

SMUR19



**Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, Murrow, Cambridgeshire:
Archaeological Evaluation**

Prepared for Biocow Ltd.

SMUR19

Archaeological Evaluation

Land at Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, Murrow, Cambridgeshire

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Client: Biocow Ltd

Event number: ECB5911

OASIS number: headland4-352177

NGR: TF 3754 0459

Address:

Somerset Farm,
Cants Drove,
Murrow,
Cambridgeshire

Parish: Wisbech, St. Mary

Council: Fenland District Council

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SOMERSET FARM, CANTS DROVE, MURROW, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Summary

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation of Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, Murrow, Cambridgeshire between 10th and 24th of June 2019. The work was commissioned by Biocow Ltd, in advance of the formation of a digestate lagoon and the construction of a 1km gas pipeline. 18 features were identified that needed investigation and recording. These comprised of an un-dated gully and geologically and naturally formed linear features. A modern pit and tracks were also identified together with modern ditches which form part of the modern agricultural landscape. Evidence of peat formation in the area was radiocarbon dated to the late prehistoric period but was not associated with any archaeological features or deposits.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

Headland Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Biocow Ltd to undertake a program of archaeological works at Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, Murrow, Cambridgeshire, hereafter referred to as the Development Area (DA). The works were conducted in support of planning applications for the formation of a digestate lagoon to the south of Somerset Farm (Fenland District Council Planning Ref: F/YR18/0648F) and the construction of a 1km gas pipeline intended to connect to the national gas transmission system located to the north of Cants Drove (Fenland District Council Planning Ref: F/2013/18/CW).

The works followed the compilation of an historic environment desk-based assessment (RSK 2018), which summarised the archaeological potential of the DA.

The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET) recommended that a condition be placed on planning consent for both of these developments, stating that a scheme of archaeological work was required (Conditions 4 and 1 respectively).

A brief was subsequently produced by the CHET, outlining the archaeological work required for both developments (CHET 2019). This comprised a trial trenching evaluation, of 4% of the DA (with a 1% contingency), focused on the gas pipeline and digestate lagoon. Following discussions with CHET, two additional trenches were excavated to the north and south of the compound area (Trenches 19 and 20), to assess the impact of the construction works within the compound.

Headland Archaeology then prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Headland Archaeology 2019) on behalf of Biocow; setting out the proposed strategy for archaeological works.

The WSI was submitted to and agreed with the CHET who advise the Local Planning Authority on archaeological matters. This report details the results of the work.

1.2 Site Description

The DA is located at Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, to the south-west of Murrow in Cambridgeshire. The digestate lagoon is located to the south-east of Somerset Farm (centered on NGR TF 3754 0459), and measures c 120m X 120m. The gas converter station is expected to comprise a modular design with a 21mx18m compound with elevations of between 2.5-4m and will be similar to the other infrastructure currently in place at the site. The pipeline route runs westwards from the digestate lagoon, then north-west across fields to the west of Somerset Farm where it crosses Cants Drove and terminates at the gas transmission compound (NGR TF 3659 0513). The pipeline is c 1km long, with a 20m wide easement (see Illus 1) and will be laid in a trench excavated to a depth of 1.50m. The DA is currently under arable cultivation on flat land, at an elevation of 0.9m AOD. It is located within the Fenlands; a wetland landscape. The solid geology of the DA comprises West Walton Formation, Ampthill Clay Formation, and Kimmeridge Clay Formation. The superficial deposits are alluvium – clay, silt and sand (British Geological Survey 2019).

1.3 Archaeological Background

A comprehensive study of the heritage background to the DA is included in the desk-based assessment (RSK 2018) and was summarised in the WSI (Headland Archaeology 2019). A summary is presented here in addition to some elaboration on fenland geography:

The past landscape of the area was dominated by changing sea levels and numerous interconnecting waterways. The DA is located within a network of roddons (extinct riverbeds) where shrinkage and differential erosion of the surrounding peat has left the drier alluvial sands and silts of the roddons as positive landscape features. Examples of roddons have been excavated and surveyed elsewhere (Smith *et al.* 2010; Smith *et al.* 2012) and measure between 1-10m in depth and anything upwards of 2m in width, with the larger 'trunk' roddons measuring between 250-1000m in width. The DA itself is dominated by a large, northeast-southwest orientated trunk roddon visible on aerial photography and LiDAR (RSK 2018: *Figure 16*) which measures approximately 500m in width and is likely the roddon of the combined Rivers Nene and Ouse identified by Hall (1996:174). The southeastern portion of the DA is located off the eastern slope of the roddon and therefore preserves the surrounding fenland stratigraphy.

Although there is some evidence for human activity within the Fenlands in the prehistoric period there are no known prehistoric sites within the vicinity of the DA. However, the upper surface of the peat deposit present at Murrow has been radiocarbon dated to 370-40 calBC (Hall, 1996:165). Cropmarks of Roman settlement (enclosures, trackways, ring-ditches) and field systems have been identified to the south-east and north-east of the DA. This includes Roman field systems (CHER 03900) and a Romano-British field complex (CHER 09436), located south-east of the DA; and a possible Roman settlement (CHER 09441) comprised of ditched enclosures to the north-east of the DA. Cropmark remains of Romano-British settlement have also been recorded to the south of the DA (CHER 10650). A straight, east-west aligned cropmark 300m northeast of the DA extends from the large roddon towards Wisbech St Mary and has previously been identified as a Roman canal linking two of the larger contemporary waterways in the area (Hall, 1996:174). Similarly, Saxon and medieval activity is known within the Fens (in particular the excavation of the great dykes), however there are no known Saxon or medieval sites within the vicinity of the DA.

Historic mapping shows the development of the DA in the post-medieval period. The 1603 and 1632 maps show the DA located in the Wisbech fens. Between 1632 and 1881 the landscape was transformed through systematic drainage of this part of the fens, forming the regular field pattern which still broadly survives to today. The CHER records a number of post-medieval buildings in the area (MCB 19489; MCB 25477; MCB 25478; and MCB 25480).

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 General

The methodology followed was outlined in the WSI (Headland Archaeology 2019) and was designed to meet the requirements of the project brief (CHET 2019).

Generally, the archaeological investigations were undertaken in order to:

- Assess the extent, structure and date of any archaeological features and deposits of archaeological interest;
- Place, where possible, the archaeological features within their local and regional context;
- Establish any constraints to further fieldwork (e.g. services) and factors concerning the survival of archaeological remains (e.g. natural and human disturbance);
- Place the findings of the investigation within the context of previous work undertaken within the vicinity of the DA.

2.2 Specific

More specifically, the local and regional research contexts are provided by *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011). The following research questions and topics were incorporated into the WSI:

- Roman rural settlements and landscapes: “What forms do the farms take, and is the planned farmstead widespread across the region? How far can the size and shape of fields be related to the agricultural regimes identified?” (Medlycott 2011, 47)
- Roman Fenlands: “What evidence is there for formal organisation within the fen area?” (Medlycott 2011, 37)
- Wetlands: What was “the role of water management and land reclamation, including the utilisation and draining of the marshes” (Medlycott 2011, 87)
- Wetlands: “More work is needed in recording and understanding the development of post-medieval Fenland drainage and enclosure” (Medlycott 2011, 87)

The resulting archive will be organised and deposited in the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Store (Event Number ECB5911) to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit (CIfA 2014a). An online OASIS form has been completed and will be ultimately submitted with the approved version of the report (headland4-352177).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Trial Trenching methodology

Trial trenching was carried out between the 10th and 24th of June 2019. In total 19 trenches were excavated within the DA. In the pipeline area, Trenches 02, 04, 07, 09, 11 and 19 measured 20m in length, Trenches 03, 05, 06, 08, 10 and 12 were 50m in length. In the digestate lagoon area, Trench 14 was 20m in length and Trenches 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 were 50m in length. Trench 20, south of the compound area was 80m in length. All trenches were 1.8m in width (Illus. 2).

The trenches were set out using a Trimble GNSS device in accordance with the agreed trench layout plan in the WSI. Trenches 19 and 20 were added to the scope of works under advice of the CHET. Trench 06 was shortened to the north by 8m due to the presence of an electric fence. Trench 16 was rotated 15m counterclockwise and Trenches 17 and 18 were moved to the west by 10m and 14m respectively due to the presence of tramlines. Trench 19 was repositioned 20m to the north due to the location of the compound. Trench 01 could not be excavated due to the presence of an underground gas pipe.

A mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket was used to remove the overburden under direct archaeological supervision. Potential archaeological features were excavated by hand.

Investigation of archaeological remains was undertaken through hand excavation. A representative sample, sufficient to meet the objectives of the evaluation, of identified archaeological or potentially archaeological remains were investigated and recorded. The stratigraphy of each trench was recorded in full.

Bucket sampling and metal detecting was conducted on each trench with archaeological features also metal detected. A total of 14 sondages were excavated through 11 trenches to ascertain stratigraphic and alluvial sequences.

Trenches 16 and 18 flooded after their initial stripping. The trenches were pumped, under advice from the CHET, to allow for sufficient recording of the archaeological features present.

3.2 Recording

All recording followed the guidance laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014) and was in line with the approved WSI (Headland Archaeology 2019). All trenches and contexts were given a unique number. All recording was undertaken on pro forma recording sheets which conform to archaeological standards. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

A plan of the trenches and features across the entire DA was recorded digitally using a GNSS device.

A full photographic record was taken using digital photography, with a metric scale clearly visible in record photographs.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

Full context descriptions and trench descriptions, including dimensions, depths and orientations, are presented in the Appendix I. Contexts are identified numerically by trench (i.e. Trench 01: (0101), Trench 02: (0201)) with cuts indicated by square brackets and deposits by rounded brackets. Selected technical detail is utilised below in order to describe the remains found and to inform the interpretation and dating presented in this report. This structure reflects our adherence to the ClfA guidance on report production, which states that “descriptive material should be clearly separated from interpretative statements” (ClfA 2014b, 14, Section 5).

Archaeology was identified in eleven of the 19 trenches. The majority of the features were modern in date with activity focused towards the north-west and south-east of the DA (Illus 2). These features comprised the remains of agricultural activity and post-medieval field boundaries. Geologically and naturally formed features were identified, primarily in the south and south-east of the DA. Alluvial and peat layers were also identified in four trenches within the south and south-east of the DA (Illus 8). Alluvial deposits associated with a large, northeast-southwest orientated roddon were identified in Trenches 2-12

4.2 Trench Results

Geological/Natural features:

Naturally formed features with no inclusions or artefacts were identified in Trenches 08, 13, 14 and 20.

Channel [0813] was aligned north to south in the north-western half of Trench 8. It measured 6.00m in length, 1.70m wide and 0.22m deep with gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a mottled light blue-grey and yellow sandy-clay fill (0812) with moderate rooting.

Channel [1312] was located in the north of Trench 13, aligned east to west. It measured 3.30m wide and 0.54m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a slightly rounded base. It had a moderately compact mid grey clay fill (1313).

Gully [1306] was located in the southern end of Trench 13, aligned north-east to south-west. It measured 10.00m in length, 0.90m wide and 0.06m deep and cut into peat layer (1304). It had a single, dark brown silty-clay fill (1307), with moderate rooting, small abraded sherds of fired clay and magnetised gravels. Plant remains included rare quantities of knotweed and charred grass seed. It also yielded a moderate quantity of incidental charcoal inclusions, from a non-oak species.

Channel [1308, 1406] was located in the southern end of Trenches 13 and 14, aligned east to west, with moderately sloping sides and slightly concave base. **Channel [1308]** was 2.64m wide and 1.16m deep (Illus 4). The primary fill (1314) was a mottled light blue-grey and mid brown-grey sandy-clay. The secondary fill (1310/1311) was composed of mottled light grey-brown and mid grey sandy-clay with manganese inclusions. The tertiary fill (1304) was recorded on the southern section face and was composed of a firm, mid grey sandy-clay with manganese inclusions. An irregular bioturbation cut [1315] was recorded in section, truncating (1310/1311). It was 0.48m deep and 0.40m wide, with a single mid grey-brown sandy-clay fill (1309).

Channel [1406] was 2.20m+ wide and 0.87m deep. The primary fill (1409) was a mottled light blue-grey and mid brown-grey sandy-clay. The secondary fill (1408) was a mottled light grey-brown and mid

grey sandy-clay with manganese inclusions. The tertiary fill (1407) was a mottled light grey- orange sandy-clay with manganese inclusions.

Tree bole [2008] was located in the west of Trench 20 at the northern limit of excavation (L.O.E). It was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.18m+ long, 0.55m wide and 0.15m deep, with irregular, gently sloping sides and a slightly rounded base. The dark blackish-brown peaty fill (2007) contained frequent rooting.

Undated Features:

Gully [0303] was located at the south of Trench 3, aligned north-east to south-west. It measured 0.80m wide and 0.10m deep with gently sloping sides and a slightly rounded base (Illus 5). No artefacts were recovered from the mid blue-grey clay fill (0304).

Modern Features:

Modern features were identified in Trenches 05, 06, 08, 16, 18, 19 and 20.

Ditch [0503] was located in the south of Trench 5, aligned north-west to south-east. It was 1.95m wide and 0.73m deep, with steep sides and a V-shaped base (Illus 6). It contained a single dark grey- brown clayey-silt fill (0504). Artefacts recovered from (0504) included modern metal fragments, two fragments of brown-glazed modern stoneware jar and a single porcelain fragment of brown transfer- printed teacup, both 1800+ in date. A single horse tooth was also recovered from the fill.

Ditch [0603] was located in the north of Trench 6, aligned north-west to south-east. It had a gently sloping southern face. The northern face extended into the trench L.O.E. The ditch measured 2.22m wide and 0.22m deep and contained a single dark grey-brown clayey-silt fill (0604).

Ditch [0803] was located in the southern half of Trench 8, aligned north-east to south-west. It had a gently sloping south-east face and a rounded base. It was truncated at the north-west by [0805]. The ditch measured 0.43m wide and 0.16m deep and contained a single mid orange-brown silty-clay fill (0804).

Ditch [0805] was aligned parallel to [0803] and truncated [0803] and a mottled sandy deposit (0807) at the north-western face of the trench. The ditch measured 1.18m wide and 0.26m deep, with gently sloping sides and a rounded base. It contained a single mid orange brown silty-clay fill (0806).

Field boundary/hedgerow [0808] was located 4.80m north-west of [0805] and aligned parallel to [0805, 0803]. It measured 1.50m wide and 0.35m deep and was irregular in shape. The primary fill (0810) was a light orange-yellow silty-sand with two fragments of blue transfer-printed flatware dated to 1780+. The secondary fill (0809) was a mid orange- brown silty-clay with barbed wire.

Track [1604/1804] was located in Trenches 16 and 18, aligned north-west to south-east. It measured 0.55m-0.59m wide and 0.24m-0.28m deep, with moderately sloping to steep sides and a varying (Concave to flat) base. The fills (1603/1803) were composed of mid reddish-brown silty-clay with sandstone and charcoal inclusions.

Track [1606/1806] was located 15m north-east of [1604/1804] and aligned parallel to that track. It measured 0.59m-0.80m wide and 0.11m-0.21m deep with gently to moderately sloping sides and a slightly rounded base. The fills (1605/1806) were composed of mid reddish-brown and grey silty-clay with moderate grey clay (1605).

Ditch [1904] was located in the east of Trench 19, aligned north-south. It measured 0.84m wide and

0.17m deep, with gently sloping sides and a slightly rounded base. It contained a mottled mid grey-brown and grey silty-clay fill (1903), with occasional charcoal and modern rope fragments.

Gullies [1906, 1908] were located in the centre of Trench 19, aligned parallel to [1904]. The gullies were spaced 3.60m apart and measured 0.84m-0.70m wide, 0.17m-0.15m deep, with moderately sloping sides and concave to V-shaped bases. The fills (1905, 1907) were composed of mid grey-brown silty-clay with occasional small sandstone inclusions.

Pit [2006] was located within the eastern half of Trench 20 at the northern L.O.E. It measured 0.50m+ in length, 0.80m wide, 0.25m deep and was sub-rectangular in plan, with vertical sides and a flat base. It had a single dark brownish-black clay silt fill (2009).

Peat and alluvium:

Peat layers were present in Trenches 13, 14, 15 and 20 (1304, 1404, 1504, 2004). The extent of which are shown in Illus 8. Peat layers were identified at a depth of 0.35m–0.45m below ground level (BGL) in Trenches 14 and 15, and 0.50m–0.70m BGL in Trenches 13 and 20. A sample for C14 dating was recovered from the peat layer (1304), observed in a sondage within Trench 13. The sample proved unsuitable for this dating method due to the charcoal material being too small or of too poor a quality. An environmental sample taken of (1504) contained rare quantities of uncharred orache/goosefoots and cleavers (plant remains), fly puparia and worm eggs.

The peat layers overlay alluvial layers (1305, 1405, 1505, 2005) at a depth of 0.45m–0.75m BGL in Trenches 14 and 15, and at 0.70m–0.95m BGL in Trenches 13 and 20. The alluvial layers were composed of light orange-grey mottled clay.

Natural deposit/Alluvial layer (1203) was located in the centre of Trench 12, aligned NNE-SSW (Illus 3). It measured 2.36m wide and 0.15m deep. It was composed of light blue-grey clay with occasional sand inclusions. No peat deposits were identified within the trench.

Sondages:

A series of 14 sondages were mechanically excavated in eleven trenches as was required by the WSI. These were to determine the presence and depth of alluvial layers and sequences.

Sondages were excavated in Trenches 03, 06, 08, 10-16, 18 and 20 (two were excavated in Trenches 10, 20 and 13). The sondages ranged from 1.50m–3.40m wide, with an average depth of 0.50m in Trenches 03, 06, 08, 10, 12, 16 and 18 where only topsoil and the alluvial roddon deposits were present. The presence of the trunk roddon in trenches 2-12 means that alluvial river channel deposits would be likely to continue for several metres below horizon with the natural sediment.

In Trenches 13, 14, 15, and 20 where peat and alluvium were recorded within the stratigraphic sequence, the average depth of the sondages was 1m (Illus 9). Given the waterlogged ground conditions present at the time of the evaluation sondages beyond this depth would have been infeasible and unsafe to excavate.

Augering:

Augering was carried out in Trench 13 (Illus 4) and Trench 14. This was to assess the depth and profiles of channels [1308, 1406] which could not be fully excavated manually due to the presence of rapidly rising groundwater. In [1308] the light orange-grey clay substrate (1305) was reached at 1.65m BGL. In [1406], the geological substrate (1405) was reached at a depth of 1.88m BGL.

4.3 Finds Assessment

Amy Koonce

The finds assemblage numbered five sherds (28g) of pottery and less than 0.5g each of ceramic building material and industrial waste. These were found in three features across three separate trenches. All are modern. The finds are summarised by feature in Table 1 and a complete catalogue is given at the end.

Table 1. Summary of finds assemblage by feature with spot dating (dating is for finds in the backfill of these features and does not necessarily date the features; small assemblages should be used with particular caution for dating purposes).

Tr	Feature Type	Cut No	Pottery (Mod)	Pottery (Mod)	CBM	CBM	Ind Waste	Spot date
-	-	-	Count	Wgt (g)	Count	Wgt (g)	Wgt (g)	-
05	ditch	0503	3	27	-	-	-	1800+
08	boundary/hedgerow	0808	2	1	-	-	-	1780+
13	gully	1306	-	-	5	<0.5	<0.5	?
-	Total	-	5	28	5	<0.5	<0.5	-

Methodology

The report includes both hand-collected finds and those from sample retents. The finds were collected, processed and packaged for long term storage in accordance with professional guidelines (ClfA 2014; Watkinson & Neal 1998). The finds were each assessed and recorded by appropriate specialists. The resultant data was then drawn together into one MS Access database. A copy of this data is given at the end of the report.

The pottery was examined visually, using x20 magnification where necessary. It was recorded according to standards set out by specialist bodies (Barclay et al 2016; Slowikowski 2001).

Modern pottery

Five sherds (28g) of modern pottery was retrieved from site. The assemblage is fairly typical and includes a brown transfer-printed porcelain teacup and a stoneware jar from modern ditch [0503] in Trench 05. There is also a blue transfer-printed flatware sherd from modern field boundary/hedgerow [0808] in Trench 08. All are likely to be 19th century or later.

Ceramic building material

Five sherds (<0.5g) of fired clay was retrieved from gully [1306] in Trench 13. The sherds are very small and abraded and are undiagnostic.

Industrial waste

Less than 0.5g of magnetised gravels were retrieved from gully [1306] in Trench 13. Magnetised gravels can occur naturally and indicate no more than burning on site.

Discussion

The finds indicate low level activity from the late 18th to 19th century onwards. The assemblage is too small to provide any useful information about the nature of activity on site, though the pottery is likely to be domestic in nature.

Recommendations for further work

No further work is recommended for these finds as the small size of the assemblage limits the potential for further analysis.

Recommendations for archive

Should no further work be undertaken on site, all of the material is recommended for discard. The archive has been prepared in accordance with professional standards (AAF 2011) and the specific requirements of Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Store (CHET 2017). The archive will be deposited following the gaining of the transfer of title.

4.4 Environmental Assessment Laura Bailey

Introduction

Three soil samples taken during an archaeological evaluation of Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, Murrow, Cambridgeshire, were received for environmental assessment. Although seven samples were taken on site, the rest were deemed unsuitable for processing due to the samples containing low quality modern material of low interest. The site comprised settlement remains and boundary ditches relating to the modern farming landscape. The samples were taken from a peat deposit (1504) and the fill (1307) of ditch [1306]. A further sample from peat deposit (1304) was submitted for AMS radiocarbon dating. Hand collected animal bone was also recovered from the fill (0504) of ditch [0503]. The aims of the assessment were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of any environmental remains and to determine the potential of the material for indicating the character and significance of the deposit.

Method

The samples from (1504) and (1307) were subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250 µm sieve and once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. The samples were scanned using a stereomicroscope at magnifications of x10 and up to x100. Identifications, where provided, were confirmed using modern reference material and seed atlases including Cappers *et al.* (2006) and Zohary *et al.* (2012); nomenclature for wild taxa follows Stace (1997).

Faunal remains were examined by eye or under low magnification and, as far as possible, identified to species and skeletal element, with reference to Schmid (1972) and Hillson (1992), and any marks of butchery were noted.

Results

Results of the assessment are presented in Table 1 (Environmental sample results).

Wild taxa

Both samples contained modern roots and uncharred, modern, 'weed seeds' (here used to include seeds, fruits, achene, caryopses etc.) including cleavers (*Galium aparine*), orache/goosefoot (*Atriplex* sp/*Chenopodium* sp.) and knotweed (*Polygonum* sp.). A single, small (<2mm) charred grass seed was present in the fill (1307) of gully [1306].

Wood charcoal

Small fragments of non-oak wood charcoal were present in the fill (1307) of gully [1306]. The charcoal was heavily fragmented and abraded and is likely to be incidentally incorporated into the deposit.

Animal bone

A single horse tooth was hand collected from the fill (0504) of ditch [0503].

Scientific dating of the remains (Appendix VII)

The sample from peat deposit (1304) was submitted for radiocarbon dating to the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) and returned two dates (SUERC-88610 (GU52896) and SUERC-88611 (GU52897)). SUERC-88610 returned a Radiocarbon Age of 2815 \pm 21BP (999 (68.2%) 932calBC / 1016 (95.4%) 909calBC) and SUERC-88611 returned a Radiocarbon Age of 2945 \pm 21BP (1207 (68.2%) 1121calBC / 1220 (95.4%) 1056calBC).

The radiocarbon ages (yrs BP) are calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4 (Bronk Ramsey 2009) and the date ranges (calBC) are calibrated using the IntCal13 atmospheric calibration curve (Reimer *et al.* 2013).

Discussion and recommendations

The radiocarbon dates of the peat deposits (1304) demonstrate that peat formation was occurring in in the southeast area of the DA during the later prehistoric period, likely around the transitional period between the Late Bronze Age and the Early Iron Age, although no archaeological deposits were associated with (1304).

The environmental assemblage from (1504) and (1307) appears to be modern. It offers no information on site economy and no further work is recommended.

5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Quality of preservation

Plough truncation was apparent at this site which is typical for the area. In Trenches 02 – 12, no subsoil was present, with the overburden ranging from 0.21m-0.62m BGL. Subsoil was present in trenches 13, 14, 15 and 20 in the south of the DA. The subsoil ranged from 0.10m–0.43m in thickness and overlay the alluvial and peat layers, allowing good preservation of archaeological features and deposits within this area of the DA.

5.2 Description of heritage assets

Description of Heritage Asset	Trench	Feature	Significance of heritage asset (Low, Medium, High) and of local, regional, national, international interest
Undated features	03	[0303]	Low significance of local interest.
Geological/natural features	08, 13, 14, 20	[0813] [1213] [1312] [1406] [1306] [1308] [1406] [2008]	Low significance of local interest.
HA3: Modern features	05, 06, 08, 16, 19, 20	[0503] [0603] [0803] [0805] [0808] [1604/1804] [1606/1806] [1906] [1908] [2006]	Low significance of local interest.

Table 2 Description of heritage assets

HA1 is an undated gully [0303] seen in Trench 03.

HA2 comprises geologically and naturally formed features.

HA3 comprises of the modern ditches of [0503, 0603, 0805, 0808, 1904]. Tracks [1604/1804] and [1606/1806]. Gullies [1906, 1908] and pit [2006].

5.3 Conclusion

The trial trenching evaluation revealed geological layers including palaeochannels and alluvial deposits associated with a large northeast-southwest orientated 'trunk' roddon, in addition to evidence of peat formation beyond the southeast limit of the roddon. C14 dating demonstrated that this peat formed during the prehistoric period (between 1220-909 calBC) although it was not associated with any contemporary archaeological deposits. Such formation likely ceased with the partial drainage of the area in the Roman period, attested to by cropmark evidence of Romano-British and Roman settlements to the south and northeast of the DA. Additionally the upper surface of peat deposits to the north at Murrow has previously been dated to between 370-40 calBC (Hall 1996:165), this may indicate a process of differential erosion of peat deposits with more recent layers surviving further to the north.

Archaeological remains consisted of boundary ditches, tracks and gullies relating to the agricultural use of the land in the post medieval to modern period. These are considered to have a low heritage significance and are of local interest.

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Appendix I – Trench and Context Summary

Trench 02	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.30	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.35		
	Length (m) 20		Width (m) 1.80		Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)			Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
0201	Topsoil - Dark grey-brown sandy-clay loam			-	-	0.35
0202	Geological Substrate - Mid yellow-brown clayey-sand			-	-	0.35m+ (BGL)

Trench 03	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.40	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.45		
	Length (m) 50		Width (m) 1.80		Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)			Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m) (BGL)
0301	Topsoil - Dark grey-brown sandy-clay loam			-	-	0 - 0.45
0302	Geological Substrate - Mid yellow-brown clayey-sand			-	-	0.45 - 0.90+ (BGL)
0303	Cut – Cut of gully. Shallow north-east to south-west aligned linear with slightly rounded base			1.00m+	0.80	0.10
0304	Deposit - Fill of gully [0303]. Firm, mid blue-grey clay			-	-	0.10

Trench 04	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.35	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.45	
	Length (m) 20		Width (m) 1.80	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
0401	Topsoil - Dark grey-brown sandy-clay loam		-	-	0 - 0.35
0402	Geological Substrate - Mid yellow-brown clayey-sand		-	-	0.35+ (BGL)

Trench 05	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.35	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.4	
	Length (m) 50		Width (m) 1.80	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
0501	Topsoil - Dark grey-brown sandy-clay loam		-	-	0 - 0.35
0502	Geological Substrate - Mid yellow-brown clayey-sand		-	-	0.35+ (BGL)
0503	Cut - Cut of modern ditch. North-west to south-east aligned linear with steep sides and rounded base		1.00+	1.95	0.73
0504	Deposit - Fill of [0503]. Dark grey-brown clayey-silt. Porcelain, modern metal fragment and animal tooth finds		-	-	0.73

Trench 06	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.40	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.42	
	Length (m) 50		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
0601	Topsoil - Dark grey-brown sandy-clay loam		-	-	0 - 0.31
0602	Geological Substrate - Mid yellow-brown clayey-sand		-	-	0.31 - 0.42+ (BGL)
0603	Cut - Cut of modern ditch aligned north-west to south-east		2.00+	2.22+	0.22
0604	Deposit - Fill of [0603]. Dark grey-brown clayey-silt.		-	-	0.22

Trench 07	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.45	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.55	
	Length (m) 20		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
0701	Topsoil - Dark grey-brown sandy-clay loam		-	-	0 - 0.40
0702	Geological Substrate - Mid yellow-brown clayey-sand		-	-	0.40 - 0.55+ (BGL)

Trench 08	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.40	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.58
	Length (m) 50		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)
0801	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay		-	0 - 0.51
0802	Geological Substrate - light orange-yellow sand		-	0.51 - 0.58+ (BGL)
0803	Cut - Cut of modern boundary/hedgerow. North-east to south-west aligned shallow linear with slightly rounded base. Gently sloping south-east face, north-west face truncated by [0805]		1.00+	0.43
0804	Deposit - Fill of [0803]. Mid orange-brown silty-clay		-	0.16
0805	Cut - Cut of modern boundary/hedgerow. North-east to south-west aligned linear with rounded base. Truncates [0803] and deposit (0807) to the north-west.		1.00m+	1.18
0806	Deposit - Fill of [0805]. Mid orange-brown silty-clay		-	0.26
0807	Deposit - Light, mottled orange-yellow silty sand deposit. Truncated to the south-east by [0805]		-	0.38
0808	Cut - Cut of modern boundary/hedgerow. North-east to south-west aligned linear with moderately sloping sides		1.00m+	1.50+
0809	Deposit - Secondary fill of [0808]. Mid orange-brown silty-clay with barbed wire		-	0.19
0810	Deposit - Primary fill of [0808]. Light orange-yellow silty-sand with two porcelain fragments		-	0.25
0811	Geological Substrate - Mottled light greyish-orange sandy-clay		-	0.58 - 0.90+ (BGL)
0812	Deposit - Fill of natural channel [0813]. Mottled light blue-grey/yellow sandy-clay with moderate rooting		-	0.22
0813	Cut - Cut of natural channel. North-south aligned shallow linear with gently sloping sides and a flat base		1.00m+	1.7

Trench 09	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.30	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.43		
	Length (m) 20		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions		
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)			Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
0901	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay			-	-	0 - 0.30
0902	Geological Substrate - light orange-yellow sand			-	-	0.30 - 0.43+ (BGL)

Trench 10	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.30	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.40		
	Length (m) 50		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions		
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)			Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1001	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay			-	-	0 - 0.30
1002	Geological Substrate - light orange-yellow sand			-	-	0.30 - 1.00+ (BGL)

Trench 11	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.30	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.40		
	Length (m) 20		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions		
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)			Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1101	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay			-	-	0 - 0.30
1102	Geological Substrate - light orange-yellow sand			-	-	0.30- 0.40+

Trench 12	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.62	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.72	
	Length (m) 50		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1201	Topsoil - Dark grey-brown sandy-clay loam		-	-	0 - 0.62
1202	Geological Substrate - Mid yellow-brown clayey-sand		-	-	0.62 - 0.95+ (BGL)
1203	Geological Deposit - Natural deposit/Alluvial layer of light bluish-grey sandy-clay		2.00m+	2.36	0.15

Trench 13	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.43	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.49	
	Length (m) 50	Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions		
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1301	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay		-	-	0 - 0.20
1302	Subsoil - Mid orangey-brown sandy-clay		-	-	0.20 - 0.43 (BGL)
1303	Geological Deposit - Light yellowish-brown clay		-	-	0.43 - 0.50 (BGL)
1304	Geological Deposit - Dark black peat layer		-	-	0.50 - 0.70 (BGL)
1305	Geological Substrate - Light orangey-grey mottled-clay		-	-	0.70 - 0.95 (BGL)
1306	Cut - Cut of gully. Very shallow linear aligned north- east to south-west with gently sloping sides and a concave base		1.00+	0.9	0.06
1307	Deposit - Fill of [1306]. Dark brown silty-clay with moderate rooting		-	-	0.06
1308	Cut - Cut of palaeochannel aligned east - west with moderately steep sides		2.00+	2.64	1.16
1309	Deposit - Fill of [1315] Dark compact sandy-clay		-	-	0.53

1310	Deposit - Secondary fill of [1308]. Mottled Light brown-grey sandy-clay			0.54+
1311	Deposit - Tertiary fill of [1308]. Light grey-brown sandy-clay			0.53
1312	Cut - Cut of palaeochannel aligned east – west with moderately sloping sides and slightly rounded base 3.30m wide and 0.54m deep,	2.00+	3.30	0.54
1313	Deposit - Fill of [1315]. Moderately compact mid grey clay			0.54
1314	Deposit - Primary fill of [1308]. Firm mid blue-grey sandy-clay			0.59
1315	Cut - Bioturbation. Irregular in shape.			0.48

Trench 14	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.30	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.50
	Length (m) 20		Width (m) 2.00	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m) 2.00
				Depth (m)
1401	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay		-	0 - 0.20
1402	Subsoil - Mid orangey-brown sandy-clay		-	0.20 - 0.30 (BGL)
1403	Geological Deposit - Light yellowish-brown clay		-	0.30 - 0.35 (BGL)
1404	Geological Deposit - Dark black peat layer		-	0.35 - 0.45 (BGL)
1405	Geological Substrate - Light orangey grey mottled clay		-	0.45 - 0.60 (BGL)
1406	Cut - Cut of palaeochannel aligned north-east to south-west with moderately steep sides and a slightly concave base		1.00+	2.20+
1407	Deposit - Tertiary fill of [1406]. Firm, mottled light grey-orange sandy-clay with manganese inclusions		-	0.25
1408	Deposit - Secondary fill of [1406]. Firm, mottled light grey-brown and mid grey sandy-clay with manganese inclusions		-	0.38
1409	Deposit - Primary fill of [1406]. Firm, mottled light blue-grey and mid brown-grey sandy-clay		-	0.73

Trench 15	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.30	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.40	
	Length (m) 50		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1501	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay		-	-	0 - 0.20
1502	Subsoil - Mid orangey-brown sandy-clay		-	-	0.20 - 0.30 (BGL)
1503	Geological Deposit - Light yellowish-brown clay		-	-	0.30 - 0.35 (BGL)
1504	Geological Deposit – Dark black peat layer		-	-	0.35 - 0.45 (BGL)
1505	Geological Substrate - Light orangey-grey mottled clay		-	-	0.45 - 0.75 (BGL)

Trench 16	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.35	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.45	
	Length (m) 50		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1601	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay, occasional charcoal		-	-	0 - 0.45
1602	Geological Substrate - Light yellowish-brown clay		-	-	0.45 - 1.10+ (BGL)
1603	Deposit - Fill of [1604] Mottled mid reddish-brown and grey silty-clay with occasional charcoal		-	-	0.28
1604	Cut - Cut of Modern track aligned north-west to south-east with steep sides and a slightly rounded base		1.00+	0.59	0.28
1605	Deposit - Fill of [1606]. Mottled mid reddish-brown and grey silty-clay		-	-	0.11
1606	Cut - Cut of Modern track aligned north-west to south-east with gently sloping sides and a slightly rounded base		1.00+	0.8	0.11

Trench 17	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.45	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.50
	Length (m) 50		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions
Context			Length (m)	Width (m)
1701	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay		-	0 - 0.50
1702	Geological Substrate - Light yellowish-brown clay		-	0.50 - 1.00 (BGL)

Trench 18	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.40	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.70
	Length (m) 50	Depth BGL (m) 0.75	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)
1801	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay		-	2.00
1802	Geological Substrate - Light yellowish-brown clay		-	0.40 - 1.00 (BGL)
1803	Deposit - Fill of [1804]. Mottled dark reddish-brown and grey silty-clay with small sandstone inclusions		-	0.24
1804	Cut - Cut of modern ploughing track aligned north- west to south-east with moderately sloping sides and a concave base.		1.00+	0.24
1805	Deposit - Fill of [1806]. Mottled mid reddish-brown and grey silty-clay with small sandstone inclusions		-	0.21
1806	Cut - Cut of modern ploughing track aligned north- west to south-east with moderately sloping sides and a concave base.		1.00+	0.21

Trench 19	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.35	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.40	
	Length (m) 20		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1901	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay		-	-	0 - 0.30
1902	Geological Substrate - Light orange-yellow sandy-clay		-	-	0.30 - 0.35 (BGL)
1903	Deposit - Fill of [1904]. Mottled light grey-brown and grey silty-clay with occasional charcoal and modern rope fragments		-	-	0.30
1904	Cut - Cut of modern ditch aligned north-west to south-east with gently sloping sides and a slightly rounded base		1.00+	1.35	0.30
1905	Deposit - Fill of [1906] Mid grey-brown silty clay		-	-	0.17
1906	Cut - Cut of shallow modern gully aligned north - south with gently sloping sides and a slightly rounded base		1.00+	0.84	0.17
1907	Deposit - Fill of [1908] Mid grey-brown silty clay with occasional small sandstone fragments		-	-	0.15
1908	Cut - Cut of modern gully aligned north – south with moderately sloping sides and a slightly rounded base		1.00+	0.7	0.15

Trench 20	Minimum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.25	Maximum Depth to Geological Deposit/level of archaeological significance	0.45	
	Length (m) 80		Width (m) 2.00	Dimensions	
Context	Description (Layer, fill, cut)		Length (m)	Width (m) 2.00	Depth (m)
2001	Topsoil - Dark reddish-brown silty-clay		-	-	0 - 0.15
2002	Subsoil - Mid orangey-brown sandy-clay		-	-	0.15 - 0.25 (BGL)
2003	Geological Substrate - Light yellowish-brown clay		-	-	0.25 - 0.50 (BGL)
2004	Geological Deposit - Dark, black peat layer		-	-	0.50 - 0.70 (BGL)
2005	Geological Substrate - Mottled light orangey-grey clay		-	-	0.70 - 0.95 (BGL)
2006	Cut - Cut of sub-rectangular modern pit with vertical sides and a flat base		0.50+	0.8	0.25
2007	Deposit - Fill of [2006]. Loose, blackish-brown peaty-silts		-	-	0.25
2008	Cut - Cut of sub-circular tree bole with irregular gently sloping sides and a slightly rounded base		1.18+	0.55	0.15
2009	Deposit - Fill of [2006]. Dark brownish-black clayey-silty-peat		-	-	0.25

Appendix II – Photographic Register

Photo Number	Direction Facing	Description	File Location
001	E	Location shot of TR12	SMUR19-001
002	E	Location shot of TR12	SMUR19-002
003	W	Location shot of TR12	SMUR19-003
004	E	Location shot of TR12	SMUR19-004
005	SE	Working shot TR12	SMUR19-005
006	SW	Working shot TR12	SMUR19-006
007	SE	TR12 from north-west end	SMUR19-007
008	N	South facing section of sondage in TR12	SMUR19-008
009	N	South facing section of sondage in TR12	SMUR19-009
010	N	Access Road	SMUR19-010
011	SE	Location shot of TR10	SMUR19-011
012	SE	Location shot of TR10	SMUR19-012
013	NW	Location shot TR06	SMUR19-013
014	NW	TR08 from south-east end	SMUR19-014
015	NW	TR08 from south-east end	SMUR19-015
016	NW	TR08 from south-east end	SMUR19-016
017	N	Access Road	SMUR19-017
018	S	Access Road	SMUR19-018
019	E	View of Cants Road	SMUR19-019
020	E	View of Cants Road	SMUR19-020
021	W	View of Cants Road	SMUR19-021
022	E	View of Cants Road	SMUR19-022
023	NW	Building east of field for TR01 - TR05	SMUR19-023
024	NW	Location shot field for TR01 - TR05	SMUR19-024
025	NW	Location shot field for TR01 - TR05	SMUR19-025
026	SW	North-east facing section of ditches [0803] and [0805]	SMUR19-026
027	SW	North-east facing section of ditches [0803] and [0805]	SMUR19-027
029	SW	North-east facing section of ditches [0803] and [0805]	SMUR19-029
030	NE	South-west facing section of natural deposit/alluvium (1203)	SMUR19-030
031	NE	South-west facing section of natural deposit/alluvium (1203)	SMUR19-031
032	SW	TR11 from north-east end	SMUR19-032
033	SW	TR11 from north-east end	SMUR19-033
034	NW	TR10 from south-east end	SMUR19-034
035	NW	TR10 from south-east end	SMUR19-035
036	W	TR09 from east end	SMUR19-036
037	W	TR09 from east end	SMUR19-037
038	NW	South-east facing section of TR11	SMUR19-038
039	NE	South-east facing section of TR11	SMUR19-039
040	SE	North-east facing section of TR10	SMUR19-040
041	SE	North-east facing section of TR10	SMUR19-041
042	SW	North-east facing section of [0808] in TR08	SMUR19-042
043	SW	North-east facing section of [0808] in TR08	SMUR19-043
044	SW	North-east facing section of [0808] in TR08	SMUR19-044
045	SW	North-east facing section of sondage in TR08	SMUR19-045

046	SW	North-east facing section of sondage in TR08	SMUR19-046
047	SW	TR07 from north-east end	SMUR19-047
048	NW	TR06 from south-east end	SMUR19-048
049	N	South facing section of TR09	SMUR19-049
050	N	South facing section of TR09	SMUR19-050
051	SW	North-east facing section of north-western sondage in TR10	SMUR19-051
052	SW	North-east facing section of south-eastern sondage in TR10	SMUR19-052
053	SE	North-west facing section of TR07	SMUR19-053
054	SE	North-west facing section of TR07	SMUR19-054
055	SW	North-east facing section of TR06	SMUR19-055
056	SW	North-east facing section of TR06	SMUR19-056
057	SW	North-east facing section of sondage in TR06	SMUR19-057
058	SW	North-east facing section of sondage in TR06	SMUR19-058
059	NE	Plan shot of [0603] in TR06	SMUR19-059
060	N	TR13 from southern end	SMUR19-060
061	W	East facing section of sondage TR13	SMUR19-061
062	W	East facing section of sondage TR13	SMUR19-062
063	W	East facing section of sondage TR13	SMUR19-063
064	W	East facing section of sondage TR13	SMUR19-064
065	S	TR13 from northern end	SMUR19-065
066	S	TR13 from northern end	SMUR19-066
067	N	TR14 from southern end	SMUR19-067
068	N	South facing sondage in TR14	SMUR19-068
069	N	South facing sondage in TR14	SMUR19-069
070	S	TR14 from northern end	SMUR19-070
071	N	TR15 from southern end	SMUR19-071
072	N	South facing sondage in TR15	SMUR19-072
073	N	South facing sondage in TR15	SMUR19-073
074	S	TR15 from northern end	SMUR19-074
075	N	TR17 from southern end	SMUR19-075
076	NW	South-east facing section of sondage in TR17	SMUR19-076
077	NW	South-east facing section of sondage in TR17	SMUR19-077
078	S	TR17 from northern end	SMUR19-078
079	S	TR16 from northern end	SMUR19-079
080	S	TR16 from northern end	SMUR19-080
081	NE	South-west facing section of sondage in TR16	SMUR19-081
082	NE	South-west facing section of sondage in TR16	SMUR19-082
083	N	TR16 from southern end	SMUR19-083
084	S	TR18 from northern end	SMUR19-084
085	E	West facing section of sondage in TR18	SMUR19-085
086	E	West facing section of sondage in TR18	SMUR19-086
087	N	TR18 from southern end	SMUR19-087
088	W	TR20 from eastern end	SMUR19-088
089	S	North facing section of eastern sondage TR20	SMUR19-089
090	S	North facing section of eastern sondage TR20	SMUR19-090
091	S	North facing section of western machine sondage in TR20	SMUR19-091

092	S	North facing section of western machine sondage in TR20	SMUR19-092
093	E	TR20 from western end	SMUR19-093
094	W	TR19 from eastern end	SMUR19-094
095	E	TR19 from western end	SMUR19-095
096	N	TR03 from southern end	SMUR19-096
097	NE	South-west facing section of sondage in TR03	SMUR19-097
098	NE	South-west facing section of sondage in TR03	SMUR19-098
099	S	TR03 from northern end	SMUR19-099
100	N	TR02 from southern end	SMUR19-100
101	SW	North-east facing section of TR02	SMUR19-101
102	SW	North-east facing section of TR02	SMUR19-102
103	NW	South-east facing section of TR04	SMUR19-103
104	NW	South-east facing section of TR04	SMUR19-104
105	SE	TR05 from north-west end	SMUR19-105
106	SW	North-east facing section of TR05	SMUR19-106
107	SW	North-east facing section of TR05	SMUR19-107
108	SE	TR05 from south-east end	SMUR19-108
109	SE	TR05 from south-east end	SMUR19-109
110	W	East facing section of gully [0303]	SMUR19-110
111	N	South facing section of modern ditch [0603]	SMUR19-111
112	N	South facing section of modern ditch [0603]	SMUR19-112
113	N	South facing section of modern pit [2006]	SMUR19-113
114	N	South facing section of modern pit [2006]	SMUR19-114
115	S	North facing section of sondage in TR20	SMUR19-115
116	S	North facing section of sondage in TR20	SMUR19-116
117	E	West facing section of tree bole [2008]	SMUR19-117
118	E	West facing section of tree bole [2008]	SMUR19-118
119	N	South facing section of deposit [2004]	SMUR19-119
120	N	South facing section of deposit [2004]	SMUR19-120
121	N	South facing section of gully [1306]	SMUR19-121
122	N	South facing section of gully [1306]	SMUR19-122
123	N	South facing section of gully [1306]	SMUR19-123
124	W	East facing section of channel [1308]	SMUR19-124
125	W	East facing section of channel [1308]	SMUR19-125
126	W	East facing section of channel [1308]	SMUR19-126
127	SE	North-west facing section of ditch [0503] in TR05	SMUR19-127
128	SE	North-west facing section of ditch [0503] in TR05	SMUR19-128
129	NW	South-east facing section of ditch [0503]	SMUR19-129
130	NW	South-east facing section of ditch [0503]	SMUR19-130
131	SE	TR06 from north-west end	SMUR19-131
134	NE	TR07 from south-west end	SMUR19-134
135	S	North facing section of channel [0813]	SMUR19-135
136	S	North facing section of channel [0813]	SMUR19-136
137	W	TR19 from eastern end	SMUR19-137
138	E	TR19 from western end	SMUR19-138
139	N	South facing section of ditch [1904]	SMUR19-139

140	N	South facing section of ditch [1904]	SMUR19-140
141	N	Tree bole [2008] fully excavated	SMUR19-141
142	N	Tree bole [2008] fully excavated	SMUR19-142
143	NE	South-west facing section of ditch [1904]	SMUR19-143
144	SW	North-east facing section of gully [1906]	SMUR19-144
145	SW	North-east facing section of gully [1906]	SMUR19-145
146	SW	North-east facing section of gully [1906]	SMUR19-146
147	N	South facing section of gully [1906]	SMUR19-147
148	N	South facing section of gully [1906]	SMUR19-148
149	N	South facing section of gully [1908]	SMUR19-149
150	N	South facing section of gully [1908]	SMUR19-150
151	N	South facing section of gully [1908]	SMUR19-151
152	E	Plan shot of peat sample in TR15	SMUR19-152
153	N	Plan shot of peat sample in TR15	SMUR19-153
154	NW	South-east facing section of channel [1406]	SMUR19-154
155	SE	North-west facing section of modern ploughing track [1804]	SMUR19-155
156	SE	North-west facing section of modern ploughing track [1804]- showing alignment with crops	SMUR19-156
157	SE	North-west facing section of modern ploughing track [1804]- showing alignment with crops	SMUR19-157
158	SE	North-west facing section of modern ploughing track [1804]- showing alignment with crops	SMUR19-158
159	SE	North-west facing section of modern ploughing track [1804]	SMUR19-159
160	SE	North-west facing section of modern ploughing track [1806]	SMUR19-160
163	SW	TR19 from north-east end	SMUR19-163
164	S	North facing section of TR19	SMUR19-164
166	NW	South-east facing section channel [1406]	SMUR19-166
167	NW	South-east facing section channel [1406]	SMUR19-167
168	NW	South-east facing section channel [1406]	SMUR19-168
169	NW	South-east facing section of modern plough-track [1604]	SMUR19-169
170	NW	South-east facing section of modern plough-track [1604]	SMUR19-170
171	NW	South-east facing section of modern plough-track [1604]	SMUR19-171
172	NW	South-east facing section of modern plough track [1604]	SMUR19-172
173	NW	South-east facing section of modern plough track [1604]	SMUR19-173
174	NW	South-east facing section of modern plough track [1604]	SMUR19-174
175	SE	North-west facing section of modern plough track [1606]	SMUR19-175
176	SE	North-west facing section of modern plough track [1606]	SMUR19-176
177	SE	North-west facing section of modern plough track [1606]	SMUR19-177
178	SW	North-east facing section of TR16	SMUR19-178
179	SW	North-east facing section of TR16	SMUR19-179
180	NW	Plan shot of plough mark in TR16	SMUR19-180
181	NW	Plan shot of plough mark in TR16	SMUR19-181
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183	SW	North-east facing section of ploughmark in TR16	SMUR19-183
184	SW	North-east facing section of ploughmark in TR16	SMUR19-184
185	NW	Location shot of [1604] showing alignment with crops	SMUR19-185
186	NW	Location shot of [1604] showing alignment with crops	SMUR19-186

187	W	East facing section of TR18	SMUR19-187
188	W	East facing section of TR18	SMUR19-188

Appendix III – Sample Register

Sample Number	Context	Description
01	1504	Sample of peat layer TR15
02	1304	Kubiena sample from peat layer (1304) in sondage in TR13
03	1307	Fill of gully [1306]
04	1603	Fill of modern track [1604]
05	1805	Fill of modern track [1806]
06	1803	Fill of modern track [1804]
07	2009	Fill of pit/tree bole [2008]

Appendix IV – Finds Catalogue

Tr	Context	Cut No	Sample	Qty	Wgt (g)	Material	Object	Description	Spot Date
05	0504	0503	-	2	20	Pottery (Mod)	Modern Stoneware	jar, brown-glazed, sherds likely from same object	1800+
05	0504	0503	-	1	7	Pottery (Mod)	Modern Porcelain	brown transfer-printed teacup	1800+
08	0810	0808	3	2	1	Pottery (Mod)	Modern Whiteware	blue transfer-printed flatware	1780+
13	1307	1306	3	5	0	CBM	fired clay	small abraded sherds	-
13	1307	1306	3		0	Industrial Waste	mag res	magnetised gravels	-

Appendix V – Environmental Flotation Catalogue**Table 1** Environmental sample results

Key: + = rare (0–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (15–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50) ch = charred, w/l = waterlogged, u = uncharred, m= mineralised

NB charcoal over 10mm is sufficient for identification and AMS dating

Context		1504	1307
Sample		1	2
Context type		Peat	Fill of gully [1306]
Sample Vol (l)	-	40	2
Retent Vol (l)	-	14	0.2
Flot Vol (ml)	-	100	5
Sufficient for AMS?	-	N	N
Plant remains			
<i>Atriplex sp/ Chenopodium sp.</i>	orache/goosefoots	u	+ -
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	u	+ -
<i>Polygonum sp</i>	Knotweed	u	- +
<i>Poaceae sp.</i>	Grass seed	ch	- +
Charcoal			
Charcoal	Qty	ch	- +++
Charcoal	Max size (mm)	ch	- 5
Charcoal	Oak	ch	- -
Charcoal	Non-oak	ch	- +++
Other			
Fly puparia		-	+ -
Worm eggs		-	+ -

Appendix VI –OASIS form**OASIS ID: headland4-352177****Project details**

Project name	Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, Murrow
Short description of the project	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation of Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, Murrow, Cambridgeshire. The work was commissioned by Biocow Ltd, in advance of the formation of a digestate lagoon and the construction of a 1km gas pipeline. 18 features were identified that needed investigation and recording. These comprised of an un-dated gully and geologically and naturally formed linear features. A modern pit and tracks were also identified together with modern ditches which form part of the modern agricultural landscape. Evidence of peat formation in the area was radiocarbon dated to the late prehistoric period but was not associated with any archaeological features or deposits.
Project dates	Start: 10-06-2019 End: 24-06-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	SMUR19 – Site code
Any associated project reference codes	ECB 5911 - Related HER No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	PIT Modern
Significant Finds	CERAMIC Modern
Significant Finds	ANIMAL REMAINS Modern
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Pipelines/cables (e.g. gas, electric, telephone, TV cable, water, sewage, drainage etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE FENLAND WISBECH ST MARY Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, Murrow
Postcode	PE13 4HN
Study area	34400 Square metres

Site coordinates	TF 3754 0459 52.621256015682 0.032034160025 52 37 16 N 000 01 55 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0.5m Max: 0.5m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Headland Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET)
Project design originator	Emma Jeffery
Project director/manager	Emma Jeffery
Project supervisor	Sam Bithell
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Biocow

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County
Physical Archive ID	SMUR19
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County
Digital Archive ID	SMUR19
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County
Paper Archive ID	SMUR19
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Somerset Farm, cambridgeshire: Desk based Assessment
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Henderson, R

Other bibliographic details	Project Number 661918
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	RSK
Place of issue or publication	Manchester
Description	PDF grey literature report

Project bibliography 2

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation: Somerset Farm, Cants Droce, Murrow, Cambridgeshire: Written Scheme of Investigation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jeffery, E.
Other bibliographic details	Project Number SMUR19
Other bibliographic details	Event Number ECB5911
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Headland Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Silsoe
Description	PDF grey literature, written scheme of investigation
Entered by	Sam Bithell (sam.bithell@headlandarchaeology.com)
Entered on	25 September 2019

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ILLUS 6 SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION OF MODERN DITCH [0503]

ILLUS 7 MODERN TRACK [1804] SHOWING ALIGNMENT WITH CROPS

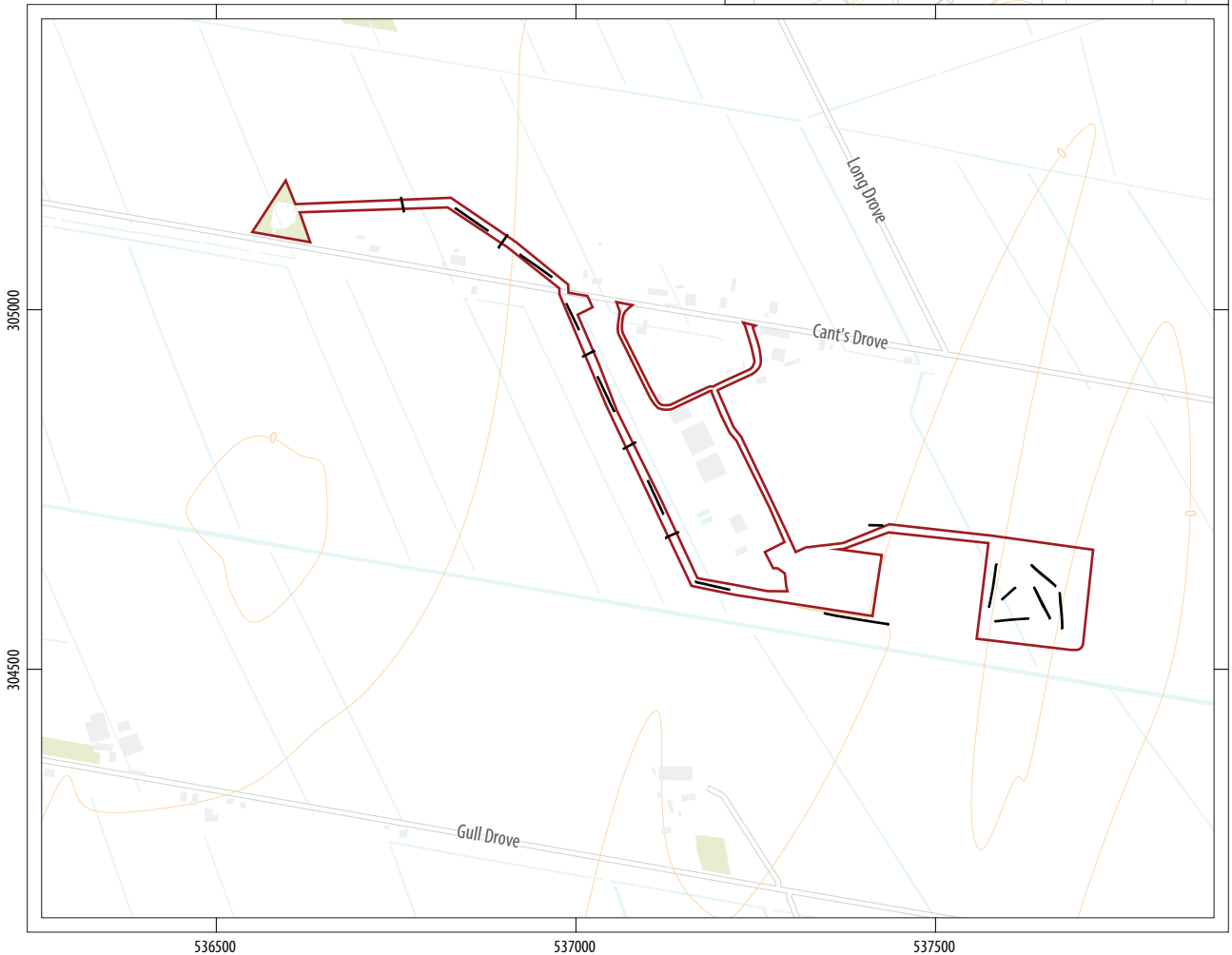
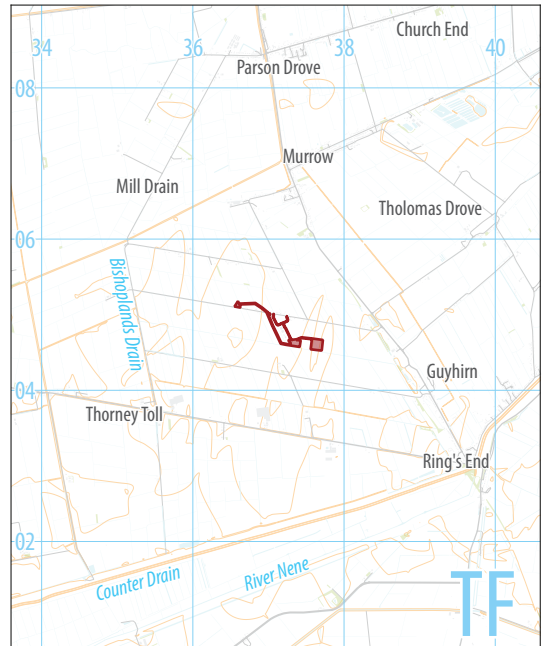
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ILLUS 9 WEST FACING SECTION OF MACHINE SONDAGE IN TR13

Somerset Farm
Murrow
Cambridgeshire



0 200km
1:12,500,000 @ A4



0 200m
1:10,000 @ A4

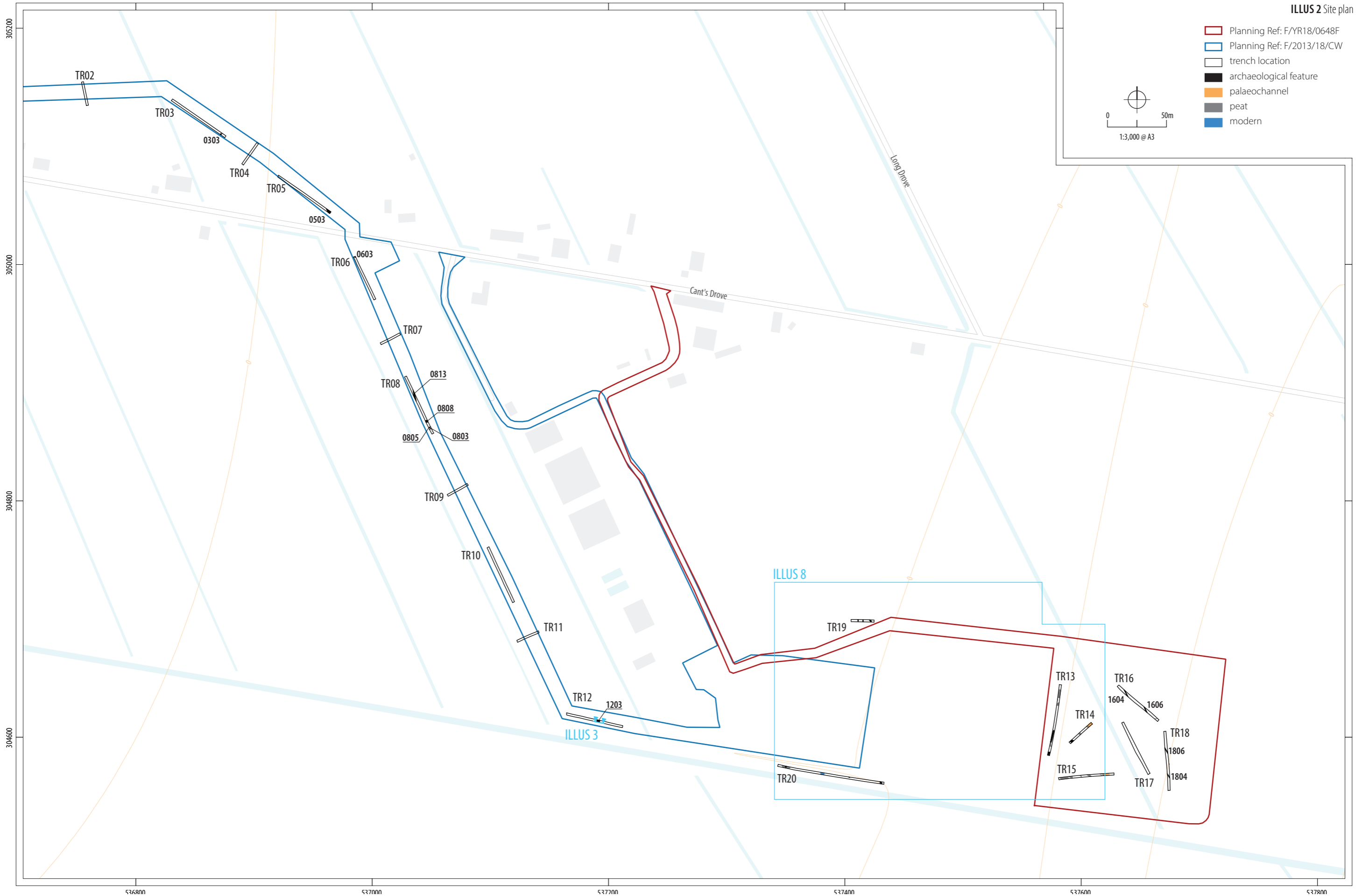
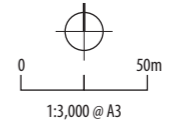
— development boundary
— trench location

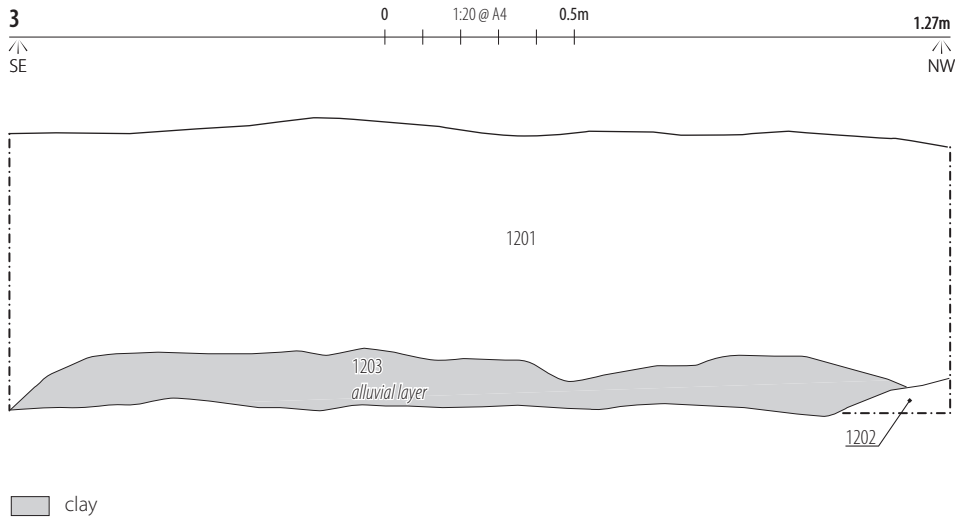


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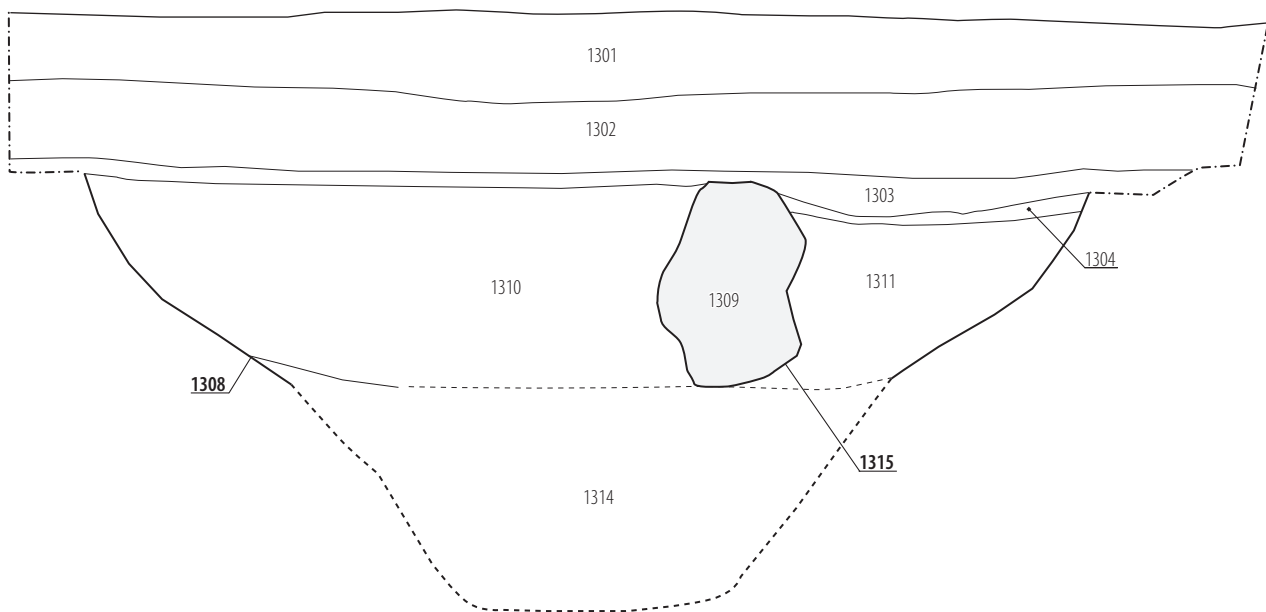
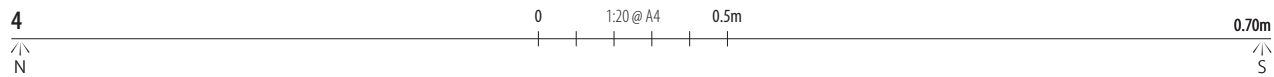
ILLUS 1 Site location

- Planning Ref: F/YR18/0648F
- Planning Ref: F/2013/18/CW
- trench location
- archaeological feature
- palaeochannel
- peat
- modern





ILLUS 3 North-east facing section of natural deposit [1203]



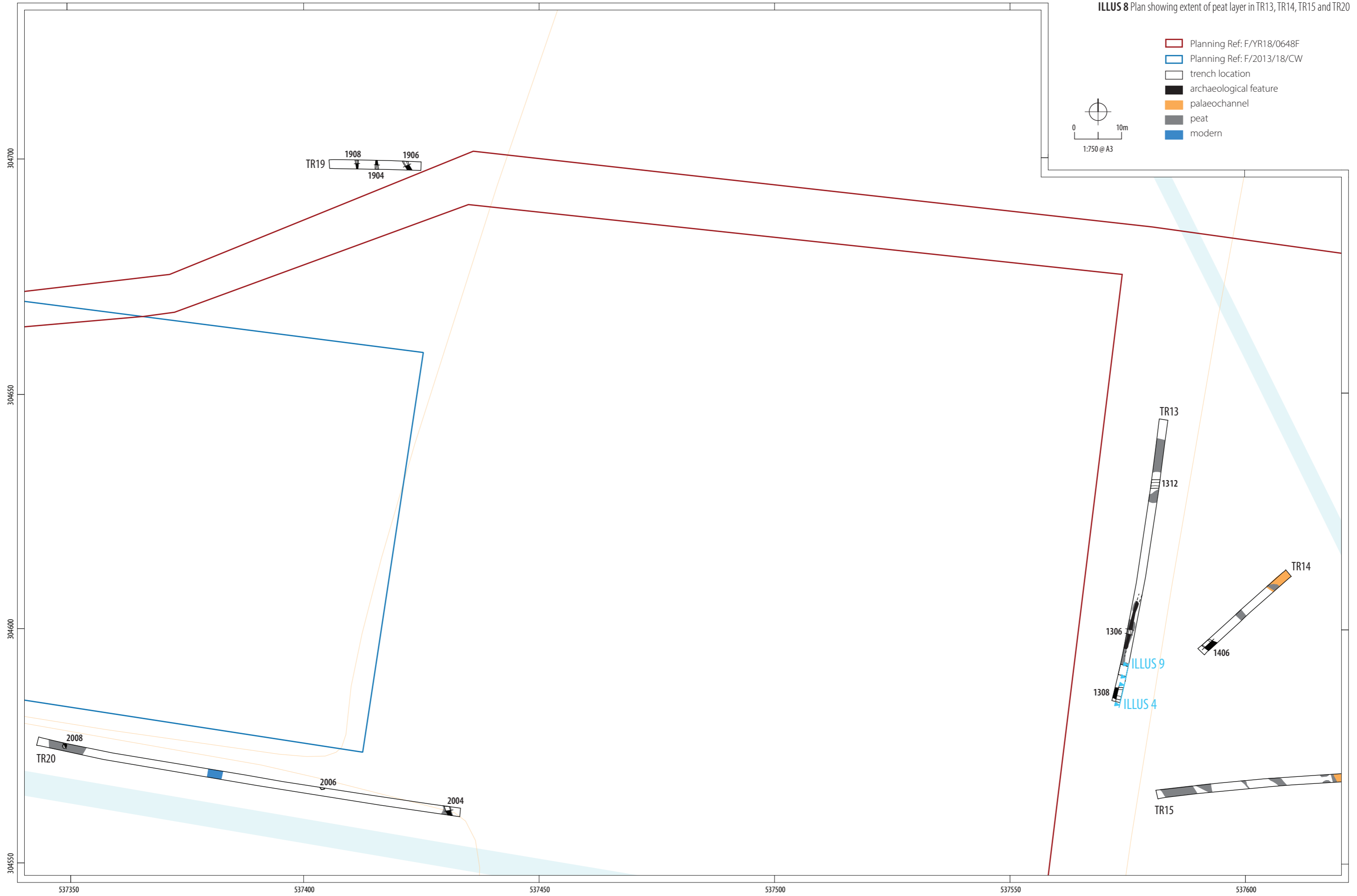
- bioturbation
- - - - projected profile of auger points
- · · · projected fill line

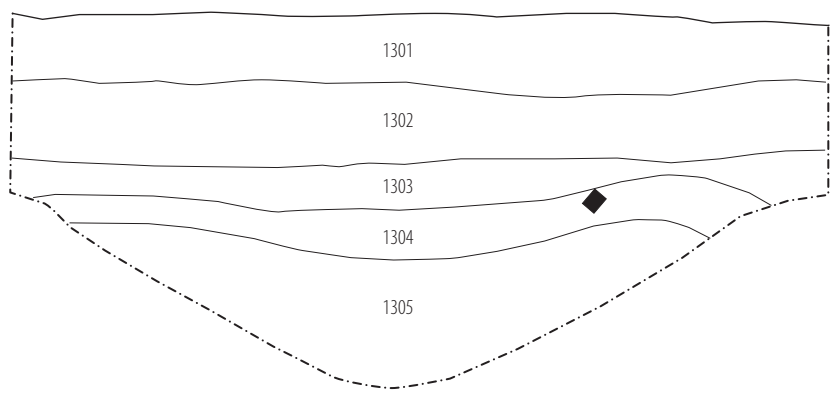
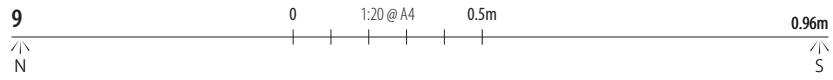
ILLUS 4 West facing section of palaeochannel [1308]



ILLUS 5 East facing section of gully [0303] **ILLUS 6** South-east facing section of modern ditch [0503] **ILLUS 7** Modern track [1804] showing alignment with crops

ILLUS 8 Plan showing extent of peat layer in TR13, TR14, TR15 and TR20





■ Kubiana sample

ILLUS 9 West facing section of machine sondage in TR13



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