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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

**THREMHALL PRIORY, START HILL, DUNMOW ROAD,  
GREAT HALLINGBURY, ESSEX**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION**

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NGR: TL 53083 21484	Report No: 5280
District: Uttlesford	Site Code: TATP16
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: 2319
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**OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Project details</b>			
<b>Project name</b>		Thremhall Park, Start Hill, Dunmow Road, Great Hallingbury, Essex	
<p>In November and December 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Thremhall Park, Start Hill, Dunmow Road, Great Hallingbury, Essex (NGR TL 53083 21484). The evaluation was commissioned by Mantle and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of four buildings to provide offices with a café, gym and function room together and the provision of new hard surfaced parking.</p> <p>Archaeological features were recorded within each trench. The features were principally ditches and gullies. Pits, post holes and a tree hollow were also present.</p> <p>The principal feature recorded was Trackway F4049 which was present in Trenches 3, 4, 5, 7 and 11. It was undated but its location just below Topsoil L4000 in Trench 4 suggests a post-medieval or relatively recent date. In both Trenches 7 and 11 suggestions of an earlier phase of trackway were recorded (F4047 (Trench 7) and F4053 (Trenches 7 and 11). F4047 L4048 produced a residual sherd of medieval (11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery), and post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (77g). F4053 L4054 contained medieval (late 12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (9; 237g) and late medieval (late 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (308g).</p> <p>Trackway F4049 overlay Layer L4065 which contained late 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century pottery (4; 144g).</p> <p>The majority of the recorded features contained late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) finds, principally CBM. Medieval pottery was recovered from the earlier trackways (F4047 and F4053 Trench 7) and Ditch F4059 (Trench 5) but its association with later CBM suggests the pottery is residual. One discrete feature, Ditch F4010 (Trench 9) contained only medieval (12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery but this was just one sherd and so does not definitively date the feature.</p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)		16/11 – 02/12/2016	
Previous work (Y/N/?)		N	Future work (Y/N/?) TBC
P. number		6928	Site code TATP 16
Type of project		An Archaeological Evaluation	
Site status		Grade II Listed	
Current land use		Business park	
Planned development		Construction of additional buildings and car parks	
Main features (+dates)		Post-medieval trackway	
Significant finds (+dates)		Medieval and post-medieval pottery	
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish		Essex	Uttlesford Great Hallingbury
HER/ SMR for area		Essex HER	
Post code (if known)		CM22 7WE	
Area of site		c.5500m <sup>2</sup>	
NGR		TL 53083 21484	
Height AOD (min/max)		95/98m	
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by		ECC HEA	
Project supervisor/s (PO)		Zbigniew Pozorski	
Funded by		Mantle	
Full title		Thremhall Park, Start Hill, Dunmow Road, Great Hallingbury, Essex. An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation	
Authors		Pozorski, Z.	
Report no.		5280	
Date (of report)		December 2016 (Revised 20/01/2017)	

# THREMHALL PRIORY, START HILL, DUNMOW ROAD, GREAT HALLINGBURY, ESSEX

## AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

### SUMMARY

*In November and December 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Thremhall Park, Start Hill, Dunmow Road, Great Hallingbury, Essex (NGR TL 53083 21484). The evaluation was commissioned by Mantle and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of four buildings to provide offices with a café, gym and function room together and the provision of new hard surfaced parking.*

*The site's history is linked to the foundation of an Augustinian Priory on the site in the mid-12th century. Visible remains of the complex comprise a rectangular moat which surrounds the site. Previous investigations, including trial trenching (1999) and excavation (2005), have demonstrated that the site contains well preserved medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains. The latter include a large columned building which may represent the remains of a high status building associated with the priory complex. A possible metalled track was recorded in the eastern part of the site. The post Dissolution history of the site comprised three phases of development including the construction of a large Georgian house in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.*

*Archaeological features were recorded within each trench. The features were principally ditches and gullies. Pits, post holes and a tree hollow were also present.*

*The principal feature recorded was Trackway F4049 which was present in Trenches 3, 4, 5, 7 and 11. It was undated but its location just below Topsoil L4000 in Trench 4 suggests a post-medieval or relatively recent date. In both Trenches 7 and 11 suggestions of an earlier phase of trackway were recorded (F4047 (Trench 7) and F4053 (Trenches 7 and 11). F4047 L4048 produced a residual sherd of medieval (11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery), and post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (77g). F4053 L4054 contained medieval (late 12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (9; 237g) and late medieval (late 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (308g).*

*Trackway F4049 overlay Layer L4065 which contained late 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century pottery (4; 144g).*

*The majority of the recorded features contained late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) finds, principally CBM. Medieval pottery was recovered from the earlier ?trackways (F4047 and F4053 Trench 7) and Ditch F4059 (Trench 5) but its association with later CBM suggests the pottery is residual. One discrete feature, Ditch F4010 (Trench 9) contained only medieval (12<sup>th</sup> –*

mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery but this was just one sherd and so does not definitively date the feature.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In November and December 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Thremhall Park, Start Hill, Dunmow Road, Great Hallingbury, Essex (NGR TL 53083 21484; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Mantle and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of four buildings to provide offices with a café, gym and function room together with the provision of hard surfaced parking (Uttlesford Council Planning Ref. UTT/16/0735/FUL).

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by Historic Environment Advisor of Essex County Council (ECC HEA; dated 31/08/2016) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 05/09/2016) and approved by ECC HEA. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014), and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The evaluation 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. In particular, it aimed to establish the presence or absence of any remains relating to the medieval priory of Thremhall. It was also important to understand the level of truncation on the site.

### 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 comprises the business centre at Thremhall Priory, immediately north of the former A120 road (and south of the new road), west of the village of Takeley in the parish of Great Hallingbury (Fig. 1). The site is to the east of the border between Essex and Hertfordshire, c.2km from Bishop's Stortford. Dominating the landscape to the north-west is the former WWII American airfield of Stansted, now the large commercial airport of London Stansted.

2.2 The proposed development comprises four extensions to the existing business centre. Area 1 to the east provides additional offices in a building which is linked to a smaller complex at ground floor level to provide new café and gym facilities. Area 2 to the west provides for two new buildings; one a slightly sunken 'big barn' and the other a 'small barn'. Area 3 is an extension to the northern car park, extending westwards towards the pond. It will provide additional car parking with limited tree removal. Area 4 is the site of a pavilion which will be integrated into the east exterior face of the garden wall with some small loss of fabric.

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

3.1 The site is located on the clay uplands of northwest Essex and is situated at 95-98m AOD<sup>1</sup>, on a land rising gradually to the north-east beyond the site. A small watercourse rises to the south-east. The surrounding topography is dominated by London Stansted Airport c.200m to the north of the site. Hatfield Forest and Country Park is located to the south with the land sloping downwards towards the south-west. The River Stort runs through Bishop's Stortford c.3km to the west. The surrounding landscape has smaller brooks, for example, Pincey Brook approximately 1.8 km east of the site.

3.2 The soils in the area belong to the Hanslope Association consisting of lime-rich loamy and clayey soils with slightly impeded drainage (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). The underlying geology is chalky boulder clay of

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<sup>1</sup> Above Ordnance Datum



the London Clay Formation; formed in the Palaeogene Period (British Geological Survey 1978).

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The background to the site is presented in a heritage statement prepared by AS in 2016 (Wilson & Light 2016). In summary:

*The site's history is linked to the foundation of an Augustinian Priory on the site in the mid-12th century. A large columned building found in the area to the north of the garden wall could potentially represent a high status building within the priory complex. Following the Dissolution the priory was given to John Cary and Joyce Walsingham, and later came into the possession of the Raye Family. The latter built a house, probably timber-framed and relatively modest in size, but following their rise in status it was demolished and a Georgian mansion constructed. The latter was built directly over the post-Dissolution house in the later 18<sup>th</sup> century, and subsequently extended in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Excavations have revealed three stages of development. The house became derelict during the 20<sup>th</sup> century and has been extensively re-developed in recent years into a modern business centre, incorporating the Georgian façade into the main office block.*

*The proposed development comprises additional office blocks, café, gym and areas of car parking, and also an orangery integrated into the existing garden wall. The proposed development of Areas 1, 2 and 4 is assessed as having a high impact, but the impact on Area 3 is assessed as moderate as the installation of the car parking requires only a shallow site strip. Previous investigations, including the 1999 trial trenching and the 2005 excavation, have demonstrated that the site has well preserved archaeological remains and therefore the potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeology is high.*

4.2 Previous investigations were completed by Archaeological Solutions (previously the Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust) and comprise:

- **Desk-based assessment (1999):**
- **Trial trench evaluation (1999):** Eleven trenches were excavated mainly in the areas of proposed car parks and to the rear of the house.
- **Historic Building Recording (2005):** Principally the main house, garden house and walled garden were recorded, but several brick and timber outbuildings to the north and the entrance lodge and carriage-house are mentioned.
- **Archaeological Excavation (2006):** Three large areas were excavated prior to the proposed redevelopment. The excavated areas were immediately north of the main house and, following the demolition of the house, the foundations of the house itself.
- **Historic Building Recording (2007):** Commissioned by Mantle Estates Ltd to fulfil a planning condition in respect of the proposed conversion of the building to office use with additional extension.



4.3 Limited Saxon activity has been recorded to date locally. Scatters of Saxon pottery, probably the result of manuring, were found at two locations just over 1km to the north-east (EHER 13772 & 13827).

4.4 During the medieval period the site comprised the Augustinian Priory of Thremhall dedicated to St. James the Apostle (EHER 4599). It was founded in the mid-12<sup>th</sup> century, probably by Gilbert de Mountfitchet who is recorded as giving Thremhall to a Scot, Daniel, to build a monastery on his departure to the Holy Land. Gilbert's son, Richard De Mountfitchet, is recorded making a grant to the Augustinian canons in a charter. The Priory was part of the manor of Stansted Mountfitchet and later came under the patronage of the De Vere family, Earls of Oxford, who acquired the manor in 1320. The only surviving above ground element of the Priory is the fishpond towards the north-western sector of the site. The bowl of a 13<sup>th</sup> century font was discovered in the flowerbeds in the 1930s. During the trial trenching in 1999 sparse structural evidence within the moated enclosure was recorded, but Trench 3 (just north of the walled garden) recorded a layer of mortar, undressed mortared flint nodules and pebbles. Between Trenches 1 and 2 there were the possible remains of another fishpond and Trenches 5 - 8 produced a layer of dumped material; possibly spoil from cutting, or re-cutting, the moat. A possible metalled track ran between Trenches 5 and 6, orientated NW/SE, and consisting of an undated layer of compact, pale yellow, silty clay, constructed with an evident camber. This feature was also visible as a distinct agger, continuing to the NW from Trench 5.

4.5 The subsequent archaeological excavations in advance of development revealed fragmentary but significant evidence of the medieval priory comprising wall foundations and flint gravel surfaces. Although only areas of the precise future construction were excavated, extensive evidence of building foundations and associated surfaces/building platforms gives some indication of the location and scale of the priory buildings. The earliest structural remains comprised a 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century flint rubble wall foundation within Area B1, which was later overlain by a 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century flint gravel surface; possibly a foundation layer of a later building or an external path or yard. It was possible to partially identify the layout of the priory following the excavation. In the north-east area (B1) a large high status building was constructed from stone, possibly the church. To the south-east of this building were two large timber buildings or extensive yards, represented by flint cobbled surfaces. The survival of a buried medieval soil horizon in Test Pits 1 and 2 and Area B2 suggests that the area between these two structures was open ground. A ditch, aligned east/west, which terminated in the north-west corner of Area B2 may represent an internal division; possibly demarcating a boundary between the priory precinct of buildings and the large fishponds to the north.

4.6 An inventory of the Priory at the Dissolution in 1536 records a quire, two altars, a Lady Chapel, Convent Hall and parlour, buttery, kitchen, brewhouse, bakehouse, 'osarye', hall, second chamber and third, dairy and stable. The majority of monastic sites were transformed into secular mansions during this period, often with elaborate conversions. The site was still owned

by the Raye family in the 1760s as Morant (1763-8) recorded the construction by Mr. Raye of a house at the site. He notes that 'Mr Ray has built a handsome little house a little south of the Priory'. This presumably relates to the 18<sup>th</sup> century property. He also notes that 'the only remains of the Priory were a wall on the north side of Mr Ray's garden'. Area A of the 2005 excavations recorded areas of post-medieval made-ground, levelling and demolitions layers, sealing medieval deposits, underlying the Georgian house and possibly representing 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century levelling preparatory for the construction of the post-Dissolution house. It appeared that the cellar walls of this house were constructed of large dressed clunch blocks, column fragments and architectural mouldings, clearly robbed and re-used from a substantial medieval priory building.

4.7 Reuse of worked stone from former medieval monastic buildings was common practice and the 2005 excavation confirmed that the medieval building was extensively robbed following the dissolution, as evidenced by the demolition layers and robber trenches recorded in Area B1. A brick built bay window and fireplace were added to the post Dissolution timber house prior to its demolition. The Georgian house was constructed directly over the post Dissolution building. It was rectangular in plan with a south-facing frontage. Remains of an extensive cellar were excavated and it incorporated earlier walls constructed from stone robbed from the priory. The carriage house to the south of the site is also thought to belong to this phase of rebuilding, or at least it was refaced to give a unified appearance. Investigation of the wall footings identified three phases of 19<sup>th</sup> century development. Three rooms with a flanking corridor were added to the rear of the eastern side in the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Thereafter an early-mid 19<sup>th</sup> century western range was added to the rear of the Georgian house and an extension to the eastern range. There was also evidence of re-building and alteration underlying the eastern service range. The front range was formal with a central hall and rooms to either side. The rear west range would probably have provided servant accommodation. The eastern part of the house may be considered as an expansion to the working part of the house and provided more servant accommodation. The garden house is later 18<sup>th</sup> century, and also the southern and northern walls of the garden. The eastern wall appears to have been added a little later, in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The 1999 trial trench evaluation revealed a backfilled pond in Trench 1 and a wall foundation in Trench 3. The foundation was parallel to the existing walled garden and may have been a covered walkway or other garden feature.

4.8 The surrounding landscape was significantly altered by the introduction of an airfield in the 1940s c.200m to the north (EHER 16639). This airfield was eventually extended and converted after the war to a commercial airport, now London Stansted. The house was abandoned in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and became derelict. It was developed into a business centre following excavations and building recording in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## 5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Ten trenches were initially excavated using a mechanical 180° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 2a). Trench 6 was divided to avoid existing services. At a later stage during the evaluation Trench 11 was excavated to provide section through the identified trackway. The trenches were located within Areas 1 – 4 where new development is proposed.

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

The individual trench descriptions are presented below:

### Trench 1 (Figs. 2a & 3, DP 5-6)

<i>Sample section 1A (DP 3): west end, south-south-east facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 95.18m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L4000	Topsoil. Dark brownish grey, firm, clayey silt.
0.18 – 0.47m	L4024	Modern made ground. Dark greyish brown, firm, clay and gravel with CBM rubble.
0.47 – 0.65m	L4025	Modern made ground. Mid brownish yellow, compact, silty clay with frequent CBM fragments.
0.65 – 0.94m	L4026	Buried topsoil. Dark brownish grey, firm, clayey silt.
0.94 – 1.20m	L4027	Subsoil. Light greyish brown, compact, clayey silt.
1.20m +	L4003	Natural. Light brownish yellow, compact, silty clay.

<i>Sample section 1B (DP 4): east end, north-north-west facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 95.31m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.22m	L4000	Topsoil. As above.
0.22 – 0.44m	L4024	Made ground. As above.
0.44 – 0.75m	L4025	Made ground. As above.
0.75 – 0.93m	L4026	Buried topsoil. As above.
0.93 – 1.08m	L4027	Subsoil. As above.
1.08 – 1.18m+	L4034	Natural. Silty clay with organic contamination. Mid greyish blue, compact.

*Description: Trench 1 contained undated Gully F4035.*

Gully F4035 was linear in plan (2.00+ x 0.53 x 0.14m; DP 5), orientated north-west / south-east. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L4036, was a mid greyish brown, firm, silty clay. No finds were present.

**Trench 2** (Figs. 2a & 3, DP 6-7)

<i>Sample section 2A (DP 8): south end, east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 95.70m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.33 – 0.56m	L4018	Modern made ground. Light brownish grey, friable, clay and gravel.
0.56 – 0.91m	L4019	Modern made ground. Dark greyish brown, firm, silty clay with frequent CBM fragments.
0.91 – 1.39m	L4020	Subsoil. Dark brownish grey, firm, silty clay with occasional small stones.
1.39m +	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 2B (DP 9): north end, west facing</i> <i>0.00 = 95.80m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.24m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.24 – 0.79m	L4023	Modern made ground. Mid brownish grey, firm, silty clay with occasional CBM fragments.
0.79 – 1.29m	L4022	Made ground. Light greyish brown, firm, silty clay with occasional CBM fragments.
1.29 – 1.52m	L4021	Subsoil. Dark brownish grey, firm, silty clay.
1.52m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

*Description: Trench 2 revealed much modern truncation and made ground. Ditches F4028 and F4030, and Tree Hollow F4032 were present. Ditch F4028 was not excavated and may have been post-medieval. Ditch F4030 clearly contained modern (20<sup>th</sup> century) finds and was not excavated, and the tree hollow contained frequent CBM fragments.*

Ditch F4028 was linear (3.00+ x 0.60m), orientated north-east / south-west. It was not excavated for safety reasons. Its fill, L4029, was a mid greyish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional small CBM fragments. The feature may have been of post-medieval date.

Ditch F4030 was linear (1.60+ x 2.15m), orientated east / west. It was not excavated. Its fill, L4031, was a dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay with CBM rubble and fragments of cut timber and roots. The ditch evidently contained modern finds.

Tree Hollow F4032 was irregular in plan and subcircular (3.30 x 1.35m+). It was not excavated. Its fill, L4033, was a dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay with frequent CBM fragments and roots.

**Trench 3** (Figs. 2a & 4, DP 10-11)

<i>Sample section 3A (DP 12): north end, east-north-east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 96.30m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.33 – 0.62m	L4070	Mid brownish grey, firm, clayey silt with occasional CBM fragments.
0.62 – 0.80m+	L4065	Mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt.

<i>East section (DP 13): east side, west-south-west facing</i> 0.00 = 96.35m AOD		
0.00 – 0.32m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.32 – 0.44m	L4051	Trackway. Light brownish grey, compacted, stone, flint and mortar rubble.
0.44 – 0.60m	L4050	Trackway. Light yellow, compact, clay.
0.60 – 0.78m+	L4065	Layer. As above.

*Description: A post-medieval trackway (F4049) overlying a medieval layer (L4065) was recorded. A modern (20<sup>th</sup> century) ditch (F4072) was also present.*

*Two deposits, L4050 and L4051, were identified as belonging to a feature thought to represent a trackway, F4049. Both deposits were evident only in the eastern section of the trench. The trackway extended northwards through Trenches 3 and 4 and southwards through Trenches 5, 7 and 11. It was aligned north-north-east / south-south-west in the northern sector of the site and gradually turned south and south-south-eastwards in the southern sector of the site leading to an area east of the walled garden.*

The upper deposit related to the trackway was L4051, a light brownish grey, compact, stone, flint and mortar rubble. It extended over an area of 4.60m within the trench section and was 0.10 – 0.15m thick increasing to 0.24 – 0.27m thick. L4069 was material similar to L4051, but loose and mixed with topsoil, and present on both (the northern and southern) extremities. Below the rubble was L4050, a layer of light yellow, compact, clay (0.13 – 0.16m thick). These deposits contained no finds.

Below the clay, L4050, within the entire length of Trench 3 was Layer L4065, a mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt (0.18m+ thick).

Ditch F4072 was linear (2.60+ x 0.85 x 0.37m), orientated north-west / south-east. It had steep sides and its base was unseen. Its fill, L4073, was a mixed dark grey and brown, friable, silty clay occasional CBM rubble and debris. F4072 was of modern (20<sup>th</sup> century) date.

#### **Trench 4** (Figs. 2a & 4, DP 14-15)

<i>Sample section 4A (DP 16): north end, east-north-east facing</i> 0.00 = 96.18m AOD		
0.00 – 0.35m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.35 – 0.61m	L4070	As above, Trench 3.
0.61 – 0.70m+	L4065	As above, Trench 3.

<i>Sample section 4B (DP 17): south end, west-south-west facing</i> 0.00 = 96.80m AOD		
0.00 – 0.28m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.28 – 0.49m	L4070	As above, Trench 3.
0.49m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.



*Description: Trench 4 contained the remains of a trackway (F4049) also recorded in Trenches 3, 5, 7 and 11. A modern service (F4067) was also present.*

The trackway, F4049, was aligned north-north-east / south-south-west and was c.2.60m wide. As in Trench 3 it consisted of two deposits: a layer of compact rubble (L4051; 0.25m thick) which overlay a layer of clay (L4050; 0.12 – 0.16m thick). Loose rubble, L4069, likely derived from L4051, was present on both sides of the track and again a similar sequence was recorded in Trench 3. F4049 truncated L4065. The latter was 0.40m thick and contained medieval (late 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> / early 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (4; 144g).

The trackway was disturbed by a modern service (F4067) which was orientated east-north-east / west-south-west.

### **Trench 5** (Figs. 2a & 5, DP 21-22)

<i>Sample section 5A (DP 23): west end, south-south-east facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 96.62m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.21m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.21 – 0.40m	L4070	As above, Trench 3.
0.40m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 5B (DP 24): east end, north-north-west facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 97.05m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.22m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.22 – 0.35m	L4071	Modern levelling layer. Light yellow, compact, clay with small stones.
0.35 – 0.90m+	L4064	Backfill of earlier evaluation trench. Mixed rubble, debris, clay, sand and silt.

*Description: Ditches F4057 and F4059, and Pit F4061 were recorded in Trench 5, and the features were late post-medieval or modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century). The remains of a trackway (F4049) were also present, and overlay Layer L4065.*

Ditch F4057 was linear in plan (2.25+ x 0.58 x 0.17m; DP 25), orientated north-east / south-west. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L4058, was a mid to dark grey, friable, clayey silt. It contained late post-medieval / modern (late 18<sup>th</sup> – mid 20<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (5; 77g), CBM (645g), glass (1; 4g) and iron nail fragments (2; 16g).

Ditch F4059 was linear in plan (1.60+ x 0.65 x 0.10m; DP 26), orientated north-north-west / south-south-east. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L4060, was a light brown, friable, silty clay with frequent CBM fragments. It contained a residual sherd of medieval / late medieval (13<sup>th</sup> – mid 16<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (1; 53g) and CBM (1207g). The latter is post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) (CBM report below).

Pit F4061 was sub rectangular in plan (2.25 x 1.52+ x 0.15m; DP 27). It had irregular sides and a flat base. Its fill, L4062, was a dark brownish grey, nearly

black, friable, silt. It contained a residual late medieval / post-medieval (late 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> century) pottery sherd (1; 23g), CBM (178g) and oyster shell (1; 14g). The CBM is late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) (CBM Report below)

Trackway F4049, c.3.25m wide, was aligned north-north-west / south-south-east and consisted of a layer of stone, flint and mortar rubble (L4051; 0.05m thick) overlying clay (L4050; 0.10m+ thick). The clay was contained within Cut F4049. Layer L4065 was visible beneath and overlay the natural clay, L4003.

To the east of the trackway Layer L4063 (0.15m+ thick) was present and it overlay deposits associated with the trackway. Late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (115g) was recovered from the layer.

### **Trench 6A** (Figs. 2a & 5, DP 29-30)

<i>Sample section 6A (DP 31): south end, east-north-east facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 97.40m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.12m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.12 – 0.26m	L4043	Modern levelling layer. Light brownish yellow, firm, clay with gravel and occasional debris.
0.26 – 0.43m	L4026	Buried topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.43 – 0.53m	L4042	Mid yellowish brown, firm, silty clay.
0.53 – 0.65m	L4052	?Buried topsoil. Dark grey, friable, clayey silt.
0.65 – 0.78m	L4041	Mid greyish brown, firm, silty clay.
0.78m+	L4044	Mid grey, firm, silty clay with occasional CBM fragments.

*Description: Ditch F4045, likely modern, was present within the trench and cut ?post-medieval Layer L4044.*

Ditch F4045 was linear (5.50+ x 0.60 x 0.35m; DP 32), orientated north west / south east. It had vertical sides and a flat base. Its fill, L4046, was a mid to dark grey, compact, silty clay with occasional CBM fragments. The ditch was likely of modern (20<sup>th</sup> century) date.

Layer L4044 (0.25 – 0.30m thick) overlay the natural clay (L4003) and occupied the entire trench. It was possibly of post-medieval origin.

### **Trench 6B** (Figs. 2a & 5, DP 33-34)

<i>Sample section 6B (DP 35): north end, west-south-west facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 97.38m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.21m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.21 – 0.41m	L4040	Modern levelling layer. Light brownish grey, firm, clay with silt and gravel.
0.41 – 0.58m	L4026	Buried topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.58 – 0.82m	L4039	Subsoil. Dark yellowish brown, firm, silty clay.
0.82m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.



*Description: Late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> century) Pit F4037 was present in the trench.*

Pit F4037 was sub circular in plan (0.57 x 0.55 x 0.15m). It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L4038, was a mid brownish grey, firm, silty clay. It contained CBM (176g), glass (1; 2g) and an iron nail fragment (1; 3g). The CBM is of late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) date (CBM report below).

### **Trench 7** (Figs. 2a & 6, DP 36-37)

<i>Sample section 7A (DP 38): north-west end, south-west facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 96.95m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.22m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.22 – 0.38m	L4043	Modern levelling layer. As above, Trench 6A.
0.38 – 0.55m	L4026	Buried topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.55m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 7B (DP 39): south-east end, north-east facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 97.28m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.07m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.07 – 0.23m	L4043	Modern levelling layer. As above, Trench 6A.
0.23 – 0.35m	L4026	Buried topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.35 – 0.42m	L4042	As above, Trench 6A.
0.42 – 0.53m	L4052	? Buried topsoil. As above, Trench 6A.
0.53m+	L4050	Trackway layer. As above, Trench 3.

*Description: Trackway F4049, also recorded in Trenches 3, 4, 5 and 11, was present in Trench 7. Features, F4047 and F4053, predated the trackway and may represent earlier phases of trackway. Undated Post Hole F4055 were present.*

Post Hole F4055 was sub circular (0.25 x 0.21 x 0.12m; DP 40). It had near vertical sides and a concave base. Its fill, L4056, was a dark greyish brown, firm, silty clay. No finds were present.

Trackway F4049 recorded in Trenches 3, 4, 5 and 11 was present in Trench 7, orientated south-south-east. It was c.3.50m wide and, as observed in the other trenches, its principal elements consisted of two layers: compact rubble (L4051) overlying clay (L4050). The clay was contained within Cut F4049 and overlaid earlier deposits. The latter were also contained in linear cuts, F4047 and F4053, parallel to the trackway. The cuts had steep sides and flat bases: on the western side of the trackway L4054 (0.40m thick; DP 41) extended 1.25m beyond L4049 within F4053. On the eastern side, L4048 (0.33m thick; DP 42) was present within F4047. Both L4048 and L4054 consisted of a similar mid yellowish brown, compact, silty clay. L4048 produced a residual sherd of medieval (11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery), post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (77g) and shell (1; 7g). L4054 contained medieval (late 12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (9; 237g) and late medieval (late 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (308g) and shell fragments (6; 58g).

**Trench 8** (Figs. 2a & 7, DP 44-45)

<i>Sample section 8A (DP 46): south end, east-north-east facing</i> 0.00 = 95.37m AOD		
0.00 – 0.22m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.22 – 0.45m	L4002	Made ground. Mid greyish brown, friable, clayey silt with occasional CBM fragments.
0.45 – 0.50m	L4016	Subsoil. Dark brownish grey, firm, clayey silt.
0.50m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 8B (DP 47): north end, west-south-west facing</i> 0.00 = 95.28m AOD		
0.00 – 0.12m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.12 – 0.32m	L4001	Modern made ground. Light brownish yellow, friable, clay and gravel with CBM rubble.
0.32 – 0.49m	L4002	Made ground. As above.
0.49 – 0.55m	L4016	Subsoil. As above.
0.55m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

*Description: Late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) Post Hole F4004 and undated Pit F4006 were present in Trench 8.*

Pit F4006 was sub circular (1.00+ x 0.86 x 0.07m; DP 48). It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L4007, was a mid greyish brown, firm, silty clay. No finds were present.

Post Hole F4004 was sub circular (0.32 x 0.25+ x 0.32m; DP 49). It had vertical sides and a concave base. Its fill, L4005, was a mid yellowish brown mottled with yellow, compact, silty clay. It contained late post-medieval - modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (6g).

**Trench 9** (Figs. 2a & 7, DP 50)

<i>Sample section 9A (DP 51): east end, north-west facing</i> 0.00 = 95.40m AOD		
0.00 – 0.13m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.13 – 0.81m	L4001	Modern made ground. As above, Trench 8. It contained late post-medieval – modern (18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C) CBM (1299g) and animal bone (148g).
0.81 – 0.97m	L4016	Subsoil. As above, Trench 8.
0.97m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 9B (DP 52): west end, south-east facing</i> 0.00 = 95.20m AOD		
0.00 – 0.10m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.10 – 0.87m	L4001	Modern made ground. As above, Trench 8.
0.87 – 0.96m	L4017	Subsoil. Mid to dark brownish grey, firm, clayey silt.
0.96m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

*Description: Ditch F4010 and Pit F4012 were present within Trench 9. F4010 contained a medieval (12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) sherd and Pit F4012 contained late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM.*

Ditch F4010 was linear in plan (1.60+ x 0.41 x 0.15m; DP 53), orientated north west / south east. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L4011, was a mid brownish grey, compact, silty clay. It contained a sherd of medieval (12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (1; 3g).

Pit F4012 was sub circular and irregular in plan (0.98 x 0.32 x 0.27m; DP 54). It had steep sides and an uneven base. Its fill, L4013, was a light brownish grey, compact, silty clay. It contained late post-medieval - modern CBM (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM fragments (372g).

### **Trench 10** (Figs. 2a & 7, DP 55-56)

<i>Sample section 10A (DP 57): south-east end, north-east facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 95.01m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.15m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.15 – 0.34m	L4001	Modern made ground. As above, Trench 8.
0.34 – 0.53m	L4015	Made ground. Dark greyish brown, firm, clayey silt with occasional CBM fragments.
0.53 – 0.65m	L4016	Subsoil. As above, Trench 8.
0.65m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 10B (DP 58): north-west end, south-west facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 95.17m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.27m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.27 – 0.70m	L4001	Modern made ground. As above, Trench 8.
0.70 – 0.88m	L4016	Subsoil. As above, Trench 8.
0.88m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

*Description: Ditch F4008 was present and it contained late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM.*

Ditch F4008 was linear in plan (1.60+ x 0.46 x 0.15m; DP 59), orientated east / west. It had moderately sloping sides and concave base. Its fill, L4009, was a mid yellowish brown, firm, silty clay. It contained late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM fragments (642g).

**Trench 11** (Figs. 2a & 6, DP 60)

<i>North section (DP 61-62): north side, south-south-east facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 97.19m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.16m	L4000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.16 – 0.33m	L4043	Modern levelling layer. As above, Trench 6A.
0.33 – 0.44m	L4026	Buried topsoil. As above, Trench 1.
0.44 – 0.59m	L4051	Trackway. As above, Trench 3.
0.59 – 0.87m	L4050	Trackway. As above, Trench 3.
0.88 – 1.00m	L4054	Mid yellowish brown, compact, silty clay. As above, Trench 7.
1.00m+	L4003	Natural clay. As above, Trench 1.

*Description: The trench was excavated as an extension to Trench 7 to expose a right-angled section through the trackway, F4049.*

The trackway consisted of layer of rubble, L4051 (0.16 – 0.21m thick) overlying a clay layer, L4050 (0.30m thick). The rubble was c.2.60m wide, overlain by Buried Topsoil L4026 and present 0.40 – 0.50m below the existing ground level. Re-deposited rubble (L4069) derived from the trackway was present to the west of L4051. Below L4051, clay layer L4050 was 0.18 – 0.30m thick.

Below Trackway F4049 was F4053 which was also recorded in Trench 7 and may represent an earlier phase of trackway. The fill of F4053 was L4054, a mid yellowish brown, compact, silty clay.

## **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 L4000, a dark brownish grey, firm, clayey silt (0.10 – 0.30m thick). L4000 overlay deposits of modern made ground which were very substantial particularly in the western part of the site (Trenches 1, 2 and 8 - 10) measuring 0.60 – 1.20m thick in total compared to the remainder of the site where the made ground was 0.25 – 0.40m thick.

8.2 Buried topsoil, L4026, was frequently present below the modern made ground. It was a dark brownish grey, firm, clayey silt (c.0.10 – 0.20m thick). In the north-western part of the site (Trenches 1 and 2) it overlay Subsoil L4027, a light greyish brown, compact, clayey silt (0.15 – 0.25m thick) which overlay the natural clay. In the south-western part of the site (Trenches 8 – 10) below the modern made ground was Subsoil L4016, a dark brownish grey, firm, clayey silt (0.05 – 0.10m thick) which overlay the natural clay. In the south-

eastern part of the site L4026 overlay post-medieval and medieval deposits associated with the trackway (0.40 – 0.65m thick in total). The north-eastern part of the site was dominated by L4070, a mid brownish grey, firm, clayey silt with occasional CBM fragments (0.30 – 0.35m thick). It overlay the trackway deposits and also the natural clay.

8.3 A possible earlier buried topsoil, L4052, was also present in the western part of the site. It was a dark grey, friable, clayey silt (c.0.10 – 0.20m thick). It overlay the trackway deposits and layers of mid greyish brown and grey, firm, silty clay, L4041 and L4044 (0.43m+ thick in total).

8.4 The natural clay, L4003, was present at c.0.50 – 1.30m below the existing ground level and consisted of a light brownish yellow, compact, silty clay.

## 9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Date
1	F4035	Gully	-
2	F4028	Ditch	?Post medieval
	F4030	Ditch	Modern (20 <sup>th</sup> C)
	F4032	Tree Hollow	-
3	F4049	Trackway	-
	F4072	Ditch	Modern (20 <sup>th</sup> C)
4	F4049	Trackway	-
	F4067	Service	Modern (20 <sup>th</sup> C)
5	F4049	Trackway	-
	F4057	Ditch	Late post medieval / modern (18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C)
	F4059	Ditch	Late post medieval / modern (18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C)
	F4061	Pit	Late post medieval / modern (18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C)
6A	L4044	Layer	Post medieval
	F4045	Ditch	Modern (20 <sup>th</sup> C)
6B	F4037	Pit	Late post medieval / modern (18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C)
7	F4047	?Trackway	-
	F4049	Trackway	-
	F4053	?Trackway	-
	F4055	Post Hole	Undated
8	F4004	Post Hole	Late post medieval / modern (18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C)
	F4006	Pit	Undated
9	F4010	Ditch	Medieval (12 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> C) sherd
	F4012	Pit	Late post medieval / modern (18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C)
10	F4008	Ditch	Late post medieval / modern (18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> C)
11	F4049	Trackway	-
	F4053	?Trackway	-

9.2 The site had a high potential for archaeological remains, in particular for those related to the medieval Augustinian Priory which was located within the site and surrounded by a moat. Previous archaeological investigations on

the site revealed a large columned building which may represent a high status building within the priory complex. A possible metal track was recorded in the eastern part of the site. After the Dissolution the history of the site comprised three phases of development including the construction of a large Georgian house in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

9.3 Archaeological features were recorded within each trench. The features were principally ditches and gullies (Gully F4035 Trench 1; Ditches F4028 and F4030 Trench 2; Ditch F4072 Trench 3; Ditches F4057 and F4059 Trench 5; Ditch F4045 Trench 6A; Ditch F4010 Trench 9 and Ditch F4008 Trench 10). Pits (F4061 Trench 5; F4037 Trench 6B; F4006 Trench 8 and F4012 Trench 9), post holes (F4055 Trench 7 and F4004 Trench 8) and a tree hollow (F4032 Trench 2) were also present.

9.4 The principal feature recorded was Trackway F4049 which was present in Trenches 3, 4, 5, 7 and 11. It was undated but its location just below Topsoil L4000 in Trench 4 suggests a post-medieval or relatively recent date. In both Trenches 7 and 11 suggestions of an earlier phase of trackway were recorded (F4047 (Trench 7) and F4053 (Trenches 7 and 11)). F4047 L4048 produced a residual sherd of medieval (11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery), and post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (77g). F4053 L4054 contained medieval (late 12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (9; 237g) and late medieval (late 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (308g).

9.5 Trackway F4049 (L4050 and L4051) extended from the current, possibly ancient, access to the priory compound in the north-eastern sector of the site. Its projected course, through the trial trenches and beyond (Fig. 2b) suggests that it passed immediately east of the walled garden. The northern projection of F4049, through the current access would have joined the line of Bury Lodge Lane, the current route of which is truncated by the modern airport complex before continuing some 1.15km to the north-east of the site; the southern terminus of Bury Lodge Lane joins Dunmow Road at the site's southern boundary. The rubble contained in L4051 may have been derived from the priory buildings which were demolished following the Dissolution. Trackway F4049 overlay Layer L4065 which contained late 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>/ 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery (4; 144g).

9.7 The majority of the recorded features contained late post-medieval/modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) finds, principally CBM. Medieval pottery was recovered from the earlier trackways (F4047 and F4053 Trench 7) and Ditch F4059 (Trench 5) but its association with later CBM suggests the pottery is residual. One discrete feature, Ditch F4010 (Trench 9) contained only medieval (12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery but this was just one sherd and so does not definitively date the feature.

## **Research Potential**

9.8 The recorded archaeology provides further detail on the character of the medieval and post-medieval activity that has previously been recorded during archaeological work by AS at Thremhall Priory. In particular, the



features which have been dated to the 18<sup>th</sup>/ 19<sup>th</sup> century are likely to be associated with the construction and occupation of the Georgian house that was constructed here, replacing earlier structures. Medlycott (2011, 79) indicates that work is required to help further record and understand the parks and gardens associated with the country houses and mansions of the East Anglian region. The archaeology recorded at this location might, therefore, contribute to a study of such aspects of the post-medieval landscape. Furthermore, it is noted that the effects of the dissolution on the landscape are an important area of study for this region (Medlycott 2011, 79) and, although indirectly, the Georgian development at Thremhall Priory is a result of this.

9.9 The earlier archaeology may be used to add to the picture obtained from earlier archaeological work here regarding the character and extent of surviving medieval archaeology. This information may be used to further current understanding of the medieval religious institution that formerly occupied the site.

## **10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE**

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

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**APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS**

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A. Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
	4001	9	Made Ground				1299	148			
4004	4005	8	Fill of post hole				6				
4008	4009	10	Fill of ditch				642				
4010	4011	9	Fill of ditch	12 <sup>th</sup> - mid 14 <sup>th</sup>	1	3	372				
4012	4013	9	Fill of pit								
4037	4038	6B	Fill of pit				176		Fe.Frag Glass	1	3
4047	4048	7	?Trackway	11 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	1	3	77		Shell	1	7
4053	4054	7	?Trackway	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> -mid 14 <sup>th</sup>	9	237	308		Shell	6	58
4057	4058	5	Fill of ditch	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> -mid 20 <sup>th</sup>	5	77	645		Fe.Frag Glass	2	16
4059	4060	5	Fill of ditch	13 <sup>th</sup> -mid 16 <sup>th</sup>	1	53	1207				
4061	4062	5	Fill of pit	Late 15 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	1	23	178		Shell	1	14
	4063	5	Layer				115				
	4065	4	Layer	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> / early 14 <sup>th</sup>	4	144					
	4066	5	Layer						Stone	2	24000

## APPENDIX 2      SPECIALIST REPORTS

### **The Pottery**

*By Peter Thompson*

The archaeological evaluation recovered 22 sherds (weighing 540g) from five features, a trackway and a layer. Three features and the trackway contained medieval pottery, and two features had sherds of post-medieval date.

#### *Methodology*

The sherds were examined and recorded in keeping with the Post-Roman Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski 2001, Table 1). The fabric codes are those used for Essex Post-Roman pottery (Cotter 2000), and dating is that used in Essex and for fabrics on the Museum of London Database (Cotter 2000, MoLA 2014). Form terminology follows those used by the MPRG.

#### *The Pottery*

Ditch F4053 (L4054) contained 8 medieval coarseware sherds and one glazed. Three of the sherds in grey fabrics deriving from a single jar with thumb imprinted neck cordon, contain an abundant milky quartz fabric similar to Hedingham coarseware, but the form indicates that these are South Hertfordshire greyware sherds. The single glazed sherd is of similar fabric to medieval Harlow ware, and a date centred on the 13<sup>th</sup> century is likely for the context.

Layer 4065 contained four sherds from two jar rims in medieval coarse ware also indicating a date of late 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>/early 14<sup>th</sup> centuries date. Trackway L4047 and Ditch F4010 (L4011) also each contained a single medieval coarse ware sherd. Ditch F4059 (4060) contained a sherd of probable Harlow ware with vestiges of abraded glaze indicating a date of 13<sup>th</sup>-mid 16<sup>th</sup> centuries date. Pit F4061 (L4062) contained a single body sherd in fine orange-brown fabric of late medieval/early post-medieval earthenware. Ditch F4057 (L4058), yielded 5 sherds of early modern to modern post-medieval red earthenware including flower pot.

#### **KEY:**

MCW: Medieval Coarseware (F13/20) Late 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>/mid 14<sup>th</sup>

SHER: South Hertfordshire Greyware (F20) late 12<sup>th</sup>-mid 14<sup>th</sup>

UPG: Unprovenanced glazed ware (F21)

HARL: Harlow ware (F21D) 13<sup>th</sup>-mid 16<sup>th</sup>

PMRE: Post-medieval red earthenware late (F40) 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>

LPMRE: Late Post-medieval red earthenware (F40) mid 18<sup>th</sup>+

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Ditch 4010	4011	1x4g MCW	12 <sup>th</sup> - mid 14 <sup>th</sup>	
Trackway 4047	4048	1x3g MCW	11 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	
Ditch 4057	4058	5x79g LPMRE	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> -mid 20 <sup>th</sup>	LPMRE: MNV 3 vessels including flower pot
Ditch 4053	4054	5x66g MCW 3x165g SHER  1x6g UPG	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> -mid 14 <sup>th</sup>	MCW: MNV 4 vessels SHER: MNV 1; x1 jarshoulder/ neck sherd with applied finger deco cordon, x1 body/base angle UPG: mottled brown/clear and green glaze
Ditch 4059	4060	1x54g HARL	13 <sup>th</sup> -mid 16 <sup>th</sup>	HARL: vestiges of abraded glaze
Pit 4061	4062	1x23g PMRE	Late 15 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	PMRE: smooth surfaces, fine sandy orange-brown fabric
Layer	4065	4x140g MCW	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> / early 14 <sup>th</sup>	MCW: x2 vessels, both moderately abraded cooking pot rims

Table 1: Quantification of sherds by context

## References

Cotter, J. P., 2000 Colchester Archaeological Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85 *English Heritage*

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

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

By Andrew Peachey MCIfA

The evaluation recovered a total of 43 fragments (5025g) of CBM in a highly fragmented condition; the bulk of which was comprised of post-medieval material, probably dating to the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries; however two fragments of peg tile were manufactured in the medieval period, probably in the late 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries (Table 2).

CBM Type	Date	Frequency	Weight (g)
Peg tile	Medieval	2	192
Peg tile	Post-medieval	32	2071
Red brick		7	1463
Field drain		2	1299
<i>Total</i>		43	5025

Table 2: Quantification of CBM

The medieval CBM comprised two fragments, almost certainly from a single peg tile contained in Ditch F4053 in association with post-medieval CBM. The tile was manufactured in a fabric with dark red-brown surfaces that fade to an orange core; with inclusions of common medium-coarse sand temper (c.0.5mm, sparse to 1mm), sparse red iron rich grains (<3mm) and occasional flint (<5mm). The fabric is relatively hard fired with a harsh abrasive feel. The only extant dimension is a thickness of 12mm, with other traits comprising a moderately warped profile and a coarse sanded base. Early peg tiles came into general use in East Anglia in the mid 13<sup>th</sup> century and had become almost universal by the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century; however until 1477 when legislation standardised dimensions and quality they exhibited considerable variation (Drury 1981, 131). The thickness and technological traits of these fragments tentatively suggest they were manufactured after standardisation in the late 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, potentially into the Tudor period.

The bulk of the post-medieval CBM is also comprised of peg tile, albeit in a contrasting fabric notable for a finer, more consistent and well-fired production standard. The fabric is red-orange throughout, with common well-sorted medium sand temper (c.0.25-0.5mm), sparse fine mica and occasional flint (<5mm). It is very hard fired, but exhibits only slight warping and has a moderately abrasive feel. These technological traits are most consistent with tiles produced in the 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, though origins in the 17<sup>th</sup> century cannot be totally discounted. A small group of 10 fragments (1207g) was contained in Ditch F4059, but this equates to only approximately a single complete tile, and several are represented in this group. Further small fragments of peg tile were sparsely distributed in Pits F4004, F4012, F4061, Layers L4048, L4063 and Ditch F4053.

Low quantities of post-medieval soft red brick were also recovered, but constitute little more than sparse rubble in Ditches F4008, F4057 and Pit F4037. Based on small fragments, these bricks appear to be 65mm thick with a smooth base, suggesting they were manufactured in the 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, though they appear significantly removed from being associated with any structures in the close vicinity.

Levelling Layer L4001 contained cross-joining fragments of a field drain, notable because it is a flat-based type with an ovoid/horseshoe profile bore that was formed in a mould; a relatively uncommon type employed in the late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, prior to circular, extruded variants dominating the market.

### *Reference*

Drury, P. 1981 'The production of brick and tile in medieval England' in Crossley, D. (ed.) *Medieval Industry*. Council of British Archaeology Research report 40, 126-142

**APPENDIX 3****CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE**

<b>Records</b>	<b>Number</b>
Brief	N
Specification	Y
Registers	5 (Context, Photo, Digital Photo, Drawing Sheet, Drawing)
Context Sheets	9
Site drawings A1	0
Site drawings A3	8
Site drawings A4	0
Site photographs b/w	26
Site photographs colour slides	26
Digital Photographs	98

## APPENDIX 4 HER SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Site name/Address:</b> Thremhall Park, Start Hill, Dunmow Road, Great Hallingbury, Essex	
<b>Parish:</b> Great Hallingbury	<b>District:</b> Uttlesford
<b>NGR:</b> TL 53083 21484	<b>Site Code:</b> TATP16
<b>Type of Work:</b> Archaeological evaluation (trial trenching)	<b>Site Director/Group:</b> Z. Pozorski
<b>Date of Work:</b> 16/11 – 02/12/2016	<b>Size of Area Investigated:</b> c.250m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Location of Finds/Curating Museum:</b> Saffron Walden	<b>Funding source:</b> by Mantle
<b>Further Seasons Anticipated?:</b>	<b>Related HER No.s:</b>
<b>Final Report:</b> Pozorski, Z., 2016, Thremhall Park, Start Hill, Dunmow Road, Great Hallingbury, Essex. Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation. AS Report No. 5280	
<b>Periods Represented:</b> - 12 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> century, 16 <sup>th</sup> century onwards	
<b>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</b>	
<p>In November and December 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Thremhall Park, Start Hill, Dunmow Road, Great Hallingbury, Essex (NGR TL 53083 21484). The evaluation was commissioned by Mantle Business Centres Ltd and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of four new buildings to provide offices with café, gym and function room together with provision of new hard surfaced parking.</p> <p><i>Archaeological features were recorded within each trench. The features were principally ditches and gullies. Pits, post holes and a tree hollow were also present.</i></p> <p><i>The principal feature recorded was Trackway F4049 which was present in Trenches 3, 4, 5, 7 and 11. It was undated but its location just below Topsoil L4000 in Trench 4 suggests a post-medieval or relatively recent date. In both Trenches 7 and 11 suggestions of an earlier phase of trackway were recorded (F4047 (Trench 7) and F4053 (Trenches 7 and 11). F4047 L4048 produced a residual sherd of medieval (11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery), and post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (77g). F4053 L4054 contained medieval (late 12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery (9; 237g) and late medieval (late 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century) CBM (308g).</i></p> <p><i>Trackway F4049 overlay Layer L4065 which contained late 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century pottery (4; 144g).</i></p> <p><i>The majority of the recorded features contained late post-medieval / modern (18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) finds, principally CBM. Medieval pottery was recovered from the earlier ?trackways (F4047 and F4053 Trench 7) and Ditch F4059 (Trench 5) but its association with later CBM suggests the pottery is residual. One discrete feature, Ditch F4010 (Trench 9) contained only medieval (12<sup>th</sup> – mid 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery but this was just one sherd and so does not definitively date the feature.</i></p>	
<b>Previous Summaries/Reports:</b> Wilson, L & Light, T, 2016, <i>Thremhall Priory, Dunmow Road, Takeley, Essex. A Summary Heritage Statement</i> , AS Report No. 4971	
<b>Author of Summary:</b> Z. Pozorski	<b>Date of Summary:</b> December 2016



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DP 34. Trench 6B. Looking north-north-west.



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DP 36. Trench 7. Looking east-south-east.





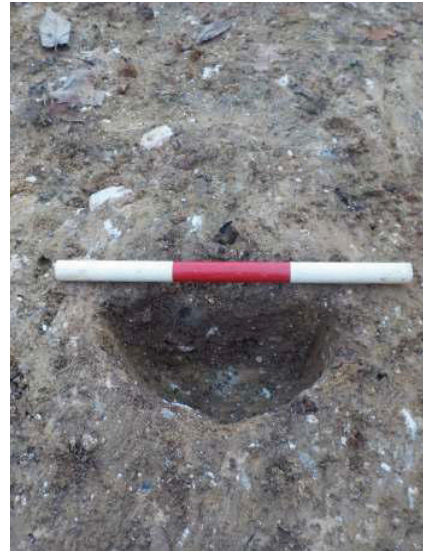
DP 37. Trench 7. Looking north-west.



DP 38. Trench 7, north-west end. Sample section 7A. Looking north-east.



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DP 60. Trench 11 with trackway section. Looking north-west.

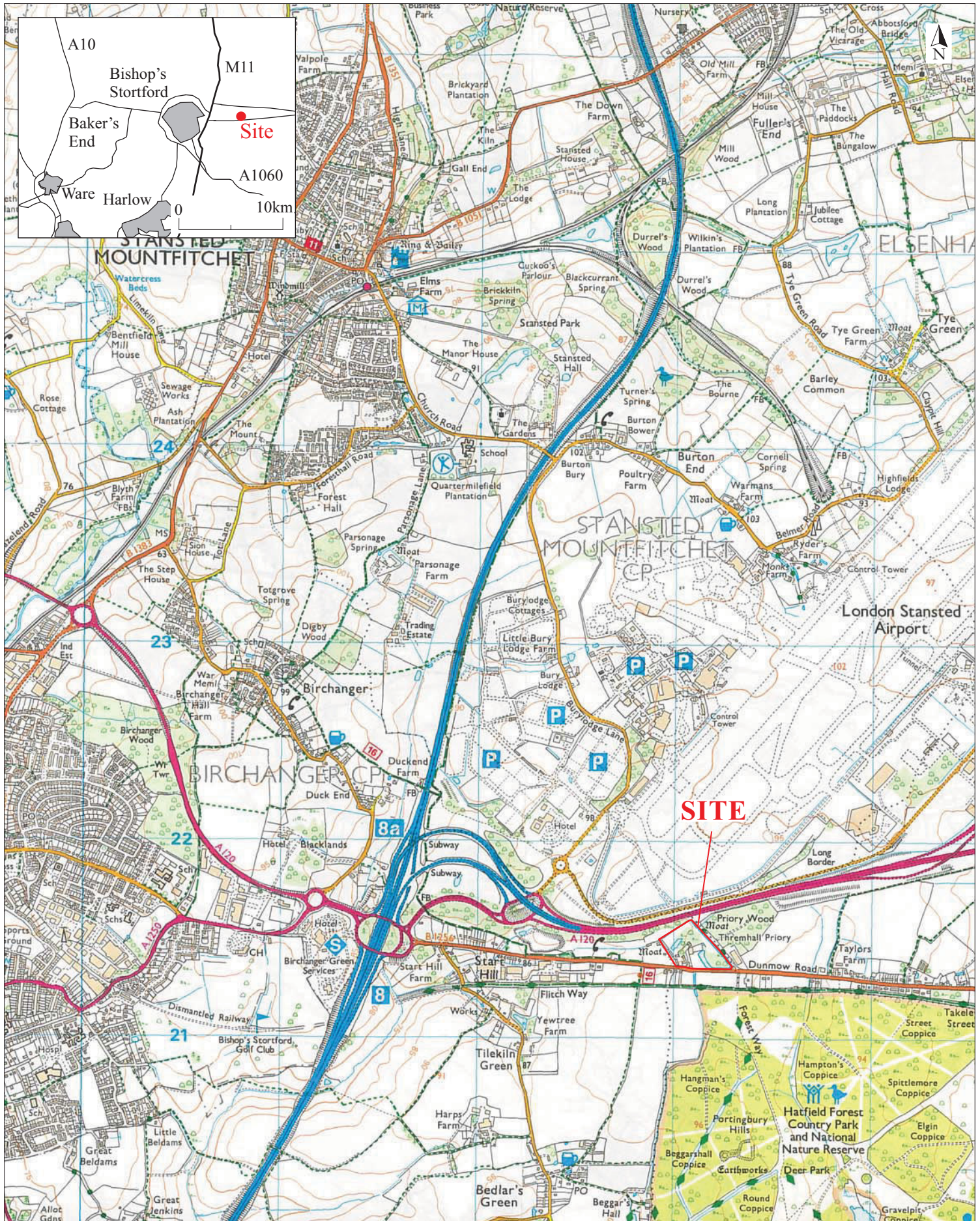


DP 61. Trench 11 with trackway section.  
Looking north.



DP 62. Trench 11, trackway section.  
Looking north.





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**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4  
 Thremhall Priory, Dunmow Road, Takeley, Essex (P2319)



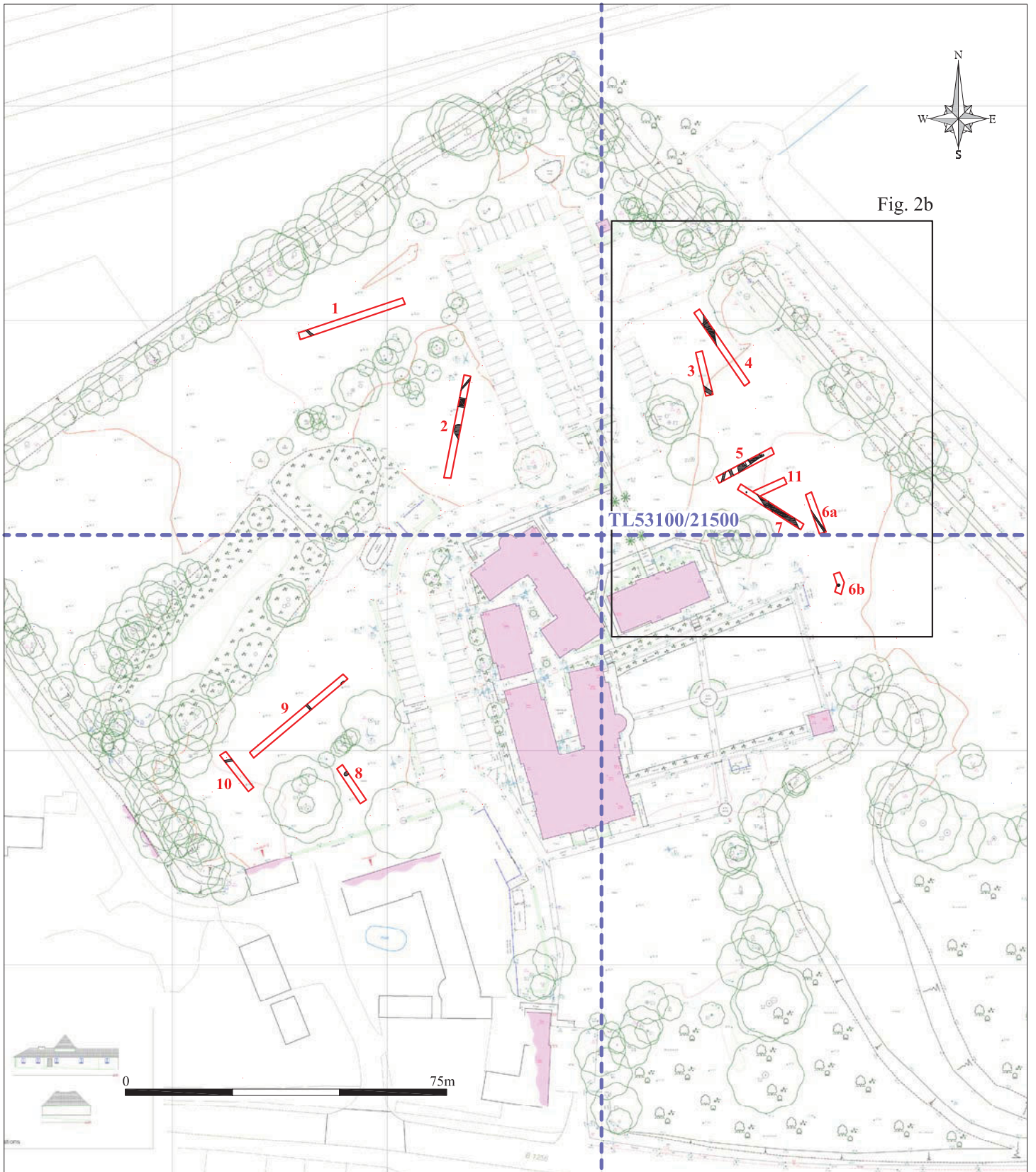


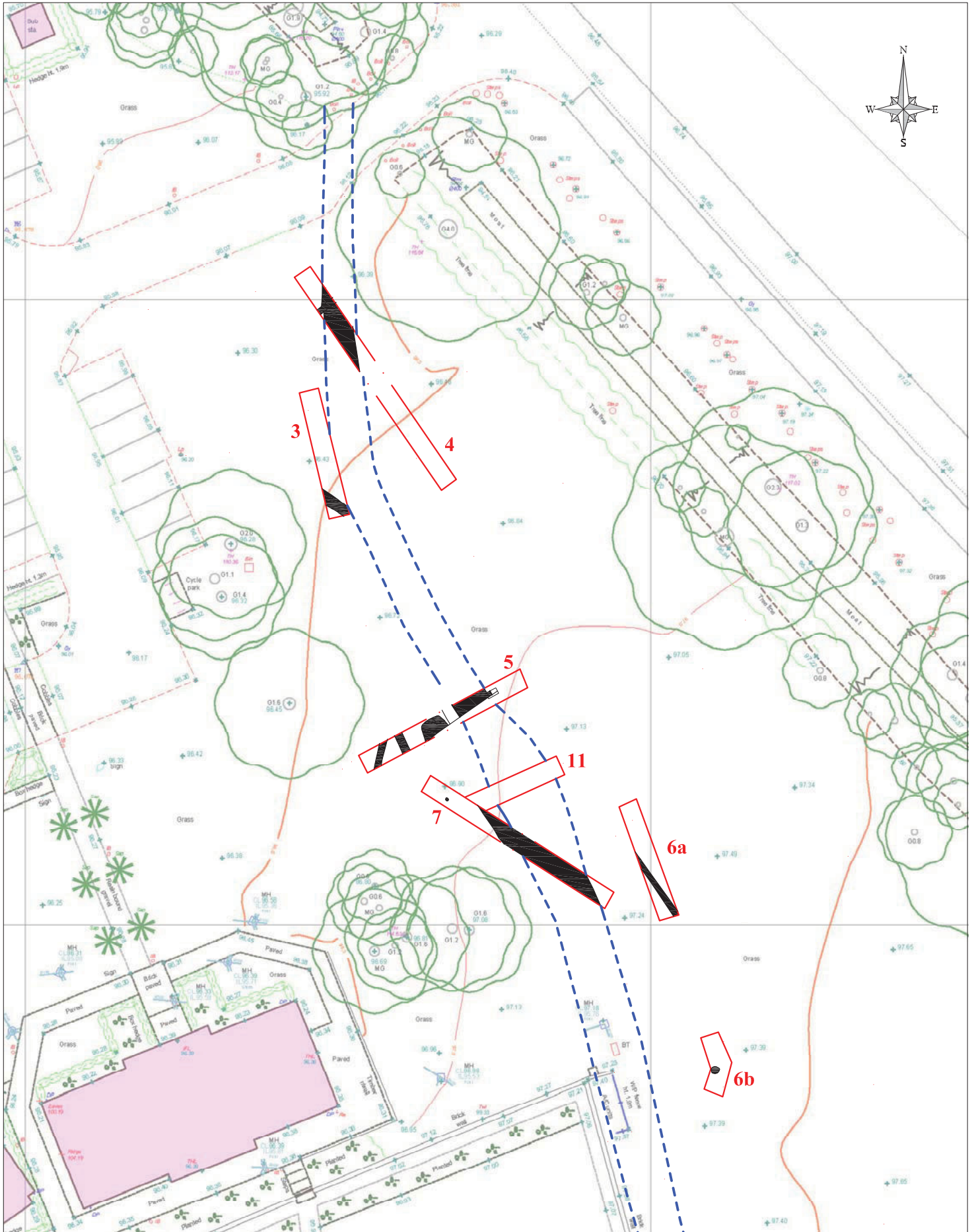
Fig. 2b

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**Fig. 2a Detailed site location plan**

Scale 1:1250 at A4

Thremhall Priory, Dunmow Rd, Takeley, Essex (P2319)



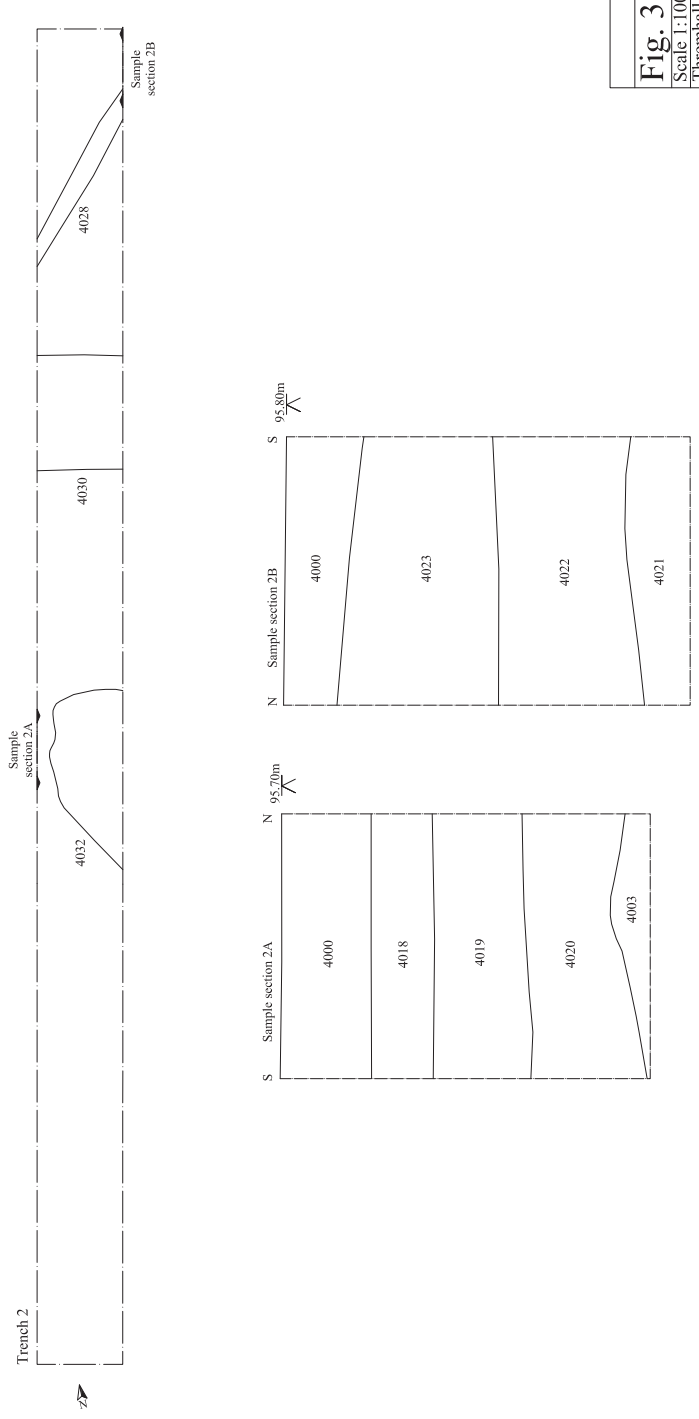
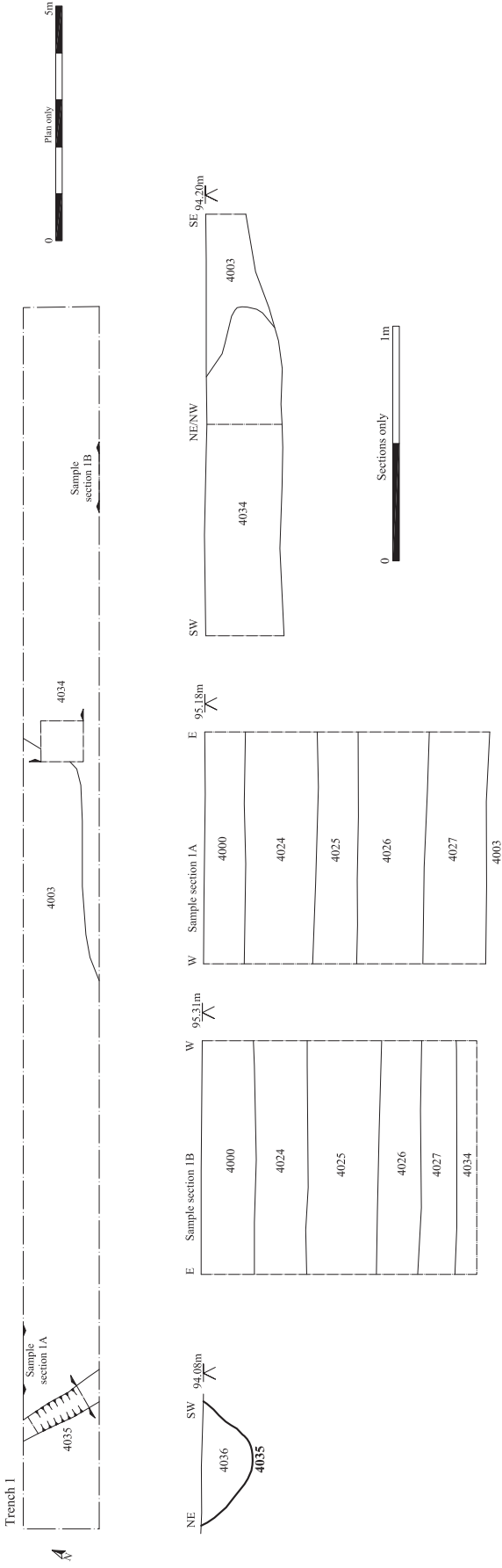
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**Fig. 2b Projected course of Trackway 4049**

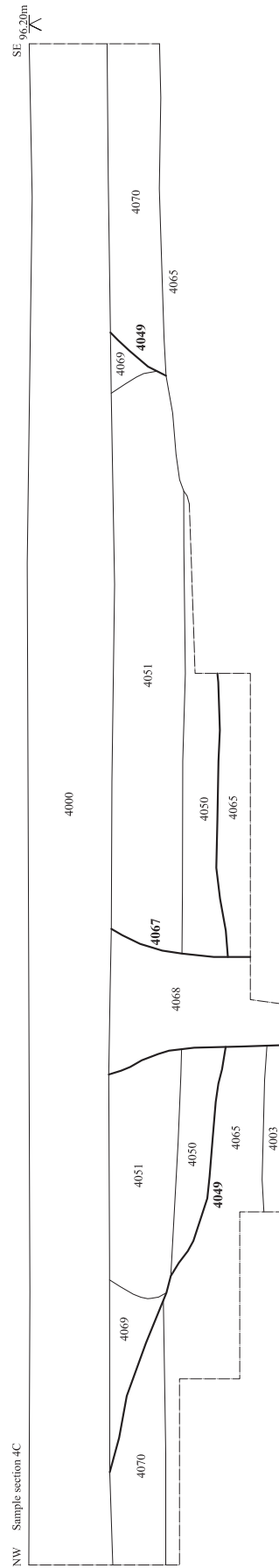
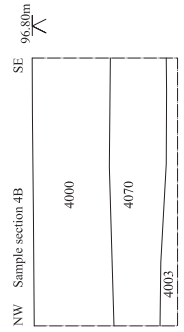
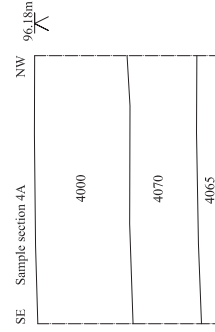
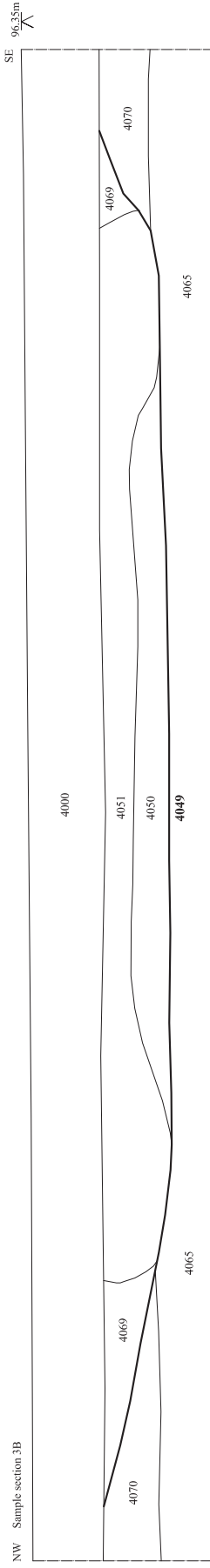
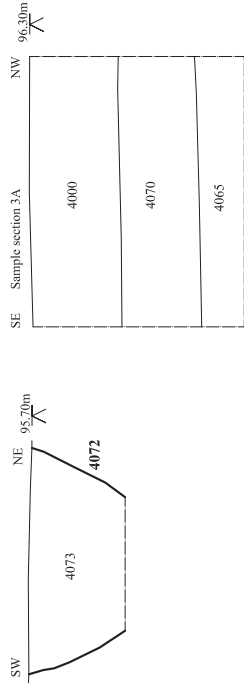
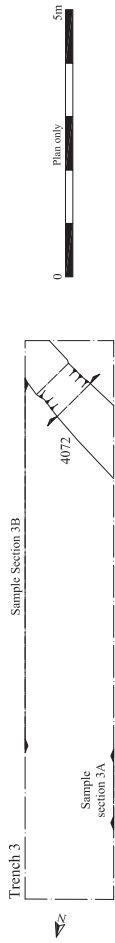
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Thremhall Priory, Dunmow Rd, Takeley, Essex (P2319)

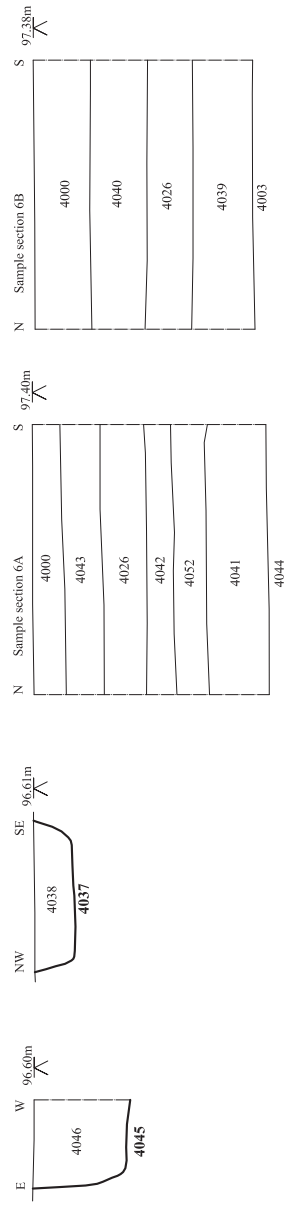
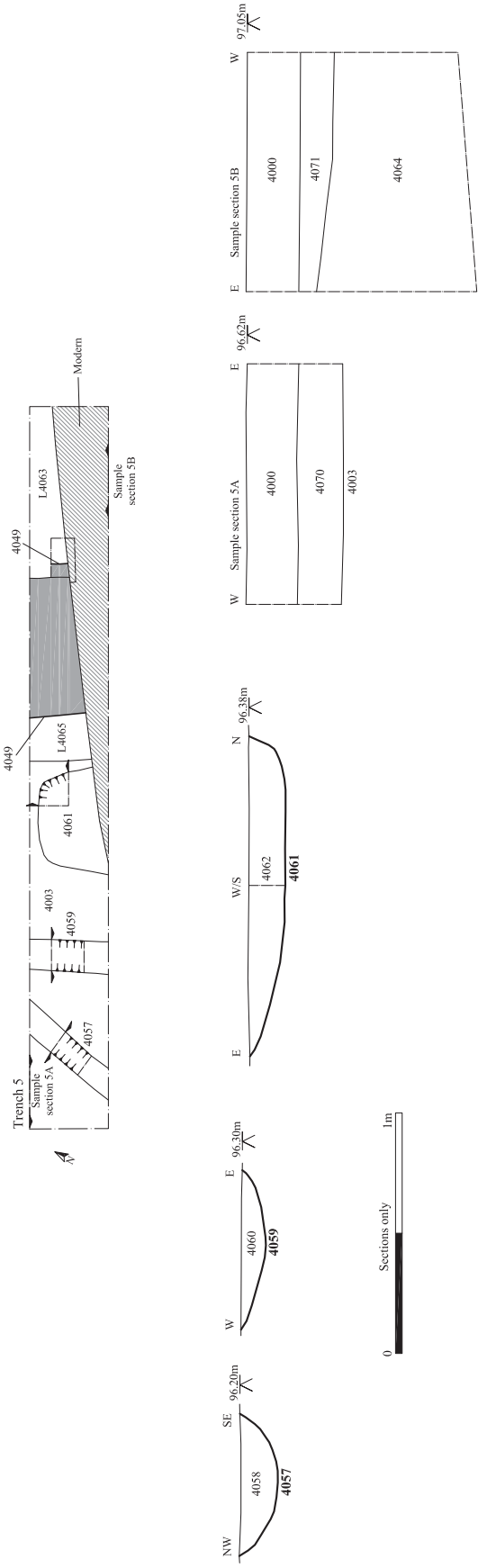




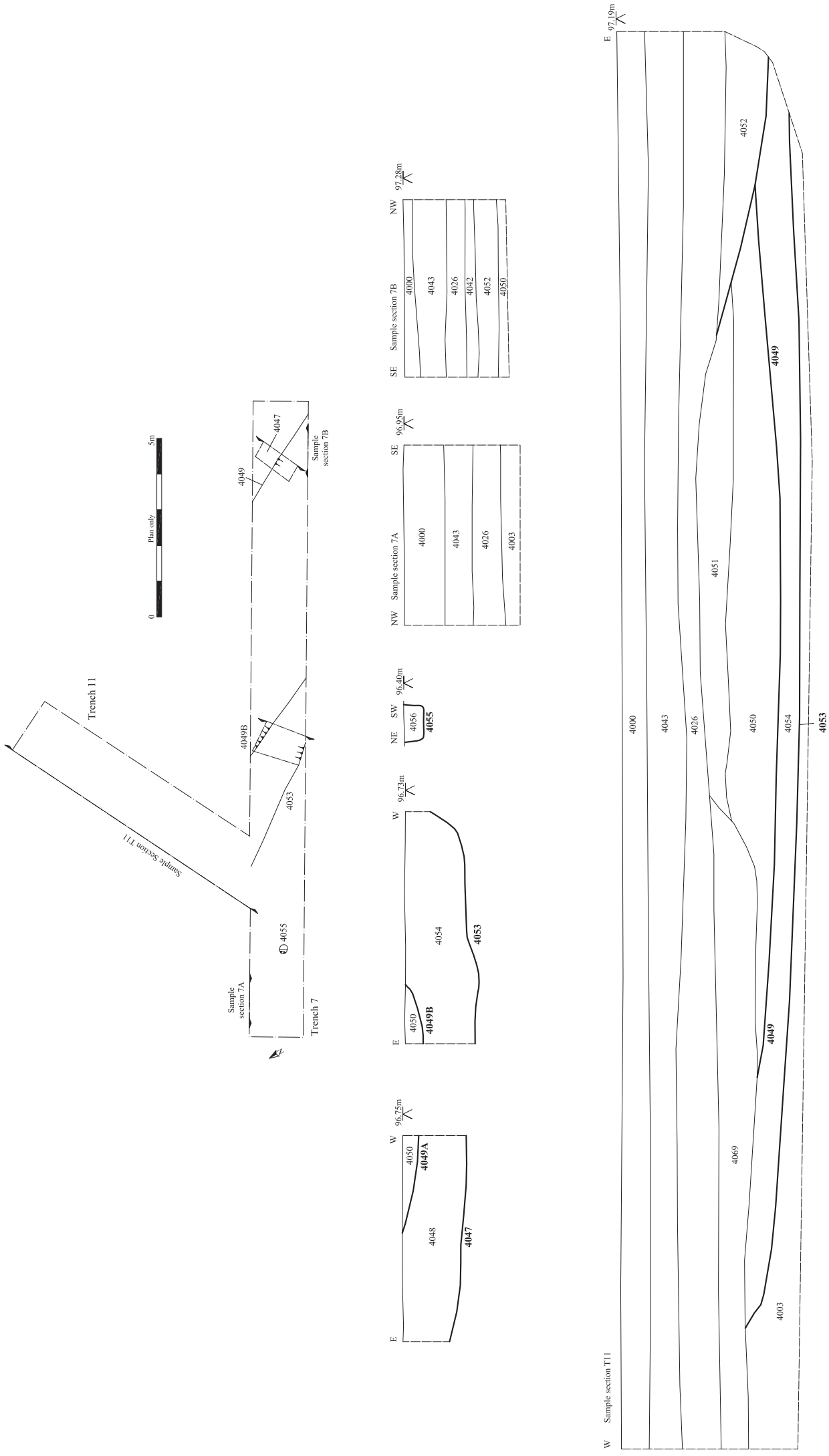
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**Fig. 3 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3  
 Threshall Priory, Dunmow Rd, Takeley, Essex (P2319)



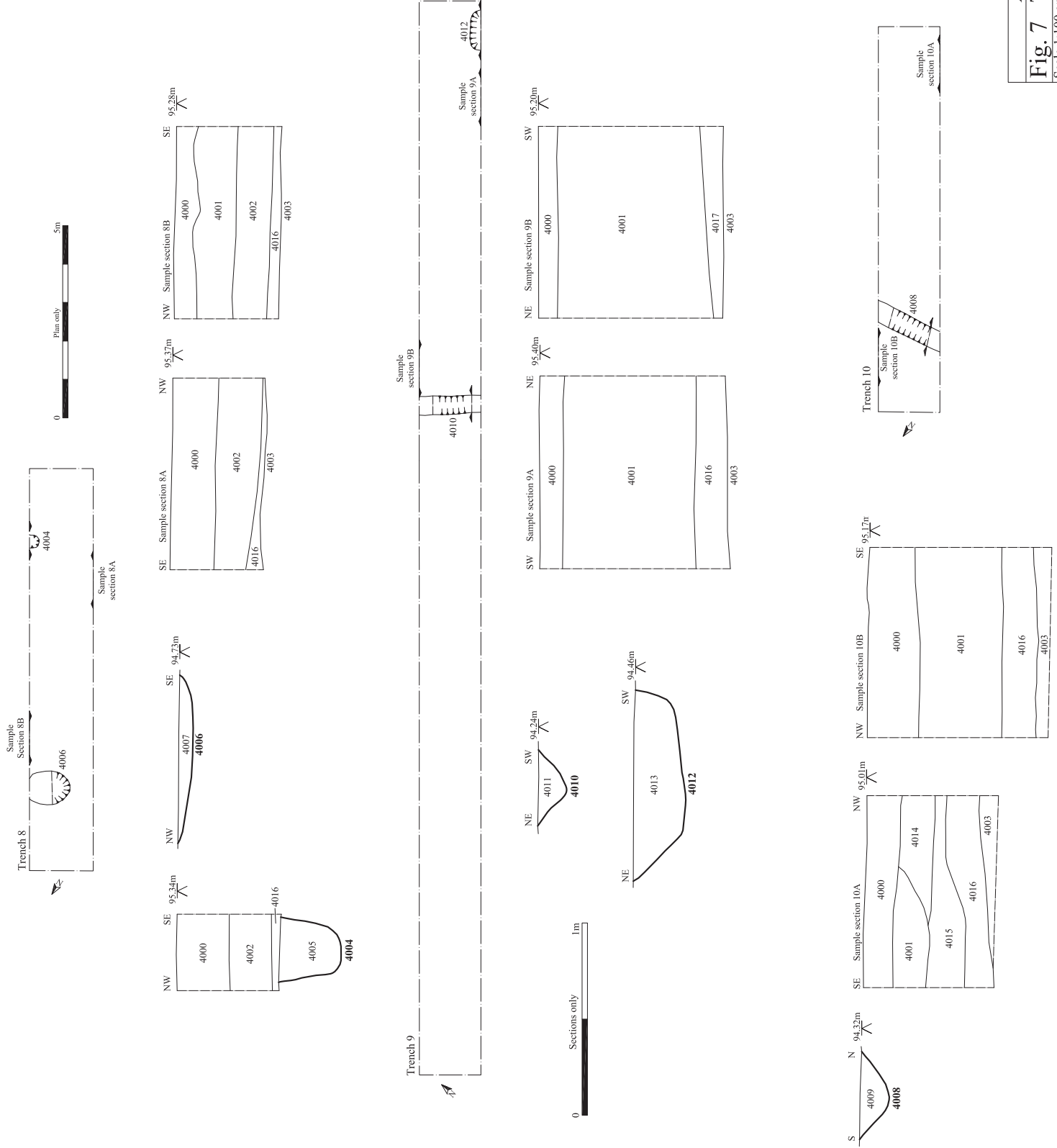
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**Fig. 4 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3  
 Threemhill Priory, Dummow Rd, Takeley, Essex (P2319)



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**Fig. 5 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3  
 Threthall Priory, Dummow Rd., Takeley, Essex (P2319)



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**Fig. 6 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3  
 Thremhall Priory, Dunning Rd., Takeley, Essex (P2319)



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**Fig. 7 Trench plans and sections**  
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3  
 Threthall Priory, Dummow Rd, Takeley, Essex (P2319)