



HERITAGE CONSULTANCY

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT:
BERVOR CLOSE
PINCHBECK
LINCOLNSHIRE
V1.1**

Prepared For
DC ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

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1. SUMMARY

A desk-based assessment was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of a proposed LNG refuelling station on land east of Bervor Close, Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire.

There are no prehistoric (before AD 43) remains in the assessment area. Only a small quantity of Roman period (AD 43-410) pottery has been found as residual traces in later features. It is considered likely that any potential archaeological remains of these dates are buried at some depth beneath later tidal deposits.

Late Saxon (AD 800-1066) period pottery has been found to the immediate east of the Site, suggesting some use of the higher ground in this area in this period. In the medieval period (AD 1066-1540) field divisions dating to the 13th and 14th century have been identified to the immediate west of the Site. There is a moderate possibility that the field divisions may continue east onto the Site, although no evidence has been found of this in the limited investigations undertaken so far.

In the post-medieval period (AD 1540-1900), maps show that field boundaries change little from the 16th to 20th century. A map from 1620 shows linear features on the Site (either furrows or drainage features) which correspond in orientation to post-medieval ditches found in a trial trench on the Site.

During the modern period (AD 1900 onwards) lidar data shows the north of the field had an increase in height between two scans, suggesting the field may have been used for soils storage or as hard standing during nearby construction works.

About a third of the Site has previously been subject to a magnetometry survey. This revealed two weak anomalies, but they did not match the features found in the trial trench, suggesting the anomalies may have resulted from ephemeral topsoil features. It is not considered likely that further geophysical survey would be useful.

A site visit did not identify any artefacts visible on the land surface.

Due to the past work on the Site, the good understanding of archaeological features in the surrounding area and the precedent that previous successful planning applications on the Site have not had archaeological conditions attached, no further archaeological work is recommended.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Desk-Based Assessment

An archaeological desk-based assessment is defined as 'a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, in the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance; the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets; and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (ClfA 2014).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by DC Architectural Services to undertake a desk-based assessment of east of Bervor Close, Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire. The

assessment was requested in support of a proposed BIO-LNG refuelling station (planning no. H14-0532-26). Part of the Site has previously been geophysically surveyed (Butler 1999) and archaeologically trial trenched (Albone 1999) in connection with a previous planning application. Recently, through a separate planning application (H14-0957-22), permission was granted for the building of commercial units on the Site and no archaeological condition was imposed.

2.3 Site Location

Pinchbeck is located 3km north of Spalding and 20km southwest of Boston, in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire. The site lies at National Grid Reference TF 2566 2527, some 1.4km east of the parish church of St Mary (Fig. 1).

It should be noted that the Site is on the fringe of the modern town of Spalding, which has outgrown its traditional parish boundaries. Consequently, other documents may place the Site in Spalding rather than Pinchbeck, but this document is concerned with the historical situation of the Site and will refer to its location as Pinchbeck throughout.

2.4 Geology and Topography

Local soils are of the Wallasea/Pepperthorpe series, typically peilo-alluvial gely soils or fine silty over clayey alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990). These soils are developed on tidal flat deposits of clay and silt which in turn seals a solid geology of Oxford Clay Formation mudstone (BGS 2026).

The Site has previously been evaluated by archaeologists, but the report published does not describe the deposits encountered in detail (Albone 1999). From photographs and sections, it appears that 0.3m of dark topsoil overlay approximately 0.7m of light brown silt. Excavations nearby record 2.2m of such silt with occasional grey clay laminations (Ridsdale and Palmer-Brown 1998), typical of periodic inundations.

The Site occupies approximately 0.5ha. Heights are in the region of 2.7m AOD. This was formerly flat, but lidar data from 2022 shows slightly higher ground (up to 4m) to the north possibly where former construction storage was sited. A substantial north-south aligned roddon lies 260m east of the Site, associated with the River Welland, which is today 610m east of the Site.

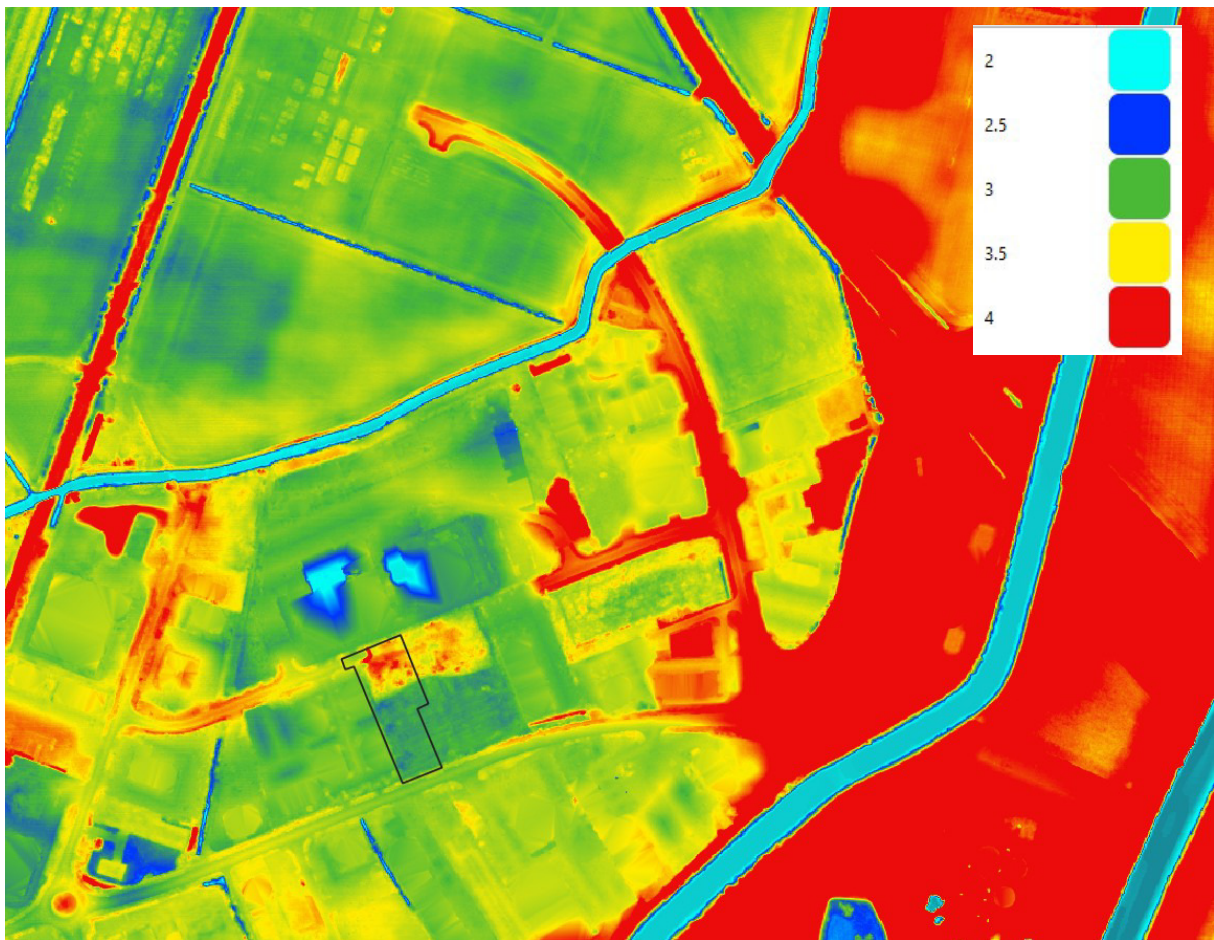


Plate 1. Lidar height map of the site. Heights in metres OD. © DEFRA 2022. 1m DTM.

3. AIMS

The purpose of the desk-based assessment is to obtain information about the known and potential archaeological resource of the assessment area. In addition to the above, statutory and advisory heritage constraints are identified.

4. METHODS

In the following text, the term *Site* refers to the limits of the application Site and the *Assessment Area* comprises an area of 1km radius from the edge of the application Site.

The research undertaken in the compilation of this archaeological desk-based assessment involved the examination of all available sources relevant to the Site and the immediate surrounding area. These sources consisted of:

- Historical documents, held in the Lincolnshire Archives.
- Enclosure and other maps and plans held in the Lincolnshire Archives.
- Recent and early edition Ordnance Survey (OS) maps.
- The Historic Environment Record, located at Lincolnshire County Council.
- Archaeological and historical books and journals.
- Aerial photographs
- Lidar data
- Previous archaeological work conducted at the Site, comprising a geophysical survey (Butler 1999) and an evaluation trench (Albone 1999).

A full list of the sources is contained within the bibliography.

This research was supplemented by a walkover survey of the Site, undertaken to assess the current ground conditions and land-use patterns and to ascertain the presence of any surface finds of an archaeological character, and of features that might indicate the presence of archaeological remains.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Historical Data

Pinchbeck is first reliably mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c.1086, where it is referred to as *Pincebec*. The name is possibly derived from the Old English *pinca* and the Old Norse *bekkr* and means a minnow stream (Cameron 1998, 97). An alternative *pinc*, meaning finch has also been suggested, although there is no evidence for such a bird-name having been used (Fellows-Jensen 1978, 219).

Earlier references to Pinchbeck appear in the charter lists of the *Historia Croylandensis*, a 14th century fabrication of the history of Crowland Abbey, and detail grants to the abbey of estates at Pinchbeck, Spalding, Holbeach and Whaplode made by Earl Ælfgar in the 1050s or early 1060s (Roffe 1993, 15). Although these are considered spurious, it is probable that they are based on a genuine transaction, as it is also recorded in the 12th century Guthlac Roll (*ibid.*; Roffe 2005 271).

At the time of the Domesday Survey the land was held by Ivo Taillebois and Guy of Craon as sokeland of their manors of Spalding and Holbeach with Whaplode respectively (Foster and Longley 1976). The parish contained 12 carucates (between 770 and 880 hectares) of arable land as well as 22 sokemen, 23 villeins and 12 bordars (*ibid.*) giving an approximate population of around 200 people.

Sometime before the end of the 12th century a gibbet, thought to have been taken from Crowland, was erected alongside the Spalding to Pinchbeck Road (Gooch 1940, 41). Map evidence from the 17th century onwards suggests it was the crossroads at the east end of Wardentree Lane where a gallows was kept.

In 1563, Pinchbeck and Spalding were the two largest areas of population in the wapentake of Elloe (Thirsk 1957, 13). By 1723, 303 families are recorded in Pinchbeck (*ibid.* 141) and in 1801 there was a population of 1,536 people, rising to 3,062 by 1842 (White 1842, 229), although by the 1881 census the figure had dropped to 2,940 (Healey 1984, 14).

The Site is in the Deeping Fens, between the River Glen and Welland. These fens were drained before 1066 by Crowland Abbey who reportedly increased the ploughable area a hundred-fold (Wheeler 1896, 312). However, medieval attempts to drain the fens were few in number, with a rare exception was in the late 14th century when, John of Gaunt “procured an admeasurement and division of all surrounded grounds on the north of Spalding, which, beforetime lay promiscuously¹” (Wheeler 1896, 25). The upkeep of the banks and drains was uncoordinated and relied on standing customs, until 1216 when Henry III tried to enforce landowners keeping them in a state of good repair (Wheeler 1896, 25). The longevity of these medieval efforts is unknown.

From the 17th century onwards there were serious attempts to convert the Deeping Fens into arable farmland. This started with Lovell in 1603. The failure of this scheme was responsibly for three parts of Spalding and Pinchbeck being ‘depopulated and forsaken’. The ‘Adventurers’ attempted again in 1618, Vermuyden in 1629 and Vernatt (with some success) in 1632. However, the majority of works fell into despair or were deliberately spoiled by

¹ of mixed use and/or unenclosed

disenfranchised fen dwellers during the English Civil War (1642 to 1651) (Wheeler 1896, 316).

In 1741, two windmills were installed to aid drainage. In 1765, there was an Act of Parliament for the drainage of Holland Fen and in 1801 an Act for the inclosure of Pinchbeck and Spalding. Drainage proved to be insufficient until 1833, when a steam engine was installed on the Blue Gowt Drain (Wheeler 1896, 118). By the middle of the 19th century, the quality of the land had been improved immensely (Wheeler 1896, 316).

Despite the drainage works, inundations due to storms and exceptionally high tides remained a recurring hazard until the late 20th century, with exceptional flood events recorded in South Holland in 1287, 1467, 1571, several times in the 19th century (Wheeler 1896, 24-31) and 1947.

5.2 Cartographic Data

The earliest map available is a reconstruction of the parish made from the acre books² dating to 1560, which was produced by Withyman (2012) (Plate 2). It shows the Site within the Church End subdivision of the parish. The acre records state there were just four houses in the Church End at the time (*ibid.*, 10). Wardentree Lane, south of the Site, and Blue Gowt Drain, north of the Site, were already in existence.

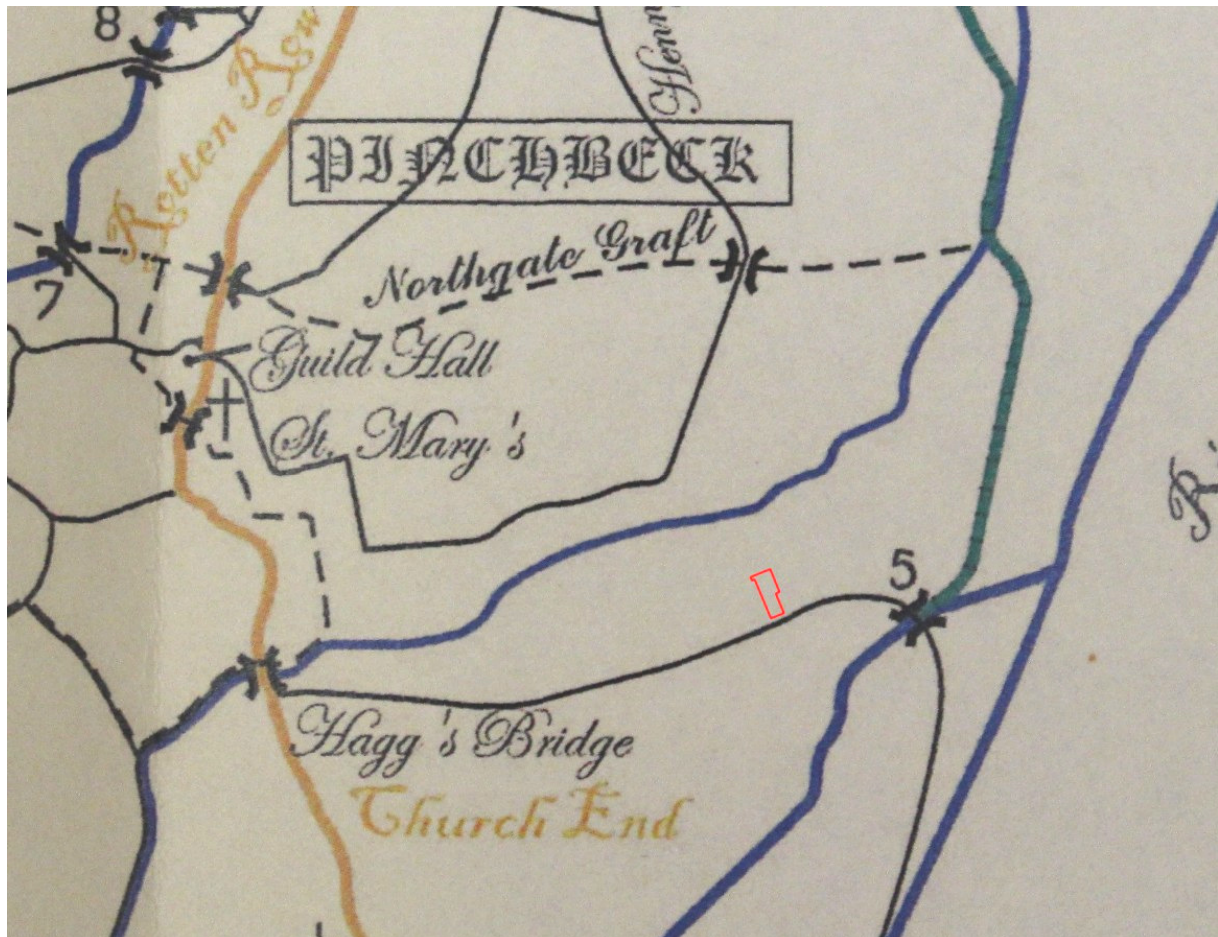


Plate 2. Reconstruction of key features of Pinchbeck in 1560, as transcribed by Withyman (2012).

A map relating to a legal dispute between Thomas Browne and Dymock Wallpole in 1620 shows the fields on the eastern edge of the parish (Plate 3). Although the quality of the surveying is poor, it seems likely that the Site falls in an area known as 'Gallowe Feildes,'

² Tax documents describing the boundaries and value of freeholders' land



Plate 4. 1815 Ordnance Survey map of Spalding, 1". The approximate Site location is marked with a red star.

Ordnance Survey maps from 1887-1967 show the Site as within a single large field (Plate 5). The only change is when Wardentree Lane was re-routed in 1941 (Edmonds and Cox 1986, 8). This road now defines the southern boundary of the Site.



Plate 5. 1905 Ordnance Survey map. Lincolnshire CXXXIV.10, 25"

The Site has been within several construction zones since 1998, when much of the surrounding light industrial infrastructure was built.

5.3 Aerial photographic and lidar data

Aerial photographs obtained from Google Earth, Cambridge Air Photos and Historic England did not reveal any features on the Site. A set of rectilinear cropmarks, thought to be enclosures and

drainage channels have been mapped to the west of the former railway line.

Lidar data is of little use for investigating the Site as the surface of the field and adjacent areas had been modified before detail scans were made. Plate 1 (above) shows the field with a raised surface from nearby construction works in 2022. Earlier examples of the data available from DEFRA were examined. A 2m DTM data set from 2005 (Plate 6) shows the area with less nearby construction, but the fragments of archaeological features are already heavily truncated. The features visible include medieval and/or post-medieval ridge and furrow and broad linear features which might be drainage channels or dylings³.

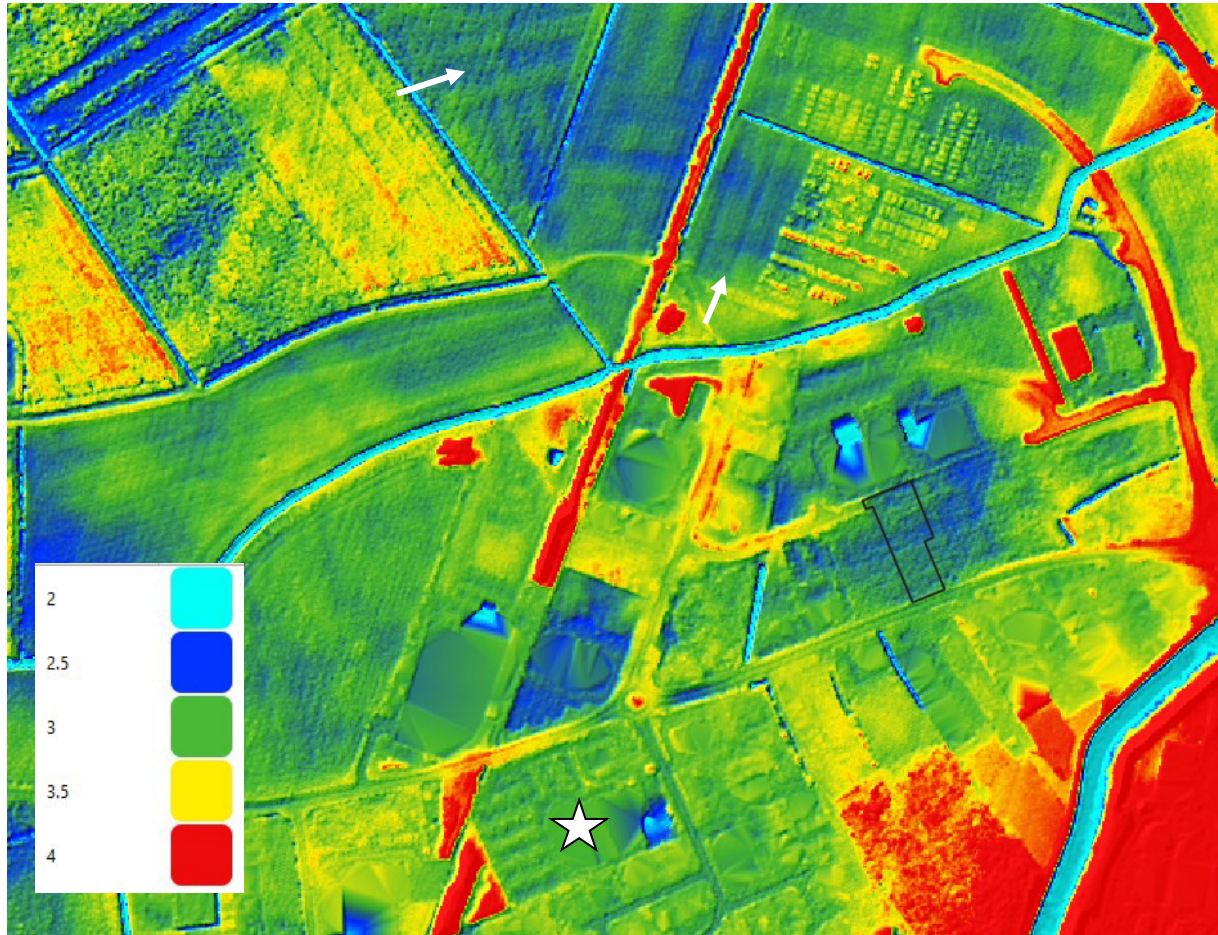


Plate 6. Hill shaded lidar data. Ridge and furrow has been marked with a white star, while probable drainage channels with a white arrow. © DEFRA 2005, 2m DTM.

5.4 Archaeological Data

Records of archaeological sites and finds within the assessment area are held at the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (HER). Table 1 summarises the available records and Figure 2 shows the entries' locations.

Table 1: Archaeological sites and findspots within the assessment area

Name	HER no.	Period	Grid reference
Salt making	MLI23592	Roman?	TF 2591 2480
Pot sherd	MLI82707	Roman	TF 2539 2532
Pot sherd	MLI89182	Saxon	TF 25744 24798
Pottery scatter	MLI83934	Saxon	TF 2556 2570
Pottery scatter	MLI83935	Saxon	TF 2577 2548
Salterns	MLI23633	Medieval	TF 2617 2721

³ Broad furrows used where drainage was poor

Name	HER no.	Period	Grid reference
Ditches	MLI87058	Medieval	TF 2580 2538
Salterns	MLI89834	Medieval	TF 26180 26086
Saltern	MLI89835	Medieval	TF 26067 25881
Saltern	MLI89836	Medieval	TF 26056 25710
Saltern	MLI89837	Medieval	TF 26087 25611
Salt making	MLI23591	Medieval?	TF 2591 2480
Ditches	MLI82097	Medieval to Post Medieval	TF 2545 2529
Pottery scatter	MLI82708	Medieval to Post Medieval	TF 2502 2518
Brick	MLI89181	Medieval to Post Medieval	TF 25763 24900
Artefact scatter	MLI85275	Post Medieval	TF 26666 25222
*Pinchbeck Engine	MLI20022	Post Medieval	TF 26174 26145
Ditches	MLI116339	Post Medieval	TF 2467 2488
Farmstead	MLI122737	Post Medieval	TF 2574 2478
San Jose farmstead	MLI122738	Post Medieval	TF 2612 2547
Marsh farm	MLI122747	Post Medieval	TF 26211 24736
Cropmarks	MLI23584	Undated	TF 2516 2520
Ditches	MLI85111	Unknown	TF 25924 25634
Ditches	MLI87059	Unknown	TF 2580 2538

Prehistoric

No prehistoric entries are recorded for the assessment area.

Roman period

Evidence of Roman period activity in the assessment area is extremely limited. Four sherds of Roman pottery were found during trenching (Albone 1999) and a watching brief (Ridsdale and Palmer-Brown 1998) within 200m of the Site. These were considered to be residual and evidence of low-level use of the area in the period, possibly as seasonal pasture.

Evidence of salt making was exposed by building work in 1926, some 460m southeast of the Site. At the time this was documented as potentially Roman based on Roman pottery found in Spalding, but several medieval salterns have since been found to the north and the site could potentially be of either date.

Saxon period

A single sherd of middle Saxon pottery was recovered during an excavation 420m south of the Site.

A significant quantity of late Saxon period pottery was located during fieldwalking, 200m north of the Site. A geophysical survey in the area suggested the presence of potentially associated archaeological features. A similar pottery scatter and set of geophysical features was recorded in the field east of the Site, just 50m away at the closest. From this, it is possible say there was a late Saxon presence in the area, potentially settlement on land just a little higher than the Site. However, a corresponding lack of pottery of this date from investigations on the Site itself suggest it did not extend into the development area.

Medieval

In the 11th century Latham *et al.* (1995) reconstructed the Witham as being a wide haven rather than the narrow river it is today, placing it as close as 260m east of the Site. Not included in the HER data is a seabank (the green line on Plate 2), which lies roughly 300m from the Site and is thought to have been constructed in the 13th century.

Immediately west of the Site a series of ditches were recorded, containing 13-14th century

pottery (Ridsdale and Palmer-Brown 1998; Albone 1999; Butler 1999). These were considered to be agricultural boundaries which silted up after the 14th century. However, it was noted that later field boundaries seemed to share an alignment and it is considered likely that the ditches were still influencing the landscape 300 years later. The nature of the medieval activity is thought to be arable and the pottery which was recovered from manuring scatters.

The Site was part of the above investigation, but no medieval features were found in the trial trench within the present project boundary.

To the northeast of the Site, 12th-13th century ditches were recorded. 480m northeast of the Site, and continuing northeast along the line of the c.4m OD contour of the Welland roddon are several saltern sites. These are thought to pre-date the 13th century, based on their position with regards to a 13th century seabank.

A single 13th-17th century handmade brick was found within a buried soil during trial trenching, 320m south of the Site.

Post-medieval

Post-medieval HER entries include 3 farmsteads, an artefact scatter, and the Pinchbeck Engine, which is a listed building and scheduled monument. None of these will have a direct impact on the potential archaeology of the Site.

Post-medieval drainage ditches which are ubiquitous in all excavations in the assessment area. This includes the two ditches previously excavated on the Site, which are likely to be post-medieval in origin.

Undated

Undated ditches have been excavated 70m east of the Site, in the same location as medieval examples. Cropmark enclosures of an unknown date were visible 290m west of the Site, but have since been built upon. Given the medieval ditches excavated immediately adjacent, a medieval origin is suspected for both these items.

Previous archaeological interventions

Figure 3 shows the location of past investigations as recorded by the HER, the results of which have been integrated into the discussion above. There is a high density of investigations. However, it is worth noting, perhaps due to the age of the investigations, that the HER contains an error with regards to the archaeological works conducted on the Site: The area of archaeological monitoring overlapping with the Site (Ridsdale and Palmer-Brown 1998) in fact did not stretch so far east; rather, the following year trial trenching took place on the eastern half of this area (Albone 1999).

Archaeological investigations on the Site commenced with a magnetometry survey (Butler 1999). This covered 28% of the Site and identified 2 features; a roughly north-south positive curvilinear feature and a narrow east-west negative feature. These were interpreted as a ditch and potential stone feature, respectively. However, the anomalies were in the region of +/-1nT, a very ambiguous range which might include subtle modern agriculture features and land drains.

Subsequently, a single trench, measuring 1.6m by 20m was, sited across the two anomalies (Albone 1999). This is 0.6% of the surface area of the Site. Two ditches were revealed (Plate 7), the plan of which did not match the anomalies. Neither the geophysical survey nor the trial trench were sited using GPS, so there is some potential that they have been misaligned. The alternative is that the magnetometry did not detect the ditches, only ephemeral topsoil features. The ditches revealed were both northeast-southwest aligned, approximately 0.7m deep and separated by roughly 15m. From the published section we can see the fills were different, but these have not been described in detail in Albone 1999. Ditch [5003], to the

south, contained clay and silt fills, with a layer of peat. The upper fill contained 18th century pottery. The northern ditch [5016] contained a blue grey silty clay, followed by a mid brown clay silt, which contained 19th century pottery. Both ditches had modern land drains (clay to the south and plastic to the north) laid in the line of the ditch.

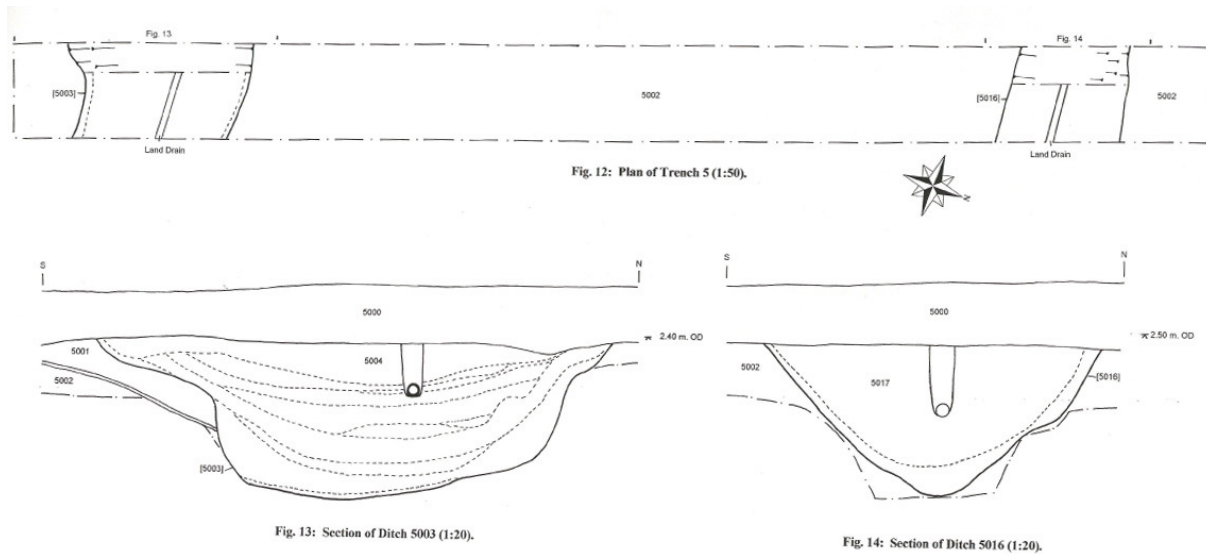


Plate 7. Plan and section of ditches, after Albone 1999.

Given the 18th and 19th century pottery in the upper fills, it is likely the ditches are post-medieval in origin.

Although a relatively small proportion of the Site has been evaluated, the available evidence from this and surrounding sites indicates that the proposed development area might have been on the edge of a medieval field system, and was certainly being managed and drained in the post-medieval period.

5.5 Walkover Survey

The Site was visited on the 1st September 2026 in order to assess the ground conditions, to identify any potential archaeological features and to note any constraints to further work. The weather conditions were warm and bright.

Access to the Site is via Bervor Close. The field was short grass which prevented seeing the bear soil. The field appeared flat to the naked eye (Plate 8). No archaeological artefacts or features were visible on the surface.



Plate 8. General view of Site. Looking north.

6. CONSTRAINTS

6.1 Heritage Constraints

The only designated asset in the assessment area is The Pinchbeck Engine (Fig 4). The proposal will not have any impact on this asset.

All other archaeological remains within the assessment area are protected through the implementation of the National Planning Policy Framework which identifies the historic environment as a non-renewable resource (MHCLG 2026). The historic environment's fragile and finite nature is a particularly important consideration in planning. The effect of an application on the significance of a heritage asset or its setting is a material consideration in determining the application.

Policy 29 of the Southeast Lincolnshire Local Plan has the following two pertinent points:

2. Planning applications for such development should be accompanied by an appropriate and proportionate assessment to understand the potential for and significance of remains, and the impact of development upon them.

3. If initial assessment does not provide sufficient information, developers will be required to undertake field evaluation in advance of determination of the application. This may include a range of techniques for both intrusive and non-intrusive evaluation, as appropriate to the site.

It will be a key concern of this document to evaluate whether assessment to date is 'appropriate and proportionate,' or whether further field evaluation should be recommended.

6.2 Other Constraints

No specific checks were carried out to determine the presence of services (gas, water, electricity *etc.*) at the site.

7. ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

Past impacts are largely restricted to agriculture. The Site has been ploughed during the 20th century. Extra mass was temporarily added to the north of the field in the 21st century, which may reduce the effectiveness of geophysical surveys in this part of the Site.

The proposal will involve some excavation in excess of 2m deep. However, the majority of the structures proposed will sit on a relatively shallow concrete rafts.

8. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL AND SIGNIFICANCE

Archaeological potential

Information collated in the production of this document has allowed an assessment of the known and potential archaeological resource.

Prehistoric and Roman sites are almost entirely absent from the assessment area. Just four sherds of residual roman pottery have been noted in the vicinity of the Site. The likelihood of encountering remains of this date is considered to be low, with the highest potential in the areas of excavation in excess of 1m depth.

Late Saxon pottery has been found close to the Site on slightly higher ground, although no evidence has been recovered from the trial trench on the Site itself. Therefore, the possibility of encountering late Saxon remains is considered low.

Drainage ditches, considered to be 13th-14th century in date, have been excavated in the fields immediately west of the Site. The likelihood of encountering remains of this period is considered moderate, but any remains are likely to be confined to agricultural features.

During the post-medieval period the land was probably divided with drainage ditches, the remains of which have been found on the Site in the trial trench. Written records suggest sparse occupation of the Church End portion of the parish in the 16th century. Maps from 1620 through to the 20th century show the field and its boundaries changed little.

Significance

There are no obvious ways the Site could contribute to the regional research framework (Knight *et al*, 2012). The archaeology present is likely to be of low, local significance.

Recommendations

The original magnetometry survey returned ambiguous results, which did not match subsequent trial trenching. Additionally, recent lidar data shows foreign material has been stored on the northern part of the Site, which would further degrade the results of a geophysical survey. Therefore, further geophysical survey is not recommended.

The Site has hosted a single evaluation trench. This successfully established the survival of post-medieval ditches on the Site, but represents a relatively small percentage of the Site from which to draw conclusions. However, the surrounding landscape has been studied extensively and the patterns of archaeology have been established well, with no suggestion that anything other than agricultural remains are likely to be located on the Site. This level of investigation was deemed sufficient to satisfy previous planning applications; most recently in 2023 a proposal for commercial units on the same plot was approved without an

archaeological condition or request for further assessment (H14-0957-22).

Given these facts, no additional archaeological work is recommended.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The HER data used in the production of this report is copyright of Lincolnshire County Council.

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All of the following references were consulted in the research. However, as some of them duplicated evidence given in others, or proved not to be relevant to the assessment, not all of them have been specifically referred to in the text.

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
APS	Archaeological Project Services
BGS	British Geological Survey
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

HER Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record

HMSO Her Majesty's Stationery Office

LAO Lincolnshire Archive Office

MHCLG Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

OS Ordnance Survey

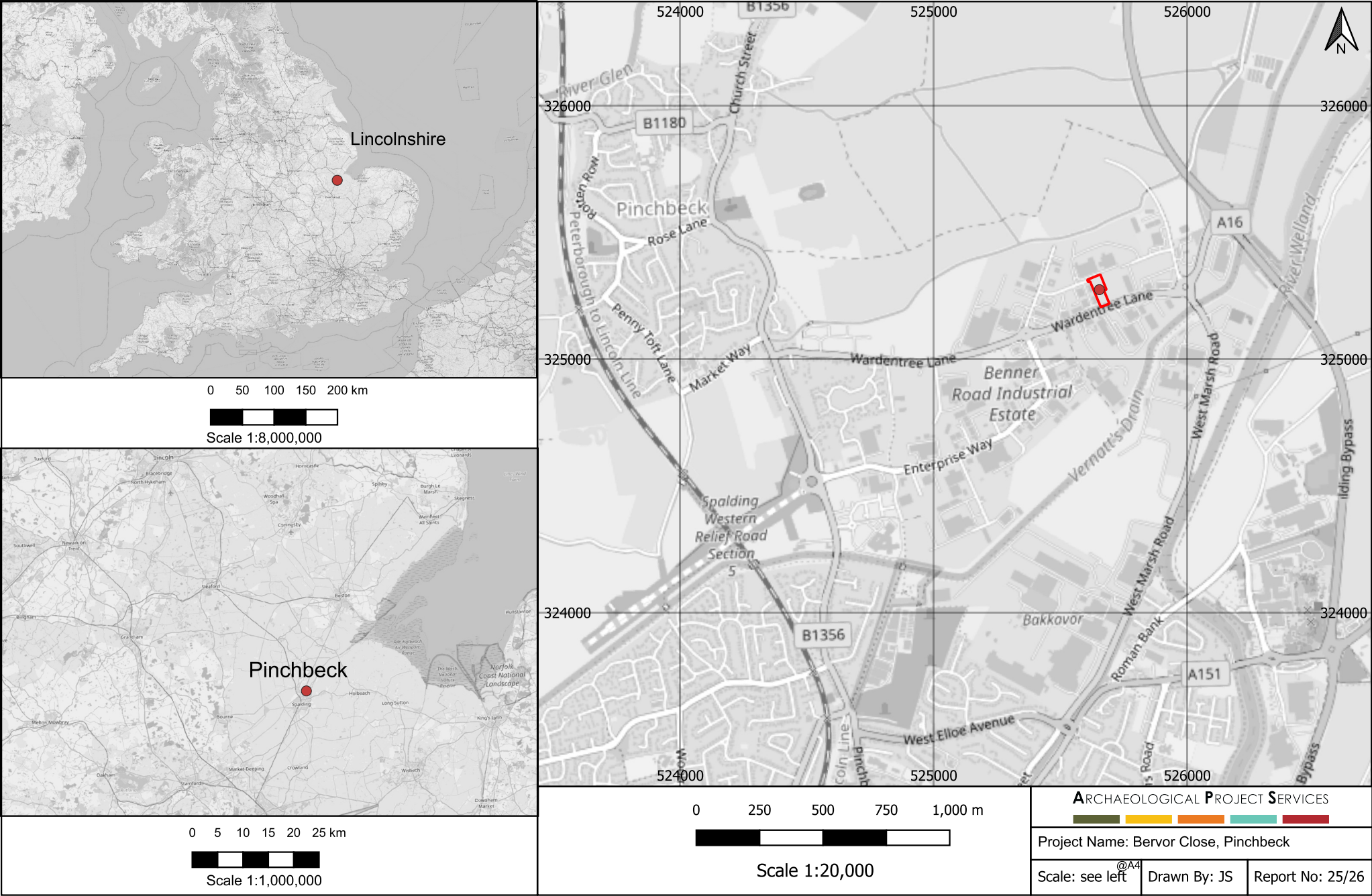
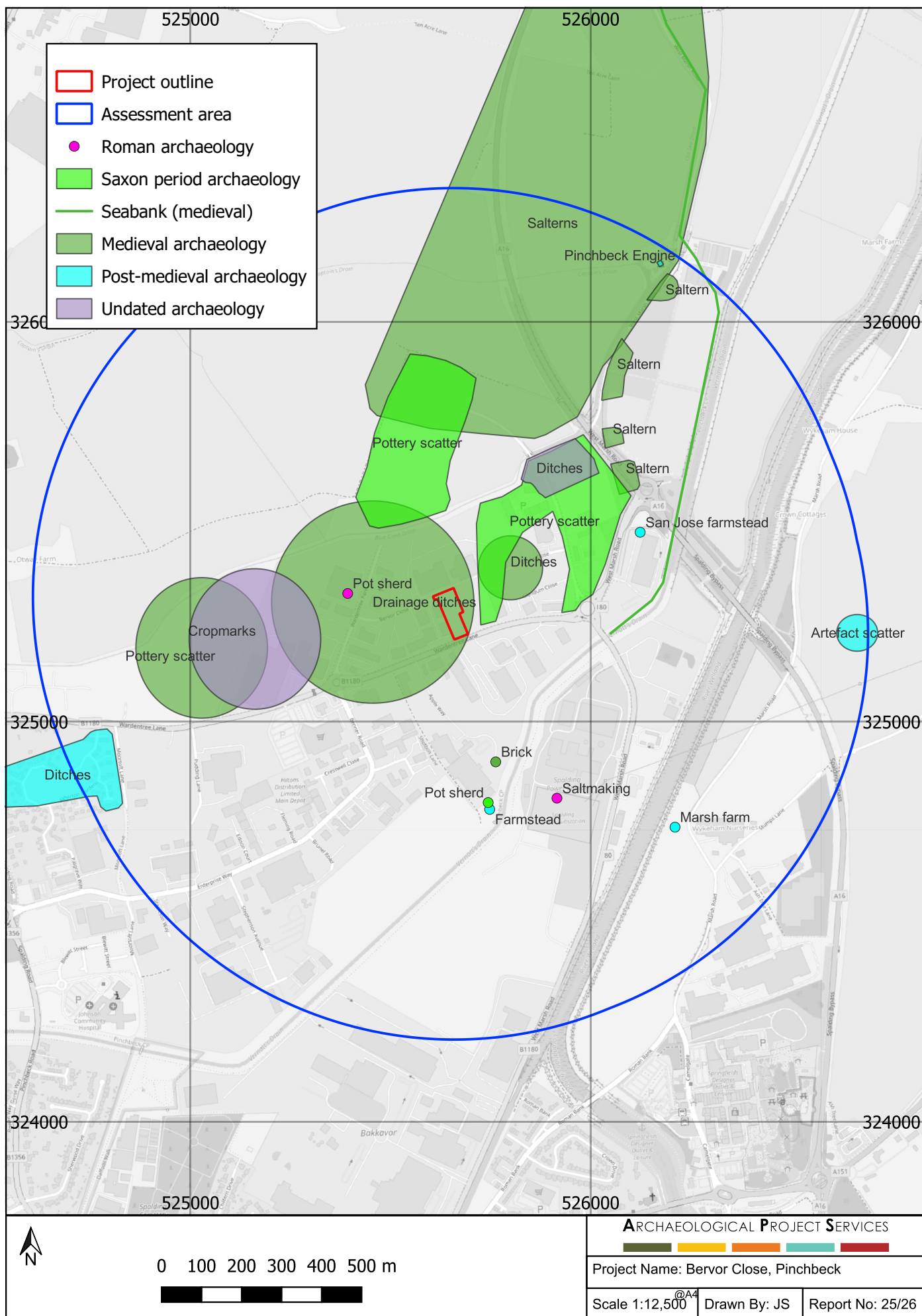


Figure 1 - Site Location



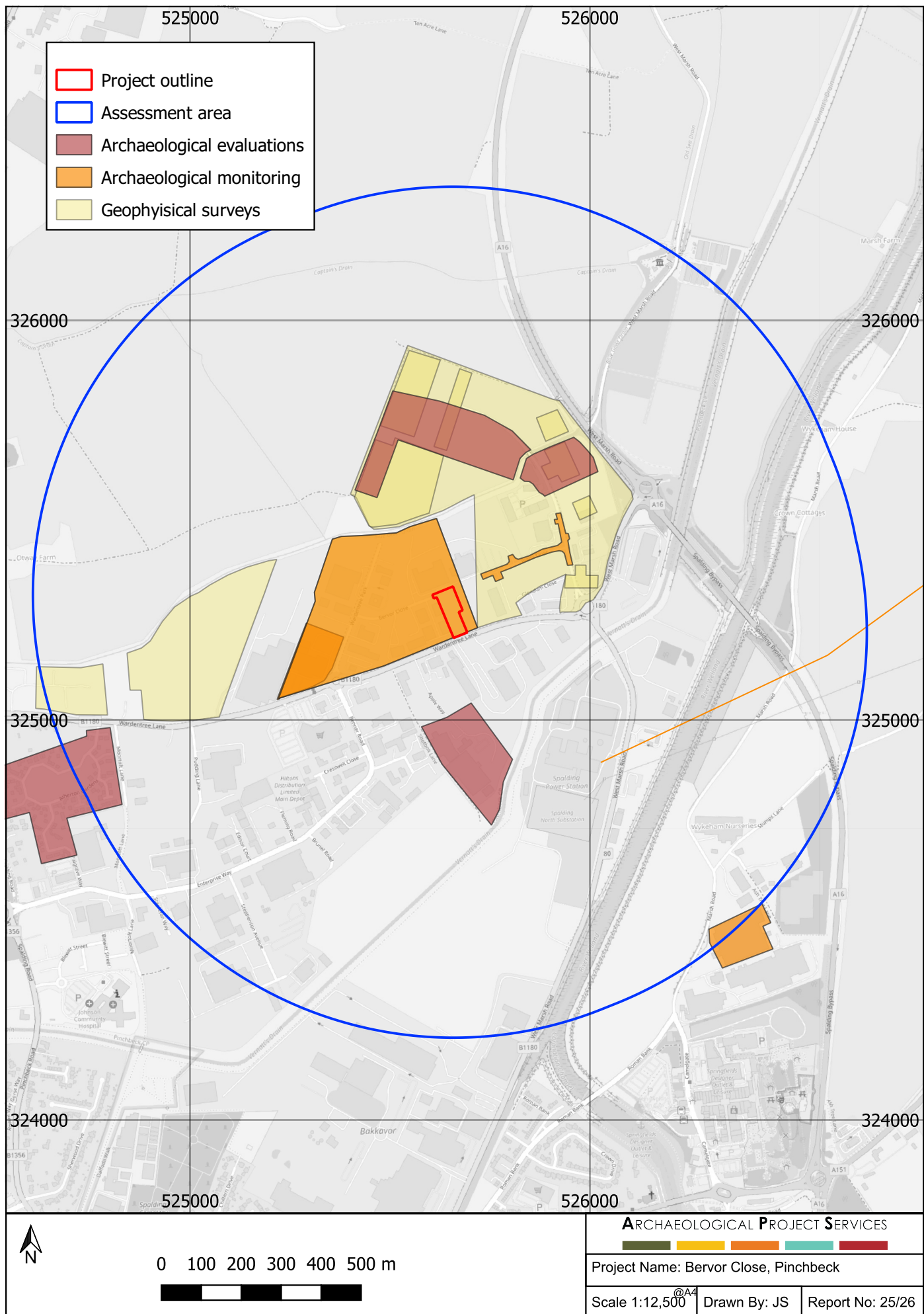


Figure 3 - Archaeological interventions

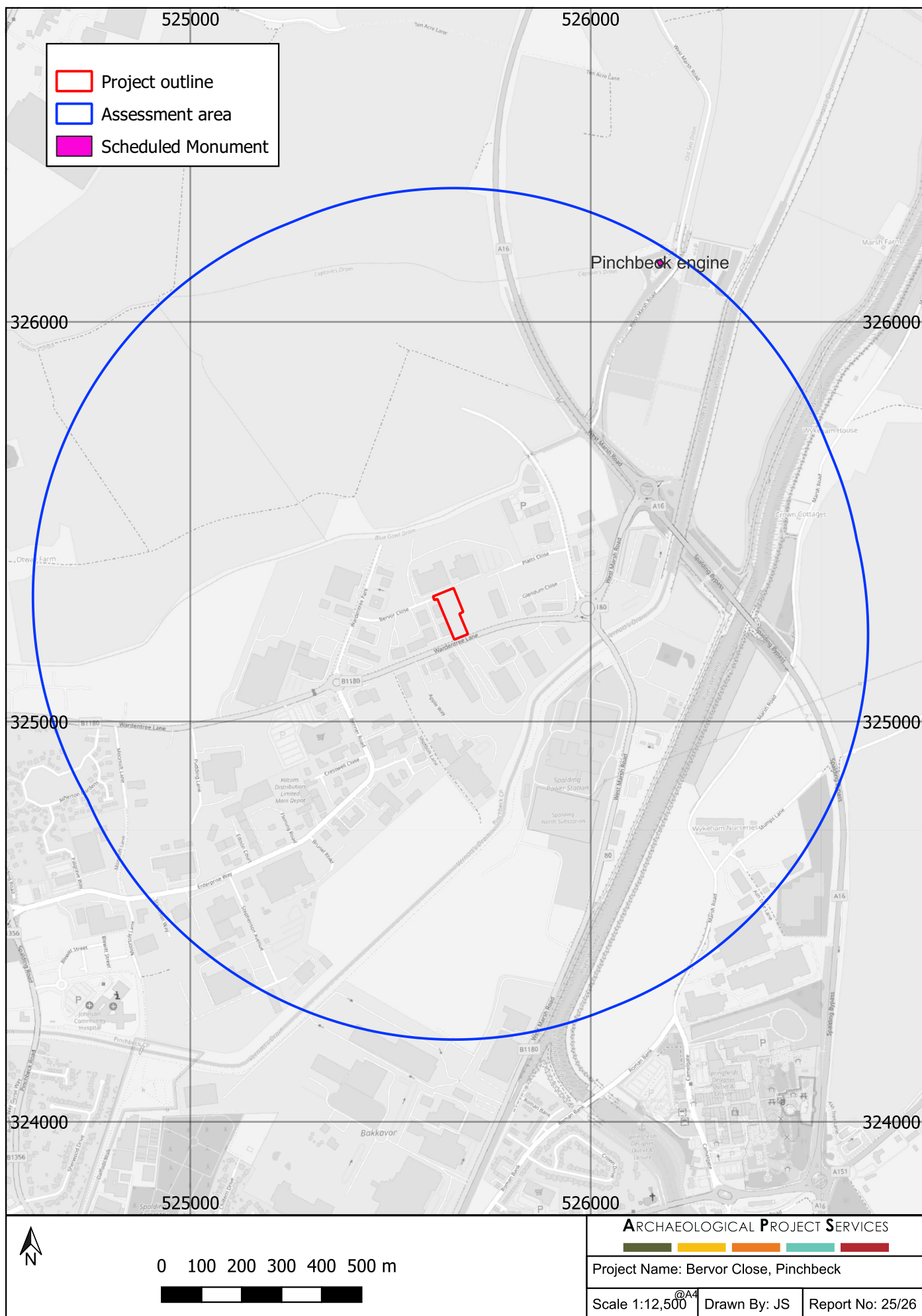




Figure 5 - Previous archaeological work on site

Appendix

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
Drift	Material that has been eroded, transported or deposited by glaciers (or their melt water). The term 'drift' is commonly used to describe any deposits of Quaternary age.
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Inclosure	Inclosure is the legal term that refers to the conversion of common land into private land. It is conceptually distinct from an 'enclosure,' a physical boundary around a piece of land, although in practice the two usually occurred at the same time.
Lidar	An aircraft-based method of survey using analysis of pulses of laser light reflected from the surfaces of the ground and buildings. It is capable of identifying subtle differences in topography.
Manuring Scatter	A distribution of artefacts, usually pottery, created by the spreading of manure and domestic refuse from settlements onto arable fields. Such scatters can provide an indication of the extent and period of arable agriculture in the landscape.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Modern	The current period, dating from around AD 1900 to the present time.
Old English	The language used by the Saxon (<i>q.v.</i>) occupants of Britain.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1900.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Redeposited	An artefact that is redeposited is one that has been removed in the past from its original place of deposition. Redeposition can introduce earlier artefacts into later deposits, ie. medieval or post-medieval ditch or pit digging may have invaded Roman levels, bringing Roman artefacts to the surface. When the medieval/post-medieval features are infilled the Roman artefacts become incorporated with those deposits; these Roman artefacts are said to be redeposited. If the age differences within an assemblage are not great it is sometimes difficult to determine if an artefact is redeposited or residual (<i>q.v.</i>).
Residual	Artefacts that are noticeably earlier than others in an assemblage are often described as residual. Residual artefacts may be ones that were used for a very long time, or items that were maintained as heirlooms/antiques. If the

dates of artefacts within a group do not exhibit major differences it can be difficult to determine if an artefact is residual or redeposited (*q.v.*)

Ridge and Furrow	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
Roman	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Roddon	A raised linear feature caused by silt buildup along the line of a former river, typically tidal in nature. Very common in the fens of eastern England. The height difference can be exaggerated by clay and peat shrinkage following programmes of land drainage.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas.
Scheduled Monument	A monument protected by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.



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