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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
ON LAND AT  
REMENHAM PARK PLACE,  
WESTERN ACCESS ROAD, REMENHAM,  
BERKSHIRE  
(REWA 09)**

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**Work Undertaken For  
Spink Property Ltd**

January 2010

Report Compiled by  
Andrew Failes BA (Hons) MA

National Grid Reference: SU 7758 8210  
City and County Museum Accession No: REDMG: 2009.  
OASIS ID No: archaeo11-70657

Report No: **1/10**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES**



**Quality Control**  
**Remenham Park Place, Western Access Road,**  
**Remanham, Berkshire**  
**(REWA 09)**

Project Coordinator	Tom Lane
Supervisor	Andrew Failes
Illustration	Andrew Failes
Photographic Reproduction	Sue Unsworth
Post-excavation Analyst	Andrew Failes

Approved by Senior Archaeologist
Tom Lane
Date: 19-01-10

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## 1. SUMMARY

*A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the construction of a road at Remenham Park Place, Berkshire. The watching brief monitored the reduction of ground levels along the length of the road.*

*The development site lies in an area of known archaeological potential. Evidence of Iron Age and Early Romano-British occupation was uncovered during an evaluation of the Aspect Golf course east of Parkplace Farm (Oxford Archaeological Unit 1995).*

*However, the watching brief revealed no remains of Iron Age or Romano-British date. The investigation did reveal two shallow pits that were probably post-medieval in date, two circular features (probably pits) and two dumped deposits of post-medieval or later date and a number of undated features and deposits.*

*The undated features and deposits consisted of a ditch, a possible former carriage drive and some layers of made ground.*

*Although no dateable material was recovered from the former carriage drive, it was probably one of many introduced by Fuller-Maitland who acquired the property in 1824. The relatively large deposit of made ground in the central and northern part of the road was also undated but is probably associated with landscaping work done in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.*

*Finds retrieved during the investigation include a small amount of mostly 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century brick and tile and a single sherd of 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as “a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed.” (IFA 1999).

### 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Spink Properties Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a new road at Remenham Park Place, Remenham, Berkshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application 0/2008/1353 to Wokingham Borough Council. The watching brief was carried out between the 3rd and 10<sup>th</sup> of September 2009.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Remenham is located 12km northeast of Reading and 12km west of Maidenhead in the administrative district of Wokingham, Berkshire (Fig 1).

Park Place Estate is located towards the southern end of the Chiltern Hills within a loop of the River Thames. Henley upon Thames lies at the base of Remenham Hill 1km west of the site and marks the county boundary between Berkshire and Oxfordshire. The highest part of the estate lies adjacent to Park Place at a height of c.105m OD. The land drops sharply from the west down towards the River Thames, which lies at c. 35m OD. The ground slopes more gently towards the east.

The work took place at National Grid Reference SU 7758 8210, down slope and west of the former formal gardens which

are located adjacent to the western façade of the house.

Local soils are of the Frilsham Association, typically composed of argillic brown earths. These soils overlie solid geology of Cretaceous Upper Chalk, although outcrops of Older River Gravels above clay with flints occur along the northern edge of the application area (Hodge *et al* 1984).

## 2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development site lies within the Thames Valley, an area rich in well documented archaeological remains ranging in date from the Palaeolithic to the present day. Palaeolithic finds including hand-axes have been found at Harpsden, Remenham Hill and gravel quarries near Remenham village, all close to the development area (Wymer 1968, 202).

Mesolithic and Neolithic artefacts are known from the local area, including early Neolithic pottery and flints from a pit excavated in advance of a gas pipeline at Remenham (Holgate and Start 1985, 6). Numerous Bronze Age find spots in the area probably derive from the River Thames and may represent votive deposition. Furthermore, two Bronze Age barrows and a boundary ditch lie to the north of the development site.

Ritual deposition into the Thames appears to have continued well into the Iron Age, although the number of sites is reduced from that of the preceding period. Two occupation sites are known of this period, one in the river valley south of Henley-on-Thames and the second within the development area itself. This latter site was revealed during an evaluation of the Aspect Golf course east of Parkplace Farm (Oxford Archaeological Unit 1995), as was evidence of Early Roman occupation.

Remenham is mentioned in the Domesday Book *c.* 1086 as *Rameham*, derived from

the Old English meaning settlement ‘*ham*’ by the ‘*rima*’ meaning bank; indicating its position by the River Thames (Ekwall 1974, 384). The King held Remenham from Queen Edith at the time of the Domesday survey when it contained a mill, 52 acres of meadow and woodland for fencing.

The manor of Remenham was granted to the Earls of Warwick in 1090 with whom it remained until the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century when once again it became royal property. Remenham parish formerly lay within the Forest of Windsor and was kept largely as park and hunting grounds throughout the medieval period (APS 2004, 3).

In 1719 a manor house was constructed on the site of the current Park Place building. This house was partially destroyed by fire in 1870 and the present mansion was rebuilt by architect Thomas Cundy in the French Renaissance style.

During the early twentieth century, the mansion house was used by Middlesex County Council as a residential school, being taken over by Hillingdon Council in 1965, which maintained the school until its closure in 1988.

An archaeological evaluation prior to redevelopment and extension of Park Place golf course in 2005 revealed deposits of Middle Iron Age to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD date 1km southeast of the road. Evidence for malting, grain storage and rubbish disposal probably associated with settlement was recorded. A medieval gully and post-medieval trackway were also identified (Wood 2005).

A recent evaluation at the laundry (Peachey 2009) revealed a sequence of layers of made up ground, two fragments of redeposited Roman and medieval tile and two sherds of 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> century pottery which represent activity at the site

prior to the construction of the original house in 1719.

### 3. AIMS

The aim of the work was to record and interpret deposits and any archaeological features exposed during the development groundworks. The objectives were to determine the form and function of any archaeological features encountered, record their spatial arrangement and, as far as practicable, recover dating evidence from them and establish the sequence of archaeological remains present on the site.

### 4. METHODS

An area of ground was reduced by machine to the underlying chalk natural along the line of the proposed road (Fig 3). The area under investigation was c. 480m long x 3m wide. The edges of the excavation were cleaned and rendered vertical where possible. Selected deposits were excavated further to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their function. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

## 5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis four phases were identified;

<b>Phase 1</b>	<b>Natural deposits</b>
<b>Phase 2</b>	<b>Probable post-medieval deposits</b>
<b>Phase 3</b>	<b>Post-medieval or later deposits</b>
<b>Phase 4</b>	<b>Undated deposits</b>

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

#### **Phase 1**      *Natural deposits*

The earliest deposit encountered during the investigation consisted of firm to hard, light greyish white chalk with flints (002) (Figs 4-9, Sections 5-8) (Plates 2-7 & 9-15).

#### **Phase 2**      *Probable post-medieval deposits*

Approximately 53m north of the southern end of the new road was a partially exposed semi-circular feature [013], measuring at least 0.64m in width by 0.95m length by 0.10m depth with irregular sides and base (Figs 4 & 8, Section 2) (Plate 3). This shallow pit was filled with a firm dark brown sandy clay (012) containing frequent chalk flecks and fragments and occasional flecks of ceramic building material (CBM). An undiagnostic fragment of brick was retrieved from this deposit and categorised as Roman or post-Roman, but is probably post-medieval (Appendix 3).

A very shallow circular feature [015] cut through natural deposit (002) and measuring 0.60m in diameter by 80mm in depth was recorded 84m north of the southern end of the new road (Figs 5 & 8, Section 3) (Plate 4). A firm dark brown sandy clay (014) with frequent flecks of chalk and occasional CBM fragments filled this feature. Two undiagnostic (but

probably post-medieval) fragments of tile were retrieved from this deposit along with a sherd of 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century Late Earthen Ware pottery.

### **Phase 3**      *Post-medieval or later deposits*

A circular/ovoid feature [017] with a length of 1.75m and a width of 1.60m, occurred approximately 96m north of the southern end of the new road (Fig 5) (Plate 5), cut into the natural chalk (002). This feature was filled with a firm dark brown sandy clay (016) containing frequent chalk fragments, a moderate amount of flints and occasional flecks of CBM. The fill clearly contained modern material and therefore this feature was not excavated. A sample of material was retrieved from the fill in order to confirm its modern date. The material recovered from this feature consisted of one fragment of brick and two fragments of 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century roof tile.

Overlying the northern edge of pit [017] was a deposit of firm dark brown sandy clay (020) with frequent large lumps and fragments of chalk, frequent flints, frequent fragments of CBM and occasional pieces of brick (Fig 5). A piece of 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century brick was retrieved from this deposit.

A second modern deposit (022) occurred to the north of deposit (020) (Fig 5). This deposit comprised firm dark brown sandy clay with frequent fragments of chalk, flints, and CBM. Three pieces of post-medieval CBM and a fragment of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century brick were recovered from this deposit.

A circular/ovoid cut [019] measuring 1.58m in length by 1.54m wide was cut through deposits (020) and (022) (Fig 5) (Plate 6). This pit was filled with a firm but friable dark to mid brown clayey sand (018) containing frequent fragments of chalk, CBM and occasional flints. A piece of tile and brick dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century were recovered from this deposit.

### **Phase 4**      *Undated deposits*

A circular feature [005] measuring 1.30m in diameter was cut through the natural chalk at the southern end of the new road. This feature was filled with a firm yet friable mid yellowish brown silty clay (004).

A northwest to southeast oriented linear feature [007], measuring 1.11m wide by 0.24m deep, with concave sides, breaking gradually to a flat base, cut through natural deposit (002) in the southern section of the new road (Figs 4 & 8, Section 1) (Plate 2). The linear was filled with a firm dark yellowish brown sandy clay (006) with frequent lumps of chalk and fragments of flint.

Overlying part of this feature at its northernmost end was a dumped deposit of firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay (008) with frequent flints (Fig 4). Just north of this deposit was a spread of firm dark brown sandy clay (009) with frequent fragments of charcoal (Fig 4). A third deposit consisting of firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay (010) with frequent flints occurred north and adjacent to deposit (009).

Approximately two meters north of linear feature [007] was an ovoid cut [013] partially visible in plan, measuring at least 0.64m in width by 0.95m length by 0.10m deep with shallow irregular sides and an irregular base (Figs 4 & 8, Section 2) (Plate 3). This feature contained a fill consisting of firm dark brown sandy clay (012) with frequent chalk flecks and fragments and occasional small pieces of CBM.

Approximately 13m to the north of circular feature [015] was a 2.95m wide linear feature [025], oriented roughly north-south, with a maximum depth of 0.23m and irregular sides and base (Figs 5 & 8, Section 4) (Plate 7). This feature was cut into the natural (002) and filled with a firm, yet friable mid to dark greyish brown



sandy clay (024), with frequent chalk flecks and flints.

An ovoid feature [029] measuring 3m long by 0.31m deep by at least 0.65m wide was cut through the natural (002) c. 1.5m to the north of linear feature [025] (Figs 5 & 8, Section 5) (Plate 9). This cut had fairly steep and slightly concave sides, breaking gradually to an irregular base. Feature [029] contained three separate fills. The first and earliest fill consisted of hard, mid reddish brown sandy clay (028) with white speckles of chalk, at least 0.17m thick. This was overlain by a 0.15m thick, hard white and brown speckled deposit of clayey sand and chalk (027), with frequent flints. Deposit (027) was sealed by a 0.36m thick fill of firm mid brown clayey sand (026) containing a moderate amount of chalk fragments and pebbles.

A subsoil deposit overlay natural deposit (002), approximately 140m north of the southern end of the new road. The subsoil was composed of firm to hard, mid yellowish brown sandy clay (030) with frequent chalk flecks (Fig 9, Section 6) (Plate 10). This deposit was observed in plan approximately 155m from the southern end of the new road where it filled a natural depression in the landscape (Figs 6 & 9, Section 7) (Plate 12).

At 195m from the southern end of the new road a deposit of made ground overlay natural layer (002). The deposit consisted of firm light brownish white chalk and sandy silt (031) containing frequent fragments of CBM and tile, at least 0.20m thick (Figs 7 & 9, Section 8) (Plates 13 & 14).

Overlying deposits (031), (009), (010), (011), subsoil deposit (030) and feature [029] was a 0.25m thick layer of friable dark greyish brown clayey sand topsoil (001) with occasional chalk flecks (Figs 8 & 9, Sections 5-8) (Plates 9, 10, 12 and 13). Near the southern end of the road a thin layer of modern overburden consisting

of mid brown and white speckled clayey sand (003) with frequent flints, pieces of chalk and fragments of modern CBM, overlay topsoil (001). This deposit was clearly formed during the current development works at the property.

## 6. DISCUSSION

The hard white chalk deposit encountered at the base of the excavation represents the natural solid geology of Cretaceous Upper Chalk.

Shallow pits [013] and [015], located 53m and 84m north of the southern end of the road contained some undiagnostic CBM categorised as Roman or Post-Roman. The only artefacts and features identified at any point along the road date from the 18-19<sup>th</sup> century, while pit [015] also contained a sherd of 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery. This suggests that these features are Post-Roman and probably post-medieval in date. The shallowness of the pits may indicate truncation in the area.

Just north of Pit [015] were two almost identical circular features [017],[019] which clearly contained a large amount of recent demolition debris and therefore were not excavated. A selection of material was retrieved from these pits and found to date from the 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century. Two dumped deposits (020)/(022) were also identified in this area which contained 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century CBM.

The purpose of the pits remains unclear, although the material within them and the dumped deposits probably relates to work at the house or nearby ancillary buildings.

A number of features along the road remained undated. These included a roughly circular feature [005] near the southern end of the road (probably where a tree had been removed during the current phase of groundworks), a northwest to southeast oriented linear ditch [007] of

uncertain purpose and a north to south running, wide and shallow linear. Looking south through Mill Bank Wood, along the trajectory of the wide linear (Plate 8), the forest growth is noticeably sparse along its projected line and trees appear to flank the edges. This suggests a pathway, probably the remains of a former carriage drive. Ebenezer Fuller-Maitland, who acquired the property in 1824, had an interest in collecting carriages and is known to have introduced a large network of wooded carriage drives throughout the property. This interest is also reflected in the unusual size of the stables at Park Place which included ten carriage houses (Anon 2005). An undated ovoid feature [025] was deemed probably natural due to its irregular base and shape in plan.

The deposit of made ground (031) containing a significant amount of CBM which occurred approximately 195m from the southern end of the road is probably associated with landscaping work and may relate to the changing of the house's main entrance from the western to the northern façade which occurred after about 1830 (Anon 2005, 55).

Linear ditch [007] was partially overlain by a dumped sandy clay deposit (008). Just to the north of this deposit, topsoil had filled a natural depression and on its other side was a second sandy clay deposit (010) of much the same character as (008). These dumped deposits were overlain by topsoil. It is unclear whether they relate to landscaping work, although if they do, it would be on a relatively small scale in comparison to the made ground seen further north.

These made ground deposits and a subsoil deposit, which occurred 140m north of the southern end of the road and filled a large natural hollow, were overlain by clayey sand topsoil.

## 7. CONCLUSION

A watching brief monitored ground reduction associated with the construction of a small road at Remenham Park Place, Berkshire.

The work was required due to the sites location in an area of known archaeological potential. Evidence of Iron Age and Early Romano-British occupation was uncovered during an evaluation of the Aspect Golf course east of Parkplace Farm (Oxford Archaeology Unit 1995).

However, the watching brief revealed no Iron Age or Romano-British remains. Remains uncovered during the investigation included two shallow pits that were probably post-medieval in date, two circular features (probably pits) and two dumped deposits of post-medieval or later date and a number of undated features and deposits. Some of these undated features were probably natural in origin, although a ditch, a possible former carriage drive and various layers of made ground clearly were not.

Although no dateable material was recovered from the former carriage drive, it was probably one of many introduced by Fuller-Maitland who acquired the property in 1824. The relatively large deposit of made ground in the central and northern part of the road was also undated but is probably associated with landscaping work done in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Finds recovered during the investigation comprise a small amount of CBM, mostly dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century and a single sherd of 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of John Bateman of Spink Property Ltd who commissioned the fieldwork and post-

excavation analysis. This project was coordinated by Tom Lane who also edited the report.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Tom Lane  
Site Supervisors: Andrew Failes  
Finds processing: Denise Buckley  
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
Illustration: Andrew Failes  
Post-excavation analysis: Andrew Failes

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services  
CBM Ceramic Building Material  
DoE Department of the Environment  
IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

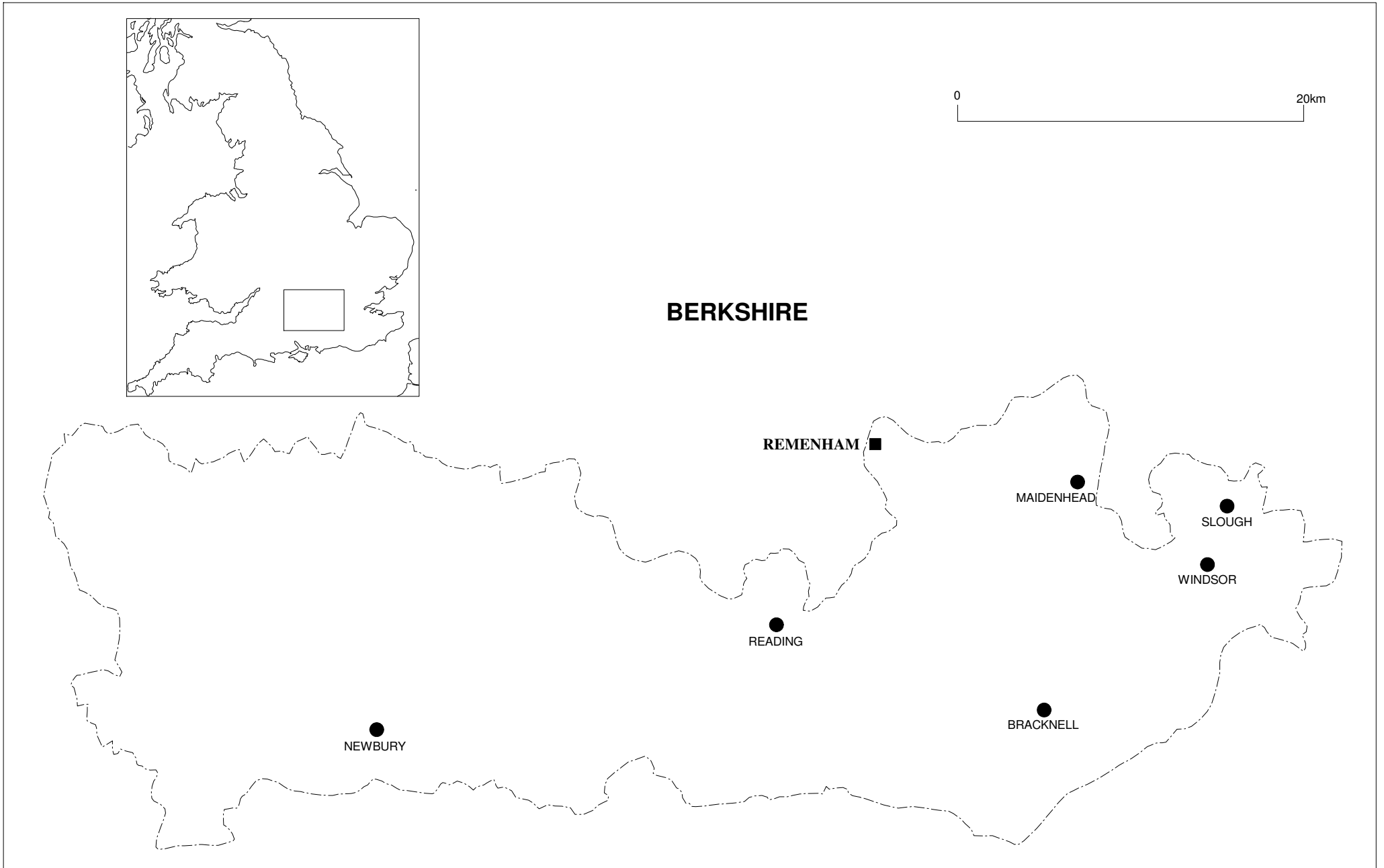


Figure 1 - General location plan

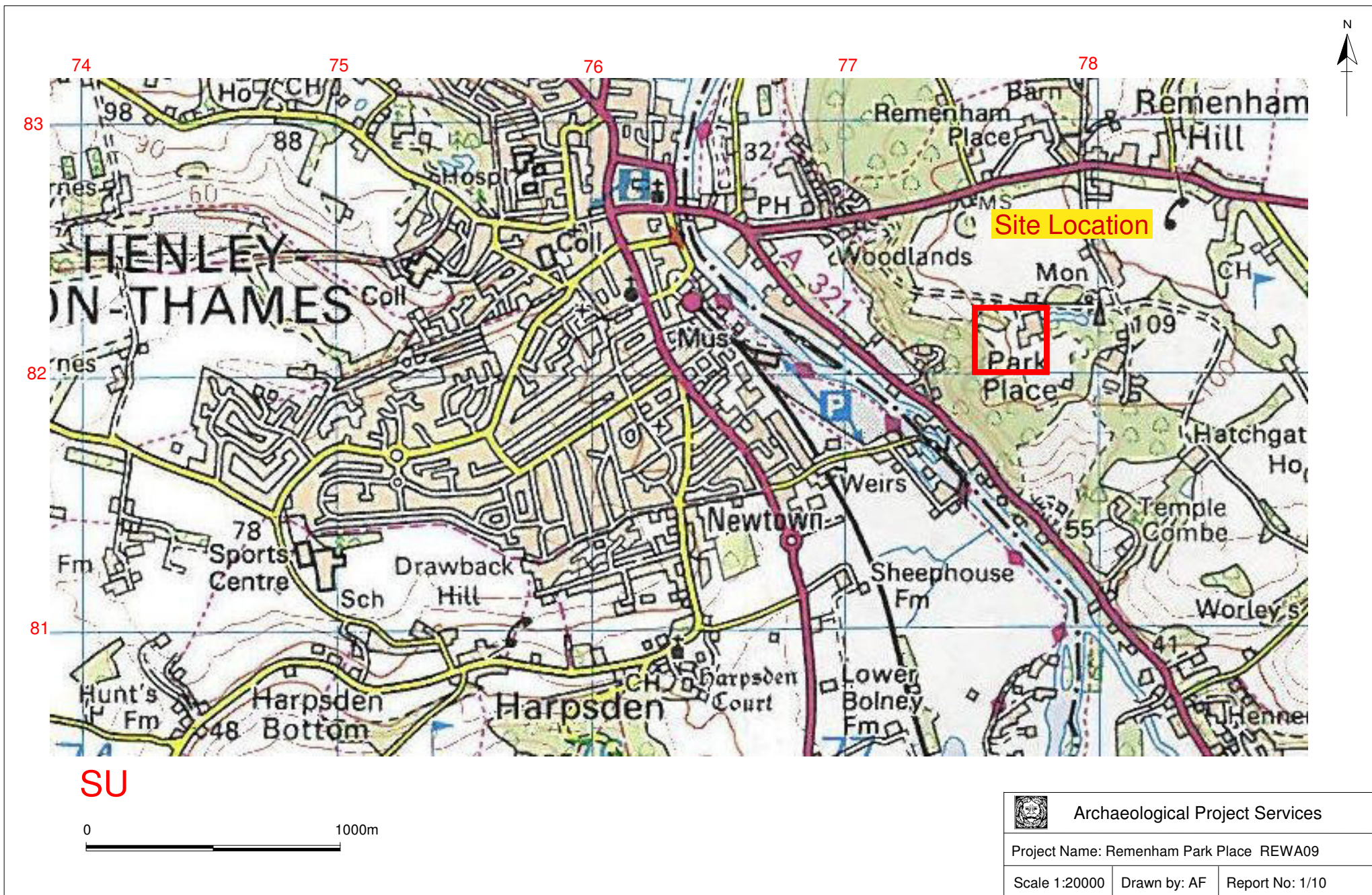


Figure 2 Site Location

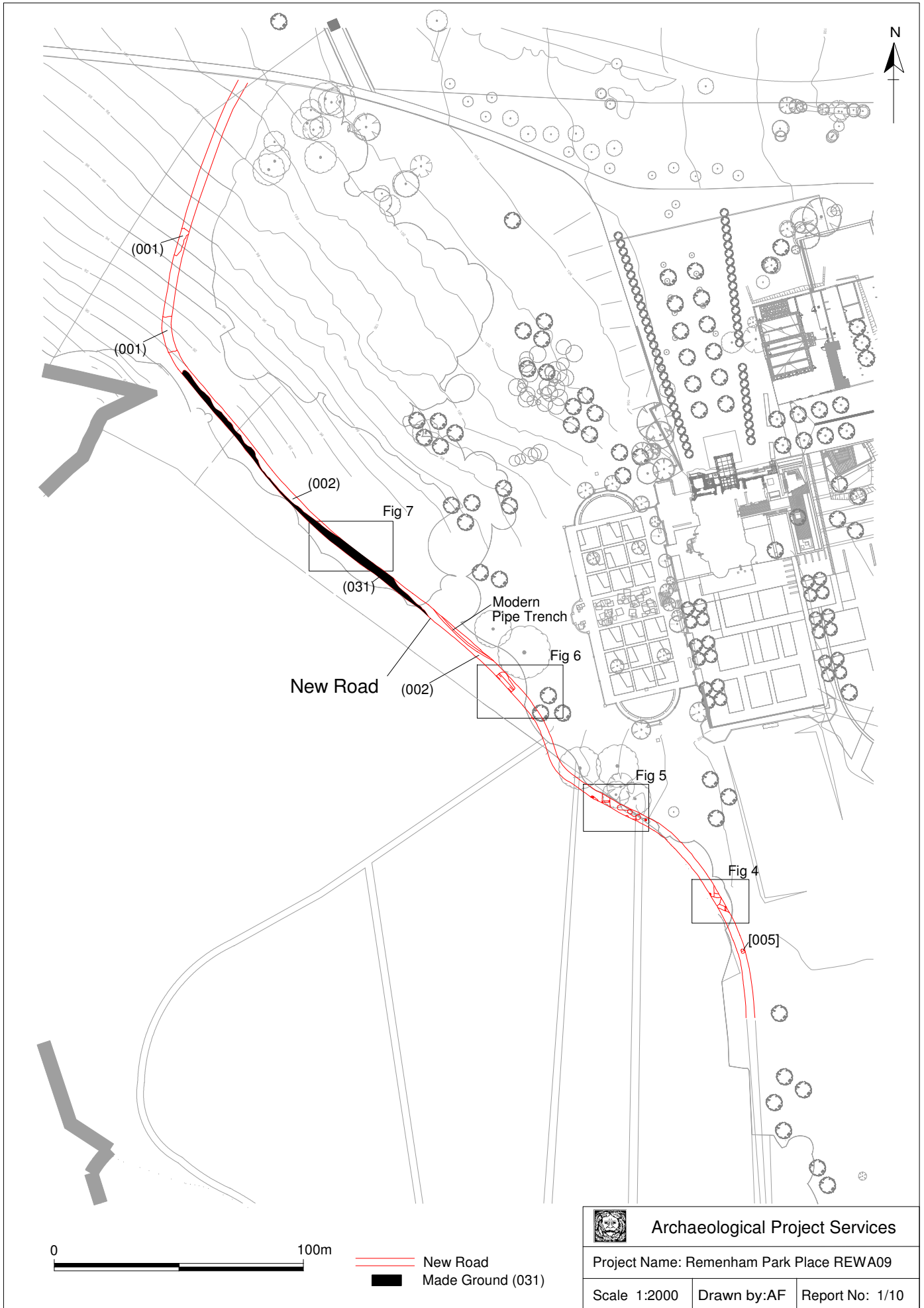


Figure 3 - Plan of new road with figure locations

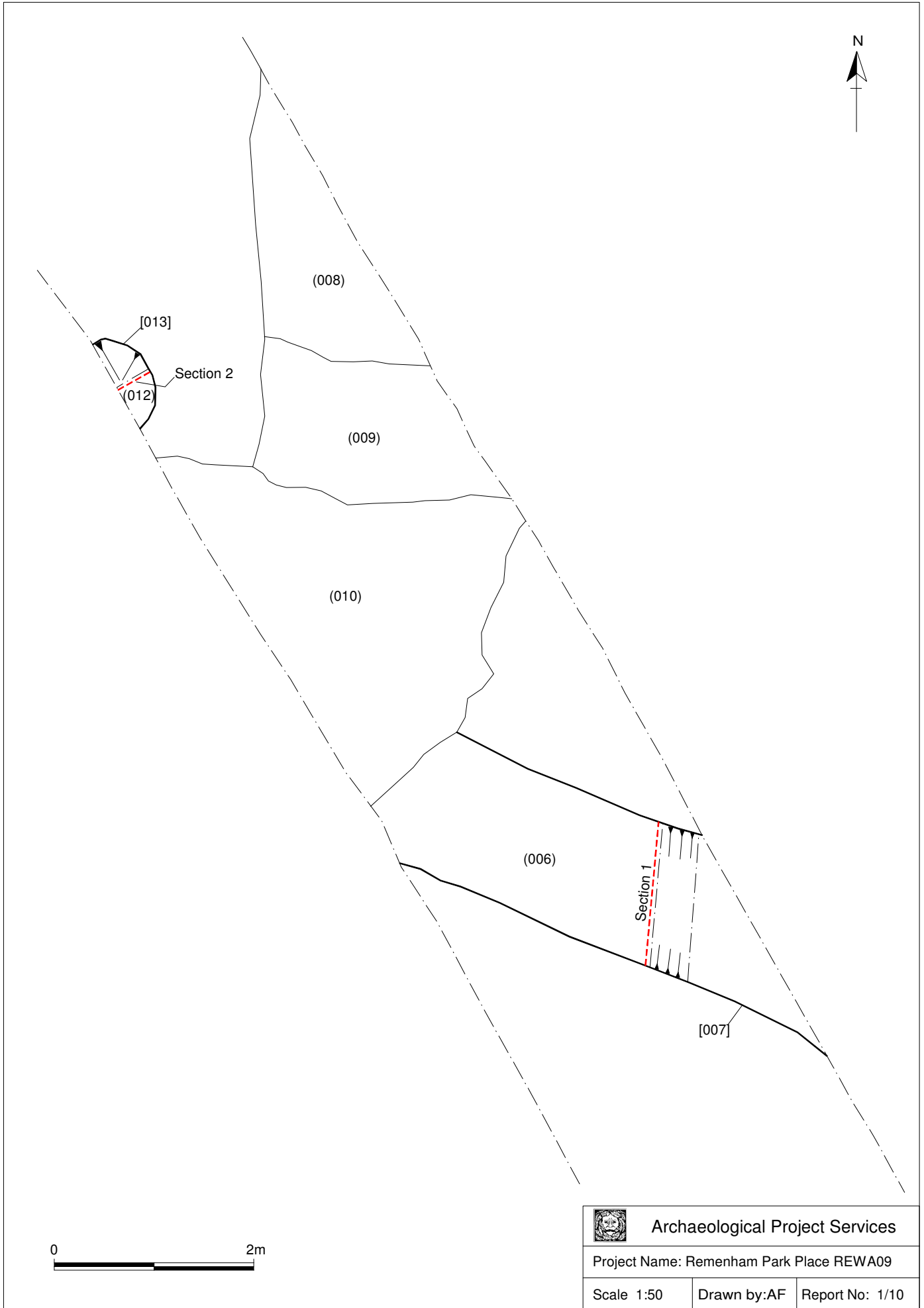


Figure 4 - Ditch [007] and pit [013]

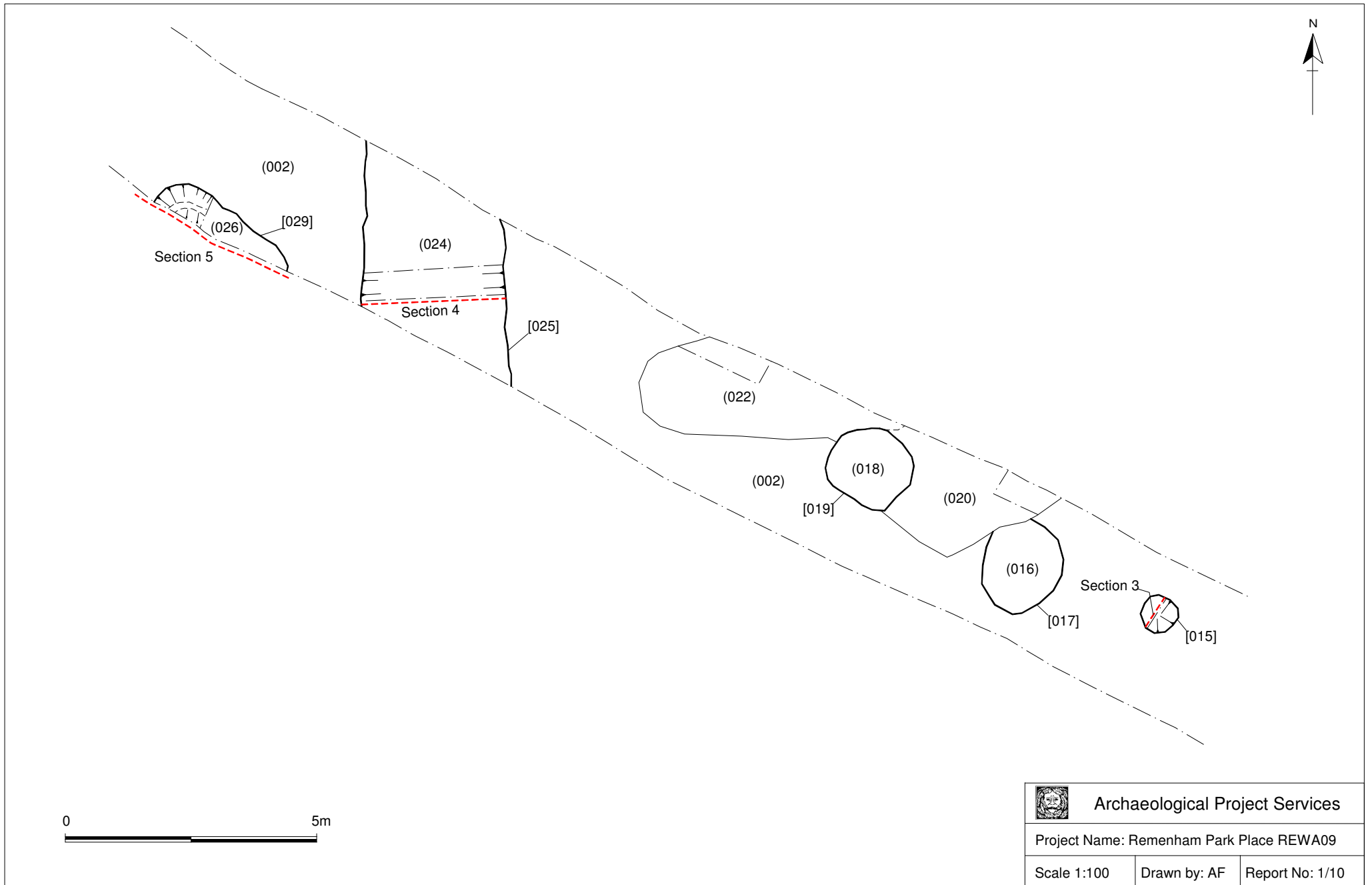



Figure 5 - Pits [015], [017], [019], coach path [025] and feature [029]

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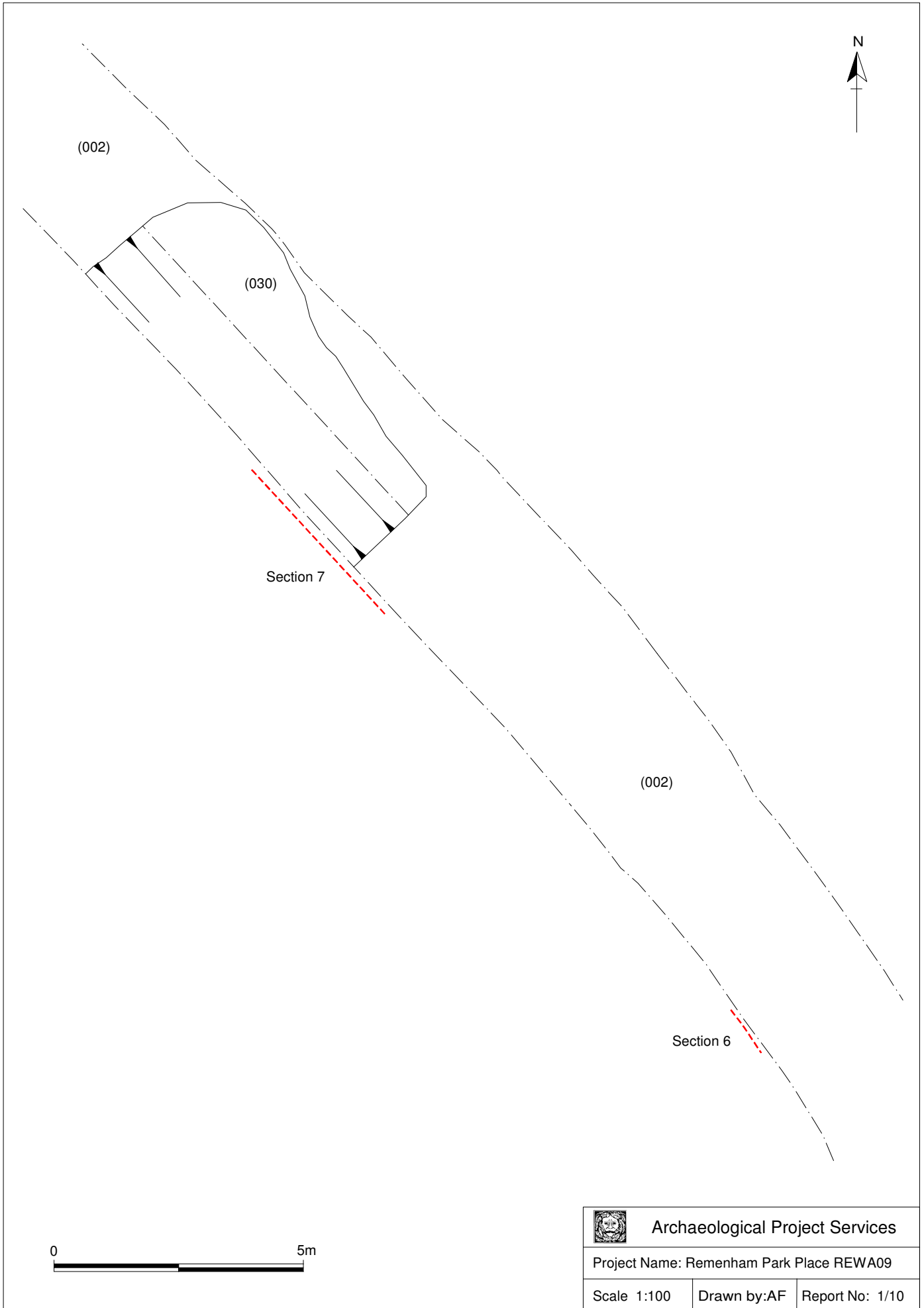
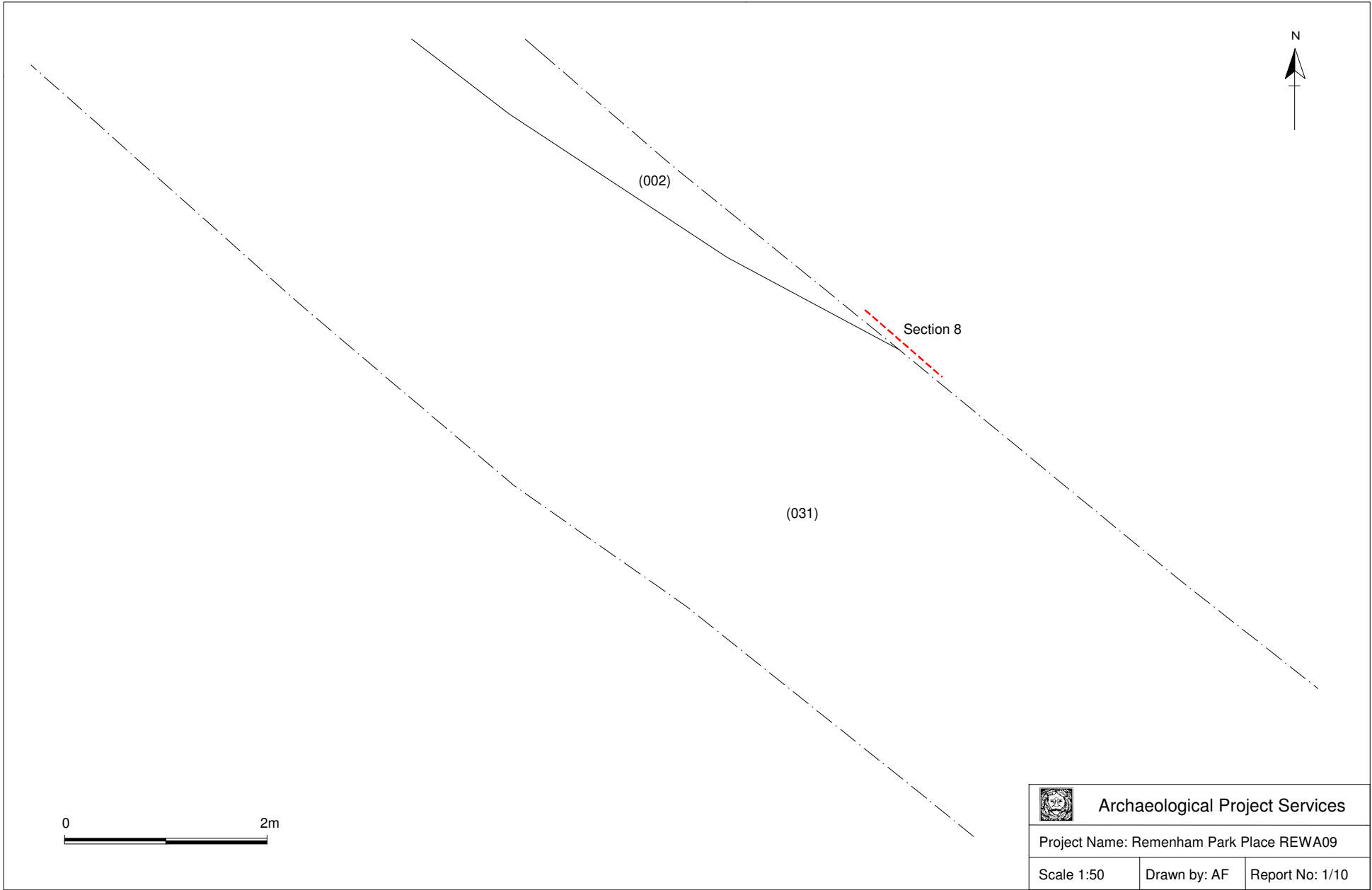


Figure 6 - Spread of deposit (030) and location of Sections 6 and 7




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Figure 7 - Section 8

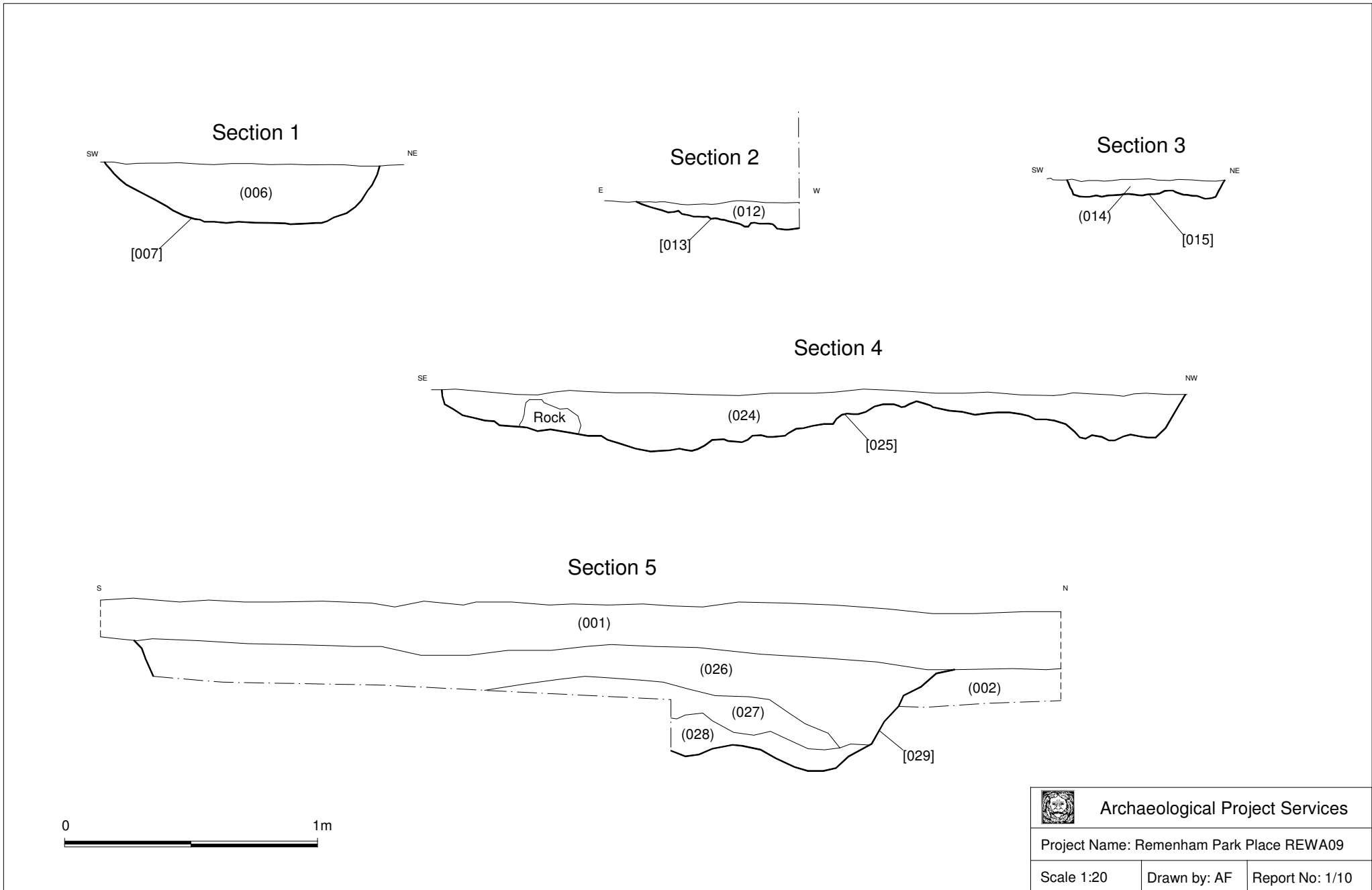
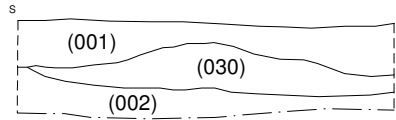
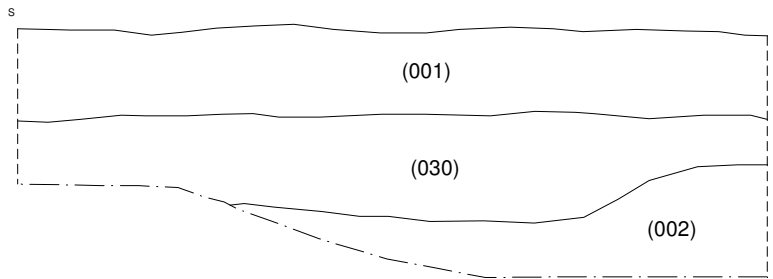


Figure 8 - Sections 1-5

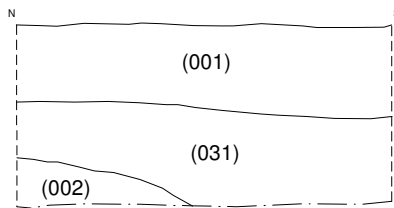
Section 6



Section 7



Section 8




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Figure 9 - Sections 6-8



Plate 1 – New road, looking north



Plate 2 – Section 1, ditch [007]



Plate 3 – Section 2, pit [013]



Plate 4 – Section 3, pit [015]



Plate 5 – Pit [017]



Plate 6 – Pit [019]



Plate 7 – Section 4, feature [025]



Plate 8 – Possible former coach path through the woods





Plate 9 – Section 5, feature [029]



Plate 10 – Section 6



Plate 11 – Spread of deposit (030)



Plate 12 – Section 7



Plate 13 – Section 8



Plate 14 – New road looking south, showing spread of deposit (031)



Plate 15 – Northern end of new road, looking south

## Appendix 1

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Friable dark greyish brown clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, up to 0.25m thick	Topsoil deposit
002	Firm greyish white chalk with flints	Natural chalk
003	Friable mid brown and white speckled clayey sand with frequent flints, frequent chalk flecks and fragments and moderate fragments of CBM	Layer of modern overburden
004	Firm yet friable mid yellowish brown silty clay	Fill of [005]
005	Circular feature approximately 1.25m in diameter	Tree bowl
006	Firm dark yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent lumps of chalk and frequent flints	Fill of [007]
007	Linear feature oriented northwest-southeast and measuring 1.11m wide x 0.24m deep steep slightly concave sides breaking gradually to a flat base	Ditch
008	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent flints	Layer of overburden
009	Firm dark brown sandy clay with frequent flints and fragments of charcoal	Topsoil
010	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent flints	Layer of overburden
011	Void	Void
012	Firm dark brown sandy clay with frequent chalk flecks and fragments and frequent flecks of CBM	Fill of [013]
013	Circular feature at least 0.64m wide x 0.95m long x 0.10m deep with shallow irregular sides breaking gradually to an irregular base	Pit cut
014	Firm dark brown sandy clay with white chalk speckles and occasional CBM fragments	Fill of [015]
015	Circular feature, 0.60m in diameter with steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base	Circular cut
016	Firm dark brown sandy clay with frequent chalk lumps and fragments, occasional flecks of CBM and moderate flints	Fill of [017]
017	Circular/ovoid cut 1.60m wide x 1.75m long	Pit cut
018	Firm yet friable dark to mid brown clayey sand with frequent chalk and CBM fragments and occasional flints	Pit [019]
019	Circular/ovoid cut 1.58m long x 1.54m wide	Circular cut
020	Firm dark brown sandy clay with frequent flint and chalk fragments, frequent CBM/Brick	Fill of [019]

	fragments and occasional pieces of stone masonry	
021	VOID	VOID
022	Firm dark brown sandy clay with frequent flint and chalk fragments, frequent CBM/Brick fragments and occasional pieces of stone masonry	Fill of [023]
023	VOID	VOID
024	Firm yet friable mid to dark greyish brown sandy clay with frequent flints and chalk flecks and fragments	Fill of [025]
025	Linear cut oriented roughly north-south and measuring 3.11m wide x 0.24m deep with concave side braking gradually to an irregular base	Old coach path
026	Frim mid brown clayey sand with a moderate amount of chalk lumps and fragments and moderate pebbles, up to 0.36m thick	Fill of (029)
027	Hard white with mid brown speckled clayey sand and chalk with frequent flints, 0.15m thick	Fill of (029)
028	Hard mid reddish brown with white speckles, sandy clay and chalk with frequent flints and pebbles, 0.17m thick	Fill of [[029]
029	Ovoid cut at least 0.65m wide x 2.85m long x 0.31m deep with steep fairly straight sides breaking gradually to an irregular base	Ovoid feature
030	Firm to hard mid yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent charcoal flecks, 0.12m thick	Layer of subsoil/made up ground?

## Appendix 2

**THE FINDS****POST ROMAN POTTERY***By Alex Beeby and Anne Boyle***Introduction**

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). A total of 1 sherd from 1 vessel, weighing 7 grams was recovered from the site.

**Methodology**

The piece was weighed and then examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1. The pottery dates to between the 18th and 20th Century.

**Condition**

The sherd is fairly small but fresh.

**Results**

*Table #, Post Roman Pottery Archive*

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Date
014	LERTH	Late Earthen Ware	Garden Pot	1	1	7	Rim	18th-20th

**Provenance**

The sherd came from fill (014) within circular feature [015]

**Range**

There is a single sherd of Late earthen ware from a garden or 'flower' pot.

**Potential**

The sherd poses no problem for long term storage and should be retained as part of the archive.

**Summary**

A single fragment of pottery dating to the 18th-20th centuries was recovered during the evaluation.

**CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL***By Alex Beeby and Anne Boyle***Introduction**

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). A total of 13 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 2038 grams was recovered from the site.

**Methodology**

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Archive Catalogue 1.

**Condition**

The material is a mixture of large fresh pieces and small abraded fragments. The average fragment weight is relatively high at 157 grams though the assemblage includes one large piece of brick weighing 1111 grams, making this average rather unrepresentative. Two pieces have a dark deposit on the upper or outer surface perhaps due to exposure to heat or aerial pollution. Two further fragments have plaster, cement or mortar deposits on at least one surface and five more are counted as abraded or very abraded.

## Results

Table 2, the Ceramic Building Material

Cname	Full name	NoF	W(g)
CBM	Ceramic Building Material	5	97
MOD TILE	Modern Moulded Tile	1	458
MODERN BRICK	Modern Brick	3	1343
MODTIL	Modern Tile	2	115
RTMISC	Roman or Post-Roman Tile	2	25
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>2038</b>

## Provenance

Ceramic building material was recovered from the fills of four circular features. These were fill (012) within [013], (014) within [015], (016) within [017], and (018) and (020) within [019]. A single fragment was also retrieved from layer (022).

## Range

There is a range of modern material represented within this assemblage including a moulded tile, three modern bricks and two other handmade modern tiles. In addition there is a piece of unidentifiable tile and five fragments of abraded, undiagnostic ceramic building material.

### The Bricks

All of the bricks are handmade and sand moulded. One of the pieces, from (020), is an unusual form, which seems to taper to a point. It is probably a shaped example, perhaps an arch brick. The brick from layer (022) is a standard rectangular type, but it has an unusual rounded frog. This brick probably dates to the mid 19th century, whilst the other bricks are more generally dated to between the 18th – 19th centuries.

### The Tile

There are two different types of modern tile within the assemblage, a modern handmade flat roofer and a moulded decorative facing tile in a light firing clay. Both of these date to between the 18th and 19th centuries. Two small pieces of a single tile were also recovered, but these are too abraded to be certain of type or date.

### The Miscellaneous Ceramic Building Material

Five abraded fragments of undiagnostic, undatable ceramic building material were recovered from the site. One of these pieces may be part of a Medieval or Post Medieval brick.

## Potential

No further work is required on the assemblage. The material should be retained and should pose no problems for long term storage.

## Summary

A small group of modern building material was recovered from REWA09. This includes roof tile, brick and a decorative facing tile. All of the diagnostic material from this group dates to between the 18th and 19th Centuries.

## SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 3 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 3, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
012	Roman or Post Roman	Based on single fragment of CBM, possibly Med or Post Med Brick
014	19th – 20th Century	
016	18th - 19th Century	
018	18th to 19th Century	
020	18th to 19th Century	Based on single brick
022	Mid 19th Century	Based on single tile



**ABBREVIATIONS**

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
LHJ	Lower Handle Join
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
PCRG	Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group
TR	Trench
UHJ	Upper Handle Join
W (g)	Weight (grams)

**REFERENCES**

- ~ 2001, *Draft Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material*, third version [internet]. Available from <<http://www.geocities.com/acbmg1/CBMGDE3.htm>>
- Darling, M. J., 2004, 'Guidelines for the Archiving of Roman Pottery', *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* 11, 67-74
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**ARCHIVE CATALOGUE***Archive catalogue 1 Ceramic Building Material*

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
012	CBM	Ceramic Building Material	Dull oxidised; coarse sandy; moderate Flint and Ca Inclusions; poorly mixed clay	1	44	Med or p med Brick?; corner; dark upper surface poss burnt; poss slightly abraded?;	Roman or Post Roman
014	RTMISC	Roman or Post-Roman Tile	Bright Oxidised; Medium sandy; slightly micaceous; rare Ca and Fe	2	25	Prob P med tile; abraded; joining frags; single surface	Roman or Post Roman
016	MODTIL	Modern Tile	Pale Oxidised; Med Sandy; Pale and ferruginous fine clay pellets; streaks of Lighter firing clay	2	115	Flat roofer; struck upper; medium sanded base; 15mm thick	18th - 19th Century
016	CBM	Ceramic Building Material	Bright Oxidised; med Sandy; flint and Ca	1	22	V Abraded; single strip of surface with adhered cement; prob P med CBM	Roman or Post Roman
018	MOD TILE	Modern Moulded Tile	Light firing clay; med sandy	1	458	Modern moulded decorative facing tile; fixing material and /or plaster adhered to all surfaces	18th to 19th Century
018	MODERN BRICK	Modern Brick	Oxidised; flint; Ca; Fe inclusions	1	98	Single surface with Paint or salt surface deposit	18th - 19th Century
020	MODERN BRICK	Modern Brick	Oxidised; medium sandy; pellets and streaks of lighter firing clay; rare angular flint inclusions up to 5mm	1	134	Corner; poss organic imp on base; strange shape with pointed tip; arch brick?; dark deposit on one surface poss sooting	18th to 19th Century
022	CBM	Ceramic Building Material	Bright Oxidised; Medium sandy; pellets and streaks of Lighter firing clay; ferruginous inclusions	3	31	Very Abraded; single surface; joining frags; prob P Med	Post Medieval

022	MODERN BRICK	Modern Brick	Oxidised; fine sandy; Ca Inclusions	1	1111	Sand Moulded; struck base; even arises; unusual rounded frog; mortar dep on top and single side; 67mm thick	Mid 19th Century
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## Appendix 3

### GLOSSARY

<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Domesday Survey</b>	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
<b>Fill</b>	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
<b>Neolithic</b>	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

## Appendix 4

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

31	Context records
2	Photographic record sheet
1	Section record sheet
1	Plan record sheet
6	Daily record sheet
1	Levels sheet
8	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Box of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services  
The Old School  
Cameron Street  
Heckington  
Sleaford  
Lincolnshire  
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Museum of Reading,  
Town Hall,  
Blagrove St,  
Reading  
Berkshire  
RG1 1QH

Accession Number:

REDMG: 2009

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

REWA09

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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