

Archaeological Evaluation

**Land on the East Side of Ipswich Road
Holbrook, Suffolk**

NGR: TM 17009 37124

ASE Project No: 160273581

Site/Parish Code: HBK 064

Event No: ESF24369

ASE Report No: 2016337



September 2016

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Holbrook,
Suffolk IP9 2GA

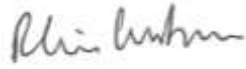
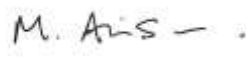
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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East at land to the east of Ipswich Road, Holbrook, Suffolk between the 15th and 19th August 2016. The fieldwork was commissioned by BSA Heritage in advance of the residential development of the site.

This work was preceded by a geophysical survey of the site which identified the presence of a known former field boundary and tentatively identified a number of other linear, ditch-like, anomalies.

A total of fourteen evaluation trenches measuring 50m x 1.8m were excavated across the 3ha site. This revealed a number of linear ditches and gullies, pits and a post-hole across all but two of the trenches, with a concentration evident in the southern half of the site.

The majority of the dated archaeological features were later Prehistoric (Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age to Early Iron Age), with the exception of a known post-medieval field boundary. It is probable that some or all of the undated features were also of similar prehistoric date.

The linear features followed a general alignment of NNW-SSE or WSW-ENE, suggesting a pattern of fields with drainage ditches and boundaries. An exception to this was a pair of parallel gullies which may delimit a driveway or track, possibly of a different period. Pits of uncertain function were scattered across the area. A single pit in Trench 9 may have had a ceremonial function.

The recorded features suggest the presence of remains of an extensive late prehistoric agricultural landscape with fields divided by boundary and drainage ditches, and trackways.

It is judged that the development of this site will impact upon significant remains of later prehistoric date and that the SCCAS/CT will likely require further archaeological works to mitigate this.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by BSA Heritage, acting for Taylor Wimpey, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land east of Ipswich Road, Holbrook, Suffolk.
- 1.1.2 Holbrook is a village located on the Shotley peninsula, between the Stour and Orwell estuaries in Babergh District, c.3km / 5 miles south of Ipswich.
- 1.1.3 The proposed development area is located to the northeast of the historic core of Holbrook village, centred on National Grid Reference 617009 237124 (TM 17009 37124). Its location is shown on Figure 1.
- 1.1.4 The 3ha Site is roughly rectangular in outline with an extension to the southeast. It is bounded to the north by a track leading to Grove Farm, to the east by a hedgerow separating it from further farmland, to the south by properties at Berners Field and Elm Cottage and to the west by Ipswich Road.

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 2.1 The British Geological Survey records the bedrock geology on the site as sandstone of the Red Crag Formation overlain by superficial deposits of sand and gravel of the Lowestoft Formation (BGS 2016).
- 2.2 The site comprises a single agricultural field on fairly level ground at between 31.99m AOD adjacent to Trench 1 and 30.31m AOD adjacent to Trench 12. The field had clearly been ploughed in the past but has since been left as scrubland, probably for a number of years, allowing the growth of shrubs, saplings and long grasses.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 Planning permission for development of the site as housing has been granted (Appl. No. B/14/01288/FUL), with the following conditions relating to archaeology:

9. No development shall take place within the area indicated [the whole site] until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The scheme of investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions: and:

- a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*

- b. The programme for post investigation assessment*
- c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording*
- d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
- e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
- f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation*
- g. The site investigation shall be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

10. No building shall be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed, submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under part 1 and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.

- 1.3.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was duly prepared by ASE (ASE 2016) and a programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken.

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report describes and assesses the results of the archaeological evaluation excavated of the site carried out between 15th and 19th August 2016. It followed the methodology laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2016).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 A desk-based assessment of the site was written in 2013 (CSa Environmental Planning 2016) and the account below is based on that document and additionally uses references from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER). The most pertinent sites mentioned are located on Figure 1.
- 2.1.2 The only archaeological record that may relate to the Site is the findspot of a faceted, socketed, Bronze Age axe, but the recorded grid reference covers a larger area than the Site alone (MSF8147). An archaeological evaluation in 2008 in advance of the construction of Berners Field, neighbouring the Site to the southwest, proved negative (SCCAS 2008).
- 2.1.3 No records of Palaeolithic or Mesolithic activity have been recovered from within 1km of the Site, but 470m to the north of the Site aerial photographs have revealed cropmarks of two concentric circles of an interrupted ditch (or causewayed) enclosure (FRT 005; see Wightman 2007, fig. 3). This class of monument is associated with the Neolithic period and archaeological monitoring of the dismantlement and undergrounding of an overhead electricity line where it crossed the monument recovered 45 worked flints and four sherds of prehistoric date (Wightman 2011). Some of the flintwork is early Neolithic in date, although there were many later items and the pottery was more typical of the Bronze and Iron Age periods. Within the northern part of the enclosure are cropmarks of a possible Neolithic long house or Anglo-Saxon hall (MSF 8555, MSF 8556, MSF 8573, and MSF 25181).
- 2.1.4 The Bronze Age axe find on site (see above 2.1.2) is part of a body of evidence suggesting activity in the area in this period. The evidence includes cropmarks of two ring-ditches 300m to the southeast of the Site (MSF 8563-4) and others 700m (MSF 8560) and 850m to the east (MSF 8567-8). In the first and last cases the ring-ditches are within field systems. A Bronze Age flint arrowhead is recorded from c.350m southwest MSF 18266 and a bronze spearhead from 750m south of the Site (MSF 8155).
- 2.1.5 The Site is in an area with extensive evidence, in the form of cropmarks or soilmarks on aerial photographs, for field systems and trackways. Fieldwalking across part of one of these complexes 1km to the north of the Site collected 13 worked flints, but the complex possibly includes a later prehistoric or Roman field system, together with later systems including post-medieval enclosures and a trackway (MSF 8559, MSF 12310, and MXS 20259). Further undated aerial photographic evidence of field systems occur immediately south of the Site (MSF 8562), immediately north of the Site (MSF 8569), 950m to the north (MSF 8571), and 500m to the west (MSF 8152). Undated enclosures appear on aerial photographs 470m to the north-west (MSF 8579) and two enclosures 1km to the west (MSF 8151 and MSF 8156).
- 2.1.6 Definitive Roman evidence in the locality is restricted to a mid 4th-century

coin hoard found associated with two greyware pots 450m northwest of the Site (MSF 8551).

- 2.1.7 The parish church of All Saints is 1km to the south and it is likely that the Site was at some distance from the focus of medieval settlement at Holbrook.
- 2.1.8 The Tithe Map of 1840 shows the Site within two fields, both arable, and titled Six Acres and House Field. Houses are immediately to the south of the Site boundary. By the 1856 Ordnance Survey First Edition, the east/west division has been removed and the Site forms part of a much larger single field. This layout persisted until recent years when Berners Field was constructed to the southwest of the Site.
- 2.1.9 A magnetometer survey was carried out within the Site by GSB Propection Ltd in 2016 (GSB Propection Ltd 2016). A known field boundary was recognised along with a number of weaker archaeological anomalies and indications of agricultural activity including ploughing (Fig. 2).
- 2.1.10 No intrusive archaeological works have previously been undertaken within the Site. Apart from the Berners Field and Potash Farm investigations (2.1.2 and 2.1.3), the only other work in the near vicinity has been at The Meadows, The Street, c.400m to the west. No significant remains were found there (SCCAS 2010).

2.2 Project Aims and Objectives

2.2.1 The evaluation was designed to help determine the need for and extent of any mitigation works that may be required, or to inform a design solution to facilitate the preservation in-situ of any threatened remains. The general aims of this phase of archaeological investigation were established in the WSI (ASE2016) as follows:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the extent, condition, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To determine the extent of any previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To “ground truth” the results of the geophysical survey
- To enable the Senior Archaeological Officer at SCCAS/CT to make an informed decision regarding any possible requirements for further work.

- To make the results of the investigation publicly accessible through submission of a report to the Suffolk County Council Historic Environment Record and of the project archive to the local museum.

2.2.2 Specific research aims, taking into account the *Research and Archaeology Framework for the Eastern Counties (Parts 1 and 2)* and the *Revised Framework for the East of England*, were also detailed in the WSI as follows:

- Determine the presence/absence and significance of any evidence of prehistoric and Roman activity within this location
- Determine, in particular whether the field systems showing on aerial photographs to north and south of the Site survive within the Site and through investigation of any remains to provide dating evidence for the wider complex

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 All trenches were located as described in the WSI (ASE 2016) with the exception of Trench 4 (Fig. 2). The south end of Trench 4 was moved to the east by 3m in order to avoid the trees lining Ipswich Road (the north end of the trench remained in the same location).
- 3.1.2 All works were carried out in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2016) and the standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a).
- 3.1.3 The trenches were positioned in order to maximise the area coverage and to investigate selected anomalies identified by the magnetometer survey (GSB Prospection Ltd 2016). They were all 50m long and 1.80m wide. In each case the topsoil and subsoil (where present) was removed down to either archaeological deposits or the natural drift geology.
- 3.1.4 The trenches were accurately located using a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS). All trenches were examined for buried services prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. The trenches were excavated using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision.
- 3.1.5 Machine excavation continued to the surface of geological drift deposits. All archaeological features were cleaned and excavated by hand. Up to 50% of each feature was excavated.
- 3.1.6 Trench contents were recorded in plan and section. Written records were made for all investigated remains employing trench record sheets as a minimum and using the standard context record sheets used by ASE where appropriate.
- 3.1.7 All trenches were scanned with a metal-detector prior to excavation. The upcast from the excavations and the features in the bases of the trenches were also scanned with a metal-detector.
- 3.1.8 Finds, where present, were retrieved from all excavated features and deposits. The retrieved finds were bagged in polythene bags according to type and context, and retained for specialist identification and study.
- 3.1.9 All finds recovered from the excavation were washed and marked with an appropriate code to identify the site and context. The ceramic and other building material was identified, counted, weighed and discarded.
- 3.1.10 The SCC Senior Archaeological Officer and a representative of BSA Heritage inspected the trenches prior to backfilling.

3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 A full archive will be prepared for all work undertaken according to the principles of Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (English Heritage 2006) and the requirements of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Store (SCCAS) as described in the SCCAS Archive Guidelines (SCCAS 2014).
- 3.2.2 Finds from the archaeological recording work will be kept with the archival material. Permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit finds and paper archive at the SCCAS. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Item	Quantity
Number of Contexts	105
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	6
Digital photos	40
Trench Record Forms	115

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The trenches were all excavated through 0.20-0.30m of topsoil consisting of a mid-grey sandy silt, highly disturbed by ploughing and roots. Beneath it in all of the trenches was a fairly soft silty sand subsoil, mainly mid-brown in colour and between 0.10 and 0.30m thick. The interface between the two layers was generally blurred with a gradual change, caused by the ploughing of the topsoil.
- 4.1.2 Natural deposits across the site consisted of soft sands and silty sands mixed with firmer silty gravels in places, in a variety of colours ranging from pale yellow and tan to mid orangey brown. A number of potential features were investigated and found to be variations in the natural rather than of archaeological origin.
- 4.1.3 Archaeological remains were encountered within twelve of the fourteen trenches excavated. These were mostly ditches and gullies on varying alignments, but a few pits and a post-hole were also recorded. All features, except for one ditch, were established to be overlain by the subsoil and to intrude into the undisturbed natural deposit. The recorded remains are described by trench, below.

4.2 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/ thickness m	Height m AOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.25	31.99
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.20	31.74
1/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	31.54
1/004	Fill	Fill of [1/005]	1.40m	0.76m	0.23m	31.25
1/005	Cut	Oval pit	1.40m	0.76m	0.23m	31.25

Table 2: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

- 4.2.1 The single oval pit [1/005], 1.40 x 0.76m and 0.23m deep, located towards the west end of Trench 1, was relatively irregular in shape. Its single fill contained no finds and remains undated. It was potentially a tree throw or animal burrow.
- 4.2.2 The curving geophysical anomaly of 'uncertain origin' plotted in this vicinity was not identified as an archaeological feature in this trench (Fig. 2).

4.3 Trench 2 (Figure 4)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/ thickness m	Height m AOD
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.30	31.87
2/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.18	31.57
2/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	31.39
2/004	Fill	Top fill of [2/006]	0.65	0.60	0.18	31.39
2/005	Fill	Basal fill of [2/006], incl. charcoal	0.44	0.33	0.11	31.22
2/006	Cut	Circular pit	0.65	0.65	0.25	31.39

Table 3: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 Trench 2 contained a single circular pit [2/006], 0.65m in diameter and 0.25m deep with irregular sides and base. The NE side was vertical, the SW side was a shallow gradient at the top. The primary fill [2/005] was a mid grey sandy silt with moderate charcoal flecks. The top fill [2/004] was a mid grey/brown silty sand. No artefacts were recovered and the function of the pit was unclear.

4.3.2 Neither the linear or curving/circular geophysical anomalies of 'uncertain origin' plotted at this vicinity was identified in this trench as an archaeological feature (Fig. 2).

4.4 Trench 3 (not illustrated)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/ thickness m	Height m AOD
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.25m	31.87
3/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.20m	31.62
3/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	31.42

Table 4: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

4.4.1 No archaeological features or deposits were found in Trench 3. The topsoil and subsoil were of standard depth and consistency overlying the undisturbed natural deposit.

4.4.2 Neither of the two linear geophysical anomalies of 'uncertain origin' plotted at this vicinity was identified in this trench as an archaeological feature (Fig. 2).

4.5 Trench 4 (Figure 5)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/thickness m	Height m AOD
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.25	31.86
4/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.20	31.61
4/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	31.41
4/004	Fill	Fill of 4/005	>2.00	1.45	0.44	31.36
4/005	Cut	E/W ditch	>2.00	1.45	0.44	31.36

Table 5: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

- 4.5.1 A single linear cut [4/005] 1.45m wide and 0.44m deep, aligned east/west, crossed the centre of the trench. It was rounded in profile and filled with a clean, loose, mid grey sandy silt [4/004]. No finds were recovered from the fill. This had not previously been identified as a geophysical anomaly.
- 4.5.2 The roughly linear geophysical anomaly of 'uncertain origin' plotted at this vicinity was not identified as an archaeological feature in this trench (Fig. 2).

4.6 Trench 5 (Figure 6)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/thickness m	Height m AOD
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.25	31.59
5/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.20	31.34
5/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	31.14
5/004	Fill	Fill of [5/005]	>2.70	1.05	0.34	31.06
5/005	Cut	Ditch terminus or pit	>2.70	1.05	0.34	31.06
5/006	Fill	Fill of [5/007]	>2.00	0.55	0.14	31.01
5/007	Cut	NW/SE gully	>2.00	0.55	0.14	31.01
5/008	Fill	Fill of [5/009]	>2.00	1.35	0.35	31.05
5/009	Cut	Recut SW/NE ditch	>2.00	1.35	0.35	31.05
5/010	Fill	Fill [5/011]	>2.00	0.60	0.07	31.08
5/011	Cut	SW/NE ditch	>2.00	0.60	0.07	31.08

Table 6: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

- 4.6.1 Three archaeological features and a modern cut were observed in Trench 5. At the west end a small U-shaped gully [5/007], 0.55m wide and 0.14m deep, ran diagonally across the trench from NW to SE. It was filled with a very clean light brown silty sand [5/006] and was marginally narrower and shallower (0.40m x 0.09m) at the SE end. No finds were recovered. It is likely that it served a drainage function, but was undated.
- 4.6.2 Approximately 5m to the east, against the northern edge of the trench, a possible ditch terminus or elongated pit [5/005] was found. It was very regular, measured 1.05m wide and 0.34m deep, and exhibited a slight V-shaped profile in section. The fill [5/004] was a light brown silty sand, typical for the site. No finds were recovered. The function of this feature was not

apparent.

- 4.6.3 A ditch at the east end of the trench was recut at a later date. The primary ditch [5/011] was notably shallow and truncated, with only 0.07m of its depth remaining. It was recut by [5/009], a wide ditch with a rounded base measuring 1.35m wide and 0.35m deep. Had its alignment precisely matched that of the earlier ditch the recut would have removed all trace of its predecessor. Both the single fills [5/008] and [5/010] were similar soft light brown sandy silts, but the relationship between the ditches was discernible in section. Neither fill yielded datable artefacts. The ditches may have been post-medieval as they closely resembled the profile of the known post-medieval field boundary [7/005] and [7/007]. The re-cutting of these features in Trench 7 showed very similar characteristics (see 4.8 below).
- 4.6.4 In the centre of Trench 5, against the south section, a very deep (over 1.7m) modern feature was partially dug. It was demonstrably cut through the topsoil and was therefore considered extremely recent in origin. It was not recorded archaeologically. This modern intrusion was not detected by the geophysical survey.
- 4.6.5 Two geophysical anomalies of 'uncertain origin' plotted at this vicinity were targeted by Trench 5 (Fig. 2). The western anomaly may be considered approximately correlate with gully [5/007]. However, while the eastern anomaly coincides with the location of ditches [5/009] and [5/011] they run on an entirely opposing alignment.

4.7 Trench 6 (Figure 7)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/ thickness m	Height m AOD
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.25	31.48
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.25	31.23
6/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	31.02
6/004	Fill	Fill of [6/005]	>2.00	1.05	0.24	30.70
6/005	Cut	Ditch cut	>2.00	1.05	0.24	30.70
6/006	Fill	Fill of [6/007]	0.50	0.45	0.45	30.70
6/007	Cut	Posthole to NW of [6/005]	0.50	0.45	0.45	30.70

Table 7: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

- 4.7.1 Two features were recorded in Trench 6. A ditch [6/005], 1.05m wide and 0.24m deep, crossed the south end of the trench at a diagonal angle from SE to NW. It was shallow and the base was a gentle U-shape. Its single fill [6/004] was mid grey sandy silt and did not yield any artefacts. It may have functioned as a drainage ditch.
- 4.7.2 Posthole [6/007] 0.50m in diameter and 0.45m deep was located adjacent to the ditch, to the SW. The post had been set into the ground at an angle of 45⁰ and would have leant to the north. The section through the fill [6/006] of the feature showed ephemeral traces of a post-pipe (not clearly enough to be

given a separate context number), which was more clearly evident in the cut base. Two small sherds of prehistoric pottery, of possible earlier Iron Age date, were retrieved from the fill.

4.8 Trench 7 (Figure 8)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/ thickness m	Height m AOD
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.30	31.27
7/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.15	30.97
7/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	30.82
7/004	Fill	Fill of [7/005]	>1.80	1.45	0.50	30.63
7/005	Cut	Ditch recut	>1.80	1.45	0.50	30.63
7/006	Fill	Fill of [7/007]	>1.80	1.00	0.25	30.63
7/007	Cut	Ditch	>1.80	1.00	0.25	30.63
7/008	Fill	Fill of [7/009]	1.70	>0.80	0.30	30.43
7/009	Cut	Oval pit	1.70	>0.80	0.30	30.43

Table 8: Trench 7 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 Two archaeological features were recorded in Trench 7. Towards the north end a pit [7/009], 1.70m x 0.80m and 0.30m deep, was observed extending beyond the trench edge. The sides were fairly shallow in profile and it may have been circular. The fill [7/008] was a mid grey sandy silt which did not contain any artefacts.

4.8.2 A field boundary ditch, known both from 19th-century mapping and the magnetometer survey (Fig. 2), was recorded crossing the southern part of the trench. The feature was very clear in the base of the trench after stripping. It consisted of a shallow (0.25m deep) primary cut [7/007] which was filled with a loose mid brown sandy silt [7/006]. The ditch was later recut as a deeper and probably wider feature [7/005] filled with a darker brown sandy silt [7/004]. The recut measured 1.45m wide and 0.50m deep and contained a variety of post-medieval finds including earlier 19th century pottery, CBM, clay tobacco pipe and glass.

4.9 Trench 8 (Figure 9)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/ thickness m	Height m AOD
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.38	31.30
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.20	30.92
8/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	30.72
8/004	Fill	Fill of [8/005]	>1.80	0.42	0.14	30.78
8/005	Cut	E/W gully	>1.80	0.42	0.14	30.78
8/006	Fill	Fill of [8/007]	>1.80	1.16	0.42	30.76
8/007	Cut	E/W ditch	>1.80	1.16	0.42	30.76
8/008	Fill	Fill of [8/009]	>0.93	1.05	0.56	30.72
8/009	Cut	E/W ditch terminus	>0.93	1.05	0.56	30.72

Table 9: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

- 4.9.1 Three linear features were recorded in Trench 8. At the north end of the trench a shallow gully [8/005], measuring 0.42m wide and 0.14m deep, crossed from east to west. It was steep-sided and the base was rounded. It was filled with [8/004], a soft, mid grey silty sand which may have been deposited gradually as a natural process. A sherd of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery was recovered, along with a small CBM fragment. The feature was perhaps a minor drainage gully.
- 4.9.2 In the centre of the trench a larger and deeper (1.05m x 0.56m deep) ditch [8/007] was found, orientated east-west. The sides were fairly regular and it was U-shaped in profile. It was filled with a loose dark brown silty sand [8/006] containing three sherds of prehistoric pottery, possibly of Early Neolithic date (though a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date is not entirely discounted). The size of the ditch suggests that it was a boundary feature rather than solely drainage.
- 4.9.3 A rounded ditch terminus [8/009,] 1.05m wide and 0.56m deep, was found at the south end of the trench, aligned east-west with the terminus at the west end. It was filled with [8/008], a mid grey/brown loose silty sand which was damaged by recent root action. A worked flint and a very small sherd of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery were recovered.
- 4.9.4 Trench 8 also contained a further part of the same late post-medieval east/west field boundary ditch recorded in Trench 7 ([7/005], see 4.8.2 above). The ditch was not formally excavated or recorded in Trench 8, other than planned. Its location coincided with that of the boundary ditch anomaly on the geophysical survey plot (Fig. 2).

4.10 Trench 9 (Figure 10)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/ thickness m	Height m AOD
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.30	30.95
9/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.20	30.65
9/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	30.45
9/004	Fill	Fill of [9/005]	>2.00	1.05	0.29	29.86
9/005	Cut	E/W ditch	>2.00	1.05	0.29	29.86
9/006	Fill	Fill of [9/007]	1.10	>0.43	0.33	30.14
9/007	Cut	Pit	1.10	>0.43	0.33	30.14
9/008	Fill	Fill of [9/009]	>2.00	0.65	0.26	30.09
9/009	Cut	E/W gully	>2.00	0.65	0.26	30.09
9/010	Fill	Fill of [9/011]	>2.00	0.35	0.22	30.22
9/011	Cut	E/W gully	>2.00	0.35	0.22	30.22

Table 10: Trench 9 list of recorded contexts

- 4.10.1 Three linear features and a pit were recorded in Trench 9. At the north end of the trench two parallel gullies, [9/009] and [9/011] crossed the trench on an east/west alignment, at 3.40m apart. The northernmost gully [9/011] was slightly smaller (0.35m wide) and steeper sided, with the base being a rounded V-shape in profile. To the south, [9/009] was wider (at 0.65m) and its

profile was a more gradual U-shape. The single fills, [9/010] and [9/008] respectively, were identical light grey silty sand with few inclusions.

4.10.2 A pit [9/007], 1.10m wide and 0.33m deep, was recorded against the west edge of the trench, towards the south end. It was a regular bowl-shaped pit with fairly steep sides and a rounded base. The fill [9/006] contained a high percentage of charcoal and burnt clay and a sample was taken for analysis (bulk soil sample <2>). Prehistoric pottery and flint flakes were also recovered. The eight relatively large pottery sherds derive from a single decorated vessel of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date.

4.10.3 An east/-west aligned ditch [9/005] 1.05m wide and 0.29m deep traversed the trench close to the south end. It was straight and regular in appearance and exhibited a U-shaped profile. The single fill [9/004] was soft mid grey silty sand which contained few inclusions and no finds.

4.11 Trench 10 (Figure 11)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/thickness m	Height m AOD
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.42	30.98
10/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.18	30.56
10/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	30.38
10/004	Fill	Fill of [10/005]	>2.00	1.02	0.29	30.41
10/005	Cut	NW/SE ditch	>2.00	1.02	0.29	30.41
10/006	Fill	Fill of [10/007]	2.00	0.60	0.29	30.28
10/007	Cut	Short E/W gully	2.00	0.60	0.29	30.28

Table 11: Trench 10 list of recorded contexts

4.11.1 Short narrow gully [10/007] ran along the centre of the trench, towards the west end. It was 2.00m long, 0.60m wide and 0.29m deep, with steep sides and a U-shaped profile. The fill was a light grey/brown silty sand [10/006] with no inclusions, from which no artefacts were recovered. It may have been a non-archaeological, naturally-formed, feature.

4.11.2 A linear feature [10/005] crossed the east end of the trench on a NW/SE alignment. It was 1.02m wide and 0.29m deep, similar to other ditches on the site, with a rounded profile and fairly steep and regular sides. The fill [10/004] was a mid-dark brown silty sand which yielded two small undiagnostic fragments of prehistoric pottery.

4.11.3 The natural deposit in Trench 10 was particularly variable and a number of pale grey patches of silty sand were investigated and found to be non-archaeological in origin.

4.12 Trench 11 (Figure 12)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/thickness m	Height m AOD
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.38	30.69
11/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.20	30.31
11/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	30.11
11/004	Fill	Top fill of [11/005]	1.88	1.40	0.52	30.13
11/005	Cut	Pit, cutting [11/015]	1.88	1.40	0.52	30.13
11/006	Fill	Top fill of [11/007]	1.25	0.88	0.30	30.16
11/007	Cut	Oval pit	1.25	0.88	0.30	30.16
11/008	Fill	Fill of [11/009]	0.36	0.28	0.13	29.86
11/009	Cut	Small sub-circular pit	0.36	0.28	0.13	29.86
11/010	Fill	Primary fill of [11/005]	1.00	0.28	0.22	29.98
11/011	Fill	Primary fill of [11/007]	1.30	0.28	0.24	30.16
11/012	Fill	Top fill of [11/015]	0.85	>0.30	0.26	30.11
11/013	Fill	Secondary fill of [11/015]	0.96	>0.30	0.14	30.11
11/014	Fill	Primary fill of pit [11/015]	1.00	>0.30	0.28	30.00
11/015	Cut	Large circular pit, cut by [11/005]	1.00	>0.30	0.44	30.11
11/016	Fill	Fill of [11/017] = [11/004]	0.45	0.49	0.33	29.99
11/017	Cut	Pit, = [11/005]	0.45	0.49	0.33	29.99

Table 12: Trench 11 list of recorded contexts

4.12.1 Trench 11 revealed the presence of four pits, two of which were intercut. A small isolated sub-circular pit [11/009] was found at the west end of the trench. It was 0.36m x 0.28m and 0.13m deep, bowl-shaped with a rounded base and contained a soft mid brown silty sand fill [11/008]. There were no inclusions or artefacts in the fill and it was possibly a natural feature.

4.12.2 Larger oval pit [11/007] was discovered in the centre of the trench against the north trench edge. It measured 1.25m x 0.88m and 0.30m deep, with a rounded base and moderately steep, regular sides and contained two fills. The primary fill [11/011] lay mostly against the SW side and was composed of sandy gravel, probably derived from a natural patch of gravel nearby. The upper fill [11/006] was a more typical (for the site) light grey/brown silty sand. No dating evidence was recovered from the pit.

4.12.3 Two intercutting pits were recorded towards the east end of the trench, both extending beyond the north trench edge. The earlier pit [11/015] was the

smaller of the two at 1m across and 0.44m deep. It contained three fills, [11/012] at the top, [11/013] and primary fill [11/014]. The middle fill [11/013] was burnt and contained a high percentage of charcoal (c.50%) and burnt sand, with burnt flints recovered as finds. It was sampled for environmental analysis (soil sample <3>), from which eight fragments of undiagnostic burnt clay were retrieved. The other fills were both mid brown silty sands.

4.12.4 The later, larger pit [11/005] and [11/017] was given two numbers as a second slot was dug to determine its relationship with [11/015]. It was 1.88m wide and over 0.50m deep; a fairly substantial feature for the site. The single fill, recorded as both [11/004] and [11/016], was a charcoal-rich soft mid grey/brown silty sand which yielded prehistoric pottery and flint. The two pottery sherds from [11/004] are possibly of Early Neolithic date (though a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date is not entirely discounted). It was sampled for environmental analysis (bulk soil sample <1>).

4.13 Trench 12 (Figure 13)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/thickness m	Height m AOD
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.45	30.58
12/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.20	30.13
12/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	29.93
12/004	Fill	Fill of [12/005]	>2.30	0.65	0.13	29.91
12/005	Cut	NE/SW ditch terminus	>2.30	0.65	0.13	29.91
12/008	Fill	Fill of [12/009]	>2.20	0.70	0.11	29.75
12/009	Cut	NW/SE ditch	>2.20	0.70	0.11	29.75

Table 13: Trench 12 list of recorded contexts (contexts [12/006] & [12/007] voided)

4.13.1 Two linear features of similar appearance were recorded in Trench 12. To the north a shallow ditch terminus [12/005] was recorded aligned northeast to southwest with the terminus to the northeast. It was 0.65m wide and only 0.13m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. It was filled with [12/004], a light grey silty sand with few inclusions.

4.13.2 To the south a second shallow ditch [12/009] crossed the trench on a NW/SE alignment. At 0.70m wide and 0.11m deep it was very similar to [12/005] in profile and depth, and the fill [12/008] was nearly identical to [12/004], being only a little darker. The ditches were probably contemporary and may even be the parts of same feature changing direction beyond the trench edge to the west. Neither contained any artefacts.

4.14 Trench 13 (not illustrated)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/ thickness m	Height m AOD
13/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.45	31.85
13/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.20	31.40
13/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	31.20

Table 14: Trench 13 list of recorded contexts

4.14.1 Initially three possible features were identified in Trench 13, but on excavation all three were found to be natural variations in the underlying geology. No archaeological material was found in the trench.

4.15 Trench 14 (Figure 14)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth/ thickness m	Height m AOD
14/001	Layer	Topsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.30	31.48
14/002	Layer	Subsoil	>50m	>1.80m	0.22	31.18
14/003	Layer	Natural	>50m	>1.80m	n/a	30.96
14/004	Fill	Fill of [14/005]	>2.00m	0.65	0.17	30.88
14/005	Cut	NE/SW ditch	>2.00m	0.65	0.17	30.88

Table 15: Trench 14 list of recorded contexts

4.15.1 A single ditch [14/005] measuring 0.65m wide and 0.17m deep crossed the west end of the trench on a NE/SW alignment. Its sides were straight and regular and the base was rounded. The only fill [14/004] was a soft mid grey silty sand with no inclusions and no artefacts within it. It was probably a small drainage feature.

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 16). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014).

5.1.2 A single registered finds were recorded, as detailed in section 5.11. No further conservation is required.

Context	Lithics		Pottery		CBM		Iron		Metal		CTP		F. Clay		Glass	
	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt
u/s	1	22														
MD9							1	94	1	94						
6/006			2	8												
7/004			3	20	3	1616	1	212	1	120	3	18			2	186
8/004			1	10	1	10										
8/006			3	18												
8/008	1	<2	1	<2												
9/006	3	20	8	160									17	452		
10/004			2	4												
11/003	1	2														
11/004	1	14	2	18												
Total	7	58	22	238	4	1626	2	306	2	214	3	18	17	452	2	186

Table 16: Finds quantification (weight in grams; not including soil sample finds)

5.2 Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 The evaluation produced 15 pieces of struck flint weighing 87g. These were recovered from Trenches 8, 9 and 11 and from an unstratified deposit. A small amount of burnt unworked flint (1271g) was also recovered from three numbered contexts.

5.2.2 No diagnostic tools were found, and the small assemblage consists mostly of débitage products, including 11 flakes, a blade-like flake and two pieces of irregular waste. The flakes are small, and where present the platforms are plain with no signs of abrasion. It is difficult to date such a small assemblage, but the flake-based removals are likely to be late prehistoric (Middle Neolithic-Bronze Age). The only retouch tool consists of a backed knife. This unstratified artefact is made on a flake. It displays a blunted proximal end and an unmodified edge representing the blade. A Neolithic-Early Bronze Age date is most likely for the tool. The raw material consists of mid to dark grey flint with a very thin outer surface.

5.3 Prehistoric Pottery by Anna Doherty

- 5.3.1 A small assemblage of 18 sherds of prehistoric pottery, weighing 208g, was recovered during the evaluation (in addition to a few pieces retrieved from the residues of environmental samples, which all proved to be very small fragments of similar character to hand-collected material from the same contexts). The assemblage has been examined for spot-dating and characterisation purposes, but not fully recorded according to a fabric and form type-series. It is recommended that the assemblage should be retained for possible further recording in the event that additional archaeological work takes place at the site.
- 5.3.2 Much of the pottery comprises undiagnostic flint-tempered bodysherds which do not provide any conclusive dating evidence. Contexts [8/006] and [11/004] each contain a few pieces with very silty to fine sandy matrixes and sparse to moderate, fairly ill-sorted flint inclusions of up to 4-5mm. Several examples have internal surfaces which are better smoothed or burnished than the vessel exterior. Such fabrics are probably most consistent with the Early Neolithic Mildenhall/plain bowl tradition, although it is also difficult to rule out a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date for these contexts. Meanwhile, contexts [6/006] and [8/010] contain examples of fabrics with silty/fine sandy matrixes but with finer, better-sorted flint inclusions of less than 2mm. Again these pieces are not considered certainly datable but are probably more typical of the earlier Iron Age. Context [8/006] also contained a tiny scrap of prehistoric flint-tempered pottery which is too small to characterise adequately.
- 5.3.3 The only diagnostic element of the assemblage was found in context [9/006]. This produced 160g of hand-collected sherds (and 27g from the environmental sample) from the upper part of a single Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age vessel. The sherds are from a fairly large (diameter c.180mm) and quite crudely-formed S-profile Beaker. It has a slight cordon at the neck and is decorated with horizontal rows of fingernail impressions and other coarse, poorly-defined continuous horizontal impressions (possibly corded). A single post-firing perforation, drilled from the exterior surface, was recorded on the shoulder area. The fabric of the vessel has a fine sandy matrix and rare examples of flint, mostly of <1mm, although one or two coarser examples are present. Unlike the rest of the assemblage, its surfaces are fully oxidised, as is typically the case with Beaker ceramics. Given that all of the sherds are from a single vessel, which is fragmented but probably approximately a quarter-complete, it seems possible that it could represent a truncated or redeposited funerary vessel though partially-complete Beaker vessels are also sometimes associated with other types of structured deposits.

5.4 Post-Medieval Pottery by Helen Walker

- 5.4.1 Three sherds of modern white earthenware weighing 20g were excavated from single context [7/004], the fill of boundary ditch [7/005]. Two are undiagnostic but one, a footring base showing a purple lustre bubble pattern, has the backstamp 'COPELAND & GARRETT LATE SPODE' indicating a

date between 1833 and 1847 (Wilkinson 1994, 2), 'late Spode' meaning formerly Spode. The presence of good quality earthenware such as this shows a middling status. No further work is required on this pottery.

5.5 Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.5.1 Only four pieces of building material, weighing a total of 1617g, were hand-collected from two evaluation contexts. A larger fragment of pantile and small scrap in the same fabric (T1) were found in post-medieval ditch fill [7/004], alongside a stone brick which measured approximately >156 x 85 x 50mm. A further small scrap of tile in a different fabric (T2) was recovered from gully fill [8/004]. Fabric descriptions are provided in Table 17. Pantile only started being used in Britain during the mid-17th century, but the example found here appears later, and most likely dates to the 18th or 19th century. The stone brick had one worn surface which could indicate it was used as a paver; it cannot be dated.

Fabric	Description
T1	Evenly fired orange fabric; micaceous and slightly gritty texture with common fine quartz and sparse fine-medium black oxides.
T2	Micaceous reddish fabric with common fine quartz and sparse coarse quartz.

Table 17: CBM fabric descriptions

5.6 Fired Clay by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.6.1 A total of 47 pieces of fired clay weighing 665g were recovered. Much of this was retrieved from bulk soil samples <2> and <3>, with the 22 fragments weighing 213g collected from <2> (context [9/006]) representing approximately 25% of the total amount of clay in that sample, and the 8 fragments from <3> ([11/013]) representing the entirety of clay in that sample. All the fired clay pieces were composed of the same brickearth-type clay with sparse pieces of flint and pebble larger than 10mm. None of the clay was diagnostic, although some of the pieces from <2> had slightly patinated surfaces and the largest fragment (~62mm) appeared to be shaped, but was also abraded making it difficult to be certain.

5.7 Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elena Baldi

5.7.1 Three clay tobacco pipe fragments were recovered from context [7/004]. Two are stem parts and one is a bowl with incomplete stem.

5.7.2 One stem piece is undecorated and measures 30mm in length; the fabric of this fragment is similar to that of the bowl, but it does not conjoin. The second fragment measures 32mm in length; its fabric is whiter than the other two pieces recovered with it, flash lines are visible on the surface, and it has six lines of regular leaf decoration along the stem.

5.7.3 The third piece is a complete bowl with broken stem: it measures 77mm in length and the oval bowl measures 25x19mm. This piece has a vertical ribbed bowl; the letters A and W are visible on either sides of the spur. This

object can be paralleled to Oswald (1975) London type AO 27 and dates to c. 1780–1820, a date that is consistent with the rest of the finds from this context. The maker's mark WA could be indicative of the Webster family, Webster Adams (I) of Stowmarket, Suffolk, who died 1811, or his son Webster Adams (II), died 1828, who ran the family pipe-making business at Curriers Lane Ipswich. Webster Adams (III) inherited the Ipswich business and continued to make pipes there until his death in 1853. Similar pipes are found in the Suffolk area (Oak-Rind 1975).

5.8 Glass by Elena Baldi

- 5.8.1 Four fragments of dark or olive-green conjoining fragments of glass were recovered from post-medieval ditch fill [7/004]. These form the incomplete base of a bottle, which measured c.10cm in diameter. This type bottle is very common from the post-medieval period into the 20th century and is undiagnostic.

5.9 Bulk Metalwork by Elena Baldi

- 5.9.1 A small metal assemblage totalling three objects was recovered during the evaluation. The metalwork is boxed in airtight Stewart tubs with silica gel. The metal finds are quite heavily corroded, but they are still recognisable in their shape and function.

Iron

- 5.9.2 Two iron objects were collected, one by hand and the other with the aid of a metal detector. The first is a large nail or peg, circular in section with a flat point, recovered from ditch fill [7/004], which measures 99mm in length. The second piece is a circular section bolt with a square nut (MD9), which measures 58mm in length that was metal-detected in Trench 9.

- 5.9.3 The two pieces are covered in iron corrosion products and soil, but their function is still clear and no further investigation seems necessary. They are likely to be contemporary with the rest of the post-medieval finds recovered from the same contexts

Lead

- 5.9.4 The single lead object was hand recovered from post-medieval ditch [7/004]. It is a rolled strip of lead, rectangular in section, which measures 17-20mm in width and 3mm in height. The piece is covered with soil and powdery white lead corrosion products and is undiagnostic.

5.10 Metallurgical Remains by Elena Baldi

- 5.10.1 A very small amount of magnetic material was recovered from the following contexts/samples: [9/006] sample <2>, [11/004] sample <1>, [11/013] sample <3> from <2 and 2-4mm sieves, totalling c.3.8 grams in weight.

5.10.2 These are very small fragments of hammerscale, created by the smithing process. Samples <2> and <1> were collected from contexts which contained probable Early Neolithic or Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery and the hammerscale could therefore be intrusive.

5.11 Registered Find by Elena Baldi

5.11.1 A single registered find was recovered during the evaluation. It was air dried and cleaned by a conservator as appropriate to the material requirements. The object was packed appropriately in line with ClfA (2014) guidelines and it was assigned a unique registered find number (RF<00>) and recorded on the basis of material, object type and date (shown in Table 18).

Context	Metal	ID	Weight
MD3	Alum	Fork	12

Table 18: List of registered finds

5.11.2 Registered find RF <1> is an aluminium fork recovered with a metal-detector from Trench 3. The object measures 145mm in length and it is 19mm wide. The piece is evenly corroded on the surface and it is simple in manufacture, with a rounded end handle. No makers mark is visible.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Mariangela Vitolo

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Three bulk soil samples were collected from the fills of pits to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and molluscs as well as to assist finds recovery. The following report summarises the contents of the samples and discusses the information provided by the charred plant remains and charcoal on diet, agrarian economy, vegetation environment and fuel selection and use.

6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 The samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively before being air dried. The residues were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 1a). Artefacts recovered from the samples were distributed to specialists, and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The flots (or 100ml subsamples for the larger ones) were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 1b). Preliminary identifications of macrobotanical remains were made with reference to modern comparative material and published reference atlases (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.2.2 Charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residues were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale and Cutler 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schoch *et al.* 2004, Schweingruber 1990). Genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit more detailed identification. Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997), and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Appendix 1a.

6.3 Results

Samples <1> [11/004], <2> [9/006] and <3> [11/013]

6.3.1 All the samples contained a large amount of uncharred vegetative matter, such as twigs, rootlets and seeds of goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.), elder (*Sambucus* sp.) and ivy leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*). This material indicates low level disturbance across the site and is likely to have infiltrated the deposits through root action.

- 6.3.2 One caryopsis of wheat/rye (*Triticum/Secale* sp.) was the only charred plant macrofossil recorded from all contexts.
- 6.3.3 Charcoal was preserved in all the deposits, but particularly in [11/004], a lower fill of pit [11/005]. Only fragments from this deposit underwent identification work. Sediment encrustations and percolations were noted; these are normally due to fluctuations in the ground water level, which cause absorption of sediment laden water into the charcoal fragments. A variety of taxa were identified; including oak (*Quercus* sp.), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), hazel/alder (*Corylus avellana/Alnus glutinosa*), birch (*Betula* sp.) and the Maloideae subfamily. The latter includes taxa that are indistinguishable on the basis of wood anatomy, such as apple, pear, rowan and hawthorn, among others. In addition, two fragments of unidentifiable knot wood and a fragment that was not identifiable because of distortion, were recorded. The fragments of hazel/alder and birch showed signs of vitrification, which happens when the wood anatomy fuses, becoming glassy. Vitrification happens during charring and is linked to high temperatures, although other factors might also concur.
- 6.3.4 The heavy residues were not very rich and only contained a small amount of burnt bone, fire cracked flint, pot and magnetic material.

6.4 Discussion

- 6.4.1 The bulk soil samples from this evaluation did not yield enough charred plant remains to allow for a discussion on diet and economy at the site. The single charred grain caryopsis is likely to represent a background signature. Given the presence of rootlets and modern seeds, this caryopsis might also be a later contaminant that entered the deposit through root activity. The absence of other charred plant macrofossils could however be due to circumstances of deposition and is unlikely to depend on scarce preservation potential of the local deposits. The charcoal data suggest that a variety of vegetation environments were present and tapped into for fuel procurement, including deciduous woodland, wet environments and scrub. The poor state of preservation, due to post depositional sediment encrustations and to vitrification did not hinder the identification of most of the charcoal fragments.
- 6.4.2 These samples show that there is potential for nearby deposits to also preserve plant macrofossils and charcoal and any future work at the site should continue to include sampling, targeting primary deposits.

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 7.1.1 Natural geology comprising mainly moderately soft sand with some gravel (Lowestoft Formation) was observed in all trenches at between 31.45m AOD (Trench 1) and 29.93m AOD (Trench 12). It was highly variable in colour, which led to some difficulty separating the natural changes from archaeological features. However, the feature legibility where genuine archaeology was present was good.
- 7.1.2 Subsoil, lying directly above the natural deposits, was a light to mid brown silty sand easily distinguished from the natural deposits. The interface was relatively clear. Topsoil consisted of ploughsoil with a ploughing depth of approximately 0.30m or less. Both topsoil and subsoil were encountered in all trenches.
- 7.1.3 A total of twenty-eight archaeological features were recorded across the fourteen trenches, all of which were pits (11) or linear features (16) with the exception of a single post hole in Trench 6. Features were more prevalent in the southern half of the site with only eight occurring in the northern Trenches 1-5, 13 and 14. Indeed two of the northern trenches, 13 and 3, were blank.
- 7.1.4 The majority of the features are considered with a moderate degree of confidence to be later prehistoric, with the exception of the post-medieval field boundary ditches in Trenches 7 and 8, and possibly a further one in Trench 5. However, many of the recorded features remain undated due to the lack of finds in their fills.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 7.2.1 The degree of survival of archaeological remains on the site is good. The post-medieval ploughing has not penetrated through the subsoil and it is presumed that older agriculture has not impacted greatly on the buried archaeological features, although no horizontal survival was encountered. As an estimate, in most cases the features were probably cut from a horizon less than 0.2m higher than the natural level.
- 7.2.2 There are no other obvious disturbances except for a deep modern, presumably localised, cut noted in Trench 5.

7.3 Correlation with geophysical survey

- 7.3.1 The correlation of geophysical survey results with those of the archaeological evaluation was generally poor (Fig. 2). The geophysical survey did not detect any discrete anomalies that corresponded to the locations of excavated pits or postholes. This included the modern intrusion in Trench 5, though a circular 'ferrous' area was identified in roughly the same place. Even the charcoal-rich pits [9/006] and [11/015] were not detected.

- 7.3.2 Although the late post-medieval ditch recorded within Trenches 7 and 8 was previously identified as a distinct linear anomaly, none of the other excavated ditches were detected by the geophysical survey (possibly with the exception of gully [5/007] in Trench 5?). This is presumably due to their fills not being conducive to magnetic detection, lacking contrast with the surrounding natural deposit and containing only a low incidence of cultural material.

7.4 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Prehistoric

- 7.4.1 It is likely that the majority of the ditches and pits on the site are prehistoric in date. The ditches and gullies form a pattern across the site as far north as Trench 4, with a NNW-SSE or WSW-ENE alignment in most cases, implying a degree of contemporaneity. The exceptions to this (aside from the known post-medieval field boundary), can be seen in Trench 9 where the parallel gullies [9/009] and [9/011] have a more WNW-ESE alignment.
- 7.4.2 The features as a whole suggest the presence of remains of an extensive agricultural landscape with the fields divided by boundaries and drainage ditches. The parallel ditches in Trench 9 could perhaps delineate a trackway or driveway, but there is no supporting evidence for this.
- 7.4.3 One pit in Trench 9, [9/007], yielded fragments from a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age S-profile Beaker with decorative features (see 5.3.3 above). Approximately a quarter of the vessel was recovered from the half of the pit that extended into the trench. Other finds included three flint flakes and a quantity of burnt clay. The fill [9/006] was rich in charcoal but the environmental sample <2> did not reveal any bone or charred seed remains. It is possible that it represents a funerary or other structured deposit of some kind, but the vessel was apparently broken up prior to deposition in the fill. Nevertheless, there may be a ceremonial or structured element to the function of the pit.
- 7.4.4 None of the remaining pits display an obvious function and the only posthole [6/007] is isolated and it is uncertainly dated to the early Iron Age by two small pottery fragments. The post was set at a 45⁰ angle, suggesting that it belonged to a support structure of some kind. The analysis of soil samples from pits in Trenches 9 and 11 have proven uninformative about pit function and wider site environment.

Post-medieval

- 7.4.5 A field boundary ditch known from 19th-century mapping and identified by the magnetometer survey was found in Trenches 7 and 8 and demonstrated to consist of a shallow ditch and a wider and deeper recut. It was backfilled in the 20th century. A second very similar ditch with a recut was recorded in Trench 5 and although no finds were forthcoming it is assumed to be post-medieval on grounds of its similarity.

7.5 Potential impact on archaeological remains

- 7.5.1 Any intrusive works for the planned development greater than 0.4m deep may impact on the archaeological remains. The southern half of the site appears to contain a higher density of archaeological features and is therefore more vulnerable.

7.6 Consideration of research aims

General project aims

- 7.6.1 It has been established that below-ground archaeological remains are present within the site. These are considered to be mainly later prehistoric, but also of post-medieval date. No Late Iron Age, Roman, Anglo-Saxon or medieval remains were identified.
- 7.6.2 The recorded features, primarily pits and ditches, survive below topsoil and subsoil in relatively good condition, although artefacts are sparse. They are judged to be agricultural in character. Truncation and disturbance within the site has been minimal, confined to pre-modern agricultural activity.
- 7.6.3 The results of the magnetometer survey seem to bear little relationship to the features found within the evaluation trenches, with the exception of the post-medieval field boundary which crosses Trenches 7 and 8 and which was proven by excavation. The geophysical survey report acknowledged that the anomaly definition was generally poor (GSB Prospection Ltd 2016, 2).

Specific research aims

- 7.6.4 *Determine the presence/absence and significance of any evidence of prehistoric and Roman activity within this location*

The evaluation has demonstrated evidence of prehistoric activity but no Roman material was present. The prehistoric activity, particularly if the currently undated remains are considered likely to also be of this date, appears to be part of a wider landscape of enclosures (perhaps fields) and trackways. The function and significance of the pits in relation to the enclosure remains is unclear and not obviously of an occupation character. The Beaker vessel in a pit in Trench 9 may be a placed deposit and hint at ritual practice.

- 7.6.5 *Determine, in particular whether the field systems showing on aerial photographs to north and south of the Site survive within the Site and through investigation of any remains to provide dating evidence for the wider complex.*

It is probable that the cropmarks which occur in the surrounding vicinity are chronologically linked with the features on the site. A Bronze Age ring-ditch 300m to the southeast and others further afield (CSa Environmental Planning 2013, 7) and the bronze axe findspot fit with the Bronze Age-Early Iron Age timeframe of the recorded features.

The Freston Neolithic causewayed enclosure, to the north at Potash Farm, may be part of the same broad landscape use as the activity within the current site represented by the presence of pit [9/007] in Trench 9.

7.7 Conclusions

- 7.7.1 The evaluation has demonstrated the presence of below-ground archaeological remains of prehistoric, post-medieval and unknown/uncertain date within the site.
- 7.7.2 Although of low to moderate density and low complexity, these remains predominantly comprise ditches and pits of certain and probable later prehistoric date (Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age to Early Iron Age) that likely relate to the agricultural land use of this location in the landscape. Such remains are considered to be of moderate local to regional significance.
- 7.7.3 The remains of later land use activity within the site are restricted to field ditches of certain and possible late post-medieval date, one of which is documented on historic mapping and probably not infilled until the 20th century. These are therefore of low significance.
- 7.7.4 It is judged that the development of this site will impact upon significant remains of later prehistoric date and that the SCCAS/CT will likely require further archaeological works to mitigate this.

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Appendix 1a: Environmental sample residue quantification

(* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Parent context	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	11/004	Pit	11/005	40	40	**	10	**	4	<i>Quercus</i> sp. 2, <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> / <i>Corylus avellana</i> 2 (vitrified), <i>Corylus avellana</i> 1, <i>Betula</i> sp. 1 (vitrified), Maloideae 1, Indeterminate 3 (2 knotwood, 1 distorted)					FCF **/126 - Pot */4 - Magnetised Material **/<2
2	9/006	Pit	9/007	20	20	**	2	**	<2		*	<2	*	<2	Flint **/34 - Pot */24 - F.Clay ***/856 - Magnetised Material ***/2
3	11/013	Pit	11/005	10	10	**	4	**	<2						FCF */8 - F.Clay */12 - Flint */<2 - Magnetised Material ***/2

Appendix 1b: Environmental sample flot quantification

(* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation
1	11/004	21	120	100	50	30	** <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Veronica hederifolia</i> , <i>Sambucus</i> sp.	**	**	***			
2	9/006	3	30	30	60	20	** <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	*	**	***			
3	11/013	4	50	50	50	20	** <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	*	**	***	*	<i>Triticum/Secale</i> sp. (1)	++

Appendix 2: HER Summary Form

Site Code	HBK 064					
Identification Name and Address	Land east of Ipswich Road, Holbrook, Suffolk					
County, District &/or Borough	Suffolk, Babergh District					
OS Grid Refs.	TM 17009 37124					
Geology	Sands and gravels of the Lowestoft formation					
Arch. South-East Project Number	160581					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 15/08/16 – 19/08/16	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	BSA Heritage					
Project Manager	Niall Oakey					
Project Supervisor	Robin Wroe-Brown					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		
<p>Summary</p> <p><i>Archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of the residential development of the site. This work was preceded by a geophysical survey of the site which identified the presence of a known former field boundary and tentatively identified a number of other linear, ditch-like, anomalies.</i></p> <p><i>A total of fourteen evaluation trenches measuring 50m x 1.8m were excavated across the 3ha site. This revealed a number of linear ditches and gullies, pits and a post-hole across all but two of the trenches, with a concentration evident in the southern half of the site.</i></p> <p><i>The majority of the dated archaeological features were later Prehistoric (Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age to Early Iron Age), with the exception of a known post-medieval field boundary. It is probable that some or all of the undated features were also of similar prehistoric date.</i></p> <p><i>The linear features followed a general alignment of NNW-SSE or WSW-ENE, suggesting a pattern of fields with drainage ditches and boundaries. An exception to this was a pair of parallel gullies which may delimit a driveway or track, possibly of a different period. Pits of uncertain function were scattered across the area.</i></p> <p><i>The recorded features suggest the presence of remains of an extensive late prehistoric agricultural landscape with fields divided by boundary and drainage ditches, and trackways.</i></p>						

Appendix 3: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-261288

Project details	
Project name	Ipswich Road, Holbrook, Suffolk
Short description of the project	Archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of residential development. Fourteen evaluation trenches were excavated, revealing linear ditches, pits and a post hole across all but two of the trenches. The majority of the archaeological features were prehistoric (????), with the exception of a known post-medieval field boundary, and the linear features followed a general alignment of NNW-SSE or WSW-ENE, suggesting a pattern of fields with drainage ditches and boundaries. An exception to this was a pair of parallel gullies which may delimit a driveway or track, possibly of a different period. Pits of uncertain function were scattered across the area.
Project dates	Start: 15-08-2016 End: 19-08-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Associated project reference codes	HBK 064 - Sitecode 160581 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type Monument type	PIT Bronze Age FIELD SYSTEM Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Bronze Age
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH HOLBROOK Ipswch Road, Holbrook
Postcode	IP9 2GA
Study area	3 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 17009 37124 51.989553419994 1.161033139007 51 59 22 N 001 09 39 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 29.93m Max: 31.45m

Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	BSA Heritage
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project manager	Niall Oakey
Project supervisor	Robin Wroe-Brown
Type of sponsor/funding body	Archaeological Consultant
Name of sponsor/funding body	BSA Heritage
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "
Project bibliography	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation. Land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook, Suffolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Wroe-Brown, R.
Other biblio details	ASE Report no 2016337
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	ASE
Place of issue	Witham
Description	A4 report
Entered by	Robin Wroe-Brown (r.wroe-brown@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	26 August 2016

Appendix 4: Written Scheme of Investigation

**Land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook,
Suffolk IP9 2GA**

**Written Scheme of Investigation
For Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching**

NGR: TM170 371

Babergh District Council

Planning Reference: B/14/01288/FUL

ASE Project no. 160581

Site Code: HBK 064

August 2016

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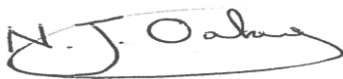
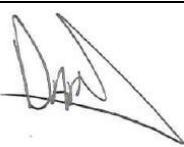
Written Scheme of Investigation
For Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching
At
Land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook, Suffolk
IP9 2GA

NGR: TM170 371

Site Code: HBK 064

ASE Project no: 160122

August 2016

Prepared by:	Niall Oakey MCifA	Project Manager	
Reviewed and approved by:	Darryl Palmer BA MCifA	Senior Project Manager	
Date of Issue:	15 th July 2016		
Revision:	15 th July 2016		
Second Revision:	28 th July 2016		
Third Revision:	9 th August 2016		
Fourth Revision:	11 th August 2016		

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, have been commissioned by BSA Heritage to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation in partial fulfilment of a planning condition at land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook, Suffolk IP9 2GA. The Site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 617009 237124 (TM 170 371) and its location is shown in Figure 1.
- 1.2 The Site is rectangular in outline with an extension to the south-east and generally bounded to the north by a track leading to Grove Farm, to the east by a hedgerow, to the south by properties at Berners Field and Elm Cottage and to the west by Ipswich Road. It is to the north-east of the historic core of Holbrook village and falls within Babergh District Council.
- 1.3 Planning permission has been granted (Appl. No. B/14/01288/FUL) with the following conditions relating to archaeology

9. No development shall take place within the area indicated [the whole site] until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The scheme of investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions: and:

- a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
- b. The programme for post investigation assessment*
- c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording*
- d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
- e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
- f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation*
- g. The site investigation shall be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

10. No building shall be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed, submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation

approved under part 1 and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.

- 1.4 Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service/Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) produced a *Brief for a Geophysical Survey and Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook* (SCCAS/CT 2016). If further phases of archaeological works are required by SCCAS/CT in their role as advisors to the local planning authority, they will be covered in separate briefs and/or Written Schemes of Investigation.
- 1.5 This *Written Scheme of Investigation* applying to trenched archaeological evaluation only, prepared by ASE, will be submitted to BSA Heritage and Rachael Abraham at SSCCAS/CT for approval prior to commencement of the work. All work will be carried out in accordance with this document and with the SCCAS/CT *Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation* (2012, Version 1.3), as well as with the appropriate *Standards and Guidance* documents of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015).

2.0 Geology and Topography

- 2.1 The British Geological Survey records the bedrock geology on the site as sandstone of the Red Crag Formation overlain by superficial deposits of sand and gravel of the Lowestoft Formation (BGS 2016).
- 2.2 The site comprises a single agricultural field on level ground at c. 1m AOD.

3.0 Archaeological Background

- 3.1 A desk-based assessment of the site was written in 2013 (CSa Environmental Planning 2016) and the account below is based on that document and uses references from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER).
- 3.2 The only archaeological record that may relate to the Site is the findspot of a faceted, socketed, Bronze Age axe, but the recorded grid reference covers a larger area than the Site alone (MSF8147). An archaeological evaluation in 2008 in advance of the construction of Berners Field, neighbouring the Site to the south-west, proved negative (SCCAS 2008).
- 3.3 No records of Palaeolithic or Mesolithic activity have been recovered from within 1 km of the Site, but 470m to the north of the Site aerial photographs have revealed cropmarks of two concentric circles of an interrupted ditch (or causewayed) enclosure. This class of monument is associated with the Neolithic period and archaeological monitoring of

the dismantlement and undergrounding of an overhead electricity line where it crossed the monument recovered 45 worked flints and four sherds of prehistoric date. Some of the flintwork is early Neolithic in date, although there were many later items and the pottery was more typical of the Bronze and Iron Age periods. Within the northern part of the enclosure are cropmarks of a possible Neolithic long house or Anglo-Saxon hall (MSF 8555, MSF 8556, MSF 8573, and MSF 25181).

- 3.4 The Bronze Age axe find on site (see above 3.2) is part of a body of evidence suggesting activity in the area in this period. The evidence includes cropmarks of two ring ditches 300m to the south-east of the Site (MSF 8563-4) and others 700m (MSF 8560) and 850m to the east (MSF 8567-8). In the first and last cases the ring ditches are within field systems. A Bronze Age flint arrowhead is recorded from c. MSF 350m south-west MSF 18266 and a bronze spearhead from 750m south of the Site (MSF 8155).
- 3.5 The Site is in an area with extensive evidence, in the form of cropmarks or soilmarks on aerial photographs, of field systems and trackways. Fieldwalking across part of one of these complexes 1km to the north of the Site collected 13 worked flints, but the complex possibly includes a later prehistoric or Roman field system, together with later systems including post-medieval enclosures and a trackway (MSF 8559, MSF 12310, and MXS 20259). Further undated aerial photographic evidence of field systems occur immediately south of the Site (MSF 8562), immediately north of the Site (MSF 8569), 950m to the north (MSF 8571), and 500m to the west (MSF 8152). Undated enclosures appear on aerial photographs 470m to the north-west (MSF 8579) and two enclosures 1km to the west (MSF 8151 and MSF 8156).
- 3.6 Definitive Roman evidence in the locality is restricted to a mid-4th-century coin hoard found associated with two greyware pots 450m north-west of the Site (MSF 8551).
- 3.7 The parish church of All Saints is 1km to the south and it is likely that the Site was at some distance from the focus of medieval settlement at Holbrook.
- 3.8 The Tithe Map of 1840 shows the Site within two fields, both arable, and titled Six Acres and House Field. Houses are immediately to the south of the Site boundary. By the 1856 Ordnance Survey First Edition, the east/west division has been removed and the Site forms part of a much larger single field. This situation persisted until recent years when Berners Field was constructed to the south-west of the Site.
- 3.9 A geophysical survey is programmed for summer 2016, but the results are not available at the time of writing.

4.0 Research Aims and Objectives

4.1 The general aims of this phase of archaeological investigation are:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the extent, condition, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To determine the extent of any previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To “ground truth” the results of the geophysical survey
- To enable the Senior Archaeological Officer at SCCAS/CT to make an informed decision regarding any possible requirements for further work.
- To make the results of the investigation publicly accessible through submission of a report to the Suffolk County Council Historic Environment Record and of the project archive to the local museum.

4.2 Specific research aims, taking into account the *Research and Archaeology Framework for the Eastern Counties (Parts 1 and 2)* and the *Revised Framework for the East of England*, are to:

- Determine the presence/absence and significance of any evidence of prehistoric and Roman activity within this location
- Determine, in particular whether the field systems showing on aerial photographs to north and south of the Site survive within the Site and through investigation of any remains to provide dating evidence for the wider complex

5.0 Methodology

5.1 Fourteen trenches 50m long by 1.8m wide will be opened in the locations shown and a contingency of further trenches of similar dimensions (up to 1.5% sample of the site) will be opened if required to clarify the nature and extent of archaeological features (Figure 2). The trenches will be laid out by an ASE surveyor, using a Global Positioning System (GPS).

5.2 ASE has consulted the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain a unique event number for the evaluation. This will be clearly marked on all documentation for the work.

- 5.3 Services information will be provided (verbally, there are no live services on the site) and this information, together with specific site conditions, may require trenches to be moved or foreshortened. This will only be carried out with the approval of the client's representative and SCCAS/CT.
- 5.4 All trenches will be CAT scanned prior to commencing excavation by a suitably trained ASE operative. Should any services be detected, trench positions or lengths may be amended in order to avoid them. If services are encountered during the digging of any trenches they will be treated as live and a buffer zone will be left around them.
- 5.5 Removal of topsoil (and subsoil if present and devoid of archaeological features) will be undertaken using a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket at least 1.8m wide, under the direct supervision of an ASE archaeologist. Deposits will be removed in spits no greater than 250mm in thickness and all deposits will be examined for finds. Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately and replaced in sequence.
- 5.6 Machine excavation will be carried down on to the top of archaeological deposits or the surface of natural deposits, whichever is uppermost. Care will be taken not to machine off seemingly homogenous layers that may include the upper parts of archaeological features. The resultant surfaces will be cleaned as necessary to expose any archaeological remains. Depths of (e.g.) colluvial or other masking deposits will be established.
- 5.7 A metal detector will be used on trench locations prior to excavation, throughout the programme of topsoil/subsoil removal (including spoil heaps) and again during any subsequent hand excavation. Trench bases will also be scanned with metal detector. A log of its use will be kept.
- 5.8 Any features identified will be hand-excavated and planned using GPS by an ASE Surveyor. The Surveyor will plot excavated features and record levels in close consultation with the site Supervisor and/or the excavators. Where it is deemed necessary (for example in the event of detailed structural features or burials), features will be hand planned at a scale of 1:20 and then digitised.
- 5.9 All features will be excavated sufficiently to understand their character, but demonstrably modern disturbances will only be excavated as necessary in order to properly define and evaluate any features that they may cut. Significant archaeological features will be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. As a general rule, slots across linear features will be at least 1m in width if achievable and discrete features will be half-sectioned, although in some instances 100% excavation may be required. Hand excavation of features will be carefully

undertaken and will follow the stratigraphy of any encountered archaeological layers, features and/or deposits. In certain circumstances hand excavation by pick and/or mattock and shovel may be undertaken but will only be utilised in respect of homogenous low-grade deposits. Such techniques will not be used in situations where careful hand excavation is required such as burials.

- 5.10 Should any human burials or remains be encountered, CgMs, SCCAS/CT and the Coroner's Office will be immediately informed and excavation will cease until the relevant Ministry of Justice licence has been obtained. Should approval be granted for excavation of the human remains, it will be carried out in accordance with ClfA Professional Practice Paper 7: *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (Brickley and McKinley 2004) and ClfA Technical Paper 13: *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains* (McKinley & Roberts 1993).
- 5.11 The provisions of the *Treasure Act* of 1996, amended 2003, will be observed. Should finds of precious metals such as gold and silver and other finds as defined under the Act be made, they will be reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer who will in turn inform the local Coroner. Should the removal of such objects be unable to be made during the same working day, suitable and appropriate security arrangement will be made to deposit them with the local Coroner's Office.
- 5.12 The site work will be directed by a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) with experience of prehistoric landscapes.
- 5.13 BSA Heritage will liaise directly with SCCAS/CT to arrange visits to review fieldwork. No trenches will be backfilled without prior authorisation.

6.0 Recording Methodology

- 6.1 All work will be carried out in line with Suffolk County Council's *Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2012, Version 1.3) and in line with relevant ClfA guidance documents (ClfA 2014).
- 6.2 All exposed features will be recorded according to current professional standards using the standard context record sheets and masonry sheets used by ASE employing a single context recording system.
- 6.3 All structural and other relationships will be recorded and a structural matrix created.
- 6.4 A full photographic record will be made of all significant archaeological features comprising colour digital images. In addition working shots and elements of interest (individual features and group shots) will be

taken. All photographs will include a board that will detail: the site code, date, context number, section number, a scale and a north arrow. All photographs will be fully indexed and cross-referenced on ASE context sheets and photographic registers. The photographic register will include: film number, shot number, location of shot, direction of shot and a brief description of the subject photographed.

- 6.5 Detailed elevation and/or section drawings will be hand-drawn at 1:10 on plastic draughting film (permatrace).
- 6.6 If deposits suitable for environmental sampling are encountered (such as dated excavated contexts of buried soils, well-sealed slowly silting features, sealed hearths, sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, peats, water-logged or cess deposits), bulk soil samples (40 litres or 100% of smaller features) will be taken for environmental analysis. Bulk samples will be processed using tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate (such as for waterlogged samples). Bulk samples will target recovery of plant remains (charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Waterlogged samples will be wet sieved through nested sieves and stored in wet, cool conditions or dried if considered an appropriate form of conservation for the remains. Specialist samples may also be taken from dry or waterlogged contexts. Such samples will target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects. Larger samples (80-100 litres) will be extracted wholesale from deposits rich in marine molluscs and large mammal bones. As a general rule waterlogged wood specimens will be recorded in detail in their original location. If removed they will be cleaned, photographed and a thin section sample will be taken for identification. Specimens will either be stored in wet cool conditions or dried if considered appropriate for the material. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.
- 6.7 The exact level and detail of recording will meet the standards defined above, but will remain flexible and will be reviewed regularly on site with BSA Heritage and SCCAS/CT.

7.0 Post-Excavation Methodology and Reporting

- 7.1 All finds will be cleaned, labelled, sorted and analysed in accordance with the practices and standards outlined in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guidelines No.2: Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). Most ceramic and other building material and burnt flint will be identified, counted, weighed and discarded. Samples will be retained as appropriate. Finds will be bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.

- 7.2 Suitable arrangements will be made for the conservation of artefacts where appropriate in consultation and with the agreement of the Archaeological Service. All finds in an unstable condition will be stabilised using passive conservation techniques where appropriate before being deposited with the Archaeological Service.
- 7.3 The majority of finds will be identified by in-house specialists within Archaeology South-East (see Appendix 1). Any external specialists utilised work regularly with ASE and are regional specialists in their field. All material will be examined with particular attention to datable artefacts, such as lithics, pottery, building material, coins and other metalwork.
- 7.4 Upon completion of the fieldwork, the site archive will be assembled in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991). The site archive will contain all the data collected during the excavation including records, finds and environmental samples. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent.
- 7.5 An evaluation report including plans, digital photographs and drawings will be prepared within four weeks of completion of the site work, subject to the production of any necessary specialist reports. It will include a record of all materials recovered and all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It will also contain a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data. **The report will include the results of an updated SHER search (the SHER Invoice Search Reference will be quoted in the report).**
- 7.6 The report will be in line with guidelines set out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England 2015).
- 7.7 An Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) form will be completed at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> following the completion of the Assessment report and included as an appendix.
- 7.8 A draft copy of the report will be sent to both BSA Heritage and SCCAS/CT, for their comments and approval. Once the report has been accepted further copies and one electronic copy in PDF format will be sent to the local planning authorities and the client as appropriate.
- 7.9 A digital and hard copy of the report will be supplied to the SHER on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period of time not exceeding six months.

- 7.10 Agreement shall be reached with BSA Heritage and SCCAS/CT regarding the format and destination of any subsequent publication(s) arising from the investigations. Proposals for publication, if appropriate, will be detailed in the post-excavation assessment report and timescales and costs for a publication programme will be agreed at that stage. As a minimum, provision will be made for a summary of the evaluation results in the annual PSIAH round-up.
- 7.11 Upon completion of the final report for publication, the archive will be prepared for deposition in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994) and the SCCAS Archive Guidelines (SCCAS 2014).
- 7.12 Finds from the fieldwork will be kept with the archival material and permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit the finds and paper archive with the SCCAS.

8.0 Health and Safety

- 8.1 A Risk Assessment will be produced and agreed with BSA/Taylor Wimpey prior to the commencement of the work. All relevant main contractor health and safety regulations will be adhered to.

9.0 Staffing and Equipment

- 9.1 The lead Archaeologist assigned to the project will be responsible for fieldwork, post-excavation reporting and archiving in liaison with the relevant specialists and under the overall direction of the fieldwork project manager (Niall Oakey) and the post-excavation project manager (Mark Atkinson). The fieldwork is expected to be completed within two working weeks and is likely to commence in early August. On-site assistance will be provided by a Surveyor and Archaeological Assistants.
- 9.2 SCCAS/CT will be informed of the identity of the lead Archaeologist before the commencement of fieldwork and also will be notified should any subsequent change of personnel occur. CVs of all key staff are available on request.
- 9.3 Specialists who may be consulted are listed in Appendix 1.
- 9.4 Other specialists may be consulted if necessary. These will be made known to the monitoring officer for approval prior to consultation. Similarly, any changes in the specialist list will be made known to the monitoring officer for approval prior to consultation.

10.0 Insurance

10.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: public and products liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one event for all claims in the aggregate during any one period of insurance; employers' liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one event inclusive of costs; professional indemnity to the value of £15,000,000 any one claim / aggregate any one period of insurance.

11.0 Monitoring

11.1 Provision will be made at all stages of the project for BSA Heritage and SCCAS/CT to monitor progress and standards. Provision will be made by BSA Heritage (in liaison with ASE) for SCCAS/CT to make site monitoring visits at agreed and specified times.

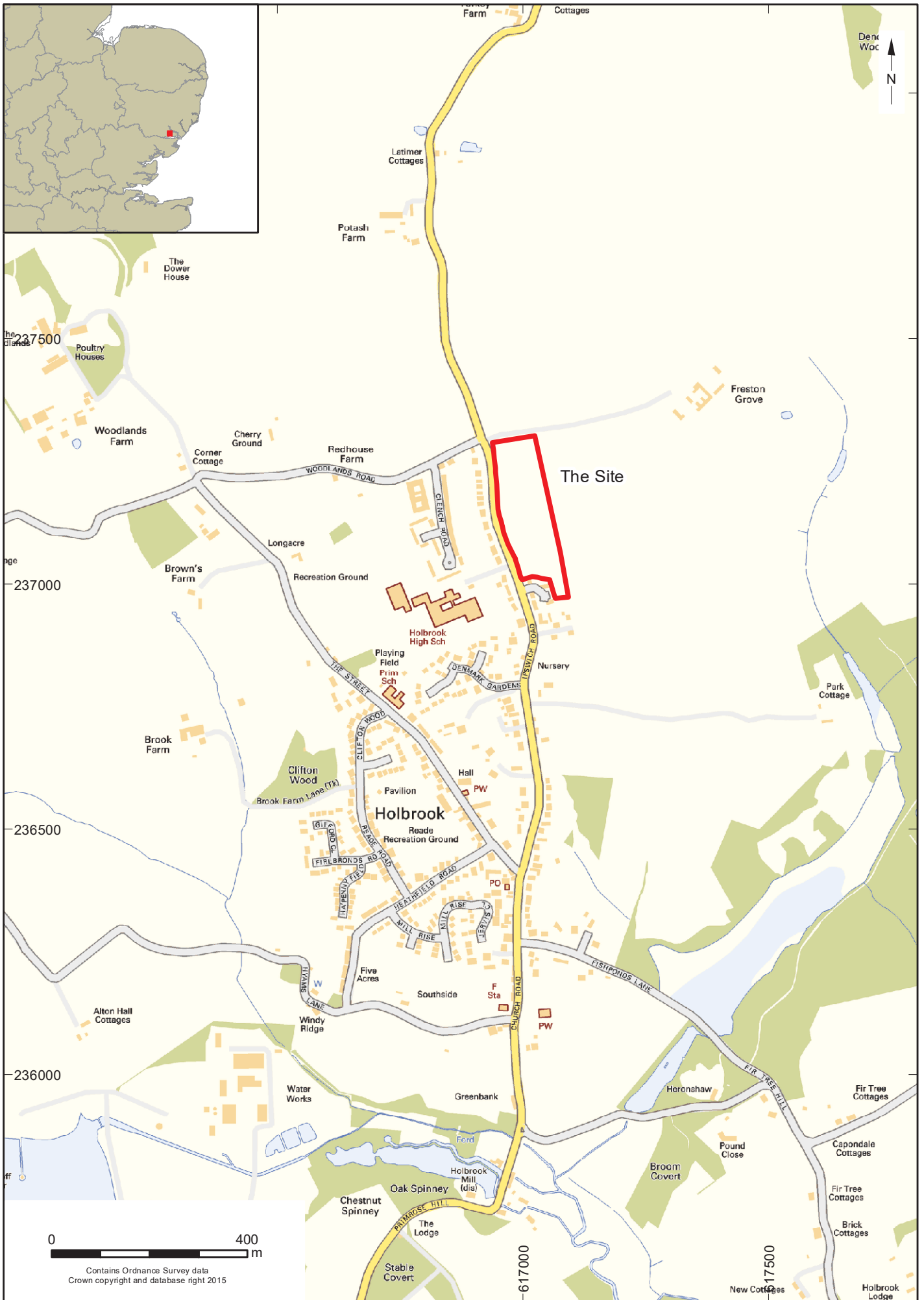
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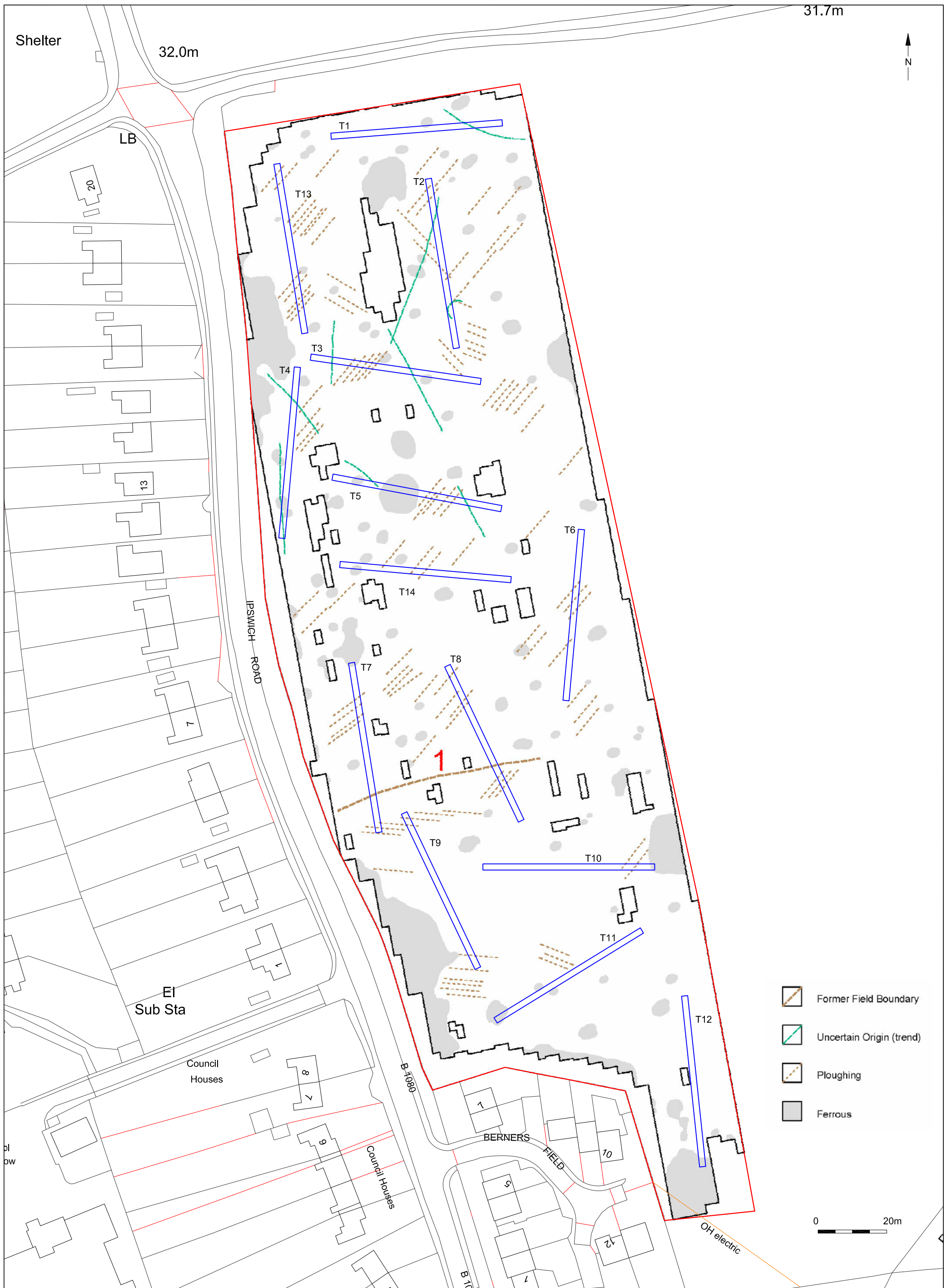
APPENDIX 1

Specialists to be used as necessary:

Prehistoric and Roman pottery	Louise Rayner & Anna Doherty (ASE)
Prehistoric	Nick Lavender (external: Essex region)
Post-Roman pottery	Luke Barber (external: Sussex, Kent and London)
Post-Roman pottery (Essex)	Helen Walker (external: Essex)
CBM	Sue Pringle & Luke Barber (external)
Fired Clay	Elke Raemen & Trista Clifford (ASE)
Clay Tobacco Pipe	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Glass	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Slag	Luke Barber, Lynne Keyes (external); Trista Clifford (ASE)
Metalwork	Trista Clifford (ASE)
Worked Flint	Karine Le Hégarat (ASE); Hugo Anderson-Whymark (external)
Geological material and worked stone	Luke Barber (external)
Human bone incl cremated bone	Lucy Sibun (ASE)
Animal bone incl fish	Gemma Ayton (ASE)
Marine shell	Elke Raemen (ASE); David Dunkin (external)
Registered Finds	Elke Raemen & Trista Clifford (ASE)
Coins	Trista Clifford (ASE)
Treasure administration	Trista Clifford (ASE)
Conservation and x-ray	Fishbourne Roman Villa or UCL Institute of Archaeology
Geoarchaeology	Dr Matt Pope & Liz Chambers (ASE)
Geoarchaeology (incl wetland environments)	Kristina Krawiec (ASE)
Macro-plant remains	Dr Lucy Allott & Karine Le Hégarat (ASE)
Charcoal & Waterlogged wood	Dr Lucy Allott & Dawn Elise Moony (ASE)



© Archaeology South-East		Land east of Ipswich Road, Holbrook	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160581	July 2016	Site location	
Report No: WSI	Drawn by: APL		



OS map courtesy of Taylor Wimpey
 Geophysical survey courtesy of GSB Prospection Ltd

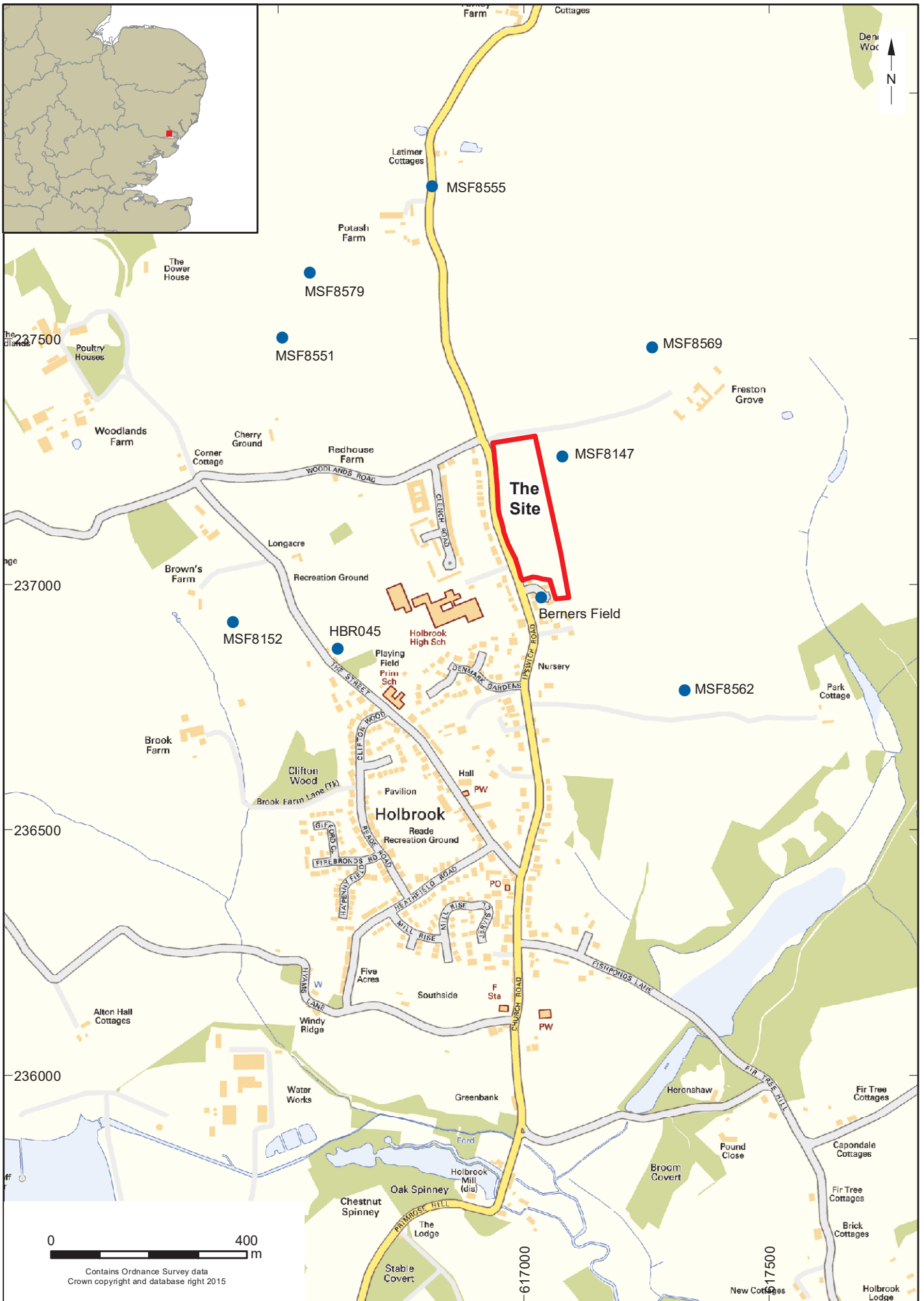
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Project Ref: 160581 Aug 2016
 Report Ref: WSI Drawn by: APL

Land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook

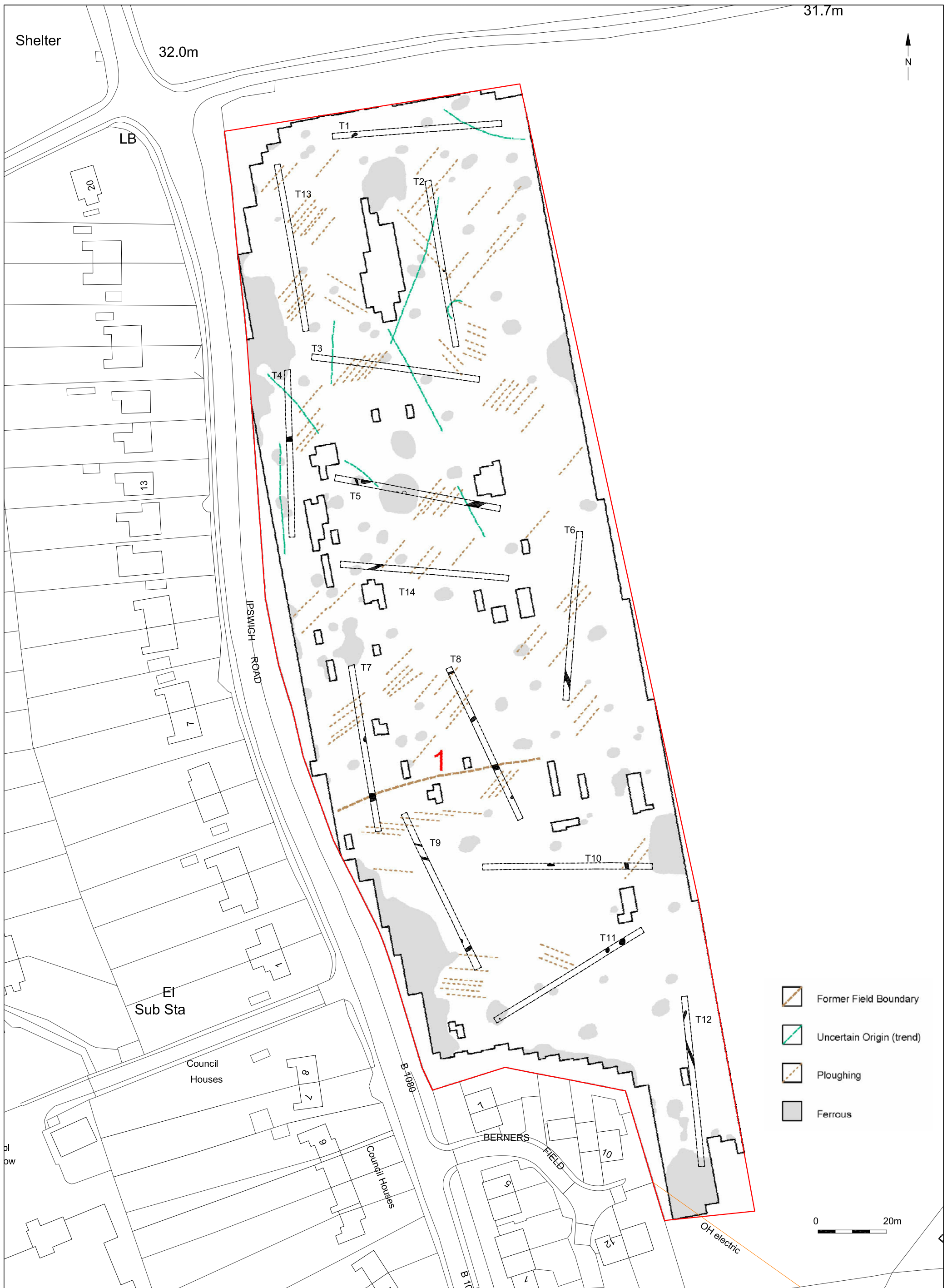
Proposed trench locations with magnetometer survey interpretation

Fig.2



Contains Ordnance Survey data
Crown copyright and database right 2015

© Archaeology South-East		Land east of Ipswich Road, Holbrook	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160581	Aug 2016	Site location	
Report No: 2016337	Drawn by: APL		



OS map courtesy of Taylor Wimpey
 Geophysical survey courtesy of GSB Prospection Ltd

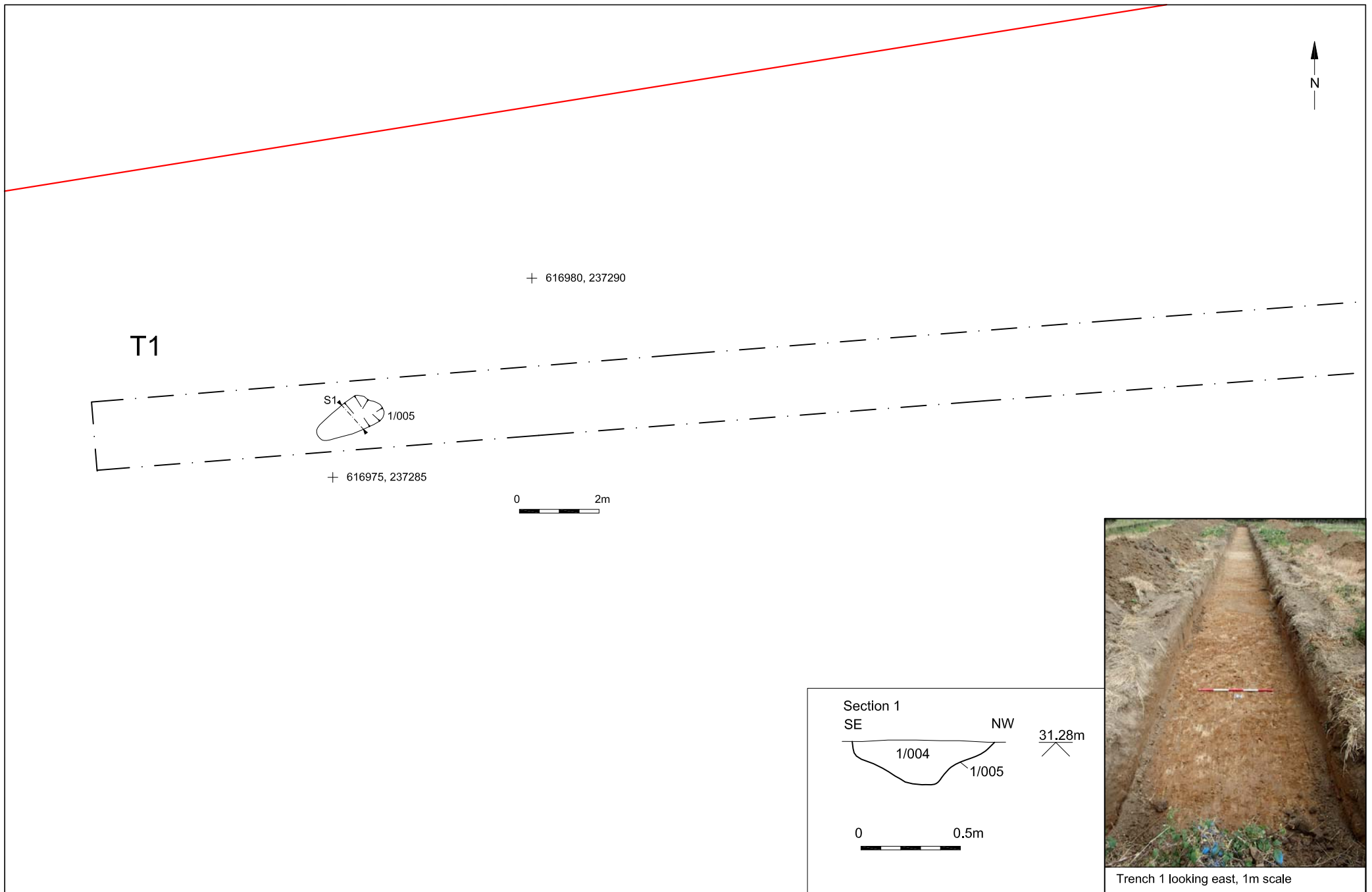
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 Report Ref: 2016337 Drawn by: APL

Land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook

Trench locations with magnetometer survey interpretation

Fig.2



© Archaeology South-East

Land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook

Project Ref: 160581

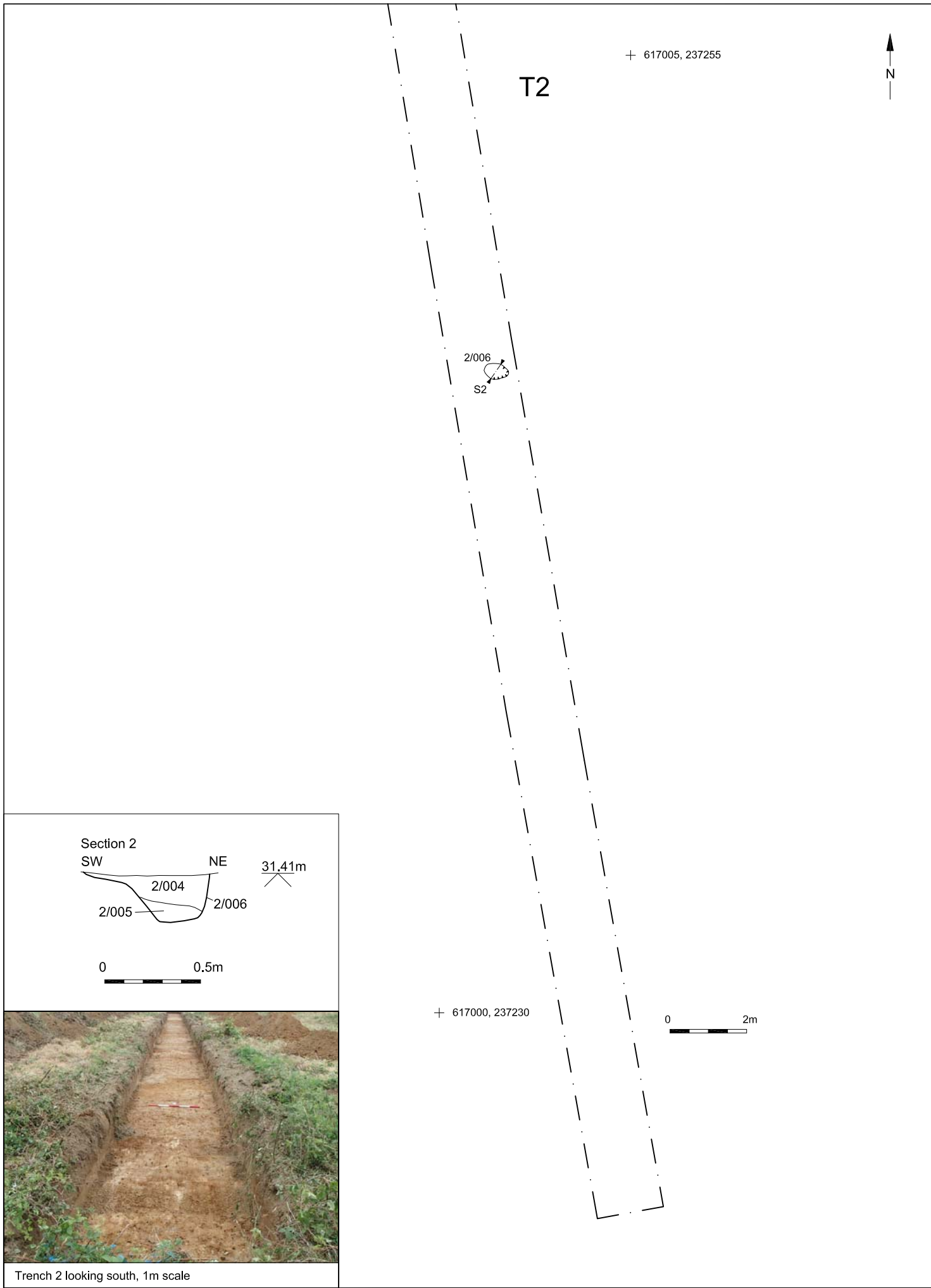
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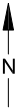
Drawn by: APL

Trench 1 plan, section and photograph

Fig.3



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Report Ref: 2016337	Drawn by: APL		



T4

+ 616960, 237215

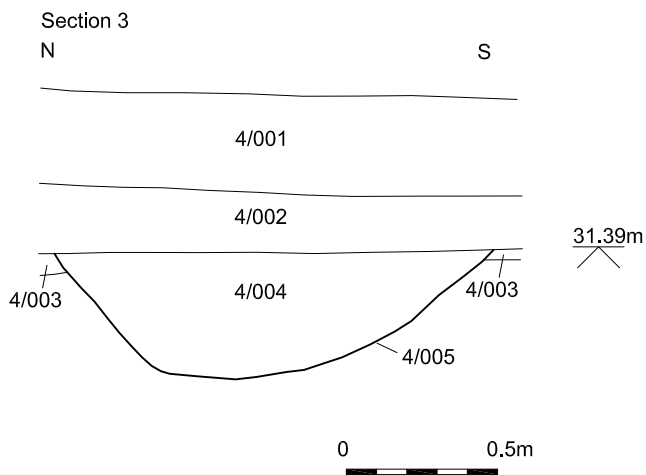
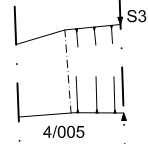
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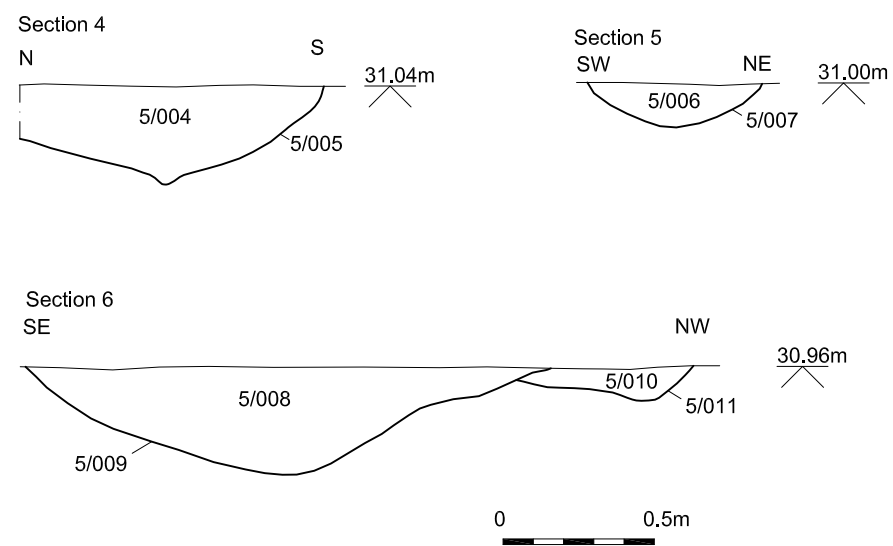
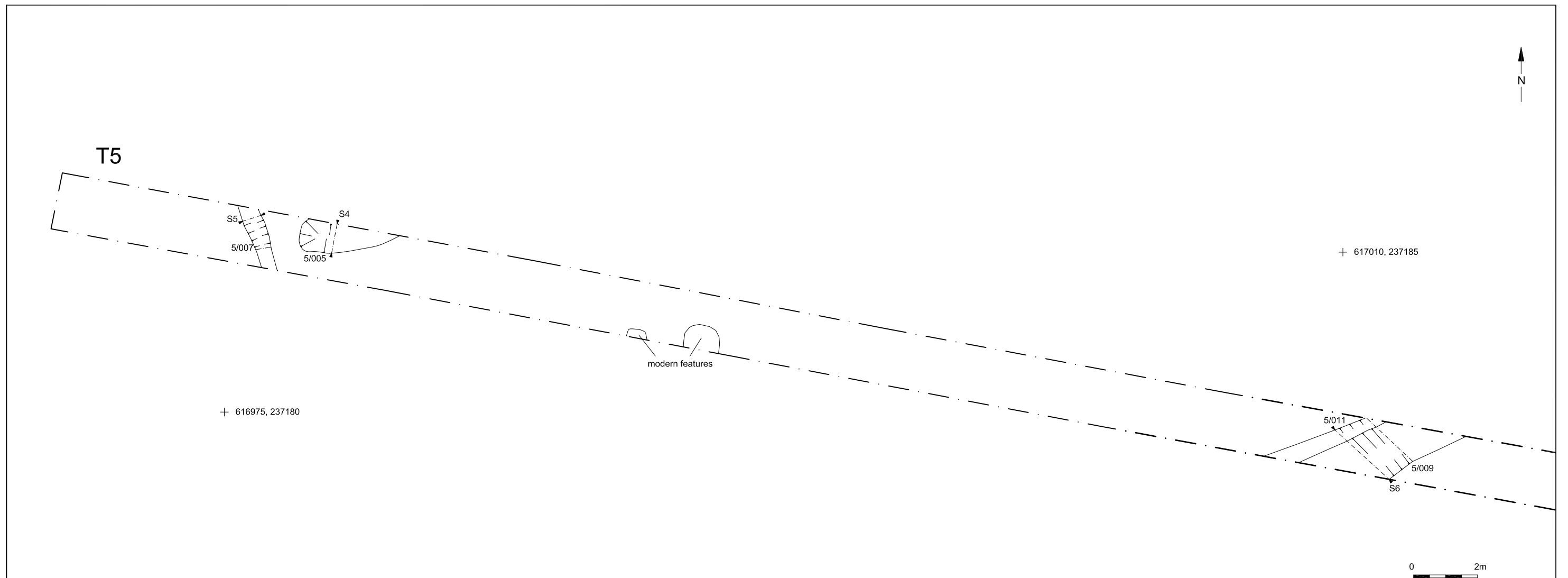


Trench 4 looking south, 1m scale



Ditch 4/005 looking east, 1m scale





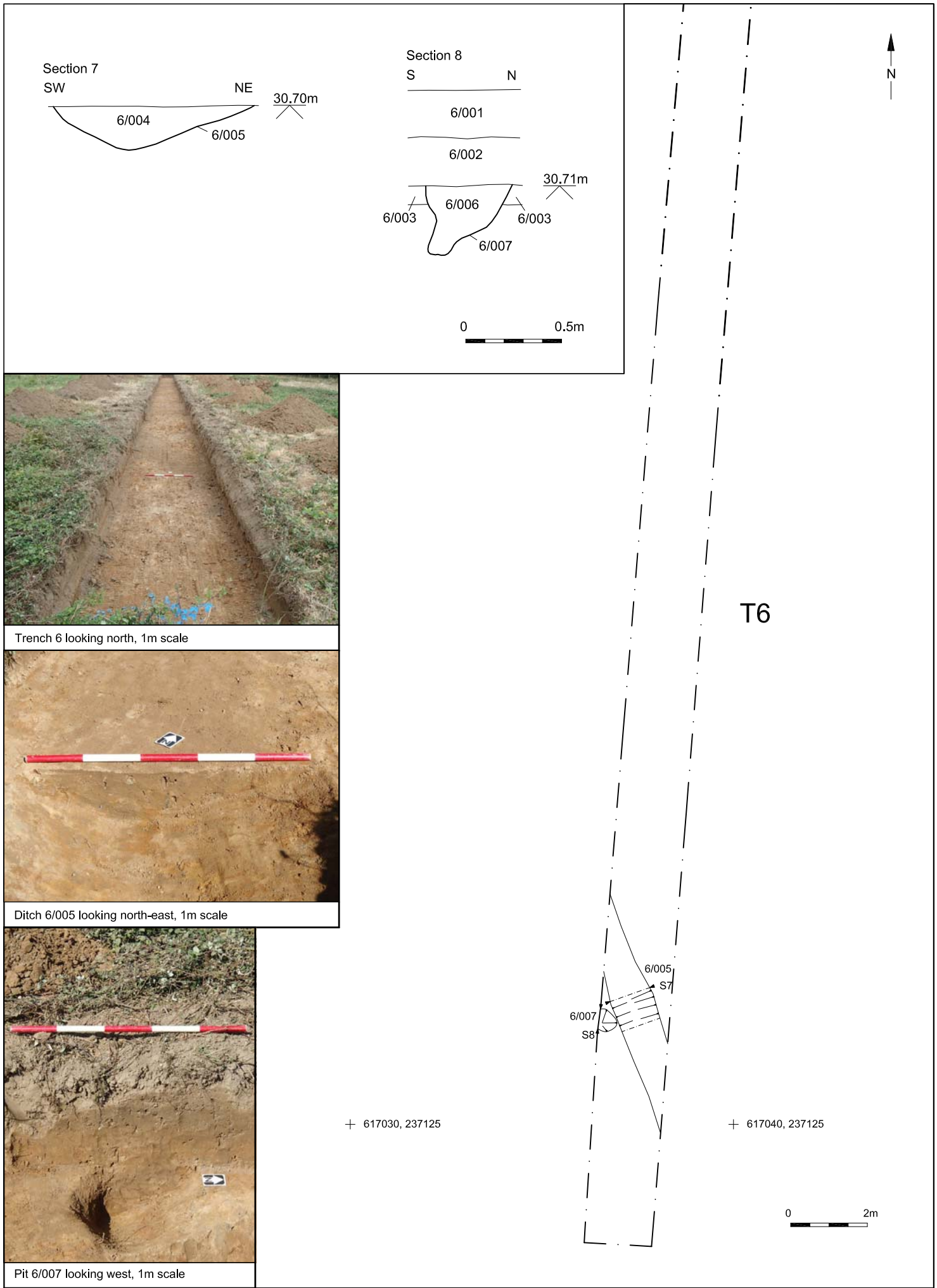
Trench 5 looking north-west, 1m scale



Pit 5/005 looking east, 0.5m scale



Gully 5/007 looking north-west, 0.3m scale



Trench 6 looking north, 1m scale

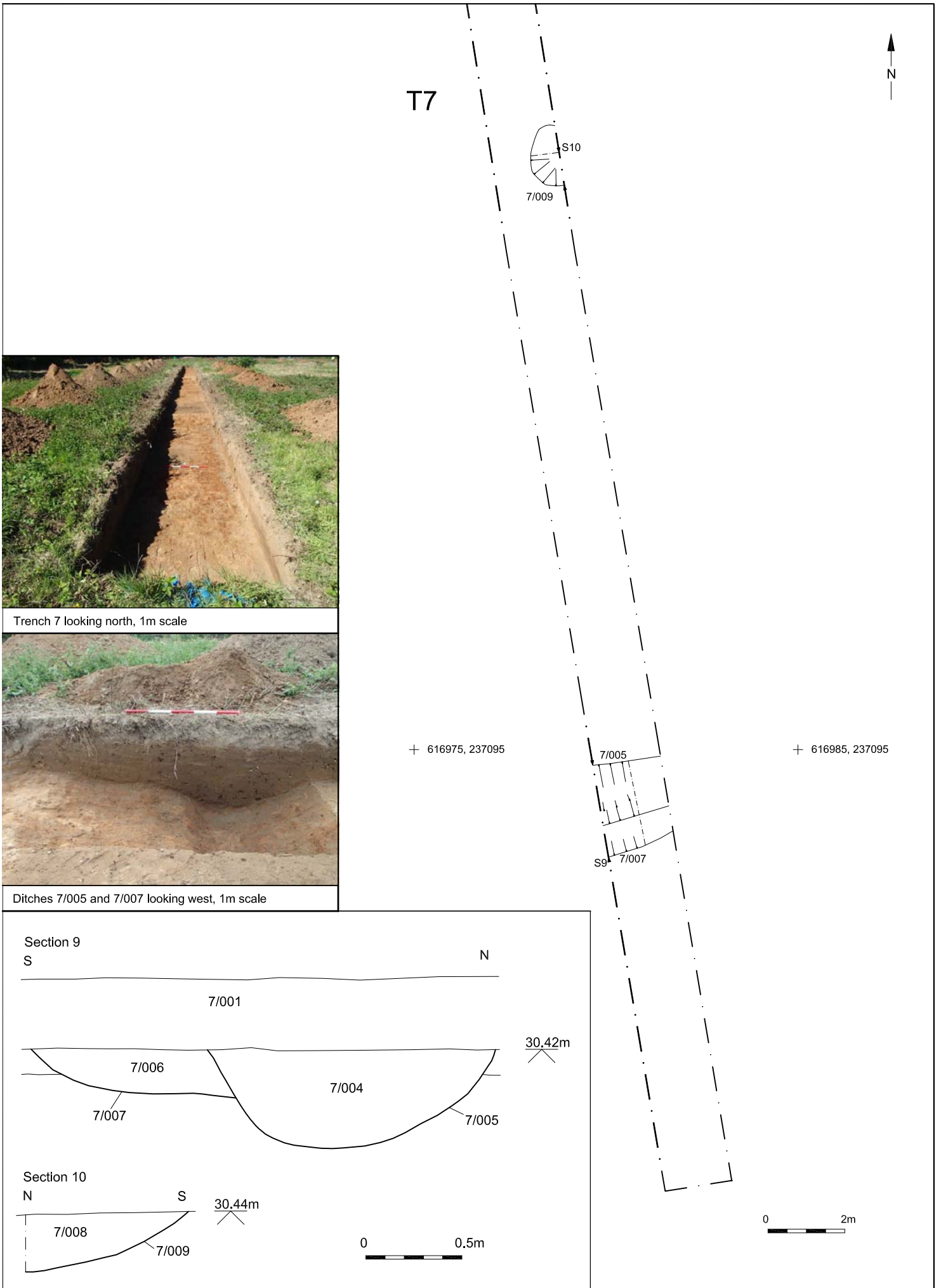


Ditch 6/005 looking north-east, 1m scale

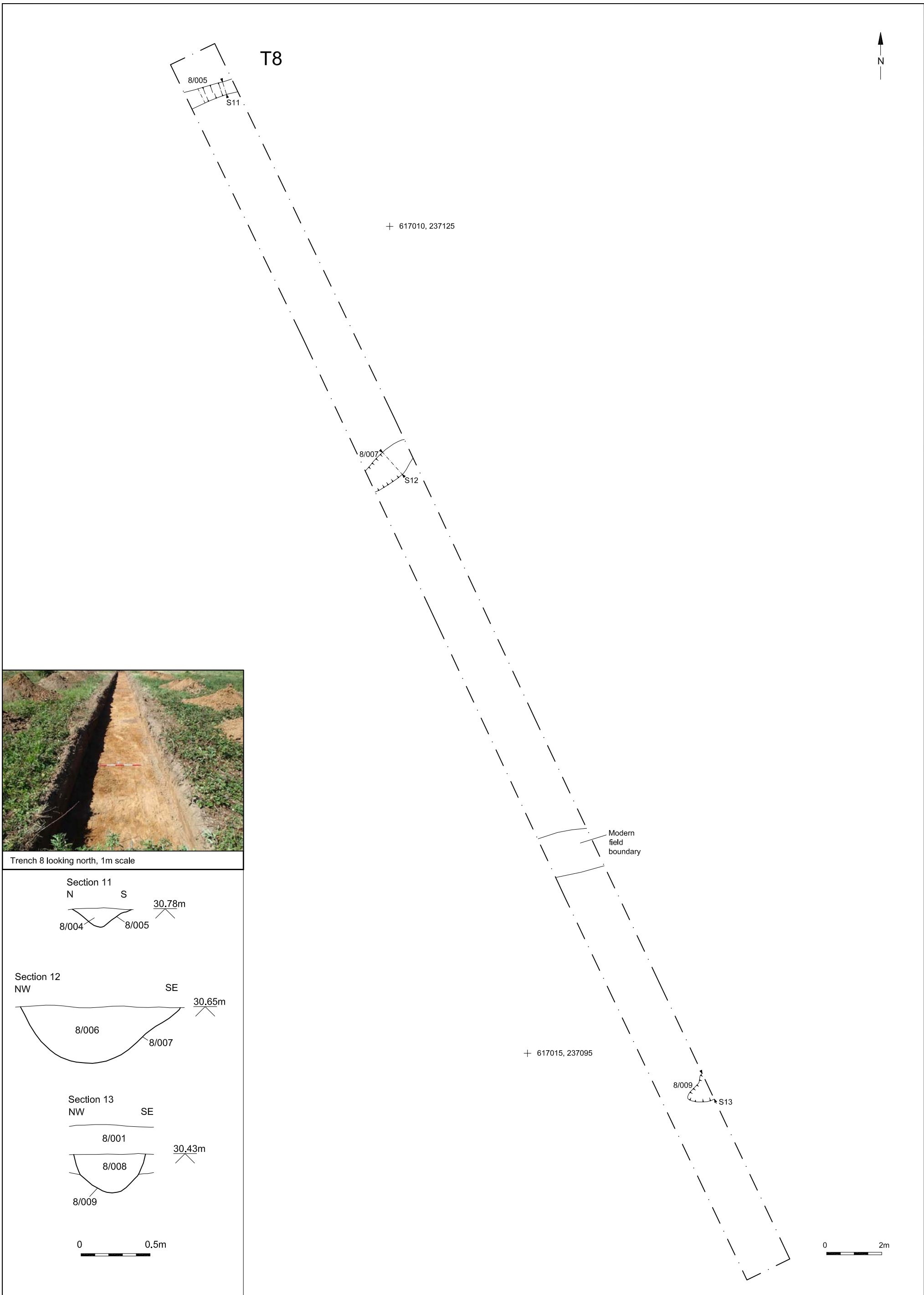


Pit 6/007 looking west, 1m scale

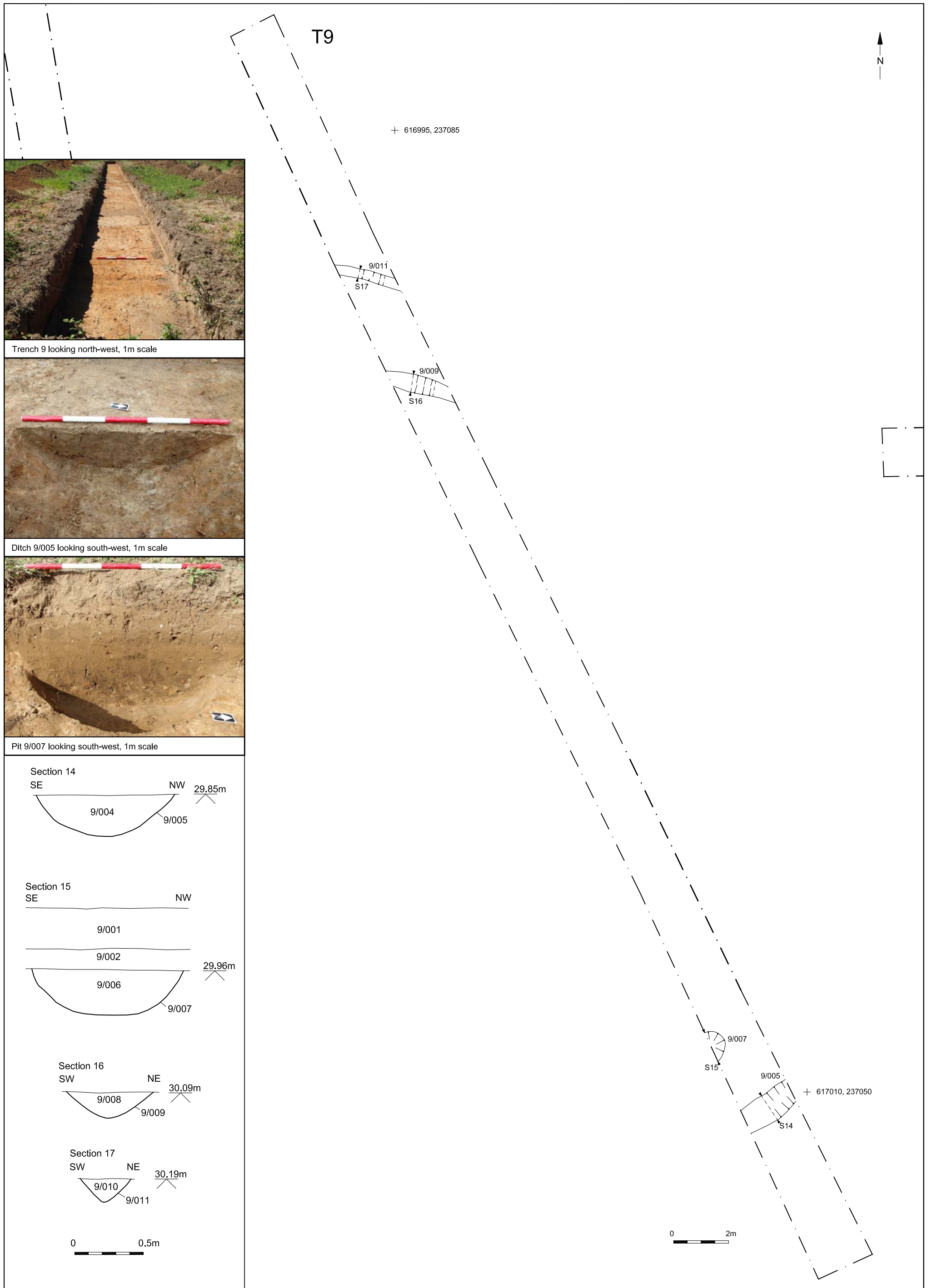
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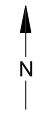
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Project Ref: 160581	Aug 2016	Trench 7 plan, sections and photographs	
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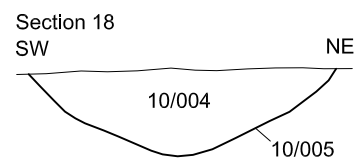
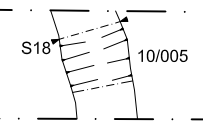
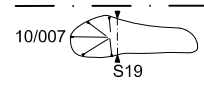
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Project Ref: 160581	Aug 2016	Trench 9 plan, sections and photographs	
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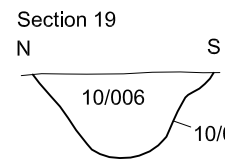
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30.43m



30.26m



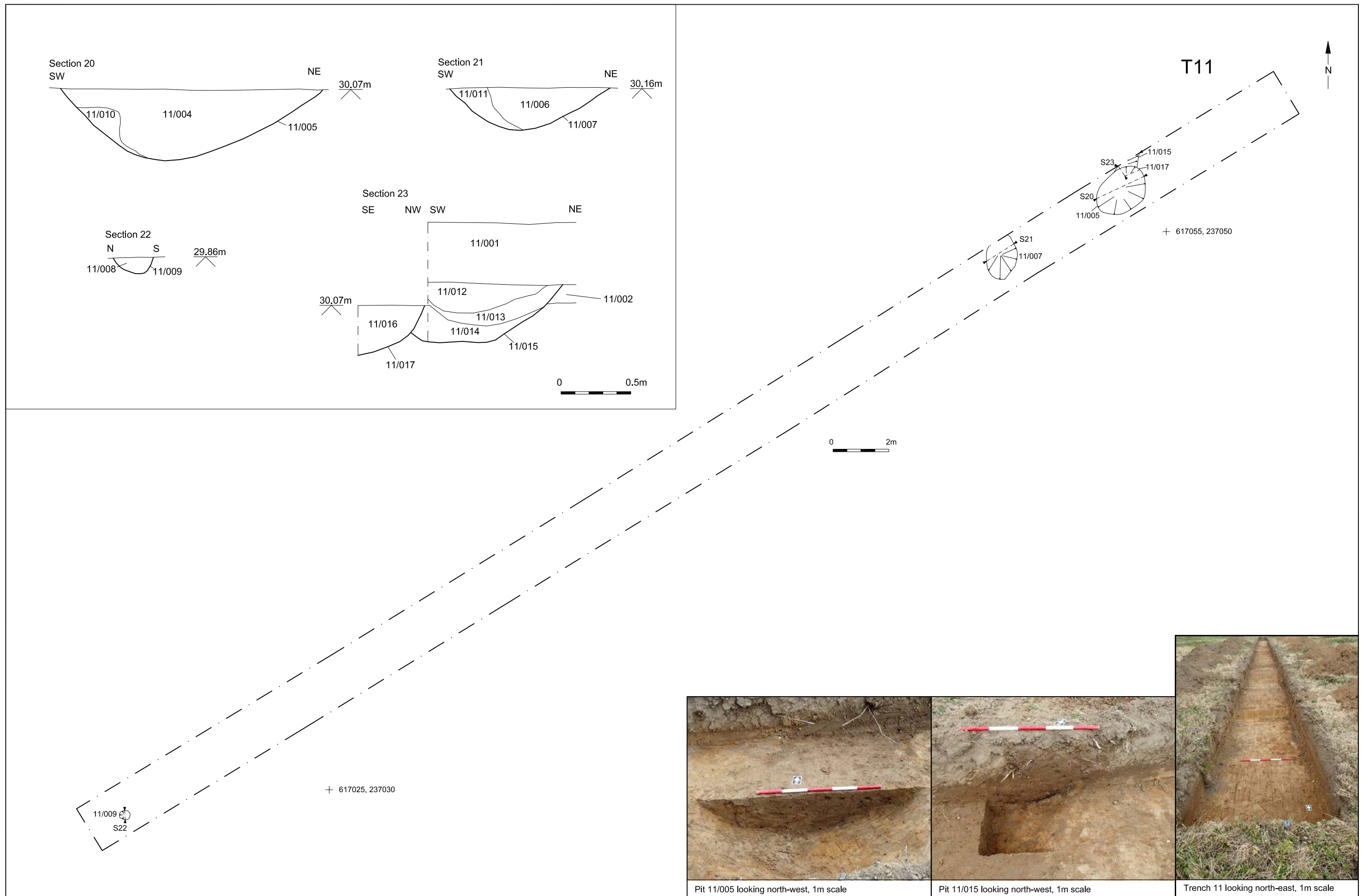
Trench 10 looking west, 1m scale

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Land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook

Trench 10 plan, sections and photograph

Fig.11



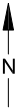
Pit 11/005 looking north-west, 1m scale



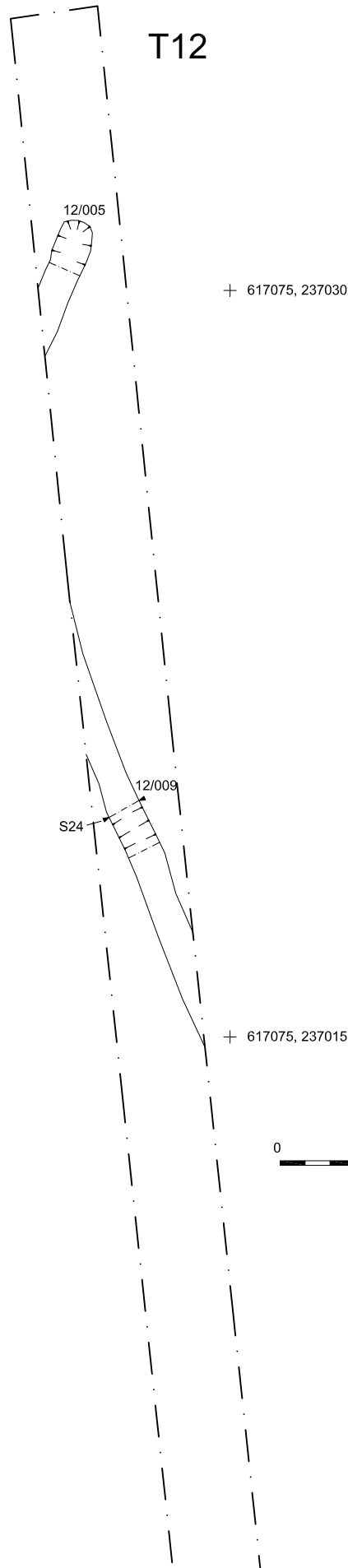
Pit 11/015 looking north-west, 1m scale



Trench 11 looking north-east, 1m scale



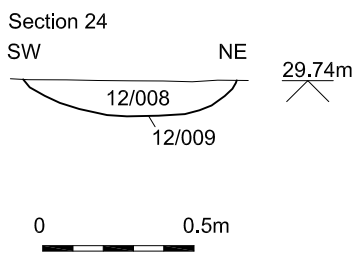
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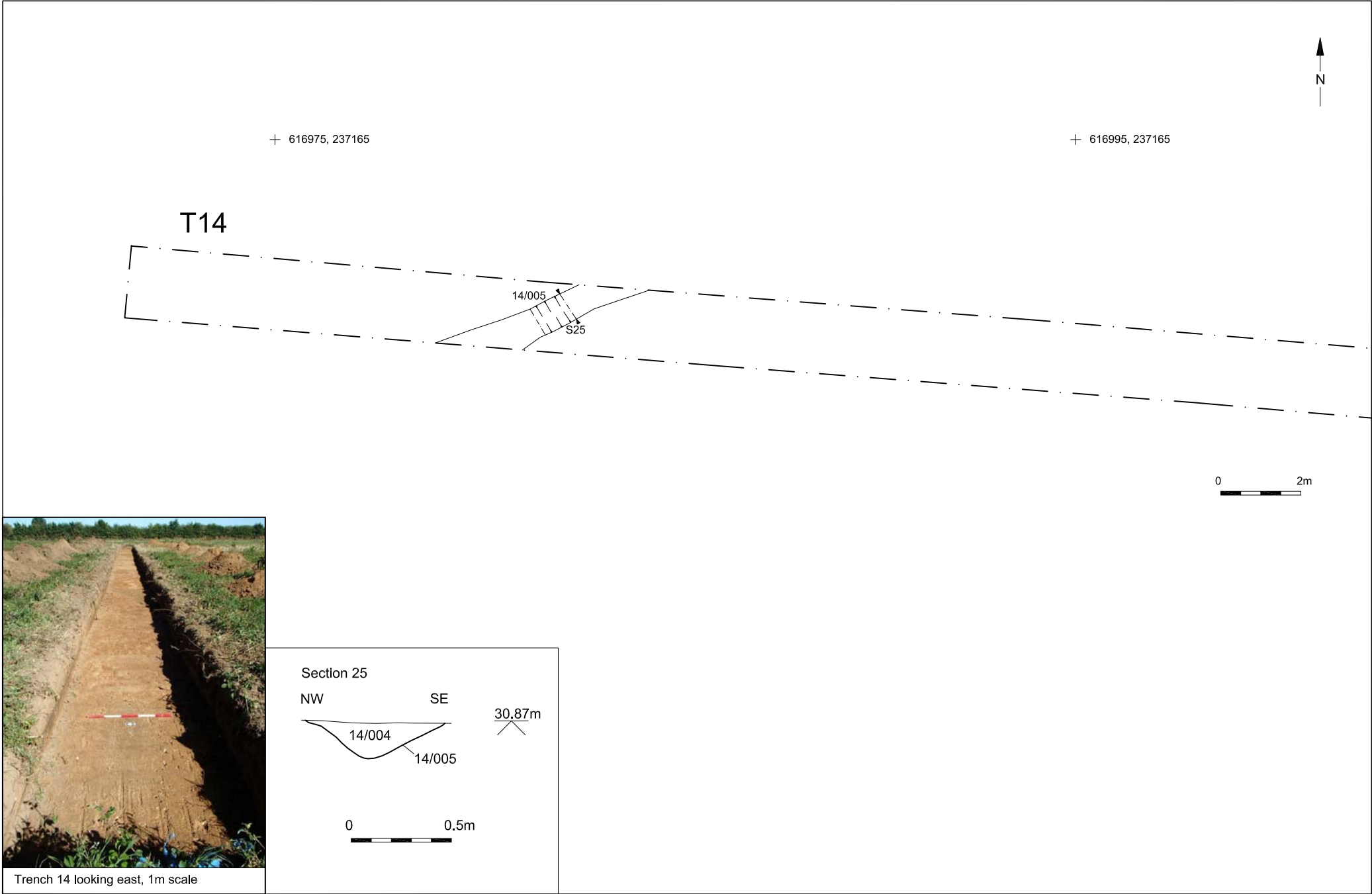


Trench 12 looking south, 1m scale



Ditch 12/005 looking south-west, 0.3m scale





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Land on the east side of Ipswich Road, Holbrook

Project Ref: 160581

Aug 2016

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Trench 14 plan, section and photograph

Fig.14

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