

## **Archaeological Evaluation**

**Land to the east of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk**

**TM 0985 3865**

**Site/Parish Code: CSM047**

**HER Event No: ESF 24888**

**ASE Project No: 160443**

**ASE Report No: 2016471**



**December 2016**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report  
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OASIS ID: 265692**

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**Abstract**

*In November 2016 Archaeology South-East conducted an archaeological evaluation on land east of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Persimmon Homes Anglia and followed on from a geophysical survey on the site.*

*Sixteen evaluation trenches were excavated across the 5.4 ha site which comprised a single field under an arable crop.*

*The evaluation has demonstrated that peripheral areas of the site variously contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval archaeology. Late post-medieval activity was also recorded within the central/north-eastern part of the site which was otherwise archaeologically negative.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Persimmon Homes to conduct an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at land east of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk (Figure 1). The evaluation was carried out in advance of a planning application for residential development.

1.1.2 The site is located approximately 9km south-west of the centre of Ipswich, on the north-eastern edge of Capel St Mary. The site is bound to the west by residential properties on Longfield Road and to the east, in part, by properties and gardens on London Road; the A12 lies beyond. Agricultural fields lie to the north of the site

1.1.3 The 5.4 ha development site is centred at National Grid Reference TM 0985 3865 and occupies a single field accessed via Butchers Lane, off The Street.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The British Geological Survey indicates that the site is located on Red Crag Formation comprising sand. This is overlain by superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation comprising diamicton (BGS Geology of Britain Viewer accessed 25/11/16).

1.2.2 The site comprises a single agricultural field which was under arable crops at the time of the evaluation. It is relatively flat and an elevation of c. 45-46m aOD.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 A planning application is being prepared for submission to Babergh District Council for residential development. In support of the application an archaeological desk-based assessment (CgMs 2013) and geophysical survey (GSB 2016) have been undertaken. The desk-based assessment (CgMs 2013) highlighted the low to moderate potential for remains of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman date. The potential for all other periods was considered to be low.

1.3.2 Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) who advise the local planning authority, identified the proposed development as affecting an area of archaeological importance defined by information held by the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) and the desk-based assessment. Consequently they confirmed that a programme of trial trench evaluation would be required in order to allow an informed decision to be made as to the requirement for any further archaeological work.

1.3.3 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; ASE 2016) for archaeological evaluation was submitted to and approved by SCCAS/CT prior to the commencement of fieldwork. This specified that a 2.5% sample of the site, equating to 15 trenches measuring 50m and one measuring 25m, would be undertaken.

### **1.4 Scope of the Report**

1.4.1 This report presents the results of the archaeological evaluation conducted by the author between the 4th and 11th November 2016.

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## 2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Introduction

2.2.1 The following information is mainly drawn from the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (CgMs 2013). The locations of proximate archaeological investigations and monuments are illustrated on Figure 1. The HER references are illustrated by parish code prefixed by either CSM (Capel St Mary) or BTY (Bentley). The interpreted geophysical data is illustrated on Figure 2.

### 2.2 Previous Archaeological Investigations

2.2.2 Previous archaeological investigations have taken place in the immediate vicinity of the site and have provided a picture of past occupation of the area.

2.2.3 Within the site itself, a geophysical survey (magnetometry) was undertaken in August 2016 (GSB 2016). The survey found no indication of archaeological responses. Two field boundaries, as recorded on historic maps, were found as well as the 19th century pond/clay pit known to have existed on the site. A number of linear and curvilinear trends were also identified but thought to be of agricultural or natural origin. Ferrous responses were identified as modern structures or debris.

### 2.3 Prehistoric

2.3.1 No evidence of Palaeolithic or Mesolithic activity has been recorded near the site. Field-walking 800m south of the site, on the other side of the A12, recorded over 100 worked flints of likely Bronze Age date as well as burnt flints (CSM Misc). A Late Bronze Age settlement was recorded approximately 850m west of the site during archaeological investigations at Days Road (CSM 030). Remains included a pit which yielded approximately 500 sherds of Post-Deverul Rimbury pottery together with a large amount of burnt stone/flint. The settlement at Days Road continued to be occupied into the Iron Age. The excavations recorded a Middle Iron Age enclosure ditch and identified the remains of two roundhouses, a number of pits and post holes. Further evidence of Bronze and Iron Age activity was recorded during an archaeological evaluation at The Driftway approximately 1km south west of the site (CSM 027).

2.3.2 The site lay in a landscape that was being exploited by the later prehistoric periods; however the site location, away from any water source, may have made it a less favourable location during these periods.

### 2.4 Roman

2.4.1 The projected route of the Roman road from Colchester to Caistor St Edmund (the Pye Road) follows the line of the current A12/London Road which at its closest lies approximately 150m east of the north-eastern most part of the site (CSM 014; Margary 1955).

2.4.2 The excavations at Days Road, approximately 850m west of the site, recorded continuation of settlement activity from the Iron Age into the Roman period, with evidence of a simple post-built structure dating to the 1st-2nd century AD situated within a contemporary field system (CSM 030).

- 2.4.3 The remains of a high status building/villa were recorded during phases of archaeological investigations on Windmill Hill over 1km west of the site (CSM 002 and 041). In addition, a large quantity of reused Roman tile/brick including roof tile, flue tile and hypocaust tile have been recorded within the wall fabric of St Mary's Church. The church location, close to the site of the Windmill Hill villa site, suggests that this is the most likely source of this material. A Roman coin was found near the villa which appears to have been a casual loss (CSM 008).
- 2.4.4 In between Windmill Hill and Days Lane, near St Mary's Church, is the site of a probable Roman cremation cemetery. A Roman cremation burial was found in a field behind the church approximately 1km west of the site (CSM 010). A further cremation burial in a pot (CSM 013) was discovered on the west side of the church during construction.
- 2.4.5 A number of isolated finds have been recorded within the vicinity of the site. Roman metalwork was found during metal detecting in a field at Pond Hall, approximately 500m north east of the site (BTY Misc). An isolated miniature bronze object was found in a field approximately 800m south of the site (CSM 018). Field-walking of a 59ha area approximately 800m south of the site recorded only three Roman sherds (CSM Misc).
- 2.4.6 A recent programme of archaeological work undertaken immediately east of the south corner of the site (fronting London Road) has revealed a Roman oven and ditch (Suffolk CC pers. comm.), suggesting that Roman settlement extends further east than previously thought and possibly across the site.

## **2.5 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval**

- 2.5.1 Capel St Mary was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 within the manor of Boynton. By the 13th century St Mary's Church was constructed and formed the focus of the medieval settlement approximately 1.3km south-west of the site.
- 2.5.2 The village core at this time was around St Mary's church with scattered farms outside, however the site lay away from the medieval village centre within what was most likely in agricultural land at the time.
- 2.5.3 Isolated surface finds dating to the Saxon period were recorded during the excavations at Days Road approximately 850m west of the site, but no in situ evidence was found (CSM 030). The bulk of the archaeological remains recorded during the excavations of the multi-period site at Days Road dated to the medieval period (12th-14th centuries AD) and appear to represent a wealthy farmstead with the remains of up to five structures including an aisled building, possibly a hall, a stone lined well, pits, post holes, ovens/kilns, quarries and ditches. Field-walking on a 59ha site approximately 800m south of the site recorded 193 medieval finds, mainly pottery (CSM Misc).



## 2.6 Post-medieval and Modern

- 2.6.1 During the post-medieval period, Capel St Mary grew as a linear settlement along The Street to London Road. A moated house, of possible post-medieval date, was recorded at Vine House approximately 400m west of the site (CSM 017). The White Hart on London Road, located just to the south of the site, has been in operation from at least 1675 serving travellers using the London Road.
- 2.6.2 During this period the site continued to occupy farmland, away from the main settlement activity. By the early 19th century the site comprised a mixture of arable land, woodland and meadowland. By the late 19th century a large pond, possibly the remains of a former clay pit, occupied part of a field in the centre of the site.
- 2.6.3 There was no subsequent change to the site from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century. In the late 20th century Capel St Mary expanded and development extended up to the western boundary of the site. The site remained under arable cultivation though all the former field boundaries had been cleared by this date.

## 2.7 Aims and objectives of the project

### *General aims*

- 2.7.1 The initial aim of the project, as described in the WSI (ASE 2016) was to identify any archaeological features or deposits that could be impacted by the proposed housing development and to enable a mitigation strategy for any such remains to be implemented before any development takes place. More specifically, the evaluation aimed to establish the location, extent, date, character, significance and quality of preservation of surviving archaeological remains within the proposed development area. Any archaeological remains uncovered by the evaluation have been assessed against the wider background of previous fieldwork in the area and form the basis for an archaeological conservation strategy, which may include preservation of heritage assets *in situ*, or mitigation in the form of further archaeological fieldwork.

### *Specific aims and objectives*

- 2.7.2 The project WSI (ibid) also stated the following aims:
- To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.
  - To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered.
  - To enable CgMs and the County Archaeologist to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work required in order to satisfy the archaeological condition.
  - To enable CgMs and the County Archaeologist to determine whether archaeological remains of national significance are present that may warrant preservation in situ.
- 2.7.3 Given the Roman potential for the site, either in the form of roadside features or possible rural settlement activity, the specific objectives of the project with reference to the *Research and Archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and*

*Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011)  
are:

- *What forms do the farms take, and is the planned farmstead widespread across the region? What forms of buildings are present and how far can functions be attributed to them?*
- *How far can the size and shape of fields be related to the agricultural regimes identified, and what is the relationship between rural and urban sites?*

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Fieldwork Methodology**

- 3.1.1 The archaeological evaluation took place between 4th and 11th November 2016 and was conducted in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2016).
- 3.1.2 Fifteen 50m x 1.85m evaluation trenches and one 35m x 1.85m long trench were placed in a random grid arrangement, avoiding an overhead cable, a water main and a sewer (Figure 2).
- 3.1.3 All trenches were stripped of overburden deposits using a tracked 14 ton 360° mechanical excavator, under archaeological supervision, to depths of between 0.32m and 0.6m. Mechanical excavation continued to the top surface of archaeological deposits or else to the top of the undisturbed natural geological deposit. Trench locations were metal detected as were all spoil heaps and bases of trenches.
- 3.1.4 All features were excavated by hand except obviously modern features and disturbances. A minimum of 50% of all discrete features were excavated. At least 10% (or at least a 1m-long segment) of non-structural linear features were excavated.
- 3.1.5 Archaeological features, soil horizons and the natural strata were recorded using a unique sequence of context numbers for each trench. They were drawn in section (at a scale of 1:10). Trench extents and features were plotted using GPS survey equipment. Written records (trench and context descriptions) were made on *pro forma* ASE recording sheets.
- 3.1.6 A digital photographic record was made, consisting of high-resolution .jpg images. The photographic record aimed to provide an overview of the evaluation and of the surrounding area. Individual shots of features in section were taken, in addition to working shots and elements of interest (individual features and group shots). The photographic register included: shot number, location of shot, direction of shot and a brief description of the subject photographed.
- 3.1.7 Finds from all investigated features were collected and bagged according to context number, and retained for identification and study. All finds were properly processed according to ASE guidelines and the ClfA Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014c).
- 3.1.8 ASE adhered to the ClfA Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation, and Code of Conduct (ClfA 2014a and 2014b), the Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003) and Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation (SCCAS 2011) throughout the project.

### 3.2 Archive

3.2.1 The fieldwork archive is currently held at the offices of ASE in Witham and Portslade and will be deposited at a suitable repository at the end of the project. The contents of the archive are described in Tables 1 and 2.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Context sheets	67
Section sheets	7
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	95
Context register	0
Drawing register	1
Trench Record forms	16

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

<b>Item</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Bulk finds	4.21kg (1 box)
Registered finds (number of)	2
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	6
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	6

Table 2: Quantification of artefacts

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Finds or features of archaeological interest were recorded in ten of the trial trenches and these are recorded below. Of these ten trenches, two contained gullies of probable post-medieval or modern date. The blank trenches are discussed in Section 4.13 with context details tabulated in Appendix 3.

4.1.2 Considerable truncation from ploughing over the centuries was recorded across the site. Field drains and track marks from agricultural vehicles were also observed.

4.1.3 The results have been tied into the results of the geophysical survey where relevant (Figure 2).

### 4.2 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

4.2.1 Natural geology varied from orangey sandy silt with patches of flint gravel in the north of the site becoming more clayey and yellow in colour in the eastern part of the site, still with patches of gravel. In Trench 9, which was located on the western side of the site, natural was yellowish brown silt with occasional gravel. The most southerly trench had orangey silty clay natural with occasional gravel. Manganese flecking was common throughout.

4.2.2 Subsoil was present in every trench but was thickest in Trench 16 at the southern end of the site. Here it was a dark brown clayey silt with frequent small pebbles. Elsewhere subsoil was a light yellowish orange silt/ sandy silt/ silty clay with manganese flecks.

4.2.3 Topsoil was a mid-brown friable silt with occasional stones.

### 4.3 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

*Depth: 0.38-1.25m*

*Ground level: 45.86-45.92m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/ Depth m	Height m aOD	Parent
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.30-0.35	45.86-45.92	
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.08-0.16		
1/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench		45.55	
1/004	Fill	Fill, upper			0.36		1/007
1/005	Fill	Fill, basal			0.52		1/007
1/006	Fill	Fill, primary					1/007
1/007	Cut	Ditch	2	3	0.88	45.4	1/007
1/008	Fill	Fill, upper			0.42		1/010
1/009	Fill	Fill, basal			0.23		1/010
1/010	Cut	Pit	1.1	0.95	0.42	45.29	1/010
1/011	Fill	Fill					1/012
1/012	Cut	Pit, unexcavated	0.84			45.31	1/012

Table 3: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 1

- 4.3.1 Trench 1 was located at the north-western corner of the site and was on an east-west alignment. It contained a post-medieval ditch, a prehistoric pit and an undated possible pit.
- 4.3.2 At the eastern end of the trench was a north-south aligned ditch [1/007] with three fills. Its upper fill was charcoal-rich and the small quantity of tile and coal within this fill gives a post-medieval date for its backfilling. It aligns with a north-south former field boundary shown on 19th century maps and on the geophysical survey (Figure 2) and is probably the continuation of ditch [7/007] in Trench 7 and ditch [14/005] in Trench 14. It was cut through subsoil [1/002] and sealed by topsoil [1/001].
- 4.3.3 At the western end of the trench was a pit [1/010] with two fills, both pale in colour. Its lower fill contained a few fragments of daub and its upper fill contained rare charcoal flecks and a sherd of prehistoric pottery and one flint flake. The pot sherd had a flint and grog temper which renders its dating slightly ambiguous. It is likely to be Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age but could alternatively be from the earlier part of the Late Iron Age (section 5.3). The presence of the flint flake which is probably pre-Middle Bronze Age might favour the earlier date for the sherd.
- 4.3.4 Next to pit [1/010] was a further possible pit [1/012]. This was not fully exposed being partly under the southern baulk of the trench. It was extremely hard to distinguish from the natural silty clay and it was decided to leave it unexcavated.

#### 4.4 Trench 4 (Figure 4)

*Depth: 0.34-0.4m*

*Ground Level: 45.33-45.85m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/ Depth m	Height aOD m	Parent
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.26-0.30	45.33-45.85	
4/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.04-0.10		
4/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench		44.99-45.57	
4/004	Fill	Fill, single					4/005
4/005	Cut	Gully	2.5	0.4	0.22		4/005

Table 4: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 4

- 4.4.1 Trench 4 was located in the north-eastern corner of the site and was north-south aligned. It contained a single gully of probably post-medieval or modern date.
- 4.4.2 The gully [4/005] was south-west to north-east aligned and was shallow and narrow at 0.4m wide. It had a flat base, steep sides and a sandy silt fill devoid of finds. It corresponds with geophysical anomalies which represent field drains.

#### 4.5 Trench 5 (Figure 5)

*Depth: 0.35-0.39m*

*Ground Level: 45.88-46.28m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/ Depth m	Height aOD	m	Parent
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.32-0.34	45.88-46.28		
5/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.03-0.05			
5/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench		45.5		
5/004	Fill	Fill, upper			0.38			5/006
5/005	Fill	Fill, basal						5/006
5/006	Cut	Pit	1.16	0.61	0.4	45.46		5/006
5/007	Fill	Fill, single						5/008
5/008	Cut	Ditch	6	0.8	0.61	45.58		5/008
5/009	Fill	Fill, single						5/010
5/010	Cut	Pit	1.81	0.62	0.27	45.65		5/010
5/011	Fill	Fill, single						5/102
5/012	Cut	Posthole	0.21	0.18	0.1	45.85		5/012

Table 5: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 5

- 4.5.1 Trench 5 was located in the north-western corner of the site, near Trench 1 and was north-south aligned. It contained four features – two undated pits, a probably prehistoric linear feature/possible ditch and an undated posthole.
- 4.5.2 Pit [5/006] was only partially exposed next to the western baulk of the trench. It was a sizable pit of at least 1.16m by 0.62m width and a depth of 0.61m. Its sides and base had been reddened indicating heat scorching, and its lower fill [5/005] was extremely charcoal-rich. No finds were retrieved.
- 4.5.3 Linear feature [5/008] was not noticed at first as its yellowish brown clayey silt fill was only just distinguishable from the natural. It ran for 6m in a NNW to SSE direction as seen within the confines of the trench and it is likely to be a ditch albeit perhaps a short stretch. Its single fill [5/007] yielded a flint flake of probable pre-Middle Bronze Age date. It was cut by pit [5/006] on the north-east side and did not continue beyond the pit, indicating that it terminated here. To the south, near the other baulk, it may have been cut by pit [5/010].
- 4.5.4 Pit [5/010] was shallower than pit [5/006] and did not feature any in situ burning. Its single fill [5/009] contained frequent charcoal and daub fragments. Its relationship with probable ditch [5/008] was not investigated, however it appeared on the surface to cut the ditch. It may be that the two pits were deliberately cut into either terminus of [5/008].
- 4.5.5 At the southern end of the trench was a seemingly isolated stakehole [5/012] with a charcoal-rich fill. Again this feature is undated.
- 4.5.6 The scarcity of finds from all four features makes their dating problematic. Certainly the very pale fill of linear feature [5/008] and the flint flake suggest a prehistoric date. However the pits and posthole could be any date. Pit [5/006] is later than linear

feature [5/008] which it cuts but this could give it a date anytime from the Middle Bronze Age onwards. It is feasible that all four features are prehistoric, especially given the proximity of the prehistoric pit in Trench 1. It should also be borne in mind however that Trenches 14 and 16 revealed pits and postholes with charcoal-rich fills and daub that are medieval in date.

#### 4.6 Trench 7 (Figure 6)

*Depth: 0.34-0.37m*  
*Ground Level: 46.52-46.57m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/ Depth m	Height aOD m	Parent
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.26-0.30	46.52-46.57	
7/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.04-0.11		
7/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench		46.25	
7/004	Fill	Fill, upper					7/005
7/005	Cut	Ditch, unexcavated	2	1.28		46.28	7/005
7/006	Fill	Fill, upper					7/007
7/007	Cut	Ditch, unexcavated	2	0.75		46.41	7/007

Table 6: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 7

- 4.6.1 Trench 7 was located in the western/central part of the site and was WSW to ENE aligned. It contained two parallel ditches in the eastern half of the trench of likely post-medieval date. Neither were excavated.
- 4.6.2 The ditches were aligned NNW-SSE. The most easterly and the widest of the two [7/005] had a dark grey silt clay fill with a shard of modern glass and a sherd of modern pottery on the surface. This is likely to be the continuation of the post-medieval field boundary ditch showing on 19th century maps and the geophysical survey and recorded in Trenches 1 and 14.
- 4.6.3 The narrower ditch [7/007] had a similar dark grey silty clay fill but with flecks of charcoal. It is considered to be contemporary with ditch [7/005].



#### 4.7 Trench 8 (Figure 7)

*Depth: 0.35-0.36m*

*Ground Level: 46.04-46.36m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/ Depth m	Height aOD	m	Parent
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.29	46.04-46.36		
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.06-0.07			
8/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench		45.71-46.08		
8/004	Fill	Fill, single						8/005
8/005	Cut	Gully	2.5	0.42	0.3	45.82		8/005

Table 7: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 8

4.7.1 Trench 8 was located in the eastern/central part of the site and was east-west aligned. It contained one gully of probable post-medieval date

4.7.2 The gully [8/005] was located in the central part of the trench and was north-east to south-west aligned. It had a similar profile to gully [4/005] in Trench 4 and its fill contained a fragment of CBM (not kept). It is likely to be a field drain and it corresponds with geophysical anomalies.

4.7.3 Two 'faint linear trends' were shown on the geophysical survey in this area. These were not thought to be archaeological but probably agricultural in origin or related to the pond. There was no trace of these in the trench.

#### 4.8 Trench 11 (Figure 8)

*Depth: 0.34m*

*Ground Level: 46.04-46.36m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/ Depth m	Height aOD	m	Parent
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.3	45.70-46.13		
11/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.04			
11/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench		45.36-45.79		
11/004	Fill	Fill, upper			0.3			11/006
11/005	Fill	Fill, intermediate			0.6			11/006
11/006	Cut	Pond	16		>1.2			11/006

Table 8: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 11

4.8.1 Trench 11 was located close to the south-eastern boundary specifically to test the filled-in pond identified by the geophysical survey. The trench was originally planned to be 25m in length but was extended by 10m in order to test a greater proportion of the backfilled pond. The feature was still visible on the ground as a depression in the landform. It shows on maps from the late 19th century until the mid-20th century and is thought that it could have been dug originally for clay extraction.

4.8.2 The pond [11/06] was located at the north-western end of the trench as expected. A machine slot was dug into it and it was not bottomed at 1.2m depth. It had been backfilled with loose sandy silt and gravel containing modern brick, concrete and a

kerb stone. This fill was sealed by a layer of redeposited chalky boulder clay. The finds are consistent with a recent backfilling however its original function remains unclear. The feature was not bottomed therefore there was no opportunity to see if there were waterlogged remains at the base, as would be expected if the feature had held water. The cut of the pond was located where the natural silts started to become more clayey. This could suggest its primary purpose was for clay extraction although a clay-lined pond is equally feasible.

#### 4.9 Trench 12 (Figure 9)

*Depth: 0.35m -0.37m*  
*Ground Level: 45.86-45.99m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/Depth m	Height m aOD	Parent
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.27-0.28	45.86-45.99	
12/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.07-0.10		
12/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench		45.53-45.59	
12/004	Fill	Fill, upper					12/006
12/005	Fill	Fill, basal					12/006
12/006	Cut	Pit	0.57		0.25	45.54	12/006

Table 9: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 12

- 4.9.1 Trench 12 was located in the eastern part of the site and was north-south aligned. It contained a pit.
- 4.9.2 The pit [12/005] was small and contained two fills, the upper fill was extremely charcoal-rich and contained three pieces of pottery from the same vessel, of probably broadly Late Neolithic to earlier Middle Bronze Age date, as well as some daub.

#### 4.10 Trench 14 (Figure 10)

*Depth: 0.37-0.41m*  
*Ground Level: 46.19-46.69 m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/Depth m	Height m aOD	Parent
14/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.30-0.33	46.19-46.69	
14/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.07-0.13		
14/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench		46.45-46.87	
14/004	Fill	Fill, upper					14/007
14/005	Fill	Fill, intermediate					14/007
14/006	Fill	Fill, primary					14/007
14/007	Cut	Ditch	2	2.38	0.58	46.02	14/007
14/008	Fill	Fill, single					14/009
14/009	Cut	Ditch	2	0.9	0.15	45.94	14/009
14/010	Fill	Fill, single					14/011
14/011	Cut	Pit	0.75	0.63	0.15	45.99	14/011
14/012	Fill	Fill, single					14/013
14/013	Cut	Posthole	0.3	0.25	0.12	45.94	14/013

Table 10: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 14

- 4.10.1 Trench 14 was located in the south-eastern part of the site and was north-east to south-west aligned. It contained four features – two ditches of uncertain date, a medieval pit and an undated posthole.
- 4.10.2 Ditch [14/007] in the centre of the trench was on a NNW to SSE alignment and had three fills. Its primary fill contained one fragment of slag, its main fill contained two sherds of Roman pottery; rims from two different jars, and its upper fill contained iron nails. Its fill and its shape was similar to ditch [1/007] in Trench 1. It corresponds exactly with a field boundary on 19th century maps and on the geophysical survey. The presence of the Roman pottery could be residual. Ditch [14/007] cut through subsoil [14/002] and was sealed by topsoil [14/001].
- 4.10.3 To the north-east was a broadly parallel but narrower and shallower ditch [14/009]. It had a pale fill containing one piece of daub. It does not correspond with any geophysical anomalies and is currently undated.
- 4.10.4 Next to ditch [14/009] was a small shallow pit [14/011] with a flattish base and a charcoal-rich fill. It appeared to have a reddened south-western edge suggestive of *in situ* burning. It contained one sherd of medieval pottery of 12th-13th century date as well as two iron knife blades - registered finds <1a> and <1b>. These blades are likely to be medieval in date but without radiographic analysis cannot be dated with certainty.
- 4.10.5 To the north-east of the pit by 1.5m was a posthole with a charcoal-rich fill [14/013]. Dating evidence was not present but it may be related to charcoal-filled medieval pit [14/011].

#### 4.11 Trench 15 (Figure 11)

*Depth: 0.3-0.4m*

*Ground Level: 46.61-46.83m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/ Depth m	Height m aOD	Parent
15/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.27-0.29	46.61-46.83	
15/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.03-0.11		
15/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench		46.34-46.55	
15/004	Fill	Fill, single					15/005
15/005	Cut	Pit	0.7		0.16	46.38	15/005

Table 11: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 15

- 4.11.1 Trench 15 was located in the southern part of the site and was north-west to south-east aligned. It contained a single small charcoal-rich pit or posthole of uncertain date.
- 4.11.2 The pit/posthole [15/005] had a pale fill with a band of charcoal running through. There was no evidence of *in situ* burning. The only finds were lumps of daub. At the base were medium large flint stones.
- 4.11.3 The former east-west field boundary ditch showing on 19th century maps and picked up by the geophysical survey was not visible in the trench.

#### 4.12 Trench 16 (Figure 12)

*Depth: 0.47-0.6m*

*Ground Level: m*

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/ Depth m	Height m aOD	Parent
16/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.20	46.52-46.60	
16/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.25-0.40		
16/003	Fill	Fill, single	trench	trench		46.09-46.12	16/004
16/004	Cut	Posthole	0.2	0.2	0.18	46.15	16/004
16/005	Fill	Fill, single					16/006
16/006	Cut	Stakehole	0.1		0.07	46.15	16/006
16/007	Fill	Fill, single					16/008
16/008	Cut	Stakehole	0.08		0.06	46.12	16/008
16/009	Fill	Fill, single					16/010
16/010	Cut	Stakehole	0.19		0.09	46.14	16/010
16/011	Fill	Fill, single					16/012
16/012	Cut	Stakehole	0.12		0.11	46.12	16/012
16/013	Fill	Fill, single					16/014
16/014	Cut	Gully	5.5	0.28	0.16	46.11	16/014
16/015	Fill	Fill, single					16/016
16/016	Cut	Pit	0.4		0.16	46.11	16/016
16/017	Fill	Fill, upper					16/019
16/018	Fill	Fill, basal. Large packing pebbles					16/019
16/019	Cut	Posthole	0.52	0.2	0.16	46.16	16/019
16/020	Fill	Fill, single					16/020
16/021	Cut	Posthole	0.48	0.42	0.14	46.11	16/021
16/022	Fill	Fill, single					16/023
16/023	Cut	Posthole	0.46	0.34	0.16	45.11	16/023
16/024	Fill	Fill, single					16/025
16/025	Cut	Posthole	0.46	0.6	0.16	46.14	16/025
16/026	Fill	Fill, single					16/027
16/027	Cut	Posthole	0.54		0.1	46.12	16/027
16/028	Fill	Fill, single					16/029
16/029	Cut	Pit or ditch terminus	1.46	1.06	0.32	46.09	16/029
16/030	Fill	Fill, single					16/031
16/031	Cut	Ditch				46.11	16/031

Table 12: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 16

4.12.1 Trench 16 was located at the most southern point of the site, near the Butchers Lane entrance. It was on a NNE to SSW alignment. This was the 'busiest' trench archaeologically with fourteen features present, thought to be of early medieval (12th-13th century) date.

- 4.12.2 A ditch [16/031] exposed at the northern end of the trench contained one sherd of 12th-13th century pottery as well as some daub.
- 4.12.3 To the south of this ditch and at right angles to it was a narrow gully [16/014] which contained two sherds of 12th-13th century pottery, some daub and flecks of charcoal.
- 4.12.4 Next to gully [16/014] were a group of five postholes/stakeholes. Posthole [16/004] had a sharply tapering base. Next to it were four shallower stakeholes [16/006], [16/008], [16/010] and [16/012]. All four stakeholes as well as the posthole and gully contained flecks of charcoal and daub in their fills but only the gully contained any pottery. The gully and the five structural features were not obviously cutting each other but all appeared contemporary and backfilled at the same time, making them all medieval in date. Gully [16/014] is likely to be a beam slot for a timber foundation or else a drainage gully outside the structure formed by the stakeholes and posthole. It may be that ditch [16/031], being at right angles with gully [16/014] and contemporary with it may be associated with the structure.
- 4.12.5 To the south of this group was a scatter of six postholes – [16/016], [16/019], [16/021], [16/023], [16/025], [16/027] and a pit or ditch terminus [16/029]. Posthole [16/009] had cobbles at the base forming packing material. In terms of dating, posthole [16/023] contained one sandy black-surfaced bodysherd of Roman date. Posthole [16/027] contained a very small quantity of medieval pottery of 12th-13th century date as did pit/ditch terminus [16/029].
- 4.12.6 All the features in this trench had similar firm mid grey silty clay fills with infrequent charcoal and daub flecks and there was no intercutting of features. This suggests that they are contemporary with each other, i.e. 12th-13th century. The Roman pottery sherd within posthole [16/023] may be residual.

#### **4.13 Archaeologically blank trenches (Figure 13)**

- 4.13.1 Trenches 2, 3, 6, 9, 10 and 13 were devoid of any remains, either archaeological or modern. The reason for this appears to be an absence of archaeological activity rather than destruction or disturbance. These trenches are tabulated in Appendix 3.
- 4.13.2 Trenches 4 and 8 were also blank apart from post-medieval field drain features and Trench 11 contained only a post-medieval backfilled pond. Given this information it would appear that the eastern/north-eastern part of the site is largely devoid of archaeological remains (apart from one prehistoric pit in Trench 12).

## 5.0 FINDS

### 5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of bulk finds was recovered, washed and dried, or air dried, as appropriate, and then quantified by count and weight, and were bagged by material and context (Table 13). Two iron fragments, possibly deriving from the same object, have been assigned registered finds numbers and are discussed in section 5.11. All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014).

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Slag	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Metal	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Glass	Weight (g)
1/001											1	24						
1/002			1	2														
1/004					1	24					2	6						
1/008			1	6														
1/009															5	52		
5/007	2	12																
5/009															14	82		
7/004			2	8											2	4	1	<2
9/001													1	36				
10/001											1	18						
12/001											1	84						
12/004			3	10											2	2		
14/001	1	4	2	46	2	50							1	2			2	16
14/004											7	106						
14/005			3	60														
14/006									1	16								
14/008															1	4		
14/010			1	2			1	264	1	38								
16/001											1	12						
16/013			2	6														
16/018							3	3190										
16/022			1	4														
16/026			1	6														
16/028	1	6	2	6														
16/030			1	4											4	6		
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3454</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>

Table 13: Finds quantification

### 5.2 Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 A total of five pieces of flint were recovered during the evaluation. Three pieces were found to be natural pieces detached by frost / thermal process and discarded. The two pieces considered to be humanly struck derive from Trenches 1 and 5. Context [1/008] produced a flake fragment weighing 11g. It is made on a fine grained dark grey flint and displays a plain platform with several points of percussion as well as some fine flake scar from previous removals on the dorsal face. Context [5/007] produced a small flake fragment (<1g), the proximal end of which is absent. Both pieces are likely to pre date the Middle Bronze Age.

### 5.3 Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

- 5.3.1 Four sherds of prehistoric pottery, weighing 16g, were recovered from contexts [1/008] and [12/004]. The single sherd from the former is a fairly thin-walled and well-fired bodysherd in a relatively fine sandy fabric, containing sparse rounded grog of up to c.1.5mm, in a fabric which is difficult to distinguish from the surrounding matrix, and rare calcined flint, mostly of less than 1mm in size. The three bodysherds in the latter context are probably from the same vessel. They are somewhat thicker-walled and in a very coarse sandy fabric with some large milky quartz of up to 2mm in size; again this fabric contains sparse, fine grog of c.1.5mm in size.
- 5.3.2 The dating of this material is slightly ambiguous. The presence of both grog and flint, the oxidised firing of the external surface and the thin-walled profile in the example from [1/008] would all be quite consistent with the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Beaker tradition, though no decoration is present and the sherd is perhaps slightly more highly-fired than typical for this period. The presence of grog in the examples from [12/004] also most likely points to a broad Late Neolithic to earlier Middle Bronze Age date although the presence of very coarse quartz in earlier prehistoric fabrics is slightly atypical.
- 5.3.3 Alternatively, it is possible that the example from [1/008] in particular, represents a grog-tempered fabric from the earlier part of the Late Iron Age, though fabrics of this period do not typically include flint and tend to contain more common and easy to distinguish grog inclusions. In addition, a single piece of worked flint of broadly pre-Middle Bronze date was directly associated, which probably argues in favour of a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date.
- 5.3.4 Early Roman material, totalling four sherds, weighing 64g, was noted in two contexts, [14/005] and [16/022]. The former contained two partial rims: one from a storage jar in well-fired grey ware fabric with some iron-rich and grog-like inclusions and the other from a large jar in grog-tempered ware. Alongside these was a small bodysherd in a sparsely grog-tempered black-surfaced ware. Another well-fired sandy black-surfaced ware bodysherd was noted in [16/022].

### 5.4 Post-Roman Pottery by Helen Walker

- 5.4.1 A very small quantity of pottery, twelve sherds, weighing 81g was excavated from eight contexts. The pottery data has been recorded on to an Excel spreadsheet and the pottery is tabulated by ware in Table 14

Pottery by ware	Sherd Nos	Weight (g)
Early medieval ware	4	13
Medieval coarseware	3	13
Black glazed ware	1	46
Modern white earthenware	1	6
Unidentifiable	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>81</b>

Table 14: The pottery by ware, sherd count and weight

- 5.4.2 Medieval pottery was excavated from pit [14/011], gully [16/014], post-hole [16/027], pit/ditch [16/029] and ditch [16/031]. All comprised unfeathered body sherds of early medieval ware and medieval coarseware. Early medieval ware is a long-lived fabric,

produced from the 11th to earlier 13th centuries and was succeeded by the finer medieval coarseware around 1200, this ware continuing to the end of the 14th century. However all the examples of medieval coarseware appear to be borderline with early medieval ware and are likely to date to the 12th to 13th centuries.

- 5.4.3 Later pottery, in the form of a black-glazed ware strap handle occurred in topsoil layer [14/001]. It is too large to be from a drinking vessel, the most common vessel type in this ware, and is from a jug or jar form, such as a chamber pot. The fabric is most likely to be of Essex origin, from Harlow or related production sites, but as it is very highly-fired, a Midlands origin cannot be precluded. The handle however is hand-pulled rather than extruded, suggesting it is 17th to 18th century rather than of modern date. A sherd of plain modern white earthenware datable to the 19th to 20th century was excavated from ditch [7/009]. In addition to this pottery there were four small unidentifiable crumbs of ceramic material (listed on the pottery data table) that might be medieval or are from earlier archaeological periods.

#### Discussion

- 5.4.4 The assemblage shows some evidence of medieval activity, most likely dating to the 12th to earlier 13th century, centred on features in Trenches 14 and 16, although there is not enough material to indicate evidence of settlement. The two later sherds however, are most likely incidental finds, perhaps the result of muck-spreading of farmyard midden material.

#### 5.5 Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

- 5.5.1 Three pieces of tile were recovered from site; one from [1/004] and one from [14/001]. All of the tile was made from the same gritty orange fabric with moderate-common medium quartz, shell fragments and black oxide speckle, with sparse amounts of coarse and very coarse quartz. This fabric type is fairly common in Suffolk. The tile fragments were all chipped and abraded and are most likely to be post-medieval in date.

#### 5.6 Fired Clay by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

- 5.6.1 A total of 26 fragments of fired clay were hand-collected from six contexts: [1/009], [5/009], [7/004], [12/004], [14/008], and [16/030]. All the clay was broken and undiagnostic, and generally not hard fired, with the exception of the clay collected from [1/009] which had clearly been exposed to heat as four of the clay pieces from that context were oxidised red and one entirely reduced to black. The clay fabric was very similar to the fabric of the tile fragments from [1/004] and [14/001], suggesting a common and most probably local source for both.

#### 5.7 The Glass by Luke Barber

- 5.7.1 Three contexts produced glass during the evaluation. The residue from context [1/004] contained a tiny chip of 0.9mm thick uncorroded colourless glass (<1g). Although too small to be certain a late post-medieval date is strongly suspected. Context [7/004] produced a 2g fragment from a vertically ribbed hexagonal poison bottle in cobalt blue glass of later 19th- to early 20th- century date. The final two pieces of glass were recovered from context [19/001] and are of a similarly late date range. They consist of a battered 4g shard from a bottle in aqua glass and a 10g base fragment from a light blue rectangular chemist's bottle.



5.7.2 The glass assemblage is small and late in date. It not offer any potential for analysis beyond that undertaken in this report. The assemblage has been discarded.

## 5.8 Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.8.1 The archaeological work recovered a small assemblage of stone from the site. The assemblage has been fully listed in Table 15.

5.8.2 With the exception of the probably intrusive coal all of the stone types could be expected to occur naturally in the general vicinity of the site. None show signs of deliberate modification at the hand of man though one cobble at least has obviously been subjected to quite intense heating.

5.8.3 The stone assemblage is small and mainly consists of unmodified types that probably occur naturally in the general vicinity. As such the assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

Context	Sample	Stone type	No.	Weight (g)	Comments
1/004	3	Coal	39	2	Tiny granules. Intrusive?
16/018		Sarsen-type sandstone (burnt)	2	1306	Burnt (red) cobble fragments. Possibly same cobble
16/018		Sarsen-type sandstone	1	1889	Cobble fragment. Light grey/dull yellow
14/010		Flint nodule	1	266	Spherical – poorly formed echinoid fossil with all over cortex

Table 15: The stone assemblage

## 5.9 Slag by Luke Barber

5.9.1 The archaeological work recovered just 307g of material classified as slag, from eight individually numbered contexts. With the exception of two pieces (54g) of hand-collected material all was recovered from the environmental residues (mainly from the magnetic fraction). The assemblage is summarised in Table 16.

Context	Sample	Fraction	Type	No	Weight (g)	Comments
1/004	2	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		2	Sub-rounded to rounded ferruginous siltstone and some clay
5/005	1	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		1	
5/009	3	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		26	
14/010	4		Iron concretion	2	34	Amorphous
14/010	4	<2mm magnetic	Magnetic fines		74	
14/010	4	<2mm magnetic	Hammerscale		40	Flakes to 2mm. x250+, spheres x25-50
14/010	4	>2mm magnetic	Magnetic fines		65	
14/010	4	>2mm magnetic	Hammerscale		7	Flakes to 7mm. x100-200, spheres x10-20

14/012	5	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		1	
14/012	5	Magnetic	Hammerscale		1	Flakes x5-10
15/004	6	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		1	
15/004	6	Magnetic	Hammerscale		1	Flakes to 2mm. x25-50
19/006			Hearth lining	1	16	Red fine sandy clay with reduced vitrified face
19/010			Iron smithing	1	38	Rusty brown, aerated

Table 16: The slag assemblage

- 5.9.2 Nearly all of the magnetic material from the residues consists of magnetic fines – granules of ferruginous siltstone and sandstone, along with some clay, which have had their magnetism enhanced through burning. In all residues, some of these ‘fines’ had been well rolled, a few to the point of being spherical. However, careful examination of these spheres discounted them as spheroid hammerscale. However, several contexts did produce hammerscale of both flake and spherical form – most notably context [14/010] suggesting iron smithing in the vicinity. The absence of larger pieces of smithing waste (the only piece being from context [19/010]) is odd and may suggest the hammerscale has been imported from further afield.
- 5.9.3 The slag assemblage is small and does not offer any potential for analysis beyond that undertaken in this report. The assemblage has been discarded.

## 5.10 Bulk Metalwork by Susan Chandler

5.10.1 A total of 16 metal objects were recovered during the works on site, weighing a total of 257g. Six of these finds collected via the use of a metal detector and are from the topsoil of various trenches. Three of these objects are iron; from [1/001] an undiagnostic plate fragment, [10/001] returned a large square sectioned nail stem and from [12/001] a shell splinter most likely from the Second World War. There are also three non-ferrous finds; from [9/001] a copper alloy disc with points for mounting on its reverse, [14/001] a copper alloy cylinder packed with wicking which is part of the fuse system of a Mills bomb from the First World War and a toy pistol grip made from white metal from context [16/001].

5.10.2 Iron finds were also recovered from two stratified contexts; [1/004] contained 2 nail stem fragments and 6 nail stem fragments as well as a heavily corroded object were recovered from [14/004]. The object is possibly a ferrule or coiled strip; it would benefit from radiographic analysis to help formalise an identification.

## 5.11 Registered Finds by Susan Chandler

5.11.1 The registered finds were assigned unique registered find numbers RF <0> and recorded on pro forma sheets. The objects discussed here are detailed in Table 17 below.

RF No	Context	Object	Material	Period
1a	14/010	Knife	Iron	Medieval
1b	14/010	Knife	Iron	Medieval

Table 17: The registered finds

5.11.2 Registered find, RF <1> includes two non-refitting pieces which may or may not derive from the same object. RF <1a> is part of a knife comprising a short section of whittle tang and incomplete blade. Its form is largely obscured by corrosion and it would benefit from radiographic analysis to formalise its identification. Currently it is possible to say that it is broadly comparable to Goodall's types B or D (Goodall, 2011, 106); it may not be possible however, to fully compare it to Goodall's typology due to its incomplete state. It is likely of a medieval date. RF <1b> is a smaller, less diagnostic fragment which may also be part of a knife or blade though this identification is less clear. It is also potentially medieval in date and would also benefit from future radiographic analysis, in the event that any further archaeological work takes place.

## 6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Stacey Adams

### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Six bulk samples were taken during the evaluation from pit fills [5/005], [5/009], [14/010] and [15/004], ditch fill [1/004] and posthole [14/012] (cut numbers [5/006], [5/010], [14/011], [1/007] and [14/013] respectively) for the recovery of environmental remains such as plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca. The following report details the preservation of the charred plant material and discusses its potential to inform on the diet, arable economy and local environment of the site as well as fuel selection and use at the site.

### 6.2 Methods

6.2.1 The flotation samples, from 10 to 40L in volume, were processed by flotation tank with a 250µm mesh for retention of the flot and a 500µm mesh for the heavy residue, before being air dried. The heavy residues were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Table 18). 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 were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Table 19). Provisional identification of the charred remains was based on observations of gross morphology and surface structure and quantification was based on approximate number of individuals. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for wild species and Zohary and Hopf (1994) for cereals.

6.2.2 Charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residues and flots were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale & 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. Ten fragments were submitted for identification from samples with >3g of wood charcoal from the residues. Charcoal from ditch features were not submitted for identification from the evaluation samples as they fill up over time they are less useful in informing on fuel selection and the environment. Quantification and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Table 18 and nomenclature follows Stace (1997).

### 6.3 Results

*Samples <1> [5/005], <2> [1/004], <3> [5/009], <4> [14/010], <5> [14/012] and <6> [15/004]*

6.3.1 The heavy residues contained frequent fire-cracked flint, fired clay and magnetic material. Pottery fragments and flint were occasional from the samples and glass, industrial material and coal was also present. Wood charcoal fragments were abundant within pit fills ([5/005], [5/009] and [14/010]) and occasional from ditch fill [1/004], posthole fill [14/012] and pit fill [15/004].

- 6.3.2 The flots contained between 2 and 95% uncharred plant material, mostly of modern roots, straw fragments and recent seeds of goosefoots (*Chenopodiaceae*), oat (*Avena* sp.), blackberry (*Rubus* sp.), elder (*Sambucus* sp.) and knotweed (*Polygonum* sp.). A small number of worm capsules were recorded from ditch [1/004] and pit [5/009].

#### *Charred Plant Macrofossils*

- 6.3.3 Ditch fill [1/004] was the only feature to contain charred plant macrofossils. Preservation was good with many individuals identifiable to genus or species level. Cereal culm nodes and oat grains were the only cereal remains present. No diagnostic oat floret bases or pedicels were present to determine if the grains belonged to the wild or cultivated variety, although the large size of the grains suggests they may be of the latter. A single large legume (*Fabaceae*) may have derived from a cultivated variety. Weed seeds were frequent from the ditch fill [1/004] and were well-preserved. Thistles (*Cirsium* sp.) are often associated with calcareous grassland and the presence of bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) is suggestive of autumn-sowing (Reynolds, 1981). Docks (*Rumex* sp.), knotweed (*Polygonum* sp.) and buttercups (*Ranunculus* sp.) were present as were a number of wild grasses (*Poaceae*). A wild grass tuber may indicate uprooting as a harvesting technique (de Moulins, 1995; Jones, 1981).

#### *Wood Charcoal*

- 6.3.4 Wood charcoal fragments were identified from pit fills [5/005], [5/009], [14/010] and [15/004] and posthole fill [14/012]. Preservation was good with less than 10% indeterminate. These fragments displayed evidence of vitrification, a process associated with high burning temperatures that results in giving the charcoal a glassy appearance (Prior & Alvin, 1983), or were distorted by post-depositional sediment. Oak (*Quercus* sp.) was the main taxon in all of the samples, excluding pit fill [5/009] which was exclusively field maple (*Acer campestre*). Field maple is the only maple taxa native to Britain and is strongly associated with calcareous soils (Austin, 2003; Rodwell, 1991). Wood charcoal from the apple sub-family (*Maloideae*), including apple, pear and hawthorn, was present in pit fill [14/010] and posthole fill [14/012].

## **6.4 Discussion**

- 6.4.1 The charred plant macrofossils from ditch fill [1/004] suggest potential for recovery of well-preserved plant remains at Longfield Road. The exclusivity of oat is significant as it is rarely recovered outside of mixed cereal assemblages or is interpreted as a weed of cultivation. The weed seeds have the potential to inform on cultivation conditions, including soil-type, and aspects of the arable economy such as sowing time.
- 6.4.2 The abundance of identifiable wood charcoal fragments from Longfield Road indicate the ideal preservation conditions at the site. The variety of taxa recorded have the potential to inform on the local environment as well as fuel use and selection.

Table 28: Residue quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume (L)	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Other (eg pot, flint, cbm) (presence/ weight)
1	5/005	Pit	40	****	1120	****	200	<i>Quercus</i> (8) [V:7, RC:3]. Indet. (2) [KW:1, PDS:1]	FCF (**/39g) Fired Clay (**/15g) Mag.Mat <2mm (**/<1g)
2	1/004	Ditch	40	**	8	***	2		Pot (* /10g) Glass (* /<1g) Mineral? (* /<1g) FCF (**/49g) Fired Clay (* /2g) Flint (* /<1g) Coal (**/2g) Mag.Mat >2mm (**/2g) Mag.Mat <2mm (****/3g)
3	5/009	Pit	40	****	98	****	16	<i>Acer campestre</i> (7) [V:2] Indet. (3) [V:3, PDS:2]	FCF (****/741g) Fired Clay (**/106g) Mag.Mat >2mm (****/12g) Mag.Mat <2mm (****/15g)
4	14/010	Pit	30	****	116	****	80	<i>Quercus</i> (6) [V:3, PDS:1, RC:1] cf. <i>Quercus</i> (1) [V:1, RC:1, PDS:1] <i>Quercus/ Castanea</i> (1) Maloideae (1) Indet. (1) [V:1]	Industrial (* /34g) Pot (* /3g) Fired Clay (**/83g) Mag.Mat >2mm (****/76g) Mag.Mat <2mm (****/116g)
5	14/012	Posthole	4	**	3	****	8	<i>Quercus</i> (5) [V:3, PDS:1] Maloideae (3) [ <i>Cratageus</i> - type] Indet. (2) [V:2, PDS: 2]	Pot (* /5g) FCF? (* /8g) Mag.Mat <2mm (**/<1g)
6	15/004	Pit	10	**	5	****	12	<i>Quercus</i> (9) [V:6, PDS:2, RC:5] Indet. (1) [V:1]	FCF (* /65g) Fired Clay (**/12g) Pot? (* /3g) Mag.Mat >2mm (**/<2g) Mag.Mat <2mm (****/<2g)

Key: V = vitrified, RC = radial cracks, PDS = post-depositional sediment, RW = roundwood

Table 19: Flot quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

Sample Number	Context	Weight (g)	Flot volume (ml)	Volume scanned	Uncharred (%)	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	charred	Identifications	Preservation	Insects	notes
1	5/005	1150	3500	100 ml		Chenopodiaceae *														
2	1/004	99	450	100 ml	2	Rubus * Solanaceae ** Chenopodiaceae ** Sambucus *	**	**	**	*	Avena	+ + +	** *	Galium sp(p) Large Poaceae Cirsium sp. Rumex sp. Polygonum sp. Poaceae tuber Ranunculus sp.	+ + +	* *	Large Fabaceae Culm node	+ +	*	Worm capsules
3	5/009	12	110	100 %	90	Modern rachis * Straw frags ** Chenopodiaceae **	*	**	*										*	Worm capsules
4	14/010	9	45	100 %	95	Chenopodiaceae ** Polygonum * Straw frags * Avena sp. *														
5	14/012	3	2	100 %	5			**	*											
6	15/004	2	5	100 %	95	Chenopodiaceae *			**											

## 7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

7.1.1 Over the majority of the site the trenches demonstrated a soil profile of topsoil sealing a thin layer of light orangey silt/sandy silt subsoil which in turn overlaid natural geology. All features were sealed by topsoil and were either cut into the subsoil or the natural. Trench 16 in the southern-most part of the site had a greater thickness of 'subsoil' and it was a dark brown clayey silt, similar to the topsoil. This may represent dumping of material around the southern entrance to the field.

7.1.2 There was a low density of archaeological remains although there seem to be clusters of activity in the north-west and southern extremes of the site.

### 7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

7.2.1 There has been horizontal truncation to the tops of features by ploughing; however, deposits were generally well-preserved and small features such as postholes, stakeholes and small pits survived. Those fills that were charcoal-rich also preserved environmental remains well.

### 7.3 Discussion of the archaeological evidence by period

7.3.1 In ten trenches archaeological features were present demonstrating two phases of activity from the Late Neolithic - Middle Bronze Age and the early medieval period. As well as this, post-medieval field boundaries ditches were also recorded.

#### Late Neolithic - Middle Bronze Age

7.3.2 The earliest datable activity is represented by two pits and a ditch of probable Late Neolithic/Early or Middle Bronze Age date recorded in Trenches 1, 5 and 12. Both pits contained daub and small amounts of pottery. The pit in Trench 12 was small with a very charcoal-rich fill. In Trench 5 a ditch contained one piece of struck flint.

7.3.3 Four other charcoal-rich features were also identified that could also be prehistoric but were undated by any finds. These comprise two pits and a posthole in Trench 5 and a pit in Trench 15. The larger of the two charcoal-rich pits in Trench 5 had a scorched base and sides indicating in situ burning or scorching. Another possible pit in Trench 1 may also be prehistoric.

#### Roman

7.3.4 Despite being near to the Roman Road, Pye Street, no definite Roman features were encountered, however, four pieces of Roman pottery were found in two probably medieval features in the southern part of the site (in Trenches 14 and 16). The possibility of the disturbance of Roman deposits or features in this part of the site should not therefore be ruled-out.

#### Medieval 12th-13th century

7.3.5 A medieval pit was present in Trench 14, in the south of the site. Its charcoal-rich fill contained a single sherd of 12th-14th century pottery and two iron knife blades. *In*



*situ* burning of the pit sides perhaps suggests domestic or processing use. A nearby posthole may have been contemporary.

- 7.3.6 Also in the south of the site, in the northern part of Trench 16, five post / stakeholes, a gully and a ditch were recorded. To the south of this several further postholes and a pit or ditch terminus were recorded. These features may be indicative of structure and boundary. On the basis of fill-similarity, all of the features in Trench 16 are thought to be contemporary, although only four contained 12th-13th century medieval pottery.

Post-medieval

- 7.3.7 A field boundary ditch of probable post-medieval date shown on historic mapping was recorded in Trenches 1, 7 and 14. This ditch, the land drains recorded in Trenches 4 and 8 and the pond in Trench 11 were all identified in the geophysical survey.

#### **7.4 Consideration of project aims and potential research objectives**

- 7.4.1 The evaluation aimed to establish the location, extent, date, character, significance and quality of preservation of surviving archaeological remains within the development area. While not all the remains have been dated or fully characterised it has been possible to locate three distinctly dateable areas of activity and to establish that the features are fairly well preserved.
- 7.4.2 Prehistoric remains of a Late Neolithic to Early/Middle Bronze Age date appear to be clustered in the north-western corner of the site, although a Bronze Age pit was also recorded in the east of the site. The evidence is mostly in the form of discrete features with burnt and organic remains and is therefore most likely related to occupation activities. Bronze Age features and flint scatters have been previously recorded within 1km of the site, but the pottery evidence from this evaluation is too scant to make any significant comparisons with what was found to the west and south-west, but it would seem that the activity precedes what was found at Days Road and the Driftway.
- 7.4.3 No definite Roman features were encountered, however, residual pottery was recovered in the southern part of the site and the possibility that Roman deposits or features in this part of the site have been disturbed cannot not be ruled-out. The specific research objectives identified for the Roman period cannot currently, therefore, be addressed.
- 7.4.4 Early medieval evidence of probable structure and boundary was also recorded in the southern part of the site. The findings are unexpected and any further work may clarify if this is part of an isolated farmstead or part of ribbon development along London Road.
- 7.4.5 A 19th century field boundary ditch, land drains and a pond all identified in the geophysical survey were recorded in the central/north-eastern part of the site. Additionally, there was a virtual absence of archaeological remains of other periods in these areas of the site, though prehistoric and undated pits were recorded in Trenches 12 and 15, at the edges of this central/north-eastern zone.

## **7.5 Conclusions**

- 7.5.1 The evaluation has demonstrated that peripheral areas of the site variously contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval archaeology. Late post-medieval activity was also recorded within the central/north-eastern part of the site which was otherwise archaeologically negative.

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**Appendix 1: HER Summary**

<b>HER event no</b>	ESF 24888				
<b>site code</b>	CSM047				
<b>Project code</b>	160443				
<b>Planning reference</b>	n/a				
<b>site address</b>	Land east of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary				
<b>District/Borough</b>	Babergh District				
<b>NGR (12 figures)</b>	TM 0985 3865				
<b>Geology</b>	Red Crag Formation comprising Sand. This is overlain by superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation comprising Diamicton. On-site sandy silt/silt/silty clay with gravel patches was observed.				
<b>Fieldwork type</b>	Eval				
<b>Date of fieldwork</b>	4th-11th November 2016				
<b>Sponsor/client</b>	Persimmon Homes Anglia, commissioned by CgMs Consulting				
<b>Project manager</b>	Andy Leonard				
<b>Project supervisor</b>	Kate Clover				
<b>Period summary</b>	Late Neolithic/ Early –Middle Bronze Age?	Roman?	Medieval	Post- medieval	
<b>Project summary</b>	<p>Archaeological evaluation was conducted on land east of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk, following on from a geophysical survey on the site. Sixteen evaluation trenches were excavated across the 5.4 ha site which comprised a single field under an arable crop.</p> <p>The evaluation has demonstrated that peripheral areas of the site variously contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. Late post-medieval activity was also recorded within the central/north-eastern part of the site which was otherwise archaeologically negative.</p>				

## Appendix 2: OASIS Form

<b>OASIS ID: archaeo16-265692</b>	
<b>Project details</b>	
Project name	Land east of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk
Short description of the project	Archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to residential development. This followed on from a geophysical survey on the site. Sixteen evaluation trenches were excavated across the 5.4 ha site. Peripheral areas of the site variously contained prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. Late post-medieval activity was also recorded within the central/north-eastern part of the site which was otherwise archaeologically negative.
Project dates	Start: 04-11-2016 End: 11-11-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Associated project reference codes	160443 - Contracting Unit No. CSM047 – Sitecode ESF 24888 - HER Event No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	PITS Bronze Age DITCHES Bronze Age PITS Medieval POSTHOLES Medieval DITCH Medieval DITCHES Post Medieval POND Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Bronze Age POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
<b>Project location</b>	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH CAPEL ST MARY Land east of Longfield Road
Postcode	IP9 2UF
Study area	5.5 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 0985 3865 52.006021032173 1.057849835933 52 00 21 N 001 03 28 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 45m Max: 46m
<b>Project creators</b>	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief	CgMs Consulting

originator	
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andrew Leonard
Project supervisor	Kate Clover
Type of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting
<b>Project archives</b>	
Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Physical Archive ID	CSM047
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Glass","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Archive ID	CSM047
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Archive ID	CSM047
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Map","Photograph","Plan"
Entered by	Kate Clover (k.clover@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	1 December 2016

**Appendix 3: Context information for Trenches 2, 3, 6, 9, 10 and 13**

Trench	Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth m	Height aOD m
T2	2/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.32	45.63-46.27
T2	2/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.1	-
T2	2/003	Layer	Natural	-	45.21-45.85
T3	3/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29-0.32	45.73-45.85
T3	3/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.04-0.10	-
T3	3/003	Layer	Natural	-	45.51-45.88
T6	6/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	46-46.34
T6	6/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.03-0.07	-
T6	6/003	Layer	Natural	-	45.67-46.0
T9	9/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.29	46.72
T9	9/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.06-0.09	-
T9	9/003	Layer	Natural	-	46.37
T10	10/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.29	46.36-46.44
T10	10/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.03-0.10	-
T10	10/003	Layer	Natural	-	46.04-46.12
T13	13/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	46.75-45.83
T13	13/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.04-0.10	-
T13	13/003	Layer	Natural	-	46.44



## Appendix 4: Written Scheme of Investigation

**Written Scheme of Investigation for  
Archaeological Evaluation at  
Land East of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk**

**NGR: TM 0985 3865**

**OASIS Number: archaeol6-265692**

**ASE Project no: 160443  
HER Number & Site Code: CSM 047  
Event Number: ESF24888**

**October 2016**

**Archaeology South-East  
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Web: [www.archaeologyse.co.uk](http://www.archaeologyse.co.uk)**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for  
Archaeological Evaluation at  
Land East of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk**

**NGR: TM 0985 3865**

**OASIS Number: archaeol6-265692**

**ASE Project no: 160443  
HER Number & Site Code: CSM 047  
Event Number: ESF 24888  
October 2016**

<b>Prepared by:</b>	Ian Hogg	Senior Archaeologist	
<b>Reviewed and approved by:</b>	Andy Leonard	Project Manager	
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> October 2016		
<b>Revision 1:</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2016		
<b>Revision 2:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> October 2016		

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Archaeology South-East (ASE) on behalf of CgMs Consulting for archaeological evaluation at land east of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk (Figure 1; TM 0985 3865).
- 1.2 The site is located approximately 9km south-west of the centre of Ipswich on the north-eastern edge of Capel St Mary. The site is bound to the west by residential properties on Longfield Road and to the east, in part, by properties and gardens on London Road; the A12 lies beyond. Agricultural fields lie to the north of the site.
- 1.3 This WSI is for archaeological trial trench evaluation comprising fifteen 50m x 1.8m trenches (Figure 2), amounting to a 2.5% sample of the site area.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Site Description and Location**

- 2.1.1 The site comprises relatively flat agricultural land located at approximately 45m aOD.
- 2.1.2 The British Geological Survey indicates that the site is located on Red Crag Formation comprising Sand. This is overlain by superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation comprising Diamicton.

### **2.2 Reasons for Project**

- 2.2.1 A planning application is being prepared for submission to Babergh District Council for the development of the site. In support of the application an archaeological Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2013) and geophysical survey (GSB 2016) have been undertaken.
- 2.2.2 Consultation with Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Officer, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority has confirmed that a programme of trial trench evaluation will be required in order to allow an informed decision to be made as to the requirement for any further archaeological work.
- 2.2.3 The Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (CgMs 2013) highlighted the low to moderate potential for remains of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman date. The potential for all other periods was low. A geophysical survey was undertaken in August 2016 (GSB 2016). The survey found no indication of archaeological type responses; two post-medieval field boundaries as well as other features with likely agricultural or natural origins were identified.
- 2.2.4 This document is a Written Scheme of Investigation for the archaeological evaluation of the site. All work will be undertaken in accordance with this document as well as the standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014). The results of the archaeological evaluation will inform decisions regarding the need for, and extent of, any further archaeological works that may be required in order to mitigate the impact of the development upon the archaeological resource. That decision will be made by SCCAS in their role as advisors to the LPA.

2.2.5 It should be noted that this Written Scheme of Investigation relates to the archaeological evaluation only. Any further work would be subject to a separate Written Scheme of Investigation once the scope of work has been defined.

### 3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The following information is drawn from the Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2013) and is not repeated in full below.

#### 3.2 Prehistoric

3.2.1 No evidence of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic or Neolithic activity has been recorded near the site. Fieldwalking 800m south of the site recorded over 100 worked flints of likely Bronze Age date. A late Bronze Age settlement was recorded during archaeological investigations at Days Road approximately 850m west of the site. Remains included a pit which yielded approximately 500 sherds of Post Deveril Rimbury pottery together with a large amount of burnt stone/flint. The settlement at Days Road continued into the Iron Age. The excavations recorded a Middle Iron Age enclosure ditch and identified the remains of two roundhouses and a number of pits and post holes. Further evidence of Bronze Age/Iron activity was recorded during an archaeological evaluation at The Driftway approximately 1km south west of the site

3.2.2 The site lay in a landscape that was being exploited by the later prehistoric periods; however the sites location away from any water source may not have made it a favourable location during these periods.

#### 3.3 Roman

3.3.1 The projected route of the Roman road from Colchester to Caistor St Edmund (the Pye Road) follows the line of the current A12 which at its closest lies approximately 150m east of the north-eastern most part of the site (Margary 1955).

3.3.2 The excavations at Days Road approximately 850m west of the site, recorded continuation of settlement activity with evidence of a simple post-built structure dating to the 1st-2nd century AD situated within a contemporary field system.

3.3.3 The remains of a high status building/villa were recorded during phases of archaeological investigations on Windmill Hill over 1km south west of the site. In addition a large quantity of reused Roman tile/brick including roof tile, flue tile and hypocaust tile have been recorded within the wall fabric of St Mary's church. The church's location close to the site of the Windmill Hill villa site suggests that this is the most likely source of this material.

3.3.4 A number of isolated finds have been recorded within the vicinity of the site. Roman metalwork was found during metal detecting in a field approximately 500m north east of the site. An isolated miniature bronze object was found in a field approximately 800m south of the site. Fieldwalking of a 59ha area approximately 800m south of the site recorded 3 Roman sherds. A Roman cremation burial was found in a field behind the church approximately 1km west of the site. A further cremation burial in a pot was discovered on the west side of the church during construction work suggesting this may have been the site of a Roman cemetery.

3.3.5 A recent programme of archaeological work undertaken immediately east of the south corner of the site (fronting London Road) has revealed a Roman

oven and ditch (Suffolk CC *pers. comm.*), suggesting that Roman settlement extends further east than previously thought and possibly across the site.

### **3.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval**

- 3.4.1 Capel St Mary was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as lying within the manor of Boynton. By the 13th century the Church of St Mary was constructed and formed the focus of the medieval settlement approximately 1300m south-west of the site.
- 3.4.2 Isolated surface finds dating to the Saxon period were recorded during the excavations at Days Road approximately 850m south-west of the site, but no in situ evidence was found. The bulk of the archaeological remains recorded during the excavations of the multi-period site at Days Road dated to the medieval period (12th-14th centuries AD) and appear to represent a wealthy farmstead with the remains of up to five structures including an aisled building, possibly a hall, a stone lined well, pits, post holes, ovens/kilns, quarries and ditches. Fieldwalking on a 59ha site approximately 800m south of the site recorded 193 medieval finds.
- 3.4.3 The site lay away from the medieval village of Capel St Mary most likely in agricultural land.

### **3.5 Post-Medieval and Modern**

- 3.5.1 During the post-medieval Capel St Mary grew as a linear settlement. A moated house of possible post-medieval date was recorded at Vine House approximately 400m south west of the site. During this period the site continued to occupy farmland, away from the main settlement activity. By the early 19th century the site comprised a mixture of arable land, woodland and meadowland away from any settlement activity. By the late 19th century a large pond, possibly the remains of a former clay pit, occupied part of a field in the centre of the site.
- 3.5.2 There was no subsequent change to the site from the late 19th century to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. In the late 20th century Capel St Mary expanded and development extended up to the western boundary of the site. 7 Little Tufts was constructed as part of this large housing development. The remainder of the site remained under arable cultivation though all the former field boundaries had been cleared by this date

### **3.6 Previous archaeological work**

- 3.6.1 A magnetometer survey was conducted on the site in August 2016 (GSB 2016). The survey found no indication of archaeological responses. Two field boundaries recorded on historic maps were found as well as the 19<sup>th</sup> century pond known to have existed on the site. A number of linear and curvilinear trends were identified but were thought to be of agricultural or natural origin. Ferrous responses were identified as modern structures or debris.

## 4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

### 4.1 Aims

4.1.1 The general aim of the archaeological evaluation is to identify any archaeological features or deposits that will be impacted upon by the proposed housing development, and to enable a mitigation strategy for any remains to be implemented before development takes place.

4.1.2 More specifically, the evaluation aims to establish the location, extent, date, character, significance and quality of preservation of surviving archaeological remains within the development area.

### 4.2 Objectives

4.2.1 The general objectives of the project are:

- To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered.
- To enable CgMs and the County Archaeologist to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work required in order to satisfy the archaeological condition.
- To enable CgMs and the County Archaeologist to determine whether archaeological remains of national significance are present that may warrant preservation in situ.

4.2.2 Given the Roman potential for the site, either in the form of roadside features or possible rural settlement activity, the specific objectives of the project with reference to the *Research and Archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medleycott 2011) are:

- *What forms do the farms take, and is the planned farmstead widespread across the region? What forms of buildings are present and how far can functions be attributed to them?*
- *How far can the size and shape of fields be related to the agricultural regimes identified, and what is the relationship between rural and urban sites?*



## 5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.0.1 An OASIS form has been initiated and an HER number, obtained from the Historic Environment Service (**CSM 047**). This number will be used as the unique site identifier on all primary records. In addition an Event Number has been obtained from the HER (**ESF24888**) and will be referenced on all reports.
- 5.0.2 A Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) will be prepared prior to commencement of the work.
- 5.0.3 At least two weeks written notice will be given to Suffolk Historic Environment Services' monitoring officer prior to the commencement of the fieldwork.
- 5.0.4 The evaluation will consist of fourteen trenches measuring 50m x 1.8m at base and two trenches measuring 25m x 1.8m at base. The trenches have been set out to achieve a largely random sample of the site but taking into account certain logistical aspects such as a mains water pipe and overhead power cables traversing the site. The locations of the trenches are shown in Figure 2.
- 5.0.5 Spoil will be bunded around the edges of the trenches to provide a physical and visible barrier.
- 5.0.6 The trenches will be accurately located using offsets from known positions or a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS).
- 5.0.7 All trenches will be scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. Trenches will be mechanically excavated using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision.
- 5.0.8 Machine excavation will continue to the top of archaeological deposits or the surface of geological drift deposits, whichever is uppermost. The exposed subsoil or archaeological horizon will be cleaned by hand immediately after machine stripping, if required and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.
- 5.0.9 The opportunity to have a meeting on site shall be provided once the trenches are open with CgMs Consulting Ltd and the County Archaeologist to assess the results.
- 5.0.10 Backfilling and compaction will be undertaken by the machine on completion of the work once agreed with SCCAS, but there will be no reinstatement to existing condition.
- 5.0.11 Prior to excavation all trenches will be scanned with a metal detector. Subsequently spoil heaps and trench bases will also be scanned with a metal detector as will the spoil derived from excavated features. Any finds recovered by this method will be suitably bagged in accordance with the standards set out below.

5.0.12 An OASIS online record will be compiled for the project.

**5.1 Standards**

5.1.1 ASE will adhere to the SCCAS requirements for trenched evaluation (SCCAS 2011), the ClfA *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, and Code of Conduct (ClfA 2014a & 2014b), and the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) throughout the project. ASE is a Registered Organisation with the ClfA.

## **5.2 Excavation and Recording**

- 5.2.1 All exposed archaeological features and deposits will be recorded and excavated, except obviously modern features and disturbances.
- 5.2.2 Standard ASE methodologies will be employed. All stratigraphy will be recorded using the ASE context recording system. In the event of encountering archaeological stratigraphy, the single context planning method will be employed and the trench will be excavated to the top of undisturbed deposits.
- 5.2.3 An overall plan related to the site grid and tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid will be drawn in addition to individual plans showing areas of archaeological interest. All features revealed will be planned.
- 5.2.4 Site plans will be at 1:20 unless circumstances dictate otherwise. Plans at other scales will be drawn if appropriate (e.g. cremation burials at 1:10). Sections will be drawn at 1:10.
- 5.2.5 Datum levels will be taken where appropriate. Sufficient levels will be taken to ensure that the relative height of the archaeological/subsoil horizon can be extrapolated across the whole of the development area.
- 5.2.6 Archaeological features and deposits will be excavated using hand tools, unless they cannot be accessed safely or unless a machine-excavated trench is the only practical method of excavation. Any machine-excavation of archaeologically significant features will be agreed with the SCC Historic Environment Services' monitoring officer in advance.
- 5.2.7 With the exception of modern disturbances, normally a minimum 50% of all contained features will be excavated. Modern disturbances will only be excavated as necessary in order to properly define and evaluate any features that they may cut. Normally 10% (or at least a 1m-long segment) of non-structural linear features will be excavated. At least 50% of linear features with a possible structural function (e.g. beam slots) will normally be excavated. Details of the precise excavation strategy and any alterations to it will be discussed with the monitoring officer if particularly significant archaeology is revealed as a result of topsoil stripping. Further discussion and agreement on the approach to the excavation of complex areas may be requested during the project.
- 5.2.8 All articulated human remains, graves and cremation vessels/deposits will receive minimal excavation to define their extent and establish whether they are burials or not. Generally all graves and cremation burials will be recorded and their positions noted without full excavation, only surface cleaning. A decision would then be made on future treatment of the human remains in consultation with the client/ their agent and the Historic Environment Services' monitoring officer and the coroner would be informed. Graves and cremation burials would only be excavated if they have already been disturbed, or if it is decided that a small sample of the burials need be evaluated to assess their condition and preservation. No human remains will be lifted without first obtaining a licence from the Ministry of Justice.

5.2.9 A full photographic record comprising colour digital images, and black and white monochrome film will be made. The photographic record will aim to provide an overview of the excavation and the surrounding area. A representative sample of individual feature shots and sections will be taken, in addition to working shots and elements of interest (individual features and group shots). The photographic register will include: film number, shot number, location of shot, direction of shot and a brief description of the subject photographed.

### **5.3 Finds/Environmental Remains**

5.3.1 In general, all finds from all features will be collected. Where large quantities of post-medieval and later finds are present and the feature is not of intrinsic or group interest, a sample of the finds assemblage will normally be collected, sufficient to date and characterise the feature.

5.3.2 Finds will be identified, by context number, to a specific deposit or, in the case of topsoil finds, to a specific area of the site.

5.3.3 All finds will be properly processed according to ASE guidelines and the ClfA *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014c). All pottery and other finds, where appropriate, will be marked with the site code and context number.

5.3.4 If appropriate, environmental samples will be taken from well-stratified, datable deposits that are deemed to have potential for the preservation/survival of ecofactual material. Bulk soil samples (minimum 40 litres or 100% if less) will be taken for wet sieving and flotation, and for finds recovery. ASE's environmental consultant is Karine Le Hegarat (ASE) and, if necessary, the English Heritage regional scientific advisor will be consulted. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.

5.3.5 Any finds believed to fall potentially within the statutory definition of Treasure, as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, amended 2003, shall be reported to Suffolk's Finds Liaison Officer, CgMs and the LPA's's Historic Environment Services monitoring officer. Should the find's status as potential treasure be confirmed the Coroner will be informed by the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer within fourteen days. A record shall be provided to all parties of the date and circumstances of discovery, the identity of the finder, and the exact location of the find(s) (OS map reference to within 1 metre, and find spot(s) marked onto the site plan).

## **6.0 POST-EXCAVATION, ANALYSIS, REPORTING and ARCHIVE**

### **6.1 Report**

6.1.1 Within four weeks of the completion of fieldwork a report will be produced containing the following information:

- **SUMMARY:** A concise non-technical summary
- **INTRODUCTION:** General introduction to project including reasons for work and funding, planning background.
- **BACKGROUND:** to include geology, topography, current site usage/description, and what is known of the history and archaeology of the surrounding area.

- AIMS AND OBJECTIVES: Summary of aims and objectives of the project
  - METHOD: Methodology used to carry out the work.
  - FIELDWORK RESULTS: Detailed description of results. In addition to archaeological results, the depth of the archaeological horizon and/or subsoil across the site will be described. The nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of any archaeological remains will be described.
  - SPECIALIST REPORTS: Summary descriptions of artefactual and ecofactual remains recovered. Brief discussion of intrinsic value of assemblages and their more specific value to the understanding of the site.
  - DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS: Overview to include assessment of value and significance of the archaeological deposits and artefacts, and consideration of the site in its wider context. Specifically the report will consider relevant regional frameworks (at the minimum *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24*, Medleycott, 2011).
  - APPENDICES: Context descriptions, finds catalogues, contents of archive and deposition details, HER summary sheet. OASIS record sheet
  - FIGURES: to include a location plan of the archaeological works in relation to the proposed development (at an Ordnance Survey scale), specific plans of areas of archaeological interest (at 1:50), a section drawing to show present ground level and depth of deposits, section drawings of relevant features (at 1:20). Colour photographs of the more significant archaeological features and general views of the site will be included where appropriate.
- 6.1.2 Two hard copies and a PDF copy on CD of the report will be supplied to SCCAS Historic Environment Services for the attention of the Senior Historic Environment Officer (Planning). Copies of the report will be supplied to CgMs and one copy to the Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science at Historic England's East of England's offices.
- 6.1.3 A form will be completed for the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/UTH> in accordance with the guidelines provided by English Heritage and the Archaeological Data Service.
- 6.2 Publication**
- 6.2.1 Publication will be by an evaluation report produced within four weeks of the completion of fieldwork. A summary report will also be submitted for publication in the annual fieldwork round-up in a suitable journal. In the event that no further works are planned and exceptional archaeological remains are found which warrant publication in their own right a separate note on these will be produced to a timetable to be agreed with the client and Suffolk's Historic Environment Services' monitoring officer.
- 6.3 Archive**
- 6.3.1 It is intended to deposit the archive with the County store. The Guidelines for preparation and deposition will be followed (SCCAS 2014), as well as those

contained in the ClfA *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (2014d) and the requirements of the recipient museum will be followed for the preparation of the archive for museum deposition.

- 6.3.2 Finds from the archaeological fieldwork will be kept with the archival material.
- 6.3.3 Subject to agreement with the legal landowner ASE will arrange with the recipient museum for the deposition of the archive and artefact collection. Any items requiring treatment will be conserved. The landowner will be asked to donate the finds to the recipient museum.

## **7 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **7.1 Site Risk Assessment and Safety Measures**

- 7.1.1 ASE's Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) system covers most aspects of excavation work and ensures that for most sites the risks are adequately controlled. Prior to and during fieldwork sites are subject to an ongoing assessment of risk. Site-specific risk assessments are kept under review and amended whenever circumstances change which materially affect the level of risk. Where significant risks have been identified in work to be carried out by ASE a written generic assessment will be made available to those affected by the work. A copy of the Risk Assessment is kept on site.

## **8 RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING**

### **8.1 Staffing and Equipment**

- 8.1.1 The archaeological works will be undertaken by a professional team of archaeologists, comprising an Archaeologist with support from up to three Assistant Archaeologists and a surveyor as required. The project is anticipated to take two working weeks.
- 8.1.2 The Archaeologist for the project will be determined once the programme has been agreed with CgMs and will be responsible for fieldwork, post-excavation reporting and archiving in liaison with the relevant specialists. The project will be managed by Andy Leonard (project manager, fieldwork) and Mark Atkinson (project manager, post-excavation).
- 8.1.3 SCC's Historic Environment Services monitoring officer will be notified of the Senior Archaeologist assigned to the project prior to start of works and should any subsequent change of personnel occur. CVs of all key staff are available on request.
- 8.1.4 Specialists who may be consulted are:

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).

- 8.1.5 Other specialists may be consulted if necessary. These will be made known to the monitoring office for approval prior to consultation. Similarly, any changes in the specialist list will be made known to the monitoring office for approval prior to consultation.

## **9 MONITORING**

- 9.1 The SCC/AS monitoring officer will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards on behalf of the LPA throughout the project.
- 9.2 Any variations to the specification will be agreed with the client and the SCC/AS monitoring officer prior to being carried out.
- 9.3 The SCC/AS monitoring officer will be kept informed of progress by the client throughout the project and will be contacted in the event that significant archaeological features are discovered. Arrangements will be made for the monitoring officer to inspect the evaluation trenches before they are backfilled – trenches will not be backfilled without the agreement of the monitoring officer.

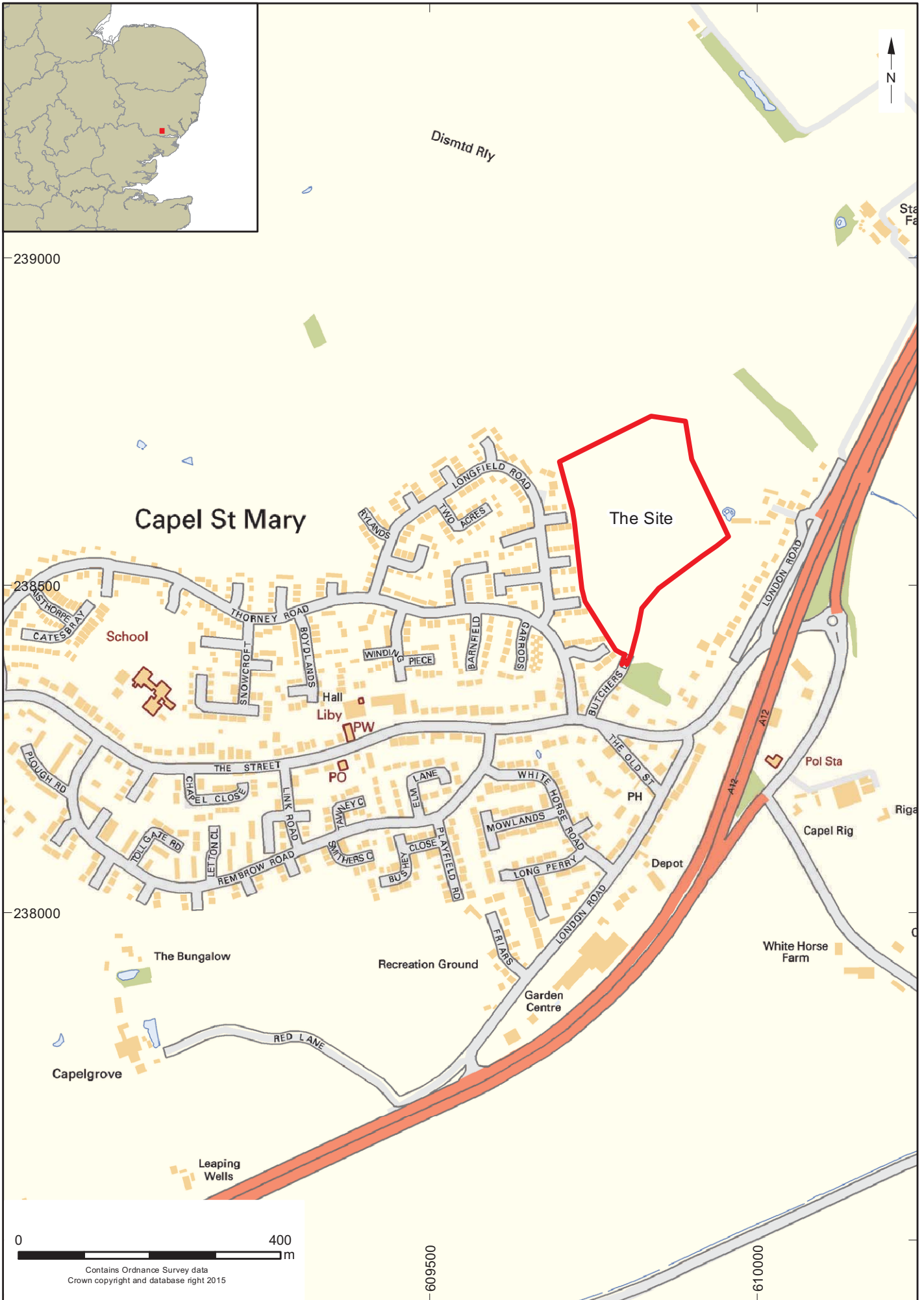
## **10 Insurance**

- 10.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: public liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate for products liability; professional indemnity to the value of £15,000,000 any one occurrence; employer's liability to the value of £50,000,000 each and every loss.

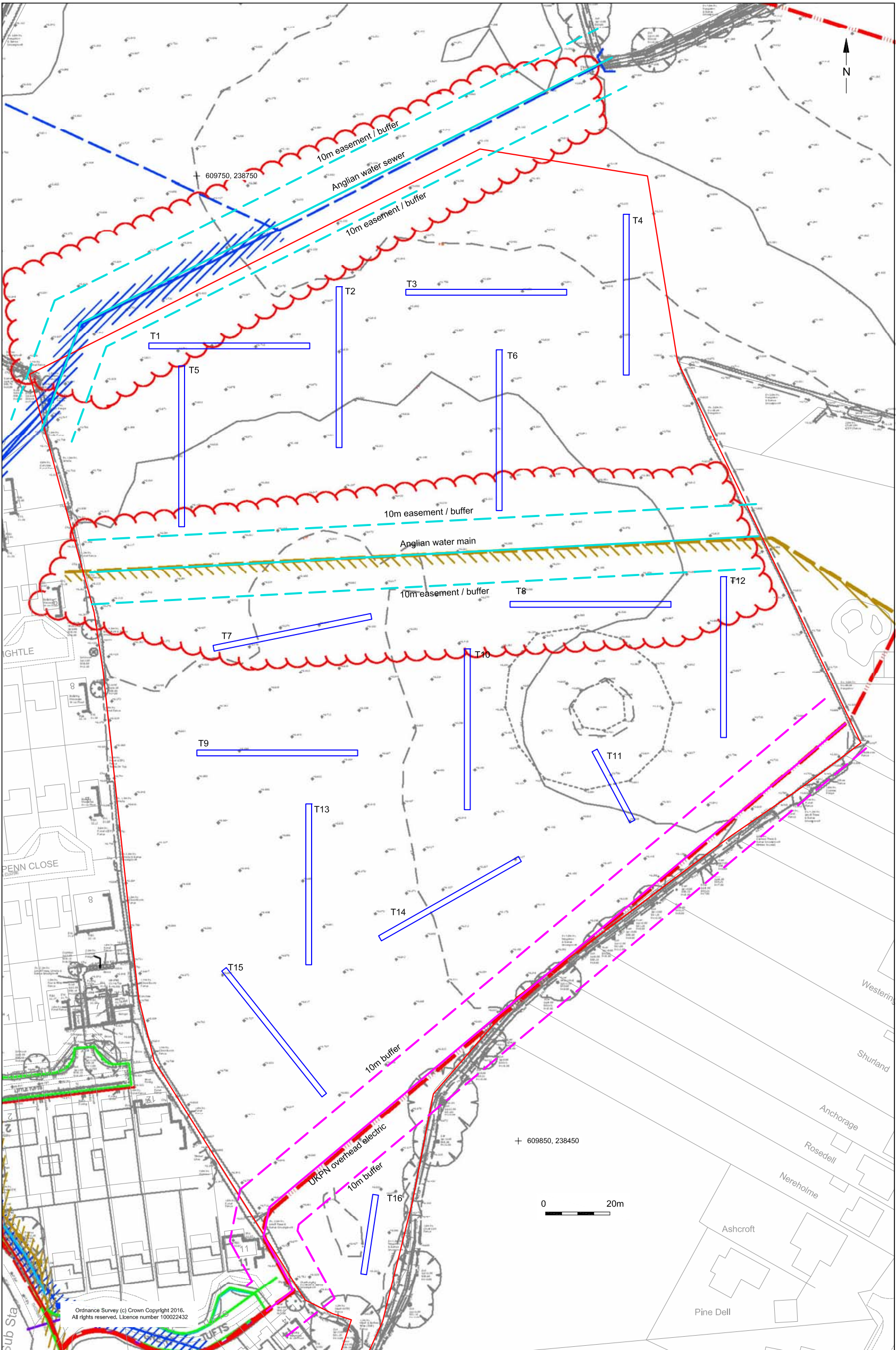
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Accessed 17/10/2016





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Project Ref: 160443	Oct 2016	Site location	
Report No: WSI	Drawn by: APL		



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Project Ref: 160443	Nov 2016	Proposed trench locations with geophysical survey results	
Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: APL		

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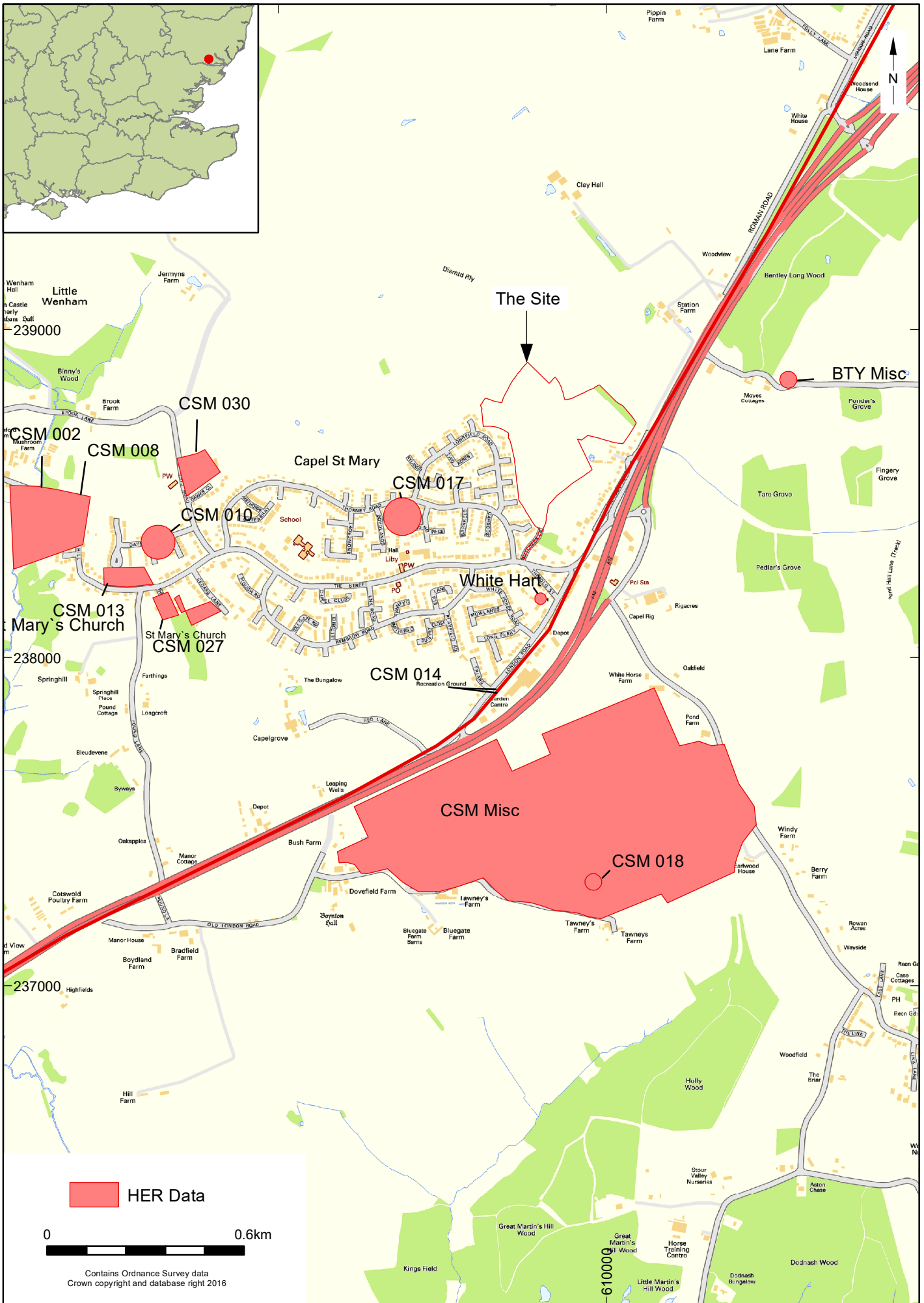
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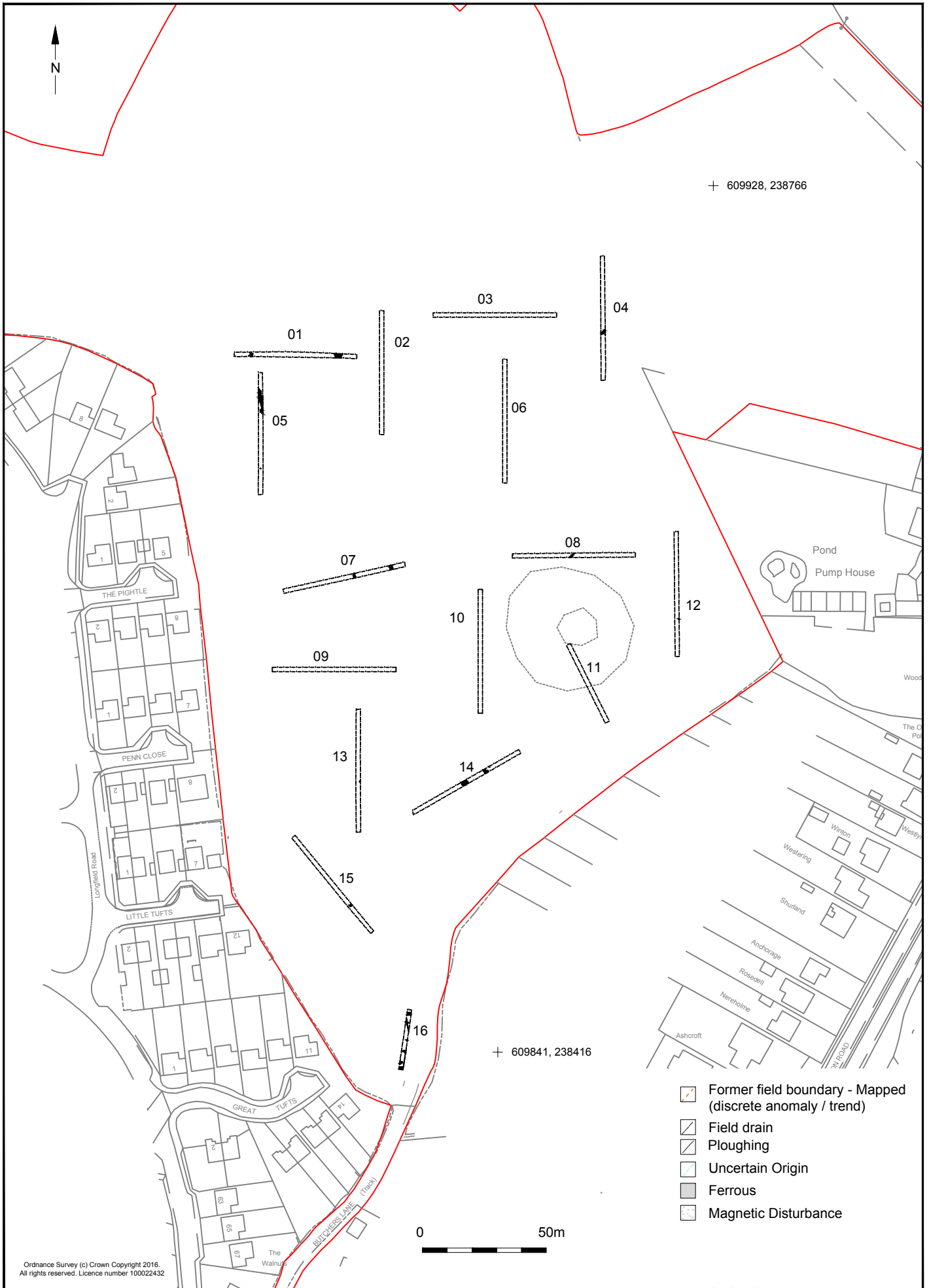
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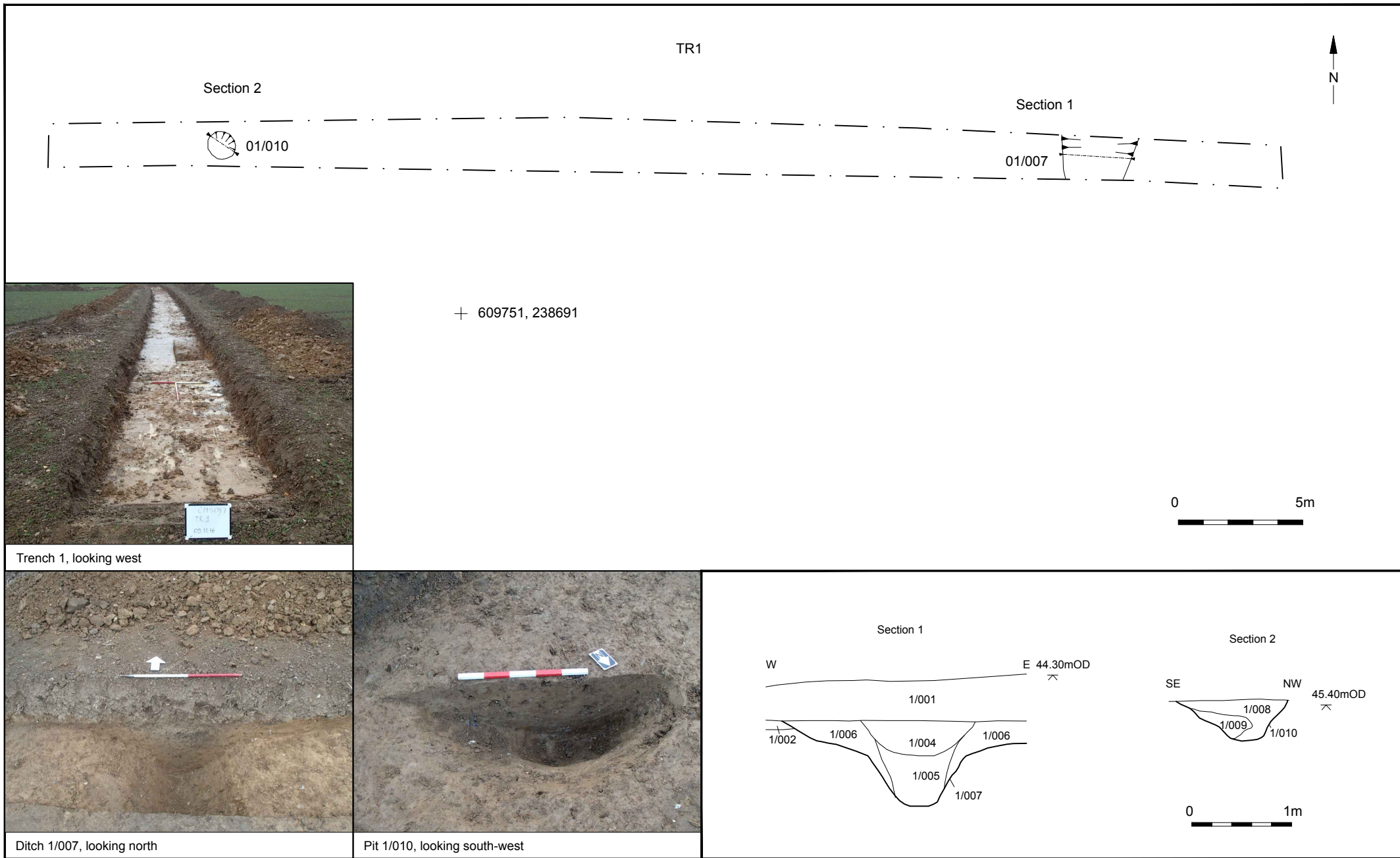




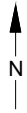
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Project Ref: 160443	Dec 2016	Site location		
Report Ref: 2016471	Drawn by: AR			



© Archaeology South-East		Land East of Longfield Road, Capel St Mary	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 160443	Dec 2016	Trench location, archaeological features and Geophysical survey data	
Report Ref: 2016471	Drawn by: AR		



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Project Ref: 160443	Dec 2016	Trench 1 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016471	Drawn by: AR		



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Section 3

04/005

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Gully 4/005, looking north-east

Section 3

NW

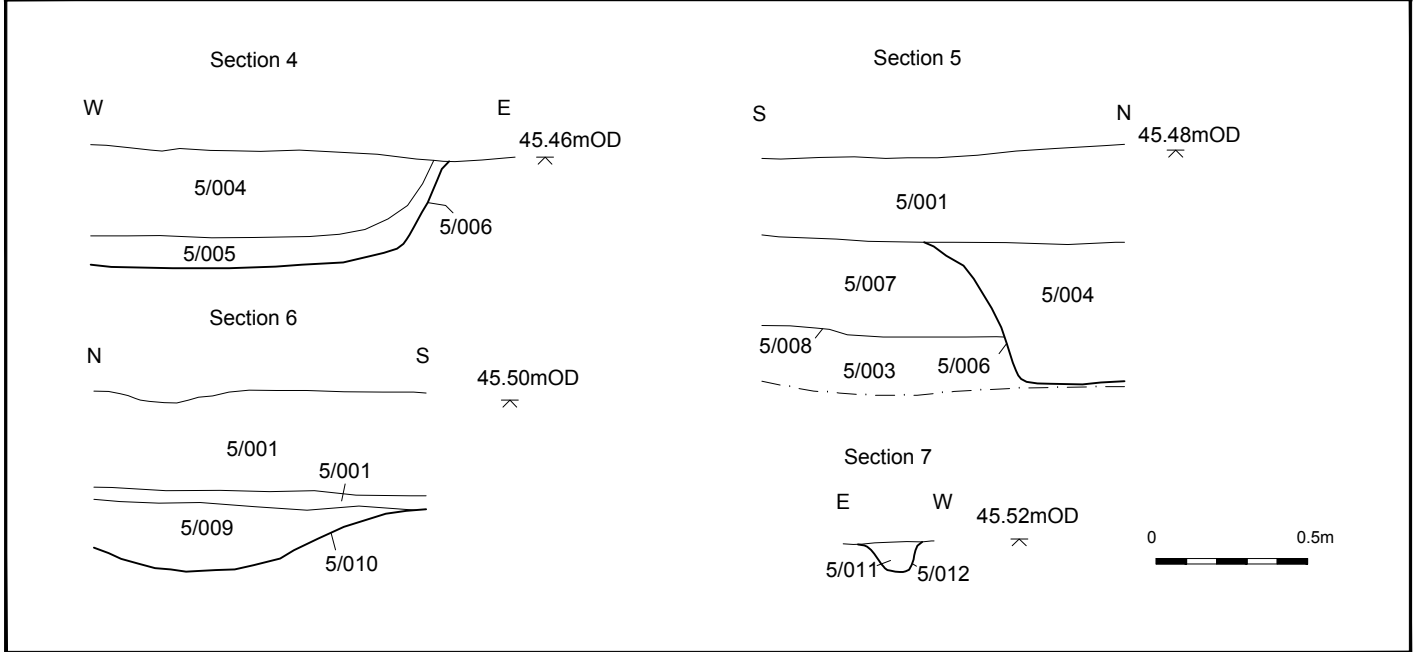
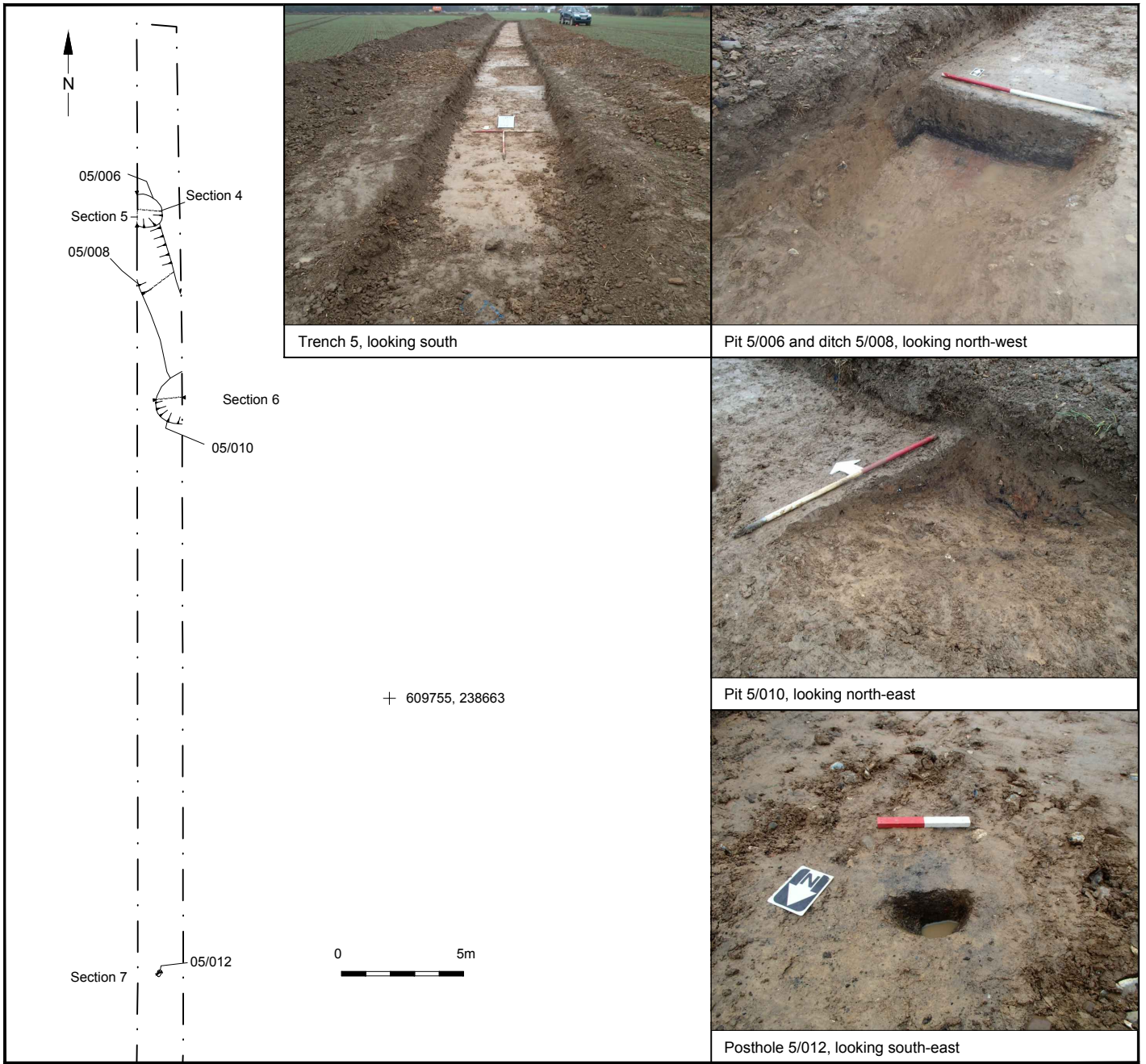
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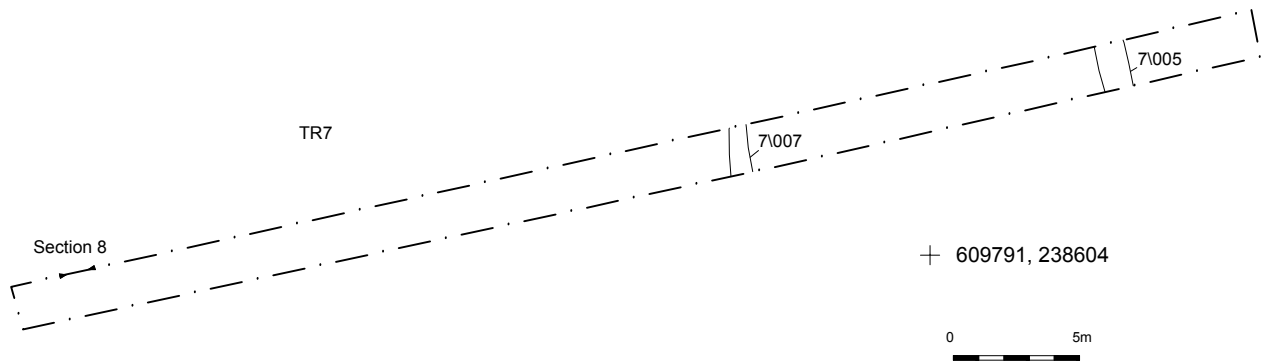
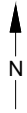
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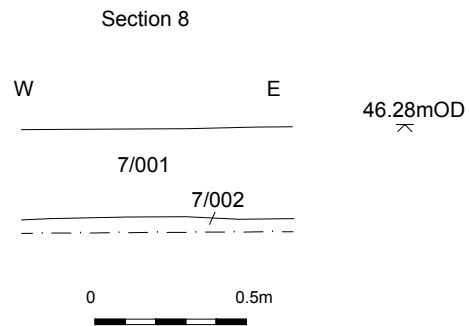


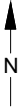
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Project Ref: 160443	Dec 2016	Trench 5, plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016471	Drawn by: AR		





Trench 7, looking east





Section 9  
8/005



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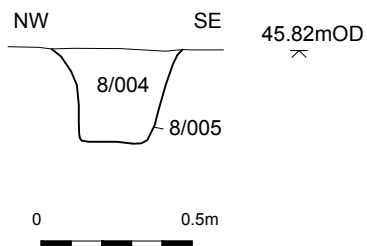


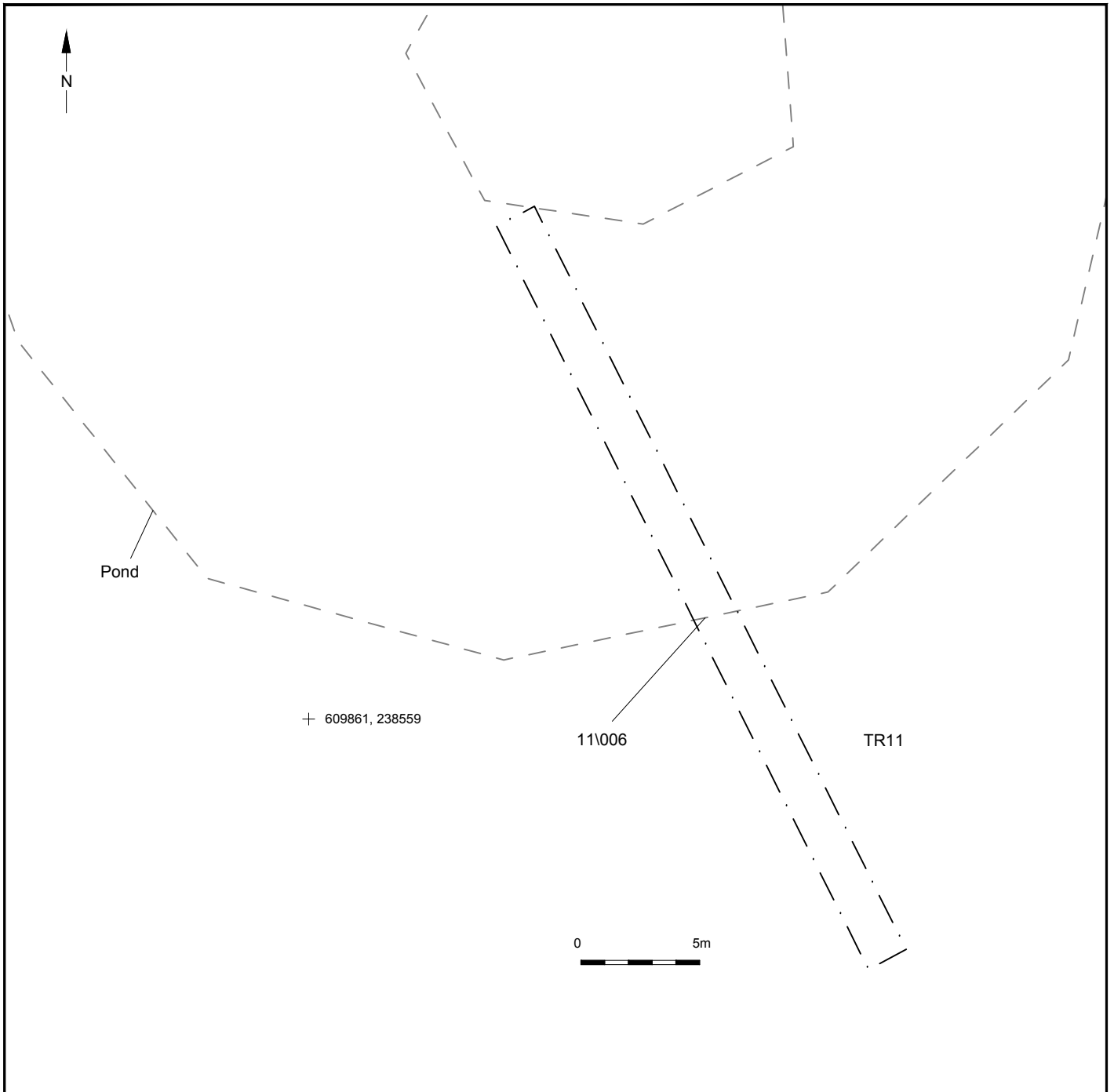
Gully 8/005, looking north-east



Trench 8, looking west

Section 10



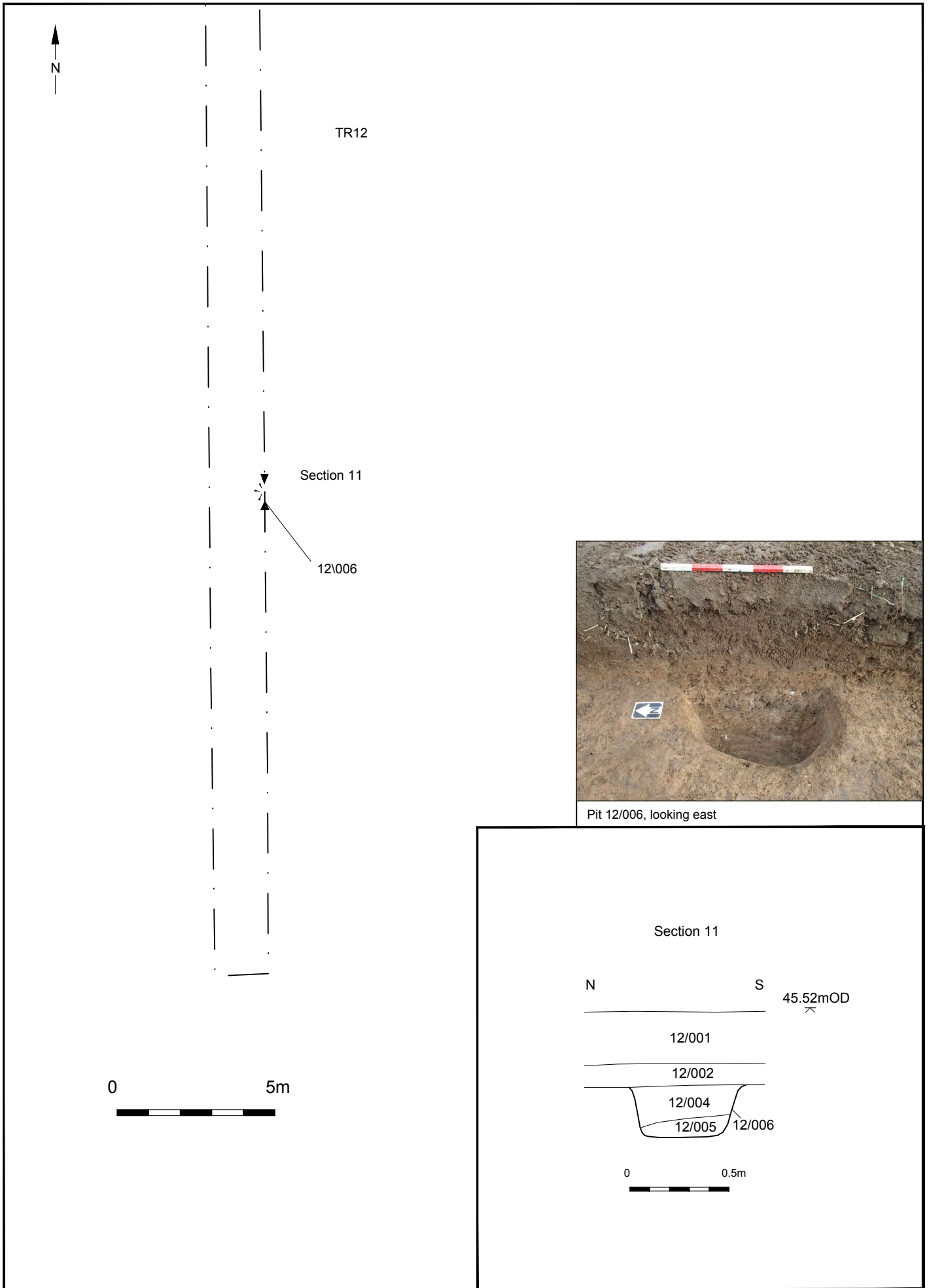


Trench 11, looking north-west

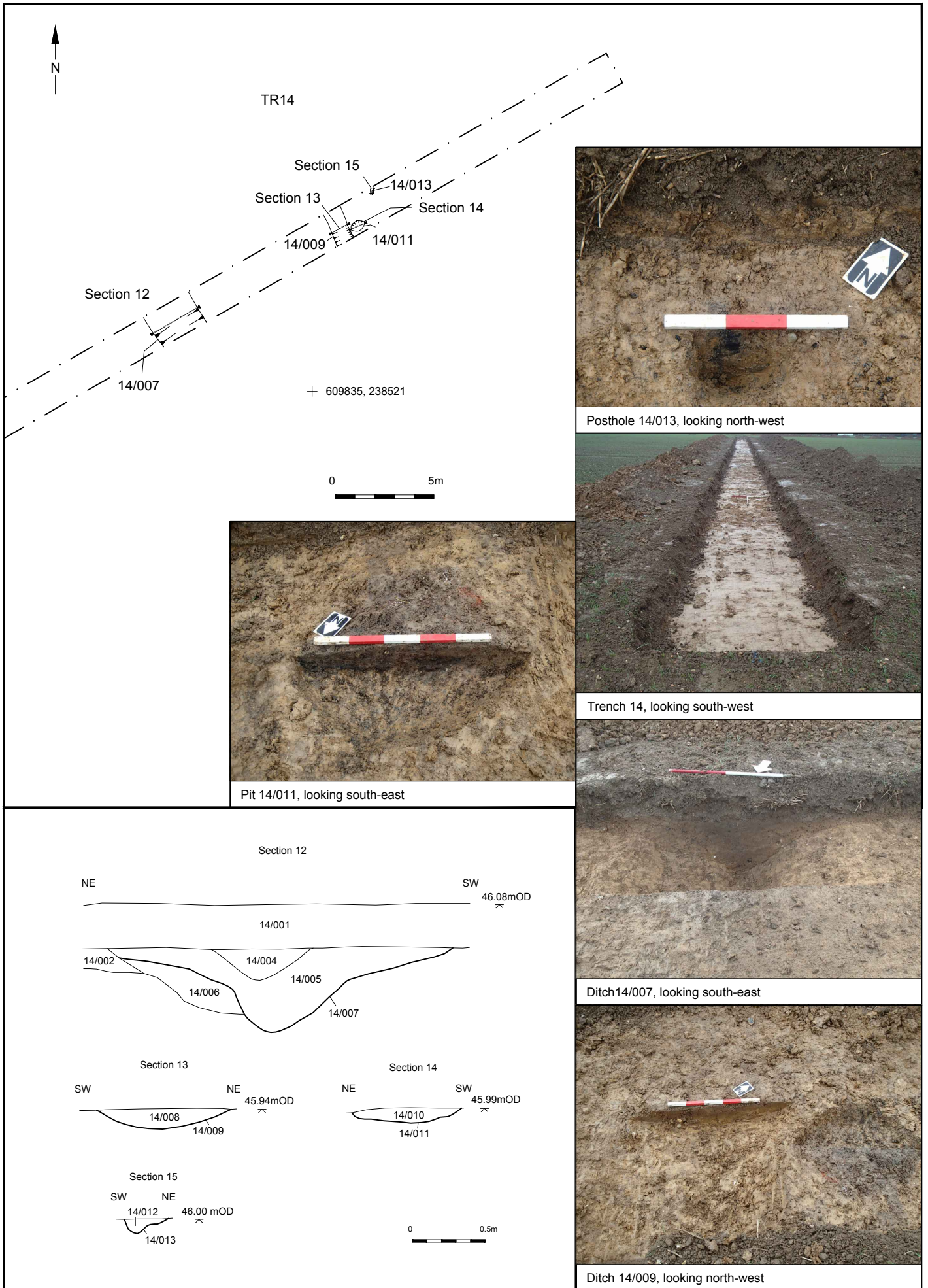


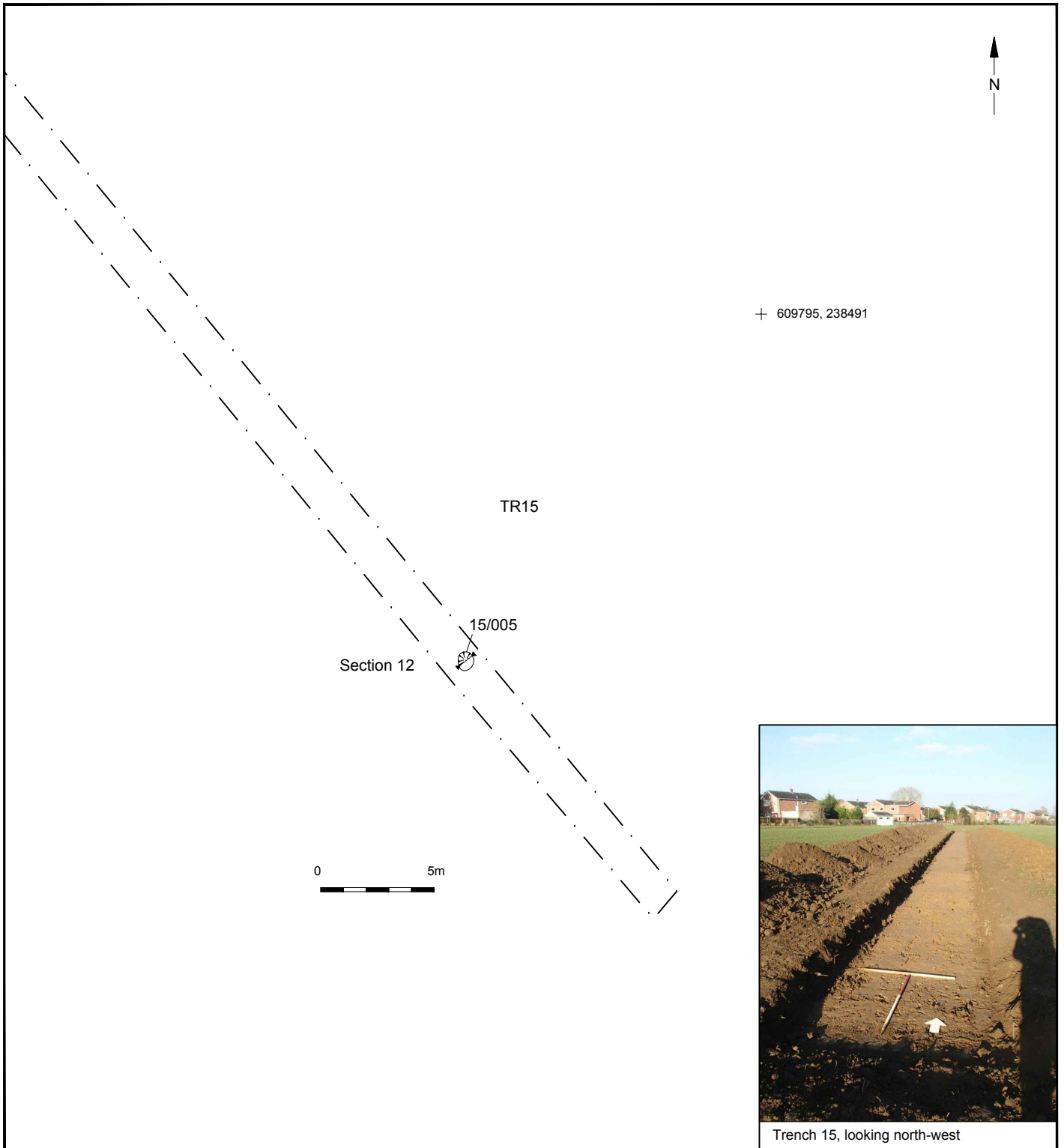
Pond 11/006, looking north-east

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Project Ref: 160443	Dec 2016	Trench 11, plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016471	Drawn by: AR		

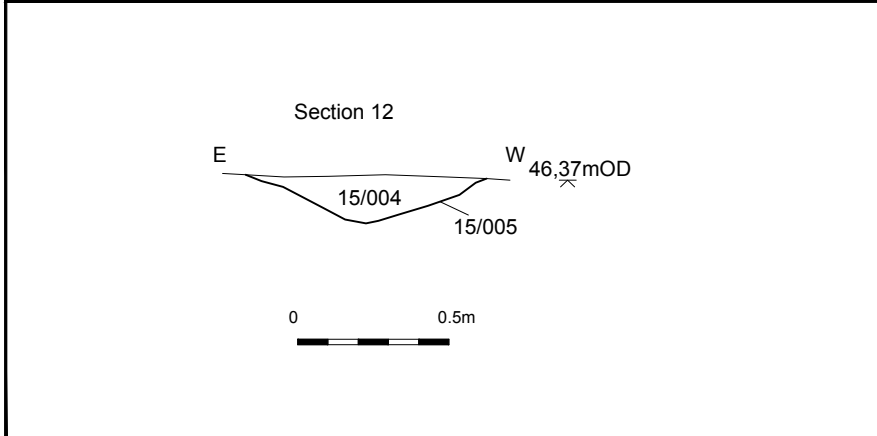


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Project Ref: 160443	Dec 2016	Trench 12, plan section and photograph	
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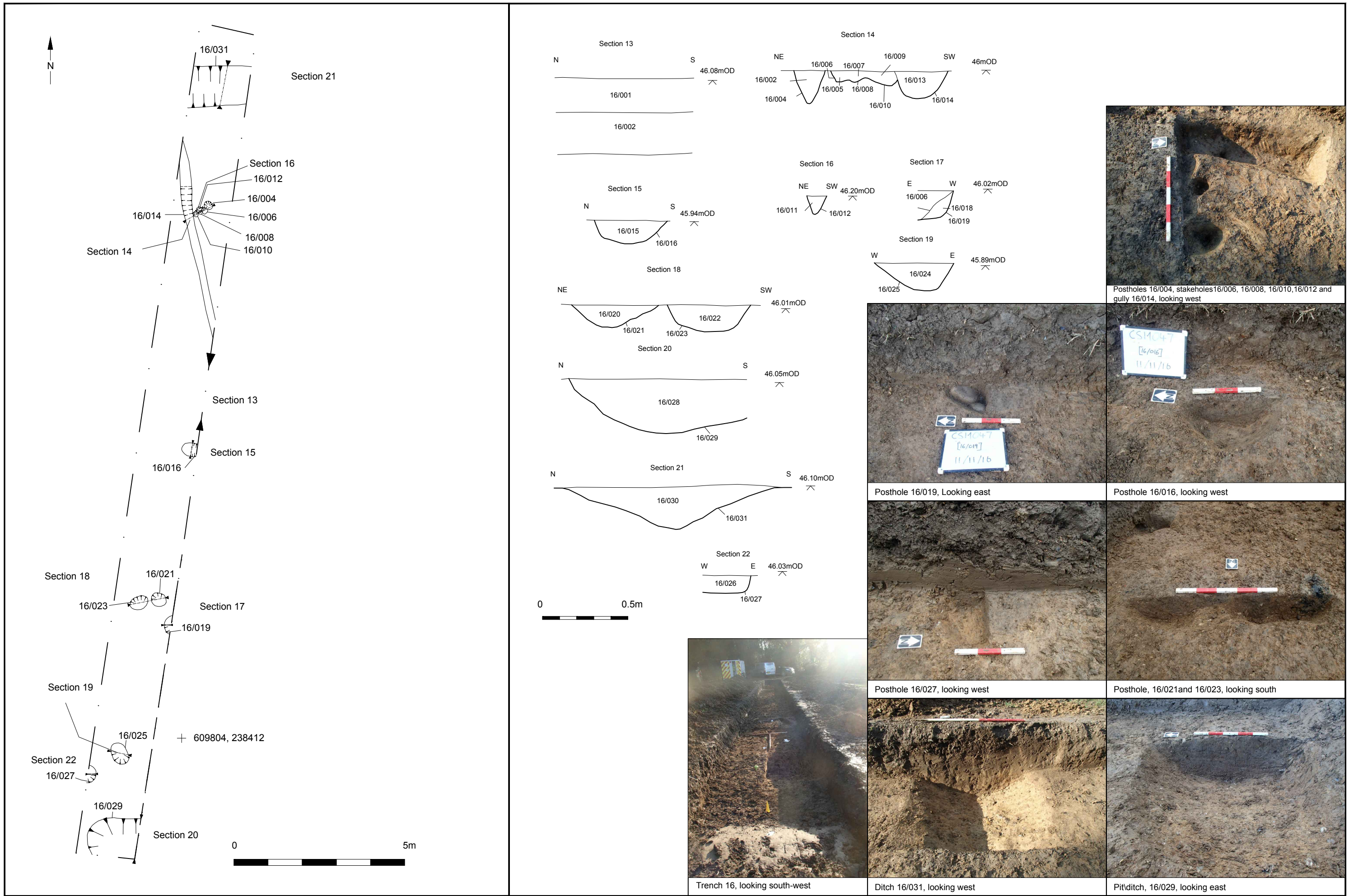


Trench 15, looking north-west

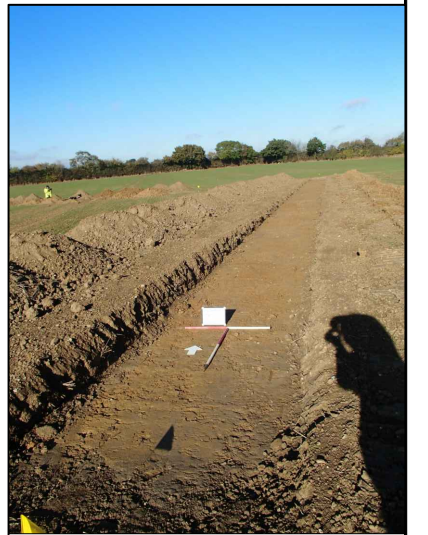
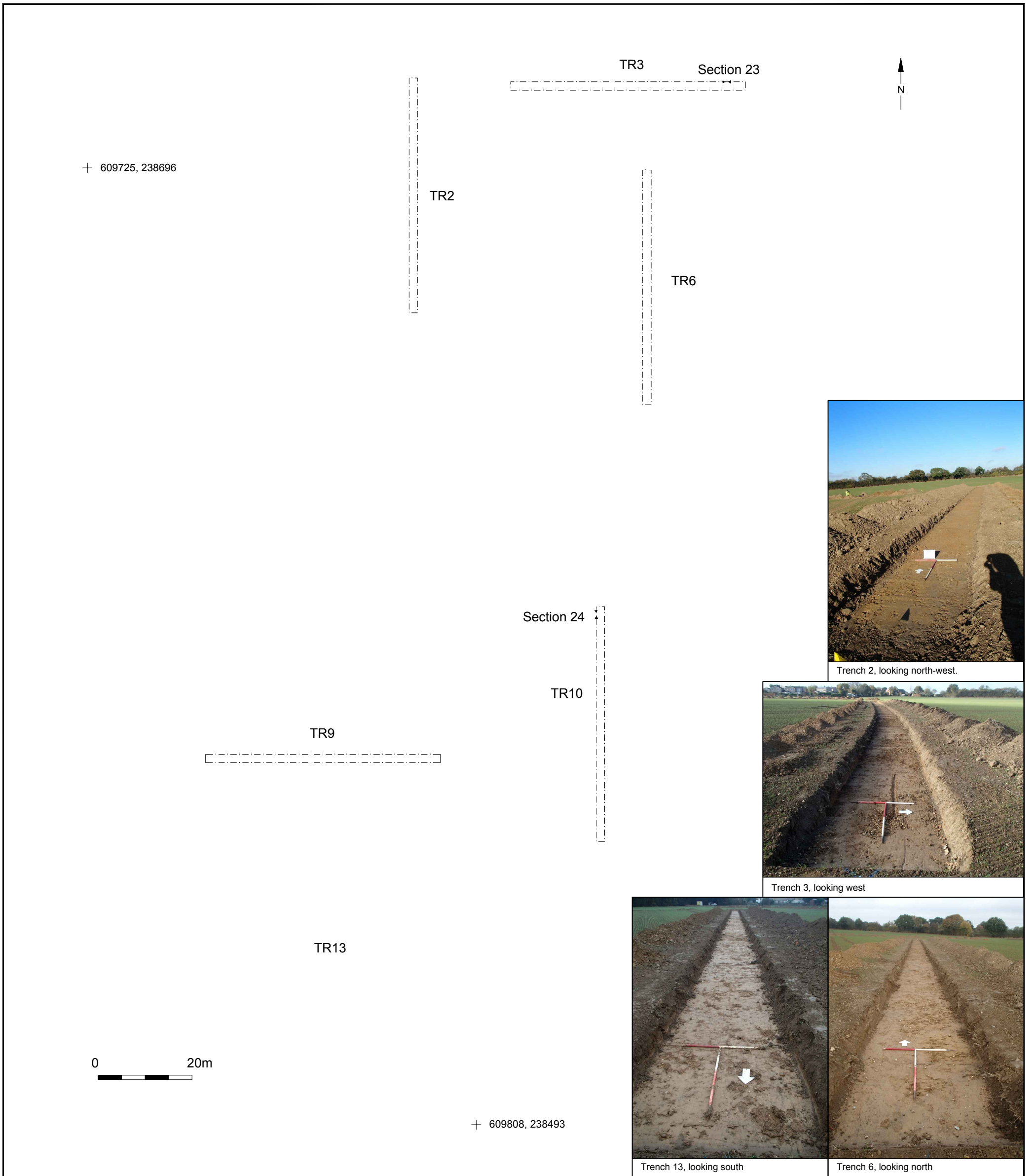


Pit 15/005, looking south-east

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Project Ref: 160443	Dec 2016	Trench 15, plan section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016471	Drawn by: AR		



© Archaeology South-East		Suffolk Land at East of Longfield Road, Caple St Mary		Fig. 12
Project Ref: 160443	Dec 2016	Trench 16, plan, sections and photographs		
Report Ref: 160471	Drawn by: AR			



Trench 2, looking north-west.



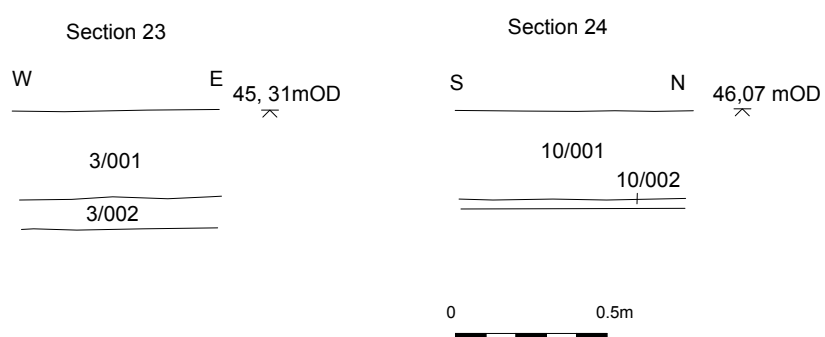
Trench 3, looking west



Trench 13, looking south



Trench 6, looking north



Trench 9, looking east



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