ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND EXCAVATION ARCHIVE REPORT

Land at Beyton Road, Thurston, Suffolk IP31 3QX

Planning Ref: DC/19/03486

Site/Parish Code: THS 033

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by RPS Consulting Services to conduct a trial-trench evaluation and subsequent small excavation on land at Beyton Road, Thurston, Suffolk.

The fieldwork was carried out as a condition attached to outline planning consent for a proposed housing-led development and was the second phase of archaeological fieldwork on the site, having been preceded by a geophysical survey. Sixty-eight evaluation trenches were excavated across the 7.4ha site, providing a sample of the entire site and targeting selected geophysical anomalies. The subsequent mitigation excavation area measured 370sq m, expanding upon one of the evaluation trenches in the south of the site.

Archaeological features and deposits of prehistoric to modern date were identified in ten evaluation trenches, mainly in the central and eastern parts of the site, and in the subsequent excavation area.

A small assemblage of flint debitage was recovered from an accumulation of soil in a natural depression. The flint ranges in date from the Neolithic to the later prehistoric period. Lesser amounts of struck/worked flint (including a core, a blade and a bladelet of probable Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date) were collected from the ploughsoil and as residual finds in post-medieval features. Two small pits (or possible natural features) each produced a single undiagnostic flint flake, both of which were poorly stratified surface finds.

Post-medieval features consisted of a ditch (corresponding to a field boundary shown on early 19th-century maps), and an infilled gravel pit. Five small pits were either modern or undated.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL), carried out an archaeological trial-trench evaluation and subsequent small mitigation excavation on land at Beyton Road, Thurston, Suffolk.

1.1.2 The fieldwork was carried out as a condition of outline planning consent for a proposed housing-led development and was commissioned by RPS Consulting Services on behalf of Bloor Homes. It was the second phase of archaeological fieldwork on the site, having been preceded by a geophysical survey (SUMO 2018).

1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The site is located at National Grid Reference TL 91930 64760, on the south-western edge of the village of Thurston, near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (Figure 1).

1.2.2 The development site is an irregular parcel of land, in agricultural use. It is bounded to the northeast by Beyton Road, to the northwest by a wooded area, to the west by Barton Road and to the south by Thurston Road and the grounds of Crossways Cottages. The site has an area of approximately 7.4 hectares.

1.2.3 The site is on undulating land with a general fall from east to west, into a shallow dry valley. The underlying solid geology is recorded by the British Geological Survey (BGS 2021) as Chalk, overlaid by Crag Group (Sand). No superficial geology is recorded in the site area, although Head deposits (Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel) are plotted within the dry valley to the west.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Outline planning applications were submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council (Ref: DC/19/03486) and West Suffolk District Council (Ref: DC/19/1519) for the residential development of the site for up to 210 dwellings, with means of access, open space and associated infrastructure, with associated alterations to the nearby road junction at Fishwick Corner.

1.3.2 In support of the application a magnetometer survey was undertaken (SUMO 2018), followed by the preparation of an archaeological Desk-based Assessment (CgMs 2019). Having considered those documents Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) recommended the following:

"In this case the following two conditions would be appropriate:

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

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

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

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

REASON:
To safeguard archaeological assets within the approved development boundary from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development, in accordance with Core Strategic Objective SO4 of Mid Suffolk District Council Core Strategy Development Plan Document (2008) and the National Planning Policy Framework (2018)."

1.3.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation was prepared in response to this condition (ASE 2019b). This was approved by SCCAS prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

1.3.4 The evaluation took place between 01 and 16 February 2021 (ASE project 190598), with some positive results. Consequently, SCCAS required a small area of further investigation adjacent to one of the evaluation trenches. A new WSI was prepared (ASE 2021b) and the additional mitigation work was carried out 01-02 March 2021 (ASE project 210138).

1.4 Aims of the project

1.4.1 The aims of the evaluation, as specified in the WSI (ASE 2019b), 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 establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered.

- To enable SCCAS to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work required in order to satisfy the archaeological condition.

- To enable SCCAS to determine whether archaeological remains of national significance are present that may warrant preservation *in situ*.

1.4.2 Given the limited extent of the subsequent excavation, which was little more than the extension of one of the evaluation trenches, the same general aims were applied to that phase of mitigation work.

1.4.3 Within these parameters, some site-specific objectives were formulated, with reference to the following regional research frameworks: *Research and Archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).

Palaeolithic-Mesolithic

- Are particular qualities or sources of flint employed for specific tool types? Is the choice of flint or the source used a cultural decision? Can sources of flint be identified? Analysis of use-wear patterns should be attempted.

Neolithic/Bronze Age

- Study of the development, frequency and significance of flint-working throughout the Bronze Age would be useful, together with the identification of particular trends and characteristics that may help in dating and relationships with other artefact types.

Bronze Age-Iron Age

- The nature of the agrarian economy needs further study.... What are the relative proportions of cereals and livestock and is there a changing dynamic throughout the period?
- Given the apparent paucity of evidence for arable agriculture during this period within the northern part of the region, what were the fields used for?

Roman

- What forms do the farms take, and is the planned farmstead widespread across the region?
- How far can the size and shape of fields be related to the agricultural regimes identified, and what is the relationship between rural and urban sites?
- Roads: what variations in structure exist? Are they different in the countryside, and on different terrain?

Early Medieval

- What is the evidence for open field systems in the region in the Anglo-Saxon period?

Late Medieval

- How far can the size and shape of fields be related to agricultural regimes?

1.5 Scope of the Report

1.5.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological trial-trench evaluation and subsequent excavation on land at Beyton Road, Thurston, Suffolk. The fieldwork was carried out in two phases: 01-16 February 2021 (evaluation) and 01-02 March 2021 (excavation).

1.5.2 The report describes and interprets the results of the fieldwork and assesses the extent to which the aims and objectives of the project have been fulfilled. The potential and significance of the results are considered.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following summary of the archaeological and historical background is largely drawn from the Desk-based Assessment (CgMs 2019) and the geophysical survey (SUMO 2018).

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 The earliest evidence for prehistoric activity in the area comprises a Palaeolithic elephant bone some 1.2km to the southeast of the site.

2.2.2 A programme of archaeological monitoring at Red Marley, 1km to the northwest, identified a short section of ditch and a pit, both of which contained pottery and flint dating to the Neolithic.

2.2.3 A scatter of worked flint of probable Bronze Age date was found adjacent to a footpath approximately 1.2km northeast of the site.

2.2.4 A large fragment of Iron Age pottery was recovered from Thurston Heath, 750m to the northwest of the site, and there have been several instances of isolated finds recorded on the HER within 1.5km of the site.

2.3 Roman

2.3.1 The Roman road between Chelmsford and Ixworth (Peddars Way) is thought to run on a northeast-southwest alignment, 1km west of the site. Excavations for foundations in the first half of the 20th century found possible evidence for a Roman road surface and associated pottery on the alignment of Peddars Way, 800m to the northwest of the site.

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

2.4.1 An excavation on land south of Norton Road (THS 031), approximately 600m northeast of the current site, uncovered the slight remains of a possible Late Anglo-Saxon building (farmstead?) and associated field/enclosure boundaries (ASE 2019a).

2.4.2 The historic settlement at Thurston, located 1km to the northeast of the site, is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1066 and assessed as a large settlement.

2.4.3 The original Church of St Peter, 1.1km to the northeast, is likely to have been constructed at this time; several finds and ditches associated with this period have been found in proximity to the church.

2.4.4 The location of the former late medieval Old Netherhall Manor House is thought to lie approximately 1.2km northeast of the site, and the moated site of Rougham Place lies 1.5km to the south.

2.5 Post-medieval and Modern

2.5.1 The site was in agricultural use during the later post-medieval period. The 1813 Ordnance Survey map (CgMs 2019, fig. 5) indicates that the site area was divided into two fields by a SSW/NNE field boundary. The larger, western field contained a large, circular feature, presumably a gravel quarry. This was located just northwest of the current site, in what is now a wooded area.

2.5.2 The same field boundary was shown on the Thurston tithe map of 1839 (CgMs 2019, fig. 6) separating plots 237 and 246. The tithe apportionment reveals that both fields were in arable use. By that time, the southwestern part of the larger field formed a separate plot 247; this corresponded to the area now occupied by Crossways Cottages and attached grounds.

2.5.3 The 1880s Ordnance Survey map reveals that the field boundary separating former tithe plots 237 and 246 had by then been removed. The large gravel quarry northwest of the site was shown, and another quarry was mapped on the southern boundary of the site, corresponding to the extant feature between Trenches 67 and 68.

2.5.4 By the 1900s, more extensive gravel quarrying was indicated northwest of the site, and by the 1950s the site boundaries had assumed their current form.

2.6 Previous archaeological work on the site

2.6.1 A magnetometer survey was conducted on the site in November 2018 (SUMO 2018). The survey detected no definite archaeological responses. Those anomalies that were identified were interpreted as either variations in the geological strata or perhaps small-scale gravel extraction. The greyscale and interpretative survey plots are shown on Figures 3 and 4.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork methodology

Trial-trench evaluation

3.1.1 The evaluation was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2019b) and Method Statement (ASE 2021a).

3.1.2 Sixty-eight evaluation trenches (Figure 2) were excavated under direct archaeological supervision using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 2.1m-wide ditching bucket. The trenches were generally 30m in length.

3.1.3 The trenches were distributed to achieve a random sample of all areas of the site, while also investigating selected geophysical anomalies (Figures 3 and 4).

3.1.4 Trenches were generally located according to the proposed trench plan in the WSI, with the following adjustments:

- Trench 1 was moved *c.* 3m south to avoid an informal footpath
- Trench 2 was moved *c.* 3m south to avoid an informal footpath
- Trench 17 was moved *c.* 3.5m south to avoid an informal footpath

3.1.5 Mechanical excavation of the ploughsoil was undertaken to the surface of archaeological deposits or to the top of the geological stratum, which in all trenches occurred at the same level.

3.1.6 Archaeological features were sample excavated by hand. Pits were half-sectioned (as a minimum), while linear features were investigated by means of 1m-long hand-dug segments.

3.1.7 Excavated archaeological features and the natural stratum were recorded using a unique sequence of context numbers for each trench and are shown in this report thus: [1/001], whereby the first number is the trench reference and the second number is the context.

3.1.8 Feature planning was done using a GPS. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 on archival standard drawing film and subsequently digitised. Written records (trench and context descriptions) were made on *pro forma* trench recording sheets and context sheets.

3.1.9 A photographic record was made, consisting of high-resolution digital (JPEG) images taken with a compact camera.

3.1.10 All pre-modern finds were collected, bagged by context and labelled with the site code and context number, and retained for specialist identification and study.

3.1.11 Bulk soil samples were collected from excavated archaeological contexts judged to have environmental potential; e.g. dated/datable buried soils, well-sealed slowly silted features and sealed features containing evident

carbonised remains, peats, waterlogged or cess deposits.

3.1.12 Metal detecting was carried out on 2m-wide strips adjacent to all even-numbered evaluation trenches, and on trench bases. Metal detectors were used in 'all-metal' mode, and all finds were retained.

Mitigation Excavation

3.1.13 At the request of SCCAS, an area measuring 20m x 20m, centred on pit with a charcoal-rich fill found in Trench 66, was investigated. Two additional features were identified and given the context numbers 1001-1007. Otherwise, the recording methodology was as carried out in the evaluation.

3.1.14 The site code THS 033, allocated by SCCAS, was used for both phases of fieldwork and was included on all site records, finds and samples.

3.2 Archive

3.2.1 The fieldwork archive is currently held at the Essex office of ASE and, subject to the agreement of the legal landowner, will be deposited with SCCAS in due course. The nature and contents of the archive are described in Tables 1 and 2.

3.2.2 The archive will be prepared in accordance with guidelines contained in the CIfA *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (CIfA 2014b) and with *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition* (SCCAS 2019).

Description	Quantity	Type
Evaluation 190598		
Trench record sheets	68	A4 paper
Context sheets	32	A4 paper
Sample register	1	A4 paper
Sample sheets	4	A4 paper
Drawing sheets	4	A3 permatrace
Digital images	161	High-resolution JPGs
Excavation 210138		
Context sheets	7	A4 paper
Sample register	1	A4 paper
Sample sheets	1	A4 paper
Drawing register	1	A4 paper
Photograph register	1	A4 paper
Drawing sheets	1	A3 permatrace
Digital images	5	High-resolution JPGs

Table 1: Quantification of the fieldwork paper archive (evaluation and excavation)

Bulk finds (e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	<1 box
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	5
Palaeoenvironmental specialists samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0

Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefacts and environmental samples

4.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The locations of the sixty-eight evaluation trenches and mitigation excavation area are shown on Figure 2.

4.1.2 Archaeological deposits and features were recorded in ten evaluation trenches (Trenches 16, 20, 34, 37, 40, 41, 50, 51, 63 and 66), mostly in the central and eastern parts of the site. These results are described by trench in sections 4.3 to 4.12. The remaining fifty-eight trenches were negative archaeologically; those trenches are given summary description in section 4.13, with further detail presented in Appendix 1. The results of the subsequent excavation are given in section 4.15.

4.1.3 Archaeological deposits and features were recognised immediately below the ploughsoil, overlying or cutting the natural stratum. Feature visibility was sometimes poor, due to the nature of the soft, sandy fills and to the high degree of variability in the underlying natural strata.

4.1.4 Some trenches were positioned to investigate selected geophysical anomalies. Where appropriate, the results of the evaluation are considered in relation to those of the preceding geophysical survey. The locations of targeted anomalies are shown on Figures 3 and 4.

4.1.5 Metal-detecting of the ploughsoil was undertaken at thirty-four trench locations, and more generally across other areas of the site. This recovered a small amount of later post-medieval and modern material, which is summarised in section 4.14 and described fully in section 5.8.

4.2 General soil descriptions

4.2.1 Geological strata varied considerably across the site, often between adjacent trenches. Patches of degraded chalk were apparent in some trenches, but more often the natural consisted of soft to compact yellowish or orangey brown sand, with varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules.

4.2.2 These natural deposits were consistent with descriptions of the chalk and crag group sand mapped at the site by the British Geological Survey (BGS 2021).

4.2.3 There was no evidence for natural soil profiles or former land surfaces, these having been removed for the most part by modern ploughing. A ploughsoil of friable, mid brownish grey sandy loam (0.30m to 0.40m thick) was recorded in all evaluation trenches, overlying the natural strata and forming the current ground surface. Plough marks incised into the surface of the natural strata in most of the trenches demonstrated the extent of deep ploughing across the site.

4.3 Trench 16

Dimensions: 34.80m x 2.10m x up to 0.45m deep
Ground level: 49.39m OD (NW), 50.02m OD (SE)
Figure: 5

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
16/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
16/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.30m-0.40m	Trench-wide
16/003	Layer	External soil horizon	0.35m	NW end of trench
16/004	Fill	Fill of natural feature 005	0.60m-0.82m	NW end of trench
16/005	Cut	Natural feature	0.60m-0.82m	NW end of trench
16/006	Fill	Fill of ditch segment 007	0.30m-0.75m	SE end of trench
16/007	Cut	Ditch segment	0.30m-0.75m	SE end of trench

Table 3: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 16

4.3.1 Trench 16 contained a natural pit-like feature [16/005] sealed by a localised soil horizon [16/003], and part of a post-medieval ditch [16/007].

4.3.2 Natural stratum [16/002] was soft, yellowish brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules, with areas of degraded chalk at the northwest end of the trench.

4.3.3 Natural feature [16/005] was oval, measuring 1.13m x >0.92m x 0.10m deep, with moderately steep sides breaking gradually into a flat base (Figure 5, Section 2 and photograph). Single fill [16/004] was friable, mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional pebbles but no finds. This pit-like feature cut the natural stratum of degraded chalk and is assumed to have been a small solution hollow, similar to other examples seen but not always recorded elsewhere on the site.

4.3.4 Solution hollow [16/005] was covered by a layer of soft, mid greyish brown sand [16/003] from which a moderate-sized assemblage of prehistoric struck flint, of varying date, was recovered. The deposit was confined to approximately 6m at the northwest end of the trench, where it had apparently accumulated in a localised depression visible as a topographic feature at ground level. The deposit was up to 0.27m thick, petering out to the southeast and extending beyond the edges of the trench in other directions (Figure 5, Section 1).

4.3.5 Post-medieval ditch segment [16/007], at the southeast end of the trench, was linear, oriented NNE/SSW and measuring >1.00 long (segment length) x 1.27m wide x 0.42m deep, with steep, concave sides breaking gradually into a concave base (Figure 5, Section 3 and photograph). It contained a single fill of friable, mid greyish brown silty sand [16/006] containing some residual prehistoric struck flints.

4.3.6 The continuation of the ditch to the SSW was recorded as [20/004] and [37/005]. This feature corresponded with a field boundary shown on early 19th-century maps (2.5.1).

4.4 Trench 20

Dimensions: 30.00 x 2.10m x up to 0.32m deep
Ground level: 49.85 OD (N), 49.65m OD (S)
Figure: 6

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
20/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
20/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.30m	Trench-wide
20/003	Fill	Fill of ditch segment 004	0.30m-0.70m	Centre of trench
20/004	Cut	Ditch segment	0.30m-0.70m	Centre of trench
20/005	Fill	Fill of natural feature 006	0.30m-0.50m	Centre of trench
20/006	Cut	Small, natural feature	0.30m-0.50m	Centre of trench

Table 4: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 20

4.4.1 Trench 20 contained a small, natural feature [20/006] and part of a post-medieval ditch [20/004].

4.4.2 Natural stratum [20/002] was soft, light greyish brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules, and patches of degraded chalk.

4.4.3 Natural feature [20/006] was oval, measuring 0.90m x 0.85m x 0.20m deep, with moderately steep but irregular sides tapering to a narrow, irregular base (Figure 5, Section 5). It contained a single fill [20/005] of soft, mid orangey brown sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments and flint pebbles but no finds. This pit-like feature was cutting the natural stratum of degraded chalk and is assumed to have been a small solution hollow, similar to other examples seen elsewhere on the site.

4.4.4 Ditch [20/004] was linear, oriented NNE/SSW and measuring >1.00m long (segment length) x 1.35m wide x 0.40m deep, with steep sides breaking sharply into a narrow, flat base (Figure 5, Section 4 and photograph). It contained a single fill of soft, mid orangey brown sandy silt with frequent small fragments of chalk and pebbles but no finds.

4.4.5 The same ditch was recorded to the NNE as [16/007] and to the SSW as [37/005]. This feature corresponded with a field boundary shown on early 19th-century maps (2.5.1).

4.5 Trench 34

Dimensions: 30.50 x 2.10m x up to 0.40m deep
Ground level: 49.98m OD (N), 50.48m OD (S)
Figure: 7

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
34/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
34/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.35m	Trench-wide
34/003	Fill	Fill of pit 004	0.35m-0.70m	Centre of trench
34/004	Cut	Small pit	0.35m-0.70m	Centre of trench

Table 5: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 34

4.5.1 Trench 34 contained a small, modern pit [34/004].

4.5.2 Natural stratum [34/002] was soft, light yellowish or greyish brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules.

4.5.3 Pit [34/004] was oval, measuring 1.10m x 0.72m x 0.34m deep with moderate to steep sides breaking gradually into an irregular base that was deeper in the western half of the pit (Figure 7, Section 6 and photograph). It contained a single fill [34/003] of soft, light to mid greyish brown sand with occasional pebbles and flecks to small fragments of charcoal. There was a localised concentration of charcoal-rich soil on the surface of the fill. Bulk soil sample <3> contained small amounts of charred hazel nut shell and a charred blackthorn seed, and some oak charcoal. Two small fragments of 20th-century window glass were also retrieved from it, though it is perhaps possible that these were intrusive artefacts.

4.6 Trench 37

Dimensions: 37.00m x 2.10m x up to 0.45m deep
Ground level: 49.86m OD (W), 50.23m OD (E)
Figure: 8

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
37/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
37/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.30m	Trench-wide
37/003	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 005	0.30m-0.60m	W end of trench
37/004	Fill	Lower fill of ditch 005	0.53m-0.72m	W end of trench
37/005	Cut	Ditch segment	0.30m-0.72m	W end of trench

Table 6: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 37

4.6.1 Trench 37 was extended by several metres at its west end in order to locate the continuation of post-medieval ditch [16/007]/[20/004]; this was recorded in the trench as [37/005].

4.6.2 Natural stratum [37/002] was soft, light orangey brown sand and gravel (50:50), with some patches of degraded chalk.

4.6.3 Ditch [37/005] was linear, oriented NNE/SSW, measuring 1.00m long (segment) x 1.40m wide x 0.42m deep, with moderately steep but slightly irregular sides breaking gradually into a narrow, concave base (Figure 8, Sections 7 and 8, and photograph).

4.6.4 The ditch contained a sequence of two fills, both of which were bulk sampled for environmental analysis. Lower fill [37/004] was compact, light orangey brown silty sand, up to 0.19m thick, with occasional pebbles and chalk flecks, but no finds. Upper fill [37/003] was compact, dark yellowish brown sandy silt, up to 0.30m thick, with occasional pebbles and a tiny fragment of undiagnostic CBM. Bulk soil samples <1> and <2> (from fills [37/003] and [37/004] respectively) contained no charred plant remains and only small amounts of charcoal.

4.6.5 The same ditch was recorded to the NNE in Trenches 16 and 20. It corresponded with a field boundary shown on early 19th-century maps (2.5.1).

4.7 Trench 40

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.10m x up to 0.50m deep
Ground level: 51.47m OD (NNE), 52.05m OD (SSE)
Figure: 9

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
40/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
40/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.30m-0.45m	Trench-wide
40/003	Fill	Fill of natural feature 004	0.25m-0.76m	SE end of trench
40/004	Cut	Large, natural feature	0.25m-0.76m	SE end of trench
40/005	Fill	Fill of possible pit 006	0.45m-0.70m	NW end of trench
40/006	Cut	Possible pit	0.45m-0.70m	NW end of trench

Table 7: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 40

4.7.1 Trench 40 was positioned to investigate two geophysical survey anomalies – a sinuous N/S linear anomaly at its north end and a NNE/SW linear anomaly at its south. It contained a large, natural feature [40/004] and part of a possible pit (or natural feature) [40/006].

4.7.2 Natural stratum [40/002] was soft, light yellowish brown sand with occasional pebbles, cobbles and flint nodules.

4.7.3 [40/004] was a large oval or linear feature, measuring >2.10m SW/NE (extending beyond the limits of excavation in both directions) x 3.80m NW/SE x 0.39m deep, with gently sloping sides breaking imperceptibly into a flat base (Figure 9, Section 9). It contained a single fill [40/003] of friable, mottled yellowish and orangey brown sand with frequent pebbles but no finds. It broadly coincided with the location of the targeted linear geophysical anomaly, interpreted as a natural trend/zone (Figure 4).

4.7.4 Possible pit [40/006] was oval, measuring >2m NW-SE x >0.72m SW-NE x 0.32m deep, with gently sloping sides breaking imperceptibly into a flat base (Figure 9, Section 10 and photograph). It extended beyond the limit of excavation to the northeast. The possible pit contained a single fill [40/005] of friable, mid greyish brown sand with occasional pebbles and a single struck flint flake, recovered from the surface of the deposit. This feature coincided with the targeted curvilinear anomaly, interpreted as a natural trend/zone (Figure 4).

4.8 Trench 41

Dimensions: 31.00m x 2.10m x 0.50m deep
Ground level: 52.21m OD (NE), 52.49m OD (SW)
Figure: 10

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
41/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
41/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.40m-0.45m	Trench-wide
41/003	Fill	Fill of possible pit 004	0.40m-0.66m	Centre of trench
41/004	Cut	Possible pit	0.40m-0.66m	Centre of trench
41/005	Fill	Fill of possible pit 006	0.40m-0.51m	SSW half of trench

41/006	Cut	Possible pit	0.40m-0.51m	SSW half of trench

Table 8: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 41

4.8.1 Trench 41 contained two possible pits (or natural features) [41/004] and [41/006].

4.8.2 Natural stratum [41/002] was soft, yellowish or orangey brown sand with occasional pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules and frequent patches of degraded chalk.

4.8.3 Possible pit [41/004] was oval, measuring 2.96m SW/NE x >1.02m NW/SE x 0.26m deep, with gently sloping sides breaking imperceptibly into a flat base (Figure 10, Section 11 and photograph). It extended beyond the limit of excavation to the southeast. The possible pit contained a single fill [41/003] of friable, mid orangey brown sand with frequent pebbles, occasional flint cobbles/nodules. A single flint flake was found on the surface of the deposit.

4.8.4 Possible small pit [41/006] was oval, measuring 0.66m x 0.40m x 0.11m deep with gently sloping sides breaking imperceptibly into a concave base (Figure 10, Section 12 and photograph). It contained a single fill [41/005] of friable, mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional pebbles, but no finds.

4.9 Trench 50 (not illustrated)

Dimensions: 31m x 2.10m x 0.55m deep
Ground level: 49.48m OD (W), 50.28m OD (E)

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
50/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
50/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.30m	Trench-wide
50/003	Layer	Subsoil	0.30m-0.45m	W half of trench

Table 9: Summary of deposits in Trench 50

4.9.1 Trench 50 contained a layer of 'subsoil' [50/003] between the ploughsoil and the natural stratum that was not observed in other evaluation trenches.

4.9.2 Natural stratum [50/002] was soft, yellowish brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules.

4.9.3 'Subsoil' [50/003] was observed and recorded only in section, in the western half of the trench. It was a layer of soft, light grey sand with small and irregular lenses of ash(?) and some burnt and decayed tree roots, but no finds. The layer was up to 0.15m thick at the west end of the trench, petering out in the centre of the trench. This localised deposit possibly resulted from the uprooting and burning of a clump of trees.

4.10 Trench 51

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.10 x 0.40m deep
Ground level: 48.77m OD (N), 50.08m OD (S)
Figure: 11

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
51/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
51/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.30m	Trench-wide
51/003	Fill	Fill of possible pit 004	0.30m–0.50m	S end of trench
51/004	Cut	Possible pit	0.30m–0.50m	S end of trench

Table 10: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 51

4.10.1 Trench 51 contained a small, undated pit or natural feature [51/004].

4.10.2 Natural stratum [51/002] was soft, mottled yellowish brown or orangey brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules.

4.10.3 Pit or natural feature [51/004] was sub-circular, measuring 1.12m N/S x >1.04m E/W x 0.20m deep, with gently sloping sides breaking imperceptibly into a slightly concave base (Figure 11, Section 13 and photograph). It contained a single fill [51/003] of soft, light brownish grey sand with moderate small to large pebbles, but no finds, and no other evidence for human activity, such as charcoal flecks.

4.11 Trench 63

Dimensions: 30.00m x 2.10m x 0.40m deep
Ground level: 52.48m OD (NE), 51.58m OD (SW)
Figure: 12

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
63/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
63/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.30m	Trench-wide
63/003	Fill	Upper fill of pit 006	0.30m–0.60m	Centre of trench
63/004	Fill	Intermediate fill of pit 006	0.60m–0.90m	Centre of trench
63/005	Fill	Intermediate fill of pit 006	0.80m-1.10m	Centre of trench
63/006	Cut	Quarry pit	0.30m-1.10m	Centre of trench

Table 11: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 63

4.11.1 Trench 63 contained part of a backfilled post-medieval quarry pit [63/006], apparent at ground level as a pronounced depression.

4.11.2 Quarry pit [63/006] was presumably oval, measuring 12.34m NE/SW x >2.10m NW/SE x >0.84m deep, with an initially gently sloping edge, becoming near vertical. The full depth of the pit was not seen, and only a small, representative segment on the northeast edge of the pit was excavated (Figure 12, Section 14 and photograph).

4.11.3 The quarry pit contained a sequence of at least three fills, as follows:

The lowest recorded fill [63/005] was friable, mid brownish grey sand, >0.26m thick, with occasional pebbles, but no finds.

Intermediate fill [63/004] was friable, mid orangey brown silty sand with occasional pebbles, 0.30m thick. Two small and conjoining sherds of pottery (18th/19th century), a fragment of post-medieval roof tile, occasional small pieces of coal, and four residual prehistoric flint flakes were retrieved from it.

Upper fill [63/003] was friable, mid brownish grey silty sand with occasional pebbles and charcoal flecks, but no finds.

4.11.4 Another quarry pit, still partially open, was present along the southern edge of the site, between Trenches 67 and 68. Other quarries were noted in the wooded area to the northwest of the site and in the grounds of Crossways Cottages, to the south of the site.

4.12 Trench 66

Dimensions: 31.00m x 2.10m x 0.35m deep
Ground level: 51.65m OD (N), 51.89m OD (S)
Figure: 13

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
66/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.00m	Trench-wide
66/002	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.30m	Trench-wide
66/003	Fill	Upper fill of pit 005	0.30m–0.55m	N end of trench
66/004	Fill	Lower fill of pit 005	0.30m–0.55m	N end of trench
66/005	Cut	Pit	0.30m–0.50m	N end of trench

Table 12: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 66

4.12.1 Trench 66 contained an undated pit [66/005].

4.12.2 Pit [66/005] was oval, measuring 1.30m E/W x 1.18m N/S x 0.30m deep, with moderately steep sides breaking gradually into a slightly concave base (Figure 13, Section 14). It contained a sequence of two fills. Lower fill [66/004], against the lower sides and base of the pit, was soft, light to mid greyish brown silty sand, 0.10m thick, with occasional pebbles but no finds. Upper fill [66/003] was soft, mid brownish grey silty sand. It contained some thin lenses of redeposited natural sand (some scorched pink), and a thicker lens of charcoal-rich soil. The fill included flecks and small fragments of charcoal throughout, and moderate pebbles, but no finds. Bulk soil sample <4> collected from [66/003] contained a charred knotgrass seed and a large amount of oak charcoal.

4.13 Trenches with no archaeological features

4.13.1 Fifty-eight trenches contained no archaeological remains (Trenches 1-15, 17-19, 21-33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 42-49, 52-62, 64, 65, 67, 68). Their natural deposit sequences are described in Appendix 1 and photographic views of them are presented in Figures 14–17.

4.13.2 Modern plough scars were widespread across the site, cutting the top of the underlying natural stratum. Their presence (or absence) was noted on trench recording sheets, but they were not recorded archaeologically.

4.13.3 Although natural deposits varied considerably, sometimes within the same trench, there was little correlation between such localised variations and targeted linear or curvilinear geophysical anomalies interpreted as natural trends/zones (Figure 4). Only in Trenches 13 and 57 did these seem to coincide.

4.14 Metal-detector survey

4.14.1 Metal detecting was carried out on the even-numbered evaluation trenches, covering all areas of the site. Very few finds were recovered, perhaps reflecting the low density of archaeological remains found on the site. The finds (mainly buttons and coins) were mostly of 19th/20th-century date (5.8).

4.15 Results of the mitigation excavation

Figure 13

4.15.1 The excavated area was a 20m x 20m square, centred on pit [66/005] in Trench 66. This resulted in two additional features being identified, a small undated pit and a post-medieval ditch. They were recognised immediately below ploughsoil [1001], cutting natural sand [1002].

4.15.2 Pit [1004] was oval, measuring 0.85m x 0.61m x 0.11m deep, with gently sloping sides breaking imperceptibly into a concave base (Figure 13, Section 15 and photograph). It contained a sequence of two fills. Lower fill [1004] was friable dark grey silty sand mixed with redeposited orangey yellow sand, 90mm thick, containing frequent pebbles but no finds. Upper fill [1003] was soft, dark grey sandy silt, 20mm thick, with frequent charcoal and pebbles, but no finds. Bulk soil sample <5> collected from fill [1003] contained a small amount of oak charcoal, but no charred plant remains.

4.15.3 Ditch [1007] was linear, oriented NNE/SSW and extending beyond the limits of excavation in both directions. It measured >12.9m long (0.70m segment excavated) x 0.85m wide x 0.34m deep, with moderate to steep sides tapering to a narrow, concave base (Figure 13, Section 16 and photograph). The ditch contained a single fill [1006] of friable, light brown sand with occasional pebbles, but no finds. Notably, the ditch had not been recognised previously, in Trench 66, although it is likely to have crossed it.

4.15.4 Ditch [1007] was part of a post-medieval field boundary identified on early 19th-century maps (2.5.1). The same boundary ditch was recorded also in Trenches 16, 20 and 37, extending northeastwards across the site.

5.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation on Land at Beyton Road, Thurston. 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 13; material recovered from the residues of environmental samples is quantified in Appendix 2. All finds have been packed and stored following CIfA guidelines (2014a).

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Coal	Weight (g)	Slag	Weight (g)	Metal	Weight (g)	Fire Cracked Flint	Weight (g)
unstrat	8	272									22	112		
14/001											1	9		
16/003	58	720											1	79
16/006	5	91												
18/001	1	4												
32/001											1	2		
34/001	2	3									1	3		
40/001	1	1									1	23		
40/005	1	2												
41/003	1	16												
46/001											1	2		
54/001											2	28		
63/004	4	40	2	7	1	35	1	5	1	3				
66/001	1	6												
Total	*82*	*1155*	*2*	*7*	*1*	*35*			*1*	*3*	*29*	*179*	*1*	*79*

Table 13: Quantification of hand-collected bulk finds

5.2 **Flintwork** by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 A total of eighty-two pieces of worked flint weighing 1,155g and a fragment of unworked burnt flint weighing 79g were hand-collected during the evaluation. The pieces of worked flint were individually examined and classified using standard set of codes and morphological descriptions (Butler 2005; Ford 1987; Inizan *et al* 1999; Piel-Desruisseaux 2016). Technological details as well as further information regarding the condition of the artefacts were recorded. All data was directly entered into a MS Excel spreadsheet. Table 14 summarises the assemblage.

Context	Flake	Blade	Bladelet	Blade-like flake	Irregular waste	Core	Misc retouched piece	Grand total (no)
General ploughsoil	7					1		8
Layer [16/003]	47	4		3	3		1	58
Ditch fill [16/006]	5							5
Ploughsoil [18/001]				1				1
Ploughsoil [34/001]		1	1					2
Ploughsoil [40/001]	1							1
Possible pit fill [40/005]	1							1
Possible pit fill [41/003]	1							1
Quarry pit fill [63/004]	4							4
Ploughsoil [66/001]	1							1
Total	*67*	*5*	*1*	*4*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*82*

Table 14: Prehistoric flintwork by context and type

5.2.2 Most of the assemblage was recovered from deposit [16/003] (58 pieces), and small quantities of worked flint were also found from the fills of four cut features, from ploughsoil deposits in Trenches 18, 34, 40 and 66, and from the general ploughsoil (Table 14).

Deposit [16/003]

5.2.3 The edge condition of the flints recovered from deposit [16/003] is variable. Whilst none of the pieces are in a fresh condition, they display slight to heavy post-depositional edge damage indicating that they have been subject to post-depositional disturbance. Saying that, most of the damage is only minor, and it is likely that most the flints have not moved far from their original location of deposition. A total of nineteen pieces are recorded as broken. The surface condition of the flints from deposit [16/003] is also variable. Whilst twenty pieces are free from surface discolouration, thirty-eight display varying degrees of patination, with some pieces exhibiting only incipient traces of light blue surface discolouration, and the majority being entirely patinated to an opaque light white/blue to off-white colour.

5.2.4 Where the flints are un-patinated or recently broken, the flint is mid to dark grey with occasional flaws. The cortex is stained and thin (measuring only up to 2mm). It is typical of chalk-derived flint.

5.2.5 Except for a single crudely modified piece, the assemblage from deposit [16/003] consists of knapping waste. The technological and morphological traits of the pieces suggest that the assemblage represents a multi-period assemblage. Although flakes dominate (47 pieces), a small blade component (7 pieces) is also present. Some of the blades are crudely made; however,

three blades and a small quantity of narrow flakes with thin removal scars on the dorsal surface and platform edge abrasion are characteristic of Neolithic flint working. The remainder of the flakes is less diagnostic; however, most pieces are more typical of crudely worked later flintwork. They display cortical or plain butt with unprepared platform edge. Although no cores and no chips are present, the presence of cortical pieces indicate that early stages of core reduction are represented.

Other features and deposits

5.2.6 The remainder of the assemblage consists of relatively small amounts of struck/worked flint, mostly from the ploughsoil or occurring residually in post-medieval features. Two possible pits or natural features each produced one flint flake, both of which were surface finds.

5.2.7 A notable find (from the general ploughsoil) is a multi-directional striking platform core, weighing 144g. It is made on fine-grained dark grey flint and was used to remove thin narrow flakes, blades and bladelets. It is likely to be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date. A bladelet and a blade from ploughsoil [34/001] indicate a similar early prehistoric date. The remaining pieces of flintwork are less diagnostic.

Discussion

5.2.8 The evaluation has provided evidence for prehistoric activity in the site area. No chronologically diagnostic pieces were recovered, and knapping waste dominates the assemblage. Whilst the flintwork comprises a mix of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and later prehistoric pieces, the bulk of the assemblage appears to be late prehistoric in date. Most of the pieces came from soil horizon [16/003] (58 pieces). The condition, technological and morphological traits of the pieces from [16/003] suggest that they represent a multi-period assemblage.

5.3 Post-Roman pottery by Luke Barber

5.3.1 Two sherds of post-Roman pottery (7g) were recovered. These consist of conjoining fresh sherds of slightly sandy glazed buff earthenware with all over glaze, both from quarry fill [63/004]. The finish of the sherds suggests a date between *c*. 1750 and 1850.

5.3.2 The post-Roman pottery assemblage is small and late in date. It is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis beyond that undertaken for this report and is not suitable for long-term curation in a museum. As such the sherds have been discarded.

5.4 Ceramic building material by Rae Regensberg

5.4.1 Two fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 37g were recovered, from ditch fill [37/003] and quarry fill [63/004]. The piece from [37/003] was extracted from Bulk soil sample <1>. It was a small piece of undiagnostic spall with a light powdery orange fabric with a scatter of fine quartz. The CBM from [63/004] was a piece of flat roof tile with a sandy dark orange fabric with some fine cream streaking. It was neat and regular in form

with sharp arrises and smooth surfaces. Due to the consistency in roof tile manufacture from the medieval period up to the 19th century, it is difficult to provide an accurate date range, however the form characteristics here are more commonly found in later post-medieval roof tile. The CBM was quantified by form, weight and fabric and was entered into a Microsoft Excel table.

5.5 Glass by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 Two fragments of glass weighing <2g were recovered from pit fill [34/003], bulk soil sample <3>. They are grey-tinged and represent a probable window pane (thickness 5mm) of 20th-century date.

5.6 Geological material by Luke Barber

5.6.1 The only geological material recovered consists of a 5g fragment of coal from post-medieval quarry fill [63/004]. The piece has been discarded.

5.7 Metallurgical Remains/Magnetic Material by Luke Barber

5.7.1 A very small quantity of material initially identified as slag was recovered from the site, mostly from post-medieval and modern features, and from two undated pits. The material is listed in Table 15. Almost all was recovered as the magnetic fractions from five environmental samples. Each of these was carefully examined under x10 magnification to establish the presence/absence of micro slags. Due to the small size of the particles involved the material was generally quantified by weight only. It should be noted that although some of the magnetic fractions contained under 1g of material, though 1g was the minimum weight recorded during listing.

Context	Sample	Fraction	Type	No	Weight (g)	Comments
34/003	3	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		2	
37/003	1	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		1	
37/003	1	>2mm	Clinker		2	x12 scraps, inc some slagged coal
37/004	2	>2mm	Clinker		2	x2 scraps
37/004	2	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		1	
63/004			Clinker	1	3	
66/003	4	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		1	
1003	5	Magnetic	Magnetic fines		1	

Table 15: Slag assemblage

5.7.2 In the majority of cases no micro slags were noted – the magnetic fraction being composed of only 'magnetic fines'. These mainly consist of granules of ferruginous siltstone, often well weathered/rounded that either have their own inherent magnetism or, more often, have had that magnetism enhanced through burning. They are not diagnostic of any industrial activity as such heating can occur in a domestic hearth or bonfire.

5.7.3 The only slag consists of several very small pieces of matt aerated clinker, waste generated from burning coal. This material is most likely of post-medieval date but, considering the small size of the pieces, all could easily be intrusive in their contexts. The slag assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

5.8 Metal-detected finds by Trista Clifford

5.8.1 Metal detecting recovered stratified finds from ploughsoil adjacent to a small number of trenches, and unstratified objects from the general ploughsoil. Objects made of copper alloy, iron, lead and white metal were recovered. The assemblage consists predominantly of buttons and coins, though waste lead and fittings are also represented. There is an unstratified piece of waste lead which may derive from window came manufacture; however, the remaining objects do not predate the Victorian period and most of them are of 20th-century date. An overview is given in Table 16. The assemblage has been recorded for the archive and is recommended for discard. It is not of local or regional significance.

Context	Material	Object	Count	Wt (g)	Notes	Period
14/001	LEAD	SHOT	1	9	Modern lead shot, sprue Di11.9mm	MOD
32/001	COPP	BUTTON	1	2	Gilded, wire loop Di15.3mm	MOD
34/001	COPP	COIN	1	3	Modern decimal penny Di20mm	MOD
40/001	IRON	TAP	1	23	Wheel shaped tap handle Di59.5mm	MOD
46/001	COPP	BUTTON	1	2	Undecorated, white metal coating. Wire loop Di18mm	MOD
54/001	LEAD	SHOT	1	10	Modern, sprue Di12mm	MOD
54/001	LEAD	WASTE	1	18	Waste or repair. Triangular sheet with central ?nail hole L49mm	UNK
U/S	COPP	COIN	2	14	Modern decimal two pence 1976 and 1971 Di25.8mm	MOD
U/S	COPP	COIN	1	3	Modern decimal penny Di20mm	MOD
U/S	COPP	COIN	1	5	Half penny 1957 Di25.5mm	MOD
U/S	COPP	BUTTON	1	1	Button or dress stud reverse Di13mm	MOD
U/S	COPP	BUTTON	1	1	Modern machine pressed, four hole Di16.8mm	MOD
U/S	COPP	BUTTON	1	1	?Reverse from a three piece button with iron wire loop Di16mm	MOD
U/S	COPP	BUTTON	1	3	Flat undecorated, white metal coated, wire loop Di19.8mm	MOD
U/S	COMP	BUTTON	1	1	Plastic reverse with central loop, white metal cover, traces of fabric covering Di25mm	MOD
U/S	COPP	WASTE	1	3	Twisted sheet fragment L30mm	MOD
U/S	COPP	WASTE	1	4	Triangular sheet fragment L34.9mm W26.5mm	MOD
U/S	COPP	STRAP HINGE	1	8	Rectangular pinned hinge strap, three nail holes at opposite end to hinge. Distorted. L47mm W21.9mm Th0.8mm	MOD

Context	Material	Object	Count	Wt (g)	Notes	Period
U/S	White metal	WASTE	5	14	White metal strip and slaggy accretions, uncertain function	MOD
U/S	LEAD	WASTE	3	29	Amorphous waste	UNK
U/S	LEAD	CAME	1	14	Strip of lead waste ?from making window came L63mm W11mm	PMED
U/S	LEAD	TOY	1	11	Lead figure of a sheep, head missing	MOD

Table 16: Overview of the metal-detected finds

5.9 Environmental Remains by Elsa Neveu and Lucy Allott

5.9.1 Five bulk samples, each measuring 10 to 40 litres, were taken during the evaluation. Samples <1> [37/003], <2> [37/004], <3> [34/003], <4> [66/003] and <5> [1003] were collected from ditches and pits. Sampling aimed to retrieve dating evidence and environmental remains, such as charcoal and charred plant macrofossils. This report considers the evidence for crops, fuel resources and the local vegetation environment.

5.9.2 The samples were processed by flotation using a 500 µm mesh for the heavy residues and a 250 µm mesh for the retention of the flot. The residues and the flots were air dried and were passed through 8, 4 and 2mm sieves. The residues were sorted for artefacts and ecofacts; quantification in Appendix 2. A stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications was used in order to scan the flots and identify the remains. Its contents are described and recorded in Appendix 3. The identification of the charred plant macrofossils was based on observations of gross morphology and surface cell structure. The remains were compared to a botanical modern reference collection and published atlas (Cappers *et al.* 2006) were also consulted. The nomenclature for the taxa follows Stace (1997). Quantification was based on approximate number of individuals.

5.9.3 Charcoal fragments were examined to establish their preservation quality and to give an indication of the range of taxa present. Fragments from the largest assemblages (<3>, <4>, <5>) were fractured by hand along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Leney and Casteel 1975; Hather 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 500x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Schoch *et al* 2004; Hather 2000; Schweingruber 1990). Quantification and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Appendix 2 and nomenclature follows Stace (1997).

Results

5.9.4 Recovered archaeological remains from the soil samples included charcoal, charred plant remains, ceramic building material, glass and magnetic material

that may be of natural or industrial origin. Appendices 2 and 3 provide an overview of the samples, detailing materials retrieved through flotation and sorting. The following text summarises the results.

5.9.5 Uncharred material was abundant and comprised rootlets and weed seeds, which indicates moderate level of modern disturbance through root activity. No charred plant remains were extracted from Samples <1> and <2> (fills [37/003] and [37/004] of post-medieval ditch segment [37/005]) and Sample <5> (upper fill [1003] of undated pit [1005]). Sample <3> (fill [34/003] of modern pit [34/004]) and Sample <4> (fill [66/003] of undated pit [66/005]) yielded a few charred plant remains, which were moderately-well preserved. The density of plant macrofossils was very low and the remains were recorded as hazel nutshell fragments (*Corylus avellana*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and knotgrass (*Polygonum sp.*).

5.9.6 Charcoal fragments were abundant in Sample <4> (fill [66/003] of undated pit [66/005]), with smaller quantities also noted in Sample <3> (fill [34/003] of modern pit [34/004]) and Sample <5> (upper fill [1003] of undated pit [1005]). Preservation was moderate to good with only limited post-depositional influences, such as sediment encrusting and percolation evident. The large assemblage from Sample <4> revealed some radial splitting. Oak was the only taxon recorded, with some evidence of possible oak root wood in Sample <3>. In Sample <4>, a few fragments display some ring curvature suggesting they are from medium to large round wood; however, the majority of fragments display little ring curvature, with growth rings that are closely-spaced (slower grown) and well-spaced (quick growth) recorded in each sample. It is likely that much of the wood derives from relatively large, mature trees.

Discussion

5.9.7 The site has produced a small assemblage of charred plant remains and charcoal from post-medieval, modern and undated features. The lack and the scarcity of macrofossil plants in these features could be explained by the poor state of preservation of plant macrofossils and the infrequence of activities related to crop husbandry and processing.

5.9.8 Samples <3> and <4> indicate the likely consumption (or at least the presence) of wild edible fruit at the site. Large quantities of charcoal in the pit features, particularly from Sample <4>, indicates that oak wood was prevalent in the vicinity of the site.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Overview of the stratigraphic evidence and deposit sequence

6.1.1 A simple deposit sequence of ploughsoil (0.30m to 0.40m thick) directly overlying the surface of the natural strata was recorded in nearly all of the evaluation trenches. Geological strata varied considerably, but generally consisted of sands and gravels, with localised outcrops of weathered/degraded chalk. These deposits were consistent with the Crag Group Sands and underlying Chalk mapped at this location (BGS 2021).

6.1.2 Generally, no evidence for overlying natural soil profiles or former land surfaces was encountered, these having been removed by post-medieval/modern ploughing. In Trench 50, a subsoil-like layer containing ash and burnt/decayed tree roots is interpreted as an area of disturbed ground resulting from the uprooting and burning of a clump of trees in relatively recent times.

6.1.3 Where encountered, archaeological features were recognised immediately below the ploughsoil, cutting the top of the natural strata. Archaeological deposits and features (and some natural features that were recorded archaeologically) were idenntified in ten evaluation trenches, mainly in the central and eastern part of the site (Trenches 16, 20, 34, 37, 40, 41, 50, 51, 63 and 66).

6.1.4 The recorded remains comprise two possible prehistoric pits (or natural features), a localised soil horizon containing a moderate amount of flint-working debitage, a post-medieval ditch, a post-medieval quarry pit, a disturbed soil horizon of probable modern date, a modern pit and four undated pits.

6.1.5 The preceding geophysical survey did not identify any anomalies of possible archaeological origin, but a number of linear or curvilinear anomalies were thought to represent natural trends/zones (Figures 3 and 4). Correlation of the trial-trenching results with these anomalies was mixed. In two trenches (13 and 57) there was an apparent correlation between plotted anomalies and observed changes in the geological strata, and in Trench 40 two recorded features (one a possible pit or natural feature, and the other of natural origin) appeared to coincide with geophysical anomalies. Generally, no such correlations were observed. It is demonstrated that the geophysical survey did not detect the presence of the archaeological features subsequently identified by the trial-trench evaluation.

6.2 Deposit survival and recent or existing impacts

6.2.1 All archaeological features and deposits have evidently been truncated by historic and modern ploughing. Scars in the top of the natural strata attest to general plough disturbance across the entire site area.

6.2.2 Another potential recent impact was localised quarrying. Although map evidence suggests that intensive gravel extraction during the post-medieval period was confined to an area just northwest of the site, there was an extant

former quarry in the southern part of the site (between Trenches 67 and 68) and part of a backfilled quarry pit was recorded in Trench 63. Associated ground reduction and disturbance might have taken place in other areas of the site, and it was certainly the case that there were localised undulations in the ground surface that might not have been of entirely natural origin.

6.3 Discussion of the archaeological evidence, by period

6.3.1 The recorded features have, where possible, been dated on the basis of their diagnostic artefact content, morphology and/or cartographic evidence. These remains are further discussed by broad period below. The distribution of both dated and undated archaeological features is presented in Figure 18.

Prehistoric

6.3.2 Evidence for prehistoric activity within the area of the site consisted of a moderate assemblage (82 pieces) of struck/worked flint. Most of these (58 pieces) were recovered from buried soil horizon [16/003], apparently filling a natural depression. The flints from [16/003] seem to have accumulated over a long period: some of them are characteristic of the Neolithic period, but most of them are typical of crudely-worked later prehistoric flintwork.

6.3.3 The remainder of the flint assemblage consists of relatively small amounts of struck/worked flint, mostly from the ploughsoil or occurring residually in post-medieval features. A core and some blades/bladelets from ploughsoil deposits are probably of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date, but much of the flint is less diagnostic and therefore poorly dated. Two possible pits or natural features ([40/005] and [41/003]) in the eastern part of the site each produced one flint flake, both of which were poorly stratified surface finds.

6.3.5 Significantly, no prehistoric pottery or other finds were recovered, and no features of definite prehistoric date were identified. Consequently, it seems likely that there was no significant occupation of the site area during the prehistoric period.

Post-medieval

6.3.6 Parts of a single post-medieval ditch were recorded in Trenches 16, 20 and 37 and in the excavation area adjacent to Trench 66. These corresponded with a former field boundary shown on early 19th-century maps (2.5.1), backfilled by the 1880s. The remains of the ditch were relatively slight (up to 1.40m wide x 0.42m deep), suggesting that it did not survive to its original depth. Although map evidence suggests that the field boundary was continuous across the site area, the ditch was not identified at its expected location in Trench 46, despite careful and repeated mechanical stripping. This might indicate a break in the ditch, perhaps at a field entrance. The ditch was not identified in Trench 66, to the south of the excavation area. However, subsequence examination of the trench photographs suggests that it probably was present at that location. The ditch was not detected by the geophysical survey. This might have been due to the nature of its soft, sandy fills, very similar to surrounding natural deposits, or to the general lack of cultural material and charcoal in those fills.

6.3.7 Part of a backfilled gravel pit was found in Trench 66, dated by a small amount of recovered pottery and CBM to the 18th/19th century. Although the depth of the pit was not determined, in area it was probably relatively small, compared to extant examples in and adjacent to the site. Unlike the larger pits, this one does not appear on any of the readily available 19th-century maps. Its presence does raise the possibility of other, unidentified quarry pits within the site boundaries.

Modern

6.3.8 Small pit [34/004] contained two small fragments of 20th-century window glass. The pit was in an apparently isolated position in the centre of the site and its function was not determined.

6.3.9 Disturbed soil horizon [50/003] containing ash and charcoal is thought to have been the result of unrooting and burning of a clump of trees, in relatively recent times.

Undated

6.3.10 Two undated 'pits' [41/006] and [51/004] contained no finds or charcoal and were possibly of natural origin. Pits [63/005] and [1005] produced no cultural material but did contain moderate amounts of oak charcoal and (in the case of pit [63/005]) some redeposited scorched sand. However, environmental sampling produced no significant charred plant remains that might have suggested the likely dates and functions of these pits.

Natural features

6.3.11 Three features ([16/005], [20/006] and [40/004]) that were excavated and recorded archaeologically are interpreted as of natural origin, based on their forms, the nature of their fills and the absence of cultural material and charcoal. In addition, [40/004] corresponded with the location of a linear geophysical anomaly, interpreted as a natural trend/zone.

6.4 Consideration of Project Aims

6.4.1 As detailed above (6.3), the trial-trench evaluation and subsequent mitigation excavation have, as far as reasonably practicable, identified the location, extent, date, character, condition, and quality of surviving archaeological remains on the site.

6.4.2 The results were limited and have no potential for further analysis. Although two possible prehistoric pits were found they were not dated securely, and the nature of any associated land use could not be determined. Additionally, a localised accumulation of soil filling a natural depression produced a multi-period assemblage of struck/worked flint, of uncertain origin. The post-medieval features (a field boundary ditch and a quarry pit) reflect what was already known from cartographic evidence about more recent land use on the site. Other features were either modern or undated, and none of the sampled deposits produced significant evidence for former occupation or for the natural

landscape. Consequently, the excavated remains and associated finds and environmental assemblages have no more than minor local significance.

6.4.3 Site-specific research objectives (as detailed in 1.4) have been addressed. The moderate assemblage of prehistoric struck/worked flint (mostly knapping waste) ranges in date from the Mesolithic/early Neolithic to the later prehistoric period. This material has been recorded and described fully in this report but is of insufficient quantity or quality to make any contribution to regional research themes relating to flint sources and selection, or the development of flint-working during the Bronze Age or later.

6.4.4 No tangible remains or artefacts of the Roman, Anglo-Saxon and later medieval periods were found.

6.5 Conclusions

6.5.1 The trial-trench evaluation identified the presence of archaeological features and deposits in ten of the sixty-eight trenches investigated. A further two features were found in the subsequent small area of mitigation excavation. The recorded features and deposits include two possible prehistoric pits and a localised accumulation of soil containing a multi-period assemblage of prehistoric flint debitage. A field boundary ditch and a quarry pit of post-medieval date were found, together with at least one modern pit and two undated pits.

6.5.2 The prehistoric and post-medieval artefacts and remains are judged to have low local significance and negligible potential for expanding our understanding of past land use at this site.

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Kieron Heard directed the fieldwork. Site surveying was carried out by Craig Carvey and Rob Cullum. Gemma Stevenson project managed the fieldwork and Mark Atkinson managed the post-excavation process.

Appendix 1: Summary of trenches without excavated features or deposits

Trench	Dimensions (m)	Ground level (m OD)	Deposits	Descriptions of natural strata
1	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.37	48.00 N, 47.68 S	Ploughsoil 1/001 Natural 1/002	Soft, light orangey brown sand with frequent gravel and flint cobbles/nodules. Some patches of degraded chalk
2	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	47.50 W, 48.21 E	Ploughsoil 02/01 Natural 2/002	Soft, light orangey brown sand with frequent gravel and flint cobbles/nodules. Some patches of degraded chalk
3	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.35	48.36 N, 48.42 S	Ploughsoil 3/001 Natural 3/002	Soft, light orangey brown sand with frequent gravel and flint cobbles/nodules. Some patches of degraded chalk
4	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.42	48.56 W, 49.54 E	Ploughsoil 4/001 Natural 4/002	Soft, light orangey brown sand with varying gravel and flint cobbles/nodules. Some patches of degraded chalk
5	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	49.19 W, 50.08 E	Ploughsoil 5/001 Natural 5/002	Mostly degraded chalk, with irregular patches of soft orangey brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules
6	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	48.91 N, 49.26 S	Ploughsoil 6/001 Natural 6/002	Soft, light orangey brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules. Some patches of degraded chalk
7	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.40	48.25 WNW, 48.92 ESE	Ploughsoil 7/001 Natural 7/002	Soft, light orangey brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules. Some patches of chalk. **Geophysical anomaly not seen.**
8	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	47.78 N, 48.40 S	Ploughsoil 8/001 Natural 8/002	Soft, light orangey brown sand with frequent gravel and flint cobbles/nodules. Some patches of degraded chalk. **Geophysical anomaly not seen.**
9	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	46.48 W, 47.56 E	Ploughsoil 9/001 Natural 9/002	Soft, light-mid yellowish brown sand and varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules. Some patches of degraded chalk
10	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	46.01 W, 46.85 E	Ploughsoil 10/001 Natural 10/002	Soft, light-mid yellowish brown sand and varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules
11	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	47.12 N, 47.90 S	Ploughsoil 11/001 Natural 11/002	Soft, light-mid yellowish brown sand and varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules
12	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.45	48.19 W, 49.09 E	Ploughsoil 12/001 Natural 12/002	Soft, light orangey brown sand with frequent gravel and flint cobbles/nodules. Some patches of degraded chalk
13	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.35	49.32 SW, 49.04 NE	Ploughsoil 13/001 Natural 13/002	Soft, light yellowish or greyish brown sand, occasional-moderate pebbles, moderate flecks/small fragments chalk. **Becoming orangey brown near NE end, possibly coinciding with geophysical anomaly.**
14	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	48.87 NNW, 49.50 SSE	Ploughsoil 14/001 Natural 14/002	Soft, light orangey brown sand with varying gravel and patches of degraded chalk. **Geophysical anomaly not seen.**
15	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	49.48 N, 49.31 S	Ploughsoil 15/001 Natural 15/002	Mix of degraded chalk and orangey brown sand and gravel in N half. Loose, light greyish brown sand and gravel in S half
17	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	50.23 NW, 50.48 SE	Ploughsoil 17/001 Natural 17/002	Soft, mid greyish brown sand with moderate pebbles and extensive patches of degraded chalk. Becomes orangey brown at NW end
18	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.45	50.51 NW, 51.42 SE	Ploughsoil 18/001 Natural 18/002	Soft, yellowish brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules

Trench	Dimensions (m)	Ground level (m OD)	Deposits	Descriptions of natural strata
19	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.45	49.74 W, 50.24 E	Ploughsoil 19/001 Natural 19/002	Soft, yellowish brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules. Chalky patches at W end
21	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.45	49.,59 NW, 49.51 SE	Ploughsoil 21/001 Natural 21/002	Soft, light yellowish or greyish brown sand, with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules
22	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	49.51 N, 50.37 S	Ploughsoil 22/001 Natural 22/002	Soft, mid reddish brown sand with moderate pebbles (N half). Bright yellow/orange mottled sand with occasional pebbles (S half)
23	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.37	49.74 W, 49.78 E	Ploughsoil 23/001 Natural 23/002	Soft, light yellowish or greyish brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules
24	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.45	49.35 N, 49.67 S	Ploughsoil 24/001 Natural 24/002	Soft, light yellowish brown sand, with occasional pebbles
25	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	47.50 WSW, 48.77 ENE	Ploughsoil 25/001 Natural 25/002	Soft, light-mid yellowish brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules
26	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	46.83 N, 47.83 S	Ploughsoil 26/001 Natural 26/002	Soft, light-mid yellowish brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules
27	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	45.59 W, 46.58 E	Ploughsoil 27/001 Natural 27/002	Soft, light or mid yellowish brown sand with frequent pebbles
28	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	45.16 SW, 45.09 NE	Ploughsoil 28/001 Natural 28/002 NE Natural 28/003 SW	28/002: Compact, light greyish brown silty sand with frequent flecks/small fragments chalk, over loose, light greyish brown sand and gravel 28/003: Compact light yellowish brown sand with extensive patches of chalk
29	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	45.23 W, 46.07 E	Ploughsoil 29/001 Natural 29/002	Mostly degraded chalk in W half and light yellowish brown sand and gravel in E half
30	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.42	46.39 N, 47.47 S	Ploughsoil 30/001 Natural 30/002	Mid yellowish brown sand with frequent pebbles. Some yellow sand and gravel near S end
31	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	47.60 W, 48.78 E	Ploughsoil 31/001 Natural 31/002	Variously soft yellow sand, loose orangey brown sand and gravel and small patches of chalk-flecked clay/silt
32	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	48.48 NW, 49.42 SE	Ploughsoil 32/001 Natural 32/002	Loose orangey brown sand with frequent gravel, and large patches of degraded chalk (W end). Soft light yellowish or greyish brown sand with varying pebbles
33	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.35	Not recorded	Ploughsoil 33/001 Natural 33/002	Soft, light yellowish brown sand, with occasional pebbles (W two-thirds). Otherwise, more compact coarse orangey brown sand and fine gravel
35	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.35	50.63 NW, 50.35 SE	Ploughsoil 35/001 Natural 35/002	Soft, light yellowish brown sand with occasional to frequent pebbles and moderate cobbles
36	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.50	49.57 N, 50.11 S	Ploughsoil 36/001 Natural 36/002	Soft, yellowish or greyish brown sand with varying gravel/cobbles/nodules and a thin, purplish brown upper horizon (S end). Otherwise, more compact yellowish brown sand and varying gravel (upon to 50:50)
38	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	50.28 N, 50.71 S	Ploughsoil 38/001 Natural 38/002	Soft, yellowish or orangey brown sand and gravel (50:50). Frequent patches of degraded chalk

Trench	Dimensions (m)	Ground level (m OD)	Deposits	Descriptions of natural strata
39	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.45	50.94 W, 51.79 E	Ploughsoil 39/001 Natural 39/002	Soft, yellowish or orangey brown sand and gravel (50:50). Frequent patches of degraded chalk
42	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.45	52.63 NE, 52.43 SW	Ploughsoil 42/001 Natural 42/002	Soft, light yellowish brown sand with occasional pebbles/cobbles/nodules and some patches of degraded chalk
43	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	51.85 N, 52.08 S	Ploughsoil 43/001 Natural 43/002	Soft, light yellowish brown sand with varying pebbles/cobbles/nodules and extensive patches of degraded chalk
44	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.45	50.65 W, 51.08 E	Ploughsoil 44/001 Natural 44/002	Soft, light yellowish brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules
45	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.45	50.85 N, 50.28 S	Ploughsoil 45/001 Natural 45/002	Soft, light yellowish or greyish brown sand with patches of gravel (N half). Light yellowish brown sand and gravel, 50:50 (S half)
46	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.50	50.49 W, 50.45 E	Ploughsoil 46/001 Natural 46/002	Soft, yellowish or greyish brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules and a thin, purplish brown upper horizon
47	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.45	50.72 N, 51.24 S	Ploughsoil 47/001 Natural 47/002	Soft, light yellowish or orangey brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and cobbles, small patches of degraded chalk and chalk-flecked clayey silt
48	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.42	50.49 WSW, 50.57 ENE	Ploughsoil 48/001 Natural 48/002	Soft, yellowish or orangey brown sand, with varying amounts of pebbles. **Geophysical anomaly not seen.**
49	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	Not recorded	Ploughsoil 49/001 Natural 49/002	Soft, yellowish or greyish brown sand or more compact orangey brown sand and fine gravel
52	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	47.44 W, 48.99 E	Ploughsoil 52/001 Natural 52/002	Mostly mid yellowish or orangey brown sand with c. 20% gravel. Some soft yellow sand at the W end of the trench
53	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.32	45.60 N, 46.35 S	Ploughsoil 53/001 Natural 53/002	Soft, light yellowish brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules, and some small patches of degraded chalk
54	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	50.13 WNW, 50.49 ESE	Ploughsoil 54/001 Natural 54002	Variously soft yellow sand, loose orangey brown sand and gravel and small patches of chalk-flecked clay/silt
55	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	Not recorded	Ploughsoil 55/001 Natural 55/002	Soft, yellowish or greyish brown sand, with occasional to moderate pebbles
56	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.35	Not recorded	Ploughsoil 56/001 Natural 56/002	Soft, yellowish or greyish brown sand, with occasional to moderate pebbles. **Geophysical anomaly not seen.**
57	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	50.56 NW, 51.82 SE	Ploughsoil 57/001 Natural 57/002	Soft, light yellowish or greyish brown sand, with moderate to frequent pebbles, and occasional cobbles/nodules. Becoming orangey brown compact clayey sand with patches of light grey clayey silt at the SE end of the trench. **The change in the natural corresponded with a curvilinear geophysical anomaly interpreted as a natural trend/zone.**
58	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.45	51.61 W, 51.38 E	Ploughsoil 58/001 Natural 58/002	Soft, light yellowish or orangey brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and cobbles, and small patches of degraded chalk and chalk-flecked clayey silt
59	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.50	51.07 N, 50.79 S	Ploughsoil 59/001 Natural 59/002	Soft, yellowish or greyish brown sand with varying amounts of gravel and flint cobbles/nodules, and a thin, purplish brown upper horizon

Trench	Dimensions (m)	Ground level (m OD)	Deposits	Descriptions of natural strata
60	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.40	51.45 W, 50.96 E	Ploughsoil 60/001 Natural 60/002	Soft, yellowish/orangey brown sand and gravel
61	30.50 x 2.10 x 0.50	50.97 N, 51.36 S	Ploughsoil 61/001 Natural 61/002 Natural 61/003	61/002: Variously soft yellowish brown sand, more compact orangey brown sand and gravel. 61/003: Upper horizon of soft, mid purplish brown sand, only see in the southern third of the trench
62	32.00 x 2.10 x 0.55	51.95 W, 52.64 E	Ploughsoil 62/001 Natural 62/002 Natural 62/003	62/002: Soft, light yellowish brown sand, with occasional to moderate pebbles and cobbles, and some lenses of degraded chalk. 62/003: Upper horizon of soft, mid purplish brown sand, only see in the eastern third of the trench
64	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.50	51.32 N, 51.48 S	Ploughsoil 64/001 Natural 64/002	Variously soft yellowish brown sand, more compact orangey brown sand and gravel
65	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.32	51.60 W, 51.32 E	Ploughsoil 65/001 Natural 65/002	Mostly soft, light yellowish or greyish brown sand with varying amounts of pebbles and flint cobbles/nodules. At E and W ends, compact mid orangey brown silty sand with pebbles
67	30.00 x 2.10 x 0.35	51.80- W, 51.59 E	Ploughsoil 67/001 Natural 67/002	Soft, light yellowish brown sand, some extensive patches of mixed mid orangey brown silty sand and light grey clayey silt with chalk flecks
68	31.00 x 2.10 x 0.45	50.36 NW, 50.71 SE	Ploughsoil 68/001 Natural 68/002	Variously soft yellow sand, loose orangey brown sand and gravel and small patches of chalk-flecked clay/silt

Appendix 2: Environmental Sample Residue Quantification

Quantification: * = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250.

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Parent context	Sample Volume (L)	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Notes about the charcoal	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	37/003	ditch	37/005	40									*	2	Mag Mat >2mm ** 1g; Mag Mat <2mm *** 1g; Slag * 4g; CBM * 2g
2	37/004	ditch	37/005	40									**	2	Mag Mat >2mm ** 1g; Mag Mat <2mm *** 1g; Slag * 2g
3	34/003	Pit	34/004	40	***	14	***	4	Quercus sp. (27), Quercus sp. Rootwood (3)	Mostly with wide spaced GR, sed enc common but very little perc. Well preserved	**	1	*	<1	Mag Mat >2mm ** *2g; Mag Mat <2mm *** 1g; Glass * 1g
4	66/003	Pit	66/005	40	****	130	****	112	Quercus sp. (67), Quercus sp. RW (3), cf Quercus sp. Dist (1), Quercus sp. With wood boring holes (1)	Large fragments, >8mm, common. Mod pres with some rad splitting. Med-Lg rw present. Range of growth both close and well-spaced GR					Mag. Mat. <2mm ** <1g
5	1003	Pit	1005	10	**	4	***	6	*Quercus* sp. (25), Indet V (1), Indet. Dist (1), Indet bark (3)	Small frags, well preserved, some sed enc & perc & V, range of growth both close & well-space GR					Mag. Mat. >2mm (*/<1g); Mag. Mat. <2mm (*/<1g)

Appendix 3: Environmental Sample Flot Quantification

Quantification: * = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250. Preservation: + = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good.

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Parent context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Other botanical charred	Identifications	Preservation	Land Snail Shells	Potential	notes
1	37/003	ditch	37/005	1.6	10	100	100	80	Chenopodiaceae (*), Polygonaceae (*)			**							**	CPR: no remains; charcoal: very low density	common rootlets
2	37/004	ditch	37/005	5.6	20	100	100	75	Chenopodiaceae (*), Veronica (*)			**							*	CPR: no remains; charcoal: very low density	common rootlets
3	34/003	Pit	34/004	9.3	50	100	75	75	Chenopodiaceae (*)	**	**	****				*	*Corylus avellana* (6), *Prunus spinosa* (1)	+		CPR: low density; charcoal: moderate density	common rootlets
4	66/003	Pit	66/005	432	17000	25	10	5	Chenopodiaceae (*)	****	****	****	*	*Polygonum* (1)	+					CPR: very low density; charcoal: very high density	common rootlets
5	1003	Pit	1005	1.5	7	100	100	50	*Asteraceae* (*)	*	**	***								CPR: no remains; charcoal: very low density	common rootlets

Appendix 4: SHER summary

Site Code	THS 033
Site Name and Address	Land at Beyton Road, Thurston
County, District and/or Borough	Suffolk, Mid Suffolk District
OS Grid Reference	TL 91930 64760
Geology	Crag Group Sand over Chalk
ASE Project Number	190598 and 210138
Type of Fieldwork	Evaluation and Excavation
Type of Site	Greenfield
Dates of Fieldwork	01-16 February 2021 and 01-02 March 2021
Sponsor/Client	RPS Consulting Services
Project Manager	Gemma Stevenson, Archaeology South-East
Project Supervisor	Kieron Heard
Periods Represented	Prehistoric, Post-medieval, Modern

Summary

The fieldwork was carried out as a condition attached to outline planning consent for a proposed housing-led development and was the second phase of archaeological fieldwork on the site, having been preceded by a geophysical survey. Sixty-eight evaluation trenches were excavated across the 7.4ha site, providing a sample of the entire site and targeting selected geophysical anomalies. The subsequent mitigation excavation area measured 370sq m, expanding upon one of the evaluation trenches in the south of the site.

Archaeological features and deposits of prehistoric to modern date were identified in ten evaluation trenches, mainly in the central and eastern parts of the site, and in a small area of subsequent excavation.

A small assemblage of flint debitage was recovered from an accumulation of soil in a natural depression. The flint ranges in date from the Neolithic to the later prehistoric period. Lesser amounts of struck/worked flint (included a core, a blade and a bladelet of probable Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date) came from the ploughsoil and as residual finds in post-medieval features. Two small pits (or possible natural features) each produced a single undiagnostic flint flake, both of which were poorly stratified surface finds.

Post-medieval features consisted of a ditch (corresponding to a field boundary shown on early 19th-century maps), and an infilled gravel pit. Five small pits were either modern or undated.

Appendix 5: OASIS form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-366370

Project details	
Project name	Land at Beyton Road, Thurston, Suffolk
Short description of the project	A trial-trench evaluation and subsequent small excavation were carried out in advance of a housing development. Archaeological features and deposits of prehistoric to modern date were identified in ten trenches and in the excavation area. A small assemblage of flint debitage was recovered from an accumulation of soil in a natural depression. The flint ranges in date from the Neolithic to the later prehistoric period. Lesser amounts of struck/worked flint (included a core, a blade and a bladelet of probable Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date) came from the ploughsoil and as residual finds in post-medieval features. Two small pits (or possible natural features) each produced a single undiagnostic flint flake, both of which were poorly stratified surface finds. Post-medieval features consisted of a ditch (corresponding to a field boundary shown on early 19th-century maps), and an infilled gravel pit. Five small pits were either modern or undated.
Project dates	Start: 01-02-2021 End: 02-03-2021
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Associated project reference codes	190598 - Contracting Unit No. THS 033 - 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	PIT Late Prehistoric LAYER Late Prehistoric DITCH Post Medieval QUARRY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Neolithic FLINT Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	"'Sample Trenches'"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)

Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK THURSTON Land at Beyton Road, Thurston
Postcode	IP31 3QX
Study area	7 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 91930 64760 52.247024136704 0.811812404754 52 14 49 N 000 48 42 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project design originator	ASE/RPS Group
Project director/manager	Gemma Stevenson
Project supervisor	Kieron Heard
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Physical Archive ID	THS 033
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Industrial","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Archive ID	THS 033
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Industrial","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Archive ID	THS 033
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Beyton Road, Thurston, Suffolk: Archive Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Heard, K.
Other biblio details	ASE rep. 2021055
Date	2021
Issuer	ASE/UCL
Place of issue or publication	Witham, Essex
Description	A4, approximately 43 pages, plus figures

Appendix 6: Written Scheme of Investigation

Archaeology South-East

ASE

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Beyton Road, Thurston Suffolk, IP31 3QX

NGR: TL 9193 6476

OASIS Number: archaeol6-366370
Event Number: THS 033

ASE Project no: 190598

September 2019

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Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Beyton Road, Thurston Suffolk, IP31 3QX

NGR: TL 9193 6476

OASIS Number: archaeol6-366370
Event Number: THS 033

ASE Project no: 190598

September 2019

Prepared by:	Andy Leonard	Project Manager	
Reviewed and approved by:	Paul Mason	Project Manager	
Date of Issue:	10th September 2019		
Revision 1:	19th September 2019		
Revision 2:	27th September 2019		
Revision 3:	7th October 2019		
Revision 4:	25th October 2019		
Revision 5:	27th January 2021		

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Archaeology South-East (ASE) on behalf of RPS for an archaeological evaluation at land south of Beyton Road, Thurston, Suffolk (Figure 1; TL 9193 6476).

1.2 The site comprises an irregular parcel of land measuring 7.4ha in extent under arable cultivation located at the southwest fringe of Thurston, near Bury St Edmunds. The site is bound to the north by Beyton Road, to the west by a wooded area, and to the south and east by unnamed road.

1.3 This WSI is for archaeological trial trench evaluation comprising seventy-four 30m x 2m trenches at base (Figure 2). This amounts to a targeted 5% sample of the development area.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Geology & Topography

2.1.1 The British Geological Survey records the solid geology of the site as Crag Group (sand). Historic borehole data indicates 0.1m-0.4m of topsoil overlying 0.7m of Head Gravel.

2.2 Reasons for Project

2.2.1 Outline planning applications have been submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council (Ref: DC/19/03486) and West Suffolk District Council (Ref: DC/19/1519) for the residential development of the site for up to 210 dwellings, with means of access, open space and associated infrastructure. In support of the application a magnetometer survey was undertaken (SUMO, 2018), followed by the preparation of an archaeological Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2019). Having considered those documents Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) recommended the following:

"In this case the following two conditions would be appropriate:

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

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

   a. *The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
   b. *The programme for post investigation assessment*
   c. *Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording*
   d. *Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
   e. *Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
   f. *Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation*

g. The site investigation shall be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

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

REASON:
To safeguard archaeological assets within the approved development boundary from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development, in accordance with Core Strategic Objective SO4 of Mid Suffolk District Council Core Strategy Development Plan Document (2008) and the National Planning Policy Framework (2018)."

2.2.2 This document is a Written Scheme of Investigation for the next stage of work; archaeological evaluation by trenching. All work will be undertaken in accordance with this document as well as the standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014) and the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Services guidance (SCCAS, 2017). The results of the archaeological evaluation will inform decisions regarding the need for, and extent of, any further archaeological works that may be required in order to mitigate the impact of the development upon the archaeological resource. That decision will be made by SCCAS in their role as advisors to the LPA.

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

3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The following information is drawn from the Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2019) and the geophysical survey (SUMO, 2018).

3.2 Prehistoric

3.2.1 The earliest evidence for prehistoric activity in the area comprises a Palaeolithic elephant bone some 1.2km to the southeast of the site.

3.2.2 A programme of archaeological monitoring at Red Marley, 1km to the northwest, identified a short section of ditch and a pit, both of which contained pottery and flint dating to the Neolithic.

3.2.3 A scatter of worked flint of probable Bronze Age date was found adjacent to a footpath approximately 1.2km northeast of the site.

3.2.4 A large fragment of Iron Age pottery was recovered from Thurston Heath, 750m to the northwest of the site, and there have been several instances of isolated finds recorded on the HER within 1.5km of the site.

3.3 Roman

3.3.1 The Roman road between Chelmsford and Ixworth (Peddars Way) is thought to run on a northeast-southwest alignment, 1km west of the site. Excavations for foundations in the first half of the 20th century found possible evidence for a Roman road surface and associated pottery on the alignment of Peddars Way, 800m to the northwest of the site.

3.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

3.4.1 The historic settlement at Thurston, located 1km to the northeast of the site, is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1066 and assessed as a large settlement.

3.4.2 The original Church of St Peter, 1.1km to the northeast, is likely to have been constructed at this time; several finds and ditches associated with this period have been found in proximity to the church.

3.4.3 The location of the former late medieval Old Netherhall Manor House is thought to lie approximately 1.2km northeast of the site, and the moated site of Rougham Place lies 1.5km to the south.

3.5 Post-Medieval and Modern

3.5.1 Throughout the post-medieval period the site remained as agricultural land with only minor changes to the field layout.

3.6 Previous archaeological work

3.6.1 A magnetometer survey was conducted on the site in November 2018 (SUMO, 2018). The survey revealed no definite archaeological responses. Those anomalies that were identified are thought to represent either natural variations in the soils, or perhaps small-scale gravel extraction.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Aims

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

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

4.2 Objectives

4.2.1 The general objectives of the project are:

- To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.

- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered.

- To enable SCCAS to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work required in order to satisfy the archaeological condition.

- To enable SCCAS to determine whether archaeological remains of national significance are present that may warrant preservation in situ.

4.2.2 The specific objectives of the project with reference to the *Research and Archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medleycott 2011) are:

Palaeolithic-Mesolithic

- Are particular qualities or sources of flint employed for specific tool types? Is the choice of flint or the source used a cultural decision? Can sources of flint be identified? Analysis of use-wear patterns should be attempted.

Neolithic/Bronze Age

- Study of the development, frequency and significance of flint-working throughout the Bronze Age would be useful, together with the identification of particular trends and characteristics that may help in dating and relationships with other artefact types.

Bronze Age-Iron Age

- The nature of the agrarian economy needs further study.... What are the relative proportions of cereals and livestock and is there a changing dynamic throughout the period?
- Given the apparent paucity of evidence for arable agriculture during this period within the northern part of the region, what were the fields used for?

Roman

- what forms do the farms take, and is the planned farmstead widespread across the region?
- how far can the size and shape of fields be related to the agricultural regimes identified, and what is the relationship between rural and urban sites?
- Roads: what variations in structure exist? Are they different in the countryside, and on different terrain?

Early Medieval

- What is the evidence for open field systems in the region in the Anglo-Saxon period?

Late Medieval

- How far can the size and shape of fields be related to agricultural regimes?

5 METHODOLOGY

5.0.1 An HER number has been requested from the Historic Environment Service as the site code for this project. This new number will be used as the unique site identifier on all primary records.

5.0.2 A Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) will be prepared prior to commencement of the work.

5.0.3 At least two weeks written notice will be given to Suffolk Historic Environment Services' monitoring officer prior to the commencement of the fieldwork.

5.0.4 The evaluation will consist of seventy-four trenches measuring 30m x 2m wide (see Figure 2). The trenches have been set out to achieve a largely random sample of the site but taking into account the results of the geophysical survey.

5.0.5 Spoil will be bunded around the edges of the trenches to provide a physical and visible barrier.

5.0.6 The trenches will be accurately located using offsets from known positions or a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS).

5.0.7 All trenches will be scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. Trenches will be mechanically excavated using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision.

5.0.8 Machine excavation will continue to the top of archaeological deposits or the surface of geological drift deposits, whichever is uppermost. The exposed subsoil or archaeological horizon will be cleaned by hand immediately after machine stripping, if required and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.

5.0.9 The opportunity to have a meeting on site shall be provided once the trenches are open with RPS and SCCAS to assess the results.

5.0.10 Backfilling and compaction will be undertaken by the machine on completion of the work once agreed with SCCAS, but there will be no reinstatement to existing condition.

5.0.11 Prior to excavation all trenches will be scanned with a metal detector by an experienced metal detectorist, Mr Graham Bradejs. Any metal finds will be located by GPS. Subsequently spoil heaps and trench bases will also be scanned with a metal detector as will the spoil derived from excavated features. Any finds recovered by this method will be suitably bagged in accordance with the standards set out below.

5.0.12 The OASIS online record will be completed for the project.

5.1 Standards

5.1.1 ASE will adhere to the CIfA *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, and Code of Conduct (CIfA 2014a & 2014b), SCCAS standards for archaeological evaluation (SCCAS, 2017) and the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) throughout the project. ASE is a Registered Organisation with the CIfA.

5.2 Excavation and Recording

5.2.1 All exposed archaeological features and deposits will be recorded and excavated, except obviously modern features and disturbances.

5.2.2 Standard ASE methodologies will be employed. All stratigraphy will be recorded using the ASE context recording system. In the event of encountering archaeological stratigraphy, the single context planning method will be employed and the trench will be excavated to the top of undisturbed deposits.

5.2.3 An overall plan related to the site grid and tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid will be drawn in addition to individual plans showing areas of archaeological interest. All features revealed will be planned.

5.2.4 Site plans will be at 1:20 unless circumstances dictate otherwise. Plans at other scales will be drawn if appropriate (e.g. cremation burials at 1:10). Sections will be drawn at 1:10.

5.2.5 Datum levels will be taken where appropriate. Sufficient levels will be taken to ensure that the relative height of the archaeological/subsoil horizon can be extrapolated across the whole of the development area.

5.2.6 Archaeological features and deposits will be excavated using hand tools, unless they cannot be accessed safety or unless a machine-excavated trench is the only practical method of excavation. Any machine-excavation of archaeologically significant features will be agreed with the SCC Historic Environment Services' monitoring officer in advance.

5.2.7 With the exception of modern disturbances, normally a minimum 50% of all contained features will be excavated. Modern disturbances will only be excavated as necessary in order to properly define and evaluate any features that they may cut. Normally 10% (or at least a 1m-long segment) of non-structural linear features will be excavated. At least 50% of linear features with a possible structural function (e.g. beam slots) will normally be excavated. Details of the precise excavation strategy and any alterations to it will be discussed with the monitoring officer if particularly significant archaeology is revealed as a result of topsoil stripping. Further discussion and agreement on the approach to the excavation of complex areas may be requested during the project.

5.2.8 All articulated human remains, graves and cremation vessels/deposits will receive minimal excavation to define their extent and establish whether they are burials or not. Generally all graves and cremation burials will be recorded and their positions noted without full excavation, only surface cleaning. A decision would then be made on future treatment of the human remains in consultation with the client/ their agent and the Historic Environment Services' monitoring officer and the coroner would be informed. Graves and cremation burials would only be excavated if they have already been disturbed, if they are at imminent risk, or if it is decided that a small sample of the burials need be evaluated to assess their condition and preservation. No human remains will be lifted without first obtaining a licence from the Ministry of Justice.

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

5.3 Finds/Environmental Remains

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

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

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

5.3.4 If appropriate, environmental samples will be taken from any contexts with good environmental potential. Bulk soil samples (minimum 40 litres or 100% if less) will be taken for wet sieving and flotation, and for finds recovery. ASE's environmental consultant is Karine Le Hegarat (ASE) and, if necessary, the English Heritage regional scientific advisor will be consulted. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.

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

6.0 POST-EXCAVATION, ANALYSIS, REPORTING and ARCHIVE

6.1 Report

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

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

- METHOD: Methodology used to carry out the work.
- FIELDWORK RESULTS: Detailed description of results. In addition to archaeological results, the depth of the archaeological horizon and/or subsoil across the site will be described. The nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of any archaeological remains will be described.
- SPECIALIST REPORTS: Summary descriptions of artefactual and ecofactual remains recovered. Brief discussion of intrinsic value of assemblages and their more specific value to the understanding of the site.
- DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS: Overview to include assessment of value and significance of the archaeological deposits and artefacts, and consideration of the site in its wider context. Specifically the report will consider relevant regional frameworks (at the minimum *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24*, Medleycott, 2011.
- APPENDICES: Context descriptions, finds catalogues, contents of archive and deposition details, HER summary sheet. OASIS record sheet
- FIGURES: to include a location plan of the archaeological works in relation to the proposed development (at an Ordnance Survey scale), specific plans of areas of archaeological interest (at 1:50), a section drawing to show present ground level and depth of deposits, section drawings of relevant features (at 1:20). Colour photographs of the more significant archaeological features and general views of the site will be included where appropriate.

6.1.2 A copy of the draft report will be supplied to SCCAS digitally for comment. Once approved one hard copy and a PDF copy on CD of the report will be supplied to SCCAS Historic Environment Services for the attention of the Senior Historic Environment Officer (Planning). Copies of the report will be supplied to RPS and one copy to the Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science at Historic England's East of England's offices.

6.1.3 A form will be completed for the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/UTH in accordance with the guidelines provided by English Heritage and the Archaeological Data Service.

6.2 Publication

6.2.1 Publication will be by an evaluation report produced within six weeks of the completion of fieldwork. A summary report will also be submitted for publication in the annual fieldwork round-up in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology and History (PSIAH). In the event that no further works are planned and exceptional archaeological remains are found which warrant publication in their own right a separate note on these will be produced to a timetable to be agreed with the client and Suffolk's Historic Environment Services' monitoring officer.

6.3 Archive

6.3.1 It is intended to deposit the archive with the County store. The Guidelines for preparation and deposition will be followed (SCCAS 2014, updated 2017), as

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

6.3.2 Finds from the archaeological fieldwork will be kept with the archival material.

6.3.3 Subject to agreement with the legal landowner ASE will arrange with the recipient museum for the deposition of the archive and artefact collection. Any items requiring treatment will be conserved. The landowner will be asked to donate the finds to the recipient museum.

7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

7.1 Site Risk Assessment and Safety Measures

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

8 RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

8.1 Staffing and Equipment

8.1.1 The archaeological works will be undertaken by a professional team of archaeologists, comprising an Archaeologist with support from up to three Assistant Archaeologists and a surveyor as required. The project is anticipated to take twelve days.

8.1.2 The Archaeologist for the project will be determined once the programme has been agreed with RPS and will be responsible for fieldwork, post-excavation reporting and archiving in liaison with the relevant specialists. The project will be managed by Andy Leonard (project manager, fieldwork) and Mark Atkinson (project manager, post-excavation).

8.1.3 SCC's Historic Environment Services monitoring officer will be notified of the Senior Archaeologist assigned to the project prior to start of works and should any subsequent change of personnel occur. CVs of all key staff are available on request.

8.1.4 Specialists who may be consulted are:

Prehistoric and Roman pottery Louise Rayner & Anna Doherty (ASE)
Prehistoric Nick Lavender (external: Essex region)
Post-Roman pottery Luke Barber (external: Sussex, Kent and London)
Post-Roman pottery (Essex) Helen Walker (external: Essex)
CBM Sue Pringle & Luke Barber (external)
Fired Clay Elke Raemen & Trista Clifford (ASE)
Clay Tobacco Pipe Elke Raemen (ASE)
Glass Elke Raemen (ASE)
Slag Luke Barber, Lynne Keyes (external); Trista Clifford (ASE)
Metalwork Trista Clifford (ASE)

Worked Flint Karine Le Hégarat (ASE); Hugo Anderson-Whymark (external)
Geological material and worked stone Luke Barber (external)
Human bone incl cremated bone Lucy Sibun (ASE)
Animal bone incl fish Gemma Ayton (ASE)
Marine shell Elke Raemen (ASE); David Dunkin (external)
Registered Finds Elke Raemen & Trista Clifford (ASE)
Coins Trista Clifford (ASE)
Treasure administration Trista Clifford (ASE)
Conservation and x-ray Fishbourne Roman Villa or UCL Institute of Archaeology
Geoarchaeology Dr Matt Pope & Liz Chambers (ASE)
Geoarchaeology (incl wetland environments) Kristina Krawiec (ASE)
Macro-plant remains Dr Lucy Allott & Karine Le Hégarat (ASE)
Charcoal & Waterlogged wood Dr Lucy Allott & Dawn Elise Moony (ASE).

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

9 MONITORING

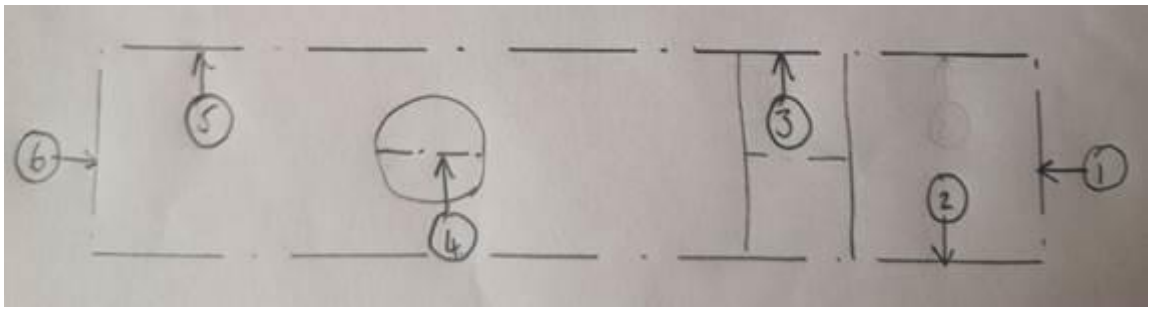
9.1 The SCC/AS monitoring officer will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards on behalf of the LPA throughout the project.

9.2 Any variations to the specification will be agreed with the client and the SCC/AS monitoring officer prior to being carried out.

9.3 The SCC/AS monitoring officer will be kept informed of progress by the client throughout the project and will be contacted in the event that significant archaeological features are discovered. Arrangements will be made for the monitoring officer to inspect the evaluation trenches before they are backfilled – trenches will not be backfilled without the agreement of the monitoring officer.

9.4 In the event that the site work is undertaken during Covid-19 restrictions, necessitating remote monitoring by SCCAS, the following procedures will be put in place:

- All features present in the trenches, including presumed natural and geological features are to be investigated as per the methodology set out above.
- GPS trench plans will be produced showing what is present in each trench – with context numbers included
- Written text stating what finds were found (if any) in each context, with provisional date will be provided
- Text stating which features environmental samples have been taken from will be provided
- Trench shots from each end of the trench will be provided
- Photographs of trench sections (bulk) will be provided
- Photographs of features will be provided
- A diagram showing the direction each photograph was taken from, with photograph number will be provided. For example,



* all photographs will be taken at appropriate times of day and not in bad lighting conditions and once trenches, sections, features have been cleaned*

- Provision will be made for SCCAS to review the remote monitoring documents and for any queries to be resolved
- Provision will be made for SCCAS to review the remote monitoring documents and for any queries to be resolved in a timely fashion.

10 Insurance

10.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: public liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate for products liability; professional indemnity to the value of £10,000,000 any one occurrence; employer's liability to the value of £50,000,000 each and every loss.

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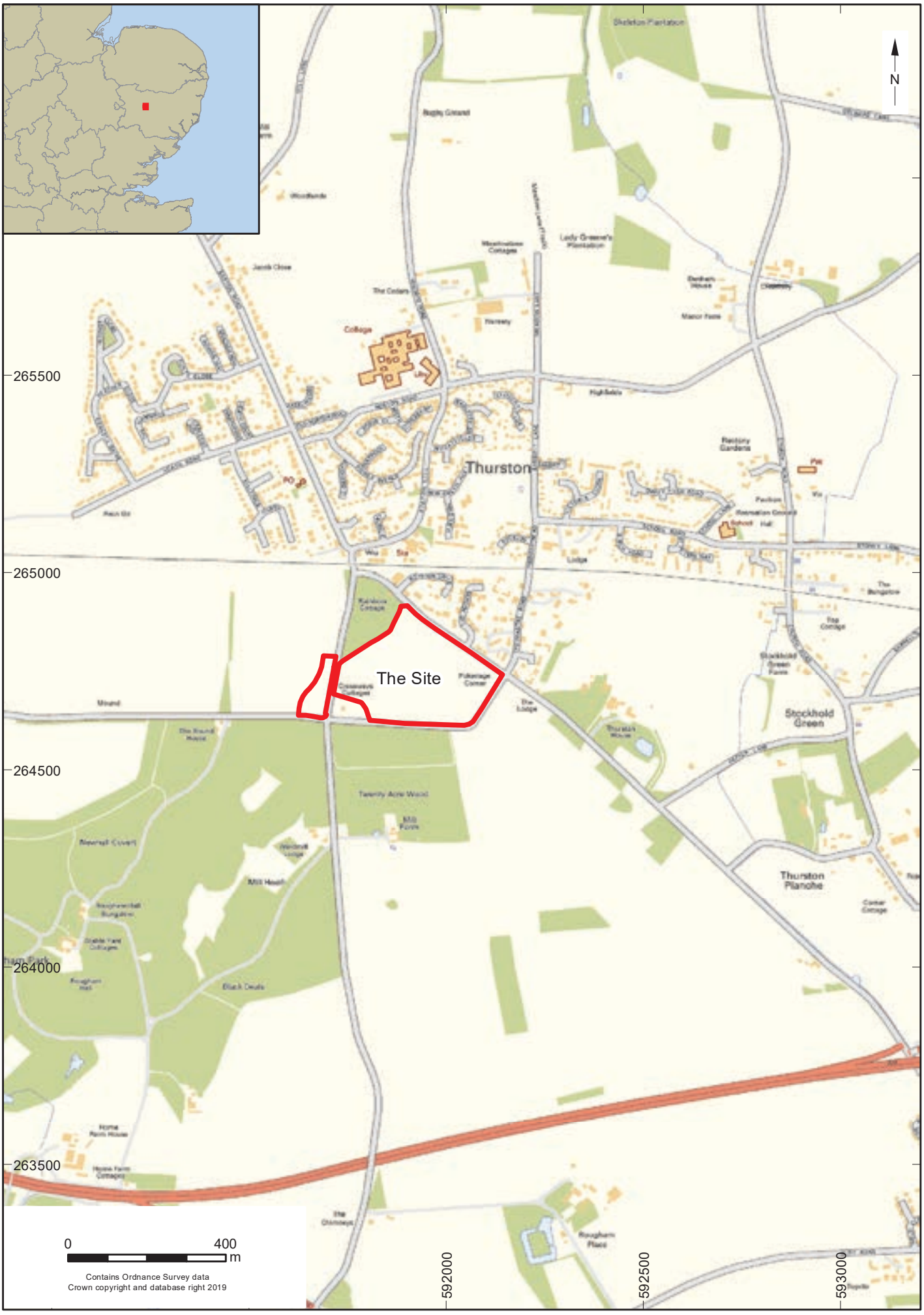
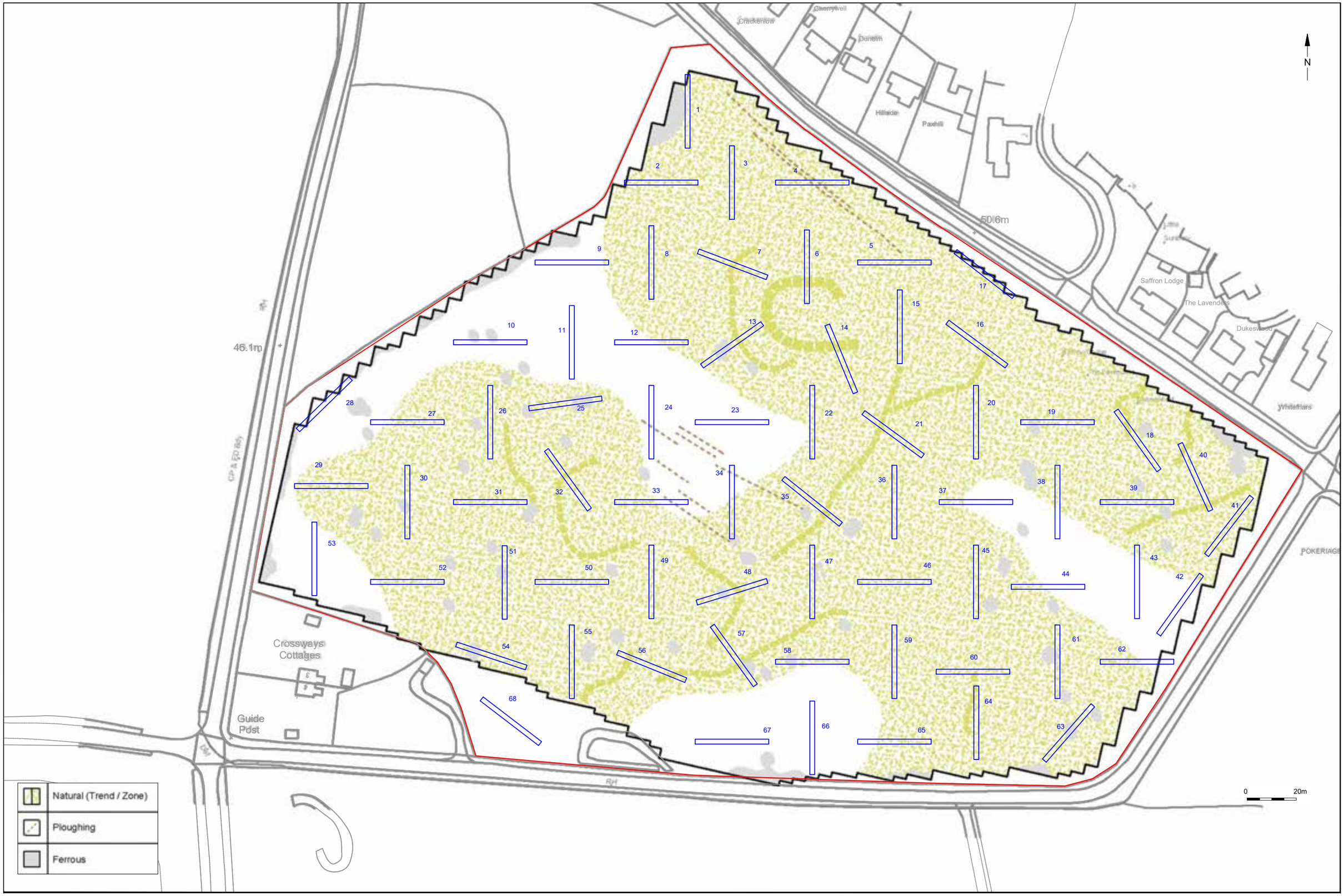
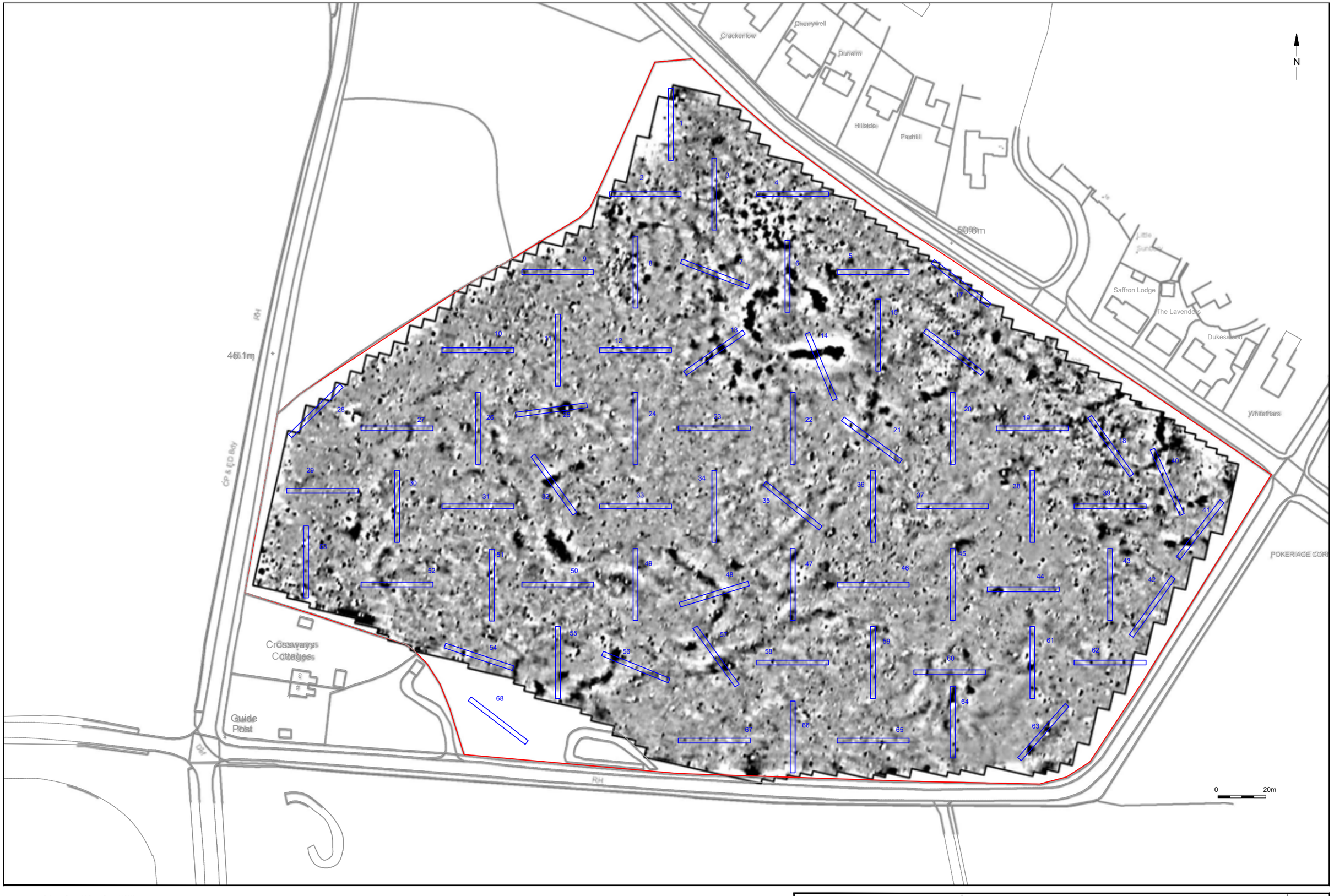


© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 190598	Sept 2019	Site location	
Report No: WSI	Drawn by: APL		



Geophysical survey by Sumo Survey

© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.2
Project Ref: 190598	Jan 2021	Proposed evaluation trench locations with geophysical survey interpretation	
Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: APL		



Geophysical survey by Sumo Survey

© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.3
Project Ref: 190598	Jan 2021	Proposed evaluation trench locations with geophysical raw greyscale	
Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: APL		

Constraints Key

- Development Boundary
- Existing LV Electric Utility
- Existing HV Electric Utility
- Existing Overhead Electric Utility
- Existing Gas Utility
- Existing Water Utility
- Abandoned Sewer
- Existing BT Utility
- Existing Instalcom Utility
- Existing Foul Sewer
- 6m Easement (3m either side)
- Low to medium risk of surface water flooding (depths below 300mm)
- Existing Tree/Hedge
- Assumed Root Protection Areas - TBC
- Highway Boundary

45.1m

50.6m

Crackenlow
Cherrywell
Dunelm
Hillside
Paxhill
Saffron
The Lavenders
Dukeswood
Whitefriars
POKERIAGE CORT
Crossways Cottages
Guide Post

N

0 20m

Geophysical survey by Sumo Survey

© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.4
Project Ref: 190598	Jan2021	Proposed evaluation trench locations with site constraints	
Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: APL		

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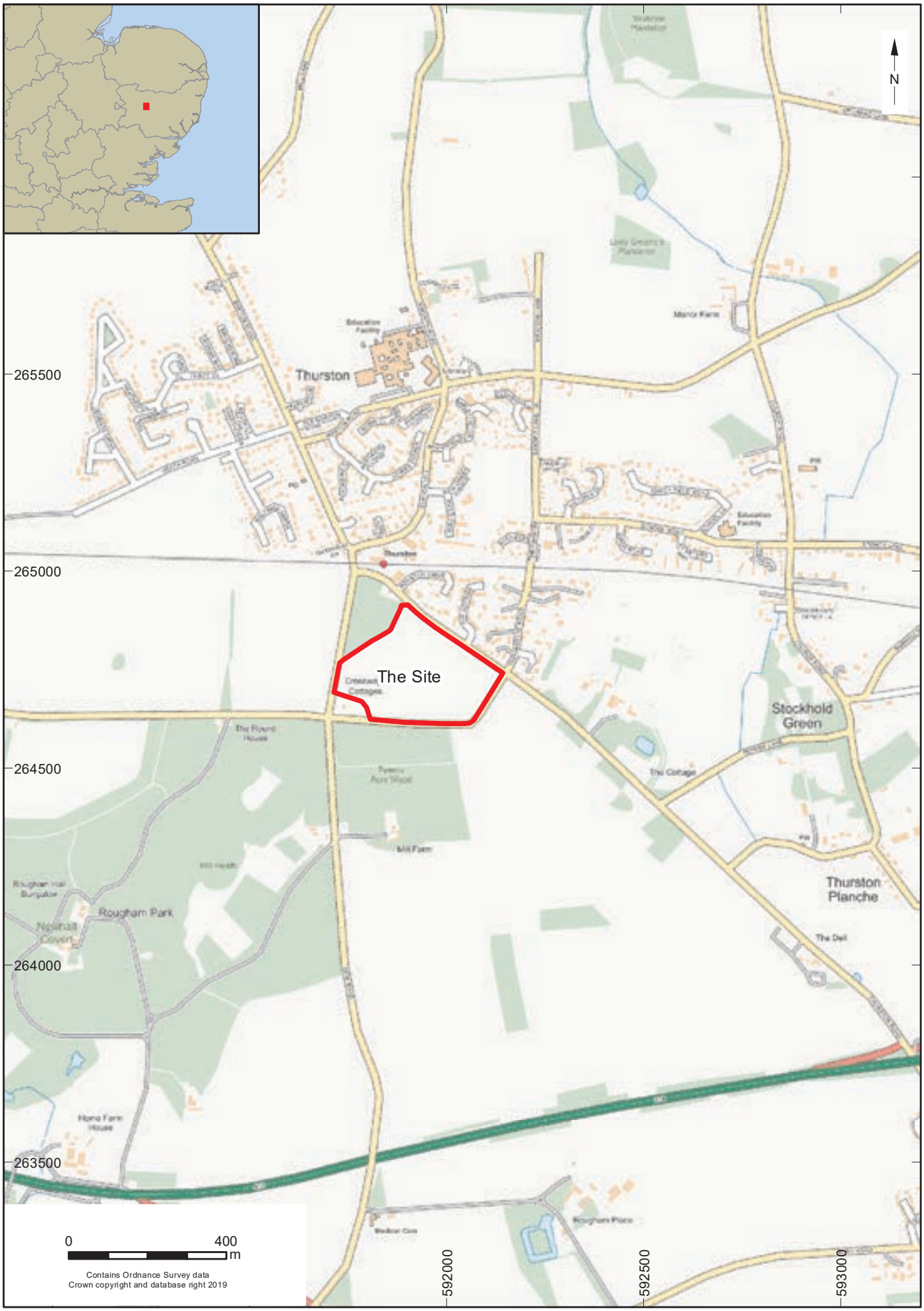


© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Site location	
Report No: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		

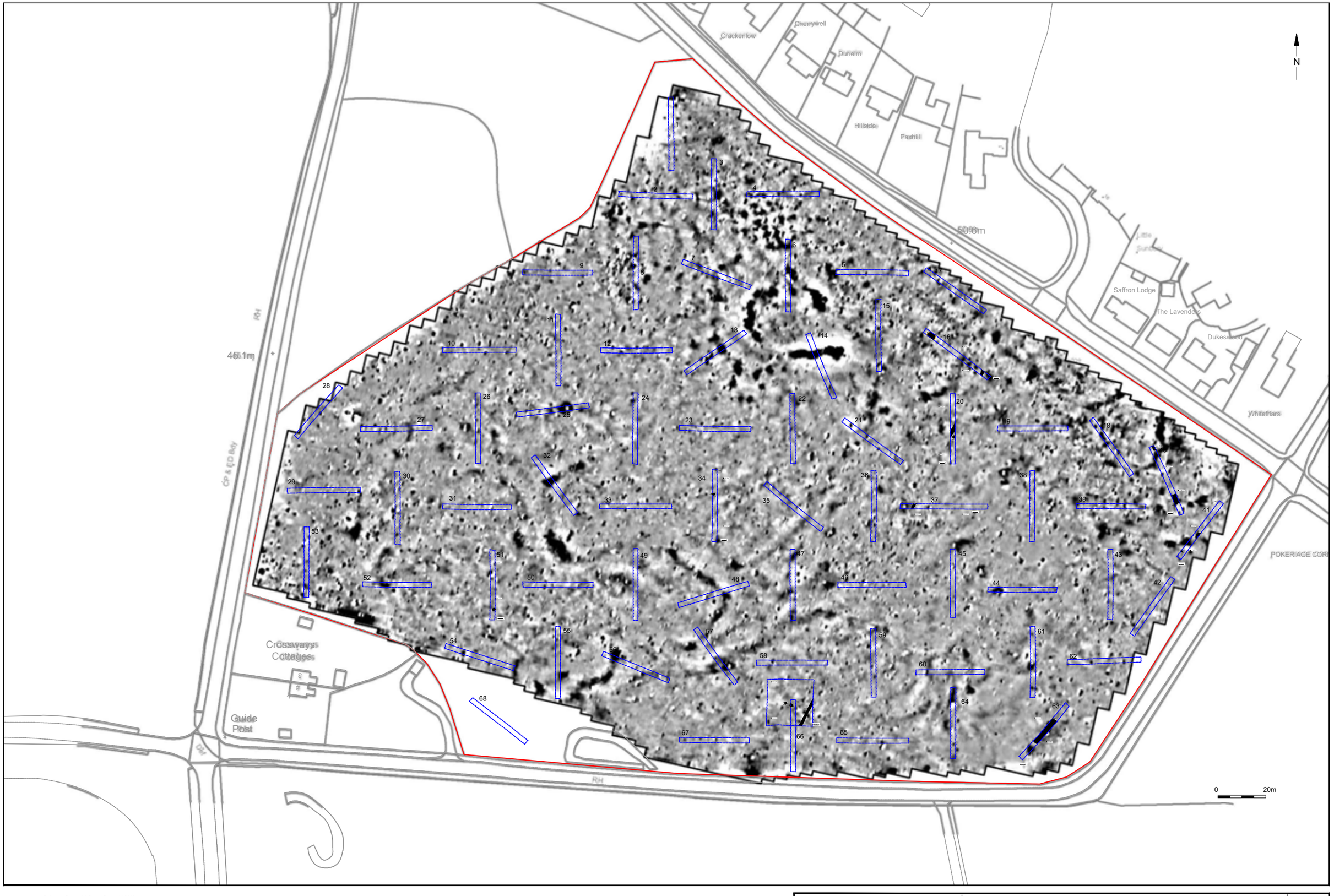
Constraints Key

- Development Boundary
- Existing LV Electric Utility
- Existing HV Electric Utility
- Existing Overhead Electric Utility
- Existing Gas Utility
- Existing Water Utility
- Abandoned Sewer
- Existing BT Utility
- Existing Instalcom Utility
- Existing Foul Sewer
- 6m Easement (3m either side)
- Low to medium risk of surface water flooding (depths below 300mm)
- Existing Tree/Hedge
- Assumed Root Protection Areas - TBC
- Highway Boundary

N

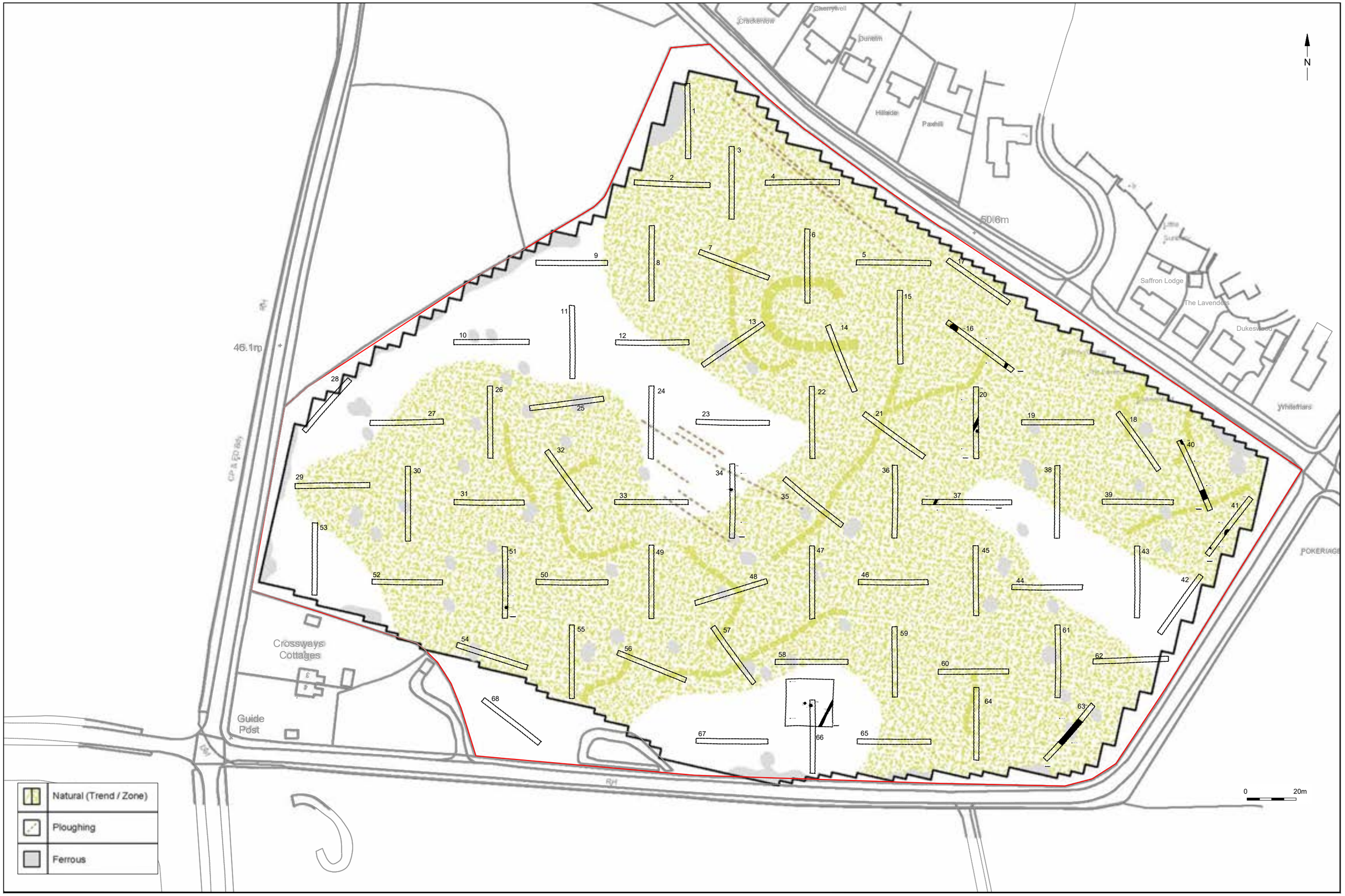
Crackenlow
Cherrywell
Dunelm
Hillside
Paxhill
50.6m
45.1m
Saffron Lodge
The Lavenders
Dukeswood
Whitefriars
POKERIAGE CORN
Crossways Cottages
Guide Post

© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.2
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Evaluation trench and mitigation area locations with site constraints	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		



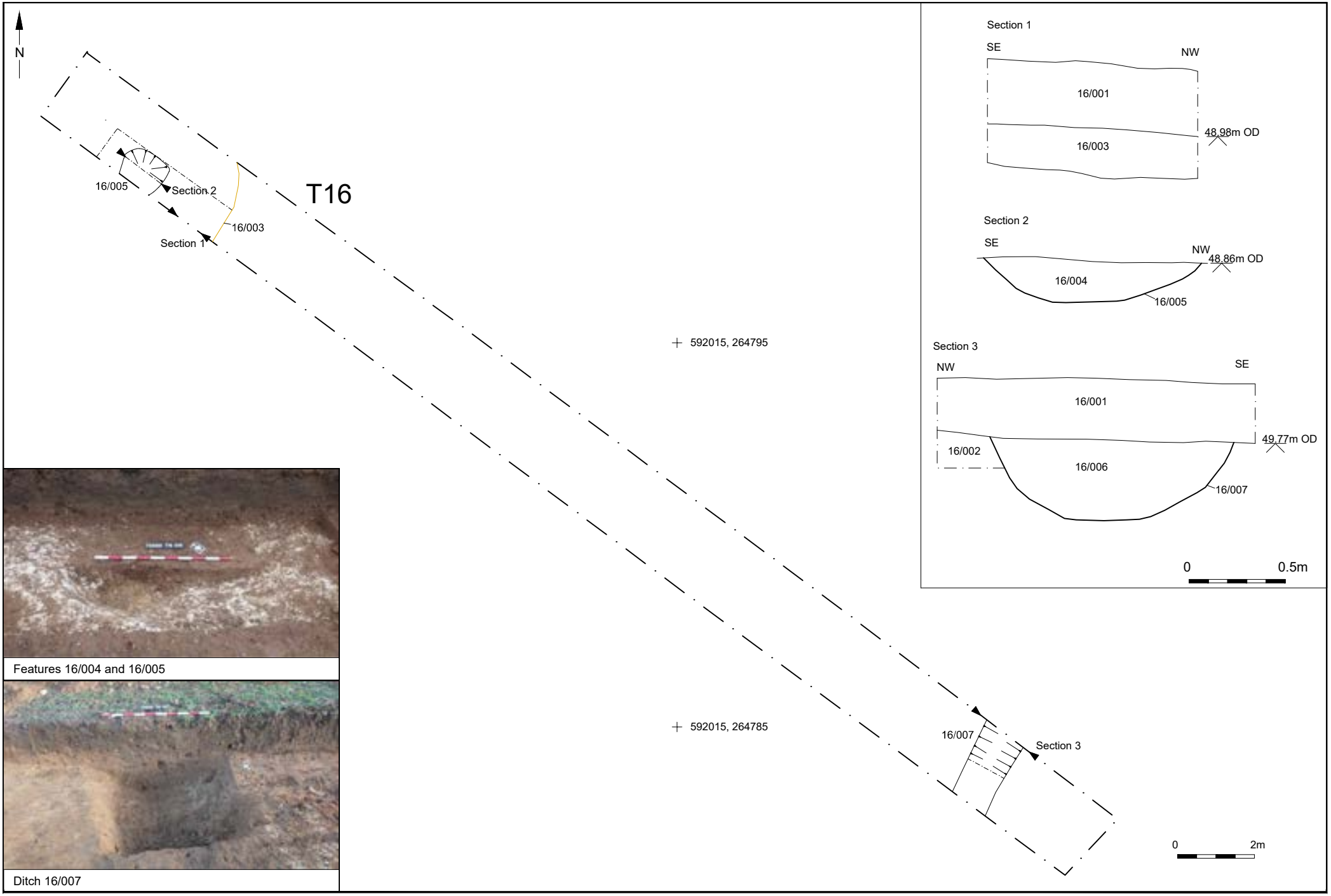
Geophysical survey by Sumo Survey

© **Archaeology South-East**		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.3
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Evaluation trench and mitigation area locations with geophysical raw greyscale	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		



Geophysical survey by Sumo Survey

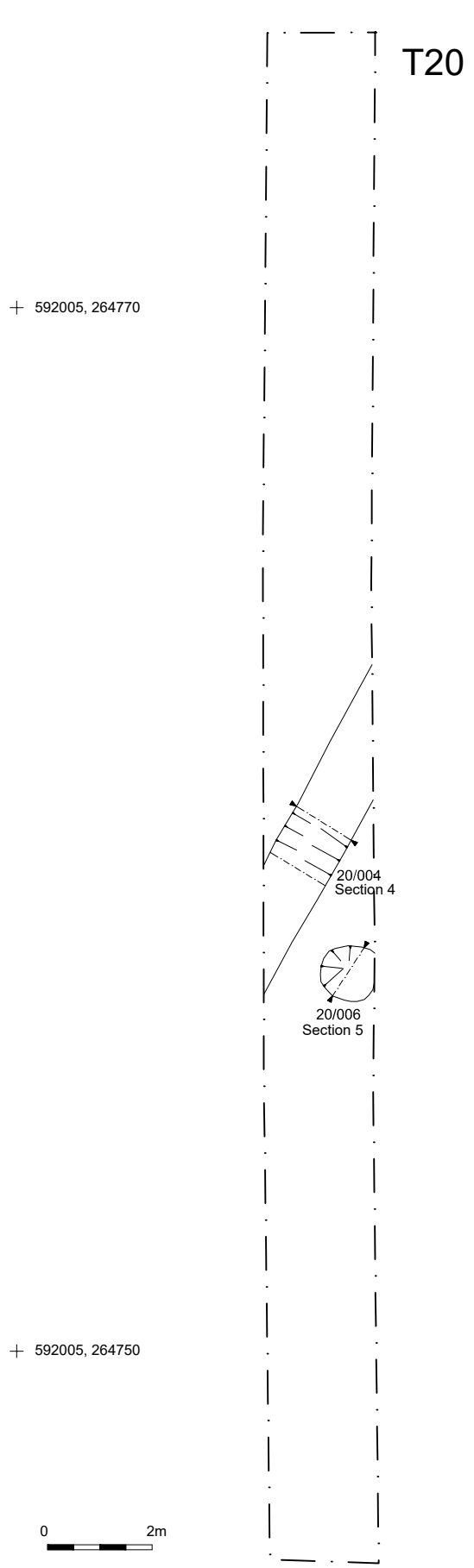
© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.4
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Evaluation trench and mitigation area locations with geophysical survey interpretation	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		

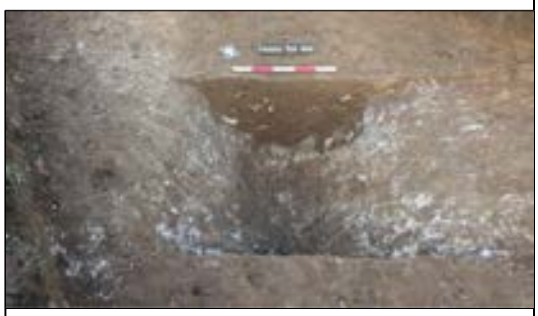


Features 16/004 and 16/005

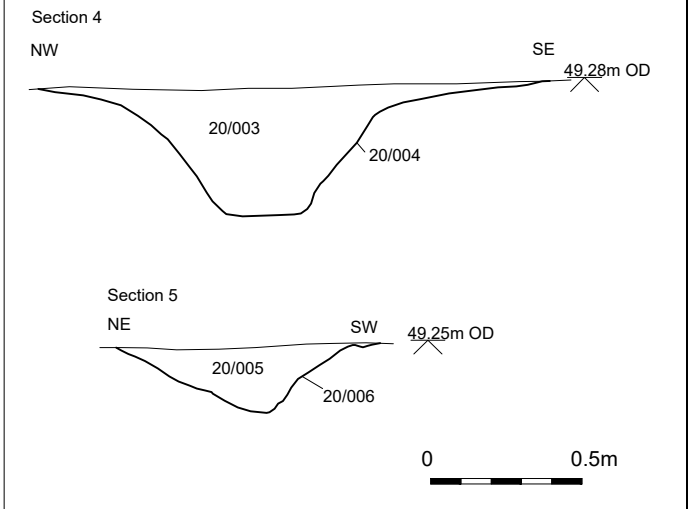
Ditch 16/007

© **Archaeology South-East**		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.5
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Trench 16 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		

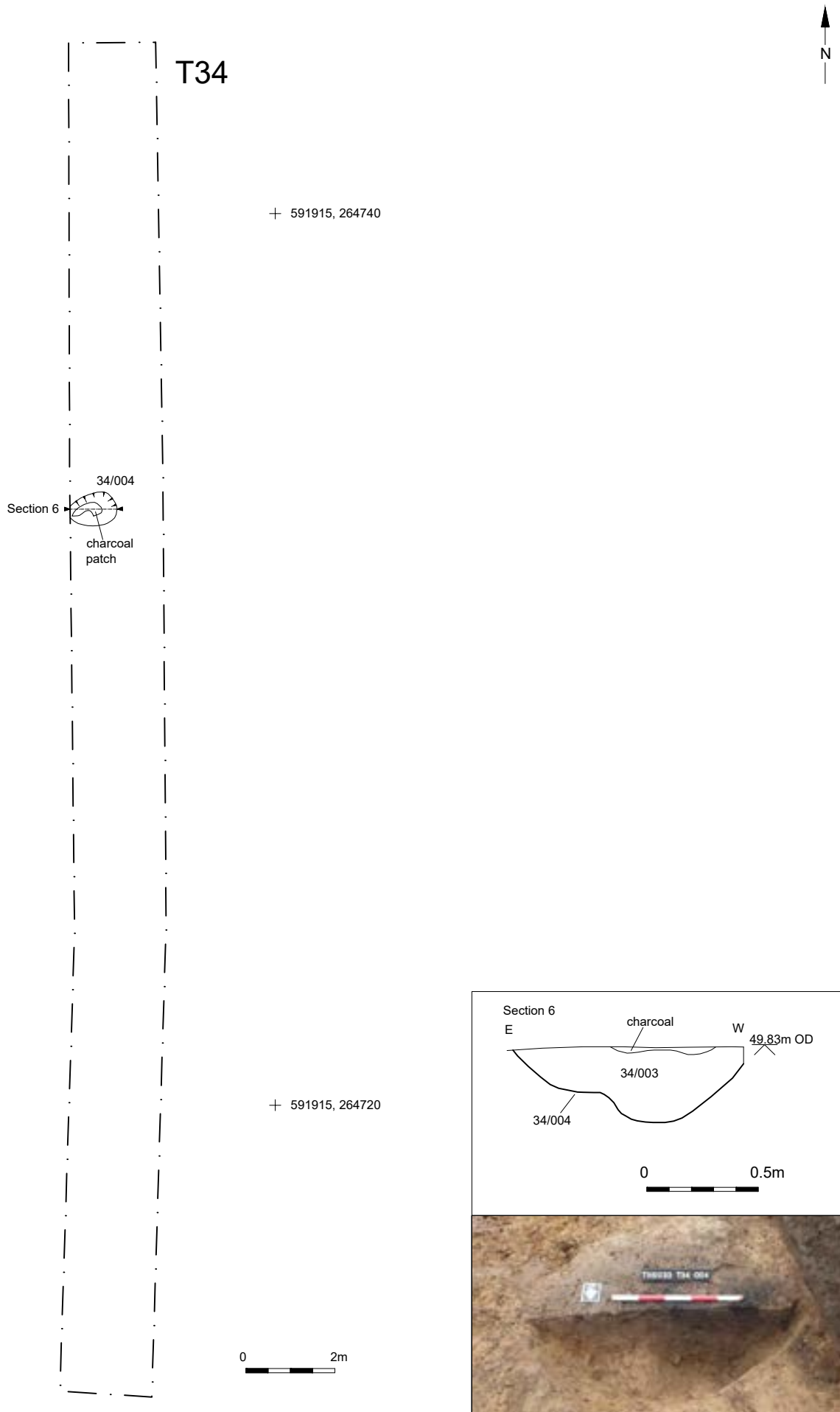




Ditch 20/004

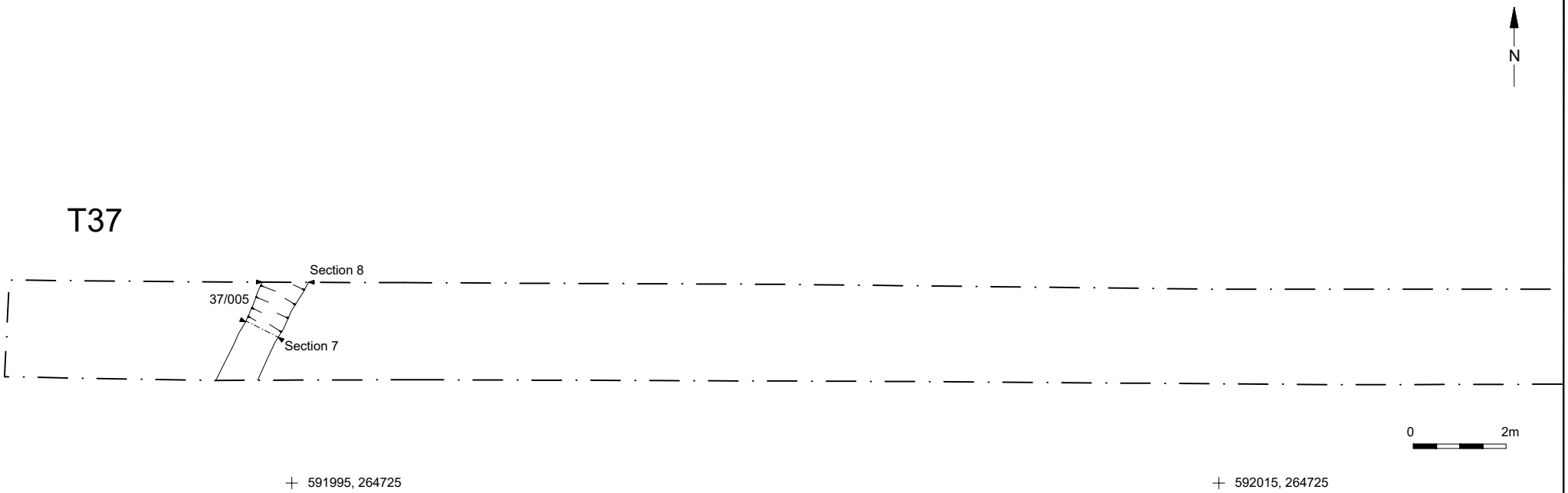


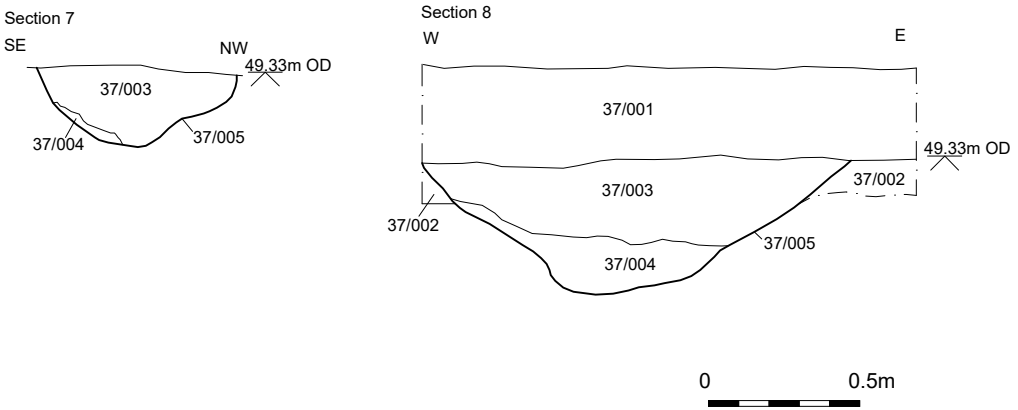
© **Archaeology South-East**		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.6
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Trench 20 plan, sections and photograph	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		



Pit 34/004

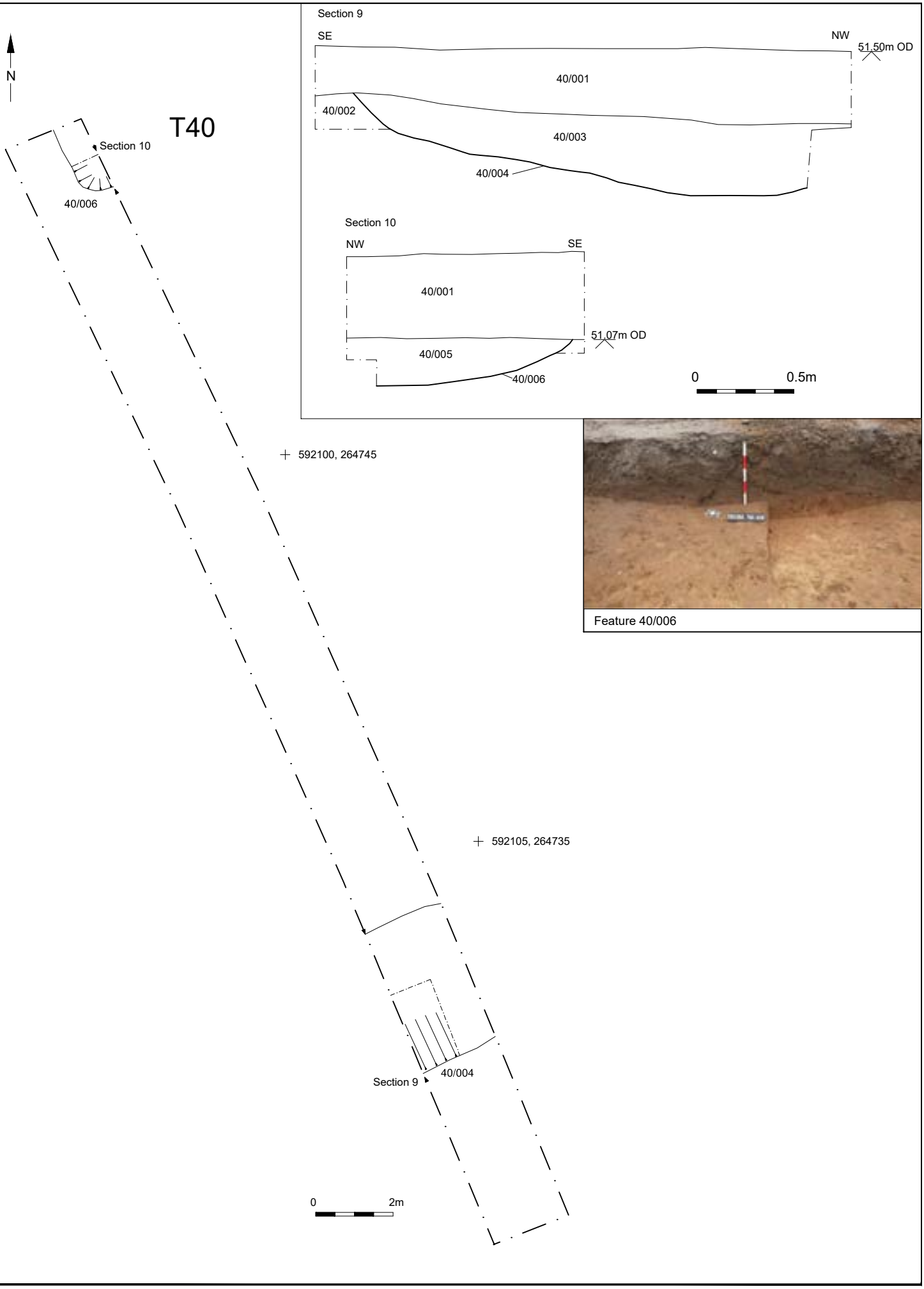
© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.7
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Trench 34 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		





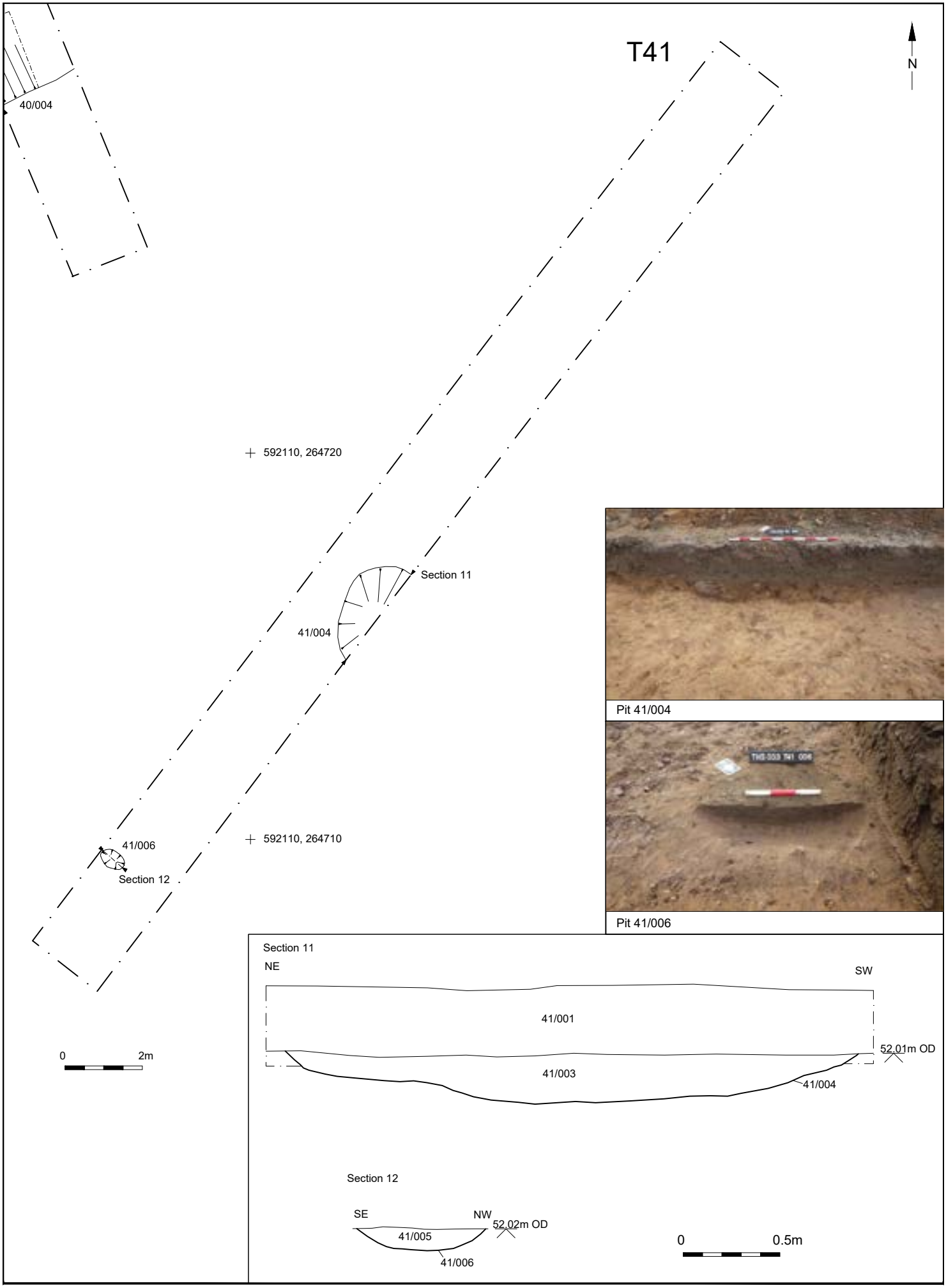
Ditch 37/005

© **Archaeology South-East**		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.8
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Trench 37 plan, sections and photograph	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		

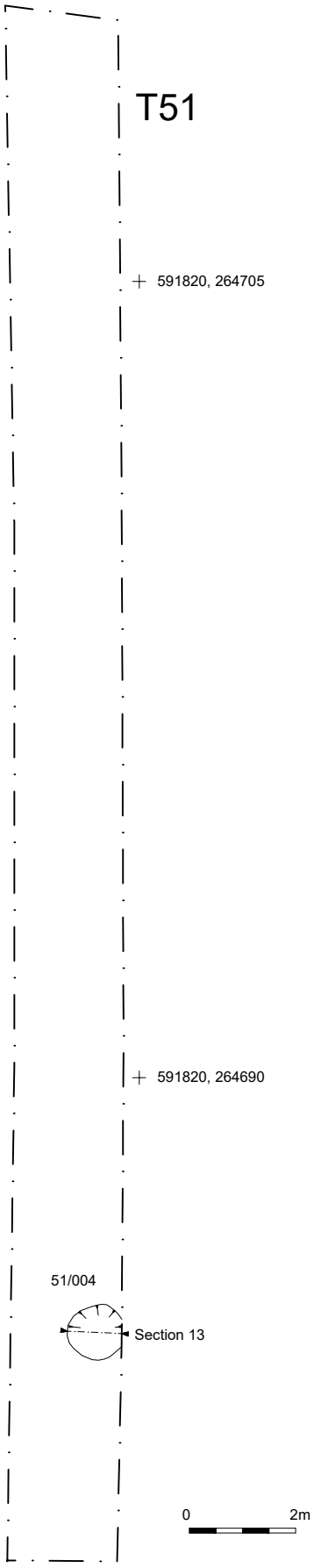


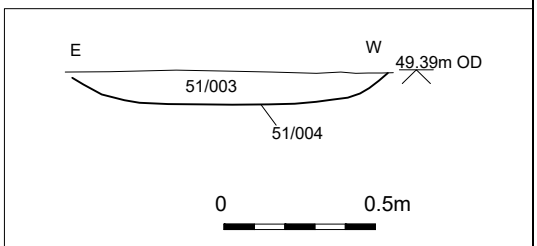
Feature 40/006

© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.9
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Trench 40 plan, sections and photograph	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		



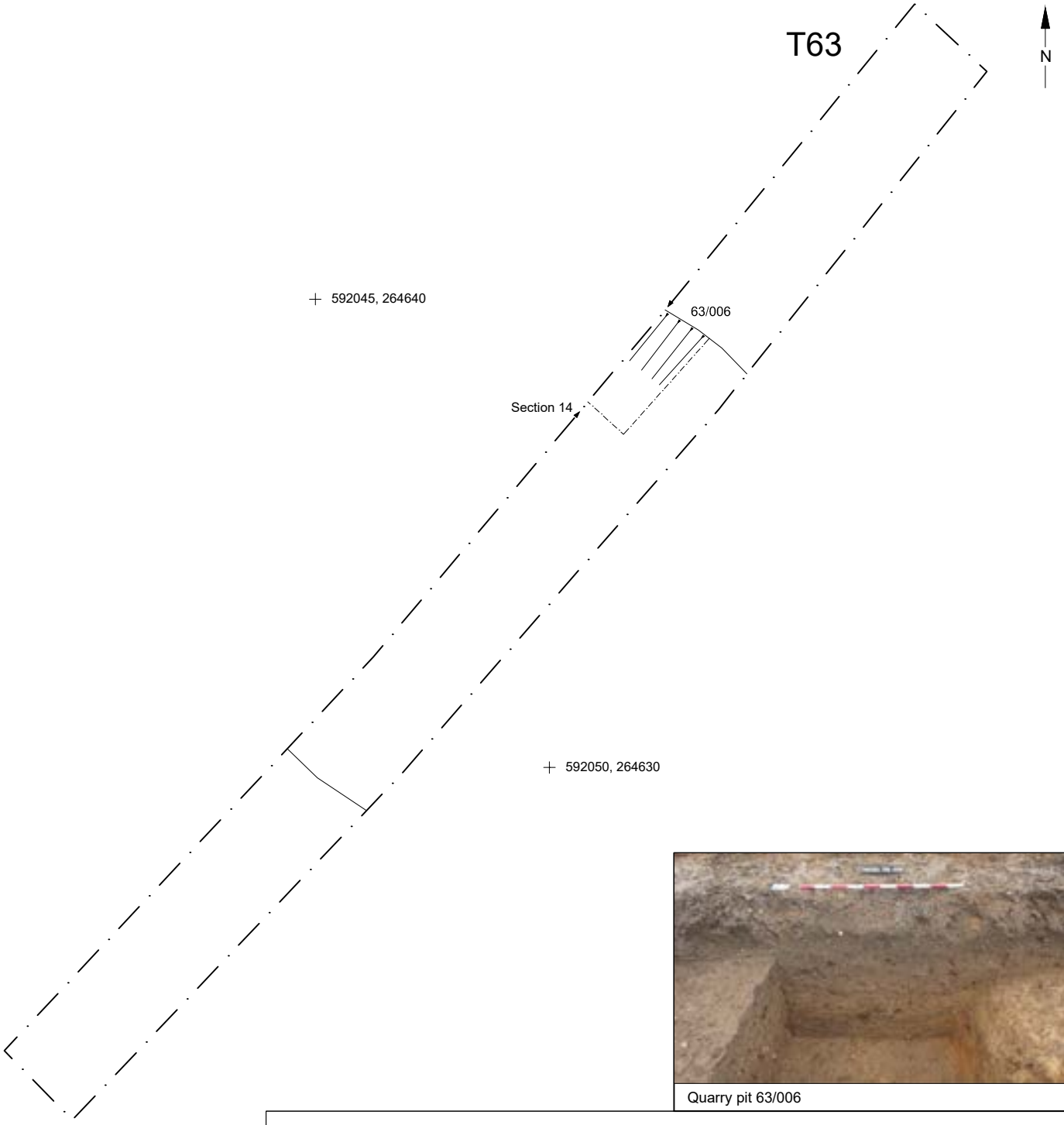
© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.10
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Trench 41 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		



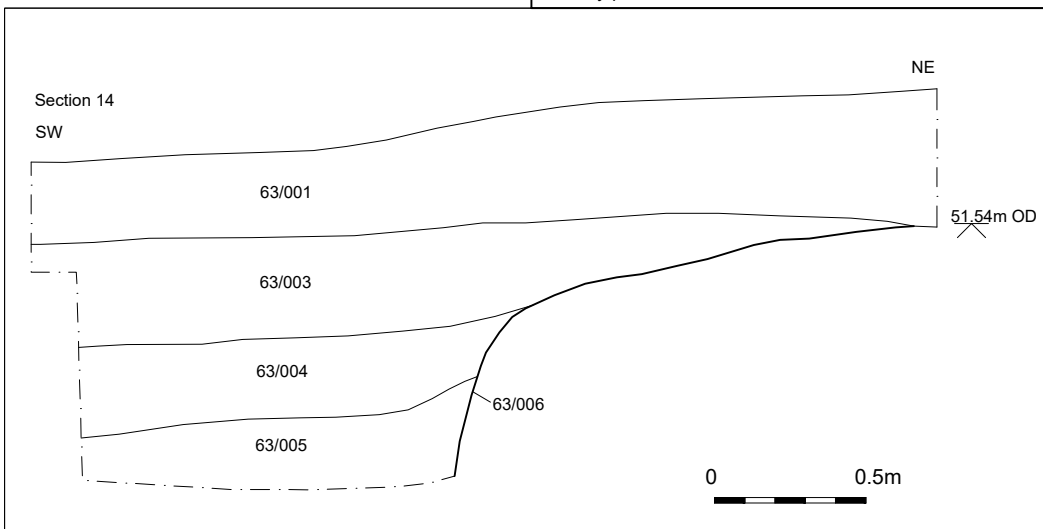


Pit 51/004

© **Archaeology South-East**		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.11
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Trench 51 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		



Quarry pit 63/006



© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.12
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Trench 63 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		

591935, 264655

N

T66

1005

Section 16

66/005

Section 15

Section 17

1007

591935, 264640

0 2m

Section 14

S N

66/001

51.28m OD

66/003

charcoal

66/003

66//002

66//002

66/004

66/005

Section 15

N 1003 S

51.25m OD

1004

1005

Section 16

NW SE

51.24m OD

1006

1007

0 0.5m

Pit 1005

Ditch 1007

© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.13
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Trench 66 and mitigation area plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		


Trench 1


Trench 2


Trench 3


Trench 4


Trench 5


Trench 6


Trench 7


Trench 8


Trench 9


Trench 10


Trench 11


Trench 12

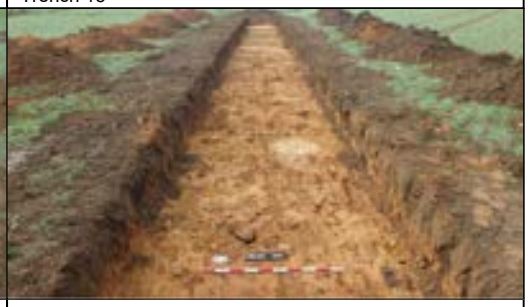

Trench 13


Trench 14


Trench 15


Trench 17


Trench 18


Trench 19

© Archaeology South-East		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.14
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Photographs of archaeologically negative trenches	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		


Trench 21

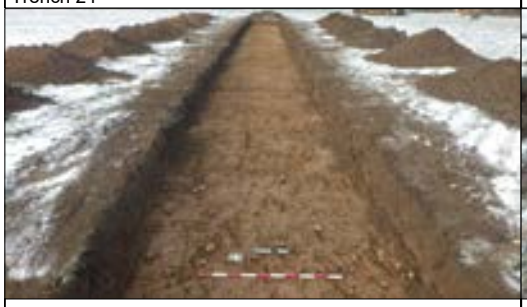

Trench 22


Trench 23


Trench 24


Trench 25


Trench 26


Trench 27


Trench 28


Trench 29


Trench 30


Trench 31


Trench 32


Trench 33


Trench 35


Trench 36


Trench 37


Trench 38


Trench 39

© **Archaeology South-East**		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.15
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Photographs of archaeologically negative trenches	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		

Trench 42

Trench 43

Trench 44

Trench 45

Trench 46

Trench 47

Trench 48

Trench 49

Trench 50

Trench 52

Trench 53

Trench 54

Trench 55

Trench 56

Trench 57

Trench 58

Trench 59

Trench 60

© **Archaeology South-East**		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.16
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Photographs of archaeologically negative trenches	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		

Trench 61

Trench 62

Trench 64

Trench 65

Trench 67

Trench 68

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Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Photographs of archaeologically negative trenches	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		

Prehistoric
Post-medieval
Modern
Undated
Natural feature

N

Crackenlow
Cherrywell
Dunelm
Hillside
Paxhill
Saffron Lodge
The Lavenders
Dukeswood
Whitefriars
POKERIAGE CORN

45.1m
50.6m

Crossways Cottages
Guide Post

© **Archaeology South-East**		Beyton Road, Thurston	Fig.18
Project Ref: 190598	Mar 2021	Distribution of dated features	
Report Ref: 2021055	Drawn by: APL		

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