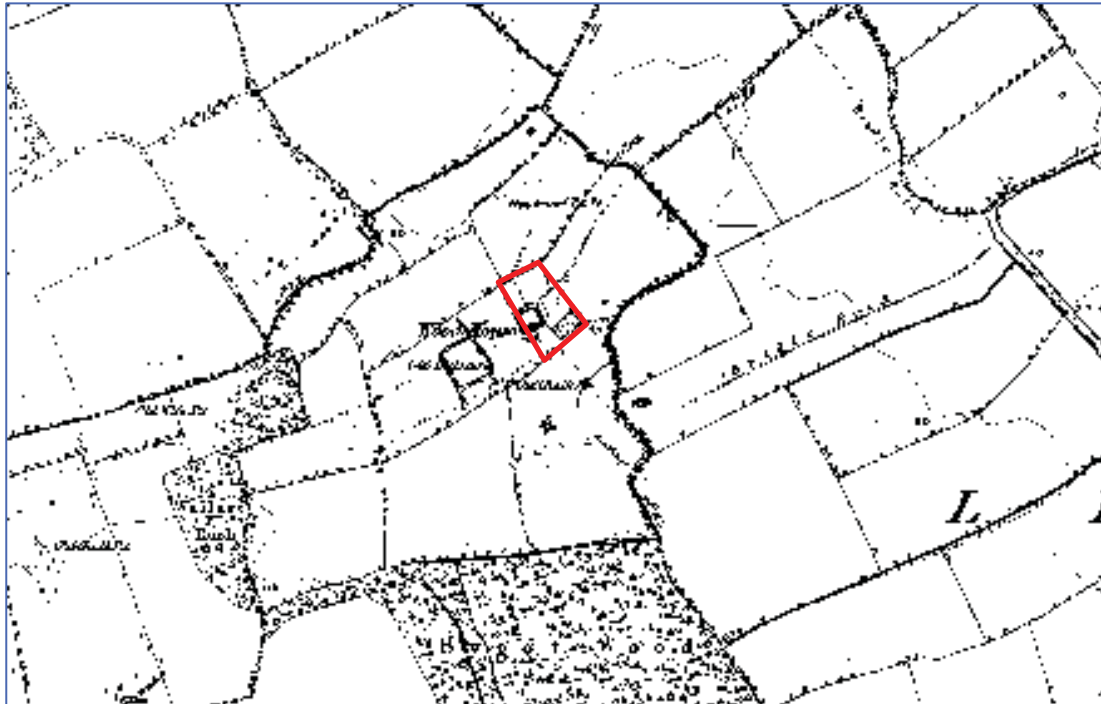


**REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND RECORD:
LAND AT WOODHOUSE FARM, LECONFIELD, EAST YORKSHIRE**

Planning Reference: DC0//01718/PLF
NGR: SE 99842 44136
AAL Site Code: LEWF 09
OASIS Reference Number: allenarc1-61841



Report prepared for One Nation Renewables Limited
On behalf of H. Lount and Sons

By
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Report Number 2009032

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Summary

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by One Nation Renewables Limited, on behalf of their client H. Lount and Sons, to undertake a strip, map and record scheme in advance of the construction of a wind turbine on land at Woodhouse Farm, Leconfield, East Yorkshire.
- There is abundant evidence for archaeological activity in the vicinity of the site. A Roman kiln has been excavated nearby, and there are cropmarks indicative of later prehistoric or Romano-British activity close to the site. The site is also near to the presumed location of the medieval Belagh Grange.
- A single trench measuring approximately 3m by 3m was excavated over the footprint of the proposed new wind turbine. No significant archaeological artefacts or deposits were exposed, beyond a single ceramic land drain of probable Victorian date.

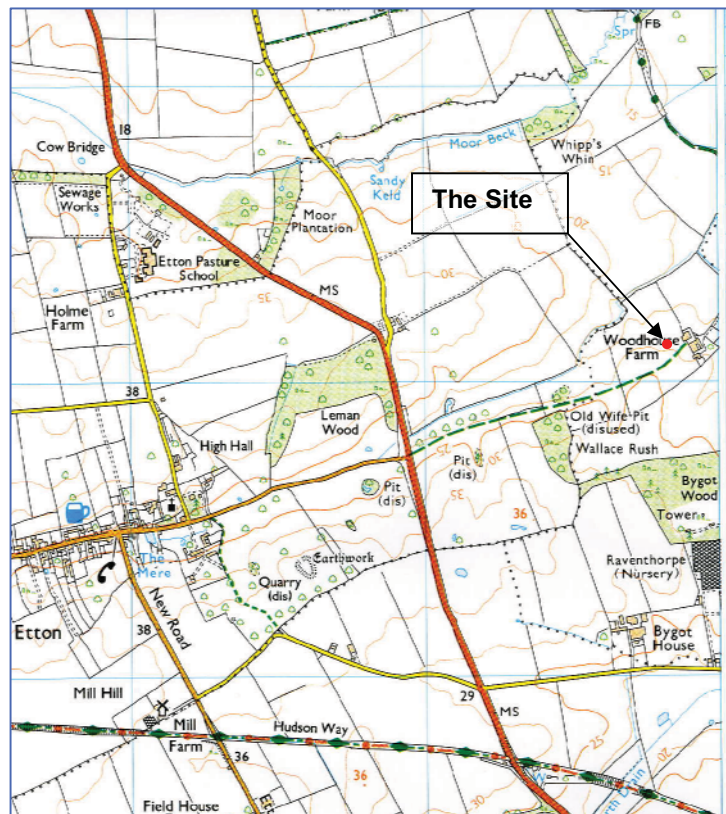


Figure 1: Site location at scale 1:25,000, with the site in red
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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by One Nation Renewables Limited, on behalf of their client H. Lount and Sons to carry out an archaeological strip, map and record on land at Woodhouse Farm, Leconfield, East Yorkshire.
- 1.2 The excavation, recording and reporting conforms to current national guidelines, as set out in the Institute for Archaeologists '*Standards and guidance for archaeological excavation*' (IfA 2001), a specification prepared by this company (Clay 2009), and the English Heritage document '*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*' (English Heritage 2006). All appropriate English Heritage guidelines on archaeological practice were also followed (www.helm.org/server/show/nav.7740).
- 1.3 The archive will be submitted to Hull and East Riding Museum within six months of the completion of the report.

2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Leconfield is situated approximately 4km north-north-west of central Beverley, in the East Riding of Yorkshire. Woodhouse Farm is approximately 1.5km west-north-west of the village, with the area of works located to the west of the farm, in open agricultural land. The proposed development area centres on NGR SE 99842 44136.
- 2.2 The local geology comprises drift deposits of glacial till, overlying a solid geology of undivided Welton and Burnham Chalk (British Geological Survey 1995).

3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 A planning application was submitted to East Riding of Yorkshire Council in March 2008 for the 'erection of a 20 KW wind turbine on an 18 metre tower with a 10 metre rotor blade diameter' (Planning Application Reference 08/01718/PLF). The application was granted in January 2009, with conditions, including the undertaking a programme of archaeological investigation and recording in advance of the construction of the proposed turbine.

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 There is no evidence of prehistoric activity within the proposed development area. Five possible Bronze Age round barrows are recorded approximately 1km to the west-north-west of the site, three of which were excavated during the 19th century. One barrow contained a central cremation associated with a number of flints, while the other two contained central inhumations (National Monuments Record Reference 64298 (hereafter NMR)).
- 4.2 Aerial photography has identified a NW – SE aligned double ditched linear feature approximately 350m to the north-north-east, representing a possible trackway of prehistoric date (NMR Reference 1430033).
- 4.3 A Romano-British pottery kiln was excavated at Woodhouse Farm in 1958 approximately 50m to the south-south-west of the proposed wind turbine. The kiln produced a significant quantity

of pottery suggesting that it was in use in the period c.150 – 250 AD (NMR Reference 64305). Further cropmarks of Roman or later prehistoric enclosures and trackways have been recorded by aerial photography just over 100m south of the site (NMR Reference 1214265).

- 4.4 Leconfield appears in the Domesday Book, suggesting its origins lie in the late Saxon period. At the time of the Domesday Survey land was owned by the Archbishop of York, as well as the Count of Mortain; with the latter's estates including a fishery yielding 4000 eels (Williams and Martin 2002).
- 4.5 Medieval activity has been identified approximately 200m to the south-east of the site, where soil marks and aerial photographic cropmarks have been interpreted as evidence for the site of Belagh Grange, a holding of the Cistercian Meaux Abbey (NMR Reference 910694).

5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 The fieldwork was carried out by a team of two experienced field archaeologists, supervised by the author, on Monday June 29th 2009. An excavation area of 3m by 3m, slightly larger than the proposed footprint of the new turbine was marked out by the client in advance.
- 5.2 Machine excavation was carried out with a tracked excavator fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless dykeing bucket. Under close archaeological supervision, the soil was removed in spits not exceeding 10cm in depth until the first archaeologically significant horizon or natural geology was exposed.
- 5.3 A full written record of the archaeological and natural deposits was made on standard AAL context recording sheets. Plans and sections were drawn to scale (1:20), with Ordnance Datum heights being displayed on each class of drawing. Photography formed an integral part of the recording strategy (using both colour slide and monochrome films). All photographs incorporated scales, an identification board and directional arrow, and a selection of these images has been included in Appendix 1.

6.0 Results (Figures 2 and 3)

- 6.1 The uppermost deposit removed by machine was a modern ploughsoil, 01, comprising a dark brown clayey silt. This directly overlay the natural geology, an orange/brown silty clay, 02.
- 6.2 A single narrow linear feature, [03] was exposed running across the trench on a north-west to south-east alignment. It contained a single undated backfill of brown silty clay, 04, and was cut into the natural geology 02. A hand excavated slot of the feature exposed a ceramic land drain at the base of the cut, at a depth of c.1m below the modern ground surface.
- 6.3 Following excavation of a slot through land drain cut [03], machine excavation of the trench was monitored to a depth of approximately 1.1m below the modern ground surface. This served to confirm that the natural geological layer 02 was consistent to the excavated depth and continued beyond the limit of excavation. No further features were recorded.

7.0 Discussion and Conclusion

- 7.1 The strip, map and record exercise has shown that no archaeological deposits of significance would be impacted upon within the footprint of the proposed wind turbine. Only a single ceramic land drain of probable 19th or early 20th century date was recorded directly below the modern ploughsoil, cutting through the natural boulder clay.

8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

- 8.1 The strip, map and record methodology was appropriate to the scale and nature of the development. It has shown that the proposed development will have a negligible impact on the local archaeological resource.

9.0 Acknowledgements

- 9.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank One Nation Renewables Limited, and their client, H. Lount and Sons for this commission, and for their cooperation during the fieldwork.

10.0 Bibliography

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11.0 Site Archive

- 11.1 The documentary archive is currently in the possession of Allen Archaeology Limited. It will be submitted to Hull and East Riding Museum within six months of the completion of the project.

Appendix 1: Colour Plates



Plate 1: General view of the proposed development area during machining, looking north-west



Plate 2: General view of the trench after machine excavation, looking north-north-west



Plate 3: East-north-east facing section showing land-drain cut [03]. Looking west-south-west

Appendix 2: Context Summary List

| Context No. | Type | Description | Interpretation |
|-------------|-------|--|-----------------------------|
| 01 | Layer | Dark brown, slightly clayey silt. Seals 02 | Modern topsoil |
| 02 | Layer | Mid orangey brown, silty clay with occasional small sub-angular stones. Sealed by 01 | Natural geology |
| 03 | Cut | East-north-east to west-south-west aligned linear with steep sides and flat base. Contains 04, cuts 02 | Cut of ceramic land drain |
| 04 | Fill | Mid brown silty clay | Backfill of land drain [03] |

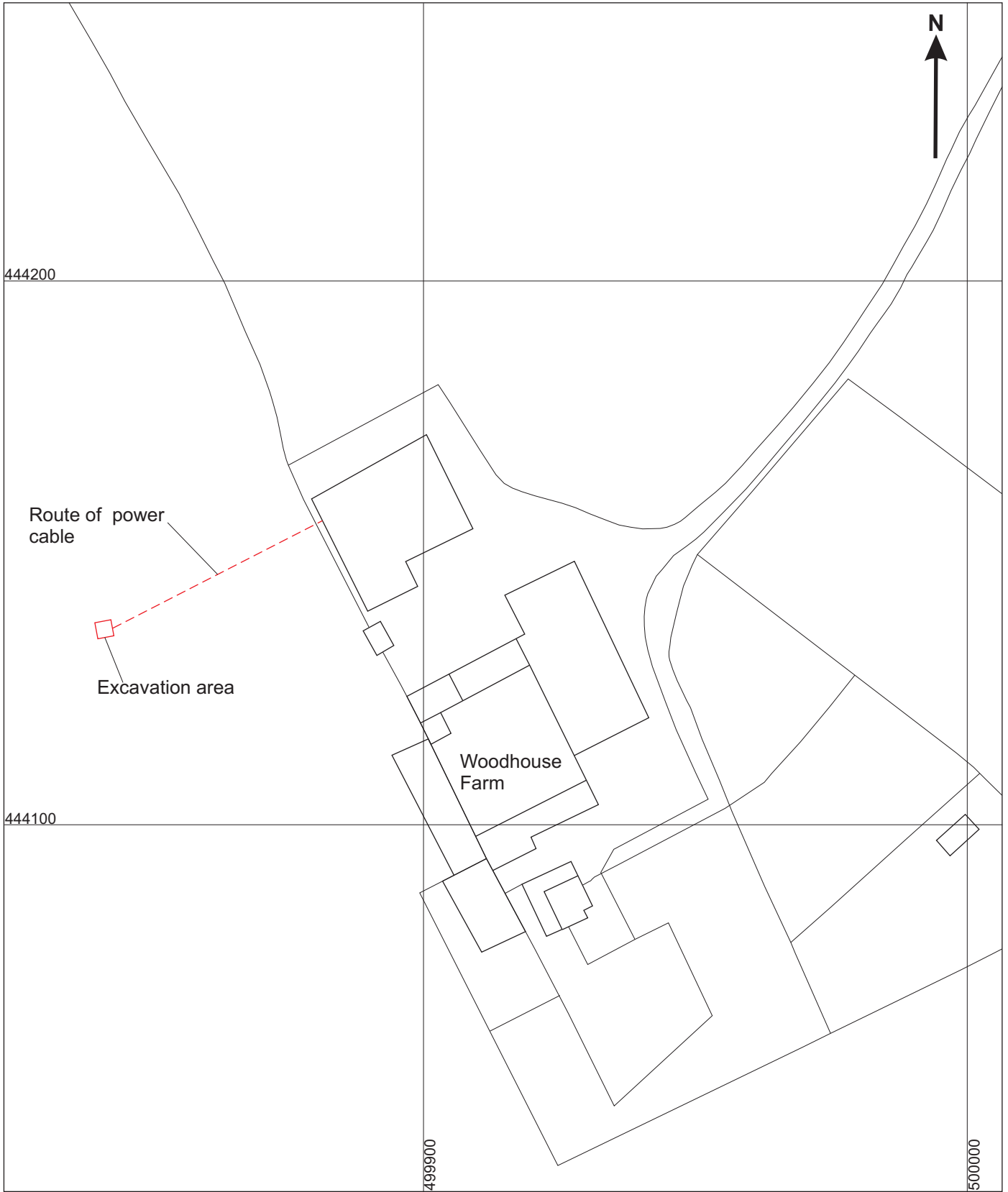


Figure 2: Location of excavation area and power cable trench in red at scale 1:1000

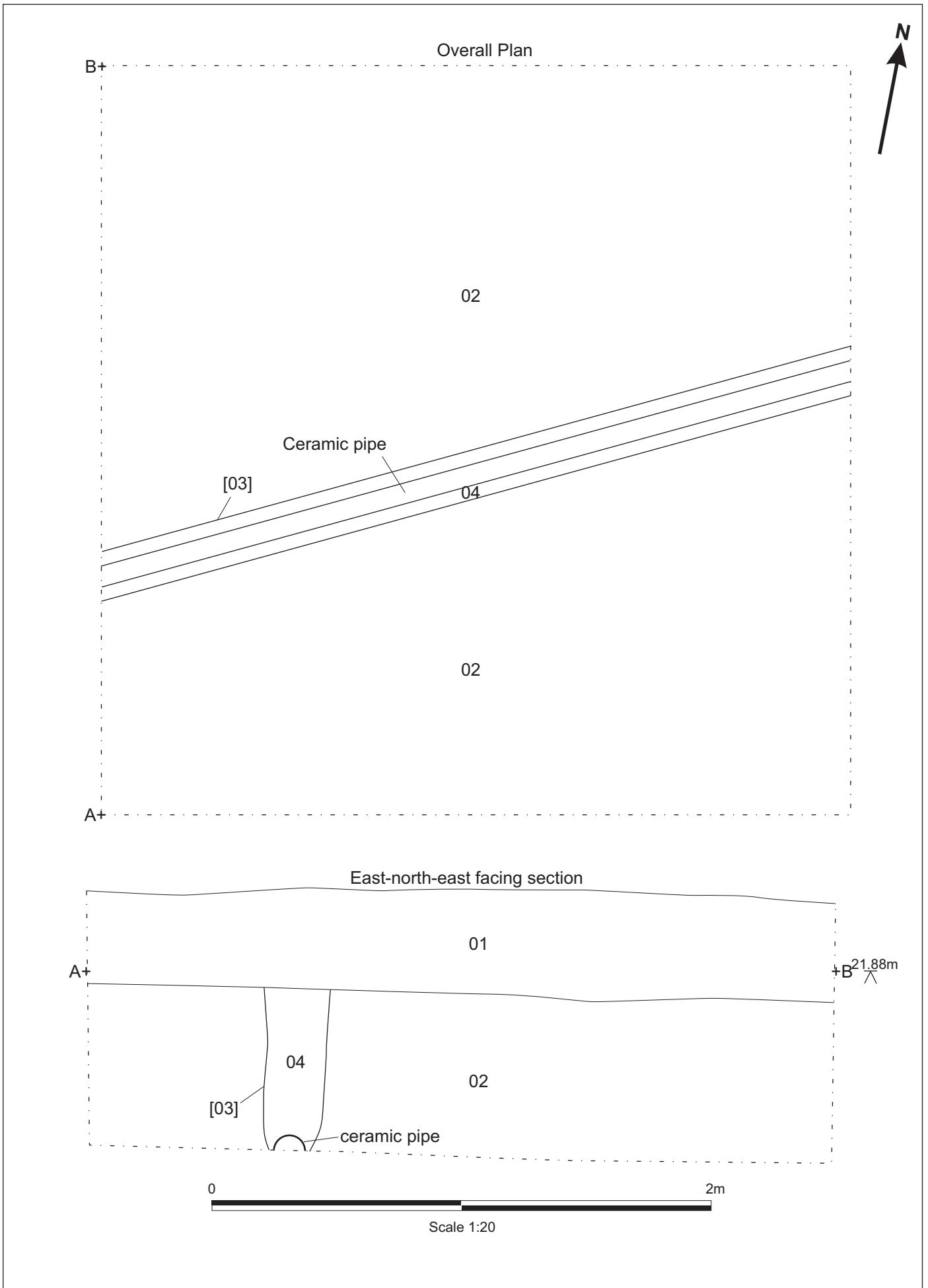


Figure 3: Plan and section of excavation area at scale 1:20