

LAND OFF CHURCH ROAD, THURSTON, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



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LAND OFF CHURCH LANE, THURSTON, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

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Abstract

From the 6th – 25th June 2022, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trenching evaluation on behalf of Mr A J Thompson ahead of the construction of a residential development of 15 dwellings and associated highway, car parking, and pond at Land off Church Lane, Thurston, Suffolk.

The site had a moderate to high potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric period. There was a moderate potential for features and finds relating to the Roman period. The potential for finds and features from all other periods was considered low.

The site can be divided into three phases:

Phase I: Early Iron age

Phase II: Roman (mid-1st - 4th Century)

Phase III: Post-medieval

The first discernible phase within the site is prescribed to the Early Iron Age and relates to Pit 1045 in Trench 26. It is not unusual to find features of late prehistoric date on sites where the majority of the dating relates to later Roman periods. Iron Age activity is thought to be evidenced in the immediate area of the site, as evidenced 750m to the north

The second phase of activity relates to the Roman perios on the site is represented by pitting and land division activity within the central and eastern portions of the area investigated. This phase is also the most dominant on the site. Arguably the most significant pit in the grouping is Pit 1006 which was located in trench 36. The pit was heavily truncated but contained the semi articulated human remains. The remains are those of an adult, with fusion of the bones indicating that they were over twenty years old. Of significant interest was the presence of SF1 in an associated feature. SF1 was a well-preserved iron chain. The chain was a substantial length of almost half a metre and comprised alternate figure of eight and rectangular loops, with eight of each type in the chain. Roman entries in the SHER are sparse in the area so this assemblage and feature grouping is of interest. As there is a Roman road bisecting through Thurston to the west and the evidence found on the site could relate to the peripheral activity of a roadside settlement.



The third phase is represented by a single ditch located within trench 33. This ditch is likely the same as ditch 1035 seen in trench 23. The projection of the ditch appears to align with the Tithe plan of 1839and represents a former post medieval field division.

Overall, the evaluation was successful in assessing the archaeological potential of the site. The evaluation revealed several archaeological features placed in three phases focussed predominantly within the central / south - eastern and northern portions of the site.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

From the 6th – 25th June 2022, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trenching evaluation on behalf of Mr A J Thompson ahead of the construction of a residential development of 15 dwellings and associated highway, car parking, and pond at Land off Church Lane, Thurston, Suffolk (588377/239552) (Fig. 1).

A design brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) (Cutler, H. 24th September 2021) requires a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the area threatened by development for houses. This will be achieved by excavating 37 trenches measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. The trenches will be excavated using a 3600 tracked, mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.



2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located within the southern bounds of the village of Thurston which lies approximately 5km east of Bury St Edmunds. The site is currently in use as open fields for animal grazing with agricultural fields to the west and south, residential properties to the east and a railway line to the north.

2.1 Site Geology

The Bedrock geology is described as Crag Group – Sand, formed up to 5 million years ago in the Quaternary and Neogene Periods (BSG, 2022).

The superficial deposits are recorded as Croxton Sand and Gravel Member, formed during the Anglian Stage some 478,000 to 424,000 years ago (BGS, 2022).

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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 2021). The relevant local development framework is the *Mid Suffolk Local Plan (Policy HB14; 1998)*.



4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2)

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Heritage Explorer (within a 1km search centred on the site), English Heritage PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) (Figs. 2 & 3). A full archaeological background using the results from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (1km search centred on the site) will be included in the report arising from the archaeological work.

4.1 Prehistoric

Archaeological investigations some 750m to the north of the site found a small pit of Early Bronze Age – Middle Bronze Age date (THS 031). Middle Iron Age through Late Iron Age activity was also identified in the form of pits and post-holes as well as fragments of a previously disturbed inhumation burial likely dating to the Iron Age/Romano-British period incorporated into two backfill deposits of a large quarry pit. No further burial evidence was found. A grave might have been disturbed by the quarry pit or the bone could have been deposited in the pit alongside other domestic waste including a large assemblage of animal bone. Finds and environmental evidence suggest the potential for settlement activity within the wider area during the Iron Age but not within the site itself.

500m to the west of the site, archaeological evaluation uncovered a late pre-historic ditch containing a small amount of worked flint (THS 017).

4.2 Saxon

Some 650m to the north of the site, geophysical survey and evaluation south of Norton Road revealed dispersed late Saxon features.

4.3 Medieval

Some 500m to the west of the site, archaeological evaluation revealed a small group of postholes dated to this period, containing pottery (THS 017) suggestive of nearby contemporary occupation.



Some 850m to the south west of the site, Cathcart King suggests a motte associated with Rougham may have been present, later used as a millstead (RGH 154).

4.4 Post-medieval and Modern

350m to the east of the site lays the hamlet of Stockhold Green. Stockhold Green Farmstead (THS 060) has remnant agricultural buildings dating from the 15th through 19th centuries still present within its bounds. Directly to the farmsteads south is Stockhold's green, present on Hodskinson's Map of 1783 (THS 048).

A number of field boundary ditches were identified during excavations some 750m north of the site which corresponds to boundaries present on historical maps (THS 031).

4.5 Archaeological Potential

Due to the paucity of known archaeological events and monuments within the search area, the site has a **low** potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and medieval periods, with a **moderate** potential for finds and features relating to the post-medieval and modern periods.



5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS 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 Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2021 (SCCAS), 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 brief requires a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the site ahead of the construction of houses. This will be achieved by excavating 37 trenches measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. The trenches will be set out in a systematic grid layout across the site.

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.



8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figs. 4 - 25)

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

A professional metal detectorist was used to scan the trench locations prior, during and post excavation along with the spoil heaps. Only demonstrably modern finds were recovered and therefore were not retained.

8.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located in the south-western portion of the site, on a north-west to south-east orientation, measuring $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 5)

Trench 2 was located just east of trench 1 in the south-western portion of the site. The trench was on a near North-east to South-west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. The trench contained a single feature.

Post Hole **1007** ($0.18m \times 0.18m \times 0.16m$) was circular in plan with step sloping sides and a concave base. The feature contained a single fil, **1008** which was comprised of dark, greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were recovered from the feature.

8.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located in the south-western area of the site. adjacent to the boundary. The trench was on a north-west to south-east orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.



8.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located in the south-western medial area of the site. The trench was on a near north-west to south-east orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was located in the southern medial area of the site adjacent to the southern boundary. The trench was on a near east - west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 in the southern area of the site. The trench was on a near north - south orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.7 Trench 7 (Fig.6)

Trench 7 was located in the south-eastern medial area of the site. The trench was on a near east – west orientation, measuring $30.00 \text{m} \times 1.80 \text{m}$. The trench contained a single feature.

Ditch 1009 (1.00m + x 0.65m x 0.16m) was linear in plan on a near north – south orientation with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The slot contained a single fill 1010, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were recovered. This linear is likely the same as linear 1017 encountered in Trench 11 to the north of this trench. Slot 1017 contained pottery dating to the Roman period.

8.8 Trench 8

Trench 8 was located in the south east area of the site. The trench was on a near north-south orientation, measuring $38.00 \text{m} \times 1.80 \text{m}$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.



8.9 Trench 9

Trench 9 was located in the absolute south-east corner of the site on a north – west to south – east orientation, measuring $30.00 \, \mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \, \mathrm{m}$. The trench was extended at its north-western end with a spur on a north-east to south-west orientation excavated measuring $1.80 \, \mathrm{x} \times 7.00 \, \mathrm{x}$. due to the apparent presence of a feature which transpired to be a 20^{th} century quarry pit which was present for the majority of the trench. The pit contained modern brick, plastic, and metal finds (none retained) and in agreeance with SCCAS was not fully excavated.

8.10 Trench 10

Trench 10 was located in the south – eastern area of the site adjacent to the eastern boundary. The trench was on a near north - south orientation, measuring $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.11 Trench 11 (Fig. 7 & 8)

Trench 11 was located in the south – eastern medial area of the site. The trench was on a near east – west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. Two archaeological features were present within the trench.

Ditch **1017** (1.80m+ \times 1.38m \times 0.26m) was linear in plan on a near north – east to south – west orientation, located at the western bounds of the trench. The linear had shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The slot contained a single fill, **1018**, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. Fill **1018** contained a single sherd (21g) of Roman pottery and 20 fragments of animal bone (283g). A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022).

Ditch **1019** (1.80m+ x 1.17m x 0.25m) was linear in plan on a near east - west orientation. The linear had shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The slot contained a single fill, **1020**, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. Fill **1020** contained a single fragment (5g) of Daub that was not closely datable but can be tentatively placed in the late medieval – post medieval period. A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022).



8.12 Trench 12 (Fig. 8 & 9)

Trench 12 was located in the eastern medial area of the site. The trench was on a near north - east to south - west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$, the trench contained three archaeological features.

Ditch **1011** (1.80m+ x 0.98m x 0.35m) was linear in plan on a near east – west orientation, located at the southern end of the trench. The Ditch had moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The slot contained a single fill, **1012**, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. Fill **1012** contained a single fragment of CBM (1g) possibly dated to the late medieval/post-medieval period (Fawcett, 2022) and is considered intrusive. A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022). It is likely that this linear is the same as Ditch **1043** in trench 14.

Ditch **1013** (1.80m+ x 0.40m x 0.28m) was linear in plan on a near north – east to south – west orientation, located in the centre of the trench. The Ditch had sharp sloping sides and a pointed concave base. The slot contained a single fill, **1014**, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. Fill **1014** contained nine sherds (71g) of 1^{st} – 2^{nd} century pottery and a single unidentifiable fragment of CBM (3g) which is made of Roman material. A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022).

Ditch 1015 (1.80m+ x 0.51m x 0.22m) was linear in plan on a near east - west orientation, located at the northern end of the trench. The linear had steep sloping sides and a concave base. The slot contained a single fill, 1016, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were present.

8.13 Trench 13 (Fig. 10 & 11)

Trench 13 was located in the southern medial area of the site. The trench was on a near north - west to south - east orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. the trench contained two archaeological features.

Pit 1037 (0.45m x 0.70m x 0.34m) was sub - circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The feature contained a single fill, 1038 which was comprised of dark, greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were recovered from the feature.



Pit **1039** (0.38m \times 0.75m \times 0.13m) was circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The feature contained a single fill, **1040** which was comprised of dark, greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were recovered from the feature.

8.14 Trench 14 (Fig. 11 & 12)

Trench 14 was located in the south - eastern area of the site. The trench was on a near north - east to south - west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$, the trench contained two archaeological features.

Ditch 1041 (1.80m+ x 0.70m x 0.20m) was linear in plan on a near east – west orientation, located in the centre end of the trench. The ditch had shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The slot contained a single fill, 1042, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand with rare, small poorly sort subangular flint inclusions. No finds were present.

Ditch **1043** (1.80m+ x 0.98m x 0.27m) was linear in plan on a near east – west orientation, located at the southern end of the trench. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The slot contained a single fill, **1044**, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand with frequent, small, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions. Fill **1044** contained seven sherds (27g) of Roman pottery a. A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022). This ditch is likely the same as the linear **1011** which is present in trench 12 to the east.

8.15 Trench 15

Trench 15 was located in the south – eastern area of the site. The trench was on a near east – west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.16 Trench 16

Trench 16 was located in the eastern area of the site. The trench was on a near east - west orientation, measuring $30.00 \text{m} \times 1.80 \text{m}$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.



8.17 Trench 17

Trench 17 was located in the eastern area of the site. The trench was on a near north - south orientation, measuring $30.00 \text{m} \times 1.80 \text{m}$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.18 Trench 18

Trench 14 was located in the medial area of the site. The trench was on a near east - west orientation, measuring $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.19 Trench 19 (Fig. 12 & 13)

Trench 19 was located in the medial area of the site. The trench was on a near north - south orientation, measuring $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$, the trench contained five archaeological features.

Ditch 1023 (1.80m+ x 0.66m x 0.20m) was linear in plan on an east – west orientation, located at the northern end of the trench. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The slot contained a single fill, 1024, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand with rare, small poorly sort subangular flint inclusions. No finds were present.

Post hole 1025 (0.20m x 0.40m x 0.13m) was sub - circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a concave base. The post hole contained a single fill, 1025, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand with frequent, small, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions. No finds were present.

Post hole 1027 (0.28m x 0.48m x 0.24m) was sub - circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a concave base. The post hole contained a single fill, 1028, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand with frequent, small, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions. No finds were present.

Pit 1029 (0.60m x 0.69m x 0.71m) was sub - circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a concave base. The pit contained a single fill, 1030, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand with frequent, small, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions. No



finds were present. A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022)

Post hole $\mathbf{1031}$ (0.18m x 0.50m x 0.15m) was sub - circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The post hole contained a single fill, $\mathbf{1032}$, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand with frequent, small, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions. No finds were present.

8.20 Trench 20 (Fig. 14)

Trench 20 was located in the eastern medial area of the site. The trench was on a near east – west orientation, measuring 30.00m x 1.80m. The trench contained a single feature.

Pit 1021 (0.35m x 0.85m x 0.14m) was sub - circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The slot contained a single fill 1022, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were recovered.

8.21 Trench 21

Trench 21 was located in the eastern area of the site. The trench was on a near north - east to south - wet orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.22 Trench 22

Trench 22 was located in the eastern area of the site adjacent to the eastern boundary. The trench was on a east – west orientation, measuring $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.23 Trench 23 (Fig. 15)

Trench 23 was located in the eastern edge of the site. The trench was on a north - east to south - west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$, the trench contained two archaeological features.



Ditch 1033 (1.80m+ x 0.60m x 0.10m) was linear in plan on a north – east to south – west orientation, located at the western end of the trench. The ditch had shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The slot contained a single fill, 1034, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

Ditch 1035 (1.80m+ x 0.83m x 0.30m) was linear in plan on a north – west to south – east orientation, located at the centre of the trench. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The slot contained a single fill, 1036, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were recovered.

8.24 Trench 24 (Fig. 16 & 17)

Trench 24 was located in the medial area of the site. The trench was on a near east - west orientation, measuring $30.00 \text{m} \times 1.80 \text{m}$, the trench contained six archaeological features.

Post Hole **1051** (0.28m \times 0.60m \times 0.27m) was circular in plan with sloping sides and a flat base. The post hole contained a single fill, **1052**, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were present.

Post Hole 1053 (0.26m x 0.45m x 0.21m) was circular in plan with sloping sides and a concave base. The post hole contained a single fill, 1054, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were present.

Post Hole **1055** (0.19m x 0.36m x 0.29m) was circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a pointed concave base. The post hole contained a single fill, **1056**, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were present.

Post Hole 1057 (0.22m x 0.40m x 0.11m) was circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The post hole contained a single fill, 1058, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were present.

Post Hole **1059** (0.29m x 0.54m x 0.22m) was circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The post hole contained a single fill, **1060**, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. The fill contained a single sherd (2g) of Roman pottery. A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022).



Post Hole **1061** (0.38m x 0.67m x 0.34m) was circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The post hole contained a single fill, **1062**, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were present.

8.25 Trench 25

Trench 25 was located in the medial area of the site. The trench was on a near north - south orientation, measuring $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.26 Trench 26 (Fig. 18)

Trench 26 was located in the western area of the site. The trench was on a near east - west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$, the trench contained one archaeological feature.

Pit 1045 (1.00m x 1.20m x 0.20m) was sub - circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The post hole contained a single fill, 1046, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. The fill contained 29 sherds (452g) dated to the Early Iron Age, five pieces (32g) of worked flint and 99 fragments (3499g) of burnt flint. A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022).

8.27 Trench 27

Trench 27 was located in the western area of the site. The trench was on a near north – east to south - west orientation, measuring $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.28 Trench 28

Trench 28 was located in the western area of the site adjacent to the north -western boundary. The trench was on a north - east to south - west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.



8.29 Trench 29

Trench 29 was located in the north - western area of the site. The trench was on a near east - west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.30 Trench 30

Trench 30 was located in the northern, medial area of the site. The trench was on a near north - south orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.31 Trench 31 (Fig. 19)

Trench 31 was located in the northern, medial area of the site. The trench was on a near east - west orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

Pit **1063** (0.39m x 0.76m x 0.39m) was sub - circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The pit contained a single fill, **1064**, which was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. The fill contained a single sherd (5g) of probable mid-1st to mid-2nd century pottery and a small Fe fragment (4g). A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing which retrieved a relatively rich assemblage, dominated by barley (Hordeum spp.) with lesser quantities of wheat and rye (Secale cereale), as well as charred legumes, (Law, 2022).

8.32 Trench 32

Trench 30 was located in the north - eastern area of the site. The trench was on a near north - south orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.34 Trench 33 (Fig. 20)



Trench 33 was located in the eastern area of the site close to the site entrance. The trench was on a near north - south orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. the trench contained a single archaeological feature.

Ditch **1049** (1.80m+ x 0.80m x 0.32m) was linear in plan on a north - south orientation, located at near the eastern end of the trench. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a flat base. The slot contained a single fill, **1050**, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. The fill contained a single sherd (8g) of 16^{th} – 18^{th} century pottery and a single piece of CBM (547g) identified as post medieval brick, (Fawcett, 2022). A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022).

8.34 Trench 34

Trench 34 was located in the north - eastern corner of the site. The trench was on a north - east to south - west orientation, measuring 30.00m x 1.80m. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.

8.35 Trench 35 (Fig. 21)

Trench 30 was located in the northern medial - area of the site adjacent to the northern boundary. The trench was on a north - west to south - east orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. A single archaeological feature was present.

Ditch 1047 (1.80m+ x 1.10m x 0.26m) was linear in plan on a north – east to south - west orientation, located near the centre of the trench. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a flat base. The slot contained a single fill, 1048, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. The fill contained no finds.



8.36 Trench 36 (Fig. 22, 23 & 24)

Trench 24 was located in the northern area of the site adjacent to the boundary. The trench was on a near east - west orientation, measuring $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$. the trench was extended due to the presence of features in two places, at its north-western end (towards the north) and in its centre (on a southern trajectory).

The trench contained seven archaeological features and a single paleochannel

Pit 1006 (1.00m x 0.70m x 0.17m) was sub-circular in plan with shallow sides and a flat base. The feature was heavily truncated on its eastern side. The pit had been used as a possible grave. The fill of the pit, 1079, was comprised of dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand. This layer contained the semi articulated remains of a human skeleton (432g), comprising of a lower right arm, some ribs and vertebrae, (Curl, 2022). The remains that were present in the feature were in good condition, although some fragmentation has occurred. The remains consisted of a right radius and ulna and several bones from the hand and wrist. Some rib fragments were found along with several thoracic and lumbar vertebrae. No signs of trauma, injury or butchering was observed on any of the remains. The remains are those of an adult, with fusion of the bones (Bass, 1995) indicating over twenty years old. There is degenerative wear on most vertebrae, which occurs in older individuals or those with often physically demanding lives. Some low levels of arthritic changes were also seen on the hands and vertebrae that may suggest age or work/lifestyle related changes, (Curl, 2022). A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022). No other material dating evidence was present within the pit.

Pit **1065** (1.58m x 1.35m x 0.49m) was sub - circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The pit hole contained a single fill, **1066**, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. With moderate, small, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions. The fill contained a single small fragment (1g) of unidentifiable Roman CBM (Fawcett, 2022) and a single undated piece of worked flint (6g). A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022).

Pit 1067 (1.20m x 1.04m x 0.31m) was sub - circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a flat base. The pit contained a single fill, 1068, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. The fill contained two sherds (7g) of Roman pottery and two undated pieces



(119g) of worked flint. A single bulk sample was taken for environmental processing and while the results didn't produce anything significant this sample did show spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) glumebases present in fill (Law, 2022). Pit **1067** was cut by Pit **1069**.

Pit 1069 (1.01m x 0.80m x 0.32m) was sub - circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a pointed concave base. The pit contained a single fill, 1070, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were present. This pit cut Pit 1067.

Pit **1071** (1.08m \times 1.00m \times 0.24m) was sub - circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The pit contained a single fill, **1072**, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, compact, silty sand. No finds were present.

Possible Paleochannel **1073** (1.00m+ x 1.00m+ x 0.31m) was sub - rectangular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The paleochannel contained two fills, **1074** and **1004**. Primary Fill **1074** was comprised of dark greyish, brown, compact silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions. The fill contained a single sherd (2g) of Roman pottery and a single fragment (2g) of daub. Secondary Fill **1004** was comprised of dark, greyish – brown, compact, silty sand. The fill contained seven sherds (107g) of early 2nd – 4th century pottery, three fragments (419g) of well preserved Roman CBM, and 8 fragments (77g) of animal bone. The fill also produced two small finds. **SF1** was a well-preserved iron chain (124g) of a substantial length of almost half a metre and comprised alternate figure of eight and rectangular loops, with eight of each type in the chain. **SF2** was a Cu Alloy wire loop (1g) which may have been a plain expanding finger ring, (Sillwood, 2022). Both Fills were sampled for environmental processing however no significant remains were retrieved (Law, 2022).

Pit 1075 (1.21m x 1.16m x 0.16m) was sub - circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The pit contained a single fill, 1076, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, compact, silty sand. No finds were present.

Pit **1077** (0.50m x 1.45m x 0.10m) was sub - circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a concave base. The pit contained a single fill, **1078**, which was comprised of mid greyish brown, compact, silty sand. No finds were present.



8.37 Trench 37

Trench 34 was located in the north - eastern corner of the site. The trench was on a near north - south orientation, measuring $30.00m \times 1.80m$. No archaeological features were encountered in the trench and no finds were retrieved.



9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Figs. 5 - 25)

The site stratigraphy varied across the site, due to the presence of colluvial deposit **1005** within some trenches. Please see Appendix 1 for detailed context descriptions.

At the top of the sequence across the site was Topsoil **1000**. This comprised a dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions. This deposit occurred in all trenches.

Below this topsoil **1000** was Subsoil **1001**; a possible remnant of the former agricultural subsoil related to this area when it was previously under plough during the post-medieval period. This layer comprised a mid-orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions.

Below subsoil **1001** in trenches 1, 2, 6, 16, 17, 27, 28 and 29 was Colluvial **1005**. This layer comprised a mid-orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, small / medium, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions. This colluvial layer represents loose sediment that has been deposited on the slope that drops away towards the west of the site. No finds were recovered from this layer, no features were cut into it and following removal no features were present beneath it.

At the base of the stratigraphic sequence in all trenches was natural geology **1002** which comprised a light orangish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions. There was a distinct concentration of the gravels in trenches, 5, 6, 13, 14, 18, 19, 24, 25, 31, 32, 35 and 36, forming a prominent ridge through the centre of the site, (Fig. 26).



10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The site had a moderate to high potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric period. There was a moderate potential for features and finds relating to the Roman period. The potential for finds and features from all other periods was considered low.

The site can be divided into three phases:

Phase I: Early Iron age

Phase II: Roman (mid-1st - 4th Century)

Phase III: Post-medieval

Phase I: Early Iron Age

The first discernible phase within the site is prescribed to the Early Iron Age and relates to Pit **1045** in Trench 26. It is not unusual to find features of late prehistoric date on sites where the majority of the dating relates to later Roman periods. The pottery recovered from the feature was dominated by fabric HMF (See Appendix 3). This flint tempered ware contains abundant ill-sorted flint. Two jars were recorded in this fabric both of which display upright rims with flat tops; one also has serration on the rim edge. The remaining ten sherds within this group are in reduced, sand-based fabrics that contain either simply sand (HMS) or sand and organics (HMSO), (Fawcett, 2022). Despite sampling, charred plant remains were sparse so an exact purpose for the pit cannot be assigned as it is currently unclear if the feature represents activity from nearby settlement, or in fact some other one-off form of land use. Iron Age activity is thought to be evidenced in the immediate area of the site, as evidenced 750m to the north (THS 031) (Figs. 2 & 3).

Phase II: Roman (mid-1st - 4th Century)

The second phase of activity on the site is represented by pitting and land division activity within the central and eastern portions of the area investigated. This phase is also the most dominant on the site with 88% of the dated features relating to this phase. The broad date range is applicable at this stage due to the lack of apparent continuous activity on the site as discussed in the pottery report (See Appendix 3).



Four ditches (1013, 1017, 1019 and 1043) have been attributed to this phase through direct dating evidence while other slots have been attributed by relationship. Ditch 1013 appears in trench 12 and continues in trench 14 as Ditch 1041, while Ditch 1043 appears in trench 14 and likely continues in trench 12 as Ditch 1011. Both sets of ditches run on a near east to west alignment. Both investigated slots of the ditches contained pottery of Roman date with the sherds recovered from fill 1014 in Ditch 1013, being more closely dated to the mid-1st – 2nd century. Ditch 1017 in trench 11 is also likely the same ditch investigated in trench 7 (1009). Fill (1018 in slot 1017) again contained broadly dated Roman pottery.

Trench 19 (1025, 1027, 1031) and trench 24 (1051, 1053, 1055, 1057, 1059 and 1061) all revealed post holes features located in the medial area of the site. Only a single post hole from this group produced material culture, post hole 1059 within trench 24. This post holes only fill 1060 contained a single sherd of pottery broadly dated to the Roman period. Although the remaining post holes had an absence of material culture within their fills, it can be assumed through association and form that they date to the same period. The post holes formed no discernible pattern in plan that could be associated with a particular structure type however the interpretation is clearly limited by the extent of the evaluation trenches.

Pits were present within trench 31 (1063) and 36 (1006, 1065, 1067, 1069, 1071, 1075 and 1077). The pits produced a reasonable amount of Roman pottery fragments, worked flint and small amounts of animal bone, with the exception of pits 1069, 1071, 1075 and 1077 (trench 36) however it has already been noted that it appears that the features in the northern area of the site have suffered a high level of truncation possibly due to the construction of the railway embankment immediately to the north.

Arguably the most significant pit in the grouping is Pit **1006** which was located in trench 36. While the pit does not contain any dating evidence in the form of ceramics, its proximity and similar profile to the other pits in the trench is reason for its inclusion in this phase. The pit was heavily truncated but contained the semi articulated human remains. The remains are those of an adult, with fusion of the bones indicating that they were over twenty years old. There was degenerative wear on most the vertebrae recovered, which occurs in older individuals or those with often physically demanding lives. Some low levels of arthritic changes were also seen on the hands and vertebrae that may suggest age or work/lifestyle related changes. The robustness of the bones suggests this may be a male. The



degenerative wear seen on the vertebrae suggest the individual was probably in their forties and perhaps older, (Curl, 2022). Despite sampling the fill of the pit in which the remains were found no charred plant remains were sparse and nothing significant was recovered. The remains were on a rough north – west to south – east alignment and the apparent contorted position of those bones present strongly suggested that it had been thrown into the pit in a careless fashion rather than carefully positioned as might be expected in a 'funerary' context. The profile of the pit suggest that it was intended for a use similar to the other pits located within the trench. Overall, the context in which the individual was buried appears t in no way unusual or 'special'. It appears that the body was disposed of either carelessly or without care, rather than with the attention one normally associates with an act of burial. Similar 'pit burials' have been found on numerous other Iron Age / early Roman sites in the region.

Possible Paleochannel 1073 was located just south of pit 1006 (trench 36) and contained Roman dated material. The feature appears to represent a natural depression or hollow that was used to dispose of material in the same area as the pit grouping is located. Of significant interest was the presence of SF1, a well-preserved iron chain. The chain was a substantial length of almost half a metre and comprised alternate figure of eight and rectangular loops, with eight of each type in the chain. Manning (1985, Plate 64, S13) illustrates a similar example and states that this type of chain was in common use from the Iron Age into the Roman period, where a distinct preference for the figure of eight loop can be seen, (Sillwood, 2022). The use of the chain in this context could feasibly be domestic, but it must also be noted that similar chains may have been used as slave chains, or gang-chains, as they are variously known. Chain lengths such as this were used to link neck collars, such as the Iron Age example from Llyn Cerrig Bach on Anglesey in north Wales. The purpose of the chain is not certain. The purpose of the chain could include domestic activities, such as for suspension of a pot for cooking, it may even have a more industrial or macabre history, as a potential slave chain however cannot be verified without the associated neck collars, (Sillwood, 2022). The close association of the human remains in pit **1006** and the apparent lack of care in their burial along with the osteological evidence, does potentially lead to a possible conclusion that the remains and this object are related however any such theory at this stage would be purely speculative and any such relationship would have to be ascertained through further investigation and analysis.

Roman entries in the SHER are sparse in the area so this assemblage and feature grouping is of interest however it would appear that the features have been somewhat damaged

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through ploughing and the construction of the railway embankment to the north. One area of Roman activity in the wider area is the Roman road bisecting through Thurston to the west and the evidence found on the site could relate to the peripheral activity of a roadside settlement. It is important to note the presence of the features in the gravel ridge identified in the natural as previously commented on in Section 9. This siting potentially being more favourable for that activity than other areas of the site (see Fig. 26).

Phase III: Post-medieval

This phase is represented by a single ditch **1049** located within trench 33, running on a near north to south alignment. This ditch is likely the same as ditch **1035** seen in trench 23. The projection of the ditch appears to align with the Tithe plan of 1839 (Fig. 27) and represents a former post medieval field division.

Undated Features

The following features were not closely datable by material culture or association however the ditches likely represent further agricultural activity on the site during the Roman or post medieval periods, Ditch **1015** (Trench 12), Pits **1037** and **1039** (Trench 13), Ditch **1023** and Pit **1029** (Trench 19), Pit **1021** (Trench 20), Ditch **1033** (Trench 23), Pit **1045** (Trench 28) and Ditch **1047** (Trench 35)

Conclusion

Overall, the evaluation was successful in assessing the archaeological potential of the site. The evaluation revealed several archaeological features placed in three phases focussed predominantly within the central / south - eastern and northern portions of the site all dating (by material culture or association) to the Roman period.

The material culture and feature types within Phase II indicate the presence close by of a reasonably sized domestic settlement; the presence of archaeological deposits focused through the north of the site dated to this phase shows a clear nucleus of activity along the gravel ridge previously identified.



11.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive will be prepared in line with the standards and guidance in *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition* (SCCAS, 2022). 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 with be stored with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).



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APPENDIX 1 - DEPOSIT & FEATURE TABLES

TRENCH 1

Trench No	Orientation NW - SE		Height AOD 51.97m		Shot ID		
Sample Section No		Locatio NW e		ench, NW side	Facing NE		
Context No	Depth		Depos	it Description			
1000	0.00 - 0	0.12m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.				
1001	0.12 - (0.12 - 0.37m		Subsoil: Mid-orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions.			
1005	0.37 - ().89m	Colluvium: Mid-orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, small / medium, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions.				
1002	0.89m	+	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions.				

Trench No 2	Orientation NE - SW			Height AOD 51.49m		Shot ID	
Sample Section No		Location NE end of trench,		nch, NW side	Facing	SE	
Context No	Depth		Depos	it Description			
1000	0.00 - 0.14m		Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.				
1001	0.14 - 0).43m	Subsoil: Mid-orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions.				
1005	0.43 - 0	0.43 - 0.80m		Colluvium: Mid-orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, small / medium, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions.			
1002	0.80m -	H	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions.				



Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1007	Post Hole $(1.80\text{m} + \text{x}\ 1.98\text{m}\ \text{x}\ 0.60\text{m})\ (0.18\text{m}\ \text{x}\ 0.18\text{m}\ \text{x}\ 0.16\text{m})$ was circular in plan with step sloping sides and a concave base.	1008	Primary fill: dark, greyish brown, soft, silty sand. No finds were recovered from the feature.

TRENCH 3

Trench No	Orientation NW - SE		Height AOD 51.52m		Shot ID 5		
Sample Section No		NW end of trench, SW side		Facing NE			
Context No	Depth	Depos	it Description				
1000	0.00 - 0.33m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.					
1001	0.33 – 0.76m	Subsoil: Mid-orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flin pebble inclusions.					
1002	0.76m +	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint pebble inclusions.					

TRENCH 4

Trench No	Orientation NE - SW		Height AOD 50.55m	Shot ID 7		
Sample Section No	Loc	ation NE End,	SE Side	Facing NW		
Context No	Depth	Depos	it Description			
1000	0.00 - 0.30m	freque	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.			
1001	0.30 - 0.66m	occasio	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			
1002	0.66m +	clay w	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			

Trench No 5	Orientation NW - SE		Height AOD 50.03m		Shot ID		
Sample Section No		Locatio		NE Side	Facing SW		
Context No	Depth		,	it Description			
1000	0.00 - 0).17m	Topsoil	: Dark greyish b nt, small poorly		ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone	



1001	0.17 - 0.35m	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.
1002	0.35m +	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.

Trench No 6	Orientation NE - SW		Height AOD 49.05m		Shot ID		
Sample Section No 6		Location SW End, NW Side		Facing NW			
Context No	Depth		Deposit Description				
1000	0.00 - 0).35m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.				
1001	0.35 - 0).65m	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.				
1002	0.66m +	0.66m +		Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			

TRENCH 7

Trench No	Orientation NE - SW		Height AOD 47.80m		hot ID 13	
Sample Section No 7	Locat	Location Centre, SE Side		Facing NW		
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description				
1000	0.00 - 0.30m	freque	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.			
1001	0.30 - 0.55m	occasio	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand w occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular fl inclusions.			
1002	0.55m +	clay w	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1009	Ditch (1.00m+ x 0.65m x 0.16m) was linear in plan on a near north – south orientation with shallow sloping sides and a flat base.	1010	Primary Fill: dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.



Trench No 8	Orientation NE - SW		Height AOD 46.70m		Shot ID 15
Sample Section No	Location	Location NE End, SE Side		Facing NW	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description			
1000	0.00 – 0.36m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.			
1001	0.36 - 0.49m	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			
1002	0.55m +	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			

TRENCH 9

Trench No	Orientation NEW- SE		Height AOD 46.48m		Shot ID 17	
Sample Section No		Location NW End, NW Side		Facing SE		
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description				
1000	0.00 - 0).25m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.			
1001	0.25 - 0).50m	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			
1002	0.50m -	0.50m +		Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.		

Trench No		Orientation Height AC NE - SW 46.			Shot ID 25	
Sample Section No	L	Location SW End, SE Side		SE Side NW		
Context No	Depth	Depos	Deposit Description			
1000	0.00 - 0.20	0.26m Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand w frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular sto inclusions.				
1001	0.20 - 0.53	0.20 – 0.53m Subsoil: Mid orangish b			ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint	
1002	0.53m +	clay w			brown, compact, silty zed, poorly sorted sub	



Trench No	Orientatio	on E- W		Height AOD 46.36m		Shot ID 27
Sample Section No	L	Location E End, N Side		Facing	Facing S	
Context No	Depth		Deposit Description			
1000	0.00 - 0.30	0.30m Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand of frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular st inclusions.				
1001	0.30 - 0.8	30 – 0.81m Subsoil: Mid orangish b				ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.81m +		clay wi			brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1017	Ditch (1.80m+ x 1.38m x 0.26m) was linear in plan on a near north – east to south – west orientation. The linear had shallow sloping sides and a flat base.	1018	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1019	Ditch (1.80m+ x 1.17m x 0.25m) was linear in plan on a near east - west orientation. The linear had shallow sloping sides and a flat base.	1020	Primary Fill: dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.

Trench No	Orientation NE-S	W	Height AOD 47.76m		Shot ID 31	
Sample Section No	Loc	Location NE End, SE Side		Facing	Facing NW	
Context No	Depth	Depos	Deposit Description			
1000	0.00 - 0.17m	0.17m Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular inclusions.				
1001	0.17 - 0.53m				ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint	
1002	0.53m +	clay w			n brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub	



Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1011	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.98m x 0.35m) was linear in plan on a near east – west orientation. The Ditch had moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1012	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1013	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.40m x 0.28m) was linear in plan on a near north – east to south – west orientation. The Ditch had sharp sloping sides and a pointed concave base.	1014	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1015	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.51m x 0.22m) was linear in plan on a near east - west orientation. The linear had steep sloping sides and a concave base.	1016	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.

TRENCH 13

Trench No	Orientation NW - SE		Height AOD 48.75m		Shot ID 62	
Sample Section No	Locatio	Location SE End, NE Side			SW	
Context No	Depth Depos		Deposit Description			
1000	0.00 - 0.30m			ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone		
1001	0.30 - 0.66m	0.30 – 0.66m Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular inclusions.				
1002	0.66m +	clay w			n brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub	

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1037	Pit (0.45m x 0.70m x 0.34m) was sub - circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1038	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1039	Pit (0.38m x 0.75m x 0.13m) was circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a flat base.	1040	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.



Trench No		Orientation Height AOD NE - SW 50.5m			Shot ID 66	
Sample Section No		Location NE End, NW Side		Facing	SE	
Context No	Depth		Depos	it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0	- 0.30m Topsoil: Dark greyish b frequent, small poorly inclusions.				
1001	0.30 - 0	0.30 – 0.61m Subsoil: Mid orangis				ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.61m -	H	clay wi			brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1041	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.98m x 0.27m) was linear in plan on a near east – west orientation. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1042	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1043	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.98m x 0.27m) was linear in plan on a near east – west orientation. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1044	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.

Trench No 15	Orientation NW - Si		Height AOD 50.94m		Shot ID	
Sample Section No	Locat	Location Centre, NE Side		Facing	Facing SW	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description				
1000	0.00 - 0.15m	5m Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand wit frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular ston inclusions.				
1001	0.15 - 0.35m	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand wit occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flir inclusions.				
1002	0.35m +	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, si clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted s angular flint inclusions.				



Trench No 16	Orienta	tation NW - SE		Height AOD 51.78m		Shot ID 35
Sample Section No		Locatio		NE Side	Facing	SW
Context No	Depth		Depos	it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0).34m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular inclusions.			
1001	0.34 - ().44m	occasio	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.		
1005	0.44 - 3	1.16m	.16m Colluvium: Mid-orangish brown, compact, silty occasional, small / medium, poorly sorted su flint pebble inclusions.			, ,
1002	1.16m -	+	clay wi			brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub

TRENCH 17

Trench No	Orienta	ition NE - SW		Height AOD 50.88m		Shot ID 37
Sample Section No		Location NW End, NE Side		Facing SW		
Context No	Depth		Deposit Description			
1000	0.00 - 0).38m	.38m Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular sinclusions.			
1005	0.38 - 0).61m	.61m Colluvium: Mid-orangish bi occasional, small / mediui flint pebble inclusions.			. , ,
1002	0.61m -	H	clay wi			n brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub

Trench No	Orientation NW - SE		Height AOD 50.45m		Shot ID 79	
Sample Section No		Location SE End, NE Side		Facing	SW	
Context No	Depth		Depos	it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0	D.25m Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, of frequent, small poorly sorte inclusions.				
1001	0.15 - 0			nal, medium size		ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.40m +	-	clay wi			brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub



Trench No	Orienta	tion NE- SW		Height AOD 49.58m		Shot ID 46
Sample Section No		Location SE End, NE Side		Facing	SW	
Context No	Depth		Depos	it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0	0.00 – 0.22m Topsoil: Dark greyish brifrequent, small poorly inclusions.				
1001	0.22 - 0			nal, medium size		ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.38m +	С				brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1023	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.66m x 0.20m) was linear in plan on an east – west orientation. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1024	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1025	Post Hole (0.20m x 0.40m x 0.13m) was sub - circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a concave base.	1026	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1027	Post Hole (0.28m x 0.48m x 0.24m) was sub-circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a concave base.	1028	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1029	Post Hole (0.60m x 0.69m x 0.71m) was sub-circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a concave base.	1030	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1031	Post Hole (0.18m x 0.50m x 0.15m) was sub-circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1032	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.



Trench No 20	Orientation NW- SE	Height AO 48.2		Shot ID 40
Sample Section No 20	Locati	Location Centre, SW Side		NE NE
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	on	
1000	0.00 - 0.31m			ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone
1001	0.31 - 0.51m	9		ompact, silty sand with y sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.51m +		l, medium s	h brown, compact, silty sized, poorly sorted sub

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill	Layer/Fill Description
		Context	
1021	Ditch	1022	Primary Fill: Dark greyish
	(0.35m x 0.85m x 0.14m) was sub -		brown, soft, silty sand.
	circular in plan with shallow sloping		
	sides and a flat base.		

Trench No 21	Orientation NE- SW		Height AOD 46.52m		Shot ID 46	
Sample Section No		Location NE End, NW Side		Facing	SE	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description				
1000	0.00 - 0).33m		nt, small poorly		ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone
1001	0.33 - 0.70m			nal, medium size		ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.70m -	0.70m + Na		Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, si clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sangular flint inclusions.		



Trench No 22	Orientation NW- SE		Height AOD 45.83m		Shot ID 77
Sample Section No	Locat	Location NE End, NW Side		Facing	SE
Context No	Depth	Depos	it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0.15m				ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone
1001	0.15 - 0.40m				ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	clay		Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.		

TRENCH 23

Trench No 23	Orientation NE - SW		Height AOD 48.02m		Shot ID 83
Sample Section No 23	Locat	Location SW End, NW Side		Facing	SE
Context No	Depth	Depos	it Description		
1000	frequ		Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.		
1001	0.25 - 0.71m				ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	clay		Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.		

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1033	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.60m x 0.10m) was linear in plan on a north – east to south – west orientation. The ditch had shallow sloping sides and a flat base.	1034	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1035	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.83m x 0.30m) was linear in plan on a north – west to south – east orientation. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1036	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.



Trench No 24	Orientation NW- SE		Height AOD 48.75m		Shot ID 95
Sample Section No 24	Location	Location NW End, NE Side		Facing	SW
Context No	Depth	Depos	it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0.17m				ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone
1001	0.17 - 0.44m				ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.44m +	clay w			brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill	Layer/Fill Description
		Context	
1051	Post Hole $(0.28m \times 0.60m \times 0.27m)$ was circular in plan with sloping sides and a flat base.	1052	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1053	Post Hole (0.26m x 0.45m x 0.21m) was circular in plan with sloping sides and a concave base.	1054	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1055	Post Hole (0.19m x 0.36m x 0.29m) was circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a pointed concave base.	1056	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1057	Post Hole $(0.22m \times 0.40m \times 0.11m)$ was circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1058	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1059	Post Hole (0.29m x 0.54m x 0.22m) was circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1060	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1061	Post Hole (0.38m x 0.67m x 0.34m) was circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1062	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.



Trench No 25	Orientation N - S	Height AOD 50.28m	Shot ID 54
Sample Section No 25	Location	S End, W Side	Facing E
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.30m		rown, compact, silty sand with sorted sub angular stone
1001	0.30 – 0.55m	9	rown, compact, silty sand with d, poorly sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.55m +		orangish brown, compact, silty edium sized, poorly sorted sub

TRENCH 26

Trench No 26	Orientation NW- SE		Height AOD 50.75m		Shot ID 69	
Sample Section No 26	L	Location NW End,		SW Side	Facing	NE
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description		it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0.32m		Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.			
1001	0.32 - 0.6	53m		nal, medium size		ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.63m +		Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill	Layer/Fill Description
		Context	
1045	Pit	1046	Primary Fill: Mid greyish
	(1.00m x 1.20m x 0.20m) was sub -		brown, soft, silty sand.
	circular in plan with shallow sloping		
	sides and a flat base.		

Trench No 27	Orientation NE - SW		Height AOD 51.78m		Shot ID 56
Sample Section No 27	Locat	Location S End, W Side		Facing	E
Context No	Depth	Depth Deposit Description			
1000	0.00 - 0.31m		nt, small poorly		ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone
1005	occ				compact, silty sand with orly sorted sub angular



1002	0.90m +	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub
		angular flint inclusions.

Trench No 28	Orientation NE- SW			Height AOD 52.15m		Shot ID 58
Sample Section No		Location SW End, NW Side		Facing	SE	
Context No	Depth	Depth Deposit Description				
1000	0.00 - 0.26m		Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.			
1005	0.26 - 0	0.26 - 0.62m				compact, silty sand with orly sorted sub angular
1002	0.62m +		Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silt clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted su angular flint inclusions.			

TRENCH 29

Trench No 29	Orienta	tion NE- SW		Height AOD 51.36m		Shot ID 71
Sample Section No 29		Location SE End, NE Side		NE Side	Facing	SW
Context No	Depth	h Deposit Description				
1000	0.00 - 0	0.00 - 0.39m				ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone
1005	0.39 - 0	0.39 - 0.84m			,	compact, silty sand with orly sorted sub angular
1002	0.84m +	0.84m +		Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.		

Trench No 30	Orientation NE- SW	Height AOD 51.03m	Shot ID 73
Sample Section No	Locati	ion SW End, SE Side	Facing NW
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.31m		prown, compact, silty sand with y sorted sub angular stone
1005	0.31 - 0.50m		brown, compact, silty sand with dium, poorly sorted sub angular
1002	0.50m +	3, 3	orangish brown, compact, silty nedium sized, poorly sorted sub



Trench No 31	Orientation NW- SE		Height AOD 50.45m		Shot ID 98
Sample Section No	Locati	Location NW End, NE Side		Facing	SW
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description			
1000	0.00 - 0.16m	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.			
1001	0.16 - 0.58m		nal, medium size		ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.58m +	clay w	5, 5	_	n brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1063	Pit (0.39m x 0.76m x 0.39m) was sub - circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1064	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.

TRENCH 32

Trench No 32	Orienta	ition NE- SW		Height AOD 49.20m		Shot ID 75
Sample Section No		Location SW End,		SE Side	Facing NW	
Context No	Depth	pth Deposit Description				
1000	0.00 - 0).12m		nt, small poorly		ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone
1001	0.12 - 0	0.12 - 0.30m			,	ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.30m -	0.30m +		Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.		

Trench No 33	Orientation NW- SE		Height AOD 48.57m		Shot ID 87	
Sample Section No		Location NW End, SV		SW Side	Facing NE	
Context No	Depth		Depos	it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0	f				ompact, silty sand with d sub angular stone
1001	0.10 – 0.55m Subsocca			nal, medium size		ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint



1002	0.55m +	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub
		angular flint inclusions.

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill	Layer/Fill Description
		Context	
1049	Ditch (1.80m+ x 0.80m x 0.32m) was linear in plan on a north - south orientation. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a flat base.	1050	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.

TRENCH 34

Trench No 34	Orientation NE- SW		Height AOD 50.93m	Shot ID 81		
Sample Section No 34	L	Location Centre, NW Side		Facing SE		
Context No	Depth	Depos	Deposit Description			
1000	0.00 - 0.4	0.00 – 0.40m Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, si frequent, small poorly sorted sub ar inclusions.				
1001	0.40 - 0.8	occasio	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			
1002	0.80m +	clay w	Natural Geology: Light orangish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			

TRENCH 35

Trench No 35	Orienta	ition NW- SE		Height AOD 50.60m		Shot ID 84
Sample Section No		Location NW End, NE Side		Facing SW		
Context No	Depth		Depos	it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0).35m	5m Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone inclusions.			
1001	0.35 - 0	1			,	ompact, silty sand with sorted sub angular flint
1002	0.51m +	 	clay wi			n brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description			
1047	Ditch	1048	Primary Fill: Mid greyish			
	(1.80m + x 1.10m x 0.26m) was linear		brown, soft, silty sand.			
	in plan on a north – east to south - west					
	orientation. The ditch had moderate					



sloping sides and a flat base. The ditch had moderate sloping sides and a flat	
base.	

Trench No 36	Orientation Height NE - SW		Height AOD 49.37m		Shot ID 111	
Sample Section No		Location NW End, NE Side			Facing SW	
Context No	Depth		Depos	it Description		
1000	0.00 - 0	7 – 0.11m Topsoil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand wind frequent, small poorly sorted sub angular sto inclusions.				
1001	0.11 - 0).44m	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.			
1002	0.44m -	H	clay wi			brown, compact, silty ized, poorly sorted sub

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description
1006	Pit (1.00m x 0.70m x 0.17m) was subcircular in plan with shallow sides and a flat base.	1079	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1065	Pit (1.58m x 1.35m x 0.49m) was sub-circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a flat base.	1066	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1067	Pit (1.20m x 1.04m x 0.31m) was sub-circular in plan with sharp sloping sides and a flat base.	1068	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1069	Pit (1.01m x 0.80m x 0.32m) was sub-circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a pointed concave base.	1070	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1071	Pit (1.08m x 1.00m x 0.24m) was sub-circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a flat base.	1072	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
1073	Possible Paleochannel (1.00m+ x 1.00m+ x 0.31m) was sub-rectangular in plan with moderate	1074	Primary Fill: Dark greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
	sloping sides and a concave base.	1004	Secondary Fill: dark, greyish – brown, compact, silty sand.
1075	Pit (1.21m x 1.16m x 0.16m) was sub-circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.	1076	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.



1077	Pit (0.50m x 1.45m x 0.10m) was sub- circular in plan with shallow sloping	1078	Primary Fill: Mid greyish brown, soft, silty sand.
	circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a concave base.		

Trench No 37		Orientation NE - SW		Height AOD 49.27n	ı	Shot ID 113		
Sample Section No 37		Location SW End, SE Side			Facing	Facing NW		
Context No	Depth		Deposit Description					
1000				soil: Dark greyish brown, compact, silty sand with uent, small poorly sorted sub angular stone isions.				
1001	0.15 - 0	.41m	Subsoil: Mid orangish brown, compact, silty sand with occasional, medium sized, poorly sorted sub angular flint inclusions.					
1002	0.41m +	-	clay wi	3, 3	nedium s	n brown, compact, silty sized, poorly sorted sub		







APPENDIX 2 - CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Context	Cut	Туре	Trial	Spot	Pot		СВМ		Animal	Bone	Other
			Trench	Date	No	Wgt/g	No	Wgt/g	No	Wgt/g	
1004	1073	Paleo channel	36	E2nd-4th	7	107	3	419	8	77	SF1 Fe Chain 1@124g, SF2 Cu Alloy Object 1@1g, ?W.Flint 1@13g, W.Stone 3@2014g
1079	1006	Grave	36								SK1 Human Bone 42@432g
1012	1011	Ditch	12				1	1			
1014	1013	Linear	12	M1st-E2nd	9	71	1	3			
1018	1017	Linear	11	Roman	1	21			20	283	
1020	1019	Linear	11								Daub 1@5g
1030	1029	Pit	19	M/L3rd- 4th	5	190			3	205	
1044	1043	Linear	14	Roman	7	27					
1046	1045	Pit	26	c EIA	29	452					W.Flint 5@32g, B.Flint/Stone 92@3499g
1050	1049	Ditch	33	16th-18th	1	8	1	547			
1060	1059	Post-hole	24	Roman	1	2					
1064	1063	Pit	31	?M1st- L2nd?	1	5					Fe frag 1@4g
1066	1065	Pit	36				1	1			?W.Flint 1@6g
1068	1067	Pit	36	Roman	2	14					W.Flint 2@119g, ?W.Stone 1@95g
1074	1073	Paleo channel	36	Roman	1	2					Daub 1@2g
1076	1075	Pit	36	2nd?+	8	40			14	439	
Totals					72	939	7	971	45	1004	SF's 2@125, Fe Object 1@4g, Daub 2@7g, Human Bone 42@432g, W.Flint 9@170g, Burnt flint/stone 92@3499g, Worked stone 4@2109g



APPENDIX 3 - SPECIALIST REPORTS

Ceramics

The prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval pottery from Land at Meadow Lane, Thurston, Suffolk (THS 063): An assessment report

Andy Fawcett - Britannia Archaeology

Introduction

A total of seventy-two sherds of pottery with a combined weight of 939g were recovered from nine different trenches (11, 12, 14, 19, 24, 26, 31, 33, 36). The larger part of the assemblage is dated to the Roman era, and thereafter single contexts are dated to the prehistoric and post-medieval periods.

This report firstly describes the methodology used in the recording of the pottery and then goes on to depict the assemblages form each period. This is then followed by an overall conclusion, and any recommendations that might be required for further work on the pottery.

Methodology

The pottery has been rapidly scanned at x20 vision and the sherds have been allocated fabric codes. The codes are based upon those developed by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services (Unpub), which are in use across East Anglia as a whole, as well as those utilised at Chelmsford by Going (1987), and those used as part of the national system (Tomber & Dore 1998).

The pottery has been recorded by context as a collective sherd count and weight. The presence of jar rims, base fragments and decorated sherds has also been noted, and basic Roman form matches have used the codes developed by Going at Chelmsford (1987). Other types of information that have also been documented, include the level of abrasion, the presence of decoration and some basic fabric observations.



The recorded pottery assemblage can be seen in Appendix 1, and a full list of fabric and abrasion codes can be observed in Appendix 2.

Prehistoric

A total twenty-nine sherds of prehistoric pottery have been identified (452g), all of which were recovered from Pit fill 1046 (Tr.26). This assemblage displays little abrasion, and some quite large sherds are also present within the group. The group is dominated by fabric HMF, this is a flint tempered ware that contains abundant ill-sorted flint. Two jars were recorded in this fabric both of which display upright rims with flat tops; one also has serration on the rim edge. The remaining ten sherds within this group are in reduced, sand-based fabrics that contain either simply sand (HMS) or sand and organics (HMSO).

The combination of fabrics within this fill suggests a date somewhere around the early Iron Age.

Roman

The Roman pottery assemblage amounts to forty-two sherds (479g) and was recorded in Buried soil layer 1004, Linear fills 1014, 1018 and 1044, Pit contexts 1030, 1064, 1068 and 1076, as well as Post-hole 1060 and Paleo-channel 1074. Trench 36 contained the largest amount of Roman pottery with smaller amounts also present in Trenches 11, 12, 14, 19, 24 and 31. None of the individual contexts across trenches exceeds a total of nine sherds, therefore the assemblage is fairly thinly spread across features. The average sherd weight of the Roman pottery stands at just over 11g, nevertheless in some contexts the sherds are much smaller than this total. Despite occasional fragmentation, the sherds exhibit only minor abrasion and are considered to be in their original place of deposition.

Of the ten contexts that contained Roman pottery five of these could not be dated beyond a general 'Roman' date due to the presence of either long-lived fabrics or forms. A further fill (1004) is also broadly dated, from the early 2nd to 4th century. Of the remaining four dated contexts the earliest is Linear 1014 (Mid 1st to early 2nd), and thereafter Pit fills 1064 and 1076, do not appear to be dated beyond the



2nd century. Finally, Pit fill 1030 provides the only evidence for later Roman activity on the site (mid/late 3rd to 4th century).

The Roman assemblage contains no finewares or regional coarseware imports, it is made up chiefly of Wattisfield style (Tomber & Dore 1998) micaceous fabrics (GMO, GMG, GMB), and thereafter a small number of other unsourced fabrics have been recorded (UNS BB, BSW, GRS, UNS WH), all of which are highly likely to have been locally made.

Three jars and a single dish are the only identifiable forms within the Roman assemblage, and of these only one jar and the dish are distinguishable. The jar in Linear fill 1014 is similar in style to Going type G19.4.1 (1987), it has an everted bead rim with a narrow shoulder cordon and is dated from the mid 1st to early 2nd century. A flanged B6 dish (Going 1987) was recorded in Pit fill 1030, and this is dated from the mid/late 3rd to 4th century.

Apart from a cordon on the jar (see above) in Linear 1014, the only other sherds to display decoration were recorded in Pit fill 1076. These are all GRS body sherds (six), all of which exhibit an acute lattice pattern.

Post-medieval

A single post medieval redware (PMRW) body sherd (8g) was recorded in Ditch fill 1050 (Tr.33). The sherd is small but displays only minor abrasion and is dated from the 16^{th} to 18^{th} century.

Conclusion

The early Iron Age pottery assemblage, although occurring in isolation, is the best-preserved group of ceramics on the site. Despite the fact that it is currently unclear if this group represents settled activity, or in fact some other one-off form of land use, settled Iron Age activity is thought to have taken place elsewhere in the immediate area, as evidence 750m north of the current site suggests.

It seems that the Roman pottery assemblage offers up more questions than answers, it certainly represents some form of basic rural activity. There is no



indication however, to suggest that this was continuous, and indeed the earlier and later group seem to point to the fact that the main focus of any settlement activity was elsewhere. The absence of status (shown by the lack of finewares and regional imports may) well imply that this assemblage represents activity on the periphery of any possible rural Roman occupation. Apart from the obvious presence of Peddars Way, evidence for Roman activity in the area seems quite sporadic and thin, so from that point of view this small group is of some interest.

Recommendations for further work

The pottery has been identified and described to the required level of analysis; it is therefore recommended that no further work on the assemblage will be required. However, should a further stage of archaeological intervention take place on the site and finds are recovered, then reference to this current assemblage should be undertaken, and where it is deemed necessary, elements of this assemblage should be incorporated into any future ceramic reporting.

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Appendix 2: Pottery and abrasion codes Pottery

HMF	Hand-made flint tempered ware
HMS	Hand-made sand-based fabrics

HMSO Hand-made sand and organic tempered ware

GMO Micaceous oxidised wares

BSW Black surfaced/Romanising grey ware
UNS BB Unsourced black burnished ware

GMG Micaceous grey wares



GMB Micaceous black wares

GRS Unsourced sandy greywares

UNS SH Unsourced shell tempered wares

PMRW Post-medieval red wares

Abrasion

Abr = Abraded, Sli = Slightly abraded

The daub from Land at Meadow Lane, Thurston, Suffolk (THS 063): An assessment report

Andy Fawcett - Britannia Archaeology

Two very small fragments of daub were recovered from two contexts, Linear fill 1020 (Tr.11) and Paleo-channel 1074 (Tr.36).

The first fragment in 1020 (5g) is oxidised in a sandy fabric that contains common calcite (Msc). This piece is only slightly abraded and exhibits a very small area of a flat/irregular surface; no other finds were present within this context.

A second fragment in 1074 (2g) is in a similar fabric as to the one just described, except it is oxidises with some cream swirling. This piece is small and abraded and is accompanied by a single small sherd of Roman pottery (2g).

This is an extremely small and thinly spread group of daub that has virtually no interpretational value. It is unlikely to be in its original place of deposition however, it probably originated from some form of walling, either free standing or of a structural nature. No further work on these fragments will be required.



The ceramic building materials (CBM) from Land at Meadow Lane, Thurston, Suffolk (THS 063): An assessment report

Andy Fawcett - Britannia Archaeology

Introduction

A total of seven fragments of CBM were recorded (971g) from two ditch fills, one linear, one buried soil layer and pit, spread across four different trenches. The majority of the group is dated to the Roman period, with two instances of post Roman CBM being identified.

This report provides a brief overview of this small assemblage, and then offers an overall conclusion, as well as any recommendations that might be required for further work on the material. The recorded CBM assemblage can be seen listed in Appendix 3.

The assemblage

Two contexts contained extremely small and unidentifiable Roman CBM fragments, these include Linear 1014 (Tr.12) and Pit fill 1066 (Tr.36). Little further can be said about these fragments other than that they are variably abraded, oxidised and in sandy fabrics, which contain grog (Msg), and simply sand (Ms).

The best-preserved pieces of Roman CBM were noted in the buried soil context (1004 Tr.36). Here three fragments were recorded (419g) all of which displayed only slight abrasion. The group consists of two forms a *tegula* (two pieces) and a flat/brick (one fragment). The *tegula* is oxidised and has a depth of 20mm (Msg), it also exhibits a groove next to the wall of the broken flange area, the flat/brick is similarly oxidised and has a depth of 32mm (Ms). These two fragments represent roof tile and a structural piece and are accompanied by Roman pottery dated from the early 2nd to 4th century.

A small unidentifiable piece (<1g) recorded in Ditch fill 1012 in Trench 12 (Ms), is possibly dated to the late medieval/post-medieval period. However, with certainty the brick fragment noted in Ditch fill 1050 (Tr.33) is dated to the post-medieval



period. This is in a fairly fine white sandy fabric and has a depth of 60mm and a width of 110mm (547g), it is dated from the 18th to 19th century and is accompanied by 16th to 18th century pottery, suggesting an 18th century date for the context.

Conclusion

This is a very small collection of CBM, and in only two instances has it been possible to accurately identify the fragments, as well as place them within a time period. The Roman roofing and structural tile suggest the possibility of a substantial building around the vicinity of the current site. There is no clear indication that the fragments had been re-used, for example by the presence of mortar over old breaks, and the level of wear displayed by the pieces, equally does not indicate use as surface material, such as for a road or walkway.

The post-medieval brick exhibits no abrasion and represents structural material dated to around the 18^{th} century. However, there is no evidence currently to indicate where or what type of structure it may have originated from.

Recommendations for further work

The CBM has been identified and described to the required level of analysis; it is therefore recommended that no further work on the assemblage will be required. However, should a further stage of archaeological intervention take place on the site and finds are recovered, then reference to this current group should be undertaken.



Lithics

The Flint

By Rebecca Devaney (BA, MA, ACIfA)

August 2022

Introduction and quantification

A total of 11 pieces of worked flint (weighing 192g) and 82 pieces of burnt unworked flint (weighing 3,232g) were recovered from archaeological investigations at Thurston (*Table 1*). The worked flint was recovered from four contexts, with the largest concentration in context (1046), which also contained all the burnt unworked flint. Chronologically diagnostic tools were not recovered, and the assemblage remains undated.

Table 1. Summary of flint by context

Flint	1004	1046	1066	1068	Total	Total weight
category	1004	1040	1000	1008	IOtai	(g)
Flake	1	5	1	2	9	169
Irregular waste		2			2	23
Total	1	7	1	2	11	192
Burnt unworked		82			82	3,232

Methodology

The worked flint was catalogued according to a standard debitage, core or tool type (as published by Butler 2005). Information about burning, breaks, condition, raw material and technology (as published by Inizan 1999) was recorded and, where possible, dating was attempted. In addition, burnt unworked flint was quantified by count and weight.



Assessment of assemblage

The assemblage consists of unretouched debitage, in the form of flakes and irregular waste. The flakes range in size from 1g to 113g. Retained dorsal cortex is present on six of the nine pieces and one has an irregular thermal flaw on the ventral surface. The two pieces of irregular waste exhibit struck, thermal and cortical surfaces and are usually broken pieces unintentionally created during knapping. Chalk flint, identified by a thick white cortex, accounts for three of the pieces. The site is located close to chalk bedrock and raw material would have been available locally. A further three pieces exhibit gravel cortex, which is much thinner, stained and abraded than chalk flint, and is typically locally sourced from secondary deposits. The presence of dorsal cortex indicates that cortical nodules were brought into the site for knapping.

The worked flint is in a mixed condition with some pieces remaining in a fresh condition and the rest having suffered post-depositional damage, such as chips to vulnerable unretouched edges. Surface alteration, in the form of a light cortication, is present on just one piece. One flake is broken, and one piece of irregular waste is lightly burnt.

The burnt unworked flint, all of which was recovered from context (1046) forms fairly large chunks, with an average weight of 39.4g per piece. Burnt unworked flint could have been created by accidental burning at any point in the past but can also be associated with cremations, hearths and kilns, and larger pieces, such as these, may have been used as pot boilers or hot stones (Shepherd 1972, 173-174 & 177-178). The burnt unworked flint was found alongside unburnt worked flint, indicating that burning took place prior to deposition.

Discussion and Recommendations

The assemblage of worked flint from Thurston remains undated. Its small size and lack of technological or chronologically diagnostic pieces, such as formally retouched tools, limits its interpretational value. Further work is not required, and this assessment report will the basis for any future publication report.



All worked flint should be kept and deposited with a relevant archive according to local practice. The burnt unworked flint has been fully recorded and can be discarded if required. All non-humanly modified, naturally fractured flint, was discarded during assessment.

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Animal Bone & Human Bone

THS063, Land at Meadow Lane, Thurston, Suffolk.

Project Number: P1387

The animal bone and human remains

by Julie Curl -Sylvanus - Archaeological, Natural History & Illustration

Services for Britannia Archaeology

THE ANIMAL BONE (Appendix1, Table 1)

Methodology

A 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. Measurements were recorded where appropriate following Von Den Driesch, 1976. Counts and weights were noted for each context and counts made for each species. Counts were made for a Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) present where possible, using counts of elements. Where bone could not be identified to species, they were grouped as, for example, 'large mammal', 'bird' or 'small mammal'. Attempts were made, where possible, to refit possible fragments in the same bag and these were included in NISP counts. As this is a small assemblage, information was recorded directly into the appendix in this report

The bone assemblage

Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 1004g of bone, consisting of forty-five elements, was recovered from this site, with the totals quantified in Table 1. Bone was recovered from two deposits, which produced Post-medieval ceramic material.



The bone is in good condition and shows little wear, suggesting it is in the original place of deposition. Invertebrate (insect, isopod, molluscs) damage is low, suggesting waste was rapidly covered after disposal or disposed of in winter when the invertebrates are less active. Canid gnawing was seen on one sheep/goat tibia from 1004, which may be waste from feeding domestic or working dogs, but a scavenger is a possibility. None of the bone was burnt, which suggests that burial was the favoured method of disposal.

Context	Trial	Feature Type	Date	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP
1004	36	Buried	Roman	8	77	Sheep/goat	1
		Soil				Cattle	3
						Mammal	4
1018	11	Linear	Roman	20	283	Equid	7
		1017				Mammal	13
1030	19	Pit 1029	Roman	3	205	Cattle	3
1076	36	Pit1075	Roman	14	439	Cattle	6
						Mammal	8

Table 1. Quantification of the faunal remains

Species and modifications

Three species were identified.

Cattle are the most frequent and found in three deposits. Remains were all of a Roman date and elements included main meat bearing bones in 1030 and 1076 including scapula, tibia and radius. Some with chop and cut marks from preparation and meat removal.

A complete cattle metatarsal was found in 1076 which shows knife cuts on the distal rear shaft from skinning the animal. The metrical data from this metatarsal suggests an animal approximately 1.116m at the shoulder, which is in the range for the male of a Celtic Short-Horn type or a small female longhorn.



Ageing data from the cattle suggest the animals present were culled at around 1.5 to around four years old, which could include annual culls of surplus stock (perhaps excess males) and animals not suited to a life of traction or breeding.

Sheep/goat was identified with a single cut and gnawed tibia from 1004.

Equid was recorded from the Linear fill 1018 with lower molars and premolars, which showed wear indicating an animal over ten years old. While no butchering is associated with these equid remains, these traction and load-bearing animals were often eaten, possibly consumed by people in times of shortage or for feeding domestic or working dogs.

A small amount of bone was found in 1004, 1018 and 1076 that were heavily fragmented and showed no diagnostic features that would allow species identification and these could only be recorded as 'mammal'.

Discussion

This is a small assemblage that is derived from the main domestic livestock species. The young ages of the cattle suggests they were probably bred for meat production and some kept for traction and breeding. Sheep/goat would have been main providers of milk and wool. Both cattle and sheep would have provided dung, meat, skins, horn and other by-products. The equid would have been a traction or load-bearing/riding animal; the age is not mature for an equid, so perhaps this animal had become sick, with even stomach problems killing quite young animals.

The lack of pig/boar is not surprising as these animals had not become popular for breeding in a domestic situation in the Roman period and often the main meat seems to be provided by wild porcine. The lack of small mammals and birds may be due to a preservation or recovery bias. Overall, the remains are quite typical for a small Roman assemblage.

Recommendations for further work

This is a small assemblage that has some potential for further study if further bone is found and additional metrical information could be retireved. If further work is



carried out at this site it is recommended that samples are taken for sieving to maximise chances of recovery for small bones, such as small foot bones from the skinning process. If further work produces bone, then this assemblage can be included in the analysis, otherwise, no further work is recommended.

THE HUMAN REMAINS (Appendix 2)

Introduction

Part of a human skeleton was discovered from this excavation, comprising of a lower right arm, some ribs and vertebrae.

Methodology

The human remains were recorded following modified guidelines produced by English Heritage (Mays, 2004) and the IFA (Brickley. M and McKinley, J.I.(eds). 2004). All of the bones were quantified by skeleton number or context and an estimate of the minimum number of individuals was recorded based on counts of the most frequent elements recorded and ages of those present. All elements were examined for any pathologies, genetic traits and modifications which were recorded, noting the location on the body. Fusion of bone and tooth wear are noted when possible to allow estimation of ages following Brothwell (1981). As this is a small assemblage, information was recorded into a table with this report.

SK1 (Appendix 2)

Skeleton 1 was discovered from Trench 36, Grave 1006. Much of the dating from this site is Roman, with just a small amount of earlier and later ceramic material found.

Remains are in good condition, although some fragmentation has occurred. No invertebrate (insect, isopods, molluscs) damage was seen on the bone, which would suggest a deep or possibly coffined burial or a burial from winter when there is less invertebrate activity.



Remains consist of a right radius and ulna and several bones from the hand and wrist. Some rib fragments were found along with several thoracic and lumbar vertebrae. No signs of trauma, injury or butchering was seen on any of the remains.

The remains are those of an adult, with fusion of the bones (Bass, 1995) indicating over twenty years old. There is degenerative wear on most vertebrae, which occurs in older individuals or those with often physically demanding lives. Some low levels of arthritic changes were also seen on the hands and vertebrae that may suggest age or work/lifestyle related changes.

Discussion

The human remains assemblage consists of a partial burial of an adult, with the robustness of the bones suggesting this may be a male. The individual is an adult, at least in their twenties, but the degenerative wear seen on the vertebrae suggest the individual was probably in their forties and perhaps older.

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Appendixes 1 and 2

- 1. Summary catalogue of the animal bone
- 2. Catalogue of the human remains

Appendix 1

Catalogue of the animal bone recovered from THS063 Listed in context order.

Key:

NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present Measureable following Von Den Driesch, 1976. Countable following Davis,1992.

Context	Triol	Feature Tvne	Date	Ctvt Otv	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	۰۸ ماریاک ۸	مانمصيرا	Moonstal	Element range	Moscilish	Countable	Butchering	Chain	Durnt	Comments
1 0 0	3 6	Bur ied Soi	Ro man	8	77	Shee p/go at	1	1			Tibia shaft			cuts	1		Canid gnawing
4		I				Cattl	3				Thora						
						е					cic						
											verte						
											brae						
											fragm						
											ents						
						Mam	4				Frag						
						mal					ment						
1	1	Lin	Do	2	20	Faui	7				S						Hanvily
1	1	Lin	Ro	2	28	Equi	7				Lower						Heavily
0	1	ear	man	0	3	d					molar						worn
1		10									s and						teeth,
8		17									prem						aged over
											olars						10 years



						Mam mal	1			Frag ment s			Some may be from equid jaw
1 0 3 0	1 9	Pit 10 29	Ro man	3	5	Cattl e	3	1		Proxi mal radiu s			Fusion line visible, c. 1.5 years old
1 0 7 6	3 6		Ro man	1 4	_	Cattl e	6	1		Proxi mal UF tibia, scapu la neck, metat arsal			MT fusion = 2.5 years, tibia fusion < 4 yrs. MT GL214 and cuts at rear distal shaft
						Mam mal	8			Frag ment s			

Appendix 2. Skeleton record for THS063, SK1

SK No	Other No's	Condition
THS063, SK1	Grave 1006	Good, some
		fragmentation
Age	Age estimate	Sex
Adult/mature	Over 20 years old from	Male? Robust bones
	fusion of bone,	
	pathologies suggest 40+	
Completeness	Fragment/Element	Weight (g)
	count	
Incomplete	42	432g
Associated with	Additional bone	Date
		Roman
Elements present	1	1

SKULL

Not present

POST-CRANIAL ELEMENTS



Right hand: x5. 4th intermediate phalange, metacarpals 1,2 3,4

Right hand: x6 carpals: hamate, capitate, pisiform, lunate, trapezoid, scaphoid

Robs x 10, fragments Misc fragments x 10

Thoracic vertebrae 6,7,8,9,10 Lumbar vertebrae 1,2,3,4

Right ulna (GL240) Right radius (GL237)

Tooth record N/A

	M3	M2	М1	PM4	PM3	C	In2	In1	In1	In2	C	PM3	Pm4	M1	M2	M3	
Upp er Righ t																	Upp er Left
Low er Righ t																	Low er Left

Molar attrition:

	Right	M3	M2	M1	Left	M1	M2	М3
Maxilla								
Mandible								

Dental

Calculus	N/A
Hypoplasia	N/A
Periodontal disease	N/A
Cavities	N/A
Abscesses	N/A

Trauma	None
Pathologies	
Degenerative disease and	wear on vertebrae, minor arthritic growth on lumbar vertebrae
and one metacarpal	



Co	m	m	e	n	ts

Robust arm bones, male?

Appendix 1

Catalogue of the animal bone recovered from KDG076 Listed in context order.

A full catalogue is available as an Excel file in the digital archive.

Key:

NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present Measureable following Von Den Driesch, 1976. Countable following Davis,1992.

Context	Trench	Feature Type	Period	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Adult	Juvenile	Neonatal	MNI	Element range	Measure	Count	Butcheri	Gnawing	Patholog	Commen ts
1 0 0 1	1	Sub soil	LB A/ EI A	2	7	Catt le	2					radi us shaf t, lowe r mola r						
1 0 0 6	2	Ditc h	LB A/ EI A	3	5	Ma mm al	3					frag men ts						
1 0 1 1		Pit	LB A/ EI A	1	1 2	Catt le	1	1				prox imal met acar pal frag men t			cho ppe d			with SF 1. burn t grey
1 0 1 2	6	Buri ed Soil	LB A/ EI A	1 4	1 3 3	Catt le	2	1				inter med iate phal ange		0 5				



											, dista l fem ur frag men t				
1 0 1 2	6	Buri ed Soil	LB A/ EI A			Pig/ boa r	3				tibia frag men ts		split leng thw ays		
1 0 1 2	6	Buri ed Soil	LB A/ EI A			She ep/ goat	1				tibia shaf t		cuts		
1 0 1 2	6	Buri ed Soil	LB A/ EI A			Ma mm al	8				frag men ts				
1 0 2 2		Pit	LB A/ EI A	1	3	She ep/ goat	1	1			dista I hum erus cond yle				wor n
1 0 2 7		Pit	LB A/ EI A	3	8 1	Equi d	1	1			prox imal phal ange	1	cut		som e inve rteb rate dam age
1 0 2 7		Pit	LB A/ EI A			Pig/ boa r	1		1		prox imal phal ange				
1 0 2 7		Pit	LB A/ EI A			She ep/ goat	4	1			2 ribs, tibia , lowe r mola r 3	1	cho ppe d tibia		



1		Pit	LB			Ма	1			frac			[
0		PIL	A/				1 7			frag				
2			EI			mm al	′			men ts				
7			A			aı				LS				
1	5	Pit	LB	1	1	Ма	1			cut		cut		
0	,	1 10	A/	_	_	mm	_			frag		cut		
2			EI			al				men				
9			A			a.				t				
1	7	Pos	LB	1	1	Catt	1	1		upp				hea
0	-	t-	A/		9	le				er				vily
4		hol	ΕÏ							mola				wor
3		е	Α							r				n
1		Ditc	LB	1	9	Catt	3	1		met	1			fully
0		h	A/	4	3	le				atar				fuse
6			ΕI							sal				d
7			Α							frag				dist
										men				al
										ts				frag
														men
														t,
														prox
														imal
														end
														and
														shaf
														t
														frag
														men
		D.:				CI	_	_			_			t
1		Ditc	LB			She	4	1		two	1	cho		
0		h	A/			ep/				lowe		ppe		
6 7			EI A			goat				r		d d		
/			A							mola		radi		
										rs, 1		us		
										talus				
										, 1 radi				
										us				
										frag				
										men				
										t				
1		Ditc	LB			Ма	7			frag				
0		h	A/			mm	'			men				
6		''	EI			al				ts				
7			A			<u>.</u>								
<u> </u>	<u> </u>		l	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	l		l	 l	l				



Environmental

Assessment of Samples

CHURCH ROAD THURSTON

Client:	Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Site Code	THS 063
Author(s):	M Law
Doc Ref:	LP4450E-EAR-v1.0
Date:	November 22





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- 3. Statement of Potential and Recommendations

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Table I – Estimated abundance of items in samples





1. Introduction and Methods

- 1.1. Sixteen samples, each of 10 litres volume, were presented for assessment from archaeological work at land off Church Road, Thurston, Suffolk (site code THS 063).
- 1.2. The samples were processed using a Siraf-style flotation tank. The washovers (flots) were caught on a $250\mu m$ sieve, and the heavy fraction ('residue') retained on a $500\mu m$ mesh.
- 1.3. The residues were weighed and air dried, then sorted into fractions using a nest of sieves (8mm, 4mm, 2mm, 1mm, 500 μ m). Items of interest were removed and bagged, the geological material discarded. The flots were weighed and scanned wet, before being air dried and scanned again.
- 1.4. Assessment was carried out by Carolyn Smith (charred plant macrofossils), Sacha Davies (charcoal) and Dr Matt Law (molluscs and charcoal) of Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA). Mollusca, charred plant macrofossils and charcoal were identified using a low power microscope and a reference collection. For assessment of charcoal, 20 fragments per sample were identified in transverse section.
- 1.5.Molluscan nomenclature follows Anderson and Rowson (2020). Ecological information about mollusc species is derived from Evans (1972), Kerney and Cameron (1979), Kerney (1999), and Davies (2008).
- 1.6.Botanical nomenclature follows Stace (2010).





2. Results and Discussion

- 2.1.Estimated abundance of items present in the samples are presented in TABLE 1.
- 2.2.Modern herbaceous roots make up a considerable proportion by volume of the sample flots. This raises the possibility that recent material will have been introduced into the sampled contexts. An exception is the pit fill (1066), which contained very few roots
- 2.3. Similarly, the mollusc shell was well-preserved, and the majority was clearly of recent date, being either glossy in appearance or maintaining the protein-based coloured layer (periostracum) on the outside of the shell.
- 2.4.Charcoal is present, although generally in low abundance, in all samples. Fragments with weak ring curvature predominate, suggesting that timber was being burnt for fuel. It seems logical that this would be a secondary use of a valuable resource. Oak (Quercus spp.) predominates, although pomaceous fruitwood species ('Maloideae'), beech (Fagus sylvatica), and alder/ hazel/ or hornbeam (Alnus Corylus Carpinus) are also present in small quantities.
- 2.5. Charred cereal remains are present throughout the assemblage. In general, they are poorly preserved grains only, which are not identifiable to type, or perhaps identifiable as likely to be wheat (*Triticum* spp.). An exception is pit fill (1064), which contains a relatively rich assemblage, dominated by barley (*Hordeum* spp.) with lesser quantities of wheat and rye (*Secale cereale*), as well as charred legumes. Chaff is largely absent from the site, implying that primary cereal processing was taking place elsewhere, although spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) glumebases are present in pit fill (1068).
- 2.6.Other plant remains present at the site are seeds of a variety of wild species. As these are neither waterlogged nor mineralised, there is a strong possibility that they are recent intrusions.
- 2.7.As discussed above, the mollusc assemblage appears to largely be comprised of recent intrusions. Of the taxa represented, the blind snail *Cecilioides acicula* is a subterranean snail which can live up to 2 metres below ground. The other two taxa present, *Helicella itala* and *Vallonia* spp., reflect an open, grassy environment. It is





likely that the burial environment was not suitable for preservation of shell.

Context Number		1018		1020		1012		1014		1044		1030		1060		046		1050		064
Sample Number		1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10
Sample Volume (L.)		10		10		10		10		10		10		10		10		10		10
Context Description	[Ditch	ī	Ditch	[Ditch	ı	Ditch	1	Ditch		Pit	Po	st-hole		Pit	ı	Ditch		Pit
	Flo t	Residu e	Flo	Residu e	Flo	Residu e	Flo t	Residu e	Flo	Residu e	Flo t	Residu e	Flo	Residu e	Flo	Residu e	Flo t	Residu e	Flo t	Residu e
Weight after processing (g)	19	2060	18	3705	25	7389	32	5598	30	4780.5	49	3251	27	3615	40	1836	П	1790	16	2364
volume (ml)	20		40		40		80		40		85		35		80		12		20	
% modern	95		90		95		95		95		85		90		60		95		40	
Estimated proportion 'fresh' : 'worn' shells	N/ A		1:0		N/ A		N/ A		N/ A		1:0		1:0				0: I		1:0	
CHARCOAL		++		+		+		+				++				++		+		++
>4mm											+				+					
2 - 4mm	+		+		+		+		+		++		+		++		+			++
<2mm	++		++		++		++		++		++		+		+++		+			+++
Ring porous, Quercus, weak ring curvature	+	+	+		+		+		+		++		+		+				+	+
Diffuse porous, Maloideae, weak ring curvature Fagus sylvatica, Weak ring curvature	+		+		+	+	+	+	+						+		+	+	+	+
Corylus - Alnus - Carpinus, weak ring curvature					+				+						+				+	
Unidentified CHARRED PLANT REMAINS	+	+	+	+		+			+	+			+		+		+	+	+	+
Cereal indet	+	+						+	+				+						+++	++
Triticum																			+	
T.spelta Hordeum/ Triticum Hordeum				+		+											+		+	+
cf Hordeum						+													++	+
Triticum/Secale																			+	
Secale cereale																			+	
Legume 4mm																			+	
2mm																			+	





Context Number	1018	1020	1012	1014	1044	1030	1060	1046	1050	1064
Sample Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SEEDS; OTHER PLANT MACROFOSSI LS				+						
Bromus sp										+
Atriplex sp Atriplex hortensis				+		+		+		
Chenopodium sp	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+
Chenopodium alba	+			+			+			
Rumex sp						+				
Silene cf latiflora					+					
Veronica hederifolia			+		+		+			
SNAILS									++ +	+
Helicella itala									+	
Vallonia spp.									+	
Cecilioides acicula		+				+	+			+
INSECTS and other invertebrates									+ (wo rm egg)	+ (wo rm egg)
BONE								+ (2g)	+ (< g)	+ (lg)
BURNT BONE	+ (< g)							+ (< g)	+ (< g)	+ (< g
POT					+ (1g)	+ (< lg)		+ (3g)	+ (4g)	+ (3g)

Context Number		1066		1068	3 1074		1076		1004		1079	
Sample Number		П	12		13		14		15		16	
Sample Volume (L.)		10		10		10		10		10		10
Context Description		Pit		Pit	Paleochannel		Pit		Buried soil		Grave	
	Flot	Residue	Flot	Residue	Flot	Residue	Flot	Residue	Flot	Residue	Flot	Residue
Weight after processing (g)	4	1516	10	1377	94	3490	21	3987	13	1940	13	4054
volume (ml)	3		15		200		40		25		20	
% modern roots	5		50		70		80		90		80	
Estimated proportion 'fresh': 'worn' shells	0:1		N/ A		N/ A		N/ A		N/A		1:0	
CHARCOAL		++		+				+		++		+





Context	-	1066		1068		074		1076		1004		1079
Number		1000		1000		U/4		10/6		1004		10/7
Sample Number		11		12		13		14		15		16
2 - 4mm		++	++		+		++		+		++	
<2mm		++	+++		+		++		++		++	
Ring porous, Quercus, weak ring curvature	+		+		+		+			+		+
Ring porous, cf. Quercus, weak ring		+						+				+
curvature Diffuse												
porous, Maloideae, weak ring	+	+	+	+					+	+		
curvature Fagus sylvatica, Weak ring	+						+	+	+		+	
curvature Corylus - Alnus												
 Carpinus, weak ring curvature 	+				+					+	+	+
Unidentified	+	+				+	+	+		+	+	
CHARRED PLANT REMAINS												
Cereal indet		+							+		+	
cf Triticum							+				+	
cf T.spelta - glumebase			+									
cf Hordeum							+					
cf Secale cereale SEEDS; OTHER PLANT MACROFOS			+					+				
SILS												
Bromus sp							+					
Atriplex sp					+				+			
Betula sp Chenepodium					+							
sp Chenepodium	+		+		++		+		+			
alba Poaceae					+		+					
Rumex sp					+							
Silene sp					+							
Silene cf latiflora			+									
SNAILS Cecilioides acicula											+	
INSECTS and other invertebrates			+ (wo rm egg)				(wo rm egg)					
BONE		+ (< g)	-88)	+ (< g)			-55 <i>)</i>	+ (< lg)		++ (< g)		+ (g)





Context Number	1066	1068	1074	1076	1004	1079
Sample Number	11	12	13	14	15	16
POT				+ (6g)	+ (< g)	

Table 1 – Estimated abundance of items in samples. Scale of estimated abundance: + = 1-10 items; ++ = 11-50 items; +++ = 51-100 items





3. Statement of Potential and Recommendations

- 3.1.The samples present a limited insight into the use of cereals and wood at the site.
 Primary cereal processing appears to have taken place elsewhere. Timber, likely reused, was the preferred fuel. There is a strong likelihood that lots of the material is intrusive.
- 3.2. No further work is judged necessary, and the material need not be retained.





SOURCES CONSULTED



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Metalwork

Small Finds and Metalwork Report

Rebecca Sillwood

Introduction

Three items of metalwork were submitted for assessment – two of iron, one of copper alloy, all from likely Roman contexts including a buried soil in trench 36 and a pit in trench 31.

<u>Methodology</u>

The metalwork was catalogued by count and weight, with spot dates and descriptions produced where possible. This data can be found within an Excel spreadsheet which is provided separately to this report and will be available as part of the archive.

Measurements were recorded in millimetres using digital calipers, which were checked for accuracy often. Weight was recorded in grams, to the nearest 0.1g, using digital scales, which were also checked for accuracy frequently using a known weight.

<u>Discussion</u>

The small assemblage of metalwork from this site likely represents Roman activity, which cannot be closely dated from the metalwork.

A well-preserved iron chain (SF1) and a copper alloy ring/loop (SF2) were recovered from a buried soil (1004) in trench 36. The chain was a substantial length of almost half a metre and comprised alternate figure of eight and rectangular loops, with eight of each type in the chain. Manning (1985, Plate 64, S13) illustrates a similar example and states that this type of chain was in common use from the Iron Age into the Roman period, where a distinct preference for the figure of eight loop can be seen. The use of the chain in this context could feasibly be domestic,



but it must also be noted that similar chains may have been used as slave chains, or gang-chains, as they are variously known. Chain lengths such as this were used to link neck collars, such as the Iron Age example from Llyn Cerrig Bach on Anglesey in north Wales. The purpose of the chain is not certain. The copper alloy wire loop (SF2) also from the buried soil may have been a plain expanding finger ring, or possibly an earring, though, again, the purpose of the piece is not certain. Finally, an unidentified iron fragment came from pit [1063] in trench 31.

Statement of Potential

This small assemblage of metalwork from Thurston provides limited evidence for Roman activity on the site. The types of activity present are ambiguous as is the date. Despite the limitations of the assemblage, the iron chain is of potential interest, and is in such good condition, that it points to some good preservation of materials on this site. The purpose of the chain could include domestic activities, such as for suspension of a pot for cooking, it may even have a more industrial or macabre history, as a potential slave chain. This cannot be verified without the associated neck collars. Further work on the site may help to place these objects into the wider context of the area. A Roman road bisects Thurston to the west of the site and the activity here may relate to a Roman roadside settlement.

Recommendations for further work

Photography of the iron chain is recommended initially, and if further work is proposed for the site, illustration of the piece. X-radiography of all objects will provide a record of them and enable further information to be gleaned from them. The objects should be packaged carefully to preserve them.

If further excavation is undertaken on the site, these finds should be incorporated into the overall assemblage.

References

Manning, W.H. 1985. *Catalogue of the Romano-British Iron Tools, Fittings and Weapons in the British Museum.* British Museum Publications Ltd.



APPENDIX 4 – COMPLIANCE (APPROVED WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION)

INTRODUCTION

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) on behalf of Landbridge. The archaeological work is required as a condition of application DC/17/02782, for the construction of a residential development of 15 dwellings and associated highway, car parking, and pond at Land off Church Lane, Thurston, Suffolk (588377/239552) (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 (SCCAS) (Cutler, H. 24^{th} September 2021) requires a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the area threatened by development for houses. This will be achieved by excavating 37 trenches measuring $30.00 \, \text{m} \times 1.80 \, \text{m}$. The trenches will be excavated using a 360° tracked, mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

This document represents a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological evaluation ONLY; this document alone will NOT result in the discharge of the archaeological condition.



2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION (Fig. 1)

The site is located within the southern bounds of the village of Thurston which lies approximately 5km east of Bury St Edmunds. The site is currently in use as open fields for animal grazing with agricultural fields to the west and south, residential properties to the east and a railway line to the north.

2.1 Site Geology

The Bedrock geology is described as Crag Group – Sand, formed up to 5 million years ago in the Quaternary and Neogene Periods (BSG, 2022).

The superficial deposits are recorded as Croxton Sand and Gravel Member, formed during the Anglian Stage some 478,000 to 424,000 years ago (BGS, 2022).



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 2021). The relevant local development framework is the *Mid Suffolk Local Plan (Policy HB14; 1998)*.

3.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLG July 2021)

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 Mid Suffolk Local Plan (Policy HB14; 1998)

Policy HB14

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.



4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2)

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Heritage Explorer (within a 1km search centred on the site), English Heritage PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) (Figs. 2 & 3). A full archaeological background using the results from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (1km search centred on the site) will be included in the report arising from the archaeological work.

4.1 Prehistoric

Archaeological investigations some 750m to the north of the site found a small pit of Early Bronze Age – Middle Bronze Age date (THS 031). Middle Iron Age through Late Iron Age activity was also identified in the form of pits and post-holes as well as fragments of a previously disturbed inhumation burial likely dating to the Iron Age/Romano-British period incorporated into two backfill deposits of a large quarry pit. No further burial evidence was found. A grave might have been disturbed by the quarry pit or the bone could have been deposited in the pit alongside other domestic waste including a large assemblage of animal bone. Finds and environmental evidence suggest the potential for settlement activity within the wider area during the Iron Age but not within the site itself.

500m to the west of the site, archaeological evaluation uncovered a late pre-historic ditch containing a small amount of worked flint (THS 017).

4.2 Saxon

Some 650m to the north of the site, geophysical survey and evaluation south of Norton Road revealed dispersed late Saxon features.



4.3 Medieval

Some 500m to the west of the site, archaeological evaluation revealed a small group of postholes dated to this period, containing pottery (THS 017) suggestive of nearby contemporary occupation.

Some 850m to the south west of the site, Cathcart King suggests a motte associated with Rougham may have been present, later used as a millstead (RGH 154).

4.4 Post-medieval and Modern

350m to the east of the site lays the hamlet of Stockhold Green. Stockhold Green Farmstead (THS 060) has remnant agricultural buildings dating from the 15th through 19th centuries still present within its bounds. Directly to the farmsteads south is Stockhold's green, present on Hodskinson's Map of 1783 (THS 048).

A number of field boundary ditches were identified during excavations some 750m north of the site which corresponds to boundaries present on historical maps (THS 031).

4.5 Archaeological Potential

Due to the paucity of known archaeological events and monuments within the search area, the site has a **low** potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and medieval periods, with a **moderate** potential for finds and features relating to the post-medieval and modern periods.



5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS 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 *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2021* (SCCAS), *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 brief requires a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the site ahead of the construction of houses. This will be achieved by excavating 37 trenches measuring $30.00 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.80 \,\mathrm{m}$. The trenches will be set out in a systematic grid layout across the site.

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 or complex/unexpected deposits are identified, a site meeting will be held with the client and the SCCAS planning archaeologist to discuss the significance of the remains and decide on the strategy and scope of further excavation and recording. The brief (section 4.3) states that a minimum 0.5% contingency be available for judgemental trench use should the SCCAS planning archaeologist decide that further trenching or deposit testing is necessary if unclear archaeological remains or geomorphological features present difficulties of interpretation, or to assist with the formulation of a mitigation strategy. 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 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 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 750, 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 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 Remote Monitoring Requirements

Due to the current government restrictions in place as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic only essential travel and contact with others is permitted. In response to this SCCAS have put in place requirements to enable the remote monitoring of sites until site visits can commence safely:

- All features present in the trenches, including presumed natural and geological features, are to be investigated as per this WSI.
- A GPS trench plan showing what is present in each trench (including context numbers) will be produced.
- A written text stating what finds were found (if any) in each context, with provisional dates, will be made available.
- Trench shots will be taken from each end of the trench and provided to SCCAS.
- Photographs of trench sections (bulk) will also be provided.
- Photographs of all features will be provided with context numbers.
- A diagram indicating the direction each photograph was taken from including the photograph number will be produced.



 Provision will be made for SCCAS to review the remote monitoring documents and for any queries to be resolved.



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 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 (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.

Provision has been made for a summary in the annual PSIAH roundup if positive results are drawn from the evaluation.



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, 2022).

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 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.

10.2 COVID-19

Britannia will closely monitor and adhere to the Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) outlined by the Construction Leadership Council and Prospect. A full Covid-19 Risk Assessment will be undertaken and will be available upon request.



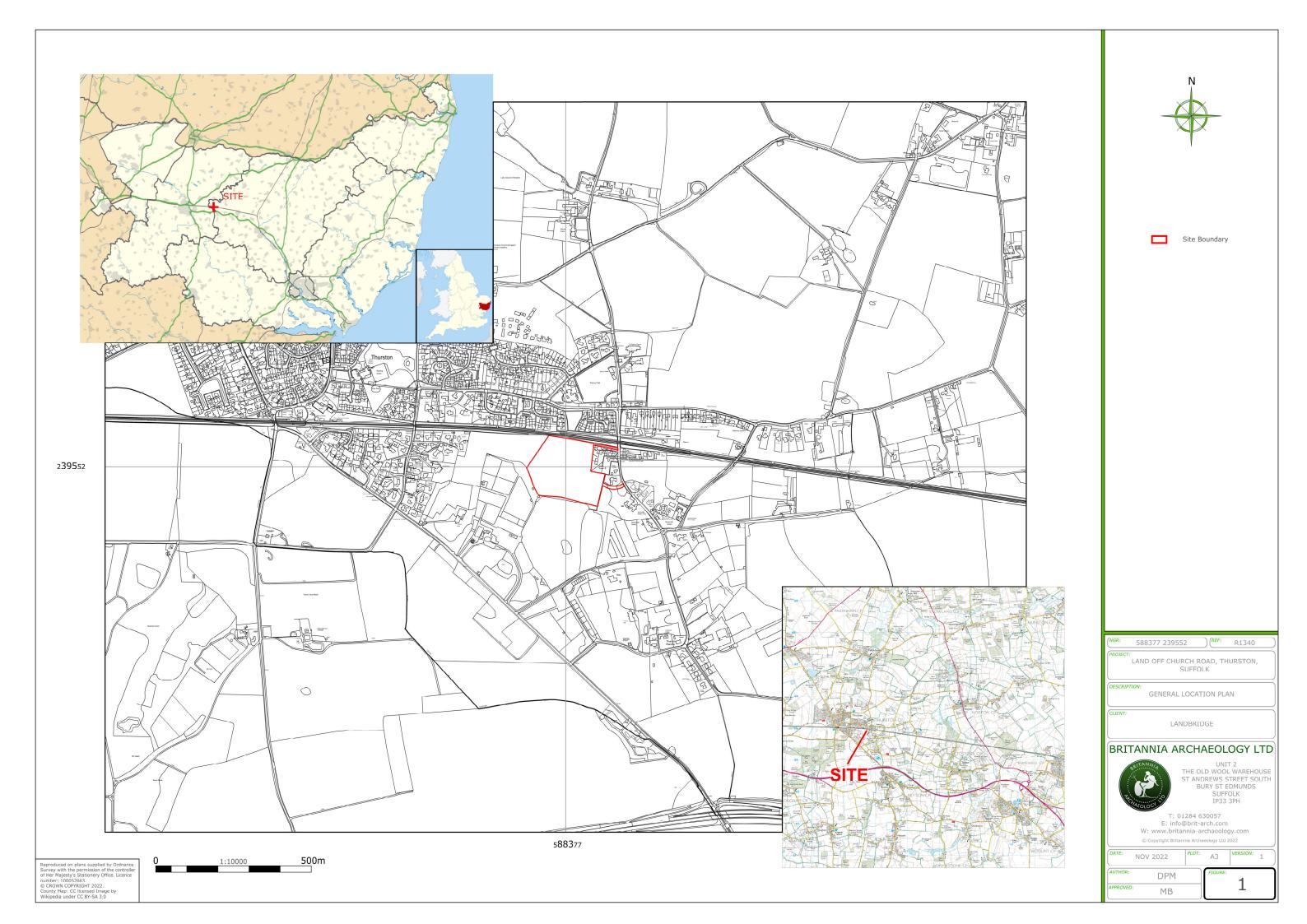
APPENDIX 5 - OASIS FORM

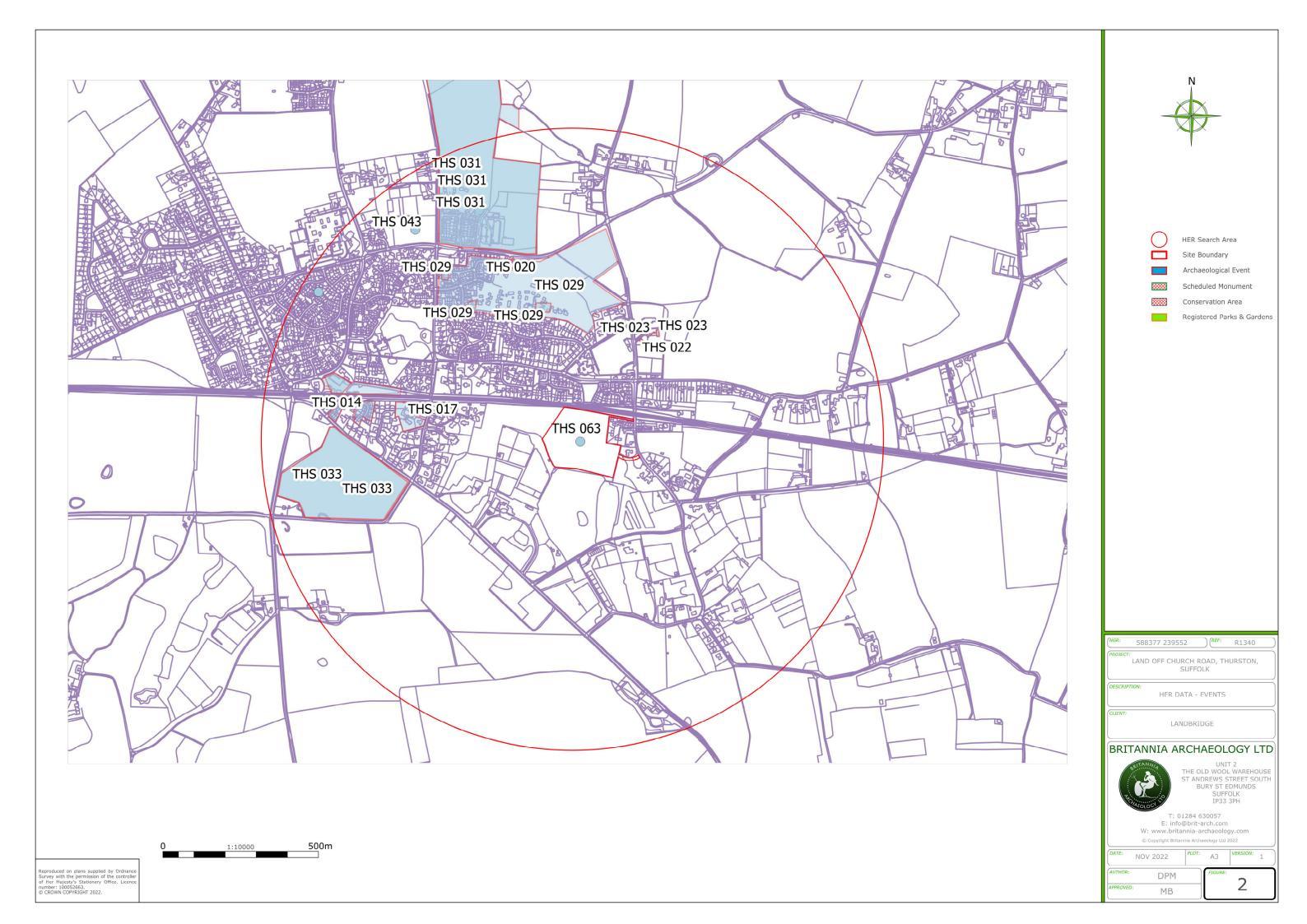
Summary for britanni1-504597

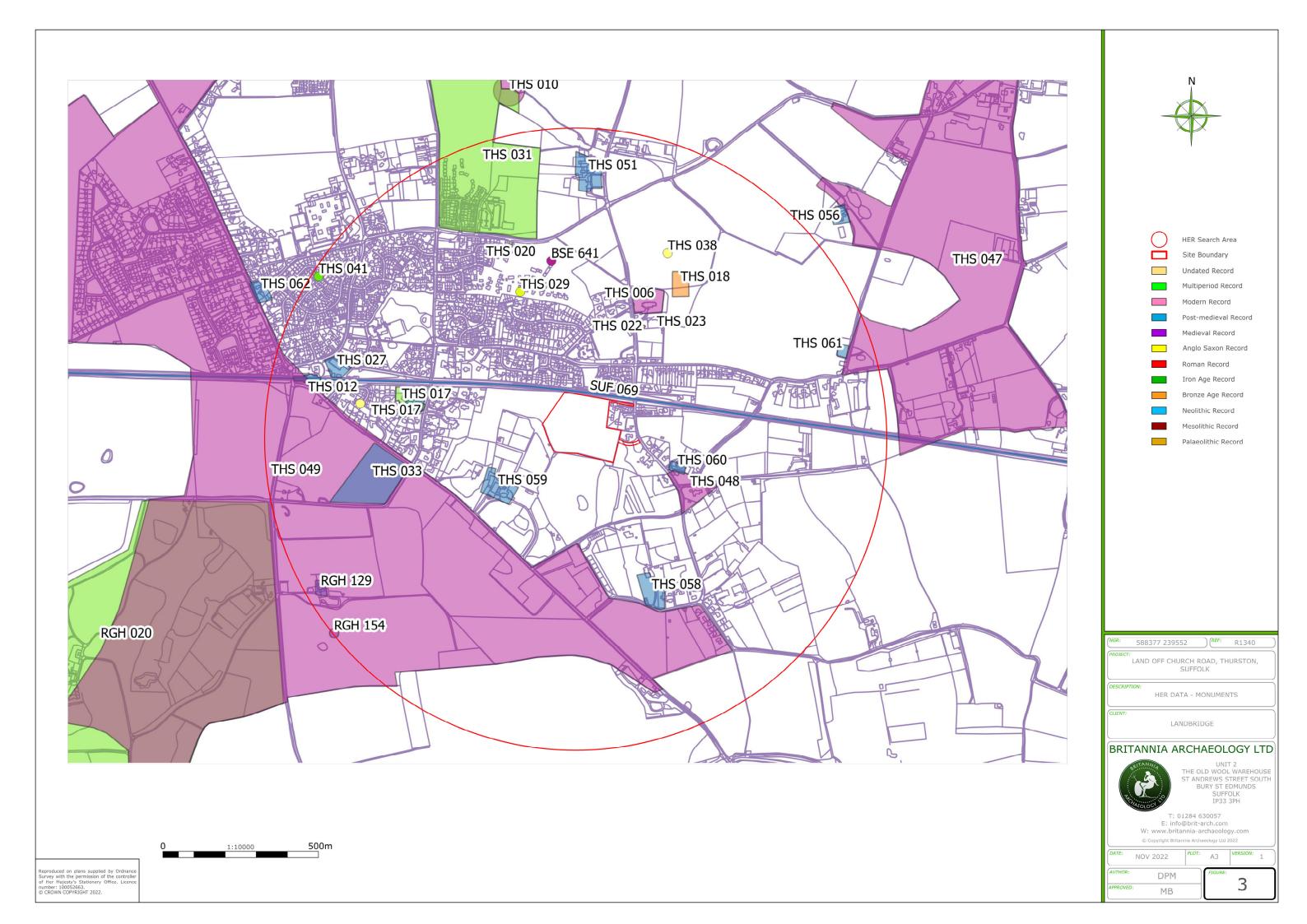
OASIS ID (UID)	britanni1-504597
Project Name	Evaluation at Land off Church Road, Thurston
Sitename	Land off Church Road, Thurston
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	P1387
Planning Id	DC/17/02782
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Project Dates	06-Jun-2022 - 25-Jun-2022
Location	Land off Church Road, Thurston
	NGR : TL 92700 64866
	LL: 52.2482229129399, 0.821389820702013
	12 Fig : 592700,264866
Administrative Areas	Country : England
	County : Suffolk
	District : Mid Suffolk
	Parish : Thurston
Project Methodology	Trial Trench evaluation, 37 trenches (30m x 1.8m)

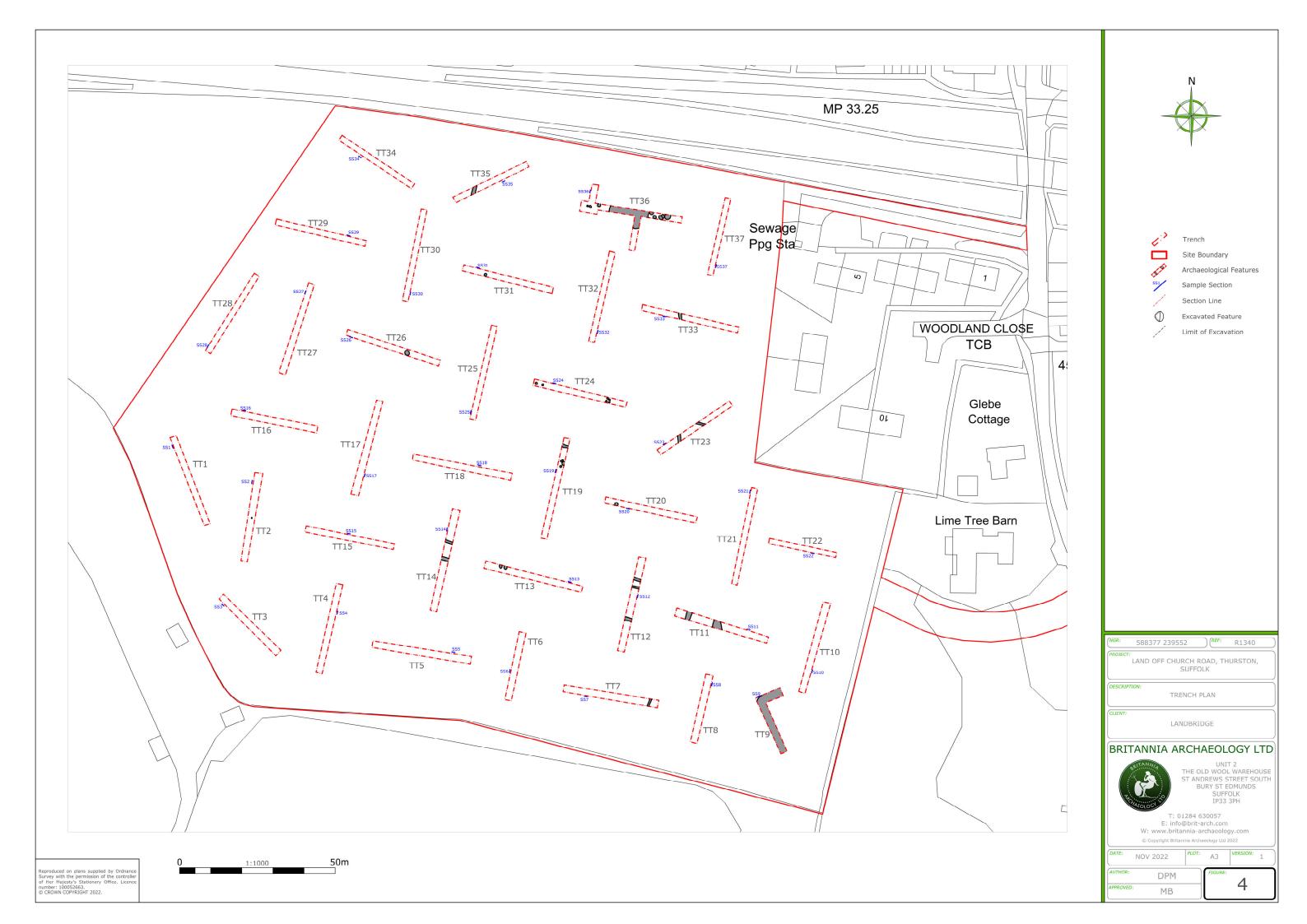


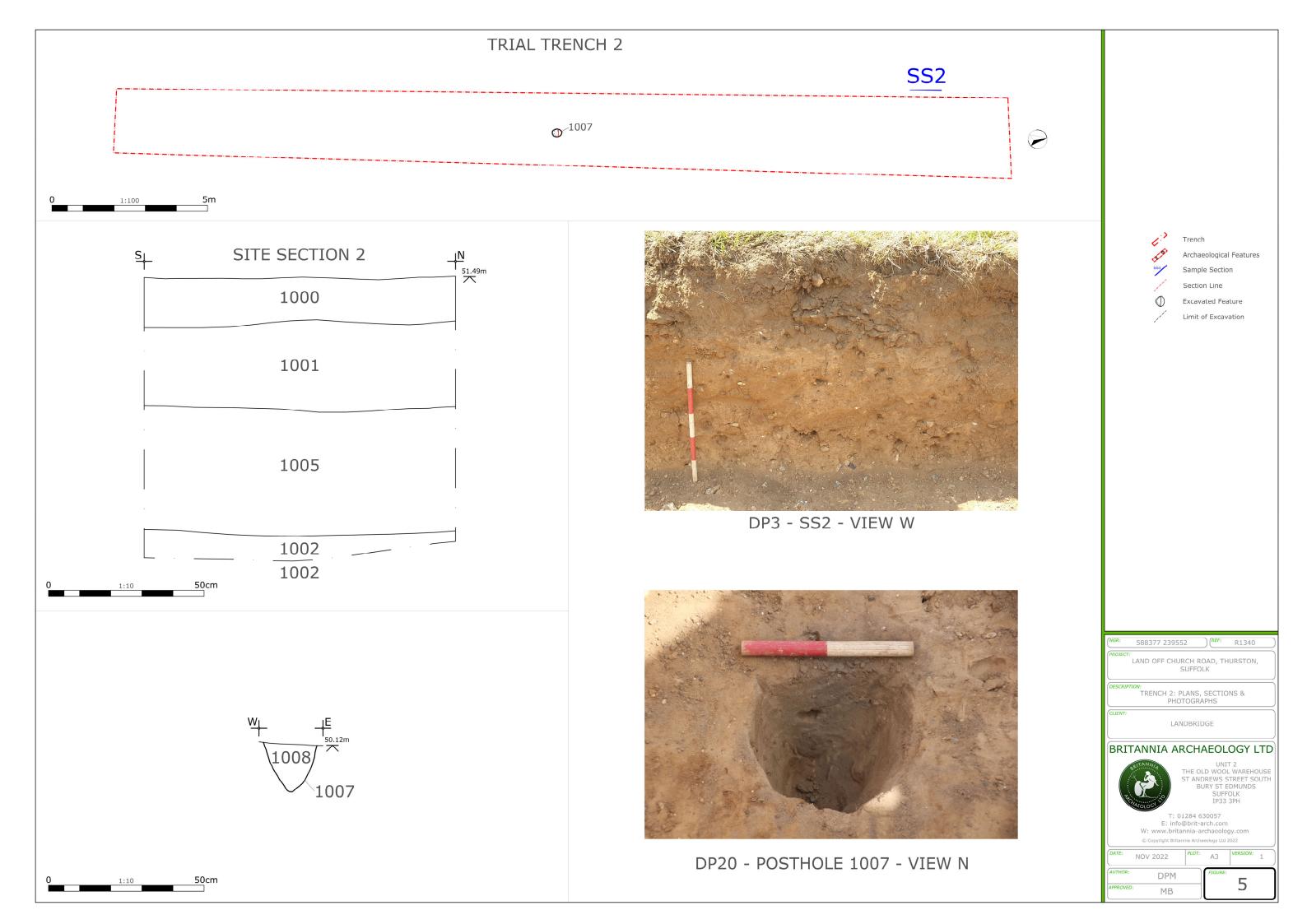
Project Results	The site had a moderate to high potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric period. There was a moderate potential for features and finds relating to the Roman period. The potential for finds and features from all other periods was considered low.
	The site can be divided into three phases:
	Phase I: Early Iron age Phase II: Roman (mid-1st – 4th Century) Phase III: Post-medieval
	The first discernible phase within the site is prescribed to the Early Iron Age and relates to Pit 1045 in Trench 26. It is not unusual to find features of late prehistoric date on sites where the majority of the dating relates to later Roman periods. Iron Age activity is thought to be evidenced in the immediate area of the site, as evidenced 750m to the north
	The second phase of activity relates to the Roman perios on the site is represented by pitting and land division activity within the central and eastern portions of the area investigated. This phase is also the most dominant on the site. Arguably the most significant pit in the grouping is Pit 1006 which was located in trench 36. The pit was heavily truncated but contained the semi articulated human remains. The remains are those of an adult, with fusion of the bones indicating that they were over twenty years old. Of significant interest was the presence of SF1 in an associated feature. SF1 was a well-preserved iron chain. The chain was a substantial length of almost half a metre and comprised alternate figure of eight and rectangular loops, with eight of each type in the chain. Roman entries in the SHER are sparse in the area so this assemblage and feature grouping is of interest. As there is a Roman road bisecting through Thurston to the west and the evidence found on the site could relate to the peripheral activity of a roadside settlement. This phase is represented by a single ditch located within trench 33.
	This ditch is likely the same as ditch 1035 seen in trench 23. The projection of the ditch appears to align with the Tithe plan of 1839and represents a former post medieval field division.
	Overall, the evaluation was successful in assessing the archaeological potential of the site. The evaluation revealed several archaeological features placed in three phases focussed predominantly within the central / south - eastern and northern portions of the site.
Keywords	Inhumation - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	
HER	Suffolk HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	M, Brook
HER Identifiers	
Archives	
, J. 11 T O O	

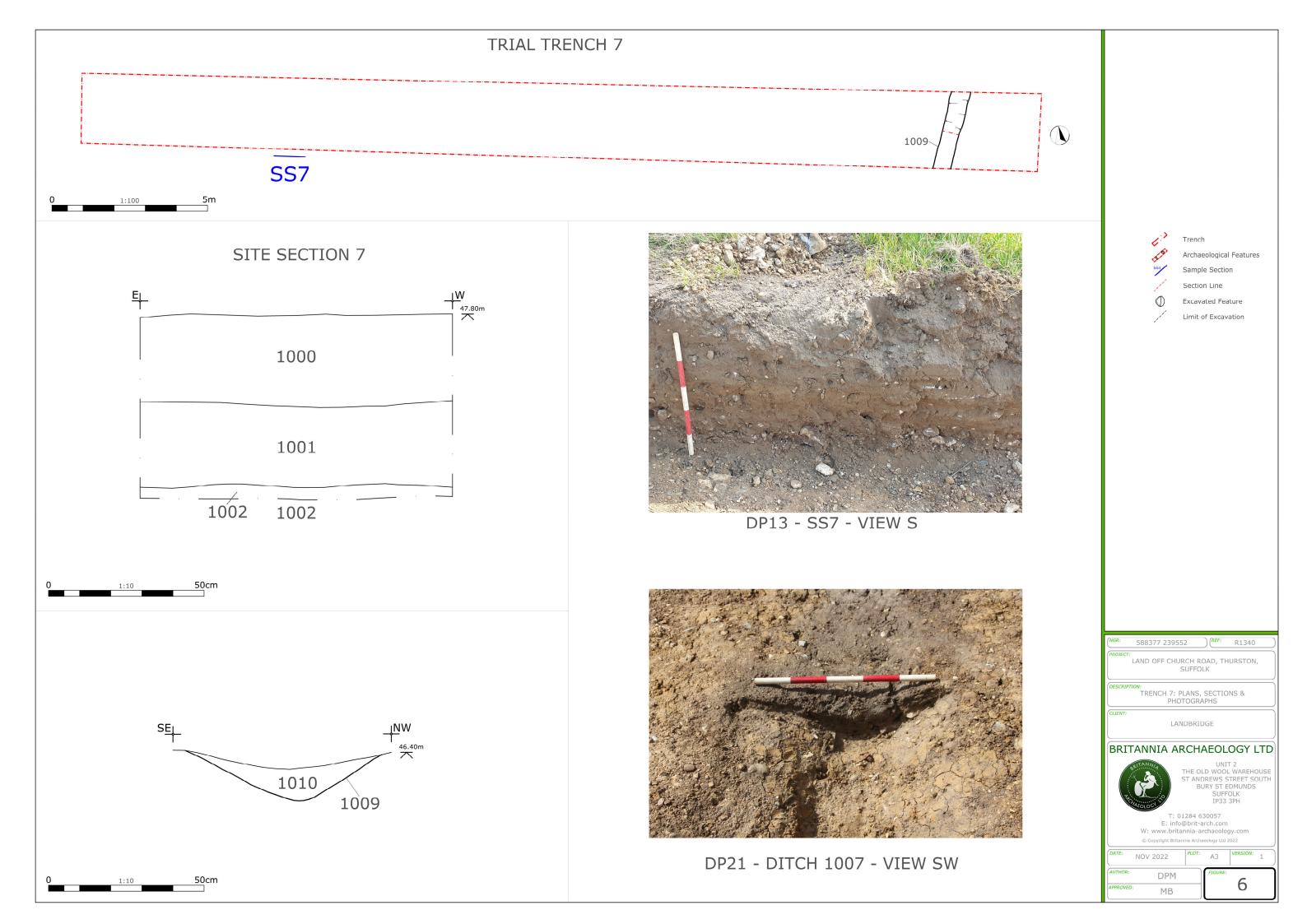


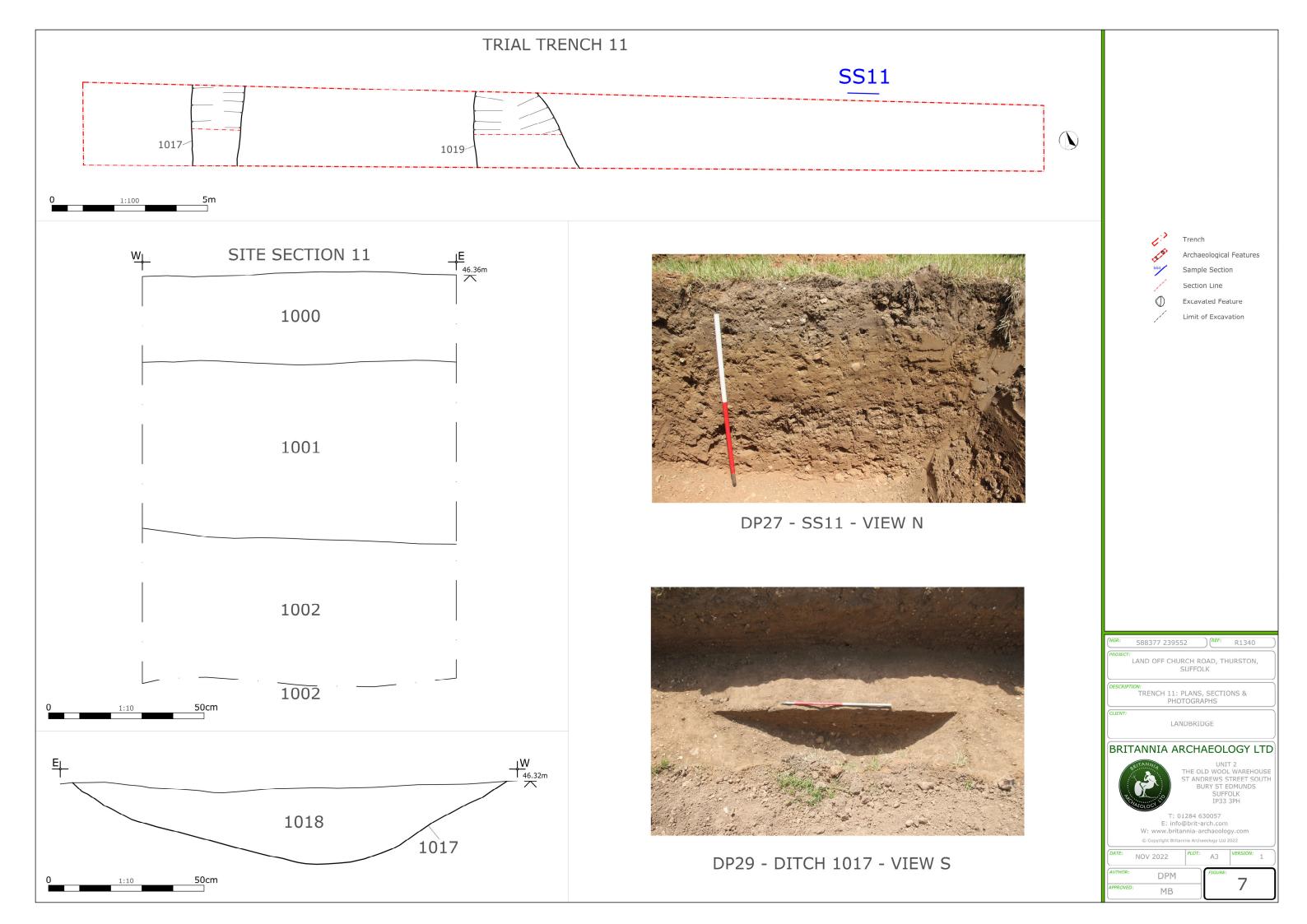


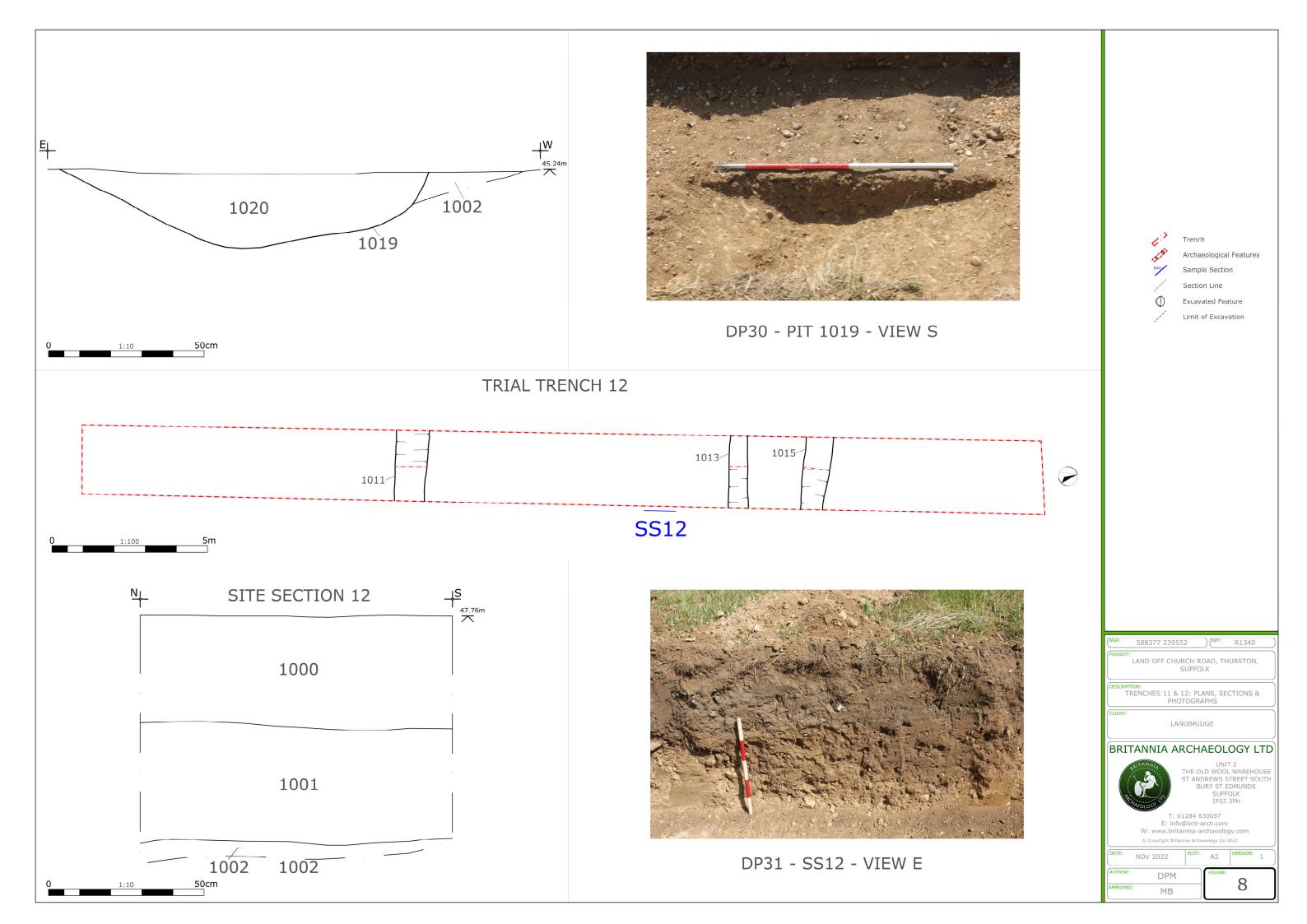


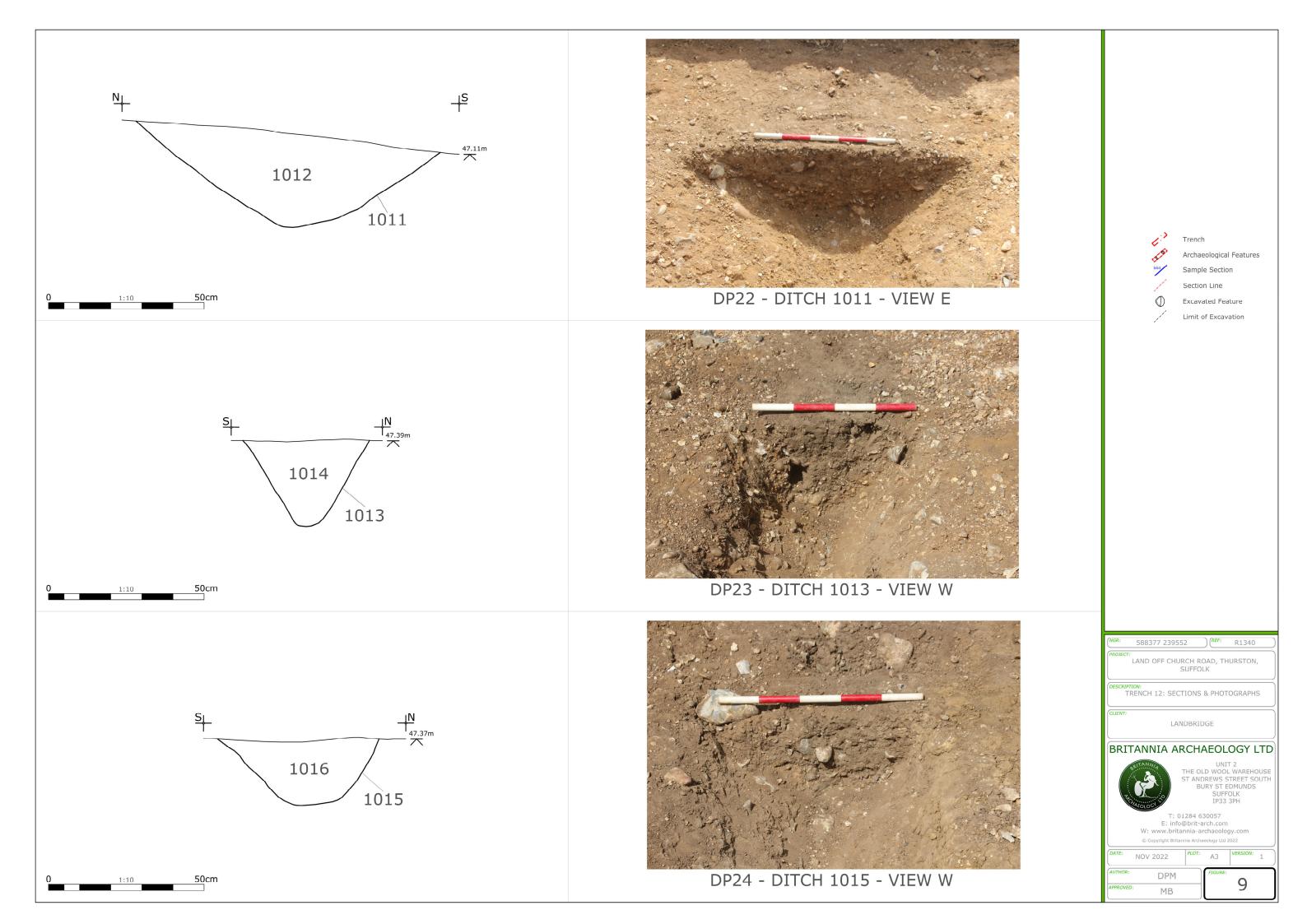


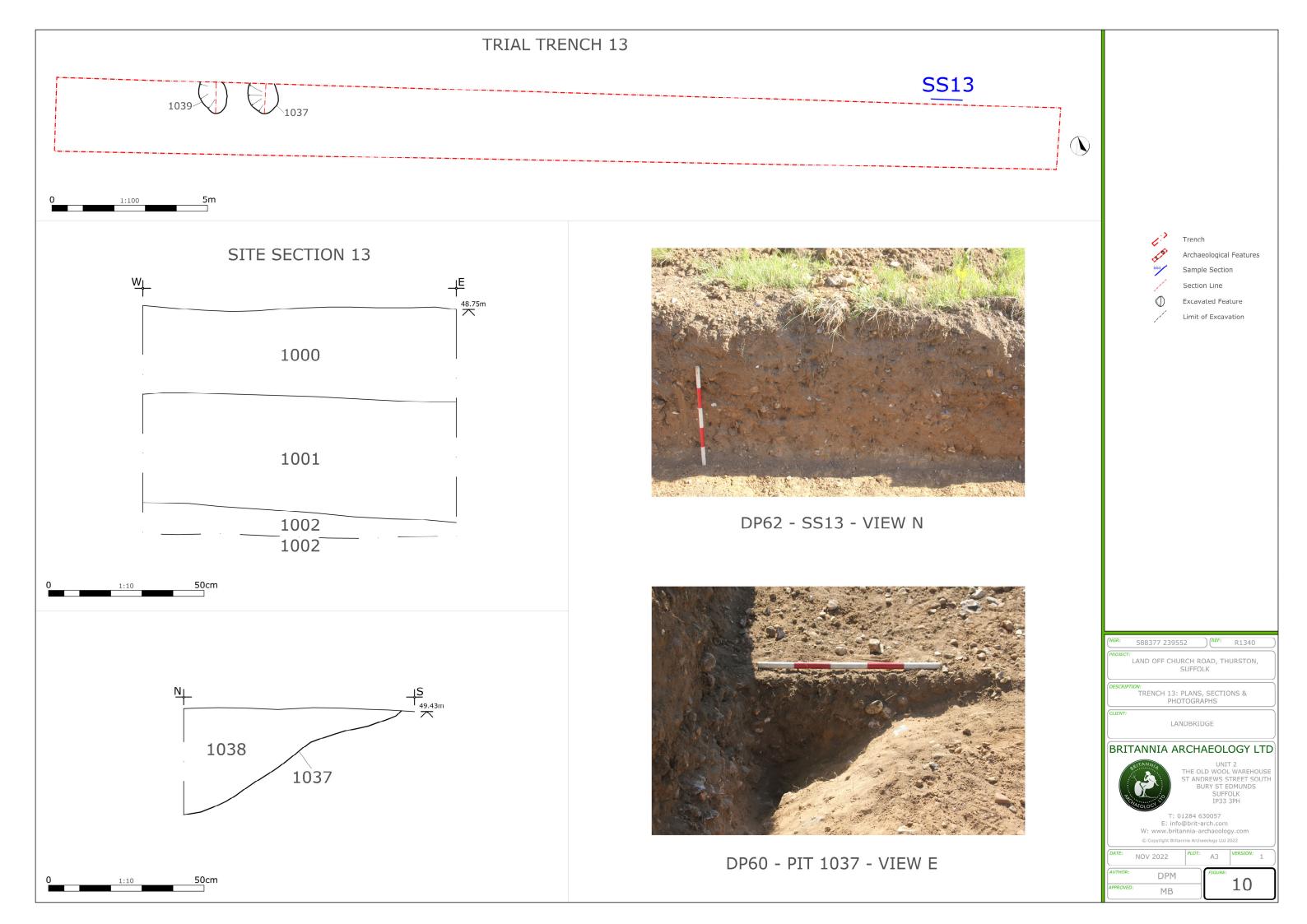


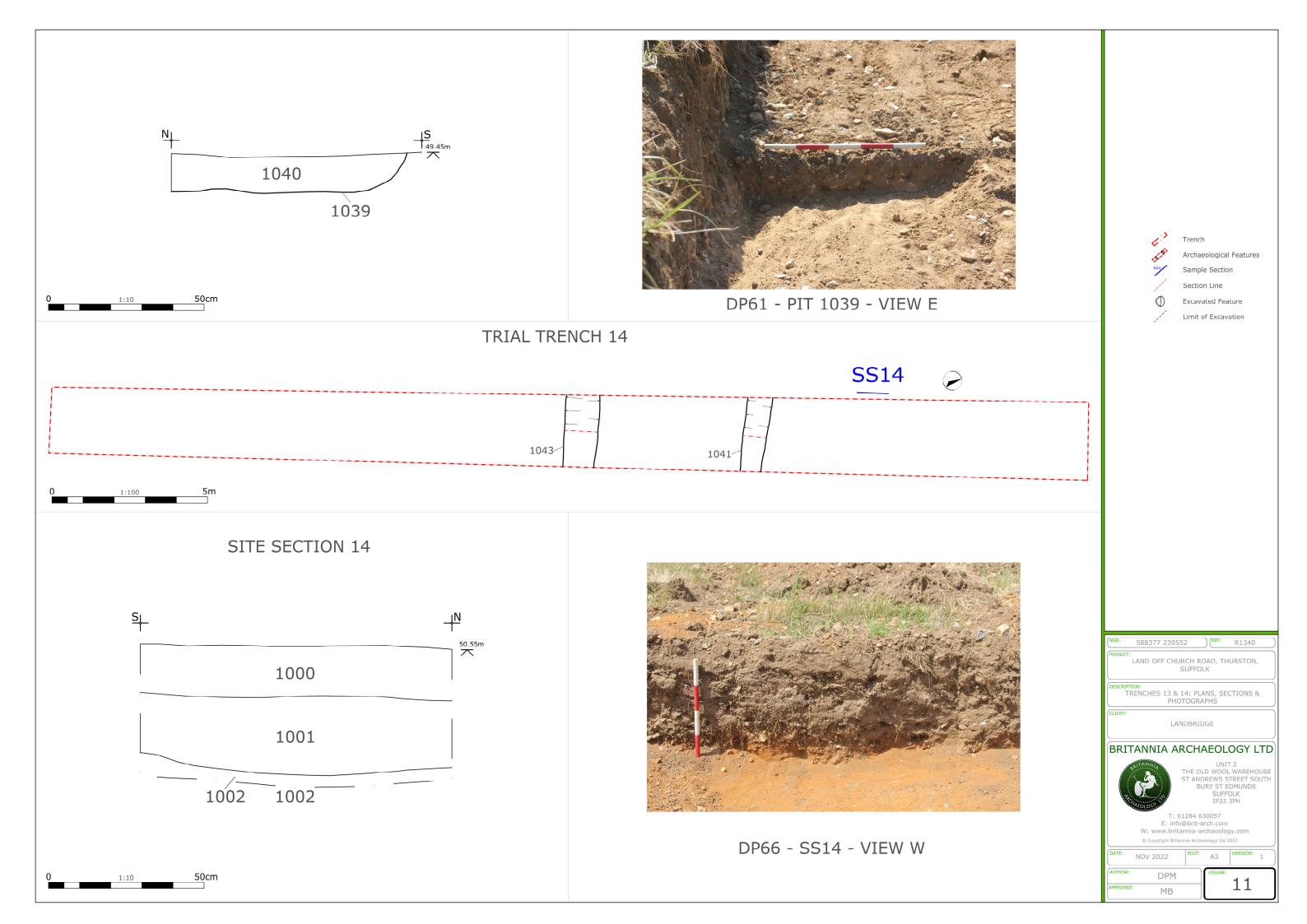


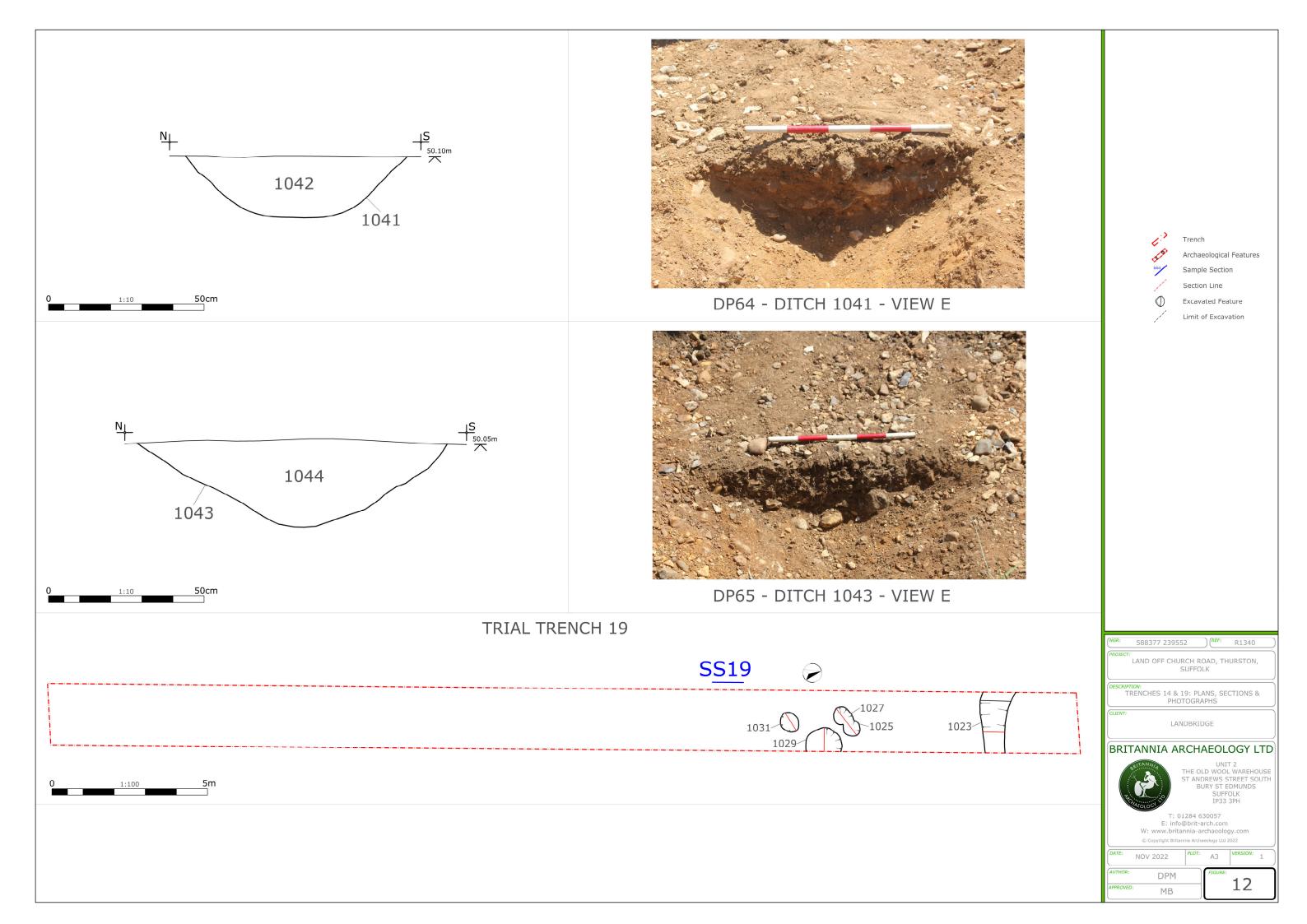


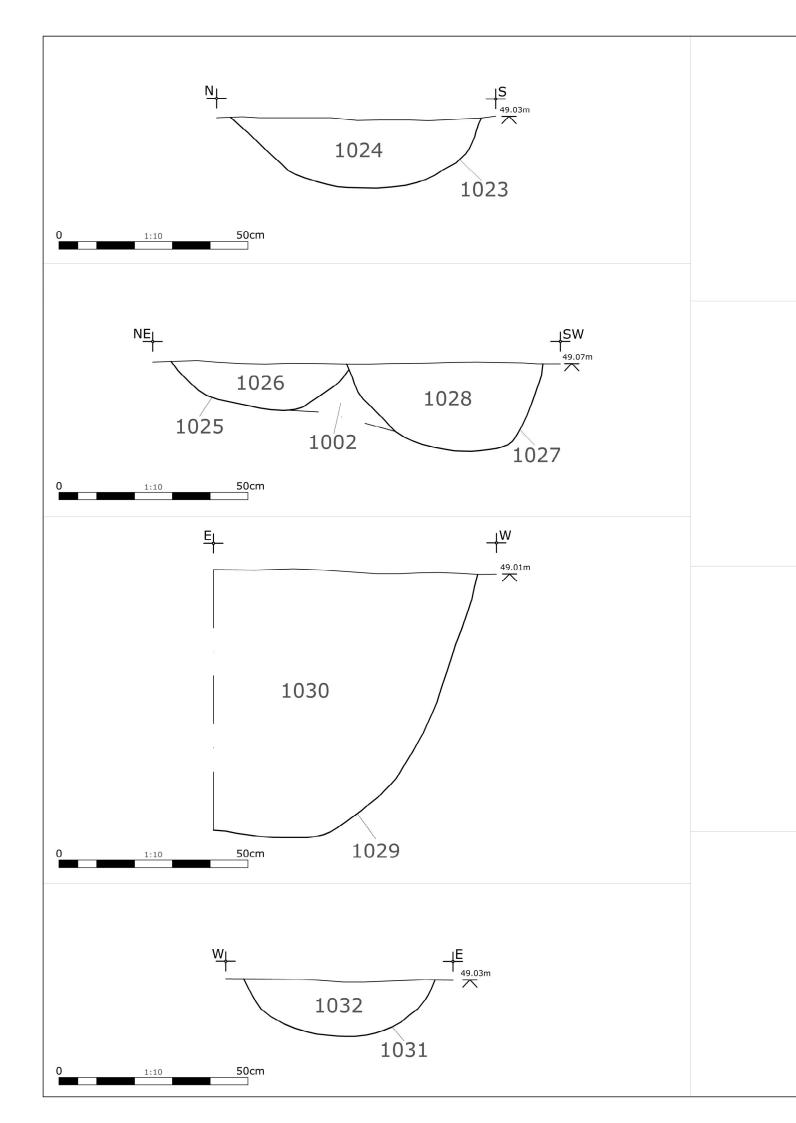














DP42 - DITCH 1023 - VIEW E



DP43 - POSTHOLES 1025 & 1027 1023 - VIEW SE



DP44 - PIT 1029 - VIEW S

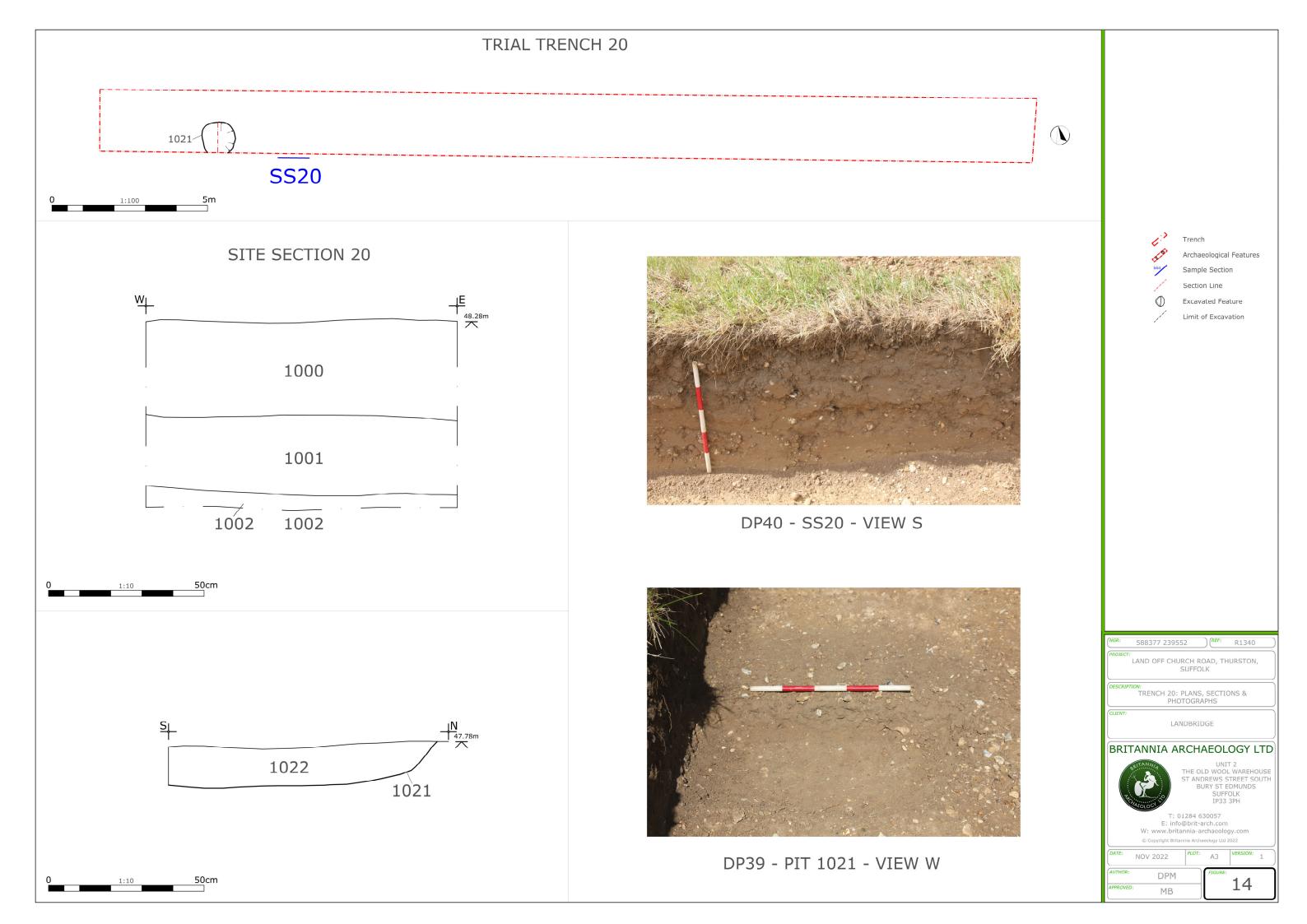


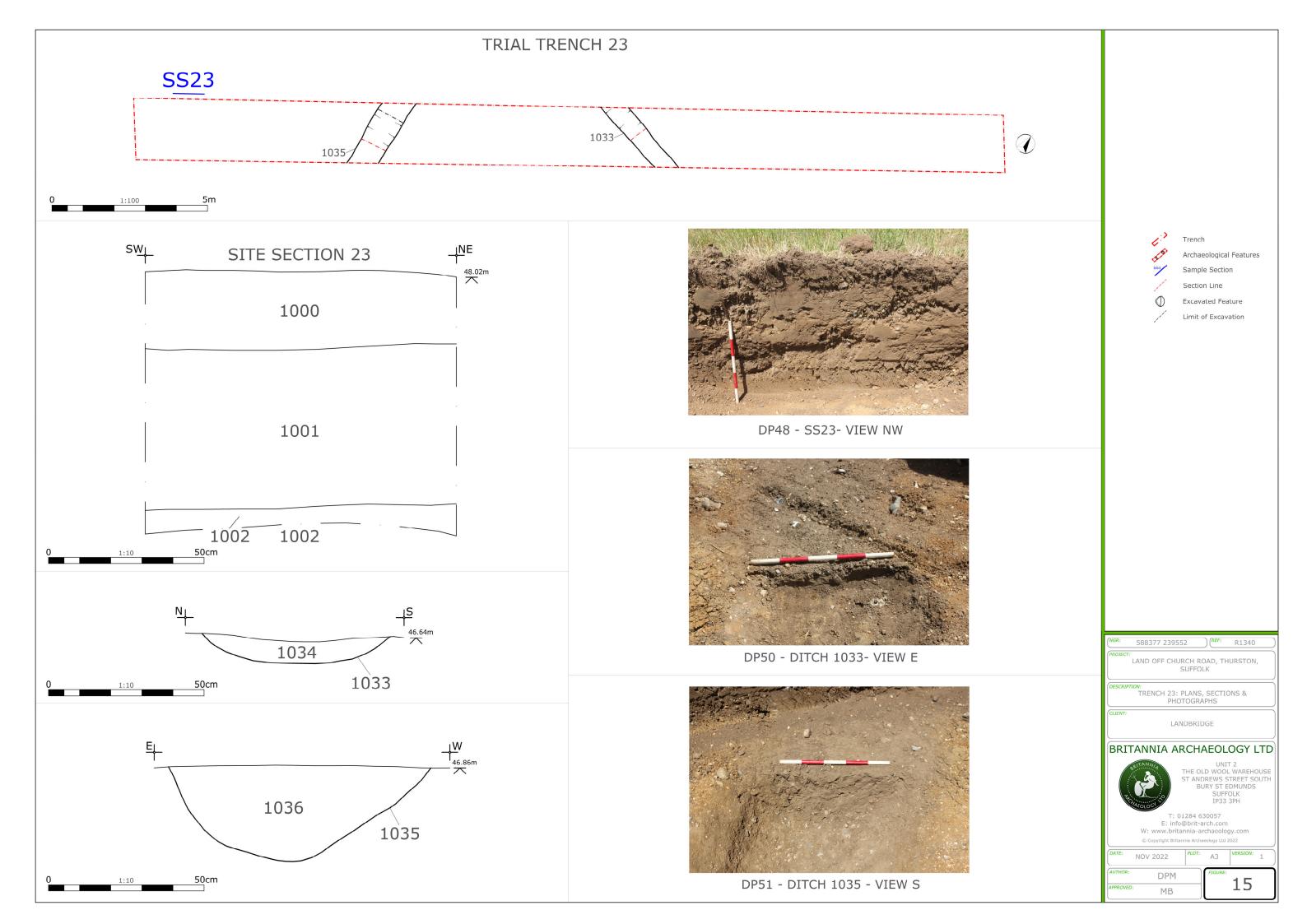
DP45 - POSTHOLE 1031 - VIEW NW

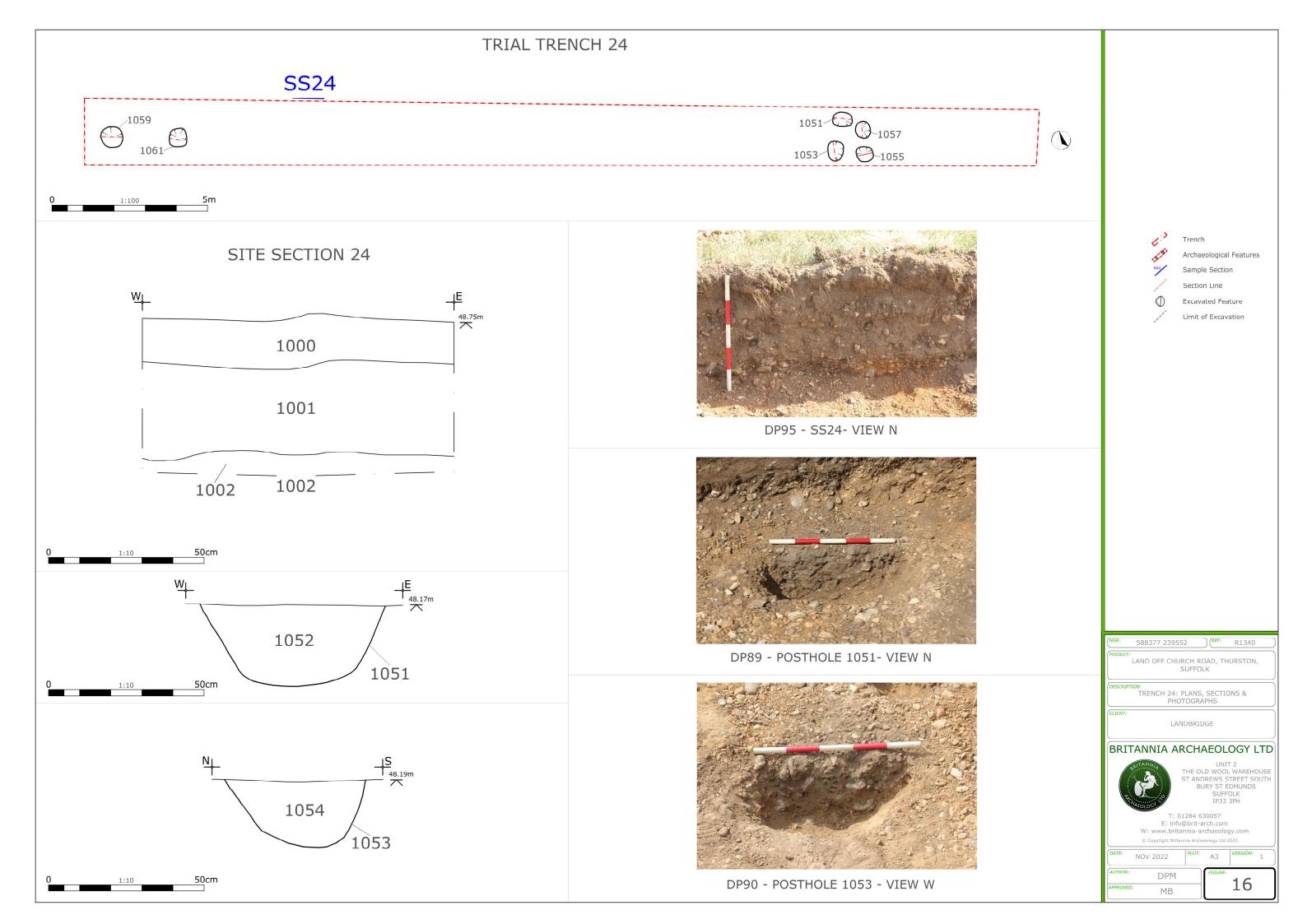


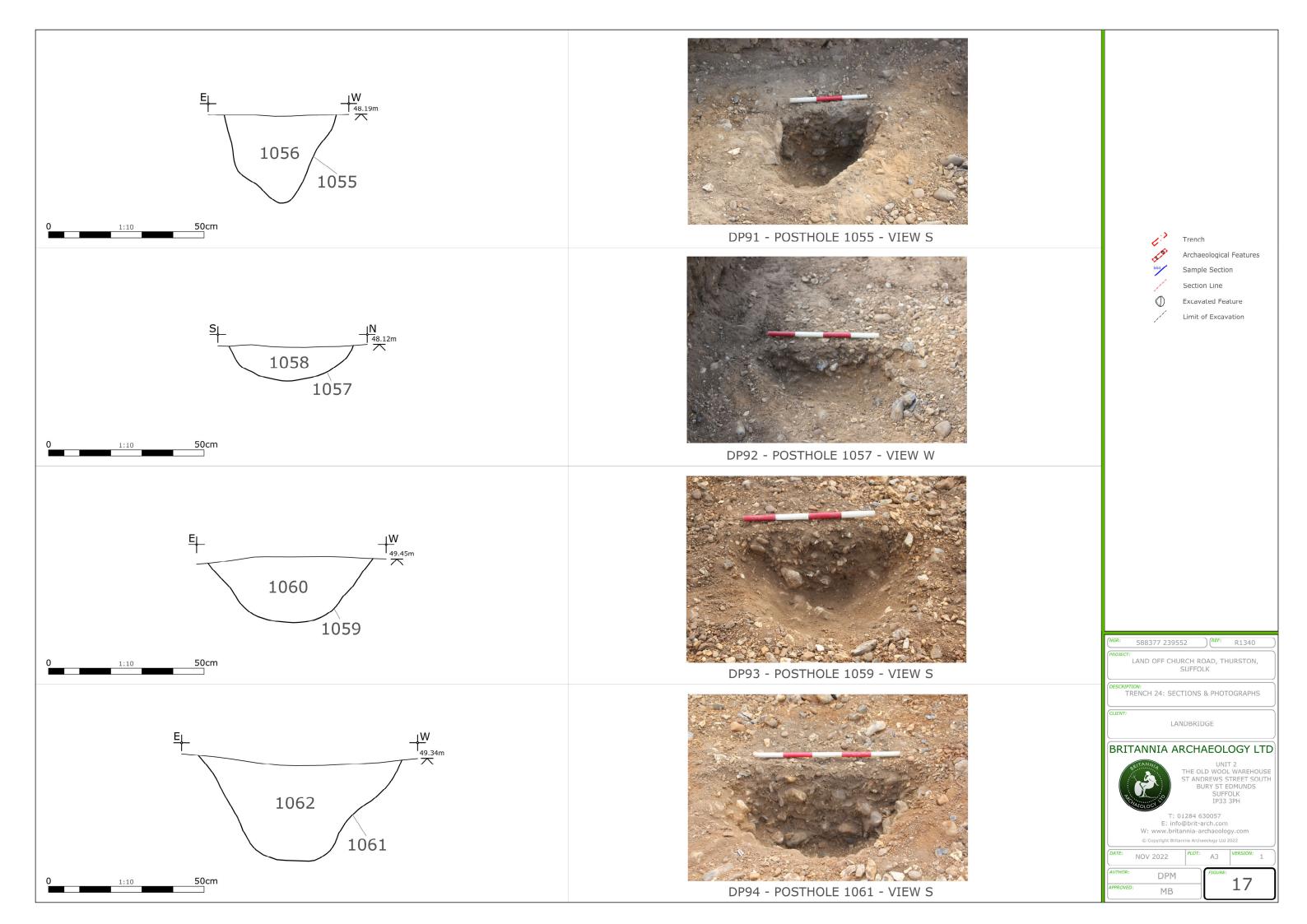


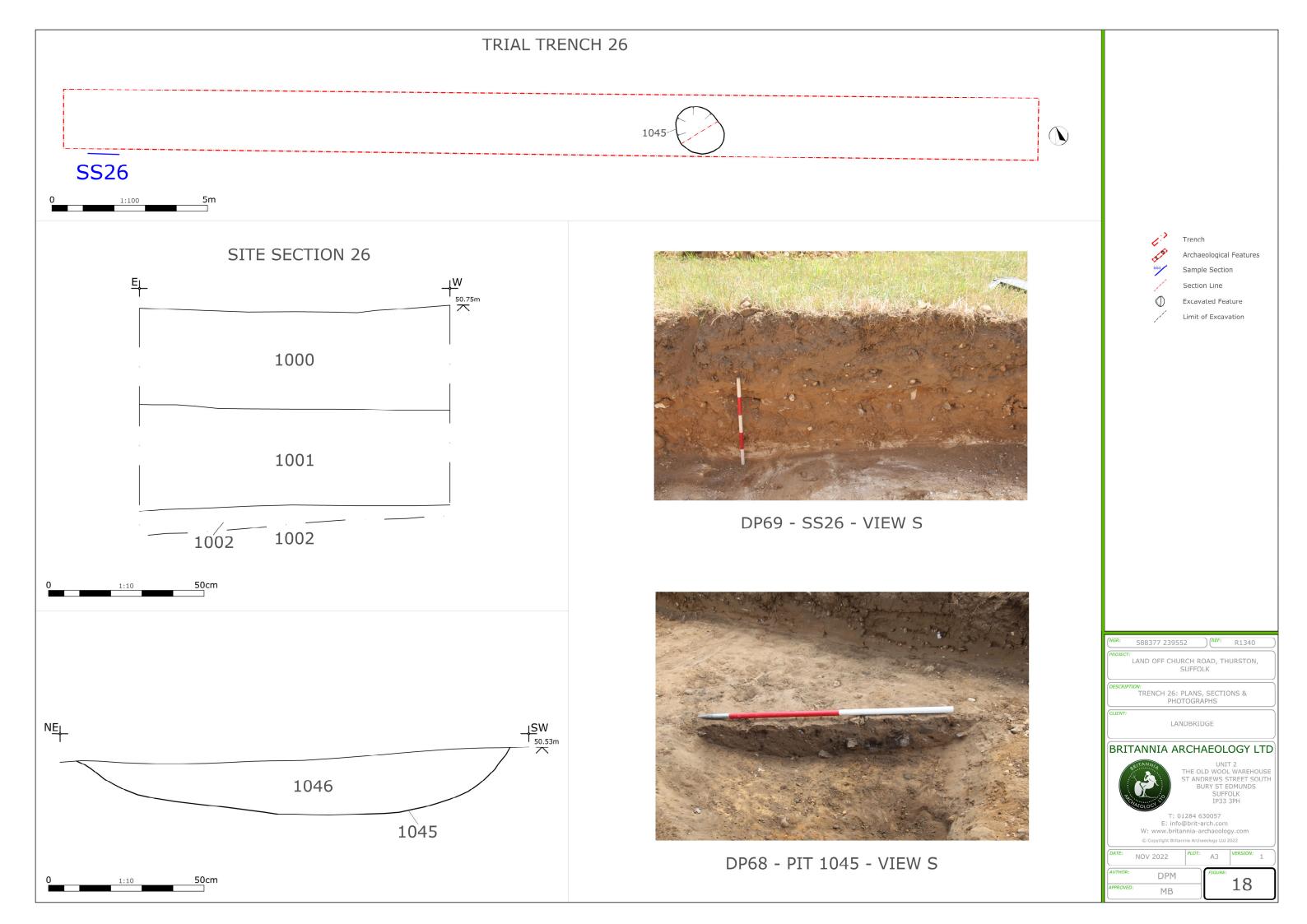
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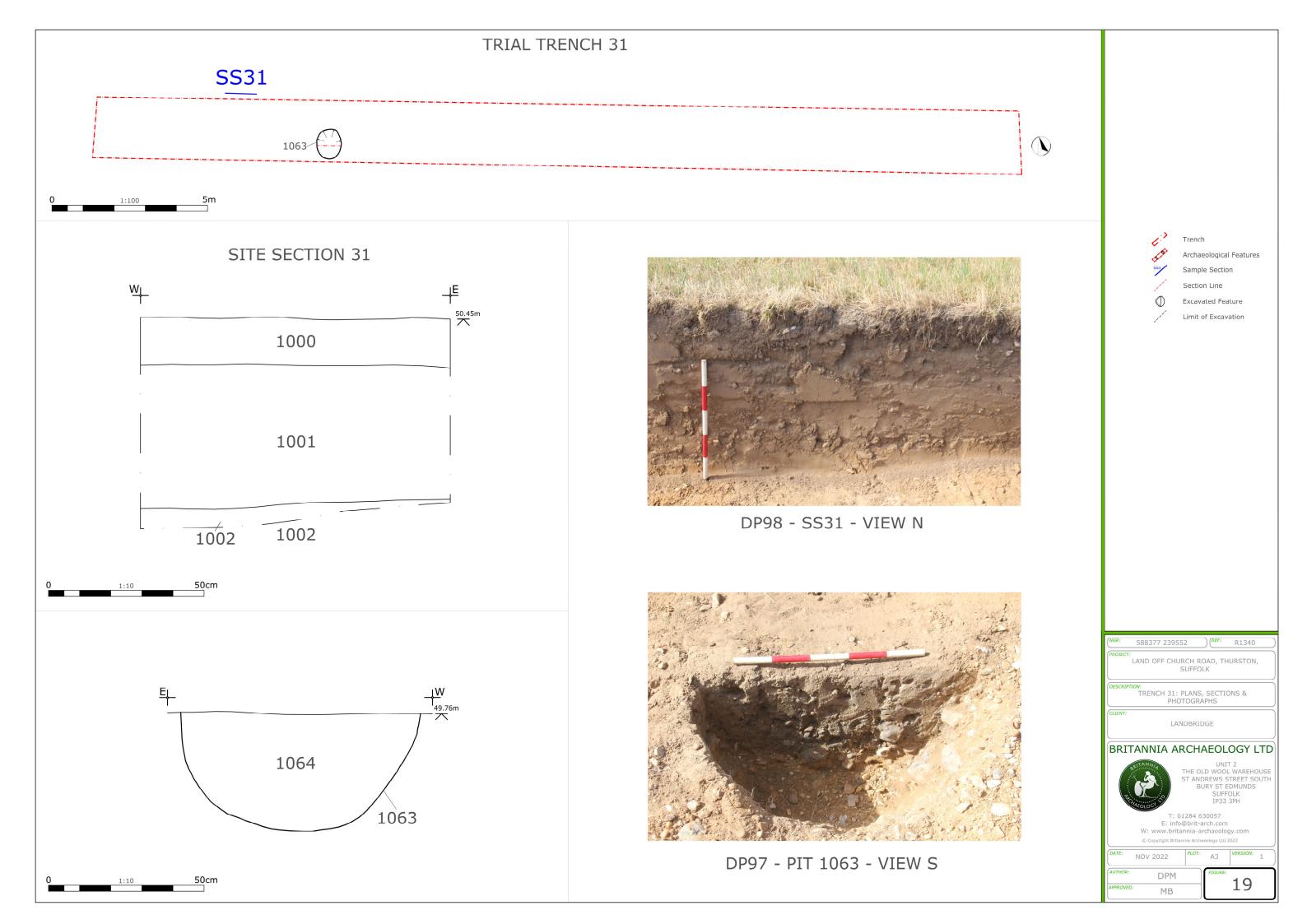


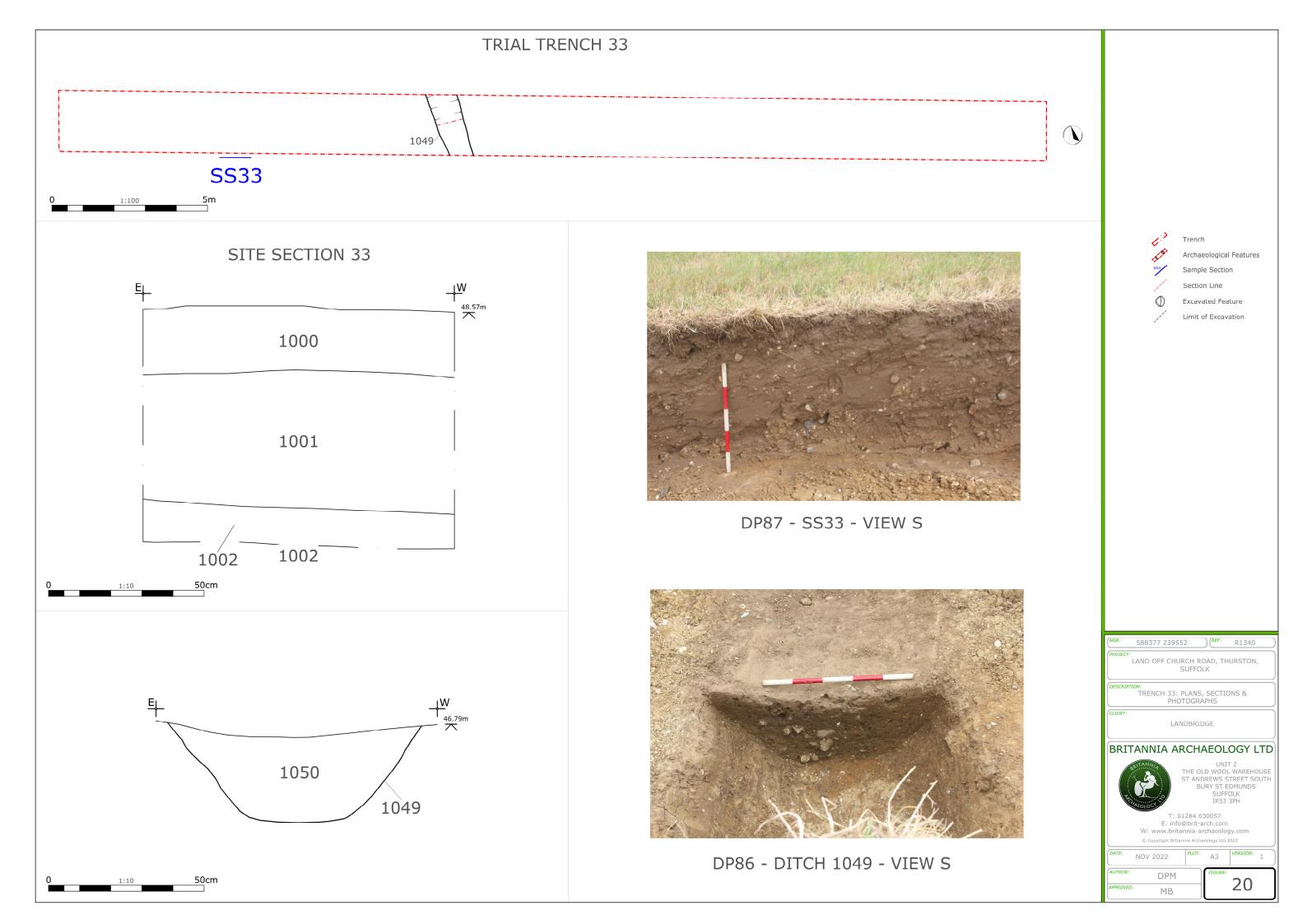


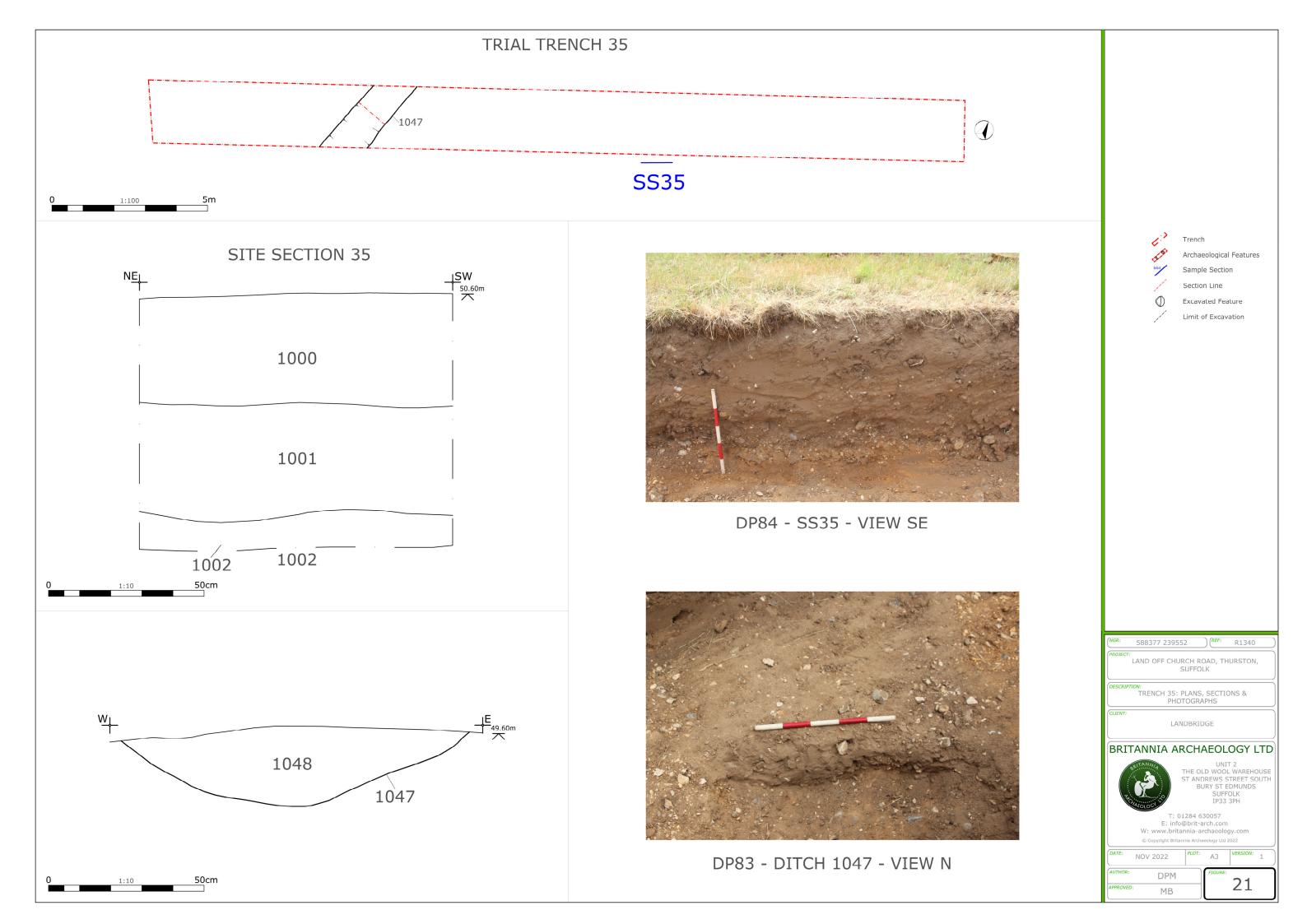


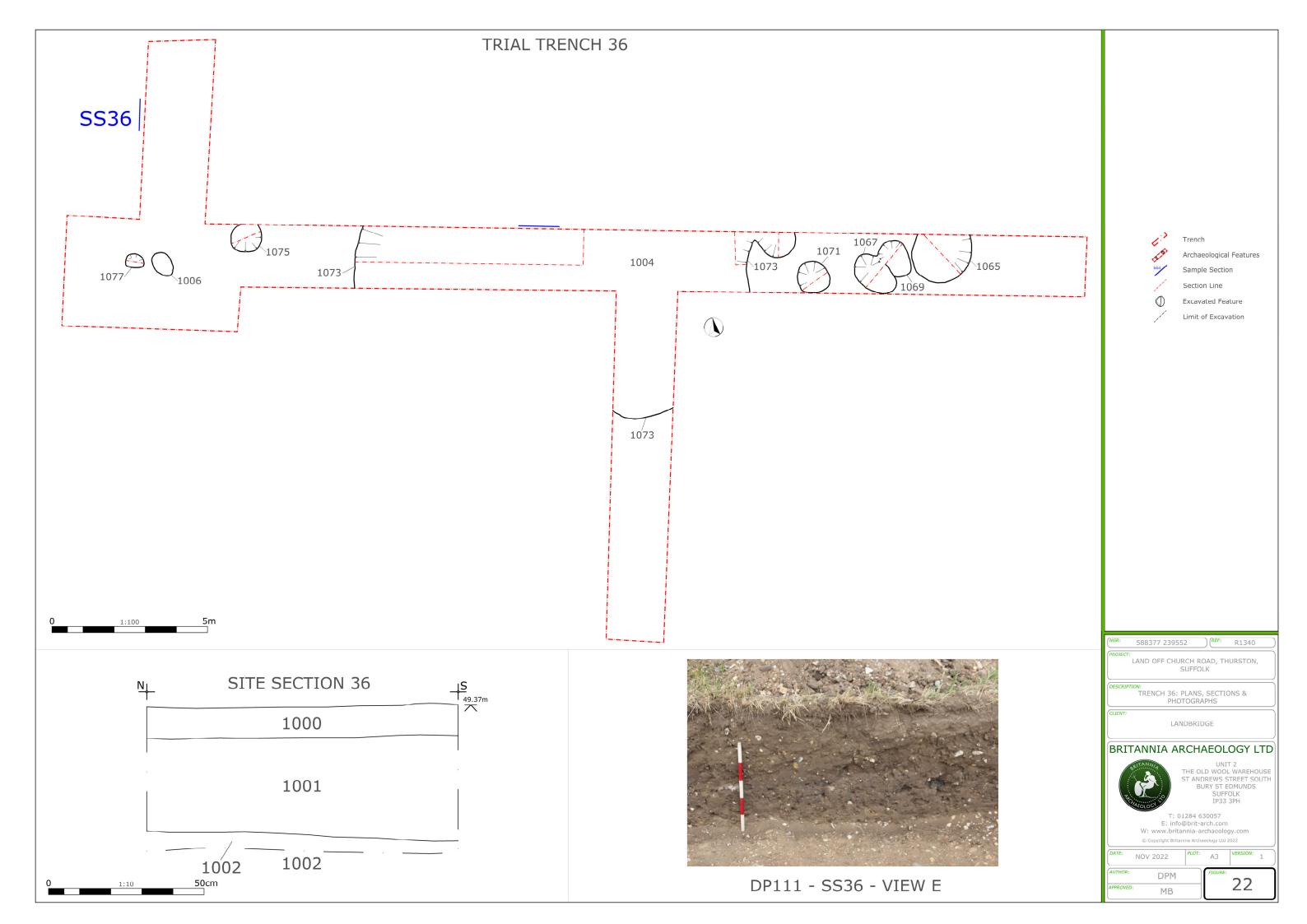


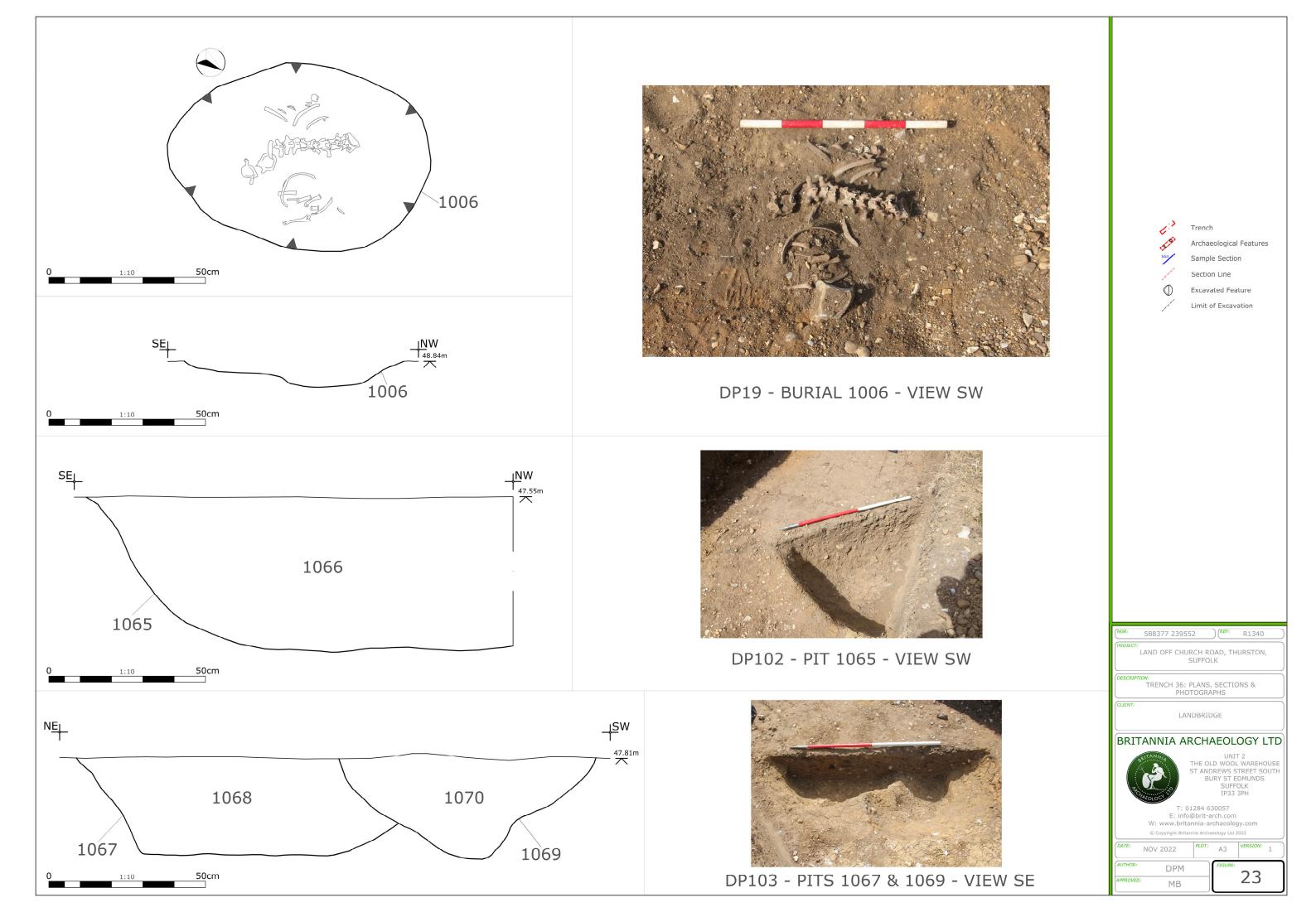


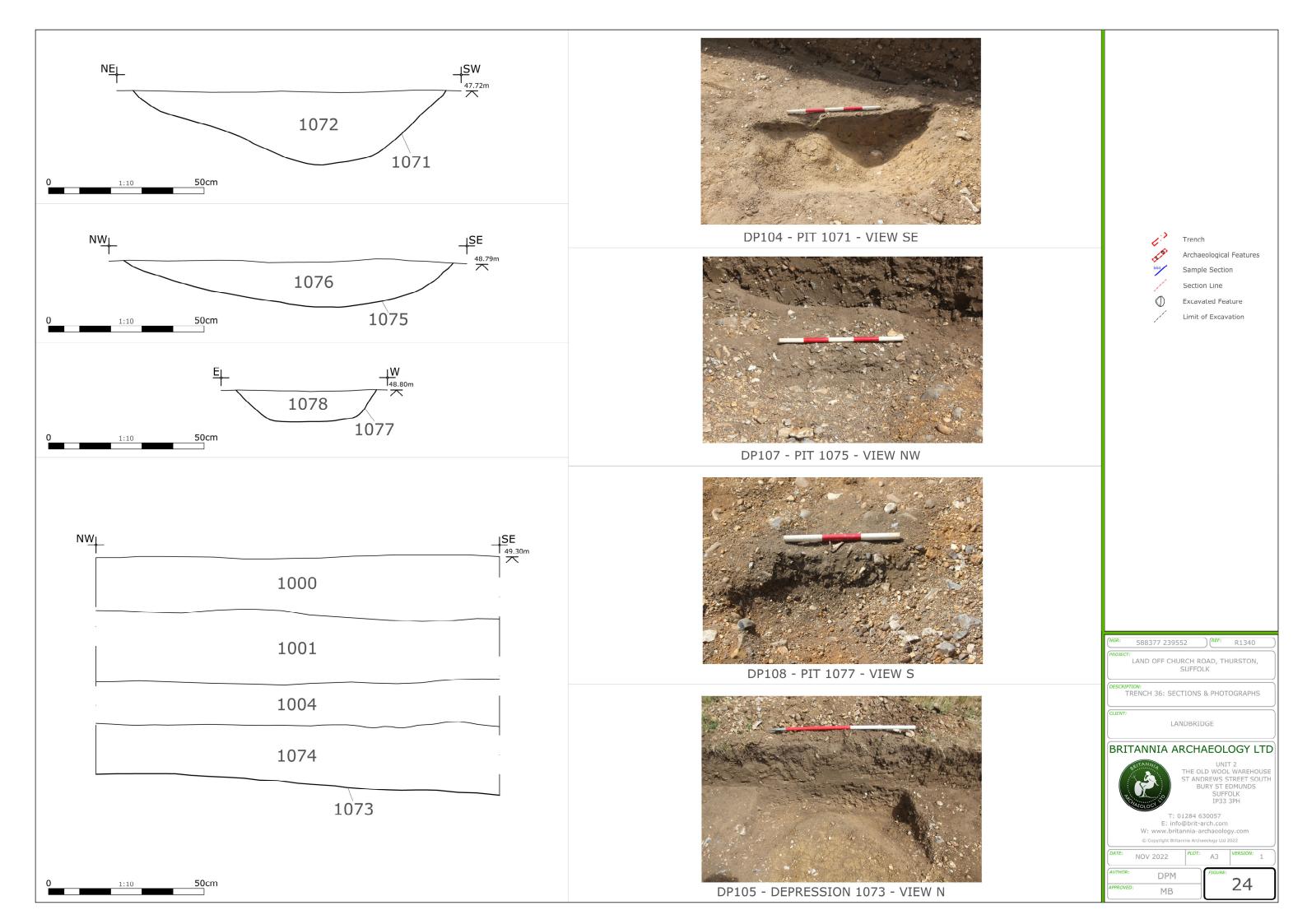


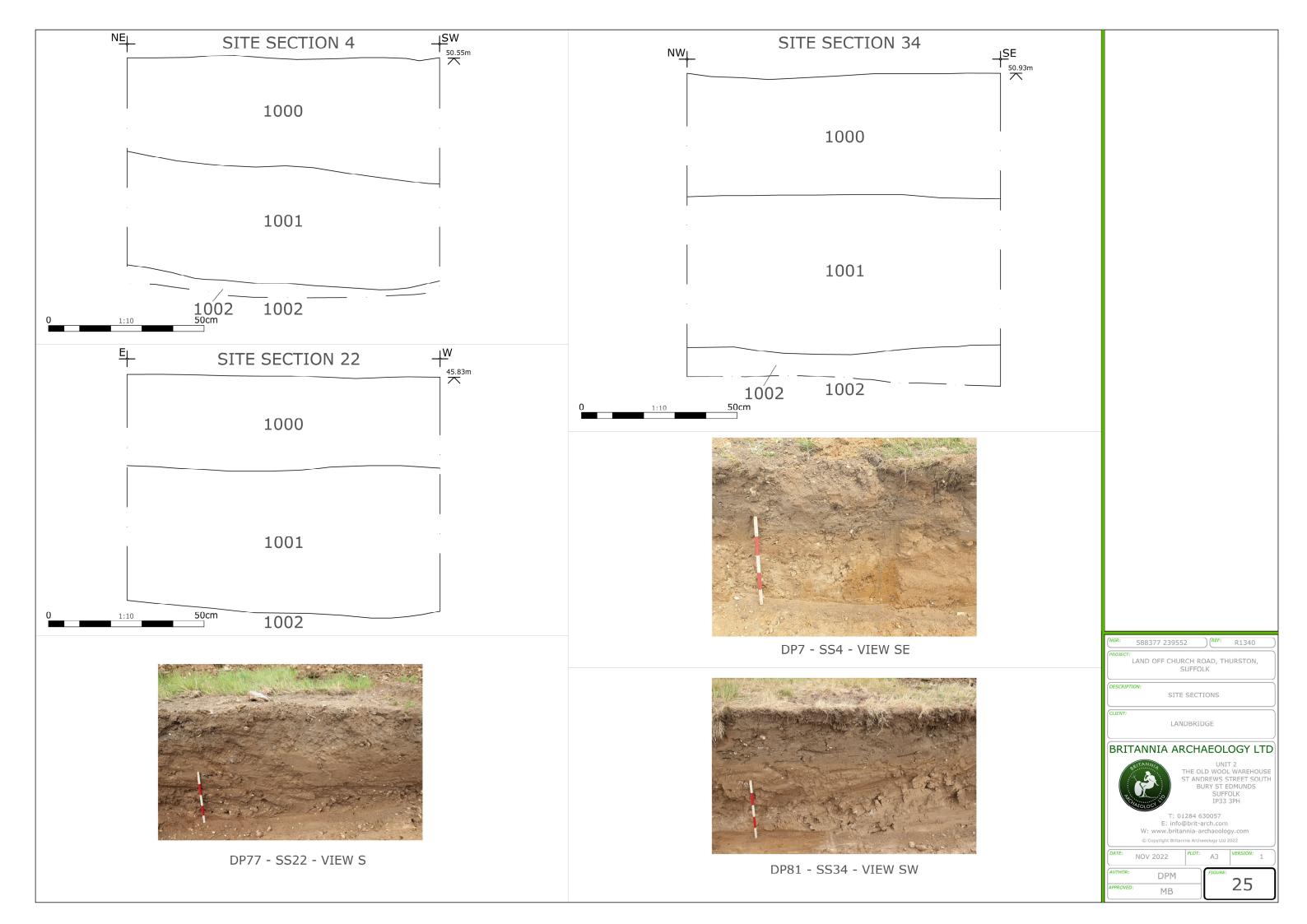


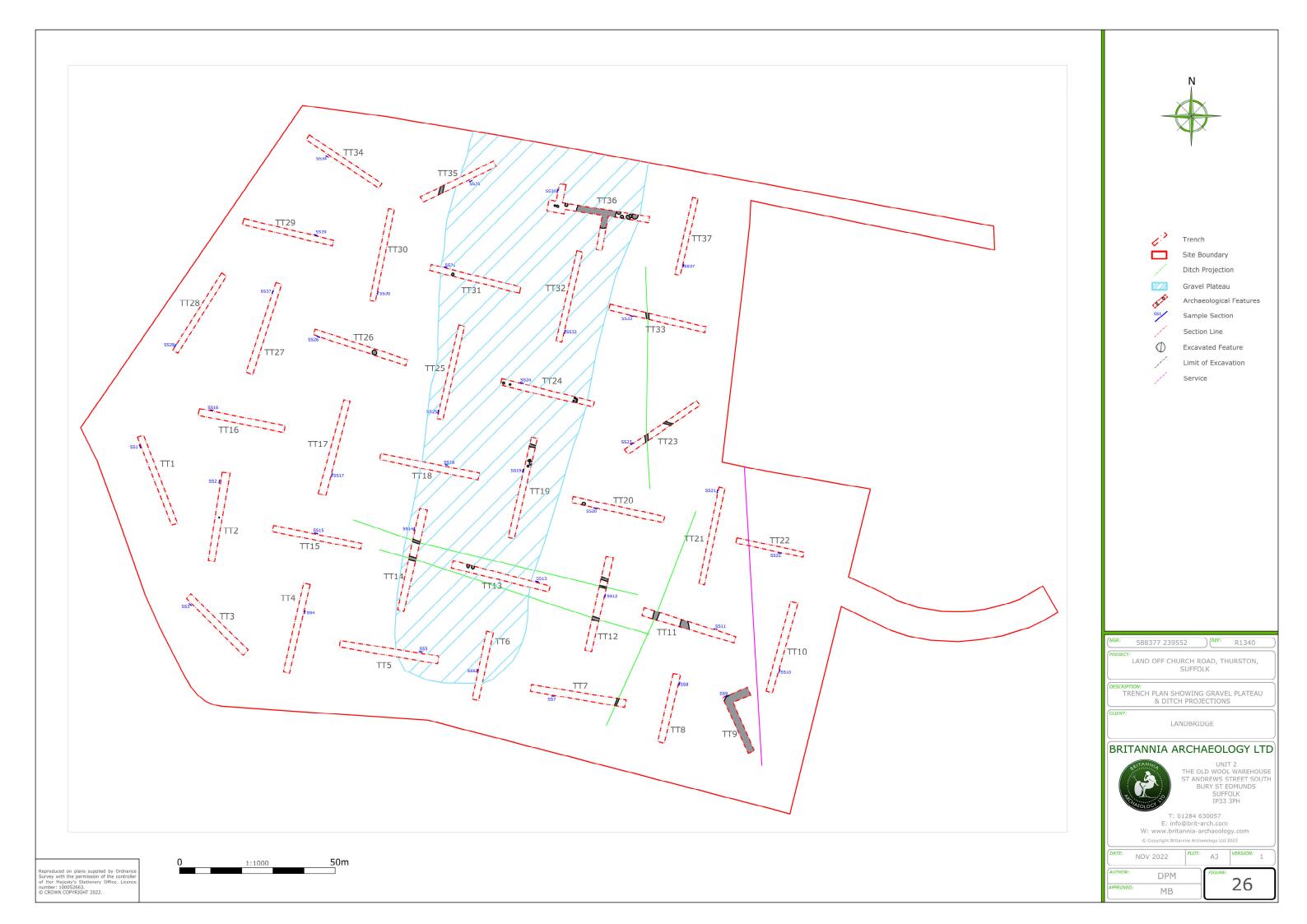


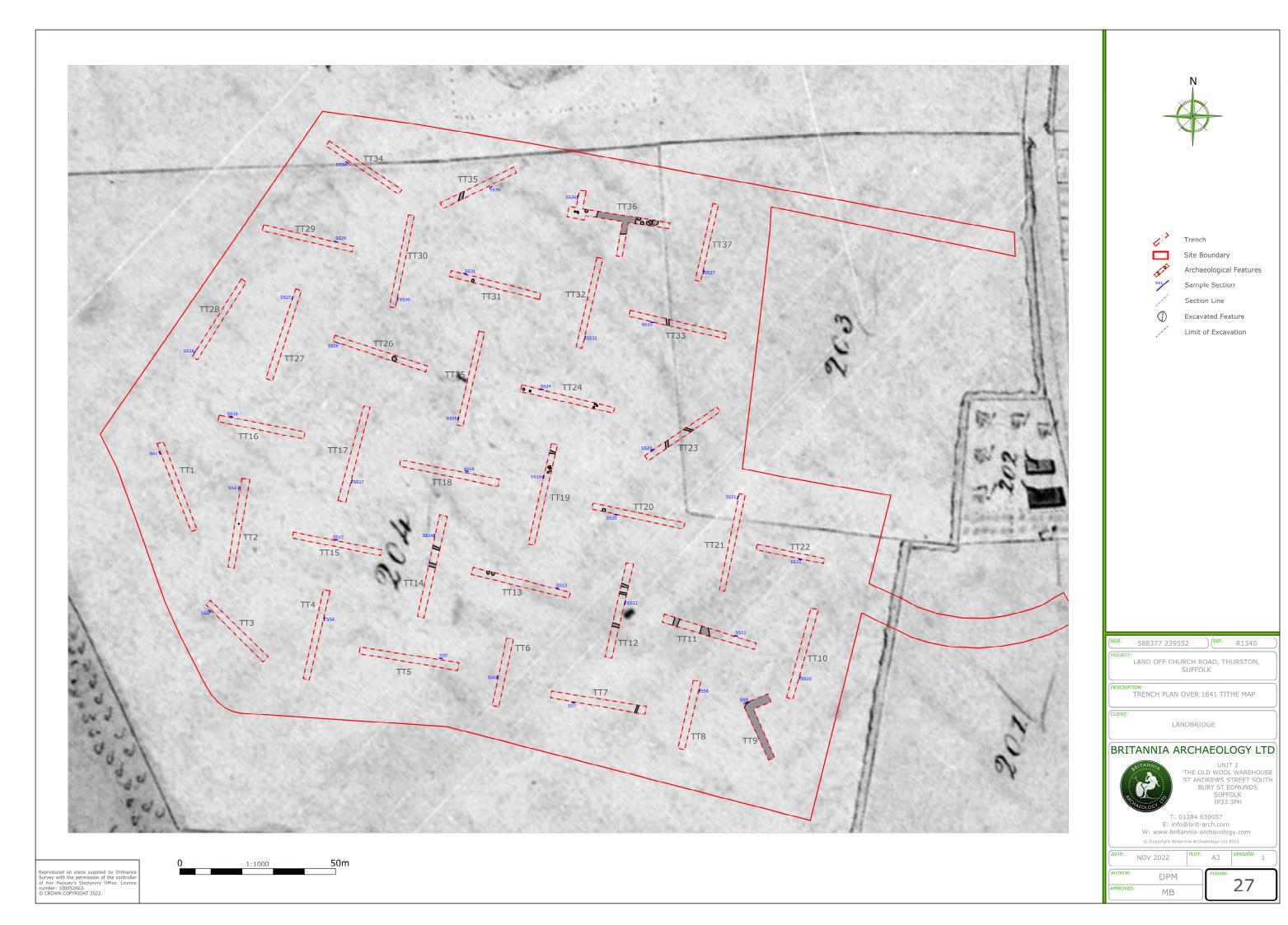














DP4 - TT2 - VIEW S



DP8 - TT4 - VIEW SW



DP14 - TT7 - VIEW E



DP28 - TT11 - VIEW W



DP32 - TT12 - VIEW S



DP63 - TT13 - VIEW E





DP67 - TT14 - VIEW S



DP47 - TT19 - VIEW S



DP41 - TT20 - VIEW E



DP78 - TT22 - VIEW E



DP49 - TT23 - VIEW NE



DP96 - TT24 - VIEW W





DP70 - TT26 - VIEW E



DP99 - TT31 - VIEW W



DP88 - TT33 - VIEW E



DP82 - TT34 - VIEW NW



DP85 - TT35 - VIEW NE





DP113 - TT36 - VIEW W



DP112 - TT36 - VIEW E

