

Land at Hook Lane, Pagham, West Sussex,

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

NGR 489554 992020

Arun District Council

ASE Project no. 190049

Site Code: HKL19

October 2019

Prepared by Paul Mason

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Prepared by:	Paul Mason	Project Manager	
Reviewed and approved by:	Jon Sygrave	Project Manager	
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) has been commissioned by Orion Heritage to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land at Hook Lane, Pagham, West Sussex, hereafter 'the site' (centred on NGR 489554 992020; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The site consists of two adjoining arable fields divided by a drain and forming a large wedge-shaped parcel of land on the northern periphery of Pagham. It is bounded by Seftor Road to the north, Hook Lane to the east and Pagham Road to the west (Figure 2).
- 1.3 According to the latest data available from the British Geological Survey the underlying bedrock geology at the site is London Clay Formation (clay silt and sand) with overlying River Terrace Deposits and Raised Beach Deposits; the latter confined to the north-west corner of the site (BGS 2019).
- 1.4 An archaeological desk-based assessment for the site concluded that on the basis of the available evidence it has a low archaeological potential (Orion Heritage 2015).
- 1.5 The site is subject to proposals for residential development (P/6/17/OUT).
- 1.6 This document represents a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological evaluation of the site. It has been prepared in accordance with relevant Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a; 2014b; 2014c). All work will be reported upon in line with guidelines set out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE; Historic England 2015). It will be submitted to all parties for approval prior to the commencement of work at the site.
- 1.7 All work will be carried out in accordance with the *Sussex Archaeological Standards* (WSCC, ESCC, CDC 2019) which outlines the methodology to be used in the field, and in reporting and archiving of the results. The project will be managed by Paul Mason (Project Manager) and by Jim Stevenson (Post-Excavation Manager).
- 1.8 In the event that archaeological remains are found during the course of the evaluation, further archaeological mitigation may be required. Any such work would be subject to a separate Written Scheme of Investigation.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Geological mapping suggests that north-western corner of the study site contains raised beach deposits. Such geological deposits can have Palaeolithic remains/deposits associated with them.
- 2.2 The earliest remains recorded in proximity of the site is a single Neolithic stone axe c. 100m to the east of the site's north eastern corner. There are a number of flint blades and a core rejuvenation flake c. 500m to the west of the site. Sherds of Bronze Age pottery have been recorded c. 500m to the south-west of the site.
- 2.3 The only Roman remains recorded in the vicinity of the site are an almost complete Roman flagon and a rim of another flagon c. 500m to the west.

- 2.4 There are no records of medieval remains in the vicinity of the site.
- 2.5 The earliest map that shows the site in any detail at a reasonable and reliable scale is Yeakell & Gardners Map of Sussex (1778) which shows the site as comprising a number of agricultural fields. The site is depicted as a number of fields on a plan of the Manor of Pagham dated 1786 and this approximate arrangement is shown on the 1847 Pagham Tithe map.
- 2.6 The 1880 first edition OS map shows that by this time most of the hedgerows within the site had been removed resulting in the site comprising of one large field and two smaller ones at the north end. The site remained unchanged on subsequent OS maps until 1961 by which time the two smaller fields at the northern end of the site had become one field.
- 2.7 An archaeological investigation of a site c. 200m to the west of the north-western end of the site failed to reveal any archaeological remains.

3.0 RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The general objective of the archaeological work is to ensure that any deposits, features, artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest exposed by the evaluation are recorded, interpreted and reported on to appropriate standards and to enable appropriate mitigation methods.
- 3.2 Site-specific research aims are proposed below with reference to the South-East Research Framework (SERF):
- Colonisation and occupation issues: To what degree is the region a crossroads or a backwater in terms of UP and early Mesolithic occupation patterns [SERF, Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic]
 - The evolution of settlement [SERF, Middle Bronze Age/Iron Age]
 - Landscape, environment and settlement evidence [SERF, Roman]
 - An understanding of the multifaceted landscape [SERF, Post-medieval and modern periods]

4.0 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The trial trench evaluation will comprise the excavation of 98 trenches, each measuring 30m x c.2m (Figures 2 and 3). Trench locations may be altered, subject to on-site constraints.
- 4.2 A Risk Assessment will be produced prior to the commencement of the work. The locations of all the trenches will also be checked with a CAT scanner prior to the commencement of excavation.
- 4.3 The trenches will be excavated using a suitable mechanical excavator. The trenches will be excavated through undifferentiated topsoil and modern made ground in spits of no more than 0.10m with artefact recovery taking place

every scrape until archaeological deposits are encountered or the top of the underlying natural sediments reached. The excavator will be fitted with a smooth grading bucket and care will be taken that archaeological deposits are not damaged due to over machining. All machining will stop if significant archaeological deposits are encountered.

- 4.4 Any exposed archaeological deposits will then be cleaned by hand and recorded in plan and section. During the evaluation archaeological features/deposits will be excavated enough to characterise them.
- 4.5 Any finds believed to fall potentially within the statutory definition of Treasure, as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, shall be reported to the Finds Liaison Officer. Should the find's status as treasure be confirmed the Coroner, the landowner and the Archaeological Officer will also be informed. A record shall be provided to the Coroner and to the Archaeological Officer of the date and circumstances of discovery, the identity of the finder, and the exact location of the find(s) (OS map reference to within 1 metre, and find spot(s) marked onto the site plan).
- 4.6 If human remains are found they will be left in situ, covered over and protected. The client and the Archaeological Officer will be informed immediately.

5.0 RECORDING AND ANALYSIS

- 5.1 All recording and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with this document and the Sussex Archaeological Standards unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Archaeological Officer.
- 5.2 The spoil from the excavations will also be inspected by the ASE archaeologist to recover any artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest. A metal detector will be used at regular intervals to scan spoil derived from the excavations and at regular intervals during the excavation of archaeological deposits and features.
- 5.3 The Archaeological Officer will be kept informed of progress and given the opportunity to attend site once all the trenches have been opened.
- 5.4 All archaeological features will be recorded according to standard ASE practice. Where practicable, all features will be planned at 1:20 and section/wall elevation drawings will be at 1:10, unless this is impractical in which case an alternative will be agreed with the Archaeological Officer. Drawings will be on plastic draughting film. Features and deposits will be described on standard pro-forma recording sheets used by ASE. All remains will be levelled with respect to Ordnance Survey datum. A photographic record will be made in digital format, monochrome and colour transparency.
- 5.5 The strategy for sampling archaeological and environmental deposits and structures (which can include soils, timbers, animal bone and human burials) will be developed with reference to Historic England guidelines for environmental archaeology (Historic England 2011) and waterlogged wood and in consultation with the Historic England regional advisor or relevant specialists. Samples will be collected from suitable excavated contexts, including dated/datable buried soils, well-sealed slowly silting features, sealed

hearths, sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, peats, water-logged or cess deposits.

- 5.6 Bulk soil samples (of 40 litres where possible or 100% of the context if smaller) will be taken to target the recovery of plant remains (including wood charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Specialist samples may also be taken to target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), fish and small bone, molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects (in small <20 litre samples) or large mammal bones and marine molluscs (in large samples of ~80-100 litres). When taken, large samples will be extracted wholesale from deposits to maximise the range of bone recovered. As a general rule waterlogged wood specimens will be photographed and recorded in detail in their original location prior to being lifted or sampled for more detailed assessment. Other scientific dating and geoarchaeological techniques will be considered and employed where appropriate. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.

6.0 TREATMENT OF ARTEFACTS AND ECOFACTS

- 6.1 All pottery, bone and worked flint recovered from the excavations will be washed and marked with an appropriate code to identify the site and context. Most ceramic and other building material and burnt flint will be identified, counted, weighed and discarded. Samples will be retained as appropriate. Finds will be bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.
- 6.2 The lithic and ceramic finds will be identified by specialists within Archaeology South-East, and preliminary identification of faunal remains may be undertaken if the nature of the deposits justifies such study. All finds in an unstable condition will be stabilised using passive conservation techniques where appropriate before being deposited with the receiving museum.
- 6.3 Bulk samples will be processed using tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate (such as for waterlogged samples). Waterlogged samples will be wet sieved through nested sieves and stored in wet, cool conditions or dried if considered an appropriate form of conservation for the remains. Flots and wet samples may be subsampled for assessment purposes.
- 6.4 If waterlogged wood specimens are removed from site they will be cleaned, recorded, photographed and a thin section sample will be taken for identification (unless considered detrimental to the artefact preservation or status). These specimens will be stored submerged in water in cool conditions and assessment will establish whether appropriate for conservation. Specialist samples as well as sub-samples of bulk soil samples (taken to recover pollen, parasites, fish and small bone, foraminifera and insects for example) will be sent to appropriate specialists for assessment and analysis.
- 6.5 Provision will be made for obtaining charcoal samples for radiocarbon dating from such archaeological features as structural features (e.g. post holes), hearths, kilns or features that contain good artefactual or ecofactual assemblages.

7.0 REPORTING

- 7.1 Reporting will be undertaken in accordance with the guidelines set out in the *Sussex Archaeological Standards (2019)*.
- 7.2 Within four weeks of the completion of the fieldwork a full report on the results of the field evaluation will be submitted. It will include the local geology and archaeological evidence. It will describe the work undertaken and results of elements described above. It will include a description of archaeological features and tabulated details of finds from each context. A list of environmental samples and any samples taken for dating will also be included. The report will include a plan showing the trench locations. Further plans, sections and photographs of features located and excavated will be included as necessary.
- 7.3 A draft report will be submitted to Orion Heritage in the first instance, then to the Archaeological Officer for approval. Once any necessary changes have been made, the approved final report will be submitted to the client and should be passed to the local planning authority with a further copy submitted to Arun District Council so that the results may be added to the Historic Environment Record. A short summary of the work will be prepared for the relevant local archaeological journal.
- 7.4 A further digital copy of the report (including plans, illustrations and photographs) will be supplied to West Sussex Historic Environment Record on CD-ROM in a .pdfa format.

8.0 PREPARATION AND DEPOSITION OF THE FINDS AND ARCHIVE

- 8.1 The site archive will be assembled in accordance with the guidelines set out in Historic England's Management of Archaeological Projects 2 and in accordance with the guidelines published in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission, 1994).
- 8.2 Artefacts and ecofacts recovered during excavation form an important part of an archaeological site archive. The archive will be deposited in the local receiving museum.

9.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 9.1 A risk assessment for the project will be prepared prior to the commencement of work. All relevant health and safety regulations will be adhered to.

10.0 INSURANCE

- 10.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: employer's liability to the value of £50,000,000 each and every loss, any one occurrence; primary public/products liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate for products liability, with an extension for no-fault

compensation up to £15,000,000 in the aggregate; professional indemnity to the value of £15,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate.

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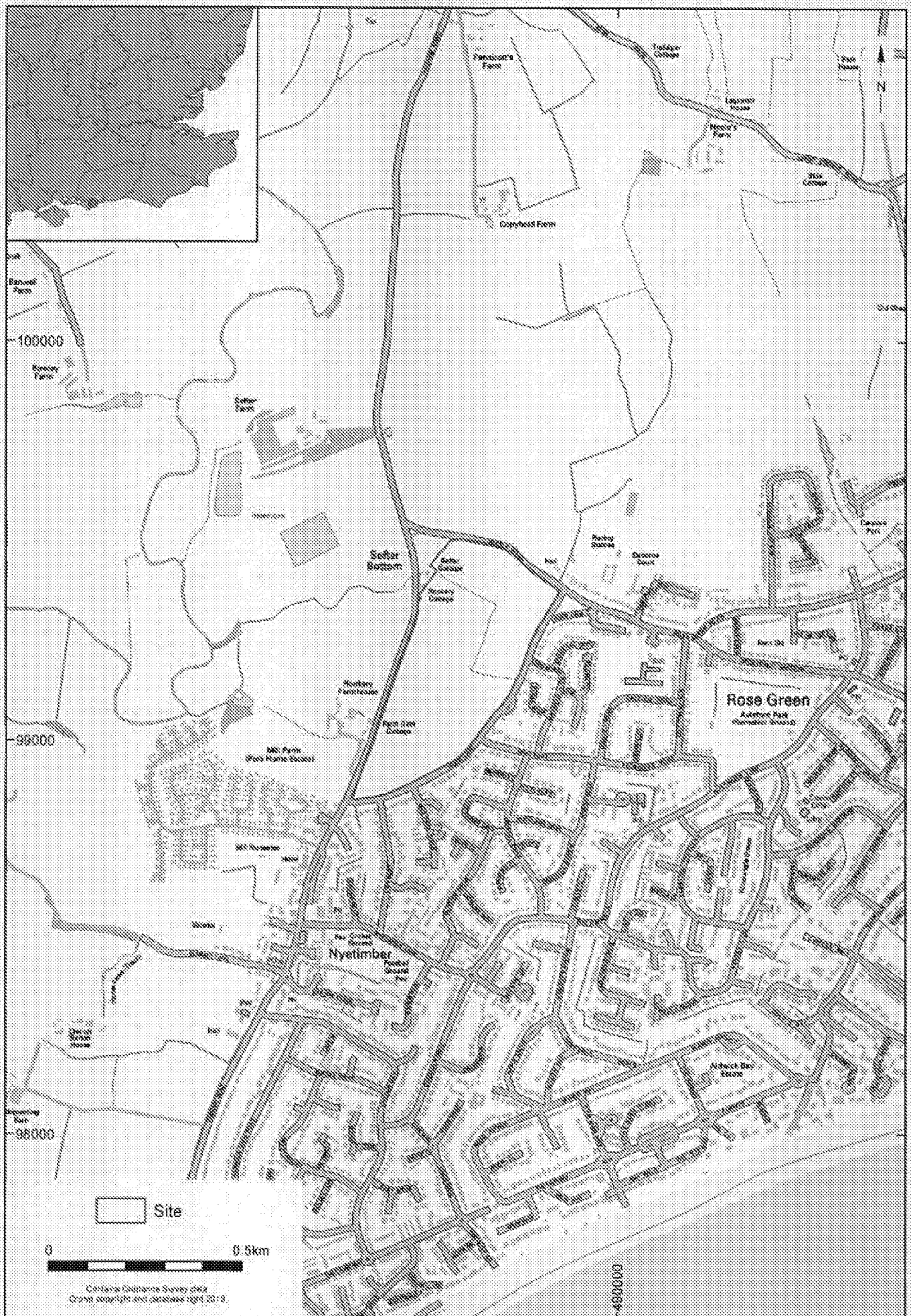
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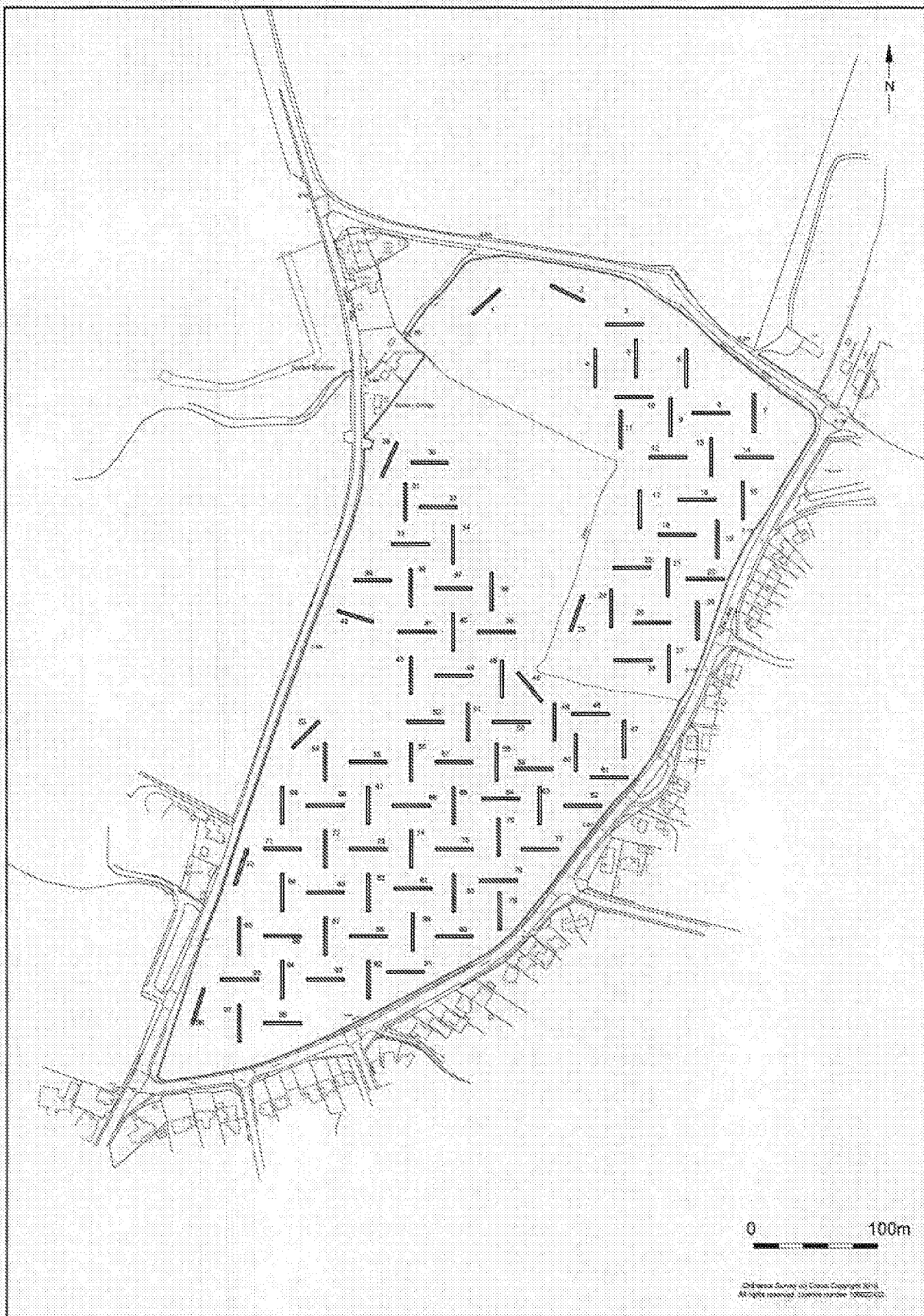
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Hook Lane, Pagham

Site location

Fig. 1



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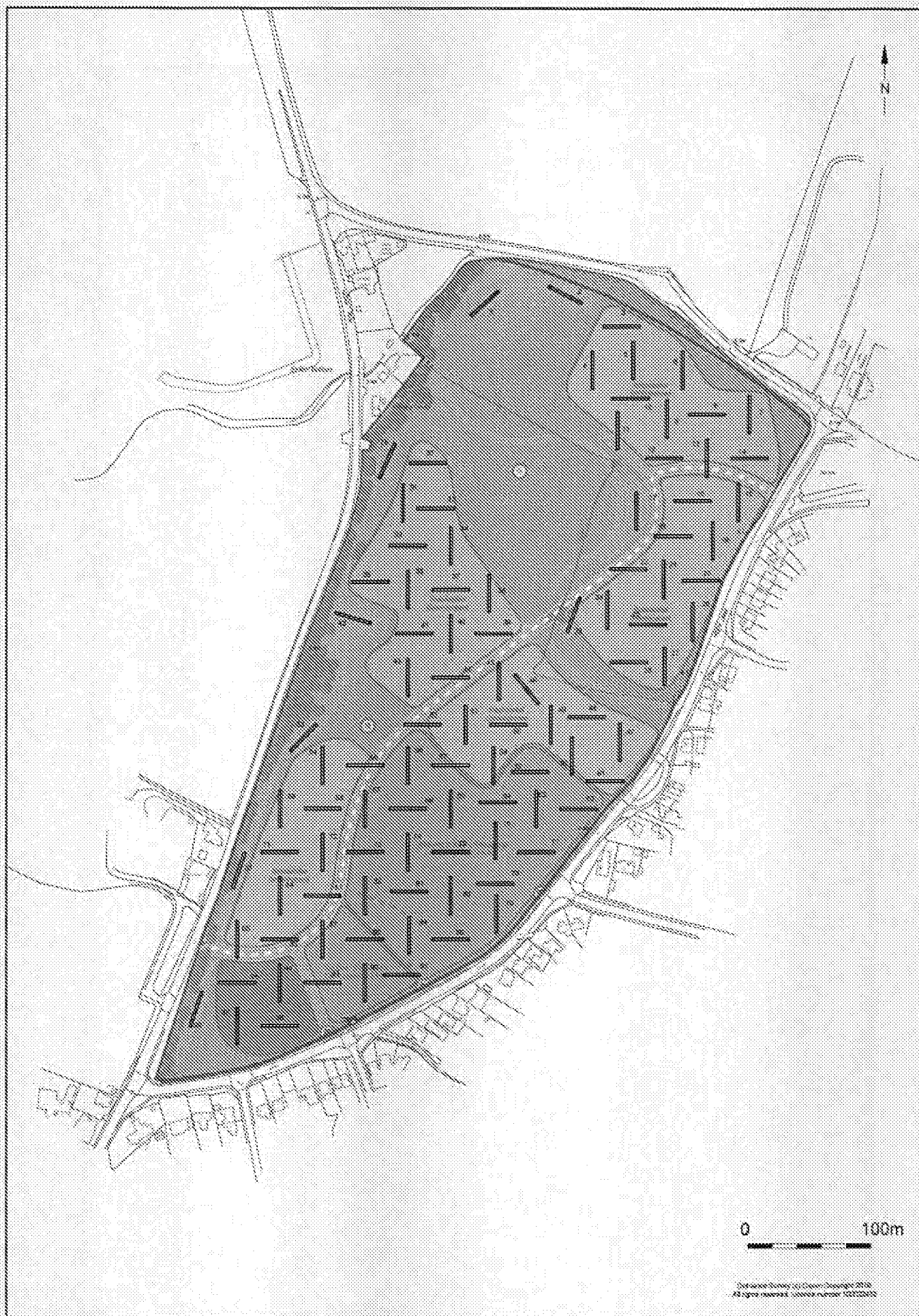
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Trench location

Fig. 2



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Trench location and proposed development

Fig. 3