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Archaeological Evaluation Report No. MK111/18

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Land at Meddler Stud, Kentford: Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. MK111/18

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SUMMARY

CFA Archaeology Ltd carried out a trial trench evaluation on land at Meddler Stud, Kentford, Suffolk, on a proposed residential development. Seven trenches had been previously excavated by Oxford Archaeology East revealing alluvial material containing residual prehistoric flint and pottery. There were also medieval ditches away from the river channel on higher ground. The current evaluation involved excavating 25 additional trenches. At the west end of the site close to the River Kennett, alluvial hillwash that had filled natural hollows was found to contain pieces of struck Mesolithic and Neolithic flint. At the north end of the site was a large medieval ditch, possibly a boundary ditch for a former plot joining the main street. This contained a single fragment of Greyware. Various undated features including a ditch, gullies, post-holes and bioturbated pits were also found across the site; some of these are likely to relate to the former farm buildings on the site and general farm activity. Close to the bridge over the River Kennet was a large 19th century gravel extraction pit.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. General

This document presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) between the 8th and 12th of January on a proposed housing development on Land at Meddler Stud, in Kentford, Suffolk. The work was commissioned by Lanpro on behalf of Heritage Developments Ltd.

The work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated July 2017 covering this programme of works produced by Lanpro and approved by the Suffolk County Council Senior Archaeological Officer.

The site archive is currently held by CFA Archaeology and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2. Planning Background

Outline Planning Permission for residential development of the site was granted under appeal DC/14/0585. Condition 6 of required a programme of archaeological works and subsequently a brief was issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service for trial trenching covering 4% of the previously undeveloped portion of the site.

The current report presents the results of this evaluation which was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated November 2017 covering the programme of works produced by Lanpro and approved by the Senior Archaeological Officer for Suffolk County Council.

1.3. Background

The site (Fig. 1) is located in the village of Kentford, Suffolk approximately 5km to the northeast of Newmarket (centred on NGR 570618, 266619) and covers an area of land approximately 7.16 hectares in extent which formerly comprised part of the Meddler Stud. The stud was known as Kentford Stud at the turn of the 20th century and before this it was a farm - Chalk Farm. The site is located on the eastern side of the River Kennett. On the western boundary of the site there is a steep drop off towards the river itself with the land rising gently to towards the south and east from a height of approximately 27m OD on the northern boundary to approximately 35-40m OD on the eastern and southern boundaries.

The local bedrock geology is Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation formed approx. 90-101 million years ago, with the superficial deposits being sand and gravel. The superficial geology varies across the application site as the topography rises out of the valley of the River Kennett. In the northwest corner of the site, superficial deposits comprise the alluvial clay, silt, sands and gravel deposited by the River Kennett. Across the central and eastern side of the application site, superficial deposits comprise the Quaternary sand and gravel River Terrace Deposits of the 2nd and 4th terraces respectively. Localised lenses of silt, clay or peat are also recorded within these deposits (BGS).

1.4. Archaeological Background

A programme of archaeological evaluation comprising desk-based assessment (URS 2014), geophysical survey (Stratascan 2013) and trial trenching with topographic survey (Oxford Archaeology East 2013) was previously undertaken. A refreshed HER search was requested from Suffolk CC (search reference 9213347).

The following is taken from the Suffolk Historic Environment Records and the URS heritage desk-based assessment (Oxford Archaeology East 2013). See Fig. 11 at the rear of the report.

Prehistoric

The earliest evidence of prehistoric activity comes from the 19th century sand quarry, where significant numbers of Acheulean hand axes and

interglacial mammal remains were found (KTD 006). This is located approximately 1km to the north east. Further palaeolithic material has been reported from other pit workings to the north and north-west. Wymer (1996, 80) lists 102 handaxes, 2 roughouts, 39 retouched flakes, 17 flakes, 3 misc. and 2 Levallois flakes from this site, dispersed among 11 museums.

Further prehistoric remains are represented by a number of Neolithic and Bronze Age sites. A large polished axe was recorded 570m east of the proposed development (KTD 008). Other flint finds including 11 Neolithic flint axes 'come from Kentford'.

A significant assemblage of struck flint and Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation evidence have been found to the east of Kentford at Moulton paddocks (MUN038) and Moulton gallops (Mun 039, Bush 2011).

Recent excavations 220m to the east at Gazeley Road uncovered Neolithic and Bronze Age finds in colluvial and alluvial deposits (Haskins 2013).

Bronze Age sites are represented by a number of sites around Kentford. A group of bowl barrows are located 870m east of the site (GAZ 002, 003, and 008). Further Bronze Age barrows are recorded to the north-east (KTD 001, 002). Finally two more barrows were located 420m east of the development area (KTD 003, 004) and were archaeologically excavated prior to quarrying (Martin, 1975).

Iron Age and Roman

There is little evidence for later prehistoric activity around Kentford. No sites or monuments of Iron Age date have been found although Iron Age activity was identified at Moulton paddocks further east of the development site. The route of the Icknield Way is known to pass through Kentford but is believed to be the present Bury Road (B1506).

During Roman occupation the Icknield Way remained in use and was straightened and formalised as a Roman road (Keith Briggs 2013; identified as Margary's route 333).

Little is known about the settlement pattern in the local area, although evidence of settlement in the later prehistoric period is forthcoming from other areas in Suffolk. Activity closer to the application site is characterised by scatters of unstratified prehistoric flintwork (URS 2012).

Saxon and Medieval

There is no known Saxon occupation within the immediate area of the development area. However, recent evaluation work to the north side of the

village has identified at least one early Saxon sunken featured building (Jess Tipper pers. comm.).

In the medieval period Kentford village developed from a linear settlement along the route between Newmarket and Bury St Edmunds following the line of the Roman Icknield Way. The core of the medieval village contains the 14th century church of St Mary the Virgin, and evidence for the medieval village is recorded approximately 60m to the north of the application site where cropmarks identified on an aerial photograph have been interpreted as representing medieval house plots and gardens (URS 2012).

Three further sites are identified on the Suffolk HER, remains of the former packhorse bridge over the river Kennett (KTD 012), a possible former hollow way (KTD 010) and Earthwork remains of possible house plots and gardens (KTD 007).

Archaeological trenching at Clifton Lodge, to the north of the site, uncovered a single sherd of medieval pottery attributed to manuring practices and recorded no evidence for the medieval settlement (KTD 015, Gill 2007).

Geophysical Survey and Trial Trench Evaluation

The trial trenching located alluvial deposits which made up a majority of non-geological material seen within their Trench 34 (Central Western area of the site) this yielded the highest finds concentration which suggested that the area was used for both flint collection and working. The trial trenching recovered a small assemblage of prehistoric material including pottery and flint. The location of the material within the alluvium and the upper fills of the geological features this suggests that the Mesolithic, earlier Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age activity was occurring on site during the formation of the colluvium, subsoil and alluvium.

Earthworks in the south-eastern paddock form irregular terraces and the combination of trenching and topographic survey showed the full extent of these features. They are confined to a single paddock, were formed by the banking of material on the downward slope and to have, or to have had, returns along their western sides enclosing the terraced area. A clay pipe bowl recovered from within the made-ground that formed the banks may date these earthworks although this may not be seen as conclusive.

There was no evidence for any medieval features or material within the area, with the exception of two Greyware pottery sherds. Due to its proximity to the known medieval settlement (only 500m away) the lack of finds may indicate that this area may have been sparsely used or would perhaps have been grazing land throughout the medieval period. Post-Medieval evidence consisted of two ditches.

During the trenching the geophysical anomalies reported by Stratascan (Smalley, 2013) were exposed in all trenches. The majority of these anomalies correspond to areas of sand and gravel within the solid chalk natural and have been confirmed as being of geological, probably of periglacial, origin.

1.5. Objectives

In accordance with the WSI the overall aim of the project was to obtain sufficient information as to the archaeological significance and potential of the site to allow reasoned and informed recommendations to be made on the application for development of the site. This was achieved through the following objectives:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site
- To ground truth and verify the results of the geophysical survey
- To excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance
- To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site
- To assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence
- To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains
- To undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features
- To report the results of the evaluation and place them in their local and regional context
- To produce a site archive for deposition with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service and to provide information for accessions to the Suffolk HER.

The programme of archaeological investigation was conducted within the general research parameters and objectives defined by:

- *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 1. Resource Assessment* (Glazebrook 1997);
- *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 2. Research Agenda and Strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000)
- *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011)

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1. General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance (Cifa 2014a, 2014b, 2014c, 2014d).

2.2. Trenching

Twenty-one trenches measuring 30m long and 1.8m wide and four trenches measuring 20m long and 1.8m wide were excavated. All deposits were removed with a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. Trench 11 was moved to avoid a live underground powerline.

2.3. Excavation and Recording Strategy

The character, composition and general depositional sequence were recorded on pro-forma context sheets conforming to Cifa standards (2014b) and CFA's quality manuals. Features were planned at 1:20 and sample excavated after by hand to reveal the natural geology. Hand-dug test pits were excavated to investigate deposits in the natural channel containing alluvium. Sections were drawn at 1:10 and 1:20 and a full photographic record comprising both digital images in Raw format and 35mm black and white film was made. Spoil and features were scanned with a metal detector at all stages of the evaluation. The trenches and features were surveyed using RTK initialized GPS equipment accurate to 8mm horizontally and 12mm vertically and related to the Ordnance Survey grid and ordnance datum.

2.4. Archiving

The archive will contain all the data collected during the archaeological works, including all digital and paper records, finds and environmental samples. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent and

will comply fully with the SCCAS guidance (SCCAS 2017), Walker (1990), MGC (1994), MoRPHE (HE 2015).

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1. General

The location of the trenches is shown in Figure. 1 and a summary of trenches is contained in Appendix 1. Illustrations and photos referred to in the text can be found at the back of the report.

3.2. Descriptions

Natural deposits

The natural geology across the site was highly variable. At the east end towards the River Kennet, coarse gravel ridges were exposed in Trenches 1, 3, 4, 7 and 6 just below the topsoil (Fig. 3). In Trench 7 these gravels had been cut by a natural channel that had become filled initially with a light orange-brown alluvium and subsequently a darker subsoil. Deposits at the south end of Trench 2 and along the whole of Trench 5 comprised alluvium. Below these were mixed gravels, sands and areas of degraded chalk; these were also found in Trench 8. Gravels were exposed in the centre of the site in Trenches 6, 10 and 11. Chalk bedrock and clay was exposed in Trench 9 and Trenches in the centre of the site (Fig. 4). The chalk and clay was cut by narrow geological channels mainly aligned east-west. Trenches towards the east side of the Site exposed natural deposits of silt and sand mixed with occasional gravel (Fig. 5).

Trench 1

Trench 1 exposed a large ditch or pit (**0105**) with shallow sides running on a NE-SW orientation, 9.25m wide and 1.2m deep. The fill contained modern-looking CBM fragments and frequent lumps of coal suggesting a 19th century date. The feature may have been a disused gravel pit that was subsequently filled with rubbish.

Trench 2

The north end of this trench exposed a thick layer of disturbed 19th century or modern ground (**0202**) which was removed by machine. Below this was a series of irregular features containing no dating evidence. At the north end was a possible oval pit (**0205**) measuring 0.99m x 0.69m x 0.28m with steep sides and a concave base. This was filled with dark-brown sandy gravels (**0204**). Further south were **0207, 0209, 0211, 0213 and 0215**, a group of possible post-holes and gullies, though these were all very shallow and

irregular and are more likely to have been formed through burrowing or tree rooting. South of these was a large 19th century pit (**0217**) cut from the surface and filled with dark-brown sand (**0216**) containing large quantities of animal bone and 19th century brick fragments. The southern end of the trench revealed a c.70m thick deposit of sand alluvium (**0218**) below the topsoil that had accumulated above natural yellow sand (Fig. 6). This was carefully excavated as it contained occasional pieces of struck flint, though these formed no pattern and had clearly been transported by natural processes.

Trench 3

No archaeology

Trench 4

This trench contained an undated narrow gully (**0405**) which was aligned NE-SW. This had moderately steep sides and a concave base with a maximum depth of 0.27m. The ditch was filled by (**0404**), mid brown-black gravels.

Trench 5

No cut features were evident though a thick alluvial deposit similar to **0218** in Trench 2 was exposed along the entire length of the Trench (**0504**) above natural sands, gravels, chalk and clay. No finds were evident.

Trench 6

A single shallow NE-SW aligned gully (**0605**) was exposed cut through the subsoil. This cut had very gentle sides with a near flat base. The fill (**0604**) was a dark brown clayey gravel containing animal bone fragments of horse, cow and goat/sheep. The feature was undated but the stratigraphy suggested it was recent, probably 19th century.

Trench 7

Trench 7 uncovered a 12m wide channel which appeared to be a former natural river channel or possibly an oxbow (**0705**) (Figs. 2 & 7). This was filled with loosely compacted light yellow fine alluvial sand containing sparse struck flint blades and flakes (**0704**) which appeared to have been transported through natural processes. Two small test-pits excavated into this layer produced further lithics.

Trench 8

No archaeology

Trench 9

The north end of Trench 9 exposed a small U-shaped linear gully (**0905**) filled with a sandy silt containing no dating evidence (Fig. 8). The alignment of the feature appears to connect to with Gully **1007** in Trench 10 (see Fig.1). To the south was a small shallow oval post-hole (**0907**) filled with a sandy silt containing no dating evidence (Fig. 9). At the south end was an irregular geological feature or tree-throw pit.

Trench 10

Trench 10 uncovered a pit (**1005**) that was only partially revealed in the trench. This was filled by (**1004**) which was loosely compacted dark brown gravel. The feature had an estimated diameter of 0.68m and a depth of just 0.15m with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. To the east was Gully **1007** which aligned N-S and had shallow sloping sides and a flat base, filled with a dark-brown silty gravel (**1006**). The alignment of the feature appears to connect to with Gully **0905** in Trench 09 (see Fig.1).

Trench 11

This contained two possible post-holes with no dating evidence. The first (**1105**) was filled by **1104**, a grey-brown gravelly clay and sandy gravels. The post-hole was circular in plan with steep vertical sides and a flat base. Posthole **1107** was located nearby and was circular in plan with steep vertical sides and a flat base, filled by (**1106**) mid brown silty sand.

Trench 12

No archaeology

Trench 13

No archaeology

Trench 14

At the west side of the trench was a large ditch measuring 2m wide (**1404**) with steep sides and an irregular base orientated NNW-SSE. This was filled by **1405**, dark brown silts (Fig 10). A sherd of medieval greyware, animal bone (pig and sheep/goat) and iron nails were recovered from the fill. The ditch was not found in Trenches 19 and 25 to the south, though these may have just missed the feature.

Trench 15

This revealed an undated shallow posthole (1505) filled with a dark brown sandy clay (1504).

Trench 16

At the south end was a ditch (1607) and re-cut (1609) aligned WSW-ENE (Fig. 11). Ditch 1607 measured 0.7m wide and 0.58m deep and it had steep vertical sides and a flat base. This was filled with a dark-brown sandy clay containing young sheep bone fragments. The re-cut on the south side (1609) measured 1.3m wide and 0.9m deep. This was filled by (1608), a brown clay. A small post-hole was found on the north side of the ditches (1605). This was circular and had a diameter of 0.36m and a depth of 0.1m, steep vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled by (1604). None of the features contained pottery.

Trench 17

No archaeology

Trench 18

No archaeology

Trench 19

No archaeology

Trench 20

No archaeology

Trench 21

No archaeology

Trench 22

No archaeology

Trench 23 (Fig. 8)

No archaeology

Trench 24

Running across the centre of this trench was a narrow shallow gully (**2405**) orientated WSW-ENE, filled by mid reddish brown sandy silt (**2404**).

Trench 25

No archaeology was found, though a group of post-medieval or 19th century nails was found in the topsoil during metal detecting.

4. FINDS

4.1. Flint (by Antoni Nowak and Radoslaw Kubicki)

Sixteen flints were found in alluvial layer **0218** in Trench 2. Twelve are small blades and flakes, 3 are small uncharacteristic chunks and one is a larger blade (1). All the flakes were knapped from dark grey flint using hard or soft hammer. The only exception is blade 7, which was knapped of light greyish brown flint. Only one blade in this assemblage (1) has one sided retouch, creating a small notch. Most of the flints, except 7 and 1 were patinated. Overall the assemblage shows Neolithic characteristics.

Twenty flints were recovered from context **0704** in Trench 7. The majority of the flints represent debitage – including 5 cortex blades, 2 chunks, 11 flakes and one microlith. The flint material is largely homogenous across the assemblage, but the level of patination differs. The microlith (17) was a trapezoid formed using the microburin technique (Fig. 12). The suggestive fracture waves on the lower face of the tool indicate use of hard hammer technique to produce a long blade, which was later broken and retouched forming a trapezoid – possibly used as an arrowhead. This could be early Mesolithic.

Context Fill	Cat Number	Material	Condition	Type	Description	ML	MW	MH	Weight
0218	1	Black flint with light brown cortex	Good	Broad blade	A broad blade with narrowing top part. One edge with retouch.	5,1 cm	4,2 cm	1,3 cm	25,3g
0218	2	Grey flint with brown cortex	Good	Flake		3,1 cm	2,7 cm	0,6 cm	7,2 g
0218	3	Grey flint with brown cortex	Good	Narrow blade	A narrow, broken blade	3cm	2,3 cm	0,4 cm	3,9g
0218	4	Grey flint	Good	Narrow blade	A narrow, broken blade	1,8 cm	1,5 cm	0,5 cm	1,8 g
0218	5	Grey flint	Good	Narrow blade		3,4 cm	2,1 cm	0,7 cm	5,1 g
0218	6	Black flint	Good	Broad flake	A broad flake with cortex	2,9	5,3	0,8	13,5 g

		with light grey patina and light brown cortex				cm	cm	cm	
0218	7	Greyish brown flint	Good	Narrow blade		4,5 cm	1,6 cm	0,4 cm	3 g
0218	8	Flint with light grey patina	Good	Broad blade		3,8 cm	2,6 cm	0,8 cm	7,3 g
0218	9	Flint with light grey patina	Good	Chunk	A chunk with light brown cortex	3,6 cm	2,8 cm	0,8 cm	7,3 g
0218	10	Black flint with grey patina	Good	Broad flake		4,7 cm	5,3 cm	1,2 cm	34 g
0218	11	Black flint with grey patina and light brown cortex	Good	Chunk		5,1 cm	2,5 cm	1,2 cm	9,3 g
0218	12	Grey flint with brown cortex	Good	Narrow blade		4,3 cm	2,1 cm	0,2 cm	3 g
0218	13	Light grey flint	Good	Broad flake		2,3 cm	2,7 cm	0,9 cm	4 g
0218	14	Light grey flint	Good	Narrow blade		3,5 cm	1,7 cm	0,7 cm	3,5 g
0218	15	Grey flint with patina	Good	Narrow blade		2,8 cm	1,6 cm	0,8 cm	3,1 g
0218	16	Grey flint with patina	Good	Narrow blade		3,0 cm	1,5 cm	0,5 cm	2,8 g
0704	17	Black flint with light inclusions	Good	Microolithic trapezoid	Microburin technique, retouched forming trapezoid	3,2 cm	2,3 cm	0,4 cm	3,9 g
0704	18	Dark grey flint	Good	Round chunk		4,5 cm	5,5 cm	1,6 cm	4 g
0704	19	Light brown flint	Good	Chunk		3,4 cm	2,5 cm	1,9 cm	12,8 g
0704	20	Light grey flint	Good	Chunk		2,8 cm	2,3 cm	0,6 cm	4,4 g
0704	21	Light grey flint with light brown cortex	Good	Long, narrow blade		6,1 cm	2,6 cm	0,8 cm	15,7 g
0704	22	Black flint with light patina and light brown cortex	Good	Long blade with narrowing distal end		4,4 cm	2,3 cm	0,8 cm	7,4 g
0704	23	Grey flint with brown cortex	Good	Narrow blade		3,2 cm	1,5 cm	0,5 cm	2,3 g
0704	24	Black flint	Good	Narrow blade		3,6 cm	1,7 cm	0,6 cm	4,9 g
0704	25	Light grey flint with light brown	Good	Narrow blade	A narrow, broken blade	3,4 cm	2,4 cm	0,6 cm	4,4 g

		cortex							
0704	26	Light grey flint	Good	Narrow blade		3,3 cm	1,7 cm	0,3 cm	1,9 g
0704	27	Light grey flint	Good	Blade		3,1 cm	2,5 cm	0,3 cm	2,4 g
0704	28	Brown flint	Good	Flake		3,5 cm	3,7 cm	0,6 cm	6,3 g
0704	29	Light grey flint with light cortex	Good	Small flake		2,2 cm	2,3 cm	0,6 cm	4,3 g
0704	30	Black flint	Good	Small flake	Distal end part	1,2 cm	1,3 cm	0,5 cm	0,9 g
0704	31	Black flint	Good	Small blade	Proximal part	2 cm	1,3 cm	4,9 cm	1,1 g
0704	32	Black flint	Good	Small flake		1,5 cm	19,9 cm	0,4 cm	0,9 g
0704	33	Dark grey flint	Good	Small flake		2,1 cm	1,7 cm	0,4 cm	1,8 g
0704	34	Dark flint with patina	Good	Small flake		1,9 cm	1,1 cm	0,3 cm	0,8 g
0704	35	Dark grey flint	Good	Small flake		1,6 cm	2,1 cm	0,2 cm	0,6 g
0704	36	Light grey flint	Good	Small chunk		2,4 cm	0,9 cm	0,8 cm	1,5 g

Table 1. Summary of flints.

4.2. Pottery (by Paul Blinkhorn)

A single sherd of Hertfordshire Greyware dating to the mid 12th- to 14th-century was identified from context **1405** in Ditch **1404**.

4.3. Iron Finds (by Tamlin Barton)

Most of the finds were nails from topsoil found during metal detection. A single nail was found in the ditch containing the medieval Greyware fragment.

Context	Quantity	Weight (g)	Description	Date
1404	1	4.6	Nail	Medieval?
2401	1	16.5	Knife fragment	Post med - 19th century
2401	1	4.9	Nail	Post med - 19th century
2401	1	32.1	Nail	Post med - 19th century
2501	1	15.6	Nail	Post med - 19th century
2501	1	18.2	Nail	Post med - 19th century
2501	1	5.8	Nail	Post med - 19th century
2501	1	5.7	Nail	Post med - 19th century
2501	1	2.9	Nail	Post med - 19th century
2501	1	4.4	Nail	Post med - 19th century

Table 2. Summary of Iron Finds

4.4. CBM (by Tamlin Barton)

Eight fragments of CBM which appear to be post-medieval in date were found during the evaluation in non-stratified deposits. The roof tile fragments are possibly evidence of former farm buildings on the Site that were demolished. Obvious 19th /20th century CBM located in some of the features (most notably Pit 0217) were not retained during the evaluation.

Context	Quantity	Weight (g)	Description	Date
0102	5	210	2 large fragments of roof tile, 3 undiagnostic fragments	Post-medieval - 19th century
2501	3	20.9	Undiagnostic, probable brick	Post med - 19th century

Table 3. Summary of CBM

DISCUSSION

Prehistoric Activity

Struck flint dating from the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods has been identified at the western end of the site in the alluvial deposit in Trench 2 and in the fill of the natural channel in Trench 7. The flint was not deposited in situ as there was no identifiable horizon and no pattern to the flints; instead it appears to have been transported by the natural processes that created the alluvium deposits in this part of the Site. This alluvium, also identified in Trench 5, appears to be hill-wash that accumulated at the base of the hill in natural depressions which may have been former watercourses of the River Kennett.

The previous evaluation identified alluvial layer **0718** in Trench 34 as three layers (61, 62 and 63) containing struck flints ranging from the Mesolithic to early Iron Age Periods as well as a sherd of Iron Age pottery. Again none of these were in situ and were interpreted as having been incorporated into alluvial fill by natural processes (Green, 2013).

The presence of transported Mesolithic, Neolithic, Neolithic, Late Neolithic/Bronze Age flints and Iron Age pottery in the alluvium is evidence that the land on the side of the River Kennet was occupied throughout the prehistoric period.

This is supported in the area by the assemblage of struck flint and Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation to the east of Kentford at Moulton paddocks (MUN038) and Moulton gallops (MUN 039, Bush 2011). Also, the recent excavations at Gazeley Road of Neolithic and Bronze Age finds in colluvial and alluvial deposits (Haskins 2013).

However, the two evaluations on the Site have found no evidence that in-situ remains from these periods survive on the Site. The regional research frameworks for the eastern counties (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Medlycott 2011) suggest that there is some research potential for studying the development of artefacts from these periods, but given the small size of the assemblage and that the material has been transported, this will have limited value as artefacts are not associated with structures or deposits.

Medieval activity

The ditch in Trench 14 (**1404**) is on a similar alignment as the eastern boundary of the Site. The ditch is evidence of a possible linear medieval plot boundary radiating from the main street of the village to the north.

Possible medieval or post-medieval activity

Ditch **1007** and **0905** together form a possible boundary running on a similar alignment as the belt of trees to the east, Ditch **1404** and the eastern boundary of the Site. The two features, though undated, may be the remains of a similar land division projecting south-east from the main road. Given a medieval or post-medieval date is considered likely, the post-hole and pit next to each of the ditches, are probably contemporary. This is perhaps to be expected as there are remains of possible house plots and gardens to the north of the Site across the road (KTD 007).

19th century activity

The pit / ditch found in Trench 01 containing coal is likely to be a gravel extraction pit next to the main road and was probably excavated by the owners of Chalk Farm. This may date to the first half of the 19th century as it is not shown on the 1884 OS map.

The large pit filled with 19th century CBM and animal bone cut into alluvium **2018** in Trench 02 appears to be a 19th century rubbish pit. This was probably associated with activity on Chalk Farm.

Undated features

Various features were not dated. They include the narrow gully in Trench 04 and a very shallow ditch cut from just under the topsoil containing horse,

cow and sheep/goat in Trench 06. Both of these are probably shallow boundary ditches dug across the fields and relate to Chalk Farm.

The pits, gullies and irregular possible post-holes at the NW end of Trench 02 are also undated, though many of these appear to be represent burrowing and bioturbation. The two possible post-holes in Trench 11 are also undated but may be from farm activity.

Several features in the field on the eastern half of the Site are undated. This includes Ditch **1607/9** and post-hole in Trench 16, an isolated post-hole in Trench 15 and the narrow gully in Trench 24. The features are likely to be medieval or post-medieval in date. No ditches were found in Oxford East's Trench 4 or in Trench 15 suggesting that Ditch **1607/9** does not continue across the field and probably did not mark a field boundary. Perhaps this was a small length of ditch dug to drain the clay and chalk ground in this area.

The evaluation did not discover any of the features identified in the geophysical survey (Stratascan 2013). The curving parallel anomalies at the east end of the site are possibly the geological channels found in the chalk. The negative linear anomaly (4) in the survey was identified as a modern ditch filled with yellow sand in the evaluation (not illustrated).

5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The evaluation has revealed that there are few archaeological remains surviving within the evaluated area of the proposed development though upstanding earthworks, not investigated as part of this report, are present in the south-eastern paddock forming irregular terraces.

Features that were exposed include a medieval ditch, possibly a former land boundary of a plot connecting to the main street, and a sparse collection of undated ditches, gullies and post-holes, possibly medieval or post-medieval, and 19th century activity relating to the former farm/stud.

Finds transported by natural hillwash show that prehistoric occupation was once located on the eastern part of the Site near to the River Kennet, but no in-situ deposits were identified.

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Maps

1884 25 Inch OS Map (published 1885).

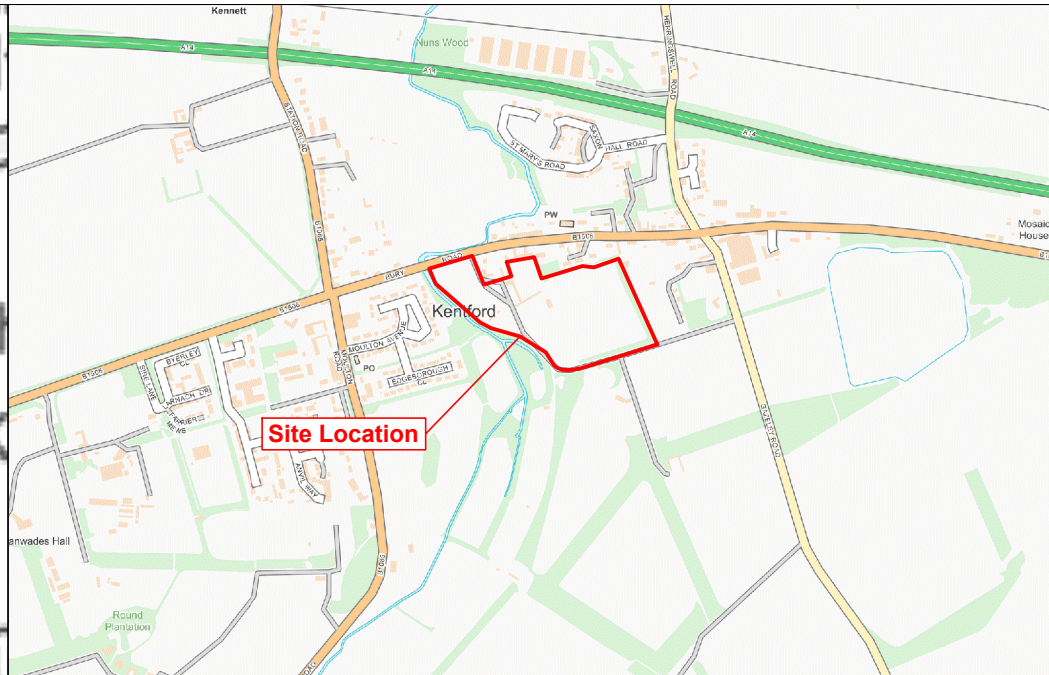
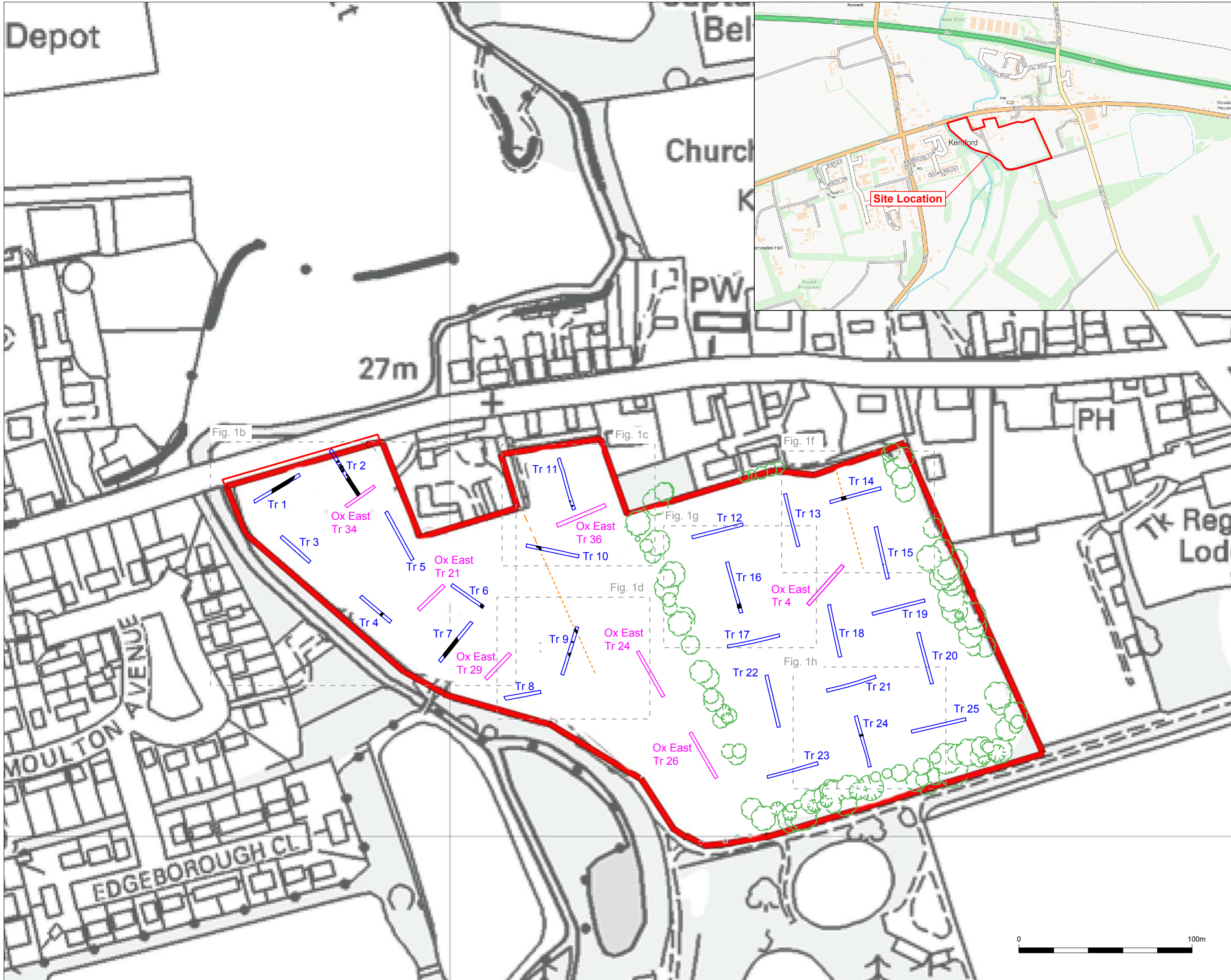
7. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH AND CONTEXT SUMMARY

Trench 1		Trench Size	30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth	0.46-1.07m	Topsoil Depth	0.16-0.38m
		Subsoil Depth	0.00-0.17m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>	
0101	Topsoil	-	
0102	Subsoil	-	
0103	Natural	-	
0104	Fill of Ditch, Dark Brown Sandy Gravel with frequent stone inclusions and coal.	19 th Century	
0105	Cut of Ditch on NE-SW orientation, 9.25m wide and 1.2m deep.	19 th Century	
Trench 2		Trench Size	30x 1.8m
Trench Depth	0.50-1.05m	Topsoil Depth	0.18-0.28m
		Subsoil Depth	0.15-0.76m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>	
0201	Topsoil	-	
0202	Disturbed ground, 19th / modern.	-	
0203	Natural	-	
0204	Fill of pit [0205], Dark Brown Sandy Gravel with frequent stone inclusions.	-	
0205	Cut of oval pit, measures 0.99m to 0.69m in width and 0.28m deep	-	
0206	Fill of feature [0207], Mid black-brown silty gravel with frequent stone inclusions. Likely tree rooting.	-	
0207	Cut of regular circular feature. Unknown date. Likely tree rooting.	-	
0208	Fill of curvilinear gully [0209]. Unknown date. Mid orange brown sandy gravel with frequent stone inclusions. Likely tree rooting.	-	
0209	Cut of curvilinear gully. Unknown date. Likely tree rooting.	-	
0210	Fill of natural feature- possible burrow. Unknown date.	-	
0211	Cut of natural feature- possible burrow. Unknown date.	-	
0212	Fill of Bioturbation. Unknown date.	-	
0213	Cut of Bioturbation. Unknown date.	-	
0214	Fill of Bioturbation. Unknown date.	-	
0215	Cut of Bioturbation. Unknown date.	-	
0216	Fill of pit cut truncating alluvium 0218. Contained 19 th century brick and bone fragments. Dark brown sandy soil with frequent stone inclusions.	Modern/19 th Century	
0217	Cut of Modern/19 th Century pit.	Modern/19 th Century	
0218	Layer of alluvium with occasional struck flints washed in. Light orange brown fine sand and silt with occasional stone and pieces of struck flint inclusions.	Prehistoric	
Trench 3		Trench Size	20m x 1.8m
Trench Depth	0.43-0.48m	Topsoil Depth	0.10-0.15m
		Subsoil Depth	0.14-0.30m
<i>No archaeology</i>			
Trench 4		Trench Size	20m x 1.8m
Trench Depth	0.30-0.41m	Topsoil Depth	0.23-0.25m
		Subsoil Depth	0.08-0.12m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>	
0401	Topsoil	-	
0402	Subsoil	-	
0403	Natural	-	
0404	Fill of linear gully [0405]. Unknown date. Mid brown black gravel with very frequent stone inclusions.	-	
0405	Cut of narrow linear gully. Moderately steep sides and a concave base with a maximum depth of 0.27m	-	
Trench 5		Trench Size	30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth	0.70-0.85m	Topsoil Depth	0.25-0.30m
		Subsoil Depth	0.07-0.23m

<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
0501	Topsoil	-
0502	Subsoil	-
0503	Natural	-
0504	Alluvium below the subsoil. A layer of sand running entire length of trench. Light yellow brown fine sand with occasional stone inclusions.	Prehistoric?
Trench 6		Trench Size 20m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.55-0.65m	Topsoil Depth 0.15-0.54m	Subsoil Depth 0.00-0.37m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
0601	Topsoil	-
0602	Subsoil	-
0603	Natural	-
0604	Fill of shallow linear gully containing animal bone fragments cut into the subsoil – likely 19 th century date or modern. Dark brown clayey gravel with natural flint inclusions.	19 th Century
0605	Cut of very shallow linear gully. Measured 0.15m deep max.	19 th Century
Trench 7		Trench Size 20m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.40-0.90m	Topsoil Depth 0.20-0.30m	Subsoil Depth 0.00-0.30m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
0701	Topsoil	-
0702	Subsoil	-
0703	Natural	-
0704	Fill of Palaeochanel containing struck flint. Light yellow fine sand.	Prehistoric
0705	'Cut' of natural palaeochanel 12m wide filled with sand and washed in struck flints.	Prehistoric
Trench 8		Trench Size 20m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.44- 0.55m	Topsoil Depth 0.10-0.18m	Subsoil Depth 0.18- 0.33m
<i>No archaeology</i>		
Trench 9		Trench Size 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.45-0.70m	Topsoil Depth 0.13-0.25m	Subsoil Depth 0.10-0.23m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
0901	Topsoil	-
0902	Subsoil	-
0903	Natural	-
0904	Fill of NW- SE gully [0905], possibly the same as that in Trench 10. Unknown date as no associated finds or inferable relationships between features. Mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions.	-
0905	Cut of shallow NW-SE orientated Gully, 0.7m wide.	-
0906	Fill of post hole [0907], mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional stone and frequent chalk inclusions. No packing stones. Unknown date.	-
0907	Cut of post hole, very regular in plan except for the gradient change on the western edge of the feature, this is probably where the post fell. Post-hole, 0.37m wide and 0.18m deep.	-
0908	Fill of Geological feature	-
0909	Cut of Geological feature	-
Trench 10		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m

Trench Depth 0.58-0.75m		Topsoil Depth 0.20-0.67m		Subsoil Depth 0.28-0.46m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>			<i>Date</i>	
1001	Topsoil			-	
1002	Subsoil			-	
1003	Natural			-	
1004	Fill of Pit [1005], Dark Brown Gravel with large/medium sized stone and root system inclusions. Unknown date.			-	
1005	Cut of Pit. Length/width 0.68m, depth 0.15m. The pit had shallow sloping sides and a flat base.			-	
1006	Fill of Gully [1007]. Dark Brown Silty Gravel with frequent stone inclusions and an iron object of apparent recent origin.			-	
1007	Cut of Gully, same as [0905]. It measured 0.4m wide and 0.16m deep and was filled by (1006) dark brown silty gravel.			-	
Trench 11			Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m		
Trench Depth 0.40-0.43m		Topsoil Depth 0.20-0.26m		Subsoil Depth 0.00-0.10m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>			<i>Date</i>	
1101	Topsoil			-	
1102	Subsoil			-	
1103	Natural			-	
1104	Fill of Post Hole [1005], grey brown gravelly clay with frequent gravel and flint inclusions. Unknown date.			-	
1105	Cut of Post Hole, unknown date. 0.40m wide, 0.12m deep.			-	
1106	Fill of Post Hole [1007], brown silty sand frequent stone inclusions and occasional chalk inclusions. Unknown date.			-	
1107	Cut of Post Hole, unknown date. 0.32m wide, 0.11m deep.			-	
Trench 12			Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m		
Trench Depth 0.40-0.50m		Topsoil Depth 0.17-0.20m		Subsoil Depth 0.15-0.22m	
<i>No archaeology.</i>					
Trench 13			Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m		
Trench Depth 0.45-0.55m		Topsoil Depth 0.24-0.30m		Subsoil Depth 0.12-0.26m	
<i>No archaeology.</i>					
Trench 14			Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m		
Trench Depth 0.58-0.75m		Topsoil Depth 0.20-0.67m		Subsoil Depth 0.28-0.46m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>			<i>Date</i>	
1401	Topsoil			-	
1402	Subsoil			-	
1403	Natural			-	
1404	Cut of Ditch, orientated N-S, with steep sides and an irregular base.			Mid 12th to 14th century	
1405	Fill of Ditch [1404], Dark Brown silt with frequent stone inclusions containing animal bone and a fragment of pottery.			Mid 12th to 14th century	
Trench 15			Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m		
Trench Depth 0.35-0.50m		Topsoil Depth 0.16-0.30m		Subsoil Depth 0.13	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>			<i>Date</i>	
1501	Topsoil			-	
1502	Subsoil			-	
1503	Natural			-	
1504	Fill of Post Hole [1505], Dark brown sandy clay, no finds and unknown date.			-	
1505	Cut of Post Hole. Measures 0.3m wide and 0.1m deep. Unknown date.			-	
Trench 16			Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m		
Trench Depth 0.27-0.50m		Topsoil Depth 0.16-0.20m		Subsoil Depth 0.12-0.22m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>			<i>Date</i>	
1601	Topsoil			-	
1602	Subsoil			-	

1603	Natural	-
1604	Fill of Post Hole [1605], dark brown silty clay. No finds. Unknown date.	-
1605	Cut of Post Hole, no associated finds, unknown date. Measures 0.36m wide and 0.1m deep.	-
1606	Fill of Ditch [1607], dark brown sandy clay bone fragment inclusions. Unknown date.	-
1607	Cut of E-W orientated Ditch, Cut by [1609]. Unknown date. Measures 0.7m wide and 0.58m deep	-
1608	Fill of Ditch [1609], brown chalky clay with occasional chalk and flint inclusions. Unknown date.	-
1609	Re-cut of Ditch 1607. Measures 1.3m wide and 0.9m deep	-
Trench 17		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.45-0.50m	Topsoil Depth 0.18-0.25m	Subsoil Depth 0.13-0.18m
<i>No archaeology.</i>		
Trench 18		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.32-0.43m	Topsoil Depth 0.16-0.28m	Subsoil Depth 0.10-0.16m
<i>No archaeology.</i>		
Trench 19		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.40-0.50m	Topsoil Depth 0.25-0.27m	Subsoil Depth 0.07-0.21m
<i>No archaeology.</i>		
Trench 20		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.36-0.40m	Topsoil Depth 0.20-0.26m	Subsoil Depth 0.05-0.12m
<i>No archaeology.</i>		
Trench 21		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.31-0.40m	Topsoil Depth 0.18-0.23m	Subsoil Depth 0.00- 0.17m
<i>No archaeology.</i>		
Trench 22		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.35-0.39m	Topsoil Depth 0.16-0.23m	Subsoil Depth 0.08-0.13m
<i>No archaeology.</i>		
Trench 23		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.37-0.41m	Topsoil Depth 0.22-0.33m	Subsoil Depth 0.06-0.15m
<i>No archaeology.</i>		
Trench 24		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.30-0.35m	Topsoil Depth 0.21-0.28m	Subsoil Depth 0.00-0.11m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
2401	Topsoil	-
2402	Subsoil	-
2403	Natural	-
2404	Fill of E-W Gulley [2405], mid red brown, sandy silt, occasional stone and frequent modern root inclusions. Unknown date.	-
2405	Cut of E-W Gulley. Unknown date. Measures 0.72m wide and 0.11m deep with shallow sides and a concave base.	-
Trench 25		Trench Size- 30m x 1.8m
Trench Depth 0.35-0.42m	Topsoil Depth 0.26-0.32m	Subsoil Depth -
<i>No archaeology.</i>		



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Trench Outline
- Phase one trench outline
- Likely alignment of ditches



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Title:
 Site location plan

Project:
 Land at Meddler Stud:
 Archaeological Evaluation

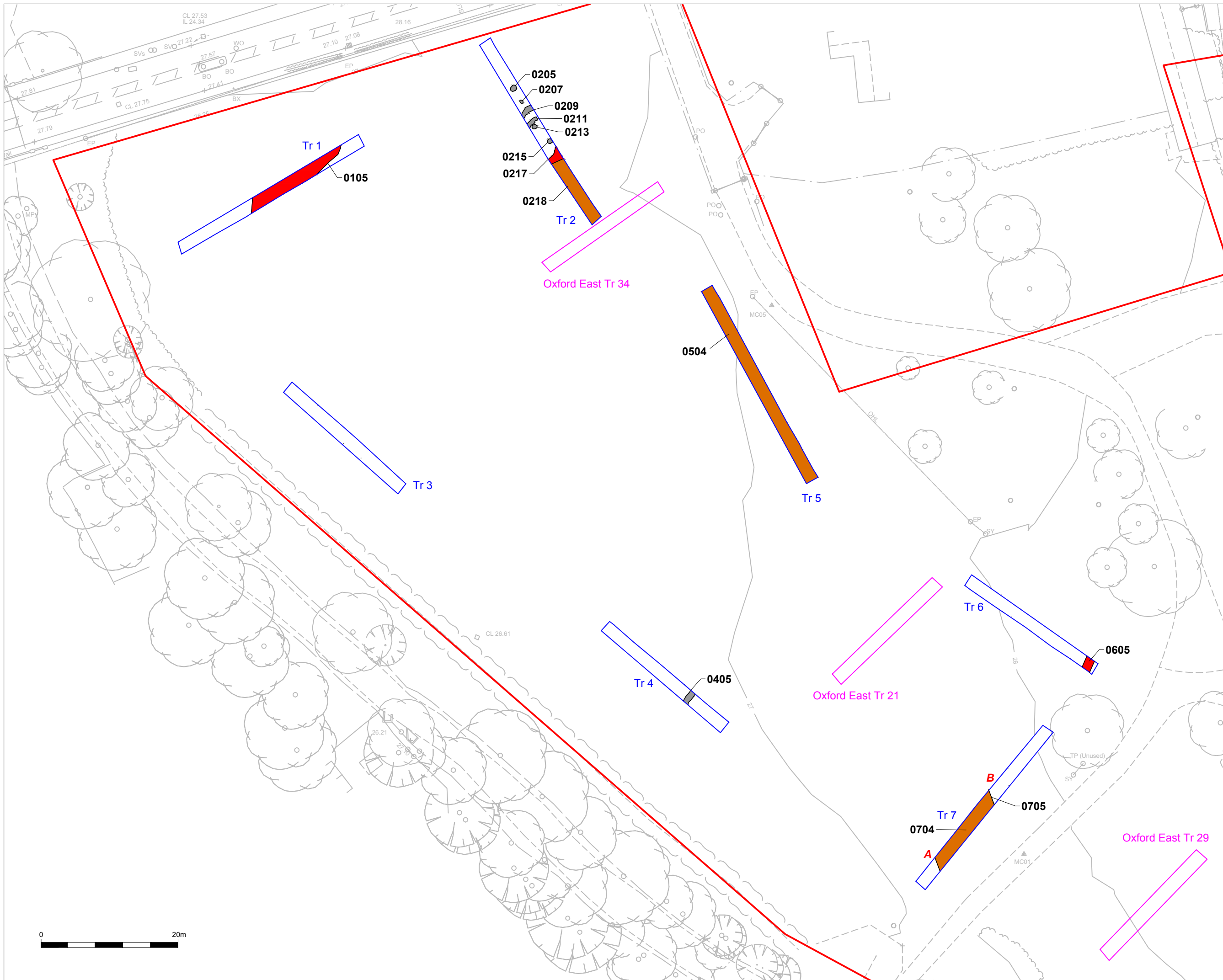
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Report No: MK111/18	Fig. No: 1a
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Key:

- Site Boundary
- Trench Outline
- Oxford East trenches
- Alluvium
- 19th century feature
- Undated feature

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Title:
 Detailed location of features 1

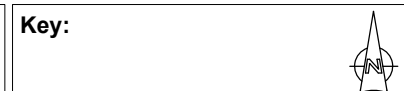
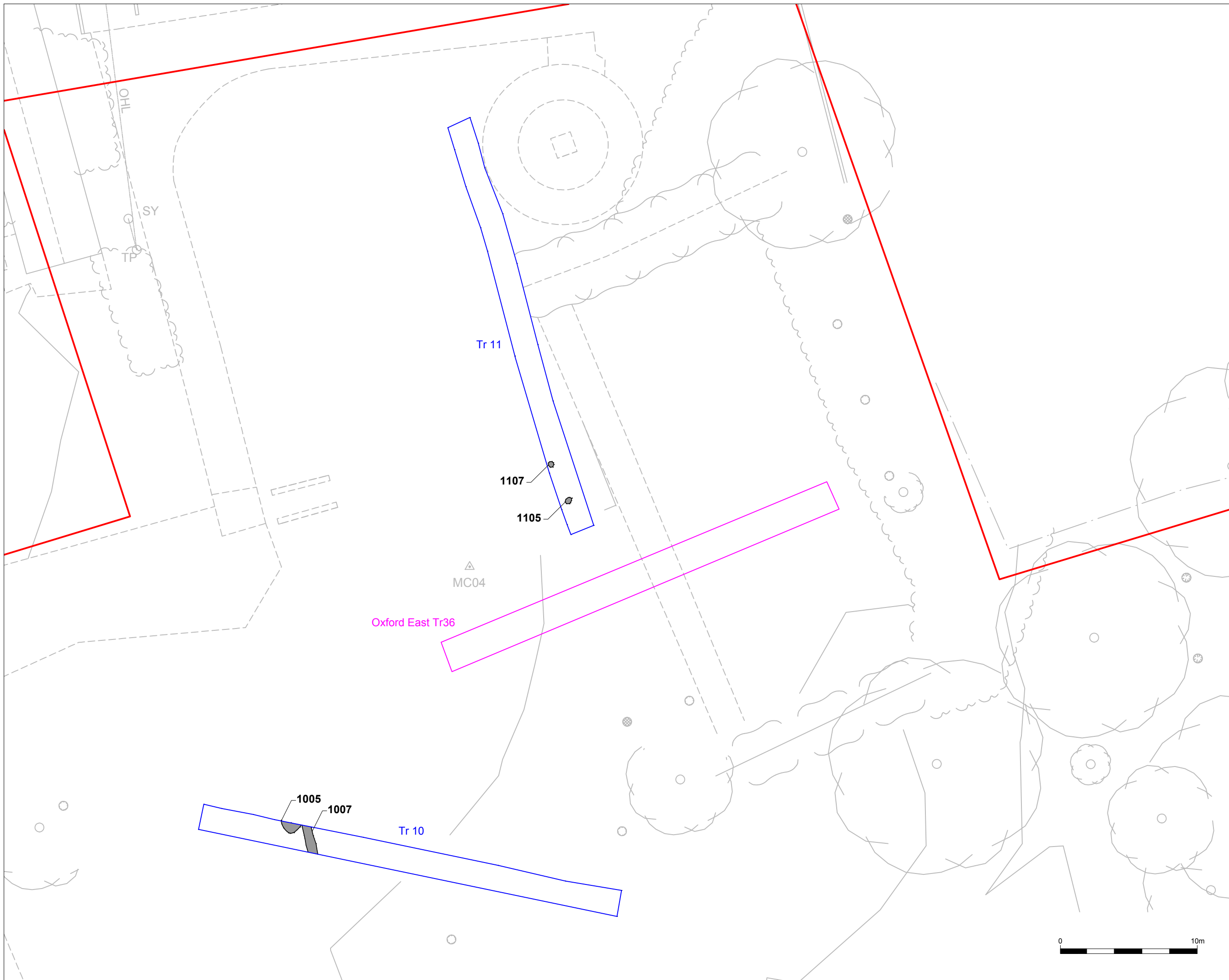
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Report No: MK111/18	Fig. No: 1b
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- Key:**
- Site Boundary
 - Trench Outline
 - Oxford East trenches
 - Undated feature

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Title:
Detailed location of features 2

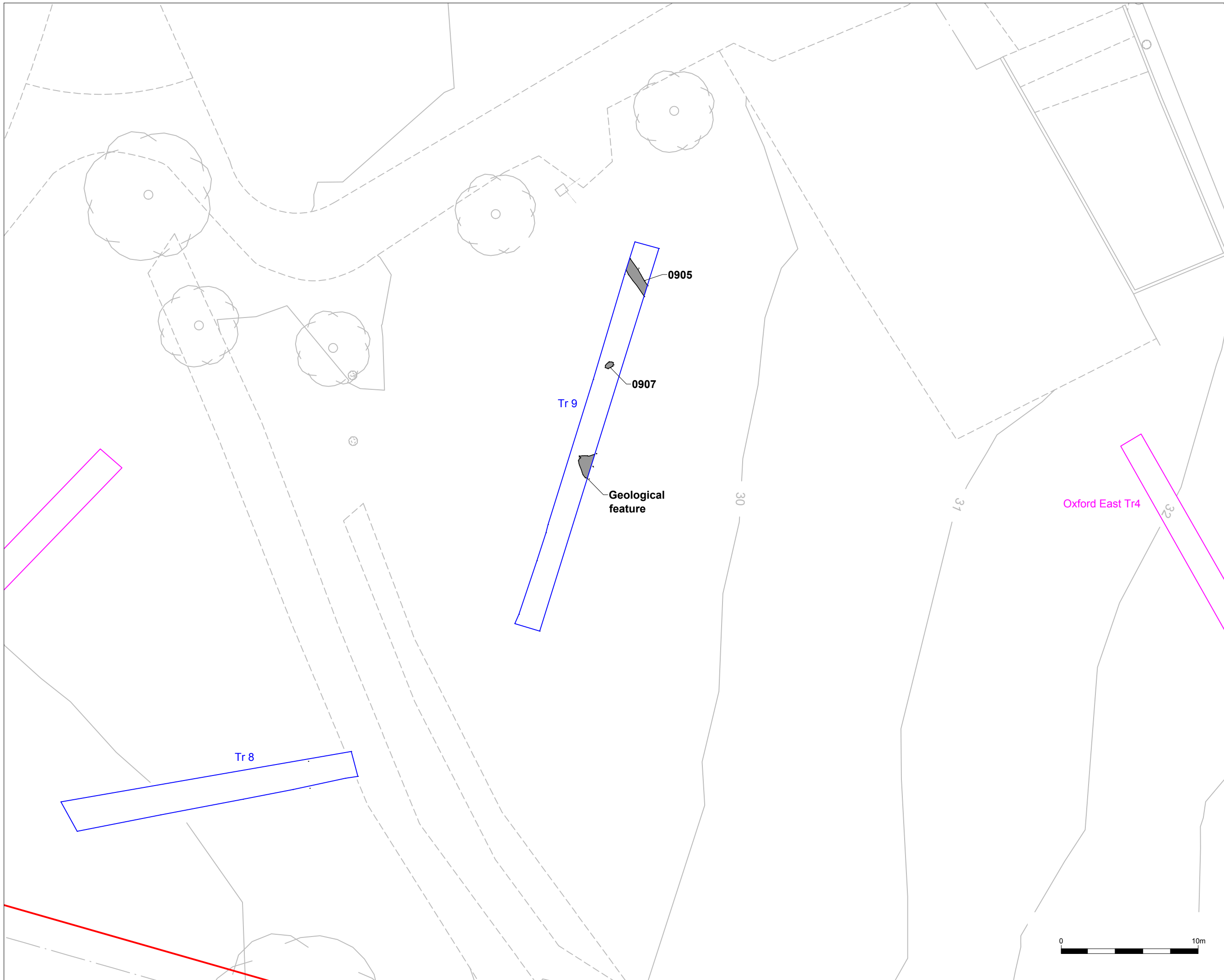
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Key:

- Site Boundary
- Trench Outline
- Oxford East trenches
- Undated feature



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Title:
Detailed location of features 3

Project:
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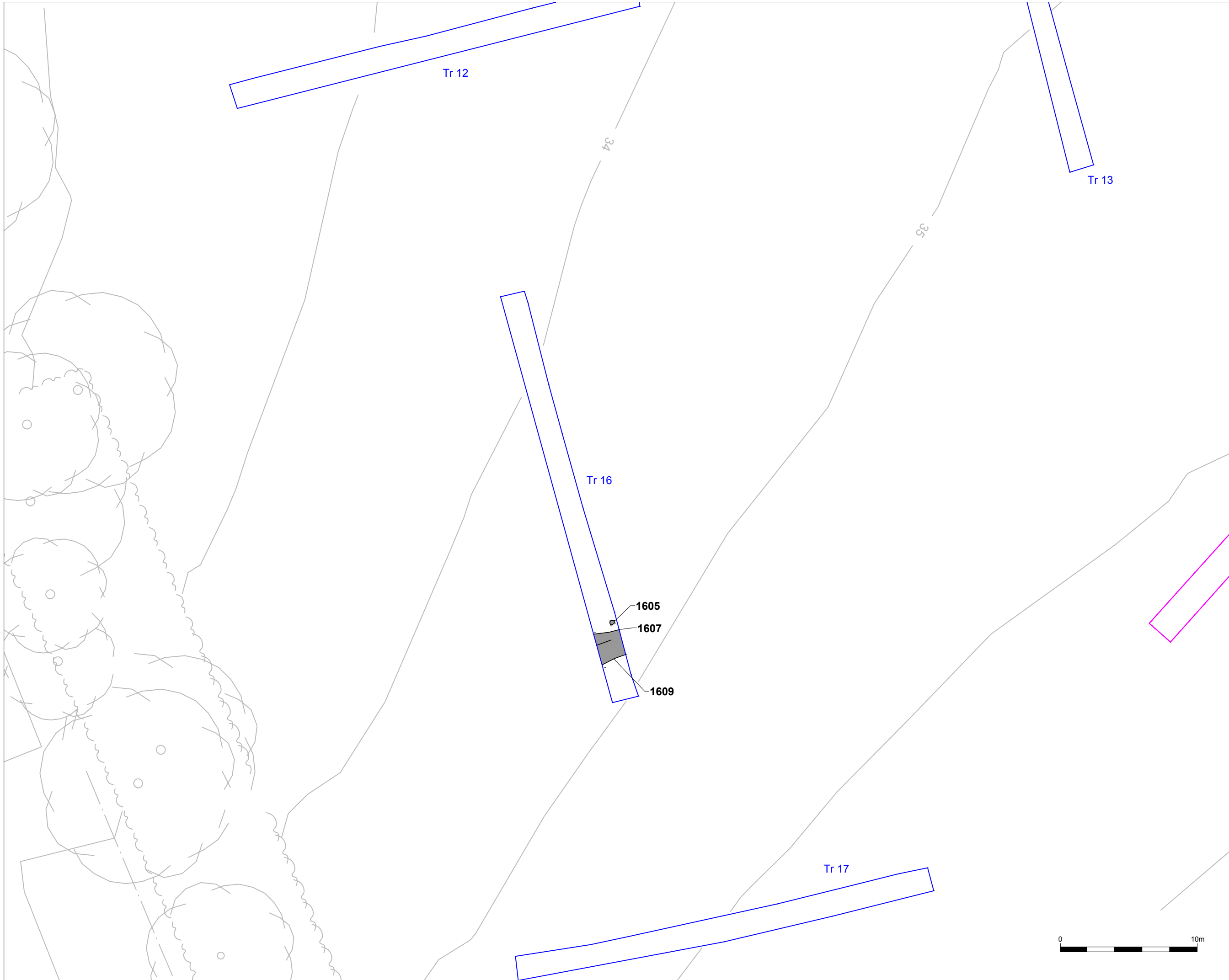
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Report.No: MK111/18	Fig. No: 1d
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Key:

- Site Boundary
- Trench Outline
- Oxford East trenches
- Undated feature



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Title:
Detailed location of features 4

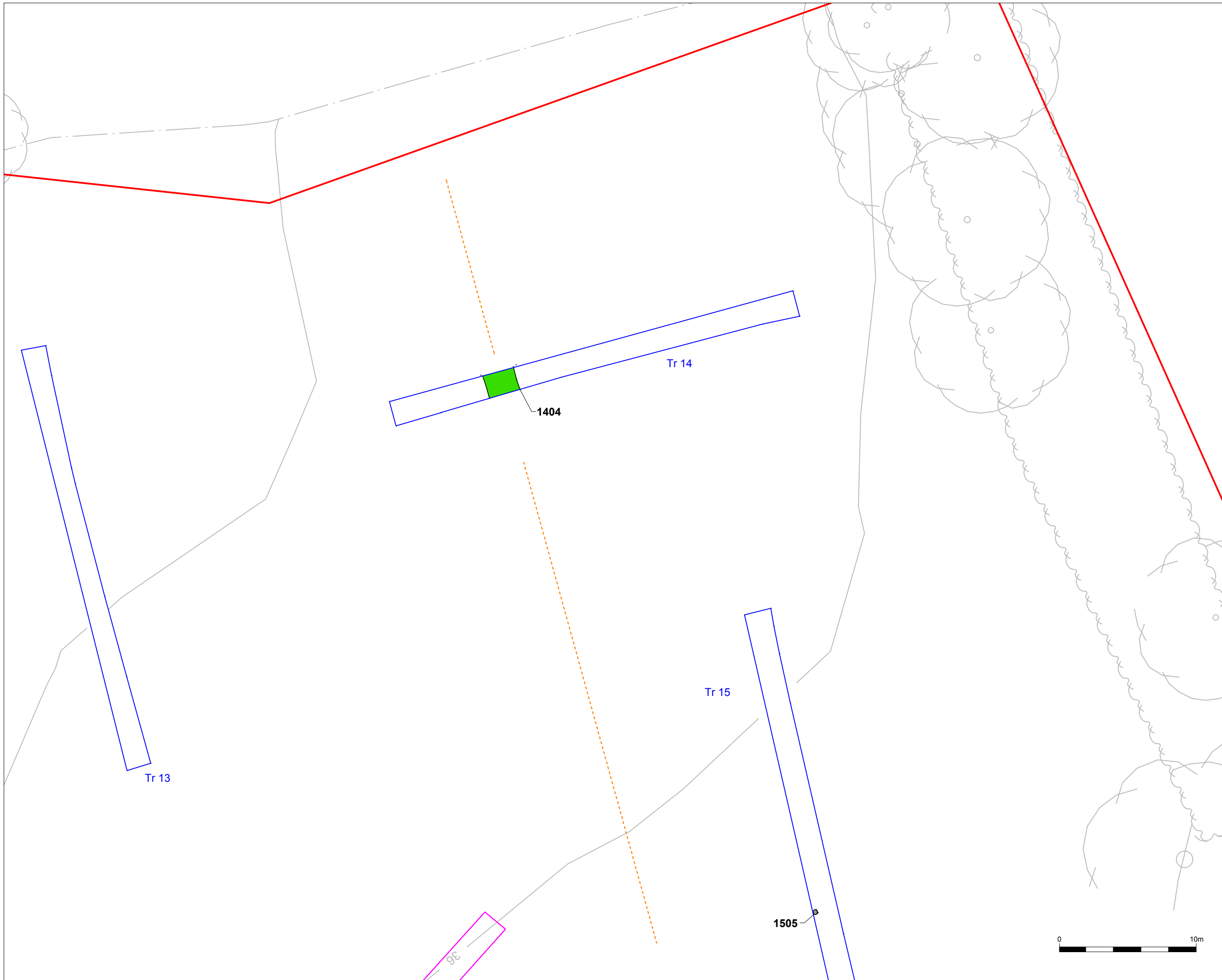
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Report.No: MK111/18	Fig. No: 1e
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Key:

- Site Boundary
- Trench Outline
- Oxford East trenches
- Medieval feature
- Undated feature



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Title:
Detailed location of features 5

Project:
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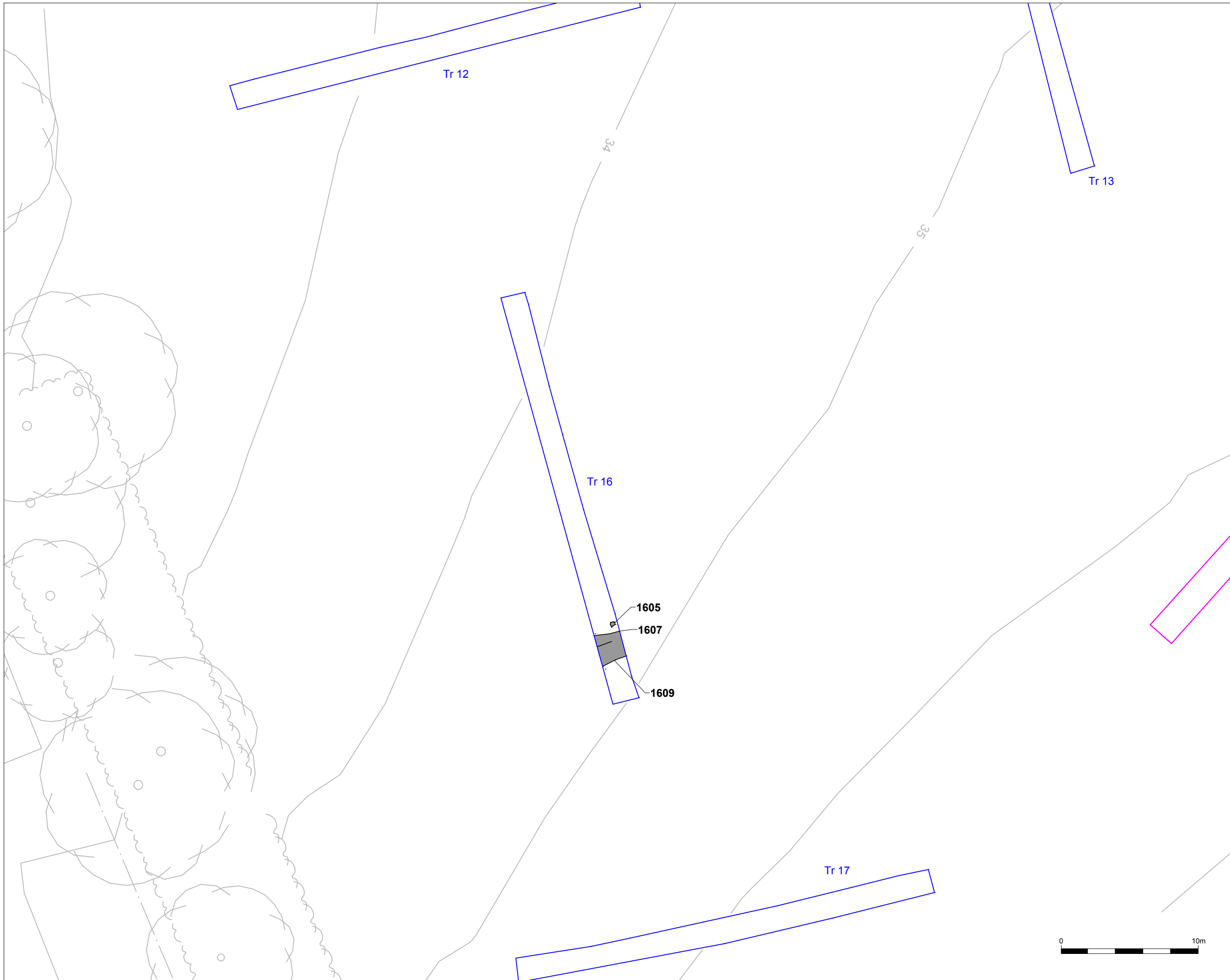
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Report No: MK111/18	Fig. No: 1f
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Key:

- Site Boundary
- Trench Outline
- Phase one trench outline
- Undated feature



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Title:
Detailed location of features 6

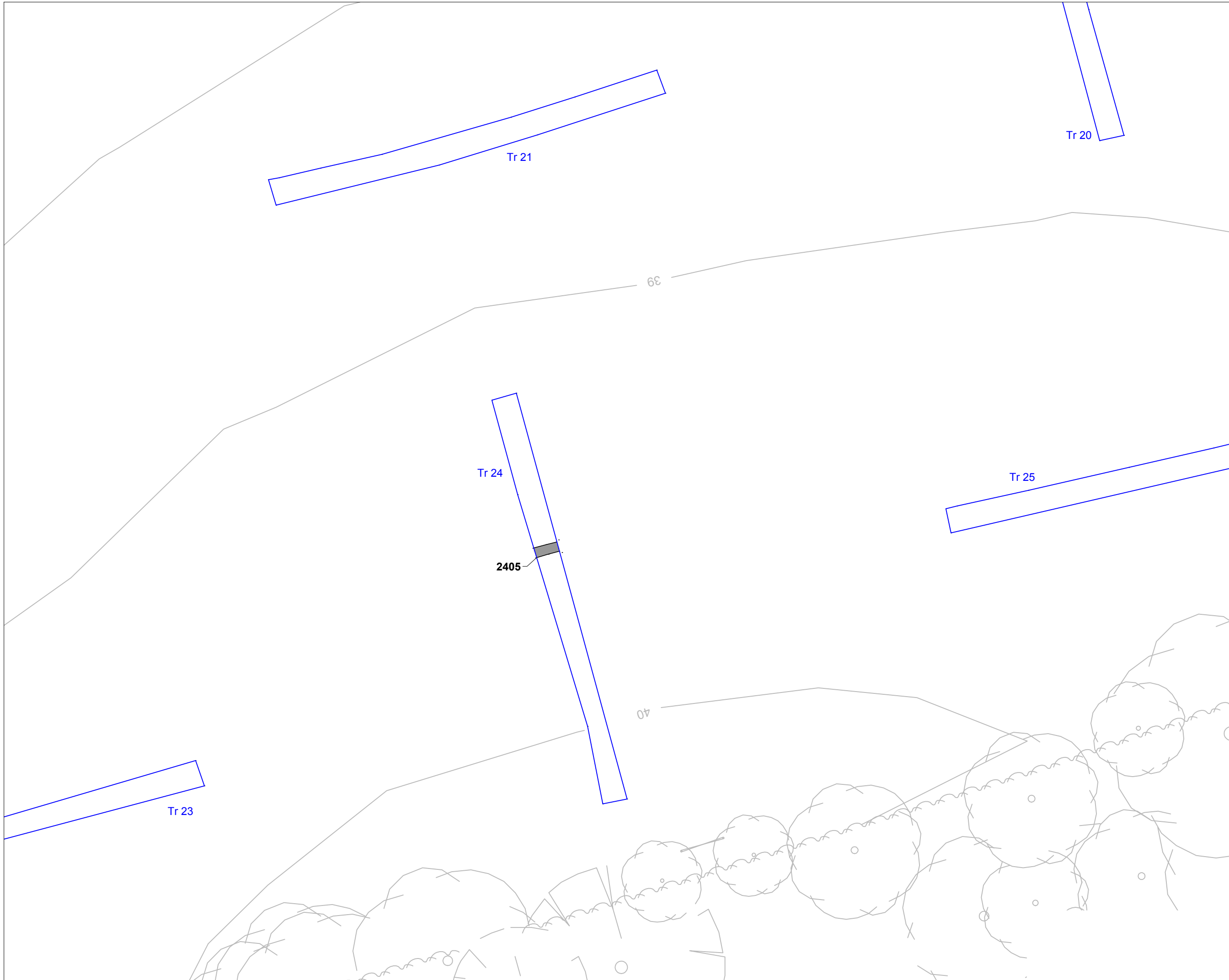
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 Archaeological Evaluation**

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- Key:**
- Site Boundary
 - Trench Outline
 - Undated feature

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Title:
Detailed location of features 7

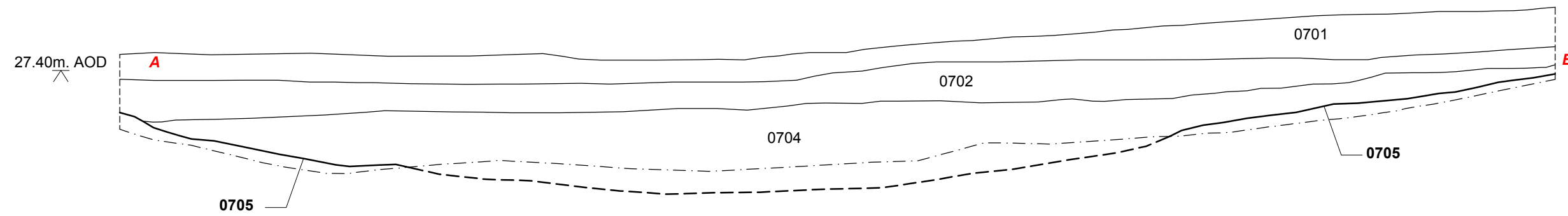
Project:
**Land at Meddler Stud:
 Archaeological Evaluation**

Client:
Lanpro

Scale at A3:
1:250

Drawn by: MP	Checked: SW	Date: 27/02/2018
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Report No: MK111/18	Fig. No: 1h
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Title:
**South-east-facing section of
natural channel 0705 filled with
alluvium 0704**

Project:
**Land at Meddler Stud:
Archaeological Evaluation**

Client:
Lanpro

Scale at A3:
1:40

Drawn by: MP	Checked: SW	Date: 27/02/2018
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Report No: MK111/18	Fig. No: 2
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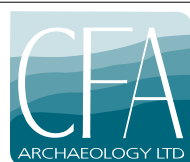


Fig. 3 - General shot of Trench 7, facing SE



Fig. 4 - General shot of chalk geology, Trench 16, facing SE

Project:
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Fig. 5 - General shot of gravels and sands on the east part of Site, Trench 18, facing NW



Fig. 6 - General shot of alluvium 0218 in Trench 02

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Fig. 7 - Shot of channel 0705 filled with alluvium 0704, facing SW



Fig. 8 - Gully 0905 in Trench 09, facing N

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Fig. 9 - Shot of post-hole 0907 in Trench 09, looking E



Fig. 10 - South-facing section of Ditch 1404 in Trench 14, facing N

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Fig. 11 - Ditches 1607 and 1609 in Trench 16, looking SW



Fig. 12 - Photo of microlithic trapezoid from context 0704

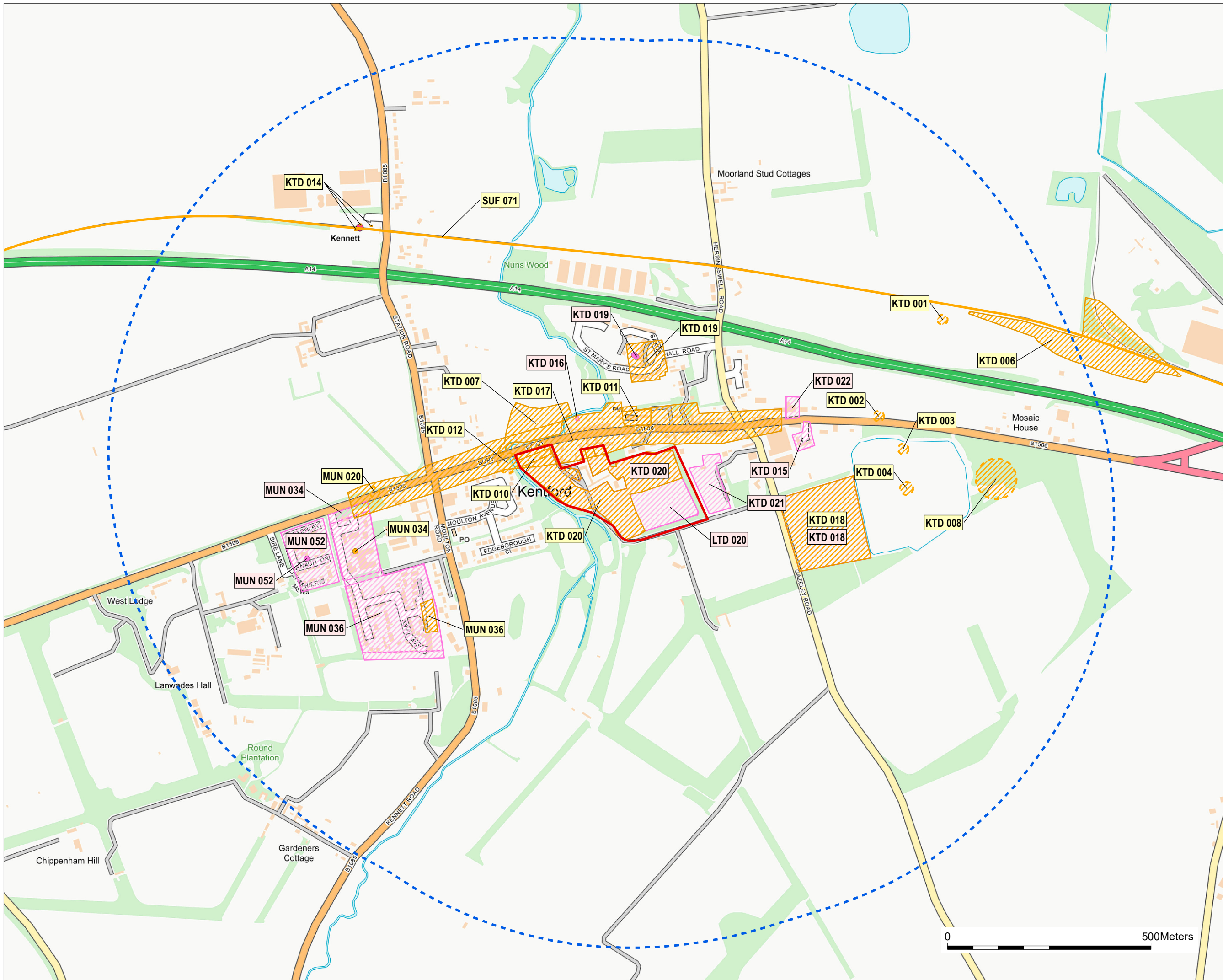
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Key:

- Site Boundary
- 1km Study Area
- HER Site (point)
- HER Site (linear)
- HER Site (ellipse)
- HER Site (area)
- HER Event (point)
- HER Event (area)

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Title:
Archaeological events and monuments within 1 km

Project:
Land at Meddler Stud: Archaeological Evaluation

Client:
Heritage Developments Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:8,500

Drawn by: MP	Checked by: MR	Date: 09/08/2018
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Report No: MK111/18	Fig. No: 11
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**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION TRENCHING**

**LAND AT MEDDLER STUD
KENTFORD, SUFFOLK**

**PREPARED BY LANPRO SERVICES
ON BEHALF OF
HERITAGE DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED**

November 2017



Planning + Development | Design Studio | Archaeology + Heritage

Project Reference: HER001/0873/01

HER Parish Code: TBC

Event Number: TBC

Document Prepared by: Paul Gajos MCIfA

Revision	Reason for Update	Document Updated

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Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Trench plan

Appendix 1: SCCAS brief

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Lanpro on behalf of Heritage Developments Limited (the client) and details the methodology for undertaking a scheme of archaeological evaluation trenching of land at Meddler Stud, Kentford, Suffolk, to inform a planning application for residential development of the site. The archaeological evaluation will comprise the excavation of 20 trenches measuring 1.8m by 30m.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The site is located in the village of Kentford, Suffolk approximately 5km to the northeast of Newmarket (centred on NGR 570618, 266619; Figure 1). The site covers an area of approximately 7.16 hectares of land which formerly comprised part of the Meddler Stud.
- 2.2 The site is located on the eastern side of the River Kennett. On the western boundary of the site there is a steep drop off towards the river itself with the land rising gently to towards the south and east from a height of approximately 27m OD on the northern boundary to approximately 35-40m OD on the eastern and southern boundaries.
- 2.3 The British Geological Survey (BGS) record the underlying solid geology of the application site as being Cretaceous chalk of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation (www.bgs.ac.uk/lexicon/lexicon).
- 2.4 The superficial geology varies across the application site as the topography rises out of the valley of the River Kennett. In the northwest corner of the site, superficial deposits comprise the alluvial clay, silt, sands and gravel deposited by the River Kennett. Across the central and eastern side of the application site, superficial deposits comprise the Quaternary sand and gravel River Terrace Deposits of the 2nd and 4th terraces respectively. Localised lenses of silt, clay or peat are also recorded within these deposits (www.bgs.ac.uk/lexicon/lexicon).

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Outline Planning Permission for residential development of the site was initially refused (DC/14/0585 but later granted at appeal subject to the fulfilment of a number of planning conditions (ref. APP/H3510/W/15/3070064). Condition 6 relates to the archaeological implications of the development and states:

6. No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The scheme shall include provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.

- 3.2 Following consultation with the Suffolk County Council Senior Archaeological Officer, it has been agreed that evaluation trenching covering 4% of the previously undeveloped portion

of the site (with an additional 1% contingency) will be undertaken, and this WSI details the scope of works required. The brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service is presented in appendix 1. Following a meeting with the Senior Archaeological Officer on site it has been agreed that the topographic survey outlined in the brief will not be necessary.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A programme of archaeological evaluation comprising desk based assessment (URS 2014), geophysical survey (Stratascan 2013) and trial trenching with topographic survey (Oxford Archaeology East 2013) has been undertaken to inform the outline planning application. The following summarises the findings of those surveys and the full reports will be provided to the fieldwork contractor before work commences.
- 4.2 Alluvial deposits made up a majority of non-geological material seen within Trench 34 (central western part of site) and contained the largest finds concentration. The finds from Trench 34 suggest that the area was utilised for both flint collection and working and its proximity to the river Kennet would point to collection of raw materials from river erosion of natural flint deposits within the surrounding chalk.
- 4.3 The trial trenching recovered a small assemblage of prehistoric material including pottery and flint. The location of the material within the alluvium and the upper fills of the geological features suggests that the Mesolithic, earlier Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age activity was occurring on site during the formation of the colluvium, subsoil and alluvium.
- 4.4 There was no evidence for any medieval features or material within the area, with the exception of two greyware pottery sherds. Due to its proximity to the known medieval settlement (only 500m away) the lack of finds may indicate that this area may have been sparsely used or would perhaps have been grazing land throughout the medieval period. Post-Medieval evidence consisted of two ditches.
- 4.5 The earthworks in the south-eastern paddock form irregular terraces and the combination of trenching and topographic survey has shown the full extent of these features. They are confined to a single paddock, were formed by the banking of material on the downward slope and to have, or to have had, returns along their western sides enclosing the terraced area. A clay pipe bowl recovered from within the made-ground that formed the banks may date these earthworks although this may not be seen as conclusive.
- 4.6 During the trenching the geophysical anomalies reported by Stratascan (2013) were exposed in all trenches. The majority of these anomalies correspond to areas of sand and gravel within the solid chalk natural and have been confirmed as being of geological, probably periglacial, origin.

5 RESEARCH DESIGN

Aims and Objectives

5.1 The overall aim of the programme of archaeological evaluation trenching will be to obtain sufficient information as to the archaeological significance and potential of the site to allow reasoned and informed recommendations to be made on the application for development of the site. Depending on the results of the evaluation, a decision on the need for further work will be made by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) and would be subject to an additional WSI.

5.2 This will be achieved through the following objectives:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any archaeological remains within the development site
- To ground truth and verify the results of the geophysical survey
- To excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance
- To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site
- To assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence
- To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains
- To undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features
- To report the results of the evaluation and place them in their local and regional context
- To compile and deposit a site archive for deposition with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service and to provide information for accession to the Suffolk HER.

Research Framework

5.3 The programme of archaeological investigation will be conducted within the general research parameters and objectives defined by:

- *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 1. Resource Assessment* (Glazebrook 1997);
- *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 2. Research Agenda and Strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000)
- *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011)

5.4 The investigation will also take account of the national research programmes outlined in English Heritage's *Strategic Framework for historic Environment Activities and Programmes in English Heritage* (SHAPE) first published in 2008.

6 STANDARDS

- 6.1 All work will be undertaken to fully meet the requirements of all nationally recognised guidance for such work, including standards laid down by the former English Heritage (now Historic England) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).
- 6.2 The programme of archaeological evaluation will be managed in line with the standards laid down in the Historic England guideline publication *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Managers Guide* (2015) and the *MoRPHE Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation (PPN3)* (2008), as well as to meet the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF; Chapter 12: 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment'). All excavation will be undertaken using recording standards detailed in the *Archaeological Field Manual* (MOLAS 1994).
- 6.3 Of particular relevance to the programme of works are –
- *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a)
 - *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (CIfA 2014b)
 - *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2014c)
 - *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014d)
 - *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (English Heritage 2008)
 - *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003)
 - *SCCAS Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2017a)
 - *SCCAS Archaeological Archives in Suffolk. Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition* (SCCAS 2017b)

7 METHODOLOGY

Project Initialisation

- 7.1 Lanpro will inform the SCCAS at least one week in advance of the commencement of fieldwork.
- 7.2 The archaeological contractor will contact Suffolk HER prior to the start of fieldwork to obtain an HER Parish Code and an Event Number, which will be quoted on all documentation connected to the project. The HER Parish Code will be used as the accession number on all archive material (paper, digital and physical).
- 7.3 The contractor will also undertake a HER search to check for additional information that is not contained within the desk based assessment undertaken in 2014.
- 7.4 Before fieldwork commences an OASIS online record will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creator forms.

Fieldwork

- 7.5 The archaeological evaluation will comprise the excavation of 21 trenches measuring 1.8m by 30m and four trenches measuring 1.8m by 20m. The trenches have been positioned to provide a wide sample across the main areas of impact within the site.
- 7.6 An additional trenching contingency comprising a further 250m by length of trenching is also provided for, to allow for further evaluation of any significant or complex archaeological features if they should be identified during the initial phase of trenching.
- 7.7 Topsoil and overburden will be removed by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket (c.1.8m wide), under archaeological supervision. The spoil generated during the evaluation will be mounded away from the edges of each trench. Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately. Mechanical excavation will cease at either undisturbed natural deposits or the top of archaeological deposits.
- 7.8 Spoil from mechanical excavation will be scanned by eye and by metal detector to aid the recovery of topsoil artefact. Metal detecting will also be conducted over the surface of all exposed features before the end of each working day as a countermeasure to 'nighthawking'.
- 7.9 All excavation by mechanical excavator will be undertaken under direct archaeological supervision, by a suitably experienced and qualified archaeologist, with one archaeologist responsible for monitoring each excavator.
- 7.10 Should the excavation of the trenches reach the limit of safe working depth without natural geology being encountered, a machine dug sondage will be excavated in order to establish the depth of natural geology, provided this will have no detrimental effects upon archaeological deposits. Where depth of excavation is required to be greater than 1m, suitable stepping will be employed.
- 7.11 All archaeological features and deposits revealed will be cleaned and excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to establish their extent, form, date, function and relationship to other features. All features will be investigated to understand the full stratigraphic sequence down to naturally occurring deposits.
- 7.12 Any excavation, by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be demonstrably worthy of preservation in situ.
- 7.13 There will be a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation. Significant archaeological features (e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or postholes), should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For linear features, minimum 1m wide slots should be excavated across their width. For discrete features, such as pits, 50% of their fills will be sampled (in some instances 100% may be requested by the Suffolk County Council Senior Archaeological Officer).

- 7.14 There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits will be established across the site.
- 7.15 Metal detector searches will take place at all stages of the evaluation. Metal detecting of trench locations should be carried out before trenches are excavated, with trench bases and spoil scanned once trenches have been opened. Any metal finds will be located using survey-grade GPS and metal detectors will not be set to discriminate against iron.
- 7.16 All identified finds and artefacts will be collected and retained, and bagged and labelled according to their context. Finds of significant interest will be given a 'small finds' number, and information on their location in three dimensions will be entered on a separate pro-forma sheet. No finds will be discarded without assessment by an appropriate finds specialist, and/or the approval of SCCAS.
- 7.17 A full written, drawn and photographic record will be made of all features revealed during the course of the archaeological evaluation. All archaeological features or deposits encountered will be described fully on pro-forma individual context recording sheets, using standard methods of the archaeological contractor appointed. A stratigraphic matrix will be compiled to record the relationships of any archaeological features or deposits encountered.
- 7.18 Plans will be completed at a scale of 1:20 (as appropriate), with section drawings at a scale of 1:10. All plans will be tied in with the Ordnance Survey National Grid with levels given to above OD.
- 7.19 A photographic record, utilising black and white negative film, supplemented by high resolution digital photography of a minimum of 10 megapixels and in RAW format, will be maintained during the course of the fieldwork and will include:
- the site prior to commencement of fieldwork
 - the site during work, showing specific stages of fieldwork
 - the layout of archaeological features within each trench
 - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections
 - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 7.20 All photography will follow the archaeological contractor's guidance which conforms to industry best practice (ADS 2013 and HE 2015b). Images will be converted to uncompressed baseline v.6 TIFF for archiving. All images will have accompanying metadata specifying; photo ID, capture device, converting software, colour space, bit depth, resolution, date of capture, photographer, caption, and any alterations made to the image.
- 7.21 Following excavation and recording of any archaeological remains, and with the agreement of SCCAS, the evaluation trenches will be back-filled with the previously excavated spoil.
- 7.22 Expansion of the excavation area outside of the trenches will not be undertaken. The exception to this will be where human remains are identified and cannot be preserved in

situ, and where best practice is to maintain the integrity of an individual, or where Treasure artefacts would otherwise be at risk of theft.

Palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy

- 7.23 Soil samples will be taken from all suitable features or deposits for palaeoenvironmental sampling. This will comprise the removal of a bulk sample from every securely sealed and hand-excavated context, excepting those with excessive levels of residuality or those with minimal 'soil' content (such as building rubble).
- 7.24 Bulk samples will comprise representative 40 litre samples. Where a context does not yield 40 litres of material, smaller samples will be taken (generally the maximum amount of material that it is practicable to collect). Bulk samples will be used to recover a sub-sample of charred macroplant material, faunal remains and artefacts where necessary, as well as any significant industrial residues.
- 7.25 If buried soils or other deposits are encountered, column samples may be taken for micromorphological and pollen analysis. Environmental material will be stored in a controlled environment and specialists consulted during the course of the work if necessary.
- 7.26 The post-excavation processing of all palaeoenvironmental samples will be undertaken in line with the requirements of the former English Heritage's (now Historic England) publications *Archaeological Science at PPG16 Interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists* (2006) and *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (2011).

Human remains

- 7.27 The client, the Ministry of Justice and SCCAS will be informed if human remains are found. Disturbance of human skeletal remains will be kept to a minimum. Any human remains encountered will be accurately recorded in plan to identify the date and character of the remains, including in situ examination by a palaeopathologist, but no further investigation will occur and the remains will be covered and protected.
- 7.28 Removal of human remains will only take place under appropriate government and environmental health regulations, in compliance with the Burial Act 1857 and after obtaining a Section 25 exhumation licence obtained from the Ministry of Justice. If required a qualified and experienced osteoarchaeologist will undertake site visits to discuss the recording and assist in the removal of any human skeletal remains.
- 7.29 Human remains will be processed as part of the post-excavation assessment following national standards and guidance, including English Heritage (2004), Brickley and McKinley (2004) and the Church of England/English Heritage (2005).

Scientific dating

- 7.30 The recovery of material suitable for radiocarbon, archaeomagnetic and/or dendrochronological dating will be sought, if appropriate.

Other finds

- 7.31 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner during the excavation and post-excavation stage and to standards agreed in advance with the recipient museum. Finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and stored in accordance with the guidelines set out in United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's Conservation Guidelines No. 2 (1990) and the CIfA guidelines *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014c).
- 7.32 If required, conservation will be undertaken by approved conservators in line with the *First Aid for Finds* guidelines (Watkinson and Neal 1998). In accordance with the procedures outlined in English Heritage's MoRPHE PPN3 (2008), significant iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins), and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy should be X-radiographed before assessment.
- 7.33 All finds of gold and silver will be moved to a safe place. Where removal cannot be effected immediately, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage. All finds of gold and silver, and associated objects, will be immediately reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) who will inform the coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996 (and the act's amendment of 2003 to include prehistoric objects such as Bronze Age metalworking hoards and other non-precious metal items), after discussion with the client and SCCAS.
- 7.34 Ownership of any finds recovered from the archaeological works rests with the landowner except where other law overrides this (e.g. Treasure Act 1996, Burial Act 1857). However, Lanpro will seek to obtain 'in principle' agreement from the landowner to donate the recovered artefacts to the recipient museum (subject to statutory laws concerning human remains and treasure trove).

Unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries

- 7.35 Should unexpectedly extensive, complex or significant remains be uncovered that warrant, in the professional judgment of the archaeologist on site, requiring more detailed recording than is appropriate within the terms of the WSI, the scope of the WSI will be reviewed.
- 7.36 In the event of a review of the WSI being required, Lanpro will contact the client and SCCAS with the relevant information to enable them to resolve the matter. This is likely to require an on-site meeting between the relevant stakeholders to review the archaeological remains on-site and identify a way forward. Any variations to this WSI will be put in writing and agreed by the relevant stakeholders including SCCAS and the client.

Plant and equipment

- 7.37 The archaeological contractor on site will be responsible for the provision of all required welfare, plant and health and safety equipment.

8 POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

8.1 The post-excavation assessment work will comprise the following:

- checking of drawn and written records during and on completion of fieldwork
- production of a stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site, if appropriate
- cataloguing of photographic material
- cleaning, marking, bagging and labelling of finds according to the individual deposits from which they were recovered. Finds requiring specialist conservation will be sent for appropriate treatment. Finds will be identified and dated by appropriate specialists

8.2 Unless otherwise agreed with SCCAS, a report detailing the findings of the archaeological evaluation will be prepared, conforming to SCCAS requirements and to published regional standards.

8.3 The report will consist of:

- a title page detailing site address, site code and accession number, NGR, author / originating body, client's name and address
- full contents listing
- a non-technical summary of the findings of the evaluation
- a description of the topography and geology of the evaluation area
- a description of the archaeological background to the site
- a description of the methodologies used during the evaluation
- a description of the findings of the evaluation
- site and trench location plans and plans of each of the trenches
- section drawings of the excavated archaeological features
- interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape
- specialist reports on the artefactual / ecofactual remains from the site
- appropriate photographs of specific archaeological features
- a full context list
- the OASIS reference and summary form
- A copy of this WSI as an appendix

8.4 The results of the work will be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the Suffolk HER. It will include, where relevant, examination of all readily available cartographic sources to record evidence for historic or archaeological sites and history of previous land uses. Where relevant and permitted, photographs, photocopies or traced copies

will be presented in the report. This will also incorporate an assessment of the potential for documentary research that would contribute to the archaeological investigation of the site.

- 8.5 An unbound hardcopy of the report, clearly marked DRAFT, will be presented to SCCAS for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated. Following acceptance, a single copy of the report will be presented to the Suffolk HER as well as a digital copy of the approved report. Where appropriate, a copy of the approved report will be sent to the local archaeological museum. A digital vector trench plan will be included with the report, compatible with industry standard GIS software for integration in the Suffolk HER.
- 8.6 Where positive results are drawn from the evaluation, a summary report will be prepared, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. It will be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS, by the end of the calendar year in which the work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

9 ARCHIVING

- 9.1 The archive will contain all the data collected during the archaeological works, including all digital and paper records, finds and environmental samples. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent and will comply fully with the SCCAS guidance *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk. Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition (SCCAS 2017b)*.
- 9.2 The archive will be prepared in accordance with the *Guidelines for the preparation of Excavation Archives for long-term storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990), *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994), the Historic England guideline publication *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Managers Guide (2015)* and in accordance with recipient museum deposition guidelines. Provision will be made for the stable storage of paper records and their long-term storage.
- 9.3 Adequate resources will be provided during fieldwork to ensure that all records are checked and internally consistent. Archive consolidation will be undertaken immediately following the conclusion of fieldwork and will include the following work:
- the site record will be checked, cross-referenced and indexed as necessary
 - all retained finds will be cleaned, conserved, marked and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the recipient museum
 - all retained finds will be assessed and recorded using pro forma recording sheets, by suitably qualified and experienced staff. Initial artefact dating will be integrated within the site matrix
 - all retained environmental samples will be processed by suitably experienced and qualified staff

- 9.4 An OASIS form will be completed for the project and an electronic copy of the final report deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

10 STAFFING

- 10.1 Details of the timetable and CVs of key personnel and specialists will be provided to the Planning Archaeologist on appointment of the fieldwork contractor. Work will be undertaken under the management of a suitably qualified archaeologist (MCIfA or equivalent). Paul Gajos MCIfA (Lanpro Archaeology and Heritage Director) will be in overall charge of the project and will monitor the work on behalf of the developer. The appointed archaeological contractor will be a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

11 TIMETABLE

- 11.1 SCCAS will be given at least one week's notice of the commencement of the fieldwork and will monitor implementation of the programme of works on behalf of the Local Planning Authority and evaluate the work being undertaken on site against the methodology detailed in this WSI. They will be free to visit the site at any time by prior arrangement with Lanpro.
- 11.2 Excavation and recording of trial trenches is anticipated to involve a maximum of two weeks fieldwork on-site.
- 11.3 An assessment report will be produced within six weeks of completion subject to the complexity of any archaeological features or finds encountered.

12 MONITORING

- 12.1 The aim of monitoring is to ensure that the archaeological works are undertaken within the limits set by this WSI, and to the satisfaction of the Suffolk County Council Senior Archaeological Officer.
- 12.2 Paul Gajos of Lanpro (MCIfA; Director Archaeologist & Heritage, Lanpro) will monitor implementation of the programme of works on behalf of the client.
- 12.3 SCCAS will monitor implementation of the programme of works on behalf of the Local Planning Authority and evaluate the work being undertaken on site against the methodology detailed in this WSI.
- 12.4 SCCAS will be responsible for considering any changes to the scope of works. Any such alterations will be agreed in writing with the relevant parties prior to commencement of on-site works, or at the earliest available opportunity.

13 INSURANCE

- 13.1 The archaeological contractor will produce evidence of Public Liability Insurance to the minimum value of £5m and Professional Indemnity Insurance to the minimum of £5m.

14 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 14.1 All works will be undertaken in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) and all applicable regulations and Codes of Practice, and the Construction Design Management Regulations 2015.
- 14.2 All archaeological staff will undertake their operations in accordance with safe working practices and will be CSCS certified. At least one First Aider will be present on site at all times.
- 14.3 A site-specific risk assessment will be undertaken, recorded and provided to Lanpro prior to the commencement of work on site.
- 14.4 Regular audits of health and safety practices will be carried out during the course of the project by Lanpro and the archaeological contractor in consultation with the site workforce. Toolbox talks on health and safety issues will be conducted at minimum weekly intervals and/or after changes in working practices or identification of new threats/risks. The risk assessment will be reviewed and updated as necessary. Control measures will be implemented as required in response to specific hazards.
- 14.5 Safe working will take priority over the desire to record archaeological features or remains, and where it is considered that recording is dangerous, any such features will be recorded by photography at a safe distance.
- 14.6 Trench locations will be scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) prior to excavation.
- 14.7 Where archaeological work is carried out at the same time as the work of other contractors, regard will be taken of any reasonable additional constraints that these contractors may impose.
- 14.8 All staff will receive a health and safety induction prior to starting work on site to be provided by the archaeological contractor, and visitors to the site will receive an induction as required.
- 14.9 The archaeological contractor will provide all staff on site with copies of all health and safety documentation. Plant operators will be required to produce evidence of qualification within an industry accepted registration scheme. Sub-Contractors health and safety performance will be kept under review and action taken if necessary.

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Figures

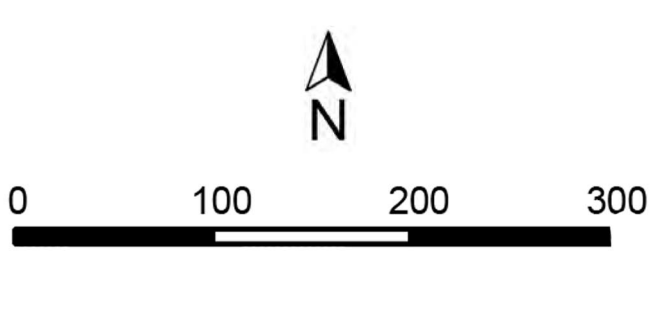
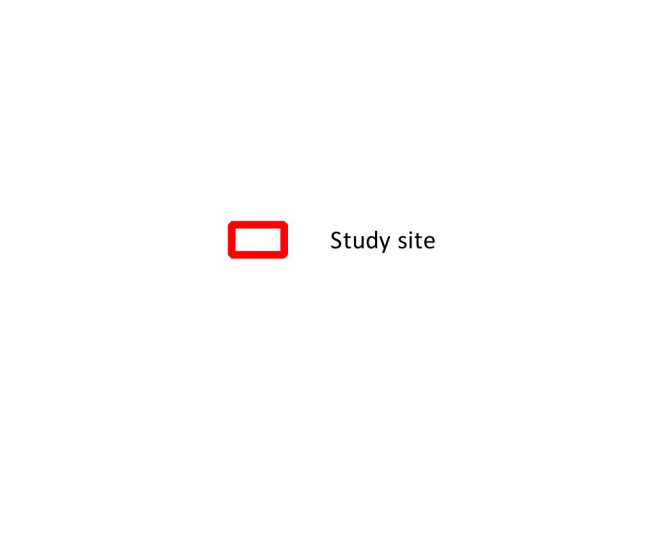
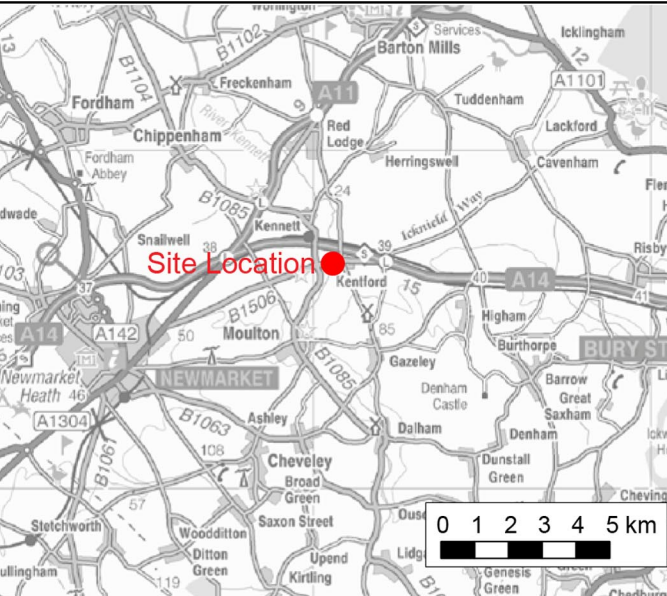
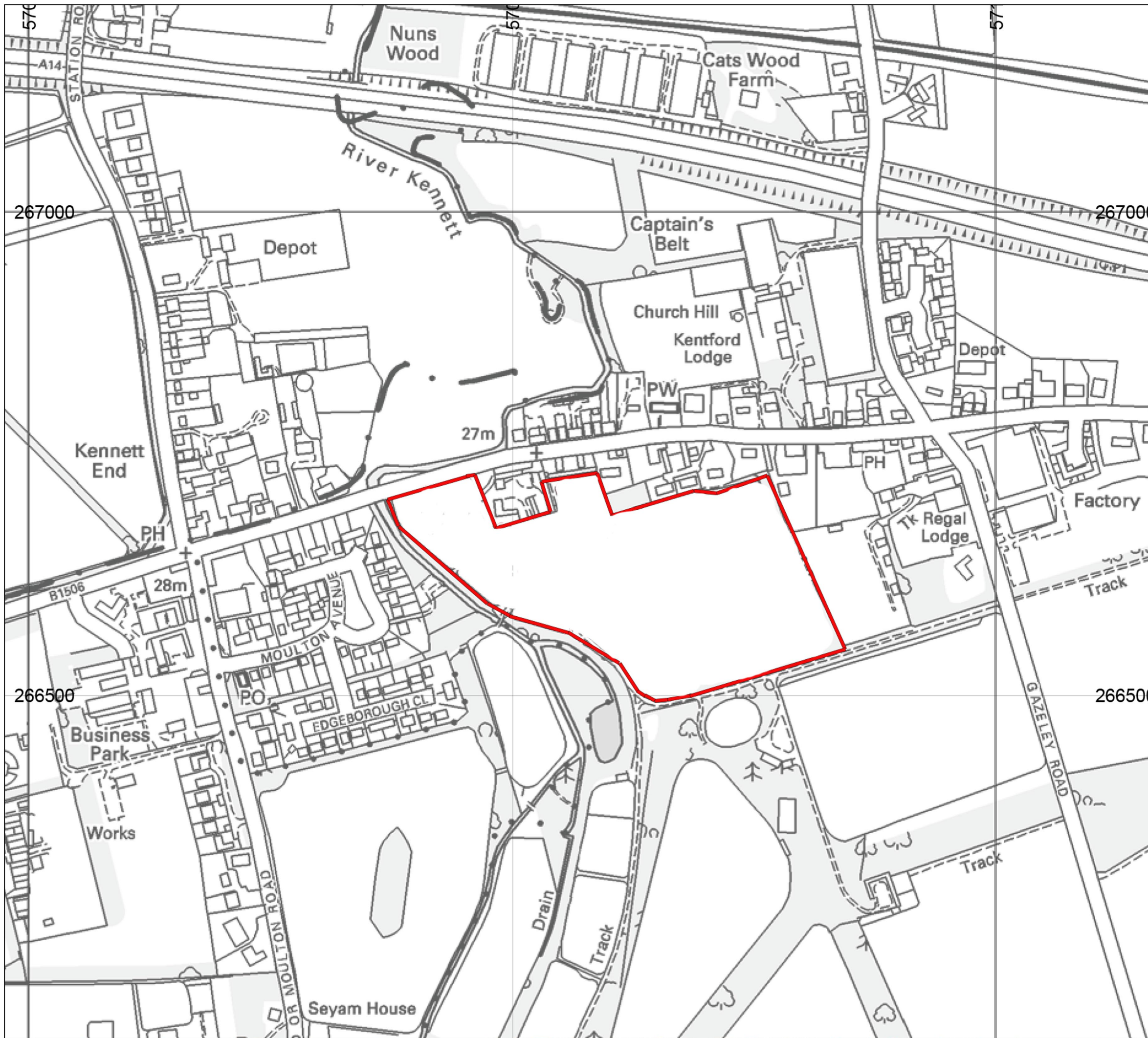
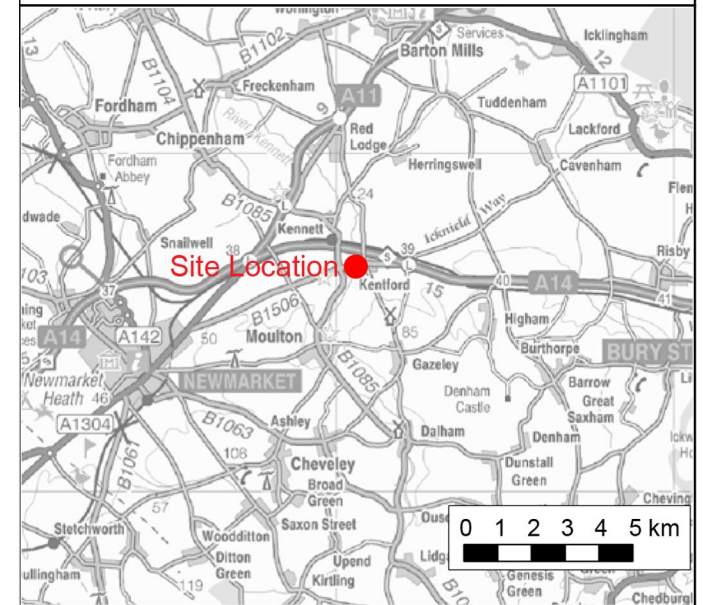
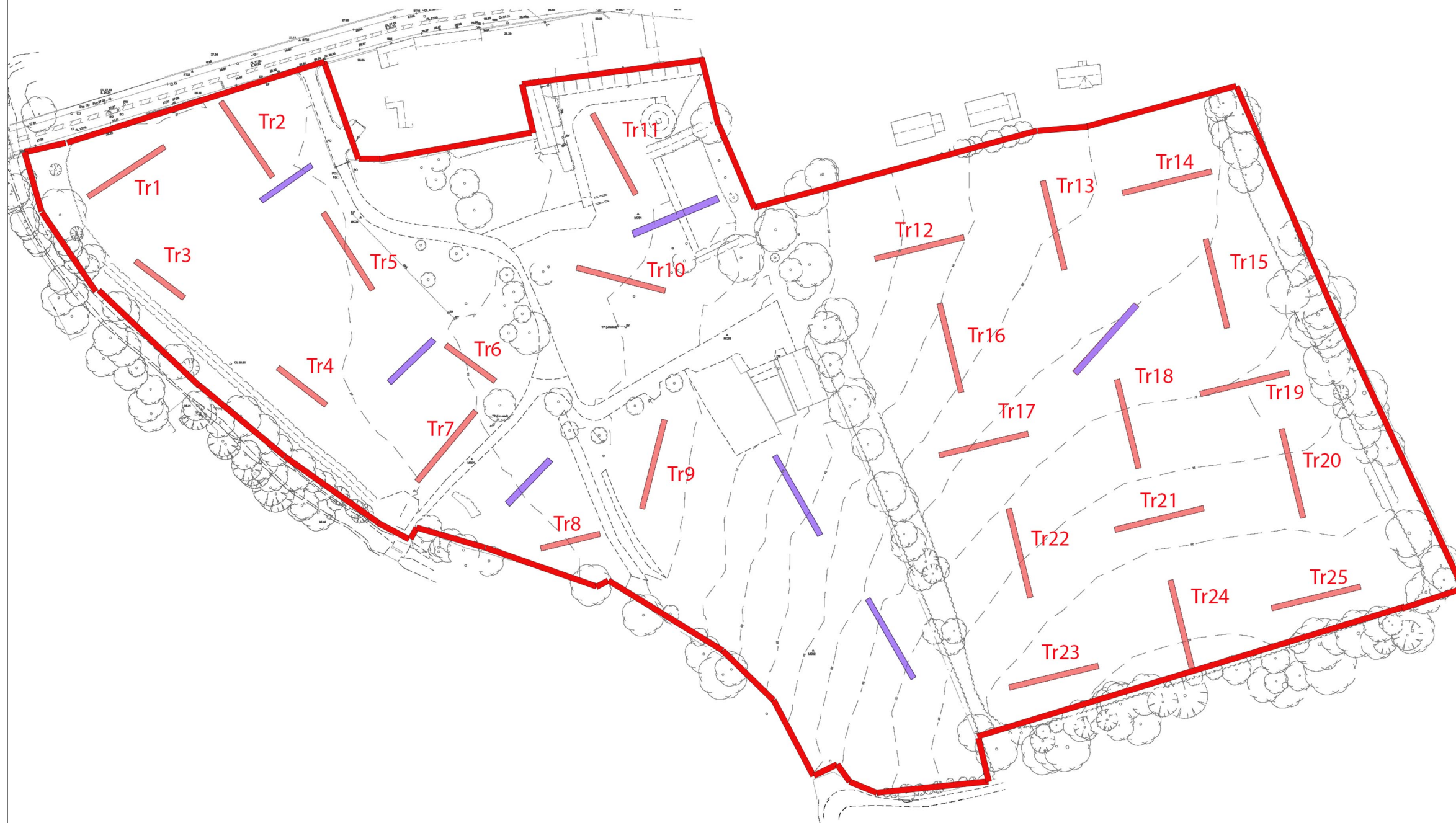


Figure 1. Site location






-  Study site
-  Trial trench (30m)
-  2013 trial trench



Figure 2. Trench plan

Appendix 1: SCCAS Brief

Resource Management
Bury Resource Centre
Hollow Road
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP32 7AY

Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation

AT

Meddler Stud, Kentford

PLANNING AUTHORITY: Forest Heath District Council

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER: DC/14/0585/OUT

HER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT: To be arranged with the Suffolk HER Officer (archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)

GRID REFERENCE: TL 705 666

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL: Housing

AREA: 7ha

THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY: Rachael Abraham
Senior Archaeological Officer
Tel. : 01284 741232
E-mail: Rachael.abraham@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 3rd November 2017

Summary

- 1.1 Planning permission has been granted with the following condition relating to archaeological investigation:
 6. No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The scheme shall include provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.
- 1.2 This brief stipulates the minimum requirements for the archaeological investigation, and should be used in conjunction with the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service's (SCCAS) Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation 2017. These should be used to form the basis of the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI).

- 1.3 The archaeological contractor, commissioned by the applicant, must submit a copy of their WSI to SCCAS for scrutiny, before seeking approval from the LPA.
- 1.4 Following acceptance by SCCAS, it is the commissioning body's responsibility to submit the WSI to the LPA for formal approval. No fieldwork should be undertaken on site without the written approval of the LPA. The WSI, however, is not a sufficient basis for the discharge of a planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting (including the need for any further work following this evaluation), will enable SCCAS to advise the LPA that a condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.
- 1.5 The WSI should be approved before costs are agreed with the commissioning client, in line with Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 1.6 The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the brief will be adequately met. If the approved WSI is not carried through in its entirety (unless a variation is agreed by SCCAS), the evaluation report may be rejected.
- 1.7 Decisions on the need for any further archaeological investigation (e.g. excavation) will be made by SCCAS, in a further brief, based on the results presented in the evaluation report. Any further investigation must be the subject of a further WSI, submitted to SCCAS for scrutiny and formally approved by the LPA.

Archaeological Background

- 2.1 This development site is located on the edge of the historic settlement core of Kentford, recorded in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record as KTD 017. It is also located in a topographically favourable location for early occupation of all periods, immediately above the floodplain of the River Kennett. A significant Anglo-Saxon settlement has been recorded immediately to the north (KTD 019) during recent archaeological investigation. A first phase of archaeological evaluation within the development site itself defined important archaeological remains, in the form of upstanding earthworks, in the southern paddock. Consequently, we have advised that these remains should be preserved *in situ*, within an area of open space. Across the rest of the development area, a number of prehistoric finds were recorded. As this site has only been subject to limited archaeological evaluation, there is potential for additional previously unrecorded archaeological remains to survive within this development area, and the planned works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.

Planning Background

- 3.1 The below-ground works will cause ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 3.2 The Planning Authority were advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets (that might be present at this location) before they are damaged or destroyed.

Fieldwork Requirements for Archaeological Investigation

- 4.1 A topographic survey should be undertaken in the southern paddock (outlined in blue on the plan at the end of this document), in order to assess the extent and survival of the previously defined earthworks in this part of the site.
- 4.1 A linear trenched evaluation is also required across the remainder of the development area to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified.
- 4.2 Trial Trenching is required to:
- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
 - Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
 - Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
 - Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 4.3 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover 3% by area of those parts of the site which have not previously seen development (c.4.5ha), which is 1350m². Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method, using, where possible, a systematic grid array. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.80m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in c. 750m of trenching at 1.80m in width. Provision for a trenching contingency of 1% should be made (250m of trenching at 1.8m in width) in case further investigation is required to clarify the extent, nature or significance of remains identified.
- 4.4 A scale plan showing the proposed location of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS before fieldwork begins.
- 4.5 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the evaluation by a named, experienced metal detector user, including reference either to their contributions to the PAS database or to other published archaeological projects they have worked on. Metal detecting should be carried out before trenches are stripped, with trench bases and spoil scanned once trenches have been opened.

Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation

- 5.1 The composition of the archaeological contractor's staff must be detailed and agreed by SCCAS, including any subcontractors/specialists. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 5.2 All arrangements for the evaluation of the site, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.

- 5.3 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are minimised, before commencing the fieldwork. The responsibility for identifying any constraints on fieldwork (e.g. designated status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites and other ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor.
- 5.4 The archaeological contractor will give SCCAS ten working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site. The contractor should update SCCAS on the nature of archaeological remains during the site works, particularly to arrange any visits by SCCAS that may be necessary. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to agreed locations and techniques in the WSI.

Reporting and Archival Requirements

- 6.1 The project manager must consult the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on all documentation relating to the work.
- 6.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared and must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for deposition in the Archaeological Service's Store or in a suitable museum in Suffolk.
- 6.3 It is expected that the landowner will deposit the full site archive, and transfer title to, the Archaeological Service or the designated Suffolk museum, and this should be agreed before the fieldwork commences. The intended depository should be stated in the WSI, for approval.
- 6.4 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation (including the digital archive), and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition.
- 6.5 A report on the fieldwork and archive must be provided. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance. The results should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the Suffolk HER, and an HER search should be commissioned. In any instances where it is felt that an HER search is unnecessary, this must be discussed and agreed with the relevant Case Officer. **ANY REPORTS WHICH DO NOT INCLUDE AN UP TO DATE HER SEARCH WILL NOT BE APPROVED. ALL REPORTS MUST CLEARLY DISPLAY THE INVOICE NUMBER FOR THE HER SEARCH, OTHERWISE THEY WILL BE RETURNED.**
- 6.6 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given, although the final decision lies with SCCAS. No further site work should be embarked upon until the evaluation results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 6.7 Following approval of the report by SCCAS, a single copy of the report should be presented to the Suffolk HER as well as a digital copy of the approved report.

- 6.8 All parts of the OASIS online form <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be completed and a copy must be included in the final report and also with the site archive. A digital copy of the report should be uploaded to the OASIS website.
- 6.9 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared for the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.
- 6.10 **This brief remains valid for 12 months. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the brief may need to be revised and re-issued to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy and techniques.**

Standards and Guidance

Further detailed requirements are to be found in our Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2017 and in SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2017.

Standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003

The Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2008) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report

Notes

There are a number of archaeological contractors that regularly undertake work in the County and SCCAS will provide advice on request. SCCAS does not give advice on the costs of archaeological projects. The Institute for Archaeologists maintains a list of registered archaeological contractors (<http://www.archaeologists.net> or 0118 378 6446).

The Historic Environment Records Data available on the Heritage Gateway and Suffolk Heritage Explorer is **NOT** suitable to be used for planning purposes and will not be accepted in lieu of a full HER search.



OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Printable version

OASIS ID: cfaarcha1-307842

Project details

Project name	Land at Meddler Stud, Kentford: Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	CFA Archaeology Ltd carried out a trial trench evaluation on land at Meddler Stud, Kentford, Suffolk, on a proposed residential development. Seven trenches had been previously excavated by Oxford Archaeology East revealing alluvial material containing prehistoric flint and pottery as well as medieval ditches. The current evaluation involved excavating 25 additional trenches. At the west end of the site close to the River Kennett, alluvial hillwash that had filled natural hollows were found to contain pieces of struck Mesolithic and Neolithic flint. At the north end of the site was a large medieval ditch, possibly a boundary ditch for a former plot joining the main street. This contained a single fragment of Greyware. Various undated features including a ditch, gullies, post-holes and bioturbated pits were also found across the site; some of these are likely to relate to the former farm buildings on the site and general farm activity. Close to the bridge over the River Kennet was a large 19th century gravel extraction pit.
Project dates	Start: 08-01-2018 End: 12-01-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	MSKS - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	PALAEOCHANNEL Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Mesolithic
Significant Finds	FLINT Neolithic
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England



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