



Hallgates to Elms Farm Leicestershire

Archaeological Management Strategy

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Hallgates to Elms Farm Leicestershire

Archaeological Management Strategy

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Severn Trent Water (hereafter 'the client'), to prepare an Archaeological Management Strategy (AMS) for the development of a proposed pipeline located between Bradgate Park, Newtown Linford, Leicester and the village of Groby, Leicester (hereafter 'the Scheme, **Figure 1**), from NGR 453403 311449 to NGR 452654 305960.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of this report is to lay out a proposed archaeological management strategy for the Scheme. **Section 2** summarises the previous archaeological investigations that have been undertaken on the route of the Scheme and discusses their findings. **Section 3** then lays out the proposed strategy for evaluating and mitigating the potential effects of the Scheme on archaeological remains, which may be present.
- 1.1.3 The Client submitted a Screening Opinion pursuant to Part 2, Regulation 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("EIA Regulations") for the Scheme in September 2025.
- 1.1.4 Regulation 6 of the EIA Regulations sets out that a developer can ask the Local Planning Authority to give an EIA Screening Opinion to determine whether a proposed project falls within the remit of the Regulations, and whether it is likely to have a significant effect on the environment and therefore requires an Environmental Statement.
- 1.1.5 The AMS together with the archaeological work completed to date in addition to the work that is to be undertaken, as part of the AMS, is designed to ensure that the Scheme will be delivered without a significant effect on historic environment as outlined in the Screening Opinion.

1.2 The Scheme

- 1.2.1 The Scheme comprises the route of a proposed pipeline approximately 10.4 km long. The Scheme lies just outside of Leicester, and while the immediate surroundings of the northern area of the Scheme are more agricultural, the middle and southern areas are surrounded by more dense areas of occupation.
- 1.2.2 The northern part of the Scheme (from Anstey to Bradgate Park) begins north of Bradgate Park, before running through agricultural fields around Cropston Reservoir and crossing southwest through agricultural fields before ending at Bradgate Road to the south of Bradgate Park. The Scheme gradually travels south but curves around the outskirts of the village of Groby through agricultural fields.
- 1.2.3 An individual section lies south-east of Ratby within two grass covered fields just north of a vegetation-lined watercourse (connected to Rothley Brook) crossing on a north-east to



south-west alignment. The section is approximately 215 m in length and is immediately surrounded by grass covered fields in all directions.

- 1.2.4 For the purposes of this AMS, and in relation to previous archaeological investigations, the Scheme has been split into 63 land parcels, presented in the table in **Section 3.2**. These range from LP_001-060 and include subdivisions as required (e.g., LP_004 and LP_004_B). These land parcels are referred to in the sections below to help localise areas of archaeological potential and the proposed evaluation strategies.

1.3 Roles and responsibilities

- 1.3.1 The following roles have been identified:

- Client – Severn Trent Water Ltd
- Archaeological Clerk of Works (ACoW) – to be appointed by the Client
- Archaeological Curators: Planning Archaeologist (Heritage Team, Environment & Transportation, Leics. CC) and Team Leader (Natural & Built Environment, CBC).
- Archaeological Contractor – Wessex Archaeology Ltd

Client

- 1.3.2 The Client is ultimately responsible for the implementation of the AMS
- 1.3.3 Any contractors undertaking construction works will be made aware of the archaeological requirements as set out within this AMS.
- 1.3.4 The client and/or their appointed contractors are responsible for implementing the AMS programme and subsequent agreed WSIs and SSAMS related to each phase of development.
- 1.3.5 The client and/or their appointed representatives or any archaeological body they may appoint to manage the implementation of the AMS will seek curatorial advice from the Archaeological Curators as appropriate.
- 1.3.6 Interaction with the Archaeological Curators will be administered by the Client and/ or their appointed representatives (i.e. ACoW). Should newly identified archaeological deposits be discovered during construction, the Archaeological Curators will be contacted immediately.
- 1.3.7 The Client and/or their appointed representatives will ensure that their staff aware of this AMS programme and subsequent agreed WSI/SSAMS related to each phase of development.in order to ensure any required facilitation is provided.

ACoW

- 1.3.8 An ACoW will be appointed by the Client and will be responsible for the work undertaken by the Archaeological Contractor to ensure compliance with the AMS and WSI/SSAMS.
- 1.3.9 The ACoW will serve as point of contact between the Client and Archaeological Curators organise and attend regular meetings with the Archaeological Curators to keep them informed of progress and any significant discoveries. They will also undertake tool box talks and other duties as required.



Archaeological Curators

- 1.3.10 The Archaeological Curators will be responsible for monitoring that the works outlined in the AMS are met. They will be responsible
- Approval of OWSIs and SSAMS prior to works commencing
 - for the sign-off and approval of evaluation works (phase 2) in addition to further phases of work (Phase 3 and 4).
- 1.3.11 During any fieldwork, the Archaeological Curators will be afforded access to the site for monitoring visits as required. Where applicable, they will also afford remote-sign off where this is appropriate.
- 1.3.12 The Archaeological Curators shall be entitled to recover reasonable costs associated with the review, sign-off and approval of all archaeological documentation and works relating to Phases 2, 3 and 4. These costs shall be agreed in writing with the Client in advance of the commencement of each phase.

Archaeological Contractors

- 1.3.13 The Archaeological Contractor/s will be responsible for delivering the archaeological mitigation programme, as set out in this AMS. Their responsibilities will include all on-site and off-site works, including preparation of the WSI/SSAMS, post-fieldwork analysis, reporting/publication and archiving.

1.4 Scope of document

- 1.4.1 Any adverse impact to buried archaeological features as a result of the implementation of the Scheme would be permanent and irreversible in nature. In line with industry guidance, best practice, and using standard assessment methodologies guided by national and local planning policy, this document sets out the approach to an appropriate and proportionate scheme of archaeological evaluation.
- 1.4.2 The approach to the Phase 2 Evaluation regarding the methodology and techniques to be used is outlined in the accompanying Overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (OWSI; WA 2025c). The OWSI should be read in conjunction with this AMS.
- 1.4.3 Both the AMS and Phase 2 OWSI will be submitted to and approved by the Archaeological Curators prior to the commencement of works. Subsequent OWSIs and SSAMS, as prepared will also be submitted and approved to the Archaeological Curators prior to the commencement of works.
- 1.4.4 Site-specific archaeological Method Statements (SSAMS) will be prepared for each set piece of archaeological work, as necessary. The SSAMS will conform to the approach and information presented in this AMS and OWSI. SSAMS will be submitted to the Archaeological Curators
- 1.4.5 This document sets out the proposed approach archaeological evaluation works which would form the first phase of a staged archaeological management strategy. Further detail is provided in the accompanying Phase 2 OWSI (WA 2025c).
- 1.4.6 Where the proposed archaeological evaluation works identify significant archaeological remains, this would be followed up by archaeological mitigation, consisting of targeted

excavation and/or archaeological monitoring and recording, to be agreed in consultation with the Local Planning Authorities.

1.5 Planning Background

1.5.1 Part 2 of the EIA Regulations 2017 sets out development thresholds for which an EIA is a mandatory requirement (Schedule 1) and where it may be required at the discretion of the Local Planning Authority (Schedule 2). The Scheme is not listed within Schedule 1. The Schedule 2 threshold relevant to the Scheme is:

- Section 10, Part I(i): Installation of long distance aqueducts where the area of the works exceeds 1 hectare.

1.5.2 Under the *Water Industry Act 1991*, statutory undertakers such as Severn Trent Water (the Client) are empowered to carry out works required for the provision and maintenance of water and sewerage infrastructure. While the Act provides the legislative basis for these powers, it does not remove the requirement to have regard to the historic environment (Chapter 56). Works undertaken under the Act must therefore be planned and executed in a manner that takes account of archaeological remains, particularly where there is potential for ground disturbance.

1.5.3 In addition, the *Water and Sewerage Undertakers (Pipelaying and other Works) (Code of Practice) Order 1999* requires undertakers, including Severn Trent Water, to prepare and adhere to codes of practice setting out best practice and guidance. This includes provisions relating to works that may have an impact on archaeological remains.

1.5.4 Although permitted development rights may apply where the Local Planning Authority has determined that a project does not constitute EIA Development, such determinations may be dependent upon the implementation of mitigation measures proposed by the applicant. Where this is the case, the mitigation measures must be adhered to, otherwise the determination may be rendered invalid. In this instance, the archaeological mitigation set out within this AMS supports the conclusion that the Scheme does not constitute EIA Development in respect of archaeological considerations.

1.6 Broad Approach and Phasing

1.6.1 The process set out in this document is based on a phased approach, whereby the results of earlier phases of archaeological work will inform design decisions where appropriate, as well as the need for, scope and extent of subsequent phases of work, whether this involves further evaluation, sampling or the implementation of agreed mitigation measures.

1.6.2 The approach is intended to be iterative and collaborative with regular consultation and engagement with the Archaeological Curators throughout the process.

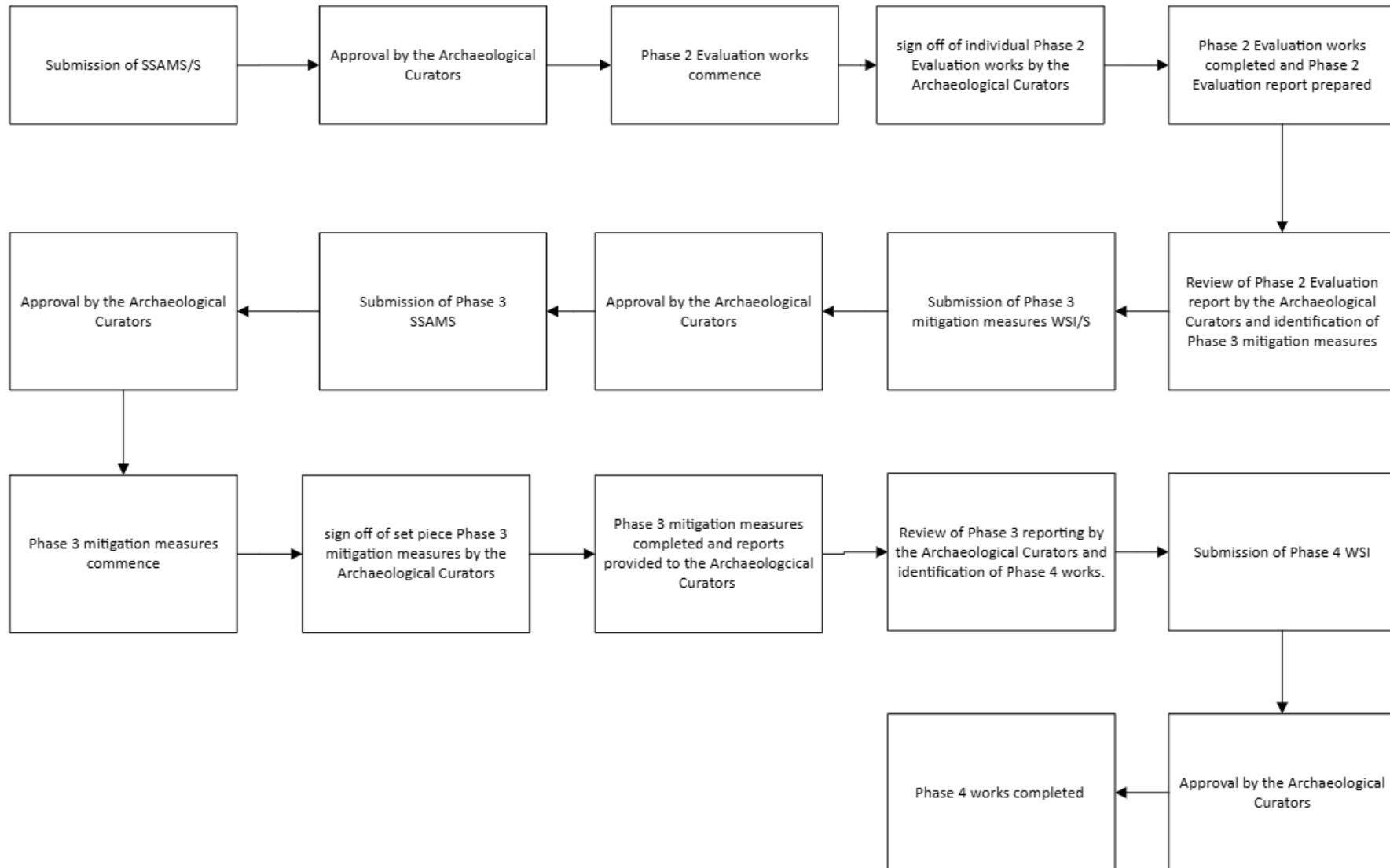
1.6.3 For the purposes of this document, all archaeological investigations carried out pre-submission to the local planning authorities are referred to as Phase 1. Phase 1 comprised the Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (WA 2025a) and Geophysical Survey (WA 2025b).

1.6.4 The works proposed post-submission (the subject of this document) are referred to as Phases 2-4. They are to include:



- Phase 2: Evaluation. This is to comprise geoarchaeological and archaeological evaluation and may include areas identified for archaeological monitoring and recording.
- Phase 3: Mitigation measures. This will be the phase of mitigation works, the scope and extent of which will be based on the results of the preceding Phase 2 Evaluation.
- Phase 4: Post-fieldwork. Phase 4 will be the final programme of post-excavation assessment, analysis, archiving, and appropriate reporting and dissemination of the results of all phases of fieldwork.

1.6.5 The flow chart on the following page outlines the broad approach and phasing of works following approval of the Scheme, AMS and OWSI.





1.7 OWSI and SSAMS

1.7.1 An Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (OWSI) has been prepared for the following specific activities:

- Geoarchaeological evaluation
- Archaeological evaluation trenching; and
- Archaeological monitoring and recording

1.7.2 The OWSI details the methodology to be employed for the specified intervention across the Scheme, including the location of interventions, sampling strategies where appropriate, reporting and archiving requirements. The methodologies employed conform to the relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance and local guidance where applicable.

1.7.3 The OWSI will be submitted to the Archaeological Curators for agreement prior to the commencement of work.

1.7.4 SSAMS will be prepared for each set-piece form of investigation. This may cover, for example, a single SSAMS for the archaeological evaluation trenching exercise for the entire Scheme or a set number of land parcels. The purpose of the SSAMS is to show compliance with the OWSI and AMS and where a deviation is necessary to the methodology outlined in the OWSI this is highlighted and agreed upon with the Archaeological Curators .

1.8 Consultation and Monitoring

1.8.1 The AMS, OWSI and subsequent SSAMS will be agreed with the Archaeological Curators prior to commencing any work.

1.8.2 Arrangements will be made for monitoring visits by the Archaeological Curators during each stage of works, as required.

1.8.3 It is anticipated that during the evaluation stage, consultation with the Archaeological Curators will be required to agree on the employment of a contingency provision for additional trenching, where necessary and agreed.

1.8.4 The primary scenario in when additional trenching will be required is in the event that significant archaeological remains are identified during Phase 2 and the extent of said remains required further characterisation to be able to ascertain what steps are needed at Phase 3.

1.8.5 The need for additional contingency trenching will be identified during the Phase 2 works by the Archaeological Curators and agreed upon with the Client and ACoW. The ACoW will be responsible for developing the layout for the additional trenching and agreeing locations with the Archaeological Curators. The methodology for any additional trenching will follow those provided in the Phase 2 OWSI and a SSAMS will be submitted to be agreed with the Archaeological Curators prior to commencement of additional trenching.

1.8.6 To facilitate a rapid approval process during the works, areas will be signed off on an iterative basis and, where feasible, a remote sign off system will be used, subject to agreement with the Archaeological Curators.



- 1.8.7 Once an area has been signed off for requiring no further work then this will be available immediately for main construction works.

2 PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

- 2.1.1 The following section summarises previous archaeological investigations which have been undertaken on the Scheme and discusses their findings. The identified archaeological and geoarchaeological potential of each part of the Scheme and the identification of areas of modern disturbances have been used to create the proposed archaeological management strategy outlined in **Section 3**.

2.2 Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2025a)

- 2.2.1 In July 2025, Wessex Archaeology produced an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2025a). The report assessed the known and potential archaeological resource present within and surrounding the Site and assessed the likely impacts of the construction of the proposed pipeline on that resource.

- 2.2.2 The archaeological assessment separated the Scheme into three sections (Sections 1, 2 and 3). The assessment established that there was an archaeological interest within Sections 1 and 2, defined as the potential for the presence of remains dating from the Anglo-Saxon period to the 19th century. As well as a broad potential for archaeology dating to the Prehistoric and Romano-British periods, inferred from known levels of activity recorded within the landscape. Section 3 was determined to have potential for Romano-British archaeology due to its proximity to a Roman road. It was concluded that due to a lack of previous archaeological investigations within the study area, the presence, location and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the Scheme (all three sections) could not be confirmed on the basis of the available information at the time of compiling the assessment.

2.3 Geophysical Survey (Wessex Archaeology 2025b)

- 2.3.1 A geophysical survey was undertaken on the Scheme in August and November 2025. The survey was undertaken on 78.5 ha of the land within the Scheme, which was 97.6ha in total; Several land parcels were not surveyable due to obstructions.

- 2.3.2 A number of possible archaeological anomalies were encountered, these included:

- U-shaped anomaly 4104 within LP_004;
- Positive linear feature 4102 within LP_008;
- L-shaped anomaly 4103 within LP_018;
- Positive linear feature 4201 within LP_027;
- Positive linear feature 4202 within LP_043; and
- A series of anomalies located within LP_058 – LP060

- 2.3.3 In addition to the anomalies identified as possible archaeological anomalies, a number of weaker anomalies were also identified across the Scheme, with many potentially relating to former field boundaries. Evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation were also noted along with areas of ferrous disturbance.

3 PHASE 2: EVALUATION

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 The proposed evaluation strategy, which follows, is presented by land parcel in order to help localise responses to the findings of the previous investigations. The broad methodology of the strategy is to:
- target land parcels in which a potential for remains with an archaeological and/or geoarchaeological interest have already been identified; and
 - test land parcels which have not been assessed through geophysical survey or GI works, or in which the results of the previous investigations have been unclear (primarily, areas where the geophysical survey was undertaken but the interpretation of the results was unclear).
- 3.1.2 Land parcels in which archaeological evaluation has not been proposed include those in which:
- the results of the previous investigations were clear, and did not identify any potential for any remains archaeological/ geoarchaeological interest; and
 - the previous archaeological investigations have identified obvious modern disturbance, which will have substantially truncated or disturbed any remains of archaeological/ geoarchaeological interest.
- 3.1.3 The proposed archaeological evaluation works consist of further geoarchaeological investigation (test pits, boreholes and sondages), to be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist, and archaeological evaluation trenches. Where appropriate, geoarchaeological investigations will be undertaken within evaluation trenches.
- 3.1.4 An overview of the proposed evaluation strategies is presented in **Figures 3.1-3.17**.
- 3.1.5 Evaluation trenching will examine a minimum 2% sample of each land parcel in which it is proposed (except where noted). Provision will be made for a contingency allowance of an additional 1%. The contingency will be called upon in the event that trenches need to be extended or additional trenches opened in order to fully evaluate the remains exposed in the initial trenching. Any decision to employ contingency trenching will be made in collaboration between the client, the Archaeological Curators to the local planning authority and the archaeological contractor.
- 3.1.6 In order to manage the risk posed by the potential for unexpected discoveries, a archaeological monitoring and recording/archaeological monitoring and recording will be conducted in those land parcels not subject to trench evaluation where there remains potential for unknown archaeology.
- 3.1.7 A robust mechanism will be put in place to ensure that if significant archaeological remains are encountered during site preparation, the remains will be cordoned off, mapped and archaeologically recorded.
- 3.1.8 A methodology for mapping and recording would be set out in SSAMS. The cordoned off area would only be handed back for construction once archaeological recording was completed to the satisfaction of the archaeology advisor to the local planning authority.



3.2 Phase 2 Programme

- 3.2.1 The programme for the archaeological works is currently being reviewed by the Client and the Archaeological Contractor. The anticipated start date for the Phase 2 is March 2026 with an anticipated completion timeframe of Summer 2026 for the Phase 2 works.

Table 1 Evaluation strategy by land parcel

Land Parcel	Fieldwork Methodology	Proposed Intervention	Rationale
LP_001	No further work		No proposed archaeological mitigation as area has been de-scoped from this Scheme.
LP_002	No further work		No proposed archaeological mitigation as area has been de-scoped from this Scheme.
LP_003	No further work		No proposed archaeological mitigation as area has been de-scoped from this Scheme.
LP_004	No further work		Extensive known services are present within this land parcel, and the geophysical survey identified a significant area of ferrous.
LP_004b	Evaluation	1 trial trench Up to 3 hand-dug test pits 1 machine dug test pit	Targeting geophysical anomalies, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features.
LP_005	Evaluation	2 trial trenches Up to 6 hand-dug test pits 1 machine dug test pit	Targeting geophysical anomalies, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features. Within the northern part of the area are known superficial Alluvial deposits.
LP_006	Evaluation	4 trial trenches Up to 4 hand-dug test pits 2 machine dug test pits	Targeting blank areas and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features. Within the northern part are superficial deposits of geoarchaeological interest.
LP_006b	Archaeological Monitoring and recording		Geophysical survey identified no anomalies suspected to be archaeological in nature; however, results were impacted by the presence of modern paddock fences and metal objects, which may have affected the results.
LP_006c	Archaeological Monitoring and recording		Geophysical survey identified no anomalies suspected to be archaeological in nature; however, results were impacted by the presence of modern paddock fences and metal objects, which may have affected the results.
LP_007	Evaluation	9 trial trenches Up to 18 hand dug test pits 6 machine dug test pits	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas. Trenches within area of known superficial Head deposits of Palaeolithic potential
LP_007b	No further work		No proposed archaeological mitigation
LP_008	Evaluation	2 trial trenches 2 machine dug test pits	Targeting geophysical anomalies, geological anomalies, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features. Area contains superficial deposits of geoarchaeological interest



Land Parcel	Fieldwork Methodology	Proposed Intervention	Rationale
LP_009	Evaluation	1 trial trench 1 machine dug test pit	Testing area with ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features. Area contains superficial deposits of geoarchaeological interest.
LP_010	Evaluation	5 trial trenches 4 machine dug test pits	Targeting geophysical anomalies, geological anomaly, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features. In an area of known superficial River Terrace Deposits.
LP_011	No further work		Land parcel containing trees
LP_012	Evaluation	1 trial trench Up to 3 hand dug test pits 1 machine dug test pit	Although no geophysical anomalies suspected of being archaeological in nature were identified, the land parcel is located in an area with known evidence of past human activity. The parcel also contains superficial deposits of geoarchaeological interest.
LP_013	Evaluation	1 trial trench Up to 3 hand dug test pits 1 machine dug test pit	Although no geophysical anomalies suspected of being archaeological in nature were identified, the land parcel is located in an area with known evidence of past human activity. The parcel also contains superficial deposits of geoarchaeological interest.
LP_014	No further work		Major service runs through the small land parcel.
LP_015	Evaluation	1 trial trench Up to 3 hand dug test pits 4 machine dug test pits	Although no geophysical anomalies suspected of being archaeological in nature were identified, the land parcel is located in an area with known evidence of past human activity. The parcel also contains superficial deposits of significant geoarchaeological interest.
LP_016	No further work		Major service runs through the small land parcel.
LP_017	Evaluation	3 trial trenches	Trenches targeting archaeological anomalies and blank areas on the geophysics, and area's proximity to a known Romano-British occupation/kiln site.
LP_018	Evaluation	4 trial trenches	Trenches targeting archaeological anomalies and blank areas on the geophysics, and area's proximity to a known Romano-British occupation/kiln site.
LP_019	Evaluation	2 trial trenches	Trenches targeting archaeological anomalies and blank areas on the geophysics, and area's proximity to a known Romano-British occupation/kiln site.
LP_020	Evaluation	8 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features.



Land Parcel	Fieldwork Methodology	Proposed Intervention	Rationale
LP_021	Evaluation	6 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features.
LP_022	Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		The results of the geophysical survey were good in this location, which highlighted no archaeological anomalies. The land parcel is also outside the known extent of past human activity related to the Romano-British occupation site. However, limited potential for isolated features/finds.
LP_023	Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		The results of the geophysical survey were good in this location, which highlighted no archaeological anomalies. The land parcel is also outside the known extent of past human activity related to the Romano-British occupation site. However, limited potential for isolated features/finds.
LP_024	No further work		Small land parcel completely occupied by services
LP_025	Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		The results of the geophysical survey were good in this location, which highlighted no archaeological anomalies. The land parcel is also outside the known extent of past human activity related to the Romano-British occupation site. However, limited potential for isolated features/finds.
LP_026	No further work		Small land parcel completely occupied by services
LP_027	No further work		The results of the geophysical survey were good in this location, which highlighted no archaeological anomalies.
LP_028	No further work		Small land parcel completely occupied by services
LP_029	Evaluation	4 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.
LP_030	Evaluation	2 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.
LP_031	Evaluation	2 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.
LP_032	No further work		The results of the geophysical survey were good in this location, which highlighted no archaeological anomalies.
LP_033	Evaluation	4 trial trenches	The area contains recorded ridge and furrow, which could mask earlier features. Area in proximity to known recorded possible Iron Age/Roman enclosures noted on the HER.
LP_034	Evaluation	7 trial trenches 2 machine dug test pits	The geophysical survey recorded no potential archaeological anomalies; however, the area is located in proximity to a known Iron Age/Roman enclosures noted on the HER. Also contains superficial deposits of geoarchaeological interest
LP_035	Evaluation	2 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.
LP_036	Evaluation	1 trial trench	Targeting geophysical anomalies, blank areas, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features.
LP_037	Evaluation	4 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.



Land Parcel	Fieldwork Methodology	Proposed Intervention	Rationale
LP_038	Evaluation	4 trial trenches 5 machine dug test pits	A geophysical survey has not been undertaken within this area, but the HER records an Iron Age and Romano-British site within proximity, and undated cropmark linear features within the area. In an area of known superficial Alluvium, River Terrace Deposits and Head deposits.
LP_039	Evaluation	1 trial trench 2 machine dug test pits	
LP_040	Evaluation	3 trial trenches Up to 3 hand dug test pits 3 machine dug test pits	Targeting geophysical anomalies, blank areas, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features.
LP_041	No further work		Small land parcel occupied by trees
LP_042	Evaluation	5 trial trenches Up to 3 hand dug test pits 4 machine dug test pits	No geophysical survey undertaken within this area. The area is located within a wider area of potential Iron Age and Romano-British activity. Area within known superficial Head deposits and Alluvium.
LP_043a	Evaluation	2 trial trenches 2 machine dug test pits	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology. Area within known superficial River Terrace and Head Deposits.
LP_043b	Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		Overhead utilities prevent archaeological evaluation but a possible archaeological anomaly was identified during the geophysical survey
LP_044	Evaluation	2 machine dug test pits	Area within known superficial River Terrace and Head Deposits.
LP_045	No further work		Presence of known services
LP_046	Evaluation	4 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies, blank areas, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features.
LP_047	Evaluation	4 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies, blank areas, and ridge and furrow that could mask earlier features.
LP_048	Evaluation	1 trial trench	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.
LP_049	No further work		No suspected geophysical anomalies of archaeological origin were detected.
LP_050	Evaluation	2 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.
LP_051	No further work		No proposed archaeological mitigation
LP_052	Evaluation	3 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.



Land Parcel	Fieldwork Methodology	Proposed Intervention	Rationale
LP_053	No further work		The root protection zone of the tree prevents archaeological investigation. The zone will also need to be avoided during construction.
LP_054	Evaluation	1 trial trench	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.
LP_055	Evaluation	5 trial trenches	Targeting geophysical anomalies and blank areas to confirm the absence or presence of archaeology.
LP_056	No further work		Presence of services and other constraints.
LP_057	No further work		Presence of services and other constraints.
LP_058	No further work		Presence of services and other constraints.
LP_059	No further work		Presence of services and other constraints.
LP_060	No further work		Presence of services and other constraints.

4 PHASE 3: MITIGATION MEASURES

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The results of the archaeological evaluation works may inform subsequent phases of archaeological work as and where necessary. The following section outlines the scope of the mitigation measures and when they would be necessary.
- 4.1.2 The scope, detail and methodology to be employed in Phase 3 will require the submission of a WSI. The WSI will need to be submitted to and approved by the Archaeological Curators prior to commencement.

4.2 Mitigation hierarchy

- 4.2.1 The Phase 3 mitigation measures will be predicated upon the following mitigation hierarchy:
- Mitigation through preservation in situ – removing any risk of impact to archaeological remains of the highest level of significance (nationally significant), where practicable to do so. This would be through a design change and/or the implementation of an effective strategy and procedure for the protection and management prior to, during construction, and post-construction. Any areas where this is undertaken will require supervision by the ACoW.
 - Mitigation through preservation by record - mitigation of impact through the application of a range of archaeological techniques prior to and during construction.
- 4.2.2 It should be noted that based on the current evidence collated on archaeology, there is no reason to suggest that nationally significant archaeology is present within the Scheme.
- 4.2.3 There may be some instances where such a design intervention may not be practicable or feasible, and mitigation through preservation by record is the only viable method. Where such instances occur, this will be discussed with the Archaeological Curators and appropriate mitigation agreed upon.

4.3 Mitigation through preservation in situ

- 4.3.1 The implementation of preservation in situ will be completed through strategies and construction techniques to avoid physical impact on the archaeology (beyond those that may have been caused as part of the phase 2 evaluation works). This will be achieved through either the micro-sighting of development proposals or the implementation of trenchless techniques. Any specific measures agreed will be identified and presented in a SSAMS to the Archaeological Curators.

4.4 Mitigation through preservation by record

- 4.4.1 The exact scope and extent of any works is to be determined but could consist of the following options (or combination thereof). These are presented below; decisions on which technique shall be applied in any given scenario or area will be agreed with the Archaeological Curators as part of the process laid out in the AMS (and detailed in the relevant Phase 3 WSI and SSAMS submitted).

Archaeological Excavation

- 4.4.2 Some areas may be selected for detailed open area excavation where significant, complex and /or dense archaeological remains are defined by the Phase 2 evaluation (and where it

is not possible to achieve preservation in situ) and require full excavation. The detailed specification, scope and extent of any such work will be set out in the form of a SSAMS WSI which will be submitted and approved by the Archaeological Curators .

- 4.4.3 Whilst these areas should ideally be defined and excavated prior to any form of construction; where this is not possible, agreed areas will be fenced off whilst the archaeological work is completed, and signed off by the Archaeological Curators prior to releasing for construction.

Strip, map and recording exercise

- 4.4.4 A strip map and record exercise involves the controlled removal of topsoil to expose archaeological remains, which are then mapped, selectively excavated and recorded prior to construction works.

- 4.4.5 The detailed specification, scope and extent of any such work will be set out in the Phase 3 OWSI, with site specific details addressed within the SSAMS, each will be submitted and approved by the Archaeological Curators.

- 4.4.6 Whilst these areas should ideally be defined and excavated prior to any form of construction; where this is not possible, agreed areas will be fenced off whilst the archaeological work is completed, and signed off by the Archaeological Curators prior to releasing for construction.

Geoarchaeological sampling and analysis

- 4.4.7 Appropriate methods of geoarchaeological sampling are dependent on sampling requirements but could include: stepped test pits or trenches for controlled recovery of artefacts; and/or palaeoenvironmental and dating samples; or targeted boreholes to recover palaeoenvironmental and dating samples. Geoarchaeological sampling, sample assessment, and, if required, analysis are usually subject to a staged programme of investigation, with detailed requirements determined at each stage.

- 4.4.8 The scope of the geoarchaeological works will be set out within the phase 3 OWSI, further detailed as necessary within a SSAMS, and conform to Historic England guidance 'Geoarchaeology: Using Earth Sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record' (2015b) and 'Curating the Palaeolithic' (2023), and be approved by the archaeological curators.

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

- 4.4.9 A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording may be required following the results of the Phase 2 evaluation where the investigation identified the potential for archaeological remains but the significance of the remains does not warrant detailed excavation. However, should significant archaeological remains be identified within an area of archaeological monitoring, then specific appropriate intervention may be required, such as the implementation of a targeted strip, map and recording exercise or other detailed excavation programme.

- 4.4.10 The techniques and methods for the Archaeological Monitoring and Recording will be outline within the Phase 3 OWSI but will show conformity to what was outlined within the Phase 2 OWSI. Specific details on areas identified for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording will be outlined within SSAMS.

No mitigation

- 4.4.11 In areas where there have been no known heritage assets noted within the Desk-based Assessment, no anomalies identified during the geophysical survey and/or no features uncovered during the Phase 2 evaluation, no mitigation may be proposed or required.



- 4.4.12 These areas will be agreed upon by the Archaeological Curators, as part of their “sign-off” role and formally identified at the conclusion of Phase 2, noting this may be staged depending on the programme.

4.5 Ridge and furrow reinstatement

- 4.5.1 Following discussions with the Archaeological Curators, it has been determined that any ridge and furrow impacted by the works will require reinstatement. Areas of ridge and furrow were identified during the Desk based Assessment and through geophysical survey. The location of the ridge and furrow will be shared with the Client so that they are aware of its presence.
- 4.5.2 Reinstatement of ridge and furrow will be undertaken by the Client and their appointed representative following completion of all construction works within the affected areas.
- 4.5.3 Reinstatement will be informed by data gathered during the Desk based Assessment and by topographical survey data obtained by the Client during the project design phase.
- 4.5.4 The reinstatement of ridge and furrow will be monitored by the ACoW, who will review the works and provide a report to be submitted to the Archaeological Curators.

4.6 Phase 3 Programme

- 4.6.1 The programme for the archaeological works would be determined based on the results of the Phase 2 works, and it is expected that a phases approach will be followed based on the requirements and timetable for the main works package. However, it is anticipated that the Phase 3 mitigation measures would begin in earnest from Autumn 2026 and be undertaken through to Summer 2028 at various stages.

5 PHASE 4: POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT, ANALYSIS, ARCHIVING AND DISSEMINATION

- 5.1.1 The programme for Phase 4 will be agreed in consultation with the Archaeological Curators following the completion of Phase 3.
- 5.1.2 The report will include the following elements:
- Non-technical summary;
 - Project background;
 - Archaeological and historical context;
 - Aims and objectives;
 - Methods;
 - Results – stratigraphic, finds and environmental;
 - Conclusions in relation to the project aims and objectives, and discussion in relation to the wider local, regional or other archaeological contexts and research frameworks and recommendations for further work, as appropriate;
 - Archive preparation and deposition arrangements;

- Appendices, including trench summary tables;
- Illustrations; and
- References

5.1.3 A copy of the final report(s) will be deposited with the HER, along with surveyed spatial digital data (.dxf or shapefile format) relating to the evaluation works, and any subsequent mitigation works.

Publication

5.1.4 If no further mitigation works are undertaken, a short report on the results of the evaluation will be prepared for publication in a suitable journal, if considered appropriate and agreed with the Client and Archaeological Curators.

5.1.5 In the event that formal archaeological mitigation works are undertaken, appropriate publication and dissemination proposals (including any supporting assessment and analysis works) will be presented to and agreed with the Archaeological Curators. Such proposals will be proportionate to the results of the preceding Phase 2 evaluation and Phase 3 Mitigation results (and the post-excavation assessment/analysis reports that follow from this).

OASIS

5.1.6 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigation) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) will be created, with key fields completed, and a .pdf version of the final report submitted. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

5.2 Archive storage and curation

Museum

5.2.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the archaeological works be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Museum collections and a reference number has been provided.

Transfer of title

5.2.2 On completion of the evaluation (or extended fieldwork programme), every effort will be made to persuade the legal owner of any finds recovered (i.e., the landowner), with the exception of human remains and any objects covered by the Treasure Act 1996, to transfer their ownership to the museum in a written agreement.

5.3 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

5.3.1 The complete physical archive, which may include paper records, graphics, artefacts, and eco-facts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Colchester Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014b; SMA 1995).

5.3.2 The archive will usually be deposited within one year of the completion of the project, with the agreement of The Client. Should it be necessary (for example in the event the proposed receiving body was not able to accept the archive), alternative arrangements (whether

temporary or permanent) will be discussed with the Archaeological Curators prior to archive completion and archive deposition

Digital Archive

- 5.3.3 The digital archive generated by the project will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata. Digital Archiving should also comply with the ClfA's "Dig Digital" guidance, and the ClfAs Archiving Toolkit will be consulted.

6 SOCIAL VALUE

- 6.1.1 Provision for community engagement will be made during both the evaluation and post-evaluation stages. This might include site open days, school visits, public lectures and information boards. Making more information available to the public on the special archaeological and historic interest in their area will enhance the public value and lead to greater engagement with the historic environment, and contribute to placemaking. Precise forms of engagement cannot be determined at this time, and will in part depend on the actual findings of the proposed archaeological works. However, some options are listed below:

- Workshops for local groups including finds handling and Q&A sessions;
- Guided site tours while archaeological investigations are in progress;
- Lectures and talks to local community groups to include both professional archaeologists and specialists;
- Ongoing blogs/vlogs or social media updates as the works progress;
- Information for use by the Client for newsletters, web content or media (social media or traditional media outlets);

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Wessex Archaeology 2025c. *Hallgates to Elms Farm, Leicestershire. Overarching Written Scheme of Investigation for Post-consent Archaeological and Geoarchaeological Evaluation*

Historic Environment Records

Leicestershire & Rutland HER (L&RHER)

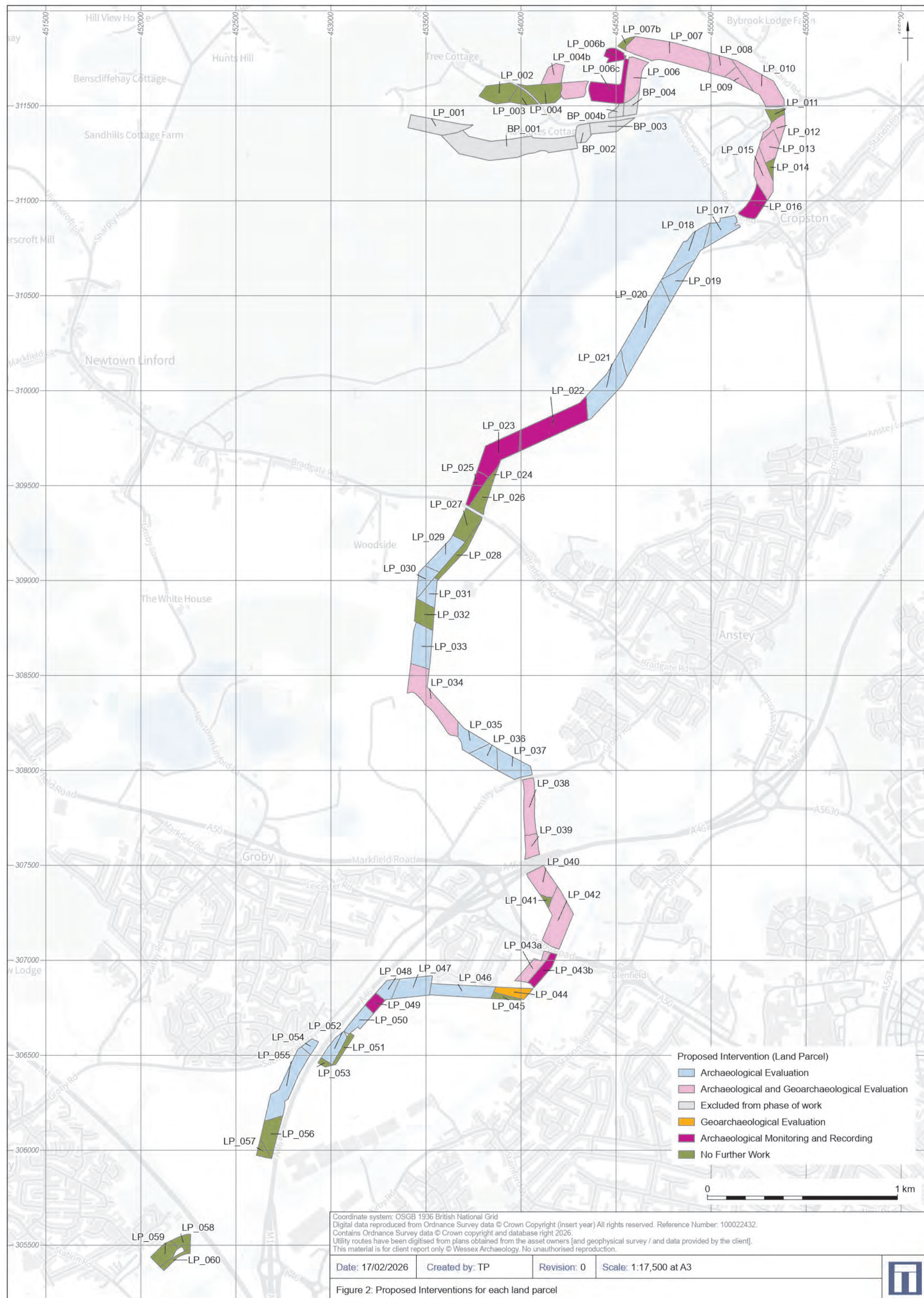


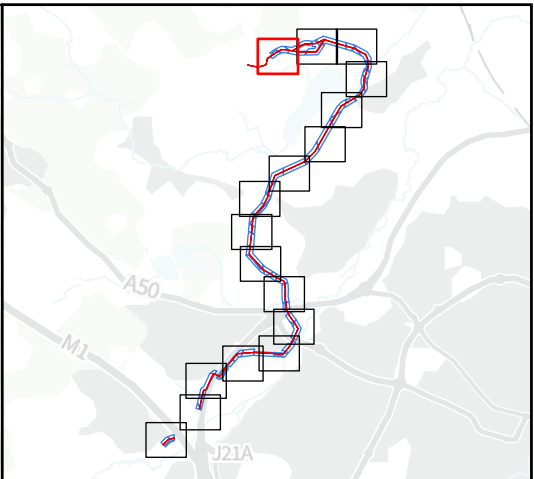
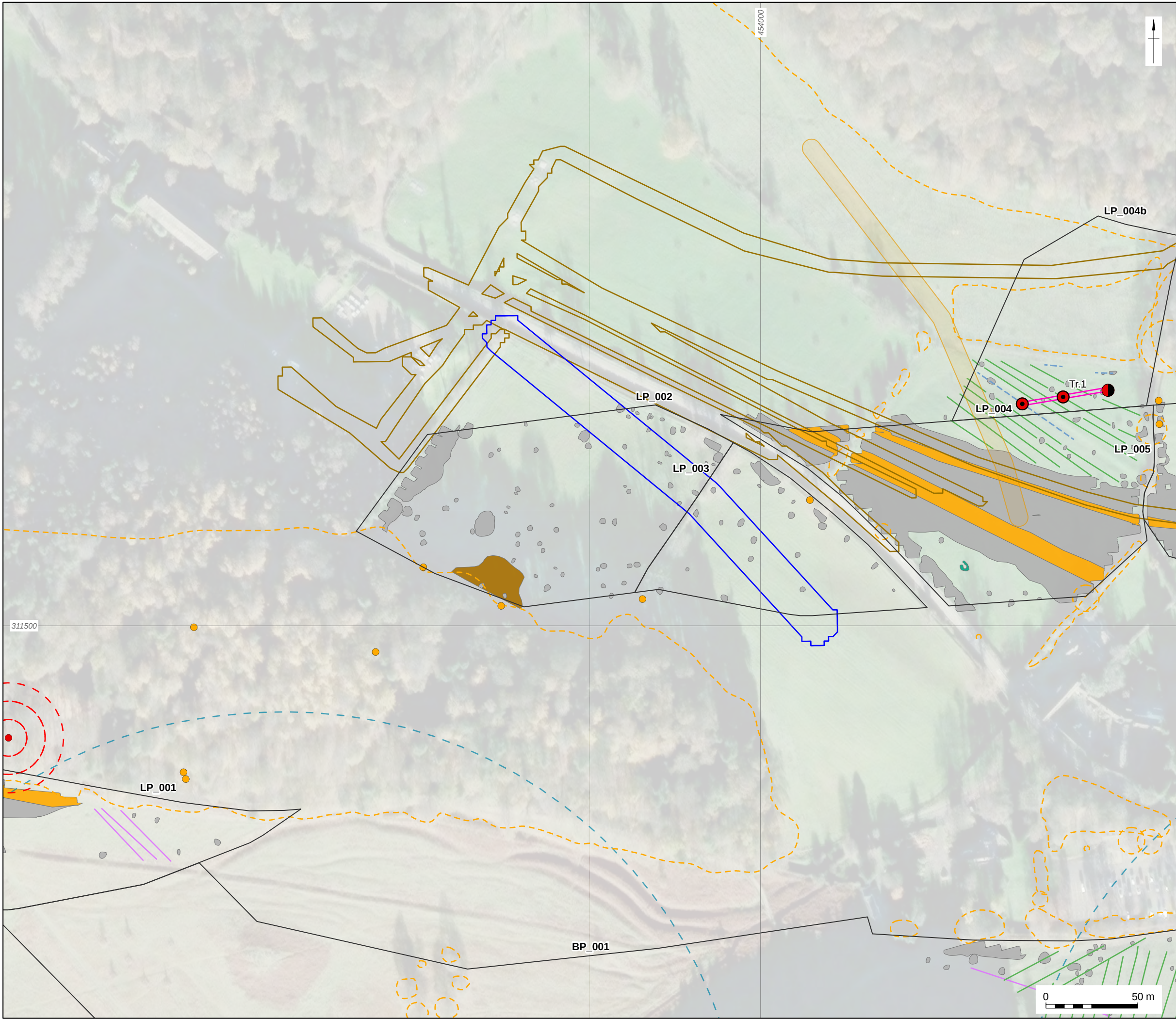
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Figure 1. Site Location Plan







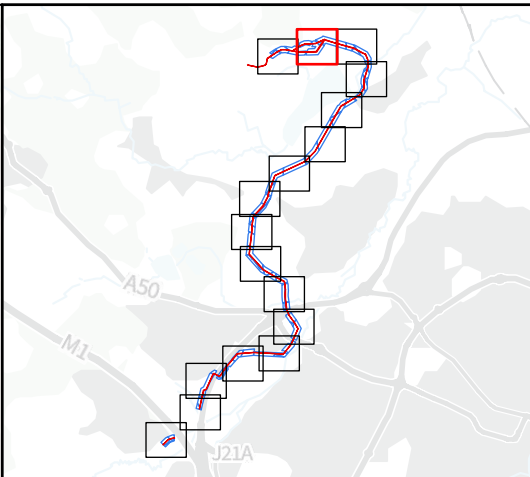
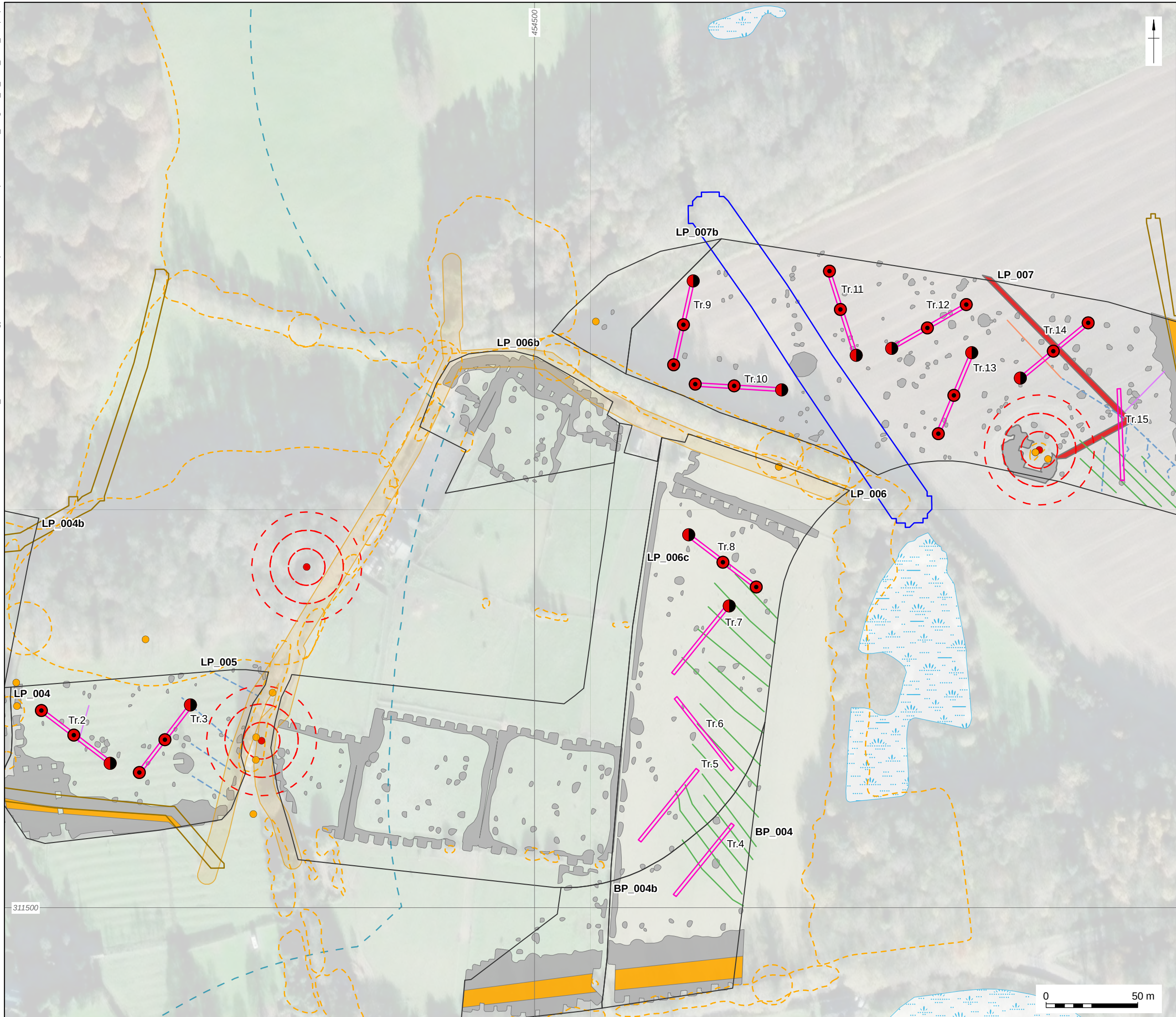
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Figure 3.1: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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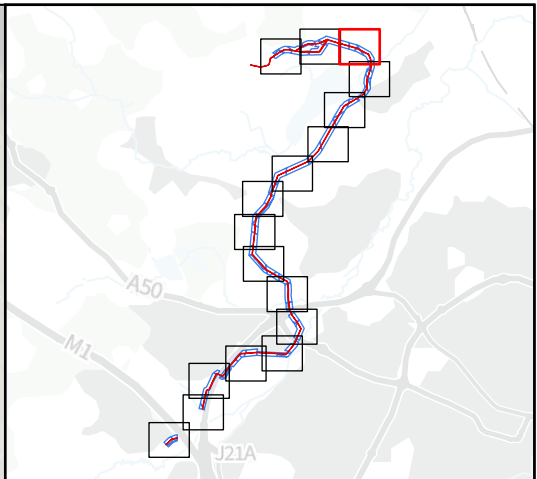
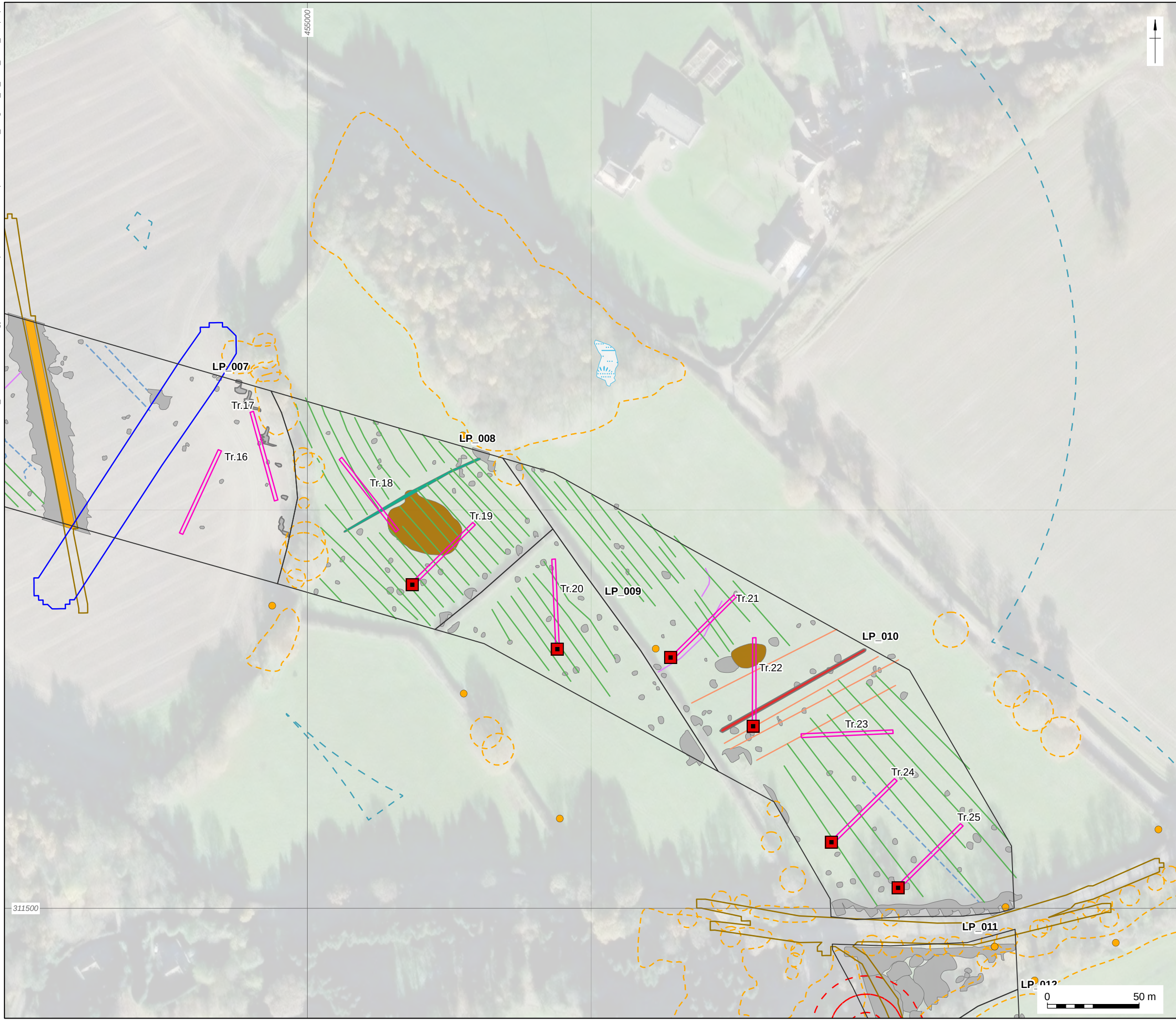
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Figure 3.2: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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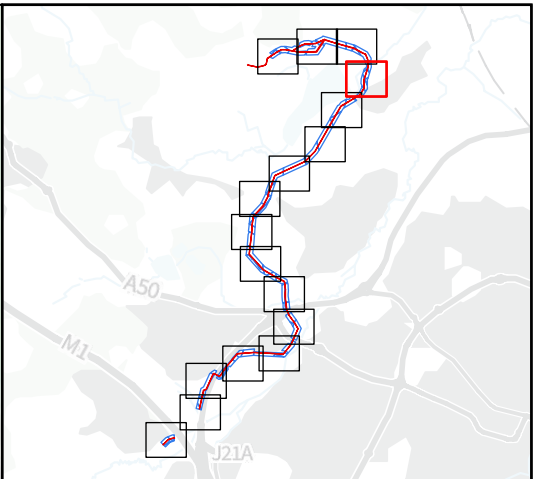


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Figure 3.3: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation



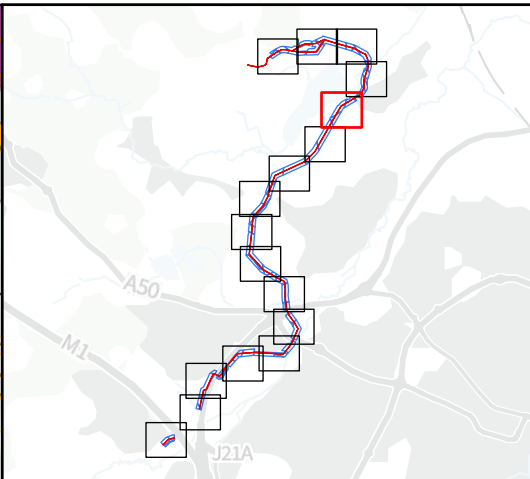
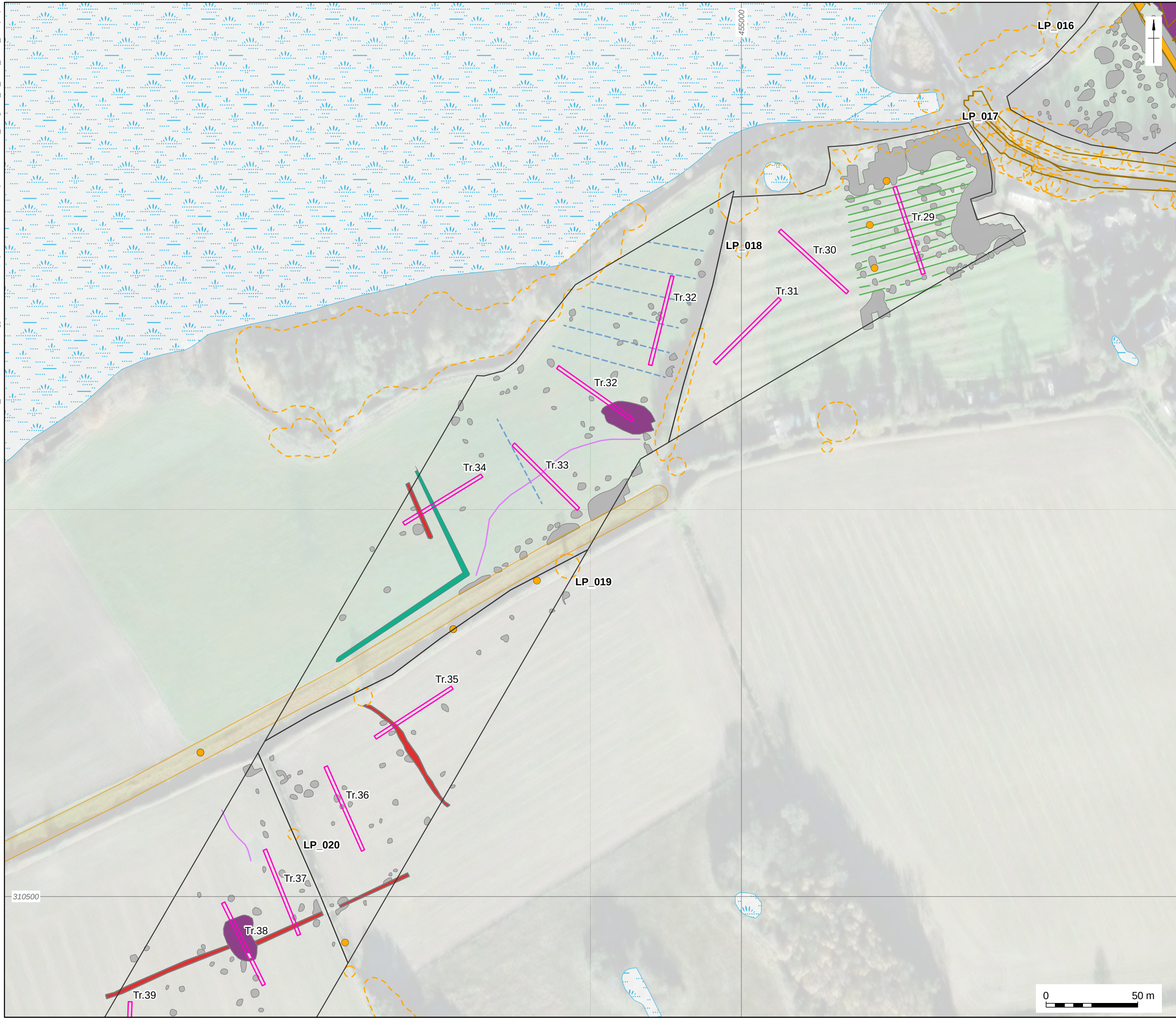
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Figure 3.4: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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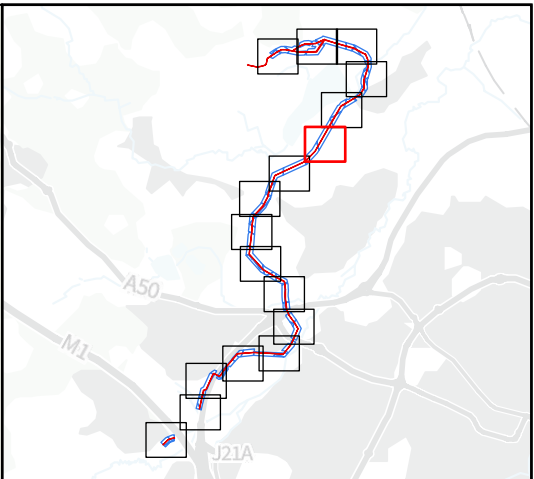
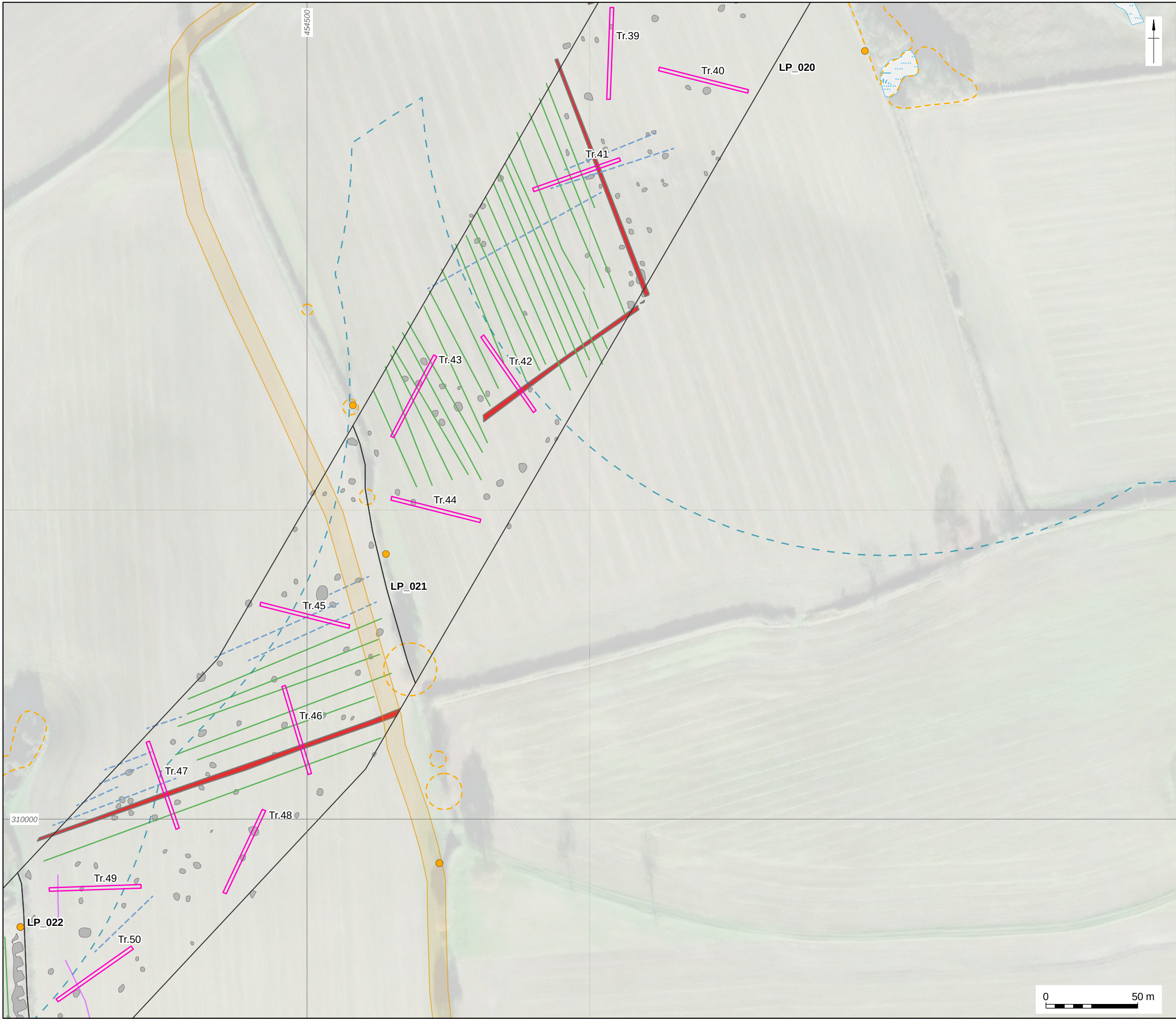


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Figure 3.5: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation



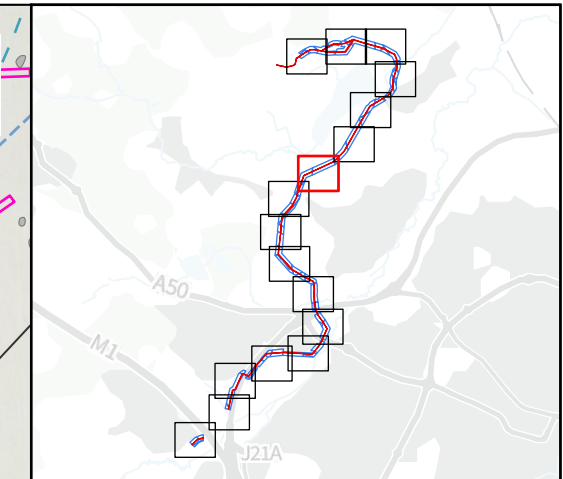
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Figure 3.6: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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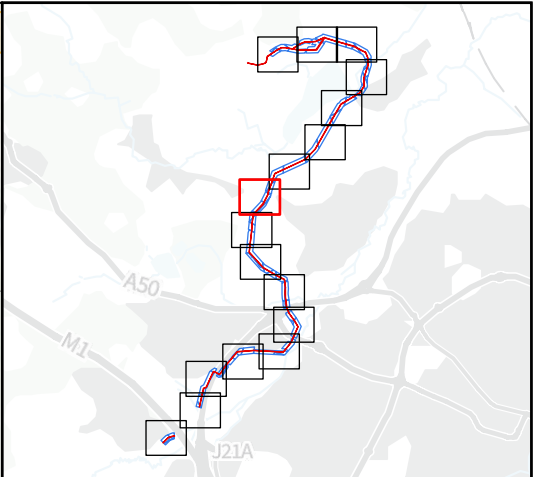
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Figure 3.7: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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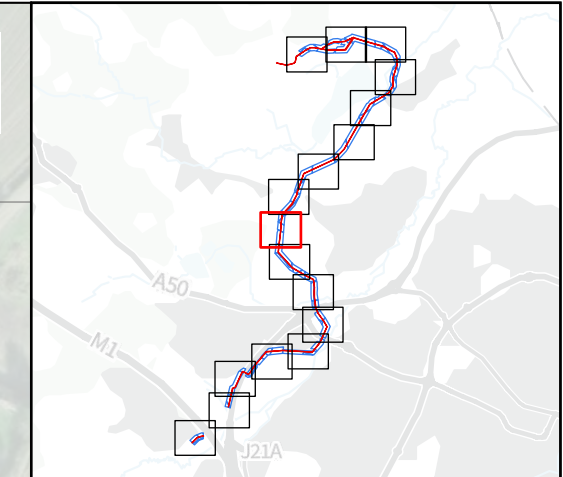
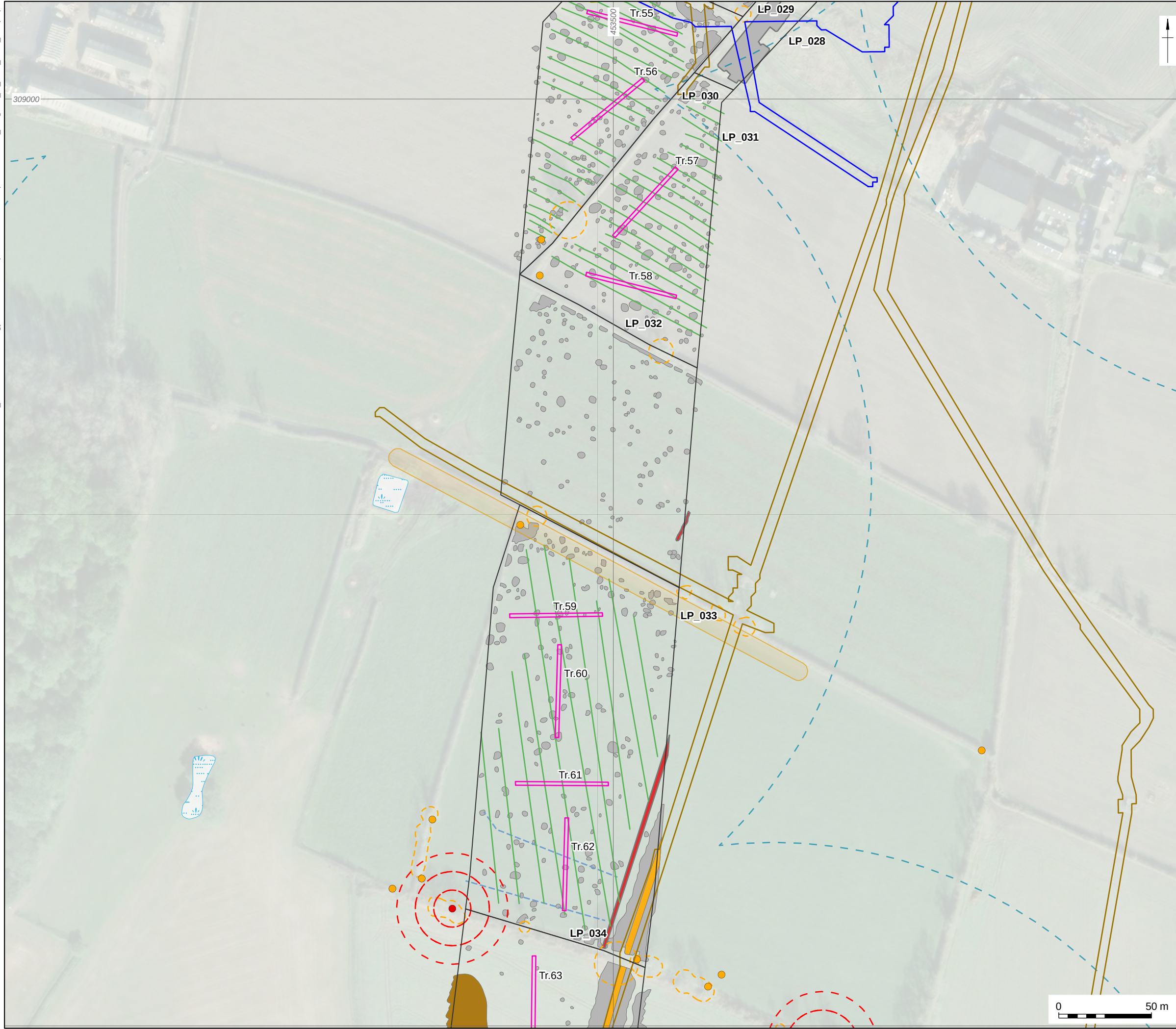


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Figure 3.8: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation



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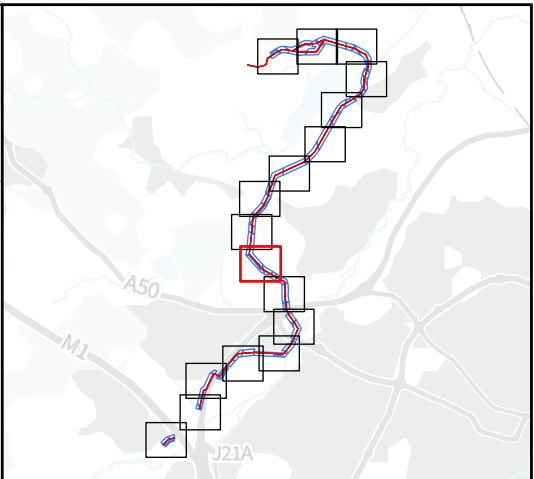
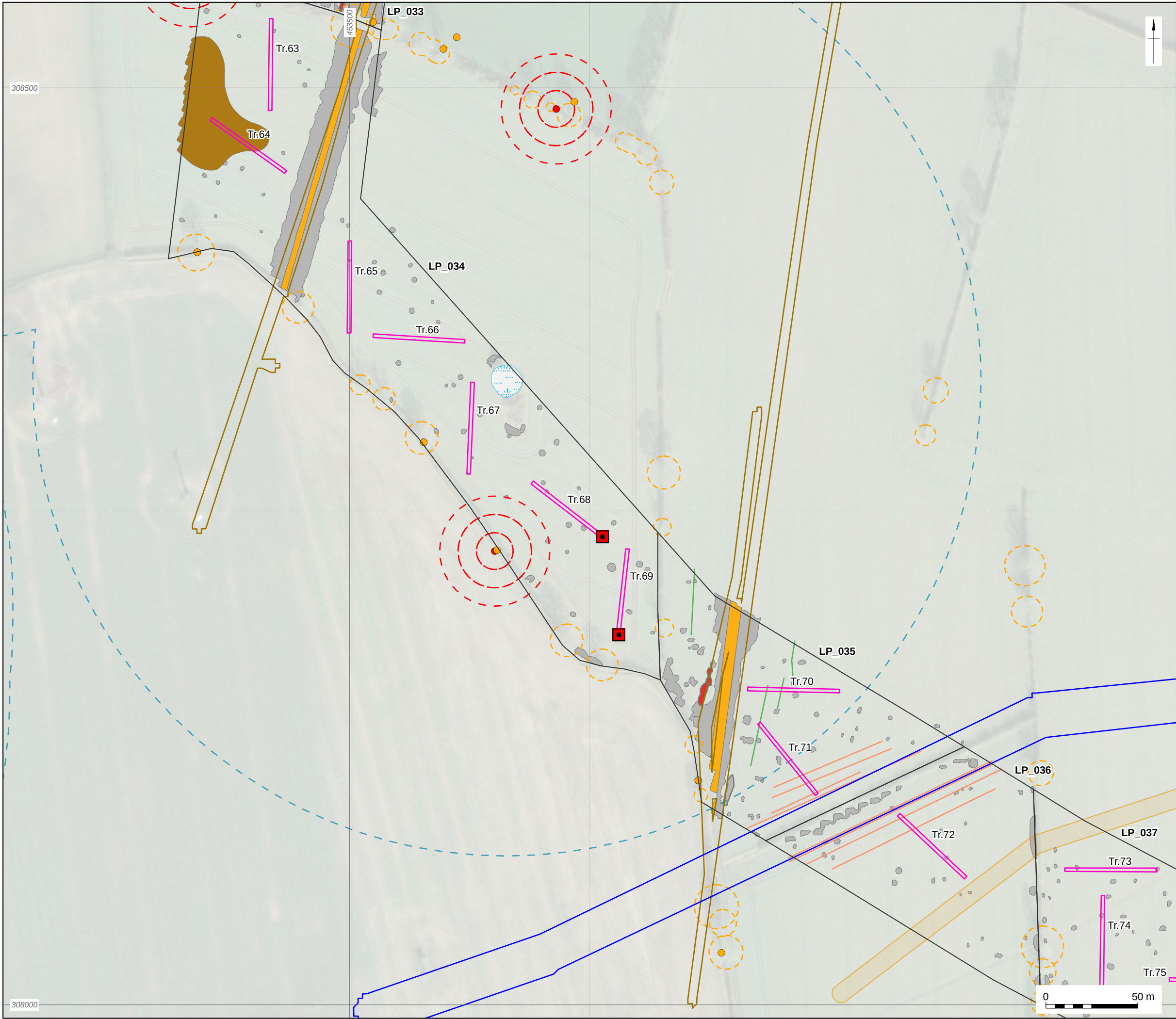
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Figure 3.9: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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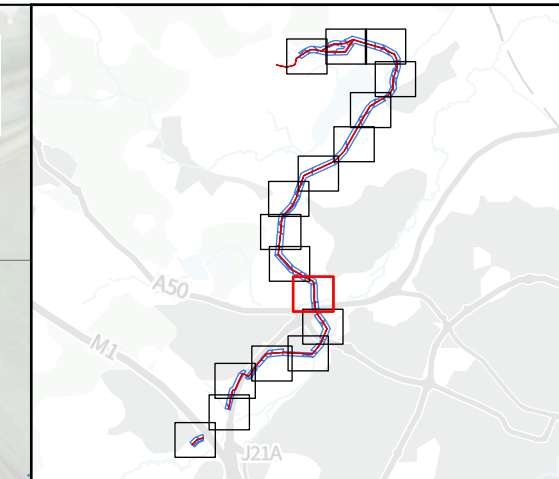
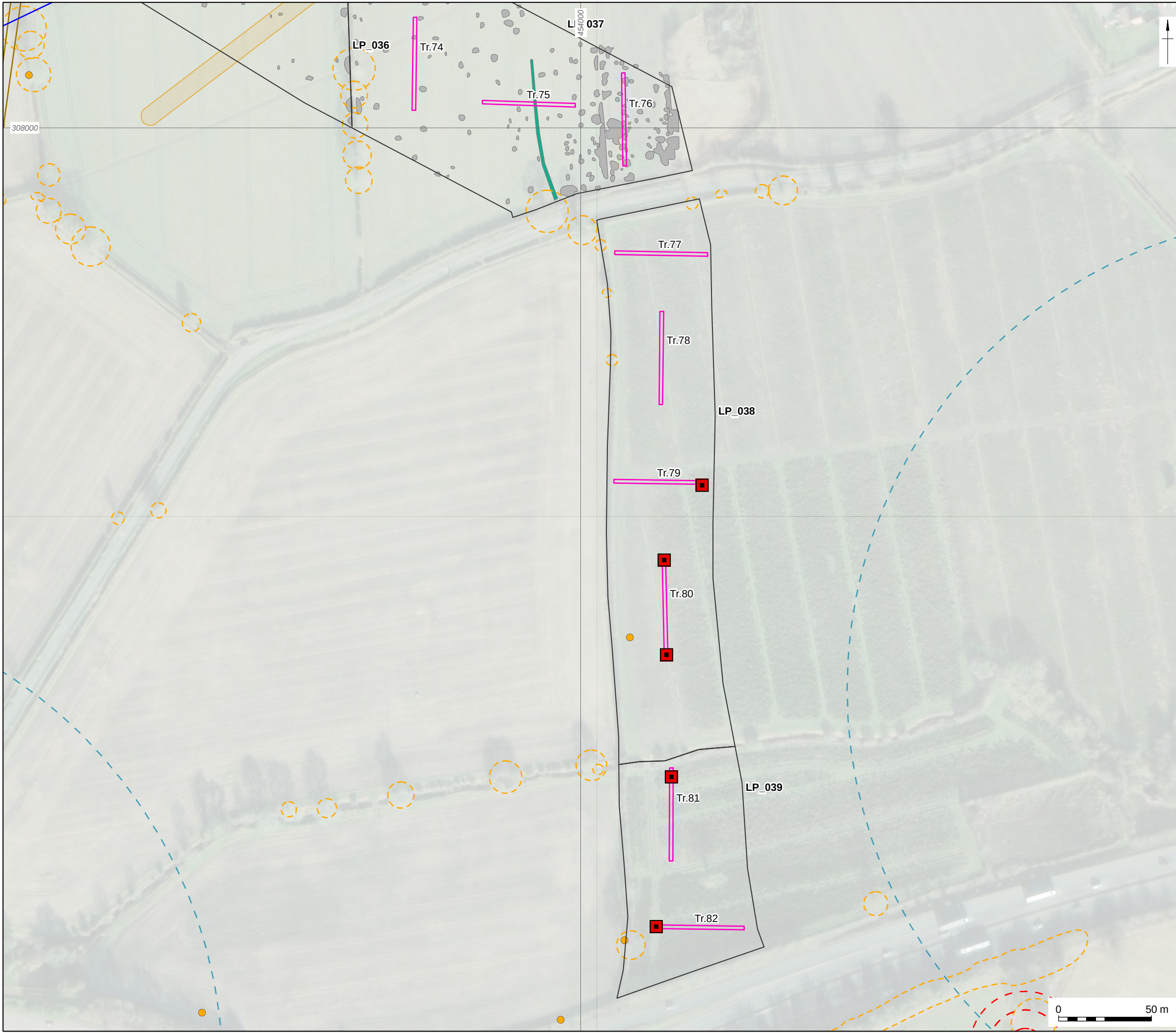
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Figure 3.10: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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Land Parcels

Proposed Evaluation Trench

Geoarchaeological Interventions

Machine Dug Test Pit

Utility and constraints

Overhead Utility Buffer

Underground Utility Buffer

Public Right of Way

RootProtectionZones

GCN Ponds Buffer (250m)

Active Sett Exclusion Zone

Badger Evidence

Possible archaeology

Ferrous

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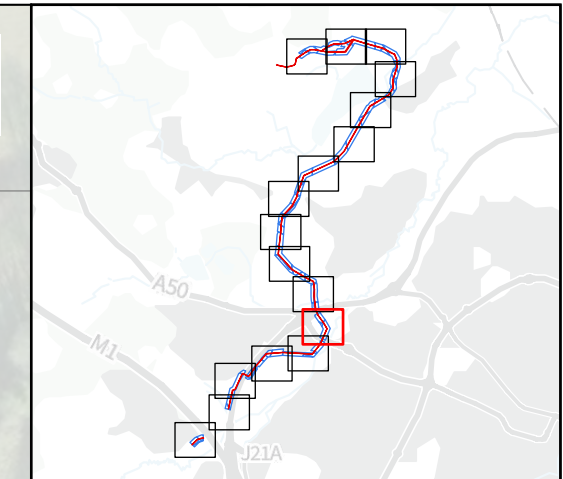
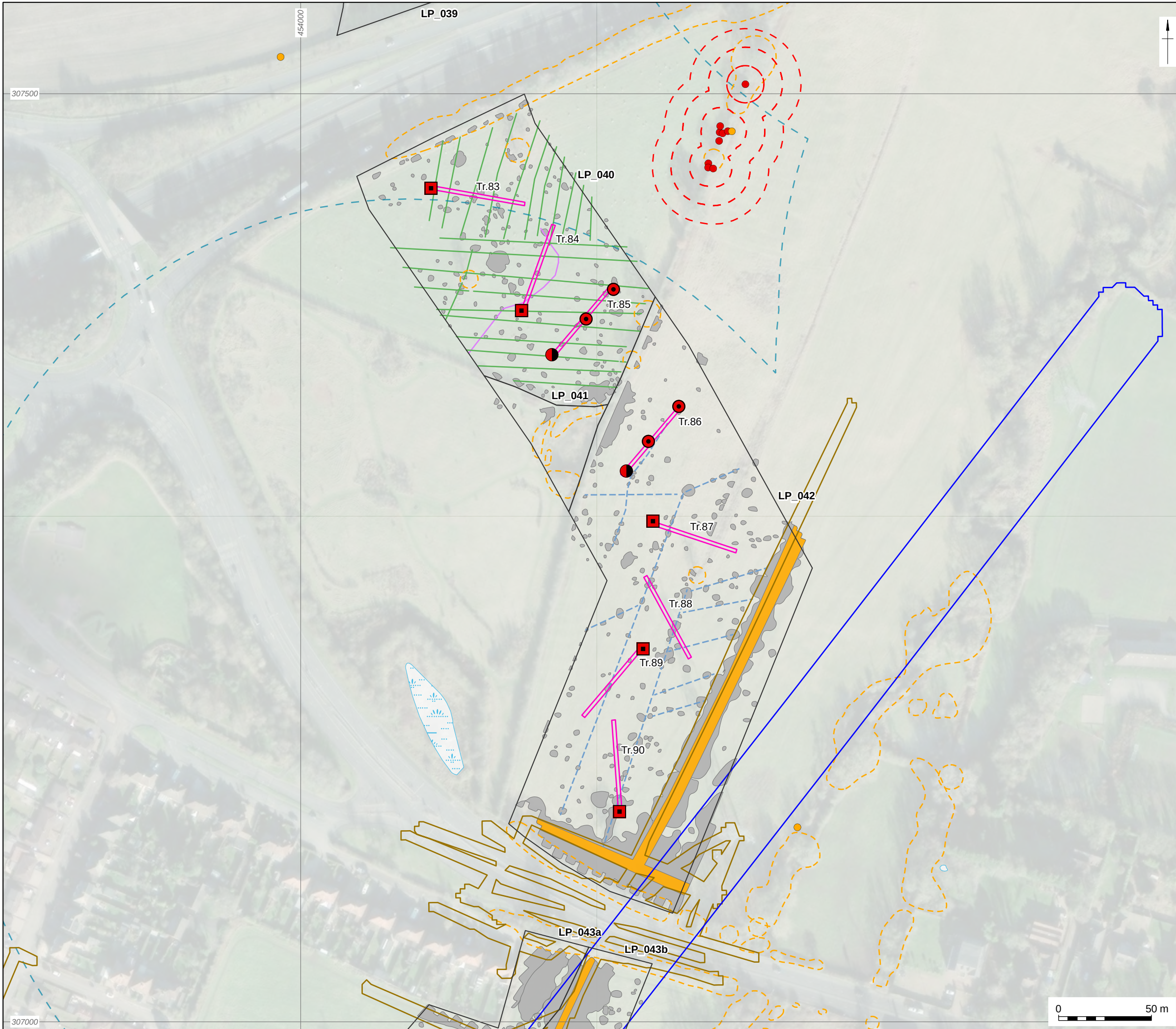
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Scale: 1:2,000 at A3

Revision: 0

Figure 3.11: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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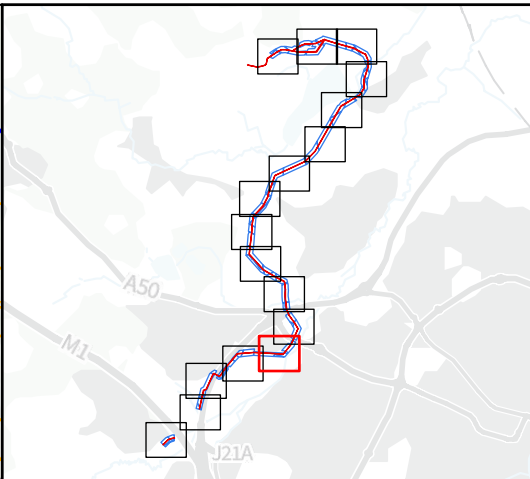
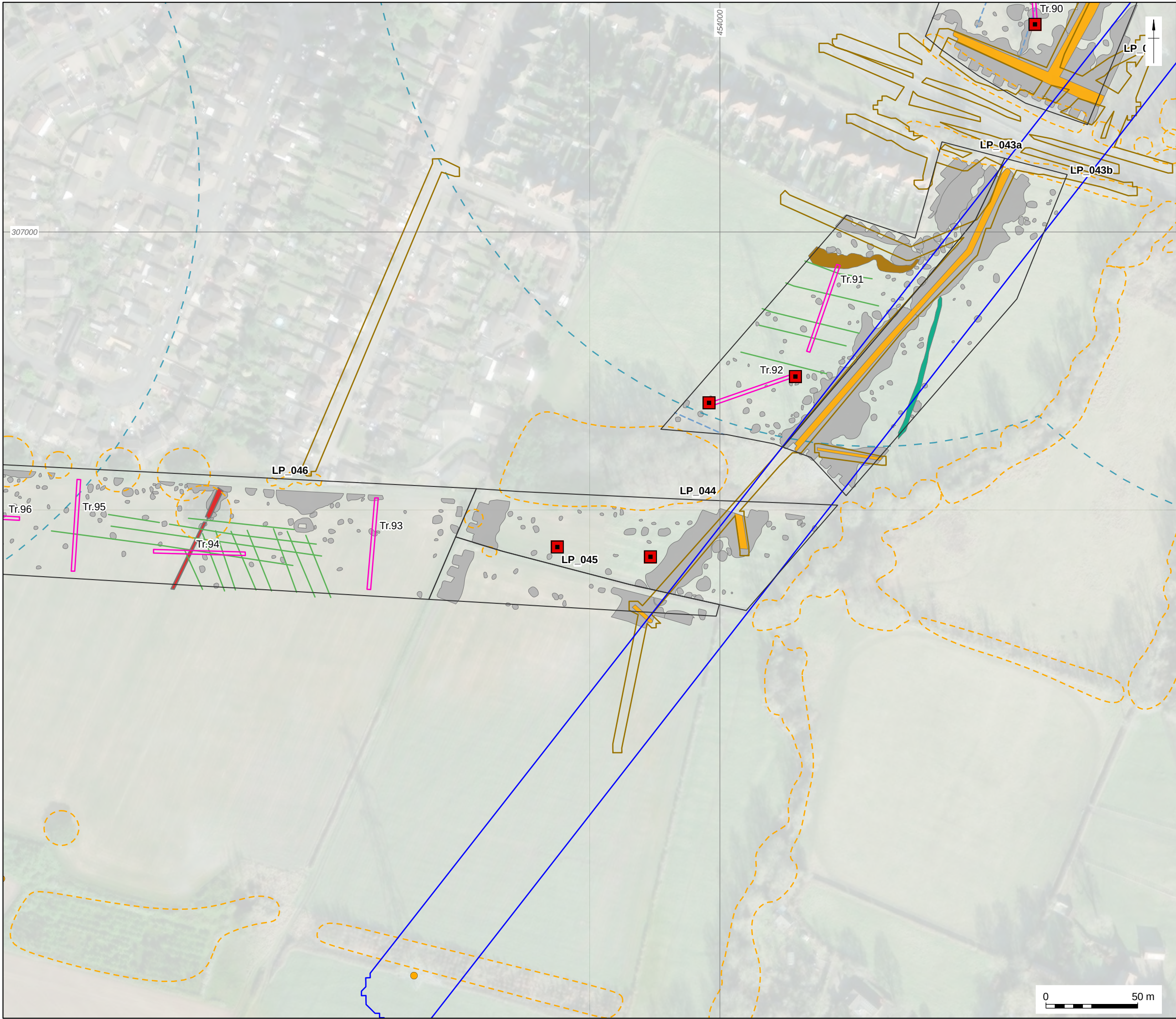
- Land Parcels
- Proposed Evaluation Trench
- Geoarchaeological Interventions
 - Hand-dug Test Pit
 - Hand-dug Test Pit/ Machine Dug Test pit
 - Machine Dug Test Pit
- Utility and constraints
 - Overhead Utility Buffer
 - Underground Utility Buffer
 - RootProtectionZones
 - GCN Ponds Buffer (250m)
 - Active Sett Exclusion Zone
- Badger Sett
- Badger Evidence
- Geophysical Interpretation
 - Historic_cultivation
 - Trend
 - Drain
 - Modern service
 - Ferrous

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Figure 3.12: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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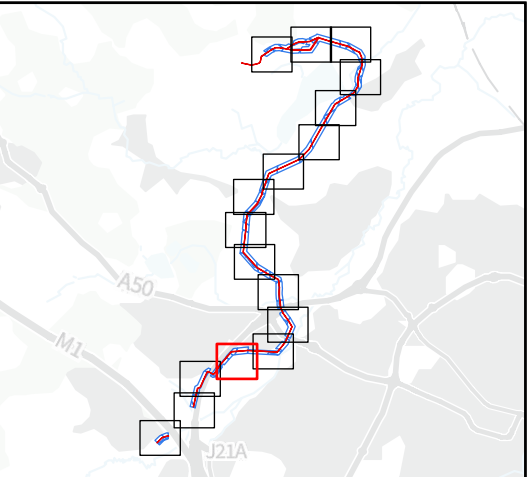
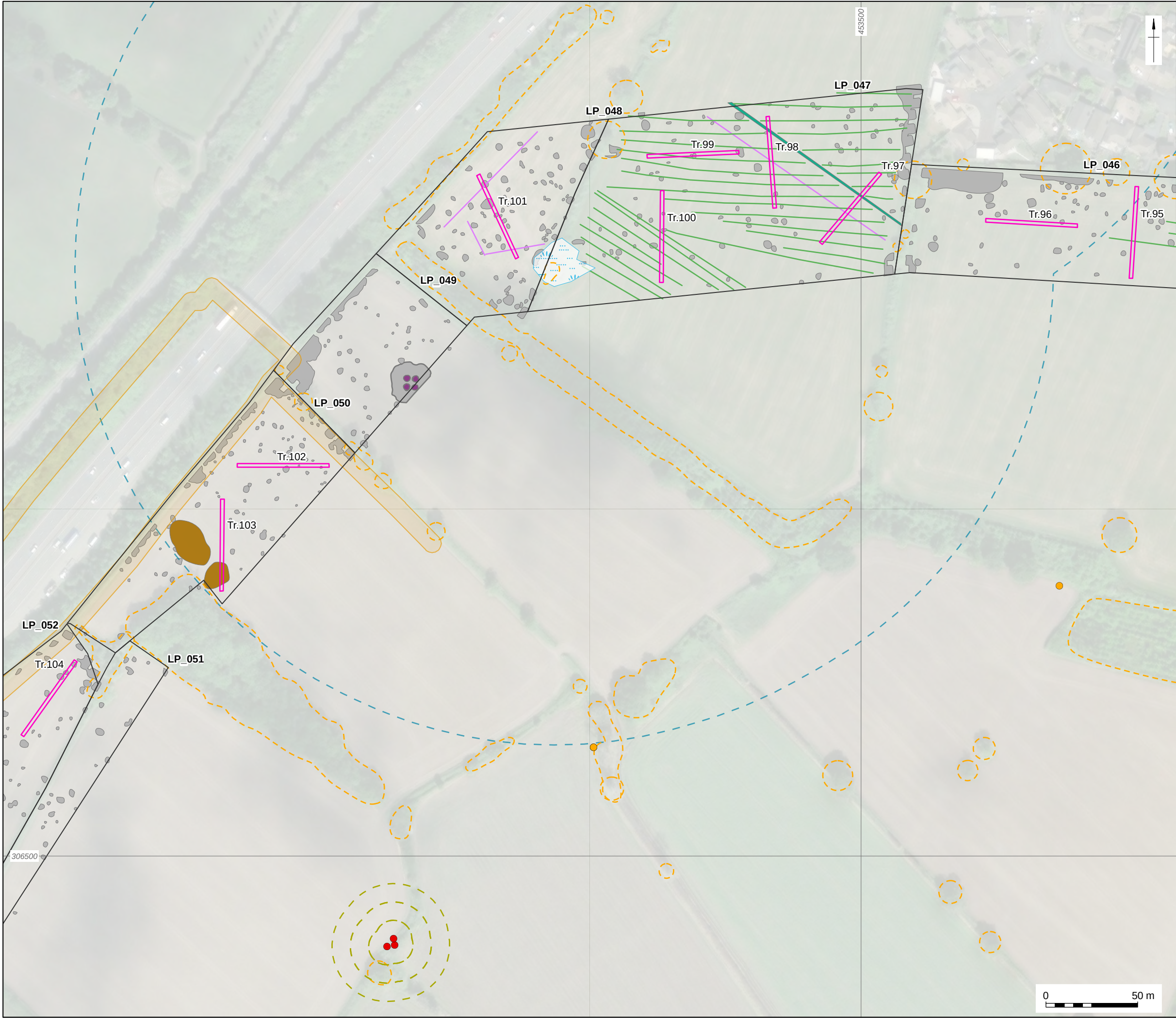
- Land Parcels
- Proposed Evaluation Trench
- Geoarchaeological Interventions
- Machine Dug Test Pit
- Utility and constraints
- Overhead Utility Buffer
- Underground Utility Buffer
- RootProtectionZones
- GCN Ponds Buffer (250m)
- Badger Evidence
- Geophysical Interpretation
- Historic_cultivation
- Drain
- Possible archaeology
- Geology
- Former field boundary
- Modern service
- Ferrous

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Figure 3.13: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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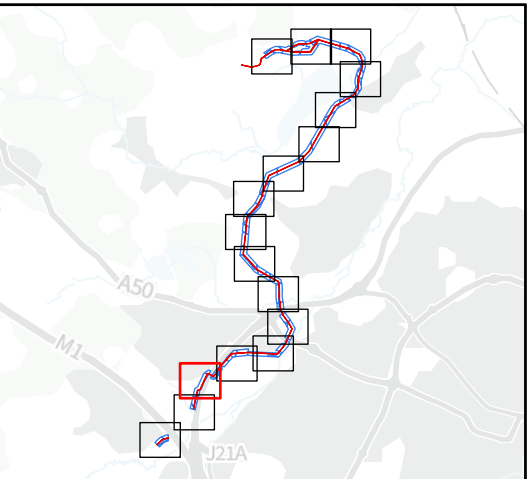
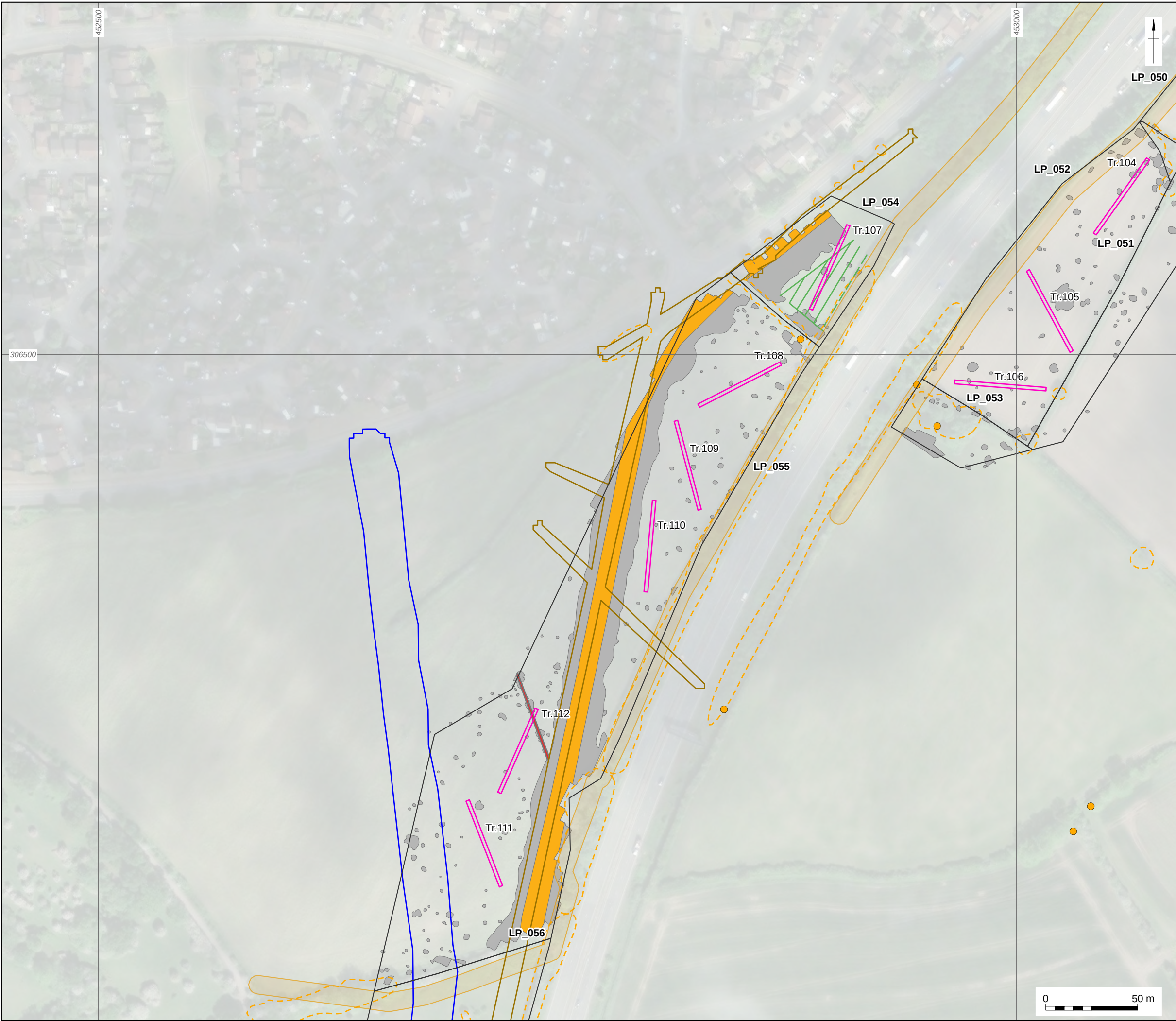


- Land Parcels
- Proposed Evaluation Trench
- Public Right of Way
- RootProtectionZones
- GCN Ponds Buffer (250m)
- Disused Sett Exclusion Zone
- Badger Sett
- Badger Evidence
- Geophysical Interpretation
 - Historic_cultivation
 - Trend
 - Possible archaeology
 - Geology
 - Historic landscape feature
 - Ferrous
 - Increased response

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Figure 3.14: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation



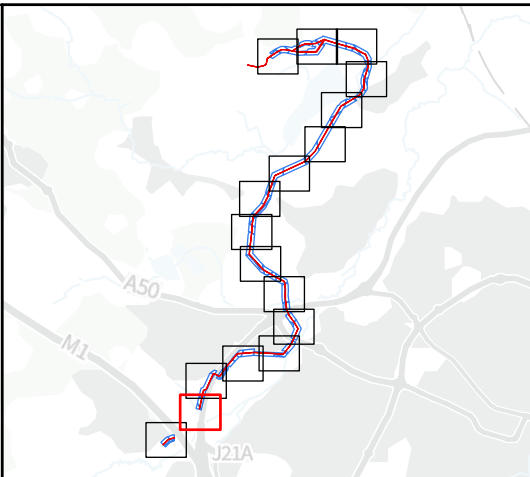
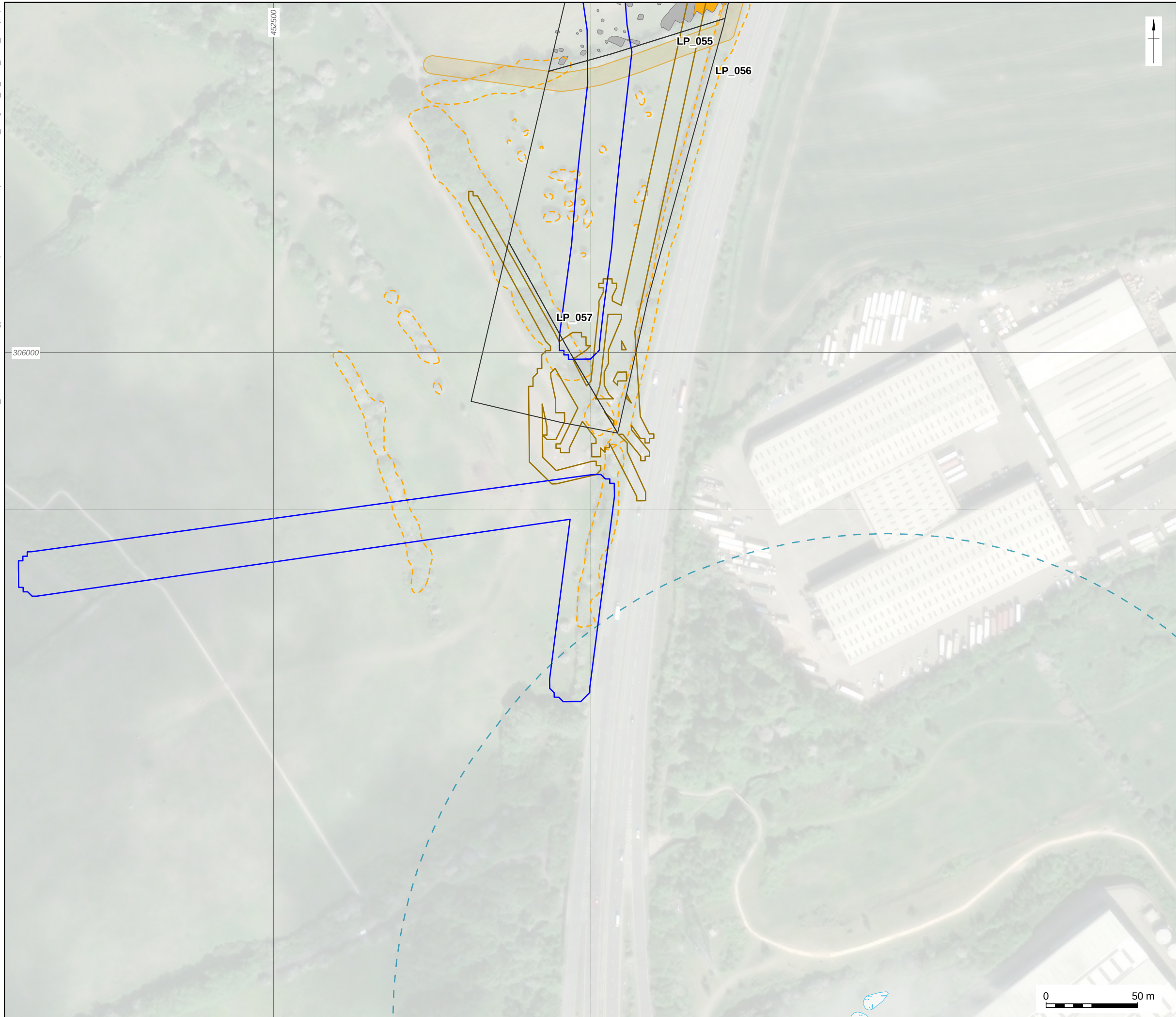
- Land Parcels
- Proposed Evaluation Trench
- Utility and constraints
 - Overhead Utility Buffer
 - Underground Utility Buffer
 - Public Right of Way
 - Public Right of Way
 - RootProtectionZones
 - Badger Evidence
- Geophysical Interpretation
 - Historic_cultivation
 - Former field boundary
 - Modern service
 - Ferrous

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Figure 3.15: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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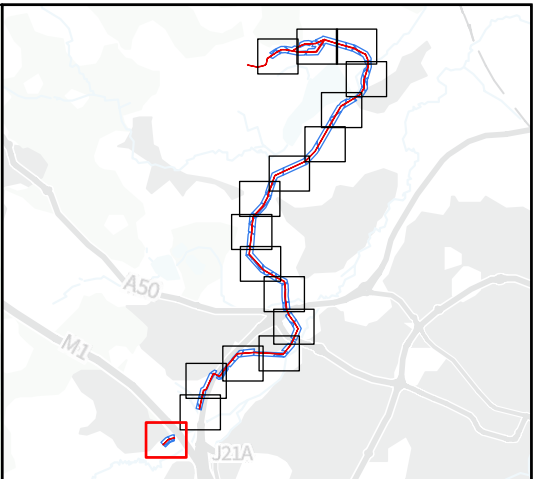
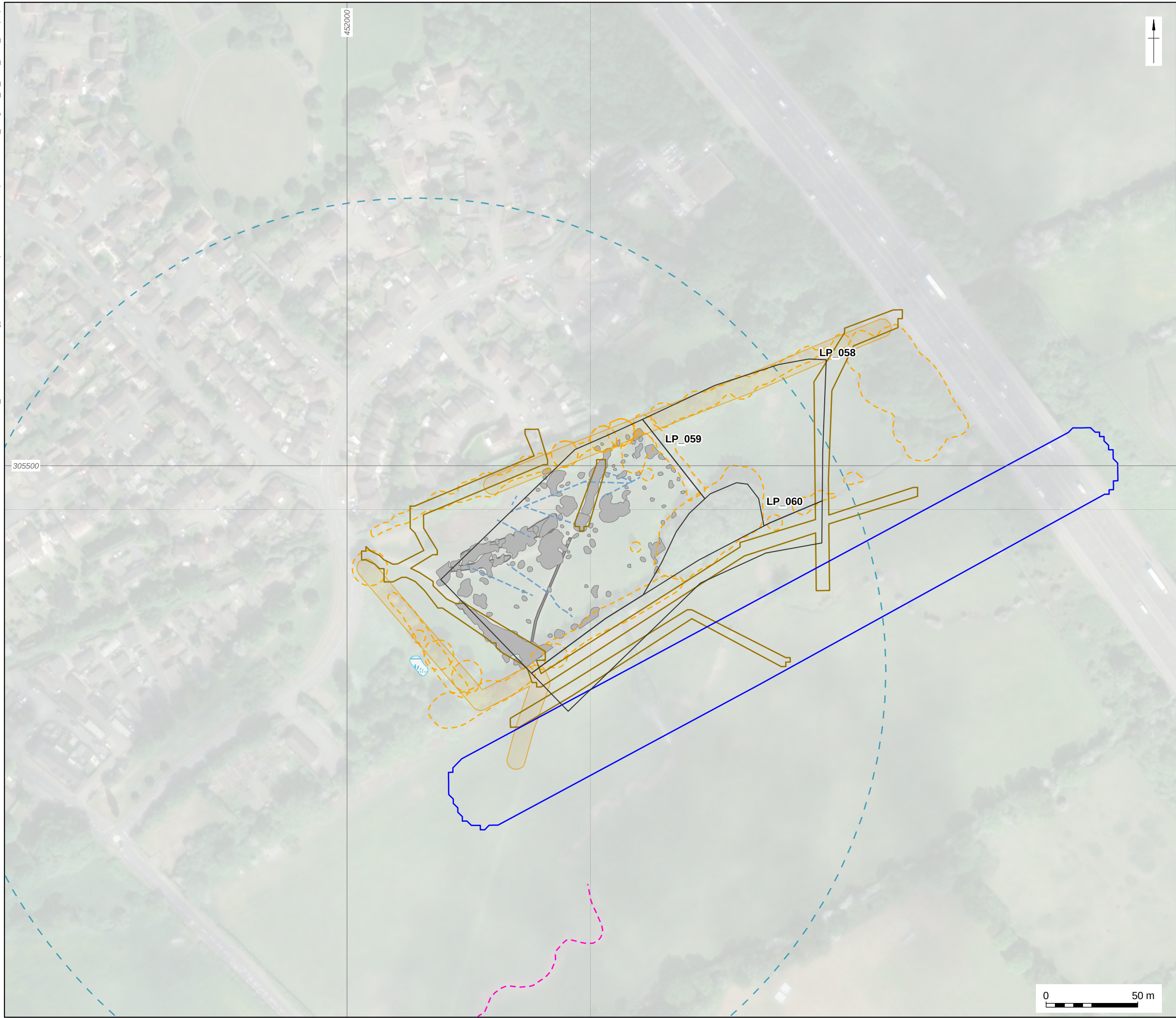
- Land Parcels
- Utility and constraints
 - Overhead Utility Buffer
 - Underground Utility Buffer
 - Public Right of Way
 - RootProtectionZones
 - GCN Ponds Buffer (250m)
 - Modern service
 - Ferrous

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Figure 3.16: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation

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- Land Parcels
- Utility and constraints
 - Overhead Utility Buffer
 - Underground Utility Buffer
 - Public Right of Way
 - RootProtectionZones
 - GCN Ponds Buffer (250m)
 - Drain
 - Ferrous
 - Increased response

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Figure 3.17: Utilities and Constraints, Proposed Archaeological Interventions and Geophysical Survey Interpretation



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