

## **Great North Road Solar Park and Biodiversity Park**

Environmental Statement

Volume 4 - Technical Appendices

Technical Appendix A11.7: Phase 2 Trial Trenching Results - Part 1 of 3

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**KEY DOCUMENT INFORMATION**

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## SUMMARY

York Archaeology was commissioned by Elements Green to conduct a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation on several land parcels located to the north-west of Newark-on-Trent. The works were undertaken ahead of the proposed construction of ground-mounted solar PV panels and associated enabling works, as part of a Development Consent Order. The proposed Scheme is considered a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.

The design of the proposed construction and archaeological trial trenching were informed by the results of previous geophysical survey and sought to avoid areas of dense archaeological activity. The combined results of the geophysical survey and evaluation will be used to define future archaeological mitigation strategies.

This report presents the preliminary results from the second phase (Phase 2) of the archaeological evaluation which comprised the excavation of 278 trenches across of five sites within the Scheme Order Limits: Dutton, Tweed and Bamford, Hewson South, Kelham East, and Kelham West. Following the submission of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report, the design of the Scheme boundaries has been revised, and the Kelham East site, as well as parts of the Dutton and Tweed and Bamford sites, have been descoped from the Scheme.

The Phase 2 evaluation recorded small concentrations of archaeological remains across the five areas. The archaeological evidence comprised features spanning the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, Romano-British and medieval to modern periods, however the vast majority contained no dating evidence. The Kelham West site revealed a concentration of Romano-British activity and Hewson South yielded the remains of a pit containing a fragment of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pottery.

A full evaluation report will follow this interim report. The project archive, including all the digital and physical records as well as finds, will remain safely stored at the York Archaeology until deposition with the Newark and Sherwood Museum. A copy of the report will be submitted to the HER and the ADS.





## CONTENTS

<b>LIST OF Figures .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>LIST OF PLATES .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>2 LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>24</b>
Dutton.....	24
Tweed and Bamford .....	24
Hewson South.....	25
Kelham East.....	25
Kelham West.....	26
<b>3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....</b>	<b>27</b>
Sources of Information .....	27
Geophysical Survey.....	27
Phase 1 Evaluation.....	28
Dutton.....	28
Prehistoric – Roman (1,000,000 BC – AD 410) .....	29
Early medieval (AD 410 – 1066) – medieval (AD 1066 – 1485).....	29
Post-medieval (AD 1485 – 1750) – Modern (1750–present) .....	29
Tweed and Bamford .....	29
Prehistoric (500,000 cal BC – AD 43) – Roman (AD 43 – AD 410) .....	29
Early medieval (AD 410-1066) – medieval (AD 1066-1485) .....	29
Post-medieval (AD 1485–1750) – Modern (AD 1750–present).....	29
Hewson South .....	29
Prehistoric (500,000 cal BC – AD 43).....	30
Roman (AD 43 – 410) .....	30
Early medieval (AD 410 – 1066) – medieval (AD 1066–1485).....	31
Post-medieval (AD 1485 – 1750) – Modern (AD 1485 – present).....	31
Undated .....	31
Kelham East.....	31
Prehistoric – Roman (500,000 cal BC – AD 410) .....	31
Early medieval (AD 410 – 1066), high medieval (AD 1066 – 1485) .....	31
Post-medieval (AD 1485 – 1750) .....	32
Undated .....	32
Kelham West.....	32
Prehistoric (500,000 Cal BC – AD 43) – Roman (AD 43 – 410).....	32



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Early medieval (AD 410 – 1066) – medieval (AD 1066 – 1485).....	32
Post-medieval - Modern (1500 – Present).....	32
Undated .....	32
<b>4 RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE .....</b>	<b>33</b>
Planning Context .....	33
National Planning Policy Framework.....	33
Local Policy.....	36
<b>5 SITE-SPECIFIC AIMS AND OBJECTIVES .....</b>	<b>38</b>
Aims .....	38
Objectives .....	38
Site Specific Objectives .....	38
Regional Research Objectives .....	39
<b>6 METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>40</b>
General Conditions.....	40
Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation.....	40
Recording and Sampling .....	41
Post-Excavation .....	41
Archive and Finds Deposition .....	41
<b>7 INTERIM RESULTS AND DISCUSSION .....</b>	<b>42</b>
Dutton.....	43
Tweed and Bamford .....	45
Hewson South .....	46
Kelham East.....	47
Kelham West.....	48
<b>8 PRELIMINARY ARTEFACTUAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....</b>	<b>50</b>
Artefact summaries.....	51
<b>9 INTERIM CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>10 STRATEGY FOR FULL EVALUATION REPORTING .....</b>	<b>54</b>
• REFERENCES .....	55
• ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	57

Figures

Plates

Appendices

- Appendix 1– Trench Logs
- Appendix 2 – Finds Catalogue



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- **Appendix 3 – Environmental samples**
- **Appendix 5 – OASIS Data Summary Form**

## **LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 01 – Location Map

Figure 02 – Site Plan Dutton 01/08

Figure 03 – Site Plan Dutton 02/08

Figure 04 – Site Plan Dutton 03/08

Figure 05 – Site Plan Dutton 04/08

Figure 06 – Site Plan Dutton 05/08

Figure 07 – Site Plan Dutton 06/08

Figure 08 – Site Plan Dutton 07/08

Figure 09 – Site Plan Dutton 08/08

Figure 10 – Site Plan Tweed and Bamford 01/01

Figure 11 – Site Plan Hewson South 01/03

Figure 12 – Site Plan Hewson South 02/03

Figure 13 – Site Plan Hewson South 03/03

Figure 14 – Site Plan Kelham East 01/04

Figure 15 – Site Plan Kelham East 02/04

Figure 16 – Site Plan Kelham East 03/04

Figure 17 – Site Plan Kelham East 04/04

Figure 18 – Site Plan Kelham West 01/22

Figure 19 – Site Plan Kelham West 02/22

Figure 20 – Site Plan Kelham West 03/22

Figure 21 – Site Plan Kelham West 04/22

Figure 22 – Site Plan Kelham West 05/22

Figure 23 – Site Plan Kelham West 06/22

Figure 24 – Site Plan Kelham West 07/22

Figure 25 – Site Plan Kelham West 08/22

Figure 26 – Site Plan Kelham West 09/22

Figure 27 – Site Plan Kelham West 10/22

Figure 28 – Site Plan Kelham West 11/22

Figure 29 – Site Plan Kelham West 12/22

Figure 30 – Site Plan Kelham West 13/22

Figure 31 – Site Plan Kelham West 14/22

Figure 32 – Site Plan Kelham West 15/22



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Figure 33 – Site Plan Kelham West 16/22

Figure 34 – Site Plan Kelham West 17/22

Figure 35 – Site Plan Kelham West 18/22

Figure 36 – Site Plan Kelham West 19/22

Figure 37 – Site Plan Kelham West 20/22

Figure 38 – Site Plan Kelham West 21/22

Figure 39 – Site Plan Kelham West 22/22

## LIST OF PLATES

### ***Dutton***

Plate 1: Trench 1000 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 2: Trench 1000 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 3: Trench 1001 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 4: Trench 1001 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 5: Trench 1002 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 6: Trench 1002 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 7: Trench 1002 section of feature [100202] facing north. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 8: Trench 1003 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 9: Trench 1003 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 10: Trench 1003 section of feature [100302] facing east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 11: Trench 1004 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 12: Trench 1004 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 13: Trench 1005 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 14: Trench 1005 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 15: Trench 1006 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 16: Trench 1006 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 17: Trench 1007 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 18: Trench 1007 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 19: Trench 1008 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 20: Trench 1008 representative section. Facing south. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 21: Trench 1008 section of feature [100802] facing south. Scale 1 x 0.5m

Plate 22: Trench 1009 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 23: Trench 1009 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 24: Trench 1009 section of feature [100903] facing west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 25: Trench 1010 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 26: Trench 1010 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 27: Trench 1010 section of feature [101002] facing east. Scale 1 x 0.5m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- Plate 28: Trench 1011 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 29: Trench 1011 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 30: Trench 1011 section of feature [101102] facing west. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 31: Trench 1012 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 32: Trench 1012 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 33: Trench 1013 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 34: Trench 1013 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 35: Trench 1014 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 36: Trench 1014 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 37: Trench 1015 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 38: Trench 1015 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 39: Trench 1016 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 40: Trench 1016 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 41: Trench 1017 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 42: Trench 1017 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 43: Trench 1018 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 44: Trench 1018 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 45: Trench 1019 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 46: Trench 1019 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 47: Trench 1020 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 48: Trench 1020 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 49: Trench 1021 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 50: Trench 1021 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 51: Trench 1022 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 52: Trench 1022 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 53: Trench 1023 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 54: Trench 1023 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 55: Trench 1023 section of feature [102302] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 56: Trench 1024 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 57: Trench 1024 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 58: Trench 1025 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 59: Trench 1025 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 60: Trench 1026 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 61: Trench 1026 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 62: Trench 1027 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 63: Trench 1027 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 64: Trench 1028 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- Plate 65: Trench 1028 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 66: Trench 1029 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 67: Trench 1029 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 68: Trench 1030 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 69: Trench 1030 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 70: Trench 1031 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 71: Trench 1031 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 72: Trench 1032 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 73: Trench 1032 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 74: Trench 1032 facing north section of feature [103203]. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 75: Trench 1033 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 76: Trench 1033 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 77: Trench 1034 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 78: Trench 1034 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 79: Trench 1035 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 80: Trench 1035 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 81: Trench 1036 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 82: Trench 1036 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 83: Trench 1037 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 84: Trench 1037 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 85: Trench 1037 facing south-west section of feature [103703]. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 86: Trench 1038 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 87: Trench 1038 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 88: Trench 1039 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 89: Trench 1039 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 90: Trench 1039 section of feature [103902] facing south. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 91: Trench 1040 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 92: Trench 1040 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 93: Trench 1040 section of feature [104002] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 94: Trench 1041 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 95: Trench 1041 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 96: Trench 1041 section of feature [104103] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 97: Trench 1042 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 98: Trench 1042 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 99: Trench 1043 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 100: Trench 1043 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 101: Trench 1044 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- Plate 102: Trench 1044 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 103: Trench 1044 section of feature [104402] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 104: Trench 1045 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 105: Trench 1045 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 106: Trench 1045 section of feature [104502] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 107: Trench 1045 section of feature [104504] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 108: Trench 1046 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 109: Trench 1046 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 110: Trench 1046 section of feature [104602] facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 111: Trench 1047 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 112: Trench 1047 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 113: Trench 1048 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 114: Trench 1048 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 115: Trench 1300 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 116: Trench 1300 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

#### ***Tweed and Banford***

- Plate 117: Trench 1053 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 118: Trench 1053 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 119: Trench 1053 facing west section of feature [105303]. Scale 1 x 0.4m  
Plate 120: Trench 1053 facing west section of feature [105305]. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 121: Trench 1054 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 122: Trench 1054 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 123: Trench 1062 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 124: Trench 1062 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m

#### ***Hewson South***

- Plate 125: Trench 1083 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 126: Trench 1083 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 127: Trench 1083 facing west section of feature [108303]. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 128: Trench 1084 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 129: Trench 1084 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 130: Trench 1084 facing west section of feature [108402]. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 131: Trench 1084 facing various directions section of feature [108404]. Scale 1 x 0.4m  
Plate 132: Trench 1085 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 133: Trench 1085 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 134: Trench 1086 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 135: Trench 1086 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- Plate 136: Trench 1087 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 137: Trench 1087 facing south representative section. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 138: Trench 1088 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 139: Trench 1088 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 140: Trench 1089 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 141: Trench 1089 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 142: Trench 1090 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 143: Trench 1090 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 144: Trench 1091 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 145: Trench 1091 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 146: Trench 1091 facing south-west section of feature [109102]. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 147: Trench 1091 facing south-west section of feature [109106] (left) cutting feature [109104] (right). Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 148: Trench 1092 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 149: Trench 1092 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 150: Trench 1093 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 151: Trench 1093 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 152: Trench 1093 section of feature [109302] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 153: Trench 1093 section of feature [109304] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 154: Trench 1094 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 155: Trench 1094 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 156: Trench 1095 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 157: Trench 1095 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 158: Trench 1095 section of feature [109502] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 159: Trench 1096 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 160: Trench 1096 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 161: Trench 1097 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 162: Trench 1097 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 163: Trench 1098 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 164: Trench 1098 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 165: Trench 1099 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 166: Trench 1099 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 167: Trench 1302 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 168: Trench 1302 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 169: Trench 1302 section of feature [130202] facing south. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 170: Trench 1303 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 171: Trench 1303 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 172: Trench 1303 section of feature [130302] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m

Plate 173: Trench 1304 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 174: Trench 1304 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m

### ***Kelham East***

Plate 175: Trench 1100 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 176: Trench 1100 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 177: Trench 1101 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 178: Trench 1101 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 179: Trench 1102 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 180: Trench 1102 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 181: Trench 1102 section of feature [110202] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 182: Trench 1102 section of feature [110204 (left) 110206 (centre) 110208] (right) facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 183: Trench 1102 section of feature [110210] facing south. Scale 1 x 0.3m

Plate 184: Trench 1102 section of feature [110212] facing east. Scale 1 x 0.3m

Plate 185: Trench 1102 section of feature [110214] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m

Plate 186: Trench 1102 section of feature [110216] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 187: Trench 1102 section of feature [110218] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m

Plate 188: Trench 1102 section of feature [110220] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 0.3m

Plate 189: Trench 1102 section of feature [110222] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 190: Trench 1102 section of feature [110224] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 191: Trench 1102 section of feature [110226] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.3m

Plate 192: Trench 1102 section of feature [110228] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 193: Trench 1103 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 194: Trench 1103 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 195: Trench 1103 section of feature [110303] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 196: Trench 1103 section of feature [110306] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 197: Trench 1103 section of feature [110308] facing east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 198: Trench 1103 section of feature [110310] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 199: Trench 1104 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 200: Trench 1104 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 201: Trench 1104 section of feature [110404] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 202: Trench 1104 section of feature [110408] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 203: Trench 1104 section of feature [110410] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 204: Trench 1104 section of feature [110412] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 205: Trench 1104 section of feature [110414] [110416] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 206: Trench 1105 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- Plate 207: Trench 1105 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 208: Trench 1105 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 209: Trench 1105 section of feature [110502] facing east. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 210: Trench 1105 section of feature [110504] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 211: Trench 1106 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 212: Trench 1106 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 213: Trench 1107 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 214: Trench 1107 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 215: Trench 1107 section of feature [110703] facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 216: Trench 1108 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 217: Trench 1108 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 218: Trench 1109 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 219: Trench 1109 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 220: Trench 1110 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 221: Trench 1110 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 222: Trench 1111 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 223: Trench 1111 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 224: Trench 1112 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 225: Trench 1112 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 226: Trench 1113 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 227: Trench 1113 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 228: Trench 1113 section of feature [111302] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 229: Trench 1114 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 230: Trench 1114 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 231: Trench 1114 section of feature [111403] facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 232: Trench 1114 section of feature [111404] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 233: Trench 1115 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 234: Trench 1115 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 235: Trench 1116 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 236: Trench 1116 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 237: Trench 1117 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 238: Trench 1117 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 239: Trench 1118 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 240: Trench 1118 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 241: Trench 1118 section of feature [111803] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 242: Trench 1118 section of feature [111805] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 243: Trench 1120 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 244: Trench 1120 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 245: Trench 1121 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 246: Trench 1121 feature sectioned [112103] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 247: Trench 1121 section of feature [112106] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 248: Trench 1122 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 249: Trench 1122 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 250: Trench 1122 section of feature [112203] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 251: Trench 1122 section of feature [112205] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 252: Trench 1123 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 253: Trench 1123 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 254: Trench 1123 section of feature [112303] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 255: Trench 1123 section of feature [112305] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 256: Trench 1124 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 257: Trench 1124 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 258: Trench 1126 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 259: Trench 1126 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 260: Trench 1126 section of feature [112603] facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 261: Trench 1127 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 262: Trench 1127 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 263: Trench 1127 section of feature [112703] facing south-east. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 264: Trench 1128 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 265: Trench 1128 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 266: Trench 1129 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 267: Trench 1129 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 268: Trench 1130 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 269: Trench 1130 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 270: Trench 1131 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 271: Trench 1131 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 272: Trench 1305 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 273: Trench 1305 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m

### ***Kelham West***

Plate 274: Trench 1132 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 275: Trench 1132 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 276: Trench 1133 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 277: Trench 1133 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 278: Trench 1133 section of feature [113302] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 279: Trench 1133 section of feature [113304] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- Plate 280: Trench 1133 section of feature [113306] facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 281: Trench 1134 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 282: Trench 1134 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 283: Trench 1134 section of feature [113403] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 284: Trench 1135 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 285: Trench 1135 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 286: Trench 1136 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 287: Trench 1136 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 288: Trench 1136 section of feature [113602] facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 289: Trench 1137 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 290: Trench 1137 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 291: Trench 1138 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 292: Trench 1138 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 293: Trench 1138 section of feature [113802] facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 294: Trench 1140 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 295: Trench 1140 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 296: Trench 1141 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 297: Trench 1141 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 298: Trench 1142 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 299: Trench 1142 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 300: Trench 1143 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 301: Trench 1143 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 302: Trench 1144 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 303: Trench 1144 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 304: Trench 1144 section of feature [114402] facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 305: Trench 1145 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 306: Trench 1145 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 307: Trench 1146 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 308: Trench 1146 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 309: Trench 1147 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 310: Trench 1147 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 311: Trench 1148 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 312: Trench 1148 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 313: Trench 1149 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 314: Trench 1149 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 315: Trench 1150 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 316: Trench 1150 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 317: Trench 1150 section of feature [115002] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 318: Trench 1151 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 319: Trench 1151 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 320: Trench 1152 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 321: Trench 1152 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 322: Trench 1153 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 323: Trench 1153 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 324: Trench 1153 section of feature [115302] facing north. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 325: Trench 1154 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 326: Trench 1154 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 327: Trench 1155 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 328: Trench 1155 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 329: Trench 1156 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 330: Trench 1156 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 331: Trench 1157 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 332: Trench 1157 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 333: Trench 1158 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 334: Trench 1158 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 335: Trench 1158 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 336: Trench 1159 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 337: Trench 1159 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 338: Trench 1160 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 339: Trench 1160 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 340: Trench 1161 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 341: Trench 1161 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 342: Trench 1162 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 343: Trench 1162 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 344: Trench 1163 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 345: Trench 1163 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 346: Trench 1164 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 347: Trench 1164 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 348: Trench 1165 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 349: Trench 1165 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 350: Trench 1166 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 351: Trench 1166 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 352: Trench 1166 section of feature [116602] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m

Plate 353: Trench 1167 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 354: Trench 1167 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 355: Trench 1168 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 356: Trench 1168 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 357: Trench 1169 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 358: Trench 1169 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 359: Trench 1170 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 360: Trench 1170 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 361: Trench 1171 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 362: Trench 1171 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 363: Trench 1172 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 364: Trench 1172 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 365: Trench 1173 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 366: Trench 1173 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 367: Trench 1174 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 368: Trench 1174 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 369: Trench 1175 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 370: Trench 1175 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 371: Trench 1176 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 372: Trench 1176 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 373: Trench 1177 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 374: Trench 1177 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 375: Trench 1178 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 376: Trench 1178 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 377: Trench 1179 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 378: Trench 1179 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 379: Trench 1180 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 380: Trench 1180 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 381: Trench 1181 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 382: Trench 1181 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 383: Trench 1182 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 384: Trench 1182 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 385: Trench 1183 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 386: Trench 1183 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 387: Trench 1184 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 388: Trench 1184 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 389: Trench 1185 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 390: Trench 1185 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- Plate 391: Trench 1185 section of feature [118502] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 392: Trench 1186 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 393: Trench 1186 facing None representative section. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 394: Trench 1187 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 395: Trench 1187 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 396: Trench 1188 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 397: Trench 1188 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 398: Trench 1188 section of feature [118802] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 399: Trench 1189 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 400: Trench 1189 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 401: Trench 1189 section of feature [118902] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 402: Trench 1189 section of feature [118904] (left) [118906] (right) facing west. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 403: Trench 1190 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 404: Trench 1190 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 405: Trench 1191 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 406: Trench 1191 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 407: Trench 1191 section of feature [119105] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 408: Trench 1191 section of feature [119107] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 0.3m
- Plate 409: Trench 1192 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 410: Trench 1192 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 411: Trench 1192 section of feature [119202] facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 412: Trench 1192 section of feature [119204] facing north. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 413: Trench 1193 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 414: Trench 1193 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 415: Trench 1193 section of feature [119303] facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 416: Trench 1194 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 417: Trench 1194 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 418: Trench 1194 section of feature [119402] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 419: Trench 1194 section of feature [119405] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 420: Trench 1193 section of feature [119407] facing south. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 421: Trench 1195 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 422: Trench 1195 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 423: Trench 1195 section of feature [119503] (left) [119505] (bottom right) [119507] (centre). Scale 1 x 0.3m
- Plate 424: Trench 1195 section of feature [119503] (right) [119505] (left) facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m
- Plate 425: Trench 1195 section of feature [119509] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 426: Trench 1195 section of feature [119511 (centre) 119513 (bottom right) facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m

Plate 427: Trench 1195 section of feature [119515] facing south. Scale 1 x 0.3m

Plate 428: Trench 1195 section of feature [119517] facing west. Scale 1 x 0.5m

Plate 429: Trench 1195 section of feature [119523] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 0.3m

Plate 430: Trench 1195 section of feature [119527] facing east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 431: Trench 1196 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 432: Trench 1196 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 433: Trench 1198 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 434: Trench 1198 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 435: Trench 1199 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 436: Trench 1199 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 437: Trench 1200 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 438: Trench 1200 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 439: Trench 1200 section of feature [120002] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 440: Trench 1201 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 441: Trench 1201 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 442: Trench 1201 section of feature [120102] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 443: Trench 1202 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 444: Trench 1202 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 445: Trench 1203 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 446: Trench 1203 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 447: Trench 1204 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 448: Trench 1204 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 449: Trench 1205 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 450: Trench 1205 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 451: Trench 1207 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 452: Trench 1207 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 453: Trench 1208 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 454: Trench 1208 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 455: Trench 1209 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 456: Trench 1209 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 457: Trench 1210 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 458: Trench 1210 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 459: Trench 1211 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 460: Trench 1211 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 461: Trench 1212 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- Plate 462: Trench 1212 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 463: Trench 1213 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 464: Trench 1213 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 465: Trench 1214 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 466: Trench 1214 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 467: Trench 1215 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 468: Trench 1215 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 469: Trench 1216 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 470: Trench 1216 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 471: Trench 1217 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 472: Trench 1217 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 473: Trench 1218 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 474: Trench 1218 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 475: Trench 1219 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 476: Trench 1219 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 477: Trench 1220 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 478: Trench 1220 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 479: Trench 1220 section of feature [122002] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 480: Trench 1221 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 481: Trench 1221 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 482: Trench 1222 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 483: Trench 1222 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 484: Trench 1223 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 485: Trench 1223 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 486: Trench 1224 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 487: Trench 1224 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 488: Trench 1225 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 489: Trench 1225 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 490: Trench 1226 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 491: Trench 1226 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 492: Trench 1227 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 493: Trench 1227 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 494: Trench 1228 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 495: Trench 1228 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 496: Trench 1229 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m
- Plate 497: Trench 1229 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m
- Plate 498: Trench 1230 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 499: Trench 1230 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 500: Trench 1231 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 501: Trench 1231 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 502: Trench 1232 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 503: Trench 1232 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 504: Trench 1233 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 505: Trench 1233 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 506: Trench 1234 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 507: Trench 1234 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 508: Trench 1235 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 509: Trench 1235 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 510: Trench 1236 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 511: Trench 1236 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 512: Trench 1237 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 513: Trench 1237 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 514: Trench 1238 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 515: Trench 1238 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 516: Trench 1239 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 517: Trench 1239 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 518: Trench 1240 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 519: Trench 1240 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 520: Trench 1241 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 521: Trench 1241 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 522: Trench 1241 section of feature [124103] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 523: Trench 1242 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 524: Trench 1242 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 525: Trench 1243 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 526: Trench 1243 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 527: Trench 1244 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 528: Trench 1244 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 529: Trench 1245 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 530: Trench 1245 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 531: Trench 1246 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 532: Trench 1246 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 533: Trench 1247 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 534: Trench 1247 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 535: Trench 1248 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 536: Trench 1248 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 537: Trench 1249 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 538: Trench 1249 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 539: Trench 1250 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 540: Trench 1250 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 541: Trench 1251 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 542: Trench 1251 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 543: Trench 1251 section of feature [125102] facing west. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 544: Trench 1251 section of feature [125104] facing west. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 545: Trench 1251 section of feature [125106] facing west. Scale 1 x .3m  
Plate 546: Trench 1252 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 547: Trench 1252 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 548: Trench 1252 section of feature [125202] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 549: Trench 1253 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 550: Trench 1253 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 551: Trench 1254 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 552: Trench 1254 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 553: Trench 1254 section of feature [125403] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 554: Trench 1255 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 555: Trench 1255 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 556: Trench 1255 section of feature [125502] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 557: Trench 1256 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 558: Trench 1256 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 559: Trench 1257 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 560: Trench 1257 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 561: Trench 1258 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 562: Trench 1258 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 563: Trench 1258 section of feature [125802] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 0.3m  
Plate 564: Trench 1259 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 565: Trench 1259 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 566: Trench 1260 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 567: Trench 1260 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 568: Trench 1261 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 569: Trench 1261 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 570: Trench 1262 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 571: Trench 1262 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 572: Trench 1263 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 573: Trench 1263 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 574: Trench 1263 section of feature [126302] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 575: Trench 1264 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 576: Trench 1264 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 577: Trench 1265 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 578: Trench 1265 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 579: Trench 1265 section of feature [126502] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 580: Trench 1266 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 581: Trench 1266 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 582: Trench 1266 section of feature [126603] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 583: Trench 1266 section of feature [126605] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 584: Trench 1267 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 585: Trench 1267 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 586: Trench 1268 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 587: Trench 1268 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 588: Trench 1269 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 589: Trench 1269 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 590: Trench 1270 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 591: Trench 1270 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 592: Trench 1271 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 593: Trench 1271 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 594: Trench 1273 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 595: Trench 1273 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 596: Trench 1274 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 597: Trench 1274 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 598: Trench 1275 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 599: Trench 1275 representative section facing east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 600: Trench 1275 section of feature [127502] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 601: Trench 1276 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 602: Trench 1276 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 603: Trench 1277 section of feature [127702] facing south-east. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 604: Trench 1277 section of feature [127704] facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 605: Trench 1278 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 606: Trench 1278 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 607: Trench 1280 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 608: Trench 1280 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 609: Trench 1281 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 610: Trench 1281 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 611: Trench 1282 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 612: Trench 1282 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 613: Trench 1283 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 614: Trench 1283 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 615: Trench 1283 section of feature [128302] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 616: Trench 1284 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 617: Trench 1284 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 618: Trench 1285 facing east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 619: Trench 1285 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 620: Trench 1286 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 621: Trench 1286 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 622: Trench 1287 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 623: Trench 1287 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 624: Trench 1288 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 625: Trench 1288 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 626: Trench 1289 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 627: Trench 1289 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 628: Trench 1290 facing north after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 629: Trench 1290 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 630: Trench 1291 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 631: Trench 1291 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 632: Trench 1291 section of feature [129102] facing west. Scale 1 x 0.5m  
Plate 633: Trench 1292 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 634: Trench 1292 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 635: Trench 1293 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 636: Trench 1293 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 637: Trench 1294 facing north-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 638: Trench 1294 representative section facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 639: Trench 1291 section of feature [129402] facing south-west. Scale 1 x 0.3m  
Plate 640: Trench 1295 facing south-west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 641: Trench 1295 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 642: Trench 1296 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 643: Trench 1296 representative section facing north-west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 644: Trench 1297 facing south after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m  
Plate 645: Trench 1297 representative section facing west. Scale 1 x 1m  
Plate 646: Trench 1298 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Plate 647: Trench 1298 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 648: Trench 1298 section of feature [129802] facing north-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 649: Trench 1299 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 650: Trench 1299 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 651: Trench 1307 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 652: Trench 1307 representative section facing north. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 653: Trench 1307 section of feature [130702] facing north. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 654: Trench 1308 facing west after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 655: Trench 1308 representative section facing south. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 656: Trench 1309 facing south-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 657: Trench 1309 representative section facing south-west. Scale 1 x 1m

Plate 658: Trench 1310 facing north-east after stripping. Scale 2 x 1m

Plate 659: Trench 1310 representative section facing south-east. Scale 1 x 1m



## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 York Archaeology (YA) were commissioned by Elements Green (herein referred to as “the Client”) to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) on several land parcels located to the north-west of Newark-on-Trent (Figure 01), hereafter referred to as “the Site”. The archaeological works correspond to Phase 2 of a 2-phased programme which will be undertaken ahead of the construction of ground-mounted solar PV panels and associated enabling works, as part of a Development Consent Order. The construction Scheme is considered a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.
- 1.2 Phase 2 of the programme of archaeological works started on the 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and was completed on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2025. The works were undertaken after the submission of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR; Great North Road Solar & Biodiversity Park 2024)<sup>1</sup>. This interim report presents the preliminary results of archaeological trenching undertaken at Dutton (centred on SK 74235 57184) Tweed and Bamford (centred on SK 78832 63882), Hewson South (centred at SK 7610 59947) Kelham East (centred on SK 77324 56505), and Kelham West (centred on SK 74235 57184) with the intention of supporting a decision regarding the design of any future archaeological works in these areas. The sites of Dutton, Tweed and Bamford and Hewson South are named after their landowners, while Kelham East and Kelham West are named for their close location to the village of Kelham.
- 1.3 The investigated sites revealed small concentrations of archaeological evidence, spanning from Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age to the modern periods. The preliminary results and interpretation are presented below.

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<sup>1</sup> Great North Road Solar & Biodiversity Park (2024) *Preliminary Environmental Information Report. Unpublished Report*. Available at: <https://www.gnrsolarpark.co.uk/documents>





## **2 LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 2.1 The proposed evaluation area is located within the Newark and Sherwood District, c.2.8 km to the north-west of Newark. The Site, at the time the evaluation was undertaken, covered an area of approximately 2878ha, the majority of which is currently used as agricultural land. Following the submission of the PEIR and the evolution of the construction design, the Site boundaries have been revised and the Kelham East site, as well as parts of the Dutton and Tweed and Bamford sites, have been descoped from the Scheme.
- 2.2 The second phase of the archaeological evaluation covered approximately 307 ha of the Scheme Order Limits at the time of fieldwork commencement. This interim report focuses on five specific areas. Of these, Kelham East site and parts of the Dutton and Tweed and Bamford sites now fall outside the Scheme limits. The sites of Dutton, Tweed and Bamford and Hewson South are named for their landowners while Kelham East and Kelham West are named for their locations close to the village of Kelham.

### **DUTTON**

- 2.3 Composed of three fields, the Dutton site is located 1.3km to the west of Ossington, Newark, Nottinghamshire (centred on SK 79051 63716, Figure 01). The fields comprising this Site (Field 1-3) are bounded by arable land and woodland. A tributary of the Moorhouse beck runs through the site and a tributary for the Beck sets a boundary on the southern part of the site.
- 2.1 The underlying solid geology is Mercia Mudstone, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 252.2 and 201.3 million years ago during the Triassic period (BGS 2025)<sup>2</sup>. No superficial deposits are recorded. The overlying soils are characterised as slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (Soilscape 8: Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute 2025)<sup>3</sup>.
- 2.2 The Dutton site is situated on fairly levelled ground at the top of a hill and on land that slopes southwards from a height of 77m to 59m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD).

### **TWEED AND BAMFORD**

- 2.3 The Tweed and Bamford site is located within 1km to the west of Carlton on Trent, Newark, Nottinghamshire (centred on SK 78832 63882; Figure 01). The site is located within the southwestern corner of an agricultural field, bounded to the west by woodland and to the south by a field boundary and woodland. The original project design for the Phase 2 of archaeological evaluation comprised the investigation of three fields on Tweed and Bamford however, due wet-ground conditions, much of this work was descoped.
- 2.4 The underlying geology of the Tweed and Bamford site is composed of Mercia Mudstone, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 252.2 and 201.3 million years ago during the Triassic Period (BGS 2025). No superficial deposits are recorded. The

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<sup>2</sup> British Geological Survey. 'Geology of Britain Viewer,' *British Geological Survey* (2025), <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/>. [Accessed 17 January 2025].

<sup>3</sup> Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute. 'Soilscales,' *Cranfield University* (2025), <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscales>. [accessed: January 2025].





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

overlying soils are characterised as slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (Soilscape 8: Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute 2025)<sup>4</sup>.

- 2.5 The site is situated at a height of 24m AOD, at the edge of an area of higher ground to the west.

### **HEWSON SOUTH**

- 2.6 Hewson South is composed of a single field located to the west of the A1 Road, approximately 400m north of North Muskham and approximately 1.5km south of Cromwell, in Newark, Nottinghamshire (centred on SK 79610 59947). The field is bound to the north and south by arable fields, to the east by the A1 and to the west by woodland and the railway line (Figure 01). The River Trent is present within 500m to east of the Hewson South site.
- 2.7 The bedrock geology is comprised of Mercia Mudstone Group, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 252.2 and 201.3 million years ago during the Triassic period (BGS 2024); while the superficial deposits are characterised as Holme Pierrepont Sand and Gravel Member (BGS 2025)<sup>5</sup>. The overlying soils are a mixture of loamy soils and clayey flood plain soils with naturally high groundwater (Soilscales 20 and 22: Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute 2025)<sup>6</sup>.
- 2.8 The site is situated on fairly levelled ground at 10-12m AOD.

### **KELHAM EAST**

- 2.9 Kelham East comprised three fields centred around SK 77324 56505. It is located approximately 600m north of Kelham, Newark, Nottinghamshire (Figure 01). Field 1, the westernmost land parcel is bound by arable fields and to the east by Field 2. Field 2 is bound to the west and south by arable fields and is bordered by Ollerton Road to the east. Field 3, located to the south-east of Fields 1 and 2, is bound to the west and south by Ollerton Road and Trent Lane. The site is also located close to the River Trent.
- 2.10 In the eastern portion of the site, the underlying solid geology is Mercia Mudstone, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 252.2 and 201.3 million years ago during the Triassic Period (BGS 2025)<sup>7</sup>. Superficial deposits are characterised as alluvium-clay, silt sand and gravel in the western extents of fields 1 and 2, and the remaining areas as Holme Pierrepont Sand and Gravel Member (BGS 2025)<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute. 'Soilscales,' *Cranfield University* (2025), <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscales>. [accessed: January 2025].

<sup>5</sup> British Geological Survey. 'Geology of Britain Viewer,' *British Geological Survey* (2025), <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/>. [Accessed 17 January 2025].

<sup>6</sup> Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute. 'Soilscales,' *Cranfield University* (2025), <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscales>. [accessed: January 2025].

<sup>7</sup> British Geological Survey. 'Geology of Britain Viewer,' *British Geological Survey* (2025), <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/>. [Accessed 17 January 2025].

<sup>8</sup> British Geological Survey. 'Geology of Britain Viewer,' *British Geological Survey* (2025), <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/>. [Accessed 17 January 2025].



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- 2.11 The overlying deposits are a mixture of loamy soils and clayey flood plain soils with naturally high groundwater (Soilscapes 20 and 22: Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute 2025)<sup>9</sup>.
- 2.12 The site is situated on fairly levelled ground at 12-14m AOD.

### **KELHAM WEST**

- 2.13 Comprised of 17 fields, Kelham West is located within 1km to the northeast of Hockerton, Newark, Nottinghamshire and approximately 2.3km to the west of Kelham, Newark, Nottinghamshire (centred on SK 73604 57230; Figure 01). The site is predominately surrounded by agricultural fields except to its south-west where is bordered by Cheveral Wood.
- 2.14 The underlying geology is Mercia Mudstone, Siltstone and dolomitic, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 252.2 and 2.01.3 million years ago during the Triassic Period With no recorded superficial deposits. The overlying soils are characterised as a mixture of slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but rich loamy clayey soils and slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (Soilscape 18 and 8: Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute 2025)<sup>10</sup>.
- 2.15 The site is situated on an area of higher ground, ranging from 74m–57m AOD.

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<sup>9</sup> Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute. 'Soilscapes,' *Cranfield University* (2025), <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes>. [accessed: January 2025].

<sup>10</sup> Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute. 'Soilscapes,' *Cranfield University* (2025), <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes>. [accessed: January 2025].



### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- 3.1 A detailed historical and archaeological background was compiled for the Written Scheme of Investigation (Wessex Archaeology, 2024a)<sup>11</sup>. This information has been supplemented with information from the Phase 1 evaluation' WSI (Wessex Archaeology, 2024b)<sup>12</sup>, as well as with data from the Nottinghamshire's HER and Heritage Gateway.
- 3.2 A summary over previous archaeological works is also presented, including geophysical survey and the evaluation undertaken during Phase 1.

#### GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

- 3.3 In Spring 2023, areas of the Site were subject to detailed gradiometer survey by Wessex Archaeology, AOC and Magnitude. The results of the surveys highlighted areas of geophysical anomalies within the Site. A concentration of geophysical anomalies can be seen in the east of the scheme, specifically concentrated in the following locations; south-west of Cromwell, west of Carlton-on-Trent, between Bathley and North Muskham, south of Little Carlton and South Muskham. These areas lie close to the River Trent and the Great North Road and would have been favourable for occupation and settlement. Some of the geophysical anomalies identified can be matched to possible cropmarks identified through the National Mapping Programme (NMP) survey (available at Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer | Historic England). An additional phase of geophysical survey was undertaken by Magnitude in 2025, which again found concentrations of anomalies suggestive of archaeological activity in proximity to the River Trent, Kersall, and North Muskham.
- 3.4 The results of the surveys were used to inform the design of the Proposed Development. Where geophysical survey has already been undertaken and areas of significant archaeological concentration have been identified, these were taken into consideration within design and excluded from the development. Therefore, the evaluation considered that archaeological remains in these areas will be preserved in situ and only areas due to be affected were submitted to evaluation. Should this change through the evolution of the design, these areas could be evaluated as part of a subsequent phase of trial trenching. Other areas were identified as being of archaeological interest which are less able to be avoided by design. The Phase 1 trench layout has been focussed upon these results, to assess and characterise potential archaeological remains which may be subject to physical effects as part of the proposals.
- 3.5 The results of the geophysical surveys are presented as an appendix in the PEIR (Great North Road Solar & Biodiversity Park 2024)<sup>13</sup>.

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<sup>11</sup> Wessex Archaeology (2024a) *GNR Solar Farm, Newark, Nottinghamshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation Phase 2*. Unpublished document. Document reference: 276500.4.

<sup>12</sup> Wessex Archaeology (2024b) *GNR Solar Farm, Newark, Nottinghamshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation Phase 1*. Unpublished document. Document reference: 276500.3.

<sup>13</sup> Great North Road Solar & Biodiversity Park (2024) *Preliminary Environmental Information Report*. Unpublished Report. Available at: <https://www.gnrsolarpark.co.uk/documents>



## PHASE 1 EVALUATION

- 3.6 The Phase 1 of archaeological evaluation (York Archaeology forthcoming)<sup>14</sup> comprised the excavation of 231 trenches across five sites: Maplebeck, Castle Hill, North Muskham, Cromwell Central and Cromwell North. The evaluation report will be integrated as an appendix in the PEIR (Great North Road Solar & Biodiversity Park 2024).
- 3.7 The pre-medieval activity found across the five sites generally consisted of prehistoric and Iron Age remains.
- 3.8 At Maplebeck the evidence encompassed small-scale Iron Age and Romano-British occupational areas and a small hinterland of peripheral activity.
- 3.9 A single Romano-British ditch was present at Castle Hill. Along with the geophysical and artefactual evidence, this feature is currently interpreted as a boundary ditch for a settlement.
- 3.10 At North Muskham, the majority of the evidence consisted of a sparse distribution of ditches and pits, probably representing peripheral activity from a settlement of unknown date. Two of the trenches, located in proximity with a probable settlement to the south of the evaluated area, contained features with suggestive of domestic activity.
- 3.11 In Cromwell North and within the eastern part of the Cromwell Central, the evaluation area was located between three areas of probable settlement, including a Bronze Age to Iron Age settlement known from previous works (MNR 322669). A single sherd of prehistoric pottery was recovered. In three of the trenches, close to the limit of the excavation, the settlement was found to continue. Ring ditches, a posthole, a curvilinear feature, ditches, pits and a ditch were recorded to continue southwards to become the central division of one of the probable settlement areas. Further inwards, a sparse distribution of pits, ditches and one posthole, may indicate marginal occupational activity.
- 3.12 The western part of Cromwell Central contain the remains of an undated water management system, post-dating a palaeochannel also present in that area.
- 3.13 The prehistoric and Romano-British activity, as well as the undated elements, were indicative of a landscape containing small-scale settlements of various sizes, located close or together with other loci of human activity. The larger settlement areas around Cromwell, which also had associated funerary areas outside the Site area (MNR 322669, MNR4287), may have represented an important place within this landscape.
- 3.14 Agricultural activity of medieval/post-medieval date consisted of furrows, occasionally with associated field boundaries. These were rare at North Muskham, and extensive at Cromwell Central, Cromwell North and Maplebeck. No furrows were present at Castle Hill.
- 3.15 Field boundaries and occasional discreet features, dating to the 19th and 20th centuries were present across all five sites.

## DUTTON

- 3.16 The Dutton site was located approximately 2.9km to the north of the Maplebeck site and approximately 3.6km to the east of the Castle Hill site investigated during the Phase 1 evaluation.

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<sup>14</sup> York Archaeology. (forthcoming) *Great North Solar Park Full Report for Archaeological Evaluation*. York Archaeology; Nottingham



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- 3.17 The geophysical survey indicated the presence of probable agricultural trends on various alignments along with occasional linear features and small squarish enclosures.

#### **Prehistoric – Roman (1,000,000 BC – AD 410)**

- 3.18 No prehistoric–Roman remains are recorded on the Nottingham HER within 1km of the Dutton site.

#### **Early medieval (AD 410 – 1066) – medieval (AD 1066 – 1485)**

- 3.19 The village of Ossington is recorded in the Domesday Book as a settlement of 26 households, indicating that it was founded prior to 1086 (Palmer 2025).

#### **Post-medieval (AD 1485 – 1750) – Modern (1750–present)**

Publicly available Ordnance Survey mapping, issued in 1884, 1900 and 1921, depicts the site forming part of an agricultural landscape, flanked by woodland to the north and east. Post-medieval assets in the wider area consist of an 18<sup>th</sup> century farmstead (M17646) and a 19<sup>th</sup> century farmstead (M17651) both located to the west of Dutton.

#### **TWEED AND BAMFORD**

- 3.20 The Tweed and Bamford site is located approximately 630m to the southeast of the previously evaluated site of Castle Hill. The geophysical survey found evidence for a sub-rectangular enclosure and circular feature within the evaluated field and outside area targeted by the excavated trenches.

#### **Prehistoric (500,000 cal BC – AD 43) – Roman (AD 43 – AD 410)**

- 3.21 An undated settlement (M4198) and a possible Roman road (M4199) known locally as ‘Old Road’ are recorded to the east of the Tweed and Bamford site, between the railway line and Carlton on Trent.

#### **Early medieval (AD 410-1066) – medieval (AD 1066-1485)**

- 3.22 The settlement of Carlton on Trent is recorded as a settlement of 16.5 households in the Domesday Book, indicating that the village was established prior to 1086 (Palmer 2025)<sup>15</sup>.

#### **Post-medieval (AD 1485–1750) – Modern (AD 1750–present)**

- 3.23 Publicly available editions of Ordnance Survey maps issued in 1884, 1900 and 1921, depict the Site within an agricultural setting.
- 3.24 To the east of the Site, at Carlton on Trent, a 19<sup>th</sup> century park is present (MNT26657). It was first depicted on Sanderson's map of 1835 and elements such as the boundary walls and gates are Grade II listed (NHLE 1302340).

#### **HEWSON SOUTH**

- 3.25 The Hewson South site is located between the Cromwell Central and North Muskham sites investigated in the Phase 1 of the evaluation.
- 3.26 The geophysical survey for the site recorded east to west aligned linear trends with a small concentration of activity in the southeast of the field and outside the evaluated area.

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<sup>15</sup> Palmer, J. J. N (2025) *Open Domesday* [Online Resource] compiled by A. Powell-Smith. Available at: <https://opendomesday.org/place/SK7961/cromwell/> [Accessed 01/04/2025]



### **Prehistoric (500,000 cal BC – AD 43)**

- 3.27 Findspots for early prehistoric activity are common in the wider area of Hewson South. A Mesolithic to Bronze Age flint scatter was found during trial trenching at Foxholes Farm (Northern Archaeological Associates 2000<sup>16</sup>; L12100). Neolithic findspots from the wider area include blades, axeheads, polished axeheads and scrapers (L5647, L5648, L3073, L5650, L5651, L5653).
- 3.28 To the north of the site, a series of enclosures (MNR 322669) were identified by aerial photography in the early 20th century and were found to be comparable to the Bronze Age to Iron Age settlement excavated at Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire (Grimes 1943<sup>17</sup>; Harden and Treweeks 1945<sup>18</sup>). Excavations of the enclosures (MNR 322669) in the 1950s found evidence for a probable Bronze Age round barrow (Dauncey and Hurrell 1951<sup>19</sup>; M8624). A possible henge has also been recorded in association with these remains (Harding and Lee 1987; MNR 322669). The geophysical survey indicated a continuation of the enclosures into the field directly adjacent to the Hewson South site. Further Bronze Age findspots are present in the wider area, indicating a continuation of activity (L5643; L869).
- 3.29 A scheduled Iron Age barrow cemetery (MNR4287), known from earthworks, is recorded to the northeast of the Hewson South site. Approximately 1km to the east, ditches forming part of a probable Iron Age enclosure and settlement, were discovered during 1998 trial trenching (L12118).

### **Roman (AD 43 – 410)**

- 3.30 A possible Romano-British Villa, inferred from a cropmark complex, has been identified in a field within 1km to the north of the Hewson South site and adjacent to the previously evaluated Cromwell North site (MNR4195).
- 3.31 Romano-British finds and features have been found to the west of the site during trial trenching undertaken in the year 2000 at Foxholes Farm (L12095) and to the east of the site during a 2021 trial trenching along the bank of the River Trent (Parker 2021)<sup>20</sup>. Further findspots of Romano-British pottery are present in the wider area (L11152, L7492, L4312).

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<sup>16</sup> Northern Archaeological Associates (2000) *Foxholes Farm, North Muskham, Near Newark, Nottinghamshire Archaeological Evaluation Report* [Unpublished Report] Northern Archaeological Associates.

<sup>17</sup> Grimes, W. (1943) *Excavations at Stanton Harcourt, 1940 in Oxoniensia* 8-9 pp 19-63. Oxford; The Oxford Architectural & Historical Society.

<sup>18</sup> Harden, D. B. and Treweeks, R. C (1945) *Excavations at Stanton Harcourt, Oxon 1940 II* in *Oxoniensia* 10 pp. 16-41. Oxford; The Oxford Architectural & Historical Society.

<sup>19</sup> Dauncey, K. and Hurrell, D (1951) The excavation of a round barrow at Cromwell, Nottinghamshire in *Transactions of the Thoroton Society* 55 pp. 1-2. Nottingham; The Thoroton Society of Nottinghamshire.

<sup>20</sup> Parker, L (2021) *Archaeological Trial Trench and Auger Borehole Evaluations at Ness Farm, Cromwell Quarry, Cromwell, Nottinghamshire* [Unpublished Document] Nottingham; Trent and Peak Archaeology (York Archaeology): 169/2021.





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

### **Early medieval (AD 410 – 1066) – medieval (AD 1066–1485)**

- 3.32 There is no known activity dating to the early medieval period within North Muskham, however, the village is recorded in the Domesday Records indicating that the village was established prior to 1086 (Palmer 2025)<sup>21</sup>.
- 3.33 The parish church, the Church of St Wilfrid is a Grade I listed building dating from the late 12<sup>th</sup> century (M3155).

### **Post-medieval (AD 1485 – 1750) – Modern (AD 1485 – present)**

- 3.34 The site at Hewson South appears to have remained largely unchanged since the medieval period.
- 3.35 The 'Great North Road' is situated to the east of the Site, and is commonly associated with the coaching route between London and the North, which was established in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Prior to this, the 'Old North Road' had been in use and followed a slightly different alignment in places.

### **Undated**

- 3.36 A series of undated remains are known within the wider area south of the Hewson South site. These lie to the south of the previously evaluated North Muskham site and will not be further discussed in this section.

### **KELHAM EAST**

- 3.37 The Kelham East site is located approximately 1.7km to the southwest of North Muskham and approximately 5.6km southeast of the Maplebeck site, both investigated in the previous phase of evaluation.
- 3.38 The geophysical survey indicated the presence of amalgamated enclosures and probable settlement in the fields to the northeast of Kelham East. Rectilinear enclosures were also identified within the Kelham East site and excluded from the evaluation area. Within the evaluated areas, the geophysical survey indicated the presence the sparse linear anomalies.

### **Prehistoric – Roman (500,000 cal BC – AD 410)**

- 3.39 In the field immediately adjacent to the northeast of the Kelham East site, flints scatters of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date have been found during fieldwalking (L11114, L11116).
- 3.40 A probable Iron Age to Romano-British settlement (M2966, M2968, L8329) with enclosures, a double ring ditch, possible pit alignments and driveways, are known to the immediate northeast of the Kelham East site. These were originally identified from cropmarks and confirmed by the geophysical survey. The dating of the settlement is based on the numerous artefact scatters found in the surrounding area (L11181, L11145).

### **Early medieval (AD 410 – 1066), high medieval (AD 1066 – 1485)**

- 3.41 The nearby village of Kelham is recorded in the Domesday Book as a settlement with a population of 43 households, indicating that it was founded prior to 1086 and that it was a reasonably large rural settlement (Palmer 2025)<sup>22</sup>.

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<sup>21</sup> Palmer, J. J. N (2025) *Open Domesday* [Online Resource] compiled by A. Powell-Smith. Available at: <https://opendomesday.org/place/SK7961/cromwell/> [Accessed 01/04/2025]

<sup>22</sup> Palmer, J. J. N (2024) *Open Domesday* [Online Resource] compiled by A. Powell-Smith. Available at: <https://opendomesday.org/place/SK7961/cromwell/> [Accessed 12/08/2024]



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- 3.42 Findspots from areas immediately adjacent to the east of the site include medieval and post-medieval pottery (L11153, L11155).

**Post-medieval (AD 1485 – 1750)**

- 3.43 Fieldwalking in an area immediately adjacent to the eastern part of the Kelham East site has produced post-medieval gunflints (L11115) and pottery (L11153).
- 3.44 A possible post-medieval post mill is known from cropmarks (M18020) including droveways and ring ditches, present to the east of the Kelham East site and to the north of Kelham.
- 3.45 Historic Ordnance Survey mapping indicates that during the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Kelham East site formed part of an agricultural landscape.

**Undated**

- 3.46 Fieldwalking on the immediate east and northeast of the Kelham East site has produced undated fire cracked stones (L11190, L11229) further suggesting settlement activity.
- 3.47 Undated cropmarks (L974), possibly representing a continuation of the settlement activity are known to the east of the Kelham East site.

**KELHAM WEST**

- 3.48 The Kelham West site is located approximately 1.7km to the southeast of the Maplebeck site evaluated as part of the Phase 1 works.
- 3.49 The geophysical survey indicated the presence of agricultural trends on east to west and north to south alignments with very few potential archaeological features.

**Prehistoric (500,000 Cal BC – AD 43) – Roman (AD 43 – 410)**

- 3.50 No assets relating to the prehistoric or Romano-British periods are recorded in the Kelham West site or its surrounding area.

**Early medieval (AD 410 – 1066) – medieval (AD 1066 – 1485)**

- 3.51 The nearby village of Hockerton is recorded in the Domesday Book as a settlement of 27 households, indicating that it was founded prior to 1086 (Palmer 2025).

**Post-medieval - Modern (1500 – Present)**

- 3.52 Historic Ordnance survey mapping of the Kelham West site area, depicts it as part of an agricultural landscape in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 3.53 A 19<sup>th</sup> century farmstead (M17705) is known to the north of the Kelham West site.

**Undated**

- 3.54 An undated earthwork is known to the north of the Kelham West site, which runs along the parish boundary (L3203).
- 3.55 An undated trackway (L9738), was recorded by the National Mapping Programme to the immediate north of the Kelham West site.





## 4 RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

### PLANNING CONTEXT

- 4.1 This programme of archaeological evaluation was underpinned by national legislation and local policies, as described below.
- 4.2 The results of the archaeological trial trench evaluation intend to inform the need for any further archaeological mitigation.

### NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY

- 4.3 As the Scheme is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, designed for the construction of a solar energy farm, the government policies *Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)* and *National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3)* (Department for Energy Security & Net Zero 2023a<sup>23</sup> and 2023b<sup>24</sup>), are relevant to the Scheme.

- 4.4 Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)

- 4.5 Paragraphs 4.2.15 to 4.2.17 of the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) state:

*“4.2.15 Where residual non-HRA or non-MCZ impacts remain after the mitigation hierarchy has been applied, these residual impacts are unlikely to outweigh the urgent need for this type of infrastructure. Therefore, in all but the most exceptional circumstances, it is unlikely that consent will be refused on the basis of these residual impacts. The exception to this presumption of consent are residual impacts onshore and offshore which present an unacceptable risk to, or unacceptable interference with, human health and public safety, defence, irreplaceable habitats or unacceptable risk to the achievement of net zero. Further, the same exception applies to this presumption for residual impacts which present an unacceptable risk to, or unacceptable interference offshore to navigation, or onshore to flood and coastal erosion risk.*

*4.2.16 As a result, the Secretary of State will take as the starting point for decision making that such infrastructure is to be treated as if it has met any tests which are set out within the NPSs, or any other planning policy, which requires a clear outweighing of harm, exceptionality or very special circumstances.*

*4.2.17 This means that the Secretary of State will take as a starting point that CNP Infrastructure will meet the following, non-exhaustive, list of tests:*

- where development within a Green Belt requires very special circumstances to justify development;*
- where development within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) requires the benefits (including need) of the development in the location proposed to clearly outweigh both the likely impact on features of the site that make it a SSSI, and any broader impacts on the national network of SSSIs.*
- where development in nationally designated landscapes requires exceptional circumstances to be demonstrated; and*

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<sup>23</sup> Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (2023a) *Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)*. London: Department for Energy Security & Net Zero.

<sup>24</sup> Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (2023b) *National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3)*. London: Department for Energy Security & Net Zero.



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- *where substantial harm to or loss of significance to heritage assets should be exceptional or wholly exceptional.*

4.6 Paragraphs 5.9.9 to 5.9.11 state:

*“5.9.9 The applicant should undertake an assessment of any likely significant heritage impacts of the proposed development as part of the EIA, and describe these along with how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied in the ES (see Section 4.3). This should include consideration of heritage assets above, at, and below the surface of the ground. Consideration will also need to be given to the possible impacts, including cumulative, on the wider historic environment. The assessment should include reference to any historic landscape or seascape character assessment and associated studies as a means of assessing impacts relevant to the proposed project.*

*5.9.10 As part of the ES the applicant should provide a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected by the proposed development, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the importance of the heritage assets and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum, the applicant should have consulted the relevant Historic Environment Record<sup>235</sup> (or, where the development is in English or Welsh waters, Historic England or Cadw) and assessed the heritage assets themselves using expertise where necessary according to the proposed development’s impact.*

*5.9.11 Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or the available evidence suggests it has the potential to include, heritage assets with an archaeological interest, the applicant should carry out appropriate desk-based assessment and, where such desk-based research is insufficient to properly assess the interest, a field evaluation. Where proposed development will affect the setting of a heritage asset, accurate representative visualisations may be necessary to explain the impact.”*

4.7 Paragraphs 5.9.17 to 5.9.21 state:

*“5.9.17 Where the loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset’s significance is justified, the Secretary of State will require the applicant to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is lost (wholly or in part). The extent of the requirement should be proportionate to the asset’s importance and significance and the impact. The applicant should be required to publish this evidence and to deposit copies of the reports with the relevant Historic Environmental Record. They should also be required to deposit the archive generated in a local museum or other public repository willing to receive it.*

*5.9.18 Where appropriate, the Secretary of State will impose requirements on the Development Consent Order to ensure that the work is undertaken in a timely manner, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation that complies with the policy in this NPS and which has been agreed in writing with the relevant local authority, and to ensure that the completion of the exercise is properly secured.*

*5.9.19 Where the loss of significance of any heritage asset has been justified by the applicant on the merits of the new development and the significance of the asset in question, the Secretary of State should consider:*

- *imposing a requirement in the Development Consent Order*
- *requiring the applicant to enter into an obligation*

*5.9.20 That will prevent the loss occurring until the relevant part of the development has commenced, or it is reasonably certain that the relevant part of the development is to proceed.*



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

*5.9.21 Where there is a high probability (based on an adequate assessment) that a development site may include, as yet undiscovered heritage assets with archaeological interest, the Secretary of State will consider requirements to ensure appropriate procedures are in place for the identification and treatment of such assets discovered during construction.”*

**National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3)**

- 4.8 Paragraph 3.8.190 of the National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) states:

*“3.8.190 Once a site has been chosen, it may be necessary to undertake further archaeological assessment, including field evaluation, to identify as yet unknown heritage assets when considering the options for detailed site development, which may also include ancillary matters, such as those described in Section 5.9 of EN-1.”*

- 4.9 Paragraphs 3.10.98 to 3.10.101 state:

*“3.10.98 The impacts of solar PV developments on the historic environment will require expert assessment in most cases and may have effect both above and below ground...*

*3.10.100 Below ground impacts, although generally limited, may include direct impacts on archaeological deposits through ground disturbance associated with trenching, cabling, foundations, fencing, temporary haul routes etc. Equally solar PV developments may have a positive effect, for example archaeological assets may be protected by a solar PV farm as the site is removed from regular ploughing and shoes or low-level piling is stipulated.”*

- 4.10 Paragraphs 3.10.104 to 3.10.106 state:

*“3.10.104 Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to, include heritage assets with archaeological interest, the applicant should submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation. These should be carried out, using expertise where necessary and in consultation with the local planning authority, and should identify archaeological study areas and propose appropriate schemes of investigation, and design measures, to ensure the protection of relevant heritage assets.*

*3.10.105 In some instances, field studies may include investigative work (and may include trial trenching beyond the boundary of the proposed site) to assess the impacts of any ground disturbance, such as proposed cabling, substation foundations or mounting supports for solar panels on archaeological assets.*

*3.10.106 The extent of investigative work should be proportionate to the sensitivity of, and extent of proposed ground disturbance in, the associated study area. Applicants should take account of the results of historic environment assessments in their design proposal.”*

- 4.11

**National Planning Policy Framework**

- 4.12 Developments of this nature, and their impact upon the historic environment, are addressed by the revised 2023 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG),



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

and the NPPF Planning Practice Guide Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment (DCLG 2014, 2021, 2023) <sup>25</sup> <sup>26</sup>.

**4.13** Section 16 of NPPF, paragraph 205 states:

*“Local planning authorities should maintain or have access to a historic environment record. This should contain up-to-date evidence about the historic environment in their area and be used to:*

*a) assess the significance of heritage assets and the contribution they make to their environment; and*

*b) predict the likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets, particularly sites of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future.”*

**4.14** In addition, paragraph 207, states that:

*“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.”*

**4.15** Furthermore, paragraphs 212 and 218 of the NPPF state:

*“When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.”*

*“Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.”*

### **Local Policy**

**4.16** The scheme is located in the Newark and Sherwood District Council (2019)<sup>27</sup>, which has the following Core Policy:

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<sup>25</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2023) *National Planning Policy Framework Planning Practice Guide: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment*. London: Department for Communities and Local Government.

<sup>26</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2024) *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*. London: Department for Communities and Local Government.

<sup>27</sup> Newark and Sherwood District Council (2019) *Plan Review, Review of the Newark and Sherwood local development framework core strategy and allocations* <https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/media/nsdc-redesign/documents-and-images/your-council/planning-policy/local-development-framework/amended-core-strategy-dpd/amended-core-strategy-DPD.pdf> [Accessed 10/05/2024].



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- The continued conservation and enhancement of the character, appearance and setting of the district's heritage assets and historic environment, in line with their identified significance as required in national policy;
- Designated assets and environments comprising Listed Buildings (inclusive of the protected views of and across Southwell's principal heritage assets), Conservation Areas, Registered Historic Parks and Gardens, and Scheduled Monuments. When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Where adverse impact is identified there should be a clear and convincing justification, including where appropriate a demonstration of clear public benefits;
- Non-designated heritage assets including buildings of local interest, areas of archaeological interest and unregistered parks and gardens or as identified on the relevant Historic Environment Record or identified in accordance with locally agreed criteria. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.
- The preservation and enhancement of the special character of Conservation Areas including that character identified through Conservation Area Character Appraisals which will form the basis for their management. Important open spaces and features identified through the Conservation Area Appraisal process will be protected through subsequent allocation in the Allocations & Development Management DPD;
- Positive action for those heritage assets at risk through neglect, decay, vacancy or other threats where appropriate; and
- The protection of Historic Landscapes including the Historic Battlefield at Stoke Field, the Sherwood Forest Heritage Area and the Historic Landscape around Laxton. A sustainable future for Laxton will be sought, which preserves and enhances its Open Field System and culture, the built and natural environment which sustain it, including the Historic Landscape around Laxton, and the institutions which manage it. This will be achieved by working in partnership with the Court Leet, the Crown Estates and the Parish Council. Appropriate new development which facilitates these aims will be supported.





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

## **5 SITE-SPECIFIC AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **AIMS**

5.1 The general aims of the fieldwork were as follows:

- To provide information about the archaeological potential of the Site; and
- To inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

### **OBJECTIVES**

5.2 The objectives of the fieldwork were to:

- Determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- Establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- Place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- To make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

### **SITE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

5.3 The Site-Specific objectives of the fieldwork were to:

- To test the results of the geophysical surveys;
- To examine evidence for any prehistoric remains;
- To examine evidence of any prehistoric remains, in particular evidence of the Iron Age settlements identified by the HER;
- To examine evidence for potential Roman settlement that may exist within the Site; and
- To assess the potential for the medieval and post-medieval agricultural activity within the Site.



## REGIONAL RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- 5.4 This archaeological evaluation was considered to provide an opportunity to contribute to Research Themes and Objectives outlined in the *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Knight *et al* 2012)<sup>28</sup> (Interactive Digital Platform available at: [www.researchframeworks.org/emherf](http://www.researchframeworks.org/emherf)).

**Table 1: Relevant regional research agenda**

<b>Iron Age (c.1150 cal BC–AD 43)</b>
4.4 Middle Iron Age settlements (c.450 – 100 BC)
4.4.1: Why were settlements increasingly enclosed during this period and to what extent may the progress of enclosure have varied regionally?
4.4.3: How and why did ‘village’ or ‘ladder’ settlements develop?
<b>Roman (AD 43-c.410)</b>
5.4 Rural settlement patterns and landscapes
5.4.1: How did the Conquest impact upon rural settlements and landscapes?
5.4.2: How and why did settlement forms and building traditions vary within the region and over time?
5.4.4: How did field and boundary systems relate to earlier systems of land allotment, and how did these boundary networks develop over time?
<b>Post-medieval (1485-1750)</b>
8.3 Agricultural Landscapes and Economy
8.3.1: How can we improve our understanding of the early landscapes of enclosure and improvement and the interrelationship between arable, pasture, woodland, commons and waste?
8.3.2: How did water management and land drainage change the landscape during this period?
8.3.3: What changes and improvements occurred in animal husbandry and the use of animals (e.g. new breeds, traction and traded animal products)?
<b>Modern (1750-Present)</b>
9.6 Agriculture
9.6.1: What was the impetus for the development of estate farming and rural agricultural industries, and what has been the landscape impact?
9.6.2: How did Parliamentary enclosure and other agricultural improvements (e.g. water management) impact upon the rural landscape?
9.6.3: What was the role and distribution of planned model farms?
9.6.5: What changes and improvements have occurred in animal husbandry and use (e.g. new breeds, traction and traded animal products)?

<sup>28</sup> Knight, D, Vyner, B, and Allen, C (2012) *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*. Available at: [www.researchframeworks.org/emherf](http://www.researchframeworks.org/emherf) [Accessed 10/05/2024].





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

## 6 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The methodology section derives from the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by Wessex Archaeology in 2023 and incorporates a new method statement produced by YA in 2024 (Wessex 2024)<sup>29</sup>.

### GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 6.2 All works were undertaken in accordance with the WSI as approved by the Nottinghamshire Planning Archaeologist and to standards defined by ClfA guidelines for recording of archaeological sites (ClfA 2022<sup>30</sup>, 2023a<sup>31</sup> 2023b<sup>32</sup>).
- 6.3 The areas for evaluation were selected following consideration of the results provided by the geophysical survey. The works exclude zones with high-densities of expected archaeological remains on the basis that the design of the Proposed Development will avoid those areas.

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

- 6.4 The Phase 2 of trial trenching evaluation comprised the excavation of 278 trenches across five sites. A total of 50 trenches were excavated at Dutton, 20 trenches at Hewson South, 33 trenches at Kelham East and 172 trenches at Kelham West. Only three trenches were excavated at Tweed and Bamford, instead of the originally foreseen 35 due to waterlogged and poor ground conditions. Also, due to ecological and safety constraints, Trenches 1125 and 1306 on Kelham East, were unable to be excavated.
- 6.5 All trenches were located with reference to the Ordnance Survey National Grid by GPS, Leica CS15/GS15 RTK Differential GNSS. Each trench measured 50m by 1.80m and was excavated by a 360° mechanical excavator using a 1.80m wide toothless ditching bucket.
- 6.6 All machining was conducted under constant archaeological supervision, with stripping and spoil removal arranged so as to avoid any tracking across the stripped surface. Prior to excavation, areas were scanned with a CAT scanner to locate any services that may not be shown on the services plan supplied by the Client.
- 6.7 Trenches were excavated to the first archaeological horizon. Stratigraphy was removed in spits no greater than 250mm.
- 6.8 Topsoil and subsoil were stored separately at a safe distance from the trench edge. Spoil was checked for artefacts, including the use of a metal detector when deemed appropriate. No finds were recovered from the topsoil or subsoil.
- 6.9 All features identified were hand-cleaned. Following scanning by metal detector, features were sample excavated, sufficient to determine their plan and form, and to recover any datable artefacts.

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<sup>29</sup> Wessex Archaeology (2024a) *GNR Solar Farm, Newark, Nottinghamshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation Phase 2*. Unpublished document. Document reference: 276500.4.

<sup>30</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA). 2022. *Code of Conduct*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

<sup>31</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) (2023a) *Standard for archaeological field evaluations*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

<sup>32</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) (2023b) *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluations*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

- 6.10 Feature fills were removed by contextual change (the smallest usefully definable unit of stratification) and/or in spits no greater than 100mm.

### RECORDING AND SAMPLING

- 6.11 Plans of all contexts, including features, were surveyed using a GPS, Leica CS15/GS15 RTK Differential GNSS, and showed at least: context numbers, all colour and textural changes, principal slopes, levels expressed as O.D. values, or levelled to permanent features if a benchmark was absent, sufficient to locate the subject in relation to OS 1:2500 mapping.
- 6.12 Sections were drawn on drafting film in pencil at a scale of 1:10/1:20/1:50 (as appropriate) and show the same information, but levelling information was given in the form of a datum line with O.D./arbitrary value. The locations of all sections were surveyed.
- 6.13 Digital images of each context were taken together with general views illustrating the principal features of the excavations.
- 6.14 Written records were maintained as laid down in the YA recording manual and excavation manual (York Archaeology 2015<sup>33</sup>; York Archaeology 2024<sup>34</sup>).
- 6.15 The location of any artefacts was recorded by context/spit fill numbers.

### POST-EXCAVATION

- 6.16 The post-excavation works encompassed the processing and analysis of the Site records, GPS survey and the production of plans for this interim report. A revision of the available archaeological data was also conducted.
- 6.17 All finds were cleaned, conserved and stored as recommended in '*First aid for finds*' (Watkinson and Neal 1998) <sup>35</sup> and *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2020)<sup>36</sup>. Selected artefacts will be marked with the site and find codes, and relevant accession numbers.

### ARCHIVE AND FINDS DEPOSITION

- 6.18 The archive will be fully catalogued and prepared to recognised standards (Brown 2007)<sup>37</sup> in line with the depositing museum deposition guidelines/requirements (Newark and Sherwood District Council 2021)<sup>38</sup>.
- 6.19 The archive will be deposited with Newark and Sherwood Museum, under the accession code **NEKMS: 2024.10**.

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<sup>33</sup> York Archaeology (2015) *Recording Manual*. York Archaeology: Unpublished Document.

<sup>34</sup> York Archaeology (2024) *Excavation Manual* York Archaeology: Unpublished Document

<sup>35</sup> Watkinson. D. and Neal. V (1998) *First Aid for Finds*. London: Rescue/UKIC.

<sup>36</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) (2020) *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

<sup>37</sup> Brown, D (2011) *Archaeological Archives – A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). London, Archaeological Archives Forum.

<sup>38</sup> Newark and Sherwood District Council (2021) *The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Newark and Sherwood Museum Service*. Newark and Sherwood District Council.



## 7 INTERIM RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### *Introduction and Scope of the Reported Results*

- 7.1 The following interim results will provide a rapid overview of the archaeological potential of the five evaluated sites, a concordance of the physical and material archive supported by spot dates, and interim interpretations of the Sites in support of the PEIR, produced by Wessex Archaeology on behalf of their Client, Elements Green.

### *Overview of the Information Provided*

- 7.2 Evaluation of the listed five sites, as part of the stages Phase 2 evaluation for the Great North Road Solar Park, comprised the excavation of 278 trenches, over an total area of approximately 307ha. At the Tweed and Bamford site, 33 trenches were descopeed from this phase of the evaluation, due to wet-ground conditions.
- 7.3 Of the 278 excavated trenches, 95 were found to contain features or deposits of archaeological significance and 17 of these trenches produced artefactual material, the majority of which was found to be either ceramic or faunal. The preliminary dating of these elements places them as potential prehistoric, Roman, post-medieval and modern (though concentrated to the Romano-British and post-medieval to modern periods, respectively).
- 7.4 Two of the five evaluated sites are dominated by intensive agricultural activity dating to at least the post-medieval period. Modern field boundaries, identified through comparison with historic Ordnance Survey mapping, were identified extensively at Dutton and Kelham West. A post-medieval ditch was also identified at Hewson South and a furrow was identified at Tweed and Bamford.
- 7.5 A single area of Romano-British activity was identified within the Kelham West site. This consisted of remains suggestive of settlement concentrated within three trenches.
- 7.6 Undated features comprising pits and ditches were identified at four of the five evaluated sites.
- 7.7 For the purposes of this high-level interim report, full trench descriptions are not provided. A complete log of all excavated trenches is provided in Appendix 1. The information is organised by Site in the following order: Dutton, Hewson South, Kelham East, Kelham West and Tweed and Bamford.

### *Quantification of the Site Archive*

- 7.8 The quantification of each site archive is presented below.

**Table 2: GNR Quantification of the Site Archive**

Record type	Dutton	Hewson South	Kelham East	Kelham West	Tweed and Bamford
Trench records	50	20	32	172	3
Context sheets	141	65		450	11
Context registers	1	1	1	1	1



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

Record type	Dutton	Hewson South	Kelham East	Kelham West	Tweed and Bamford
Drawing registers	1	1	1	1	1
Photo registers	1	1	1	1	1
Sample registers	1	1		1	1
Drawing sheets	2	2	684	7	70
Photographs	720	235	32	3003	3
Samples	4	9		2	11

## DUTTON

### Overview

- 7.9 The evaluation at Dutton comprised the excavation and recording of 50 trenches across three fields (Figures 02–09; Plates 1–116). A total of 29 trenches were blank and 21 contained archaeological features. The identified features mainly consisted of ditches relating to previous field systems and occasional pits.
- 7.10 The field boundaries identified in many of the trenches correspond with those shown on the 1884 OS mapping. These features form the latest phase of activity on site and suggest that the land use has not altered significantly since, at least, the post-medieval period.
- 7.11 Archaeological features were present within Trenches: 1002-1003, 1006-1011, 1018, 1023, 1032-1033, 1037, 1039-1041, 1043-1046 and 1048.

### Blank Trenches

- 7.12 The following trenches did not yield archaeological features: 1000-1001, 1004-1005, 1012-1017, 1019-1022, 1024-1031, 1034-1036, 1038, 1042, 1047 and 1300. These trenches were subject to standard methods for recording archaeologically blank trenches and are not discussed further in the results. Complete stratigraphic details are included in the trench logs in Appendix 1.

### Site Stratigraphy

- 7.13 The general site stratigraphy comprised a natural substrate consisting of a reddish-brown silty clay and Mercia mudstone. Archaeological features were cut in the natural geology, which was overlain by a brownish-grey clay agricultural plough soil. All trenches measured 50m in length and 1.80m in width.

### Medieval to Modern

- 7.14 A number of modern field boundary ditches, visible on the 1884's OS map, were found within trenches 1003, 1008, 1010, 1011, 1018, 1023, 1031, 1032, 1037, 1039, 1040, 1045, 1046 and 1048 (Figures 02– 04, 06– 09). No dateable finds were recovered from these features, but their correlation with the cartographic data is sufficient to attribute a function and date.



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

***Undated***

- 7.15 Undated features in the form of ditches and pits were found throughout the Site in trenches 1002, 1009, 1041, 1044 and 1045 (Figures 04, 08 and 09). For the purposes of this high-level interim report, these are not discussed further at this stage. Full stratigraphic logs are presented in Appendix 1.



## **TWEED AND BAMFORD**

### ***Overview***

- 7.16 The site at Tweed and Bamford was meant to contain the excavation of 35 trenches however due to severe weather and ground conditions and safety constraints only three trenches were able to be excavated to date (Figure 10; Plates 117–124). A single trench contained archaeological features comprising part of an earlier ridge and furrow field system.

### ***Blank Trenches***

- 7.17 The following trenches did not yield archaeological features: 1054 and 1062 These trenches were subject to standard methods for recording archaeologically blank trenches and are not discussed further in the results. Complete stratigraphic details are included in the trench logs in Appendix 1.

### ***Site Stratigraphy***

- 7.18 The general stratigraphy across the Site comprised a natural substrate consisting of a reddish-brown silty clay and Mercia mudstone. Archaeological features were cut in the natural geology, which was overlain by a brownish-grey clay agricultural plough soil. All trenches measured 50m in length and 1.80m in width.

### ***Medieval – post-medieval***

- 7.19 Trench 1053 contained a series of furrows with no dateable evidence (Figure 10). These types of features are connected with agricultural field systems dating between the medieval and post-medieval periods. For the purposes of this high-level interim report, the feature will not be discussed further at this stage. Full stratigraphic logs are presented in Appendix 1.



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

## **HEWSON SOUTH**

### ***Overview***

- 7.20 The site at Hewson South comprised a single field where 20 evaluation trenches were excavated (Figures 11–13; Plates 125–174). A total of 10 trenches contained archaeological features and ten were recorded as blank. The archaeological features can be loosely characterised as ditches and pits.
- 7.21 Archaeological features were present within trenches: 1083-1085, 1090-1091, 1093, 1095 and 1302-1304.

### ***Blank Trenches***

- 7.22 The following trenches did not yield archaeological features: 1086-1089, 1092, 1094 and 1096-1099. These were subject to standard methods for recording archaeologically blank trenches and are not discussed further in the results. Complete stratigraphic details are included in the trench logs in Appendix 1.

### ***Site Stratigraphy***

- 7.23 The general stratigraphy across the Site comprised a natural substrate consisting of a yellow-brown Holme Pierrepont Sand and Gravel Member - Sand and gravel. Archaeological features were cut in the natural geology, which was overlain by a dark greyish-brown silty clay agricultural plough soil. All trenches measured 50m in length and 1.80m in width.

### ***Prehistoric (Neolithic – Bronze Age)***

- 7.24 The investigation yielded evidence for prehistoric activity on Site with one pit in Trench 1084 containing a fragment of early prehistoric pottery (Figure 11). The sherd consists of a vertical rim and body, highly decorated with geometric incisions, preliminary dated between the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.

### ***Medieval to Modern***

- 7.25 A post-medieval pottery fragment was recovered from a northwest to south east aligned ditch within Trench 1303 (Figure 12). A single pottery fragment was also found in the topsoil of Trench 1091 and features within 1092 and 1093 were also dated to the post-medieval period (Figures 12 and 13).

### ***Undated***

- 7.26 Undated features in the form of ditches and pits were found throughout the Site in Trenches 1083, 1085, 1090-1091, 1093, 1095 and 1302 and 1304 (Figures 11 and 12). Trench 1084 also yielded the remains of a currently undated animal, potentially a burial (Figure 11). For the purposes of this high-level interim report, features are not discussed further at this stage. Full stratigraphic logs are presented in Appendix 1.





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

## **KELHAM EAST**

### ***Overview***

- 7.27 The evaluation at Kelham East comprised the excavation of 33 trenches spread over three fields. A total of 14 trenches were identified as containing archaeological features comprising pits and ditches (Figures 14–17; Plates 175–273). Due to ecological and safety constraints, Trenches 1125 and 1306 were unable to be excavated.
- 7.28 Archaeological features were present within Trenches: 1100, 1102-1107, 1114, 1118, 1121-1123 and 1126-1127.

### ***Blank Trenches***

- 7.29 The following trenches did not yield archaeological features: 1101, 1108-1113, 1115-1117, 1119-1120, 1124, 1128-1131 and 1305. These trenches were subject to standard methods for recording archaeologically blank trenches and are not discussed further in the results. Complete stratigraphic details are included within the trench logs in Appendix 1.

### ***Site Stratigraphy***

- 7.30 The general stratigraphy across the Site comprised a natural substrate consisting of a yellow-brown Holme Pierrepont Sand and Gravel and reddish-brown silty clay and Mercia mudstone. Archaeological features were cut in the natural geology, which was overlain by a dark greyish-brown silty clay agricultural plough soil. All trenches measured 50m in length and 1.80m in width.

### ***Undated***

- 7.31 Undated features in the form of ditches and pits were found throughout the Site in trenches 1100, 1102-1107, 1114, 1118, 1121-1123 and 1126-1127 (Figures 14, 16 and 17). A high number of features was recorded within Trench 1102 possibly suggesting a concentration of archaeology in this area (Figure 16). For the purposes of this high-level interim report features are not discussed further at this stage. Full stratigraphic logs are presented in Appendix 1.



## **KELHAM WEST**

### **Overview**

- 7.32 Kelham West was the largest area evaluated in Phase 2. The site comprised multiple fields where 172 trenches were excavated (Figures 18–39; Plates 274–659). A total of 49 trenches contained archaeological features mainly consisting of linear ditches with the occasional curved linear and pit. The archaeology is concentrated in the northwest corner of the site and dates from the Roman to the Modern period.

### **Blank Trenches**

- 7.33 The following trenches did not yield archaeological features: 1132, 1135-1137, 1141-1152, 1154-1165, 1167-1172, 1174-1175, 1177, 1179, 1182, 1184, 1203-1219, 1221-1240, 1242-1244, 1246-1248, 1250, 1253-1254, 1256-1257, 1259-1262, 1264-1265, 1267-1273, 1276, 1278-1282, 1285-1290, 1292-1293, 1295-1299 and 1308-1310. These trenches were subject to standard methods for recording archaeologically blank trenches and are not discussed further in the results. Complete stratigraphic details are included within the trench logs in Appendix 1.

### **Site Stratigraphy**

- 7.34 The general stratigraphy across the Site comprised a natural substrate consisting of a reddish-brown silty clay and Mercia mudstone. Archaeological features were cut in the natural geology, which was overlain by a brownish-grey clay agricultural plough soil. All trenches measured 50m in length and 1.80m in width.

### **Romano-British**

- 7.35 A number of features, artefactually dated as Roman, were concentrated in the northwest corner of the site in trenches 1191, 1194 and 1195 (Figure 24). Trench 1191 contained two intercutting pits both of which contained significant numbers of Roman pottery.
- 7.36 The earliest of these was [119103] which measured 1.12m in length and 0.67m in width with a depth of 0.07m. Pit [119103] was backfilled by a sticky mid-brown grey silty clay and contained vast quantities of pottery relative to the size and depth of the cut.
- 7.37 This feature was cut by pit [119105] which measured 0.81m in length, 0.64m in width and 0.11m in depth. Similarly [119105] was backfilled with a sticky dark-brown grey silty clay containing less pottery but still a significant number for the size of the feature.
- 7.38 Although both features displayed significant signs of truncation, likely caused by ploughing, the quantity of artefactual material that was recovered is significant and can be a strong indicator of settlement on high-ground, around this cluster of trenches.
- 7.39 Also producing datable pottery was ditch [119402], located towards the western end of trench 1194. Forming a curving terminal end, the ditch measured 0.57m in width and 0.28m in depth. The terminus contained two distinct fills, the earliest being a compact mid-greyish-brown silty clay, and the later a sticky dark-brownish-grey silty clay. This ditch seems to be forming an enclosed area which could not be identified within the trench boundaries.
- 7.40 Although no datable evidence was recovered from within trench 1195, the morphology of the features and similarities to those from the other trenches which have produced datable material, would suggest that they are of a similar chronology. Eight features were identified in this trench; seven ditches and one posthole. Two



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

curved linear ditches, [119515] and [119525], could have formed a circular feature with a diameter of approximately 8m.

- 7.41 The lack of dating evidence from trench 1195 doesn't subtract from its significance the high concentration of archaeology potentially suggesting the focal point of a settlement.

***Medieval to Modern***

- 7.42 A number of modern field boundary ditches, visible on the 1884's OS maps, were found within Trenches 1140, 1166, 1263, 1255, 1254, 1251, 1283, 1275 and 1290 (Figures 20–23, 25, 26, 32 and 37). No dateable finds were recovered from these features however, their position in relation with the field boundaries identified on the historic mapping, assigned them to this phase.

- 7.43 Trench 1136 contained a large cut feature measuring over 20m in length and extending beyond the edge of the trench excavation (Figure 39). The base of the feature could not be safely reached within the confines of the trench measuring over a metre in depth. Along with modern plastic finds the cut for this feature could be seen truncating part of the topsoil showing the feature to be of a modern date.

***Undated***

- 7.44 Undated features in the form of ditches were found throughout the Site in trenches 1133, 1134, 1136, 1138, 1144, 1150, 1153, 1158, 1185-1190, 1196, 1200, 1201, 1225, 1241, 1244-1247, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1258, 1261, 1262, 1265-1267, 1269, 1272, 1274-1279, 1281, 1283, 1285, 1290, 1292, 1293, 1295, 1296, 1298, 1299, 1307 and 1309. For the purposes of this high-level interim report, these are not discussed further at this stage. Full stratigraphic logs are presented in Appendix 1.



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

## 8 PRELIMINARY ARTEFACTUAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

*by Diana Fernandes and Morwenna Fox*

- 8.1 The Phase 2 of the archaeological evaluation undertaken at Great North Road targeted five areas including Dutton, Hewson South, Kelham East, Kelham West and Tweed and Bamford. The excavation works yielded a total of 452 artefacts and ecofacts, and 24 soil samples were collected for floatation and palaeoenvironmental analysis.
- 8.2 All finds have been washed, quantified, bagged and stored according to the guidance for the safe handling and curation of archaeological objects (ClfA, 2020)<sup>39</sup>.
- 8.3 A catalogue of all finds has been entered onto a Microsoft Excel database, per Site. Potential chronology of datable artefacts (spot dates) was sought whenever possible. The total quantities of material recovered on each Site are detailed in Table 7.
- 8.4 The soil samples were processed by flotation, using a 500µm mesh for the heavy residue and a 250µm for the flot. The heavy residue was sorted by hand for ecofactual and artefactual material.
- 8.5 A count of the bulk soil samples for palaeoenvironmental analysis can be seen on Table 8, and a full list of samples is also available on Appendix 3.

**Table 3: Quantification of finds, per Area and material type**

Material	Dutton	Tweed and Bamford	Hewson South	Kelham East	Kelham West	Grand Total
Bone	127		160	9	48	344
CBM	4	1				5
Charcoal		2				2
Metal (Fe)	1					1
Pottery	1	1	3		96	101
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>453</b>

**Table 4: Quantification of samples, per Area**

Area	Number of samples	Volume (L)
Dutton	4	140
Hewson South	9	180
Kelham West	11	300

<sup>39</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) (2020) *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

## ARTEFACT SUMMARIES

### ***Dutton***

- 8.6 A total of 133 artefacts and ecofacts were recovered during the archaeological evaluation at Dutton. Only two fragments of CBM were hand-collected from Trench 1032 with the remainder of the finds being retrieved from soil samples - mainly comprising very small fragments of burnt bone. Residual modern pottery, a ferrous fragment and tiny pieces of CBM are also part of the artefactual group collected on Site.

Context number	Sample number	Material	Object	Count	Weight(g)
100203	10001	Bone		1	0
100203	10001	Bone	burnt bone	126	30
100303	10002	Metal (Fe)		1	8
103204		CBM		2	42
104505	10000	CBM		2	0
104505	10000	Pottery	Sherd	1	0

### ***Tweed and Bamford***

- 8.7 The evaluation at Tweed and Bamford yielded a very small group of hand-collected finds. Only two ceramic fragments were collected alongside some charcoal fragments, from the same context (105304).

Context number	Sample Number	Material	Object	Count	Weight (g)
105304		CBM	Mixed Sherds	1	6
105304		Charcoal	Fragments	2	10
105304		Pottery	Mixed Sherds	1	2

### ***Hewson South***

- 8.8 A total of 10 artefacts and ecofacts were recovered during the archaeological evaluation at Hewson South. Trench 1084 yielded a fragment of early prehistoric pottery, highly decorated with geometric incisions and preliminary dated between the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. The same trench revealed the remains of an animal with 160 pieces weighing over 5kg. Two pottery fragments of post-medieval date were also retrieved on site.

Context number	Sample Number	Material	Object	Count	Weight (g)
108405		Bone		160	5347
108403	14001	Pottery	Rim	1	10
109100		Pottery	Sherd	1	14
130303		Pottery	Sherd	1	13

### ***Kelham East***

- 8.9 The investigation at Kelham East yielded a single bone fragment. This was recovered from Trench 114.

Context number	Sample Number	Material	Object	Count	Weight (g)
11404		Bone		9	51



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

### ***Kelham West***

- 8.10 Kelham West provided the largest group of material retrieved during the Phase 2 of evaluation. A total of 144 artefacts and ecofacts were recovered during the archaeological evaluation. Trench 1191 yielded most of the remains with Roman pottery being the main find. Further Roman pottery was also collected from trench 1194. A potential prehistoric pottery fragment was retrieved in a soil sample collected in Trench 1195 as well as animal bone fragments, which were also retrieved from other trenches in this site.

Context number	Sample Number	Material	Object	Count	Weight (g)
113604		Pottery	Mixed sherds	6	138
119104		Bone		1	1
119104		Pottery	Mixed sherds	73	1096
119106		Pottery	Mixed sherds	14	179
119403		Pottery	sherd	1	11
119404		Pottery	sherd	1	28
119506	12005	Bone	burnt bone	2	0
119506	12005	Bone		7	4
119506	12005	Pottery	sherd	1	7
119528	12010	Bone		38	14



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

## **9 INTERIM CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 The programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation for the sites of Dutton, Hewson South, Kelham East, Kelham West and Tweed and Bamford revealed a low density of archaeological remains across the five evaluated zones of the Scheme Order Limits.
- 9.2 Several clusters of archaeological remains, most currently undated, were present across all evaluation areas. In Kelham West, an area containing a high concentration of archaeological activity of Roman date was identified while in the neighbouring area of Kelham East, only a small concentration of undated remains was recorded. The majority of features within all of the five evaluated sites were subject to truncations caused by intensive agricultural activity, potentially since medieval or post-medieval times.
- 9.3 With the exception of the Roman remains at Kelham West, and the prehistoric evidence revealed in Hewson South, the dearth of artefactual evidence within all evaluated areas is notable. Further investigation of the archaeological evidence has moderate potential to help characterise the remains in relation to the on-site results but also in relation to known settlement in the surrounding areas. Consideration of proximity of recognised settlements, including those identified during the geophysical survey as well as supported by the results of the Phase 1 evaluation, will allow an improved understanding of human activity across the Scheme and in the region.
- 9.4 The trial trenching evaluation met the key objectives outlined by the WSI (Wessex 2024a)<sup>40</sup>, which sought to rapidly clarify the area's archaeological potential and ground truth the results of the previous phase of geophysical survey. The scarcity of artefactual information, allied to the moderate density of archaeological remains indicates that the aims of the Project Design, to use the geophysical survey to avoid areas of dense archaeological activity and potential settlement, has been successful for the majority of the areas.
- 9.5 Descriptions, interpretations and recommendations are tentative at this stage. Further work is recommended to unpick the interpretations and phasing of features within the evaluation areas. A programme of radiocarbon dating, if considered appropriate, alongside scrutiny of the recovered ecofactual resource, may support this aim. This should be achieved as part of the "full" evaluation reporting stage.

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<sup>40</sup> Wessex Archaeology (2024a) *GNR Solar Farm, Newark, Nottinghamshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation Phase 2*. Unpublished document. Document reference: 276500.4.





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

## **10 STRATEGY FOR FULL EVALUATION REPORTING**

- 10.1 Once the remaining areas of the Stage 2 evaluation is complete, the final evaluation report will comprise:
- Non-Technical Summary
  - Project Background
  - Archaeological and historical context
  - Aims and Objectives
  - Methodology
  - Results – including stratigraphic trench descriptions of archaeologically “positive” trenches
  - Artefactual and Ecofactual specialist reports
  - Discussion and Conclusions relative to the project aims and local context.
  - References
  - Site illustrations – detailing existing trench plans alongside geophysical survey and OS mapping where possible, and a subsample of feature section illustrations
  - Appendices, including trench logs, finds concordance, OASIS data collection form



Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

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Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

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FIGURES

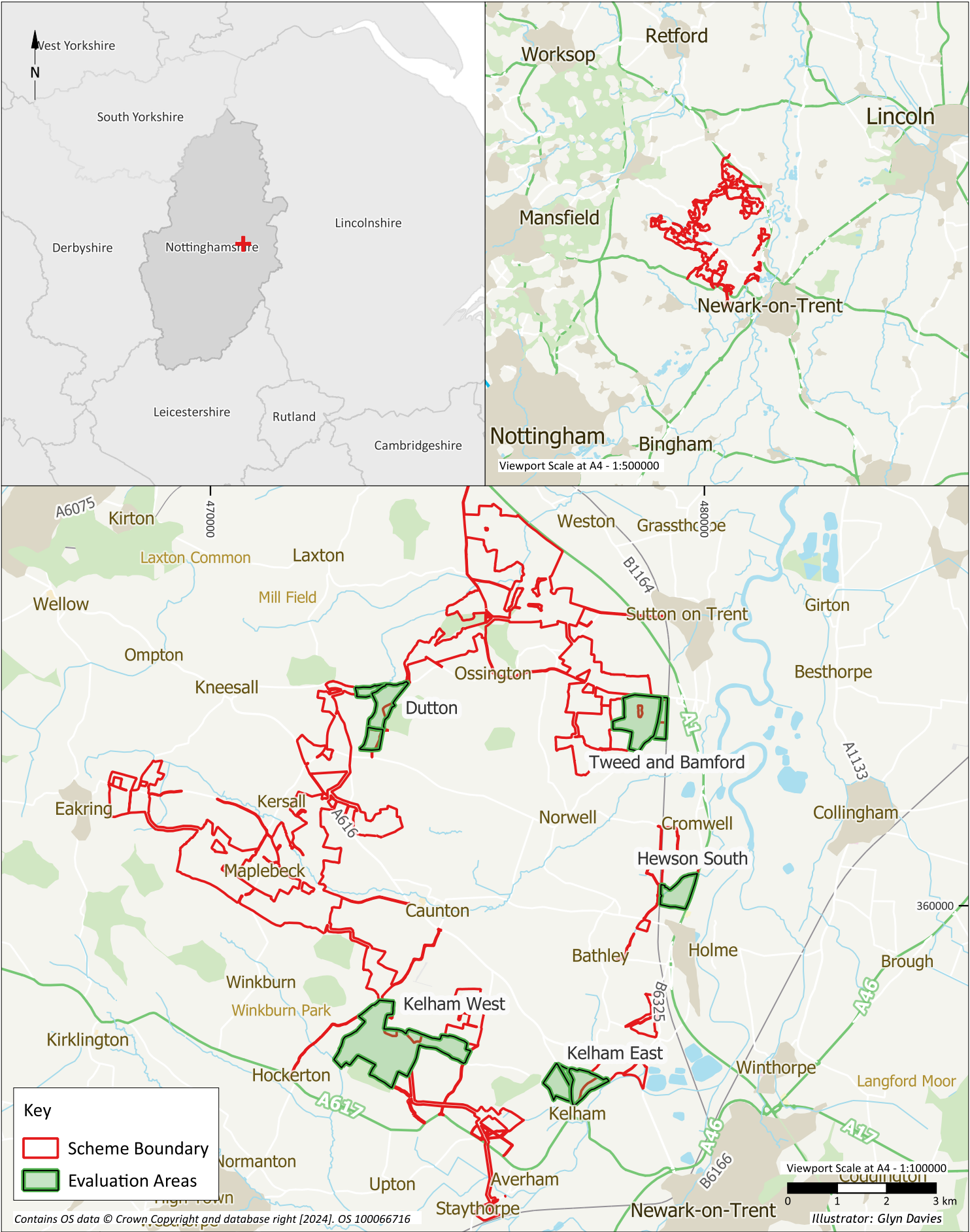


Figure 01 - Location Map  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

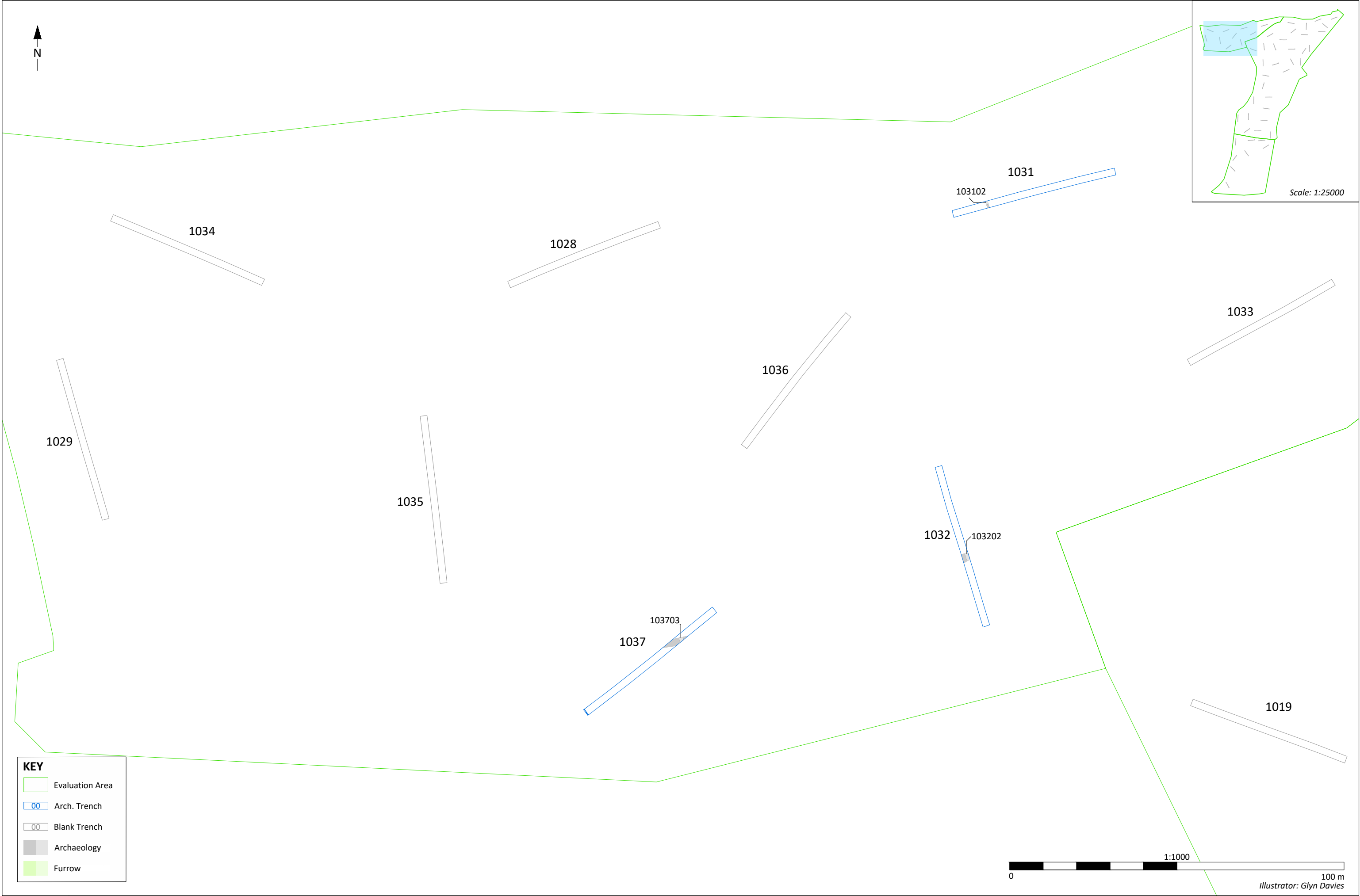


Figure 02 - Site Plan - Dutton - 01/08  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies

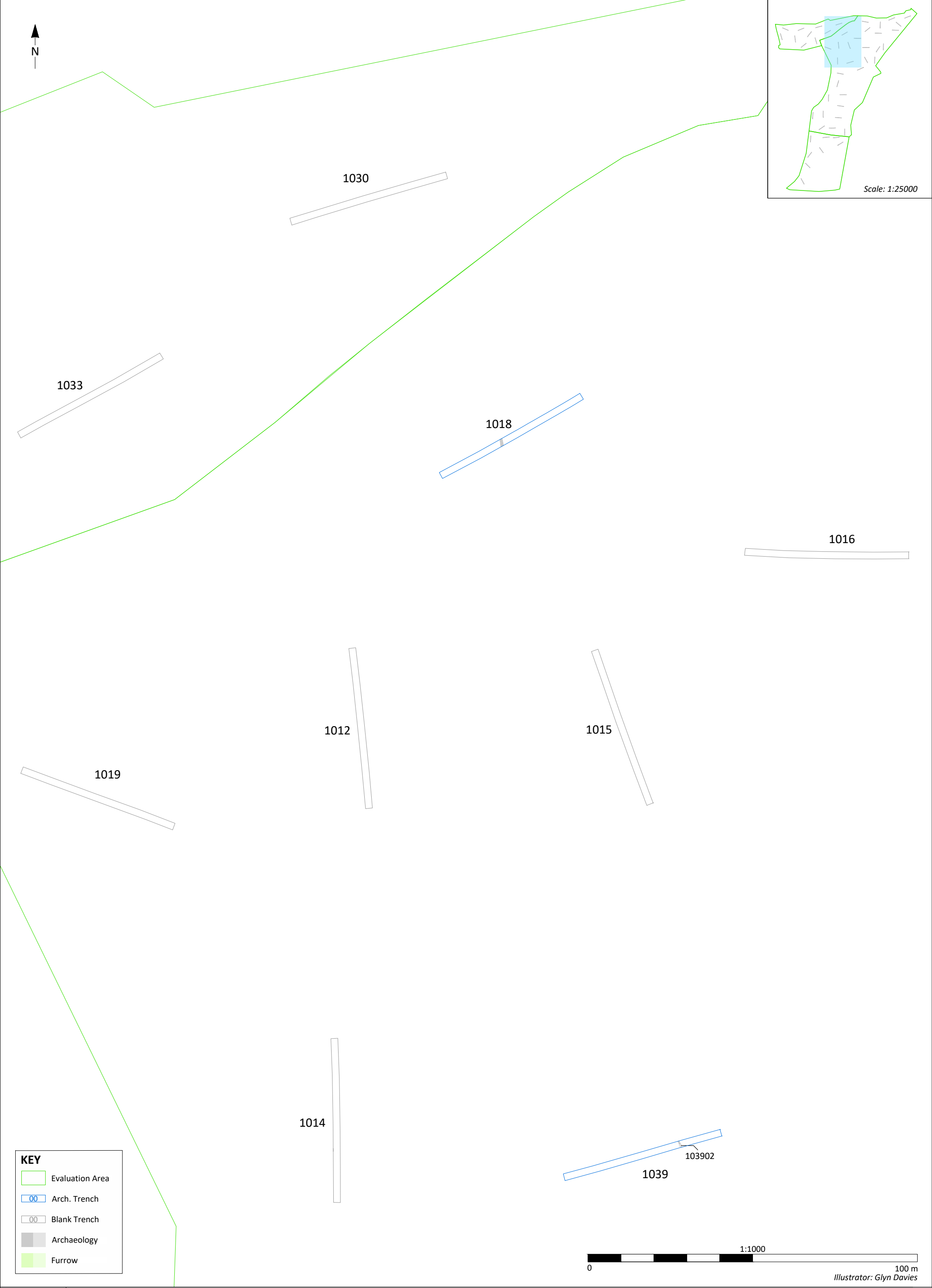


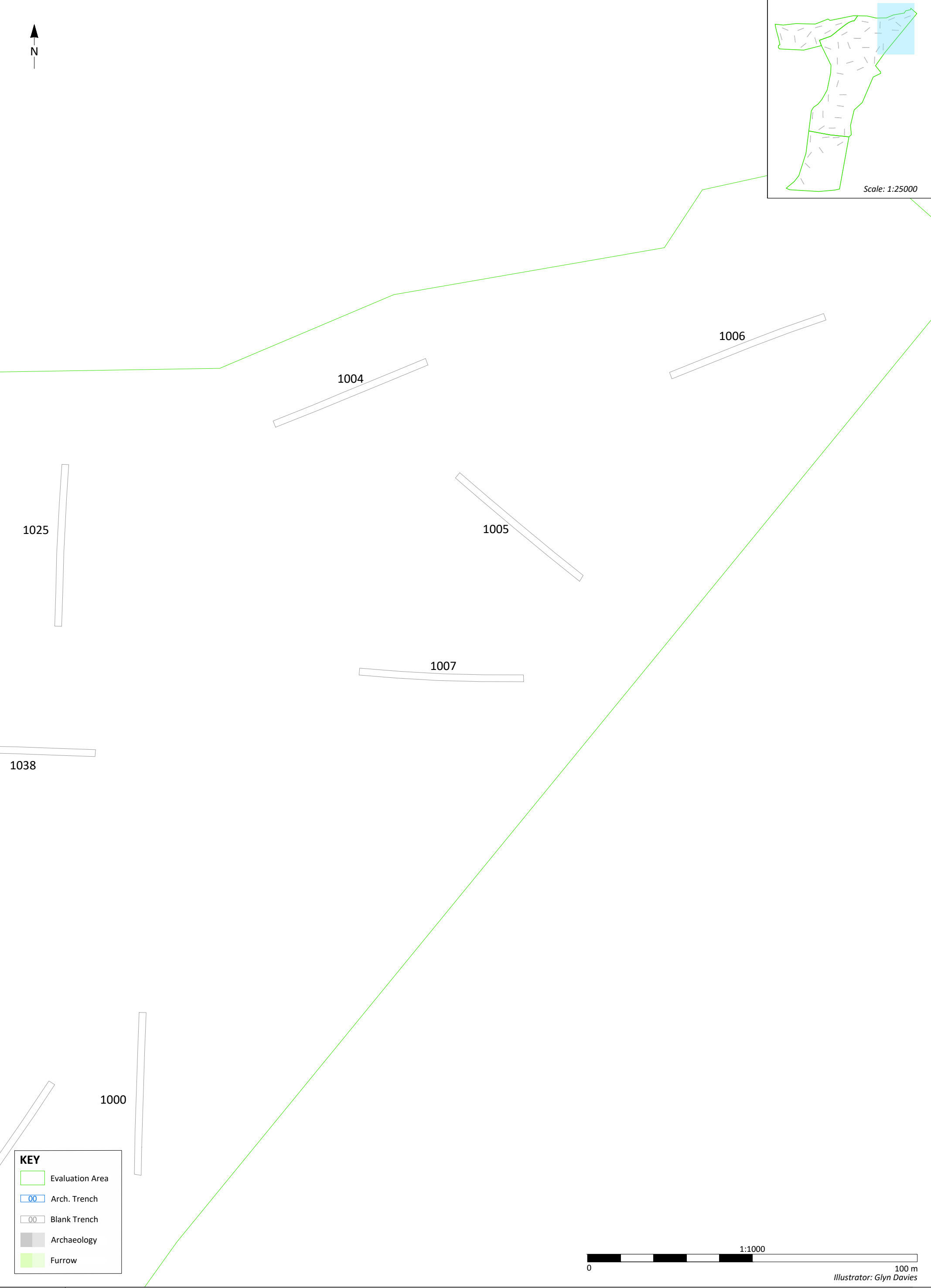
Figure 03 - Site Plan - Dutton - 02/08  
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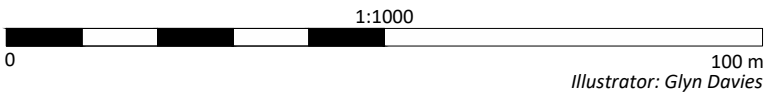
Figure 04 - Site Plan - Dutton - 03/08  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies



**KEY**

- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Illustrator: Glyn Davies



Figure 05 - Site Plan - Dutton - 04/08  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

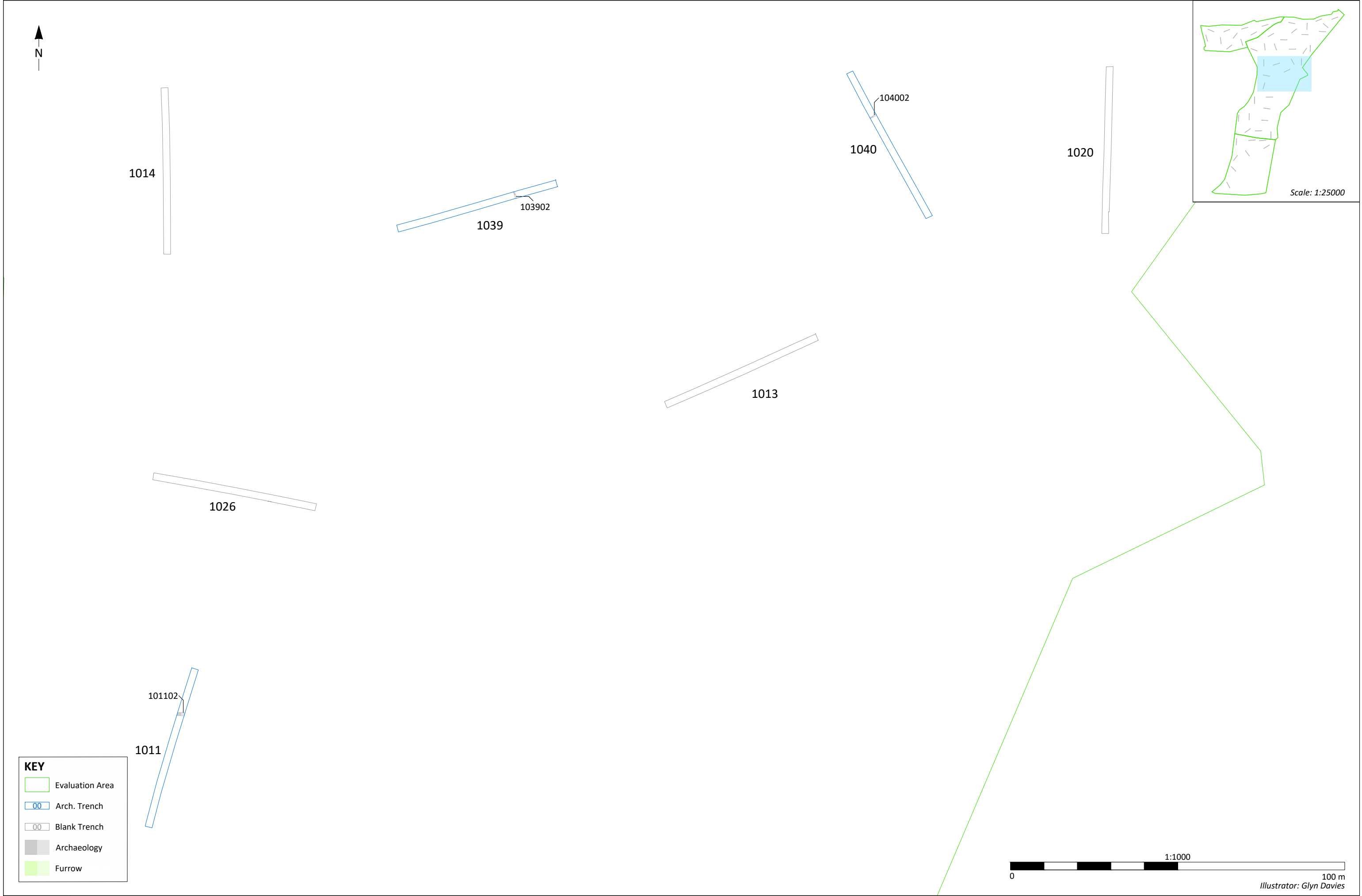
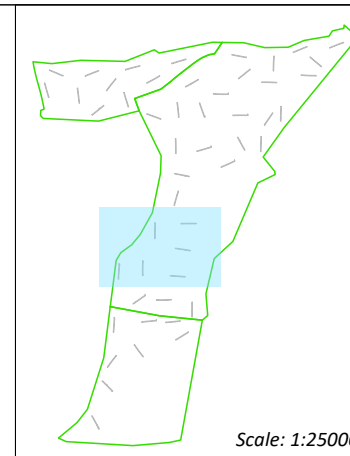







Figure 06 - Site Plan - Dutton - 05/08  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies



**KEY**

-  Evaluation Area
-  Arch. Trench
-  Blank Trench
-  Archaeology
-  Furrow

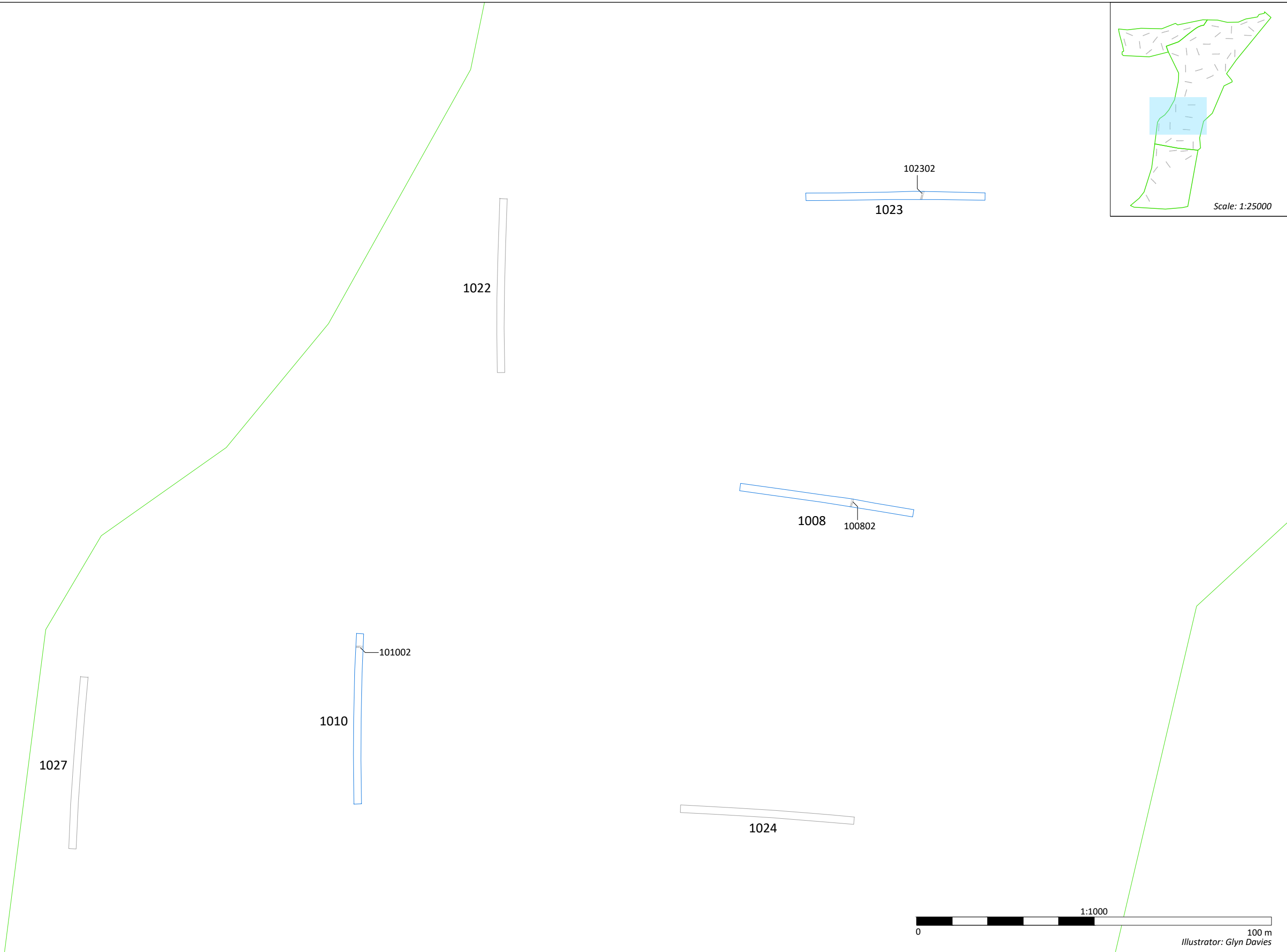
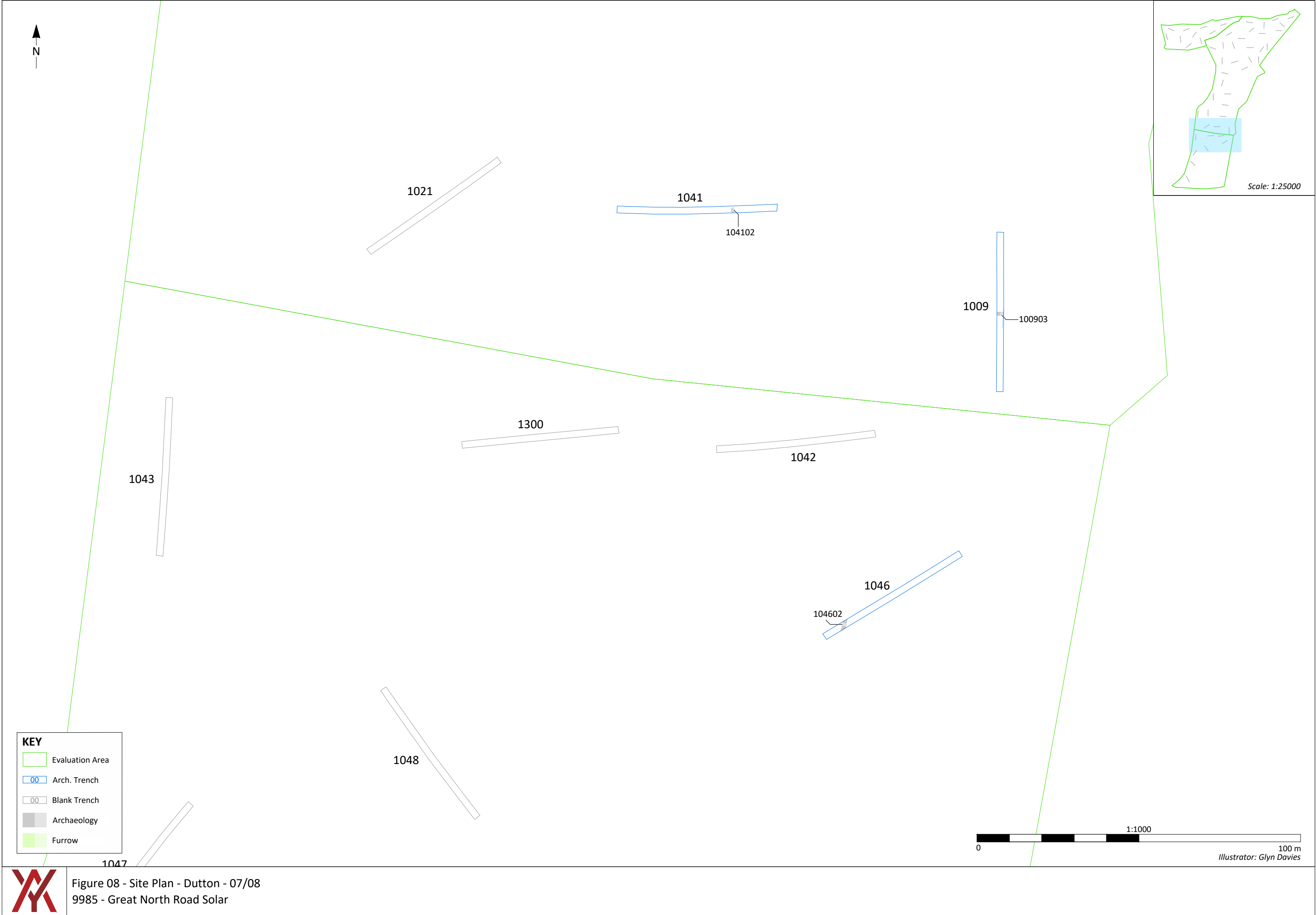
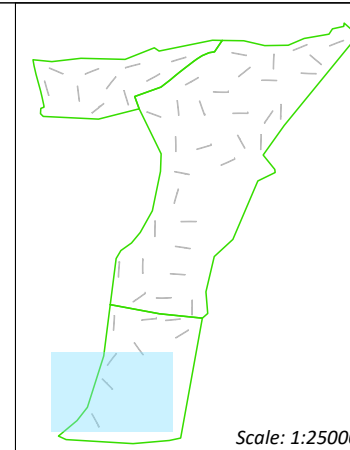


Figure 07 - Site Plan - Dutton - 06/08  
9985 - Great North Road Solar





Scale: 1:25000

**KEY**

- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow

1044

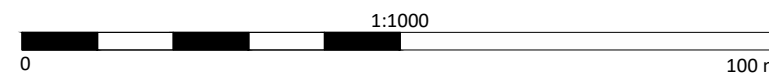
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1047

1045

104504

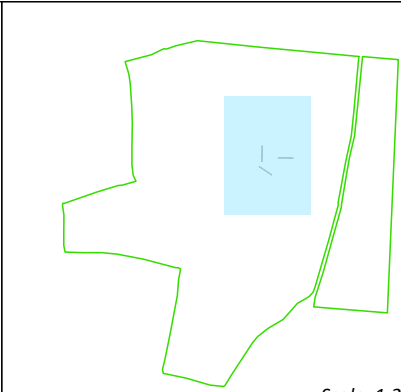
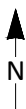
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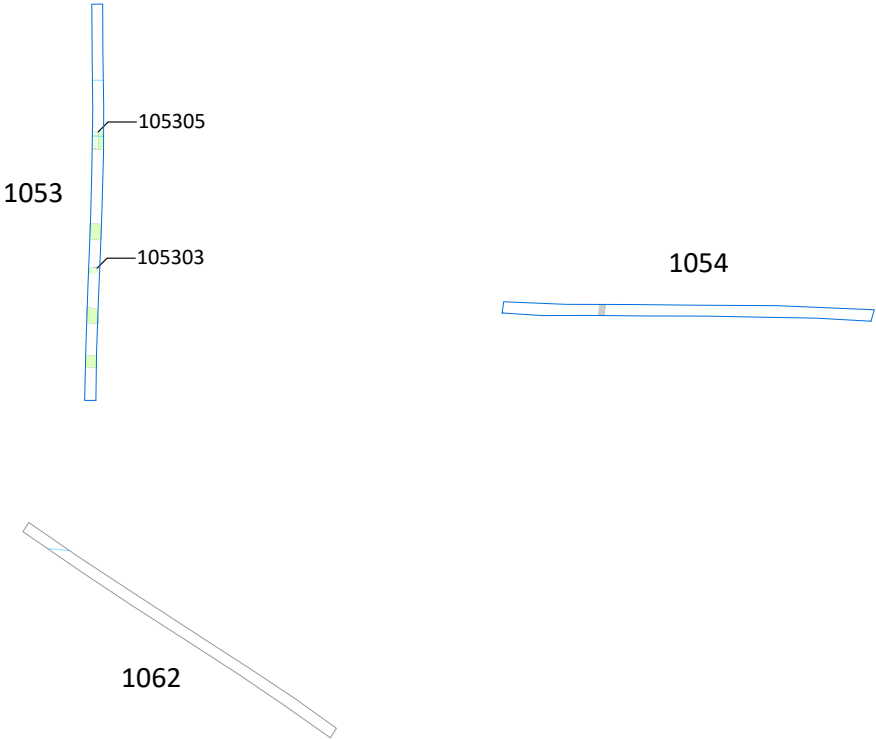
Illustrator: Glyn Davies



Figure 09 - Site Plan - Dutton - 08/08  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

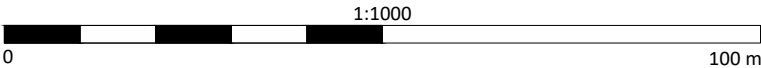


Scale: 1:25000



KEY

- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Illustrator: Glyn Davies



Figure 10 - Site Plan - Tweed and Bamford - 01/01  
9985 - Great North Road Solar



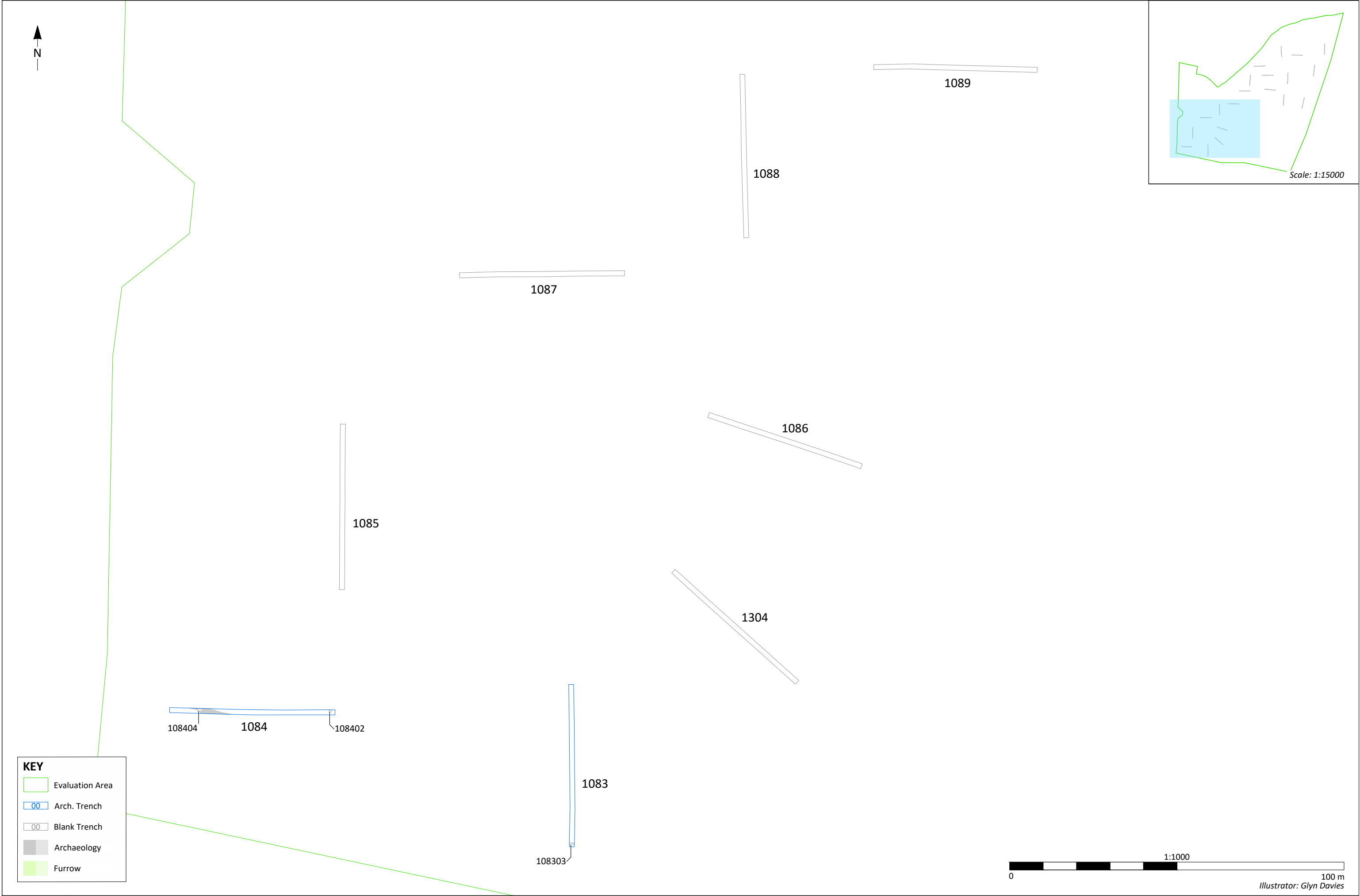
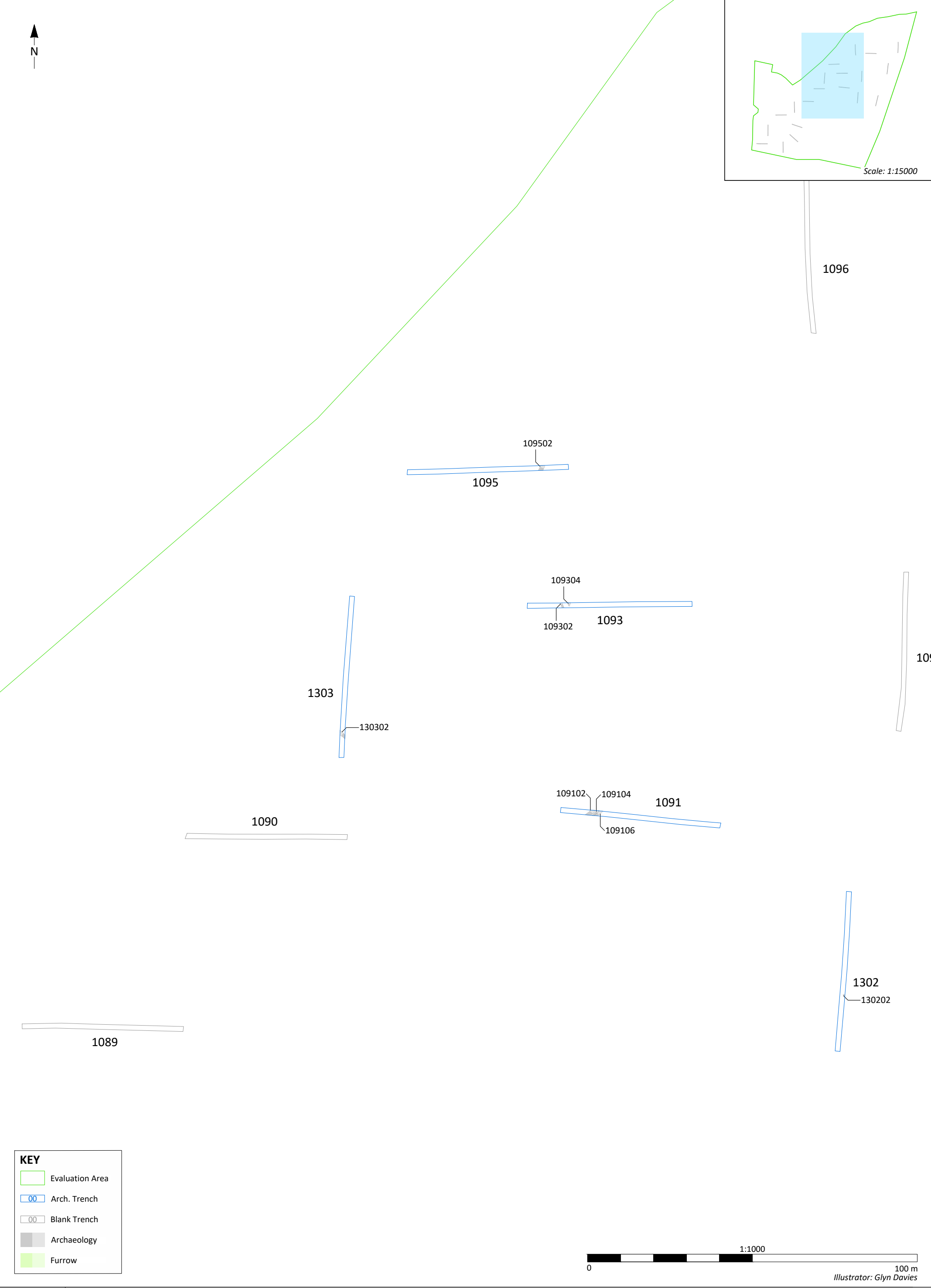


Figure 11 - Site Plan - Hewson South - 01/03  
9985 - Great North Road Solar



**KEY**

- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Figure 12 - Site Plan - Hewson South - 02/03  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies

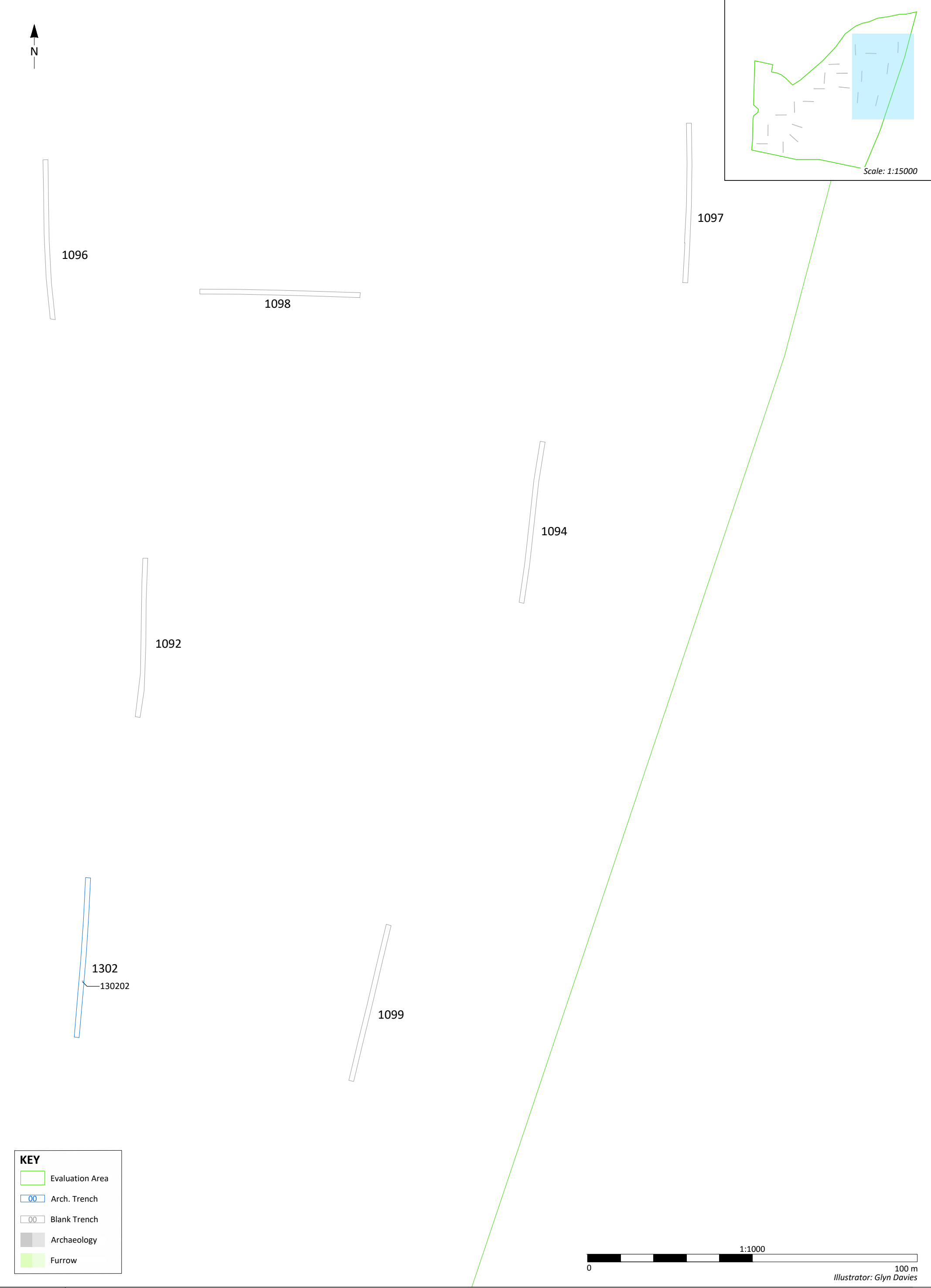
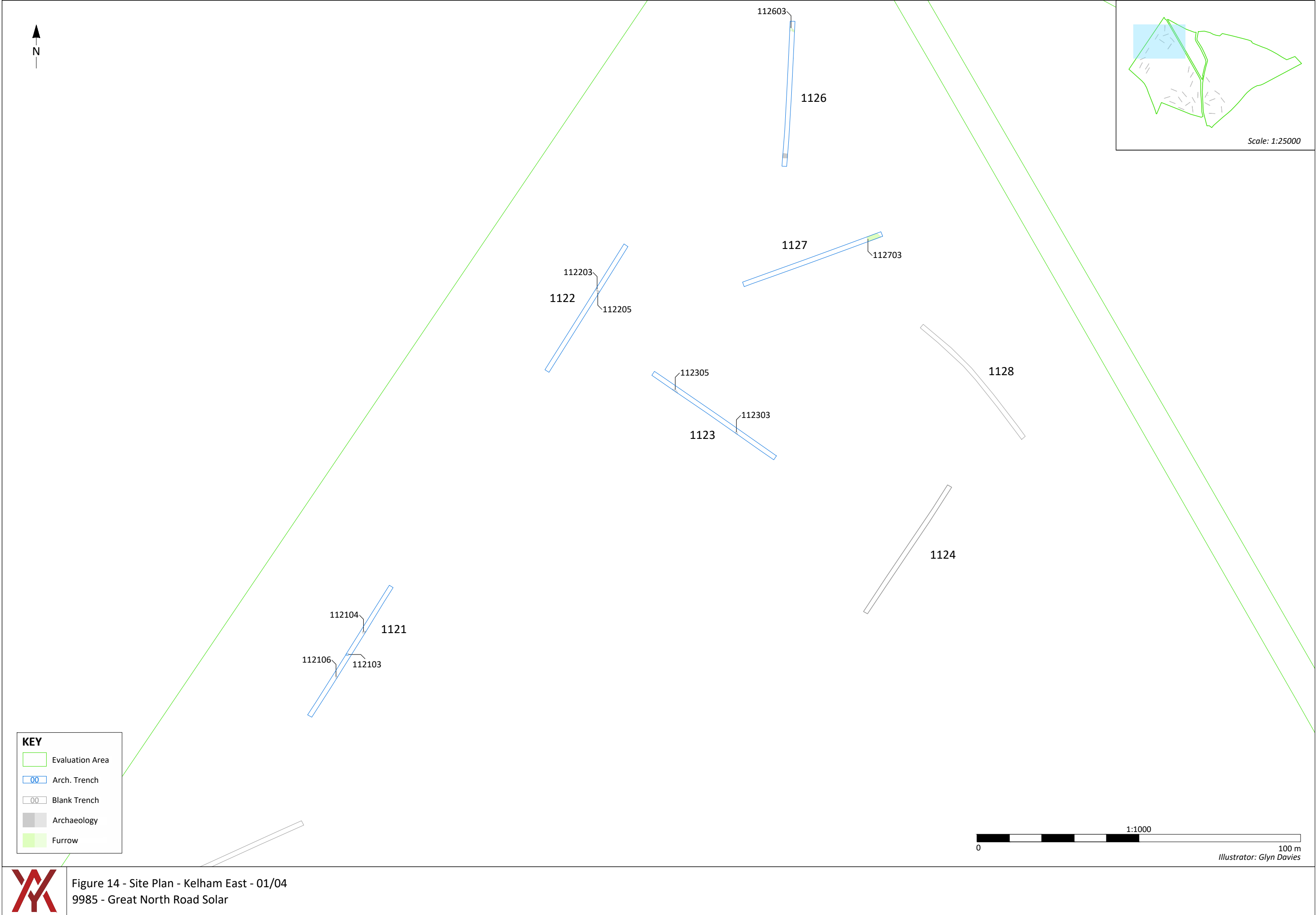


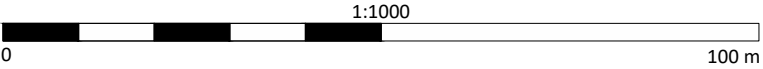
Figure 13 - Site Plan - Hewson South - 03/03  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies



**KEY**

- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Illustrator: Glyn Davies



Figure 14 - Site Plan - Kelham East - 01/04  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

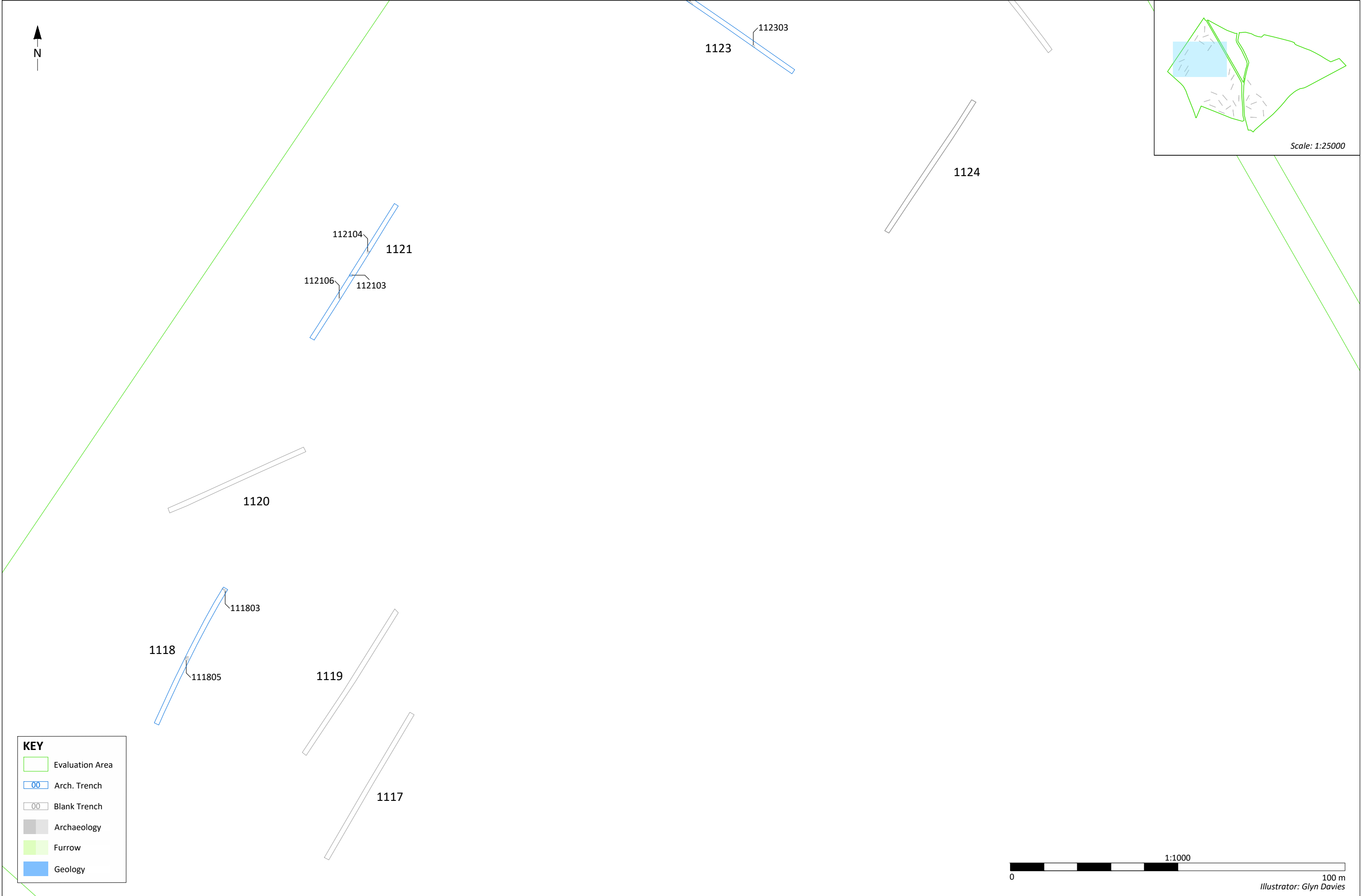


Figure 15 - Site Plan - Kelham East - 02/04  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies

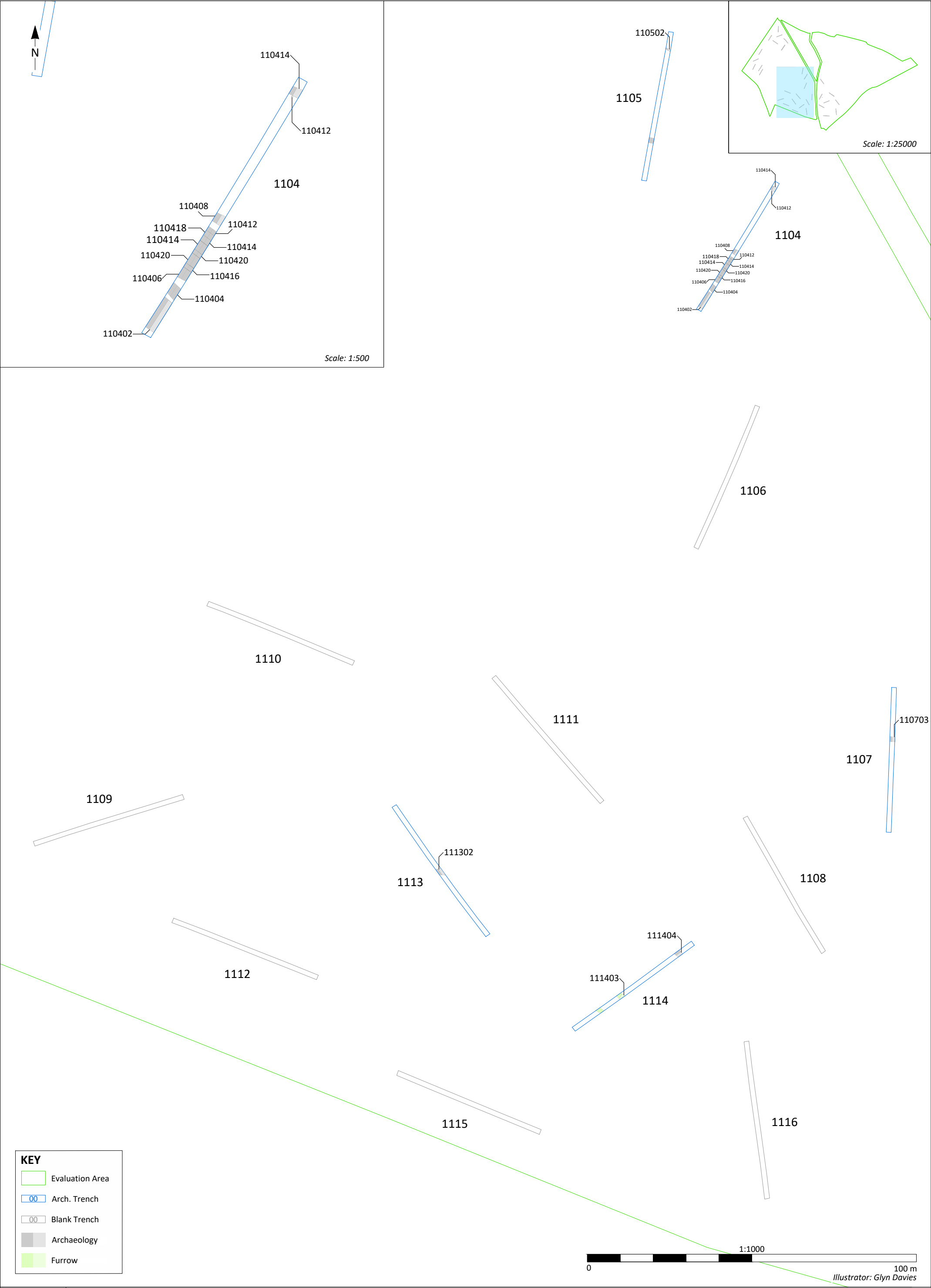


Figure 16 - Site Plan - Kelham East - 03/04  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

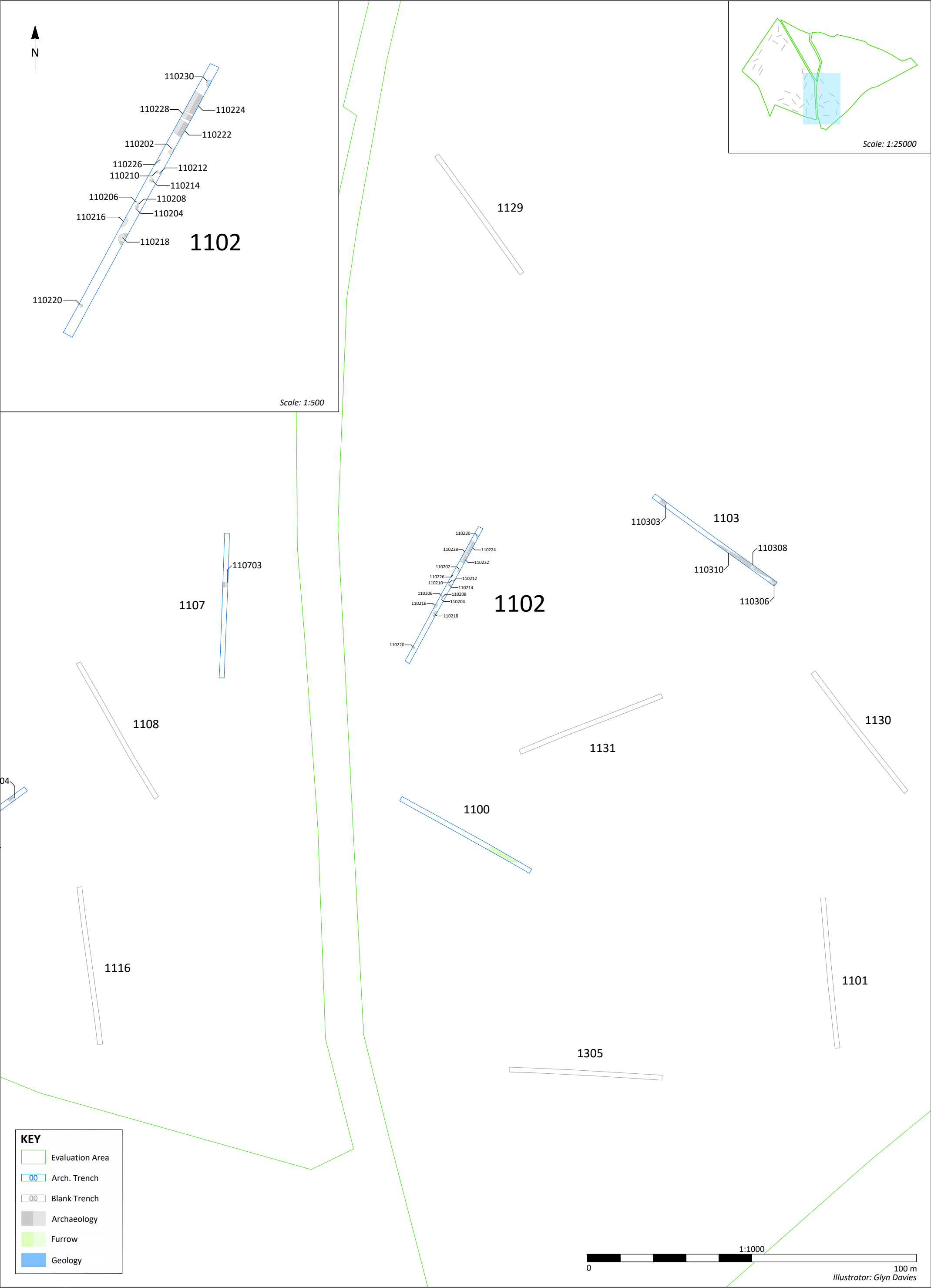
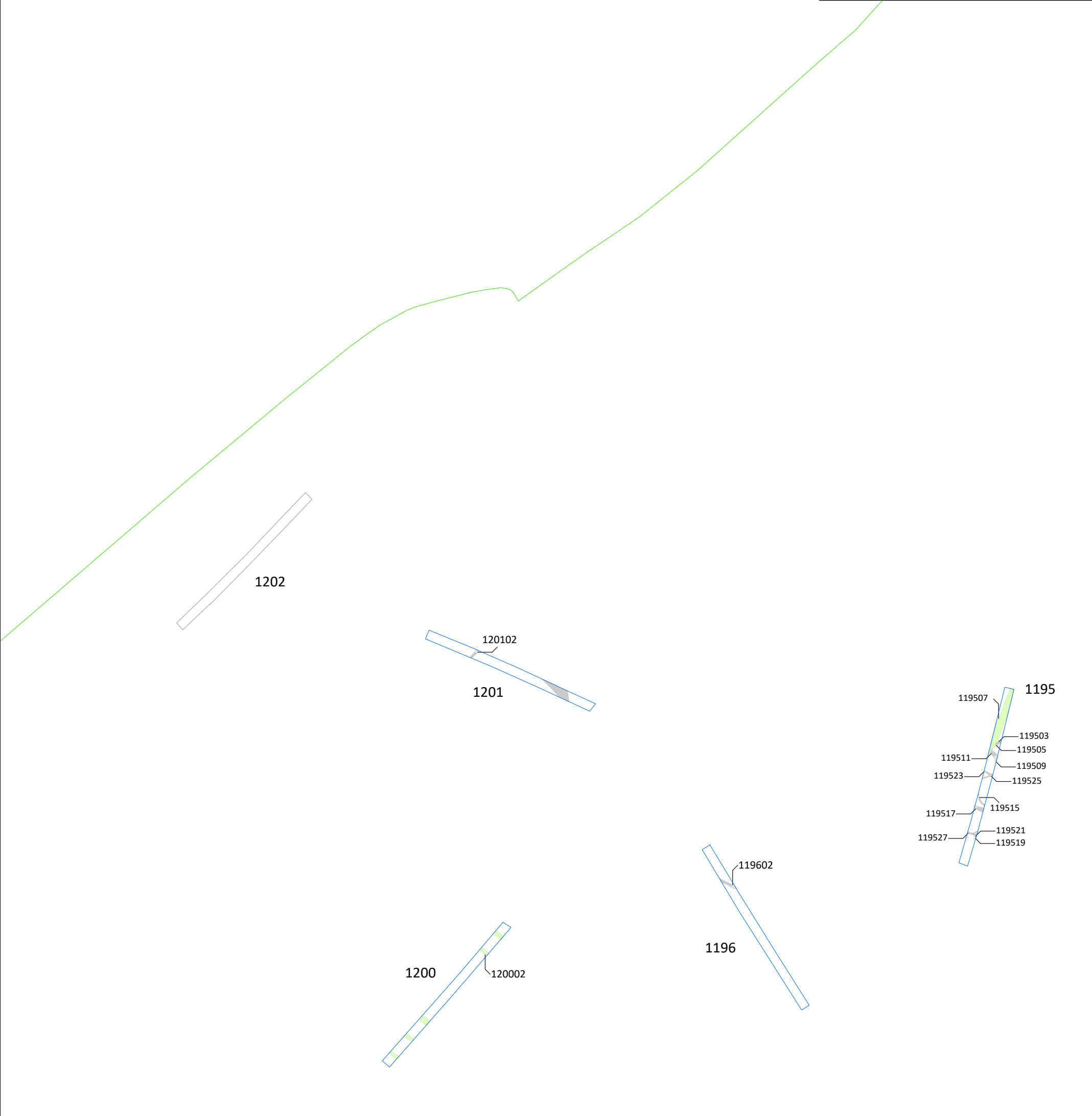
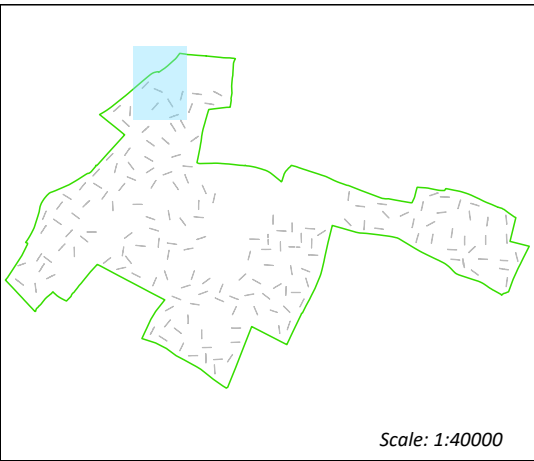
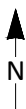


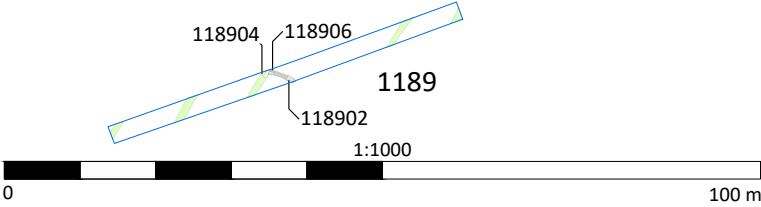
Figure 17 - Site Plan - Kelham East - 04/04  
9985 - Great North Road Solar





**KEY**

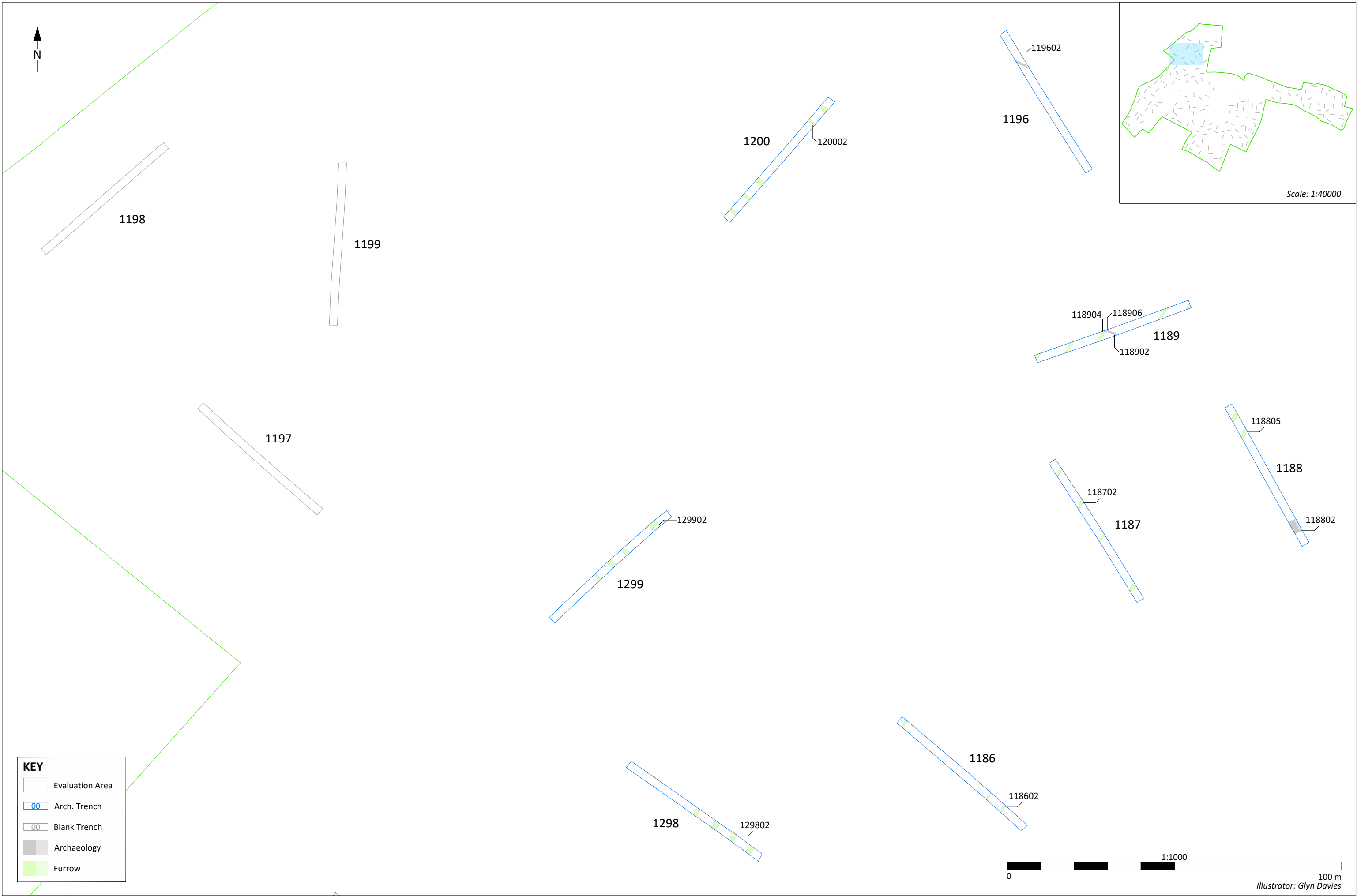
- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Illustrator: Glyn Davies



Figure 18 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 01/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar



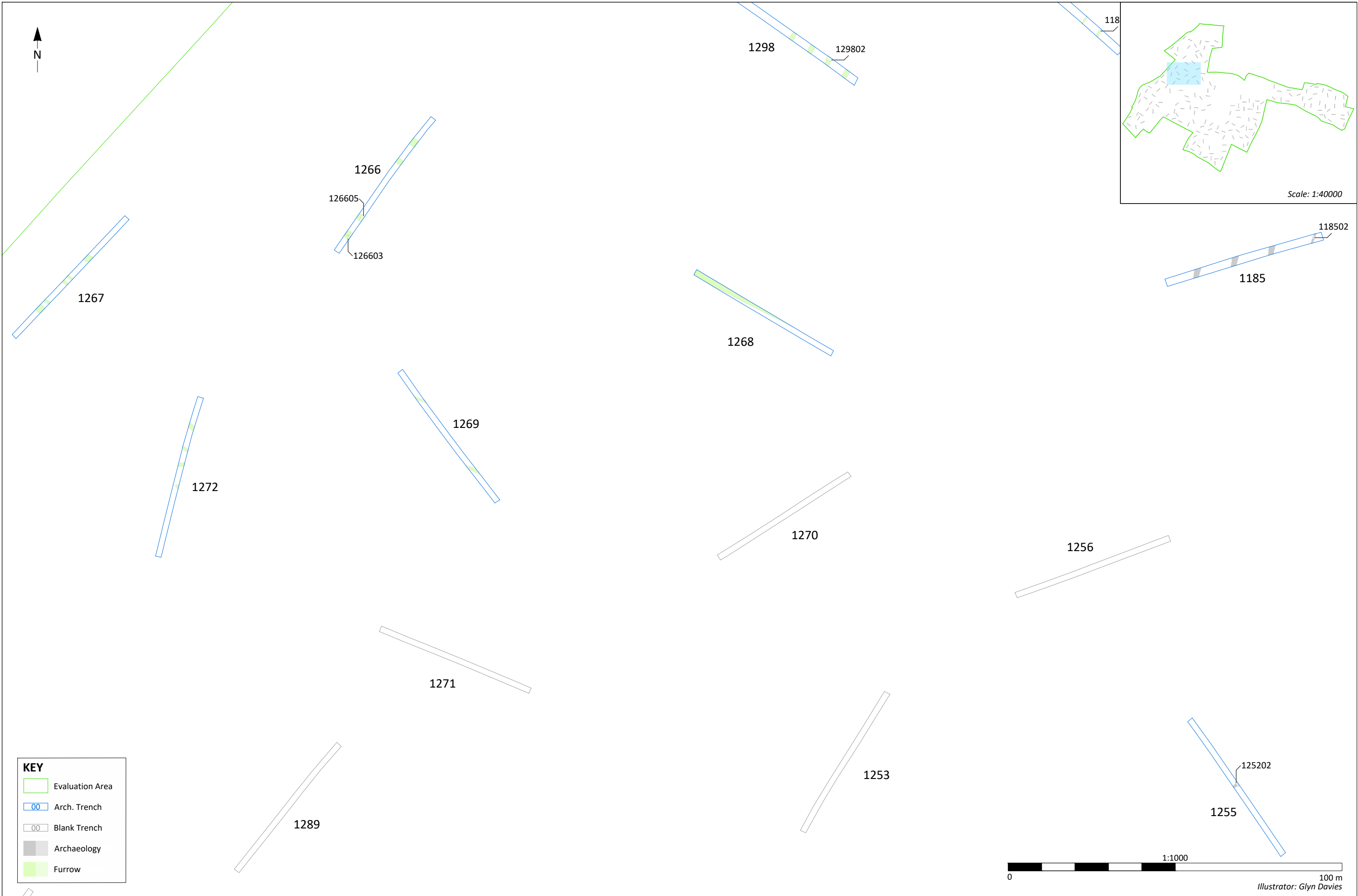
**KEY**

- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Figure 19 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 02/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies



**KEY**

- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Figure 20 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 03/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies

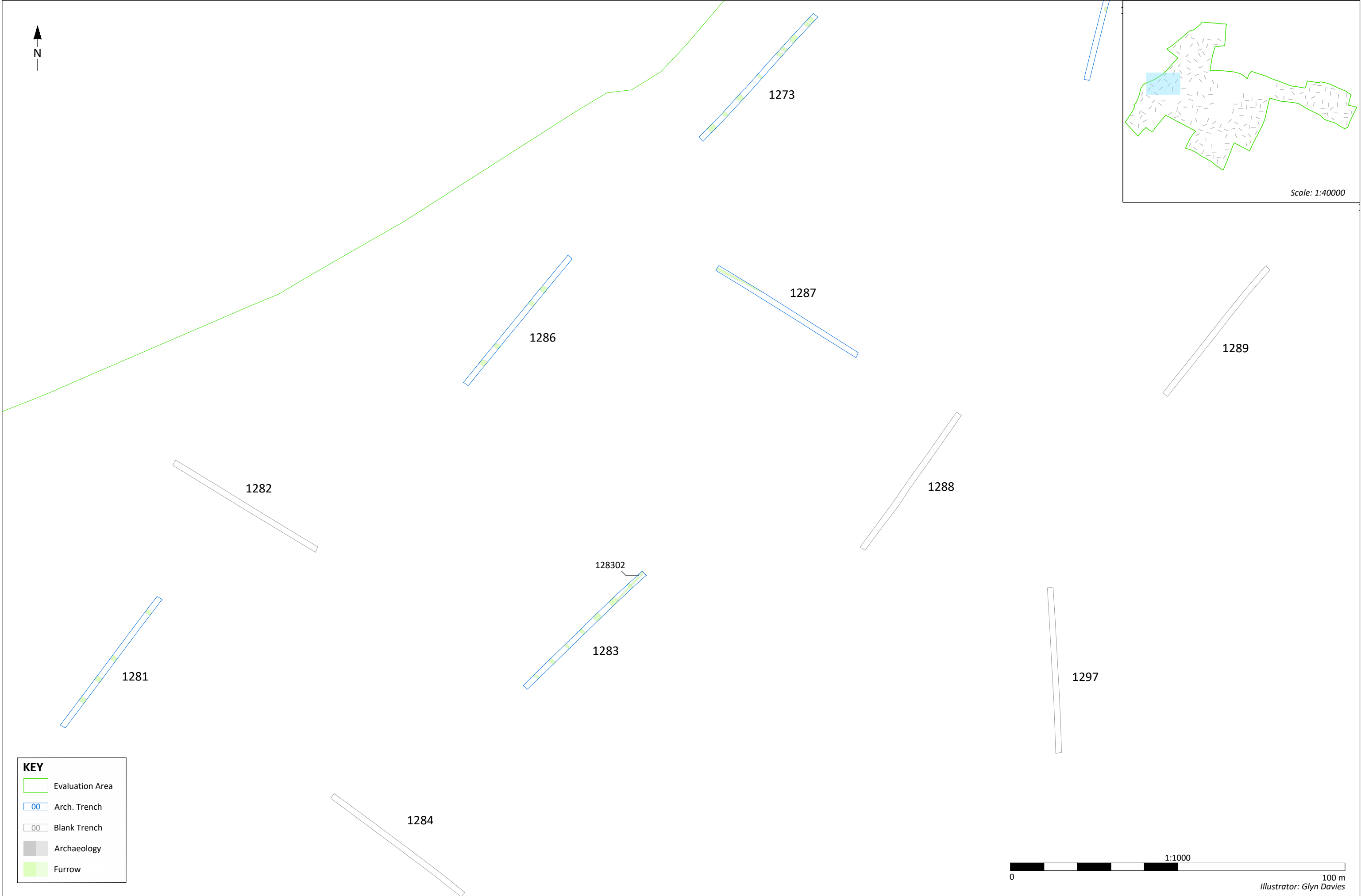
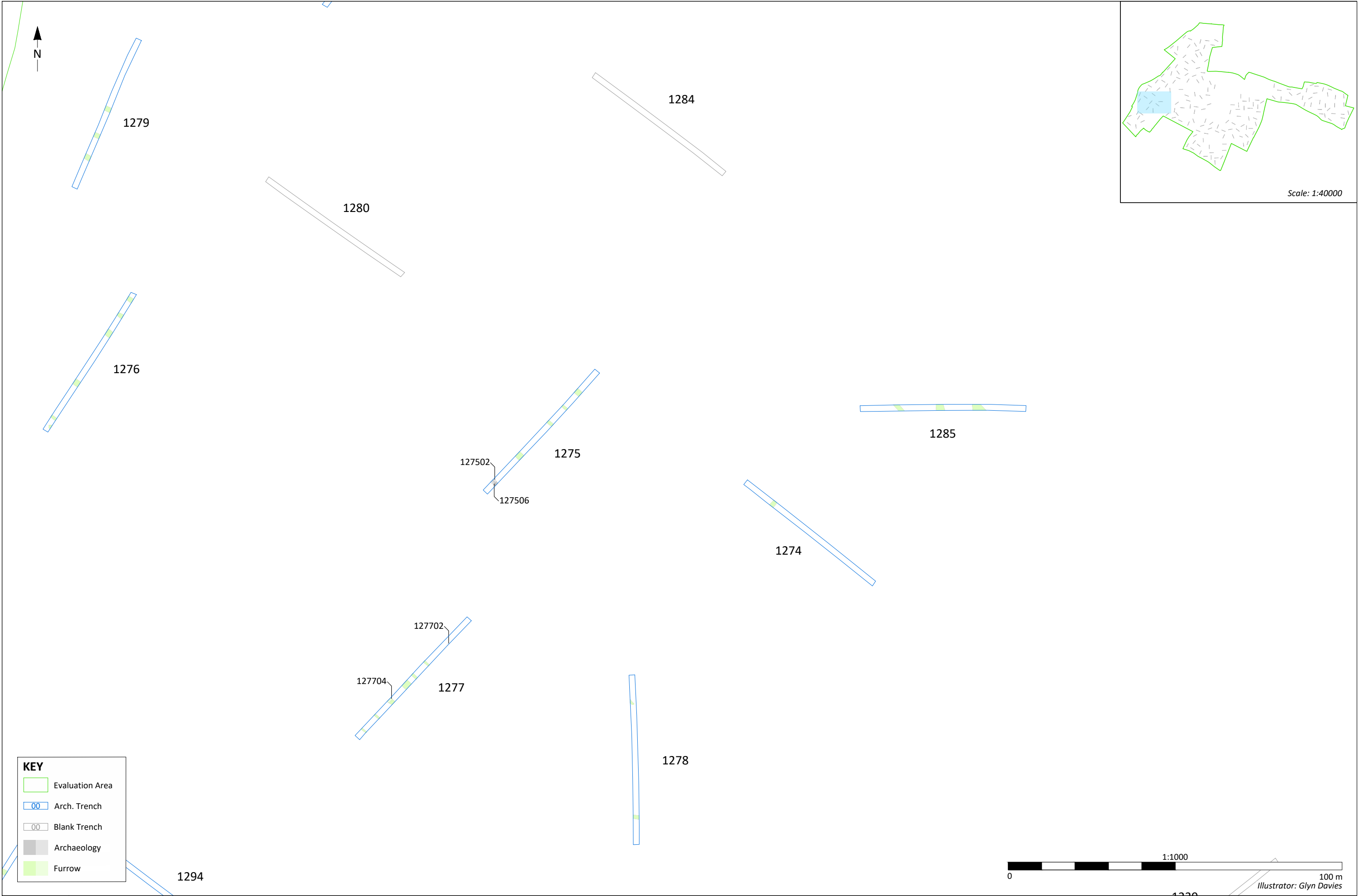


Figure 21 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 04/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

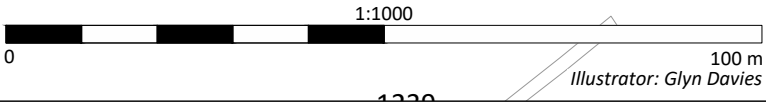


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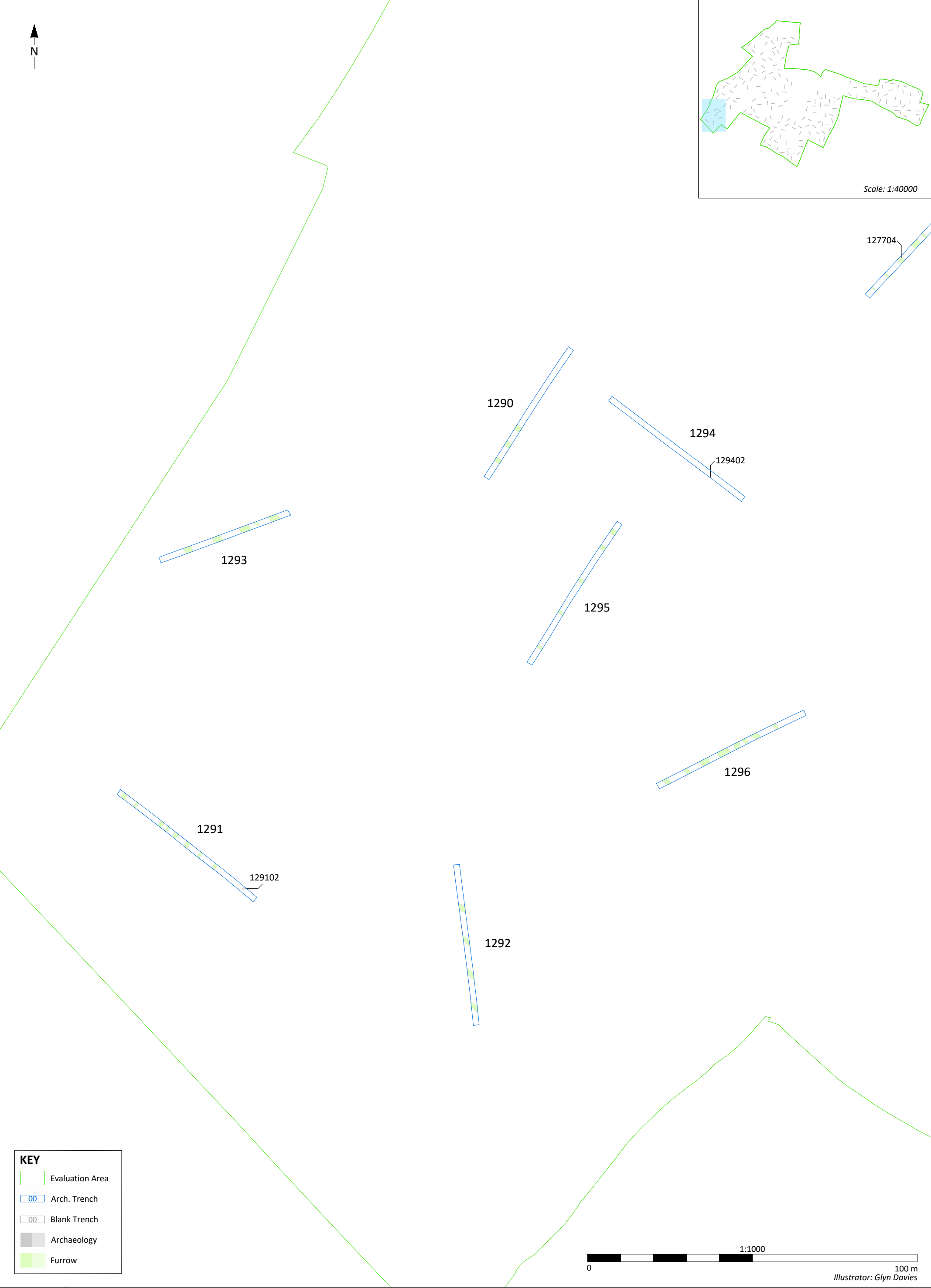
- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Figure 22 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 05/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar



Illustrator: Glyn Davies



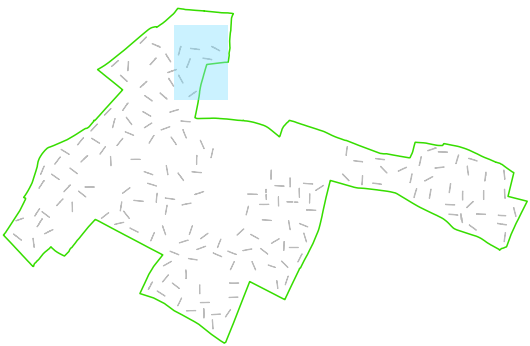
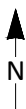
**KEY**

- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Figure 23 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 06/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies



Scale: 1:40000

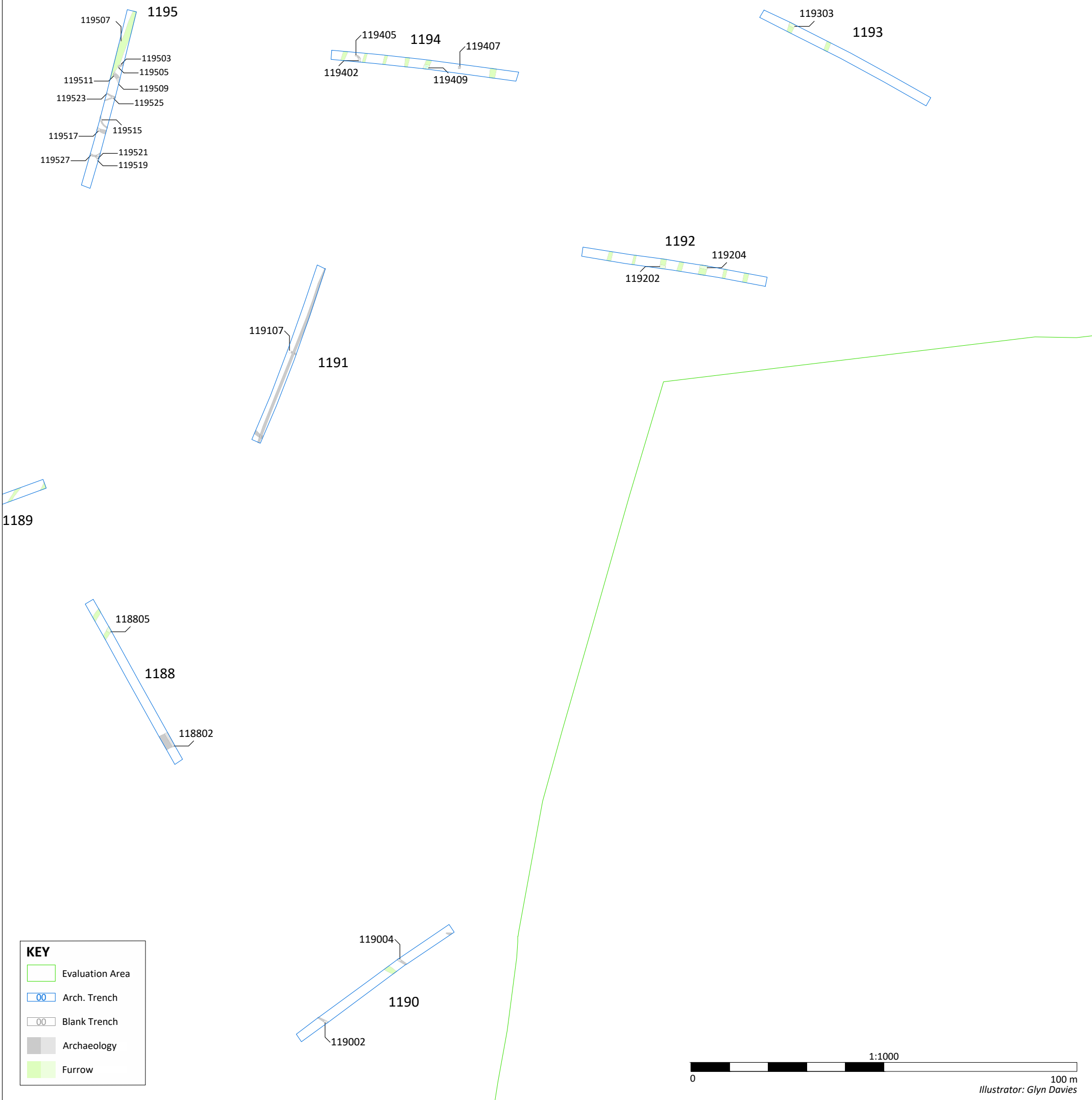


Figure 24 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 07/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar



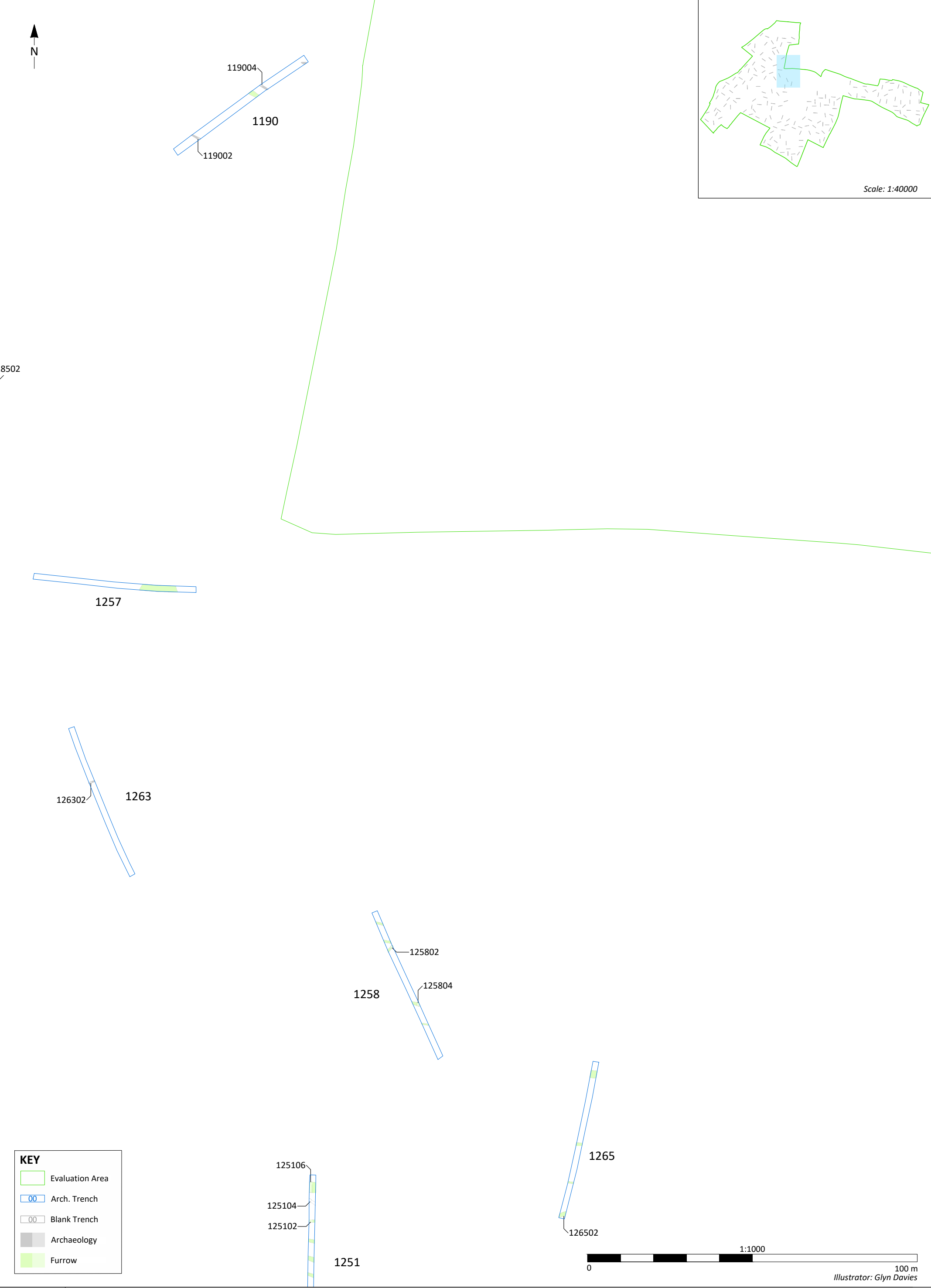


Figure 25 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 08/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies

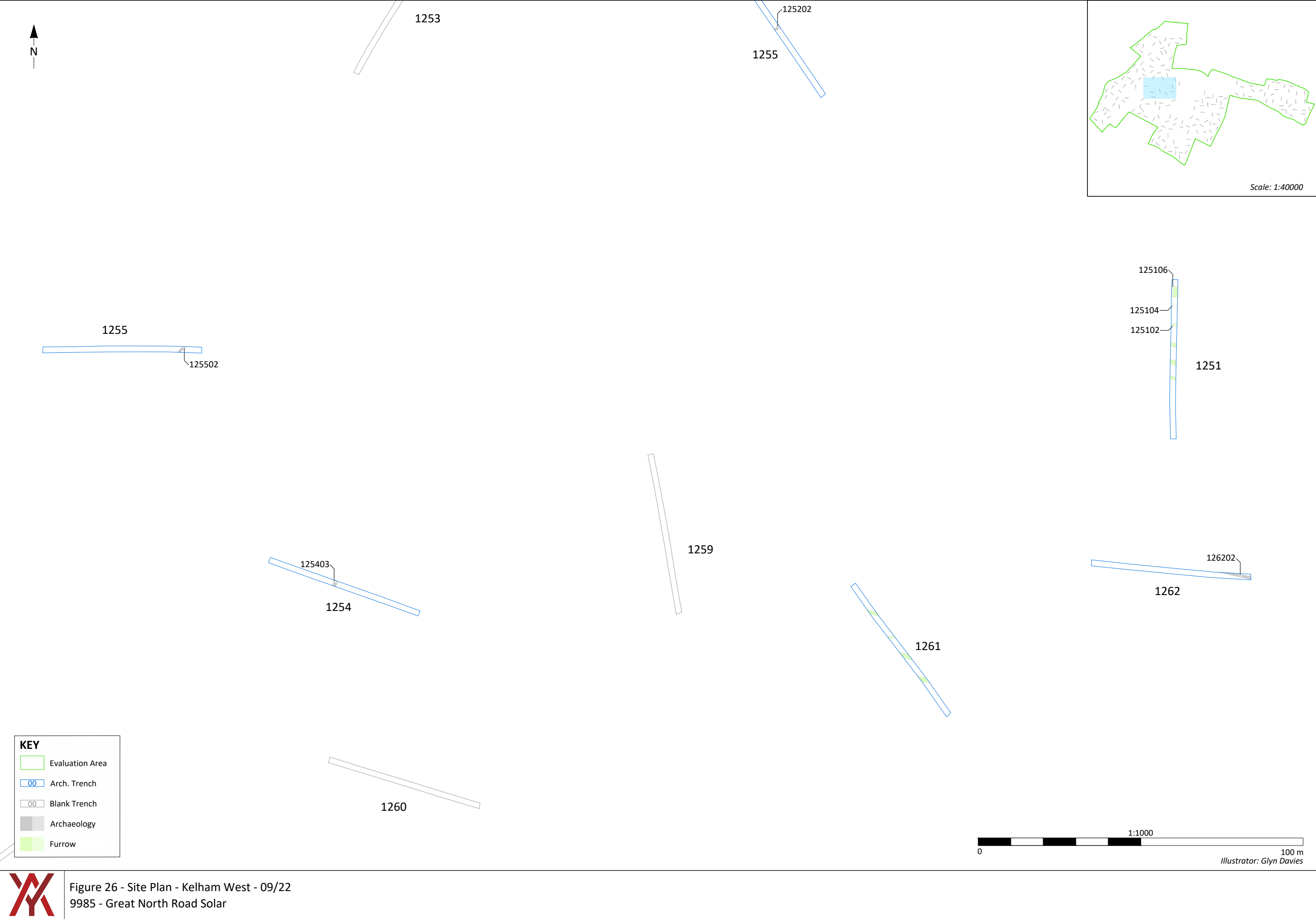
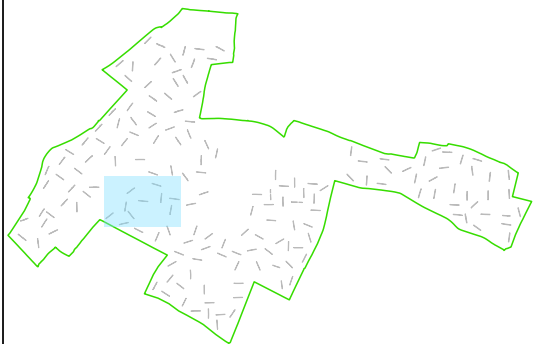
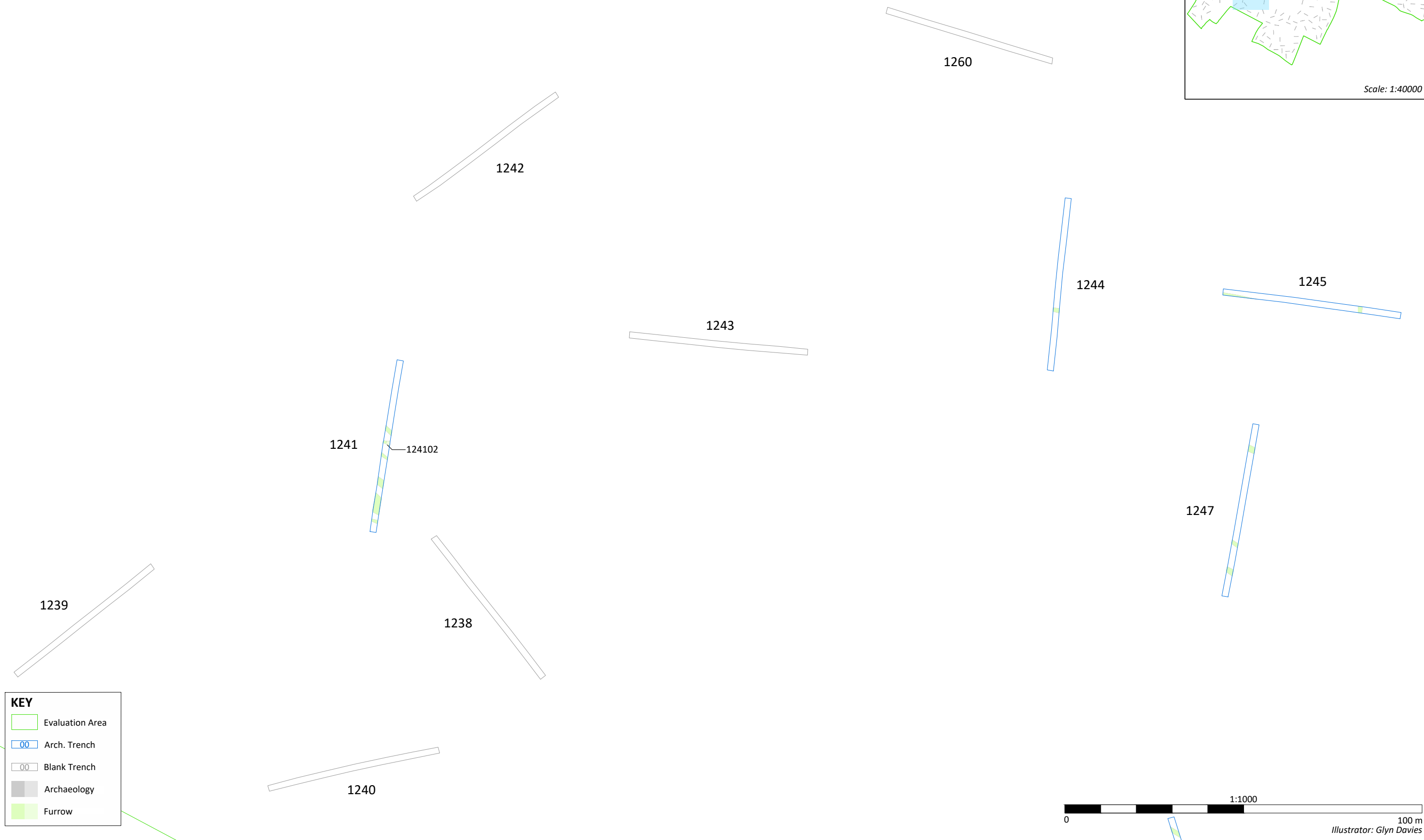


Figure 26 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 09/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies

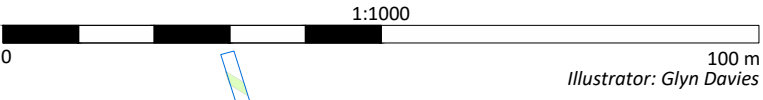


Scale: 1:40000



**KEY**

- Evaluation Area
- Arch. Trench
- Blank Trench
- Archaeology
- Furrow



Illustrator: Glyn Davies



Figure 27 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 10/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

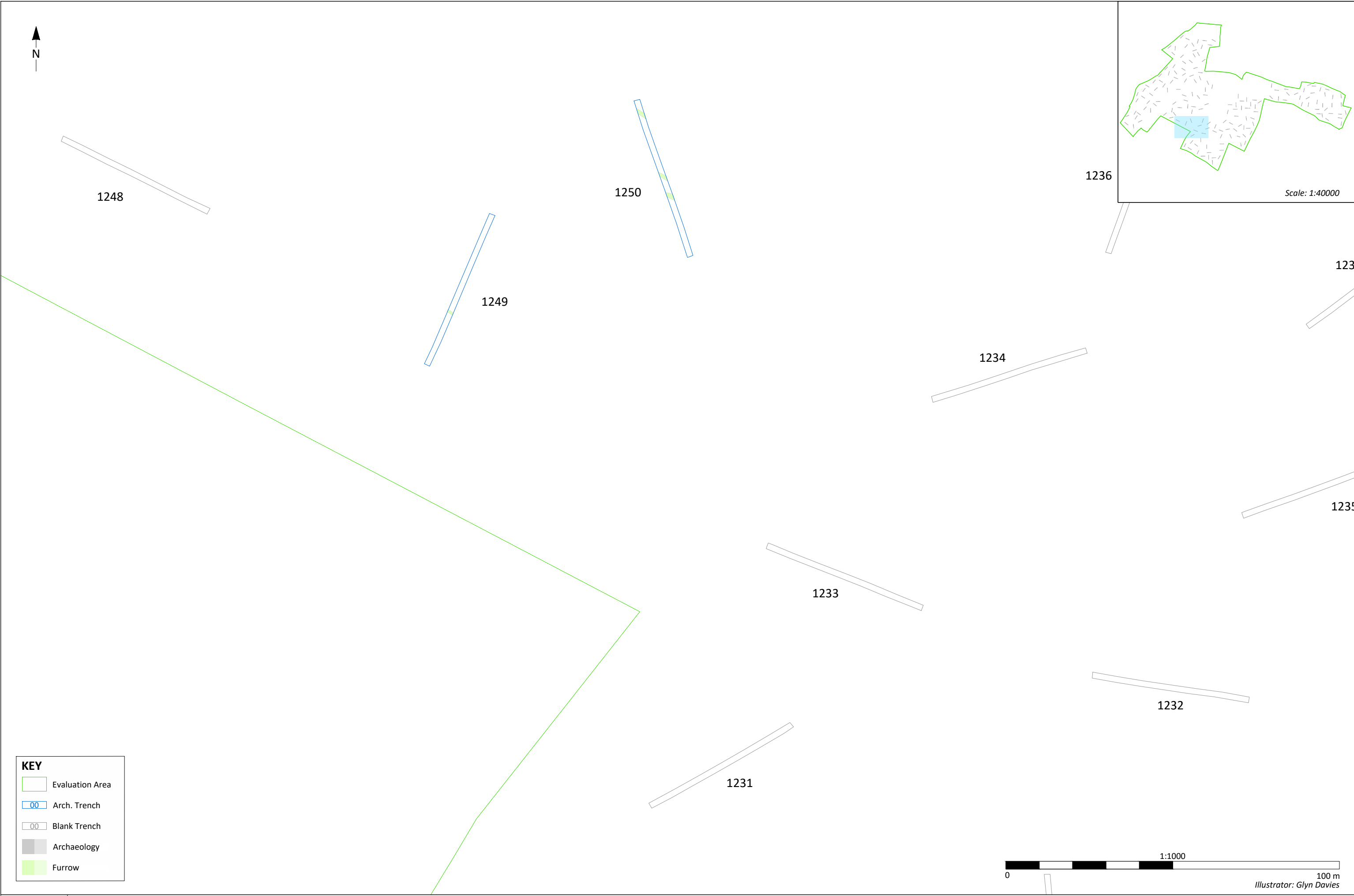


Figure 28 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 11/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

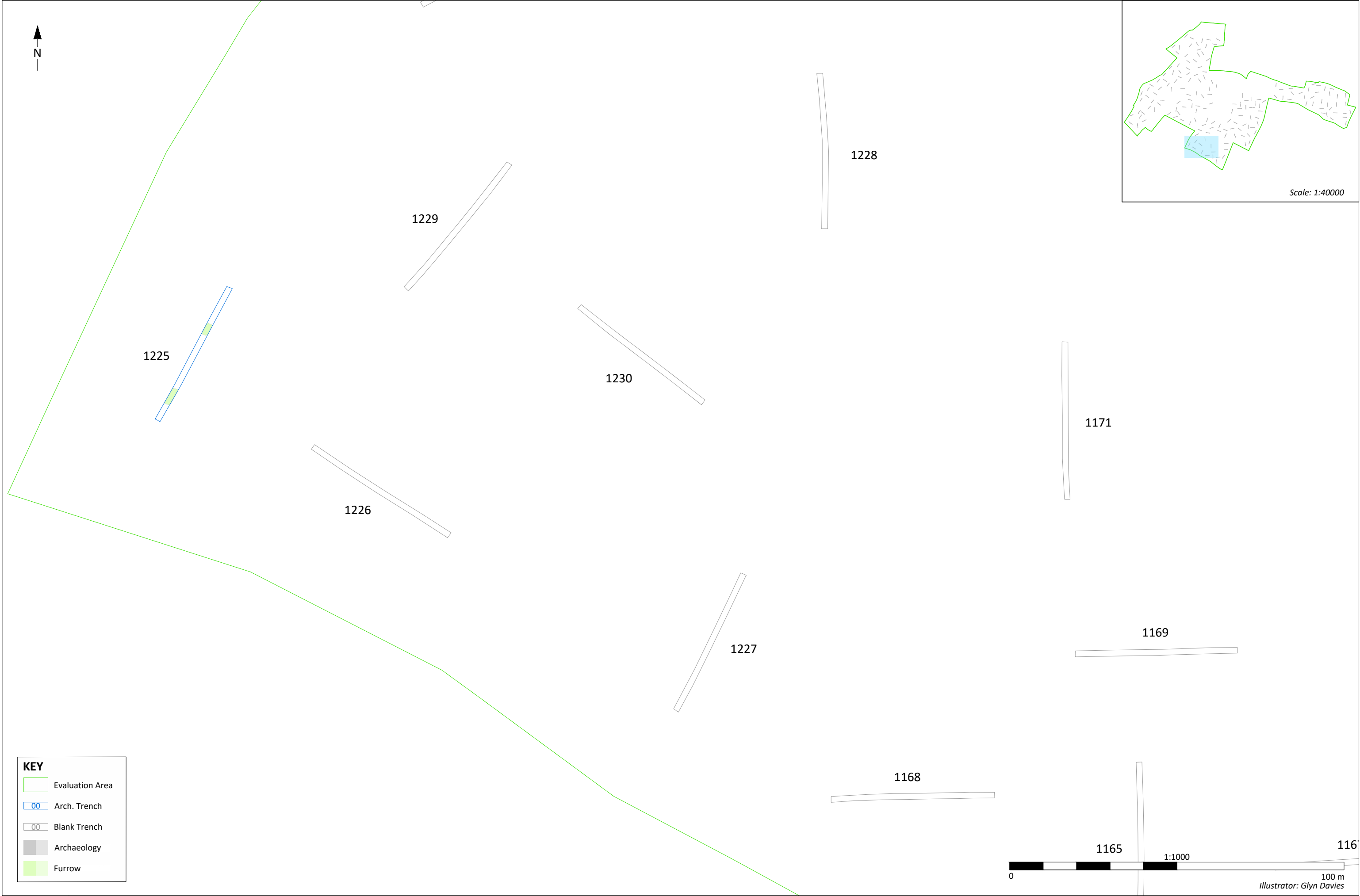


Figure 29 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 12/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

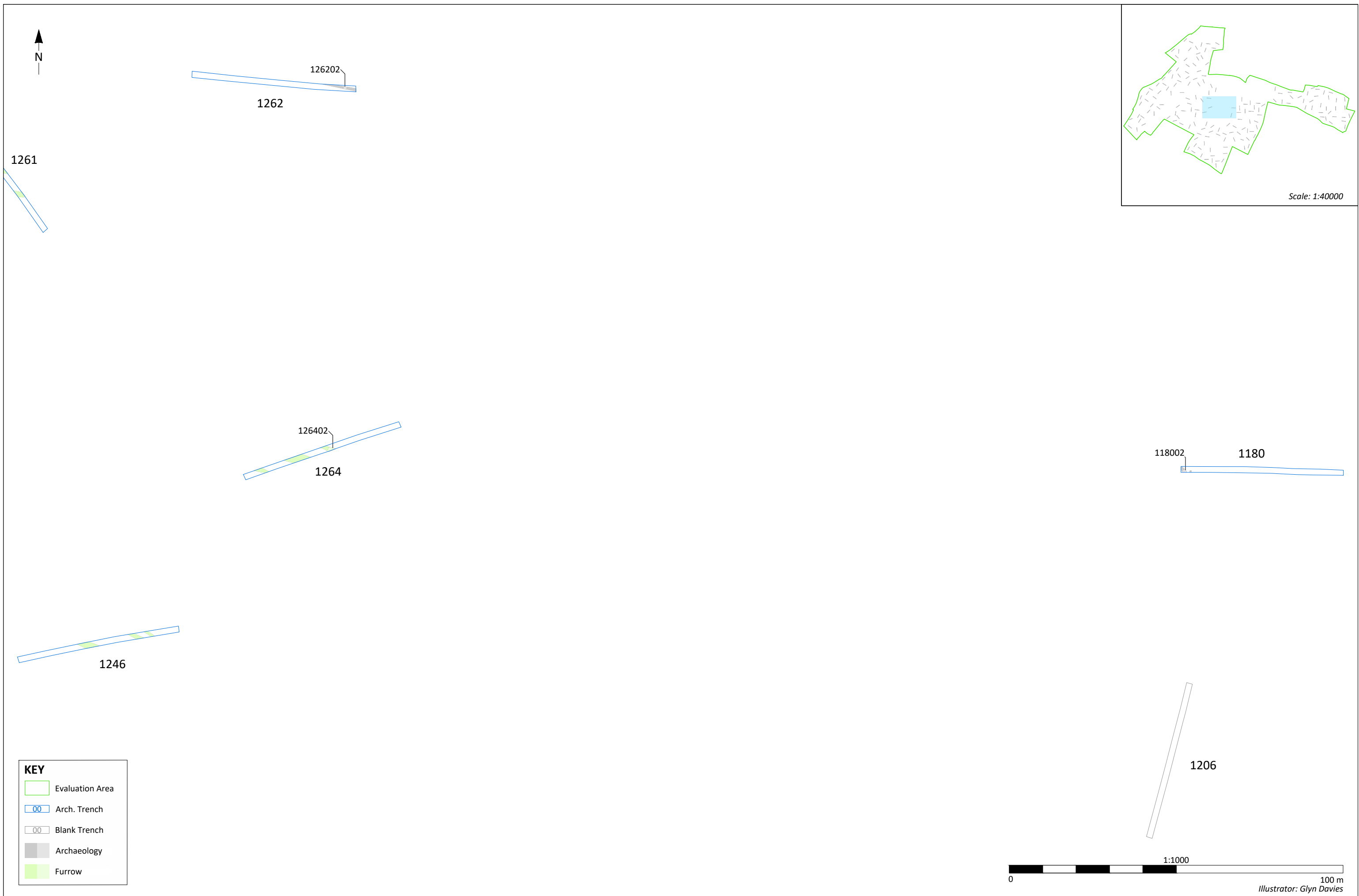
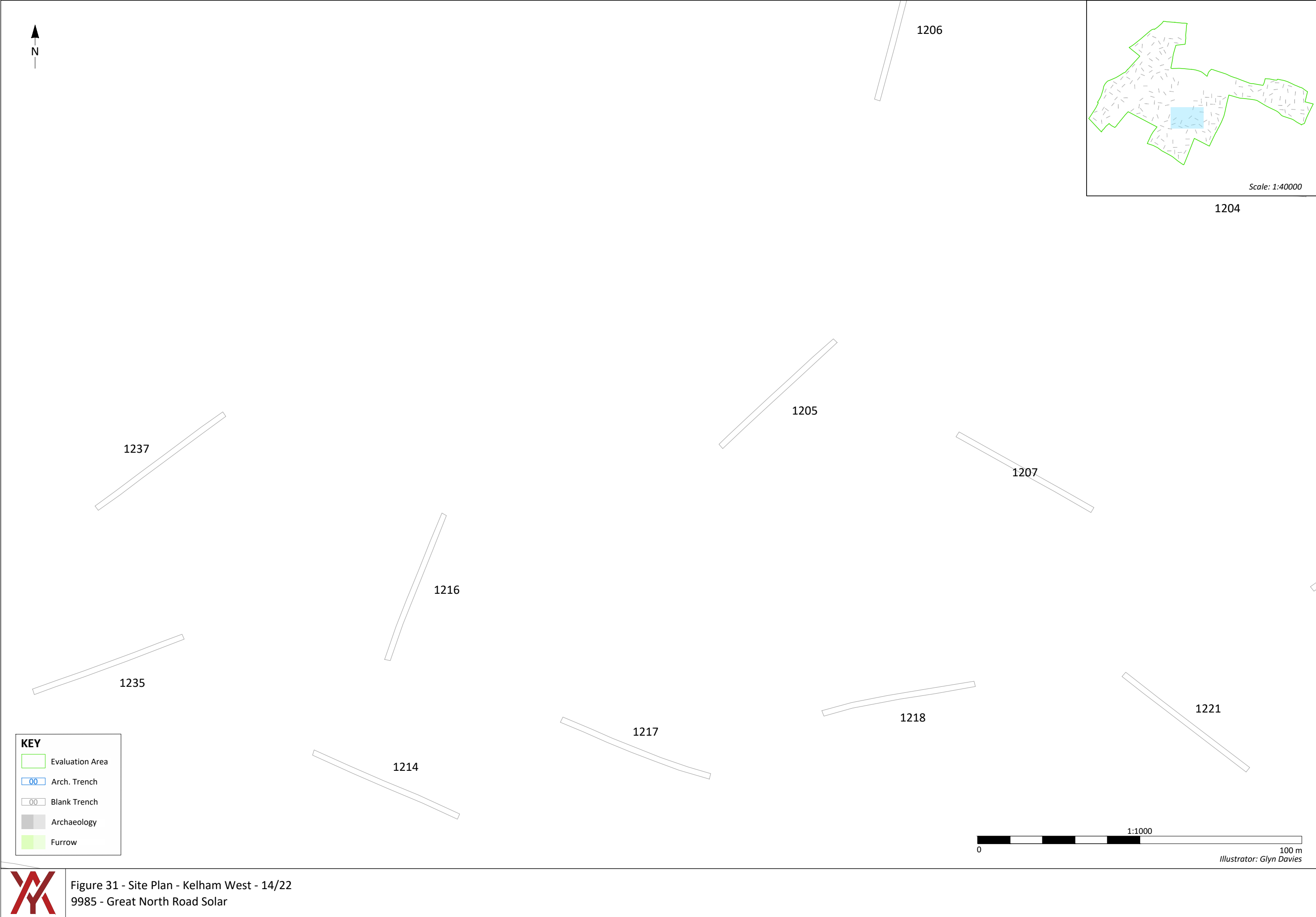


Figure 30 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 13/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies





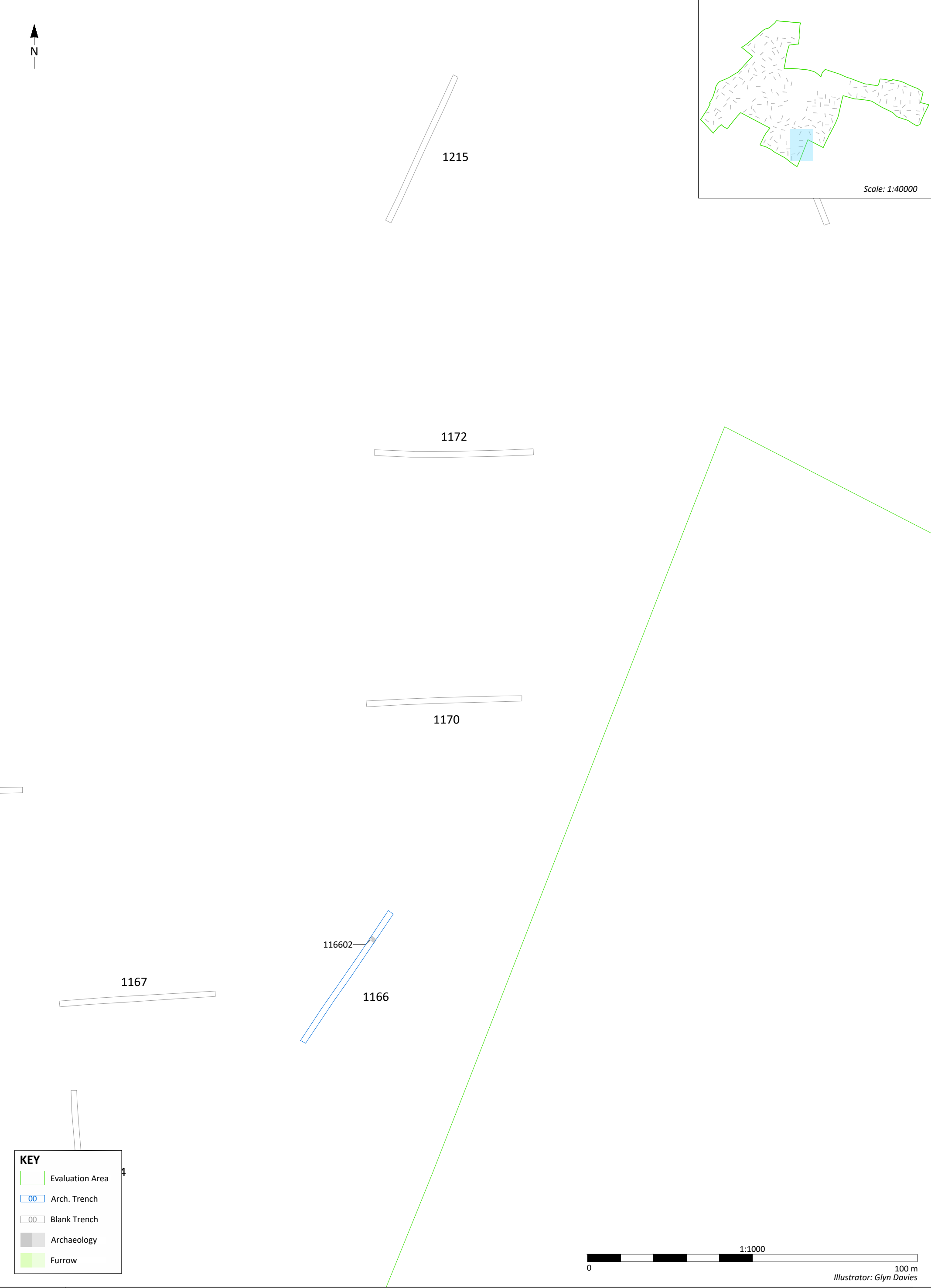


Figure 32 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 15/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies

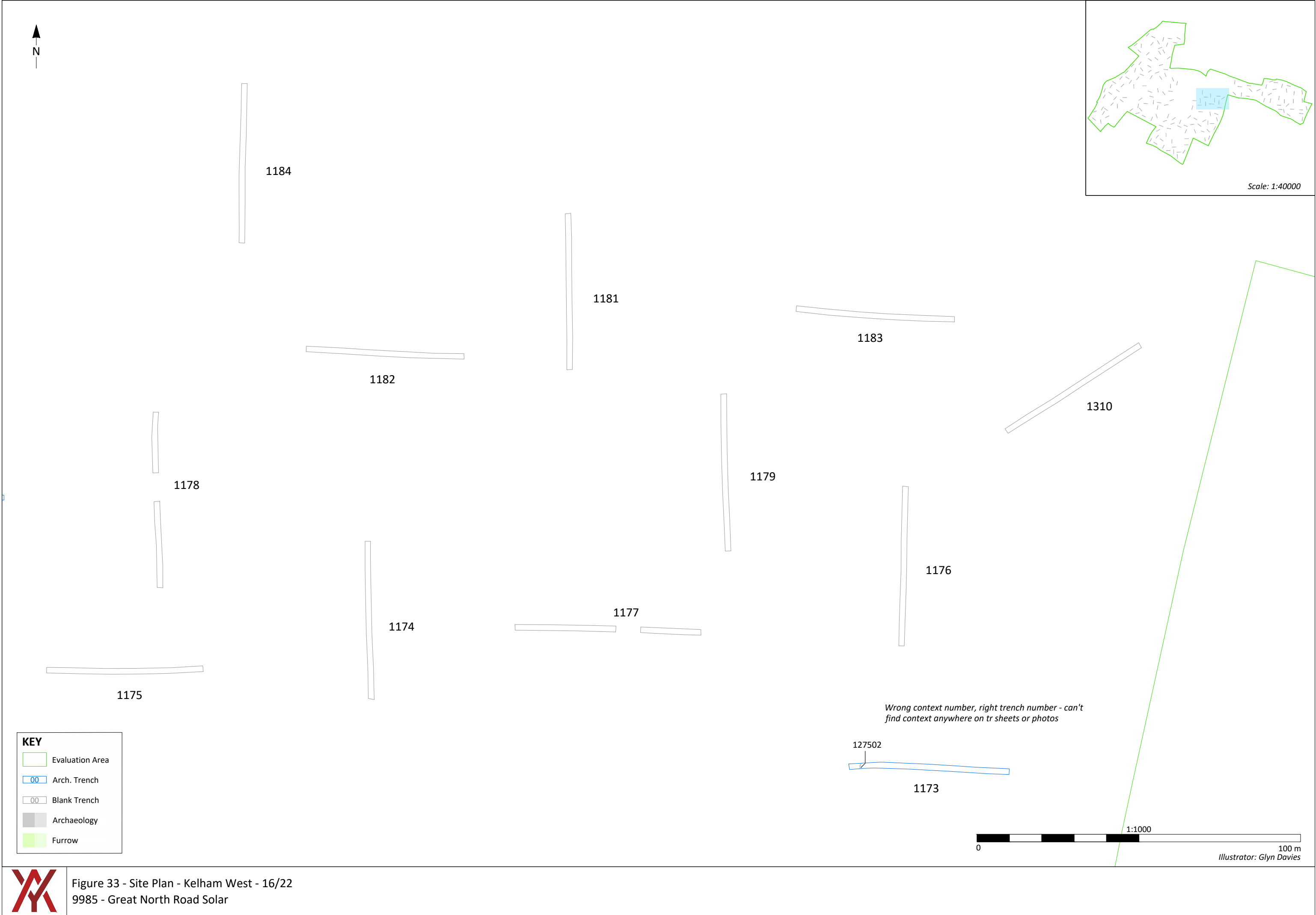


Figure 33 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 16/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

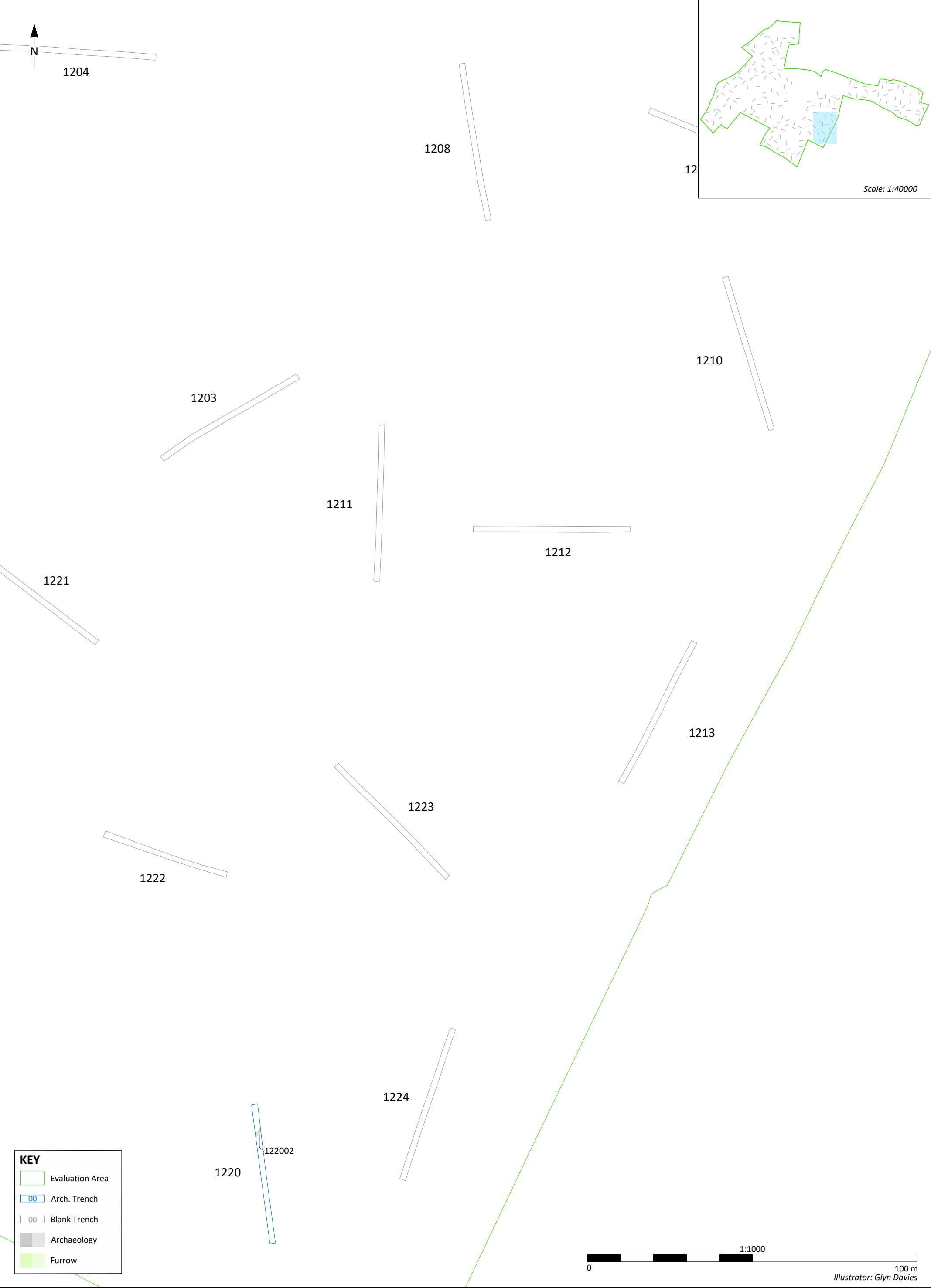


Figure 34 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 17/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies

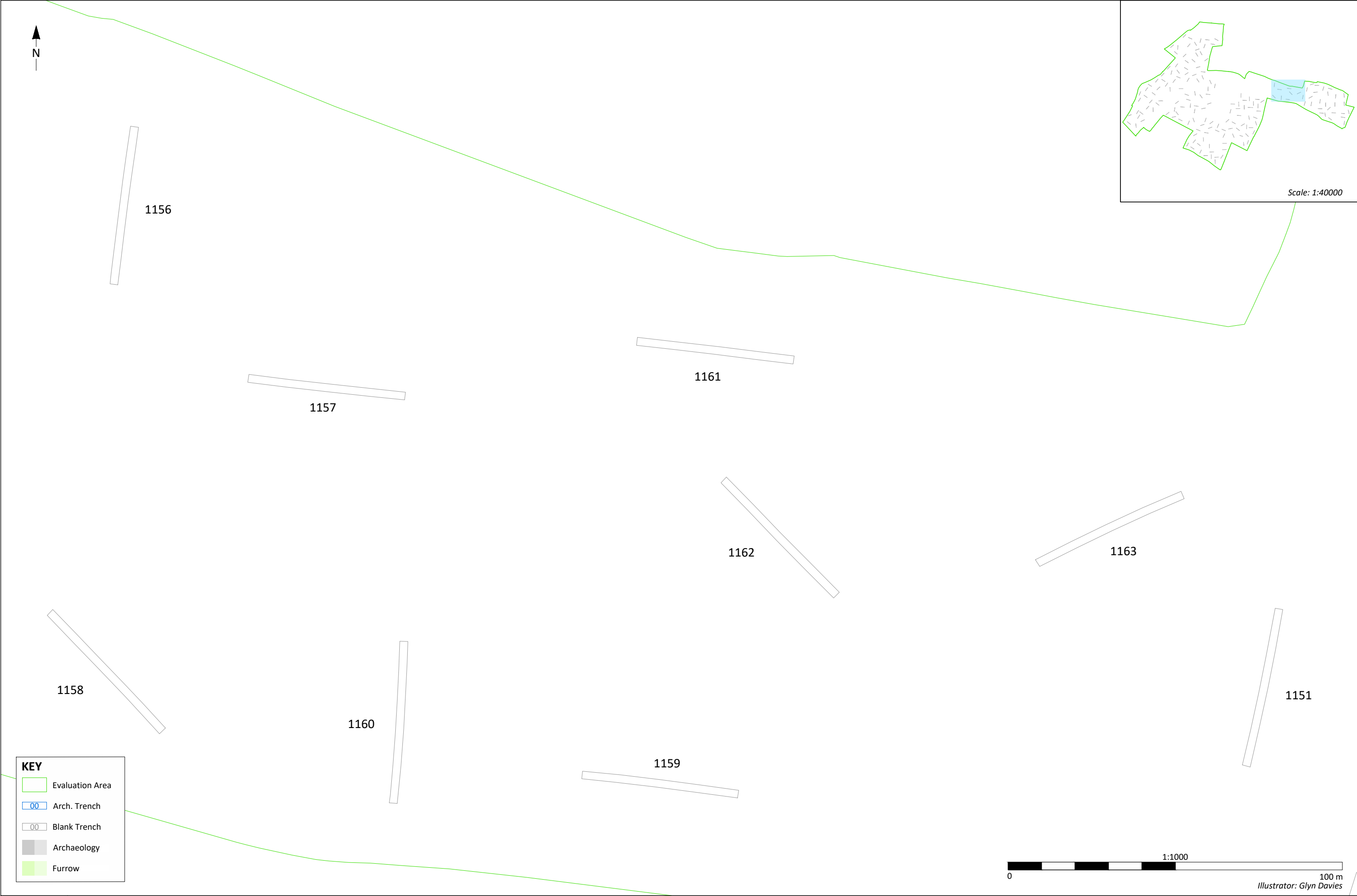


Figure 35 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 18/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

Illustrator: Glyn Davies

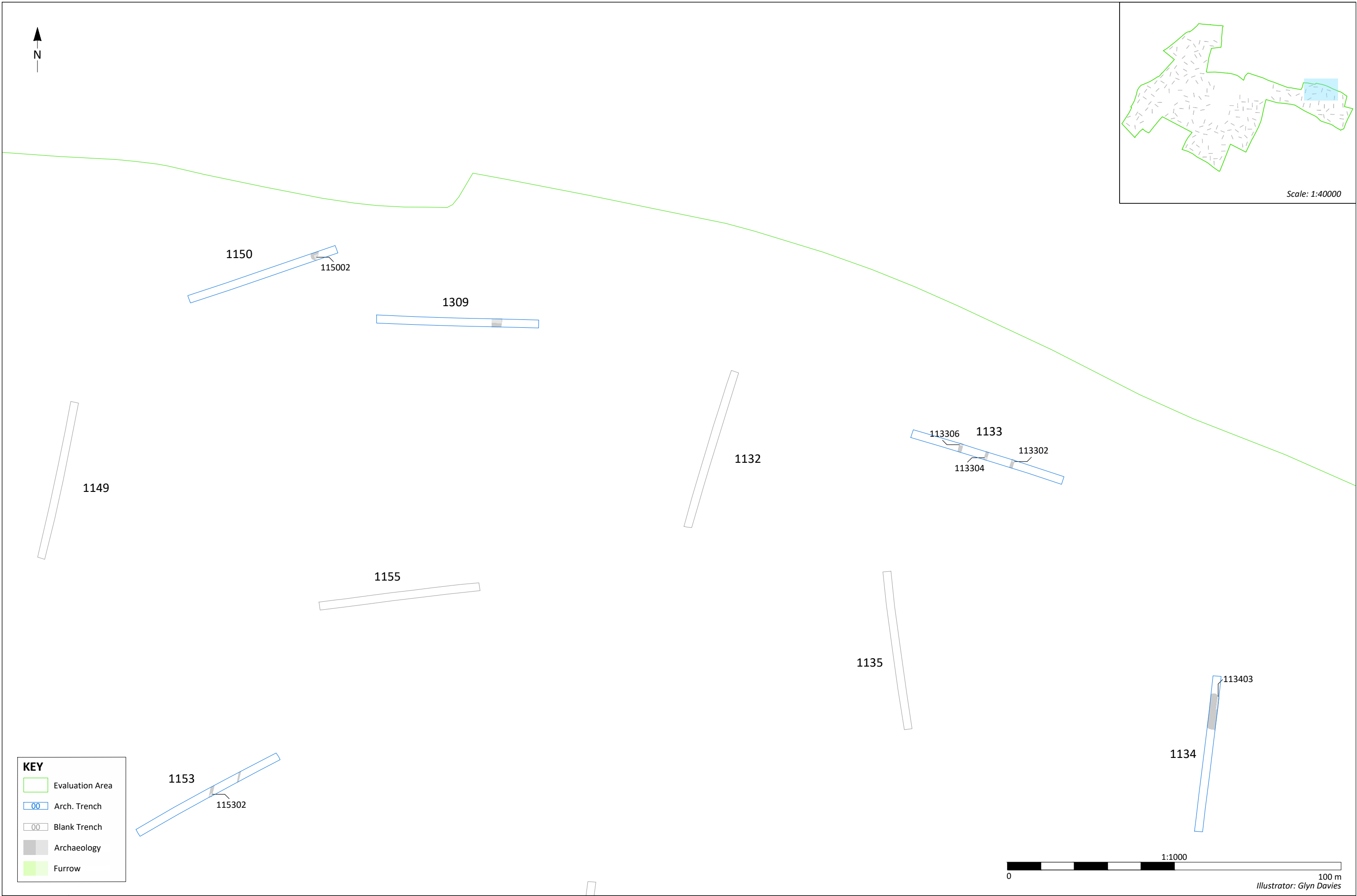
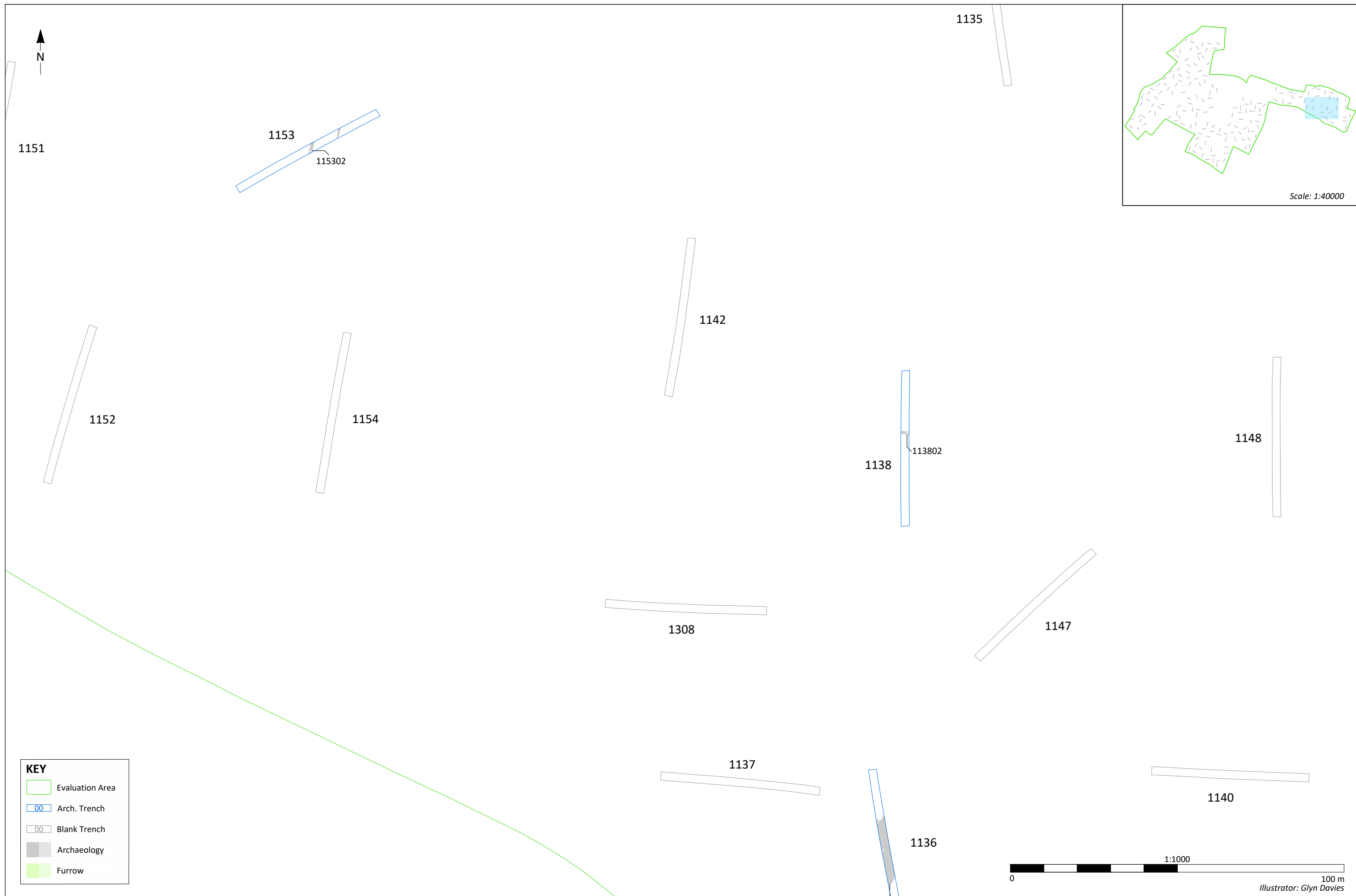


Figure 36 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 19/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar



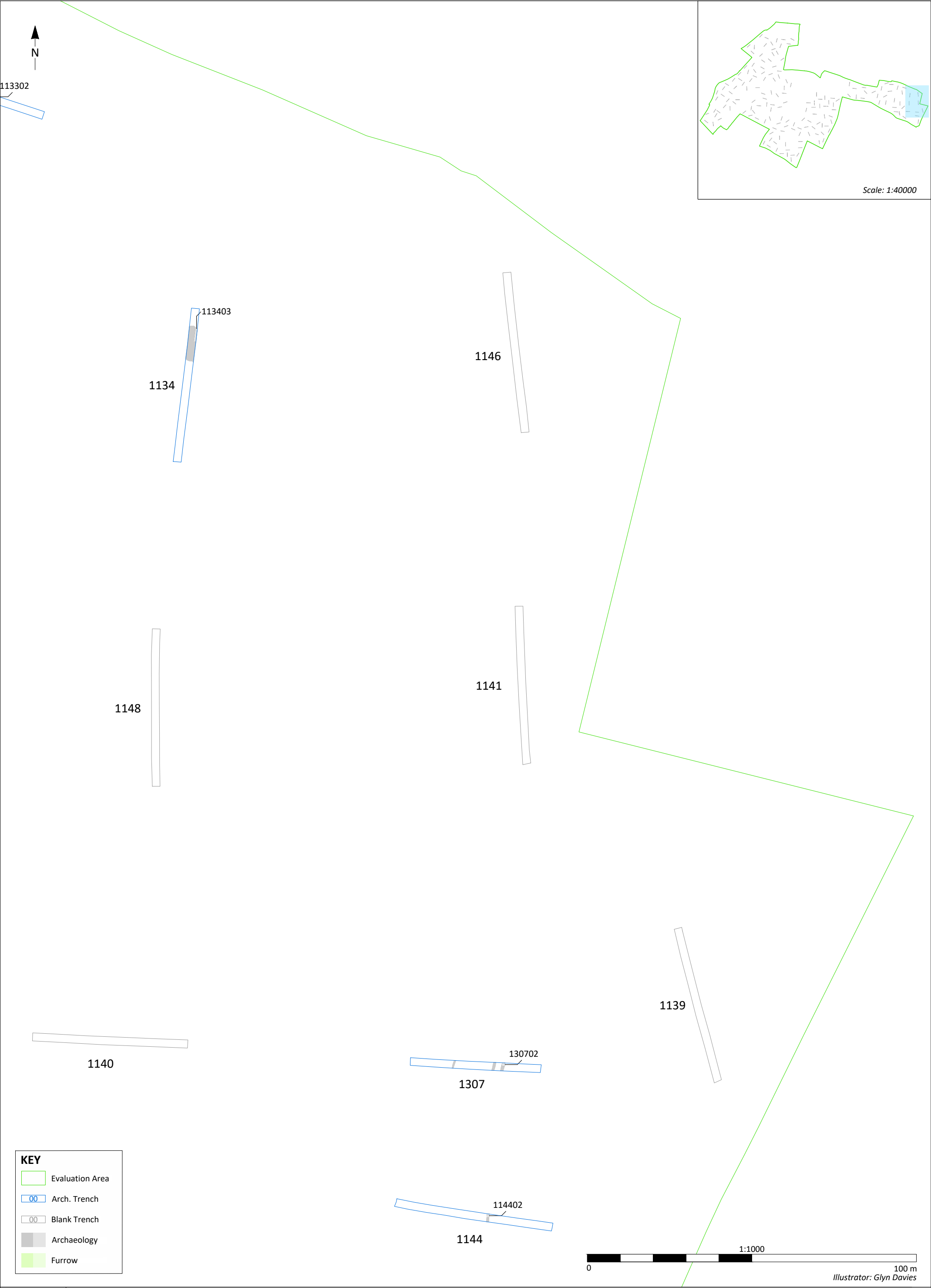


Figure 38 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 21/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar

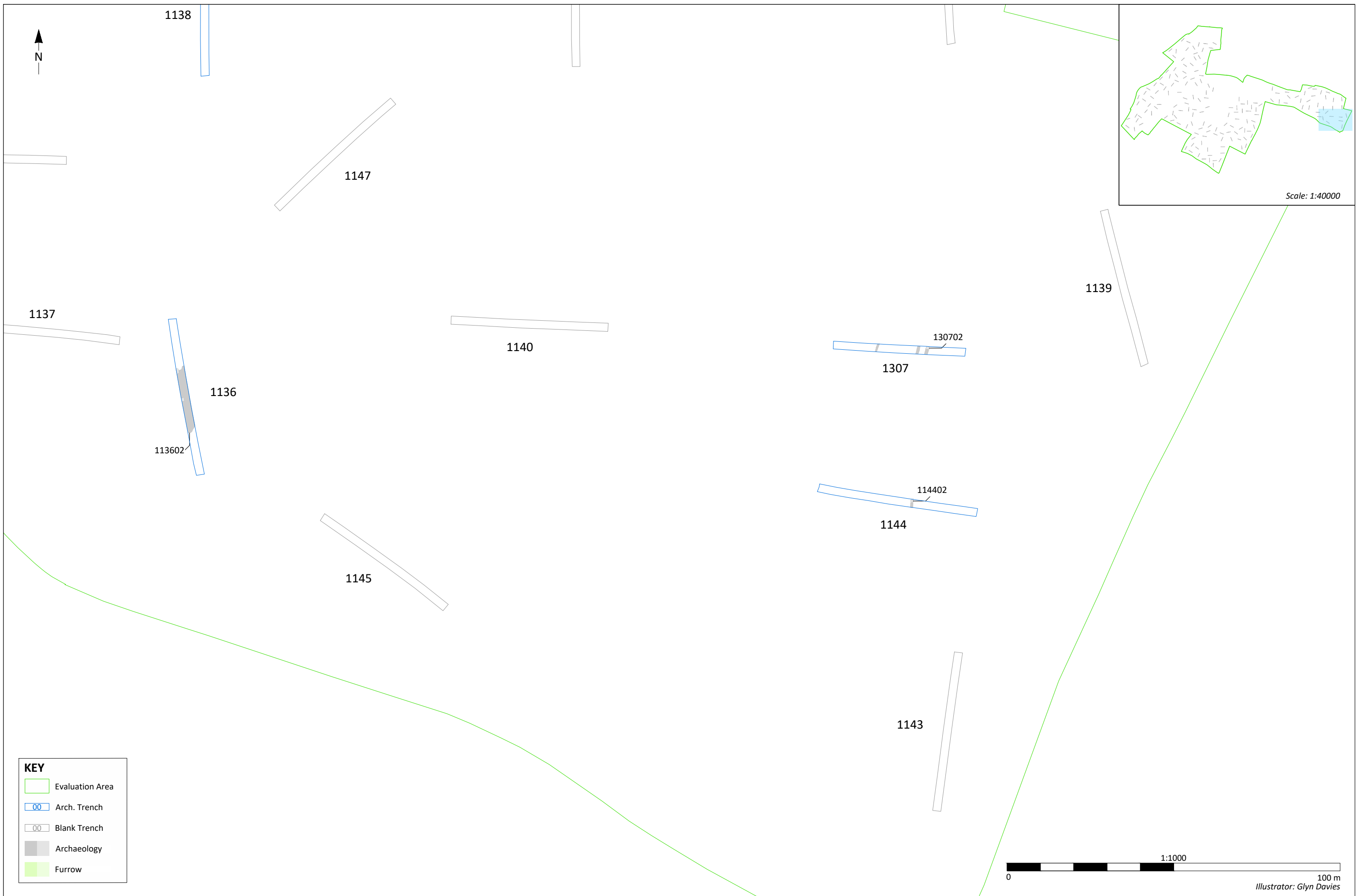


Figure 39 - Site Plan - Kelham West - 22/22  
9985 - Great North Road Solar





Museum Accession Number: NEKMS: 2024.10

## **PLATES**