Archaeology South-East

ASE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

LAND SOUTH OF THE MANORWAY, STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX

ASE Project No: 180181
Site/Parish Code: THMW21

ASE Report No: 2021124

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Archaeological Evaluation

Land south of The Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East on Land south of The Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex, between 13 May and 21 May 2021. The work was undertaken in advance of proposed residential development and was commissioned by RPS Consulting Services.

Twenty-six evaluation trenches were excavated across the c.6ha site, including an extra trench opened at the request of the monitoring officer. No features of prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon or medieval date were identified. One piece of prehistoric worked flint was recovered which was residual in a later context.

Archaeological remains of post-medieval date were identified in nine of the evaluation trenches, located mainly in the north and east of the site. The majority of these remains consisted of post-medieval ditches that were partially visible on the ground as a series of negative earthworks. The earthworks were surveyed and their layout established to closely correlate with boundaries depicted on the 1839 Stanford-le-Hope Tithe map and subsequent Ordnance Survey mapping from 1867–1882.

The boundaries formed a rectangular enclosure, with a smaller parcel of land to its north and a separate more extensive field boundary beyond. The rectangular enclosure is depicted as a plantation with an adjacent pond on the Tithe map. The plantation, pond and the smaller parcel of land to the north are not, however, depicted on early OS mapping, suggesting a change of landuse by the 1860s. The rectangular enclosure itself continued in use throughout the remainder of the 19th century and into the 20th century, and was still depicted on OS mapping as late as 1970s and 80s but probably as a relict feature by now.

Other recorded post-medieval remains consisted of three gullies, possibly with an agricultural function and an additional ditch not depicted on mapping. Part of a more modern ditch was identified and areas of disturbance and made-ground that may have been associated with the construction of a sewerage system across the site.

CONTENTS

APPENDICES

TABLES

FIGURES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of UCL's Institute of Archaeology Centre for Applied Archaeology, was commissioned by RPS Consulting Services to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed residential development on Land south of The Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex

1.1.2 This work was undertaken in fulfilment of an archaeological condition attached to planning consent for development.

1.2 Location, Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The village of Stanford-le-Hope is located in south Essex roughly mid-way between Basildon and Grays, in the Thurrock Unitary Authority area, and just to the east of the A13 (Figure 1; NGR TQ 6825 8277).

1.2.2 The site comprises a broadly triangular parcel of rough grass and scrubland on the northern side of the village. The site is bound to the north by The Manorway (A1104), to the east and south by a water channel and residential development and to the west by the London Fenchurch Street to Tilbury and Southend railway line.

1.2.3 The site covers approximately 6ha and consists of a single field sub-divided into two unequal halves by the presence of a modern NW/SE-aligned water channel. The land is generally flat at between 5–6m AOD, though rises to a height of 7.84m AOD in the northwest corner (Trench 6) and to around 6.5m AOD in the northeast (Trench 5). Several copses of small/trees and shrubs and areas of overgrowth were cleared prior to the start of the evaluation.

1.2.4 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 2021), the underlying bedrock of the site as Lambeth Group clay, silt and sand sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 48 to 59 million years ago. This is mainly overlain by superficial deposits of Alluvium comprising silt, clay and gravel formed up to 2 million years ago. In the north-west corner of the site, the bedrock is overlain by Head deposits of clay, silt, sand, and gravel formed up to 3 million years ago. In general, the geology of the site indicates a landscaped of floodplains, swamps, estuaries, and deltas as part of a riverine landscape.

2.1.1 This geology is associated with the water channel which forms the south and east boundaries of the site and a channel which traverses the site to the north east. These channels are tributaries of the River Hope, which is itself a tributary of the River Thames.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment was prepared in 2010 to support an outline planning application for residential development (Waterman 2010). The report concluded that the site has a limited

potential for archaeological evidence dating to the prehistoric, Roman and early Medieval periods.

1.3.2 Following the granting of outline planning permission (14/01321/OUT), a condition originally securing a programme of archaeological investigation ahead of Reserved Matters was amended from prior to submission of Reserved Matters to post submission of Reserved Matters. This was due to ecological constraints on the site and followed discussions between the CgMs archaeological consultant (now RPS) and the Principal Historic Environment Consultant at Essex County Council Place Services (advisor to Thurrock Council on archaeological matters). The revised Condition 35 now reads:

(A) No development or preliminary groundworks shall take place until the Applicant or their successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, including trial trenching, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation and specification which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

(B) Following on from the works of investigation, no development or preliminary groundworks shall take place until the outcome of the investigations have been submitted to and agreed in writing with the local planning authority. The outcome of the investigations shall also detail any further safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of any important archaeological remains and / or further archaeological investigation, such agreed measures shall be employed in accordance with the agreed scheme and timetable.

(C) The above measures shall be undertaken following the determination of the final reserved matters application pursuant to condition 2.

1.3.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) outlining the scope and methodology of the archaeological works required was prepared by RPS (2021). This set out a proposed two-stage approach comprising an archaeological watching brief during initial ecological works and subsequent trial trenching. It was prepared in accordance with all relevant guidelines, including those set down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and Historic England (HE).

1.3.4 A second Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Archaeology South-East (2021) detailing the methodology for the archaeological watching brief and the subsequent archaeological evaluation by trial trenching. It was prepared in accordance with the relevant standards and guidance (Gurney 2003) and was submitted to ECC Place Services for approval prior to the commencement of fieldwork. All work was undertaken in accordance with this document and the relevant CIfA standards and guidance (CIfA 2014a, b).

1.3.5 The initial archaeological watching brief on the ecological works was undertaken on 08 March 2021 and involved the machine excavation of three hibernation pits under archaeological observation. All of the pits were approximately 2.5m long by 1.5-1.8m wide by 0.3m deep. In two of the pits, topsoil removed directly onto natural light brown to light greyish brown clay. In the third (eastern most) pit the topsoil was slightly deeper and the underlying natural clay deposit was not fully exposed. No archaeological features were observed nor finds recovered. The locations of the three excavated pits are indicated on Figure 2.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report presents the results of the investigation of twenty-six archaeological evaluation trenches excavated from 13 to 21 May 2021. It describes the archaeological remains encountered, considers their significance and assesses the potential for further remains to be present across the wider site.

1.4.2 The results of this evaluation report 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.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following information is drawn from the Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Assessment (Waterman 2010) and the Essex Historic Environment Record held by Essex County Council. The locations of HER sites and findspots are shown on Figure 1.

2.1.2 The site does not lie within any areas of scheduling such as scheduled ancient monuments, nor is it within a designated area of archaeological potential, conservation area or similar.

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 A Palaeolithic axe was found in 1927, 500m to the south of the site. This axe is now held by Southend Museum (EHER 1846).

2.2.2 A Neolithic axe was recovered at the Hassenbrook stream to the south of the site (EHER 5179). Apparent Neolithic flint artefacts were recovered in the 1960s at the Dobson and Ellis gravel pit, 150m east of the site (EHER 5181). These include five barbed and tanged arrow heads, and two knives, though their authenticity is doubted due to their poor workmanship.

2.2.3 An archaeological evaluation undertaken at Rectory Road, 500m to the south of the site found pits, a ditch, a gully and a layer which were all dated to the Late Bronze age (1000–700BC). The site was considered to represent a settlement (EHER 45371). It had been truncated by recent disturbance, removing any evidence for later activity.

2.3 Roman

2.3.1 Roman pottery was found at the Dobson and Ellis pit, 150m to 250m east of the site (EHER 5182). This included a 4th-century flagon, thought to be from the Nene Valley, and a 2nd-century carinated cup. These artefacts are thought to have originated from a cemetery due to their good condition.

2.3.2 Roman timbers and pottery were recovered from the Hassenbrook stream in 1971, 180m to the west of the site (EHER 5257). The timbers may have been part of Roman well. Iron slag and fired clay were also found.

2.3.3 The site of a possible Roman road, associated with the recovery of a Romano-British mortarium base in 1930, was recorded 200m to the north-west of the site (EHER 5177).

2.3.4 Roman remains have been recovered at Hassenbrook Hall, 250m north of the site. These include a cremation burial consisting of a large amphora containing a glass vessel full of burnt bones, now in Colchester Museum (EHER 5142). Scattered Roman graves have also been recorded during gravel extraction at the Hall, with additional finds including a small grey flask, half of a 1st-century fluted beaker and an iron knife with bone handle (EHER 5184). There is some confusion over the exact locations of this find; the amphora cremation is

attributed two different locations, while the bone handled knife is recorded by the EHER as having been found at the Dobson and Ellis pit.

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

2.4.1 A grass-tempered Anglo-Saxon globular beaker is recorded as being recovered from the Dobson and Ellis pit (EHER 5183). This beaker has been decorated using an oblique comb and is a direct parallel with a beaker found in Rainham, suggesting they were produced by the same manufacturer. A sherd of black pottery with impressed patterns was also recovered, considered to be Saxon in date (EHER 5185)

2.5 Post-medieval and Modern

2.5.1 The site of the Stanford-le-Hope gasworks lies immediately south-west of the site. This was constructed in 1887 (EHER 40421)

2.5.2 The Stanford-le-Hope brewery was located between the railway station and the Hassenbrook stream, 100m to the south of the site. The brewery operated between 1868 and 1914 (EHER 15972).

2.5.3 Immediately east of the site, at Victoria Road and Southend Road, several World War II defences were constructed including two tank traps, a pillbox and a spigot mortar site (EHER 10304-10307). None of these survive, as the area has been since developed.

2.5.4 Historic mapping shows land use within the site to be agricultural. The 1839 Stanford-le-Hope Tithe map and subsequent Ordnance Survey mapping from 1867 onwards depict the site to comprise a number of fields defined by a rectilinear boundary system.

2.6 Project aims and objectives

2.6.1 The general aims of the archaeological investigation, as stated in the WSI (ASE 2021), were as follows:

- *To identify any archaeological features or deposits that will be impacted upon by the proposed development, and to enable a mitigation strategy for any identified remains to be implemented before development takes place*

- *More specifically, to establish the location, extent, date, character, significance and quality of preservation of surviving archaeological remains within the development area*

2.6.2 Site-specific research aims were:

- *To determine whether there is any e*vidence of *prehistoric or Romano-British, Saxon or later activity within the site?*

- *To establish the nature of past activity on the site and how does it fit with the materials found in the wider area?*

2.6.3 Specific objectives of the project with reference to the *Research and Archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011) were:

Iron Age/Romano-British

- *Is there evidence for agricultural activity on the site from the Iron Age or Romano-British periods*

- *The nature of the agrarian economy needs further study. Is a real understanding of continuity and change emerging? What are the relative proportions of cereals and livestock and is there a changing dynamic throughout the period (Medlycott 2011, 47)?*

- *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 (Medlycott 2011, 47)?*

Anglo-Saxon

- *The development of Anglo-Saxon fieldscapes needs further investigation. Does the site contain evidence for fieldscapes of this period, and how far can the size and shape of fields be related to the agricultural regimes identified? To what extent were Roman field systems re-used? What is the evidence for open field systems in the region in the Anglo-Saxon period (Medlycott 2011, 58)?*

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

3.1.1 Twenty-five evaluation trenches were positioned in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2021) (Fig. 2). Most were located in their exact specified positions. One or two minor positional alterations were made to due to overhanging trees, the presence of large tree roots and a negative earthwork. An additional trench (Trench 26) was excavated at the request of the ECC Archaeological Advisor. The majority of the trenches each measured 30m long by 2.1m wide. The only exception was additional Trench 26, which was 8m long and deliberately targeted to intercept an infilled ditch visible as a negative earthwork. Following on-site discussions between ASE and the Archaeological Advisor, two short extensions were made to the sides of Trenches 1 and 6 to allow for more extensive excavation of ditch remains encountered in them.

3.1.2 None of the original twenty-five evaluation trenches were targeted on potential archaeological features. The location of Trenches 1, 6 and 14 in relation to negative earthwork features was a useful coincidence as opposed to planned intervention. Only additional Trench 26 was deliberately targeted.

3.1.3 Apparent in the development area were a number of negative earthworks representing the positions of wholly or partly infilled ditches. At the on-site meeting with the ECC Archaeological Advisor it was agreed that these would be quickly surveyed to allow better understanding and interpretation of the landscape. A sample of the earthworks were archaeologically investigated in Trenches 1, 6 and 26. It was agreed that due to flooding excavation of a further such earthwork would not be required in Trench 14.

3.1.4 All trenches were accurately located using a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and were scanned for the presence of underground services prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. All trenches were excavated using a 360^0 tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. The topsoil and subsoil (where present) was stripped under archaeological supervision down to the top of archaeological or geological deposits, whichever was encountered first, and cleaned using hand tools where appropriate

3.1.5 Standard ASE excavation, artefact collection and recording methodologies were employed throughout, with all work carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014b), and in compliance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

3.1.6 All stratigraphy was recorded using the ASE context recording system, with all exposed archaeological features and deposits recorded and sample excavated, except obviously modern features and disturbances.

3.1.7 Where required, a 50% sample of all contained features was excavated and a minimum of a 1m-wide segment excavated through larger linear features. Post-medieval and modern features were excavated as necessary in order to establish their date and significance. Features were excavated using hand tools

and planned using digital survey equipment.

3.1.8 Where present, finds were collected from excavated deposits, bagged, labelled and retained for specialist identification and study, in accordance with the ASE artefact collection policy and CIfA guidelines (CIfA 2014c).

3.1.9 Written records of trenches and any remains exposed within them were made using *pro forma* trench record sheets and, where appropriate, single context record sheets. Sections were hand-drawn (at a scale of 1:10) on sheets of gridded drawing film and subsequently digitised. A digital photographic record was compiled, including working shots to represent more generally the nature of the site and fieldwork.

3.1.10 Bulk soil samples were collected and processed for the purposes of the recovery of environmental material and small artefacts, in accordance with Historic England guidelines (Historic England 2011). Samples were collected from dated/datable sealed deposits judged to have the potential for the survival of plant macrofossils and for the recovery of small artefacts.

3.2 Archive

3.2.1 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 2014d).

3.2.2 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE. Subject to agreement with the legal landowner, ASE will arrange with Thurrock Museum for the deposition of the archive. The contents of the archive are summarised below (Tables 1 and 2).

Item	Quantity
Trench Record forms	26
Context sheets	38
Drawing Register	1
Drawing sheets	3
Photographic Register	1
Digital photos	78
Registered Finds Register	1
Environmental Register	1
Environmental Sample sheets	1

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Item	Quantity
Bulk finds	1 box
Registered finds (number of)	1
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	1 large bag

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Twenty-five evaluation trenches (numbered 1 to 25), as set out in the WSI (ASE 2021), were excavated across the site. Each measured 30m long and 2.1m wide (Figure 2) and most were set out in their proposed positions, with only very minor positional adjustments made to a few trenches in the centre and south-east. An additional 8m-long evaluation trench (Trench 26) was excavated at the request of the ECC Archaeological Advisor. Short extensions to facilitate adequate investigation of encountered features were made to the sides of Trench 1 and Trench 6.

4.1.2 The removed overburden consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlaying natural deposits. The topsoil [001] was a dark greyish brown clay silt brownish grey clay silt that varied in depth from 0.23m to 0.34m, with an average of around 0.27m. The subsoil [002] usually consisted of mid orangey brown clay silt, though yellowish grey silty clay was also noted. In some trenches this was a distinct deposit but in others it appeared to be a disturbed and dirty version of the underlying natural clay and was often associated with intense root activity. The subsoil varied in depth from 0.10m to 0.26m, with an average of around 0.16m. Exposed natural deposits [003] in the base of the trenches comprised mostly of clay or silty clay that varied in colour from yellowish brown to light brown and orange brown. Occasional patches of orange sand and gravel were also present.

4.1.3 Potential archaeological features and deposits were identified in nine of the twenty-six trenches (Trenches 1, 5, 6, 8, 10, 14, 17, 18 and 26). These are described in trench order in sections 4.2–4.10, below. Dated remains consist of a few former field boundary ditches of post-medieval to modern date. A few smaller ditches and areas of disturbance of similar date were also present, along with one or two undated gullies. Disturbance from past agricultural activities appeared minor, although there was some disturbance and soil build-up associated with the extensive sewer system across the site, and probably from the construction of the adjacent Manorway itself. Natural root disturbance from felled trees and cleared shrubs was commonplace, and intensive where trenches coincided with the locations of former copses.

4.1.5 Seventeen trenches were found to be devoid of archaeological remains. These trenches are summarised in section 4.11, with further details presented in Appendix 1.

4.2 **Trench 1** (Figure 3)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	30	2.1	0.24	6.75-7.81
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	30	2.1	0.22	
1/003	Layer	Natural	30	2.1	0.12+	6.40-7.25
1/004	Cut	Gully	2.1	0.35	0.07	
1/005	Fill	Fill of 1/004	2.1	0.35	0.07	
1/006	Cut	Ditch	2.1	1.32	0.46	
1/007	Fill	Fill of 1/006	2.1	1.32	0.46	
1/008	Cut	Ditch	4	2.68	0.52	
1/009	Fill	Upper fill of 1/008	4	2.68	0.40	
1/010	Fill	Lower fill of 1/008	2+	1.2	0.24	

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Trench 1 was located in the north-west of the site and was orientated WNW/ESE. The removed overburden consisted of topsoil [1/001] and subsoil [1/002] above natural deposits [1/003] of orange clay and sand. Two ditches and a gully were investigated.

4.2.2 Ditch [1/006] was aligned NE/SW and was 1.32m wide by 0.46m deep. It had variable 30-45° sloping sides and an almost V-shaped profile. The ditch contained a single fill [1/007] of dark grey brown clay silt from which a fragment of roof tile of probable post-medieval date was recovered. Frequent root disturbance was present. The ditch was visible on the surface to the south of the trench as a negative earthwork continuing towards Trench 6.

4.2.3 Gully [1/004] was aligned NE/SW and ran parallel with the south side of [1/006]. It was 0.35m wide by 0.07m deep and had gradual, slightly concave sides, and a flattish base. The gully was filled with mid grey orange clayey sand [1/005]. Some root disturbance was noted to the north. No finds were recovered.

4.2.4 Ditch [1/008] was aligned NNW/SSE. The south side of the trench was extended to expose the full width of the ditch. The ditch was 2.68m wide by 0.52m deep and had variably sloping (15-50°) sides that included a gently sloping shelf at the top of the north-eastern side. The ditch contained two fills; a lower deposit [1/010] of mid grey orange clay silt and an upper [1/009] of mid orange grey clay silt. Several large unworked flints were present in the upper fill, along with ten fragments of abraded post-medieval brick.

4.3 **Trench 5** (Figure 4)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	30	2.1	0.30	6.44-6.55
5/002	Layer	Redeposited subsoil	30	2.1	0.10	
5/003	Layer	Buried topsoil	10	2.1	0.08	
5/004	Layer	Made-ground	10	2.1	0.09	
5/005	Layer	Made-ground	10	2.1	0.10	
5/006	Layer	Natural	30	2.1	0.15+	5.83-6.08
5/007	Cut	Ditch	2.1	1.45	0.11	
5/008	Fill	Fill of 5/007	2.1	1.45	0.11	

Table 4: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 Trench 5 was orientated E/W and was located in the northeast corner of the site. The removed overburden consisted of topsoil [5/001] and a series of modern clay and silt build-up layers ([5/002] to [5/005]) which overlay natural clay [5/006] and were deepest at the west end of the trench. One ditch was recorded at the east end of the trench.

4.3.2 Ditch [5/007] was aligned NNW/SSE and was 1.45m wide by only 0.11m deep. It had gradual (10-15°) sloping sides and a flat base and was filled with dark brownish grey silty clay [5/008]. Retrieved finds consisted of three pieces of 19th- to 20th-century pottery and a fragment of late 19th- to 20th-century cylindrical bottle glass.

4.3.3 Draining of water from the west end of the trench prior to backfilling revealed the very edge of a ditch sealed beneath the thick build-up of modern overburden. The ditch was located just beyond the end of the trench, visible as a negative earthwork feature to the south (Figure 2).

4.4 **Trench 6** (Figure 5)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	30	2.1	0.32	7.84-6.54
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	30	2.1	0.15	
6/003	Layer	Natural	30	2.1	-	7.38-6.11
6/004	Cut	Ditch	2.1	3.1	0.66	
6/005	Fill	Lower fill of 6/004	2.1	1.2	0.15	
6/006	Fill	Upper fill of 6/004	2.1	3.1	0.66	

Table 5: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

4.4.1 Trench 6 was located in the northwest corner of the site and was orientated NNE/SSW. The removed overburden consisted of topsoil [6/001] and subsoil [6/002], overlying natural deposits [6/003] of orange brown clay. One large ditch was investigated.

4.4.2 The ditch was aligned NE/SW and was 3.1m wide by 0.66m deep. It had variable gradually sloping (30-40°) sides and a slightly rounded base and contained two fills. The lower fill [6/005] consisted of mottled grey and orange clay silt possibly derived from weathering. The upper fill [6/006] was a thick deposit of mid to dark brownish grey clay silt. No finds were recovered. Moderate root disturbance was noted. The ditch was visible on the ground as a negative earthwork extending between Trenches 1 and 6 and was also excavated as ditch [1/006] in Trench 1.

4.5 Trench 8 (Figure 6)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	30	2.1	0.23	5.73-5.79
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	30	2.1	0.16	
8/003	Layer	Natural	30	2.1	-	5.29-5.39
8/004	Cut	Gully	2.1	0.32	0.07	
8/005	Fill	Fill of 8/004	2.1	0.32	0.07	

Table 6: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Trench 8 was orientated WNW/ESE and was located in the north of the site. The removed overburden consisted of topsoil [8/001] and subsoil [8/002] overlying natural deposits [8/003] of yellowish brown clay. One small gully was excavated in the eastern half of the trench.

4.5.2 Gully [8/004] was aligned roughly NE/SW and was 0.32m wide by 0.07m deep. It had gradually sloping (20-40°) sides and a concave base. The gully contained a single fill of mid orange grey silty clay with frequent root disturbance. No finds were recovered.

4.5.3 While the gully was not identified to extend north-eastwards as far as Trench 3, it is possible that it extended southwestwards as far as Trench 17, where narrow ditch [17/004] may represent its continuation.

4.6 Trench 10 (Figure 7)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	31	2.1	0.24	5.78-5.87
10/002	Layer	Subsoil	31	2.1	0.20	
10/003	Layer	Natural	31	2.1	-	5.32-5.46
10/004	Layer	Made-ground	7.0	1.5	0.24	
10/005	Layer	Made-ground	4.5	0.4	0.03	
10/006	Layer	Made-ground	6.5	1.5	0.10	

Table 7: Trench 10 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 Trench 10 was located in the northeast of the site and was orientated WNW/ESE. The overburden generally consisted of topsoil [10/001] and subsoil [10/002] overlying natural deposits [10/003] of yellowish brown clay. However, in the east of the trench the topsoil overlay a modern mixed deposit [10/004] of mottled brown and grey silty clay and gravel. This in turn overlay two further localised deposits of 'made-ground' exposed in the base of the trench. The lowest deposit was a 0.10m thick layer of dark grey clay silt with brown mottling [10/006], overlain by a thin patchy layer of redeposited brown clay [10/005]. Retrieved finds consisted of a small sherd of whiteware pottery of 19th- or 20th-century date and fragments of post-medieval brick and tile. It is likely these deposits are associated with groundworks associated with the insertion of the extensive sewer system located within 10m of the east end of the trench (Figure 2).

4.7 Trench 14 (Figure 8)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
14/001	Layer	Topsoil	30	2.1	0.24	5.74-5.82
14/002	Layer	Subsoil	30	2.1	0.22	
14/003	Layer	Natural	30	2.1	-	5.35-5.40
14/004	Fill	Fill of 6/005	2.1	2.5	-	
14/005	Cut	Ditch	2.1	2.5	-	

Table 8: Trench 14 list of recorded contexts

4.7.1 Trench 14 was located in the east of the site and was orientated WNW/ESE. The overburden consisted of topsoil [14/001] and subsoil [14/002] overlying natural deposits [14/003] of light yellowy brown clay. One ditch was recorded within the trench.

4.7.2 The ditch was located roughly in the centre of the trench, which was flooded shortly after excavation due to a combination of ground and rain water. It was agreed with the ECC Archaeological Advisor that the ditch would not require excavation as it had been previously investigated in Trench 1 and was visible on the ground as a negative earthwork extending between the two trenches.

4.7.3 Prior to backfilling, the water was released from the trench and the width of the ditch [14/005] was established at 2.5m. The exposed fill [14/004] consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay [14/004]. A metal-detector sweep across the surface of this deposit retrieved a modern silvered object closely resembling the metal part of a car wiper blade (not retained).

4.8 Trench 17 (Figure 9)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
17/001	Layer	Topsoil	30	2.1	0.30	5.66-5.74
17/002	Layer	Subsoil	30	2.1	0.15	
17/003	Layer	Natural	30	2.1	0.08+	5.21-5.22

17/004	Fill	Fill of 7/005	2.1	0.67	0.10	
17/005	Cut	Ditch	2.1	0.67	0.10	

Table 9: Trench 17 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 Trench 17 was located to the southwest of Trench 14 and was orientated WNW/ESE. The removed topsoil [17/001] and subsoil [17/002] overlay natural deposits [17/003] of yellowish brown clay. One small ditch/gully was investigated.

4.8.2 The ditch/gully was aligned NE/SW and was 0.67m wide by 0.10m deep and had moderate (35-50°) sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill [17/005] of mottled orange and grey silty clay. Finds consisted of a residual piece of worked flint and a fragment of tile of probable post-medieval date.

4.8.3 This feature had a similar fill to the gully in Trench 8 and appeared to be a broadly aligned with it. Although the two ditches are not precisely in alignment, it is assumed that they may be part of the same feature given the possibility of slight directional change over the considerable distance (*c.*68m) between them.

4.9 Trench 18 (Figure 10)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
18/001	Layer	Topsoil	30	2.1	0.28	5.69-5.75
18/002	Layer	Subsoil	30	2.1	0.20	
18/003	Layer	Natural	30	2.1	0.18+	5.04-5.30
18/004	Fill	Fill of 8/005	2.1	0.8	0.20	
18/005	Cut	Ditch	2.1	0.8	0.20	
18/006	Cut	Gully	2.1	0.27	0.05	
18/007	Fill	Fill of 18/006	2.1	0.27	0.05	

Table 10: Trench 18 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 Trench 18 was orientated NNE/SSW and was located south of Trench 14. Topsoil [18/001] and subsoil [18/002] overlay natural deposits [18/003] of light brown clay. One ditch and one gully were excavated; both were aligned NW/SE. An area of ground disturbance at the southern end of the trench was most probably related to the construction of the sewer system, which passes close by (Figure 2).

4.9.2 Ditch [18/004] was located at the north end of the trench. It was 0.8m wide by 0.2m deep and had variably sloping (25-50°) sides, steeper to the north, and a concave base. It contained a single fill [18/005] of light to mid mottled orange grey silty clay. Some root disturbance was noted. No finds were present.

4.9.3 Gully [18/006] was a narrow, shallow, feature, 0.27m wide by 0.05m deep. It had gradual sides and a concave profile and was filled with mid orange grey silty clay [18/007]. Occasional root disturbance was noted. No finds were recovered.

4.10 **Trench 26** (Figure 11)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
26/001	Layer	Topsoil	30	2.1	0.24	5.73
26/002	Layer	Subsoil	30	2.1	0.10	
26/003	Layer	Natural	30	2.1	-	5.39-5.66
26/004	Layer	Levelling deposit	5	2.1	0.31	5.93
26/005	Fill	4th fill of 26/007	2.1	2.7	0.22	
26/006	Fill	3rd fill of 26/007	2.1	1.45	0.29	
26/007	Cut	Ditch	2.1	2.7	0.91	
26/008	Fill	2nd fill of 26/007	2.1	1.5	0.31	
26/009	Fill	2nd fill of 26/007	1	0.6	0.14	
26/010	Fill	1st fill of 26/007	1	0.5	0.35	

Table 11: Trench 26 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 Trench 26 was an additional trench excavated at the request of the ECC Archaeological Advisor. It was orientated NW/SE and was purposefully located across a linear negative earthwork visible on the ground surface. In the south of the trench, topsoil [26/001] and subsoil [26/002] overlay natural deposits [26/003] of yellow brown clay. In the north of the trench part of the topsoil and a hollow above an underlying infilled ditch were overlain by a modern levelling deposit [26/004] of mixed brown and grey silty clay.

4.10.2 Ditch [26/007] was aligned NE/SW and measured 2.7m wide by 0.91m deep. It had variable 30-60° sloping sides which were wide at the top, narrowing/stepping to an off-centre U-shaped 0.5m wide slot in the base. The ditch contained a sequence of five silty clay fills. In the slot-like base of the ditch the primary fill [26/010] consisted of a damp deposit of dark grey silty clay with a high organic content. Soil sample <1> collected from this deposit produced a wide variety of waterlogged plant remains, including wild edible species such as strawberry and bramble, and other species such as sedges, cinquefoils and grasses. No charred plant macrofossils or charcoal fragments were recovered.

4.10.3 The second fill [26/009] consisted of mid grey silty clay with occasional black organic inclusions. A third fill [26/008] located on the south side of the ditch consisted of brownish grey silty clay with lenses of browner clay and pebble inclusions. The fourth fill [26/006] consisted of dark brown, slightly gravelly, clay and the top fill [26/005] consisted of dark brownish grey silty clay. Recovered finds comprised only a single fragment of clay tobacco pipe of late 18th- to early 19th-century date.

4.11 **Archaeologically blank trenches** (Figures 12-13)

4.11.1 Seventeen trenches (Trenches 2-4, 7, 9, 11-13, 15, 16, 19-25) were found to be devoid of archaeological remains and are given summary description below. Further details of the deposit sequences recorded in each trench are provided in Appendix 1.

4.11.2 In most trenches topsoil [001] and subsoil [02] overlay natural deposits [03]. The topsoil consisted of dark greyish brown clay silt brownish grey clay silt that varied in depth from 0.23m to 0.34m. The subsoil [002] usually consisted of mid orangey brown clay that in some trenches was a root disturbed version of the underlying natural. The subsoil varied in depth from 0.08m to 0.26m. The underlying natural deposits consisted of clay and silty clay in various hues of brown.

4.11.3 Made-ground was present at the east end of Trench 3 and may be associated with groundworks for the near-by channelled stream. Trenches 24 and 25 were located in boggy ground in the southeast of the site, close to trees and the stream forming the site boundary. As a consequence, both trenches contained groundwater and were heavily root disturbed. In general, the exposed clay in the base of the trenches was relatively pure and there were very few amorphous patches of indeterminate archaeological/natural origin requiring investigation.

4.12 Metal detecting

4.12.1 The bases of the evaluation trenches containing archaeological remains were detected for the presence of metal objects. The adjacent stock-piled topsoil was also investigated.

4.12.2 Iron objects were recovered from features in the base of Trench 1 and Trench 5. In addition, part of an iron chain was recovered from the topsoil from Trench 5. All finds are likely to be of post-medieval or later date (see 5.5).

4.12.3 The metal part of a car windscreen wiper was recovered from the unexcavated ditch in Trench 14 but not retained. Other modern (not retained) finds were detected in the stock-piled topsoil and included a fragment of metal pipe (Trench 6), half a road iron (Trench 18) and a crumpled drinks can (Trench 10).

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation on Land South of The Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope. 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 12. A single find was assigned a unique registered find number (section 5.5). The material recovered from the residues of bulk soil samples is quantified in Appendix 2. All finds have been packed and stored following CIfA guidelines (2014c).

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Glass	Weight (g)	Clay tobacco pipe	Weight (g)
1/007					1	169						
1/009					10	712	1	45				
5/001							1	115				
5/008			3	8			1	28	1	12	1	12
10/006			1	1	3	19						
17/005	1	5			1	59						
26/008												
Total	*1*	*5*	*4*	*9*	*15*	*959*	*3*	*188*	*1*	*12*	*1*	*12*

Table 12: Quantification of hand-collected bulk finds

5.2 **Flintwork** by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 A single piece of worked flint weighing 5g was recovered from the fill [17/005] of gully [17/004]. It consists of a blade, the distal tip and the proximal end of which are absent. This broken piece of debitage is made on a mid-grey flint with a thin (<1mm) cortex. It displays relatively fresh edges. It exhibits parallel ridges on the dorsal face and thin removal scars. It is the product of a blade technology, and it indicates a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. It may be residual in the gully.

5.3 **Post-Roman Pottery** by Luke Barber

5.3.1 The evaluation recovered four pieces of post-Roman pottery from the site. All consist of small somewhat abraded sherds that have clearly been reworked. Ditch fill [5/008] produced two pieces (6g) of blue transfer-printed whiteware, one possibly from a bowl, the other of indeterminate form. Neither are large enough to deduce the pattern design. The same deposit produced a 2g fragment of bone china doll's saucer. Made-ground deposit [10/006] produced a 1g scrap of refined whiteware with moulded exterior of uncertain form. All the pottery can be put in a *c*.1825-1925 date range.

5.4 **Ceramic Building Material** by Rae Regensberg

5.4.1 Fifteen fragments of ceramic building material weighing 959g were collected from four contexts during the evaluation. This included twelve fragments of post-medieval brick, all of which was quite abraded with few diagnostic feature evident. Only one piece had any surfaces remaining; it was 60mm thick, had neat but creased surfaces, fine mould sand and slightly rounded arrises. The brick pieces all had a slightly powdery orangey red fabric with sparse quantities of quartz and mica present.

5.4.2 All the material was recorded by form, weight, complete dimensions (when present) applied and use the following conventions: frequency of inclusions (sparse, moderate, common, abundant); the size of inclusions, fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (0.25-0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm).

5.4.3 Three fragments of flat roof tile were also recovered, two of which were well-fired, consistent of form, 12mm thick and had fine strike lines. They had gritty orange fabric with a sparse amount of dark red oxidised material. The third piece of roof tile had a darker reduced core and had had one surface spall off, hence no complete dimensions were possible. Its fabric was orange with moderate to common quantity of quartz. As flat roof tile remained largely consistent from the medieval period up to the 19th century, it is not possible to provide a refined date; however, the features present lean more towards a post-medieval date.

5.4.4 Ten of the brick fragments were recovered from the upper fill of ditch [1/008]. The remaining pieces of brick were found in made-ground [10/006]. The three flat roof tile pieces were recovered from three contexts; made-ground [10/006], the fill of ditch [1/006] and the fill of gully [17/005].

5.5 **Clay Tobacco Pipe** by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 A single clay tobacco pipe bowl (weight 12g) was recovered from ditch fill [26/008]. The bowl (RF<1>) dates between *c*.1780 and 1820, has oak leaf-decorated seams and retains maker's initials S?E moulded in relief on the spur sides. There are no currently known makers with those initials working in the area.

5.6 **Glass** by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 A single, colourless cylindrical bottle fragment weighing 8g was recovered from ditch fill [5/008]. The piece is of late 19th- to 20th-century date.

5.7 **Bulk Metalwork** by Rae Regensberg

5.7.1 The bulk metal assemblage consists of three fragments of iron, collectively weighing 188g, recovered from three contexts by metal-detecting.

5.7.2 One incomplete general-purpose nail with a rectangular shank was collected from the upper fill of ditch [1/008]. Rectangular shanked nails have a broad date range, only being replaced by round shanked nails during the 19th century.

Head shape and dimensions can provide a more refined date in some cases; however, only the shank was recovered.

5.7.3 The ironwork item retrieved from topsoil [5/001] was heavily corroded and therefore difficult to identify. However, there are indications that it is three links of a reasonably large chain (115.3g) that have conglomerated due to corrosion.

5.7.4 An unidentified very corroded fragment of iron was recovered from the fill of ditch [5/008].

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS by Elsa Neveu

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Single bulk sample <1> [26/010], measuring 30 litres, was collected from the fill of post-medieval ditch [26/007] during the evaluation at the site. Sampling aimed to retrieve dating evidence and environmental remains, such as charcoal and charred plant macrofossils. This report considers the evidence for crops and local vegetation environment.

6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 This sample was processed by flotation using a 500 µm mesh for the heavy residues and a 250 µm mesh for the retention of the flot, but residues and flot were preserved wet. A stereo-zoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications was used in order to sort the subsampled residues and flot and also identify the remains. Their contents are described and recorded in Appendix 2. The identification of the plant macrofossils was based on observations of gross morphology and surface cell structure. Remains were compared to a botanical modern reference collection and published atlas (Cappers *et al.* 2006) was consulted. The nomenclature for the wild taxa follows Stace (2010) and Zohary and Hopf (2000) for the domesticated plants. Quantification was based on approximate number of individuals.

6.3 Results

6.3.1 A range of archaeological remains were recovered from Sample <1> and include waterlogged plant macrofossils, fragments of wood and insects. Appendix 2a and b provide an overview of the sample detailing materials identified in residues and flot. The following text summarise the results.

The Sample <1> residue and flot revealed similar results and yielded a large quantity of waterlogged plant remains, which mainly comprised seeds of gypsywort (Lycopus europaeus) and edible wild taxa such as bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) and dog-rose (*Rosa canina*). In addition, several weed species and other wild taxa were registered as daisy family (*Asteraceae*), sedges (*Carex* sp.), fat-hen (*Chenopodium album*), sedge family (*Cyperaceae*), parsnip (*Pastinica sativa* ssp. *sativa*), cinquefoils (*Potentilla* sp.), grass family (*Poaceae*), knotweed family (*Polygonaceae*), knotgrass (*Polygonum minus*), bulbosus buttercup/creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus bulbosus*/*repens*), black nightshade/Chinese lantern (*Solanum nigrum*/*Physalis alkekengi*), prickly sowthistle (*Sonchus asper*), stitchworts (*Stellaria* sp.), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*), mulleins (*Verbascum* sp.) and unidentified waterlogged plant remains. No cereal or non-cereal crop taxa were noted and no charred plant macrofossil or fragments of charcoal were retrieved.

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 This sample provides a glimpse of the wild edible species and weeds growing on or near the site. The lack of cereal and pulse in this assemblage is most probably explained by the infrequence/absence of activities related to crop husbandry and processing at this location. This may well be due to the site being

poorly drained and therefore only suitable for pasture and woodland / scrubland.

6.4.2 However, this assemblage indicates there is a good potential for nearby waterlogged deposits to preserve plant macrofossils, albeit of relatively recent (19th/20th century) date.

7.0 DISCUSSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

7.1.1 The deposit sequence recorded across the site comprised a 0.23m to 0.34m thickness of topsoil overlying a slightly shallower 0.08m to 0.26m thickness of subsoil. In some trenches the subsoil was a distinct deposit and in others it appeared to be a disturbed version of the underlying natural. The natural deposits consisted of clay and silty clay that varied in colour from yellowish brown to light brown and orange brown. Occasional patches of orange sand and gravel were also present. Some archaeological remains were sealed by the subsoil, others by the topsoil or modern made-ground. At least one post-medieval field boundary appeared to cut the topsoil.

7.1.2 Nine of the excavated trenches (Trenches 1, 5, 6, 8, 10, 14, 17, 18 and 26) were found to contain definite or probable archaeological remains. These were spread across the northern half of the evaluated area and consisted of ditches, gullies and occasional disturbed areas. Both density and complexity of the revealed archaeological remains was low.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

7.2.1 Natural deposits were overlain by topsoil and subsoil which formed an overburden of around 0.40–0.50m thickness. Modern cultivation activity appeared minimal, which is in part reflected in the survival of former in-filled field boundaries as visible negative earthworks in the land surface.

7.2.2 The majority of disturbance to the few archaeological features and to the general deposit sequences across the site was of natural root-related origin, caused by recently-cleared trees and scrub.

7.2.3 It is anticipated that the construction of the modern sewer system across the site (Figure 2) will have caused disturbance; however, no impacts on archaeological features have been encountered in the evaluation.

7.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

7.3.1 Where possible, the recorded archaeological features have been dated on the basis of their diagnostic artefact content, association or spatial relationship and with reference to cartographic evidence. All of the dated archaeological remains date to the late post-medieval or modern periods

Prehistoric

7.3.2 Only one piece of worked flint, of possible Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date, was recovered. As the flint was recovered with a fragment of CBM from a gully in Trench 17 it is almost certainly residual in this context. Given the very low incidence of recovered prehistoric flintwork across the site it is likely that this land was little utilised in the prehistoric period.

Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval

7.3.3 No remains or finds of Roman or Anglo-Saxon date were encountered by the evaluation, although have been found in the wider area of Stanford-Le-Hope. Medieval remains were also absent. Potentially the investigated field boundaries could have had medieval origins but this was not borne out by the archaeological evidence.

Post-medieval

7.3.4 The surveyed negative earthworks and their below-ground ditch remains present in Trenches 1, 6, 14 and 26 form part of a post-medieval field system. All of these recorded ditches are visible as landscape boundaries on the Stanford-le-Hope Tithe map of 1839 (Waterman 2010, Fig. 2). The ditches in Trench 14 and Trench 26 define two sides of a rectangular enclosure, the third side represented by the now canalised ditch to the NE and the fourth by the boundary stream to the SE. This enclosure appears to be depicted as a tree-covered plantation with an adjacent pond to the north. The recovery of the clay tobacco pipe bowl dating *c.*1780 to 1820 from an intermediate fill of the ditch in Trench 26 might suggest that this enclosure may at least have its origins in the latter part of the 18th century. The identification of this area as woodland might account for the lack of cereal grains in the sample from the base of the ditch and for the presence of such plants as bramble, dog-rose and a wide range of weeds.

7.3.5 Depicted to the immediate north of the plantation enclosure on the Tithe map is a smaller parcel of land listed as 'Little Mead' in the accompanying Tithe apportionment (Waterman 2010, 6). The south-western boundary of this smaller enclosure continued the line of the Trench 14 ditch and passed through the eastern half of Trench 1, with presumably a corner and a return to the NE located just beyond the trench. Located just north of this smaller enclosure was a more extensive NE/SW aligned ditch which crossed through the western half of Trench 1 and through the centre of Trench 6.

7.3.6 The plantation and pond are not depicted on the early Ordnance Survey mapping, suggesting that there had been a change in land use by the 1860s. However, the rectangular enclosure itself continued in use throughout the remainder of the 19th century and through much of the 20th century. The enclosure survived as a recorded boundary, though possibly defunct by this stage, as late as the 1970s and 80s. The smaller parcel of land ('Little Mead') appears also to have been a casualty of the change of land use, as it depicted only as a dashed line on the 1:2.500 OS map dated 1867-1882 (Figure 14) and disappears from mapping thereafter. The more extensive NE/SW boundary to its north continued in use but was curtailed to the west by the construction of the London, Tilbury and Southend Railway in the 1850s.

7.3.7 Also depicted on the 1839 Tithe map was a sinuous stream leading from near-by Hassenbrook Hall and joining the watercourse to the south of the site. Although not investigated by the evaluation, the route of this stream was surveyed as a negative earthwork in the NE corner of the site passing immediately to the west of Trench 5. The stream is depicted on early OS mapping (Figure 14), but as a much shortened feature that does not even

extend as far as the site boundary.

7.3.8 Also of potential post-medieval date was the narrow gully in Trench 17 which contained post-medieval tile. This broadly aligned with a similar feature in Trench 8 and the two could have provided some agricultural drainage function. A similar undated gully in Trench 18 was aligned perpendicular to the two and may be part of the same system. A further ditch in the north of Trench 18 was aligned parallel with the boundary for the rectangular post-medieval enclosure and could be contemporary although it was not traced extending across the site.

Modern

7.3.9 A ditch of more recent (later 19th to 20th century) date was present in Trench 5 and a similar-dated patch of made-ground was evident at the eastern end of Trench 10, the latter possibly associated with the construction of the nearby sewerage system. A second area of modern disturbance located at the southern end of Trench 18 may represent part of the easement opened-up when the sewer was constructed. Made-ground associated with modern groundworks was also present in Trenches 3 and 5.

7.4 Consideration of research aims

7.4.1 The general aim of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (ASE 2021), has been achieved in that the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of preservation of surviving archaeological remains has been determined as far as reasonably practicable. This should enable informed planning decisions and appropriate mitigation measures to be decided and implemented before development takes place.

7.4.2 The site-specific research aims have been met in that it has been determined that there is no archaeological evidence for prehistoric, Romano-British, Saxon or medieval activity within the site. Consequently, the nature of past activity on site and how it fits with sites and findspots found in the wider area cannot be determined.

7.4.3 The absence of archaeological remains of Iron Age, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon date mean it has not been possible to address the specific objectives for the project set out with regard to the to the regional research objectives (Medlycott 2011; Brown and Glazebrook 2000).

7.5 Conclusions

7.5.1 The trial trench evaluation of this site on land south of The Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope has established that there is a low density of archaeological remains across the site, with only nine of the twenty-six evaluation trenches containing below-ground archaeological features. Many of these were visible as negative earthworks extending across the site and were surveyed as part of this fieldwork. The resultant plot matched closely with the 1839 Tithe map and subsequent OS mapping of 1867-1882.

7.5.2 Other than a fragment of prehistoric worked flint recovered as a residual find in a later context no finds or remains of any antiquity were present. This negative

evidence supports the conclusion of the Archaeology Assessment (Waterman 2010, 9) that sources indicate the site has a limited potential for archaeological remains dating to the prehistoric, Roman and early Medieval periods.

7.5.3 The earliest excavated remains date to the post-medieval period. Cartographic evidence suggest these may date to the 1830s at the latest, whilst the recovery of a diagnostic clay tobacco pipe fragment might push this back to the late 18th century. There was no evidence to suggest that that the post-medieval field system had its origins in the medieval period.

7.5.4 It is likely that the modern construction of a sewer system across the site has disturbed the deposit sequence, though no disturbance of specific archaeological features has been evidenced by the evaluation.

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Appendix 1: Blank trenches: context data

Trench	Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
2	2/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27	5.87-5.95
	2/002	Layer	Dirty natural	0.24	
	2/003	Layer	Natural	0.03+	5.58-5.68
3	3/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	5.79
	3/002	Layer	Dirty natural	0.16	
	3/003	Layer	Natural	0.05+	5.46-5.52
	3/004	Layer	Made ground (above Tops in E)	0.23	6.13
4	4/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29	5.65-5.99
	4/002	Layer	Dirty natural	0.12	
	4/003	Layer	Natural	-	5.34-5.66
7	7/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27	6.02-6.62
	7/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.20	
	7/003	Layer	Natural	0.07+	5.67-6.04
9	9/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	5.78-5.95
	9/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.18	
	9/003	Layer	Natural	0.10+	5.42-5.46
11	11/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.23	5.73-6.18
	11/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.20	
	11/003	Layer	Natural	0.10+	5.32-5.66
12	12/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	5.79-5.92
	12/002	Layer	Dirty natural	0.10	
	12/003	Layer	Natural	-	5.39-5.50
13	13/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26	5.62-5.77
	13/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.12	
	13/003	Layer	Natural	0.07+	5.20-5.38
15	15/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	5.59-5.66
	15/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.15	
	15/003	Layer	Natural	0.10+	5.10-5.18
16	16/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27	5.51-5.65
	16/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.13	
	16/003	Layer	Natural	-	5.20-5.25
19	19/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29	5.34-5.50
	19/002	Layer	Dirty natural	0.08	
	19/003	Layer	Natural	0.03+	4.89-5.11
20	20/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	5.45-5.55
	20/002	Layer	Dirty natural	0.13	
	20/003	Layer	Natural	0.10+	5.01-5.10
21	21/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.30	5.49-5.59
	21/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.16	
	21/003	Layer	Natural	0.13+	5.02-5.04

Trench	Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth m (max)	Height m AOD
22	22/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	5.23-5.30
	22/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.14	
	22/003	Layer	Natural	0.04+	4.86-4.90
23	23/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.30	5.18-5.41
	23/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.12	
	23/003	Layer	Natural	-	4.77-4.93
24	24/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.34	5.19-5.42
	24/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.20	
	24/003	Layer	Natural	0.10+	4.72-4.88
25	25/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	5.16-5.38
	25/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.26	
	25/003	Layer	Natural	0.10+	4.80-4.95

Appendix 2: Environmental Soil Sample data

2a: Wet residues quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250)

Sample Number	Context	Sample Volume (L)	Volume Scanned (%)	Uncharred (%)	Sediment (%)	Weed Seeds Charred	Identifications	Preservation	Other Botanical Charred	Identifications	Preservation	Wood remains	Insects, Fly Pupae etc.	Further work
1	26/010	30	1	100	10	**	*Asteraceae* (*), *Chenopodium album* (*), *Poaceae* (*), *Polygonaceae* (*), *Polygonum minus* (*), *Ranunculus bulbosus/repens* (*), *Rumex* sp. *(*),* *Solanum nigrum/Physalis alkekengi* (*), *Stellaria* sp. (*), *Urtica dioica* (*) Unidentified seed remains (*)	+/++	***	*Carex* sp. (*), *Fragaria vesca* (*), *Lycopus europaeus* (**), *Potentilla* sp. (*) *Rosa canina* (**), *Rubus fruticosus* (**), *Sambucus* sp. (*), *Verbascum* sp. (*)	+/++	***	**	This wet sample is recommended for analysis if the parent context will be dated

2b: Wet flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250)

Sample Number	Context	Flot volume (ml)	Volume Scanned (%)	Uncharred (%)	Sediment (%)	Weed Seeds Charred	Identifications	Preservation	Other Botanical Charred	Identifications	Preservation	Wood remains	Insects, Fly Pupae etc.	Further work
1	26/010	350	25	100	10	***	*Asteraceae* (*), *Poaceae* (*), *Polygonaceae* (*), *Polygonum minus* (**), *Ranunculus* sp. (*), *Rumex* sp. *(*), Solanum nigrum/Physalis alkekengi* (*), *Sonchus asper* (*), Urtica dioica (**) Unidentified seed remains (*)	+/++	****	*Carex* sp. (**), *Cyperaceae* (*), *Fragaria vesca* (*), *Lycopus europaeus* (***), *Pastinica sativa* ssp. *sativa* (*), Potentilla sp. (*) *Rosa canina* (**), Rubus fruticosus (*), *Verbascum* sp. (*)	+/++	***	**	This wet sample is recommended for analysis if the parent context will be dated

Appendix 3: HER Summary

Site name/Address: Land south of The Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex	
Parish: Stanford-le-Hope	***District:*** Thurrock
NGR: TQ 6825 8277	***Site Code****:* THMW21
Type of Work: Evaluation	***Site Director/Group:*** Trevor Ennis, ASE
Date of Work: 13 to 21 May 2021	***Size of Area Investigated:*** 6ha
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Thurrock	***Funding source:*** Client
Further Seasons Anticipated?: Uncertain	***Related HER Nos****:*
Final Report: EAH round-up, ADS grey lit report	***OASIS No:*** 424343
Periods Represented*:* Post-medieval	

SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:

Twenty-six evaluation trenches were excavated across the c.6ha site, including an extra trench opened at the request of the monitoring officer. No features of prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon or medieval date were identified. One piece of prehistoric worked flint was recovered which was residual in a later context.

Archaeological remains of post-medieval date were identified in nine of the evaluation trenches, located mainly in the north and east of the site. The majority of these remains consisted of post-medieval ditches that were partially visible on the ground as a series of negative earthworks. The earthworks were surveyed and their layout established to closely correlate with boundaries depicted on the 1839 Stanford-le-Hope Tithe map and subsequent Ordnance Survey mapping from 1867–1882.

The boundaries formed a rectangular enclosure, with a smaller parcel of land to its north and a separate more extensive field boundary beyond. The rectangular enclosure is depicted as a plantation with an adjacent pond on the Tithe map. The plantation, pond and the smaller parcel of land to the north are not, however, depicted on early OS mapping, suggesting a change of landuse by the 1860s. The rectangular enclosure itself continued in use throughout the remainder of the 19th century and into the 20th century, and was still depicted on OS mapping as late as 1970s and 80s but probably as a relict feature by now.

Other recorded post-medieval remains consisted of three gullies, possibly with an agricultural function and an additional ditch not depicted on mapping. Part of a more modern ditch was identified and areas of disturbance and made-ground that may have been associated with the construction of a sewerage system across the site.

Previous Summaries/Reports:
Waterman, 2010 *Manor Way, Stanford Le Hope, Essex: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Assessment*

Author of Summary: Trevor Ennis	***Date of Summary:*** *June 2021*

Appendix 4: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: 42434

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation: Land south of the Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope
Short description of the project	Twenty-six evaluation trenches were excavated across the c.6ha site. No remains of prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon or medieval date were identified. Archaeological remains were identified in nine trenches and consisted of a small number of post-medieval ditches that were partially visible on the ground as a series of negative earthworks. The earthworks were surveyed and the resultant plot correlated closely with boundaries depicted on the 1839 Tithe map and subsequent Ordnance Survey mapping from 1867-1882. Other post-medieval remains consisted of three gullies possibly with an agricultural function and an additional ditch not depicted on mapping. Part of a more modern ditch was identified and areas of disturbance and made ground that may have been associated with the construction of a sewerage system across the site.
Project dates	Start: 13-05-2021 End: 21-05-2021
Previous/future work	No / No
Associated project reference codes	THMW21 – Site code 180181 – contractors project number
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	DITCHES Post Medieval
Monument type	GULLIES Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ROOF TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"'Sample Trenches"'
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination (e.g. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX THURROCK STANFORD LE HOPE Land south of The Manorway
Study area	6 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 6825 8277 51.518233498747 0.425273322122 51 31 05 N 000 25 30 E Point

Project creators

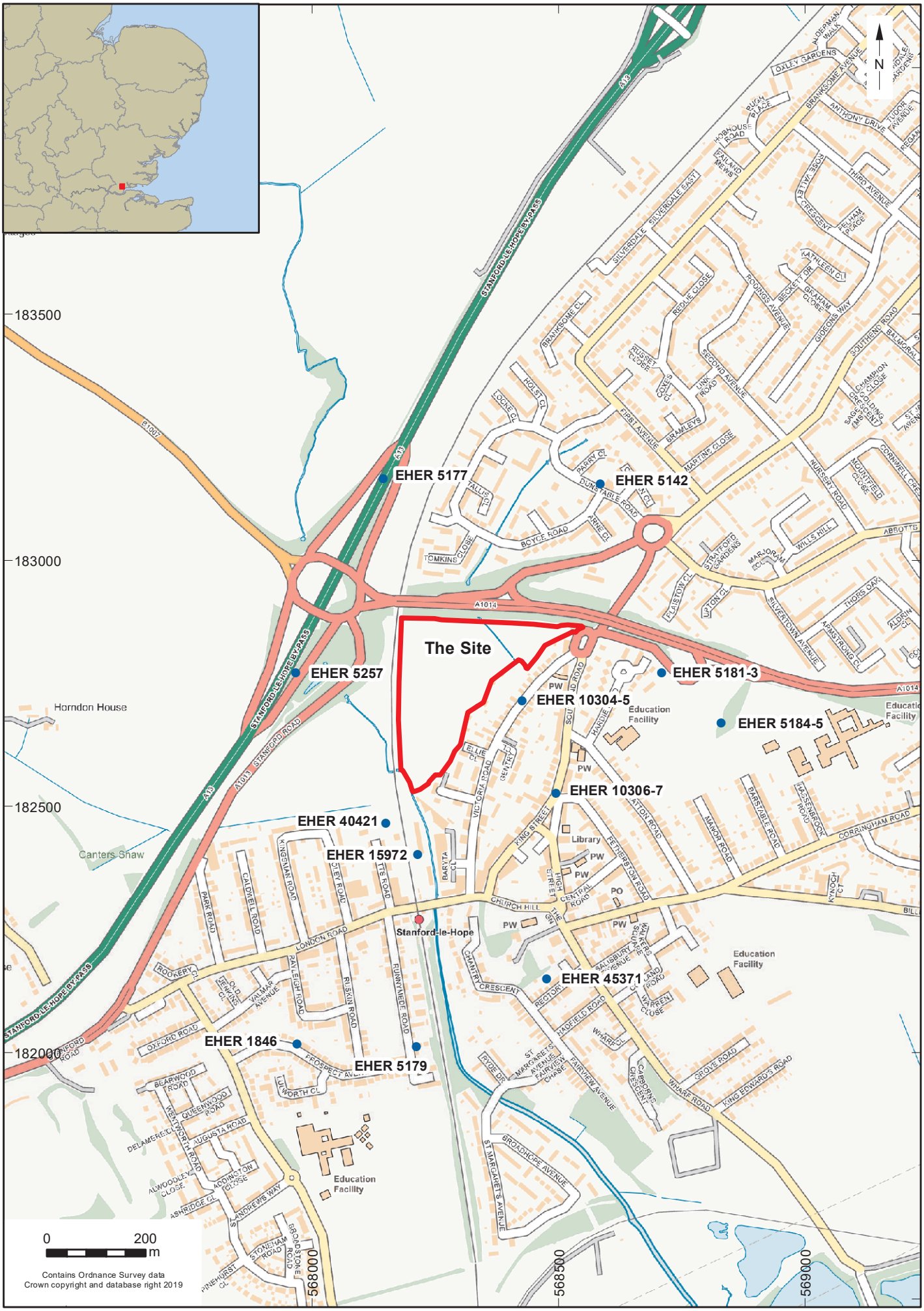
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Essex County Council Place Services
Project design originator	ASE
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Trevor Ennis
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client

Project archives

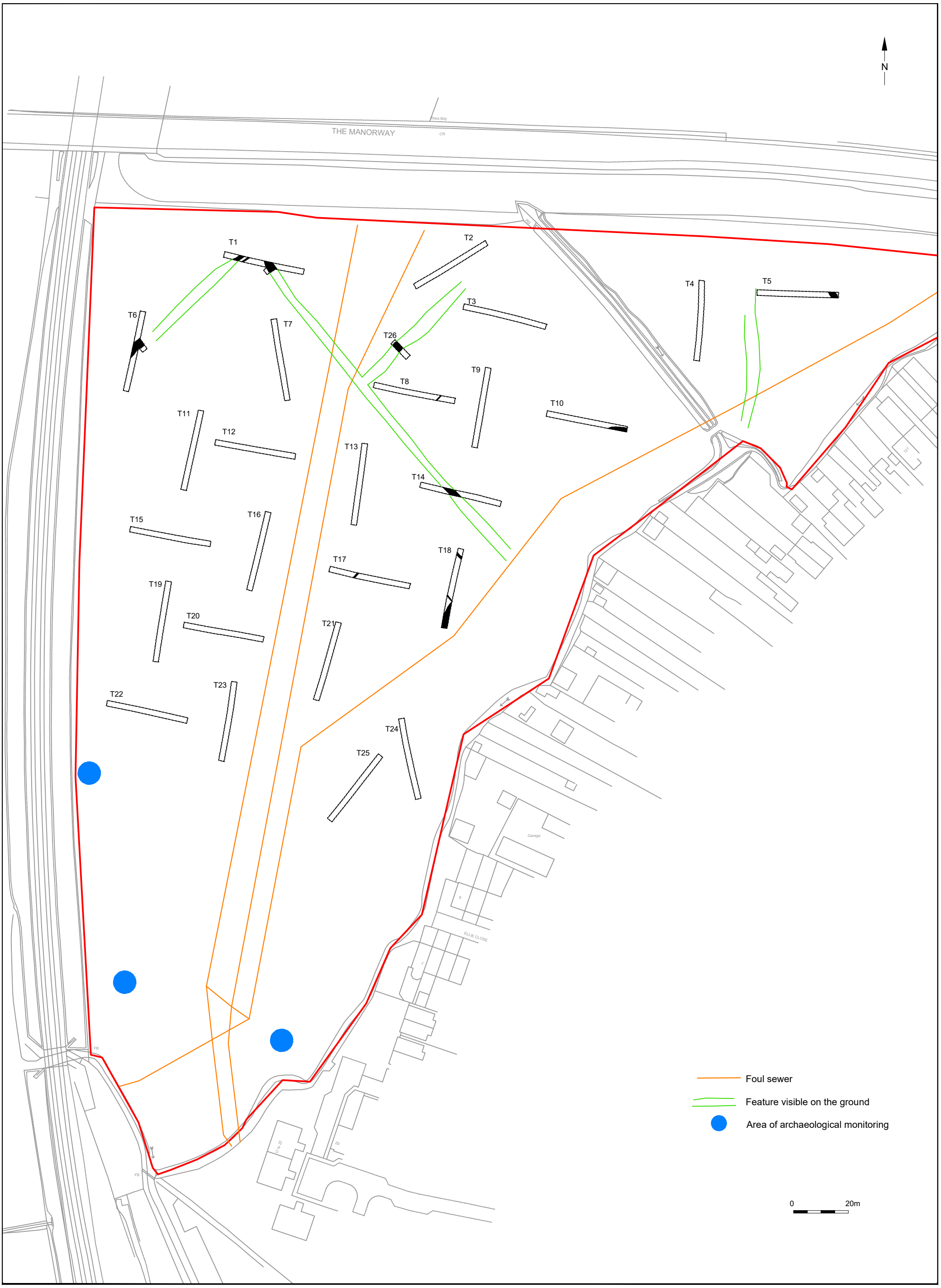
Physical Archive recipient	Thurrock Museum
Physical Archive ID	THWM21
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Thurrock Museum
Digital Archive ID	THWM21
Digital Contents	"Ceramics", "Metal", "Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Thurrock Museum
Paper Archive ID	THWM21
Paper Contents	"Ceramics", "Metal", "Stratigraphic" ,"Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

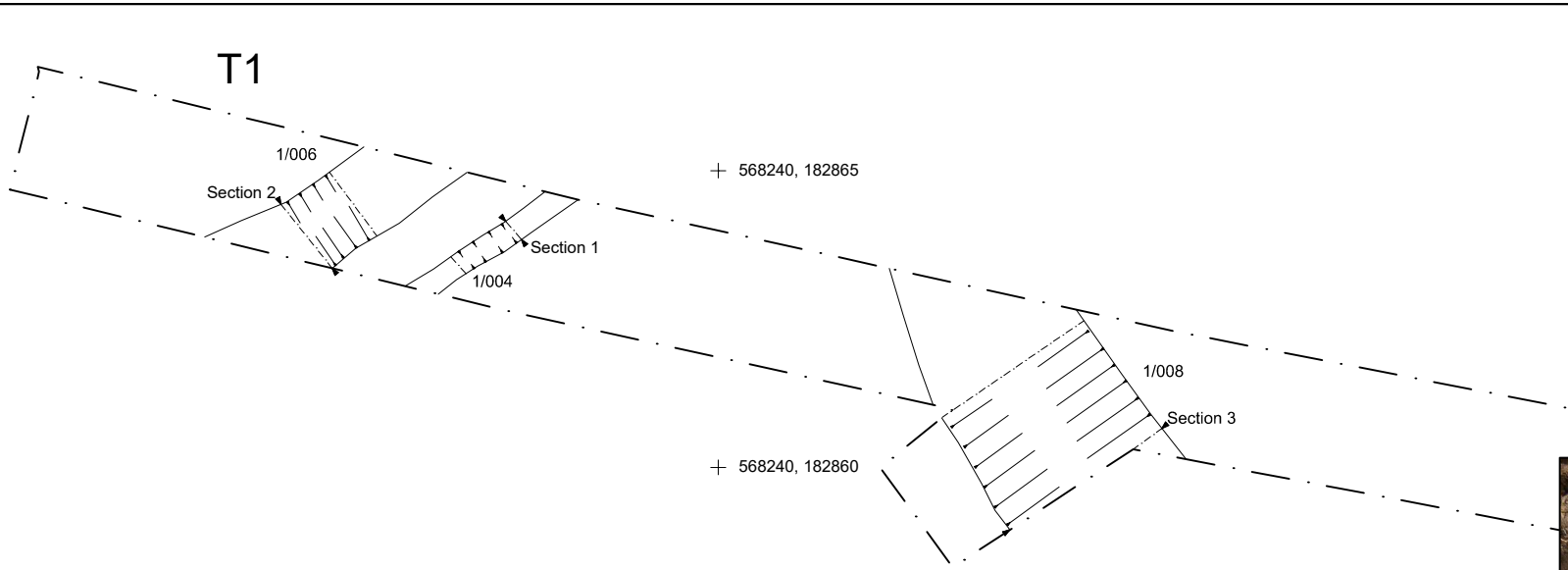
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation: Land south of the Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Ennis, T.
Other biblio details	ASE Rep No. 2021124
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	ASE
Place of issue or publication	Witham
Description	40 pages plus illustrations



© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Manorway, Stanford le Hope	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Site location and EHER references	
Report No: 2021124	Drawn by: APL		



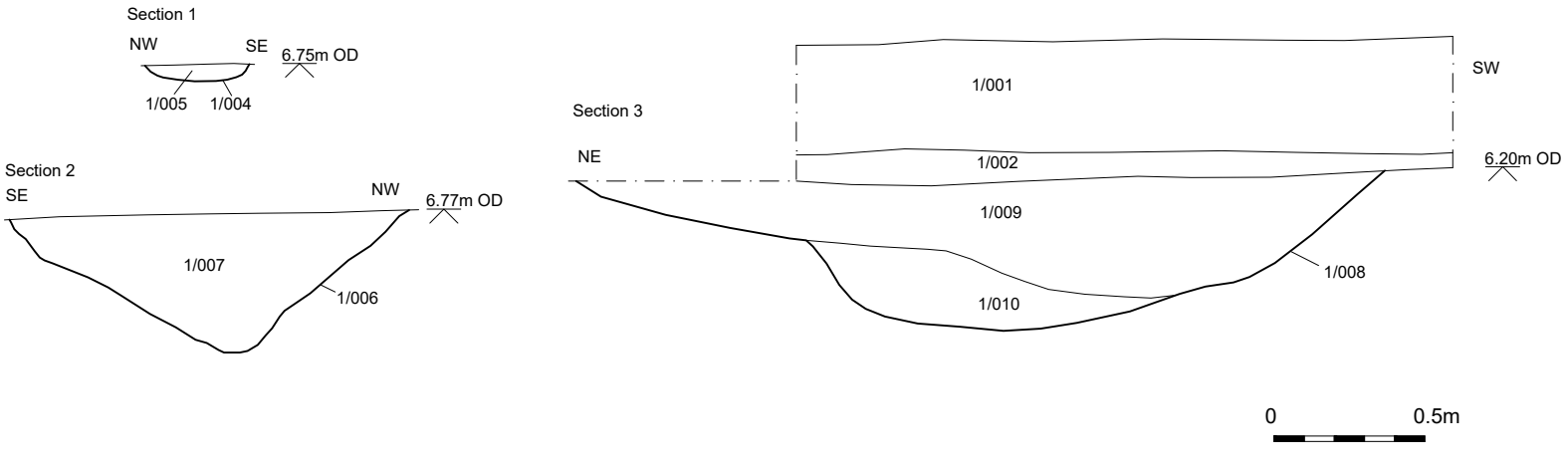
© Archaeology South-East		Land south of the Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Location of evaluation trenches and areas of archaeological monitoring	
Report Ref: 2021124	Drawn by: APL		



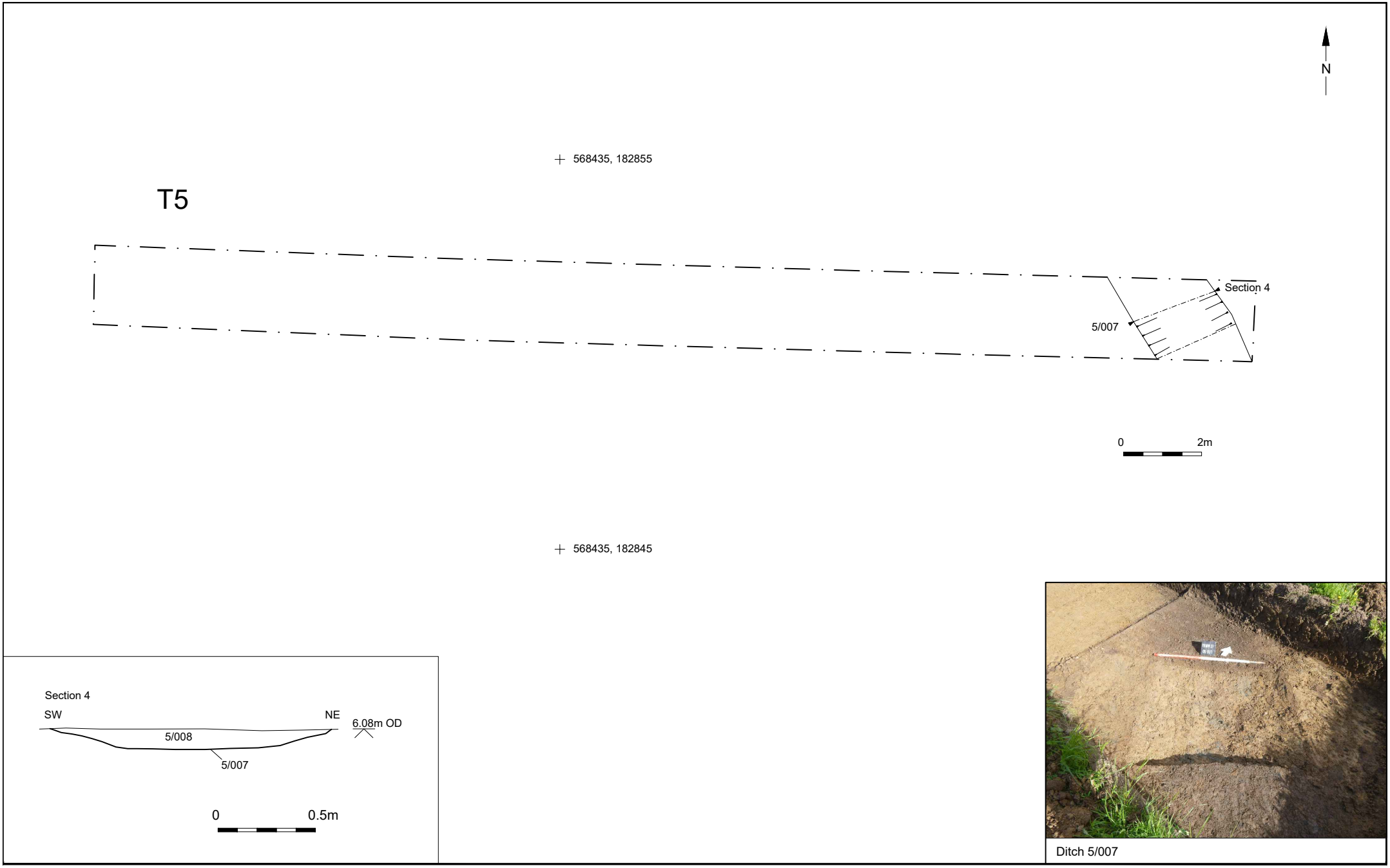
Gully 1/004

Ditch 1/006

Ditch 1/008



© Archaeology South-East		Land south of the Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Trench 1 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		



Ditch 5/007

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Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Trench 5 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		

Ditch 6/004

T6

N

568200, 182840

Section 5

6/004

568200, 182825

0 2m

Section 5

6/001

NW

SE

6.62m OD

6/006

6/005

6/004

0 0.5m

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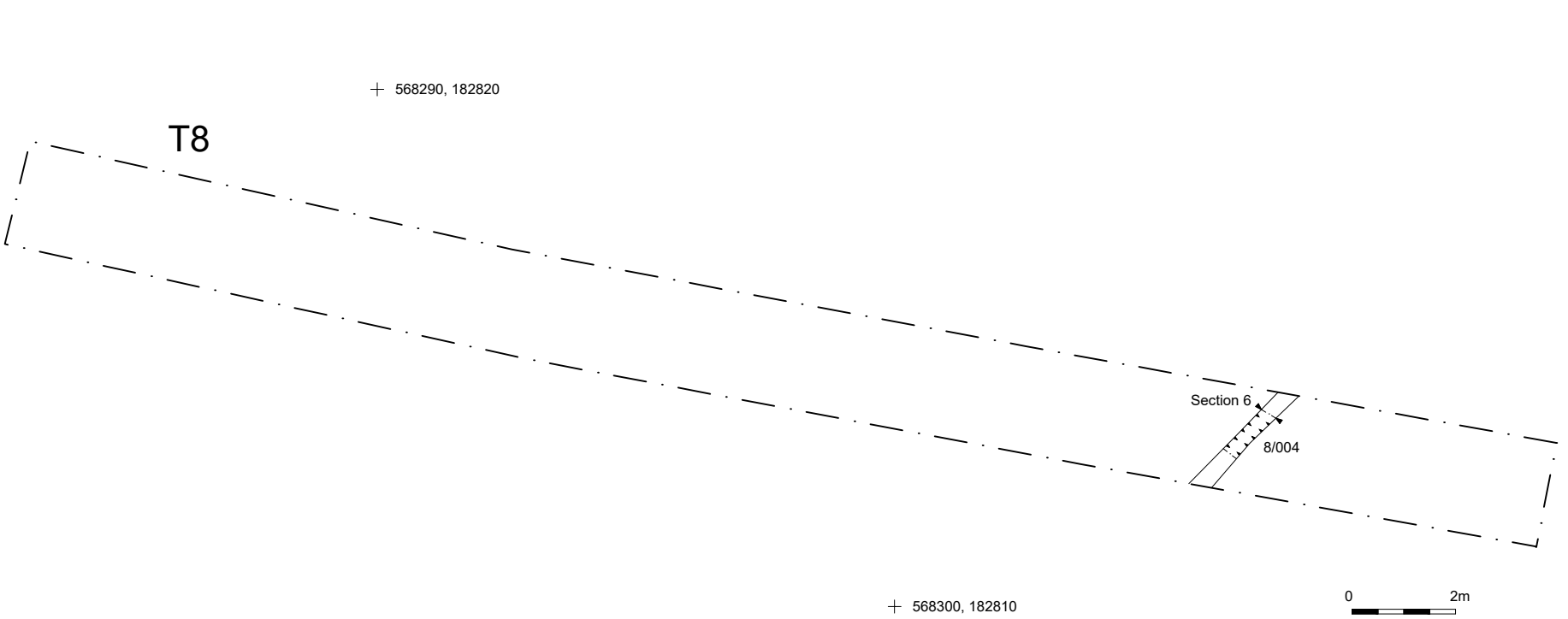
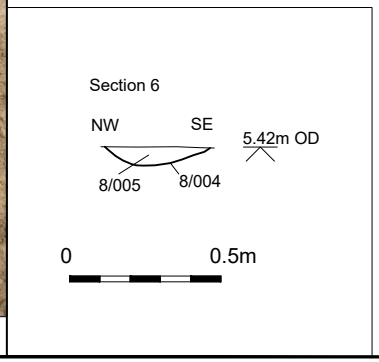
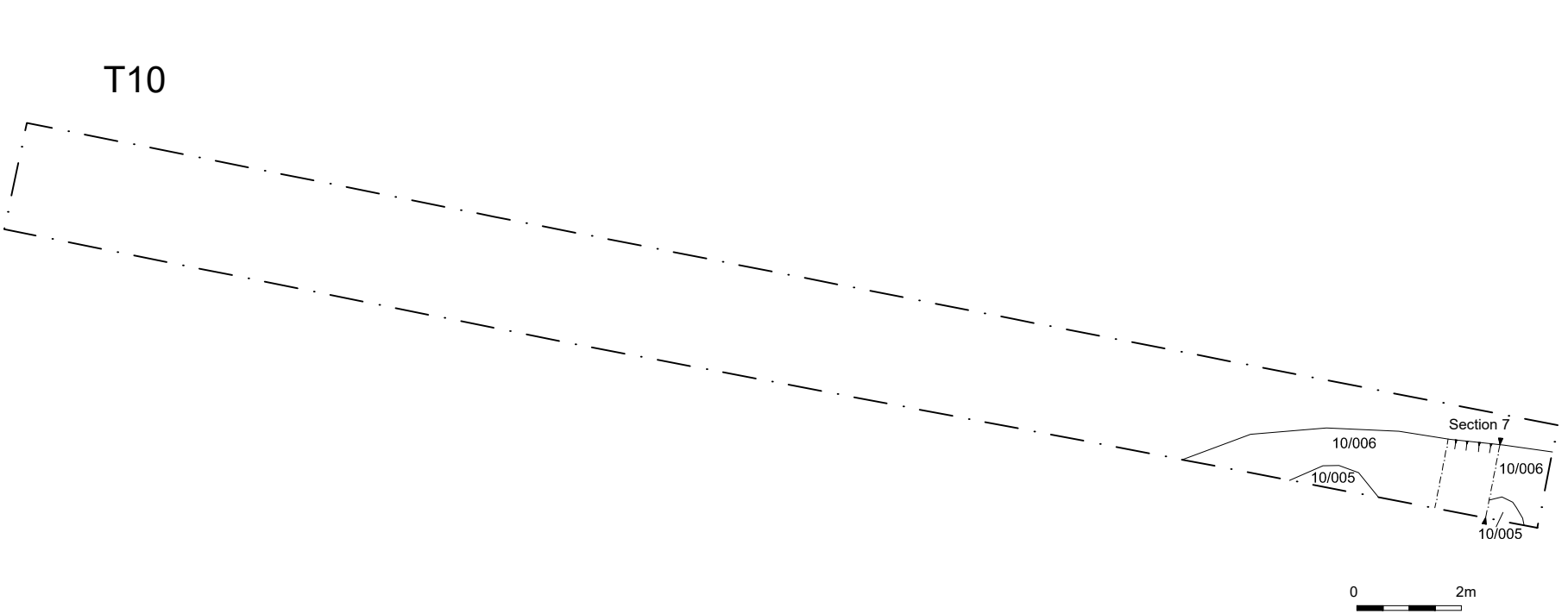
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Trench 6 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		

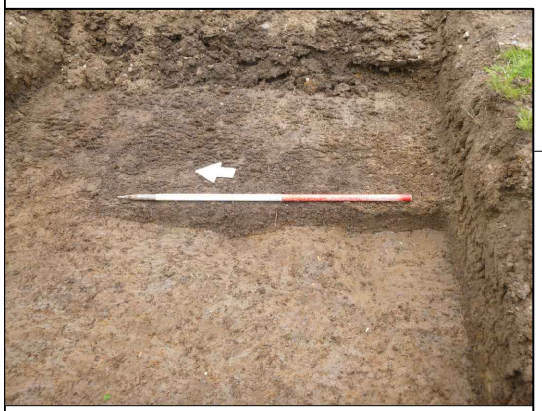


Gully 8/004

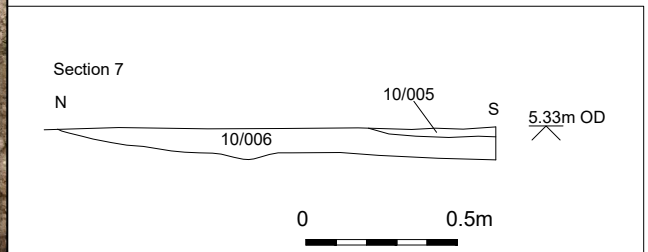


© Archaeology South-East		Land south of the Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Trench 8 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		





Made ground 10/006



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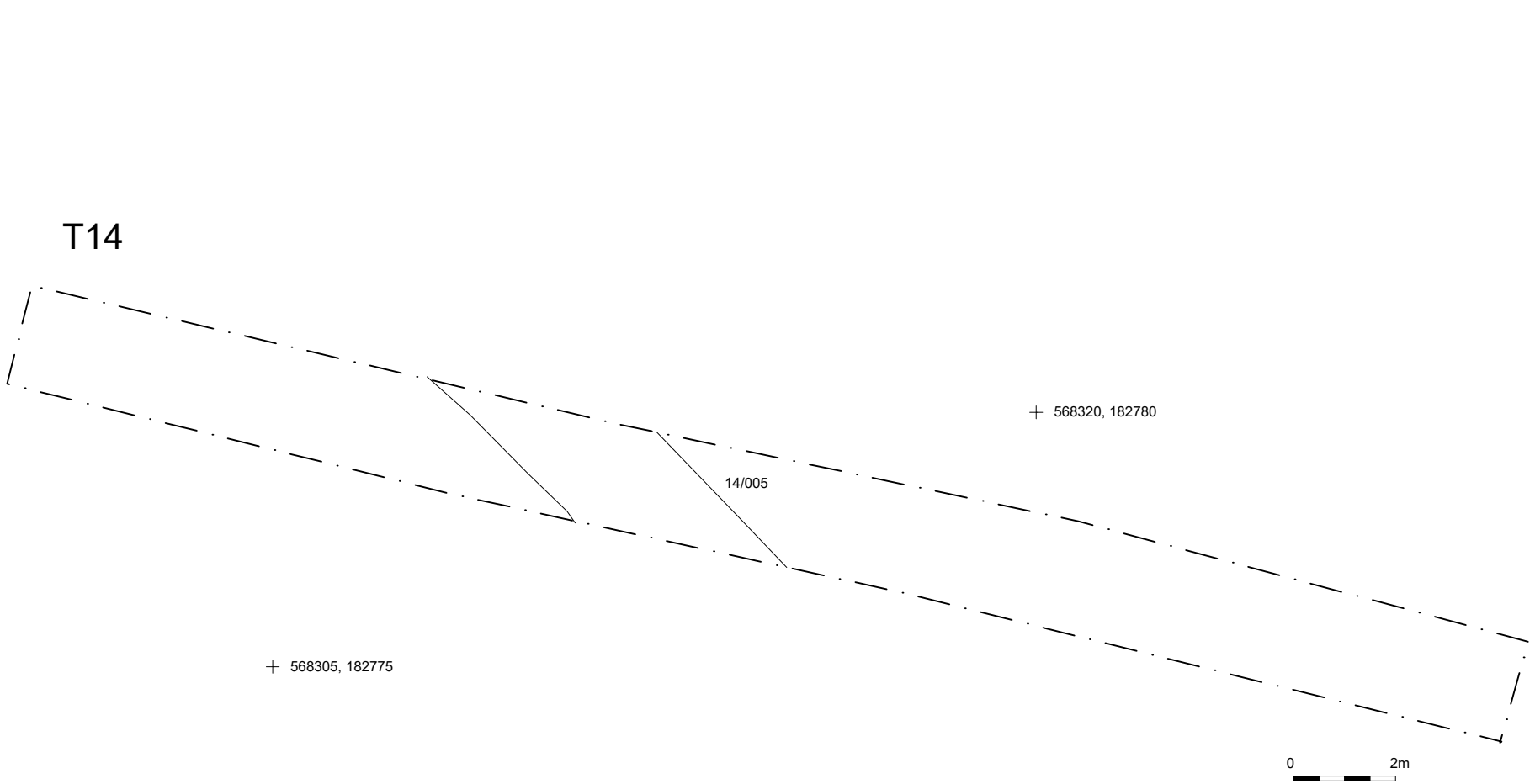
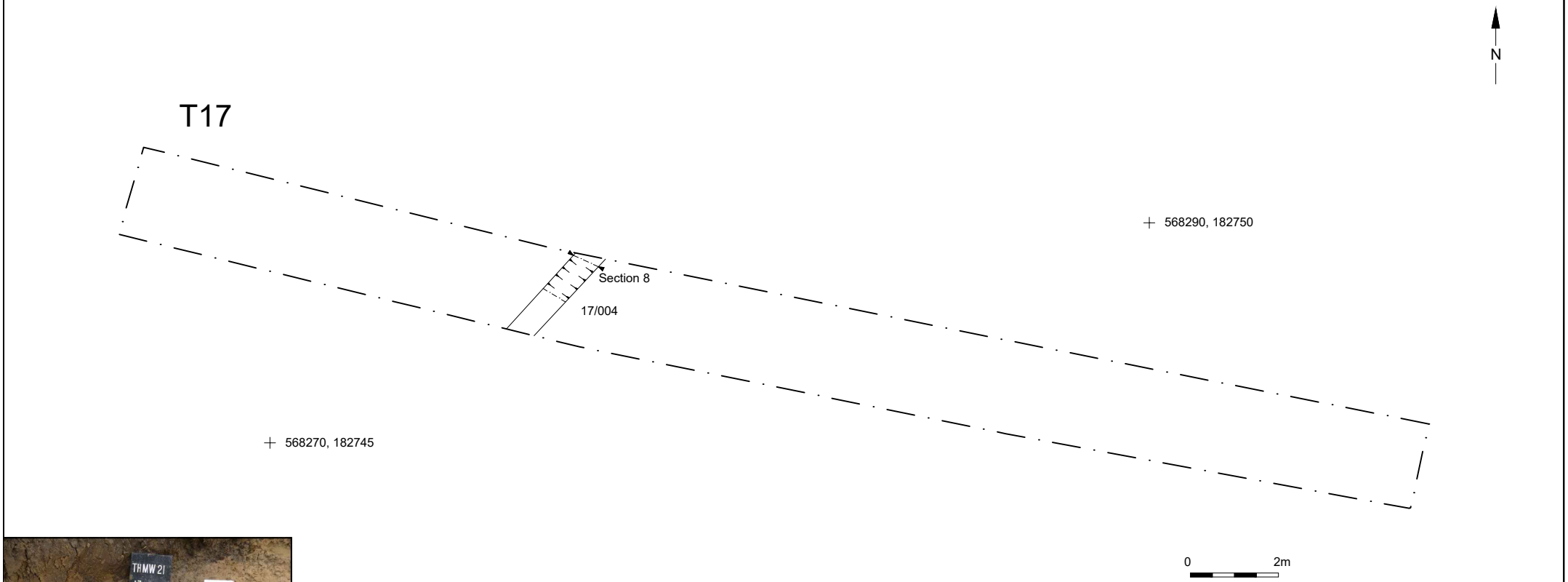
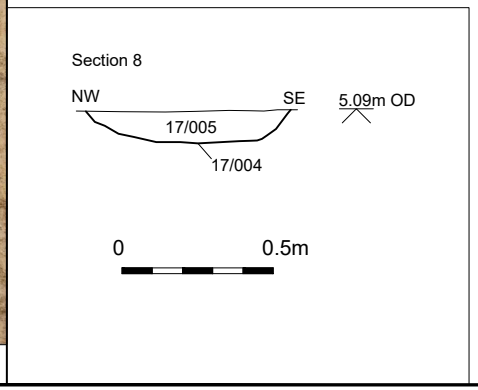
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Trench 10 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		



© Archaeology South-East		Land south of the Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope	Fig. 8
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Trench 14 plan	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		



Gully 17/004



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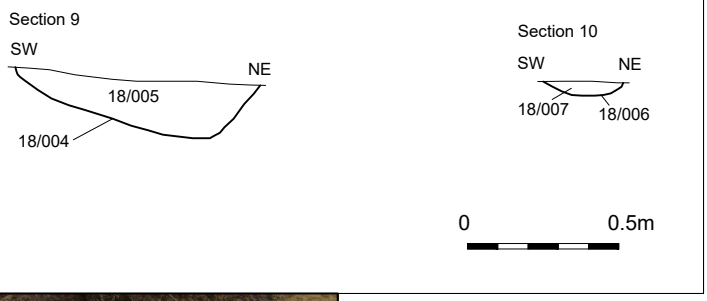
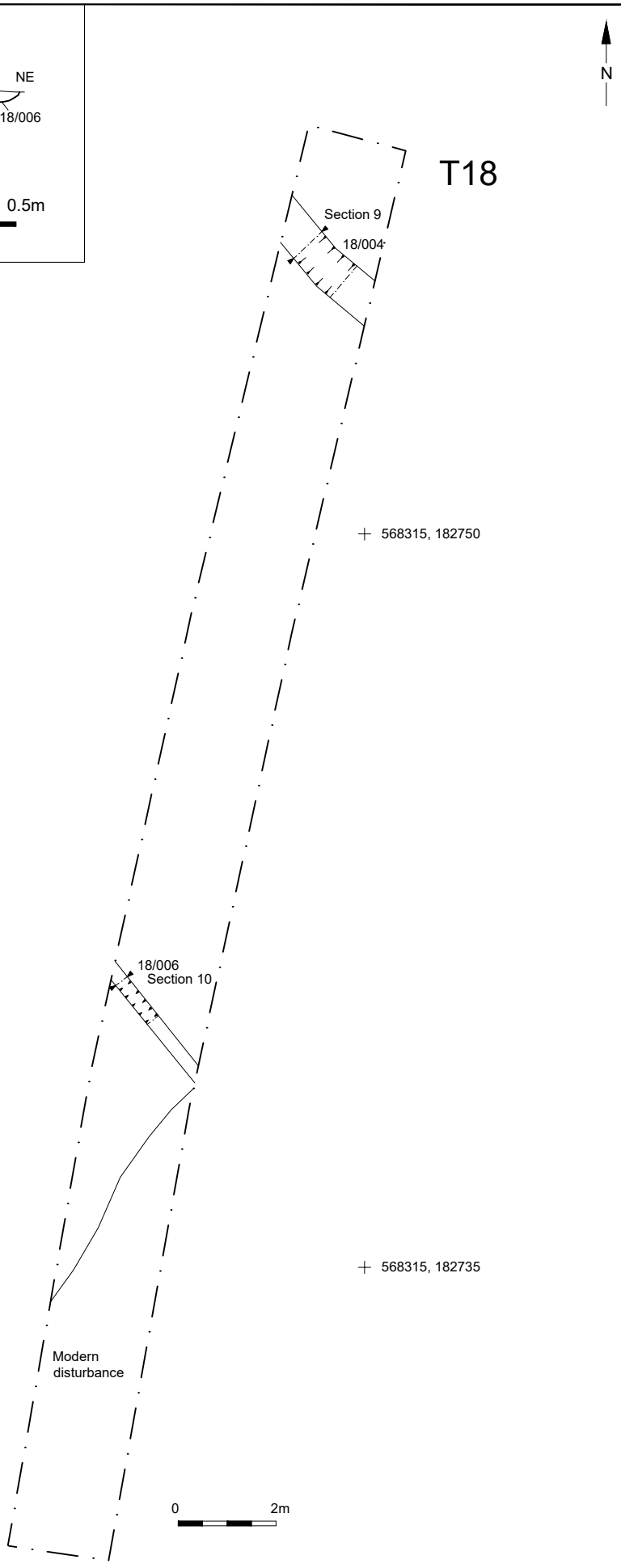
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Trench 17 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		



Ditch 18/004

Gully 18/006



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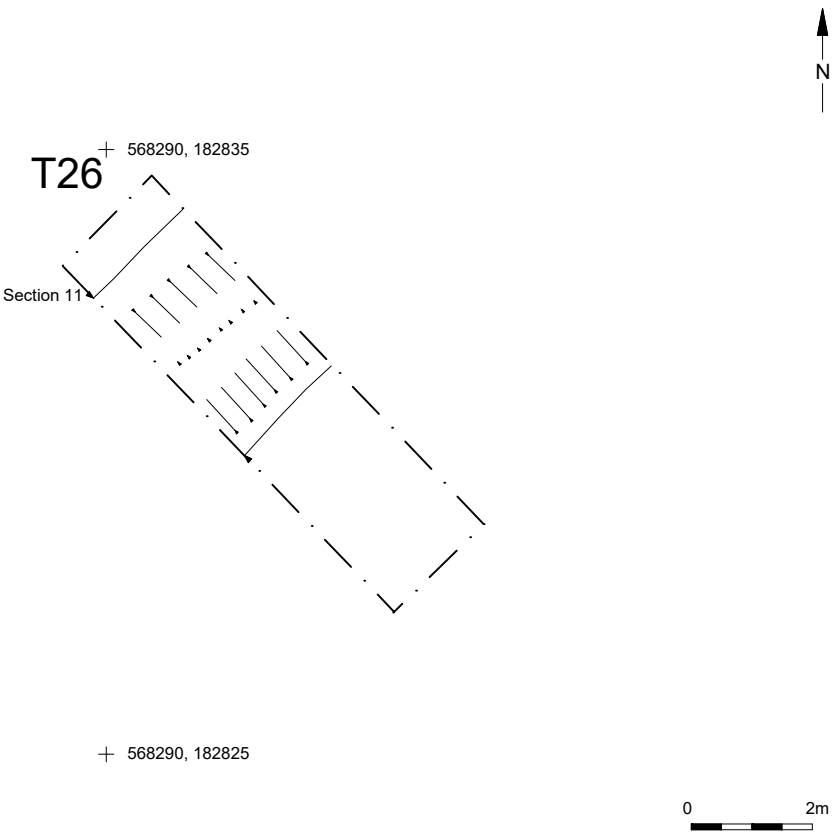
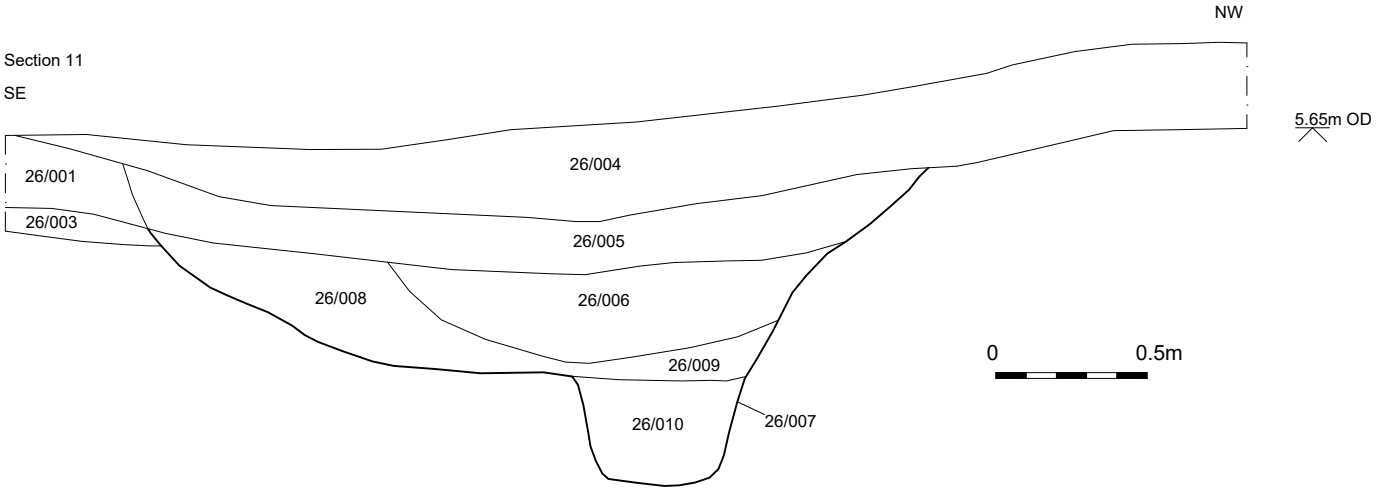
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Trench 18 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		

Ditch 26/007





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Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Trench 26 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		

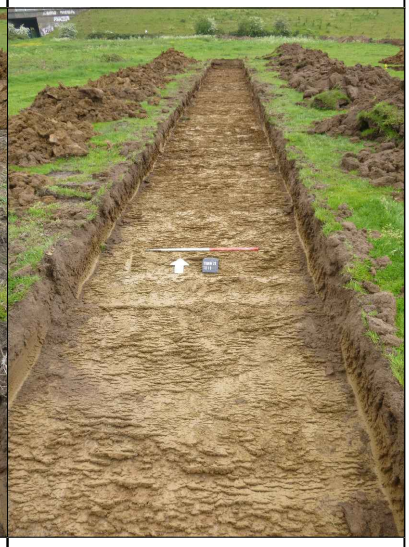
Trench 2

Trench 3

Trench 4

Trench 7

Trench 9



Trench 11

Trench 12

Trench 13

Trench 15

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Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Photographs of archaeologically negative trenches	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		

Trench 16

Trench 19

Trench 20

Trench 21

Trench 22

Trench 23

Trench 24

Trench 25

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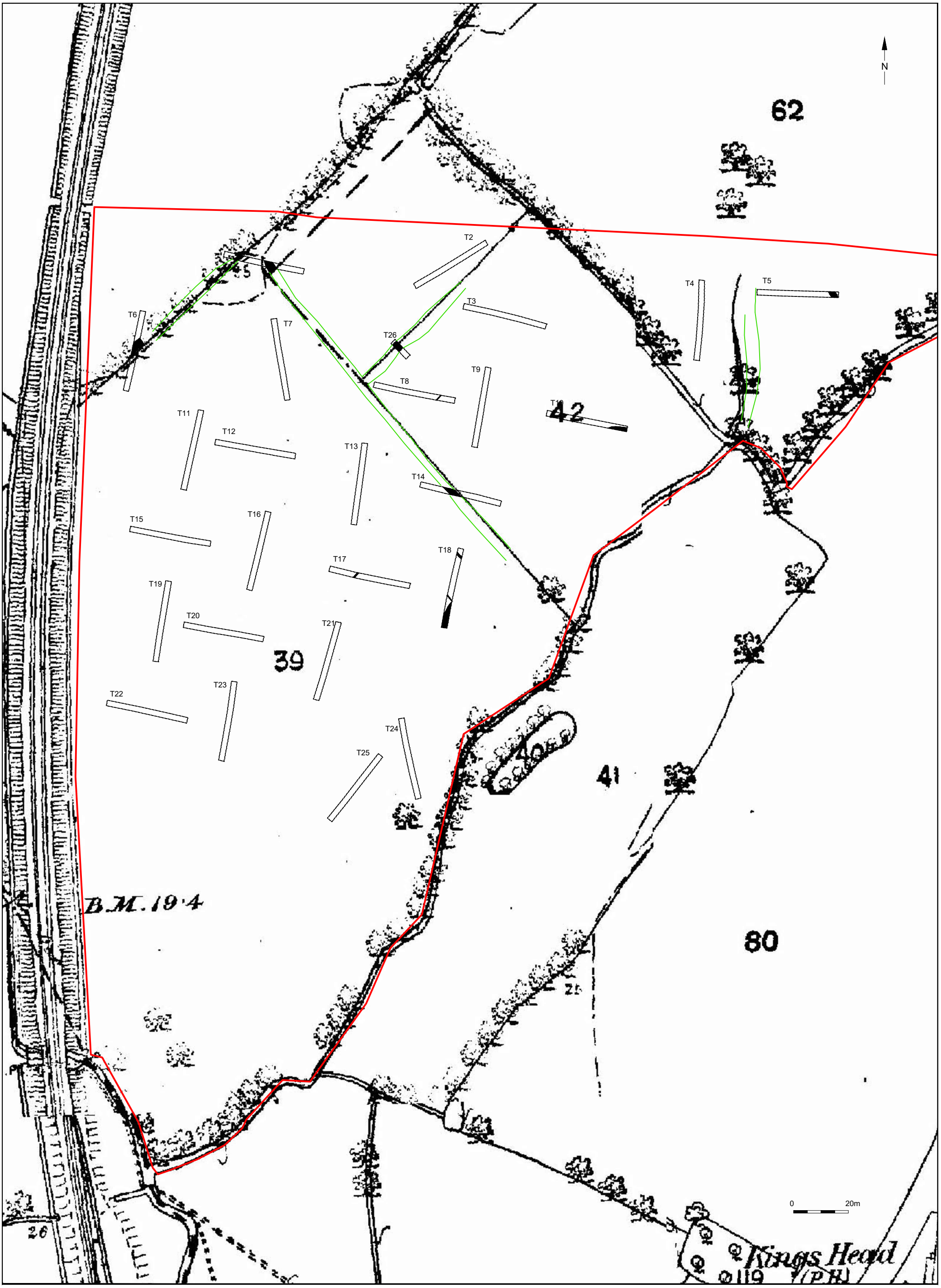
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Photographs of archaeologically negative trenches	
Report Ref:2021124	Drawn by: APL		



© Archaeology South-East		Land south of the Manorway, Stanford-le-Hope	Fig. 14
Project Ref: 180181	May 2021	Location of evaluation trenches with 1867 - 1882 Ordnance Survey	
Report Ref: 2021124	Drawn by: APL		

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