# Meridian Solar Farm

EN010169

**Volume 8**

**Post-Submission Application Documents**

**8.7 Outline Archaeological Mitigation and Management Strategy (Rev 1) (Tracked)**

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Overview

1.1.1. Meridian Solar Farm Ltd (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant') is seeking a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Meridian Solar Project (hereafter referred to as the 'Scheme'). The decision on whether to grant the DCO will be made by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (Secretary of State), in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 (hereafter referred to as the 'DCO Application').

1.1.2. This Outline Archaeological Mitigation and Management Strategy (OAMMS) sets out the outline scope and guiding principles for planning and implementation of the post consent archaeological evaluation and mitigation works in relation to the Scheme.

1.1.3. If the DCO Application is approved, a detailed Archaeological Mitigation and Management Strategy (AMMS) will be produced following progression of the design and construction details and the appointment of a Principal Contractor, in accordance with Requirement 11 of the **Draft DCO** (Doc Ref. 3.1 Rev 2). The detailed AMMS will be substantially in accordance with the measures set out in the OAMMS, but will reflect the specifics of the detailed design and construction methods. It will provide specific details of evaluation and mitigation locations informed by the design, particularly along the Grid Connection Route.

1.1.4. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken for the Scheme, and an Environmental Statement (ES) has been prepared in accordance with Regulation 5(2)a of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009. **ES Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage** (Doc Ref. 6.1 Rev 1), incorporates the results of desk-based assessment, aerial survey and LIDAR assessment, geophysical survey, archaeological trial trenching and geoarchaeological test pitting. In accordance with the requirements of the EIA Regulations, the ES contains the assessment of the likely significant effects on cultural heritage that may be caused during the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Scheme and sets out the mitigation responses. This OAMMS outlines these mitigation measures and sets out the roles and responsibilities designed to ensure that such mitigation measures are carried out.

## 1.2. The Scheme

1.2.1. The Scheme comprises the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of a solar PV electricity generating station with associated infrastructure, including co-located Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Inter-Array Connections to link the land parcels that form the Solar Development Area, and up to 13km overhead line Grid Connection (with one short underground section) which will run north towards a point of connection (PoC) at the proposed Weston Marsh B National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) substation, anticipated to be located to the north of Weston. Details of the connection will be refined once the NGET substation connection details have been finalised. The Scheme also includes some small-scale localised improvements to the adjacent public road network.

1.2.2. The Solar PV generating station, associated BESS, on-site substations and other associated infrastructure will be located within four land parcels (A, B, C and D) referred to collectively as the Solar Development Area, as shown in **ES Figure 1-1** [APP-071].

1.2.3. The Inter-Arrays will be the areas within which 132kV connection cables (the Inter-Array Connections) will link the land parcels of the Solar Development Area. The configuration of the Inter-Array Connections will comprise underground cabling between Land Parcels A and B (the Underground Inter-Array) and an overhead line between Land Parcels C and D (the Overground Inter-Array).

1.2.4. The Grid Connection Route will be the area between the Solar Development Area and the National Grid Weston Marsh B Substation in which a 400kV overhead line (the Grid Connection) would be located. There is one section where the Grid Connection will route underground to avoid conflicts with an existing 132kV overhead line. Cable Sealing End Compounds (CSECs) will join the proposed underground cable at that section with the proposed overhead line.

1.2.5. The Site constitutes the total land area within the Order Limits of the Scheme, including the Solar Development Area, Inter-Array Connections and Grid Connection Route.

## 1.3. Purpose and Structure of the OAMMS

1.3.1. The OAMMS holds two purposes. The first is to set out the scope and methods for undertaking the outstanding archaeological evaluation. The second is to outline mitigation to manage negative effects of the Scheme on the cultural

significance of heritage assets within the Site, to secure compliance with relevant national and local planning policies. The mitigation will also incorporate the beneficial impacts of public engagement.

1.3.2. The Scheme has been designed, as far as practicable, to avoid or reduce effects on cultural heritage assets. Further information is provided in ES Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage (Doc Ref. 6.1 Rev 1).

1.3.3. This document describes the principles to be applied in undertaking the outstanding archaeological evaluation and phases of archaeological mitigation for the investigation, recording and analysis or protection of archaeological remains that will be impacted as a result of the Scheme.

1.3.4. The OAMMS is structured as follows:

- Section 2 presents an overview of the archaeological baseline and includes a summary of archaeological investigations that have previously been carried out in relation to the Solar Development Area;
- Section 3 describes the scope of the outstanding archaeological evaluation works required, including the objectives;
- Section 4 sets out the scope of archaeological mitigation measures including the aims and objectives of the mitigation and relationship to regional research agendas;
- Section 5 sets out the protocols for monitoring and approvals;
- Section 6 sets out the approach to operational and decommissioning phase mitigation; and
- Section 7 outlines the opportunities for public outreach and community engagement.

## 1.4. Roles and Responsibilities

1.4.1. The obligations and commitments contained within the OAMMS shall apply to the Applicant and any successor to, or person exercising the powers of, the Applicant under the DCO and assigns.

1.4.2. The Applicant will appoint an Archaeological Contactor to undertake the outstanding phases of evaluation and mitigation. This may be one Archaeological Contractor, or multiple Archaeological Contractors.

1.4.3. The Applicant or their Principal Contractor (PC) will appoint an Archaeological Clerk of Works (ACoW) for the Scheme prior to the commencement of the outstanding evaluation and mitigation phases. The Applicant or their PC is required to keep the ACoW informed of all work activities so that it can be determined when– support, advice and or works from an archaeologist is required.

1.4.4. The ACoW will be responsible for overseeing the Archaeological Contractor to ensure evaluation and mitigation measures are correctly implemented, monitored and maintained during the evaluation and construction phase of the works. This will include monitoring the Archaeological Contractor's work to ensure compliance with the AMMS and the Site-Specific Written Schemes of Investigation (SSWSIs), and monitoring the specific construction, operation and decommissioning activities to ensure compliance with all archaeological mitigation requirements, including protection measures. The ACoW will have the authority to advise the PC/archaeological contractor on alternative approaches and hold delegated authority (within parameters) from the Applicant to authorise changes which affect programme or scope. They will have the ability to "stop" work where they consider it is not in accordance with the SSWSI. The ACoW will be responsible for keeping any regulatory authorities or consultees informed in accordance with the agreed AMMS, including progress updates and provision of required documentation or reports.

1.4.5. The Archaeological Contractor will provide a project manager who will be responsible for the production of SSWSIs and managing the delivery of fieldwork and post-investigation activities for each stage of archaeological investigation.

## 1.5. Heritage Licences and Consents

### Protection of Military Remains Act (1986) licence

1.5.1. The crash site of two Lancaster bombers that collided mid-air is recorded on the boundary of fields A-1-11 and A-1-12 in Parcel A. On 23 June 1944 two Lancasters (ND981 and ME625) collided mid-air during a training exercise with the loss of all but one crew member. Aircraft ME625 crashed within Parcel A close to Cloot House Farm, but debris from the incident was recovered from a large area. The Lincolnshire Aircraft Recovery Group (LARG) undertook a project over a three-year period from 1979 to recover three engines and other articles, such as propeller blades, from the bottom of a dyke, which were buried at a considerable depth (approximately 10 feet / 3m). The project concluded that part of the undercarriage and probably another engine remain at a greater depth as it

was not feasible to recover them using the mechanical diggers available at the time.

1.5.2. Advice in relation to the Lancasters' crash site has been sought from the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre (JCCC) at the Ministry of Defence and LARG. Due to the loss of life and the large debris field relating to the crash, JCCC have advised that the archaeological evaluation and subsequent construction of the Scheme in this area should be undertaken following the implementation of appropriate risk assessments and the granting of an application for a Protection of Military Remains Act 1986 (POMRA) licence. This licence must be applied for in advance of the evaluation and construction phases commencing in this land parcel.

### Scheduled Monument Class Consent

1.5.3. The Scheduled Monument "Settlement W (west) of Cate's Cove Corner" (1004979) is located within fields C-1-01, C-1-03 and C-1-08 and "Settlement NE of Whitebread Farm" (1004978) is located within fields C-2-01 and C-2-03. No construction, operation or decommissioning works will be undertaken within the boundary of the Scheduled Monuments. Provision is set out below to mitigate the risk of unauthorised work or accidental damage to the Scheduled Monuments caused as a result of the Scheme.

1.5.4. The commitments made by the Applicant in relation to ecological mitigation for ground nesting birds may require changes to the land management practices within the monuments which are currently undertaken in accordance with the provisions of Class Consent for the monuments. Any alteration of the agricultural practices currently undertaken under Class Consent will be determined through further consultation with Historic England to confirm these remain within the scope of the Class Consent. If Scheduled Monument Consent is deemed necessary to accommodate changes in land management this will require a separate application prior to ecological mitigation works commencing.

# 2. Background Information

## 2.1. Previous Archaeological Investigations Undertaken for the Scheme

2.1.1. A full report of the previous archaeological investigations for the Scheme can be found in **ES Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage** (Doc Ref. 6.1 Rev 1) and its appendices. An overview of this information and the archaeological and historical background of the Site is provided below.

## Surveys

2.1.2. Walkover surveys of the Solar Development Area, Inter-Array Connections and Grid Connection Route were conducted between November 2023 and September 2025. The objectives of the site visits were to:

2.1.3. Identify known archaeological sites within the Site;

- Identify assets not previously recorded;
- Establish the setting of heritage assets within the study areas;
- Identify areas of modern ground disturbance to inform the assessment of archaeological potential; and
- Assess suitability of the Site for future investigations and mitigation.

2.1.4. An aerial survey and LIDAR assessment of the Solar Development Area was produced by Alison Deegan and is included in Appendix C in **ES Appendix 8-2: HEDBA** [APP-185]. A second report was produced by Air Photo Services that covers the Inter-Array Connections and the majority of the Grid Connection Route and is included in Appendix C in **ES Appendix 8-2: HEDBA** [APP-185]. These reports map and interpret archaeological and paleoenvironmental features identified from air photos and LIDAR imagery for the Scheme. Due to modifications to the Grid Connection Route outlined during a second round of targeted consultation relating to the published location of the proposed National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) Weston Marsh B Substation, approximately three fields were not assessed as part of the survey produced by Air Photo Services. For this area, aerial photographs and LIDAR imagery were assessed by JBA Consulting and the results are included in **ES Appendix 8-2: HEDBA** [APP-182].

## Geophysical Survey

2.1.5. A geophysical survey was carried out by AOC Archaeology in two phases. Phase 1 was undertaken within the Solar Development Area and Phase 2 covered parts of the Inter-Array Connection areas and some outstanding fields within Parcel D. The reports are available in Appendix D in **ES Appendix 8-2: HEDBA** [APP-186 and APP-187]. The scope of this survey was developed and agreed in consultation with the Archaeological Advisor to Lincolnshire County Council (LCC). A magnetometry survey was carried out across the survey areas, including the two Scheduled Monuments located within the Site.

### Archaeological and Geoarchaeological Evaluation

2.1.6. Archaeological and geoarchaeological evaluation of the Solar Development Area was undertaken by York Archaeology. The field evaluation report for the Solar Development Area is available in the **Final Archaeological Evaluation Report** (Doc Ref 8.6).

2.1.7. The archaeological evaluation comprised a majority of trenches measuring 50m x 2m, with several broader but shorter trenches (e.g. 7m x 7m) excavated to investigate possible saltern features. The geoarchaeological evaluation comprised machine-excavated test pits measuring up to 2m x 2m.

## 2.2. Archaeological and Historical Background

2.2.1. Full details of the baseline including a historic period discussion can be found in **ES Appendix 8-2: HEDBA** [APP-182] and locations of the heritage assets are shown on **ES Figures 8-1 to 8-4** [APP-093, APP-094, APP-095, APP-096]. Heritage assets referred to within this document are succeeded by a number in brackets. This refers to the list entry number, primary reference number or other reference number for that asset as listed in the data sets consulted. The detail of these can be found in **ES Appendix 8-2: HEDBA** [APP-182]. The gazetteer in Appendix B of the **HEDBA** [APP-184] divides heritage assets into designated and non-designated assets and also contains records of heritage events.

2.2.2. A summary of the baseline results and archaeological fieldwork results is provided below.

2.2.3. There are no World Heritage Sites, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Protected Wreck Sites within the 1km study area.

2.2.4. There are six Scheduled Monuments within the 1km study area, including two within the Site and one adjacent to it:

- "Settlement W (west) of Cate's Cove Corner" (1004979) lies within fields C-1-01, C-1-03 and C-1-08.
- "Settlement NE of Whitebread Farm" (1004978) lies within fields C-2-01 and C-2-03.
- "Medieval boundary earthworks at Queen's Bank, 100m south-east of Providence House" (1009980) lies adjacent to the Site, north of “Settlement W of Cate's Cove Corner” (1004979).

- ”Settlement in Moulton West Fen” (1002944) lies about 500m north of C-2.
- “Romano-British settlement S (south) of Shell Bridge” (1004982) lies about 300m west of D-3-01. Trial trenching (ELI231) assessed plough damage, and archaeological monitoring identified Roman briquetage and burnt stone (MLI97511, ELI9788), supporting a Romano-British date.
- "Saint Guthlac's Cross" (1005052) stands at the crossroads of Queens Bank, Washbank, Spalding Road and Peak Hill, about 650m north-east of parcel A-1-12, 550m west of the Grid Connection Route, and 1km north of Crowland Airport. It is a c.1200 boundary cross marking land formerly owned by Crowland Abbey and is also Grade II Listed (1359254).

2.2.5. Within 5km of the Site, eight Scheduled Monuments lie closer to the Solar Development Area than to the Grid Connection Route:

- “Fleet settlement site near Lambert Drain” (1004950), about 1.2km south-west of the Solar Development Area.
- Kenulph's Stone (1005040), about 4.4km south-west of the Solar Development Area.
- Trinity Bridge (1005051), in Crowland about 2.6km south-west of the Solar Development Area; also Grade I Listed (1064508).
- “Roman drove, enclosures and building platform at Chestnut Farm” (1009990), about 3.5km south-west of the Solar Development Area; a 6m to 10m wide Roman droveway with earthworks and associated ditched enclosures on a silted tidal creek.
- “Boundary cross, Old Fen Dike” (1010672), about 1.7km east of the Solar Development Area; also Grade II Listed (1359248).
- “Boundary cross, Manor Hill Corner” (1010688), about 4.3km east of the Solar Development Area.
- “St Ives Cross” (1010689), about 2.6km north-east of the Solar Development Area; the local name 'Butter Cross' may indicate a market site.
- “Ruins and site of Crowland Abbey” (1012410), in Crowland about 2.2km south of the Solar Development Area; also Grade I Listed

(1064550). The monastery was founded in the early eighth century on the site of the hermitage of St Guthlac.

2.2.6. There are eight Listed Buildings within the 1km study area, including St Guthlac's Cross above (one Grade II* and seven Grade II). None lie within the Site.

2.2.7. The closest Listed Building is the Grade II "Gedney Hill Mill" (1146795), about 30m east of the Site boundary (highway works) and over 1km south-west of D-5-02. It is a 19th century tower mill with a 20th century extension, now converted to residential use.

2.2.8. To the east of "Gedney Hill Mill" (1146795), three Listed Buildings lie within Gedney Hill:

- The Grade II* Church of Holy Trinity (1146771), the rebuilt 14th century parish church of Gedney Hill, lies about 650m south-east of the Site boundary and over 1km south of the nearest solar array in parcel D-5-02.
- The Grade II "Cross, approximately 4 Metres to South of Church" (1064525), a restored 15th century cross adjacent to the Church of Holy Trinity (1146771), lies about 655m south-east of the Site boundary for highway works and over 1km south of parcel D-5-02. Its original position is uncertain.
- The Grade II "The Red Lion Public House" (1359240), a late 17th century building with later additions, lies about 645m south-east of the Site boundary for highway works and over 1km south of parcel D-5-02.

2.2.9. The remaining Listed Buildings within the 1km study area are:

- The Grade II Church of St John the Baptist (1147611) lies about 170m south of the Site boundary, 200m south of the C-D Inter-Array Connections, and over 1km from parcels C-1 and D-6. It is a 19th century church designed by Jeptha Pacey and Swansborough.
- The Grade II "Windmill" (1147706), a late 18th century red-brick tower mill, lies about 100m south-west of the Site boundary for highway works and 500m south-east of parcel C-1.
- The Grade II Yarwood House (1204813), a late 17th- or early 18th-century cottage, lies about 975m east of D-4.

2.2.10. Within 5km of the Site are two Conservation Areas: Crowland Conservation Area, about 1.8km south of parcel A-1-04, and Parson Drove Conservation Area, about 4.8km south-west of parcel D-5-02.

### Grid Connection Route - Designated Assets

2.2.11. There are no World Heritage Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Protected Wreck Sites within the Grid Connection Route 2km study area or within 5km of the route.

2.2.12. There are fifteen Scheduled Monuments within 5km of the Grid Connection Route (1002944; 1002945; 1005052; 1004963; 1004966; 1004978; 1004979; 1005037; 1005052; 1009980; 1010673; 1012410; 1013529; 1017217; 1019096). Six (1002944; 1004978; 1004979; 1009980; 1012410; 1005052) are discussed above because they also fall within the Solar Development Area and Inter-Array Connections study areas. Seven lie within the 2km study area and two further monuments lie within 5km, as follows:

- "Settlement between Broadgate Farm and Lower Delgate Farm" (1004963) lies 50m east of the Grid Connection Route at TF 27643 16891. Aerial survey identified fragmentary crop-marked ditches suggesting buried droveways and probable enclosures within a Roman settlement landscape extending beyond the scheduled area.
- "Settlement SE of Lower Delgate Farm" (1002945) lies just south-east of 1004963. The aerial survey did not extend into this area and identified no further associated evidence.
- "Wykeham Chapel: a moated monastic grange and retreat house" (1019096) lies about 40m north-west of the northern end of the Grid Connection Route. It includes a 12th century monastic grange, retreat house and chapel associated with Spalding Priory at TF 24770 22520, and is also Grade I Listed as Wykeham Chapel of St Nicholas (1064471).
- "Churchyard cross, St Mary's churchyard" in Weston (1013529) lies about 600m east of the Site. It is also Grade II Listed as "Cross 9 Metres South of South Aisle" (1064473), and stands in or near its original position within the churchyard of the Grade I Church of St Mary (1064433).
- "St Guthlac's Cross" (1005052) stands at the crossroads of Queens Bank, Washbank, Spalding Road and Peak Hill, about 550m west of the Grid Connection Route, 650m north-east of parcel A-1-12, and

1km north of Crowland Airport. It is a c.1200 boundary cross and also Grade II Listed (1359254).

- "Pinchbeck engine" (1004966) lies 1.4km west of the Grid Connection Route. It is a restored beam engine in a former pumping station off the A16 at Pinchbeck.
- "King's Hall moated site, 480m east of Broadwater House Farm" (1017217) lies 1.7km east of the Grid Connection Route. It comprises earthworks and buried deposits thought to be the de Moulton family residence around 1086 AD; the island is D-shaped, about 85m by 80m, and rises up to 1.5m above surrounding ground.
- The Elloe Stone (1005037) lies at Spalding Gate about 2.9km east of the Grid Connection Route. It may date to the 10th or 11th century AD, likely marked the Hundred Court of Elloe Wapentake, was moved by 1889 and re-erected on a commemorative base, and is also Grade II Listed (1147728).
- The medieval "Churchyard cross, St Mary's churchyard" in Whaplode (1010673) lies at TF 32383 24032, about 3.9km east of the Grid Connection Route, and is also Grade II Listed (1308443).

2.2.13. Within the 2km study area are 30 Listed Buildings: four Grade I, three Grade II*, and 23 Grade II.

2.2.14. The four Grade I Listed Buildings within the 2km study area are:

- Wykeham Chapel of St Nicholas (1064471) lies within the scheduled area of "Wykeham Chapel: a moated monastic grange and retreat house" (1019096), about 170m from the Grid Connection Route boundary.
- The Church of St Mary (1064475), a restored 12th century church in Weston, lies about 600m from the Grid Connection Route boundary and was restored in the 19th century by Scott and Pearson.
- The "Church of St Paul Including Attached Former Sunday Schoolroom" (1306702), a 19th century church on Holbeach Road, Spalding, lies about 1km south-west of the Grid Connection Route boundary. It stands outside Spalding Conservation Area, west of the A16 roundabout, adjacent to the Grade II* "Vicarage to Church

of St Paul" (1392209); both were designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott.

- The Church of St Mary (1064482), a restored 14th century church in the north-west corner of Cowbit, lies about 1.1km north-west of the Grid Connection Route boundary.

2.2.15. The three Grade II* Listed Buildings within the 2km study area are:

- The Chapel of St James (1359293) lies 900m east of the Grid Connection Route on Roman Road, Moulton Chapel, at TF 29348 18231. It is an early 18th century Chapel of Ease by William Sands Senior of Spalding with later 19th and 20th century additions.
- The "Old Office Block of Land Settlement Association" (1359567) is an 18th century house with medieval origins on Mallard Road, about 1.2km west of the Grid Connection Route in the Low Fulney Estate, Spalding.
- The 19th century "Vicarage to Church of St Paul" (1392209) lies on Holbeach Road, Spalding, about 1km south-west of the Grid Connection Route boundary, adjacent to the Grade I "Church of St Paul Including Attached Former Sunday Schoolroom" (1306702); both were designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott.

2.2.16. Within 5km of the Grid Connection Route are three Conservation Areas: Moulton, c.1.9km east; Spalding, c.2.1km west; and Pinchbeck, c.2.5km west.

## Whole Site Archaeological Baseline

### Palaeolithic to Bronze Age (970,000 - 800 BC)

2.2.17. No direct evidence of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic or Bronze Age occupation has been recorded within the study area, although Mesolithic activity is recorded at Cowbit. Wider research indicates intermittent human activity across the fenland landscape from the Palaeolithic through to the Bronze Age. Early prehistoric remains are largely confined to higher ground known as roddons or fen-edge locations, comprising isolated lithic scatters and occasional artefact finds.

### Iron Age to Romano-British (800 BC-AD410)

2.2.18. During the Iron Age, settlement patterns became increasingly structured, with the emergence of field systems, enclosures and trackways that reflect organised agricultural practices and salt production. Evidence of this management increases

into the Romano-British period. Archaeological investigations across the Scheme have revealed evidence of dispersed farmsteads, industrial activity including salt production, and extensive field systems, demonstrating the increased exploitation of the roddons. Artefactual material, including ceramics, coins, and building debris, indicate a sustained level of occupation, with engineering works that laid the foundation for later phases of drainage and reclamation.

### Early medieval and medieval (AD 410-1500)

2.2.19. Evidence for early medieval activity is sparse, with finds including pottery (c. 975–1150 AD) recorded at Cowbit and Weston. Weston is documented in the Domesday Book (1086).

2.2.20. The medieval period is represented by the expansion of settlements and fenland reclamation, including sea banks, trackways, and agricultural features such as ridge-and-furrow. Settlements such as Cowbit, Peakhill, and Weston, alongside field boundaries, ponds, stock enclosures, and ditches all date to this period. During the medieval period, monastic institutions played a leading role in renewed land reclamation, constructing embankments, sluices, and drainage channels that stabilised the fen environment and expanded cultivable land. These works established the landscape character of settlement and land division patterns observable today.

### Post-medieval (AD 1500-1800)

2.2.21. The post-medieval period witnessed a major phase of fen drainage and landscape reorganisation, beginning in the seventeenth century. These interventions permanently altered the hydrology of the landscape and established the rectilinear agricultural landscape that defines the modern fens. Post-medieval evidence reflects extensive agricultural exploitation, including farmsteads, enclosures, drainage features and field boundaries.

2.2.22. In the modern period, progressive improvements to drainage, mechanised farming, and infrastructure have further modified the landscape. Evidence of the impact of World War Two on local communities in Lincolnshire is also recorded within the study area.

### Assessment of Archaeological Potential of the Solar Development Area

2.2.23. The results of the Solar Development Area baseline studies, surveys and investigations have been summarised in the table in ES Appendix 8-3: Summary of Solar Development Area Heritage [APP-202]. The table summarises each field within the Solar Development Area and assigns Archaeological Zones and

potential. These zones and areas of potential are also presented on ES Figure 8-5 [APP-097].

2.2.24. There is considered to be low potential to encounter organic-rich sedimentary sequences dating from the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic, due to the depth of organic deposits identified within the test pits. Any such material may be of high significance.

2.2.25. In parcel B-1-09, the geophysical survey indicated potential for ring-ditches of later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age date to be present that could represent a cemetery group, monument complex or funerary landscape. However, the archaeological evaluation in the surrounding fields has confirmed that the earliest recorded activity belongs to a later period (the Iron Age) and relates to settlement activity and associated domestic or agricultural features. Trenching in B-1-09 and the surrounding fields, confirmed the features are of a later date and consistent with findings across Parcels C and D. It is considered that potential to identify evidence for archaeological activity from the Neolithic to Bronze Age periods is low.

2.2.26. The desk-based research and non-intrusive archaeological surveys identified potential for extensive remains of Iron Age and/or Roman date to survive within the Solar Development Area. The earliest archaeological deposits identified through evaluation trenching are believed to be Iron Age in date and have generally been located on the roddons crossing the Site. These areas of slightly raised ground would have provided a preferable location for settlement within the fenland landscape. This assessment has identified seven Archaeological Zones (Zones 1-2 and 4-8) where deposits of Iron Age and/or Roman date are known to survive and are detailed on ES Figures 8-5(a-d) (APP-071).

2.2.27. Within Archaeological Zone 3, there is high potential for archaeological deposits relating to the medieval boundary earthworks at Queen's Bank Scheduled Monument. Geophysical and aerial survey results indicate that the boundary of Crowland Abbey extends west from the Queen's Bank Scheduled Monument, towards Saint Guthlac's Cross.

2.2.28. The non-intrusive surveys for the Solar Development Area indicated a likelihood of field systems or possible associated drains. Features such as potential drove roads and areas of ridge and furrow were also recorded. These features have been found to overlay both roddons and paleochannels and indicate the date for these features extends from the early-medieval to post-medieval following the progressive draining of the fens. The fields were extensively utilised in later periods and intensification of agriculture from the medieval period into the post-

medieval period will have greatly impacted the survival of some archaeological deposits, but there is potential for features of medieval and post-medieval date, largely relating to agricultural practices, to survive across the Solar Development Area.

2.2.29. Three aircraft crash sites from World War Two and an area of munitions dumping are known within the Solar Development Area. The Solar Development Area is well documented through historic maps and photographs from the later years of the post-medieval period through the modern. The documentary records and the evaluation work undertaken suggest the potential for finding previously unrecorded heritage features from these periods is low.

### Assessment of Archaeological Potential of the Grid Connection Route and Inter-Array Connections

2.2.30. Archaeological evaluation has not been undertaken within the Inter-Array Connections at this stage. The underground cabling within the Underground Inter-Array Connection will be within a corridor, the exact location of which will be confirmed at detailed design stage within the extent defined by the Order Limits. Evaluation of this area will be undertaken once the details of the excavation required for the underground cable is known. This approach has been taken in consideration of the archaeological potential informed by desk-based research and non-intrusive survey techniques and is considered to be proportionate, and has been agreed with LCC. The Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D will comprise an overhead line, suspended from wooden poles. A programme of evaluation trenching would not be proportional to the impact of constructing these poles and therefore appropriate mitigation is included in this OAMMS.

2.2.31. The Grid Connection Route has been the subject of an Aerial Photography and Lidar Assessment included in Appendix C.2 of ES Appendix 8-2: HEDBA (App-185). In consultation with LCC it has been determined that the following areas of geophysical survey will be undertaken within the Grid Connection Route, in fields where areas of potential impact are greatest: the construction compounds, the section of underground cabling and any underground cable route between High Road and the new Weston Marsh B Substation site at the northern end of the Grid Connection Route. The requirement for further geophysical survey, such as at selected overhead tower locations, will be considered once the detailed design locations are agreed post-determination.

2.2.32. As a result, the assessment of archaeological potential set out below is based on the available desk-based information and the Aerial Photography Survey.

References within the text (e.g. GC_01) refer to areas of archaeological features identified by the aerial photography survey. Details of these can be found in Appendix C.2 of ES Appendix 8-2: HEDBA [APP-185].

### Palaeolithic to Bronze Age

2.2.33. There is an absence of previously recorded activity from the Palaeolithic to the Bronze Age within the Grid Connection Route study area.

2.2.34. As with the Solar Development Area the aerial survey has identified the potential for extensive remains of roddons and palaeochannels dating from the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic within the Grid Connection Route. Roddons and palaeochannels were identified in 22 of 31 fields. The aerial survey recorded a complex of features including ditches, enclosures and tracks in 4SV35 (GC_23) between Wool Hall Farm and the A151/Holbeach Road which are potentially of prehistoric date based on their form. The aerial survey has also indicated a likelihood of Neolithic or Bronze Age curvilinear ditches and enclosures in 4SV10 (GC_08) and 4SV27 (GC_21). The depths and ages of these deposits are undetermined at this stage.

### Iron Age and Roman

2.2.35. The aerial survey identified limited potential for Iron Age or Roman settlement activity within the Grid Connection Route, only identifying the Iron Age settlements and salterns also recorded by the HER near the A16 to the north of Cowbit as an area of potential activity for these time periods. There is considered to be medium potential to encounter remains from the Iron Age and Roman period within the Grid Connection Route in the area west of 4SV10 (GC_08), 4SV27 (GC_21), and 4SV35 (GC_23). The aerial survey indicated a likelihood of Neolithic or Bronze Age curvilinear ditches and enclosures close to 4SV10 (GC_08), 4SV10 (GC_08), 4SV13 (GC_12) and 4SV27 (GC_21), but as the morphology of these features are not exclusive to the prehistoric period, further field investigation may result in later dates, including the Iron Age to post-medieval periods.

2.2.36. There is considered to be medium potential to encounter remains from the Iron Age and Roman period within the Inter-Array Connections and Grid Connection Route close to 4SV10 (GC_08), 4SV13 (GC_12) and 4SV27 (GC_21). The potential is considered to be the same on areas of roddons across the Grid Connection Route, Inter-Array Connections and the Solar Development Area.

### Early medieval and medieval

2.2.37. The desk-based research identified limited early medieval activity within the Grid Connection Route and Inter-Array Connections in the form of pottery scatters and documentary records of salterns. There is considered to be low potential for previously unknown remains of early medieval date to survive within the Grid Connection Route and Inter-Array Connections.

2.2.38. The research identified records of medieval settlements, trackways and droveways that would have developed out of the early medieval period. Salt-making south of Pinchbeck Marsh Pumping Station (MLI89837) is attested in the 13th century. The aerial survey did not distinguish between early medieval and medieval activity but instead confirmed the broad presence of medieval dylings (ridge and furrow) and cultivation marks in fields containing 4SV3, 4SV4 and 4SV5 (GC_01) and 4SV27 (GC_21) of the Grid Connection Route. The depths and ages of the dylings and cultivation marks are undetermined at this stage. As with the Solar Development Area, these features were found to overlie both the roddons and palaeochannels indicating these features post-date the draining of the fens. However, it is likely that many of the agricultural and drainage features from these periods continued in use into the post-medieval period.

### Post-medieval

2.2.39. The post-medieval period is represented in the Grid Connection Route and Inter-Array Connections by the large number of isolated historic farmsteads in enclosed fields with associated drainage and ditches. The aerial survey confirmed the presence of post-medieval activity in the form of boundaries, often with associated drainage, ditches or cultivation marks. Post-medieval remains within the Grid Connection Route and Inter-Array Connections are likely to relate to the agricultural exploitation, and may include isolated buildings, historic field boundaries, ridge and furrow, and fen circles. The Grid Connection Route and Inter-Array Connections are well documented through historic mapping and photographs from the later years of the post-medieval period through to the modern. The documentary records and the evaluation work completed make the potential for finding heritage features not previously recorded low.

### Modern

2.2.40. Within the Grid Connection Route and Inter-Array Connections, records of modern date are represented by the 20th century Low Fulney Land Settlement Association settlement (MLI25508). As with the post-medieval period the modern period is well documented and therefore the potential to identify heritage features not previously recorded is low.

# 3. Additional Archaeological Evaluation

3.1.1. The programme of additional archaeological evaluation, including post-determination geophysical survey and trial trenching, seeks to identify archaeological deposits or features that may be impacted by construction of the Solar Development Area, Grid Connection Route and Inter-Array Connections. Fifteen areas have been identified for geophysical survey, and nine areas for archaeological trenching, as listed below in Table 1. These are illustrated on Figures 1-7.

## 3.2. General Objectives

3.2.1. The objectives of the evaluation are to:

- Identify geophysical magnetic anomalies that may be of archaeological origin;
- Excavate a series of trenches across potential archaeological anomalies, and also within geophysically 'blank' areas;
- Identify, characterise and record any archaeological features or deposits that are present within the evaluation trenches;
- Evaluate a representative sample of any remains that have been identified;
- Ascertain the extent, depth, character, date, significance and condition of archaeological remains;
- Recover finds and environmental samples for post-excavation assessment;
- Understand the archaeological potential across the Site with reference to the historic landscape and other evidence;
- Ensure the reporting meets with regional and national standards and guidance (CIfA 2020, 2023a; 2023b; LCC 2026); and
- Provide evidence to determine what further archaeological mitigation may be required.

**Table 1: Additional areas of post-determination archaeological evaluation**

| Scheme Element | Extent | Evaluation Technique |
|---|---|---|
| Grid Connection Route - permanent access roads to cable sealing end compounds | c.260m and 325m 12m wide | Geophysical Survey and possible Trial Trenching |
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction access tracks | 12m wide strip | Geophysical Survey and possible Trial Trenching |
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction compound C1a | 130m x 110m | Geophysical Survey and Trial Trenching |
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction compound C3 | 130m x 110m | Geophysical Survey and Trial Trenching |
| Grid Connection Route - selected overhead line pylon construction locations | To be agreed post-determination, once the detailed design locations are finalised | Geophysical Survey and possible Trial Trenching |
| Cable sealing end compounds (CSECs) - 2no<br><br>Grid Connection Route underground cable<br><br>Grid Connection Route temporary construction compound C2 | 46m x 46m max (northern compound) and 85m x 85m (southern)<br><br>325m x 60m corridor<br><br>50m x 50m | Geophysical Survey and Trial Trenching, in one combined block |
| Grid Connection Route - any underground cable route and associated CSECs between High Road and the new Weston | Unknown | Geophysical Survey and Trial Trenching |

| Scheme Element | Extent | Evaluation Technique |
|---|---|---|
| Marsh B substation site (if required) | | |
| Inter-Array Connections:<br>Inter-Array Connection field 7<br>Inter-Array Connection field 10<br>Inter-Array Connection field 12<br>Inter-Array Connections fields 14 - 19<br>Inter-Array Connection field 22 | c.2km x 100m | Geophysical survey of areas not accessed during the pre-application phase |
| Three fields at the northern extent of Solar Development Area Parcel D:<br>D-1-01<br>D-1-02<br>D-1-03 | 34 trenches and 19 test pits | Archaeological evaluation following UXO survey. |

## 3.3. Reporting

3.3.1. Weekly progress updates will be provided by the Archaeological Contractor to the ACoW and the Archaeological Advisor to LCC. An interim report on the archaeological works will be produced within an agreed timescale dependent on the nature of the works following the completion of each phase of the investigation. The draft reports will be submitted to the ACoW for comments and consideration prior to the submission of final reports within timescales agreed within the SSWSIs.

### Geophysical survey reporting

3.3.2. For the geophysical survey, the interim report will comprise area-by-area plots of the raw and processed greyscale data, with a brief comment on any key findings. The final report will be produced in accordance with established guidelines (CIfA 2020a; European Archaeological Council 2016). The final geophysical survey report will contain the following information:

- A title page, with the name of the project, the name of the contractor and authors(s) of the report, the title of the report and date of the report and grid reference;

- A non-technical summary of the findings;
- A description of and a background to the nature of the works, including dates of fieldwork;
- A brief description of the site location (including grid references) and any previously known archaeology in the survey area;
- Description of the methodology employed and explanation of any agreed variations to the brief;
- The layout, total area and purpose of the archaeological survey, supported by a location plan;
- The results of the geophysical survey including raw and calibrated greyscale drawings and interpretation drawings;
- Discussion of the survey results, including interpretation of the results within the local and regional context, as appropriate;
- References and bibliography of all sources used; and
- An appendix containing locational information and a copy of the WSI.

### Trial trenching

3.3.3. The interim trial trenching report will include a written summary of the key findings supported by an area plan and photographs, as necessary.

3.3.4. The post-excavation assessment report shall be prepared in accordance with regional and national standards and guidelines (CIfA 2023a; 2023b; LCC 2026). As a minimum the report shall contain the following information:

3.3.5. A title page, with the name of the project, the name of the contractor and authors(s) of the report, the title of the report and date of the report and grid reference;

- A non-technical summary of the findings;
- A description of and a background to the nature of the works, including dates of fieldwork;
- A brief description of the site location (including grid references) and any previously known archaeology in the investigation area;
- Description of the methodology employed and explanation of any agreed variations to the brief;

- The layout, total area and purpose of the archaeological trenches, supported by location plans;
- The results of the archaeological evaluation including post-excavation assessment of the stratigraphic and other written, drawn and photographic records;
- A catalogue and brief post-excavation assessment of each category of artefact recovered during the fieldwork and the results of biological samples, including the potential for further analyses;
- Discussion of the fieldwork results, including interpretation of the results within the local and regional context and how they address the identified research framework objectives, as appropriate;
- Recommendations for further work on site or further analysis of finds or environmental samples;
- A summary of the contents of the project archive and its location;
- References and bibliography of all sources used; and
- An appendix containing a list and summary descriptions of all contexts recorded and a copy of the WSI.

3.3.6. The report will be supported by detailed trench plans, overlain on geophysical and/or air photographic survey results, indicating the location of archaeological features, with supporting section drawings where appropriate.

3.3.7. The report will include colour photographs of archaeological features and artefacts as appropriate and will also be supported by general site photographs to place the archaeological features within context.

3.3.8. The report will outline the archaeological potential of any features and an interpretation of the results in relation to other sites in the surrounding area, as relevant.

3.3.9. The Archaeological Contractor will submit the report to the ACoW for review, comment and consultation with consultees as outlined in the SSWSI. The results of the archaeological evaluation may also warrant inclusion in a formal publication of the whole project.

# 4. Mitigation Strategies

## 4.1. Impact of the Scheme

4.1.1. The design of the Scheme has been developed to mitigate impacts on heritage assets. Priority has been given to the preservation in-situ of archaeological remains. Scheduled Monuments and areas of highest archaeological potential identified during the preliminary stages of assessment were excluded from the areas of development for the DCO Application. Within the Solar Development Area, the arrays will be mounted on driven galvanised piles, which will minimise the area of impact on heritage assets.

4.1.2. The construction tasks and processes that are considered likely to have a physical impact on heritage assets are listed below. It should be noted that the precise siting of the Scheme infrastructure, including the micro-siting of Scheme elements within larger works areas to avoid significant archaeological deposits where practicable, will be finalised at detailed design, and so their indicative locations on Figures 7-11 are subject to change. The results of the archaeological evaluation phases will be used to inform the detailed design phase. Any changes might result in currently unplanned groundworks such as grading or groundwork in additional areas or landscaping. Once the detailed design is available these changes should be factored into the final mitigation strategy and SSWSIs. Similarly, the depth of pylon foundations may require a range of mitigation responses which will be considered in the AMMS and SSWSIs.

4.1.3. Solar Development Area:

- On-Site Substations and BESS Compound, including temporary and permanent drainage – full topsoil and subsoil strip with up to 2m deep foundations or piles to a maximum depth of 4m.
- Solar panels – galvanised poles driven to 3.5m.
- Solar panels - concrete pads may be installed at a depth below ground level up to 0.3mm, in areas where steel poles cannot be used.
- Solar stations – piles to a maximum depth of 4m or up to 2m deep concrete slab. Maximum dimensions 16m x 3.5m. The number of solar stations is indicative, subject to detailed design: Parcel A – c.32 no; Parcel B – c.40 no; Parcel C – c.13 no; Parcel D – c.43 no.
- Access roads with adjacent drainage swale. 12m wide area stripped of up to 600mm of topsoil and subsoil.
- Temporary drainage systems where intrusive ground works are required.
- Watercourse crossings where intrusive ground works are required.
- Areas of Landscape Mitigation, Habitat Management and Permissive Path – 36km of planted trees and shrubs – various depths and diameters of pit. Further areas of Habitat Management not requiring groundworks or intrusive interventions will not have an impact.
- Temporary construction compounds of various sizes stripped of topsoil and finished with stoned surface.

4.1.4. Grid Connection Route:

- Overhead Line Towers (pylons). Piles (up to 20m deep) or concrete pads (up to 4.8m deep) on each corner. Construction within a temporary working area stripped of up to 600mm of topsoil and subsoil and stoned – line towers c.60mx60m. Angle towers 70mx70m.
- Cable sealing end compounds, including temporary and permanent drainage. Fenced area 46mx46m stripped of topsoil and subsoil and stoned. Structures on piles (up to 12m deep) or concrete pads (up to 2.5m deep). Southern compound may require external flood defence bund – max area c.85mx85m.

- Underground cable, c.325m. If open cut, trenches 1.5m wide 5m deep. Within a construction corridor c.60m wide. May be trenchless, up to 7m deep.
- Potentially, a further section of underground cable within Work No 14, although this is not the preferred option. If open cut, trenches 1.5m wide 5m deep. Within a construction corridor c.60m wide. May be trenchless, up to 7m deep;
- Permanent access roads to cable sealing end compounds: c.260m and 325m, 12m wide stripped of up to 600mm of topsoil and subsoil
- Temporary access roads within 12m working area, stripped of up to 600mm of topsoil and subsoil.
- Temporary construction compounds of various sizes, stripped of topsoil and subsoil and stoned-up.

4.1.5. Inter-Array Connections

- Overhead line – c. 5km. Twin poles approximately every 120m. Each pole will need a pit typically 2mx1m and 2.5m deep.
- Underground cable - 1.2km between Parcels A and B, 1.3km Between Parcel A and the 400kV On-Site Substation and BESS Compound and 2.1km between Parcels C and B. Majority will be open trench c.2m wide, 2m deep, within a construction corridor c.30m wide, stripped of topsoil and subsoil. Some sections may be trenchless (Horizontal Directional Drilling - HDD). Minimum 3m deep.
- Temporary construction compounds of various sizes stripped of topsoil and subsoil and stoned-up.

## 4.2. Approach to Mitigation

4.2.1. A combination of desk-based research and archaeological evaluation techniques has been used to identify appropriate mitigation measures. These measures are considered proportionate to the impact on the cultural significance of the archaeological deposits.

4.2.2. In locations where additional archaeological evaluation is to be undertaken, the details of the mitigation will be refined based on the results, and specified in the AMMS.

4.2.3. Proposed mitigation includes the following techniques, which are described in detail in section 4.4:

- Preservation by design - where possible, tower locations, access routes and other infrastructure will be sited to avoid archaeological remains identified in the evaluation phase;
- Strip, Map and Record (also known as archaeological excavation) - a programme of intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures, and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site;
- Archaeological Monitoring (often referred to as a watching brief) - a formal programme of observation, investigation and recording conducted during works carried out for non- archaeological reasons, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. This will be within a specified area or site;
- Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries - used when continuous archaeological monitoring is not proportionate to the nature of the archaeological deposits or heritage assets, the methods of construction work or site conditions. The groundworks contractor nominates a site contact who is responsible for reporting any discoveries or finds of possible archaeological interest, and if relevant, an archaeological team is then brought in to investigate.

4.2.4. The Works Plans [APP-009 to APP-010] incorporate flexibility for the siting of access roads, on-site cabling and solar stations in the Solar Development Area, cabling and overhead line poles within the Inter-Array Connections and infrastructure within the Grid Connection Route. The detailed AMMS will confirm the mitigation requirements on the basis of the final locations of the infrastructure.

4.2.5. Within the Solar Development Area and Inter-Array Connections, the archaeological mitigation strategy has been developed to reflect both the nature and significance of the heritage resource and the degree of likely impact of construction activities. The Iron Age to Roman landscape is widespread, but focussed along the roddon system. The combined results of the aerial and geophysical surveys and the field evaluation have provided good evidence for the key Archaeological Zones and the areas of high, medium and low archaeological potential (as outlined in Section 2).

4.2.6. Due to the proposed installation method for the solar arrays, using small cross-section, driven piles, or 0.3m deep concrete pads, it is considered that the limited footprint of each pile or the shallow depth of the concrete pads would produce a very small potential impact. Any archaeological investigation of these areas would require large-scale ground disturbance, which would have a far greater magnitude of impact than the construction impact it sought to mitigate. Archaeological investigation of the Solar Development Area is therefore confined to those areas of extensive, deeper disturbance associated with the On-Site Substations and BESS Compound, vehicular access drainage, and the solar stations.

4.2.7. Within the identified Archaeological Zones and the areas of Medium/High Potential, any extensive areas of proposed deep excavations (as identified in Section 4.1) resulting in a significant effect will be subject to 'strip, map and record' excavation in advance of construction. Shallow impacts in areas of Medium to High Potential, where effects are assessed as not significant, will be mitigated by archaeological monitoring during groundworks. These are listed in Tables 2 and 3, below and illustrated on Figures 6-9. Details of the areas proposed for Strip, Map, Record can be found in Appendix A. It should be noted that there is potential for archaeological remains to extend beyond the Areas of High/Medium Potential, and so the SSWSIs must allow for archaeological monitoring to continue beyond the area until no archaeological feature has been identified within a 10m stretch. Mitigation is not proposed in areas of Low Potential.

**Table 2: Solar Development Area**

| Scheme Element | Archaeological Zone or Potential | Extent | Mitigation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Parcel A | Low to Medium | Whole Area | Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries - air crash remains |
| Parcel A (west) temporary construction compound (Appendix A - Site 1) | Medium | 70m x 30m | Strip, Map and Record |

| Scheme Element | Archaeological Zone or Potential | Extent | Mitigation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Parcel A temporary access from Barrier Bank | Not evaluated | 12m wide strip | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Parcel A permanent access tracks with adjacent drainage | Medium | 12m wide strip | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Parcel A Solar Stations, next to permanent access tracks | Medium | Max 16m x 3.5m | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Parcel B 400kV Substation and BESS Compound (Appendix A – Site 2) | Medium to High | 350m x 320m | Strip, Map and Record |
| Parcel B permanent access tracks with adjacent drainage | Archaeological Zones 1 and 3; Medium to High | 12m wide strip | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Parcel B Solar Stations, next to permanent access tracks | Archaeological Zones 1 and 3; High | Max 16m x 3.5m | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Parcel C (east) temporary construction compound (Appendix A – Site 4) | High | 60m x 30m | Strip, Map and Record |
| Parcel C (west) temporary construction compound (Appendix A – Site 3) | Archaeological Zone 1 | 100m x 75m | Strip, Map and Record |
| Parcel C 132kV Substation (Appendix A – Site 3) | Archaeological Zone 1 | 170m x 110m | Strip, Map and Record |

| Scheme Element | Archaeological Zone or Potential | Extent | Mitigation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Parcel C permanent access tracks with adjacent drainage | Archaeological Zones 1 and 2; High | 12m wide strip | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Parcel C Solar Stations, next to permanent access tracks | Archaeological Zones 1 and 2; High | Max 16m x 3.5m | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Parcel D permanent access tracks with adjacent drainage | Archaeological Zones 4-8; Medium to High | 12m wide strip | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Parcel D temporary construction compound D-5-02 (appendix A – Site 5) | Archaeological Zone 5 | 60m x 40m | Strip, Map and Record |
| Parcel D temporary construction compound D-3-01 (Appendix A – Site 8) | High | 50m x 40m | Strip, Map and Record |
| Parcel D temporary construction compound D-2-01 (south) (appendix A – Site 6) | Archaeological Zone 6 | 60m x 50m | Strip, Map and Record |
| Parcel D temporary construction compound D-2-01 (north) (Appendix A – Site 7) | Archaeological Zone 6 | 50m x 40m | Strip, Map and Record |
| Parcel D temporary construction compound D-1-02 (Appendix A - Site 10) | Medium | 50m x 50m | Strip, Map and Record |

| Scheme Element | Archaeological Zone or Potential | Extent | Mitigation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Parcel D temporary construction compound D-1-03 (Appendix A – Site 9) | Medium | 50m x 30m | Strip, Map and Record |
| Parcel D Solar Stations, next to permanent access tracks | Archaeological Zones 4-8; Medium to High | Max 16m x 3.5m | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Parcel D temporary construction compound D-3-06 next to substation (Appendix A – Site 11 | Medium | 100m x 80m max | Strip, Map and Record |
| Parcel D 132kV Substation (Appendix A – Site 11) | Medium | 140m x 140m | Strip, Map and Record |

4.2.8. The mitigation for the Inter-Array Connections will be refined following the post determination archaeological evaluation.

**Table 3: Inter-Array Connections**

| Scheme Element | Extent | Mitigation |
|---|---|---|
| Parcel A temporary access from Barrier Bank | 12m wide strip | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Inter-Array Connections (west) temporary construction compound | 50m x 40m | Strip, Map and Record as close to Archaeology Zone 3 |
| Inter-Array Connections (east) temporary construction compound | 60m x 40m | Strip, Map and Record as close to Medium Potential Parcel D-3-06 |
| Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Parcels C and D | 5km linear, driven poles approximately every 120m | Strip, Map and Record if soil stripping of access route required in areas identified as Medium/High Potential |

| Scheme Element | Extent | Mitigation |
|---|---|---|
| Inter-Array Connections underground Parcels A to B, and 400kV On-Site Substation and BESS, inc some HDD and some open-trench | 2.5km x 30m corridor | Archaeological Monitoring |
| Inter-Array Connections underground B to Substation C | 2.1km x 30m corridor | Archaeological Monitoring |

4.2.9. The mitigation for the Grid Connection Route will be determined following the post consent phase of archaeological evaluation and following the final design siting of pylons and access routes. Where possible impacts on archaeological remains will be avoided through location and design of infrastructure. Based on the available information, within areas of proposed ground disturbance it is likely that some areas of 'strip, map and record' will be undertaken in advance of construction, for construction requiring greater depth of excavation, extent, or without flexibility to relocate within areas of identified archaeological remains or medium-high archaeological potential, while infrastructure with less depth of excavation or smaller areas such as pylon foundations or access routes within areas of low archaeological potential may be subject to archaeological monitoring during groundworks. These are listed in Table 4, below and illustrated on Figures 1-5.

**Table 4: Grid Connection Route**

| Scheme Element | Extent | Mitigation |
|---|---|---|
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction access tracks | 12m wide strip | To be confirmed |
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction compound C1a | 130m x 110m | To be confirmed |
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction compound C2 | 50m x 50m | To be confirmed |

| Scheme Element | Extent | Mitigation |
|---|---|---|
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction compound C3 | 130m x 110m | To be confirmed |
| Underground cable sealing end compounds - 2no<br>Grid Connection Route underground cable<br>Two permanent access tracks for sealing end compounds | 46m x 46m and c85m x 85m<br>325m x 60m corridor<br>c. 160m and 325m, 12m wide strip | To be confirmed |
| Grid Connection Route - any underground cable route and CSECs between High Road and the new Weston Marsh substation site | Unknown | To be confirmed |
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction stoned working area for ‘angle' pylons - 11no | Each 70m x 70m | To be confirmed |
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction stoned working area for 'line' pylons - 23no | Each 60m x 60m | To be confirmed |
| Grid Connection Route temporary construction compound C1b | 130m x 110m | To be confirmed |

## 4.3. Scope of Archaeological Mitigation Measures

### Aims and Objectives

4.3.1. The overall aim of the archaeological investigation is to mitigate the impacts of the Scheme on the significance of archaeological remains. Where possible, priority has been given to the preservation of archaeological remains in-situ, and

where avoidance has not been possible, a programme of archaeological excavation and recording is proposed.

### General objectives

4.3.2. The general objectives comprise:

- To make a record of the archaeological resource that will be impacted as a result of the Scheme, as identified during previous evaluations;
- To record (where possible) the nature, depth, extent, character and date of archaeological deposits or features encountered in order to successfully fulfil the research objectives of the Scheme as outlined below;
- To record the condition or state of preservation of any archaeological deposits or features encountered in order to successfully fulfil the research aims of the Scheme;
- To record and recover an adequate sample of the range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present in order to successfully fulfil the research aims of the Scheme; and
- To interpret the archaeology of the Scheme within its local, regional and national archaeological context.

4.3.3. The investigations will result in a comprehensive and structured record that takes into account relevant research agendas and research themes, as well as the results of relevant archaeological investigations undertaken adjacent to the Scheme and a report that is commensurate with the significance of the findings.

## Regional Research Framework

4.3.4. Consideration of research themes is key to understanding the potential archaeological significance of archaeological remains. The broad principles of the East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework (EMHERF) will be applied.

4.3.5. Specific research objectives identified from this research agenda of particular relevance to each archaeological mitigation area are shown in Table 5.

**Table 5: Relevant Regional Research Agenda Questions (East Midlands)**

| 4. Late Bronze Age and Iron Age (c.1150 cal BC–AD 43) |
|---|
| **4.1 Dating** |

| 4. Late Bronze Age and Iron Age (c.1150 cal BC–AD 43) |
|---|
| 4.1.1: How can we maximise the potential of scientific dating methods as tools for refining the regional chronological framework for the first millennium BC? |
| **4.2 Site visibility, prospection and landscape exploration** |
| 4.2.3: How can we expand our knowledge of first millennium BC activity in areas with a poor record of settlement? |
| **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? |
| **4.5 Late Iron Age settlements (c. 100 BC – AD 50)** |
| 4.5.3: How may nucleated and other settlements have developed in the Roman period? |
| **4.6 Field systems and major linear boundaries** |
| 4.6.1: Can we shed further light upon the development of field and boundary systems? |
| 4.6.2: What were the economic, social or political roles of the pit alignments and linear ditch systems that characterised many areas of the East Midlands? |
| 4.6.3: What may we deduce from studies of linear boundaries with respect to changes in the agrarian landscape? |
| **4.8 The agricultural economy and landscape** |
| 4.8.2: How may diet and land-use have varied over time and between different ecological zones? Can we identify specialist pastoral zones and elucidate coastal resource exploitation strategies? |
| 4.8.3: How may agricultural changes have impacted upon settlement patterns? Can the relationship between sedentary and mobile economies be clarified, and how did this vary spatially and over time |
| **4.9 Finds, craft, industry and exchange** |
| 4.9.1: How can we add to our existing knowledge of industries and crafts in this region, particularly the extraction and smelting of iron and lead, salt production and quern manufacture? |
| 4.9.3: What can we determine from artefact studies about trade and exchange and the role of coinage? |
| **4.10 Social relations and society** |
| 4.10.1: What social and economic roles may open and enclosed sites have performed, and may the progression in some areas from open to enclosed settlements imply the development of less mobile societies? |

| |
|---|
| 4. Late Bronze Age and Iron Age (c.1150 cal BC–AD 43) |
| 4.10.3: How can we better understand the nature of the transition from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age and the socio-political changes of the later Iron Age? |
| 5. Romano-British (AD 43 – c.410) |
| **5.1 Chronology** |
| 5.1.5: What are the priorities for scientific dating, particularly radiocarbon, and how may targeted dating programmes be developed for the Romano-British period? |
| **5.4 Rural settlement patterns and landscapes** |
| 5.4.2: How and why did settlement forms and building traditions vary within the region and over time? |
| 5.4.3: How did rural settlements relate to each other and to towns and military sites, and how may this have varied regionally 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? |
| 5.4.5: What patterns can be discerned in the location of settlements in the landscape? |
| 5.4.6: Can we elucidate further the daily life of settlements and their role in the processing and marketing of agricultural products? |
| **5.5 The agricultural economy** |
| 5.5.1: How is the upland-lowland divide manifested in the regional agricultural economy and other aspects of the archaeological record? |
| 5.5.2: How did integration into the Roman Empire impact upon the agrarian economy, including the introduction of new crops, herbs and fruits? |
| 5.5.4: Can we chart more closely the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion and the development of field systems? |
| **5.6 Artefacts: production, distribution and social identity** |
| 5.6.1: What resources moved in and out of the region during this period? |
| 5.6.2: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials? |
| 7. Early Medieval (c.410 - 1066) |
| **7.1 Rural settlement patterns and landscapes** |
| 7.1.1 Is there evidence for previously unrecognised early medieval activity, particularly low-density, seasonal, transient or task-specific occupation such as hunting, fishing, stock management, resource exploitation or temporary camps? |
| 7.1.2 What role did the fenland environment play in shaping patterns of movement, |

| |
|---|
| 4. Late Bronze Age and Iron Age (c.1150 cal BC–AD 43) |
| resource procurement and occupation during the early medieval period? |
| 7.1.3 How did early medieval communities exploit the fenland and wetland resources of the area, and can archaeological or palaeoenvironmental evidence provide insight into changing patterns of land use and environmental management? |
| **7.2 Crowland Abbey and Ecclesiastical Landscapes** |
| 7.2.1 Can any evidence be identified for activity associated with the wider monastic and religious landscape connected to St Guthlac, Crowland Abbey and related ecclesiastical networks? |
| 7.2.2 What evidence exists for the influence of early medieval religious institutions on settlement, land use, communication routes and resource exploitation within the surrounding fenland landscape? |
| 7.2.3 Can artefactual, environmental or spatial evidence contribute to understanding the emergence and development of monastic landscapes within the wider fen region? |
| 8. High Medieval (1066 – 1485) |
| **8.2 Rural settlement** |
| 8.2.2: How can we shed further light upon the origin and development of dispersed hamlets and farms in champion and pastoral areas? |
| **8.6 Industry and trade** |
| 8.6.3: Can we identify, investigate and date sites associated with the region's key extractive industries (especially iron, coal, lead and alabaster), the production and distribution of cloth and leather-work, and freshwater or marine fishing? |
| **8.7 The agrarian landscape and food producing economy** |
| 8.6.3: Can we identify, investigate and date sites associated with the region's key extractive industries (especially iron, coal, lead and alabaster), the production and distribution of cloth and leather-work, and freshwater or marine fishing? |
| 8.7.4: What can environmental remains teach us about diet and living conditions in urban, rural and coastal communities? |
| 8.7.6: How best may we enhance study of the origins and development of early land reclamation and drainage, particularly in Lincolnshire? |
| 9 Post-medieval (1485 – 1750) |
| **9.3 Agricultural landscapes and the food-producing economy** |
| 9.3.1: How can we improve our understanding of the early landscapes of enclosure? |
| 9.3.2: How did water management and land drainage change the landscape during this period? |

4.3.6. Provision should be made for updating the EMHERF where the results of the investigations contribute towards agenda topics. This should be done using the interactive digital resource and noted explicitly in the conclusions of the relevant report.

## 4.4. Mitigation Methods

4.4.1. This section provides more detail on the mitigation measures outlined in section 4.2. Areas of proposed mitigation are illustrated on Figures 7-11.

### Preservation by design

4.4.2. Where flexibility remains within the detailed design of the Scheme the results of the outstanding archaeological evaluation will be reviewed and where reasonably practicable, pylons, access routes and other infrastructure, storage and habitat management, will be sited to avoid archaeological remains, or areas of High/Medium Potential. Where this is not practicable, the approach to archaeological mitigation will be confirmed within the AMMS.

### Strip, Map and Record

4.4.3. Nineteen areas within the Site have been identified for strip, map and record excavation (Tables 2 to 4). The archaeological excavation and recording will be undertaken in advance of the preliminary and main works construction stages, in accordance with regional and national standards and guidance (CIfA 2023c; 2023d; LCC 2026).

4.4.4. The topsoil, subsoil or other overburden within areas for strip, map and record will be stripped to the correct archaeological horizon under the supervision of a qualified archaeologist, using mechanical plant with a toothless bucket. The archaeological remains in the area will be mapped in full. An appropriate sample of archaeological features and deposits will be investigated and recorded in accordance with the sampling strategy in the SSWSI. Where relevant, this will include further geoarchaeological sampling. Plant will not be permitted to track over stripped areas until archaeological investigations at that location are complete. The Archaeological Contractor may deploy temporary fencing to demarcate the excavation area to ensure no plant inadvertently traverses the area during the works.

### Archaeological Monitoring

4.4.5. Twenty-three areas within the Site have been identified for archaeological monitoring (Tables 2 to 4). The archaeological monitoring will take place during

the preliminary and main works construction stages, in accordance with regional and national standards and guidance (CIfA 2023e; 2023f; LCC 2026).

4.4.6. Excavation works within these sites will be carried out under constant archaeological supervision and stripped using mechanical plant with a toothless bucket. The mechanical excavator will be used only for the removal of non-archaeological overburden. Machining will stop at the first archaeological horizon to allow for the Archaeological Contractor to inspect the surface as required. Any archaeological features identified will be cleaned, excavated and recorded in plan. Construction works will cease while archaeological recording/sampling is being undertaken and can be resumed once completed.

## Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries

4.4.7. Due to the records of the Lancaster bomber crash in Parcel A, consultation with the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre at the Ministry of Defence was undertaken. This consultation indicated that an extensive programme of human remains and artefact recovery was undertaken following the crash in June 1944. The potential for discovering human remains and artefacts relating to the crash is considered to be limited., A Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries (PAD) and supporting construction team toolbox talk and display materials will be developed and implemented in advance of any construction work commencing in Parcel A, as agreed with the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre at the Ministry of Defence. Available Historic England guidance will be used to support its production.

4.4.8. A PAD takes place when continuous archaeological monitoring is not proportionate to the nature of the archaeological deposits or heritage assets, the methods of construction work or site conditions. Should artefacts suspected to relate to the Lancaster bomber (e.g. aircraft parts, personal effects or human bone) be found by the construction team the PAD will be triggered. The Principal Contractor will select 'Nominated Contacts' for all communications regarding suspected finds. They will be responsible for ensuring that the PAD methodology is adhered to. A ‘toolbox talk’ will be presented by the archaeological contractor, and this will become part of the induction for all site staff. Site cabins will be provided with posters outlining the PAD procedure and illustrating typical finds. At induction, relevant project staff are to be made aware of who the Nominated Contacts are. Once work starts, the Nominated Contacts will be informed of any finds that may be of interest. The ACoW and Archaeological Contractor should also undertake periodic checks on the PAD’s progress and effectiveness. The PAD will be agreed in advance of works starting with the Archaeological Advisor to LCC and Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre at the Ministry of Defence

as part of the POMRA licence application process. It may be possible to involve Lincolnshire Aircraft Recovery Group (LARG) in the PAD process.

### Preservation of Scheduled Monuments

4.4.9. No construction, operation or decommissioning works will be undertaken within 20m of the boundary of the Scheduled Monuments. Any works within these boundaries would require Scheduled Monument Consent and carrying out unauthorised works to a Scheduled Monument is a criminal offence and can lead to prosecution and fines. All staff working on the Site will be made aware of the boundaries of the Scheduled Monuments and their legal responsibilities in ensuring that no unauthorised work or accidental damage in caused as a result of the Scheme. To avoid inadvertent damage to Scheduled Monuments, temporary fencing will be installed to demarcate the 20m buffer zones for the duration of the construction activities.

### Site inductions, Toolbox talks and site meetings

4.4.10. The ACoW will ensure that all staff working on the Site are aware of the following while undertaking works within the Site as part of the site induction process or in area specific Toolbox talks:

- Scheduled Monuments and the legal responsibilities;
- Archaeological mitigation requirements;
- Requirements of the PAD; and
- What to do in the event of an unexpected find.

4.4.11. The ACoW will also attend weekly meetings with the construction team to discuss any variation to the construction scope and programme that would require an alteration to the proposed mitigation. This may include but is not limited to variation in the layout of cable trenches or drainage and areas of stripping or levelling that may be needed (within the permissible limits of deviation as defined by the Order Limits).

### Reporting and Publication

4.4.12. Weekly progress updates will be provided by the Archaeological Contractor to the ACoW who will communicate with the LPA or other consultees as required by the AMMS, SSWSIs or DCO Requirements. An interim report on the archaeological works will be produced in accordance with the programme outlined in the SSWSI. This will include a written summary of the key findings supported by an area plan and photographs, as necessary. The draft report will

be submitted to the ACoW for comments and consideration, who may also consult others, prior to the submission of a final report.

### Post-excavation Assessment

4.4.13. A post-excavation assessment report will be submitted for each stage of archaeological investigation in accordance with the programme outlined in the SSWSI. The report shall be prepared in accordance with national guidelines (CIfA 2020b; 2023a-f). As a minimum the report shall contain the following information:

- A title page, with the name of the project, the name of the contractor and authors(s) of the report, the title of the report and date of the report and grid reference;
- A non-technical summary of the findings;
- A description of and a background to the nature of the works, including dates of fieldwork;
- A brief description of the site location (including grid references) and any previously known archaeology in the survey area;
- Description of the methodology employed and explanation of any agreed variations to the brief and justification for any analyses not undertaken;
- The layout, total area and purpose of the archaeological fieldwork, supported by a location plan;
- The results of the archaeological fieldwork identified including post-excavation assessment of the stratigraphic and other written, drawn and photographic records;
- A catalogue and brief post-excavation assessment of each category of artefact recovered during the fieldwork and the results of biological samples, including the potential for further analysis;
- Discussion of the fieldwork results, including interpretation of the results within the local and regional context and addressing the research questions, as appropriate;
- Recommendations for further analysis of finds or environmental samples;
- A summary of the contents of the project archive and its location;
- References and bibliography of all sources used; and

- An appendix containing a list and summary descriptions of all contexts recorded and a copy of the SSWSI.

4.4.14. The report will be supported by trench/excavation/monitoring plans, indicating the location of archaeological features, with supporting section drawings where appropriate.

4.4.15. The report will include colour photographs of archaeological features and artefacts as appropriate and will also be supported by general site photographs to place the archaeological features within context.

4.4.16. The report will outline the archaeological significance of any features and an interpretation of the results in relation to other sites in the surrounding area as relevant.

4.4.17. The Archaeological Contractor will submit the report to the ACoW for review, comment and consultation with consultees as outlined in the SSWSI.

### Archaeological Analysis and Publication

4.4.18. Following completion of the post-excavation assessments for all stages of archaeological investigation, detailed analysis of the archaeological and geoarchaeological results from both evaluation and mitigation phases will be undertaken in accordance with the SSWSIs and published guidelines. This will comprise a synthesis of all of the results, which will draw together all the stages of work and integrate any phases of mitigation undertaken by different Archaeological Contractors.

4.4.19. The results of the project will be published in appropriate forms, such as a monograph, an archaeological journal or in a digital format, accompanied by an accessible output aimed at a range of non-specialist recipients.

### Archive

4.4.20. Transfer of Title will be sought from all landowners prior to commencement of groundworks. A field archive will be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs. Catalogues of contexts, finds, soil samples, plans, sections and photographs will be produced and cross-referenced. The site archive will be ordered and compiled using the Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives (CIfA and HE 2023), with reference to Brown (2011) and utilising the CIfA guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (CIfA 2023a).

4.4.21. Where a physical archive is created that contains artefacts that warrant retention, with the exception of water-logged remains, the archive will be

deposited with the appropriate museum service. It will be consistent with the archaeological contractor's selection strategy, which will be updated as the project progresses in accordance with current guidelines (CIfA and HE 2023). A strategy for deposition of water-logged remains will be agreed with the Archaeological Advisor to LCC.

4.4.22. The archiving of any digital data arising from the Scheme will be undertaken in a manner consistent with professional standards and guidance (Richards and Robinson, 2000). The Archaeological Contractor will liaise with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) to establish their detailed requirements and discuss the transfer of the digital archive.

# 5. Monitoring and Approvals

## 5.1. SSWSIs

5.1.1. The Archaeological Contractor will be responsible for the production of SSWSIs for each stage of archaeological investigation. The SSWSIs will be drafted in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this OAMMS. The Archaeological Contractor will be responsible for the delivery of the archaeological mitigation programme in accordance with the SSWSIs, and this responsibility will include all on-site and off-site archaeological works, recording and reporting.

5.1.2. The SSWSIs will be prepared in consultation with the ACoW and approved in accordance with the DCO Requirement prior to the start of works.

5.1.3. The SSWSIs should include the following sections as a minimum:

- A statement on the technical, research and ethical competences of the project team, including relevant professional accreditation;
- Site location (including map) and descriptions;
- Context of the Scheme;
- Geological and topographical background;
- Archaeological and historical background;
- General and specific research aims of the project, with reference to Regional Research Frameworks;
- Methodology;

- Procedure for extensive, significant or unexpectedly complex discoveries;
- Data Management Plan;
- Collection and disposal strategy for artefacts, ecofacts, and all paper, graphic and digital materials (including a copy of the archaeological contractor's selection strategy);
- Arrangements for immediate conservation of artefacts;
- Details of backfilling;
- Post-fieldwork assessment and analysis of project data;
- Report preparation (including details of the section headings);
- Publication and dissemination proposals, as required;
- Copyright;
- Details of finds storage;
- Programme of staffing;
- Health and safety considerations;
- Environmental protection considerations; and
- Monitoring procedures

## 5.2. ACoW Monitoring

5.2.1. The ACoW will liaise with the Archaeological Contractor to monitor progress and compliance with the requirements of the AMMS and approved SSWSIs. This will include (but not be limited to):

- Monitoring of all aspects of fieldwork;
- Monitoring of the installation and removal of protective measures;
- Co-ordination of access and monitoring arrangements with the relevant Archaeological Advisor to LCC; and
- Oversight of engagement between the Archaeological Contractor's specialists and the relevant heritage stakeholders, to ensure the timely provision of on-site advice to the fieldwork team (if applicable), and off-site advice during the post-excavation phase.

## 5.3. Stakeholders and Statutory Roles

5.3.1. Implementation of the AMMS and SSWSIs will also be monitored by the Archaeological Advisor to LCC.

5.3.2. Site monitoring meetings will be held as necessary throughout the archaeological programme to allow implementation of the works to be monitored to ensure adherence to the approved SSWSIs, effective decision making where required and to support timely 'sign-off' of archaeological completion.

## 5.4. Progress Reports

5.4.1. The Archaeological Contractor will prepare weekly progress reports for the duration of the archaeological works. The reports will be issued to the ACoW who will distribute them to the Applicant and the Archaeological Advisor to LCC. The progress reports will include as a minimum:

- General progress and summary of fieldwork results;
- Programme and resources lookahead;
- Site-specific issues (access/constraints etc.); and
- Safety, health, environment or welfare issues.

## 5.5. Site meetings

5.5.1. It is proposed that monitoring meetings will be held fortnightly during the archaeological evaluation and mitigation works, although additional meetings may be required. Attendees will normally include, but not be limited to the following, as required:

- ACoW;
- Archaeological Contractor;
- Principal Contractor;
- Applicant and/or their nominated Consultants; and
- Archaeological Advisor to LCC or other consultees as required.

## 5.6. Approvals and Sign-Off of Archaeological Mitigation Sites

5.6.1. Site works that have been confirmed as completed during a site meeting and agreed between the ACoW and the Archaeological Advisor to LCC will be subject to a sign-off procedure specified in the SSWSI.

5.6.2. The Archaeological Contractor will submit a completion statement to the ACoW who will distribute it to the Applicant. The ACoW will also submit the completion statement to the Archaeological Advisor to LCC as confirmation that the relevant works have been completed in compliance with the AMMS and relevant SSWSI.

# 6. Operational and Decommissioning Phase Mitigation

6.1.1. In locations where archaeological deposits are preserved in situ during the construction phase there is a risk of accidental damage during the operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning phases. Such risks may occur through: vehicle movements, groundworks or replacement of panel supports or cabling.

6.1.2. Once available, details of maintenance methods will be reviewed in relation to the archaeological potential of the Site by the ACoW to determine an appropriate and proportionate approach to archaeological mitigation or monitoring. This will be detailed in the AMMS.

6.1.3. Any requirement for mitigation measures during the decommissioning phase will be determined by the nature of the decommissioning activities by the ACoW. Full details of decommissioning methods will be reviewed in relation to the archaeological potential of the site to determine an appropriate and proportionate approach to archaeological mitigation. This provision will be updated in the AMMS; however, the detailed methodology will be determined towards the end of the lifespan of the Scheme to allow for developments in technologies and archaeological techniques to be incorporated.

6.1.4. During operation and decommissioning of the Scheme, the Applicant (or their contractor or successor) will ensure that potential impacts on heritage are taken into consideration. Methodologies and locations for any intrusive maintenance works and/or decommissioning will be reviewed by a suitably qualified archaeologist, and appropriate methodology for mitigation will be agreed with the Archaeological Advisor for LCC and Historic England within an updated AMMS prior to the works being undertaken.

# 7. Public Outreach and Community Engagement

## 7.1. General Approach

7.1.1. A Public Archaeology and Engagement Strategy will be developed to be undertaken as part of the construction mitigation phase of work. This should seek to provide innovative approaches to engagement. The programme of the works will be determined in liaison with the Archaeological Advisor to LCC and will be set out in the AMMS and Archaeological Contractor's SSWSIs.

7.1.2. The aim of public outreach and community engagement will be to share the understanding of the pre-drainage fenland landscape established through the evaluation and mitigation phases of the Scheme design and construction phases with a wide audience, including local communities living and working with the locality of the Scheme, and wider regional audiences where appropriate. Audience identification and engagement of target groups should be included in the AMMS.

7.1.3. The programme of public outreach and community engagement may incorporate site-based activities, initiatives undertaken during ongoing excavations, and activities undertaken throughout the post-excavation phase. These will be set out in the AMMS and the Archaeological Contractors' SSWSIs and the final activities and outputs may be influenced by the results of the mitigation, but could include:

- Local, site-based activities such as community excavations, guided site tours and guided walks on subjects such as salt production and fenland drainage (these will be subject to health, safety and access considerations).
- Augmented reality reconstruction or visualisations to provided local communities and visitors with an understanding of the salt production and the evolution of the landscape. Local, hands-on participative and learning events such as:
    - Pop-up exhibitions and artefact handling sessions
    - Young Archaeologist Club events
    - Permanent exhibition at an appropriate museum
    - Work experience and placement opportunities, including opportunities for upskilling early career heritage practitioners

- Opportunities for community involvement and participation in excavations

- Information boards along the new permissive path adjacent to the Scheduled Monument in Parcel C with details of the monuments and the information on salt making and the changing landscape identified as a result of the Scheme evaluation. LCC will be consulted on the boards' content.
- Accessible reports and resources which bring the full results to a wide audience through methods such as non-technical booklets, fictional stories or comic books.
- Education and learning such as:
  - Providing learning resources for classroom-based archaeology sessions aimed at involving children and teachers in their local archaeology and heritage.
  - Creation of artefact boxes for local schools.
  - Public talks and lectures, ranging from local talks to community organisations, local archaeology and history societies, to talks at regional conferences.
  - Engagement with the Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre and LARG regarding the known crash sites within and adjacent to the Scheme.

7.1.4. The Archaeological Contractor should also aim to collaborate with other relevant projects and initiatives during any public outreach and community engagement activities, to present a coherent and comprehensive record of the archaeological resource within its wider landscape. Such collaboration might involve local Universities and colleges, and members of research projects.

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# Glossary

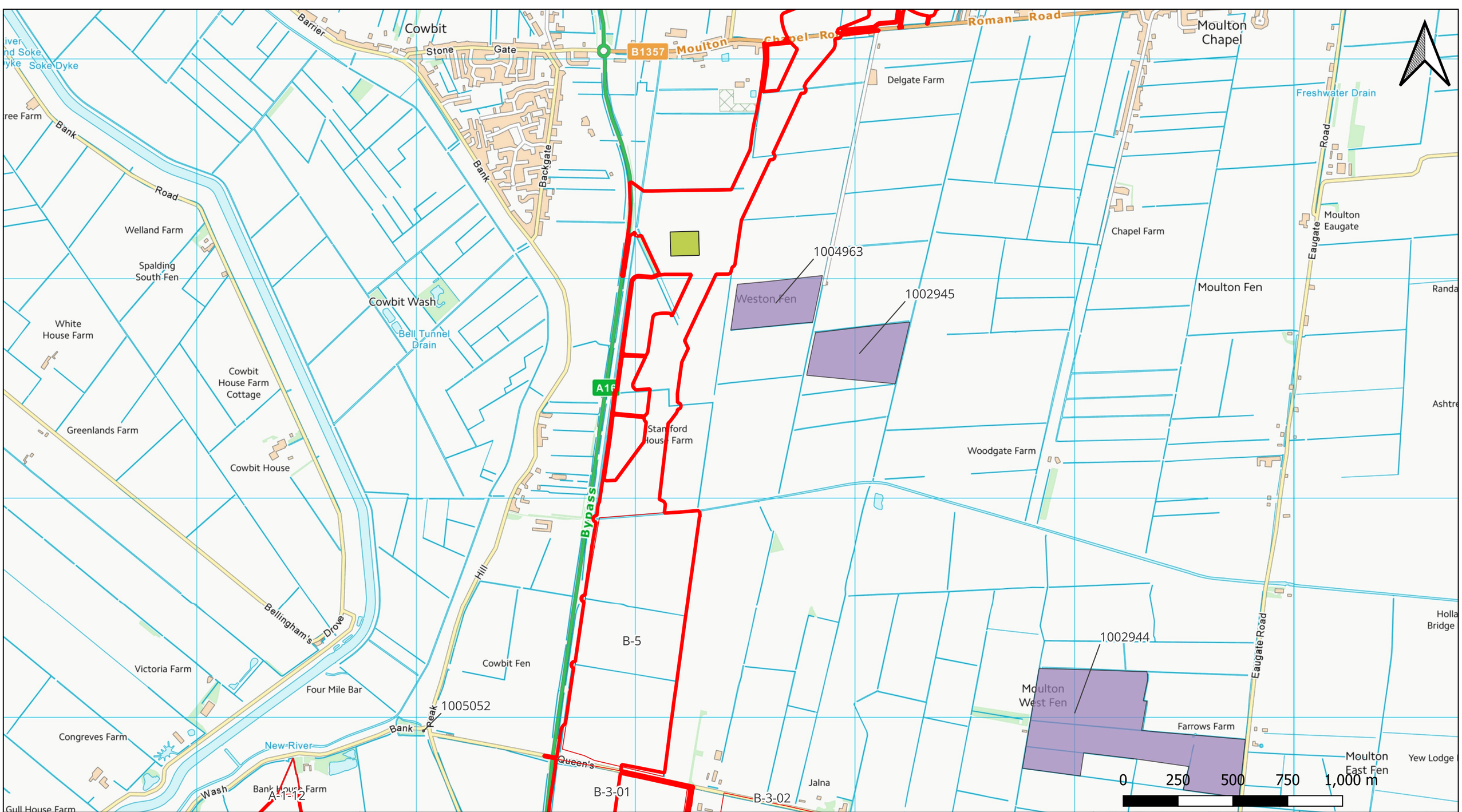
| Term | Definition |
|---|---|
| Archaeological Analysis | Archaeological analysis is the detailed study of the features excavated and the artefacts and environmental material recovered from archaeological investigation. It includes a comparison with local or regional assemblages or sites and leads to a comprehensive report on the site's development and significance. It is generally preceded by a Post-excavation assessment (q.v.). |
| Archaeological Evaluation | Archaeological field evaluation is a programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which seeks to determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts. It may form a single or final phase of work within a defined area or site. |
| Archaeological Monitoring | Archaeological monitoring is a formal programme of observation, investigation and recording conducted during works carried out for non- archaeological reasons, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. This will be within a specified area or site. |
| Geophysical Survey | Archaeological geophysical survey uses non-intrusive and non-destructive techniques to determine the presence or absence of anomalies likely to be caused by archaeological features, structures or deposits, as far as reasonably possible, within a specified area or site. |

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| Post-Excavation Assessment | The post-excavation assessment catalogues and characterises the artefacts and environmental remains recovered from an archaeological excavation, and combines this with a narrative of the site's features and deposits and their interrelationships. This leads to a report outlining the site's significance, development and phasing. |
| Project Design | Project design is used as a universal term for the document that sets out how the archaeological work will be conducted. Often also referred to as a written scheme of investigation (WSI). |
| Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries | A Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries is a technique used when continuous archaeological monitoring is not proportionate to the nature of the archaeological deposits or heritage assets, the methods of construction work or site conditions. The groundworks contractor nominates a site contact who is responsible for reporting any discoveries or finds of possible archaeological interest, and if relevant, an archaeological team is then brought in to investigate. |
| Strip, Map and Record, also known as Archaeological Excavation | Strip, Map and Record involves a programme of intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures, and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site. |

# Abbreviations

| Abbreviation | Term |
|---|---|
| ACoW | Archaeological Clerk of Works |
| ADS | Archaeology Data Service |
| AMMS | Archaeological Mitigation and Management Strategy |
| CIfA | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| ES | Environmental Statement |
| HE | Historic England |
| HEDBA | Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment |
| HER | Historic Environment Record |
| JBA | Jeremy Benn Associates |
| LCC | Lincolnshire County Council |
| LPA | Local Planning Authority |
| OAMMS | Outline Archaeological Mitigation and Management Strategy |
| PAD | Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries |
| PV | Photo-voltaic |
| SSWSI | Site Specific Written Scheme of Investigation |
| WSI | Written Scheme of Investigation |

# Figures




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|---|---|---|---|
| Project Title: Meridian Solar Farm | | | |
| Map Title: OAMMS Figure 1: Grid Connection Route Southern Terminus | | | |
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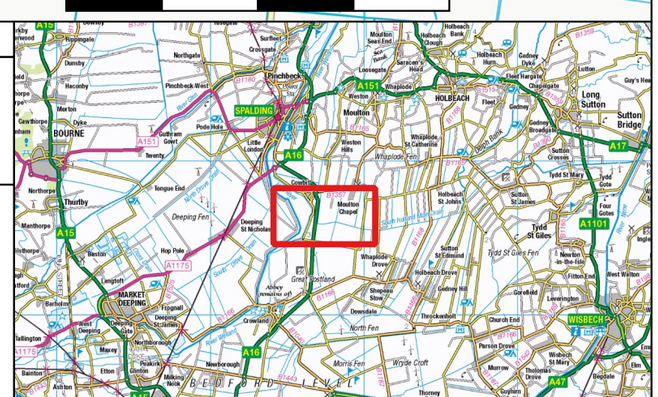
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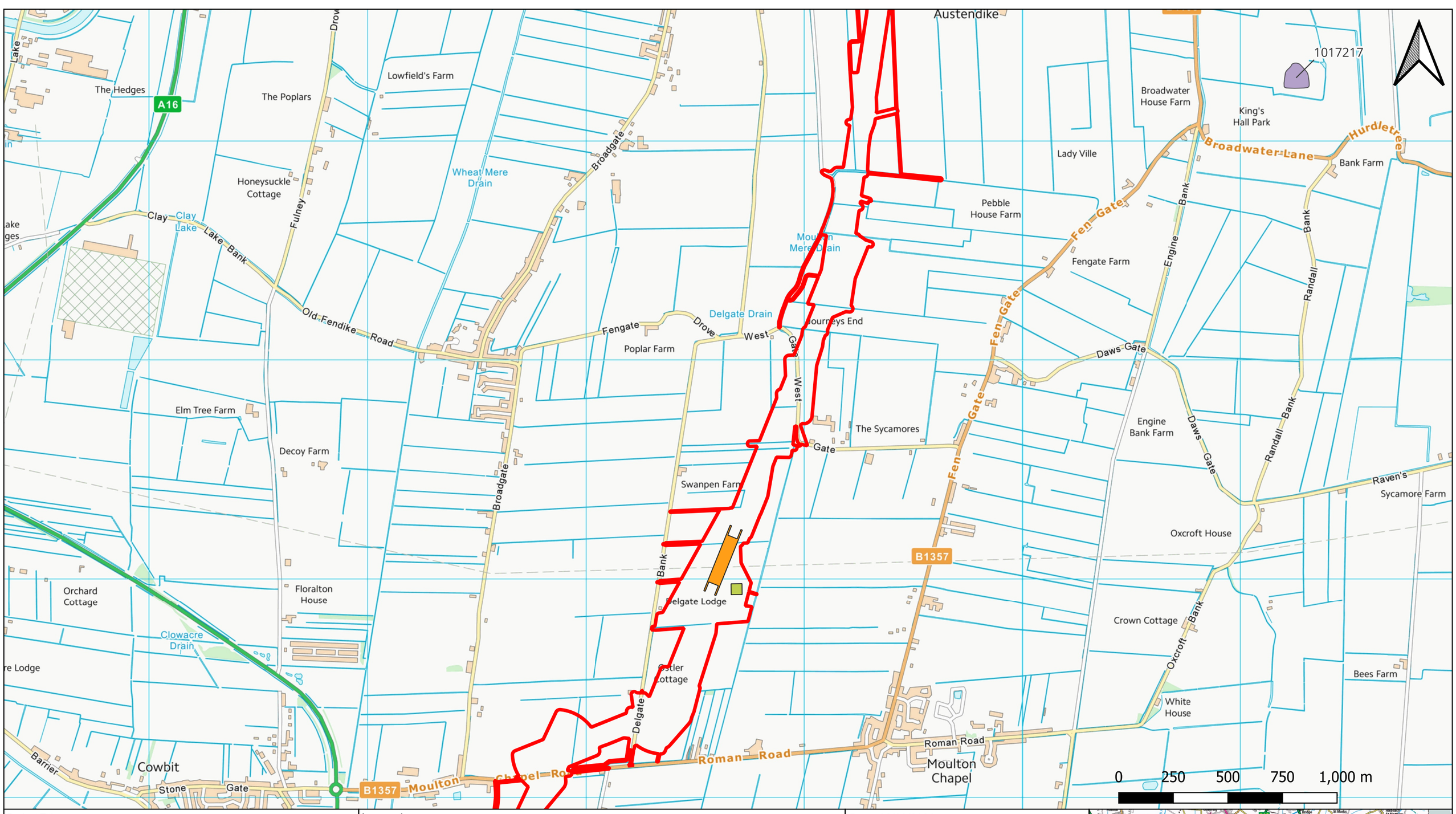
- Order Limits
- Scheduled Monuments
- Construction Compounds

Date: 20/08/2026

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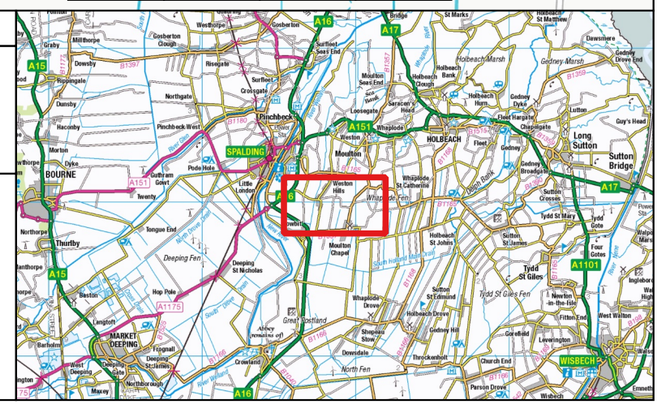
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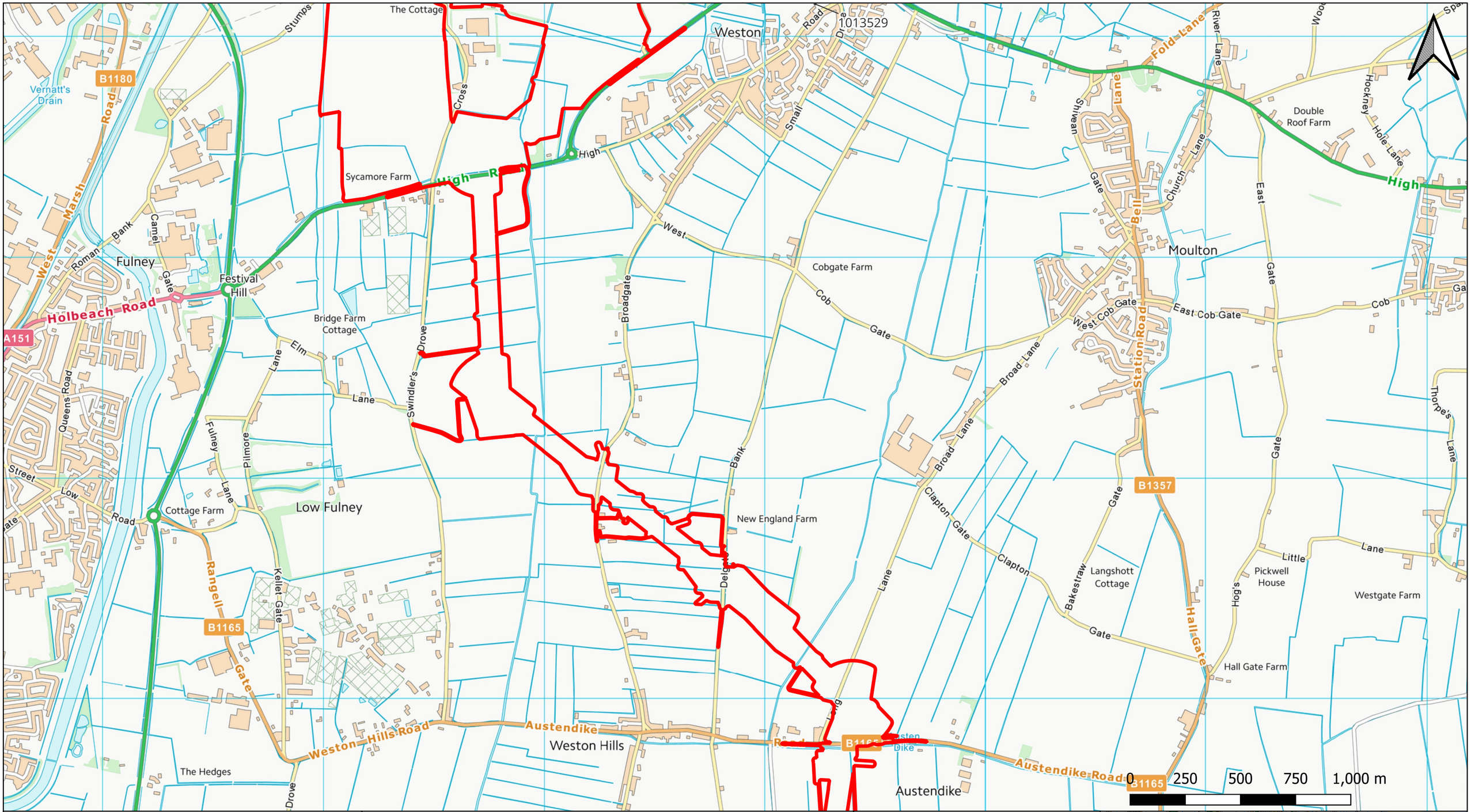





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Meridian Solar





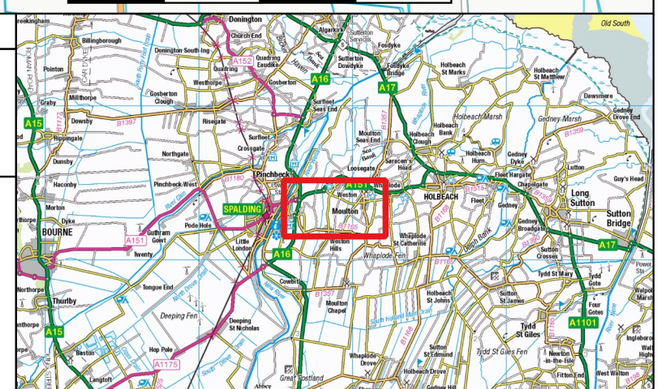

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| Project Title: Meridian Solar Farm | | | |
| Map Title: OAMMS Figure 3: Grid Connection Route Centre | | | |
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Legend
- Order Limits

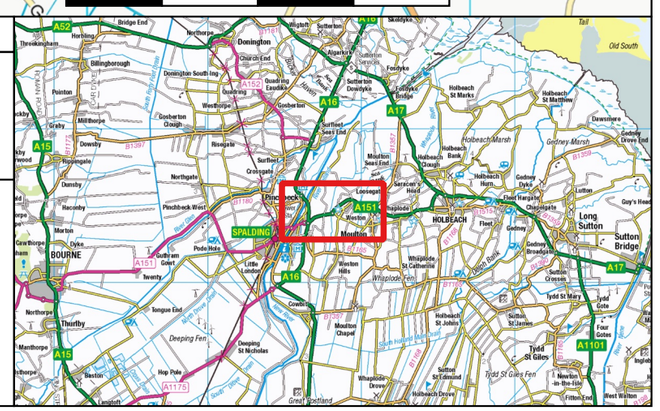
Date: 20/08/2026

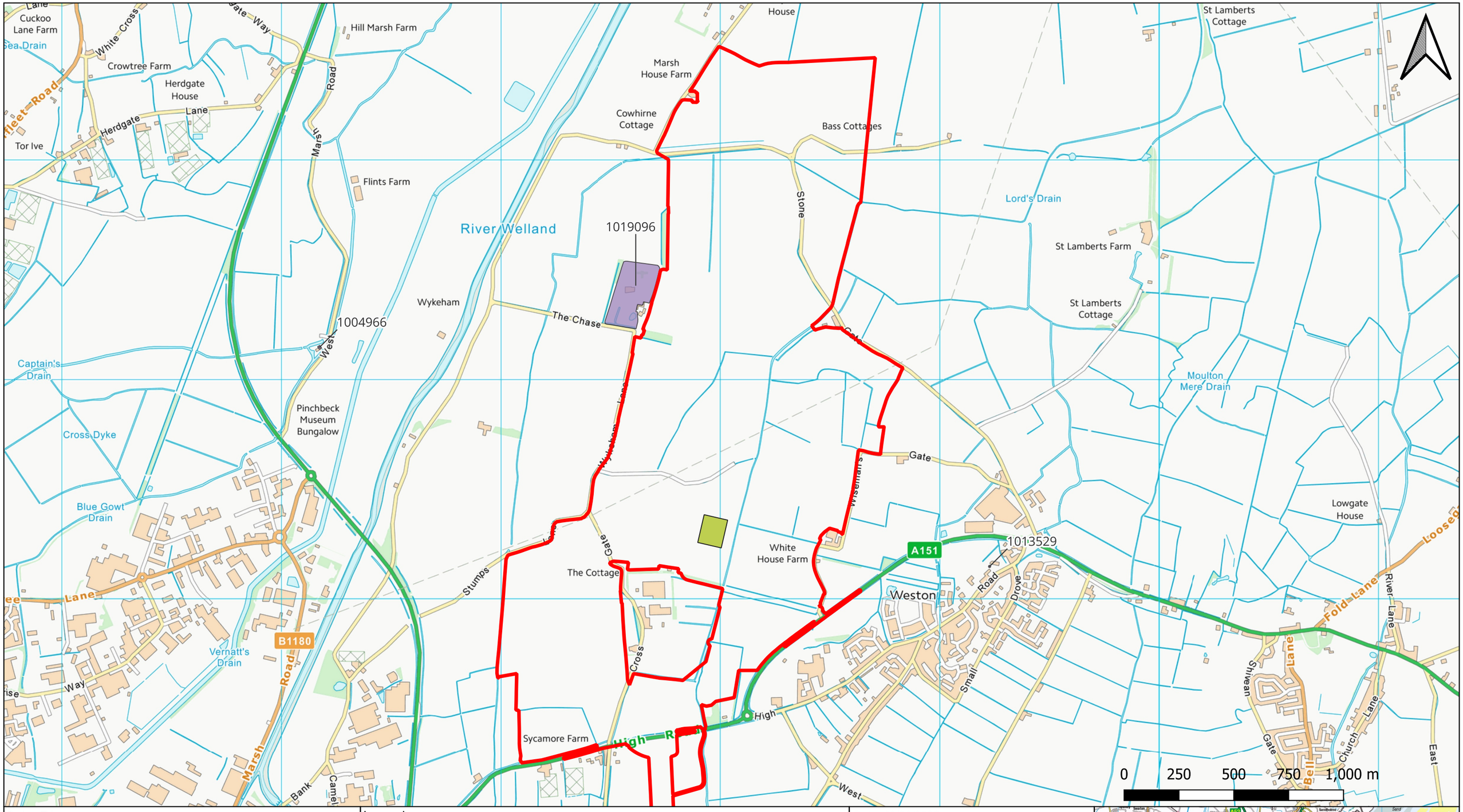
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|---|---|---|---|
| Project Title<br>Meridian Solar Farm | | Legend<br>Order Limits<br>Scheduled Monuments<br>Construction Compounds | Date: 20/08/2026 |
| Map Title<br>OAMMS Figure 4: Grid Connection Route North | | | Copyright:<br>Contains OS data © Crown Copyright and database right 2025 Contains data from OS Zoomstack |
| Scale @ A3<br>1:16000 | Version<br>V3 | Drawn<br>BH | Reviewed<br>FL |






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|---|---|
| Project Title | Meridian Solar Farm |
| Map Title | OAMMS Figure 5: Grid Connection Route Northern Terminus |

| Scale @ A3 | Version | Drawn | Reviewed |
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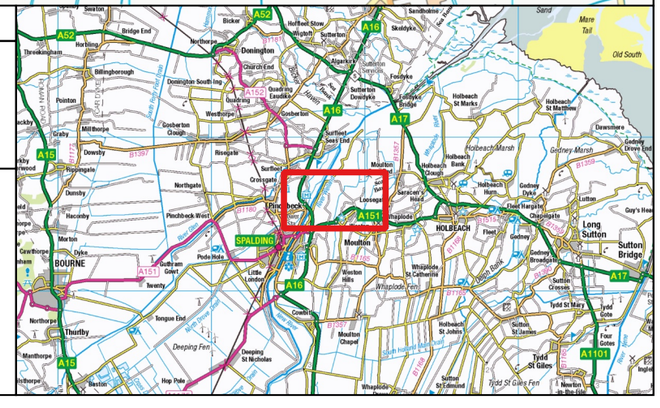
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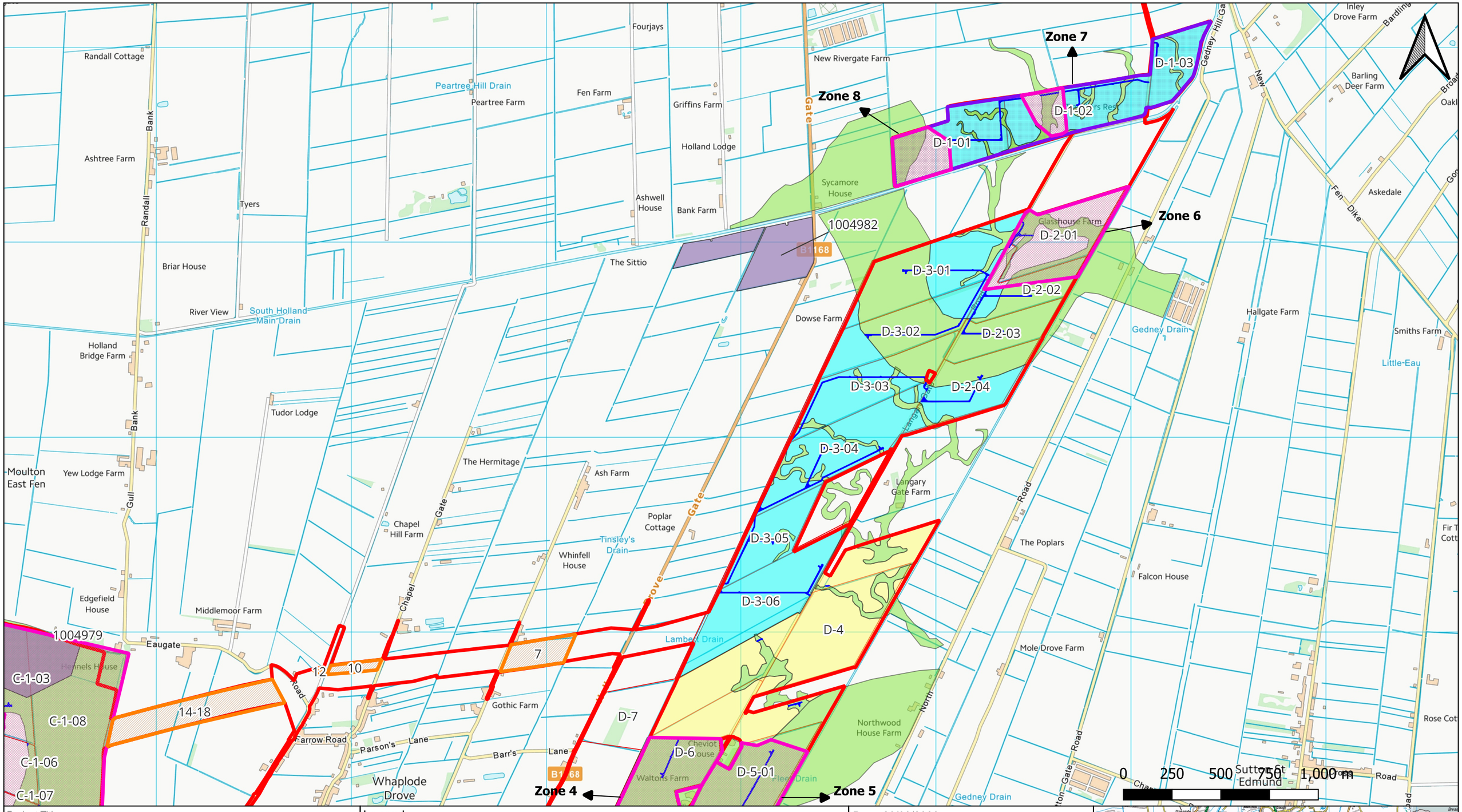
- Order Limits
- Scheduled Monuments
- Construction Compounds

Date: 20/08/2026

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0 250 500 750 1,000 m

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|---|---|
| Project Title | Meridian Solar Farm |
| Map Title | OAMMS Figure 6: Further Evaluation, Area D |

| Scale @ A3 | Version | Drawn | Reviewed |
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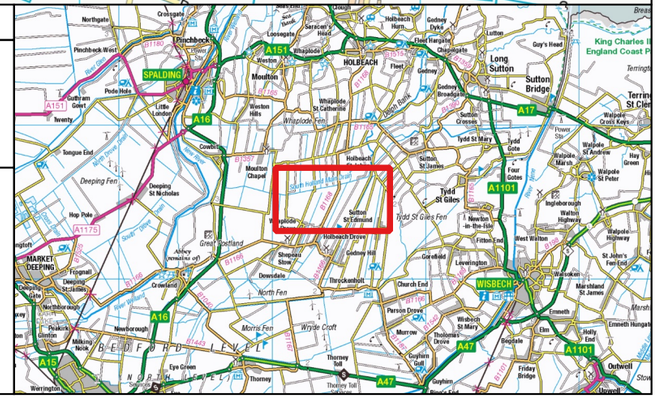
Legend

- Order Limits
- Scheduled Monuments
- Archaeological Zones
- Geophysical Survey
- Areas of High Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Medium Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Low Archaeological Potential
- Evaluation Trenching

Date: 20/08/2026

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Gull House Farm
Bank
Wash
Bank House Farm
St Guthlac's Lodge
B-3-01
A-1-12
Cloot House
A-1-05
Welland
A-1-11
B-1-01
Crowland
A-1-02
22
19
A-1-06
A-1-09
B-1-02
A-1-01
Crowland Falls
A-1-07
A-1-10
A-1-03
Lodge Farm
River Welland
Drove
B-1-03
Decoy Far
A-1-08
A-1-04
Little Lodge Farm
Poplars Farm
Road
0 200 400 600 m

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Project Title: Meridian Solar Farm | | | |
| Map Title: OAMMS Figure 7: Further Evaluation and Mitigation, Area A | | | |
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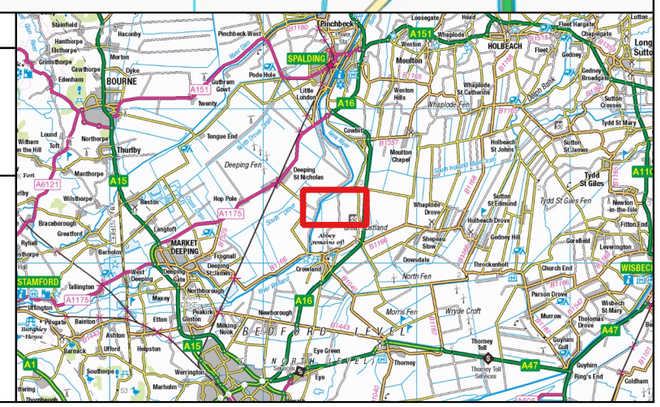
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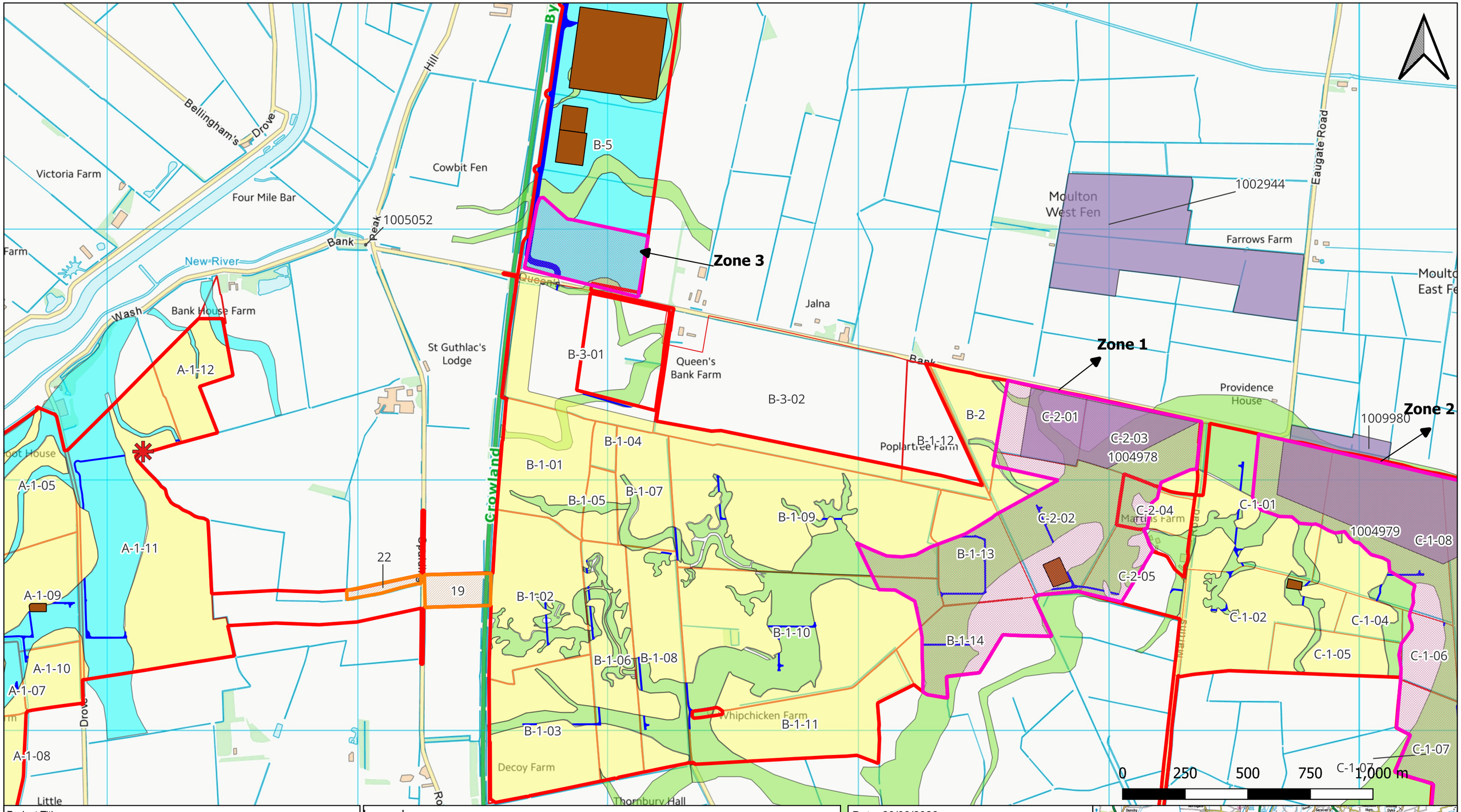
- Order Limits
- Areas of High Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Medium Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Low Archaeological Potential
- Crash Sites
- Archaeological Monitoring
- Strip, Map and Sample
- Geophysical Survey

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|---|---|
| Project Title | Meridian Solar Farm |
| Map Title | OAMMS Figure 8: Mitigation, Area B |

| Scale @ A3 | Version | Drawn | Reviewed |
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| 1:14000 | V3 | BH | FL |

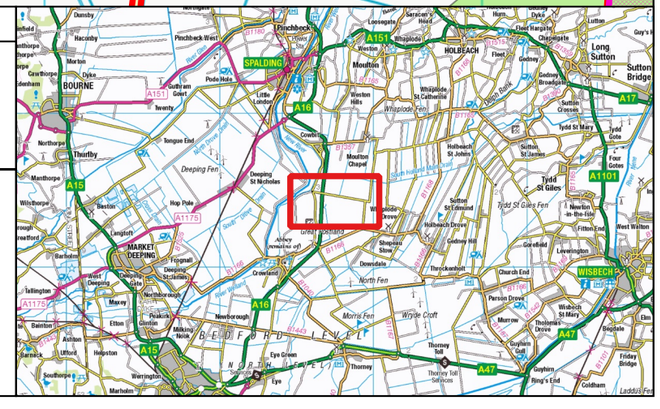
Legend

- Order Limits
- Areas of High Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Medium Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Low Archaeological Potential
- Archaeological Zones
- Scheduled Monuments
- Strip, Map and Sample
- Archaeological Monitoring
- Crash Sites

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Zone 1
Zone 2
Providence House
B-3-02
B-2
B-1-12
artree Farm
C-2-01
1004978
C-2-03
1009980
Edgefield House
Middlemoor Farm
1004979
Eaugate
C-2-04
Martins Farm
Martins Road
C-1-01
C-2-02
Hennels House
C-1-03
B-1-09
B-1-13
C-2-05
12
10
14-18
Farrow Road
Parson's
B-1-10
C-1-02
C-1-04
B-1-14
C-1-05
C-1-06
C-1-08
B-1-11
Whaplo
Drove
C-1-07
C-1-07
Broadgate
Division Drain
Station House
Cedar Lodge
Postland House
Postland Cottages
Highbury Cottage
B1166
Hull's Drove
Holbeach Drove
0
250
500
750 m

| | |
|---|---|
| Project Title | Meridian Solar Farm |
| Map Title | OAMMS Figure 9: Mitigation, Area C |

| Scale @ A3 | Version | Drawn | Reviewed |
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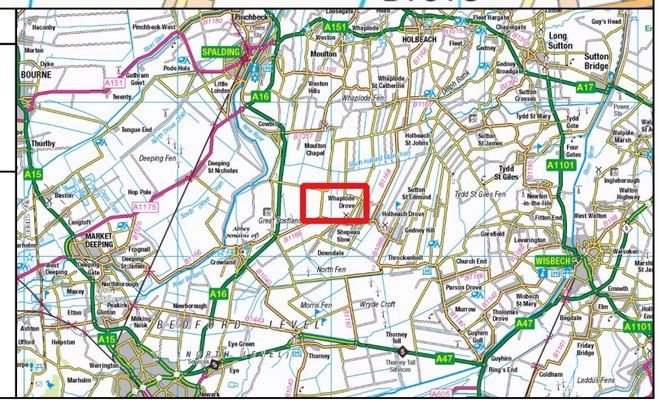
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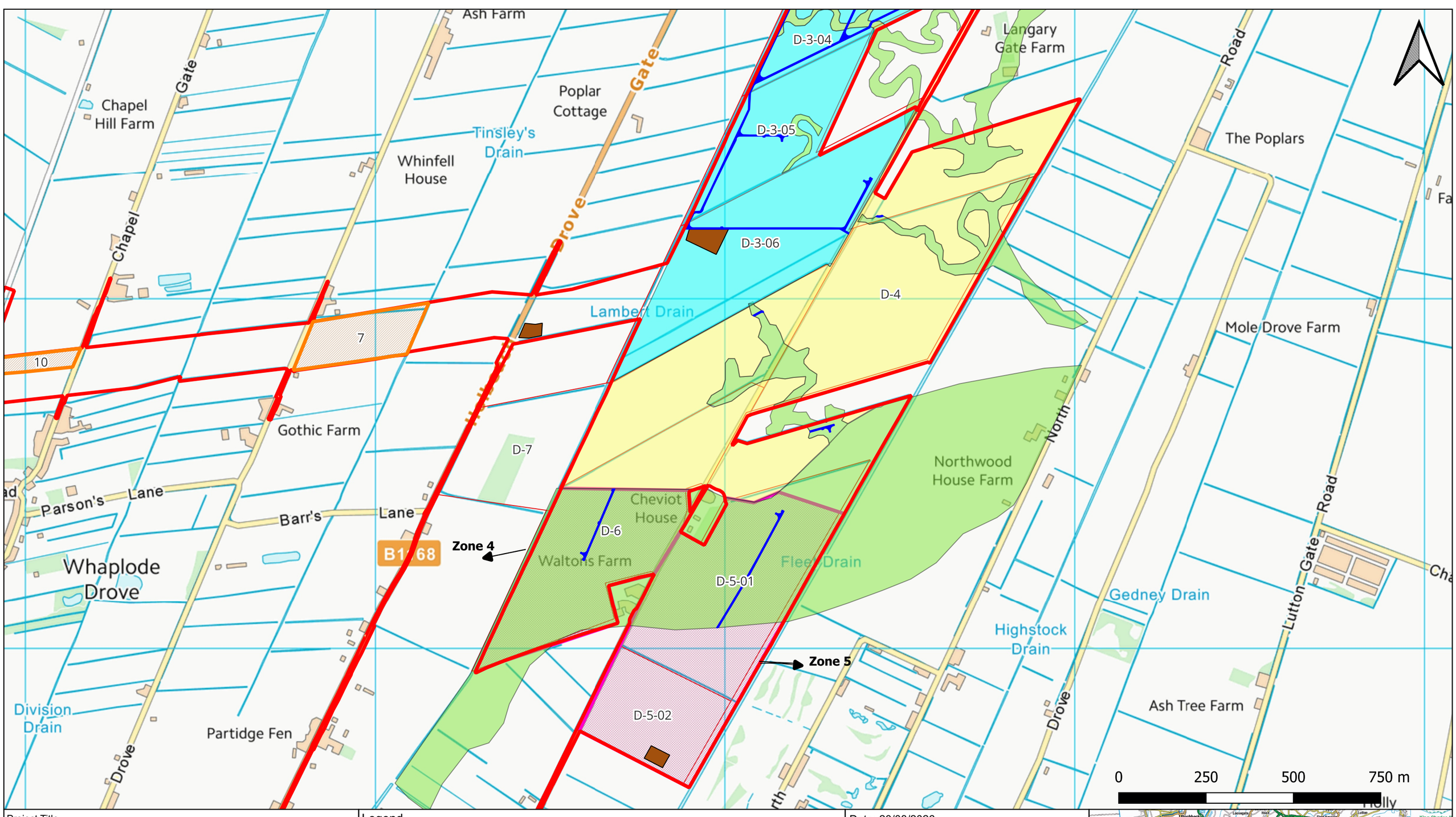
- Order Limits
- Areas of High Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Medium Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Low Archaeological Potential
- Archaeological Zones
- Scheduled Monuments
- Strip, Map and Sample
- Archaeological Monitoring
- Geophysical Survey

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|---|---|---|---|
| Project Title: Meridian Solar Farm | | | |
| Map Title: OAMMS Figure 10: Mitigation, Area D | | | |
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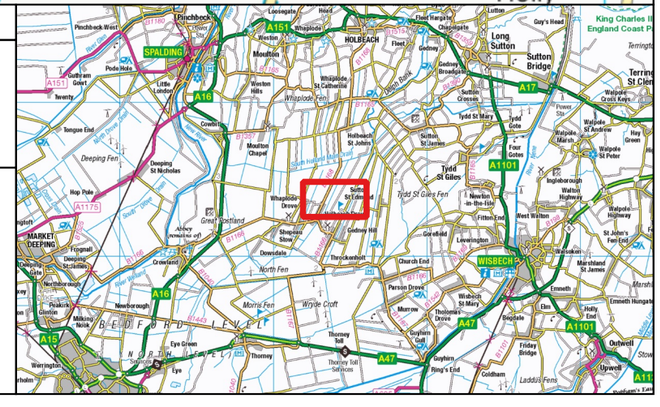
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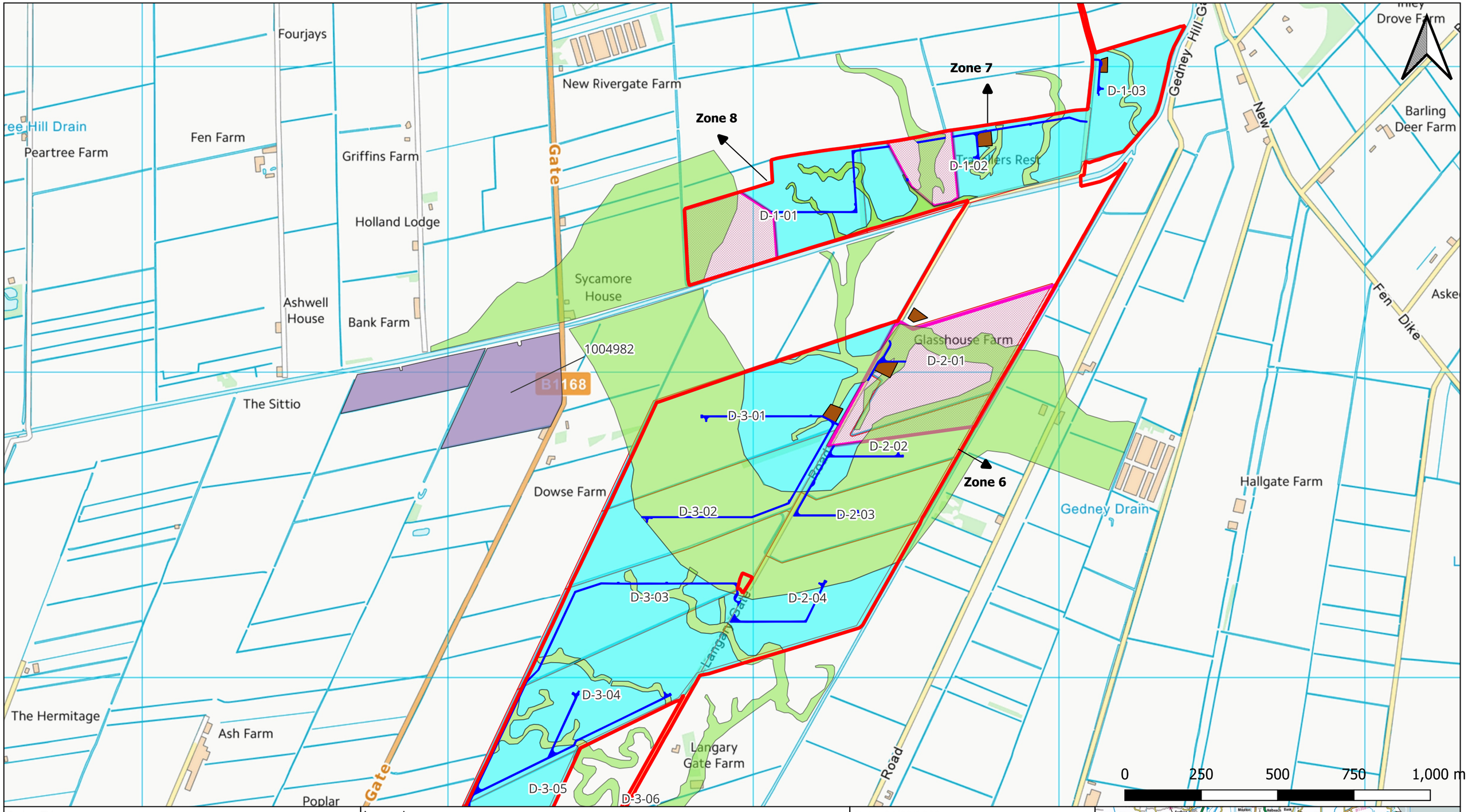
- Order Limits
- Areas of High Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Medium Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Low Archaeological Potential
- Strip, Map and Sample
- Archaeological Monitoring
- Archaeological Zones
- Geophysical Survey

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|---|---|---|---|
| Project Title: Meridian Solar Farm | | | |
| Map Title: OAMMS Figure 11: Mitigation, Area D | | | |
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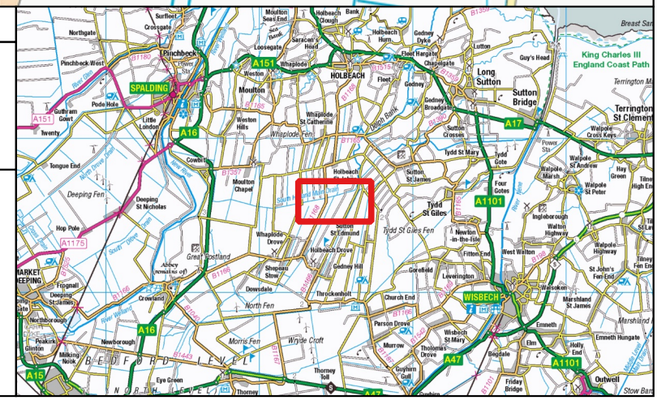
Legend

- Order Limits
- Areas of High Archaeological Potential
- Areas of Medium Archaeological Potential
- Archaeological Zones
- Scheduled Monuments
- Strip, Map and Sample
- Archaeological Monitoring

Date: 04/08/2026

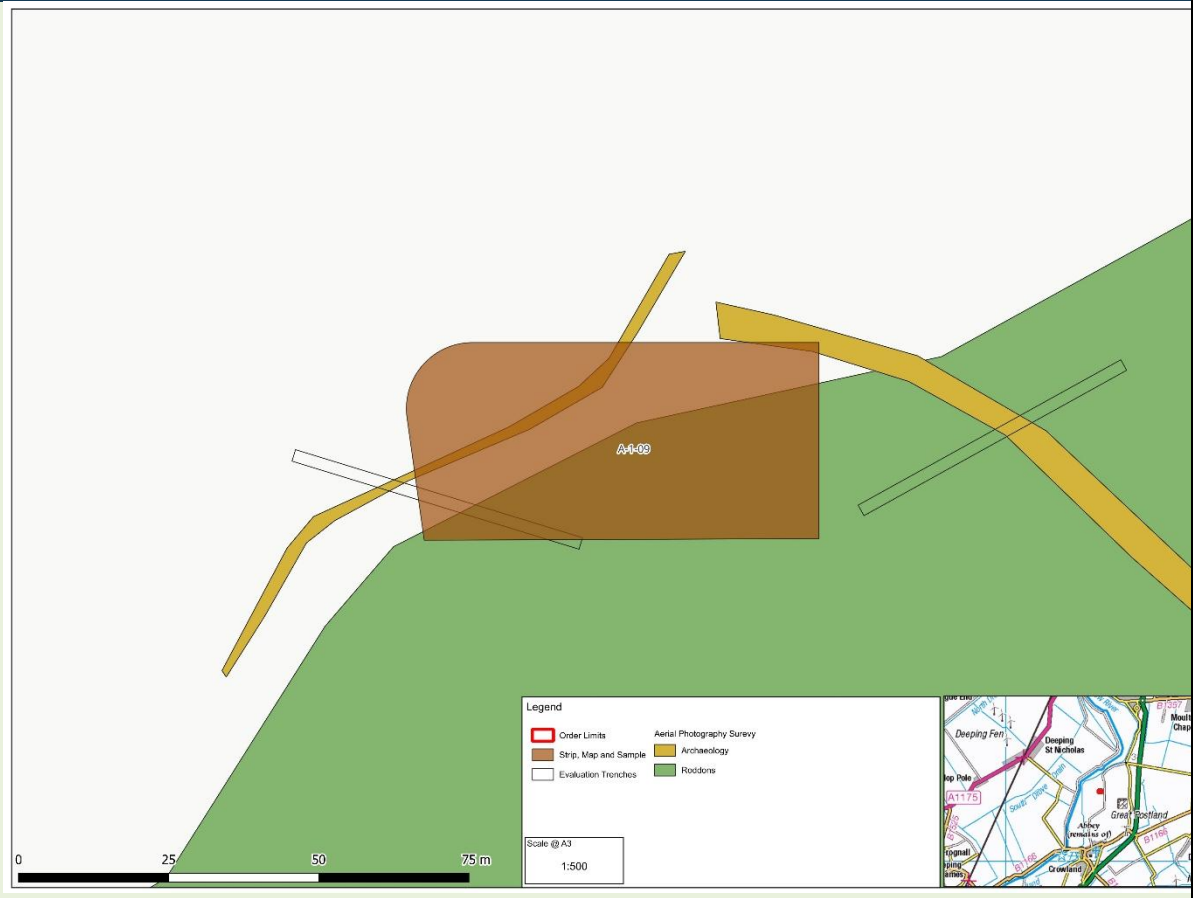
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Meridian Solar



# Appendix A

| Site 1 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | A-1-09 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential:** | Medium |
| **HER Record:** | N/A |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 0.22 |




**Description**

Field A-1-09 could not be accessed during the geophysical survey.
Aerial photography and LiDAR assessment of the field identified a roddon running east to west across the southern part of this sub-parcel. A short section of sinuous field boundary is visible as cropmark and sections of water channels and linear anomalies are confined to the roddon.

| Site 1 |
| --- |
| During the archaeological evaluation, smaller branches of roddon were identified broadly varying from 24m-80m in width. A ditch and furrows aligned with historical boundaries were found; other trenches were blank. These features can be linked to the development of post-medieval farming in the Fenland and are suggestive of a field system confined to the drier land on the roddon. |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the temporary construction compound will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Early Medieval:**<br>7.1.1 Is there evidence for previously unrecognised early medieval activity, particularly low-density, seasonal, transient or task-specific occupation such as hunting, fishing, stock management, resource exploitation or temporary camps?<br>7.1.3 How did early medieval communities exploit the fenland and wetland resources of the area, and can archaeological or palaeoenvironmental evidence provide insight into changing patterns of land use and environmental management?<br>**High Medieval:**<br>8.7.6: How best may we enhance study of the origins and development of early land reclamation and drainage, particularly in Lincolnshire?<br>**Post-medieval:**<br>9.3.1: How can we improve our understanding of the early landscapes of enclosure?<br>9.3.2: How did water management and land drainage change the landscape during this period? |

| Site 2 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | B-5 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential:** | Medium to High |
| **HER Record:** | MLI86349, MLI20346 |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 13.92 |



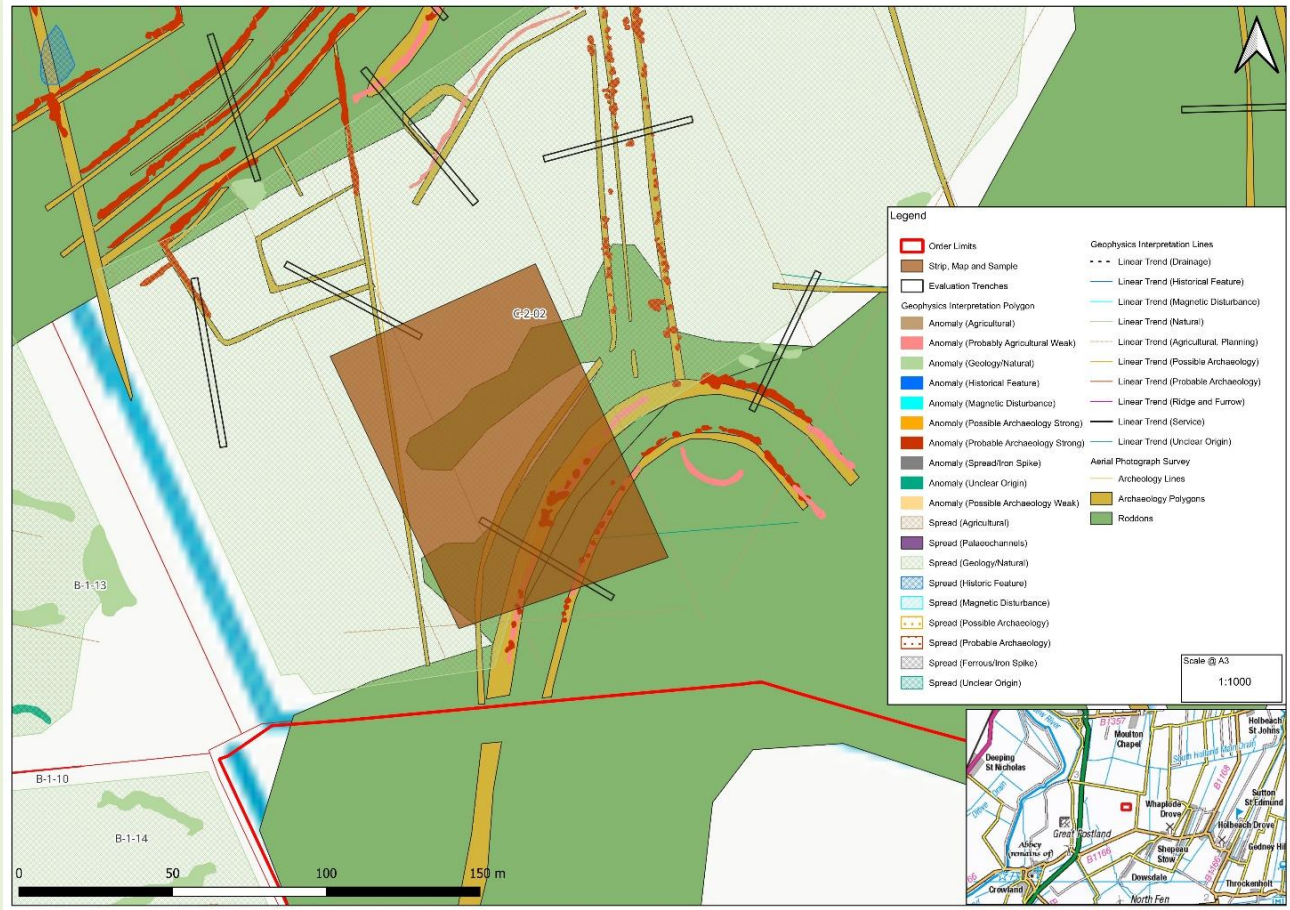

**Description**

The geophysical survey of Field B-5 identified potential archaeology features in the north-east area of the field. Aerial photography and LiDAR surveys identified two roddons meandering west to east across the area. Numerous sections of paleochannel on and off of the roddons were also observed. Roman salt making features have also been found in the adjacent field (MLI86349, MLI86347).

During the evaluation almost all of the trenches in the northern part of the field (Trenches 2085, 2087-2091 and 2129) contained archaeological features that correlated to linear

| Site 2 |
| --- |
| geophysical anomalies and could be matched to boundaries on historical mapping. The finds included small quantities of briquetage and Production Process Residues (PPR). |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the substation and BESS compound will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Iron Age:**<br>4.6.1: Can we shed further light upon the development of field and boundary systems?<br>4.9.1: How can we add to our existing knowledge of industries and crafts in this region, particularly the extraction and smelting of iron and lead, salt production and quern manufacture<br>**Ramono-British:**<br>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?<br>5.6.2: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials?<br>**Early Medieval**<br>7.1.1 Is there evidence for previously unrecognised early medieval activity, particularly low-density, seasonal, transient or task-specific occupation such as hunting, fishing, stock management, resource exploitation or temporary camps?<br>**Post-medieval:**<br>9.3.1: How can we improve our understanding of the early landscapes of enclosure |

| Site 3 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | C-2-02 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential:** | High |
| **HER Record:** | MLI22036 |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 2.6 |




**Description**

The geophysical survey identified definite/probable archaeology, including multiple linear anomalies likely representing trackways. Rectilinear, curvilinear and linear anomalies in the field's centre represented enclosure systems.

Across the wider field evaluation trenches 3016-3020 and 2064 targeted the predicted features on the large northern roddon, generally confirming deep parallel ditches (Trenches 3018 and 3019), rectilinear enclosure features (Trenches 3016 and 3017) and ditches (Trenches 3020 and 3064). No internal enclosure features were identified, limiting interpretation of their function, although pottery was more frequent. On the southern

| Site 3 |
| --- |
| roddon, parallel curvilinear ditches were confirmed in Trenches 3022 and 3066. Trench 3021 confirmed parallel ditches apparently linking the roddon ditch systems. Artefacts provisionally span the Bronze Age/Iron Age, Iron Age and Roman periods, indicating multi-phase activity. |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the 132kv substation and compound will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Romano-British:**<br>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?<br>5.4.5: What patterns can be discerned in the location of settlements in the landscape?<br>5.4.6: Can we elucidate further the daily life of settlements and their role in the processing and marketing of agricultural products?<br>5.5.4: Can we chart more closely the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion and the development of field systems?<br>5.6.2: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials?<br>**Post-medieval**<br>9.3.1: How can we improve our understanding of the early landscapes of enclosure?<br>9.3.2: How did water management and land drainage change the landscape during this period? |

| Site 4 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | C-1-02 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential** | Archaeological Zone 1 |
| **HER Record:** | MLI22037 |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 0.21 |



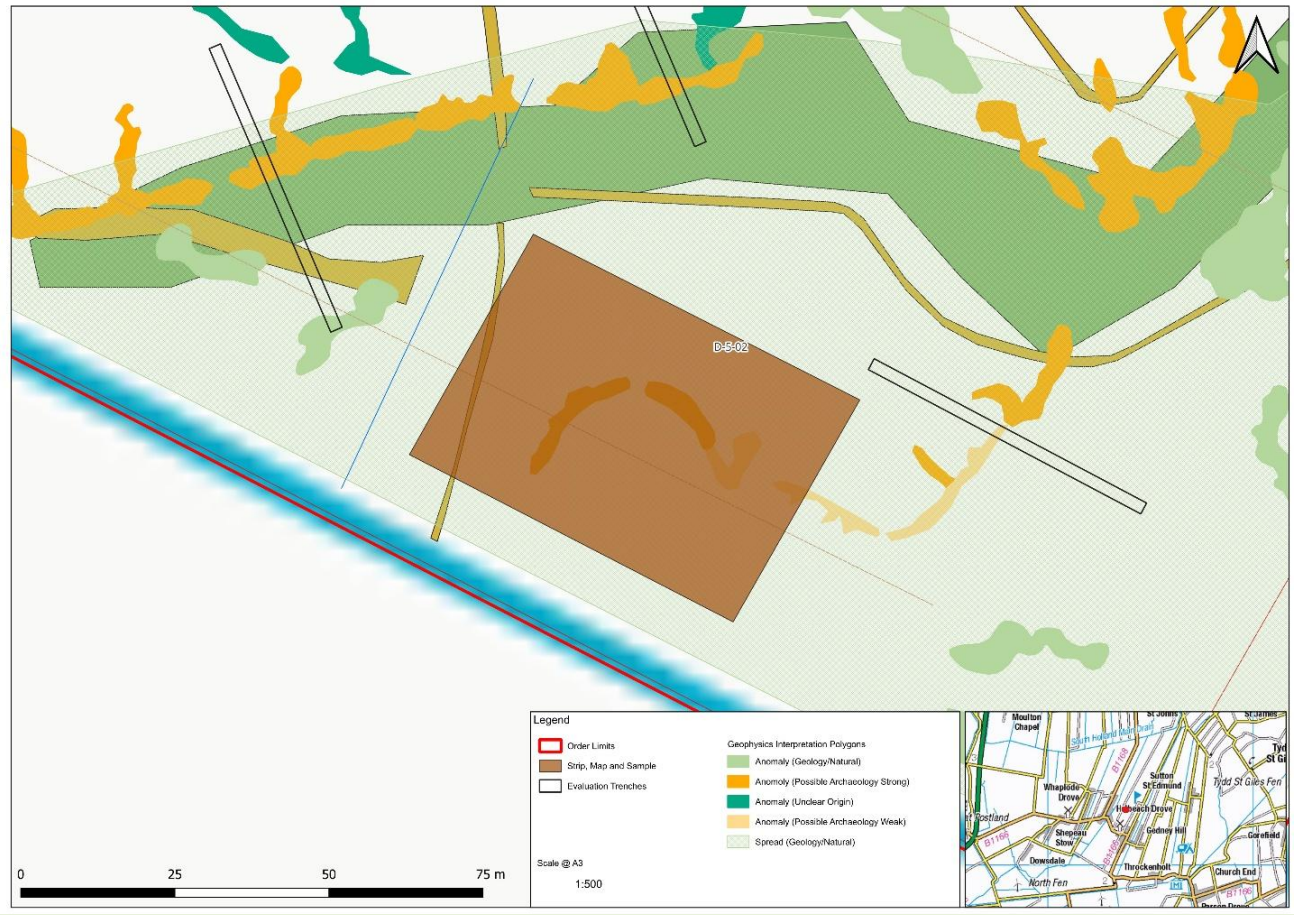

**Description**

No definite/probable archaeological features were identified in the geophysical survey of Field C-1-02, however a single linear anomaly corresponding to a mapped field boundary was identified. Aerial photography and LiDAR survey of the area identified lesser roddons and paleochannels running south-north.

Within Field C-1-02 a meandering ditch with multiple recuts following the roddon contour was identified during the evaluation in Trenches 3030 and 3031. Trench 3028 contained a ditch corresponding to the mapped 19th century field boundary, and a second ditch corresponded to a long north-east to south-west aligned linear feature, which did not

| Site 4 |
| --- |
| respect the roddon. Roman pottery was recovered from several trenches, and some briquetage was present, indicating nearby salt making. |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the temporary construction compound will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Late Bronze Age and Iron Age**<br>4.9.1: How can we add to our existing knowledge of industries and crafts in this region, particularly the extraction and smelting of iron and lead, salt production and quern manufacture?<br>**Romano-British:**<br>5.4.6: Can we elucidate further the daily life of settlements and their role in the processing and marketing of agricultural products?<br>5.5.4: Can we chart more closely the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion and the development of field systems?<br>5.6.2: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials? |

| Site 5 - | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | D-5-02 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential** | Archaeological Zone 5 |
| **HER Record:** | N/A |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 0.24 |



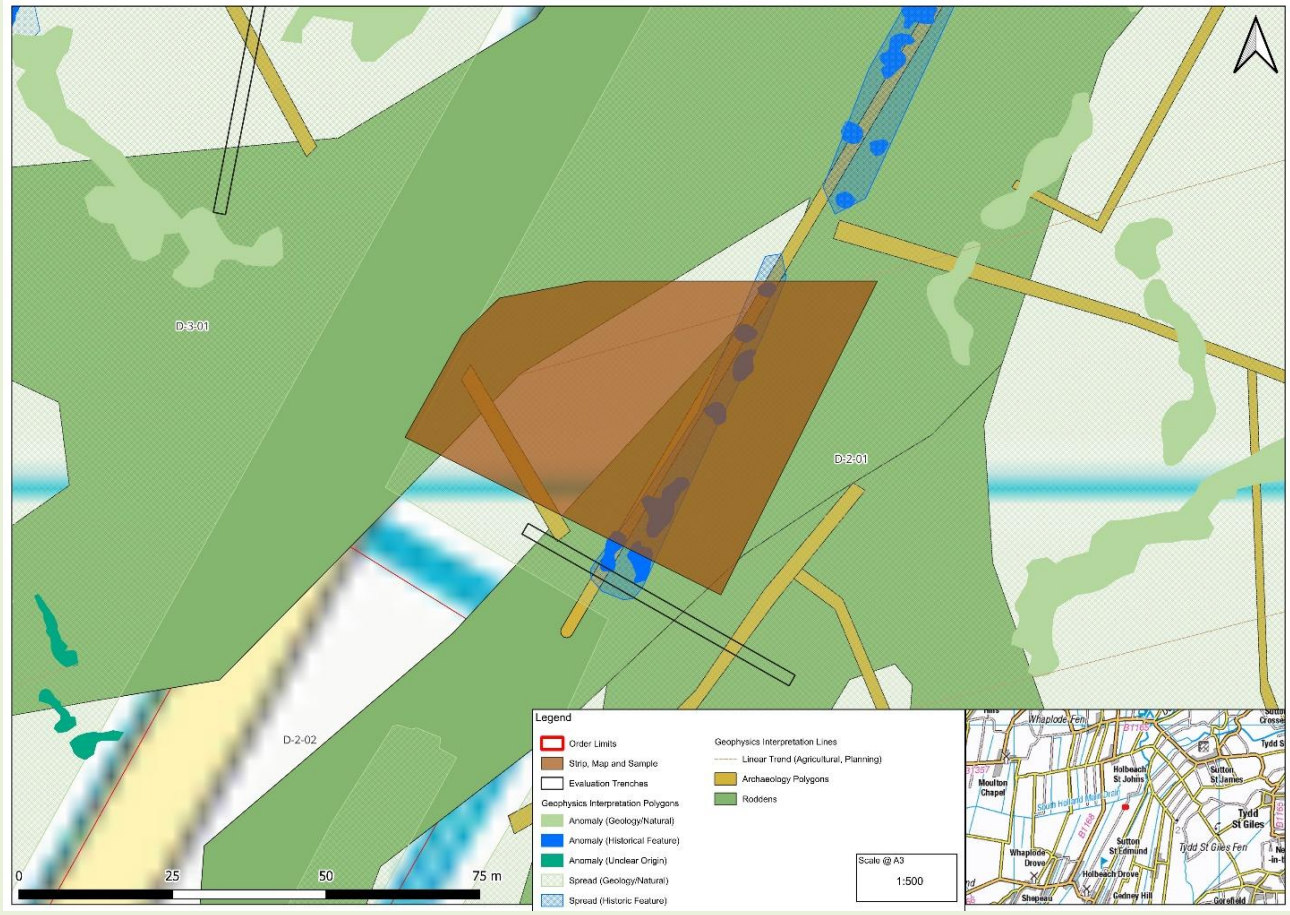

**Description**

The geophysical survey of Field D-5-02 identified a single linear feature aligned south to north-east, following the route of a narrow roddon. Aerial photography and LiDAR survey of the field identified the roddon as well as an L-shaped double-ditched Iron Age/Roman feature or trackway.

Trenches 4002, 4004-4007 were found to be archeologically negative and the remaining four trenches were found to be archaeologically positive. Archaeology was found in all the trenches that targeted features identified through geophysical survey (Trenches 4001, 4003, 4008 and 4009). Ditches running parallel to the roddon edge were occasionally

| Site 5 - |
| --- |
| present. Peaty fills were occasionally recorded within feature stratigraphy, indicating water inundation. Multiple linear features were identified across the area possibly forming a contemporary field system or functionally related. A single pit was also present in Trench 4003. These features likely represent an Iron Age or Roman settlement site and possible salt making site. |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the temporary construction compound will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Romano-British:**<br>5.5.4: Can we chart more closely the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion and the development of field systems?<br>5.6.4: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials? |

| Site 6 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | D-2-01 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential** | Archaeological Zone 6 |
| **HER Record:** | MLI22251, MLI123531, MLI23224 |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 0.24 |




**Description**

No definite/probable archaeological features were identified on the geophysical survey. During the evaluation almost every trench contained archaeological evidence. Field D-2-01 contained extensive and well-preserved landscape features associated with the roddon system, comprising numerous ditches, enclosure ditches, recut boundaries and possible drainage features. A large pond or natural water feature was identified in Trench 4115. Although very little artefactual dating evidence was recovered, the field lies within an area of cropmarks interpreted as likely Roman settlement and one trench produced residual briquetage.

| Site 6 |
| --- |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the temporary construction compound will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Late Bronze Age and Iron Age**<br>4.8.3: How may agricultural changes have impacted upon settlement patterns? Can the relationship between sedentary and mobile economies be clarified, and how did this vary spatially and over time<br>**Romano-British:**<br>5.5.4: Can we chart more closely the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion and the development of field systems?<br>5.6.4: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials? |

| Site 7 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | D-2-01 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential** | Archaeological Zone 6 |
| **HER Record:** | MLI20443, MLI20444, MLI22202 |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 0.15 |




**Description**

No definite/probable archaeological features were identified on the geophysical survey. During the evaluation almost every trench contained archaeological evidence. Field D-2-01 contained extensive and well-preserved landscape features associated with the roddon system, comprising numerous ditches, enclosure ditches, recut boundaries and possible drainage features. A large pond or natural water feature was identified in Trench 4115. Although very little artefactual dating evidence was recovered, the field lies within an area

| Site 7 |
| --- |
| of cropmarks interpreted as Roman settlement and one trench produced residual briquetage. |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the temporary construction compound and substation will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Romano-British:**<br>5.4.6: Can we elucidate further the daily life of settlements and their role in the processing and marketing of agricultural products?<br>5.5.4: Can we chart more closely the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion and the development of field systems?<br>5.6.4: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials? |

| Site 8 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | D-3-01 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential** | High |
| **HER Record:** | MLI20443, MLI20444, MLI22202 |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 0.22 |




**Description**

Field D-3-01 is located in the northern part of Area D and is covered by cropmarks (MLI20443; MLI20444). The western part of the field contains a large roddon while the eastern part of the field broadly comprises marine alluvium and a small meandering roddon. During the evaluation a pair of meandering parallel ditches continuing from Fields D-2-02 and D-3-03 was confirmed in Trench 4103. In Trench 4104 an area of small circular

| Site 8 |
| --- |
| anomalies was recorded, yielding briquetage and charcoal, suggesting saltern activity. The features included a ring ditch containing heat affected material, a posthole and a ditch. |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the temporary construction compound and substation will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Romano-British:**<br>5.4.6: Can we elucidate further the daily life of settlements and their role in the processing and marketing of agricultural products?<br>5.5.4: Can we chart more closely the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion and the development of field systems?<br>5.6.4: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials? |

| Site 9 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | D-1-03 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential** | Medium |
| **HER Record:** | MLI20446 |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 0.11 |




**Description**

The archaeological evaluation of Field D-1-03 has been deferred to the post consent stage due to a high risk of UXO. The aerial photography and LiDAR survey of the field recorded a narrow roddon meandering north to south across the sub-parcel and several ditches of unknown origin. The field also sits within close proximity to an area of settlement with small irregular enclosures surrounded by other cropmarks which may represent a field system (MLI20446). The geophysical survey of Field D-1-03 identified no definite/possible archaeology but did record two anomalies close to the eastern boundary and linear field boundaries in the central part of the field.

| Site 9 |
| --- |
| The proximity of the field to others where archaeological features have been identified has highlighted the need for Strip, Map and Sample in this area. |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the temporary construction compound will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| To be determined. These will be based on the research objectives in the OAMMS |

| Site 10 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | D-1-02 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential** | Medium |
| **HER Record:** | MLI20446, MLI22250 |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 0.21 |



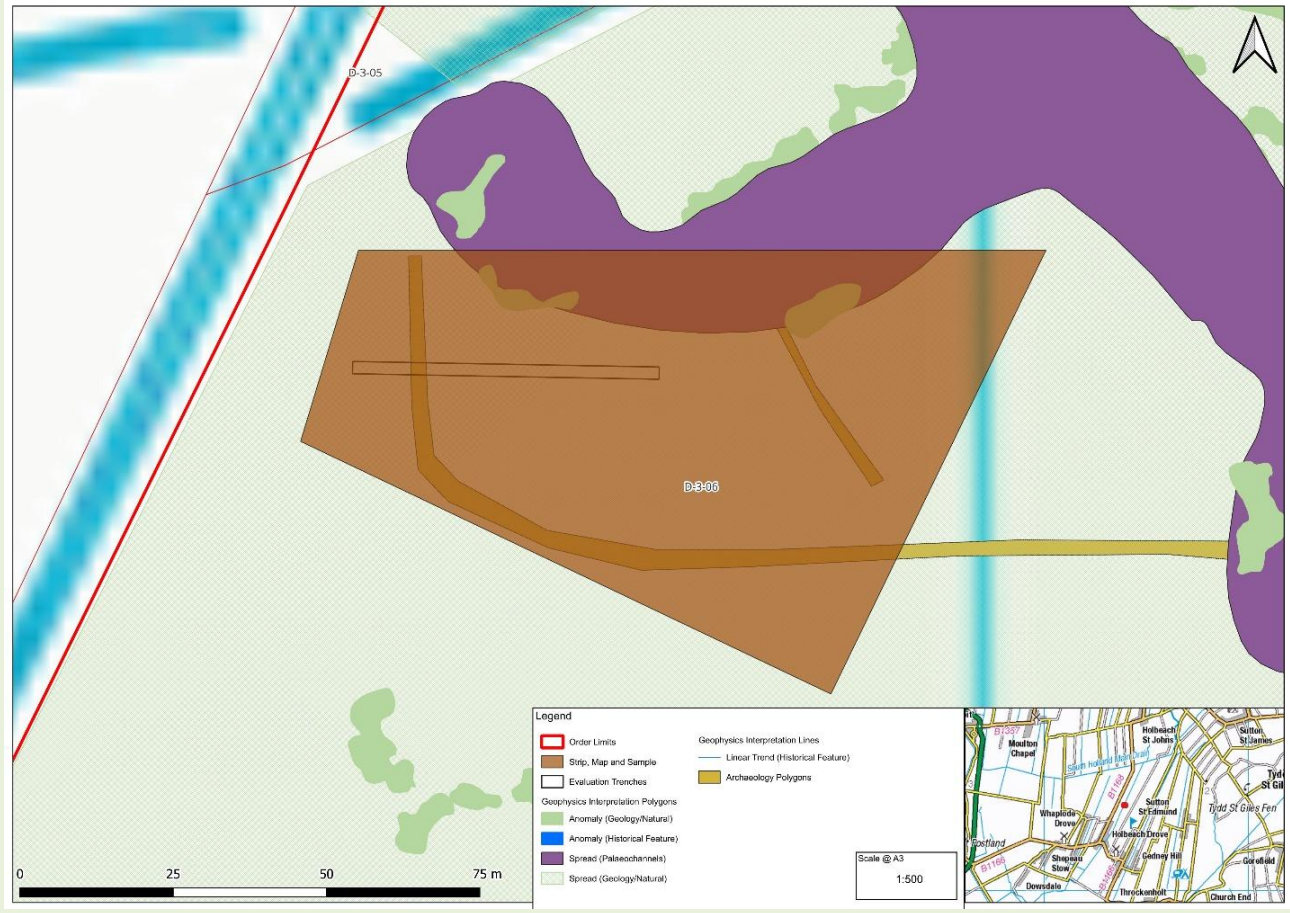

**Description**

The evaluation of Field D-1-02 has been deferred to the post consent stage due to a high risk of UXO. The field is in close proximity to an area of settlement with small irregular enclosures and cropmarks (MLI20446), and a Romano-British settlement and salt working site (MLI22250). The aerial photography and LiDAR survey of the field recorded a series lesser roddons running north to south and Iron Age/Roman rectilinear enclosures at the edge of the lesser roddon, that are flanked by smaller enclosures. To the immediate west runs a north to south aligned trackway and post-medieval drainage ditches.

**Scheme impact**

| Site 10 |
| --- |
| The construction of the temporary construction compound will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Iron Age:**<br>4.5.3: How may nucleated and other settlements have developed in the Roman period?<br>4.6.1: Can we shed further light upon the development of field and boundary systems?<br>**Romano-British:**<br>5.4.5: What patterns can be discerned in the location of settlements in the landscape?<br>5.6.4: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials? |

| Site 11 | |
|---|---|
| **Field Number:** | D-3-06 |
| **Archaeological Zone or Potential** | Medium |
| **HER Record:** | MLI20444, MLI22213, MLI22262 |
| **Investigation Area Size (ha)** | 2.5 |




**Description**

The aerial photography and LiDAR survey identified a drove road or trackway runs from D-3-05 into D-3-06 from the north and is defined by intermittent banks and ditches. Ditches to the east may be part of the field system extending into D-3-05. Ditches to the east may be part of the field system also described in D-3-05 and to the east there is a pair of ditches that may be either a trackway or water channels. These features correlate those described in ML20444 and are from the Iron Age/Roman periods.

No definable archaeological features were identified through geophysical survey.

| Site 11 |
| --- |
| The cropmarks were investigated through evaluation trenching and included a north-west to south-east aligned ditch also identified in Fields D-3-04 and D-3-05... A small quantity of Roman pottery was recovered. Trenches 4060–4063 recorded linear features that either correlated with or spatially respected the 1887 field system layout. All of the trenches were archaeologically positive and correlated with the geophysical survey |
| **Scheme impact** |
| The construction of the substation/temporary construction compound will have a permanent impact on any archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks. |
| **Potential research objectives** |
| **Iron Age:**<br>4.5.3: How may nucleated and other settlements have developed in the Roman period?<br>4.6.1: Can we shed further light upon the development of field and boundary systems?<br>**Romano-British:**<br>5.6.4: What production techniques and exchange networks were involved in the manufacture and marketing of salt and building materials?<br>**Early medieval**<br>7.1.1 Is there evidence for previously unrecognised early medieval activity, particularly low-density, seasonal, transient or task-specific occupation such as hunting, fishing, stock management, resource exploitation or temporary camps?<br>7.1.3 How did early medieval communities exploit the fenland and wetland resources of the area, and can archaeological or palaeoenvironmental evidence provide insight into changing patterns of land use and environmental management? |