, when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas (BGS, 2017).

Superficial deposits at the site are described as Lowestoft Formation – Diamicton. A superficial deposit formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period, when the local environment was previously dominated by ice age conditions (U) (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) which replaces Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for



the Historic Environment (PPS5, DCLG 2010). The relevant local planning policy is the Mid Suffolk Local Plan (1998).

### **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 Mid Suffolk Local Plan (1998)**

The policies in the *Mid Suffolk Local Plan* that relate to archaeology and heritage are HB14 and HB15. This local plan is due to be replaced by a joint local plan with Babergh Council

Policy HB14 states that:

- Where there is an overriding case for preservation, planning permission for development that would affect an archaeological site or its setting will be refused.
- Having taken archaeological advice, the district planning authority may decide that development can take place subject to either satisfactory measures to preserve the archaeological remains in situ or for the site to be excavated and the findings recorded. In appropriate cases the district planning authority will expect a legally binding agreement to be concluded or will impose a planning condition requiring the developer to make appropriate and satisfactory provision for the excavation and recording of the archaeological remains.



Policy HB15 states that:

- The district planning authority will support planning applications which seek to develop the educational, recreational and tourist potential of archaeological sites and monuments in a manner which provides for the proper interpretation, protection and management of the site.

#### **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2 & 3)**

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) (1.5km search centred on the site), English Heritage 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).

##### *Significant records*

The development area lies adjacent to the site of a post-medieval windmill (post mill) (FSF 032) which was demolished in 1928. A roundhouse associated with the mill survives and is used for storage.

White House farm is a 16<sup>th</sup> century, timber framed, Grade II listed building (NHLE: 280001) and lies approximately 100m to the west of the site on New Street.

Priory House is based around a 16<sup>th</sup> century timber framed hall and is Grade II listed (NHLE: 280003) and lies 85m from the south-eastern boundary of the site.

##### *Previous Work*

Britannia Archaeology undertook a geophysical survey of the site using a dual fluxgate gradiometer in 2014 prior to and in support of the current application. The survey identified four pre 1885 enclosure ditches on the northern half of the site. These are likely associated with the post-medieval field systems on the outskirts of the village.

##### *Remaining Records*

The search returned 25 monument records and 10 events within the 1km search area. The earliest record (SBK 031) dates to the Romano-British period and records the location of pottery scatter 925m south-west of the site.

The majority of records are located between 400m and 1200m to the north-east of the site in the village core and identify medieval activity associated with the current development of Fressingfield. The Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul (FSF 023) lies at the centre and two artefact scatters to the east (FSF 049) and west (FSF 081) indicate a concentration of activity around this centre. An Anglo-Saxon bronze fragment was also recorded at FSF 049.



Harleston Hall (FSF 050), Fressingfield Hall (FSF 008) and Tithe Barn (FSF 013) all have medieval origins and lie 974m north-east, 1180m east-north-east and 1230m east of the site respectively.

Archaeological work in the village has identified post-medieval buildings (ESF 21224) adjacent to the Old Vicarage, earlier building occupation of the site at Street Farm (ESF 22352) and a late medieval/post-medieval pit at the Old Post Office on Church Street (ESF 24734).

Given the above, the site has a high potential for post-medieval activity associated with outlying field systems, and a moderate potential for medieval activity of a similar nature. The presence of Roman remains is considered relatively low and the potential for all other periods is negligible.

## 5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS/CT brief states that the evaluation should aim to (Abraham, R. Brief, Section 4.2)

- 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.

Both the WSI, fieldwork and resulting report/archiving will be undertaken in accordance with the Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2017 (SCCAS/CT).

## 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).

## 7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The SCCAS/CT brief requires 170m of trenching in advance of the construction of a new Scout HQ. The trenching is to cover 5% of the development area including the footprint of the HQ building and access road, which will consist of six 30.00m 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 (Fig. 4). Trenches will be signed off by SCCAS/CT prior to backfilling.

The archaeology will be recorded using pro-forma record sheets, drawn plans and section drawings and appropriate photographs will also be taken.

In the event that important archaeological remains are identified, a site meeting will be held with the client and the SCCAS/CT planning archaeologist to discuss the significance of the remains and decide on the scope of further excavation and recording. **The client is aware of the need for contingency funding to cover additional works if necessary.**

### 7.1 *Site Plans*

A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map and indicating site north will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a site plan showing the area of investigation in relation to the proposed development.

A pre-excavation base plan accurately plotting all features will be produced using a Total Station (TS) or Real Time Kinetic Global Positioning System (RTK). The final post-excavation plan will be based on this. All drawings will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

### 7.2 *Mechanical Excavation*

The location of electricity, gas, water, sewage and telephone services will be identified from information supplied by the client or relevant authorities prior to machining. Care will be taken when operating machinery in the vicinity of overhead services. All staff are trained in the use of CAT scanners that will be employed before the bucket breaks the ground.

Topsoil and any sterile subsoil layers shall be removed by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of a professional archaeologist. The exposed archaeological horizon will be cleaned by hand and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.

No excavators or dumpers will be driven over the excavated surface. Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately to aid the reinstatement of agricultural land.

The machine operator will have the relevant experience and appropriate documentation; will maintain the appropriate inspection register, Form F91 Part 1, Section C, either on the machine or at the depot. The operator must produce a clean, flat surface at precisely the correct level.

### 7.3 *Hand Excavation*



All archaeological features will be excavated by hand, in the appropriate way detailed below, where it is safe to do so.

#### *7.4 Metal Detector*

A professional metal detectorist (Steve Clarkson) will scan each trench prior to excavation, the resulting spoil heaps, exposed surfaces and any features. The finds will be recovered and recorded in the proper way. Demonstrably modern finds will not be retained and the metal detector will not be set to discriminate against iron.

#### *7.5 Excavation of Stratified Sequences*

All archaeological remains will be excavated by phase, from the most recent to the earliest, excluding those of obvious later 20th century origin. The phasing of the features will be distinguished by their stratigraphic relationships, fills and finds.

#### *7.6 Excavation of Buildings*

Following assessment of any structural remains encountered, a strategy for recording these will be implemented, and it may be that further mitigation will be required to allow the full recording of these remains. It may also be the case that any remains may best be left *in situ*. Any excavated building structures and associated features (e.g. stakeholes, postholes, sill-beams, gullies, masonry walls and possible floors) will be excavated in stratigraphic sequence.

#### *7.7 Ditches*

Ditch segments will be positioned to provide a total coverage of 25% and to ascertain relationship information and will be a minimum of 1.00m in length (dependent on the total length of ditch visible).

#### *7.8 Discrete Features*

All discrete features will be half-sectioned or excavated in quadrants providing for a minimum 50% sample.

#### *7.9 Full Excavation*

Industrial remains and intrinsically interesting features e.g. hearths, kilns etc. may merit full excavation in agreement with the SCCAS/CT planning archaeologist.

#### *7.10 Burials*

Any articulated human remains shall receive minimal excavation to define the extent and quality of their preservation. A decision will then be made on their future treatment in consultation with the client and the SCCAS/CT planning archaeologist. The coroner and





the Ministry of Justice will be informed. Any removal of human remains will be carried out under a licence issued by the Ministry of Justice under section 25 of the Burials Act 1857 and in accordance with *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England*' (English Heritage & the Church of England 2005).

#### 7.11 *Written Record*

All archaeological deposits and artefacts encountered will be fully recorded on *pro forma* context, finds and sample forms, using a single context recording system.

#### 7.12 *Photographic Record*

All features will be photographed as appropriate. This record will comprise high quality digital photographs (jpg). Where appropriate black and white prints (35mm) and colour slides (35mm) will be utilised. All photographs will be listed, indexed and archived.

#### 7.13 *Drawn Record*

All drawings will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid, plans will be initially hand drawn at a scale of 1:20 and the sections at 1:10 on drafting film (permatrace). The height AOD of all features and principal strata will be written on the appropriate plans and sections.

#### 7.14 *Finds and Environmental Remains*

All finds recovered from sealed contexts will be retained. A sample of those found in the topsoil and subsoil will be taken to characterise the assemblage. Finds will be identified, by a unique site code and context number.

All finds will be processed according to BA standards and to the Cifa *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials, 2014*. Important, rare or unusual finds will also be assigned a small finds number and sent away for specialist analysis.

Bulk samples will also be taken for retrieving artefacts and biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations) to be processed and analysed by the University of Leicester Archaeology Service, (ULAS). These samples will be taken from well-stratified datable deposits and specifically targeted areas of interest (e.g. undated sealed primary ditch fills) and will be a minimum of 40 litres where appropriate. The suitability of deposits for analysis will be discussed with CBC, Dr Boreham and Dr Mark Ruddy where appropriate.

Preserved wood will be sampled for potential dating via dendrochronology and Carbon 14 methods and will be assessed by Dr Roderick Bale (University of Wales Trinity St David). Prior to recovering timbers, suitability for dating will be assessed in conjunction with Dr Bale, SCCASCT, Dr Mike Bamforth and Dr Mark Ruddy where appropriate.



Each deposit retained will be identified by context and a unique sample or timber number. For a full list of specialists see Appendix 2.

### 7.15 *Artefact Recovery*

A programme of bucket sampling will be conducted, whereby 90 litres of spoil will hand sorted for each soil horizon encountered. Bucket sampling points will occur at each end of trench. Unstratified artefacts will be sought and recovered from trench spoil heaps.

### 7.16 *Finds classed as Treasure*

It is the responsibility of the project manager for the site, after consultation with the relevant finds specialist, to submit any items falling under the provisions of the Act to the local coroner via the treasure co-ordinator (currently the Portable Antiquities Officer at the British Museum). See below for details of the act:

#### *The Treasure Act*

*The Treasure Act of 1996 defines objects that qualify as Treasure and includes any metallic object other than coin that is made up of more than 10% gold or silver and is over 300 years old, any group of two or more metallic objects of prehistoric date that come from the same find, coin hoards that have been deliberately hidden, smaller groups of coins, votive or ritual deposits, any object from the same place as Treasure. Objects that are less than 300 years old made mainly of gold or silver, which have been deliberately hidden with the intention of recovery, and whose owners or heirs are unknown would also be classed as Treasure.*

## **8.0 PRESENTATION OF RESULTS**

A report will be prepared on the conclusion of the evaluation and will be completed 4 weeks after the field work ends (no further work required) or a maximum of 6 months from the end of fieldwork (further fieldwork is required). Resourcing of the post-excavation phase is dependent on findings. Where further publication is required a detailed publication programme will be provided within 4 weeks of completion of fieldwork, and a publication report will be programmed for completion within 6 months. The prepared client/archive report will be commensurate with the results of the fieldwork, and will be consistent with the principles of *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015)* and contain the following:

- *Summary.* A concise summary of the work undertaken and the results;
- *Introduction.* Introduction to the project including the reasons for work, funding, planning background;



- *Background.* The history, layout and development of the site;
- *Aims and Objectives;*
- *Methodology.* Strategy and technique for site excavation;
- *Results.* Detailed description of findings outlining the nature, location, extent, date of any archaeological material;
- *Deposit Model.* Description of events behind the archaeological stratigraphy and geological deposition;
- *Specialist Reports.* Description of the artefactual and ecofactual remains recovered;
- *Discussion and Conclusions.* A synopsis interpreting the archaeological deposits and artefacts, including details of preservation, impact assessment, wider survival, condition and relative importance of the site and its component parts in local, regional and national context;
- *Bibliography;*
- *Appendices.* Context Descriptions, Finds Concordance, Project Archive Contents and Archive Deposition, HER/OASIS Summary Sheet;
- Illustrative material including maps, plans, drawings and photographs.

Digital and paper report copies will be supplied to the client and SCCAS/CT (one copy and a .pdf copy on CD). An OASIS entry will be completed and a summary included with the report. A .pdf file of the report will be uploaded to the ADS. A digital vector plan will be included with the report, which will be compatible with MapInfo GIS software which will also be made available on request subsequent to the report being issued.

It is understood that, if substantial archaeological remains are recorded during the project, it will be necessary to undertake a full programme of analysis and publication in accordance with the guidelines of *MoRPHE*. The project report will contain recommendations as to whether this will be appropriate. Provision has been made for a summary publication within the annual Proceedings of the Suffolk Archaeology and History should the evaluation prove positive.

## **9.0 PROJECT ARCHIVE AND DEPOSITION**

A full archive will be prepared for all work undertaken in accordance with guidance from the *Selection, Retention and Dispersion of Archaeological Collections*, Archaeological Society for Museum Archaeologists, 1993. Deposition will be with Suffolk County Council



Archaeological Archives in accordance with the *Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition* (2015).

Any items requiring treatment will be conserved. Arrangements will be made for the archive to be deposited with the relevant museum, subject to agreement with the legal landowner where finds are concerned.

The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. The material will be catalogued, labelled and packaged for transfer and storage in accordance with the guidelines set out in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guidelines No.2* and the Archaeological Archives Forum's *Archaeological Archives, A guide to best practice, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown, 2007).

## **10.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

BA operates a comprehensive Health and Safety Policy in accordance with the Health and Safety Executive. BA bases their H&S procedures on the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME) Health and Safety Field Manual, which is regularly updated by supplements.

BA holds employer's liability; public liability and professional indemnity insurance arranged through Towergate Insurance (see Appendix 3).

### *10.1 Code of Practice, Risk Assessment and Site Induction*

BA's Code of Practice covers all aspects of excavation work and ensures all risks are adequately controlled. A site visit has been undertaken and an assessment of the potential risks has been highlighted. A full site risk assessment will be produced using this information. The assessment of risk is an on-going process and this document can be updated if any change in risk occurs on site. A copy of the Risk Assessment is kept on site, read and countersigned by all staff and visitors during the BA site induction.

## **11.0 RESOURCES**

The archaeological works are undertaken by a team of professional archaeologists, qualified to undertake this type of work (Appendix 1). Full CV's are available on request.

All site work will be undertaken by a Projects Officer (with a field team if required) in close communication with a Project Manager. This project officer will also be responsible for post-excavation and publication in liaison with the relevant specialists (Appendix 2).

Other specialists may be consulted and will be made known to the SCCAS/CT planning archaeologist for approval prior to their engagement. Any changes to the specialists documented in Appendix 2 will be made known to the SCCAS/CT immediately.



## **12.0 TIMETABLE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK**

The evaluation fieldwork is scheduled to start on the **4<sup>th</sup> December 2017** pending approval of this written scheme of investigation by SCCAS/CT. Two members of staff will be on site to undertake the evaluation. Provision has been made for additional contingency days should any unexpected remains be encountered.

The client is aware of the working methods and provision has been made to allow access to undertake trenching as required by the design brief.

The production of the report will take either a maximum of 4 weeks from the end of fieldwork (no further fieldwork required) or a maximum of 6 months from the end of fieldwork (further fieldwork is required). Resourcing of the post-excavation phase is dependent on findings. Where further publication is required a detailed publication programme will be provided within 4 weeks of completion of fieldwork, and a publication report will be programmed for completion within 6 months.

## **13.0 MONITORING**

SCCAS/CT will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. Any variations to the specification will be agreed with the SCCAS/CT monitoring officer prior to work being carried out. The monitoring officer will be kept informed of progress throughout the project.



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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

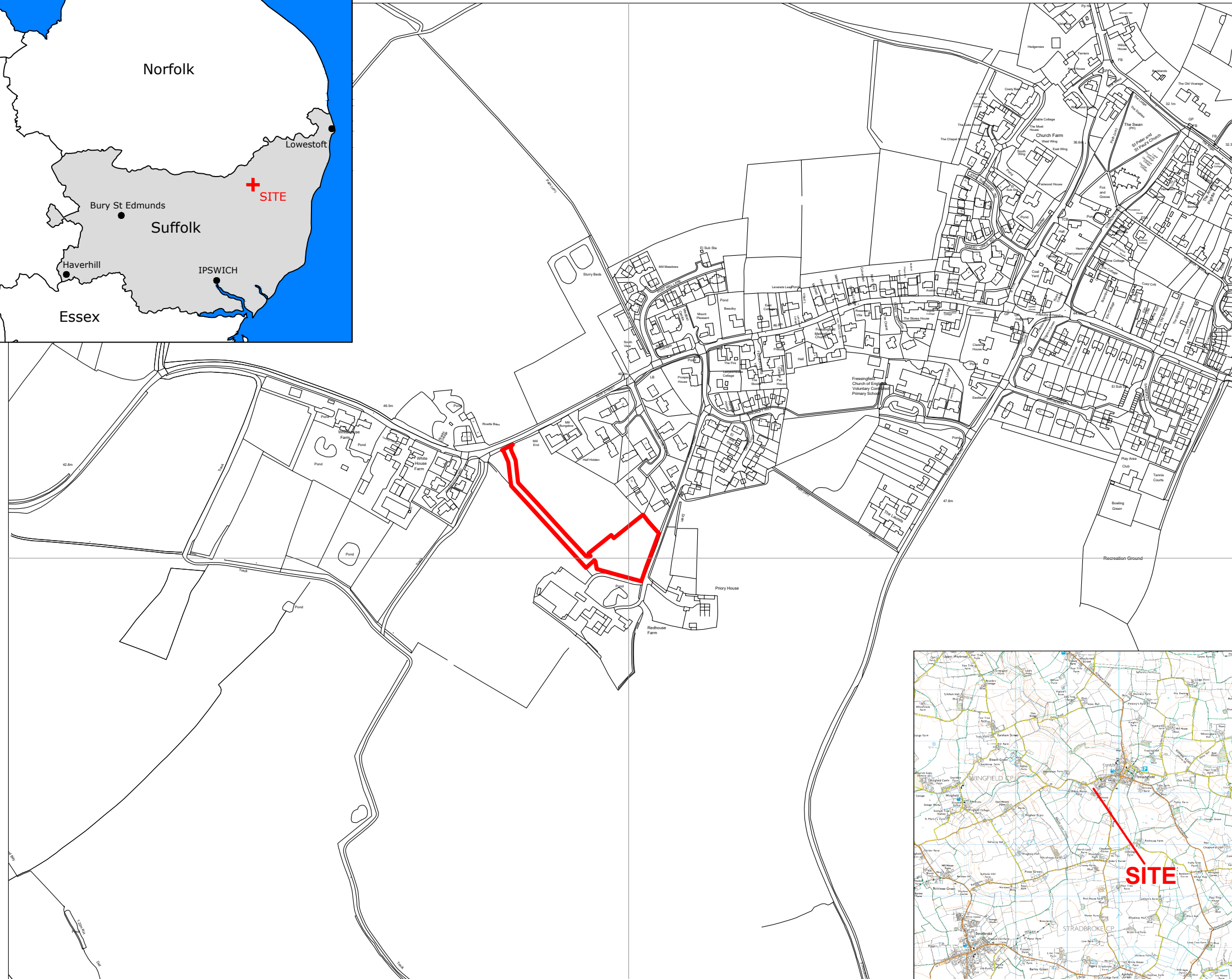
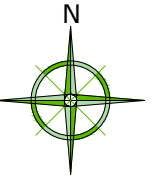
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DEFRA Magic <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/website/magic>

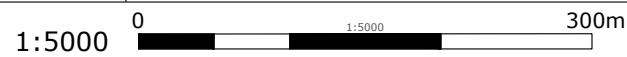
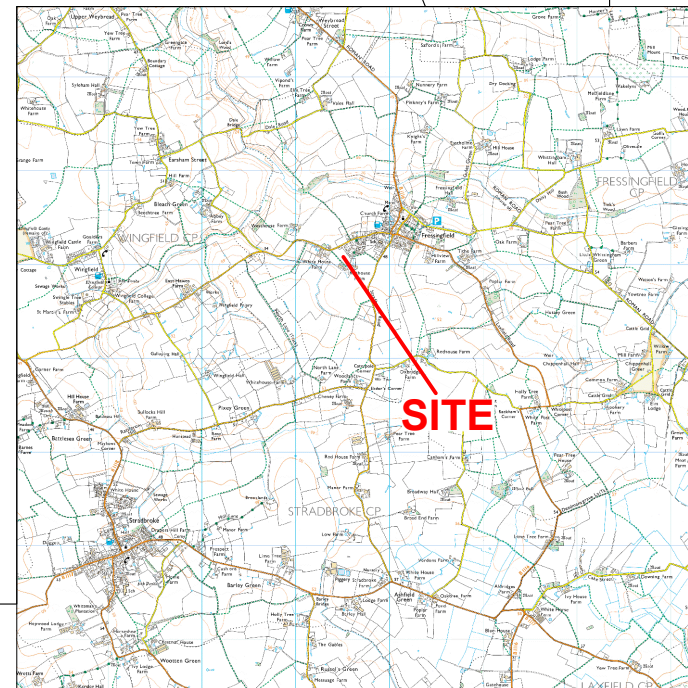
Historic England National List for England

<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list>

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



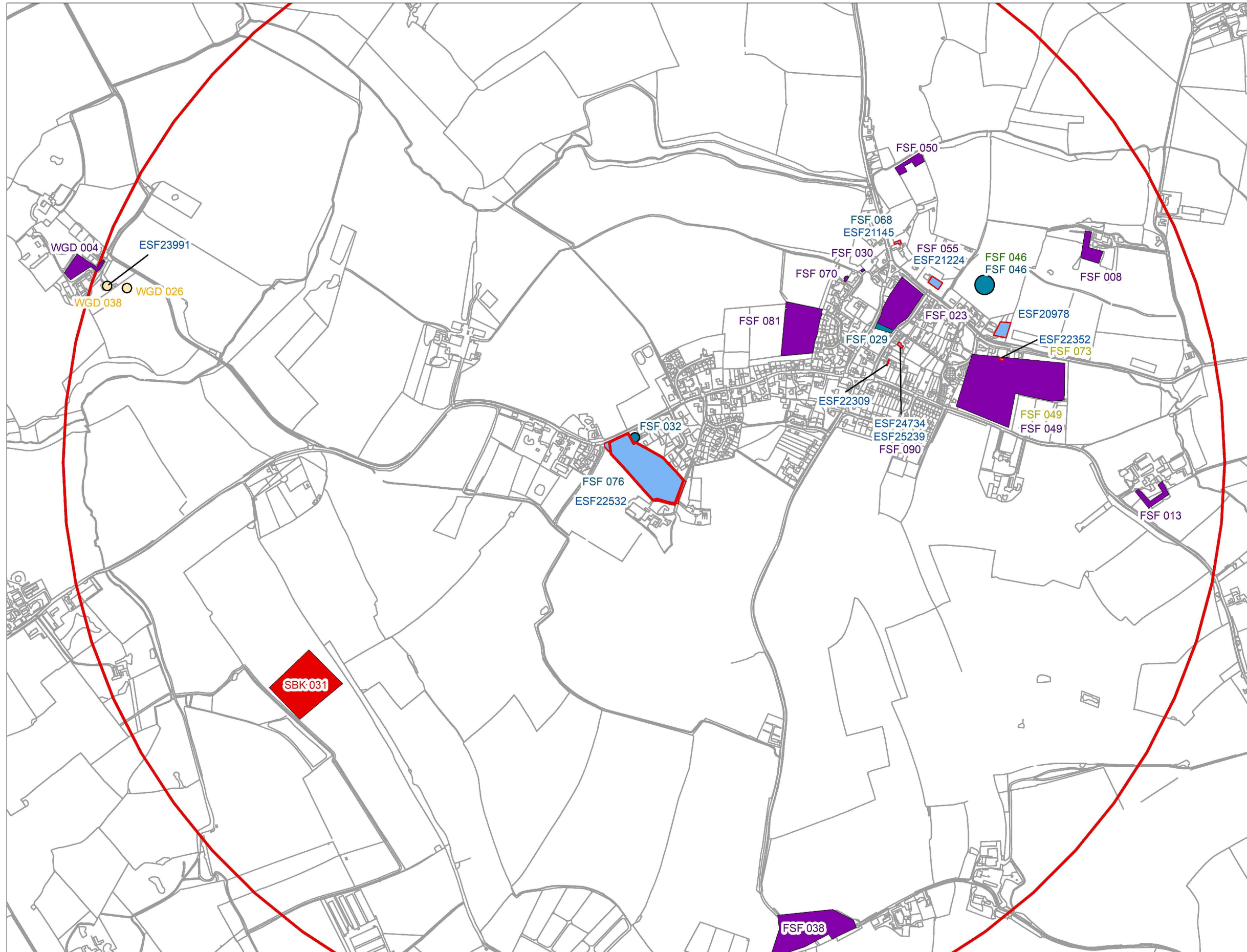
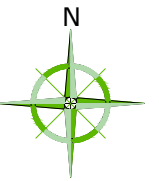
 Site Boundary


















625560

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PROJECT:	SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM, FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION:	GENERAL LOCATION PLAN		
CLIENT:	1ST FRESSINGFIELD SCOUT GROUP		
<b>BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD</b>  UNIT 2 THE OLD WOOL WAREHOUSE ST ANDREWS STREET SOUTH BURY ST EDMUNDS SUFFOLK IP33 3PH T: 01284 630057 E: info@brit-arch.com W: www.britannia-archaeology.com © Copyright Britannia Archaeology Ltd 2018			
DATE:	JAN 2018	PLOT:	A3
AUTHOR:	DPM	VERSION:	1
APPROVED:	MB	FIGURE:	1





-  HER Search Area
-  Archaeological Event
-  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

NGR: 625560 277024 REF: P1213

PROJECT: SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM, FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: SHER DATA: MONUMENTS & EVENTS

CLIENT: 1ST FRESSINGFIELD SCOUT GROUP

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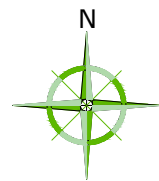
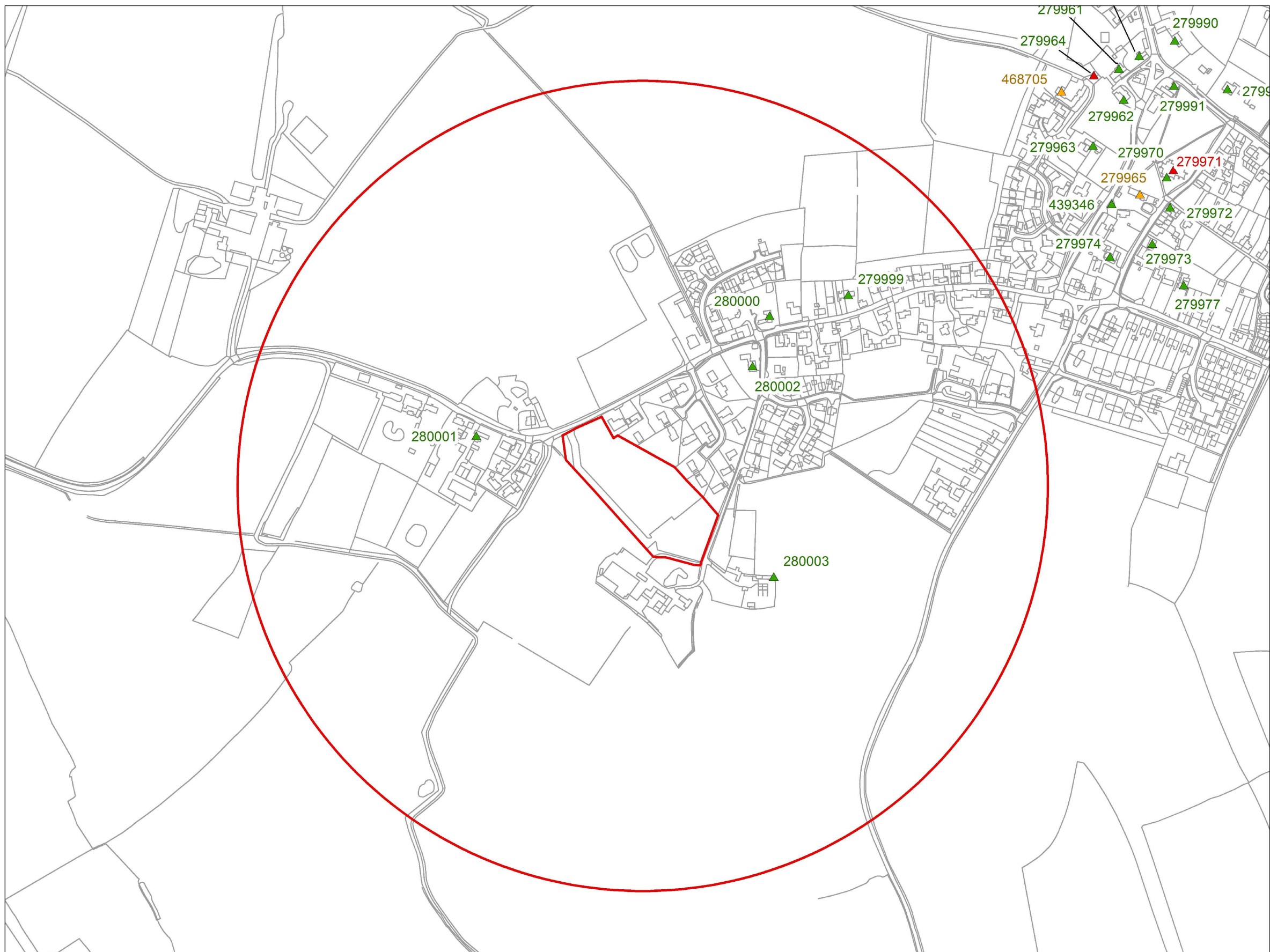
DATE: JAN 2018 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1






AUTHOR: MCA  
APPROVED: MB

FIGURE: 2

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

NGR: 625560 277024 REF: P1213

PROJECT: SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM, FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: SHER DATA: LISTED BUILDINGS

CLIENT: 1ST FRESSINGFIELD SCOUT GROUP

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DATE: JAN 2018 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1

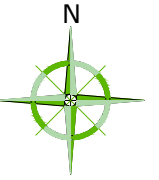
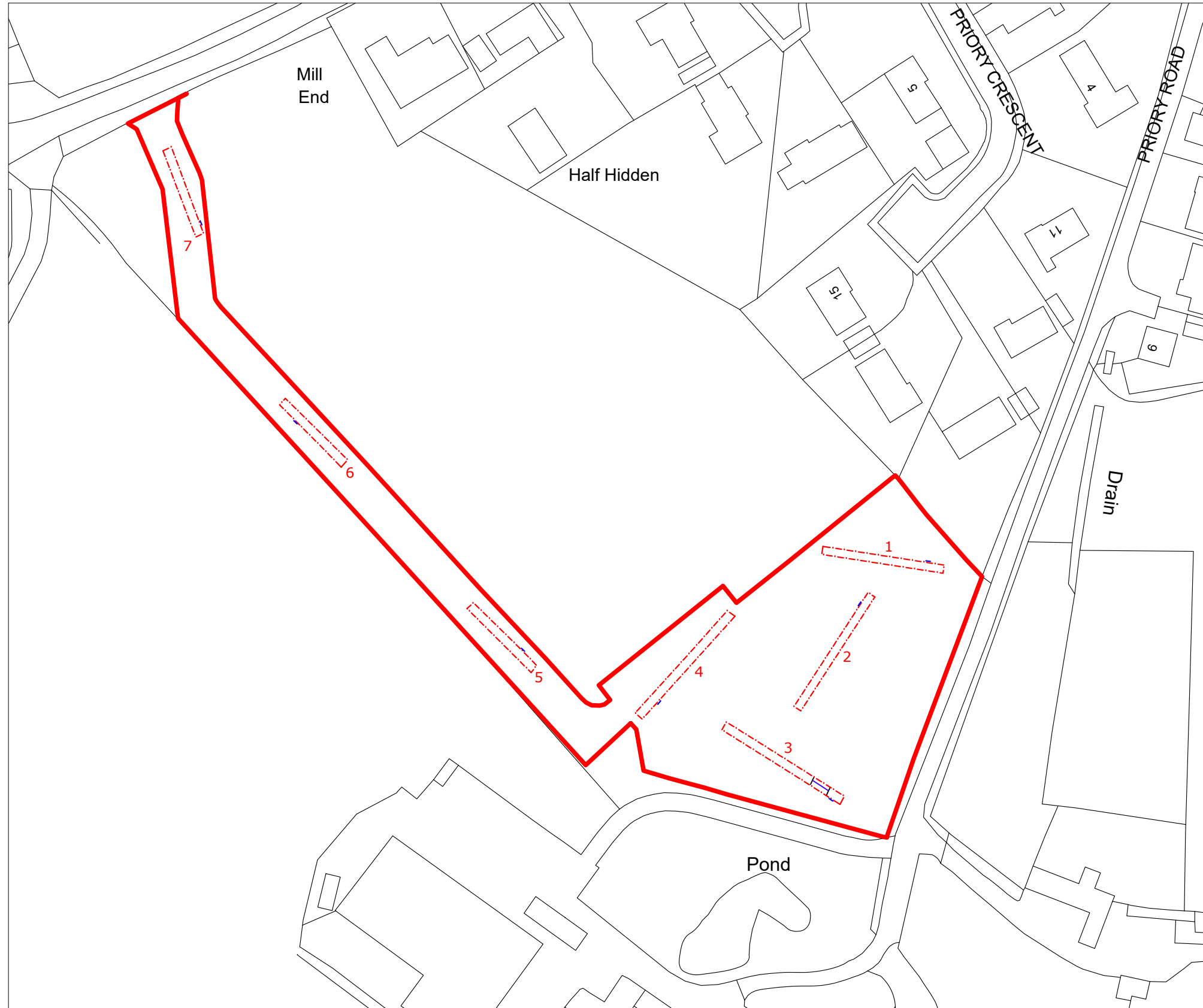
AUTHOR: MCA



APPROVED: MB

FIGURE: 3

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-  Sample Section
-  Trench
-  Site Boundary

NGR: 625560 277024 REF: P1213

PROJECT: SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM, FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PLAN

CLIENT: 1ST FRESSINGFIELD SCOUT GROUP

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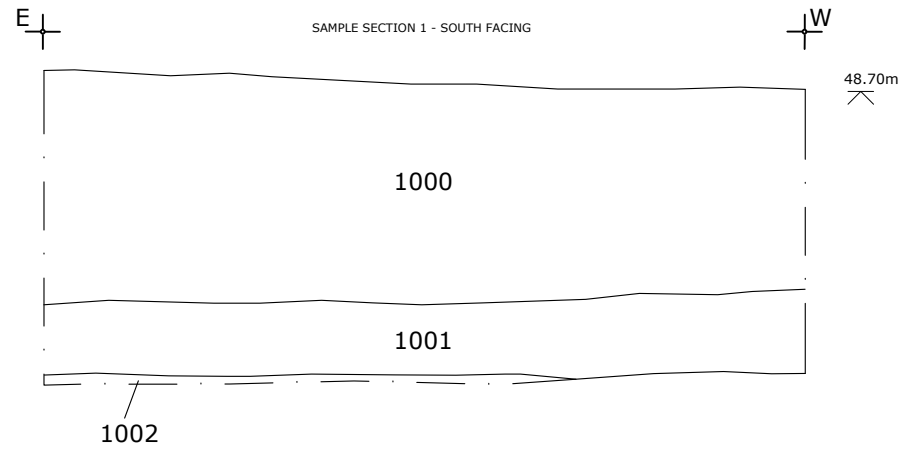
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AUTHOR: MJB  
APPROVED: MB

FIGURE: 4

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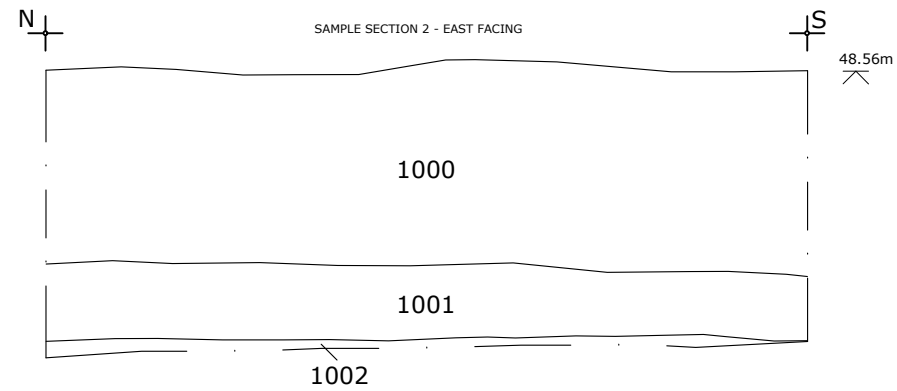
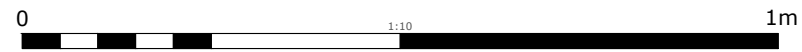
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DP 1 - SAMPLE SECTION 1



DP 2 - TRENCH 1



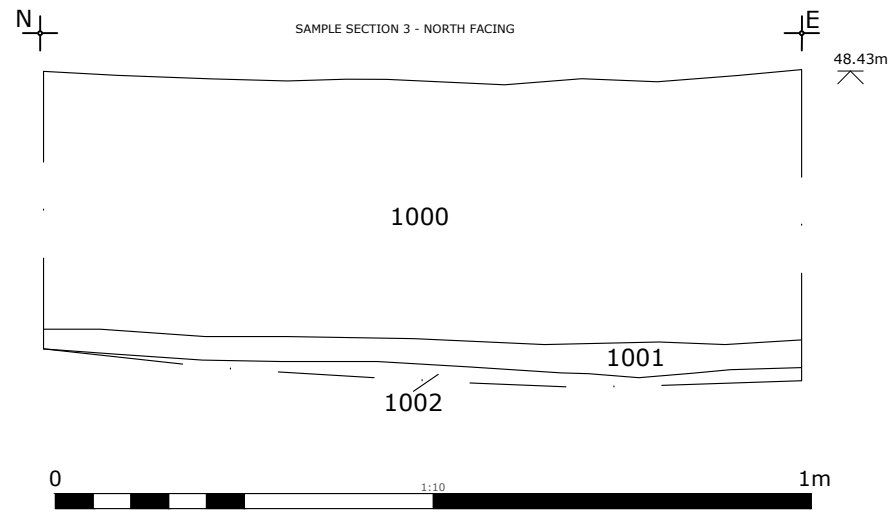
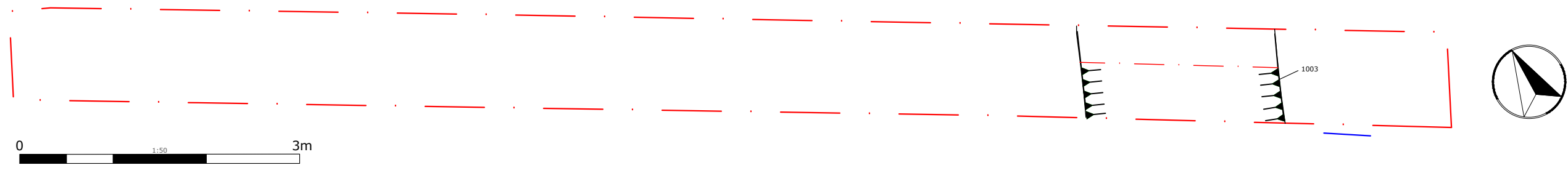
DP 3 - SAMPLE SECTION 2



DP 4 - TRENCH 2

NGR:	625560 277024	REF:	P1213
PROJECT:	SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM, FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION:	TRENCH SECTIONS & PHOTOS		
CLIENT:	1ST FRESSINGFIELD SCOUT GROUP		
<b>BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD</b>  UNIT 2 THE OLD WOOL WAREHOUSE ST ANDREWS STREET SOUTH BURY ST EDMUNDS SUFFOLK IP33 3PH T: 01449 763034 E: info@britannia-archaeology.com W: www.britannia-archaeology.com © Copyright Britannia Archaeology Ltd 2018			
DATE:	JAN 2018	PLOT:	A3
AUTHOR:	MJB	VERSION:	1
APPROVED:	DPM	FIGURE:	5

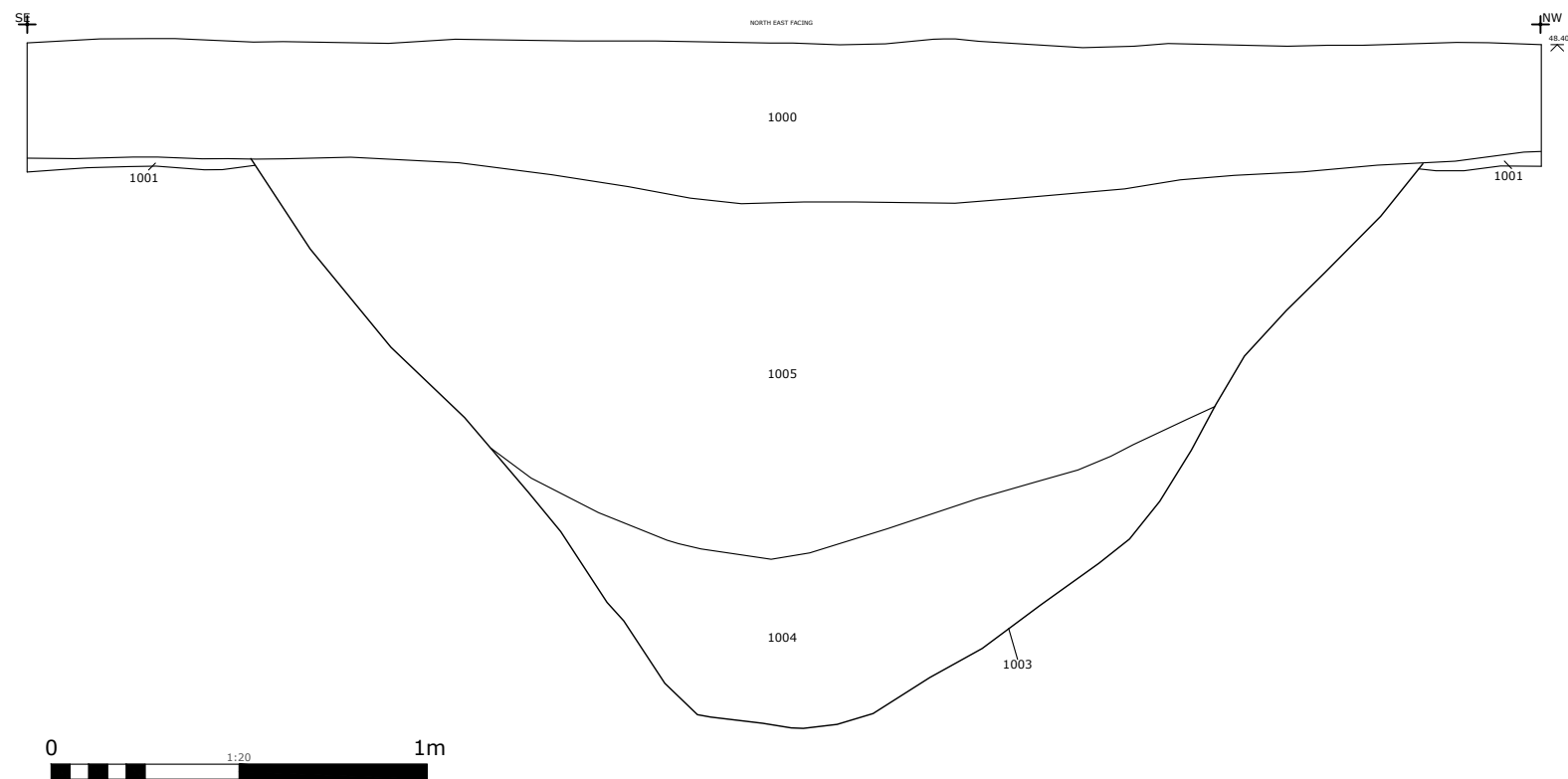
# TRENCH 3



DP 13 - SAMPLE SECTION 3

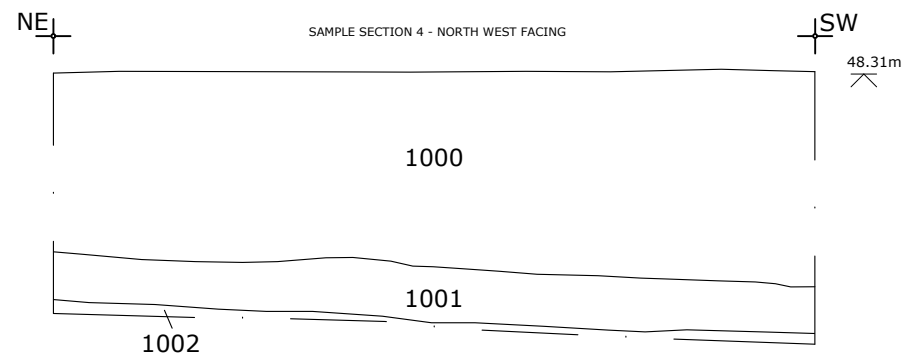


DP 14 - TRENCH 3



DP 15 - 1003

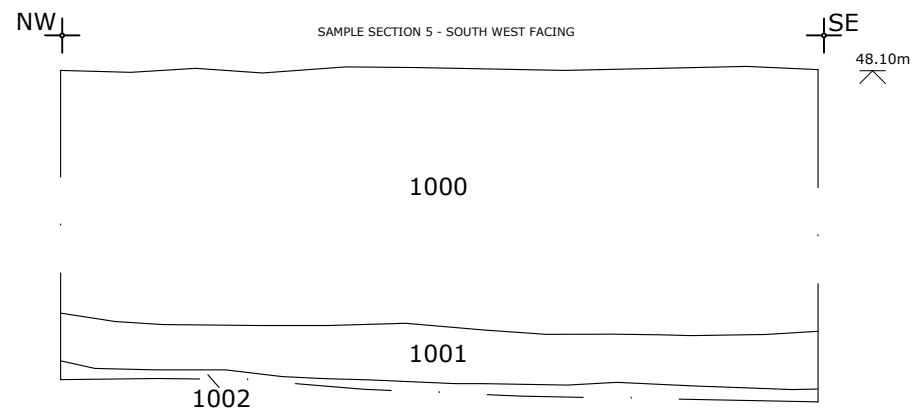
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PROJECT:	SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM, FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION:	TRENCH PLAN, SECTIONS & PHOTOS		
CLIENT:	1ST FRESSINGFIELD SCOUT GROUP		
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AUTHOR:	MJB	VERSION:	1
APPROVED:	DPM	FIGURE:	6



DP 5 - SAMPLE SECTION 4



DP 6 - TRENCH 4

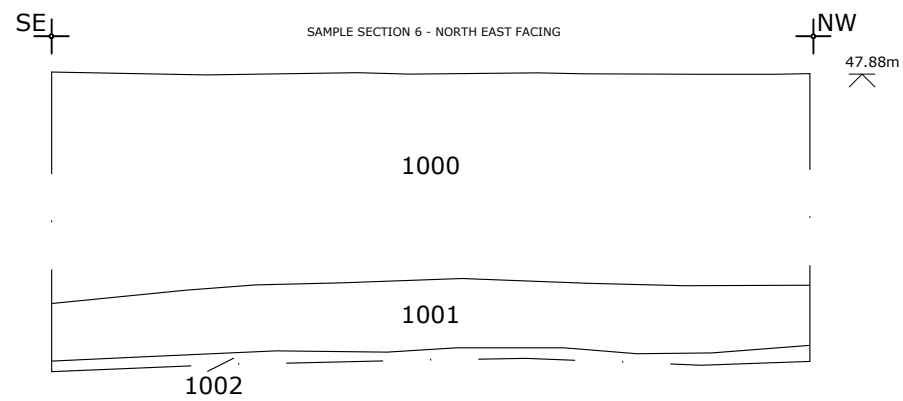


DP 8 - SAMPLE SECTION 5



DP 7 - TRENCH 5

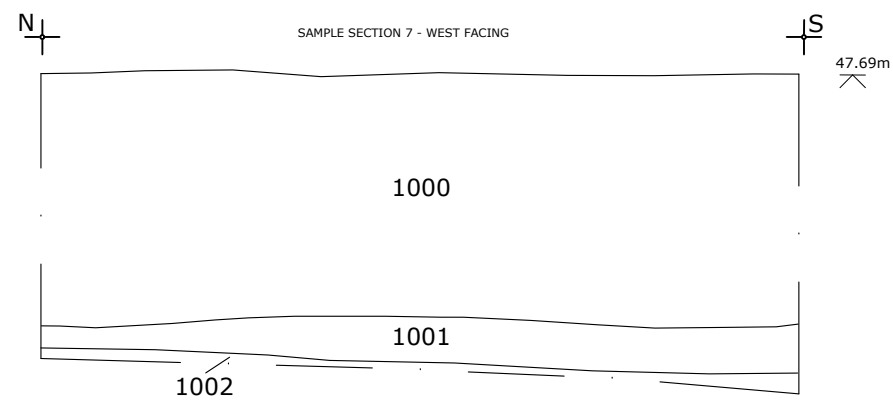
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PROJECT:	SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM, FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION:	TRENCH SECTIONS & PHOTOS		
CLIENT:	1ST FRESSINGFIELD SCOUT GROUP		
<p><b>BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD</b></p> <p>UNIT 2 THE OLD WOOL WAREHOUSE ST ANDREWS STREET SOUTH BURY ST EDMUNDS SUFFOLK IP33 3PH</p> <p>T: 01449 763034 E: info@britannia-archaeology.com W: www.britannia-archaeology.com</p> <p>© Copyright Britannia Archaeology Ltd 2018</p>			
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DP 10 - SAMPLE SECTION 6



DP 9 - TRENCH 6



DP 11 - SAMPLE SECTION 7



DP 12 - TRENCH 7

NGR: 625560 277024 REF: P1213

PROJECT: SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, RED HOUSE FARM, FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH SECTIONS & PHOTOS

CLIENT: 1ST FRESSINGFIELD SCOUT GROUP

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APPROVED: DPM

FIGURE: 8