

HERITAGE NETWORK

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LAND AT THE CHEQUERS, Church Road, Pulloxhill, Beds

HN1053

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

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Archaeological Director: David Hillelson, BA MIFA

LAND AT THE CHEQUERS Church Road, Pulloxhill, Bedfordshire

Project ref.: HN1053

LPA ref.: CB/13/00079/FULL & CB/13/00080/LB

Accession No: LUTNM 2013/9

Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared on behalf of Mr. George Angus

by

Greg Jones, MA BA (HONS) AIFA

Report no. 804

August 2013

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The front cover shows the site, looking southwest

Acknowledgements

The evaluation fieldwork for this project was carried out by Greg Jones, Jim Snee, Robin Densem and Jenny Heinzelmann and the report text and illustrations were compiled by Greg Jones and Helen Ashworth and edited by Chris Turner.

The Heritage Network would like to express its thanks to Mr. George Angus of Isleport Ltd. and Peter J. Farmer the site agent and Martin Oake, Archaeology Team (AT) of Central Bedfordshire Council, for their co-operation and assistance in the execution of this project.

Summary

Site name and address:	Land at the Chequers, Church Road, Pulloxhill, Bedfordshire,		
County:	Bedfordshire	District:	Central Bedfordshire
Village/town:	Pulloxhill	Parish:	Pulloxhill
Planning reference:	CB/13/00079/FULL & CB/13/00080/LB	NGR:	TL 06142 33867
Client name and address:	Mr. George Angus, Isleport Ltd. PO Box 206, Loughton, Essex, IG10 1PL		
Nature of work:	New dwellings	Current land use:	Public House Garden
Site Status:	Conservation Area.	Reason for investigation:	Direction of LPA (NPPF)
Position in planning process:	After full determination	Project brief originator:	Local Authority
Size of affected area:	c. 600m ²	Size of area investigated:	c. 90m ²
Site code:	HN1053	Alternate reference:	n/a
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc...	Trial trench evaluation	Archive recipient:	Bedfordshire
Start of work:	24/06/2013	Finish of work:	25/06/2013
Related HER nos:	n/a	Periods represented:	Late medieval/ Post-medieval.
OASIS UID:	heritage1-147771	Significant finds:	Pot, clay pipe, tile, animal bone, glass
Monument types:	Ditch, pit		
Physical archive:	Pot, clay pipe, tile, animal bone, glass		
Previous summaries/reports:	None		

Synopsis:

In order to characterise the archaeological potential of the site of a proposed new development on land at The Chequers, Church Road, Pulloxhill, Bedfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owner to undertake an archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching. This work was a requirement of the planning consent granted by the local planning authority.

Three trenches were excavated across the site, revealing a number of cut features comprising five quarry pits and a feature of natural origin. All of the pits contained dateable finds, including sherds of post-medieval and modern pottery, clay pipe, animal bone, glass and post-medieval CBM. The features have been interpreted as late post-medieval backfilled quarry pits. However due to the presence of possible kiln wasters within the fills and the

sheer number of tiles present, it is possible that the site may have been used in tile production during the early post-medieval period before being used as a quarry.

On the basis of the results of the evaluation, the risk that the proposed development might disturb archaeological remains may be considered to be *Low* for the prehistoric, Roman and high medieval periods. This rises to *High* for the post-medieval period, though the potential significance of such remains is considered to be *Moderate*.

1 Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared at the request of Mr George Angus of Isleport Ltd., to cover a programme of archaeological work carried out as part of a proposed development on land at The Chequers, Church Road, Pulloxhill, Bedfordshire.

1.2 Planning permission for the development (ref.: CB/13/00079/FULL & CB/13/00080/LB) was granted by Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC), subject to an archaeological condition, issued on the advice of the Council's Archaeology Team (AT), and in accordance with the Department of Communities and Local Government's *Planning Policy Statement 5* (PPS5), now superseded by the Department of Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF). A full specification for the work is contained in the Heritage Network's approved Project Design, dated May 2013.

1.3 The site is located on the eastern side of Church Road, centred at NGR TL 06142 33867. It is occupied by the present public house, which is a Grade II listed building dating from the 18th century, its car park and garden. The site is bounded to the north by Orchard Road, to the east by properties fronting Greenfield Road, to the west by Church Road and to the south by the churchyard for St James' Church (Figure 1).

1.4 The aim of the evaluation has been to consider the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any remains that are liable to be threatened by the development, and to provide a local and regional, archaeological and historical context for them, in accordance with the current published regional research agenda (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Oake *et al* 2007, Medlycott 2011), should they be discovered. It was considered that such investigation had the potential to identify archaeological deposits which might contribute to an understanding of the origins and development of Pulloxhill, from the prehistoric period onwards.

1.5 The site lies close to the historic core of the village. The AT considers that the site has the potential to preserve archaeological deposits which relate to the origins and development of the village from the prehistoric period onwards with particular emphasis on the Saxon, medieval and post-medieval settlement of Pulloxhill.

1.6 The proposed development entails the construction of two detached dwellings, the conversion of the public house, with associated landscaping and access.

2 Fieldwork

TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1 The underlying geology consists of mudstones of the Gault Formation, overlain by chalky till of the Lowestoft Formation (BGS).

2.2 The study area lies on the top of a south-west – north-east aligned sinuous ridge of higher ground, at approximately 100m AOD. It forms part of the Harlington – Pulloxhill Clays Hills landscape designation (8C). The ridge formed where deposits of Boulder Clay have capped the underlying Gault Clays and overlooks the valley of the River Flit to the west and the Barton-le-Clay clay vale to the east.

METHODOLOGY

2.3 All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the approved Project Design, current health and safety legislation, and the appropriate IfA and ALGAO guidance documents.

2.4 The overburden was removed, under close supervision, to the first significant archaeological horizon, or to the natural geological horizon, as appropriate using a 3-tonne tracked mini-digger mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless bucket.

2.5 Spoil from the machining was scanned visually and using a metal detector for archaeological artefacts.

2.6 The exposed area was cleaned by hand, and potential archaeological features and deposits were sampled to ascertain their nature, depth, date, and quality of preservation.

2.7 All identified contexts were photographed and recorded using the appropriate pro-forma. Scaled plans and sections were drawn on drafting film at scales of 1:10 and 1:20.

RESULTS

2.8 Three trial trenches were opened across the site. These were located with reference to known constraints across the site, which included fencing and concrete drains (Figure 2).

Trench 1

2.9 Trench 1 was located in the north eastern half of the site and was oriented N-S. It measured 15m long by 2m wide and was excavated down to a depth of c. 0.7m deep (Figures 2 & 3, Plate 1).

Recorded data:

Length (m):	15	Width (m):	2		Maximum Depth (m):	c.0.70	Orientation	N-S	
Level at N End of Trench (mOD)			Top	101.10	Level at S End of Trench (mOD)			Top	101.70
			Base	100.53				Base	101.19
Context	Type	Description				Dimensions (m)			
						Length	Width	Depth	
-	Layer	7.5YR 2.5/2 Very dark brown silty sandy clay topsoil				-	-	c.0.30	
-	Layer	10YR 5/8 Yellowish brown sandy clay subsoil				-	-	c.0.33	

Length (m):	15	Width (m):	2	Maximum Depth (m):	c.0.70	Orientation	N-S
Level at N End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.10	Level at S End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.70
		Base	100.53			Base	101.19
Context	Type	Description		Dimensions (m)			
				Length	Width	Depth	
-	Layer	10YR 5/6 Dark brown sandy clay natural		-	-	> 0.15	
101	Cut	Linear cut, with irregular sides and base. Cuts natural, contained (102). Tree Root.		>2	1	0.10	
102	Fill	10YR 5/8 yellowish brown sandy silty clay. Fill of [101]. Tree root.		>2	1	0.10	
103	Cut	Cut of post-medieval cess pit, with steep sides. Not bottomed. Contained (104).		>1.50	1	>0.45	
104	Fill	7.5YR 2.5/2 very dark brown sandy clay silt, with occ. moderate stones. Fill of cess pit [103].		>1.50	1	>0.40	
105	Cut	Oval/irregular cut of cess or quarry pit, with steep irregular sides, concave base. Contained (106). Possibly same as [201] in Trench 2.		>2	>2	>1	
106	Fill	7.5YR 2.5/2 very dark brown, medium sandy clay silt. Post-med fill of quarry pit.		>2	>2	>1	

2.10 The stratigraphy on the site consisted of c.0.3m of very dark brown (7.5YR 2.5/2) silty sandy clay topsoil, overlying c.0.33m of yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sandy clay subsoil, over dark brown (10YR 5/6) sandy clay natural.

2.11 Cutting into the natural were three features [101], [103] and [105] (Figure 3; Plate 1). Excavation revealed an irregular linear [101] to be a natural feature, probably the result of a tree root. Pit [103] measured >1.50m in length, 1m wide, and was excavated down to a depth of 0.45m, though not bottomed (Plate 2). The fill (104) consisted of very dark brown (7.5YR 2.5/2) sandy clay silt, with occasional moderate stones and contained post-medieval pottery sherds, CBM and clay pipe. Directly to the south of [103] was located another pit feature, cut [105], which measured in excess of 2m in width and more than 2m wide and was excavated to a depth of 1m below the bottom of the trench. (Plate 3). Its fill (106) consisted of very dark brown (7.5YR 2.5/2) medium sandy clay silt, and contained a single late post-medieval pottery sherd.

Trench 2

2.12 Trench 2 was located to the south of Trench 1 and was oriented approximately E-W (Figure 2). It measured 15m long by 2m wide and was excavated down to a maximum depth of 1m (Figures 2 & 4, Plate 4).

Recorded Data

Length (m):	15.0	Width (m):	2.0	Maximum Depth (m):	1	Orientation	E-W
Level at E End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.71	Level at W End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.90
		Base	101.12			Base	101.23
Context	Type	Description		Dimensions (m)			
				Length	Width	Depth	
-	Layer	Very dark greyish brown silty sandy clay topsoil		-	-	c.0.25	
-	Layer	7.5YR 2.5/2 Very dark brown silty sandy clay.		-	-	c.0.65	
-	Layer	7.5YR 3/2 dark brown sandy clay natural.		-	-	> 0.1	
201	Cut	Irregular polygonal cut, with steep sides. Not bottomed. Quarry pit.		>6.2	>1.4	>0.55	

Length (m):	15.0	Width (m):	2.0	Maximum Depth (m):	1	Orientation	E-W
Level at E End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.71	Level at W End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.90
		Base	101.12			Base	101.23
Context	Type	Description		Dimensions (m)			
				Length	Width	Depth	
202	Fill	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) medium gritty silty sand quarry fill.		>6.2	>1.4	>0.55	
203	Cut	Sub-rectangular pit with gently sloping sides and a flat base. NNW-SSE orientation. Post-medieval.		>2	1.25	0.10	
204	Fill	10YR 3/3 Dark Brown. Hard sandy silty clay with occasional sub-angular gravel. Post-med dumped fill.		>2	1.25	0.10	
205	Cut	Irregular polygonal cut, steep vertical sides, not bottomed. Orientated E-W. Quarry pit, same as [201].		>6.2	>1.4	>0.55	
206	Fill	10YR 4/4 Dark Yellowish Brown, medium gritty silty sand with moderate sub-angular gravel. Dumped quarry fill. Contained tile. Post-medieval Same as (202).		>6.2	>1.4	>0.55	

2.13 The stratigraphy in Trench 2 consisted of a very dark greyish brown silty sandy clay topsoil, overlying a very dark brown (7.5YR 2.5/2) silty sandy clay overburden, c.0.65m deep, over dark brown (7.5YR 3/2) sandy clay natural. A series of natural striations, orientated NE-SW ran across the eastern end of this trench.

2.14 Located at the eastern end of Trench 2 was a large pit feature [201] (Figure 4; Plate 5). It measured over 6.2m long, >1.4m wide, and >0.55m deep, with steep sides. This has been interpreted as a quarry pit. The fill (202) consisted of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) medium gritty silty sand and contained a single late medieval abraded pottery sherd and animal bone (Plate 5). A second section [205], was excavated to the east of [201] to confirm the striations observed were natural in origin and to provide more information on the edge of the pit. The fill (206) consisted of the same material as (202) which also contained post-medieval tile. The entire feature [201] & [205], extended beyond the limits of the trench and cut the natural striations (Figure 4, Plate 6).

2.15 Located to the west of [201] was a second, smaller feature [203] which measured >2m long, 1.25m wide and was 0.1m deep, with gently sloping sides and a flat base, and was roughly orientated NNW-SSE. The fill (206) consisted of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) medium gritty, silty sand with moderate sub-angular gravel and contained post-medieval abraded tile fragments.

Trench 3

2.16 Trench 3 was located to the west of Trench 1 and was oriented approximately NE-SW. It measured 15m in length by 2m wide and was excavated to a depth of c.0.8m (Figures 2 & 5, Plate 7).

Length (m):	15.0	Width (m):	2.0	Maximum Depth (m):	0.80	Orientation	NE-SW
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.58	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.38
		Base	100.51			Base	100.40
Context	Type	Description		Dimensions (m)			

			Length	Width	Depth
-	Layer	7.5YR 2.5/2 Very dark brown silty sandy clay topsoil	-	-	c.0.25
-	Layer	10YR 5/8 Yellowish brown sandy clay subsoil	-	-	c.0.50
-	Layer	10YR 5/6 Yellowish brown clay sand natural	-	-	>0.1
301	Cut	Irregular diamond shaped quarry cut, shallow sides and a flat base. Roughly orientated E-W.	>8	c.3	0.25
302	Fill	10YR 7/1 Light grey, compacted silty clay with frequent flint nodules and regular sub-angular stones. Modern backfill of quarry.	>8	c.3	0.25
303	Cut	Irregular rectangle quarry cut with shallow sides. Base not reached. Orientated E-W filled by (304).	>4	c.2	>0.1
304	Fill	10YR 7/1 Light grey compact silty clay. Modern fill of quarry pit [303].	>4	c.2	>0.1
305	Fill	10YR 5/6 Yellowish brown clay sand redeposited natural	>2	1.4	>0.1
306	Fill	10YR 3/1 Very dark grey soft silty sandy clay.	>2	c.7m	c.0.7

2.17 The stratigraphy in Trench 3 consisted of very dark brown (7.5YR 5/2) soft silty sandy clay overburden, above yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sandy clay subsoil and yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clay sand natural.

2.18 Trench 3 is dominated by a large quarry feature [301] & [303], (Plate 6). This feature measured c.7m wide in the base of the trench, but the upper backfill spans the entire length of the trench. This feature cuts through the subsoil into the natural. Originally it was thought that cuts [301] and [303] represented separate features, but further inspection of (305) between them demonstrated it was redeposited natural. The quarry contained three fills. The nature of the of the quarry fills suggests this feature was backfilled from the southern side. The upper fill (306), was very dark grey (10YR 3/1) soft silty sandy clay. Fills (302) and (304) were very similar, consisting of light grey (10YR 7/1) compacted silty clay with frequent flint nodules and regular sub-angular stones. Fill (302) contained pottery sherds dating from the late post-medieval to the 19th century and brick and tile fragments, clay pipe, animal bone and glass sherds. Originally it was thought that cuts [301] and [303] represented separate features, but further inspection of this deposit (305) between them demonstrated it was redeposited natural.

2.19 A sondage was excavated across the feature as requested by the Planning Archaeologist to establish if it masked any earlier features below. This demonstrated that the pit cut the natural substratum and had been backfilled by late post-medieval dumping (Plate 8).

2.20 No other archaeological finds, features or deposits were revealed during the investigation.

FINDS ASSESSMENT**Finds Concordance**

	Pottery		An Bone		Glass		CBM		Clay pipe		Metal		Shell		Charcoal	
Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
Tr1 u/s	3	105	1	10	8	35					3	10				
Tr 3 u/s	14	270	1	35	6	240	1	50	7	10			1	5	1	20
104	5	50					18	1180	2	5						
106	3	15														
202	1	20	1	1			10	210								
204							2	10	1	3						
206	1	60					20	1895								
totals	28	520	3	46	14	275	51	3345	10	18	3	10	1	5	1	20

Pottery

2.21 A total of ten sherds, weighing 145g, was recovered from across the site in three stratified contexts. A further seventeen unstratified sherds, weighing 375g, were collected from Trenches 1 and 3.

2.22 A total of five sherds, weighing 50g, was recovered from context (104), the fill of pit [103]. The assemblage consisted of three body sherds from a post-medieval brown glazed earthenware vessel of 18th to 19th century date and two body sherds of heavily abraded white glazed ware of 19th century date.

2.23 Three sherds, weighing 15g, were recovered from context (106), the fill of pit [105]. These consisted of two sherds of black glazed pottery, and one sherd of white glazed pottery dating to the 19th century.

2.24 A single residual late medieval Greyware rim sherd was recovered from context (202), the fill of [201], dating to the 14th to 15th century. The sherd was fairly abraded.

2.25 A total of seventeen unstratified sherds, weighing 375g, was recovered from Trenches 1 and 3. The assemblage included two sherds of abraded medieval pottery, one a rim sherd and the other a body sherd, of 14th to 15th century Greyware and also a single abraded green glazed, yellow slip dish, also dating to the 14th to 15th century.

2.26 Three body sherds of glazed earthenware were also recovered, of 17th to 18th century date, as well as two sherds of black glazed Tyg Ware, of 17th to 18th century date, and two post-medieval stoneware body sherds, one of which was a beer bottle with 'Bedfordshire brewers' stamped on it.

2.27 Six sherds of 20th century glazed pottery were also recovered. These sherds were fairly abraded. One sherd of modern flower pot was also recovered.

Recommendations

2.28 As this assemblage is fragmentary, little further information of archaeological significance is likely to be obtained from the material. On this basis, no further work is proposed.

Tile

2.29 A total of 51 pieces of tile, weighing 3345g, was collected from one unstratified and four stratified contexts. Although much of the assemblage was abraded and had mortar adhering, suggesting that it had been redeposited on the site, some of the material, chiefly from contexts (206) and (202) was in reasonable condition, and without mortar. On this basis it appears that the material from these contexts may have been manufactured on the site.

2.30 Of the tile pieces from (206) and (202), no complete example was present, but a number had two edges, demonstrating that the tiles are large, at least 150mm in width and 15mm in depth. All of these tile fragments are handmade and a number are poorly fired.

2.31 Five fabrics could be identified using a binocular microscope at x10 magnification.

Fabric 1: Fine dense red matrix, tempered with fine sand and occasional red and black iron-rich inclusions. Seven pieces collected from (206).

Fabric 2: Similar to Fabric 1, but with coarser inclusions. Some examples have pale streaks, suggesting they were poorly puddled. Seven pieces collected from (206) and one from (104).

Fabric 3: Fine dense red surfaced matrix with a grey core, tempered with grog and organic inclusions and occasional small rounded quartz grains. Possibly late medieval in date. One piece from (206).

Fabric 4: Fine micaceous matrix, with red surfaces and grey core. Tempered with fine sand, Frequent, small calcite grits and occasional rounded quartz grains. Six pieces collected from (206).

Fabric 5: Coarse sand tempered ware, poorly fired, with some large quartz inclusions, 1 surface covered in a thin bluish grey slip. The thickness of this piece appears to suggest a hybrid of brick and tile. Possibly late medieval in date. Nine pieces collected from (202).

Recommendations

2.32 Given the fragmentary nature of the assemblage from the present site, no further archaeological data is likely to be obtained from the tile. On this basis, no further work is proposed on the material.

Animal Bone

2.33 A total of three animal bone fragments, weighing 46g, were recovered from three contexts. These could not be assigned to species due to their fragmentary nature.

Recommendations

2.34 Given the fragmentary nature of the material, no further work is proposed on this assemblage.

Glass

2.35 A total of 14 late post-medieval glass bottle fragments, weighing 275g, were recovered from the dumped quarry fills in Trench 3.

Recommendations

2.36 Given the late date of the assemblage, no further work is proposed on this material.

Clay Pipe

2.37 A total of 10 clay pipe stem fragments, weighing 18g, were recovered from four contexts across the site. These fragments were largely un-datable, although two were of an earlier date due to the narrowness of the stems.

Recommendations

2.38 Given the fragmentary nature of the material, no further work is proposed on this assemblage.

Shell

2.39 A single oyster shell, weighing 5g, was recovered from the quarry fills in Trench 3.

Recommendations

2.40 No further work is proposed.

Charcoal

2.41 One small fragment of charcoal was recovered from the quarry fills in Trench 5.

Recommendations

2.42 No further work is proposed.

3 Discussion

Archaeological Background

3.1 A Heritage Asset Assessment has been compiled for the site using evidence from the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record (HER), cartographic and historical sources (Ashworth 2011, revised 2013). The accumulated evidence shows that the study area lies in a well defined archaeological landscape:

- The proposed development is located in the centre of the historic core of Pulloxhill village (HER 17013).
- There is evidence of prehistoric occupation around Pulloxhill. The investigation to the west of Flitton Road found a ditch dated by pottery to the late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age (HER 17794 and Albion Archaeology 2000). To the north east of the proposed development site there are cropmarks of a ring ditch, likely to represent a Bronze Age funerary monument (HER 18030) and an Iron Age burial uncovered during ploughing (HER 15854).
- Pulloxhill is recorded in the Domesday Book Survey of 1086 AD and, therefore, the settlement had its origins in at least the late Anglo-Saxon period.
- Earthworks associated with the medieval settlement survive to the north of the proposed development site (HER 1825). An archaeological investigation on the west side of Flitton Road found medieval pottery within furrows and a post-medieval pit (Albion Archaeology).
- Part of the medieval field system of Pulloxhill survives as ridge and furrow earthworks to the south of the development area (HER 3322).
- The medieval parish church of St. James is located (HER 3767) immediately to the south of the development site.
- A medieval moated site (HER 7662) is located to the south east of the development site; it may be associated with a medieval manorial site near Fryers Herne. It has been suggested that it may form part of a magnate's enclosure (Simco 2003, 4). A small scale archaeological investigation around Fryers Herne (Leigh 2008) did not find any archaeological remains.

Research Design

3.2 The aim of the evaluation has been to consider the location, depth, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any remains that were liable to be threatened by the development, and to provide a local and regional, archaeological and historical context for them, in accordance with the current published regional research agenda (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott and Brown 2008, Medlycott 2011), should they have been discovered.

3.3 It was considered that such an investigation had the potential to contribute to an understanding of the origins and development of Pulloxhill, from the prehistoric period onwards, with particular emphasis on Saxon, medieval and post-medieval settlement of Pulloxhill. The importance of investigating Saxon and medieval rural settlements in order to examine settlement diversity and characterise rural settlement forms has been highlighted in the Regional Research Agenda (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 24-25; Oake et al. 2007, 14).

Collected Data

3.4 The archaeological evaluation revealed a total of six cut features spread across the three trial trenches.

3.5 Trench 1 revealed two large pits [103] & [105] backfilled with dumped material. The fills, (104) & (106) contained post-medieval pottery and (106) also contained post-medieval CBM tile. This trench also contained an irregular linear feature [101] which is likely to be the result of root activity.

3.6 Trench 2 revealed a large pit, investigated in two separate sections; [201] and [205]. Finds from this pit include 1 rim sherd of abraded late medieval Greyware pottery, dating from the late 14th/15th century, and numerous fragments of post-medieval brick and tile, animal bone fragments and claypipe.

3.7 Trench 3 revealed a large, late post-medieval quarry pit covering most of the trench. Two sections [301] & [303] were excavated in this feature, which contained abraded pottery, dating from the late medieval period to the 19th century, CBM, clay pipe, glass, an iron object and animal bone.

3.8 The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1882 shows the site as an unoccupied field, as do all of the subsequent Maps. Therefore the quarry pits uncovered in Trench 3 must predate 1882.

3.9 No material or remains dating from the Anglo-Saxon period or earlier were encountered during the course of this evaluation.

Conclusion

3.10 The study area is located close to the historic core of the village of Pulloxhill, on land adjacent to The Chequers, a Grade II listed Public House dating from the 18th century (listing no. 1113937 & HER 3813).

3.11 Pulloxhill was a small rural settlement in the medieval and post-medieval periods and the recorded data is entirely consistent with this.

3.12 Trial trenching revealed a series of post-medieval pits, including a probable quarry. These features are not recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map.

3.13 The presence of possible kiln wasters within pit fill [201] & [205] suggests the presence of a tile making either on or close to the present site. The tile from the site appears to indicate that manufacture started in the late medieval period and continued into the early post-medieval period. Two of the fabrics present on the site, Fabrics 3 and 5, appear to be of late medieval date. The size and nature of Fabrics 1, 2 and 4 indicate that they are of early post-medieval date. They are also present in larger numbers than the fabrics assigned to the late medieval period.

3.14 These results suggest that the site was used for quarrying during the late post-medieval period, but tile manufacturing took place on or close to the site for a short space of a hundred or so years, possibly between the very late medieval period and the early post-medieval period.

3.15 It is possible that any potential evidence for tile making activity in the form of structures, kilns or other remains on the site may have been disturbed by subsequent quarrying.

3.16 On the basis of the results of the evaluation, the risk that the proposed development might disturb further archaeological remains of any significance may be considered to be *Low* for the prehistoric, Iron Age, Romano-British, Anglo-Saxon and high medieval periods, increasing to *Moderate* for the late medieval period and *High* for the post medieval period. Due to the evidence of an important regional industry, the potential significance of such remains is considered to be *Moderate*.

Confidence Rating

3.17 During the course of the fieldwork, the conditions were generally acceptable for the identification of potential features and deposits, and for their investigation. There were no circumstances which would lead to a confidence rating for the work which was less than *High*.

4 Sources Consulted

British Geological Survey: www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience

Brown, N. & Glazebrook, J., 2000, *Research and Archaeology: a framework for the eastern counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy*. East Anglian Archaeology

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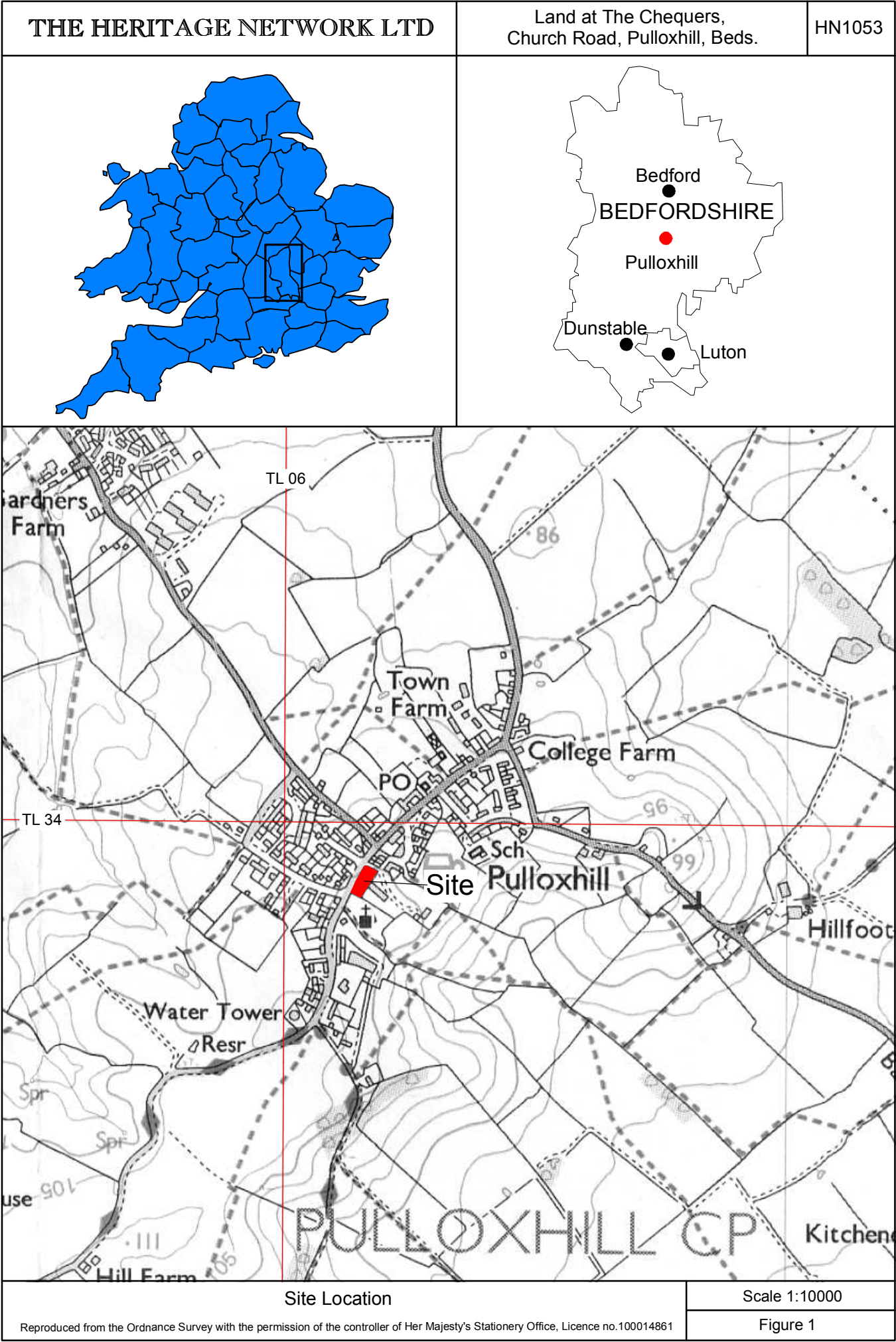
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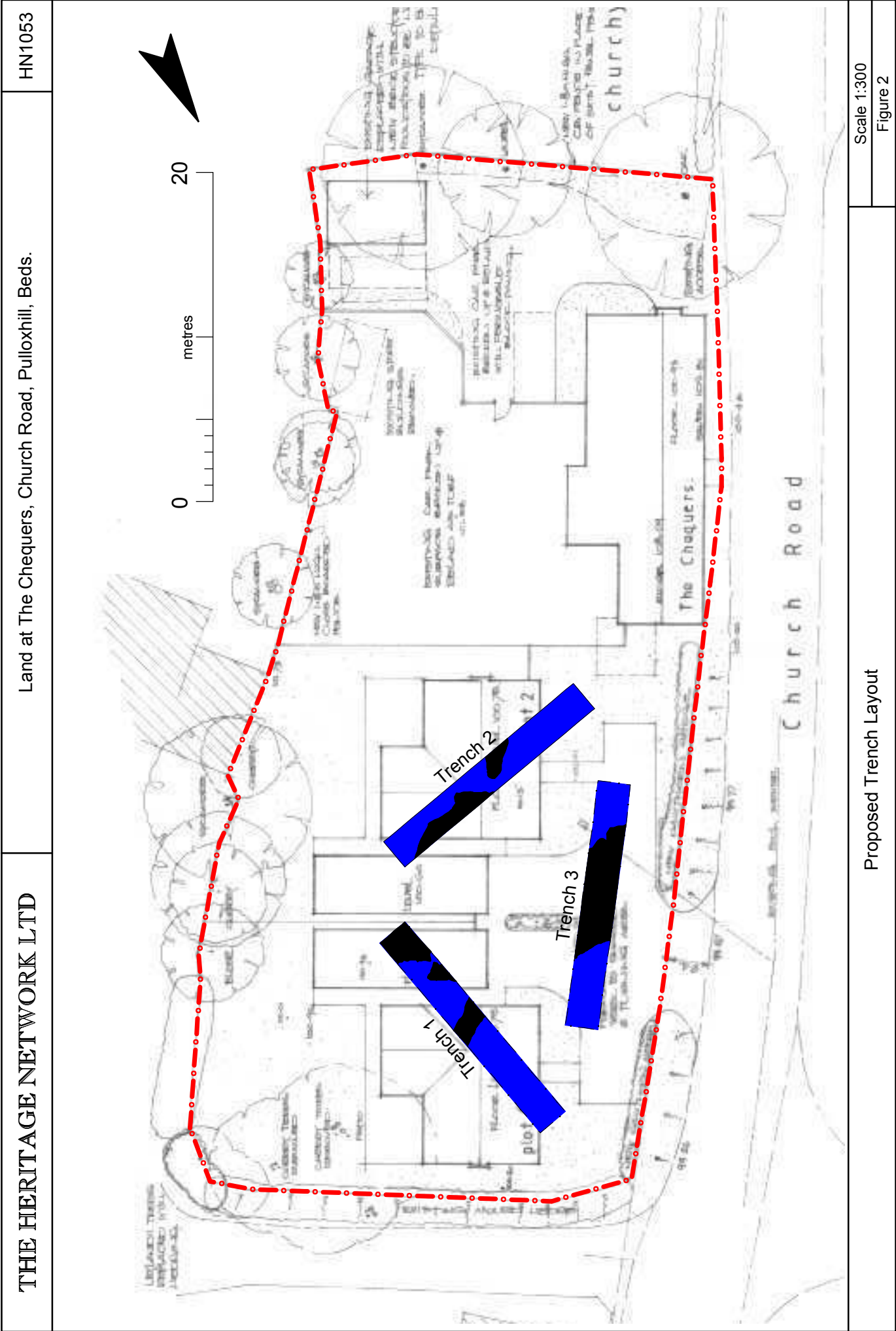
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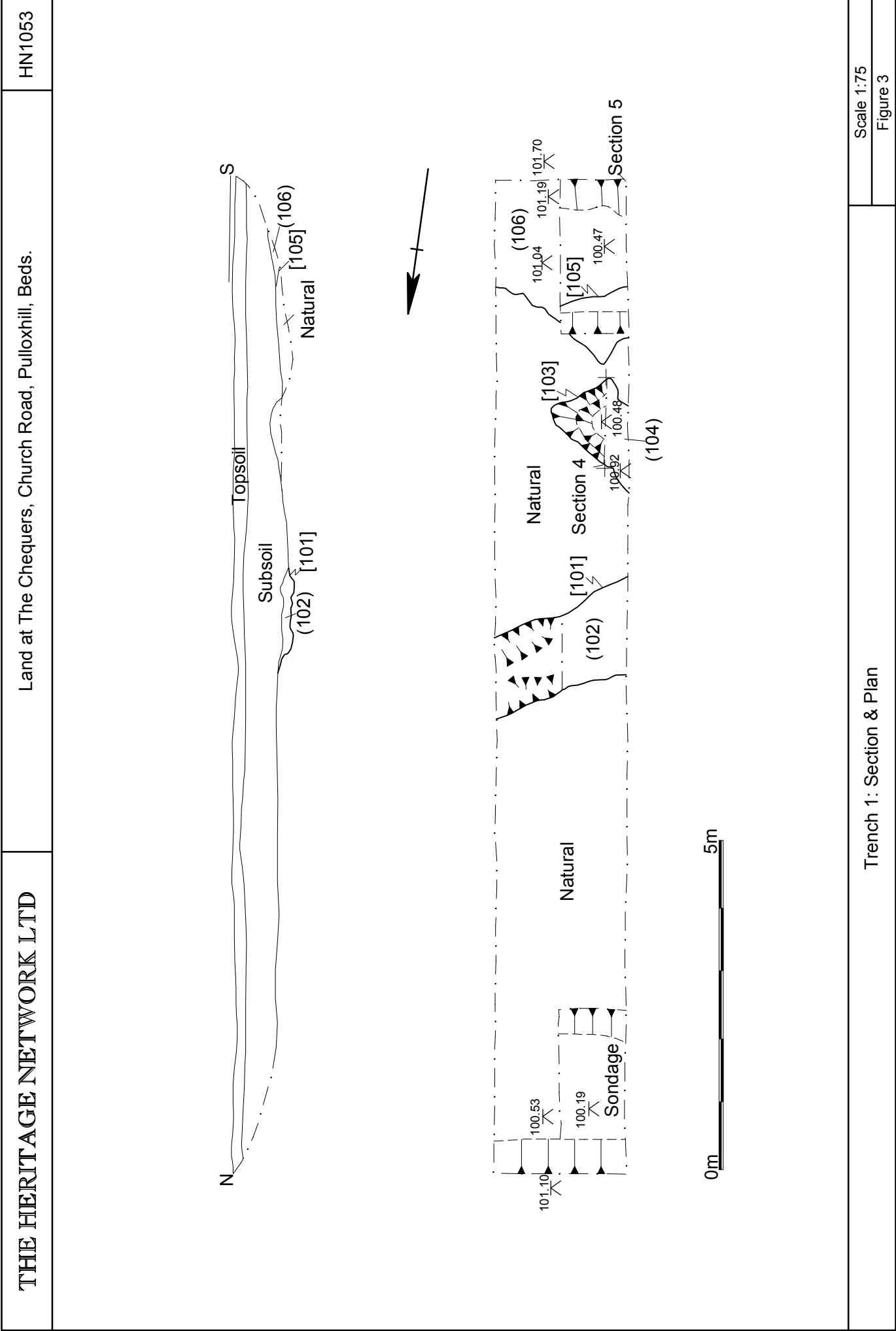
5 Illustrations

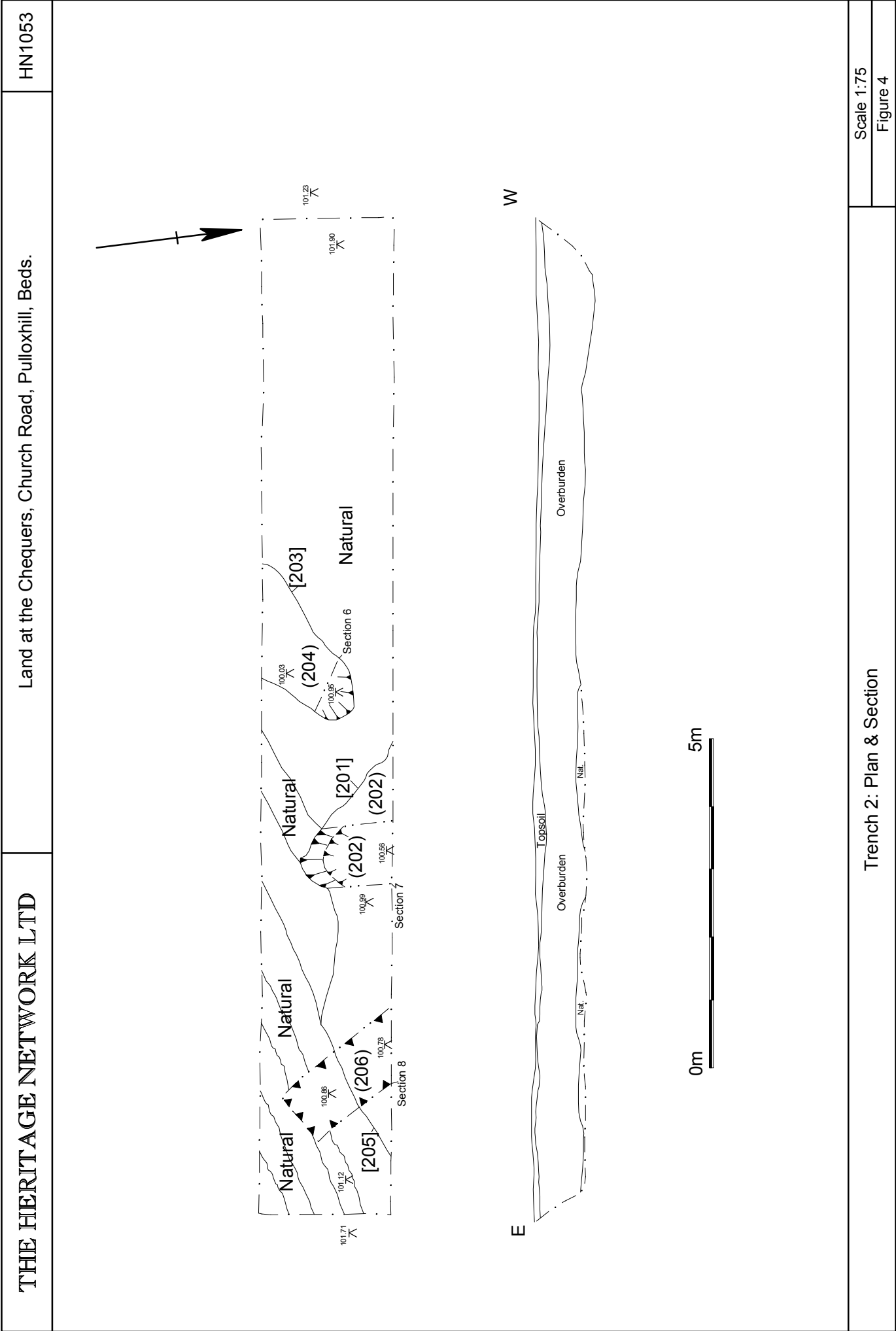
Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Site Layout
Figure 3	Trench 1: Trench section & plan
Figure 4	Trench 2: Trench plan & section
Figure 5	Trench 3: Trench plan and sections
Figure 6	Sections

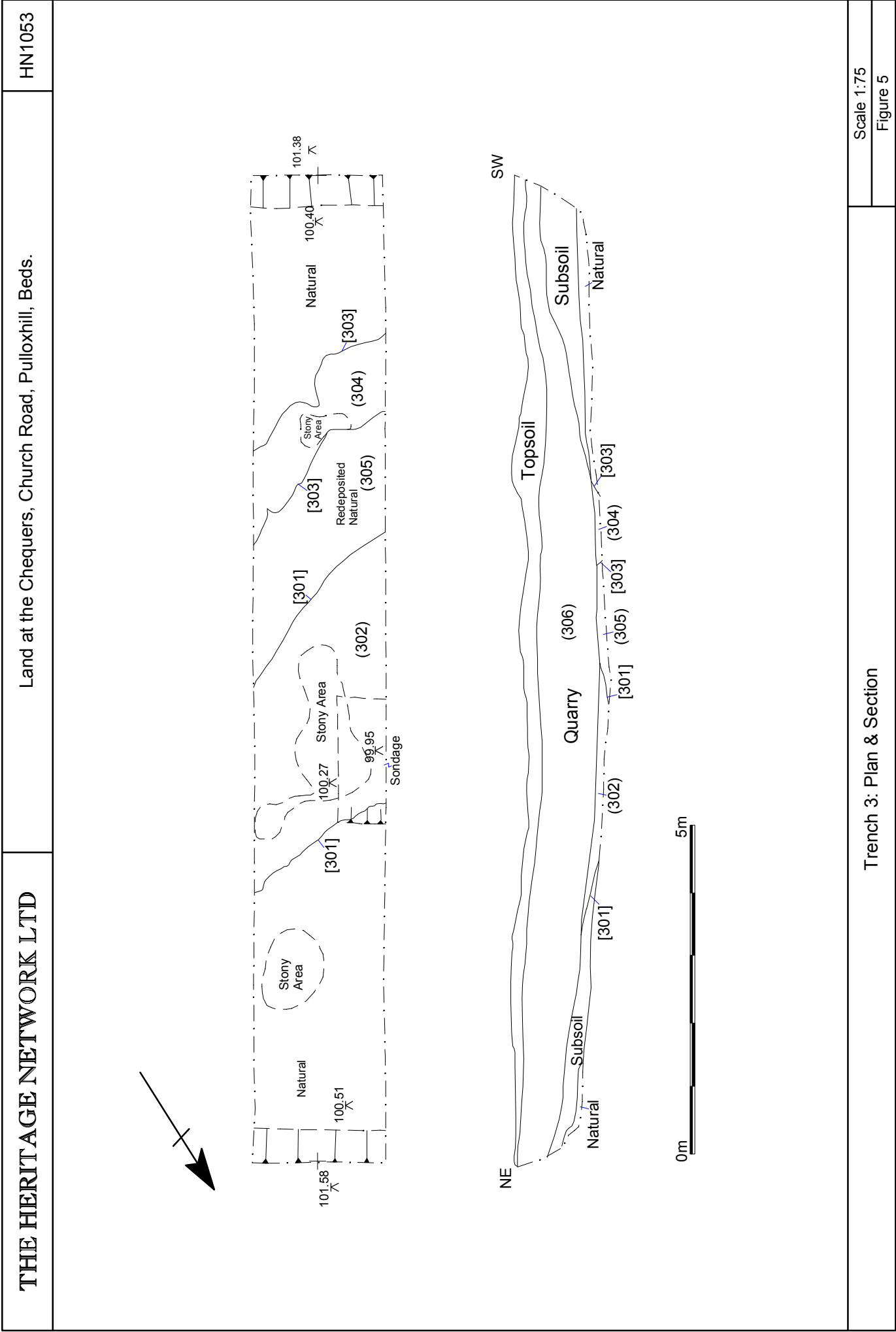
Plate 1	Trench 1, looking NW
Plate 2	Section through pit [103], looking E
Plate 3	Section through pit [105], looking W
Plate 4	Trench 2, looking NE
Plate 5	Section through pit [201] looking W
Plate 6	Section through pit [205] looking N
Plate 7	Trench 3 looking NE
Plate 8	Sondage through base of pit [301] looking S











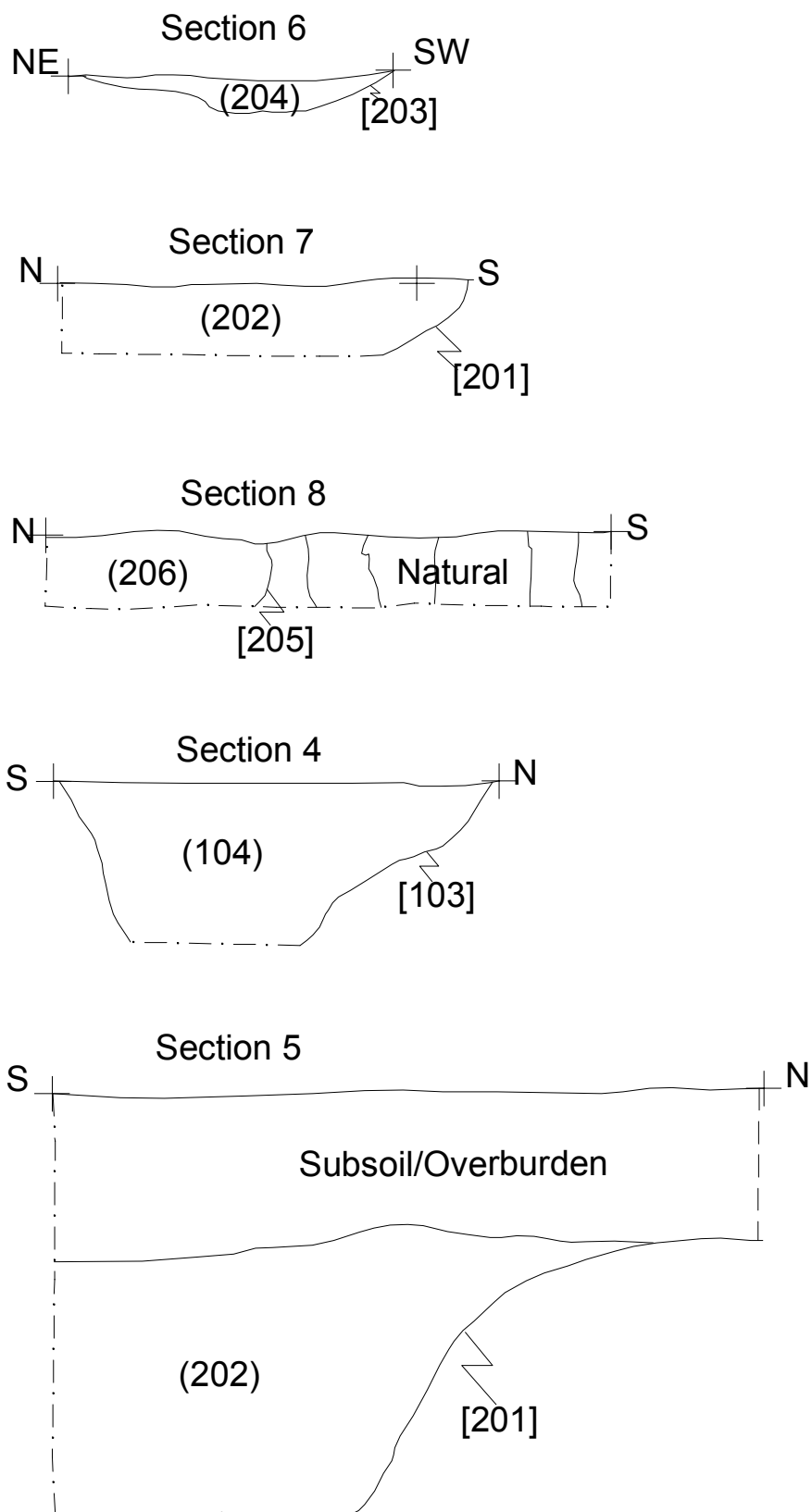




Plate 1: Trench 1 looking NW



Plate 2: Pit [103] looking W



Plate 3: Pit [105] looking W



Plate 4: Trench 2 looking NE



Plate 5: [201] looking W



Plate 6: [205] looking N



Plate 7: Trench 3 looking NE



Plate 8: [301] looking S

Appendix

Oasis Summary Sheet

OASIS ID: heritage1-147771

Project details:

Project name	Pulloxhill, The Chequers, Church Road
Short description of the project	<p>In order to characterise the archaeological potential of the site of a proposed new development on land at The Chequers, Church Road, Pulloxhill, Bedfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owner to undertake an archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching. This work was a requirement of the planning consent granted by the local planning authority. Three trenches were excavated across the site, revealing a number of cut features comprising five quarry pits and a feature of natural origin. All of the pits contained dateable finds, including sherds of post-medieval and modern pottery, clay pipe, animal bone, glass and post-medieval CBM. The features have been interpreted as late post-medieval backfilled quarry pits. However due to the presence of possible kiln wasters within the fills and the sheer number of tiles present, it is possible that the site may have been used in tile production during the early post-medieval period before being used as a quarry. On the basis of the results of the evaluation, the risk that the proposed development might disturb archaeological remains may be considered to be Low for the prehistoric, Roman and high medieval periods. This rises to High for the post-medieval period, though the potential significance of such remains is considered to be Moderate.</p>
Project dates	Start: 24-06-2013 End: 25-06-2013
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	HN1053 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	Pottery Medieval
Significant Finds	Pottery Post Medieval
Significant Finds	Tile Post Medieval
Significant Finds	Metal Uncertain
Significant Finds	Animal Bone Uncertain
Methods & techniques	'Annotated Sketch', 'Metal Detectors', 'Sample Trenches', 'Targeted Trenches', 'Visual Inspection'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
	Project location
Site location	BEDFORDSHIRE MID BEDFORDSHIRE PULLOXHILL The Chequers Public House, Church Road
Postcode	MK45 5HD
Study area	600 Square metres
	NGR - TL 061420 338670
Site coordinates	LL - 51.9926628874 -0.453938157923 (decimal)
	LL - 51 59 33 N 000 27 14 W (degrees)
	Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 99.95m Max: 101.90m
	Project creators
Name of Organisation	Heritage Network
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Heritage Network
Project director/manager	Jim Snee
Project supervisor	Greg Jones
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Isleport Ltd.
Physical Archive recipient	Luton Museum
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Glass', 'Metal'
Digital Archive recipient	Luton Museum
Digital Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Glass', 'Metal'
Digital Media available	'Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Luton Museum
Paper Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Glass', 'Metal'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet', 'Diary', 'Drawing', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section'
	Project bibliography 1
Title	Archaeological Evaluation On Land at 'The Chequers', Church Road, Pulloxhill, Beds.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jones, G.
Other bibliographic details	HN1053
Date	2013

Issuer or publisher	Heritage Network
Place of issue or publication	Letchworth
Description	A4 Booklet, comb bound, green cover, 16 pages, 6 figures, 8 plates