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LAND ADJACENT TO WALTON HALL FARM, LINFORD, STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

Authors: Jim Fairclough (Fieldwork)	
NGR: TQ 67689 80728	Report No: 4657
District: Thurrock	Site Code: THWH 14
Approved: C. Halpin MIfA Signed:	Project No: 5594
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

Unit 6, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way,
Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AJ
Tel 01284 765210

P I House, Rear of 23 Clifton Road, Shefford,
Bedfordshire, SG17 5AF
Tel: 01462 850483

e-mail info@ascontracts.co.uk
www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk

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Project dates (fieldwork)	*August 2014*		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	*Y*	Future work (Y/N/?)	*Y*
P. number	*5265*	Site code	*THWH 14*
Type of project	*Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation*		
Site status	*None*		
Current land use	*Arable farmland*		
Planned development	*Extraction of sand and gravel*		
Main features (+dates)	*Linears, pits, post holes*		
Significant finds (+dates)	*Late Bronze Age pottery*		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	*Essex*	*Thurrock*	*Stanford-le-Hope and East & West Tilbury & Linford*
HER for area	*Essex Historic Environment Record*		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site	*c. ha.*		
NGR	TQ 67689 80728		
Height AOD (min/max)	*c. 5 - 30m AOD*		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	*Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor*		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*		
Funded by	*Ingrebourne Valley Ltd*		
Full title	*Land at Adjacent to Walton Hall Farm, Linford, Stanford-Le-Hope. Essex. An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation*		
Authors	*Jim Fairclough*		
Report no.	*4657*		
Date (of report)	*September 2014*		

LAND AT WENNINGTON HALL FARM, RAINHAM, ESSEX
LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In August 2014 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to Walton Hall Farm, Linford, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex (NGR TQ 67689 80728; Figs. 1 -2). The evaluation was undertaken on behalf of Ingrebourne Valley Ltd. It was carried out in compliance with a requirement of Essex County Council Minerals Department, as advised by Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor (ECC HEA), prior to a determination of a planning application for mineral extraction on the site.

The site has already been the subject of an archaeological desk-based assessment/walkover survey assessing archaeology aspects (Thompson 2014), and geophysical survey (Prestidge 2014).

Forty trial trenches were excavated. The majority (20 out of 35) of the recorded features were linears (ditches or gullies). Pits (6), hollows (2), post holes (5), a layer and a ?ring ditch were also recorded. Just under half of the features (16) were undated. When dated the features were principally Late Bronze Age. A Roman sherd (Ditch F1074 Tr.17) and a medieval sherd (Layer L1036 (Tr.40) were found abd Ditch F1047 (Tr.5) was post-medieval.

Finds were sparse with between 1 – 5 sherds being found per feature and fewer struck flint. Larger assemblages were contained in Pit F1006 (Tr.34; 85/2034g), Ditch F1049 (Tr.8; 6/12g), Ditch F1065 (Tr.12; 7/27g) and Pit F1067 (Tr.17; 22/121g).

Just over half (24) of the trial trenches contained no archaeological features or finds, and it is noticeable that the palimpsest of archaeological features immediately north-west of the site do not continue down the slope. The trenches did reflect the geophysical anomalies, for example, the ditch in Trench 8, the ring ditch in Trench 8, the trackway in Trenches 10 and 11, and the ditches in Trench 40. Conversely a scatter of features were not recorded in Trenches 22 and 24.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In August 2014 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to Walton Hall Farm, Linford, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex (NGR TQ 67689 80728; Figs. 1 -2). The evaluation was undertaken on behalf of Ingrebourne Valley Ltd. It

was carried out in compliance with a requirement of Essex County Council Minerals Department, as advised by Essex County Council Historic Environment Advisor (ECC HEA), prior to a determination of a planning application for mineral extraction on the site.

1.2 The site has already been the subject of an archaeological desk-based assessment/walkover survey assessing archaeology aspects (Thompson 2014), and geophysical survey (Prestidge 2014).

1.3 This evaluation was undertaken in response to advice issued by Richard Havis, Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (ECC HEA), and a specification prepared by Archaeological Solutions (dated 20th March 2014). The evaluation adhered to the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (revised 2008), and the procedures described in the IfA *Standard and Guidance for Evaluations* (revised 2008) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.4 The evaluation sought to determine, as far as was reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. It is understood that EH may recommend to the LPA that further mitigation need be carried out following on from the evaluation if significant remains are found during the evaluation.

Planning policy

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 (Figs.1 - 2)

2.1 The site is located between the small towns of Stanford-le-Hope, to the north, and Chadwell St Mary to the south-west, and is immediately north of the village of Linford. The site comprises four irregular shaped fields. Most of Orsett Quarry Field to the west has been excavated for gravel extraction and still contains an area of abandoned but open quarry. The remaining fields – Lyon Field, North Field and South Field are also agricultural fields. A double set of pylons run in an approximate north to south direction across Lyon Field.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is located 1.5km west of a loop in the River Thames and is adjacent to its flood plain. The western part of the site forms a small plateau at approximately 30-25m AOD which is the area that has been quarried. The central part of the site (Lyon Field) slopes steeply from 25m to 15m AOD, and the eastern most part of the site slopes gently from 10m-5m AOD. A large amount of gravel quarrying has taken place around the assessment site and as a result there are several lakes in the area to the east.

4.1.2 The local soils are of the Hucklebrook association described as well drained coarse loamy and sandy soils, commonly over gravel. In this case the gravel is Thames river terrace drift. The underlying solid geology comprises Thanet and Woolwich beds (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

4 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

4.1 Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

4.1.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment was prepared in support of the planning application (Thompson 2014), which detailed the known archaeological background. In summary:

The west side of the site (Orsett Quarry Field) contained a multi-period archaeological site of regional and national importance demonstrating

almost continuous occupation from the Bronze Age through to the Anglo-Saxon period. The sites include Bronze Age Mucking South Rings and Mucking Anglo-Saxon village and associated cemeteries. Nearly all of this area has since been quarried out in modern times and it is probable that all archaeological deposits that were there have been destroyed. The exception is a relatively small area to north-east of Orsett Quarry Field, which therefore has a high potential for archaeological remains owing to its proximity to the former archaeological site, and to the site of Mucking North Ring further north.

The east side of the site containing North and South Fields does not appear to have undergone any significant disturbance and so has a high potential for archaeological remains. In particular an area on the east side of North Field contains cropmarks of a similar nature to those used to identify the major archaeological site to the west. Evidence for Iron Age settlement has been identified during pipe trench construction 100m to the east of the cropmarks, and prehistoric flints were uncovered during similar work on North Field to the west of them. It is therefore highly probable that the un-quarried areas of the assessment site would require further archaeological field work to determine the nature and extent of any surviving archaeological deposits.

Based on the known evidence the potential of the site was judged as follows:

Prehistoric – High. *Cropmarks indicative of prehistoric occupation are located on the east side of North Field (Fig. 4). Evidence for Iron Age occupation was identified 100m east of North Field (EHER 5229). Prehistoric flints were dug up in North Field during pipeline digging (EHER 5147, 5148). The Bronze Age and Iron Age site of Mucking North Ring was located approximately 170m north-west of the un-quarried part of Orsett Quarry Field (EHER 13834), and a middle Bronze Age field system to the south also appears to be extending towards that un-quarried area (Fig. 4 & 5).*

Romano-British – Moderate. *It is possible that some of the cropmarks identified above may be Roman*

Anglo-Saxon – High. The *grubenhauser* of Mucking Anglo-Saxon settlement at the north end of the excavated area in Orsett Quarry Field may extend into the un-quarried area of the field (EHER 13844, Fig. 6).

Medieval – Low. *The assessment site formed part of a field system in the medieval period. A windmill was located in the quarried area of Orsett Quarry Field (Fig. 6), and a few isolated features have been identified surrounding the assessment site, but nothing of major archaeological significance is apparent.*

Post-Medieval – Low. *The 1777 Andre & Chapman map of Essex shows a road or track crossing the assessment site which is not shown on later maps (Fig. 7). The 1845 Tithe map shows that the site originally comprised a number of smaller fields and so may contain vestiges of their boundaries. The London, Tilbury and Southend railway line bordering the east side of the site was opened in 1854.*

4.2 Geophysical Survey

4.2.1 The desk-based assessment was followed by a geophysical survey (Prestidge 2014). In summary:

A detailed gradiometry survey was conducted over approximately 46 hectares of agricultural land. A number of archaeological features have been identified, including a possible ring ditch feature, possible track ways, possible pits, and a number of field boundaries visible on historic mapping.

Other features identified are likely modern or natural in origin, including ploughing, utilities, magnetic debris in the topsoil, geological variation and magnetic disturbance from fences and boundaries.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The anomalies identified during the geophysical survey were subject to trial trenching. Forty trial trenches were excavated each 40m x 10.80m (Fig.2)

5.2 Undifferentiated overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Thereafter, all further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned as appropriate and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and the trenches were scanned by metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 Fig. 3

Sample Section 1A *0.00m = 29.02m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. Dark grey brown silty, firm, sandy silty with moderate small angular and sub-rounded flint
0.28m+	L1002	Natural. Mid yellow orange, firm, clayey sand.

Sample Section 1B *0.00m = 26.38m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.32m+	L1002	Natural. As above

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 2 Figs. 3 & 4

Sample Section 2A *0.00m = 25.60m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.44m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.44m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 2B *0.00m = 21.99m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.51m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.51m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 2 contained Ditches F1039, F1041 and F1045, and Pit F1043. F1039 contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery.

Ditch F1039 was linear (2m+ x 1.2m x 0.11m), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1040, was a mid greyish brown, friable, sandy silt with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery (6g).

Ditch F1041 was linear (1.10m+ x 0.55m x 0.26m), orientated NW/SE. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1042, was a mid greyish brown, friable, sandy silt with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained no finds.

Pit F1043 was large and subcircular (3.25m+ x 1.20m x 0.20m). It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1044, was a mid orange brown, friable, sandy silt. It contained no finds.

Ditch F1045 was linear (1.00m+ x 0.80m x 0.10m), orientated E/W. It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1046, was a mid orange brown, friable, sandy silt with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained no finds.

Trench 3 Fig. 3

Sample Section 3A *0.00m = 19.40m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.32m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 3B *0.00m = 23.11m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.35m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 3 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 4 Fig. 3

Sample Section 4A *0.00m = 19.33m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.40m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 4B *0.00m = 18.04m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.41m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.41m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 5 Figs. 3 & 4

Sample Section 5A *0.00m = 21.25m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.35m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 5B *0.00m = 20.22m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 5 contained post-medieval Ditch F1047.

Ditch F1047 was linear (1.00m+ x 3.50m x 0.38m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1048, was a mid grey brown, friable, sandy silt with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained post-medieval (18^{th} – 19^{th} century) pottery (33g), CBM (71g), iron fragments (31g) and struck flint (11g).

Trench 6 Fig. 3

Sample Section 6A *0.00m = 20.55m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.45m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.45m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 6B *0.00m = 18.07m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.38m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 7 Fig. 3

Sample Section 7A *0.00m = 20.25m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.38m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 7B *0.00m = 17.76m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.40m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 8 Figs. 3 & 5

Sample Section 8A *0.00m = 16.98m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.26m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 8B *0.00m = 16.00m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.28m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 8 contained Ditch F1049, Post Hole F1051 and ?Ring Ditch F1063. F1049 and F1063 contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery.

Ditch F1049 was curvilinear (1.00m+ x 0.68m x 0.20m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1050, was a mid greyish brown, firm, silty sand with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery (12g).

Post Hole F1051 was subcircular (0.20m+ x 0.18m x 0.10m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1052, was a dark brown, friable, sandy silt with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained no finds.

?Ring Ditch F1063 was irregular in plan (2m+ x 0.27m x 0.66m). It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1064, was a mid grey brown, firm, sitly sand with occasional small stones. It contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery (64g).

Trench 9 Fig. 3

Sample Section 9A *0.00m = 20.34m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.28m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 9B *0.00m = 20.97m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.36m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 10 Figs. 3 & 4

Sample Section 10A *0.00m = 20.61m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.29m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 10B *0.00m = 21.36m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.27m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 10 contained undated Gully F1059.

Gully F1059 was linear in plan (1m+ x 3.25m x 0.30m). It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1060, was a mid reddish brown, friable, silt sand. It contained no finds.

Trench 11 Figs. 3 & 6

Sample Section 11A *0.00m = 23.77m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.

0.30m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 11B *0.00m = 24.36m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.35m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 11 contained undated Gully F1061.

Gully F1061 was linear in plan (1m+ x 0.27m x 0.50m), orientated N/S. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1062, was an orange brown, firm, sitly clay with occasional small stones. It contained no finds.

Trench 12 Figs. 3 & 6

Sample Section 12A *0.00m = 20.57m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.28m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 12B *0.00m = 17.91m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.60m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 12 contained Ditch F1065 and it contained late Bronze Age pottery.

Ditch F1065 was linear in plan (1m+ x 3.00m x 0.31m), orientated SW/NE. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1066, was a light greyish brown, friable, silty sand with sparse sub rounded and angular gravel. It contained late Bronze Age pottery (27g).

Trench 13 Fig. 3

Sample Section 13A *0.00m = 22.63m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.31m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 13B *0.00m = 22.88m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.50m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.50m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 14 Fig. 3

Sample Section 14A *0.00m = 21.32m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.32m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 14B *0.00m = 21.30m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 15 Fig. 3

Sample Section 15A *0.00m = 23.36m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 15B *0.00m = 21.29m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.35m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 16 Figs. 3 & 6

Sample Section 16A *0.00m = 23.39m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.25m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 16B *0.00m = 22.93m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.25m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 16 contained Hollow F1069 and it contained late Bronze Age pottery.

Hollow F1069 was irregular in plan (2.20m+ x 14m x 0.35m). It had gently sloping sides and an irregular base. Its fill, L1070, was a dark

grey brown, firm, silty sand with moderate flint. It contained late Bronze Age pottery (105g) and animal bone (8g).

Trench 17 Figs. 3 & 4

Sample Section 17A *0.00m = 25.50m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.32m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 17B *0.00m = 22.90m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 17 contained Pits F1067 and F1076, and Ditch F1074. F1067 and F1076 contained late Bronze Age pottery and F1074 contained Roman pottery.

Pit F1067 was subcircular in plan (1.84m+ x 0.40m x 0.25m), orientated SW/NE. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. It contained four fills tabulated below:

Fill	**Description**	**Finds**
L1068 Upper	Orange brown, firm, clayey silt with burnt clay fragments.	Late Bronze Age pottery (121g), CBM (13g)
L1071	Dark orange brown, firm, clayey silt with pea grit	
L1072	Orange brown, firm, clayey silt	
L1073 basal	Dark brown, firm, clayey silt	

Ditch F1074 was linear (1.20m+ x 0.98m x 0.11m), orientated SW/NE. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1075, was a mid greyish brown, friable, silty sand with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained Roman pottery (92g) and iron fragments (4g).

Pit F1076 was subcircular (0.92m x ? x 0.10m). It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1077, was an orange brown, firm, clayey silt with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery (2g).

Trench 18 Fig. 3

Sample Section 18A *0.00m = 4.00m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.33m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 18B *0.00m = 4.11m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.34m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.34m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 19 Fig. 3

Sample Section 19A *0.00m = 4.89m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.36m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 19B *0.00m = 5.39m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.35m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 20 Figs. 3 & 7

Sample Section 20A *0.00m = 5.95m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.26m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 20B *0.00m = 6.18m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.26m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 20 contained Gully F1004 which contained CBM.

Gully F1004 was linear (3.00m+ x 0.90m+ x 0.25m), orientated N/S. It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1005, was a mid reddish brown, friable, silty sand with occasional small-medium sub angular flint. It contained CBM (288g), burnt flint (11g) and oyster shell (2g).

Trench 21 Fig. 3

Sample Section 21A *0.00m = 5.43m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 21B *0.00m = 5.79m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.24m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 22 Fig. 3

Sample Section 22A *0.00m = 5.74m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.27m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 22B *0.00m = 5.39m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.29m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 23 Fig. 3

Sample Section 23A *0.00m = 6.48m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.25m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 23B *0.00m = 5.81m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 24 Fig. 3

Sample Section 24A *0.00m = 5.33m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.28m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 24B *0.00m = 5.36m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.29m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 25 Fig. 3

Sample Section 25A *0.00m = 6.69m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.26 – 0.48m	L1001	Subsoil. Dark orange brown, firm, silty sand with occasional small sub rounded and angular flint.
0.48m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 25B *0.00m = 7.27m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.36 – 0.66m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.66m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 26 Figs. 3 & 7

Sample Section 26A *0.00m = 8.11m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.27 – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25
0.50m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 26B *0.00m = 7.29m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.25 – 0.34m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25
0.34m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 26 contained Ditch F1008 which contained struck flint.

Ditch F1008 was linear (1.00m+ x 1.84m x 0.60m), orientated NW/SE. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1009, was a mid reddish brown, friable, silty sand with moderate small-medium sub angular flint. It contained struck flint (12g).

Trench 27 Figs. 3 & 8

Sample Section 27A *0.00m = 6.61m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.26 – 0.42m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.42m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 27B *0.00m = 7.10m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.40m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 27 contained undated Ditches F1014 and F1016.

Ditch F1014 was linear (1.80m+ x 0.70m x 0.14m), orientated NW/SE It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1015, was a grey brown, firm, silty sand with occasional flint. It contained no finds.

Ditch F1016 was linear (1.80m+ x 1.10m x 0.20m), orientated NE/SW. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1017, was a light greyish brown, firm, silty sand with occasional flint. It contained no finds.

Trench 28 Fig. 3

Sample Section 28A *0.00m = 7.68m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30 – 0.55m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.55m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 28B *0.00m = 8.29m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.25 – 0.42m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.42m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 28 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 29 Fig. 3

Sample Section 29A *0.00m = 8.45m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.37m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.37m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 29B *0.00m = 8.75m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.36m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 30 Fig. 3

Sample Section 30A *0.00m = 7.88m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.35 – 0.56m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.56m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 30B *0.00m = 8.16m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.26 – 0.48m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.48m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 31 Fig. 3

Sample Section 31A *0.00m = 7.82m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.35m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 31B *0.00m = 8.05m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.26m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 32 Fig. 3

Sample Section 32A *0.00m = 7.63m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.29+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 32B *0.00m = 7.12m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.29m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 33 Figs. 3 & 8

Sample Section 33A *0.00m = 6.46m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.25 – 0.55m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.55m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 33B *0.00m = 6.10m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.45m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.45 – 0.56m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.56m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 33 contained Gully F1023, Ditch F1025 and Pits F1027 and F1029. F1023 contained struck flint and F1025 contained a sherd of Roman pottery.

Gully F1023 was linear (1.80m+ x 0.50m x 0.15m), orientated E/W. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1024, was a mid greyish brown, friable, sandy silt with moderate subangular and subrounded gravel and flint. It contained a struck flint (18g).

Ditch F1025 was linear (1.80m+ x 0.52m x 0.13m), orientated E/W. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1026, was a light greyish brown, firm, sandy silt. It contained a sherd of Roman pottery (105g).

Pit F1027 was subcircular (0.30m+ x 0.80m x 0.10m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1028, was a mid greyish brown, friable, sandy silt. It contained no finds. F1027 was cut by Pit F1029.

Pit F1029 was subcircular (0.45m+ x 0.80m x 0.31m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its basal fill, L1030, was a dark mid grey brown, friable, silt clay with sparse small – medium subangular flint. It contained no finds. Its upper fill, L1031, was a light greyish brown, friable, silty sand with occasiional small – medium subangular flint. It contained no finds. F1029 cut Pit F1027.

Trench 34 Figs. 3 & 8

Sample Section 34A *0.00m = 7.12m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.39m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.39 – 0.55m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.55m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 34B *0.00m = 7.04m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.35 – 0.58m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.58m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 34 contained ?Pit F1006, Gully F1010 and undated Post Holes F1012, F1053, F1055 and F1057. Only F1006 contained finds; late Bronze Age pottery and struck flint.

?Pit F1006 was subcircular (0.20m+ x ? x ?). It had moderately sloping sides and a narrow base. Its fill, L1007, was a dark orange brown, firm, silty sand with occasional small-medium sub angular flint. It contained late Bronze Age pottery (2034g) pottery and struck flint (7g).

Gully F1010 was curvilinear (?m+ x 0.35m x 0.04m). It had shallow moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1011, was a grey brown, firm, clayey silt. It contained no finds.

Post Hole F1012 was circular (0.17m x 0.12m). It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1013, was a medium grey brown, soft, clayey silt with moderate small sub angular flint. It contained no finds.

Post Hole F1053 was circular (0.18m x 0.03m). It had shallow sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1054, was a grey brown, friable, clayey silt. It contained no finds.

Post Hole F1055 was circular (0.26m x 0.75m). It had shallow sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1056, was a grey brown, friable, clayey silt. It contained no finds.

Post Hole F1057 was circular (0.21m x 0.10m). It had moderately sloping sides and a narrow base. Its fill, L1058, was a grey brown, friable, clayey silt. It contained no finds.

Trench 35 Fig. 3

Sample Section 35A *0.00m = 7.28m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30 – 0.41m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.41m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 35B *0.00m = 6.78m AOD*

0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.24 – 0.41m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.41m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 35 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 36 Figs. 3 & 9

Sample Section 36A *0.00m = 7.12m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.35 – 0.60m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.60m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 36B *0.00m = 7.59m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30 – 0.45m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.45m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 36 contained Ditch F1018 which contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery.

Ditch F1018 was linear (1.80m+ x 0.86m x 0.25m), orientated E/W. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1019, was a mid orange brown, firm, silty sand with frequent small subrounded gravel. It contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery (4g).

Trench 37 Figs. 3 & 9

Sample Section 37A *0.00m = 7.52m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.29 – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.50m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 37B *0.00m = 7.72m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.31 – 0.44m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.44m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 37 contained undated Ditch F1021.

Ditch F1021 was linear (1.80m+ x 1.00m x 0.20m), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1022, was a mid greyish brown, firm, sandy silt with frequent small occasional gravel. It contained no finds.

Trench 38 Fig. 3

Sample Section 38A *0.00m = 7.98m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.40 – 0.61m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.61m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 38B *0.00m = 7.71m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.28 – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.50m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 39 Fig. 3

Sample Section 39A *0.00m = 7.34m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.28m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 39B *0.00m = 6.97m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.36m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 40 Figs. 3 & 9

Sample Section 40A *0.00m = 8.54m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.30 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.54m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Sample Section 40B *0.00m = 8.94m AOD*		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above Tr.1.
0.32 – 0.46m	L1001	Subsoil. As above Tr.25.
0.46m+	L1002	Natural. As above Tr.1.

Description: Trench 40 contained Ditches F1032 and F1037, Tree Hollow F1034 and Layer L1036. F1032 contained CBM, L1036 medieval pottery, and F1034 and F1037 contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery.

Ditch F1032 was linear (1.80m+ x 1.00m x 0.35m), orientated E/W. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1033, was a mid greyish brown, firm, sandy silt. It contained CBM (32g) and struck flint (21g).

Pit or Tree Hollow F1034 was irregular in plan (1.00m+ x 1.20m x 0.38m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1035, was a mid orange brown, firm, silty clay. It contained ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery (4g)

Layer L1036 was irregular in plan (1.00m+ x 1.50m x 0.10m). It comprised a mid greyish brown, friable, silty sand with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained a sherd of medieval pottery (4g) and struck flint (3g).

Ditch F1037 was linear (1.00m+ x 1.42m x 0.16m), orientated E/W. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1038, was a mid greyish brown, friable, sandy silt with occasional subrounded gravel and flint. It contained a sherd of ?late Bronze Age (prehistoric) pottery (4g).

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features during the trial trench evaluation.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

Uppermost was Topsoil L1000 a dark grey brown silty, firm, sandy silty with moderate small angular and sub-rounded flint. For the majority of the site L1000 overlay the natural. In Trench 25 – 40 Subsoil L1001 was present and it comprised a dark orange brown, firm, silty sand with occasional small sub rounded and angular flint. The natural, L1002, was a mid yellow orange, firm, clayey sand.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 A summary of the recorded archaeology is tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Spot Date
2	F1039	Ditch	?late Bronze Age
	F1043	Pit	Undated
	F1041	Ditch	Undated
	F1045	Ditch	Undated
5	F1047	Ditch	Post medieval
8	F1049	Ditch	?Late Bronze Age
	F1051	Post Hole	Undated
	F1063	?Ring Ditch	?Late Bronze Age
10	F1059	Gully	Undated
11	F1061	Gully	Undated
12	F1065	Ditch	Late Bronze Age
16	F1069	Hollow	Late Bronze Age
17	1067	Pit	Late Bronze Age
	1074	Ditch	Roman
	1076	Pit	Late Bronze Age
20	1004	Gully	Post-medieval CBM
26	1008	Ditch	Struck flint
27	1014	Ditch	Undated
	1016	Ditch	Undated
33	1023	Gully	Struck flint
	1025	Ditch	Roman
	1027	Pit	Undated
	1029	Pit	Undated
34	1006	?Pit	Late Bronze Age
	1010	Gully	Undated
	1012	Post Hole	Undated
	1053	Post Hole	Undated
	1055	Post Hole	Undated
	1057	Post Hole	Undated
36	1018	Ditch	?Late Bronze Age
37	1021	Ditch	undated
40	1032	Ditch	CBM
	1034	Tree Hollow	?Late Bronze Age
	1036	Layer	Medieval
	1037	Ditch	?Late Bronze Age

9.2 The majority (20 out of 35) of features were linears (ditches or gullies). Pits (6), hollows (2), post holes (5), a layer and a ?ring ditch were also recorded. Just under half of the features (16) were undated. When dated the features were principally Late Bronze Age. A Roman sherd (Ditch F1074 Tr.17) and a medieval sherd (Layer L1036 (Tr.40) were found abd Ditch F1047 (Tr.5) was post-medieval.

9.3 Finds were sparse with between 1 – 5 sherds being found per feature and fewer struck flint. Larger assemblages were contained in

Pit F1006 (Tr.34; 85/2034g), Ditch F1049 (Tr.8; 6/12g), Ditch F1065 (Tr.12; 7/27g) and Pit F1067 (Tr.17; 22/121g).

9.4 The struck flint has technological traits strongly indicative of earlier Neolithic technology (Struck Flint report below), and Ditch F1032 contained a horseshoe scraper (the ditch also contained post-medieval CBM). The most noteworthy finds were from Pit F1006 and comprise cross-joining sherds derived from a late Bronze Age single bipartite jar (Pottery Report below).

9.5 Just over half (24) of the trial trenches contained no archaeological features or finds, and it is noticeable that the palimpsest of archaeological features immediately north-west of the site do not continue down the slope.

9.6 The trenches did reflect the geophysical anomalies, for example, the ditch in Trench 8, the ring ditch in Trench 8, the trackway in Trenches 10 and 11, and the ditches in Trench 40. Conversely a scatter of features were not recorded in Trenches 22 and 24.

9.7 Further investigation of the site has the potential to contribute to some of the topics raised in the regional archaeological research frameworks, particularly for issues relating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age exploitation of the local landscape. Archaeological research agendas have been set out for the region in Glazebrook (1997) and Brown and Glazebrook (2000), and updated by Medlycott and Brown (2008) and Medlycott (2011). Many topics are echoed for the immediately adjacent London Region Research Agendas for such sites on the Thames terrace. The key issues for the Neolithic and Bronze Age (as set out by Brown & Murphy in Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 9-13) centre on the theme of the development of farming and the attendant development and integration of monuments, fields and settlements. Medlycott & Brown (2008) and Medlycott (2011, 13) suggest that future research on the Neolithic should include synthetic and regional studies for the region; an examination of the Mesolithic/Neolithic transition through radiocarbon dates; the establishment of a chronology for Neolithic ring-ditches; improved understanding of the chronological development of pottery; the excavation and study of cropmark complexes; greater understanding of burial practices; a study of the inter-relationships of settlements; greater use of scientific methods of dating and modelling of the environmental conditions during this period; targeted programmes of sedimentological, palynological and macrofossil analyses of sediment sequences in valley bottoms, lakes or the intertidal zone; and the human impact on the natural landscape during this period. The nature of Neolithic burial in the region and the pattern of burial practice, including the relationship between settlement sites and burial, require further research. Settlement sites themselves also form part of an important research subject as there is a requirement to identify if a consensus exists on the subject of non-permanent settlement in the

Neolithic (Medlycott 2011, 13). Further work on understanding the effects of plough damage on Neolithic sites is considered to be an important research subject for the region (Medlycott 2011, 13).

9.8 Inter-relationships between settlements and greater understanding of patterns of burial practice are important areas of research for the Bronze Age (Medlycott & Brown 2008). Medlycott (2011, 21) identifies artefact studies as of particular importance for the study of the Bronze Age in the region; the typological identification of later Bronze Age pottery linked to close radiocarbon dating, the further study of Bronze Age flintworking and the significance of hoarding and other depositional practices are all identified as being key research subjects. Artefact studies can contribute to the refinement of chronologies for the period and to an assessment of the reasons behind the marked divide in research results between the northern and southern parts of the region, which are identified by Medlycott (2011, 21) as important research areas. Like the Neolithic, sedimentological, palynological and macrofossil analyses of sediment sequences are considered to be important areas of research as are the effects of colluviation and the possibility that colluvial deposits mask some significant sites (Medlycott 2011, 21).

9.9 Though the evidence for later (Roman and medieval) was sparse during the current evaluation, any further discoveries may help to further characterise the exploitation/use of the local landscape during these periods.

10 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at Thurrock Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

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APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

THWH14, Walton Hall Farm, Linford
Concordance of finds by feature

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other
1004	1005		20	Fill of Ditch			288		B. Flint - 11g O. Shell - 2g Snail Shell - 2g
1006	1007		34	Fill of Pit	LBA	(85) 2034g			Str. Flint (2) - 7g
1008	1009		26	Fill of Ditch					Str. Flint (2) - 12g
1018	1019		36	Fill of Droveway Ditch	?LBA (prehistoric)	(4) 4g			
1023	1024		33	Fill of Gully					Str. Flint (1) - 18g
1025	1026		33	Fill of Gully	Roman	(1) 105g			
1032	1033		40	Fill of Ditch			32		Str. Flint (1) - 21g
1034	1035		40	Fill of Tree Hollow	?LBA (prehistoric)	(2) 4g			
1036			40	Layer	Medieval	(1) 4g			Str. Flint (1) - 3g
1037	1038		40	Fill of Ditch	?LBA (prehistoric)	(1) 4g			
1039	1040		2	Fill of Ditch	?LBA (prehistoric)	(1) 6g			
1047	1048		5	Fill of Ditch	18th-19th C	(6) 33g	71		Fe. Frags (4) - 31g Str. Flint (1) - 11g
1049	1050		8	Fill of Ditch	?LBA (prehistoric)	(6) 12g			
1063	1064		8	Fill of Possible Ring Ditch	?LBA (prehistoric)	(1) 64g			
1065	1066		12	Fill of Ditch	LBA	(7) 27g			
1067	1068		17	Fill of Pit	LBA	(22) 121g	13		C. Bone - 10g

	1071			Fill of Pit					C. Bone - 2g
1069	1070	A B C	16	"Fill of Spread"	LBA LBA LBA	(9) 82g (3) 17g (1) 6g		8	
1074	1075		17	Fill of Ditch Terminus	Roman	(5) 92g			Fe. Frags (1) - 4g
1076	1077		17	Fill of Pit	?LBA (prehistoric)	(1) 2g			

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Struck Flint

Andrew Peachey MIfA

The evaluation recovered a total of 6 pieces (65g) pf struck flint in an un-patinated condition, with technological traits strongly indicative of earlier Neolithic technology (Table 1). The implements and flakes have been manufactured utilising local gravels, and are mottled dark grey-brown with, where extant, a thin, slightly abrasive, white cortex.

Implement/Flake type	Frequency	Weight (g)
Horseshoe Scraper	1	21
End Scraper (on blade)	1	18
Side Scraper (on blade)	1	11
Debitage	3	15
Total	*6*	*65*

Table 1: Quantification of struck flint

The most intensively worked implement in the assemblage comprises a horseshoe scraper in Ditch F1032, with semi-invasive fine retouch applied around the edges of sub-un-corticated flake, from which the bulb of percussion has been deliberately truncated, leaving a thin implement typical of earlier Neolithic assemblages. Also characteristic of this period is blade-based technology, with the end scraper in Gully F1023 and the side scraper in Ditch F1047 both manufactured on soft-hammer struck blades. The debitage flakes are largely inconclusive, although a single small flake in Layer L1036 may represent the removal of an overhang from the striking platform of a blade core. Comparable flint work is a common component of prehistoric assemblages in Essex, including at Mucking (Bond 1988, 24), however the chronology of earlier Neolithic technology is often obscured by the residual occurrence of the artefacts in later prehistoric contexts.

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The Pottery

Andrew Peachey MIfA

The evaluation recovered a total of 156 sherds (2555g) of pottery (Table 2). The bulk of the pottery appears of late Bronze Age date, including a large proportion of a well-preserved bi-partite jar in Pit F1006, with the remaining prehistoric sherds highly fragmented and abraded. The remaining Roman, medieval and post-medieval sherds comprise low quantities of generic coarse ware/utilitarian fabrics in their respective periods.

Period	Sherd Count	Weight (g)
Late Bronze Age	147	2377
Roman	2	141
Medieval	1	4
Post-Medieval	6	33
Total	*156*	*2555*

Table 2: Quantification of pottery by period

Methodology

The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight (g) and R.EVE (including minimum number of vessels) with fabrics examined at x20 magnification. Rim type, profile and decoration were also recorded in separate fields and free-text comments in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 1995). All data has been entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will form part of the site archive.

The Late Bronze Age Pottery

The late Bronze Age pottery occurred in five fabrics with a range of temper, including coarse flint (F2), fine flint (F3), sand (Q1 & Q2), and organic/vegetable material (V1). This range of fabrics (Table 3) is common on late Bronze Age sites in Essex, including Mucking (Barrett & Bond 1988, 26-27) and Springfield Lyons (Brown 2013, 98)

Fabric	Description	Sherd Count	Weight (g)
F2	Inclusions comprise common moderately-sorted calcined flint (0.5-2mm, occasionally to 5mm). Surfaces have a slightly abrasive to hackly feel	107	2138
F3	Inclusions comprise poorly-sorted calcined flint and quartz both 0.2-0.5mm, occasionally to 2mm). Surfaces tend to be smooth.	1	5
Q1	Inclusions comprise common, poorly-sorted angular quartz (0.1-0.5mm) with occasional red clay pellets/grog (<1mm) and flint (<1mm).	8	61
Q2	Inclusions comprise common, well-sorted quartz (0.25-0.5mm) with occasional charred organic material/voids (linear <5mm).	21	86
V1	Inclusions comprise common charred organic material/voids (chaff and linear chopped grass 0.5-5mm) with sparse quartz (<0.5mm).	10	87
Total		147	2377

Table 3: Fabric codes, descriptions and quantification of late Bronze Age pottery

The bulk of the late Bronze Age pottery comprised 85 sherds (2034g) of fabric F2 contained in Pit F1006 (L1007). These well-preserved and frequently cross-joining sherds were derived from a single bipartite jar with a row of finger-tip impressions around the girth, conforming to Essex type S, and comparable to vessels recorded at Springfield

Lyons, Chelmsford (Brown 2013, fig.3.25.86-7). The vessel was broken in antiquity and although the rim is missing, possibly though modern truncation) was probably deposited complete. It does not exhibit any traces of burning or wear, and does not appear directly associated with a cremation.

The only other diagnostic late Bronze Age vessel comprised small fragments of a fabric Q1 jar with a slack, curved shoulder and slightly out-turned rim, comparable to a vessel at Lofts Farm (Brown 1998: fig.14.22). The remaining late Bronze Age fabric types frequently occurred in association with one another, mainly as very small sherds in ditch and gully features, however similar fabrics continued to be used up to the middle Iron Age, so while a late Bronze Age chronology appears most likely for these sherds, their chronology is not absolutely secure. Only a single body sherd of a 'fine' fabric (F3) was present in the assemblage, contained in Ditch F1065 (L1066) in association with 'coarse' (F2) sherds, further supporting a date of manufacture in the late Bronze Age to early Iron Age.

The Roman Pottery

The assemblage contained two sherds (141g) of locally-produced sandy grey ware, contained in Gully F1025 and Ditch Terminus F1074, with the former comprising a body sherd derived from a storage jar and the latter part of the base of a utilitarian jar.

The Medieval Pottery

Layer L1036 contained a single body sherd (4g) of 'gritty' reduced ware, with inclusions of common rounded quartz (0.5-1mm) that was probably produced between the 12th and 14th centuries.

The Post-Medieval Pottery

Ditch F1047 contained a total of six sherds (33g) of post-medieval pottery including glazed red earthen ware and salt-glazed white earthenware, typical of 18th to 19th century assemblages in the region.

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The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey MIfA

Trial-trench evaluation excavations recovered a total of 18 fragments (404g) of highly fragmented and highly abraded post-medieval CBM. Ditch F1004 and F1067 contained small fragments of soft red brick, while Ditches F1032 and F1047 contained small fragments of peg tile, with both types of CBM probably produced in the 18th or 19th centuries, if not later.

The Environmental Samples

Dr John Summers

Introduction

During trial excavations at Walton Hall Farm, Linford, 22 bulk soil samples were taken and processed for environmental archaeological assessment. The sampled features are largely spot dated to the late Bronze Age and Romano-British periods. This report presents the results from the assessment of the bulk sample light fractions and discusses the significance and potential of any remains recovered.

Methods

Samples were processed at the Archaeological Solutions Ltd facilities in Bury St. Edmunds using standard flotation methods. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 500µm (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 1mm. The dried light fractions were scanned under a low power stereomicroscope (x10-x30 magnification). Botanical and molluscan remains were identified and recorded using a semi-quantitative scale (X = present; XX = common; XXX = abundant). Reference literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006; Kerney and Cameron 1979; Kerney 1999) and a reference collection of modern seeds was consulted where necessary. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits.

In the first instance, all samples >10 litres were 50% sub-sampled for the purposes of the assessment. Further processing of any samples is conditional on the recovery of significant archaeobotanical material.

Results

The assessment data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 4.

Late Bronze Age

Ten of the sampled deposits have been spot dated to the late Bronze Age period, including three pit fills, five ditch fills, including the fill of possible ring ditch F1063, and two samples from spread L1070.

Plant macrofossils

Carbonised plant macrofossils were rather sparse in the Bronze Age deposits with only three deposits yielding identifiable material. Two emmer/ spelt grains (*Triticum dicoccum/ spelta*) were present in pit fill L1007 (F1006), along with a further indeterminate cereal grain. A single barley grain (*Hordeum* sp.) was recorded in spread L1070A and a further two indeterminate grains were present in L1070B. This range of crops is typical of the period (e.g. Campbell and Straker 2003) but unfortunately the density of remains is insufficient for detailed analysis.

Charcoal

Small amounts of charcoal >2mm were recorded in ditch fill L1066 (F1065) and spread L1070. However, the concentrations were rather low and do not merit further comment.

Romano-British

Two samples were examined from Roman period features; gully fill L1026 (F1025) and the fill of ditch terminus F1074 (L1075).

Plant macrofossils

The remains in sample 23 of L1075 were dominated by free-threshing type wheat grains (*T. aestivum/ turgidum*), accompanied by a lesser number of indeterminate wheat grains and two hulled barley grains. The predominance of free-threshing wheat is unusual for the Romano-British period, which usually sees assemblages dominated by spelt wheat. However, free-threshing wheat is a common occurrence in assemblages, although often in low concentrations (e.g. Carruthers 2007; 2008). The presence of four wheat tail grains may indicate the presence of some processing by-products, although chaff remains and weed seeds were absent. A single indeterminate cereal grain was recorded in L1026.

Charcoal

Charcoal remains were recorded as common in L1075, with both oak (*Quercus* sp.) and diffuse porous wood types identified from transverse sections. This most likely represents the remains of fuel debris.

Un- dated deposits

The nine samples from un-dated features also contained few carbonise remains, with just a single indeterminate cereal grain in L1024 and a medium Fabaceae seed in L1011. Sample 10 of ditch fill L1033 (F1032) contained a number of mollusc shells characteristic of long grassland habitats and was the only instance of preserved snail shells.

Contaminants

Modern rootlets, seeds, molluscs (*Cecilioides acicula*) and earthworm egg capsules were all present in the samples, although in relatively low concentrations. It is unlikely that the sampled deposits have been significantly affected by bioturbation.

Conclusions and statement of potential

The samples from Walton Hall Farm have demonstrated a surprising lack of archaeobotanical remains considering the intensity of settlement recorded on the adjacent areas of higher ground. The only conclusion that can be drawn is that the excavated Bronze Age features were away from the primary areas of cereal use and processing represented by the previously excavated domestic settlement. The information for the Romano-British period is slightly different, although based on only a small number of samples.

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Site code	Sample number	Context	Feature	Feature type	Spot date	Volume taken (litres)	Volume processed (litres)	% processed	Flot (ml)	Cereals			Non-cereal taxa		Hazelnut shell	Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants				
										Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes		Charcoal>2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects	Earthworm capsules
THWH14	2	1007	1006	Fill of Pit	LBA	20	10	50%	20	X	-	E/S (2), NFI (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	X	X	-	-
THWH14	4	1011	1010	Fill of Possible Drip Gully		10	10	100%	15	-	-	-	X	Medium Fabaceae (1)	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
THWH14	6	1013	1012	Fill of Posthole		10	10	100%	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
THWH14	7	1024	1023	Fill of Gully		40	20	50%	15	X	-	NFI (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	X	-	-	-
THWH14	8	1026	1025	Fill of Gully	Roman	20	10	50%	40	X	-	NFI (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
THWH14	9	1030	1029	Fill of Pit		40	20	50%	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-
THWH14	10	1033	1032	Fill of Ditch		40	20	50%	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	*D. rotundatus*, *Oxychilus* sp., *T. hispida* gp., *Vallonia* sp.	X	-	X	-	-
THWH14	11	1035	1034	Fill of Pit	?LBA (prehistoric)	40	20	50%	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	-
THWH14	12	1036		Layer		30	20	66%	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	XX	X	-	-	X
THWH14	13	1038	1037	Fill of Ditch	?LBA (prehistoric)	20	10	50%	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X
THWH14	14	1054	1053	Fill of Posthole		10	10	100%	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
THWH14	15	1056	1055	Fill of Posthole		10	10	100%	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-
THWH14	17	1064	1063	Fill of Possible Ringditch	?LBA (prehistoric)	40	40	100%	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-
THWH14	18	1062	1061	Fill of Ditch		10	10	100%	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-

THWH14	19	1066	1065	Fill of Ditch	LBA	40	20	50%	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X
THWH14	21	1070B	-	Spread	LBA	20	10	50%	15	X	-	NFI (2)	-	-	-	X	Diffuse porous	-	-	XX	-	X	-	-
THWH14	22	1070A	-	Spread	LBA	20	10	50%	20	X	-	Hord (1)	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	XX	X	-	-	-
THWH14	23	1075	1074	Fill of Ditch Terminus	Roman	40	20	50%	80	XX	-	HB (2), FTW (13), Trit (9), Trit tail (4), NFI (17)	-	-	-	XX	*Quercus* sp., Diffuse porous	-	-	XX	-	X	-	-
THWH14	24	1077	1076	Fill of Pit	?LBA (prehistoric)	10	10	100%	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-
THWH14	25	1019	1018	Fill of Droveway Ditch	?LBA (prehistoric)	20	10	50%	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-
THWH14	26	1058	1057	Fill of Posthole		10	10	100%	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
THWH14	27	1050	1049	Fill of Ditch	?LBA (prehistoric)	40	20	50%	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	X	-	-

Table 4: Results from the assessment of bulk sample light fractions from Walton Hall Farm, Linford. Abbreviations: HB = hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.); Hord = barley (*Hordeum* sp.); E/S = emmer/ spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/ spelta*); FTW = free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum*); Trit = wheat (*Triticum* sp.); NFI = not formally identified (indeterminate cereal grain).

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX

1
F1041 in Trench 2 looking north-west

2
F1043 in Trench 2 looking north-west

3
F1063 in Trench 8 looking south-east

4
F1059 in Trench 10 looking west

5
F1069C in Trench 16 looking north-west

6
F1067 in Trench 17 looking south-east

7
F1008 in Trench 26 looking north-west

8
F1027 and F1029 in Trench 33 looking south

9
F1034 in Trench 40 looking north-east

10
Sample section 8A in Trench 8 looking north-west

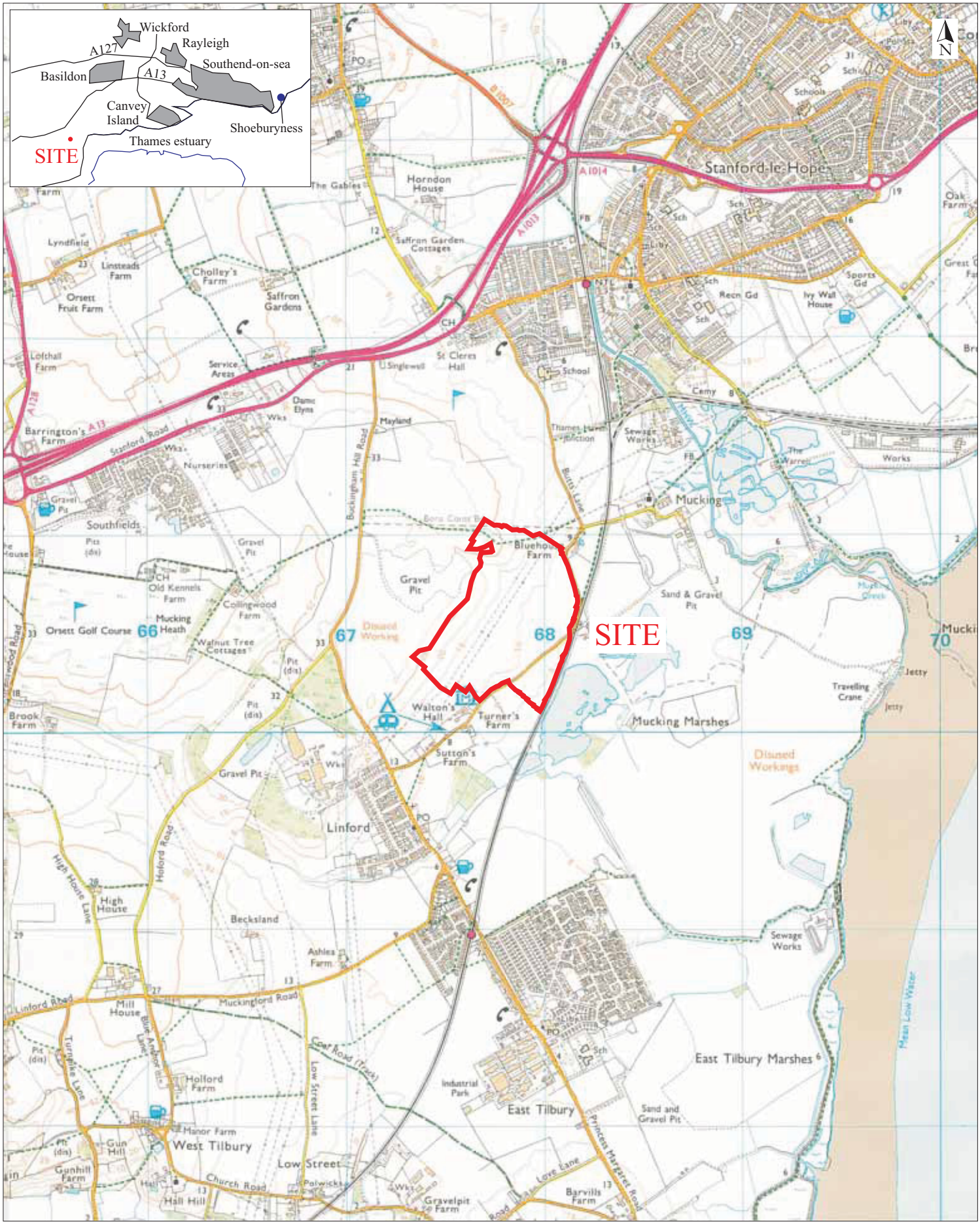

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Fig. 1 Site location plan

Scale 1:25,000 at A4

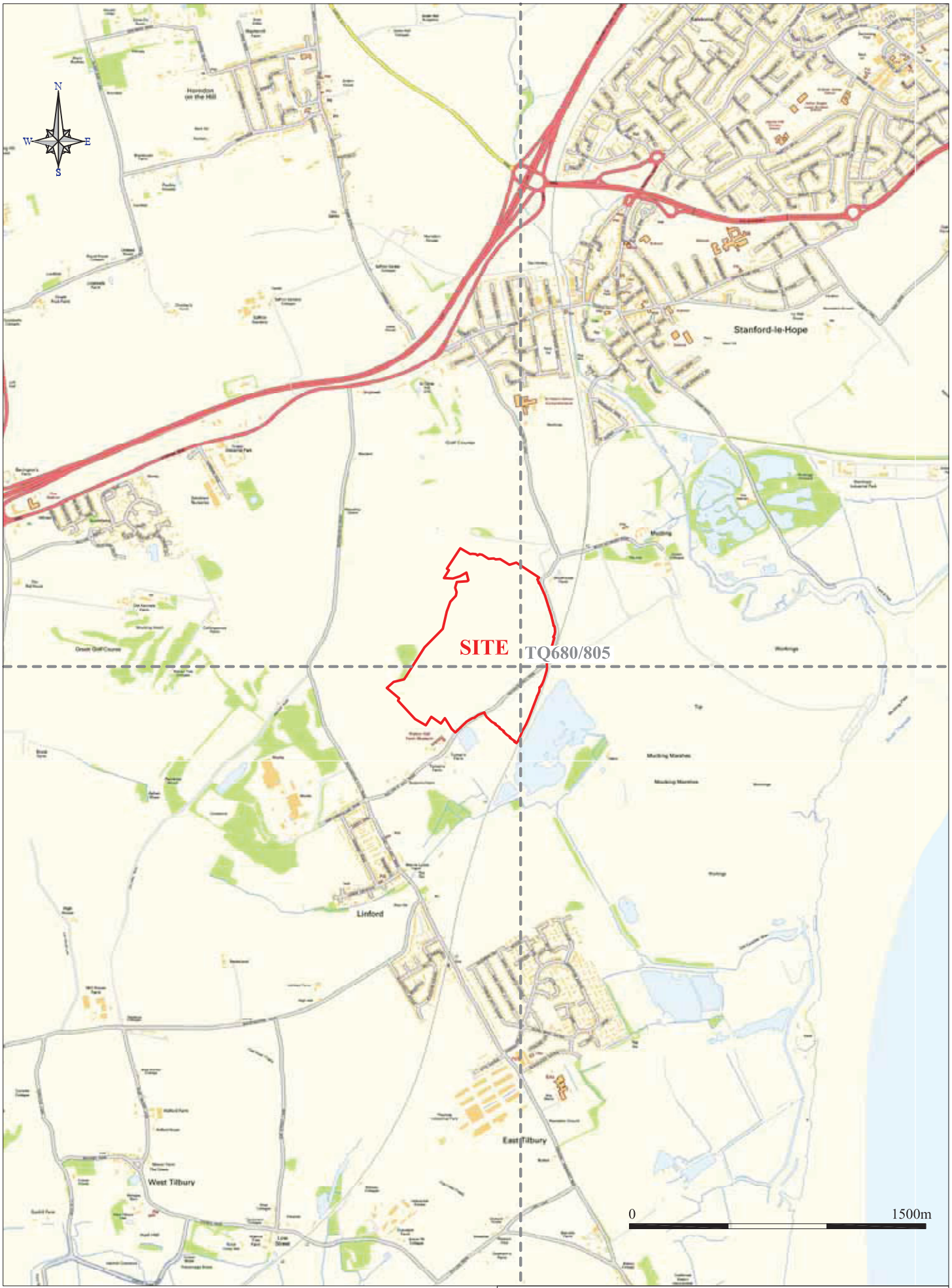

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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

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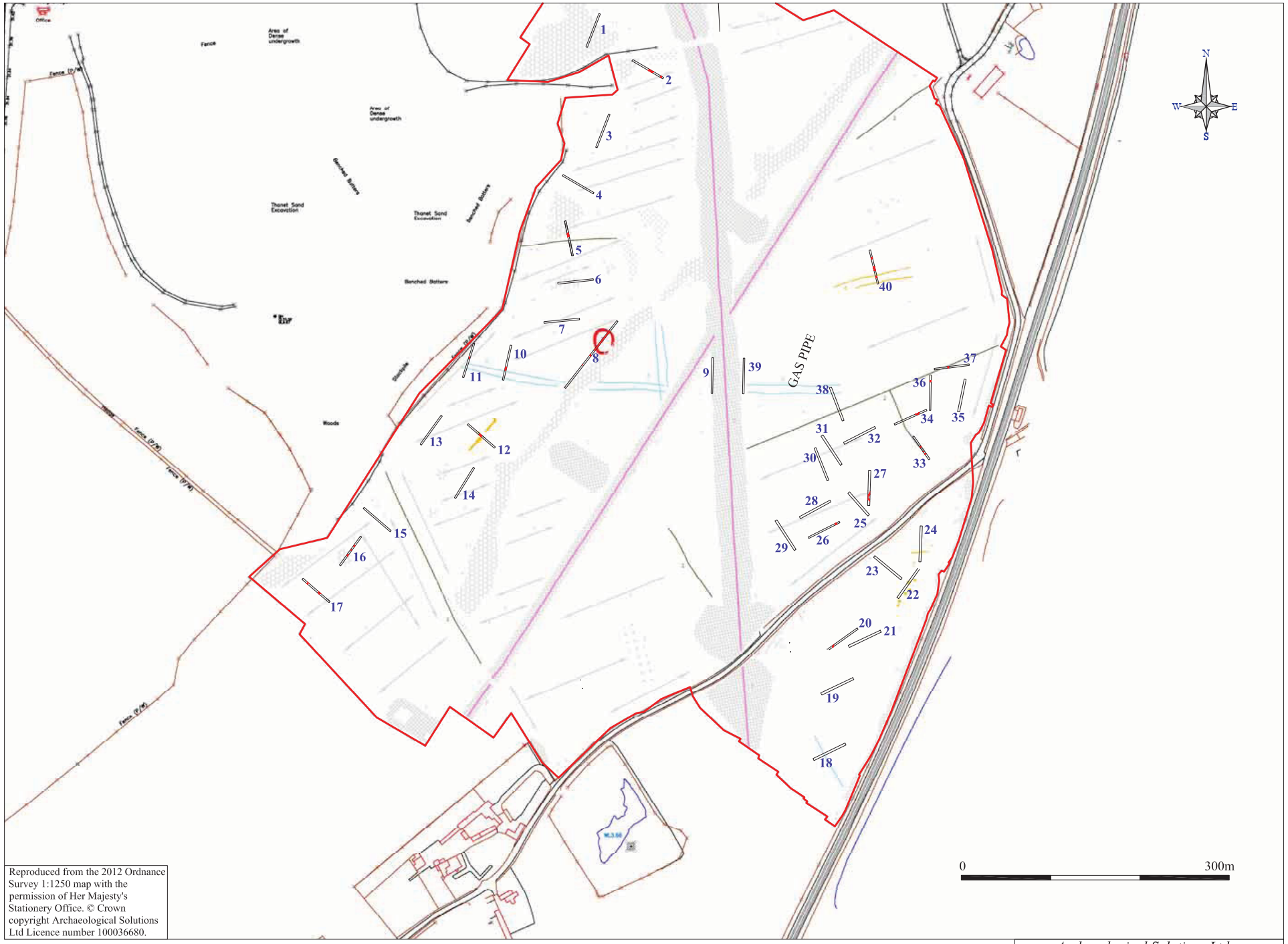

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Fig. 3 Trench location plan

Scale 1:4000 at A3

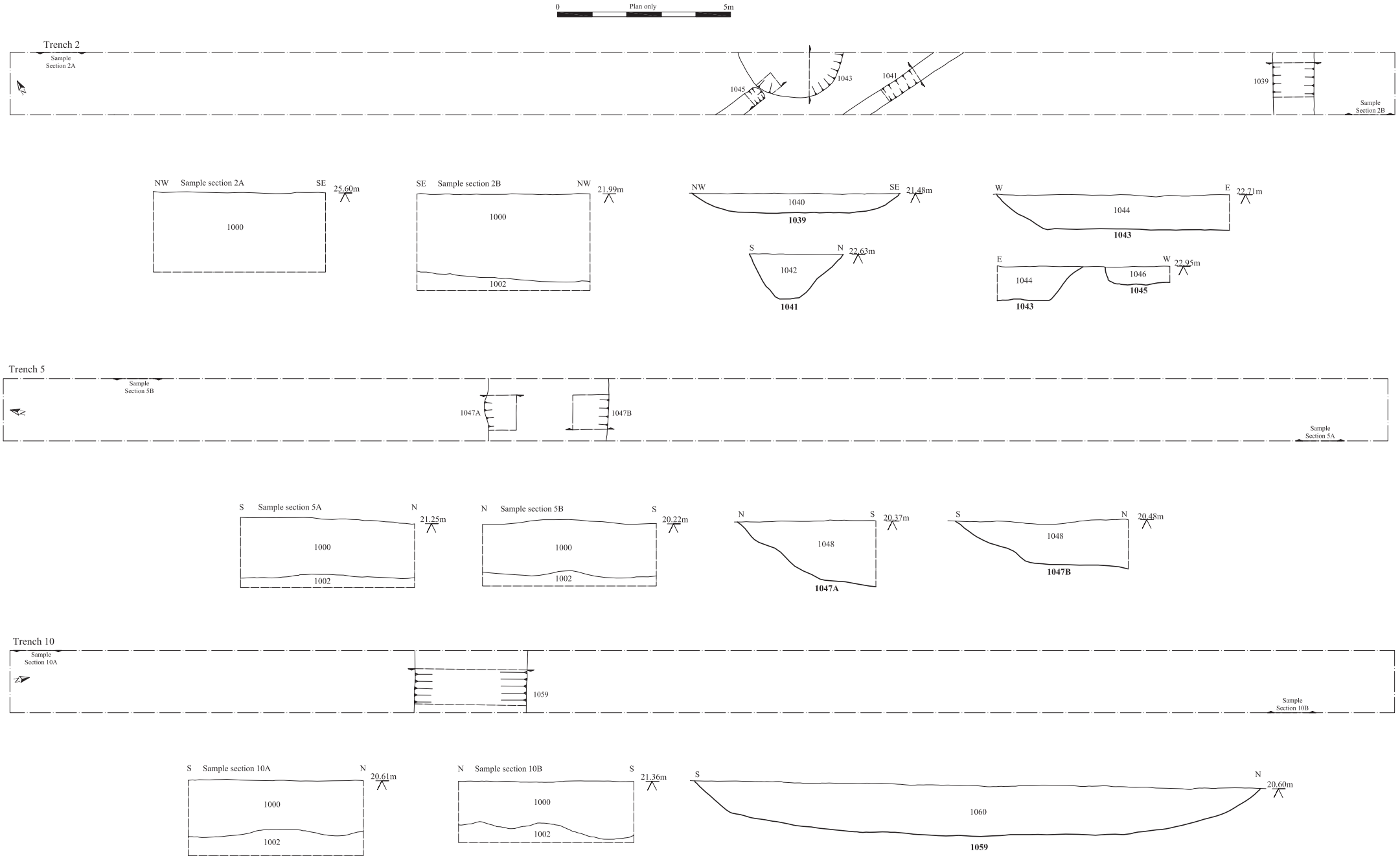

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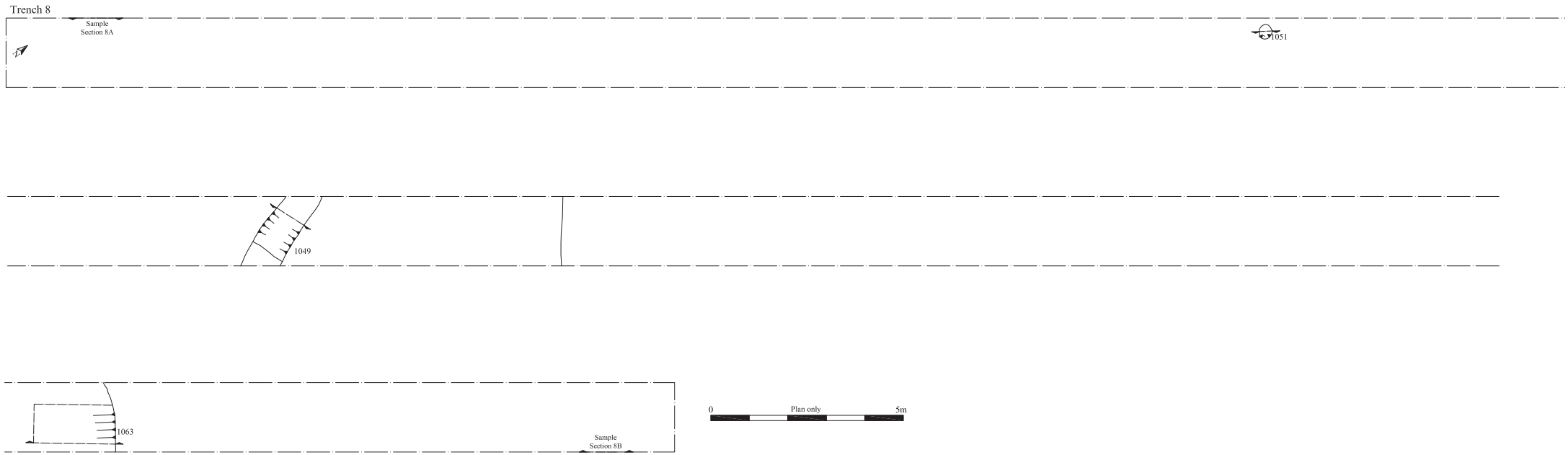
Fig. 4 Trench plans and sections

Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3



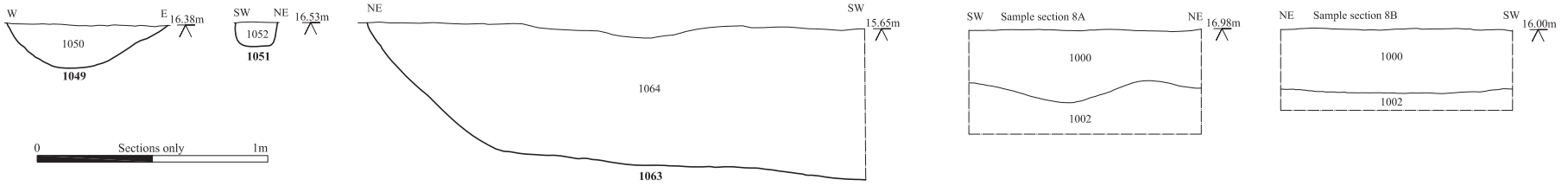


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Fig. 5 Trench plan and sections for trench 8

Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3

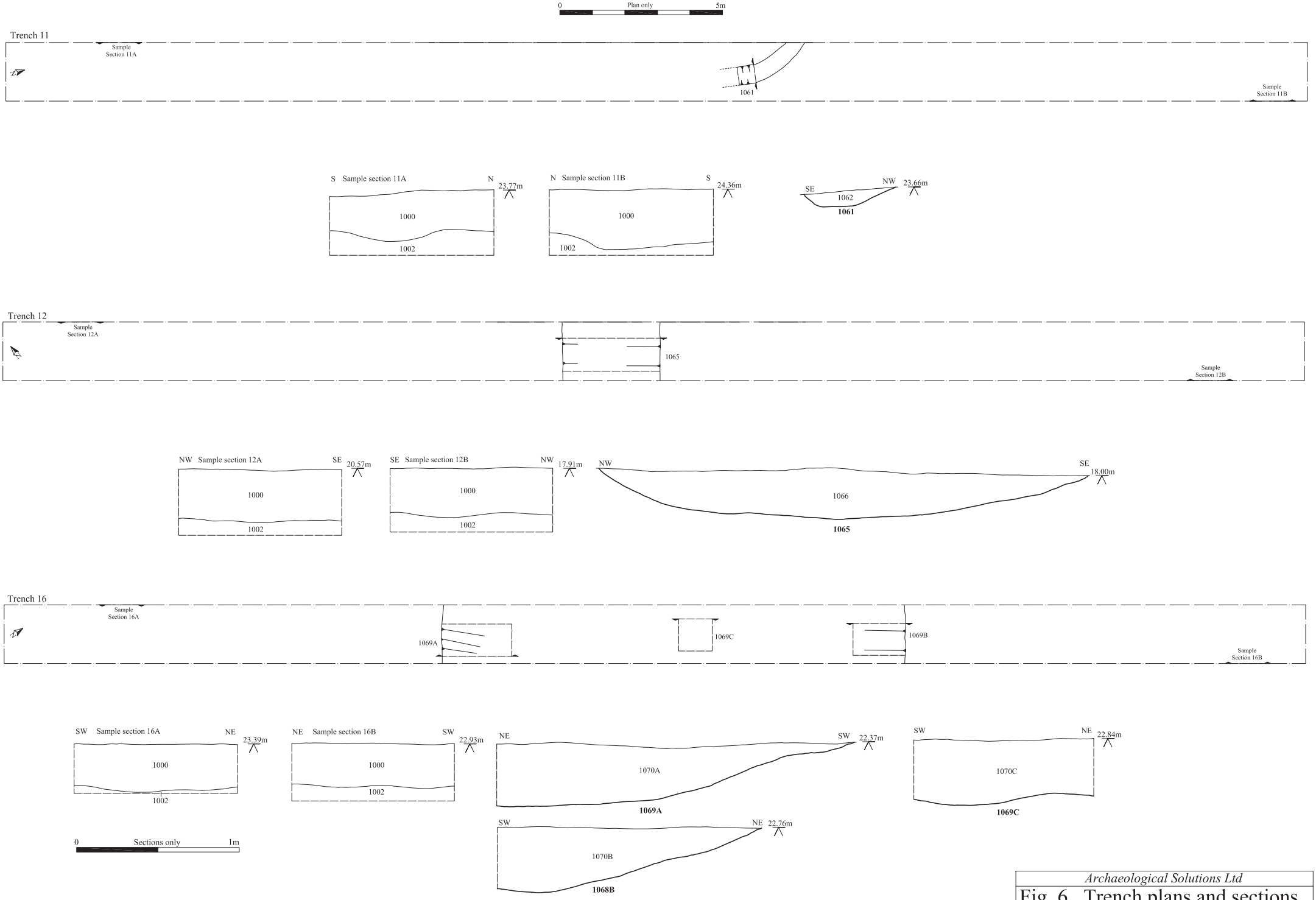

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Fig. 6 Trench plans and sections

Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3

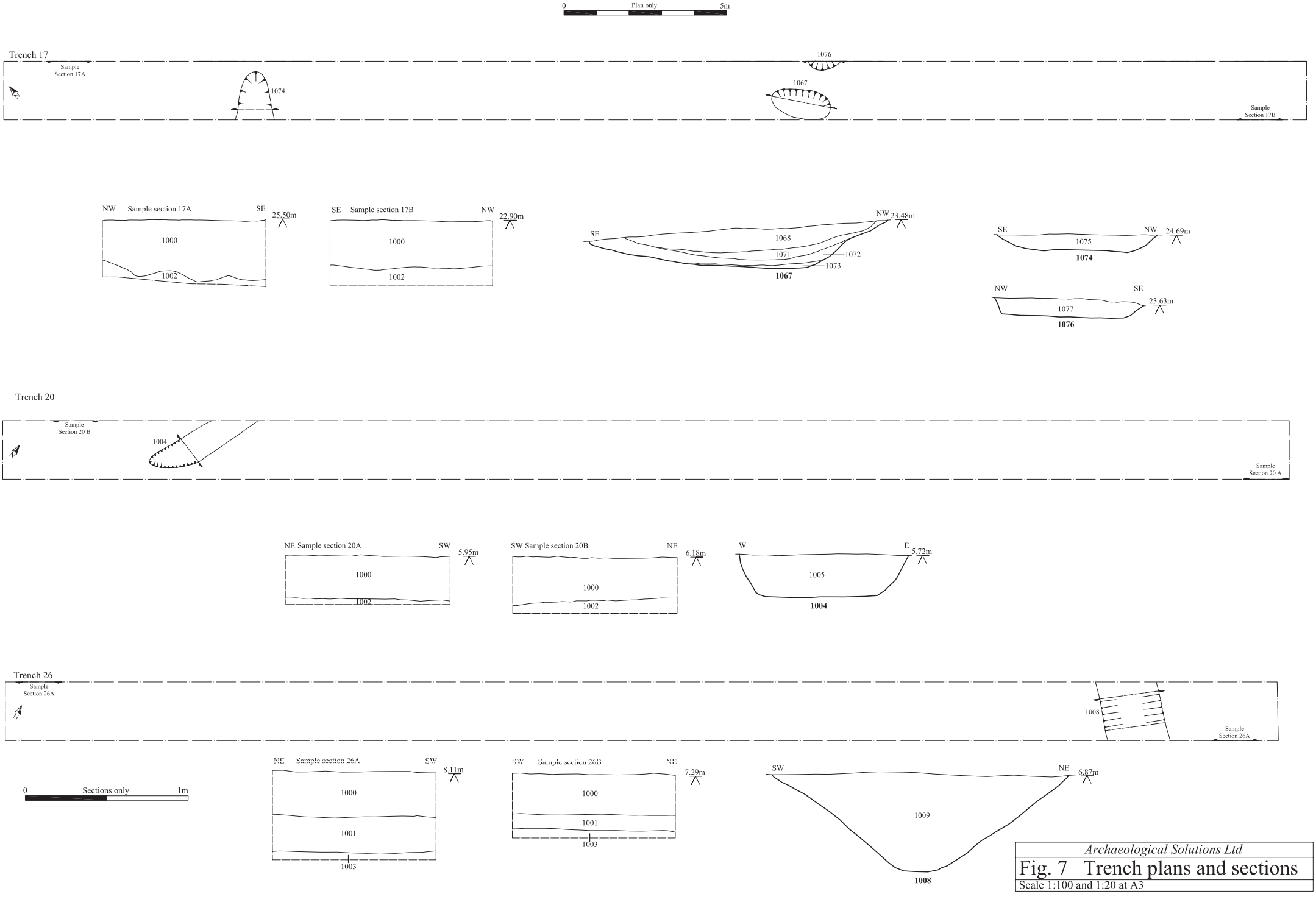

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Fig. 7 Trench plans and sections

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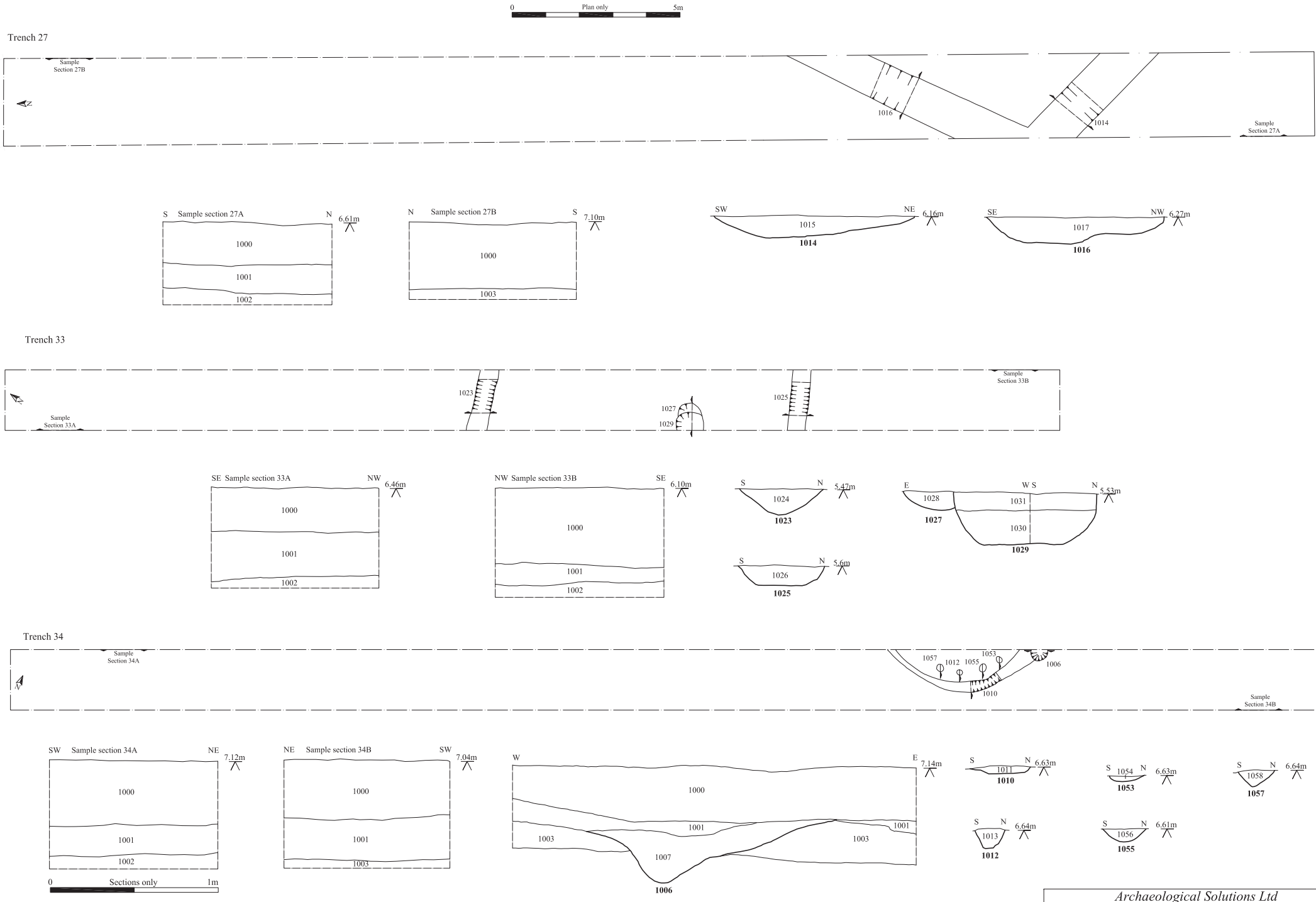

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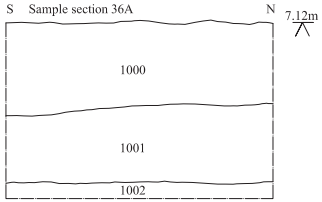
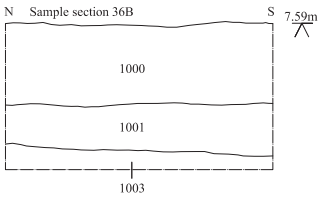
Fig. 8 Trench plans and sections

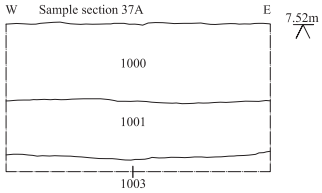
Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3

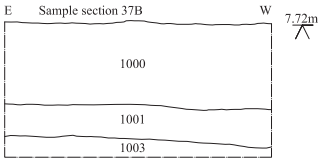
Trench 36

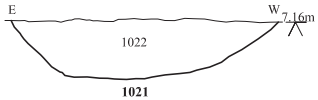




Trench 37







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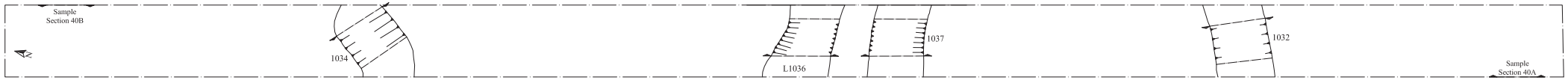

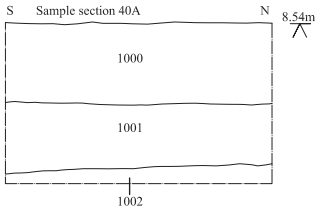

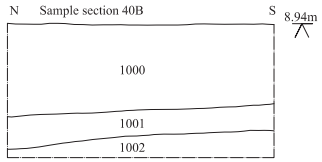

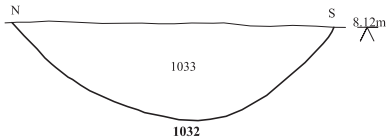

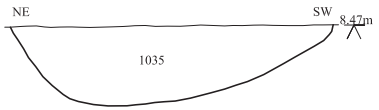

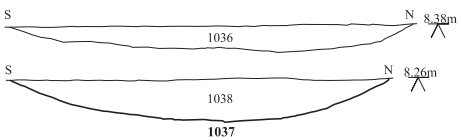

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Fig. 9 Trench plans and sections

Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3