
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

BEACON PARK, GORLESTON, NORFOLK

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
(SITE 11)**

Authors: Gareth Barlow (Field work & report) Peter Thompson MA (Desk-based assessment)	
NGR: TG 5151 0197	Report No: 3718
District: Great Yarmouth	Site Code: ENF 125595
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: P4194
Signed:	Date: January 2011

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Project details			
Project name	<i>Beacon Park, Gorleston, Norfolk</i>		
<p><i>In January 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Beacon Park, Gorleston, Norfolk. The evaluation was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of an industrial unit (centred on TG 5151 0197; Great Yarmouth Borough Council Planning Ref. 06/10/0342/F), and a pre-application stage to build an industrial estate (centred on TG 5155 0188).</i></p> <p><i>The site lies within an area of significant archaeological interest comprising extensive areas of intersecting multi-period, dated and undated cropmarks of enclosures, ring ditches, field systems and trackways. The cropmarks include a possible Bronze Age ring ditch within Sites 9/10 (NHER 43554), and another immediately north of the ambulance station (NHER 45054), a possible Iron Age square barrow within Site 13 (NHER 45051). Site 1 is also in the area of two more groups of late prehistoric and Roman field systems located east and predominantly south of Camelot Road (NHER 43494 and 43495).</i></p> <p><i>The majority of features revealed during the evaluation were ditches. Gullies and pits were also revealed. Each trench contained archaeological features. The majority of features are undated. Based on their form and content Ditches F1041 and F1043 date from the prehistoric period. Pit F1049 (Trench 1) contained 12 sherds of Early Bronze Age pottery, struck flint including four scrapers and burnt flint. Sparse struck flint was recovered from two features (Ditch F1004 (Tr.6) and Ditch F1041 (Tr.3). The struck flint from Ditch F1004 comprises a thumbnail scraper. Three post-medieval ditches were recorded. The evaluation revealed a range of archaeological features present in each trench. The dated features are prehistoric and post-medieval, and the prehistoric features occurred within the eastern half of the site.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>7th – 24th January 2011</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work	<i>TBC</i>
P. number	<i>4194</i>	Site code	<i>ENF 125595</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use	<i>Vacant</i>		
Planned development	<i>Industrial estate</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Ditches, gullies, pits</i>		
Significant finds(dates)	<i>Early Bronze Age pottery and struck flint</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Norfolk</i>	<i>Great Yarmouth</i>	<i>Gorleston</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Norfolk HER (NHER)</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>-</i>		
Area of site	<i>16.26 ha</i>		
NGR	<i>TG 5155 0188</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>10-15m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Norfolk Historic Environment Service (James Albone)</i>		
Project supervisor (PO)	<i>Gareth Barlow</i>		
Funded by	<i>Wellington Construction on behalf of Great Yarmouth Borough Council</i>		
Full title	<i>Beacon Park, Gorleston, Norfolk. An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Barlow, G., & Thompson P.</i>		
Report no.	<i>3718</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>January 2011</i>		

BEACON PARK, GORLESTON, NORFOLK AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION (SITE 11)

SUMMARY

In January 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Beacon Park, Gorleston, Norfolk. The evaluation was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of an industrial unit (centred on TG 5151 0197; Great Yarmouth Borough Council Planning Ref. 06/10/0342/F), and a pre-application stage to build an industrial estate (centred on TG 5155 0188). The site comprises several plots (numbered 1, 4, 8-10, 11a & 13-14).

The site lies within an area of substantial archaeological interest comprising extensive areas of intersecting multi-period and dated and undated cropmarks. Prehistoric flint scatters have been recovered in the area including a Neolithic axe head from 100m east of Site 1 (NHER 16471). A possible Bronze Age ring ditch lies within Site 9/10 (NHER 43554), and another is immediately north of the ambulance station (NHER 45054). A possible Iron Age square barrow lies within Site 13 (NHER 45051), whilst an extensive settlement and field system of probable Iron Age to Roman date to the west probably extends into the site (NHER 45052 & NHER 11787). One group of undated crop marks comprising enclosures and ditches lie in the area of Site 10 and 11 (NHER 45058), and include a 35x30m enclosure (NHER 45057). A Roman enclosure approximately 120m north of Sites 13 and 14 (NHER 45053) is in a larger group of features that reach south to the edge of Site 13. Site 1 is also in an area of two more groups of cropmarks located east and predominantly south of Camelot Road comprising an extensive late prehistoric to Early Roman settlement and field systems (NHER 43494) and a planned Roman field system (NHER 43495).

A possible medieval postmill site lies immediately north of Plots 13 and 11A and may encroach on the site (NHER 45050). Medieval and/or post-medieval field boundaries are located to the south of Site 1, across Sidegate Road (NHER 45158). A dispersed group of undated but probably multi-period ditches are also located in this area (NHER 45202). The early OS map shows that two field boundaries ran east to west and north to south respectively across the site.

The majority of features revealed during the evaluation were ditches. Gullies and pits were also revealed. The majority of features are undated. Based on their form and content Ditches F1041 and F1043 date from the prehistoric period. Pit F1049 (Trench 1) contained 12 sherds of Early Bronze Age pottery, struck flint including four scrapers and burnt flint. Sparse struck flint was recovered from two features (Ditch F1004 (Tr.6) and Ditch F1041 (Tr.3), and the struck flint from Ditch F1004 comprises a thumbnail scraper. Three post-medieval ditches were recorded (F1028 (Tr.4) = F1016 (Tr.5), F1004 (Tr.6) and F1022 (Tr.7).

The evaluation revealed a range of archaeological features present in each trench. The dated features are prehistoric and post-medieval, and the prehistoric features occurred within the eastern half of the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In January 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Beacon Park, Gorleston, Norfolk. It was conducted in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of an industrial unit (Site 11 TG 5151 0197; Great Yarmouth Borough Council Planning Ref. 06/10/0342/F) and a pre-application stage to build an industrial estate (Sites 1, 4, 8 - 10, 11A, and 13 -14, centred on TG 5155 0188, Figs. 1 & 2).

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NCC HES)(James Albone, dated 1/12/2010), and a specification compiled by AS (dated 06/12/2010). The evaluation adhered to the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*, and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The evaluation aimed to determine the presence/absence, extent, date, state of preservation and significance of any surviving archaeological layers or archaeological features.

Planning policy context

1.4 PPS5 states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement 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. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE (Figs. 1 - 2)

2.1 Gorleston or Gorleston-on-Sea is located immediately south-west of Great Yarmouth and 30 km east of Norwich. The site is on the south-west edge of Gorleston situated approximately 500m south-west of James Paget University Hospital and 700m north-east of Hobland Hall. The site (Plot 11) covers c.1ha hectares and is accessed from from Beaufort Way. There is an ambulance station bordering Plots 11 and 11A.

3 METHODOLOGY (Desk-based assessment)

3.1 Archaeological databases

The Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) was consulted in order to identify any local archaeological finds or remains in the area that might be affected by the development. Those sites within 1km of the site are listed in Appendix 1 and plotted in Fig 3.

4 THE EVIDENCE

4.1 Topography, geology and soils (Fig. 1)

4.1.1 The site is 1.4km from the coast in a low lying area between 10 and 15m AOD. The local soil is Typical Brown Earth of the Wick Series which is common in such low lying or undulating areas in relatively warm climates. The soils are generally free draining with altered subsoil horizons and are usually reddish brown to brown containing iron oxide. The underlying geology is London Clay formations of the Palaeogene.

4.2 Archaeological and historical background (Figs. 3-4)

4.2.1 The site lies within an extensive area of intersecting multi-period and undated cropmarks which include enclosures, field systems, trackways and possible settlements. The earliest cropmarks comprise ring ditches of which some at least represent Bronze Age round barrows, but the majority probably date to the Iron Age and Roman periods. Others are of later medieval or post-medieval date. The main finds and sites most likely to be affected by the proposed development are described below.

Neolithic and Bronze Age

4.2.2 Prehistoric finds have been recovered from within the 1km search area. A Neolithic axehead was found 100m east of Site 1 (NHER 16471), and a prehistoric scraper 500m north-east of Site 4 (NHER 12769). A scatter of

Neolithic or Bronze Age flints were found near Hobland Hall some 750m south-east of Site 14 (NHER 14315), and a Bronze Age flint scraper was recovered 500m north-east of Site 4. In the area to the south-west of Hobland Hall multi-period finds were made from metal detecting including an Upper Palaeolithic blade, but the site is best identified as a Neolithic flint knapping site where a polished axe head and debitage were found (NHER 11551). Other finds from not closely recorded locations within 1km of the site include a Mesolithic axe head to the west (NHER 11787), and Mesolithic and Neolithic axes to the north and north-east (NHER 12789 & 13020). As mentioned, some of the potentially earliest crop marks are ring ditches probably representing Bronze Age round barrows. The closest ring ditch is inside Site 10 (NHER 43554). Another ring ditch is located immediately north of the ambulance station (NHER 45054), and a third is 150m south-east of Site 9 (NHER 43552).

Iron Age and Roman

4.2.3 A cropmark indicating a possible Iron Age square barrow lies within Site 13 (NHER 45051). Cropmarks indicating an extensive settlement and field system of probable Iron Age to Roman date has a centre point 100m west of Plot 14 but almost certainly extends eastwards into the site (NHER 45052). It includes rectangular enclosures, small ring ditches indicative of roundhouses, and fields arranged around a central trackway. One enclosure approximately 120m north of Sites 13 and 14 was tested by excavation and proved to be Roman (NHER 45053). Roman pottery, roof tile and quern stones and an undated cremation have also come from the vicinity of these cropmarks (NHER 11787). One group of undated crop marks comprising settlement enclosures and ditches lie in the area of Site 10 (NHER 45058), and include a 35x30m enclosure in the area of Sites 10 and 11. Cropmarks of undated multi-period ditches and trackways (NHER 45057) are centred on Wood Farm but reach south to the edge of Plot 13. They probably relate at least in part to NHER 45052 (above) and NHER 45055 (below).

4.2.4 Further fragmentary cropmarks of probable late prehistoric or Iron Age enclosures and fields are visible on aerial photographs in the vicinity of the James Paget Hospital and Wood Farm and are dispersed over a 1.5km wide area (NHER 45055). They may represent groups of enclosures, although archaeological work in the eastern part of this site in 1982 and 1998 revealed no trace of any archaeological features on the ground. Two more groups of cropmarks east and predominantly south of Camelot Road, which include Site 1, comprise an extensive late prehistoric to Early Roman settlement, field systems and trackways (NHER 43494), and a planned Roman field system (NHER 43495). A Roman coin was recovered from some 250m east of Site 1 (NHER 21362), and a prehistoric trackway has been identified some 300m north-east of Site 4 (NHER 43529).

Anglo-Saxon

4.2.5 Gorleston-on-Sea is recorded in the 1086 Domesday Survey as *Gorlestuna* meaning 'farmstead of a man called Gurl' (Mills 1991). The settlement probably predates Great Yarmouth, and the Domesday Book lists a population of 20 villeins, 5 bordars, 5 slaves, 6 freemen and 24 fishermen (Schofield & Thompson 2010). However, no Anglo-Saxon finds have been recorded within 1km of the site

Medieval

4.2.6 In the reign of Edward I (1272-1307) an Augustinian friary was founded by William Woderove and subsequently enlarged. There were also two manors, Gorleston manor and a smaller manor named Bacons. Crop marks believed to represent a medieval postmill are immediately north of Plots 13 and 11A and may even be encroached on by the site (NHER 45050). Medieval to post-medieval field boundaries are located to the south of Site 1, across Sidegate Road (NHER 45158). A dispersed group of undated but probably multi-period ditches are also located in this area (NHER 45202)

Post-medieval

4.2.7 Post-medieval field boundaries are recorded some 250m to the north around Wood Farm (NHER 45056). In the area around Wood Farm Cottages aerial photography has identified two WWII Searchlight batteries and an associated wireless or radio station (NHER 42518). Associated buildings may have billeted the troops manning the site.

4.3 The site

Early maps of Norfolk

4.3.1 The Tithe map of c.1840 was not available. The 1885 First Edition OS map (Fig. 5) shows that there have been few changes to the site which has remained open fields until the construction of Beaufort Way, Excalibur Way and the ambulance station. The main change is that a field boundary on the 1885 map running westwards from Woodfarm Lane across Sites 11A and 14 is no longer shown on the modern OS map. It crosses the site at approximately where the ambulance station is located. A second field boundary running perpendicular from this east-west boundary across Site 11 and 9 has also apparently disappeared by the time of the modern OS map. To the south at Hobland Plantation, Wood Cottage and Hobland Lodge are shown along with a well and a sand pit showing that small scale extraction has taken place in the area. The 1906 Second Edition OS map (Fig. 6) shows no changes to the site. The old county border between Norfolk and Suffolk crosses the western part of the site.

The 1926 and 1938 OS maps show no changes to the site and few changes in the immediate environs with the (Fig. 7 & 8).

5 METHODOLOGY (Trial trenching)

5.1 Seven 40m long trial trenches were excavated within Plot 11 (Fig.3). All the trenches were 1.80m wide.

5.2 Undifferentiated overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.80m wide toothless ditching bucket. Thereafter, all further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned as appropriate and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 Figs. 3 & 9

<i>Sample section 11</i> <i>SW end, NW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.57m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.34m	L1000	Topsoil. Firm, darkish mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional medium angular flints.
0.34 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil. Firm, mid orange brown sandy silt with occasional medium angular flints.
0.54m+	L1002	Natural deposit. Friable, pale brownish orange silty sand with occasional medium angular flints and sparse large rounded limestone and quartzite stones.

<i>Sample section 12</i> <i>NE end, NW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.52m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.33 – 0.52m	L1001	Subsoil. As above
0.52m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As above

Description: Trench 1 contained an Early Bronze Age pit (F1049) and an undated ditch (F1033) and an undated gully (F1045).

F1045 was a gully (1.80+ x 0.63 x 0.17m), orientated northwest /southeast. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1046) was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium rounded flints. It contained no finds.

F1049 was a sub-circular pit (1.10 x 0.50+ x 0.25m). Its profile was irregular, and the base was flat. Its lower, principal fill (L1050) was a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular and rounded flints. It contained Early Bronze Age pottery (12; 122g), struck flint (18; 290g) including scrapers (Flint Report below), and burnt flint (35; 555g). Its upper fill (L1051) was a firm, mid orange brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular flints. The similarity of this fill to Subsoil L1001 suggests that subsoil slumped into the top of the pit. It contained no finds.

F1033 was the terminus of a shallow ditch (1.10+ x 0.60 x 0.14m), orientated northwest/southeast. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. The terminus was rounded. Its fill (L1034) was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium rounded flints. It contained no finds.

Trench 2 Figs. 3 & 9

<i>Sample section 7</i> <i>NW end, NE facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.64m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.40 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.54m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 8</i> <i>SE end, NE facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.90m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.24 – 0.42m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.42m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

Description: Trench 2 contained two undated ditches (F1020 & F1031).

Ditch F1020 (2.00+ x 1.22 x 0.32m) was orientated northeast / southwest. It had an irregular profile. Its fill (L1021) was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with sparse small and medium angular flints. It contained no finds. This ditch may correspond with the crop mark of the 30x35m enclosure (NHER45058; described in Section 4.2.3 above).

Ditch F1031 (2.00+ x 0.70 x 0.33m) was orientated north / south. It had moderately sloping sides and a narrow base. Its fill (L1032) was a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium rounded flints. It contained no finds.

Trench 3 Figs. 3 & 9

<i>Sample section 13</i> <i>SW end, NW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.79m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.23m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.23 – 0.41m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.41m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 14</i> <i>NE end, NW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.65m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.22m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.22 – 0.39m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.39m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

Description: Trench 3 contained two ?prehistoric ditches (F1041 & F1043) both of which terminated within the trench. It also contained an undated ditch (F1047) and a large undated pit (L1039).

F1043 was a ditch terminus (3.00+ x 0.40 x 0.18m), orientated north / south. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The terminus was much disturbed by an animal burrow; it appeared to be rounded. Its fill (L1044) was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular and rounded flints and sparse charcoal flecks. It contained ?pottery (1; 3g).

F1041 was a curvilinear ditch (12.60+ x 0.95). It entered the trench orientated north/south before curving towards the south west and terminating just to the northeast of Ditch F1043. Its depth varied (0.28m Slot C; 0.16m Slot A just short of the terminus). The terminus was rounded and 0.35m deep. The profile also varied. In Slots B and C the sides were moderately sloping and narrowed at the base. In Slot A the sides were shallow and the base was flat. The terminus had moderately steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1042) was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium rounded flints. It contained a struck flint (1g), from the terminus.

F1047 was a shallow ditch (1.80+ x 0.57 x 0.07m) orientated east/west. It had shallow sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1048) was a firm, mid orangey grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular and rounded flints. It contained no finds.

F1039 was a large pit (2.30 x 0.85+ x 0.55m). It was sub-oval in plan with steep sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1040) was a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular and rounded flints and charcoal flecks. It contained no finds.

Trench 4 Figs. 3 & 10

<i>Sample section 3</i> <i>NW end, NE facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.73m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.28 – 0.52m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.52m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

<i>Sample section</i> <i>SE end, NE facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.91m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.31 – 0.46m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.46m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

Description: Trench 4 contained a ?post-medieval ditch (F1028) that appeared to continue into Trench 5 (F1016). It also contained an undated ditch terminus (F1014) and two undated pits (F1010 & F1012).

F1012 was a pit (0.80+ x 0.85 x 0.08m) was adjacent to Pit F1010. It was oval in plan with shallow sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1013) was a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt. It contained no finds.

F1010 was a pit (0.95 x 0.35+ x 0.17m) was located close to Pit F1012. It was oval in plan with steep sides and a flat base. Its fill (L1011) was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. It contained no finds.

F1028 was a ditch (1.80+ x 1.45 x 0.42m), orientated northeast/southwest. It had moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its basal fill (L1029) was a friable, mottled pale brownish yellow and mid grey brown silty sand. It contained no finds. The upper fill (L1030) was a firm, darkish mid grey brown sandy silt. It also contained no finds. Ditch F1028 appeared to be a continuation of Ditch F1016 (Trench 5).

F1014 was possible ditch terminus (1.40+ x 1.40 x 0.31m) orientated northeast/southwest, parallel to and just to the southeast of Ditch F1028. Its profile was irregular. The terminus was sub-rounded. Its fill (L1015) was a firm, mottled mid and dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional medium and large rounded and angular flints. It contained no finds.

Trench 5 Figs. 3 & 10

<i>Sample section 9</i> <i>NE end, NW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.98m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.32 – 0.62m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.62m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 10</i> <i>SW end, NW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.92m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.30 – 0.56m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.56m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

Description: Trench 5 contained an undated gully (F1018) that was cut by a post-medieval ditch (F1016 = F1028), and two undated pits (F1035 & F1037).

F1037 was a circular pit (0.80 x 0.80 x 0.09). It had an irregular profile. Its fill (L1038) was a firm, pale-mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium rounded and angular flints. It contained no finds.

F1035 was a sub-oval pit (0.86 x 0.50 x 0.16m). It had moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1036) was a firm, pale-mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium rounded and angular flints. It contained no finds.

F1018 was a curvilinear gully (12.00+ x 0.30 x 0.20m). It was truncated by the terminus of Ditch F1016. Its profile varied. At its northernmost end (Slot A) it had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. In the centre (Slot B) it had vertical sides and a concave base. At its southernmost end (Slot C) it had steep sides and a narrow base. Its fill (L1019) was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt. It contained no finds.

F1016 was a ditch (9.25+ x 0.75+ x 0.41m) orientated northeast/southwest. It appeared to be a continuation of Ditch F1028 (Trench 4). It had moderately sloping sides and a narrow base. Its terminus was rounded. Its fill (L1017) was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular and rounded flints. It contained CBM (26g).

Trench 6 Figs. 3 & 10

<i>Sample section 1</i> <i>SW end, SE facing</i> <i>0.00 = 14.11m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.30 – 0.60m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.60m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 2</i> <i>NE end, SE facing</i> <i>0.00 = 14.19m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1003	Remains of soil storage bund. Firm, pale orange brown sandy silt with lenses of mid grey brown sandy silt and pale orange sand with occasional medium angular flints.
0.36 – 0.64m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.64 – 0.88m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.88m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

Description: Trench 6 contained a post-medieval ditch (F1004), an undated ?ditch terminus (F1006) and an undated pit (F1008).

F1008 was a sub-circular pit (0.96 x 0.42 x 0.12m). It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill (L1009) was a firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular flints. It contained no finds.

F1004 was a ditch (3.00+ x 0.93 x 0.18m) orientated north/south. It had shallow sides and a concave base. Its fill was a firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular flints. It contained a flint thumbnail scraper (3g) and clay pipe stem fragment.

F1006 was a ?ditch terminus (2.50+ x 0.93 x 0.28m) orientated east-west. Its profile was irregular. The terminus was sub-square with shallow sides. Its fill (L1007) was a firm, pale-mid orange brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium angular flints. It contained no finds.

Trench 7 Figs. 3 & 11

<i>Sample section 5</i> <i>NE end, SW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 13.99m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.27 – 0.57m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.57m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

<i>Sample section 6</i> <i>NE end, SW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 14.14m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 1.
0.28 – 0.56m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 1.
0.56m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 1.

Description: Trench 7 contained a post-medieval ditch (F1022) and two undated ?pits (F1024 & F1026).

F1024 was a sub-oval ?pit (0.84 x 0.74 x 0.26m). It had steep sides and an irregular base. It cut Pit F1026. Its fill (L1025) was a friable, pale yellow grey silty sand with occasional small sub-angular flints. It contained no finds.

F1026 was a sub-oval ?pit (1.75 x 0.57 x 0.49m) cut by Pit F1024. It had very steep sides and an irregular base. Its fill (L1027) was a friable, pale yellow grey silty sand with occasional small sub-angular flints. It contained no finds.

F1022 was a ditch (2.00+ x 0.87 x 0.24m) orientated north/south. It was on roughly the same alignment as Ditch F1004 (Trench 6) but may represent a different ditch. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill (L1023) was a friable, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. It contained an unfrogged brick fragment (1218g).

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The stratigraphy was consistent across the site. Topsoil L1000 was a firm, darkish mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional medium angular flints (0.30 – 0.40m thick). Below L1000, Subsoil L1001 was a firm, mid orange brown sandy silt with occasional medium angular flints (0.15 – 0.30m thick). At the base of the sequence were the natural, L1002, a friable, pale brownish orange silty sand with occasional medium angular flints and very occasional large rounded limestone and quartzite stones (0.42 - 0.60m below the present day ground surface).

8.2 The only exception was at the north-eastern end of Trench 6 where the whole sequence was overlain by a thick (0.36m) layer (L1003) of firm pale orange brown sandy silt with lenses of mid grey brown sandy silt and pale orange

sand, with occasional medium angular flints. L1003 was the remnant of the recently-removed soil storage bund.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The excavated and recorded features are tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Spot Date
1	F1033	Ditch	Undated
	F1045	Gully	Undated
	F1049	Pit	Early Bronze Age
2	F1020	Ditch	Undated
	F1031	Ditch	Undated
3	F1039	Pit	Undated
	F1041	Ditch	?Prehistoric
	F1043	Ditch	Early Bronze Age
	F1047	Ditch	Undated
4	F1010	Pit	Undated
	F1012	Pit	Undated
	F1014	Ditch	Undated
	F1028 = F1016	Ditch	Post Medieval
5	F1016 = F1028	Ditch	Post Medieval
	F1018	Gully	Undated
	F1035	Pit	Undated
	F1037	Pit	Undated
6	F1004	Ditch	Post Medieval
	F1006	Ditch	Undated
	F1008	Pit	Undated
7	F1022	Ditch	Post Medieval
	F1024	?Pit	Undated
	F1026	?Pit	Undated

9.2 The majority of features are ditches. Gullies and pits were also revealed. Each trench contained archaeological features (between 2 & 4). The majority of features are undated. Based on their form and content Ditches F1041 and F1043 date from the prehistoric period. Pit F1049 (Trench 1) contained 12 sherds of Early Bronze Age pottery, struck flint including four scrapers and burnt flint (Struck Flint Report below). Sparse struck flint was recovered from two features (Ditch F1004 (Tr.6) and Ditch F1041 (Tr.3). The struck flint from Ditch F1004 comprises a thumbnail scraper. Three post-medieval ditches were recorded (F1028 (Tr.4) = F1016 (Tr.5), F1004 (Tr.6) and F1022 (Tr.7).

9.3 The site lies within an area of significant archaeological interest comprising extensive areas of intersecting multi-period, dated and undated cropmarks of enclosures, ring ditches, field systems and trackways. The cropmarks include a possible Bronze Age ring ditch within Sites 9/10 (NHER 43554), and another immediately north of the ambulance station (NHER 45054),

a possible Iron Age square barrow within Site 13 (NHER 45051). Site 1 is also in the area of two more groups of late prehistoric and Roman field systems located east and predominantly south of Camelot Road (NHER 43494 and 43495).

9.4 The evaluation revealed a range of archaeological features present in each trench. The dated features are prehistoric and post-medieval. The prehistoric features occurred within the eastern half of the site. The identification of prehistoric features suggests a relationship with the possible Bronze Age ring-ditch and the Iron Age barrow known in the vicinity. The site, therefore, has the potential to contribute to the corpus of information regarding the prehistoric in the area. The presence of possible funerary monuments and other classes of features in the area suggests that there is a possibility that the site may offer opportunities to examine areas of research such as the relationship between monuments and areas of settlement; an area identified as being of importance by Medlycott and Brown (2008, 31) for the eastern region. The possibility that archaeology of both Bronze Age and Iron Age date exists in this area suggest that the site may contain information which can be used to further understanding of the Bronze Age/Iron Age transitional period, which is also an important area of research for the eastern region (Medlycott and Brown 2008, 44). It may be possible to relate the post-medieval features to the known medieval and post-medieval activity in the immediate vicinity of the site (comprising a postmill and field boundaries). The development of the East Anglian landscape in the post-medieval period is identified as an important research subject (Medlycott and Brown 2008, 109); the identification of these post-medieval features in proximity to known post-medieval activity may provide information regarding the way the landscape developed during this period in this area.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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WEB SITES

Norfolk Heritage Explorer

APPENDIX 1: HER Information

NHER Number	National Grid Reference	Details
<i>Prehistoric 4,000 BC – AD 43</i>		
45205	52130 01680	Crop marks of oval barrow or enclosure, undated, could be Neolithic or Roman but near Bronze Age barrows
43501	52150 01200	Prehistoric trackway
43529	52040 01980	Crop marks of possible trackway including section with pit alignment, probably Bronze Age or Iron Age
43510	52240 01370	Crop marks of probable late prehistoric boundary ditches and possible trackways
45162	51340 01280	Crop marks of undated ring ditch
49811	51 02	Prehistoric flint blade
<i>Neolithic 4,000-2,100 BC</i>		
14315	5080 0161	Neolithic or BA flints from plough soil including an axe head, chisel and polishing stones
16471	5202 0186	Neolithic polished flint axe head
<i>Bronze Age 2,100-700 BC</i>		
12769	5222 0226	Bronze Age flint scraper
12779	5087 0248	Possible Bronze Age ring ditch, 29m diameter
43551	51460 02610	Crop marks of Bronze Age round barrow group
43553	51850 02380	Crop marks of Bronze Age round barrow group
43552	51810 01740	Crop marks of a Bronze Age round barrow/ring ditch
43156	52301 01346	Crop mark of ring ditch or possible round house
43515	52348 01035	Crop mark of Bronze Age ring ditch
43557	52076 01248	Crop mark of ring ditch or possible round house
45204	52116 01228	Crop mark of ring ditch
45054	51610 02100	Crop marks of ring ditch and circular mound, probably Bronze Age
43554	51530 01836	Crop mark of Bronze Age ring ditch
45172	50780 01480	Crop mark of ring ditch
45168	50840 01120	Crop mark of ring ditch
<i>Iron Age 700 BC – AD 43</i>		
43494	52324 01269	Crop marks of a late prehistoric to Early Roman extensive field system and trackways
43500	52310 01420	Crop marks of Late Bronze Age to Iron Age curvilinear enclosure ditches, Hopton-on-Sea
45055	51549 02562	Crop marks of probable Iron Age enclosures and fields
45059	51010 01890	Crop marks of late prehistoric enclosure, probably Iron Age to Roman
45164	51580 01290	Crop marks of late prehistoric to Roman enclosures with possible round house. Could be part of NHER 43494
45188	50590 01380	Cropmarks of field boundaries of late prehistoric to Roman date
45052	51110 02120	Cropmarks of extensive settlement and field systems of probable Iron Age to Roman date
45051	51440 02120	Cropmarks of possible Iron Age square barrow
<i>Roman AD 43 – 410</i>		

21362	5221 0188	Roman coin of Hadrian
43497	52120 02480	Cropmarks of ditches, probably Roman
45053	51290 02240	Cropmarks of probable Roman enclosure
43593	51040 02600	Cropmark of a major land boundary, possibly Roman
43495	52430 01170	Planned Roman field system and possible settlement
<i>Anglo-Saxon AD 410 – 1066</i>		
11787	51 02	See multi-period
<i>Medieval AD 1066 – 1539</i>		
45050	51540 02130	Cropmarks of probable medieval postmill
45158	51930 01170	Cropmarks of medieval to post-medieval field boundaries
51388	50 00	Medieval buckle plate
52501	50 02	Medieval bulla of Boniface VIII
<i>Post-medieval AD 1539-1900</i>		
13574	4798 0007	Route of East Suffolk Railway (Yarmouth to Beccles 1854-1965)
42863	50726 01583	Hobland House 18 th century remodelled and extended in 19 th and 20 th
45153	50870 02350	Cropmarks of post-medieval road or track
45155	50830 01110	Cropmarks of field boundaries
45056	51636 02360	Cropmarks of field boundaries
45183	52480 02120	Earthworks of post-medieval field boundaries
45156	51640 01420	Cropmarks of linear ditches possibly part of a post-medieval track
<i>Modern AD 1900+</i>		
13575	5238 0284	Route of Norfolk and Suffolk Joint Railway (Yarmouth to Lowestoft 1903-1967)
32668	5255 0257	WWII heavy AA battery and Nucleus Force Battle HQ, Gorleston
42259	51520 01400	WWII Observation Tower within Hobland Manor Parkland
42258	51610 01330	WWII roadblock and defended area near Hobland Manor
42261	51530 01080	WWII air raid shelter
42429	52190 03950	WWII air raid shelter, Crow Hall
42318	52290 02770	WWII defences on Lowestoft Road
42522	52180 02119	WWII radio and radar site with pill box
42529	52235 01101	WWII defensive structures
42526	52470 01540	WWII defensive structures, Manor Farm
42262	52190 01110	WWII coastal and invasion defences
42518	51580 02370	WWII searchlight and wireless station
42517	52100 01890	WWII defences and slit trench
42232	50673 02925	WWII frequency direction finding station, Bradwell
45197	50890 01940	WWII bomb craters
42260	51300 01470	WWII defences
Multi-period		
*11551	50 01	Finds from field walking and metal detecting: Neolithic flint knapping site including debitage and polished axe head. Also Roman coins, medieval harness piece and post-medieval coins

*11787	51 02	Complex group of crop marks: Several phases of settlement. Pits containing residual Upper Palaeolithic flint, Mesolithic axe head, BA round barrows, IA barrow or enclosure, LIA –Roman field systems, undated cremation, Roman pot and CBM, a substantial trackway, Possible Early Saxon barrow, mid to late Saxon brooch and pot, med coin, post-med field system, WWII searchlight battery
*11788	52 01	Enclosures and ring ditches: Mainly Early Bronze Age features and metalwork, also Mesolithic to Neolithic flint, IA to Post-medieval pot, Roman and post-med field systems, Roman to post-med metalwork, WWII defences
12780	5147 0260	Multi-period finds and features from field walking, metal detecting and geophysical survey: Includes Mesolithic axe head, Neolithic polished axe head and BA knife, post-med pot and 20 th century field system
*13020	52 02	Crop marks and USAF crash site. Possible BA ring ditches and Roman field boundaries. Also Mesolithic and Neolithic axes and BA knife
*39708	51 02	Multi-period finds scatter: Includes prehistoric flakes and scrapers, medieval strap end, token, and tweezers, post-med tile
54949	50 01	Multi-period scatter from metal detecting: Upper Palaeolithic blade segment, Roman coins, Anglo-Saxon brooch stud, med pot, post-med coins, pot and furniture hinge
<i>Undated</i>		
*17226	5042 0208	Complex of undated crop marks – field systems and boundaries, enclosures, track ways and a possible windmill
43509	52180 01560	Undated enclosures and field boundaries
43514	52313 01058	Undated enclosures and field boundaries
45174	50680 01190	Undated cropmarks of enclosures and field systems possibly Roman or medieval
45186	51100 01160	Group of cropmark boundaries in an area of prehistoric cropmarks
45058	51480 01920	Undated cropmarks of enclosures and ditches
43558	51950 01140	Cropmarks of ring ditches (possible barrows or roundhouses)
45200	50770 01100	Multi-period undated cropmarks of enclosures, ditches, boundaries and tracks
45057	51567 02154	Multi-period undated cropmarks of ditches and trackways
45202	51859 00984	Multi-period undated cropmarks of ditches and trackways in area of largely late prehistoric to Roman features
45203	52646 00951	Multi-period undated cropmarks of ditches and trackways
45201	52568 02291	Multi-period undated cropmarks of ditches
43592	48504 01865	Cropmarks of undated field system
<i>Negative sites</i>		
39347	52013 02129	

APPENDIX 2: Historic Cartographic and Photographic Information

Map Description	Date	Scale
Site location (OS Explorer)	Modern	1:25,000
Detailed site location	Modern	
HER information	Modern	
Crop mark Location (provided by client, NMP survey not available at time of writing)	Modern	1:4,000
OS First Edition	1885	1:10,560
OS Second Edition	1906	1:10,560
OS	1926	1:2,500
OS	1938	1:10.560

APPENDIX 4 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Prehistoric Pottery

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of 13 sherds (125g) of early Bronze Age pottery, almost entirely contained in Pit F1049, with a single sherd (3g) contained in Ditch F1043. The early Bronze Age pottery occurs in a single fabric with oxidised orange-brown to dark brown-black surfaces that fade to a dark oxidised core. Inclusions comprise sparse oxidised grog (0.25-0.5mm) and sparse-common quartz sand (0.1-0.5mm). The fabric has a slightly soapy to powdery feel and a medium to soft hardness.

The early Bronze Age pottery contained in Pit F1049 (L1050) comprises fragments of at least two 'Rusticated Beaker' vessels. One of these vessels has an upright rim with exterior grooves situated above finger-pinched rustication on the body and is comparable to an example recorded at Hockwold-cum-Wilton (Healy 1996, 148: P299), while it is only possible to record that the second vessel contained in L1050 and the body sherd contained in Ditch F1043 (L1044) were decorated with finger-pinched rustication. Beaker pottery in a grog-tempered fabric and with rusticated decoration has previously been recorded in an early Bronze Age pit within a 'house' area at Beacon Park, Gorleston (HER No. ENF125435; Sarah Percival *pers. comm.*).

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The Flint

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of 20 pieces (294g) of struck flint and 35 fragments (555g) of burnt flint, almost entirely contained in Pit F1049, and exhibiting the characteristics of lithic technology typical of the late Neolithic to early Bronze Age period. The raw flint is of a relatively high quality ranging from mid to dark grey with, where present a slightly pitted white cortex. This type of flint is common in chalk derived geological deposits across Norfolk, but is unlikely to have been sourced from coastal or marine gravels.

The struck flint contained in Pit F1049 (L1050) includes four scrapers that are all un-corticated and were formed by the application of abrupt retouch to selected edges only. The scrapers comprise a large side scraper (41g) possibly formed

on a flake blank with abrupt retouch applied to one slightly convex lateral edge and the opposing lateral edge modified so that it was straight and blunt, possibly to allow for grip or hafting. The end scraper (45g) was formed on a thick elongate flake while the two horseshoe scrapers (24g and 12g) were formed on of broad, squat flakes. The remaining struck flint was comprised of tertiary and un-corticated debitage flakes that range from blade-like to slightly irregular to broad and squat, while the entirety of the burnt flint was also contained in Pit F1049 (I1050). In addition to this group of flint, Ditch F1004 (L1005) contained a single thumbnail horseshoe scraper (3g) and Ditch F1041 (L1042) contained a small chip of debitage (1g).

The Ceramic Building Materials

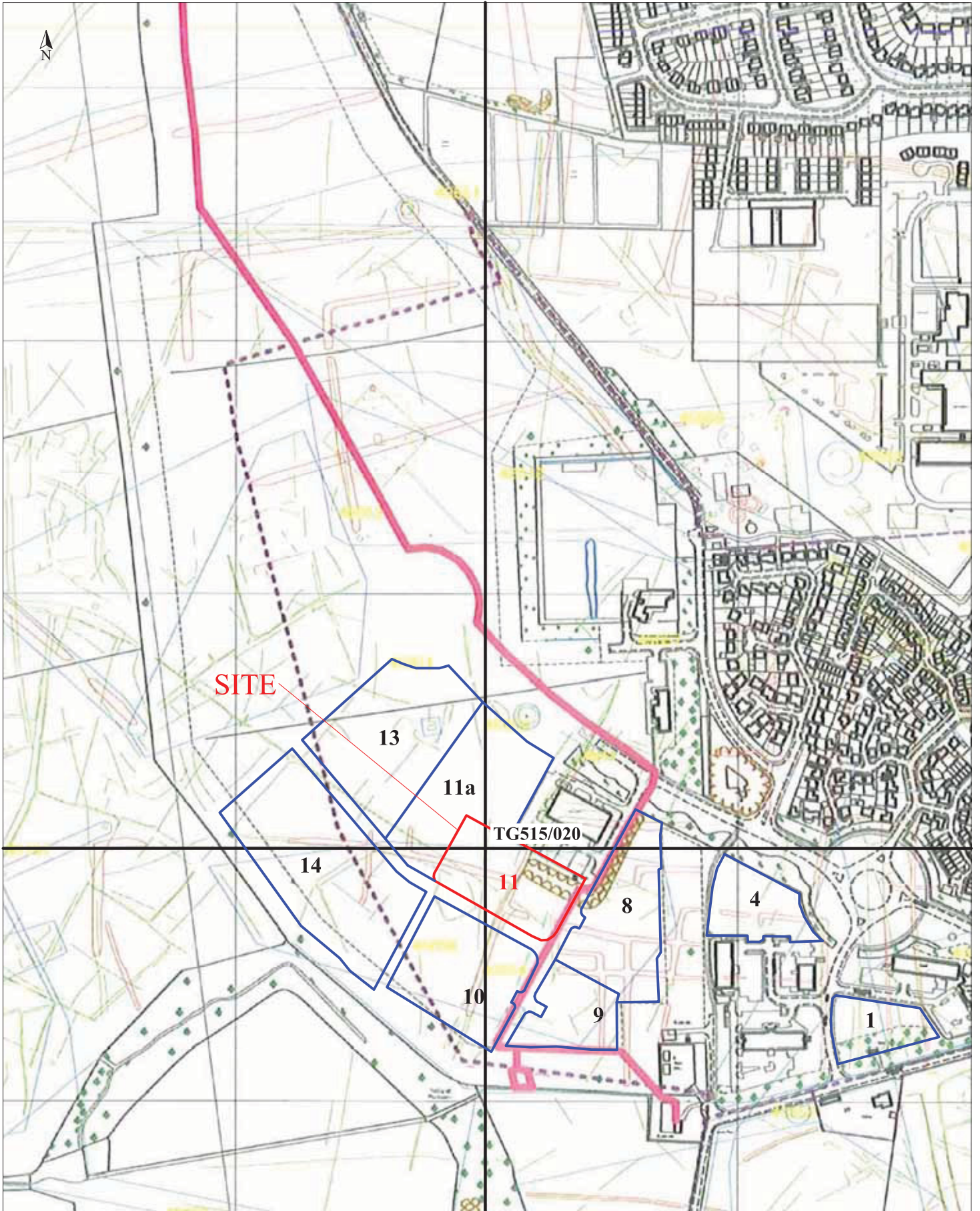
Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered two fragments (1244g) of late post-medieval CBM that occur in hard fired, oxidised orange-red fabrics tempered with coarse quartz sand. Ditch F1022 (L1023) contained a single fragment (1218g) from a late 17th to early 18th century brick that has partial dimensions of ?x110x55mm, a smooth base, regular arrises and faces, and traces of a blue-grey glaze on the upper face. Ditch F1016 (L1017 Seg.A) contained a single small fragment (26g) of peg tile that is of at least comparable date, if not dating to the 18th or 19th centuries.



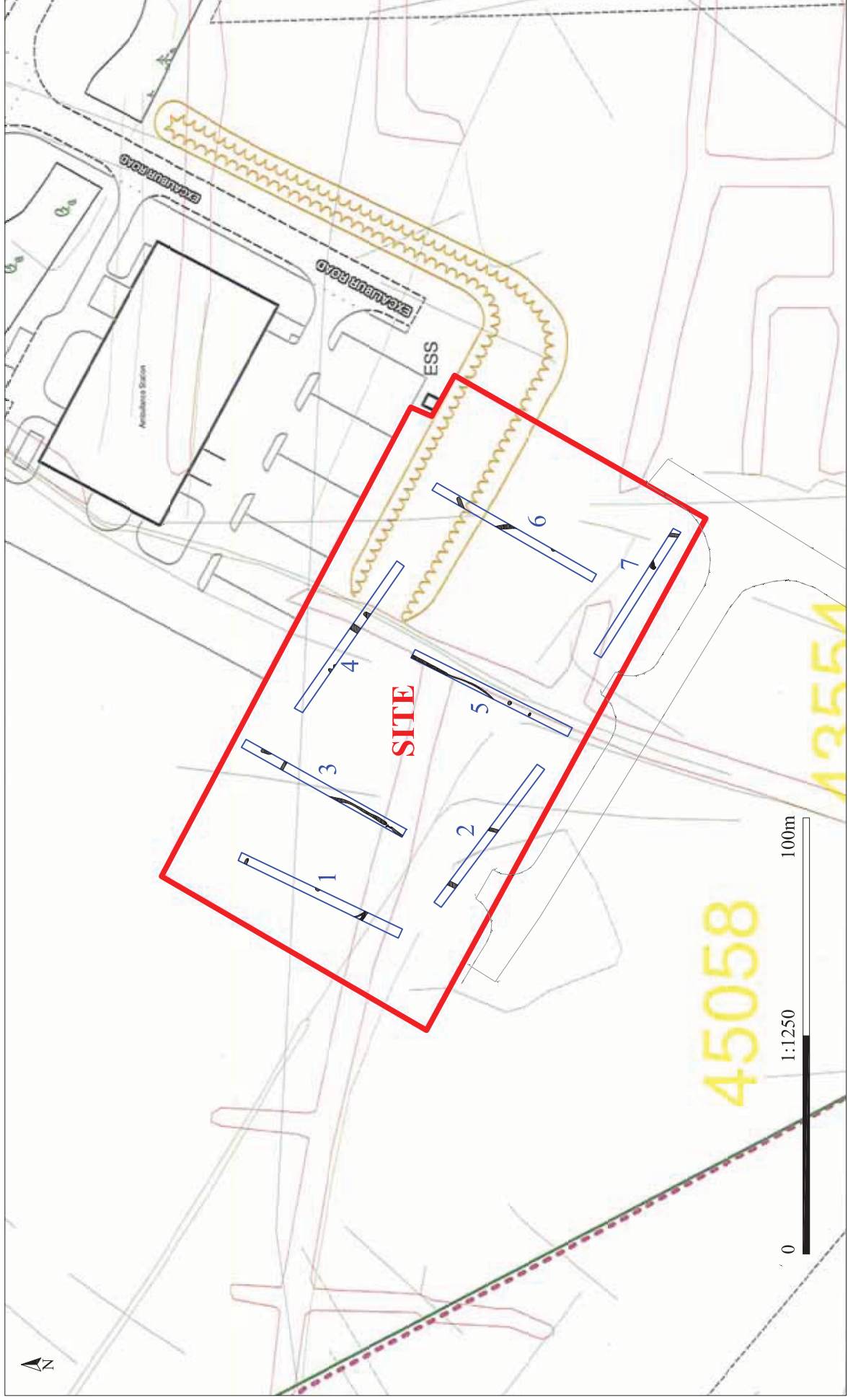
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



0 250m

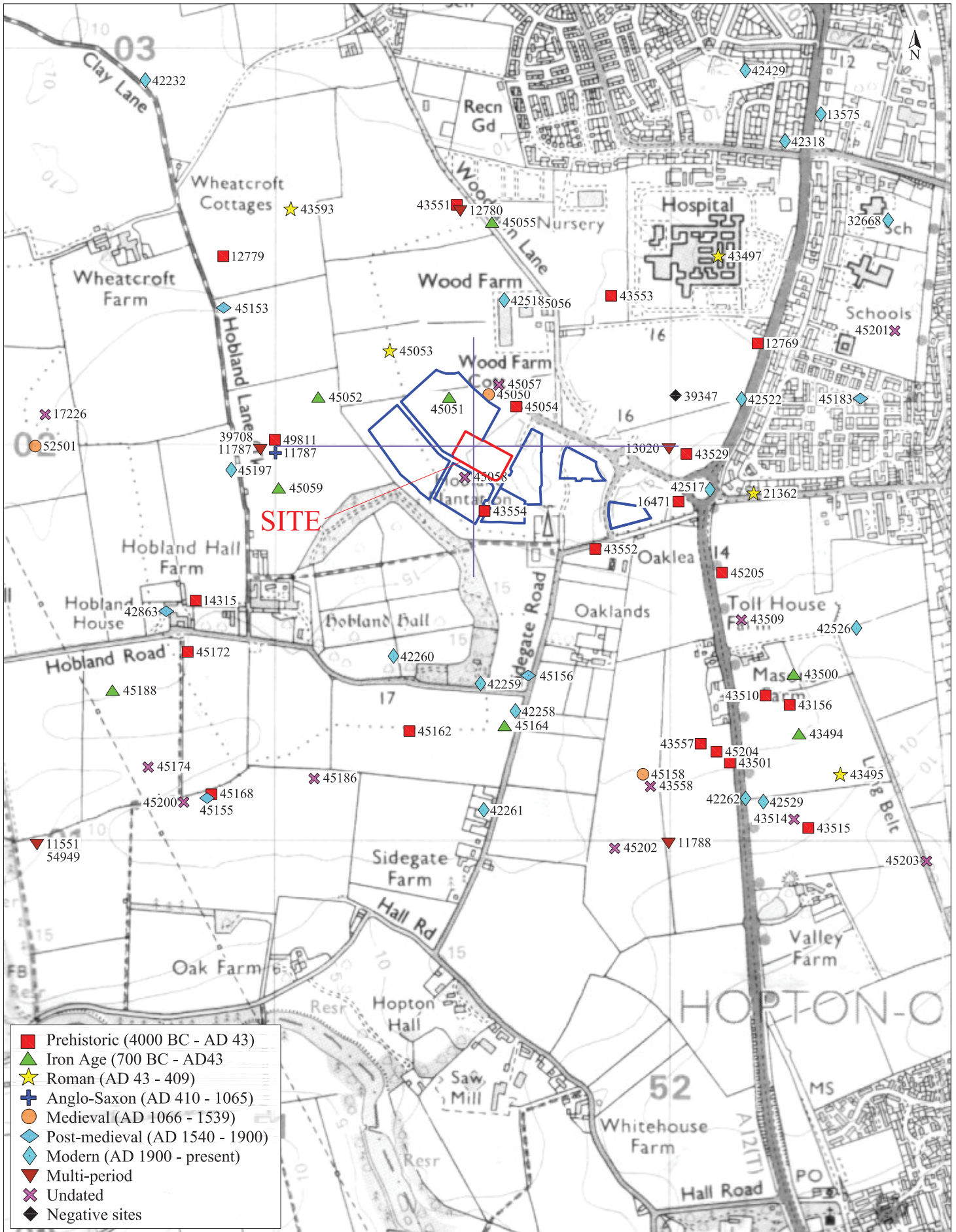
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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:5000 at A4



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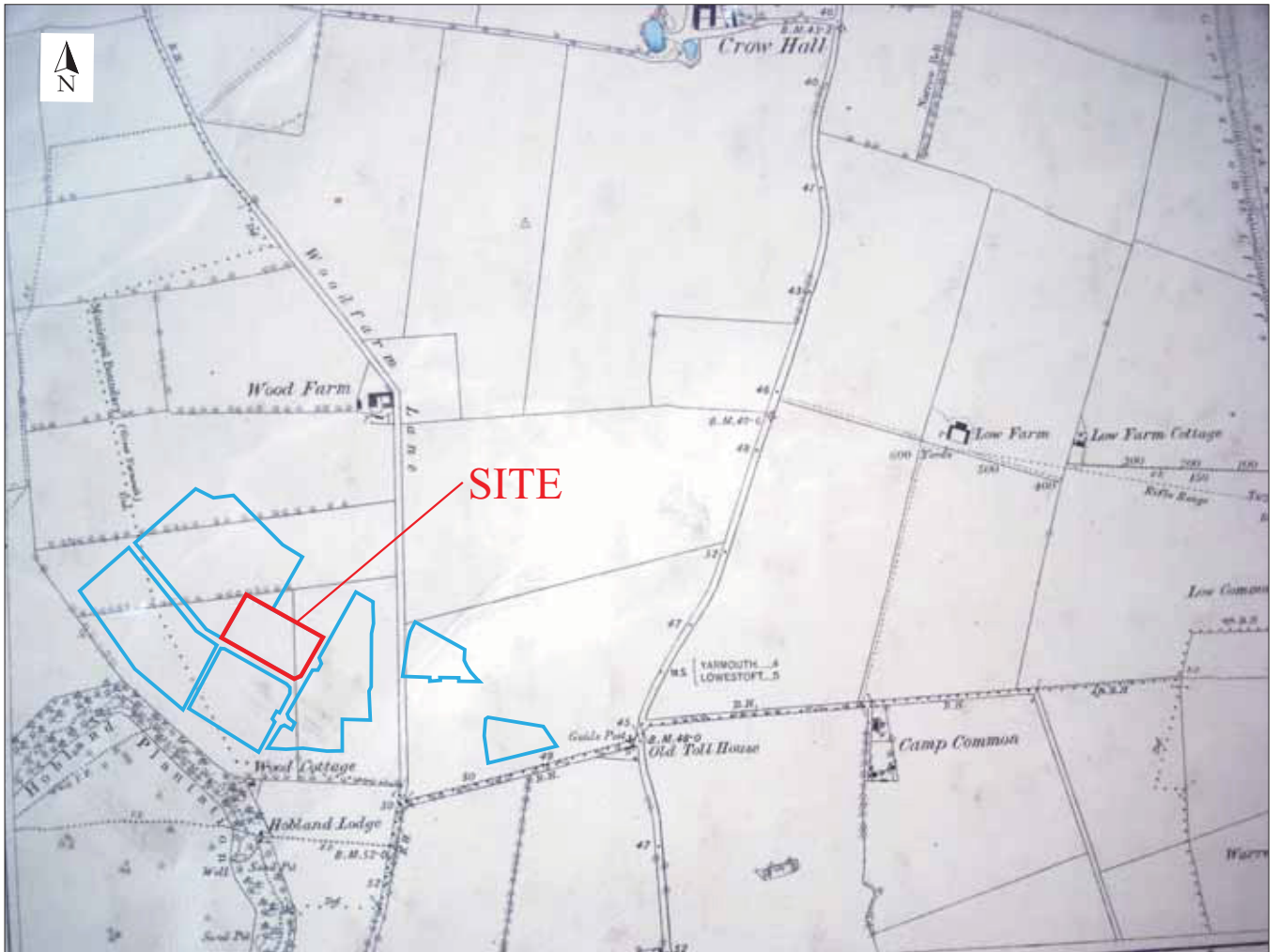
Fig. 3 Trench location plan

Scale 1:1250 at A4



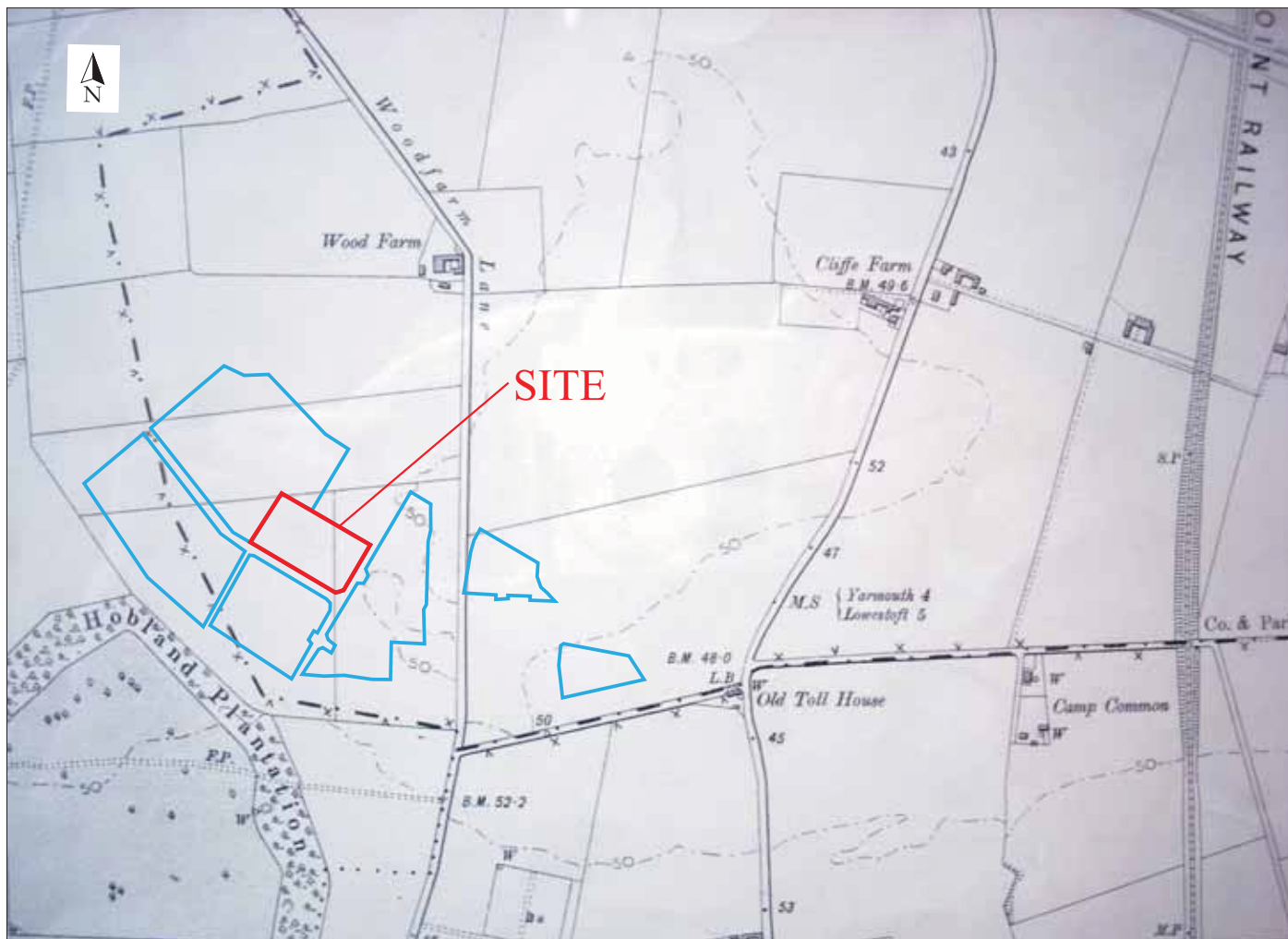
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Fig. 4 HER data
 Scale 1:12,500 at A4



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Fig. 5 OS map, 1885
Not to scale



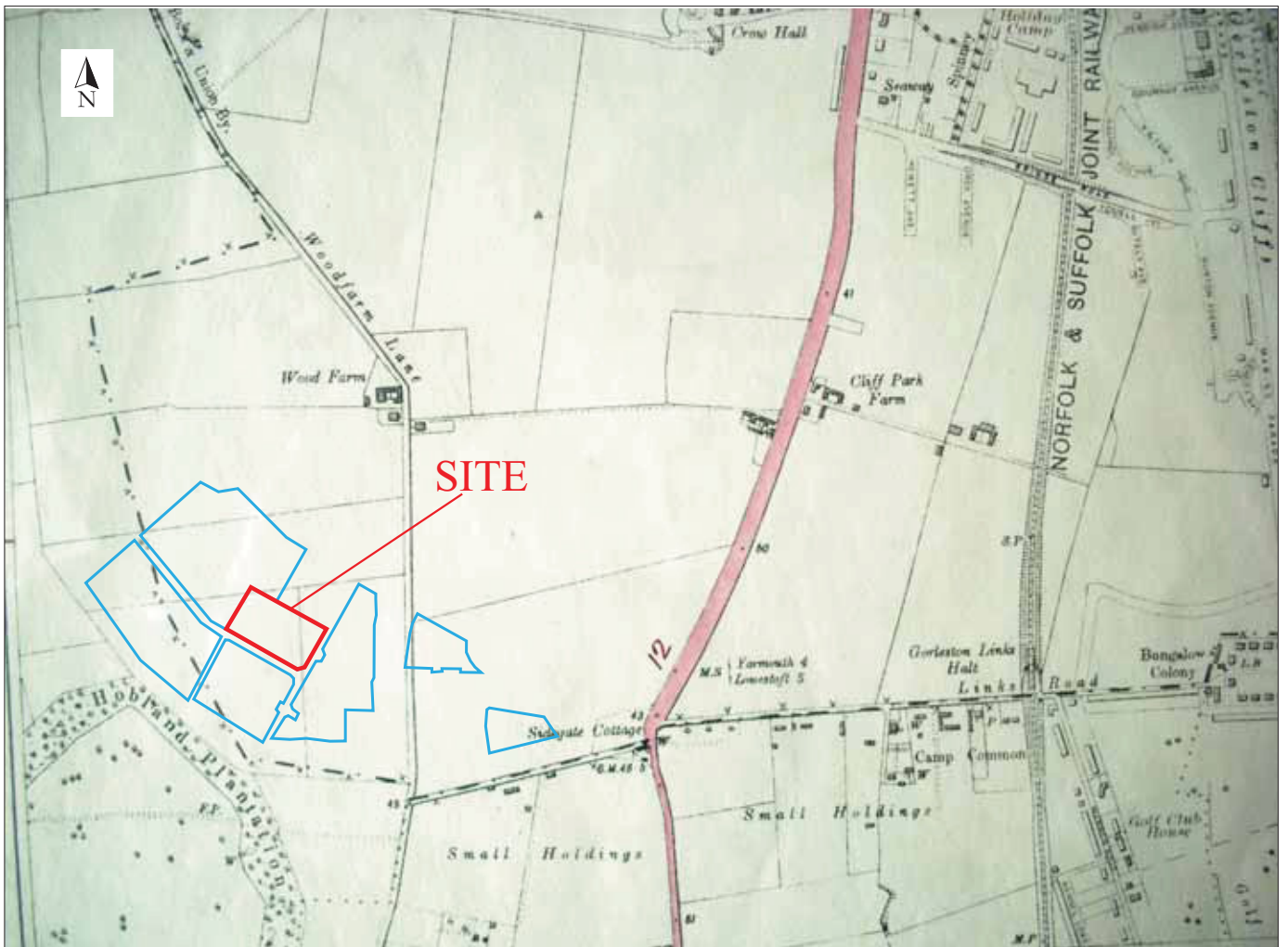
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Fig. 6 OS map, 1906
Not to scale



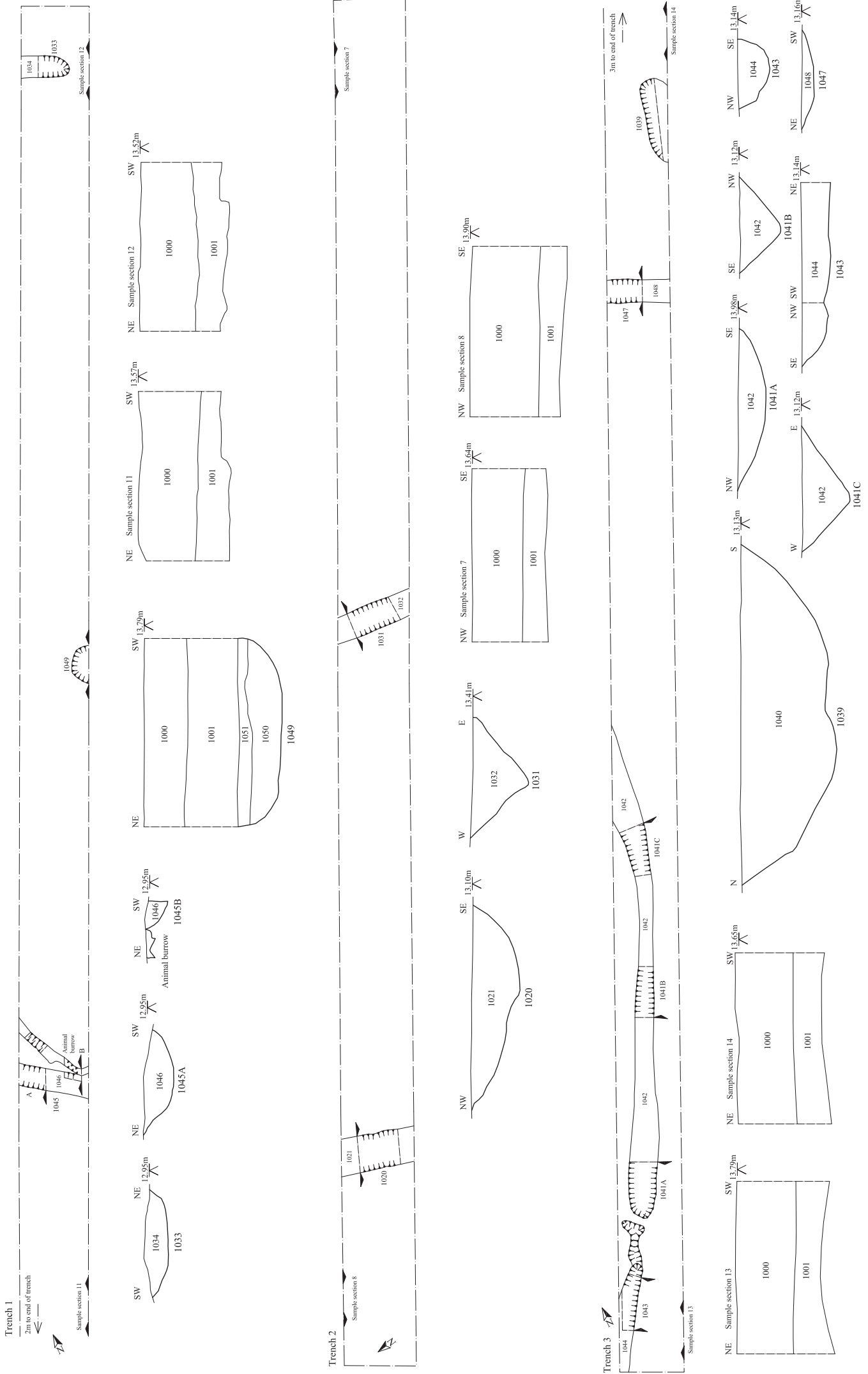
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Fig. 7 OS map, 1926
Not to scale

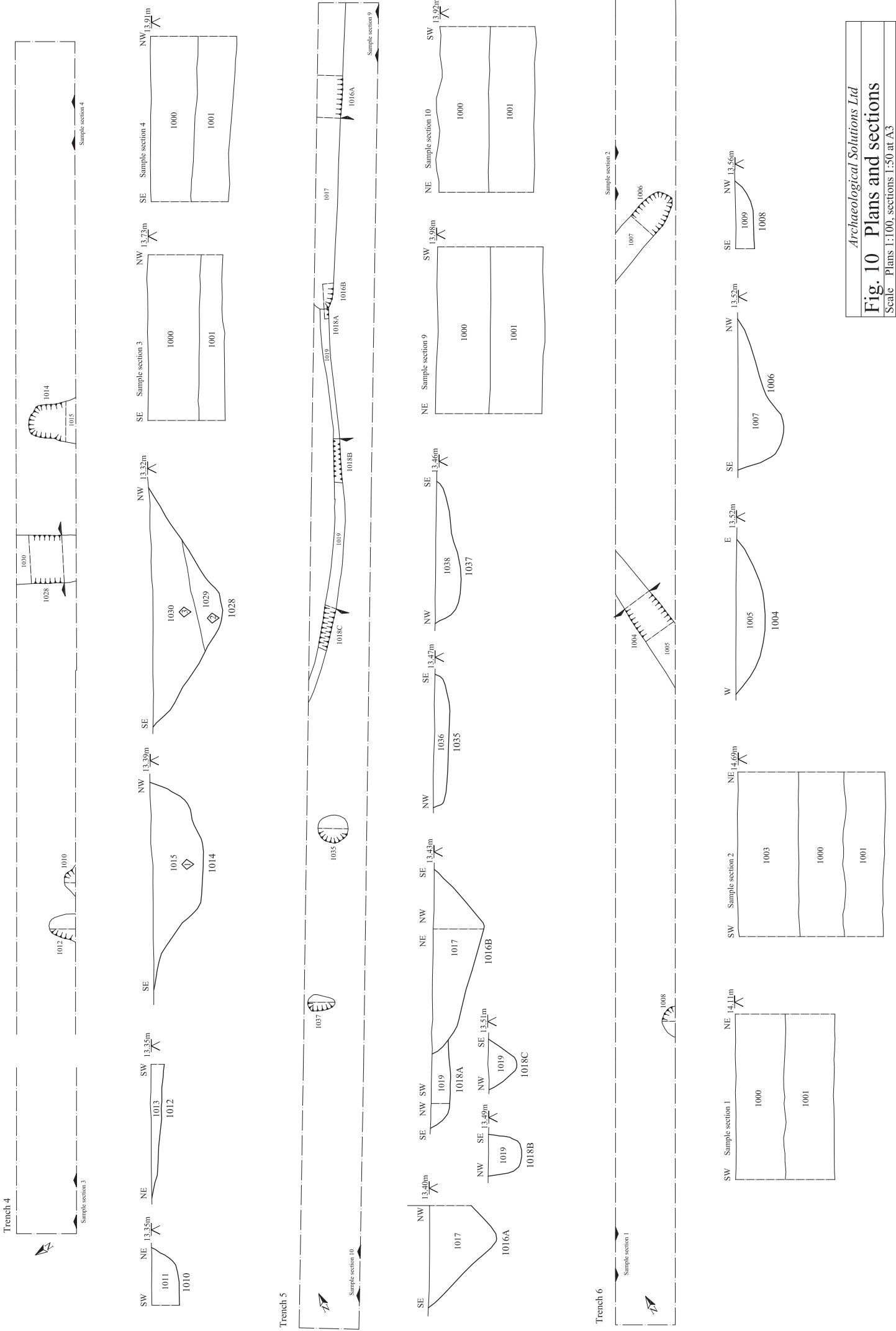


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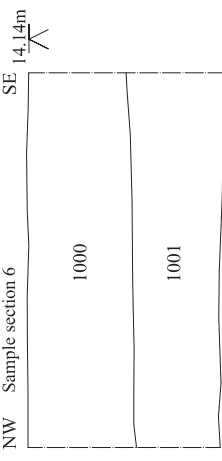
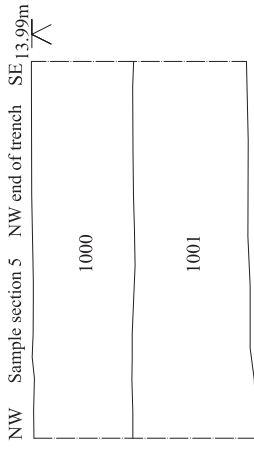
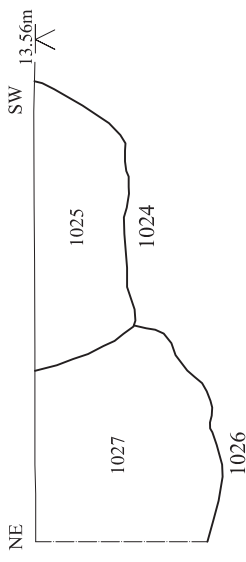
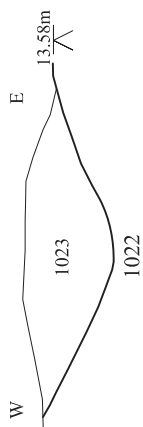
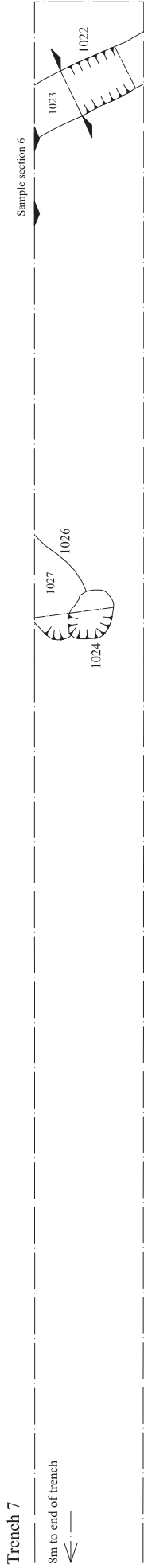
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Fig. 8 OS map, 1938
Not to scale



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Fig. 9 Plans and sections
 Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:50 at A3



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Fig. 10 Plans and sections
 Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:50 at A3



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Fig. 11 Plans and sections

Scale Plans 1:100, sections 1:50 at A4