

# Poundfield Products, Creting St. Peter, Suffolk

*Archaeological Monitoring Report*

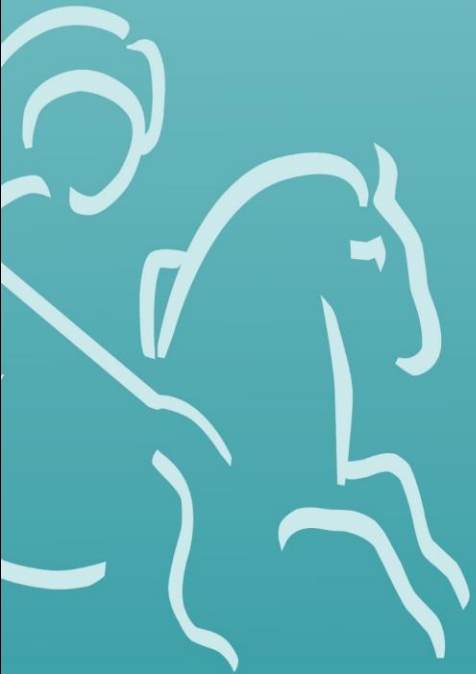


*for:*  
Tim Capey

*on behalf of:*  
Poundfield Products Ltd.

CA Project: SU0411  
CA Report: SU0411\_1  
OASIS ID: Cotswold2-505884  
HER Ref: CRP 031

October 2022





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## *Archaeological Monitoring Report*

CA Project: SU0411  
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Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	10/10/22	Michael Green	Stuart Boulter	Internal review	Quality Control	Stuart Boulter

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## CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	3
1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	5
<i>Prehistoric</i> .....	5
<i>Roman</i> .....	6
<i>Anglo-Saxon and medieval</i> .....	6
<i>Post-medieval and modern</i> .....	7
<i>Undated</i> .....	8
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	8
4. METHODOLOGY .....	8
5. RESULTS.....	9
6. THE FINDS .....	10
7. DISCUSSION.....	12
8. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	12
9. REFERENCES.....	12
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS .....	14
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	15
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM .....	16

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## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000 @ A4)

Fig. 2 HER Data (1:25,000 A4)

Fig. 3 Site Plan showing previous evaluation trenches (1:300 @ A3)

Fig. 4 Section and Photographs (1:20 @ A3)

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project name:</b>	Poundfield Products,
<b>Location:</b>	Creting St. Peter, Suffolk
<b>NGR:</b>	608508 256774
<b>Type:</b>	Archaeological Monitoring
<b>Date:</b>	08th – 12th August 2022
<b>Planning reference:</b>	DC/19/02918
<b>OASIS ID:</b>	Cotswold2-505884
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
<b>Site Code:</b>	CRP 031

In August 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological monitoring during groundworks associated with the development of a new parking area at Poundfield Products Ltd, Creting St. Peter, Suffolk.

One feature, a large ditch was recorded which had also been uncovered during the evaluation phase. A large modern disturbance was recorded truncating this ditch at the southern edge of the site. The only find recovered from the ditch was an iron horseshoe of 16th – 18th century date.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In August 2022, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at Poundfields Products Ltd, Creeting St Peter, Suffolk. (centred at NGR: 608508 256774; Fig. 1). This watching brief was undertaken for Tim Capey who were acting on behalf of Poundfields Products Ltd.
- 1.2. A condition placed on the consent for this and a separate planning application for land to the south-east of the existing site, by Hannah Cutler of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) under the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2021), required a programme of archaeological mitigation to be completed. Initially, this involved a trenched evaluation (CA 2021), the results of which were used to inform the need for additional archaeological work. While SCCAS have not prepared a Brief for this work, they have indicated that it should involve Continuous Archaeological Monitoring of all groundworks associated with the smaller, c.0.27 hectares, car park site (Figs. 1 and 3).
- 1.3. The watching brief was also in line with *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

### The site

- 1.4. The c.0.27-hectare site is located in the Mid Suffolk district of Suffolk, in the civil parish of Creeting St. Peter and lies at c.34m AOD on the sides of a spur of land overlooking the River Gipping to the south-west and two of its small tributaries to the west and east (Fig. 1). It is located just south of Mill Lane, to the north of the extant Poundfield Products site with open fields to the north and west.
- 1.5. The surface geology is mapped as Lowestoft Formation – Diamicton, superficial deposits formed up to two million years ago in the Quaternary Period in a local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions. These sedimentary deposits are glacial in origin, detrital, created by the action of ice and meltwater; they can form a wide range of deposits and geomorphologies associated with glacial and inter-glacial periods during the Quaternary. The underlying bedrock geology is mapped as close to the boundary between Crag Group – sand and gravel and Chalk. The former is a sedimentary bedrock formed up to five million years ago in the



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Quaternary and Neogene Periods in a local environment previously dominated by shallow seas. These sedimentary rocks are shallow-marine in origin, detrital, ranging from coarse- to fine-grained (locally with some carbonate content) and forming an interbedded sequence: the latter, Newhaven Chalk Formation is a sedimentary rock formed approximately seventy-two to eighty-six million years ago in the Cretaceous Period in a local environment previously dominated by warm chalk seas. These are shallow marine in origin, biogenic and detrital, generally comprising carbonate material (coccoliths), forming distinctive beds of chalk (BGS 2022).

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The SCCAS evaluation Brief had stated that *“both sites are located in an area of archaeological potential recorded on the County Historic Environment Record and the valley of the river Gipping has significant archaeological deposits relating to all periods. The easternmost of the two evaluation areas (DC/19/02918) is topographically favourable for archaeological activity with known cropmarks (CRP 005), a probable enclosure, located within the proposed development site itself. In addition, other sites in the vicinity (CRP 002, CRP 003 and CRM 017) may relate to prehistoric burial mounds. The larger area to the west (DC/20/05244) is close to known cropmarks and finds including field systems and ring-ditches (CRP 005, CRP 008, CRP 012, CRP 013, CRP 017) and lies immediately to the west of the historic Grove Farm site.”*
- 2.2. The eastern plot, the subject to this additional phase of works, was archaeologically more interesting (Fig. 3). Two pits were recorded in Trench 15, one of which dated, from ceramic evidence, to the 12th - 14th century while a large undated ditch was identified in Trench 14 (Fig. 3). This feature is likely to represent part of an enclosure known from a cropmark recorded in the National Mapping Programme (NMP) and was also located in close proximity to a trackway noted on early OS mapping (Figs. 2 and 3).
- 2.3. Subsequently, as part of the evaluation (CA 2021), a 1km radius search of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) was commissioned and other readily available sources were interrogated. The details of this search are included below.

### **Prehistoric**

- 2.4. Evidence for prehistoric activity in the area is limited to cropmarks that may represent features of prehistoric date. The earliest record within the HER is the possible location

of a Neolithic Long barrow 530m south of the site (BAD 007), whilst cropmarks relating to possible Bronze Age barrows are frequent within the vicinity of the site and within the valley of the River Gipping. Locations of these are listed below:

Distance and orientation from Site	HER code
390m Northwest	CRP 008
530m South	BAD 006 and BAD 028
550m Southeast	CRM 014
570m Northeast	CRP 003
580m WNW	CRP 002
630m Southeast	CRM 028
730m South	CRM 052 and CRM 012
800m Northeast	CRM 017

Table 1: Locations of possible Bronze Age barrows

A cropmark of an oval shaped enclosure of possible prehistoric date has been identified 530m south of the site (BAD 005) close to cropmarks interpreted as possible barrows (BAD 006 and BAD 028).

### **Roman**

- 2.5. Evidence of Roman activity in the search area is limited to a few findspots. An artefact scatter (CRM 028) and a single brooch (CRM 031) were recovered 630m and 650m southeast of the site respectively, whilst an artefact scatter identified from metal detecting (BAD 016) and a Roman vessel and coin hoard (BAD 004 or BAD 002) were recovered 530m and 690m south of the site respectively.

There is extensive evidence of Roman activity just beyond the 1km search radius close to the town of Stowmarket. A Roman enclosure, post and slot building, a villa, wells, ovens, field system and burials were identified 2km to the west of the site (SKT 018).

### **Anglo-Saxon and medieval**

- 2.6. The site is located on the outskirts of the Parish of Creting St. Peter, although is in fact located 200m closer to the parish church of Creting St. Mary. The present settlement of Creting St. Peter likely originated during the earlier medieval period. It was referred to within the Domesday survey (1086) as *Cratina* (Williams 2003), translated as “*the settlement of the family or followers of a man called Cræta*” (Mills 2003, 138). Creting St. Peter was in the Hundred of Stowmarket whilst Creting St. Mary was located in the Hundred of Bosmere. Creting St. Peter was listed under

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seven owners with a recorded population of sixty-four households in 1086, putting it in the largest 20% of settlements recorded in the Domesday (opendomesday.org).

It is likely the early medieval settlements in the area were located close to the parish church of St. Peter (940m northwest of the site; CRP 004), and St. Mary (770m east of the site; CRP 018).

Two possible medieval moated enclosures have been identified by cropmarks in the vicinity of the site. The first was circular in shape and only backfilled and levelled in 1959 (CRP 001, 380m west of the site), the second is rectangular and located 630m east of the site (CRM 073).

Several artefact scatters of Anglo-Saxon and medieval finds have been found throughout the area. A medieval artefact scatter of pottery and metalwork, including a gilded decorative mount of a stylized human figure (CRM 028) were found 630m southeast of the site, whilst two coins of Edward the 1st (CRM 030) were found 700m southeast of the site. A further artefact scatter of metalwork, including a buckle and token (BAD 016) were found 530m south of the site and 690m south of the site two, tentatively identified, Anglo-Saxon bronze hanging bowls were found during the construction of a railway cutting (BAD 002 or BAD 004).

### *Post-medieval and modern*

- 2.7. The site is located in the grounds of Grove Farm a 16th century Grade II listed farmhouse and outbuildings (CRP 022). The northern evaluation area is located over the top of an undated sub-rectangular enclosure (CRP 005) that has been identified by cropmarks. This enclosure, although currently undated, matches the location and shape of an enclosure identified on early OS mapping (Fig. 2 and 3).

The site is located 440m east of Creeting Hall farmhouse a 16th century Grade II\* listed building (CRP 023) and associated ponds (CRP 014). Between Grove farm and Creeting Hall Farm a trackway is visible on early OS mapping that is still in existence today and bounds the southern evaluation area on its northern side. Hill Farm a 16th century Grade II listed farmhouse (CRP 024) is located 500m to the north of the site.

Cropmarks relating to post-medieval field boundaries have been identified 680m WNW of the site (CRP 015).

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### *Undated*

- 2.8. The northern evaluation area is located over the top of an undated sub-rectangular enclosure that is highlighted on the National Mapping Programme (NMP). The enclosure is much smaller than enclosure CRP 005 in which it sits.

Undated cropmarks of ditches and field boundaries have been identified 250m west and 620m east of the site (CRP 017 and CRM 074 respectively), along with possible cropmarks of a possible trackway 520m west of the site (CRP 016) and a possible large pit or pond 250m north of the site (CRP 013).

An archaeological monitoring in advance of the construction of a stable block recorded an undated ditch 980m north of the site (CRP 019).

## **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1. The general objectives of the archaeological monitoring are:
- to monitor all invasive groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record any significant buried archaeological deposits/features thus revealed;
  - at the conclusion of the project, to produce a report setting out the archaeological monitoring results and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data;
  - at the conclusion of the project, to compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive.

## **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1. The archaeological monitoring involved the observation by a competent archaeologist of all intrusive groundworks associated with the proposed development. These works comprised the machine excavation of the topsoil and levelling of the subsoil/ natural layers (Fig. 3) with c.0.5m of material being removed. The monitoring area was smaller than that presented as the red line plan due to a bund being placed around the car park (see Fig. 3).
- 4.2. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3. No deposits were identified that required sampling.

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- 4.4. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.5. CA will make arrangements with SCCAS for the deposition of the project archive and the artefact collection. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (SCCAS and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2020).
- 4.6. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix C has been entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 5. RESULTS

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the results of the monitoring. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B.
- 5.2. The natural geological substrate (2005) comprised a grey and yellow chalk flecked clay and was revealed at an average depth of 0.5m below present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain by a mixed layer of subsoil, topsoil and disturbed natural (2001), averaging 0.2m in thickness, which was sealed in turn by 0.3m of dark grey brown compact silty clay topsoil (2000).

### *Layer 2001 (Fig. 3).*

- 5.3. This mixed deposit was disturbed heavily by modern wheel ruts and cut by one of the earlier evaluation trenches (Trench 13) and services. It was a dark brown, light orange brown and yellow compact clay and contained a single sherd of medieval pottery, RA 100 (medieval coin), RA 101 (lead sheet) and RA 102 (copper alloy sheet).

### *Ditch 2002 (Figs. 3 and 4)*

- 5.4. Ditch 2002 was seen in the central area of the reduced level strip. It was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 1.6m in width, 0.69m in depth with a c.20m length exposed in the strip. It an open V-shaped profile with a rounded base. In the slot excavated during the monitoring it exhibited two fills; a basal deposit (2003) comprised a mid-grey brown firm silty clay with regular small to mid-sized flint inclusions and occasional chalk flecks with an upper fill (2004) of mid-yellow brown

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firm silty clay with frequent small flint inclusions and occasional small chalk flecks and lumps. Part of a horseshoe was recovered from fill 2004.

## 6. THE FINDS

*Alex Bliss (metalwork) and Grace Jones (pottery)*

- 6.1. The finds assemblage comprises four metal objects and one sherd of pottery. The objects have been catalogued directly onto an MS Access database and recorded in accordance with guidelines set out in the ClfA Toolkit for Specialist Recording ([ClfA 2021](#)). A summary of the finds is presented in Appendix B, Table 1.

### Pottery

- 6.2. A single sherd of medieval pottery – an early medieval sparse shell ware (EMSSW – Anderson 2000) – was hand-recovered from disturbed layer 2001. This plain body sherd weighs 4g.

### Metalwork

- 6.3. Four metal objects (including one coin) were recovered from the site – three via metal detecting of subsoil and one during excavation of an archaeological feature. The objects have been examined with the assistance of low powered magnification, but without the assistance of radiography. A summary catalogue listing is included in Appendix B, Table 1.
- 6.4. While the condition of the coin is very good, displaying little wear or damage, the other three metal artefacts within this small assemblage all show evidence of breakage and corrosion consistent with being present in turbated topsoil/subsoil contexts. All the objects have been packed in perforated bags and stored in an airtight box with silica gel.

### Medieval

- 6.5. The medieval coin was recovered via metal detector from the disturbed layer 2001. It can be identified as a 'Tealby' or cross-and-crosslets issue penny of Henry II, struck c.1158-1161 (Plate 1). Bust type A, moneyer uncertain – struck at the mint of Canterbury. Obverse: crowned and mantled bust (no hair) facing holding sceptre in right hand, +HENRI RE[X A]NGL. Reverse: cross pattee quartering coin with crosslet in each angle, all within an inner border, +[...]:ON:CANT:. North (1991) no. 952/1. Flan slightly irregular in form, bent towards one side.



Plate 1: Medieval Henry II Penny

#### *Post-medieval*

- 6.6. A post-medieval metal object was discovered in ditch fill 2004, this being slightly less than half of an iron horseshoe possibly corresponding to the 'keyhole' type (cf Sparkes 1976, 20-21) – likely dating c.1600 - 1800. One nail is retained in the surviving web, the latter terminating in a folded calkin at its terminal.

#### *Uncertain date*

- 6.7. Two undiagnostic objects of uncertain date were recovered from subsoil 2001. Registered artefact (Ra) 101 is a folded, thin strip of lead sheet, while Ra 102 is a small fragment of slightly thickened copper alloy sheet with one straight, cut edge. Neither of these objects can be assigned to any specific period or function.

#### **Summary**

- 6.8. These finds are of very limited value in assisting with dating or in understanding the function of the site. The metal objects represent casual losses, suggesting generic human activity occurred in the area from the later 12th century onwards.
- 6.9. The artefacts have been fully recorded to archive standards, however it is recommended the metal objects undergo radiography before deposition with the archive.

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## 7. DISCUSSION

- 7.1. Medieval finds from the monitoring were limited to one pot sherd and a coin, both recovered from the modern disturbed layer 2001 which, along with the two pits previously recorded in the evaluation, suggest limited activity in the vicinity of the site during the medieval period. Medieval (1066–1539) to post-medieval (1540–1800) and modern (1800–present).
- 7.2. The one feature recorded during the monitoring was the same ditch identified during the evaluation and known from aerial photographs. While the currency of the use of the ditch is unknown, possibly with medieval origins, its redundancy and backfilling occurred post 16th century based on the limited finds evidence of a part horseshoe.
- 7.3. A large amount of modern disturbance was discovered on the southern edges of the site linked to services for the current access road.

## 8. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 8.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Michael Green and Alice Crush. This report was written by Michael Green. The finds reports were written by Alex Bliss and Grace Jones, respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Krissy Moore. The project archive has been compiled Michael Green and prepared for deposition by Zoe Emery. The project was managed for CA and the report was edited by Stuart Boulter.

## 9. REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	Over	Under
2000		Topsoil	Layer	Dark grey, brown compact clayey silt with modern concrete, brick and moderate small flint inclusions	Topsoil with mixed modern material			0.3	2001	
2001		Subsoil	Layer	Mixed Dark grey, brown compact silty clay, mid orange, brown compact silty clay and chalk flecked yellow clay natural.	Disturbed topsoil, subsoil and natural below topsoil. Very mixed layer due to modern activities.			0.2	2005, 2004	2000
2002	2002	Ditch	Cut	Linear in plan aligned NE-SW with a V shape profile, steep undulating convex sides and a rounded concave base.	Cut of ditch seen in the evaluation. 2 fills, heavily disturbed by modern features.	1m ex	1.6	0.69	2005	2003
2003	2002	Ditch	Fill	Mid grey, brown firm silty clay with regular small to mid-sized flint inclusions and occasional chalk flecks.	Basal fill of 2 in ditch.	1m ex	0.72	0.32	2002	2004
2004	2002	Ditch	Fill	Mid yellow brown firm silty clay with frequent small flint inclusions and occasional small chalk flecks and lumps.	Top fill of 2 in ditch, RA horseshoe only found.	1m ex	1.6	0.42	2003	2001
2005		Natural	Layer	Mid yellow firm clay with frequent flint inclusions and chalk flecks and lumps.	Natural geology					2001, 2002

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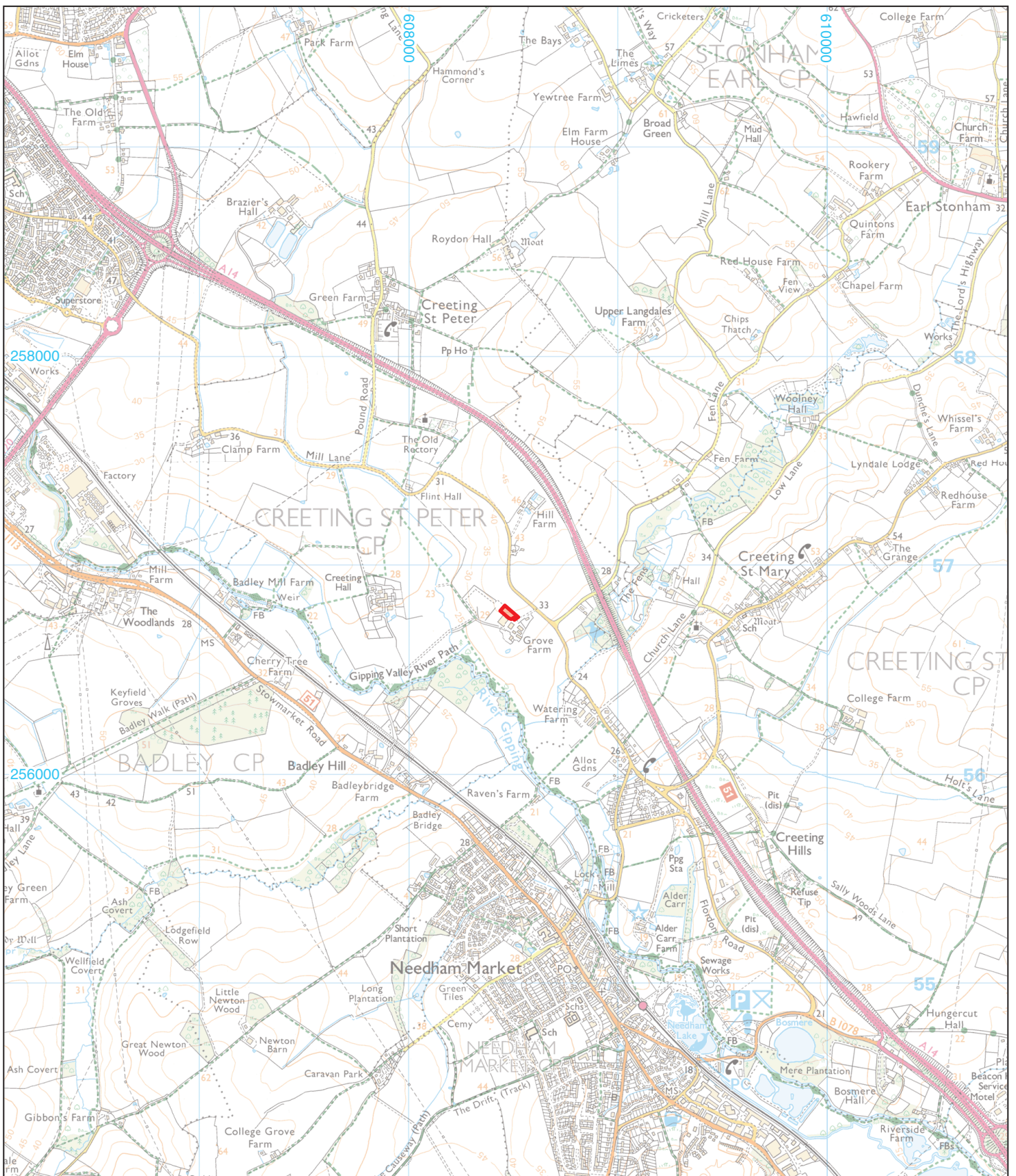
## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds Concordance

Context	RA	Material	Description	Ct.	Wt. (g)
2001	100	Silver	Coin (Ra 100)	1	1.06
	102	Copper alloy	Melt/strip	1	1.8
	101	Lead	Sheet	1	8.17
		Pottery	EMSSW	1	4
2004	103	Iron	Horseshoe	1	114.27

## APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

OASIS ID (UID)	cotswold2-505884
Project Name	Watching Brief at Poundfields Products Ltd, The Grove, Creeting St. Peter, Suffolk
Site name	Poundfields Products Ltd, The Grove, Creeting St. Peter, Suffolk
Activity type	Watching Brief
Project Identifier(s)	SU0411
Planning Id	19/02918
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Dates	08-Aug-2022 - 12-Aug-2022
Location	Poundfields Products Ltd, The Grove, Creeting St. Peter, Suffolk NGR : TM 08508 56774 LL : 52.1698191221113, 1.04763571250914 12 Fig : 608508,256774
Administrative Areas	County : England County : Suffolk District : Mid Suffolk Parish : Creeting St. Peter or West Creeting
Project Methodology	The watching brief comprised the observation by a competent archaeologist of all intrusive groundworks associated with the proposed development. These works comprised the machine excavation of the topsoil and levelling of the subsoil/ natural layers. C. 0.5m of material was removed.
Project Results	In August 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological monitoring during groundworks associated with the development of a new parking area at Poundfield Products Ltd, Creeting St. Peter, Suffolk. One feature, a large ditch was record which had also been uncovered during the evaluation phase. A large modern disturbance was recorded truncating this ditch at the southern edge of the site. The only find recovered from the ditch was an iron horseshoe of 16th – 18th century date.
Funder	Poundfields Products Ltd
HER	Suffolk HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	MICHAEL , GREEN
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - CRP 031
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive; Physical Archive - to be deposited with Suffolk Archaeological Service;



 Site boundary

0 1:25,000 1km

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Ordnance Survey 0100031673



Andover 01264 347630  
Cirencester 01285 771022  
Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
Suffolk 01449 900120  
[www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)  
[enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

**PROJECT TITLE**

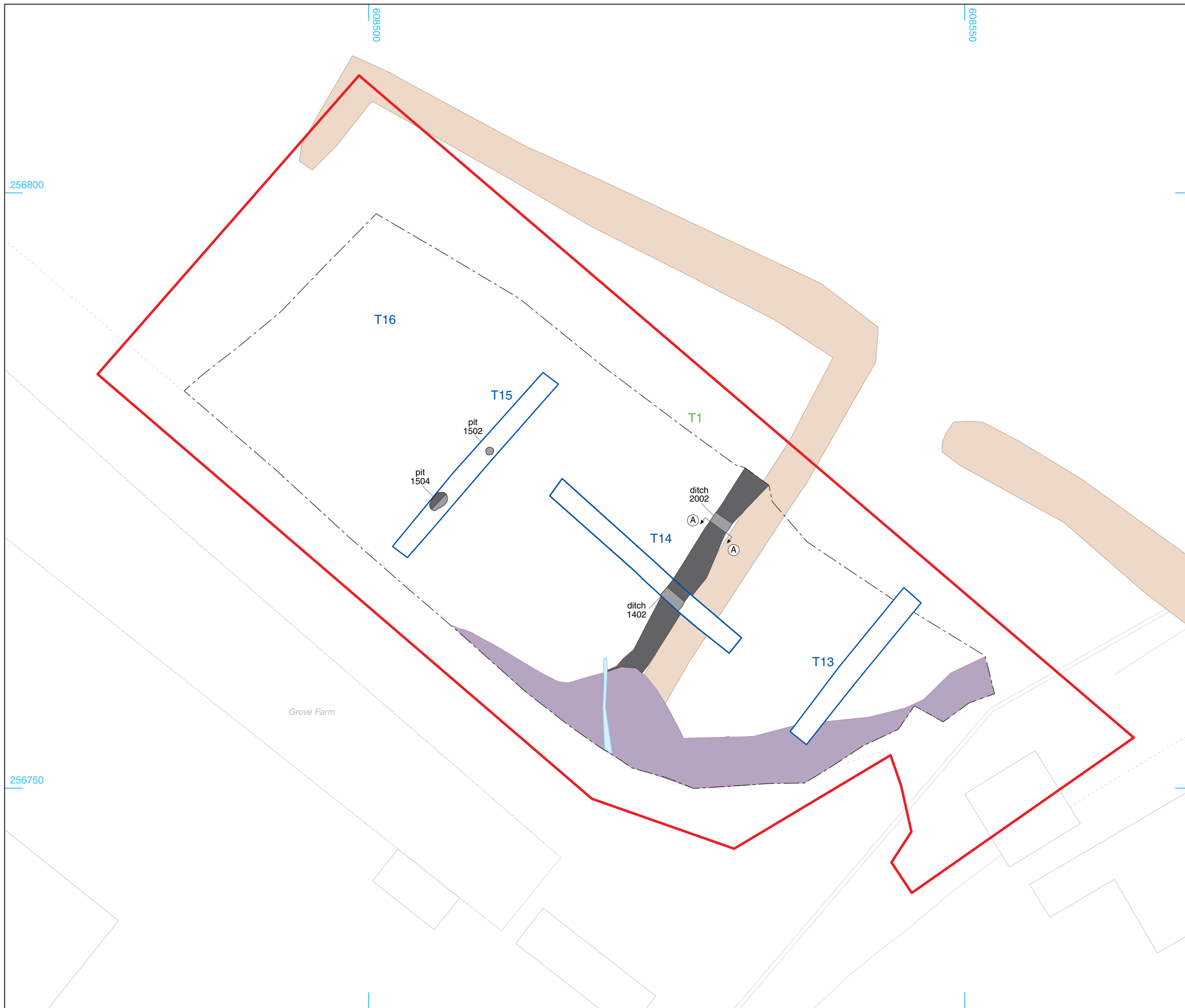
Poundfield Products monitoring, Creting St Peter, Suffolk

**FIGURE TITLE**

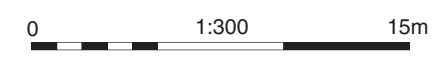
Site location plan

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	25.10.2022	1
APPROVED BY	DE	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	





- Site boundary
- Monitoring area
- Previous evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Modern
- Field drain
- NMP ditches
- A A Section location



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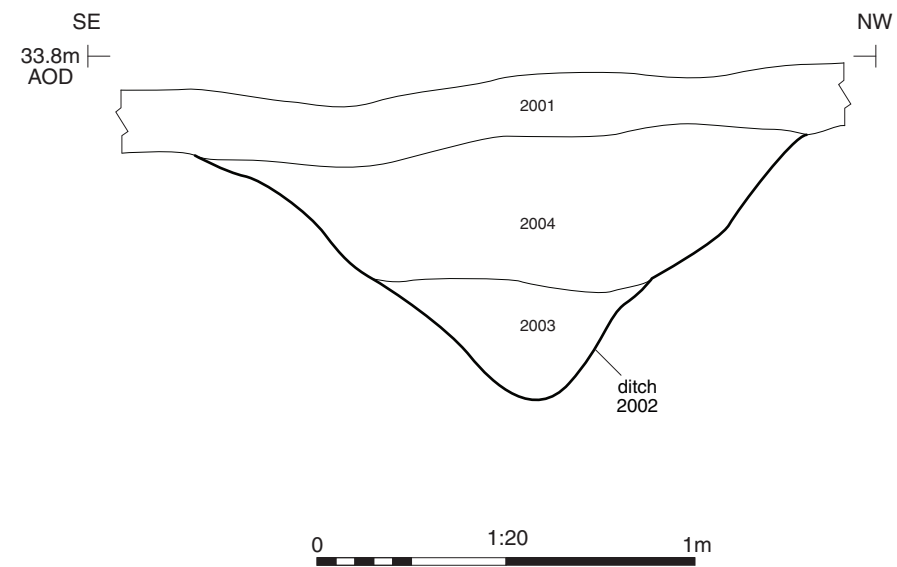
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[enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Poundfield Products monitoring, Creting St Peter, Suffolk

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site plan showing previous evaluation trenches

DRAWN BY <b>KM</b> CHECKED BY <b>DJB</b> APPROVED BY <b>DE</b>	PROJECT NO. <b>SU0411</b> DATE <b>24.10.2022</b> SCALE@A3 <b>1:300</b>	FIGURE NO. <b>3</b>
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Section AA



Ditch 2002, looking south-west (scale 1m)



Site, general view, looking west (scales 1m)



Site, modern disturbance, looking east (scales 1m)


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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Poundfield Products monitoring, Creeting St Peter, Suffolk

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Section and photographs

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