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LAND OFF STATION ROAD, ISLEHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CHER ECB **6001**

Authors: Dan Ryan (Fieldwork & Report)	
NGR: TL 64438 73560	Report No: 5942
District: East Cambs	Site Code: ECB 6001
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: P8113
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PROJECT SUMMARY

Project details			
Project name	*Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire*		
In October of 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 64438 73560). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of the determination of a planning application for the proposed development of 215 new dwellings (East Cambridgeshire Council Ref. 1900376OUM). It was required based on advice to the LPA from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET). A geophysical survey of the current proposed development site was carried out in 2018 as part of the current application (Gilbey 2019). In summary: traces of possible backfilled lime quarries were recorded as anomalies in the eastern part of the site. Further pit-like anomalies and a small number of short linear anomalies which may be ditches have also been record within the site. *Trial trenches with no archaeological features were present throughout the site (Trenches 1, 4, 9, 12 – 14, 16, 18, 21 –22, 24 – 25, 27 – 28, 32 and 34). For the remainder of the trenches between 1 – 11 features were present and features were most common in Trenches 2 (5); 8 (11); 10 (5); and 30 (6). Discrete features, principally pits (34) but also post holes (4), were most common. Ditches (16) and ditch terminals (3) were also present. The earliest finds comprised sparse struck flint from the topsoil including a side scraper (from Trench 30), likely of early Neolithic date; while very low quantities of residual prehistoric pottery, probably of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date was contained in two pits.* *Medieval pottery was contained within features in Trenches 8, 10 - 11, 15, 19 - 20, 23, 26 and 30 – 31. The earliest pottery (late 9th – 11th) was contained in Ditch F1123 (Trench 15). Slightly later, 10th – 12th century pottery was derived from features in Trenches 10 (Ditch F1065; 11 (Layer L1073); and 20 Ditch F1104. The remainder of the medieval pottery is 11th – 13th, mid 12th – mid 14th and 13th – 15th century. Between 1 and 5 sherds were present excepting Ditch F1110 (trench 20) which contained 7 sherds. The features with medieval pottery were most common in Trenches 19 and 20, and 30 – 31. Trench 30 contained Pits F1079, F1082, F1084, F1086 and F1089 and these are interpreted as clunch quarry pits. Pits F1079, F1082 and F1086 contained sparse medieval (mid 12th – 14th century) pottery sherds. The ditches and postholes identified during the evaluation potentially represent the demarcation of separate landholdings for the extraction and working of clunch. It is likely that the medieval finds assemblages represent day to day activity and the perhaps the preparation and consumption of meals by clunch diggers and workers operating within these landholdings or 'crofts'. Buried soil deposits were recognised within depressions of the chalk in Trenches 3 (L1049), 10 (L1060), 11 (L1073), 12 (L1081), 19 (L1125) and 20 (L1103). In Trenches 3, 10, 11 and 12, the buried soil deposits were sealed by Subsoil L1001. Their position within chalk hollows is likely to have facilitated the survival of these layers.*		
Project dates (fieldwork)	*14 – 30 October 2019*		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	*N*	*Future work*	*TBC*
P. number	*P8167*	*Site code*	*ECB 6001*
Type of project	*Archaeological Evaluation*		
Site status	*-*		
Current land use	*Greenfield and old farm buildings area*		
Planned development	*Housing*		
Main features (+dates)	*Pits, ditches and clunch quarry pits*		
Significant finds (+dates)	*Prehistoric struck flint and pottery, medieval assemblages*		
	Cambridgeshire	*East Cambs*	*Isleham*
HER/ SMR for area	*Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER)*		
Post code (if known)	CB7 4AS		
Area of site	*xxx*		
NGR	TL 64438 73560		
Height AOD (min/max)	*9-12m AOD*		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	*Cambridgeshire County Council*		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*		
Funded by	*Mr C Harvey*		
Full title	*Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire. An Archaeological Evaluation*		
Authors	*Ryan, D.*		
Report no.	*5942*		
Date (of report)	*November 2019; revised January 2020*		

LAND OFF STATION ROAD, ISLEHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In October of 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 64438 73560). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of the determination of a planning application for the proposed development of 215 new dwellings (East Cambridgeshire Council Ref. 1900376OUM). It was required based on advice to the LPA from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET).

A geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation were carried out to the north west of the current proposed development area in 2017-2018. These investigations revealed an undated circular enclosure with two internal posts, and pits and post holes of Iron Age and medieval date in the south-eastern part of the site (CHER ECB5321). A geophysical survey of the current proposed development site was carried out in 2018 as part of the current application (Gilbey 2019). In summary: traces of possible backfilled lime quarries were recorded as anomalies in the eastern part of the site. Further pit-like anomalies and a small number of short linear anomalies which may be ditches have also been record within the site. Weak sinuous anomalies may represent natural features such as palaeochannels. Evidence of modern cultivation, a modern ditch and other areas of modern activity were recorded

Trial trenches with no archaeological features were present throughout the site (Trenches 1, 4, 9, 12 – 14, 16, 18, 21 –22, 24 – 25, 27 – 28, 32 and 34). For the remainder of the trenches between 1 – 11 features were present and features were most common in Trenches 2 (5); 8 (11); 10 (5); and 30 (6). Discrete features, principally pits (34) but also post holes (4), were most common. Ditches (16) and ditch terminals (3) were also present.

The earliest finds are four flakes (52g) of struck flint from the Topsoil L1000. The flakes include a fresh side scraper (from Trench 30), likely of early Neolithic date. The remaining struck is potentially of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age date. Amongst the earliest finds are the 8 residual prehistoric sherds (24g), probably of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date derived from Subsoil L1001, Buried Soil L1060, Pit F1086 (Trench 30); and Pit F1097 (Trench 31).

Medieval pottery was contained within features in Trenches 8, 10 - 11, 15, 19 - 20, 23, 26 and 30 – 31. The earliest pottery (late 9th – 11th) was contained in Ditch F1123 (Trench 15). Slightly later, 10th – 12th century pottery was derived from features in Trenches 10 (Ditch F1065; 11 (Layer L1073); and 20 Ditch F1104. The remainder of the medieval pottery is 11th – 13th, mid 12th – mid 14th and 13th – 15th century. Between 1 and 5 sherds were present excepting Ditch F1110 (trench 20) which contained 7 sherds. The features with medieval pottery were most common in Trenches 19 and 20, and 30 – 31.

Trench 30 contained Pits F1079, F1082, F1084, F1086 and F1089 and these are interpreted as clunch quarry pits. Pits F1079, F1082 and F1086 contained sparse medieval (mid 12th – 14th century) pottery sherds. The ditches and postholes identified during the evaluation potentially represent the demarcation of separate landholdings for the extraction and working of clunch. It is likely that the medieval finds assemblages represent day to day activity and the perhaps the preparation and consumption of meals by clunch diggers and workers operating within these landholdings or 'crofts'.

Buried soil deposits were recognised within depressions of the chalk in Trenches 3 (L1049), 10 (L1060), 11 (L1073), 12 (L1081), 19 (L1125) and 20 (L1103). In Trenches 3, 10, 11 and 12, the buried soil deposits were sealed by Subsoil L1001. Their position within chalk hollows is likely to have facilitated the survival of these layers and it is probable that they all represent expressions of a former plough soil that was originally present across much of the site area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October of 2019 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 64438 73560). The evaluation was undertaken prior to the determination of a planning application for the proposed development of 215 new dwellings (East Cambridgeshire Council Ref. 1900376OUM). It was required based on advice to the LPA from Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET).

1.2 A geophysical survey of the site was carried out in 2018 as part of the current application (Gilbey 2019).

1.3 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET, Kasia Gdaniec; dated 3rd September 2019), and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AS (dated 20th September 2019) and approved by CCC HET. It followed the procedures outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (2014). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.4 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

1.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets.

The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

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

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site lies to the south of the historic settlement core of Isleham and is a field between Station Road to the east and Fordham Road to the west, with a small area of hardstanding. It extends to some 8.57ha.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies at c.9 - 12m AOD, rising slightly up to Station Road to the east. It is located approximately 2.2km SW of the River Lark

3.2 The solid geology is recorded as Cretaceaous chalk of the Zig Zag Chalk Formation (BGS 2019). No superficial deposits are recorded. Soils are described as freely draining lime-rich loam (Soilscapes 2019).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) notes that the site lies within an area of archaeological potential. Prehistoric finds are fairly well-represented in the Isleham area; a Palaeolithic handaxe has been recovered from Soham Fen (CHER MCB19231) and the CHER records several instances of Mesolithic flint artefacts (CHER 10883; 10954) and

Mesolithic antler axes (CHER 07622) recovered in the area. A Mesolithic pit has been recorded at Hall Barn Road (CHER MCB20930). The Neolithic is represented by flintwork (CHER 07590, 10862, 10883A, 10954A, 10966, 11280, MCB16205) and a possible long barrow near Rymanmoor Long Turning, identified from aerial photos (CHER 10957). A possible Bronze Age barrow has also been identified during an aerial photographic assessment west of Fordham Road (CHER MCB16798), while a possible Bronze Age ring ditch, evidenced by cropmarks, is present within the local landscape (CHER 11213). Bronze Age flintwork has also been recovered in the Isleham area (CHER 07537, 07623, 10883B, 10968) as has pottery (CHER 07557, 07590A) and this period is also represented by a bronze socketed axe (CHER 11711), early Bronze Age settlement evidence at Prickwillow Road (CHER 11896) and similarly dated features at Hall Farm (CHER MCB17270). Middle Bronze Age settlement has been recorded on a sand island in Isleham Fen (CHER 07536). Iron Age pottery was recovered during a test pit survey at Little London Lane (CHER MCB19744). Early Iron Age features have been recorded at Isleham Community Centre (CHER MCB22685). A late Prehistoric pit has been recorded at Hall Barn Road (CHER CB15282).

4.2 The Roman period is relatively less well-represented with finds of metalwork (CHER 07589, 07557, 07559, MCB16202), brooches (CHER MCB16203, 10863, 11708 and 11710), a saddle quern (CHER 10864) and pottery (CHER MCB16206, MCB19744, 10866, 11213a) recorded on the CHER. A possible Roman Villa has been recorded outside of Isleham, even though this information was produced through dowsing, roof tiles, pottery, coins, a ring and a red comelian were recovered (CHER 11661). Roman ditch systems have been recorded at 32-34 Church Lane (CHER MCB20915), Ellwoods Close (CHER MCB20917) and Hall Barn Road (CHER 11894), with evidence at Ellwoods Close of a possible high status Roman building (CHER ECB4634).

4.3 Although the Saxon period is represented only by a few spot finds, including a disc brooch (CHER 11691), coins (CHER 07612), pottery at St Andrew's Close (CHER MCB19749), and ditches at Ellwoods Close (CHER MCB20918) and Church Lane (CHER MCB24946), evidence for medieval occupation in Isleham is abundant. The scheduled earthwork remains of the priory fish ponds, hollow ways and building platforms lie to the north of the current proposed development site (NHLE 1013278). The Priory was a medieval Alien Benedictine institution (CHER DCB221), located some 100m to the west of the medieval Church of St Andrew (CHER 07591). The Chapel of St Margaret of Antioch (CHER 07529) survives as a standing structure, with the buried remains of the foundations of the conventual buildings and the earthworks remains of the associated agricultural and other elements of the complex to the north of the Grade I building, listed under CHER MCB14478). Possible medieval field systems (CHER 11895), property boundaries (CHER CB15283, MCB20930), clunch-processing sites (CHER MCB16866 and MCB20069), settlement activity (CHER 07528, MCB18442, MCB19827), pits and ditches (CHER MCB23922) and a variety of finds (CHER 07559a, 11074, 11574, 11712, MCB19712, MCB19713, MCB19719, MCB19721, MCB19744, MCB19749, MCB19750, MCB19752) are amongst the other evidence for

medieval activity within Isleham. Cropmarks of a possible medieval moated site called The Temple are also present within the local landscape (CHER 05704a). A recent investigation by AS on the north side of Houghtons Lane recorded shallow medieval pits, gullies and ditches containing relatively low quantities of domestic detritus including pottery, butchered bone and shell, as well as low concentrations of carbonised cereal remains that may relate to peripheral roadside and agricultural activity on the margins of the village, or may indicate a low level of occupation (CHER ECB 5560).

4.4 Post-medieval activity is represented by a windmill (CHER 07611), a quarry (CHER11214) shown on early maps. Other sites of this date include the gardens of Isleham Hall (CHER MCB19362), wall foundations at 12 West Street (CHER MCB19442), post-medieval pottery from the church social centre grounds (CHER MCB19714), pottery from Waterside (CHER MCB19716), 20 East Road (CHER MCB19718), 6 Bowers Lane (CHER MCB19720), 94 The Causeway (CHER MCB19722), West Street (CHER MCB19745), Mill Street (CHER MCB19746), Church Street (CHER MCB19747, MCB19748), East Road (CHER MCB19751).

4.5 Isleham's chalk and lime industry is represented by 19th century kilns at High Street (CHER 07489), and several quarries (e.g. CHER MCB22016, MCB22017, MCB22018, MCB22019). Modern sites recorded on the Cambridgeshire HER include High Street Chapel (CHER MCB17085), Isleham Baptist Church (CHER MCB17214), allotments (CHER MCB22014, MCB22015), former blacksmith's shops (CHER MCB22020, MCB22021, MCB22022), a former Malthouse (CHER MCB22023), a former windmill (CHER MCB22027), Peyton's Almshouses (CHER MCB22029), the site of St Bernard's wagon works (CHER MCB22030), the site of the former Methodist chapel (CHER MCB22031).

4.6 The site is south of 19th century land allotments which retain the early strip field layouts, with evidence of medieval lime kilns and clunch quarries around these areas of the village, an important local industry at the time (CHER MCB221013 & 22016-7).

4 PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

4.1 A geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation were carried out to the north west of the current proposed development area in 2017-2018. These investigations revealed an undated circular enclosure with two internal posts, and pits and post holes of Iron Age and medieval date in the south-eastern part of the site (CHER ECB5321).

4.2 A geophysical survey of the current proposed development site was carried out in 2018 as part of the current application (Gilbey 2019). In summary:

Traces of possible backfilled lime quarries were recorded as anomalies in the eastern part of the site. Further pit-like anomalies and a small number of short

linear anomalies which may be ditches have also been record within the site. Weak sinuous anomalies may represent natural features such as palaeochannels. Evidence of modern cultivation, a modern ditch and other areas of modern activity were recorded

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The evaluation brief required a *c.*3% sample of the development area to be investigated by trenching, with a contingency option of 1% additional sample to clarify results if necessary. Thirty five Trenches of 40m x 1.8m were excavated, targeting geophysical anomalies and sampling 'blank' areas (Figs. 2 – 3 & 16).

5.2 The archaeological investigation comprised the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Encountered features and deposits were cleaned by hand and recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. The excavated spoil was checked for finds.

5.3 A one-metre square of topsoil and subsoil were bucket sampled and sorted by hand at each end of the trenches to characterise their artefact content. Soil from this sampling procedure was kept separate from the main spoil heaps. Site records were completed to reflect this exercise and an on-site record was made of the finds recovered. A metal detector was used to enhance finds recovery. The metal detector survey was conducted when the trenches were opened, and the detector was not set to discriminate against iron. The spoil tips were also surveyed.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Topsoil L1000 contained struck flint (4; 52g), a Nuremberg jetton (1g), and medieval (13th – 15th century) pottery (2; 15g).

Subsoil L1001 contained prehistoric pottery (2; 7g), medieval (12th – mid 14th century) pottery (3; 12g) and 18th – 19th century pottery (1; 1g).

Individual trench descriptions are presented below.

Trench 1 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 1A 0.00 = 8.38m AOD		
0.0 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. Friable, dark grey brown silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded chalk nodules
0.38m+	L1002	Natural. Firm, pale grey to white chalk

Sample Section 1B 0.00 = 9.32m AOD		
0.0 – 0.46m	L1000	Topsoil, as above
0.46 – 0.68m	L1001	Subsoil. Friable, mid red brown silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded chalk nodules
0.68m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 1 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 2 Figs. 2 - 4

Sample Section 2A 0.00 = 8.74m AOD		
0.0 – 0.43m	L1000	Topsoil, as above
0.43m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 2B 0.00 = 8.31m AOD		
0.0 – 0.42m	L1000	Topsoil, as above
0.42 – 0.72m	L1001	Subsoil, as above. Contained prehistoric pottery (2/7g)
0.72+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 2 contained Ditch Terminal F1046, Ditch F1058 and Post Holes F1052, F1054 and F1056. None of the features contained finds.

Ditch Terminal F1046 was linear in plan (0.85+ x 0.45 x 0.07m). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1047, was a friable, yellow brown silt with moderate chalk. It contained no finds.

Post Hole F1052 was sub-circular in plan (0.13 x 0.18 x 0.05m). It had irregular sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1053, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small chalk. It contained no finds.
Post Hole F1054 was sub-circular in plan (0.28 x 0.20 x 0.08). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1055, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small chalk. It contained no finds.

Post Hole F1056 was sub-circular in plan (0.23 x 0.32 x 0.06m). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1057, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small chalk. It contained no finds.

Ditch F1058 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.40 x 0.32m), orientated NE/SW. It had irregular moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1059, was a friable, yellow brown grey silt with moderate chalk. It contained no finds.

Trench 3 Figs. 2 - 4

Sample Section 3A 0.00 = 8.95m AOD		
0.0 – 0.42m	L1000	Topsoil, as above
0.42 – 0.72m	L1001	Subsoil, as above
0.72m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 3B 0.00 = 8.44m AOD		
0.0 – 0.52m	L1000	Topsoil, as above
0.52 – 0.85m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.85m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 3 contained Ditch Terminal F1042, Pit F1044 and Buried Soil L1049. None of the features contained finds.

Ditch Terminal F1042 was linear in plan (1.60+ x 0.95 x 0.19m). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1043, was a firm, dark grey brown silty clay with frequent small chalk. It contained no finds.

Pit F1044 was sub-circular in plan (1.25+ x 1.45 x 0.24m).l It had moderately sloping sides and an irregular base. Its fill, L1045, was a firm, dark grey brown silty clay with frequent small chalk. It contained no finds.

Buried Soil L1049 (1.8+ x 6m x 0.40m) was a friable, mottled medium to dark red brown silt with moderate chalk. It contained no finds. It was below Subsoil L1001 and above Natural Deposits L1002.

Trench 4 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 4A 0.00 = 8.37m AOD		
0.0 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.38m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 4B 0.00 = 8.78m AOD		
0.0 – 0.52m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.52 – 0.91m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.91m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 4 contained no archaeological features or finds

Trench 5 Figs. 2 – 3 & 5

Sample Section 5A 0.00 = 8.68m AOD		
0.0 – 0.48m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.48m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 5B 0.00 = 8.60m AOD		
0.0 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.38 – 0.51m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.51m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 5 contained Pit F1031 and Post Hole F1040. Neither feature contained finds.

Pit F1031 was irregular in plan (0.45+ x 0.80 x 0.37m). It had steep to moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1032, was a firm, medium brown silt with moderate chalk. It contained no finds.

Post Hole F1040 was sub-circular in plan (0.30+ x 0.45 x 0.39). It had vertical sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1041, was a firm, mid brown silt with occasional small chalk. It contained no finds.

Trench 6 Figs. 2 – 3 & 5

Sample Section 6A 0.00 = 8.84m AOD		
0.0 – 0.42m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.42 – 0.63m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.63m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 6B 0.00 = 8.69m AOD		
0.0 – 0.48m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.48m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 6 contained undated Ditch F1037

Ditch F1037 was linear in plan (1.8m+ x 0.85 x 0.40m). It had irregular sides and a flat base. Its basal and principal fill, L1039, was a friable, mid red brown silt. Its upper fill, L1038, was a friable dark grey brown silt. Neither fill contained finds.

Trench 7 Figs. 2 – 3 & 5

Sample Section 7A 0.00 = 8.88m AOD		
0.0 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.32 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.54m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 7B 0.00 = 8.94m AOD		
0.0 – 0.16	L1003	Made ground. Compact, mid grey red crushed brick and flint layer
0.16+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 7 contained undated Pits F1027, F1033 and F1035.
Pit F1027 was sub-circular in plan (0.60 + x 0.90 x 0.34m). It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1028, was a firm, mid red brown silt with occasional occasional chalk and sparse. It contained no finds.

Pit F1033 was ?subcircular in plan (1.80+ x 4.44+ x 0.23m). It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1034, was a friable, mid red brown silt with moderate sub-round and sub-angular flint and occasional chalk. It contained no finds.

Pit F1035 was ?sub-rectangular in plan (1.70+ x 1.90+ x 0.26m). It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1036, was a firm, mid red brown silt with occasional sub-rounded gravel. It contained no finds.

Trench 8 Figs. 2 – 3 & 6

Sample Section 8A 0.00 = 8.87m AOD		
0.0 – 0.53m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.53m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 8B 0.00 = 9.26m AOD		
0.0 – 0.39m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.39m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 8 contained Pits F1004, F1006, F1008, F1010, F1012, F1016, F1019, F1021, F1023, F1025, and F1029. Pits F1021 and F1023 contained sparse sherds of medieval (mid 12th – mid 15th century) pottery, and Pit F1016 contained post-medieval (17th – 18th century) pottery.

Pit F1004 was sub-circular in plan (0.30+ x 0.85 x 0.34m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1005, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with frequent small chalk and occasional small sub-angular flint. It contained no finds. Pit F1004 cut Pit F1006.

Pit F1006 was sub-circular in plan (1.10+ x 1.62+ x 0.60m). It had steep to moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1007, was a friable, mid grey brown silt with moderate chalk and occasional small sub-angular flint and gravel. It contained no finds. Pit F1006 was cut by Pits F1004 and F1010, and cut Pit F1008.

Pit F1008 was sub-circular in plan (1.50+ x 2.00+ x 0.38m). Its sides were truncated and its base flat. Its fill, L1009, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with frequent small chalk. It contained no finds. Pit F1008 was cut by Pits F1006, F1010, F1012 and F1016.

Pit F1010 was sub-circular in plan (? x 1.20 x 0.40m). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1011, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with frequent small chalk. It contained no finds. Pit F1010 cut Pits F1006, F1008, and F1012.

Pit F1012 was sub-circular in plan (? x 1.08+ x 0.35m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1013, was friable, light brown silt with occasional small flint. It contained no finds. Pit F1012 cut Pits F1008 and F1016 and was cut by Pit F1010.

Pit F1016 was sub-circular in plan (1.45+ x 2.10+ x 0.50m). It had an undercutting NW side and an irregular base. Its upper fill, L1017, was a firm, mid brown silt with occasional small flint and frequent chalk. It contained slag (3g). Its basal fill, L1018, was a firm, light brown silt with frequent small chalk. It contained 17th – 18th century pottery (5; 7g), CBM (13g), animal bone (1g) and shell (2g). Pit F1016 cut Pit F1008 and was cut by Pit F1012.

Pit F1019 was elongated in plan (0.70+ x 2.00+ x 0.43m). It had steep sides and a flattish irregular base. Its fill, L1020, was a firm, light brown silt with occasional flint and chalk. It contained no finds. Pit F1019 was cut by Pit F1029, and cut Pit F1021.

Pit F1021 was ?rectangular in plan (0.40+ x 1.38+ x 0.18m). It had near vertical sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1022, was firm medium brown silt with occasional chalk. It contained mid 12th – mid 14th century pottery (2; 2g), animal bone (1g), and a ?bead (1; 1g). Pit F1021 was cut by Pit F1019.

Pit F1023 was sub-circular in plan (0.30+ x 1.95+ x 0.30m). It had moderately sloping sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1024, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with moderate small chalk fragments. It contained mid 12th – mid 15th century pottery (1; 10g). Pit F1023 was cut by Pit F1025.

Pit F1025 was sub-circular in plan (0.40+ x 1.43m+ x 0.26m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1026, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with moderate small chalk. It contained no finds. Pit F1025 cut Pit F1023.

Pit F1029 was sub-circular in plan (0.80+ x 1.29m+ x 0.42m). It had steep irregular sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1030, was a firm, mid

grey brown silty clay with frequent small chalk and occasional small sub-angular flint. It contained animal bone (7g).

Trench 9 Figs. 2 – 3

Sample Section 9A 0.00 = 9.06m AOD		
0.0 – 0.24m	L1003	Made ground.
0.24m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 9B 0.00 = 9.04m AOD		
0.0 – 0.18m	L1003	Made ground.
0.18m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 9 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 10 Figs. 2 - 3 & 7

Sample Section 10A 0.00 = 9.29m AOD		
0.0 – 0.48m	L1003	Made ground.
0.48m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 10B 0.00 = 9.30m AOD		
0.0 – 0.52m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.52 – 0.68m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.68m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 10 contained Buried Soil L1060, Ditches F1061, F1065 and F1067, and Pits F1069 and F1071. Layer L1060 and Pit F1065 contained sparse medieval (10th – 12th and 11th -13th century) pottery, and Pit F1067 contained post-medieval (late 17th – 18th century) pottery.

Buried Soil L1060 (1.80+ x 10m x 0.10m) was a loose, mid brown loamy sandy clay silt with occasional small sub-rounded gravel. It contained 11th – 13th century pottery (1; 5g), prehistoric pottery (2; 6g); CBM (23g), animal bone (6g), and burnt flint (10g). It was similar to Buried Soils L1073 (Trench 11) and L1081 (Trench 12). L1060 was below Subsoil L1001 and above Natural Deposits L1002.

Ditch F1061 was curvilinear in plan (1.80+ x 0.54 x 0.20m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1062, was a firm, mid brown grey silty sand. It contained no finds. Ditch F1061 was cut by Ditch F1065 and cut Ditch F1067.

Ditch F1065 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.46 x 0.48m), orientated WNW/ESE. It had irregular sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1066, was a firm, mid brown grey silty clay. It contained 10th – 12th century pottery (1; 1g). Ditch F1065 cut Ditches F1061 and F1067.

Ditch F1067 was linear in plan (2.80+ x 1.10 x 0.49m), orientated N/S. Its sides were unseen and its base was flat. Its fill, L1068, was a firm mid yellow grey brown silty clay. It contained late 17th – 18th century pottery (2; 5g) and CBM (32g). Ditch F1067 was cut by Ditch F1065 and Pits F1069 and F1071.

Pit F1069 was not observed in plan (? x 0.60 x 0.20m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1070, was a firm, mid grey silty clay. It contained no finds. Pit F1069 cut Ditch F1067.

Pit F1071 was sub-circular in plan (0.12+ x 0.45 x 0.38m). It had near vertical sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1072, was a firm light to mid grey silty clay. It contained no finds. Pit F1071 cut Ditch F1067.

Trench 11 Figs. 2 – 3 & 8

Sample Section 11A 0.00 = 9.24m AOD		
0.0 – 0.51m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.51 – 0.68m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.68m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 11B 0.00 = 8.32m AOD		
0.0 – 0.54m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.54 – 1.12m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
1.12m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 11 contained Buried Soil L1073, Pit F1074 and Ditch Terminal F1076. Buried Soil L1073 contained two sherds of 10th – 12th century pottery.

Buried soil L1073 was a friable, dark brown, sandy clay silt with moderate small chalk nodules. It was present within a slight depression (0.10m), and similar to L1060 (Trench 10) and L1081 (Trench 12). It contained 10th – 12th century pottery (2; 1g) and slag (127g). Buried Soil L1073 was below Subsoil L1001 and above Natural Deposits L1002.

Pit F1074 was elongated in plan (0.60 x 0.25 x 0.18m). It had steep irregular sides and a narrow base. Its fill, L1075, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay. It contained no finds.

Ditch Terminal F1076 was linear in plan (1.10+ x 0.45 x 0.31m), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately sloping to steep sloping sides and a concave base.

Its basal fill, L1077, was a firm, mid grey brown silt with occasional small chalk nodules. Its upper fill, L1078, was a friable, mid red brown silt with frequent chalk nodules. Neither fill contained finds.

Trench 12 Figs. 2 – 3 & 9

Sample Section 12A 0.00 = 8.72m AOD		
0.0 – 0.52m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.52 – 0.86m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.86m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 12B 0.00 = 8.82m AOD		
0.0 – 0.41m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.41 – 0.76m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.76m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 12 contained Buried Soil L1081. It contained no finds.

Buried Soil L1081 was a friable, dark red brown sandy silt with moderate small chalk nodules and occasional charcoal flecks (0.11m thick). It contained no finds. L1081 was similar in appearance to L1073 (Trench 11 and L1060 (Trench 10). L1081 was below Subsoil L1001 and above Natural Deposits L1002.

Trench 13 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 13A 0.00 = 8.93m AOD		
0.0 – 0.52m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.52m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 13B 0.00 = 8.70m AOD		
0.0 – 0.39m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.39m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 13 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 14 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 14A 0.00 = 9.16m AOD		
0.0 – 0.37m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.37m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 14B 0.00 = 8.88m AOD		
0.0 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.35 – 0.41m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.41m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 14 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 15 Figs. 2 – 3 & 9

Sample Section 15A 0.00 = 9.48m AOD		
0.0 – 0.51m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.51m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 15B 0.00 = 9.58m AOD		
0.0 – 0.52m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.52m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 15 contained Ditches F1114, F1121 and F1123, and Pit F1116. Ditch F1123 contained sparse late 9th – 11th century pottery.

Ditch F1114 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 0.99 x 0.25m), orientated N/S. It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1115, was a friable, mid red brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular flint. It contained no finds. Ditch F1114 was cut by Pit F1116.

Pit F1116 was sub-circular in plan (0.74+ x 0.60+ x 0.24m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its basal fill, L1117, was a friable, mid grey brown silty clay and contained no finds. Its upper fill, L1118, was a friable, pale grey to white silty re-deposited chalk. It contained no finds. Pit F1116 cut Ditch F1114.

Ditch F1121 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 4.10 x 0.44m), orientated N/S. It had moderately sloping sides and a shallow concave base. Its fill, L1122, was a friable, mid brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular flint. It contained no finds. F1121 cut Ditch F1123.

Ditch F1123 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 5.50 x 0.50m), orientated N/S. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1124, was a friable, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular flint. It contained late 9th – 11th century pottery (2; 8g) and animal bone (39g). F1123 was cut by Ditch F1121.

Trench 16 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 16A 0.00 = 9.54m AOD		
0.0 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.38m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 16B 0.00 = 9.44m AOD		
0.0 – 0.46m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.46 – 0.81m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.81m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 16 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 17 Figs. 2 – 3 & 10

Sample Section 17A 0.00 = 10.45m AOD		
0.0 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.38m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 17B 0.00 = 10.35m AOD		
0.0 – 0.43m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.43m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 17 contained undated Pit F1128

Pit F1128 was circular in plan (0.70 x 0.70 x 0.13m). It had gently to moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1129, was a friable, dark grey brown silty clay with occasional small chalk and sparse small sub-rounded flint. It contained no finds

Trench 18 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 18A 0.00 = 10.07m AOD		
0.0 – 0.41m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.41 – 0.86m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.86m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 18B 0.00 = 9.42m AOD		
0.0 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.38 – 0.58m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.58m+	L1002	Natural.

Description: Trench 18 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 19 Figs. 2 – 3 & 10

Sample Section 19A 0.00 = 8.96m AOD		
0.0 – 0.51m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.51m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 19B 0.00 = 9.80m AOD		
0.0 – 0.55m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.55m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 19 contained Pit F1112, Ditch F1119 and Buried Soil L1125. Pit F1112 and Ditch F1119 contained medieval (11th – 13th and mid 12th – mid 14th century) pottery.

Pit F1112 was sub-circular in plan (1.45 x 2.16 x 0.30m). It had irregular gently sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1113, was a friable, mid yellow brown silty clay. It contained mid 12th – mid 14th century pottery (3; 27g), CBM (39g) and burnt flint (8g). Pit F1112 was cut by Ditch F1119.

Ditch F1119 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.40 x 0.22m), orientated N/S. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1120, was a friable, mid red brown silt with occasional chalk pieces. It contained 11th – 13th century pottery (4; 5g), animal bone (1g), burnt flint (4g) and an iron fragment (1; 3g). Ditch F1119 cut Pit F1112.

Buried Soil L1125 was a friable, dark red brown silty sand with moderate small chalk pieces (0.32m thick). It contained no finds. L1125 was present below topsoil L1000 and above Natural Deposits L1002.

Trench 20 Figs. 2 – 3 & 11

Sample Section 20A 0.00 = 8.85m AOD		
0.0 – 0.53m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.53m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 20B 0.00 = 9.55m AOD		
0.0 – 0.53m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.53m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 20 contained Buried Soil L1103, Ditch Terminals F1104 and F1106, and Pits F1108 and F1110. Excepting L1103, the features contained medieval pottery in relatively large quantities (2 – 13 sherds).

Buried Soil L1103 was a friable, mid red brown sandy silty clay with moderate small chalk (0.25m thick). It contained no finds. L1103 was below Topsoil L1000 and above natural L1002. It was similar to L1060 (Trench 10), L1073 (Trench 11) and L1081 (Trench 12).

Ditch Terminal F1104 was linear in plan (1.40+ x 0.87 x 0.16m), orientated E/W. It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1105, was a friable, dark red brown silt with occasional small angular flint and chalk. It contained 10th – 12th century pottery (13; 72g), animal bone (45g), burnt flint (9g) and shell (2g). F1104 was cut by Ditch Terminal F1106.

Ditch Terminal F1106 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 2.00 x 0.18m), orientated NW/SE. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1107, was a friable, mid red brown silt with occasional chalk and sparse small flint. It contained mid 12th – mid 14th century pottery (4; 3g), CBM (2g), an Fe nail (1; 3g) and shell (3g). F1106 cut Ditch Terminal F1104.

Pit F1108 was sub-circular in plan (0.75+ x 1.85 x 0.17m). It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1109, was a firm, mid grey brown clayey silt with frequent chalk. It contained 11th – 13th century pottery (2; 1g) and iron fragments (4; 158g). Pit F1108 was cut by Pit F1110.

Pit F1110 was sub-circular in plan (1.40+ x 5.35 x 0.43m). It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1111, was a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt with moderate small chalk and sparse small sub-rounded flint. It contained mid 12th – mid 14th century pottery (7; 27g) and animal bone (49g). Pit F1110 cut Pit F1108

Trench 21 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 21A 0.00 = 8.96m AOD		
0.0 – 0.48m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.48 – 0.63m	L1001	Subsoil, as above. Contained 12th – 14th century pottery (3/12g)
0.63m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 21B 0.00 = 9.00m AOD		
0.0 – 0.49m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.49 – 1.13m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
1.13m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 21 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 22 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 22A 0.00 = 10.12m AOD		
0.0 – 0.42m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.42 – 0.67m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.67m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 22B 0.00 = 9.92m AOD		
0.0 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.38m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 22 contained no archaeological features or finds

Trench 23 Figs. 2 – 3 & 11

Sample Section 23A 0.00 = 10.17m AOD		
0.0 – 0.45m	L1000	Topsoil, as above. Contained a Nuremberg Jetton (1/1g)
0.45m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 23B 0.00 = 10.38m AOD		
0.0 – 0.48m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.48m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 23 contained Ditch F1126, and it contained a mid 12th – mid 14th century pottery sherd.

Ditch F1126 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.45 x 0.22m), orientated NE/SW. It had irregular gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1127, was a friable mid red brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular flint. It contained mid 12th – mid 14th century pottery (1; 13g).

Trench 24 Figs. 2 – 3

Sample Section 24A 0.00 = 9.98m AOD		
0.0 – 0.60m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.60m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 24B 0.00 = 10.76m AOD		
0.0 – 0.45	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.45m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 24 contained no archaeological features or finds

Trench 25 Figs. 2 – 3

Sample Section 25A 0.00 = 10.53m AOD		
0.0 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil, as above. Contained 13th – 15th century pottery (2/15g), CBM (14g), and shell (9g).
0.40 – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil, as above. Contained 18th – 19th century pottery (1/1g)
0.50m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 25B 0.00 = 11.11m AOD		
0.0 – 0.53m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.53 – 0.76m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.76m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 25 contained no archaeological features or finds

Trench 26 Figs. 2 – 3 & 12

Sample Section 26A 0.00 = 11.08m AOD		
0.0 – 0.53m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.53m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 26B 0.00 = 10.86m AOD		
0.0 – 0.45m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.45m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 26 contained Ditch F1130 and it contained a sherd of 13th – 15th century pottery.

Ditch F1130 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 4.00 x 0.40m), orientated NNW/SSE. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1131, was a mid grey brown sandy silt with moderate small chalk and occasional small sub-rounded flint. It contained a sherd of 13th – 15th century pottery (1; 12g).

Trench 27 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 27A 0.00 = 11.17m AOD		
0.0 – 0.46m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.46m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 27B 0.00 = 11.25m AOD		
0.0 – 0.39m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.39 – 0.91m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.91m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 27 contained no archaeological features or finds

Trench 28 Figs. 2 – 3

Sample Section 28A 0.00 = 10.59m AOD		
0.0 – 0.54m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.54 – 0.69m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.69m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 28B 0.00 = 10.51m AOD		
0.0 – 0.43m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.43 – 0.71m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.71m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 28 contained no archaeological features or finds

Trench 29 Figs. 2 – 3 & 12

Sample Section 29A 0.00 = 10.38m AOD		
0.0 – 0.46m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.46 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.54m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 29B 0.00 = 10.21m AOD		
0.0 – 0.44m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.44m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 29 contained undated Post Hole F1136 and Pits F1138 and F1140. None of the features contained finds.

Post Hole F1136 was sub-circular in plan (0.50 x 0.33 x 0.25m). It had irregular sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1137, was a friable, mid to dark grey brown silty clay with frequent small to medium sub-rounded and sub-angular chalk. It contained no finds.

Pit F1138 was sub-circular in plan (1.00 x 1.10 x 0.44m). It had iregular moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1139, was a firm, mid red brown silty clay with moderate small rounded and sub-rounded chalk. It contained no finds.

Pit F1140 was sub-circular in plan (0.76 x 0.80 x 0.35m). It had irregular sides and a concave base. Its principal fill, L1141, was a friable, silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded chalk. It contained no finds. Fill L1144, was a compact, pale yellow grey silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded to rounded chalk. It contained no finds.

Trench 30 Figs. 2 – 3 & 13

Sample Section 30A 0.00 = 9.73m AOD		
0.0 – 0.46m	L1000	Topsoil, as above. Contained struck flint (1/8g).
0.46 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.54m+	L1002	Natural, as above.
Sample Section 30B 0.00 = 9.40m AOD		
0.0 – 0.44m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.44m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 30 contained Clunch Pits F1079, F1082, F1084, F1086 and F1089, and Ditch F1091. Pits F1079, F1082 and F1086 contained sparse medieval (mid 12th – 14th century) pottery sherds.

Pit F1079 was undefined in plan due to the confines of the trench (1.80+ x 3.00 x 0.75m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1080, was a firm, mid yellow brown silty sand. It contained mid 12th – mid 14th century pottery (1; 14g) and animal bone (8g).

Pit F1082 was elongated in plan (1.80+ x 4.50 x 0.62m). It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1083, was a friable, pale red brown sandy silt with occasional small chalk nodules. It contained mid 12th – mid 14th century pottery (3; 19g).

Pit F1084 was undefined in plan due to the confines of the trench (1.80+ x 0.95 x 0.46m). It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1085, was a friable, mid red brown silty sand. It contained no finds. Pit F1084 was cut by Pit F1086.

Pit F1086 was undefined in plan due to the confines of the trench (1.80+ x 5.40 x 0.95m). It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1087, was a firm, mid red brown silty clay. It contained mid 12th – 13th century pottery (4; 14g), animal bone (13g), shell (2g) and slag (17g). F1086 cut Pit F1084.

Pit F1089 was sub-circular in plan (0.62+ x 1.50 x 0.17m). It had gently sloping sides and an irregular flat base. Its fill, L1090, was a friable, mid red brown silt. It contained shell (1g).

Ditch F1091 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 0.80 x 0.17m), orientated N/S. It had moderately sloping sides and an irregular base. Its fill, L1092, was a friable, mid red brown sandy silt with occasional chalk nodules. It contained animal bone (1g).

Trench 31 Figs. 2 – 3 & 13 - 14

Sample Section 31A 0.00 = 9.88m AOD		
0.0 – 0.53m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.53m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 31 contained Pits F1093, F1095, F1097, F1099 and F1101. Pit F1097 contained sparse medieval (mid 12th - mid 14th century) pottery.

Pit F1093 was sub-circular in plan (1.80+ x 5.10 x 0.33m). It had gently sloping sides and a concave irregular base. Its fill, L1094, was a friable mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular flint. It contained no finds.
Pit F1095 was sub-circular in plan (0.50+ x 1.83 x 0.72m). It had steep, irregular sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1096, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay with sparse small sub-rounded to sub-angular chalk and flint. It contained no finds.

Pit F1097 was sub-circular in plan (1.80+ x 3.25 x 0.41m). It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1098, was a friable, mid red brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular flint. It contained late 12th – mid 14th century pottery (1; 2g) and mid 12th – mid 14th century pottery (2; 2g), and animal bone (1g). Pit F1097 cut Pit F1099.

Pit F1099 was sub-rectangular in plan (2.10+ x 1.80 x 0.45m). It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1100, was a friable, mid red brown to

mid yellow brown silty clay with moderate small chalk. It contained no finds. Pit F1099 was cut by Pits F1097 and F1101.

Pit F1101 was sub-circular in plan (0.70+ x 1.75 x 0.37m). It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1102, was a firm, mid grey brown silty clay. It contained no finds. Pit F1101 cut Pit F1099.

Trench 32 Figs. 2 – 3

Sample Section 32A 0.00 = 9.69m AOD		
0.0 – 0.48m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.48 – 0.98m	L1001	Subsoil, as above
0.98m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 32B 0.00 = 9.79m AOD		
0.0 – 0.44m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.44 – 1.04m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
1.04m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 32 contained no archaeological features or finds

Trench 33 Figs. 2 – 3 & 15

Sample Section 33A 0.00 = 9.22m AOD		
0.0 – 0.39m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.39 – 0.64m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.64m+	L1002	Natural, as above.
Sample Section 33B 0.00 = 10.42m AOD		
0.0 – 0.48m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.48m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 33 contained undated Ditch F1142

Ditch F1142 was curvilinear in plan (3.50 x 0.65 x 0.24m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1143 was a friable, mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stones. It contained no finds.

Trench 34 Figs. 2 - 3

Sample Section 34A 0.00 = 10.88m AOD		
0.0 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.38m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 34B 0.00 = 10.85m AOD		
0.0 – 0.46m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.46 – 0.94m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.94m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 34 contained no archaeological features or finds

Trench 35 Figs. 2 – 3 & 15

Sample Section 35A 0.00 = 10.99m AOD		
0.0 – 0.39m	L1000	Topsoil, as above.
0.39m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Sample Section 35B 0.00 = 11.00m AOD		
0.0 – 0.46m	L1000	Topsoil, as above
0.46 – 0.75m	L1001	Subsoil, as above.
0.75m+	L1002	Natural, as above.

Description: Trench 35 contained undated Ditches F1132 and F1134

Ditch F1132 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 0.79 x 0.22m), orientated NNW/SSE. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1133, was a friable, mid red brown silty clay. It contained no finds.

Ditch F1134 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.28 x 0.30m), orientated NNW/SSE. It had gently sloping irregular sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1135, was a friable, mid red brown silty clay. It contained no finds.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 Uppermost was Topsoil L1000, a friable, dark grey brown silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded chalk nodules. Beneath L1000 was Subsoil L1001, a friable, mid red brown silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded chalk nodules.

8.2 In Trenches 7, 9 and 10, Topsoil L1000 had been removed and Made Ground L1003 was present and overlay the natural, L1002. L1003, was a compact, mid grey red crushed brick and flint layer.

8.3 At the base of the sequence was natural deposit, L1002, a firm, pale grey to white chalk.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Spot Date
2	F1046	Ditch Terminal	-
	F1052	Post Hole	-
	F1054	Post Hole	-
	F1056	Post Hole	-
	F1058	Ditch	-
3	F1042	Ditch Terminal	-
	F1044	Pit	-
	L1049	Buried Soil	-
5	F1031	Pit	-
	F1040	Post Hole	-
6	F1037	Ditch	-
7	F1027	Pit	-
	F1033	Pit	
	F1035	Pit	-
8	F1004	Pit	-
	F1006	Pit	-
	F1008	Pit	-
	F1010	Pit	-
	F1012	Pit	-
	F1016	Pit	17th – 18th century (5 sherds)
	F1019	Pit	-
	F1021	Pit	Mid 12th – mid 14th century (2 sherds)
	F1023	Pit	Mid 12th – mid 15th century (1 sherd)
	F1025	Pit	-
	F1029	Pit	-

10	L1060	Buried Soil	11th – 13th century (3)
	F1061	Ditch	-
	F1065	Ditch	10th – 12th century (1)
	F1067	Ditch	Late 17th – 18th century (2)
	F1069	Pit	-
	F1071	Pit	-
11	L1073	Buried Soil	10th – 12th century (2)
	F1074	Pit	-
	F1076	Ditch Terminal	-
12	L1081	Buried Soil	-
15	F1114	Ditch	-
	F1116	Pit	-
	F1121	Ditch	-
	F1123	Ditch	Late 9th – 11th century (2)
17	F1128	Pit	-
19	F1112	Pit	Mid 12th – mid 14th century (3)
	F1119	Ditch	11th – 13th century (4)
	L1125	Buried Soil	-
20	L1103	Buried Soil	-
	F1104	Ditch	10th – 12th century (13)
	F1106	Ditch	Mid 12th – mid 14th century (4)
	F1108	Ditch	11th – 13th century (2)
	F1110	Ditch	Mid 12th – mid 14th century (7)
23	F1126	Ditch	Mid 12th – mid 14th century (1)
26	F1130	Ditch	13th –15th century (1)
29	F1136	Post Hole	-
	F1138	Pit	-
	F1140	Pit	-
30	F1079	Pit	Mid 12th – mid 14th century (1)
	F1082	Pit	Mid 12th – mid 14th century (3)
	F1084	Pit	-
	F1086	Pit	Mid 12th – 13th century (4)
	F1089	Pit	-
	F1091	Ditch	-
31	F1093	Pit	-
	F1095	Pit	-
	F1097	Pit	Mid 12th – mid 14th century (3)
	F1099	Pit	-
	F1101	Pit	-
33	F1142	Ditch	-
35	F1132	Ditch	-
	F1134	Ditch	-

9.2 Trenches with no archaeological features were present throughout the site (Trenches 1, 4, 9, 12 – 14, 16, 18, 21 –22, 24 – 25, 27 – 28, 32 and 34). For the remainder of the trenches between 1 – 11 features were present and features were most common in Trenches 2 (5); 8 (11); 10 (5); and 30 (6). Discrete features, principally pits (34) but also post holes (4), were most common. Ditches (16) and ditch terminals (3) were also present.

9.3 The earliest finds are four flakes (52g) of struck flint from the Topsoil L1000. The flakes include a fresh side scraper (from Trench 30), formed on a neat blade with an abraded platform and are likely to be of early Neolithic date. The remaining struck flint is potentially of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age date. Amongst the chronologically early finds were eight residual prehistoric flint-tempered sherds (24g), limited to small non-diagnostic body sherds probably of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date, derived from Subsoil L1001, Buried Soil L1060, Pit F1086 (Trench 30) and Pit F1097 (Trench 31). Extensive scatters of Neolithic flintwork have previously been recorded in the local area (e.g. CHER 07590 & 10966) and may be associated with activity related to a long barrow near Rymanmoor Long Turning. Evidence for Middle/Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age settlement has also been recorded on the fen island to the north, and peripheral activity may have extended along the slight ridge on which the site is located.

9.4 Medieval pottery was contained within features in Trenches 8, 10 - 11, 15, 19 - 20, 23, 26 and 30 – 31. The earliest stratified medieval pottery (late 9th – 11th) comprised St. Neots ware sherds contained in Ditch F1123 (Trench 15), although residual sherds in Ditch F1104 may include a sagging base of middle to late Saxon date. Slightly later, 10th – 12th century pottery was derived from features in Trenches 10 (Ditch F1065; 11 (Layer L1073); and 20 Ditch F1104. The remainder of the medieval pottery is 11th – 13th, mid 12th – mid 14th and 13th – 15th century. Between 1 and 5 sherds were present wih the exception of Ditch F1110 (trench 20) which contained 7 sherds. The features with medieval pottery were most common in Trenches 19 and 20, and 30 – 31. The majority of the medieval pottery comprises common local coarse ware, notably Ely ware and South-East Fenland Calcareous Buff wares. Diagnostic rim or decorated sherds are rare and principally comprise a strap handle and an applied finger-impressed strip, likely to be derived from jugs. The site is significantly detached from the nucleus of the historic village core of Isleham, including a priory, therefore the relative paucity and small quality of artefacts is not unexpected.

9.5 Trench 30 contained Pits F1079, F1082, F1084, F1086 and F1089 and these are interpreted as clunch quarry pits. Pits F1079, F1082 and F1086 contained sparse medieval (mid 12th – 14th century) pottery sherds in a moderately to heavily abraded condition. The Victoria County History indicates that clunch quarrying was carried out in Isleham from the medieval period onwards stating that “in the 1460s five crofts east of the south end of Up, later Mill, Street…already contained stonepits at their street ends” (Wareham & Wright 2002, 443). The dating evidence from these features is in accordance with this statement and, broadly, with other known clunch-working sites from this period previously identified in Isleham (CHER MCB16866 and

MCB20069). Evidence from a site on Fordham Road indicates that the exploitation of clunch may have begun as early as the 11th to 12th centuries (Newton 2010, 107). The clunch was used to support the building of major structures such as the church, chapel and priory in Isleham. Isleham, along with Cherry Hinton, Reach and Burwell, formed one of two main groups of clunch quarries in Cambridgeshire (Purcell 1967, 26). The best clunch for use as a building material is considered to be that from the Burwell clunch beds (Purcell 1967, 25). Nearly all of Cambridge's pre-1500 stone buildings were of clunch (Clifton Taylor 1972, 63). Clunch was also used in the building of Ely Cathedral (Darby 1977, 43) and Dunstable Priory in Bedfordshire, built in 1132 (Harris 1990).

9.6 The ditches and postholes identified during the evaluation potentially represent demarcated landholdings for the extraction and working of clunch, similar to the "five crofts east of the south end of Up, later Mill, Street" (Wareham & Wright 2002, 443) and to that identified by AS at Fordham Road (Newton 2010). Such landholdings could also have been the locations of related industrial practices, such as lime-burning, similar to limekiln croft south of Blatherweyk, later known as West, Street (Wareham & Wright 2002, 443). At the Fordham Road site a small structure, S1029, was identified that contained finds assemblages consistent with the deposition of domestic refuse. It is unlikely that there was a domestic structure in this location but the building was probably used by the people working at the site, perhaps for administration, possibly for temporary occupation, and almost certainly for the preparation and/or consumption of meals. It is likely that similar buildings were present within the landholding/s identified within the current site and it is from these that the sparse, but domestic in character, medieval finds assemblages derived.

9.7 Buried soil deposits were recognised within depressions of the chalk in Trenches 3 (L1049), 10 (L1060), 11 (L1073), 12 (L1081), 19 (L1125) and 20 (L1103). In Trenches 3, 10, 11 and 12, the buried soil deposits were sealed by Subsoil L1001. Trenches 19 and 20 had no subsoil and buried soil deposits lay directly below Topsoil L1000. Relatively few artefacts were recovered from these deposits but L1060 (Trench 10) and L1073 (Trench 11) produced medieval pottery. In addition a fragment of slag came from L1073, and prehistoric pottery and post-medieval CBM from L1060. Their position within chalk hollows is likely to have facilitated the survival of these layers and it is probable that they all represent expressions of a former plough soil that was originally present across much of the site area. It is difficult to place a precise date on these deposits but formation could have begun in prehistory, with use extending into the medieval and even post-medieval period. This evidence is consistent with the extensive fields systems extrapolated from ditches recorded by archaeological investigations around the medieval village core. Samples were taken from L1049, L1060, L1073 and L1081. Small concentrations of carbonised cereal grains and charcoal in L1081 could have been introduced through manuring, although such material was absent from the other three samples. Mollusc remains indicated predominantly short grassland habitats, although cultivation cannot be ruled out. The distribution of sparse post-medieval pottery, including late 17th-18th century Staffordshire

slip wares, as well as a late 16th to early 17th century Nuremberg jetton in the topsoil further support the accumulation of these soils over a long duration.

9.7 A geophysical survey of the proposed development site was carried out in 2018 as part of the wider archaeology and built heritage assessment (Gilbey 2019). Overall there was good correlation between the geophysical survey data and the excavated features (Fig. 16). A large area of archaeological potential was highlighted within the central area of the site which, although amorphous and lacking form, correlated well with a higher intensity of archaeological features (Trenches 19 - 20, 23, and 29 - 31. Other highlighted anomalies appear to have been encountered in Trenches 2 (F1058), 8 (Pits F1004 - F1029), 15 (F1121 - F1123) and 26 (F1130). Natural channels were identified in the geophysical survey, and buried soil deposits L1125 and L1103 in Trenches 19 and 20 can be seen to correspond with one of these anomalies (Fig. 16). The depression created by the channel is likely to have formed a beneficial topographic feature allowing for the survival of buried soil deposits. Layer L1049 in Trench 3 could also correspond with a channel feature, while no such correlation can be made for deposits in Trenches 10 - 12. Some smaller features were identified in the trial trenching that were not present in the geophysical survey data, which is in common with the relatively coarse resolution of handheld magnetic gradiometer surveys.

10 CONCLUSION

10.1 The site had a high potential for archaeological remains relating to peripheral activity surrounding the medieval and post-medieval village core which are situated on a fen island close to the north. The medieval village was extensive and incorporated a priory, church and chapel. Archaeological investigations have recorded numerous property boundaries and settlement remains, as well as numerous field boundaries, ditches and pits that represent activity extending out from the nucleus.

10.2 The evaluation recorded a wide distribution of pits and ditches across the site, and a buried soil preserved in natural depressions. The deposits date from the medieval period, although the distribution of finds is relatively sparse and many deposits are undated. One group of pits on the western corner of the site may represent clunch extraction pits. Clunch extraction and working was a significant industry in Isleham in the medieval period. Clunch is a hard variety of chalk which is easily workable when wet. It can be used as a building material, but erodes quickly; it can be burned for lime, used as rubble infill, but also lends itself to decorative work as it is easily carved. The available evidence suggests that clunch extraction began in the 11th to 12th century on a small scale but became more organised and a more important element of the local economy following the founding of Isleham Priory in the early 12th century (Newton 2010). Ditches and postholes recorded within the evaluation trenches potentially represent the demarcation of individual landholdings associated with the extraction of clunch and related industrial practices.

10.3 The finds, predominantly locally-produced coarse ware pottery and highly fragmented animal bone, are consistent with the dispersal detritus of an apparently domestic character but probably representative of the day to day presence of workers within the clunch extraction and working industries who would have prepared and consumed meals at this location. The buried soil is likely to represent the development the accumulation of material in the medieval and post-medieval periods which was subsequently dispersed by plough action following the cessation of industrial activity. Small isolated sherds of prehistoric pottery within the buried soils would appear to represent residual material.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at Cambridge County Archaeological Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. The archive will be deposited following the gaining of the transfer of title.

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Appendix 1 - Concordance of Finds

ECB6001 - P8167, Land Opposite Station Road, Isleham

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
	1000			Topsoil						S.Flint	3	44
			23							Nuremberg Jetton	1	1
			25		13th-15th C	2	15	14		Shell		9
			30							S.Flint	1	8
	1001		2A	Subsoil	Prehistoric	2	7					
			21		12th-mid 14th C	3	12					
			25A		18th-19th C	1	1					
1016	1017		8	Fill of Pit						Slag		3
	1018		8	Fill of Pit	17th-18th C	5	7	13	1	Shell		2
1021	1022		8	Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-mid 14th C	2	2		1	Bead?	1	<1
1023	1024		8	Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-mid 15th C	1	10					
1029	1030		8	Fill of Pit					7			
	1060		10	Layer	11th-13th C	3	11	23	6	B.Flint		10
					Residual Prehistoric							
1065	1066		10	Fill of Pit	10th-12th C	1	1					
1067	1068		10	Fill of Pit	Late 17th-18th C	2	5	32				
	1073		11	Layer	10th-12th C	2	1			Slag		127
1079	1080		30	Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th C	1	14		8			
1082	1083		30	Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th C	3	19					
1086	1087		30	Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-13th C	4	14		13	Shell		2
					Residual Prehistoric					Slag		17
1089	1090		30	Fill of Pit						Shell		1
1091	1092		30	Fill of Ditch					1			
1097	1098	A	31	Fill of Pit	Late 12th-mid 14th C	1	2		1			
		B			Mid 12th-mid 14th C	2	2					
					Residual Prehistoric							
1104	1105		20	Fill of Ditch	10th-12th C	13	72		45	B.Flint		9
										Shell		2
1106	1107		20	Fill of Ditch	Mid 12th-mid 14th C	4	3	2		Fe Nail	1	3
										Shell		3
1108	1109		20	Fill of Ditch	11th-13th C	2	1			Fe Frags	4	158
1110	1111		20	Fill of Ditch	Mid 12th-mid 14th C	6	26		3			
		B			Mid 12th-mid 14th C	1	1		46			
1112	1113	A	19	Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-mid 14th C	3	27	39		B.Flint		8
1119	1120		19	Fill of Ditch	11th-13th C	4	5		1	Fe Frag	1	3
										B.Flint		4
1123	1124		15	Fill of Ditch	Late 9th-11th C	2	8		39			
1126	1127		23	Fill of Ditch	Mid 12th-mid 14th C	1	13					
1130	1131		26	Fill of Ditch	13th-15th C	1	12					

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

Struck Flint
Andrew Peachey

The trial trench evaluation recovered a total of four flakes (52g) of struck flint in varying condition from the Topsoil (L1000). Notable amongst these flakes was an un-patinated, fresh side scraper (8g; in Tr.30), formed on a neat blade with an abraded platform and likely of early Neolithic date. The remaining struck flint was comprised of broad-squat debitage flakes with varying degrees of slight to heavy patination and rolled edges, which appear to have been removed by hard-hammer percussion from un-systematic cores, potentially in the late Neolithic to early Bronze Age.

The Pottery
Peter Thompson

The archaeological evaluation recovered 72 sherds weighing 264g from 18 features, two layers, and the topsoil and subsoil. The assemblage is overall very heavily abraded comprising mainly very small undiagnostic sherds.

The assemblage included 8 residual prehistoric sherds (24g) containing crushed white flint which are probably of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date, but the fragments are so small that an earlier, or even later, prehistoric date cannot be ruled out. There were 6 post-medieval sherds (9g) which were mainly glazed red earthenwares plus one Staffordshire type mottled slip ware.

The remaining 58 sherds (216g) were medieval and made up mainly of Ely wares, South-East Fenland Calcareous Buff wares, and sandy coarsewares. Nine of the sherds from Ditch F1104 were thick, handmade sherds containing sand and sparse flint and it is possible that they are of Middle Saxon date, though the remaining pottery in the context was early medieval. There were just two glazed sherds, one an Ely ware from the subsoil, and the other an unprovenanced body sherd from Ditch F1130 in a fine sandy fabric with grey inner core and orange surfaces and margins, and a pitted external green glaze.

Methodology

The sherds were examined under x35 binocular microscope and recorded according to the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski et al 2001). Fabric codes are those used for the Cambridgeshire County Council pottery type series (Spoerry 2016).

KEY:
PFT: Prehistoric flint tempered ware
NEOT: St Neots ware late 9th-12th
EMW: Early Medieval sandy ware 10th-13th

MSHW: Medieval shelly ware 11th-14th
MCW: Medieval Coarse ware 12th-15th
SEFEN: South-east Fenland Buff Calcareous ware mid 12th15th
MEL: Medieval Ely ware mid 12th-mid 14th
UPG: Unprovenanced glazed ware
GRE: Glazed red earthenware late 16th+
STMO: Staffordshire type mottled slipware mid 17th-18th

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Topsoil	1000	1x11g MCW 1x4g UPG	13th-15th	MCW: expanded wedge shaped bowl? rim with double groove, red core and grey surfaces UPG: fine and some medium sub-angular quartz, sparse white calcareous, grey, patchy thin clear glaze
Subsoil	1001 2A	2x7g PFT	Prehistoric – LBA-EIA?	PFT: conjoining body sherds, abundant flint
	1001 TR 21	2x8g PFT 1x4g MEL(g)		glazed
	1001 25A	1x1g GRE	18th-19th	
	1001 24B		Post-med?	1x1g CBM
Pit 1016	1018	3x3g GRE 1x3g MCW 1x1g EMW	17th-18th	MCW1: same fabric as L1111 EMW: same fabric as L1073
Pit 1021	1022	2x2g MEL	mid 12th-mid 14th	
Pit 1023	1024	1x10g SEFEN	mid 12th-mid 15th	
Layer	1060	1x5g EMW 2x6g PFT	11th-13th	EMW: grey core, orange surfaces; small voids, may be early Ely ware
Pit 1065	1066	1x1g MCW	10th-12th	EMW: same fabric as below (L1073)
Pit 1067	1068	1x3g GRE 1x2g STMO	late 17th-18th	
Layer	1073	2x1g MCW	10th-12th	EMW: contains fine sand and occasional coarse angular flint
Pit 1079	1080	1x14g SEFEN-type	mid 12th-14th	SEFEN: fine fabric
Pit 1082	1083	2x18g SEFEN 1x1g EMW	mid 12th-14th	moderate to heavy abrasion
Pit 1086	1087	1x2g PFT 3x12g EMW	mid 12th - 13th	all heavily abraded EMW – grey core, pale brown surfaces
Pit 1097	1098 A	1x2g MEL (g)	late 12th-mid14th	
	1098 B	1x1g PFT 1x1g MEL	mid 12th-mid 14th	

Ditch 1104	1105	2x13g MSHW 9x57g EMW1 2x2g EMW2	10th-12th	MSHW: platy shell EMW1: fine sandy fabric with rare to sparse coarse and very coarse flint, looks quite prehistoric. Mainly thick handmade sherds including a sagging base, so could be Middle or Late Saxon EMW2: 2x2g sandy
Ditch 1106	1107	2x1 g SEFEN 1x1g MEL 1x1g MSHW	mid 12th-mid 14th	
Ditch 1108	1109	2x1g EMW	11th-13th	heavily abraded
Ditch 1110	1111	2x19g MCW 3x5g MEL 1x2g SEFEN	mid 12th-mid 14th	MCW: fine sandy slightly micacous fabric, grey core oxidised surfaces
	1111 B	1x1g MEL	mid 12th-mid 14th	
Pit 1112	1113 A	1x14g SEFEN 1x4g MEL 1x9g MSHW	mid 12th-mid 14th	MSHW: x1 applied finger decorated cordon
Ditch 1119	1120	4x5g EMW	11th-13th	EMW- heavily abraded – thin sherds, fine sandy fabric orange surfaces, grey core
Ditch 1123	1124	2x8g NEOT	late 9th-11th	
Ditch 1126	1127	1x13g SEFEN	mid 12th-mid 14th	SEFEN: strap handle 2.2 cm
Ditch 1130	1131	1x12g UPG	13th-15th	UPG: fine sandy ware similar to Hedingham ware, grey core, orange surfaces and margins, external green glaze with pitting

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by context

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The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of 11 fragments (123g) of CBM, comprising very small, highly abraded fragments of peg tile, including pieces potentially of both medieval and post-medieval date.

Period	Fragment Count	Weight (g)
Medieval	2	52
Post-medieval	9	71
Total	*11*	*123*

Table 2: Quantification of CBM

Pit F1016 (L1017) and Pit F1112 (Segment A) contained single fragments of 14mm thick peg tile, manufactured in a gritty fabric with red-orange surfaces over a dark grey core, with inclusions of common quartz (c.0.5mm) and sparse calcareous grains (generally <2.5mm). The use of peg tile had become near universal by the 14th century but had been introduced on buildings in Ely in the 13th century, and these fragments may belong to the medieval period, up to the 15th century.

In the Tudor and post-medieval periods, peg tile (12-14mm thick) in the fen land region was produced on vast quantities in a highly calcareous (fossilliferous) fabric that is typically pale orange to red, but may vary between cream to brown. Low quantities of small fragments of this type, which continue in use into the 19th century and remain intact on many historic buildings in the present day were recovered from Layer L1060, Pit F1067, Ditch F1106 and Topsoil L1000.

The Small Finds

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered an unstratified post-medieval Nuremberg jetton, sparse highly corroded post-medieval iron work, and a small piece of fossiliferous limestone that may possibly been adapted into a small bead.

Feature	Context	Tr	No.	Wgt (g)	Material	Description
1000	1000	23	1	0.91	Ae	Nuremberg Jetton (21mm diameter). Poor Condition. Reverse is Rose/Orb type, with partially legible letters …*LEIN DIE E*… which would have read GOTT ALLEIN DIE EERE SEI (to God alone the glory). The obverse has three lis and three crowns arranged alternately around a flower, with an illegible inscription, but attributable to Hans Krauwinckel II (1586-1635). These occur in huge numbers across Britain and would have been imported as unofficial

						token currency (possibly token farthings) and used as reckoning counters (the reverse inscription is to remind you count honestly as God is watching).
1021	1022	8	1	0.05	Limestone	Bead? Small annular object (diameter: 6mm, width/depth: 1.5-2mm), with an approximately rectangular section. Most likely of fossil origin (part of a crinoid contained in carboniferous limestone) and probably an incidental geological 'find', but it may have had an adapted use as a small bead, either as found or ground into a regular ring shape. Recovered from a pit also containing medieval pottery.
1106	1107	20	1	3	Fe	Fragment of broken nail (>45mm length) with a tapering square shank. Probably medieval to post-medieval.
1108	1109	20	4	158	Fe	Very highly corroded broken fragments of curved iron plate with nail holes; and iron nails with broad heads. Post-medieval; potentially part of a timber-built wagon fitting, related agricultural machinery or small structure.
1119	1120	19	1	3	Fe	Small fragment of broken nail with a tapering rectangular shank. Probably medieval to post-medieval.

Table 3

THE ANIMAL BONE

Julie Curl

Methodology

The summary assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992) and Baker and Worley, 2014. All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present. A record was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible ages were estimated along with any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Measurements were taken where appropriate following Von Den Driesch, 1976 and a tooth record following Hillson, 1996. Counts and weights were noted for each context and counts made for each species. Where bone could not be identified to species, they were grouped as, for example, 'large mammal', 'bird' or 'small mammal'. Attempts were made, where possible, to refit possible fragments in the same bag and these were included in NISP counts. As this is a small assemblage, the information was recorded directly into an appendix in this report.

The bone assemblage

Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 172g of bone, consisting of 50 elements, was recovered from this site, with the assemblage quantified by species, NISP, feature type and trench in Table 4. Remains were recovered from a variety of pit and ditch fills and one layer. Mostly in very small amounts. The greatest quantities of bone recovered was from Ditch F1104, Fill L1105 (45g) and the Ditch F1123, Fill L1124 (39g).

The remains in this assemblage are quite heavily fragmented , many pieces with eroded and weathered surfaces and some invertebrate (insect, isopod, molluscs) damage on surfaces, suggesting some of this waste (particularly features Pit F1016, Layer L1060, Pit F1079, Pit F1086 and Ditch F1123) had lain exposed for some time and possibly affected by acidic soil conditions.

No burnt bone was seen in this assemblage. One small foot bone from Pit F1016 showed light gnawing and erosion that is consistent with having passed through the digestive system of a dog, suggesting primary waste was available for scavengers.

Species range and modifications and other observations

Three species were positively identified in the assemblage. The assemblage is quantified by species, feature and NISP in Table 4.

Sheep/goat were seen from four fills with teeth and small fragments of jaw bone. One sheep intermediate phalange from Pit F1016 had been lightly gnawed and showed erosion that is consistent with having passed through the digestive system of a dog

Cattle found in one ditch fill and one pit fill, again with teeth and an upper jaw fragment. **Equid** were recovered from the Ditch F1104, Fill L1105 with a radius fragment and a fragment of distal phalange (hoof) .

The bulk of the assemblage from this site was too fragmented and lacking in diagnostic features and only identifiable as ‘mammal’. Unidentified mammal bone was seen in nine fills.

Feature/Trench	Species and NISP/Context Count				Totals
	Cattle	Equid	Mammal	Sheep/goat	
Ditch 1104, T20		2	8		10
Ditch 1110, T20	1			1	2
Ditch 1119, T19			1		1
Ditch 1123, T15			18	1	19
Ditch1091, T30			1		1
Layer, T10			2		2
Pit 1016, T8			1	2	3
Pit 1021,				4	4
Pit 1029, T8	1				1
Pit 1079, T30			1		1
Pit 1086			4		4
Pit 1097, T31			2		2
Totals	**2**	**2**	**38**	**8**	**50**

Table 4. Quantification of the faunal remains by feature, species and NISP.

Discussion and conclusions

This is a small assemblage that is generally in a heavily fragmented and poor condition. Only small amounts of cattle, sheep/goat and equid were identified, attesting to their presence at this site, but the remains are unable to provide a great deal of information. Tooth wear on both the cattle and sheep suggest mature animals, probably ones providing other uses prior to meat. Cattle would be used for traction and sheep/goat would provide milk and fleeces/hair and hides.

Dog/wolf or possibly fox is suggested by the presence of the gnawed and part-digested foot bone. The erosion of the surfaces of the bones has potentially lost some butchering and perhaps gnawing evidence.

THE MOLLUSC ASSEMBLAGE

Julie Curl

Methodology

The molluscs were identified to species using a variety of reference material. Shells were catalogued by species and where appropriate, counts were made of the number of individual species present (NISP), counts of top and base shells and an estimate of the minimum number of individuals (MNI). Bivalve shells are known to be used as painter's palettes and the remains are examined for any traces of pigments. Shells are also examined for any cut marks that would confirm their use for food from the prising apart of the shells or removal of meat with a knife.

Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 17g of shells, consisting of 13 pieces, was recovered from this site, with the remains quantified by context in Table 5. The bulk of the shell assemblage was recovered from pit and ditch fills of a medieval to post-medieval date range, one shell was retrieved from topsoil. The shell in the topsoil is in good condition, the remaining shell is quite fragmented. Some traces of sponges suggest they are of marine origin, rather than from farmed shells.

Context	Type and trench	Date	Ctxt Qty	Weight	Freshwater	Marine	Land	Fossil	Species	NISP
1000	Topsoil T25	Medieval	1	9		1			Oyster	1
1018	Pit 1016, T8	17th – 18th C	3	2		1			Cockle	1
1018	Pit 1016, T8	17th – 18th C				2			Mussel	2
1087	Pit 1086, T30	Medieval	2	2		2			Mussel	2
1090	Pit 1089, T30	Undated	2	1		2			Mussel	2
1105	Ditch 1104, T20	Medieval	1			1			Oyster	1
1107	Ditch 1106, T20	Medieval	4	3		4			Mussel	4

Table 5. Quantification of the mollusc assemblage.

Species

Three species were seen in this assemblage, all marine species. Marine **Mussel** were seen in four pit and ditch fills. A single **Cockle** shell was found in the Pit fill 1018, along with mussel. One base shell from a Marine **Oyster** was found in the Topsoil 1000. The base shell of the oyster is largely complete, but the remaining shell is represented by fragmented remains.

Discussion and conclusions

This is a very small shell assemblage and in a fragmented state, it is dominated by the remains of the most frequent food species on archaeological sites. Common Mussel, Cockle and Oyster are found all around the British coast, even in quite shallow waters. No clear butchering was seen, but these shells are likely to represent food waste. Such molluscs could be collected by individuals, but are perhaps more likely to be sold at local markets.

Bibliography (for bone/shell reports)

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Hillson, S. 1992. *Mammal bones and teeth.* The Institute of Archaeology, University College, London.

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Winder, J.M. 2011. *Oyster shells from archaeological sites. A brief guide to basic processing and recording.*

Tables 6 and 7

6 Summary catalogue of the animal bone.
7 Catalogue of the mollusc assemblage.

Table 6

Catalogue of the animal bone recovered from ECB6001
Listed in context order.
A full catalogue (with additional information) is available as an Excel file in the digital archive.

Key:

NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present

Ctxt	Type	Date	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Ad	Juv	Neo	Element range	Count	Butchering	Comments
1018	Pit 1016, T8	17th – 18th	2	1	Sheep/goat	1	1			Intermediate phalange	0.5		Has been through digestive system of dog, wolf or fox
1018	Pit 1016, T8	17th – 18th			Mammal	1							Poor condition
1022	Pit 1021, T8	Medieval	5	1	Sheep/goat	5	4			Mandible fragments and molar 1			Very heavy and uneven wear on molar 1
1030	Pit 1029, T8	Undated	1	7	Cattle	1	1			Lower molar			In wear and with calculus
1060	Layer, T10	Medieval	2	6	Mammal	2							Eroded surfaces
1080	Pit 1079, T30	Medieval	1	8	Mammal	1							Weathered surface
1087	Pit 1086	Medieval	4	13	Mammal	4							Eroded surfaces
1092	Ditch1091, T30	Undated	1	1	Mammal	1							
1098	Pit 1097,	Medieval	2	1	Mammal	2							Eroded surfaces

	T31												
1105	Ditch 1104, T20	Medieval	10	45	Equid	2	2			Radius fragment and piece of distal phalange	2	chopped	
1105	Ditch 1104, T20	Medieval			Mammal	8							
1111 B	Ditch 1110, T20	Medieval	1	46	Cattle	1	1			Upper jaw		cut	Molars in mid wear
1111	Ditch 1110, T20	Medieval	1	3	Sheep/goat	1	1			Lower molar			Mid wear
1120	Ditch 1119, T19	Medieval	1	1	Mammal	1							
1124	Ditch1123, T15	Late Saxon/ Medieval	19	39	Sheep/goat	1	1			Incisor			
1124	Ditch/Pit 1123, T15	Late Saxon/ Medieval			Mammal	18							Heavily fragmented and some weathering

Table 7. Catalogue of the mollusc remains from ECB6001

Context	Type and trench	Date	Ctxt Qty	Weight	Freshwater	Marine	Land	Fossil	Species	NISP	Top	Base	MNI	Apex	Fragment	Distort	Worms	Sponge	Barnacles	Attached	Cuts	Burnt	Gnaw	Condition	Pigment?
1000	Topsoil T25	Medieval	1	9		1			Oyster	1		1	1	1				1						good	
1018	Pit 1016, T8	17^{th} – 18^{th} C	3	2		1			Cockle	1			1	1										good	
1018	Pit 1016, T8	17^{th} – 18^{th} C				2			Mussel	2					2									poor	
1087	Pit 1086, T30	Medieval	2	2		2			Mussel	2					2									poor	
1090	Pit 1089, T30	Undated	2	1		2			Mussel	2			1	1	1									good	
1105	Ditch 1104, T20	Medieval	1			1			Oyster	1	1		1	1		1								good	
1107	Ditch 1106, T20	Medieval	4	3		4			Mussel	4			1	1	3									poor	

The Environmental Samples

Dr John Summers

Introduction

During the archaeological evaluation of land off Station Road, Isleham, 13 bulk soil samples for environmental archaeological assessment were taken and processed. These samples were primarily from features of medieval date, including patches of buried soil that may have had an earlier origin.

Methods

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

Results

The assessment data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 8. Preservation of plant macrofossils was by carbonisation only. No evidence of plant remains preserved by anaerobic waterlogging or mineralisation were encountered. The carbonised macrofossil remains were in the form of low densities of cereal grains, with hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) identified. Charcoal was also present in very low concentrations. The small fragments present are unlikely to be readily identifiable.

Mollusc shells were abundant in a number of deposits, demonstrating the suitability of the calcareous sediments for their preservation. The range of taxa was relatively limited, with primarily open ground and grassland taxa represented (e.g. *Helicella itala*, *Pupilla muscorum* and *Vallonia* sp.). These made up the bulk of the shells present, with smaller numbers of shells from taxa characteristic of taller damp vegetation (e.g. *Cochlicopa* sp., *Discus rotundatus* and *Trichia hispida* group). A small number of aquatic *Anisus leucostoma*, associated with *Carychium* sp., often found in wet or damp vegetation, in Ditch Fill L1111 (F1110) suggest some wetness associated with this feature. This was most likely on a seasonal basis.

Buried soil layers L1049, L1060, L1073 and L1081 were sampled. Only L1081 (Trench 12) contained identifiable carbonised remains, in the form of

two cereal grains. These, accompanied by a small amount of charcoal could have been introduced through manuring, although such material was absent from the other three samples. Mollusc remains were comparable to the overall picture above, with predominantly short grassland habitats represented, although cultivation cannot be ruled out.

Conclusions

The investigation of the carbonised plant remains from the bulk sample light fractions identified only low densities of cereal grains and charcoal. This is likely to indicate that the sampled features were not receiving large amounts of carbonised debris from domestic activity and were peripheral to core areas of occupation during the medieval period.

The mollusc assemblage indicates predominantly short grassland habitats, which would suggest grazed pasture. However, historic cultivation of the buried soil deposits identified is possible.

References

Cappers, R.T.J., Bekker R.M. and Jans J.E.A. 2006, *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands. Groningen Archaeological Studies Volume 4*, Barkhuis Publishing, Eelde

Jacomet, S. 2006, *Identification of Cereal Remains from Archaeological Sites* (2nd edn), Laboratory of Palinology and Palaeoecology, Basel University

Kerney, M.P. 1999, *Atlas of the Land and Freshwater Molluscs of Britain and Ireland*, Harley Books, Colchester

Kerney, M.P. and Cameron, R.A.D. 1979, *A Field Guide to Land Snails of Britain and North-West Europe*, Collins, London

Sample number	Context	Feature	Description	Trench	Spot date	Volume (litres)	Cereals			Non-cereal taxa		Hazelnut shell	Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants					Other remains
							Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes		Charcoal>2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects	Earthworm capsules	
1	1017	1016	Fill of Pit	8	17th-18th C	40	X	-	NFI (2)	-	-	-	X	-	XXX	*Cochlicopa* sp., *Discus rotundatus, Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia* sp.	XX	XXX	X	-	-	-
2	1038	1037	Fill of Ditch	6	-	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	XXX	Coniferous wood	XX	*Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum*	XXX	XX	-	-	-	-
3	1034	1033	Fill of Pit	7	-	40	X	-	Trit (2), NFI (1)	-	-	-	-	-	XXX	*Cochlicopa* sp., *Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia* sp.	XX	XXX	X	-	-	-
4	1049	-	Buried Soil Layer	3	-	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	*Cochlicopa* sp., *Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Trichia hispida* group, *Vallonia* sp.	XXX	XX	-	-	-	-

5	1060	-	Buried Soil Layer	10	11th-13th C	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XXX	*Cochlicopa* sp., *Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Trichia hispida* group, *Vallonia* sp.	XX	XXX	-	-	-	-
6	1073	-	Buried Soil Layer	11	10th-12th C	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XXX	*Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia* sp.	X	XX	X	X	-	-
7	1080	1079	Fill of Pit	30	Mid 12th-14th C	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XXX	*Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia* sp.	X	XX	X	-	-	-
8	1081A	-	Buried Soil Layer	12	-	40	X	-	Trit (1), NFI (1)	-	-	-	X	-	XXX	*Cochlicopa* sp., *Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia* sp.	XX	XX	X	-	-	-
9	1107	1106	Fill of Ditch	20	10th-12th C	40	X	-	Hord (1), Trit (1), NFI (1)	X	Medium Fabaceae (1)	-	X	-	XXX	*Helicella itala, Trichia hispida* group, *Vallonia* sp.	XX	XXX	X	-	-	Coal (X)
10	1111	1110	Fill of Ditch	20	Mid 12th-14th C	40	X	-	Hord (1), NFI (1)	-	-	-	X	-	XXX	*Anisus leucostoma, Carychium* sp., *Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia* sp.	X	XXX	X	-	-	Coal (X)

11	1105	1104	Fill of Ditch	20	10th-12th C	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	XX	*Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia* sp.	XX	XXX	X	-	-	-
12	1135	1134	Fill of Ditch	35	-	40	X	-	NFI (1)	-	-	-	-	-	XX	*Cochlicopa* sp., *Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia* sp.	XX	XXX	X	-	-	-
13	1131	1130	Fill of Ditch	26	13th-15th C	40	X	-	HB (1), Hord (1), NFI (2)	-	-	-	X	-	XX	*Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia* sp.	XX	XXX	X	-	-	-

Table 8: Results from the assessment of bulk sample light fractions from Station Road, Isleham. Abbreviations: HB = hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.); Hord = barley (*Hordeum* sp.); Trit = wheat (*Triticum* sp.); NFI = not formally identified (indeterminate cereal grain).

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol7-374344

Project details

Project name	Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (TT)
Short description of the project	In October of 2019 Archaeological Solutions carried out an archaeological evaluation on land off Station Road, Isleham. A geophysical survey of the current proposed development site was carried out in 2018 as part of the current application (Gilbey 2019). Discrete features, principally pits (34) but also post holes (4), were most common. Ditches (16) and ditch terminals (3) were also present. The earliest finds comprised sparse struck flint from the topsoil including a side scraper (from Trench 30), likely of early Neolithic date; while very low quantities of residual prehistoric pottery, probably of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date was contained in two pits. Medieval pottery was contained within features in Trenches 8, 10 - 11, 15, 19 - 20, 23, 26 and 30 - 31. The earliest pottery (late 9th - 11th) was contained in Ditch F1123 (Trench 15). Slightly later, 10th - 12th century pottery was derived from features in Trenches 10 (Ditch F1065; 11 (Layer L1073); and 20 Ditch F1104. The remainder of the medieval pottery is 11th - 13th, mid 12th - mid 14th and 13th - 15th century. Between 1 and 5 sherds were present excepting Ditch F1110 (trench 20) which contained 7 sherds. The features with medieval pottery were most common in Trenches 19 and 20, and 30 - 31. Trench 30 contained Pits F1079, F1082, F1084, F1086 and F1089 and these are interpreted as clunch quarry pits. Pits F1079, F1082 and F1086 contained sparse medieval (mid 12th - 14th century) pottery sherds. It is likely that the medieval finds assemblages represent day to day activity and the perhaps the preparation and consumption of meals by clunch diggers and workers operating within these landholdings or 'crofts'. Buried soil deposits were recognised within depressions of the chalk in Trenches 3 (L1049), 10 (L1060), 11 (L1073), 12 (L1081), 19 (L1125) and 20 (L1103).
Project dates	Start: 14-10-2019 End: 30-10-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P8167 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECB6001 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	PITS Medieval
Monument type	PITS Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCHES Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES Late Prehistoric
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	STRUCK FLINT Late Prehistoric

Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	ASSEMBLAGES Medieval
Methods & techniques	"'Targeted Trenches'"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE ISLEHAM Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire
Postcode	CB74AS
Study area	0 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 64438 73560 52.335014627456 0.413763260106 52 20 06 N 000 24 49 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 9m Max: 12m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Project brief originator	Cambridgeshire County Council County Archaeology Office
Project design originator	Jon Murray
Project director/manager	Jon Murray
Project supervisor	Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire Council Archaeological Store
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","other"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambirdge County Archaeological Store
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","other"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge County Archaeological Store
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire. An Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Ryan, D

Other bibliographic details	5942
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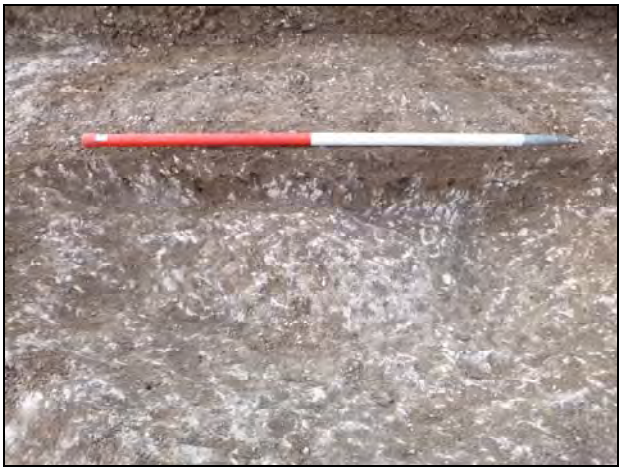

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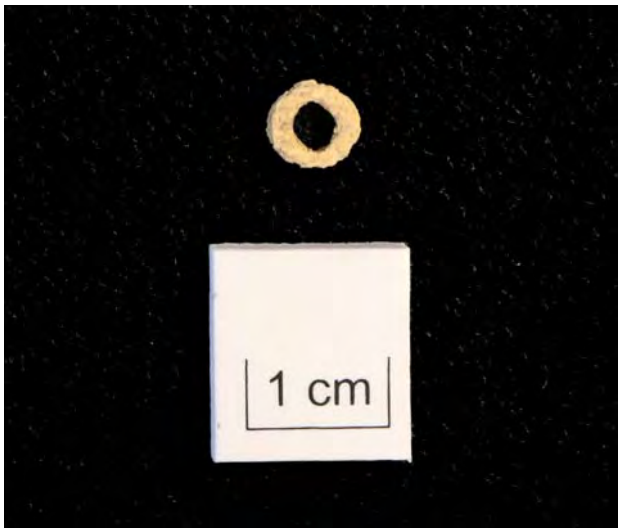

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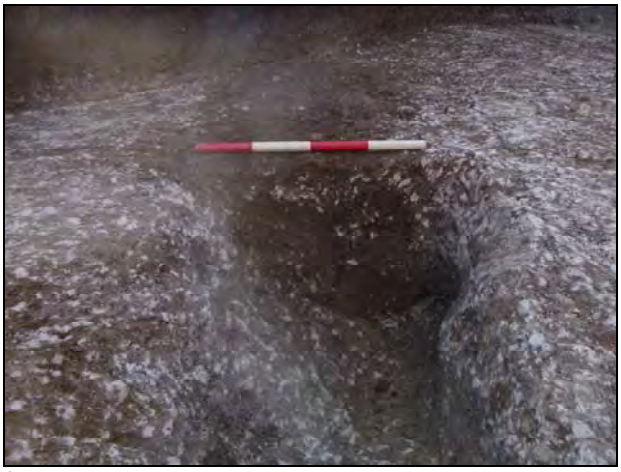
34
Pit F1074 in Trench 11



35
Ditch Terminal F1076 in Trench 11

36
Trench 12 looking north-west

37
Layer 1081 in Trench 12

38
Trench 13 looking north-east

39
Trench 14 looking north-west

40
Trench 15 looking south-west

41
Ditch F1114 and Pit F1116 in Trench 15

42
Ditches F1121 and F1123 in Trench 15

43
Trench 16 looking south-west

44
Trench 17 looking north-west

45
Pit F1128 in Trench 17

46
Trench 18 looking north-east

47
Trench 19 looking north-west

48
Pit F1112 and Ditch F1119 in Trench 19

49
Layer 1125 in Trench 19

50
Trench 20 looking south-west

51
Ditches F1104, F1106, F1108, and F1110 in Trench 20

52
Ditches F1108 and F1110 in Trench 20

53
Layer 1103 in Trench 20

54
Trench 21 looking north-west

55
Trench 22 looking south

56
Trench 23 looking south-east

57
Ditch F1126 in Trench 23

58
Nuremberg Jetton from topsoil in Trench 23

59
Trench 24 looking south-west

60
Trench 25 looking north-east

61
Trench 26 looking south-east

62
Ditch F1130 in Trench 26

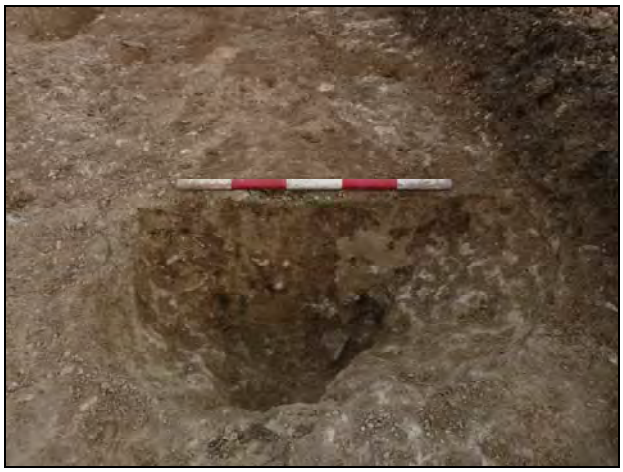
63
Trench 27 looking north-west

64
Trench 28 looking north-west

65
Trench 29 looking south-west

66
Post Hole F1136 in Trench 29

67
Pit F1138 in Trench 29



68
Pit F1140 in Trench 29

69
Trench 30 looking north-east

70
Pit F1079 in Trench 30

71
Pit F1082 in Trench 30

72
Pits F1084 and F1086 in Trench 30

73
Pit F1089 in Trench 30

74
Ditch F1091 in Trench 30

75
Trench 31 looking south-east

76
Junction of Trenches 30 and 31 looking east

77
Pit F1093 in Trench 31

78
Pit F1095 in Trench 31

79
Pits F1097 and F1099 in Trench 31

80
Pit F1101 in Trench 31

81
Trench 32 looking south-east

82
Trench 33 looking south-east

83
Trench 34 looking north-east

84
Trench 35 looking north-east

85
Ditch F1132 in Trench 35

86
Ditch F1134 in Trench 35

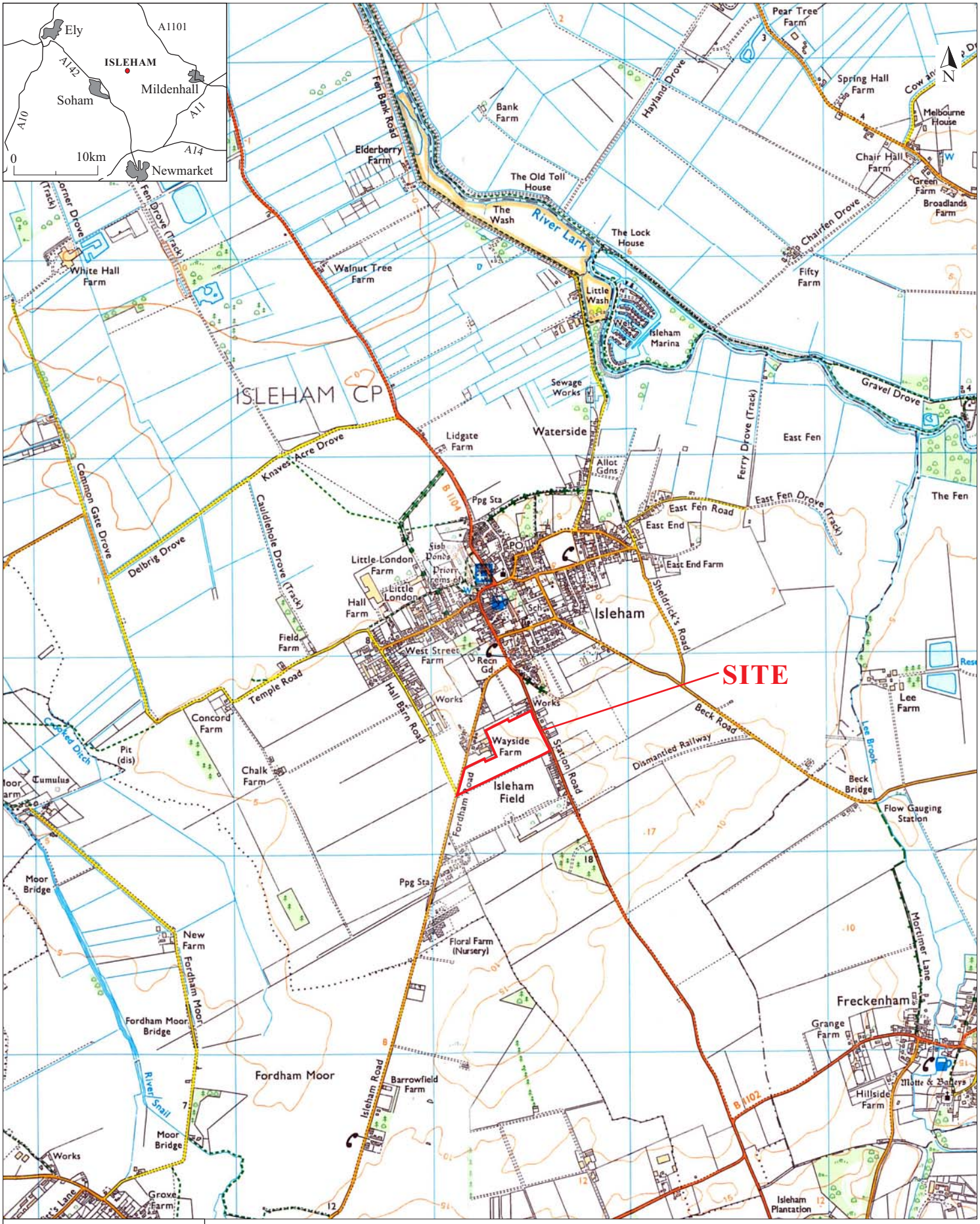


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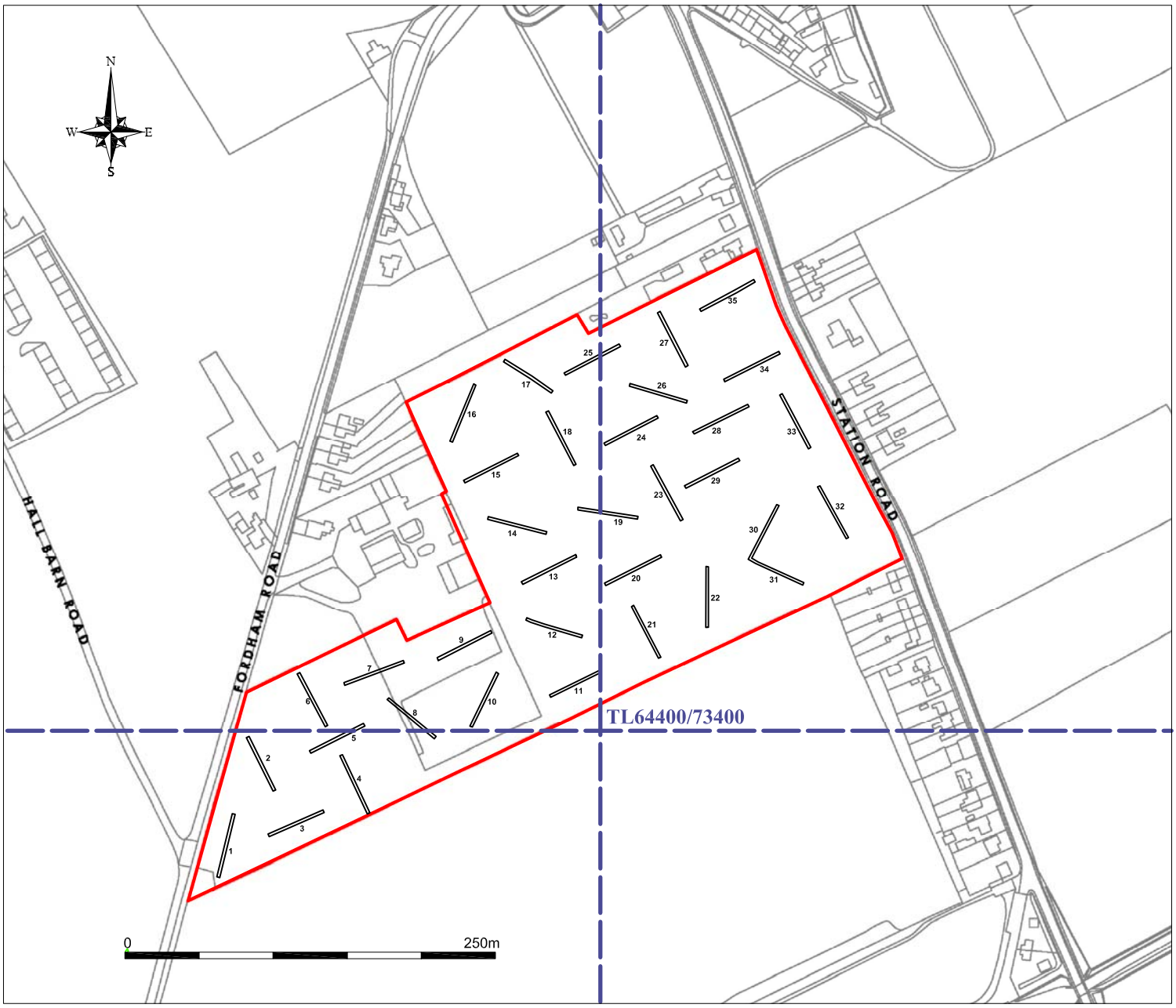
Fig. 1 Site location plan

Scale 1:25,000 at A4

Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P7554)



Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale Plans 1:4000 at A4
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

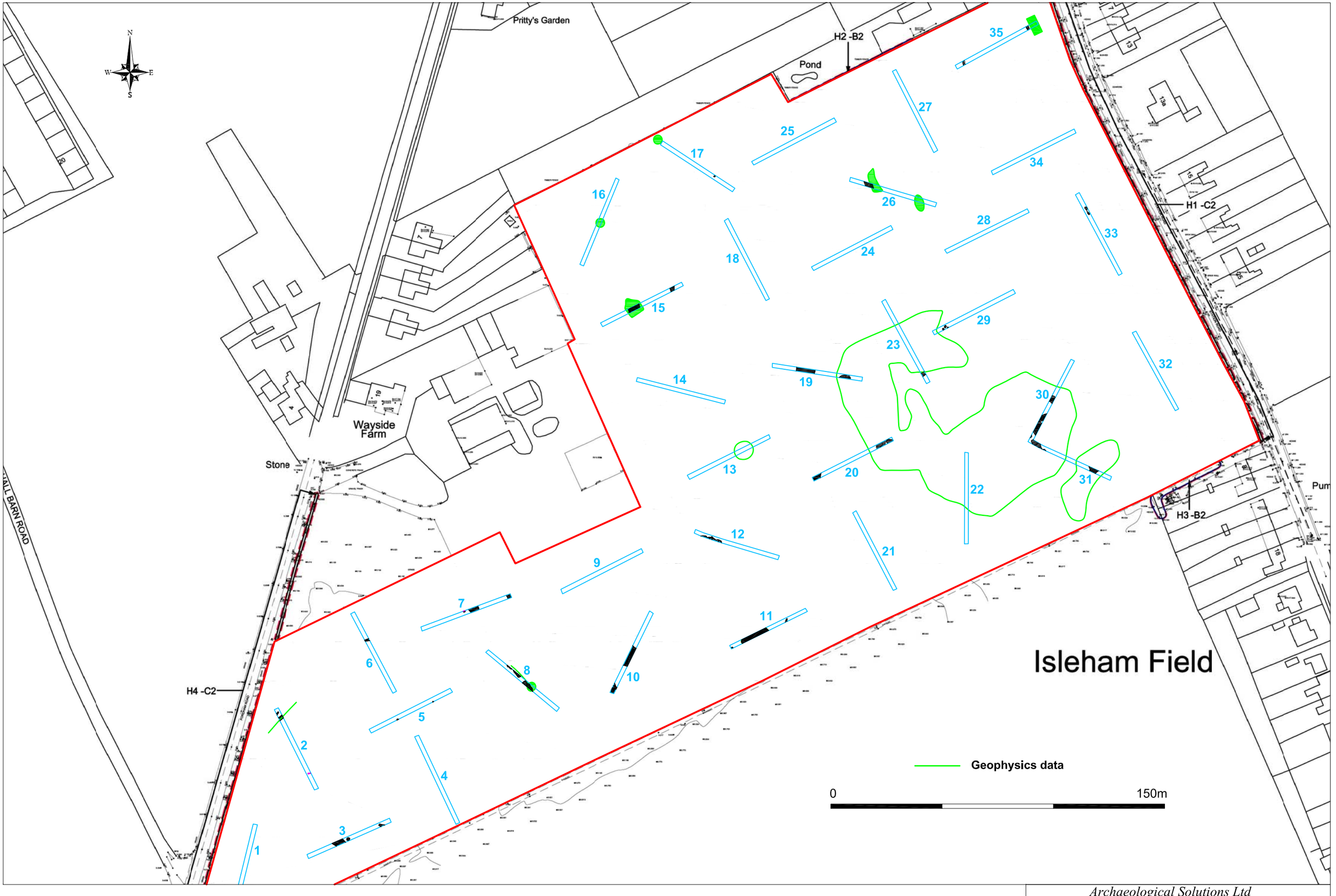


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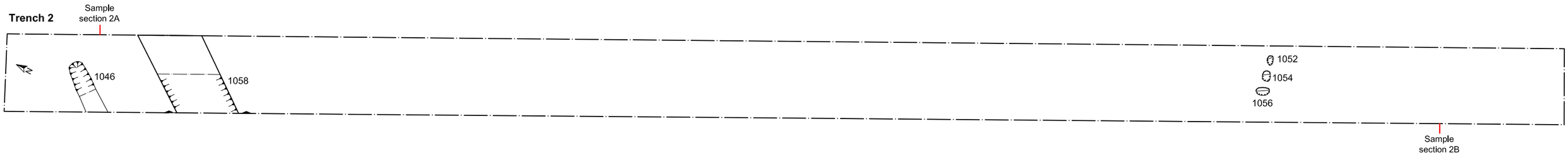
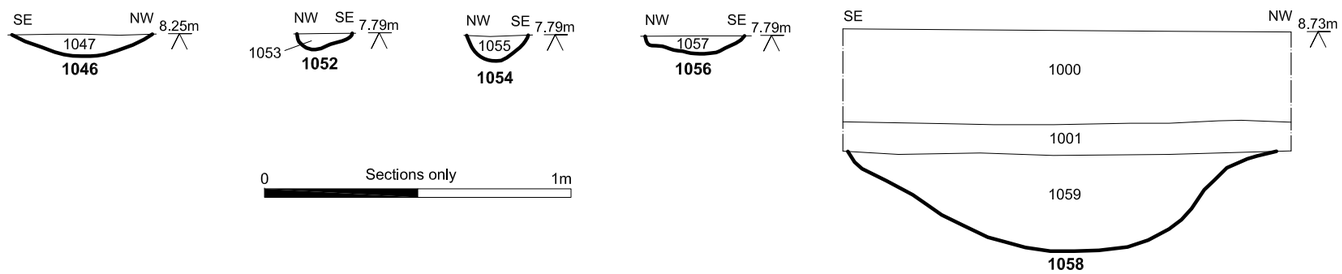
Fig. 3 Trench location plan

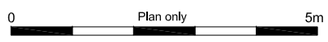
Scale 1:1500 at A3

Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

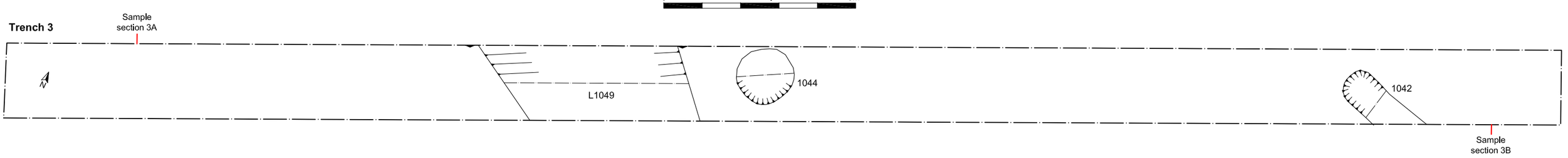
Trench 2







Trench 3



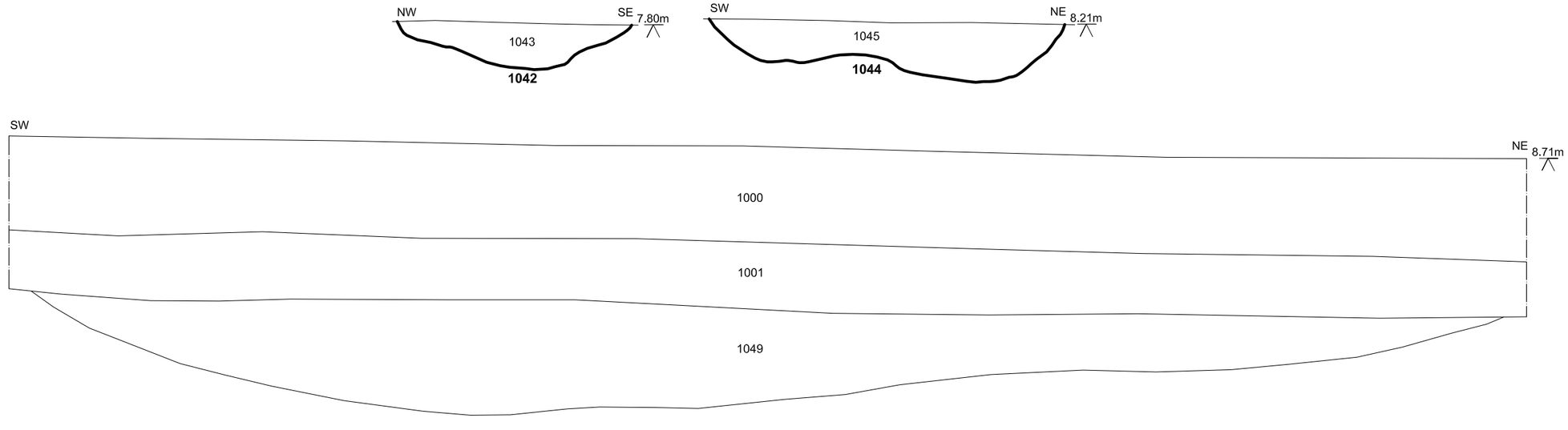


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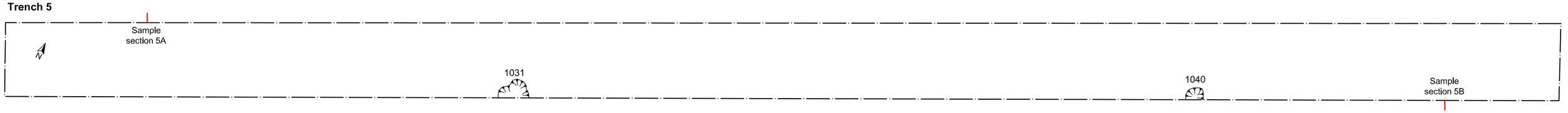
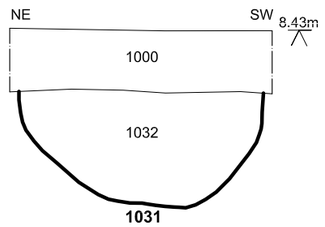
Fig. 4 Trench plans and sections

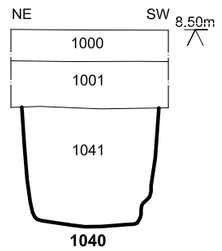
Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3

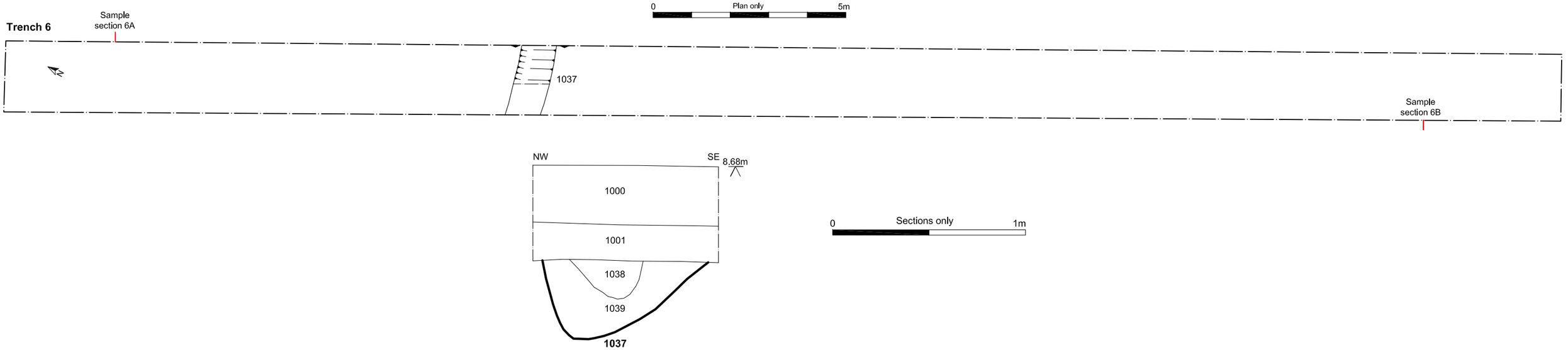
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

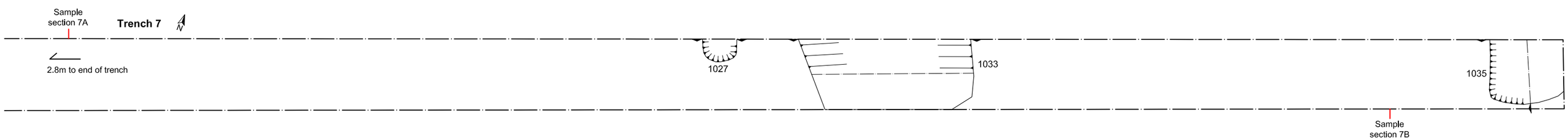
Trench 5

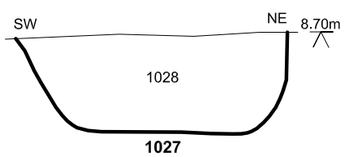


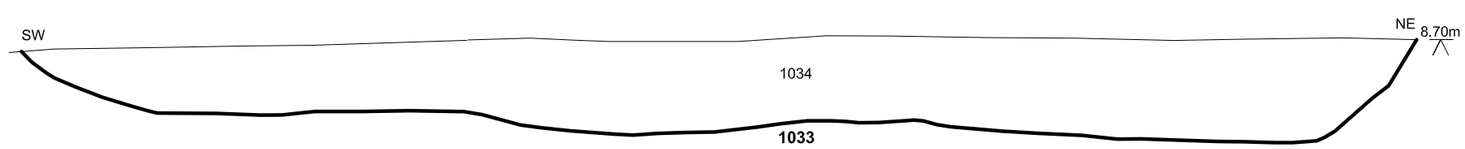


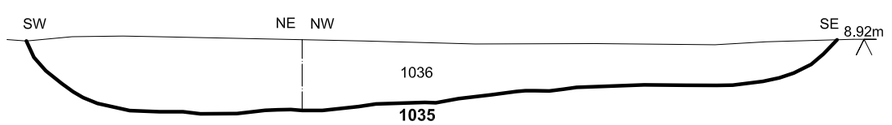




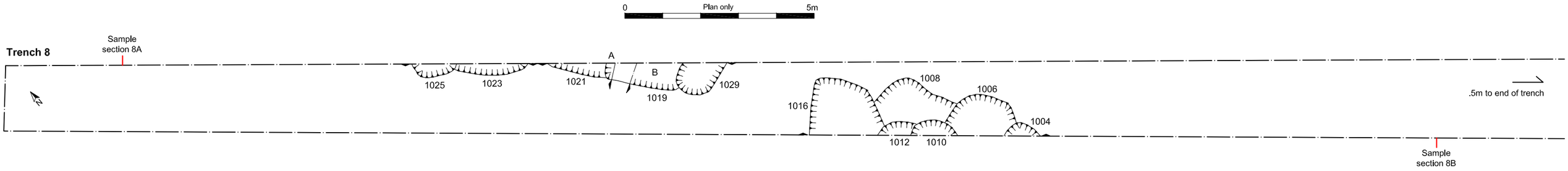


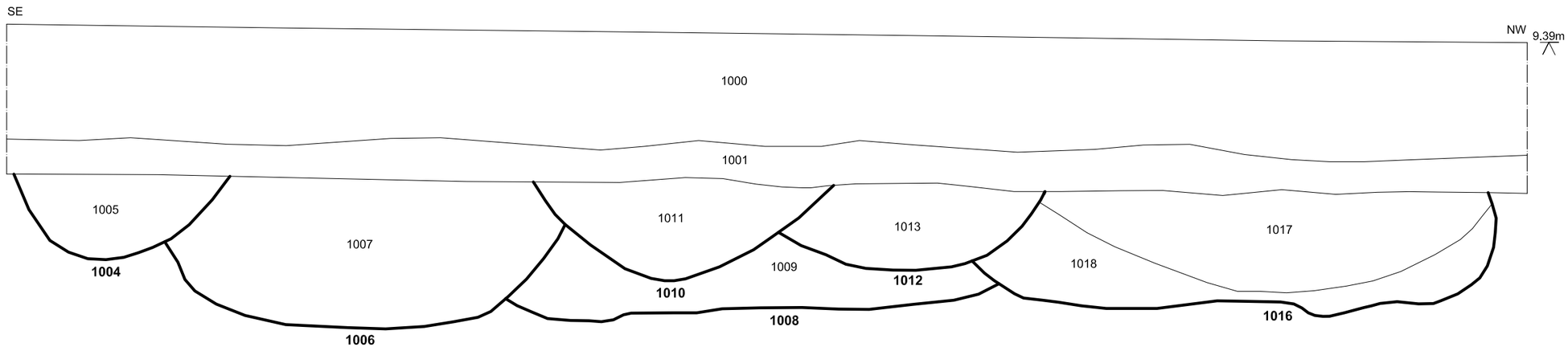


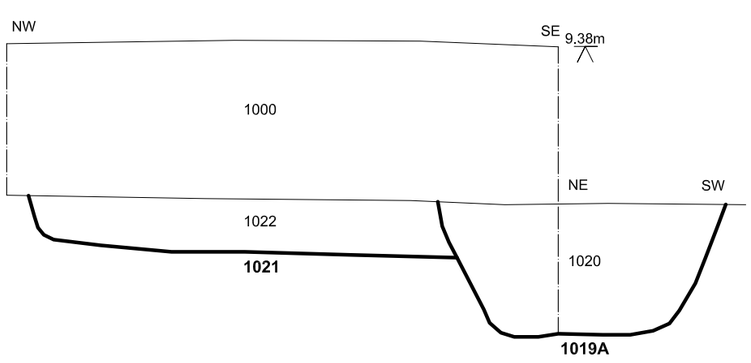


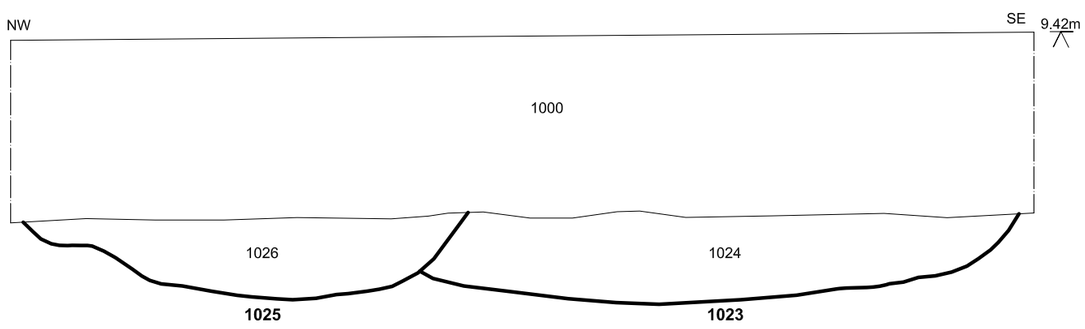


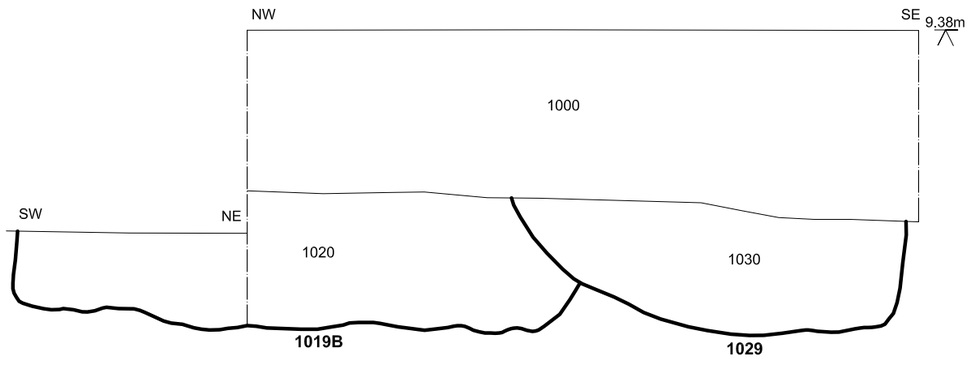
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 5 Trench plans and sections
Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)











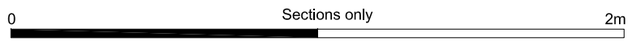


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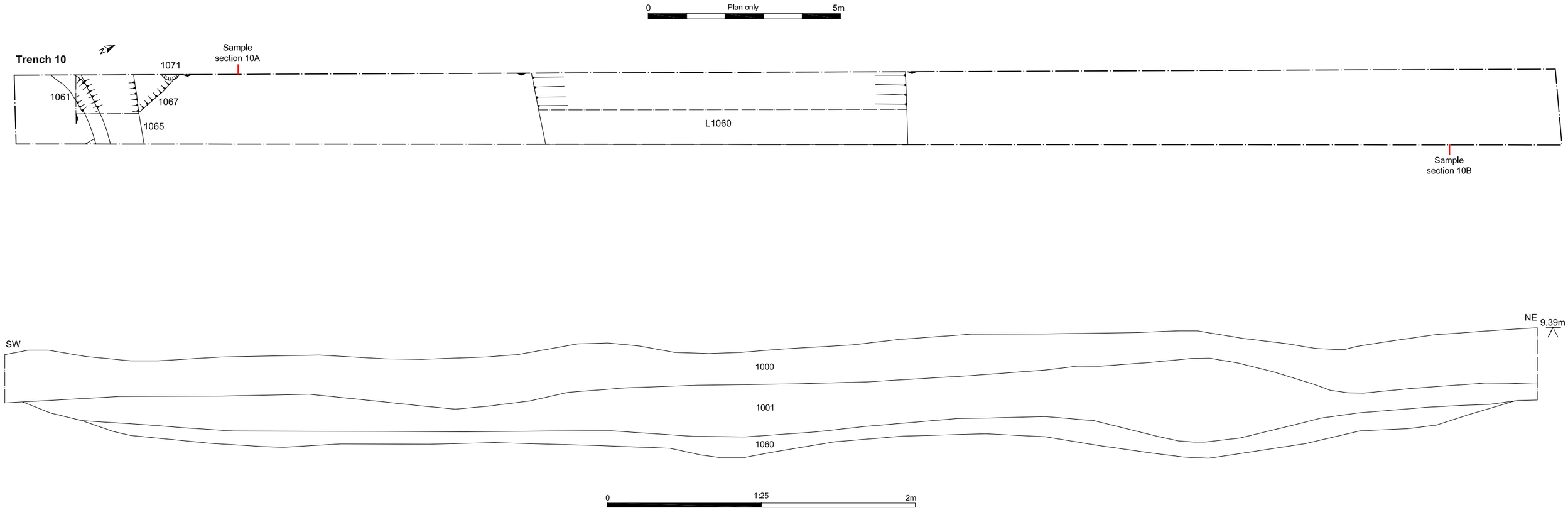
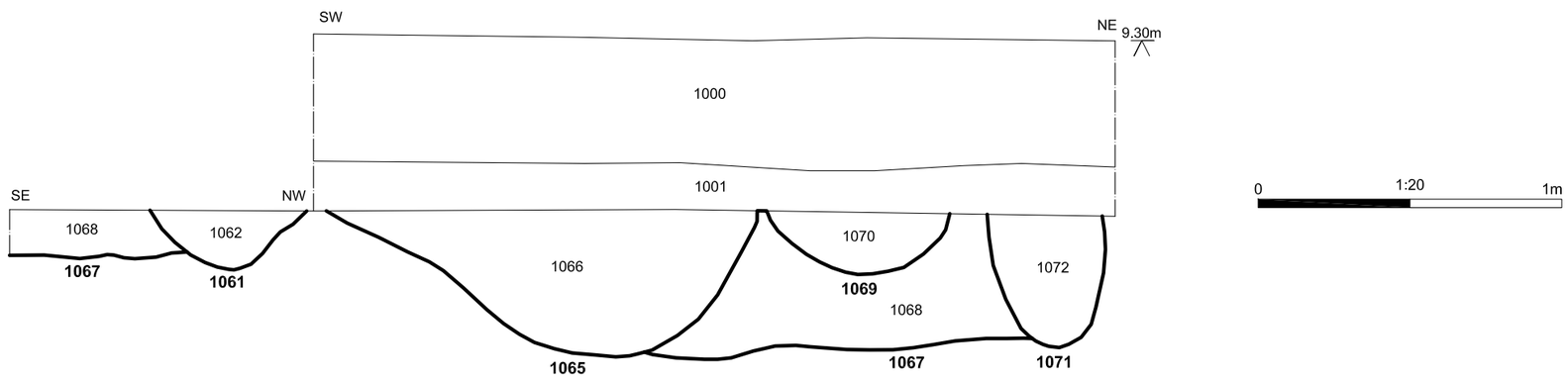
Fig. 6 Trench plan and sections

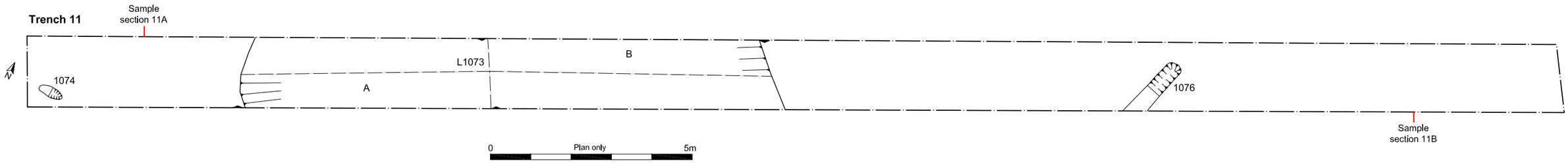
Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3

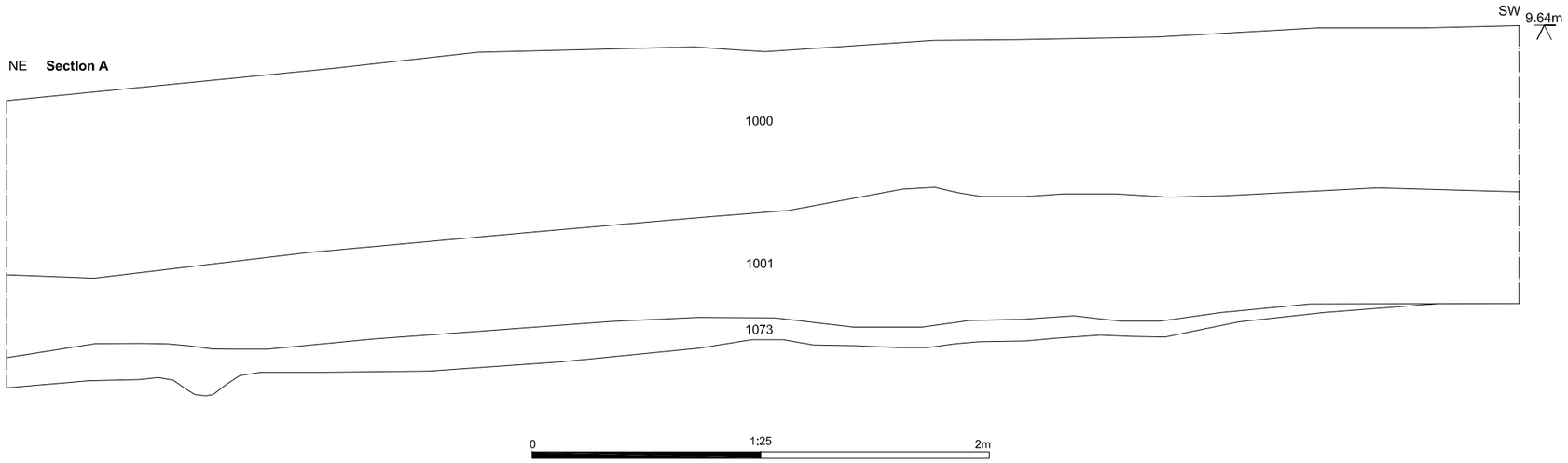
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

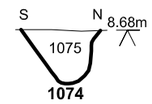


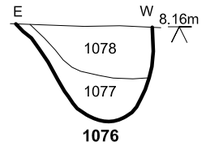


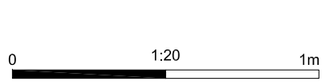
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 7 Trench plan and sections
Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 & 1:25 at A3
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

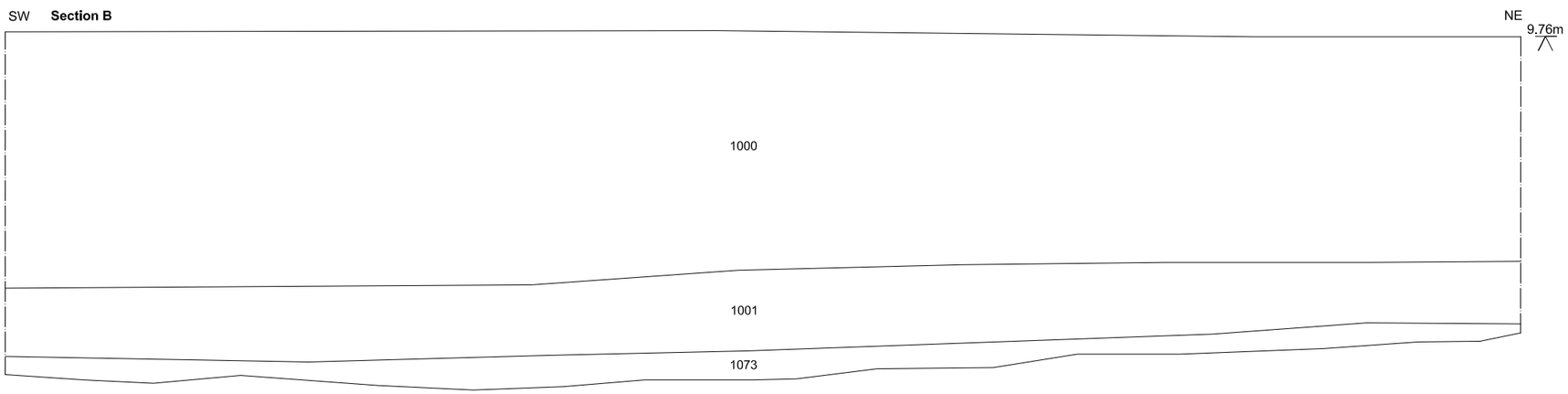




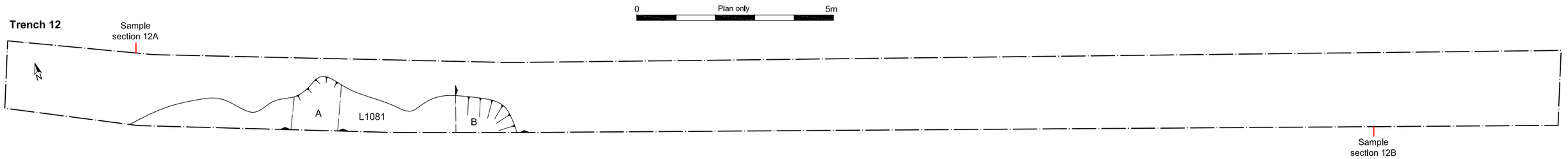


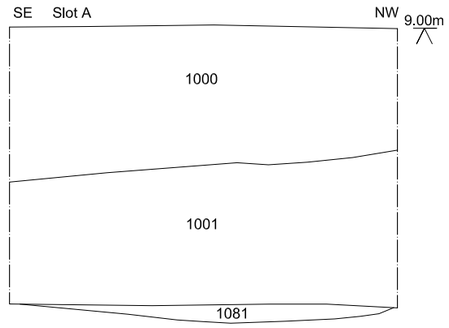


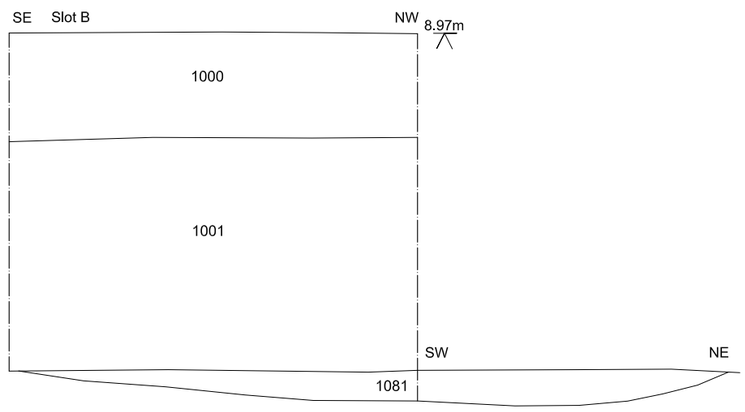


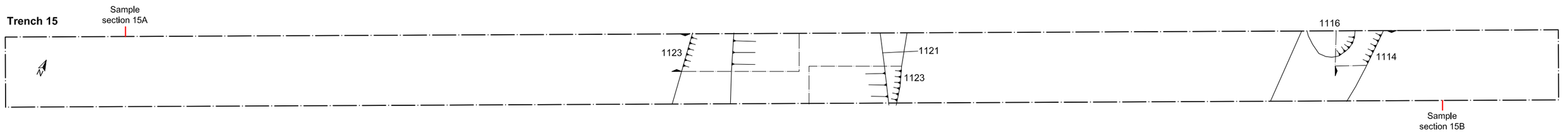


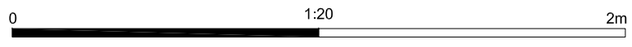
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 8 Trench plan and sections
Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 & 1:25 at A3
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

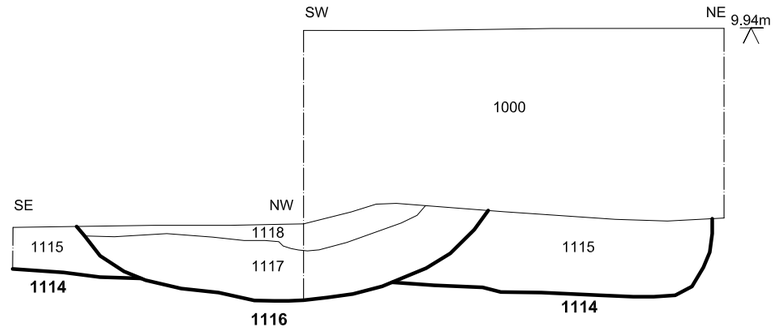












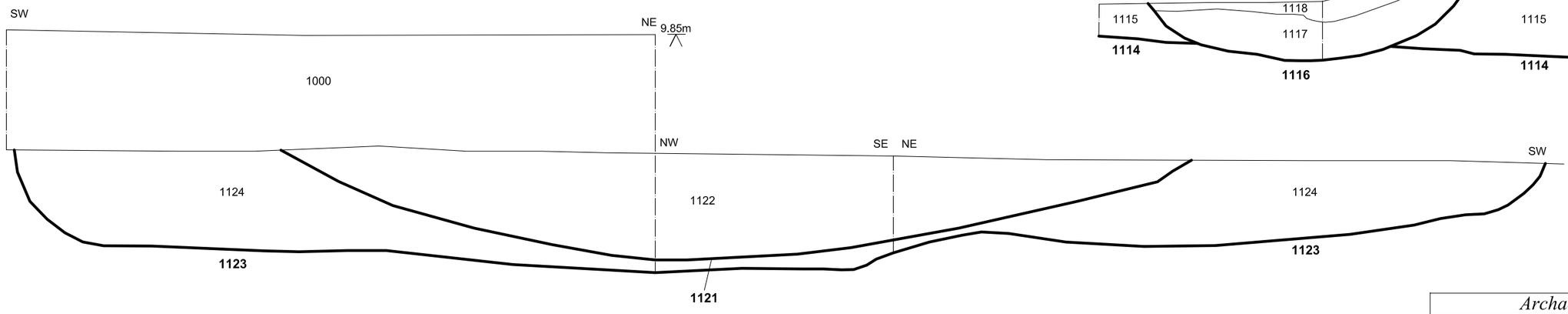


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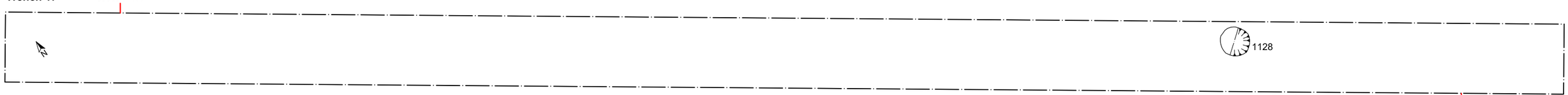
Fig. 9 Trench plans and sections

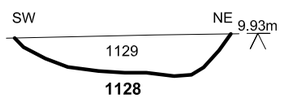
Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3

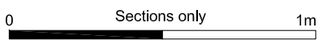
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

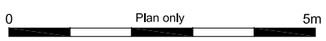
Trench 17

Sample section 17A



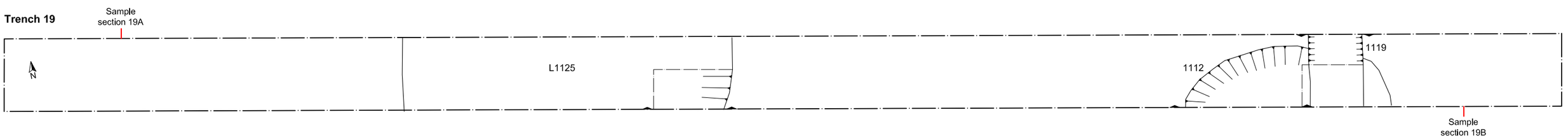


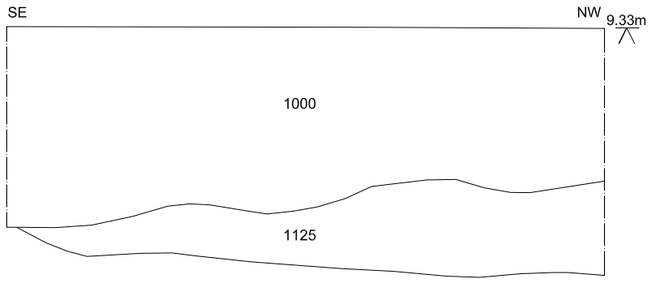


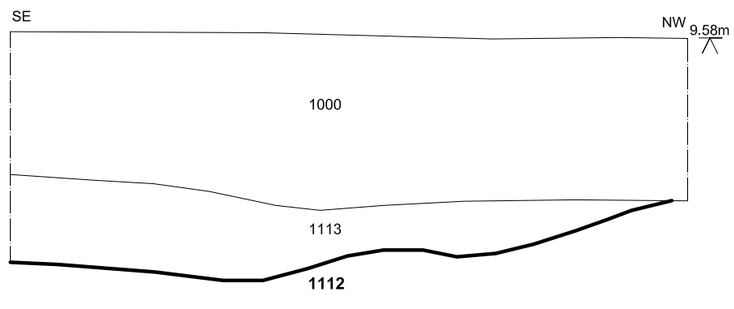


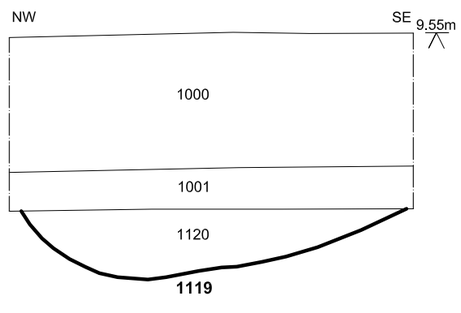
Trench 19

Sample section 19A







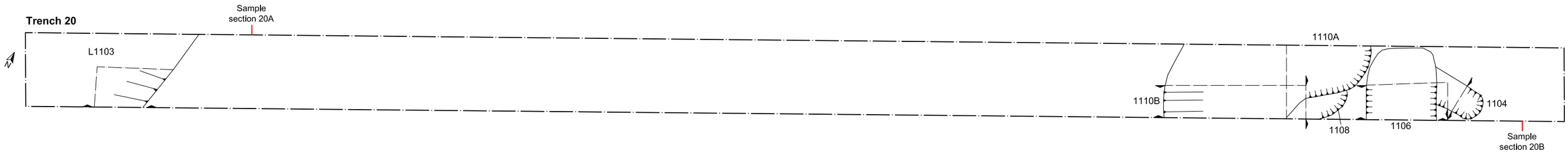


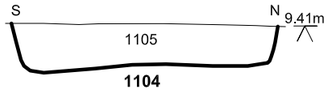
Archaeological Solutions Ltd

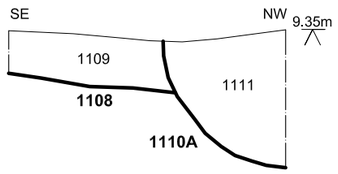
Fig. 10 Trench plans and sections

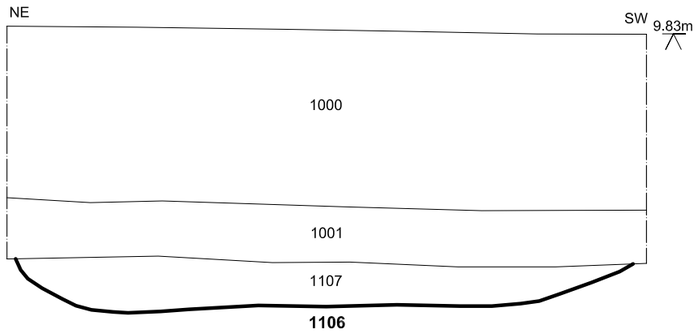
Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3

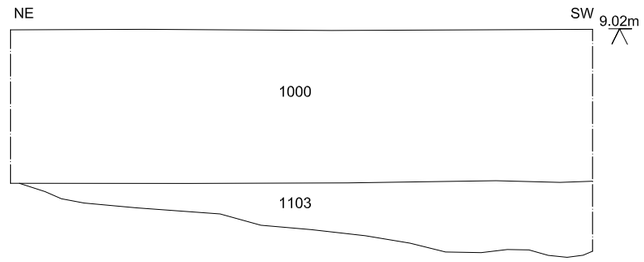
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

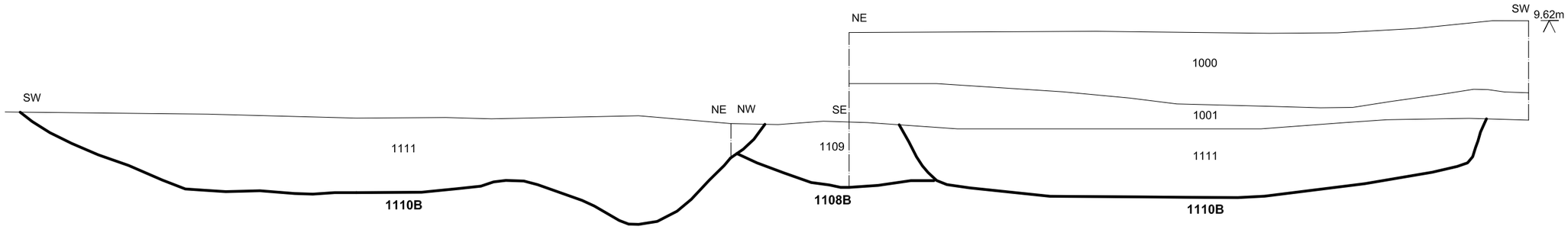


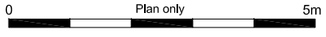


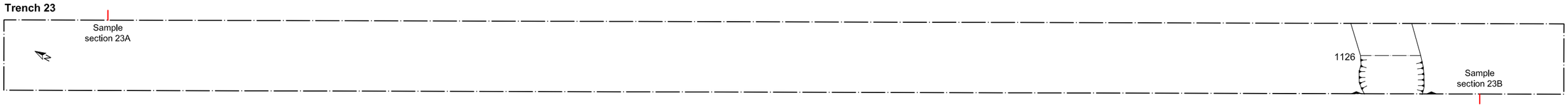


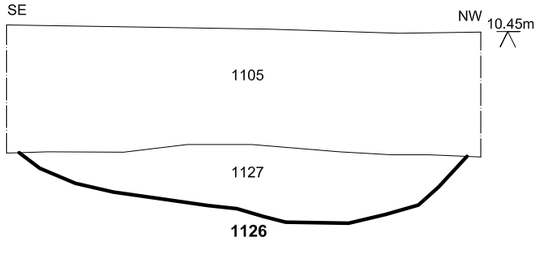












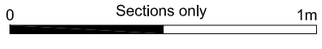


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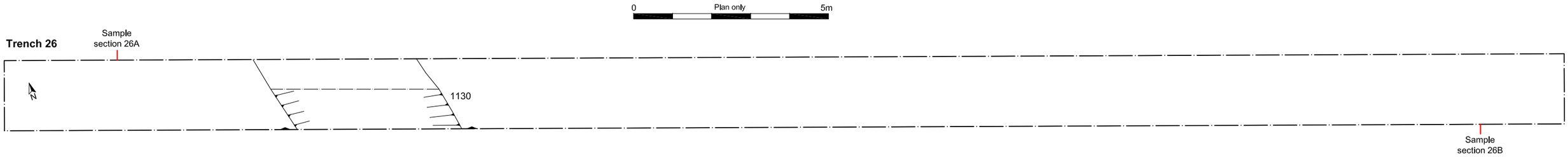
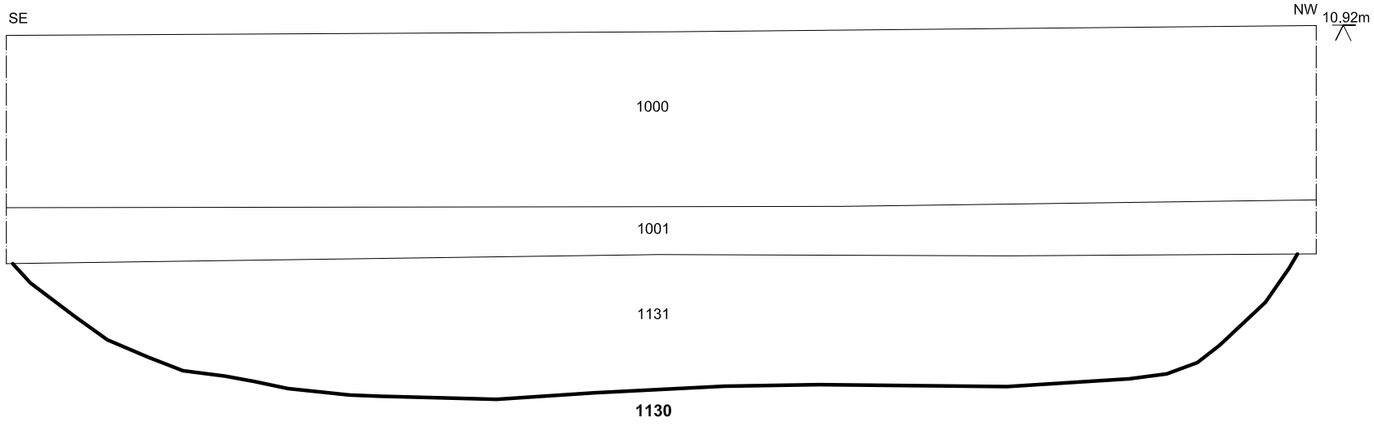
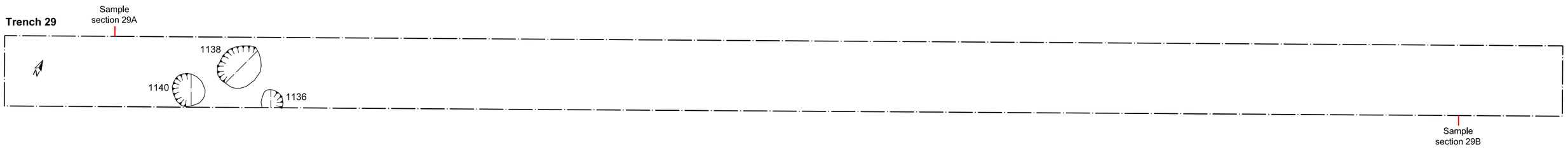
Fig. 11 Trench plans and sections

Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3

Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)







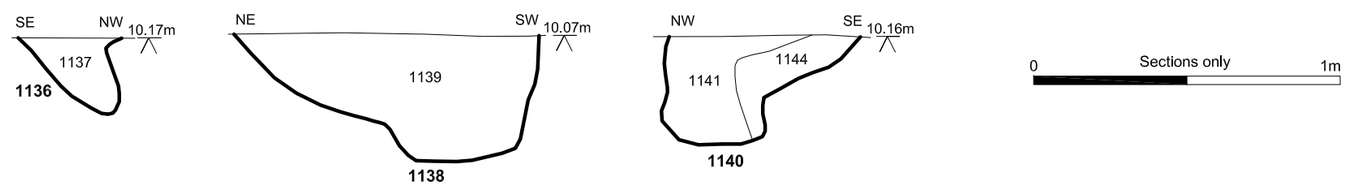


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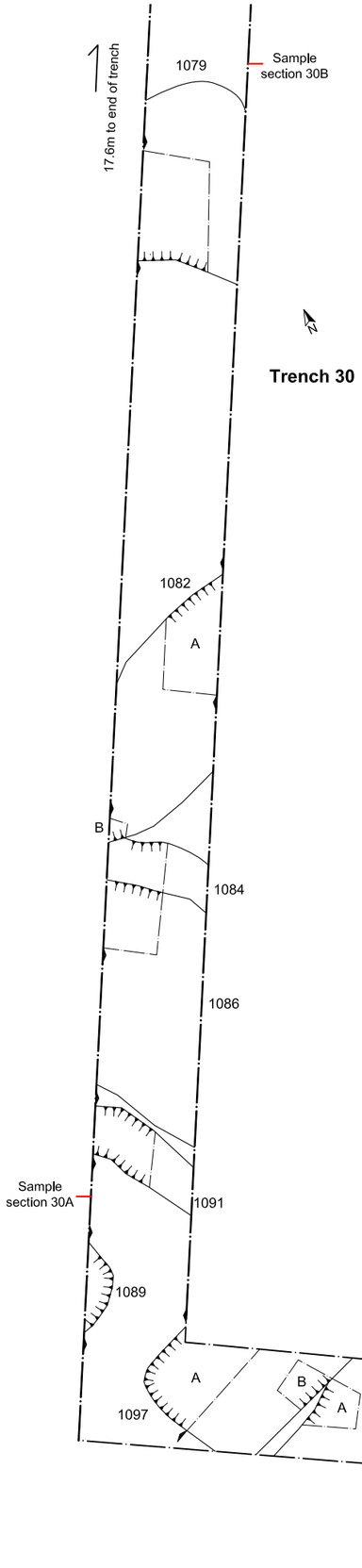
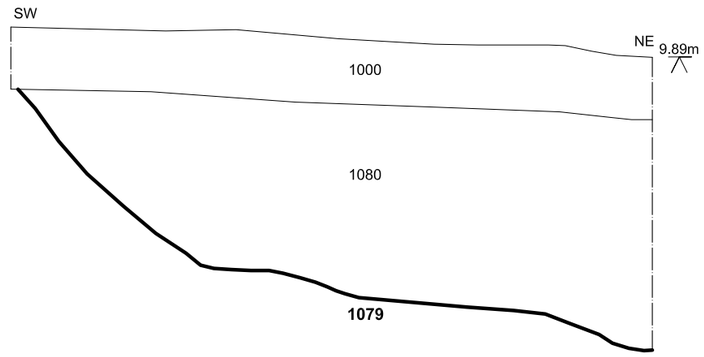
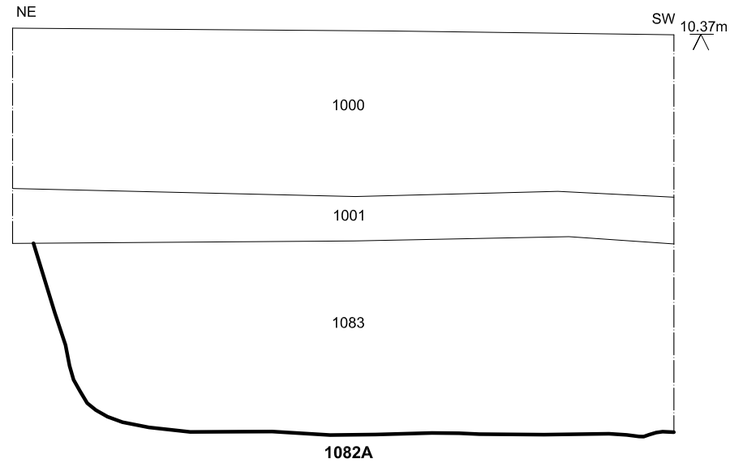
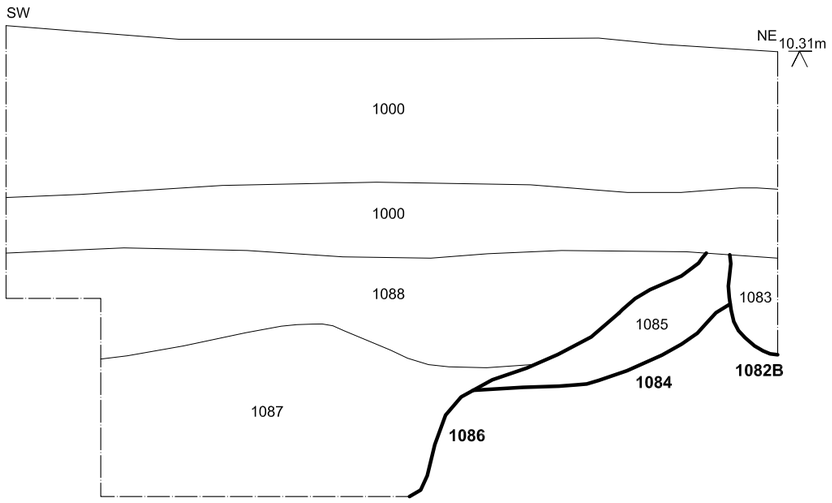
Fig. 12 Trench plans and sections
Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

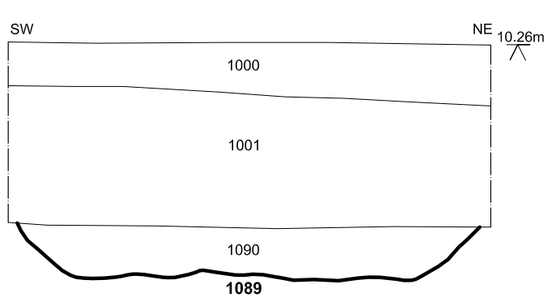


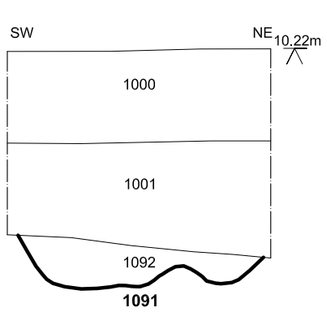
Sections in Trench 30











0 1:20 2m

Trench 31

1093

1.8m to end of trench

Sample section 31A

0 Plan only 5m

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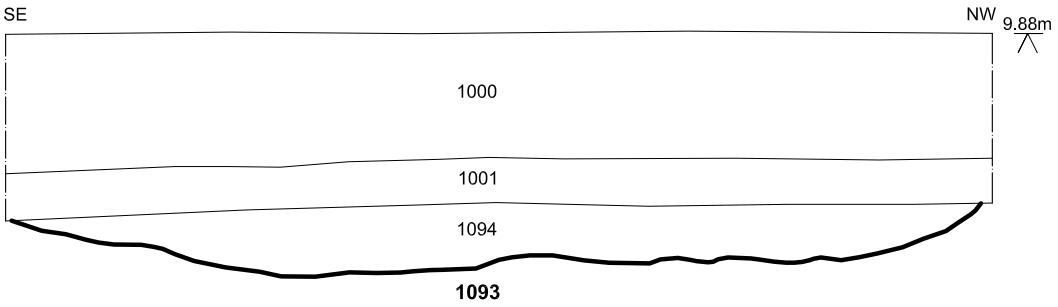
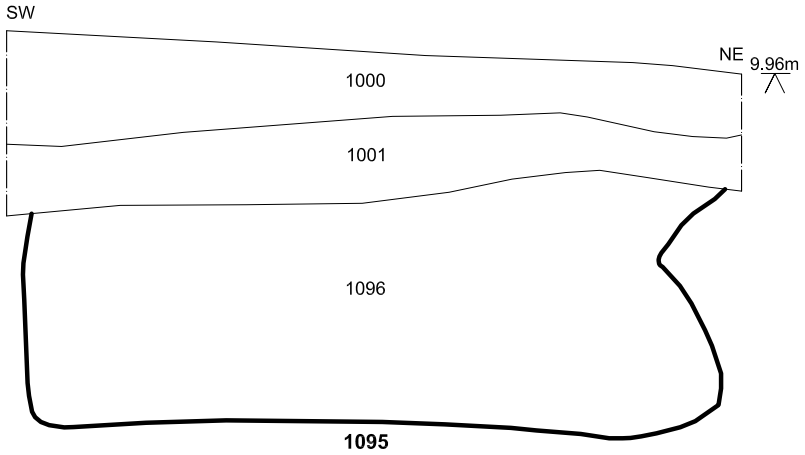
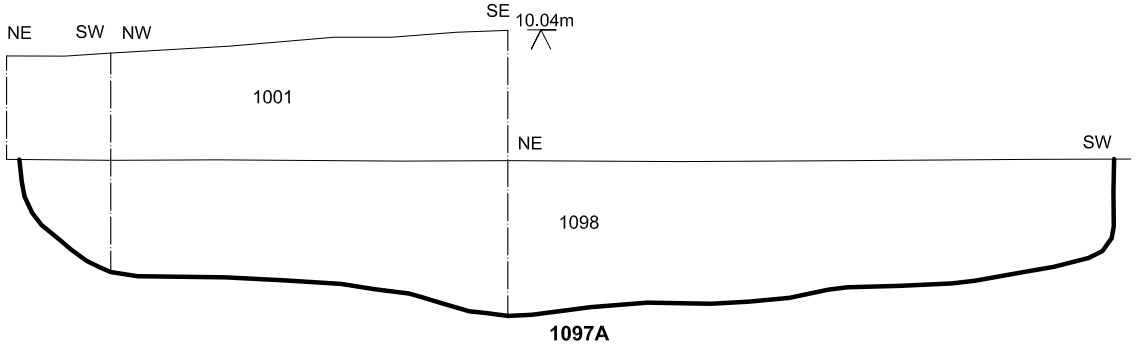
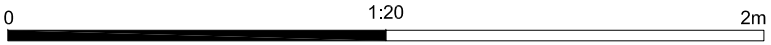
Fig. 13 Trench plans and sections
Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

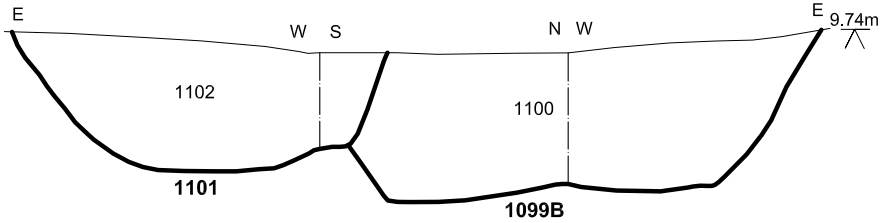
Sections in Trench 31











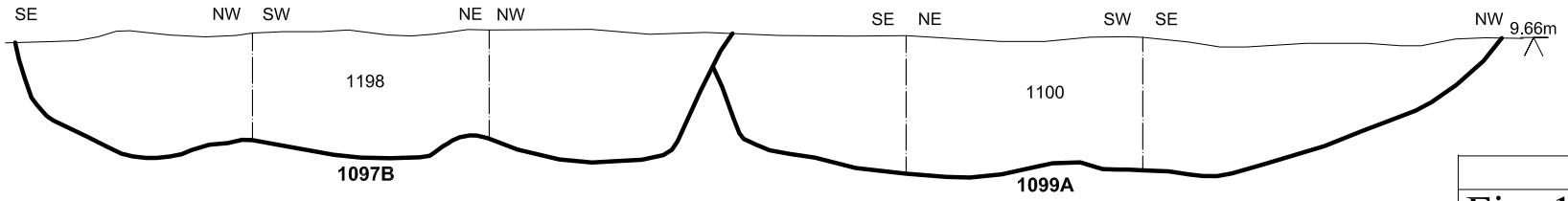


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Fig. 14 Sections, Trench 31
Scale Sections 1:20 at A4
Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

0 Plan only 5m

Trench 33

Sample section 33A

1142

A B

Sample section 33B

E W 10.36m

1143

1142A

SW NE 10.38m

1143

1142B

0 Sections only 1m

Sample section 35A

Trench 35

1132

1134

Sample section 35B

SW NE 10.92m

1000

1101

1133

1132

SW NE 11.13m

1000

1001

1135

1134

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Fig. 15 Trench plans and sections

Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:20 at A3

Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)

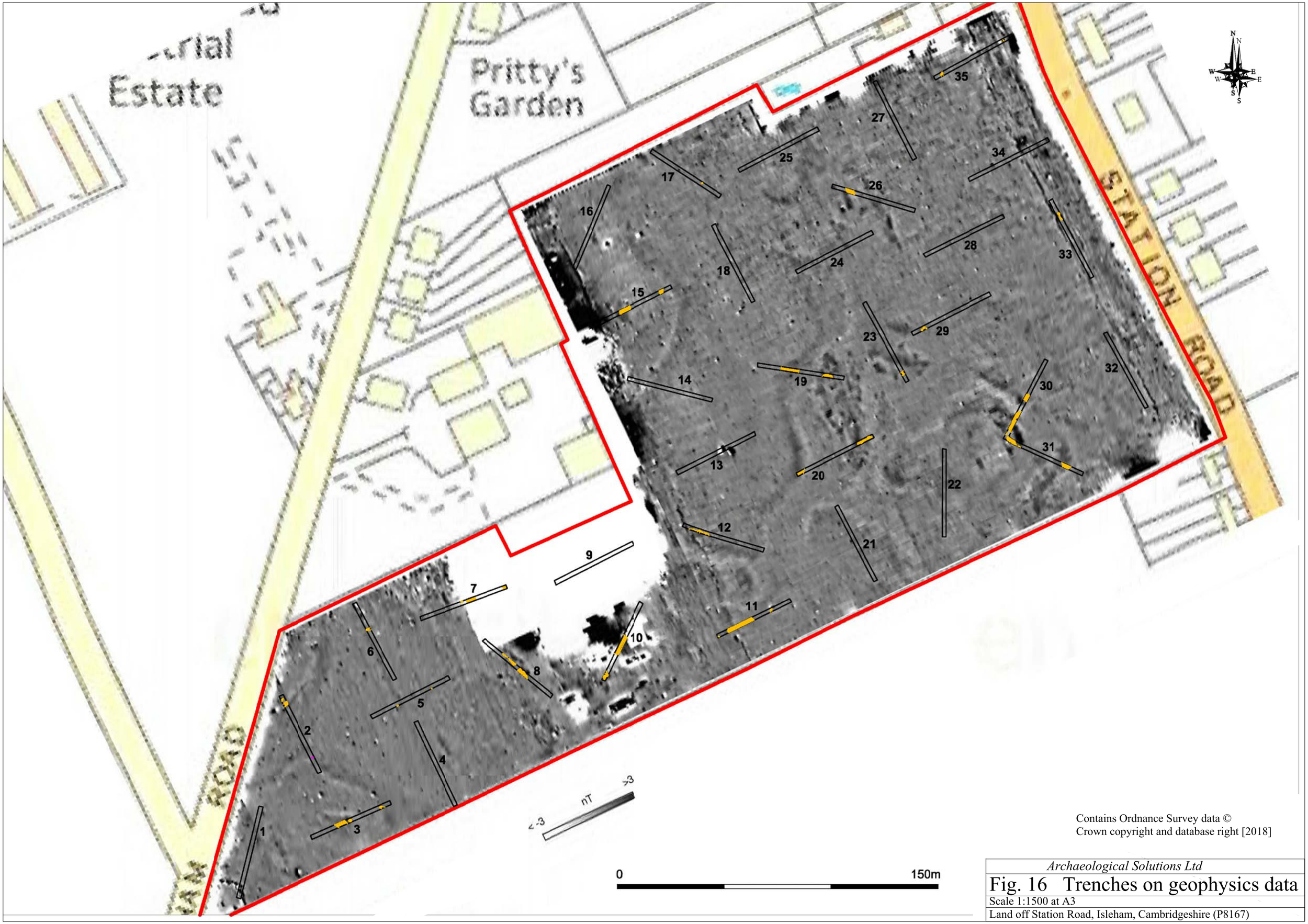

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Fig. 16 Trenches on geophysics data

Scale 1:1500 at A3

Land off Station Road, Isleham, Cambridgeshire (P8167)