



LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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Abstract

From the 27th – 30th August 2019, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Land at Breach Park, Beck Row, Suffolk (NGR TL 702788) on behalf of James Lepper and as part of a planning application (AP/16/0002/REF) ahead of residential development of the site.

The site had a moderate to high potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric period, a moderate potential for features and finds relating to the Roman period, and for features and finds relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods particularly in the form of agricultural features.

Despite the potential for archaeological finds and features relating to the prehistoric, Roman, and Medieval periods, no activity was identified within the site from these periods. The evaluation did, however, successfully identify evidence of post-medieval activity relating to the drainage and reclamation of the fenland. The presence of desiccated fen deposits suggest that the site would have been fenland until being reclaimed during the post-medieval period and the land being turned over to agriculture.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

From the 27th – 30th August 2019, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Land at Breach Park, Beck Row, Suffolk (NGR TL 702788) on behalf of James Lepper and as part of a planning application (AP/16/0002/REF) ahead of residential development of the site.

The work was undertaken in response to a design brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) (Cutler, H. 2019). The brief required a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the area threatened by development for houses. To achieve this 8 x 30.0m trenches and a single 15.0m trench were excavated (Fig. 3).

The trenches were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All archaeological features and layers were excavated by hand.



2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located northeast of the central settlement of Beck Row. Agricultural fields are located around the northwest and west sides of the site, the remaining sides are bounded by rural housing and farm buildings. The site is currently a grassy field with hedges lining the boundaries.

2.1 *Site Geology*

The Bedrock geology is described as Grey Chalk Subgroup – Chalk which is a Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 94 to 101 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment was previously dominated by warm chalk seas (BSG, 2019).

The superficial deposits are recorded as River Terrace Deposits, 1 - Sand and Gravel. These Superficial Deposits were formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was previously dominated by rivers (U) (BSG, 2019).

Additionally, Peat deposits have been recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site. These Superficial Deposits were formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was previously dominated by organic accumulations (U) (BSG, 2019).



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 2019). The relevant local development framework is the *The relevant local development framework is the Forest Heath Local Plan, (Policy 8.20, 1995)*.



4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2-3)

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) (1km search centred on the site), English Heritage PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) (Fig. 2 & 3). The Suffolk HER preferred reference has been provided where possible.

4.1 Prehistoric

The SHER search returned 41 entries dating to the prehistoric period, which represents the most active period represented within 1km of the site.

The earliest evidence of prehistoric activity is represented by three Mesolithic flint artefact scatters (MNL 005, MNL 009, MNL 012) which are located c. 200-560m north/northeast of the site.

Neolithic activity is represented in the search area by finds scatters and findspots. These are generally confined to the northern section of the search area and include a half polished flint axe (MNL 163), scatters of struck flint and burnt flint (MNL 097, MNL 170), and a polished flint axe flake found just c.180m northwest of the site (MNL 172). In addition, some activity has also been noted in the south area including a broken polished flint chisel found c.350m southwest of the site (MNL 318). Evidence of prehistoric activity was found during an evaluation c.780m south of the site in the form of pits and ditches, the pits of which produced a flint flake of Neolithic or possibly early Bronze Age date (ESF25771).

Almost all evidence of Bronze Age activity is located within the northern part of the search area. Scatters of flint artefacts have been found between c. 210m – 560m northeast of the site (MNL 005, MNL 011, MNL 012). Further Bronze Age finds have been found north of the site including a bronze knife and pottery fragments c. 325m to the north (MNL 009), and evidence of settlement with pottery fragments and flint artefacts which were found c.330m to the north (MNL 010). Just 170m northwest of the site, a polished brown flint axe was found with a scatter of flint flakes and scrapers (MNL 172), and a bronze socketed axe was found on a potato grader in 1985 and traced to a field c. 620m northwest of the site (MNL228).

Iron Age activity is less well represented and only three of the prehistoric record refer to



evidence of this period and none are within 500m of the site. Iron Age coins and pottery fragments were found c.800m north of the site (MNL 171), a coin was also found c. 1km to the north (MNL 174), and scatter of pottery and flint objects were found across a field at the western limit of the 1km search area (MNL 129). A number of records refer to more broadly dated prehistoric activity. Several burnt flint patches have been recorded between c.420 – 700m west/northwest of the site (MNL 415, MNL 416, MNL 417, MNL 418). In addition scatters of prehistoric worked and burnt flint have been recorded within the search area, one of which was found c.170m north of the site (MNL 422).

4.2 Roman

Nine Records referring to Roman activity are present within the search area. With the majority of the HER entries relating to findspots, including a snake-headed bronze bracelet found c.760m north of the site (MNL 079), a coin hoard of silver denari found in the western section of the search area (MNL 160), and a spread of pottery and metalwork objects c.170m northwest of the site (MNL 172). Evidence of a Roman aisled building comprised of large post holes was found c.560m north of the site during excavation in the early 1960s and has been interpreted as a Roman basilica-style building which included finds of quern stone and Samian ware (MNL 005). Further evidence of Roman occupation was identified at a site c.680m west of the site in the form of pits and ditches, chalk floors/foundations, and hearths with material culture comprising of tesserae, Samian ware, bronze objects, coins, and glass (MNL 097).

4.3 Anglo-Saxon

The SHER search returned one entry with evidence of Saxon activity, MNL 171, which refers to a findspot of a Sceatta of AD 750, a silver penny of Eadmund, and a cruciform brooch found c.840m north of the site.

4.4 Medieval

Evidence of medieval activity within the search area is limited but the site is located less than 100m northwest of the northern extent of the historic settlement core of Beck Row which has medieval origins (MNL 675). In addition, Baldwin's Lode, which is an E-W drainage channel linking the River Lark (on the west end) and the Eriswell Lode (on the east), was likely



constructed between 1065 and 1097 as it is associated with Abbot Baldwin of Bury (MNL 528). This feature was extant in 1581 and was visible on maps in 1783. It is located c.660m northwest of the site in the fenland.

An archaeological evaluation c.1km south of the site identified Medieval extraction pits and evidence of Medieval rubbish deposition/manuring, as well as post-medieval features (MNL 705).

4.5 Post-medieval

Evidence of a post-medieval house of 17th century date, with brick floors and the remains of a larger building, was found c. 560m southeast of the site (MNL 073). Evidence of post medieval agricultural pits and ditches was found c.1km south of the site during an evaluation (ESF22285). A findspot of a likely a post-medieval gun flint by-product was found c.740m southwest of the site (MNL 574).

4.6 Undated

The majority of the undated records refer to cropmarks on aerial photographs including possible boundaries (MNL 470), ring ditches (MNL 495), and enclosure/trackway (MNL 531). In addition, some undated pits and peat hollows were identified during monitoring of a building footprint in 2008 c. 930m northeast of the site (MNL 523).

4.7 Archaeological Potential

Given the above records the site had a **moderate to high** potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric period. There was **moderate** potential for features and finds relating to the Roman period, and for features and finds relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods particularly in the form of agricultural features. The potential for finds and features from the Saxon period was considered **low**.



5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS/CT brief (Cutler, H. Section 4.2) stated that the evaluation should aim to:

- 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.

This comprised 265m x 1.80m of trenching in a systematic grid layout across the site, comprised of 8 x 30.0m trenches and a single 15.0m trench (Fig.4).

Both the WSI, fieldwork and resulting report/archiving has been undertaken in accordance with CIfA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, 2014*, and 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).

Particular study of the following should occur:

- presence/absence of palaeosols and old land surface soils/deposits,
- the character of deposits and their contents within negative features
- palaeochannels
- site formation processes generally.

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

The evaluation also carefully considered the retrieval, characterisation and dating (including absolute dating) of artefact, burial or economic evidence to assist in the characterisation of the site's evidence and in the development of future mitigation strategies.



7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The SCCAS/CT brief requires a programme of linear trial trenching in advance of construction of the new residential building and associated works. This was achieved by excavating trenches laid out in a systematic grid array across the site, the total length of trenching was 265m with a width of 1.80m and comprised of 8 x 30.0m trenches and a single 15.0m trench

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).

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



8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Fig. 4-17)

A summary of the features and layers encountered is summarised below. Full context descriptions can be found at Appendix 1.

8.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located in the south corner of the site aligned NW-SE. It contained a possible marl pit **1005**, present at the SE end of the trench on the edge of Fen deposit **1003**. The feature contained a single fill and no finds.

8.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was located on the southeast side of the site aligned NE-SW. Fen deposit **1003** was present at the southwest end of the trench on a NW-SE orientation which was not excavated. No archaeological features or finds were present.

8.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located on the east side of the site aligned N to S. It contained small Fen rivulet **1007**, present at the north end of the trench and orientated E-W, which continued beyond the trench to the east and west. The natural feature comprised of a single fill which contained a single sherd of 16th-18th century pottery, from a platter (Fawcett 2019), and animal bone fragments. The animal bone comprised a mandible from a small breed of dog (such as terrier or spaniel) which was most likely a companion pet or possibly assisted with rodent control around food (Curl 2019).

8.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located in the centre of the site of the site aligned NW to SE. It contained wide Fen rivulet **1009** located in the middle of the trench and on an E-W orientation. The feature continued beyond the east and west extent of the trench. It comprised six fills, most of which contained organic peaty material, only one of which contained finds of animal bone. The animal bone comprised elements of cattle which displayed evidence of chop marks, fine knife cuts, and skinning cuts indicating clear use for skin and meat (Curl 2019).



8.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was located on south-west side of the site aligned NE to SW. A Fen deposit was present in the southwest half of the trench on an E-W orientation which was not excavated. No archaeological features or finds were present.

8.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was located northeast of the centre of the site aligned NE to SW. Fen rivulet **1017** was present in this trench on an E-W orientation continuing beyond the trench in both directions. It contained three fills. The secondary fill, **1019**, contained three small slightly abraded fragments of lava quern-stone. These are not closely datable on their own, as lava quern-stone was imported from the Rhineland from the late Iron Age to AD1500 (Fawcett, 2019). This trench also contained ditch terminus **1021** which terminated in the trench and continued south beyond the trench following a N-S orientation. It contained two fills, but no finds were present.

8.7 Trench 7

Trench 7 was located on the west side of the site aligned NW to SE. No archaeological finds were present.

8.8 Trench 8

Trench 8 was located in the northwest corner of the site aligned NE to SW. Fen deposit **1026** was present at the northeast end of the trench on an east to west orientation and was not excavated. No archaeological features or finds were present.

8.9 Trench 9

Trench 9 was located on the northwest side of the site aligned NE-SW. No archaeological features or finds were present.



9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Figs. 5-7)

The deposit model varied somewhat across the site.

At the top of the stratigraphic sequence in all trenches was topsoil layer **1000**, which was present to a maximum depth of 0.48m in sample section 4. It comprised of a dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones.

Beneath topsoil **1000** in trenches 1, 4, 5, and 6, was subsoil **1001**, which was present to a maximum depth of 1.00m in sample section 4. This layer comprised of a mid greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones.

Beneath subsoil **1001** in trench 1 and topsoil **1000** in trench 2, was desiccated Fen deposit **1002**. It was present to a maximum depth of 1.05m in sample section 2. This layer was a mid greyish brown, compact silty sand, with frequent inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones, occasional iron pan inclusions, and occasional manganese inclusions. Occasional inclusions of wood were also present.

Beneath topsoil **1000** in trench 3, and desiccated Fen deposit **1002** in trenches 1 and 2, was Fen deposit **1003**. This layer comprised of a dark greyish black, compact peat, with moderate sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions. This layer was at the base of the stratigraphic sequence in trenches 1, 2, 3, and 6.

In trench 8, a windblown sand deposit **1024** was present beneath topsoil **1000** to a maximum depth of 0.94m in sample section 8. This layer comprised of a mid greyish brown, compact, silty sand with moderate sub-angular stone inclusions.

Beneath layer **1024** in trench 8 was desiccated peat layer **1025** which was present to a maximum depth of 1.03m in sample section 8. It comprised of a mid greyish-reddish brown, compact, silty sand with moderate sub-angular stone inclusions.

At the base of the stratigraphic sequence in trench 8 was Fen deposit **1026** located beneath desiccated peat layer **1025**. It comprised of a dark greyish brown, compact silty sand.



At the base of the stratigraphic sequence in trenches 5, 6, 7, and 9, was superficial natural geology **1004** which comprised of a light yellowish grey, soft sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions.

At the base of the stratigraphic sequence in trench 4 was natural marl **1016** which comprised of a light greyish white, compact chalk with rare inclusions of sub-angular stones. This layer was located beneath superficial geology **1004**.



10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The site had a moderate to high potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric period, a moderate potential for features and finds relating to the Roman period, and for features and finds relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods particularly in the form of agricultural features.

The evaluation revealed three phases of activity. The first phase is post-medieval activity relating to the drainage and reclamation of the fenland. Fen drainage began in the 1630's to drain the southern Fenland and was a hugely destructive process for the marsh environment; the peat layers shrank considerably and became desiccated. Feature **1005** in trench 1, is a possible marl pit located on the edge of a Fen deposit. Marl pits are a common feature of the Fens known to have been in practice in the 18th and 19th centuries, representing an agricultural practice used to condition the soil and neutralise the acids within the peat-rich soils by mixing the contents of the pits into the plough soil. Despite the lack of dating evidence, it is most likely that this pit is of late post-medieval to modern date. Fen-edge deposits were identified across the site, some of which appear to be present in natural hollows partially defined within the trenches. Several were excavated, only one of which produced animal bone fragments. In addition, some Fen rivulets were identified south of the fen and feeding into it, one of which **1007** in trench 3, contained a sherd of 16th-18th century pottery. The finds were only found in the top desiccated layers within the rivulets which is indicative of the fens drying within the late medieval-early post-medieval periods to allow exploitation of the area.

The second phase of activity relates to the presence of subsoil **1001** which represents a previous agricultural subsoil indicating that the land was turned over to agriculture following the reclamation of the fenland. This is likely of a late post-medieval-modern date.

The third phase of activity is represented by topsoil **1000** which represents the modern plough soil.

One undated feature was also identified. Ditch terminus **1021** was present in trench 6. The interpretation of this feature is limited in the absence of dating evidence, but it is potentially a remnant of a field boundary of unknown date.



Conclusion

Despite the potential for archaeological finds and features relating to the prehistoric, Roman, and Medieval periods, no activity was identified within the site from these periods. The evaluation did, however, successfully identify evidence of post-medieval activity relating to the drainage and reclamation of the fenland. The presence of desiccated fen deposits suggest that the site would have been fenland until being reclaimed during the post-medieval period and the land being turned over to agriculture.



11.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

Arrangements will be made for the archive to be deposited with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Archives subject to agreement with the legal landowner where finds are concerned. The digital archive will be stored with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).



12.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

English Heritage National List for England

www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england

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

Historic England National List for England

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

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

St Edmundsbury chronicle

<http://www.stedmundsburychronicle.co.uk/gas/gashistory.htm>



APPENDIX 1 – DEPOSIT TABLES

Deposit Tables

TRENCH 1

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
1	NW-SE		3
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1	NE side, SE end	SW	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.35m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1001	0.35-0.55m	Subsoil: Mid greyish brown, compact silty sand, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1002	0.55-0.90m	Desiccated Fen deposit: Mid greyish brown-grey, compact, silty sand with sub-angular and sub-rounded inclusions, occasional iron pan inclusions, and occasional manganese inclusions.	
1003	0.87m+	Fen deposit: Dark greyish black, compact, peat with moderate sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)
1005	Possible Marl Pit (1.80m+ x 0.80m x 0.69m) Linear in plan, with a flat base and bear vertical sides. On an E-W orientation.	1006	Primary fill. Mid orangish brown, loose, silty sand.	-	-

TRENCH 2

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
2	NE-SW		5
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2	SE side, SW end	NW	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.39m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1002	0.34-1.05m	Desiccated Fen deposit: Mid greyish brown-grey, compact, silty sand with sub-angular and sub-rounded inclusions, occasional iron pan inclusions, and occasional manganese inclusions.	
1003	1.05m+	Fen deposit: Dark greyish black, compact, peat with moderate sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	



TRENCH 3

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
3	N-S		8
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3	E side, N end	W	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.42m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1003	0.42m+	Fen deposit: Dark greyish black, compact, peat with moderate sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)
1007	Fen Rivulet (1.00m+ x 1.60m x 0.27m) Linear in plan, with a concave base and moderately sloping sides. On an E-W orientation.	1008	Primary fill. Mid greyish brown, compact, silty sand	Post-medieval	A.bone 8g (3), pottery 92g (1).

TRENCH 4

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
4	NW-SE		9
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
4	NE side, Middle of trench	SW	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.48m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1001	0.48-1.00m	Subsoil: Mid greyish brown, compact silty sand, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1004	0.70m+	Natural: Light yellowish grey, soft sand, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)
1009	Fen Rivulet (1.80m+ x 9.70m x 1.27m) Linear in plan, with moderately sloping sides and concave/irregular base. On an E-W orientation.	1010	Primary fill. Dark greyish brown-grey, compact, silty sand with organic material, and with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions. Occasional inclusions of wood.	-	A.bone 847g (9)
		1011	Secondary fill. Dark brownish-reddish grey, compact, silty sand with organic material, and	-	-



		1012	moderate inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. Frequent inclusions of wood. Tertiary fill. Dark brownish-reddish grey, compact, silty sand with organic material, and frequent inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. Frequent inclusions of wood.	-	-
		1013	Quaternary fill. Dark brownish-reddish grey, compact silty sand with organic material, and moderate inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. Moderate inclusions of wood.	-	-
		1014	Quinary fill. Mid greyish-reddish brown, compact silty sand, with frequent inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions.		
		1015	Senary fill. Mid greyish brown, compact, silty sand, with moderate inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions, and moderate chalk inclusions.		

TRENCH 5

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
5	NE-SW		12
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
5	NW side, Middle of trench	SE	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.34m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1001	0.34-0.73m	Subsoil: Mid greyish brown, compact silty sand, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1004	0.73m+	Natural: Light yellowish grey, soft sand, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	



TRENCH 6

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
6	NE-SW		13
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
6	NE side, middle of trench	SW	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.40m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1001	0.40-0.80m	Subsoil: Mid greyish brown, compact silty sand, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1004	0.80m+	Natural: Light yellowish grey, soft sand, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)
1017	Fen Rivulet (1.00m+ x 5.00m x 0.86m) Linear in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. On an E-W orientation.	1018	Primary fill. Mid greyish-yellowish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent inclusions of sub-rounded and sub-angular stones.	-	-
		1019	Secondary fill. Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with organic material, and frequent inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. Moderate wood inclusions.	-	Lava quern-stone 78g (3)
		1020	Tertiary fill. Mid greyish brown, compact silty sand, with frequent inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones.	-	-
1021	Ditch terminus (1.00m+ x 1.10m x 0.37m) Linear in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. On a N-S orientation.	1022	Primary fill. Dark brownish grey. Compact silty sand, with moderate inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones.	-	-
		1023	Secondary fill. Mid greyish brown, compact, silty sand, with moderate inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones.	-	-



TRENCH 7

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
7	NW-SE		17
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
7	NE side, Middle of trench	SW	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.40m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1004	0.35m+	Natural: Light yellowish grey, soft sand, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	

TRENCH 8

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
8	NW-SE		19
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
8	NE side, NW end	SW	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.40m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1024	0.35-0.94m	Windblown sand deposit: Mid greyish brown, compact, silty sand with moderate inclusions of sub-angular stones	
1025	0.75-1.03m	Desiccated peat layer: Mid greyish-reddish brown, compact, silty sand with moderate sub-angular stone inclusions	
1026	1.03m+	Fen deposit: Dark greyish brown, compact silty sand.	

TRENCH 9

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
9	NE-SW		21
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
9	SE side, SW end	NW	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.30m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	
1004	0.21m+	Natural: Light yellowish grey, soft sand, with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	



APPENDIX 2 – FINDS CONCORDANCE

Context Layer/Fill	Feature Cut	Type	Trial Trench	Spot Date	Pot No	Wgt/g	Animal No	Bone Wgt/g	Other
1008	1007	Rivulet	3	16th-18th	1	92	3	8	
1013	1009	Layer	4				9	847	
1019	1017	Layer	6						Lava quern stone 3@78g
Totals					1	92	12	855	Lava quern stone 3@78g



APPENDIX 3 – SPECIALIST REPORTS

The post-medieval pottery and lava quern-stone from Land at Breach Park, Beck Row, Suffolk (MNL 1059): An assessment report (09/09/2019: 13.48)

Andy Fawcett

Pottery

A single rim sherd of Glazed red earthenware (GRE), dated from the 16th to 18th century, was retrieved from Rivulet fill 1008 (92g). The sherd exhibits only minor abrasion and originally belonged to a platter which has a bifid style rim. The fabric is fully oxidised and displays a clear glaze on its outer surface.

Lava quern-stone

Three small slightly abraded fragments of lava quern-stone were noted in Layer 1019 (78g). The pieces are very small, and none of the examples retain any traces of their original surfaces. Unfortunately, in the absence of other datable artefacts, the lava quern-stone by itself is not closely datable. It was imported into the country from the Rhineland, from the late Iron Age, and throughout the Roman and medieval periods, finally ceasing just after AD1500. Within this very broad time range, importation of the stone ceased completely during the early Saxon period (Buckley 2014).

Conclusion

The low density of finds recovered from this site makes it impossible to draw any firm conclusions as to what sort of activity was being undertaken within the trial trenched area. However, the presence of post-medieval pottery, as well as fragments of lava quernstone, perhaps represent dumping from a nearby settlement in the form of manuring.



Recommendations for further work

The post-medieval pottery and lava quernstone fragments have been fully recorded and reported on, therefore no further work on these materials will be required.

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Buckley, D., 2014, 'Quernstones and millstones' in Ashwin, T and Tester, A. *A Romano-British Settlement in the Waveney Valley: Excavations at Scole 1993-1994*, East Anglian Archaeology No 152

Margeson, S., 1993, *Norwich Households: The medieval and post-medieval finds from Norwich Survey Excavations 1971-1978*, East Anglian Archaeology No 58



MNL 059

The faunal remains

by Julie Curl –Sylvanus – Archaeological, Natural History & Illustration Services
for Britannia Archaeology. September 2019.

THE ANIMAL BONE (Appendix 1)

Methodology

The summary assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992) and Baker and Worley, 2014. All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present. A record was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible ages were estimated along with any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context and counts made for each species. Where bone could not be identified to species, they were grouped as, for example, 'large mammal', 'bird' or 'small mammal'. As this is a small assemblage, the results were input into a catalogue which is included with this report in the appendix.

The bone assemblage

A total of 855g of bone, consisting of 12 elements, was recovered from this site, with the remains quantified in Table 1. The remains were produced from a rivulet and a layer, with both producing dark stained bone that is typical of bone that has lain in waterlogged and organic deposits. There are also iron deposits uniformly over the bone and in small clusters in places, which would suggest natural iron in the soil and water. Butchering was seen in context 1013, but no canid gnawing or burning. No invertebrate damage (insect/isopods/molluscs) was seen, but this would be expected as iron in the soil and water would deter many invertebrates.

Context	Trench	Feature	Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP
1008	3	Rivulet 1007	3	8g	Dog	3
1013	4	Layer 1009	9	847g	Cattle	9

Table 1. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by feature and species NISP.

Two species were identified, which are quantified in Table 1.

The Rivulet fill 1008 produce a mandible of a **small dog**. The jaw is very small and delicate, measuring 75mm in length. The teeth show very little wear, which either suggests a young animal or perhaps one that has been fed a well prepared diet that causes little damage to the teeth and that is low in carbohydrates. The size of the mandible suggests a breed such as a tiny terrier or spaniel or Pomeranian. The dog was found with pottery of a 16th to 18th century date range.

The remains in the Layer fill 1013 consisted entirely of **cattle**, with a femur, humerus, radius, metacarpal, pelvic fragments and part of a mandible. Chop marks were seen on the femur, pelvis, metacarpal and radius, there are also some fine knife cuts that show



removal of meat, a skinning cut was also seen on the metacarpal. The bones suggest an animal of fairly short stature, but from a robust animal, indicating a bull from a breed such as the Celtic Short-Horn.

Discussion

This is a small assemblage of mixed origin. The cattle bone clearly shows a use for skin and meat. The bull was an adult and showed no signs of working, so perhaps suggests a cull of excess breeding stock or a beef cow.

The small dog is most likely to be a companion pet and one fed on a good diet, which kept the teeth in good condition. The associated pottery suggests a Post-medieval date range, which was a time of a rise in popularity of small lap dogs like the Japanese Chinn and other small decorative dogs (MacDonogh, 1999) that were kept by wealthier families and individuals. Some small dogs would have also been kept as rodent control around food storage.

Bibliography

Baker, P. and Worley, F. 2014. *Animal Bones and Archaeology, Guidelines for best practice*. English Heritage.

Davis, S. 1992. *A rapid method for recording information about mammal bones from archaeological sites*. English Heritage AML report 71/92

Hillson, S. 1992. *Mammal bones and teeth*. The Institute of Archaeology, University College, London.

MacDonogh, K, 1999. *Reigning Cats And Dogs*. Forth Estate.



Appendix 1
Catalogue of the animal bone recovered from MNL1059
Listed in context order.

Key:
NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present

Context	Trench	Feature	Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Adult	Element range	Butchering	Comments
1008	3	Rivulet 1007	3	8g	Dog	3	3	Mandible and fragment and isolated canine tooth	None	Very small mandible (length 75mm), left mandible, little wear on teeth. Size suggests toy breed such as small terrier or Pomeranian. Dark stained and iron rich deposit.
1013	4	Layer 1009	9	847g	Cattle	9	9	Femur, pelvis fragments, metacarpal, radius, mandible	Cut, chopped	Bones dark stained from time in a waterlogged and organic environment. Bones also have iron deposits, possibly from natural iron in the soil /deposit or water. Small breed of cattle, but robust bones that suggest bull.



APPENDIX 4 – COMPLIANCE - 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 James Lepper. The archaeological work is required as a condition of application AP/16/0002/REF, for the construction of houses at Land at Breach Park, Beck Row, Suffolk (TL 702788) (Fig. 1).

This WSI presents a programme of archaeological investigation by means of an archaeological trial trench evaluation to assess the nature and potential of the site, and to determine the need for any future site investigations. A design brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service/Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) (Cutler, H. 18th July 2019) requires a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the area threatened by development for houses. This will be achieved by excavating 265m of trenches with a width of 1.8m, comprised of 8 x 30.0m trenches and a single 15.0m trench. The trenches will be excavated using a 360° tracked, mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.



2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION (Fig. 1)

The site is located northeast of the central settlement of Beck Row. Agricultural fields are located around the northwest and west sides of the site, the remaining sides are bounded by rural housing and farm buildings. The site is currently a grassy field with hedges lining the boundaries.

2.1 Site Geology

The Bedrock geology is described as Grey Chalk Subgroup – Chalk which is a Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 94 to 101 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment was previously dominated by warm chalk seas (BSG, 2019).

The superficial deposits are recorded as River Terrace Deposits, 1 - Sand and Gravel. These Superficial Deposits were formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was previously dominated by rivers (U) (BSG, 2019).

Additionally, Peat deposits have been recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site. These Superficial Deposits were formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was previously dominated by organic accumulations (U) (BSG, 2019).



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 2019). The relevant local development framework is the *Forest Heath Local Plan, (Policy 8.20, 1995)*.

3.1 *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLG February 2019)*

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 desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;
- The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
- Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.

The NPPF asks that in determining planning applications the local planning authorities should take account of:

- The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- The positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
- The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.



3.2 *Forest Heath Local Plan, (Policy 8.20, 1995)*

Forest Heath's local plan development plan was adopted in 1995 and has undergone some revision since. A Core Strategy was released in 2010 and an updated assessment of their Heritage Policy is pending (2017). The Council's position on heritage assets is summarised as follows:

The District Council will seek provision to be made for the evaluation of archaeological sites of unknown importance and areas of high potential prior to the determination of development proposals. Where nationally or locally important sites, whether scheduled or not, and their settings, are effected by proposed development, there will be a presumption in favour of their preservation. On sites where there is no overriding case for preservation, development will not normally be permitted unless agreement has been reached to provide either for their preservation or for their recording and, where desirable, their excavation prior to development.



4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Figs. 2 & 3)

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) (1km search centred on the site), English Heritage PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) (Fig. 2 and 4).

4.1 Prehistoric

The SHER search returned 41 entries dating to the prehistoric period, which represents the most active period represented within 1km of the site.

The earliest evidence of prehistoric activity is represented by three Mesolithic flint artefact scatters (MNL 005, MNL 009, MNL 012) which are located c. 200-560m north/northeast of the site.

Neolithic activity is represented in the search area by finds scatters and findspots. These are generally confined to the northern section of the search area and include a half polished flint axe (MNL 163), scatters of struck flint and burnt flint (MNL 097, MNL 170), and a polished flint axe flake found just c.180m northwest of the site (MNL 172). In addition, some activity has also been noted in the south area including a broken polished flint chisel found c.350m southwest of the site (MNL 318). Evidence of prehistoric activity was found during an evaluation c.780m south of the site in the form of pits and ditches, the pits of which produced a flint flake of Neolithic or possibly early Bronze Age date (ESF25771).

Almost all evidence of Bronze Age activity is located within the northern part of the search area. Scatters of flint artefacts have been found between c. 210m – 560m northeast of the site (MNL 005, MNL 011, MNL 012). Further Bronze Age finds have been found north of the site including a bronze knife and pottery fragments c. 325m to the north (MNL 009), and evidence of settlement with pottery fragments and flint artefacts which were found c.330m to the north (MNL 010). Just 170m northwest of the site, a polished brown flint axe was found with a scatter of flint flakes and scrapers (MNL 172), and a bronze socketed axe was found on a potato grader in 1985 and traced to a field c. 620m northwest of the site (MNL 228).



Iron Age activity is less well represented and only three of the prehistoric record refer to evidence of this period and none are within 500m of the site. Iron Age coins and pottery fragments were found c.800m north of the site (MNL 171), a coin was also found c. 1km to the north (MNL 174), and scatter of pottery and flint objects were found across a field at the western limit of the 1km search area (MNL 129).

A number of record refer to more broadly dated prehistoric activity. Several burnt flint patches have been recorded between c.420 – 700m west/northwest of the site (MNL 415, MNL 416, MNL 417, MNL 418). In addition scatters of prehistoric worked and burnt flint have been recorded within the search area, one of which was found c.170m north of the site (MNL 422).

4.2 *Roman*

Nine Records referring to Roman activity are present within the search area. With the majority of the HER entries relating to findspots, including a snake-headed bronze bracelet found c.760m north of the site (MNL 079), a coin hoard of silver denari found in the western section of the search area (MNL 160), and a spread of pottery and metalwork objects c.170m northwest of the site (MNL 172).

Evidence of a Roman aisled building comprised of large post holes was found c.560m north of the site during excavation in the early 1960s and has been interpreted as a Roman basilica-style building which included finds of quern stone and Samian ware (MNL 005). Further evidence of Roman occupation was identified at a site c.680m west of the site in the form of pits and ditches, chalk floors/foundations, and hearths with material culture comprising of tesserae, Samian ware, bronze objects, coins, and glass (MNL 097).

4.3 *Saxon*

The SHER search returned one entry with evidence of Saxon activity, MNL 171, which refers to a findspot of a Sceatta of AD 750, a silver penny of Eadmund, and a cruciform brooch found c.840m north of the site.



4.4 *Medieval*

Evidence of medieval activity within the search area is limited but the site is located less than 100m northwest of the northern extent of the historic settlement core of Beck Row which has medieval origins (MNL 675). In addition, Baldwin's Lode, which is an E-W drainage channel linking the River Lark (on the west end) and the Eriswell Lode (on the east), was likely constructed between 1065 and 1097 as it is associated with Abbot Baldwin of Bury (MNL 528). This feature was extant in 1581 and was visible on maps in 1783. It is located c.660m northwest of the site in the fenland.

An archaeological evaluation c.1km south of the site identified Medieval extraction pits and evidence of Medieval rubbish deposition/manuring, as well as post-medieval features (MNL 705).

4.5 *Post-medieval and Modern*

Evidence of a post-medieval house of 17th century date, with brick floors and the remains of a larger building, was found c. 560m southeast of the site (MNL 073). Evidence of post-medieval agricultural pits and ditches was found c.1km south of the site during an evaluation (ESF22285). A findspot of a likely a post-medieval gun flint by-product was found c.740m southwest of the site (MNL 574).

4.5 *Undated*

The majority of the undated records refer to cropmarks on aerial photographs including possible boundaries (MNL 470), ring ditches (MNL 495), and enclosure/trackway (MNL 531). In addition, some undated pits and peat hollows were identified during monitoring of a building footprint in 2008 c. 930m northeast of the site (MNL 523).

4.6 *Archaeological Potential*

Given the above records the site has a **moderate to high** potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric period. There is **moderate** potential for features and finds relating to the Roman period, and for features and finds relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods particularly in the form of agricultural features. The potential for finds and features



from the Saxon period is considered **low**.



5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS/CT brief (Cutler, H. Section 4.2) states that the evaluation should aim to:

- 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 CIfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, 2014, and the *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation, 2017 (SCCAS/CT)*.

This will comprise of 265m x 1.80m of trenching in a systematic grid layout across the site, comprised of 8 x 30.0m trenches and a single 15.0m trench.

All aspects of the trial trenching will be undertaken in accordance with the *CIfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, 2014* and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England, 2003*.



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).

Particular study of the following should occur:

- presence/absence of palaeosols and old land surface soils/deposits,
- the character of deposits and their contents within negative features
- palaeochannels
- site formation processes generally.

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

The evaluation should also carefully consider the retrieval, characterisation and dating (including absolute dating) of artefact, burial or economic evidence to assist in the characterisation of the site's evidence and in the development of future mitigation strategies.



7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The SCCAS/CT brief requires a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the site ahead of the construction of houses. This will be achieved by excavating trenches laid out in a systematic grid array across the site, the total length of trenching will be 265m with a width of 1.80m.

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).

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 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 in addition to the known gas pipeline 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.

Overburden 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 surfaces.

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 will 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 (see specialist list) will scan spoil heaps, exposed surfaces and any features. The finds will be recovered and recorded in the proper way. The machined spoil heaps will also be scanned, however demonstrably modern finds will not be retained. 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, possible floors) will be excavated in stratigraphic sequence.

7.7 *Ditches*

Ditch segments will be positioned to provide a total coverage of 20% and to ascertain relationship information and will be a minimum of 1.00m in length (dependant 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*

Articulated human remains will usually receive minimal excavation to define the extent and quality of their preservation. However in circumstances of poor preservation or if required to meet the project objectives, human remains may require full excavation. A decision in consultation with the SCCAS/CT planning archaeologist and the relevant specialist will be made on the extent to which human remains are excavated during the trenching. The aim will be to inform the requirements for future treatment during subsequent Phases. Disarticulated human remains will be recorded and retained for assessment.



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 and deposits will be photographed in detail and general site and working shoots taken as part of the photographic record. This record will comprise high quality digital photographs saved in RAW/CR2 format and taken on an 11 Mega Pixel, Canon 450, DSLR. The RAW/CR2 files will be converted and stored in uncompressed .tiff at 8 bit. If for any reason acceptable digital photography cannot be undertaken, the primary record will be on 35mm black and white film. 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. 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 Dr Boreham and Dr Zoe Outram 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, SCCAS/CT and Dr Outram where appropriate. The project manager must ensure that the results of palaeoenvironmental investigation, industrial residue assessments/analyses & scientific analyses are included in a full evaluation report and sent to the Historic England Science Advisor.

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

7.16 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.

Treasure will be immediately reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer who will in turn inform the coroner within 14 days.

7.17 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



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 an acceptable timeframe.

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.

One hard or digital copy of the report, clearly marked DRAFT, should be prepared and presented to SCCAS/CT within four weeks of the completion of site works unless there are reasonable grounds for more time.

Digital and paper report copies will be supplied to the client and SCCAS/CT (one copy and a .pdf copy). 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 included with the report, which will be compatible with ESRI or 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. The archaeological advisory and planning role of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service Team will be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.



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, and in accordance with *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition* (SCCAS Conservation Team, 2017).

Arrangements will be made for the archive to be deposited with the appropriate receiving body, under an appropriate accession number and 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).

Arrangements for the long term storage and deposition of all artefacts will be agreed with the landowner and SCCAS/CT during the reporting stage. Transfer of title and the transfer of the ownership of the archive to the County Archive Facility will be arranged at this time, and the arrangements indicated in the evaluation report.

Where the project comprises multiple stages, the entire archive will be collated and deposited as a whole.



10.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

BA operates a comprehensive Health and Safety Policy in accordance with the Health and Safety Executive. This Policy is based on a Health and Safety system in line with 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 will be undertaken and an assessment of the potential risks be highlighted including the potential for toxins and contaminants. It will be the responsibility of the client/agent to undertake a full assessment of any toxins present and services present and provide Britannia Archaeology Ltd with a report detailing the results, prior to the commencement of any fieldwork. A full site risk assessment will be produced using this information and suitable tools and PPE will provided and used based on the results of any pre-project investigation.

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 will be 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 planning archaeologist immediately.



12.0 TIMETABLE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK

The archaeological evaluation fieldwork is scheduled to begin in late August/early September 2019, pending approval of this Written Scheme of Investigation by SCCAS/CT. It is anticipated that the evaluation will take three days with two members of staff onsite. 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 SCCAS/CT Archaeologist will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. The SCCAS/CT archaeologist will be kept updated with developments both on site and in the post excavation process.

Any variations to the WSI will be agreed with the SCCAS/CT Archaeologist prior to work being carried out. The monitoring officer will be kept informed of progress throughout the project. SCCAS/CT will be given a minimum of 10 days' written notice of the commencement of work so as to make arrangements for monitoring. The trenches will not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT. Further trenching or deposit testing may be a requirement of the site monitoring visit if unclear archaeological remains or geomorphological features present difficulties of interpretation, or to assist with the formulation of a mitigation strategy.



12.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Websites:

The British Geological Survey (Natural Environment Research Council) – Geology of Britain Viewer - www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience/home.html?Accordion2=1#maps

English Heritage PastScape www.pastscape.org.uk

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

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

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

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: britanni1-361386

Project details

Project name	Land at Breach Park, West Row, Suffolk
Short description of the project	From the 27th - 30th August 2019, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Land at Breach Park, Beck Row, Suffolk (NGR TL 702788) on behalf of James Lepper and as part of a planning application (AP/16/0002/REF) ahead of residential development of the site. The site had a moderate to high potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric period, a moderate potential for features and finds relating to the Roman period, and for features and finds relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods particularly in the form of agricultural features. Despite the potential for archaeological finds and features relating to the prehistoric, Roman, and Medieval periods, no activity was identified within the site from these periods. The evaluation did, however, successfully identify evidence of post-medieval activity relating to the drainage and reclamation of the fenland. The presence of desiccated fen deposits suggest that the site would have been fenland until being reclaimed during the post-medieval period and the land being turned over to agriculture.
Project dates	Start: 27-08-2019 End: 30-08-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P1277 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	MNL 059 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	STREAM Post Medieval
Monument type	STREAM Uncertain
Monument type	STREAM Uncertain
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	LAVA QUERN Uncertain
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 SUFFOLK FOREST HEATH BECK ROW, HOLYWELL ROW AND KENNY HILL Land at Breach Park, Beck Row, Suffolk
 Postcode IP28 8DF
 Study area 8052 Square metres
 Site coordinates TL 702 788 52.380319921331 0.500914537219 52 22 49 N 000 30 03 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 3.22m Max: 4.02m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Britannia Archaeology Ltd
 Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
 Project design originator Dan McConnell
 Project director/manager Dan McConnell
 Project supervisor Dan McConnell
 Type of sponsor/funding body client
 Name of sponsor/funding body James Lepper

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Suffolk HER
 Physical Archive ID MNL 059
 Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics"
 Digital Archive recipient Suffolk HER
 Digital Archive ID MNL 059
 Digital Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"
 Digital Media available "Database", "GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
 Paper Archive recipient Suffolk HER
 Paper Archive ID MNL 059
 Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Map", "Matrices", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

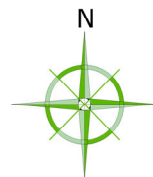
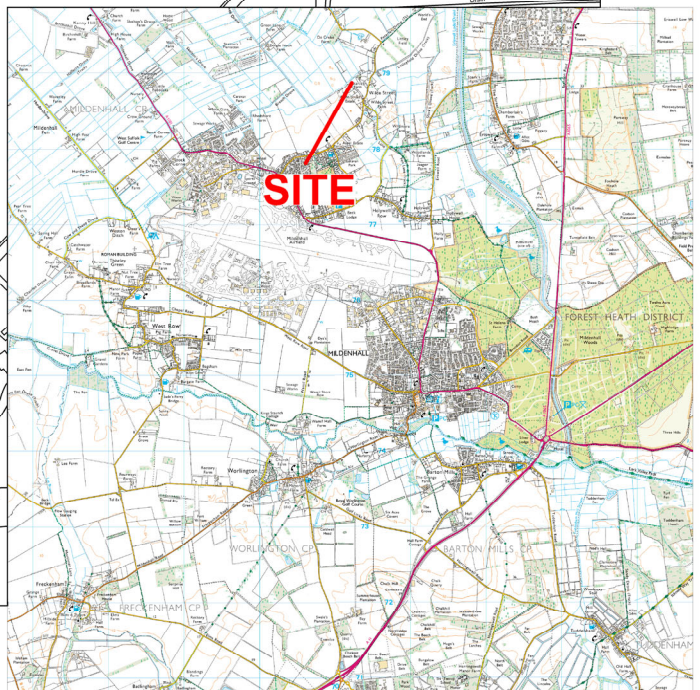
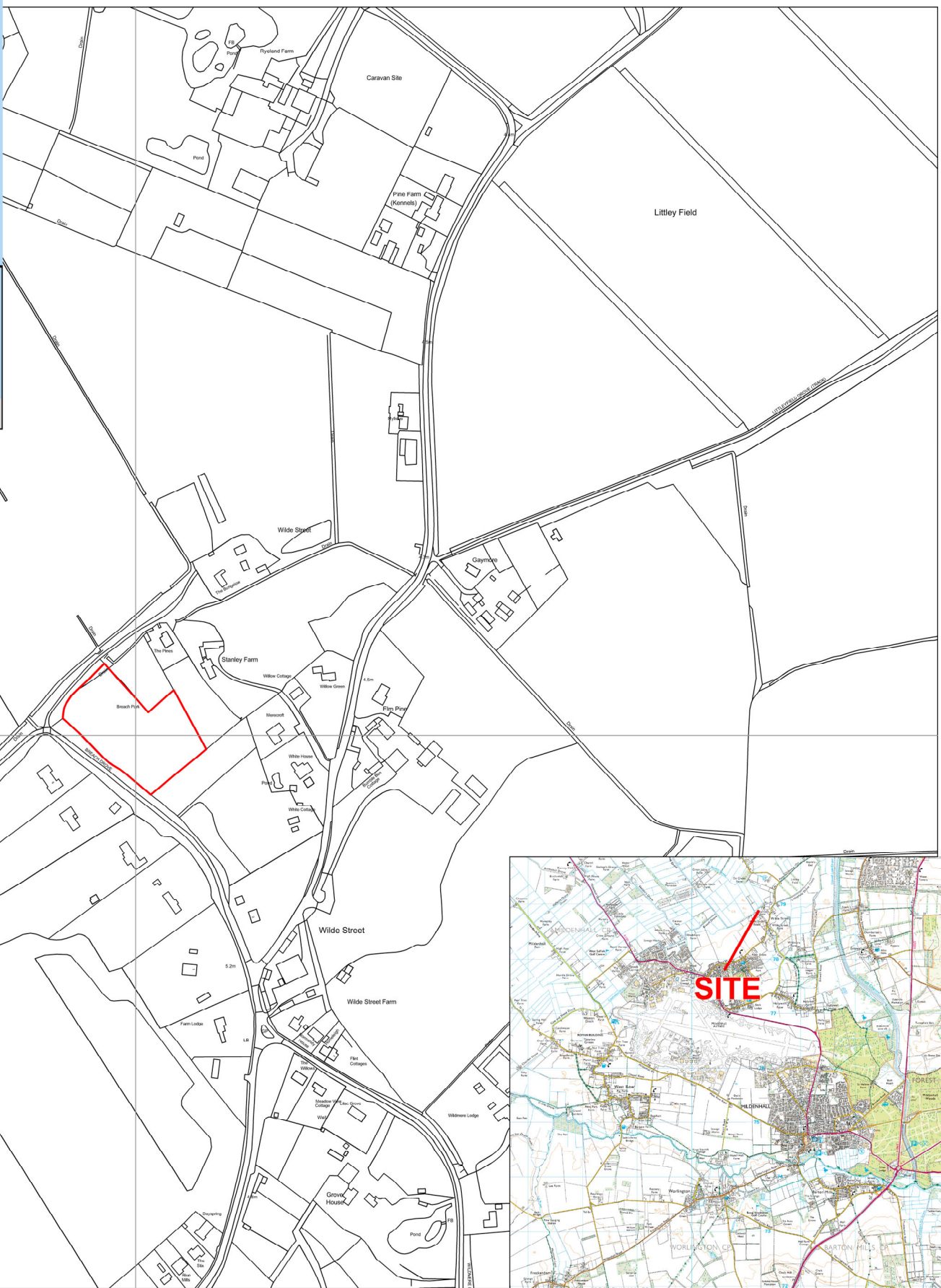
**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Breach Park, Beck Row, Suffolk: Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cunningham, L
Other bibliographic details	R1242
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Description	A4 bound report with pull out A3 figures
URL	www.britannia-archaeology.com
Entered by	Louisa Cunningham (louisa@brit-arch.com)
Entered on	30 September 2019

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 Site Boundary

278853

570262



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WGR: 570262 278853 REF: R1242

PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: GENERAL LOCATION PLAN

CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



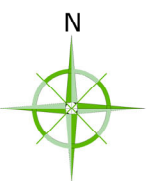
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DATE: SEPT 2019 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1

AUTHOR: MS FIGURE: 1

APPROVED: MB



-  HER Search Area
-  Archaeological Event
-  Conservation Area
-  Scheduled Monuments
-  Registered Parks & Gardens
-  Site Boundary

WGR:	570262 278853	REF:	R1242
PROJECT:	LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION:	SHER DATA - EVENTS		
CLIENT:	JAMES LEPPER		

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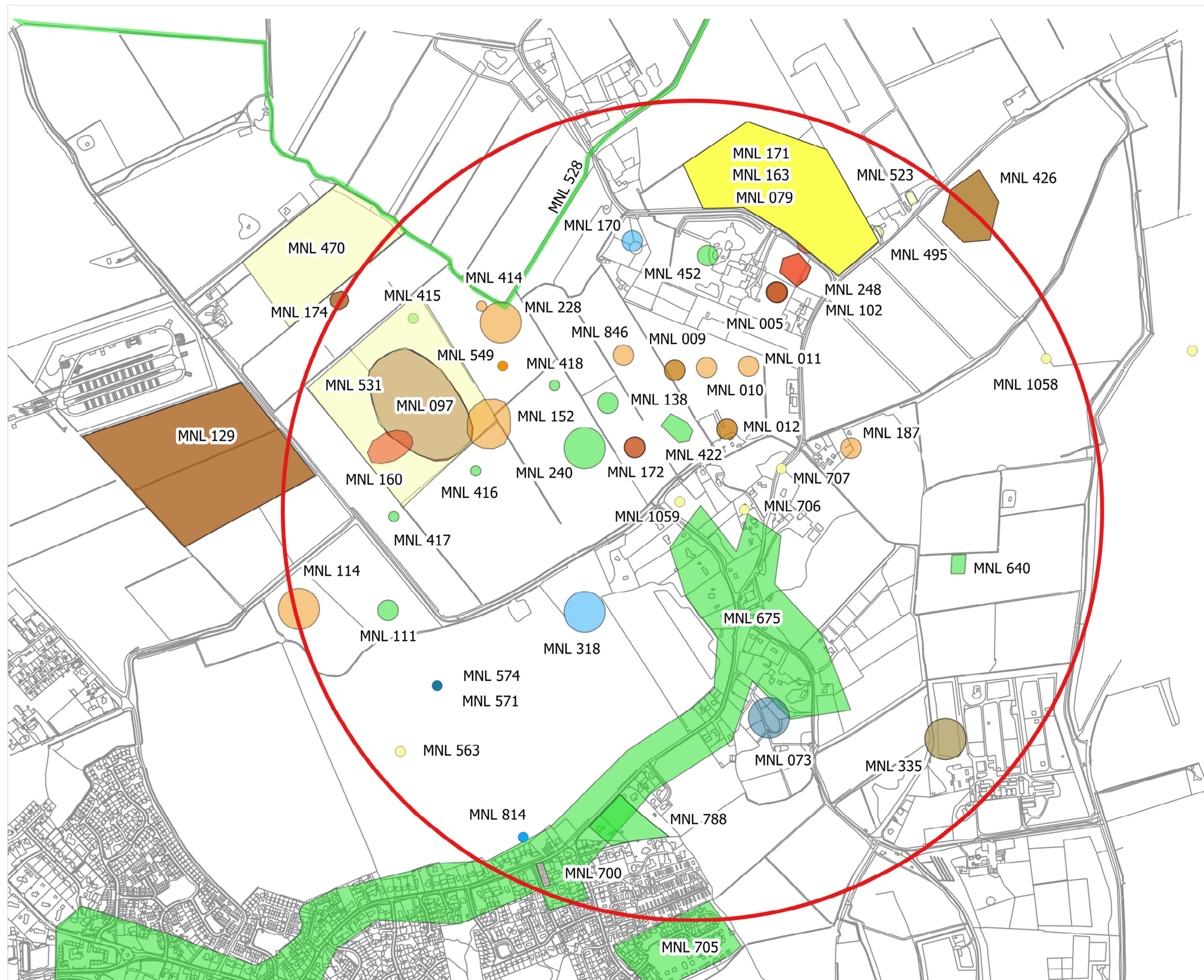
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DATE:	SEPT 2019	PLOT:	A3	VERSION:	1
AUTHOR:	DPM	FIGURE:	2		
APPROVED:	MB				

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







1:10000 0 1:10000 500m

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WGR:	570262 278853	REF:	R1242
PROJECT:	LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION:	SHER DATA - MONUMENTS		
CLIENT:	JAMES LEPPER		
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DATE:	SEPT 2019	PLOT:	A3	VERSION:	1
AUTHOR:	DPM	FIGURE:	3		
APPROVED:	MB				

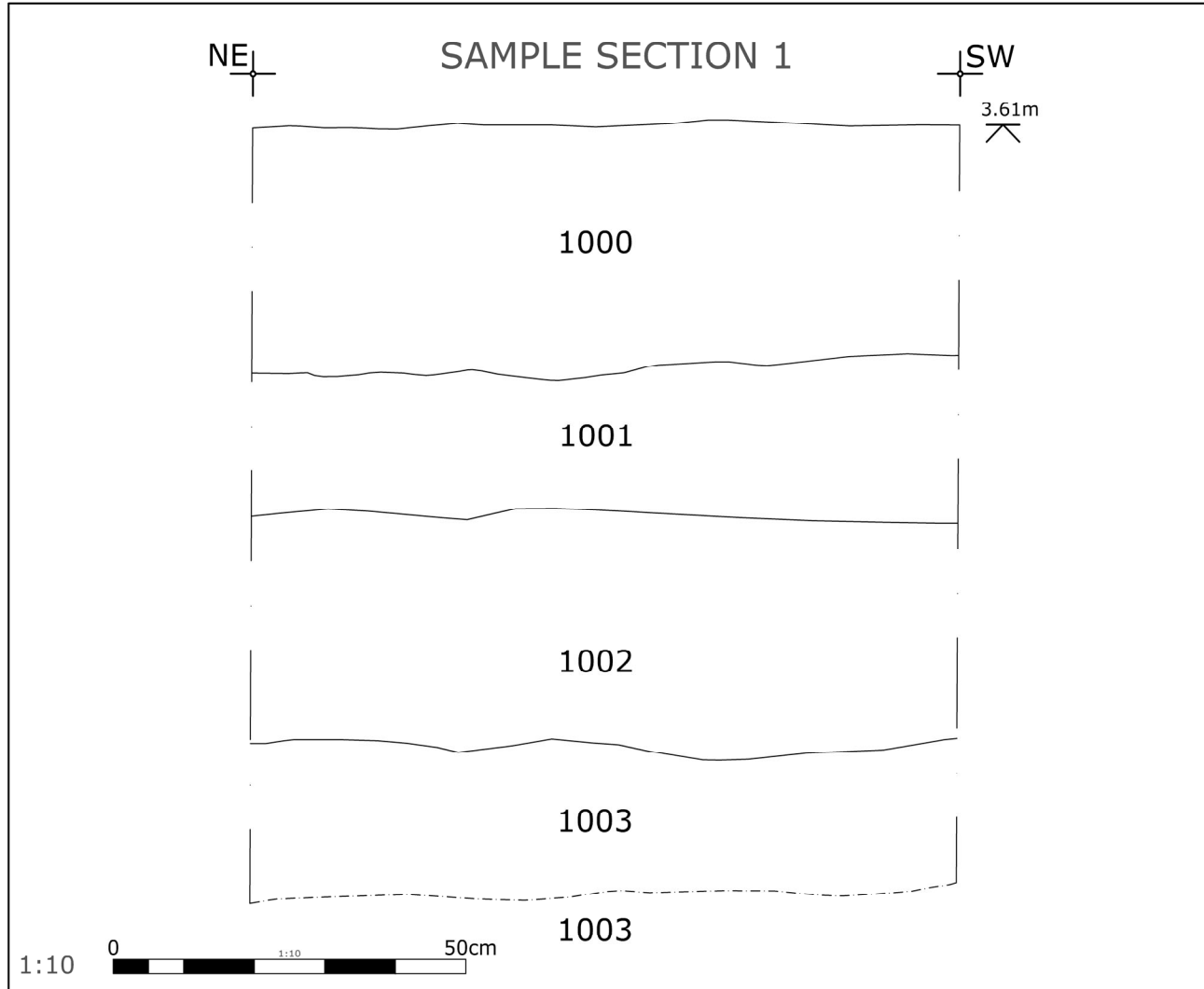


-  Modern Bank
-  Section Line
-  Sample Section
-  Excavated Feature
-  Trench
-  Site Boundary

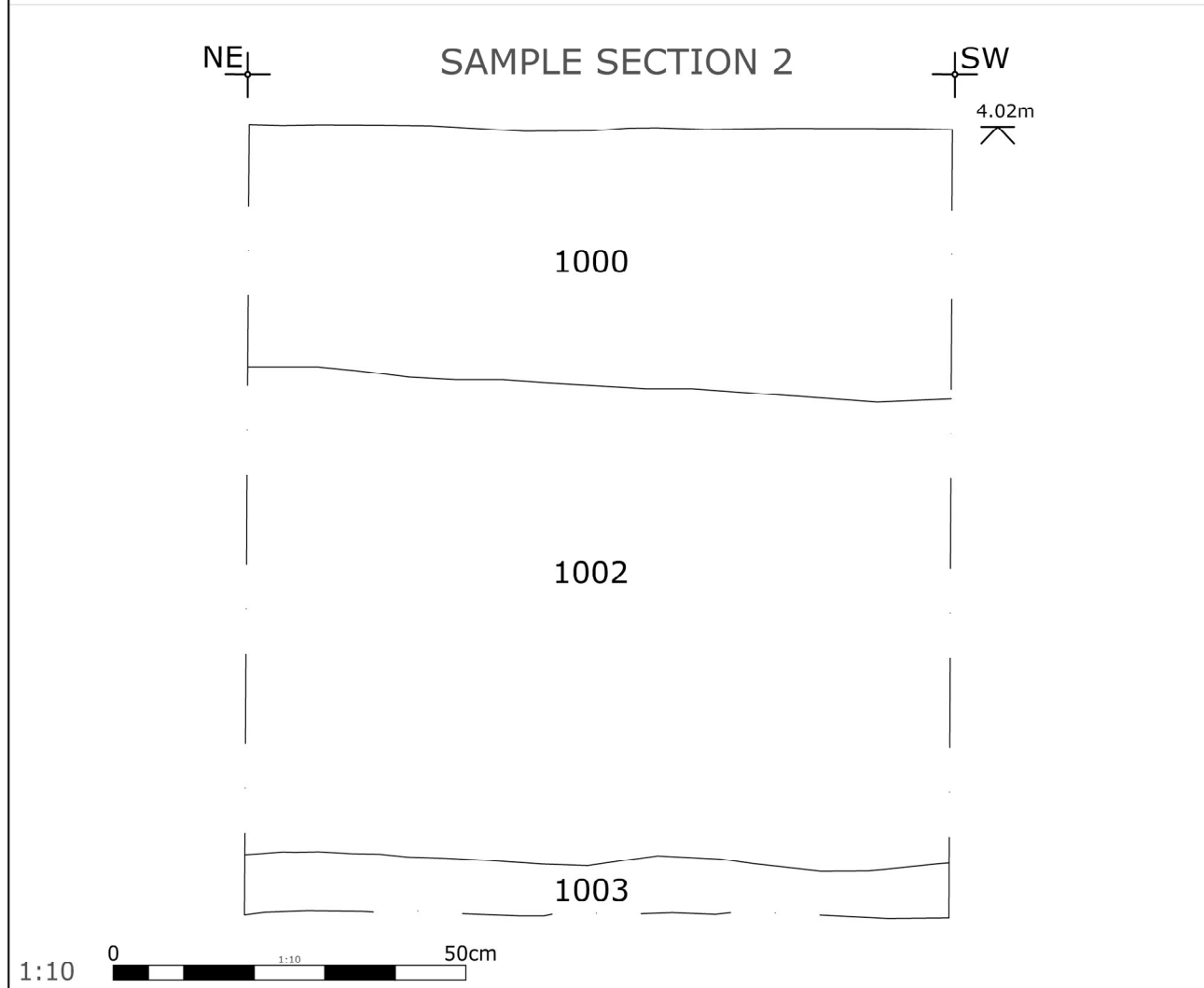
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CLIENT:	JAMES LEPPER		
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VERSION:	1	FIGURE:	4
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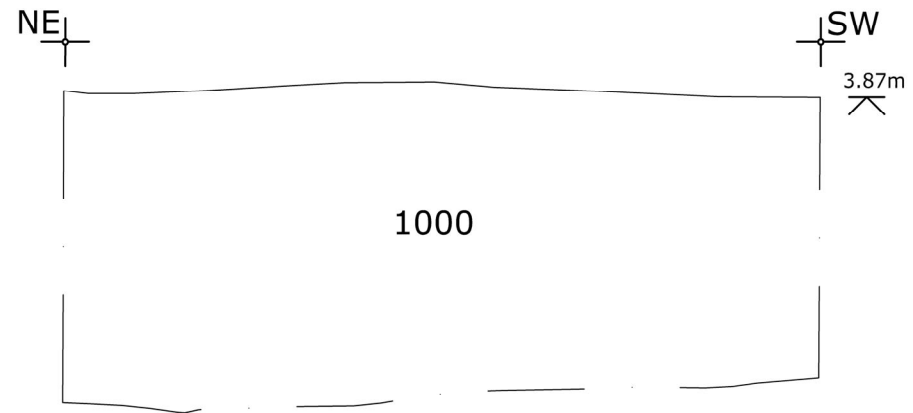


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PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK	
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS	
CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER	
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DATE: SEPT 2019	PLOT: A3	VERSION: 1
AUTHOR: DPM	FIGURE: 5	
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SAMPLE SECTION 3

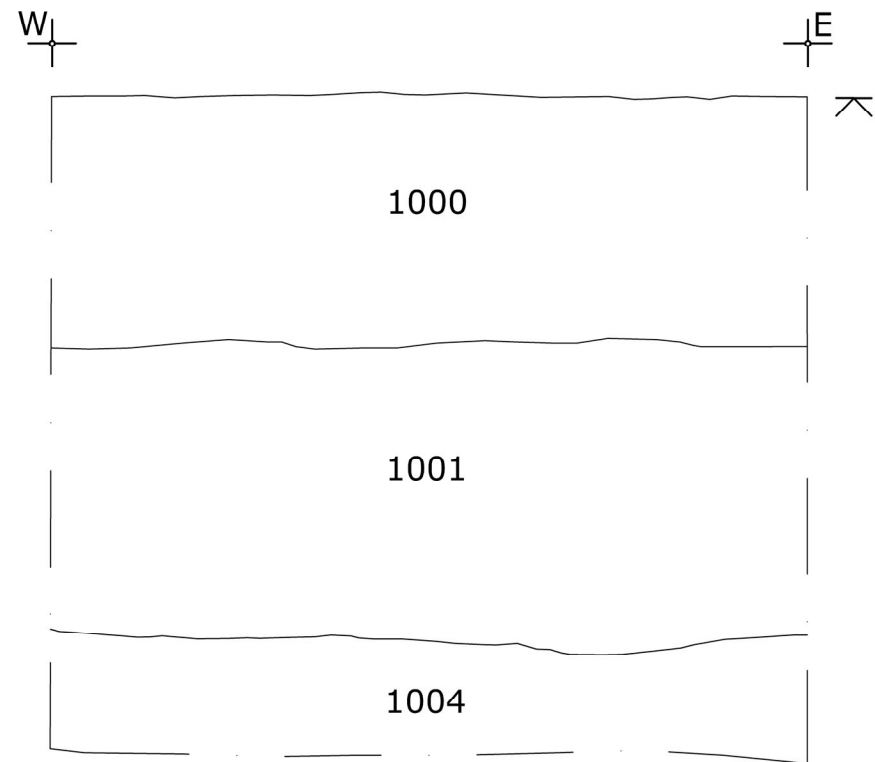


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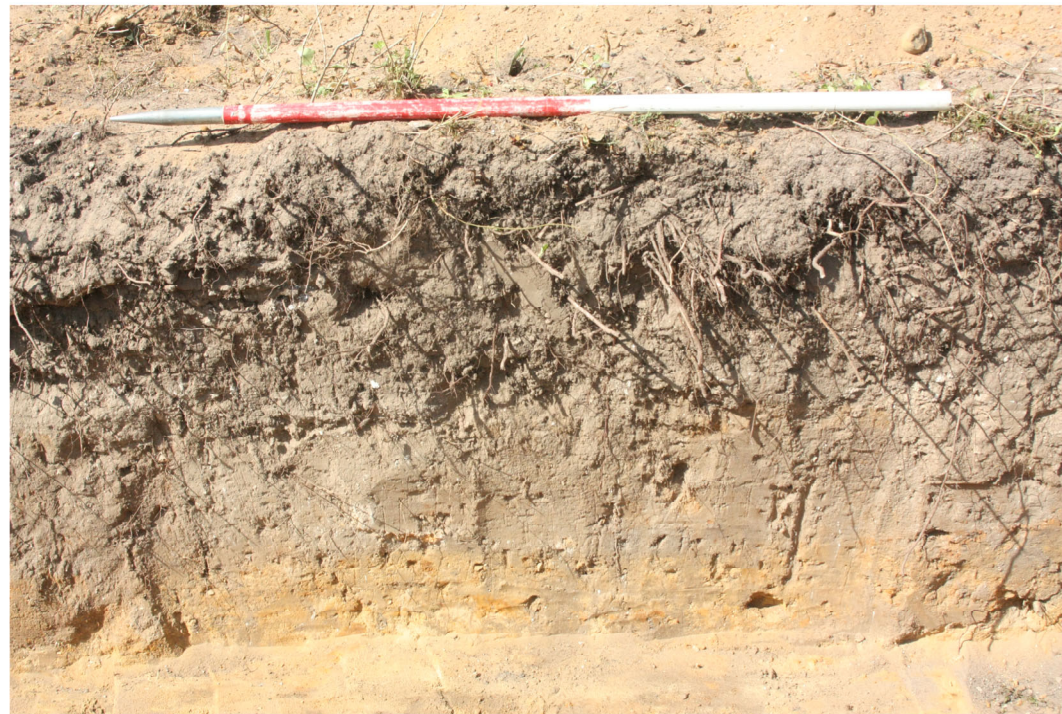


DP8 - SAMPLE SECTION 3 - VIEW E


SAMPLE SECTION 5



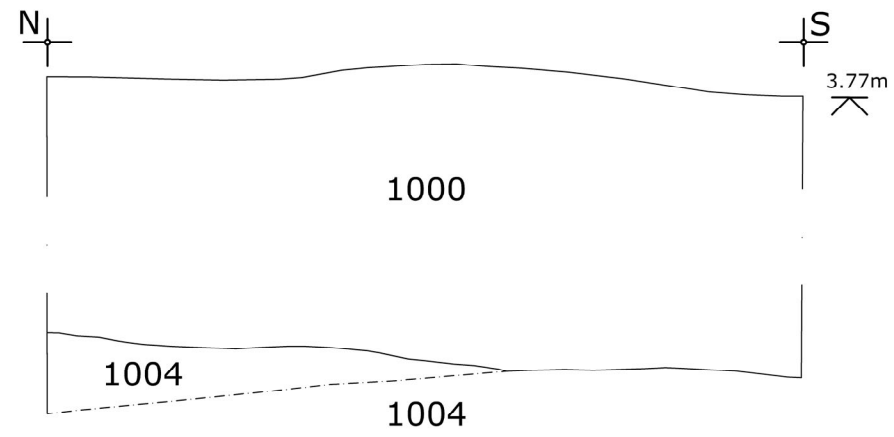
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DESCRIPTION: TRENCH SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER		
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DATE: SEPT 2019	PLOT: A3	VERSION: 1
AUTHOR: DPM	FIGURE: 6	
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SAMPLE SECTION 7

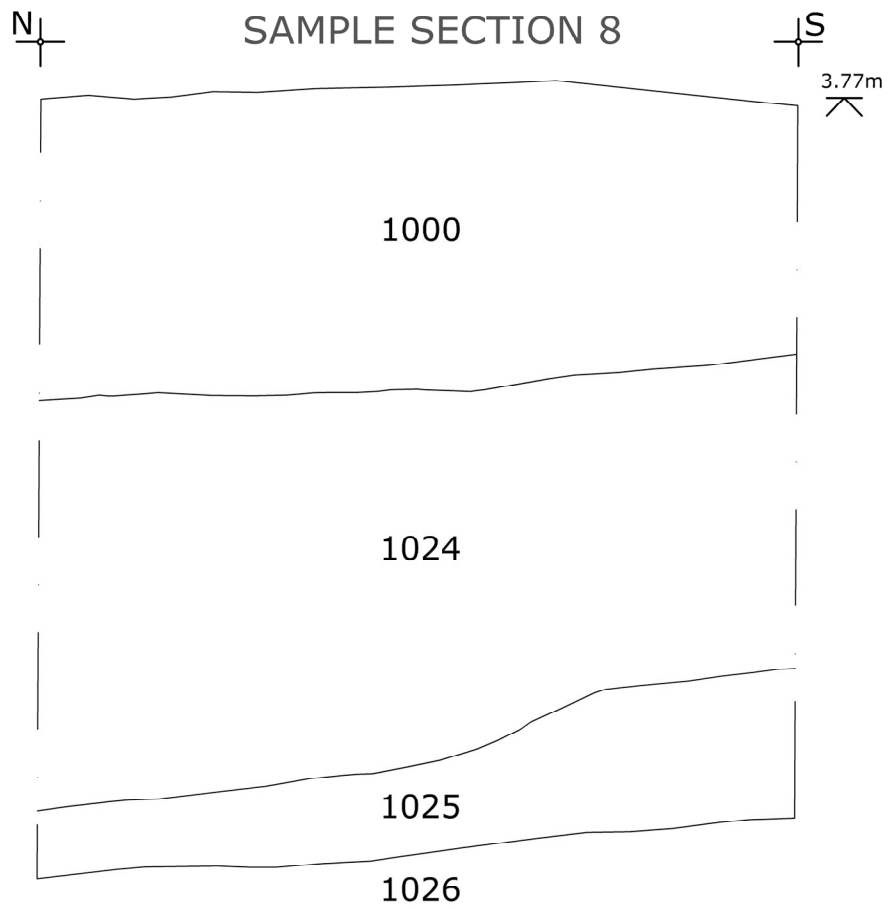


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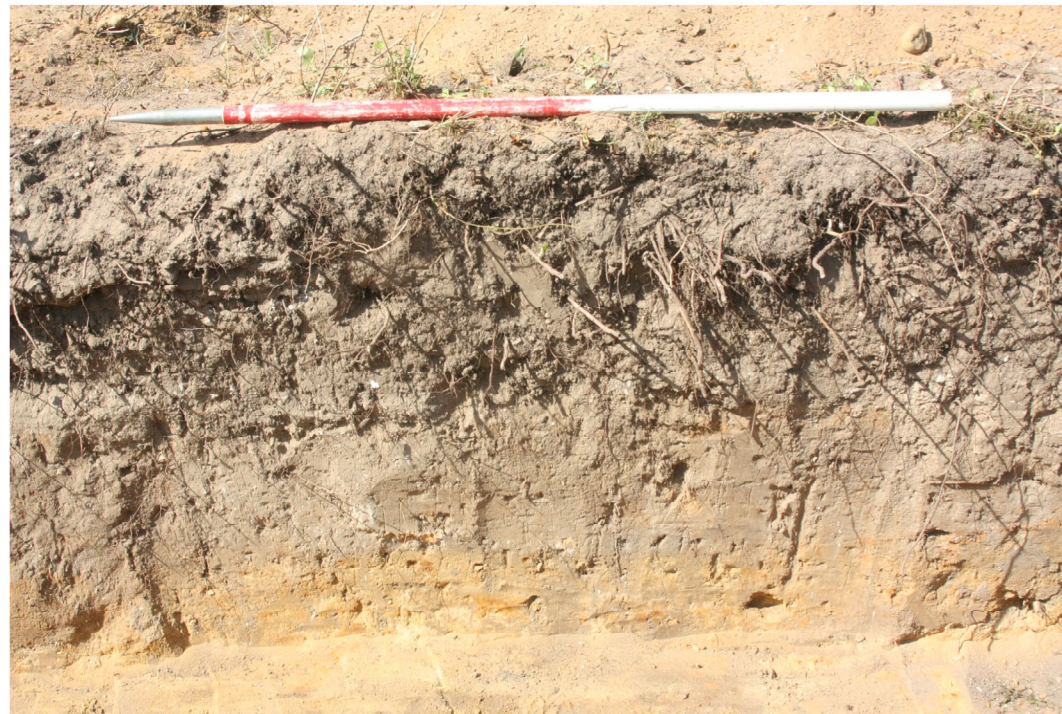


DP17 - SAMPLE SECTION 7 - VIEW NE

SAMPLE SECTION 8



1:10 0 50cm



DP19 - SAMPLE SECTION 8 - VIEW NE

WGR: 570262 278853 REF: R1242

PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER

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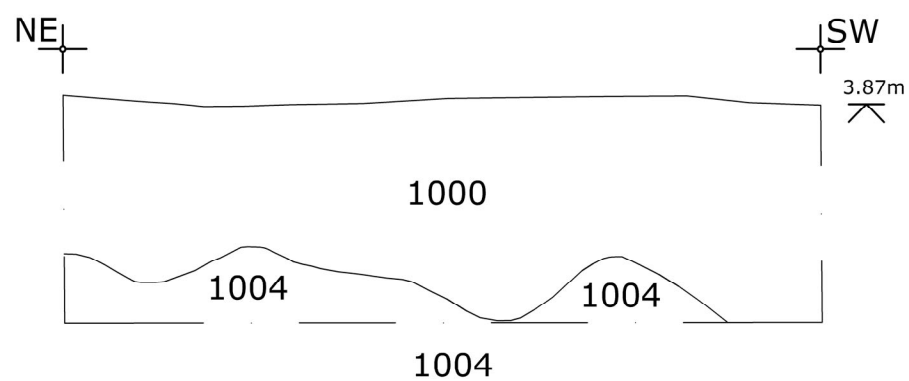
DATE: SEPT 2019 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1

AUTHOR: DPM

APPROVED: MB

FIGURE: 7

SAMPLE SECTION 9



DP21 - SAMPLe SECTION 9 - VIEW SE

1:10 0 1:10 50cm

(WGR: 570262 278853) (REF: R1242)

PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER

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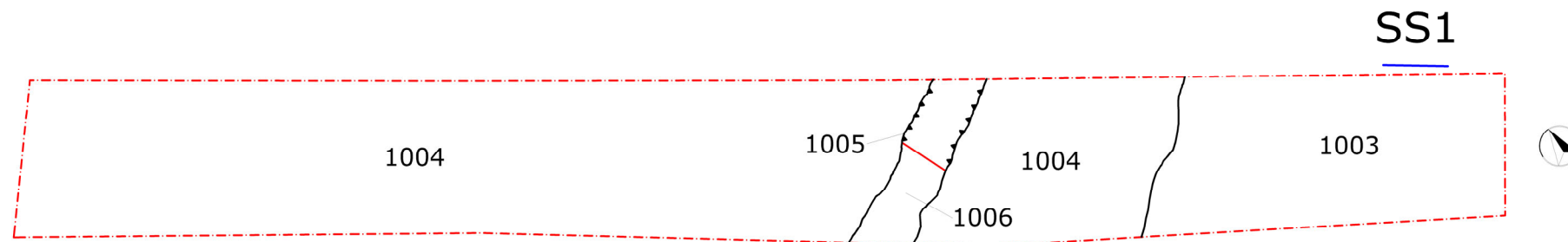
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DATE: SEPT 2019 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1

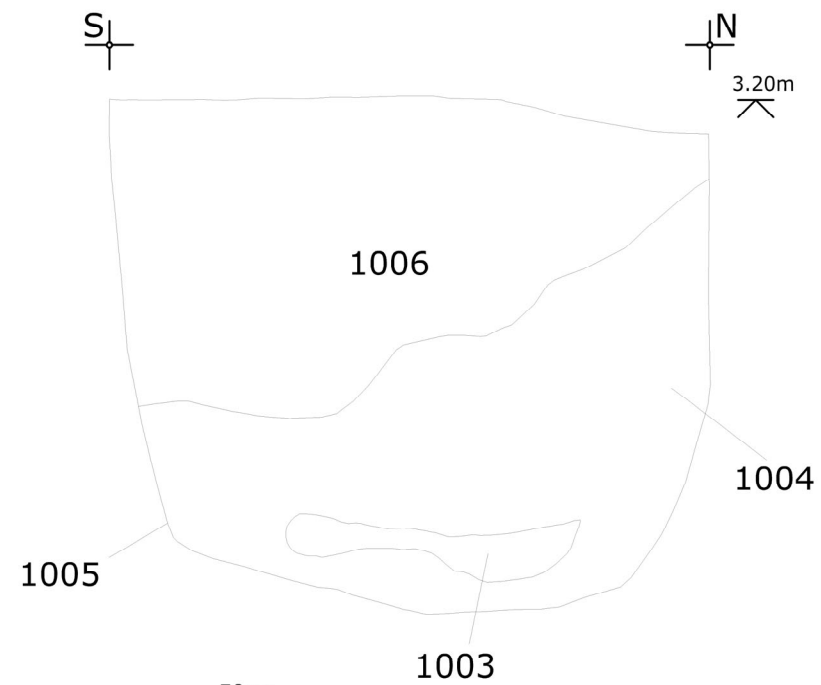
AUTHOR: DPM FIGURE: 8

APPROVED: MB

TRIAL TRENCH 1







1:100 0 1:100 5m



1:10 0 1:10 50cm



DP1 - FEATURE 1005 - VIEW W

-  Sample Section
-  Section Line
-  Excavated Feature
-  Trench

WGR: 570262 278853 REF: R1242

PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PLAN, SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER

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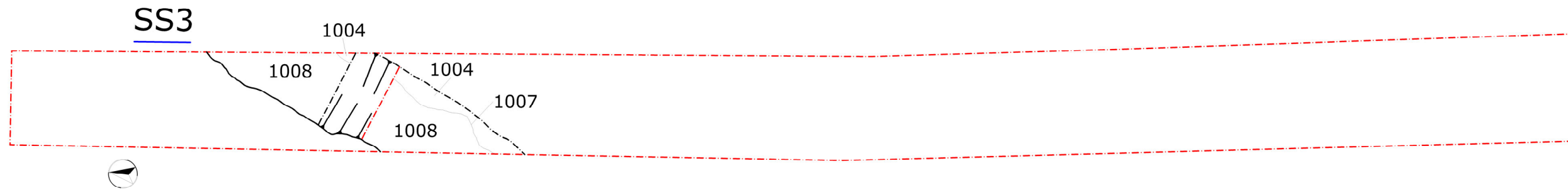
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DATE: SEPT 2019 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1

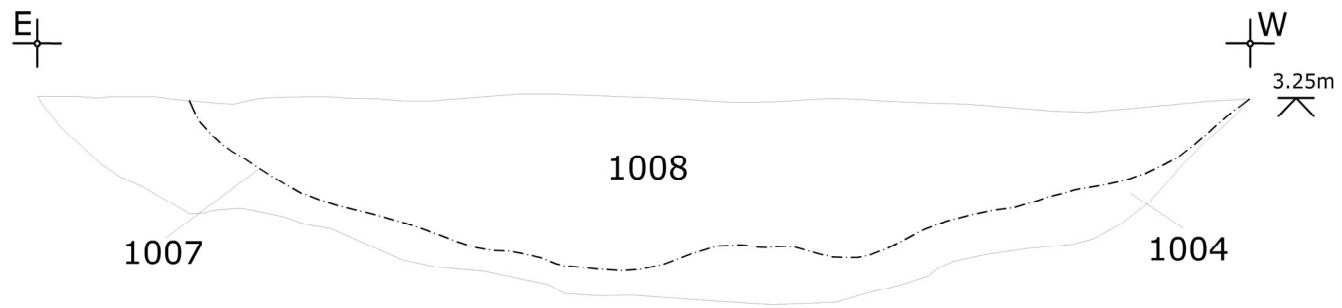
AUTHOR: DPM FIGURE: 9

APPROVED: MB

TRIAL TRENCH 3







1:100 0 1:100 5m



1:10 0 1:10 50cm



DP6 - FEATURE 1007 - VIEW SW

-  Sample Section
-  Section Line
-  Excavated Feature
-  Trench

(NGR: 570262 278853) (REF: R1242)

PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PLAN, SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



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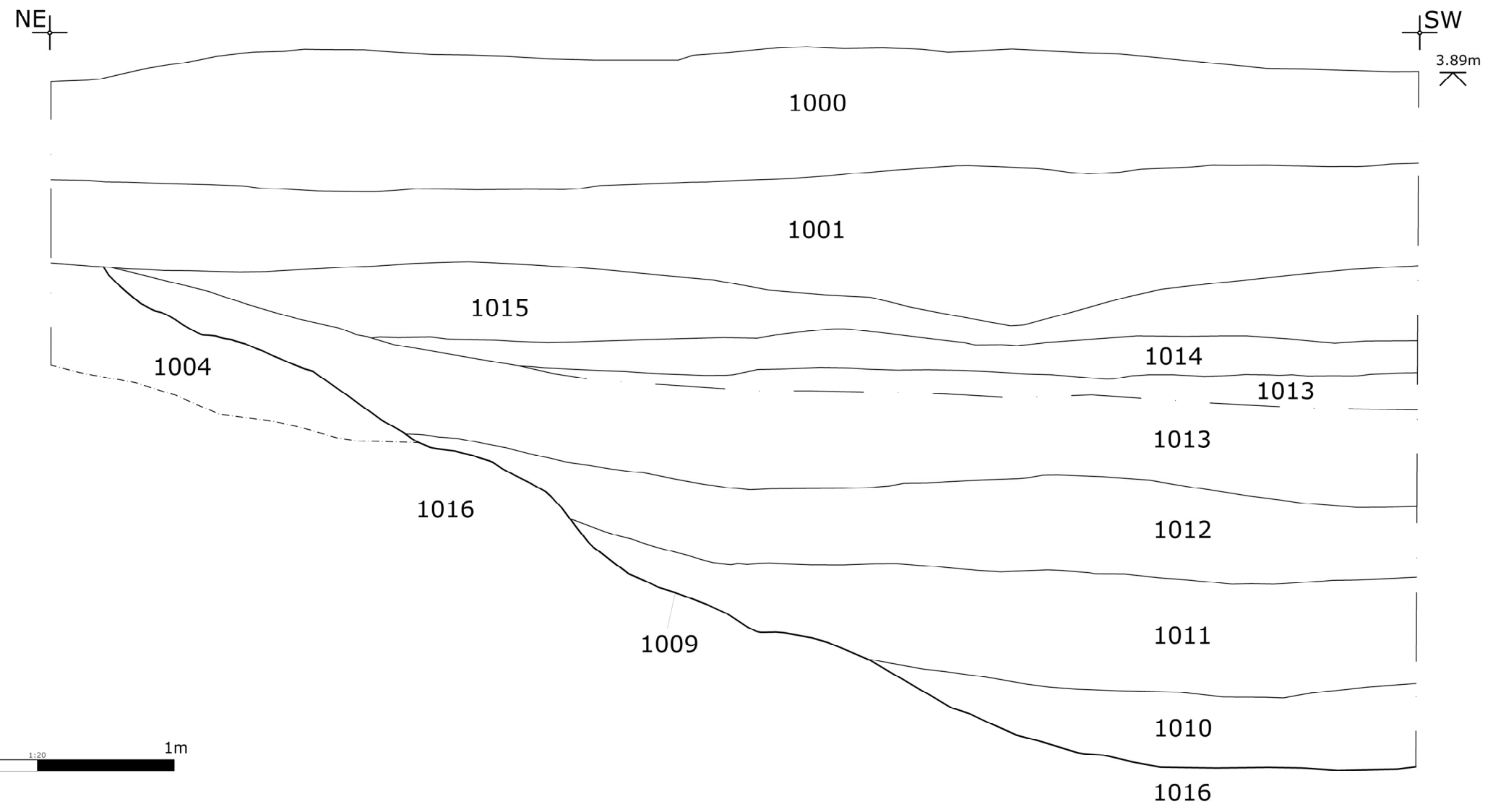
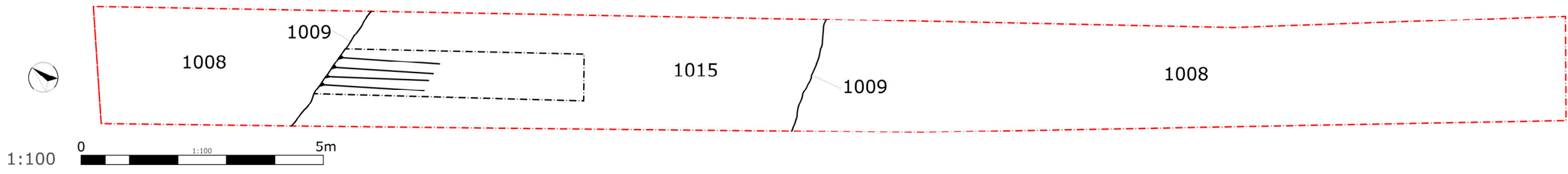
DATE: SEPT 2019 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1





AUTHOR: DPM FIGURE: 10

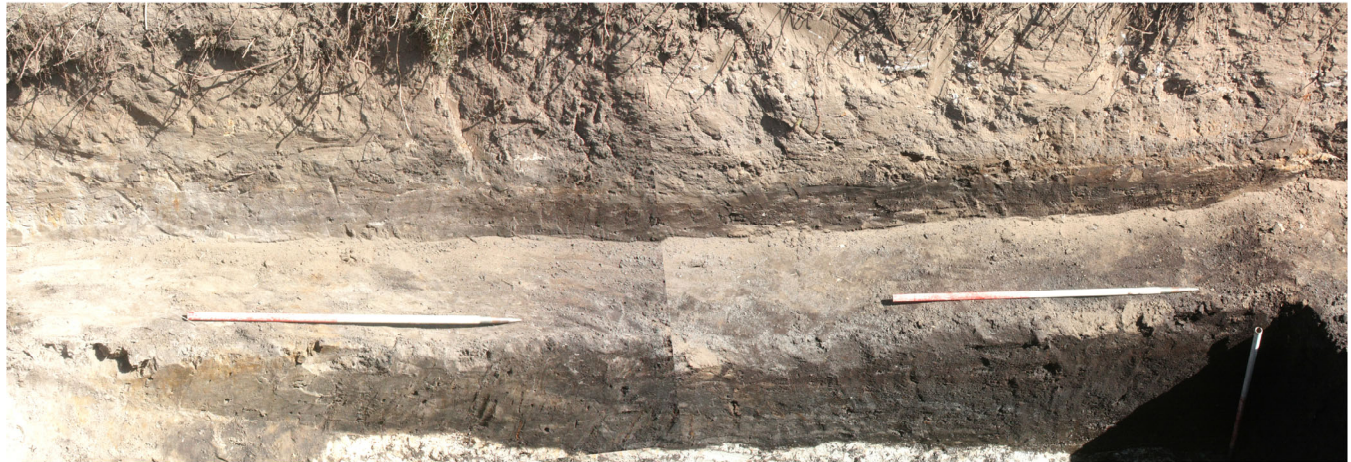
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SS4

TRIAL TRENCH 4



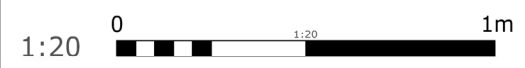
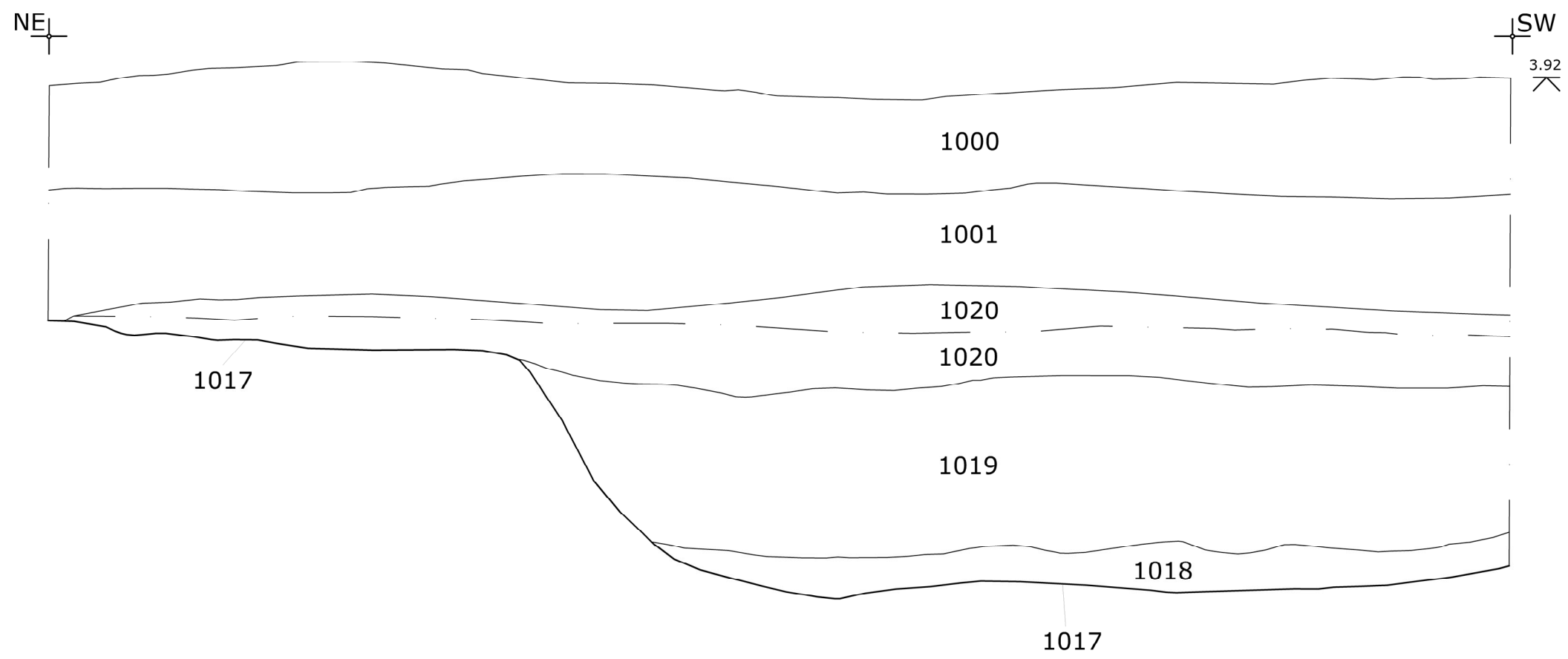
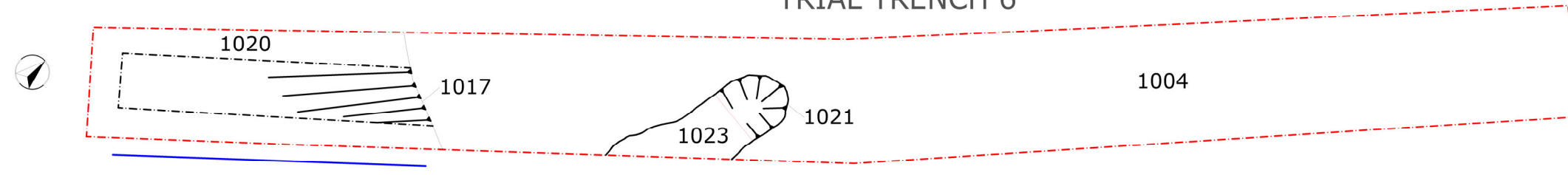
-  Sample Section
-  Section Line
-  Excavated Feature
-  Trench







DP9 - RIVULET 1009 - VIEW NE

WGR:	570262 278853	REF:	R1242
PROJECT:	LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION:	TRENCH PLAN, SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT:	JAMES LEPPER		
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DATE:	SEPT 2019	PLOT:	A3
		VERSION:	1
AUTHOR:	DPM	FIGURE:	11
APPROVED:	MB		

TRIAL TRENCH 6

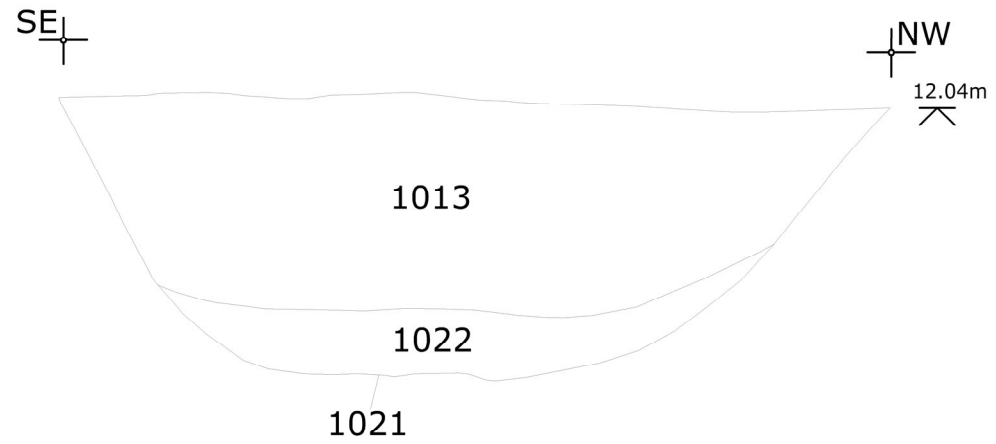


-  Sample Section
-  Section Line
-  Excavated Feature
-  Trench



DP13 - RIVULET 1017 - VIEW SE

WGR: 570262 278853	REF: R1242	
PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PLAN, SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER		
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AUTHOR: DPM	FIGURE: 12	
APPROVED: MB		



DP14 - DITCH 1021 - VIEW S

1:10 0 1:10 50cm

(NGR: 570262 278853) (REF: R1242)

PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER

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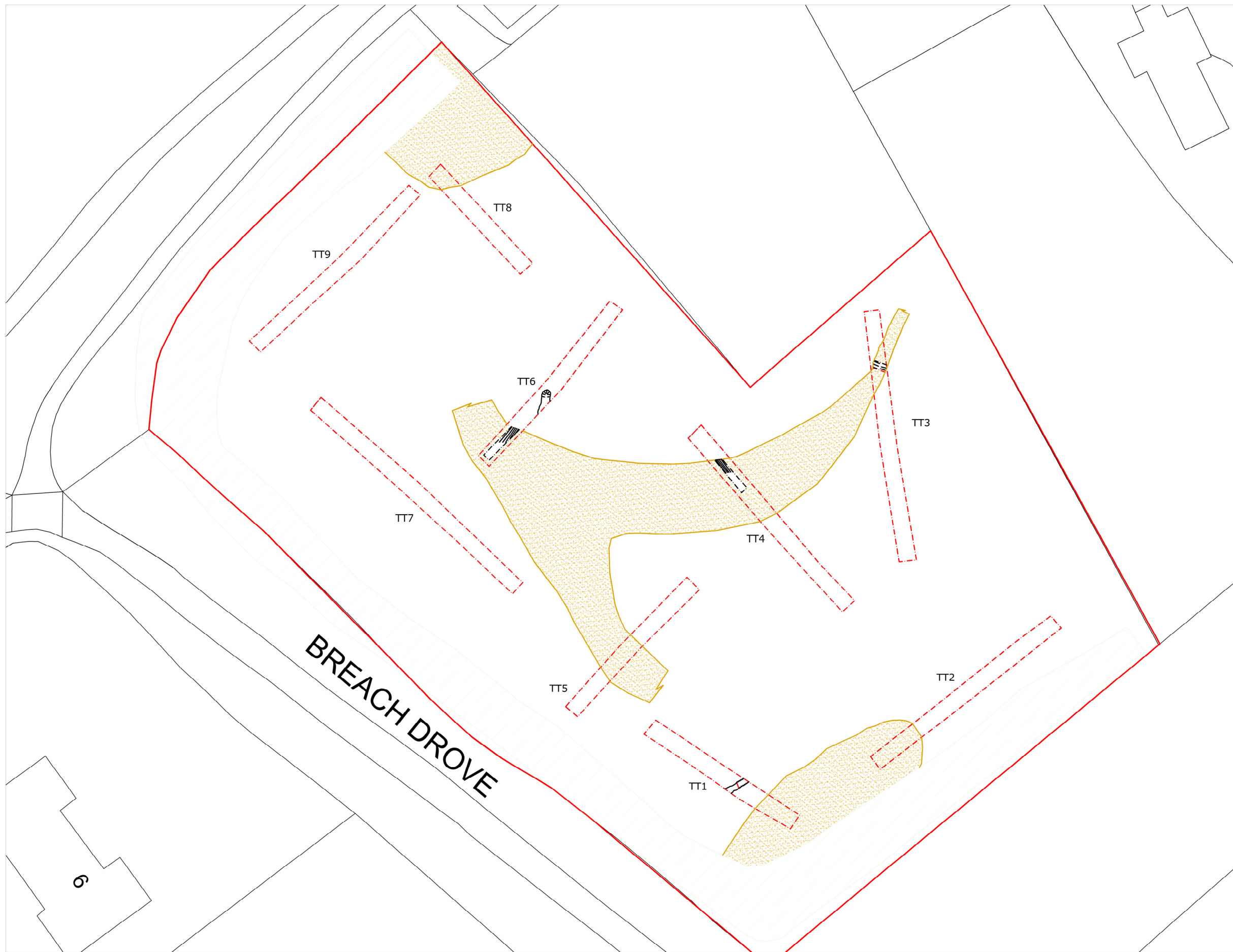
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AUTHOR: DPM FIGURE: 13

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-  Projected Line of Fen Rivulets
-  Modern Bank
-  Trench
-  Site Boundary

WGR: 570262 278853	REF: R1242
PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK	
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PLAN SHOWING FEN RIVULET PROJECTION	
CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER	
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DP2 - TT1 - VIEW SE



DP4 - TT2 - VIEW SW



DP7 - TT3 - VIEW S

WGR: 570262 278853	REF: R1242	
PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER		
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DP10 - TT4 - VIEW SE



DP11 - TT5 - VIEW SW



DP15 - TT6 - VIEW SW

WGR: 570262 278853	REF: R1242	
PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER		
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DP16 - TT7 - VIEW NW



DP18 - TT8 - VIEW NW



DP20 - TT9 - VIEW NE

WGR: 570262 278853 REF: R1242

PROJECT: LAND AT BREACH PARK, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT: JAMES LEPPER

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