

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**HONEYPOTS QUARRY EXTENSION,
SHROPHAM, NORFOLK
(QUARRY PHASE 3)**

**MONITORING OF WORKS UNDER
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUPERVISION AND CONTROL**

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NGR: TM 9820 9470	Report No. 3360
District: Norfolk	Site Code: 38228.SHM
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 2800
Signed: 	Date: August 2009

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Honeypots Quarry Extension, Shropham, Norfolk. Quarry Phase 3</i>		
<i>Project description (250 words)</i> <i>In July 2009, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook archaeological monitoring and recording of land at Honeypots Quarry, Shropham, Norfolk (NGR TM 9820 9470). The monitoring was undertaken during topsoil stripping for the extension to the quarry.</i>			
<i>Numerous previous phases of archaeological investigation have been undertaken:</i>			
<i>The current phase of monitoring (Quarry Phase 3) revealed eight undated pits, four pits with early Bronze Age pottery, two pits with Bronze Age / Iron Age pottery, two pits with early Iron Age pottery, and a Roman ditch. The latter contained a nearly complete Roman pottery vessel of 3rd – 4th century AD date. The Bronze Age and Iron Age features also contained struck and burnt flint. The features were predominantly pits, and loose clusters were identified. The undated pits are likely prehistoric.</i>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>5th – 12th August 2009</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>Y</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>?</i>
P. number	<i>2800</i>	Site code	<i>38228.SHM</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Monitoring and Recording</i>		
Site status			
Current land use	<i>Agricultural land</i>		
Planned development	<i>Mineral extraction</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Pits</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>Early Bronze Age pottery, early Iron Age pottery, nearly complete Roman vessel (3rd – 4th C AD)</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Norfolk</i>	<i>Breckland</i>	<i>Shropham</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA)</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>-</i>		
Area of site			
NGR	<i>TM 9820 9470</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>32 – 38m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Norfolk Landscape Archaeology</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Barlow, G.</i>		
Funded by	<i>Ennstone Johnston Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Honeypots Quarry Extension, Shropham, Norfolk. Monitoring of Works under Archaeological Supervision and Control (Quarry Phase 3)</i>		
Authors	<i>Barlow, G.</i>		
Report no.	<i>3360</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>August 2009</i>		

**HONEYPOTS QUARRY EXTENSION,
SHROPHAM, NORFOLK
(Phase 3)**

**MONITORING OF WORKS UNDER
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUPERVISION AND CONTROL**

SUMMARY

In July 2009, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook archaeological monitoring and recording of land at Honey pots Quarry, Shropham, Norfolk (NGR TM 9820 9470). The monitoring was undertaken during topsoil stripping for the extension to the quarry.

Numerous previous phases of archaeological investigation have been undertaken:

The desk-based assessment found there to be very high potential for the site to yield Neolithic to Roman remains, likely a continuation of the ceremonial activity located during excavations of Honey pots Plantation to the immediate south of the present site (HER 36218).

Monitoring and recording was undertaken in September 2007 in Area 1, Area 2, and Subsoil Bund 2. Forty-two archaeological features comprising pits, postholes and two linear features were encountered. Two pits produced Beaker period pottery and deliberate deposits of burnt material. Several other undated pits and postholes yielded similar deposits, and thus maybe contemporary, however, the adjacent excavation identified an increase in activity during the Iron Age and it is likely some of the features here are also associated with this period of activity.

Monitoring and recording undertaken during June 2008 revealed three pits, a tree hollow and a possible hearth. No datable material was recovered from these features.

The current phase of monitoring (Quarry Phase 3) revealed eight undated pits, four pits with early Bronze Age pottery, two pits with Bronze Age / Iron Age pottery, two pits with early Iron Age pottery, and a Roman ditch. The latter contained a nearly complete Roman pottery vessel of 3rd – 4th century AD date. The Bronze Age and Iron Age features also contained struck and burnt flint. The features were predominantly pits, and loose clusters were identified. The undated pits are likely prehistoric.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In July 2009, Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at Honey Pots Quarry, Shropham, Norfolk (Quarry Phase 3; NGR TM 9820 9470; Figs. 1 & 2). The work was commissioned by Ennstone Johnston Ltd in compliance with a planning condition, It was undertaken during the stripping of topsoil prior to mineral extraction.

1.2 The archaeological monitoring and recording was conducted in accordance with a written scheme of investigation compiled by AS, and a brief issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA). It also complied with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' (IFA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (1994, revised 2001), and the relevant sections of the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The objectives of the archaeological monitoring and recording were:

- to ensure the archaeological excavation and monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect buried archaeological remains;
- to secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme;
- to secure the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive and the appropriate publication of project results, if required; and
- to secure the analysis, long-term conservation and storage of the project archive.

Planning policy context

1.4 The relevant planning policies which apply to the effect of development with regard to cultural heritage are Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 'Planning and the Historic Environment' (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16) (Department of the Environment).

1.5 PPG16 (1990) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology. It states that there should always be a presumption in favour of preserving nationally important archaeological remains *in situ*. However, when there is no overriding case for preservation, developers are required to fund opportunities for the recording and, where necessary, the excavation of the site. This condition is widely applied by local authorities.

1.6 PPG15 (1994) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to conservation of the historic environment by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and

unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible. This condition is also widely applied by local authorities.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 Shropham is situated in the parish of the same name, c.5km west-southwest of Attleborough and c.13km northeast of Thetford. The village has evolved along the crossroads of the Watton/Hargham Road and Rocklands Road. The village centre is located on relatively flat land at a height of c. 40m AOD. The parish comprises mostly rural farmland with dispersed areas of woodland.

2.2 The western half of the modern parish of Shropham is located within the Breckland Environmentally Sensitive Area, as defined by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1988, and used as the basis for the Breckland Archaeological Survey (Sussams 1996). The site itself is located c.2.5km east of the Breckland Environmentally Sensitive Area.

2.3 The site is an irregular rectangular plot of land, just less than 2km north of the central crossroads of the village of Shropham. A belt of woodland borders the site to the north and west. The southern area of the site is also bounded by a strip of woodland (Honeypots Plantation). The extraction on this site will be completed in a series of phases. Phase 1 comprised a large rectangular plot of land at the centre of the site. Phase 2 was irregular in shape, situated to the southwest of Phase 1. Quarry Phase 3 was located in the north-western sector of the site (Fig 2).

3 TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY

3.1 Shropham lies on typical Anglian Pliocene sands and gravels of marine origins. Glacial and periglacial activity has affected this sequence and resulted in complex involutions and flow structures. The shallow geology is glaciofluvial drift and chalky till with soils of the Ollerton association; a deep permeable sandy and coarse loamy soil affected by groundwater, with some coarse loamy soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal water logging. The soil is optimal for growing cereals, sugar beet, peas and beans and also some coniferous woodland.

3.2 The site occupies a hill top sloping from c. 32m AOD at the northern side to c. 45m AOD at the southern end. The hill slopes gently downwards in the south and west, and more steeply in the north and east down toward the River Thet valley. The River Thet flows past the site approximately 2km to the southeast

4 BACKGROUND

4.1 Archaeological and historical background

4.1.1 The archaeological and historical background is contained in numerous previous reports e.g. Barlow and Smith (2008)

4.2 Previous work in the area

Honeypots Plantation: Excavation by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit 2001-2003 (HER 36218):

4.2.1 To the immediate west of the proposed extension areas, the Norfolk Archaeological Unit (NAU) completed a series of excavations. These revealed substantial evidence for activity and occupation on the hill dating from the Neolithic/Beaker period, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods (NAU 2005). Organic remains were poorly preserved due to the nature and conditions of the soils and many of the features had been truncated by later activity. Nevertheless, the site was noted as one of the largest open area prehistoric excavations in the county.

4.2.2 The earliest datable phase of activity was represented by a small concentration of Neolithic/Beaker period and Bronze Age pits, many of which contained structured and deliberate deposits. Other undated pits and features may be of a similar date. A scatter of post settings within a large enclosure may have acted as a boundary for this activity. The excavation recorded abundant evidence for Neolithic/Beaker and Bronze Age structures, although the function of these buildings and types of activities occurring at the time is not clear. The position of the site on a hilltop may point toward a more ceremonial function (NAU 2005). This supposition is supported by the discovery in 1970 of a polished Neolithic flint axe from the surface and by an imported ceremonial stone axe of probable Bronze Age date, found to the immediate northwest in 1980 (*ibid.*).

4.2.3 The presence of three mortuary structures suggests that the hilltop remained the focus of ceremonial activity during the early Iron Age. This is supported by evidence for the continued practice of ritual pitting and the placing of structured deposits. A number of undated features, including pits and postholes, have been tentatively assigned a broad Iron Age date, whilst evidence of land divisions and two- and four-post structures suggest activity increased during the middle to late Iron Age.

4.2.4 The excavations also revealed Roman remains. The latter are more limited in comparison to those dated to the prehistoric period, although they provide evidence for the continuation of similar ritual practices recorded in the earlier phases. By the later Roman period the site seems to have been predominately used for agriculture, a practice that has continued until the recent mineral extraction (NAU 2005).

Honeypots Extension, Watching Brief by AS in 2006 and 2007 (HER 38228)

4.2.5 Monitoring and recording was undertaken in Area 1, Area 2, and Subsoil Bund 2 (Hogan *et al* 2007). Forty-two archaeological features comprising pits, postholes and two linear features were encountered. Two pits produced Beaker period pottery and deliberate deposits of burnt material. Several other undated pits and postholes yielded similar deposits, and thus maybe contemporary, however, the adjacent excavation identified an increase in activity during the Iron Age and it is likely some of the features here are also associated with this period of activity.

Phase 2 (June 2008)

4.2.6 A small number of archaeological features were identified the monitoring of Phase 2 (Barlow & Smith 2008). They comprised three pits, a possible hearth and a tree hollow. The features were undated. A few contained burnt flint

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all groundworks, inspection of subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles.

5.2 The topsoil and subsoil was mechanically excavated using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide smooth-blade bucket, under close archaeological supervision. Thereafter all excavation was undertaken by hand. The site was recorded using a single-context recording system and features and deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets. Features and deposits were drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. In addition, the excavated areas and spoil were checked and scanned for finds with a metal detector.

6 RESULTS Figs.3-4

6.1 Phase 1 (Early Bronze Age)

Phase 1 was represented by a cluster of five pits (F5022, F5024, F5026, F5028, F5030) located near the north-eastern corner of the site. F5022, F5024, F5026 all contained early Bronze Age pottery. F5028 contained struck and burnt flint, and F5030 contained no finds. The latter are tentatively phased by association. Pit F5012, not within the cluster, also contained early Bronze Age pottery

Pit F5012, located to the north of the terminus of Ditch F5006, was circular in plan. It had steep sides giving way to a flattish base. Its fill, L5013, was a dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small angular flints and sparse flint nodules. It contained early Bronze Age pottery (52, 176g), a flint horseshoe scraper (SF2, 17g), struck flint (3, 9g), and burnt flint (8, 148g).

Pit F5022 was circular in plan with vertical sides giving way to a flat base. Its basal fill, L5023, was a dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints and sparse flint nodules. It contained 9 sherds of early Bronze Age pottery (109g), struck flint (5, 82g), and burnt flint (13, 38g). The struck flint includes an end scraper (Struck Flint report below). Its upper fill, L5032, comprised mixed lenses of mid brownish grey and mid orange grey, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints and sparse flint nodules. It contained no finds.

Pit F5024 was circular in plan with vertical sides and a flattish base. Its basal fill, L5033, was a mid brownish grey, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints. It contained no finds. Its upper fill, L5025, was a dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints and sparse flint nodules. It contained early Bronze Age pottery (4, 19g), struck flint (4, 36g), and burnt flint (4, 11g).

Pit F5026 was circular in plan with vertical sides giving way to a shallow concave base. Its fill, L5027, was a dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints and sparse flint nodules. It contained early Bronze Age pottery (5, 20g), struck flint (3, 7g), and burnt flint (8, 104g).

Pit F5028 was circular in plan with steep sides giving way to a flat base. Its fill, L5029, was a dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints. It contained struck flint (6, 68g), and burnt flint (4, 29g).

Pit F5030 was oval in plan with moderately sloping sides giving way to an irregular base. It was cut by Pit F5026. Its fill, L5029, was a mid grey brown, silty sand with occasional small angular flints. It contained no finds.

6.2 Phase 2 (Early Iron Age).

The early Iron Age period was represented by two pits (F5018 and F5020).

Pit F5018 was circular in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L5019, was a dark grey brown, with small lenses of mid orange brown, silty sand with occasional small angular and small

rounded flints. It contained early Iron Age pottery (5, 21g) and burnt flint (2, 9g).

Pit F5020 was circular in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L5021, consisted of mixed lenses of very dark grey brown and mid brownish grey, silty sand, and pale orange brown, firm silty sand with occasional small angular flints. It contained early Iron Age pottery (3, 5g), struck flint (5, 44g), and burnt flint (6, 238g). The struck flint included a serrated blade (Flint Report below)

Two pits contained Bronze Age – Iron Age pottery (F5008 & F5016)

Pit F5008, located close to the extreme western end of the site (Fig.4 Grid Square A4). It was circular in plan with moderately sloping sides giving way to an irregular flattish base. It was cut by a modern plough scar. Its fill, L5009, was a dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints and sparse charcoal. It contained Bronze Age - Iron Age pottery (1, 23g) and struck flint (11g).

Pit F5016 was circular in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Grid Square G4). Its fill, L5017, was a mid orange brown, with patches of dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small angular and small sub rounded flints. It contained Bronze Age - Iron Age pottery (9, 78g) and burnt flint (2, 54g).

6.3 Phase 3 (Roman).

The Roman period was represented by a small ditch (F5006), which was aligned N/S.

Ditch F5006 was aligned N/S and extended from the southern baulk for a distance of 16m before it terminated. The terminus was rounded. The width of the ditch varied between 0.60m at its southern end (Slot A) and 0.50m to the north (Slots B and C). It had steep to moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its depth increased steadily from 0.08m at its southern end (Slot A) to 0.23m at its terminus (Slot C). Its fill, L5007, was a dark orange brown, sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular flints. It contained struck flint (2, 7g). A nearly complete Roman pottery vessel (SF1) was located near the very end of the terminus lying on its side. A section of its side (the top as it lay) was lost due to plough damage. The vessel is 3rd – 4th C (Pottery Report below)

6.4 Undated

Undated features comprised eight pits (F 5002, F5004, F5010, F5014, F5034, F5036, F5038, F5040). Although undated it is likely that these pits are prehistoric.

Pit F5002 (Grid Sq. U1) was circular in plan with relatively steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L5003, was a dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints. It contained burnt flint (1, 7g).

Pit F5004 (Grid Sq. O2) was circular in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L5005, was a dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints. It contained struck flint (3, 7g).

Pit F5010 (Grid Sq. E6) was circular in plan with steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L5011, was a very dark grey/black, silty sand and charcoal with very occasional small angular flints. It contained no finds.

Pit F5014 (Grid Sq. F6) was circular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. Its fill, L5015, was a dark grey brown, firm silty sand with occasional small angular flints and sparse flint nodules. It contained burnt flint (11, 142g).

Pit F5034 (Grid Sq. R9) was circular in plan with vertical sides and a concave base. Its fill, L5035, was a very dark grey brown, sandy silt, with occasional small and medium angular flints and occasional charcoal flecks. It contained no finds.

Pit F5036 (Grid Sq. R9) was sub-oval in plan with steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L5037, was a dark grey brown, silty sand with occasional small and medium angular flints. It contained no finds.

Pit F5038 (Grid Sq. S7) was circular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. Its fill, L5039, was a very dark grey brown, firm charcoal-rich sandy silt, with occasional small angular flints and occasional charcoal flecks. It contained burnt flint (29, 252g).

Pit F5040 (Grid Sq. U9) was oval in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L5041, was a dark grey brown, firm silty sand, with occasional small and medium angular flints and charcoal flecks, and sparse flint nodules. It contained burnt flint (12, 342g).

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The archaeological features were revealed beneath the topsoil (L5000) and cut the underlying natural drift (L5001). Topsoil L5000 was a mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular flints and sparse flint nodules. It was present across the whole site increasing in depth from 0.33m in the south-eastern corner to 0.50 in the north-western sector of the site

8.2 The natural drift, L5001, was a mid brownish orange silty sand with frequent to moderate angular and rounded flint gravel. Patches contained moderate medium rounded flint nodules.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The monitoring of Quarry Phase 3 revealed eight undated pits and the following dated features:

Context	Feature	Spot Date
F5012	Pit	Early Bronze Age
F5022	Pit	Early Bronze Age
F5024	Pit	Early Bronze Age
F5026	Pit	Early Bronze Age
F5008	Pit	Bronze Age - Iron Age
F5016	Pit	Bronze Age - Iron Age
5018	Pit	Early Iron Age
5020	Pit	Early Iron Age
5006	Ditch	Roman 3 rd – 4 th C AD

9.2 The features were predominantly pits, and loose clusters were identified. The undated pits are likely prehistoric.

9.3 The NAU excavation, conducted in 2005, recorded a small number of features, consisting mostly of pits, which yielded evidence for Neolithic and Bronze Age activity. Many of the pits appear to have been dug specifically in order to hold special or structured deposits, including for the deliberate burial of burnt material (NAU 2005).

9.4 The AS monitoring and recording conducted in 2007 identified a total of 42 features. Two of the pits produced Beaker Ware pottery, and pieces of worked flint which is tentatively dated to the Bronze Age (Hogan 2007). Both Phase 1 Pits (F1007 and F1017) contained a significant quantity of burnt flint and charcoal flecks mixed in with re-deposited natural, and thus appear to represent a continuation of the earlier prehistoric ritual activity observed to the south.

9.5 Three pits (F2002, F2008 and F2011), a tree hollow (F2006) and a pit or hearth (F2004) were recorded during the monitoring of Phase 2 (Barlow & Smith 2008). The degree of preservation of archaeological features was moderate although some truncation, possibly due to ploughing, was evident.

9.5 Given the volume of Neolithic and Bronze Age features previously recorded in the area it is possible that the features recorded during this phase of monitoring and recording are related. Indeed, the large quantities of burnt flint recovered from several of the pits (F2004, F2006 and F2011) excavated during Phase 2 may suggest that they can be tentatively attributed to the same period of activity as seen during the excavation of Phase 1 and earlier excavations conducted by NAU.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the finds from the site at Norwich Castle Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Limited would like to thank Ennstone Johnston Ltd for their co-operation and funding of the archaeological excavation

AS is pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of David Gurney of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

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**APPENDIX 1
CONCORDANCE OF FINDS
CONCORDANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES**

38228: Honey pots extension, Shropham, Norfolk
 Concordance of finds by feature

Feature	Context	Segment	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	Other
5002	5003		Pit Fill			B.Flint (1) 7g
5004	5005		Pit Fill			S.Flint (3) 7g
5006	5007	B	Ditch Fill			S.Flint (2) 7g
		C	Ditch Fill	3rd - 4th C AD	SF 1: (53) 660g	
5008	5009		Pit Fill	Bronze Age/Iron Age	(1) 23g	S.Flint (2) 11g
5012	5013		Pit Fill	Early Bronze Age	(52) 176g	SF 2: S.Flint (1) 17g S.Flint (3) 9g B.Flint (8) 148g
5014	5015		Pit Fill			B.Flint (11) 142g
5016	5017		Pit Fill	Bronze Age/Iron Age	(9) 78g	B.Flint (2) 54g
5018	5019		Pit Fill	Early Iron Age	(5) 21g	B.Flint (2) 9g
5020	5021		Pit Fill	Early Iron Age	(3) 5g	S.Flint (5) 44g B.Flint (6) 238g
5022	5023		Pit Fill	Early Bronze Age	SF 3: (1) 42g	S.Flint (5) 82g
				Early Bronze Age	SF 4: (1) 16g	
5024	5025		Pit Fill	Early Bronze Age	(7) 51g	B.Flint (13) 38g
				Early Bronze Age	(4) 19g	S.Flint (4) 36g
5026	5027		Pit Fill	Early Bronze Age	SF 5: (2) 11g (3) 9g	B.Flint (4) 11g
5028	5029		Pit Fill			B.Flint (8) 104g S.Flint (3) 7g
						S.Flint (6) 68g
5038	5039		Pit Fill			B.Flint (4) 29g
5040	5041		Pit Fill			B.Flint (29) 252g B.Flint (12) 342g

38228: Honey pots Quarry Extension, Shropham, Norfolk
 Concordance of Samples

Sample	Size (l)	Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	Flot (ml)	Pot	CBM (g)
1	40	5008	5009	Pit Fill		0	(1) 47g	
2	40	5012	5013	Pit Fill		0	(4) 38g	
3	40	5006 C	5007 C	Ditch Fill		30		23
4	40	5014	5015	Pit Fill		15		
5	20	5016	5017	Pit Fill		30	(4) 25g	
6	20	5018	5019	Pit Fill		0	(3) 7g	
7	40	5020	5021	Pit Fill		60	(5) 21g	102
8	40	5022	5023	Pit Fill		25	(3) 17g	
9	20	5024	5025	Pit Fill		25		
10	40	5026	5027	Pit Fill		20	(11) 92g	

All flots sent to Anita Radini for analysis

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

Andrew Peachey

Excavations recovered a total 121 sherds (1115g) of pottery. The bulk of the pottery is accounted for by a single Roman jar in a slightly abraded condition, while the assemblage also includes abraded and highly fragmented sherds of early Bronze Age and early Iron Age pottery.

The early Bronze Age pottery accounts for 50 sherds (328g) of Beaker pottery. All sherds occur in an oxidised fabric tempered with common medium sand and grog with occasional flint. The bulk of the early Bronze Age pottery was contained in Pit F5012 (L5013), but did not include any diagnostic sherds. In contrast Pits F5022 (L5023), F5024 (L5025) and F5026 (L5027) contained only sparse sherds but these included fragments with comb-impressed decoration and crows-foot rustication.

Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from Pits F5018 (L5019) and F5020 (L5021) and comprised reduced fabrics with common medium or fine flint temper. The sherds in Pit F5018 (L5019) included a burnished, plain everted rim that probably belonged to a West Harling-style vessel.

In addition to the prehistoric sherds outlined above Pits F5008 (L5009) and F5016 (L5017) contained very small body sherds tempered with sand and flint that may date from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age, but were too limited to allow any further characterisation.

The 53 sherds (660g) of Roman pottery in the assemblage were recovered from Ditch F5006 (L5007 Seg.C) and were entirely derived from a single vessel in a late Roman shell-tempered fabric. The vessel comprises a necked jar with a slightly undercut bead rim and shouldered body, dating to the late 3rd to 4th centuries AD. Although fragmented due to preservation conditions the vessel is nearly, if not entirely, complete.

The Flint

Andrew Peachey

Excavations recovered a total of 33 flakes (288g) of struck flint and 100 fragments (1374g) of burnt flint. The flint is entirely in an un-patinated and fresh condition. The raw flint ranges from mid to dark grey in colour with, where intact, a slightly pitted thick white cortex suggesting the flint was sourced from the local chalk.

The assemblage includes two scrapers and four blades. The scrapers comprise a horseshoe scraper in Pit F5012 (L5013) and an end scraper in Pit F5022 (L5023). Both scrapers were formed by the application of abrupt retouch to the edges of primary flakes in very dark grey (near black) high quality flint. The blades in the assemblages were contained in Pits F5004 (L5005) and F5020 (L5021) with two examples in each feature. All the blades are relatively small (<30mm in length), in mid to dark grey flint and exhibited traces of wear on a single lateral edge, with one example in Pit F5020 (L5021) having a single serrated edge created by fine retouch. The remaining 27 fragments (235g) of struck flint comprise tertiary and un-corticated flakes of debitage in mid to dark grey flint, generally with blade like dimensions, but are never present in any substantial concentration. Similarly, the burnt flint is never present in any significant concentration, but notably it frequently occurs in association with struck flint. The nature and morphology of this small assemblage suggests a date within the Neolithic, with possible blade production occurring in the vicinity, although the other implements appear to have imported from another local source.



DP1. Topsoil stripping in north west corner.



DP2. General site view looking east.



DP3. General site view looking north east.



DP4. General site view looking west.



DP5. Pit F5002.



DP6. Pit F5004.



DP7. Ditch F5006 (Seg. B).



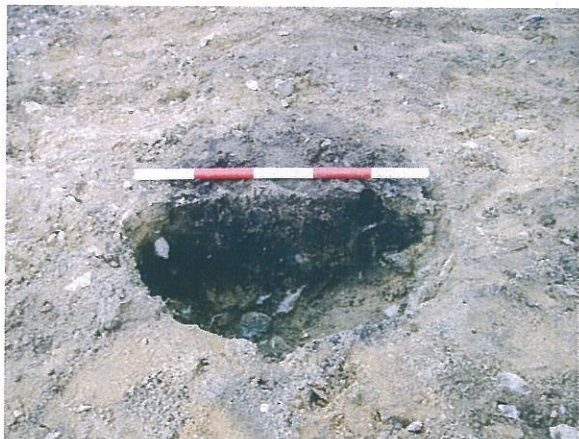
DP8. Vessel 1 in Ditch (F5006C) terminus; part exc.



DP9. Pit F5008.



DP10. Pit F5012.



DP11. Pit F5014.



DP12. Pits F5016, F5018 & F5020.
View: west.



DP13. Pits F5022, F5024, F5026 & F5028).
View: west.



DP14. Beaker pottery (SF3) from Pit F5022.



DP15. Beaker pottery (SF4) from Pit F5022.



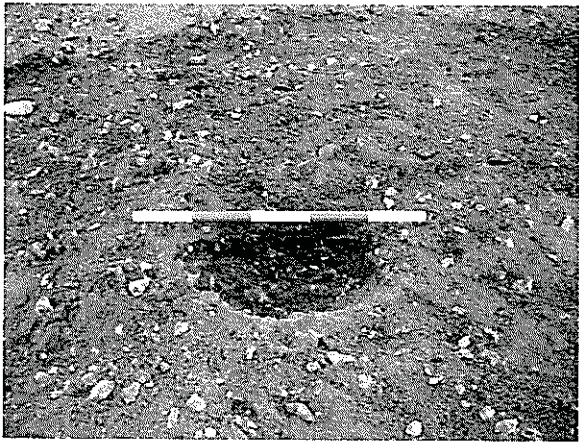
DP16. Beaker pottery (SF5) from Pit 5026.



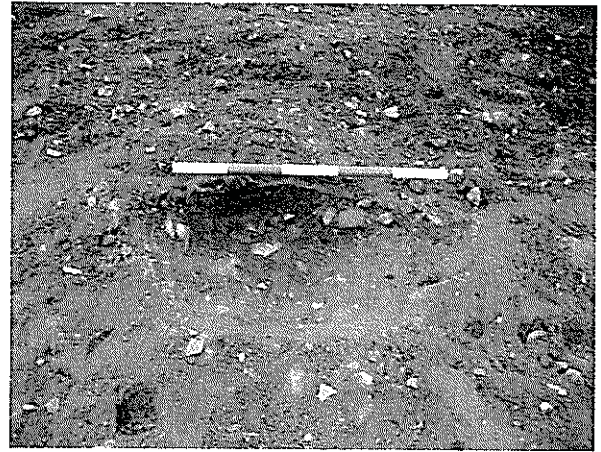
DP17. Pit F5034.



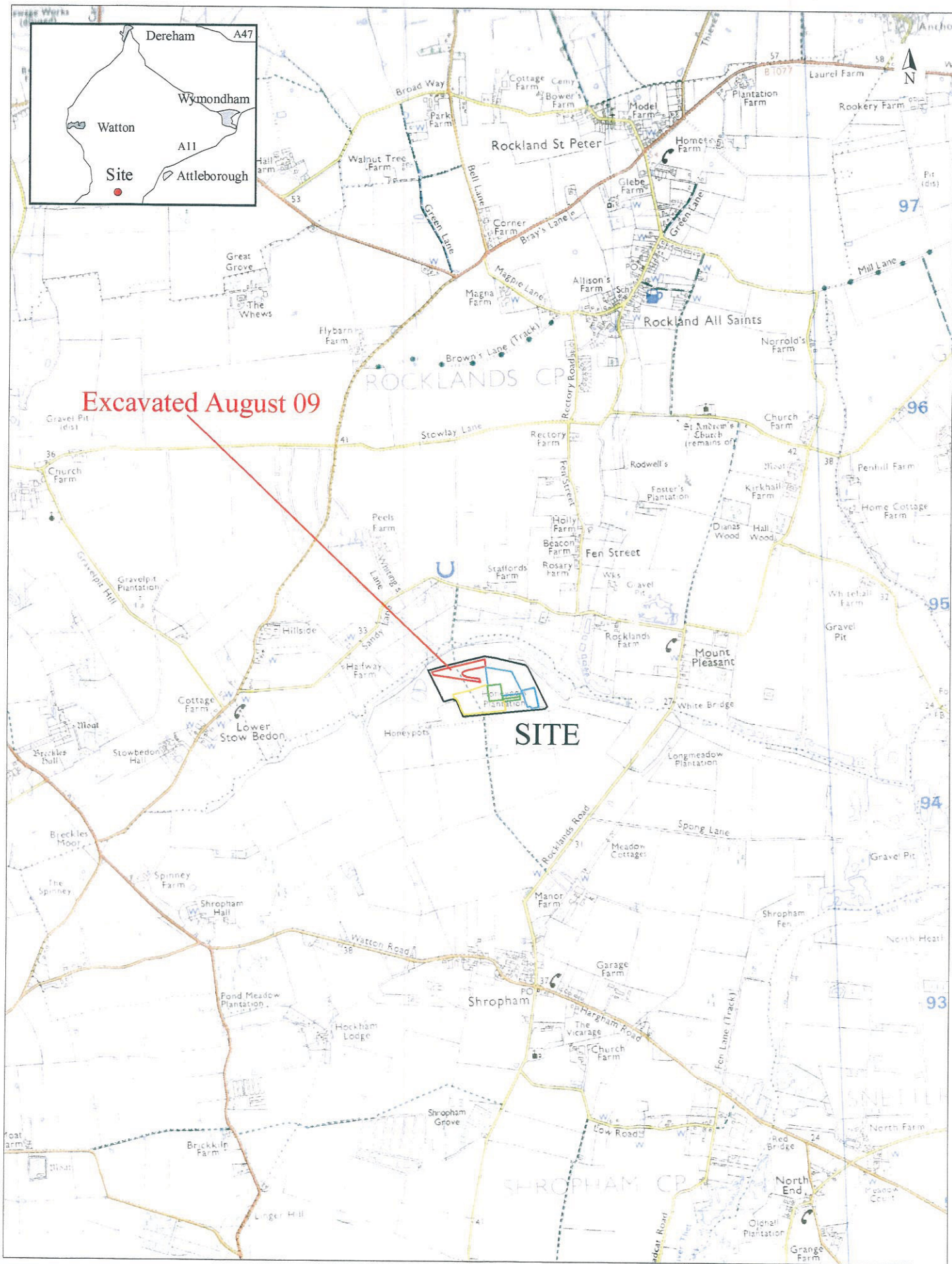
DP18. Pit F5036.



DP19. Pit F5038.



DP20. Pit F5040.

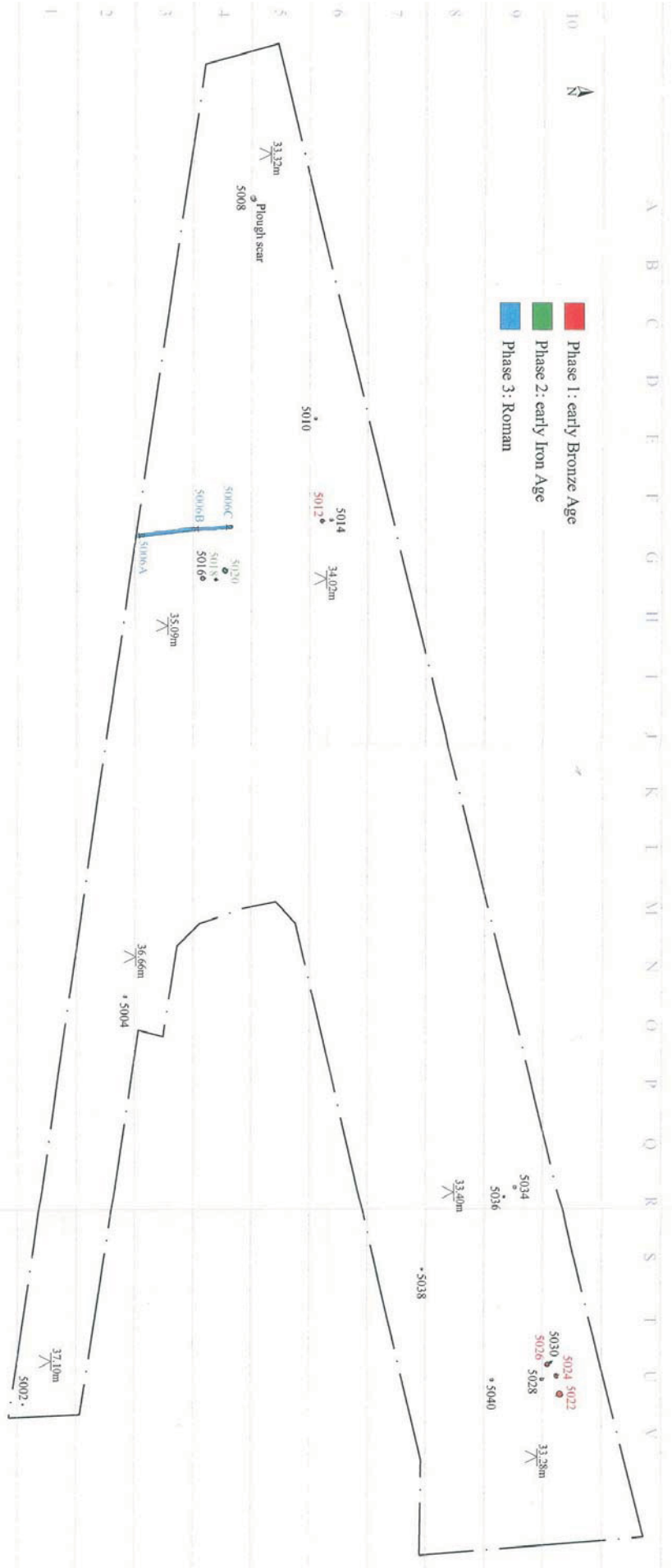


Excavated August 09

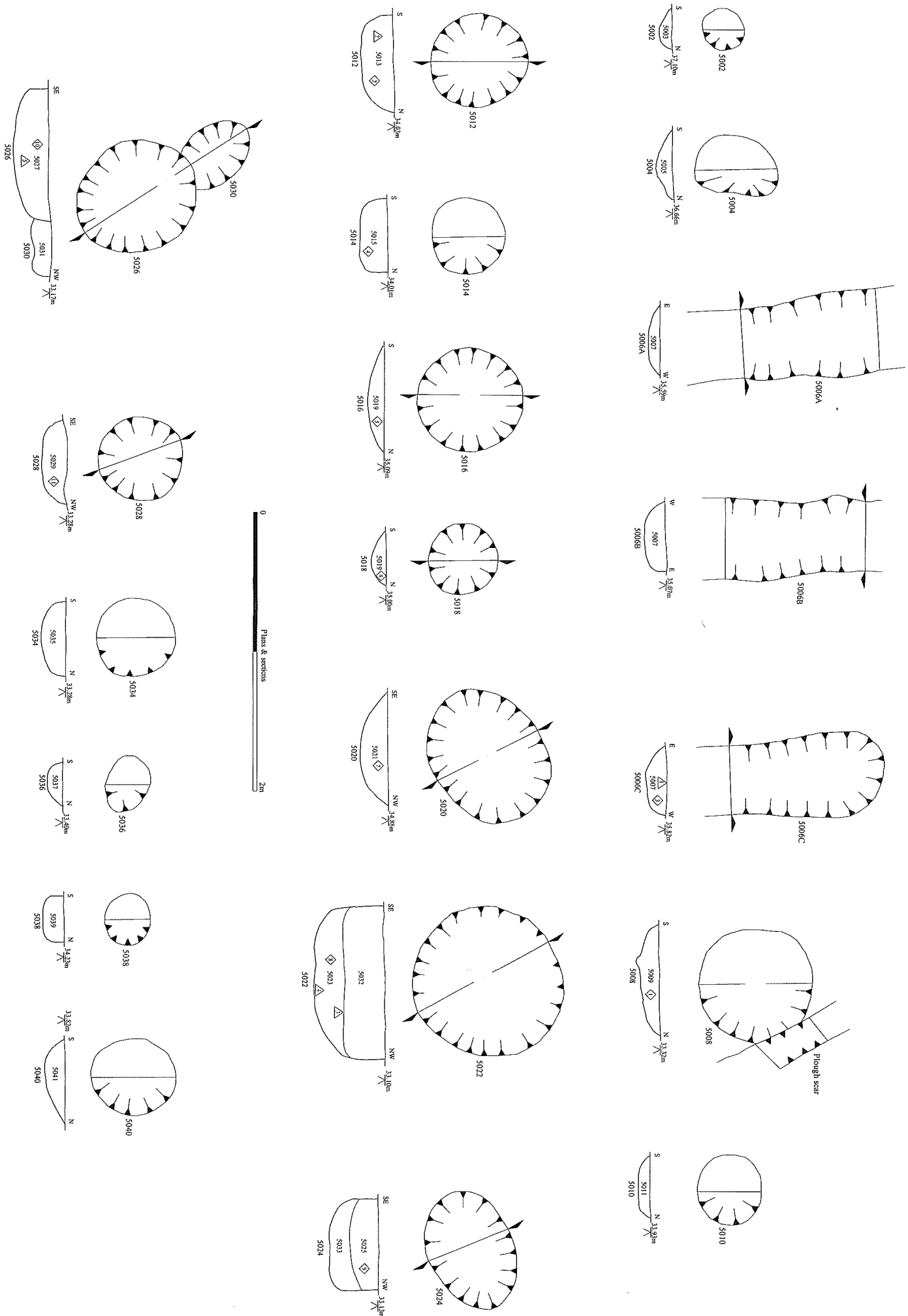
SITE

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Fig. 1 Site location
 Scale 1 : 25,000 at A4



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Fig. 3 All features plan
 Scale 1:750 at A3



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Fig. 4 Plans & sections
 Scale 1:25 at A3