
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**LODGE FARM PHASE 2, DEREHAM ROAD,
COSTESSEY, NORFOLK
(PHASE 2)**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
(FIELD SURVEY)**

Authors: Samuel Egan (Field work & report)	
NGR: TG 1603 1021	Report No.4350
Parish: Costessey	Site Code:
Approved: Claire Halpin MIfA	Project No. 4345
Signed:	Date: 2 July 2013

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Project details			
Project name	Lodge Farm, Dereham Road, Costessey, Norfolk (Phase 2)		
<p>During June 2013 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation (field survey) on land at Lodge Farm, Dereham Road, Costessey, Norfolk (Phase 2) (NGR TG 1603 1021). The evaluation was required by the local planning authority prior to the determination of a planning application for residential development.</p> <p>The field walking found a small number of struck flint, predominantly earlier Neolithic. The struck flint was present across the northern half of the site with possible clusters in the north-east and north-west corners. Though tentative the distributions tie in with the known archaeology. Archaeological field work carried out to the east identified concentrations of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age worked and burnt flint (NHER 37646, 39351), and prehistoric and undated features were also identified on the western edge of the site (NHER 33423, 12988, 29048).</p> <p>Though the site had the potential for other period remains, in particular later prehistoric and Roman, the remainder of the finds recovered were post-medieval / modern.</p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	July 2013		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	Y		Y
P. number	P4345	Site Code	
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)	Prehistoric struck flint (Neolithic)		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Norfolk		Costessey
HER/ SMR for area	Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NCC HER)		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site	c.28ha		
NGR	TG 1603 1021		
Height AOD (max/ min)			
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Norfolk Historic Environment Service		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Samuel Egan		
Funded by	Hopkins Homes Ltd and Taylor Wimpey UK		
Full title	Lodge Farm, Dereham Road, Costessey, Norfolk (Phase 2). An Archaeological Evaluation (Field Walking)		
Authors	Samuel Egan		
Report no.	4350		
Date (of report)	July 2013		

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**LODGE FARM, DEREHAM ROAD,
COSTESSEY, NORFOLK
(PHASE 2)**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
(FIELD SURVEY)**

SUMMARY

During June 2013 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation (field survey) on land at Lodge Farm, Dereham Road, Costessey, Norfolk (Phase 2) (NGR TG 1603 1021). The evaluation was required by the local planning authority prior to the determination of a planning application for residential development.

The site lies on a ridge above the rivers Wensum and Yare. Cropmarks indicate the presence of archaeological features believed to be mainly Bronze Age and Iron Age (although some may be later), with the highest concentration to the west and south of Lodge Farm (NHER 54472, 31518). Archaeological field work carried out to the east identified concentrations of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age worked and burnt flint (NHER 37646, 39351), a late Bronze Age metal hoard (NHER 16398), and an early Iron Age boundary ditch (NHER 37646). Many of the finds were derived from the plough soil while some cropmarks were natural features. However some archaeological features were encountered including the Iron Age ditch (NHER 37646) which continued into the site. Prehistoric and undated features were also identified on the western edge of the site (NHER 33423, 12988, 29048).

A postulated east-west orientated Roman road crosses the southern part of the site (NHER 15768) with adjacent cropmarks of possible ditches (NHER 54453). A brick kiln existed south of Costessey Lodge (NHER 7916), and early historic maps show the presence of other structures and trackways on the site (NHER 13634).

The field walking found a small number of struck flint, predominantly earlier Neolithic. The struck flint was present across the northern half of the site with possible clusters in the north-east and north-west corners. Though tentative the distributions tie in with the known archaeology. Archaeological field work carried out to the east identified concentrations of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age worked and burnt flint (NHER 37646, 39351), and prehistoric and undated features were also identified on the western edge of the site (NHER 33423, 12988, 29048).

Though the site had the potential for other period remains, in particular later prehistoric and Roman, the remaining finds recovered were post-medieval / modern.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 During June 2013 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation (field survey) on land at Lodge Farm, Dereham Road, Costessey, Norfolk (Phase 2) (NGR TG 1603 1021; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was required by the local planning authority prior to the determination of a planning application for residential development.

1.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared (Thompson 2011), and a geophysical survey is also being undertaken as part of the evaluation.

1.3 The project adhered to a brief for an archaeological evaluation issued by Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (James Albone, NCC HES, dated 4th June 2013), and a specification prepared by AS, approved by NCC HES. The project complied with the appropriate sections of Gurney, D, 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' *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 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 site lies 6km from the centre of Norwich on the western edge of New Costessey. The site comprises two parts; the main area has Lodge Farm at its centre and is bounded to the north by the A1074 Dereham Road, to the west by the A47(T), and to the south by Long Lane. The eastern side is defined by a field boundary running between Long Lane and Dereham Road beyond which (to the east) is a new residential area. The second part of the site is an almost triangular field to the south, bounded on its north side by Long Lane and by the A47(T) to its west. The southern edge of the site and the very short eastern edge are defined by a field boundary beyond which (to the south) is Beech Plantation. The whole site extends to some 35ha.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is located on a ridge above the valleys of the rivers Wensum and Tud to the north, and the Yare to the south. This area of high ground is interrupted in places by dry river valleys. The majority of the averages 44-45m AOD, but in the north-west corner it slopes down to the north-west from 45m to 43m AOD, and this may be part of a dry river valley running towards the river Yare. To the south-east of Lodge Farm the ground slopes to the south-east from 44m down to 37m AOD which may be another example of a dry river valley. These slight channels probably act as surface run off, and may in the past have contained small streams. The field south of Long Lane slopes continuously from approximately 42.5m in the west to 30.5m AOD to the east, but dips down towards Long Lane where the dry river valley is located.

3.2 The solid geology consists of Upper Cretaceous Chalk overlain by glacial sands and gravels with occasional clay patches (Norwich Crag), and by alluvium in the river valleys. Trial trenches excavated on the site to the immediate east by AS (Grant & Sutherland 2003) revealed topsoil and subsoil to overly sands and gravels at c.0.20-0.50m depth. Two service locations are identified on the site. A 250mm diameter water main runs along the northern part of the site parallel with Dereham Road, and a gas main crosses the north-eastern corner aligned in a south-east to north-west direction.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The site has been subject to an archaeological desk-based assessment (Thompson 2011). In summary:

The assessment site lies on a ridge above the rivers Wensum and Yare. Cropmarks indicate the presence of archaeological features believed to be mainly Bronze Age and Iron Age (although some may be later), with the highest concentration to the west and south of Lodge Farm (NHER 54472, 31518). Archaeological field work carried out to the east identified concentrations of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age worked and burnt flint (NHER 37646, 39351), a late Bronze Age metal hoard (NHER 16398), and an early Iron Age boundary ditch (NHER 37646). Many of the finds were derived from the plough soil while some cropmarks were natural features. However some archaeological features were encountered including the Iron Age ditch (NHER 37646) which continued into the assessment site. Prehistoric and undated features were also identified on the western edge of the site (NHER 33423, 12988, 29048).

A postulated east-west orientated Roman road crosses the southern part of the site (NHER 15768) with adjacent cropmarks of possible ditches (NHER 54453). A brick kiln existed south of Costessey Lodge (NHER 7916), and early historic maps show the presence of other structures and trackways on the site (NHER 13634).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The area of proposed development was subjected to an archaeological field survey by fieldwalking and metal detecting (Fig. 2). The brief notes that the fieldwalking is to exclude at present the area of the site south of Long Lane, due to current crop conditions.

5.2 The field walking 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).

5.3 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.

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

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

6 RESULTS Figs.3 - 5

6.1 The field walking recovered a total of 8 flakes (78g) of struck flint and a single fragment (11g) of burnt flint (Struck Flint Report below). The struck flint includes scrapers, a blade and debitage manufactured using the blade-based technology that is characteristic of the earlier Neolithic. The struck flint was recovered in a well-preserved, un-patinated condition, however the quantity of flakes recovered is limited and sparsely distributed. The struck flint was small in number so 'distribution patterns' are identified with caution but the flint was most common in the northern half of the site, towards the eastern and western boundaries.

6.2 Only post-medieval / modern pottery and CBM was recovered. An abraded sherd of "Willow Pattern" transfer printed ware dating to the late 18th to 19th centuries recovered from Field 2 (SF19).

6.3 No metal finds pre-dating the modern period were found.

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 crop was low and the field had weathered. The metal detector survey was effective in locating metal items (albeit of modern date).

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The field walking found a small number of struck flint, predominantly earlier Neolithic. The struck flint was present across the northern half of the site with possible clusters in the north-east and north-west corners. Though tentative the distributions tie in with the known archaeology. Archaeological field work carried out to the east identified concentrations of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age worked and burnt flint (NHER 37646, 39351), and prehistoric and undated features were also identified on the western edge of the site (NHER 33423, 12988, 29048).

8.2 Though the site had the potential for other period remain, in particular later prehistoric and Roman, the remaining finds recovered were post-medieval / modern.

9 DEPOSITION OF ARCHIVE

9.1 The archive will be deposited with Norfolk Museum Service.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Ltd is grateful to Hopkins Homes Ltd and Taylor Wimpey UK for funding the field survey (in particular Mr Gary J Tucker for assistance), and also Pegasus Planning Group, in particular Ms Louise Overton.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr James Albone of Norfolk Historic Environment Service.

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APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Lodge Farm, Costessey Field Walking									
Concordance of finds by feature									
Field/FS	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	Str. Flint	B. Flint (g)	Other			
1	2			(1) 16g					
1	3		38						
1	4		70						
1	5			(1) 5g					
1	6				11				
1	8			(1) 5g					
1	9					Basalt Whetstone - 75g			
3	10			(1) 4g					
3	11			(1) 17g					
3	13			(1) 3g					
3	14			(1) 3g					
4	15			(1) 10g					
4	16			(1) 18g					
2	17					Modern Fe. Frags (2) - 96g			
2	18					Glass (1) - 22g			
2	19	Late 18th-19th C	(1) 1g						

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Flint

Andrew Peachey MfA

The field walking recovered a total of 8 flakes (78g) of struck flint and a single fragment (11g) of burnt flint. The struck flint includes scrapers, a blade and debitage (Table 1) manufactured using the blade-based technology that is characteristic of the earlier Neolithic. The struck flint was recovered in a well-preserved, un-patinated condition, however the quantity of flakes recovered is limited and sparsely distributed.

Flake/Implement type	Frequency	Weight (g)
Scraper	2	19
Blade	1	17
Debitage	5	42
<i>Total</i>	8	78

Table 1: Quantification of struck flint flake/implement types

All of the struck flint occurred in good quality mid to dark grey flint with, where extant, a thick off-white cortex that suggests the raw flint was sourced from primary chalk deposits. The two scrapers in the assemblage (Find Spot (FS)2 & FS14) both comprised side scrapers that had been manufactured by the application of fine, neat retouch to one lateral edge of a medium-sized blade (length: 40-50mm). In contrast the only classic blade in the assemblage (FS11) was slightly longer (length: 60mm). The five debitage flakes (FS5, FS8, FS10, FS15 & FS16) were all un-corticated, with blade-like proportions and similarly sized to the scrapers. FS16 comprised a notable debitage flake as it exhibited neat, blade-like dorsal scars perpendicular to the platform from which the flake was removed, indicating the original core has at least two striking platforms and was rotated to allow continued exploitation. The technological composition of this small assemblage is wholly consistent with struck flint from earlier Neolithic assemblages from the region.

The Pottery

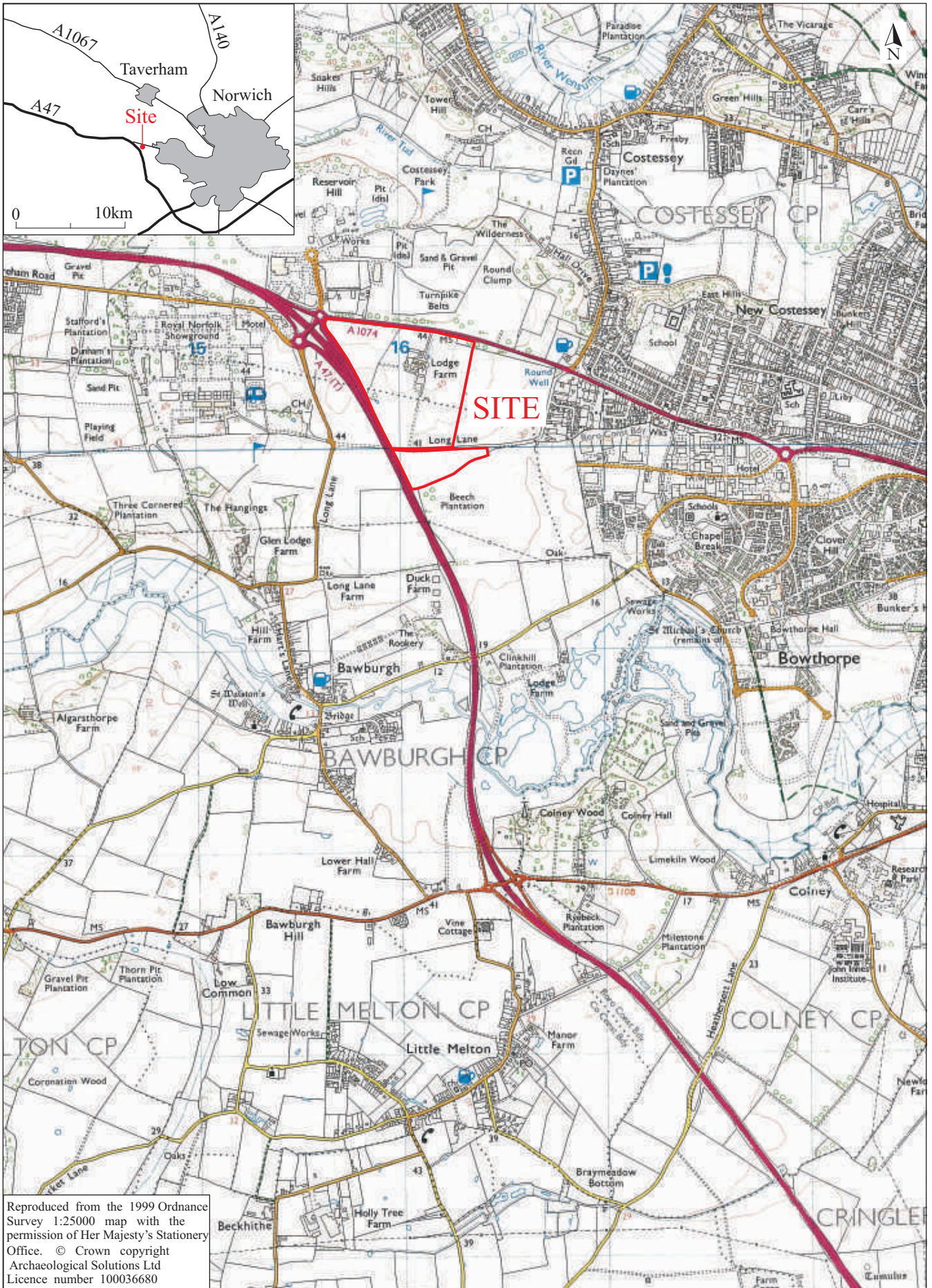
by Peter Thompson

The field walking identified one abraded sherd of “Willow Pattern” transfer printed ware dating to the late 18th to 19th centuries recovered from Field 2 (SF19).

The Ceramic Building Materials

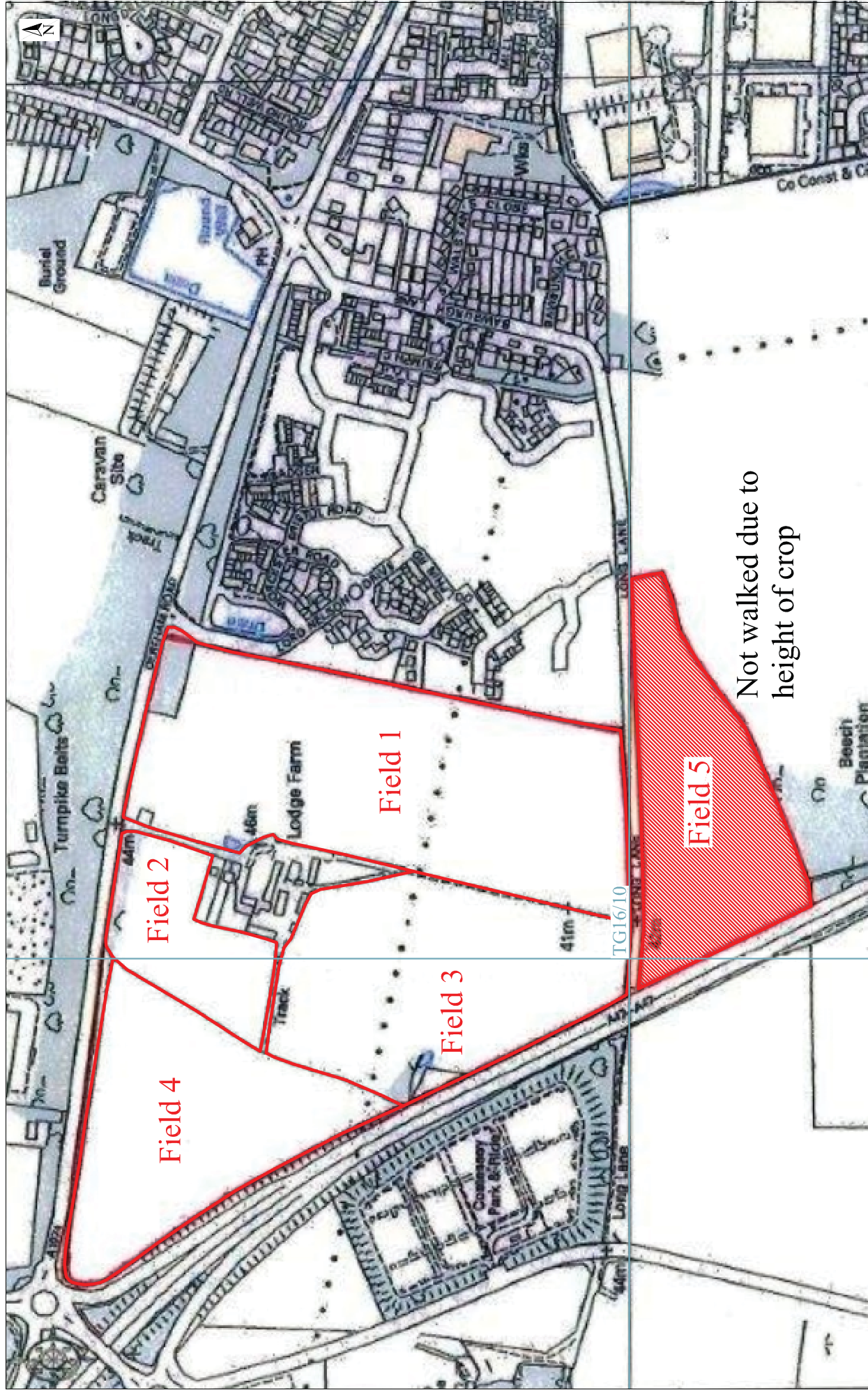
Andrew Peachey MfA

A total of two fragments (108g) of CBM were recovered during field walking, distributed at Find Spots 3 and 4. Both fragments were derived from pantile of 19th to 20th century manufacture with absolutely no potential for further archaeological research.

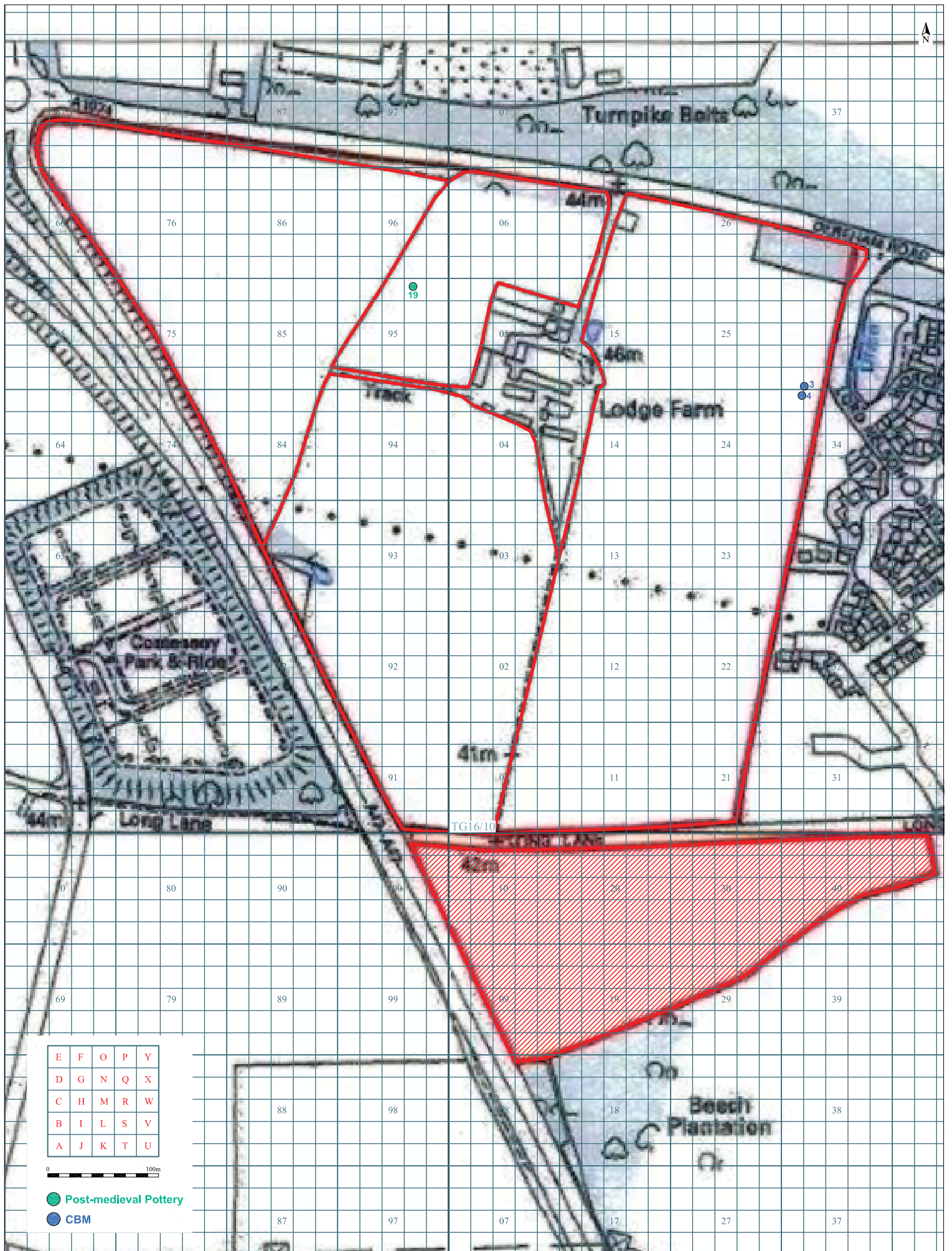


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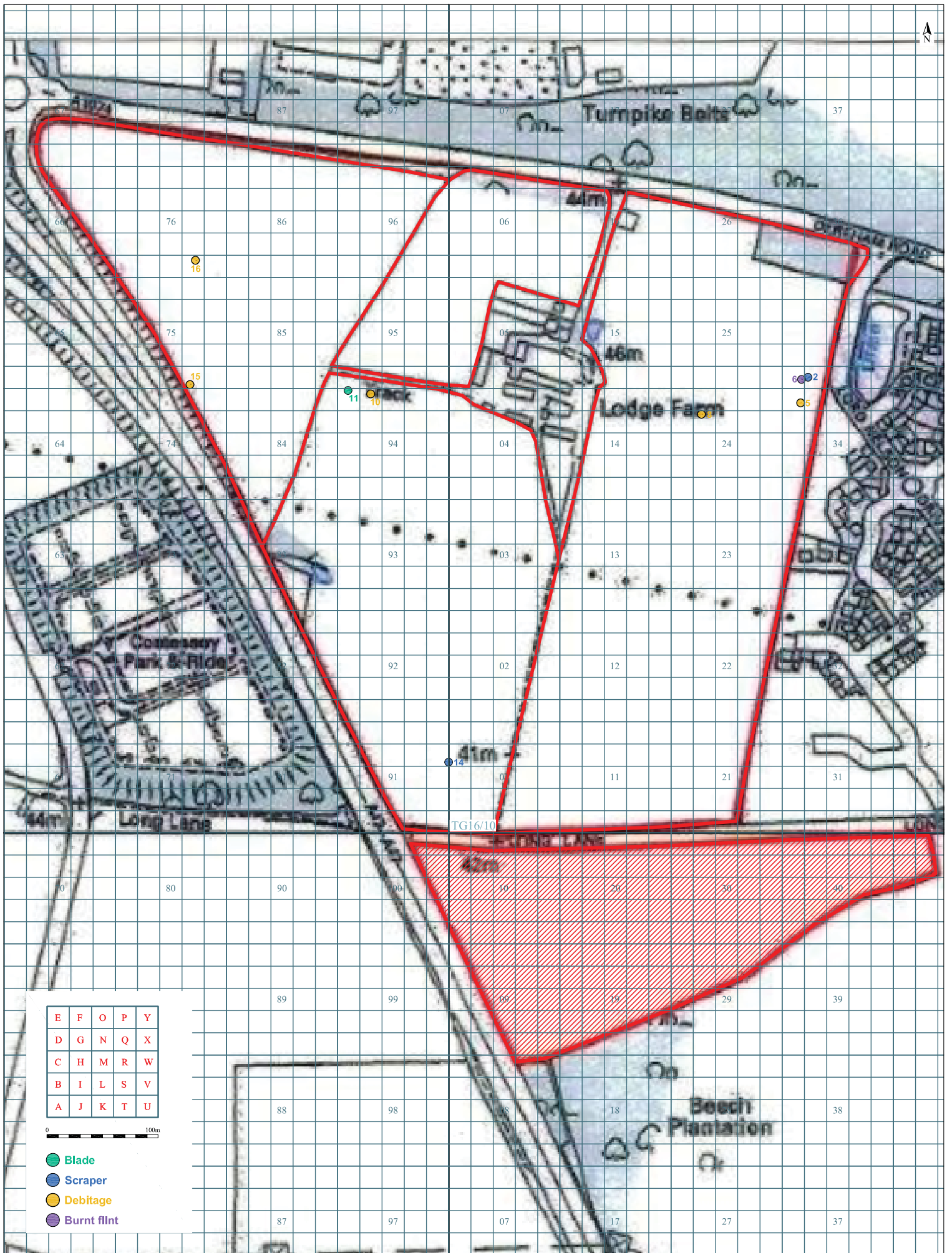
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



Not walked due to height of crop



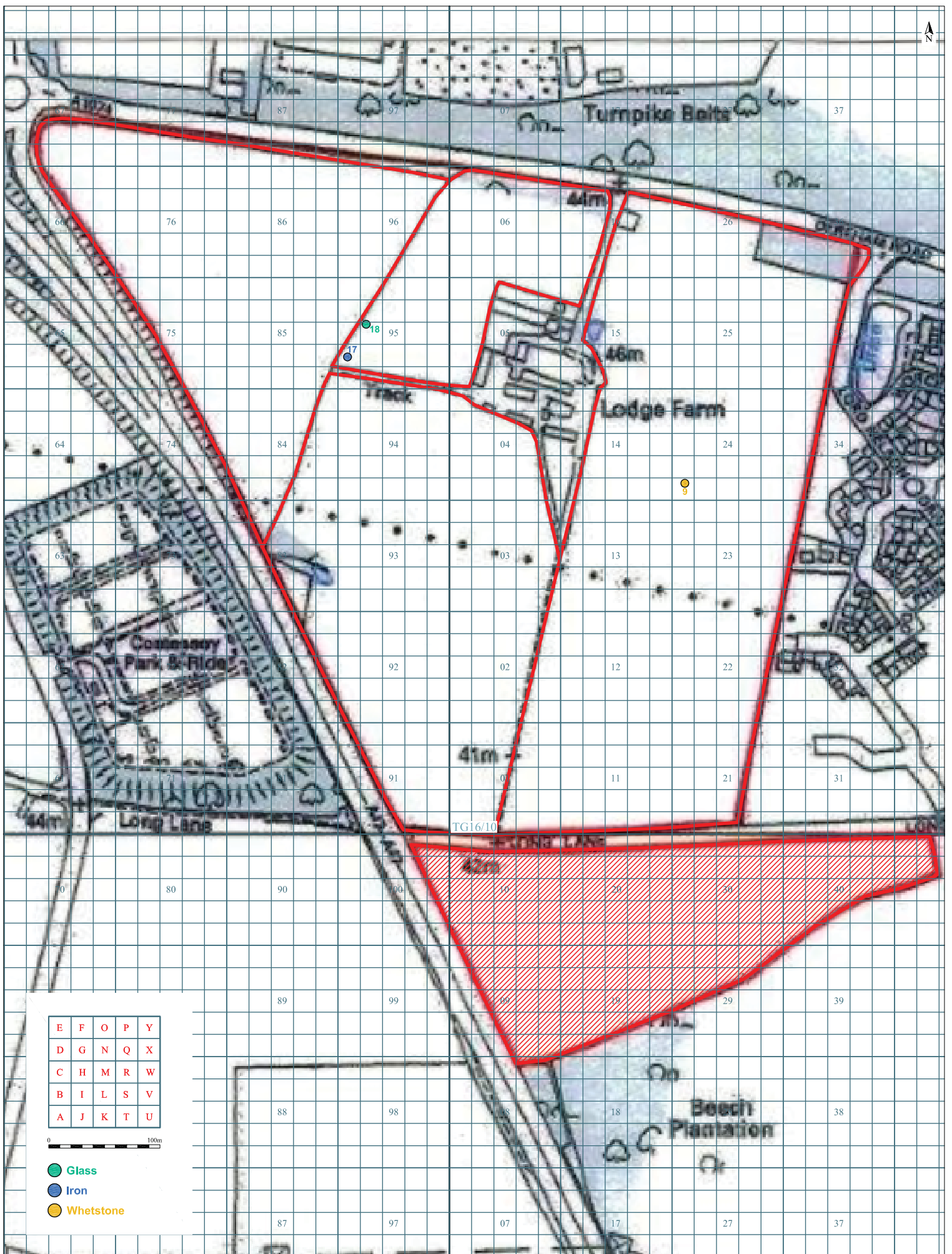
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Fig. 3 Fieldwalking finds plot - pottery and CBM
 Scale 1:4000 at A3



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
- Scraper
- Debitage
- Burnt flint

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Fig. 4 Fieldwalking finds plot - flint
 Scale 1:4000 at A3



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Fig. 5 Fieldwalking finds plot - metals and misc.
 Scale 1:3000 at A3