

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

**LAND EAST OF SUDBURY ROAD,
HALSTEAD, ESSEX**

**ASE Project No: 180092
Site Code: HSSR18**

ASE Report No: 2018350



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Archaeological Evaluation

Land East of Sudbury Road,
Halstead, Essex

NGR: TL 82272 31428

Planning Ref: 17/00575/OUT

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East on land east of Sudbury Road, Halstead, Essex between 24 September and 15 October 2018. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Ltd in advance of residential development.

Preceding geophysical survey of the c.20ha site, in 2017, identified no anomalies of probable or possible archaeological origin, except for those indicative of former post-medieval/modern field boundaries; the results primarily reflect natural geology and modern agricultural land use. Archaeological evaluation was undertaken across the southern c.10ha of the site and comprised the investigation of sixty-seven trenches, many of which were targeted on geophysical anomalies. Seventeen of these trenches contained archaeological remains, generally comprising ditches and a small number of pits.

A single pit, located in the south-east of the site, broadly dated to the Roman period provides limited evidence of land use activity pre-dating the post-medieval period. The small assemblage of ceramic building material, fired clay and charred plant remains collected from the pit is perhaps suggestive of nearby Roman occupation activity.

The majority of recorded features, from which a small assemblage of ceramic building material, metalwork and glass was recovered, are dated to the post-medieval/modern period. Several of the ditches correspond with the geophysical linear anomalies and correlate with field boundaries depicted on late 19th-century and 20th-century Ordnance Survey maps. A large pit recorded in the north-west of the site correlates with a pond also depicted on historic maps. A small number of ditches appear to correspond with parallel linear anomalies that had been interpreted to be indicative of ploughing activities.

A small number of features recorded on site are undated but most likely relate to its post-medieval agricultural land use.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of UCL's Institute of Archaeology Centre for Applied Archaeology, has been commissioned by CgMs Ltd, on behalf of their client, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land proposed for residential development to the east of Sudbury Road, Halstead, Essex.

1.1.2 The evaluation has been undertaken in fulfilment of an archaeological condition attached to planning consent.

1.2 Location, Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site lies to the north-east of the town of Halstead, east of Sudbury Road and north of Churchill Avenue (NGR TL 8228 3143; Fig. 1). The site is bound to the south by existing housing along Churchill Avenue and Coggleshall Pieces wildlife area, to the north by Star Stile Lane and Halstead Cricket Club, and to the west by open fields beyond the A141/Sudbury Road. The site comprises two agricultural ploughed fields delineated by a mix of hedgerows, tree belts and fencing, and three land parcels consisting of open field, enclosed small field with a pond and a wooded plantation to the north-east. There are a number of hedgerows and mature trees along and within the site boundary.

1.2.2 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 2017), the site is located upon solid geology of London Clay Formation of clay, silt and sand. This is overlain by superficial deposits in the western area of the site of Lowestoft Formation – Diamiction. Superficial deposits in the eastern area comprise Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup of sand and gravel. The north-eastern area of the site is overlain with superficial Head deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel.

1.2.3 The topography of the site varies, measuring 65-75m AOD, with the lowest point located within the eastern area. The site forms part of the settlement of Halstead, which was established on the hill to the north of the River Colne.

1.2.4 A soil and agricultural land quality survey, undertaken on site in 2017 (Land Research Associates 2017), has recorded a mixture of soil types, including heavy soils, loamy soils, sand and gravel, and loamy soils over clay.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The proposed redevelopment of the site (Planning Ref. 17/00575/OUT) comprises the construction of 205 low-rise residential units and class C2 apartments, with associated infrastructure. The proposed development area is located across the southern half of the site and totals an area of approximately 10ha. The northern half of the site is to be retained as public open space, comprising a parkland, village green, along with a children's playground.

1.3.2 An archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) has been compiled for the site (Pegasus Group 2017), in addition to a Geo-environmental Site Assessment (RSK 2018). These documents highlighted that, due to the locality of the site, there is the potential for prehistoric and Roman remains to survive within it.

1.3.3 Braintree District Council recommended a condition be attached to the planning consent for a programme of archaeological work. Condition 7 states:

'No development or preliminary groundworks can commence until a programme of archaeological evaluation (which may include trial trenching) has been secured and undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant, and approved by the planning authority'.

'REASON: The site may be of archaeological interest'

1.3.4 CgMs Ltd subsequently commissioned ASE to undertake the archaeological fieldwork in the southern c.10ha of the site. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by ASE (ASE 2018). This was submitted to and approved by Essex County Council (ECC) Place Services, as archaeological advisor to Braintree District Council, in advance of the commencement of the fieldwork.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report describes and assess the results of the archaeological evaluation of land east of Sudbury Road, undertaken between 24 September and 15 October 2018.

1.4.2 The fieldwork was undertaken by James Alexander (Archaeologist) with survey undertaken by Nathalie Gonzalez (Senior Surveyor). The fieldwork was managed in the field by Andy Leonard (Project Manager) and in post-excavation by Mark Atkinson (Post-Excavation Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following archaeological and historical background information is drawn from the WSI (ASE 2018) and the DBA (Pegasus Group 2017), based on evidence held in the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) and other readily available sources. The locations of specific known sites and findspots in the vicinity of the site are shown on Figure 1.

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 The Halstead Historic Town Project Assessment Report states that there is limited evidence of prehistoric activity within the Halstead area, primarily represented by stray finds (ECC 1999).

2.2.2 A cropmark ring-ditch, potentially signifying the below-ground remains of a prehistoric round barrow (EHER 47525), measuring approximately 16m in diameter, is recorded c.365m west of the site.

2.2.3 Archaeological evaluation in the Colne Valley, c.1km west of the site, recovered a significant assemblage of flint artefacts of Mesolithic and Neolithic date (c.8500-2000 BC), as well as a small number of probable prehistoric features, notably ditches/gullies (EHER 46326; ECC FAU 2003).

2.3 Roman

2.3.1 Roman activity in the area is primarily focused within the town, to the south of the site.

2.3.2 Cropmarks, representing a Roman road or trackway, are recorded immediately east of the site at Abbots Shrubs (EHER 47531). Over 1km of trackway has been recorded, with parallel ditches at its western end, in close proximity to the site.

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

2.4.1 The name 'Halstead' originates from the Saxon period, meaning 'a settlement on the valley-slope'. The medieval core of the town of Halstead is located c.355m south of the site. During the 13th century, Halstead expanded on the hill to the north of the River Colne and was granted the right to hold a market in c.1251. The Parish Church of St Andrew, c.830m south-west of the site, has Late Saxon origins but has since been extensively restored and altered. The settlement of Halstead remained a small market town into the early post-medieval period.

2.4.2 The Braintree District Historic Environment Characterisation Project (ECC 2010) states that 'there are a number of parks surviving, many of which are of medieval origin. These particularly congregate in the area immediately to the north of Halstead'. It is believed that the site formed part of the agricultural hinterland to the historic parish of Halstead from at least the medieval period.

- 2.4.3 Former field boundaries, to the west of The Cangle, have been recorded as cropmarks, which are located c.100m north-east of the site (EHER 14441). The field boundaries are undated but may be considered to potentially date to the medieval period.
- 2.4.4 Further cropmarks are depicted c.335m south-east of the site, adjacent to the industrial estate (EHER 14443). These cropmarks represent field boundaries that are depicted on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1876 and are considered to potentially date to the medieval period.
- 2.4.5 Bois Hall, a large manor house, was originally located c.275m south of the site (EHER 9442). The manor house was rebuilt in the 17th century and extensively altered until its demolition in the 1960s, which revealed an earlier predecessor to the manor house. Bois Hall has since been replaced by a modern housing estate known as Bois Hall Gardens.

2.5 Post-Medieval and Modern

- 2.5.1 A series of post-medieval rubbish pits dating to the 17th and early 18th centuries and an 18th-century brick wall and drain were excavated on land at Red House, Colchester Road, c.790m south-west of the site (EHER 47115; ECC FAU 2007). These remains pre-date the construction of Red House and were most likely associated with a row of cottages that formerly occupied part of the site (ECC FAU 2007).
- 2.5.2 The site is depicted on the c.1625 Map of Halstead as extending across several agricultural fields, located to the north of the manor house Bois Hall.
- 2.5.3 The field layout appears differently on the Halstead tithe map of c.1841, which depicts the site as being situated across multiple agricultural fields. According to the Tithe Apportionment, the site was under multiple ownerships and occupancies, including the Honourable William Pole Tylney Long Wellesley and Issac Sewell, who also occupied Stubley's Farm to the north of the site. John de Horne also owned land within the site, which was occupied by Jonathan Nash who resided at Star Stile Farm. Stubley's Farm was demolished by the 1st edition OS map of 1876.
- 2.5.4 The southern area of the site, which is to be developed for residences, was under the ownership of the Honourable William Pole Tylney Long Wellesley and the land was occupied by Thomas Smoothly, who also occupied the manor house of Bois Hall. Bois Hall was demolished in the later 20th century. This area was not historically connected with Star Stile House.
- 2.5.5 The site is depicted on the OS map of 1876 as being situated mainly across eight agricultural fields. The site also extends into an area of parkland to the north-west. This appears to have been associated with Star Stile House but was previously agricultural and under the ownership of Stubley's Farm.
- 2.5.6 No major changes are depicted within the site on later OS mapping, though the field boundaries and a pond depicted on earlier OS maps are no longer in use by 1969. Development to the south of the site occurred during the

later 20th century and includes the demolition of Bois Hall to create a modern housing estate.

2.6 Previous Work

2.6.1 A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken in 2017 (Magnitude Surveys 2018). The survey identified no anomalies of possible or probable archaeological origins, except for those indicative of former post-medieval/modern field boundaries; the results primarily reflect natural geology and modern agricultural land usage (Magnitude Surveys 2018).

2.7 Project Aims and Objectives

2.7.1 The general aims of the archaeological investigation, as set out in the WSI (ASE 2018), were as follows:

- To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.
- To enable Braintree District Council to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work required in order to satisfy the archaeology condition.

2.7.2 With reference to regional research frameworks (Medlycott 2011), site-specific research aims for the archaeological work were:

- Further research is required into the 'interaction with hinterland, location with ref to topography and geology, resources, communication' within the Iron Age (Medlycott 2011, 31).
- Is there any evidence for further prehistoric funerary activity, represented within the wider area in the form of a round barrow, situated c.365m west of the site?
- Is there any evidence for Roman settlement activity? Specifically to inform on settlement typology (Medlycott 2011, 47)
- Does the projected Roman trackway located adjacent to the eastern site boundary continue through the proposed redevelopment site? Are there associated features with it?
- Is there further evidence of medieval land management, particularly in relation to the parkland associated with Star Stile House, within the northern half of the site?

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised the excavation of sixty-seven trenches, each measuring 30m by 2m and positioned in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2018; Fig. 2).
- 3.1.2 The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014b), and in compliance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).
- 3.1.3 The trenches were accurately located using a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and were scanned for the presence of underground services using a CAT scanner prior to excavation.
- 3.1.4 All trenches were mechanically excavated using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision. Machine excavation continued to the top of archaeological deposits or the surface of natural geology, whichever was uppermost. The exposed subsoil or archaeological horizon was cleaned by hand immediately after machine stripping, as required; any exposed archaeological deposits or negative features were planned as appropriate.
- 3.1.5 Where required, discrete features were half-sectioned and slots excavated across linear features by hand. Post-medieval and modern features were excavated, as necessary, in order to establish their date and significance. Trenches and features were recorded on ASE *pro forma* sheets and sections were recorded at 1:10 scale on A3 drawing film sheets.
- 3.1.6 Where present, finds were collected from excavated deposits, bagged, labelled and retained for specialist identification and study, in accordance with the ASE artefact collection policy and CIfA guidelines (CIfA 2014c).
- 3.1.7 Bulk soil samples were collected and processed for the purposes of the recovery of environmental material and small artefacts, in accordance with Historic England guidelines (Historic England 2011). Samples were collected from dated/datable sealed deposits judged to have the potential for the survival of environmental remains.
- 3.1.8 A photographic record comprising colour digital images was made. All trenches and individual contexts were photographed (trench and context shots). In addition, a number of representative photographs of the general work on site were taken (working shots).
- 3.1.9 Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned with a metal detector, as was the spoil derived from excavated features.
- 3.1.10 Backfilling and compaction was undertaken by the machine on completion of the work, but there was no reinstatement to existing condition.

3.2 Archive

3.2.1 Guidelines contained in the ClfA *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2014d) will be followed for the preparation of the archive for deposition.

3.2.2 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE. Subject to agreement with the legal landowner, the archive will be deposited at Braintree Museum. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Tables 1 and 2).

Context sheets	42
Section sheets	4
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	239
Context register	0
Drawing register	2
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	67

Table 1: 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)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	0.5 bag
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Summary

4.1.1 Sixty-seven trenches, each measuring 30m by 2m, were excavated across the site, in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2018), with the majority of trenches targeted upon anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Figs 2 and 3). Of these, seventeen trenches contained archaeological features, comprising ditches and a small number of pits (Trenches 1, 8, 13-15, 17, 19, 39-41, 55, 56, 60-62, 65 and 66). These remains are described and discussed in sections 4.2-4.18.

4.1.2 The remaining fifty trenches (Trenches 2-7, 9-12, 16, 18, 20-38, 42-54, 57-59, 63, 64 and 67) were found to be devoid of archaeological remains. These trenches are summarised in section 4.19, with further details presented in Appendix 1.

4.1.3 The general stratigraphic sequence across the site consisted of topsoil over subsoil, which, in turn, sealed natural deposits. The topsoil generally comprised a dark brownish grey silty clay that varied in thickness from 0.13m in the west of the site to 0.43m in the east (average 0.28m). The subsoil was a mid greyish brown grey clayey silt that varied in thickness from 0.10 in the west of the site to 0.61m in the east (average 0.24m). Both topsoil and subsoil deposits became sandier in the east of the site and contained more gravel inclusions. Natural deposits exposed in the bases of the trenches comprised generally light yellow brown clay in the west of the site and yellow orange clayey sand and gravel in the east.

4.1.4 Feature visibility was generally good. Archaeological remains comprised ditches of post-medieval/modern date, a post-medieval/modern pit, a pit dated to the Roman period and a small number of undated features. Only simple intercutting features were observed. The features were generally found directly below the subsoil, cutting into the natural deposits. However, a small number of features, notably of post-medieval/modern date, were observed below the topsoil and cutting the subsoil.

4.2 Trench 1 (Fig. 4)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.23- 0.32	70.89- 71.44
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.13- 0.21	-
1/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	70.56- 70.92
1/004	Fill	Fill, single	0.62	0.89	0.18	-
1/005	Cut	Pit	0.62	0.89	0.18	-

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Trench 1 was located in the south-west of the site and orientated NE/SW. It was not positioned to target a geophysical anomaly. A single pit was

identified within the trench.

- 4.2.2 Pit [1/005], located in the centre of the trench, was sub-oval in plan shape, measuring 0.62m by 0.89m and 0.18m deep, extending beyond the south-east trench limit. It had moderately sloping sides gradually breaking into a slightly uneven flat base. Its single fill, [1/004], comprised compact, light brownish grey clayey silt with occasional flint and charcoal inclusions. No finds were recovered from this feature; however, bulk soil sample <1>, collected from fill [1/004], contained small quantities of hazel/alder charcoal and unworked fire-cracked flint.

4.3 Trench 8 (Fig. 5)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.28-0.33	71.86-71.89
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.19-0.29	-
8/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	71.34-71.45
8/004	Fill	Fill, single	2.20	0.91	0.15	-
8/005	Cut	Ditch	2.20	0.91	0.15	-

Table 4: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

- 4.3.1 Trench 8 was positioned on a WNW/ESW alignment in the south-west of the site, targeted upon an anomaly identified by the geophysical survey and interpreted to be a natural variation in the geological deposits. A single ditch was encountered in the trench.
- 4.3.2 Located towards the centre of the trench, ditch [8/005] crossed the trench for 2.20m on a NNE/SSW alignment, extending beyond the trench limits. It was 0.91m wide and 0.15m deep, and had moderately sloping, shallow sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill, [8/004], of firm, dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional flint inclusions. Recovered from this fill were two fragments of sheet iron suggestive of a post-medieval date.
- 4.3.3 The continuation of this ditch was not observed in nearby trenches, nor does it correlate with the geophysical survey results or to boundaries depicted on historic maps. Areas of variations in the natural deposits, including lenses of flint and gravel, were observed in the trench, as suggested by the geophysical survey.

4.4 Trench 13 (Fig. 6)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
13/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.25- 0.27	71.44- 71.68
13/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.22- 0.26	-
13/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	70.93- 71.18
13/004	Fill	Fill, basal	2.10	1.05	0.36	-
13/005	Cut	Ditch	2.10	1.05	0.51	-
13/006	Fill	Fill, upper	2.10	1.05	0.19	-

Table 5: Trench 13 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Located in the south-west of the site, Trench 13 was broadly orientated NW/SE and targeted upon a NNE/SSW aligned linear geophysical anomaly interpreted to be of agricultural origin. A single archaeological feature was revealed in the trench.
- 4.4.2 Ditch [13/005] crossed the centre of the trench on a NNE/SSW alignment for 2.10m, extending beyond the trench limits. The ditch had a V-shaped profile, with a concave base, measuring 1.05m wide and 0.51m deep. It contained a sequence of two fills. Upper fill [13/006] was a firm, dark brownish grey silty clay with occasional flint and charcoal, from which no finds were retrieved. Lower fill [13/004] comprised firm, mid brownish grey silty clay with flint and charcoal. Recovered from this lower fill were nine fragments of ceramic building material (CBM), including mid-16th- to 17th-century brick, three pieces of iron, perhaps originally from machinery, and one piece of 19th-century glass.
- 4.4.3 The ditch corresponds with the position of the linear anomaly previously identified by the geophysical survey. Continuations of the ditch were observed in Trenches 14, 15 and 17, to the south and north. The ditch correlates with a field boundary depicted on historic OS maps dating from the late 19th century onwards.

4.5 Trench 14 (Fig. 7)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
14/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.22- 0.30	71.11- 71.17
14/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.20- 0.27	-
14/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	70.69- 70.85
14/004	Fill	Fill	2.00	1.70	unex	-
14/005	Cut	Ditch	2.00	1.70	unex	-

Table 6: Trench 14 list of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Trench 14 was located in the south-west of the site on a WNW/ESE alignment, adjacent to the site boundary. The trench was positioned to target a linear geophysical anomaly interpreted to be of agricultural origin. A single archaeological feature as identified within the trench, as well as a modern land drain.

4.5.2 Ditch [14/005] crossed the west half of the trench on a NNE/SSW alignment for 2.00m, extending beyond the trench limits, and was c.1.70m wide. The ditch was not excavated, as it was clearly the southward continuation of the post-medieval ditch excavated to the north in Trenches 13, 15 and 17, correlating with both the results of the geophysical survey and a field boundary depicted on late 19th-/20th-century OS maps.

4.6 Trench 15 (Fig. 8)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
15/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.25-0.27	71.61-71.91
15/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.17-0.21	-
15/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	71.22-71.46
15/004	Fill	Fill	2.75	0.85	unex	-
15/005	Cut	Ditch	2.75	0.85	unex	-

Table 7: Trench 15 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 In the west of the site, Trench 15 was positioned on a NW/SE orientation, targeting a linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey and interpreted to be of agricultural origin. One archaeological feature and small patches of variations in the natural deposits were observed in the trench,

4.6.2 Located in the north-west of the trench, ditch [15/005] was aligned NNE/SSW. It crossed the trench for 2.75m, extending beyond the trench limits, and was 0.85m wide. Although the ditch was unexcavated, it clearly corresponds with the geophysical linear anomaly. It is evidently a continuation of the same ditch recorded in Trenches 13, 14 and 17, and correlates with a field boundary shown on historic OS maps.

4.7 Trench 17 (Fig. 9)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
17/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.23-0.30	71.99-72.53
17/002	Layer	Subsoil		2.00	0.14-0.36	-
17/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	71.29-71.98
17/004	Fill	Fill	7.70	2.00	1.33	-
17/005	Fill	Fill	10.5	2.00	0.30	-
17/006	Cut	Pit/pond	18.2	2.00	1.63	-

17/007	Fill	Fill, single	2.85	0.56	0.19	-
17/008	Cut	Ditch	2.85	0.56	0.19	-

Table 8: Trench 17 list of recorded contexts

- 4.7.1 Trench 17 was located in the north-west of the site and positioned on a NNW/SSE alignment in order to investigate a large ferrous geophysical anomaly. Two features were encountered in the trench, one of which corresponds with the anomaly.
- 4.7.2 Located in the north of the trench, ditch [17/008] was NNE/SSW aligned and measured 2.85m long, extending beyond the trench limits, 0.56m wide and 0.19m deep. It had a V-shaped profile with concave base, similar to ditch [13/005] in Trench 13. It contained a single fill, [17/007], of firm, mid brownish grey silty clay, from which two fragments of roof tile of probable post-medieval date were recovered.
- 4.7.3 Occupying the majority of the trench was pit [17/006], which clearly cut the subsoil, indicating its late post-medieval/modern date. It extended for c.18.20m and was more than 2.00m wide, continuing beyond the east and west trench limits. It was excavated to a depth of 1.63m. Two fills were recorded. Fill [17/004], recorded in the north half of the pit, comprised mixed mid and dark brownish grey sandy silt. Modern concrete, plastic, CBM and metal objects were noted in this fill, but these were not recovered. Fill [17/005], in the south of the pit and apparently underlying fill [17/004], consisted of light whitish grey and brownish grey sand. No finds were observed in or recovered from this fill.
- 4.7.4 The ditch was not identified as a geophysical anomaly during the previous survey of the site. Nevertheless, it is clearly a continuation of the ditch recorded across Trenches 13, 14 and 15, and correlates with a field boundary depicted on historic OS maps.
- 4.7.5 The pit correlates with the plotted position of the ferrous anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. It also corresponds with a pond depicted on OS maps dating between 1876 and 1958; it appears to have been filled in by the survey of 1969, as it not shown on the map.

4.8 Trench 19 (Fig. 10)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
19/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.21- 0.28	71.52- 72.08
19/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.22- 0.27	-
19/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	70.96- 71.54
19/004	Fill	Fill, upper	3.70	0.63	0.11	-
19/005	Fill	Fill, basal	3.70	0.63	0.04	-
19/006	Cut	Gully	3.70	0.63	0.16	-
19/007	Fill	Fill, single	3.60	1.25	0.36	-
19/008	Cut	Gully	3.60	1.25	0.36	-

Table 9: Trench 19 list of recorded contexts

- 4.8.1 Trench 19 was located in the north of the site on a broadly NW/SE alignment and positioned to investigate two geophysical anomalies interpreted to be of natural origin. Two archaeological features were revealed in the trench, though they did not correlate with the geophysical survey results.
- 4.8.2 Located near the centre of the trench, gully [19/006] was WNW/ESE aligned and measured 3.70m long by 0.63m wide and 0.16m deep, extending beyond the east and west trench limits. It had moderately sloping sides gradually breaking into a flat base. It contained two fills: upper fill [19/004] comprised compact, mid brownish grey silty clay with frequent stones, while lower fill [19/005] was a friable, mid greyish yellow sandy, silty clay with occasional stones. Only a single fragment of roof tile of probable post-medieval date was recovered from this feature, from fill [19/004].
- 4.8.3 Situated c.5.5m to the south-east was gully [19/008]. Similar to [19/006], it crossed the trench on a WNW/ESE alignment for 3.60m but was more substantial, measuring 1.25m wide and 0.36m deep. It had moderately sloping sides gradually breaking into a concave base. It contained a single fill, [19/007], of firm, mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions, from which no finds were retrieved.
- 4.8.4 It was unclear if both gullies cut the subsoil, as their fills were very similar in nature to this deposit. Given this, it is likely that they are modern in date. These features were not found to continue into nearby trenches. They do not directly correspond with the plotted position of the two anomalies identified by the geophysical survey; however, several variations in the natural deposits were observed within the trench, which most likely account for the geophysical results.

4.9 Trench 39 (Fig. 11)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
39/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.26- 0.28	69.55- 70.25
39/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.14- 0.21	-
39/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	69-10- 69.74
39/004	Fill	Fill	2.10	0.80	unex	-
39/005	Cut	Ditch	2.10	0.80	unex	-

Table 10: Trench 39 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 Trench 39 was located near the centre of the site, west of the extant NNE/SSW aligned field boundary. The trench was positioned on a WNW/ESE alignment, targeted upon a linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey and interpreted to be of agricultural origin. A single ditch was encountered within the trench.

4.9.2 Ditch [39/005] crossed the east of the trench on a NNE/SSW alignment for 2.10m, extending beyond the trench limits, and was 0.80m wide. The ditch clearly corresponds with the results of the geophysical survey and with a field boundary depicted on OS maps dated between 1876 and 1958. The ditch was not excavated, as it was a clear continuation of the ditch excavated in Trench 40 to the south.

4.10 Trench 40 (Fig. 12)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
40/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.31- 0.34	70.08
40/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.18- 0.22	-
40/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	69.60
40/004	Fill	Fill, single	2.10	0.90	0.31	-
40/005	Cut	Ditch	2.10	0.90	0.31	-

Table 11: Trench 40 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 Positioned near the centre of the site on a NW/SE alignment, Trench 40 was targeted upon a linear anomaly of probable agricultural origin and two anomalies of natural origin as identified by the geophysical survey. A single ditch was revealed in the trench, corresponding with the geophysical survey results.

4.10.2 Located in the south-east of the trench, ditch [40/005] measured 0.90m wide and 0.31m deep, extending across the trench for 2.10m before continuing beyond the trench limits. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base creating a V-shaped profile. The ditch contained a single fill, [40/004] of compact, mid brownish grey silty clay with frequent stone inclusions, from

which one fragment of CBM of probable post-medieval date and two pieces of glass of 20th-century date were recovered.

- 4.10.3 The ditch corresponds with the linear anomaly identified by the previous geophysical survey and also a field boundary depicted on historic OS maps up to 1958. Continuations of this ditch were observed in Trenches 39 and 40. Variations in the natural clay deposits comprised patches of gravel and flint and most likely account for the anomalies indicated by the geophysical survey.

4.11 Trench 41 (Fig. 13)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
41/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.26-0.32	69.20-69.49
41/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.20-0.27	-
41/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	68.66-68-95
41/004	Fill	Fill	2.10	0.70	unex	-
41/005	Cut	Ditch	2.10	0.70	unex	-

Table 12: Trench 41 list of recorded contexts

- 4.11.1 Trench 41 was located in the south of the site and positioned on a NW/SE alignment to investigate three anomalies identified by the geophysical survey, two of which were interpreted to be of natural origin and the third, linear-like anomaly, to be of agricultural origin. The three anomalies were observed as belowground remains, though only one archaeological feature was revealed in the trench.
- 4.11.2 Ditch [41/005] crossed the south-east of the trench for 2.10m, extending beyond the trench limits, and was 0.70m wide. The feature was not excavated, as it was a clear continuation of the post-medieval ditch excavated in Trench 40 and observed in Trench 39, correlating with the linear geophysical anomaly and field boundary depicted on historic OS maps.
- 4.11.3 Two large areas of sand and gravel constituted variations in the natural clay deposit. These correspond with the two anomalies of natural origin identified by the geophysical survey.

4.12 Trench 55 (Fig. 14)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
55/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.27- 0.31	66.14- 67.32
55/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.14- 0.29	-
55/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	65.75- 66.52
55/004	Fill	Fill, single	2.00	1.32	0.40	-
55/005	Cut	Ditch	2.00	1.32	0.40	-

Table 13: Trench 55 list of recorded contexts

- 4.12.1 Trench 55 was located towards the south-east of the site and positioned on a WNW/ESE orientation to target a geophysical linear trend interpreted to correspond with ploughing activity. A single archaeological feature was identified in the trench.
- 4.12.2 Ditch [55/005] was found cutting the subsoil, indicating its modern date. It crossed the centre of the trench on a NNE/SSW alignment for 2.00m, extending beyond the north and south trench limits. It measured 1.32m wide and 0.40m deep, and had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill, [55/004], consisted of mid reddish brown clayey, silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions. Recovered from this fill was an agricultural bag lead seal of 18th- or 19th-century date and a fragment of an iron hinge.
- 4.12.3 The ditch closely, but not directly, corresponds with the position of a geophysical anomaly interpreted as an agricultural trend indicative of ploughing activity. The ditch was not found to continue into nearby evaluation trenches.

4.13 Trench 56 (Fig. 15)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
56/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.28- 0.37	66.89- 67.15
56/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.21- 0.29	-
56/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	66.30- 66.66
56/004	Fill	Fill, single	1.10	1.22	0.51	-
56/005	Cut	Pit	1.10	1.22	0.51	-

Table 14: Trench 56 list of recorded contexts

- 4.13.1 Trench 56 was located in the south-east of the site on a roughly east/west alignment. The trench was not positioned to target a geophysical anomaly. A single archaeological feature was encountered.
- 4.13.2 In the west of the trench, pit [56/005] was sub-circular in plan shape,

measuring 1.10m by 1.22m and 0.51m deep. It had relatively steep sides and a slightly concave base. Its single fill, [56/004], consisted of a soft, dark blackish brown mixture of silt, clay and sand with charcoal and flint inclusions, from which two pieces of fired clay perhaps representing fragments of floor or daub and a fragment of Roman tegula were retrieved. Soil sample <2>, collected from this fill, yielded relatively large quantities of charcoal, together with small amounts of charred indeterminate cereal caryopses, unidentified burnt bone, unworked fire-cracked flint, burnt stone and undiagnostic iron slag.

4.14 Trench 60 (Fig. 16)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
60/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.27- 0.32	63.00- 64.91
60/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.14- 0.33	-
60/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	62.59- 64.10
60/004	Fill	Fill, single	2.00	1.41	0.40	-
60/005	Cut	Ditch	2.00	1.41	0.40	-
60/006	Fill	Fill, single	2.00	2.00	0.04- 0.16	-
60/007	Cut	Ditch	2.00	2.00	0.04- 0.16	-
60/008	Fill	Fill, upper	1.08	5.20	0.08- 0.16	-
60/009	Fill	Fill, basal	1.08	4.65	0.08- 0.17	-
60/010	Cut	Pit	1.08	5.20	0.08- 0.22	-

Table 15: Trench 60 list of recorded contexts

- 4.14.1 Located in the south-east of the site on an east/west alignment, Trench 60 was positioned in order to investigate a geophysical linear trend indicative of ploughing. Three archaeological features were encountered in the trench, comprising a possible pit and two possible ditches.
- 4.14.2 Crossing the west of the trench on a broadly north/south alignment was possible ditch [60/007]. Extending beyond the north and south trench limits, it measured 2.00m long by 2.00m wide and 0.04-0.16m deep. It had poorly defined edges, shallow sloping sides and an uneven base. Its single fill, [60/006], comprised mid greyish brown silty sand with stone inclusions, which was very similar to the subsoil. No finds were recovered from this feature. The possible ditch was not found to continue into nearby trenches. Given the nature of this feature and its sterile fill, it is perhaps likely to be of natural origin.
- 4.14.3 In the centre of the trench was possible pit [60/010]. Extending beyond the north trench limit, its exposed extent measured 1.08m by 5.20m and up to 0.22m deep. Sub-oval in plan shape, it had moderately sloping sides

gradually breaking into an almost flat base and contained two fills. Upper fill [60/008] comprised dark reddish black silty clay and sand with frequent stone inclusions. Two pieces of unworked fire-cracked flint were recovered from this fill. Lower fill [60/009] consisted of mid brownish red silty clay and sand with frequent stone inclusions, from which no finds were recovered. Although undated, the possible pit appeared to cut the subsoil, which may be suggestive of a modern date. Reddening of the surrounding subsoil and natural deposits was also observed, suggestive of heating/scorching.

4.14.4 Located c.3.9m to the east of [60/010] was NNE/SSW aligned ditch [60/005], which cut the subsoil. It crossed the trench for 2.00m, extending beyond the north and south trench limits, and was 1.41m wide and 0.40m deep. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill, [60/004], consisted of soft, mid brownish orange silty clay with sand. Abundant fragments of CBM were concentrated within the central and lower part of this ditch fill. Only a small sample, comprising three diagnostic fragments of 16th-/17th-century date, was retained for specialist analysis. It is likely that this material within the ditch acted as a form of drainage enhancement or was perhaps used to build up the land.

4.14.5 The alignment and position of ditch [60/005] do not directly correlate with the linear trend identified by the geophysical survey, which is thought to be indicative of ploughing activity. The continuation of this ditch was not observed in nearby trenches.

4.15 Trench 61 (Fig. 17)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
61/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.25-0.32	62.04-64.68
61/002	Layer	Subsoil	-	2.00	0.27-0.41	-
61/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	61.77-64.20
61/004	Fill	Fill, single	7.00	0.70	0.67	-
61/005	Cut	Ditch	7.00	0.70	0.67	-
61/006	Fill	Fill, single	1.90	2.36	0.35	-
61/007	Cut	Ditch	1.90	2.36	0.35	-
61/008	Fill	Fill, single	7.00	0.85	0.22	-
61/009	Cut	Ditch	7.00	0.85	0.22	-
61/010	Layer	Natural	3.00	1.80	0.63	-

Table 16: Trench 61 list of recorded contexts

4.15.1 Trench 61 was located in the east of the site on a NNE/SSW alignment in order to investigate a geophysical linear trend interpreted to be of agricultural origin. Two ditches were encountered in the trench, one of which closely corresponds with the geophysical survey results.

4.15.2 Located towards the north of the trench, ditch [61/007] was NW/SE aligned and measured 1.90m by 2.36m and 0.35m deep. It had slightly irregular steep, shallow sides and a slightly concave base. Its single fill, [61/006], was

a mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional charcoal inclusions. Nineteen fragments of mid-16th-/17th-century CBM and three pieces of poorly preserved cattle bone were recovered from this fill. This ditch appeared to cut a variation in the natural greyish orange clayey sand deposits. This variation consisted of mid yellowish brown sand, [61/010], from which six fragments of post-medieval CBM were collected.

- 4.15.3 Cutting the west end of ditch [61/007] was ditch [61/005 / 61/009]. This later ditch was NNE/SSW aligned and measured 7.00m by 0.70-0.85m and 0.22-0.67m deep, extending beyond the trench limits. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill, [61/004 / 61/008], consisted of mid brownish grey silty sand with stone and charcoal inclusions, from which four pieces of post-medieval CBM were recovered.
- 4.15.4 Ditch [61/007] was not identified as an anomaly by the geophysical survey. Ditch [61/005 / 61/009], however, corresponds with the geophysical anomaly identified as a linear trend indicative of ploughing activities. Neither of the ditches were found to continue into nearby trenches.

4.16 Trench 62 (Fig. 18)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
62/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.31-0.34	58.31-61.85
62/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.17-0.36	-
62/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	57.86-60.71
62/004	Fill	Fill, single	3.40	0.71	0.39	-
62/005	Cut	Ditch	3.40	0.71	0.39	-
62/006	Fill	Fill	9.25	0.38	0.39	-
62/007	Cut	Ditch	9.25	0.38	0.39	-

Table 17: Trench 62 list of recorded contexts

- 4.16.1 Trench 62 was located in the east of the site. Positioned on an east/west alignment, the trench targeted a linear geophysical anomaly interpreted to be indicative of ploughing. Two ditches were revealed within the trench. A modern gravel-filled land drain was observed crossing the east of the trench.
- 4.16.2 Located in the centre of the trench was NW/SE aligned ditch [62/005]. Extending beyond the trench limits, it measured 3.40m by 0.71m and 0.39m deep. It had steep sides gradually breaking into a concave base and contained a single fill, [62/004], of mid greyish brown sandy clay, from which two fragments of post-medieval CBM, one piece of late 18th-/19th-century glass and a piece of iron horseshoe were recovered.
- 4.16.3 Ditch [62/007] cut ditch [62/005] on an ENE/WSW alignment, extending across the trench for 9.25m and continuing beyond the trench limits. It measured 0.38m wide and had steep, straight sides. The ditch was excavated to a depth of 0.39m, at which point a land drain was exposed,

indicating the late post-medieval/modern date of the feature. It contained a single fill, [62/006], of mid greyish brown sandy clay, from which three pieces of post-medieval CBM were retrieved.

- 4.16.4 Neither of the ditches correspond with the anomaly targeted by the trench, nor were they observed to continue into nearby trenches.

4.17 Trench 65 (Fig. 19)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
65/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.29- 0.37	58.44- 62.74
65/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.18- 0.31	-
65/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	57.99- 61.57
65/004	Fill	Fill, single	3.90	0.86	0.48	-
65/005	Cut	Ditch	3.90	0.86	0.48	-

Table 18: Trench 65 list of recorded contexts

- 4.17.1 Trench 65 was located in the north-east of the site and was east/west aligned. It was positioned to target a linear trend identified by the geophysical survey and interpreted to be the result of ploughing. A single archaeological feature and a modern gravel-filled land drain were encountered in the trench.
- 4.17.2 Ditch [65/005] crossed the west of the trench on a NW/SE alignment, extending beyond the trench limits. It measured 3.90m by 0.86m and 0.48m, and had a V-shaped profile with rounded base. It contained a single fill, [65/004], of dark grey clayey sand with occasional stones, from which two fragments of post-medieval CBM and two pieces of metal, comprising an unidentified lead fitting and a copper-alloy terminal probably from a walking stick dating to the 19th or early 20th century, were retrieved.
- 4.17.3 The ditch did not correspond with the anomaly identified by the previous geophysical survey and was not found to continue into nearby trenches. No physical trace of the geophysical anomaly was identified within the trench.

4.18 Trench 66 (Fig. 20)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
66/001	Layer	Topsoil	30.00	2.00	0.31- 0.41	58.55- 60.67
66/002	Layer	Subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.45- 0.52	-
66/003	Deposit	Natural	30.00	2.00	-	57.71- 59.64
66/004	Fill	Fill, single	8.60	0.63	0.19	-
66/005	Cut	Ditch	8.60	0.63	0.19	-
66/006	Deposit	Natural	2.00	4.03	-	-

Table 19: Trench 66 list of recorded contexts

- 4.18.1 Situated in the north-east of the site, Trench 66 was positioned on a NW/SE alignment to investigate a linear anomaly indicative of ploughing activity and an anomaly of natural origin. A single archaeological feature was revealed in the trench, as well as three modern land drains.
- 4.18.2 Ditch [66/005] extended across the east of the trench for 8.60m on a WNW/ESE alignment parallel to a modern land drain and continued beyond the trench limits. It was 0.63m wide and 0.19m, and had moderately sloping sides and an uneven concave base. Its single fill, [66/004], consisted of dark blueish grey sandy clay, from which three fragments of post-medieval CBM were collected.
- 4.18.3 The ditch was not found to continue into nearby trenches and did not correlate with the anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. An area of dark grey clayey sand, c.4.03m wide in the centre of the trench, constituted a variation in the natural deposits, though this did not correspond with the geophysical survey results.

4.19 Archaeologically Negative Trenches (Figs 21-28)

- 4.19.1 Fifty trenches (Trenches 2-7, 9-12, 16, 18, 20-38, 42-54, 57-59, 63, 64 and 67) were found to be devoid of archaeological remains.
- 4.19.2 These trenches all demonstrated a general stratigraphic sequence of topsoil and subsoil overlying the natural deposits. The composition and thickness of these deposits was comparable to those presented above, though areas of particularly deep subsoil were noted in Trenches 24, 29, 38, 45 and 46. Further details, with all dimensions, are presented in Appendix 1. A single metal-detected fragment of lead waste material was recovered from the subsoil in Trench 44.
- 4.19.3 Many of these trenches were targeted upon anomalies identified by the geophysical survey and interpreted to be of modern agricultural or natural origin. Those trenches located to the east of the extant field boundary, in particular, were positioned to investigate parallel linear trends interpreted as the remains of ploughing activities. Evaluation Trenches 45-48 and 51-54, however, did not reveal physical evidence of such activities. Plough scars

were observed in the natural deposits in Trench 26 in the north of the site.

- 4.19.4 Variations in the natural deposits were observed in a number of trenches and these generally correlate with the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. These variations typically comprised bands of gravel, patches of soft clay and sand, and areas of sandier and siltier deposits that were also lighter in colour. Sondages were excavated in Trenches 7, 18, 34, 54 and 58 to investigate such variations in the natural deposits.
- 4.19.5 Deposits particularly affected by rooting were identified in Trenches 2, 4 and 18, which were adjacent to the hedgerow that formed the site boundary.
- 4.19.6 Modern impacts, notably ceramic and gravel-filled land drains, were observed in blank Trenches 9, 10, 12, 22, 24, 26, 30, 33-38, 42, 53, 59, 63 and 64. A modern machine cut trench, c.1.16m wide, for the water main was noted in the north-east of Trench 37. In addition, an electricity cable, not on the service plans, was located in Trench 43 and correlates with a geophysical anomaly interpreted to be of natural origin.

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation at Sudbury Road, Halstead. All finds were washed and dried, or air-dried, as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight, and bagged by material and context. The hand-collected bulk finds are quantified in Table 20; material recovered from the residues of environmental samples is quantified in Appendix 2. All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014c).

Context	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Other Metal	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Burnt Flint	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Glass	Weight (g)
8/004					2	4										
13/004	9	328			3	1218									1	14
17/007	2	54														
19/004	1	56														
19/007	1	44														
40/004	1	36													2	106
44/002							1	132								
55/004					1	64	1	14								
56/004	1	278	1	842									2	138		
60/004	3	2190														
60/008											2	22				
61/004	4	664														
61/006	19	3714							3	56						
61/010	6	416														
62/004	2	820			1	82									1	16
62/006	3	216														
65/004	2	144					2	38								
66/004	3	74														
<i>Total</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>9034</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>842</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>1368</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>184</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>136</i>

Table 20: Quantification of hand-collected bulk finds

5.2 Burnt Unworked Flint by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 A small amount of unworked burnt flint fragments, totalling 236g, was recovered from the site. It was hand-collected from pit [60/010] and retrieved from bulk soil samples <1> and <2> collected from pits [1/004] and [56/005], respectively. They are small pieces, measuring only up to 30mm. Instead of being heavily calcined, they display a reddish tinge that implies that they were exposed to low heat. Burnt flints are frequently associated with prehistoric activities, but this small assemblage is likely to relate to more recent burning events.

5.3 Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

- 5.3.1 Forty-seven pieces of ceramic building material (CBM), weighing 8229g, were collected from thirteen contexts across eleven trenches (Trenches 13, 17, 19, 40, 56, 60-62, 64-66). It was a fairly homogenous assemblage in terms of the fabrics present. All the post-Roman brick was formed from the same sandy red brick; the roof tile comprised two variations of a similar fabric, one with more and one with lesser amounts of coarse and very coarse sand. The single piece of Roman CBM collected was in a fabric directly comparable to the post-Roman brick fabric.
- 5.3.2 Most contexts only produced a small quantity of CBM, and a number of these produced only roof tile, which of all the CBM forms is one of the least immediately dateable. However, a number of the brick pieces recovered from site were intact enough for widths and thicknesses to be measured (? x 115 x 52-60mm) and this, in combination with the often low-fired nature of the bricks, indicates an early/post-medieval date of the mid-1500s to 1600s.
- 5.3.3 Bricks of this type were collected from [13/004], [60/004], [61/004], [61/006], [61/010], [62/004], [62/006], and [65/004], and a number of these had traces of vitrified mortar on their surfaces. The very hard, nearing verification, texture of several of the brick pieces, in combination with the vitrified mortar on the surfaces, would suggest that these bricks may have been built around a hearth or fireplace. Pieces of roof tile made from both T1 and T2 fabrics were found alongside the brick in a number of contexts and suggest these to be of coeval date with the brick.
- 5.3.4 The single fragment of Roman tegula was found in [56/004], the only piece of CBM collected from this trench. The tegula was well preserved and there is no reason to think that this might not be a primary deposit, indicating a Roman period context.

5.4 Fired Clay by Elke Raemen

- 5.4.1 Two fragments of fired clay (weight 138g) were recovered from [56/004]. Both retain one flat surface and are in a silty orange fabric with moderate fine to medium quartz and rare coarse quartz. They may represent lining, e.g. floor or daub, from a structure, although no wattle impressions survive.

5.5 Glass by Elke Raemen

- 5.5.1 A small assemblage, comprising four fragments of glass (weight 136g), was recovered from three individually numbered contexts: [13/004], [40/004] and [62/004]. Included is a wine bottleneck fragment ([62/004] dating to the late 18th- to 19th-century and a 19th-century fragment from an aqua, cylindrical mineral water bottle ([13/004]. Finally, [40/004] contained the clear glass base of a drinking glass, as well as a colourless (green tinged) fragment from a handle. Both are of 20th-century date.

5.6 Geological Material by Luke Barber

- 5.6.1 The evaluation recovered just two pieces of stone, both coming from the environmental residue recovered from context [56/004] (sample <2>). These consist of an iron-stained flint pebble (22g) and part of a pebble in Lower Greensand chert (2g). Both are likely to be natural to the site and have no significance. They have been discarded.

5.7 Magnetic Material by Luke Barber

- 5.7.1 Two environmental samples, <1> [1/004] and <2> [56/004], produced small quantities of magnetic material from their residues. These were carefully scanned under x10 magnification to establish the presence of micro slags. The material from context [1/004] (<1g) consisted solely of rounded granules of ferruginous siltstone and sandstone, whose magnetic properties have probably been enhanced through burning. They are not diagnostic of metalworking, as they could have been formed through any high temperature event, including domestic hearths. The material from context [56/004] (1g) is essentially of the same type; however, there were a couple of scraps of iron slag with a metallic lustre (<1g) that are not diagnostic of process. The pieces are so small they could easily be intrusive or residual. The slag material has no scope for further analysis and has been discarded.

5.8 Bulk Metalwork by Elke Raemen

- 5.8.1 A small assemblage, comprising eleven metal fragments (weight 1552g), was found across six different contexts: [8/004], [13/004], [44/002], [55/004], [62/004] and [65/004]. Included are lead, copper-alloy and iron objects. Only that from Trench 44 was recovered through metal detection; the others were hand collected from features.
- 5.8.2 A lead agricultural bag seal of 18th- or 19th-century date was found in [55/004]. Lead waste was found in [44/002], and [65/004] contained an unidentified lead fitting.
- 5.8.3 Context [65/004] contained a copper-alloy terminal probably from a walking stick, with internal screw thread and dating to the 19th or early 20th century.
- 5.8.4 Ironwork includes sheet fragments ([8/004], a possible horseshoe fragment [62/004], and a hinge fragment ([55/004]), e.g. from a cupboard or chest. Context [13/004] contained a large oval wire hoop (222mm by 85mm; wire diam. 10mm) and a large rod comprising two conjoining pieces (L. 275mm; diam. 30mm), both of which may originate from machinery. All are of probable or certain post-medieval date.

5.9 Animal Bone by Emily Johnson

- 5.9.1 A total of three fragments of animal bone were hand-collected from context [61/006], weighing 56g. The specimens comprised poorly preserved fragments of a single left cattle humerus shaft. Erosion of the cortical surface was present on all fragments.

5.10 **Burnt Bone** by Emily Johnson

- 5.10.1 A total of six fragments of burnt bone, weighing less than 1g, were recovered from environmental sample <2> [56/004]. The bone was calcined, demonstrating that it was exposed to high temperature burning. No species or element determination could be made.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Mariangela Vitolo

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Two bulk soil samples were collected from pit fills to recover environmental material, such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and Mollusca, as well as to assist finds recovery. Only one sampled feature, pit [56/005], contained limited datable material comprising a fragment of Roman tegula, suggestive of a Roman date for the pit. The following report summarises the contents of the samples and discusses the information provided by the charred plant remains and charcoal on diet, agrarian economy, vegetation environment and fuel selection and use.

6.2 Methodology

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

6.2.2 Charcoal fragments were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale and Cutler 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000; Schoch *et al.* 2004; Schweingruber 1990). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997), and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Appendix 2a.

6.3 Results

Samples <1> [1/004] and <2> [56/004]

6.3.1 The two samples produced flots of different size and composition. Sample <2> contained a large amount of charcoal, whereas sample <1> was dominated by uncharred rootlets, indicating disturbance through root action. Caryopses of indeterminate cereals (*Cerealia*) were recorded from pit [56/005].

6.3.2 Pit [1/005] produced mostly round wood fragments of hazel/alder (*Corylus/Alnus* sp.). Iron encrustations were noted and, as a result, the fragments had a hard texture. Finds from the residues included fire-cracked flint, ceramic building material, stone and magnetic material.

6.4 Discussion

- 6.4.1 The two bulk soil samples from the Sudbury Road evaluation yielded scarce and poorly preserved plant macrofossils; this could be due to the nature of the sampled features and/or circumstances of deposition. Charcoal was preserved in both features but was more abundant in pit [56/005]. Charcoal fragments of hazel/alder from pit [1/005] appeared to have absorbed iron components from the soil. Hazel is a shrub that can be found in woodland, hedgerows or scrub, whereas alder grows on wet soils.
- 6.4.2 These samples indicate that there is some potential for the local deposits to contain preserved charred material and any future work at the site should continue to include sampling, targeting well-sealed primary deposits.

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

7.1.1 The evaluation established a general stratigraphic sequence of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural deposits, though the compositions and thicknesses of these deposits varied slightly between the east and west of the site.

7.1.2 The topsoil generally comprised a dark brownish grey silty clay that varied in thickness from 0.13m in the west of the site to 0.43m in the east (average 0.28m). The subsoil was a mid greyish brown grey clayey silt that varied in thickness from 0.10 in the west of the site to 0.61m in the east (average 0.24m). Both topsoil and subsoil deposits became sandier in the east of the site, with increased quantities of gravel inclusions.

7.1.3 Natural deposits comprised generally light yellow brown clay in the west of the site and yellow orange clayey sand and gravel in the east. These deposits were encountered between 57.34m AOD in the east of the site (Trench 64) and 72.92m AOD in the north-west of the site (Trench 5).

7.1.4 A small number of archaeological features were recorded in seventeen of the sixty-seven evaluation trenches, with a slight concentration of features located in the east and south-east of the site. A single pit of Roman date provides limited evidence of activity pre-dating the post-medieval period. The majority of archaeological remains generally comprised post-medieval/modern ditches and a small number of undated or post-medieval/modern pits. These features were typically found below the topsoil and subsoil, cutting into the natural deposits; however, a small number of probable late post-medieval/modern features were observed cutting the subsoil.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

7.2.1 The archaeological features appeared to be relatively well preserved, generally beneath an average of 0.47-0.62m of overburden deposits (except for those features found cutting the subsoil).

7.2.2 Modern impacts, notably land drains but also plough scars and modern services, were observed in approximately one third of the trenches distributed across the site, with a slight concentration in the east of the site. The upper portions of archaeological features present in the site have been removed and disturbed by post-medieval and modern agricultural cultivation.

7.2.3 The layout of the site is evident on historic OS maps and has seemingly changed very little in use since the late 19th century.

7.3 Correlation between geophysical and archaeological evaluation results

7.3.1 A large proportion of the evaluation trenches were positioned to investigate and verify the results of the preceding geophysical survey that had identified

no anomalies of probable or possible archaeological origin, except for those generally indicative of former post-medieval/modern agricultural land use (Fig. 3). The results of the evaluation confirmed the archaeological or natural origin of the targeted geophysical anomalies.

- 7.3.2 Two NNE/SSW aligned linear geophysical anomalies in the west and centre of the site correlate with the remains of two post-medieval/modern ditches extending across Trenches 13, 14, 15, and 17, and Trenches 39, 40 and 41, respectively.
- 7.3.3 A large pit in Trench 17 in the north-west of the site identified as a post-medieval/modern pond correlates with the plotted position of the ferrous anomaly identified by the geophysical survey.
- 7.3.4 In the east of the site, a small number of broadly NNE/SSW aligned ditches of post-medieval/modern date were recorded in Trenches 55, 60 and 61, and these closely, though not directly, correspond with parallel linear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey and interpreted to be indicative of post-medieval/modern ploughing activity. Trenches 45-48, 51-54, 63, 65 and 66 were also targeted to investigate these parallel linear trends; however, they did not reveal physical evidence of such activities.
- 7.3.5 Pits recorded in Trenches 1, 56 and 60 and two gullies in Trench 19 were not previously identified as geophysical anomalies, presumably due to either their small size or their contents not being conducive to detection. It is possible that a low number of similar features, discrete pits in particular, remain undetected elsewhere on site.
- 7.3.6 Ditches recorded in Trenches 8, 61, 62, 65 and 66 were not identified as geophysical anomalies. It is presumed that these features, which are all post-medieval/modern in date, were not conducive to detection due to their shallowness and /or sterile fills.
- 7.3.7 Variations in the natural deposits were observed in Trenches 8, 12, 19, 20, 35, 36, 41, 58 and 67, and these correlate with anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. An electricity cable, not on the service plans, was located in Trench 43 and correlates with a geophysical anomaly interpreted to be of natural origin.

7.4 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

- 7.4.1 Archaeological remains encountered on site comprised a low density and low complexity of ditches and a small number of pits. The features, where possible, have been dated on the basis of their diagnostic artefact content and are discussed below by broad period. The locations of dated features are shown on Figure 29.

Roman

- 7.4.2 A single pit recorded in Trench 56 in the south-east of the site is indicative of limited land use activity during the Roman period. This pit contained a single fragment of well-preserved Roman tegula and two pieces of fired

clay, possibly floor or daub fragments, as well as a small quantity of indeterminate cereal caryopses retrieved from the soil sample.

- 7.4.3 It is possible that this pit relates to agricultural land use on the outskirts of the Roman settlement of Halstead, perhaps connected by the Roman trackway recorded to the north-east of the site.

Post-medieval/Modern

- 7.4.4 The majority of features recorded on site were of post-medieval/modern date and indicative of the agricultural land use of the site. In the west of the site, a NNE/SSW aligned ditch was recorded across Trenches 13, 14, 15 and 17, and contained small quantities of post-medieval CBM, late post-medieval/modern glass and metal fragments. This ditch corresponds with the position of a linear anomaly previously identified by the geophysical survey. It also correlates with a field boundary depicted on historic Ordnance Survey (OS) maps dating from the late 19th century onwards. Also recorded in Trench 17 were the remains of a former pond, as depicted on late 19th-century OS maps. Both the field boundary and pond appear to have fallen out of use by the mid 20th century, as neither appear on the OS map of 1969. A similarly aligned ditch was recorded nearby in Trench 8; however, the continuation of this ditch was not observed in nearby trenches, nor does the ditch correlate to the geophysical survey results or to boundaries depicted on historic maps.
- 7.4.5 Two parallel gullies, of probable post-medieval/modern date, were recorded in Trench 19, though they do not directly correlate with the targeted anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.
- 7.4.6 A further NNE/SSW aligned ditch was also recorded extending across Trenches 39, 40 and 41, in the centre of the site, corresponding with a previously identified linear geophysical anomaly. A small quantity of post-medieval CBM and late post-medieval/modern glass was recovered from the excavated segment of this ditch in Trench 40. This ditch also correlates with a field boundary depicted on OS maps dated between 1876 and 1958. Sometime between 1958 and 1969, the boundary was filled in and repositioned to its extant location.
- 7.4.7 In the east of the site, a small number of broadly NNE/SSW aligned ditches were recorded in Trenches 55, 60 and 61, from which small quantities of post-medieval CBM and metal fragments were retrieved. These features closely, though not directly, correspond with parallel linear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey and interpreted to be indicative of post-medieval/modern ploughing activity on site. Ditch [60/005] contained moderate quantities of post-medieval CBM fragments and may have functioned instead as a land drainage feature.
- 7.4.8 A small number of ditches of slightly varying alignments were encountered in the east and south-east of the site, in Trenches 61, 62, 65 and 66. These features do not correspond with anomalies identified by the geophysical survey; however, given the similarity in finds recovered from these features to those from the other post-medieval/modern ditches, they most likely

constitute the remains of post-medieval/modern agricultural land use activities.

Undated

- 7.4.9 Located in the far west of the site, Trench 1 contained a single isolated pit, from which no finds were recovered, though relatively large quantities of hazel/alder charcoal were retrieved from the bulk soil sample collected from this feature and are perhaps suggestive of the local wood resources. The date and function of this pit is unclear; however, the general paucity of archaeological features and finds pre-dating the post-medieval period encountered on site and the agricultural nature of those recorded both on site and within its immediate vicinity, it is likely that this pit is associated with the post-medieval/modern agricultural use of the landscape.
- 7.4.10 In Trench 60, a north/south aligned feature, initially interpreted as a possible ditch, was irregular in profile and contained a sterile fill very similar to the subsoil. Given the nature of this feature and its sterile fill, it is perhaps likely to be of natural origin. Also recorded in this trench was an undated pit, from which two pieces of unworked fire-cracked flint were recovered. Although such finds are often associated with prehistoric activities, the fact that this feature appeared to cut the subsoil, together with the general paucity of prehistoric evidence found on site, it is possible that this pit is late post-medieval/modern in date.

7.5 Consideration of research aims

- 7.5.1 The archaeological evaluation has succeeded in determining the presence, and nature of archaeological remains within the site. The majority of the recorded features are of post-medieval/modern date and are indicative of the agricultural use of the landscape.
- 7.5.2 A single pit recorded on site provides limited evidence of land use during the Roman period and so cannot inform on the nature of Roman settlement in the landscape. However, a fragment of Roman CBM and two pieces of fired clay, perhaps floor or daub, recovered from this feature are perhaps suggestive of nearby occupation activity.
- 7.5.3 No other remains pre-dating the post-medieval period were encountered on site and so the results of the evaluation cannot inform on the nature of prehistoric funerary activity, Iron Age land use or medieval land management.

7.6 Conclusions

- 7.6.1 The evaluation has recorded archaeological remains to be present in seventeen of the sixty-seven trenches investigated. These comprise a low density and low complexity of ditches and a small number of pits, with a slight concentration of features in the east and south-east of the site. These features generally correspond with the identified geophysical anomalies. Therefore, the evaluation results corroborate the geophysical survey results.

- 7.6.2 A single pit recorded in the south-east of the site provides limited evidence of land use activity during the Roman period.
- 7.6.3 The majority of the recorded features correspond with the results of the preceding geophysical survey. Several ditches and a large pit correlate with field boundaries and a pond depicted on late 19th- and 20th-century OS maps. A small number of ditches are indicative of ploughing activities, further demonstrating the agricultural nature of land use during the post-medieval/modern period.
- 7.6.4 A small number of recorded features remain undated; however, they are most likely associated with the post-medieval/modern agricultural use of the landscape.
- 7.6.5 Given the correspondence between the geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation results, it is likely that a similar type, range and density of archaeological remains is present within the unevaluated parts of the development area.

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Appendix 1: Archaeologically Negative Trenches: List of Recorded Contexts

Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth m	Height m AOD
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.20-0.21	71.50-72.13
2/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.09-0.13	-
2/003	Deposit	Natural	-	71.21-71.76
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.16-0.18	72.21-72.60
3/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.14-0.17	-
3/003	Deposit	Natural	-	71.87-72.32
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.13-0.19	72.89-73.23
4/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.16-0.18	-
4/003	Deposit	Natural	-	72.64-72.86
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.14-0.18	72.99-73.20
5/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.12-0.19	-
5/003	Deposit	Natural	-	72.61-72.92
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.17-0.20	72.62-72.65
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.16-0.22	-
6/003	Deposit	Natural	-	72.18-72.33
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.17-0.27	72.00-72.10
7/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.16-0.21	-
7/003	Deposit	Natural	-	71.19-71.76
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.31	71.17-71.66
9/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.23-0.28	-
9/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.66-71.09
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29-0.31	72.16-72.51
10/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.26-0.28	-
10/003	Deposit	Natural	-	71.63-71.97
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29-0.31	72.43-72.96
11/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.13-0.21	-
11/003	Deposit	Natural	-	72.02-72.34
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.31	71.95-71.96
12/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.22-0.26	-
12/003	Deposit	Natural	-	71.41-71.52
16/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22-0.30	71.50-71.82
16/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.14-0.22	-
16/003	Deposit	Natural	-	71.06-71.40
18/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22-0.24	72.31-72.37
18/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.18-0.20	-
18/003	Deposit	Natural	-	71.94-71.95
20/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.33	71.33-71.51
20/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.13-0.23	-
20/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.91-71.06
21/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.30	70.98-71.28
21/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.14-0.19	-
21/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.54-70.78
22/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.31	70.67-70.99
22/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.13-0.18	-
22/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.36-70.56
23/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.28	71.08-71.29
23/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.18-0.28	-
23/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.74-70.84
24/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.28	71.50
24/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.16-0.18	-
24/003	Deposit	Natural	-	71.06
25/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.30	71.64-71.88

Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth m	Height m AOD
25/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.18-0.24	-
25/003	Deposit	Natural	-	71.17-71.43
26/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.29	70.51-71.33
26/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.12-0.19	-
26/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.04-70.99
27/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.37	68.80-70.10
27/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.15-0.21	-
27/003	Deposit	Natural	-	68.12-69.64
28/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.29	70.89-71.10
28/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.17-0.18	-
28/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.41-70.68
29/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.30	69.53-70.51
29/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.16-0.22	-
29/003	Deposit	Natural	-	69.03-69.98
30/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.28	70.93-71.00
30/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.16-0.17	-
30/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.55-70.61
31/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.27	71.02-71.14
31/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.17-0.20	-
31/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.55-70.58
32/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.29	70.25-70.73
32/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.15-0.16	-
32/003	Deposit	Natural	-	69.79-70.30
33/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.37	69.58-70.02
33/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.14-0.17	-
33/003	Deposit	Natural	-	69.28-69.59
34/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.31	69.35-69.68
34/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.18-0.27	-
34/003	Deposit	Natural	-	68.39-68.85
34/004	Deposit	Natural	-	-
35/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.30	69.73-70.15
35/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.16-0.21	-
35/003	Deposit	Natural	-	69.09-69.63
36/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29-0.32	69.67-70.09
36/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.19-0.28	-
36/003	Deposit	Natural	-	69.17-69.48
37/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.33	70.48-70.80
37/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.21-0.25	-
37/003	Deposit	Natural	-	70.04-70.29
38/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.31	69.43-70.02
38/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.16-0.24	-
38/003	Deposit	Natural	-	68.95-69.41
42/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.31-0.33	68.84-68.97
42/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.25-0.37	-
42/003	Deposit	Natural	-	68.35-68.42
43/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.27	66.78-67.94
43/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.27-0.34	-
43/003	Deposit	Natural	-	66.32-67.19
44/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.28	67.62-68.27
44/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.32	-
44/003	Deposit	Natural	-	66.93-67.73
45/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.29	67.69-68.66
45/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.32-0.41	-
45/003	Deposit	Natural	-	67.14-67.85

Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth m	Height m AOD
46/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.30	67.80-68.35
46/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.27-0.36	-
46/003	Deposit	Natural	-	66.92-67.75
47/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29-0.32	67.54-68.51
47/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.19-0.22	-
47/003	Deposit	Natural	-	67.08-67.78
48/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.32	67.70-68.24
48/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.23-0.29	-
48/003	Deposit	Natural	-	67.26-67.70
49/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.33	64.81-66.40
49/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.21-0.42	-
49/003	Deposit	Natural	-	63.92-65.90
50/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.42	66.32-66.40
50/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.21-0.26	-
50/003	Deposit	Natural	-	65.80-65.82
51/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.31-0.36	62.36-64.23
51/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.28-0.36	-
51/003	Deposit	Natural	-	61.90-63.51
52/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.32	67.17-67.36
52/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.19-0.33	-
52/003	Deposit	Natural	-	66.57-66.95
53/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22-0.35	64.95-66.66
53/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.25-0.34	-
53/003	Deposit	Natural	-	64.37-65.77
54/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.32	
54/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.50-0.57	-
54/003	Deposit	Natural	-	
57/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22-0.35	64.63-66.31
57/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.07-0.27	-
57/003	Deposit	Natural	-	64.35-65.63
58/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.37	59.31-62.79
58/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.17-0.25	-
58/003	Deposit	Natural	-	58.30-62.19
58/004	Deposit	Natural	0.19	-
59/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.36	59.44-60.14
59/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.26-0.38	-
59/003	Deposit	Natural	-	58.69-59.52
63/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.43	62.32-63.84
63/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.23-0.61	-
63/003	Deposit	Natural	-	61.65-63.38
63/004	Deposit	Natural	-	-
64/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.32	58.27-60.49
64/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.19-0.65	-
64/003	Deposit	Natural	-	57.34-59.78
67/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.33-0.39	60.64-64.45
67/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.18-0.26	-
67/003	Layer	Natural	-	60.22-63.40

Appendix 2: Environmental Data

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

Sample Number	Context	Parent	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Charred botanicals (other than	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	1/004	1/005	pit	40	**	36	**	4	<i>Corylus/Alnus</i> sp. (mostly round wood), iron encrustations							FCF (*/<1g); mag mat >2mm (*/<1g); mag mat <2mm (*1g)
2	56/004	56/005	pit	40	* Cerealia	<1	***	6		**	<1	*	<1	*	<1	FCF >8mm (**/194g); FCF 4-8mm (**/20g); CBM (**/50g); burnt stone (*24g); slag (*32g); mag mat >2mm (**/2g); mag mat <2mm (**/2g).

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

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm
1	1/004	5	20	20	50	40			*
2	56/004	96	230	100	30	10	***	****	****

Appendix 3: HER Summary

Site name/Address: Land East of Sudbury Road, Halstead, Essex	
Parish: Halstead	District: Braintree
NGR: TL 82272 31428	Site Code: HSSR18
Type of Work: Evaluation	Site Director/Group: James Alexander, Archaeology South-East
Date of Work: 24 September - 15 October 2018	Size of Area Investigated: c.10ha
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Braintree Museum	Funding source: Client
Further Seasons Anticipated?: Unknown	Related HER No's: None
Final Report: ADS Grey Lit	OASIS No: 333118
Periods Represented: Post-Medieval/Modern	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>Following geophysical survey of the c.20ha site, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken in the southern c.10ha of the site. This comprised the investigation of sixty-seven trenches, many of which were targeted on geophysical anomalies interpreted to be of natural or post-medieval/modern agricultural origin. Seventeen trenches contained archaeological remains, comprising ditches and a small number of pits, with a slight concentration in the east and south-east of the site.</p> <p>A single pit recorded in the south-east of the site is dated to the Roman period and may be suggestive of nearby occupation activities.</p> <p>The majority of recorded features are of post-medieval/modern date, many of which correspond with the geophysical anomalies. Several ditches and a large pit correlate with field boundaries and a pond depicted on historic OS maps. Other, similarly dated ditches were most likely associated with the agricultural use of the landscape. A small assemblage of ceramic building material, metalwork and glass attest to the post-medieval/modern and agricultural nature of land use activities on site.</p> <p>A small number of features remain undated; however, they are most likely associated with the post-medieval/modern agricultural use of the landscape.</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports:	
Magnitude Surveys 2018, <i>Geophysical Survey Report of Land East of Sudbury Road, Halstead, Essex</i> , Ref. MSTL218	
Author of Summary: C. Howsam	Date of Summary: 06/11/2018

Appendix 4: OASIS Form**OASIS ID: 333118****Project details**

Project name	Land East of Sudbury Road, Halstead, Essex
Short description of the project	Following geophysical survey of the c.20ha site, archaeological evaluation, undertaken in the southern c.10ha of the site, comprised the investigation of sixty-seven trenches, many of which were targeted on geophysical anomalies interpreted to be of natural or post-medieval/modern agricultural origin. Seventeen trenches contained archaeological remains, comprising ditches and a small number of pits, with a slight concentration in the east and south-east of the site. A single pit recorded in the south-east is dated to the Roman period. The majority of recorded features are of post-medieval/modern date, many of which correspond with the geophysical anomalies. Several ditches and a large pit correlate with field boundaries and a pond depicted on historic OS maps. Other, similarly dated ditches were most likely associated with the agricultural use of the landscape. A small number of features remain undated; however, they are most likely associated with the agricultural use of the landscape.
Project dates	Start: 24-09-2018 End: 15-10-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	180092 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	HSSR18 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Roman
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	METAL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	ESSEX BRAINTREE HALSTEAD Land East of Sudbury Road
Postcode	CO9 2BE

Study area 10 Hectares
Site coordinates TL 82272 31428 51.950939920571 0.65265862678 51 57 03 N
000 39 09 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator Essex County Council Place Services
Project design originator ASE
Project director/manager Andy Leonard
Project supervisor James Alexander
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Braintree Museum
Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal"
Digital Archive recipient Braintree Museum
Digital Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal", "Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available "Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient Braintree Museum
Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal", "Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Archaeological Evaluation: Land East of Sudbury Road, Halstead, Essex
Author(s)/Editor(s) Howsam, C.
Other bibliographic details ASE Report No. 2018350
Date 2018
Issuer or publisher ASE
Place of issue or publication Witham
Description A4 report approx. 80 pages, including figures and appendices
URL archaeologydataservice.ac.uk



© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018			
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: JLR	Site location and selected HER references		

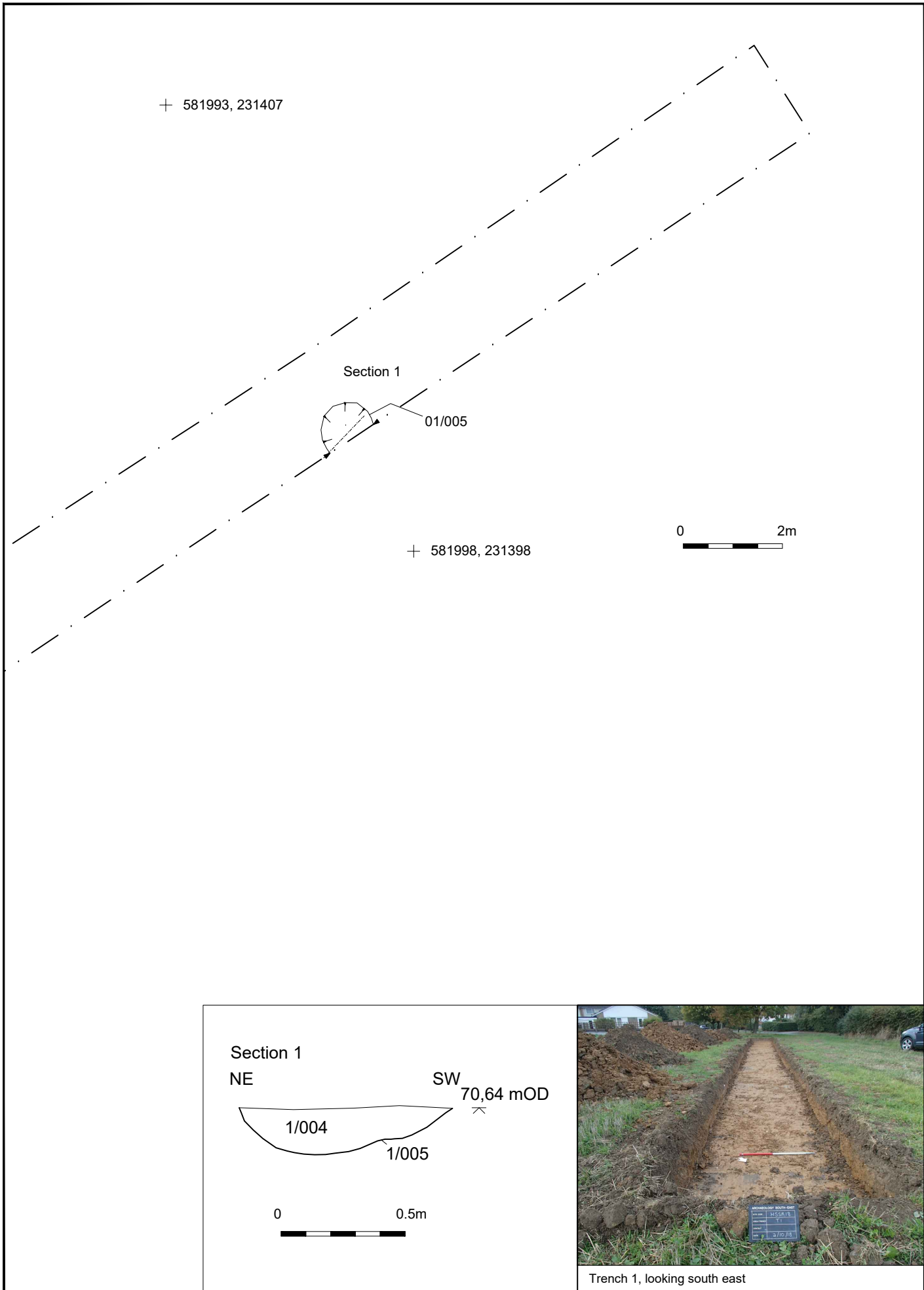


© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench location plan	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		

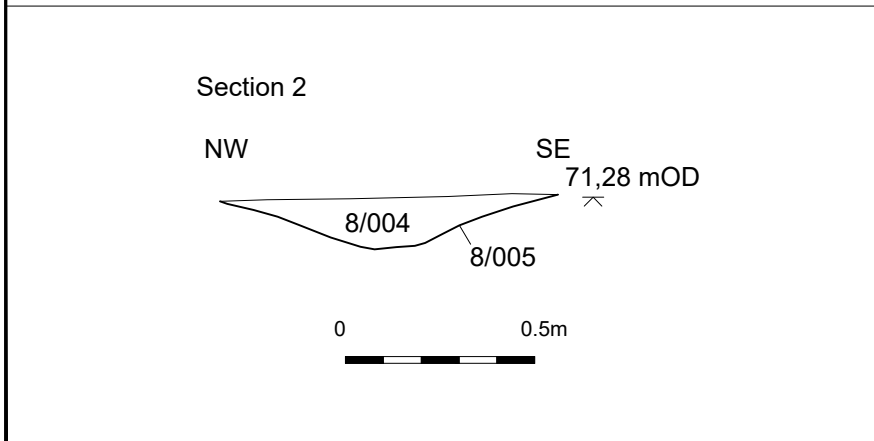
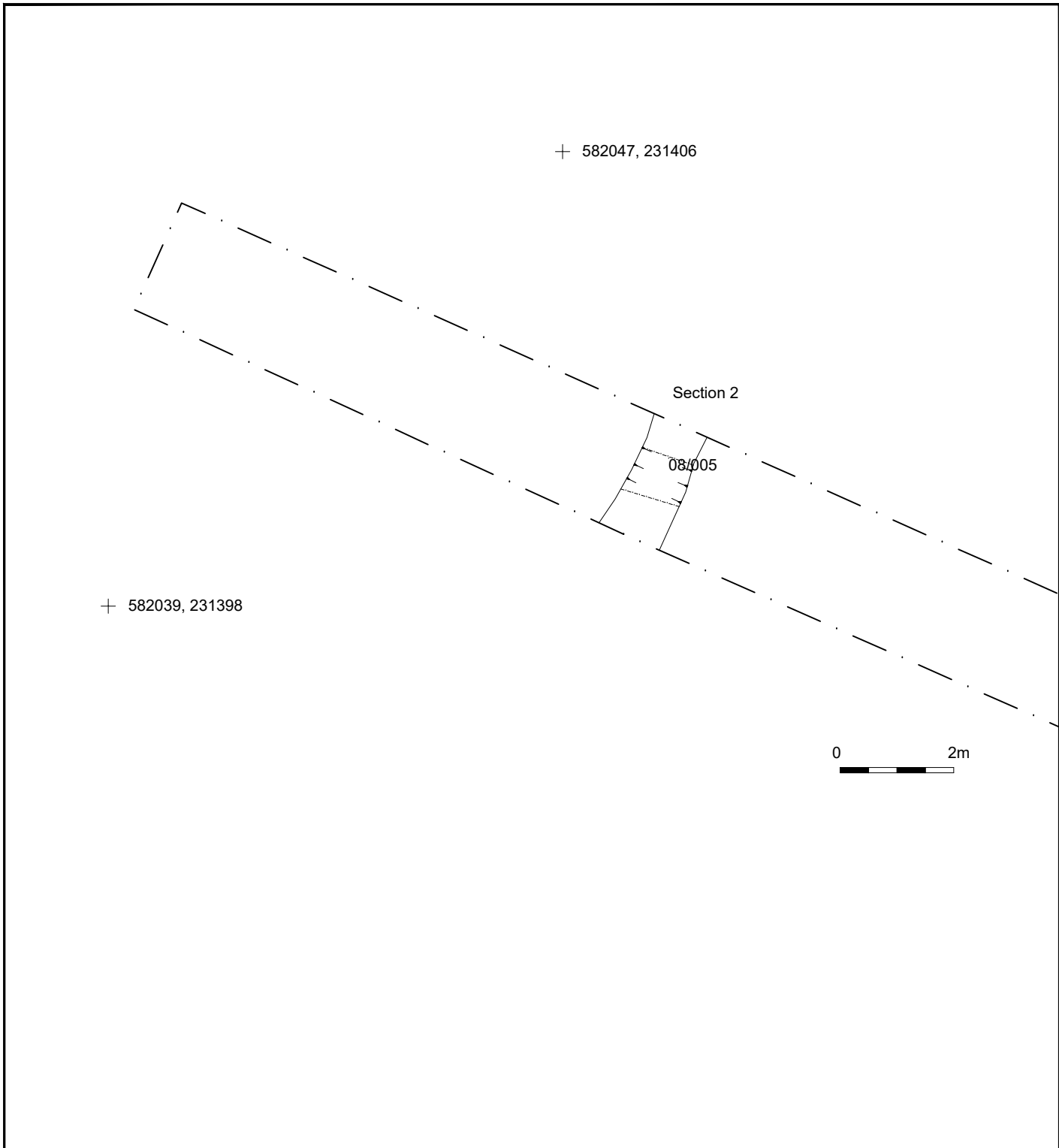


	Agricultural (Strong)		Undetermined (Strong)		Natural (Strong)
	Agricultural (Weak)		Undetermined (Weak)		Natural (Weak)
	Agricultural (Spread)		Ferrous (Dipolar)		Natural (Spread)
	Agricultural (Trend)		Ferrous (Spread)		Natural (Trend)
	Service				

© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead		Fig. 3
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench location plan with geophysical survey interpretation		
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR			

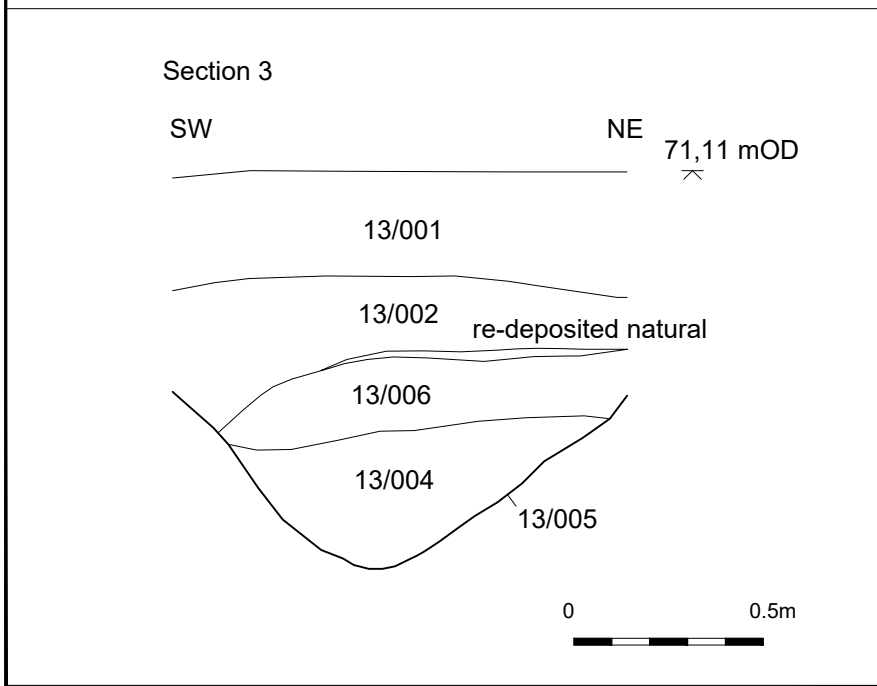
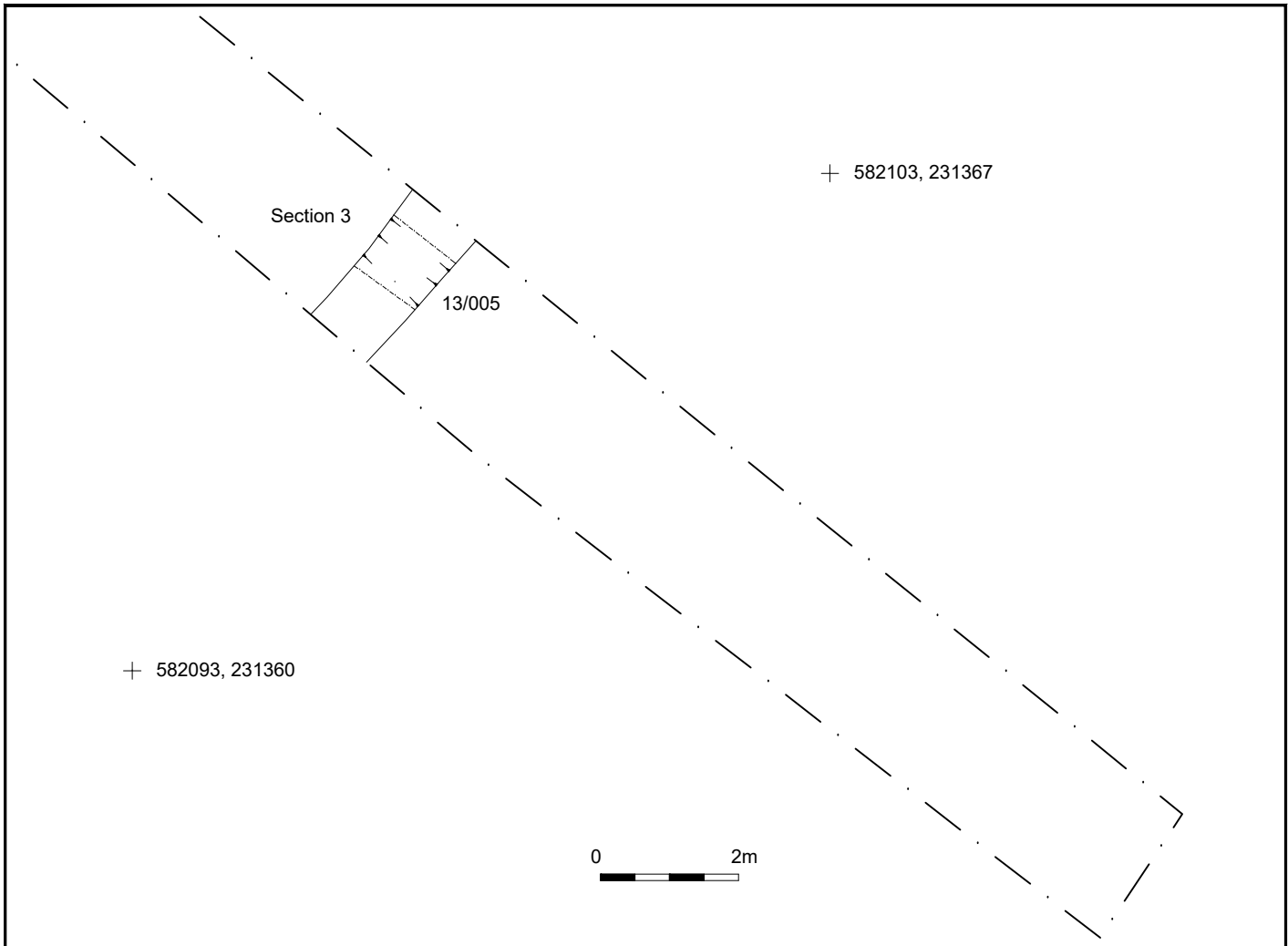


© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 1- Plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		



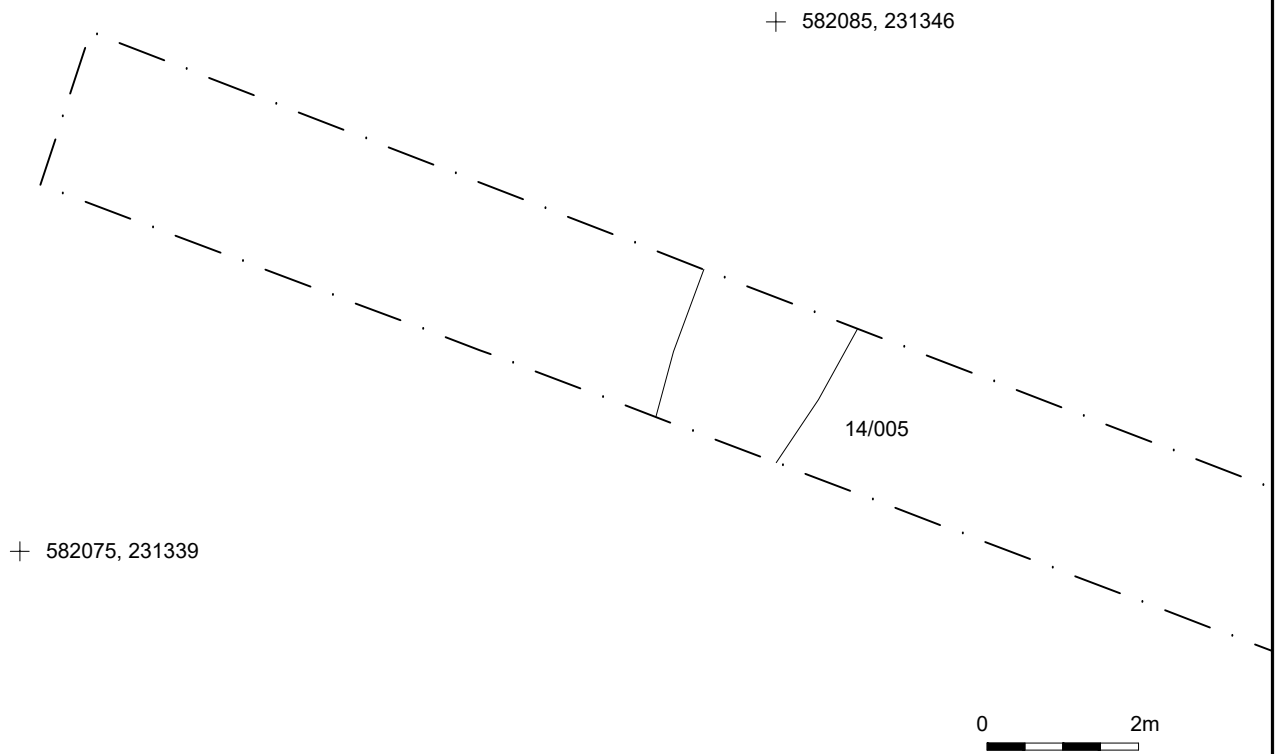
Trench 8, looking north west

© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 8 - Plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		



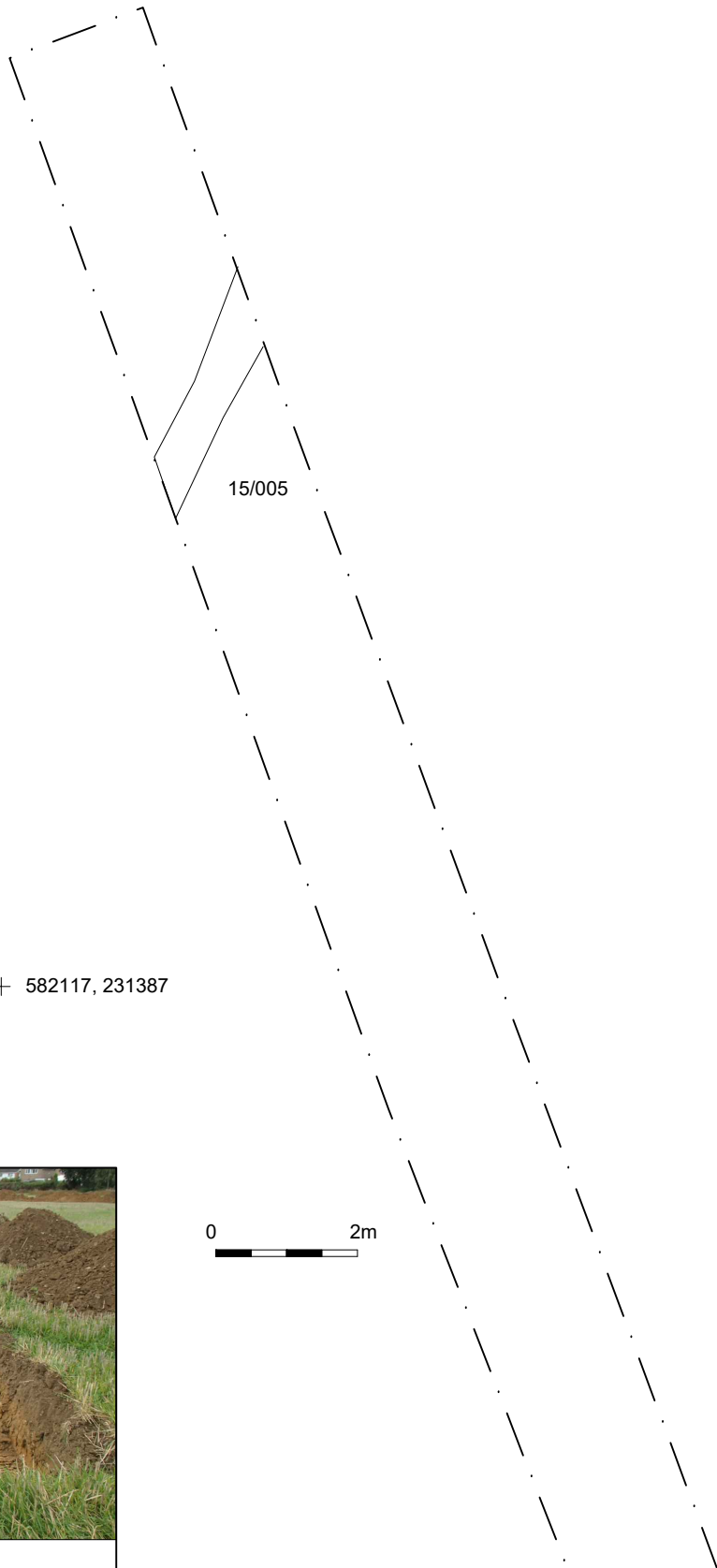
Trench 13, looking south east

© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 13 - Plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		



Trench 14, looking west

© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 14 - Plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		



+ 582117, 231387

+ 582117, 231387

0 2m

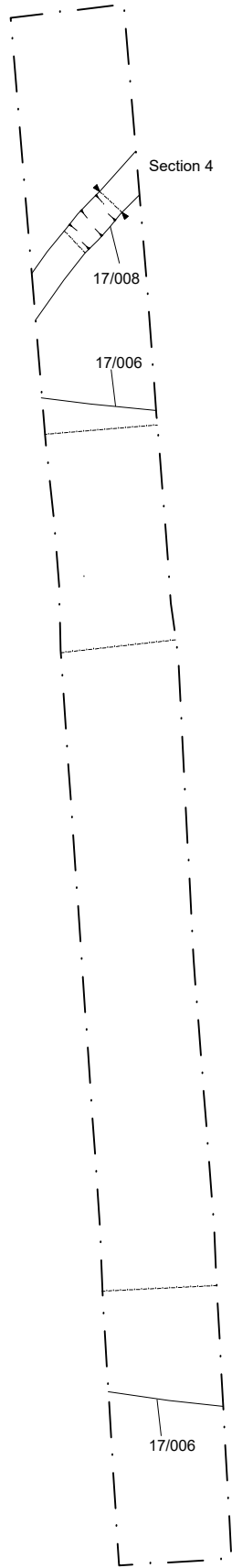


ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH-EAST
 PROJECT:
 NAME: 115
 DATE: 2/10/18

Trench 15, looking south

© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 8
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 15 - Plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		

+ 582138, 231459



+ 582138, 231430



17/008, looking north east

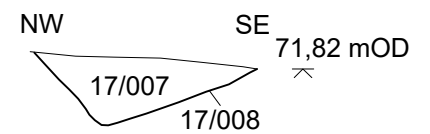


Trench 17, looking north

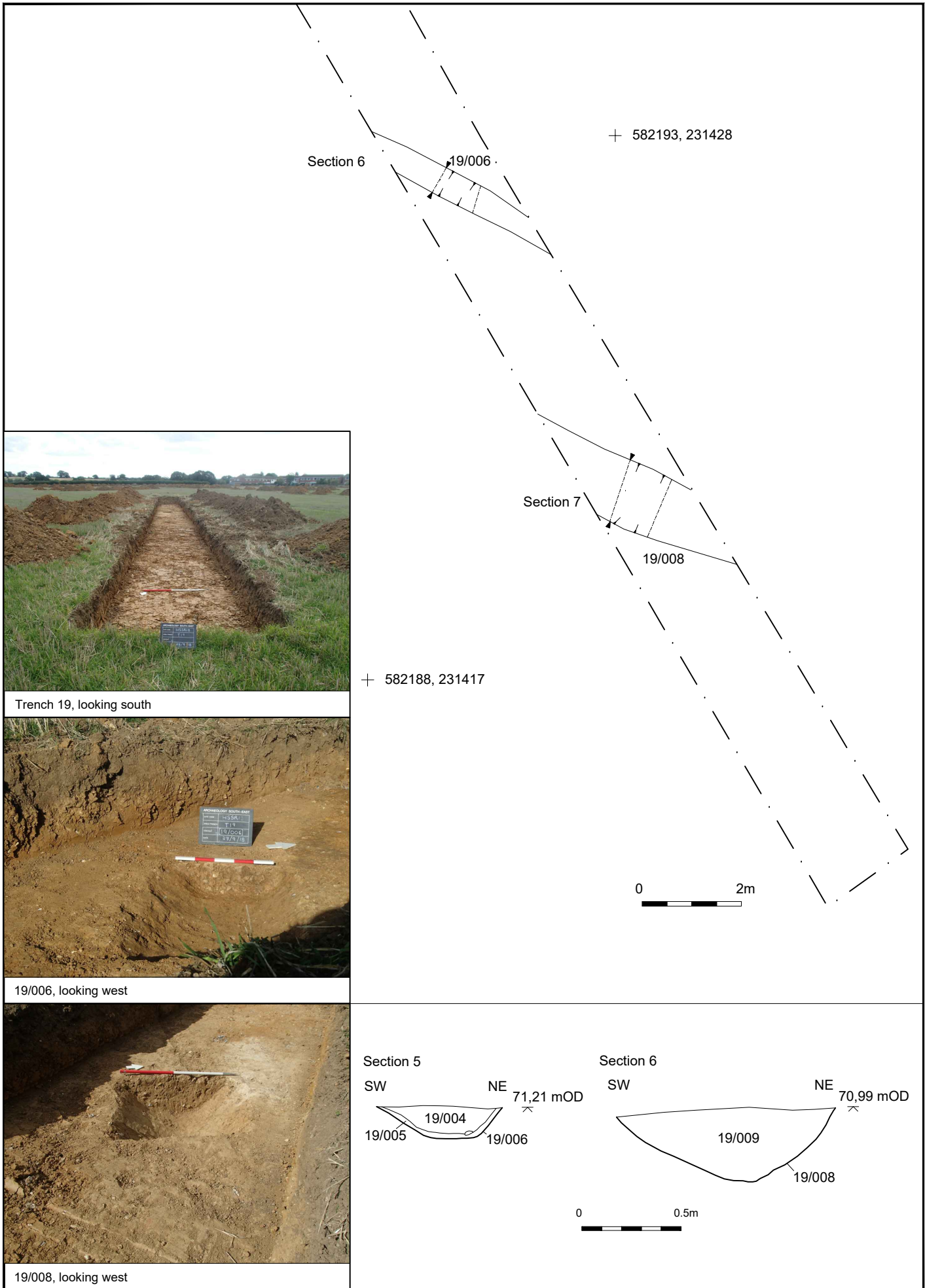


17/006, looking south east

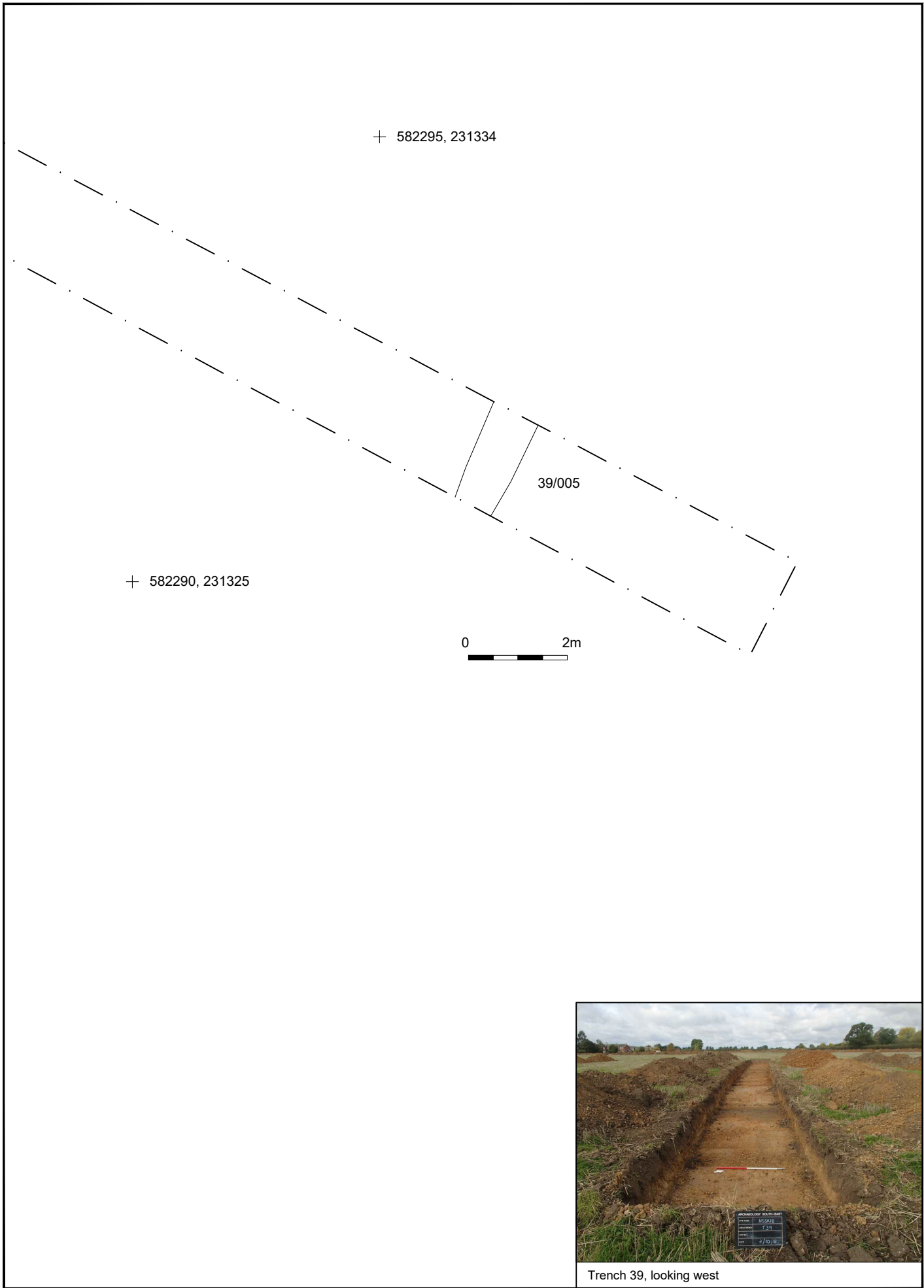
Section 4



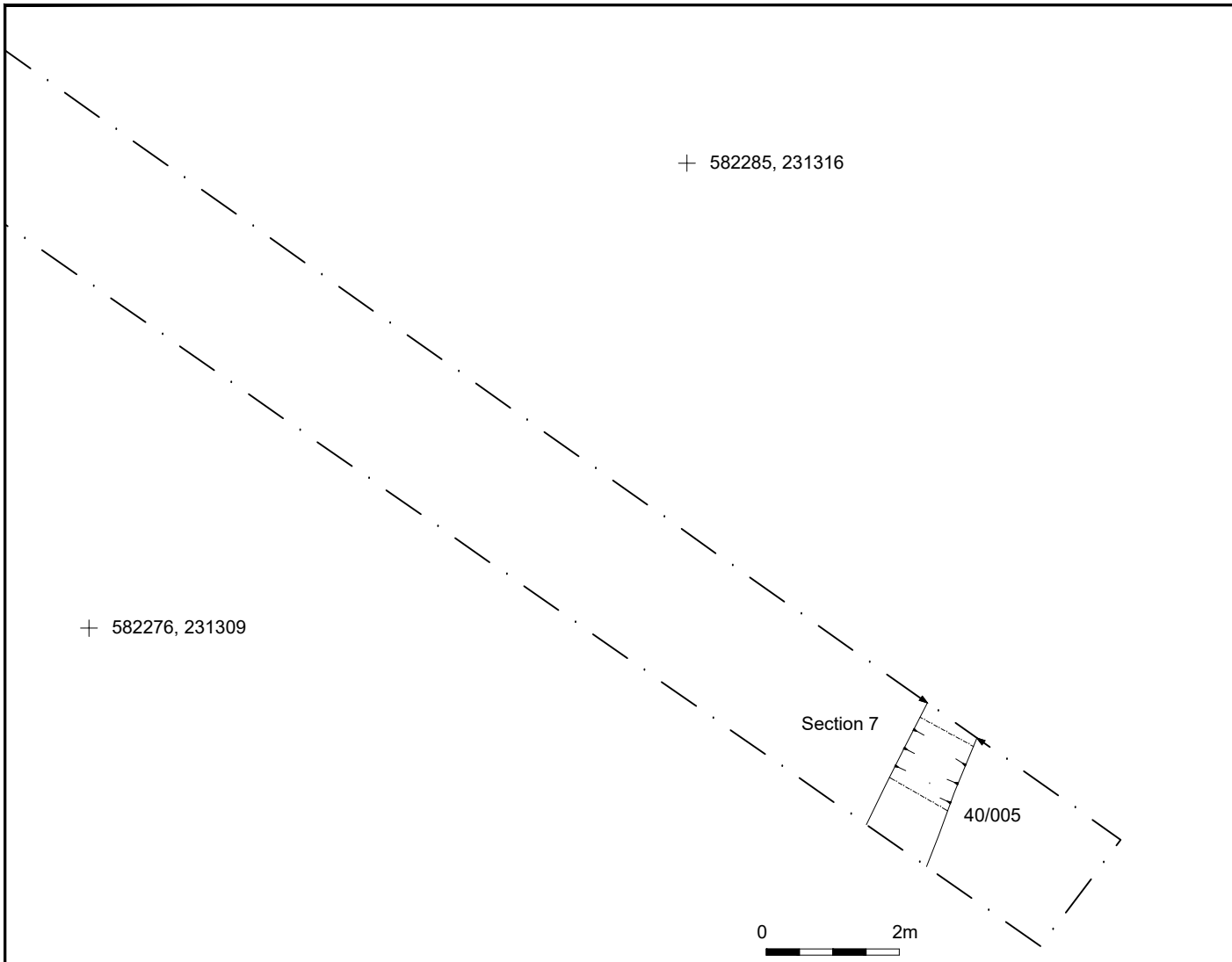
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© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 10
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 19 - Plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		



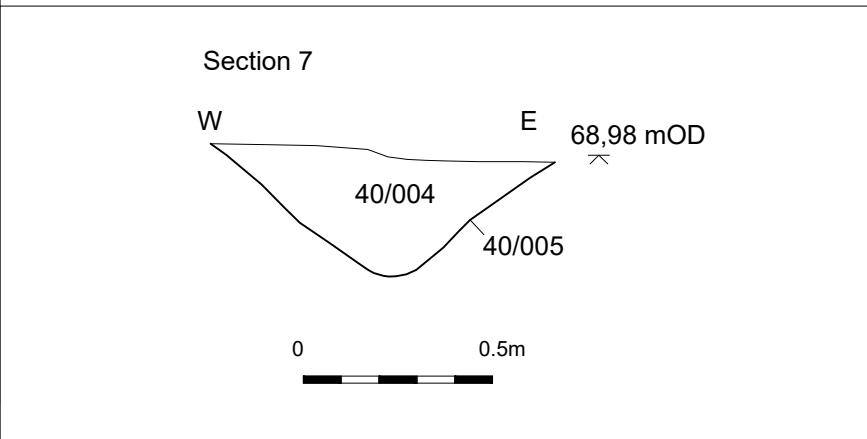
© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 11
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 39 - Plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		



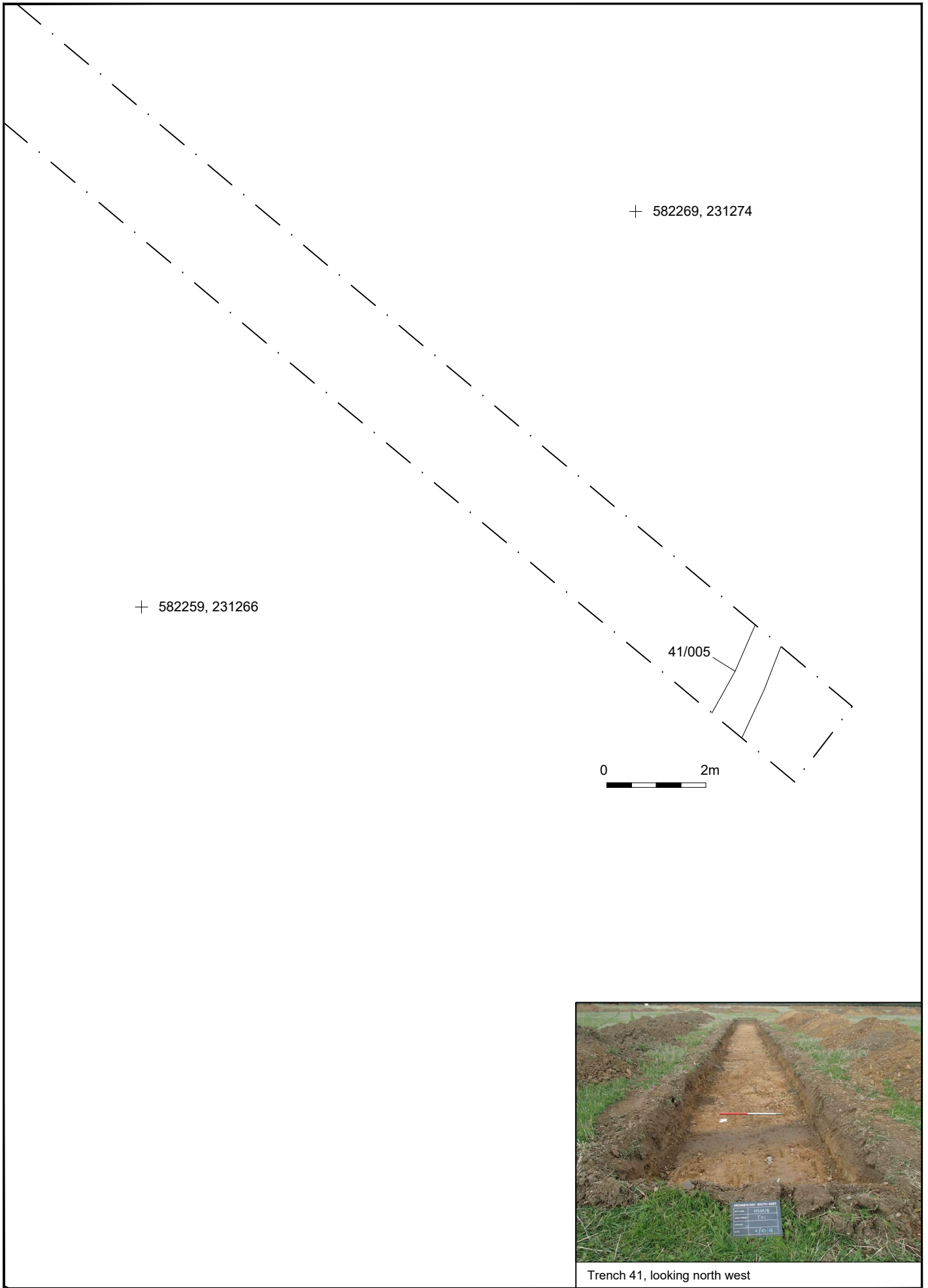
Trench 40, looking east



40/005, looking north

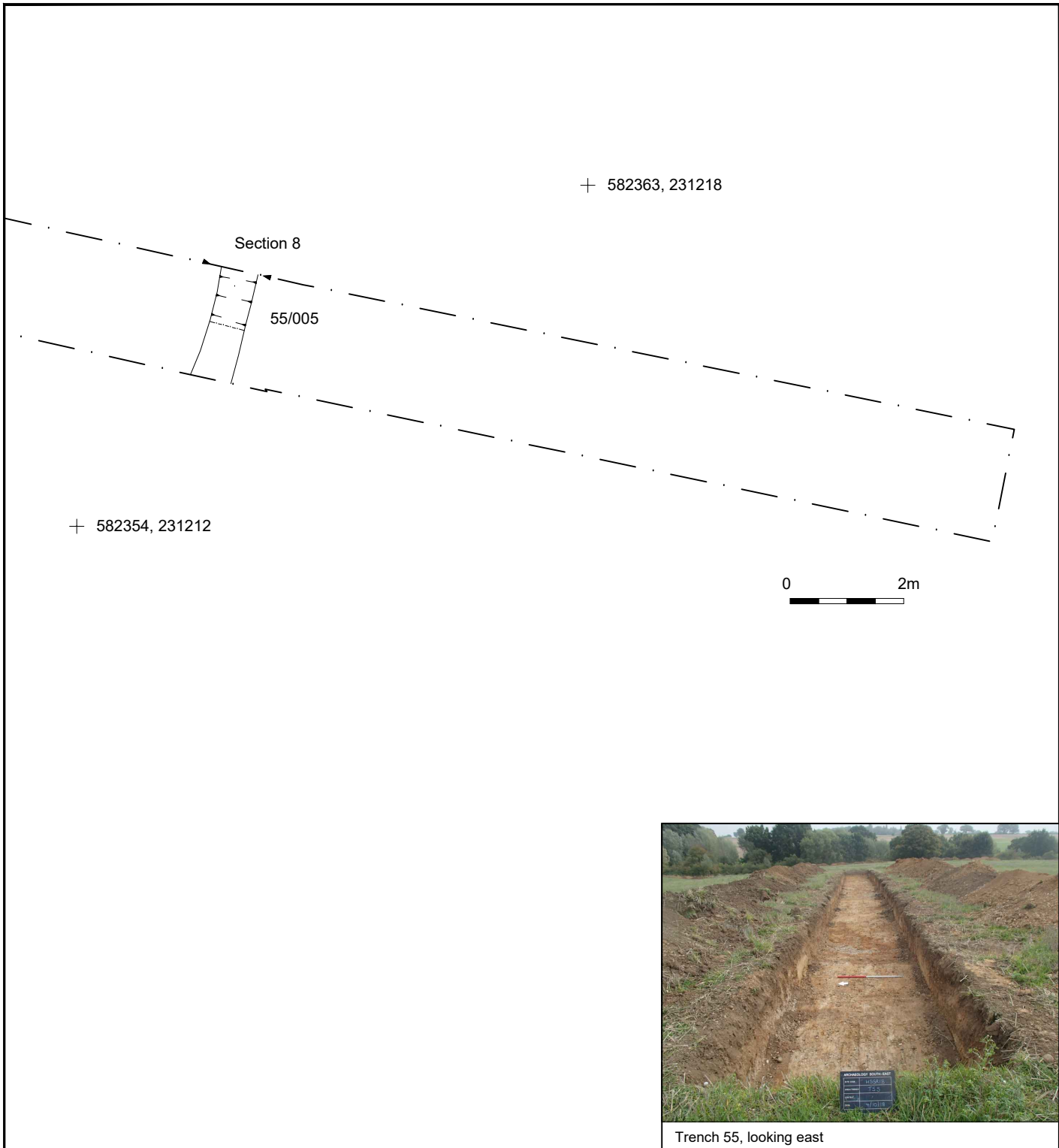


© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 12
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 40 - Plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		

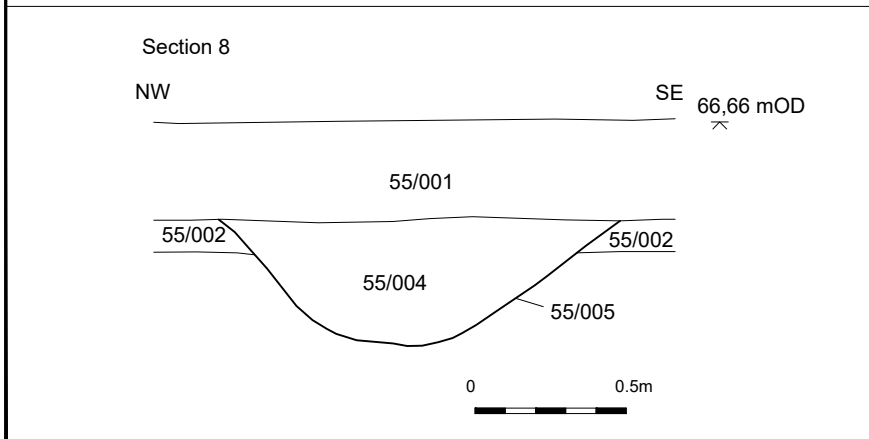


Trench 41, looking north west

© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 13
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 41 - Plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		



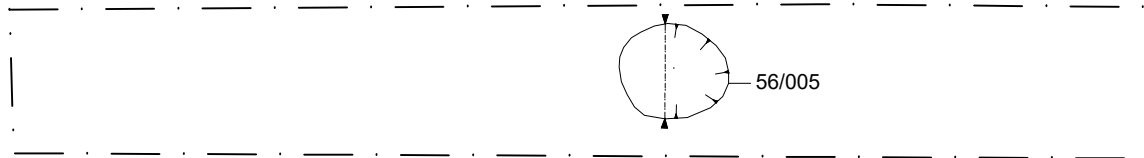
Trench 55, looking east



55/005, looking north

© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 14
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 55 - Plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		

+ 582308, 231190



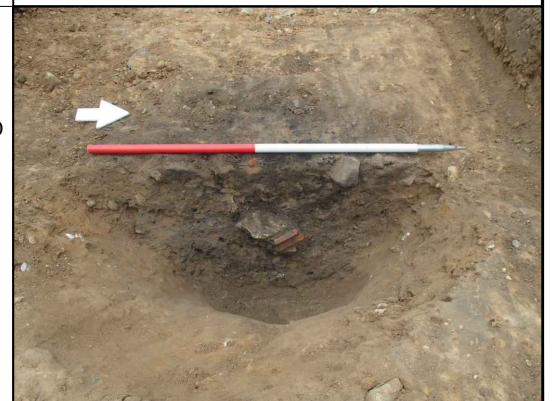
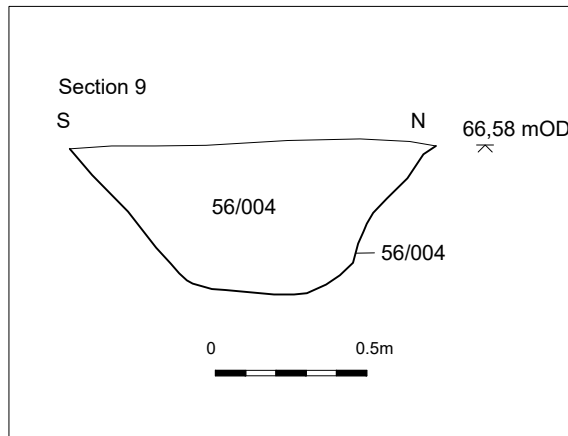
Section 9

+ 582304, 231182

0 2m



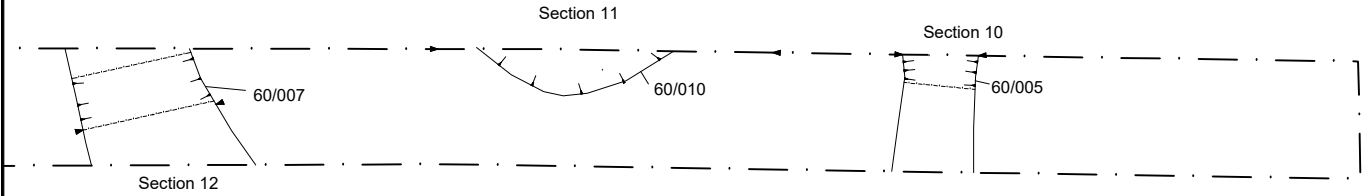
Trench 56, looking west



56/005, looking west

© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 15
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 56 - Plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		

+ 582406, 231190



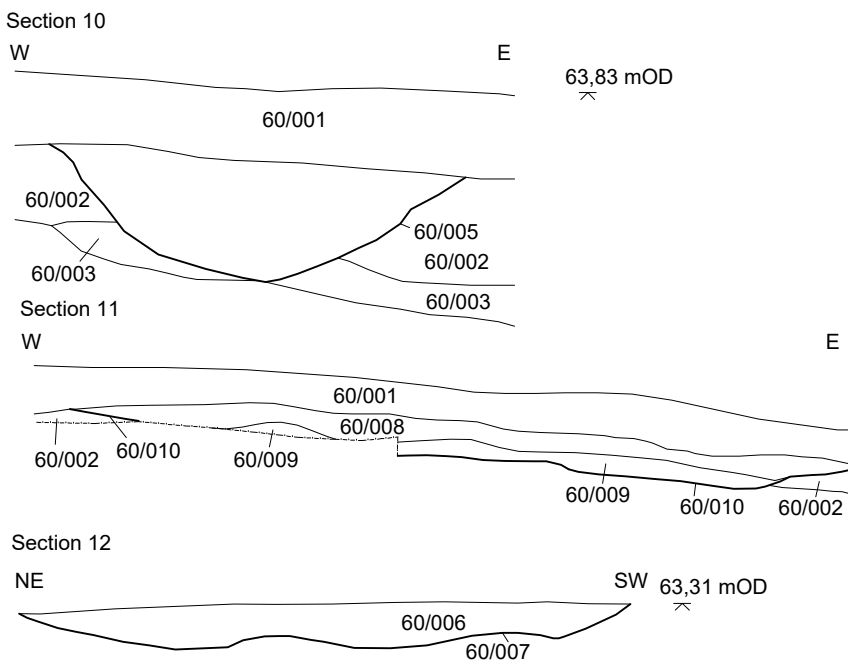
+ 582406, 231183



60/007, looking south



60/010, looking north



Trench 60, looking west

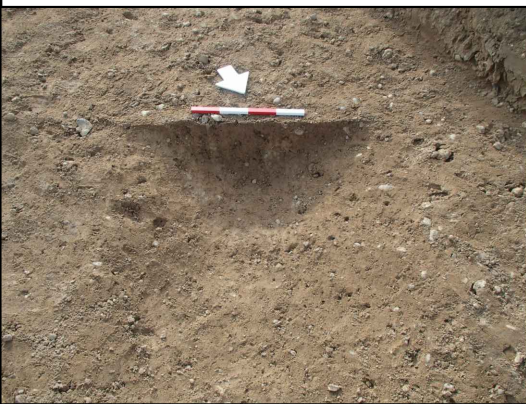
63,32 mOD

0 0.5m

+ 582402, 231227



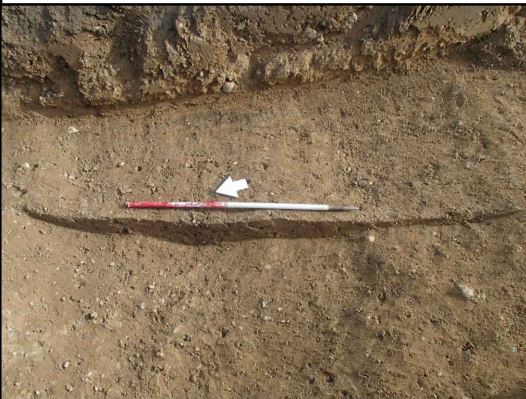
Trench 61, looking north



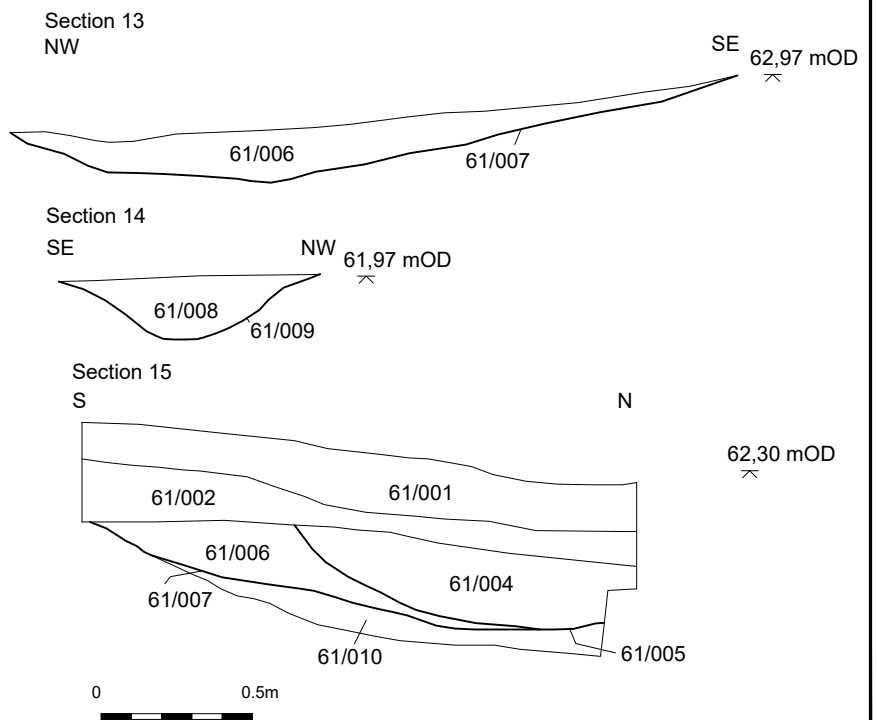
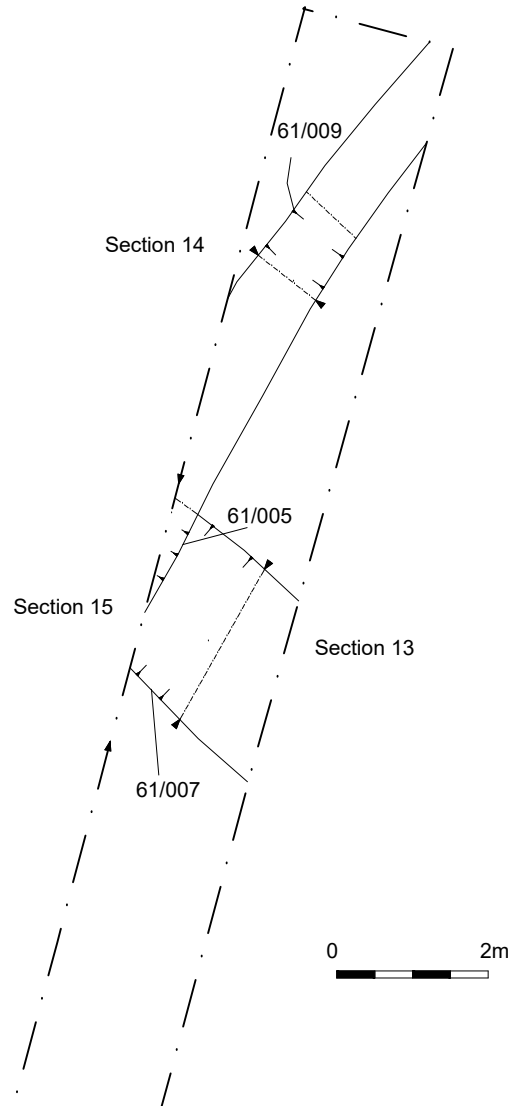
61/009, looking south west



61/005, 61/007, looking west



61/007, looking east



+ 582446, 231218

Section 16

62/005

Section 17 62/007

+ 582439, 231213

0 2m



Trench 62, looking east

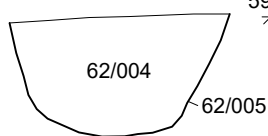


62/005, looking south east

Section 16

NE

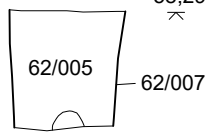
SW 59,39 mOD



Section 17

SW

NE 58,29mOD

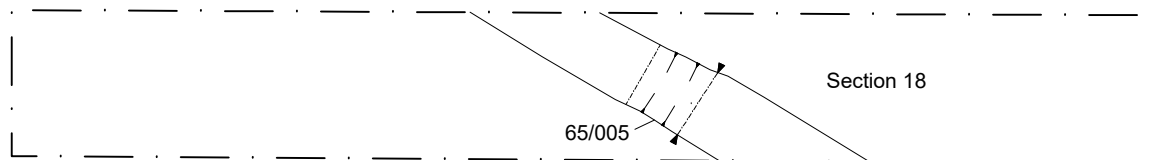


0 0.5m



62/007, looking north west

+ 582441, 231279

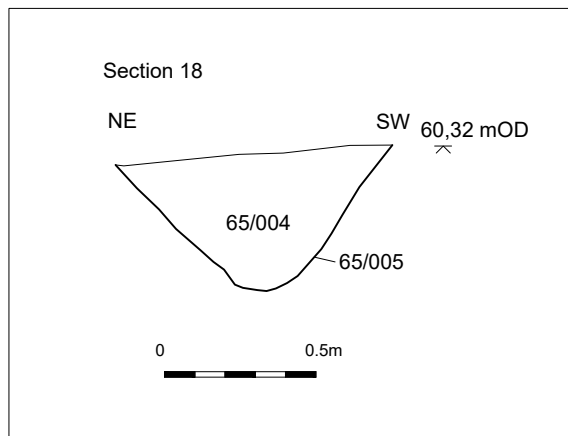


+ 582434, 231273

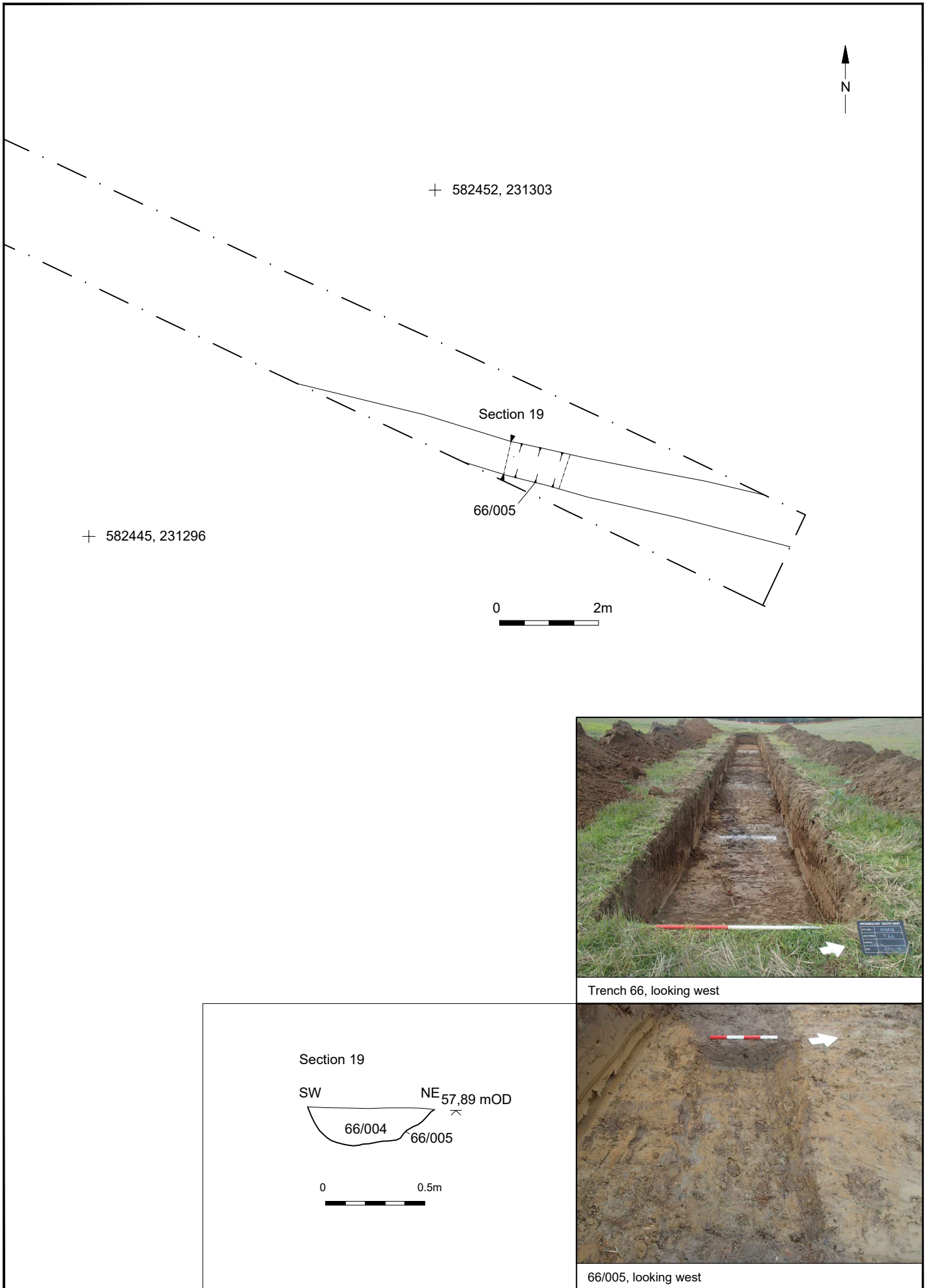
0 2m



Trench 65, looking west



65/005, looking south east



© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 20
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Trench 66 - Plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		



Trench 2, looking south east



Trench 3, looking south



Trench 4, looking west



Trench 5, looking west



Trench 6, looking west



Trench 7, looking west



Trench 9, looking north east



Trench 10, looking north east



Trench 11, looking south west



Trench 12, looking west



Trench 16, looking south



Trench 18, looking west



Trench 20, looking west



Trench 21, looking north



Trench 22, looking south east



Trench 23, looking south



Trench 24, looking north



Trench 25, looking west



Trench 26, looking west



Trench 27, looking north west



Trench 28, looking west



Trench 29, looking west



Trench 30, looking south west



Trench 31, looking west



Trench 32, looking west



Trench 33, looking north west



Trench 34, looking south west



Trench 35, looking west



Trench 36, looking north east



Trench 37, looking south west



Trench 38, looking north east



Trench 43, looking south west



Trench 44, looking south west



Trench 45, looking west



Trench 46, looking north



Trench 47, looking west



Trench 48, looking north east



Trench 49, looking east



Trench 50, looking east



Trench 51, looking west



Trench 52, looking north east



Trench 53, looking west



Trench 54, looking east



Trench 57, looking south



Trench 58, looking east



Trench 59, looking south



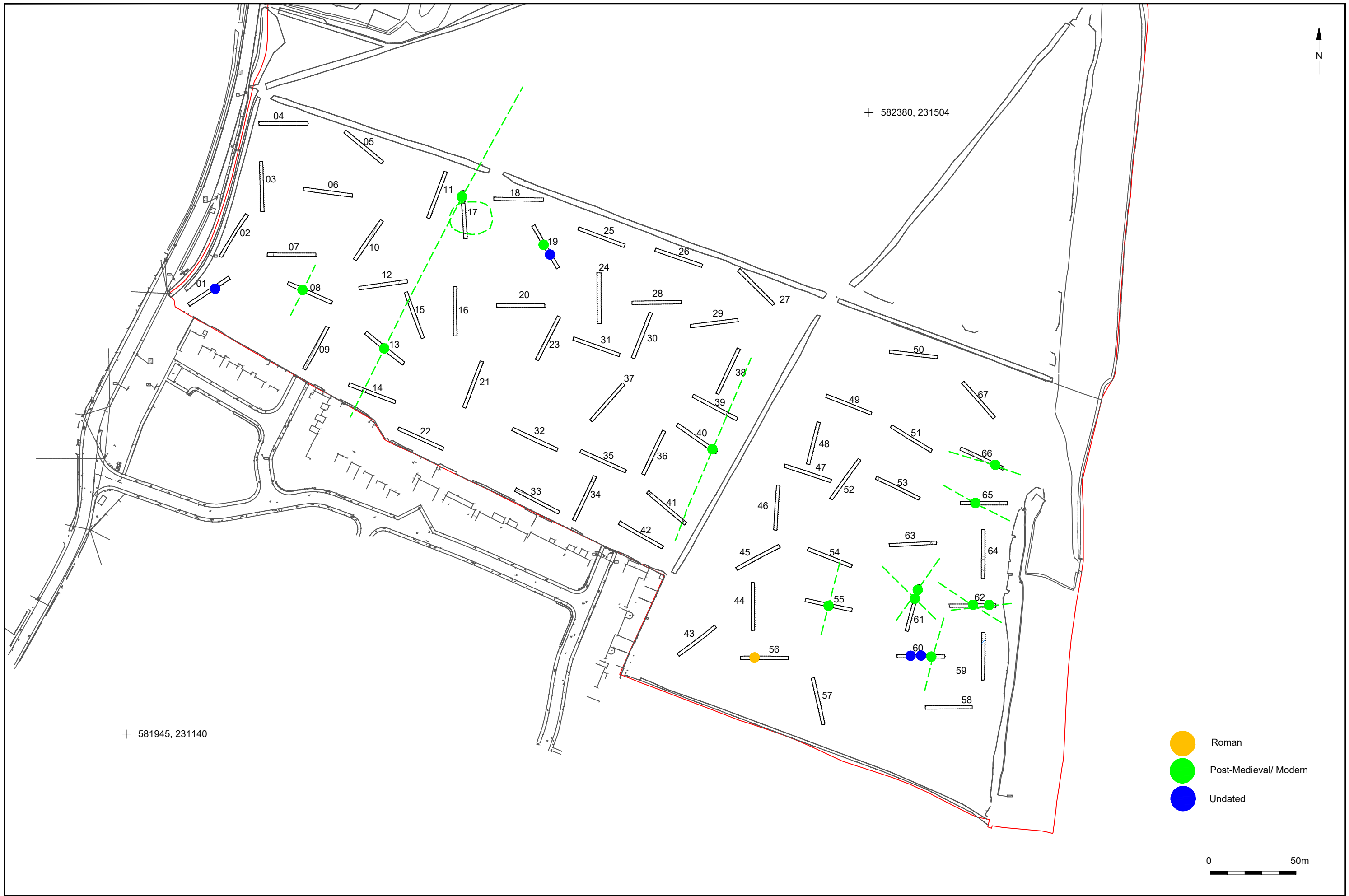
Trench 63, looking east



Trench 64, looking north



Trench 67, looking south east



© Archaeology South-East		Sudbury Road, Halstead	Fig. 29
Project Ref: 180092	November 2018	Plan of dated features	
Report Ref: 2018350	Drawn by: AR		

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