
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

PARVILLS FARM, EPPING UPLAND, ESSEX

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
'STRIP, MAP & ASSESS' INVESTIGATION**

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski | |
| NGR: TL 42487 03867 | Report No: 5212 |
| District: Epping Forest | Site Code: EPVPF 16 |
| Approved: Claire Halpin | Project No: 5784 |
| MCIfA | Date: 21 September 2016 |

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

| | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Project details | | | |
| Project name | <i>Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex</i> | | |
| <p><i>In June 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map & assess' investigation at Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex (NGR TL 42487 03867). The investigation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of new agricultural buildings.</i></p> <p><i>The site is situated within a medieval manor site which probably is of at least 14th century origin. Parvills Farm is thought to be medieval in origin. The site had a potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeology, and also for the remains of a WWII pill-box.</i></p> <p><i>The investigation revealed three modern ditches and an undated pit. One of the ditches may have been associated with WWII defences.</i></p> | | | |
| Project dates (fieldwork) | <i>15/06/2016</i> | | |
| Previous work (Y/N/?) | <i>N</i> | Future work (Y/N/?) | <i>N</i> |
| P. number | <i>5784</i> | Site code | <i>EPVPF 16</i> |
| Type of project | <i>An Archaeological 'Strip, Map & Assess' Investigation</i> | | |
| Site status | <i>-</i> | | |
| Current land use | <i>Arable land</i> | | |
| Planned development | <i>New grainstore</i> | | |
| Main features (+dates) | <i>Modern ditches, undated pit</i> | | |
| Significant finds (+dates) | <i>-</i> | | |
| Project location | | | |
| County/ District/ Parish | <i>Essex</i> | <i>Epping Forest</i> | <i>Epping</i> |
| HER/ SMR for area | <i>Essex HER</i> | | |
| Post code (if known) | <i>CM16 6PL</i> | | |
| Area of site | <i>c.950m²</i> | | |
| NGR | <i>TL 42487 03867</i> | | |
| Height AOD (min/max) | <i>83.00/84.00m</i> | | |
| Project creators | | | |
| Brief issued by | <i>ECC HEA</i> | | |
| Project supervisor/s (PO) | <i>Zbigniew Pozorski</i> | | |
| Funded by | <i>Mr Tom Smith</i> | | |
| Full title | <i>Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex: An Archaeological 'Strip, Map & Assess' Investigation</i> | | |
| Authors | <i>Pozorski, Z.</i> | | |
| Report no. | <i>5212</i> | | |
| Date (of report) | <i>September 2016</i> | | |

PARVILLS FARM, EPPING UPLAND, ESSEX

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL 'STRIP, MAP & ASSESS' INVESTIGATION

SUMMARY

In June 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map & assess' investigation at Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex (NGR TL 42487 03867). The investigation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of new agricultural buildings.

The site is situated within a medieval manor site which probably is of at least 14th century origin. Parvills Farm is thought to be medieval in origin. The site had a potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeology, and also for the remains of a WWII pill-box.

The investigation revealed three modern ditches and an undated pit. One of the ditches may have been associated with WWII defences.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In June 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map & assess' investigation at Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex (NGR TL 42487 03867; Figs. 1 & 2). The investigation was commissioned by Sworders on behalf of Mr Tom Smith of Parvills Farm and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of new agricultural buildings (Epping Forest Planning Ref. EPF/0479/14).

1.2 The investigation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (ECC HEA; dated 08/05/2014) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 14/05/2014) and approved by ECC HEA. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2014), and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The project aimed to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development and to excavate and report on these remains.

Planning policy context

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

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

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site lies at Parvills Farm, south of the existing access road to the farm, in a rural location to the west of the village of Epping Upland (Fig. 1). The village is located c.2km north-west of Epping town and c.3km north of M25 motorway.

2.2 The area of proposed new grainstore is adjacent and to the east of an existing store and it comprises rectangular area of c.950m².

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is situated on a southward slope above the Cobbins Brook. Small tributaries to the brook are to the east and west of the site.

3.2 The solid geology of the area is clay, silt and sand of the London Clay Formation (British Geological Survey 1978). Soils on the site are those of the Hanslope association, described mainly as slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils, whilst to the south are soils of the Windsor association, described

as slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged clayey soils mostly with brown subsoil (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The proposed development area occupies the site of the medieval manor of Campions, recorded on the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER 3733). This manor was recorded in 1490 and demolished before 1866. A John Campioun is recorded in documentary references in 1370. A property is depicted in the vicinity of the proposed new agricultural buildings on the 1777 Chapman and Andre map. Parvills Farm is also believed to be medieval in origin. A WWII pill-box, now longer present, also lay within the proposed development area (HER 10112). Another feature of WWII defences was an anti-tank ditch which reportedly crossed the field to the east of the farm but was backfilled shortly after the war (Mr Smith comments).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The archaeological investigation comprised the excavation of the area of footprint of the proposed new grainstore (Fig. 2). The site strip was carried out using a mechanical 360° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, and the investigated area measured 38 x 25m.

5.2 Topsoil and undifferentiated overburden were mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale, and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Description: The investigation revealed four features: three ditches (F1002, F1004 and F1008) and a pit (F1006).

F1002 was a large ?linear ditch (11+ x 5m+; DP 4), located in the north-eastern corner of the site and orientated north-west to south-east. It was not excavated as its fill (L1003; a light grey and pale yellow, friable, silty sand), contained frequent modern CBM fragments and debris. The location of the feature fits with a description of a WWII anti-tank ditch which traversed the site and was backfilled in the post-war period by the farm occupants.

Ditch F1004 was curved (24+ x 0.95 x 0.30m; DP 5). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1005, was a dark grey, compact, clayey silt. Numerous fragments of modern CBM (19th – 20th century date) were present in the fill. It cut Pit F1006.

Pit F1006 was oval (2.70 x 0.85 x 0.43m; DP 5). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1007, was a dark grey, compact, clayey silt. No finds were present in the fill. F1006 was cut by Ditch F1004.

F1008 was a large linear ditch (28+ x 3.50-4.50m; DP 6), orientated east-north-east / west-south-west. Its fill, L1009, was a mid grey, friable, silty sand with frequent CBM and modern (20th century) debris. It was not excavated. According to the farm occupant the feature was an open ditch until a few decades ago and originally served as a drain but eventually was infilled.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The site was commonly overlain by Topsoil L1000, a dark grey, soft, sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments (0.25 – 0.50m thick). It overlay L1001, a natural mid to dark orangey yellow, compact, silty clay.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for the medieval and post-medieval archaeology. It is situated within a medieval manor site which is probably of at least 14th century origin. Parvills Farm is also believed to be medieval in origin. The remains of a WWII pill-box may also have been present on the site.

9.2 The investigation revealed three modern (20th century) ditches which related either to WWII defences or farming activity. No evidence of earlier features or residual finds were found.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at Epping Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Tom Smith of Parvills Farm for funding the project and for his assistance, and Ms Francesca Hill of Sworders for assistance.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Maria Medlycott, the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council

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Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*. IfA, Reading

Gurney, D., 2003, *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14/ALGAO

Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW), 1983, *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales*. SSEW, Harpenden

APPENDIX 1 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

| Records | Number |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Brief | Y |
| Specification | Y |
| Registers | 4 (Context, Drawing, Drawing Sheet, Digital Photo) |
| Context Sheets | 10 |
| Site drawings A1 | 0 |
| Site drawings A3 | 1 |
| Site drawings A4 | 1 |
| Site photographs b/w | 0 |
| Site photographs colour slides | 0 |
| Digital Photographs | 17 |

APPENDIX 2

ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD/ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

SUMMARY SHEET

| | |
|--|---|
| Site name/Address: Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex | |
| Parish: Epping | District: Epping Forest |
| NGR: TL 42487 03867 | Site Code: EPVPF 16 |
| Type of Work: 'strip, map & assess' | Site Director/Group: AS |
| Date of Work: 15/06/2016 | Size of Area Investigated: 950m ² |
| Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Epping Forest | Funding source: Mr Tom Smith |
| Further Seasons Anticipated? | Related HER No.s: |
| Final Report: Pozorski, A., 2016, <i>Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex: An archaeological 'Strip, Map & Assess' Investigation</i> . AS report No.5212 | |
| Periods Represented: 20 th C | |
| SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: | |
| <p><i>In June 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map & assess' investigation at Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex (NGR TL 42487 03867). The investigation was commissioned by Mr Tom Smith of the farm and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of new agricultural buildings.</i></p> <p><i>The site is situated within a medieval manor site which probably is of at least 14th century origin. Parvills Farm is thought to be medieval in origin. The site had a potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeology, and also for the remains of a WWII pill-box.</i></p> <p><i>The investigation revealed three modern ditches and an undated pit. One of the ditches may have been associated with WWII defences.</i></p> | |
| Previous Summaries/Reports: | |
| Author of Summary: Zbigniew Pozorski | Date of Summary: 26/07/2016 |

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. The site. Looking north.



DP 2. The site. Looking south-east.



DP 3. The site. Looking north-north-west.



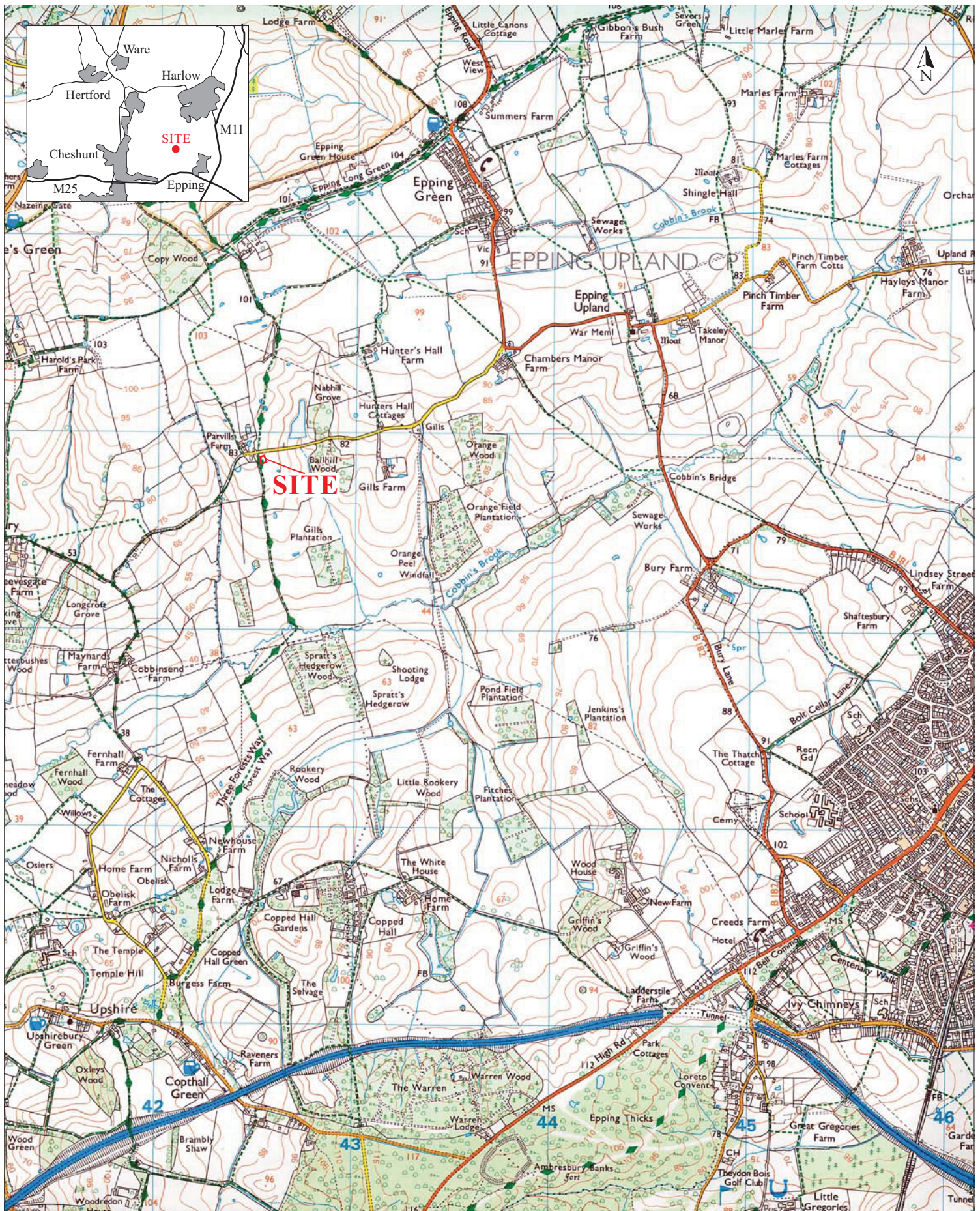
DP 4. Ditch F1002. Looking north-west.



DP 5. Pit F1006 and Ditch F1004. Looking south.

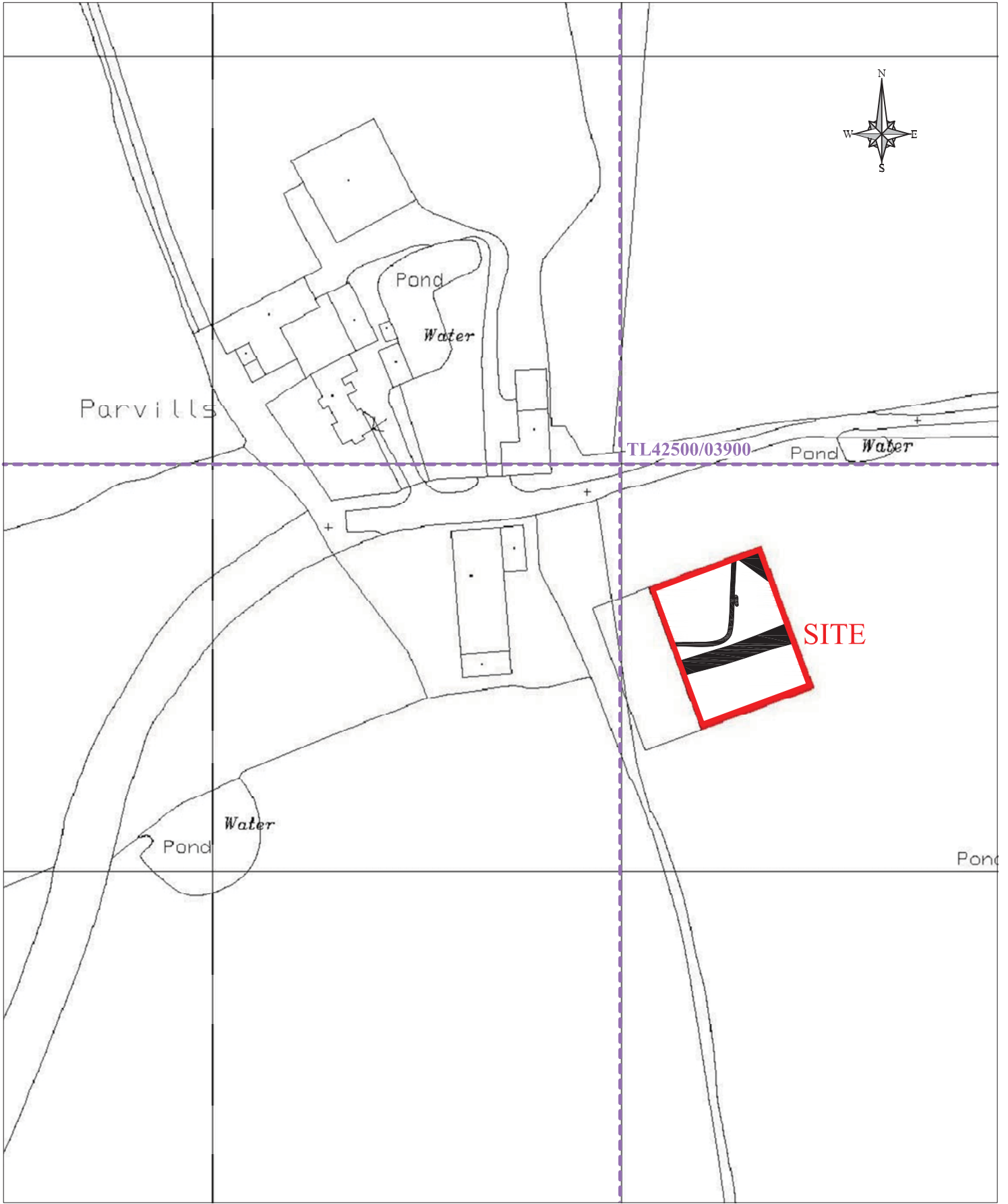


DP 6. Ditch F1008. Looking east-north-east.



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex (P5784)



Parvills

Pond
Water

TL42500/03900

Pond Water

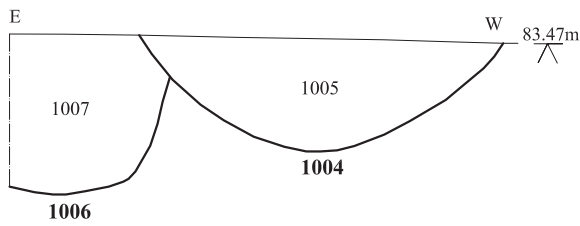
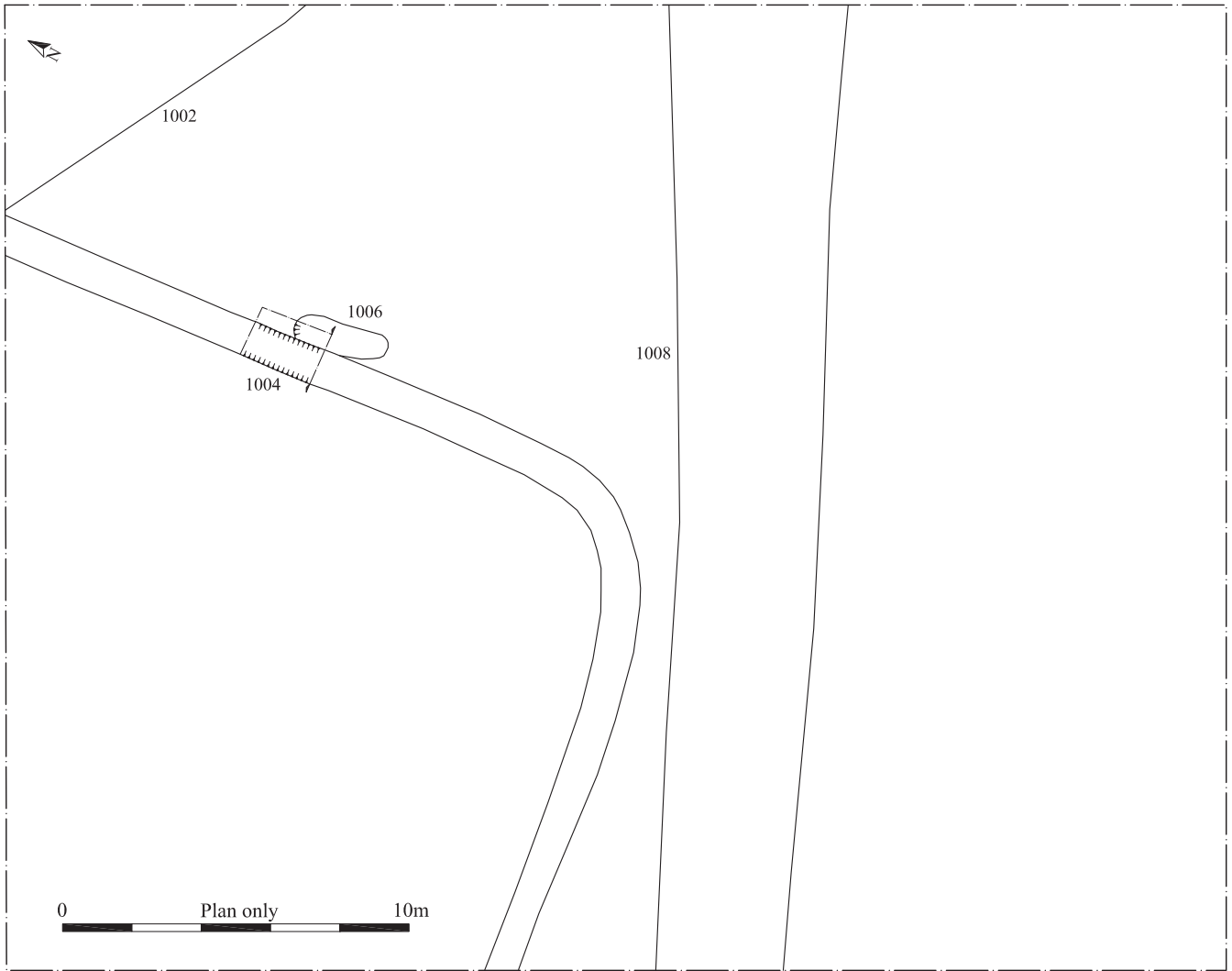
SITE

Pond Water

Pond



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:1250 at A4
 Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex (P5784)



| |
|---|
| <i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i> |
| Fig. 3 Site plan and section |
| Scale 1:200 and 1:20 at A4 |
| Parvills Farm, Epping Upland, Essex (P5784) |