
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

LAND WEST OF MILL HOUSE, THE STREET, DARSHAM, SUFFOLK

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION
AND EXCAVATION:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN**

SHER DAR 030

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NGR: TM 41490 70170	Report No: 4792
District: Suffolk Coastal	Site Code: DAR 030
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Signed:	Date: 13 February 2015

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CONTENTS		<i>Page</i>
OASIS SUMMARY SHEET		3
PART I: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT		4
SUMMARY		4
1	INTRODUCTION	4
2	PROJECT OBJECTIVES	5
3	THE SITE	6
4	TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS	6
5	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	6
6	THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION	8
7	METHODOLOGY	8
8	DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS	8
9	CONFIDENCE RATING	16
10	DEPOSIT MODEL	17
11	SPECIALIST FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS	17
12	DISCUSSION	27
PART II: UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN		28
13	UPDATE OF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	28
14	UPDATED AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	29
15	RAR/ PUBLICATION BIBLIOGRAPHY	30
16	RESEARCH ARCHIVE REPORT	31
17	PUBLICATION SYNOPSIS	32
18	DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE	33
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	33
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	33
APPENDICES		
1	CONCORDANCE OF FINDS	
2	WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION	
3	OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM	

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk</i>		
<p><i>Between October and November 2014, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook and archaeological excavation on land to the west of Mill House, The Street, Darsham. The excavation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 15 new dwellings and was preceded by an archaeological trial trench evaluation, also conducted by AS.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the project encountered an enclosed medieval (11th/ 12th to 15th century AD) landscape, largely confined to the north-eastern area of the site and comprising a single definable enclosure, several substantial boundary features and a short section of possible E-W aligned trackway. A number of pits, including a possible pond and a well were also dated to the medieval period. Most of the pits appeared to comprise single use features, most probably dug for refuse disposal. The bulk of the medieval finds assemblage is domestic in character, comprising pottery and animal bone, but also includes a Cu alloy brooch. Two possible prehistoric cremation deposits (undated) and a small number of post-medieval early modern features were also encountered. The latter included a pair of parallel ?beam slots.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>19/03/2014 - 26/03/2014 (Evaluation); 15/10/2014 – 14/11/2014 (Excavation)</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>5673</i>	Site code	<i>DAR 030</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation and Excavation</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use	<i>Pasture</i>		
Planned development	<i>Construction of 15 new dwellings</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Undated ?prehistoric: Cremations</i> <i>Medieval: Ditches; pits; ?well; ?pond</i> <i>Post-medieval/ early modern: Ditches; ?beam slots</i> <i>Undated: Ditches/ gully; pits; postholes</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>Undated ?prehistoric: Cremated bone</i> <i>Neolithic/ Bronze Age: Struck flint</i> <i>Medieval: Pottery; Cu alloy brooch; CBM; animal bone</i> <i>Post-medieval/ early modern: Cu alloy spur</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Suffolk</i>	<i>Suffolk Coastal</i>	<i>Darsham</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Suffolk Historic Environment Record</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>-</i>		
Area of site	<i>0.8ha</i>		
NGR	<i>TM 41490 70170</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>c. 25-28m</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (Matt Brudenell)</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>James Fairclough and Kamil Orzechowski</i>		
Funded by	<i>Hopkins Homes Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation and Excavation: Archaeological Assessment and Updated Project Design</i>		
Authors	<i>Mustchin, A.R.R.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4792</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>13 February 2015</i>		

LAND WEST OF MILL HOUSE, THE STREET, DARSHAM, SUFFOLK

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION AND EXCAVATION: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

PART I: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

SUMMARY

Between October and November 2014, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook and archaeological excavation on land to the west of Mill House, The Street, Darsham. The excavation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 15 new dwellings and was preceded by an archaeological trial trench evaluation, also conducted by AS.

The site occupies an area of significant archaeological potential with finds in the immediate vicinity dating from the Neolithic period onwards. Evidence of a significant Roman villa including a tessellated floor and hypocaust is recorded some 800m to the south-east of the site. The majority of local sites and finds are medieval, however, and include a number of moated sites.

In the event the project encountered an enclosed medieval (11th/ 12th to 15th century AD) landscape, largely confined to the north-eastern area of the site and comprising a single definable enclosure, several substantial boundary features and a short section of possible E-W aligned trackway. A number of pits, including a possible pond and well were also dated to the medieval period. Most of the pits appeared to comprise single use features, most probably dug for refuse disposal. The bulk of the medieval finds assemblage is domestic in character, comprising pottery and animal bone, but also includes a Cu alloy brooch. Two possible prehistoric cremation deposits (undated) and a small number of post-medieval early modern features were also encountered. The latter included a pair of parallel ?beam slots.

1 Introduction

1.1 Between October and November 2014, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook and archaeological excavation on land to the west of Mill House, The Street, Darsham (NGR TM 41490 70170; Figs. 1-2). The excavation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 15 new dwellings and was preceded by an archaeological trial trench evaluation, also conducted by AS (dated 19/03/2014 to 26/03/2014).

1.2 The project was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS-CT) (dated 08/05/2014), and a specification compiled by AS (dated 16/04/2014) and approved by SCC AS-CT. It followed the procedures outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2008) and

the documents *Requirements for Archaeological Excavation 2012 Version 1.1* (SCC AS-CT) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 This document is presented in two parts. Part I comprises the preliminary results of the archaeological fieldwork and contains detailed descriptions of the encountered features and deposits. Data from the earlier evaluation are incorporated as appropriate. Specialist artefact and environmental analyses are presented in Section 11. Part II of the document – the Updated Project Design – sets out the framework for the post-excavation analysis of the results of the fieldwork.

2 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

2.1 The primary objective of the archaeological excavation was to preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the site by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site. Specific research priorities as identified in the written scheme of investigation (AS 2014, section 5.2.1) were to:

- place the medieval activity [identified by the forerunning archaeological evaluation] in context with the known activity of these dates in the surrounding area;
- characterise the activity present within the site;
- identify topographical/ geological/ geographical influences on the layout and development of the activity present within the current site and in the surrounding area; and
- [to attempt] environmental reconstruction.

Planning Policy Context

2.2 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.

2.3 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.

3 THE SITE

3.1 The village of Darsham is located in eastern Suffolk (Suffolk Coastal District) approximately midway between the small market towns of Saxmundham, some 6.5km to the south-west, and Halesworth, c. 7.7km to the north-west (Fig. 1). The villages of Yoxford and Westleton are located approximately 2.5km to the south-west and south-east, respectively. Although relatively dispersed, Darsham includes a notable cluster of houses and other buildings fronting The Street, which follows a NW-SE course for c. 1km between the modern A12, to the north-west, and its opposing junction with Low Road and Wash Lane.

3.2 The current site comprises a sub-rectangular plot of pasture extending across two adjacent fields (c. 0.8ha in total), separated by a tree-lined hedge, to the west of Mill House (Fig. 2). The site is bounded to the south by The Street and to the north-east by Priory Lane. Further pasture is present to the west, while Mill Bungalow and arable fields adjoin the site's northern boundary.

4 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

4.1 The site is situated at approximately 25-28m AOD on a gentle, east-facing slope. A stream valley, c. 630m to the east of the site meets with the Minsmere River (c. 1.7km to the south-east), which in turn empties into the North Sea some 6.2km to the east of Darsham. The sites' soils comprise those of the Beccles 1 Association, described as 'slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy over clayey soils, associated with similar clayey soils' (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983, 17). These soils are suitable for the cultivation of 'winter cereals, some potatoes' and 'grassland' (*ibid.*). The underlying geology comprises chalky till above London Clay (British Geological Survey 1978).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

5.1 The undeveloped rural location of Darsham has resulted in a general lack of systematic archaeological investigation. However, the village occupies a favourable location on locally high ground overlooking a tributary of the Minsmere River, potentially attractive to early settlers. The earliest material recorded in the immediate area of the site comprises a fragment of Neolithic flint axe found at Priory

Farm (SHER¹ DAR 002), some 370m to the north, and two flint flakes found c. 650m to the south (SHER DAR 005).

Romano-British

5.2 Evidence of a significant Roman villa, including tessellated floor and hypocaust, is known from the area of Fairfields, some 800m to the south-east of the site (SHAR DAR 003; Suffolk Coastal District Council 2012, 5). Other finds and features included evidence of burning and a pit containing pottery and fragments of lava quern (SHER DAR 003). Local finds of Roman tegular have also been recorded (SHER DAR 016), while a worn silver denarius dating to approximately 60 BC was found by metal detecting to the south of the village (SHER DAR 015). The large Romano-British settlement at Hacheston (Blagg *et al.* 2004) is located some 15km to the south-west.

Medieval

5.3 Darsham parish is listed three times in the Domesday survey of AD 1086, with holdings by the King and two of his stalwarts: Roger Bigot and Robert Malet. The King's holding included 30 acres of land, a church with six acres and one acre of meadow (Suffolk Coastal District Council 2012). The existing Church of All Saints dates from the 12th century AD and is Grade I listed (SHER DAR 011). There are also several medieval moated sites in the area; the first, Cheney Moat (SHER DAR 010), is located c. 290m to the south-east of the site and is now infilled. A second moated site, enclosing a possible croft (SHER DAR 001), is located c. 480m to the south-west of the site. A third moated site is recorded just to the north of Darsham at Lymball's Farm (SHER WLN 002). The site of a possible medieval barn (SHER DAR 005) and further medieval remains (e.g. SHERs DAR 003 and 013) have also been recorded in near vicinity.

Post-Medieval

5.4 Historically, Darsham has always been an agricultural settlement with 19th century records indicating that most of the population (numbering 513 in 1831) was employed on the land (Suffolk Coastal District Council 2012, 5). Traditional supporting trades including millers and blacksmiths are also noted (*ibid*).

5.5 Expansion of the western end of the village followed the opening of Darsham Station on the the East Suffolk line from Ipswich to Lowestoft in 1859 (*ibid*, 4). Post-medieval development in the immediate vicinity of the site includes neighbouring Mill House, comprising a large post-medieval post mill with a two storey roundhouse (SHER DAR 007). Contemporary buildings include an 1873 Methodist chapel established on nearby Fox Lane (SHER DAR 028).

¹ Suffolk Historic Environment Record (locations within 1km of the site are plotted on Figure 3)

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

6.1 The site was subject to an archaeological trial trench evaluation, carried out by AS between the 19th and 26th of March 2014 (Fairclough 2014). The evaluation encountered 11 archaeological features distributed across the site, the majority of which comprised ditches/ gullies. Datable material – mostly comprising medieval (11th to 14th century) pottery – was present in the fills of eight features; a single post-medieval ditch was encountered in Trial Trench 4A, close to the site's northern boundary (Fig. 4). A single piece of post-medieval copper alloy rowel spur (SF1) was also recovered from spoil close to Trial Trench 6.

6.2 The earliest material recovered by the evaluation comprises eight pieces of struck flint of mixed prehistoric (Neolithic/ Bronze Age) character. Two undated pits recorded in Trial Trench 1 contained cremated bone and may have been of prehistoric date. Features encountered by the evaluation are summarised below (Table 1).

Trench	Feature	Description	Date
1	F1003	Pit	Undated/ ?Prehistoric. Cremated bone.
	F1005	Pit	Undated/ ?Prehistoric. Cremated bone.
2	F1007	Ditch	Undated
4A	F1009	Ditch	Medieval (12 th to 14 th century)
	F1013	Ditch	Post-medieval (mid 17 th to 19 th century)
4B	F1015	Gully	Medieval (12 th to 14 th century)
5	F1017	Ditch	Undated
	F1020	Pit	Medieval (Late 12 th to 14 th century)
	F1026	Ditch	Medieval (11 th to 13 th century)
6	F1022	Pit	Medieval (11 th / 12 th to 14 th century)
	F1024	Pit	Medieval (11 th / 12 th to 14 th century)
	F1028	Ditch	Medieval (11 th to 14 th century)
8	F1011	Ditch	Undated

Table 1: Summary of the features recorded by the archaeological trial trench evaluation

7 METHODOLOGY

7.1 The brief required the controlled strip, map and excavation of two demarcated areas within the site and the excavation of two additional trenches (totalling c. 0.22ha; Figs. 4-7). Undifferentiated overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Thereafter, all investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and the trenches were scanned by metal detector.

8 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

8.1 Based on the stratigraphic sequence and diagnostic pottery assemblage, three chronological phases of activity were interpreted at the site (Table 1). The majority of activity represents medieval utilisation of the site, dated between the 11th/ 12th and 15th centuries AD (Phase 2). Evidence of possible prehistoric (Phase 1) and post-medieval/ early modern (Phase 3) activity was also recorded but was

comparatively minimal. Some features that did not yield diagnostic material were phased based on their stratigraphic or spatial relationships with dated features. Several undated features were also encountered.

Phase	Period	Date
1	Undated ?prehistoric	-
2	Medieval	11 th / 12 th to 15 th century AD
3	Post-medieval to early modern	16 th to 19 th century

Table 2: Chronological phasing

Phase 1: Undated ?prehistoric

8.2 Two pits identified in Trial Trench 1 of the evaluation (F1003 and F1005) yielded cremated bone and were thought to be of possible prehistoric origin. The pits were located adjacent to one another which, bearing in mind the similarity of their fills (Table 3), suggests contemporaneity. Both were also similar in plan and profile (Table 3; Figs. 7-8). Prehistoric finds from the site comprise sparse struck flints of Neolithic/ Bronze Age character, which may indicate a later prehistoric origin for these features. The importance of cremation as a funerary rite increased across Europe from the middle Bronze Age onwards, becoming prevalent in the later Bronze Age (Fontijn 2008, 92). This predominance of cremation is evident throughout eastern England (Brown and Murphy 1997); excavated examples include an urned Bronze Age cremation from nearby Westleton (Martin and Wells 1985) and four late Neolithic/ early Bronze Age examples from Eye, some 28km to the west (Caruth and Goffin 2012).

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1003	1004	Sub-circular/ irregular sides, flattish base (0.30 x 0.11 x 0.09m)	Compact, dark orange brown clay with occasional small stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	Cremated bone (320g)
1005	1006	Sub-circular/ steep sides, flattish base (0.22 x 0.10 x 0.05m)	Compact, dark orange brown clay with occasional small stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	Cremated bone (31g)

Table 3: Summary of Phase 1 features and contexts

Phase 2: Medieval (11th/ 12th to 15th century AD)

8.3 The majority of encountered features belonged to the medieval period, broadly dated between the 11th/ 12th and 15th centuries AD, based on the recovered pottery assemblage. Pottery of possible 11th century (Saxo-Norman) date was only recovered from a small number of features, however, and may be as late as 13th/ 14th century in date. Full analysis and reporting of the pottery assemblage may help to refine the current chronology and/ or identify a clear sequence of medieval activity at the site. The majority of the Phase 2 features comprised ditches and pits.

Evidence of Medieval Enclosure

8.4 Phase 2 was chiefly characterised by a series of enclosure ditches/ gullies concentrated in the north-eastern corner of the site (Area 1), close to its boundary with Priory Lane (Table 4; Fig. 4). A small number of ditch segments identified in the

trial trenches, including one of two undated ?boundary features running along the western edge of the site (Figs. 4 and 7) may suggest a continuation of enclosure, albeit on a lesser scale, in this direction. The boundary features were either linear or rectilinear in plan and aligned c. N-S or E-W, roughly mirroring the alignments of Priory Lane and The Street. An enclosure (Enclosure 1) measuring at least 645m² internally was identified in addition to a possible section of c. E-W aligned trackway.

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Findings
1009=2003	1010=2004 (primary)	Linear/ gentle to steeply sloping sides, concave base (40.20+ x 1.85 x 0.45m)	Firm, mid to dark orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small to medium rounded stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (18g); CBM (19g); animal bone (211g); shell (33g); struck flint (1g)
	2079 (upper)		Firm, mid orange brown sandy silt		-
1015	1016	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (1.80+ x 0.45 x 0.15m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	Gully; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (14g); CBM (191g)
1017=2020=2045	1019 (primary)	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (54.00+ x 1.70 x 0.44m)	Compact, mid orange/ yellow brown clay with occasional rounded stones	Ditch; cut L2027 and L2055; cut by F2005	-
	1018=2021=2046 (upper)		Firm, mid red/ orange brown mottled clay with occasional charcoal lumps and small angular stones/ flint		Pot (3566g); CBM (124g); animal bone (313g); shell (19g); Cu alloy brooch (SF2) (12g); quern fragments x3 (343g); Fe nails (28g)
1026=2036	2056 (primary)	Linear/ moderately sloping sides and a concave base (19.00+ x 0.75 x 0.34m)	Firm, light brown sandy clay	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; cut by F1017=2020=2045	-
	1027=2037		Firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small rounded chalk		Pot (202g); CBM (1471g); animal bone (43g); clinker (3g)
	2055 (upper)		Firm, mid yellow brown sandy clay		-
1028	1029 (primary)	Linear/ steep sides, V-shaped base (1.80+ x 1.21 x 0.62m)	Firm, light yellow grey clay with frequent chalk flecks/ pebbles	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (63g); animal bone (8g); struck flint (82g)
	1030 (upper)		Friable, mid grey brown clay with occasional small rounded stones		Pot (1218g); CBM (161g); animal bone (28g); shell (29g); fired clay (23g); struck flint (273g); clinker (128g)
2008	2009	Curvilinear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (7.30+ x 1.50 x 0.53m)	Compact, mid to dark red brown mottled clay with occasional charcoal flecks, small angular stones and chalk flecks	Ditch; cut L2017; sealed by L1001=2001	
2022	2023	Linear/ gently sloping sides, concave base (4.20+ x 1.00 x 0.22m)	Compact, mid orange brown silty clay with occasional small to medium sub-rounded and sub-angular stones/ flint	Ditch; cut L2014; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (2g)
2024	2025	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base	Compact, mid red brown mottled clay with occasional flecks and small sub-angular stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2026	Pot (16g)

		(24.00+ x 0.45 x 0.14m)			
2026	2027	Irregular/ gentle to steeply sloping sides, uneven base (1.82+ x 1.60 x 0.32m)	Compact, mid red brown mottled clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded stones	Ditch; cut L2025; cut by F1017=2020=2045	Pot (985g); animal bone (6g); struck flint (3g); coal (2g)
2042	2043	Linear/ moderately sloping sides; concave base (36.50+ x 1.73 x 0.93m)	Firm, mid to dark orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small to medium rounded stones	Ditch; cut L2062; cut by F2065 and F2067	Pot (322g); animal bone (483g); Fe nail (26g)

Table 4: Summary of Phase 2 ditches/ gullies

8.5 Enclosure 1 was present in the north-eastern area of the site. The enclosure was defined on three sides by a single, rectilinear ditch partly identified in Trial Trench 5 of the evaluation (F1017=2020=2045) and was truncated to the east by Phase 3 Ditch F2005 (Figs. 4 and 6). The southern enclosure boundary did not continue to the east, beyond F2005 and it is possible that the eastern extent of Enclosure 1 originally lay in this area, having been destroyed by later, post-medieval/early modern activity. An earlier, c. N-S aligned Ditch (F1026=2036) was cut by Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) within the western part of Enclosure 1 and may have represented an earlier boundary superseded by the cutting of the enclosure ditch. The north-western corner of a second medieval enclosure may have been represented by curvilinear Ditch F2008 (Table 4), to the east of Phase 3 Ditch F2005 (Figs. 4 and 6). This interpretation remains tentative, however.

8.6 The northernmost section of Enclosure Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) – aligned c. E-W – was mirrored by Ditch F2042 some 6.20m to the north (Table 4; Figs. 4-6). The gap between these features may represent a short section (15.50m+) of trackway bounding Enclosure 1 and leading towards Priory Lane. The western continuation of Ditch F2042, which spanned the northern part of Area 1, might suggest that this ?trackway originally extended further, or that Enclosure 1 was a discrete area within a larger enclosure or field. The bulk of datable pottery from Ditches F1017 (=2020=2045) and F2042 spanned the 12th to 14th/ 15th centuries.

8.7 To the north-west of Ditch F2042, a similarly aligned Phase 2 boundary was possibly represented by Ditch F1009 (=2003), identified in Trial Trenches 4A and 9 (Fig. 4). The relationship of this ?boundary to Ditch F2042 was unclear, however, as their two alignments appeared 'staggered'. It is not thought that they represented a single feature.

8.8 The remaining Phase 2 Ditches (Table 4) were shorter; some were only revealed within the confines of the trial trenches (e.g. F1028, Trial Trench 6) and may represent sections of elongated pits rather than linear features. However, their dating suggests some relationship with the boundaries described above. It is also possible, based on their alignments and/ or morphology, that undated Ditches F1007 (Trial Trench 2), F1011 (Trial Trench 8 and F2053 (Area B) formed part of the Phase 2 landscape.

8.9 Notable finds from the Phase 2 ditches include a copper alloy brooch (SF2) and a significant pottery group (3566g) from the uppermost fill of F1017

(=2020=2045). Three small fragments of lava stone quern from the same feature indicate small-scale crop processing in the vicinity and complement similar evidence from Phase 2 Pit F1020 (see below). Overall, the finds from the medieval ditches was domestic in character and indicative of general discard. Incorporation via processes such as manuring is also a possibility in some instances, especially where numbers and densities of finds are small.

The Medieval Pits

8.10 A total of 15 medieval pits, including one possible pond (F2059) were encountered (Table 5). All of these were present within Area 1 of the excavation or trial trenches in the eastern part of the site (Fig. 4). Excluding possible Pond F2059, the Phase 2 pits had a mean area (in plan) of 2.70m² (range = 0.30m² to 11.61m²)² and a mean depth of 0.44m (range = 0.10m to 1.00m). Only four examples, including Pit/ ?Pond F2059 contained multiple fills, which suggests that the majority were single use features. Finds from the Phase 2 pits generally comprise quantities of pottery and animal bone with lesser occurrences of CBM/ fired clay and ferrous nails/ fragments. Notable pottery groups were present within Pits F1020 (2669g) and F2040 (1200g), both of which were located within the confines of Enclosure 1 (see above). This concentration of domestic material suggests the presence of a nearby dwelling(s), perhaps precursors of neighbouring Mill House/ Mill Bungalow, or possibly domestic activity within Enclosure 1. No contemporary structural remains were identified, however.

8.11 During the excavation, Pit F2051 (to the south of Enclosure 1; Table 5; Fig. 6) was identified as a possible well. Although comparatively deep (1.00m; Fig. 8) and situated on slowly permeable clayey soils, F2051 did not display any evidence of a lining or other superstructure that one might associate with a well. Comparison with other, similar features might help to better understand its function (see below).

Pit/ ?Pond F2059

8.12 Medieval Pit/ ?Pond F2059 appeared stratigraphically early within the phase 2 sequence. The uppermost fill of this feature was truncated to the north by Pit F2069 and to the south by Ditch F2042. F2059 was elongated in plan and comparatively deep (measuring 22.00+ x 4.30 x 0.72m), and contained three consecutive fills (Figs. 4, 5 and 8; Table 5). The blue/ grey colour of primary clay Fill L2060 suggests a gleyic soil formed under conditions of at least intermittent or seasonal waterlogging (Ashman and Puri 2002; Lindbo *et al.* 2008), in keeping with the site's slowly permeable geology (see above). It is possible that F2059 represented a medieval fish pond or dew pond for watering livestock. A possible medieval fish pond is recorded at Cockfield Hall, Yoxford (SHER YOX 001; Sillwood 2012, 9), some 1.3km to the south-west. Finds from the fills of F2059 comprise moderate quantities of medieval and post-medieval/ modern pottery (the latter comprising intrusive material from upper Fill L2062) and animal bone.

² Including partially obscured features

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1020	1021	Oval/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (0.70+ x 0.70 x 0.31m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	Pot (2669g); quern fragment (632g); shell (319g)
1022	1023	Sub-circular/ gently sloping sides, flattish base (0.70+ x 0.51 x 0.41m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional CBM flecks and rounded stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (16g)
1024	1025	Sub-circular/ gently sloping sides, concave base (0.81 x 0.60+ x 0.13m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional CBM flecks and rounded stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (18g); Fe nail (5g)
2010	2011 (primary)	Sub-oval/ near vertical sides, irregular base (3.40+ x 0.77 x 0.40m)	Compact, mid red brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular to sub-rounded stones	Pit; cut L2035; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (98g); animal bone (2g); fired clay (10g)
	2012 (upper)		Compact, mid red brown silty clay occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular to sub-rounded stones		
2013	2015 (primary)	Oval/ steep sides, concave base (1.95 x 1.80+ x 0.75m)	Compact, mid orange brown clay with occasional small to large sub-angular to sub-rounded stones/ flint and moderate chalk	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2022	Pot (480g); CBM (19g); animal bone (6g)
	2014 (upper)		Compact, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small to large sub-angular to rounded stones/ flint		Pot (213g); animal bone (6g)
2032	2033	Circular/ steep sides, concave base (0.60 x 0.50+ x 0.35m)	Firm, dark brown grey clay silt with occasional small rounded stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2034	-
2034	2035	Oval/ moderately sloping to steep sides and a flat base (0.75 x 0.50 x 0.33m)	Firm, dark yellow grey silty sand	Pit; cut L2033; cut by F2010	Pot (7g)
2038	2039	Oval/ near-vertical sides, flat base (1.80 x 0.92 x 0.70m)	Firm, mid orange brown silty clay with moderate small rounded stones/ flint	Pit; cut 1002=2001; sealed by L1000=2000	Pot (12g); animal bone (420g); struck flint (8g)
2040	2041 (primary)	Sub-circular/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base (4.30 x 2.70 x 0.44m)	Firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and flint	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	-
	2044 (upper)		Firm, mid yellow brown sandy silt with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional flint		Pot (1200g); CBM (140g); animal bone (14g)
2047	2048	Oval/ gently sloping sides, irregular base (1.52 x 0.92 x 0.10m)	Compact/ friable, mid to dark brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecks	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2049	Pot (65g)
2049	2050	Oval/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base (1.32 x 0.69 x 0.24m)	Compact/ friable, mid to dark brown clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks and medium sub-angular and rounded stones	Pit; cut L2049; cut by F2051	Pot (8g)
2051	2052	Circular/	Compact/ friable, very	Pit; cut L2050;	Pot (272g);

		near-vertical sides, irregular base (2.30 x 2.30 x 1.00m)	dark brown sandy silt with frequent small to medium sub-angular and rounded stones	sealed by L1000=2000	fired clay (171g)
2059	2060 (primary)	Linear/moderately sloping sides, irregular base (22.00+ x 4.30 x 0.72m)	Compact, mid to dark blue grey clay with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate chalk	Pit/ ?pond; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2042, F2063 and F2069	Animal bone (116g)
	2061				Pot (83g); animal bone (313g); Fe nail (8g)
	2062 (upper)				Pot (776g); animal bone (244g); Fe fragment (45g)
2069	2070	Sub-circular/moderately sloping to vertical sides, concave base (2.65+ x 2.00 x 0.53m)	Compact, very dark brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones and one large flint nodule	Pit; cut L2062; cut by F2071	Pot (134g); animal bone (128g); Fe fragment (23g)
2075	2076	Sub-oval/moderately sloping to near vertical sides, irregular base (2.00+ x 1.71 x 0.52m)	Compact, very dark brown sandy silt with occasional medium sub-angular stones	Pit; 1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (298g); animal bone (20g)

Table 5: Summary of Phase 2 pits

Phase 3: Post-Medieval to Early Modern (16th to 19th century AD)

8.13 Four ditches were dated to the post-medieval/ early modern era (Table 6). The largest of these (F2005) ran c. N-S across Area 1, and truncated the eastern edge of medieval Enclosure 1. The alignment of this feature was roughly parallel to Priory Lane, a short distance to the east, and it may have represented an early boundary feature.

8.14 Two parallel Phase 3 ditches (F2065 and F2067) truncated the fill of Phase 2 Ditch F2042 (L2043). During the excavation these were interpreted as possible construction cuts, although neither contained obvious foundation or packing material (Table 6). It remains possible, however, that these features – both similar in plan and profile – represented beam slots or similar. It is possible that the c. 1.5m gap between F2065 and F2067 served to contain or channel livestock.

8.15 A short section of post-medieval/ early modern ditch (F1013) was identified running c. N-S across Trial Trench 4A (Table 6; Fig. 4). The excavated segment of this feature yielded just one sherd of mid 17th to 19th century pottery.

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1013	1014	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (1.80+ x 1.00 x 0.25m)	Firm, dark grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2022	Pot (11g); CBM (17g); animal bone (33g)
2005	2006 (primary)	Linear/ moderate to steep sides, concave base (38.00+ x 3.05 x 1.01m)	Compact, mid red brown sandy clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded stones	Ditch; Cut L1018=2021=2046; sealed by L1001=2001	-
	2007 (upper)		Compact, mid red brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded stones and chalk		Pot (134g); CBM (1006g); animal bone (171g); shell (34g)
2065	2066	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (12.95 x 0.57 x 0.40m)	Firm, dark red brown sandy silt	Ditch; cut L2043; sealed by L1001=2001	-
2067	2068	Linear/ gently to moderately sloping sides, concave base (13.00 x 1.00 x 0.41m)	Firm, dark brown sandy silt with moderate small rounded flint	Ditch; cut L2043 and L2078; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (152g); animal bone (20g)

Table 6: Summary of Phase 3 features and contexts

Undated Features

8.16 Eleven undated features were identified (Table 7; Fig. 4). Six of these were ditches which, despite lacking datable material, may have formed part of the medieval (Phase 2) enclosed landscape. Ditches F1007 (Trial Trench 2) and F2053 (Area B), for example, ran at right angles to Phase 2 Ditch F1009 (=2003) c. 23m to the north-east (Figs. 4 and 7), and may have formed elements of the same field boundary. The large distance between these features makes such an assertion difficult to prove, however.

8.17 Three pits (F2018, F2057 and F2063) and two postholes (F2028 and F2071) were also undated. The pits, although difficult to date on stratigraphic grounds, were all located in the eastern area of the site and may have been medieval or later in date. Pit F2063, for example, truncated Fill L2062 of Phase 2 Pit/ ?Pond F2059. The undated postholes were similarly difficult to date and did not comprise elements of any identifiable structures. Both displayed well-defined post pipes in section, however, and appear to have held upright timbers; the primary fills of both were darkly coloured and humic, most likely representing the remnants of posts that had degraded *in situ*.

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1007	1008	Linear/ steep sides, concave base (8.00+ x 0.49 x 0.33m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional angular flint	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	-
1011	1012	Linear/ gently sloping sides, flattish base (1.80+ x 0.80 x 0.13m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	-
2016	2017	Linear/ steep sides, irregular base (0.40+ x 1.50 x 0.77m)	Compact, dark grey/ black red mottled silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks	Ditch; cut L2019; cut by F2008	-
2018	2019	Sub-circular/ steep sides, flat base (0.40+ x 1.50+ x 0.77m)	Compact, mid yellow brown mottled clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small angular stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2016	-
2028	2031 (primary)	Sub-oval/ near vertical sides, concave base (0.40 x 0.35 x 0.17m)	Compact, dark grey/ black humic silt	Posthole; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	-
	2029 (upper)		Friable, dark grey brown silty sand with occasional small to medium angular flint		-
2053	2054	Linear/ near-vertical sides, flat base (14.00+ x 0.60 x 0.69m)	Firm, mid to dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and medium stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	CBM (130g)
2057	2058	Sub-circular/ moderately sloping sides, flat base (1.90 x 2.80 x 0.08m)	Firm, dark brown/ black silty clay	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	Worked stone (undiagnostic) (359g)
2063	2064	Sub-oval/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (2.40 x 1.79 x 0.30m)	Firm, dark red brown sandy silt	Pit; cut L2062; sealed by L1001=2001	-
2071	2074 (primary)	Circular/ steep sides, concave base (0.70 x 0.70 x 0.47m)	Firm, very dark grey humic sandy silt	Posthole; cut L2070; sealed by L1001=2001	-
	2072 (upper)		Compact, yellow clay		-
2077	2078	Linear/ moderately sloping sides; flat base (1.00+ x 0.91+ x 0.28m)	Firm, dark brown sandy silt	Ditch; cut 1002=2002; cut by F2067	-

Table 7: Summary of undated features

9 CONFIDENCE RATING

9.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the identification of archaeological features or the recovery of finds.

10 DEPOSIT MODEL (Table 8)

10.1 The project encountered a dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil (L1000=2000), some 0.24-0.41m deep, overlying a subsoil of dark yellow brown silty clay (L1001=2001). The natural clay geology (L1002=2002) was encountered at approximately 1.20 to 1.60m below the modern surface.

context	Extent	Description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1000=2000	Site	Firm, dark yellow brown silt with moderate small to medium angular and rounded stones	Topsoil; sealed L2001	Cu alloy spur (SF1)
1001=2001	Site (discontinuous)	Firm/ friable, orange brown silty clay	Subsoil; sealed L2002; sealed by L2000	Pot (36g)
1002=2002	Site	Firm, yellow brown clay with occasional chalk flecks/ pieces	Natural; sealed by L2001	-

Table 8: Summary of soils and geology

11 SPECIALIST FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

The Pottery

Peter Thompson

Summary of Results to Date

The evaluation recovered 465 sherds weighing 4420g and the succeeding excavation produced a further 985 sherds weighing 8670g. The combined total is 1450 sherds weighing 13,090g.

Summary of Potential

The assemblage is mainly medieval in date but approximately 20 late medieval transitional to post-medieval/ modern sherds, with a core date centred on the 13th to 14th centuries. The pottery is in mixed condition ranging from lightly to heavily abraded, and varies in size from the more numerous small, fragmented sherds, to larger sherds some of which can be used to re-construct several whole or partial profiles. The assemblage is dominated by Hollesley type wares predominantly cooking pots/ jars and bowls, and is of local importance for understanding the pottery distributions for south-east Suffolk.

Project Aim

The aim is to quantify the pottery (sherd count and fabric weight) by ware and date and discuss any patterns or trends if appropriate.

Method Statement

Recording Strategy

The pottery will be examined by context with all sherds being recorded in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, including information such as sherd number and weight, fabric

type, vessel or profile type, decoration, diameter (rim, base), and date. Other information will be added where appropriate.

Fabrics will be identified through use of x35 microscope and by comparison to a local type series or specialist input and material from publications.

Forms will be described according to the Medieval Pottery Research Group document *A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Forms* (MPRG 1998), and through comparison with other relevant publications.

External Consultation and Research

A library visit or type series visit might be necessary.

References

McCarthy, M. and Brooks, C., 1988
Medieval Pottery in Britain AD 900-1600 (Leicester, Leicester University Press)

Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 1998
A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms Medieval Pottery, MPRG Occasional Paper No. 1

West, S., n.d.
The Excavation of a Medieval Pottery Making Site at Hollesley, Suffolk in 1971 unpublished report

The Small Finds

Nicholas J. Cooper

Introduction

A total of twelve metal finds and three of stone were recovered. Most of the finds came from the fill of Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) and the middle and upper fills of Pit/ Pond F2059. The finds were identified and catalogued as follows:

Catalogue

Copper alloy objects

1. Unstratified. A copper alloy rowel spur was recovered during the evaluation. The rowel and terminals are missing. It appears cast rather than forged. The arms are straight and the shank is short. Rowel spurs date from the 14th century but this example is post-medieval at the earliest.
2. Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) (L1018=2021=2046 (Seg.D)). Copper alloy annular brooch with a copper alloy pin (SF2). Complete cast, undecorated flat ring of rectangular section, with tapering square-sectioned pin *in situ*, hinged on a constriction in the ring. Diameter of ring 43mm, thickness 1.5mm.

Iron Objects

3. Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) (L1018=2021=2046 (Seg.C)). Complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 74mm, diameter of head 19mm.
4. Ditch F2042 (L2043 (Seg.B)). Complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 82mm, diameter of head 16mm.
5. Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) (L1018=2021=2046). Complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 62mm, diameter of head 14mm.
6. Pit/ ?Pond F2059 (L2061). One near-complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 47mm, diameter of head 11mm. One other lower shaft fragment.
7. Pit/ ?Pond F2059 (L2062). Complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 72mm, diameter of head 17mm. One other head fragment.
8. Pit/ ?Pond F2059 (L2062 (Seg.B)). Broken length of iron strip, probably from a hinge or reinforcing band, bent over at one end part of perforation at the other. Broken length 105mm, width 23mm.
9. Unstratified Area A. Near-complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Tip of shaft missing. Length 59mm, diameter of head 18mm.

Stone objects

10. Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) (L1018=2021=2046). A total of three small fragments (two joining) of Mayen lava rotary quern, possibly all from the same flat stone came from this context (the single piece from segment C). All have a single worn face but are otherwise un-diagnostic. Length of joining frags 100mm.
11. Pit F2057 (L2058). Amorphous fragment of dark grey basalt quern (Hearne *pers. comm.*) with one smooth face; other edges worn. Length of fragment 94mm. The worn surfaces show signs of the vesicular structure but the rock is much denser than that normally seen in lava querns from Mayen.

Discussion

The annular brooch (SF2) came from the upper fill (L1018=2021=2046) of Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) which contained pottery of late 15th to 17th century date and so was probably residual in this context, although the primary fill contained 12th to 14th/15th century pottery, which would be broadly contemporary. Brooches of this kind were worn at the neck to close the top of a tunic or on the shoulder or neck to fasten a cloak. There are a number of broad parallels for the brooch from excavations in London (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 248, fig. 160.1305, 1307 and 1313) and Colchester (Crummy 1988, 9, fig. 6.1389), the last, of 12th to 14th century date, being rather small by comparison. The upper surface of these brooches is usually decorated or sometimes gilded, and it may be that the current example includes incised decoration which is not apparent at the moment, but this does not appear to be the case. The corrosion on the ring currently makes the identification of it as copper alloy tentative; the pin certainly is but the ring may be of iron. An x-ray or

cleaning would confirm this. An iron ring would be unparalleled in any of the examples from London or Colchester. The two closest parallels from London came from deposits dating from c. 1270 to 1350.

The iron objects, comprising six complete or near-complete carpentry or roofing nails and a length of iron strip, perhaps from a door hinge, probably relate to construction activity or represent demolition debris in the vicinity that has become incorporated into the fills of the ditches and pit/ ?pond during the 13th and 14th centuries or later. The iron nails are all similar in proportions, and when complete, vary in length from 62 to 82mm, possibly suggesting that they come from a single structure.

The rotary quern from Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) and possibly that from Pit F2057 are products of the Eifel Mountains in Germany where lava querns continued to be produced throughout the Roman period and into the medieval period, particularly at Mayen, up until the 15th century. They were the most common type of quern at Winchester (70%) between the 9th and 14th centuries (Biddle and Smith 1990, 881-83, table 89) and comprised all the querns from post-Roman context in Colchester (Buckley and Major 1988, 36). The exact source of the quern from Pit F2057 is uncertain and alternatives would include the Massif Central in France.

The Struck Flint

Andrew Peachey

Excavations recovered two debitage flakes (11g) of struck flint contained in Pits F2026 and F2038 as residual material in medieval features. Both flakes are unpatinated and comprise blade-like tertiary flakes manufactured using dark grey flint with a thin white/ off-white, slightly powdery cortex. The technological traits of the debitage are characteristic of the core reduction techniques of the earlier Neolithic, with the butt end of the flake in Pit F2038 (L2039) a classic example of the remnant of a striking platform of a heavily reduced or small blade core with associated parallel dorsal scars.

The earlier evaluation recovered a total of 8 pieces (357g) of struck flint of mixed prehistoric character as residual material in medieval features. Technological traits evident in the assemblage range from a carefully-exploited earlier Neolithic blade core, to hard-hammer struck debitage flakes of later Neolithic to early Bronze Age character, to a crude chopping tool probably produced in the mid to late Bronze Age.

The Animal Bone

Dr Julia E.M. Cussans

A total of 18 contexts yielded animal bone from excavations (excluding trial trench excavations) at Darsham, these contexts came from 14 features and some were represented by more than one excavated segment (Table 9). The majority of features containing bone were pits and ditches but Pit/ ?Pond F2059 also yielded some animal bone. Bone preservation was rated as ok for the majority of contexts on a five point scale from very poor to excellent. A few contexts were rated as good and a few as poor; one was rated as very poor. Bones with low levels of abrasion and fresh breakages were common, but only six contexts contained bones showing any signs of dog gnawing.

Over 220 bones were present (Table 9) and over half of these could only be identified as large (cattle or horse sized) or medium (sheep or pig sized) mammal. Identified taxa, in order of abundance, were cattle, pig, sheep/ goat and horse. One sheep/ goat horn core was positively identified as sheep. No wild mammals, bird or fish bones were present. Cattle were the most abundant species followed by pig but a large number of the pig bones (L2039, Pit F2038) likely belong to a single individual; this individual probably also accounts for a large proportion of the medium mammal bone count.

There were a small number of ageable bones present, mostly for cattle, and a small quantity of butchery evidence was noted on cattle bones including large blade chops. Only one pathological bone was noted, a sheep/ goat jaw with a missing tooth and uneven wear. No measurable bones were present.

This small assemblage has limited potential to shed light on some aspects of animal husbandry at the Mill House site; this will be somewhat augmented by the small quantity of data retrieved from trial trench excavations (Cussans 2014). Any further recording should focus on ageable and butchered remains and detailing the exact nature of the pig remains from L2039. Further recording and reporting should take no longer than five days.

Reference

Cussans, J.E.M., 2014

'Animal Bone', in Fairclough, J. and Thompson, P., *Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation*, Archaeological Solutions Ltd Report No. 4535

Feature	Context	Segment	Description	Spot Date	Cattle	Sheep/Goat	Pig	Horse	Large mammal	Medium mammal	Total
2005	2007		Upper Fill of Ditch	16th-early 18th C	1		2	1	3		7
2008	2009		Fill of Ditch	12th-15th C			1			1	2
2010	2011		Lower Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th C						2	2
2013	2014		Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th C	1	1				1	3
	2015		Lower Fill of Pit	12th-14th C		1			1		2
2020	2021		Fill of Ditch	Mid 12th-14th/15th C	1					3	4
	2046	D	Fill of Ditch	15th-17th C	4	1	1	2	14		22
2026	2027		Fill of Pit	13th-14th C						8	8
2036	2037	B	Fill of Ditch	12th-15th C					1		1
2038	2039		Fill of Pit	12th-15th C	1		27			60	88
2040	2044		Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th /15th C		2				3	5
2042	2043		Fill of Ditch	12th-15th C	1						1
		B		12th-15th C	5		4		7	3	19
		C		Mid 12th-14th C	16				20		36
2059	2060	B	Lower Fill of Pond	\	1			1			2
		C		\	1			1		2	
	2061	D	Middle Fill of Pond	13th-15th C				1	1		2
	2062		Upper Fill of Pond	12th-15th C	2				1		3
		B		15th-early 17th C	1				4		5
2067	2068		Fill of Ditch	16th-18th C		1			2		3
2069	2070		Fill of Pit	Late 12th-15th C	5				2	1	8
2075	2076		Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th /15th C					1		1
				Total	40	6	35	5	58	82	226

Table 9: Quantification of animal bones

The Shell

Dr Julia E.M. Cussans

Two contexts were found to contain marine shell remains during excavations at Mill House. L2007 (Ditch F2005) contained a single lower valve of an oyster; this was recorded as having excellent preservation and no signs of human or parasitic modification. L2021 (Seg.B) (Ditch F2020) yielded two fragments of mussel shell and another lower oyster valve, also well preserved but bearing two opening notches on its ventral edge. These data make a small addition to the moderate assemblage recovered during trial trench excavations (Cussans 2014) providing additional measurements and data on oyster opening. The overall assemblage is, however, still small and any further analysis and reporting should take no longer than two days.

Reference

Cussans, J.E.M., 2014

'The Shell', in Fairclough, J. and Thompson, P., *Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation*, Archaeological Solutions Ltd Report No. 4535

The Environmental Samples

Dr John Summers

Introduction

During excavations at Darsham, 16 bulk soil samples were taken for environmental archaeological assessment. Samples were available from a number of pit and ditch features assigned to Phase 2, which complement a further seven samples from the evaluation (Summers 2014). This report outlines 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.

All samples over 10 litres were initially 50% processed. Full processing was restricted to those considered suitably rich to produce a full assemblage of 30 or more identifiable items.

Results

The assessment data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 10.

Plant Macrofossils

Carbonised plant macrofossils, predominantly in the form of charred cereal grains, were present in around half of the bulk sample light fractions. Only hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum*/ turgidum type) were recognised. Two grains of emmer/ spelt wheat (*T. dicoccum*/ *spelta*) were recorded in L1027 from the evaluation. Such a find is unusual for this period, although not unique (e.g. Ballantyne 2005) and will be investigated in more detail for the final report.

A small number of probable arable weeds, such as dock (*Rumex* sp.), stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*) and legumes (Fabaceae) were present. Although cereal chaff was absent, these taxa may indicate some cereal processing debris at the site. The identification of great fen sedge (*Cladium mariscus*) in L2048 may indicate some exploitation of wetland habitats.

Charcoal

Charcoal occurred in relatively low concentrations, with oak (*Quercus* sp.) and indeterminate diffuse-porous wood types recognised from transverse sections. The volume of charcoal is insufficient for further investigation.

Terrestrial Molluscs

Terrestrial molluscs were widely recorded but not abundant. The majority of taxa were either catholic (e.g. *Trichia hispida* group and *Cochlicopa* sp.) or characteristic of grassland habitats (e.g. *Vallonia* sp.). A single aquatic snail of the family Planorbidae was present in L2043C (F2042), which may indicate standing water at the bottom of the ditch during the medieval period.

Contaminants

Modern rootlets, seeds and burrowing molluscs (*Cecilioides acicula*) were common in the samples but not in substantial concentrations. It is unlikely that they reflect significant biological disturbance of the deposits.

Conclusions and Statement of Potential

The results from the archaeobotanical assessment demonstrate the frequent occurrence of carbonised plant remains at the site. Further reporting will use the present dataset to make some more detailed judgements on the crop plants utilised by the site's inhabitants and their relative significance. Data from the evaluation will be integrated with those from the excavation to obtain the most detailed understanding of the medieval arable economy in the site's environs. Reference will be made to other relevant archaeobotanical datasets to establish how the present site correlates with others in the region.

References

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Sample number	Context	Feature	Feature type	Phase	Volume taken (litres)	Volume processed (litres)	% processed	Cereals			Non-cereal taxa		Hazelnut shell	Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants				Other remains		
								Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes		Charcoal > 2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects		Earthworm capsules	
2.1	2012	2010	Fill of Pit	2	40	40	100%	X	-	Hord (1), FTW (1), Trit (2), NFI (4)	X	Large Fabaceae (2), Medium Fabaceae (1), Rumex sp. (1), Anthemis cotula (1), Indet. (2)	-	X	Diffuse porous	XX	Cochlicopa sp., Oxychilus sp., Vallonia sp.	XXX	X	-	-	-	-	Fungal sclerotia (X), Fuel ash slag (X)
2.2	2015	2013	Fill of Pit	2	40	20	50%	X	-	FTW (1), Trit (2), Trit tail (1), NFI (2), NFI tail (1)	-	-	-	X	-	Anisus leucostoma	XXX	X	-	-	-	-	-	
2.3	2009	2008	Fill of Ditch	-	40	20	50%	X	-	Trit (1)	-	-	-	-	X	-	Vallonia sp., Zonitidae	XX	-	-	-	-	-	
2.4	2021	2020	Fill of Ditch	2	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	X	-	-	-	
2.5	2021B	2020	Fill of Ditch	2	40	40	100%	X	-	Hord (1)	X	Large Fabaceae (1)	-	X	-	X	Vallonia sp.	XXX	-	-	-	-	-	
2.6	2046	2020	Fill of Ditch	2	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	Oxychilus sp., Trichia hispida group, Vallonia sp.	XX	-	-	-	-	-	
2.7	2044	2040	Fill of Pit	2	40	20	50%	X	-	Trit (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XXX	-	-	-	-	-	
2.8	2048	2047	Fill of Pit	2	40	40	100%	X	-	HB (1), Hord (2), FTW (3), Trit (4), NFI (2)	X	Large Fabaceae (2), Cladium mariscus (2)	-	X	Diffuse porous	X	Cochlicopa sp., Vallonia sp.	XX	-	-	-	-	-	Fuel ash slag (X)
2.9	2052	2051	Fill of Pit	2	40	40	100%	X	-	Hord (1), FTW (4), Trit (3), NFI (3)	X	Large Fabaceae (2), Medium Fabaceae (2)	-	X	Diffuse porous	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-	-	Small mammal bone (X), Fuel ash slag (X)
2.10	2031	2028	Fill of Posthole	-	10	10	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	Quercus sp.	X	Vallonia sp.	XX	-	X	-	-	-	
2.11	2039	2038	Fill of Pit	2	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	Vallonia sp.	XX	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2.12																								
2.13	2037B	2036	Fill of Ditch	2	40	20	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	
2.14	2058	2057	Fill of Pit	-	10	10	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-	-	Bone (X)
2.15	2060	2059	Fill of Pit/ Pond	2	10	10	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	Diffuse porous	-	-	XX	-	-	-	-	-	
2.16	2043C	2042	Fill of Ditch	2	10	10	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	Planorbidae	XX	X	-	-	-	-	

Table 10: Results from the assessment of bulk sample light fractions from Darsham. Abbreviations: HB = hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.); Hord = barley (*Hordeum* sp.); FTW = free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum*/ *turgidum*); Trit = wheat (*Triticum* sp.); Oat (*Avena* sp.); NFI = not formally identified (indeterminate cereal grain)

12 DISCUSSION

12.1 Based on previous findings in the area (see Section 5) and the results of the forerunning archaeological trial trench evaluation (Orzechowski 2014), the site had good potential for further archaeological remains dating to the Neolithic/ Bronze Age, Romano-British and medieval/ post-medieval periods. In the event, the project revealed evidence of an enclosed medieval (11th/ 12th to 15th century AD) landscape including a single, definable enclosure (Enclosure 1) in the north-eastern area of the site, close to its boundary with Priory Lane. Further medieval boundary features and a short length of possible trackway were also encountered in addition to a possible well and pond. Earlier evidence comprised two ?prehistoric cremation deposits in Area B of the site, while the post-medieval/ early modern periods were also sparsely represented. A small number of undated features were recorded and may well have formed elements of the enclosed medieval landscape.

Phase 1: Undated ?prehistoric

12.2 Based on the diagnostic struck flint assemblage from the evaluation and excavation (see Peachey, above), Cremations F1003 (L1004) and F1005 (L1006) may have been Neolithic or Bronze Age in date. Across Europe, the increasing importance of cremation as a funerary rite is evident from the middle Bronze Age onwards (Brown and Murphy 1997; Fontijn 2008, 92). Locally excavated examples include an urned Bronze Age cremation from nearby Westleton (Martin and Wells 1985). Both of the current examples are un-urned, however, and their exact origin remains uncertain. Further comparison with the regional later prehistoric funerary record may assist in their interpretation. It is also proposed to explore the potential to radiocarbon date the remains from F1003.

Phase 2: Medieval (11th/ 12th to 15th century AD)

12.3 The encountered archaeology was predominantly of medieval date and was characterised by an enclosed landscape, most evident in the eastern/ north-eastern area of the site (Area A). A single ditched enclosure (Enclosure 1) was identified in this area, and measured at least 645m² (internally). The northern edge of Enclosure 1 may have partly defined a short length of c. E-W aligned trackway, bounded to the north by Ditch F2042. The ?trackway measured at least 15.50m+ in length and may have provided access between the site and nearby Priory Lane; the date of the latter may be more closely established by consulting historical cartographic sources.

12.4 The function of Enclosure 1 and the broader Phase 2 landscape appears to have been primarily agricultural, with finds, including significant pottery groups and fragments of quern also indicating nearby domestic activity. One find of particular interest is a Cu alloy brooch from Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045), with 12th to 14th century AD parallels (see Cooper, above). No structural evidence was encountered within Enclosure 1, however, suggesting that occupation did not occur within the excavated area. A small number of Fe nails in the finds assemblage hint at the onetime presence of a timber-built structure in the near vicinity. The animal bone assemblage is dominated by cattle with examples of pig, sheep/ goat and horse also recorded (see Cussans, above). In addition, environmental samples produced significant amounts of charred cereal grains with some evidence of cereal

processing also noted (see Summers, above). A similarly mixed agricultural regime has been noted at other medieval sites in the region, e.g. Cedars Park, Stowmarket (Woolhouse forthcoming).

12.5 The Phase 2 landscape also included a number of pits – thought largely representative of discrete refuse disposal – which included a possible well (F2051) and a large, elongated ?pond (F2059). The primary blue/ grey, gleyic fill of the latter suggests formation in an anoxic, waterlogged environment (Ashman and Puri 2002; Lindbo *et al.* 2008), in keeping with the current interpretation of this feature. Pit/ ?Well F2051 was devoid of such evidence, however, and included no lining or superstructure associated with its use. Nonetheless, a similarly crude medieval well was excavated at Cedars Park, Stowmarket (Woolhouse forthcoming), and further comparison with other regional examples may help to better understand the function of F2051. Overall, the encountered Phase 2 features and finds agree with the documented agricultural economy of Darsham and its environs throughout the historical period (Suffolk Coastal District Council 2012, 5).

Phase 3: Post-Medieval to Early Modern (16th to 19th century AD)

12.6 The small number of post-medieval/ modern features encountered appeared to represent a continuation of the site's agricultural use. One substantial ditched boundary was present in the east of Area A (F2005), roughly mirroring the alignment of nearby Priory Lane, while a possible structure was represented by two parallel ?beam slots (F2065 and F2067). A section of N-S aligned ditch was also excavated in Trial Trench 4A of the evaluation. The broadly similar alignment of Phase 2 and Phase 3 features suggests some continuity of land use between the medieval and post-medieval/ early modern periods. Finds from this phase were of little note.

PART II: UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

13 UPDATE OF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

13.1 The project's original aims and objectives are presented in Section 2. Following the completion of fieldwork, these aims remain valid, although reconstruction of the site's past environment may not be possible based on the recovered botanical assemblage (Summers *pers. comm.*). Otherwise, the original aims and objectives are expanded upon by the *Updated Aims and Objectives* presented in Section 14. These are derived from assessments of the stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental evidence, presented in Part I of this report, and have been developed with reference to the updated regional research framework (Medlycott 2011). A bibliography, comprising material for comparison and reference, is presented in Section 15.

14 UPDATED AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Phase 1: Undated ?prehistoric

14.1 There may be potential to radiocarbon date the cremated bone from F1003. The successful radiocarbon dating of cremated remains has been widely reported in the archaeological literature (after Olsen *et al.* 2013, 30). It is proposed to discuss the practicalities of dating the bone from F1003 with Dr Zoe Outram (English Heritage Science Advisor (East of England)) prior to its submission. It is also proposed to conduct a more thorough appraisal of the local prehistoric funerary record – especially the Neolithic/ Bronze Age evidence – in order to better date and understand the significance of these features. Regionally, later Bronze Age ‘flat cremation cemeteries’, where remains were interred within small pits (similar to the Darsham examples), are predominantly a feature of north-east Essex and south-east Suffolk (Martin 1999, 38-9). The current site may make a useful addition to the known corpus of such sites.

Phase 2: Medieval (11th/ 12th to 15th century AD)

14.2 place the medieval activity in context with the known activity of these dates in the surrounding area:

- A review of similarly dated sites in the immediate area, beginning with those referenced in Section 5 (above), will enhance our understanding of the nature and development of the local medieval landscape, with particular reference to land use/ economy.
- Full analysis and reporting of the medieval pottery assemblage will allow a detailed comparison with other regional assemblages, in terms of the form/ fabric types present and their distribution and.

14.3 Characterise the activity present within the site:

- More thoroughly investigate the function of Enclosure 1 and other Phase 2 boundary features. Full recording and analysis of the archaeozoological and floral and environmental assemblages and a review of local/ regional evidence may reveal more about the nature of the medieval economy.
- Compare the form and possible functions of the Phase 2 pits including ?Well F2051 and Pit/ ?Pond F2059 with known regional examples of these feature types (e.g. Sillwood 2012).
- Reporting of the pottery and small finds assemblages should allow a basic assessment of the site’s trade links and the nature/ economic status of occupation in the surrounding area.

14.4 Identify topographical/ geological/ geographical influences on the layout and development of the activity present within the current site and in the surrounding area:

- Assess the site's topographical and geographical context and development, with reference to historical cartographic sources (i.e. tithe maps and early OS maps).
- Compare the site's location with other, known sites of similar date and economic character in the local area.
- Review the archaeological and environmental evidence from the site with reference to the potential of the local soils and underlying geology.

Phase 3: Post-Medieval to Early Modern (16th to 19th century AD)

14.5 Although the Phase 3 archaeology holds little potential for in-depth analysis, it may be possible to relate the identified boundaries to those depicted on historic cartographic sources. Comparison with of ?Beam Slots F2065 and F2067 with documented historical structural forms may help to better understand their function.

Unphased

14.6 It may be possible to phase the undated features, albeit tentatively, through detailed comparison with dated features/ contexts. Some of the linear features may also be relatable to boundaries depicted on the historic cartographic sources.

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16 RESEARCH ARCHIVE REPORT

16.1 The research archive report (RAR) will result from the completion of the project's updated aims and objectives (see Section 14). The RAR will constitute and exhaustive presentation of the project outcomes including:

- Background: circumstances of the project; location, topography and geology; archaeological and historical background; excavation and sampling strategy; methodology for post-excavation analysis and phasing. This section will make detailed reference to earlier archaeological work undertaken in the area,

including the trial trench evaluation (Fairclough 2014). Elements of this work have already been completed.

- Narrative: including incorporation of any changes of interpretation arising from post-excavation analysis and research, and fuller integration of the finds and environmental evidence. The narrative will make detailed reference to the findings of earlier archaeological projects in the immediate area, including the trial trench evaluation (Fairclough 2014).
- Specialist reports: format, edit and incorporate completed specialist reports. Include full specialist data tables as appendices where necessary.
- Discussion: discussion of the project's findings with reference to the research themes presented in Section 14 (above). Interpretations and conclusions will be presented based on the primary record, specialist reports, radiocarbon dates and appropriate comparative material.
- Appendices, plates and figures.

16.2 The RAR will be completed within six months of the approval of the updated aims and objectives by SCC AS-CT.

17 PUBLICATION SYNOPSIS

17.1 Based on the quality and quantity of archaeology present at the site and its overall significance – being of local/ regional interest only – it is proposed to submit a short article or note for publication to the county journal, *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. The publication text will present a brief project background, contain a focussed description and analysis of key features and finds (?prehistoric and medieval), and conclude with a synthetic discussion of the site's local/ regional significance. The findings of specialist analyses will be referenced as appropriate; the availability of full reports/ raw data in the RAR and site archive will be highlighted.

Estimated Report Breakdown

Abstract (c. 100 words)

- Contents: summary of phasing, features, finds and interpretation
- Tables: N/A
- Figures: N/A
- Plates: N/A

Introduction (c. 200-400 words)

- Contents: Circumstances of the project and summary of background information; site description; summary of key archaeology/ phasing
- Tables: chronological phasing
- Figures: site location/ detailed site location plan; phased 'all features' plan
- Plates: N/A

Description of results and discussion (c. 1000-1500 words)

- Contents: overview and synthetic description of the prehistoric and medieval features; introduction to interpretations
- Tables: N/A
- Figures: N/A
- Plates: Sections through Pit/ Pond F2059 and Well F2051

18 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

18.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at the Suffolk County Store. 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.

18.2 The archive will be deposited within six months of the conclusion of the fieldwork. It will be prepared in accordance with the UK Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guideline No. 2* and according to the document *Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Suffolk* (SCC AS-CT 2010).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) would like to thank the client, Hopkins Homes Ltd for funding the project and for their assistance, in particular Mr Daniel Watts.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team, in particular Dr Matthew Brudenell.

Finds were coordinated by Adam Leigh (AS).

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APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

The Evaluation

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other
	L1000		6						Cu. Frag. SF1. Cu. Spur
1009	1010		4A	Fill of Ditch	12th-14th C	(1) 12g	19	211	Snail Shell - 33g Str. Flint (1) - 2g
1013	1014		4A	Fill of Ditch	Mid 17th-19th C	(1) 11g	17	33	
1015	1016		4B	Fill of Gully	12th-14th C	(3) 14g	191		
1020	1021		5	Fill of Pit	Late 12th-14th C	(208) 2669g			Cockle Shell - 10g Oyster Shell - 309g Quern Frag - 632g
1022	1023		6	Fill of Pit	11th/12th-14th C	(2) 16g			
1024	1025		6	Fill of Pit	11th/12th-14th C	(4) 18g	61		Fe. Frag (1) - 5g
1026	1027		5	Fill of Ditch	11th-13th C	(23) 92g		34	Clinker - 3g
1028	1029 1030		6	Basal Fill of Ditch Upper Fill of Ditch	11th-13th C 13th-14th C	(8) 63g (156) 1218g	161	8 28	Str. Flint (3) 82g Clinker - 128g F. Clay - 23g O. Shell - 3g Snail Shell - 26g Str. Flint (4) - 273g
			6	Modern layer	Modern	(6) 40g	248	8	Clay Pipe Stem (1) - 5g
			1	Modern Drainage Ditch			18		

The Excavation

Feature	Context	Segment	Area	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other
2001			B	Subsoil	12th-15th C	(3) 36g			
2003	2004			Fill of Ditch	12th-15th C	(1) 6g			
2005	2007			Upper Fill of Ditch	16th-early 18th C	(7) 134g	1006	171	O. Shell - 34g
2008	2009			Fill of Ditch	12th-15th C	(3) 24g		17	
2010	2011			Lower Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th C	(11) 98g		2	F. Clay - 10g
2013	2014 2015			Fill of Pit Lower Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th C 12th-14th C	(38) 213g (76) 480g	19	6 6	
2020	2021	B C		Fill of Ditch	Mid 12th-14th/15th C 13th-14th C 13th-14th C	(21) 129g (242) 3220g (16) 162g	26	8	Lava Stone - 222g Mussel Shell - 1g O. Shell - 18g Fe. Nail - 19g

	2046	D		Fill of Ditch	15th-17th C	(8) 55g	98	305	Lava Stone - 121g SF1 Cu. Alloy Brooch - 12g Fe. Nail (1) - 9g
2022	2023			Fill of Gully	12th-15th C	(1) 2g			
2024	2025			Fill of Gully	12th-15th C	(4) 16g			
2026	2027			Fill of Pit	13th-14th C	(143) 985g		6	Coal - 2g Str. Flint (1) - 3g
2034	2035			Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-15th C	(1) 7g			
2036	2037	B		Fill of Ditch	Late 12th-14th C 12th-15th C	(7) 54g (4) 56g	1471	9	
2038	2039			Fill of Pit	12th-15th C	(2) 12g		420	Str. Flint (1) - 8g
2040	2044			Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th /15th C	(172) 1200g	104	14	
2042	2043	B C		Fill of Ditch	12th-15th C 12th-15th C Mid 12th-14th C	(1) 26g (15) 69g (23) 227g		113 339 31	Fe. Nail (1) - 26g
2047	2048			Fill of Pit	12th /13th-14th C	(2) 65g			
2049	2050			Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-15th C	(2) 8g			
2051	2052			Fill of Well	Mid 12th-15th C	(26) 272g			F. Clay - 171g
2053	2054	A		Fill of Ditch			130		
2057	2058			Fill of Pit					W. Stone - 359g
2059	2060	C		Lower Fill of Pond				75	
	2061	B		Middle Fill of Pond	12th-15th C	(1) 4g		41	
	2062	D		Upper Fill of Pond	13th-15th C	(5) 79g		313	Fe. Nail (1) - 8g
		B			12th-15th C	(40) 269g		86	
		C			15th-early 17th C	(54) 411g		138	Fe. Frag (3) - 45g
					Mid 16th-early 18th C	(1) 96g			
2067	2068			Fill of Ditch	16th-18th C	(10) 152g	1150	46	
2069	2070			Fill of Pit	Late 12th-15th C	(18) 134g		128	Fe. Frag (1) - 23g
2075	2076			Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th /15th C	(22) 298g		20	
	U/S		A	Unstratified	Mid 12th-14th C	(21) 292g			Fe. Nail (1) - 13g

APPENDIX 2 WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

LAND WEST OF MILL HOUSE, THE STREET, DARSHAM, SUFFOLK

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

26th February 2014

LAND WEST OF MILL HOUSE, THE STREET, DARSHAM, SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This specification has been prepared in response to a brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS-CT) (Matthew Brudenell, dated 25th February 2014). It provides for an archaeological trial trench evaluation to be carried out as part of a planning condition on approval for the proposed erection of 15 new residential dwellings on Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk (NGR TM 414 701). The evaluation is required by Suffolk Coastal District Council, based on advice from SCC AS-CT (Planning Approval Ref. DC/13/2489/OUT).

1.2 It is understood that the programme of archaeological investigation should comprise an archaeological field evaluation, to comply with the planning requirement of the local planning authority (on advice from SCC AS-CT).

2 COMPLIANCE

2.1 If AS carried out the evaluation, AS would comply with SCC AS-CT's requirements.

3 SITE & DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 It is proposed to construct a new housing development on land west of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk, on the edge of the village. It extends to some 0.8ha.

3.2 The site within an area of archaeological potential, within an area that has seen little in the way of previous archaeological investigation. The topographic location of the site, on high ground above a tributary stream of the Minsmere River, would have been favourable for early occupation, and increases the archaeological potential of the site. The site of a post-medieval post mill lies nearby, and a Neolithic flint axe has been found in the village. A medieval moated site also lies nearby.

3.3 The proposed works will cause significant ground disturbance that has the potential to damage any archaeological deposits that exist. The archaeological and historical background of the site will be discussed in the project report and the Suffolk Historic Environment Record will be consulted.

4 BRIEF FOR THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION SPECIFICATION FOR TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION GENERAL MANAGEMENT

4.1 The principal objectives for the evaluation include:

- To establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*
- To identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- To evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits, along with the potential for the survival of environmental evidence
- To provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

4.2 Research Design

4.2.1 The research priorities for the region are set out in Glazebrook (1997) and Brown & Glazebrook (2000) and updated by Medlycott and Brown (2008) and Medlycott (2011). 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).

4.2.2 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 microfossil 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).

4.2.3 Research topics for the Iron Age set out by Bryant (in Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 14-18) include further research into chronologies, precise dating and ceramic assemblages, further research into the development of the agrarian economy (particularly with regard to field systems), research into settlement chronology and dynamics, research into processes of economic and social change during the late Iron Age and Romano-British transition (particularly with regard to the development of Aylesford/Swarling and Roman culture, and also regional differences and tribal polities in the late Iron Age and further research into *oppida* and ritual sites), further analysis of development of social organisation and settlement form/function in the early and middle Iron Age, further research into artefact production and distribution and the Bronze Age/Iron Age transition. Medlycott & Brown (2008) and Medlycott (2011, 29-32) build on these themes, paying particular attention to chronological and spatial development and variation and adding subjects as the Bronze Age/Iron Age transition and manufacturing and industry.

4.2.4 Medlycott (2011, 47) identifies regional variation and tribal distinctions as underlying themes for research in the Roman period. Research topics for the Roman period previously set out by Going & Plouviez (in Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 19-22) include analysis of early and late Roman military developments, further analysis of large and small towns, evidence of food consumption and production, further research into agricultural production, landscape research (in particular further evidence for potential woodland succession/regression and issues of relict landscapes, as well as further research into the road network and bridging points), further research into rural settlements and coastal issues. Medlycott (2011, 47-48) states that these research areas remain valid and presents updated consideration of them. To these themes Medlycott & Brown (2008) and Medlycott (2011, 47-48) add rural settlements and landscapes, the process of Romanisation in the region, the evidence for the Imperial Fen Estate, and the Roman/Saxon transition.

4.2.5 Wade (in Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 23-26) identifies research topics for the rural landscape in the Saxon and medieval periods. These include examination of population during this period (distribution and density, as well as physical structure), settlement (characterisation of form and function, creation and testing of settlement diversity models), specialisation and surplus agricultural production, assessment of craft production, detailed study of changes in land use and the impact of colonists (such as Saxons, Danes and Normans) as well as the impact of the major institutions such as the Church. Ayers (in Brown & Glazebrook, 2000) discusses more 'urban'

research topics in more detail. For demography, issues include assessment of population structures, density and mobility, urban sustainability, immigration and rural colonisation and housing/provisioning. For social organisation, issues include assessment of the impact of royal villas, major institutions and the Church on urban settlement, territorial boundaries in proto-urban and urban settlements, the effect of national political developments, ranking and status in settlements, spatial analysis, wealth distribution, specialism, acquisition of raw materials, building form and function, markets and commercial/corporate activity. Economic issues of the above also need to be considered, particularly with regard to industrial zoning. The impact of culture and religion could include issues such as identifying characteristics of urban culture, its growth, complexity and values. The Church and its influence on the burgeoning towns must also be addressed. As Murphy notes in Brown and Glazebrook (2000, 31), urban environmental archaeology should be approached by analysis of environmental 'events', processes and study of relationships with producing sites in the rural hinterland.

4.2.6 Medlycott (2011, 57) states that the study of the Anglo-Saxon period still requires further cooperation between historians and archaeologists. Important research issues for this period comprise: the Roman/Anglo-Saxon transitional period; settlement distribution, which suffers from problems associated with the identification of Saxon settlement sites; population modelling and demographics, which has the potential to be advanced by modern scientific methods; differences within the region in terms of settlement type and economic practice and subjects related to this such as links with the continent, trading practices and cultural influences; rural landscapes and settlements, including detailed study of the changes and developments in such settlements over time and the influence of Saxon landscape organisation and settlements on these issues in the medieval period; towns and their relationships with their hinterland; infrastructure, including river management, the identification of ports and harbours and the role of existing infrastructure in shaping the Saxon period landscape; the economy, based on palaeoenvironmental studies; ritual and religion; the effect of the Danish occupation; and artefact studies (Medlycott 2011, 57-59).

4.2.7 The issues identified by Ayers (in Brown & Glazebrook, 2000) and Wade (in Brown & Glazebrook, 2000) remain valid research subjects (Medlycott 2011, 70) for the medieval period. The study of landscapes is dominated by issues such as water management and land reclamation for large parts of the region, the economic development of the landscape and the region's potential to reveal information regarding field systems, enclosures, roads and trackways. Linked to the study of the landscape are research issues such as the built environment and infrastructure; the main communication routes through the region need to be identified and synthesis needs to be carried out regarding the significance, economic and social importance of historic buildings in the region (Medlycott 2011, 70-71). Also considered to be important research subjects for the medieval period are rural settlements, towns, industry and the production and processing of food and demographic studies (Medlycott 2011, 70-71).

4.2.8 The principal research issues for the site will be to identify and characterise any evidence of early settlement activity on this topographically favourable site.

References

Brown, N & Glazebrook, J (eds), 2000, *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties. 2. Research Agenda and Strategy*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 8

Glazebrook, J (eds), 1997, *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties. 1. Resource Assessment*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3

Medlycott, M & Brown, N, 2008, *Revised East Anglian Archaeological Research Frameworks*, www.eaareports/algaoee

Medlycott, M. (ed.) 2011, *Research and Archaeology revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, ALGAO East of England Region, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24

5 SPECIFICATION TRENCHED EVALUATION

5.1 Details of Senior Project Staff

5.1.1 AS has developed a professional and well-qualified team who have undertaken numerous archaeological projects (both desk-based and field evaluations) on all types of developments, including commercial, residential, road schemes and golf courses. AS is a Registered Organisation of the IfA.

5.1.2 Profiles of key project staff are provided (Appendix B).

A Method Statement is presented
Trial Trench Evaluation Appendix A

5.1.3 The evaluation will conform with the guidelines set down in the brief and the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (revised 2008)* and *Standard and Guidelines for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment (revised 2012)*. It will also adhere to the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and the requirements of the SCC document *Requirements for a Trenched Evaluation 2011 Ver. 1.2*.

5.1.4 SCC AS-CT require a programme of archaeological trial trenching, to allow for a 5% sample of the proposed development site (c.0.8ha). c.220m of trenching at 1.8m width is required. Seven trenches, each 30m x 1.8m are therefore proposed, along with an eighth trench of 10m x 1.8m. A trench plan is appended. AS is happy to review the scale/location of the trenches following comment from the client and/or SCC AS-CT.

5.1.5 The environmental strategy will adhere to the guidelines issued by English Heritage (*Environmental Archaeology; A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*, Centre for Archaeology

Guidelines, 2011). An environmentalist will be invited to visit the site if remains of interest are found. Dr Rob Scaife will be the Environmental Coordinator for the project. The specialist will make his/her results known to Helen Chappell who coordinates environmental archaeology in the region on behalf of English Heritage. It will be particularly important on this project to identify any palaeoenvironmental remains and to identify any waterlogged remains present on the site.

5.1.6 Estimate of time and resources required for each phase, to complete the trial trenching, project archive and the production of an evaluation report.

Trial Excavation

Processing, Cataloguing and Conservation of Finds

Preparation of Report and Archive c.10-15 Days

Staff on site: a Project Officer and Site Assistant/s (as necessary)

5.1.7 In advance of the field work AS will liaise with the County HER to fulfil their requirements for the long term deposition of the project archive. These will encompass: their collection policy, and their financial and technical requirements for long term storage. The resources include provision for the long term-deposition of the project archive.

5.1.8 Details of staff and specialist contractors are provided (Appendix B). The project will be managed by Claire Halpin MIFA /Jon Murray MIFA.

5.1.9 AS is a member of FAME formerly the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM) and operates under the 'Health & Safety in Field Archaeology Manual'. A risk assessment and management strategy will be completed prior to the start of works on site.

5.1.10 AS is a member of the Council for British Archaeology and is insured under their policy for members.

6 SERVICES

6.1 The client is to advise AS of the position of any services which traverse the site.

7 SECURITY

7.1 Throughout all site works care will be taken to maintain all existing security arrangements, and to minimise disruption.

8 REINSTATEMENT

8.1 No provision has been made for reinstatement, excepting simple backfilling.

9 REPORT REQUIREMENTS

9.1 The report will include (as a minimum):

- a) the archaeological background
- b) a consideration of the aims and methods adopted in the course of the recording
- c) a detailed account of the nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of any archaeological evidence recorded.
- d) Excavation methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion
- e) plans and sections of any recorded features and deposits
- f) discussion and interpretation of the evidence. An assessment of the projects significance in a regional and local context and appendices.
- g) All specialist reports or assessments
- h) A concise non-technical summary of the project results
- i) A HER summary sheet
- j) An OASIS summary sheet

9.2 Draft hard and digital PDF copies of the report will be submitted to SCC AS-CT for approval. If any revisions are required, final hard and digital PDF copies will be supplied to SCC AS-CT for deposition with the HER

9.3 The project details will be submitted to the OASIS database, and the online summary form will be appended to the project report.

9.4 A summary report will be submitted suitable for inclusion in the annual roundups of *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*, dependent on the results of the project.

10 ARCHIVE

10.1 The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with the County HER.

10.2 The archive will be deposited within six months of the conclusion of the fieldwork. It will be prepared in accordance with the UK Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guideline No.2* and according to the document *Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Suffolk* (SCC AS Conservation Team, 2010). A unique event number will be obtained from the County HER Officer.

10.3 The full archive of finds and records will be made secure at all stages of the project, both on and off site. Arrangements will be made at the earliest opportunity for the archive to be accessed into the collections of Suffolk HER; with the landowner's permission in the case of any finds. It is acknowledged that it is the responsibility of the field investigation organisation to make these arrangements with the landowner and HER. The archive will be adequately catalogued, labelled and packaged for transfer and storage in accordance with the guidelines set out in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guidelines No.2* and the other relevant reference documents.

10.4 Archive records, with inventory, are to be deposited, as well as any donated finds from the site, at the county HER and in accordance with their requirements. 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. A unique accession number will be obtained from the HER.

APPENDIX A METHOD STATEMENT

Method Statement for the recording of archaeological remains

The archaeological evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the project brief, and the code of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

1 Mechanical Excavation

1.1 A mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless bucket will be used to remove the topsoil/overburden. The machine will be powerful enough for a clean job of work and be able to mound spoil neatly, at a safe distance from the trench edges.

1.2 The mechanical stripping will be controlled, and the mechanical excavator will only operate under the full-time supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

2 Site Location Plan

2.1 On conclusion of the mechanical excavation, a 'site location plan', based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map and indicating site north, will be prepared. This will be supplemented by an 'area plan' at 1:200 (or 1:100) which will show the location of the area(s) investigated in relationship to the development area, OS grid and site grid.

3 Manual Cleaning & Base Planning of Archaeological Features

3.1 Exposed areas will be hand-cleaned to define archaeological features sufficient to produce a base plan.

4 Full Excavation

Excavation of Stratified Sequences

The trenches will be excavated according to phase, from the most recent to the earliest, and the phasing of features will be distinguished by their stratigraphic relationships, fills and finds.

Deep features e.g. quarry holes, may incorporate stratified deposits which will be excavated by hand-dug sections and recorded.

Excavation of Buildings

Building remains are likely to comprise stake holes, post holes and slots/gullies, masonry foundations and low masonry walls. Associated features may be present e.g. hearths.

The features comprising buildings will be excavated fully and in plan/phase, to a level sufficient for the requirements of an evaluation.

Full Excavation

Industrial remains and intrinsically interesting features e.g hearths, burials will clearly merit full excavation, though will be excavated sufficient to characterise such deposits within the context of an evaluation. Discrete features associated with possible structures and/or settlement will be fully excavated, again sufficient to characterise them for the purposes of an evaluation.

Ditches

The ditches will be excavated in segments up to 2m long, and the segments will be placed to provide adequate coverage of the ditches, establish their relationships and obtain samples and finds.

5 Written Record

5.1 All archaeological deposits and artefacts encountered during the course of the excavation will be fully recorded on the appropriate context, finds and sample forms.

5.2 The site will be recorded using AS.'s excavation manual which is directly comparable to those used by other professional archaeological organisations, including English Heritage's own Central Archaeological Service.

6 Photographic Record

6.1 An adequate photographic record of the investigations will be made. It will include black and white prints and colour transparencies (on 35mm) illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. It will also include 'working and promotional shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operations. The black and white negatives and contacts will be filed, and the colour transparencies will be mounted using appropriate cases. All photographs will be listed and indexed.

7 Drawn Record

7.1 A record of the full extent, in plan, of all archaeological deposits encountered will be drawn on A1 permatrace. The plans will be related to the site, or OS, grid

and be drawn at a scale of 1:50 or 1:20, as appropriate. In addition where appropriate, e.g. recording an inhumation, additional plans at 1:10 will be produced. The sections of all archaeological contexts will be drawn at a scale of 1:10 or, where appropriate, 1:20. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.

8 Recovery of Finds

GENERAL

The principal aim is to ensure that adequate provision is made for the recovery of finds from all archaeological deposits.

The Small Finds, e.g. complete pots or metalwork, from all excavations will be 3-dimensionally recorded.

A metal detector will be used to enhance finds recovery. The metal detector survey will be conducted on conclusion of the topsoil stripping, and thereafter during the course of the excavation. The spoil tips will also be surveyed. Regular metal detector surveys of the excavation area and spoil tips will reduce the loss of finds to unscrupulous users of metal detectors (treasure hunters). All non-archaeological staff working on the site should be informed that the use of metal detectors is forbidden.

WORKED FLINT

When flint knapping debris is encountered large-scale bulk samples will be taken for sieving.

POTTERY

It is important that the excavators are aware of the importance of pottery studies and therefore the recovery of good ceramic assemblages.

The pottery assemblages are likely to provide important evidence to be able to date the structural history and development of the site.

The most important assemblages will come from 'sealed' deposits which are representative of the nature of the occupation at various dates, and indicate a range of pottery types and forms available at different periods.

'Primary' deposits are those which contain sherds contemporary with the soil fill and in simple terms this often means large sherds with unabraded edges. The sherds have usually been deposited shortly after being broken and have remained undisturbed. Such sherds are more reliable in indicating a more precise date at which the feature was 'in use'. Conversely, 'secondary' deposits are those which

often have small, heavily abraded sherds lacking obvious conjoins. The sherds are derived from earlier deposits.

HUMAN BONE

Any human remains present would not normally be excavated at the stage of an evaluation, but would be protected and preserved in situ, on advice from SCC AS-CT. Should human remains be discovered and be required to be removed, the coroner will be informed and a licence from the Ministry of Justice sought immediately; both the client and the monitoring officer will also be informed. Any excavation of human remains at the stage of an evaluation would only be carried out following advice from SCC AS-CT. Excavators would be made aware, and comply with, provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857 and pay due attention to the requirements of Health & Safety.

ANIMAL BONE

Animal bone is one of the principal indicators of diet. As with pottery the excavators will be alert to the distinction of primary and secondary deposits. It will also be important that the bone assemblages are derived from dateable contexts. All animal bone will be collected.

ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

The sampling will adhere to the guidelines prepared by English Heritage, and the specialist will make his/her results known to Helen Chappell who co-ordinates environmental archaeology in the region on behalf of English Heritage. The project will also accord with the recent guidelines of the English Heritage document *Environmental Archaeology, a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 2011.

Provision will be made for the sampling of appropriate materials for specialist and/or scientific analysis (e.g. radiocarbon dating, environmental analysis). The location of samples will be 3-dimensionally recorded and they will also be shown on an appropriate plan. AS has its own environmental sampling equipment (including a pump and transformer) and, if practical, provision will be made to process the soil samples during the fieldwork stage of the project.

If waterlogged remains are found advice on sampling will be obtained on site from Dr Rob Scaife. Dr Rob Scaife and AS will seek advice from the EH Regional Scientific Advisor if significant environmental remains are found.

The study of environmental archaeology seeks to understand the local and near-local environment of the site in relation to phases of human activity and as such is an important and integral part of any archaeological study.

Environmental remains, both faunal and botanical, along with pedological and sedimentological analyses may be used to understand the environment and the impact of human activity.

There may be a potential for the recovery of a range of environmental remains (ecofacts) from which data pertaining to past environments, land use and agricultural economy should be forthcoming.

Sampling strategies on evaluations aim to determine the potential of the site for both biological remains (plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts which would otherwise not be collected by hand. The number/range of samples taken will represent the range of feature types encountered, but with an aim of at least three samples from each feature type.

For plant remains, the samples taken at evaluation stage would aim to characterise:

- The range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged) and their quality
- Any differences in remains from dated/undated features
- Variation between different feature types/areas

To realise the potential of the environmental material encountered, a range of specialists from different disciplines is likely to be required. The ultimate goal will be the production of an interdisciplinary environmental study which can be of value to an understanding of, and integrated with, the archaeology.

Organic remains may allow study of the contemporary landscape (occupation/industrial/agricultural impact and land use) and also changes after the abandonment of the site.

The nature of the environmental evidence

Aspects of sampling and analysis may be divided into four broad categories; faunal remains, botanical remains, soils/sediments and radiocarbon dating measurements.

a) Faunal remains: These comprise bones of macro and microfauna, birds, molluscs and insects.

a.i) Bones: The study of the animal bone remains, in particular domestic mammals, domestic birds and marine fish will enhance understanding of the development of the settlement in terms of the local economy and also its wider influence through trade. The study of the small animal bones will provide insight into the immediate habitat of any settlement.

The areas of study covered may include all of the domestic mammal and bird species, wild and harvested mammal, birds, marine and fresh water fish in addition to the small mammals, non-harvest birds, reptiles and amphibia.

Domestic mammalian stock, domestic birds and harvest fish

The domestic animal bone will provide insight into the different phases of development of any occupation and how the population dealt with the everyday aspect of managing and utilising all aspects of the animal resource.

Small animal bones

Archaeological excavation has a wide role in understanding humans' effect on the countryside, the modifications to which have in turn affected and continue to affect their own existence. Small animals provide information about changing habitats and thereby about human impact on the local environment.

a.ii) Molluscs: Freshwater and terrestrial molluscs may be present in ditch and pit contexts which are encountered. Sampling and examination of molluscan assemblages if found will provide information on the local site environment including environment of deposition.

a.iii) Insects: If suitable waterlogged contexts (pit, pond and ditch fills) are encountered (which can potentially be expected to be encountered on the project), sampling and assessment will be carried out in conjunction with the analysis of waterlogged plant remains (primarily seeds) and molluscs. Insect data may provide information on local site environment (cleanliness etc.) as well as proxies for climate and vegetation communities.

b) Botanical remains: Sampling for seeds, wood, pollen and seeds are the essential elements which will be considered. The former are most likely to be charred but possibly also waterlogged should any wells/ponds be encountered.

b.i) Pollen analysis: Sampling and analysis of the primary fills and any stabilisation horizons in ditch and pit contexts which may provide information on the immediate vegetation environment including aspects of agriculture, food and subsistence. These data will be integrated with seed analysis.

b.ii) Seeds: It is anticipated that evidence of cultivated crops, crop processing debris and associated weed floras will be present in ditches and pits. If waterlogged features/sediments are encountered (for example, wells/ponds) these will be sampled in relation to other environmental elements where appropriate (particularly pollen, molluscs and possibly insects).

c) Soils and Sediments: Characterisation of the range of sediments, soils and the archaeological deposits are regarded as crucial to and an integral part of all other aspects of environmental sampling. This is to afford primary information on the nature and possible origins of the material sampled. It is anticipated that a range of 'on-site' descriptions will be made and subsequent detailed description and analysis of the principal monolith and bulk samples obtained for other aspects of the environmental investigation. Where considered necessary, laboratory analyses such as loss on ignition and particle size may also be undertaken. A geoarchaeologist will be invited to visit the site as necessary to advise on sampling.

d) Radiocarbon dating: Archaeological/artifactual dating may be possible for most of the contexts examined, but radiocarbon dating should not be ruled out

Sampling strategies

Provision will be made by the environmental co-ordinator that suitable material for analysis will be obtained. Samples will be obtained which as far as possible will meet the requirements of the assessment and any subsequent analysis.

a) Soil and Sediments: Samples taken will be examined in detail in the laboratory. An overall assessment of potential will be carried out. Analysis of particle size and loss on ignition, if required would be undertaken as part of full analysis if assessment demonstrates that such studies would be of value.

b) Pollen Analysis: Contexts which require sampling may include stabilisation horizons and the primary fills of the pits and ditches, and possibly organic well/pond fills. It is anticipated that in some cases this will be carried out in conjunction with sampling for other environmental elements, such as plant macrofossils, where these are also felt to be of potential.

c) Plant Macrofossils: Principal contexts will be sampled directly from the excavation for seeds and associated plant remains. It is anticipated that primarily charred remains will be recovered, although provision for any waterlogged sequences will also be made (see below). Sampling for the former will, where possible (that is, avoiding contamination) comprise samples of an average of 40-60 litres which will be floated in the AS facilities for extraction of charred plant remains. Both the flot and residues will be kept for assessment of potential and stored for any subsequent detailed analysis. The residues will also be examined for artifactual remains and also for any faunal remains present (cf. molluscs). Where pit, ditch, well or pond sediments are found to contain waterlogged sediments, principal contexts will be sampled for seeds and insect remains. Standard 5 litre+ samples will be taken which may be sub-sampled in the laboratory for seed remains if the material is found to be especially rich. The full sample will provide sufficient material for insect assessment and analysis.

d) Bones: Predicting exactly how much of what will be yielded by the excavation is clearly very difficult prior to excavation and it is proposed that in order to efficiently target animal bone recovery there should be a system of direct feedback from the archaeozoologist to the site staff during the excavation, allowing fine tuning of the excavation strategy to concentrate on the recovery of animal bones from features which have the highest potential. This will also allow the faunal remains to materially add to the interpretation as the excavation proceeds. Liaison with other environmental specialists will need to take place in order to produce a complete interdisciplinary study during this phase of activity. In addition, this feedback will aid effective targeting of the post-excavation analysis.

e) Insects: If contexts having potential for insect preservation are found, samples will be taken in conjunction with waterlogged plant macrofossils. Samples of 5 litres will suffice for analysis and will be sampled adjacent to waterlogged seed samples

and pollen; or where insufficient context material is available provision will be made for exchange of material between specialists.

f) Molluscs: Terrestrial and freshwater molluscs. Samples will be taken from a column from suitable ditches. Pits may be sampled, based on the advice of the Environmental Consultant and / or English Heritage Regional Advisor. Provision will also be made for molluscs obtained from other sampling aspects (seeds) to be examined and/or kept for future requirements.

g) Archiving: Environmental remains obtained should be stored in conditions appropriate for analysis in the short to medium term, that is giving the ability for full analysis at a later date without any degradation of samples being analysed. The results will be maintained as an archive at AS and supplied to the EH regional coordinator as requested.

Waterlogged Deposits/Remains

Should waterlogged deposits (such as wells/deep ditches) be encountered, provision has been made for controlled hand excavation and sampling. Dr Rob Scaife will visit to advise of sampling as required, and AS will take monolith samples as necessary for the recovery of palaeoenvironmental information and dating evidence.

Scientific/Absolute Dating

- Samples will be obtained for potential scientific/absolute dating as appropriate (e.g. Carbon-14).

Provision will be made for the sampling of appropriate materials for specialist and/or scientific analysis (e.g. radiocarbon dating, environmental analysis). The location of samples will be 3-dimensionally recorded and they will also be shown on an appropriate plan. AS has its own environmental sampling equipment (including a pump and transformer) and, if practical, provision will be made to process the soil samples during the fieldwork stage of the project.

If waterlogged remains are found they will be sampled by Dr Rob Scaife. Dr Rob Scaife and AS will seek advice from the EH Regional Scientific Advisor (Helen Chappell) if significant environmental remains are found.

FINDS PROCESSING

The project director will have overall responsibility for the finds and will liaise with AS's own finds personnel and the relevant specialists. A person with particular responsibility for finds on site will be appointed for the excavation. The person will ensure that the finds are properly labelled and packaged on site for transportation to AS's field base. The finds processing will take place in tandem with the excavations and will be under the supervision of AS's Finds Officer.

The finds processing will entail first aid conservation, cleaning (if appropriate), marking (if appropriate), categorising, bagging, labelling, boxing and basic cataloguing (the compilation of a Small Finds Catalogue and quantification of bulk finds) i.e. such that the finds are ready to be made available to the specialists. The Finds Officer, having been advised by the Project Officer and relevant specialists, will select material for conservation. AS's Finds Officer, in conjunction with the Project Officer, will arrange for the specialists to view the finds for the purpose of report writing.

APPENDIX B ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LIMITED: PROFILES OF STAFF & SPECIALISTS

DIRECTOR

Claire Halpin BA MifA

Qualifications: Archaeology & History BA Hons (1974-77).

Oxford University Dept for External Studies In-Service Course (1979-1980).

Member of Institute of Archaeologists since 1985: IFA Council member (1989-1993)

Experience: Claire has 25 years' experience in field archaeology, working with the Oxford Archaeological Unit and English Heritage's Central Excavation Unit (now the Centre for Archaeology). She has directed several major excavations (e.g. Barrow Hills, Oxfordshire, and Irthlingborough Barrow Cemetery, Northants), and is the author of many excavation reports e.g. St Ebbe's, Oxford: *Oxoniensia* 49 (1984) and 54 (1989). Claire moved into the senior management of field archaeological projects with Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust (HAT) in 1990, and she was appointed Manager of HAT in 1996. From the mid 90s HAT has enlarged its staff complement and extended its range of skills. In July 2003 HAT was wound up and Archaeological Solutions was formed. The latter maintains the same staff complement and services as before. AS undertakes the full range of archaeological services nationwide.

DIRECTOR

Tom McDonald MifA

Qualifications: Member of the IfA

Experience: Tom has twenty years' experience in field archaeology, working for the North-Eastern Archaeological Unit (1984-1985), Buckinghamshire County Museum (1985), English Heritage (Stanwick Roman villa (1985-87) and Irthlingborough barrow excavations, Northamptonshire (1987)), and the Museum of London on the Royal Mint excavations (1986-7), and as a Senior Archaeologist with the latter (1987-Dec 1990). Tom joined HAT at the start of 1991, directing several major multi-period excavations, including excavations in advance of the A41 Kings Langley and Berkhamsted bypasses, the A414 Cole Green bypass, and a substantial residential development at Thorley, Bishop's Stortford. He is the author of many excavation reports, exhibitions etc. Tom is AS's Health and Safety Officer and is responsible for site management, IT and CAD. He specialises in prehistoric and urban archaeology, and is a Lithics Specialist.

OFFICE MANAGER

Rose Flowers

Experience: Rose has a very wide range of book-keeping skills developed over many years of employment with a range of companies, principally Rosier Distribution Ltd, Harlow (now part of Securicor) where she managed eight accounts staff. She has a good working knowledge of both accounting software and Microsoft Office.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Sarah Powell

Experience: Sarah is an experienced and efficient administrative assistant with more than ten years experience of working in a variety of office environments. She is IT literate and proficient in the use of Microsoft Word, particularly Microsoft Excel. She has completed NVQ 2 & 3 in Administration and Office Skills. She recently attended and completed a course in Microsoft Excel – Advanced Level.

SENIOR PROJECTS MANAGER

Jon Murray BA MifA

Qualifications: History with Landscape Archaeology BA Hons (1985-1988).

Experience: Jon has been employed by HAT (now AS) continually since 1989, attaining the position of Senior Projects Manager. Jon has conducted numerous archaeological investigations in a variety of situations, dealing with remains from all periods, throughout London and the South East, East Anglia, the South and Midlands. He is fluent in the execution of (and now project-manages) desk-based assessments/EIAs, historic building

surveys (for instance the recording of the Royal Gunpowder Mills at Waltham Abbey prior to its rebirth as a visitor facility), earthwork and landscape surveys, all types of evaluations/excavations (urban and rural) and environmental archaeological investigation (working closely with Dr Rob Scaife), preparing many hundreds of archaeological reports dating back to 1992. Jon has also prepared numerous publications; in particular the nationally-important Saxon site at Gamlingay, Cambridgeshire (*Anglo-Saxon Studies in Archaeology & History*). Other projects published include Dean's Yard, Westminster (*Medieval Archaeology*), Brackley (*Northamptonshire Archaeology*), and a medieval cemetery in Haverhill he excavated in 1997 (*Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*). Jon is a member of the senior management team, principally preparing specifications/tenders, co-ordinating and managing the field teams. He also has extensive experience in preparing and supporting applications for Scheduled Monument Consent/Listed Building Consent

PROJECT OFFICER

Zbigniew Pozorski MA

Qualifications: University of Wroclaw, Poland, Archaeology (1995-2000, MA 2003)

Experience: Zbigniew has archaeological experience dating from 1995 when as a student he joined an academic group of excavators. He was involved in numerous archaeological projects throughout the Lower Silesia region in southwest Poland and a number of projects in old town of Wroclaw. During his university years he specialized in medieval urban archaeology. He had his own research project working on an early/high medieval stronghold in Pietrzykow. He was a member of a University team which located and excavated an unknown high medieval castle in Wierzbna, Poland. Zbigniew has worked for archaeological contractors in Poland on several projects as a supervisor where he gained experience in all types of evaluations and excavations in urban and rural areas. Recently he worked in Ireland where he completed two large long-term projects for Headland Archaeology Ltd. He joined AS in January 2008 as a Project Officer.

Zbigniew is qualified in the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) and is a qualified in First Aid at Work (St Johns Ambulance).

SUPERVISOR

Gareth Barlow MSc

Qualifications: University of Sheffield, MSc Environmental Archaeology & Palaeoeconomy (2002-2003)

King Alfred's College, Winchester, Archaeology BA (Hons) (1999-2002)

Experience: Gareth worked on a number of excavations in Cambridgeshire before pursuing his degree studies, and worked on many archaeological projects across the UK during his university days. Gareth joined AS in 2003 and has worked on numerous archaeological projects throughout the South East and East Anglia with AS. Gareth was promoted to Supervisor in the Summer 2007.

Gareth is qualified in the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) and is a qualified in First Aid at Work (St Johns Ambulance).

SUPERVISOR

Stephen Quinn BSc

Stephen Quinn joined AS as a Site Assistant 2009, and in 2012 was promoted to the role of Supervisor. After graduating in Archaeology and Palaeoecology at Queens University Belfast, he worked for several commercial archaeology units including on Neolithic settlement and burial sites and a Bronze Age henge monument in Northern Ireland; early industrial pottery productions sites in Glasgow, and urban Roman excavation in Lincoln. In 2012 Stephen has been heading AS' excavation of a Roman fenland settlement site at Soham, Cambridgeshire.

Steve is qualified in the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) and is a qualified in First Aid at Work (St Johns Ambulance).

SUPERVISOR

Kamil Orzechowski BA, MA

Kamil Orzechowski joined AS in 2012, as an experienced field archaeologist after spending five years in various commercial archaeology units working on large-scale construction projects including railways and pipelines. Before becoming a field archaeologist, Kamil graduated from the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland.

Kamil is qualified in the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS).

SUPERVISOR

Samuel Egan BSc

Samuel Egan joined AS in 2012 as an experienced field archaeologist after working on a range of excavations in Northamptonshire including a large-scale road project, community projects, evaluation and excavation projects, and geophysical surveys. Samuel graduated from Bournemouth University with two degrees: Fdsc Field Archaeology and BSc (hons.) Field Archaeology.

Samuel is qualified in the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) and is a qualified in First Aid at Work (Red Cross).

SUPERVISOR

Laszlo Lichtenstein MA, MSc, PhD

Laszlo Lichtenstein joined AS in 2012 as a Supervisor, highly experienced in a range of archaeological project management, field archaeology and archaeozoology. Laszlo has extensive experience spanning Hungary, and later Northamptonshire, including directing evaluation and excavation projects; managing project set-up including written schemes of investigation, desk-based assessments and geophysical survey; and post-excavation analysis. Laszlo completed his academic studies at University of Szeged, Hungary, including his PhD on geophysical and archaeological investigations of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age settlements in south-east Hungary, and has published numerous articles on his areas of research.

Laszlo is qualified in the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) and is a qualified in First Aid at Work.

PROJECT OFFICER

(DESK-BASED ASSESSMENTS)

Kate Higgs MA (Oxon)

Qualifications: University of Oxford, St Hilda's College
Archaeology & Anthropology MA (Oxon) (2001-2004)

Experience: Kate has archaeological experience dating from 1999, having taken part in clearance, surveying and recording of stone circles in the Penwith area of Cornwall. During the same period, she also assisted in compiling a database of archaeological and anthropological artefacts from Papua New Guinea, which were held in Scottish museums. Kate has varied archaeological experience from her years at Oxford University, including participating in excavations at a Roman amphitheatre and an early church at Marcham/Frilford in Oxfordshire, with the Bamburgh Castle Research Project in Northumberland, which also entailed the excavation of human remains at a Saxon cemetery, and also excavating, recording and drawing a Neolithic chambered tomb at Prissé, France. Kate has also worked in the environmental laboratory at the Museum of Natural History in Oxford, and as a finds processor for Oxford's Institute of Archaeology. Since joining AS in November 2004, Kate has researched and authored a variety of reports, concentrating on desk-based assessments in advance of archaeological work and historic building recording.

**ASSISTANT PROJECTS MANAGER
(POST-EXCAVATION)**

Andrew Newton MPhil PIFA

Qualifications: University of Bradford, MPhil (2002-04)

University of Bradford, BSc (Hons) Archaeology (1998-2002)

University of Bradford, Dip Professional Archaeological Studies (2002)

Experience: Andrew has carried out geophysical surveys for GeoQuest Associates on sites throughout the UK and has worked as a site assistant with BUFAU. During 2001 he worked as a researcher for the Yorkshire Dales Hunter-Gatherer Research Project, a University of Bradford and Michigan State University joint research programme, and has carried out voluntary work with the curatorial staff at Beamish Museum in County Durham. Andrew is a member of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and a Practitioner Member of the Institute for Archaeologists. Since joining AS in early Summer 2005, as a Project Officer writing desk-based assessments, Andrew has gained considerable experience in post-excavation work. His principal role with AS is conducting post-excavation research and authoring site reports for publication. Significant post-excavation projects Andrew has been responsible for include the Ingham Quarry Extension, Fornham St. Genevieve, Suffolk – a site with large Iron Age pit clusters arranged around a possible wetland area; the late Bronze Age to early Iron Age enclosure and early Saxon cremation cemetery at the Chalet Site, Heybridge, Essex; and, Church Street, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, an excavation which identified the continuation of the Saxon settlement previously investigated by Peter Addyman in the 1960s. Andrew also writes and co-ordinates Environmental Impact Assessments and has worked on a variety of such projects across southern and eastern England. In addition to his research responsibilities Andrew undertakes outreach and publicity work and carries out some fieldwork.

**PROJECT OFFICER
(POST-EXCAVATION)**

Antony Mustchin BSc MSc DipPAS

Qualifications: University of Bradford BSc (Hons) Bioarchaeology (1999-2003)

University of Bradford MSc Biological Archaeology (2004-2005)

University of Bradford Diploma in Professional Archaeological Studies (2003)

Experience: Antony has 11 years' experience in field archaeology, gained during his higher education and in the professional sector. Commercially in the UK, Antony has worked for Archaeology South East (2003), York Archaeological Trust (2004) and Special Archaeological Services (2003). He has also undertaken a six-month professional placement as Assistant SMR Officer/ Development Control Officer with Kent County Council (2001-2002). Antony is part-way through writing up a PhD on Viking Age demographics, a long-term academic interest that has led to his gaining considerable research excavation experience across the North Atlantic. He has worked for projects and organisations including the Old Scatness & Jarlshof Environs Project, Shetland (2000-2003), the Viking Unst Project, Shetland (2006-2007), the Heart of the Atlantic Project/ Føroya Fornminnisavn, Faroe Islands (2006-2008) and City University New York/ National Museum of Denmark/ Greenland National Museum and Archives, Greenland (2006 & 2010). Shortly before joining Archaeological Solutions in November 2011, Antony spent three years working for the Independent Commission for the Location of Victims Remains, assisting in the search for and forensic recovery of "the remains of victims of paramilitary violence ("The Disappeared") who were murdered and buried in secret arising from the conflict in Northern Ireland". Antony has a broad experience of fieldwork and post-excavation practice including specialist (archaeofauna), teaching, supervisory and directing-level posts.

**POTTERY, LITHICS AND
CBM RESEARCHER**

Andrew Peachey BA MIFA

Qualifications: University of Reading BA Hons, Archaeology and History (1998-2001)

Experience: Andrew joined AS (formerly HAT) in 2002 as a pottery researcher, and rapidly expanded into researching CBM and lithics. Andrew specialises in prehistoric and Roman pottery and has worked on numerous substantial assemblages, principally from across East Anglia but also from southern England. Recent projects have included a Neolithic site at Coxford, Norfolk, an early Bronze Age domestic site at Shropham, Norfolk, late Bronze Age material from Panshanger, Hertfordshire, middle Iron Age pit clusters at Ingham, Suffolk and an Iron Age and early Roman riverside site at Dernford, Cambridgeshire. Andrew has worked on important Roman kiln assemblages, including a Nar Valley ware production site at East Winch Norfolk, a face-pot producing kiln at Hadham, Hertfordshire and is currently researching early Roman Horningsea ware kilns at Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire. Andrew is an enthusiastic member of the Study Group for Roman Pottery, and also undertakes pottery and lithics analysis as an 'external' specialist for a range of archaeological units and local societies in the south of England.

POTTERY RESEARCHER

Peter Thompson MA

Qualifications: University of Bristol BA (Hons), Archaeology (1995-1998)

University of Bristol MA; Landscape Archaeology (1998-1999)

Experience: As a student, Peter participated in a number of projects, including the excavation of a Cistercian monastery cemetery in Gascony and surveying an Iron Age promontory hillfort in Somerset. Peter has two years excavation experience with the Bath Archaeological Trust and Bristol and Region Archaeological Services which includes working on a medieval manor house and a post-medieval glass furnace site of national importance. Peter joined HAT (now AS) in 2002 to specialise in Iron Age, Saxon and Medieval pottery research and has also produced desk-based assessments. Pottery reports include an early Iron pit assemblage and three complete Early Anglo-Saxon accessory vessels from a cemetery in Dartford, Kent.

**PROJECT OFFICER
(OSTEOARCHAEOLOGY)**

Julia E.M. Cussans PhD

Qualifications: University of Bradford, PhD (2002-2010)

University of Bradford, BSc (Hons) Bioarchaeology (1997-2001)

University of Bradford, Dip. Professional Archaeological Studies (2001)

Experience: Julia has c. 12 years of archaeozoological experience. Whilst undertaking her part time PhD she also worked as a specialist on a variety of projects in northern Britain including Old Scatness (Shetland), Broxmouth Iron Age Hillfort and Binchester Roman Fort. Additionally Julia has extensive field experience and has held lead roles in excavations in Shetland and the Faroe Islands including, Old Scatness, a large multi-period settlement centred on an Iron Age Broch; the Viking Unst Project, an examination of Viking and Norse houses on Britain's most northerly isle; the Laggan Tormore Pipeline (Firths Voe), a Neolithic house site in Shetland; the Heart of the Atlantic Project, an examination of Viking settlement in the Faroes and Við Kirkjugarð, an early Viking site on Sanday, Faroe Islands. Early on in her career Julia also excavated at Sedgeford, Norfolk as part of SHARP and in Pompeii, Italy as part of the Anglo-American Project in Pompeii. Since joining AS in October 2011 Julia has worked on animal bone assemblages from Beck Row, a Roman villa site at Mildenhall, Suffolk and Sawtry, an Iron Age, fen edge site in Cambridgeshire. Julia is a full and active member of the International Council for Archaeozoology, the Professional Zooarchaeology Group and the Association for Environmental Archaeology.

ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGIST

Dr John Summers

Qualifications: 2006-2010: PhD “The Architecture of Food” (University of Bradford)
2005-2006: MSc Biological Archaeology (University of Bradford)
2001-2005: BSc Hons. Bioarchaeology (University of Bradford)

Experience: John is an archaeobotanist with a primary specialism in the analysis of carbonised plant macrofossils and charcoal. Prior to joining Archaeological Solutions, John worked primarily in Atlantic Scotland. His research interests involve using archaeobotanical data in combination with other archaeological and palaeoeconomic information to address cultural and economic research questions. John has made contributions to a number of large research projects in Atlantic Scotland, including the Old Scatness and Jarlshof Environs Project (University of Bradford), the Viking Unst Project (University of Bradford) and publication work for Bornais Mound 1 and Mound 2 (Cardiff University). He has also worked with plant remains from Thruxton Roman Villa, Hampshire, as part of the Danebury Roman Environs Project (Oxford University/ English Heritage). John’s role at AS is to analyse and report on assemblages of plant macro-remains from environmental samples and provide support and advice regarding environmental sampling regimes and sample processing. John is a member of the Association for Environmental Archaeology.

SENIOR GRAPHICS OFFICER

Kathren Henry

Experience: Kathren has twenty-five years’ experience in archaeology, working as a planning supervisor on sites from prehistoric to late medieval date, including urban sites in London and rural sites in France/Italy, working for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit, Passmore Edwards Museum, DGLA and Central Excavation Unit of English Heritage (at Stanwick and Irthlingborough, Northamptonshire). She has worked with AS (formerly HAT) since 1992, becoming Senior Graphics Officer. Kathren is AS’s principal photographer, specializing in historic building survey, and she manages AS’s photographic equipment and dark room. She is in charge of AS’s Graphics Department, managing computerised artwork and report production. Kathren is also the principal historic building surveyor/illustrator, producing on-site and off-site plans, elevations and sections.

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

Tansy Collins BSc

Qualifications: University of Sheffield, Archaeological Sciences BSc (Hons) (1999-2002)
Experience: Tansy’s archaeological experience has been gained on diverse sites throughout England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Tansy joined AS in 2004 where she developed skills in graphics, backed by her grasp of archaeological interpretation and on-site experience, to produce hand drawn illustrations of pottery, and digital illustrations using a variety of packages such as AutoCAD, Corel Draw and Adobe Illustrator. She joined the historic buildings team in 2005 in order to carry out both drawn and photographic surveys of historic buildings before combining these skills with authoring historic building reports in 2006. Since then Tansy has authored numerous such reports for a wide range of building types; from vernacular to domestic architecture, both timber-framed and brick built with date ranges varying from the medieval period to the 20th century. These projects include a number of regionally and nationally significant buildings, for example a previously unrecognised medieval aisled barn belonging to a small group of nationally important agricultural buildings, one of the earliest surviving domestic timber-framed houses in Hertfordshire, and a Cambridgeshire house retaining formerly hidden 17th century decorative paint schemes. Larger projects include The King Edward VII Sanatorium in Sussex, RAF Bentley Priory in London as well as the Grade I Listed Balls Park mansion in Hertfordshire.

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

Lisa Smith BA

Qualifications: University of York, BA Archaeology (1998-2001)
Experience: Lisa has nine years archaeological experience undertaken mainly in the north of England previously working as a senior site assistant for Field Archaeology Specialists in York on both rural and urban sites as well as Castle Sinclair Girnigoe and

Tarbat in Scotland. Prior to working for FAS Lisa was involved in various excavation projects for Oxford Archaeology North and Archaeological Services, University of Durham. Lisa joined AS as a supervisor in January 2008 and in November 2009 transferred to historic building recording and has since worked on a variety of buildings dating from the medieval period onwards, working closely with external consultant Dr Lee Prosser.

GRAPHICS OFFICER

Rosanna Price BSc

Qualifications: University of Kent, Medical Anthropology BSc (Hons) (2005 - 2008)

Experience: Rosanna's interests have always revolved around art and human history, and she has combined these throughout her work and education. During her degree she specialised in Osteoarchaeology and Palaeopathology, and personally instigated the University's photographic database of human remains. This experience gained her the post of Osteoarchaeologist at Kent Osteological Research and Analysis in early 2009, where she worked on a number of human bone collections including the Thanet Earth Skeletons. In January 2010 she joined AS as a Finds and Archives assistant, and by the summer had achieved a new role as graphics officer. In her current position Rosanna uses a range of computer programmes, such as AutoCAD, Adobe Illustrator and CorelDraw to produce digital figures and finds illustrations. These accompany a wide range of archaeological reports, from desk-based assessments and interim reports through to publication standard.

FINDS AND ARCHIVE ASSISTANT Adam Leigh

Experience: Adam joined AS in January 2012. In his time with the company he has helped process hundreds of finds from a variety of sites going on to concord them. Adam has helped prepare a large number of sites for deposition with museums making sure that the finds are prepared in strict accordance with the guidelines and requirements laid out by the receiving museum.

ASSISTANT ARCHIVES OFFICER

Karen Cleary

Experience: Karen started her administrative career as Youth Training Administrator for a training company (TSMA Ltd) in 1993, where she provided administrative support for NVQ Assessors' of trainees and apprentices on the youth training scheme and in work placements they'd helped set up. Amongst her administrative duties she was principally in charge of preparing the Training Credits Claims and sending off for government funding. She gained NVQ's Level's 2 and 3 in Administration whilst working in this role. Karen started out with AS as Office Assistant in February 2009 and within a few months was promoted to Archives Assistant. Principally her role involves the preparation of Archaeological archives for long term deposition with museums. She has developed a good understanding of the preparation process and follows each individual museum's guidelines closely. She has a good working knowledge of Microsoft Office and is competent with *FileZilla*- Digital File Transfer software and *Fastsum*-Checksum Creation software.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS: PRINCIPAL SPECIALISTS

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS	Stratascan Ltd
AIR PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENTS	Air Photo Services
PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEYS	Ms K Henry
PREHISTORIC POTTERY	Mr A Peachey
ROMAN POTTERY	Mr A Peachey
SAXON & MEDIEVAL POTTERY	Mr P Thompson
POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY	Mr P Thompson
FLINT	Mr A Peachey
GLASS	H Cool
COINS	British Museum, Dept of Coins & Medals
METALWORK & LEATHER	Ms Q Mould, Ms N Crummy
SLAG	Ms J Cowgill
ANIMAL BONE	Dr J Cussans
HUMAN BONE:	Ms J Curl
ENVIRONMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR	Dr R Scaife
POLLEN AND SEEDS:	Dr R Scaife
CHARCOAL/WOOD	Dr J Summers
SOIL MICROMORPHOLOGY	Dr R MacPhail, Dr C French
CARBON-14 DATING:	English Heritage Ancient Monuments Laboratory (for advice).
CONSERVATION	University of Leicester

APPENDIX 3 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol7-203856

Project details

Project name	Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk
Short description of the project	Between October and November 2014, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook and archaeological excavation on land to the west of Mill House, The Street, Darsham. The excavation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 15 new dwellings and was preceded by an archaeological trial trench evaluation, also conducted by AS. In the event the project encountered an enclosed medieval (11th/ 12th to 15th century AD) landscape, largely confined to the north-eastern area of the site and comprising a single definable enclosure, several substantial boundary features and a short section of possible E-W aligned trackway. A number of pits, including a possible pond and a well were also dated to the medieval period. Most of the pits appeared to comprise single use features, most probably dug for refuse disposal. The bulk of the medieval finds assemblage is domestic in character, comprising pottery and animal bone, but also includes a Cu alloy brooch. Two possible prehistoric cremation deposits (undated) and a small number of post-medieval/ early modern features were also encountered. The latter included a pair of parallel ?beam slots.
Project dates	Start: 19-03-2014 End: 14-11-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	P5673 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	DAR 030 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	CREMATIONS Uncertain
Monument type	DITCHES; PITS; ?WELL; ?POND Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES; ?BEAM SLOTS Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES/ GULLY; PITS; POSTHOLES Uncertain
Significant Finds	CREMATED BONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	STRUCK FLINT Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY; CU ALLOY BROOCH; CBM; ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	CU ALLOY SPUR Post Medieval

Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL DARSHAM Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk
Study area	0.80 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 41490 70170 52.2759528985 1.54040007161 52 16 33 N 001 32 25 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 25.00m Max: 28.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Project brief originator	SCC AS Conservation Team
Project design originator	Jon Murray
Project director/manager	Jon Murray
Project supervisor	Jim Fairclough
Project supervisor	Kamil Orzechowski
Type of sponsor/funding body	Hopkins Homes

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Archaeological Store
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Archaeological Store
Digital Contents	"Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Archaeological Store
Paper Contents	"Survey"
Paper Media available	"Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Report","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk

Author(s)/Editor(s) Mustchin, A

Other bibliographic details Archaeological Solutions Report No. 4792

Date 2015

Issuer or publisher Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Place of issue or publication Bury St Edmunds

Entered by Sarah Powell (Info@ascontracts.co.uk)

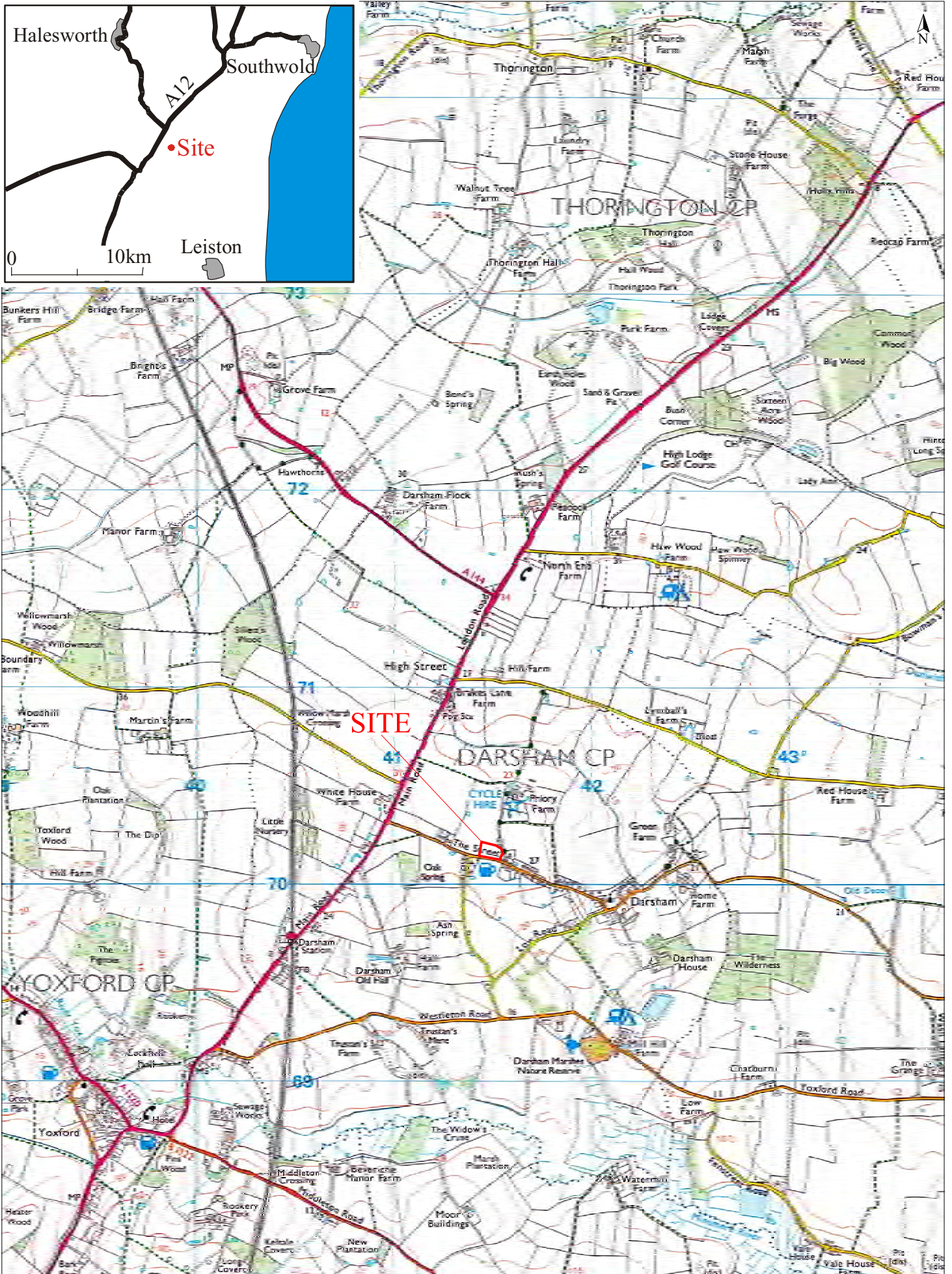
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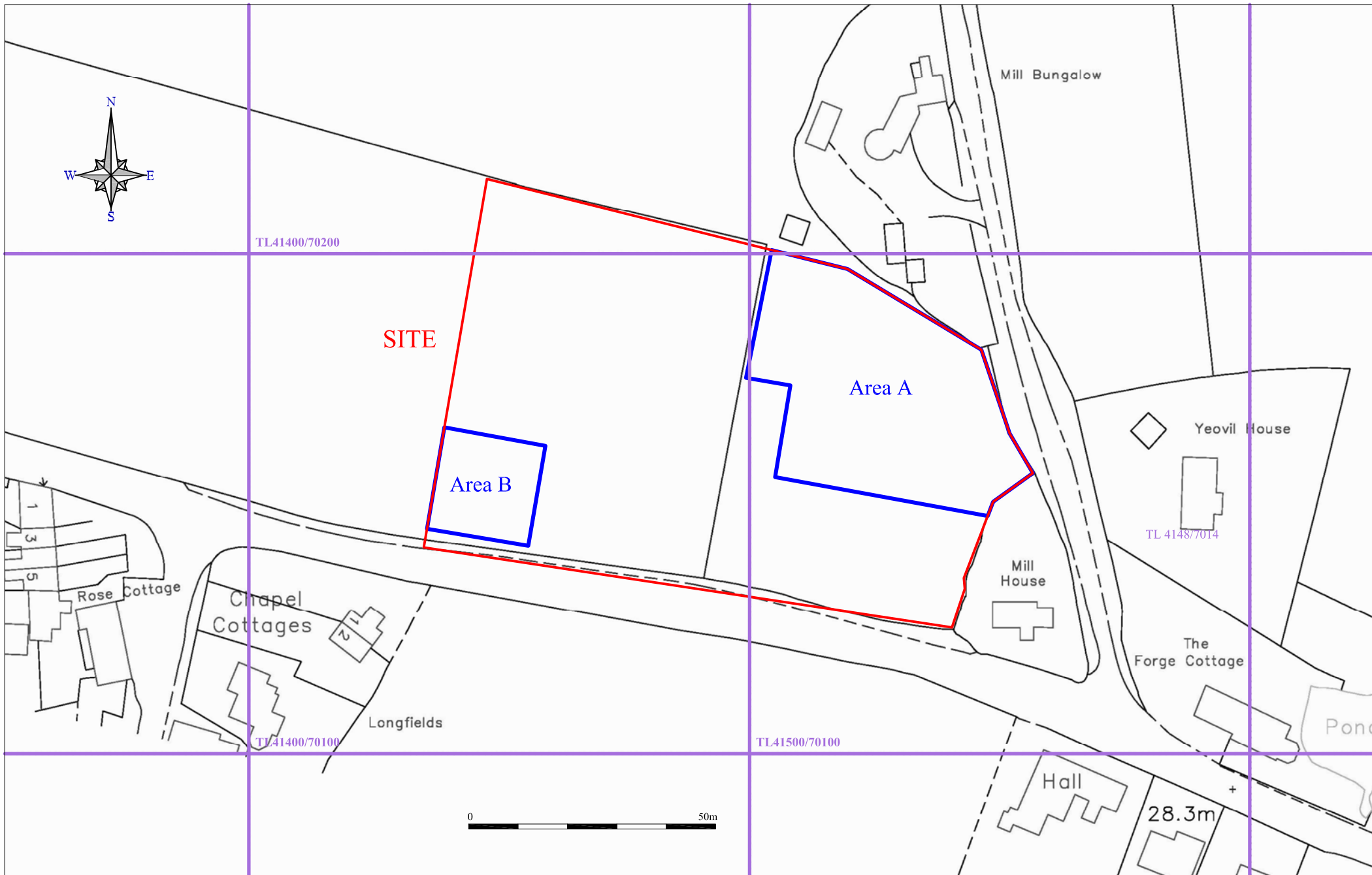
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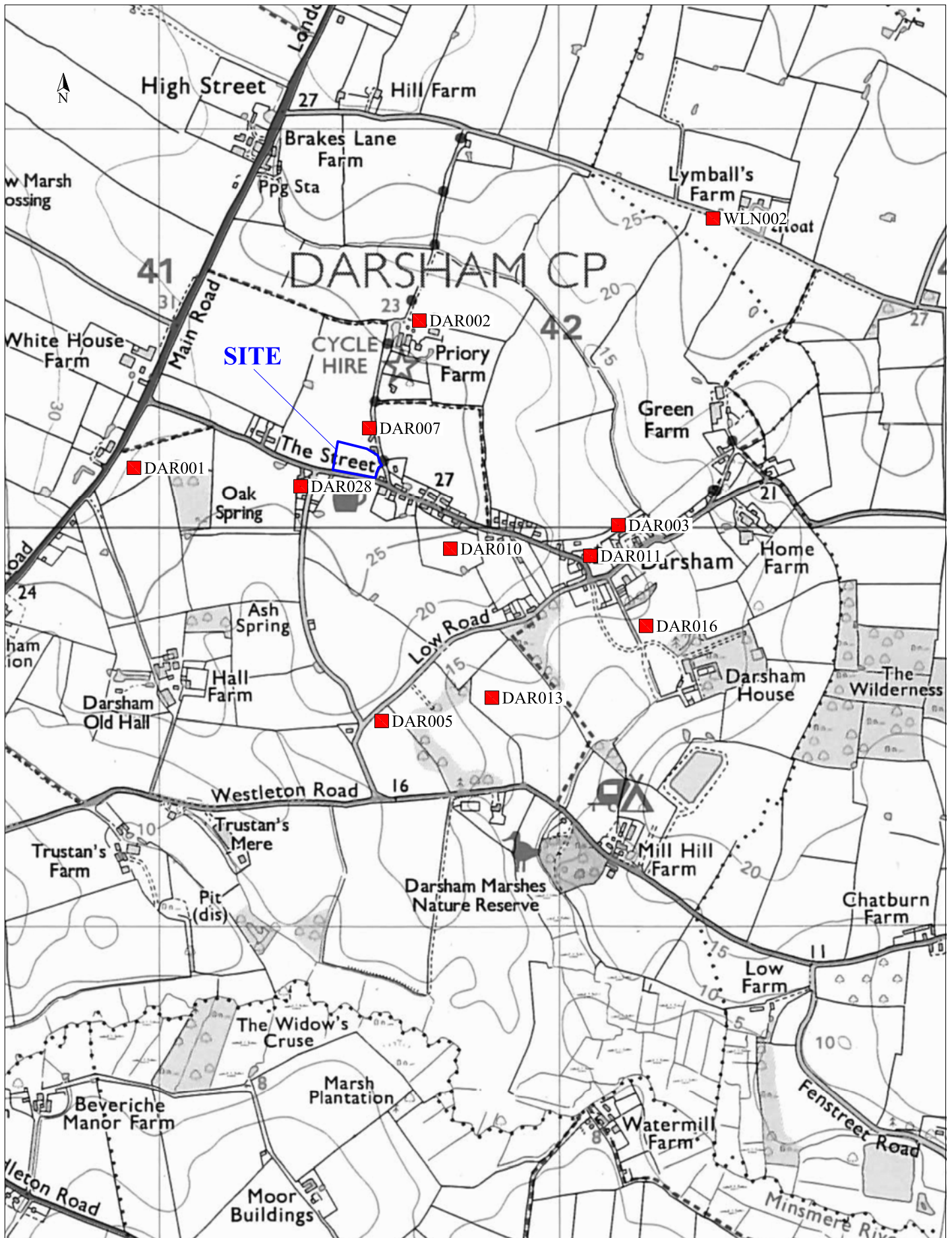


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Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25000 at A4

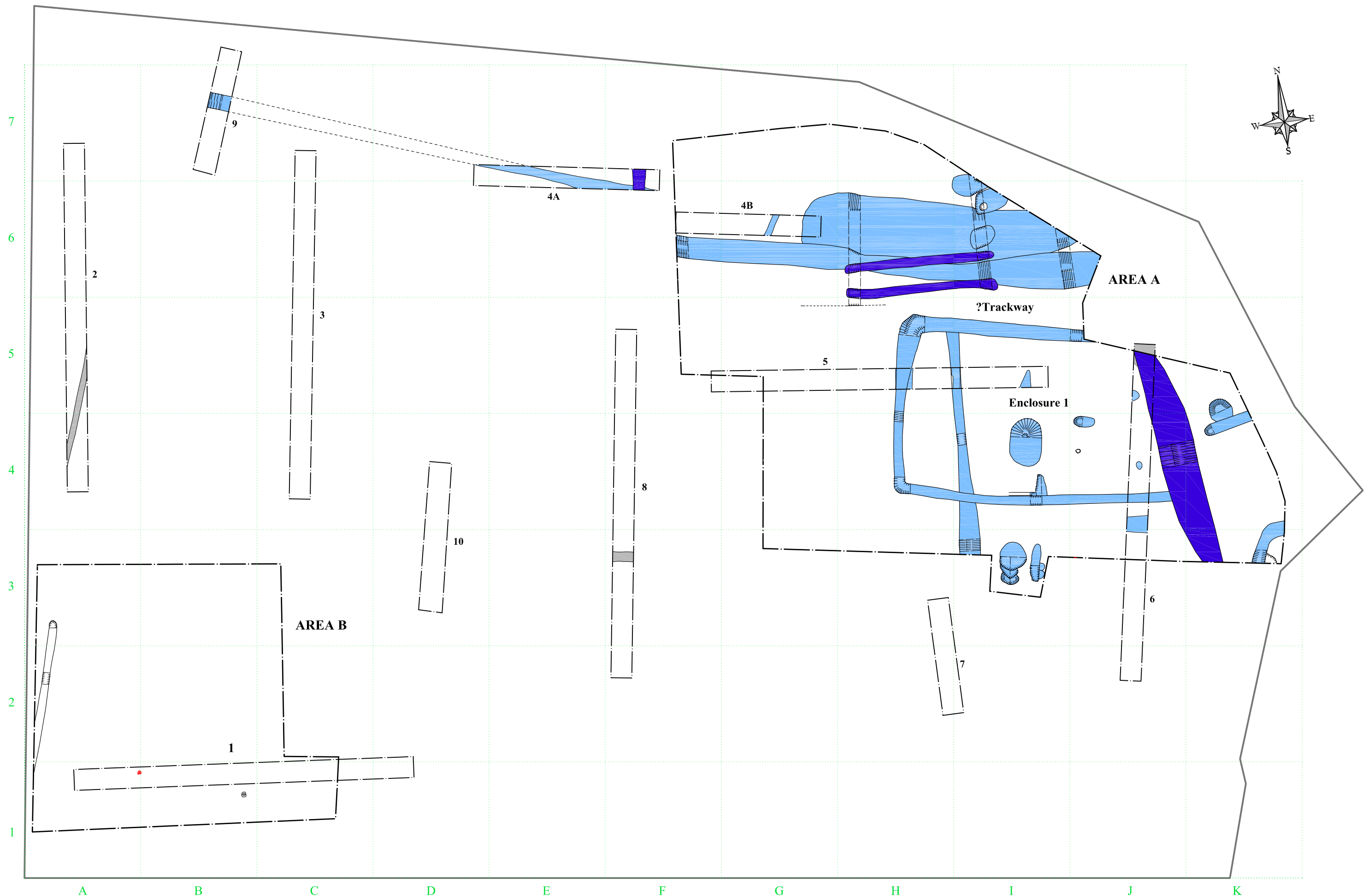


Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:1000 at A4



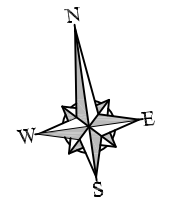
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Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 3 HER Data
 Scale 1:12,500 at A4



Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 4 All features phase plan
 Scale 1:300 at A3

F G H J K



7

6

5

4

Sample section 2A

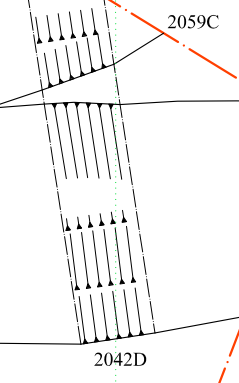
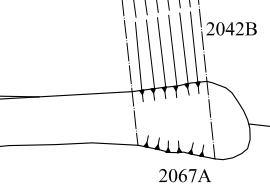
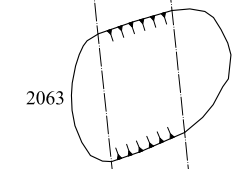
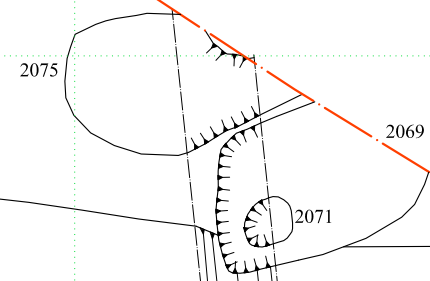
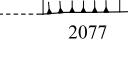
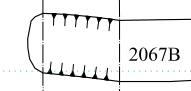
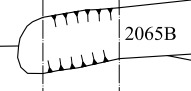
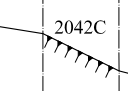
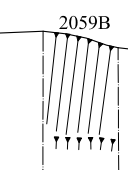
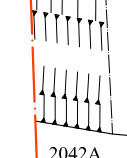
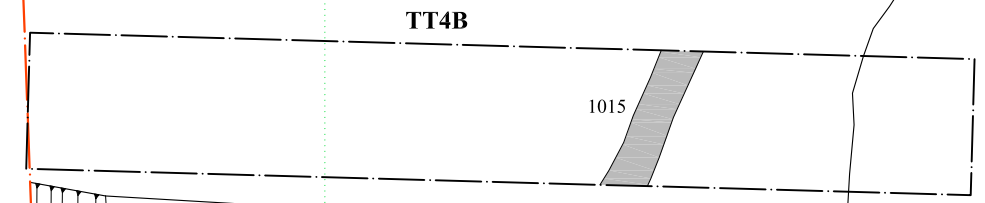
AREA A

?Trackway

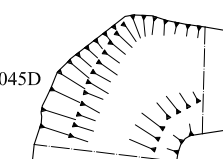
Enclosure 1

Features and contexts from evaluation

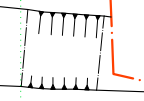
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Fig. 5 Area A (north)
Scale 1:100 at A3



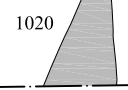
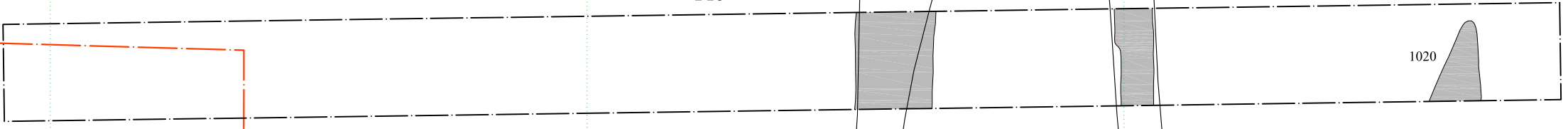
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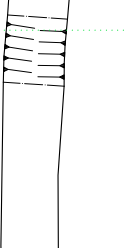
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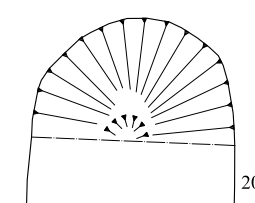
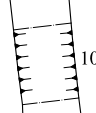
TT5



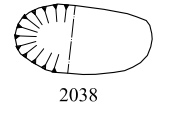
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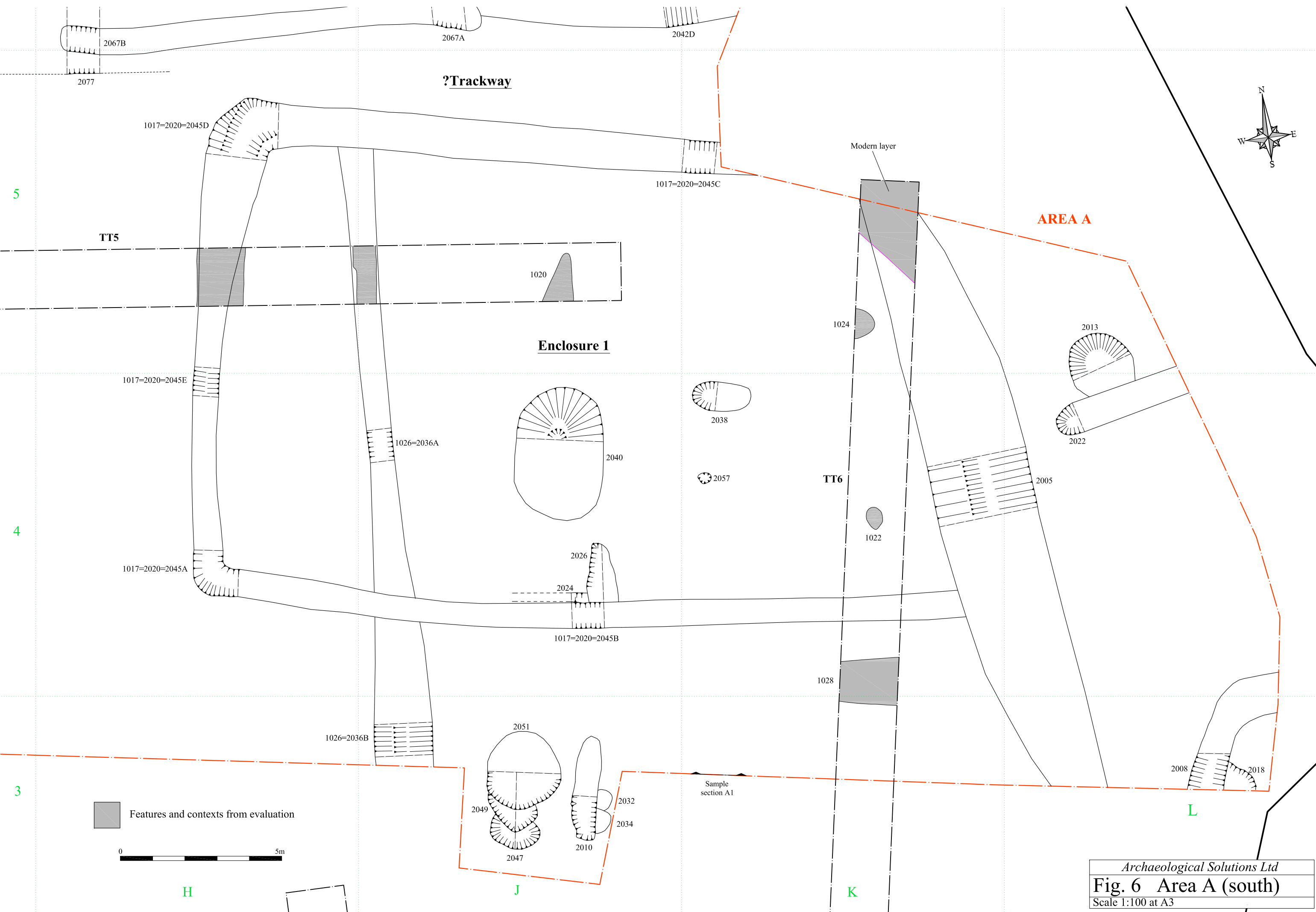
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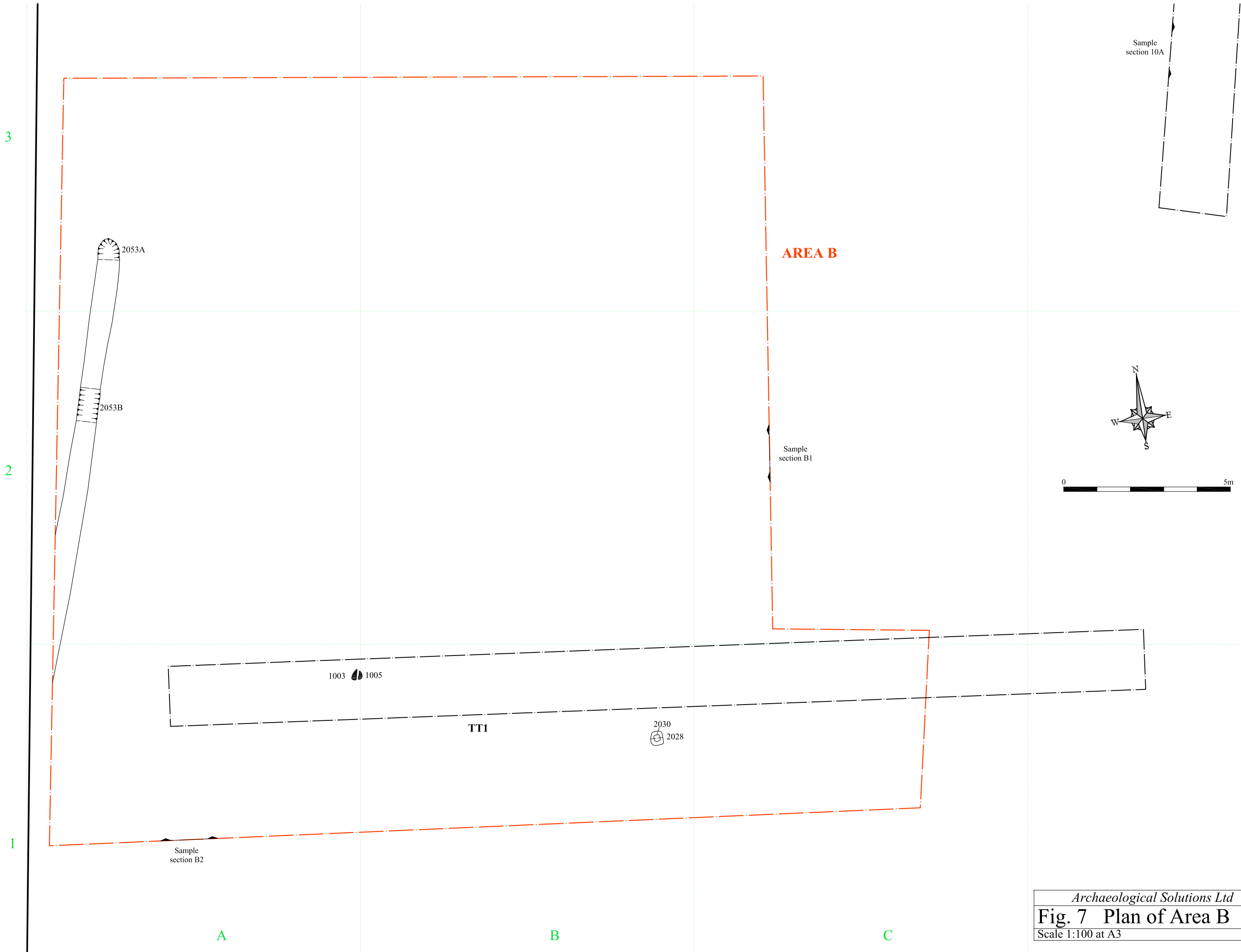


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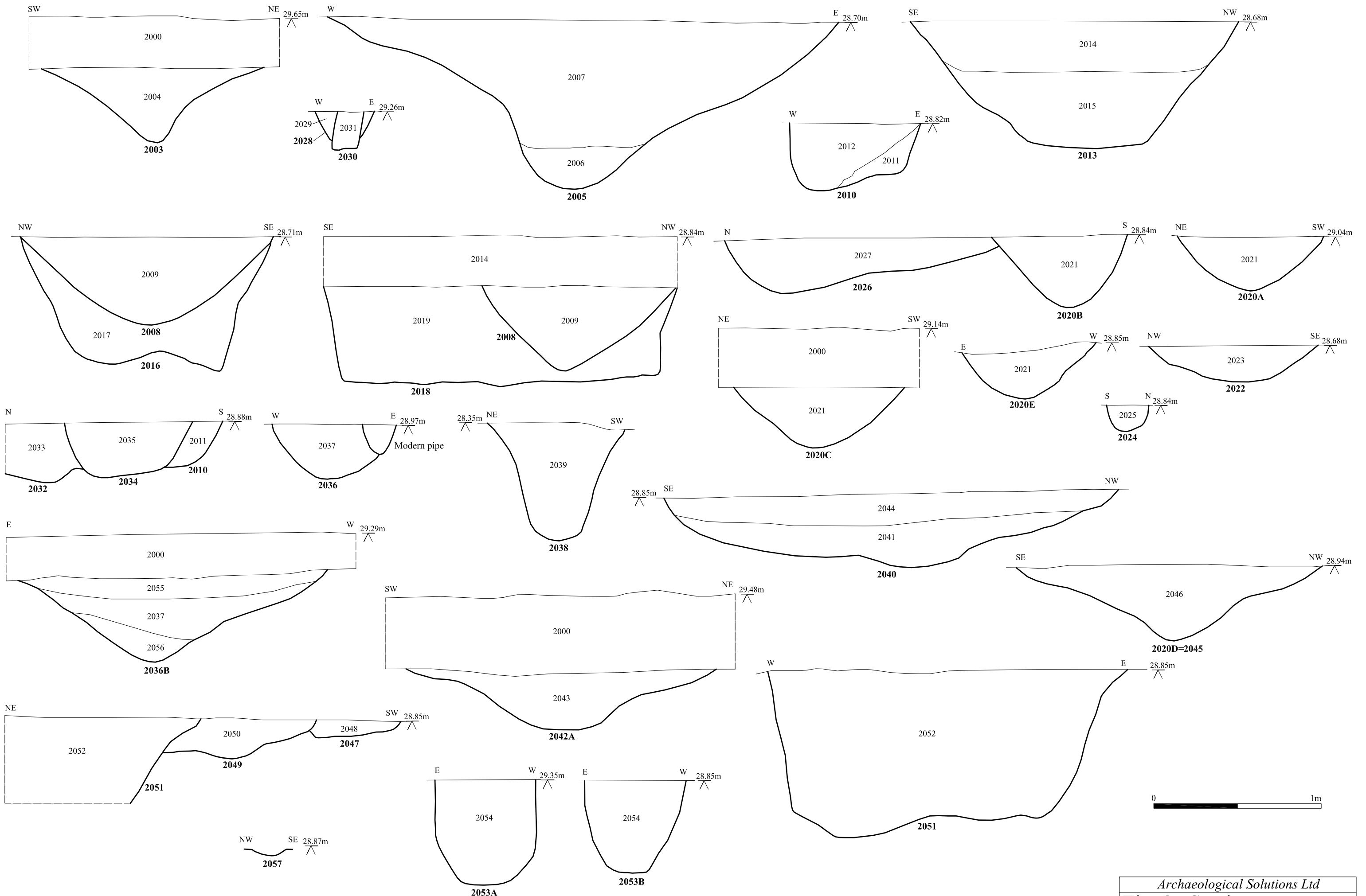


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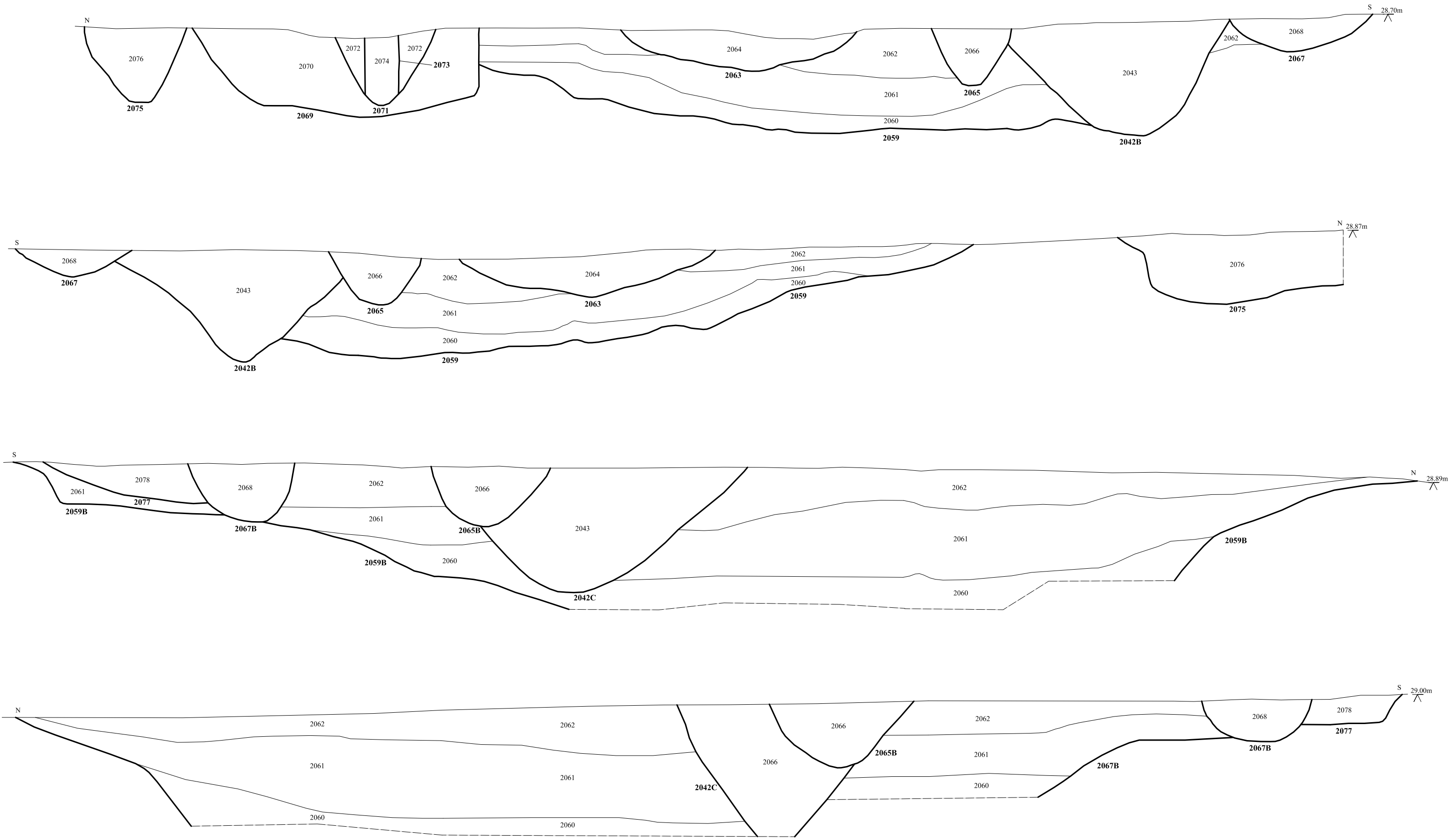




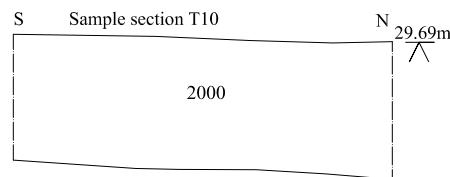
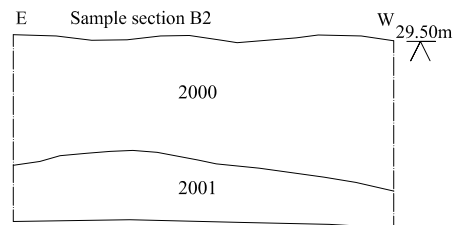
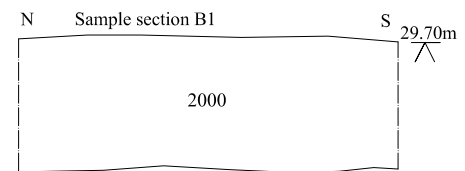
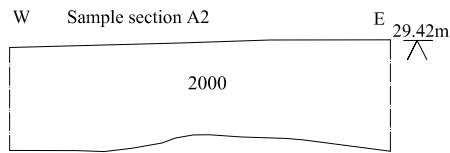
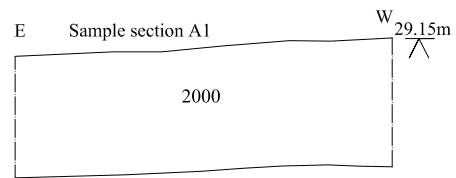
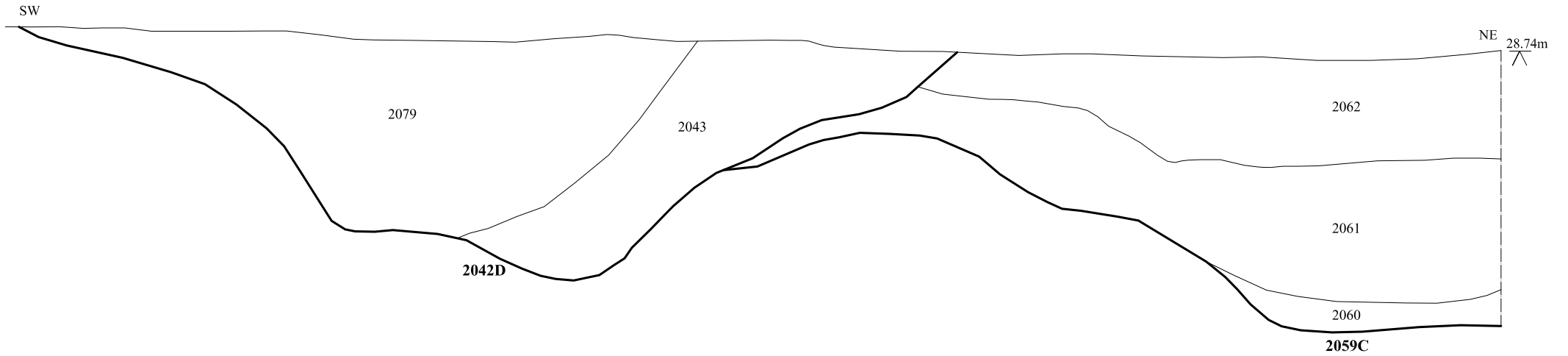
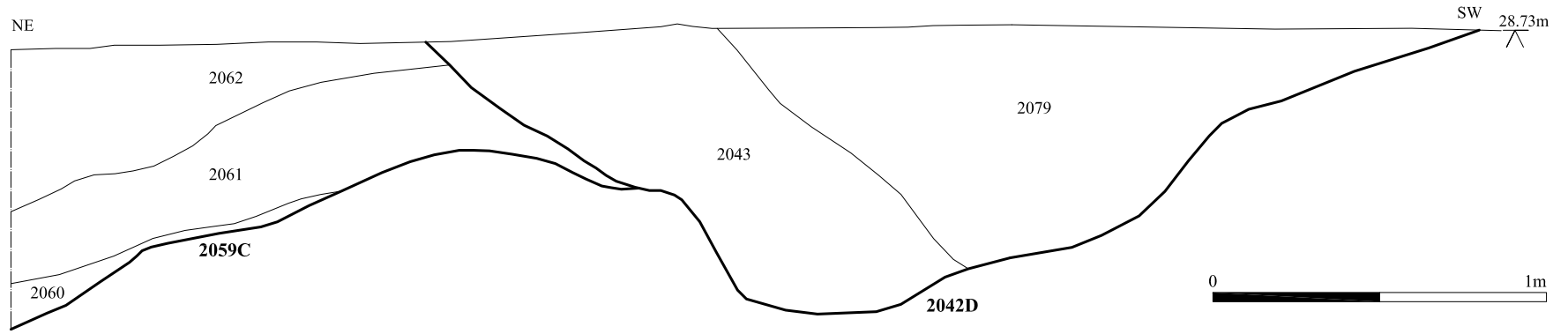
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Fig. 7 Plan of Area B
 Scale 1:100 at A3



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Fig. 8 Sections
 Scale 1:20 at A3



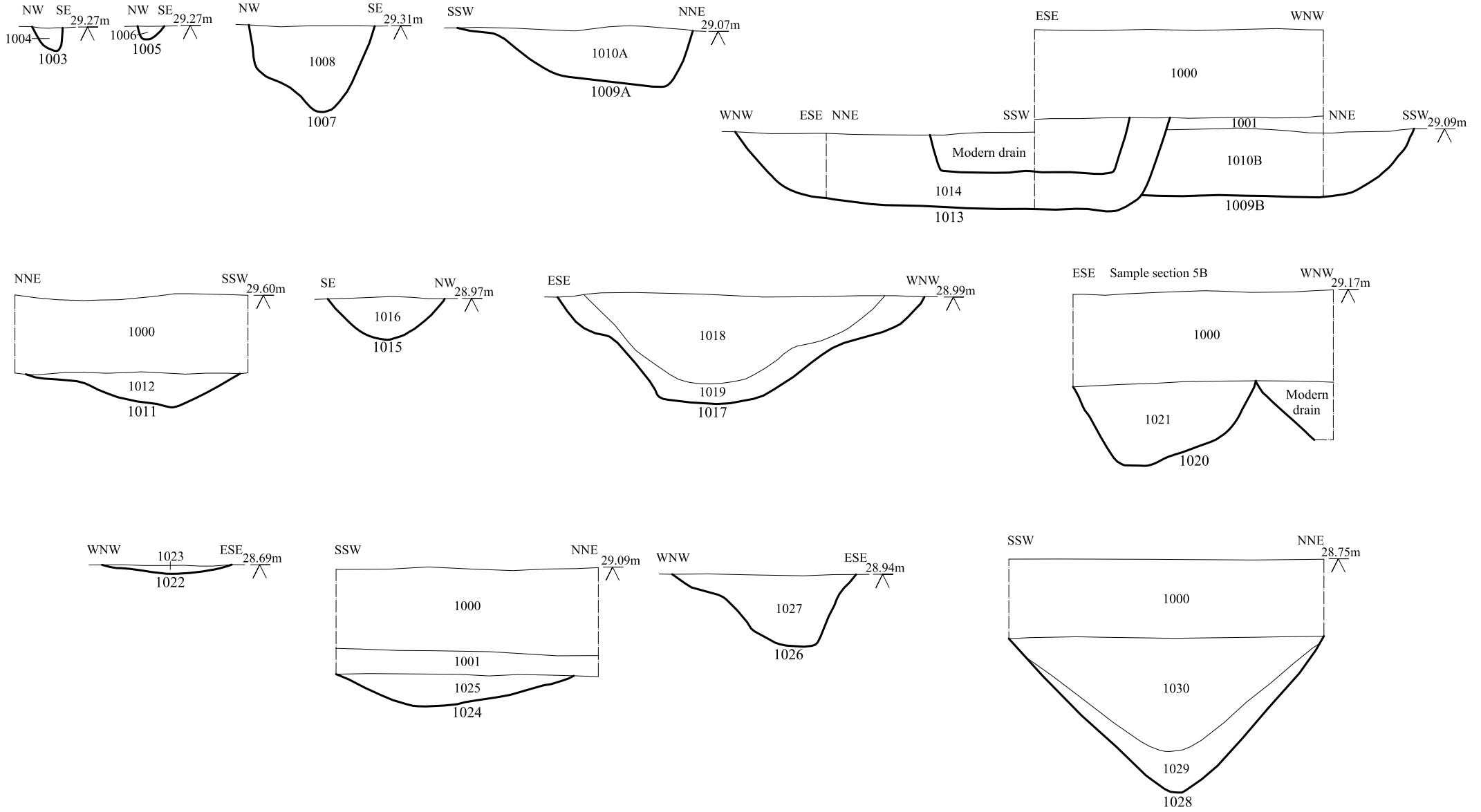
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Fig. 9 Sections
 Scale 1:25 at A3



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Fig. 10 Sections

Scale 1:20 at A4



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Fig. 11 Trial trench sections
 Scale 1:20 at A4