



Bloor Homes / Jelson Homes and Barwood
Land

Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Expansion

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological
Excavation



January 2024

Report for

Bloor Homes / Jelson Homes & Barwood Land

Main contributors

Craig Stewart
Katie Pitt

Issued by

pp

Astbury, David
(UKDXA778)

Digitally signed by Astbury, David
(UKDXA778)
DN: cn=Astbury, David (UKDXA
778), ou=Active, email=david.
astbury@wsp.com,
Date: 2024.01.12 09:37:08

Craig Stewart

Approved by Pitt, Katie (
UKKXP778)

Digitally signed by Pitt, Katie (
UKKXP778)
DN: cn=Pitt, Katie (UKKXP778),
ou=Active, email=katie.pitt@wsp.
com
Date: 2024.01.12 09:29:02

Katie Pitt

WSP

Amber Court
William Armstrong Drive
Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7YQ
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)191 226 2000

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Executive summary

Purpose of this report

This report has been produced for the purpose of setting out archaeological mitigation measures on a proposed residential development. Bloor Homes / Jelson Homes and Barwood Land are seeking outline planning permission (21/01511/OUT and 23/00330/OUT) from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) for a residential led mixed-use development on land at Weavers Fields, located to the east and south-east of Earl Shilton, Leicestershire (the 'Site'). The Site extends to 64.2 hectares (ha) and forms most of the land allocated as Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) by HBBC.

Geophysical survey and targeted trial trenching schemes have been completed within the Site in 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2013. Further pre-determination trial trenching was completed in August to October 2022, following comments of Leicestershire County Council Historic & Natural Environment Team (LCC), who advise HBBC, on the planning applications. In response to the survey results, Leicestershire County Council Historic & Natural Environment Team, who advise HBBC, have recommended that targeted archaeological excavation will be required as a condition of any planning permission granted.

This WSI defines the requirement of the archaeological targeted excavation mitigation proposed, aimed at preserving by record the most significant archaeological remains present as determined by the field evaluation.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Scope of proposed works

- 1.1.1 Bloor Homes / Jelson Homes and Barwood Land are seeking outline planning permission (21/01511/OUT and 23/00330/OUT) from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) for a residential led mixed-use development on land at Weavers Fields, located to the east and south-east of Earl Shilton, Leicestershire (the 'Site'). The Site extends to 64.2 hectares (ha) and forms most of the land allocated as a Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) by HBBC.
- 1.1.2 Geophysical survey and targeted trial trenching had been completed within the site in 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2013. Further pre-determination trial trenching was completed in August to October 2022 following comments of Leicestershire County Council Historic & Natural Environment Team (LCC), who advise HBBC, on the planning applications. In response to the survey results, Leicestershire County Council Historic & Natural Environment Team, who advise HBBC, have recommended that targeted area archaeological excavation will be required as a condition of any planning permission granted.

1.2 Site Description

- 1.2.1 The Site is generally level ground at c.98 m AOD, located on geological superficial deposits of Thrussington Member – Diamicton, with mudstone bedrock¹.
- 1.2.2 The Site currently comprises predominantly arable farmland with boundary native hedgerows and intermittent hedgerow trees. It is split into two distinctive parcels: north and south of Mill Lane. Existing playing fields are located in the north-west corner of the parcel south of Mill Lane (on the south-eastern outskirts of Earl Shilton) along with a children's play area. A Severn Trent Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) is adjacent to the Site and is accessed separately from Mill Lane.
- 1.2.3 South of Mill Lane, the Site is bound to the north and west by the outskirts of Earl Shilton (comprising mostly residential development), and to the south and east by the A47 bypass ('Clicker's Way'). The A47 provides a bypass around the towns of Hinckley and Earl Shilton and runs from the A5 to the west to Leicester in the east. North of Mill Lane, the Site is bound to the west by the outskirts of Earl Shilton, to the north by Thurlaston Lane, and to the east by the A47. Land use beyond the A47 to the south and east predominantly comprises open arable agricultural land interspersed by isolated farmsteads and villages such as Huncote, Stoney Stanton and Croft. Croft Quarry (granite) is also a major feature in the landscape to the east of the Site, beyond the M69 which runs south-west to north-east between the M6 and M1 motorways.

1.3 Proposed Development

- 1.3.1 The Proposed Development comprises residential and employment development together with areas of formal and informal strategic public open space and landscaping. The Proposed Development comprises up to 1,500 dwellings, with up to 5.3 ha of space for business uses, local centre and a primary school, together with strategic infrastructure

¹ British Geological Survey (2021). Geology of Britain Viewer (Online). Available at <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/> (Accessed September 2023).

including green space, with all other Matters Reserved apart from strategic vehicular access.

2. Legislation and Policy Context

2.1 Legislation

- 2.1.1 The importance of the historic environment is recognised in legislation as well as national and local policy. Certain features that are deemed to be of particular importance are given legal protection through legislation. The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979² provides for a schedule of monuments which are protected.
- 2.1.2 Similarly, the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990³ provides for the definition and protection of listed buildings and conservation areas. Section 66 of the Act places a duty on the determining authority to have special regard to the desirability of preserving a listed building and its setting in considering whether to grant permission for development which affects these. Section 72 involves a similar duty concerning conservation areas when considering development proposals within them.

2.2 National Planning Policy

- 2.2.1 Non-designated heritage assets as well as those designated under the above acts are given protection under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)⁴. Provision for the historic environment is given principally in Section 16 of the NPPF, which directs Local Planning Authorities to set out "a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats". It should be recognised that "these assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance". This requirement is framed by a presumption in favour of sustainable development and the policy recognises that the historic environment has a role to play in promoting healthy and safe communities (section 8) and protecting Green Belt land (section 13).
- 2.2.2 The principle of proportionally defining a site's potential is given in paragraph 194:
- 'In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.'*

² UK Government (1979). Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. (Online) Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46/pdfs/ukpga_19790046_en.pdf (Accessed September 2023).

³ UK Government (1990). Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. (Online) Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/9/contents> (Accessed September 2023).

⁴ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2023) National Planning Policy Framework (online). Available at: [National Planning Policy Framework \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/115114/NPPF_2023.pdf) (Accessed December 2023).

2.3 Local planning policy

2.3.1 The Hinckley and Bosworth Core Strategy⁵ (adopted July 2009) contains objectives relevant to the historic environment, as follows:

- Spatial Objective 10: Natural Environment and Cultural Assets:
 - ▶ *'To deliver a linked network of green infrastructure, enhancing and protecting the borough's distinctive landscapes, woodlands, geology, archaeological heritage and biodiversity and encourage its understanding, appreciation, maintenance and development.'*
- Spatial Objective 11: Built Environment and Townscape Character:
 - ▶ *'To safeguard, enhance and where necessary regenerate the borough's distinctive built environment including its wider setting particularly that associated with Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and historic industries.'*

⁵ Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (2009). Local Development Framework Core Strategy. Adopted December 2009. (Online) Available at: https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/downloads/file/487/core_strategy_adopted_document (Accessed September 2023).

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 Previous Archaeological Surveys

- 3.1.1 Previous archaeological work includes two archaeological desk studies: the first by CGMS for land north of Mill Lane in 2007 and the second by Nexus Archaeology for land south of Mill Lane in 2010. Both reports concluded that the Site had archaeological potential. These are detailed below in **Table 2.1**.

Table 2.1 Previous Desk Based Assessments

Report	Conclusions
CGMS, 2007 Archaeological Desk Based Assessment. Land at Thurlaston Lane, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire⁶	This report is related to the area of land north of Mill Lane. It concluded that the Site had potential for the sub-surface archaeological remains to survive within it, particularly those relating to the Roman period. It suggested that a programme of geophysical survey should be commissioned to further define the archaeological potential of the Site.
Nexus Heritage, 2010. Land at Earl Shilton, Leicestershire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment⁷	This report focuses on the area south of Mill Lane. It concluded that the potential for sub-surface archaeological remains relating to the Prehistoric and Roman periods would likely be encountered on the Site. The report notes a 'moderate' potential for Saxon/Early medieval remains, medieval remains and post-medieval archaeological remains.

- 3.1.2 Two programmes of geophysical survey were subsequently undertaken across the Site. The land to the north of Mill Lane was surveyed in June 2008 by Stratascan. The larger portion of the Site south of Mill Lane was surveyed in October 2012 by Northamptonshire Archaeology. Based on the results of the geophysical works, both reports concluded that the site had areas where sub-surface archaeological remains were probable, as shown from the geophysical anomalies recorded. The conclusions are shown below in **Table 2.2**.

Table 2.2 Geophysical Surveys within The Site

Report	Conclusions
Stratascan. 2008. Geophysical Survey Report: Thurlaston Lane, Earl Shilton⁸	Surveyed the land to the north of Mill Lane. The survey showed the presence of a series of linear anomalies interpreted as possible former ridge and furrow surviving on a generally north-south alignment. In addition, the survey identified a number of areas of possible sub-surface archaeological remains, including a circular feature, a rectilinear anomaly, various possible linear features, and a possible earthwork.

⁶ CgMs Consulting. (2007). Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land at Thurlaston Lane, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire. Unpublished Technical Report.

⁷ Nexus Heritage (2010). Land at Earl Shilton, Leicestershire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment Unpublished Technical Report No: 30 3041.R01.

⁸ Stratascan. (2008). Geophysical Survey Report: Thurlaston Lane, Earl Shilton. Report No. J2475. Unpublished Technical Report.

Report	Conclusions
Northamptonshire Archaeology. 2012. Archaeological Geophysical Survey of Land to the South-East of Earl Shilton, Leicestershire⁹	Surveyed the land to the south of Mill Lane. The geophysical survey results show evidence of ridge and furrow in most of the fields as well as a number of former field boundaries. In addition, the survey identified four areas of possible sub-surface archaeological remains.

- 3.1.3 Evaluation trenching was undertaken across the Site following, and targeting, the results of the geophysical surveys. The land to the north of Mill Lane was excavated in 2010 by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS). South of Mill Lane, evaluation trenching was carried out by Headland Archaeology in 2013 and Museum of London Archaeology in 2022. The conclusions of the trenching are summarised in **Table 2.3**. In addition, targeted archaeological excavations¹⁰ were undertaken during 2020 to the immediate north of the Site, which recorded Iron Age field systems and segment of driveway.

Table 2.3 Evaluation trenching completed within the Site

Report	Conclusions
ULAS. 2010. An Archaeological Evaluation of land between Thurlaston Lane and Mill Lane, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire.¹¹	The evaluation comprised a 2% area sample of 26 trenches which targeted geophysical anomalies as well as testing blank areas. Twelve trenches produced evidence for archaeological remains from the Iron Age, Roman and medieval periods.
Headland Archaeology, 2013. Land to the South-East of Earl Shilton, Leicestershire: Archaeological Excavation.¹²	The evaluation comprised 33 trenches, less than a 2% area sample, that revealed archaeological remains in 19 trenches from several periods. The most significant remains date to the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age. The majority of these remains were located in the north-eastern area of the survey.
Museum of London Archaeology, 2022. Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Earl Shilton SUE, Leicestershire.¹³	In 2022 LCC requested further trial trenching to increase the sample size to 2% across the Site, and to build upon previous assessments in order to determine as far as reasonably possible the extent, character and significance of any archaeological remains within the Site. The aim was to gain enough information to inform LCC's decisions on further mitigation requirements, in response to the impacts of the proposed development. 73 trial trenches were undertaken, of which 11 trenches revealed post-medieval ridge and furrow

⁹ Northamptonshire Archaeology. (2012). Archaeological Geophysical Survey of Land to the South-East of Earl Shilton, Leicestershire October to November 2012. Unpublished Technical Report No. 12/199.

¹⁰ ULAS (2020). An Archaeological Excavation of Land south of Thurlaston Lane, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire. Unpublished Technical Report.

¹¹ ULAS (2010). An Archaeological Evaluation of land between Thurlaston Lane and Mill Lane, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire. Unpublished Technical Report.

¹² Headland Archaeology, (2013). Land to the South-East of Earl Shilton, Leicestershire: Archaeological Evaluation.

¹³ Museum of London Archaeology, (2022). Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Earl Shilton SUE, Leicestershire.

Report	Conclusions
	cultivation, and 10 trenches recorded modern ditches and very low-density undated features.

3.2 Identified Mitigation Requirements

- 3.2.1 LCC has recommended that prior to the impact of development upon the identified heritage asset(s) there should be an appropriate programme of archaeological excavation and recording of the areas of archaeological interest identified by the successive phases of evaluation. This is in line with planning policy regarding the treatment of non-designated heritage assets in the development process as articulated in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 205¹⁴.
- 3.2.2 Pursuant to this, LCC has identified five indicative areas of archaeological interest as intended points of focus for archaeological mitigation using the results of the 2010 and 2013 phases of trial trenching. These are illustrated in **Appendix A, Figure 1**. The results of the 2022 trenching have established large areas within the site have little to no potential for archaeological remains. Where concentrations of archaeology are present, it is appropriate that provision is made for them to be recorded to adhere to the NPPF.
- 3.2.3 The five indicative areas of archaeological interest identified by LCC are as follows:
- Area 1: Iron Age enclosure (1a), medieval mill mound (1b), prehistoric ring ditch (1c);
 - Area 2: Dense area of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity;
 - Area 3: Pit with burnt stone (3a) and posthole (3b);
 - Area 4: Prehistoric pit with lithics, undated ditch (4a) and stone axe spot find (4b);
 - Area 5: Undated pit and ditch terminus (5a and 5b) and undated ditch (5c).

¹⁴ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (December 2023) National Planning Policy Framework (online). Available at: [National Planning Policy Framework \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/123456/nppf-2023.pdf) (Accessed December 2023).

4. Programme of Archaeological Works

- 4.1.1 This WSI sets out the draft method of archaeological mitigation that will be attached to each separate planning condition and enable its complete discharge. It covers the details of the areas and methods of excavation, the research objectives, monitoring, reporting and archiving. It will be agreed in discussion with LCC and will be submitted for approval to the LPA.
- 4.1.2 In this instance, a programme of targeted excavation is considered to be a proportionate and appropriate mitigation. This method is suitable because the remains identified: -
- are of local / regional significance;
 - do not appear to be the focus of settlement or high level of activity; and
 - do not have specific potential to address major research questions.
- 4.1.3 The targeted excavation is referred to as the 'excavation' from this point forward in this document.

4.2 Project aims

- 4.2.1 The purpose of excavation is to provide sufficient record of the archaeological remains present that are likely to be lost as a result of development and to successfully fulfil the planning condition.
- 4.2.2 All work shall comply with ClfA standards¹⁵, MoRPHE¹⁶, local authority requirements and current health and safety regulations.

4.3 Project roles

- 4.3.1 The developer or their nominated agent will appoint a suitably qualified archaeological organisation (archaeological contractor) to undertake the fieldwork and produce the final report. Selection should ideally include ClfA registered companies who have worked in the region and are familiar with local archaeological issues.
- 4.3.2 It is recommended that the work will be carried out under the overall archaeological supervision of an Archaeological Clerk of Works (ACoW) who will be responsible for liaising with the archaeological contractor, developer and local authority.
- 4.3.3 Any change in scope of this written scheme of investigation will be agreed with the client, and LCC.
- 4.3.4 All persons involved in archaeological work on the site will adhere to the Codes of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) and all relevant health and safety requirements.

¹⁵ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2023). *Standard for Archaeological Excavation and Universal Guidance for archaeological excavation*. Available at <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa>

¹⁶ Historic England (2015) *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/morphe-project-managers-guide/>

4.4 Project Timetable

- 4.4.1 The archaeological contractor shall provide a detailed project timetable that shall be approved by the ACoW and the LCC Council's Senior Planning Archaeologist prior to commencement of works.

4.5 Project Staff

- 4.5.1 The archaeological contractor, whom must demonstrate suitable levels of expertise, such as being a CfA Registered Organisation, shall provide a detailed method statement providing evidence of how the requirements of this WSI will be addressed, along with CVs including levels of individual CfA membership of all staff who are to work on the project, to LCC's Senior Planning Archaeologist. All staff must be suitably qualified and have sufficient demonstrable experience.

4.6 Pre-commencement requirements

- 4.6.1 Prior to commencement of excavations, the archaeological contractor will:
- Seek information on existing services, contaminated ground and protected species restrictions for the site;
 - Accept the accession number for the project, X.A6.2024, that has been obtained from Leicestershire Museums Service. This number must be clearly shown on the cover of all reports and documentation relating to this project as well and being marked on all small finds;
 - Submit for approval by the ACoW and LCC Council's Senior Planning Archaeologist a method statement that fulfils the requirements and objectives of this WSI;
 - Submit for review by the ACoW their Risk Assessment and Management (RAMS) report for the works; and
 - Create an OASIS online record and key fields completed (location, organisation etc.).

4.7 Research Objectives

- 4.7.1 The project design, fieldwork and final report should feed into research questions posed in the East Midlands Historic Environment Regional Research Framework¹⁷ (EMHERF). The following research questions are found to be relevant to the associated areas of interest:
- Area 1: Iron Age enclosure (1a) and medieval mill mound (1b);
 - ▶ Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age settlements (4.3), question 4.3.2: *"What can we deduce about the morphology, spatial extent and functions of settlements, and in particular the processes underlying the development in some areas of enclosed occupation or activity foci?"*
 - ▶ Middle Iron Age settlements (4.4), question 4.4.1: *"Why were settlements increasingly enclosed during this period and to what extent may the progress of enclosure have varied regionally?"*

¹⁷ EMHERF 2022 *East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework*, available at <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/researchframeworks/eastmidlands/wiki/Roman> Objectives (last accessed 6th September 2023)

- ▶ Field Systems and major linear boundaries (4.6), questions 4.6.1: *“Can we shed further light upon the development of field and boundary systems?”*, and 4.6.3: *“What may we deduce from studies of linear boundaries with respect to changes in the agrarian landscape?”*
- ▶ High Medieval, The Agrarian Landscape and Food Producing Economy (7.7), question 7.6.4: *“Can we develop a typological classification of buildings associated with medieval industrial and commercial activities and can we identify sub-regional and chronological patterning?”*
- Area 2: Dense area of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity;
 - ▶ Site visibility, prospection and landscape exploration (4.2), question 4.2.1: *What mechanisms may underlie intra-regional variations in site densities?*
 - ▶ Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age settlements (4.3), question 4.3.2: *“What can we deduce about the morphology, spatial extent and functions of settlements, and in particular the processes underlying the development in some areas of enclosed occupation or activity foci?”*
 - ▶ Social Relations and Society (4.10), question 4.10.1: *“What social and economic roles may open and enclosed sites have performed, and may the progression in some areas from open to enclosed settlements imply the development of less mobile societies?”*
 - ▶ Social Relations and Society (4.10), question 4.10.2: *“What may further analyses of burials and of settlement architecture and morphology contribute to studies of social and political organisation?”*
 - ▶ Social Relations and Society (4.10), question 4.10.3: *“How can we better understand the nature of the transition from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age and the socio-political changes of the later Iron Age?”*
- Area 4; Prehistoric pit with lithics, undated ditch, Neolithic stone axe find spot;
 - ▶ Settlement Patterns (3.5), question 3.5.1: *“How may we characterise more effectively the frequently ephemeral structural traces that might relate to settlement activity?”*
 - ▶ Settlement Patterns (3.5), question 3.5.2: *“Can we obtain a clearer understanding of temporal and spatial variability in the duration of settlement activity?”*

4.8 Targeted excavation

- 4.8.1 Using the combined output from the geophysics, trial trenching and liaison with LCC it is proposed to target the areas containing the greatest density of known features. This is within five areas of archaeological interest within the development area, as shown in **Appendix A, Figure 1**.
- 4.8.2 It has been confirmed that no monitoring or recording will be required across the remainder of the site beyond the agreed limits of the targeted excavation areas and their associated contingency areas.
- 4.8.3 The targeted excavation areas are listed in **Table 4.1** and respect known services and ecological constraints, which will be re-checked prior to any excavations. The targeted excavation areas encompass an area c. 19,335m² and, based on the evaluation, the typical topsoil and subsoil depth over this area is 0.35m. It is therefore anticipated that approximately 6767³m of spoil shall be stripped. The archaeological contractor will provide details of soil storage and management.

Table 4.1 Targeted Excavation Areas

Targeted Excavation	Subject	Excavation Area m ²	25% Contingency m ²
1a	Iron Age enclosure	5,885	1471
1b	Medieval mill mound	1,955	488
1c	Area of prehistoric ring ditch	1,300	325
2	Dense area of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity	4,065	1,016
3a	Pit with burnt stone	464	116
3b	Undated posthole	595	148
4a	Prehistoric pit with lithics, undated ditch	3,008	752
4b	Stone axe spot find	400	100
5a	Undated pit	600	150
5b	Undated ditch terminus	502	125
5c	Undated ditch	561	140
		Total: 19,335	Total: 4,831

4.8.4 A targeted 25% contingency (4,831m² in total) of stripping will be available for each area (as listed in **Table 4.1**) should significant archaeology that cannot be sufficiently characterised and recorded extend beyond the original excavation boundaries. The implementation of this contingency must be agreed between the client, LCC Council's Senior Planning Archaeologist and the ACoW.

4.8.5 Minimum requirements are as follows:

- All plant will be procured by the archaeological contractor unless supplied by the client;
- Topsoil and subsoil will be removed by mechanical excavator, under archaeological supervision, using a toothless grading bucket and top and subsoil shall be stored separately;
- The surface of the natural shall be cleaned where appropriate to clearly see any archaeological features;
- Features immediately visible shall be planned;
- The cleaned surface shall be allowed to weather for 48 hours and any further features revealed shall be planned;
- A survey of all features will be carried out using GNSS. All survey data will be recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn).

- A review of the planned features shall be made, and a programme of sample excavation agreed;
- Sampling shall target:
 - ▶ Feature intersections to establish stratigraphic sequence
 - ▶ Features likely to provide maximum evidential information
- Sampling shall be based on the following:
 - ▶ Enclosure ditches 50%
 - ▶ Field boundaries 10%
 - ▶ Pits 50% -100%
 - ▶ Burials – 100%
 - ▶ Structures – 100%
- Context records for individual layers, deposits and features, and registers for small finds and soil samples will be kept according to the archaeological contractors own recording system;
- Photographic records shall be made of all features, deposits and significant in situ finds identified on site. All photos will contain a north arrow and be catalogued on a photographic register. Photography will be film and digital, however the latter must be at least 12MP, and taken in RAW and jpg file format. TIFF files will be used for the project digital archive. Standard monochrome photography will be required for the project physical archive;
- All exposed surfaces and spoil shall be scanned with a metal detector operated by an experienced user, and all diagnostic finds recorded and retained;
- Site and feature levels will be taken across the excavation area and shall be tied to Ordnance Datum;

Finds

- 4.8.6 If any human remains are encountered during the course of fieldwork, the coroner will be informed and a licence for exhumation obtained from the Ministry of Justice. It is essential that the ACoW, the client and LCC Council's Senior Planning Archaeologist be notified. Human remains are to remain in situ unless damage or desecration may occur, or where analysis of the remains are deemed crucial to the aims of the excavation;
- 4.8.7 All finds deemed to be potential treasure trove will be held in a secure location and the coroner informed in line with the Treasure Act 1996;
- 4.8.8 All finds will be retained on site, the archaeological contractor must provide a post excavation disposal policy that shall be agreed with ACoW and the LCC Council Senior Planning Archaeologist;
- 4.8.9 All finds suitable for washing and cleaning will be done so, and marked with the unique site code previously obtained from the LCC HER;
- 4.8.10 Finds work will comply with current ClfA standards (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014); and
- 4.8.11 The archaeological contractor must supply a list and CV of finds specialists that may be called upon during the course of this project.

Environmental sampling

- 4.8.12 The archaeological contractor shall provide the name and CV of the person or organisation responsible for the collection and analysis of any environmental remains recovered on site. Should unexpected and complex remains be encountered the Historic England regional science advisor for the Midlands will be consulted and asked to visit the site.
- 4.8.13 Prior to commencement of fieldwork the archaeological contractor will provide details of their environmental strategy for approval by the ACoW and the LCC Council's Senior Planning Archaeologist.
- 4.8.14 Environmental sampling, assessment and reporting shall comply with current standards¹⁸ (English Heritage, 2011).

Site monitoring

- 4.8.15 An agreed programme of onsite monitoring will be agreed in writing prior to commencement of works, and at least one site meeting will be held with the ACoW and the LCC Senior Planning Archaeologist.
- 4.8.16 The archaeological contractor shall inform the ACoW at the earliest opportunity should unexpected or significant remains be identified, or technical issues, delays or health and safety incidents occur.

4.9 Reporting

- 4.9.1 A draft copy of the excavation report will be submitted to the ACoW within 60 days of completion of fieldwork. The results of the mitigation excavations will be set in context with the results of previous fieldwork in the vicinity.
- 4.9.2 The LCC Council's Senior Planning Archaeologist will be asked to comment on the draft document, with comments required within 21 working days of submission. Note that, should the LCC Council's Senior Planning Archaeologist not get an opportunity to review the report before its submission to support future planning applications it cannot be guaranteed that, in the LCC Council's Senior Planning Archaeologist opinion, that it will be sufficient to meet NPPF para 205.
- 4.9.3 Upon approval a pdf will be provided to the ACoW who will disseminate to all relevant persons and the final approved archival pdf of the report shall be submitted to the LCC HER within 90 days of submission of a formal condition discharge application.
- 4.9.4 As this site is agreed to be of local/regional significance provision for the potential production of a publication report for the county journal Records of Leicestershire shall be included in costings. This should include production of a post-excavation assessment / UPD, though these steps may be omitted subject to subsequent discussion and agreement with the LCC Senior Planning Archaeologist. Documentation produced should also be uploaded to OASIS for inclusion in the ADS Grey Literature Library.

¹⁸ English Heritage (2011). *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (second edition)

4.10 Archive deposition

4.10.1 Upon acceptance of the final report by the ACoW, the project archive will be compiled in accordance with current best practice¹⁹ (Brown, 2007) and in line with *The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire County Council Museum Collections* (Leicestershire County Council, 2014):

- The physical archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Museum Collections;
- The OASIS record previously logged will be completed in full;
- The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS); and
- Proof of archive deposition must be provided to ACoW.

4.11 Insurance

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

4.12 Health and safety

4.12.1 Health and Safety will take priority over all other requirements. A conditional aspect of all archaeological work is both safe access to the area of work and a safe working environment. All works undertaken as part of this project will be in full compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) and all applicable regulations and Codes of Practice and the Construction Design Management.

4.12.2 A risk assessment will be carried out in respect of the archaeological monitoring prior to commencement of the fieldwork and copies sent to the representatives of the client for approval. In addition, a point of work risk assessment will be carried out at the beginning of each working day and any control measures required clearly identified and disseminated to all site staff and visiting persons.

4.12.3 Appropriate welfare facilities will be provided for site staff for the duration of the onsite fieldwork.

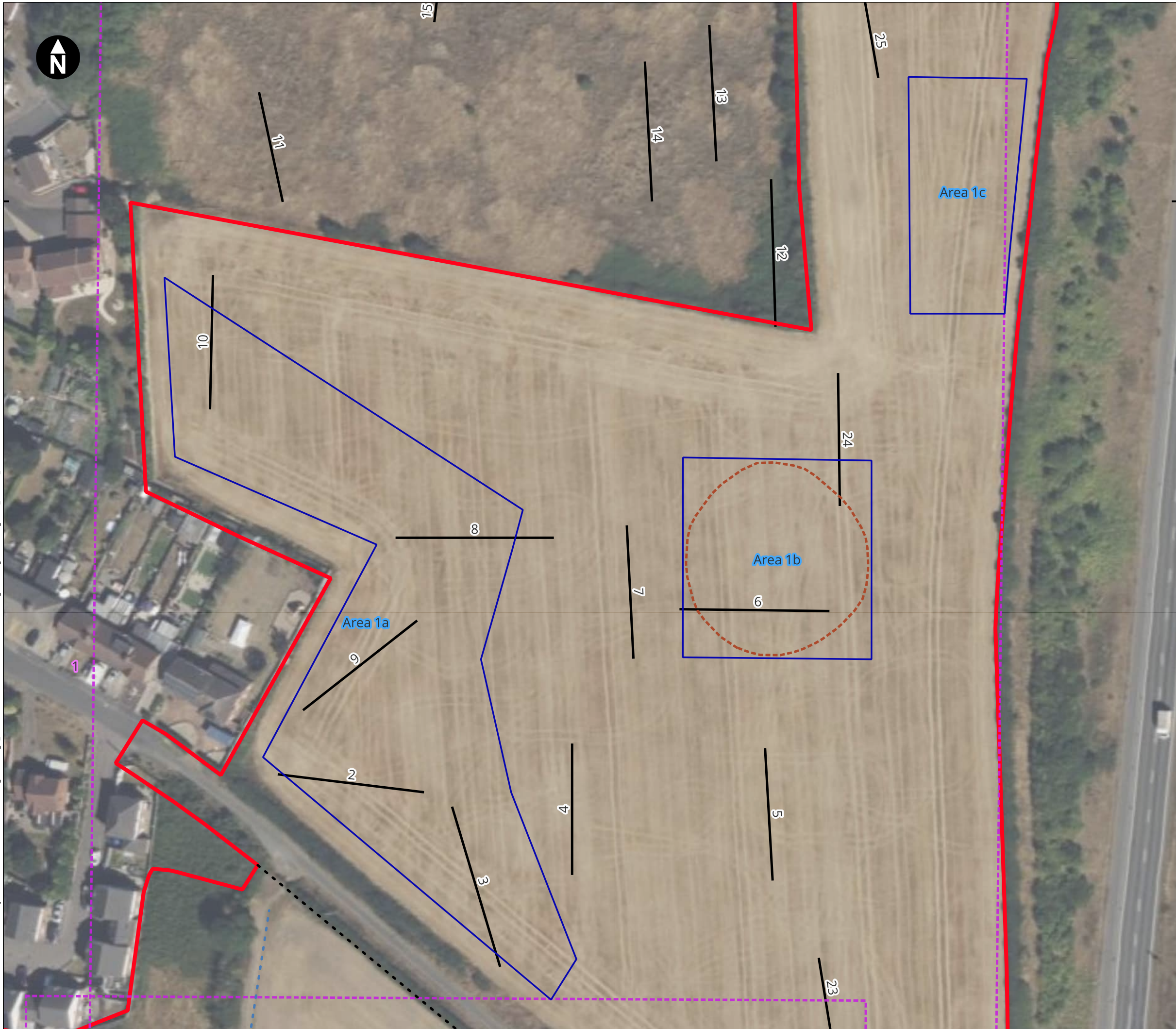
¹⁹ Brown, D. H. (2007). *Archaeological archives*. Reading: Institute of Field Archaeologists.

Appendix A

Proposed targeted excavation areas based on the results of the 2010, 2013 and 2022 archaeological trial trenching surveys

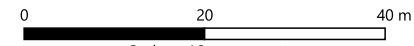
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Key

- Site Boundary
- Area of archaeological interest
- Targeted mitigation excavation area
- Archaeological Evaluation Trench
- Archaeological feature buffer zone
- Public Right of Way
- Service



Scale at A3 1:837.305102

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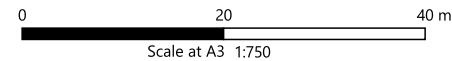
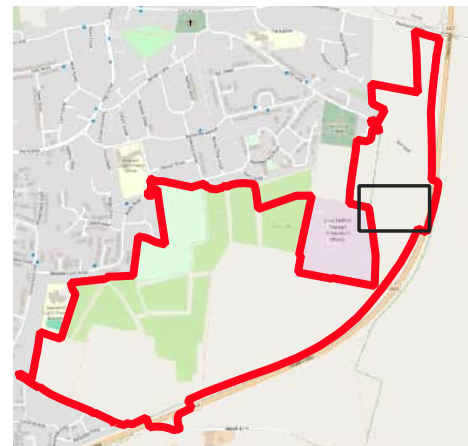
Figure 1a
Targeted mitigation areas: Area 1

December 2023





- Key
- Site Boundary
 - Area of archaeological interest
 - Targeted mitigation excavation area
 - Archaeological Evaluation Trench
 - Archaeological feature buffer zone
 - Public Right of Way
 - Service



Scale at A3 1:750
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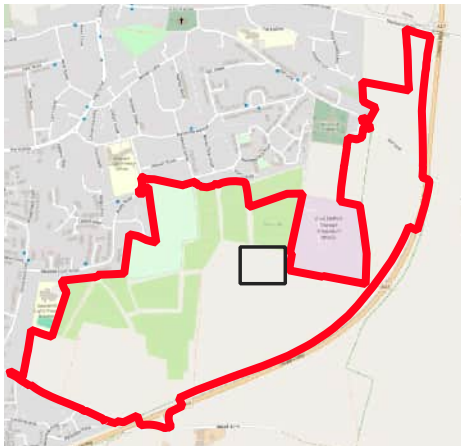
Figure 1b
Targeted mitigation areas: Area 2

December 2023





- Key
- Site Boundary
 - Area of archaeological interest
 - Targeted mitigation excavation area
 - Archaeological Evaluation Trench
 - Archaeological feature buffer zone
 - Public Right of Way
 - Service



0 20 40 m
Scale at A3 1:750

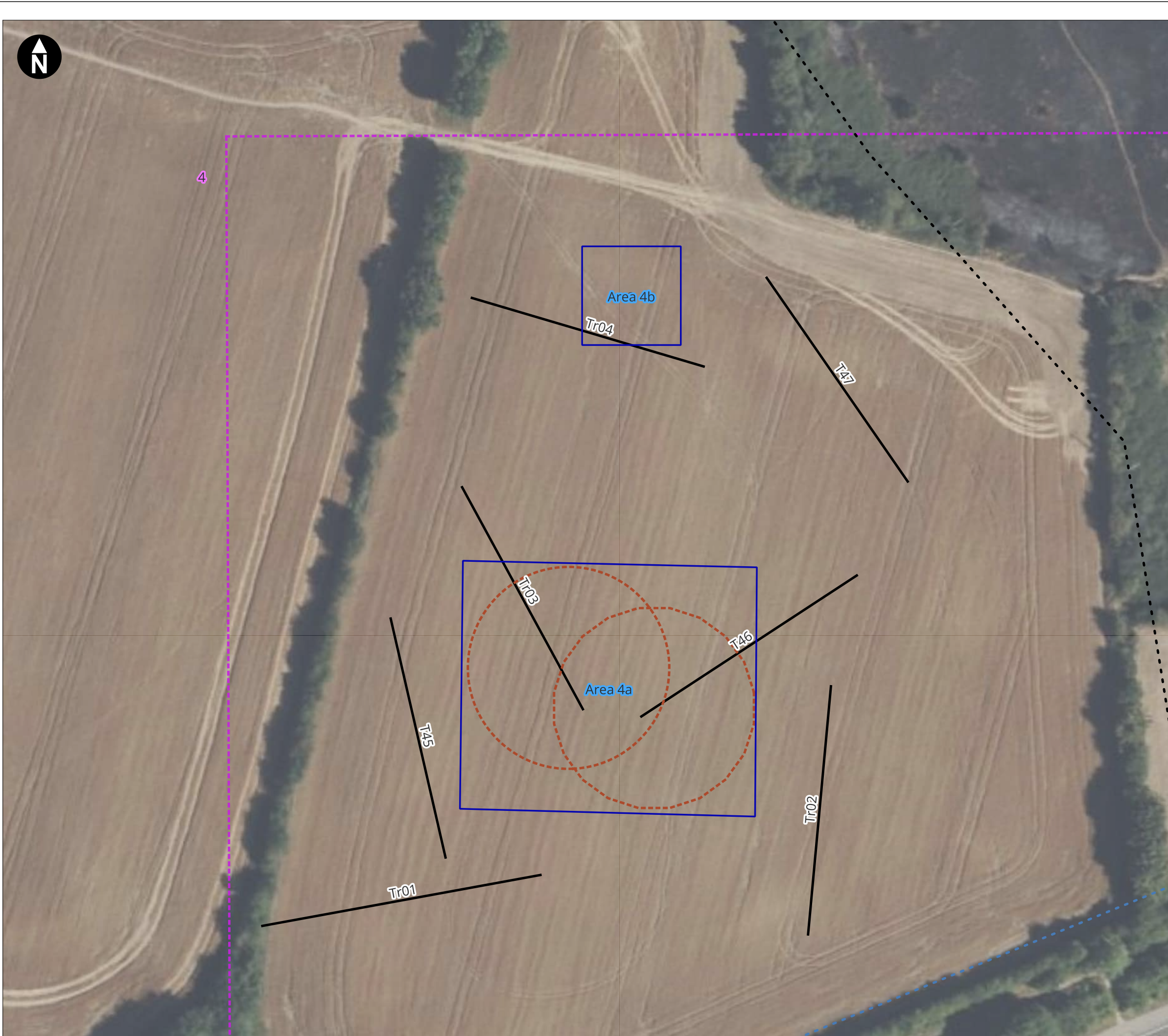
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Figure 1c
Targeted mitigation areas: Area 3

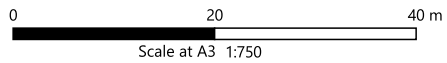
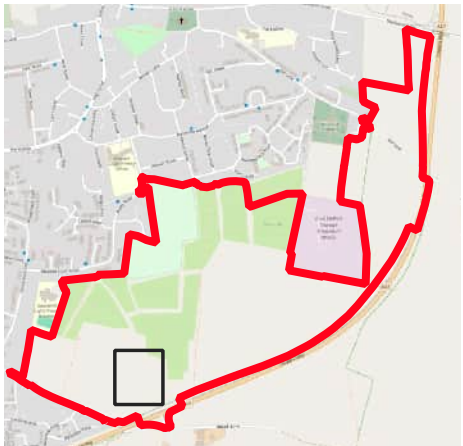
December 2023





Key

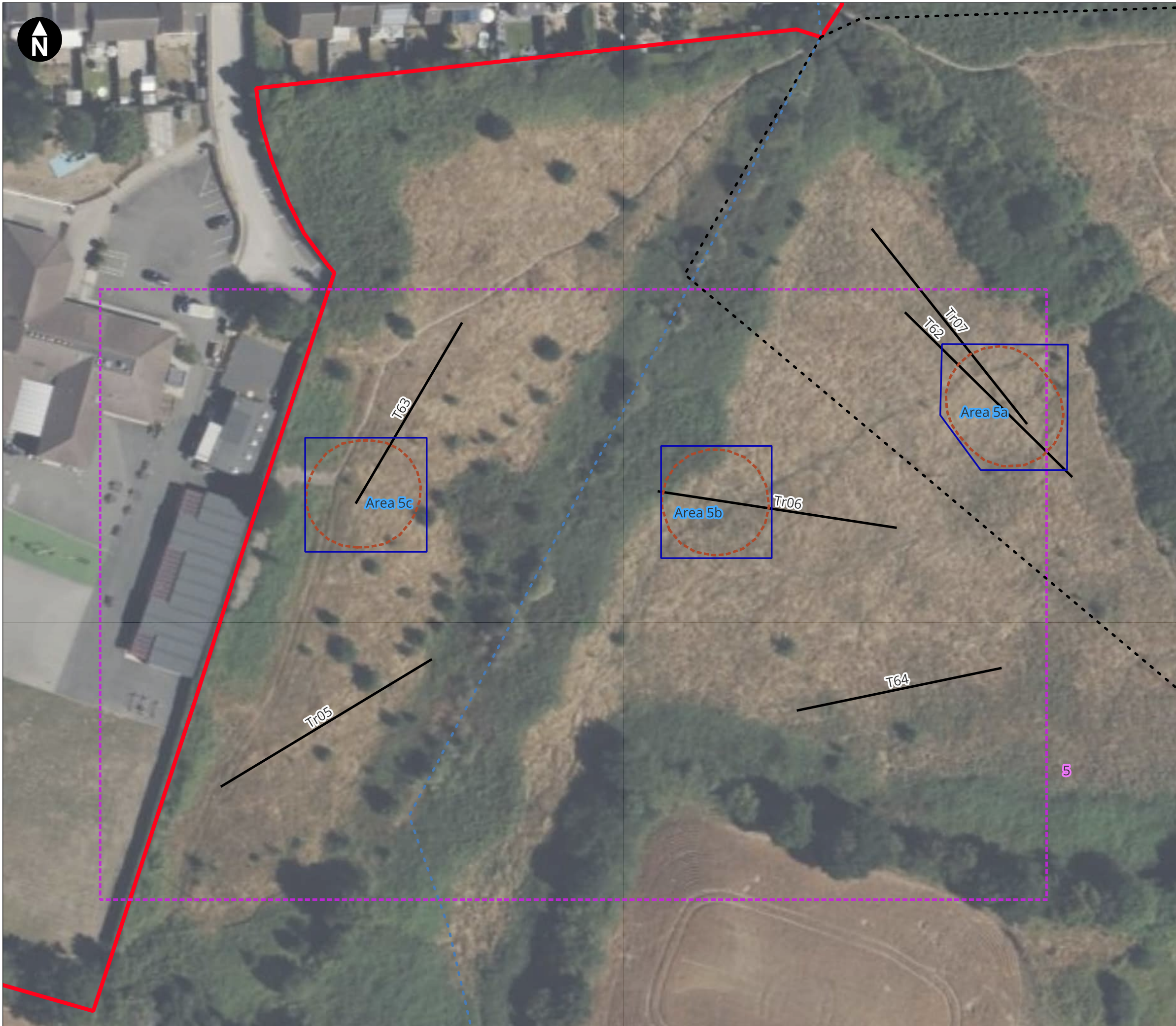
- Site Boundary
- Area of archaeological interest
- Targeted mitigation excavation area
- Archaeological Evaluation Trench
- Archaeological feature buffer zone
- Neolithic axe findspot
- Public Right of Way
- Service



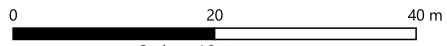
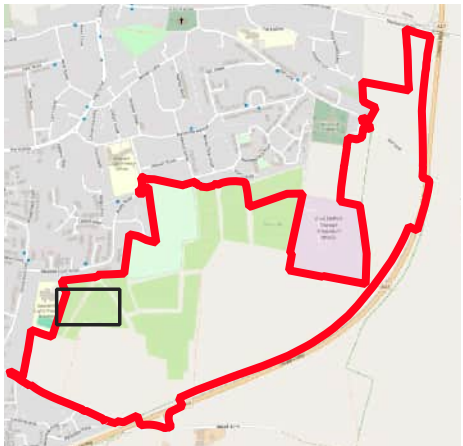
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Figure 1d
Targeted mitigation areas: Area 4



- Key
- Site Boundary
 - Area of archaeological interest
 - Targeted mitigation excavation area
 - Archaeological Evaluation Trench
 - Archaeological feature buffer zone
 - Public Right of Way
 - Service



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Figure 1e
Targeted mitigation areas: Area 5

