Archaeological Evaluation Trenching on land east of Llanca, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire

August 2018

General view of site, looking south-east.
Centred grid reference: TL 39174 85790.
Parish: Chatteris. Event Code: ECB5474

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ARS Ltd Report 2018/145

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Executive Summary

Project Name: *Archaeological Evaluation Trenching on land east of Llanca, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire*
Client: *HB Villages Developments Ltd*
Parish: *Chatteris*
Planning Authority: *Fenland District Council*
Planning Ref: *F/YR17/1172/F*
Event Code: *ECB5474*
Geology: *West Walton Formation and the Ampthill Clay Formation (undifferentiated) – mudstone, overlain by superficial deposits of the March Gravels Member – sands and gravels (BGS 2018).*
NGR: *TL 39174 85790*
Date of fieldwork: *30th July – 3rd August 2018*
Date of report: *August 2018*

In July 2018 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by HB Villages Developments Ltd to undertake archaeological evaluation trenching on land associated with the proposed erection of 18 supported-living residential units and associated infrastructure on land east of Llanca, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire. Three trenches were excavated within the footprints of the proposed new buildings.

The evaluation revealed that much of the site was contaminated by hydrocarbons associated with waste produced by the agricultural vehicle maintenance yard that formerly occupied the site. In places contaminated deposits had a depth greater than 1.2m. With a high water table and natural deposits formed of sands and gravels, where groundwater was encountered it quickly became contaminated by the overlying deposits.

Made-ground was encountered across all parts of the site where disturbed clay, often contaminated, contained small brick fragments consistent with the intentional removal of previous structures and the spreading of material across the site to level it. The natural substrate was encountered in parts of all three trenches at a depth of 1.1-1.2m below current ground level, consisting mainly of sands and gravels but with a higher clay fraction in the northern half of the site.

On the slightly higher ground in the southern portion of the site, the basal remains of a boundary ditch and associated pit were recorded that cut into the natural substrate. In addition to a single sherd of medieval pottery dating to the 11th/12th centuries, these features produced animal bones, pottery and ceramic building materials that dated to the 19th and early 20th century. Later truncation was still evident in this part of the site with modern refuse pits that cut the boundary ditch.

Based on demonstrable evidence of truncation, periods of levelling and contamination, the remainder of the site is considered to have low archaeological potential.

1 Introduction

This report has been produced with regard to the Institute of Field Archaeologist's 'Code of Conduct' (CIfA 2014a)*, 'Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Field Evaluation'* (CIfA 2014b) *and the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team's 'Requirements for the Production of Archaeological Evaluation Reports'* (CHET 2016)*.*

1.1 Project and Planning Background

1.1.1 In July 2018 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) was commissioned by HB Villages Developments Ltd to undertake archaeological evaluation trenching on land east of Llanca, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire. The proposed development comprises the erection of: 18 x 1 bed supported living residential units (comprising: 1 x 3-storey block of 15 flats and a terrace of 3 single-storey dwellings); a scooter store and bin store; and a 1.5m high (max height) boundary wall with railings to the front.

1.1.2 Archaeological works were carried out in accordance with Condition 7 of the agreed planning permission (Ref. No. F/YR17/1172/F), which (in general) stated:

'7. *No further demolition or development shall take place until a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a programme of archaeological works has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI, no demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI…'*

1.1.3 A full account of Condition 7 is presented in the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the works (Cole 2018) (see Appendix III).

1.1.4 The aim of the programme of works was, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 141, to record and enhance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost during the proposed development in a manner proportionate to their importance, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publically accessible (DCLG 2012, 31).

1.2 Site Description

1.2.1 The proposed development area (hereafter PDA) is situated on vacant land (*c.*1900m² in area) immediately to the east of a house named Llanca on Huntingdon Road. As such the site is bound on its western side by Llanca and its gardens, on the northern side by Huntingdon Road, to the east by a BP garage and to the south by gardens and yards of properties along West Park Street.

1.2.2 The PDA is centred at NGR: TL 39174 85790 and is covered by hardstanding associated with a former 20th century service yard for agricultural vehicles. The site occupies predominantly level ground (*c.*9.7m aOD) with a slight rise to the south. The redline boundary of the PDA is depicted on Figure 1 (Appendix II).

1.3 Geology

1.3.1 The underlying solid geology of the PDA comprises the West Walton Formation and the Ampthill Clay Formation (undifferentiated) – mudstone. This is sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 157 to 164 million years ago in the Jurassic Period when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas. This is overlain by the March

Gravels Member – sand and gravels. These are superficial deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2018).

2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.1 There is extensive evidence of past human activity in Chatteris from the Palaeolithic period onwards. A full list of monuments, artefact find spots, historic buildings and previous archaeological investigations, along with maps of their distribution, is included in the Evaluation Brief supplied by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET 2018).

2.2 Chatteris Abbey, which was founded around AD1010, lies approximately 150m north-east of the PDA (HER 03700). It has been suggested that West Park Street, directly east of the PDA, follows the boundary of the Abbey precinct. The streets around the Abbey are likely to have developed around this time as the Abbey would have provided a significant commercial and industrial focus for the town.

2.3 Inhumations and stratified medieval deposits were found during archaeological evaluations at 19 and 21 Victoria Street in 2011 and 2017 (ECB3637 and ECB5043) approximately 125m east of the PDA, within the putative Abbey precinct.

2.4 An archaeological evaluation at 32 West Park Street in 2006 (ECB2406), approximately 60m south of the PDA and just outside the Abbey precinct, revealed a number of pits, post-holes, ditches, gullies and large gravel extraction pits dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods.

3 Aims and Objectives

3.1 Regional Research Objectives

3.1.1 The evaluation trenching was carried out in accordance with research objectives set out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011, 70). Particular consideration was given to the potential of the site revealing evidence pertaining to the creation of and changes to medieval burgage plots that one might expect to find fronting onto a road leading to a medieval abbey.

3.2 Evaluation Trenching Aims

3.2.1 The full aims and objectives of the evaluation, as stipulated by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team in their *Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* (2018), are reproduced in the WSI for the project (see Appendix III). In general the aims of the evaluation were:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- To study site formation processes.

4 Methodology

4.1 The approved WSI (Cole 2018) sets out the methodology employed during the evaluation (see Appendix III). A general overview is provided below.

4.2 Buildings of the former agricultural vehicle-maintenance yard that occupied the site were demolished prior to ARS Ltd arriving on site. The locations of three trenches were pre-agreed between ARS Ltd and the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team, confined to areas of hardstanding beyond the footprints of the former buildings but within the footprints of the proposed development (Figure 2: Appendix II).

4.3 Trenches were marked out with spray-paint whilst locating corners with a pre-programmed survey-grade Leica GPS SmartRover. Trenches were scanned with a CAT and Genny prior to any intrusive groundworks and a number of areas were clearly marked on the surface where 'power' or 'radio' readings were returned. A hydraulic pecker was used for getting through concrete, asphalt or other compacted hardstanding and trenches were then mechanically excavated under constant archaeological supervision using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket. Where services that returned responses to the CAT scanner were identified, these were intentionally left *in-situ* and excavation recommenced at an appropriate distance from them. Some additional services were encountered that did not produce responses to the CAT scanner and these were also left *in-situ.* This included an active culvert within Trench 2 where water was clearly visible through a grid at the surface.

4.4 Removed hardstanding and underlying materials were separated and stored on opposing sides of each trench during excavation. Metal detecting was undertaken on all spoil though modern objects were not retained. Where appropriate, representative bucket samples (90 litres) of uncontaminated deposits were hand sorted to maximise the recovery of artefacts

4.5 All aspects of the archaeological fieldwork followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014b), whilst the report was produced with additional regard to the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team's *Requirements for the Production of Archaeological Evaluation Reports* (CHET 2016).

4.6 A risk assessment was undertaken before commencement of the work and all site operations were undertaken in accordance with current Health and Safety Legislation and the ARS Health and Safety Policy.

4.7 All aspects of the project were managed on behalf of ARS Ltd by Lawrence Pontin (Project Manager). The evaluation trenching was undertaken between 30th of July and 3rd of August 2018, by: Ben Dyson (Projects Officer) and Dr Rebecca Trow (Assistant Projects Officer).

5 Results

Results are described by trench. A summary table of all encountered contexts is provided in Appendix I.

Trench 1

5.1 Trench 1 (15x2m) was located in the northern half of the PDA, excavated on a north/south alignment with the northern end located within concrete hardstanding just 3.8m from the wall that separated the site from the pavement alongside Huntingdon Road (Figure 3, Appendix 2). A very weak signal had been detected by the CAT scanner

in 'power' mode in this location prior to machining, and after removal of the concrete surface (101) and its brick-rubble bedding layer (102), a dog-legged metal pipe (116) laid within plastic and ceramic pipe-lengths was identified that sat on a concrete slab (108) (Figure 4, Appendix 2). This was left *in-situ* and excavation continued southwards at a distance of just over 2.5m from the northern end of the trench where the concrete partially overlay an asphalt surface (103).

5.2 The surface asphalt (103) and its gravel bedding layer (104) overlay an earlier asphalt surface (105) and associated bedding layer (106) that had a combined maximum depth of 0.55m. This sealed a layer of clay (107) that had a maximum depth of 0.64m, a strong odour of hydrocarbons and was stained dark brownish-grey/blue-grey. It is probable that the clay became contaminated by the leaching of substances into the ground from activities associated with the maintenance of agricultural vehicles on the site in the later 20th and early 21st centuries. Due to contamination a measured sketch section was produced by taking measurements down the sides of the trench from the surface (Figure 16, Appendix 2).

5.3 Two pipe trenches cut through this clay layer and were identified as straight-sided linear cuts [109] and [112] with gravel fills (111) and (114) that surrounded 0.15m diameter ceramic water pipes (110) and (113). Both of these 20th century pipe-trenches were inactive and were capped by the tarmac layers.

5.4 Areas of disturbance and truncation throughout the contaminated clay (107) were evidenced by numerous small brick fragments and silty, oily lenses that continued to a depth of up to 1.2m from the surface (*c.*8.3m aOD), at which point clean undisturbed natural substrate (118) was encountered. This was formed by light yellow-grey/blue clay with gravelly inclusions that allowed ground water to well-up through it (Figure 5, Appendix 2).

Trench 2

5.5 Trench 2 (20x2m) was also located in the northern half of the PDA and had an east/west orientation, forming a T-shape where it joined with Trench 1 at its western end (Figure 3, Appendix 2). This was the first trench to be excavated during the works and was excavated from the eastern end. Prior to excavation the CAT scanner returned a weak 'radio' signal at the eastern end, which after removal of asphalt (101) and a sandy bedding layer (102) was found to correspond with the cut [205] and concrete fill (204) of a buried service trench. This was left *in-situ* (Figure 6, Appendix 2).

5.6 Excavation continued on the western side of the service trench where a truncated brick surface (206) was encountered (Figure 7, Appendix 2). The surface was laid as a single course of stretcher-bonded, machine made, frogged red bricks bonded with friable cement, overlying a 0.23m thick bedding deposit of crushed rubble (203). The bricks (each 0.23m(L) x 0.11m(W) x 0.08m(D)) represent a former yard surface of the mid-20th century vehicle maintenance garage and continued for a distance of 12.3m through the trench to the point where excavations ceased in order to leave a water-filled drainage culvert intact. The brick surface was not exposed in its entirety given that it was clearly modern; the decision was made to continue excavating the trench down to a level where earlier features might be revealed before tracking back and repeating the

process. The brick surface remained visible in the north and south and facing sections of the trench.

5.7 Beneath the brick surface bedding deposit (203) a 60mm thick layer of clean, coarse, sandy gravel (207) was recorded that had been intentionally laid down to cap a heavily contaminated deposit (208) that had pooling oil within it and smelled strongly of hydrocarbons. Two glass bottles and a small number of pottery fragments were recovered from this deposit that date to the late-19th/early-20th centuries. This deposit was 0.36m thick and overlay another deposit of clean, coarse, sandy gravel (209). Deposit (209) was 0.12m thick and capped another heavily contaminated layer of dark grey/black sand (210), 80mm in depth. A final 0.14m thick layer of clean, coarse, sandy gravel (211) overlay a 0.11m thick layer of contaminated clay (212) that was light blueish-grey in colour and marked the start of the natural substrata at a depth of 1.09m from the surface. Removal of the contaminated portion of the clay revealed cleaner clay with a higher gravel content at a depth of 1.2m (8.25m aOD) that allowed the up-welling of ground water into the trench (Figure 8, Appendix 2).

5.8 At a distance of 9.8m into the trench and at a depth of 1.2m from the surface the clay was no longer visible and the base of the trench was formed by the black contaminated layer of sand (210). In section it was possible to see that all of the banded deposits of contaminated material and capping gravels sat within a broad U-shaped depression. The lower extent of the contaminated deposits was assigned a putative cut number [216] but it was unclear whether a pit had intentionally been dug or whether a natural depression/pond/quarry-pit had been used as a dumping ground (Figure 9, Appendix 2).

5.9 At a distance of 14.28m into the trench excavation was halted 0.5m east of an active drainage culvert so that it would not be disturbed. Prior to continuing excavation of the trench on the western side of the culvert the decision was taken (after consultation between ARS and CHET) that the open portion of Trench 2 would be photographically recorded and then backfilled due to the rising level of ground-water that was becoming contaminated as oily material oozed into it out of the sections. Due to contamination a measured sketch section was produced by taking measurements down the sides of the trench from the surface (Figure 16, Appendix 2). The trench was backfilled up to a level just beneath the brick surface (206).

5.10 The final 3.5m of the trench was excavated on the western side of the culvert which exposed a short continuation of the brick surface (206) and its rubble bedding (203) and a continuation of contaminated deposit (208) and its gravel capping (207) within possible cut [216]. All of these deposits were truncated by the cut [213], fill (214) and brickwork (215) of the western side of the drainage culvert, and the cut [217], pipe (218) and gravel backfill (219) of another modern pipe trench (Figures 10 and 11, Appendix 2).

Trench 3

5.11 Trench 3 (20x2m) was located in the southern half of the PDA and had an east/west orientation, situated on the slightly higher ground to the rear of the former vehicle maintenance yard (Figure 12, Appendix 2). The ground surface over the western half of the trench was formed of modern concrete asphalt whilst the eastern half was

formed of loosely compacted stones, soil and modern debris. The trench was excavated from west to east.

5.12 Upon excavation the modern concrete asphalt was found to have been laid in two layers, each with an associated bedding deposit. The surface asphalt (309) had a coarse crushed limestone bedding deposit (310) which overlay a thinner asphalt surface (311) with a bedding formed of crushed brick, stone and concrete rubble (312). At the western end of the trench this sequence of modern hardstanding construction had a combined depth of 0.53m, overlying a 0.6m thick deposit of disturbed silty clay (314) that contained small brick fragments. Natural gravel substrate (326) was encountered at a depth of 1.14m (8.77m aOD). A number of modern intrusions were encountered at the western end of the trench just below the bedding deposit (310) for the modern asphalt surface (309). These included the cut [318] of a service trench containing a modern plastic water pipe (319) bedded in sharp sand (320) (left *in-situ*); the cut [322] and asbestos contaminated fill (323) of a waste pit (left undisturbed); and the concrete casing (316) of a fuel-pipe (left *in-situ*) that sat in a north/south oriented linear cut [315] and ran towards a known fuel tank to the north of the trench. The disturbed silty clay (314) beneath the concrete casing was heavily stained blue/grey and smelled strongly of hydrocarbons (Figure 13, Appendix 2).

5.13 In the eastern half of Trench 3 a loosely compacted stony accumulation of dirt, modern construction debris and refuse (321) overlay a continuation of the crushed limestone bedding deposit (310) that was identified beneath the asphalt surface (309) (Figure 14, Appendix 2). Immediately adjacent to the eastern extent of the asphalt the cut [324] of a modern soakaway was identified backfilled with a loosely compacted deposit of flint-gravel and modern construction debris (325). This was excavated by machine and had a maximum depth of 0.86m, cutting into the disturbed clay deposit (314) that overlay the natural substrate (326) (Figure 15, Appendix 2).

5.14 Partially underlying the soakaway pit but cut from the level of the natural substrate (therefore not associated), the half teardrop-shaped cut [301] of a pit was identified that extended into the trench for 0.66m. Upon excavation the pit was found to contain a single, poorly sorted, grey sandy silt fill (302) with numerous fragments of animal bone, flat tile, glass and brick. The fragments of bone were large, consisting predominantly of shoulder-blade and long bone fragments, many of which exhibited vertical cuts and evidence of butchery. Fragments of pre-19th century pottery were also recovered from the pit. The pit itself had a maximum surviving depth of 0.37m and had a flat base. The pit had the same fill and produced a similar assemblage to a 0.8m wide ditch [305] that was investigated just over a meter away to the east.

5.15 Based on Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping data of the site it is likely that ditch [305] represents the basal portion of a boundary ditch that is depicted on a similar orientation on maps dating between 1886 and 1959 (see Groundsure Mapping in Evans & Buckley 2018, 412-418). The ditch produced a single abraded fragment of sandy medieval coarseware dating to the 11th/12th centuries that is likely to be residual within the ditch that was in use for a long period of time. The ditch was truncated by two modern pits, [303] and [307], and given that it was sealed by the disturbed made-ground deposit (314) it is likely that it was once a much deeper and more substantial landscape feature. Given the similarity in fills and recovered assemblages from pit [301]

and ditch [305], the two features are probably directly related; however, this relationship would have been located just under the baulk formed by the northern side of the trench and was otherwise unobserved (Figure 15, Appendix 2).

6 Finds Assessment

6.1 Medieval Pottery

Paul Blinkhorn

6.1.1 A single abraded base and body sherd of sandy/shelly medieval coarseware was recovered from the fill (306) of ditch [305] in Trench 3 (see Table 6.1A).

Sherd type	Quantity	Fabric	Max. wall thickness	Min. wall thickness	Base thickness	Weight	Probable date
Base/body coarseware	1	Sand/shell tempered	10mm	6mm	7mm	23.71g	11th-12th centuries

Interior

Exterior

Profile

Table 6.1A. The pottery.

6.1.2 Given the recovery of 19th and 20th century glass, tile, brick and bone from the same context, it is probable that this is a residual sherd from a long-lived ditch, associated with medieval activity in the wider vicinity.

7 Discussion

7.1 The evaluation has demonstrated a high level of contamination across the PDA and made-ground deposits with a depth in excess of 1.2m in some areas.

7.2 The northern half of the site is particularly contaminated with evidence of the intentional dumping of waste into a cut pit or natural depression. Layers of hydrocarbon-contaminated material have been intentionally capped with redeposited natural gravels prior to their covering over with a rubble levelling deposit, a brick surface and modern asphalt hardstanding. The glass and pottery recovered from the contaminated sequence in Trench 2 dates the dumping of waste to the late-19th/early-20th centuries, whilst the brick surface of the vehicle maintenance yard dates to the mid/late-20th century with more recent asphalt overlying it.

7.3 There was no evidence in any of the trenches for the surviving remains of burgage plots or buildings associated with the putative medieval abbey precinct alongside Huntingdon Road and West Park Street. The depth of made-ground deposits suggests that any features or structures that were located here were completely

grubbed-out to make way for later development. This would certainly account for the depth of disturbance (small brick fragments; blended colouration and non-uniform compaction) identified within the contaminated clay layer (107) in Trench 1 and the depth of a similar clay deposit (314) in Trench 3 further south. It is likely that the same trend continues beneath the building footprints of the former vehicle maintenance yard; perhaps to a higher degree where deep footings, inspection pits and fuel tanks were constructed.

7.4 The only surviving archaeological features of the site were encountered on the slightly higher ground in the south, investigated by Trench 3. Truncation and later disturbance was still evidenced by made ground deposits, modern services and a soakaway feature, but the basal remains of a ditch [305] were clearly identified that correspond with a boundary depicted on maps dating at least as far back as 1886. It is likely that pit [301] is directly associated with the ditch due to the similarity of the recovered assemblages but this cannot be stated with certainty. The survival of features on the higher ground in the southern part of the PDA and the inclusion of a single abraded fragment of 11th/12th century medieval pottery fits in with work carried out approximately 60m south of the PDA (ECB2406) where medieval and post-medieval ditches, pits and gullies were excavated in 2006.

7.5 Based on demonstrable evidence of truncation, periods of levelling and contamination, the remainder of the site is considered to have low archaeological potential.

8 Archiving Statement

A hard copy of the approved report will be submitted to the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record and a copy of the report will be uploaded as part of the OASIS record. The archive will be deposited following the gaining of the transfer of title.

9 Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright

Any publicity will be handled by the client. Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

10 Statement of Indemnity

All statements and opinions contained within this report arising from the works undertaken are offered in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of the report for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

11 Acknowledgements

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Appendix I. Context Summary Table.

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m aOD)	Same as
1	101	Surface	Light yellowish grey/white aggregate concrete layer, abutting N site boundary, overlying crushed rubble (102). Slopes down to meet (103) along S and W edges	Concrete surface	24.11 (l), 6.36 (w), 0.09 (d)	9.657	-
	102	Deposit	Deposit of crushed brick rubble in large pieces, abuts concrete slab (108) and underlies concrete (101). Used as a base to create slope edging (101)	Makeup for sloped edge of C20th concrete (101)	>2.32 (l), >0.62 (w), 0.17 (d)	9.563	-
	103	Surface	Dark blueish grey/black asphalt concrete, partially underlying concrete (101) and forming current ground surface across much of site	Mid-late C20th asphalt concrete surface	>15.00 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.12 (d)	9.598	201, 309
	104	Deposit	Coarse, mid brownish yellow gravel subbase for surface (103)	Mid-late C20th subbase for surface (103)	>15.00 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.08 (d)	9.473	202, 310
	105	Surface	Dark blueish grey/black asphalt concrete, underlying subbase (104)	Mid C20th asphalt concrete surface	>15.00 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.07 (d)	9.389	220, 311
	106	Deposit	Coarse dark greyish brown/black silty clay with frequent crushed rubble inclusions. Underlies surface (105)	Makeup/levelling material beneath surface (105)	>15.00 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.28 (d)	9.314	203, 312
	107	Deposit	Dark brownish grey mottled with light blueish grey clay. Heavily contaminated with hydrocarbons	Upper horizon of natural clay, with severe hydrocarbon leeching	>15.00 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.64 (d)	9.011	212
	108	Surface	Slab made from aggregate concrete. Underlies concrete (101) against N boundary of site.	Concrete surface	>2.32 (l), >1.18 (w), 0.18 (d)	9.559	-
	109	Cut	Linear cut for service. Truncates levelling deposit (106) and sealed by surface (105). Aligned NE-SW between manholes	Service Trench	>2.40 (l), 0.25 (w), 0.26 (d)	9.298	-

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m aOD)	Same as
	110	Pipe	Ceramic drain pipe within [109]	Drain pipe	>2.40 (l), 0.15 (diam)	9.291	-
	111	Fill	Greyish yellow gravel fill of [109], packing pipe (110).	Service trench fill	>2.40 (l), 0.25 (w), 0.26 (d)	9.298	-
	112	Cut	Linear cut for service. Truncates levelling deposit (106) and sealed by surface (105). Aligned NNE-SSW between manholes	Service Trench	>3.58 (l), 0.25 (w), 0.26 (d)	9.289	217
	113	Pipe	Ceramic drain pipe within [112]	Drain pipe	>3.58 (l), 0.15 (diam)	9.286	218
	114	Fill	Greyish yellow gravel fill of [112], packing pipe (113).	Service trench fill	>3.58 (l), 0.25 (w), 0.26 (d)	9.289	219
	115	Cut	Linear cut for service aligned N-S then turns towards SE towards manhole. Truncates surface (103) and sealed by slab (108)	Service Trench	>2.08 (l), 0.25 (w), 0.24 (d)	9.371	-
	116	Pipe	Pipe work within [115]. 1 piece metal pipe (0.10 diam) connects to steel 25mm pipe connected to 0.15m diam ceramic pipe.	Drainage pipes	>2.08 (l), 0.15 (diam)	9.369	-
	117	Fill	Rubble material used as backfill for service trench [115]	Service trench fill	>2.08 (l), 0.25 (w), 0.24 (d)	9.371	-
	118	Deposit	Light yellowish grey mottled with light greenish grey clay	Natural substrate	-	8.448	-
2	201	Surface	Dark blueish grey/black asphalt concrete surface sealing Trench 2 and forming current ground surface across much of site	Mid-late C20th surface	>20.00 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.17 (d)	9.377	103, 309

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m aOD)	Same as
	202	Deposit	Coarse, mid brownish yellow gravel subbase for surface (201)	Mid-late C20th subbase for surface (201)	>20.00 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.05 (d)	9.209	104, 310
	203	Deposit	Coarse dark greyish brown/black silty clay with frequent crushed rubble inclusions. Underlies surfaces (206) and (220)	Makeup/levelling material beneath surfaces (206) & (220)	>20.00 (l), >1.80m (w), 0.23 (d)	9.061	106, 312
	204	Fill	Light yellowish grey aggregate concrete fill of service trench [205]. Left in situ for H & S	Concrete fill of [205], capping service	>1.80 (l), 0.5 (w)	9.334	-
	205	Cut	Linear cut for service aligned N-S at E end of Trench 2	Service trench	>1.80 (l), 0.5 (w)	9.334	-
	206	Surface	Surface laid with stretcher bonded machine made frogged bricks of early-mid 20th century type. Truncated by services [205], [213], & [217]	Early-mid C20th surface	>18.50 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.08 (d)	9.147	-
	207	Deposit	Coarse, light greyish yellow, sandy gravel deposit overlying (208). Possibly used intentionally to cap waste deposit (208)	Late C19th/early C20th waste capping	>17.47 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.06 (d)	8.845	-
	208	Deposit	Medium dark blueish grey/black silty clay with frequent small pieces of rubble and some C19th pot and glass. Organic matrix, some patched of degraded lime waste. Heavily contaminated by hydrocarbons leeched from surface after deposition	Late C19th/early C20th waste deposit	>17.47 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.36 (d)	8.779	-
	209	Deposit	Coarse, light greyish yellow, sandy gravel deposit overlying (210). Possibly used intentionally to cap waste deposit (210)	Late C19th/early C20th waste capping	>11.87 (l), 1.80 (w), 0.12 (d)	8.642	-
	210	Deposit	Coarse dark greyish black sand with frequent gravel inclusions. Possibly contains ash/coal but stained heavily by leeched hydrocarbons from above which obscures the fill	Late C19th/early C20th waste deposit	>11.85 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.08 (d)	8.423	-

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m aOD)	Same as
	211	Deposit	Coarse light greyish yellow sandy gravel. Lines cut [216], primary deposit?	Late C19th/early C20th waste deposit	>9.46 (l), 1.80 (w), 0.14 (d)	8.348	-
	212	Deposit	Dark brownish grey mottled with light blueish grey clay. Heavily contaminated with hydrocarbons	Upper horizon of natural clay, with severe hydrocarbon leeching	>19.21 (l), >1.80 (w), >0.11 (d)	8.206	107
	213	Cut	Linear cut for service trench aligned N-S and truncating surface (206)	Service trench	>1.80 (l), >0.18 (w), >1.20 (d)	9.145	-
	214	Fill	Dark greyish brown/black fill around {205} within [213]. Silty sandy clay with fine rubble inclusions	Fill of service trench	>1.80 (l), >0.18 (w), >1.20 (d)	9.145	-
	215	Structure	Brick lining within trench [213]. Associated with manhole to the east. Machine made red bricks and cementitious mortar	Lining in service trench	>1.80 (l), >0.18 (w), >0.07 (d)	8.436	-
	216	Cut	Cut mainly visible in sections. Truncated by Trench 1 and not seen fully in plan. Not clear if intentional cut or natural depression in ground used to dump waste deposits (207)-(211)	Cut containing waste deposits (207)-(211)	>16.84 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.93 (d)	8.211	-
	217	Cut	Linear cut aligned NE-SW between two manholes. Continues into Trench 1 as [112]. Contains drain pipe	Service trench	>1.86 (l), 0.25 (w), 0.26 (d)	9.072	112
	218	Pipe	Ceramic drain pipe within [217]	Drain pipe	>1.86 (l), 0.15 (diam)	9.067	113
	219	Fill	Greyish yellow gravel fill of [217], packing pipe (218).	Service trench fill	>1.86 (l), 0.25 (w), 0.26 (d)	9.072	114

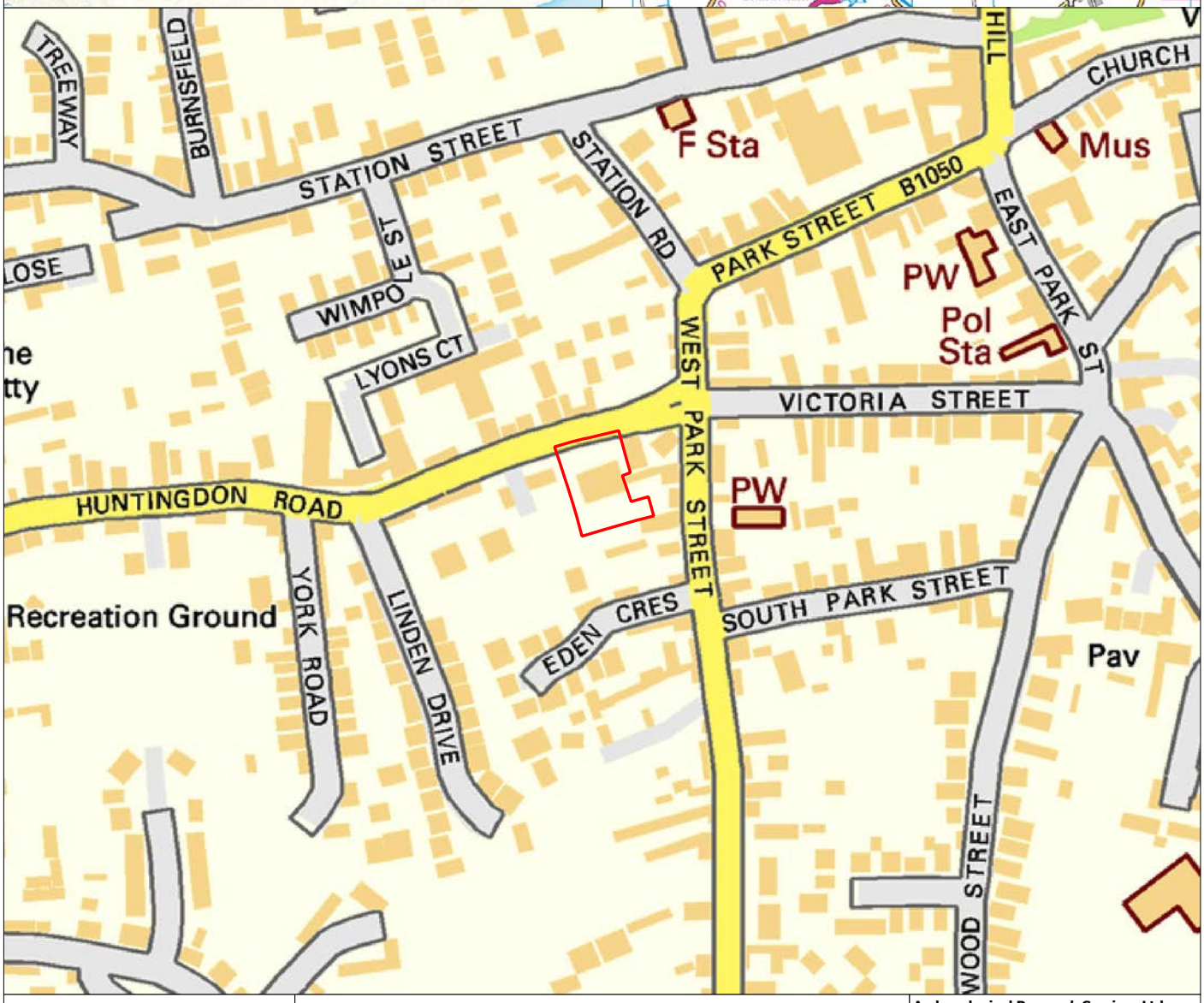
Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m aOD)	Same as
	220	Surface	Dark blueish grey/black asphalt concrete, underlying subbase (202)	Mid C20th asphalt concrete surface	>2.61 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.07 (d)	9.143	105, 311
3	301	Cut	Subcircular (?) (only partially exposed) pit with sharp breaks of slope and vertical sides with come undercutting. Protrudes from N baulk of Trench 3. Close to ditch [305] but any relationship exists beyond trench limits	Post-medieval pit	1.70 (l), >0.66 (w), 0.40 (d)	8.641	-
	302	Fill	Grey silty sand fill of pit with poorly sorted gravel inclusions. Contained large quantity of large animal bones and handmade floor tiles. Also contained 1 piece C19th pot from towards top and piece of residual C18th(?) pot.	Fill of post-medieval pit	1.70 (l), >0.66 (w), 0.40 (d)	8.641	-
	303	Cut	Cut of rectilinear pit with sharp breaks of slope, vertical sides and flat base. Truncates deposits (313) & (314) and ditch [305]. Protrudes from N baulk of Trench 3 so full plan not exposed	C20th pit	1.56 (l), >0.92 (w), 0.62 (d)	9.012	-
	304	Fill	Coarse, mid-greyish brown, sandy silt fill of pit [303]. Fill is poorly sorted with frequent small subrounded and rounded gravels and occasional small pieces of rubble. High energy event-intentional backfill	Fill of C20th pit	1.56 (l), >0.92 (w), 0.62 (d)	9.012	-
	305	Cut	Cut of parallel sided ditch aligned NW-SE. Sides are concave with gradual break of slope at base and slightly concave base. Shown on maps 1888-1971 but may have earlier origins	Post-medieval field boundary	>2.55(l), 0.82 (w), 0.51 (d)	8.639	-

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m aOD)	Same as
	306	Fill	Coarse mid yellowish grey sandy silt fill of ditch. Poorly sorted with frequent small sub rounded and rounded gravels and some chunks of clay. Poor sorting indicates high energy event such as backfill. Moderate large unabraded pieces of animal bone recovered throughout and some pieces of floor tile. 1 sherd highly abraded Roman(?) pot	Fill of post-medieval field boundary	>2.55(l), 0.82 (w), 0.51 (d)	8.639	-
	307	Cut	Cut of rectilinear pit truncating deposits (313) & (314) and ditch [305]. Not excavated as clearly 20th century material cutting ditch [305] in plan	Cut of C20th construction waste pit	1.45 (l), 0.76 (w)	9.015	-
	308	Fill	Poorly sorted dark greyish brown/black sandy silt fill of pit [307]. Frequent pieces of machine made frogged brick, some stone and concrete inclusions	Fill of C20th construction waste pit	1.45 (l), 0.76 (w)	9.015	-
	309	Surface	Dark blueish grey/black asphalt concrete surface sealing W end of Trench 3 and forming current ground surface across much of site	Mid-late C20th surface	>10.07 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.17 (d)	9.841	103, 201
	310	Deposit	Coarse, mid brownish yellow-white gravel subbase for surface (309)	Mid-late C20th subbase for surface (309)	>20.83 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.18 (d)	9.673	104, 202
	311	Surface	Dark blueish grey/black asphalt concrete, underlying subbase (310)	Mid C20th asphalt concrete surface	>3.72 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.23 (d)	9.398	105, 220
	312	Deposit	Coarse dark greyish brown/black silty clay with frequent crushed rubble inclusions. Underlies surface (311)	Makeup/levelling material beneath surface (311)	>20.83 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.28 (d)	9.159	106, 203
	313	Deposit	Coarse mid yellowish brown gravelly sand. Very similar to natural deposits seen at base of trench. Likely uplifted during construction work and redeposited and levelled out. Poss. Spoil from excavation of fuel tank to N.	Redeposited natural gravel	>20.83 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.21 (d)	8.862	-

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m aOD)	Same as
	314	Deposit	Mid brownish grey silty clay with frequent small gravel inclusions and moderate amounts of small rubble pieces. Likely natural clay deposits uplifted, becoming mixed with natural gravels and construction debris and then redeposited and levelled out. Poss. spoil from excavation of fuel tank to N. Seals ditch [305]	Redeposited natural clay with frequent inclusions	>20.83 (l), >1.80 (w), 0.32 (d)	8.753	-
	315	Cut	Linear cut for service running N-S. Aligned with grids and covers in concrete surface over fuel tank to N. Truncates tarmac (311). Capped by subbase (310). Unexcavated as still leaking fuel	Cut for fuel pipe	>1.80 (l), 0.41 (w)	9.386	-
	316	Fill	Concrete filling [315]. Possibly contains fuel pipe	Fill/capping of fuel pipe	>1.80 (l), 0.41 (w)	9.386	-
	317	Fill	Silty clay fill around concrete (316). Heavily contaminated by hydrocarbons leaking from pipe (?) within concrete (316)	Fill of service trench [315]	>1.80 (l), 0.43 (w)	9.386	-
	318	Cut	Linear cut for service trench aligned N-S in W end of Trench 3. Truncates surface (311) and capped by subbase (310). Unexcavated for H & S	Service trench	>1.80 (l), 0.39 (w)	9.379	-
	319	Pipe	Brown plastic pipe within [318], wrapped with yellow "CABLE" hazard tape	Conduit for electrical wires?	>1.80 (l), 0.15 (diam)	9.372	-
	320	Fill	Mid yellowish brown sharp sand fill of [318]	Sand fill of service trench	>1.80 (l), 0.39 (w)	9.379	-
	321	Deposit	Coarse mid brownish grey silty sand with frequent pebbles, rubbish and rubble inclusions. Naturally accumulated above (310) in E end of trench, abutting surface (309)	Naturally accumulated dirt over gravel (310)	>20.83, >1.80 (w), 0.16 (d)	9.844	-

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m aOD)	Same as
	322	Cut	Subcircular (?) pit protruding from N baulk of trench. Unexcavated as contained asbestos. Truncates surface (311)	C20th waste pit.	1.41 (l), >0.45 (w), >0.28 (d)	9.143	-
	323	Fill	Poorly sorted rubble fill of pit [322]. Not excavated as contained asbestos	Fill of C20th waste pit	1.41 (l), >0.45 (w), >0.28 (d)	9.143	-
	324	Cut	Subcircular cut containing coarse gravel (325). Abutting edge of surface (309).	Cut for C20th soakaway	1.98 (l), >0.53 (w), 0.81 (d)	9.686	-
	325	Fill	Coarse gravel fill of soakaway [325]	Fill of C20th soakaway	1.98 (l), >0.53 (w), 0.81 (d)	9.686	-
	326	Deposit	Coarse mid yellowish brown sandy gravel	Natural substrate	-	8.637	-

Appendix II. Figures.



Site name: Land east of Llanca Date: June 2018 Drawn by: RHC Scale: Varies		**Archaeological Research Services Ltd** Angel House Portland Square Bakewell Derbyshire DE45 1HB Tel: 01629 814540 www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com
	Figure 1: **Site location**	

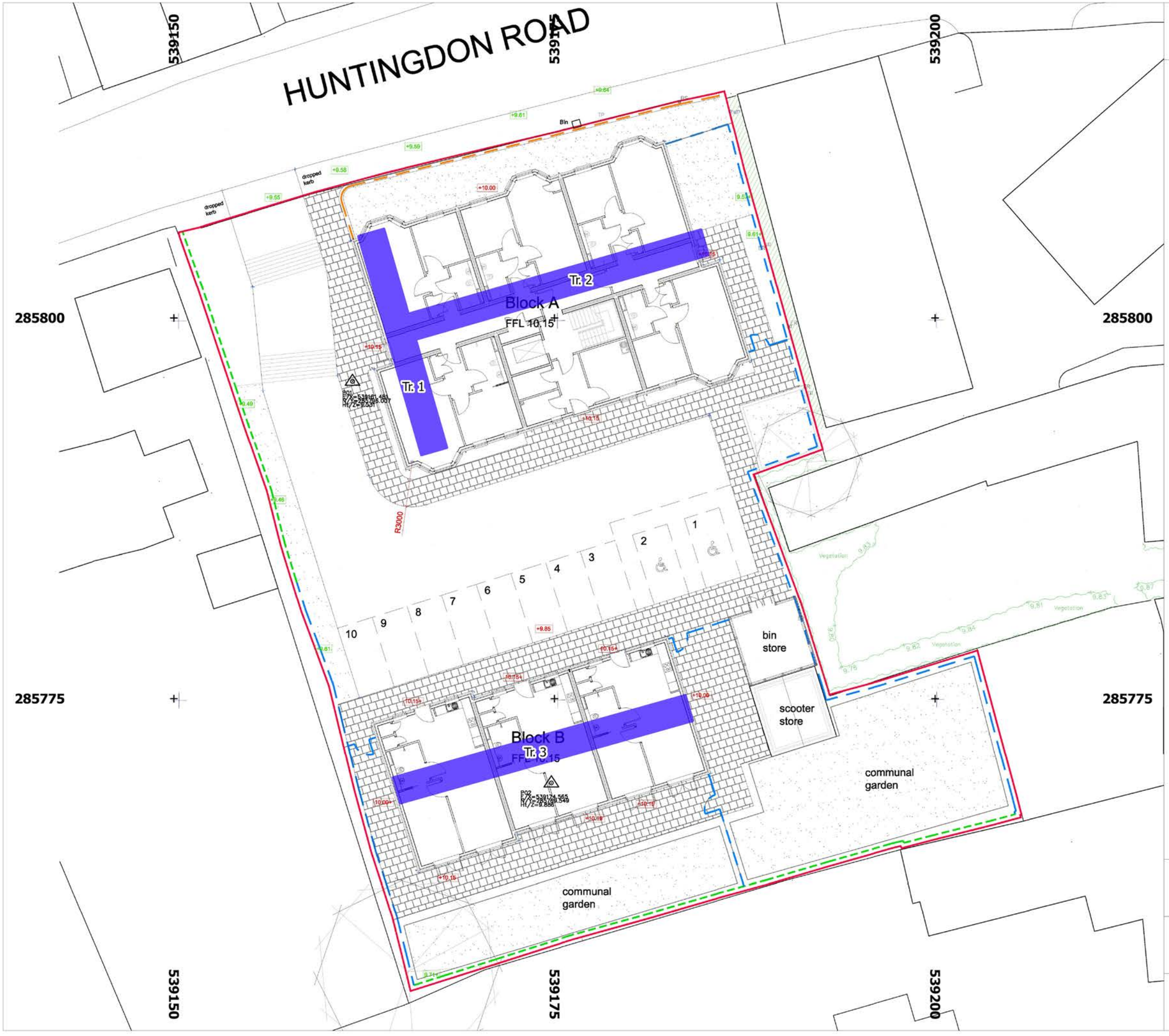


Figure 2: Trench location plan

Site Boundary

Trenches

0 5 10 15 m

N

Site name: Land east of Llanca, Chatteris
Date: July 2018
Drawn by: AB
Scale: 1:250 @ A3

Archaeological Research Services Ltd
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Derbyshire
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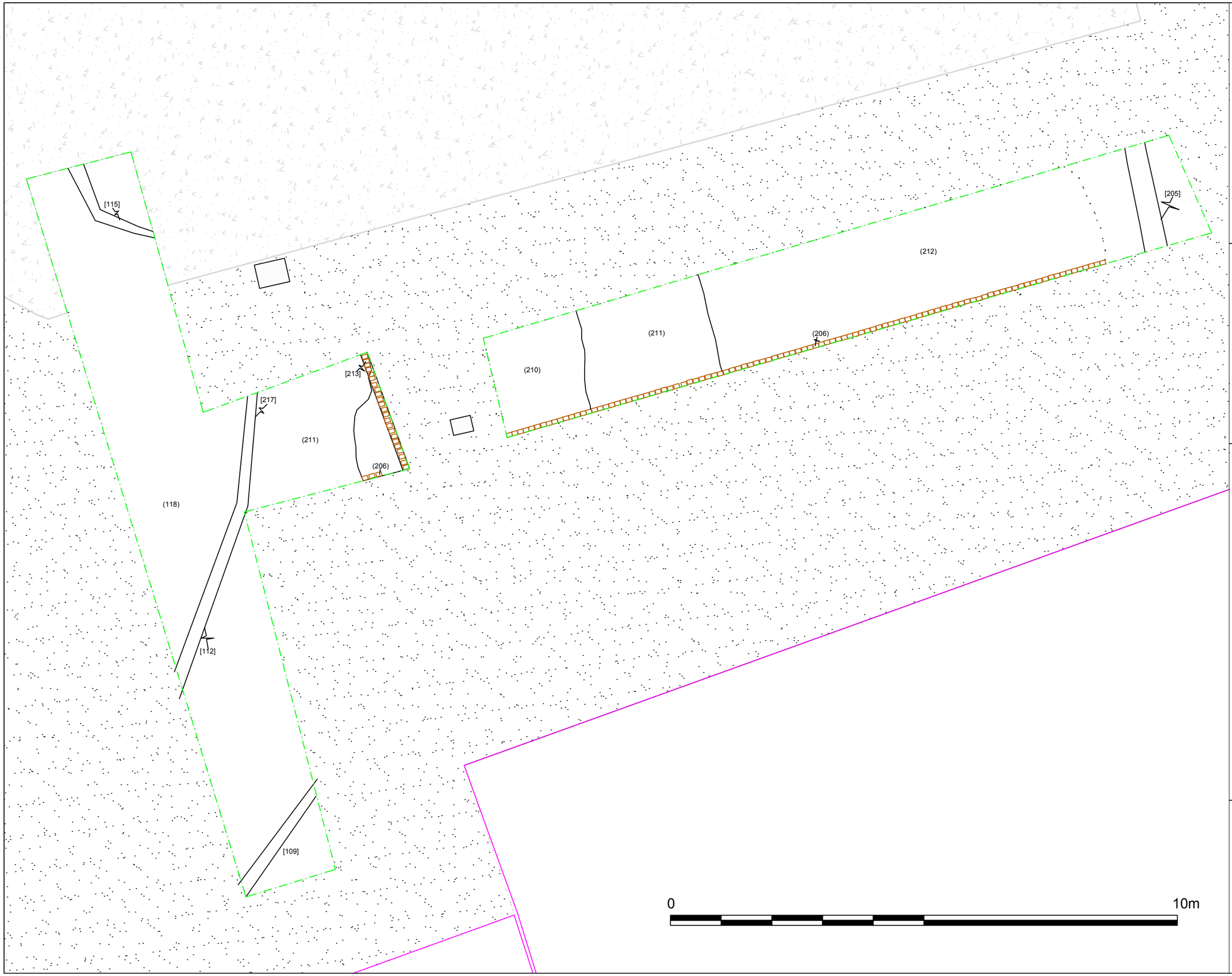
www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

Site Name: Huntingdon Road, Chatteris
Date: August 2018
Drawn by: RLT

Figure 3-
Plan of Trenches 1 and 2



Key

- Limit of Excavation
- Asphalt Concrete
- Concrete
- Building foundation
- Red Brick

N

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Figure 4. Trench 1 looking south, note the dog-legged service pipe beneath concrete in the foreground. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

Figure 5. East facing section through Trench 1 showing modern surfaces over contaminated clay. Gravel backfill of modern pipe trench visible as an orange patch within the clay. Natural gravelly clay and ground-water in base of trench. Scales: 0.5m graduations.

Figure 6. Trench 2, looking west. Note the concrete capping of a modern service in the foreground. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

Figure 7. Eastern end of truncated brick surface (206) during excavation. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

Figure 8. North facing section, Trench 2, showing layers of contaminated material and gravel capping deposits beneath brick surface and rubble bedding. Ground water welling up through base of trench. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

Figure 9. Contaminated deposits deeper than 1.2m meant that black sandy layer (210) formed base of trench after 9.8m of excavation. Possible cut [216] visible through gravel (211) in bottom left of photo. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

Figure 10. Western end of Trench 2, looking east. Clean natural clay in base of trench after removal of contaminated layers. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

Figure 11. Thicker deposit of contaminated layer (208) to the west of the drainage culvert that bisected Trench 2, looking south. Brickwork of culvert structure visible on left of photo. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

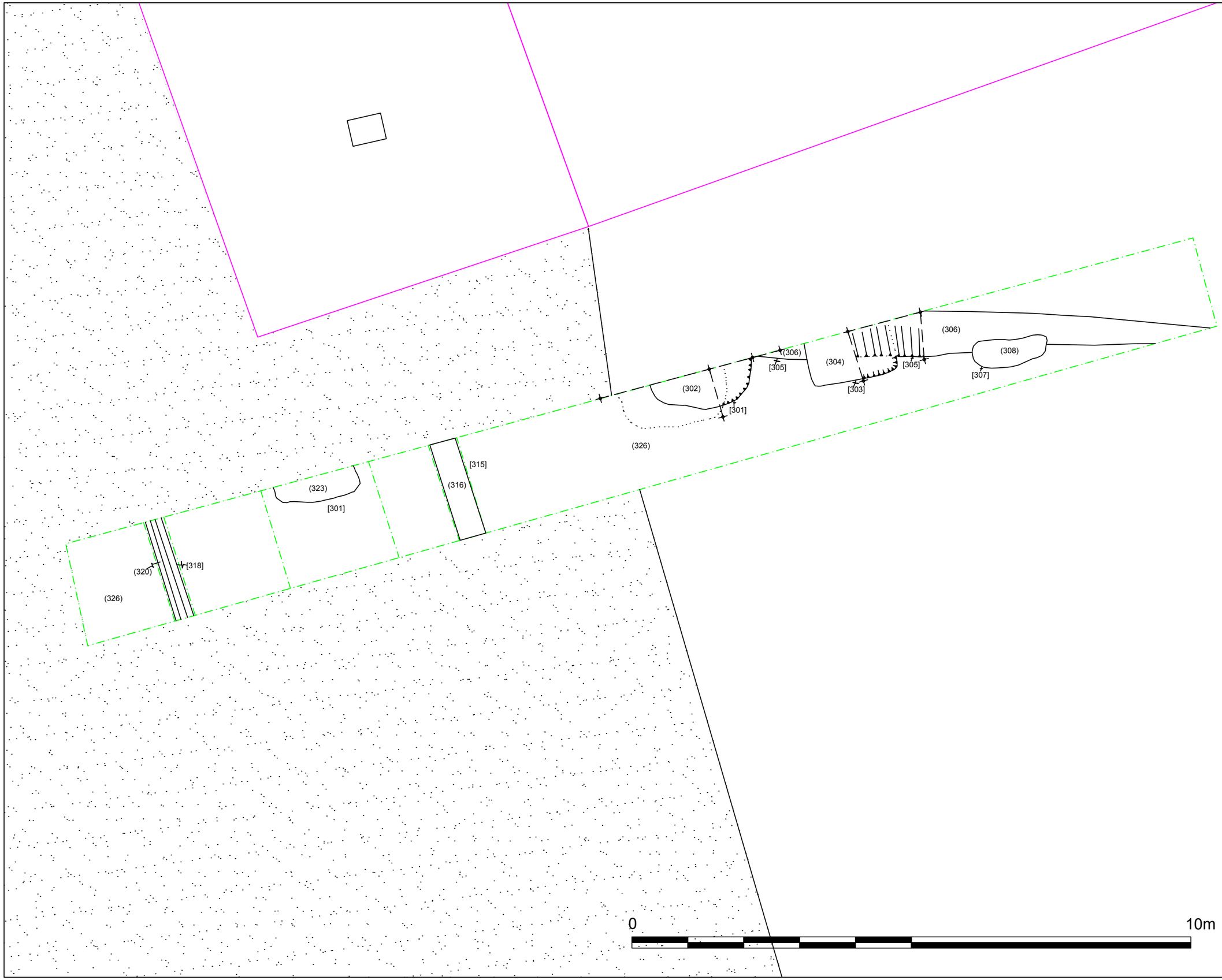

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Figure 12-
Plan of Trench 3

Key

- Limit of Excavation
- Asphalt Concrete
- Building foundation

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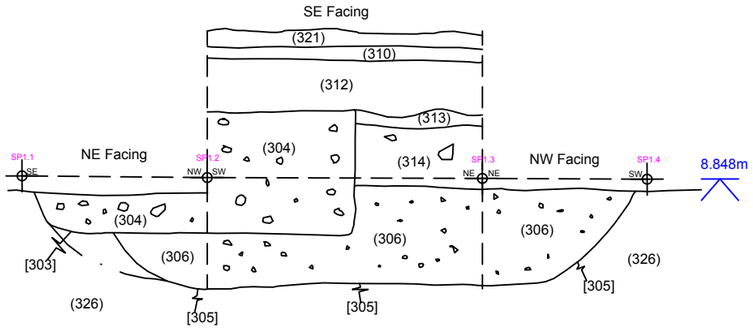
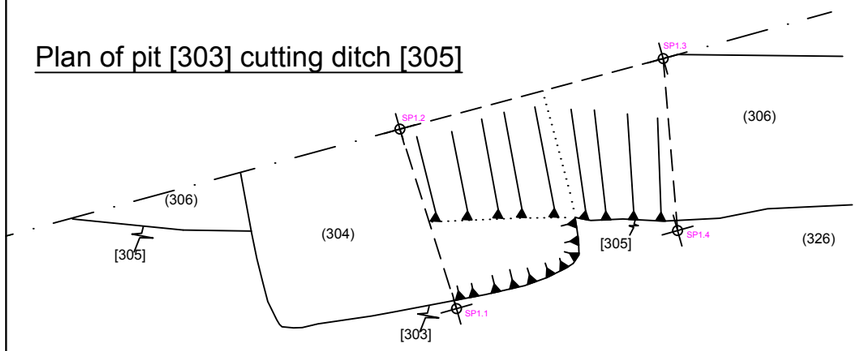
Figure 13. Western end of Trench 3, looking east. Three un-excavated baulks across the trench represent a modern pipe trench, an asbestos contaminated area and a concrete encased fuel pipe overlying contaminated ground. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

Figure 14. Eastern end of Trench 3, looking west. Ditch [305] visible on an angle below the ranging rods, truncated by later brick-filled pit [307]. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

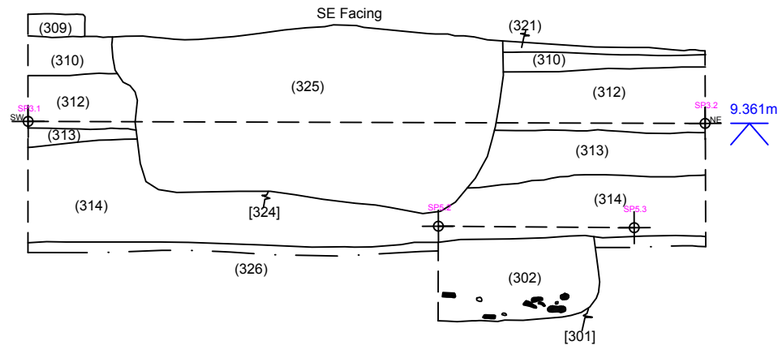
Sections showing pit [303] cutting ditch [305], with overburden



Plan of pit [303] cutting ditch [305]

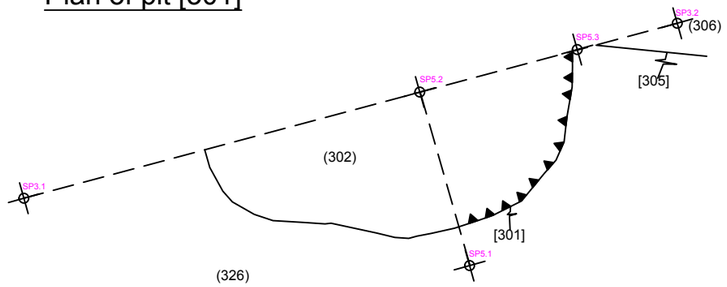


Section showing pit [301] with overburden cut by soakaway [324]



NE & SE Facing sections of pit [301]

Plan of pit [301]



Pit [303] cutting ditch [305], looking NNW (scale 1x1m & 1x0.5m)

Pit [301] & overburden, looking NNW (scale 1x1m)

Overview of ditch [305] and pits [301] & [303], pre-excavation, looking SW (scale 1x1m & 1x2m)

Site Name: Huntingdon Road, Chatteris
Date: August 2018
Drawn by: RLT

Figure 15- Sections, plans, and photographs of features in Trench 3

N

0 2m

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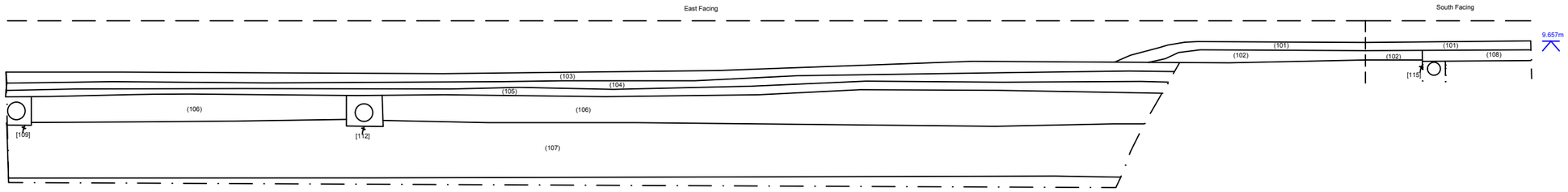
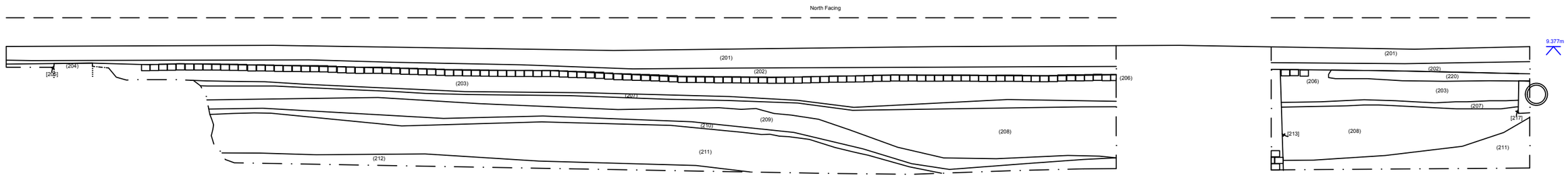
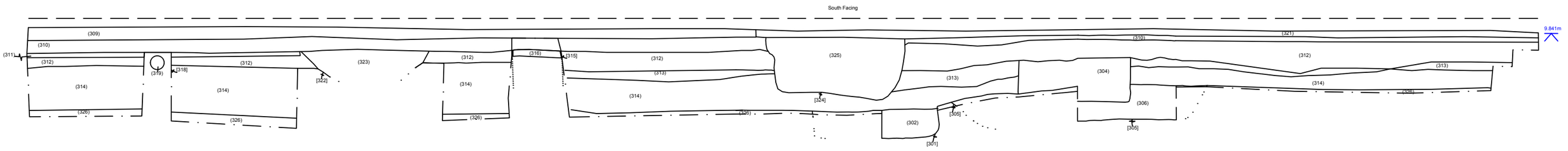
Trench 1



Trench 2



Trench 3



Site Name: Huntingdon Road, Chatteris
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Figure 16- Trench Sections (drawn from measured sketches)

0 10m

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Appendix III. Written Scheme of Investigation.

Land East of Llanca, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation

Event Code ECB5474

July 2018

Angel House, Portland Square, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1HB

www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

Prepared for:	HB Villages Developments Ltd
Date of compilation:	June 2018
Compiled by:	Robert Cole BA
Planning Reference:	F/YR17/1172/F
Local Authority:	Fenland District Council
Site central NGR:	TL 3916 8578

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and Planning Background

1.1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) on behalf of HB Villages Developments Ltd. It details a scheme of works for an archaeological evaluation on land east of Llanca, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire. The development comprises the proposed erection of 18 x 1 bed supported living residential units (comprising: 1 x 3-storey block of 15 x flats and a terrace of 3 x single-storey dwellings), erection of a scooter store and bin store and the erection of a 1.5m high (max height) wall and railings to front boundary.

1.1.2 A planning application was submitted in December 2017 and approved for the development of the site. The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team, on behalf of Fenland District Council, was consulted and an archaeological condition attached requiring an archaeological assessment of the site in the form of evaluation trenching, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). This is in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)* (DCLG 2012) and policy LP 18 of the *Fenland Local Plan*.

1.1.3 Planning permission (Application no. F/YR17/1172/F) has been granted for development of the site subject to Condition 7, which requires archaeological work prior to occupancy and development as follows.

> *No further demolition or development shall take place until a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a programme of archaeological works has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI, no demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI which shall include:*
>
> *a) The statement of significance and research objectives;*
>
> *b) The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works*
>
> *c) The programme for post-excavation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication & dissemination, and deposition of resulting material. This part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI.*

1.1.4 This WSI was prepared following consultation with the Archaeological Officer for the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team and in accordance with their *Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* (2018). It describes the objectives and the methods to be employed in the Archaeological Evaluation trenching of four 10m evaluation trenches and one 15m evaluation trench (Figure 2). The WSI

conforms to the guidance in Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (2015).

1.1.5 This document comprises a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) confirming the nature of the archaeological fieldwork to be undertaken in the form of evaluation trenching, along with post-excavation analysis, reporting, publication and archiving, to be undertaken by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) in accordance with guidance and the *Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* (CHET 2018) received from the Archaeological Officer at Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team. The objective of the archaeological investigation is to define the nature and extent of any mitigation works that may be required to conform to the above specification. Should significant archaeological remains be encountered during the evaluation trenching, further phase(s) of archaeological fieldwork may be required. Mitigation of construction impacts to any archaeological remains that should be identified during this evaluation will be outlined in a further brief for archaeological investigation.

1.1.6 The aim of the programme of works is, in line with the NPPF paragraph 141 (DCLG 2012, 31), to record and enhance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost during the proposed development in a manner proportionate to their importance, and to make this evidence (and any archived generated) publically accessible.

1.2 Site description

1.2.1 The 'red line boundary' of the proposed development area (hereafter 'PDA') is depicted by a red polygon on Figure 1, and is *c.*1900m^2 in area. It lies at approximately 9.7m aOD. It is bounded to the north by Huntingdon Road, to the north east by the BP petrol station, and to the south east, south and west by the gardens and yards of properties along Huntingdon Road and West Park Street.

1.2.2 The PDA is currently vacant. It is covered by concrete which represents foundations of and yard surfaces associated with the 20th century building which formerly occupied the site. The PDA is centred at TL 3916 8578 (Figure 1).

1.3 Geology

1.3.1 The underlying solid geology of the PDA comprises the West Walton Formation and the Ampthill Clay Formation (undifferentiated) – mudstone. This is sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 157 to 164 million years ago in the Jurassic Period when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas. This is overlain by the March Gravels Member – sand and gravels. These are superficial deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2018).

2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.1 There is extensive evidence of past human activity in Chatteris from the Palaeolithic period onwards. A full list of monuments, artefact find spots, historic

buildings and previous archaeological investigations, along with maps of their distribution, is included in the Evaluation Brief (CHET 2018) which is reproduced in Appendix 1.

2.2 Chatteris Abbey, which was founded around AD 1010, lies approximately 150m north-east of the PDA (HER 03700). It has been suggested that West Park Street, directly east of the PDA, follows the boundary of the Abbey precinct. The streets around the Abbey are likely to have been developed around this time as the Abbey would have provided a significant commercial and industrial focus for the town.

2.3 Inhumations and stratified medieval deposits have been found in archaeological evaluations at 19 and 21 Victoria Street in 2011 and 2017 (ECB3637 and ECB5043) approximately 125m east of the PDA, within the putative Abbey precinct.

2.4 An archaeological evaluation at 32 West Park Street in 2006 (ECB2406), approximately 60m south of the PDA and just outside the Abbey precinct, revealed a number of pits, post-holes, ditches, gullies and large gravel extraction pits dating to the medieval and post medieval periods.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Regional Research Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 The archaeological investigation will be carried out in accordance with the research objectives set out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011, 70). This will in particular consider what potential the site has to indicate the creation of and change to the medieval burgage plots one would expect fronting onto a road leading to the medieval abbey.

3.1.2 The project manager will 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.

3.2 Evaluation Trial Trenching Aims and Objectives

3.2.1. The aims and objectives of the archaeological evaluation stipulated by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team in their *Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* (2018) are as follows.

- To determine, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- To identify the presence/absence of palaeosols and old land surfaces.
- To examine the character of deposits and their contents within negative features.

- To identify the presence/absence of palaeochannels within the PDA.
- To study the site formation processes.

3.2.2 Buried soils and associated deposits found within the PDA will be inspected with the aim of enhancing understanding of the depositional processes and transformations of the site and an assessment of the potential to inform on the general environmental and dietary evidence of the inhabitants of the site will be made through the examination of suitable deposits. Particular attention will be paid to the following

- Retrieval of charred plant macro and microfossils, faunal remains and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features.
- Retrieval of plant macro and microfossils, insect, faunal remains, molluscs, pollen and other biological remains from waterlogged deposits located.
- Absolute dating of critical contexts *eg* the basal contacts of peat over former dryland surfaces, distinct land use or landmark change in urban contexts.

4 Evaluation Trenching Methodology

4.1 Coverage

4.1.1 Two trenches measuring 20m x 1.8m and one trench measuring 15m x 1.8m will be excavated in the PDA (Figure 2) covering 5% of the site's surface area.

4.1.2 Any proposed changes to the trial trench locations will be agreed with the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team prior to implementation.

4.2 Methodology

4.2.1 ARS Ltd will provide suitably qualified and experienced archaeologists to undertake the trenching in accordance with the CIfA *Code of Conduct* (2014a), *Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation* (2014b) and East Anglian Archaeology's *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (2003). All staff will have been formally acknowledged by officers of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment team. The names and qualifications of the personnel are listed below (7.1, 7.2).

4.2.2 In each trench, provision will be made for the use of a breaker or toothed bucket to remove modern hard surfaces with the agreement of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team. Topsoil or recent overburden will then be removed under archaeological supervision using a toothless ditching bucket with a width of 1.8m down to the first significant archaeological horizon or the top of natural, whichever is encountered first.

4.2.3 For safety reasons machine and archaeological excavation will not exceed a depth of 1.2m below the current ground level.

4.2.4 The trenches will be appropriately cleaned using hand tools to expose the full nature and extent of archaeological features and deposits.

4.2.5 All spoil removed during ground works will be scanned visually and using a metal detector to recover artefacts. The metal detector will not be set to discriminate against iron. Any finds so recovered will be recorded and their location noted on a site plan at a relevant scale. The finds will be retained and recorded.

4.2.6 All archaeological features will be investigated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team.

4.2.7 Isolated, discrete features, such as pits and postholes, will be half-sectioned or excavated in quadrants where they are large or found to be deep.

4.2.8 Sampling of linear features such as ditches or gullies will be a minimum width of 1m in order to determine the character, stratigraphy and relationship to other features and attempts made to obtain dating evidence.

4.2.9 A hand auger (or power auger where appropriate) may be used to gain information from very deep deposits. Machine assistance may be required for very large or deep features.

4.2.10 For deposits that have potential for providing environmental or dating evidence, a minimum of 40 litres of sample will be taken, or 100% if the sample is smaller. This material will be floated and passed through graduated sieves, the smallest being a 500µ mesh. Should other types of environmental deposits be encountered, appropriate specialist advice will be sought and an appropriate sampling strategy devised. Samples will be assessed by a suitable specialist with provision for further analysis as required. Advice from the Historic England Scientific Advisor (Zoe Outram) will be taken as appropriate. All environmental sampling will be undertaken in line with *Environmental Archaeology a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

4.2.11 A bucket sampling programme will be conducted, whereby 90 litres of spoil is hand sorted for each soil horizon encountered. Bucket sampling points will occur at each end of trenches that are less than 50m in length, or at trench ends and mid-point of 50m and longer trenches.

4.2.12 Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team will be informed immediately if any deposits relating to funerary/ritual activities, such as burials and cremation deposits are discovered. If found during the evaluation, the human remains will be left in situ, covered and protected, depending on the site circumstances and depths of cover soils.

If removal is deemed necessary, this will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant Ministry of Justice regulations and in discussion with the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team.

4.2.13 Limited representative samples of bricks from brick-built structures will be retained for specialist analysis where appropriate.

4.2.14 All finds and other relevant material will be retained and removed from the site for post-fieldwork analysis using *Investigative Conservation: Guidance on How the Detailed Examination of Artefacts from Archaeological Sites Can Shed Light on*

Their Manufacture and Use (English Heritage 2008). Artefacts, ecofacts and deposits suitable for dating purposes will be identified and samples obtained in line with *Dendrochronology: Guidelines on producing and interpreting dendrochronological dates* (English Heritage 1998), *Archaeomagnetic Dating: Guidelines on producing and interpreting archaeomagnetic dates* (English Heritage 2006a), and *Luminescence Dating: Guidelines on using luminescence dating in archaeology* (English Heritage 2008).

4.2.15 Metal finds will be sampled, processed and analysed in line with Centre for Archaeology Guidelines: *Archaeometallurgy* (English Heritage 2001), and *Guidelines on the X-radiography of archaeological metalwork* (English Heritage 2006b). Any waterlogged artefacts or ecofacts will be sampled, processed and analysed using *Waterlogged Wood: Guidelines on the Recording, Sampling, Conservation and Curation of Waterlogged Wood* (English Heritage 2010) and *Waterlogged Organic Artefacts. Guidance on their Recovery, Analysis and Conservation* (English Heritage 2012).

4.2.16 Adequate arrangements will be made within a suitable time scale for the conservation of artefacts. Where fragile or unstable finds are recovered appropriate steps will be taken to stabilise them.

4.2.17 All site operations will be carried out in a safe manner in accordance with ARS Ltd's health and safety policy. Deep sections, such as those across ditches or pits will be shored as necessary. A risk assessment will be prepared before commencement on site and a copy will be given to the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team.

4.2.18 The site will be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. The site will be recorded using a single context planning system in accordance with the ARS Ltd field recording manual.

4.2.19 A full and proper record (written, graphic and photographic as appropriate) will be made for all work, using pro-forma record sheets and text descriptions appropriate to the work. Accurate scale plans and section drawings will be drawn where required at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales, as appropriate. In addition to relevant illustrations, provision for rectified photographic recording shall be made, if deemed necessary.

4.2.20 The stratigraphy of the site will be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified.

4.2.21 All archaeological deposits and features will be recorded with above ordnance datum (aOD) levels.

4.2.22 A photographic record of all contexts will be taken using a digital camera, and will include a clearly visible, graduated metric scale. A register of all photographs will be kept. A selection of working shots will be taken to demonstrate how the site was investigated and what the prevailing conditions were like during excavation.

4.2.23 Where stratified deposits are encountered, a 'Harris' matrix will be compiled.

4.2.24 The trial trenches will not be backfilled before they have been inspected by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team, or their agreement has been otherwise obtained for the backfilling.

4.2.25 Finds of "treasure" will be reported to the Portable Antiquities Find Liaison Officer for Cambridgeshire so that they can be reported to the appropriate Coroner.

Helen Fowler
Finds Liaison Office – Cambridgeshire
Historic Environment Team,
Growth & Economy,
Cambridgeshire County Council,
SH1011 Shire Hall,
Cambridge,
CB3 0AP
Tel: 01223 728571

David Hemming
Coroner for Cambridgeshire
Lawrence Court,
Princes Street,
Huntingdon,
Cambridgeshire,
PE29 3PA
Tel: 03450 451364

4.2.26 In the event of 'Treasure' finds the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team will be notified and, if necessary, a site meeting arranged to determine if further investigation in the vicinity of the find spot is required.

5 RECORDING

5.5.1 The site will be recorded in accordance with the ARS Ltd's field recording manual and single context recording system, and will include as a minimum context record sheets, an accurate site plan and record photography where no archaeological features are present.

5.5.2 The site will be tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. The site will be recorded in accordance with the ARS Ltd field recording manual.

5.5.3 A full and proper record (written, graphic and photographic as appropriate) will be made for all work, using pre-printed record sheets with text descriptions appropriate to the work. Accurate measured scale plans and sections/elevations will be drawn where required at the appropriate and in accordance with best practice. In addition to relevant illustrations, provision for rectified photographic recording shall be made, if deemed necessary.

5.5.4 A plan of the excavated areas will be maintained, features noted and section lines recorded. All drawings will be carried out at an appropriate scale and all contexts will be recorded using a single context recording system.

5.5.5 Sample representative levels will be taken to record the maximum depth of excavation and /or natural should no archaeological features be uncovered.

5.5.6 The site archive will include plans and sections at an appropriate scale, a scale photographic record, and full stratigraphic records on recording forms/context sheets or their electronic equivalent.

5.5.7 A stratigraphy of the site will be recorded.

5.5.8 The heights above sea level will be recorded for all deposits and features in metres above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

5.5.9 A full photographic record will be compiled using a digital camera, and a register of all photographs will be kept. The photographic record will encompass all encountered archaeological entities. In addition key relationships between entities, where these help demonstrate sequence or form, will also be photographed. A clearly visible, graduated metric scale will be included in all record shots. A supplementary record of working images will be taken to demonstrate how the site was investigated and what the prevailing conditions were like during excavation.

5.5.10 A stratigraphic matrix will be compiled for all trenches where superimposed archaeological deposits, features or structures are encountered.

6 FINDS PROCESSING AND STORAGE

6.1 All finds processing, conservation work and storage of finds will be carried out in accordance with the CIfA (2014c) *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*, the UKIC (1990) *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archives for Long-Term Storage* and the Archaeological Archive Forum (Brown 2007) *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation.*

6.2 A unique Event Code (ECB5474) has been issued by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record. The CHER use this number as a unique identifier linking all physical and digital components of the archive. This unique event number will be clearly indicated on any specification received for this project. It will also be shown on all paperwork created on site (context forms and plans etc), on relevant ensuing reports, where relevant marked on finds and on the OASIS data collection form.

6.3 Bulk finds will be washed and, with the exception of animal bone, marked. Marking and labelling will be indelible and irremovable by abrasion. Bulk finds will be appropriately bagged, boxed and recorded. This process will be carried out no later than two months after the end of the excavation.

6.4 All small finds will be recorded as individual items and appropriately packaged (e.g. lithics in self-sealing plastic bags and ceramic in acid-free tissue paper). Vulnerable objects will be specially packaged and textile, painted glass and coins stored in appropriate specialist systems. This process will be carried out within two days of the small find being excavated.

6.5 During and after the excavation all objects will be stored in appropriate materials and storage conditions to ensure minimal deterioration and loss of information (including controlled storage, correct packaging, and regular monitoring,

immediate selection for conservation of vulnerable material). All storage will have appropriate security provision.

6.6 All artefacts will be assessed and, as required, reported on by suitably qualified specialists (see Section 5.3 above). The MPRG's *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics* will be adhered to (Slowikowski *et al*. 2001).

6.7 When the archive has been consolidated it will be assessed for its potential for further analysis following English Heritage's *MoRPHE Guidelines* (2009). As there may be a further stage of fieldwork, this would form part of a subsequent programme of work and an updated WSI will then be undertaken (cf. CIfA 2014a).

6.8 The deposition and disposal of artefacts will be agreed with the legal owner and Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team during the reporting stage. All finds except treasure trove are the property of the landowner.

6.9 All retained artefacts and ecofacts will be cleaned and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the recipient museum.

7 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

7.1 Notice of no less than five working days, prior to commencement of recording and monitoring will be given to the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team. Principal contact will be:

Gemma Stewart
Archaeologist
Historic Environment Team
Growth & Economy
Cambridgeshire County Council
SH1011
Shire Hall
Cambridge, CB3 0AP

Tel: 01223 728567
email: Gemma.Stewart@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

7.2 The client will afford reasonable access to the Archaeological Officer at Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team, or their representative, for the purposes of monitoring the archaeological works at all reasonable times upon compliance with the requirements of health and safety.

7.3 ARS Ltd will liaise with the Archaeological Officer at Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team or personnel nominated as required throughout the course of the work. Any changes to the specifications that the project manager may wish to make after approval by this office will be communicated directly to CHET for approval. A monitoring visit will be arranged prior to works commencing on site. Excavations will only be backfilled once the Archaeological Officer at Cambridgeshire

Historic Environment Team has inspected all trenches and/or given approval for the trenches to be backfilled.

7.4 Further trenching or deposit testing may be a requirement of the site monitoring visit if unclear archaeological remains or geomorphological features present difficulties of interpretation, or to assist with the formulation of a mitigation strategy. Appropriate provision will be made for this eventuality. CHET will be kept regularly informed about developments both during the site works and subsequent post-excavation work.

7.5 The archaeological advisory and planning role of Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team will be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

8 STAFFING AND TIMETABLE

8.1 The Project Manager for the evaluation will be Lawrence Pontin, Project Manager ARS Ltd (London). The site director will be Robert Cole BA, Assistant Project Officer ARS Ltd (Bakewell). Geoarchaeological analysis (if required) will be undertaken by Luke Parker BSc, MSc.

8.2 The following timetable for the archaeological evaluation has been agreed with the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team:

Proposed Commencement Date	**Task**
W/c 9th July 2018	♦ Excavation and recording of evaluation trenches – 2 days ♦ Backfilling of excavation trenches – 1 day ♦ Contingency for bad weather or any other unforeseen circumstances – 1 day
W/c 16th July 2018	Post-excavation analysis, report and archive

8.3 Specialist analyses will be carried out by appropriately qualified specialists as detailed subject to availability.

- ♦ Flint and prehistoric pottery: Dr Robin Holgate MCIfA
- ♦ Romano-British pottery: Dr Phil Mills MCIfA/Andy Fawcett
- ♦ Samian Ware: Dr Gwladys Monteil
- ♦ Romano-British small finds: Alex Croom
- ♦ Medieval and post-medieval pottery: Dr Chris Cumberpatch or Paul Blinkhorn
- ♦ Medieval and post-medieval clay pipes, glass and metalwork: Mike Wood MCIfA
- ♦ Plant macrofossils and charcoals: Luke Parker

- Human and animal bone: Milena Grzybowska
- Radiocarbon dating: Prof Gordon Cook (SUERC)
- Finds conservation: Vicky Garlick (Durham University)

9 REPORT

9.1 Following completion of the evaluation, Archaeological Research Services Ltd will produce a report which will include,

- Non-technical summary
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purpose of the project
- Methodology
- A location plan showing all excavated areas and any archaeological features with respect to nearby fixed structures and roads
- Illustrations of all archaeological features with appropriately scaled hachured plans and sections
- An objective summary statement of results
- Conclusions
- Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices
- Index to archive and details of archive location
- References
- Statement of intent regarding publication
- Confirmation of archive transfer arrangements
- A copy of the OASIS form

9.2 The Conclusions will include a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relative importance against known development proposals and an assessment of their impact.

9.3 One hard or digital copy of the report, clearly marked **DRAFT**, will be presented to the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team within four weeks of the completion of site works unless there are reasonable grounds for more time.

9.4 Following acceptance, one hard copy of the approved report will be submitted to the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record. A copy of the report should be uploaded as part of the OASIS record.

10 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

10.1 A digital, paper and artefactual archive will be prepared by ARS Ltd, consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data.

10.2 The archive will be deposited in line with the CIfA (2013d) *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, the Society of Museum Archaeologists' (1993) *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* and Cambridgeshire County Council's *Deposition of archaeological archives in Cambridgeshire* (2017).

10.3 All artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive.

10.4 Arrangements for the long term storage and deposition of all artefacts will be agreed with the landowner and the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record. This will include the transfer of title and ownership of the archive to the County Archive Facility

11 GENERAL ITEMS

11.1 Health and Safety

10.1.1 All work will be carried out in accordance with The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. Specific health and safety policies exist for all our workplaces and all staff employed will be made aware of the policy and any relevant issues. The particular risks involved with this project will be assessed, recorded and relevant mitigation measures put in place as part of a full risk assessment, which will be compiled in advance of fieldwork and will be read and signed by all on-site operatives. ARS Ltd retains Citation as its expert health and safety consultants and the appointed Health and Safety Officer for the company is Tony Brennan.

11.2 Insurance Cover

10.2.1 ARS Ltd has full insurance cover for employee liability (£10 million) public liability (£5 million), professional indemnity (£5 million) and all-risks cover.

11.3 Community Engagement and Outreach

10.3.1 Any opportunities will be sought for engaging the local community in any archaeological findings, for example a guided site tour and/or dissemination of information via ARS Ltd website and local media.

11.4 Changes to the Written Scheme of Investigation

10.3.1 Changes to the approved methodology or programme of works will only be made with prior written approval of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team.

11.5 Publication

10.5.1 If significant archaeological remains are recorded, a summary of the project with, if appropriate, selected drawings, illustrations and photographs will be prepared for publication in online, journal or monograph form as appropriate. Additional popular articles will also be produced for local and/or national magazines as appropriate. The final form of the publication is to be agreed with the planning archaeologist and the client dependent on the results of the fieldwork.

11.6 Acknowledgements

10.6.1 Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank HB Villages Developments for commissioning this work; Gemma Stewart at the Cambridgeshire County Council for providing guidance and advice; Jessica Cooper-Dunn, Archaeological Officer at Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team, and Ben Donnelly-Symes at the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER) for providing HER datasets.

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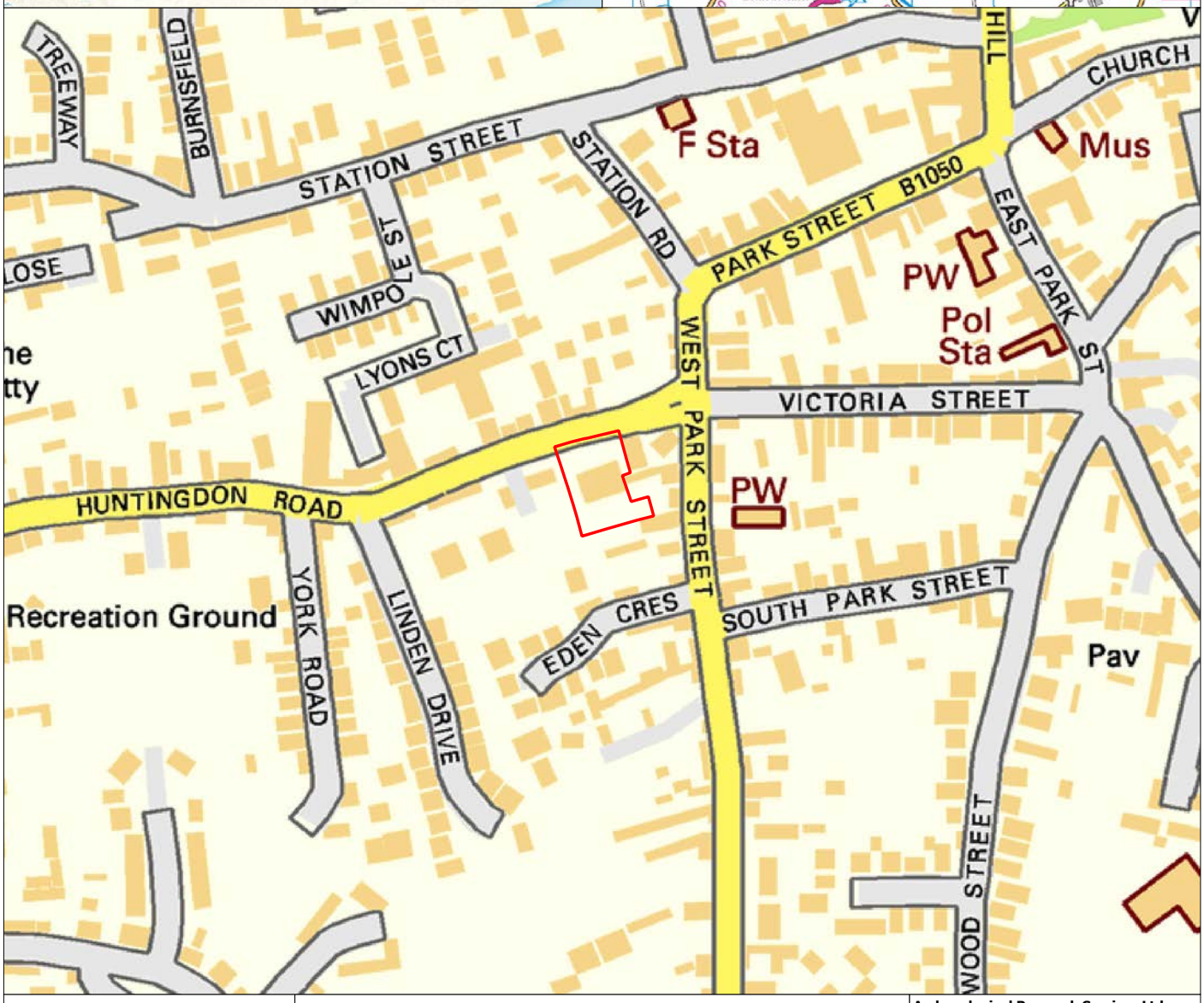
FIGURES



Site name: Land east of Llanca Date: June 2018 Drawn by: RHC Scale: Varies		**Archaeological Research Services Ltd** Angel House Portland Square Bakewell Derbyshire DE45 1HB Tel: 01629 814540 www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com
	Figure 1: **Site location**	

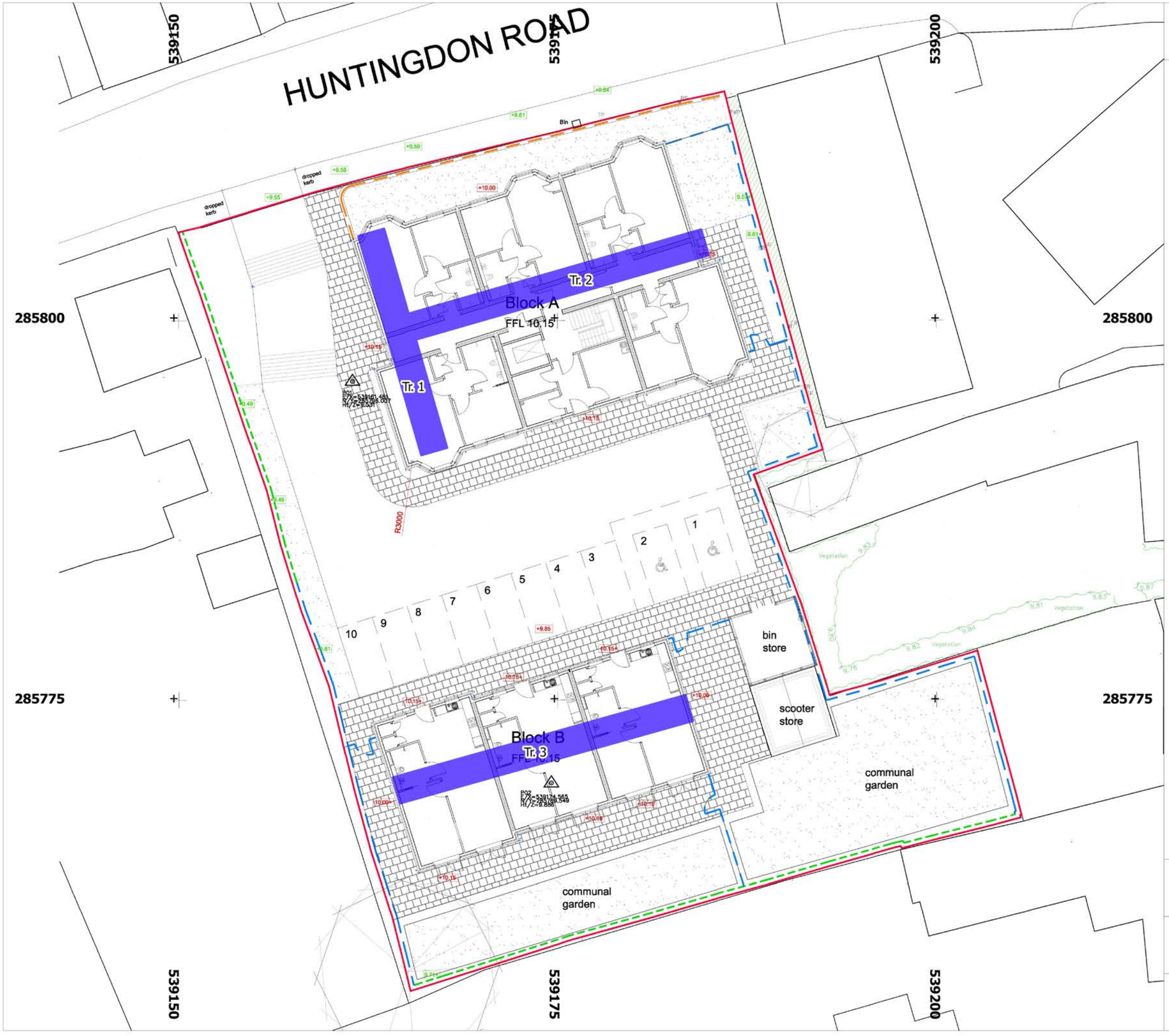


Figure 2: Trench location plan

Site Boundary

Trenches

0 5 10 15 m

N

Site name: Land east of Llanca, Chatteris
Date: July 2018
Drawn by: AB
Scale: 1:250 @ A3

Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Angel House
Portland Square
Bakewell
Derbyshire
DE45 1HB

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Fax: 01629 814657

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Appendix IV. OASIS Form.

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol5-326090

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation Trenching on land east of Llanca, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire
Short description of the project	The evaluation revealed that much of the site was contaminated by hydrocarbons associated with waste produced by the agricultural vehicle maintenance yard that formerly occupied the site. In places contaminated deposits had a depth greater than 1.2m. With a high water table and natural deposits formed of sands and gravels, where groundwater was encountered it quickly became contaminated by the overlying deposits. Made-ground was encountered across all parts of the site where disturbed clay, often contaminated, contained small brick fragments consistent with the intentional removal of previous structures and the spreading of material across the site to level it. The natural substrate was encountered in parts of all three trenches at a depth of 1.1-1.2m below current ground level, consisting mainly of sands and gravels but with a higher clay fraction in the northern half of the site. On the slightly higher ground in the southern portion of the site, the basal remains of a boundary ditch and associated pit were recorded that cut into the natural substrate. In addition to a single sherd of medieval pottery dating to the 11th/12th centuries, these features produced animal bones, pottery and ceramic building materials that dated to the 19th and early 20th century. Later truncation was still evident in this part of the site with modern refuse pits that cut the boundary ditch. Based on demonstrable evidence of truncation, periods of levelling and contamination, the remainder of the site is considered to have low archaeological potential.
Project dates	Start: 30-07-2018 End: 03-08-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	"'Sample Trenches"'
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE FENLAND CHATTERIS Land east of Llanca, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire
Study area	1900 Square metres

Site coordinates	TL 39174 85790 52.451918194317 0.048279054922 52 27 06 N 000 02 53 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project brief originator	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team
Project design originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project director/manager	Lawrence Pontin
Project supervisor	Ben Dyson

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	n/a
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge Historic Environment Record
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge Historic Environment Record
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation Trenching on land east of Llanca, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Dyson, B.
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Sale, Greater Manchester

Entered by	Ben Dyson (ben.dyson@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)
Entered on	27 August 2018

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice