

**An Archaeological Evaluation and Surface Artefact Collection
on Land West of Horsham, West Sussex**

Centred NGR 515500 130000

**Project No. 3764
Site Code: LWH 09**

**ASE Report No. 2009075
OASIS ID: archaeol6-60279**



**By Simon Stevens BA MIFA
With contributions by Luke Barber,
Chris Butler, Sarah Porteus
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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on and around the ruins of Parthings Cottage, a building visible on aerial photographs and named on cartographic sources. Although the main part of the building complex could not be investigated on ecological grounds, the material culture recovered suggested that the building was no older than early 19th century in origin.

A programme of surface artefact collection was also undertaken over a wider area and showed no particular concentrations of artefacts except for the expected spread of late post-medieval material around Parthings Cottage. Mesolithic flintwork was recovered across the site, but appears to be associated with activity on higher ground to the south.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology (UCLCAA) was commissioned by Berkeley Strategic to undertake an archaeological evaluation and surface artefact collection on land to the west of the town of Horsham, West Sussex henceforth referred to as 'the site' (centred at NGR 515500 130000; Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The current site comprised a group of arable fields with associated hedgelines and trackways lying to the immediate east of the A24 Horsham Bypass (Figures 1 and 2). It was not possible to investigate the northern part of the site (see Paragraph 3.2 below) and hence the investigated area was bounded to the south by the embankment of a railway line, to the north by the River Arun and by residential development to the east. The site of a former cottage located within one of these fields was investigated by trial trenching as part of the current project (see Section 4.0 below)

1.2.2 According to the British Geological Survey map of the area (Sheet 302 *Horsham*), the underlying geology at the site consists Weald Clay with Alluvium in the immediate vicinity of the current course of the River Arun.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The current site forms part of a larger area earmarked for potential future mixed development. Following consultation between Horsham District Council and John Mills, Archaeologist, West Sussex County Council (WSCC) in his capacity as adviser on archaeological issues to Local Planning Authorities, a programme of archaeological work at the site was recommended.

1.3.2 The current project forms part of the second stage of archaeological work at the site (see Section 2.0 below), and was undertaken according to a *Written Scheme of Investigation* prepared by ASE and approved by WSCC before the commencement of work (ASE 2008a)

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The overall aim of the initial phases of archaeological work at the site is to provide information on archaeological matters prior to the submission of an outline planning application.

1.4.2 The specific aims of the current project were:

- *To establish with a greater certainty the presence or absence of archaeological features,*
- *To assess the archaeological character of the curving field boundary identified as a possible deerpark boundary (see below),*

- *To assess the archaeological character of the (Parthings) Cottage ruins*

1.4.3 Consideration can then be given to

- *How they might be affected by the development of the site,*
- *Whether particularly important remains should be preserved in situ,*
- *What options should be considered for mitigation*

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 The current report provides results of the archaeological evaluation of part of the site, and a programme of surface artefact collection across a wider area. The work was undertaken during late April and early May by Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist), David Honess and Chris Russel (Archaeologists). The site surveying was undertaken by Rob Cole (Archaeological Surveyor). The project was managed by Darryl Palmer (Senior Project Manager) and by Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift (Post-Excavation Managers).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The initial stage of archaeological work consisted of the preparation of an archaeological desk based assessment (DBA) of the site (ASE 2006). The results are summarised below; the study area consisted of an area within a 1.5 km radius of the site boundaries. Further details can be found in the DBA (ASE 2006)

2.2 Period Overview

2.2.1 Prehistoric

Prehistoric activity in the Weald is sparse at best, and much derives from hunter-gatherer activity dating to the Mesolithic period. Evidence of Bronze Age burial mounds and Iron Age exploitation of iron ore resources have also been recovered.

Two sites of prehistoric date have been found within the study area of the site. A Neolithic plano-convex flint knife of an unknown source, and a sherd of possible Iron Age pottery found during an evaluation at Christ's Hospital in 2002.

2.2.2 Romano-British

Romano-British activity in this area is mainly associated with iron working and transport links between such sites and settlements on the edges of the Weald. Very few settlements of this date have been located in the Weald itself, although this may reflect the paucity of fieldwork in the area rather than reflecting a true distribution.

Five sites of Romano-British date are known within the study area of the site. These include a single quernstone and a large 2nd century rubbish pit at Hill Place found during excavation in 2000, a 2nd century tile kiln located at Baystone Farm, and a single sherd of pottery found at Christ's Hospital in 2002.

2.2.3 Anglo-Saxon

No Anglo-Saxon sites have been recorded within the study area. This is to be expected given the heavily forested nature of much of the Weald during the Anglo-Saxon period (forest of *Andredeswald*) is thought to have limited the development of settlements.

2.2.4 Medieval

The town of Horsham developed as a market town during the medieval period, expanding greatly in the 13th century. A number of small-scale excavations have been undertaken in the historic core of the settlement, revealing a range of medieval features.

Two medieval sites have been recorded within the study area with one occupying at least part of the area of proposed development. These include a

deer park, associated with a manorial centre that was established in the 13th century at Broadbridge Farm to the south. This manor included a water mill also constructed in the 13th century. A Grade II listed building, Parthings Farm, constructed in the 15th Century is located immediately to the south of the site.

2.2.5 Post-medieval

The town of Horsham continued its development as a market town during the Post-medieval period, with the town achieving the highest average wealth in West Sussex by 1524. The area to the west of the town continued to be used as farmland during this period.

2.2.6 Three Post-medieval sites are found within the area of the site; a possible fulling mill, shown on the 1844 Tithe Map that may still survive as earthworks, a Second World War Pillbox and the site of Parthings Cottage. A further sixteen sites and twenty-two listed buildings are recorded in the wider vicinity of the site.

2.3 Cartographic Overview

2.3.1 Cartographic analysis of the site and surrounding areas has confirmed the agricultural character of the area since at least the mid 19th century. From the maps consulted, very little change has been noted, with the exception of the erection of a small number of buildings along the western edge of Wickhurst Lane. The maps give the impression of a fairly static landscape.

2.3.2 The buildings of the Parthings Cottage complex are shown on the 1844 Tithe Map but not named in the Apportionment. They are also not named on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of the 1870s but the buildings and a well to the north-west are clearly marked on maps of the 1890s through to the 1960s, which show the buildings as *Parthings Cottage* with the nearby well and associated buildings also included. The map of 1993 appears to show that the cottage and well buildings had been demolished by that time (ASE 2006, Figs. 3 to 15)

2.4 Aerial Photographs

2.4.1 A range of aerial photographs (AP's) were examined, covering the period from 1948 to 1994. From these it is evident that in terms of land-use of this area, there is limited change as reflected in the cartographic data (discussed above). Agricultural fields with some periphery development were noted surrounding the site. AP's showing Parthings Cottage in the 1940s and 1960s were included in the DBA (ASE 2006, Plates 1 and 2, this report Figure 6).

2.5 First Stage of Archaeological Evaluation

2.5.1 The initial archaeological evaluation of the site was undertaken in June 2008. Four trenches were mechanically excavated on the western side of the A24 in an attempt to clarify the character/significance of a curving field boundary possibly representing the boundary of the medieval deer park (see Paragraph 2.2.4 above). Results were inconclusive (ASE 2008b).

3.0 METHODOLOGY: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- 3.1 Four evaluation trenches had been located in order to
- Further investigate the possible deer park boundary
 - Evaluate the remains of Parthings Cottage
- 3.2 However, following an examination of the location of the deer park boundary trench (Figure 3) by Karl Gunderman (ecologist) it was evident that the planned location would have caused damage to the roots of an adjacent mature oak tree. No other suitable location could be found, and following discussion with WSCC, it was agreed that it was not possible to evaluate this feature on the eastern side of the A24.
- 3.3 Following liaison between Karl Gunderman and ASE, locations for the trenches at Parthings Cottage were agreed, with an eye to evaluating the site whilst causing the minimum potential ecological disturbance. Four archaeological evaluation trenches were then excavated by a JCB fitted with a 1.54m toothless ditching bucket under the constant supervision of staff from ASE.
- 3.4 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded to accepted professional standards using standard ASE context record forms. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- 3.5 A full photographic record of the work was kept and will form part of the site archive. The site archive is currently held by ASE at offices in Portslade, and will be offered to Horsham Museum in due course. The archive consists of the following material:

Number of Contexts	16
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	-
Photographs	c.10 black & white c.15 colour slides c.30 digital
Bulk finds	-
Registered finds	-
Environmental flots/residue	-
SAC Record Sheets	34

Table 1: Quantification of the site archive

4.0 RESULTS: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

4.1 Trench 1

4.1.1 Trench 1 was located to the south of the site of Parthings Cottage in the corner of an arable field. It was excavated to a length of 10m and to a depth of 260mm (80.17mAOD) at the western end and to 290mm (80.45mAOD) at the eastern end at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The overburden consisted of a mid-greyish brown silty clay ploughsoil, Context [01], which overlay a layer of orangey brown silty clay subsoil, which varied in thickness between 50mm and 100mm, Context [02]. This directly overlay the 'natural', which was a yellowish orange and grey mottled silty/sandy clay, Context [03], typical of the Weald Clay geological deposits.

4.1.2 No archaeological deposits or features were encountered, although a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.2 Trench 2

4.2.1 Trench 2 was located to the east of Parthings Cottage, within the boundaries of a *Green Lane* leading to the cottage from a railway crossing to the south-east. It was excavated to a length of 10m and to a depth of 270mm (80.31mAOD) at the western end and to 260mm (80.84mAOD) at the eastern end at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The overburden consisted of a layer of dark brown humic silty clay topsoil, Context [04], which overlay a layer of orangey brown silty clay subsoil, which was never more than 50mm in thickness, Context [05]. This directly overlay the 'natural', which was the yellowish orange and grey mottled silty/sandy clay Weald Clay, Context [06].

4.2.2 There was no evidence of any former surfacing to the *Green Lane*, or visible cart ruts. No other archaeological deposits or features were encountered, although a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.3 Trench 3

4.3.1 Trench 3 was located immediately to the north of the site of Parthings Cottage. It was excavated to a length of 5m and to a depth of 540mm (80.11mAOD) at the southern end and to 390mm (80.07mAOD) at the northern end at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The overburden consisted of layer of homogenous mid-brown humic silty clay, possibly garden soil, Context [07], which directly overlay the 'natural', which was the yellowish orange and grey mottled silty/sandy clay Weald Clay, Context [08].

4.3.2 The only feature encountered was in the extreme south-eastern corner of the trench. It consisted of a shallow rectangular pit, Cut [09], which contained a group of unbonded bricks, Context [10] orientated east-west. The bricks were 18th or 19th century in date (see below). No other archaeological deposits or features were encountered, although a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.4 Trench 4 (Figure 5)

- 4.4.1 Trench 4 was excavated across the southern wall of the site of Parthings Cottage continuing southwards into the area of the former yard visible in the cartographic source and APs (see Section 2.0 above). It was excavated to a length of 7m, and revealed archaeological deposits associated with the Cottage. The 'natural' Weald Clay, Context [19] was encountered at depths varying between 79.80mAOD and 80.44mAOD.
- 4.4.2 The recently accumulated overburden at the site was of mid-brown silty clay topsoil, Context [17]. It was a maximum of 550mm in thickness. It overlay part of the structure of Parthings Cottage, which was only visible in the eastern section of the trench. It survived at this point as the eastern side of an entrance consisting of red brick apparently bonded with a strong grey mortar (Context 14), arguably a repair to the original masonry, which survived immediately to the eastern as local sandstone. The brick masonry lay in an undetected construction trench, Cut [16]. Unfortunately the instability of the sections and of the adjacent remains of the cottage made further detailed investigation impossible on grounds of health & safety.
- 4.4.3 The brick masonry had truncated a layer of loose chalk rubble, Context [11], which ran the entire length of the evaluation trench. It varied in thickness between 90mm and 200mm. Although no datable artefacts were recovered from this deposit, it was clearly recent in origin.
- 4.4.4 Context [11] directly overlay Context [13] a deposit of mid-greyish brown silt which was also overlain by the brick masonry, Context [14]. It was 150mm in thickness for much of the recorded section, thinning to nothing below Context [14]. It contained a varied assemblage of post-medieval material, and a number of local sandstone slabs, and overlay the earliest archaeological deposit encountered in the trench, which consisted of a rough yard surface, Context [18], which directly overly the 'natural' Weald Clay, Context [19].
- 4.4.5 The yard surface was a maximum of 30mm in thickness consisted of a mid-greyish brown silt and a loose arrangement of local sandstone slabs. Given the similarity of the two deposits, the interface of Contexts [13] and [18] was difficult to distinguish and some of the post-medieval material recorded as from the upper context may have been removed from the yard surface. It appeared that both Contexts [13] and [18] lay in a noticeable hollow of indeterminate size, contexted as Cut [12].

5.0 THE FINDS: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Context	Pot	wt (g)	CBM	wt (g)	Shell	wt (g)	Flint	wt (g)	Stone	wt (g)
1 u/s	1	2	8	126	1	12				
2 u/s	19	282	2	62			1	8		
3 u/s	3	28	11	460					2	22
3/013			4	160					1	808
3/014			1	1210						
10			1	3010						

Context	Fe	wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)	Cu. Al.	Wt (g)
1 u/s								
2 u/s			4	156			1	10
3 u/s	1	50	2	96	1	<2		
3/013	18	5110	5	56				
3/014								
10								

Table 2: Quantification of the evaluation finds

5.1 Flintwork by Chris Butler

5.1.1 A single flint flake was recovered from the overburden in Trench 2, and is considered as part of the overall site assemblage (see Section 8.1 below).

5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The evaluation trenches produced a small assemblage of post-medieval pottery all of which was unstratified in the topsoil. Trench 1 produced a single abraded sherd (3g) of unglazed hard-fired earthenware with reduced exterior face. The sherd is probably of 16th- to 17th- century date. Trench 2 produced the largest group of pottery: 19 sherds. Although one sherd of glazed red earthenware (30g) may be of late 18th- to 19th- century date the remaining pottery can be placed in a mid/late 19th- to early 20th- century date bracket.

5.2.2 The bulk of this assemblage is composed of sherds from at least two English stoneware preserve jars of late 19th- to early 20th- century date (13/234g) with the remaining pieces being a mix of domestic wares. Fabrics/forms include an industrial slipware blue tankard, blue, green and purple transfer-printed dinner wares and a piece of moulded English porcelain. Trench 3 produced two sherds of blue transfer-printed ware (a patterned sauceboat and a wild rose pattern plate) and a single plain white refined earthenware (china) sherd. All fit in a mid/late 19th- to early 20th- century date range.

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

- 5.3.1 A total of 27 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing a total of 5028g were recovered during the evaluation. All the material was of post-medieval date and included brick, peg tile and field drain pipe fragments.
- 5.3.2 A brick sample from context [10] contained a single brick measuring 225mm by 105mm by 65mm and was made of a poorly mixed orange brick with abundant cream silt marbling and moderate medium sized black iron rich inclusions. The brick is unfrogged with sharp arises and even fine sanding on all faces, the brick is of probably 18th or 19th century date.
- 5.2.3 Brick fragments in the same fabric were recovered from contexts [3/014], [3/013] and unstratified from Trench 3. Peg tile made in an identical fabric was also well represented within the sample with fragments found in context [3/013] and unstratified from Trenches 1, 2 and 3. The peg tile has a thickness of 13mm to 14mm and is likely to be of 17th to 19th century date.
- 5.2.4 Peg tile fragments in orange fabrics with variable quantities of fine to coarse quartz and dark orange iron rich silt inclusions of 17th to 19th century date were also recovered from [3/013] and unstratified from Trenches 1, 2 and 3. A pinkish orange calcareous peg tile fabric with pale cream and red silt marbling was recovered from Trenches 1 and 3 unstratified. Field drain fragments of 18th or 19th century date were also recovered from Trench 3.
- 5.2.5 The assemblage is small and fragmentary and holds little potential for future work but should be retained for comparison with material from any future excavations.

5.3 The Glass by Elke Raemen

- 5.3.1 A small assemblage of seven pieces from three different contexts was recovered during the excavations. All are of late post-medieval date and most are unstratified. Trench 2 contained four 20th-century bottle and jar fragments, including a complete cylindrical phial (i.e. medicine) and a complete small, rectangular bottle, both with external screw cap. A small, clear glass jar of the same date was recovered from Trench 3.
- 5.3.2 The same trench also contained a later 19th- to early 20th-century blue glass bottle neck. Stratified pieces were all recovered from [3/013], which contained a late 19th- to 20th-century green wine bottle fragment and two green beer/wine bottle fragments of the same date. The same context also contained a clear panelled jar fragment with external screw top as well as a clear window glass fragment, the latter both dating to the 20th century.

8.4 The Metalwork by Elke Raemen

- 5.4.1 Unstratified metalwork includes a 1941 .303 case from the overburden of Trench 2, fired by a Bren gun (Justin Russell pers. comm). An iron ?punch was recovered from Trench 3 and is of late post-medieval date. Stratified ironwork was recovered from [3/013] and consists of agricultural waste, including a cogged wheel, bolts, chain fragments and clench bolts, all from machinery. In addition, the same context contained a cylindrical can fragment. All pieces date to the 19th to mid 20th century.

5.5 The Miscellaneous Finds by Elke Raemen

- 5.5.1 A single plain clay tobacco pipe (CTP) stem fragment was recovered from Trench 3. The piece dates to the late 18th to 19th century. Geological material includes two pieces of unstratified Welsh slate, recovered from Trench 3. Context [3/013] contained a piece of Horsham stone, possibly representing a paving slab. In addition, a single lower shell valve from an immature oyster was located in Trench 1.

6.0 METHODOLOGY: SURFACE ARTEFACT COLLECTION

- 6.1 The basic field-walking methodology was outlined in the *Written Scheme of Works* (ASE 2008a). The methodology matched that usually used by ASE during fieldwalking projects, itself based on the standard practice utilised by the Archaeological Field Projects Service of Essex County Council, as modified for use by ASE.
- 6.2 In short, the method involved dividing the accessible area into numbered hectare-sized squares (Figure 8). Each hectare was then divided into 25 separate squares (lettered A-Z, omitting 'O'), each measuring 20m by 20m. Based on this grid, transects measuring 20m long, 2m wide and 20m apart were walked from south to north on the western edge of each grid square. All encountered archaeological artefacts were collected and bagged according to grid square, resulting in a 10% sample collection policy.

7.0 RESULTS: SURFACE ARTEFACT COLLECTION

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 The investigated area was made up of a number of arable fields (labelled **A** to **G** for the purposes of recording, Figure 8) separated by wide hedgerows and ditches. Most of the area was flat or gently undulating, with the exception of Field A, which showed a marked slope from south to north with higher ground beyond the boundary of the site to the south. All of the fields had been recently ploughed, weathered and planted, with the exception of Field **G**, which was overgrown and not suitable for surface artefact collection at this time.
- 7.1.2 The ploughsoil was a light brown/orangey brown loam across the entire site with few stones or other geological inclusions. The fields were investigated in weather conditions varying from full sunshine to thin cloud cover, offering excellent light conditions. The combination of recently ploughed fields, light-coloured soil and good light provided near ideal conditions for surface artefact collection.

7.2 The Flintwork (Figure 9)

- 7.2.1 There was a thin 'background scatter' of worked flint across all of the

examined fields. There was a little more flintwork in the eastern half of the site but there with no obvious localised concentrations.

7.3 The Fire-Cracked Flint (Figure 10)

7.3.1 Again there was a thin scatter of fire-cracked flint in all of the examined fields. However, there was a clear concentration of material in the south-western portion of the site. It is suggested that this is the result of down slope movement of the material from higher ground to the south (see Paragraph 9.6 below).

7.4 Medieval Pottery (Figure 11)

7.4.1 Only one small sherd of medieval pottery was recovered towards the south-eastern corner of the examined area.

7.5 Transitional Pottery (Figure 12)

7.5.1 Only two sherds of transitional pottery were recovered during the surface artefact collection. Both were recovered from the southern end of the examined area.

7.6 Early Post-medieval Pottery (Figure 13)

7.6.1 There was a thin scatter of early post-medieval pottery across the entire examined area. There were no significant concentrations of material.

7.7 Late Post-medieval Pottery (Figure 14)

7.7.1 Pottery from this period, along with CBM of a similar date dominates the assemblage, with wares dating from post-1750 encountered in all of the examined fields. There was a clear concentration of this material in the vicinity of the Parthings Cottage complex.

7.8 Medieval Ceramic Building Material (Figure 15)

7.8.1 Three fragments of medieval tile were recovered from the south-eastern part of the examined area.

7.9 Early Post-medieval Ceramic Building Material (Figure 16)

7.9.1 An equally small assemblage of early post-medieval tile was also recovered.

7.10 Late Post-medieval Ceramic Building Material (Figure 17)

7.10.1 This the most abundant class of recovered artefact. There was an even distribution across the examined field with a notable concentration in the vicinity of the site of Parthings Cottage.

7.11 The Glass (Figure 18)

7.11.1 All of the glass recovered from the site was post-medieval in date, and included pieces from domestic vessels and window glass. There was a thin

spread of this material across the site, with an obvious concentration of glass in the vicinity of Parthings Cottage. The assemblage from the immediate area of the cottage included a number of fragments of window glass.

7.12 The Clay Pipe (Fig 19)

7.12.1 There was a thin scatter of this material across the site. There was no obvious concentration in the vicinity of Parthings Cottage.

7.13 The Metalwork (Figure 20)

7.13.1 All of the collected metalwork was late post-medieval in date, and was spread thinly across the site, with a marked concentration immediately to the east of Parthings Cottage. Most was domestic in origin.

7.14 The Slag (Figure 21)

7.14.1 A small assemblage of ironworking slag from both smelting and smithing was recovered, with no particular concentrations. The quantity of the material is not indicative of iron production or reworking within the boundaries of the site.

7.15 The Geological Material (Figure 22)

7.15.1 A variety of geological material was recovered, but again there were no obvious concentrations, and no indications of any industrial processes utilising the stone.

7.16 The Bone and Shell (Figure 23)

7.16.1 A small quantity of animal bone from a variety of species was collected in the south-west part of the examined area. Only two pieces of shell were recovered.

7.17 The Miscellaneous Material

7.17.1 A variety of other materials were collected in small quantities including plastic, rubber and cardboard. All were 20th or 21st century in date, and their distribution was not plotted.

8.0 THE FINDS: SURFACE ARTEFACT COLLECTION

8.1 The Flintwork by Chris Butler

8.1.1 An assemblage of 105 pieces of worked flint weighing 1.155kg was recovered during the fieldwork, of which 104 were recovered during the fieldwalking, and one unstratified piece from the evaluation (Table 3).

8.1.2 The assessment comprised a visual inspection of each bag, counting the number of pieces of each type of worked flint present, noting details of the range and variety of pieces, general condition, and the potential for further detailed analysis. Classifications follow Butler, 2005. A hand written archive

of the assemblage was produced at this stage.

- 8.1.3 The raw material comprised a typical range of flint that is found on sites around Horsham. Most of the flintwork was a black flint, with smaller numbers of light blue-grey and light grey patinated flint. Many pieces had recent edge damage typical of a ploughsoil assemblage.

Hard hammer-struck flakes	23
Soft hammer-struck flakes	25
Soft hammer-struck blade	1
Bladelet fragments	7
Flake/blade fragments	23
Chips	3
Shattered piece	1
Core tablet	1
Cores	10
Core fragments	6
Scrapers	2
Tranchet adze sharpening flakes	2
Total	105

Table 3: Quantification of worked flint

- 8.1.4 This small assemblage is predominantly of Mesolithic date. The debitage comprises both hard and soft hammer-struck flakes, a blade and seven bladelet fragments, together with numerous fragments of blades and flakes. Many of the pieces have evidence for platform preparation, and are the result of systematic and deliberate production techniques, typical of the Mesolithic period.
- 8.1.5 The cores comprise a range of well-worked-out flake, blade and bladelet examples, most of which have evidence of platform preparation, and have either two opposing platforms or multiple platforms. One core is discoidal, more typical of Neolithic flintworking techniques, perhaps suggesting that some of the flintwork may be Early Neolithic in date, although it is difficult to tell the debitage of the two periods apart, as flintworking techniques were broadly similar. A core tablet was the only certain core-rejuvenation piece, although one or two other flakes in the assemblage appear to have removed large parts of the core face, and may have been rejuvenation pieces.
- 8.2.6 There are two end scrapers in the assemblage, both of which appear to be typical expedient Mesolithic types, and two tranchet adze-sharpening flakes. Amongst the flakes there are a small number that had the appearance of axe or adze thinning flakes, which together with the adze-sharpening flakes indicate the manufacture and use of tranchet adzes.
- 8.1.7 The presence of Mesolithic flintwork in the Horsham area is not unexpected as there have been numerous finds of Mesolithic flintwork to the south-west of Horsham, as well as to the east of the town (Butler; 2008). These suggest that there were numerous short-stay camps, and hunting camps, located

generally close to streams, on which Horsham Points were one of the dominant microlith types. The small assemblage found here might indicate the presence of a Mesolithic hunting camp nearby.

8.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

8.2.1 The surface artefact collection recovered a relatively small assemblage of pottery all of which consists of small abraded/weathered sherds. The earliest piece consists of a single tiny scrap (1g) of heavily abraded sand tempered ware of mid 13th- to mid 14th- century date (transect 28C). The virtual absence of medieval pottery would suggest little refuse disposal in the area at this time and that the land, if utilised at all, was either put to pasture or left in its natural woodland state.

8.2.2 There are only two sherds of Transitional pottery dating to between the 15th and mid 16th centuries suggesting activity had changed little from the preceding period. A fine sand tempered jar rim (6g) was recovered from [18P] and a hard-fired earthenware jar/pitcher base with spots of external green glaze (40g) was recovered from [24F].

8.2.3 The early post-medieval period is a little better represented in the assemblage with a small selection of material that can be placed between 1550 and 1750. The most common type of pottery are the local glazed red earthenwares: eight sherds were recovered from eight different transects (8D, 12U, 14C, 15E, 20V, 24R, 25R, 28M). The material consists of sherds from a number of green and clear/red glazed jars and jugs. Of the same general period are three sherds from Frechen stoneware Bellarmine bottles (13F: 7g; 19H: 5g) including part of a frontal moulded medallion (28I: 13g). There is also a single sherd (12g) from a Westerwald tankard with cobalt blue decoration (21Z: 12g) likely to be of 17th- to early 18th- century date. The latest sherds of this period consist of two fragments from Staffordshire white salt-glazed ware from transects 8L (4g) and 29Z (3g), probably dating to between 1730 and 1760. Certainly the ceramics suggest some low-scale manuring may have been taking place on land sporadically used for arable cultivation during this period.

8.2.4 The majority of the pottery from the work is of the late post-medieval period, post-dating 1750. However, the major proportion of the pottery in this phase can be placed between c. 1840/50 and 1920. The earliest material includes a few pieces of late creamware, probably of the period 1780-1830 (7Q x1, 13A x1, 13N x1, 13R x4 and 18T x1). Most sherds appear to be from plates. A few pearlware sherds were also recovered, most notably a plate with blue shell-edge decoration from 29k and a plate sherd with blue floral transfer-print from 13J. These are likely to date to between 1790/1800 and 1830. A few of the more refined glazed red earthenwares are likely to be of later 18th- to early 19th- century date. Low-scale manuring was obviously continuing during this period.

8.2.5 The mid/late 19th century is represented by a notable increase in pottery probably as a result of increased manuring/arable cultivation. Both local refuse and waste brought in by the rail network from urban centres may have been used. A range of domestic wares are represented: glazed red earthenwares, unglazed earthenwares (flower pots), yellow ware (bowls), Sunderland-type slipware (bowls), English stoneware (bottles, preserve jars),

industrial slipware (tankard), transfer-printed ware (dinner and tea wares), plain refined white earthenware/china (dinner/kitchen wares) and English porcelain (teawares). The latest material, consisting primarily of plain refined white earthenware vessels and English stoneware preserve jars, is probably of early/mid 20th- century date. Two notable concentrations of this late material were recovered from transects 15Y and 20H.

8.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

8.3.1 The fieldwalking recovered a relatively small assemblage of ceramic building material. The earliest pieces consist of three fragments of medieval tile, probably of later 13th- to early 15th- century date. These consist of a fine sand tempered peg tile piece from transect 24V (6g), a medium sand tempered peg tile fragment with spots of green glaze from 24I (43g) and a ridge tile fragment, also in a medium sand tempered fabric with spots of green glaze from 24R (57g). A few pieces of early post-medieval tile were also recovered (e.g. a fine sand tempered example from 34C) which probably date to between the 16th and early 18th centuries. A single pan tile fragment (from 10T) is of probable 18th- century date.

8.3.2 The vast majority of the ceramic building material can be dated to the late post-medieval period. Numerous well formed peg tile fragments are present in hard fired fabrics tempered with sparse fine sand which are probably of 19th- to early 20th- century date. In addition there are a few press-moulded roof tiles with granular fabrics (e.g. 8H) of definite 20th- century origin. A number of late 18th/19th- to early 20th- century brick fragments are also present. These are all well formed, medium/hard fired and tempered with fine sand with iron oxide inclusions to 4mm. Most are frogless, though a few later frogged examples are present (e.g. 20C).

8.3.3 The assemblage also contains a notable proportion of ceramic land drain. Most of these consist of unglazed red earthenware types of 19th- century date (e.g. 33J, 33H, 34G) sometimes in notable quantities: 6F produced seven fragments weighing 89g. Certainly the land was subjected to an extensive drainage programme in the mid/late 19th century. A few salt-glazed drain fragments (e.g. 18Z) and unglazed yellow externally ribbed drain fragments (e.g. 5V), of later 19th- to 20th- century date, were also recovered.

8.4 The Glass by Elke Raemen

8.4.1 A total of 175 pieces of glass was recovered during the fieldwalking. The earliest piece dates to the 18th to early 19th century and consists of a wine bottle body sherd (14U). However most glass recovered during the fieldwalking is of later 19th- to 20th-century date. Included are green glass wine/beer bottle fragments (i.e. 8B, 13H, 24N, 20V), amber beer bottle fragments (i.e. 12I) and 20th-century clear milk bottle sherds. Aqua mineral water bottle fragments were recovered and include a plain cylindrical body sherd (29A) and a codd bottle fragment (25S).

8.4.2 A range of forms for other bottles is represented including rectangular-sectioned (i.e. 33G), cylindrical (i.e. 13K, 23E), oval (i.e. 20D) and hexagonal bottles (i.e. 30M) in clear or aqua glass. Contents would have consisted of medicine or household products. A definite medicine bottle exhibiting table spoon measures was recovered from 34J and dates to the mid 19th to mid

20th century. The bottle is panelled and in clear glass. In addition, a number of fragments can be identified as bottle pieces, but are too small to establish the type. These include cylindrical aqua bottle fragments (i.e. 13W) which may have belonged to mineral water bottles. Ribbed clear glass meat paste jar fragments were also recovered (i.e. 20E, 6Z). Other jar fragments include pale aqua and clear sherds from preserve jars (i.e. 20H, 15Y).

8.4.3 Drinking glass fragments consist of a clear glass tumbler fragment (20B, 25R) and a clear wine glass base fragment (10N). Other vessel forms include a clear cut glass bowl (31K) and an opaque white vase fragment (3Z). Window fragments were recovered as well. These are mainly of 20th-century date, with only a few 19th-century pieces. Included are clear window glass fragments (i.e. 20C, 23E, 7I, 21U, 15X) and aqua pieces (i.e. 27A, 20F).

8.4.4 A black glass button with (missing) loop attachment of 20th-century date was recovered from 6X. A mirror fragment of the same date was also collected (33C).

8.5 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

8.5.1 A total of 20 stem and bowl fragments were recovered. The earliest fragments are two stem pieces of 17th-century date (19E, 4T, 21V). A stem fragment of 17th- to early 18th-century date (20A) and a piece dating to the first half of the 18th century (24D) were also recovered. Other fragments consist mainly of plain stem fragments of mid 18th- to 19th- century date (i.e. 8S, 6U, 18Y). A single decorated stem fragment (14F) was recovered. The piece exhibits tile/scale decoration and dates to the second half of the 19th century.

8.5.2 Bowl fragments are usually small and undiagnostic. Fragment dating to the second half of the 17th century were recovered from 26F, 21V, 20X and 18Z. Other pieces include 19th-century bowls with leaf decoration on seam (28C, 27Q and 21V) and a mid 19th- to early 20th-century briar pipe stem fragment (26K).

8.6 The Metalwork by Elke Raemen

8.6.1 Only 18 pieces of metalwork were collected, all of which date to the 20th century. Included are modern shotgun cases (i.e. 14B) and copper-alloy wire fragments (i.e. 6X). A 20th-century iron bolt and cast sheet were recovered from 20D. A 20th-century iron heel plate was recovered as well (23J). Other metalwork included general purpose nail fragments (12I, 4X) and a copper alloy sheet fragment (7N).

8.7 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

8.7.1 The fieldwork recovered a very small assemblage of slag most of which is not datable to any particular period. Types include fuel ash slag (e.g. 33E and 19Z), iron smithing slag (only one piece from 24V) and iron slag undiagnostic of process (from 15E and 18N only). A number of transects produced early post-medieval blast furnace slag (e.g. 13C, 13M, 18E, 20F and 33E) but this material is a common find in the Weald as it was often removed from the iron-working sites for use as surfacing for roads and tracks. A single piece of clinker from 10H is almost certainly of 19th- century date.

8.8 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

- 8.8.1 A small assemblage of stone was recovered during the work. The earliest piece consists of a fragment (46g) of West Country roofing slate which is almost certainly of medieval date (transect 13V) but, along with the few pieces of medieval tile, remains an isolated find. Unsurprisingly a few pieces of local Wealden sandstone were recovered (e.g. 18D) but these are natural to the site.
- 8.8.2 A number of pieces of downland flint were recovered, often consisting of quite large nodules (e.g. transect 7A had a piece weighing 1,758g). It is probable this material was imported with chalk during field dressing in the 19th century. The remaining two stone types make up the vast majority of the assemblage and both undoubtedly derive from 19th- century activity. Some 10 transects produced small fragments of coal, while six produced small fragments of Welsh roofing slate. Such material was probably spread during manuring.

8.9 The Animal Bone and Shell by Elke Raemen

- 8.9.1 All bone collected from the site is presumed to be of recent date and includes rabbit (i.e. 13D), sheep (i.e. 2X) and cow (i.e. 8C). A deer skull fragment was also collected (7B). In addition, two shell fragments were recovered, both consisting of lower oyster shell valves (33A and 20E).

8.10 The Miscellaneous Material by Elke Raemen

- 8.10.1 A fair amount of modern, late 20th century material was also collected, including plywood (i.e. 30W), plastic fragments including the centre from a shotgun cartridge (i.e. 19D, 7X) and rubber fragments (i.e. washer from 19E). The distribution of these artefacts was not plotted.

9.0 DISCUSSION

- 9.1 The evaluation of the available elements of the Parthings Cottage complex by mechanically excavated trenches confirmed the presence of a late post-medieval building known from cartographic sources and aerial photographs (see Section 2.0 above and ASE 2006). Unfortunately few conclusions can be safely drawn from the limited work undertaken, but the examined archaeological deposits appear to confirm the presence of a building with a yard to the south, which was still in use until the later stages of the 20th century (Figure 6). The evaluation also showed that the cottage was approached by an apparently unsurfaced *Green Lane*.
- 9.2 The dating of the building(s), including the structures associated with the well, remain unclear in the absence of detailed recording of the surviving structural elements, and or further archaeological excavation. However, the material culture retrieved from the evaluation trenches and from surface artefact collection in the vicinity of the cottage would strongly suggest that the cottage complex was begun no earlier than the first half of 19th century and abandoned in the second half of the 20th century, a date range supported by information from the other sources. No medieval or early post-medieval material was recovered in the immediate area strongly suggesting that the

current ruin was the first detectable structure to be built at the site.

- 9.3 The surface artefact collection across the remainder of the site revealed a background scatter of post-medieval material, but no evidence of medieval, Anglo-Saxon or Romano-British activity. The small quantity of transitional and medieval material was concentrated in the south-eastern part of the site and was probably associated with the occupation of Parthings Farm to the south, which is known to have medieval origins (see Paragraph 2.2.4).
- 9.4 Clearly the most significant categories of artefact to be recovered were the worked flint and fire-cracked flint, which hint at Mesolithic activity in the vicinity. A number of sites of this date have been identified in the Horsham area (Butler 2008), including a site recently discovered during surface artefact collection to the south-east of the town (ASE 2008c). Such sites are usually comprised of scatters of worked and fire-cracked flint, which are thought to be the surviving remnants of hunting activity closely related to the system of river valleys in the Weald (Tebbutt 1974).
- 9.5 Recent fieldwork in Sussex has highlighted the fact that such scatters can be associated with buried archaeological features, such as pits as at Streat (Butler 2007), or hearths as at Rock Common near Washington (Harding 2000). In addition, it has been recognised since the 1930s that Mesolithic hunter-gatherers operating in the Weald were capable of building shelters (Clark and Rankine 1939).
- 9.6 However the topography of the area would strongly suggest that such features might survive to the south on the higher ground outside the boundaries of the site, corresponding to a recently established model of Mesolithic activity in the Weald (Richard Carter, University of Sussex, *pers. comm.*). It is suggested that the flintwork has been moved downhill by ploughing and/or other agencies from that location, and that it is unlikely that associated archaeological features survive within the examined area.

10.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 10.1 The mechanical excavation of trial trenches at Parthings Cottage was an appropriate methodology for the archaeological evaluation of the building and its immediate surroundings. Despite the limitations imposed by ecological constraints, it proved possible to investigate deposits resulting from the utilisation of the building.
- 10.2 Based on currently available evidence, it is suggested that Parthings Cottage is a late post-medieval building with no detectable early post-medieval or medieval antecedent. However, further fieldwork would be needed to prove this beyond doubt, and to ascertain details of the building's internal layout, and associated external features and those of other structures, including the well known from cartographic sources.
- 10.3 Surface artefact collection offered an efficient methodology for the identification of the artefacts present in the ploughsoil. Although this method has limitations in regard to issues such as character, quality, and degree of survival of buried archaeological remains, it is a useful tool in the detection of scatters of artefacts.

- 10.4 The surface artefact collection suggested that there was no medieval, Anglo-Saxon or Romano-British activity within the boundaries of the site, but that there was Mesolithic activity in the vicinity, probably to the south.

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SMR Summary Form

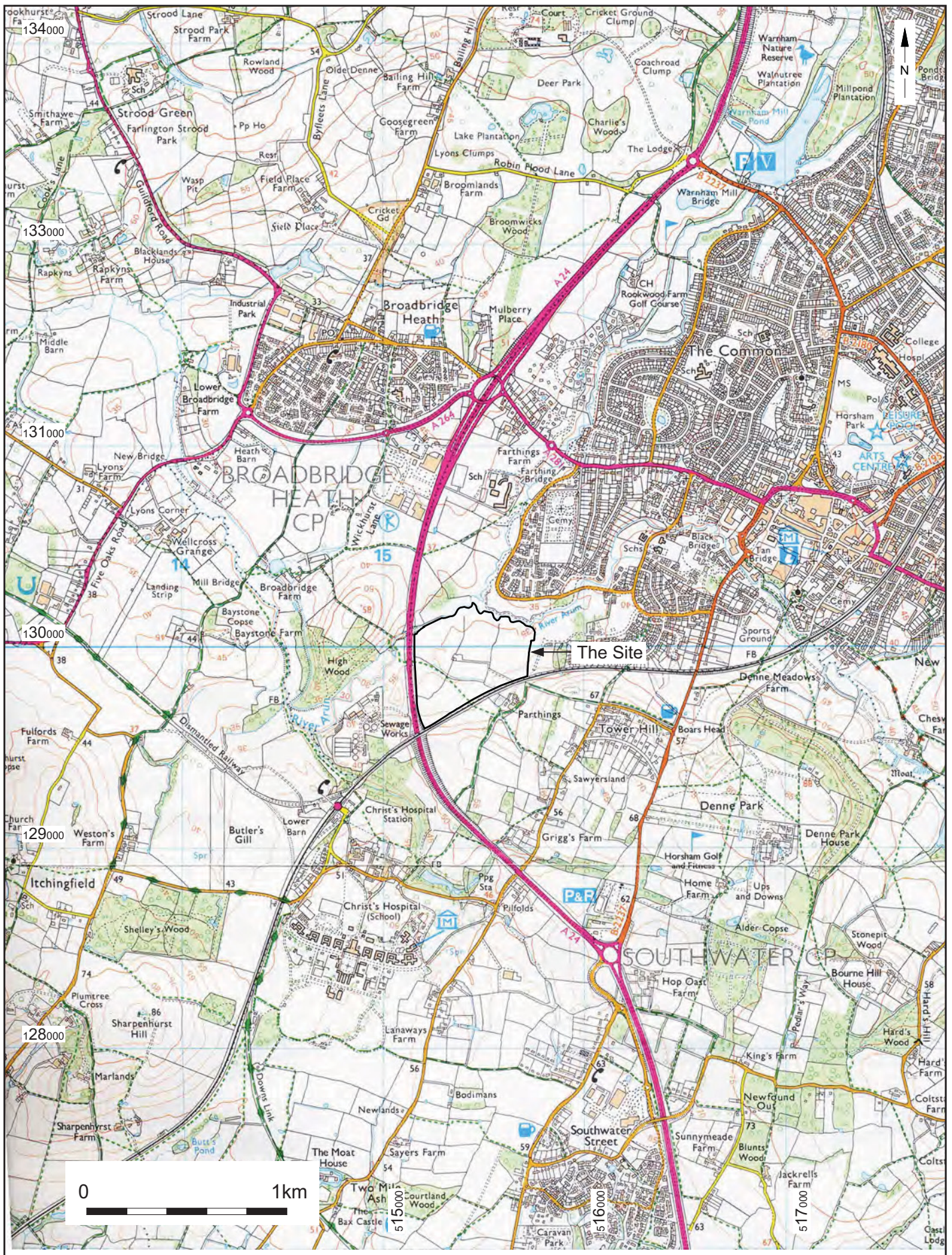
Site Code	LWH 09					
Identification Name and Address	Land to the West of Horsham					
County, District &/or Borough	Horsham, West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	515500 130000					
Geology	Weald Clay and Alluvium					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3764					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Field Walking ✓	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other <i>Derelict Cottage</i>		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. April-May 2009	Excav.	WB.	Field Walking April-May 2009		
Sponsor/Client	Berkeley Strategic					
Project Manager	Darryl Palmer/Jim Stevenson/Dan Swift					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso. ✓	Neo. ?✓	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED ✓	PM ✓	Other		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on and around the ruins of Parthings Cottage, a building visible on aerial photographs and named on cartographic sources. Although the main part of the building complex could not be investigated on ecological grounds, the material culture recovered suggested that the building was no older than early 19th century in origin.</i></p> <p><i>A programme of surface artefact collection was also undertaken over a wider area and showed no particular concentrations of artefacts except for the expected spread of late post-medieval material around Parthings Cottage. Mesolithic flintwork was recovered across the site, but appears to be associated with activity on higher ground to the south.</i></p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeo16-60279	
Project details	
Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation and Surface Artefact Collection on Land West of Horsham, West Sussex
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on and around the ruins of Parthings Cottage, a building visible on aerial photographs and named on cartographic sources. Although the main part of the building complex could not be investigated on ecological grounds, the material culture recovered suggested that the building was no older than early 19th century in origin. A programme of surface artefact collection was also undertaken over a wider area and showed no particular concentrations of artefacts except for the expected spread of late post-medieval material around Parthings Cottage. Mesolithic flintwork was recovered across the site, but appears to be associated with activity on higher ground to the south.
Project dates	Start: 27-04-2009 End: 05-05-2009
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LWH 09 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	3764 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	COTTAGE Post medieval
Monument type	COTTAGE Modern
Significant Finds	FLINTWORK Mesolithic
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post medieval
Methods & techniques	'Fieldwalking',' Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	General structure plan/local plan/minerals plan guidance

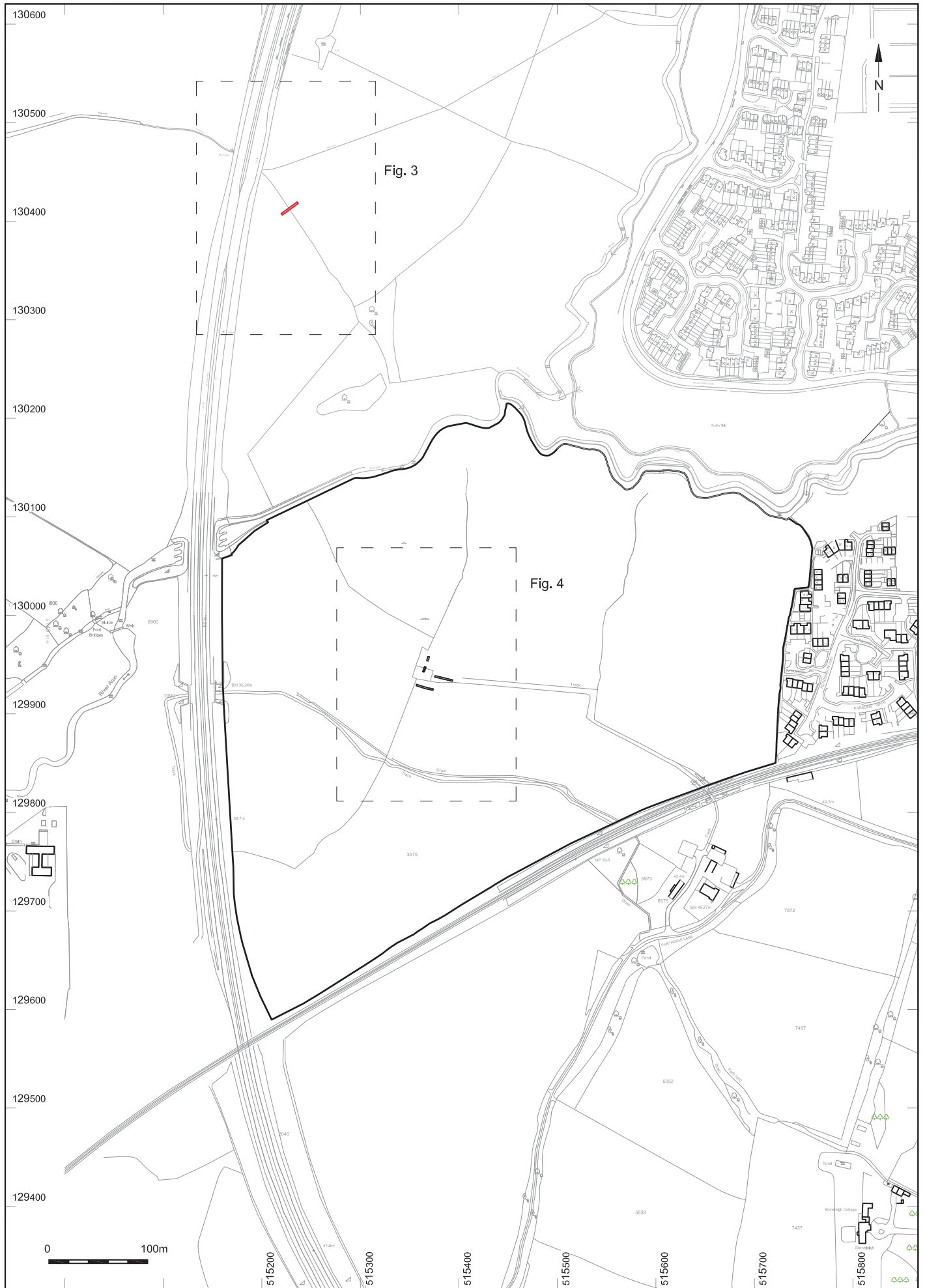
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX HORSHAM HORSHAM Land West of Horsham
Postcode	RH12 1XR
Study area	25.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 15500 30000 51.0571673073 -0.351755766241 51 03 25 N 000 21 06 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 70.00m Max: 90.00m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	West Sussex County Council
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Darryl Palmer
Project supervisor	Simon Stevens
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Berkeley Strategic
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Physical Contents	'Ceramics', 'Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Archive recipient	Horsham Museum

Digital Contents	'other'
Digital Media available	'Database', 'Images raster / digital photography', 'Survey'
Paper Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Paper Contents	'other'
Paper Media available	'Aerial Photograph', 'Context sheet', 'Drawing', 'Map', 'Miscellaneous Material', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section'
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation and Surface Artefact Collection on Land West of Horsham, West Sussex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Stevens, S.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No. 2009075
Date	2009
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
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Description	Standard ASE Client Report : Bound A4 with cover logos

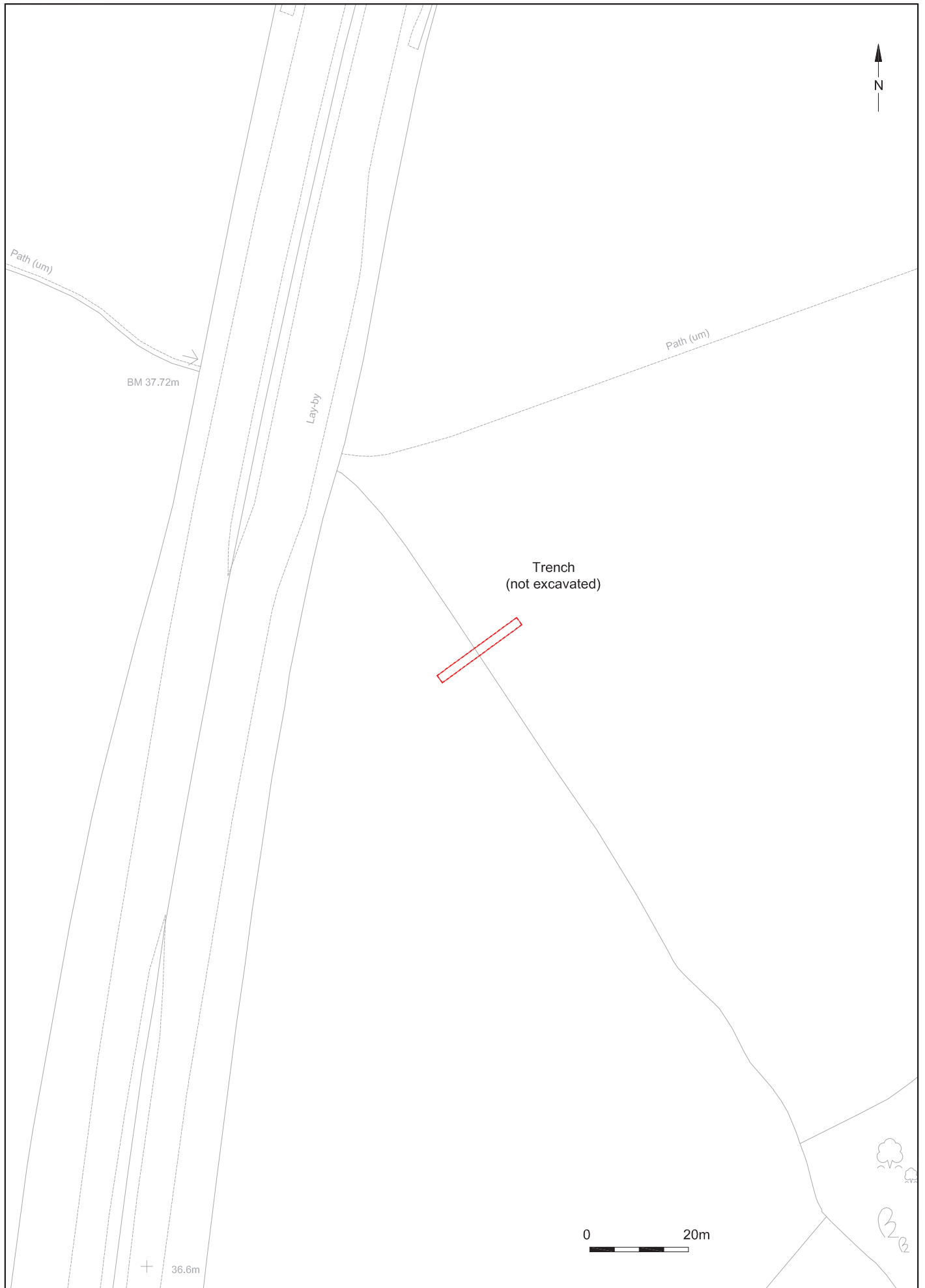


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Project Ref: 3764	June 2009	Site location plan	
Report Ref: 2009075	Drawn by: JLR		

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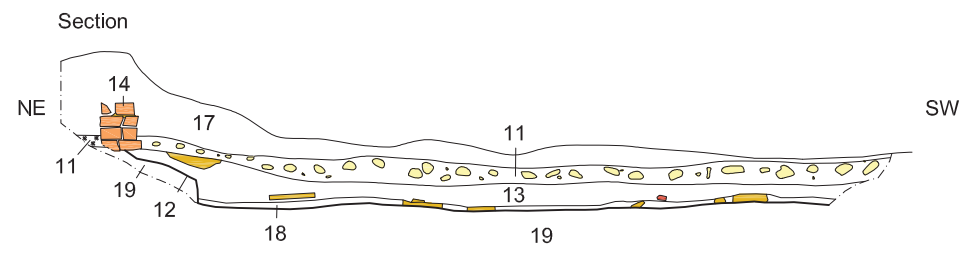
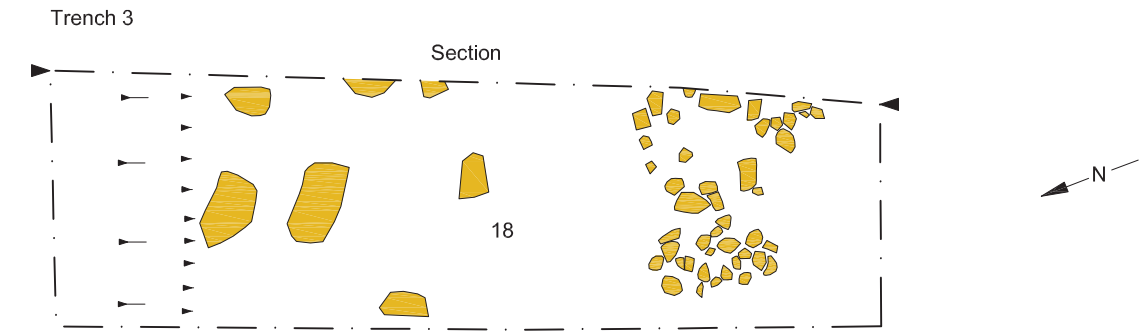
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Project Ref: 3764	June 2009	Location of evaluation trenches	
Report Ref: 2009075	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 3764	June 2009	Possible deer park boundary trench (not excavated)	
Report Ref: 2009075	Drawn by: JLR		



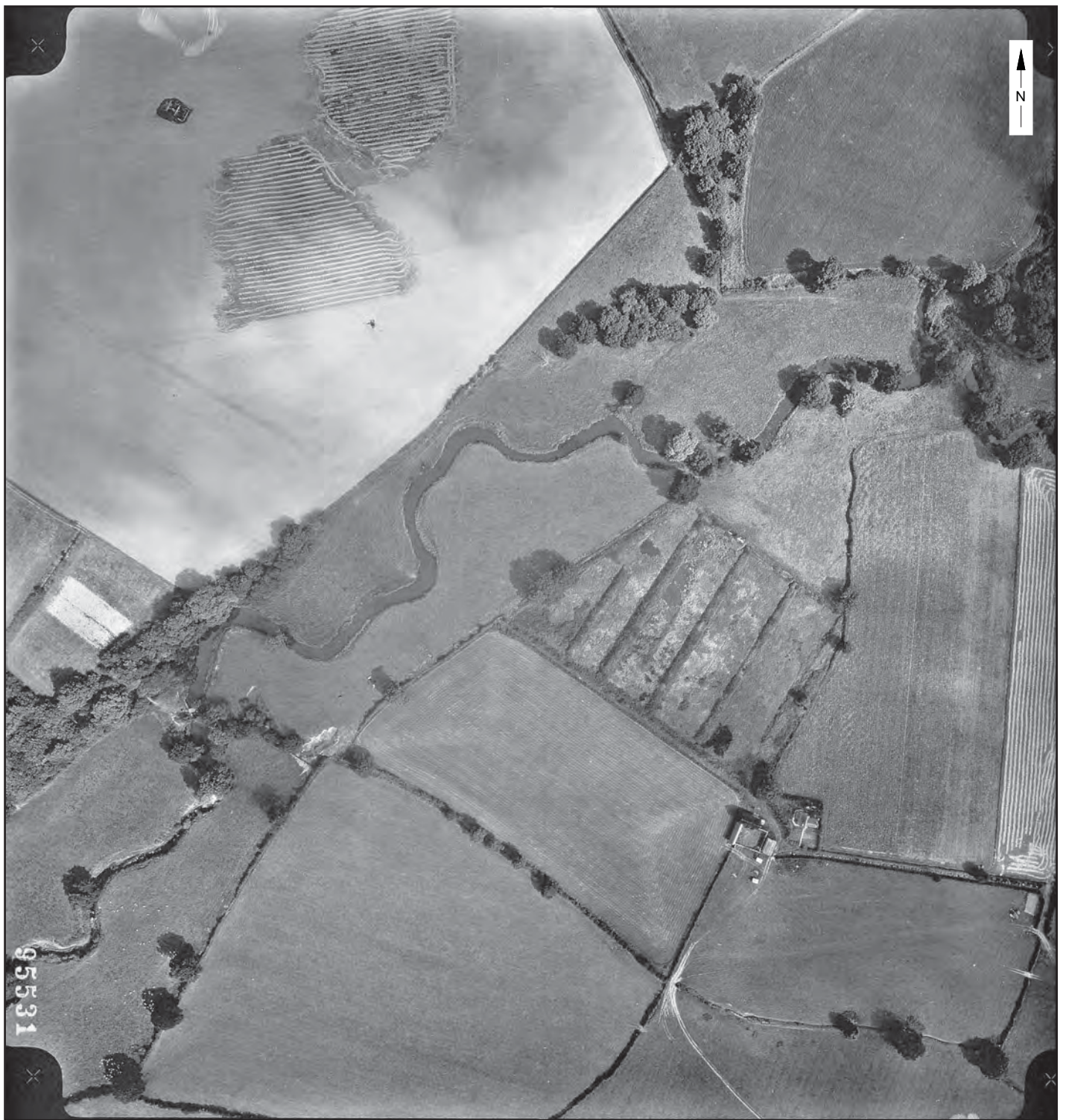
© Archaeology South-East		Land west of Horsham	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 3764	June 2009	Parthings Cottage trench locations	
Report Ref: 2009075	Drawn by: JLR		



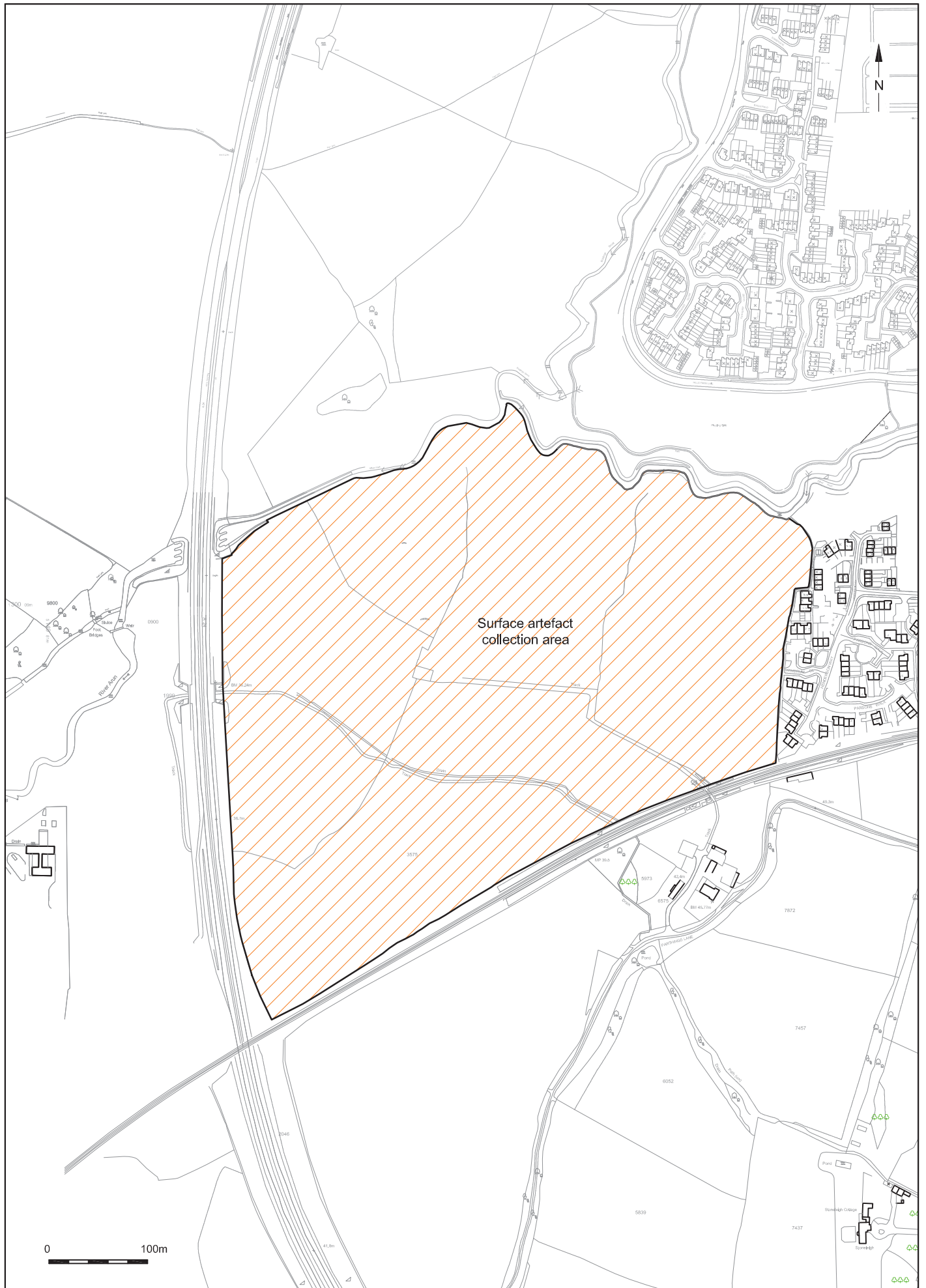
- Brick
- Sandstone
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- Charcoal



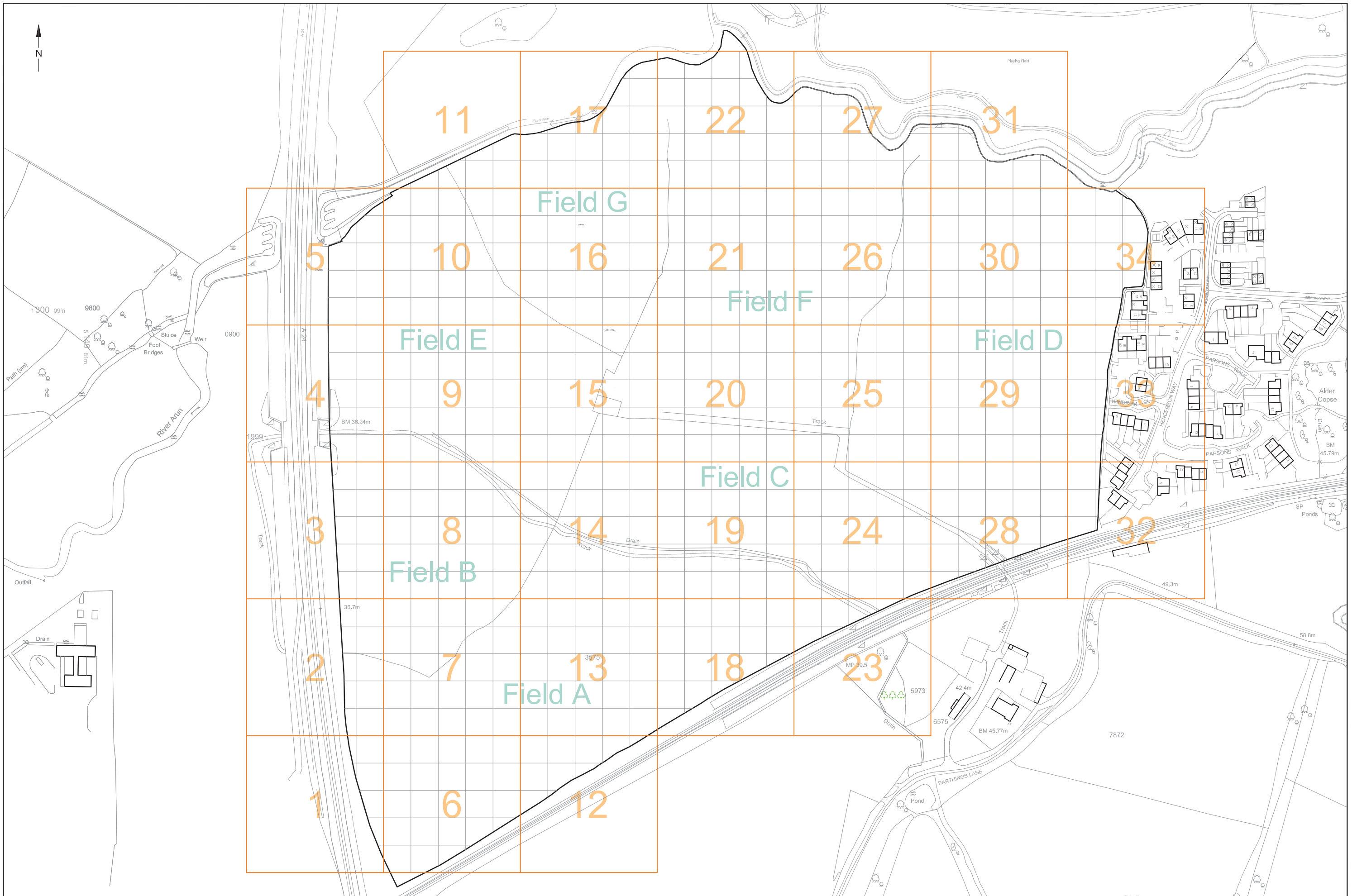
© Archaeology South-East		Land west of Horsham	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 3764	June 2009	Trench 4: Plan and section	
Report Ref: 2009075	Drawn by: JR/HF		



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Project Ref: 3764	June 2009	Aerial photograph of Parthings Cottage dating from the 1960s	
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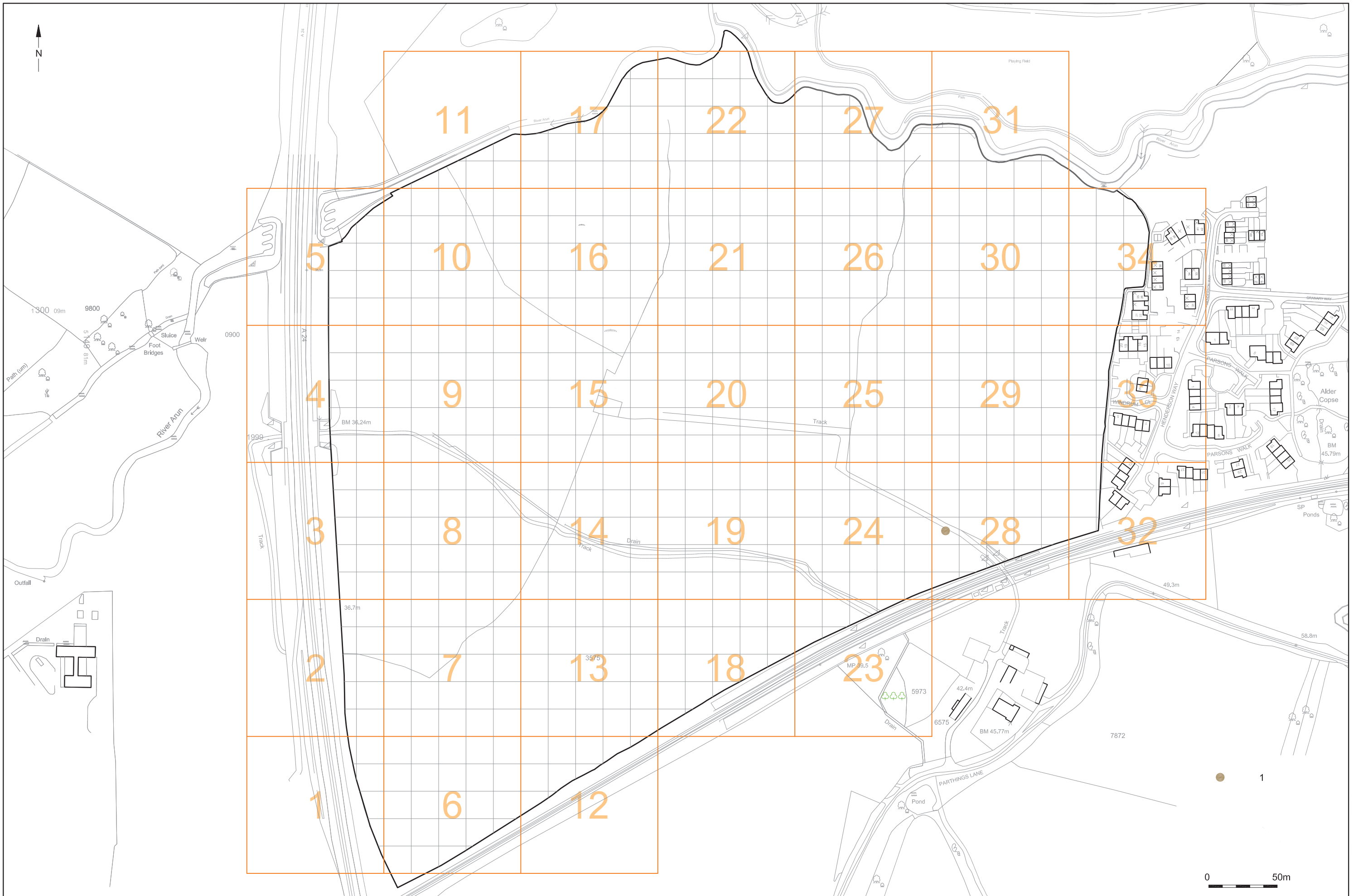


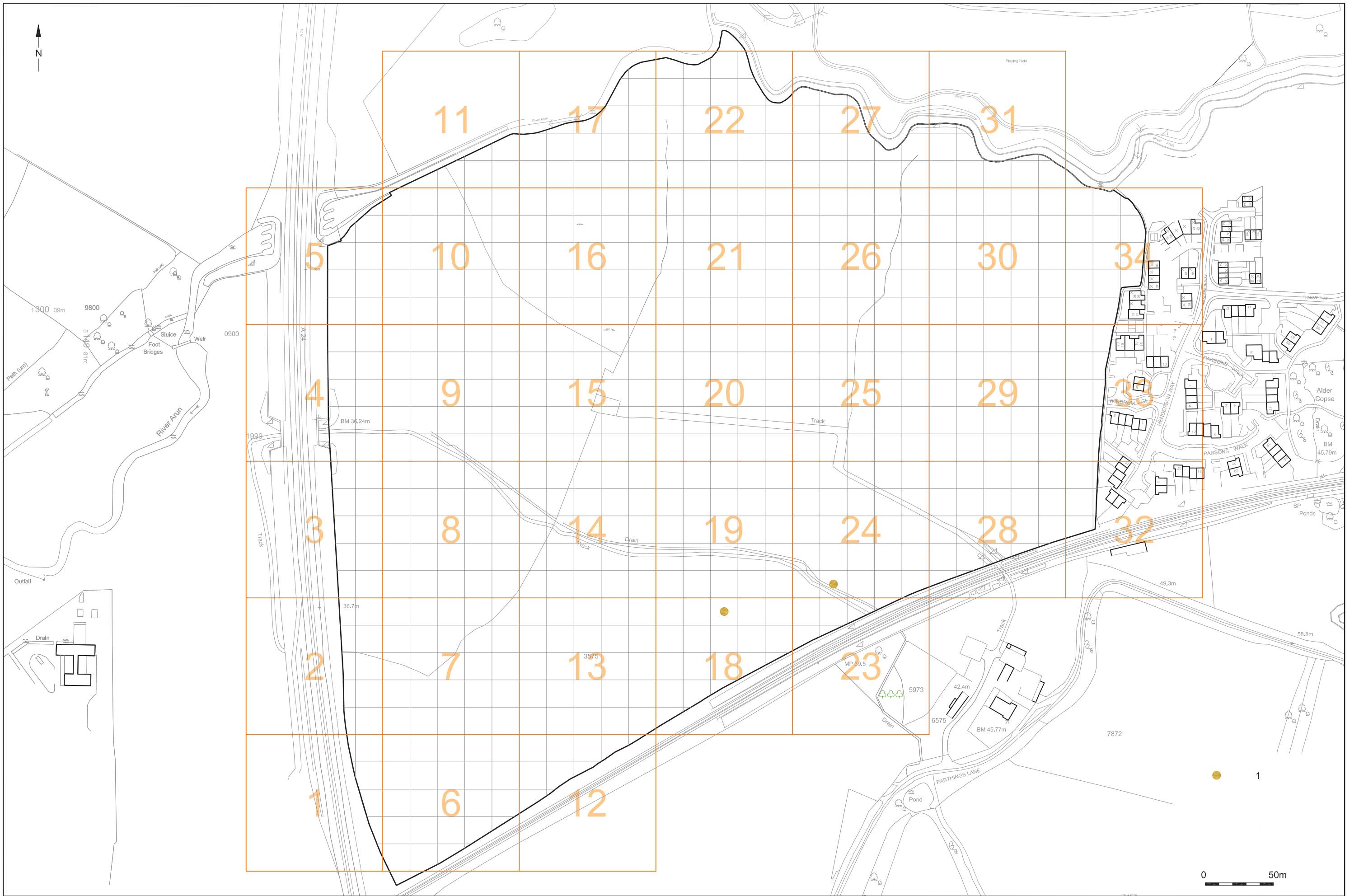
© Archaeology South-East		Land west of Horsham	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 3764	June 2009	Surface artefact collection area	
Report Ref: 2009075	Drawn by: JLR		



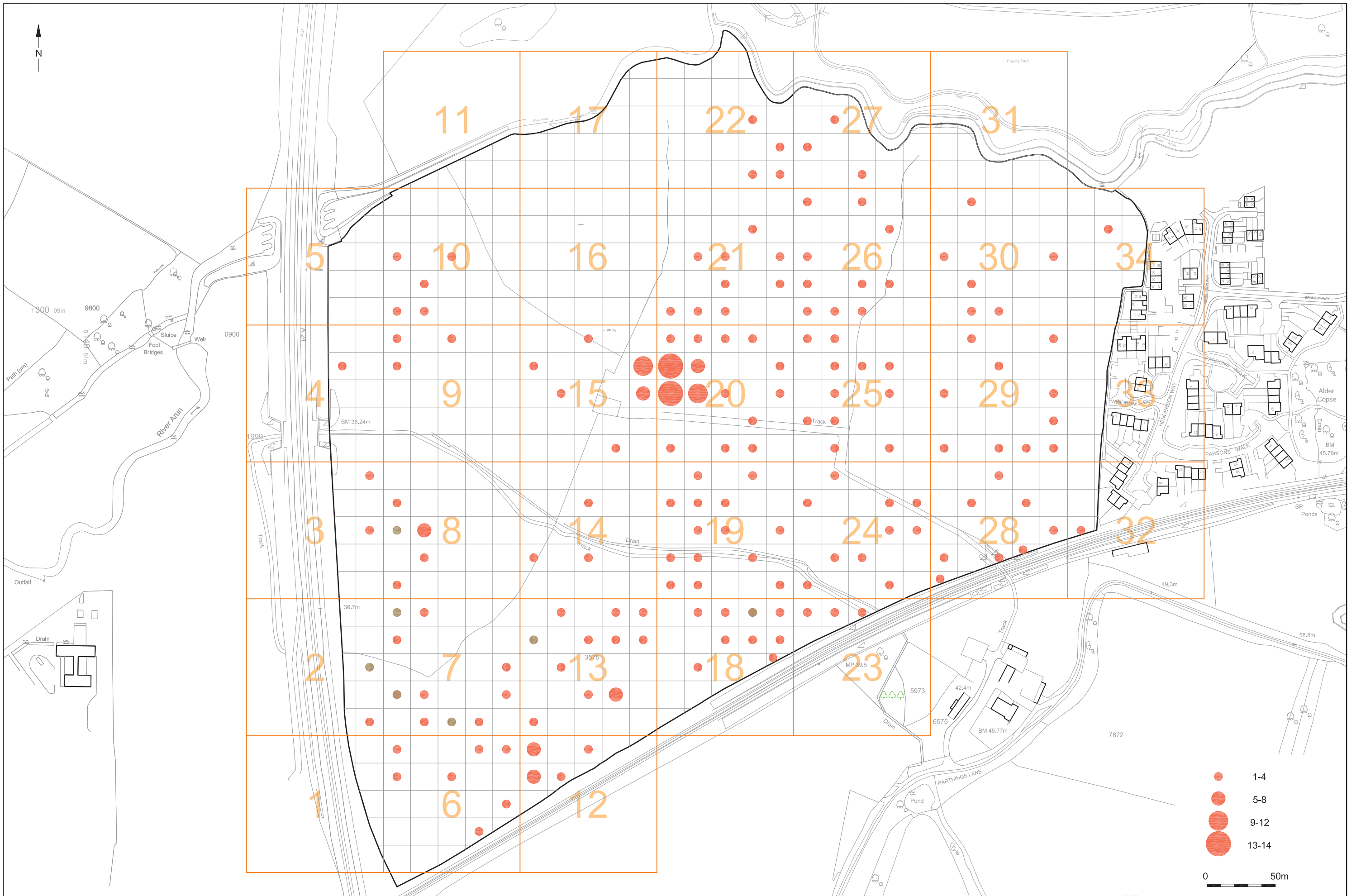


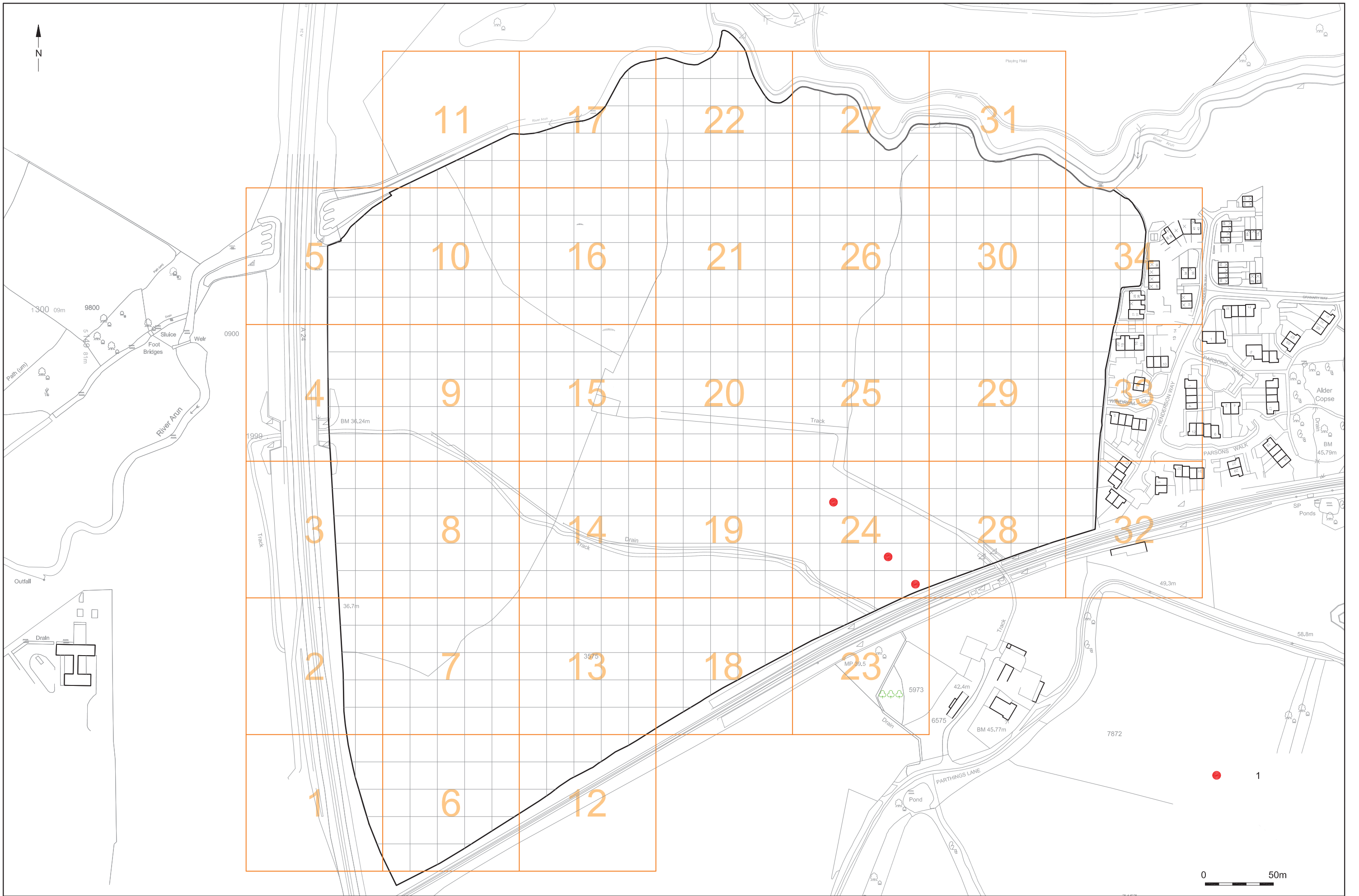


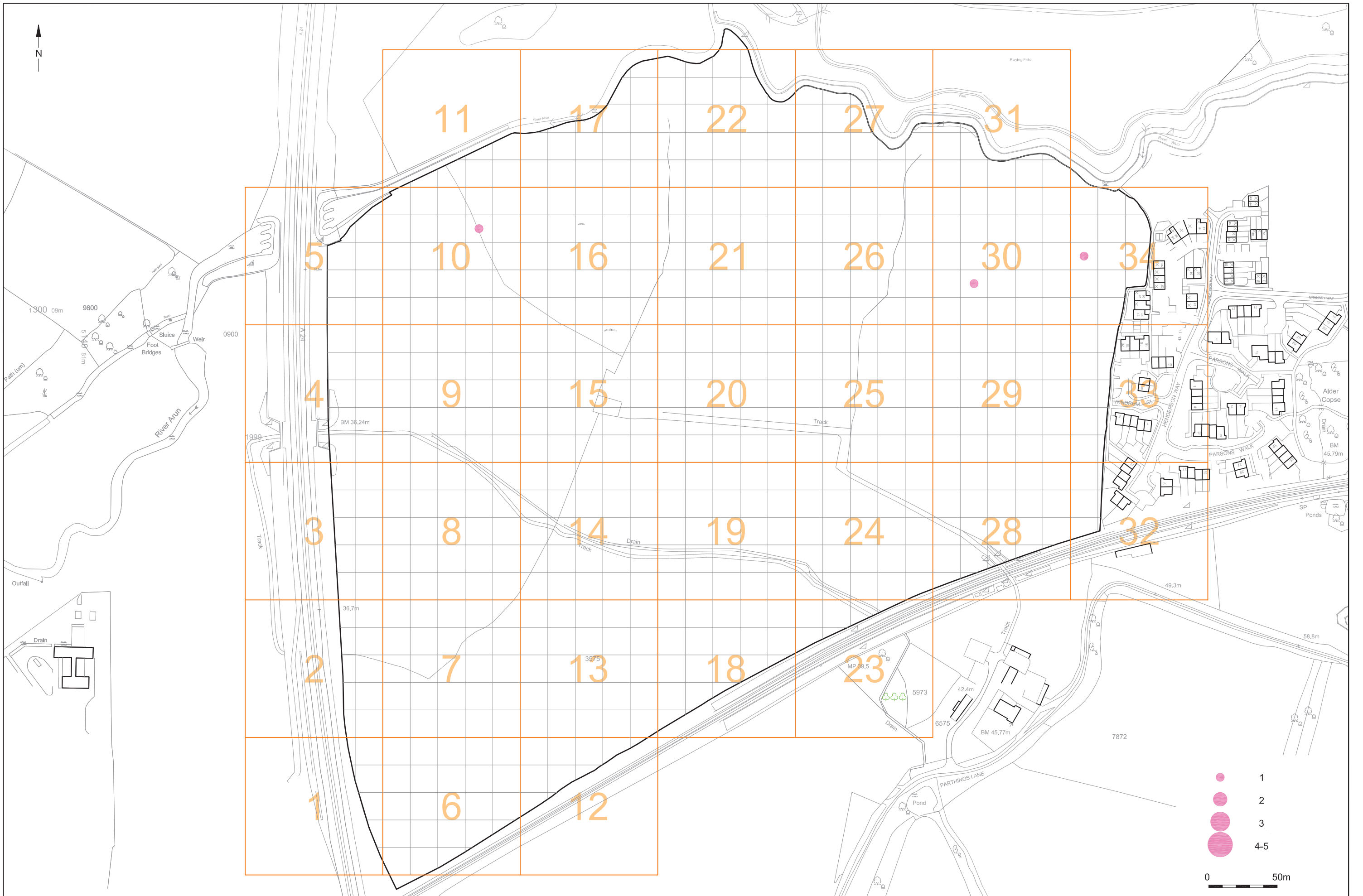


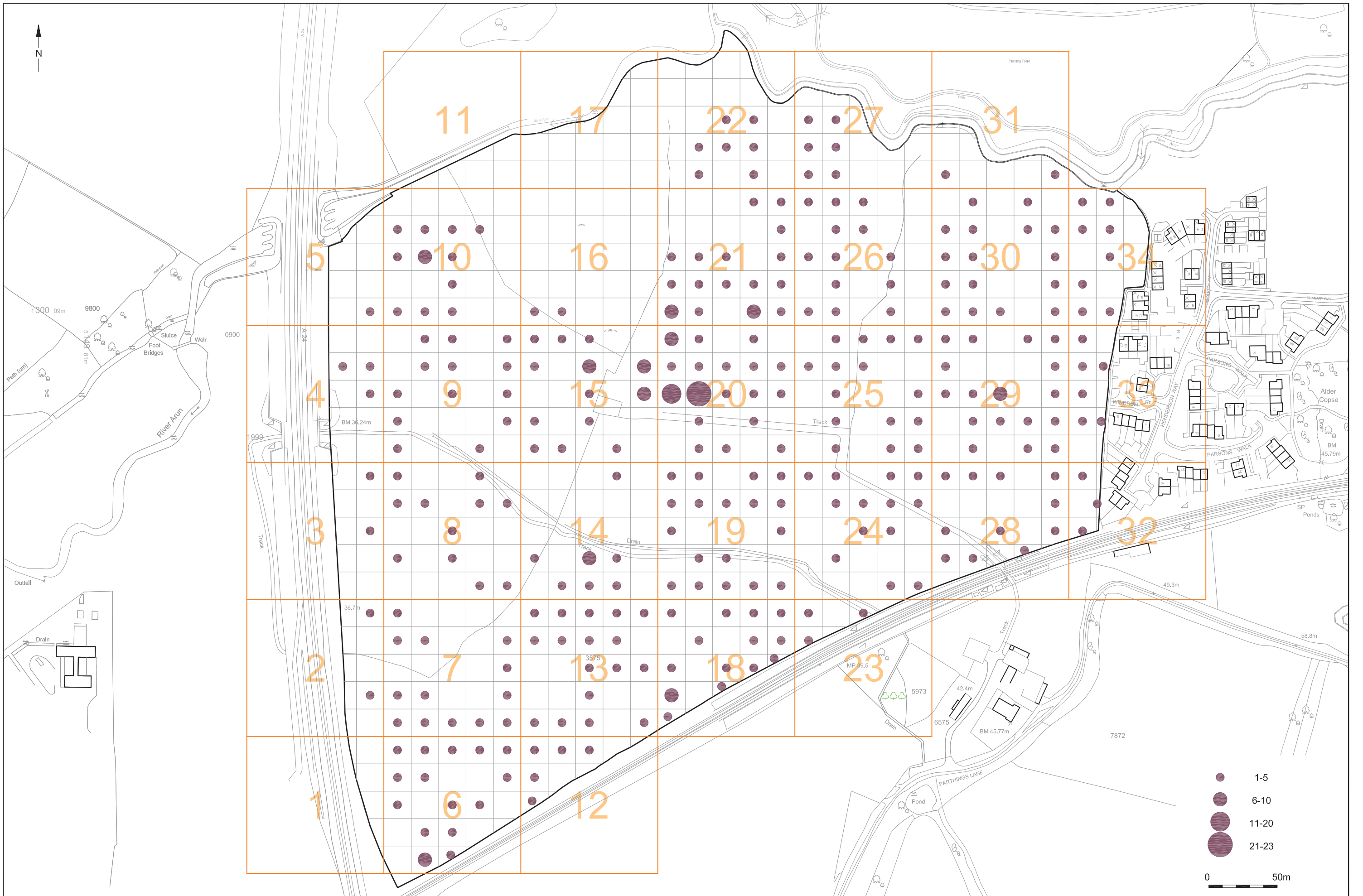


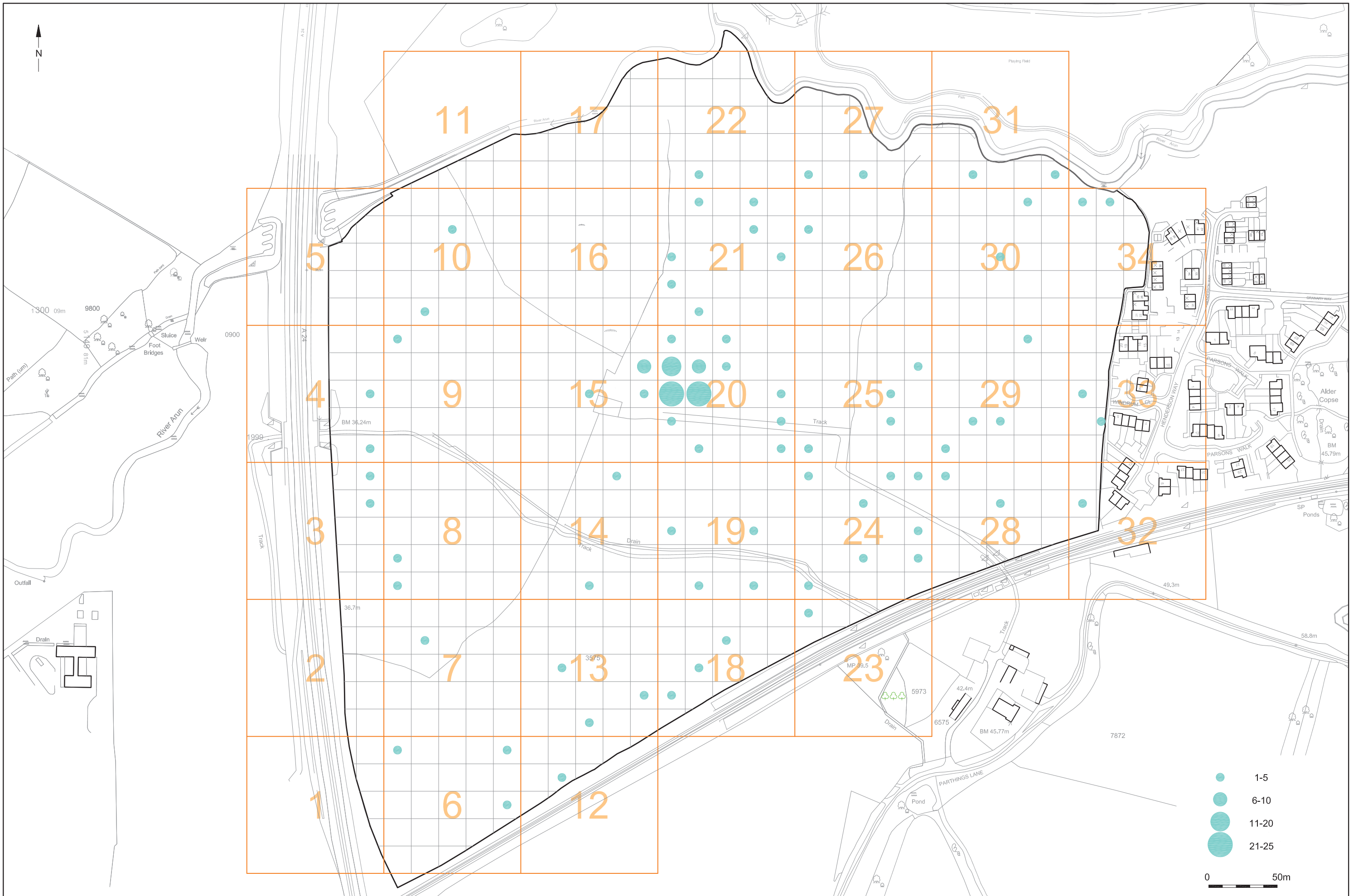










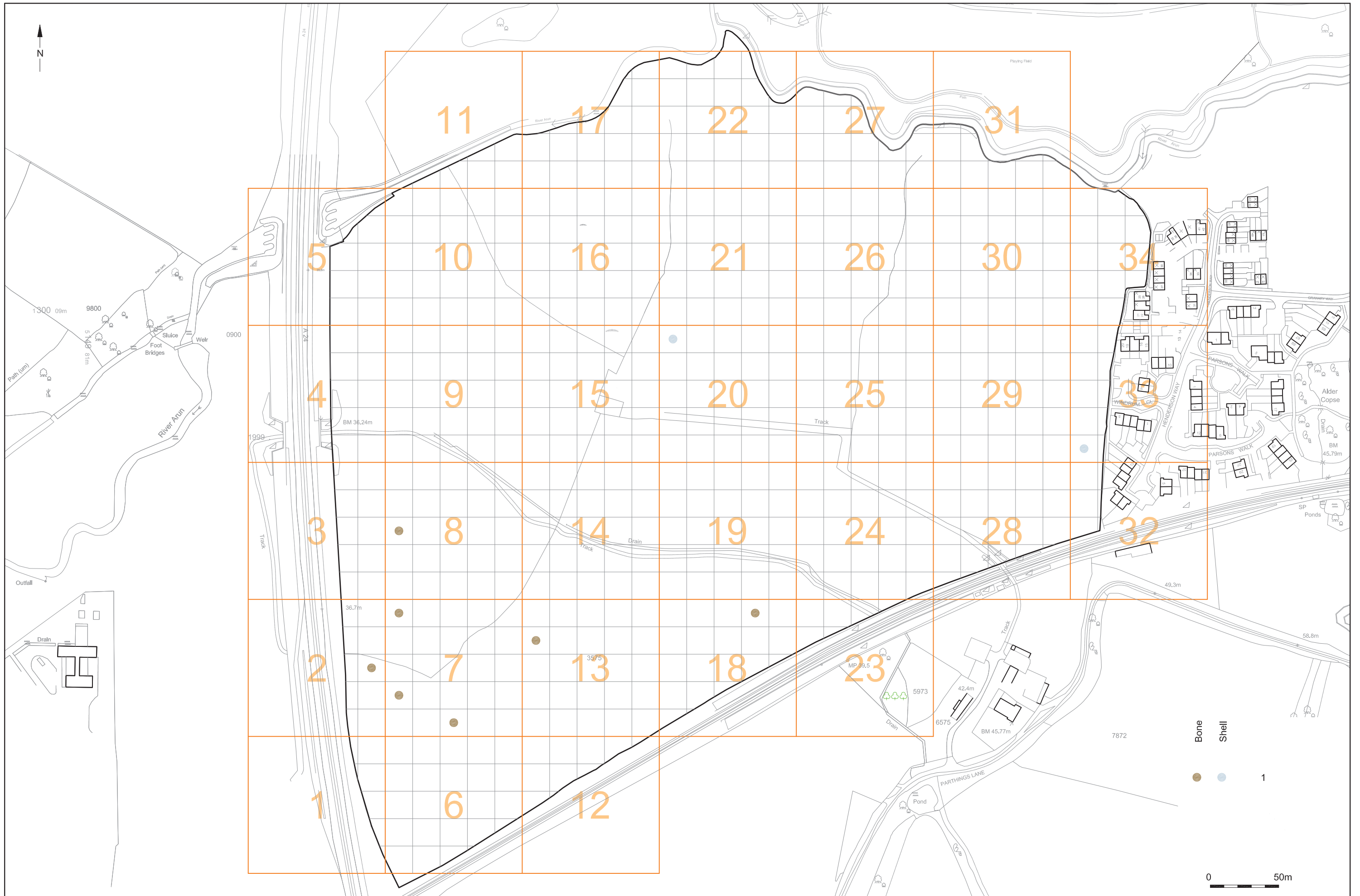












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