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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**SOUTH BRADWELL, GREAT YARMOUTH,  
NORFOLK**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
(FIELD SURVEY)**

Authors: Samuel Egan (fieldwork & report) Antony Mustchin (Editor)	
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NGR: TG 508 028	Report No. 4025
Parish: Bradwell	Site Code: ENF130238
Approved: Claire Halpin MfA	Project No. 4837
Signed:	Date: November 2012 Revised: December 2012

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**OASIS SUMMARY**

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name	South Bradwell, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk		
<p>During November 2012 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation (field survey) on land at South Bradwell, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk (NGR TG 508 028). The evaluation was required by the local planning authority (Great Yarmouth Borough Council) in advance of the submission/ determination of a planning application for residential-led development based on advice from Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service.</p> <p>The fieldwalking recovered a total of 113 pieces (2085g) of struck flint. The assemblage includes part of a flaked axe, scrapers, blades and debitage of mixed prehistoric date and technology, ranging from the Mesolithic to the later Neolithic/early Bronze Age. The flint cores and tools from all prehistoric periods are broadly distributed in the southern, western and north-western sectors of the site. The bulk of the assemblage comprises debitage or waste flakes with limited diagnostic potential but their distribution again reflects the worked flint being located in the western, southern and northern sectors of the site.</p> <p>A single sherd (20g) of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age pottery was recovered from Find Spot (FS) 145 on the far western side of the site. Sixteen abraded medieval (10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>; 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>/ 14<sup>th</sup>; 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery were found on the western and eastern sides of the site and may be attributed to manuring.</p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	November 2012		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	Y		TBC
P. number	P4837	Site Code	ENF130238
Type of project	Fieldwalking and metal detector survey		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Agricultural land		
Planned development	Residential Development		
Main features (+dates)	-		
Significant finds (+dates)	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic and later Neolithic/ early Bronze Age struck flint; abraded medieval (10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> century) pottery		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	Norfolk	Great Yarmouth	Bradwell
HER/ SMR for area	Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NCC HER)		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site	c.73ha		
NGR	TG 508 028		
Height AOD (max/ min)	c.10m AOD		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	Norfolk Historic Environment Service		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Samuel Egan		
Funded by	Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Ltd		
Full title	South Bradwell, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. An Archaeological Evaluation (Field Survey)		
Authors	Samuel Egan		
Report no.	4205		
Date (of report)	November 2012 (Revised December 2012)		

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# **SOUTH BRADWELL, GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK**

## **AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION (FIELD SURVEY)**

### **SUMMARY**

*During November 2012 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation (field survey) on land at South Bradwell, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk (NGR TG 508 028). The evaluation was required by the local planning authority (Great Yarmouth Borough Council) in advance of the submission/ determination of a planning application for residential-led development based on advice from Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service.*

*Aerial photographs have revealed an extensive landscape of funerary monuments, organised fields and associated settlement activity along the coastal loam belt, beginning in the prehistoric period. Fieldwork to the south-east had already drawn attention to a complex landscape of prehistoric funerary evidence intermixed with activities of a more domestic nature, which continued to develop during the Roman period. The proximity to the Roman Shore Fort at Burgh Castle suggests some association between it and the field systems on the present site.*

*The fieldwalking recovered a total of 113 pieces (2085g) of struck flint. The assemblage includes part of a flaked axe, scrapers, blades and debitage of mixed prehistoric date and technology, ranging from the Mesolithic to the later Neolithic/ early Bronze Age. The flint cores and tools from all prehistoric periods are broadly distributed in the southern, western and north-western sectors of the site. The bulk of the assemblage comprises debitage or waste flakes with limited diagnostic potential but their distribution again reflects the worked flint being located in the western, southern and northern sectors of the site.*

*A single sherd (20g) of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age pottery was recovered from Find Spot (FS)<sup>1</sup> 145 on the far western side of the site. Sixteen abraded medieval (10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>; 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>/ 14<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery were found on the western and eastern sides of the site and may be attributed to manuring.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 During November 2012 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation (field survey) on land at South Bradwell, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk (NGR TG 508 028; Figs. 1 and 2). The evaluation was required by the local planning authority (Great Yarmouth Borough Council) in advance of the submission/ determination of a planning application for a residential-led development based on advice from Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service.

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<sup>1</sup> Throughout this report, the abbreviation 'FS' is used to refer to fieldwalking Find Spots. The locations of these are presented in Figures 3-5.

1.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared (Penn 2008) and a geophysical survey will also be undertaken as part of the evaluation.

1.3 The project adhered to advice issued by Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NCC HES, dated 2012), and a specification prepared by AS (dated 15 August 2012), approved by NCC HES. The project complied with the appropriate sections of Gurney (2003), 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England', *East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper* 14. The evaluation was also conducted according to the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (revised 2008).

1.4 The principal aim of the field survey was to determine the location and extent of any artefactual evidence within the ploughsoil.

### *Planning Policy Context*

1.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.6 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

## **2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**

2.1 The village of Bradwell is joined to the south-west end of Great Yarmouth. The site is located on agricultural land immediately south of Bradwell and the A143 linking Great Yarmouth with Haverhill in Suffolk. It comprises 6 fields of varying size (numbered 1-6 on Figure 2). Field 1, located in the north-eastern sector of the site, is bounded by sports fields to the east, by open fields to the south and west and by a

modern housing development to the north. Field 2 is bounded by Clay Lane and Gorleston Lane to the south-west and south-east (respectively), by school sports fields and Field 1 to the east and north-east, modern housing to the north and open fields to the north-west. Field 3, in the south-western sector of the site, is bounded by Gorleston Lane to north and north-west, by a short section of Woodfarm Lane in the extreme north-east and by open fields on all other sides. Field 4 is bounded by Clay Lane to the north and east, field boundaries at Wheatcroft Farm to the south, and by open fields and Browston Lane to the west; a small area of housing is present to the extreme north-west. Field 5 is bounded by allotments and the A143 to the north-east and north-west, by open fields to the south/ south-east and by housing to the west. Field 6 is a small field located in the triangle formed where Browston Lane meets the A143.

### **3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

3.1 The site is located on fairly flat low lying ground at approximately 10m AOD. To the west is an area of the Norfolk Broads formed where the Rivers Waveney and Yare join. The coast is less than 2km to the east, and just over 1km to the south is the River Fritton which forms a lake, the Fritton Decoy, to the south-west of the site. The local soils are typical brown earths of the Wick 3 Association which are non-alluvial loamy soils with a non-calcareous subsoil without significant clay enrichment. The underlying geology is London Clay.

### **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

4.1 As stated in the desk-based assessment (Penn 2008), aerial photographs have revealed an extensive landscape of funerary monuments, organised fields and associated settlement activity along the coastal loam belt, beginning in the prehistoric period. There appears to be two particular foci for many the cropmarks of prehistoric and Romano-British date. To the south-west, towards Hopton-on-Sea, is a complex landscape of prehistoric funerary practices intermixed with activities of a more domestic nature, which continued to develop during the Roman period. The evidence includes three large middle Bronze Age ditches, two forming an avenue, with a bronze hoard ritually deposited in one ditch (Adams and Peachey 2011). Numerous other small ditches and pits were also present. A large number of cropmarks of ring ditches of potential round barrows are located between this area and the site (Barlow, Janes and Thompson 2011). The closest ring ditches include one 200m east of Wheatcroft Farm (NHER 12779), another to the west of Field 4 (NHER 45208), and a third located between Field 3 and Woodfarm Lane (NHER 43551). In the area to the south of the site, and running into Field 3, are possible Iron Age enclosures and field systems (NHER 45052, 45055). A number of probable Romano-British field systems are also located in the area including a major land boundary of possible Roman date that runs west-east across Fields 4 and 3 on the site (NHER 43593). This appears to meet a similar boundary running on a north-east south-west alignment, on the western edge of Field 3.

4.2 To the north-west of the site is the Scheduled Monument of the late Roman “Saxon Shore Fort” of Burgh Castle and its vicus, which became a middle Saxon

settlement, and then an early medieval castle (NHER 10471, 10486, SAM 399). There are extensive late prehistoric to Romano-British and later field systems in this area which extend to the site. Some of the cropmarks probably relate to this important settlement; they include NHER 45230, 49208, 49209 and 45215 all located between Mill Road and the A143.

4.3 Besides the HER sites described above, a large number of cropmarks have been identified on the site, including another group of possible Iron Age to Romano-British date centred on Fields 2, 4 and 5 (NHER 43467), with others immediately north and north-west of the site (NHER 43466, 43467). Other groups are undated; these comprise NHER 45057, centred on Field 3, and NHER 11584, 43592 and 17226 centred on Field 4. A group of post-medieval field boundaries and trackways in the northern part of the site are centred on Fields 1 and 2 (NHER 43457). There are also numerous further groups of cropmarks to the south-west of the site. A WWII high frequency finding station was located in Field 2 (TG 50673 02925; NHER 42232).

## **5 METHODOLOGY (FIELD SURVEY)**

5.1 The area of proposed development was subjected to an archaeological field survey by fieldwalking and metal detecting (Figs. 2 and 3). The fieldwalking was based on a line walking system with transects at 20m intervals. It adhered to the methodology devised by Essex County Council Archaeological Advisory Group (now ECC HEM), and was conducted according to the techniques described by Medlycott (1992).

5.2 The site was divided into kilometre squares, hectares and 20m squares within which 2m wide transects were scanned for finds. Each kilometre was assigned a letter and then sub-divided into hectare blocks, numbered from 1-100, beginning with 1 at the south-western corner of each kilometre. Each hectare was then sub-divided into 20m squares, each of which was assigned a letter, starting with 'A' in the south west corner. When walking each transect, a width of 2 metres was studied, allowing for a 10% sample of the area walked.

5.3 Each finds type (as appropriate) was plotted (Fig. 3).

5.4 A programme of systematic metal detecting was carried out in tandem with the fieldwalking survey, utilising the same survey grid.

## **6 RESULTS (Fig. 3)**

6.1 The fieldwalking recovered a total of 113 pieces (2085g) of struck flint (Struck Flint report below). The assemblage includes part of a flaked axe, scrapers, blades and debitage of mixed prehistoric date and technology, ranging from the Mesolithic to the later Neolithic/early Bronze Age.

6.2 Mesolithic/ early Neolithic material was recovered: Two of the cores (FS12 and FS69) comprise blade cores with at least three striking platforms that have been



rotated to allow for the continuous exploitation of the core, a practice common in the later Mesolithic that continued into the earlier Neolithic. A further blade core (FS67) exhibits a single striking platform with flakes removed all around, a technique more characteristic of the earlier Neolithic. One end scraper (FS79) and six side scrapers (FS32, FS60, FS106, FS111, FS116 and FS124) were formed on blade-like flakes, suggesting they were manufactured in the earlier Neolithic. The horseshoe scraper (FS102) also has close affinities with implements from this period. It is particularly notable that this group of artefacts was consistently manufactured utilising high quality, very dark grey to black flint, suggesting the careful selection of raw material, also a feature of lithic technology in the earlier Neolithic. The nine blades in the assemblage include a single microlith (FS27) that would have been produced in the Mesolithic. The microlith is a bi-truncated type with a trapezoid profile and oblique re-touch at both ends. The remaining blades (FS14, FS50, FS103, FS131, FS132 and FS133) comprise soft-hammer struck flakes with parallel dorsal scars that are typical of the early Neolithic period, although they may be Mesolithic in date.

6.3 The Mesolithic/ early Neolithic material is broadly distributed across the site but most 'concentrated' in the western, southern and north-eastern sectors. (FS131, FS132 and FS133, on the western side of site are in close proximity; likewise FS103, FS106 and FS111, on the southern side of the site).

6.4 Much of the struck flint is later Neolithic/ early Bronze Age: the flaked axe in the assemblage (FS4) is represented by the broken tip of a relatively small implement; the keeled core (FS63) with flakes removed from either side of a ridge, a technique associated with the later Neolithic and early Bronze Age; and scrapers (five end scrapers (FS5, FS98, FS99 (x2) and FS105) and eight side scrapers (FS37, FS61, FS68, FS71, FS72, FS128, FS134 and FS148) were formed on slightly irregular to ovoid flakes that are more typical of later Neolithic to early Bronze Age flint technology.

6.5 The later Neolithic/ early Bronze Age struck flint is also broadly distributed and overlaps with the earlier material in the southern, western and north-western sectors of the site. The bulk of the assemblage comprises debitage or waste flakes with limited diagnostic potential but their distribution again reflects the worked flint being located in the western, southern and northern sectors of the site.

6.6 A single sherd of (20g) late Bronze Age to early Iron Age pottery was recovered from FS145 on the far western side of the site (Prehistoric Pottery report below). Sixteen abraded medieval (10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>; 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>/ 14<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery were found on the western and eastern sides of the site and may be attributed to manuring.

6.7 None of the metalwork finds were of antiquity.

## **7 CONFIDENCE RATING**

7.1 It is not felt that any factors hindered the recognition of artefacts within the ploughsoil during the field survey. The latter was carried out in conditions of good

visibility. The field had been harrowed and had weathered. The metal detector survey was effective in locating metal items (albeit of modern date).

## 8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The finds recovered during fieldwalking comprise Mesolithic, earlier Neolithic and later Neolithic to early Bronze Age lithics, a single sherd of late Bronze to early Iron Age pottery, early to high medieval sandy ware pottery and a small quantity of post-medieval to modern pottery.

8.2 Medlycott (2011, 8) indicates that a more complete understanding of Mesolithic technology is required. Although only small in number, the Mesolithic flint artefacts recovered during this work contribute to the overall assemblage of such items recovered in Eastern England and, therefore, have the potential to contribute to the achievement of this research aim. The recovery of this material from this site indicates human activity in the area during the Mesolithic period and as such contributes to our overall understanding of the distribution of human populations and patterns of utilisation of the landscape (Austin 2000, 7).

8.3 The Neolithic material recovered during this work can contribute to our understanding of the period in similar ways to the Mesolithic finds. They confirm the presence of human occupation of the general area and may be considered to indicate that settlement evidence of this period exists in the general vicinity. The finds themselves can contribute towards artefact studies, which are important research areas for all periods, but in the Neolithic of Eastern England particular importance is placed on the understanding of the selection of sources of different flint types for particular tools (Medlycott 2011, 14).

8.4 The early Bronze Age flints and the later Bronze Age to early Iron Age pottery is in keeping with the known contemporary activity recorded in the surrounding area, represented by finds in the vicinity of Hopton-on-Sea to the south-west (Adams and Peachey 2011) and the potential monumental features identified nearer to the site (Barlow, Janes and Thompson 2011). Indeed, the area to the south of Great Yarmouth and around Hopton-on-Sea has been identified as potentially being a prime location for the identification of Bronze Age field systems (Yates 2007). The identification of Bronze Age artefacts at the current site, although small in number, contributes to the picture of Bronze Age occupation and activity in this part of the county.

8.5 The quantity, size and condition of the medieval pottery sherds would suggest that they made their way onto the site, which is likely to have been agricultural land, incorporated in to night-soil or waste used as fertiliser. As such, the sherds represent redeposited material (removed from their primary depositional context(s)). Nonetheless, the assemblage may still be of use in addressing broad regional research aims such as understanding craft-level production during the medieval period (Wade 2000; Ayers 2000; Medlycott 2011, 69). The identification of medieval activity here suggests that the site has the potential to contribute to an understanding of medieval landscapes, especially in terms of field systems and enclosures, and also, potentially, to subjects such as rural settlement and demographics, all of which

are identified by Medlycott (2011, 70-71) as important research subjects for the eastern region.

## 9 DEPOSITION OF ARCHIVE

9.1 The archive will be deposited with the Norfolk Museum Service.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Ltd is grateful to Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Ltd for their co-operation and funding the field survey, and their planning consultant, Bidwells, for their assistance (in particular Mr James Alflatt). AS would also like to acknowledge the landowners/ agents for allowing access.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of Dr Ken Hamilton of Norfolk Historic Environment Service.

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### **Web-based resources**

Norfolk Heritage Explorer (<http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk>)

## APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Field/FS	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	Str. Flint	Other
1 1				(1) 2g	
1 2	18th-19th	(1) 37g			
1 3	18th +	(1) 42g	43		
1 4	Neolithic			(1) 57g	
1 5	LN/EBA			(1) 44g	
1 6			16		
1 7				(1) 27g	
1 8				(1) 2g	
1 9				(1) 9g	
1 10				(1) 3g	
1 11	EN			(1) 20g	
1 12				(1) 127g	
1 13				(1) 2g	
1 14				(2) 15g	
1 15				(1) 1g	
1 16			25		
1 17				(1) 6g	
2 18				(1) 19g	
2 20	12th-14th	(1) 3g			
2 21				(1) 15g	
2 24			20		
2 25	Late 12th-14th	(1) 7g			
2 26	12th-14th	(1) 6g			
2 27	Mesolithic			(1) 6g	
2 28					Pb. Frag (1) - 40g
2 29				(1) 4g	
2 30				(1) 2g	
2 31				(1) 8g	
2 32	?EN			(1) 31g	
2 33	LN/EBA			(1) 300g	
2 35				(1) 4g	
2 36				(1) 7g	
2 37				(3) 17g	
2 38	17th-18th	(1) 34g			
2 39				(1) 13g	
2 40				(1) 25g	
2 41					Glass (1) - 2g
2 42				(1) 4g	
2 43				(1) 8g	
2 44				(1) 14g	
2 45					Shell - 1g
2 47	12th-14th	(1) 5g			
2 48					Glass (1) - 8g
2 49				(1) 18g	
2 50				(1) 5g	
2 51				(1) 17g	
2 52				(1) 3g	
2 53				(1) 17g	
2 54				(1) 4g	

2	55				(1) 13g	
2	56				(1) 7g	
2	57				(1) 7g	
2	58				(1) 14g	
2	59				(1) 7g	
2	60	?EN			(1) 19g	
2	61	LN/EBA			(1) 34g	
2	62				(1) 10g	
2	63				(1) 36g	
2	64				(2) 8g	
2	65				(1) 8g	
2	66				(1) 14g	
2	67				(1) 27g	
2	68	LN/EBA			(1) 96g	
2	69	EN			(1) 54g	
2	70				(1) 7g	
2	71	LN/EBA			(1) 32g	
2	72	LN/EBA			(1) 149g	
2	74				(1) 11g	
2	75				(1) 15g	
2	76				(1) 1g	
2	77				(1) 22g	
2	78				(1) 7g	
2	79	EN			(1) 6g	
3	80				(1) 3g	
3	81				(1) 4g	
3	82	17th/18th-19th	(1) 32g			
3	83				(1) 7g	
3	84	12th-14th	(1) 14g			
3	85			4		
3	86				(1) 3g	
3	87				(1) 8g	
3	88	11th-13th	(1) 9g			Slag - 2g
3	89	12th-14th	(1) 11g			
3	90				(1) 32g	
3	91				(1) 1g	
3	92				(2) 28g	
3	93				(1) 2g	
3	94				(1) 2g	
3	95				(1) 12g	
3	97					Slag - 27g
3	98				(1) 18g	
3	99				(1) 29g	
3	100				(1) 3g	
3	101				(1) 9g	
3	102	?EN			(1) 51g	
4	103				(1) 5g	
4	104				(1) 5g	
4	105				(1) 29g	
4	106				(1) 14g	
4	107				(1) 5g	
4	108					Cu. Alloy Button - 4g

4	109				(1) 8g	
4	110				(1) 6g	
4	111				(1) 32g	
4	112				(1) 1g	
4	113				(1) 1g	
4	114	11th-13th	(1) 6g			
4	115	11th-13th/14th	(2) 5g			
4	116				(1) 26g	
4	117				(1) 1g	
4	118	10th-13th	(2) 39g			
4	119	12th-14th	(1) 3g			
4	120	12th-14th	(1) 11g			
4	121				(1) 4g	
4	122				(1) 6g	
4	123					Coal - 6g
4	124				(1) 27g	
4	125				(1) 10g	
4	126					Fe. Frag (1) - 31g
4	127					Pb. Frag (1) - 20g
4	128				(1) 24g	
4	129					Cu. Alloy Halfpenny - 1g
4	130	12th-14th	(1) 34g			
4	131				(1) 6g	
4	132				(1) 3g	
4	133				(1) 9g	
4	134	LN/EBA			(1) 50g	
4	135				(1) 2g	
4	136				(1) 4g	
4	137				(1) 25g	
4	138	11th-13th/14th	(1) 10g			
4	139				(1) 7g	
4	140				(1) 1g	
4	141				(1) 6g	
6	142				(1) 5g	
6	143				(1) 10g	
6	144				(1) 3g	
6	145	LBA-EIA	(1) 20g			
6	146				(1) 5g	
6	147					Fe. Frag (1) - 77g
6	148				(1) 35g	
6	149	EBA			(1) 24g	

## APPENDIX 2      SPECIALIST REPORTS

### Struck Flint

*Andrew Peachey*

Fieldwalking recovered a total of 113 pieces (2085g) of struck flint. The assemblage includes part of a flaked axe, scrapers, blades and debitage (Table 1) of mixed prehistoric date and technology, ranging from the Mesolithic to the later Neolithic/early Bronze Age. The struck flint was generally recovered in an unpatinated condition although numerous pieces exhibited rolled edges, which is not unexpected for material re-deposited in the sub/top-soil.

Struck Flint Type	Frequency	Weight (g)
Flaked Axe	1	57
Core	4	508
Scraper	21	788
Blade	9	73
Debitage	78	659
Total	113	2085

*Table 1: Quantification of struck flint*

#### *Methodology and Terminology*

The flint was quantified by fragment count and weight (g), with all data entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that forms part of the archive, and a commentary on the results presented below. Flake type (see 'Dorsal cortex,' below) or implement type, patination, colour and condition were also recorded as part of this data set, along with free-text comments.

The term 'cortex' refers to the natural weathered exterior surface of a piece of flint, and the term 'patination' to the colouration of a flaked surface exposed by human or natural agency. Dorsal cortex is categorised after Andrefsky (2005, 104, 115) with 'primary flake' referring to those with cortex covering 100% of the dorsal face; 'secondary flake' with 50-99%; 'tertiary' with 1-49% and 'un-corticated' to those with no dorsal cortex. A 'blade' is defined as an elongated flake whose length is at least twice as great as its breadth, often exhibiting parallel dorsal flake scars (a feature that can assist in the identification of broken blades that, by definition, have an indeterminate length/breadth ratio). Terms used to describe implement and core types follow the system adopted by Healy (1988, 48-9).

#### *Commentary*

The flaked axe in the assemblage (FS4) is represented by the broken tip of a relatively small implement, which appears to have fractured in use. The bi-facially flaked axe exhibits heavy ware on the tip, and is characteristic of Neolithic flint technology.

The four cores in the assemblage exhibit a moderate degree of variability in their technology. Two of the cores (FS12 and FS69) comprise blade cores with at least three striking platforms that have been rotated to allow for the continuous exploitation of the core, a practice common in the later Mesolithic that continued into



the earlier Neolithic. A further blade core (FS67) exhibits a single striking platform with flakes removed all around, a technique more characteristic of the earlier Neolithic. In contrast, the final core comprises a keeled core formed from a pebble rather than a larger nodule, with flakes removed from either side of a ridge, a technique associated with the later Neolithic and early Bronze Age.

The most common implements in the assemblage are scrapers. Varying technological traits are evident, but with the exception of a single horseshoe scraper, all were formed by the application of limited abrupt retouch to just one lateral edge or the distal end. One end scraper (FS79) and six side scrapers (FS32, FS60, FS106, FS111, FS116 and FS124) were formed on blade-like flakes, suggesting they were manufactured in the earlier Neolithic. The horseshoe scraper (FS102) also has close affinities with implements from this period. It is particularly notable that this group of artefacts was consistently manufactured utilising high quality, very dark grey to black flint, suggesting the careful selection of raw material, also a feature of lithic technology in the earlier Neolithic. The remaining scrapers, comprising five end scrapers (FS5, FS98, FS99 (x2) and FS105) and eight side scrapers (FS37, FS61, FS68, FS71, FS72, FS128, FS134 and FS148) were formed on slightly irregular to ovoid flakes that are more typical of later Neolithic to early Bronze Age flint technology. These scrapers were manufactured using more varied raw flint, ranging from pale to dark grey, and typically exhibit a greater degree of extant cortex compared to their earlier Neolithic counterparts, including primary flakes. One of these side scrapers (FS148) is particularly notable as it was manufactured on a Levallois-type flake, a technique of flake production associated with the later Neolithic.

The nine blades in the assemblage include a single microlith (FS27) that would have been produced in the Mesolithic. The microlith is a bi-truncated type with a trapezoid profile and oblique re-touch at both ends. The remaining blades (FS14, FS50, FS92, FS103, FS131, FS132 and FS133) comprise soft-hammer struck flakes with parallel dorsal scars that are typical of the earlier Neolithic, although Mesolithic origins cannot be entirely discounted.

The bulk of the assemblage comprises debitage or waste flakes with limited diagnostic potential. A total of 27 of the debitage flakes, approximately one third, may be characterised as blade-like and are entirely comprised of tertiary and uncorticated flakes, predominantly soft-hammer struck. These characteristics are typical of the bi-products of the core reduction techniques in the earlier Neolithic, although some blade-like flakes may have been produced incidentally in the later Neolithic. The remaining debitage flakes have a slightly irregular to broad-squat profile suggesting they were probably struck in the later Neolithic to early Bronze Age, although there is little consistency regarding whether the flakes were soft or hard-hammer struck or in the degree of extant cortex, which ranges from complete to entirely removed.

### *References*

Andrefsky, W. 2005, *Lithics: macroscopic approaches to analysis (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

Healy, F. 1988, *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Spong Hill, North Elmham, Part VI: occupation during the seventh to second millennium BC*, East Anglian Archaeology 39

## Prehistoric Pottery

*Andrew Peachey*

A single sherd of (20g) prehistoric pottery was recovered from FS145. It comprised a slightly abraded body sherd in a bonfire-fired fabric, tempered with common, poorly-sorted calcined flint (0.25-4mm). These characteristics suggest it was manufactured in the late Bronze Age to early Iron Age.

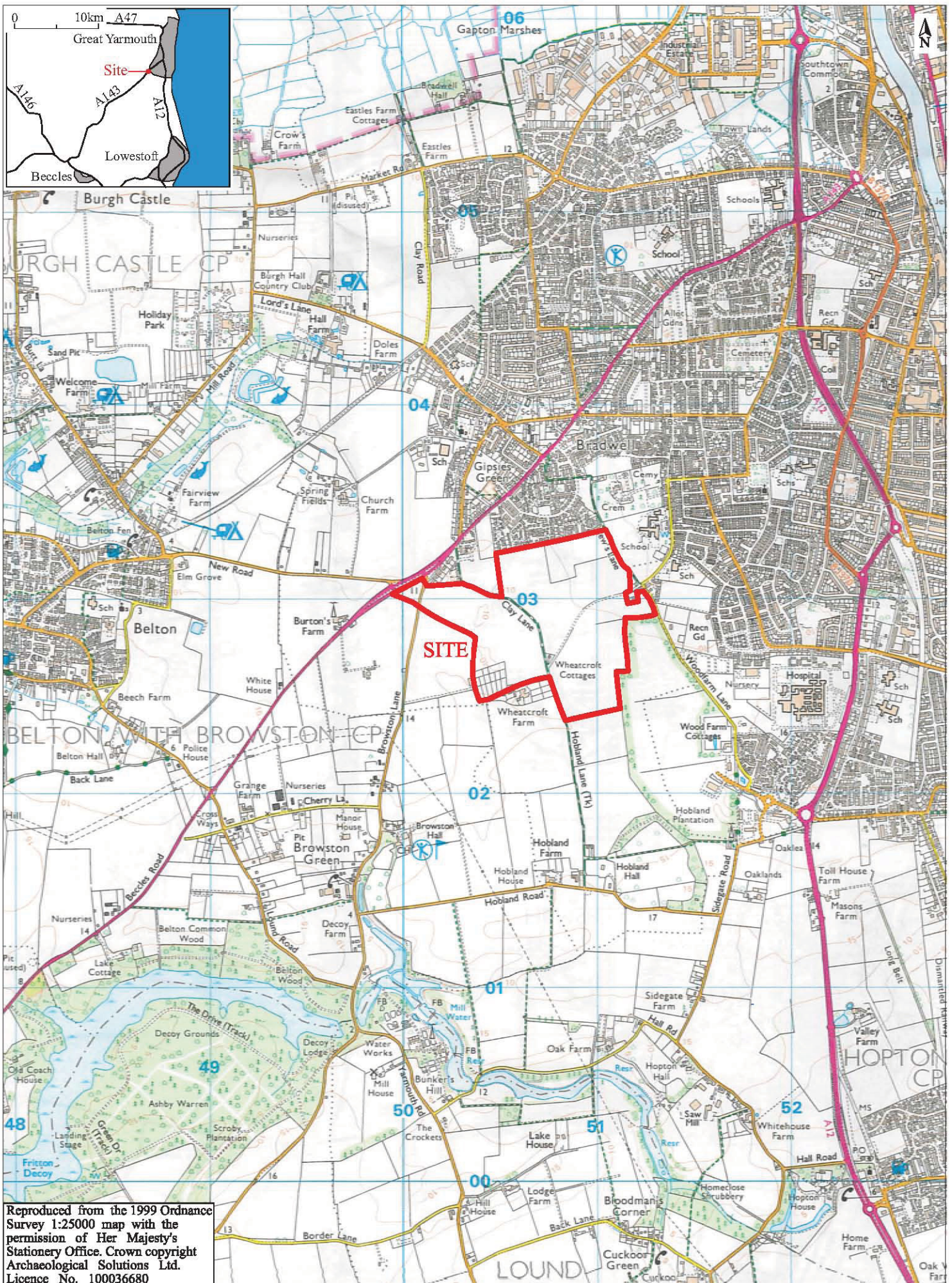
## Medieval and Post-Medieval/Early Modern Pottery

*Peter Thompson*

The fieldwalking recovered 20 abraded sherds weighing 272g (Table 2). The assemblage included 4 post-medieval to early modern sherds weighing 122g. The remainder were all early to high medieval sandy wares including one glazed Grimston sherd from F2 – 25. A sherd from F4 -119 contained two double horizontal lines of incised decoration with only slight abrasion. The possible exception to the above is two conjoining sherds to a flat base in a coarse quartz tempered fabric from F4 – 118, which could be slightly earlier and of late Saxon date.

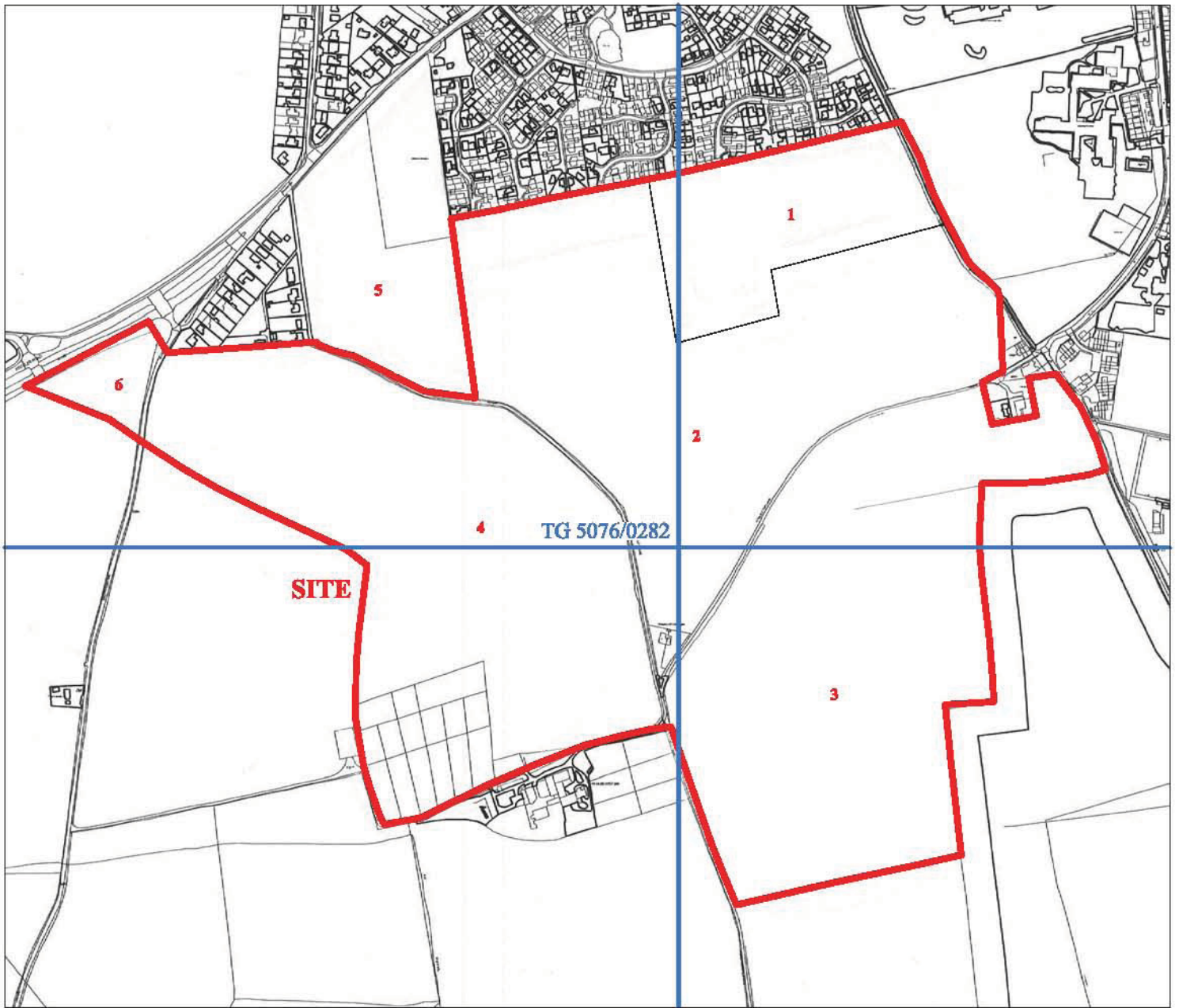
Grid	Quantity	Date	Comment
F1 – 2	1x37g	18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	English stoneware
F1 - 3	1x41g	18 <sup>th</sup> +	Post-medieval red earthenware
F2 - 25	1x6g	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Green glazed
F2 - 20	1x2g	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	
F2 – 26	1x5g	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	
F2 - 38	1x12g	17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	PMRE jar rim , faded green-brown glaze
F2 – 47	1x5g	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Hammerhead rim
F3 - 82	1x32g	17 <sup>th</sup> /18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	PMRE (black internal glaze)
F3 - 84	1x14g	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	
F3 - 88	1x8g	11 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	
F3 - 89	1x11g	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Jar neck
F4 – 114	1x6g	11 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	Cooking pot rim
F4 - 115	2x5g	11 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup>	Fine greyware
F4 - 118	2x35g	10 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	Conjoining sherds, thick quartz sand tempered, flat base with girth grooves
F4 - 119	1x3g	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Incised deco
F4 - 120	1x10g	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Angle of sagging base
F4 -130	1x31g	12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Squared bowl rim
F4 - 138	1x9g	11 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup>	

*Table 2: Quantification of Post-Roman sherds recovered from fieldwalking*



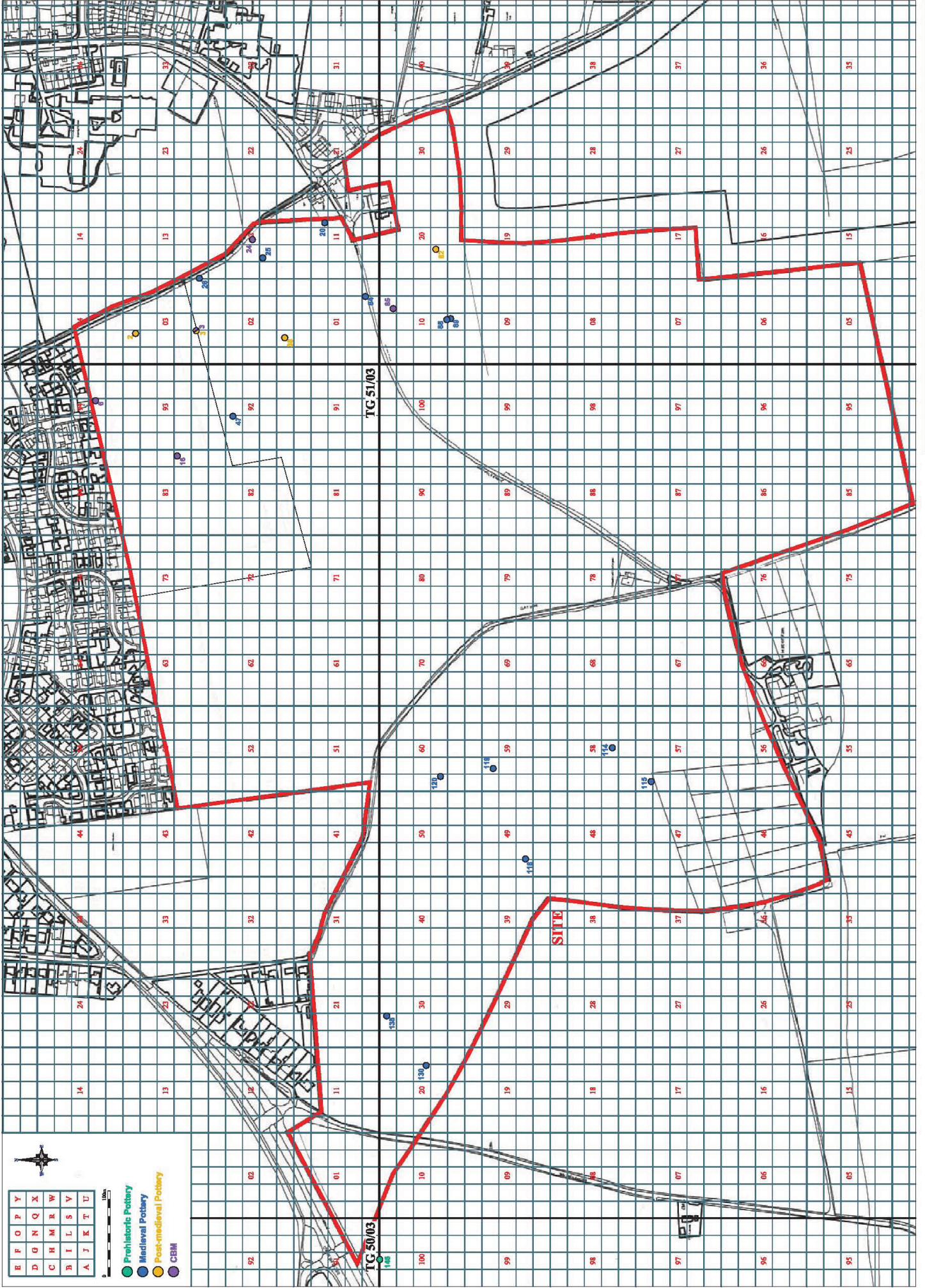
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**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4

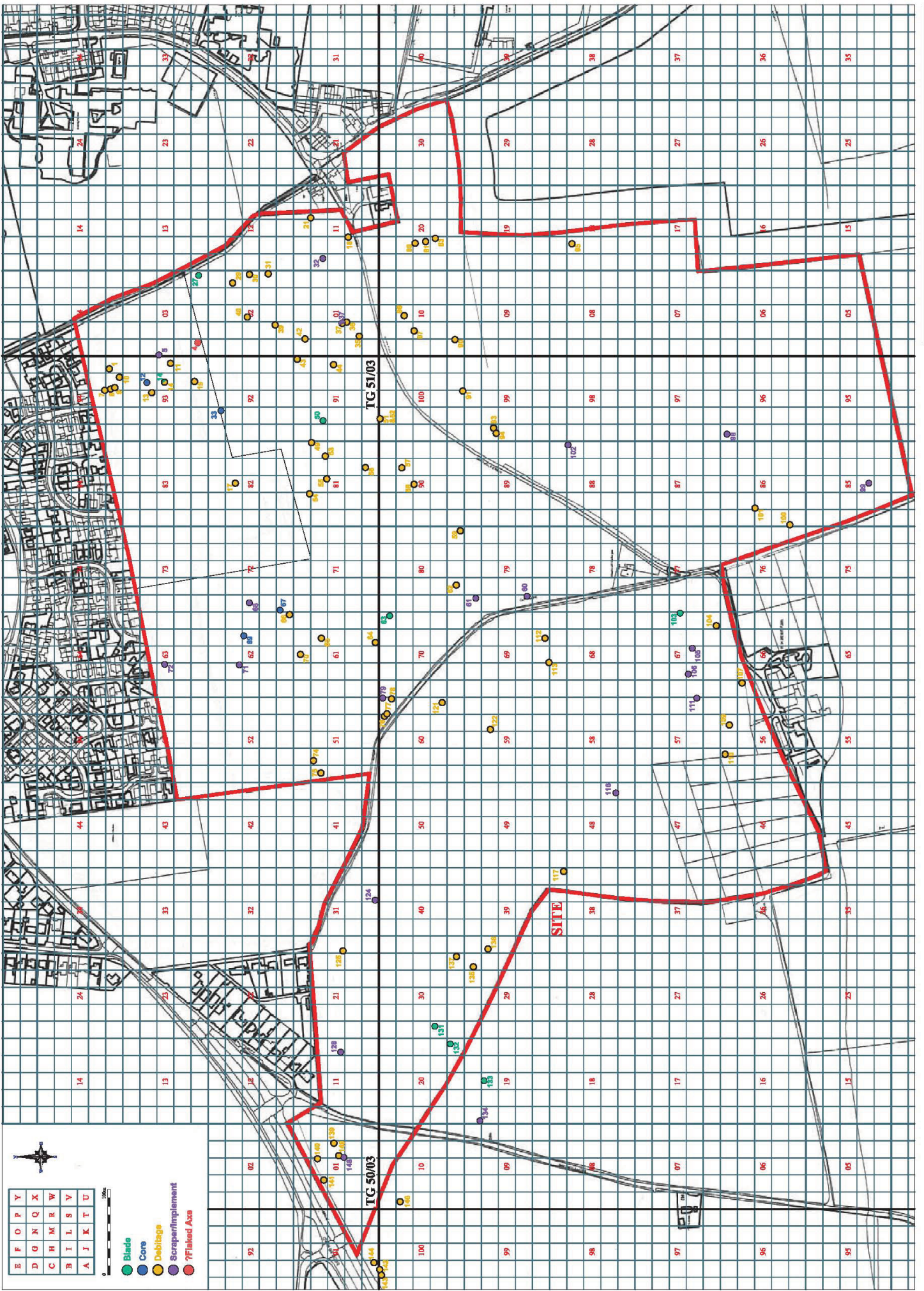


0 50m

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**Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan**  
Scale 1:7500 at A4

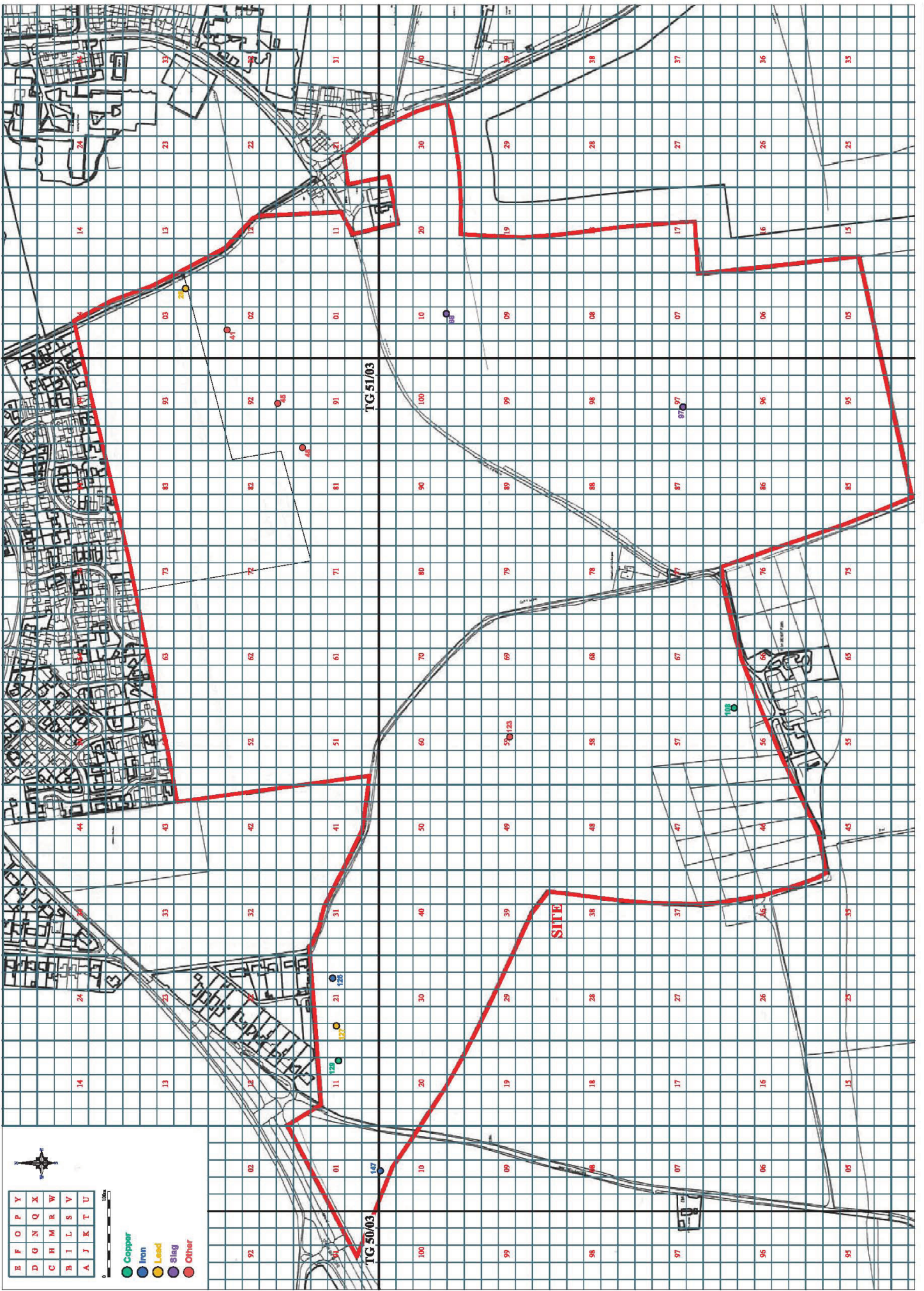


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**Fig. 3 Fieldwalking finds plot - pottery and CBM**  
 Scale 1:4,000 at A3



- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | F | O | P | Y |
| D | G | N | Q | X |
| C | H | M | R | W |
| B | I | L | S | V |
| A | J | K | T | U |
- Blade
  - Core
  - Debitage
  - Scraper/Implement
  - Flaked Axe

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**Fig. 4 Fieldwalking finds plot - flint**  
 Scale 1:4,000 at A3



**Fig. 5** Fieldwalking finds plot - metals and miscellaneous  
Scale 1:4,000 at A3