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**LAND AT HOLLOWAY ROAD, HEYBRIDGE, ESSEX**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

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NGR: TL 8501 0857	Report No: 5223
District: Maldon	Site Code: HYHW16
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: 5310
	Date: 13 October 2016

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## OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Project details</b>			
<b>Project name</b>		<i>Land at Holloway Road, Heybridge, Essex</i>	
<p><i>In October 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Holloway Road, Heybridge, Essex (NGR TL 849085). It is proposed to construct a residential development with associated infrastructure. The evaluation was carried out to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to outline approval for the redevelopment of the site (Maldon Council Planning Ref. OUT/MAL/14/00990), based on the advice of the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (HEA ECC)</i></p> <p><i>The linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey was revealed in Trenches 15 and 16, but not 14. Five weak linear anomalies, aligned NW/SE, were also identified but these were not detected in any of the trenching and are likely evidence of post-medieval ploughing.</i></p> <p><i>Archaeological features, all linears (ditches and gullies), were recorded in ten trenches in the central and eastern sectors of the site (Trenches 8, 11 – 12, 14 – 17, 19 – 20 and 22). Many of the features were un-dated. These include the ditches and gullies in Trenches 8, 11 – 12, 15, 17, 19 - 20 and 22. A single piece of prehistoric struck flint was recovered from Gully F1025 (Trench 12), and Ditch F1009 (Trench 14) contained residual Roman tegula.</i></p> <p><i>Post-medieval or modern ditches were recorded in Trenches 14 and 15, and these features appeared to represent interconnected land drains.</i></p>			
<b>Project dates (fieldwork)</b>		<i>October 2016</i>	
<b>Previous work (Y/N/?)</b>		<i>N</i>	<b>Future work (Y/N/?)</b> <i>TBC</i>
<b>P. number</b>		<i>5310</i>	<b>Site code</b> <i>HYHW16</i>
<b>Type of project</b>		<i>Archaeological Evaluation</i>	
<b>Site status</b>		<i>-</i>	
<b>Current land use</b>		<i>Agricultural field</i>	
<b>Planned development</b>		<i>Residential</i>	
<b>Main features (+dates)</b>		<i>Ditches and gullies</i>	
<b>Significant finds (+dates)</b>		<i>A struck flint; residual Roman tegula</i>	
<b>Project location</b>			
<b>County/ District/ Parish</b>		<i>Essex</i>	<i>Maldon</i> <i>Heybridge</i>
<b>HER/ SMR for area</b>		<i>Essex Historic Environment Record</i>	
<b>Post code (if known)</b>		<i>-</i>	
<b>Area of site</b>		<i>c.3.5ha.</i>	
<b>NGR</b>		<i>TL 8501 0857</i>	
<b>Height AOD (min/max)</b>		<i>c. 4 - 7m AOD</i>	
<b>Project creators</b>			
<b>Brief issued by</b>		<i>Essex County Council</i>	
<b>Project supervisor/s (PO)</b>		<i>Thomas Muir</i>	
<b>Funded by</b>			
<b>Full title</b>		<i>Land at Holloway Road, Heybridge, Essex. An Archaeological Evaluation</i>	
<b>Authors</b>		<i>Muir, T. &amp; Thompson, P.</i>	
<b>Report no.</b>		<i>5223</i>	
<b>Date (of report)</b>		<i>October 2016</i>	

# LAND AT HOLLOWAY ROAD, HEYBRIDGE, ESSEX

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

### **SUMMARY**

*In October 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Holloway Road, Heybridge, Essex (NGR TL 849085). It is proposed to construct a residential development with associated infrastructure. The evaluation was carried out to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to outline approval for the redevelopment of the site (Maldon Council Planning Ref. OUT/MAL/14/00990), based on the advice of the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (HEA ECC)*

*A geophysical survey of the site revealed one large linear anomaly of possible archaeological origin in the centre of the site but little else other than evidence of post-medieval ploughing.*

*Based on the known archaeology of the area the site had a potential for evidence of local late prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman and medieval activity in particular.*

*The linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey was revealed in Trenches 15 and 16, but not 14. Five weak linear anomalies, aligned NW/SE, were also identified but these were not detected in any of the trenching and are likely evidence of post-medieval ploughing.*

*Archaeological features, all linears (ditches and gullies), were recorded in ten trenches in the central and eastern sectors of the site (Trenches 8, 11 – 12, 14 – 17, 19 – 20 and 22). Many of the features were undated. These include the ditches and gullies in Trenches 8, 11 – 12, 15, 17, 19 - 20 and 22. A single piece of prehistoric struck flint was recovered from Gully F1025 (Trench 12), and Ditch F1009 (Trench 14) contained residual Roman tegula.*

*Post-medieval or modern ditches were recorded in Trenches 14 and 15, and these features appeared to represent interconnected land drains.*

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In October 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Holloway Road, Heybridge, Essex (NGR TL 849085; Figs. 1 - 2). It is proposed to construct a residential development with associated infrastructure.

The evaluation was carried out to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to outline approval for the redevelopment of the site (Maldon Council Planning Ref. OUT/MAL/14/00990), based on the advice of the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (HEA ECC)

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance to a brief prepared by the Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (ECC HEA; *Brief for Archaeological Trial Trenching at Holloway Road, Heybridge* (dated 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016), and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016), and approved by ECC HEA. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Evaluation* (2014), as well as the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The objectives of the evaluation were to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition significance and quality of any archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.

#### *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 on the northern side of Holloway Road on the northern edge of Heybridge. It is currently in agricultural use and extends to some 3.5ha. The site is bounded by residential dwellings to the south. Maypole Road to the west and further open fields to the north. The northern boundary of the site is the parish boundary between Heybridge and Langford.

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

3.1 The site is located on fairly flat, low lying land between 4 and 7m AOD in a river valley with the Chelmer and Blackwater merging 800m to the west. The Blackwater Estuary begins 1.5km to the south and there are a number of small lakes there and to the east resulting from gravel extraction. The Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation Canal is situated 370m east of the assessment site.

3.2 The local soils are river terrace gravels of the Hurst association described as coarse and fine loamy permeable soils mainly over gravels variably affected by ground water. The underlying geology is the London Clay Formation.

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

4.1 The Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) notes the site has an archaeological potential for multi-period deposits, particularly for pre-medieval remains. The archaeological background to the site has been summarised in a desk-based assessment prepared by AS (Thompson & Summers 2013). In summary:

*Cropmarks on the assessment site suggest the presence of a track or boundary and a ring ditch. Another ring ditch cropmark is located 1880m to the north-west. Multi-period prehistoric activity has been recorded 200m to the south-west. Evidence for extensive late Iron Age settlement has been excavated to the south reaching to within 200m of the site. Excavations show that a Roman small town reaches to within 120m of the site and may extend onto it. The closest find is a possible Roman cremation urn found 60m to the south.*

*An early Anglo-Saxon hamlet settlement overlies the Roman town and also potentially may extend on to the site. A medieval house stood*

near Bouchernes Farm 195m south of the assessment site, and medieval tile and a copper alloy cased mirror have been found there. The Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation channel was completed in 1797. Two Grade II listed buildings are located within 150-200m of the site - Bouchernes Farm and The Old Rectory to the west.

4.2 A geophysical survey of the site was carried out by Stratascan in 2013. This revealed one large linear anomaly of possible archaeological origin in the centre of the site but little else other than evidence of post-medieval ploughing.

## 5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The brief required a 5% sample of the c.3.5ha proposed development site to be investigated by trial trenching. Twenty four trenches each 40m x 1.8m were excavated. The trenches targeted the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey and the 'blank' areas.

5.2 The topsoil was 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

6.1 The individual trench descriptions are presented below:

### Trench 1 (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 1A South West End, South East Facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 4.547m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. Friable, light brownish grey sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular flints.
0.40 – 0.61m	L1001	Subsoil. Friable, light orange brown silty sand with a moderate amount of small sub-rounded flints.
0.61m +	L1002	Natural deposits. Compact, mid yellowish brown sandy gravel with occasional clayish sand patches throughout and frequent small sub-rounded flints.

<i>Sample section 1B North East End, North West Facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 4.757m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.40 – 0.72m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.72m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above.

*Description: Trench 1 contained no archaeological features or finds.*



## **Trench 2** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 2A North West End, South West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.814m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.40 – 0.59m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.59 – 1.19m	L1034	Subsoil. Firm, mid orange brown silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded flints.
1.19m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 2B South East End, North East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.867m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.38 – 0.56m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.56 – 1.02m	L1034	Subsoil. As above.
0.49m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 2 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

## **Trench 3** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 3A South West End, South East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.457m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.33 – 0.65m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.65m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 3B North East End, North West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.737m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.36 – 0.57m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.57 – 1.08m	L1034	Subsoil. As above, Trench 2
1.08m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 3 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

## **Trench 4** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 4A North West End, South West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.517m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.33 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.54 – 0.79m	L1034	Subsoil. As above, Trench 2
0.79m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 4B South East End, North East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.467m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.33 – 0.47m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.47 – 0.91m	L1034	Subsoil. As above, Trench 2
0.91m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 4 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

### **Trench 5** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 5A South West End, South East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.407m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.31 – 0.52m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.52 – 0.80m	L1035	Subsoil. As above, Trench 2
0.80m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 5B North East End, North West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 5.107m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.40 – 0.56m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.56m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 5 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

### **Trench 6** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 6A North West End, South West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.987m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.40 – 0.66m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.66m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 6B South East End, North East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.943m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.37m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.37 – 0.60	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.60m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 6 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

### **Trench 7** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 7A South West End, South East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.267m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.26 – 0.61m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.61 – 0.79m	L1034	Subsoil. As above, Trench 2
0.79m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 7B North East End, North West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.557m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.41m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.41 – 0.67m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.67 – 0.95m	L1034	Subsoil. As above, Trench 2
0.95m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 7 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

### **Trench 8** (Figs. 2 - 4)

<i>Sample section 8A South East End, South West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.503m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.33 – 0.73m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.73m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 8B North West End, North East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.543m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.35 – 0.75m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.75m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 8 contained undated Ditch F1029 which was not identified by the geophysical survey.*

Ditch F1029 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 1.07m wide and 0.21 deep), orientated NE / SW. It had gently sloping sides with a concave base. Its fill (L1030) comprised a firm, light reddish brown silty sand. It contained no finds.

### **Trench 9** (Figs. 2- 3)

<i>Sample section 9A North east End, North West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 4.153m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.25 – 0.55m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.55m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 9B South West End, South East Facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 3.713m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.32 – 0.72m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.72m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 9 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

### **Trench 10** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 10A North East End, North West Facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 3.603m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.25 – 0.66m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.66m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 10B South West End, South East Facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 3.233m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.27 – 0.72m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.72m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 10 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

### **Trench 11** (Figs. 2 - 4)

<i>Sample section 11A South East End, North East Facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 3.703m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.52 – 0.53m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.53m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 11B North West End, South West Facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 3.933m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.23m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.23 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.54m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 11 contained un-dated Ditch F1027 which was not identified by the geophysical survey.*

Ditch F1027 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 0.82m wide and 0.21m deep), and orientated NE / SW. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1028) comprised a firm, light orange grey silty clay with occasional sub-rounded flints. It contained no finds.

### **Trench 12** (Figs. 2 - 4)

<i>Sample section 12A North East End, North West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.803m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.27 – 0.40m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.40m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 12B South West End, South East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.403m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.30 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.54m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 12 contained un-dated Gully F1025 which was not identified by the geophysical survey. It contained a struck flint.*

Gully F1025 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 0.42m wide and 0.06m deep), and orientated NW / SE. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1026) comprised a firm, light orange grey silty sand with occasional sub-rounded flints. It contained a struck flint (1;10g).

### **Trench 13** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 13A South East End, South West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 2.883m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.22m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.22 – 0.58m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.58m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 13B North West End, North East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.233m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.30 – 0.72m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.72m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 13 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

### **Trench 14** (Figs. 2 – 3 & 5)

<i>Sample section 14A East End, South Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.123m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.26 – 0.45m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.45m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 14B West End, North Facing</i>		
0.00 = 3.343m AOD		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.25 – 0.57m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.57m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 14 contained two modern ditches (F1007 and F1009) which corresponded to a positive anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. A second anomaly was not evident within the trench.*

Ditch F1007 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 0.73m wide, and 0.30m + deep), orientated NE / SW. It had steep sides and the base was unseen due to a high water table. F1007 was truncated by Ditch F1009. Its fill (L1008) comprised a firm, dark greyish brown, clayish silt with occasional sub-rounded flints. It contained modern (mid 19<sup>th</sup> – mid 20<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (5; 69g).

Ditch F1009 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 1.70m wide and 0.43m deep), orientated NE / SW. It had steep sides and a concave base. It truncated Ditch F1007. Its fill (L1010) comprised a firm, light greyish brown clayish silt with occasional sub-rounded flints and occasional roots. It contained residual Roman CBM (150g) and animal bone (44g).

### **Trench 15** (Figs. 2 – 3 & 5)

<i>Sample section 15A East End, South Facing</i>		
0.00 = 3.643m AOD		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.26 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.54m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 15B West End, North Facing</i>		
0.00 = 3.713m AOD		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.27 – 0.49m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.49m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 15 contained Ditches F1011 and F1013 which corresponded to positive anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. F1011 contained a modern drainage pipe, and F1013 contained post-medieval CBM. Un-dated Ditch F1015, which was not identified by the geophysical survey, was also present in Trench 15.*

Ditch F1011 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 0.49m wide and 0.59m deep), orientated NE / SW. It had steep sides and a concave base. It was truncated by Ditch F1013. Its fill (L1012) was a firm, dark greyish

brown clayish silt with a moderate sub-rounded flints. It contained a modern ceramic drain pipe at its base.

Ditch F1013 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 2.52m wide and 0.57m deep), orientated NE / SW. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It truncated Ditch F1011. Its fill (L1014) comprised a firm, light greyish brown clayish silt with moderate small sub-rounded flints. It contained post-medieval CBM (832g) and iron fragments (573g)

Ditch F1015 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 0.56m wide and 0.10m deep), orientated NE / SW. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill (L1016) was a friable, light orange grey silty clay with occasional sub-rounded flints. It contained no finds.

### **Trench 16** (Figs. 2 – 3 & 6)

<i>Sample section 16A North End, West Facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 1.812m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.24 – 0.75m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.75m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 16B South End, East Facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 0.902m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.27 – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.50m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 16 contained modern Gully F1005 which corresponded to a positive anomaly identified by the geophysical survey.*

Gully F1015 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 0.38m wide and 0.22m deep), orientated NW / SE. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1006) comprised of a friable, mid brownish grey silty gravel with moderate small sub-rounded flints. It contained a small amount of modern CBM pipe fragments (22g).

### **Trench 17** (Figs. 2 – 3 & 6)

<i>Sample section 17A East End, South Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 0.402m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.31 – 0.66m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.66 – 0.70m	L1003	Subsoil. Firm, dark orange brown clayish gravel with frequent small sub-rounded flints.
0.70m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 17B West End, North Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 0.672m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.31 – 0.52m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.52 – 0.70m	L1004	Subsoil. Firm, Dark greyish brown silty gravel with frequent sub-rounded flints.
0.70m +	L1003	Subsoil. As above

*Description: Trench 17 contained un-dated ditch F1017 which was not identified by the geophysical survey.*

Ditch F1017 was linear in plan (2.6m + long, 0.42m wide and 0.18m deep), orientated E / W. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1018) was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional gravel. It contained no finds.

### **Trench 18** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 18A East End, South Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 1.102m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.28 – 0.55m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.55m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 18B West End, East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 1.583m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.28 – 0.55m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.55m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 18 contained no archaeological features or finds.*



## **Trench 19** (Figs. 2 – 3 & 6)

<i>Sample section 19A North East End, South East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 1.192m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.18 – 0.38m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.38m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 19B South West End, North West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 0.372m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.22m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.22 – 0.57m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.57m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 19 contained un-dated ditch F1019 which was not identified by the geophysical survey.*

Ditch F1019 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 0.51m wide and 0.26m deep), orientated E / W. It had steep sides and a narrow base. Its fill (L1020) was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional gravel. It contained no finds.

## **Trench 20** (Figs. 2 – 3 & 7)

<i>Sample section 20A East End, West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 1.782m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.35 – 0.75m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.75m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 20B West End, South Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 2.052m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.34m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.34 – 0.73m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.73m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 20 contained un-dated Gullies F1021 and F1023 which were not identified by the geophysical survey.*

Gully F1021 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 0.54m wide and 0.12m deep), orientated N / S. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1022) was a firm, light brownish grey silty sand with occasional sub-rounded flints. It contained no finds.

Gully F1023 was linear in plan (2.0m + long, 0.37m wide and 0.04m deep), orientated E / W. It had shallow sides and a flattish base. Its fill (L1024) was a firm, light greyish brown silty sand with occasional sub-rounded flints. It contained no finds.

### **Trench 21** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 21A North East End, North West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 1.212m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.20 – 0.55m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.55m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 21B South West End, South East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 0.502m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.20 – 0.57m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.57 – 0.97m	L1004	Subsoil. As above, Trench 17
0.97 – 1.03m	L1003	Subsoil. As above, Trench 17
1.03m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 21 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

### **Trench 22** (Figs. 2 – 3 & 7)

<i>Sample section 22A East End, South Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 2.813m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.38 – 0.76m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.76m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 22B West End, North Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 3.273m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.26 – 0.46m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.46 – 0.84m	L1003	Subsoil. As above, Trench 17
0.84m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 22 contained un-dated ditch F1031 which was not identified by the geophysical survey.*

Ditch F1031 was linear in plan (2.2m + long, 2.10m + wide and 0.72m deep), orientated NE / SW. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its basal fill (L1032) was a friable, light brownish yellow silty clay with occasional sub-rounded flints. It contained no finds. Its upper fill (L1033) was a friable, mid orange brown silty clay with moderate gravel. It contained no finds.

### **Trench 23** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 23A South East End, South West Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 1.502m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.26 – 0.68m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.68m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 23B North West End, North East Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 1.792m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.25 – 0.68m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.68m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 23 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

### **Trench 24** (Figs. 2 - 3)

<i>Sample section 24A East End, North Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 0.252m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.13m	L1000	Topsoil. As Above, Trench 1
0.13 – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.50 – 0.59m	L1004	Subsoil. As above, Trench 17
0.58 – 0.74m	L1003	Subsoil. As above, Trench 17
0.74m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

<i>Sample section 24B West End, South Facing</i> <i>0.00 = 0.382m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.20 – 0.59m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.59 – 0.86m	L1004	Subsoil. As above, Trench 17
0.86 – 0.99m	L1003	Subsoil. As above, Trench 17
0.99m +	L1002	Natural deposits. As above, Trench 1

*Description: Trench 24 contained no archaeological features or finds.*

## **7 CONFIDENCE RATING**

7.1 Within the areas of the site examined, it is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

## **8 DEPOSIT MODEL**

8.1 Uppermost Topsoil L1000 was a friable, light brownish grey sandy silt layer with small sub-rounded flints (0.13 – 0.41m thick).

L1000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a friable, light brownish orange silty sand with moderate small sub-rounded flints (0.13 – 0.51m thick).

8.2 L1001 overlay Subsoil L1004, a firm, dark greyish brown silty gravel with frequent sub-rounded flints (0.09 – 0.40m thick). L1004 occurred in patches (Trenches 17, 21 and 24 ) (0.09 – 0.40m thick). L1004 overlay Subsoil L1003, a firm, dark orange brown clayish gravel with frequent sub-rounded flints (0.04 – 0.15m thick). L1003 was also patchy (recorded in Trenches 17, 21 - 22 and 24).

8.3 On the western side of the site, L1001 overlay Subsoil L1034, a firm, mid orange brown silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded flints (0.18 – 0.60m thick). L1034 occurred in Trenches 2 - 5 and 7.

8.4 The natural geology was a compact, mid yellowish brown sandy gravel with numerous small sub-rounded flints throughout, and occasional sandy clay patches. L1002 was 0.38 – 1.19m below the present day ground surface.

## 9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Date
8	F1029	Ditch	-
11	F1027	Ditch	-
12	F1025	Gully	-
14	F1007	Ditch	Modern (mid 19 <sup>th</sup> – mid 20 <sup>th</sup> century)
	F1009	Ditch	Modern
15	F1011	Ditch	Modern
	F1013	Ditch	Modern
	F1015	Ditch	-
16	F1005	Gully	Post-medieval
17	F1017	Ditch	-
19	F1019	Ditch	-
20	F1021	Gully	-
	F1023	Gully	-
22	F1031	Ditch	-

9.2 The geophysical survey identified a large linear anomaly near the centre of the site. This linear was revealed in Trenches 15 and 16 (F1015 (Trench 15) and F1005 (Trench 16)). The anomaly was not evident in Trench 14. Five weak linear anomalies, aligned NW/SE, were also identified but these were not detected in any of the trenching and are likely evidence of post-medieval ploughing.

9.3 Archaeological features, all linears (ditches and gullies), were recorded in ten trenches in the central and eastern sectors of the site (Trenches 8, 11 – 12, 14 – 17, 19 – 20 and 22).

9.4 Many of the features were un-dated. These include the ditches and gullies in Trenches 8, 11 – 12, 15, 17, 19 - 20 and 22. A single piece of prehistoric struck flint was recovered from Gully F1025 (Trench 12), and Ditch F1009 (Trench 14) contained residual Roman tegula.

9.5 Post-medieval or modern ditches were recorded in Trenches 14 (F1007 and F1009) and 15 (F1011 and F1013). These features appeared to represent interconnected land drains.

## **10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE**

10.1 Archive records, with inventory, will be deposited at Colchester Museum 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.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Strutt & Parker Ltd, in particular Mr Michael Ward for commissioning the evaluation.

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

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**APPENDIX 1      CONCORDANCE OF FINDS**

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Segment</b>	<b>Trench</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Spot Date (Pot Only)</b>	<b>Pot Qty</b>	<b>Pottery (g)</b>	<b>CBM (g)</b>	<b>A.Bone (g)</b>	<b>Other Material</b>	<b>Other Qty</b>	<b>Other (g)</b>
1005	1006		16	Fill of Gully				22				
1007	1008		14	Fill of Ditch	mid 19th-mid 20th C	5	69					
1009	1010		14	Fill of Ditch				150	44			
1011	1012		15	Fill of Drainage Pipe				161				
1013	1014		15	Fill of Ditch				832		Fe.Frags		573
1025	1026		12	Fill of Gully						S.Flnt	1	10

## APPENDIX 2      SPECIALIST REPORT

### **The Struck Flint**

*Andrew Peachey MCIfA*

Gully F1025 contained a single piece (10g) of struck flint in an un-patinated condition. It comprises a tertiary debitage flake in a dark grey-brown raw flint, with a pale orange cortex. The sub-rectangular flake has a partially shattered bulb of percussion and small blade-like scars, suggesting it was removed from a Neolithic blade core, possible as a trimming or maintenance (rejuvenation) flake.

### **The Pottery**

*Peter Thompson*

The archaeological evaluation recovered 5 sherds weighing 70g from Ditch F1007 (L1008). The sherds are all lightly abraded factory made yellow ware (YELL) from the same vessel and date to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> to mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries

### **Methodology**

The sherds were analysed in keeping with the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski et al 2001).

### **Bibliography**

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J. 2001 Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics, *Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2*.

### **The Ceramic Building Materials**

*Andrew Peachey MCIfA*

The evaluation recovered a total of 21 fragments (1165g) of CBM (Table 1), in a highly abraded condition. The CBM was quantified by fragment count and weight (g), with fabrics examined at x20 magnification.

Period	Type	Fragment Count	Weight (g)
Roman	?Tegula roof tile	2	150
Post-Medieval	?Peg tile	19	1015
<i>Total</i>		<i>21</i>	<i>1165</i>

Table 1: Quantification of CBM



Ditch F1009 contained fragments of Roman CBM, manufactured in an orange fabric with inclusions of common quartz (<0.25mm), sparse red iron rich grains (<2nn) and sparse flint (<5mm). The fragments comprise 15mm flat tile, and although no other diagnostic traits remain extant, are likely derived from tegulae roof tile.

A small group of post-medieval peg tile (12 fragments, 832g) was contained in Ditch F1013, with further sparsely distributed sherds in Gully F1005 and Drainage Pipe F1011. The peg tile was manufactured in a similar fabric to the Roman CBM, albeit fired to a higher temperature, resulting in a red-orange fabric with inclusions of common quartz (0.1-0.5mm), sparse red iron rich grains (<2nn) and sparse flint (<5mm). The peg tile was 12mm thick with a sanded base (no perforations were present), and was likely manufactured in the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1  
Ditch 1029 in Trench 8 looking north-east



2  
Ditch 1027 in Trench 11 looking north-east



3  
Ditch 1025 in Trench 12 looking north-west



4  
Ditches 1007 and 1009 in Trench 14 looking north-east



5  
Ditches 1011 and 1013 in Trench 15



6  
Ditch 1015 in Trench 15 looking north-east





7  
Ditch 1005 in Trench 16 looking north-west



8  
Ditch 1017 in Trench 17 looking east



9  
Ditch 1019 in Trench 19 looking east



10  
Ditch 1031 in Trench 22 looking south-west

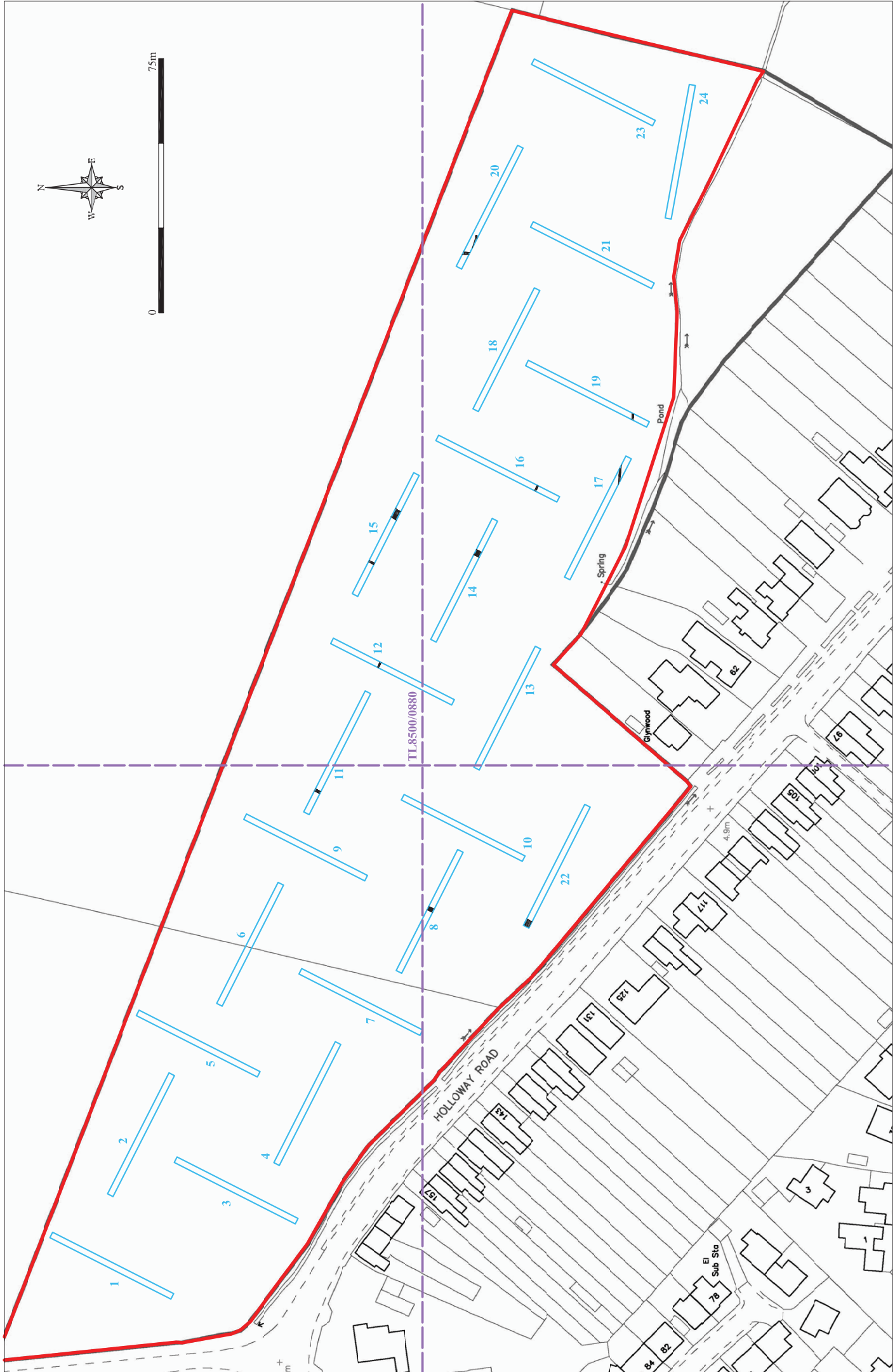




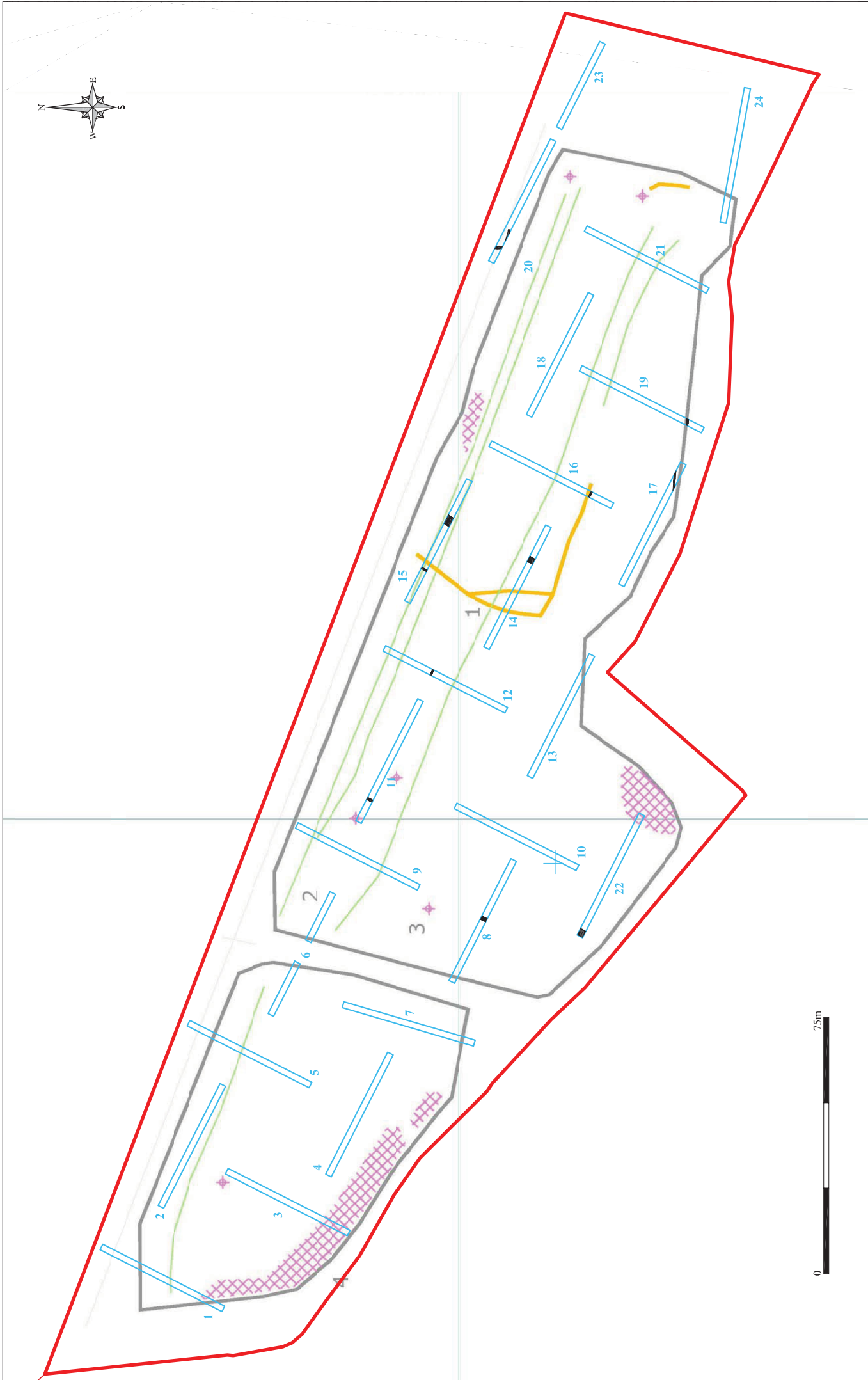
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**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4  
 Holloway Road, Heybridge, Essex (P5310)





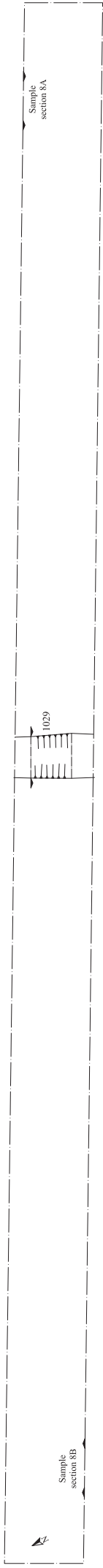
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**Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan**  
 Scale 1:1000 at A3  
 Holloway Road, Heybridge, Essex (P5310)



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**Fig. 3 Trenches on geophysical data**  
 Scale 1:1000 at A3  
 Holloway Road, Heybridge, Essex (P5310)

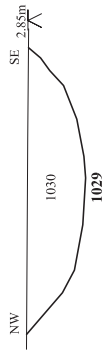


Trench 8

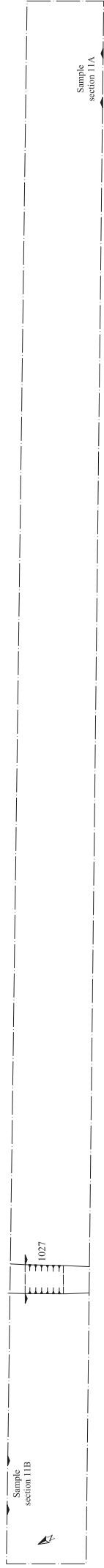


Sample section 8B

Sample section 8A

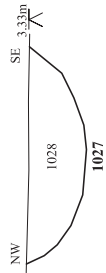


Trench 11



Sample section 11B

Sample section 11A

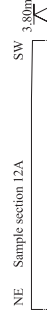
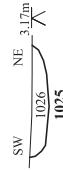


Trench 12



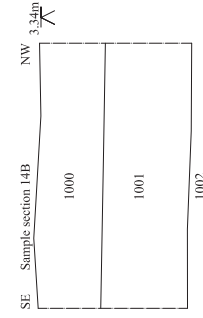
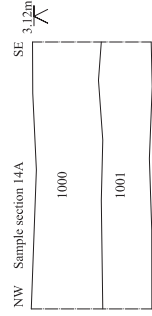
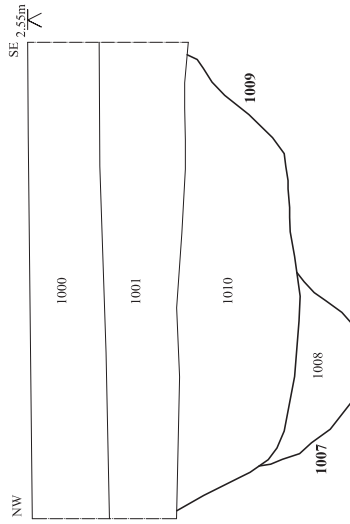
Sample section 12B

Sample section 12A

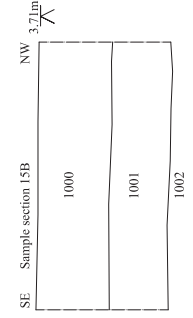
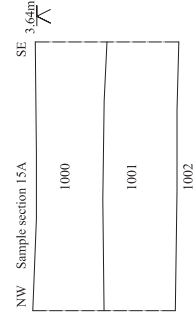
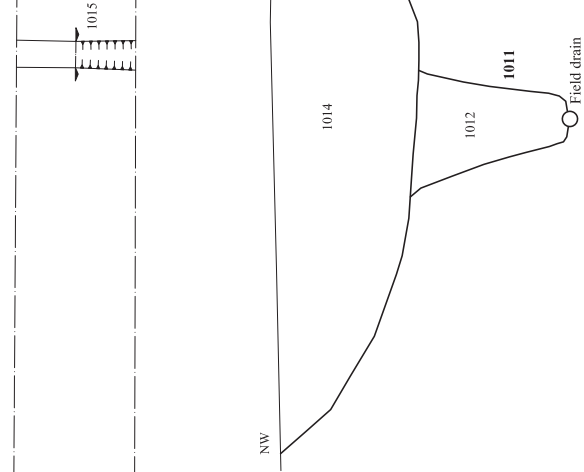




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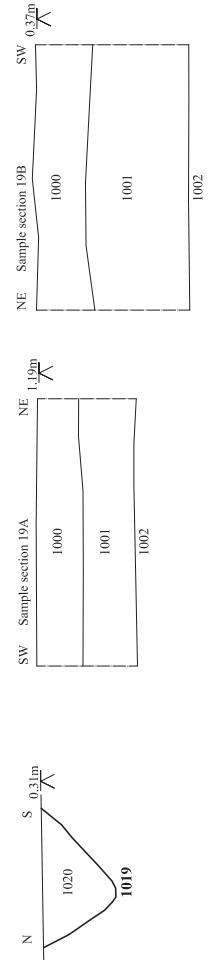
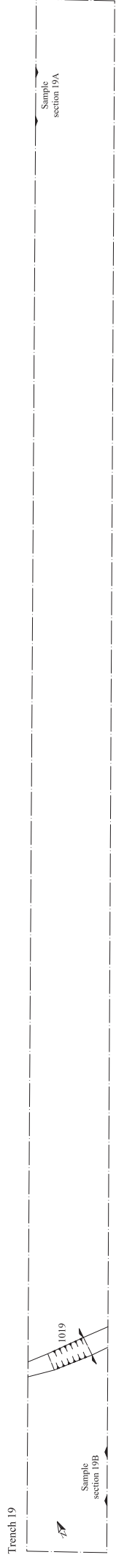
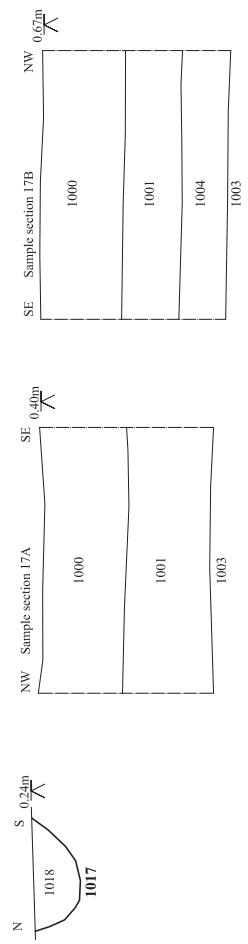
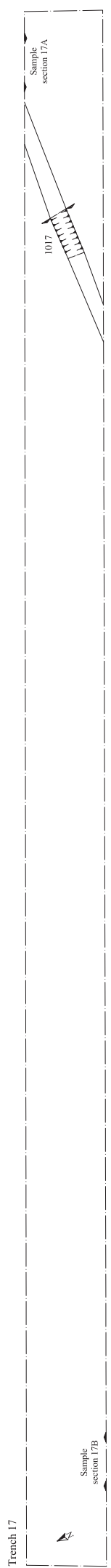
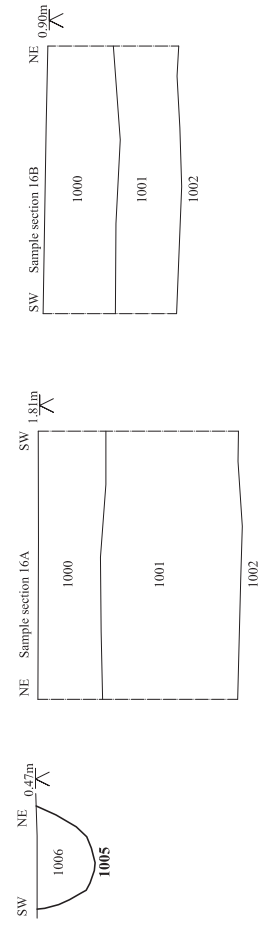


Trench 15

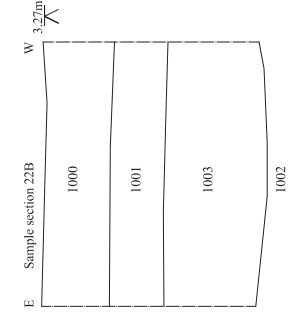
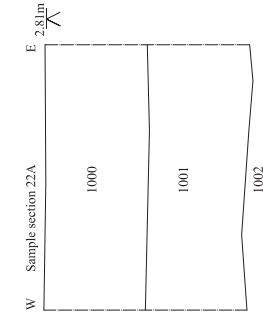
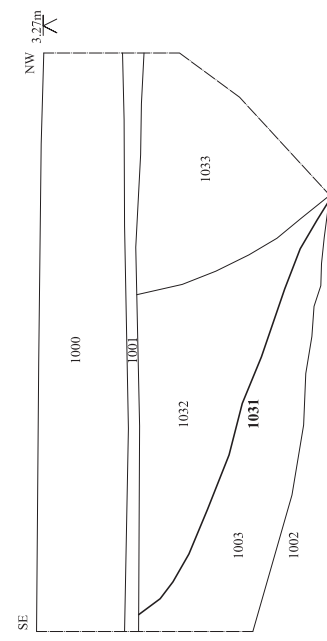
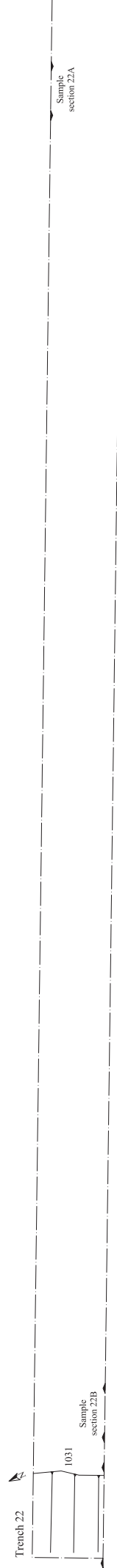
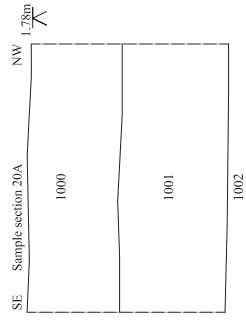
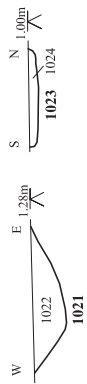
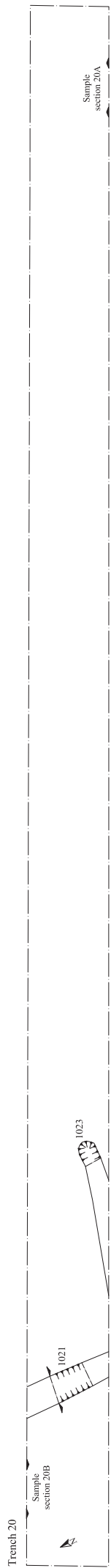


Field drain





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**Fig. 6 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3  
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**Fig. 7 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3  
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