CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

CULTURAL HERITAGE DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

Land North and West of Hethersett Norfolk

PIGEON

August 2018

Planning Authority:
South Norfolk Council

Site centred at:
TG 15005 05902

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Report Status:
Final

Issue Date:
August 2018

CgMs Ref:
JA/MS/24355

Pigeon Project Number:
0088

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Land North and West of Hethersett, Norfolk has been reviewed for heritage issues which may present a constraint to future development.

- No nationally designated archaeological assets will be affected by development at the study site.

- Whilst no nationally designated built heritage assets are located within the study site, a number are located within the study area, although the majority are located within the built up area of Hethersett away from the study site and are unlikely to be affected by development at the study site. The GII Listed Hill Farmhouse is located immediately adjacent to the south west area of the study site.

- The study site has a high archaeological potential within specific areas of the study site for a Roman villa complex, a possible Bronze Age ring ditch, an undated enclosure, and two Medieval buildings. A generally moderate archaeological potential is also identified across the study site for Prehistoric artefactual evidence.

- Design mitigation measures will be undertaken to ensure that there will be no impacts on the potentially nationally significant archaeological remains associated with the Roman villa complex, and to ensure there will be no indirect impacts on the setting of the GII Listed Hill Farmhouse. Accordingly, based on current evidence, there will be no heritage matters which would preclude development.

- Archaeological evaluation works will be required prior to construction by the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority across the areas of the study site which are proposed for development. However, as these areas are considered to retain a potential for archaeological remains of a local significance only, it is considered that these do not present a constraint to development and could be mitigated by an appropriate archaeological strategy.

- Whilst there are no apparent Built Heritage issues to preclude development, a detailed Built Heritage Assessment will be provided once detailed development proposals are finalised.

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF STUDY

1.1 This cultural heritage desk based assessment has been researched and prepared by James Archer of CgMs Heritage (Part of the RPS Group) on behalf of Pigeon Land 2 Ltd ('Pigeon') and the Hethersett Consortium ('the Landowners'). CgMs has been commissioned by 'Pigeon' on behalf of the Landowners, to prepare a Cultural Heritage Desk Based Assessment for 'Land North and West of Hethersett', to be referred to hereafter as 'the Site'. This assessment aims to establish the heritage constraints of the site, and to provide guidance on ways to accommodate any constraints identified. The site, also referred to as the study site, is c.111ha in extent and centred at TR 15005 05902.

1.2 This report has been prepared for the joint benefit of Pigeon and the Landowners and the contents should not be relied upon by others without the express written authority of CgMs Limited. If any unauthorised third party makes use of this report they do so at their own risk and CgMs Limited owes them no duty of care or skill.

1.3 In accordance with central, and local government policy and guidance on heritage and planning, and in accordance with the 'Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessments' (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists August 2014), this assessment draws together the available heritage, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the heritage constraints of the site.

1.4 This desk based assessment comprises an examination of evidence on the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (HER) and other sources, and includes the results of a comprehensive map regression exercise.

1.5 The Assessment thus enables relevant parties to assess the heritage constraints of various parts of the study site and to consider the need for design, civil engineering, and heritage solutions to the constraints identified.

2.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

2.1 The current national policy system identifies, through the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), that applications should consider the potential impact of development upon 'heritage assets'. The term 'heritage assets' includes designated heritage assets which possess a statutory designation, for example Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and Conservation Areas. It also includes non-designated heritage assets, typically compiled by Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) and incorporated into a Local List or recorded on the Historic Environment Record.

Legislation

2.2 Where any development may affect designated heritage assets, there is a legislative framework in place to ensure that due regard is given to its impact on the historic environment. This extends from primary legislation under the **Planning (Listed buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990**.

2.3 Section 66 (1) further states that special regard must be given by the planning authority in the exercise of planning functions to the desirability of preserving or enhancing listed buildings and their setting.

2.4 The meaning and effect of these duties have been considered by the courts in recent cases, including the Court of Appeal decision in relation to Barnwell Manor Wind Energy v East Northamptonshire District Council [2014] EWCA Civ 137.

2.5 The Court agreed with the High Court's judgement that Parliament's intention in enacting Section 66(1) was that decision-makers should give 'considerable importance and weight' to the desirability of preserving (i.e. keeping from harm) the setting of listed buildings.

2.6 Additionally, Section 72 of the 1990 Act states that in exercising all planning functions, local planning authorities must have special regard for the desirability of preserving or enhancing conservation areas. The duty under Section 72 applies with respect to any buildings or land within a conservation area only. Unlike Section 66(1) there is no specific provision for the protection of the setting of a conservation area.

2.7 Legislation regarding archaeology, including scheduled monuments, is contained in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, amended by the National Heritage Act 1983 and 2002, and updated in April 2014.

National Planning Policy

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Department of Communities and Local Government, July 2018)

2.8 The NPPF, published 24th July 2018, sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.

2.9 When determining planning applications, the NPPF directs LPAs to apply the approach of presumption in favour of sustainable development that is expected to run through the plan-making and decision-making process.

2.10 Where a development plan is absent, silent or out-of-date, permission should be granted except where adverse impacts would significantly and demonstrably outweigh those benefits, when assessed against NPPF policies as a whole; or where specific policies contained within the NPPF (including those with regard to designated heritage assets) indicate that development should be restricted to some degree.

2.11 *Heritage Assets* are defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF as: a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

2.12 Annex 2 also defines *Archaeological Interest* as a heritage asset which holds or potentially could hold evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.

2.13 A *Designated Heritage Asset* comprises a: World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area.

2.14 *Significance* is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

2.15 *Setting* is defined as: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

2.16 Section 12 of the NPPF, 'Achieving well-designed places' (paragraphs 124 to 132), reinforces the importance of good design in achieving sustainable development by ensuring the creation of inclusive and high quality places. Paragraph 127 affirms the need for new deign to function well and add to the quality of the area in which it is built; establish a strong sense of place; and respond to local character and history, reflecting the built identity of the surrounding area.

2.17 Section 16, 'Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment' (Paragraphs 184-202) relates to developments that have an effect upon the historic environment.

2.18 The NPPF advises LPAs to take into account the following points when drawing up strategies for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment:

- The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and preserving them in a viable use consistent with their conservation;
- The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that the conservation of the historic environment can bring;
- The desirability of new development in making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
- Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of place.

2.19 Paragraph 189 of the NPPF states that LPAs, when determining applications for development, should require applicants to describe the significance of the heritage assets affected and the contribution made by their setting. The level of detail provided should be proportionate to the significance of the asset and sufficient to understand the impact of the proposal on this significance.

2.20 Paragraph 190 states that LPAs should also identify and assess the significance of a heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal and should take this assessment into account when considering the impact upon the heritage asset.

2.21 Paragraphs 193 to 201 consider the impact of development proposals upon the significance of designated heritage assets. Paragraph 193 states that where a development is proposed that would affect the significance of the designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation and that the greater an asset's significance, the greater this weight should be.

2.22 Paragraph 195 states that where a development would lead to substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that such harm is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits or certain criteria are met.

2.23 Paragraph 196 advises that where a proposed development will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.

2.24 Paragraph 197 is concerned with the impact on non-designated heritage assets and states that where a proposal will affect a non-designated heritage asset, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss to the significance of the heritage asset.

2.25 Concerning Conservation Areas, Paragraph 200 states that local planning authorities should look for opportunities for new development within Conservation Areas that enhance and reveal their significance. Paragraph 201 stresses that the loss of a building or feature that makes a positive contribution to the significance of a Conservation Area should be treated as either substantial harm (under Paragraph 195) or less than substantial harm (under Paragraph 196), taking into account the relative significance of the element affected and its contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area as a whole.

2.26 The NPPF therefore continues the philosophy that was upheld in PPS5 concerning approaches to managing change. This approach, reflected in the NPPF, is characterised by Historic England (former English Heritage) as 'constructive conservation'. This is defined as '*a positive and collaborative approach to conservation that focuses on actively managing change….the aim is to recognise and reinforce the historic significance of places, while accommodating the changes necessary to ensure their continued use and enjoyment'* (Constructive Conservation in Practice, English Heritage, 2009).

2.27 In short, government policy provides a framework which:

- Protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets (which include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas)
- Protects the settings of such designations
- In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions

- Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not significant enough to merit *in-situ* preservation.

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) (DCLG, March 2014, Updated July 2017)

2.28 The Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) has been adopted in order to aid the application of the NPPF. It reiterates that conservation of heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance is a core planning principle.

2.29 It also states that conservation is an active process of maintenance and managing change, requiring a flexible and thoughtful approach. It highlights that neglect and decay of heritage assets is best addressed through ensuring they remain in active use that is consistent with their conservation.

2.30 Key elements of the guidance relate to assessing harm. It states that an important consideration should be whether the propose works adversely affect a key element of the heritage asset's special architectural or historic interest. It adds that '*it is the degree of harm rather than the scale of development that is to be assessed'*. The level of 'substantial harm' is stated to be a high bar that may not arise in many cases. Whether a proposal causes substantial harm will be a judgement for the decision taker, having regard to the circumstances of the case and the NPPF.

2.31 Importantly, it is stated that harm may arise from work to the asset, or from development within its setting. Setting is defined as '*the surroundings in which an asset is experienced, and may be more extensive than the curtilage'*. A thorough assessment of the impact of proposals upon setting must take into account, and be proportionate to, the significance of the heritage asset and the degree to which proposed changes enhance or detract from that significance and the ability to appreciate it.

Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance (Historic England, April 2008)

2.32 Conservation Principles outlines Historic England's approach to the sustainable management of the historic environment. While primarily intended to ensure consistency in Historic England's own advice and guidance, the document is recommended to LPAs to ensure that all decisions about change affecting the historic environment are informed and sustainable.

2.33 This document was published in line with the philosophy of PPS5, yet remains relevant with that of the current policy regime in the emphasis placed upon the importance of understanding significance as a means to properly assess the effects of change to heritage assets. The guidance describes a range of heritage values which enable the

significance of assets to be established systematically, with the four main 'heritage values' being:

- Evidential value: which derives from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity. It can be natural or man-made and applies particularly to archaeological deposits, but also to other situations where there is no relevant written record.

- Historical value: which derives from the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present. It can be illustrative (illustrative of some aspect of the past) or associative (where a place is associated with an important person, event, or movement).

- Aesthetic value: which derives from the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place. Aesthetic values can be the result of the conscious design of a place, including artistic endeavour, or they can be the seemingly fortuitous outcome of the way in which a place has evolved and been used over time.

- Communal value: which derives from the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory. Communal values are closely bound up with historical (particularly associative) and aesthetic values, but tend to have additional and specific aspects. Commemorative and symbolic values reflect the meanings of a place for those who draw part of their identity from it, or have emotional links to it. Social value is associated with places that people perceive as a source of identity, distinctiveness, social interaction and coherence. Spiritual value attached to places can emanate from the beliefs and teachings of an organised religion, or reflect past or present-day perceptions of the spirit of a place.

Overview: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning

2.34 The PPS5 Practice Guidance was withdrawn in March 2015. This document has been replaced with three Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes (GPAs) published by Historic England (formerly English Heritage): 'GPA1: Local Plan Making' (Published 25th March 2015), 'GPA2: Managing significance in Decision-Taking in the historic Environment' (Published 27th March 2015) and 'GPA3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (25th March 2015). A further document entitled 'GPA4: Enabling Development' is yet to be adopted.

2.35 These GPAs provide supporting guidance relating to good conservation practice. The documents focus in particular on how the good practice can be achieved through the

principles included within national policy and guidance. As such, the GPAs provide information on good practice to assist LPAs, planning and other consultants, owners, applicants, and other interested parties when implementing policy found within the NPPF and PPG relating to the historic environment.

2.36 These GPAs are complemented by the Historic England Advice Notes in Planning with includes HEA1: Understanding Place: Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management (February 2016), HEA2: Making Changes to Heritage Assets (February 2016), HEA3: The Historic Environment and Site Allocations in Local Plans (October 2015), and HEA4: Tall Buildings (December 2015).

GPA1: The Historic Environment in Local Plans (March, 2015)

2.37 This advice note focuses on the importance of identifying heritage policies within Local Plans. The advice echoes the NPPF by stressing the importance of formulating Local Plans based on up-to-date and relevant evidence on economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects in the area, including the historic environment.

GPA2: Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment (March, 2015)

2.38 This document provides advice on numerous ways in which decision making in the historic environment could be undertaken, emphasising that the first step for all applicants is to understand the significance of any affected heritage asset and the contribution of its setting to that significance. In line with the NPPF and PPG, the document states that early engagement and expert advice in considering and assessing the significance of heritage assets is encouraged. The advice suggests a structured, staged approach to the assembly and analysis of relevant information:

- understanding the significance of the affected assets;
- understanding the impact of the proposal on that significance;
- avoid, minimise and mitigate impact in a way that meets the objectives of the NPPF;
- look for opportunities to better reveal or enhance significance;
- justify any harmful impacts in terms of the sustainable development objective of conserving significance balanced with the need for change; and
- offset negative impacts to significance by enhancing others through recording, disseminating and archiving archaeological and historical interest of the important elements of the heritage assets affected.

GPA3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (December, 2017)

2.39 This advice note focuses on the management of change within the setting of heritage assets. This document supersedes the first edition of the same guidance published in 2015 and also Seeing the History in the View (English Heritage, 2011). GPA3 aids practitioners with the implementation of national policies and guidance relating to the historic environment found within the NPPF and PPG. The guidance is largely a continuation of the philosophy and approach of the 2015 version and does not present a divergence in either the definition of setting or the way in which it should be assessed.

2.40 As with the NPPF the document defines setting as 'the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve'. Setting is also described as being a separate term to curtilage, character and context. The guidance emphasises that setting is not a heritage asset, nor a heritage designation, and that its importance lies in what it contributes to the significance of the heritage asset. It also states that elements of setting may make a positive, negative or neutral contribution to the significance of the heritage asset.

2.41 While setting is largely a visual term, with views considered to be an important consideration in any assessment of the contribution that setting makes to the significance of an asset, setting, and thus the way in which an asset is experienced, can also be affected by other environmental factors including noise, vibration and odour, while setting may also incorporate perceptual and associational attributes pertaining to the asset's surroundings.

2.42 The document provides guidance on practical and proportionate decision making with regards to the management of proposed development and the setting of heritage assets. It is stated that the assessment of the impact on setting needs to be proportionate to the significance of the heritage asset under consideration and the extent to which the proposed changes enhance or detract from significance and the ability to appreciate that significance. It is further stated that changes within the setting of a heritage asset may have positive, neutral or negative effects. It is stated that the contribution made to the significance of heritage assets by their settings will vary depending on the nature of the heritage asset and its setting and that different heritage assets may have different abilities to accommodate change within their settings without harming the significance of the asset and therefore setting should be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Although not prescriptive in setting out how this assessment should be carried out, noting that any approach should be demonstrably compliant with legislation, national policies and objectives, Historic England recommend using the '5-step process' in order to assess

the potential effects of a proposed development on the setting and significance of a heritage asset:

1) Identify which heritage assets and their settings are affected;

2) Assess the degree to which these settings make a contribution to the significance of the heritage asset(s) or allow significance to be appreciated;

3) Assess the effects of proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on that significance or on the ability to appreciate it;

4) Explore ways to maximise enhancement and avoid or minimise harm; and,

5) Make and document the decision and monitor outcomes.

Local Planning Policy and Guidance

2.43 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the framework set by government policy, in this instance the NPPF, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.

2.44 The Joint Core Strategy for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk (Greater Norwich Development Partnership) was adopted in May 2011 with amendments in January 2014 and contains the following relevant policy:

POLICY 1 ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE AND PROTECTING ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS. … THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE ASSETS, AND THE WIDER HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT WILL BE CONSERVED AND ENHANCED THROUGH THE PROTECTION OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR SURROUNDINGS, THE PROTECTION OF THEIR SETTINGS, THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF HIGH-QUALITY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR AND THE ENHANCEMENT OF PUBLIC SPACES…

2.45 South Norfolk Council's Development Management Policies Document (adopted October 2015) contains the following policy relevant to heritage assets:

POLICY DM 4.10 HERITAGE ASSETS.

ALL DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS MUST HAVE REGARD TO THE HISTROIC ENVIRONMENT AND TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH HERITAGE ASSETS MAKE TO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF AN AREA AND ITS SENSE OF PLACE, AS DEFINED BY REFERENCE TO THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL EVIDENCE BASE RELATING TO HERITAGE.

CHANGE OF USE, ALTERATIONS AND EXTENSIONS AFFECTING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSET, MUST HAVE REGARD TO AND POSITIVELY RESPOND TO, THAT SIGNIFICANCE.

PROPOSALS MUST SUSTAIN, AND WHERE POSSIBLE ENHANCE AND BETTER REVEAL THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASSET AND MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO LOCAL DISTINCTIVENESS.

PROPOSALS MUST SHOW HOW THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HERITAGE ASSET HAS BEEN ASSESSED AND TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY REFERENCE TO THE HISTROIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD, SUITABLE EXPERTISE AND OTHER EVIDENCE/REESEARCH AS MAY BE NECESSARY.

CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE AND WEIGHT MUST BE GIVEN TO THE DESIRABILITY OF PRESERVING LISTED BUILDINGS, THEIR SETTINGS AND THE CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE OF CONSERVATION AREAS. DEVELOPMENT SHOULD AVOID CAUSING ANY LOSS TO A HERITAGE ASSET, OR HARM TO IT. SUBSTANTIAL HARM OR TOTAL LOSS WILL ONLY BE JUSTIFIED WHERE IT CAN BE DEMONSTRATED THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS OR WHERE THE RETENTION OF THE ASSET IS UNSUSTAINABLE, NO VIABLE ALTERNATIVES CAN BE IDENTIFIED AND THE HARM OR LOSS IS OUTWEIGHTD BY THE BENEFITS OF BRINGING THE SITE BACK INTO USE.

LESS THAN SUBSTANTIAL HARM WILL ONLY BE JUSTIFIED WHERE THERE ARE PUBLIC BENEFITS THAT OUTWEIGH THE HARM. IN CARRYING OUT THIS PLANNING BALANCE, LESS THAN SUBSTANTIAL HARM WILL BE AFFORDED CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE AND WEIGHT.

PROPOSALS WHICH ADVERSELY AFFECT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A HERITAGE ASSET WILL ONLY BE EXCEPTIONALLY PERMITTED WHERE CLEAR AND CONVINCING JUSTIFICATION IS PROVIDED.

2.46 In terms of nationally designated archaeological assets, there are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Battlefields or Registered Wreck Sites within the study area.

2.47 In terms of nationally designated built heritage assets, there are no Registered Parks or Gardens, and no Conservation Areas within the study area. Whilst there are no designated built heritage assets within the site, there are 10 Grade II Listed Buildings within the study area and a further 13 GII Listed Buildings and a GII* Listed church to the south in the core of Hethersett.

2.48 In line with existing national, strategic and local planning policy and guidance, this desk based assessment seeks to clarify the site's heritage constraints and the need or otherwise for additional mitigation measures.

3.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 Geology

3.1.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS Online 2018) records the solid geology of the study site as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation, Culver Chalk Formation And Portsdown Chalk Formation (Chalk). Superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation (Diamicton) are recorded across the majority of the study site, whilst a small area of Alluvial Deposits (Clay, Silt, Sand & Gravel), and Sheringham Cliffs Formation (Sand & Gravel) are recorded within the central northern area.

3.1.2 Geotechnical boreholes recorded by the British Geological Survey (BGS Online 2018) generally record chalky boulder clay within the study site.

3.2 Topography

3.2.1 The core of Hethersett is generally located to the south of the study site, and is situated on an area of high ground located at circa 46-50m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The study site is generally located on land sloping down away from Hethersett, to the west, north and north east of the town.

3.2.2 The western area of the study site generally slopes down to only circa 46m AOD, whilst the north east area of the study site slopes down to c.30m AOD at the north east corner. The northern area of the study site within the area of Beckhithe, is generally level at c.42-43m AOD.

3.2.3 A number of watercourses are located within the study site and immediate vicinity, the majority of which form drainage channels. A tributary of the River Yare is located immediately north west of the study site, whilst the River Yare itself is located c.2.2km to the north west.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND, INCLUDING ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

4.1 Timescales used in this report:

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	900,000 - 12,000 BC
Mesolithic	12,000 - 4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 - 1,800 BC
Bronze Age	1,800 - 600 BC
Iron Age	600 - AD 43

Historic

Roman	AD 43 - 410
Anglo Saxon/Early Medieval	AD 410 - 1066
Medieval	AD 1066 - 1485
Post Medieval	AD 1486 - 1799
Modern	AD 1800 - Present

4.2 Introduction

4.2.1 What follows comprises a review of archaeological findspots within a 500m buffer of the study site boundary, also referred to as the study area (Figs. 2a-c), held on the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (HER), together with a historic map regression exercise charting the development of the study area from the 18th century onwards until the present day.

4.2.2 This chapter reviews the available archaeological evidence for the study site and the archaeological/historical background of the general area, and, in accordance with NPPF, considers the potential for any as yet to be discovered archaeological evidence on the study site.

4.2.3 Much of the study site has been previously subject to archaeological fieldwalking, and this can be seen on Figure 2a. Fieldwalking has generally been undertaken across the western arm of the study site, and within further locations along the northern arm and into the north east corner. These exercises have recovered archaeological artefacts spanning from Palaeolithic flintwork, through to Post Medieval finds.

4.2.4 Previous archaeological evaluation and a watching brief during a strip for an access road (see Appendices 2-3) has been undertaken adjacent to the south eastern area of the

study site. Only three of the 18 evaluation trenches recorded any archaeological features, comprising an Iron Age pit, a Roman ditch, a Roman pit or ditch, and an unurned cremation burial.

4.2.5 Chapter 5 subsequently considers the site conditions and whether the theoretical potential identified in this chapter is likely to survive.

4.3 Prehistoric

Flintwork

4.3.1 Fieldwalking across the study area has recovered prehistoric flintwork across a widespread area.

North West and Western Area

4.3.2 A number of findspots are located within the north west area of the study site (HER Refs: MNF21568, TG 1457 0571), and immediately adjacent to the western arm of the site (HER Refs: MNF32865, NGR N/A; MNF23826, TG 14 05; MNF17832, TG 1385 0493; MNF17550, TG 14 06; MNF17551, TG 14 05; MNF17992, TG 1434 0600), and this includes a Mesolithic axe immediately west of the study site (HER Ref: MNF70097, TG 14 05). Neolithic flakes, scrapers and blades have been found within the south west area of the study site (HER Refs: MNF22216, TG 1422 0509; MNF19739, TG 142 052), and within the north west area (HER Refs: MNF13213, TG 14 05; MNF66088, TG 14 05; MNF40424, TG 14 06), whilst a number of HER records refer to Mesolithic (HER Ref: MNF20002, TG 144 063) and Neolithic to Bronze Age flintwork findspots within close proximity to the western arm of the study site (HER Refs: MNF67779, TG 1464 0527; MNF22742, TG 1395 0502; MNF18261, TG 1409 0519; MNF12619, TG 1415 0545; MNF9263, TG 14 05; MNF19747, TG 1375 0582; MNF40417, TG 1450 0590; MNF20002, TG 144 063).

Northern Area

4.3.3 Further prehistoric flintwork findspots are located within close proximity to the northern arm of the study site (HER Refs: MNF65369, TG 1543 0575; MNF21636, TG 1571 0597; MNF50352, TG 15460 05484; MNF16430, TG 1580 0636; MNF65242, TG 1565 0671; MNF40802, TG 1600 0665; MNF19771, NGR N/A; MNF22600, TG 15 06). A number of these have been dated to the Neolithic to Bronze Age period (HER Refs: MNF22746, TG 1548 0665; MNF22747, TG 1551 0673; MNF22602, TG 1531 0673; MNF65372, TG 15 05; MNF65373, TG 1610 0579; MNF21862, NGR N/A; MNF65366, TG 1517 0587;

MNF65368, TG 1527 0571), including a scatter of cores and scrapers found within the northern area of the study site (HER Ref: MNF13413, TG 1599 0639).

North Eastern Area

4.3.4 A large probable Palaeolithic handaxe was recovered in the eastern area of the study site during a fieldwalking exercise (HER Ref: MNF17936, TG 167 061), whilst a further scatter of Neolithic flintwork was also identified immediately south of this area of the study site (HER Refs: MNF65377, TG 1648 0566; MNF13414, TG 16 06). Further prehistoric flintwork has also been identified within close proximity to this eastern area of the study site (HER Ref: MNF62118, TG 1717 0563), including scatters of Mesolithic (HER Ref: MNF65375, TG 1611 0563) and Neolithic flintwork generally to the north and the east (HER Refs: MNF9390, TG 1623 0633; MNF13216, TG 165 051; MNF13214, TG 1688 0555; MNF28149, TG 16 05; MNF17935, TG 1680 0642; MNF9349, TG 1678 0659; MNF17934, TG 1661 0659; MNF14097, TG 1689 0679).

Archaeological Remains

4.3.5 A Neolithic or Bronze Age pit was identified during archaeological works adjacent to the western arm of the study site (HER Ref: MNF67779, TG 1464 0527).

4.3.6 A possible Bronze Age ring ditch is visible as a cropmark within the north west area of the study site (HER Ref: MNF59876, TG 1503 0625) and there are two areas of prehistoric flintworks in the vicinity (HER Refs: MNF17932, TG 148 063 & MNF 14533, TG 1496 0640). A further possible ring ditch is recorded immediately south of the northern arm of the study site, although no evidence for this was found in subsequent evaluation (HER Ref: MNF65371, TG 1575 0566).

4.3.7 The flint assemblage identified during previous phases of fieldwalking and other works within the study area has indicated continuous exploitation of the landscape throughout the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. However, no evidence of permanent settlement has been recorded, although a possible Bronze Age ring ditch is recorded from cropmarks in the northern area of the study site.

4.3.8 Therefore, the archaeological potential of the site for Prehistoric artefactual evidence is considered to be moderate, although the potential for evidence of Prehistoric settlement activity within the study site is considered to be low. A specific potential for the Bronze Age ring ditch is identified in the northern area of the study site (see Figure 13).

4.4 Iron Age & Roman

4.4.1 Possible Iron Age or Roman field boundaries and trackways are visible as cropmarks c.400m north west of the study site (HER Ref: MNF59523, TG 1462 0672). Further evidence for Iron Age activity within the study area is limited to an Iron Age or Roman terret, found c.300m south of the study site (HER Ref: MNF9382, TG 16 05).

4.4.2 Building rubble, brick and tile fragments, and a mortared flint wall footing were identified during drainage works within the central west area of the study site (HER Ref: MNF9270, NGR N/A), along with large numbers of finds including an infant burial, coins, and other metalwork. Faint possible agricultural cropmarks have also been recorded within the immediate area, and it has been suggested that these indicate the presence of a possible villa site. Geophysical survey immediately east of this between the study site and Myrtle Road has identified an extensive group of archaeological features indicating a further part of the possible villa complex (Appendix 4 & Northamptonshire Archaeology Additional Geophysical Survey 2011 pp.8). This appears to be an eastern wing of the villa complex and the remainder of the building likely extends west into the study site.

4.4.3 A further area of Roman features has been identified at Myrtle Road c.350m east of the western arm of the study site, and included an early Roman farmyard and stock enclosures, further enclosed by a large boundary ditch. Later Roman features were centred around a large building used for drying, and a well, and it was thought that these features indicated agricultural farming associated with the farmstead or villa to the north west (HER Ref: MNF42110, TG 14938 05488 & NAU 2007).

4.4.4 A possible prehistoric or Roman enclosure was identified during geophysical survey immediately south of the northern arm of the study site, although no evidence for this was found in subsequent evaluation (HER Ref: MNF65371, TG 1575 0566). Further evidence for Roman enclosures and land division was identified during archaeological works at the junction of Burnthouse Lane and Back Lane, adjacent to the south east area of the study site (MOLA Archaeological Excavation 2016), whilst an area of possible Iron Age or Roman ditches, along with a possible Roman cremation burial, have been identified adjacent to the south eastern area of the study site (HER Ref: MNF65377, TG 1648 0566 & Northamptonshire Archaeology 2012/Appendix 2).

4.4.5 Fieldwalking across the study area has identified Roman findspots across the study site and within the immediate area. These include coins, brooches, a figurine and pottery sherds within and immediately adjacent to the western arm of the study site (HER Refs: MNF 33075-6, TG 14 04; MNF33067, TG 14 04; MNF65998, TG 14 04; MNF17832, TG

1385 0493; MNF68253, TG 13 05; MNF23692, TG 14 05; MNF16870, TG 14 05; MNF24059, TG 14 05; MNF23858, TG 1479 0553; MNF20471, TG 14 05; MNF23826, TG 14 05; MNF21568, TG 1457 0571; MNF17992, TG 1434 0600; MNF40424, TG 14 06; MNF66088, TG 14 05; MNF65368, TG 1527 0571; MNF68878, TG 15 06). It is likely that these findspots are located within the immediate vicinity of the possible Roman villa.

4.4.6 A large numbers of findspots are also recorded within the eastern half of the study site and within close proximity, including pottery sherds, coins, brooches, a figurine and a cart mount (HER Refs: MNF24043, TG 15 05; MNF65372, TG 15 05; MNF9390, TG 1623; MNF65373, TG 1610 0579; MNF21862, NGR N/A; MNF65375, TG 1611 0563; MNF28417, TG 16 05; MNF13414, TG 16 06; MNF45621, TG 17 06; MNF25509, TG 16 05; MNF9351, TG 16 05). These finds may represent artefacts that were spread across the agricultural land around the villa during manuring activity.

4.4.7 Therefore, based on the available evidence, the study site may have been situated within an agricultural landscape during the Iron Age although there is limited evidence for this period. It is likely that a Roman villa complex was located within the western arm of the study site, and that the surrounding area was utilised for agricultural activity and may have been subject to land division. It is considered that the area of the study site in close proximity to the Roman villa has a high archaeological potential for the Roman period (see Figure 13), whilst the remainder of the study site has a moderate archaeological potential for evidence of Iron Age and Roman agricultural activity, enclosure and land division.

4.5 **Anglo-Saxon/Early Medieval & Medieval**

4.5.1 Evidence for the Saxon period within the study area comprises findspots of pottery sherds, brooches and other metal objects, none of which are within the study site boundary (HER Refs: MNF68699, TG 15 05; MNF21862, NGR N/A; MNF9382, TG 16 05; MNF6887, TG 15 06; MNF22602, TG 1531 0673; MNF22747, TG 1551 0673; MNF22600, TG 15 06). It has been suggested that HER record MNF21862, located to the south of the northern arm of the study site, may represent evidence for a Saxon burial ground due to the presence of 6 brooches within this area normally found within funerary contexts.

4.5.2 Hethersett is recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086 (Domesday Online 2018) as a relatively large estate comprising 131 households. The historic settlement would have been focused approximately 400m south of the study site.

4.5.3 In general, the Medieval records on the HER relate to findspots of coins, pottery sherds and metal objects. These finds are not discussed in detail here, and it is likely that they represent evidence of manuring during the Medieval period, which would have spread these artefacts out across the study site and immediate area.

4.5.4 Medieval building material has been found at two locations, one within the western arm of the study site, and the other immediately adjacent, which suggests that a building may have been present at each of these sites during this period (HER Refs: MNF13845, TG 1432 0546; MNF13844, TG 14 05).

4.5.5 The remains of two moats and a connecting ditch survive as earthworks c.350m north of the study site (HER Ref: MNF9411, TG 1527 0669), whilst a further moat, that would later become an ornamental lake, is recorded at Thickthorn Hall, c.500m to the south east (HER Ref: MNF33732, TG 1752 0521). A Medieval Hollow Way is recorded c.500m south of the study site (HER Ref: MNF14202, TG 1611 0497), whilst a substantial field or parish boundary is recorded c.500m to the north west (HER Ref: MNF59524, TG 1471 0694).

4.5.6 During the Ango-Saxon and Medieval periods, the study site most likely lay within the agricultural hinterland of Hethersett to the south, within a landscape interspersed with scattered farmsteads. Evidence for possible Medieval buildings has been identified in the south west area of the study site (see Figure 13), although the site is likely to have generally remained open land and any buildings within the study site would have likely been associated with agricultural activity. Therefore, the archaeological potential of the study site for these periods is considered to be high for Medieval buildings within the south west area of the study site (see Figure 13), whilst a moderate potential is identified for the remainder of the study site for evidence of agricultural activity and chance finds.

4.6 **Post Medieval & Modern**

4.6.1 Post Medieval field boundaries have been identified during archaeological works within the study site and immediately adjacent (HER Refs: MNF65373, TG 1610 0579; MNF65371, TG 1575 0566; MNF65242, TG 1565 0671), whilst a number of scattered Post Medieval finds are also recorded within immediate proximity. This likely reflects the location of the study site within the agricultural hinterland of Hethersett.

4.6.2 An approximate site boundary has been shown on the 1797 Faden Map of Norfolk (Fig. 4), which depicts the study site within open land to the north and west of Hethersett and Hethersett Common. An approximate site boundary is similarly shown on the 1817 Ordnance Survey Drawing (Fig. 5), which also depicts the study site within open land. A number of small farmsteads are shown within the immediate vicinity of the study site.

4.6.3 The 1839 Great Melton Tithe Map and 1846 Hethersett Tithe Map (Fig. 6) are the first maps to show the study site in detail and an accurate site boundary is shown on this figure. The associated Tithe Awards (Appendix 1) generally describe the land parcels within the study site as either pastoral or arable, with a few small areas of woodland. Two parcels within the south west area of the study site (Appt. Nos. 293 & 302) are named 'Clay Pit Close' and 'Pit Five Acres', and may indicate former extraction activity within this area of the study site. A number of small ponds are shown within the north east area of the study site, which may also be evidence of former extraction activity.

4.6.4 Minor field boundary changes are shown within the study site on the 1887 Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. 7), and a number of further ponds are shown within the south west and north east areas. This may indicate further extraction activity. Only limited minor field boundary changes are shown in 1908 (Fig. 8), 1938 (Fig. 9) and 1950 (Fig. 10).

4.6.5 By 1999 (Fig. 11), many of the internal field boundaries had been removed and the study site comprised large open fields. A small number of the possible former extraction pits have been infilled.

4.6.6 The study site generally remains unchanged to the present day (Fig. 12). A circular feature is shown in the far north west corner, and an examination of LiDAR data (Figs. 3a-b) indicates that is an extension of a gravel pit shown immediately to the south of this feature on historic mapping.

4.6.7 The study site has generally remained open land throughout the Post Medieval and Modern periods, and has been subject to localised extraction activity. Therefore, the archaeological potential of the study site for these periods is considered to be low and evidence for agricultural features of low significance is anticipated.

4.7 **Undated Evidence**

4.7.1 A linear ditch is visible as a cropmark c.100m south of the south east corner of the study site on aerial photography (HER Ref: MNF59882, TG 1660 0558). No evidence for this ditch appears to have been recorded during archaeological evaluation within this immediate area (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2012), although evidence for Iron Age or Roman field boundaries was recorded.

4.8 Historic Landscape Data (Fig. 2b)

4.8.1 The Norfolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Data generally records the study site within areas of '20th century agriculture', and a few small areas of '18-19th century enclosure'. A small area of 'inland – managed wetland' is recorded in the north west area.

4.8.2 In addition, a Historic Characterisation and Sensitivity Assessment has been undertaken for the Greater Norwich area (Norfolk County Council 2009). The study site has been characterised within an area of much fragmented 'Ancient Countryside', where former commons have all been enclosed and turned to arable use, with 20th century field amalgamation eroding former field boundaries. This is supported at the study site by the historic map regression, and specifically the general removal of many of the internal field boundaries in the latter half of the 20th century to create the existing open fields (see section 4.6.5).

4.9 LiDAR Data Plot (Figs. 3a-b)

4.9.1 A possible enclosure can be seen on the LiDAR plots within the far eastern area of the study site.

4.9.2 A number of former probable extraction pits are shown throughout the study site, and evidence for agricultural activity and land division is recorded across the majority of the study site.

4.10 Negative Evidence

4.10.1 A large area of geophysical survey immediately east of the study site's far eastern boundary has identified limited evidence for archaeological remains within the immediate vicinity of the study site (Northamptonshire Archaeology Geophys. 2009).

4.10.2 Archaeological trial trenching has been undertaken immediately south of the northern arm of the study site, which identified only limited evidence for historic agricultural activity (MOLA Archaeological Evaluation 2016).

4.10.3 Archaeological evaluation and geophysical survey at Great Melton Road immediately to the east of the western arm of the study site identified only limited archaeological remains immediately south east of the possible Roman villa site (PCA 2013 & NAU 2009).

4.11 Assessment of Significance – Designated Heritage Assets

4.11.1 Existing national policy guidance for archaeology (the NPPF as referenced in section 2) enshrines the concept of the 'significance' of heritage assets. Significance as defined in the NPPF centres on the value of an archaeological or historic asset for its 'heritage interest' to this or future generations.

4.11.2 In terms of nationally designated archaeological assets, there are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Battlefields or Registered Wreck Sites within the study area.

4.11.3 In terms of nationally designated built heritage assets, there are no Registered Parks or Gardens, and no Conservation Areas within the study area. Whilst there are no designated built heritage assets within the study site, there are 10 Grade II Listed Buildings within the study area and a further 13 GII Listed Buildings and a GII* Listed church to the south in the core of Hethersett.

4.11.4 The Grade II Listed Hill Farmhouse is located immediately adjacent to the western arm of the study site. It is considered that the immediate setting of this heritage asset is limited to the farmyard, and that, given the intervening farm and residential development to the north and east, the extended setting comprises the field to the south west of the farmhouse.

4.11.5 The GII Listed Buildings within the study area, and the GII* Listed church to the south, are listed in tabular form as follows:

Name	Desig. No.	Location Relative to Site
Hill Farmhouse (Grade II)	1050733	Immediately adjacent to western arm of site
Wong Farmhouse (Grade II)	1050772	370m west of the western arm of the site
The Hollies (Grade II)	1306536	200m east of western arm of site
Cedar Grange (Grade II)	1050572	300m east of western arm of site
Myrtle Cottage (Grade II)	1373153	500m east of western arm of site
The Steward's House (Grade II)	1050540	320m north of the north west corner of the site
Whitehouse Farmhouse (Grade II)	1050538	250m south west of eastern area of site
Building at Church Farm… (Grade II)	1169566	420m south of eastern area of site
Milestone No 5… (Grade II)	1306525	300m south of eastern area of site

Barn at Elm Farm (Grade II)	1373135	200m north east of northern arm of site
Church of St Remigius (Grade II*)	1373115	1km south of eastern area of site

4.12 **Assessment of Significance – Non-Designated Heritage Assets**

4.12.1 Based on current evidence, a high archaeological potential has been identified within specific areas of the study site, as indicated on Figure 13, for a Roman villa complex, a possible Bronze Age ring ditch, an undated enclosure, and two Medieval buildings. The study site also has a generally moderate archaeological potential for Prehistoric artefactual evidence. A low archaeological potential is identified at the study site for the Post Medieval and Modern periods, whilst evidence for agricultural activity and land division from the Iron Age to the Medieval periods is to be anticipated.

4.12.2 Any remains, should they occur on the study site, would in the context of the Secretary of State's non-statutory criteria for Scheduled Monuments (DCMS 2013) be most likely of local significance, although archaeological remains associated with the possible Roman villa complex could be of national importance (see purple area on Figure 13).

5.0 SITE CONDITIONS, THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND IMPACT ON HERITAGE ASSETS

5.1 Site Conditions

5.1.1 The site is generally occupied by open land to the west and north of Hethersett.

5.1.2 Limited modern development and localised extraction pits within the study site, identified on historic mapping, will have had a localised, destructive impact on archaeological remains.

5.1.3 Past agricultural land use can be considered to have had a moderate, widespread archaeological impact.

5.2 The Proposed Development

5.2.1 Development proposals comprise the residential development of the study site, including associated access roads, landscaping, community space and infrastructure.

5.3 Review of Potential Development Impact Upon Designated Heritage Assets

5.3.1 No nationally designated archaeological assets will be affected by development at the study site.

5.3.2 Whilst no nationally designated built heritage assets are located within the study site, a number are located within the study area, although the majority are located within the built up area of Hethersett away from the study site and are unlikely to be affected by development at the study site.

5.3.3 The exception is the GII Listed Hill Farmhouse which is located immediately adjacent to the south west area of the study site. Given that the setting of the farmhouse is considered to be limited to the immediate farmyard and the field to the south west of the farmhouse, this field is proposed to remain as open space, to avoid any indirect impact on this designated built heritage asset and to protect its setting. Once detailed development designs are available, a detailed Built Heritage Assessment will be undertaken to assess the impacts of the proposed development upon the setting of this designated built heritage asset.

5.4 Review of Potential Development Impact Upon Non-Designated Heritage Assets

5.4.1 The study site has a high archaeological potential within specific areas of the study site for a Roman villa complex, a possible Bronze Age ring ditch, an undated enclosure, and two Medieval buildings. A generally moderate archaeological potential is also identified across the study site for Prehistoric artefactual evidence.

5.4.2 Therefore, the area of the possible Roman villa complex is proposed as open space to avoid any direct impacts upon this potentially nationally significant heritage asset (see purple area on Figure 14).

5.4.3 Development across the remainder of the study site would have the potential to negatively impact upon below ground archaeological remains, and archaeological evaluation works will be required prior to construction by the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority. However, as these areas are considered to retain a potential for archaeological remains of a local significance only, it is considered that these do not present a constraint to development.

6.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Land North and West of Hethersett, Norfolk has been reviewed for heritage issues which may present a constraint to future development.

6.2 In terms of nationally designated archaeological assets, there are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Battlefields or Registered Wreck Sites within the study area.

6.3 In terms of nationally designated built heritage assets, there are no Registered Parks or Gardens, and no Conservation Areas within the study area. Whilst there are no designated built heritage assets within the study site, there are 10 Grade II Listed Buildings within the study area and a further 13 GII Listed Buildings and a GII* Listed church to the south in the core of Hethersett. The GII Listed Buildings within the study area include 'Hill Farmhouse', 'The Hollies', 'Cedar Grange', 'Myrtle Cottage', 'Whitehouse Farmhouse', 'Building at Church Farm…', 'Milestone No 5…', and 'Barn at Elm Farm'. The GII* Listed Building to the south of the study area is the 'Church of St Remigius'.

6.4 The majority of these designated built heritage assets are located away from the study site and are unlikely to be affected by development at the study site. However, the GII Listed Hill Farmhouse is located immediately adjacent to the south west area of the study site. Given that the setting of the farmhouse is considered to be limited to the immediate farmyard and the field to the south west of the farmhouse, this field is proposed to remain as open space, to avoid any indirect impact on this designated built heritage asset and to protect its setting. Once detailed development designs are available, a detailed Built Heritage Assessment will be undertaken to assess the impacts of the proposed development upon the setting of this designated built heritage asset.

6.5 Based on current evidence, a high archaeological potential has been identified within specific areas of the study site for a Roman villa complex, a possible Bronze Age ring ditch, an undated enclosure, and two Medieval buildings. The study site also has a generally moderate archaeological potential for Prehistoric artefactual evidence.

6.6 Therefore, the area of the possible Roman villa complex is proposed as open space to avoid any direct impacts upon this potentially nationally significant heritage asset.

6.7 Development across the remainder of the study site would have the potential to negatively impact upon below ground archaeological remains, and archaeological evaluation works will be required prior to construction by the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority. However, as these areas are considered to retain a potential

for archaeological remains of a local significance only, it is considered that these do not present a constraint to development.

SOURCES CONSULTED

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British Library

Norfolk Heritage Centre

Norfolk Historic Environment Record

The National Archives

Internet

British Geological Survey –

http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html

British History Online – http://www.british-history.ac.uk/

Domesday Online – http://www.domesdaybook.co.uk/

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Northamptonshire Archaeology *Archaeological Field Walking Survey of Land North of Hethersett* 2011

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Cartographic

1579 Saxton Map of Norfolk

1749 Bowen Map of Norfolk

1797 Faden Map of Norfolk

1817 Ordnance Survey Drawing

1826 Bryant Map of Norfolk

1826 Great Melton Enclosure Map

1839 Great Melton Tithe Map

1846 Hethersett Tithe Map

1887 Ordnance Survey Map (1:10560)

1908 Ordnance Survey Map (1:10560)

1938 Ordnance Survey Map (1:10560)

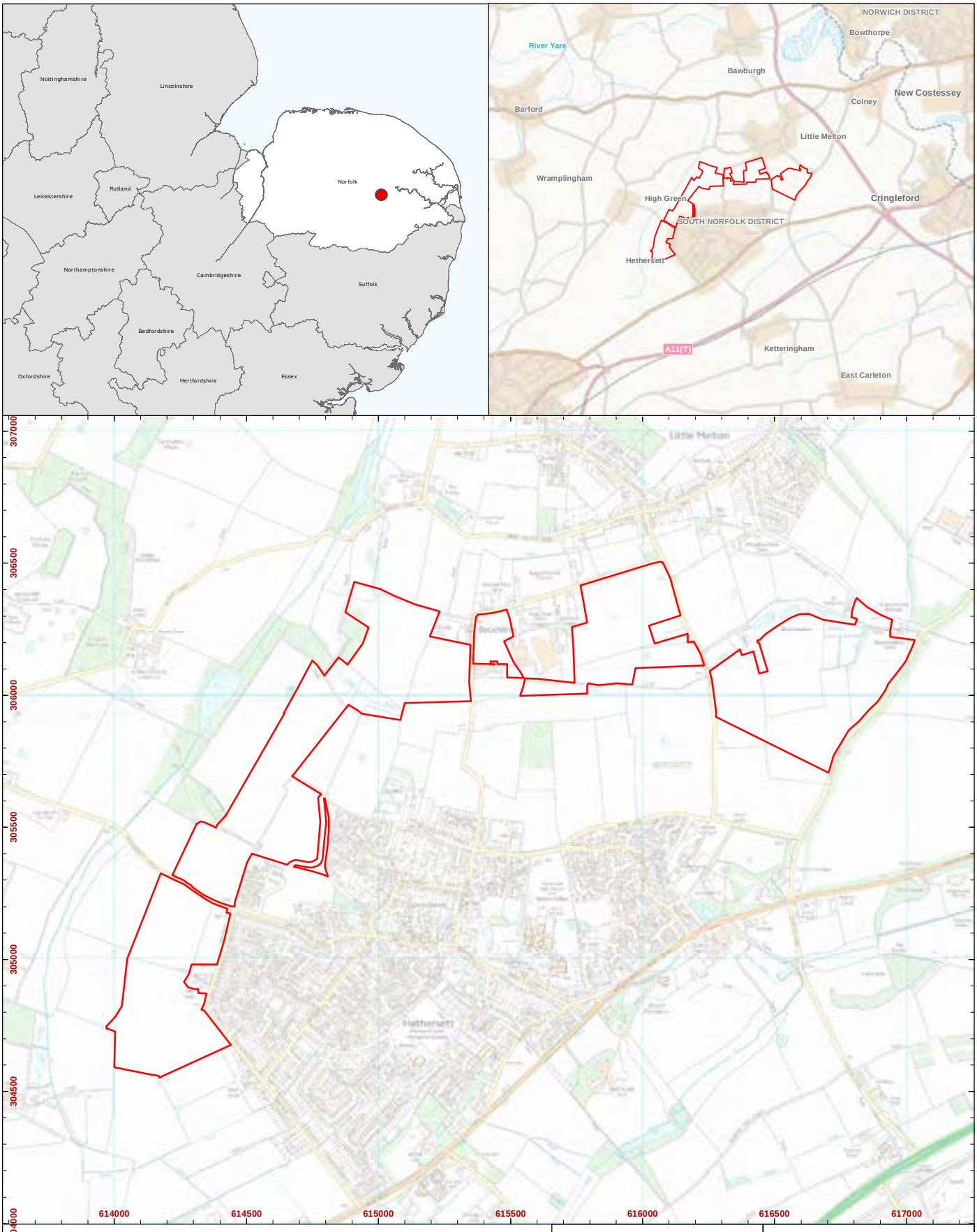
1950 Ordnance Survey Map (1:10560)

1999 Google Earth Image

2003 Google Earth Image

2006 Google Earth Image

2017 Google Earth Image



Site Boundary

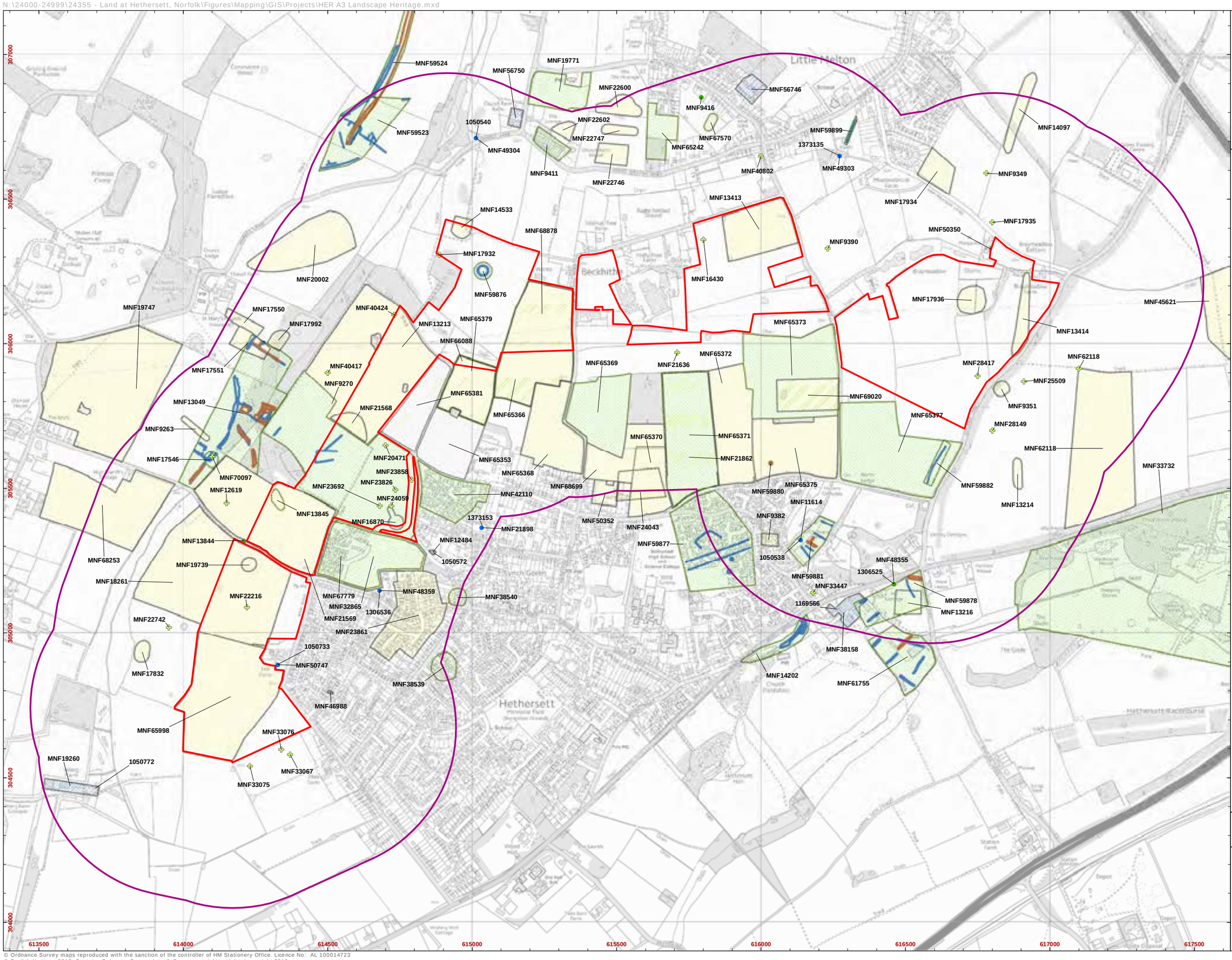
N

Scale at A4: 1:20,000

0 500 m

CgMs HERITAGE PART OF RPS

Figure 1:
Site Location



CgMs HERITAGE PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

Search Radius

Non-Designated Assets:

HER Record (point)

- Historic Building
- Find Spot
- Monument

HER Record (polygon)

- Historic Building
- Find Spot
- Monument
- Negative Area

NMP Cropmark Data

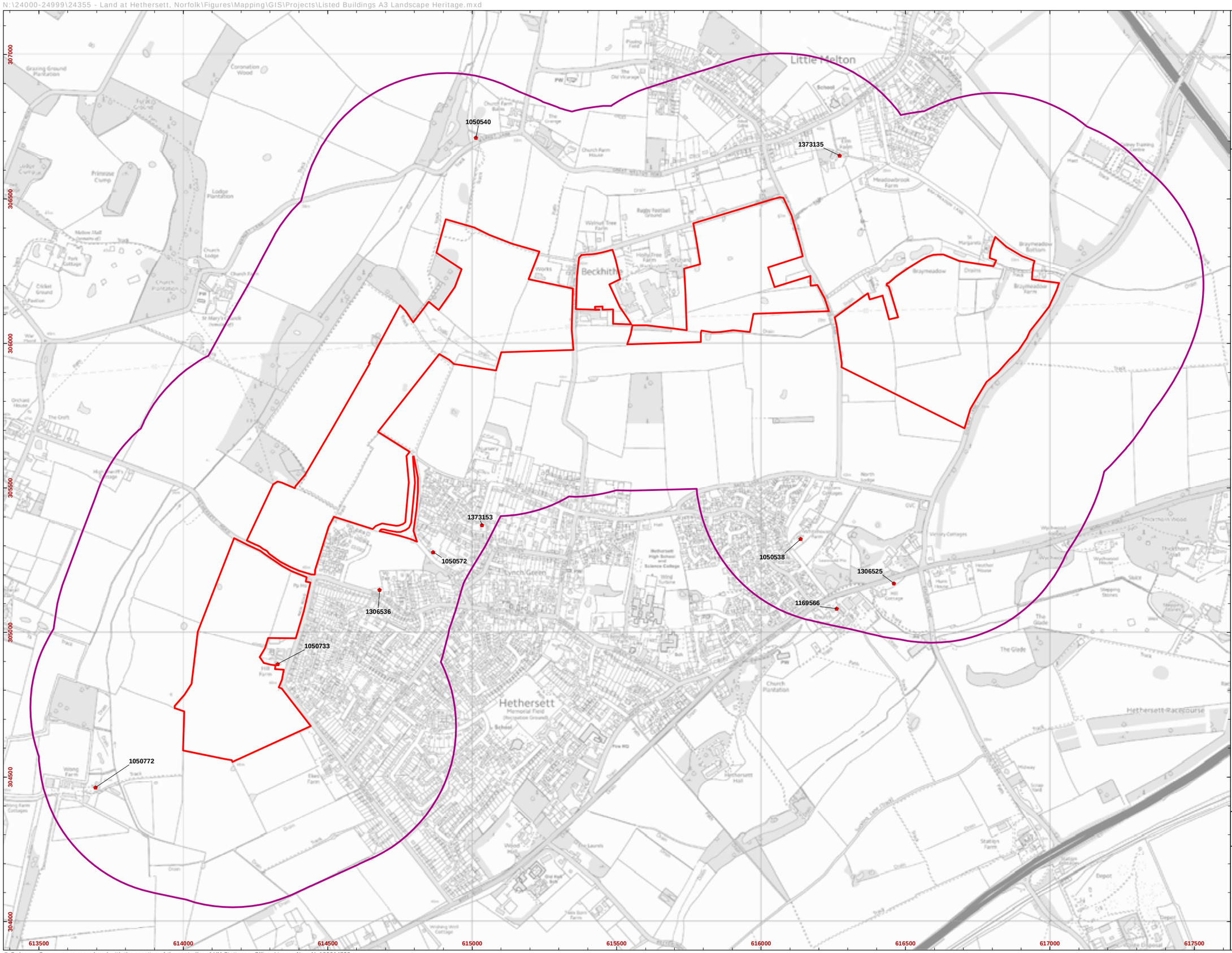
- BANK
- DITCH

N

Scale at A3: 1:12,000

0 400 m

Figure 2a:
HER Data Plot
Archaeological Assets
(Data from Norfolk HER)



CgMs HERITAGE PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

Search Radius

Designated Assets:

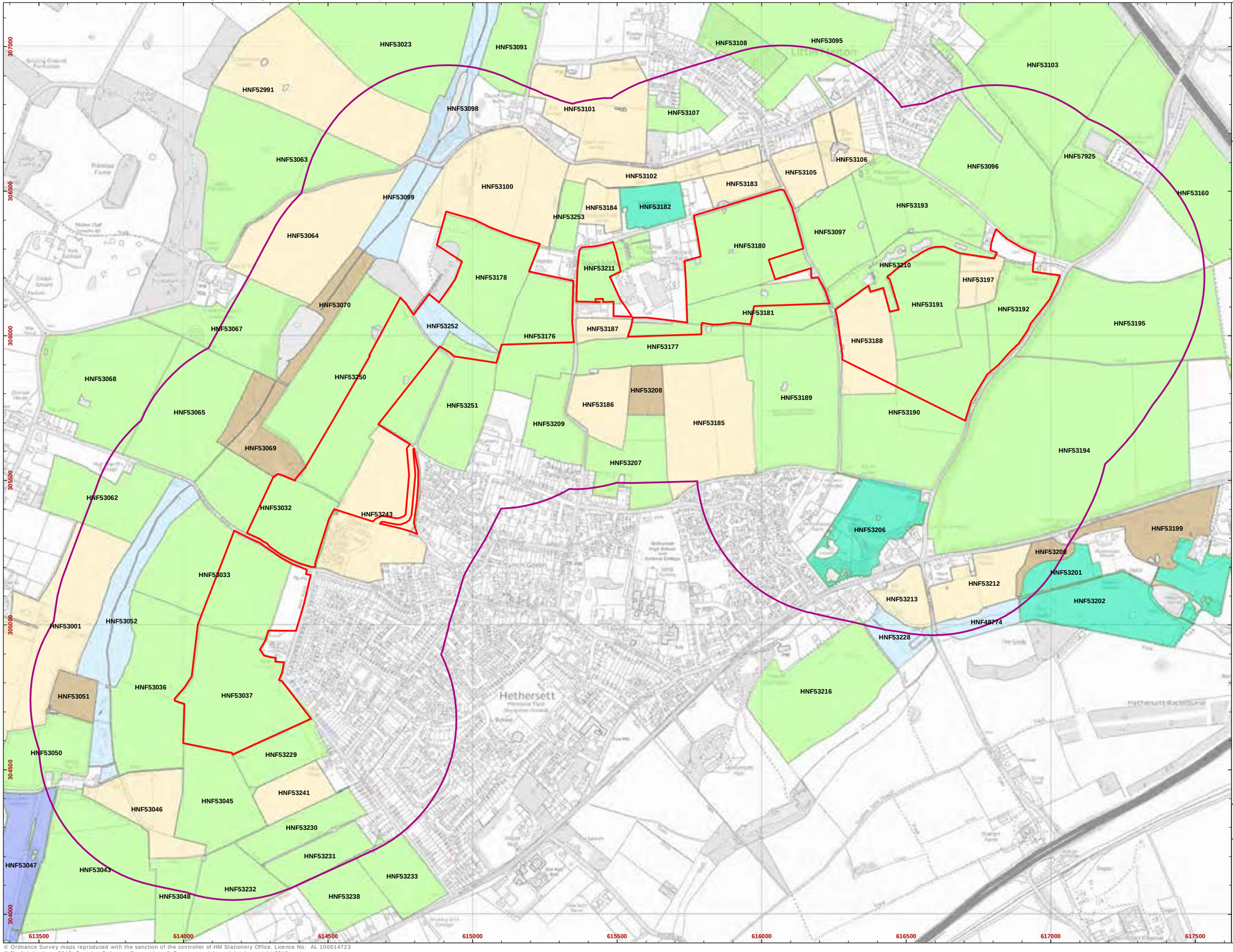
Listed Buildings

N

Scale at A3: 1:12,000

0 400 m

Figure 2b:
HER Data Plot Built Heritage Assets



CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

- Site Boundary
- Search Radius

HLC Data

- 18th-19th century enclosure
- 20th century agriculture
- Inland - managed wetland
- Marginal
- Parks, gardens, recreation
- Woodland

N

Scale at A3: 1:12,000

0 400 m

Figure 2c:
Historic Landscape Data

CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

LiDAR DATA

Data Type: DSM

Resolution: 50cm

Direction of Illumination

N

Scale at A3: 1:10,000

0 300 m

Figure 3a:
LiDAR Data Plot

CgMs HERITAGE PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

LiDAR DATA

Data Type: DSM

Resolution: 50cm

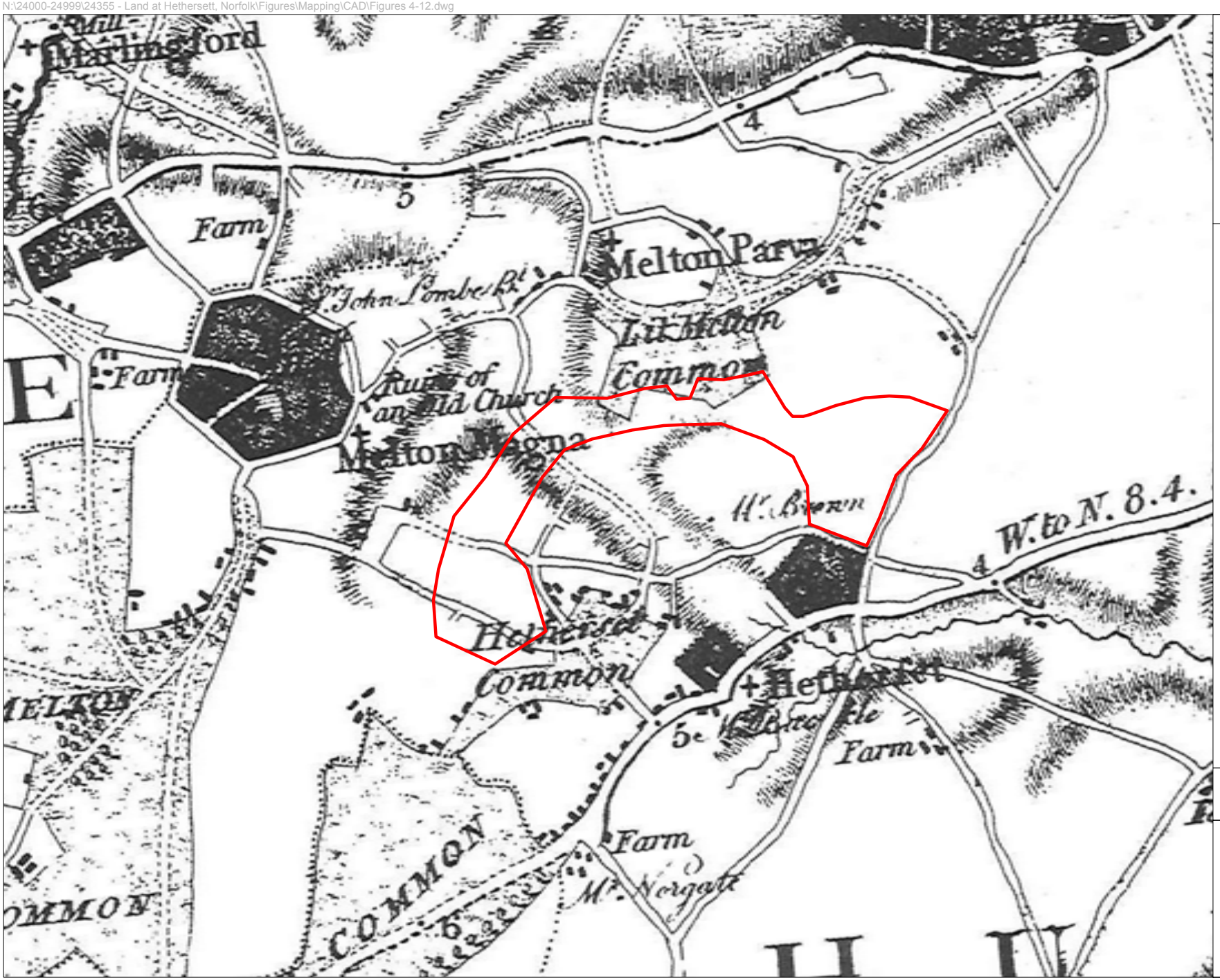
Direction of Illumination

N

Scale at A3: 1:10,000

0 300 m

Figure 3b:
LiDAR Data Plot



CgMs HERITAGE PART OF RPS

Site Boundary (approximate)

N

Not to Scale: Illustrative Only

Figure 4:
1797 Faden Map of Norfolk

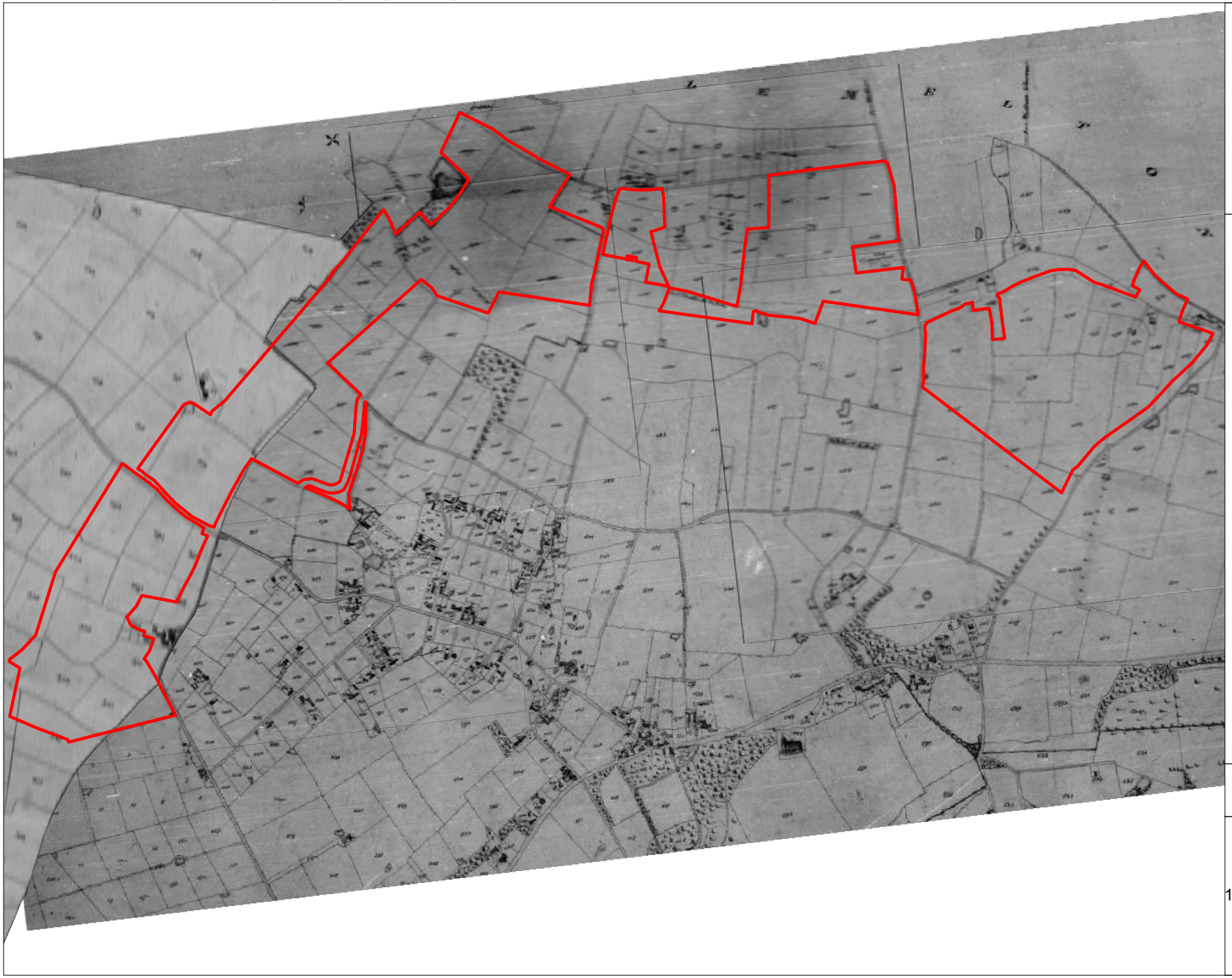
CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

Site Boundary
(approximate)

N

Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

Figure 5:
1817 Ordnance Survey
Drawing



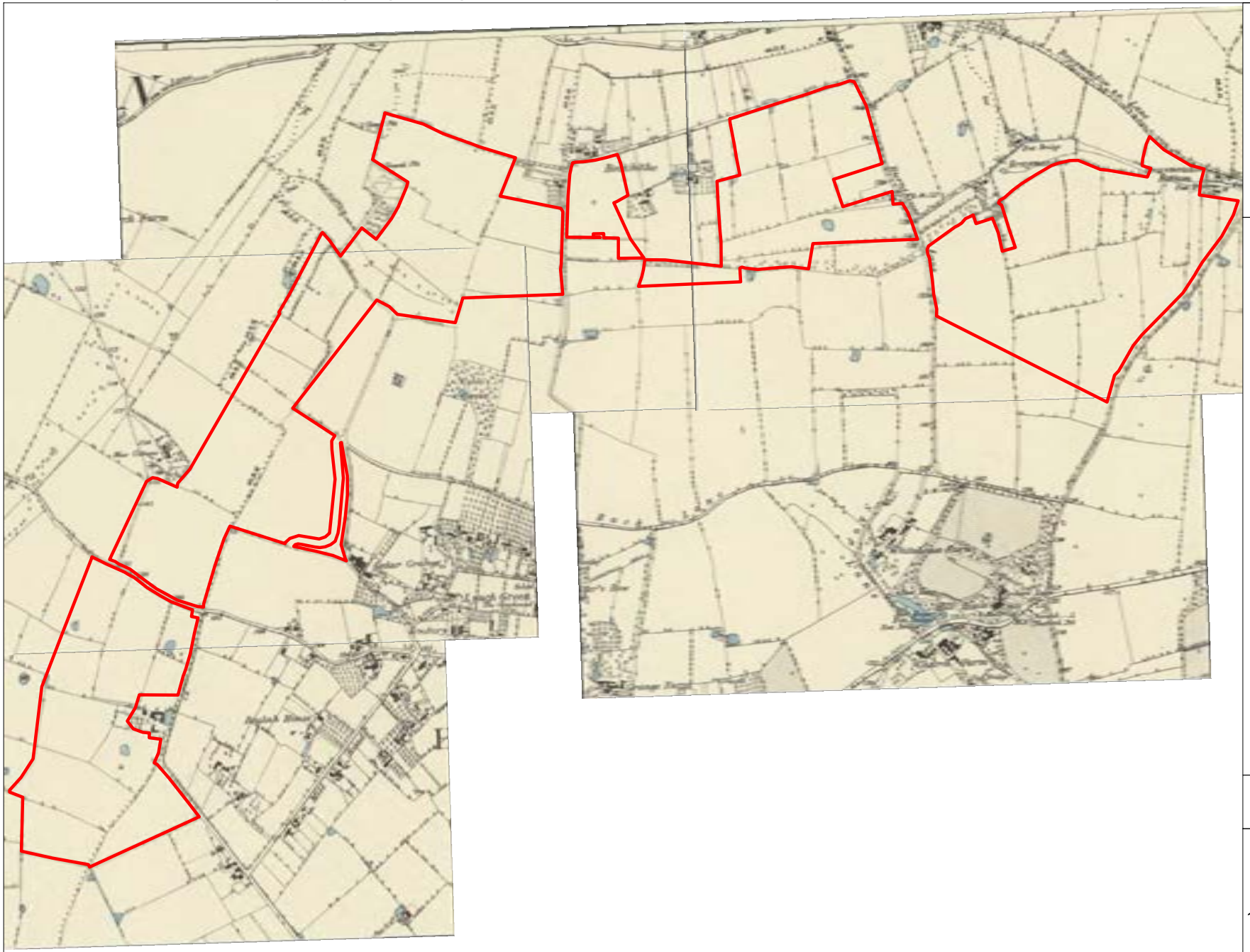
CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

N

Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

Figure 6:
1839 Great Melton Tithe Map
& Hethersett Tithe Map



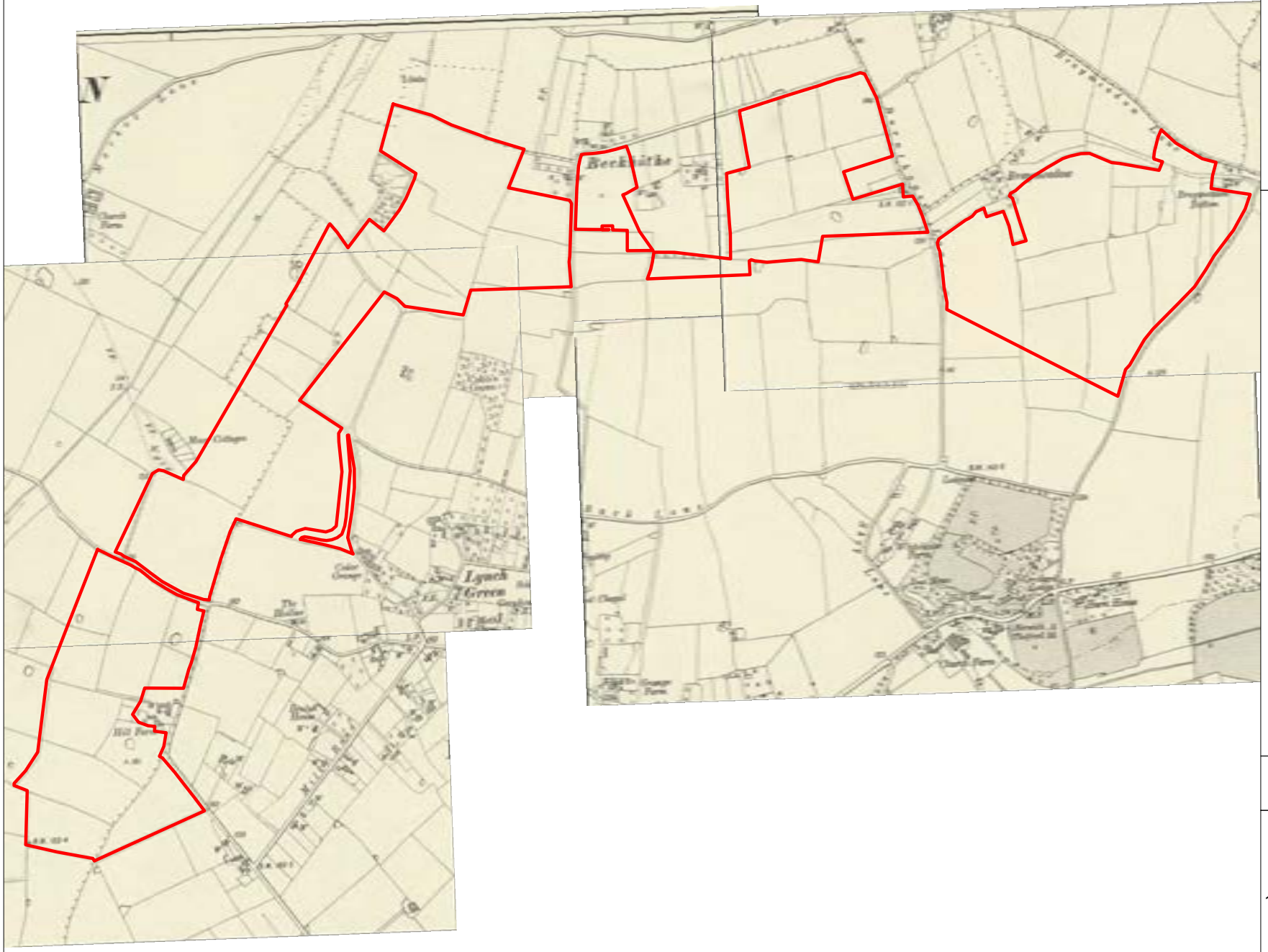
CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

N

Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

Figure 7:
1887 Ordnance Survey Map



CgMs HERITAGE PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

N

Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

Figure 8:
1908 Ordnance Survey Map

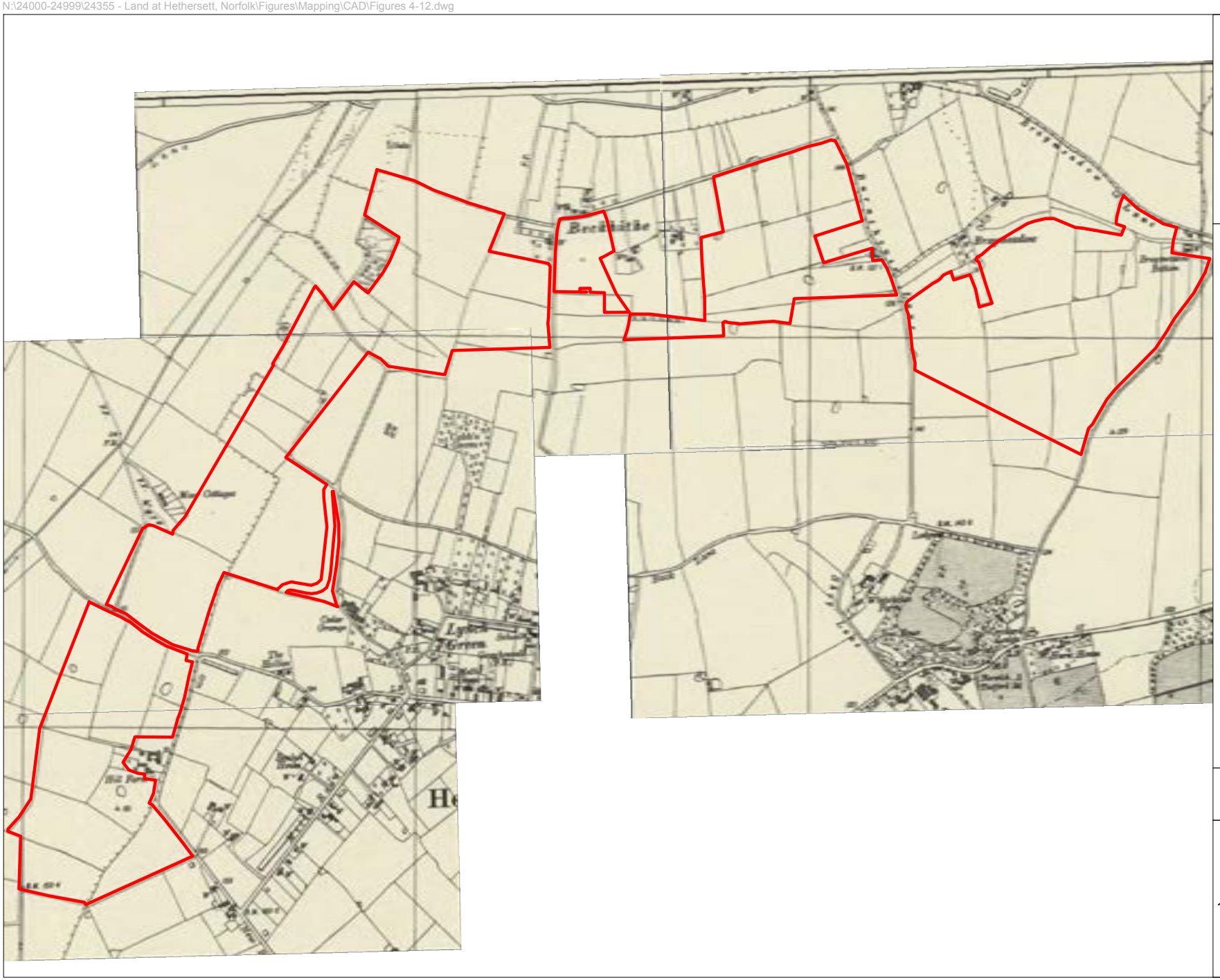
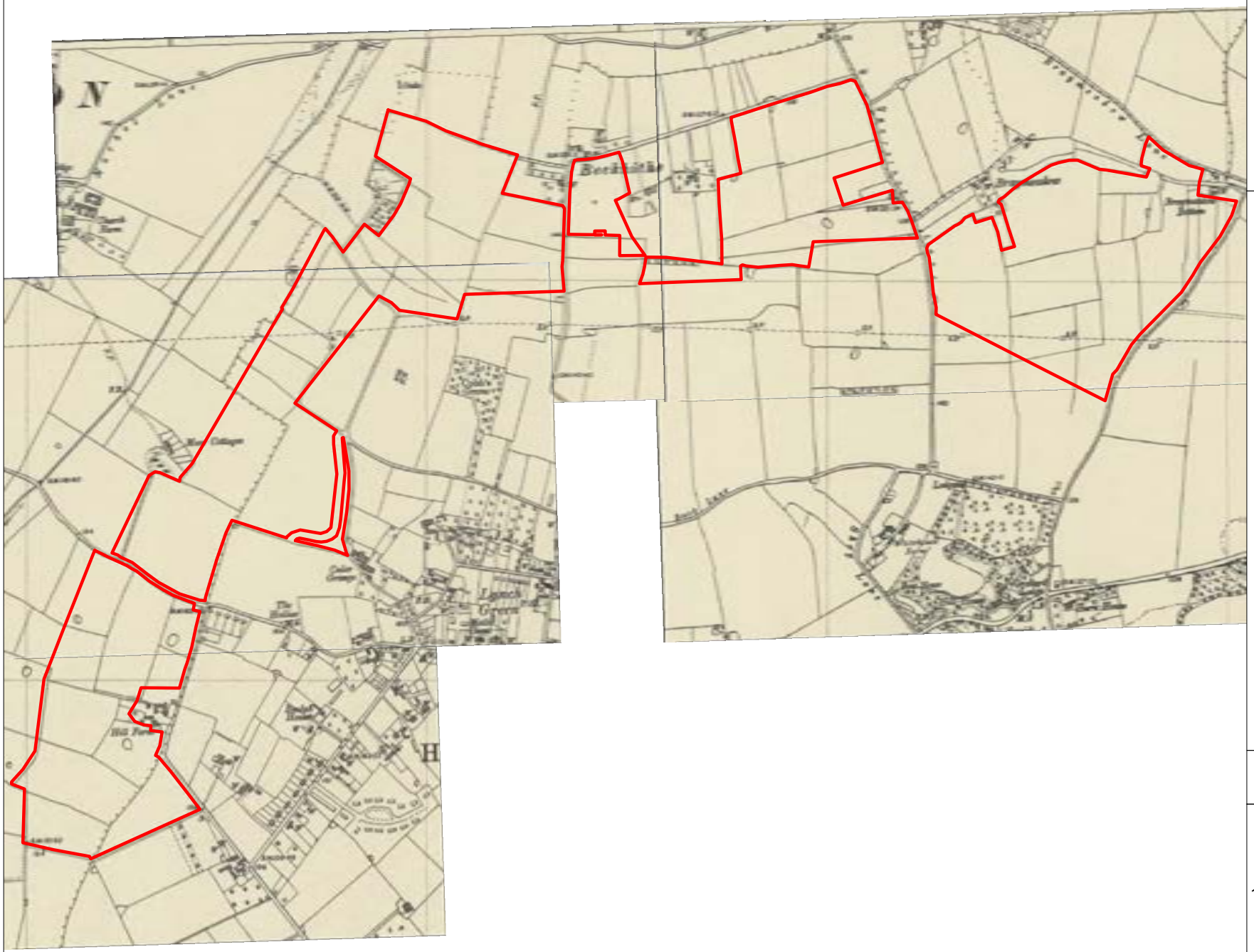


Figure 9:
1938 Ordnance Survey Map



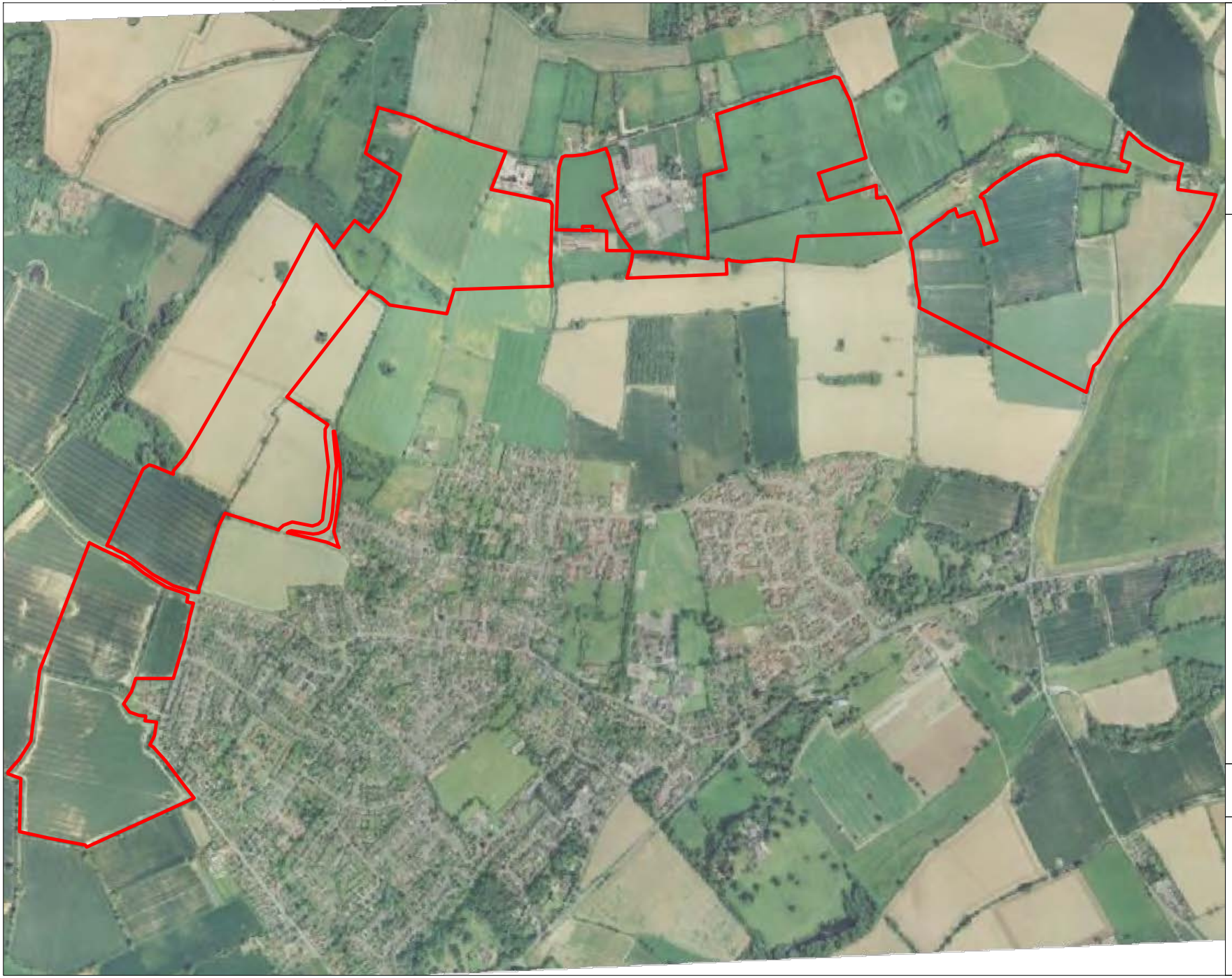
CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

N

Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

Figure 10:
1950 Ordnance Survey Map



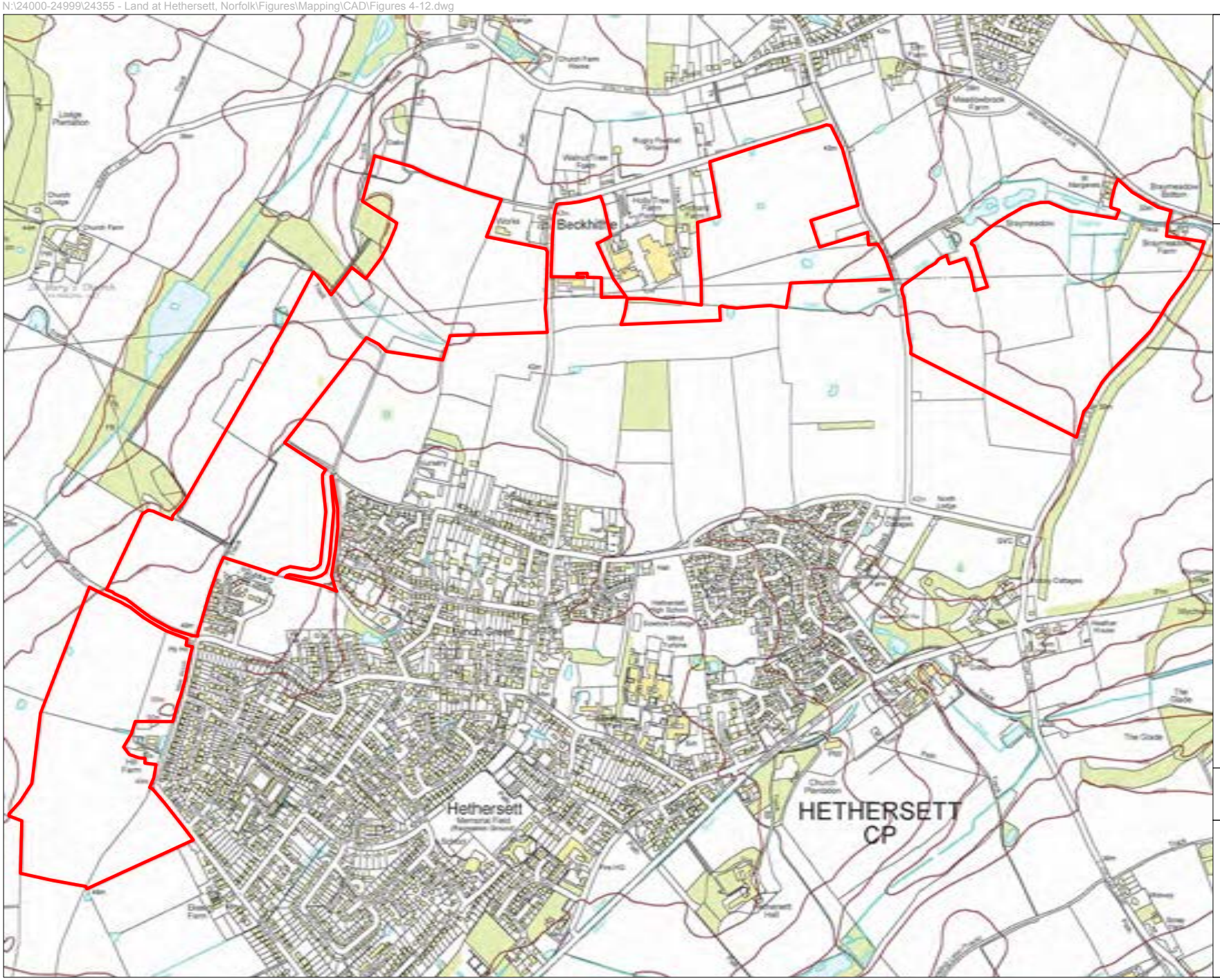
CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

N

Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

Figure 11:
1999 Google Earth Image



CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

Site Boundary

N

Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

Figure 12:
Site as Existing

CgMs HERITAGE PART OF RPS

- Site Boundary
- Archaeological Potential Associated with Possible Bronze Age Ring Ditch
- Archaeological Potential Associated with Nationally Significant Roman Villa
- Archaeological Potential Associated with Medieval Buildings
- Archaeological Potential Associated with Possible Undated Enclsure
- Area Potentially within the setting of Listed Building
- Previous Archaeological Work

NB: The site retains a general archaeological potential for Prehistoric artefactual evidence.

N

Scale at A3: 1:10,000

0 300m

Figure 13:
Areas of Heritage Constraints

Appendix One: 1839 Great Melton and 1846 Hethersett Tithe Apportionments

Tithe Apportionments

1839 Great Melton Parish

111- Moor Field; arable

114- Hethersett Close; arable

293- Clay Pit Close; arable

294- Pack Close; arable

295- Upper Pasture; pasture

296- Stable Pasture; pasture

297- Home Close; arable

300- Home Pasture; pasture

301- Common Close; pasture

302- Pit Five Acres; arable

303- Hackyard Close; arable

304- Shallow Pit Close; arable

309- Five Acres; arable

310- Four Acres; arable

1846 Hetherset Parish

1- Hethersett Six Acre; arable

361- New Close; arable

362- Mill Close; arable

363- First Mill Field; arable

364- Second Mill Field; arable

365- Pidgeons

366- Upper Pidgeons; arable

367- Lower Pidgeons; arable

368- Cottage Pightle; arable

373- Gravel Pit piece; arable

374- Ten Acres; arable

375- Hill Close; arable

376- Little Meadow; pasture

376a- Ozier Car; wood

377- First Meadow; pasture

380- Kemp Pit Close; arable

381- Four and a half Acres; arable

404- Clamp Close; arable

405- Upper Three Acres; arable

406- Lower Three Acres; arable

412- Arable

413- Pit Pightle; arable

415- Rising Corner; arable

416- Rising Corner; arable

428- Peppers Twelve Acres; arable

429- The Grove; wood

436- Peppers

437- Peppers; arable

438- Hill Close; arable

439- Luee Hill; arable

440- Allotment; arable

442- Common Allotment; arable

443- Common Allotment; arable

444- Common Allotment; arable

454- Upper Barn and House & Close Six Acres; arable

455- Upper Barn and House & Close Five Acre; arable

456- Middle Barn and House & Close Six Acres; arable

457- Lower Barn and House & Close Six Acres; arable

463- Bray Meadow Eight Acres; arable

472- Great Pightle; arable

473- Cottages and Garden; pasture

474- Cottages and Garden; pasture

475- Common Allotments; pasture

476- First Common Allotments; pasture

477- Second Common Allotments; arable

478- New Close; arable

479- Bray Meadow Six Acres; arable

480- Bray Meadow Ten Acres; arable

481- Grove One Acre; arable

482- Hippersons Little Piece; arable

483- Hippersons Great Piece; arable

484- Watts Pightle; arable

485- Plum Pightle; arable

486- Long Glebe Piece; arable

487- Home Piece; arable

488- House and Yards; pasture

490- Glebe Piece; arable

Appendix Two: Northamptonshire Archaeology *Archaeological Evaluation on Land North of Hethersett* 2012

Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological evaluation on land north of Hethersett, Norfolk February 2012

Northamptonshire Archaeology
2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Northampton NN4 8BE
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e. sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk
w. www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk

Northamptonshire County Council

REGISTERED ORGANISATION IfA

Christopher Jones

Report 12/51

March 2012

Event No. ENF128437

STAFF

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Post-medieval pottery:	Iain Soden BA MIfA
Iron objects:	Tora Hylton
Quern:	Andy Chapman
Cremated bone:	Andy Chapman
Ceramic building materials	Pat Chapman
Animal bone	Laszlo Lichtenstein
Illustrations:	Amir Bassir BSc

QUALITY CONTROL

	Print name	Signed	Date
Checked by	Pat Chapman		
Verified by	Adam Yates		
Approved by	Andy Chapman		

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project title	Archaeological evaluation on land north of Hethersett, Norfolk. February 2012	
Short description	In February 2012, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of CgMs Consulting on land at Hethersett, Norfork. Fifty-four trenches were excavated in fields 4, 6 and 10. Only three trenches in field 10 revealed any archaeological features, an Iron Age pit, a Roman ditch, a Roman pit or ditch and a unurned cremation burial. Post-medieval boundary ditches were also present in a number of trenches.	
Project type	Trial trench evaluation	
Site Status		
Previous work	Field walking survey and geophysical survey	
Current land use	Arable	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type and period	None	
Significant finds	Human cremated bone, Iron Age and Roman pottery	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Norfolk	
Site address	Land north of Hethersett, Norfolk	
Post code	-	
OS co-ordinates	TG 164 055	
Area (sq m/ha)	21.1ha	
Height aOD	47m AOD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA)	
Project brief originator		
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA)	
Director/Supervisor	Christopher Jones (NA)	
Project Manager	Adam Yates (NA) Duncan Hawkins (CgMs)	
Sponsor or funding body	CgMs Consulting Ltd	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	06/02/2012	
End date	28/02/2012	
ARCHIVES	**Location (Accession no.)**	**Contents**
Physical	ENF128437	Pottery
Paper		Site records (1 small archive box)
Digital		Client report PDF
BIBLIOGRAPHY	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)	
Title	Archaeological evaluation on land north of Hethersett, Norfolk	
Serial title & volume	12/ 51	
Author(s)	Christopher Jones	
Page numbers	26, 10 figs	
Date	31 March	

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

ON LAND NORTH OF HETHERSETT, NORFORK

FEBRUARY 2012

Abstract

In February 2012, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of CgMs Consulting on land at Hethersett, Norfork. Fifty-four trenches were excavated in fields 4, 6 and 10. Only three trenches in field 10 revealed any archaeological features, an Iron Age pit, a Roman ditch, a Roman pit or ditch and a unurned cremation burial. Post-medieval boundary ditches were also present in a number of trenches.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out a trial trench evaluation for a planning application on land north of Hethersett (SP 796 660; Fig 1). The event number is ENF128437.

The programme of archaeological investigation, involved the excavation of 54 trenches across the development area, the results of which are presented in this report.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the specification (NA 2011) and *Management of Archaeological Projects* (EH 1991, appendix 4: assessment report specification) and the appropriate national standards and guidelines, as recommended by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).

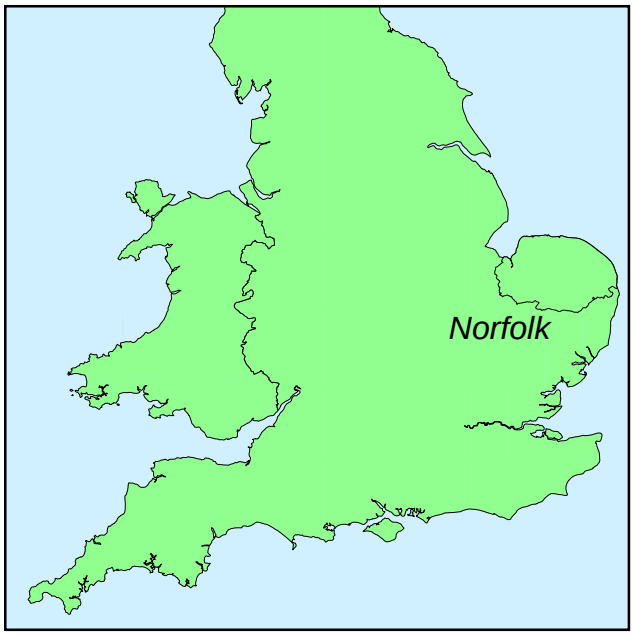
This tranche of works follows a detailed geophysical magnetometer survey and fieldwalking by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Wolframm-Murray and Walford 2011).

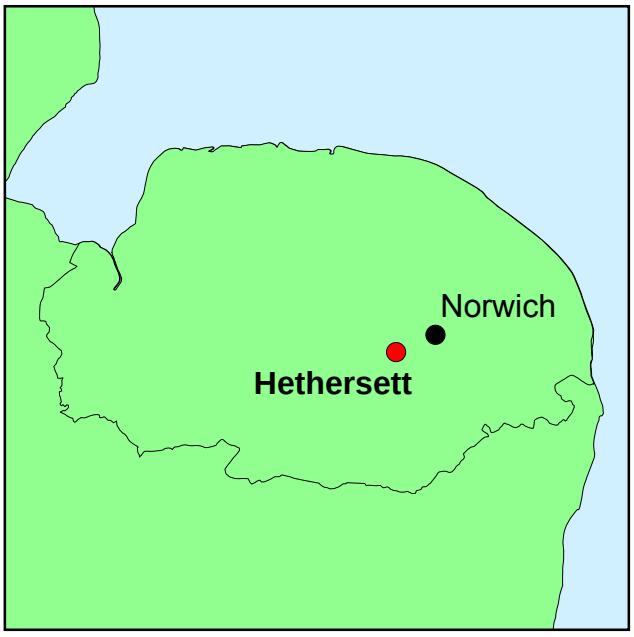
2 BACKGROUND

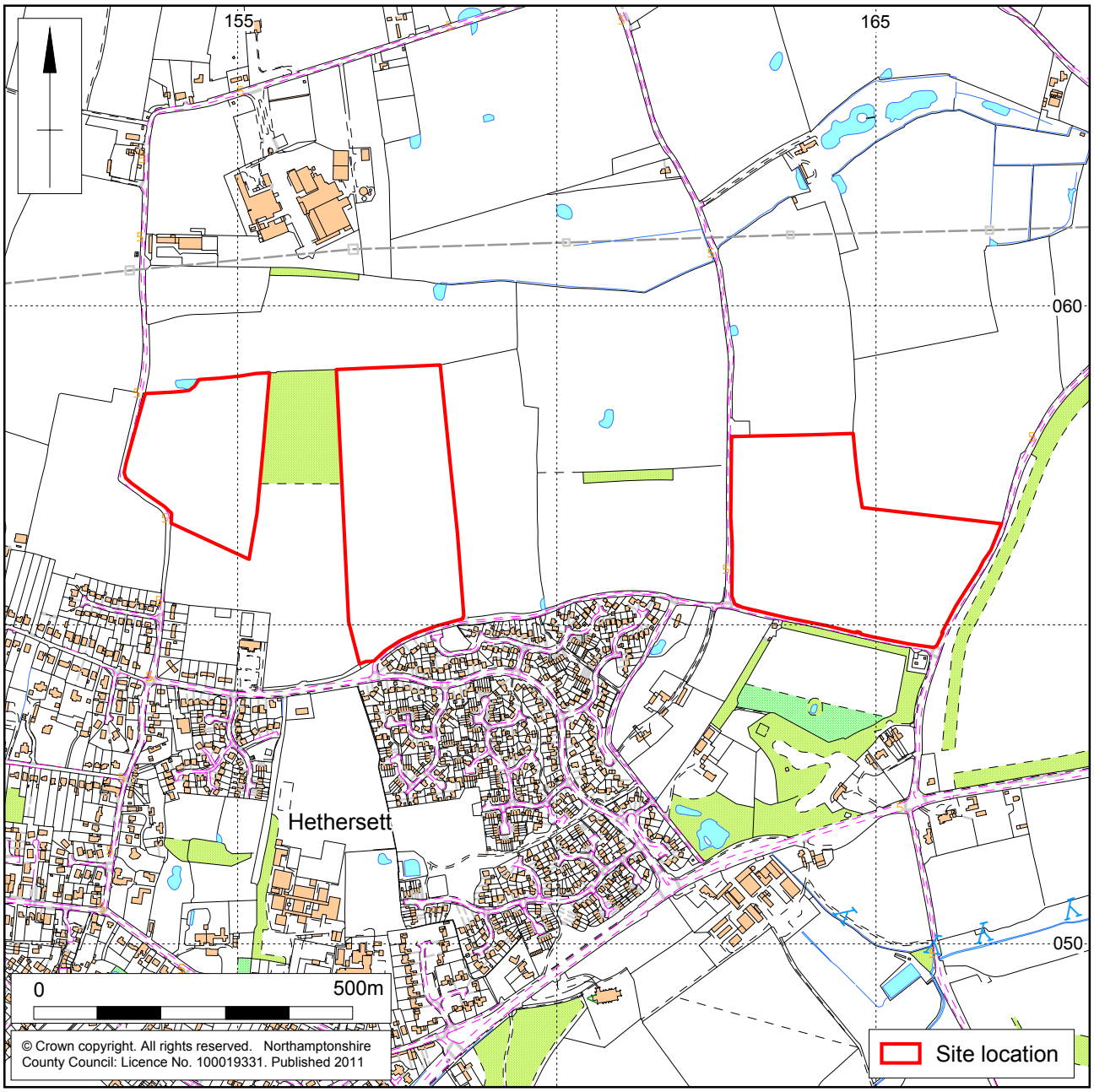
2.1 Location, topography and geology

The area lies to the north of Hethersett, which is on the northern side of the B1172 (Norwich Road), and to the south of Little Melton. The area lies at a height of approximately 47m AOD and is generally flat or slightly undulating. The area to be excavated by trenching comprised three fields F4, F6 and F10 (Fig 2).

The geology of the survey area is largely composed of diamicton overlying chalk. At the far eastern and western ends of the survey area, terrace deposits of sand and gravel also occur (BGS 2011). These strata support sandy and coarse loamy soils of the Burlingham 1 soil association (SSEW 1983 and pers obs).







Scale 1:10,000

Site location Fig 1

2.2 Archaeological background

There are six Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) entries directly within the development area. There are further sites and find spots recorded in close proximity to the area which are of interest. Metal detecting revealed Roman to post-medieval metal finds (MNF 24043). A postulated Early Saxon inhumation cemetery in the southern half of F6 is apparently based on three pieces of metalwork. Finds from multiple periods were also recovered from this area, recovered mostly through metal detecting (ENF 21862). A possible Word War Two bomb crater is recorded (MNF 59880), notable as an earthwork on aerial photographs. Aerial photographs showed possible earthworks of linear ditches and possible bank.

The area surrounding the development area is relatively rich in prehistoric worked flint. These included a Palaeolithic axe (MNF 17936) and Neolithic flint scatters (MNF13216, MNF28149). To the north-west of Field 2 is a possible Bronze Age ring ditch visible in aerial photographs (MNF 59876). There is a Roman settlement site, which included inhumations and buildings (MNF 9270). A geophysical survey revealed possible Roman and Early Saxon features (MNF 42110). There has also been intense metal detecting activity within and around the survey area, which has resulted in several Roman finds spots. Previous fieldwalking had similar finds of Roman and post-medieval pottery (MNF 32865).

Recent fieldwalking survey recovered lithic artefacts from the Mesolithic through to the Bronze Age and pottery sherds from the Bronze Age, the Early/Middle Saxon and Late Saxon/Saxo-Norman period through to the post-medieval and modern period. Little evidence was found to support the postulated provenance of an early Saxon inhumation cemetery (Wolframm-Murray and Walford 2011).

The recent geophysical survey revealed a possible enclosure and a possible ring ditch in Field 6, possible ditches and pits in Field 11 and a number of former field boundaries, infilled ponds and other recent landscape features (Wolframm-Murray and Walford 2011).

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Objectives

The purpose of the work was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of the archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting.

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was:

- To inform a forthcoming planning application for the site;
- To determine and understand the nature, function, and character of the archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting;
- To determine the location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;
- To determine the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;
- To recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region.

Specific research objectives will be drawn from national and regional research frameworks documents (English Heritage 1997; Glazebrook 1997; and Brown and Glazebrook 2000) as relevant depending upon the results of the evaluation.

3.2 Methodology

The works were conducted in accordance with the specification (NA 2011), *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 1994, revised 2008) and the *Code of Conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists* (IfA 1985, revised 2010).

Fifty-four trenches were machine-excavated using a toothless ditching bucket. Fifty-two of the trenches were 50m long by 2m wide and two trenches 25m long by 2m wide. The trenches were positioned in accordance with the trench location plan approved by CgMs Consulting archaeological advisor and have been related to Ordnance Survey National Grid (Fig 2).

The trenches were set out by survey grade GPS (Leica System 1200) operating to an accuracy of +/- 0.05m. They were positioned to provide a full coverage of the development area, and to provide more detailed coverage where the geophysical survey had identified any possible archaeological features.

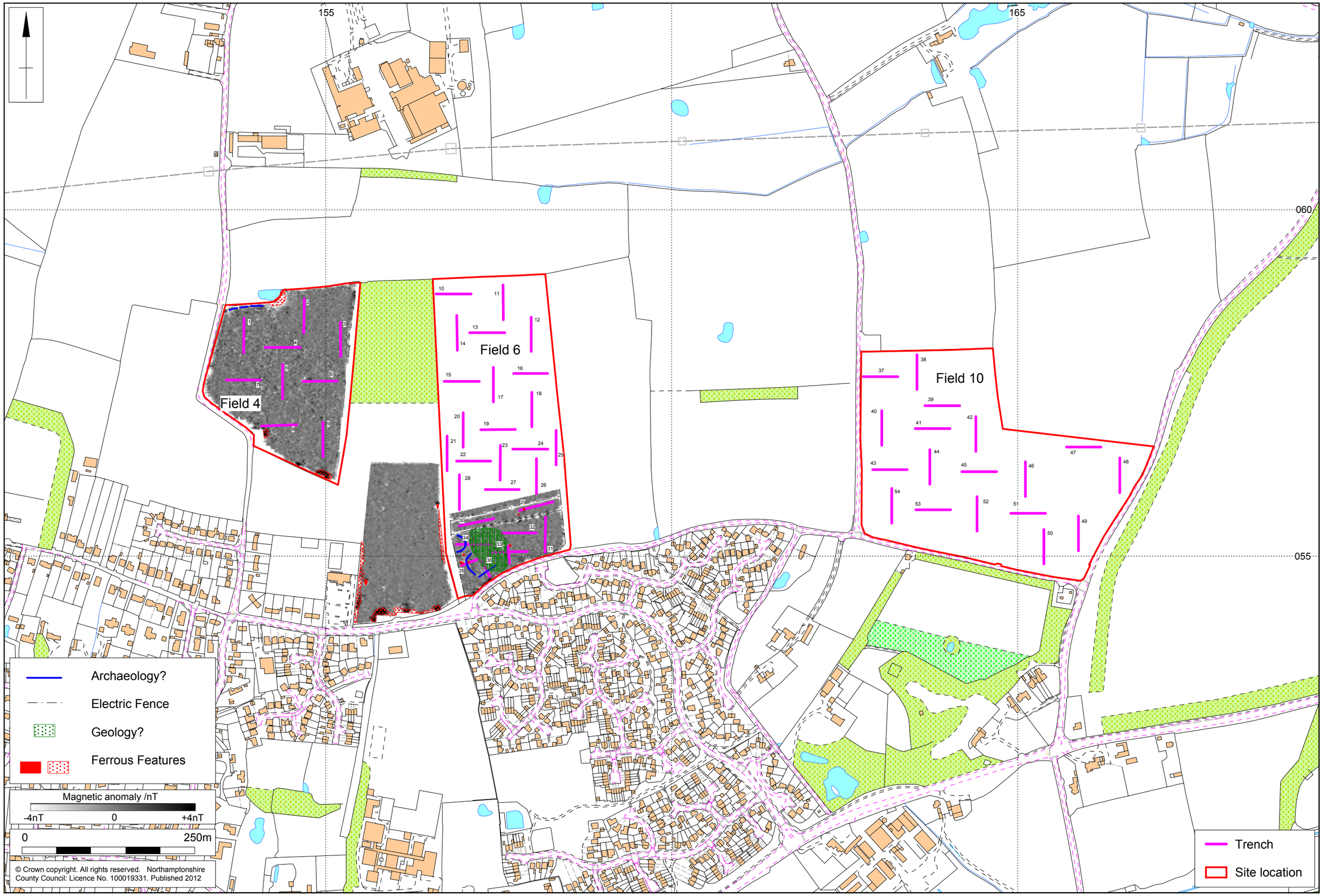
The topsoil, subsoil and non-structural post-medieval and later deposits were removed to reveal archaeological remains or where absent to the natural. The topsoil was stacked separately from the subsoil and other deposits. The trenches were cleaned sufficiently to enable the identification of any features.

All deposits encountered during the course of the excavation were given a separate context number and fully recorded. Recording followed standard Northamptonshire Archaeology procedures (NA 2006). Deposits were described on pro-forma context sheets to include details of the context, its relationships, interpretation and a checklist of associated finds.

The trenches were planned at a scale of 1:100. Sections of the sequence of deposits in each trench were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and related to Ordnance Datum. Archaeological artefacts were recovered from the surface and excavated deposits. Deposits suitable for environmental assessment were encountered and sampled. The excavated area and spoil heaps were scanned visually and with a metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval.

A full photographic record comprising both 35mm black and white negatives and colour transparencies was maintained, supplemented with digital images. On completion of archaeological recording the trenches were backfilled. There was no requirement for specialist re-instatement.

The field data was compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing.



Scale 1:5,000 (A3)

Trench locations with geophysical survey results Fig 2

4 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

4.1 Field 4

Trenches 1-9 were excavated in Field 4. Natural sands were overlain by gray-brown sandy silt topsoil averaging 0.3m deep. A single ditch was observed in Trench 3.

Trench 3

The only feature present was a post-medieval ditch [303] in trench 3, which contained a modern field drain (Fig 3). This was 2.0m wide and 0.85m deep, with a U-shaped profile. The fill (304) was friable mid brown silty sand.

4.2 Field 6

Trenches 10–36 were excavated in the field. Natural light brown sand was overlain by locally present light greyish-brown sandy clay subsoil up to 0.1m deep and dark grey sandy silt topsoil 0.35m deep.

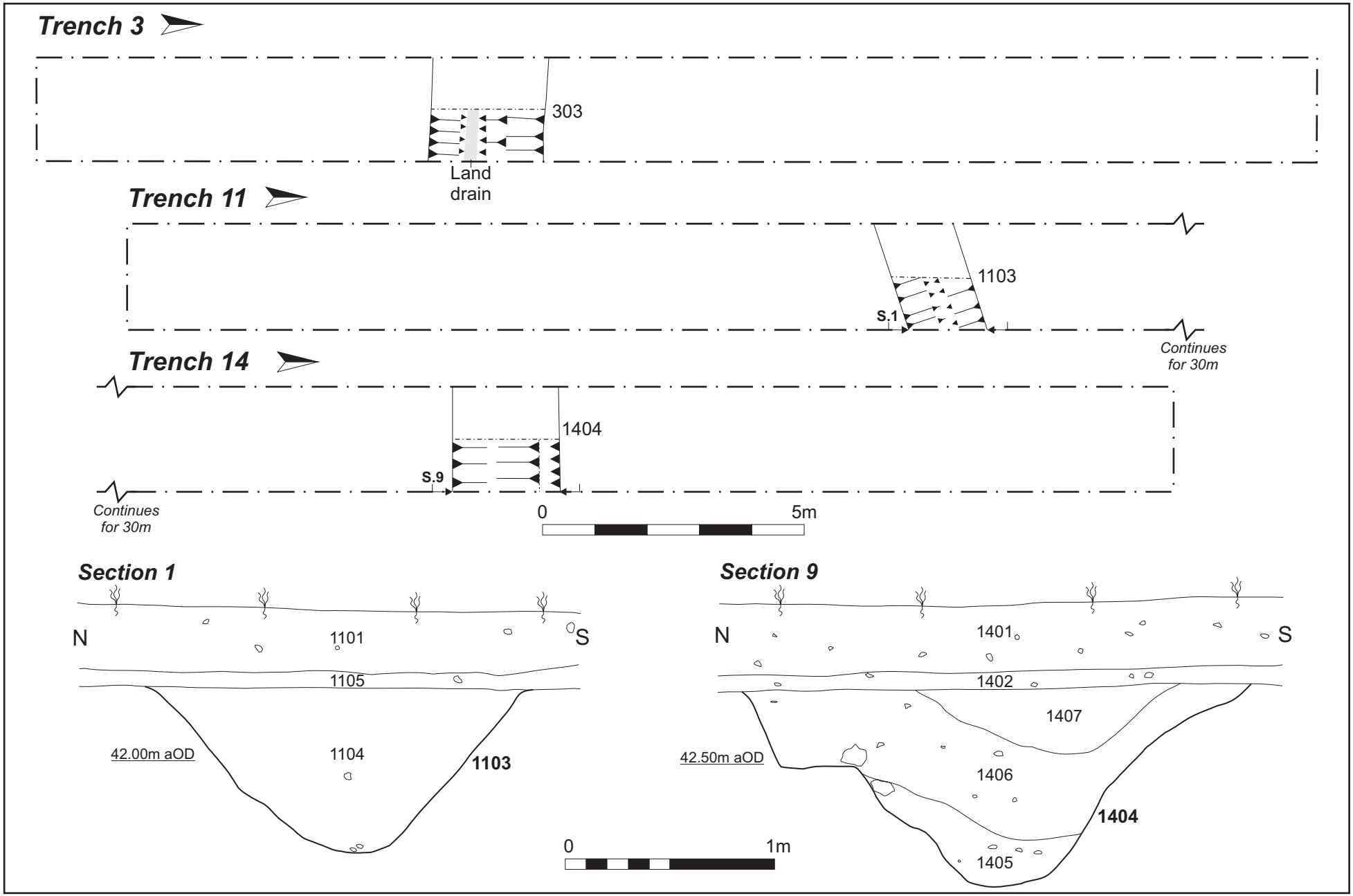
At the north end of Field 6, Trenches 11 and 14 contained a post-medieval boundary ditch running east-west across the field (Fig 3). A series of undated ditches were present towards the southern end of the field in Trenches 24-27, 29, 32, 33 and 34. These were aligned generally either north-south or east-west, parallel to the current field boundaries and where dated produced post-medieval or modern material. These may represent previous field divisions.

Trenches 34, 35 and 36 were targeted on geophysical anomalies of possible archaeological origin. There was little correspondence between the features present and the anomalies identified by geophysical survey, although a ditch seen in Trench 34 may relate to one of the geophysical survey features. No archaeological features were present in Trenches 35 and 36, although variations in the natural deposits were observed which may account for the geophysical responses.

Trenches 11 and 14

A modern ditch, aligned east-west, was present in the south end of Trench 11 [1103], and is probably the same as ditch [1404] seen in the north end of Trench 14.

Ditch [1103] was 1.76m wide and 0.78m deep, with a U-shaped profile (Fig 3, section 1). The fill of mid orange silty sand (1104) produced a fragment of modern bottle glass. Ditch [1404] was 2.5m wide and 1.3m deep, with a U-shaped profile (Fig 3, section 9). There was a sequence of fills comprising grey- to orange-brown sandy silty clays (1405-7).



Scale 1:100 (plans) & 1:25 (sections) Trench 3 (field 4), and trenches 11 and 14 (field 6) Fig 3

Trench 24

An undated ditch [2403], aligned north-south, was 1.5m wide and 0.9m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig 6, section 4). The fills comprised grey-brown silty sands (2404 and 2405). Feature [2406] was found on further investigation to be a natural hollow.

Trench 25

An undated ditch [2503], aligned east-west, was 0.8m wide and 0.5m deep, U-shaped in profile, with a fill of dark grey-brown silty sand (2504).

Trench 26

Trench 26 contained two parallel ditches, aligned north-east to south-west. Ditch [2603] was 1.5m wide and 0.9m deep, U-shaped in profile with fills (2604-5) of brown-grey silty sands (Fig 5, section 5). Ditch [2606] was 1.3m wide and 0.5m deep, U-shaped in profile, with a fill (2607) of orange-brown silty sand (Fig 5, section 12).

Trench 27

Ditch [2703], aligned north-south, was 1.35m wide and 0.8m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig 6, section 8). The fill was red-brown silty sand (2704), which produced an iron object of uncertain purpose.

Trench 28

Ditch [2803], aligned east-west, was 1.0m wide and 0.8m deep, with a shallow V-shaped profile, and a fill of firm orange-brown sandy silt.

Trench 29

Features in this trench included ditch [2903], aligned north-south, 1.74m wide and 0.5m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile (Fig 7, section 6). The fills (2904-6) comprised brown silty sands, the uppermost of which (2904) produced 19th-20th century ceramics, an iron nail and post-medieval brick fragments. Also present in this trench were a number of shallow hollows and gullies [2907, 2908 and 2909] which, on investigation, proved to be of natural origin.

Trench 32

A ditch [3204], aligned north-south, was 1.2m wide and 0.8m deep with a steep V-shaped profile (Fig 4, section 3). The primary fill comprised mostly angular flint (3206) overlain by mid-brown silty sand (3205), which produced pottery of 16th-19th century date. This was likely a field drain.

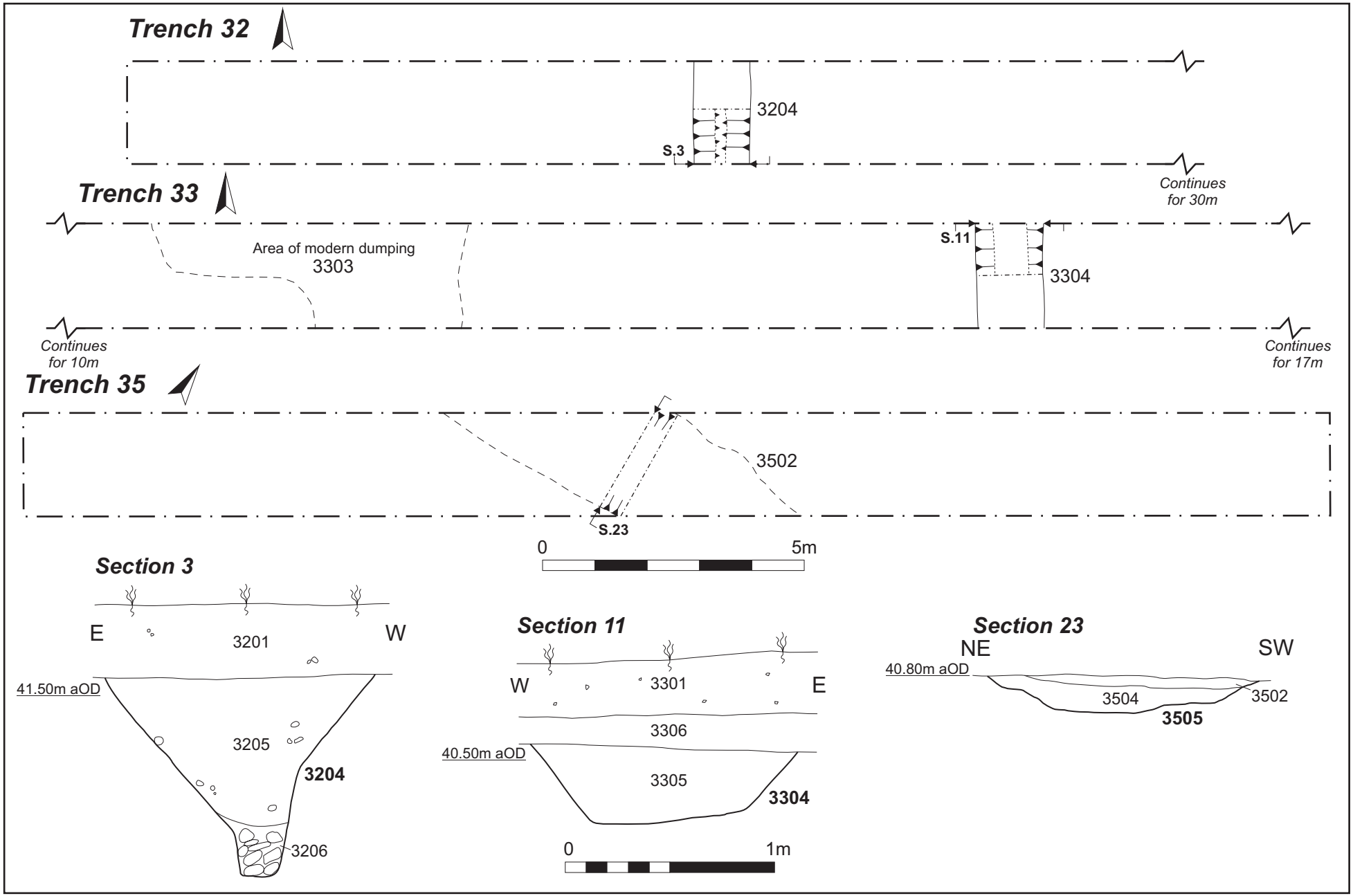
Trench 33

Ditch [3304], aligned north-south, was 1.1m wide and 0.7m deep with a flat base (Fig 4, section 11). The fill (3305) was yellow-brown sandy silt which produced a clay tobacco pipe stem.

Towards the western end of the trench was a layer of recent dumping (3303) which included brick fragments and coal.

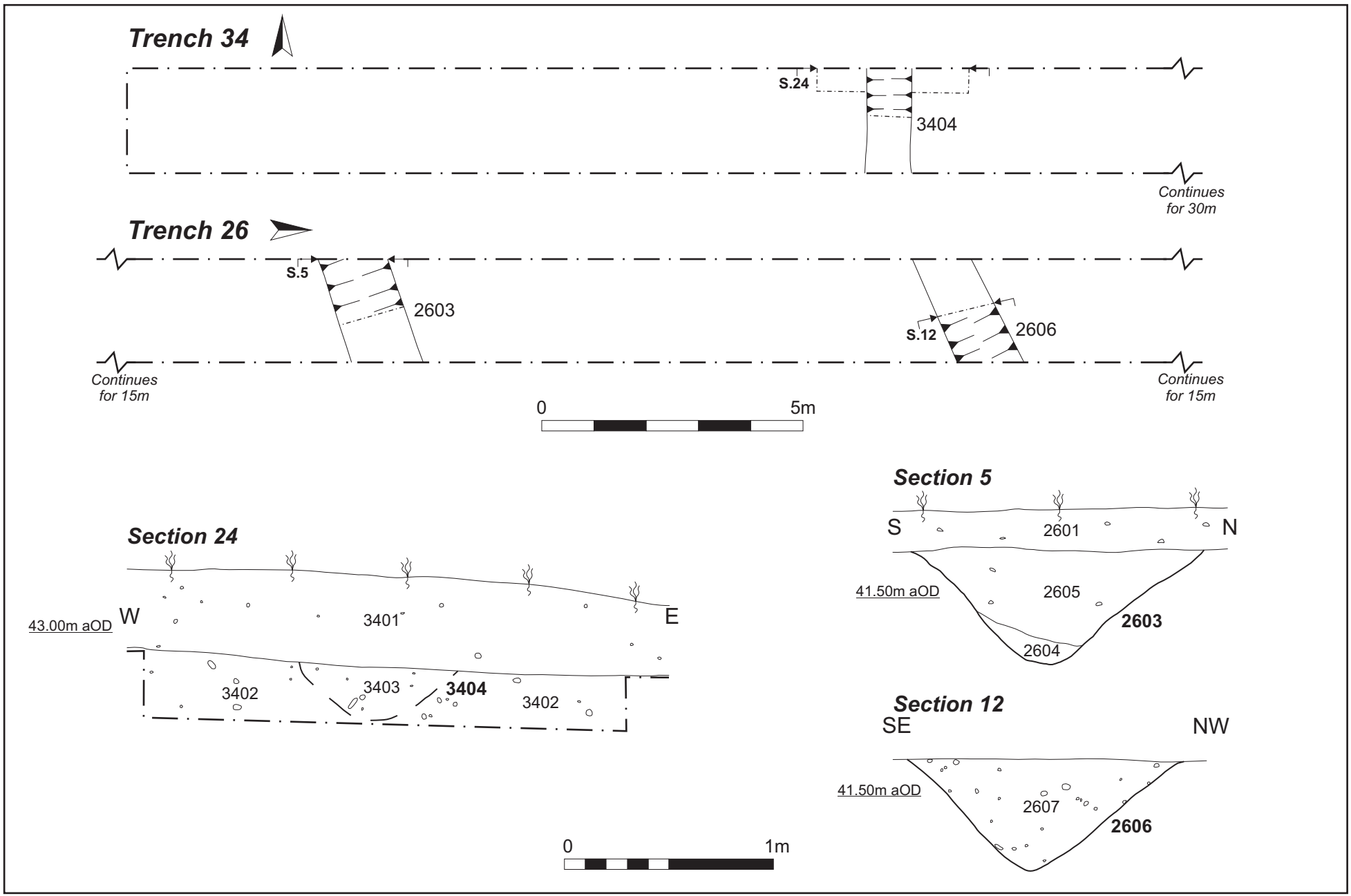
Trench 34

A ditch [3404], aligned east-west, was 0.7m wide and 0.35m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig 5, section 24). The fill was orange-brown silty sand (3403) containing brick fragments.



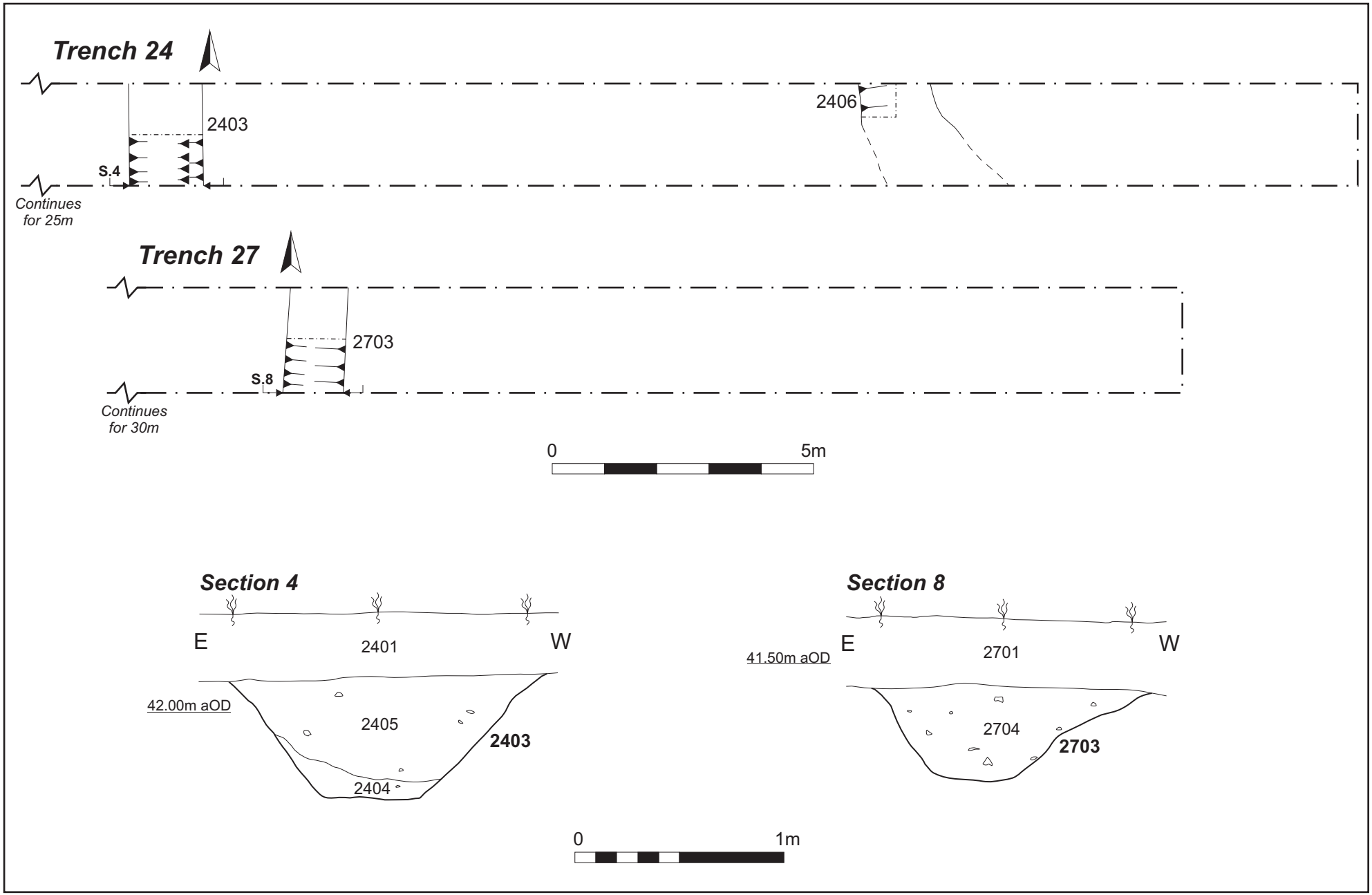
Scale 1:100 (plans) & 1:25 (sections)

Field 6 - trenches 32, 33 and 35 Fig 4



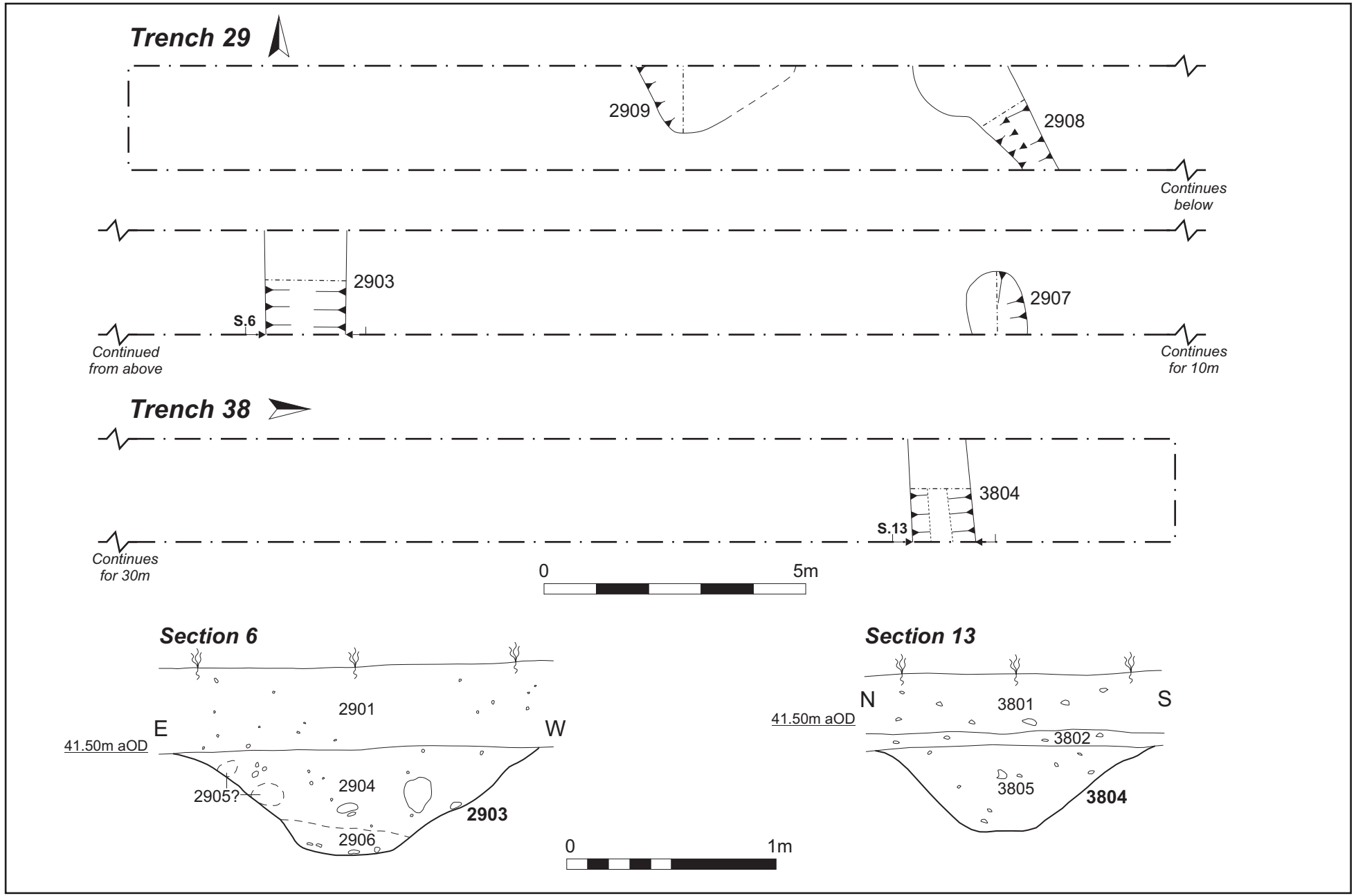
Scale 1:100 (plans) & 1:25 (sections)

Field 6 - trenches 34 and 26 Fig 5



Scale 1:100 (plans) & 1:25 (sections)

Field 6 - trenches 24 and 27 Fig 6



Scale 1:100 (plans) & 1:25 (sections)

Trench 29 (field 6) and trench 38 (field 10) Fig 7

4.3 Field 10

Trenches 37-54 were excavated in Field 10. Natural sands were overlain by grey-brown silty loam subsoil, up to 0.15m deep, and dark grey silty loam topsoil, up to 0.35m deep. Trenches 38, 40 43, 48, 53 and 54 contained features. These included Iron Age and Roman ditches and pits in Trenches 43 and 53, an undated cremation burial in Trench 48 and field boundary ditches.

Trench 38

A ditch [3804], aligned east-west, was 1.2m wide and 0.45m deep, with a U-shaped profile (Fig 7, section 13). The fill was dark red-brown loam (3805).

Trench 40

Ditch [4004], aligned east-west, was 1.4m wide and 0.5m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base (Fig 8, section 14). The fill of mid grey silty clay loam (4005) contained a brick fragment.

Trench 43

Trench 43 contained a ditch [4306] aligned north-south and a small pit or gully terminal [4311].

Ditch [4306] was U-shaped and 2.10m wide by 1.20m deep (Fig 9, section 20). The fills comprised brownish-grey silty clays (4307, 4308, 4309 and 4310). Fill (4309) contained Roman pottery and animal bone.

Feature [4311] was partly contained within the trench so could not be fully excavated. It was at least 0.35m wide by 0.37m deep with brown sandy clay fill (4312), which contained Roman pottery (Fig 9, section 21).

A ditch [4304], aligned north-south, was 1.3m wide and 0.5m deep with an irregular profile (Fig 9, section 19). The fill of brown sandy clay (4305) produced pottery of 19th-20th century date and an iron nail. This ditch was seen to continue as ditch [5404] in Trench 54.

A fragment of lava quern, probably Roman in date, was recovered from the topsoil (4301) at the north end of the trench.

Trench 48

Trench 48 contained a single unurned cremation burial [4803]. The pit was 0.30m wide by 0.14m deep (Fig 10, section 17)), with a fill of black-brown sandy clay (4804). The bone recovered during excavation and from sieving probably derived from an individual in their teenage years.

Also present within this trench was a gully [4805], aligned east-west, 0.35m wide and 0.15m deep. The fill (4806) produced a piece of post-medieval brick or tile.

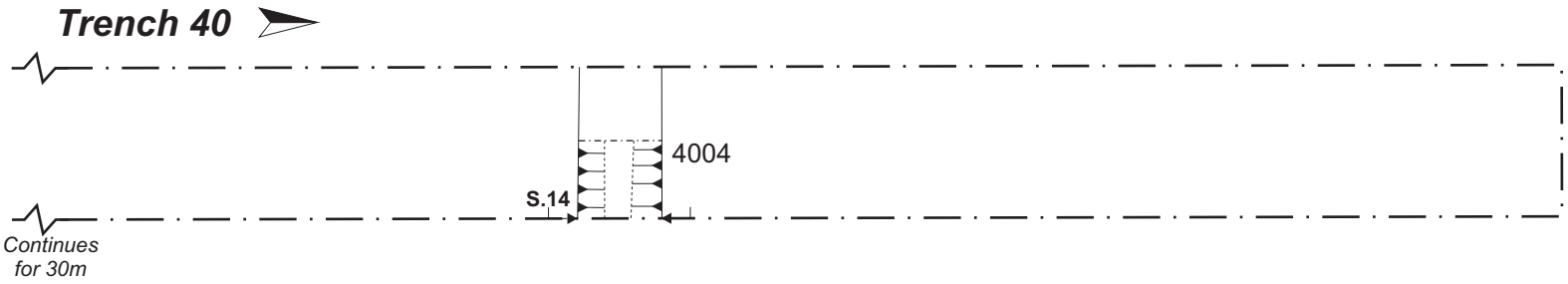
Trench 53

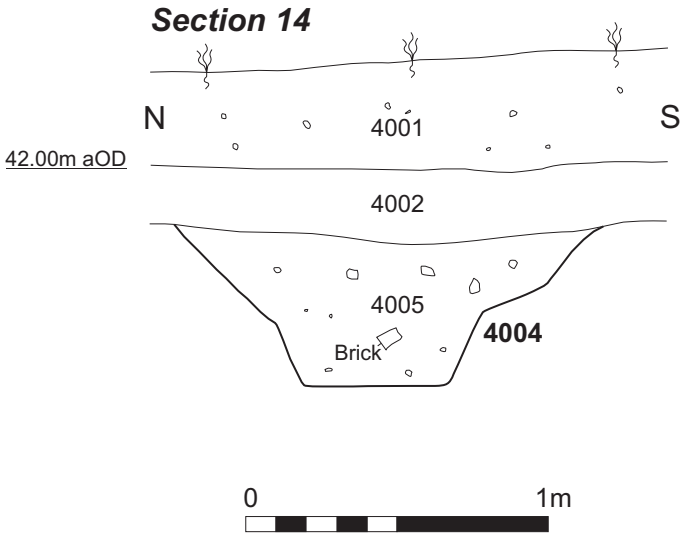
Trench 53 contained a single pit [5304], 0.46m wide by 0.16m deep, with a fill of dark brown sandy clay (5305) with charcoal fragments and Iron Age pottery (Fig 10, section 22).

Trench 54

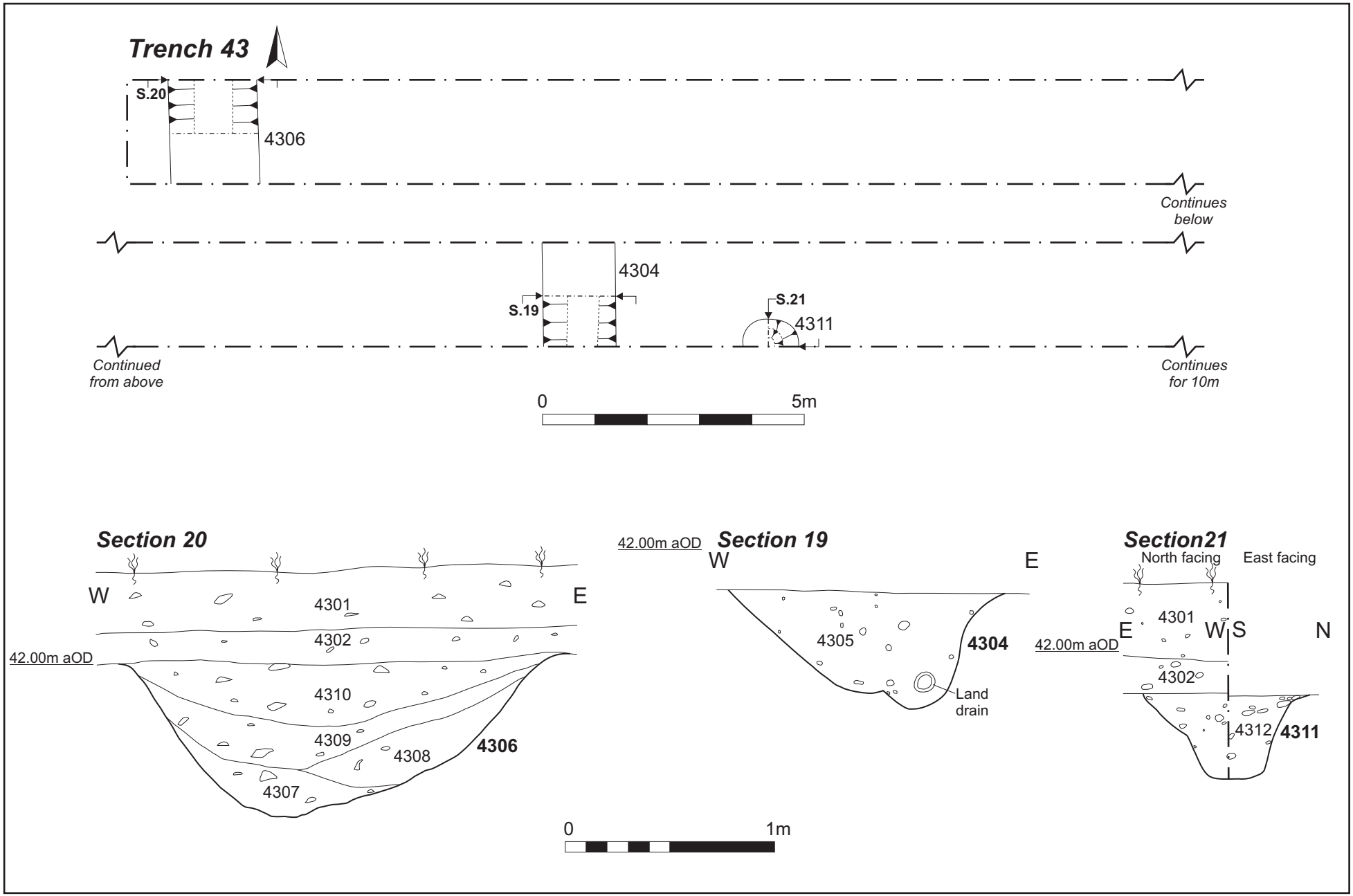
Trench 54 contained the continuation of the boundary ditch [4304] in trench 43. The ditch [5404] was 1.12m wide by 0.40m deep, with a fill of brown sandy clay (5406) with a modern land drain at the base (Fig 10, section 15).

Scale 1:100 (plan) & 1:25 (section)



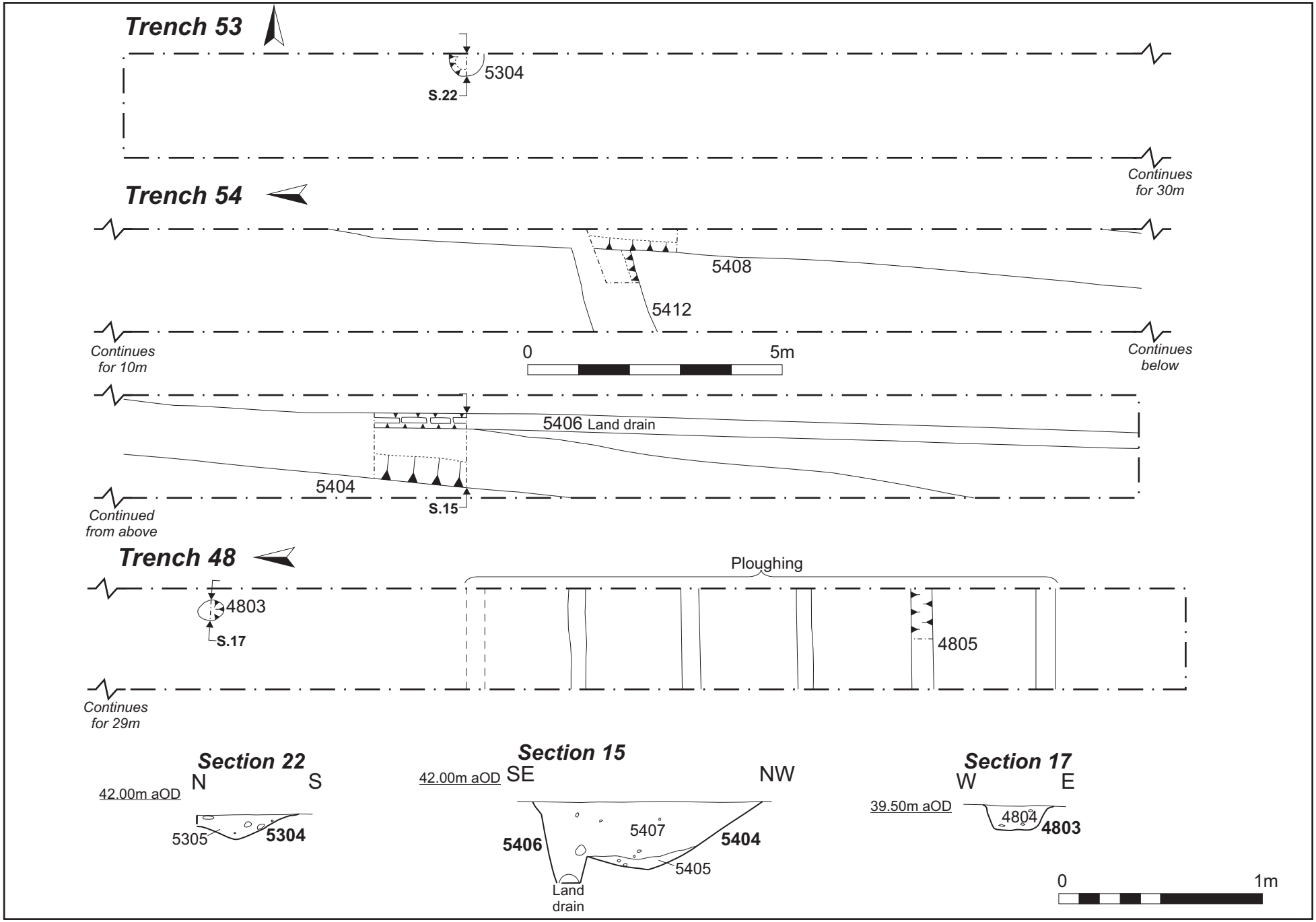


Field 10, trench 40 Fig 8



Scale 1:100 (plan) & 1:25 (section)

Field 10, trench 43 Fig 9



Scale 1:100 (plans) & 1:25 (sections)

Field 10 - trenches 53, 54 and 48 Fig 10

5 THE FINDS

5.1 The flint by Andy Chapman

There are nine pieces of flint residual in seven contexts (304, 2607, 3205, 3403, 4305, 4308, and 4312). The material is typically grey-black vitreous flint with a light brown cortex. The group comprises mainly large and irregular cortical flakes, although one piece has a short length, 19mm, of edge retouch. There are also two small flakes. There are no diagnostic pieces, but the crude working would suggest a middle Bronze Age or later date, and some of the material may be the result of accidental flaking rather than deliberate working.

5.2 The Iron Age and Roman pottery by Rob Perrin

Ninety sherds weighing a total of 900g were recovered from three features, comprising two pits and a ditch, during evaluation excavations at a site north of Hethersett, Norfolk.

Iron Age pottery

The pottery found in pit 5304 (60 sherds weighing 534g) is in a hard flint-gritted fabric, which is mainly buff to reddish-yellow in colour, but brown in places. The sherds are too fragmentary to be certain of the vessel form, but a globular bowl or jar seems likely. The thin rim is a simple curved type with a flat top. The fabric and rim form strongly suggest an Iron Age date. Percival (2000, 215) states that, in Norfolk, 'flint-tempered fabrics dominate the earliest Iron Age assemblages and continue in use until *c* 200 BC'.

Roman pottery

Ditch 4306 and Pit 4311 contain Roman pottery, as follows:

Table 1: Summary of Roman pottery

Feature	Fabric	No	Wt (g)	Rim %	Base %
Ditch 4306	Grey, micaceous	7	134	39	-
	Buff, red iron ore inclusions	1	90	-	100
	Buff	11	32	-	-
Total ditch		***19***	***256***	***3***	***100***
Pit 4311	Grey, micaceous, black inclusions	7	60	-	-
	Grey, micaceous, large quartz	4	50	-	-
Total pit		***11***	***110***	***-***	***-***
Total		**30**	**366**	**39**	**100**

The grey ware sherds from Ditch 4306 are all from a carinated bowl with a reeded rim and a base in a buff ware with noticeable large red iron ore conclusions is from a small flagon. The small sherds in the other buff ware may also be from a flagon. The ditch fill is probably of Flavian-Trajanic date, based on the carinated bowl with a reeded rim. The pottery from Pit 4311 comprises only base and body sherds, but it is likely that these come from jars, neither of which can be closely dated.

All of the Roman pottery from the site is likely to have been manufactured locally and there are a number of known kilns, producing similar wares and vessel types, within a 20 kilometre radius of the site, at Lyng, Morley St Peter, Caistor St Edmunds, Hevingham and Brampton (Swan 1984, 144).

Potential
Though only a small pottery assemblage was recovered, it is of local importance in that little excavation has previously been carried out in the area. The analysis of material recovered from any future archaeological excavations would enable activity on the site to be tied in to the Roman settlement site known to exist in the vicinity.

5.3 Querns by Andy Chapman

There is a single fragment of lava quern from the topsoil at the north end of trench 43 (4301). It has worn surfaces, but forms 20% of the circumference of an upper stone *c*400mm in diameter, and 50mm thick. Rotary querns in lava imported from the Eifel region of Germany are common in both Roman and early/middle Saxon contexts.

5.4 The post-medieval pottery by Iain Soden

The trial excavation produced six sherds of pottery, as follows:

1 sherd unglazed earthenware (probably flower pot, 19th-20th centuries), fill (2904) ditch [2903]
1 sherd glazed red earthenware (16th-17th centuries), fill (3205) ditch [3204]
1 sherd white glazed earthenware (19th-20th centuries), fill (3205) ditch [3204]
2 sherds white glazed earthenware (19th-20th centuries), fill (4305) ditch [4304].

5.5 Post-medieval finds by Iain Soden

There is one piece of clear modern bottle glass from (1104) of boundary ditch [1103] and a fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem from (3305), ditch [3304].

None of the above are intrinsically significant and merely indicate a date from the later post-medieval or modern periods for the contexts from which they come.

5.6 Ceramic building materials by Pat Chapman

Brick
Of the eleven brick fragments, weighing 4.4kg, there are three different types. The earliest, from fill (3403) of [3404], is handmade from hard fine silty clay fired to pink and white with irregular surfaces and grass stem impressions. It measures 115mm wide by *c* 45mm thick (4½ x 1¾ inches), and could date to the medieval period.

There are two sandy fabric types, a friable reddish-brown and a hard coarse sandy orange-brown. The reddish-brown fabric comprises a very abraded broken brick from layer (3303). It is at least 200mm long by 60mm both wide and thick (*c* 8 x 2⅜ x 2⅜ inches). Five other fragments in the same layer are made from the same fabric.

A large fragment, 55mm thick, from fill (4005) ditch [4004] and a small fragment from (2904) ditch [2903] are made from the hard coarse sandy orange-brown fabric with quartz and flint inclusions up to 20mm long. The large fragment has remnant white lime mortar adhering to a damaged stretcher. The other brick remnant from layer (3303) is 110mm wide by 73mm thick (4⅜ x 2⅞ inches), made of the same fabric but overfired on exposed areas. One small sherd of brick or tile, much abraded, came from (4806) of gully [4805].

These sandy bricks could date between the 16th and 19th centuries.

Roof tile
There are nine very small roof tile sherds, weighing 194g: four from fills (2904) and (2906) of ditch [2903]; four from fill (4305) of [4304] and one from fill (1104) of [1103]. Eight sherds are 12-15mm thick and made from slightly coarse sandy orange-brown fabric. The sherd from fill (2906) ditch [2903] is 20mm thick and made from finer sand. These tiles can only be loosely dated to the 15th to 19th centuries.

5.7 The Iron objects by Tora Hylton

Three iron objects were recovered from linear features in Fields 6 and 10. They include two iron nails and an undiagnostic fragment. The nails are complete and measures up to 66mm in length, both were located in post-medieval ditches (2903, 4304). Finally, an undiagnostic object with broken square-sectioned shank and small lozenge-shaped terminal was recovered from Ditch 2703.

5.8 The cremated bone by Andy Chapman

A total of 350g of cremated bone was recovered as an unurned cremation burial in a small pit [4803], within a fill (4804) of blacked sand containing much comminuted charcoal, but no larger pieces. The bone has not been submitted for full osteological analysis but a few observations are offered.

The bone is highly fragmented, although the larger fragments of long bones are up to 45mm long, and it is all consistently white in colour, indicating efficient burning in a pyre temperature above 650^{o}C. The assemblage contains fragments of long bone and skull, and the presence of teeth and tooth fragments indicate that the bone is human. The skull fragments are relatively thin, 3-4mm, and the teeth are small. Even allowing for the inevitable shrinkage caused by heating, it appears that the bones are from an immature individual, a sub-adult, although not an infant. There is a complete upper pre-molar tooth, and these are fully developed by 11 or 12 years of age (White and Folkens 2005, 145 and Schaefer *et al* 2009, 95), so an age in the mid-teenage years is tentatively suggested.

The recovered weight of 350g probably represents not less than a third of the total bone assemblage, as the full bone weight for a sub-adult would be around 1kg or a little higher, depending on age and size. The presence of small items such as tooth roots and the blackened soil, show that some effort was made to recover a high proportion of the available bone, but by collecting both bone and pyre debris as a mixed deposit. This material was deposited in the pit without any further processing to separate the bone from the pyre debris.

5.9 Animal bone by Laszlo Lichtenstein

A total of 25 hand-collected animal bone elements and fragments were analysed from the fill (4309) of Roman ditch [4306]. Employing standard zooarchaeological methodological procedures 18 specimens (72% of the total NISP) were identified to taxa and parts of anatomy, representing at least two mammalian (Bos/cattle; Ovicaprid/sheep or goat) species. No fish, amphibian bones were recovered.

Method

The animal bone was identified using Northamptonshire Archaeology's vertebrate reference collection, and further guidelines from Schmid (1972), Driesch (1979), Sisson & Grossman (1953) and Feher (1990). Due to anatomical similarities between sheep and goat the criteria set out by J. Boessneck (1964) were used to separate the two species (where applicable). The following were recorded for each bone: species, anatomical element, fragmentacion, side, fusion, cut- or animal teeth marks (where applicable).

Bones that could not be identified to species were, where possible, categorised according to the relative size of the animal represented (large ungulate size: cattle or horse sized, small ungulate size: pig or sheep/goat). All fragments were recorded. Unfortunatelly biometrical data was not possible noted.

Taphonomy

The fragmentation and surface abrasion was high (Table 2), with the majority of the bones (72%) being less than 50mm in size. No complete long bones recorded. Taphonomic factors affecting the material were recorded including recently broken bones. The bones showed signs of fresh breaks.

No evidence for canid gnawing, burning, butchery, bone working or pathological signs were observed.

Table 2: Size of the animal bone assemblage (without teeth)

Size (mm)	Number	Percentage
<20	3	12%
20-50	15	60%
50-100	7	28%

Table 3: Species present in the animal bone assemblage by fragment count

Species	NISP	Percentage
Bos taurus L. (Linné 1758)	17	68%
Ovicaprid	1	4%
Large ungulate size	7	28%
Total	**25**	**100%**

Table 4: Minimal individual identified in the animal bone assemblage in the contexts

Species/Taxa	Common name	MNI
Bos taurus L. (Linne 1758)	Cattle	1
Ovicaprid (Ovis aries or Capra hircus Linne 1758)	Sheep or goat	1

Discussion

Little can be said of the animal economy of the site due to the paucity of material. The fragmentation was high and many bones were smashed recently, but 72% of the assemblage could be identified to species. The assemblage is dominated by cattle (68%) with lower number of sheep/goat (4%). The species present are typical of those seen from Roman contexts. The dominance of the cattle is typical of this period (Table 4), and the material is likely to be to be the result of domestic waste disposal.

This very small size of the assemblage precludes any attempt at interpreting settlement economy and animal husbandry practices.

5.10 Ecofactual material

Four samples were collected during the evaluation from contexts (4804), (4309), (5305) and (4312) as follows in Table 2.

Table 2: Sample data

Sample	Context	Feature	Description
1	(4804)	[4803]	Cremation burial
2	(4309)	[4306]	Roman ditch fill
3	(5305)	[5304]	Iron Age pit
4	(4311)	[4312]	Roman pit/gully

These samples were processed and bulk floated at Northamptonshire Archaeology and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. Cremated bone from Sample 1 was passed to the relevant specialist. Otherwise the samples only yielded a few fragments of charcoal between them and analysis was not pursued any further.

6 DISCUSSION

Early activity on the site is represented by a small quantity of flint of middle Bronze Age or later date recovered from later contexts. The material is later than the scatter identified by the fieldwalking survey (Wolframm and Walford 2011), and probably reflects a general low level of background activity.

The single cremation burial seen in Trench 48 is undated, but a prehistoric date may be likely. There were no indications of any further burials in the excavated trenches.

Iron Age and Roman features seen in Trenches 43 and 53 point to an area of activity in the south-west corner of Field 10, although as other trenches in this area did not contain features of a similar date, this is not likely to be intense. This activity may be the source for the few sherds of prehistoric pottery and the scatter of Roman material picked up during fieldwalking in Field 10 (Wolframm and Walford 2011, figs 10 and 11).

There was no evidence for the supposed Saxon cemetery in the south end of Field 6. The only features present in this area related to later field boundaries and recent disturbance. There was limited correspondence between the results of the geophysical survey and the field evaluation. Only one feature, a ditch in trench 34, possibly corresponded with a geophysical anomaly.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT LIST

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
101	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	-
102	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
201	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.34m thick	-
202	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
301	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	-
302	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
303	Cut	Boundary ditch. Land drain	Modern
304	Fill	Fill of 303	Modern
401	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	-
402	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
501	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.34m thick	-
502	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
601	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.32m thick	-
602	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
701	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	-
702	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
801	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	-
802	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
901	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.34m thick	-
902	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1001	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.37m thick	-
1002	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1101	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.34m thick	-
1102	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1103	Cut	Boundary ditch	Modern
1104	Fill	Fill of 1103	Modern
1105	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.11m thick	-
1201	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.33m thick	-
1202	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.15m thick	-
1203	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1301	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.34m thick	-
1302	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1303	Fill	Tree hollow	-
1401	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.27m thick	-
1402	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.10m thick	-
1403	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1404	Cut	Boundary ditch. 2.5m wide by 1.3m deep	Modern
1405	Fill	Fill of 1404	Modern
1406	Fill	Fill of 1404	Modern
1407	Fill	Fill of 1404	Modern
1501	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	-
1502	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1503	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.8m thick	-
1601	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.29m thick	-
1602	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.10m thick	-
1603	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1701	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.29m thick	-
1702	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.10m thick	-
1703	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1801	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	-
1802	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.9m thick	-
1803	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
1901	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.28m thick	-
1902	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.9m thick	-

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
1903	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2001	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	-
2002	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.8m thick	-
2003	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2101	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.32m thick	-
2102	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2201	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.32m thick	-
2202	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2301	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.32m thick	-
2302	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2303	Cut	Land drain	Modern
2304	Fill	Fill of 2303	Modern
2401	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.31m thick	-
2402	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2403	Cut	Boundary ditch. 1.5m wide by 0.9m deep	-
2404	Fill	Fill of 2403	-
2405	Fill	Fill of 2403	-
2406	Cut	Natural hollow	-
2501	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.31m thick	-
2502	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2503	Cut	Ditch 0.8m wide by 0.5m deep	-
2504	Fill	Fill of 2503	-
2505	Cut	Natural hollow	-
2601	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.31m thick	-
2602	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2603	Cut	Ditch 1.5m wide by 0.9m deep	-
2604	Fill	Fill of 2603	-
2605	Fill	Fill of 2603	-
2606	Cut	Ditch 1.31m wide by 0.53m deep	-
2607	Fill	Fill of 2606	-
2701	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	-
2702	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2703	Cut	Ditch 1.35m wide by 0.8m deep	Post-med
2704	Fill	Fill of 2703	-
2801	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.32m thick	-
2802	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2803	Cut	Ditch 1m wide by 0.8m deep	-
2804	Fill	Fill of 2803	-
2805	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand 0.5m thick	-
2901	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.33m thick	-
2902	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
2903	Cut	Ditch 1.74m wide by 0.57 deep	20th century
2904	Fill	Fill of 2903	20th century
2905	Fill	Fill of 2903	20th century
2906	Fill	Fill of 2903	20th century
2907	Cut	Natural hollow 0.08m deep	-
2908	Cut	Natural hollow 0.09m deep	-
2909	Cut	Natural hollow 0.12m deep	-
3001	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.31m thick	-
3002	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
3101	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.35m thick	-
3102	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
3201	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.31m thick	-
3202	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	-
3203	-	NOT USED	-
3204	Cut	Ditch 1.24m wide by 0.81m deep	20th century
3205	Fill	Fill of 3204	20th century

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
3206	Fill	Fill of 3204	20th century
3301	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.38m thick	
3302	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
3303	Layer	Spread of burning with coal, bricks	Modern
3304	Cut	Ditch 1.1m wide by 0.07m deep	Post-med
3305	Fill	Fill of 3304	
3306	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand 0.15m thick	
3401	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.34m thick	
3402	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
3403	Fill	Fill of 3404	
3404	Cut	Ditch 0.71m wide by 0.34m deep	
3501	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.36m thick	
3502	Layer	Spread of burning with charcoal, brick, clay pipe	Modern
3503	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
3504	Natural	Dark orange sand	
3505	Natural	Diffused boundary between naturals	
3601	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.38m thick	
3602	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand 0.13m thick	
3603	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
3604	Layer	Spread with charcoal, drain, tile fragments	Modern
3701	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.35m thick	
3702	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.11m thick	
3703	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
3801	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.36m thick	
3802	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.10m thick	
3803	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
3804	Cut	Ditch 1.2m wide by 0.45m deep	
3805	Fill	Fill of 3804	
3901	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.29m thick	
3902	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.12m thick	
3903	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4001	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.31m thick	
4002	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.08m thick	
4003	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4004	Cut	Ditch 1.40m wide by 0.50m deep	Post-med
4005	Fill	Fill of 4004. Brick and tile	Post-med
4101	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.34m thick	
4102	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.08m thick	
4103	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4201	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	
4202	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.08m thick	
4203	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4301	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.29m thick	
4302	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.12m thick	
4303	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4304	Cut	Ditch 1.32m wide by 0.50m deep. Same as 5404	20th century
4305	Fill	Fill of 4304	20th century
4306	Cut	Ditch 2.1m wide by 1.20m deep	Roman
4307	Fill	Fill of 4306	Roman
4308	Fill	Fill of 4306	Roman
4309	Fill	Fill of 4306 pottery	Roman
4310	Fill	Fill of 4306	Roman
4311	Cut	Pit 0.35m wide by 0.37m deep	Roman
4312	Fill	Fill of 4311 pottery	Roman
4401	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
4402	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.10m thick	
4403	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4501	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.34m thick	
4502	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.06m thick	
4503	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4601	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.31m thick	
4602	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4701	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	
4702	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4801	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.28m thick	
4802	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
4803	Cut	Cremation pit 0.30m wide by 0.14m deep	
4804	Fill	Fill of 4803	
4805	Cut	Gully 0.35m wide by 0.15m deep	19th century
4806	Fill	Fill of 4805 pottery	19th century
4901	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.31m thick	
4902	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
5001	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.29m thick	
5002	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.07m thick	
5003	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
5101	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.30m thick	
5102	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
5201	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.32m thick	
5202	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.08m thick	
5203	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
5301	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.32m thick	
5302	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.11m thick	
5303	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
5304	Cut	Pit 0.46m wide by 0.16m deep	Iron Age
5305	Fill	Fill of 5304 pottery	Iron Age
5401	Topsoil	Brown sandy loam. 0.31m thick	
5402	Subsoil	Light brown silt sand. 0.10m thick	
5403	Natural	Orange sand and gravel.	
5404	Cut	Ditch	
5405	Fill	Fill of 5404	
5406	Cut	Land drain	
5407	Fill	Fill of 5406	
5408	Cut	Ditch same as 5404	
5409	Fill	Fill of 5408	
5410	Cut	Land drain	
5411	Fill	Fill of 5410	
5412	Fill	Natural hollow	

Trench 1

Trench 4

Trench 2

Trench 5

Trench 3

Trench 6

Trenches 1-6 Fig 11

Trench 7

Trench 10

Trench 8

Trench 11

Trench 9

Trench 12

Trenches 7-12 Fig 12

Trench 13

Trench 16

Trench 14

Trench 17

Trench 15

Trench 18

Trench 19

Trench 22

Trench 20

Trench 23

Trench 21

Trench 24

Trench 25

Trench 28

Trench 26

Trench 29

Trench 27

Trench 30

Trench 31

Trench 34

Trench 32

Trench 35

Trench 33

Trench 36

Trenches 25-30 Fig 16

Trench 37

Trench 40

Trench 38

Trench 41

Trench 39

Trench 42

Trench 43

Trench 46

Trench 44

Trench 47

Trench 45

Trench 48

Trench 49

Trench 52

Trench 50

Trench 53

Trench 51

Trench 54

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Appendix Three: Pre-Construct Archaeology *Archaeological Watching Brief on Land North of Hethersett* 2017

CgMs HERITAGE
PART OF RPS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

LAND NORTH OF HETHERSETT NORFOLK NR9 3BA

November 2017

CONTENTS

ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of a programme of archaeological monitoring carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land north of Hethersett, Norfolk (NGR TG 16450 05682 (c) from the 11th to the 18th October 2017. The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Ltd for the proposed stripping of a corridor of land north-east of Hethersett, Norfolk prior to the construction of a major access road running from Colney Lane in the east to Burnthouse Lane to the west, and was undertaken in response to advice from Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the area of the road strip.

No features or finds of archaeological interest were observed in the eastern part of the road strip. The bases of five small heavily truncated post-holes, a single small truncated pit and two post-medieval linear features were located at the western end of the strip. Several struck flint flakes and core remnants of probable Late Neolithic date and fragments of post-medieval tile were recovered from the subsoil during the stripping. A single sherd of Neolithic pot was found in association with one of the post-holes but considered residual. A few post-medieval and modern metal objects of no archaeological interest were recovered from the topsoil.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological strip, map and sample evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land north of Hethersett, Norfolk , NR9 3BA (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 4564 7553) between the 11th and 18th October the 9th March 2017 (Figure 1). The site currently comprises a large open arable field to be crossed by the access road bounded to the south-east by Colney Lane, to the south by Back Lane and to the north-west by Burnthouse Lane. To the west of Burnthouse Lane work on an extensive housing development has begun.

1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consultants on behalf of their clients to undertake archaeological monitoring and excavation on a proposed access road on land between Colney Lane and Burnthouse Lane Hethersett, Norfolk (Planning Reference 2011/1804).

1.3 The monitoring was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Peter Crawley of PCA (Crawley 2017) in response to a request for a programme of work by CgMs Consultants.

1.4 The aim of the programme of archaeological work was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.

1.5 The extent of groundworks along the route of the proposed road, including expanded junctions, consisted of the stripping of topsoil and subsoil to an average depth of 0.40m over an area of approximately 500m in length and 22m wide.

1.6 This report describes the results of the monitoring work and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. The site archive will be deposited at Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Record.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

2.2 The site has bedrock geology of chalk formation including Seaford, Lewes Nodular, Newhaven, Culver and Portsdown formations. Sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 72 to 94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period in a local environment of warm shallow seas. The overlying superficial deposits are Lowestoft Formation Diamicton, detrital deposits caused by the action of ice and meltwater formed in the Quaternary period up to 2 million years ago in glacial conditions (BGS).

2.3 Topography

2.4 The village of Hethersett lies approximately 8km to the west of Norwich at c.47m above Ordnance datum (AOD). The route of the road lies approximately 1.5km to the north-east of the village on former agricultural land, running from Colney Lane at 39.7m AOD in the east to Burnthouse Lane at c.40m AOD in the west. The development area is located to the west of the River Yare and the land gradually slopes down towards the river valley which is approximately 1km to the east.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

3.2 The Proposed development lies in an area of archaeological interest, as recorded by information held in the County Historic Environment Record (HER).

3.3 Prehistoric/Roman

3.4 Prehistoric remains have been found in the vicinity largely through fieldwalking, mainly to the north of the road strip site. Finds include Palaeolithic flints, notably an axe-head (HER 19771, 22600, 17936), Mesolithic and Neolithic struck flints (HER 21636). A Neolithic flaked flint axe (HER 28149) and Iron Age pottery (HER 21862). Neolithic pot boilers were previously recorded at HER 16430. Approximately 1.2km to the north of the present site an early Neolithic adze (HER 9334) and flint scraper (HER 9349) were found. Around 750m to the north a Neolithic hammer stone was recovered (HER 9390). Neolithic flint scrapers and flakes have been found 640m to the south (HER 12622) and worked flints of Neolithic and Bronze Age date 420m and 690m to the east (HER 13214/55751).

3.5 A cluster of Roman archaeological remains has been recorded 1km to the west of the site, where a possible villa or large farmstead building has been evidences by ditches, wells, an inhumation, and an artefact scatter (HER 9270, 37645). Fieldwalking and metal-detecting around the site has also unearthed Roman metalwork including a brooch (HER 21862) and steelyard weight (HER 24043).

3.6 Saxon/Medieval

3.7 The site of a possible early Saxon inhumation cemetery has been identified within the boundaries of the development site to the south (HER21862) This interpretation has been drawn from six fragments of early Saxon brooch discovered on the site between 1985 and 1994; artefacts usually only found associated with funerary contexts. No location is known for any settlement

activity associated with the cemetery. Saxon brooches have also been found around 600m to the south of the site, and 1km to the south-west (HER 9382, 9468).

3.8 Fieldwalking and metal-detecting around the site has found an amount of medieval finds representing stray loss of artefacts, with no noticeable concentrations.

3.9 Post-medieval/modern

3.10 William Faden's map of 1797 confirms that in 18th century the site was located beyond the historic core of Hethersett, with the depicted grounds of an historic estate to the south. There is no detail depicted on the map for the vicinity of the site, except for the presence of Colney Lane to the east.

3.11 There was no change by the time of Bryant's map of 1826. The Hethersett Tithe map of c.1840 shows the site in more detail as a series of rectangular fields which are otherwise not noteworthy. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, shows little changed and the same field boundaries persist through into the 20th-century. The aerial photographs of 1946 and 1988, indicate that in the later 20th-century, the fields are opened, with the removal of some of the field boundaries.

3.12 A number of isolated finds dating to the Post Medieval period have been recorded during fieldwalking from the area around the site.

3.13 Previous Work

3.14 A desk-based assessment was undertaken in 2008 by NAU Archaeology, which examined the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Norfolk (Watkins 2008). The area of proposed development was subject to geophysical survey and fieldwalking survey in 2011 by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Wolfram-Murray and Walford 2011).

3.15 Fieldwalking identified worked flints, and a small quantity of pottery from prehistoric through to the post-medieval periods in all areas of the site. A large amount of flints were located in the fields edging Burnthouse Lane,

possibly suggesting nearby settlement.

3.16 An archaeological trial trench evaluation comprising 54 trenches was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology in 2012 on areas of the proposed development site, specifically to the west of Burnthouse Lane but also on the field crossed by the monitored access road where 18 trial trenches were excavated (Jones 2012).

3.17 Of these 18 trenches only 6 contained features of archaeological interest including Iron Age and Roman ditches and pits and an undated cremation. The current monitored road strip touched on small portions of just four of these trench locations, although revealing nothing of the archaeology previously located.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Excavation and Sampling

4.2 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation proposed monitoring of groundworks within the access road easement centred at TG 16450 05682 and running from TG 16632 05560 to TG 16489 05691, to end at TG 16283 05698.

4.3 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a grading control 36 tonne 360º mechanical excavator with toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded if present. Exposed surfaces were constantly cleaned by hoe, with cleaning by trowel as appropriate, all further excavation undertaken manually using hand tools. Overburden deposits were removed from the easement by the construction workers to provide material for bunds and for ground levelling across the construction site nearby.

4.4 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil/subsoil stripping. Stripped topsoil created during stripping was scanned by metal-detector where possible.

4.5 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I; Taylor & Brown 2009).

4.6 Recording Methodology

4.7 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m AOD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.

4.8 Deposits and features of archaeological interest were assigned a unique record number (context number) and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). All deposits recorded during the evaluation

are listed in Appendix 2.

4.9 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the evaluation process. Digital Photographs were taken of all features and deposits of archaeological interest.

5 RESULTS

5.1 The road strip began at the south-eastern end of the proposed access road, alongside Colney Lane, for a 22m wide, 220m long area designed for the connecting road junction. The 360º tracked grade controlled excavator removed topsoil and subsoil for an average depth of 0.40m down to geological sand and clay. Overburden was immediately loaded onto 6-wheled articulated dumpers to be removed from the vicinity and used as bund material or spread on adjacent fields. Due to the gps-controlled grading function all stripping was done at a consistent level across the site.

5.2 No features or finds of archaeological interest were observed in the easement strip along Colney Lane. As the strip commenced up the line of the access road to the north-west, dark parallel lines within the exposed natural layer appeared, thought initially to be ploughmarks. As the strip continued, however, it became apparent that the lines were the result of heavy plant/farm machinery previously traversing the area, the tyres having impressed the overburden into the underlying layer of natural sand/clay. This occurrence was observed repeated along the majority of the road line to the north-west.

5.3 A number of struck or worked flints were recovered and retained from the exposed sand/clay layer in the stripped areas, likely residual from the removed subsoil. Metal detecting also recovered several items during the monitoring although these largely consisted of fragments of lead waste, iron wire and nails, fragments of farm equipment and a few copper alloy buttons.

5.4 No features of archaeological interest were observed other than a straight-edged linear feature [6003], a possible field boundary ditch, running east to west along the strip. This feature had been exposed by the 2012 evaluation and was concluded to be post-medieval in date. No other features were observed within the exposed natural layer until an area approximately 100m south of the termination of the road strip at Burnthouse Lane.

5.5 Six small patches of darker soil were observed in an area 20m by 10m to the

north of the aforementioned post-medieval linear feature. These features were excavated and recorded and were presumed to be remains of five post-holes and a small pit. The features were shallow with a depth of no more than 0.14m to 0.20m and each had a single fill that contained no dating evidence. The fill of post-hole [6007] contained a single fragment of prehistoric pottery on the upper surface that was judged to be residual material and not integral to the fill. Although concentrated into a relatively small area the post-holes did not appear to form a structural entity but rather were random in their distribution.

5.6 A linear feature, [6005] ran north to south across the 22m width of the strip, an excavated slot showed it to be just 0.25m deep with a single fill, (6006) containing no dating evidence. It was observed that the long linear feature running east to west, [6003], cut this probable field boundary near the centreline of the strip.

5.7 No further features were observed in the remainder of the strip towards the north-west and finishing adjacent to Burnthouse Lane. An oblong patch near the road proved to be a tree throw.

6 THE LITHIC ASSEMBLAGE

(By Barry Bishop)

Introduction

6.1 The archaeological investigations at the above site resulted in the recovery of 18 struck flints, all of which were recovered from sub-soil deposits. The pieces have been individually catalogued and this includes details of raw materials, condition and, where possible, a suggested date range for manufacture (Appendix / Catalogue L01). This report quantifies and describes the material, offers some comments on its significance and recommends any further work required.

6.2 The raw materials consist of a fine-grained and good knapping-quality dark grey or brown flint that retains a rough but weathered cortex. A few pieces exhibit ancient thermal (frost fractured) scars and variability in both the colour of the flint and the cortex indicate the raw materials were most likely to have been obtained from the glacial tills that dominate the surface geology of the area. All of the pieces have experienced post- depositional edge chipping, sometimes quite heavily so, consistent with persistent attrition from ploughing.

6.3 No chronologically diagnostic pieces or retouched implements were identified, although the often severe post-depositional damage would make identification of many simple retouched tools difficult.

6.4 The assemblage's technological attributes are fairly homogeneous; the flakes are sturdy and variable in shape but often wide and thick, and most have multi-directional dorsal scars. Most show at least some attempts at platform preparation and it appears that care was taken over core preparation with a reasonably high level of skill exercised over reduction. Some may have been used as cores to produced further flakes. They reflect a reasonably skilful flake-based reduction strategy that is most typical of Neolithic industries, particularly those dating to the third millennium BC. There are also a few short and thick flakes that have wide, obtuse striking platforms. These could also be accommodated with Later Neolithic or Early

Bronze Age industries but they are reminiscent of Martingell's 'squat' flakes (1990; 2003), indicating the possibility of the presence of later Bronze or even Iron Age flintworking at the site. The cores are similarly variable and include two that are carefully worked and had produced narrow flakes from prepared platforms, as would be typical of Neolithic examples, as well as two more minimally reduced pieces that could be later in date.

Significance and Recommendations

The assemblage is of significance in that it indicates Neolithic and possibly Bronze Age activity at the site which is consistent with the findings from other investigations in the area, which have demonstrated long term and often intensive occupation along the Yare valley and its tributaries (e.g. Ashwin and Bates 2000; Percival 2004).

Given the assemblage's size and the lack of diagnostic implements or associated structural evidence, the interpretational potential of this assemblage is limited and no further analytical work is proposed. It does, however, contribute to the wider understanding of prehistoric landscape use in the region and a brief description of the assemblage should be deposited with the local Historic Environment Record and included as part of any published account of the fieldwork.

6.5 Prehistoric pottery

(By Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne)

Introduction

6.6 A single sherd (40g) of handmade prehistoric pottery was recovered from the watching brief programme.

6.7 The pottery derived from a single context, relating to a single post-hole (Table 1). The potsherd recovered can be tentatively assigned to a single period, the Early Neolithic (ENEO) (c. BC 4000-3300). The relatively large size of the sherd recovered, as well as its low level of abrasion and 'fresh' appearance indicate that although considered residual it is unlikely to have moved far from its original place of deposition.

6.8 The potsherd is in a stable condition. This report provides a quantified description of the assemblage with a brief discussion.

Context	Cut	Feature type	No. of sherds	Wt(g)	Overall context spot date	Fabrics (sherd no/weight (g))
6008	6007	Post-hole	1	40	ENEO	FQ1 (1/40),

Table 1: Pottery quantification by context

Methodology

6.9 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2009). The potsherd was assigned a fabric group, which was devised on the basis of its dominant inclusion type, density and modal size. During this process the sherd was counted and weighed (to the nearest whole gram). Sherd type was recorded, along with technology (wheel-made or handmade), as well as any evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. The potsherd is considered to be medium-sized, based on the following scale; sherds smaller than 4cm in diameter = 'small'; sherds measuring 4-8cm = 'medium', and sherds over 8cm ='large'.

Assemblage characteristics

FQ1	Moderate fine to very coarse calcined flint, rare fine sand

Table 2: Pottery fabric series

6.10 The sherd was composed of a coarse fabric tempered with moderate quantities of poorly sorted calcined flint and rare fine sand; a composition typical of the Early Neolithic in Northern East Anglia, for example in the large assemblages at Kilverstone (Garrow et. Al. 2006), Spong Hill (Healy 1988) or Broome Heath, Ditchingham (Wainwright 1972). In the sherd from Heathersett, as well as in these larger assemblages of the period, differences in the sorting of fabric inclusions can often be observed within the extent of the larger sherds, indicating that the temper was not well mixed

into the potting clay matrix.

6.11 The presence of sand within the matrix gives the sherd a hard, slightly abrasive feel. In common with other coarse bodysherds of the period the sherd has not been given a smoothed, burnished or otherwise decorated finish.

6.12 As the only recovered sherd was relatively non diagnostic, no specific inferences as to ware type can be made. Due to this the designation of the potsherd as ENEO in date can only be made based on fabric and the overall finish of the sherd; as such the degree of confidence assigned to the dating cannot be high. Having stated these limitations, the date, as well as the absence of decoration suggests the sherd could be best placed within the Plain Bowl traditions of the Early Neolithic, found throughout southern and eastern England.

7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

7.1 There appeared little in the way of archaeological features along the greater portion of the monitored stripped easement and it should be noted that although the proposed road line occurs in an area of archaeological activity as found in the 2012 evaluation, this itself was somewhat restricted to three ditches of possible Roman origin and an undated cremation. It should be noted that the flint recovered during the evaluation in the area of the road strip occurred in the western part of the field containing the road line. The fragments recovered were dated to the Middle Bronze Age or later (Jones. 2012; 5.1 'The Flint').

7.2 It may be that the area traversed by the easement represented agricultural land both in the early and later historical periods that was not occupied to the extent of land to the west of the site, where there are recognisable concentrations of archaeological activity.

7.3 The scatter of post-holes and the single larger feature 6017 that was judged to be a pit were concentrated into a relatively small area and may have been related in terms of a possible structural form. No dating evidence from the fills was recovered, other than the residual sherd of Neolithic pot, although the colour, organic content and loose texture of the fills perhaps indicate a later rather than earlier historical deposition. The features could be associated with agricultural practices and may represent poles for a temporary shelter or individual tether posts for animals.

7.4 The 18 fragments of struck flints recovered from the subsoil during the strip, analysed for flake-based reduction strategy, appear to be mainly from the later Neolithic period, although some of the broader flakes likely indicate Bronze Age activity. The significance of these findings for the placing of the site in relation to the historical and archaeological landscape reflect findings of previous work within the Yare valley, with evidence of persistent occupation in the Neolithic and early Bronze Age periods.

7.5 The single sherd of prehistoric pottery found on the upper surface of post-hole feature 6007 is considered residual rather than associated with the fill of

the feature. It has been dated tentatively to the Early Neolithic period and due to the size of the fragment and lack of surface abrasion is likely to have originated in the near vicinity rather than been transported any distance to where it was found.

7.6 The dating of the sherd would put it somewhat earlier than the majority of the Neolithic worked flint recovered from the strip, although this in itself provides an indication of continuation of occupation from the Early Neolithic into the Bronze Age, particularly considering the later Bronze Age evidence provided by the earlier evaluation.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Alistair Robertson of CgMs for commissioning the work. Thanks go to Site Manager Steve Berry of Jackson Construction for valuable assistance during the monitoring project. Flint assessment was carried out by Barry Bishop; assessment of the sherd of prehistoric pottery was carried out by Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne. The author would like to thank Peter Crawley for managing the project and PCA London CAD department for preparing the figures.

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3) Old Maps Online (Date accessed 19/10/2017)

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24/10/17 RM

Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000; 1:625,000 & 1:25,000 at A4

24/10/17 RM

Figure 2
Detailed Site Location
1:5,000 at A4

N

616320/305720

616450/305720

cut [6003]

S8

0 250m

cut [6011] S3

cut [6017] S6

cut [6015] S1

cut [6009] S2

cut [6013] S4

cut [6015] S5

cut [6005] S7

N

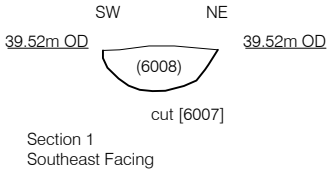
Archaeological Feature

Excavated Slot

0 5m

24/10/17 RM

Figure 3
Detailed Plan of Features at Western Side of Monitored Area
1:500 and 1:125 at A3



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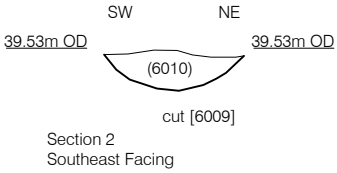
Southeast Facing



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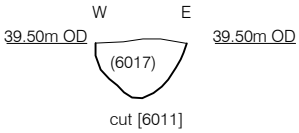

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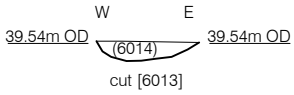

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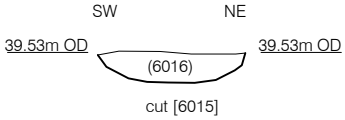
South Facing



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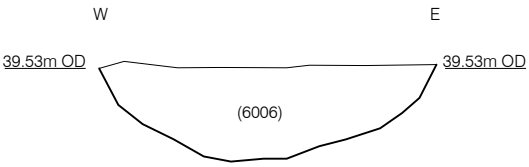
Southeast Facing

Section 6
South Facing



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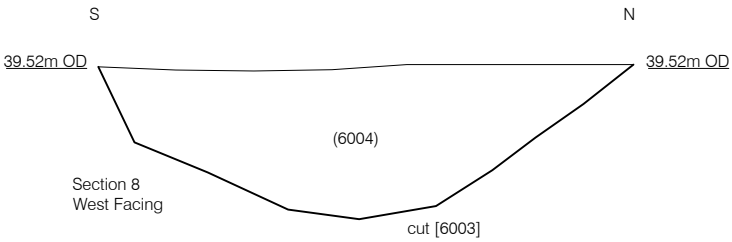
South Facing



Section 8
West Facing

24/10/17 RM

Figure 4
Sections
1:20 at A4

10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Plate 1: Easement strip on west side of Colney Lane, facing north-east

Plate 2: south-east end of strip facing north-west

Plate 3: South-east end of strip, facing south-east

Plate 4: Strip showing impressed wheel tracks in natural, facing north-west

Plate 5: Working method of road strip, facing north-west

Plate 6: Showing depth of topsoil/subsoil, facing east

Plate 7: North-west end of road strip, facing south-east

Plate 8: Truncated post-hole [6007], facing north-west

Plate 9: Truncated post-hole [6009], facing north-west

Plate 10: Truncated post-hole [6013[, facing north-east

Plate 11: Truncated post-hole [6015], facing north-east

Plate 12: Truncated post-hole [6011], facing north-east

Plate 13: Truncated pit [6017[, facing north

11 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Interpretation	Date
6000	-	Layer	Topsoil	Overburden	-
6001	-	Layer	Subsoil	Overburden	-
6002	-	Layer	Natural	Natural geology	Geological
6003	6003	Cut	Linear	Field boundary ditch	Post-medieval
6004	6003	Fill	-	Fill of [6003]	-
6005	6005	Cut	Linear	Field boundary ditch	Post-medieval
6006	6006	Fill	-	Fill of [6005]	-
6007	6007	Cut	Post-hole	Truncated post-hole	Undated
6008	6007	Fill	-	Fill of [6007]	-
6009	6009	Cut	Post-hole	Truncated post-hole	Undated
6010	6009	Fill	-	Fill o[6009]	-
6011	6011	Cut	Post-hole	Truncated post-hole	Undated
6012	6011	Fill	-	Fill of [6011]	-
6013	6013	Cut	Post-hole	Truncated post-hole	Undated
6014	6013	Fill	-	Fill of [6013]	-
6015	6015	Cut	Post-hole	Truncated post-hole	Undated
6016	6015	Fill	-	Fill of [6015]	-
6017	6017	Cut	Pit	Small truncated pit	Undated
6018	6017	Fill	-	Fill of [6017)	-

12 APPENDIX 3: LITHIC CATALOGUE

Context	Feature	Decortication flake	Decortication blade	Flake	Core: flake	Colour	Cortex	Condition	Recortication	Suggested date range	Comments
6001											
6001	Sub-soil		1			Translucent dark brown	Hard worn	Chipped	None	Meso-EBA	Well struck
6001	Sub-soil			1		Mottled dark/light brown	Rough, weathered	Very chipped	None	Meso-EBA	Narrow but thick and with a wide platform
6001	Sub-soil			1		Translucent dark brown	Rough, weathered	Chipped	None	Meso-EBA	Small but well struck - almost blade-like
6001	Sub-soil				1	Mottled dark/light brown	Rough, weathered	Chipped	None	Meso-EBA	Extensively reduced lenticular spall or large flake with many narrow flakes removed from two carefully trimmed platforms set at right angles, one on each face.
6001	Sub-soil			1		Translucent dark grey	Rough, weathered	Chipped	None	Meso-EBA	Narrow, well struck
6001	Sub-soil		1			Translucent dark brown	Hard worn	Chipped	None	Meso-EBA	Well struck, possibly from systematic production, Distal end missing
6001	Sub-soil			1		Mottled dark/light brown	Rough, weathered	Very chipped	None	LNeo-EBA	Large, thick, detached along a thermal flaw. Possibly a core fragment or used as a core
6001	Sub-			1		Mottled	Rough,	Chipped	None	LNeo-EBA	Broad but well struck, heavily

	soil					dark/light brown	weathered				trimmed striking platform
6001	Sub-soil				1	Mottled dark/light brown	Rough, weathered	Chipped	None	Neo-BA	Thermal spall with small wide flakes removed from both faces. Possibly a large flake used as a core or a partially disintegrated core. 41g
6001	Sub-soil			1		Mottled dark/light brown	None	Very chipped	None	Neo-BA	Narrow but very thick and badly detached
6001	Sub-soil			1		Translucent dark grey	Thermal scar	Very chipped	None	Neo-BA	Wide and quite thick
6001	Sub-soil				1	Translucent dark grey	Rough, weathered	Chipped	None	Neo-BA	Near complete nodule with a few flakes removed from various directions. Either minimally worked or a rejected= 'testing' nodule. 182g
6001	Sub-soil				1	Translucent dark brown	Hard worn	Chipped	None	Neo-EBA	Extensively reduced multiplatformed irregular/globular flake and narrow flake core with some trimming of platforms. 123g
6001	Sub-soil			1		Translucent dark grey	Rough, weathered	Very chipped	None	Neo-EBA	Narrow but quite thick
6001	Sub-soil			1		Mottled dark/light brown	Hard worn	Very chipped	None	Prehistoric	Large, quite thick
6001	Sub-soil	1				Translucent dark brown	Recorticated thermal scar	Chipped	None	Prehistoric	Small, narrow
6001	Sub-soil	1				Translucent dark grey	Recorticated thermal scar	Chipped	None	Prehistoric	Undiagnostic

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

OASIS ID: preconst1-300069

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring of main road strip at Hethersett, Norfolk
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring of strip, map and sample programme of construction of a main road link on land north of Hethersett, Norfolk found several small post-hole bases, post-medieval field boundary ditches, struck flint an a single sherd of Early Neolithic pottery.
Project dates	Start: 11-10-2017 End: 18-10-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2011/1804 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	POST-HOLE Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Late Neolithic
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Neolithic
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK SOUTH NORFOLK HETHERSETT Land north of Hethersett, Norfolk
Study area	11000 Square metres
Site coordinates	TG 16450 05682 52.605242160131 1.196962600044 52 36 18 N 001 11 49 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Project design originator	Peter Crawley
Project director/manager	Peter Crawley
Project supervisor	Ben Philip Hobbs

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Norfolk Museum and Archaeology Service
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Paper Contents	"Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Entered by	Ben Philip Hobbs (ben.hobbs@pca-archaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	3 November 2017

OASIS:

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Appendix Four: Northamptonshire Archaeology *Additional Geophysical Survey of Land North of Hethersett* 2011

CgMs CONSULTING

ADDITIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

On land north of Hethersett Norfolk

September 2011

Planning • Heritage

Specialist & Independent Advisors to the Property Industry

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Additional archaeological geophysical survey on land north of Hethersett, Norfolk	
Short description (250 words maximum)	Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Hethersett Land to conduct further magnetometer survey on land north of Hethersett, in addition to that carried out in March 2011. This was carried out on the western extremity of the development area. Little of note was detected in Fields 1A and 14 other than a possible pit in the former. Field 15 was found to contain an extensive group of features indicating part of a Roman villa complex.	
Project type	Geophysical survey	
Site status	None	
Previous work (SMR numbers etc)	Wolframme-Murray & Walford 2011/109 NHER: MFN9270	
Current Land use	Arable	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type/ period	Roman villa complex	
Significant finds (artefact type and period)		
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Norfolk	
Site address (including postcode)	Land north of Hethersett	
Study area (sq.m or ha)	12ha	
OS Easting & Northing (use grid sq. letter code)	TG 15570 05623	
Height OD	47m OD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator		
Project Design originator	CgMs Consulting	
Director/Supervisor	Adrian Butler	
Project Manager	Adrian Butler (NA), Duncan Hawkins (CgMs)	
Sponsor or funding body	Hethersett Land	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date		
End date		
ARCHIVES	**Location (Accession no.)**	**Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)**
Physical		
Paper	NA Archive	Site records and reports
Digital	NA Archive	GPS and gradiometer survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)	
Title	Additional archaeological geophysical survey on land north of Hethersett, Norfolk	
Serial title & volume	2011/184	
Author(s)	Adrian Butler	
Page numbers	12	
Date	09/11/2011	

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Figures

ADDITIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

ON LAND NORTH OF HETHERSETT, NORFOLK

ADDENDUM

August 2011

Abstract

Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Hethersett Land to conduct further magnetometer survey on land north of Hethersett, in addition to that carried out in March 2011. This was carried out on the western extremity of the development area. Little of note was detected in Fields 1A and 14 other than a possible pit in the former. Field 15 was found to contain an extensive group of features indicating part of a Roman villa complex.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Hethersett Land, to conduct further magnetometer survey on land north of Hethersett, in addition to that carried out in March 2011 (Wolframm-Murray & Walford 2011). Prospection was carried out on the western extremity of the development area. Survey of the northern half of Field 1 was completed as Field 1A, and Fields 14 and 15 to the west and south-west were surveyed in total (Fig 1). This addendum refers directly to the former report (*ibid*). The survey methodology was continued as from the previous fieldwork, following the earlier Method Statement (NA 2011).

2 RESULTS

2.1 **Field 1A** (Figs 28 & 29)

The weak parallel linear anomalies, aligned from south-west to north-east, reflect the modern direction of ploughing. The large magnetic halo near the south-eastern corner of the field arises from the adjacent building. Three large, positive, ovoid anomalies were detected in the centre of the survey area. These probably indicate geological features such as a sub-surface topographic hollow or localised variation in sediment type or mineralogy. In the northern half of the field, the overall background reading were found to vary slightly over a large area, again probably reflecting macro-scale geological variations.

Four intense positive magnetic anomalies arranged in a rough square were detected adjacent to the north-east boundary of Field 1A. It is probable that these represent the stanchions of a vertical steel structure, such as a pylon or wind-pump.

A dense band of dipolar magnetic (intense paired positive/negative) anomalies was detected approximately 20m wide, parallel with the northern field boundary. Such dipolar anomalies usually represent ferrous or ceramic debris contained in the ploughsoil and an increased concentration of dipoles in a south-east to north-west alignment probably indicates a removed boundary. This was the southern extent of a former field (Tithe map, NCC 2011). A large, circular, strongly positive anomaly (+46nT max) was located in the north-west of Field 1A. The shape of the anomaly suggests that this may reflect a large pit (*c*5m diameter) containing highly magnetised material such as ceramics and other fired remains.

2.2 Field 14 (Figs 28 & 29)

Survey of the most north-westerly field indicated the south-west to north-east aligned modern ploughing pattern common with Field 1A to the east. Again, subtle changes in the magnetic background indicate large-scale geological changes. Four intense positive anomalies were detected approximately centrally along the eastern boundary, likely to represent earth-fast iron structures similar to those in Field 1A.

2.3 Field 15 (Figs 30 & 31)

The data collected from Field 15 revealed a rectilinear pattern of positive linear anomalies, apparently reflecting a large C-shaped structure. Two 'wings' were defined following an approximately north-west to south-east orientation for 160m to 180m (Fig 31; A & B), from the north-west field boundary. The width of A was *c* 30m and B approximately 25m and the anomalies most likely indicate ditches rather than walls.

A 0.25ha area of noisy magnetic data was identified adjacent to the north-western boundary of the field, such as may be created by a spread of thermoremnantly magnetised material (ceramics, brick) in the ploughsoil. This was at the northern end of a rectilinear arrangement of positive magnetic anomalies (C) approximately 140m long on a north-east to south-west orientation, at an angle towards the boundary. Finds of Roman tegulae and tesserae were made on the surface of the field by the survey team (J Walford pers comm). Several more discrete positive anomalies were detected towards the southern end of C, probably indicating pits.

The linear magnetic anomalies of feature A and B do not appear to have any characteristics that would suggest masonry foundations. More likely they are cut-and-backfilled ditches, and in the case of C, filled with some highly magnetically susceptible material. It is probable, however, given the presence of the spread of building material over the north end of C, that a built villa structure exists, either masked by the thermoremnant anomalies or partially beyond the hedge to the west.

3 CONCLUSION

Additional magnetometer survey on the west of the North Hethersett development area detected little of archaeological note in Fields 1A and 14 other than a possible pit in the former. Field 15 however, was found to contain a large C-shaped structure, spanning the field and apparently part of an extensive Roman villa complex already suspected through cropmarks, occasional surface material and excavated evidence (NHER: MNF9270).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

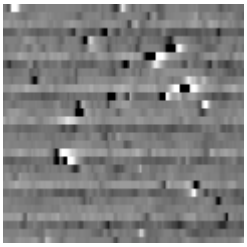
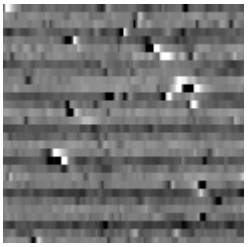
NA 2011 *Land at Hethersett, Norfolk: Archaeological Fieldwalking and Geophysical Surveys: Method Statement*, Northamptonshire Archaeology, unpublished document

NCC 2011 *Norfolk E-Map Explorer*, http://www.historic-maps.norfolk.gov.uk/Emap/EmapExplorer.asp, Norfolk County Council, accessed 30/08/2011

Wolframme Murray, Y, & Walford, J, 2011 *Archaeological fieldwalking and geophysical survey on land north of Hethersett, Norfolk*, Northamptonshire Archaeology Report **11/109**

APPENDIX 1 REPEATED MAGNETOMETER SURVEY GRIDS

No repeat carried out on 18/08/11 due to disruption from harrowing.

	16 / 08 / 2011 N	
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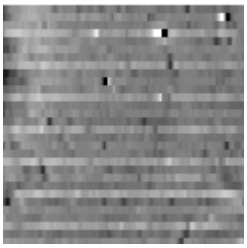
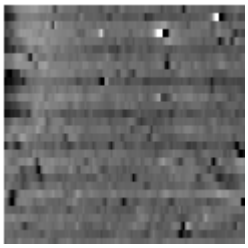
	17 / 08 / 2011	
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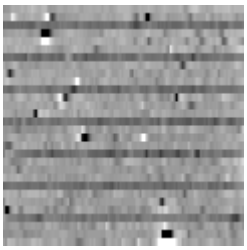
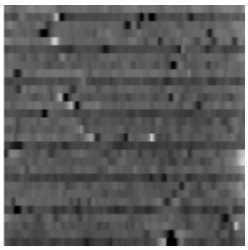
	19 / 08 / 2011	
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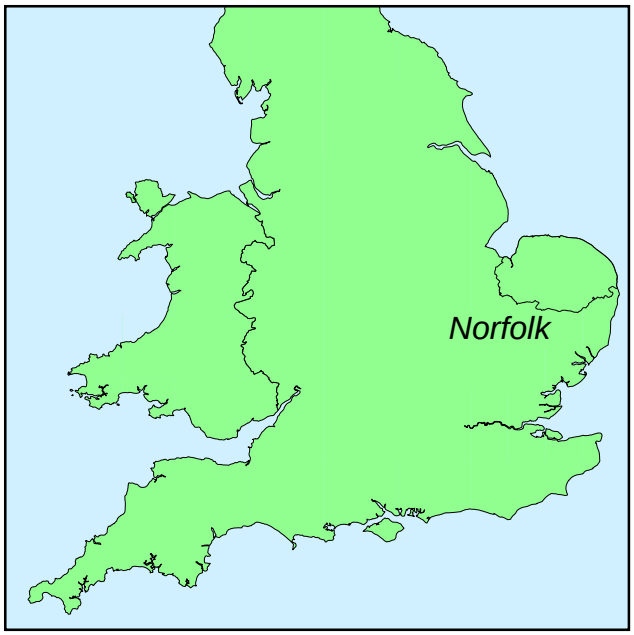
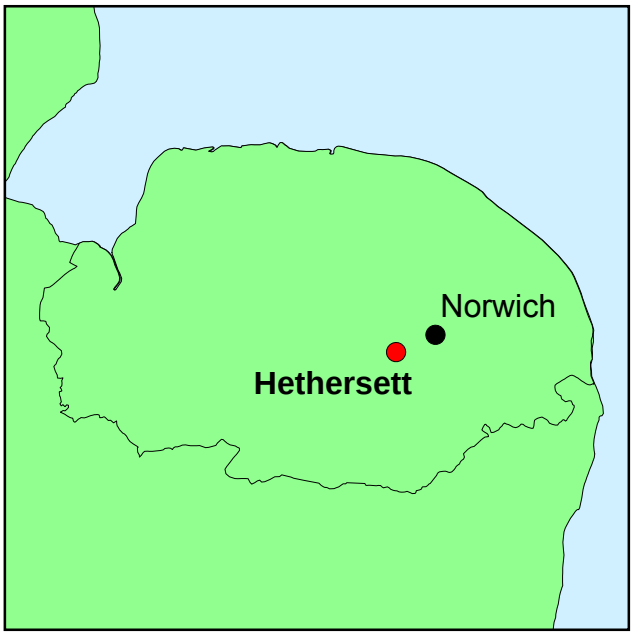
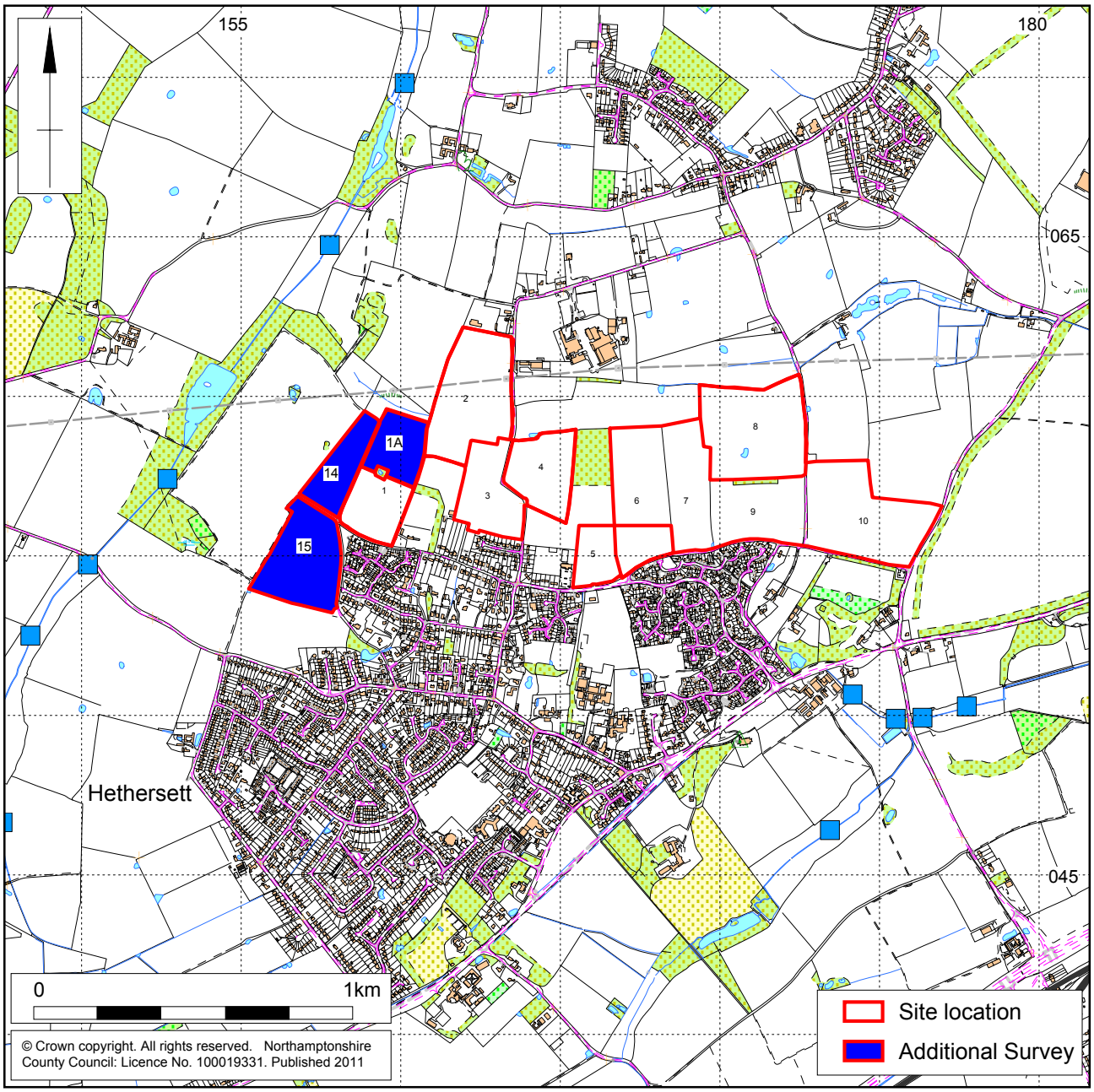






Scale 1:20,000

Site location Fig 1

Scale 1:2500 @A3

Hethersett: Geophysical Survey Results Fields 1A, 14 & 15 Fig 28

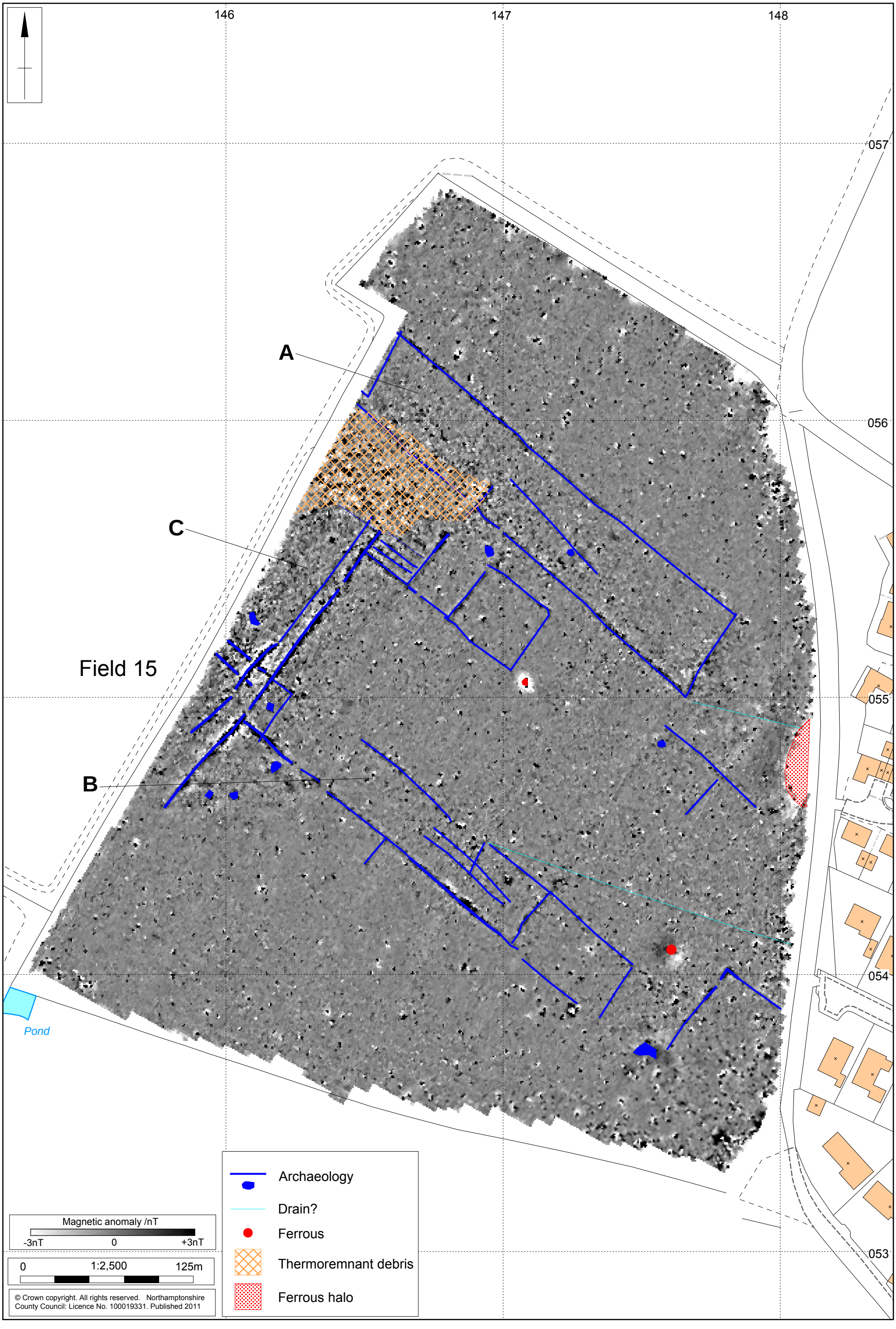
Scale 1:2500 @ A3

Hethersett: Geophysical Survey Interpretation Fields 1A, 14 & 15 Fig 29

Scale 1:1250 @ A3

Hethersett: Geophysical Survey Results Field 15 Fig 30

Scale 1:1250 @ A3



Hethersett: Geophysical Survey Interpretation Field 15 Fig 31

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