Archaeology South-East

ASE

Archaeological Evaluation

Land off School Road, Phase 1, Elmswell, Suffolk, IP30 9NL

Planning Ref: DC/17/03853

ASE Project No: 170253
Site Code: EWL040

ASE Report No: 2018062

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East on land off School Road, Elmswell, between 22nd January and 8th February 2018. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in advance of residential development of the site and in fulfilment of separate archaeological conditions attached to planning consent.

The trial-trench evaluation of the 4ha site uncovered a reasonably low density of ditches and pits, dating to the Late Prehistoric, Late Saxon/medieval, and post-medieval periods. The majority of these features were identified by the previous geophysical survey of the site. There was a concentration of undated features in the southeast of the site, which were judged to be geological in nature.

Evidence of early activity was limited and comprised a single pit of Late Bronze Age date, and two ditches and a pit of Late Saxon/medieval date within the centre and east of the site. While the finds were sparse, they provide evidence of earlier land use in this area of the site.

A focus of 15th-/16th-century activity is located in the northwest of the site and is bounded by an enclosure ditch, which was utilised until the late 19th century. A possible tile built structure may represent evidence of a kiln or tile-lined cesspit. Other features within this enclosure included a large quarry pit, as well as smaller undated pits, which likely originate from this period. These features are most likely the remains of small-scale activity associated with Elmswell Hall to the immediate north of the site.

Analysis of late 18th- and 19th-century maps demonstrates that the extant boundaries and the nature of land use have not changed since at least that time, except for the removal of the bounded area during the second half of the 19th century.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL), undertook an archaeological evaluation on behalf of CgMs Consulting at land off School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk, IP30 9NL.

1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was carried out as a planning condition for a proposed residential development.

1.2 Location, Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The village of Elmswell lies approximately 10 miles east of Bury St Edmunds and 5.5 miles northwest of Stowmarket, in Mid Suffolk District (NGR TL 9830 6389; Fig. 1).

1.2.2 The site is located to the northwest of Elmswell and comprises agricultural land. The site is bounded by the east/west railway line to the north, residential housing to the east, School Road to the south and Parnell Lane to the west.

1.2.3 The development site is *c.*4ha in extent and consists of arable land. The site is located on gently sloping ground, from *c.*65m AOD in the east down to *c.*55m AOD in the west.

1.2.4 The underlying geology is identified by the British Geological Survey (BGS) as sand of the Crag Group with superficial deposits comprised Diamicton of the Lowestoft Formation (BGS 2017).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A planning application has been submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council (Ref: DC/17/03853) for the residential development of the site in the form of 250 dwellings including car parking, open space provision with associated infrastructure and access on land off School Road.

1.3.2 Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, recommended that an archaeological trial trench evaluation be undertaken in order to determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains within the development area and, where present, that informed mitigation measures be put in place. This advice is in line with guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012) and Planning and Practice Guidance (PPG 2014).

1.3.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation was subsequently produced by Archaeology South-East (2018a), which was approved by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken on land off School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk, and assesses the archaeological potential and significance of the site.

1.4.2 The fieldwork was carried out by Angus Forshaw with assistance from ASE archaeologists and carried out between 22nd January and 8th February 2018. The fieldwork was managed by Andy Leonard and post-excavation by Mark Atkinson and Andy Margetts.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological background of the site has been described comprehensively in previous documents (CgMs 2016; ASE 2018a). The following is a summary of the most pertinent information taken from those earlier reports, the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) and the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database. The locations of sites and find spots are indicated on Figure 1.

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 A field walking survey carried out on land to the southwest of the site recovered at least five worked flints, which dated between the Mesolithic and the Bronze Age (SHER: EWL 035).

2.2.2 A number of isolated Bronze Age artefacts have been found by metal detecting within close proximity of the site and recorded in the PAS database. These included a spearhead tip to the south of the site (PAS: SF689) and a copper chisel *c.*40m to the site's north (PAS: SF-4000E7). A Bronze Age copper pin and an Iron Age brooch were found within School field (SHER: EWL 019).

2.2.3 Further metal detecting to the southwest of the site recorded a possible Iron Age brooch (EWL 014) and an Iron Age coin to the south of the site area (SHER: EWL 023).

2.3 Roman

2.3.1 Metal detecting has taken place across the entirety of the site and has recorded a number of finds of Roman date to the southwest of the site area (SHER: EWL 014) including coins, tweezers and two bow brooches. An artefact scatter of grey pottery sherds and a bronze finger ring were also found during detecting of the area (SHER: EWL 001).

2.3.2 A Roman kiln site was recorded approximately 350m to the south of the site area (SHER: EWL 003) and archaeological investigations 400m southeast of the site recorded remains of a possible Roman enclosure with associated pottery sherds (SHER: EWL 013).

2.3.3 Archaeological trial trenching approximately 140m northeast of the site recorded a probable Roman ditch containing a sherd of pottery, as well as two undated ditches containing animal bone, which are thought to be part of a former field system (SHER: EWL 032).

2.3.4 An isolated Roman coin dating to the 4th century was found *c.*120m southeast of the site (SHER: EWL 005).

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Early Medieval

2.4.1 A concentration of Anglo-Saxon metalwork finds are recorded to the southwest of the site (SHER: EWL 010 and EWL 014). Many of the finds were late Saxon and included a bow brooch, stirrup terminal, hooked tag, bronze brooch, finger

ring, openwork disk with cross and a coin. The quality of these finds could suggest a high status Anglo-Saxon settlement in the vicinity.

2.4.2 Metal detecting on a field *c.*500m south of the site recorded a single find dating to the Saxon period, comprising a mount from an Early Saxon hanging bowl (SHER: EWL 025). This may be indicative of a cemetery site in the vicinity. A number of medieval finds attributed to casual loss were also recorded in this location.

2.4.3 A church at Elmswell was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The medieval church of St John the Divine was built on the site of the earlier church immediately to the south of the study site. The shaft of a late Anglo-Saxon Stone Cross is located in St John's Churchyard, Elmswell (Birch 2004, 117)

2.5 Medieval

2.5.1 A 'thin scatter' of medieval finds were recorded to the southwest of the site as a result of metal detecting, including pottery sherds, coins and strap fittings (SHER: EWL 010 and EWL 014). A number of isolated finds located to the north of the site have been recorded on the PAS database.

2.5.2 Elmswell Hall, *c.*150m north of the site, was originally a 14th-century monastic grange held by Bury St Edmunds Abbey. It was rebuilt as a moated hall in the 16th century (SHER: EWL 002).

2.5.3 The medieval church of St John the Divine lies to the south of the site (SHER: EWL 007). It possibly represents an early settlement of Elmswell, focused on the church, with the church later abandoned and the historic focus of the settlement moved to the east.

2.5.4 A field walking survey carried out to the southwest of the site identified a spread of late medieval brick and pottery possibly indicating potential archaeology (SHER: EWL 035).

2.5.5 Archaeological monitoring of footing trenches at land to the south of Oliver House to the southeast of the site found no archaeological features but recovered two sherds of medieval pottery and two medieval buckles from the spoil (SHER: EWL 021).

2.6 Post-medieval and Modern

2.6.1 A small number of finds have been recovered by metal detecting to the southwest of the site, including a token, buckle, spindle whorl and strap fitting (SHER: EWL 014).

2.6.2 The site is depicted on historic mapping as agricultural land to the west of the core settlement of Elmswell. The site has continued as agricultural land to the present day. A field boundary is visible at the western end of the site on the 1841 Elmswell Tithe Map, though is no longer present on later mapping.

2.6.3 The east/west railway line that bounds the northern extent of the site was constructed by the 19th century.

2.7 Geophysical survey

2.7.1 A magnetometer survey was conducted on the site in 2014 (Walford and Meadows 2014), which detected a number of anomalies within the site area suggestive of archaeological features. A boundary ditch was located in the northwest of the site and correlates with that seen on the 1841 tithe map of the site (SHER: EWL 033). Within the boundary was a sub-rectangular positive anomaly measuring *c.*8m x 3m and interpreted as a possible kiln or brick built structure. Two large anomalies within the bounded area were thought to be quarry pits, while other linear and discrete anomalies across the site were considered to indicate possible ditches and pits.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Project Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 The general aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains and to establish their character, location, extent, date, quality and significance. Any archaeological remains uncovered by the evaluation were to be assessed against the previous fieldwork completed in the area and wider the historic landscape.

3.1.2 Site-specific research aims and questions for this project, with reference to the East of England research frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Medlycott 2011), were:

- Assess if the results identified by the geophysics relate to archaeological features and are accurate
- Examine the inter-relationships between settlements and monuments (Medleycott, 2011, 20)
- What forms do farms take, what range of building-types are present and how can functions be attributed to them? (Medlycott 2011, 47)
- How far can the size and shape of fields be related to agricultural regimes? (Medlycott 2011, 47)

3.2 Fieldwork Methodology

3.2.1 The archaeological evaluation was conducted in accordance with the Written Scheme of investigation (ASE 2018a) and Method Statement (ASE 2018b).

3.2.2 Thirty-eight evaluation trenches were excavated under direct archaeological supervision using a 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. The trenches all measured 2.20m in width and 30m in length.

3.2.3 An additional five trenches were excavated following consultation with the monitoring officer. These trenches measured between 18m and 35m in length and were 2.20m wide. They were positioned over anomalies identified by the geophysics.

3.2.4 Trench 39 was not excavated due to its proximity to a public footpath, and Trench 32 was realigned from east-west to northwest-southeast and parallel with the road.

3.2.5 The trenches were arranged across the site area (Fig. 2). All trenches were accurately located using Global Positioning System (GPS) survey equipment. The trenches represented a 4% sample of the site area.

3.2.6 Standard ASE excavation, artefact collection and recording methodologies were employed throughout, with all work carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a), standards and guidelines (CIfA 2014b, c) and in compliance with *Standards for*

Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003).

3.2.7 Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned with a metal detector, as was the spoil derived from features. The metal detecting was undertaken by an experienced metal detectorist.

3.2.8 A full photographic record comprising colour digital images was made and all trenches and all excavated contexts were photographed. In addition, a number of representative photographs of the general work on site were taken.

3.2.9 Finds, where present, were retrieved from all investigated features/deposits. These were securely bagged and labelled with the appropriate site code and context number on site, and retained for specialist identification and study.

3.2.10 Bulk soil samples were collected from deposits judged in the field to have potential for the recovery of environmental remains (e.g. carbonised or waterlogged plant macrofossils) and/or small artefacts and faunal remains.

3.3 Archive

3.3.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at the county store in due course, subject to the permission of the landowner. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Tables 1a and 1b).

Context sheets	134
Section sheets	13
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	260
Context register	0
Drawing register	2
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	43

Table 1a: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	2 boxes
Registered finds (number of)	7
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	3
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 1b: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Archaeological remains were encountered in twenty-six of the evaluation trenches, the results of which are described in sections 4.3-4.27 below. Elsewhere, the evaluation generally revealed a straightforward sequence of topsoil deposits directly overlying natural strata.

4.1.2 The results from the archaeologically negative trenches are briefly described in section 4.28 and further detail on the deposit sequences recorded in them are tabulated in Appendix 1.

4.1.3 Excavated trench positions are shown in Figure 2, the trench locations with geophysical survey interpretation are presented in Figure 3 and recorded features/deposits are illustrated in Figures 4-29. A plan of the site highlighting the phased features is shown in Figure 32.

4.2 General Soil Descriptions

4.2.1 The overlying deposits were consistent across the majority of the site and were formed of dark brownish grey silt clay topsoil, and were generally up to 0.35m thick. A mid-greyish brown silty clay subsoil was found in the northwest corner of the site and on the eastern edge, and measured up to 0.26m thick. The trenches at the eastern edge of the site contained a slightly different geology to the rest of the site, with the topsoil and subsoil being formed of sandy silt.

4.2.2 The underlying geology was moderately consistent across the site and was predominantly formed of mid orange brown silty clay. The eastern side of the site contained mid orange brown sandy silt natural deposits, while trenches in the northwest corner of the site contained light yellow grey clay.

4.2.3 The archaeological remains were all found below topsoil and subsoil deposits and were cut directly into natural strata.

4.3 Trench 2 (Figure 4)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.75m deep
Ground level: 61.06m AOD (W), 63.45m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.32-0.48
2/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.24-0.26
2/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
2/004	Cut	Ditch	2.20	2.38	0.60
2/005	Fill	Fill, basal	-	0.30	0.12
2/006	Fill	Fill	-	1.47	0.18
2/007	Fill	Fill, upper	2.20	2.38	0.45

Table 2: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 Trench 2 was located in the north-western corner of the site and was aligned east-west. It contained overburden deposits of dark greyish brown topsoil across the length of the trench and mid-orange brown subsoil in the western half of the trench These both overlay light grey silty clay natural.

4.3.2 The trench was targeted over a geophysical linear anomaly running north-south across its western half. A single ditch feature [2/004] was identified within the trench, which shared the geophysical anomalies orientation. The two features may correlate, however, there is some discrepancy in location (c.8m) between the excavated feature and the geophysical anomaly. A modern land drain aligned northwest-southeast was also encountered within the trench.

4.3.3 Crossing the east of the trench on a north-south alignment ditch [2/004] had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 2.38m in width and 0.60m in depth. Its basal fill [2/005] was formed of compact, mid yellow brown silty clay and was 0.30m wide and 0.12m thick. The middle fill [2/006] was formed of light grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded chalk inclusions and two small fragments of ceramic building material (CBM). It measured 1.47m wide and 0.18m deep. The upper fill [2/007], of moderately compact mid brown silty clay, was 2.38m wide and 0.45m in depth and contained four CBM fragments and an iron nail.

4.3.4 The ditch was not seen to continue into any of the surrounding trenches to the north or south.

4.4 Trench 4 (Figure 5)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.36m deep
Ground level: 65.56m AOD (W), 66.63 AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.27-0.31
4/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
4/003	Cut	Ditch, boundary	2.20	2.70	0.95
4/004	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	2.70	0.95

Table 3: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

4.4.1 Trench 4 was located in the north of the site; it was aligned east-west and it contained dark brown silty clay topsoil directly overlying orange brown clay natural. The trench was targeted on a potential feature identified by the geophysical survey of the site, and a single corresponding feature was identified within the trench underlying topsoil deposits and cut into the natural strata.

4.4.2 At the western end of the trench was ditch [4/003], which ran north-south across the trench. The ditch measured 2.70m wide and 0.95m in depth and had steep, concave sides gradually breaking into a flat base. It had a single mid-brownish grey silty clay fill, [4/004], containing occasional small angular flints and chalk. Retrieved from this fill were two fragments of CBM and two of fired clay, seven animal bone fragments, a very worn George II half penny (RF <1>), a fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem dating between the mid 18th and

early 20th centuries and a late post-medieval lead shot that was recovered by metal detecting.

4.4.3 The ditch continued to the south and was recorded as [13/003] in Trench 13, where it was not excavated, and as [40/007] in Trench 40, where it was also excavated.

4.5 Trench 6 (Figure 6)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.35m deep
Ground level: 63.94m AOD (W), 65.51m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.28-0.34
6/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
6/003	Cut	Pit	0.96	0.88	0.22
6/004	Fill	Fill, single	0.96	0.88	0.22

Table 4: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Trench 6 was aligned east-west in the north-western part of the site and it contained a single undated feature. The trench contained dark brown silty clay topsoil overlying compact orange brown silt clay natural.

4.5.2 Located towards the centre of the trench was pit [6/003]. It measured 0.88m wide and 0.96m in length and had steep concave sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill, [6/004], comprising a compact, mid brownish grey silty clay. It measured 0.22m thick. The pit contained no archaeological finds.

4.6 Trench 11 (Figure 7)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.40m deep
Ground level: 62.57m AOD (W), 64.60m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.25-0.35
11/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
11/003	Fill	Fill, upper	1.60	4.50	0.22
11/004	Cut	Pit	1.90	4.50	0.32
11/005	Cut	Pit	1.67	4.20	0.77
11/006	Fill	Fill, upper	1.67	4.20	0.37
11/007	Fill	Fill, primary	-	0.73	0.42
11/008	Fill	Fill	1.90	-	0.30

Table 5: Trench 11 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 Situated in the west of the site, Trench 11 was aligned east-west and was targeted on a feature identified by the geophysics results. It contained overlying topsoil over natural silty clay. Two archaeological features were cut into the natural deposits.

4.6.2 Located towards the east of the trench was pit [11/004]. This feature corresponded with the plotted position of an anomaly identified by the geophysics. The pit was roughly rectangular in plan and measured 4.50m wide and 1.90m in length; it continued beyond the northern trench baulk. The full depth of the feature was not established due to incoming ground water but was in excess of 0.32m. The feature had concave sloping sides and the excavated slot contained two fills. The lower fill, [11/008], of mid greyish brown sand clay measured 0.30m thick and contained fourteen CBM fragments and one piece of animal bone. The upper fill [11/003] was formed of very dark grey silty clay with very common charcoal flecks, as well as a worked flint flake, three pieces of CBM, three sherds of 16th-century pottery, seven fragments of animal bone, an incomplete pair of late post-medieval iron scissors (RF <3>) and a fragment of a probable late post-medieval iron hinge (RF <4>).

4.6.3 Situated towards the centre of the trench was an irregular pit feature [11/005], measuring 1.67m x 4.20m and 0.77m deep, which continued beyond the southern baulk of the trench. It had steep convex sides and contained two fills. The upper fill [11/006] consisted of compact, mid yellowish brown silty sand measuring 0.37m thick and a basal fill [11/007] of mid greyish yellow silty sand 0.42m thick. Fifteen fragments of CBM, comprising brick and peg tile dating to the late 15th and 16th centuries, were recovered from this feature.

4.7 Trench 12 (Figure 8)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.39m deep
Ground level: 65.22m AOD (N), 64.97m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.31-0.34
12/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
12/003	Fill	Fill, single	2.13	1.08	0.45
12/004	Cut	Pit	2.13	1.08	0.45
12/005	Fill	Fill, upper	0.83	1.15	0.10
12/006	Fill	Fill	-	1.07	0.19
12/007	Cut	Pit	0.83	1.15	0.28
12/008	Fill	Fill, basal	-	0.58	0.06

Table 6: Trench 12 list of recorded contexts

4.7.1 Trench 12 was positioned in the north-western part of the site and was aligned north-south. It contained the same stratigraphic sequence as the surrounding trenches of topsoil directly overlying natural strata. Two features were identified within the trench.

4.7.2 Pit [12/004] was located in the north of the trench and against the western trench baulk. The visible area of the feature measured 2.13m wide and 1.08m wide, and was 0.45m in depth. It had straight steep sides leading to a flat base and contained a single fill [12/003] of mid greyish brown sandy clay, with occasional small stone inclusions but no finds.

4.7.3 Further south was pit [12/007], measuring 1.15m wide and 0.83m in length, and it continued beyond the eastern limit of the trench. It contained three fills. Its basal fill [12/008] of moderately friable, mid grey silty clay, which measured 0.58m wide and 0.06m in depth, contained no archaeological finds. Its middle fill [12/006] of dark black/brown silty clay contained common charcoal inclusions suggestive of burning. Eleven pieces of animal bone were retrieved from the middle fill. Environmental soil sample <2> was collected from this fill and contained well-preserved wood charcoal fragments consistent with oak and the Maloideae sub-family, as well as fire-cracked flint, magnetic material, stone and fired clay. The upper fill [12/005] of mid brownish grey sandy clay measured 1.15m wide and 0.10m thick but contained no finds.

4.8 Trench 13 (Figure 9)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.35m deep
Ground level: 66.22m AOD (W), 67.07m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
13/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.27-0.32
13/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
13/003	Cut	Ditch, boundary	2.20	1.52	unex
13/004	Fill	Fill, upper	2.20	1.52	unex

Table 7: Trench 13 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 Trench 13 was situated towards the middle of the site and was aligned east-west. The trench was targeted on a linear feature identified by the geophysical survey.

4.8.2 Ditch [13/003] was aligned north-south. It was located at the western edge of the trench and closely corresponded with the feature identified by the geophysics. The ditch continued beyond the northern, western and southern trench limits and the visible part of the ditch measured 1.52m wide. The ditch was not excavated within this trench but had an upper fill [13/004] consisting of mid-brownish grey silty clay. The ditch continued to the north and south, where it was excavated in Trenches 2 and 40.

4.9 Trench 18 (Figure 10)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.50m deep
Ground level: 63.28m AOD (N), 63.13m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
18/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.25
18/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.20
18/003	Fill	Fill	-	-	0.35
18/004	Fill	Fill	-	-	0.07
18/005	Fill	Fill	-	-	0.16
18/006	Fill	Fill	-	-	0.14
18/007	Fill	Fill	-	-	0.20

18/008	Fill	Fill	-	-	0.60
18/009	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
18/010	Fill	Fill, upper	-	1.88	0.30
18/011	Fill	Fill	-	1.88	0.25
18/012	Cut	Pit	10.80	2.20	0.68
18/013	Fill	Fill, primary	-	1.75	0.20
18/014	Fill	Fill, upper	3.60	1.50	0.35
18/015	Cut	Ditch	3.60	1.50	0.67
18/016	Fill	Fill, primary	-	1.50	0.31

Table 8: Trench 18 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 Trench 18 was located to the west of the site area, positioned on a north-south alignment and contained a large pit and linear feature, both of which were identified by the geophysical survey.

4.9.2 At the northern end of the trench was a large pit feature [18/012], closely corresponding with an anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. The feature extended 10.80m into the trench and continued beyond the western, northern and eastern trench limits. A hand excavated slot measuring 1.88m wide and 0.68m deep was excavated on the southern edge of the feature. It had slightly concave sides and contained three fills. The upper fill [18/010] was formed of compact, mid greyish yellow sandy clay with occasional charcoal and measured 0.30m in thickness. It contained four CBM fragments of probable early post-medieval date. The middle fill [18/011] of dark brownish grey silty sand was 0.25m thick and contained occasional charcoal flecks and small flecks of CBM. The lower fill [18/013] measured 0.20m thick, was mid yellow grey silty sand and contained occasional charcoal inclusions.

4.9.3 A 1m x 1m slot was hand excavated into the centre of the pit for finds retrieval before a toothless machine bucket was used in order to determine the base of the feature. The slot measured 5.33m long by 1m wide and revealed a similar sequence of fills to that of excavated slot [18/012]. Fills [18/010], [18/011] and [18/013], respectively, were equivalent to fill [18/003] of mid greyish yellow sandy clay measuring up to 0.35m thick, fill [18/004], a mid brownish grey silty sand up to 0.07m thick, and fill [18/005], a mid yellowish grey silty sand measuring up to 0.16m thick. Fill [18/010] contained four fragments of probable 15th-16th century date. Below these deposits was fill [18/006]. It measured 0.14m thick and comprised a mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional charcoal fragments . This fill was humic in nature and contained a single pottery sherd dating to the late 12th century and four CBM fragments of probable early post-medieval date. Below this lay fill [18/007] measuring up to 0.20m in thickness and formed of mid yellowish brown sandy clay from which no artefacts were recovered. This overlaid a very dark black/brown silty clay, [18/008], that was at least 0.60m thick and continued beyond the excavated base of the trench. The feature was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.70m, although its depth was not reached. This feature could represent a quarry pit or pond.

4.9.4 At the southern end of the trench was ditch [18/015], which ran on a northwest-southeast alignment across the trench, continuing beyond the western and

southern baulk. The ditch measured 3.60m long and was 1.50m wide, with gradually sloping concave sides leading to a concave base. The upper fill [18/014] consisted of mid greyish brown sandy silt with small flecks of CBM and measured 0.35m thick. The lower fill [18/016] consisted of a mid grey silty sand fill measuring 0.31m thick. No archaeological finds were recovered from this feature. The ditch continued to the southeast, within Trench 25 and into Trench 32, where it was excavated [32/006].

4.10 Trench 19 (Figure 11)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.48m deep
Ground level: 63.85m AOD (W), 65.81m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
19/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.27-0.40
19/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
19/003	Cut	Ditch	2.25	0.63	0.40
19/004	Fill	Fill, single	2.25	0.63	0.40

Table 9: Trench 19 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 Trench 19 was positioned towards the western site boundary and was aligned east-west. The trench contained topsoil deposits overlying natural strata. A single feature was identified within the trench.

4.10.2 Ditch [19/003] ran broadly northeast-southwest across the middle of the trench. It had steep, straight sides and a concave base, and measured 0.63m wide, 0.40m in depth and ran for 2.25m across the trench. Its single fill, [19/004], consisted of compact, light yellowish grey silty clay with occasional chalk and flint inclusions, as well as flecks of charcoal. No finds were recovered. The ditch was found to continue towards the northeast into Trench 40.

4.11 Trench 24 (Figure 12)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.43m deep
Ground level: 67.78m AOD (N), 67.92m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
24/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.34-0.42
24/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
24/003	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	2.25	0.31
24/004	Cut	Ditch	2.20	2.25	0.31
24/005	Fill	Fill, upper	2.20	0.84	0.25
24/006	Fill	Fill, basal	-	0.65	0.10
24/007	Cut	Ditch	2.20	0.84	0.35

Table 10: Trench 24 list of recorded contexts

4.11.1 Trench 24 was located in the east of the site area and was positioned on a north-south alignment. Two possible linear features were encountered within

the trench, underling topsoil deposits and cut into natural geology.

4.11.2 Located towards the north of the trench were two intercutting features. Possible ditch [24/007] ran across the trench on an east-west orientation. The ditch measured 0.84m in width and was 0.35m in depth, with steep straight sides and a flat base. The ditch contained two fills. Its basal fill [24/006], measuring 0.55m in width and 0.10m deep, consisted of mid brownish grey sandy clay and contained a single pottery sherd dating to the 11th century and a possible flint. The upper fill, [24/005], of light yellowish brown sandy clay contained no archaeological artefacts. This fill measured 0.84m wide and 0.25m deep and it was cut by ditch [24/004], both of which were truncated by a modern land drain. A large quantity of land snail shells was observed within this fill and so environmental soil sample <1> was collected. The flot and residue of this sample contained evidence for a range of snail types of varying sizes, as well as small flecks of wood charcoal, fossilised oyster shell fragments, fire-cracked flint and magnetic material. Within the flot of soil sample <1>, modern, uncharred plant remains consisting of cereal stem fragments and rachis were abundant (contributing 90%) and indicative of modern disturbances or contamination.

4.11.3 Ditch [24/004] ran east/west across the trench and cut possible ditch [24/007]. It measured 2.25m wide and 0.31m deep, and had moderately shallow concave sides with a slightly concave base. It contained a single fill, [24/003], formed of moderately compact, mid brownish grey sandy clay. It contained no finds except for a copper-alloy Roman brooch (RF <2>), which was highly worn and likely to be residual.

4.11.4 Neither of the features continued into other trenches across the site.

4.12 Trench 25 (Figure 13)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.38m deep
Ground level: 64.32m AOD (N), 64.17m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
25/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.29-0.38
25/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
25/003	Cut	Ditch, boundary	2.20	2.17	unex
25/004	Fill	Fill, upper	2.20	2.17	unex
25/005	Cut	Ditch, boundary	3.34	2.05	unex
25/006	Fill	Fill, upper	3.34	2.05	unex

Table 11: Trench 25 list of recorded contexts

4.12.1 Trench 25 was aligned north-south and was located at the western edge of the site area. The trench was targeted on a linear feature identified by the geophysics. Two features were identified within the trench, though neither was excavated.

4.12.2 Located at the northern end of the trench was ditch [25/003], which ran east-west across the trench. The ditch measured 2.17m wide and appeared to have

an upper fill, [25/004], of mid greyish brown silty clay. The ditch corresponded with that identified by the geophysical survey, but it was not excavated within this trench. The ditch continued towards the north of the site where it was excavated within Trench 40 and Trench 4.

4.12.3 At the southern end of the trench was ditch [25/005], which ran on a northwest-southeast alignment. It measured more than 3.34m by 2.05m and continued beyond the southern and western trench limits. Its exposed upper fill, [25/006], comprised mid grey brown silty clay. The ditch was found to continue within Trench 18 to the northwest, where it was excavated, and in Trench 32 to the southeast, where it was excavated.

4.13 Trench 26 (Figure 14)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.38m deep
Ground level: 64.88m AOD (W), 66.41m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
26/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.25-0.32
26/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
26/003	Fill	Fill, single	0.60	1.65	0.70
26/004	Cut	Pit	0.60	1.65	0.70

Table 12: Trench 26 list of recorded contexts

4.13.1 Trench 26 was located in the southwest of the site and was aligned east/west. The trench contained mid grey brown topsoil overlying natural deposits of mid-yellow brown silty clay. A single feature, underlying topsoil deposits and cut into the natural strata, was investigated within the trench.

4.13.2 Pit [26/004] was located against the southern baulk of the trench and towards the eastern end. Its exposed extent measured 0.60m by 1.65m and 0.70m in depth. The pit had steep, slightly concave sides leading to a concave base and contained a single fill [26/003] formed of compact mid greyish-brown silty clay. There were no finds recovered from within the feature. The base of the feature was only partially exposed, due to incoming water levels and feature depth.

4.14 Trench 27 (Figure 15)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.43m deep
Ground level: 67.06m AOD (N), 66.75m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
27/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.29-0.46
27/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
27/003	Fill	Fill, upper	2.20	1.19	0.14
27/004	Fill	Fill	-	0.97	0.23
27/005	Fill	Fill, primary	-	0.78	0.19
27/006	Cut	Ditch	2.20	1.19	0.45
27/007	Fill	Fill, upper	1.25	0.50	0.07

27/008	Fill	Fill	-	0.45	0.28
27/009	Cut	Pit/rooting	1.25	0.60	0.35

Table 13: Trench 27 list of recorded contexts

4.14.1 Trench 27 was positioned in the southern half of the site and was targeted on a possible feature identified by the geophysics. Two archaeological features were excavated within the trench.

4.14.2 Located at the northern end of the trench was an east-west aligned ditch [27/006], which correlated with the feature identified by the geophysical survey. The ditch had steep straight sides and a flat base and measured 1.19m wide and 0.45m in depth. It contained three fills. The primary fill, [27/005], measuring 0.19m thick, was formed of mid greyish brown sandy silt and included frequent flecks of charcoal and CBM. The overlying fill [27/004] consisted of mid yellowish brown sand clay up to 0.23m thick, while the upper fill [27/003] of mid greyish brown sandy silt measured 0.14m in thickness. The upper fill contained three fragments of Late Saxon pottery and three pieces of animal bone , while the lower fills contained no finds.

4.14.3 Further south towards the middle of the trench was a small pit or tree rooting [27/009]. The feature was irregular in plan and measured 0.60m x 1.25m and was 0.35m in depth. The feature had two fills: an upper fill [27/007] of dark greyish brown sandy silt, containing frequent flecks of CBM and charcoal, and a lower fill [27/008] of friable mid orange brown silty sand. A sherd of late 12th-century pottery, a worked flint flake and three pieces of fire-cracked flint were recovered from the upper fill of this feature, whilst no finds were retrieved from the lower fill. The lower fill appeared to run underneath natural strata, suggestive of rooting activity.

4.15 Trench 28 (Figure 16)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.40m deep
Ground level: 67.26m AOD (W), 67.90m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
28/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.29-0.35
28/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
28/003	Fill	Fill, upper	0.86	1.47	0.25
28/004	Fill	Fill, basal	-	0.63	0.13
28/005	Cut	Tree throw	0.86	1.47	0.25
28/006	Fill	Fill, upper	5.90	0.55	0.18
28/007	Fill	Fill, basal	-	0.42	0.27
28/008	Cut	Ditch	5.90	0.73	0.35
28/009	Fill	Fill, single	0.35	0.33	0.15
28/010	Cut	Posthole	0.35	0.33	0.15
28/011	Fill	Fill, single	0.29	0.24	0.07
28/012	Cut	Posthole	0.29	0.24	0.07
28/013	Fill	Fill, single	0.30	0.28	0.06

28/014	Cut	Posthole	0.30	0.28	0.06

Table 14: Trench 28 list of recorded contexts

4.15.1 Positioned in the southern half of the site on an east-west alignment, Trench 28 contained four discrete features and a linear feature cut into the natural strata and underlying topsoil deposits.

4.15.2 A small sub-circular feature, [28/005], measuring 1.47m wide and 0.25m in depth, was located in the middle of the trench and extended beyond the northern baulk. Interpreted as a probable tree bowl, the feature had irregular sides and base. It contained two fills: an upper fill [28/003] of dark brownish grey sandy silt and a friable, basal fill [28/004] of mid greyish brown sandy silt. There were no finds recovered from the feature.

4.15.3 Ditch [28/008] ran broadly northwest-southeast across the eastern end of the trench. It measured 5.90m in length, 0.73m in width and 0.35m in depth and had moderately steep, slightly convex sides gradually breaking into a concave base. The upper fill [28/006], measuring 0.18m deep, was formed of dark blackish brown clayey silt with small flecks of charcoal and it contained five undiagnostic fragments of CBM or fired clay. The lower fill, [28/007], consisted of dark brownish grey clayey silt with occasional chalk flecks, but it contained no finds. It is possible that this ditch continues into Trench 27 to its northwest, though it was not found to continue to the southeast.

4.15.4 Situated west of ditch [28/008] were three possible postholes: [28/010], [28/012] and [28/014]. The postholes were all of a similar shape and size; they were broadly circular in plan and measured 0.29-0.35m in length, 0.24-0.33m in width and up to 0.15m in depth. They all contained similar fills of dark blackish brown sandy silt. A single small and abraded fragment of possible prehistoric pottery was recovered from fill [28/011] of posthole [28/012]; the remaining two postholes did not contain archaeological finds.

4.16 Trench 29 (Figure 17)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.47m deep
Ground level: 68.09m AOD (N), 68.20m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
29/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.28-0.35
29/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.03-0.12
29/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
29/004	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	3.25	0.31
29/005	Cut	Geological feature	2.20	3.25	0.31
29/006	Cut	Pit	0.38	1.20	0.22
29/007	Fill	Fill, single	0.38	1.20	0.22

Table 15: Trench 29 list of recorded contexts

4.16.1 Trench 29 was located in the southeast of the site and was aligned north-south.

It contained dark grey brown silty sand topsoil and light grey brown subsoil deposits over natural strata formed of orange brown silty sand. Two features were cut into the natural strata.

4.16.2 At the southern end of the trench was a large irregular feature [29/005]. It measured 3.25m wide and 0.31m deep and extended beyond the eastern and western sides of the trench. The feature had irregular sides leading to a curved irregular base, and contained a single fill, [29/004], of moderately friable, dark grey brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions. There were no finds within the fill, and it likely represents a geological variation of the natural geology.

4.16.3 Located immediately to the north and extending beyond the western trench baulk was pit [29/006]. The exposed extent of the pit measured 0.38m by 1.20m and 0.22m deep, and had straight sides leading to a flat base. It contained a single fill [29/007] of friable, mid grey brown silty sand containing rare charcoal flecks, from which no finds were recovered.

4.16.4 In the centre of the trench was a large irregular deposit of mid grey brown silty sand, [29/004]. A *c*.2m x 0.75m slot was investigated by hand excavation. The sterile and irregular nature of the fill was suggestive of a natural geological feature, [29/005], and so was not investigated further.

4.17 Trench 31 (Figure 18)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.65m deep
Ground level: 68.06m AOD (N), 68.30m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
31/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.29-0.39
31/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.18
31/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
31/004	Cut	Ditch	2.20	2.52	0.29
31/005	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	2.52	0.29

Table 16: Trench 31 list of recorded contexts

4.17.1 Trench 31 was positioned at the eastern edge of the site and was aligned north-south and broadly parallel to the site boundary. The trench was located in an area identified by the geophysics results as having magnetic disturbance. It contained overlying dark grey brown silty sand topsoil and light grey brown silty sand subsoil overlying natural strata formed of orange sand. A single archaeological feature was encountered within this trench

4.17.2 Located towards the northern end of the trench was possible ditch [31/004] on an east-west orientation. It measured 2.52m in width and 0.29m in depth, and had slightly irregular sides and an irregular base. Its single fill [31/005] was formed of mid grey brown silty sand with occasional rounded stones and rare charcoal inclusions. Recovered from this fill were two 12th-century pottery sherds, a worked flint flake, two fragments of probable early post-medieval CBM, a piece of oyster shell and a residual Roman iron nail (RF <5>).

4.17.3 Three patches of mid grey brown sand were also observed within the trench. These were all investigated but were judged geological in origin and so were not recorded.

4.18 Trench 32 (Figure 19)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.61m deep
Ground level: 64.34m AOD (NW), 64.98m AOD (SE)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
32/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.41-0.61
32/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
32/003	Fill	Fill, upper	10.30	0.50	0.14
32/004	Fill	Fill	-	1.20	0.35
32/005	Fill	Fill	-	1.40	0.68
32/006	Cut	Ditch, boundary	10.30	1.40	0.68
32/007	Fill	Fill, upper	4.26	1.30	unex
32/008	Cut	Ditch	4.26	1.30	unex

Table 17: Trench 32 list of recorded contexts

4.18.1 Trench 32 was located in the southwest of the site area and was aligned northwest-southeast. It contained dark grey brown, compact silty clay topsoil overlying compact orange brown silty clay natural deposits. Two linear features were identified within the trench.

4.18.2 Ditch [32/006] ran broadly northwest-southeast across the northwestern end of the trench and was the continuation of ditch [25/005] to the north. The ditch measured 1.40m at its widest excavated point, and 0.68m in depth and ran for approximately 10.30m across the trench. Its upper fill [32/003] measured 0.14m in depth and comprised compact, light yellow silty sand with occasional small stone inclusions, from which a single piece of fire-cracked flint was retrieved. Below this was fill [32/004], measuring 0.35m thick, which consisted of compact, dark brown silty sand, but it contained no finds. The lowest excavated fill [32/005] of light greyish brown silty sand was excavated to a depth of 0.68m. The full depth of the feature was not reached, due to in coming water levels and depth of trench.

4.18.3 Located in the southern part of the trench was broadly east/west aligned ditch [32/008]. The ditch measured 1.30m wide and ran for 4.26m across the trench. It was not excavated within this trench but continued to the east, where it was excavated within Trench 33 as [33/008].

4.19 **Trench 33** (Figure 20)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.37m deep
Ground level: 66.47m AOD (N), 65.90m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
33/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.30-0.31
33/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
33/003	Fill	Fill, upper	1.19	1.24	unex
33/004	Cut	Pit	1.19	1.24	unex
33/005	Fill	Fill, upper	2.20	1.70	0.43
33/006	Fill	Fill	-	0.86	0.22
33/007	Fill	Fill, basal	-	0.55	0.12
33/008	Cut	Ditch	2.20	1.70	0.70

Table 18: Trench 33 list of recorded contexts

4.19.1 Trench 33 was located at the south of the site, on a north-south alignment, and contained dark grey brown topsoil overlying a mid greyish yellow natural deposit. There were two features encountered within the trench, one of which was identified by the geophysical survey as a discrete anomaly interpreted as probable archaeological remains.

4.19.2 Located towards the middle of the trench was a small pit [33/004] measuring 1.19m long and 1.24m in width, with a very dark blackish brown silty sand fill, [33/003]. The pit was not excavated due to the nature of the fill, which appeared to be from very recent activity.

4.19.3 Towards the southern end of the trench was west-northwest to east-southeast ditch [33/008], which was the eastward continuation of ditch [32/008] in Trench 32. The feature was 1.70m wide and 0.70m in depth and contained three fills. The upper fill [33/005] consisted of mid greyish brown silty clay and measured 0.43m deep. It contained two fragments of CBM of probable early post-medieval date and two pieces of iron, including a probable bucket handle dating between the 19th and early/mid 20th centuries. The middle fill, [33/006], was similar, formed of dark greyish brown silty clay, but contained no finds. The basal fill, [33/007], was formed of compacted, mid reddish brown silty clay measuring up to 0.12m in thickness, from which no finds were retrieved.

4.20 Trench 34 (Figure 21)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.36m deep
Ground level: 66.52m AOD (W), 67.65m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
34/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.28-0.34
34/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
34/003	Cut	Geological feature	2.20	6.50	0.66
34/004	Fill	Fill, upper	2.20	6.50	0.54
34/005	Fill	Fill, basal	-	3.0	0.30

Table 19: Trench 34 list of recorded contexts

4.20.1 Trench 34 was targeted on an anomaly identified by the geophysics as a possible geological trend. The trench was located in the south of the site, broadly parallel to School Road to its south, and was aligned east-west. A single feature, potentially of geological origin, was uncovered in the trench.

4.20.2 The large possible geological feature measured 6.50m wide and 2.20m in length, running north-northeast to south-southwest across the trench. Two hand-excavated slots were dug on the eastern and western edges of the feature, before it was machined excavated to establish its full depth. The feature contained two fills: a basal fill, [34/005], of moderately compact, dark greyish brown clayey silt measuring up to 0.30m in depth, and an upper fill, [34/004], of mid grey brown silty clay measuring 0.54m in thickness. No finds were recovered from within either fill. The feature continued into Trench 42 to its immediate north, where it was not excavated.

4.21 Trench 35 (Figure 22)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.36m deep
Ground level: 67.94m AOD (N), 67.82m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
35/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.27-0.28
35/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.05-0.08
35/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
35/004	Fill	Fill, single	1.39	1.55	0.14
35/005	Cut	Tree throw	1.39	1.55	0.14
35/006	Fill	Fill, single	0.32	0.38	0.17
35/007	Cut	Posthole	0.32	0.38	0.17
35/008	Fill	Fill, single	0.30	0.26	0.26
35/009	Cut	Posthole	0.30	0.26	0.26
35/010	Fill	Fill, single	0.30	0.33	0.16
35/011	Cut	Posthole	0.30	0.33	0.16

Table 20: Trench 35 list of recorded contexts

4.21.1 Trench 35 was positioned towards the south of the site and was on a north-south alignment. A tree-throw and three possible postholes were identified within the trench.

4.21.2 Situated in the centre of the trench was an oval feature, [35/005], likely representative of a tree-throw. It had irregular sides and base and measured 1.55m wide, 1.39m long and up to 0.14m in depth. Its single fill [35/004] of friable, dark greyish brown silty sand contained no finds.

4.21.3 Three possible postholes, [35/007], [35/009] and [35/011], were located in the southern half of the trench. The postholes were broadly circular in plan, and measured 0.30-0.38m long and 0.26-0.32m wide. They had steep, straight sides with U-shaped bases, and all contained mid greyish brown fills, measuring between 0.16-0.27m in depth. Two fragments of copper-alloy were found, one each from fill [35/006] and [35/010].

4.22 Trench 36 (Figure 23)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.55m deep
Ground level: 68.19m AOD (W), 68.08m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
36/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.29-0.31
36/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.11-0.12
36/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
36/004	Fill	Fill	-	0.72	0.67
36/005	Fill	Fill	-	0.77	0.45
36/006	Fill	Fill	-	2.20	0.72
36/007	Fill	Fill, basal	-	1.12	0.30
36/008	Cut	Geological feature	15.0	2.20	0.72
36/009	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	1.60	0.23
36/010	Cut	Geological feature	2.20	1.60	0.23
36/011	Fill	Fill, single	4.07	1.20	0.15
36/012	Cut	Geological feature	4.07	1.20	0.15

Table 21: Trench 36 list of recorded contexts

4.22.1 Trench 36 was located towards the southeast of the site and was aligned east-west. The trench contained overlying topsoil and subsoil deposits over natural strata. Two large irregular features were present within the trench.

4.22.2 Located largely across the western half of the trench was a large irregular feature, measuring 15m east to west. Two slots, [36/008] and [36/010], were excavated in order to investigate the feature. Slot [36/008], measuring 1m x 2m, was positioned at the western end of the feature. It contained four fills. The upper fill [36/004] was formed of dark grey sand measuring up to 0.67m deep and 0.72m in width. Fill [36/005] lay underneath, measuring 0.45m thick, and

consisted of light greyish brown friable sand. The two lower fills, [36/006] and [36/007], were both fairly similar and formed of grey brown sand. All of the fills were very clean and sterile, and no finds were recovered from any fill deposits. Slot [36/010], measuring 1.10m x 1.67m, revealed a single light grey brown sandy fill, [36/009], measuring 0.23m deep and this also contained no finds.

4.22.3 Further east was irregularly shaped feature [36/012] .Extending beyond the southern trench limit, it measured 4.07m by 1.20m and 0.15m deep, and contained a single fill, [36/011], of friable, light grey brown sand that produced no finds.

4.22.4 Both features appear to be geological variations as opposed to archaeological remains.

4.23 Trench 37 (Figure 24)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.50m deep
Ground level: 68.06m AOD (N), 68.21m AOD (S)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
37/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.20
37/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.30
37/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
37/004	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	3.81	-
37/005	Cut	Geological feature	2.20	3.81	-
37/006	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	0.70	-
37/007	Cut	Geological feature	2.20	0.70	-
37/008	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	2.21	-
37/009	Cut	Geological feature	2.20	2.21	-
37/010	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	2.08	0.24
37/011	Cut	Ditch	2.20	2.08	0.24

Table 22: Trench 37 list of recorded contexts

4.23.1 Trench 37 was positioned in the southeast of the site and was aligned north-south. The trench contained dark grey brown silty sand topsoil and light grey brown silty sand subsoil overlying natural strata, which were formed of mid orange brown silty sand. Four possible features were investigated within the trench.

4.23.2 Three of the excavated features, [37/005], [37/007] and [37/009] ran approximately east-west across the southern half of the trench. All contained fills of very friable, light grey brown sandy silt and contained no finds. The features were judged as geological and were not fully recorded.

4.23.3 An irregular feature [37/011] ran across the northern end of the trench. It was irregular in plan and continued off the eastern and western limits of the trench. It measured 2.20m x 2.08m and 0.24m deep, and had slightly convex sides

and an irregular base. Its single fill [37/010] was formed of very friable clean, mid grey brown silty sand, from which no finds were recovered. This feature was also considered to be geological in origin.

4.24 Trench 38 (Figure 25)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.51m deep
Ground level: 68.12m AOD (NW), 68.21m AOD (SE)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
38/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.33-0.51
38/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
38/003	Fill	Fill, single	5.52	2.20	0.18
38/004	Cut	Geological feature	5.52	2.20	0.18
38/005	Fill	Fill, single	0.83	0.88	0.17
38/006	Cut	Pit	0.83	0.88	0.17
38/007	Fill	Fill, single	0.79	0.56	0.14
38/008	Cut	Pit	0.79	0.56	0.14

Table 23: Trench 38 list of recorded contexts

4.24.1 Trench 38 was located in the southeast corner of the site and was aligned east-west, parallel to School Road. Three features, comprising two pits and a probable geological feature, were encountered in the trench.

4.24.2 Located at the western end of the trench was large, irregular feature [38/004]. It measured 5.52m x 2.20m at its widest point and continued beyond the northern and southern trench edges. The excavated slot, measuring 1.21m x 0.67m, contained a single dark grey brown silty sand fill, [38/003], but no archaeological finds. The fill was very similar to the overlying trench deposits and so the feature was judged to be of natural origin.

4.24.3 Two small possible pits lay either side of the likely geological feature. Located to the east, pit [38/006] was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.83m x 0.88m, and had moderately sloping sides and a curved base. It contained a single dark brown silty sand fill, [38/005], measuring 0.17m in depth. There were no finds within the fill.

4.24.4 Situated in the western half of the trench, pit [38/008] was oval in plan and had moderately sloping sides leading to a curved base. It measured 0.56m wide, 0.79m long and 0.14m in depth and contained a single fill, [38/007], of dark brown silty sand, from which no finds were recovered.

4.25 **Trench 40** (Figure 26)

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.36m deep
Ground level: 65.32m AOD (W), 66.71m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
40/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.29-0.35
40/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
40/003	Cut	Gully	2.55	0.62	unex
40/004	Fill	Fill, upper	1.00	1.98	0.60
40/005	Fill	Fill	-	0.30	0.35
40/006	Fill	Fill	-	0.34	0.55
40/007	Cut	Ditch, boundary	1.00	2.62	0.60
40/008	Fill	Fill, upper	-	0.50	0.13
40/009	Fill	Fill	-	0.88	0.23
40/010	Fill	Fill	-	0.38	0.15
40/011	Fill	Fill	-	0.73	0.15
40/012	Fill	Fill, basal	-	1.05	0.04
40/013	Fill	Fill, basal	1.00	1.17	0.10
40/014	Masonry	Wall			
40/015	Fill	Fill, basal	1.00	2.20	0.25
40/016	Cut	Pit?	1.00	2.20	0.37
40/017	Fill	Fill, upper	1.00	1.25	0.17
40/018	Cut	Pit?	1.00	1.25	0.25
40/019	Cut	Pit?	1.00	1.15	0.38
40/020	Fill	Fill	1.00	1.57	0.23
40/021	Fill	Fill	1.00	0.70	0.14
40/022	Fill	Fill, upper	2.55	0.62	unex

Table 24: Trench 40 list of recorded contexts

4.25.1 Trench 40 was an additional trench, which was positioned over an anomaly identified by the geophysical survey as a possible kiln/brick structure, as well as over part of an enclosure ditch. It contained three features cut into natural deposits and underlying topsoil.

4.25.2 Ditch [40/007] crossed the centre of the trench on a north-south alignment and it is a southward continuation of ditch [4/003]. The ditch measured 2.62m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.60m. It contained three fills and had steep straight sides; the base was not reached due to water ingress. Its lower fill, [40/006], was formed of dark brownish grey sandy clay, and contained frequent flecks of undiagnostic CBM. This was overlaid by a mid yellowish brown moderately firm sandy clay, [40/005], measuring up to 0.35m thick. The upper fill, [40/004], measured 1.98m wide and was at least 0.60m deep, and it comprised a mid brownish grey silty clay. This fill contained 154 fragments of probable early post-medieval CBM, as well as an unknown, post-medieval iron object (RF <6>). All three fills continued beyond the excavated base of the trench.

4.25.3 To the west of ditch [40/007] was a large feature, which continued off the northern and southern trench edges. Three slots were hand excavated into the feature to investigate its use. Slot [40/018], measuring *c*.1m wide, was excavated in the eastern end of the feature and revealed it had straight sides leading to a flat base. The slot contained two similar fills. Its basal fill [40/013] consisted of very dark black/brown silty clay with common charcoal and measured 0.10m in thickness. No finds were recovered from this fill. The upper fill, [40/017], also comprised compact, dark black/brown silty clay with common flecks of CBM and charcoal throughout but no diagnostic artefacts were hand collected. It measured 0.17m thick and it was sampled for environmental evidence. Soil sample <3> contained an assemblage of wood charcoal including fragments of oak, birch and the Maloideae sub-family, the single remains of a possible pea, a small quantity of land snail shells, as well as oyster shell fragments, fire-cracked flint, magnetic material and a fossil.

4.25.4 Slot [40/016] was excavated in the middle of the feature and it measured 2.20m by 1.0m. The slot revealed a different set of fills to slot [40/018] to its east, though it had a similar basal fill, [40/015], formed of very dark grey brown silty clay with common CBM flecks and sub-rounded stones but no datable finds. This deposit lay adjacent to, and above, a possible tile wall [40/014] and floor surface located in the southern part of the intervention. The possible tile wall was up to eight courses thick and one course wide, with the possible surface to its south consisting of single tiles placed directly onto natural strata. Fill [40/020] was immediately above [40/015] and was formed of mid reddish brown silty clay with very common CBM inclusions but no diagnostic artefacts. In places, it was almost indistinguishable from [40/015] other than it contained much higher quantities of CBM flecks. It likely represents a dump deposit placed after the possible structure had come to the end of its use. At the southern end of the slot was fill [40/021], which was light grey brown compacted clay and devoid of archaeological finds. The fill was only present over the area of possible floor tiles and may be a sealing deposit of the possible structures interior to the south of the trench.

4.25.5 At the western end of the large feature another slot, [40/019], measuring 1.0m x 1.15m, was excavated. The slot contained five fills. At the base of the feature was a very dark black/brown silty clay, [40/018], containing frequent charcoal and measuring 0.02m thick. No archaeological finds were recovered from this fill. Overlying [40/018] was a thin layer, [40/012], of charcoal material from which forty fragments of probable early post-medieval CBM were retrieved. This was overlain by a moderately friable, mid greyish brown sandy clay, [40/011], with frequent flecks of CBM but no diagnostic finds. This fill was very similar to [40/015] to the east and it likely represents the same deposit continuing westwards. Above this fill was a moderately firm, mid greyish brown silty clay [40/010] with frequent chalk and twenty-eight fragments of CBM most likely dating to the early post-medieval period. Fill [40/009] lay above this deposit and comprised a mid greyish brown silty clay from which eleven CBM fragments, probably dating to the early post-medieval period, were recovered. The upper fill, [4/008], of dark brown sandy clay was likely the same as fill [40/020] to its east. It contained common CBM flecks but no diagnostic finds. On the southern side of the intervention was the continuation of tile built 'wall' [40/014], broadly east-west aligned; it consisted of *c.*7 courses of tiles.

4.25.6 The feature may relate to a kiln or industrial feature or perhaps a brick-lined cesspit.

4.25.7 At the western end of the trench was unexcavated gully [40/003]. The gully was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 2.50m long and 0.62m wide. The ditch was not excavated within this trench, as it was a northeast continuation of ditch [19/003] in Trench 19 located to the southwest.

4.26 Trench 41 (Figure 27)

Dimensions: 25.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.38m deep
Ground level: 67.46m AOD (NW), 67.61m AOD (SE)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
41/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.29-0.33
41/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
41/003	Fill	Fill, single	0.72	0.48	0.21
41/004	Cut	Pit	0.72	0.48	0.21

Table 25: Trench 41 list of recorded contexts

4.26.1 Trench 41 was an additional trench, which was excavated in order to examine an anomaly identified by the geophysics results. The trench was located in the centre of the site and was broadly aligned northwest-southeast. A single discrete feature was encountered in the trench, cutting into natural deposits and underlying the topsoil. The anomaly identified by the geophysics was not found as a belowground archaeological feature within the trench.

4.26.2 Located towards the centre of the trench was possible pit [41/004]. It was sub-oval in plan shape, had concave sides leading to a concave base and measured 0.72m x 0.48m and 0.21m deep. Its single fill, [41/003], was formed of friable, dark brownish grey sandy silt with occasional flecks of charcoal. It contained five fragments of a ceramic loom weight (RF <7>), two of which were conjoining, most likely dating to the Bronze Age.

4.27 Trench 42 (Figure 28)

Dimensions: 35.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.41m deep
Ground level: 67.04m AOD (W), 67.84m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
42/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.35-0.41
42/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
42/003	Cut	Pit	10.30	2.20	1.10
42/004	Fill	Fill	10.30	2.20	1.10
42/005	Cut	Geological feature	5.62	2.20	unex
42/006	Fill	Fill, upper	5.62	2.20	unex

Table 26: Trench 42 list of recorded contexts

4.27.1 Trench 42 was aligned east/west and contained topsoil deposits over natural strata. Located towards the south of the site, the trench was targeted on two anomalies identified by the geophysics, one interpreted as a geological trend and the other as a probable archaeological feature.

4.27.2 Large pit [42/003] located at the eastern end of the trench correlated with the anomaly identified by the geophysics. A hand-excavated slot, measuring 2.0m x 1m, was excavated from its western edge to a depth of 0.40m. The base was not reached due to incoming water. This slot revealed a single upper fill, [42/004], of friable, dark grey brown silty sand with common stone inclusions. Retrieved from this fill were two sherds of 15th-century pottery and a piece of probable early post-medieval CBM. A machine-excavated slot was dug into the eastern end of the feature in order to establish its full depth; it was machined to a depth of 1.10m below the trench base, with the fills continuing beyond this depth. The feature may relate to a quarry pit.

4.27.3 Located at the western end of the trench was geological feature [42/005]. The feature measured 5.62m in length and 2.20m wide; it was not excavated within this trench. The feature closely correlated with the anomaly plotted in the geophysics results and was a continuation of [34/003] excavated in Trench 34 to the south.

4.28 Trench 43 (Figure 29)

Dimensions: 18.00m x 2.20m x up to 0.38m deep
Ground level: 63.50m AOD (W), 64.62m AOD (E)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
43/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.33-0.38
43/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	-
43/003	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	6.00	0.26
43/004	Cut	Pit	2.20	6.00	0.26

Table 27: Trench 43 list of recorded contexts

4.28.1 Trench 43 was an additional trench, which was excavated in order to investigate a geophysical anomaly identified in the northwest of the site. The trench contained a single feature, which was cut into natural deposits of orange silty clay and found underlying a dark brown silty clay topsoil.

4.28.2 Located towards the east of the trench was possible pit [43/004]. It measured 6.0m in width and extended beyond the northern and southern trench limits. It had gradually sloping sides leading to a flat base and contained a single fill, [43/003], of mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional flecks of CBM and charcoal. There were no other finds recovered from within the feature.

4.29 Archaeologically Negative Trenches (Figures 30 and 31)

4.29.1 Fifteen of the excavated trenches (3, 5, 7-10, 14-17, 20-23, 30) contained no archaeological remains.

4.29.2 The blank trenches were predominantly located in the north and northeast of the site, and contained the same stratigraphic sequence of topsoil deposits directly overlying natural strata. The details of the deposit sequence recorded in each of these are presented in Appendix 1.

4.29.3 A number of land drains were encountered at the site, in Trenches 1, 2 and 24, generally running northwest-southeast across the site, and truncating features that lay along their alignment.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation on land off School Road, Elmswell. All finds were washed and dried or air-dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context. Hand-collected bulk finds are quantified in Table 28, whilst seven objects were assigned unique registered finds numbers and are addressed separately in section 5.11 and quantified in Table 33. All finds have been packed and stored following CIfA guidelines (2014).

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Metal	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Clay Tobacco Pipe	Weight (g)	Fire Cracked Flint	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Shell	Weight (g)
2/006					2	66	2	34														
2/007					4	222			1	10												
4/004			2	15	2	28					1	6	7	34	1	2			2	4		
11/003	1	8	3	165	3	110			2	158			7	106								
11/006					8	1200																
11/007					7	214																
11/008					14	268							1	8								
12/006													11	36								
16/001			2	29																		
17/001			2	49																		
18/006			1	8	4	154																
18/010					4	166																
24/001			1	13																		
24/006	1	26	1	4																		
27/003			3	33									3	58								
27/007			1	3													3	34				
28/006					5	4																
28/011			1	2																		
31/005	1	18	2	11	2	94			1	14											1	4
32/003																			1	2		
33/005					2	24			2	166												
33/010											1	8										
35/006											1	<2										
35/010											1	<7										
40/004					154	6140			1	36												
40/009					11	1234																
40/010					28	7636																
40/012					40	1788																
40/014					32	3020																
41/003																			1			
42/004			2	94	1	34																
Total	*3*	*52*	*22*	*426*	*323*	*22402*	*2*	*34*	*7*	*384*	*4*	*82*	*29*	*242*	*1*	*2*	*3*	*34*	*3*	*6*	*1*	*4*

Table 28: Quantification of hand-collected bulk finds

5.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 The evaluation produced four pieces of struck flint weighing 66g. They were hand collected from Trenches 11, 24, 27 and 31. The small assemblage consists of three flakes and a miscellaneous, retouched piece. Although the flake from context [24/006] was technologically poor, both flakes from contexts [27/007] and [31/005] display fine removal scars on the dorsal surfaces, and it is most likely that they belong to the Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age. The piece from context [11/003] displays fine removals suggestive of a Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age date. The raw material consists of a mid to dark flint with a stained cortex. They display light to moderate edge damage. A small amount of unworked burnt flint fragments (689g) were retrieved from three bulk soil samples (samples <1> context [24/005], <2> context [12/006] and <3> context [40/017]). The majority of fragments display reddish tinge indicating that the degree to which they have been heated was low.

5.3 The Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

5.3.1 The pottery assemblage comprised twenty-two sherds with a total weight of 426g. It was mostly late Saxon, medieval or early post-medieval in date, although a single possible prehistoric sherd also occurred. The following fabrics were noted:

EMW: Early Medieval Sandy Ware, 11th–early 13th century (Cotter 2000, 39)
GRE: Glazed Red Earthenware, 16th–19th century (Brears 1969)
HED: Hedingham ware, *c*.1140-*c*.1350 (Cotter 200, 84)
LMT: Late Medieval Transitional Ware, 15th–mid 16th century (Anderson *et al.* 1996)
MGS: Medieval Grey Sandy Ware, 12th–14th century (Cotter 2000)
PHIST: ?Prehistoric flint-tempered ware
SN: St Neots Ware, *c*.AD 900-1100 (Cotter 2000, 32)
THT: Thetford-type ware, 10th–12th century (Rogerson and Dallas 1984).

5.3.2 The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 29. The range of fabric types is fairly typical of sites in the region. Many of the sherds are large and in good condition, and appear reliably stratified.

5.3.3 The possible prehistoric pottery from [28/011] has a fine flint temper that is typical of Late Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age pottery of the period in the region, but the sherd is small and very abraded, so this identification must be regarded as tentative.

5.3.4 Most of the assemblage consists of bodysherds, although the sherd of Thetford Ware from [27/003] is from the rim of a jar, and that of LMT from [42/004] is a full profile of an internally-glazed shallow bowl. Both are typical products of their respective traditions.

	PHIST		SN		THT		EMW		MGS		HED		LMT		GRE		
Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	**Date**
4/004							1	1							1	14	16thC
11/003													2	66	2	99	16thC
16/001							1	8					1	21			15thC
17/001							2	49									11thC
18/006											1	8					L12thC
24/001							1	13									11thC
24/006							1	4									11thC
27/003			1	8	2	25											LSAX
27/007											1	3					L12thC
28/011	1	2															PHIST?
31/005							1	4	1	7							12thC
42/004											1	6	1	88			15thC
Total	*1*	*2*	*1*	*8*	*2*	*25*	*7*	*79*	*1*	*7*	*3*	*17*	*4*	*175*	*3*	*113*	

Table 29: Pottery quantification by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

5.4 **The Ceramic Building Material** by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.4.1 A total of 319 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM), collectively weighing 22,331g, were hand collected from thirteen contexts. The assemblage comprised mainly flat roof tile and brick fragments, all of which are of probable early post-medieval date, circa late 15th-early 16th century. Some fragments of non-diagnostic CBM, or potentially fired clay, were also recovered, but as they could not be identified, they could not be dated.

5.4.2 The material was quantified by form, weight and fabric and recorded on standard recording forms. This information was then entered into a digital Excel dataset. The respective quantities of brick and roof tile found per context are shown below in Table 30. Fabric descriptions were developed with the aid of a x20 binocular microscope and use the following conventions: frequency of inclusions as sparse, moderate, common or abundant; the size of inclusions as fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (up to 0.25 and 0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm).

Context	**Bricks**		**Peg tile**	
	Quantity	Weight (g)	Quantity	Weight (g)
02/006			2	66
02/007			4	222
04/004			2	28
11/003			3	110
11/006	1	872	6	324
11/007	5	56	3	158
11/008			14	268
18/006			4	154
18/010			4	167

28/006				
31/005			2	93
33/005			2	25
40/004	8	1219	145	4885
40/009	1	171	10	1061
40/010	6	5598	21	2017
40/012	1	69	39	1716
40/014			31	3012
42/004	1	34		
Total:	23	8019	290	14213

Table 30: Comparative quantities and weights of brick and tile per context

5.4.3 All of the brick and tile recovered was made from the same fabric: an orange fabric with common coarse and angular quartz, sparse very coarse fired cracked flint and coarse ferrous iron oxide pellets. For the brick pieces recorded in the assemblage, the Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) fabric code 3065 was used.

5.4.4 Only a very small quantity of brick was found, from contexts [11/007], [40/004], [40/009], [40/010], [40/012] and [42/004]. It mostly comprised very broken spall-like fragments with no intact surfaces, with the exception of the brick pieces collected from [40/004] and [40/010]. These contexts contained some larger pieces, including two co-joining pieces of brick, which allowed dimensions to be taken and thus provide better parameters for dating.

5.4.5 The approximate complete brick measured 245 x 130 x 50mm; other fragments ranged from 120-125mm wide and 40-50mm thick, although there were two fragments of a much smaller brick measuring only 102mm across. These measurements, and the apparent variability within the measurements, are typical of bricks dating to the late 15th century and into the 16th century.

5.4.6 That said, the coarse, quartz-rich fabric was not dissimilar to the fabric of the earliest post-Roman bricks known from this region: 12th-century Coggeshall ‘great bricks’ (Ryan 1996, 22-30). A 12th-century date has been indicated for some of the pottery collected from site and so the likelihood of the bricks being this early was considered. However, Coggeshall bricks do not appear to have been distributed much beyond the vicinity of Coggeshall (Ryan 1996, 27, Map 3), and Coggeshall great bricks, named for their large dimensions, were even bigger than the bricks found at Elmswell, although similarly flat, and so a later date of the later 15th-early 16th century seems most likely.

5.4.7 The largest groups of peg tile were recovered from [40/004], [40/010], [40/012] and [40/0014]. Peg tile is difficult to date with any precision as the form varies very little between the 14th and 19th centuries. However, in this instance, the coarse quality of the fabric and the homogenous nature of the tile and brick suggest a coeval manufacture date and that the tile is most likely of late 15th- to 16th-century date. On those fragments where peg holes were still extant, these were round or approximately round. Round peg holes are also generally of earlier date than square, diamond or polygonal peg holes.

5.5 **The Fired Clay** by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 A small assemblage consisting of three fragments weighing 6g was recovered from two different contexts. All three are amorphous. Two different fabrics were noted. Pieces from [4/004] are orange with common medium/coarse quartz. A fragment from [32/003] is in an orange fabric with moderate chalk to 2mm and rare medium quartz.

5.6 **The Clay Tobacco Pipe** by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 A single stem fragment (weight 2g) was recovered from [4/004]. It is unmarked and undecorated and dates between the mid-18th and early 20th centuries.

5.7 **The Geological Material** by Luke Barber

5.7.1 The evaluation recovered just eight pieces of stone. Context [2/006] contained two weathered pieces of open textured red sandstone similar to Bunter sandstones from the Midlands (34g). The residue of environmental sample <2> from context [12/006] produced five broken cobble fragments in grey and purple quartzites (110g) and a weathered 16g fragment of Midlands/Yorkshire-type sandstone. None of the stone appears to have been used or humanly modified. It probably represents glacial till material that can be expected to occur naturally on the site. The assemblage has been discarded.

5.7.2 In addition, three environmental samples produced very small magnetic fractions from their residues (<1> [24/005], <2> [12/006] and <3> [40/017]). All were carefully scanned for the presence of micro slags under x10 magnification. The material consisted entirely of magnetic fines: granules of ferruginous siltstone and clay whose magnetic properties had been enhanced through burning. No slag was present.

5.8 **The Bulk Metalwork** by Elke Raemen

5.8.1 A small assemblage comprising six pieces of metalwork (188g) was recovered from five different contexts. Included are iron, copper-alloy and lead objects. One of the copper-alloy pieces ([35/006]) requires cleaning to aid its identification.

5.8.2 Just one nail was recovered. Context [2/007] contained a single near complete, general-purpose nail with square head. The nail is hand wrought and undiagnostic of date. A handle, probably from a bucket, was recovered from [33/005] and dates to the 19th to early/mid-20th century.

5.8.3 Copper-alloy objects include a rectangular-ended strip fragment dating between the mid-18th and mid-19th centuries. A small D-shaped strip fragment with two *in situ* rivets was recovered from [35/006]. Cleaning may improve the identification of the latter and may enable the fragment to be dated.

5.8.4 Finally, [4/004] contained a late post-medieval lead shot with a diameter of 9.7mm.

5.9 **The Animal Bone** by Emily Johnson

5.9.1 An assemblage of fifty animal bones was recovered, weighing 262g in total. The material derived from both hand-collected and bulk-sampled contexts (Table 31). The preservation of the assemblage was generally poor, with 62% of bone specimens showing heavy erosion (Table 31). Root etching was also identified on some specimens, and the presence of iron in the assemblage was identified from rust staining on one bone fragment. Spot-dating information suggests that the assemblage is probably predominantly of medieval to post-medieval date, though the largest quantity came from a completely undated context, [12/006].

Context	Env.	No. fragments	NISP	% Preservation		
				Poor	Moderate	Good
4/004		7	1	0	100	0
11/003		7	7	0	57.1	42.9
11/008		1	1	100	0	0
12/006	12	20	8	95	5	0
12/006		12	12	100	0	0
27/003		3	3	66.7	33.3	0
Total		*50*	*32*	*68*	*26*	*6*

Table 31: Animal bone assemblage: list of contexts, fragment counts, the number of identifiable specimens and the state of preservation of each context

Method

5.9.2 The assemblage has been recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet. Where possible, bones were identified to species and element (Schmid 1972; Hillson 1992) and the bone zones present noted (Serjeantson 1996). Elements that could not be confidently identified to species, such as long bone, rib and cranial fragments, have been recorded according to size and categorised as large, medium or small mammal.

5.9.3 Mammalian age-at-death data was collected where possible. The state of epiphyseal bone was recorded as fused, unfused and fusing, and any determinations of age made using Silver (1969). Dental eruption and attrition was recorded using Grant (1982) for pigs, although no age determinations could be made. Specimens have been studied for signs of butchery, burning, gnawing, non-metric traits and pathology. The assemblage contained no measurable long bones of domestic mammals.

Taxa, ageing and pathology

5.9.4 The assemblage was dominated by domestic mammal bones. Ten bones were identifiable to taxa and twenty-two to taxa size (Table 32). Cattle (n=5), pig (n=4) and domestic dog (n=1) were the only species identified. Only one bone was complete enough for fusion ageing: a cattle calcaneum in context [27/003], which was unfused, suggesting the animal died before 48 months, i.e. fusion maturity (Silver 1969).

Taxa	NISP
Cattle	5
Pig	4
Dog	1
Large mammal	20
Medium mammal	2

Table 32: Quantification of animal bone taxa

5.9.5 The cattle calcaneum in context [27/003] showed signs of some bone remodelling and extra growth on the medial aspect above the *sustentaculum tali*. This bone growth was not active, nor seemed to be related to injury elsewhere in the bone. It is possible that this remodelling represents a non-metric trait or a past reaction to a previous (perhaps muscular) injury.

Surface modification

5.9.6 Evidence of butchery was present on three specimens in context [11/003]. This was the best-preserved context in the assemblage (Table 31), which likely resulted in butchery marks being more easily observable and well preserved in this context. Chop marks likely resulting from carcass portioning were identified on a large mammal rib and a cattle third phalanx, and cut marks possibly due to filleting were identified on a second large mammal rib fragment.

5.9.7 Evidence of heat exposure was present on two bones, with roasting possibly affecting a fragment of large mammal cranium in context [27/003] and one indeterminate fragment burnt at high temperatures (calcined) in environmental sample <2> [12/006].

5.9.8 Both rodent and canid gnawing was identified on one of the large mammal rib fragments from context [11/003], again likely visible here due to good preservation. It is plausible that gnawing, and butchery, may have affected other specimens in different contexts, but evidence no longer remains due to poor preservation.

5.10 The Shell by Elke Raemen

5.10.1 Just one oyster shell fragment was recovered (4g). Context [31/005] contained the upper valve of an immature specimen.

5.10.2 In addition, the environmental residues contained seventeen fossilised oyster shell fragments (weight 27g).

5.11 The Registered Finds by Elke Raemen

5.11.1 A total of seven finds were allocated registered finds numbers (Table 33). Two fragments require X-radiography to aid identification and a single object requires cleaning as well as stabilizing several areas of active bronze disease.

5.11.2 The earliest consists of five fragments from a Middle/Late Bronze Age cylindrical loom weight (RF <7>). Two pieces conjoin and all are in an orange

fabric with common medium quartz, moderate chalk to 11mm and rare flint to 17mm.

5.11.3 Roman material includes a Colchester derivative brooch (RF <2>) dating to *c.*AD 50-65 with incomplete catch plate and missing spring and pin. Cleaning may reveal decoration along the central rib. A possible T-clamp fragment (RF <5>) was also recovered.

5.11.4 A very worn George II half penny (RF <1>) was recovered from [4/004]. Other late post-medieval material includes two hinge fragments (RF <4> and <6>), as well as a pair of scissors (RF <3>).

Context	RF No	Material	Object	Count	Wt (g)	Period	Notes
4/004	1	COPPER	COIN	1	10	PMED	Half penny of George II
24/003	2	COPPER	BROOCH	1	6	ROM	T92 Colchester derivative - Cleaning required plus stabilizing of areas of active bronze disease
11/003	3	IRON	SCIS	1	78	PMED	Incomplete, part of handle missing. C19th-EC20th.
11/003	4	IRON	?HING	1	78	PMED	Strip with rounded end and partial nail - probable hinge fragment/ C18th-EC20th
31/005	5	IRON	STFT	1	15	ROM	Possible T-clamp. X-ray required to aid ID
40/004	6	IRON	UNK	1	35	PMED	Possible hinge fragment. X-ray required to aid ID
41/003	7	CERA	LOOM	1	176	BA	Five frags from cylindrical loom weight (two conjoining). Central perforation diam 14.73mm, outer diameter *c.*78mm

Table 33: Summary of the registered finds

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Lucy Allott

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Three samples were taken during the archaeological evaluation from ditch fill [24/005], pit fill [12/006] and the fill [40/017] of a feature possibly related to a kiln structure for the recovery of environmental remains, such as plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and Mollusca, as well as to assist finds retrieval and potential dating evidence. The following report presents an overview of the samples providing preliminary interpretations of the assemblages.

6.2 Method

6.2.1 The 40L flotation samples were processed, in their entirety, in a flotation tank. The heavy residues, retained on 500µm mesh, were passed through graded sieves of 8mm, 4mm and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 2a). Artefacts recovered from the samples are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. Up to 100ml were scanned from each flot (retained on 250µm mesh) under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and the contents recorded (Appendix 2b).

6.2.2 Charcoal fragments from samples <2> and <3> were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale and Cutler 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 500x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa. 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. Taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Appendix 2a and nomenclature follows Stace (1997).

6.2.3 Preliminary identifications are provided for the land snail shells through comparison with reference literature (Cameron 2003), although these assemblages may warrant quantification and identification by a specialist.

6.3 Results

Sample <1> [24/005]

6.3.1 This sample derives from the upper fill of ditch [24/007], which was truncated by ditch [24/004], from which a copper-alloy brooch, RF <2>, was recovered. During excavation, a large quantity of land snail shells were noted in the gravelly fill of the ditch and therefore a sample was extracted. Mollusca were common in both the flot and residue of this sample and provide evidence for a range of snail types (>10 taxa) of varying sizes, including cf. *Helix aspersa* and *Cepaea* cf. *hortensis* at the larger end of the size range. Modern, uncharred plant remains consisting of cereal stem fragments and rachis were abundant in the flot (contributing 90%) suggesting the potential for modern disturbances of the deposit or contamination. Charred plant remains were uncommon,

comprising small flecks of wood charcoal only. Fossilised oyster shell fragments, fire cracked flint and magnetic material were also present in the residue.

Sample <2> [12/006]

6.3.2 The small flot from this undated feature consisted of frequent uncharred rootlets with occasional cereal stem fragments (70% of flot). All of these remains are of modern origin and suggest some disturbances within the deposit. Wood charcoal fragments, however, were also common and generally well preserved with little evidence of sediment infiltration or encrusting. Fragments consistent with oak (*Quercus* sp.) and the Maloideae sub-family (a group of taxa which includes hawthorn, apple, whitebeam and rowan) were recorded. No charred macro plant remains were noted. This sample produced a small quantity of small land snail shells (<10 varieties noted), including the burrowing variety *Cecilioides acicula*. Faunal remains, fire-cracked flint, magnetic material, stone and fired clay were recorded in the residue.

Sample <3> [40/017].

6.3.3 This sample was taken from feature [40/018] noted as charcoal rich during excavation and thought to be related to possible kiln activity. Uncharred botanicals, including rootlets as well as cereal stem fragments and rachis, were moderately common in the flot (60%) providing evidence for some modern disturbance or contamination. The wood charcoal assemblage consisted predominately of small flecks, measuring <2mm in size, with some fragments >2mm in size recovered from the residue. Among the larger fragments, a range of taxa were identified, including oak from both large branch/stem wood and smaller roundwood, birch (*Betula* sp.), hazel/alder (*Corylus/Alnus* sp.) and Maloideae group taxa. A single possible pea (cf. *Pisum sativum*) provides the only evidence for crop remains at the site. A small quantity of land snail shells was recorded and although several taxa are common between samples <1> and <3>, the assemblage from sample <3> is notably smaller. The residue also contained oyster shell fragments, fire-cracked flint, magnetic material and a fossil.

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 These samples have provided moderate assemblages of land snail shells that may provide further information regarding the vegetation environment. The presence of large quantities of uncharred modern cereals, however, provides significant evidence for potential disturbance or contamination, and any future work at the site should aim to minimise this by avoiding sampling deposits with significant bioturbation and ensuring a clean working surface while sampling. The current assemblage of land snail shells would also benefit from being viewed by a specialist as part of any future work at the site.

6.4.2 The almost complete absence of charred plant macrofossils at the site is interesting given the moderate wood charcoal assemblages in samples <2> and <3>. This indicates that crop processing and food preparation were not carried out within the immediate area of these features. There is, however, evidence for the use of a range of fuels, particularly in deposit [40/017]. These include oak from both larger branch and stem wood, as well as smaller

roundwood, together with hazel/alder, birch and Maloideae group taxa. If this deposit relates to kiln activity, the woody taxa may have been used in combination as main fuel and kindling or individually. Each of the taxa represented are commonly used as fuel, whether as seasoned wood or as charcoal (in the case of alder and birch) (Taylor 1981).

6.4.3 There is currently no dating evidence for deposit [12/006] from pit [12/007] or for [40/017] from [40/018]. Although several of the woody taxa (Maloideae, hazel/alder, birch, oak roundwood) are suitable for dating, the integrity of these samples must be questioned given the presence of moderate quantities of modern uncharred plant remains and any dates returned would need to be treated with caution.

6.4.4 The evaluation has highlighted the potential for recovery of well-preserved wood charcoal (and perhaps other archaeobotanical remains) in addition to land snails that might be used to characterise the vegetation environment in the site vicinity. It is recommended, therefore, that any future excavations focus on sampling secure primary features with minimal evidence for bioturbation.

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of Stratigraphic Sequence

7.1.1 The evaluation of the site established that the overlying deposits were moderately consistent across the site and comprised a general deposit sequence of topsoil overlying natural deposits, with occasional subsoil deposits present in the eastern part of the site. The topsoil of mid- to dark brownish grey silty clay was compact, while the subsoil, where present, was formed of light grey brown silty sand. The underlying natural geology was moderately consistent across the site and was formed of mid orange brown silty clay, with areas of mid orange silty sand at the eastern end of the site. This was encountered at a range of heights between 60.28m and 67.80m AOD. Where, present, the archaeological remains were all found below topsoil and subsoil deposits and were cut directly into natural strata.

7.1.2 The recorded archaeological remains comprised ditches and pits, some of which resembled, and may have been, natural deposits, and these were found across twenty-six of the evaluation trenches. The majority of the archaeological features uncovered during this evaluation were of post-medieval date; however, archaeological finds spanning the Later Prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon/medieval periods were recovered from the site. A concentration of features of post-medieval date were found in the northwest of the site and within an enclosure bounded by a ditch.

7.1.3 Of the blank trenches, Trenches 7-10, 14-17 and 20-23 were situated in the north and northeast of the site area, whilst Trenches 3 and 5 were located in the northwest.

7.1.4 Several possible irregular features were excavated in the southeast of the site, which contained fills that resembled the natural geology, making it difficult to interpret the nature and function of the remains.

7.2 Deposit Survival and Existing Impacts

7.2.1 All remains had evidently been truncated by historic cultivation activity and were overlain by *c.*0.35m thickness of overburden deposits. The presence of subsoil underlying the topsoil in parts of the site suggests that modern plough disturbance has been of insufficient depth to further impact upon the truncated remains in these areas.

7.2.2 A number of land drains were encountered, generally running northwest/southeast across the site, and truncating features that lay along their alignment.

7.2.3 The layout of the site is evident on historic maps and has seemingly not changed in use since the late 18th century. This has evidently resulted in little modern disturbance.

7.3 Discussion of Archaeological Remains by Period

7.3.1 The majority of the archaeological features excavated at this site did not contain dating evidence (Figure 32). The artefacts that were recovered from

the site were limited in both number and type, with many finds pre-dating the post-medieval period being in a very poorly preserved condition. This has made it difficult to accurately interpret and date these features.

Later Prehistoric

7.3.2 Across the whole of the site, there is a paucity of evidence dating to the prehistoric period. Where it has been recovered, it has been recorded from the upper fills of features and is generally in poorly preserved condition.

7.3.3 A single sherd of pottery from posthole [24/012] and a loom weight from probable pit [41/004] were recovered from the centre of the site. These artefacts were highly abraded and, in both instances, they are likely to be residual in nature or indicative of small-scale isolated activity across the site.

Anglo-Saxon/Medieval

7.3.4 Anglo-Saxon/medieval activity was restricted to three features within Trenches 24 and 27. The ditch encountered in Trench 27 lies in line with the later post-medieval ditch in Trench 25 to the west, and it may continue eastwards into Trench 28. It likely represents an earlier land division during this period, though the extents are unknown, with the post-medieval boundary possibly replacing it. The stratigraphically earlier ditch recorded within Trench 24 in the east of the site also possibly represents an earlier boundary; however, with dating evidence restricted to a single potsherd, its date may not be reliable.

7.3.5 The single sherd of later 12th-century date from the upper fill of the pit in Trench 27 is also unreliable for dating and may represent residual activity. The presence of 11th-century pottery within the topsoil of Trenches 17 and 24 suggests that there may be some medieval activity in the area, though the paucity of secure dating material suggests isolated activity. The sherds may relate to the manuring of agricultural land.

15th-16th century/Post-Medieval

7.3.6 There was a concentration of archaeological remains of early post-medieval date in the northwest of the site. The boundary identified by the geophysical survey and present on historic mapping appears to mark the extent of this concentration, with a number of features of 15th-/16th-century date and later lying within it.

7.3.7 The main enclosure ditch present within Trenches 4, 13, 40 and 25 is shown on the 1841 tithe map of the site, and it is likely that it also existed prior to this date, though it went out of use shortly after and was not present on the Ordnance Survey map of 1883-8. The excavated slots through the ditch contained pottery and CBM fragments of 15th- and 16th-century date along with later 18th-century material. This suggests that it may have been in use from the 15th century onwards and was later backfilled during the 19th century.

7.3.8 While undated, the northwest-southeast aligned ditch running across Trenches 18, 25 and 32 is possibly contemporary with the rest of the boundary and forms its western edge, marking the field boundary against Parnell Lane to the west. The west-northwest to east-southeast aligned ditch found in Trench 33 may

also represent this boundary continuing along the north of School Road, slightly north of the current field edge, though as it only contained later 19th-century material, it is unclear if it was contemporary with the rest of the bounded area. This ditch, however, does appear to correlate with the boundary shown on the 1841 tithe map.

7.3.9 Adjacent and inside the main boundary was a possible structure or kiln containing frequent CBM fragments of 15th-/16th-century date, as well as common fragments of wood charcoal belonging to taxa typically used for fuel. It is possible that this represents demolition material from a possible structure thought to continue to the south of the trench, with the possible tile 'floor' surface continuing off the southern trench baulk. Though frequent CBM fragments were recovered, there was no indication of the function of the possible structure. Though it possibly relates to an industrial feature it may be better interpreted as a tile lined cesspit.

7.3.10 The large possible quarry pit recorded in the north of Trench 18 was within the bounded area. Dating evidence was limited to CBM fragments of 15th-/16th-century date and a single sherd of earlier 12th-century pottery, which is likely residual. The size of the feature is suggestive of quarrying and may possibly be linked to the possible structure/kiln to its east. While the upper fills differed, it is likely that the irregular pit in Trench 11 to the north represents the northern edge of the quarry pit, as is suggested by the geophysical survey. The large pit located in Trench 42 to the southeast of the site is also likely to be a quarry pit and was similar in size to that in Trench 18.

7.3.11 The north-south aligned ditch in Trench 2 may represent a smaller internal boundary, as it does not continue into trenches to its north or south but contains similar CBM fragments of 15th-/16th-century date. It does not appear on later mapping, so it may only have seen temporary use.

7.3.12 Analysis of late 18th- and 19th-century maps demonstrates that the extant boundaries and use of the land have not changed since at least that time.

Undated

7.3.13 Many of the features uncovered during this investigation were undated and, while concentrated to the southeast of the site, there was a general lack of discernible patterning to indicate possible dating/phasing. It is likely that most of the features are geological in nature.

7.3.14 The irregular features from Trenches 29 and 36-38, all contained a fairly similar sequence of sterile fills, which were very similar to the natural geology in that area of the site. As the geology appeared to differ in that area of the site, it is possible that these features are a result of natural geological variations as opposed to archaeological in origin.

7.4 Consideration of Project Aims

7.4.1 The trial trenching achieved its primary aim in that it determined the presence/absence of archaeological remains at the site, although it was not able to establish fully the date and significance of the majority of the archaeological remains encountered.

Assess if the results identified by the Geophysics relate to archaeological features and are accurate.

7.4.2 The geophysics results proved to be reliable across the site as a whole. The enclosure ditch identified in the northwest of the site was found to correspond to belowground archaeological remains, as did the majority of the features identified within it. Of the other possible geophysical anomalies investigated by trenching across the remainder of the site, only one, interpreted as potentially running across Trench 41, was not present belowground, with all others corroborated by belowground archaeological remains. There is some question as to whether feature [2/004] encountered in Trench 2 corresponded to the geophysical anomaly on which the trench was targeted (see section 4.3.2.

Examine the inter-relationships between settlements and monuments (Medleycott, 2011, 20).

7.4.3 The site contains limited evidence of land use, which was broadly concentrated in the northwest bounded area of the site. This area of 15th-/16th-century activity is likely associated with Elmswell Hall to the north, though the exact function is unknown. While it is likely linked to the nearby Hall, its relationship with the rest of Elmswell is unknown, with the site located in the northwest of the village. This makes it difficult to understand the relationship of the site with the rest of the village based on the evidence currently available.

What forms do farms take, what range of building-types are present and how can functions be attributed to them? (Medlycott 2011, 47)

7.4.4 The boundary in the northwest of the site appears to form an enclosure, containing the main concentration of site activity dating largely to the 15th/16th century. The activity was likely associated with Elmswell Hall to its north, and appears to have been small scale and industrial or settlement related in nature as opposed to agricultural. There is little evidence to suggest the forms of farms prior to this date, though the minimal amount of evidence could suggest that land use included agricultural activity.

How far can the size and shape of fields be related to agricultural regimes? (Medlycott 2011, 47)

7.4.5 There was very limited coherent distribution of the archaeological remains and particularly limited material evidence at the site, other than the bounded area to the northwest of the site. The features excavated in that area appear to be related to industrial use or settlement activity as opposed to agricultural usage, so at present this area does not help to better understand local agricultural regimes. The rest of the site contains limited features, some of which may suggest small-scale agricultural activities.

7.5 Conclusions

7.5.1 The evaluation has recorded archaeological remains to be present in twenty-six of the forty-three trenches investigated. These comprise a low density and low complexity of ditches and pits concentrated in the northwest of the site but also scattered remains across the southern edge of the site, with little spatial

patterning evident for most. The occurrence of diagnostic dating evidence within the recorded remains is generally sparse, with concentrations largely limited to isolated features in the northwest.

7.5.2 The 15th-/16th-century enclosure defines an area of probable small-scale industrial or settlement activity, focused on a possible kiln structure or cesspit and a quarry. Evidence of this date across the rest of the site is negligible and was likely agricultural in nature. This boundary was utilised into the post-medieval period, before being backfilled during the 19th century.

7.5.3 Remains of prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon date are negligible across the site and likely indicate isolated activity. The concentration of metalwork finds from the area should be noted, however, as they suggest the presence of a possible high status Anglo-Saxon settlement in the vicinity. It is possible that the Anglo-Saxon period remains relate to peripheral activity on the edge of this postulated settlement.

7.5.4 Many undated irregular features in the southeast of the site are judged to be of geological or natural origin as opposed to archaeological in nature.

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Appendix 1: Summary of archaeologically blank trenches: list of contexts

Trench	Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth (m)	Height (m AOD)
3	3/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.27	64.25 (N) 64.68 (S)
3	3/002	Layer	Natural		-
5	5/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.31	
5	5/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
7	7/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.29	66.30 (N) 66.47 (S)
7	7/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
8	8/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.33	66.82 (W) 67.33 (E)
8	8/002	Layer	Natural	-	
9	9/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29-0.31	67.43 (N) 67.55 (S)
9	9/002	Layer	Natural		
10	10/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.30-0.32	67.56 (W) 67.63 (E)
10	10/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
14	14/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.30-0.34	67.29 (N) 67.43 (S)
14	14/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
15	15/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.37	67.57 (W) 67.71 (E)
15	15/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
16	16/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.30	67.64 (N) 67.80 (S)
16	16/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
17	17/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.37	67.70 (W) 67.88 (E)
17	17/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
20	20/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.28	66.73 (N) 66.58 (S)
20	20/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
21	21/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29-0.30	67.17 (W) 67.73 (E)
21	21/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
22	22/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.33	67.76 (N) 67.97 (S)
22	22/002	Layer	Natural	-	-

23	23/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.31-0.38	67.92 (W) 67.91 (E)
23	23/002	Layer	Natural	-	-
30	30/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.32-0.36	68.13 (W) 67.98 (E)
30	30/002	Layer	Natural	-	-

Appendix 2a: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, * = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams**

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Marine Molluscs	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	24/005	Ditch	40			*	<1				**	13	****	1912	FCF**106g, CBM*26g, Mag Mat >2mm**<1g, Mag Mat<2mm***<1g
2	12/006	Pit	40	***	51	****	190	*Quercus* sp. (7), Maloideae (3)	**	20					FCF**556g, CBM***3140g, Mag Mat >2mm***2g, Mag Mat <2mm****2g, Stone*114g, Fired Clay*10g
3	40/017		40	**	4	***	2	*Quercus* sp. (2), *Quercus* sp. rw (3), Maloideae (3), *Betula* sp. (1), *Corylus/Alnus* sp. (1)			*	14	*	<1	FCF*27g, Mag Mat >2mm ***5g, Mag Mat <2mm****10g, Fossil*<1g

Appendix 2b: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, * = 51-250, **** = >250). Preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)**

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred (modern)	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Land Snail Shells
1	24/005	27.5	120	100	90	<5	* *Sambucus nigra*, Lamiaceae, *Galium/Asperula* sp.			**				****/at least 10 taxa
2	12/006	11	70	70	70	<5			*	****				**/ <10 taxa
3	40/017	35.5	110	100	60	15				****	*	cf. Pisum sativum	++	***/ >10 taxa

Appendix 3: HER Summary

***Site name/Address**: Land off School Road, Phase 1, Elmswell, Suffolk*	
***Parish:** Elmswell*	***District:** Mid Suffolk*
***NGR:** TL 9830 6389*	***Site Code:** EWL040*
***Type of Work:** Archaeological Evaluation*	***Site Director/Group:** A. Forshaw, Archaeology South-East*
***Date of Work:** 22nd January – 8th February 2018*	***Size of Area Investigated:** c. 4ha*
***Location of Finds/Curating Museum:** Ipswich and Colchester Museum Service*	***Funding source:** Landowner/Developer*
***Further Seasons Anticipated?:** unknown*	***Related HER Nos:** None*
***Final Report:** EAH annual summary*	***OASIS No:** 305678*
***Periods Represented:** Prehistoric, Anglo-Saxon/medieval, 15th-16th century, Post-medieval*	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: *The trial-trench evaluation of the c. 4ha site uncovered a low density of ditches and pits, dating to the Late Prehistoric, Late Saxon/medieval and post-medieval periods. The majority of these features were identified by the previous geophysical survey of the site. There was a concentration of undated irregular features in the southeast of the site, which were judged to be geological in nature.* *Evidence of early activity is limited and comprised a single pit of Late Bronze Age date, and two ditches and a pit of Late Saxon/medieval date within the centre and east of the site. While the finds are sparse, they provide evidence of earlier land use in this area of the site.* *A focus of 15th-/16th-century activity is located in the northwest of the site and bounded by an enclosure ditch, which was utilised until the late 19th century. A possible tile built structure may represent evidence of a kiln or a tile-lined cesspit. Other features within this enclosure include a large quarry pit, as well as smaller undated pits, which likely originate from this period. These features are most likely the remains of small-scale activity associated with Elmswell Hall to the immediate north of the site.* *Analysis of late 18th- and 19th-century maps demonstrates that the extant boundaries and the nature of land use have not changed since at least that time, except for the removal of the bounded area during the second half of the 19th century.*	
Previous Summaries/Reports: CgMs, 2016, *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment, Land off School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk*	
***Author of Summary:** A. Forshaw*	***Date of Summary:** February 2017*

Appendix 4: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: 305678

Project details

Project name	Land of School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk
Short description of the project	The trial-trench evaluation of the c. 4ha site uncovered a low density of ditches and pits, dating to the Late Prehistoric, Late Saxon/medieval, 15th-16th century and post-medieval periods. The majority of these features were identified by the previous geophysical survey of the site. Evidence of early activity is limited and comprised a single pit of Late Bronze Age date, and two ditches and a pit of Late Saxon/medieval date within the centre and east of the site. While the finds are sparse, they provide evidence of earlier land use in this area of the site. A focus of 15th-/16th-century activity is located in the northwest of the site and bounded by an enclosure ditch, which was utilised until the late 19th century. A possible tile built structure may represent evidence of a kiln, suggestive of small-scale industrial activity. Other features within this enclosure include a large quarry pit, as well as smaller undated pits, which likely originate from this period. These features are most likely the remains of small-scale activity associated with Elmswell Hall to the immediate north of the site. Analysis of late 18th- and 19th-century maps demonstrates that the extant boundaries and the nature of land use have not changed since at least that time, except for the removal of the bounded area during the second half of the 19th century.
Project dates	Start: 22-01-2018 End: 08-02-2018
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	170253 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	EWL040 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'"Sample Trenches"','"Targeted Trenches"'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK ELMSWELL Land at School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk
Postcode	IP30 9NL
Study area	4.1 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9830 6389 52.236942976374 0.904495842063 52 14 12 N 000 54 16 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project design originator	ASE
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Angus Forshaw
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Stratigraphic","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Stratigraphic","Worked stone/lithics","Environmental"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation: Land off School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk, IP30 9NL
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Forshaw, A.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No. 2018062
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Witham, Essex
Description	A4 report of approximately 100 pages including figures and appendices

Appendix 4: Written Scheme of Investigation

CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Land off School Road
Elmswell
Suffolk IP30 9NL

Archaeology South-East
UCL

January 2018

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation on Land off School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk, IP30 9NL

NGR: TL 9830 6389

OASIS Number: archaeol6-305678

HER Number & Site Code: EWL 040

January 2018

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document represents a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological evaluation at Land off School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk, IP30 9NL, (Figure 1; TL 9830 6389).

1.2 This WSI is for archaeological trial trench evaluation comprising thirty-eight 30m x 1.8m trenches (Figure 2) based on a 5% sample of the development area as per advice from the Suffolk County Council Senior Archaeological Officer.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Site Description and Location

2.1.1 The site area comprises agricultural land, and is bound to the north by a train line, to the east by residential housing, to the south by School Road and to the west by Parnell Lane.

2.1.2 The underlying geology of the site is sand of the Crag Group. The superficial geological deposits comprise Diamicton of the Lowestoft formation. The site slopes gently westward from c65m AOD in the east, down to c. 55m AOD to the west.

2.2 Reasons for Project

2.2.1 An outline planning application (Ref. No.: DC/17/03853) for the site has been previously submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council for 250 dwellings. This WSI however relates to a reduced scheme of 104 dwellings for a future/revised application, but the previousl SCC advice for the site is still considered relevant:

Planning Application DC/17/03853 Land At School Road Elmswell: Archaeology

This site is of very high archaeological interest and potential as well as landscape sensitivity, overlooking a tributary of the Black Bourn. Finds ranging from Bronze Age to Post-Medieval date are recorded from the site, with a particular concentration of Roman to medieval finds indicating possible settlement (EWL 010, 001, 014, 023). Early and middle Anglo-Saxon finds from the site may indicate the presence of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery and settlement. Cropmarks are also present (EWL 010). The site has been subject to geophysical survey, which identified a previously un-recorded enclosure (EWL 033).

The impacts of the proposal on the setting of the listed Elmswell Hall and, particularly, on the grade II listed medieval church have the potential to be significant. The development site lies between the listed pre-conquest church and pre-conquest manor (Elmswell Hall), a substantial place in the medieval period – initially it was given by King Eadwig to Bury monastery in 956. In 1433 Henry VI stayed there to fish and hunt. SCCAS would advise that Historic England should be consulted regarding these setting issues, if they have not been already.*

There is high potential for the discovery of below-ground heritage assets of archaeological importance within this relatively large area. Groundworks associated with the development have the potential to damage or destroy any archaeological remains which exist.

Although a geophysical survey and a Desk Based assessment have been submitted SCCAS do not have enough evidence to agree with the statement made (p3) that any archaeology is likely to be of only local significance or that all further archaeological work should be done by condition. Given the sensitive nature, high potential of the site, as outlined above, and the relatively large size of the proposed development area, in accordance with paragraphs 128 and 129 of the National Planning Policy Framework, I recommend that in order to establish the archaeological implications of a proposed development in this area, the applicant should be required to provide an archaeological evaluation of the site prior to the determination of the planning application. This will allow for preservation in situ of any sites of national importance that might be defined and will enable Mid Suffolk to take into account the quality and extent of any archaeological resource in making informed decisions. This advice is consistent with that given to Mid Suffolk in Dec 2016 in response to a consultation on SHELAA sites (strategic housing and economic land availability assessment), where the site was red flagged as being of high archaeological potential and being situated in a sensitive historic landscape.

Decisions on the suitability and deliverability of the site and the need for and scope of any further work, should below-ground heritage assets of significance be identified, will be based upon the results of the evaluation

2.2.3 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (CgMs 2016) was compiled in support of the planning application; that document highlighted that the site had potential for Roman and medieval settlement. Further to that a geophysical survey was undertaken (MoLA 2014) which identified a large rectangular feature and possible kiln within the land.

2.2.4 This document is a Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological evaluation. 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 The Archaeology Service in their role as advisors to MSDC.

2.2.5 It should be noted that this Written Scheme of Investigation relates to archaeological evaluation works only. If further archaeological work is required it will need to be subject to a separate Written Scheme of Investigation.

3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The following information is drawn from the Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2016) and is not repeated in full below.

3.2 Prehistoric

3.2.1 A field walking survey carried out on land adjacent to the western site boundary recovered at last five worked flints dating between the Mesolithic and Bronze Age.

3.2.2 A number of isolated Bronze Age artefacts have been recorded by metal detecting within close proximity to the site, including a spearhead tip adjacent to the southern site boundary and a copper chisel c. 40m north of the site. A Bronze Age copper pin and an Iron Age brooch were found within School field east of the site.

3.2.3 Metal detecting has also recorded a possible Iron Age brooch to the south-east of the area and an Iron Age coin south of the area.

3.2.4 An archaeological monitoring exercise on land at Church Road approximately 400m south of the area recorded a cremation pit containing human charred bone with associated sherds of pottery and worked flint dating to the late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

3.3 Roman

3.3.1 Past metal detecting has taken place across the entire site and recorded a number of finds of Roman date particularly concentrated south of the area, including coins, a pair of tweezers, and two bow brooches. An artefact scatter of grey pottery sherds and a bronze finger ring were also found during detecting to the south of the area.

3.3.2 In situ evidence dating to the Roman period has been recorded in the vicinity of the site. A Roman kiln site was recorded during investigations approximately 200m east of the site whilst archaeological investigations approximately 400m east of site recorded remains of a possible Roman enclosure with associated pottery sherds. Geophysical survey of the site recorded anomalies possibly indicating a kiln structure (Walford and Meadows 2014). The feature this anomaly represents is currently undated but may be related to Roman activity given the evidence for a Roman kiln site within the vicinity.

3.3.3 Archaeological trial trenching approximately 140m northeast of the site recorded a probable Roman ditch containing a sherd of pottery, together with two undated ditches containing animal bone. These ditches are thought to be part of a former field system.

3.3.4 An isolated Roman coin dating to the 4th century was also found c. 120m east of the site.

3.4 Anglo-Saxon and Early Medieval

3.4.1 A concentration of Anglo-Saxon metalwork finds are recorded from the central and southern part of the site. Many of the finds were late Saxon and included a bow brooch, stirrup terminal, hooked tag, bronze brooch, a finger ring,

openwork disc with cross and a coin. The quality of these finds might suggest the location of a high status Anglo-Saxon settlement in the vicinity.

3.4.2 A small number of isolated finds were also recorded within the area.

3.4.3 Metal detecting on a field south of the site recorded a single find dating to the Saxon period, comprising a mount from an Early Saxon hanging bowl. This find may be indicative of a cemetery site in the vicinity. A number of medieval finds attributed to casual loss were also recorded.

3.4.4 A church at Elmswell was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The medieval church of St John the Divine was built on the site of the earlier church immediately to the south of the site. The shaft of a late Anglo Saxon Stone Cross is located in St John's Churchyard, Elmswell (Birch, 2004, 117).

3.5 Medieval

3.5.1 The HER records a 'thin scatter' of medieval finds recorded in the central and southern part of the site as a result of metal detecting, including pottery sherds, coins (EWL010) and strap fittings. In addition a small number of isolated finds were recorded in the north of the site.

3.5.2 Elmswell Hall was originally a 14th century monastic Grange held by Bury St Edmunds Abbey. It was rebuilt as a moated hall in the 16th century and lies approximately 150m north of the site.

3.5.3 The medieval church of St John the Divine lies to the south of the site. As noted above, it is possible that an early settlement at Elmswell focused on the church and it may be that some of the finds recorded on the site represent evidence of settlement activity. However, at some (unknown) date any settlement around the church was abandoned and the historic focus of settlement moved to the east.

3.5.4 A field walking survey carried on land adjacent to the western site boundary also identified a spread of late medieval brick, tile and pottery.

3.5.5 Archaeological monitoring of footing trenches at land to the south of Oliver House c. 300m east of the site found no archaeological features but recovered two sherd of medieval pottery and two medieval buckles from the spoil.

3.6 Post-Medieval and Modern

3.6.1 A small number of post-medieval finds have been recorded on the site as a result of metal detecting including a token, buckle, spindle whorl and strap fitting in the southeast of the site, along with a number of coins and tokens found in the central and northern areas of the site.

3.6.2 The post-medieval settlement of Elmswell appears to have developed around an area of common pasture known as Boten Haugh Green some distance from the Church and Hall. The site during this period comprised agricultural land.

3.6.3 The 1820 Ordnance Survey Drawing shows the site within agricultural land to the west of the core settlement at Elmswell, bisected by a stream and a road leading from the Hall to the village and church. The site continues as

agricultural land during the 19th centuries, with some changes to the partitions of the land over the period. A small structure was noted on the northern periphery of site.

3.6.4 By the late 19th century, the railway line had been constructed, bounding the site to the north. The small structure in the north of the study site was demolished. A small gravel quarry pit occupied part of the south-eastern corner of the site whilst a weir had been constructed in the centre of the site to address the wetland conditions to the east. A large discrete anomaly in the geophysical results is thought to correspond to the location of the weir. An area of weak diffuse positive anomalies within the southeast corner of the site may reflect the extraction activity in this area.

3.7 Geophysical Survey

3.7.1 A magnetometer survey was conducted on the site in 2014 (Walford and Meadows 2014) and a number of anomalies were detected indicating the presence of possible archaeological features. A large sub-rectangular enclosure has been identified within the western area of the site. The feature corresponds with a former enclosure shown on the 1841 Elmswell Tithe Map, but could conceivably have earlier origins. A smaller sub-rectangular positive anomaly with dimensions approximately 8m by 3m in the centre of the area was detected and interpreted as a possible kiln or set of brick foundations adjacent to a boundary ditch. Metal detecting in this area recovered a number of finds dating primarily to the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods but the date of the feature indicated in the geophysics remains unknown. There were a number of linear and discrete negative anomalies in the area of the site that may indicate possible ditches and pits.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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 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.

4.1.3 Site specific research 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.
- Is there any prehistoric activity within the site?
- Is there any Roman activity within the site?
- Is there any Anglo-Saxon activity within the site ?
- Is there any medieval activity?
- What is the date of the large enclosure identified in the geophysical survey?
- Does the central anomaly observed during the geophysical survey relate to a kiln?
- To enable CgMs and the County Archaeologist to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work.

4.1.4 With reference to the East Anglian research framework (Medlycott, 2011):

Bronze Age

- Examination of the inter-relationships between settlements, together with variation and changes in settlement types, offers considerable potential to explore the social changes taking place, as well as the interrelationship between settlements and monuments (Medlycott, 2011, 20).

Roman

- 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? Are there chronological/regional/ landscape variations in settlement location, density or type? (Medlycott, 2011, 47)
- The evidence for change in ritual practices, including the introduction of Christianity (Medlycott, 2011, 47)

Anglo-Saxon

- What forms do the farms take, what range of building types are present and how far can functions be attributed to them? (Medleycott, 2011, 57)

5 METHODOLOGY

5.0.1 An OASIS form has been initiated and an HER number obtained from the Historic Environment Service (**EWL 033**). This number will be used as the unique site identifier on all primary records.

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 SCC Archaeology Services' monitoring officer prior to the commencement of the fieldwork.

5.0.4 The evaluation will consist of thirty-eight trenches measuring 30m x 1.8m at base. 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 SCC Archaeology Service, but there will be no reinstatement to existing condition.

5.0.11 Spoil heaps and trench bases will 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. The detectorist will be a named and experienced detectorist, the details of which will be submitted to SCCAS for approval

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 CIfA *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, and Code of Conduct (CIfA 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 CIfA.

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 safety 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 SCC Archaeology 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 CIfA *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 FRDC'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*, Medlycott, 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 FRDC 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 CIfA *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)
Post-Roman pottery	Luke Barber (external: Sussex, Kent, Hampshire and London)
Post-Roman pottery (Essex)	Helen Walker (external: Essex)
CBM	Isa Benedetti-Whitton (ASE)
Fired Clay	Elke Raemen & Trista Clifford (ASE)
Clay Tobacco Pipe	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Glass	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Slag	Luke Barber (external); Trista Clifford (ASE)
Metalwork	Trista Clifford (ASE)

Worked Flint	Karine Le Hégarat, Dr Ed Blinkhorn, Dr Matt Pope (ASE)
Geological material and worked stone	Luke Barber (external)
Human bone incl cremated bone	Lucy Sibun & Dr Paola Ponce (ASE)
Animal bone incl fish	Hayley Forsyth (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	Dr Elena Baldi (ASE)
Geoarchaeology (incl wetland environments)	Dr Matt Pope, Dr Ed Blinkhorn, Kristina Krawiec (ASE)
Macro-plant remains	Dr Lucy Allott & Angela Vitolo (ASE)
Charcoal & Waterlogged wood	Dr Lucy Allott & Angela Vitolo (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 SCCAS 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 SCCAS monitoring officer prior to being carried out.

9.3 The SCCAS 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.

References

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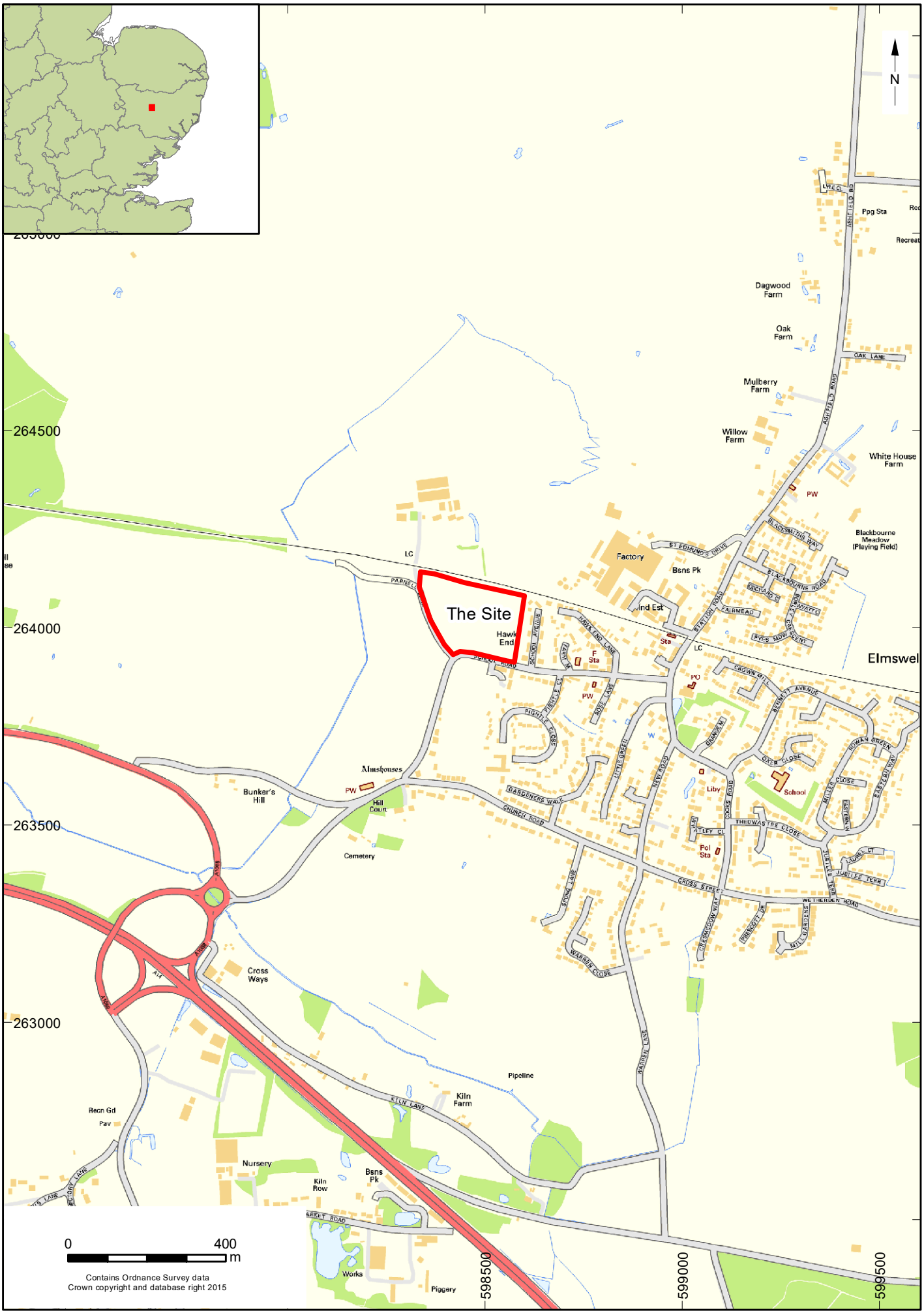
http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html
Accessed 28/07/2017



© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 170253	Jan 2018	Site location	
Report No: WSI	Drawn by: APL		

Site Boundary

Proposed Trench Location (30m x 2m)

N

CgMs CONSULTING
Planning ● Heritage
www.cgms.co.uk

Scale at A3: 1:1250
0 20 m

Proposed Trench Location Plan with Google Earth Image

641

639

Archaeology
Kiln / brick structure
Old field boundary
Field drain
Magnetic debris
Ferrous object
Geological anomalies
Geological trend

Site Boundary
Proposed Trench Location (30m x 2m)

N

Scale at A3: 1:1250
0 20 m

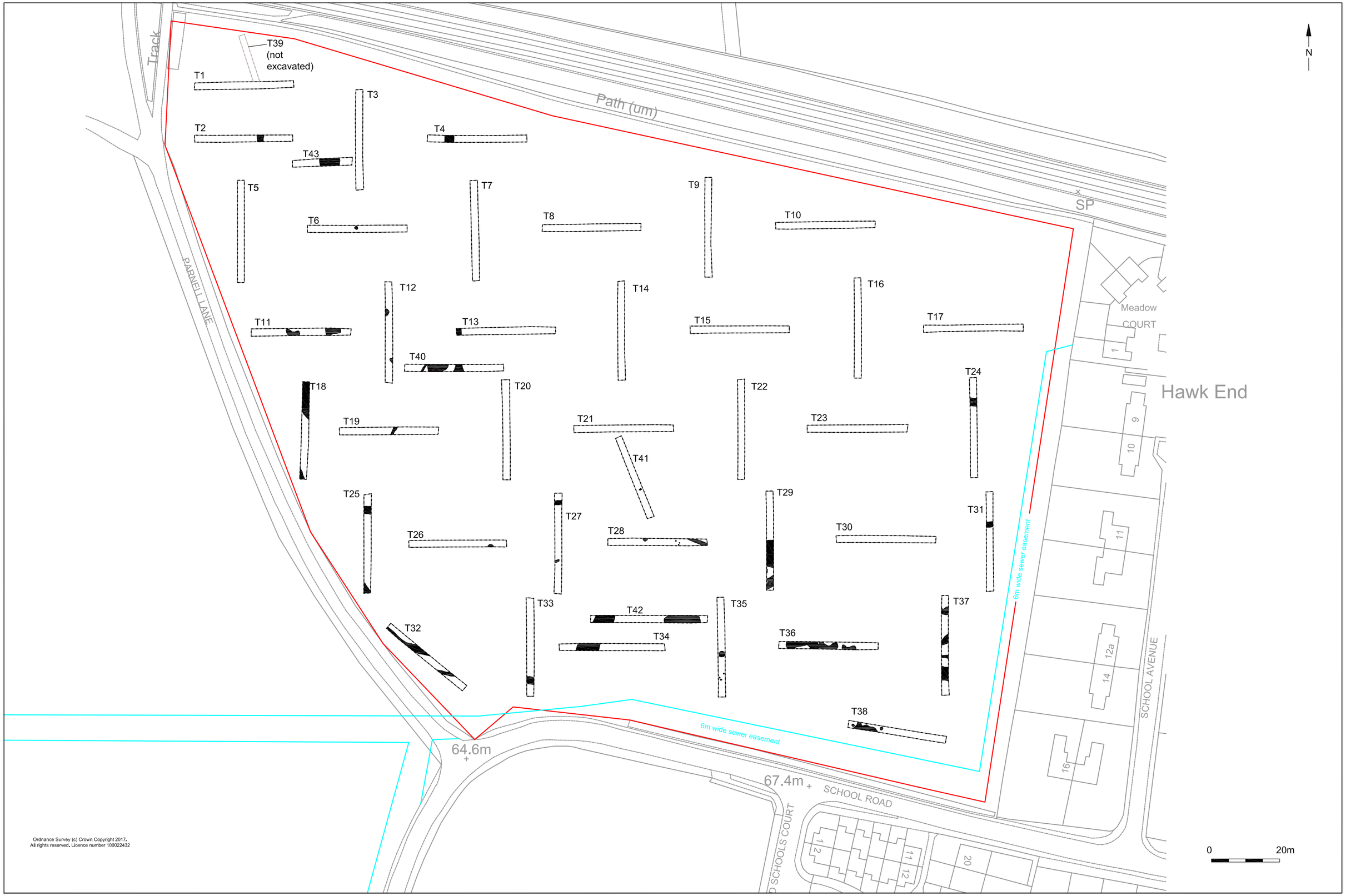
CgMs CONSULTING
Planning ● Heritage
www.cgms.co.uk

Proposed Trench Location Plan with Geophysics

CgMs

www.cgms.co.uk

© **Archaeology South-East**		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Site location and selected HER references	
Report No: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



© **Archaeology South-East**		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Plan of trench locations	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

T39 (not excavated)
T1
T3
T2
T4
T43
T5
T7
T9
T6
T8
T10
T12
T14
T16
T11
T13
T15
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T40
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T28
T30
T33
T42
T35
T37
T32
T34
T36
T38

Track
PARNELL LANE
Path (um)
SP
Meadow
COURT
Hawk End
SCHOOL AVENUE
SCHOOLS COURT
SCHOOL ROAD
6m wide sewer easement
6m wide sewer easement
64.6m
67.4m
1
9
10
11
12a
14
16
12
11
12
20

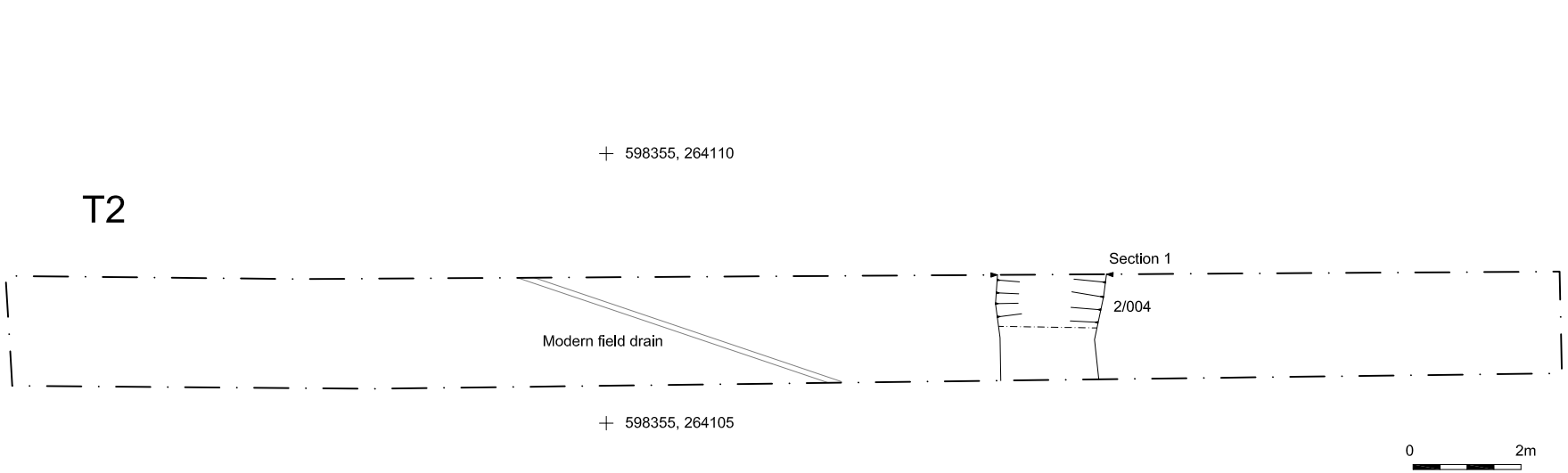
N

Archaeology
Kiln / brick structure
Old field boundary
Field drain
Magnetic debris
Ferrous object
Geological anomalies
Geological trend

0 20m

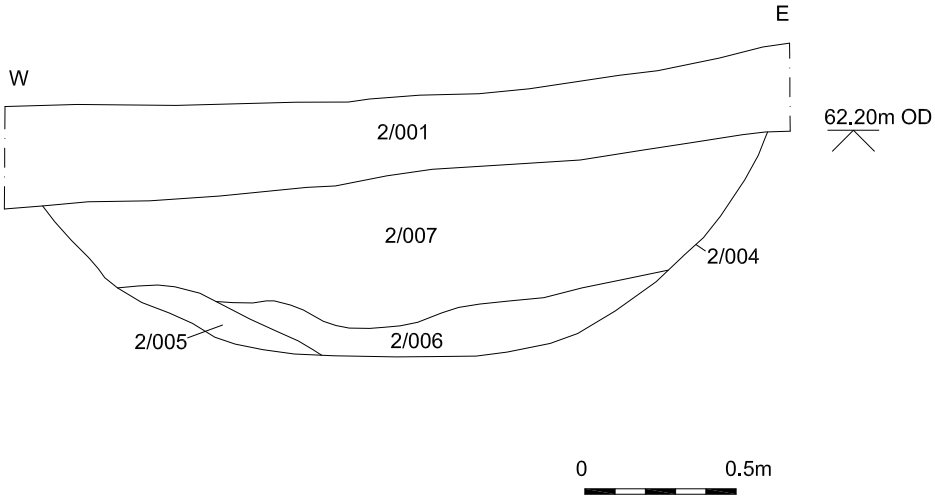
Geophysical survey by MOLA

© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench locations with geophysical survey interpretation	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 2, looking east

Ditch 2/004, looking north



© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 2 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

N

598425, 264110

T4

4/003

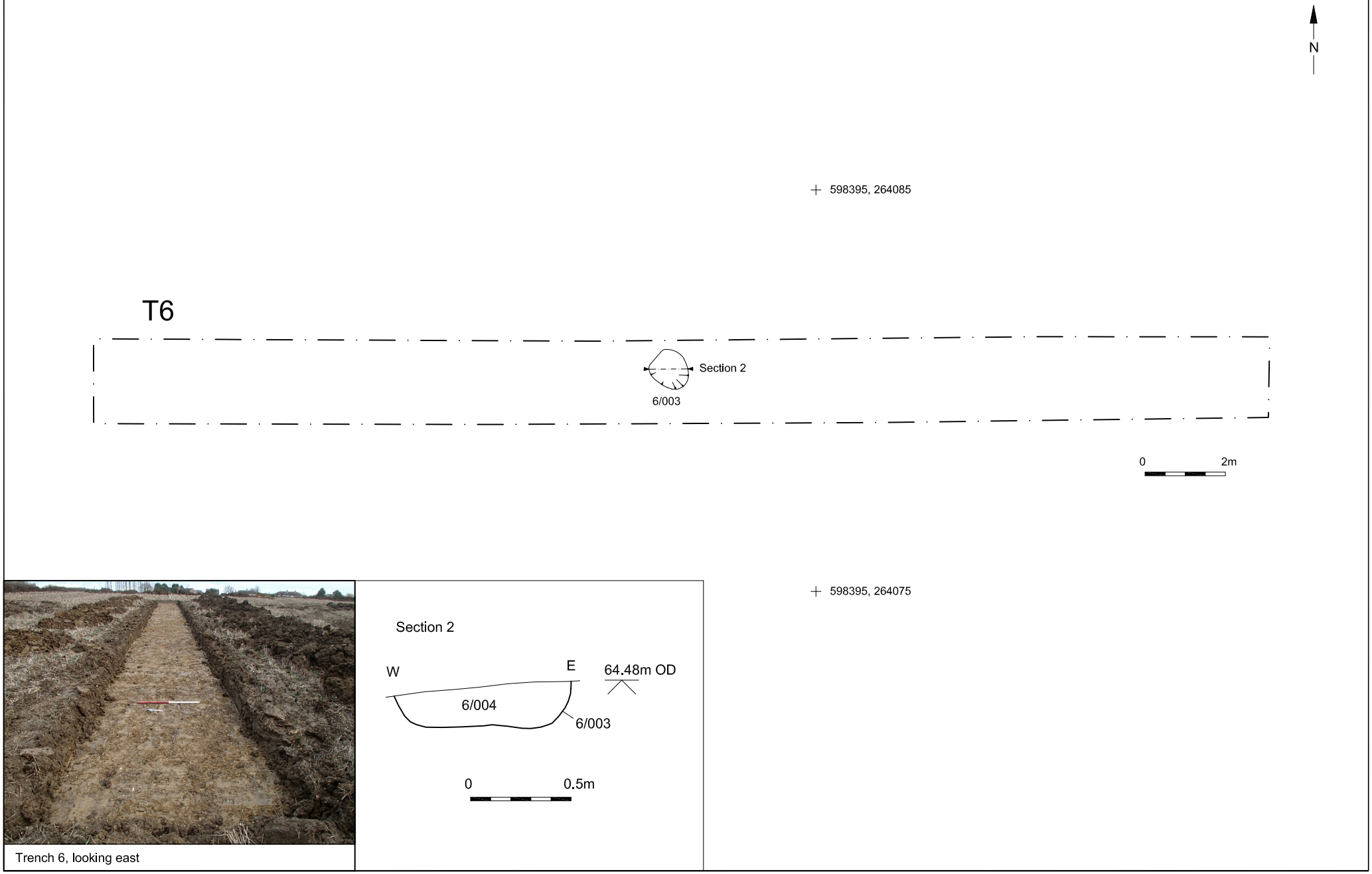
598425, 264105

0 2m

Trench 4, looking east

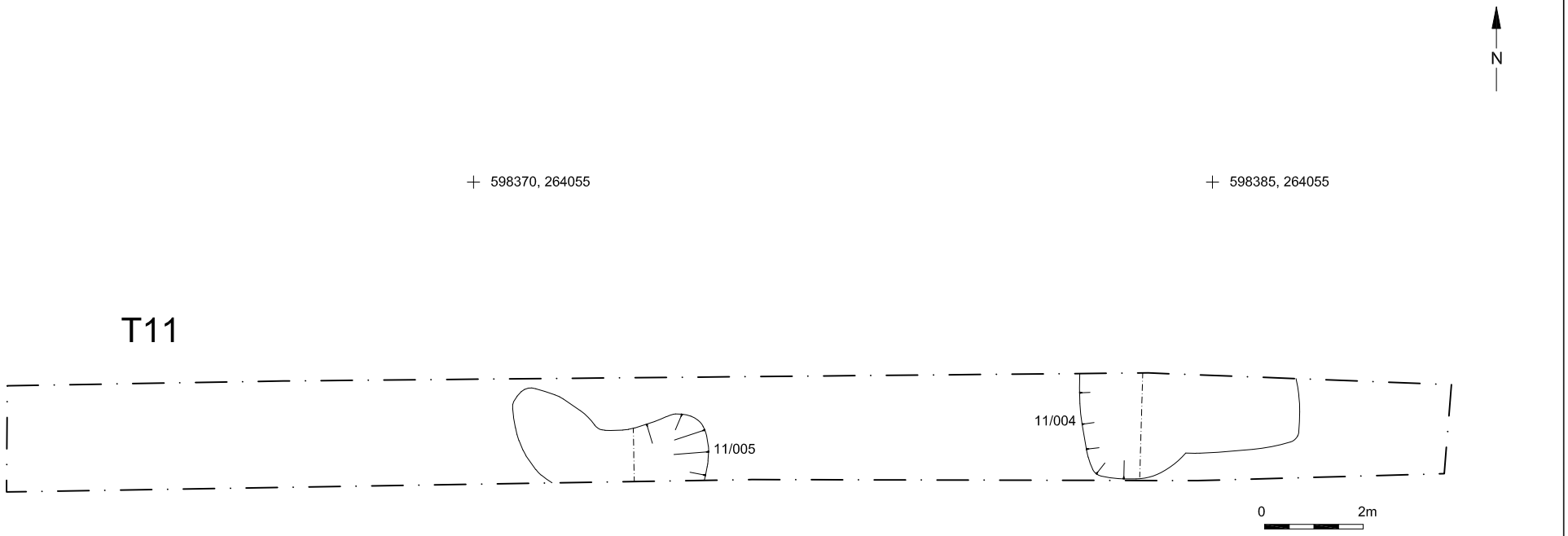
Ditch 4/003, looking south

© **Archaeology South-East**		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 4 plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 6, looking east

© **Archaeology South-East**		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 6 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

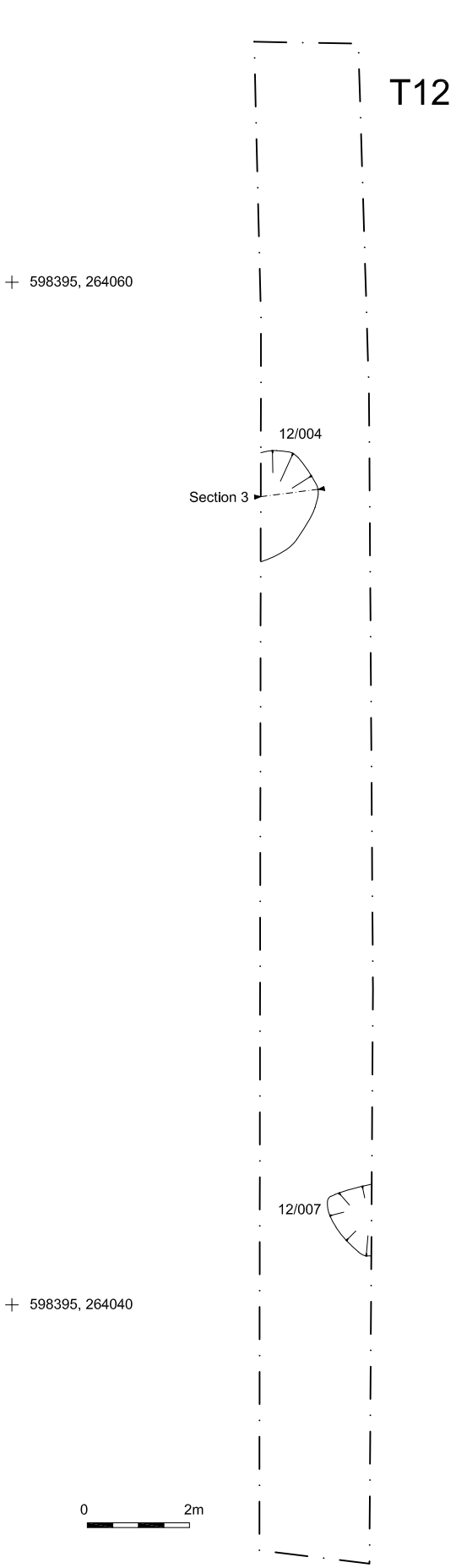


Trench 11, looking west

Pit 11/004

Pit 11/005

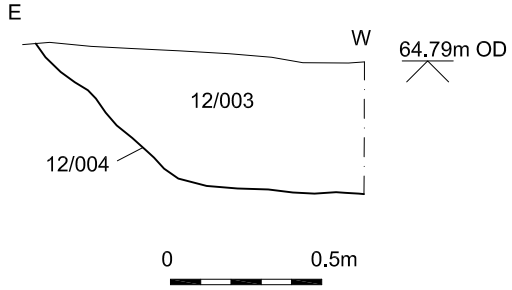
© **Archaeology South-East**		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 11 plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 12, looking north

Pit 12/007

Section 3



© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 8
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 12 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

Trench 13, looking west

N

598420, 264055

598430, 264055

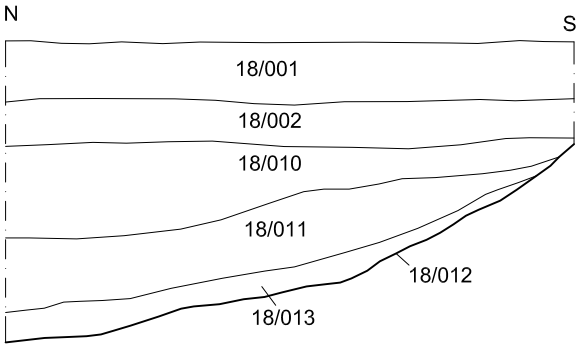
T13

13/003

0 2m

© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 9
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 13 plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

Section 4



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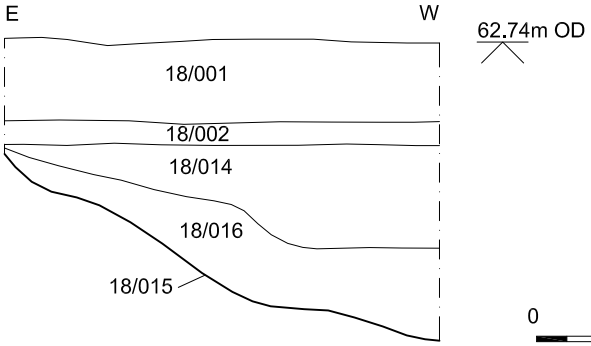
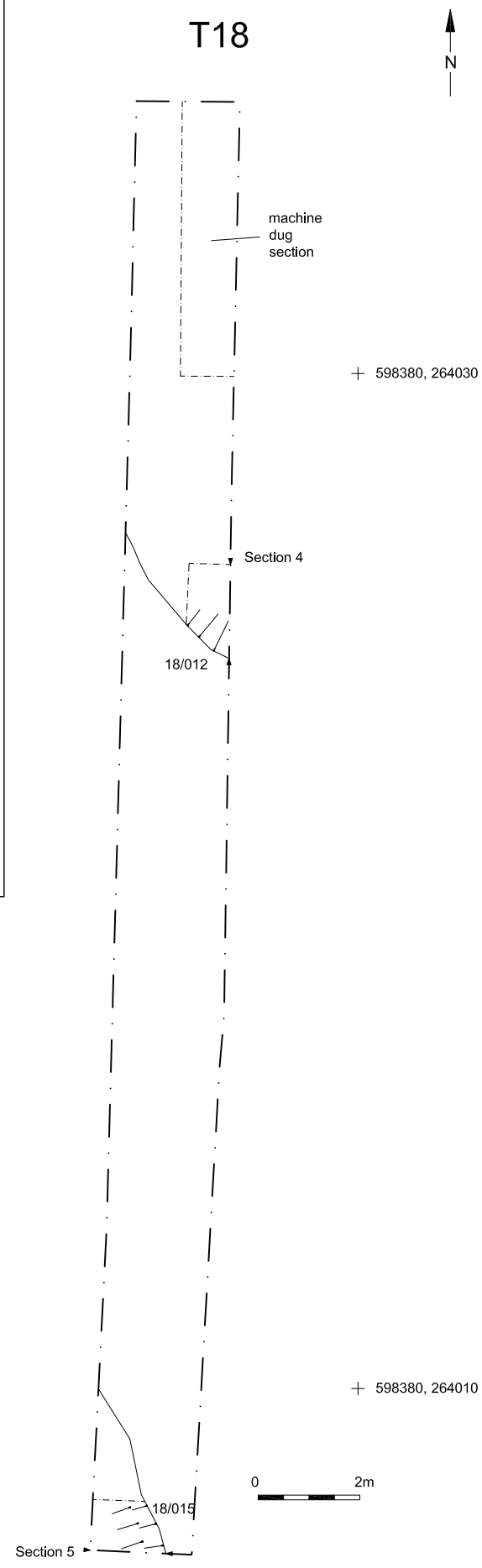
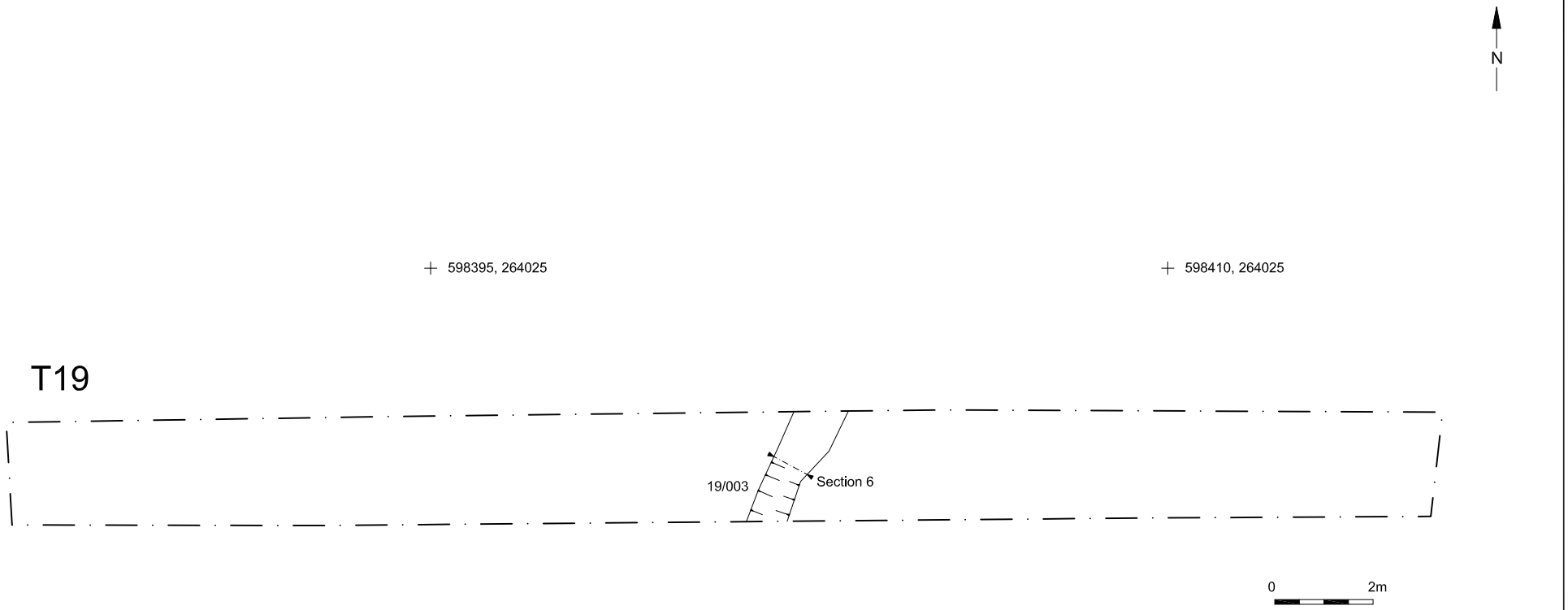


Trench 18, looking north

Machine slot through north end of 18/012

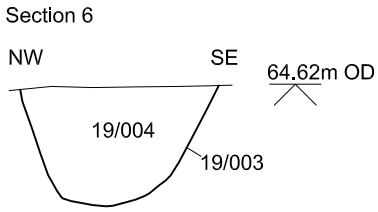


© **Archaeology South-East**		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 10
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 18 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 19, looking east

Ditch 19/003



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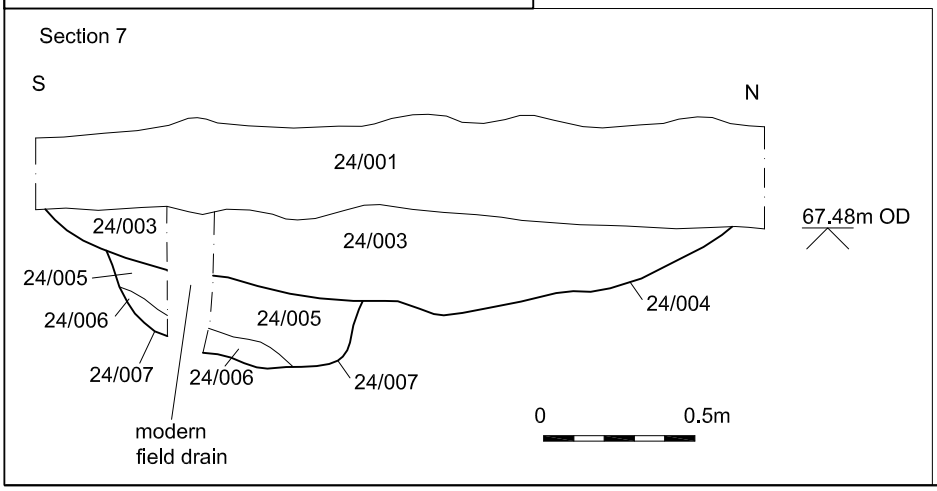
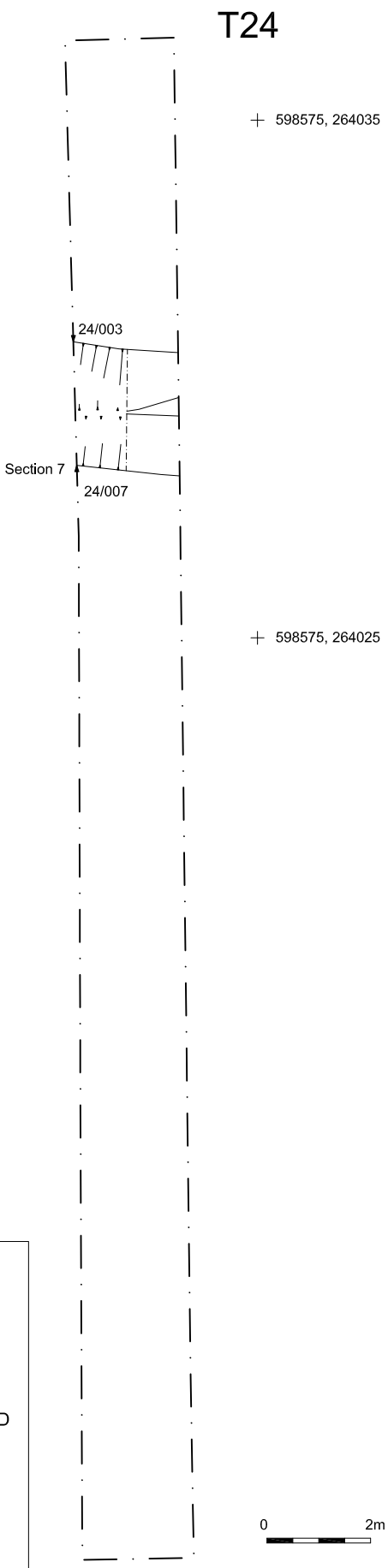
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 19 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

Trench 24, looking north





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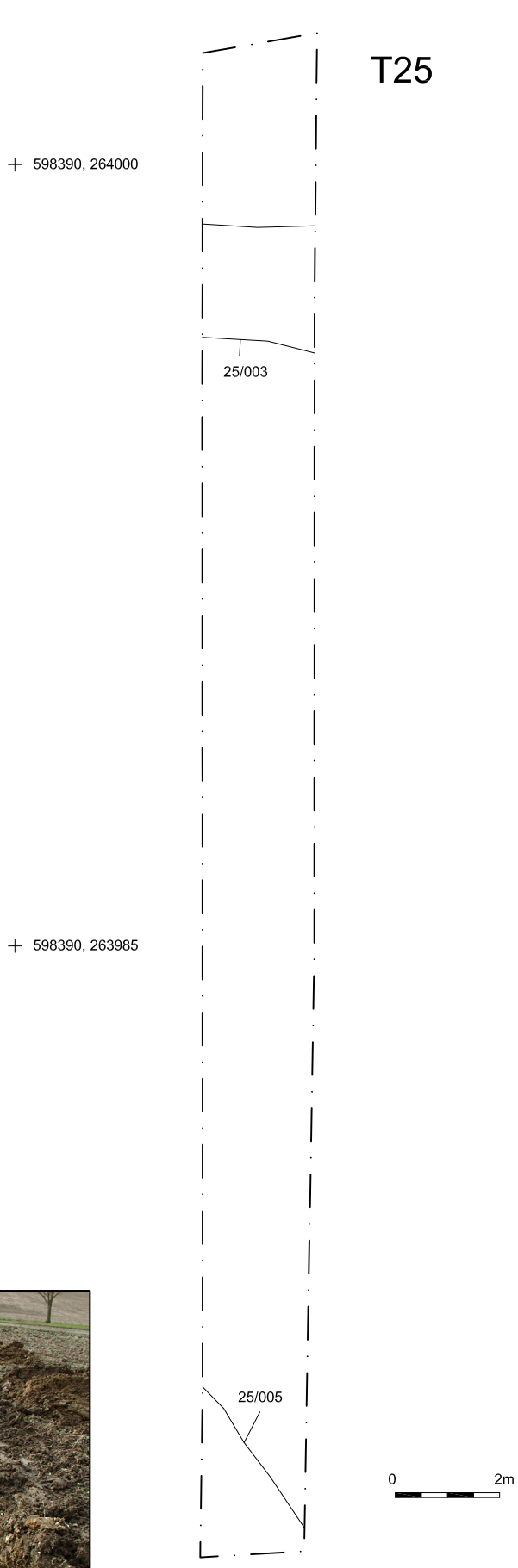
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 24 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 25, looking south

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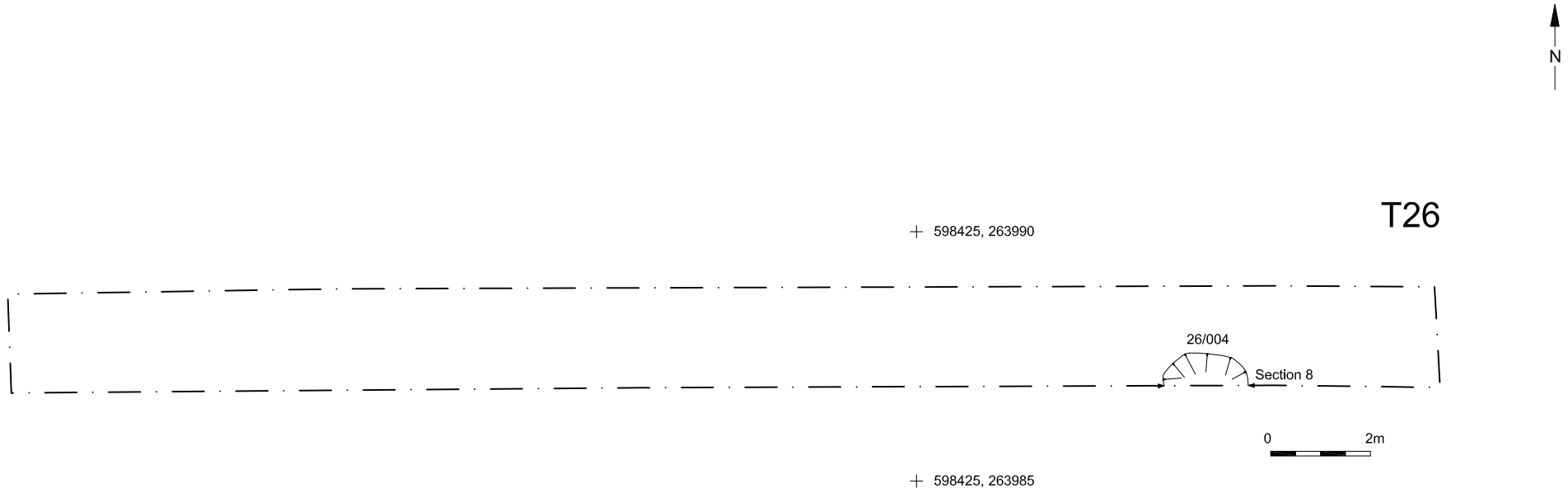
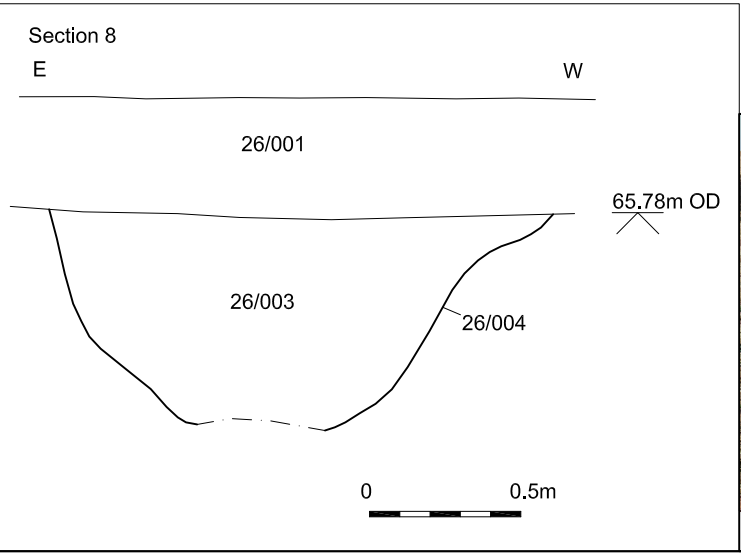
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 25 plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		





Trench 26, looking east

Pit 26/004

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Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 26 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

T27

N

27/006

598445, 264000

Section 9

S 27/007 N 66.51m OD

27/008

27/009

0 0.5m

27/009

Section 9

Trench 27, looking south

Ditch 27/006

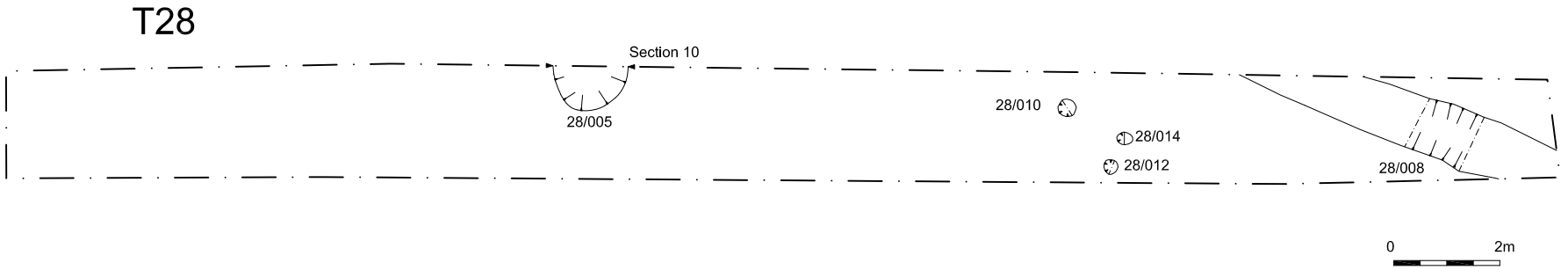
0 2m

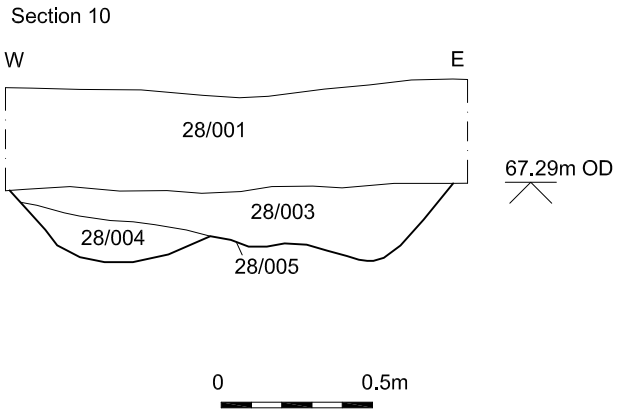
© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 15
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 27 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

Trench 28, looking east

Ditch 28/008

Postholes 28/010, 28/012 & 28/014





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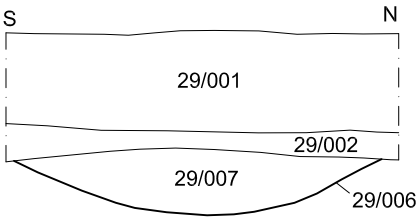
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 28 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

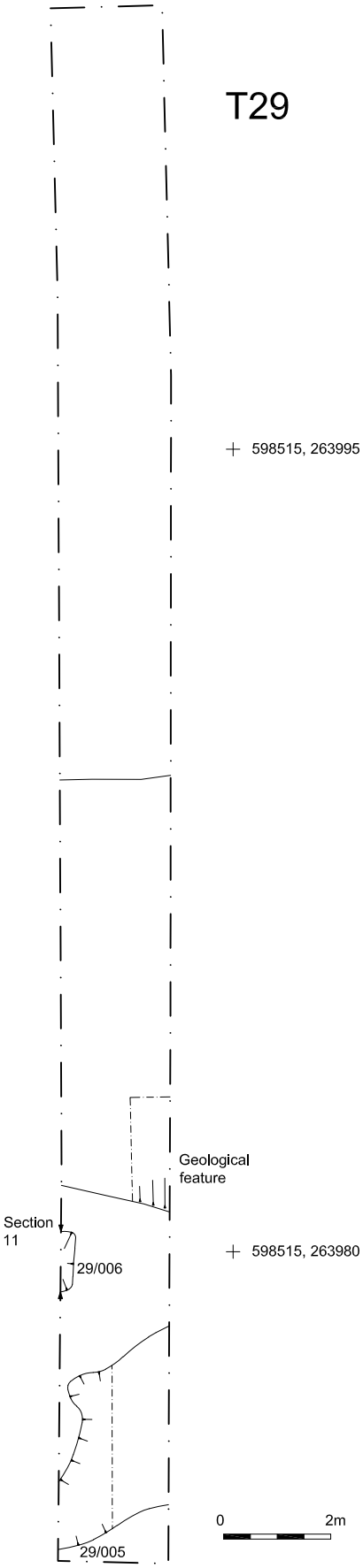
Trench 29

Geological feature 29/005

Section 11



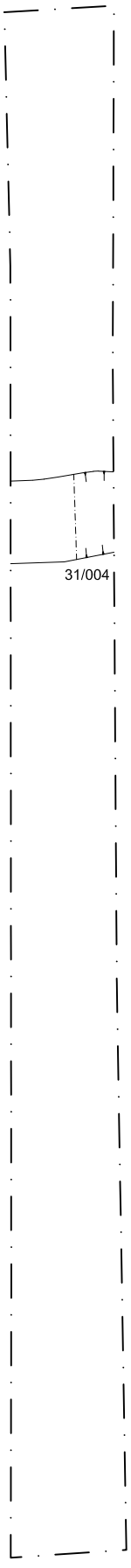
0 0.5m

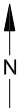


© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 17
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 29 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

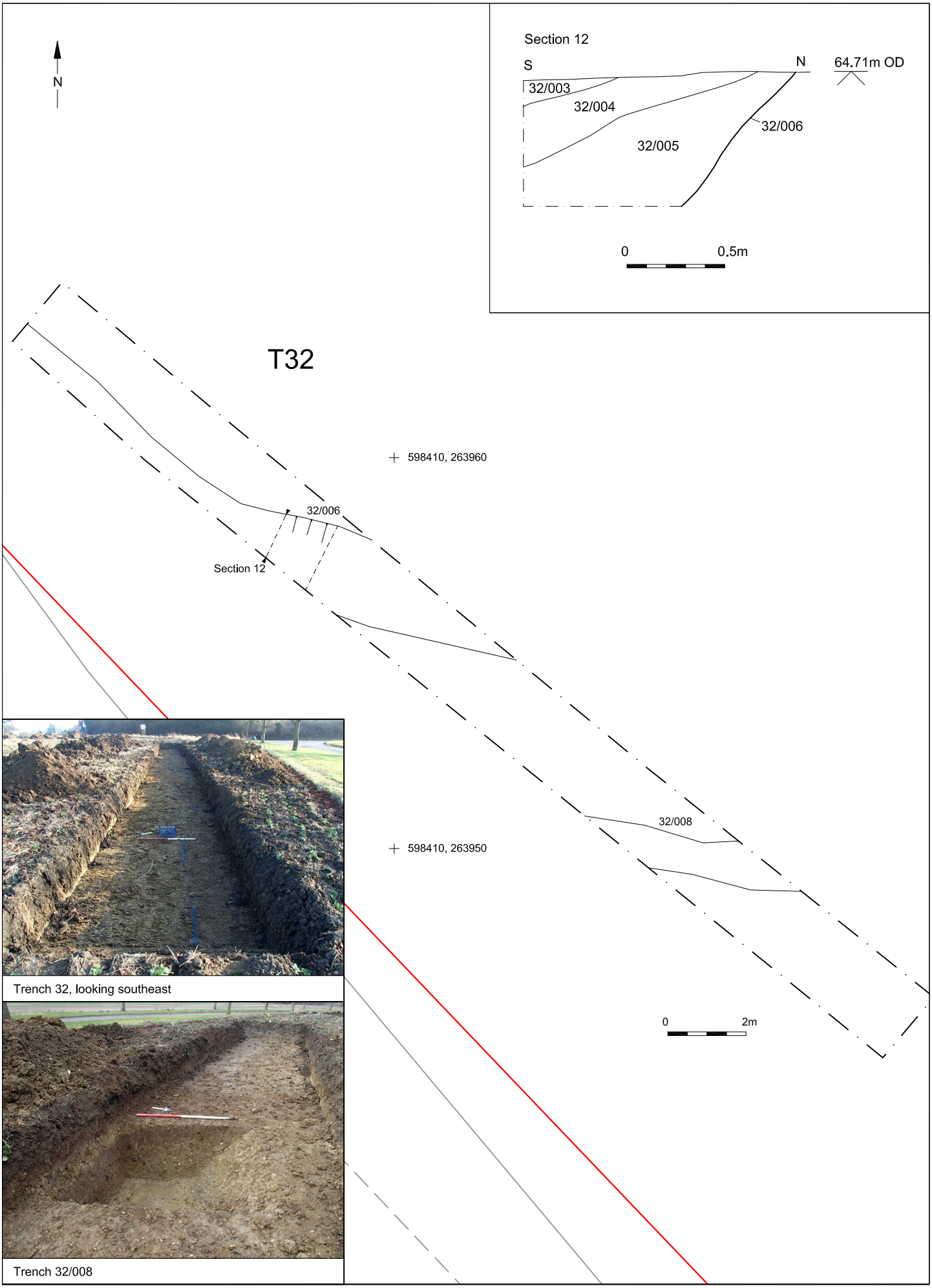
Trench 31, looking north

Ditch 31/004





© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 18
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 31 plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 32, looking southeast

Trench 32/008

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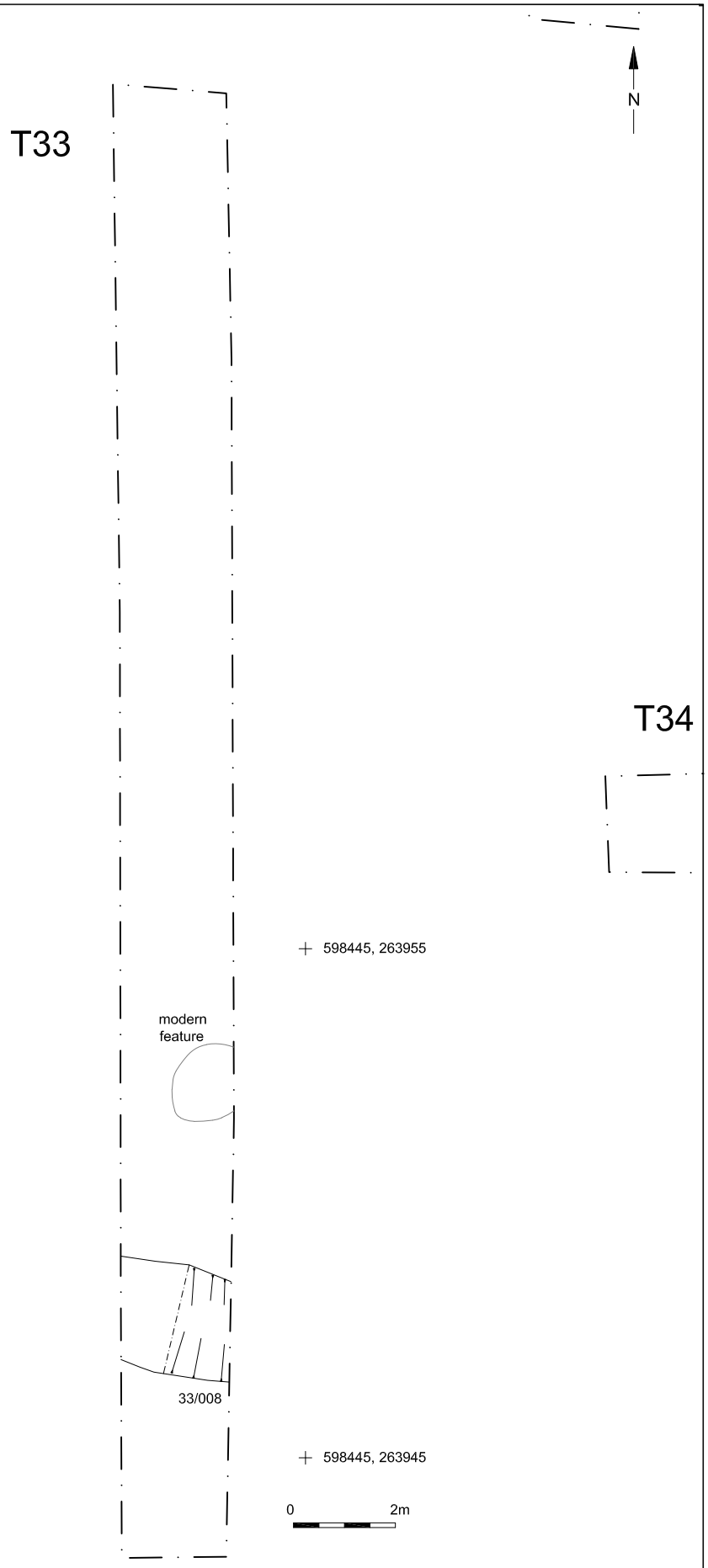
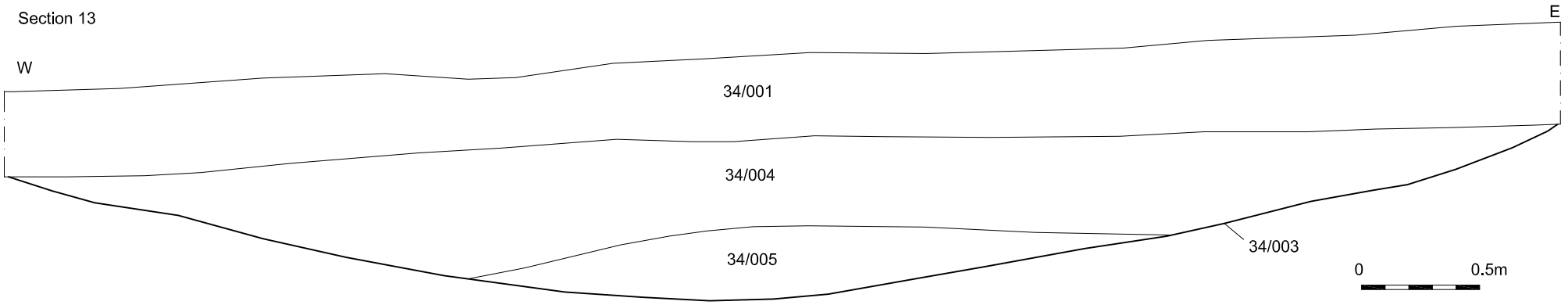
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 32 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

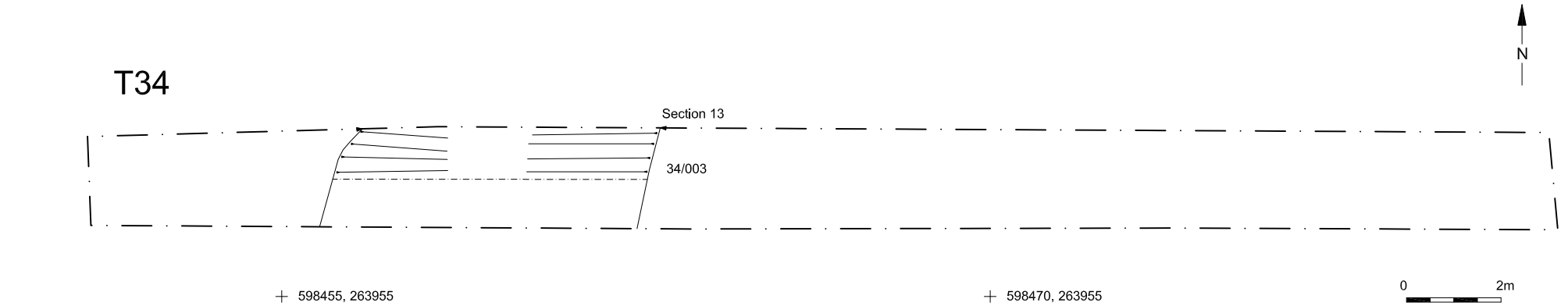
Trench 33, looking north

Ditch 33/008



© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 20
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 33 plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



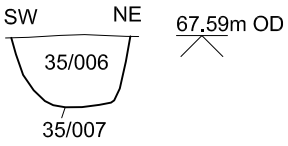


Trench 34, looking east

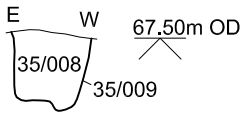
Ditch/Geological feature 34/003

© **Archaeology South-East**		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 21
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 34 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

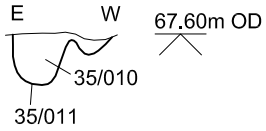
Section 14



Section 15

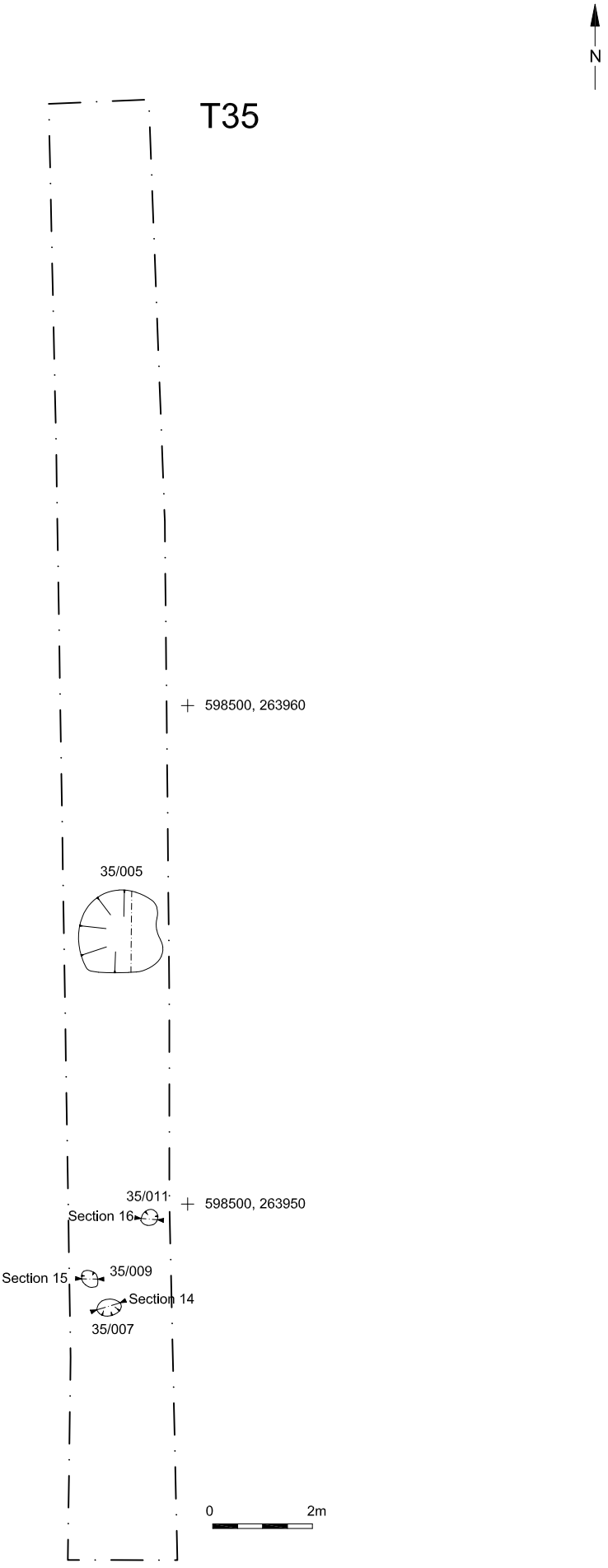


Section 16



Trench 35, looking north

Pit 35/005



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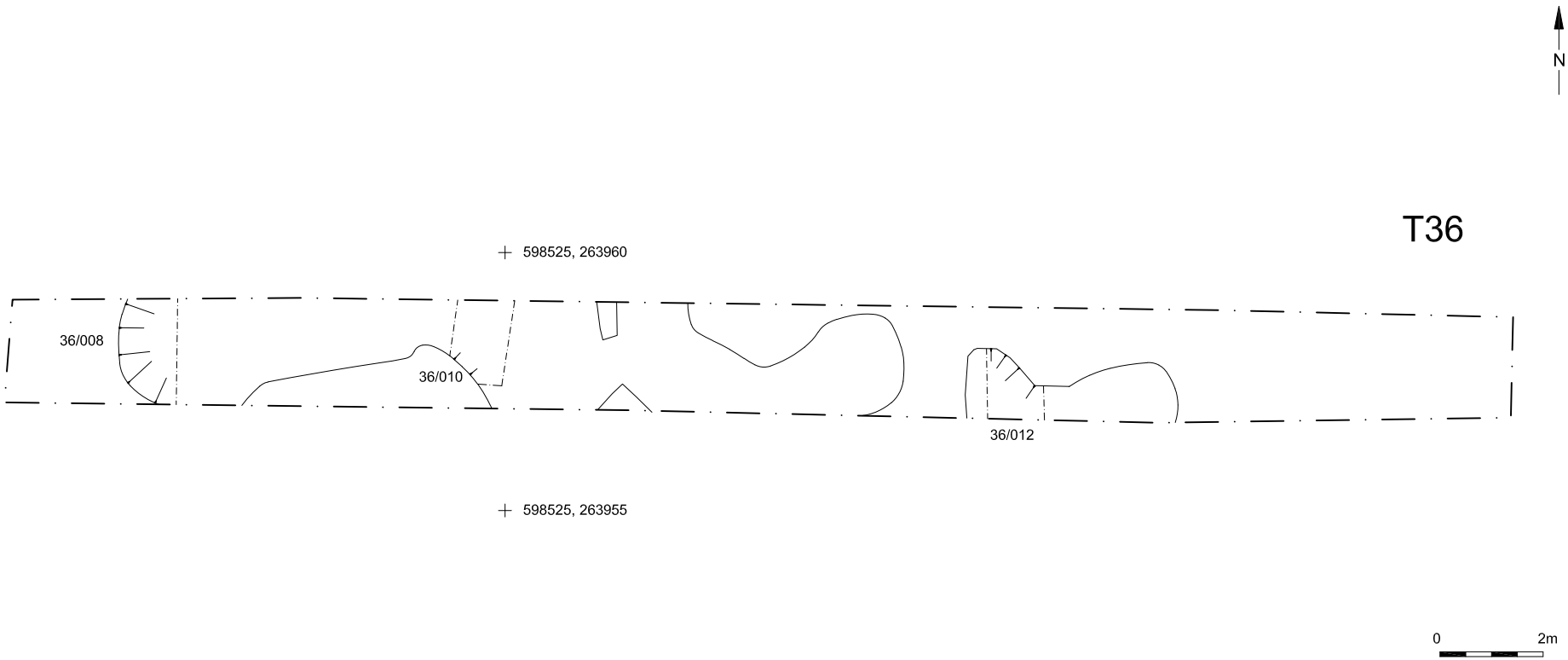
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 35 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 36, looking east

Feature 36/008

Feature 36/010

Feature 36/012

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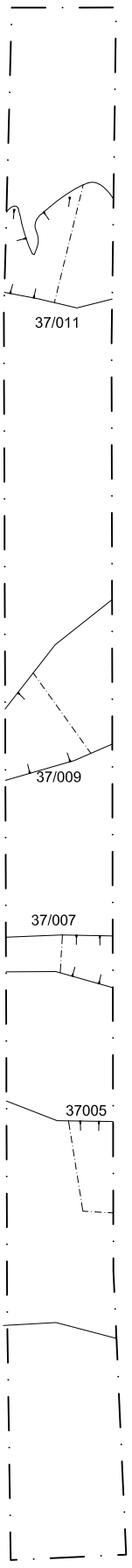
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 36 plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

Feature 37/005

Feature 37/007

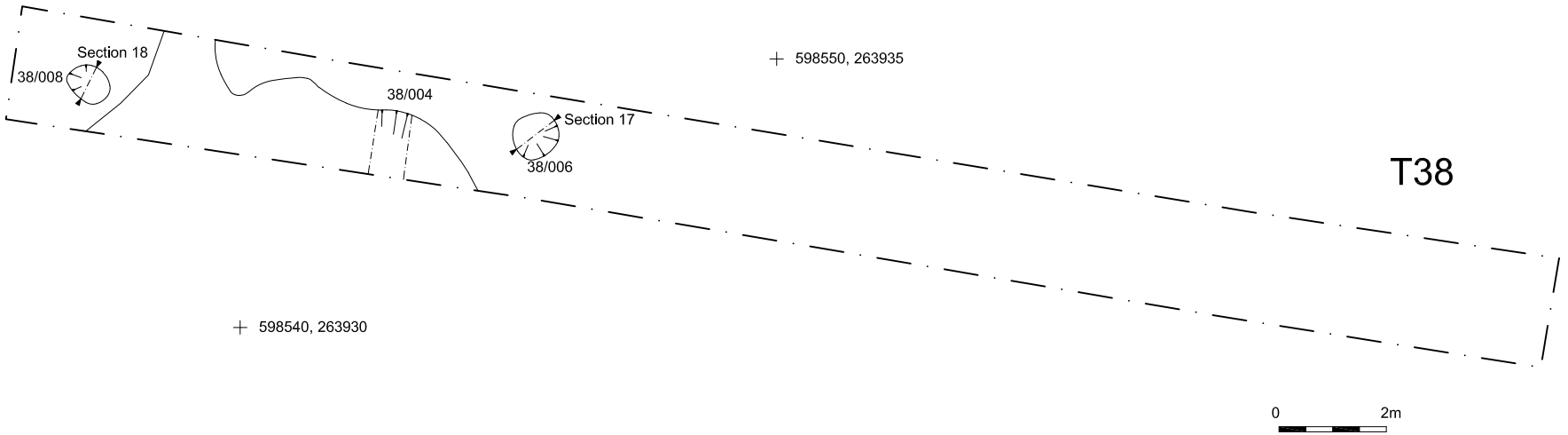
Feature 37/009

Feature 37/011



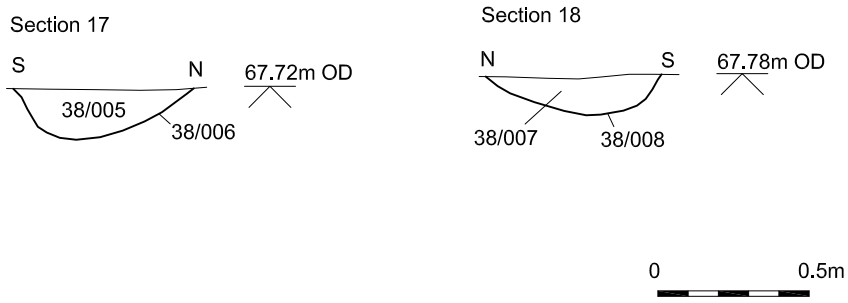
Trench 37, looking north

© Archaeology South-East		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 24
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 37 plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 38, looking east

Feature 38/004



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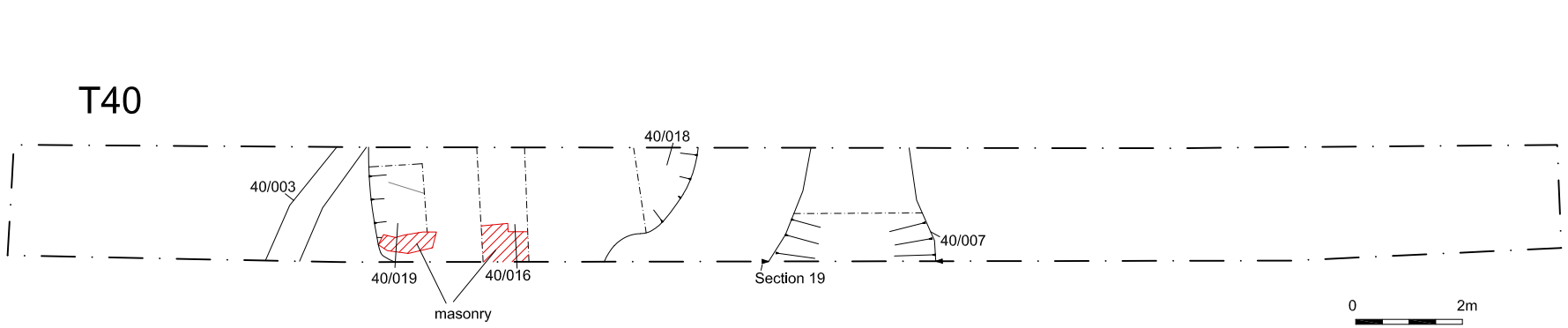
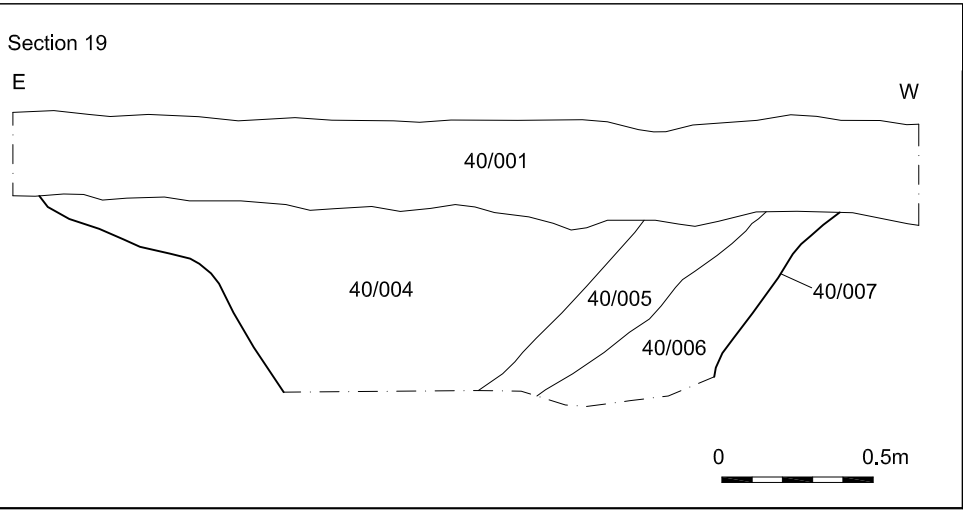
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 38 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



598410, 264035

598425, 264035

Feature 40/014



Feature 40/016

Feature 40/018

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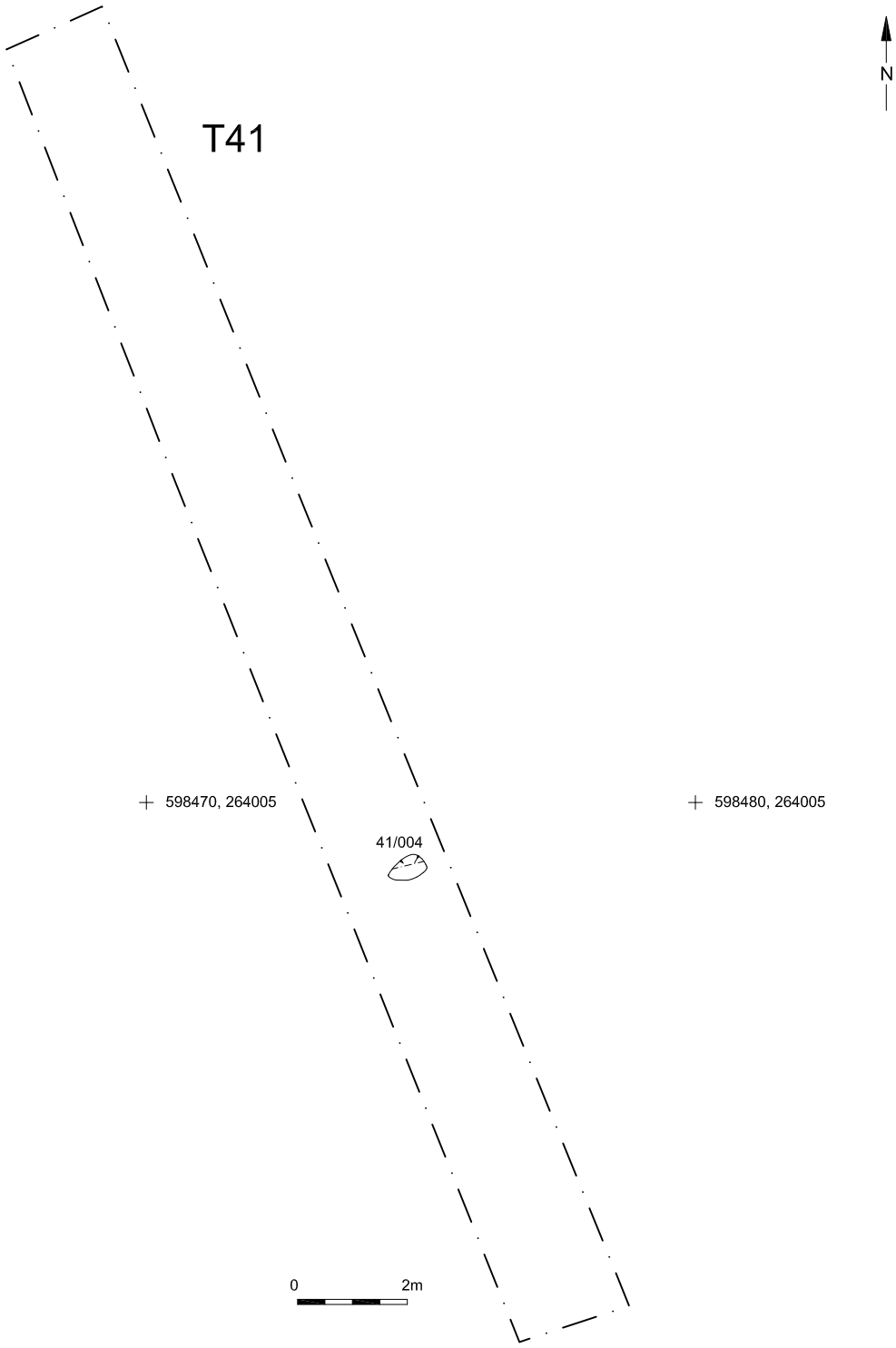
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 40 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 41, looking northwest

Posthole 41/004

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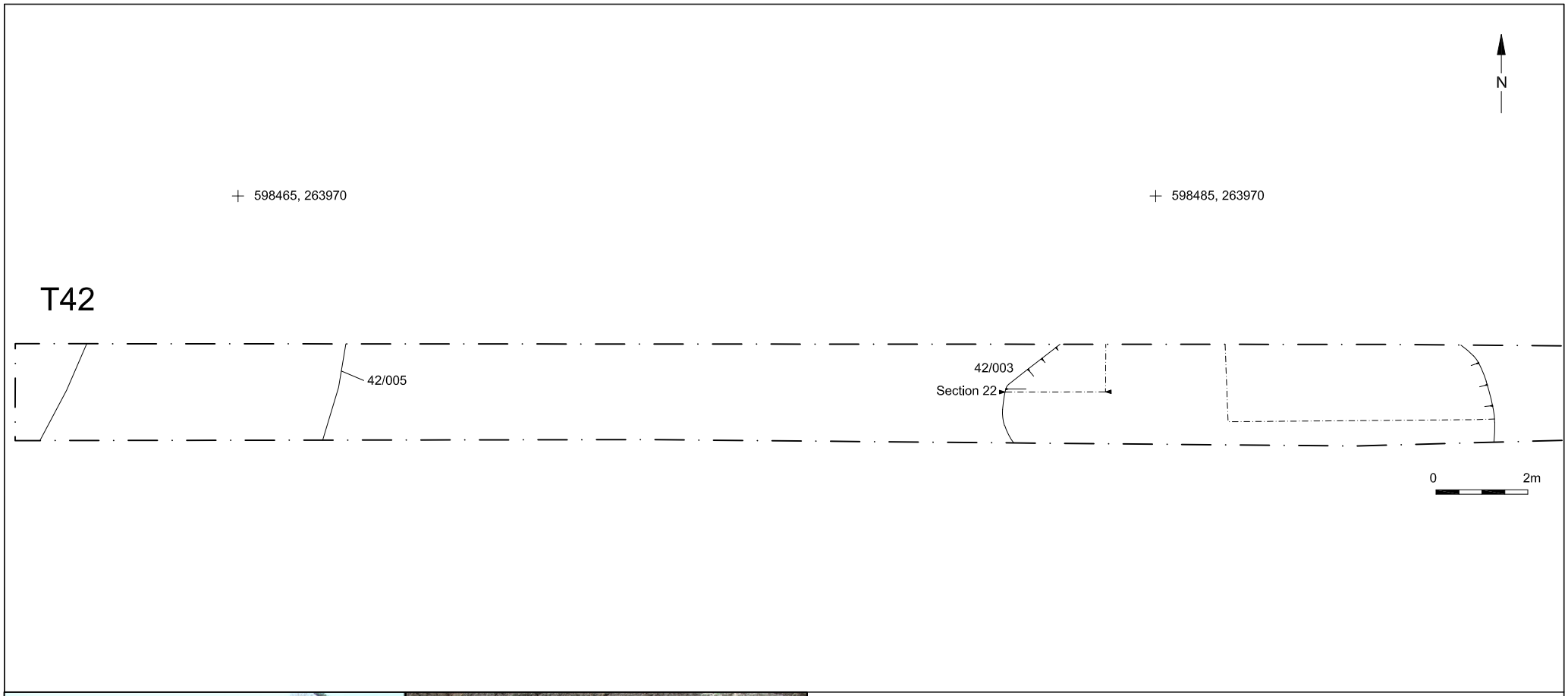
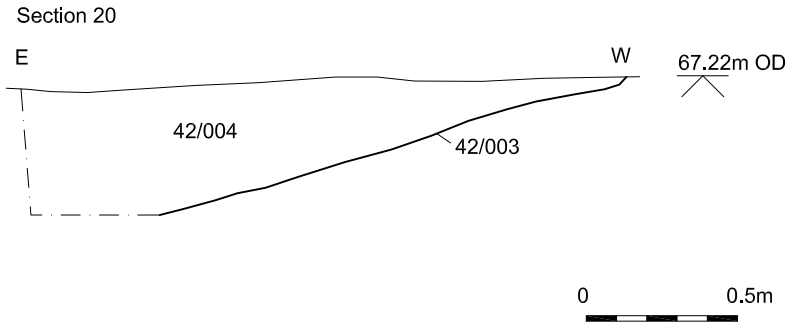
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 41 plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		



Trench 42, looking east

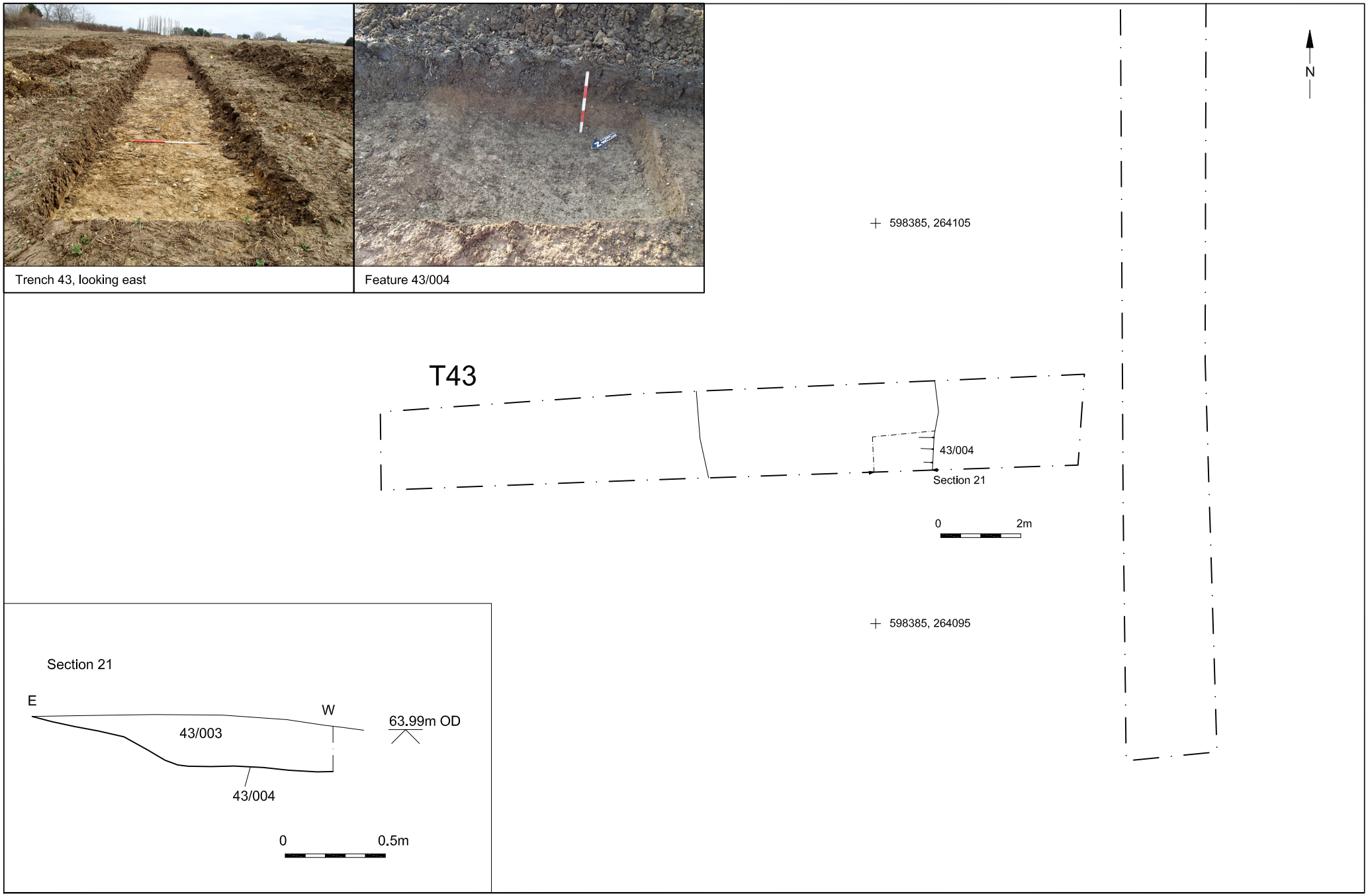
Feature 42/003



© **Archaeology South-East**		School Road, Elmswell, Suffolk	Fig. 28
Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 42 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

Trench 43, looking east

Feature 43/004



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Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Trench 43 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

Trench 1

Trench 3

Trench 5

Trench 7

Trench 8

Trench 9

Trench 10

Trench 14

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Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Photographs of Trenches 1, 3, 5, 7-10 and 14	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

Trench 15

Trench 16

Trench 17

Trench 20

Trench 21

Trench 22

Trench 23

Trench 30

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Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Photographs of Trenches 15-17, 20-23 and 30	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

T39 (not excavated)
T1
T3
T2
T4
T43
T5
T7
T9
T8
T10
T6
T12
T14
T16
T11
T13
T15
T17
T40
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T29
T31
T26
T28
T30
T33
T35
T37
T42
T32
T34
T36
T38

Track
Path (um)
PARNELL LANE
SP
Meadow
COURT
Hawk End
SCHOOL AVENUE
SCHOOL ROAD
SCHOOLS COURT
64.6m
67.4m
N

Prehistoric
Late Saxon / medieval
15th - 16th century
Post-medieval
Geological

0 20m

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Project Ref: 170253	Feb 2018	Location of dated features	
Report Ref: 2018062	Drawn by: APL		

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