Green Hill Solar Farm
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Environmental Statement
Appendix 12.5: Interim Evaluation Trial Trenching Reports (Part 1 of 7)

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Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A Northamptonshire

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Green Hill Solar Farm
Site A
Northamptonshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Interim Report
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Summary

Archaeological evaluation trial trenching was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd at Site A, Fields AF9, AF15, AF16, AF20, AF23, & AF29 of the Green Hill Solar Project from August to October 2024 to inform a planning application for a solar farm development. The purpose of the archaeological works was to identify and record any remains of archaeological and historical significance. The archaeological features recorded across Site A included a cluster of ring-ditch features representing possible round houses, a potential trackway, and various enclosure or boundary ditches. Where recovered, pottery was dated from the prehistoric (Iron Age) to the Romano-British periods, providing a broad date range for the remains.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation trial trenching investigation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) for Lanpro on behalf of Green Hill Solar Farm Limited, with trial trenching taking place between the 19th August and 11th October, 2024. The CFA site code and project number for the works are GHSO3 and 5292, respectively.

The work was conducted in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), produced by CFA Archaeology (Walker 2024) and approved by the Northamptonshire Council Lead Planning Archaeologist.

The works were required in support of an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for a solar development. The development scheme consists of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) site and eight electricity generating sites, each with a capacity of over 50 megawatts (MW) consisting of ground mounted solar arrays and 'Associated Development'; comprising of energy storage, grid connection infrastructure, and other infrastructure integral to the construction, operation, and maintenance of the scheme.

1.1 Site Location and Description

The proposed Green Hill Solar Farm comprises nine sites (Green Hill A, A2, B, C, D, E, F, G, and BESS). Seven of the sites are located between Northampton and Wellingborough in Northamptonshire (Green Hill A to F and BESS). Site G is located to the north of Lavendon in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Collectively, the sites cover approximately 1224ha within a swathe of land measuring approximately 23km from north to south and11.5km from east to west.

Site A (hereafter 'the Site') is located to the north of Walgrave and to the east of Old, centered at NGR SP 80333 73528. (Fig. 1). It is comprised of c.174 hectares of arable and pastureland, surrounded by fields and occasional agricultural buildings.

The bedrock geology of the site is comprised of Northampton Sand Formation (Ironstone, ooidal), Whitby Mudstone Formation (Mudstone), Stamford Member

(Sandstone and siltstone, interbedded), and Rutland Formation (Mudstone), and superficial deposits of Oadby Member (Diamicton), Mid Pleistocene Glacofluvial Deposits (sand and gravel), Alluvium (Clay, silt, sand and gravel) are also recorded across the site (BGS 2024). It has areas of freely draining slightly acid but base-rich soils and lime-rich loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (LandIS 2024).

1.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

A full archaeological and historic background is available in the Desk Based Assessment (Lanpro2024), for a combined 1km study area surrounding Site A and Site A2, and the relevant information from this document is summarised below.

There are several non-designated heritage assets in the local area. They are described with their HER number below.

Prehistoric

Cropmarks of likely later Prehistoric activity have been identified within Field AF1 (HER 5855) comprising a cluster of ditched enclosures (HER 5855, HER 5855/0/1, HER 5855/0/2, HER 5855/03, HER 5855/0/4, and HER 5855/0/5).

Roman

A probable Romano-British settlement was identified by metal detecting to the southeast of Site A and north-west of Site A2. While the HER polygon extends into Field AF27 (HER 8924), no evidence of archaeological features has been identified by the non-intrusive evaluation (including geophysical survey and air photos and LiDAR mapping and interpretation).

Metal detecting within Field AF23 uncovered remains of possible Romano-British activity (HER 8926); at the same location a Roman coin (RAH1504) is recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS). Another Roman coin findspot is recorded by the PAS in the west of Field AF26 (NARC-62E6AC).

Medieval

Walgrave moated site (NHLE 1011036) is located c.500m south of the Site, and Walgrave medieval village (NHLE 1418583) is located c.725m south of the Site.

The PAS database contains two records of a medieval date within Site A: a 13th-century coin (SUR-DA5172) in Field AF11 and a scabbard chape in Field AF28 (NARC-774CD2).

Post-Medieval

A 17th-century trader token (SUR-DA92D1) and a 17th-century coin (SUR-DA86CC) are recorded in the south of Field AF11.

1.3 Previous Work

Archaeological geophysical surveys were undertaken across the whole of the study site, to support the DCO application, between October 2023 and July 2024 when the land became available (ASWYAS 2024).

The majority of the anomalies recorded within Green Hill A Site were of an agricultural origin including former field boundaries, medieval/post medieval ridge and furrow cultivation modern ploughing and land drains. Two concentrations of anomalies were identified in Fields AF1 and AF11 as being of an archaeological nature and are considered to likely indicate prehistoric and Roman settlement activity. Further isolated anomalies with an archaeological potential were identified in Fields AF9, AF15, AF16 and AF20.

In Field AF1 an extensive cluster of ring ditches, linear ditches and enclosures was identified. Theses anomalies correspond with an area of cropmarks recorded by the HER as prehistoric enclosures and ditches (HER 5855). In Field AF11, a large rectangular enclosure was identified along with smaller enclosures to the north and south, and possible partial ring ditches.

In Field AF15 there are two possible ring ditches within an enclosure with a larger rectangular enclosure to the south. Two parallel ditches occur in the west of Field AF16, and appear to related to a buried features that continues beyond the study site to the west. A possible rectilinear enclosure was identified in Field AF20, as well as possible ring ditch.

Several 'uncertain' anomalies were identified of an unknown origin. In Field AF4 there is a linear feature that corresponds to a depression visible in the LiDAR data that possibly relates to a paleochannel, and to the north in Field AF5 there is a cluster of pit-like responses and linear trends, which lie to the west of a watercourse and so are potentially indicative of geological changes in the substrata. In Field AF9 a series of parallel linear trends might relate to buried ditches, however interpretation is tentative due to the high level of magnetic disturbance within the field. In Field AF11 some less distinct linear features might be related to the anomalies identified as having an archaeological potential. Very weak anomalies have been identified in Fields AF18 and Field AF26 of an unknown origin and in Field AF25 there are a series of linear features that may be caused by land drains.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In accordance with the WSI (Walker 2024), the overall aim of the archaeological works was to obtain sufficient information to establish the presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits within the Proposed Development Area (PDA). This will allow reasoned and informed recommendations to be made for further archaeological mitigation works, the scope

of which would be detailed in a project design in agreement with the Archaeological Advisor(s) to the relevant Local Planning Authority(s).

This was achieved through the following objectives:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any archaeological remains within the PDA;
- To excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance;
- To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site;
- To assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence;
- To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- To undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features;
- To report the results of the archaeological assessment and place them in their local and regional context; and
- To compile and deposit a site archive and to provide information for the HER.

2.1 Regional Research Framework

Targeted research priorities will be identified from the East Midlands Regional Research Framework (Regional Frameworks 2025) in the complete report, forthcoming. Targeted research priorities may include:

Neolithic and Early to Middle Bronze Age

- *3.1.2: How can we date more precisely the various regional styles of Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age pottery?*
- *3.8.1: Can we identify intra-regional variations in the character of sites and artefacts and what might these signify in social or economic terms?*
- *3.9.2: How far may petrographic and other scientific analyses contribute to our understanding of systems of ceramic production and distribution?*

Romano-British

- *5.4.1: How did the Conquest impact upon rural settlements and landscapes?*
- *5.4.2: How and why did settlement forms and building traditions vary within the region and over time?*
- *5.4.4: How did field and boundary systems relate to earlier systems of land allotment, and how did these boundary networks develop over time?*
- *5.4.5: What patterns can be discerned in the location of settlements in the landscape?*
- *5.6.1: What resources moved in and out of the region during this period?*

- *5.6.3: How may studies of the production, movement and consumption of pottery contribute to understanding of the regional economy?*

3 WORKING METHODS

3.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd is a registered organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). CFA Archaeology follows all relevant CIfA and Historic England Standards and Guidance (CIfA 2022 & 2023 and Historic England 2011 & 2015).

All features and trenches were surveyed using an industry standard Trimble GPS. The same equipment was used to establish the levels above Ordnance Datum for the areas of archaeological investigation. Modern finds (c. 20th-century onwards) were identified but not retained.

A summary of the results of the archaeological works has been submitted for inclusion in the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS V, Appendix 2). The OASIS reference is cfaarcha1-531971.

3.2 Method of Excavation

A total of ninety-seven 50m x 1.8m evaluation trial trenches were excavated across six fields (Fields AF9, AF15, AF16, AF20, AF23, & AF29; Figs. 1 & 2).

During the excavation of the evaluation trial trenches, the topsoil and recent overburden were removed down to the natural substrate in successive level spits of a maximum 0.2m thickness, using a tracked machine equipped with a wide toothless ditching bucket. The groundwork was carried out under direct archaeological supervision. All the exposed features were cleaned and excavated by hand. The sections of the excavated features were drawn at a 1:10 scale and planned at a 1:20 scale (Figs. in prep).

All archaeological features were scanned with a metal detector prior, during, and after excavation. The trenches and all archaeological remains were surveyed and tied into the National Grid using a Trimble GPS.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

The location of the excavated trenches can be seen in Figure 1. The trenches containing archaeological features are described below. These results should be read in conjunction with Figures 1-3. Recorded trenches and archaeological features are prefixed by the site designation (A) and field number (F#).

Unless otherwise stated, no finds were recovered from the following features. A summary of topsoil/subsoil depths for each trench can be found in Appendix 1.

4.1 Factual Summary of Key Archaeological Findings

Site A, Field AF9

A total of 8 trenches were excavated, of which one contained archaeological features (Trench AF09-03).

Site A, Field AF15

14 trenches were excavated, of which two contained archaeological features (Trenches AF15-01 and AF15-05).

Site A, Field AF16

In total, 17 trenches were excavated and five had archaeology present within them (Trenches AF16-05, AF16-09, AF16-10, AF16-12, and AF16-13). Due to flooding in this field it was not possible to excavated archaeological features in AF16-09 and AF16-10. An area of modern disturbance was identified at the north-western end of Trench AF16-11.

Site A, Field AF20

19 trenches were excavated, nine of which contained archaeological features (Trenches AF20-03, AF20-05, AF20-08, AF20-13, AF20-15, AF20-16, AF20-17, AF20-18, and AF20-20).

Site A, Field AF23

A total of 25 trenches were excavated, and two contained archaeological features (Trenches AF23-01 and AF23-03).

Site A, Field AF29

14 trenches were excavated and no archaeological features were identified.

Deposits of colluvium were recorded across 16 trenches (AF16-01, AF16-02, AF16-03, AF16-09, AF16-11, AF16-12, AF16-15, AF16-17, AF20-06, AF20-08, AF20-16, AF23-15, AF29-02, AF29-06, AF29-08, and AF29-10). It varied in colour from yellowish brown to mid-orangey brown and was generally a firm silty clay or clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular stone or chalk inclusions, although some trenches recorded large stone inclusions. Colluvial deposits ranged in depth from 0.2m to 0.83m, with an average depth of about 0.5m.

4.2 Results by Trench

4.2.1 Field AF9

Trench AF09-03 (Fig. 2.2 & 3.2)

Trench AF09-03 was oriented north-east to south-west and was located towards the north-eastern corner of Field AF9, Romano-British pottery was recovered from the topsoil (AF09-001) of this trench. A single north-west to south-east orientated gully (**AF09-0303**) was recorded towards the southern end of Trench AF09-03. It had steeply sloping sides with a sharp break to a tapered base and measured 0.22m wide, and 0.5m deep (Plate 1). It contained a single fill (**AF09-0304**) of very loose light brownish grey clayey silt with rare flecks of angular charcoal. Pottery was recovered from this deposit.

Plate 1: East facing section of Gully AF09-0303

4.2.2 Field AF15

Trench AF15-01 (Fig. 2.6 & 3.6)

The centre of Trench AF15-01 contained a single north-west to south-east orientated curvilinear gully (**AF15-0106**) with moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to a rounded base (Plate 2). It measured 0.79m wide, and 0.22m deep and contained two fills. The basal fill (**AF15-0105**) was a malleable mid-orangey grey silty clay with rare flecks of sub-rounded chalk, measuring 0.62m wide and 0.1m deep, and from which pottery was recovered. The upper fill (**AF15-0104**) was a malleable mid-orangey grey silty clay with rare flecks of angular to sub-rounded charcoal, measuring 0.79m wide and 0.1m deep. Gully **AF15-0106** was interpreted as a ring ditch from the geophysical

survey data, although it was truncated by a furrow within the trench and its true extent could not be seen.

Plate 2: East facing section of Gully AF15-0106

Trench AF15-05 (Fig. 2.6 & 3.6)

Trench AF15-05 contained two ditches which correspond to two sides of the same rectilinear enclosure identified on the geophysical survey. The north to south ditch was not excavated in this trench, however the east to west orientated ditch (**AF15-0504**) was recorded towards the south-eastern end of Trench AF15-05. It had gently sloping sides and a gradual break to a rounded base and measured 1.3m wide, and 0.4m deep (Plate 3). It contained a single fill (**AF15-0505**) of firm mid-brownish grey silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stone inclusions.

Plate 3: North-east facing section of Ditch AF15-0504

4.2.3 Field AF16

Trench AF16-05 (Fig. 2.8 & 3.8)

Trench AF16-05 contained two ditches which were part of a possible ring ditch feature. At the north-western end of the trench and orientated north to south, Ditch **AF16-0506** had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a rounded base and measured 0.66m wide, and 0.18m deep (Plate 4). It contained a single fill (**AF16-0507**) of malleable light greyish brown silty clay with rare flecks of sub-rounded to well-rounded chalk.

Plate 4: South facing section of Ditch AF16-0506

Located south-east of Ditch **AF16-0506**, Ditch **AF16-0504** was orientated north-east to south-west and had moderately to steeply sloping sides and a gradual break to a tapered base (Plate 5). It measured 1.5m wide, and 0.5m deep and contained a single fill (**AF16-0505**) of malleable mid-greyish brown fine clayey sand with rare small to medium sub-angular stone inclusions.

Plate 5: South-west facing section of Ditch AF16-0504

Trench AF16-09 (Fig. 2.9 & 3.9)

Trench AF16-09 was oriented north to south and contained five linear ditches, which correlated to trends seen on the geophysical survey. No features were excavated in this trench due to poor ground conditions caused by adverse weather.

Trench AF16-10 (Fig.2.9 & 3.9)

Trench AF16-09 was oriented north to south and contained two linear ditches, and one furrow, which correlated to trends identified on the geophysical survey. No features were excavated in this trench due to poor ground conditions caused by adverse weather.

Trench AF16-12 (Fig. 2.10 & 3.10)

Trench AF16-12 contained three north-west to south-east orientated ditches which were either recorded only in plan or partially excavated due to environmental constraints, and a single pit which was excavated.

Deposit **AF16-1204** (Plate 6) was circular in plan and comprised a dark blackish grey silty clay, with common charcoal inclusions. The deposit measured 0.65m in length, 0.42m in width and 0.20m in depth.

Plate 6: Plan and excavated section of Deposit AF16-1204

Ditch **AF16-1208** was orientated north-west to south-east and was located at the northern end of Trench AF16-12. Ditch **AF116-1208** was only partially excavated due

to flooding. The ditch had steeply sloping sides and measured 1.6m wide. It contained at least one fill (**AF16-1209**) which comprised a firm dark brownish grey silty clay with inclusions of animal bone and pottery.

North of Ditch **AF16-1208**, was a second north-west to south-east ditch **AF16-1210**, which was also only partially excavated due to flooding. The ditch had steeply sloping sides and measured 1.65m wide. The Ditch contained at least one fill (**AF16-1211**) which was a firm mid-orangey brown sandy clay, as recorded in plan from which 2nd century Roman pottery was recovered. Its relationship with Ditch **AF16-1208** was not possible to ascertain at this stage, due to constraints on the ground.

Two ditches were recorded in plan towards the southern end of the trench under the context **AF16-1206** these ditches were only partially excavated due to environmental constraints. These were oriented roughly east to west and corresponded to an anomaly identified on the geophysical survey, they had a combined width of 6.9m. Ditches **AF16-1206** contained at least one fill (**AF16-1207**) which was a malleable dark brownish grey silty clay, with mid 2nd century Roman pottery being recovered from the surface.

Plate 7: Trench AF16-12, with features visible on the exposed surface

Trench AF16-13 (Fig. 2.8 & 3.8)

Trench AF16-13 contained four ditches, which correlated with anomalies identified on the geophysical survey. Two of these ditches (**AF16-1311** and **AF16-1308**) form two parts of the same curvilinear feature.

Sited in the central area of the trench, Ditch **AF16-1311** was orientated north-east to south-west and had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a rounded base (Plate 8). It measured 2.5m wide, and 0.98m deep and contained two fills. The basal fill (AF16-1312) was a malleable mid-orangey brown silty clay, measuring 2.5m wide and 0.98m deep, and from which pottery was recovered. The upper fill (AF16-1313) was a malleable mid-yellowish brown silty clay measuring 2.3m wide and 0.27m deep.

Plate 8: Section of Ditch AF16-1311

Orientated north-west to south-east, Ditch **AF16-1308** had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a flat base (Plate 9). It measured 2.1m wide, and 0.65m deep and contained two fills. The basal fill (**AF16-1309**) was a malleable mid-orangey brown silty clay, measuring 2m wide and 0.65m deep, from which pottery and bone were recovered. The upper fill (**AF16-1310**) was a malleable mid-yellowish brown silty clay, measuring 2.1m wide and 0.25m deep. In combination with Ditch **AF16-1311**, this was interpreted to be an enclosure or ring ditch feature.

Plate 9: West facing section of Ditch AF16-1308

Towards the southern end of the trench, Ditch **AF16-1304**, was orientated north-east to south-west and had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to an even base (Plate 10). It measured 0.85m wide, and 0.3m deep and contained a single fill (**AF16-1305**) of malleable mid-yellowish brown silty clay from which pottery and bone were recovered.

Cutting Ditch **AF16-1304** was north-east to south-west orientated Ditch **AF16-1306**, which had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to an uneven base (Plate 10). It measured 1m wide, and 0.3m deep and contained a single fill (**AF16-1307**) of malleable mid-orangey brown silty clay with occasional flint inclusions.

Plate 10: South-west facing section of Ditches AF16-1304 and AF16-1306

4.2.4 Field AF20

Trench AF20-03 (Fig. 2.15 & 3.15)

Trench AF20-03 contained a single north-east to south-west orientated ditch (**AF20-0305**) with moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to a flat base (Plate 11). It measured 1.03m wide, and 0.43m deep and contained a single fill (**AF20-0304**) of spongey mid-blackish yellow silty clay.

Plate 11: East facing section of Ditch AF20-0305

Trench AF20-05 (Figs. 2.15, 2.16, 3.15 & 3.16)

Trench AF20-05 contained three ditches, two of which (**AF20-0508** and **AF20-0504**) were on the same alignment and may represent agricultural activities.

Ditch **AF20-0508**, orientated north to south and sited towards the centre of the trench, had steeply sloping sides with a gradual break to a rounded base (Plate 12). It measured 0.78m wide, and 0.3m deep and contained a single fill (**AF20-0509**) of dry, cemented light yellowish brown clay with some bioturbation.

Plate 12: North-east facing section of Ditch AF20-0508

Ditch **AF20-0504**, located south-east of Ditch **AF20-0508**, was orientated north to south and had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a rounded base (Plate 13). It measured 0.64m wide, and 0.25m deep and contained a single fill (**AF20-0505**) of dry, cemented mid-orangey brown clay with occasional small chalk inclusions.

Plate 13: North facing section of Ditch AF20-0504

Orientated north-west to south-east and located at the south-eastern end of the trench, Ditch **AF20-0506** had moderately sloping sides with a sharp break to a rounded base (Plate 14). It measured 0.6m wide, and 0.3m deep and contained a single fill (**AF20-0507**) of dry, cemented dark blackish brown clay with some bioturbation disturbance. This ditch aligned with a visible row of trees and was interpreted as part of an old hedgerow depicted at this location on 19th and 20th century Ordnance Survey maps.

Plate 14: South facing section of Ditch AF20-0506

Trench AF20-08 (Fig. 2.16 & 3.16)

A single north to south orientated ditch (**AF20-0804**) was recorded towards the north-western end of Trench AF20-08 and was depicted at this location on 19th and 20th century Ordnance Survey maps. It had steeply sloping sides with a gradual break to an uneven base and measured 1.1m wide, and 0.28m deep (Plate 15). It contained a single fill (**AF20-0805**) of firm light yellowish brown silty clay with rare small sub-rounded chalk inclusions. Pottery of 2nd century date was recovered from this deposit.

Plate 15: North facing section of Ditch AF20-0804

Trench AF20-13 (Figs. 2.17, 2.18, 3.17 & 3.18)

One ditch was recorded at the eastern end of Trench AF20-13 (**AF20-1305**), orientated north to south. It had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to an uneven base and measured 1.25m wide, and 0.29m deep (Plate 16). It contained a single fill (**AF20-1304**) of firm mid-orangey brown silty clay.

Plate 16: North facing section of Ditch AF20-1305

Trench AF20-15 (Fig. 2.18 & 3.18)

A single north to south orientated feature (**AF20-1504**) was recorded at the eastern end of Trench AF20-15. It had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a rounded base and measured 1.2m wide, and 0.37m wide (Plate 17). This feature had one fill (**AF20-1503**) of spongey mid-yellowish brown silty clay. This linear feature is on the same orientation as the ridge and furrow identified on the geophysical survey and is likely a furrow.

Plate 17: North-east facing section of Ditch AF20-1504

Trench AF20-16 (Fig. 2.18 & 3.18)

An north to south orientated ditch was recorded (**AF20-1604**), located towards the northern end of Trench AF20-16 (Plate 18). Ditch AF20-1604 had steep sides and a flat base, measuring 0.78m in width and 0.21m in depth. The ditch contained a single fill (**AF20-1605**) which was a mid-orangish brown clayey silt with common chalk inclusions.

Plate 18: South-east facing section and plan of Ditch AF20-1604

A discrete pit (**AF20-1606**) was noted in the central area of the trench (Plate 19). The pit was sub-circular in plan with gradual shallow sides and a flat base, measuring 1.05m in diameter and 0.05m in depth. The pit contained a single fill (**AF20-1607**) which comprised a dark brownish grey silty clay with inclusions of chalk, sub-angular stone and Bronze Age pottery.

Plate 19: South-west facing section of Pit AF20-1606

Trench AF20-17 (Fig. 2.18 & 3.18)

Trench AF20-17 contained two north-west to south-east orientated ditches at its western end. Ditch **AF20-1703** had steeply sloping sides with a gradual break to an uneven base and measured 0.7m wide, and 0.4m deep (Plate 20). It contained a single fill (**AF20-1704**) of firm light yellowish brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded chalk inclusions. Pottery and animal bone were recovered from this deposit.

Cutting Ditch **AF20-1703** was Ditch **AF20-1705**. It had steeply sloping sides with a gradual break to an uneven base and measured 0.95m wide, and 0.57m deep (Plate 20). This ditch had a single fill (**AF20-1706**) of firm mid-yellowish brown silty clay with rare small sub-rounded to rounded stone inclusions. Pottery and animal bone were recovered from this deposit.

Plate 20: South-East facing section of Ditches AF20-1703 and AF20-1705

Ditch **AF20-1710**, orientated north to south, was located towards the centre of the trench. Ditch **AF20-1710** had a gradual top and bottom break of slope, an uneven base and straight sides. The ditch measured 1.50m wide and 0.48m deep and contained two fills, the lower fill (**AF20-1712**) was a light greyish brown silty clay, which was overlain by the upper fill (**AF20-1711**) which was a dark orangey brown silty clay. Ditch **AF20-1710** was cut by Ditch **AF20-1707**, which had gradual straight sides and a flat base with gradual breaks of slope. The ditch measured 2.80m wide and 0.50m deep and contained two fills, lower fill (**AF20-1709**) which was a light greyish brown silty clay, and upper fill (**AF20-1708**)which was a dark orangish brown silty clay (Plate 21).

Plate 21: South facing section of Ditches AF20-1710 and AF20-1707

Trench AF20-18 (Fig. 2.16 & 3.16)

Trench AF20-18 contained one linear gully and two pits. Gully **AF20-1804**, in the centre of the trench, was orientated north to south and had steeply sloping sides with a sharp break to a rounded base (Plate 22). It measured 0.74m wide, and 0.23m deep and contained a single fill (**AF20-1805**) of firm mid-brownish orange clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-rounded to sub-angular flint and stone inclusions.

Plate 22: South facing section of Gully AF20-1804

Sited approximately 10m to the south-east of Gully **AF20-1804** was Pit **AF20-1806**. It had steeply sloping sides and a gradual break to a rounded base and measured 0.68m wide, and 0.28m deep (Plate 23). It contained a single fill (**AF20-1807**) of firm mid-orangey brown clayey silt.

Pit **AF20-1808**, with moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to a flat base, cut Pit **AF20-1806**. It measured 1.35m wide, and 0.25m deep and contained three fills (Plate 23). The basal fill (**AF20-1811**) was a firm mid-orangey brown clayey silt measuring 0.8m wide and 0.08m deep. The middle fill (**AF20-1810**) was a firm dark brownish black clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded flint and stone inclusions, measuring 0.5m wide and 0.15m deep. The upper fill (**AF20-1809**) was a firm dark brownish black clayey silt with frequent small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded fired clay and charcoal inclusions, measuring 1.35m wide and 0.23m deep.

Plate 23: North-east facing section of Pits AF20-1806 and AF20-1808

Trench AF20-19 (Figs. 2.16, 2.17, 3.16 & 3.17)

Trench AF20-19 contained two pits, two gullies, a ditch, a furrow, and a spread deposit.

Located to the north-western end of the trench and orientated north to south, Ditch **AF20-1903** had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to an uneven base (Plate 24). It measured 0.78m wide, and 0.35m deep and contained a single fill (**AF20-1904**) of dry, cemented mid-blackish brown clay with occasional small angular to sub-angular chalk fragments. Pottery and animal bone were recovered from this deposit.

Plate 24: South facing section of Ditch AF20-1903

Gully **AF20-1914,** in the centre of the trench and orientated north-east to south-west, had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a rounded base (Plate 25). It measured 0.55m wide, and 0.15m deep, contained a single fill (**AF20-1911**) of friable mid-greyish brown clay with occasional small sub-angular stone and rare small sub-rounded charcoal inclusions. This feature aligned with a curvilinear trend noted on the geophysical survey.

Plate 25: South-west facing section of Gully AF20-1914

Located south-east of Gully **AF20-1914** and orientated north-west to south-east, Furrow **AF20-1908** had gently sloping sides and a gradual break to an uneven base (Plate 26). It measured 1.75m wide, and 0.11m deep and contained a single fill (**AF20-1909**) of dark brownish orange silty clay, from which pottery was recovered. The furrow's nearness to Romano-British features may explain the presence of RB pottery in its fill.

Plate 26: North facing section of Furrow AF20-1908

Immediately south-east of Furrow **AF20-1908**, circular Pit **AF20-1906** had steeply sloping sides with a gradual break to a rounded base and measured 0.31m wide, and 0.14m deep (Plate 27). It contained a single fill (**AF20-1907**) of loose dark greyish black clay with frequent small sub-rounded charcoal inclusions. Pottery and animal bone were recovered from this deposit and the pit feature was interpreted as a possible waste pit. A shallow spread (**AF20-1905**) was recorded south-east of Pit **AF20-1906**, interpreted as a possible continuation or redeposit of the pit fill. Spread **AF20-1905** was a loose greyish brown clay and measured 0.15m wide, and 0.02m deep and did not have a visible cut.

Plate 27: South-west facing section of Pit AF20-1906

Semi-circular Pit **AF20-1912**, located adjacent to Pit **AF20-1906**, had straight sides with a sharp break to a tapered base and measured 0.8m wide, and 0.35m deep (Plate 28). It contained a single fill (**AF20-1913**) of firm mid-brownish pink silty clay with occasionally small to medium angular to sub-angular stone inclusions. Pottery and possible wattle and daub were recovered from this deposit. The pit was lined with large, flat stones on one side.

Plate 28: North facing section of Pit AF20-1912

4.2.5 Field AF23

Trench AF23-01 (Fig. 2.11 & 3.11)

Trench AF23-01 contained seven ditches and one gully in three distinct areas of activity.

Gully **AF23-0108**, orientated north-east to south-west and located at the northern end of the trench, had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to a rounded base (Plate 29). It measured 0.7m wide, and 0.4m deep and had a single fill (**AF23-0109**) of firm mid-yellowish brown silty clay.

Cutting the north-west side of Gully **AF23-0108** was north-east to south-west orientated Ditch **AF23-0110**. It had steeply sloping sides with a gradual break to a tapered base and measured 1.3m wide, and 0.84m deep (Plate 29). This ditch contained a single fill (**AF23-0111**) of firm dark yellowish brown silty cay with occasional small sub-rounded charcoal inclusions.

Ditch **AF23-0110** was itself cut by Ditch Recut **AF23-0112**, which had steeply sloping sides and a gradual break to an uneven base. It measured 1m wide, and 0.38m deep and contained a single fill (**AF23-0113**) of firm dark greyish brown silty clay from which pottery of prehistoric date and animal bone were recovered (Plate 29).

Plate 29: Section of Gully AF23-0108, Ditch AF23-0110, and Ditch Recut AF23-0112

Located in the mid-southern part of the trench was Ditch **AF23-0114**, orientated north-east to south-west, which had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to a flat base. It measured 1.95m wide, and 0.5m deep and contained three fills (Plate 30). The basal fill (**AF23-0115**) was a firm mid-brownish yellow clayey silt with rare charcoal flecks and occasional small to large sub-rounded stone inclusions, measuring 1.2m wide and 0.15m deep. This deposit was likely formed by the slumping of the bank on the south side of the ditch. The middle fill (**AF23-0116**) was a friable dark yellowish brown medium clayey sand with moderate small to very large round stone inclusions, measuring 1.45m wide and 0.4m deep. Pottery of Late Iron Age to Early Roman date and animal bone were recovered from this deposit. The uppermost fill (**AF23-0117**) was a very dry, cemented mid-yellowish brown fine clayey sand with rare small sub-rounded stone inclusions, measuring 1.3m wide and 0.16m deep. Ditch **AF23-0114** was truncated by Ditch **AF23-0120**.

North to south orientated Ditch **AF23-0118** had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to a rounded base. It measured 0.7m wide, and 0.38m deep and had a single fill (**AF23-0119**) of malleable light brownish yellow fine clayey sand with rare small sub-rounded stone inclusions (Plate 30). Ditch **AF23-0118** was cut by Ditch **AF23-0120**.

Orientated east to west, Ditch **AF23-0120** cut both Ditch **AF23-0114** and Ditch **AF23-0118**. Ditch **AF23-0120** had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a rounded base and measured 1.5m wide, and 0.65m deep (Plate 30). It contained three fills. The basal fill (**AF23-0121**) was a friable mid-greyish brown coarse clayey sand with frequent small sub-rounded stone inclusions, measuring 0.7m wide and 0.12m deep. The middle fill (**AF23-0122**) was a malleable mid-brownish grey clayey silt with

moderate small to medium sub-rounded to rounded stone inclusions. This deposit measured 0.8m wide and 0.33m deep and was interpreted as possibly being the same as the slump deposit **AF23-0119** from Ditch **AF23-0118**, although this could not be confirmed in this single excavation slot alone. The uppermost fill (**AF23-0123**) was a friable dark greyish brown fine clayey sand with moderate small sub-rounded to rounded stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions. This deposit measured 1.5m wide and 0.35m deep and contained pottery of prehistoric date.

Plate 30: North-East facing section of Ditches AF23-0114, AF23-0118, and AF23-0120

At the southern end of the trench was Ditch **AF23-0104**, orientated north-east to south-west, which had steeply sloping sides with a sharp break to a tapered base (Plate 31). It measured 0.5m wide, and 0.25m deep and contained a single fill (**AF23-0105**) of firm mid-greyish brown clayey silt with rare small angular stone and rounded charcoal inclusions.

Ditch **AF23-0104** was cut by Ditch Recut **AF23-0106**, which had moderately sloping sides and an imperceptible break to a rounded base (Plate 31). It measured 0.9m wide, and 0.35m deep and contained a single fill (**AF23-0107**) of firm mid-yellowish brown fine clayey sand with rare small sub-angular stone and rounded charcoal inclusions. Pottery was recovered from this deposit.

Plate 31: South facing section of Ditch AF23-0104 and Ditch Recut AF23-0106

Trench AF23-03 (Fig. 2.11 & 3.11)

A single north-east to south-west orientated ditch was recorded towards the south-western end of Trench AF23-03. Ditch **AF23-0305** had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a rounded base and measured 1.03m wide, and 0.43m deep (Plate 32). It had a single fill (**AF23-0304**) of spongey mid-blackish yellow silty clay with modern wood and barbed wire, which were noted but not retained. This feature was interpreted as a modern field boundary ditch which runs parallel and immediately adjacent to a field boundary depicted on 19th and 20th century Ordnance Survey maps.

Plate 32: North-east facing section of Ditch AF23-0305

5 INTERIM FINDS SUMMARY

The pre-quantified finds from Site A can be found in Table 1 below, organised by find type. At this stage, no cleaning or specialist assessment has been undertaken.

Find Type	Quantity	Weight (g)
Animal Bone	183	1433
CBM	3	33
Copper Alloy	1	8
Iron Nail	7	304
Flint	2	13
Pottery	295	2618
Grand Total	**491**	**4409**

Table 1: Artefactual Finds Pre-Quantification

5.1 Interim Pottery Summary

Overall, most of the pottery recovered from Site A is relatively similar in nature, being comprised of grog-tempered wares in the Belgic tradition. These can date from the Late Iron Age through to the early 2nd century. The second most common type found were shell tempered wares, which are similar in date range to grog-tempered wares and included general undecorated body sherds. They ranged in date from the prehistoric period through to the late Roman or medieval periods, although the latter tend to be finer body sherds when compared to the prehistoric handmade vessels. Most of the pottery from Site A likely dates from the Late Iron Age to the early 2nd century.

The earliest pottery recovered from Site A was from the fill of Pit **AF20-1606**. These included a high quantity of handmade shell-tempered ware jars featuring a thin angled rim with thumb nail impressions on the top, as well as regularly spaced thumb nail impressions around the body. These may date to the Bronze Age, however an earlier or, possibly, later date cannot be entirely discounted at this stage.

Pottery from Context **AF16-1207** included a late 1st to early 2nd-century wide-rimmed dish, a possible Nene Valley grey ware body sherd, and a shell-tempered channel rim jar that may date to the early 2nd century.

Table 2, below, contains spot dates for a sample of pottery sherds with identifiable elements such as rim sherds, decoration, or obvious fabric. A full pottery assessment of the full assemblage will be undertaken for the assessment report (forthcoming).

Context	Notes	Spot date
AF16-1207	Grey lipped bowl possible Nene Valley grey ware	MC2
AF16-1211	Channel rim Jar. wide rm dish with dec, hooked rim dish	C2
AF20-0805	CRJ	C2
AF20-1607	Thin, plain square rim with thumbnail dec on body and rim	Prehistoric
AF23-0113	HM shell grog sandy, impressed dec, q	Prehistoric
AF23-0116	Sandy/grog handmade	LIA-ERO
AF23-0123	Sandy handmade base	Prehistoric

Table 2: Pottery Preliminary Spot Dates

5.2 Interim Animal Bone Summary

Some animal bone has been recovered from a range of features reported on within this interim report. The results from the animal bone assessment will be included in the final report produced at the completion of the evaluation trenching works.

5.3 Interim Palaeo-Environmental Summary

Samples have been taken from a range of features reported on within this interim report. The results from the environmental assessment will be included in the final report produced at the completion of the evaluation trenching works.

5.4 Interim Finds Report

CBM, metal objects (copper alloy and iron), and flint were recovered from this excavation. These will be reported in further detail in the final report produced at the completion of the evaluation trenching works.

6 INTERIM DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Site A, FieldAF09

The ditch in Trench AF09-03 aligns with a possible north-west to south-east linear trend seen on the geophysical greyscale. Pottery dates this feature to the late second century.

6.2 Site A, Field AF15

One of two circular ring ditches seen on the geophysics greyscale was excavated in Trench AF15-01.

A north-east to south-west linear trend from the geophysical survey was recorded within Trench AF15-05, and it's return to the north-west was also observed but not excavated in this instance.

6.3 Site A, Field AF16

A possible curvilinear ring ditch feature, along with linear ditches, was recorded in Trench AF16-13 and a curvilinear ring ditch in Trench AF16-05. Due to environmental constraints caused by adverse weather some archaeological features in Field AF16 were not excavated at this stage.

Two parallel, vaguely east to west orientated ditches were recorded in Trench AF16-12 which may represent part of a trackway. A continuation of this possible trackway was identified but not recorded in both Trench AF16-09 and AF16-10 to the south-east. Pottery from this trench dates the features to the second century.

6.4 Site A, Field AF20

A north to south linear feature seen on the geophysical greyscale relates to the linear ditch recorded in Trench AF20-13.

The linear features identified in trenches AF20-15, AF20-16 may be part of historic ridge and furrow systems, although they alternate between north to south and east to west, so would represent multiple phases of field use and organisation. Further furrows were identified but not excavated in Trenches, AF20-03, AF20-04,, AF20-07, AF20-09, AF20-11 AF20-12, AF20-14, AF20-18 and AF20-19.

Three north to south ditches recorded in Trenches AF20-03 and AF20-05 may also be similarly agricultural in nature.

Pottery from a shallow sub-circular pit Trench AF20-16 was dated to the prehistoric period, suggesting some Bronze Age activity in the area.

Part of an undated rectilinear enclosure as identified by the geophysical survey was recorded in Trench AF20-17, with both the north to south and east to west return being excavated within this trench.

Two ditches excavated in Trench AF20-19 may correspond to two segments of a curvilinear feature present on the geophysical survey of the trench.

Features of unknown origin were excavated in Trenches AF20-08, AF20-18, and AF20-19, orientated broadly north to south and not associated with furrows. Pottery in Trench AF20-08 was dated to the second century.

6.5 Site A, Field AF23

Linear trends seen on the geophysics greyscale were excavated in Trench AF23-01 representing part of a possible enclosure. Pottery from multiple features in this trench was dated from the prehistoric (probably Iron Age) into the early Roman period.

A feature that appears to relate to a drainage ditch running alongside a former field boundary depicted on 19th and 20th century Ordnance Survey maps was recorded in Trench AF23-03.

6.6 Site A, Field AF29

No features of Archaeological significance were recorded in Field AF29.

6.7 Conclusion

In combination, the archaeological features recorded across Site A included a cluster of ring-ditch features and various enclosure or boundary ditches. Where recovered, pottery was dated from the prehistoric (Iron Age) to the Romano-British periods, providing a broad date range for the remains.

Furrows were recorded across the site, consistent with its use as arable land in the recent historic period.

Further assessment of the artefactual finds and clarification of the results from the geophysical survey will provide greater information and will be included in the final assessment report.

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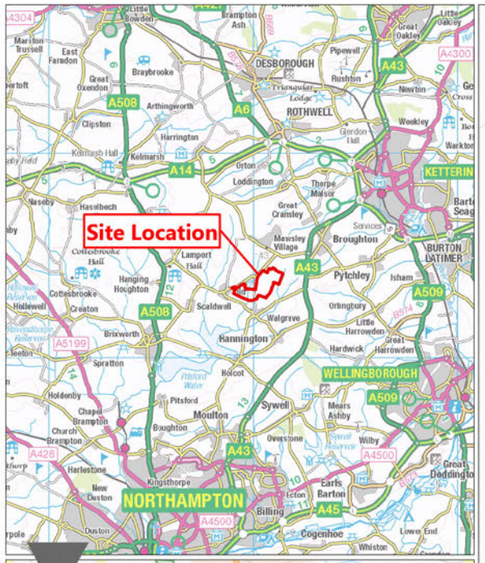
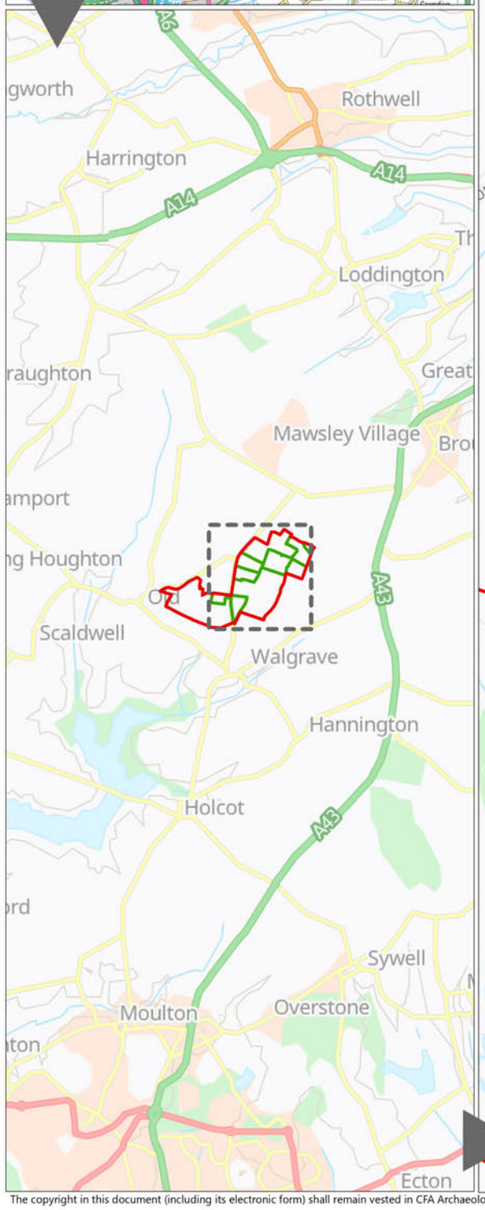
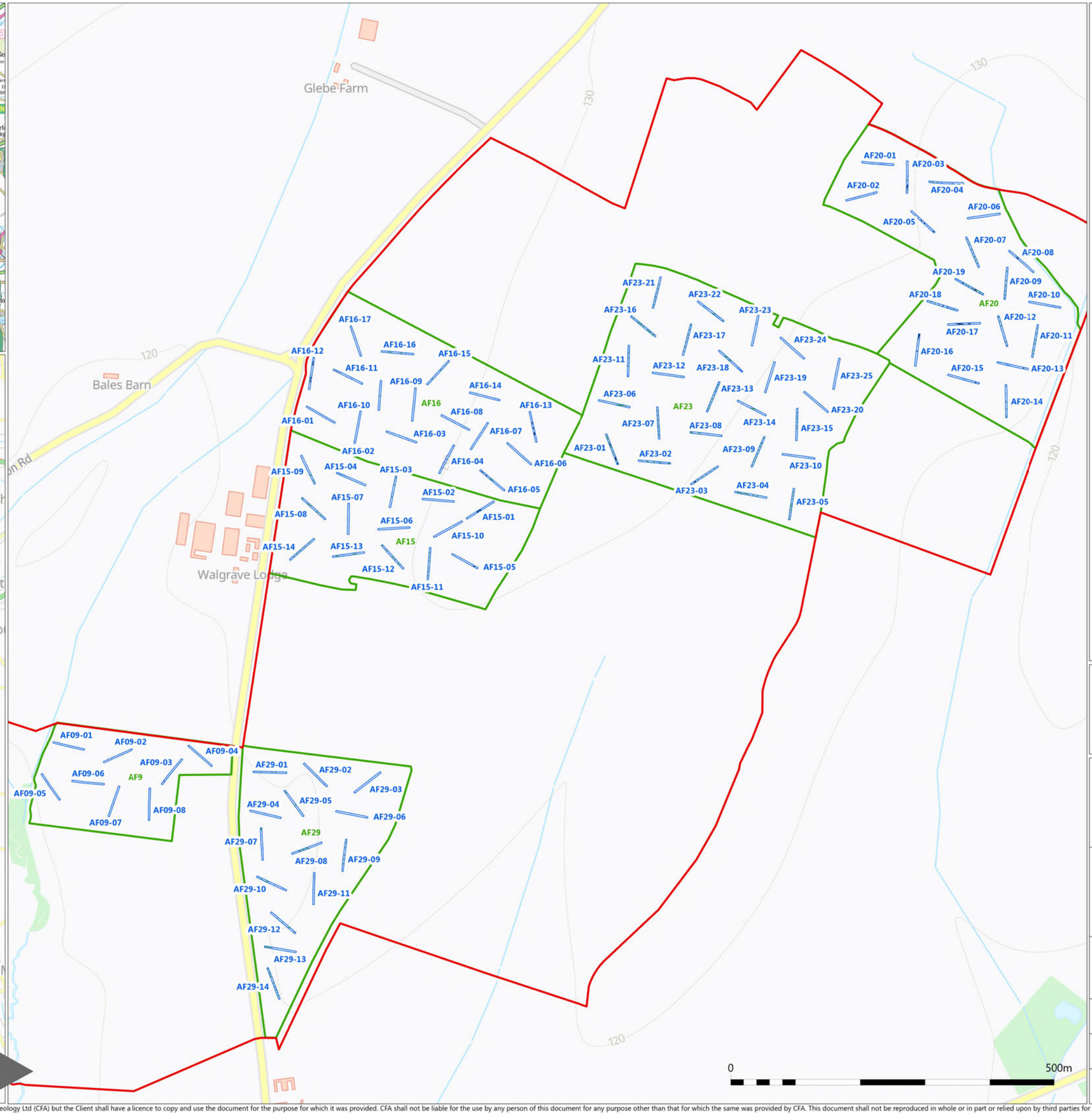
FIGURES







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- Deposit
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern
- Natural

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Title:
Site Location and Plan

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

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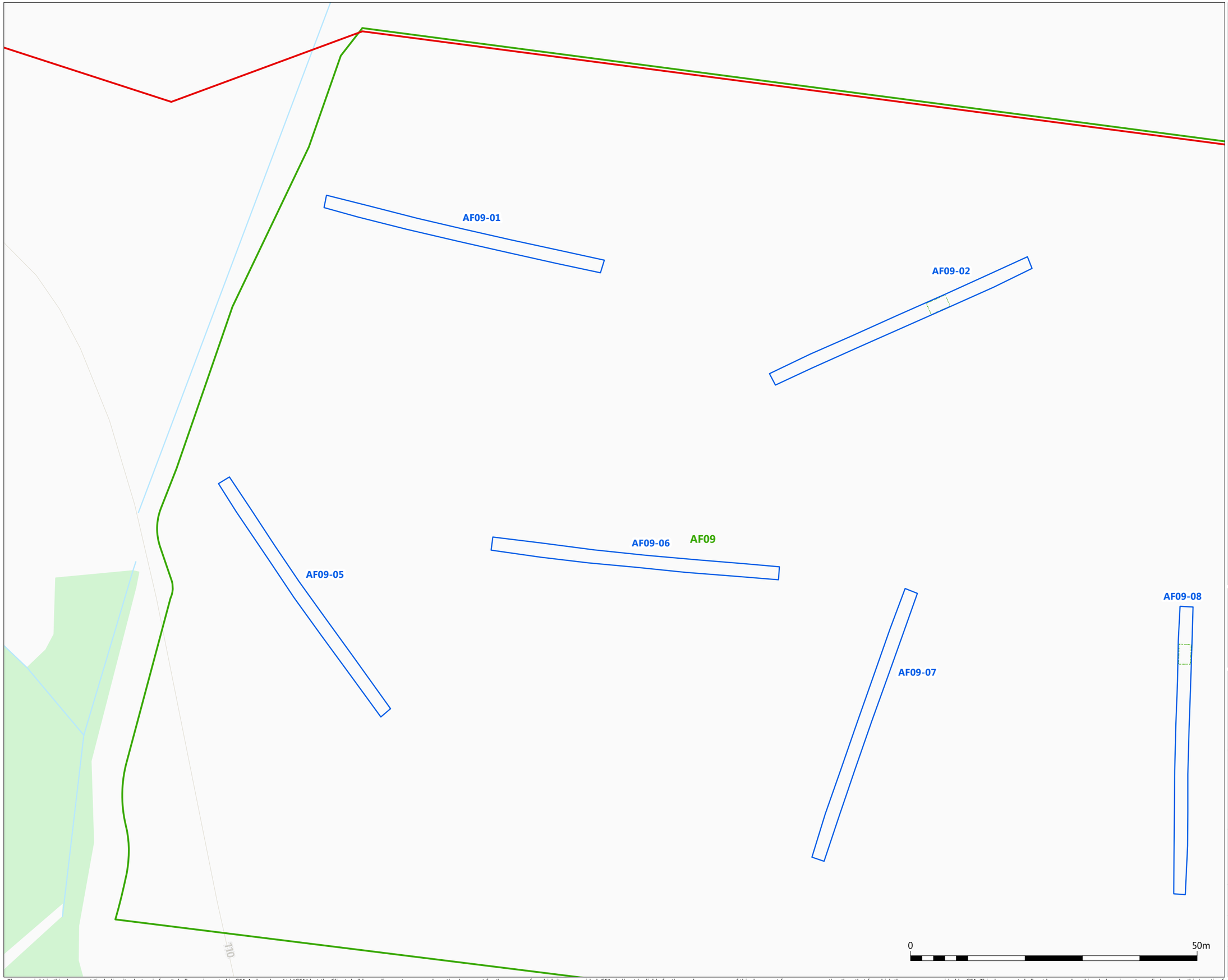

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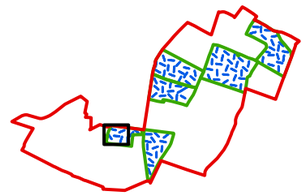

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Trench Plans
AF09

Project:
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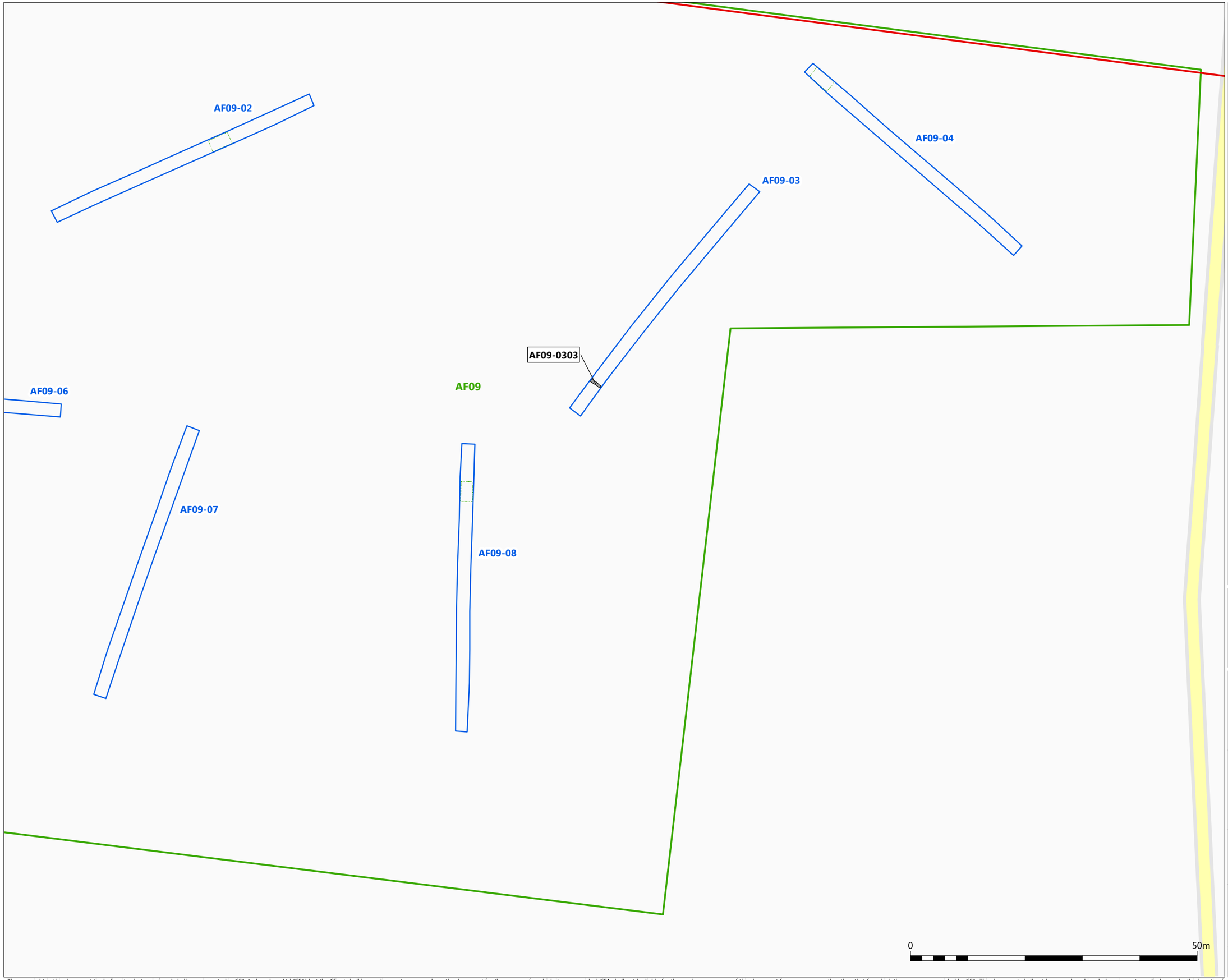

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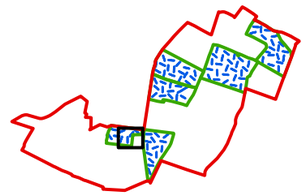

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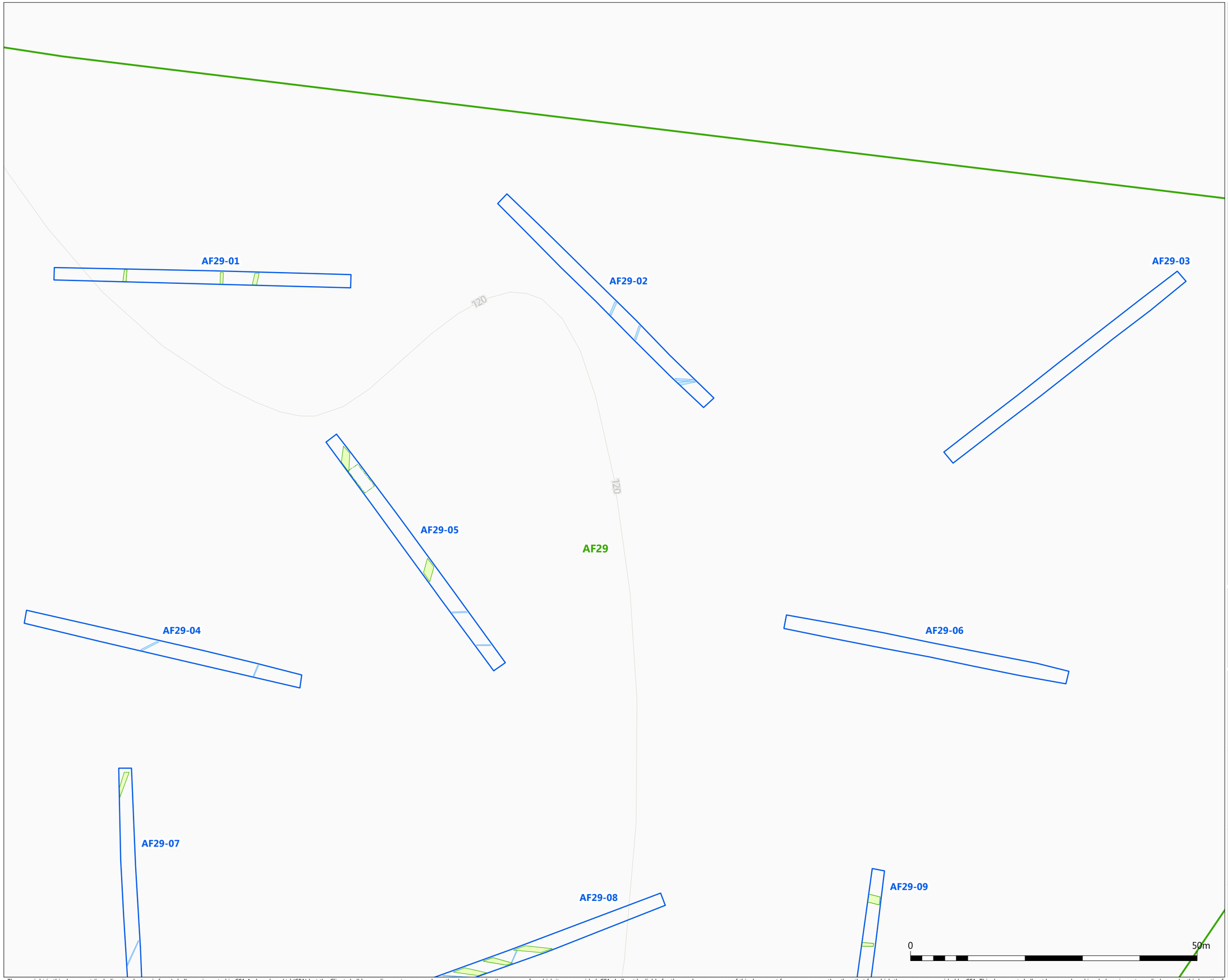

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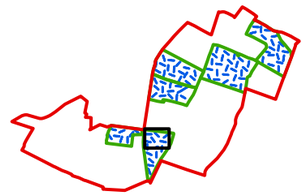
- Furrow
- Sondage



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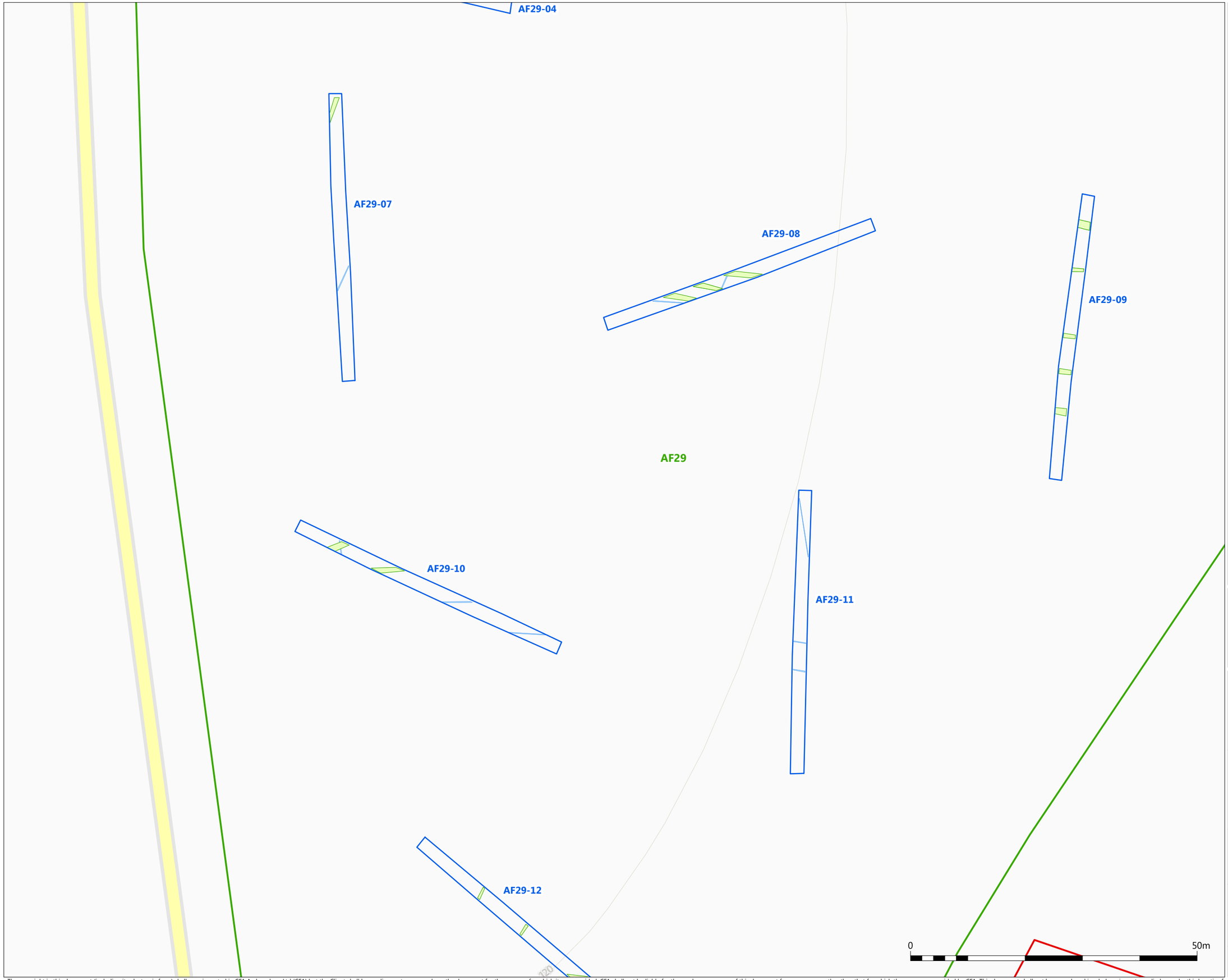

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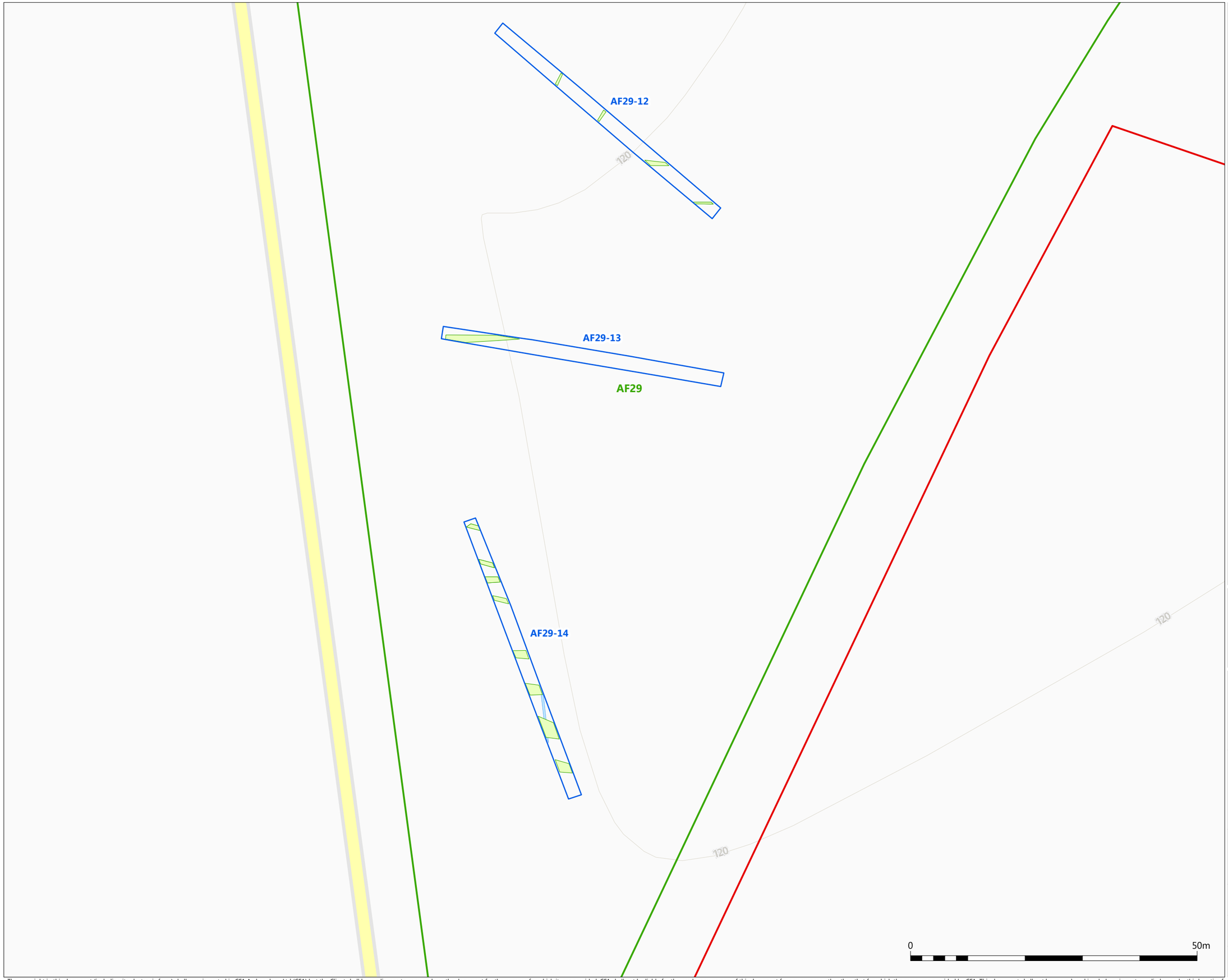

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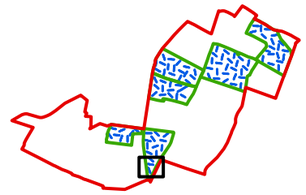

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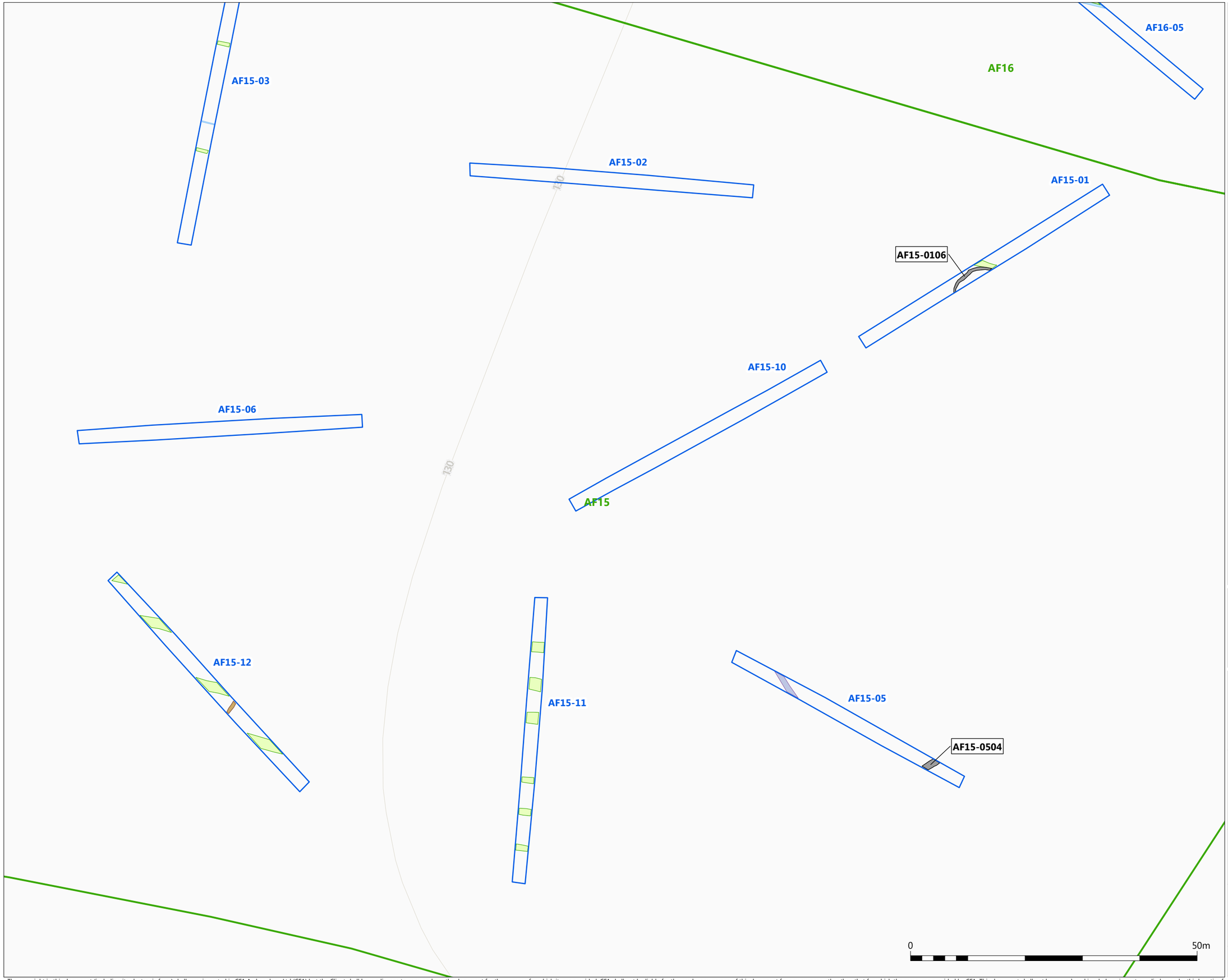

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- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Natural
- Pre-ex

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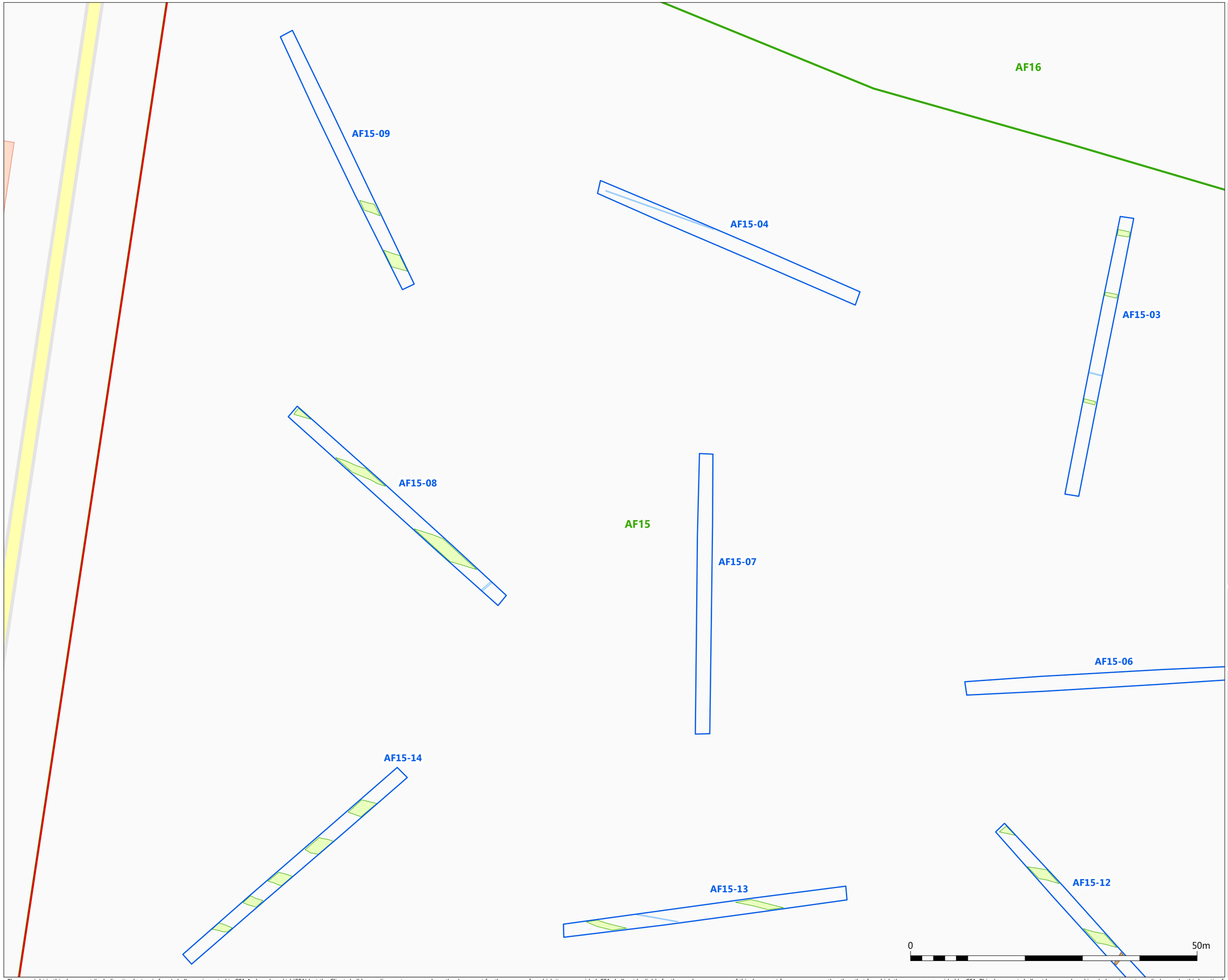

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Report No:	Fig. No:
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AF16-14

AF16-08

AF16-07

AF16-1311

AF16-13

AF16-1308

AF16-1304

AF16-1306

AF16-1304

130

AF16

AF16-04

AF16-06

AF16-0506

AF16-0504

AF16-05

AF15

0

50m

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AF16-17

AF16-16

AF16-15

AF16-11

AF16-10

AF16-09

AF16

AF16-14

AF16-02

AF16-08

AF16-07

AF16-03

AF16-04

AF15

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50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage
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AF16-17

AF16-16

AF16-1210

AF16-1208

AF16-12

AF16-1204

AF16-1206

AF16-11

AF16

AF16-10

AF16-09

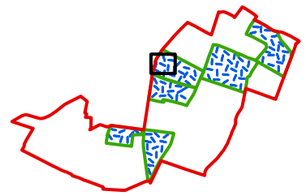
AF16-01

AF16-02

0 50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Deposit
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern
- Sondage
- Pre-ex



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans
AF15

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	14/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	2.10

AF23-06

AF23-13

AF23-07

AF23

AF23-08

AF23-0112

AF23-0110

AF23-0108

AF23-01

AF23-0118

AF23-0120

AF23-0114

AF23-0104/AF23-0106

AF23-02

AF23-03

AF23-0305

130

0 50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans
AF23

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	14/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	2.11

AF23-14

AF23-15

AF23-08

AF23-09

130

AF23-10

AF23-03

AF23

F23-0305

AF23-04

AF23-05

0

50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans
AF23

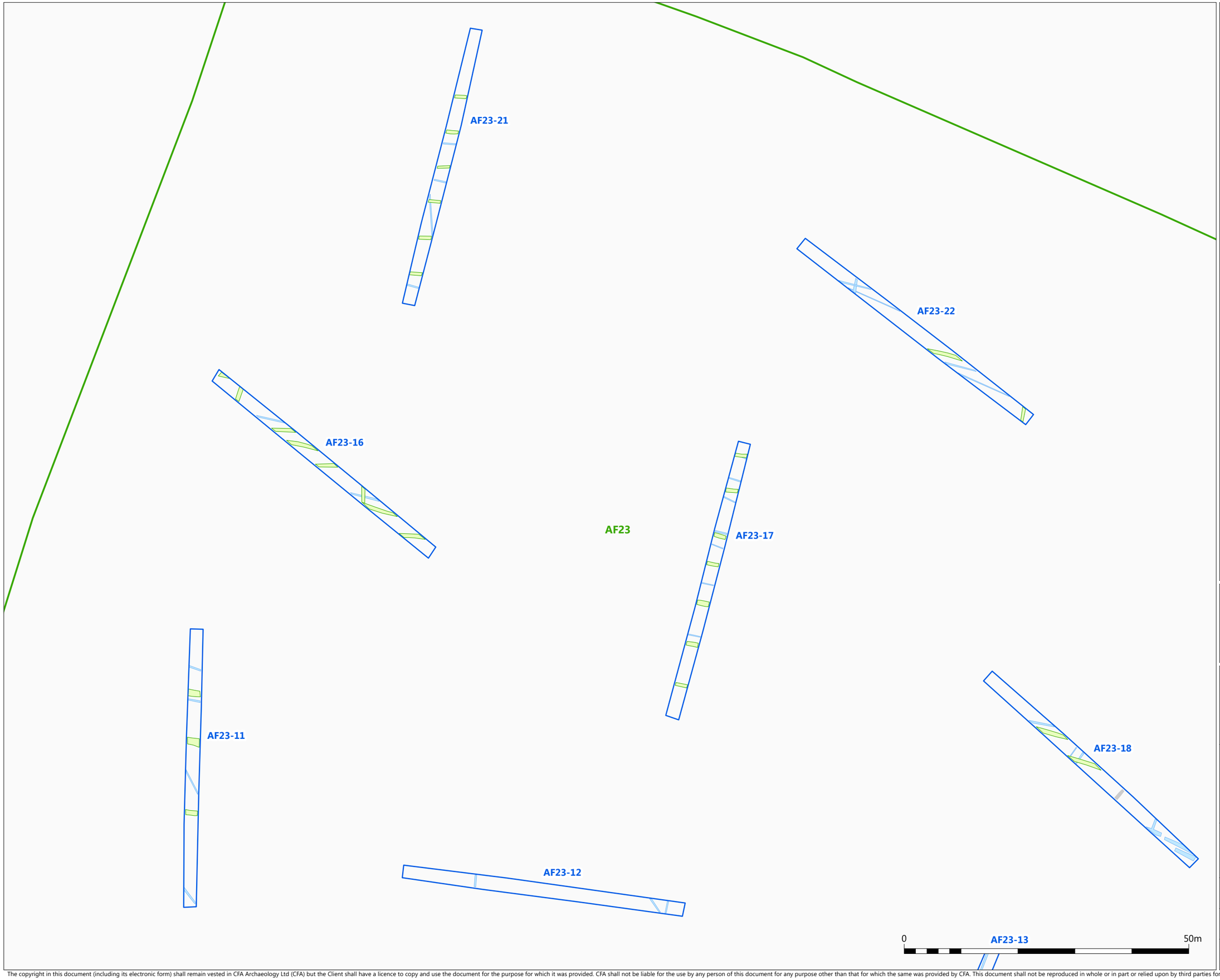
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	14/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	2.12



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans
AF23

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	14/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	2.13

AF23-22

AF23-23

130

AF23-24

AF23-18

AF23

AF23-19

AF23-25

AF23-13

AF23-20

130

AF23-14

AF23-15

0 50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern
- Pre-ex

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans
AF23

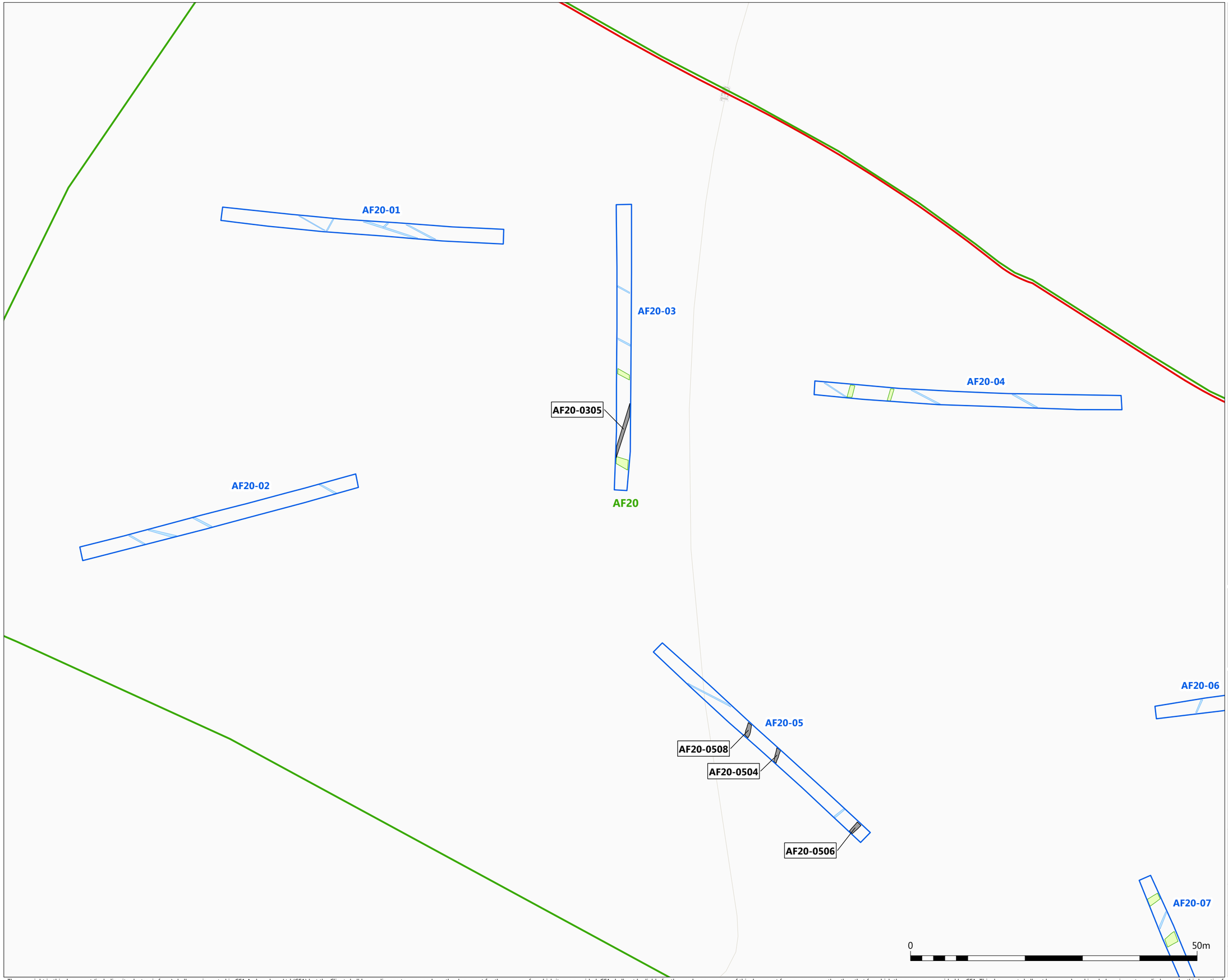
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

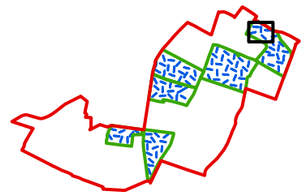
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	14/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	2.14



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans
AF20

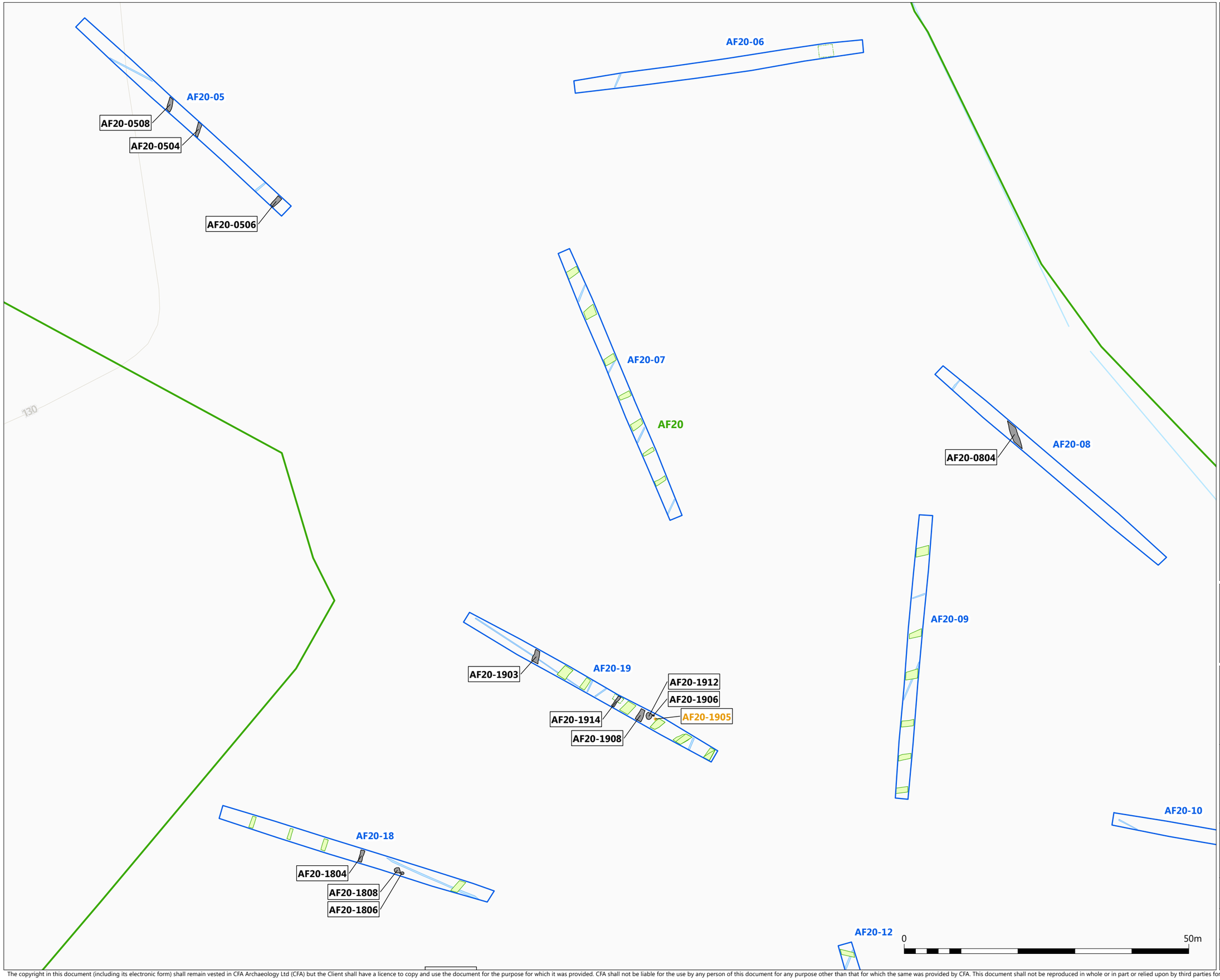
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	14/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	2.15



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Deposit
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans
AF20

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	14/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	2.16

AF20-08

AF20-09

AF20-19

AF20-1903

AF20-1912

AF20-1906

AF20-1914

AF20-1905

AF20-1908

AF20-10

AF20-18

705

03

AF20-17

AF20-1710

AF20-1707

AF20

AF20-12

AF20-11

AF20-13

AF20-1305

AF20-15

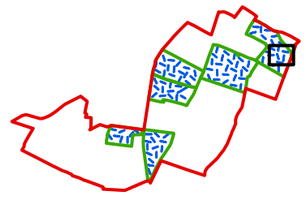
120

0

50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Deposit
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans
AF20

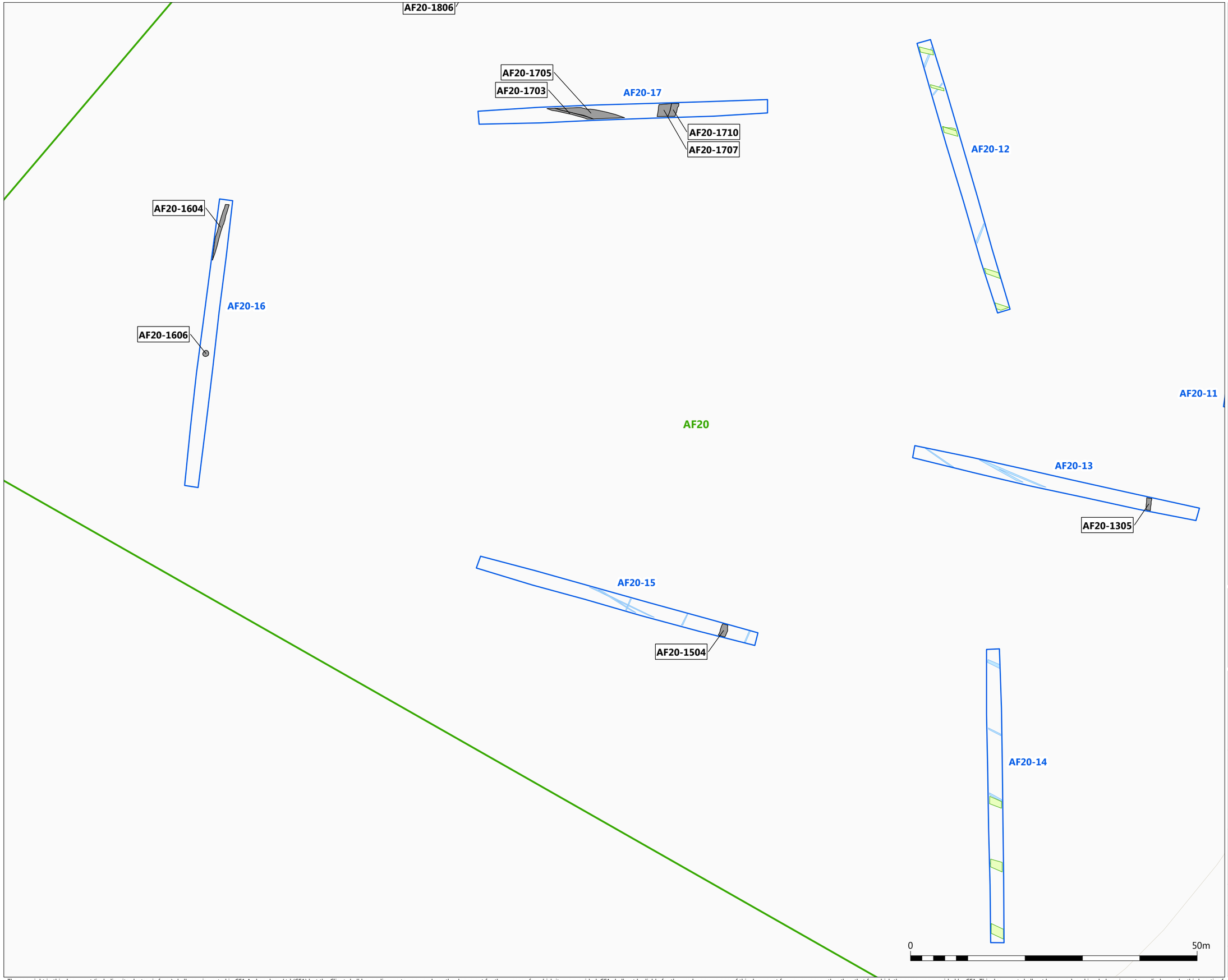
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

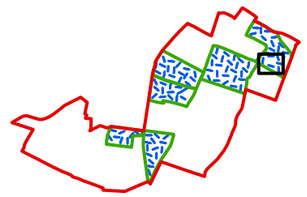
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	14/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	2.17



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans
AF20

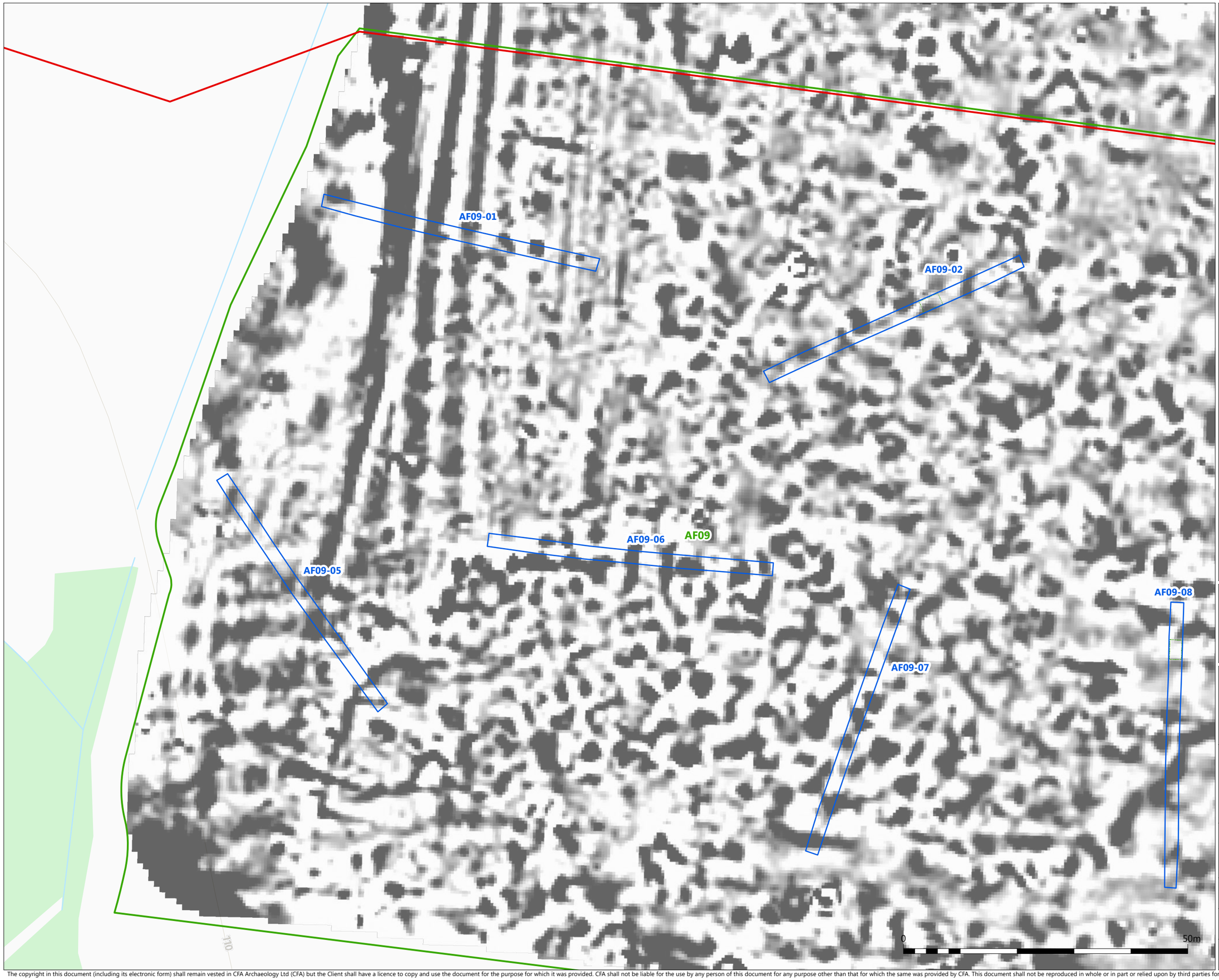
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

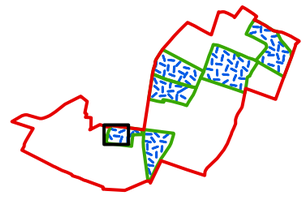
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	14/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	2.18



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Sondage



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF09

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

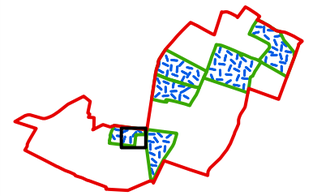
Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.1

AF09-02
AF09-04
AF09-03
AF09-0303
AF09
AF09-06
AF09-07
AF09-08

0
50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Sondage



Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF09

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.2

AF29-01

AF29-02

AF29-03

AF29-05

AF29

AF29-04

AF29-06

AF29-07

AF29-08

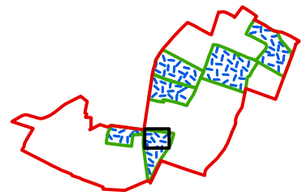
AF29-09

0

50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage



Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF29

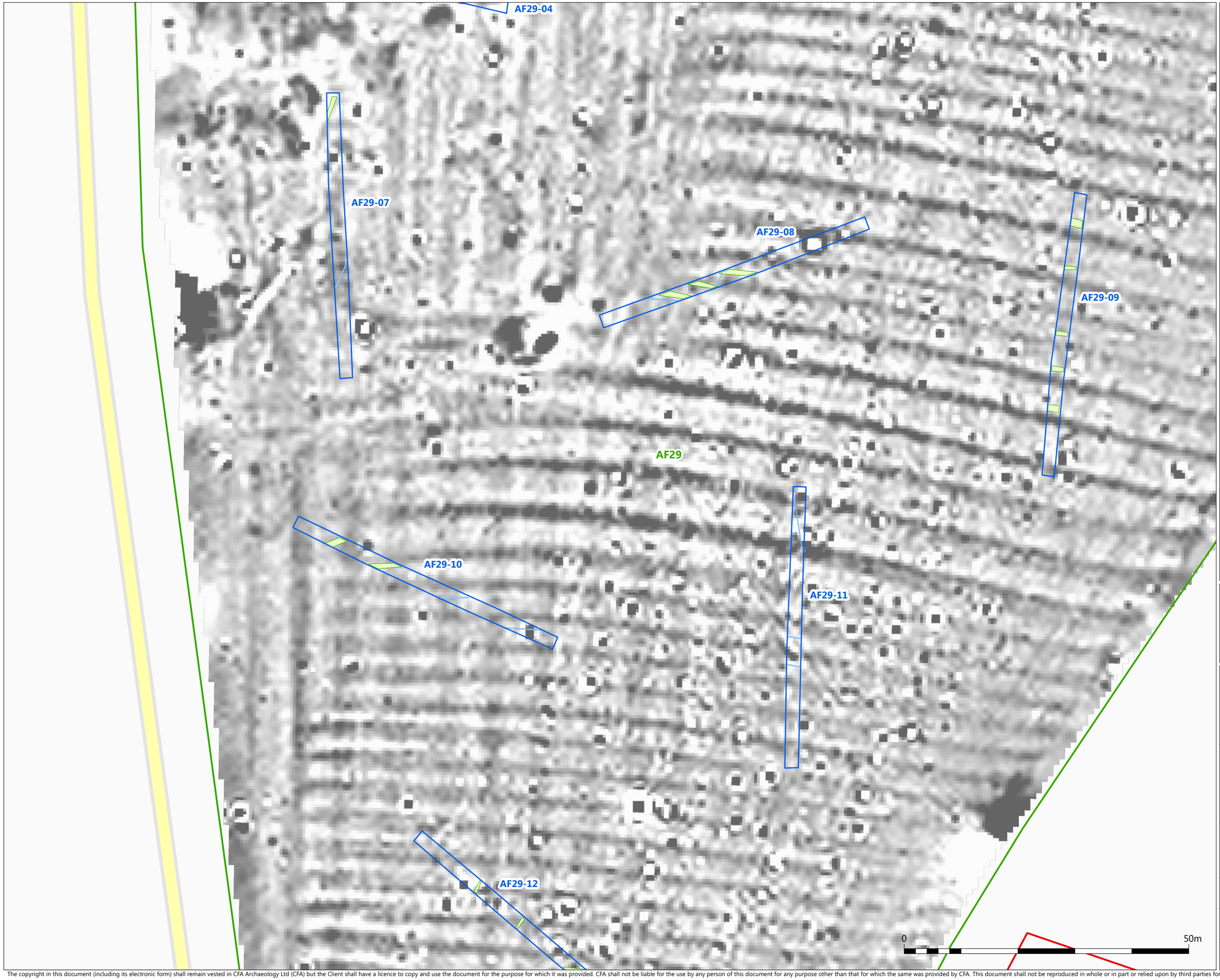
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.3



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics AF29

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.4

AF29-12

AF29-13

AF29

AF29-14

120

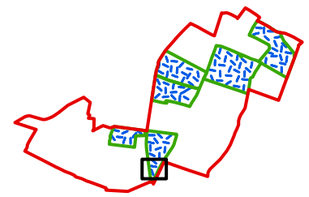
120

0

50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow



Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF29

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

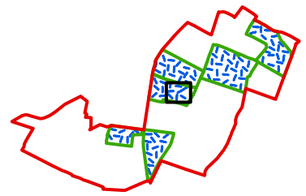
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.5

AF15-03
AF15-02
AF16
AF16-05
AF15-01
AF15-0106
AF15-10
AF15-06
AF15
AF15-12
AF15-11
AF15-05
AF15-0504
0
50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Natural
- Pre-ex



Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF15

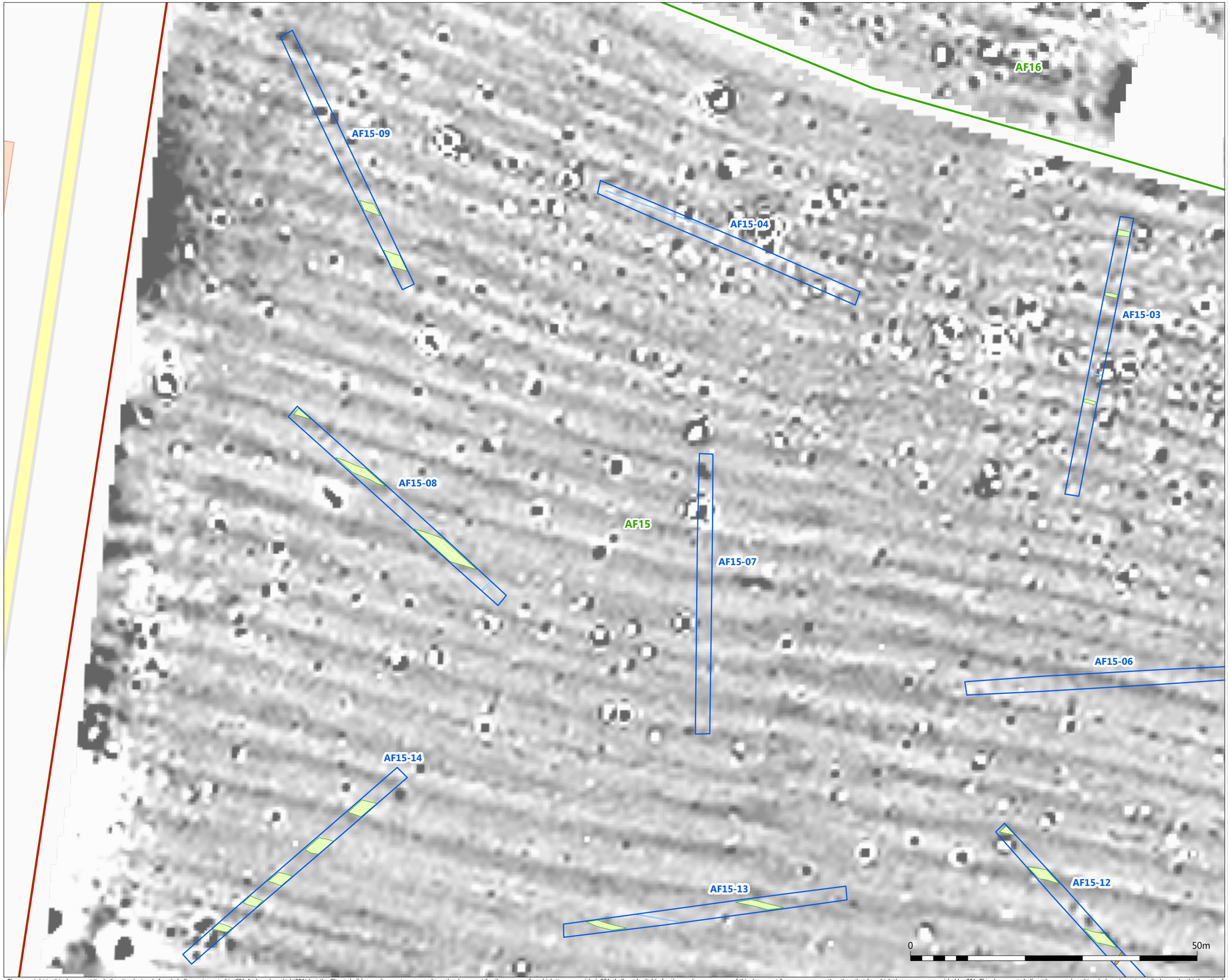
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.6



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Natural

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF15

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.7

AF16-14
AF16-08
AF16-07
AF16-1311
AF16-13
AF16-1308
AF16-1304
AF16-1306
AF16-1304
AF16
AF16-04
AF16-06
AF16-0506
AF16-0504
AF16-05
AF15
0
50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF15

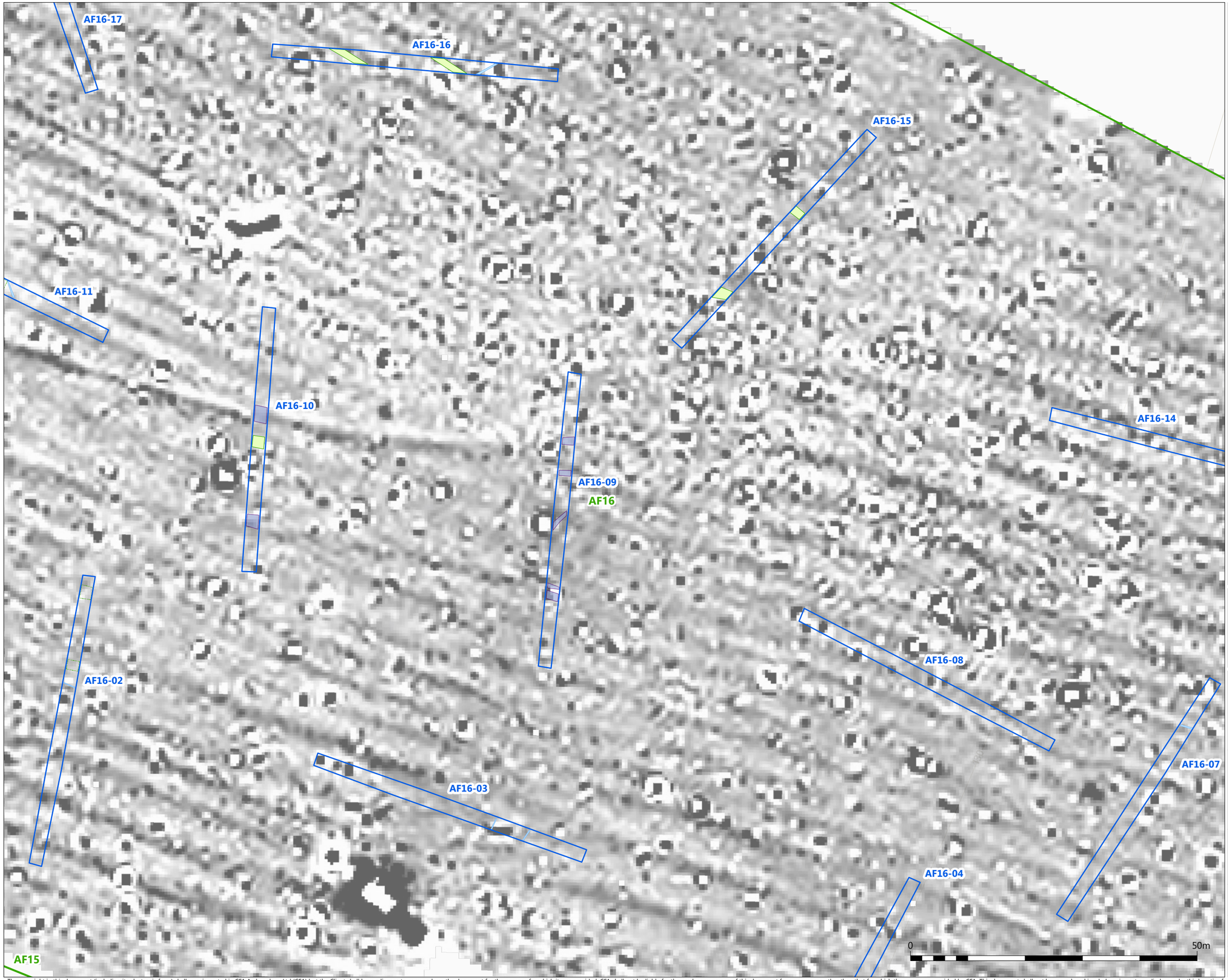
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.8



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage
- Pre-ex

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF15

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

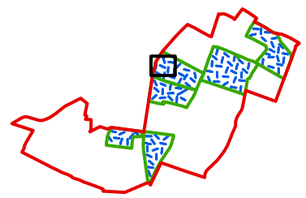
Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.9

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Deposit
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern
- Sondage
- Pre-ex



Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF15

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.10

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics AF23

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.11

AF23-14

AF23-15

AF23-08

AF23-09

AF23-10

AF23-03

AF23

F23-0305

AF23-04

AF23-05

0 50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF23

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.12

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF23

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.13

AF23-22

AF23-23

AF23-24

AF23-18

AF23-25

AF23

AF23-19

AF23-13

AF23-20

AF23-14

AF23-15

0

50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Modern
- Pre-ex

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF23

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

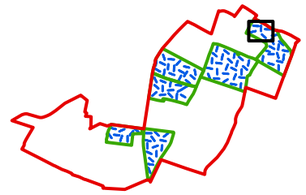
Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.14

AF20-01
AF20-02
AF20-03
AF20-04
AF20-05
AF20-06
AF20-07
AF20-0305
AF20-0508
AF20-0504
AF20-0506
AF20

0
50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow



Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF20

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.15

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Deposit
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF20

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

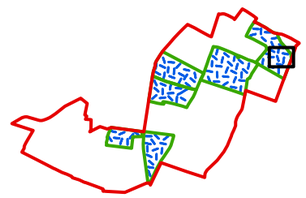
Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.16

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Deposit
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage



Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF20

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

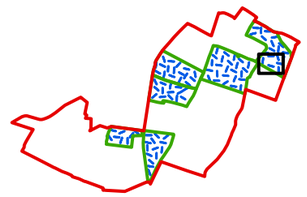
Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.17

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage



Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans Overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics
AF20

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Fields 9, 15, 16, 20, 23, & 29: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:600

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	01/04/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4575	3.18

Appendix 1: Trench Strata Summary

Trench Number	Topsoil Depth (m)	Subsoil Depth (m)	Trench Depth (m)
AF09-01	0.32-0.18	0	0.32-0.18
AF09-02	0.20 (avg.)	0.15 (avg.)	0.35 (avg.)
AF09-03	0.15 (avg.)	0.20 (avg.)	0.35 (avg.)
AF09-04	0.18 (avg.)	0.07 (avg.)	0.25 (avg.)
AF09-05	0.17 (avg.)	0	0.17 (avg)
AF09-06	0.39-0.30	0	0.39-0.30
AF09-07	0.25 (avg.)	0.40(avg.)	0.65 (avg.)
AF09-08	0.30 (avg.)	0.20 (avg)	0.50 (avg.)
AF15-01	0.25-0.30	0.07 (avg.)	0.32-0.37
AF15-02	0.26 (avg.)	0.12-0.16	0.38-0.42
AF15-03	0.26 (avg.)	0.03-0.36	0.29-0.62
AF15-04	0.24 (avg.)	0.20-0.25	0.44-0.49
AF15-06	0.23 (avg.)	0.28-0.21	0.51-0.54
AF15-07	0.28 (avg.)	0.21-0.41	0.49-0.69
AF15-08	0.27 (avg.)	0.01-0.03	0.30-0.28
AF15-09	0.30 (avg.)	0.03-0.41	0.33-0.71
AF15-10	0.28 (avg.)	0.08-0.12	0.36-0.40
AF15-11	0.26 (avg.)	0.12-0.13	0.38-0.39
AF15-12	0.24 (avg.)	0.09-0.23	0.47-0.31
AF15-13	0.25 (avg.)	0.22-0.38	0.63-0.47
AF15-14	0.30 (avg.)	0.02-0.10	0.32-0.40
AF16-01	0.25-0.30	0.33-0.74	0.58-1.04
AF16-02	0.26 (avg.)	0.44-1.24	0.70-1.50
AF16-03	0.26 (avg.)	0.32-0.74	0.58-1.00
AF16-04	0.20 (avg.)	0.11-0.16	0.31-0.36
AF16-05	0.22 (avg.)	0.15-0.20	0.37-0.42
AF16-06	0.24 (avg)	0.23-0.25	0.47-0.49
AF16-07	0.28 (avg.)	0.19-0.23	0.47-0.51
AF16-08	0.29 (avg.)	0.07-0.09	0.36-0.38
AF16-09	0.30 (avg.)	0.35-0.61	0.65-0.91
AF16-10	0.32 (avg.)	0.33-0.59	0.65-0.91
AF16-11	0.31 (avg.)	1.19 (avg.)	1.50 (avg.)
AF16-12	0.30-0.25	0.60-0.95	0.90-1.20
AF16-13	0.28 (avg.)	0.29-0.34	0.57-0.62
AF16-14	0.29 (avg.)	0.13-0.19	0.42-0.48
AF16-15	0.21 (avg.)	0.51 (avg.)	0.71 (avg.)
AF16-16	0.30-0.34	0.04-0.13	0.34-0.47
AF16-17	0.30-0.24	0.65-0.20	0.95-0.44
AF20-01	0.27-0.30	0.15-0.20	0.50 (avg.)

Trench Number	Topsoil Depth (m)	Subsoil Depth (m)	Trench Depth (m)
AF20-02	0.35 (avg.)	0.20 (avg.)	0.62 (avg.)
AF20-03	0.25-0.30	0.12-0.16	0.40 (avg.)
AF20-04	0.35 (avg.)	0.20 (avg.)	0.68 (avg.)
AF20-05	0.32 (avg.)	0.11 (avg.)	0.53 (avg.)
AF20-06	0.45 (avg.)	0.45 (avg.)	0.90 (avg.)
AF20-07	0.33 (avg.)	0.06 (avg.)	0.39 (avg.)
AF20-08	0.33 (avg.)	0.49 (avg.)	0.82 (avg.)
AF20-09	0.30 (avg.)	0.13 (avg.)	0.43 (avg.)
AF20-10	0.35 (avg.)	0.40 (avg.)	0.77 (avg.)
AF20-11	0.34 (avg.)	0.09 (avg.)	0.45 (avg.)
AF20-12	0.26 (avg.)	0.08 (avg.)	0.34 (avg.)
AF20-13	0.33 (avg.)	0.14 (avg.)	0.52 (avg.)
AF20-14	0.35 (avg.)	0.10 (avg.)	0.50 (avg.)
AF20-15	0.30-0.36	0.11-0.14	0.41-0.50
AF20-16	0.25-0.41	0.10-0.39	0.35-0.80
AF20-17	0.26 (avg.)	0.13 (avg.)	0.37 (avg.)
AF20-18	0.31 (avg.)	0.20 (avg.)	0.54 (avg.)
AF20-19	0.22 (avg.)	0.31 (avg.)	0.50 (avg.)
AF23-01	0.12 (avg.)	0.07 (avg.)	0.19 (avg)
AF23-02	0.11 (avg.)	0.30 (avg.)	0.60 (avg.)
AF23-03	0.20 (avg.)	0.25 (avg.)	0.77 (avg.)
AF23-04	0.22 (avg.)	0.15 (avg.)	0.37 (avg.)
AF23-05	0.08 (avg.)	0.23 (avg.)	0.44 (avg.)
AF23-06	0.17 (avg.)	0.28 (avg.)	0.45 (avg.)
AF23-07	0.09 (avg.)	0.12 (avg.)	0.39 (avg.)
AF23-08	0.12 (avg.)	0.15 (avg.)	0.56 (avg.)
AF23-09	0.11 (avg.)	0.19 (avg.)	0.43 (avg.)
AF23-10	0.10 (avg.)	0.25 (avg.)	0.80 (avg.)
AF23-11	0.11 (avg.)	0.12 (avg.)	0.41 (avg.)
AF23-12	0.25 (avg.)	0.22 (avg.)	0.47 (avg.)
AF23-13	0.30 (avg.)	0.23 (avg.)	0.53 (avg.)
AF23-14	0.24 (avg.)	0.08-0.17	0.32-0.41
AF23-15	0.24-0.30	0.06-0.40	0.30-0.70
AF23-16	0.20 (avg.)	0.25 (avg.)	0.45 (avg.)
AF23-17	0.25 (avg.)	0.20 (avg.)	0.45 (avg.)
AF23-18	0.20 (avg.)	0.25 (avg.)	0.71 (avg.)
AF23-19	0.24 (avg.)	0.27-0.33	0.51-0.57
AF23-20	0.26 (avg.)	1.13-1.18	1.39-1.44
AF23-21	0.23 (avg.)	0.12 (avg.)	0.45 (avg.)
AF23-22	0.25 (avg.)	0.25 (avg.)	0.50 (avg.)
AF23-23	0.28 (avg.)	0.24 (avg.)	0.52 (avg.)
AF23-24	0.26 (avg.)	0.12-0.16	0.48-0.52
AF23-25	0.25 (avg.)	0.25 (avg.)	0.90 (avg.)

Trench Number	Topsoil Depth (m)	Subsoil Depth (m)	Trench Depth (m)
AF29-01	0.30 (avg.)	0.16 (avg.)	0.46 (avg.)
AF29-02	0.25-0.09	0.70-0.20	0.33-0.95
AF29-03	0.29-0.20	0.10 (avg.)	0.39 (avg.)
AF29-04	0.20 (avg.)	0.15 (avg.)	0.25-0.45
AF29-05	0.22-0.28	0.10-0.40	0.32-0.68
AF29-06	0.24-0.30	0.06-0.36	0.30-0.66
AF29-07	0.26-0.30	0.12-0.14	0.40-0.42
AF29-08	0.28-0.31	0.24-0.59	0.52-0.90
AF29-09	0.32 (avg.)	0.06-0.16	0.38-0.48
AF29-10	0.30-0.35	0.20-0.45	0.50-1.00
AF29-11	0.30-0.25	0.15-0.10	0.47-0.35
AF29-12	0.30-0.32	0.01-0.31	0.61-0.33
AF29-13	0.31-0.34	0.01-0.24	0.58-0.32
AF29-14	0.24-0.35	0.04-0.16	0.51-0.28

Appendix 2: OASIS Summary

OASIS Summary for cfaarcha1-531971

OASIS ID (UID)	cfaarcha1-531971
Project Name	Archaeological Evaluation at Greenhill Solar Farm
Sitename	Greenhill Solar Farm: Site A2, Green Hill Solar, Site C, North Northamptonshire, United Kingdom, Green Hill Solar, Site E, West Northamptonshire, United Kingdom, Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Northamptonshire, Green Hill Solar Farm, Site B, Northamptonshire
Sitecode	GHSO, GHSO2, GHSO5, GHSO3, GHSO4
Project Identifier(s)	GHSO
Activity type	Evaluation
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Lanpro Archaeology + Heritage
Project Dates	05-Aug-2024 - 14-Mar-2025
Location	Greenhill Solar Farm: Site A2 NGR : SP 82245 72912 LL : 52.348121009528036, -0.794024387778809 12 Fig : 482245,272912 Green Hill Solar, Site C, North Northamptonshire, United Kingdom NGR : SP 89169 67889 LL : 52.30189012757474, -0.693731233477592 12 Fig : 489169,267889 NGR : SP 83473 68395 LL : 52.30733605482163, -0.7771241593268 12 Fig : 483473,268395 Green Hill Solar, Site E, West Northamptonshire, United Kingdom NGR : SP 80219 72183 LL : 52.34186503070412, -0.823932364583015 12 Fig : 480219,272183 NGR : SP 80557 73653 LL : 52.35503552761861, -0.818615495602427 12 Fig : 480557,273653 Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Northamptonshire NGR : SP 80333 73528 LL : 52.3539408089448, -0.821939853235936 12 Fig : 480333,273528 Green Hill Solar Farm, Site B, Northamptonshire NGR : SP 79327 68435 LL : 52.3083094990601, -0.837907204714243 12 Fig : 479327,268435

Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : West Northamptonshire Local Authority District : West Northamptonshire Parish : Walgrave County/Local Authority : North Northamptonshire Local Authority District : North Northamptonshire Parish : Wellingborough, unparished area Parish : Mears Ashby Parish : Sywell Parish : Old Parish : Holcot
Project Methodology	The proposed Green Hill Solar Farm comprises nine sites (Green Hill A, A2, B, C, D, E, F, G, and BESS). Eight of the sites are located between Northampton and Wellingborough in Northamptonshire (Green Hill A to F and BESS). Site G is located to the north of Lavendon in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Collectively, the sites cover approximately 1224ha within a swathe of land measuring approximately 23km from north to south and11.5km from east to west. During the excavation of the evaluation trenches, the topsoil and recent overburden were removed down to the natural substrate in successive level spits of a maximum 0.2m thickness, using a tracked machine equipped with a wide toothless ditching bucket. The groundwork was carried out under direct archaeological supervision. All the exposed features were cleaned and excavated by hand. The sections of the excavated features were drawn at a 1:10 scale and planned at a 1:20 scale. All archaeological features were scanned with an XR ADX150 metal detector prior, during, and after excavation. The trenches and all archaeological remains were surveyed and tied into the National Grid using a Trimble GPS.
Project Results	Archaeological evaluation trial trenching was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd at the proposed Green Hill Solar Farm from August 2024 to March 2025 to inform a planning application for a solar farm development. The archaeological features recorded across the Sites are indicative of rural settlement and agricultural practice dating from the Iron Age into the Roman periods. These features include rectilinear enclosures of varying complexity, probable round houses, and boundary ditches which may have served as land divisions or functional drainage.
Keywords	
Funder	Private or public corporation Greenhill Solar Farm Ltd
HER	Northamptonshire SMR - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	P Mann
HER Identifiers	
Archives	

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Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A2 Northamptonshire

Report type: Interim- Archaeological Evaluation
Report No. 4573

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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard operating procedures.

Green Hill Solar Farm
Site A2
Northamptonshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Interim Report
Report No. 4573

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Summary

Archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd at Site A2, Field A2F4 of the Green Hill Solar Project in August 2024 to inform a planning application for a solar farm development. The purpose of the archaeological works was to identify and record any remains of archaeological and historical significance.

Field A2F4 shows evidence of having been heavily ploughed since at least the medieval period, which will have impacted any shallow archaeological deposits. Despite this, evidence for a rectilinear or D-shaped enclosure was found to the eastern end of the site, with prehistoric pottery from one of the trenches potentially dating it to the Iron Age. Other linear features across the site had uncertain origins, but Roman pottery recovered from one trench suggests that there was activity in the area during this period. In combination, these are indicative of rural settlement and agricultural practice dating from the Late Iron Age into the Roman period.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation trenching investigation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) for Lanpro on behalf of Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd, with evaluation trenching taking place between the 5th and the 20th of August 2024. The CFA site code and project number for the works are GHSO and 5288, respectively.

The work was conducted in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), produced by CFA Archaeology (Walker 2024, Appendix 3) and approved by the Northamptonshire Council Lead Planning Archaeologist.

The works were required in support of an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for a solar development. The development scheme consists of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) site and eight electricity generating sites, each with a capacity of over 50 megawatts (MW) consisting of ground mounted solar arrays and 'Associated Development'; comprising of energy storage, grid connection infrastructure, and other infrastructure integral to the construction, operation, and maintenance of the scheme.

1.1 Site Location and Description

The proposed Green Hill Solar Farm comprises nine Sites (Green Hill A, A2, B, C, D, E, F, G, and BESS). Eight of the sites are located between Northampton and Wellingborough in Northamptonshire (Green Hill A to F and BESS). Site G is located to the north of Lavendon in the borough of Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Collectively, the sites cover approximately 1224ha within a swathe of land measuring approximately 23km from north to south and11.5km from east to west.

Site A2 (hereafter 'the Site') is located to the east of Walgrave centred at NGR SP 82094 72729 (Fig. 1). It is comprised of arable fields, surrounded by further fields and scattered agricultural buildings.

The bedrock geology of the site is comprised of Wellingborough Limestone Member - limestone and mudstone, interbedded. Stamford Member - Sandstone and Siltstone, Interbedded and Rutland Formation – Mudstone are also present in Fields A.2F2 – A.2F4. The superficial deposits of the area are Oadby Member – Diamicton, a sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period (BGS 2025). It has lime-rich loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (LandIS 2025).

1.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

A full archaeological and historic background is available in the Desk Based Assessment for a combined 1km study area surrounding Site A2 and Site A (which is located *c.*790m to the north-west of Site A2 at its nearest point) (Lanpro 2024), and the relevant information from this document is summarised below.

In the wider 1km search area, surrounding Sites A and A2, there are 28 listed buildings (two Grade I and twenty-six Grade II). The Northamptonshire HER records 130 'monument' entries within the 1km search area, one of which (HER 3803/02) is recorded as being partially within Site A2.

Prehistoric

The Jurassic Way (HER 195) runs to the east of Site A2, following the route of the modern Kettering Road (A43), the HER polygon partially extends into Field A2F1.

Roman

A probable Romano-British settlement was identified by metal detecting to the south-east of Site A and north-west of Site A2 that is recorded by the HER and extending eastwards to within c.420m of Field A2F2 (HER 8924).

Medieval

There are two scheduled monuments within the combined 1km search area: Walgrave moated site (NHLE 1011036) is located c.1.34km to the west of Site A2 and c.500m south of Site A, and Walgrave Medieval village (NHLE 1418583) is located c.730m to the south-west of Site A2.

The PAS database contains two records of a medieval date: a medieval finger ring (NARC-FBA57F) and a medieval coin weight (NARC-75D190), both of which were found in Field A2F4.

1.3 Previous Work

A geophysical gradiometer survey has been undertaken across the entirety of the Green Hill Solar Project area (ASWYAS 2024). Geophysical survey has detected rectilinear anomalies in the east of Field A2F1, which appear to have been truncated by a modern utility, and their form is suggestive of prehistoric or Roman activity. Further anomalies with archaeological potential were identified in Field A2F4. Rectilinear and curvilinear anomalies were recorded in the east of Field A2F4 that are likely to date to either the prehistoric or Roman periods. A subcircular anomaly was recorded in the north-west of the field which is potentially indicative of prehistoric activity.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In accordance with the WSI (Walker 2024), the overall aim of the archaeological works was to obtain sufficient information to establish the presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits within the PDA. This will allow reasoned and informed recommendations to be made for further archaeological mitigation works, the scope of which would be detailed in a project design in agreement with the Archaeological Advisor(s) to the relevant Local Planning Authority(s).

This was achieved through the following objectives:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any archaeological remains within the PDA;
- To excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance;
- To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site;
- To assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence;
- To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- To undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features;
- To report the results of the archaeological assessment and place them in their local and regional context; and
- To compile and deposit a site archive and to provide information for the HER.

2.1 Regional Research Framework

Targeted research priorities will be identified from the East Midlands Regional Research Framework (Research Frameworks 2024) in the complete report, forthcoming. Targeted research priorities may include:

Neolithic and Early to Middle Bronze Age

- *3.1.2: How can we date more precisely the various regional styles of Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age pottery?*
- *3.8.1: Can we identify intra-regional variations in the character of sites and artefacts and what might these signify in social or economic terms?*
- *3.9.2: How far may petrographic and other scientific analyses contribute to our understanding of systems of ceramic production and distribution?*

Romano-British

- *5.4.1: How did the Conquest impact upon rural settlements and landscapes?*
- *5.4.2: How and why did settlement forms and building traditions vary within the region and over time?*
- *5.4.4: How did field and boundary systems relate to earlier systems of land allotment, and how did these boundary networks develop over time?*
- *5.4.5: What patterns can be discerned in the location of settlements in the landscape?*
- *5.6.1: What resources moved in and out of the region during this period?*
- *5.6.3: How may studies of the production, movement and consumption of pottery contribute to understanding of the regional economy?*

3 WORKING METHODS

3.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd is a registered organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). CFA Archaeology follows all relevant CIfA and Historic England (formerly English Heritage) Standards and Guidance (CIfA 2020a, 2020b, 2022, 2023a & 2023b, English Heritage 2006, 2008, 2011 & 2012 and Historic England 2015a & 2015b).

All features and trenches were surveyed using an industry standard Trimble GPS. The same equipment was used to establish the levels above Ordnance Datum (aOD) for the areas of archaeological investigation. Modern finds (c. 20th-century onwards) were identified but not retained.

A summary of the results of the archaeological works has been submitted for inclusion in the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS V, Appendix 2). The OASIS reference is cfaarcha1-531971.

3.2 Method of Excavation

A total of 43 50m x 2m evaluation trenches were excavated across the Site (Figs. 1 & 2). These works were carried out in accordance with the methods specified in the WSI.

During the excavation of the evaluation trenches, the topsoil and recent overburden were removed down to the natural substrate in successive level spits of a maximum 0.2m thickness, using a tracked machine equipped with a wide toothless ditching bucket. The groundwork was carried out under direct archaeological supervision. All the exposed features were cleaned and excavated by hand. The sections of the excavated features were drawn at a 1:10 scale and planned at a 1:20 scale (Figs., in prep).

All archaeological features were scanned with an XR ADX150 metal detector prior, during, and after excavation. The trenches and all archaeological remains were surveyed and tied into the National Grid using a Trimble GPS.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

The location of the excavated trenches can be seen in Figure 1. The trenches containing archaeological features are described below. These results should be read in conjunction with Figures 1 & 2. A table detailing depth of topsoil and subsoil for each trench can be found in Appendix 1. Recorded trenches and archaeological features are prefixed by the site designation (A2) and field number (F4).

Unless otherwise stated, no finds were recovered from the following features.

4.1 Factual Summary of Key Archaeological Findings

Field A2F4

A total of 43 trenches were excavated, of which 15 contained archaeological features (Trenches A2F4-01, A2F4-02, A2F4-04, A2F4-11, A2F4-17, A2F4-18, A2F4-20, A2F4-23, A2F4-24, A2F4-32, A2F4-33, A2F4-34, A2F4-35, A2F4-39, and A2F4-42).

Colluvium deposits were noted in multiple trenches (A2F4-02, A2F4-05, A2F4-06, A2F4-13, A2F4-17, A2F4-19, A2F4-27, A2F4-30, A2F4-31, and A2F4-43). It varied in colour from light orangey yellow to mid-yellowish brown and was generally a moist, plastic silty clay with varying flint and chalk inclusions. Colluvial deposits ranged in depth from 0.25m to 0.85m but were, on average, 0.5m.

4.2 Results by Trench

4.2.1 Field A2F4

Trench A2F4-01 (Fig. 2a)

Trench A2F4-01 contained a ditch and a paleochannel. Located in the centre of the trench, Ditch **A2F4-01004** was orientated north-west to south-east and measured greater than 1m long, greater than 1.3m wide, and greater than 0.28m deep (Plate 1).

It had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break of slope to a rounded base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-01005**) of firm, mid-greyish yellow clay with orange mottling and occasional small chalk inclusions. This is on the same alignment as regularly spaced geophysical anomalies so suggestive of agriculture, possibly Roman cultivation.

Plate 1: South-east facing section of Ditch A2F4-01004

Paleochannel **A2F4-01006**, orientated north-west to south-east, measured 1.8m long, 4.35m wide, and 0.4m deep. It was located at the south-western end of the trench and had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break of slope to a rounded base and contained two fills. The basal fill (**A2F4-01007**) was a firm mid-brownish orange clayey silt with occasional angular to sub-rounded stone inclusions, measuring 2m wide and 0.19m deep. The upper fill (**A2F4-01008**) was a firm light orangey brown clayey silt with occasional small angular to sub-angular charcoal and stone inclusions, measuring 4.35m wide and 0.21m deep.

Trench A2F4-02 (Fig. 2a)

Trench A2F4-02 contained two ditches towards its centre (Plate 2). The first (**A2F4-02007**) was orientated north to south and measured 1.9m long, 0.5m wide, and 0.26m deep. It had moderately sloping sides with an imperceptible break of slope to a flat base. It contained a single fill (**A2F4-02008**) of malleable light orangey brown silty clay with frequent small sub-rounded stone inclusions. Ditch **A2F4-02007** may have been cut by Ditch **A2F4-02004.**

The second ditch (**A2F4-02004**) was a north to south orientated curvilinear ditch with steeply sloping sides and an imperceptible break of slope to an uneven base, measuring 1.9m long, 1.5m wide, and 0.86m deep. It contained two fills, the lowermost

of which (**A2F4-02006**) measured 0.39m deep and was a malleable light greyish brown silt with frequent small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded stone inclusions. The upper fill (**A2F4-02005**) measured 0.46m deep and was a firm light orangey brown silty clay with frequent small to medium sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions.

Plate 2: North facing section of Ditches A2F4-02004 and A2F4-02007

Trench A2F4-04 (Fig. 2b)

Trench A2F4-04 contained a ditch and seven furrows. Located towards the south-eastern end of the trench, Ditch **A2F4-04004** was orientated north-east to south-west and had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a flat base (Plate 3). It measured greater than 1m long, 0.77m wide, and 0.18m deep. It contained a single fill (**A2F4-04003**) of malleable mid-greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded stone inclusions. Fragments of animal bone were noted in this deposit. It is on the same alignment as the furrows within the trench, but its form is not typical of a furrow.

Plate 3: North-east facing section of Ditch A2F4-04004

Furrow **A2F4-04005** was orientated north-east to south-west and measured greater than 1m long, 2.17m wide, and 0.23m deep (Plate 4). It had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to a flat base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-04006**) of malleable light yellowish brown silty clay with small sub-angular to sub-rounded stone inclusions. Six other furrows were noted in this trench, but not excavated.

Plate 4: Plan of Furrow A2F4-04005

Trench A2F4-11 (Fig. 2b)

Four ditches and two furrows were recorded in Trench A2F4-11. A copper alloy button was recovered from the topsoil of this trench (**A2F4-11001).** The geophysical survey shows regular spaced linear features in multiple directions suggesting the features in this trench have an agricultural origin. Towards the north of the trench, Ditch **A2F4-11003** was orientated north-west to south-east and measured greater than 1m long, 1m wide, and 0.23m deep. It had steeply sloping sides and a gradual break to a flat base and contained two fills. The basal fill (**A2F4-11004**) was 0.72m wide and 0.2m deep and was comprised of a firm mid-greyish brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded stone inclusions. The upper fill (**A2F4-11005**) was 0.2m deep and comprised of a firm mid-greyish brown silty clay with occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded stone inclusions.

Sited south of, and parallel to, Ditch **A2F4-11003** was Ditch **A2F4-11006**, orientated north-west to south-east. It measured greater than 1m long, 0.75m wide, and 0.23m deep (Plate 5). It had steeply sloping sides and a gradual break to a flat base and contained two fills. The basal fill (**A2F4-11007**) measured 0.13m deep and was a firm mid-greyish brown silty clay with moderate small sub-angular to sub-rounded limestone inclusions. Measuring 0.73m wide and 0.16m deep, the upper fill (**A2F4-11008**) was a firm mid-greyish brown silty clay with rare limestone fleck inclusions.

Plate 5: East facing section of Ditch A2F4-11006

Towards the middle of the trench, Ditch **A2F4-11013** was orientated north-west to south-east and measured 1.9m long, 0.6m wide, and 0.04-0.16m deep (Plate 6). It had gently sloping sides and an imperceptible break to a flat base and contained a single

fill (**A2F4-11014**) of friable mid-brown clayey silt with moderate small sub-angular stone inclusions. Ditch **A2F4-11013** was likely cut by Furrow **A2F4-11015**.
Furrow **A2F4-11015** was orientated north-east to south-west and measured 1.9m long, 1.1m long, and 0.06-0.14m deep (Plate 6). It had gently sloping sides and a gradual break to a flat base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-11016**) of friable mid-greyish brown clayey silt with moderate small sub-angular stone inclusions. The relationship between this and Ditch **A2F4-11013** was difficult to discern within the limitations of the trench.

Plate 6: East facing section of Ditches A2F4-11013 and A2F4-11015

Located towards the southern end of the trench, Ditch **A2F4-11009** was orientated north-west to south-east and measured greater than 1.9m long, 0.55m wide, and 0.12m wide (Plate 7). It had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to an uneven base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-11010**) of firm mid-orangey brown clay.

Plate 7: East facing section of Ditch A2F4-11009

Orientated north-east to south-west, Furrow **A2F4-11011** measured greater than 1.9m long, 1.4m wide, and 0.3m deep (Plate 8). It had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to an uneven base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-11012**) of firm mid-orangey brown clay. The relationship between this and Ditch **A2F4-11009** was unclear.

Plate 8: Plan of Ditch A2F4-11009 and Furrow A2F4-11011

Trench A2F4-17 (Fig. 2g)

Trench A2F4-17 contained a single east to west orientated ditch, located towards its eastern end (**A2F4-17004**). It was longer than 7m, 0.58m wide and 0.13m deep (Plate 9). It had steep, straight sides and a sharp break of slope to flat base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-17005**) of mid yellow-brown silty clay. Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fill.

Plate 9: East facing section of plan of Ditch A2F4-17004

Trench A2F4-18 (Fig. 2g)

Trench A2F4-18 contained two north-west to south-east orientated ditches at its north-eastern end (Plate 10). The first, Ditch **A2F4-18004**, measured greater than 1.8m long, 1.6m wide, and 0.2m deep. It had gently sloping sides with a gradual break to a flat base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-18005**) of malleable dark yellowish brown clayey silt with occasional large sub-angular charcoal pockets, concentrated towards the centre of the fill. Pottery, likely modern, and animal bone were recovered from this fill.

Cutting Ditch **A2F4-18004** was Ditch **A2F4-18006**. It measured greater than 1.8m long, 1.6m wide, and 0.25m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a gradual break to an uneven base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-18007**) of malleable mid-yellowish brown silty clay with rare small pockets of redeposited natural substratum.

Plate 10: North-west facing section of Ditches A2F4-18004 and A2F4-18006

Trench A2F4-20 (Fig. 2f)

One ditch was recorded in the central area of Trench A2F4-20. Orientated north to south, Ditch **A2F4-20003** had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to a rounded base and measured greater than 2.4m long, 1.14m wide, and 0.31m deep (Plate 11). It contained a single fill (**A2F4-20004**) of firm mid-yellowish brown clay.

Plate 11: North-east facing section of Ditch A2F4-20003

Trench A2F4-23 (Fig. 2e)

Trench A2F4-23 contained two ditches on the same alignment as agricultural trends on the geophysical survey. Ditch **A2F4-23003** was located at the trench's south-western end and was orientated east to west (Plate 12). It had steep, concave sides and a gradual break to a rounded base. It was greater than 2m long, 1.04m wide and 0.56m deep. It contained a single fill (**A2F4-23004**) that consisted of a mid orange-brown silty clay.

Plate 12: Plan of Ditch A2F4-23003

Ditch **A2F4-23005** was located towards the trench's north-eastern end and was orientated north to south (Plate 13). It was greater than 1m long, 0.51m wide, and approximately 0.35m deep. It contained a single fill (**A2F4-23006**) that consisted of a mid orange-brown clayey silt.

Plate 13: South-west facing section of Ditch A2F4-23005

Trench A2F4-24 (Fig. 2e)

One ditch and one field drain were recorded in Trench A2F4-24, located towards the middle of the trench (Plate 14). Ditch **A2F4-24003** was orientated north-west to south-east. It had steeply sloping sides with a sharp break to a flat base and measured greater than 2.4m long, 0.6m wide, and 0.35m deep. It contained a single fill (**A2F4-24004**) of firm mid-yellowish brown clay.

Plate 14: West facing section of Ditch A2F4-24003

Trench A2F4-32 (Fig. 2e)

Trench A2F4-32 contained a single ditch (**A2F4-32003**) in its centre, orientated north to south and measured greater than 2.45m long, 0.7m wide, and 0.34m deep (Plate 15). It had steeply sloping sides with a sharp break to an uneven base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-32004**) of firm mid-yellowish brown clay.

Plate 15: South facing section of Ditch A2F4-32003

Trench A2F4-33 (Fig. 2e)

Trench A2F4-33 contained two ditches. Towards the middle of the trench, Ditch **A2F4-33003** was orientated north to south and measured greater than 1.8m long, 0.9m wide, and 0.39m deep (Plate 16). It had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break of slope to a rounded base and held a single fill (**A2F4-33004**) of cemented yellowish grey silty clay with moderate small sub-rounded to rounded chalk inclusions. CBM was recovered from the fill.

Plate 16: South-east facing section of Ditch A2F4-33003

Ditch **A2F4-33005**, orientated north-west to south-east, measured greater than 2.1m long, 1.1m wide, and 0.2m deep (Plate 17). It had steeply sloping sides with a sharp break of slope to an uneven base and contained a single fill (**A2F4-33006**) of firm mid-yellowish brown clay.

Plate 17: North facing section of Ditch A2F4-33005

Trench A2F4-34 (Fig. 2e)

Trench A2F4-34 contained three ditches.

Ditch **A2F4-34003** orientated north-west to south-east at the eastern end of the trench. It measured 2.2m long, 0.57m wide, and 0.22m deep (Plate 18). It had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break of slope and contained a single fill (**A2F4-34004**) of malleable mid-greyish brown silty clay with frequent small to medium sub-rounded to sub-angular stone inclusions. Animal bone and pottery, of likely Iron Age date, were recovered from this deposit.

Plate 18: South facing section of Ditch A2F4-34003

Ditch **A2F4-34005**, orientated north-east to south-west and located towards the middle of the trench, had moderately sloping sides with an imperceptible break to a flat base (Plate 19). It measured 1.8m long, 1.9m wide, and 0.38m deep and contained a single fill (**A2F4-34006**) of malleable light yellowish brown silty clay with frequent small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded stone inclusions.

Plate 19: South facing section of Ditch A2F4-34005

Ditch **A2F4-34007** was orientated north-west to south-east was located towards the middle of the trench. It is on the same alignment as Ditch **A2F4-34003**. It had moderately sloping sides and a gradual break to a rounded base and measured 1.8m long, 0.84m wide, and 0.34m deep (Plate 20). It contained a single fill (**A2F4-34008**) of firm light brownish orange silty clay with occasional small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded stone and flint inclusions.

Plate 20: South facing section of Ditch A2F4-34007

Trench A2F4-35 (Fig. 2m)

Trench A2F4-35 contained one ditch and five furrows, one of which was excavated. The first, located towards the western end of the trench, was Ditch **A2F4-35003** (Plate 21). It was orientated north-west to south-east and was linear in plan and had moderate, concave sides with a gradual break to a rounded base. It measured greater than 2.40m long, 0.51m wide and 0.17m deep. It contained a single fill (**A2F4-35004**) which consisted of a mid orange-brown silty clay.

Plate 21: South-east facing section of Ditch A2F4-35003

The furrow (**A2F4-35005**) was located at the eastern end of the trench (Plate 22). It was orientated north to south and was linear in plan and had gentle concave sides with a gradual break to a rounded base. It measured greater than 1.8m long, 1.48m wide, and 0.08m deep. It contained one fill (**A2F4-35006**)which consisted of a mid orange-brown silty clay.

Plate 22: Plan of Ditch A2F4-35005

Trench A2F4-39 (Fig. 2j)

Trench A2F4-39 contained eight furrows, one of which was excavated. Furrow **A2F4-39003** was orientated north-west to south-east and had gently sloping sides with a gradual break to an uneven base and measured 1.8m long, 0.8m wide, and 0.11m deep (Plate 23). It contained a single fill (**A2F4-39004**) of friable mid-greyish brown clayey silt with moderate small sub-angular stone inclusions.

Plate 23: South-east facing section of Ditch A2F4-39003

Trench A2F4-42 (Fig. 2k)

Trench A2F4-42 contained two pits, one ditch terminus, and one ditch. Towards the south-eastern end of the trench, Pit **A2F4-42003** was oval in plan with shallowly sloping sides and a gradual break to an uneven base (Plate 24). It measured 0.42m in diameter and 0.15m deep and contained a single fill (**A2F4-42004**) of firm mid-brownish grey clay that showed some evidence of burning.

Plate 24: South facing section of Pit A2F4-42003

Pit **A2F4-42005**, west of Pit **A2F4-42003**, was sub-circular in plan and had moderate, concave sides with a gradual break to an uneven base (Plate 25). It measured 0.53m in diameter and 0.17m deep. It contained a single fill which was a mid brown-grey clay.

Plate 25: East facing section of Pit A2F4-42005

A Ditch Terminus **A2F4-42007** orientated north to south was located in the centre of the trench. It had moderately sloping sides with a gradual break to an uneven base and measured 1m long, 1m wide, and 0.2m deep (Plate 26). It contained a single fill (**A2F4-42008**) of firm mid-reddish grey silty clay with some burnt flint.

Plate 26: South facing section of Ditch Terminus A2F4-42007

Found north-west of Ditch Terminus **A2F4-42007** was north to south orientated Ditch **A2F4-42009**. It was very slightly curvilinear in plan and measured greater than 1.8m long, greater than 0.5m wide, and approximately 0.3-0.4m deep (Plate 27).

Plate 27: West facing section of Ditch A2F4-42009

5 INTERIM FINDS SUMMARY

The pre-quantified finds from Site A2 can be found in Table 1 below, organised by find type. At this stage, no cleaning or specialist assessment has been undertaken. The metal objects are metal detected finds and retrieved from the topsoil (suffixed -001) and are likely the remnants of modern agricultural practices. Unstratified finds of metal, flint and pottery were also recovered from the field surface.

Find Type	Quantity	Weight (g)
Animal Bone	11	41
CBM	1	3
Copper Alloy Object	1	8
Iron Horseshoe	3	797
Iron Nail	14	108
Iron Object	3	427
Flint	5	38
Pottery	8	217
Pottery and bone	6	18
Grand Total	**52**	**1657**

Table 1: Artefactual Finds Pre-Quantification

5.1 Interim Pottery Summary

The pottery recovered from Context **A2F4-34004** was part of a handmade vessel of prehistoric date (most likely Iron Age), whilst that from Context **A2F4-17005** was a decorated greyware sherd with a generic Roman date – grey wares are ambiguous for dating production and can date anywhere within the Roman period.

Table 2, below, contains spot dates for pottery sherds with identifiable elements such as rim sherds, decoration, or obvious fabric.

Site	Context	Notes	Spot date
GHSO	A2F4-17005	Greyware burnished	RB
GHSO	A2F4-34004	Handmade body sherds	Prehistoric

Table 2: Pottery Preliminary Spot Dates

5.2 Interim Animal Bone Summary

Some animal bone has been recovered from a range of features reported on within this interim report. The results from the animal bone assessment will be included in the final report produced at the completion of the evaluation trenching works.

5.3 Interim Palaeo-Environmental Summary

Samples have been taken from a range of features reported on within this interim report. The results from the environmental assessment will be included in the final report produced at the completion of the evaluation trenching works.

5.4 Interim Finds Report

CBM, metal objects (copper alloy, iron), and flint were recovered from this excavation. These will be reported on in further detail in the final report produced at the completion of the evaluation trenching works.

6 INTERIM DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Site A2 Field A2F4

Archaeological features excavated across Site A2 are typical of those relating to rural settlement and agriculture from the Late Iron Age into the Roman periods.

Features identified by the evaluation trenching align with the results of the geophysical survey.

A faint rectilinear or, possibly, D-shaped enclosure can be seen on the geophysics greyscale at the eastern end of the site. This was confirmed through excavation in

Trenches A2F4-33, A2F4-34, and A2F4-42 and peripheral features which may be associated with it were found in Trenches A2F4-23, A2F4-24, and A2F4-32. Prehistoric pottery was recovered from Trench 34.

An uncertain curvilinear feature seen the geophysics greyscale was excavated in Trench A2F4-02.

There are two sets of ridge and furrow systems on the geophysical survey. Possible ditches which are in alignment with one of the ridge and furrow systems seen on the geophysical survey and were excavated in Trench A2F4-11. These may represent boundary or enclosure ditches, or possibly an earlier system of cultivation ditches or furrows.

Furrows were recorded across the site, consistent with its use as arable land in the recent historic period. The features recorded in Trench A2F4-01, A2F4-04, and A2F4-35 may be part of a ridge and furrow system.

A field boundary that was depicted on 19th and 20th Century Ordnance Survey maps was recorded in Trench A2F4-18.

Features of an unknown origin were excavated in Trenches A2F4-15, A2F4-17, and A2F4-20. Roman pottery was recovered from the ditch in Trench A2F4-17.

6.2 Conclusion

Site A2 Field A2F4 shows evidence of having been heavily ploughed in the historic period, which will have impacted any shallow archaeological deposits. Despite this, evidence for a rectilinear or D-shaped enclosure was found to the eastern end of the site, with prehistoric pottery from one of the trenches potentially dating it to the Iron Age. Other linear features across the site had uncertain origins, but Roman pottery recovered from one trench suggests that there was activity in the area during this period. In combination, these are indicative of rural settlement and agricultural practice dating from the Late Iron Age into the Roman period.

Further assessment of the artefactual finds recovered from the site will provide greater information and will be included in the final assessment report.

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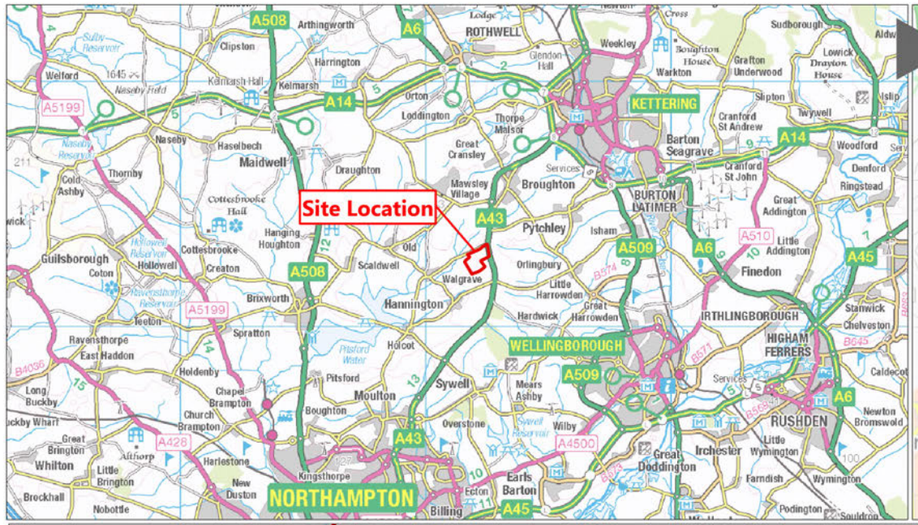
FIGURES



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Field Parcel Boundaries
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Furrow

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

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Site Location and Plan

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A2, Field 4: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:5,000 (main inset)

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

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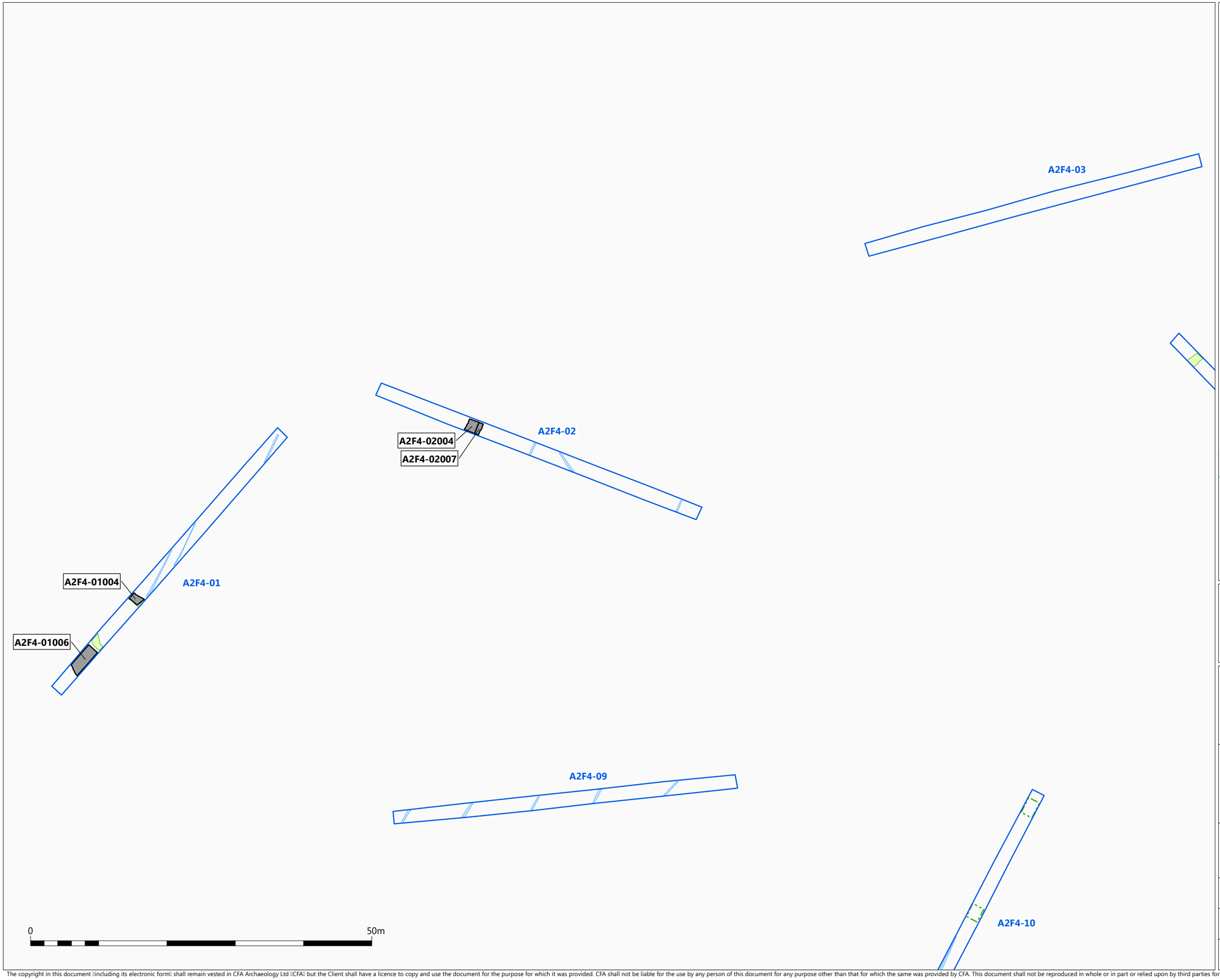

Key:

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- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage

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Title:
Trench Plans

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A2, Field 4: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

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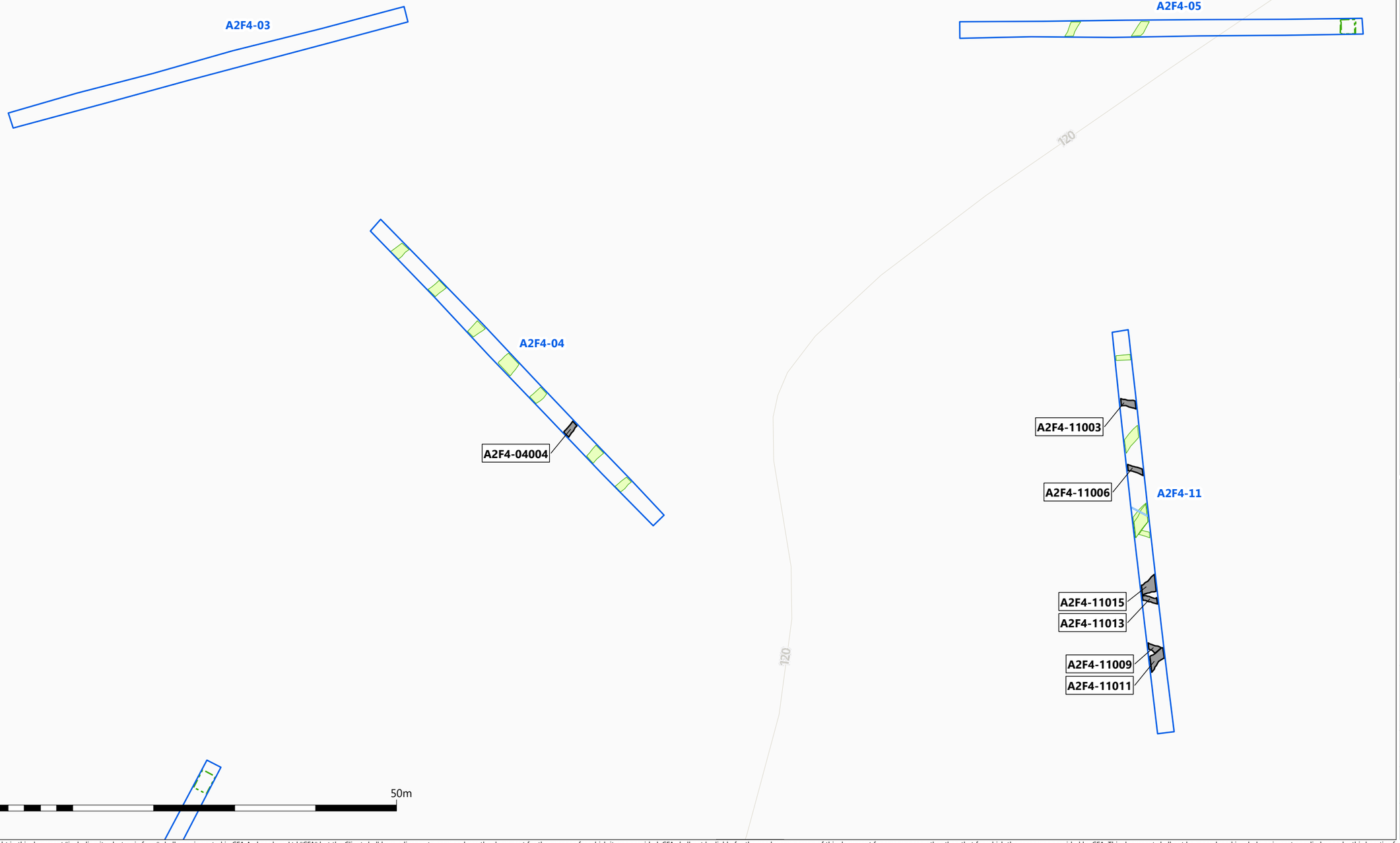

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Trench Plans

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Green Hill Solar Farm,
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Green Hill Solar Farm

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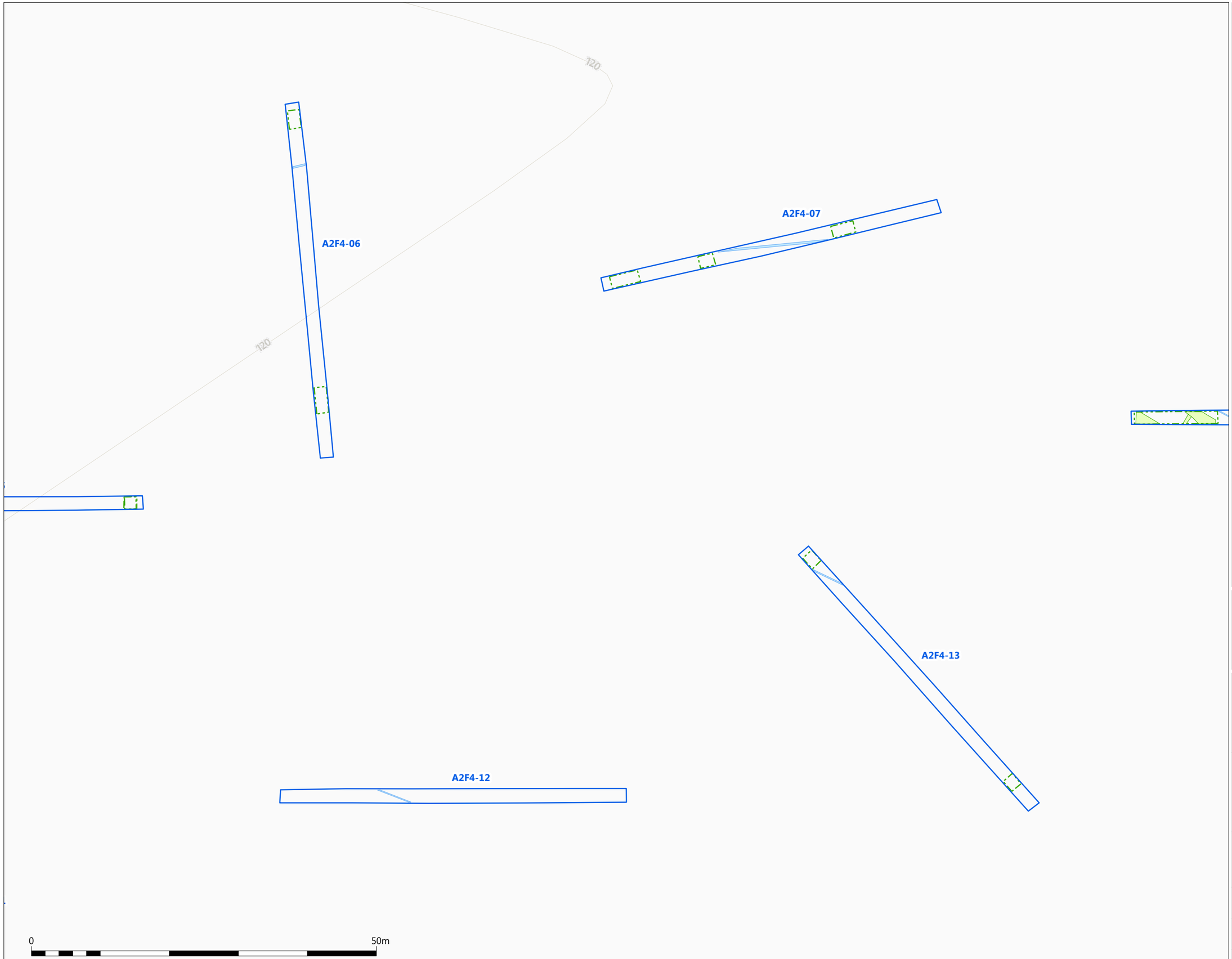

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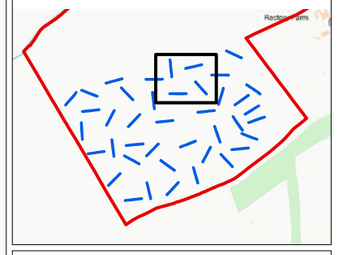

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Title:
Trench Plans

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A2, Field 4: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

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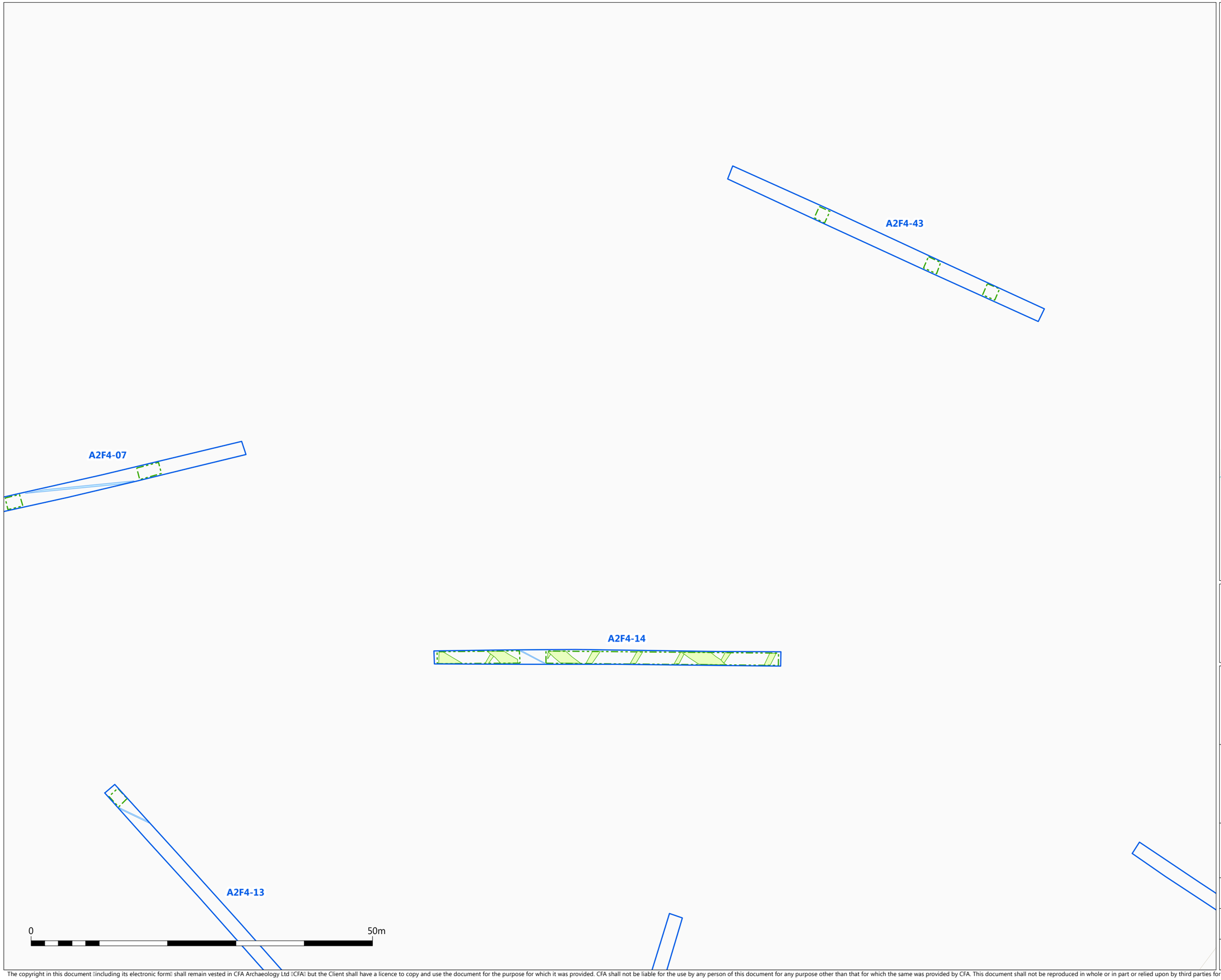

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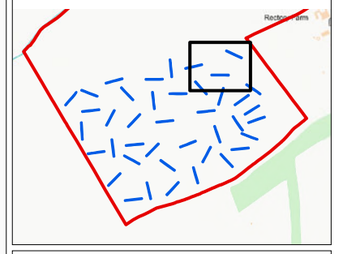

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Green Hill Solar Farm,
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Green Hill Solar Farm

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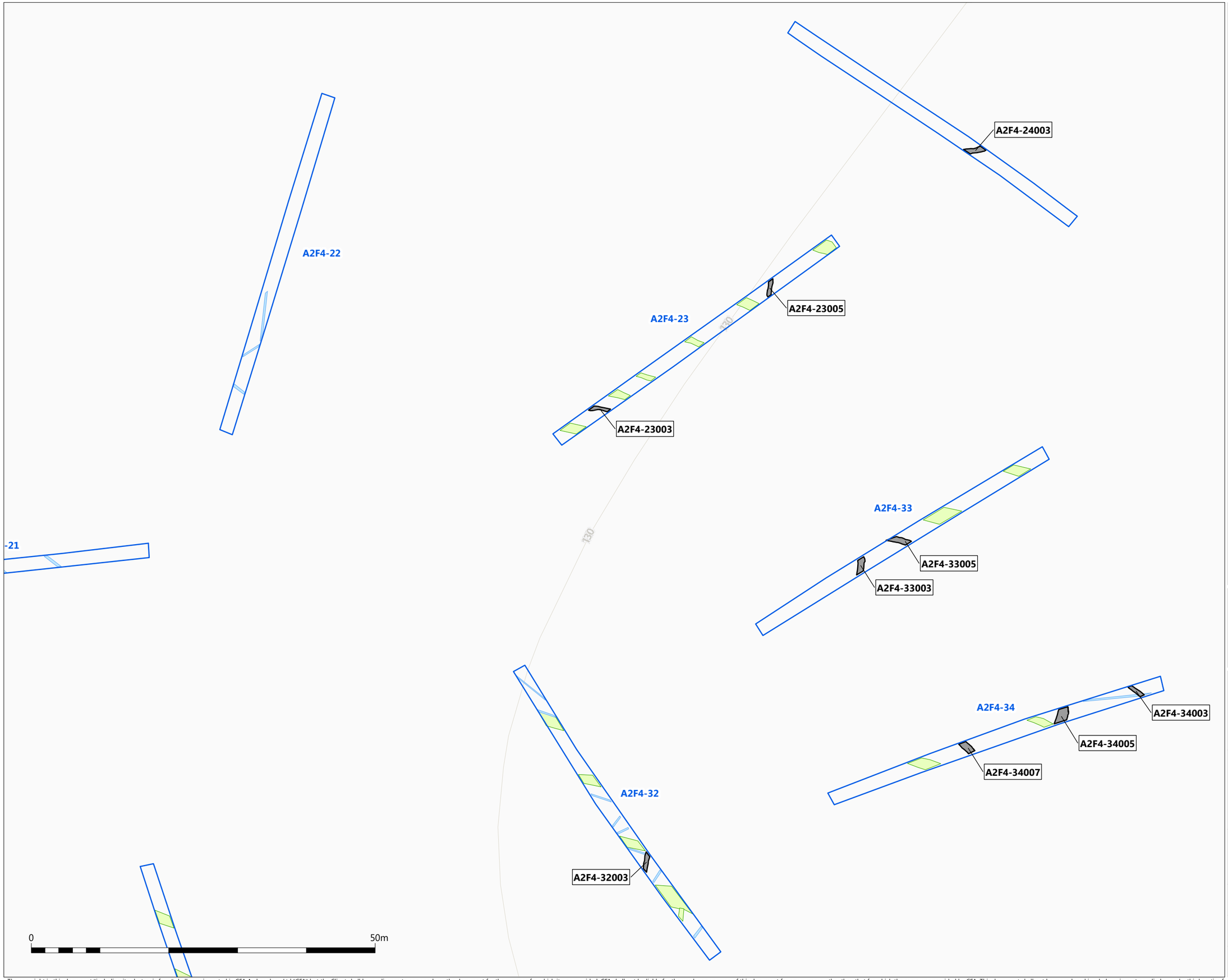

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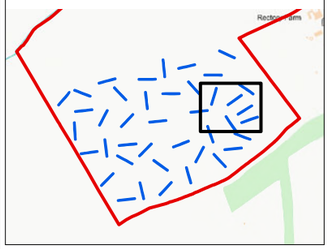
- Field Drain
- Furrow



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans

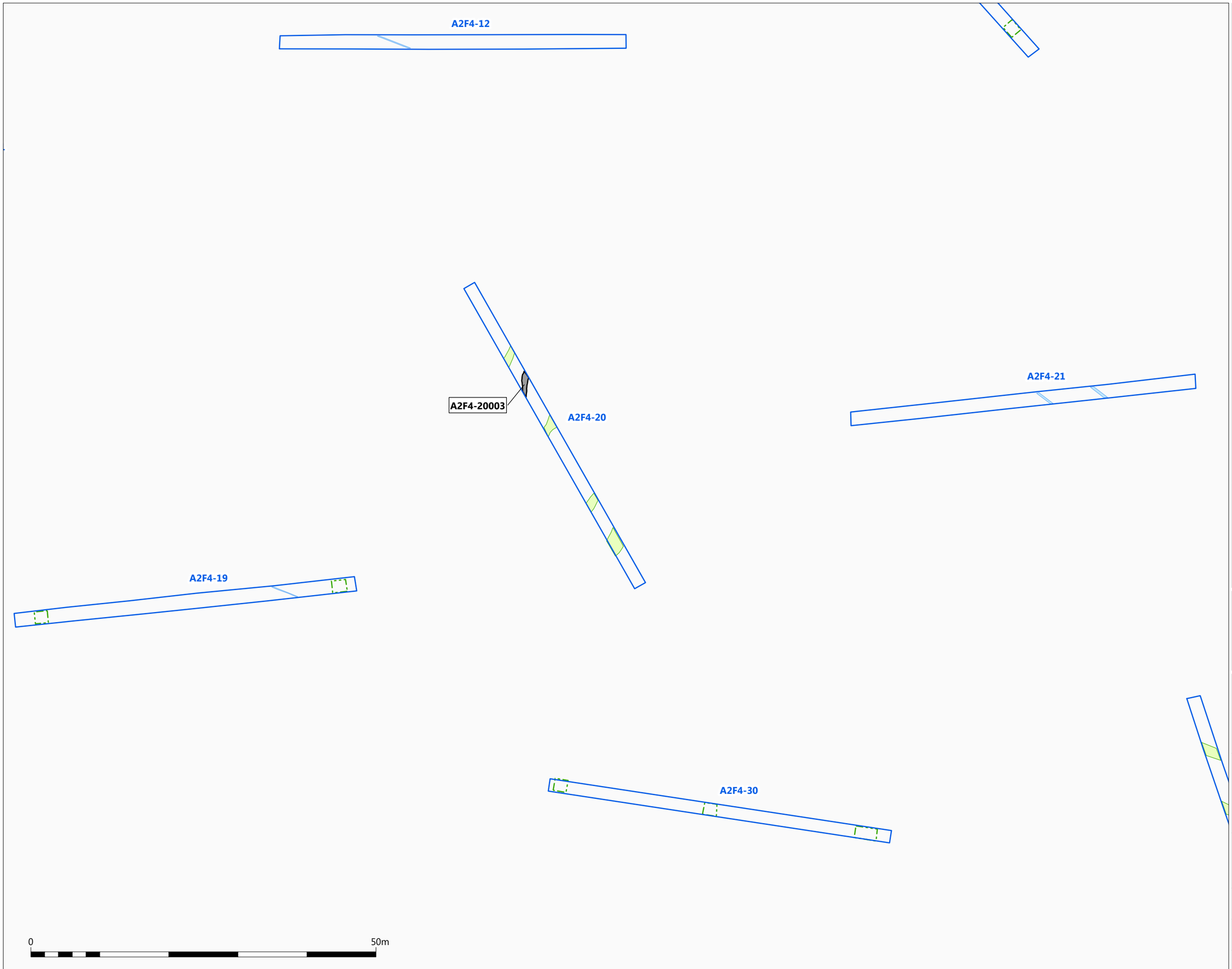
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A2, Field 4: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:500

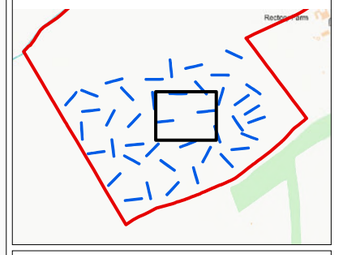
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	2e



Key:

- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title: Trench Plans

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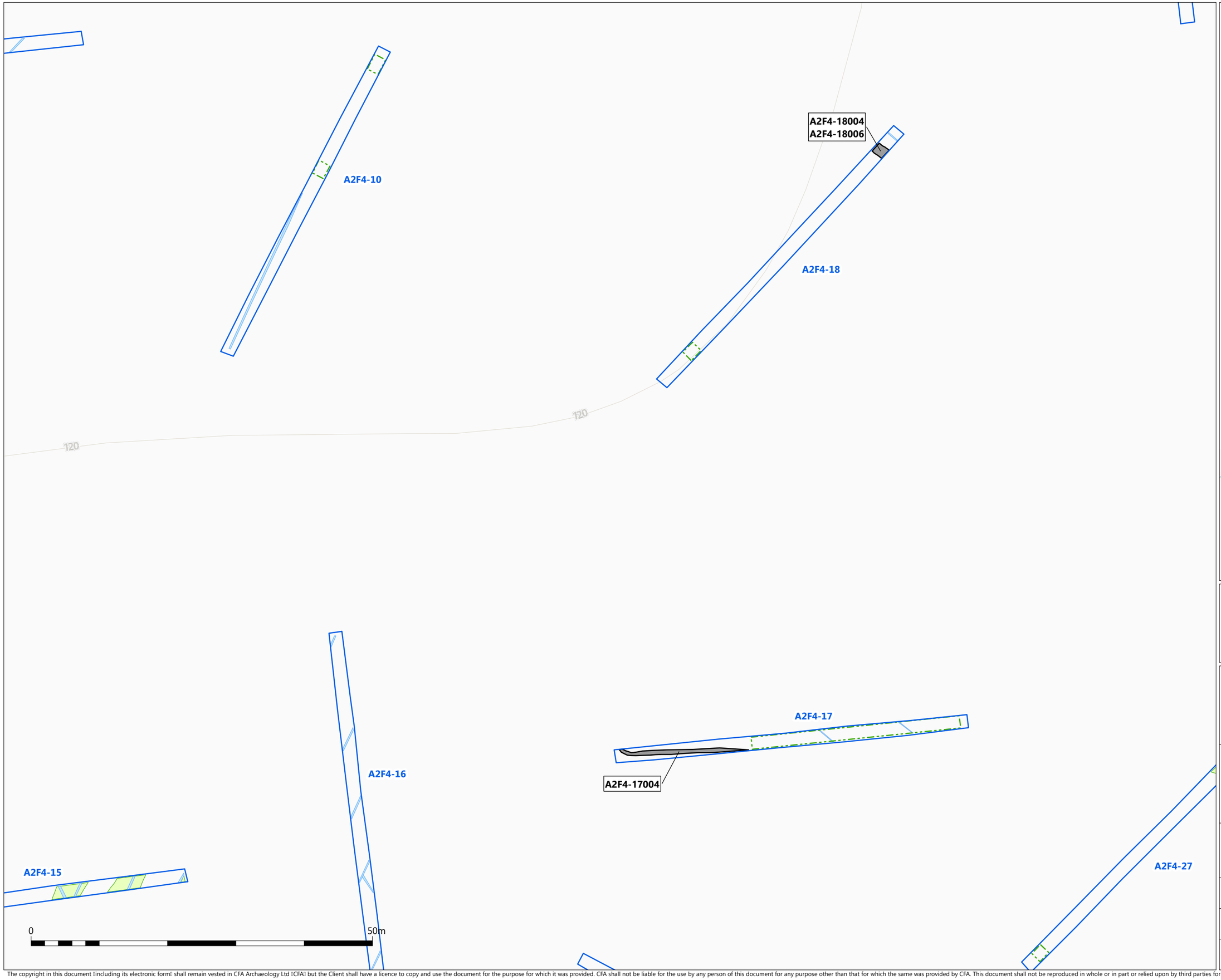
Client: Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3: 1:500

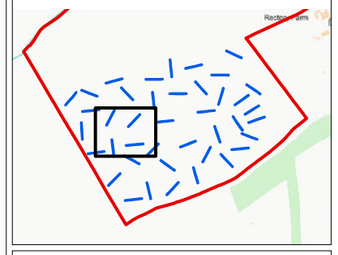
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	2f



Key:

- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage



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CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
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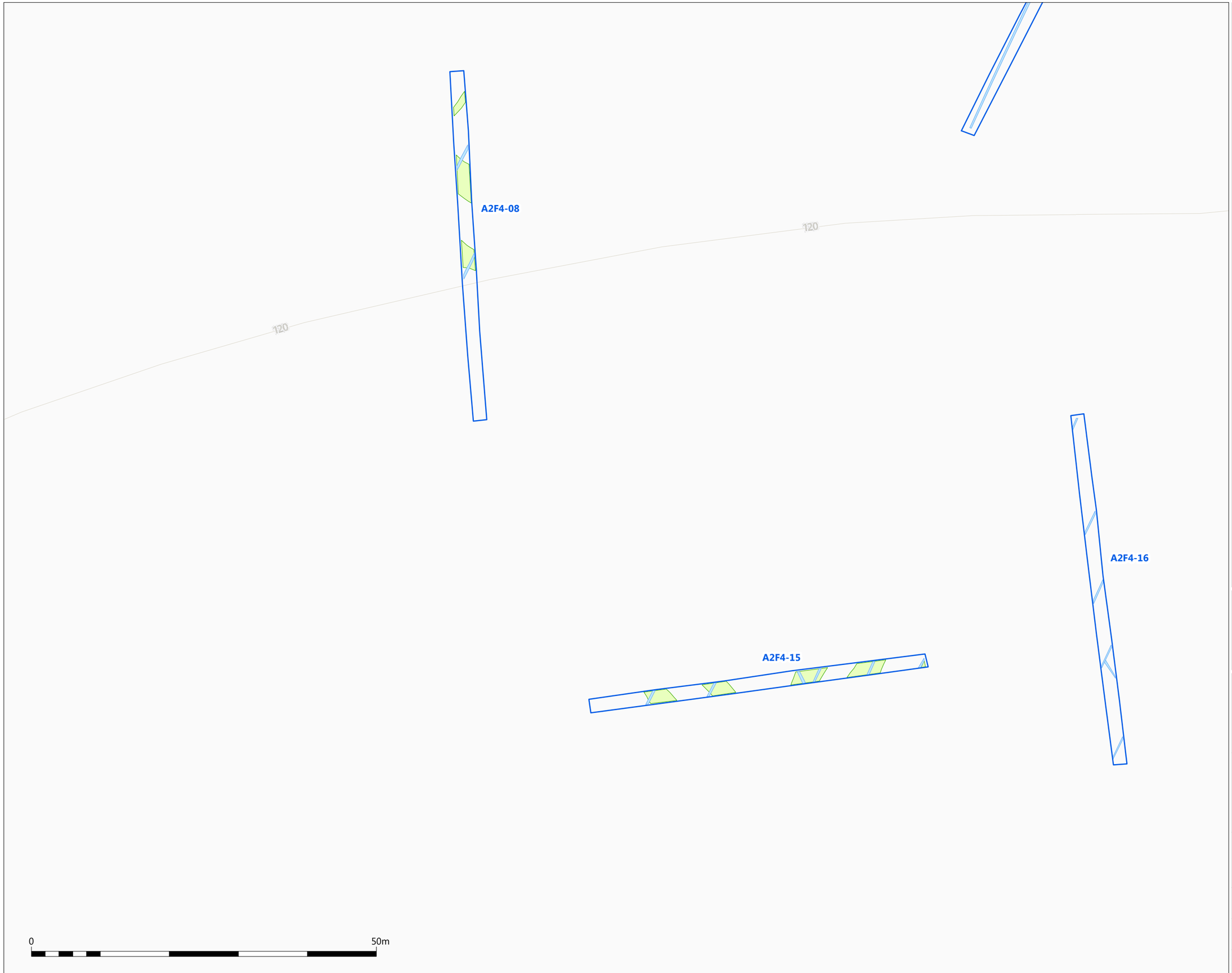
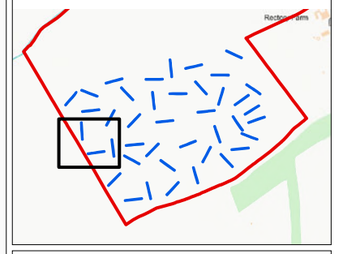


Key:

- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow



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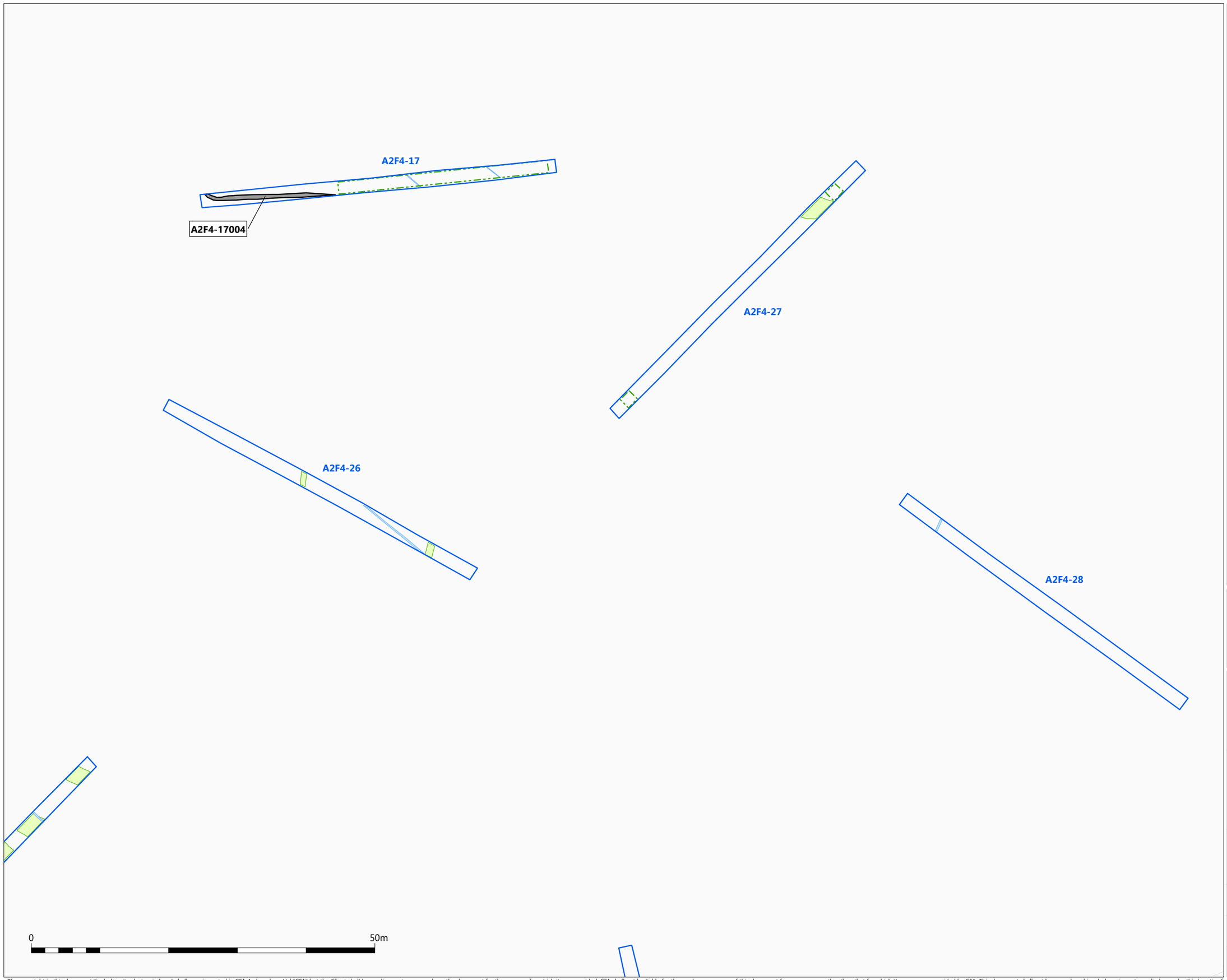
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	2h



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Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	2i

A2F4-30

A2F4-31

A2F4-29

A2F4-39

A2F4-39003

A2F4-40

130

130

0

50m

Key:

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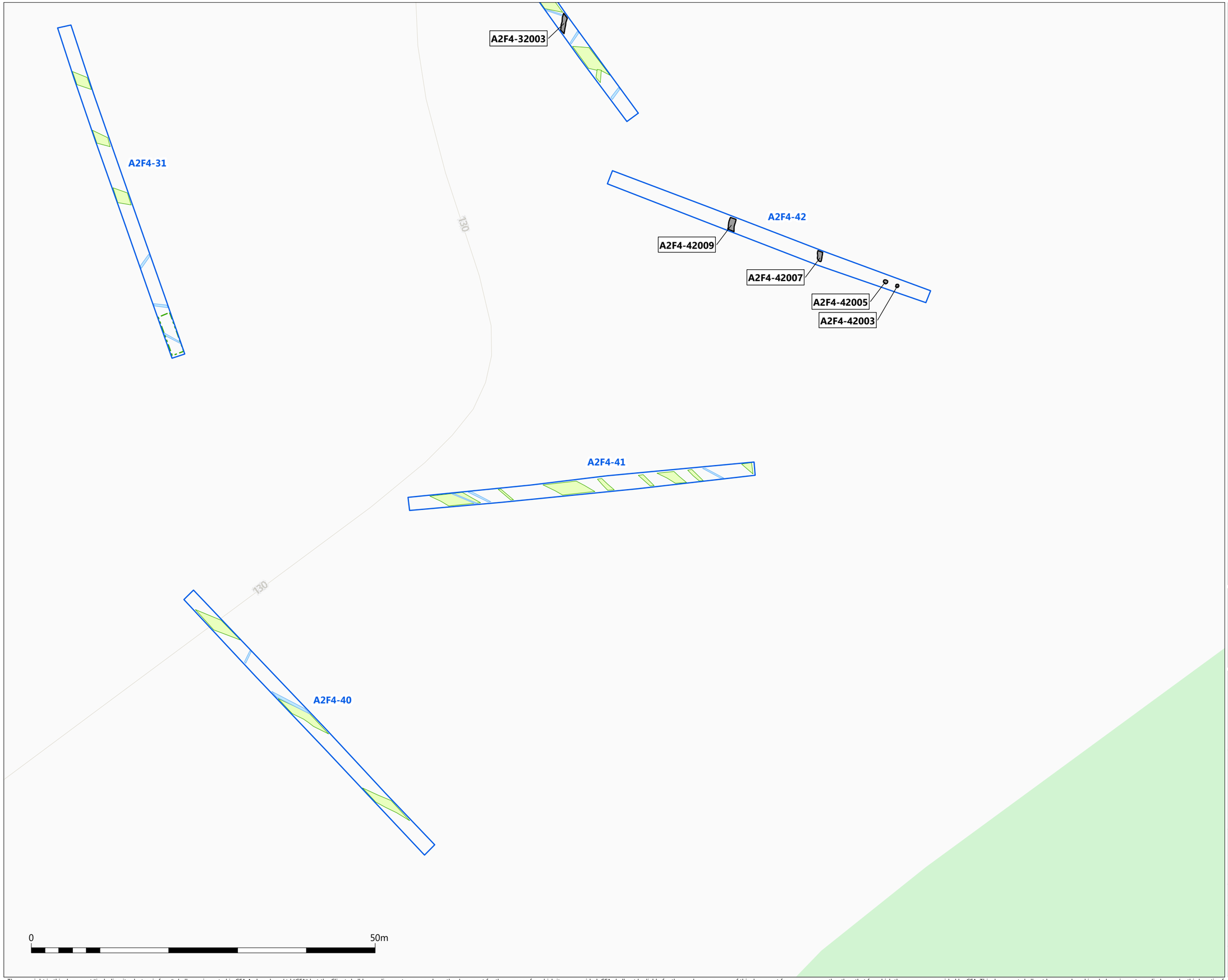
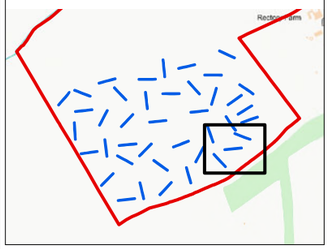
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	2j



Key:

- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage



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Scale at A3:
1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	2k

A2F4-28

A2F4-38

130

A2F4-37

A2F4-36

130

0

50m

Key:

- Excavated Trench
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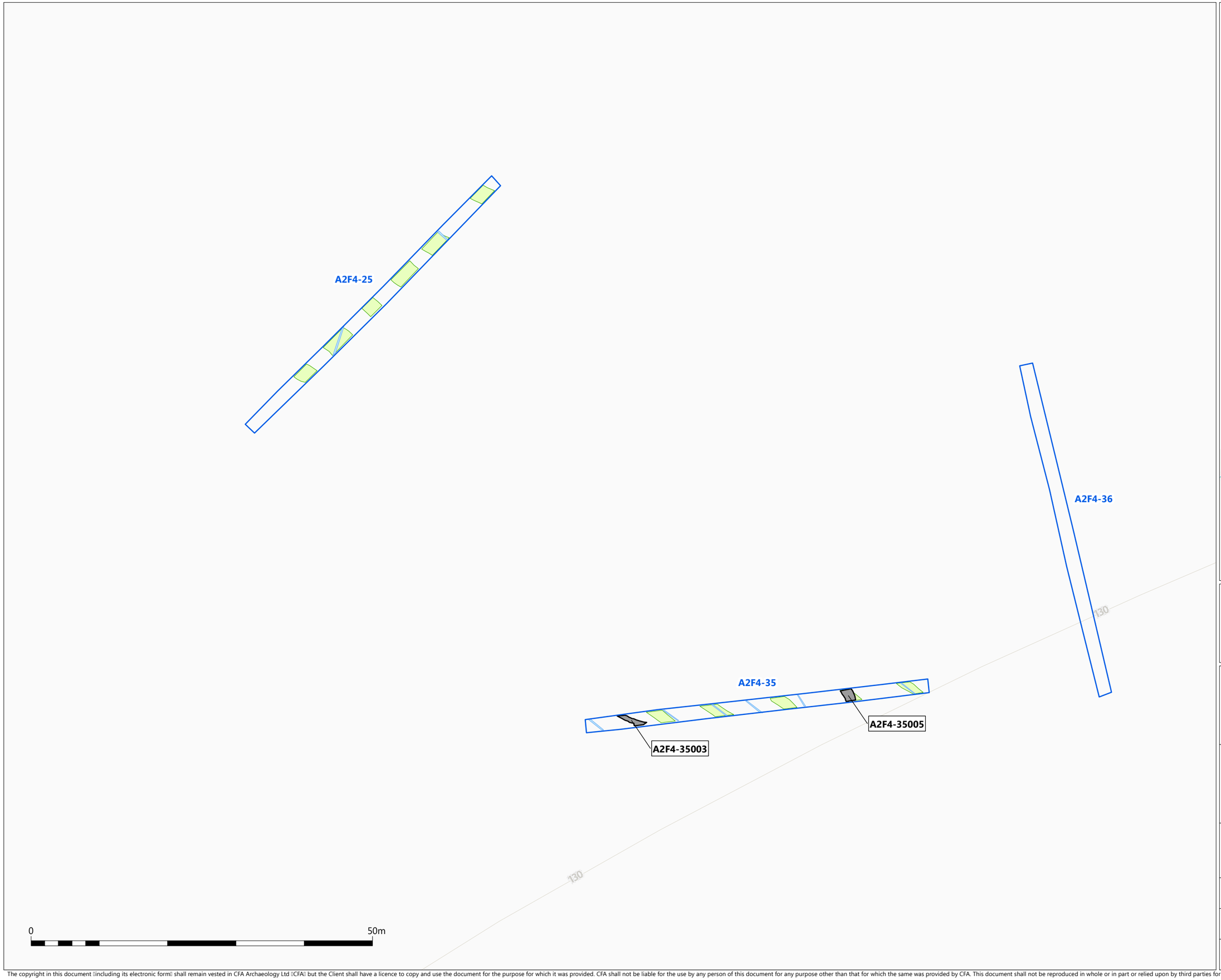
1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	2l



Key:

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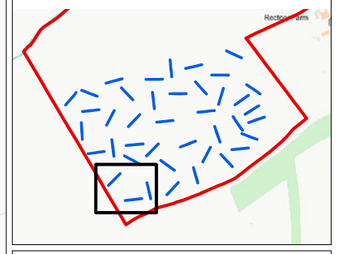
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

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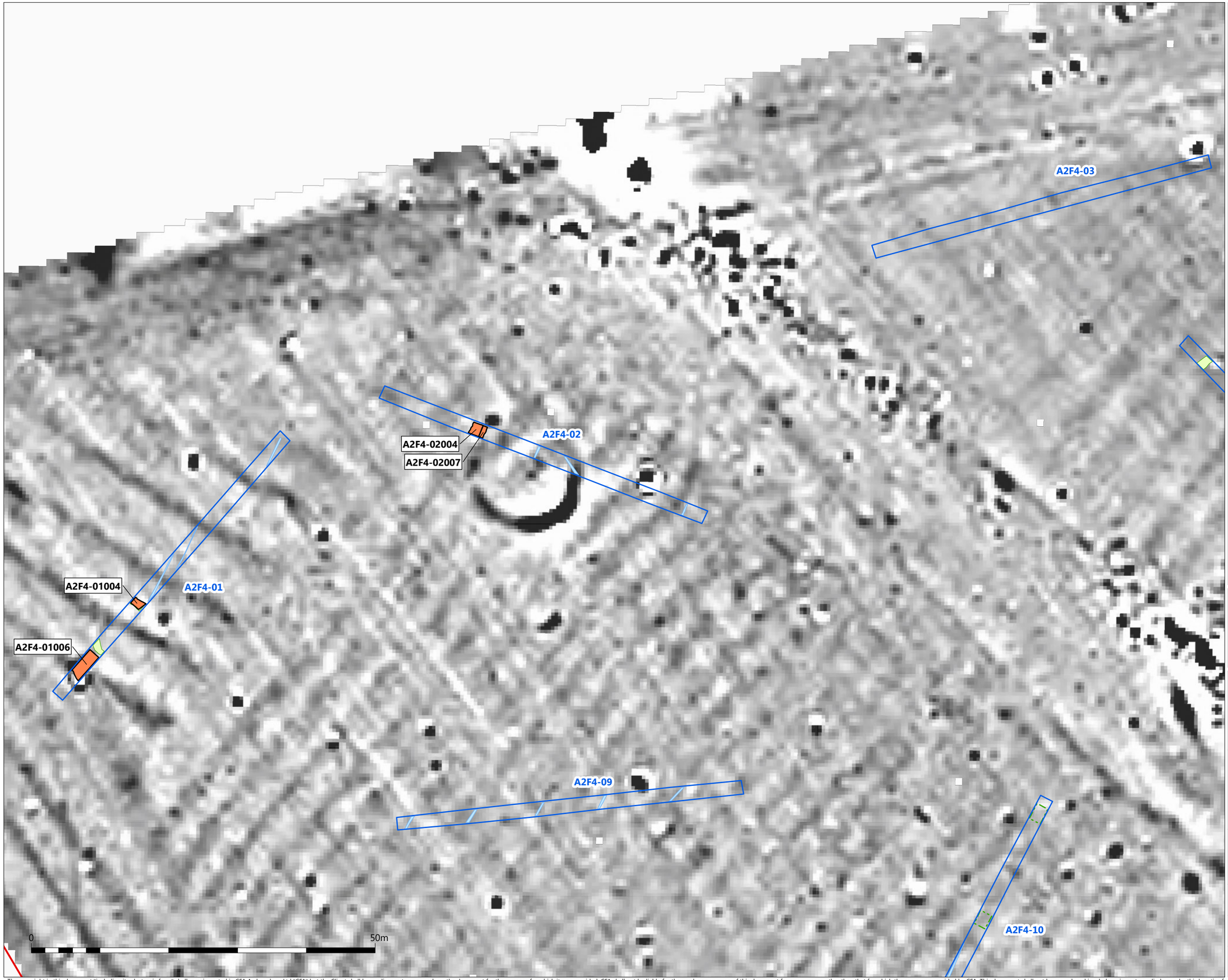
Scale at A3:
1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

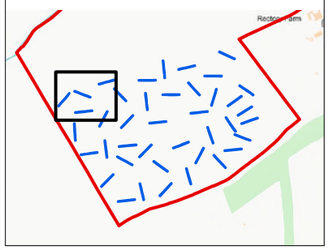
Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	2m



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A2, Field 4: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3a

A2F4-03

A2F4-05

A2F4-04

A2F4-04004

A2F4-11003

A2F4-11006

A2F4-11

A2F4-11015

A2F4-11013

A2F4-11009

A2F4-11011

0

50m

Key:

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1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3b

A2F4-06

A2F4-07

A2F4-12

A2F4-13

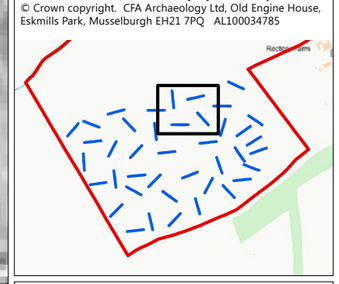
0

50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics

Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
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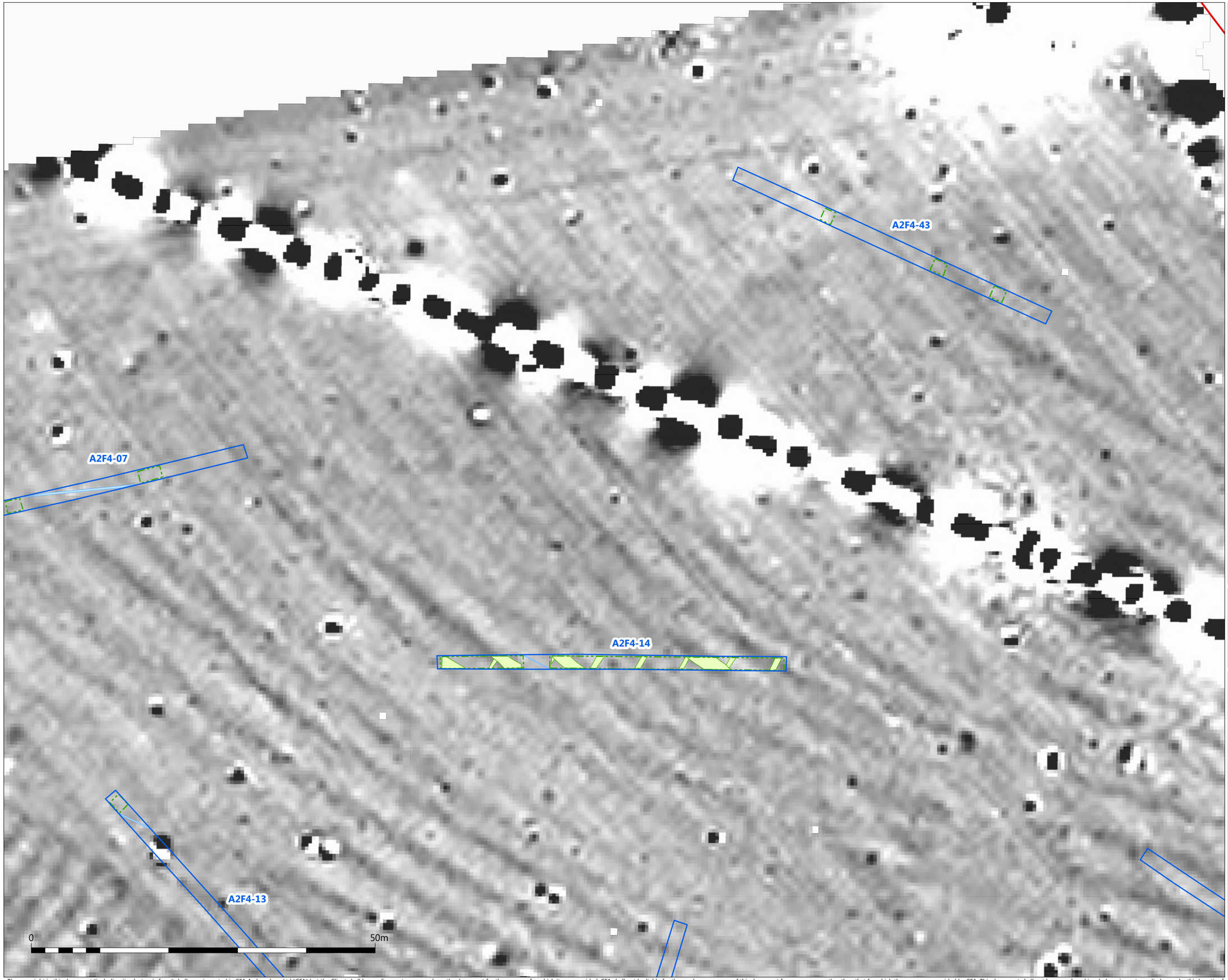
Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

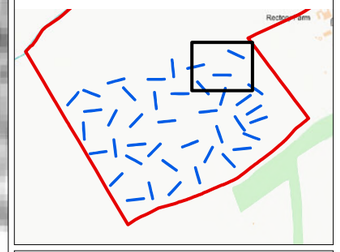
Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3c



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

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Trench Plans overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics

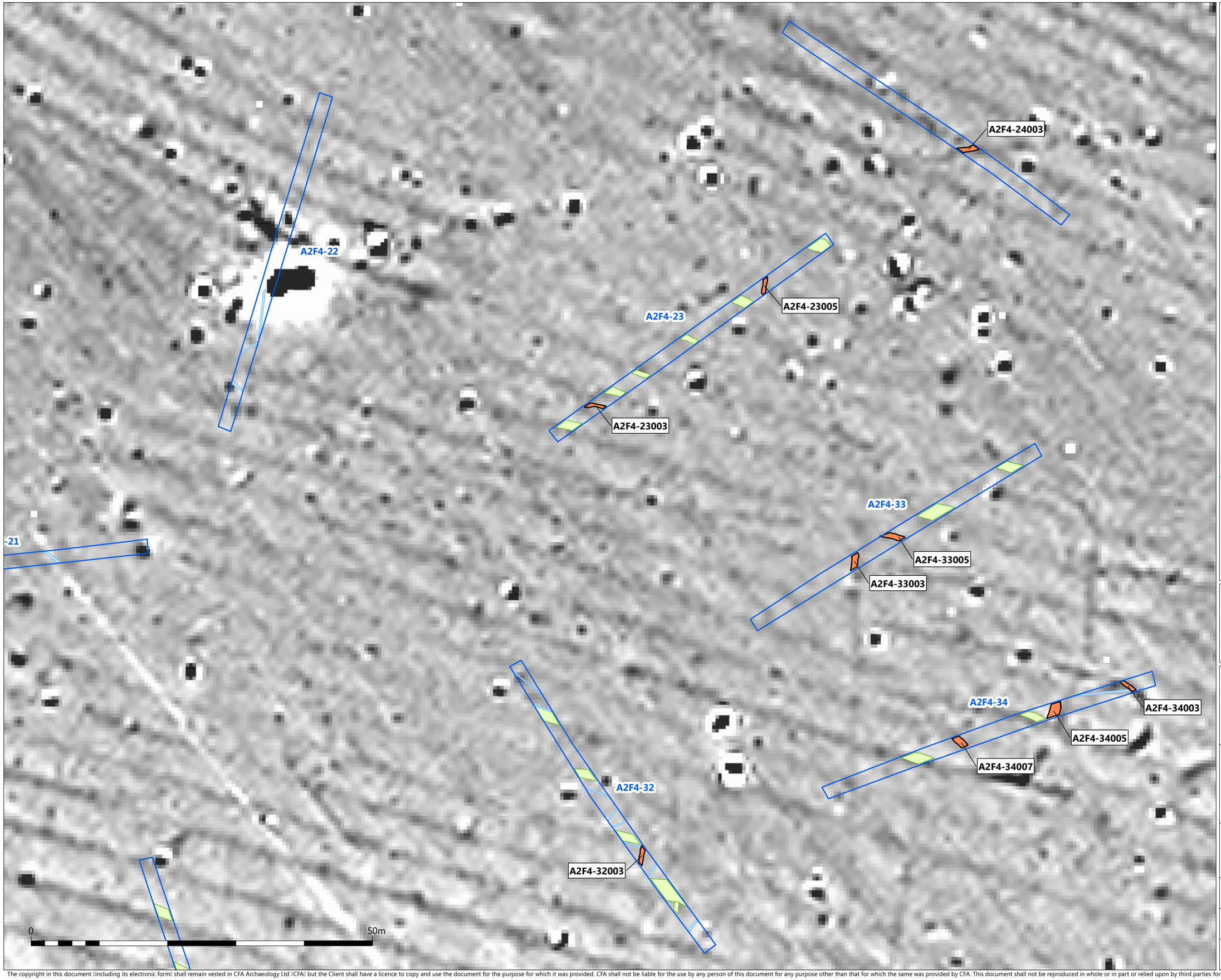
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A2, Field 4: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

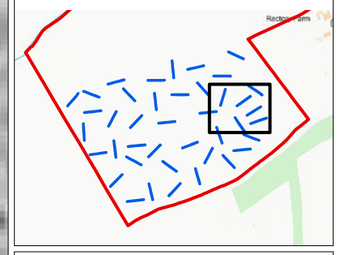
Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3d



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage

Geophysical data supplied by Lanpro



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

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Trench Plans overlaid on Greyscale Geophysics

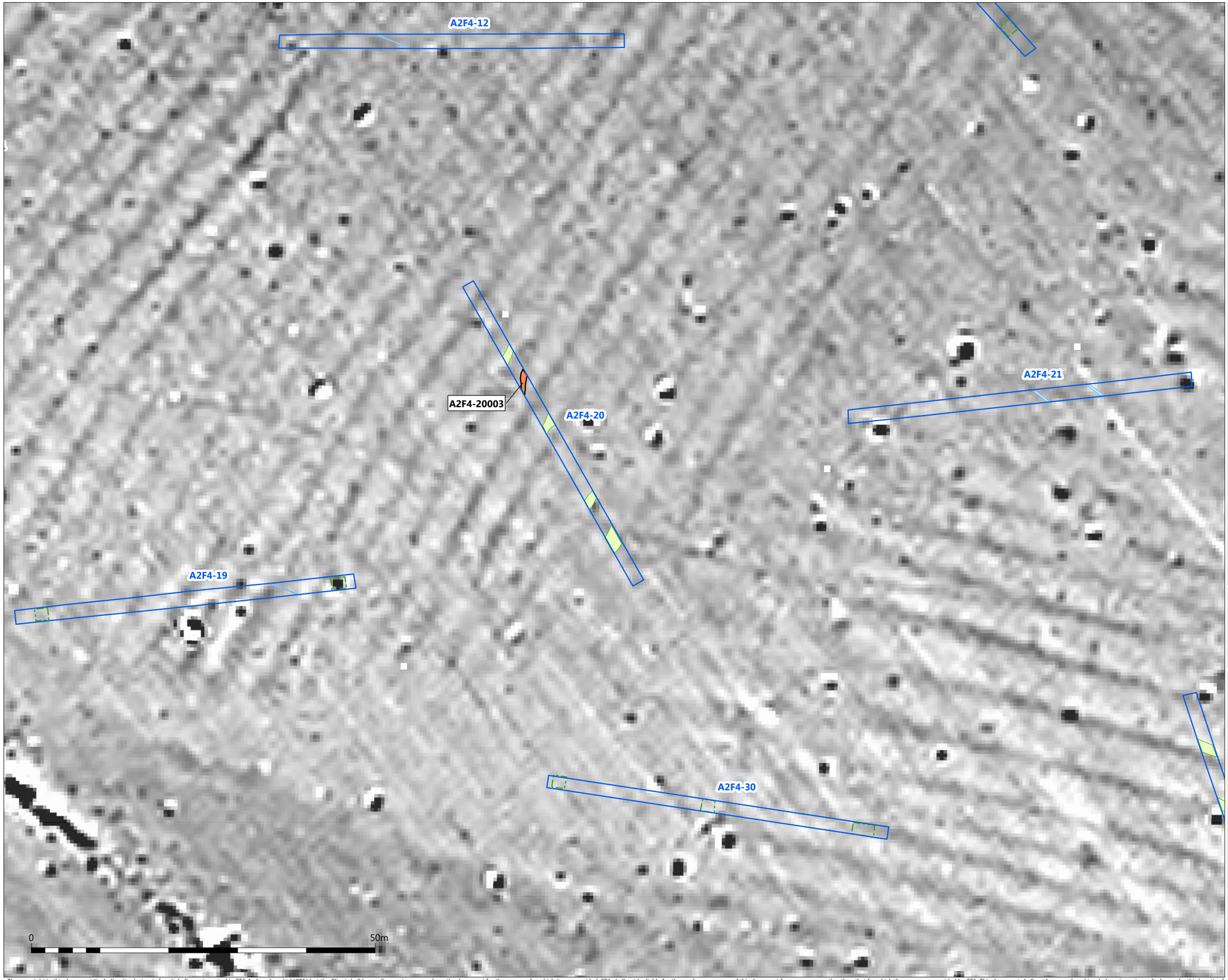
Project:
Green Hill Solar Farm,
Site A2, Field 4: Interim Report

Client:
Green Hill Solar Farm

Scale at A3:
1:500

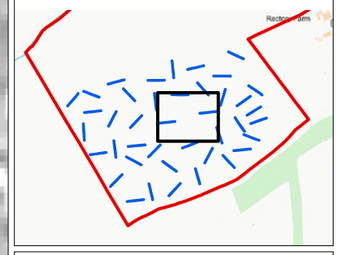
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3e



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Sondage



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1:500

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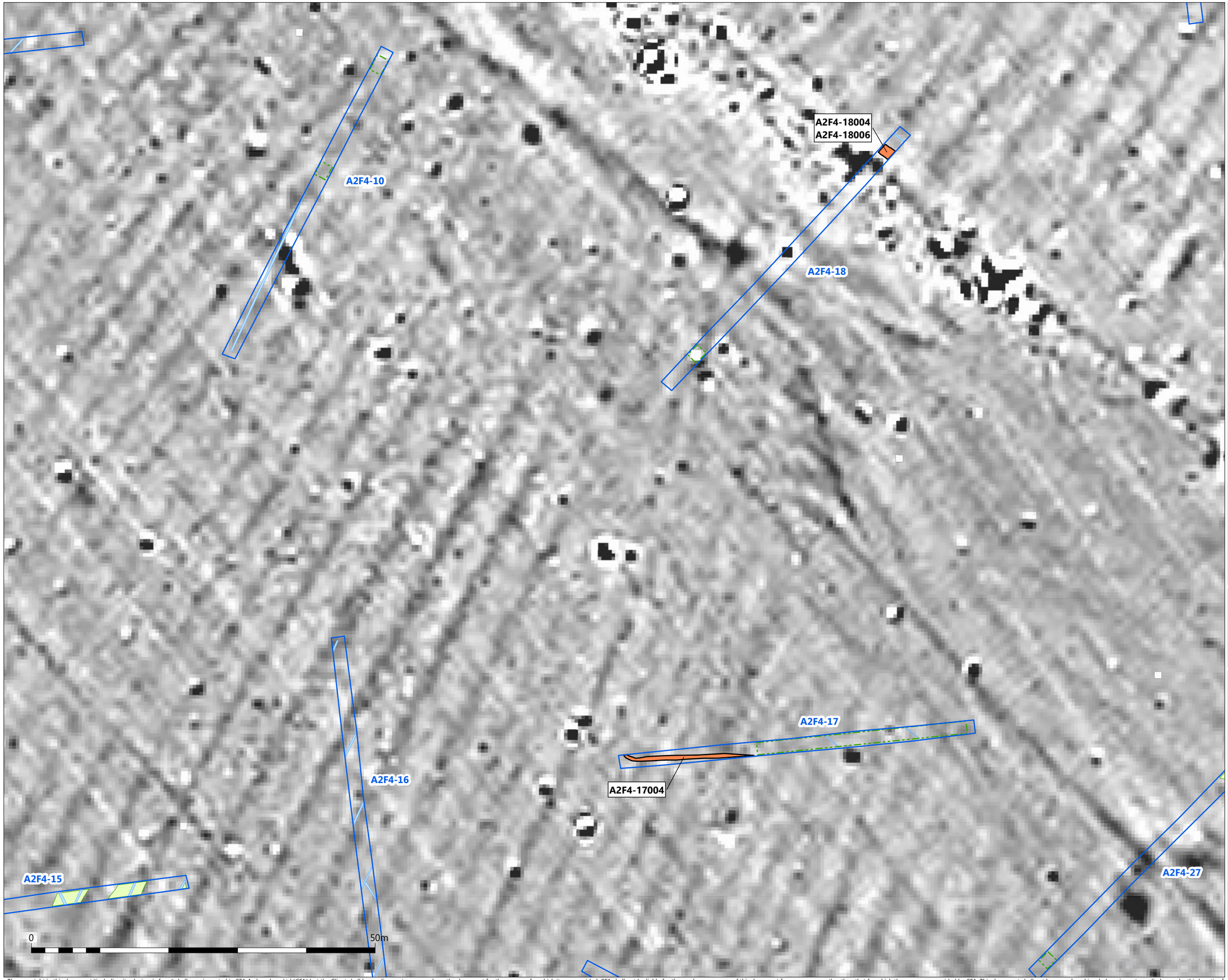
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3f



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1:500

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CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
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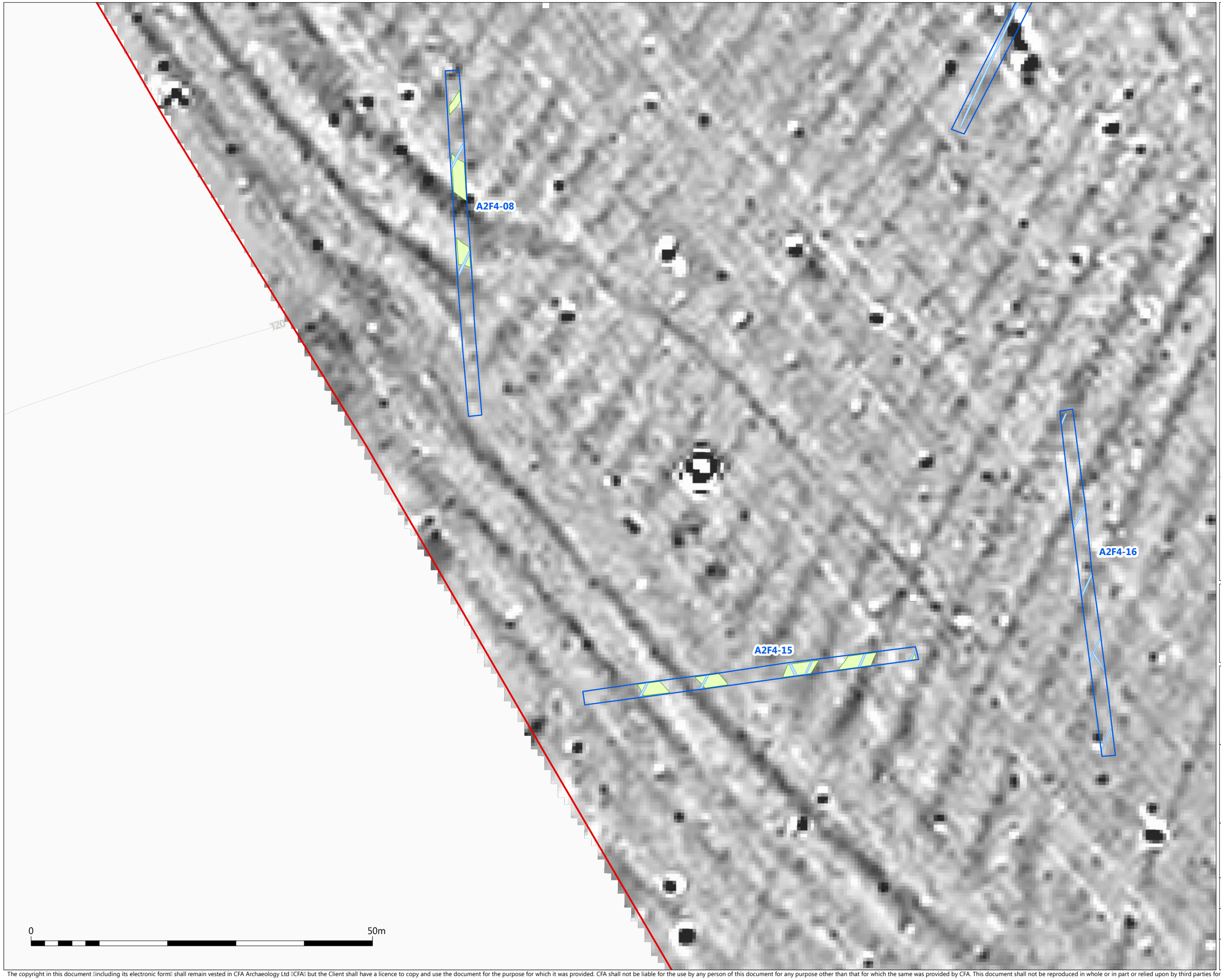

Key:

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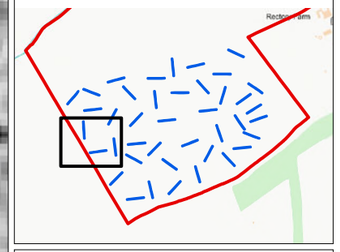

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1:500

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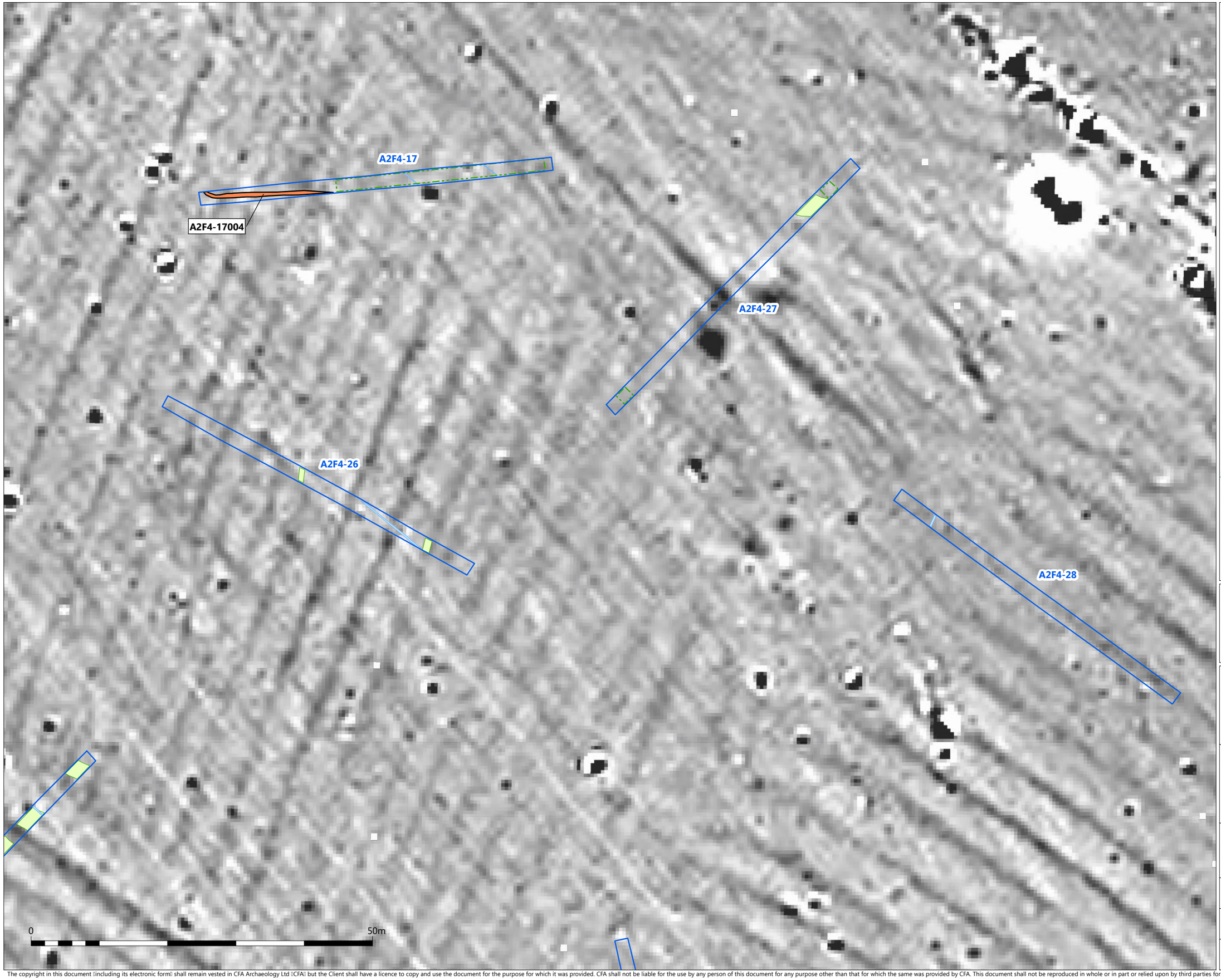
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3h



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1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3i

A2F4-30

A2F4-31

A2F4-29

A2F4-39

A2F4-39003

A2F4-40

0

50m

Key:

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Scale at A3:
1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3j

A2F4-32003

A2F4-31

A2F4-42

A2F4-42009

A2F4-42007

A2F4-42005

A2F4-42003

A2F4-41

A2F4-40

0

50m

Key:

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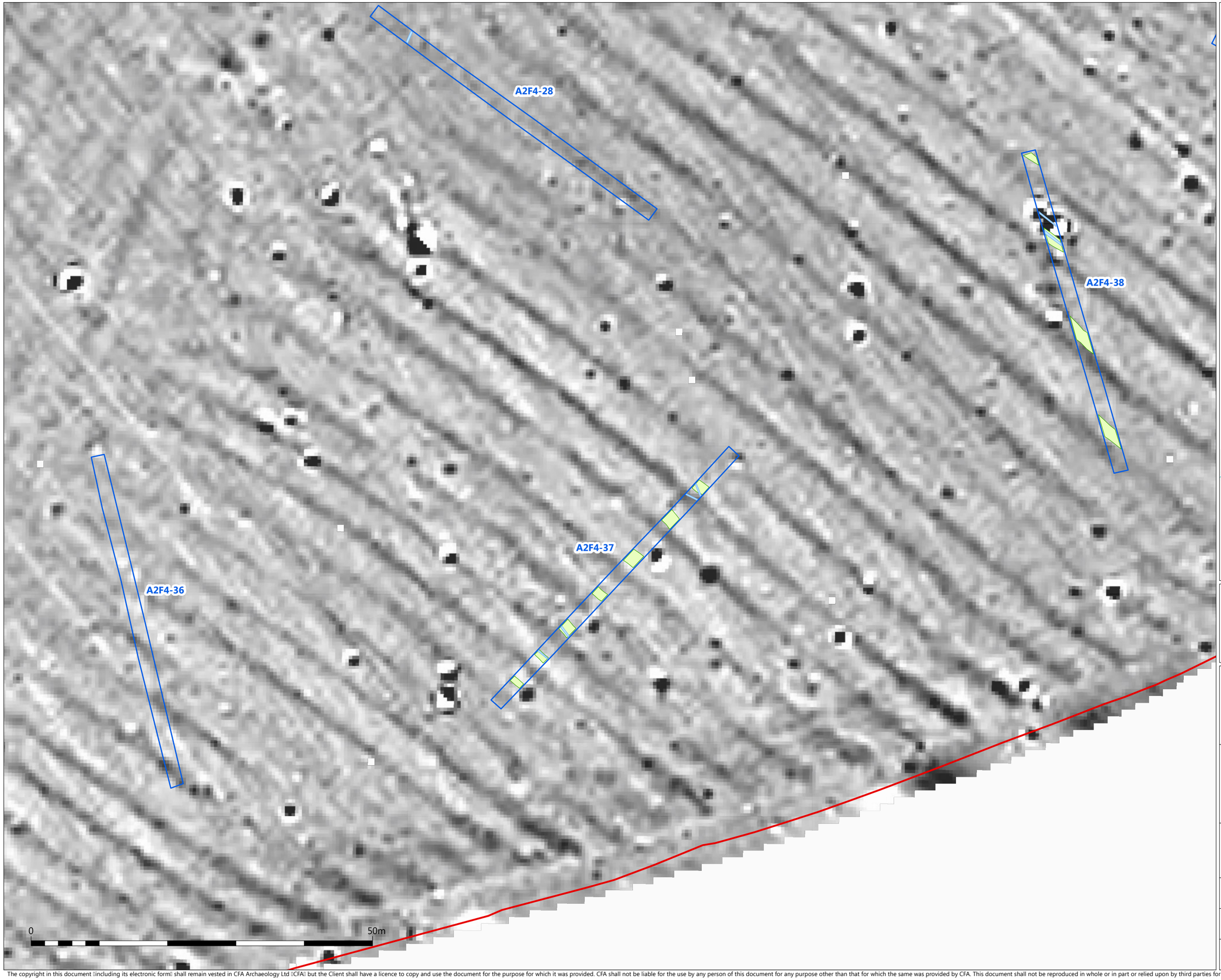
4573	3k



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- Furrow
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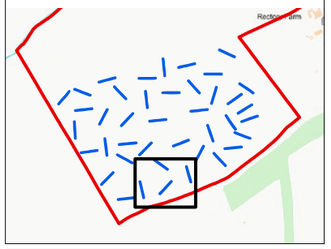

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Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
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Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3l

A2F4-25

A2F4-36

A2F4-35

A2F4-35003

A2F4-35005

0

50m

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CA	SW	06/03/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4573	3m

APPENDIX 1

Trench Strata Summary

Context	Trench	Title	Vertical span (m)
A2F4-01001	A2F4-01	Topsoil - Trench 01	0.22 (avg.)
A2F4-01002	A2F4-01	Colluvium - Trench 01	0.20 (avg.)
A2F4-02001	A2F4-02	Topsoil - Trench 02	0.30 (avg.)
A2F4-02002	A2F4-02	Colluvium - Trench 02	0.54 (avg.)
A2F4-03001	A2F4-03	Topsoil - Trench 03	0.30 (avg.)
A2F4-03002	A2F4-03	Colluvium - Trench 03	0.06 (avg.)
A2F4-04001	A2F4-04	Topsoil - Trench 04	0.45 (avg.)
A2F4-05001	A2F4-05	Topsoil - Trench 05	0.30 (avg.)
A2F4-05002	A2F4-05	Colluvium - Trench 05	0.50 to 0.30
A2F4-06001	A2F4-06	Topsoil - Trench 06	0.30 (avg.)
A2F4-06002	A2F4-06	Colluvium - Trench 06	0.60 to 0.46
A2F4-07001	A2F4-07	Topsoil - Trench 07	0.27 (avg.)
A2F4-07002	A2F4-07	Colluvium - Trench 07	0.35 to 0.76
A2F4-08001	A2F4-08	Topsoil - Trench 08	0.25 (avg.)
A2F4-08002	A2F4-08	Subsoil - Trench 08	0.16 (avg.)
A2F4-09001	A2F4-09	Topsoil - Trench 09	0.25 (avg.)
A2F4-10001	A2F4-10	Topsoil - Trench 10	0.36 to 0.19
A2F4-10002	A2F4-10	Subsoil - Trench 10	1.10 (avg.)
A2F4-11001	A2F4-11	Topsoil - Trench 11	0.28 (avg.)
A2F4-12001	A2F4-12	Topsoil - Trench 12	0.31 (avg.)
A2F4-13001	A2F4-13	Topsoil - Trench 13	0.24 (avg.)
A2F4-13002	A2F4-13	Colluvium - Trench 13	0.47 to 0.55

Context	Trench	Title	Vertical span (m)
A2F4-14001	A2F4-14	Topsoil - Trench 14	0.27 (avg.)
A2F4-14002	A2F4-14	Colluvium - Trench 14	0.02 to 0.41
A2F4-15001	A2F4-15	Topsoil - Trench 15	0.29 (avg.)
A2F4-16001	A2F4-16	Topsoil - Trench 16	0.32 (avg.)
A2F4-17001	A2F4-17	Topsoil - Trench 17	0.20 to 0.35
A2F4-17002	A2F4-17	Colluvium - Trench 17	0.57 (avg.)
A2F4-18001	A2F4-18	Topsoil - Trench 18	0.40 (avg.)
A2F4-18002	A2F4-18	Colluvium - Trench 18	0.30 (avg.)
A2F4-19001	A2F4-19	Topsoil - Trench 19	0.38 (avg.)
A2F4-19002	A2F4-19	Colluvium - Trench 19	0.25 to 0.45
A2F4-20001	A2F4-20	Topsoil - Trench 20	0.27 (avg.)
A2F4-21001	A2F4-21	Topsoil - Trench 21	0.33 (avg.)
A2F4-22001	A2F4-22	Topsoil - Trench 22	0.33 (avg.)
A2F4-23001	A2F4-23	Topsoil - Trench 23	0.34 (avg.)
A2F4-24001	A2F4-24	Topsoil - Trench 24	0.34 (avg.)
A2F4-25001	A2F4-25	Topsoil - Trench 25	0.29 (avg.)
A2F4-26001	A2F4-26	Topsoil - Trench 26	0.24 to 0.32
A2F4-27001	A2F4-27	Topsoil - Trench 27	0.28 (avg.)
A2F4-27002	A2F4-27	Colluvium - Trench 27	0.58 to 0.60
A2F4-28001	A2F4-28	Topsoil - Trench 28	0.28 (avg.)
A2F4-29001	A2F4-29	Topsoil - Trench 29	0.28 (avg.)
A2F4-30001	A2F4-30	Topsoil - Trench 30	0.31 (avg.)
A2F4-30002	A2F4-30	Colluvium - Trench 30	0.50 to 0.85
A2F4-31001	A2F4-31	Topsoil - Trench 31	0.33 (avg.)

Context	Trench	Title	Vertical span (m)
A2F4-31002	A2F4-31	Colluvium - Trench 31	0.50 (avg.)
A2F4-32001	A2F4-32	Topsoil - Trench 32	0.31 (avg.)
A2F4-33001	A2F4-33	Topsoil - Trench 33	0.32 (avg.)
A2F4-34001	A2F4-34	Topsoil - Trench 34	0.29 (avg.)
A2F4-35001	A2F4-35	Topsoil - Trench 35	0.22 (avg.)
A2F4-36001	A2F4-36	Topsoil - Trench 36	0.31 (avg.)
A2F4-37001	A2F4-37	Topsoil - Trench 37	0.29 (avg.)
A2F4-38001	A2F4-38	Topsoil - Trench 38	0.20 (avg.)
A2F4-39001	A2F4-39	Topsoil - Trench 39	0.22 (avg.)
A2F4-40001	A2F4-40	Topsoil - Trench 40	0.41 (avg.)
A2F4-41001	A2F4-41	Topsoil - Trench 41	0.29 (avg.)
A2F4-42001	A2F4-42	Topsoil - Trench 42	0.26 (avg.)
A2F4-43001	A2F4-43	Topsoil - Trench 43	0.33 (avg.)
A2F4-43002	A2F4-43	Colluvium - Trench 43	0.65 (avg.)

OASIS Summary for cfaarcha1-531971

OASIS ID (UID)	cfaarcha1-531971
Project Name	Archaeological Evaluation at Greenhill Solar Farm
Sitename	Greenhill Solar Farm: Site A2, Green Hill Solar, Site C, North Northamptonshire, United Kingdom, Green Hill Solar, Site E, West Northamptonshire, United Kingdom, Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Northamptonshire, Green Hill Solar Farm, Site B, Northamptonshire
Sitecode	GHSO, GHSO2, GHSO5, GHSO3, GHSO4
Project Identifier(s)	GHSO
Activity type	Evaluation
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Lanpro Archaeology + Heritage
Project Dates	05-Aug-2024 - 14-Mar-2025
Location	Greenhill Solar Farm: Site A2 NGR : SP 82245 72912 LL : 52.348121009528036, -0.794024387778809 12 Fig : 482245,272912 Green Hill Solar, Site C, North Northamptonshire, United Kingdom NGR : SP 89169 67889 LL : 52.30189012757474, -0.693731233477592 12 Fig : 489169,267889 NGR : SP 83473 68395 LL : 52.30733605482163, -0.7771241593268 12 Fig : 483473,268395 Green Hill Solar, Site E, West Northamptonshire, United Kingdom NGR : SP 80219 72183 LL : 52.34186503070412, -0.823932364583015 12 Fig : 480219,272183 NGR : SP 80557 73653 LL : 52.35503552761861, -0.818615495602427 12 Fig : 480557,273653 Green Hill Solar Farm, Site A, Northamptonshire NGR : SP 80333 73528 LL : 52.3539408089448, -0.821939853235936 12 Fig : 480333,273528 Green Hill Solar Farm, Site B, Northamptonshire NGR : SP 79327 68435 LL : 52.3083094990601, -0.837907204714243 12 Fig : 479327,268435

Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : West Northamptonshire Local Authority District : West Northamptonshire Parish : Walgrave County/Local Authority : North Northamptonshire Local Authority District : North Northamptonshire Parish : Wellingborough, unparished area Parish : Mears Ashby Parish : Sywell Parish : Old Parish : Holcot
Project Methodology	The proposed Green Hill Solar Farm comprises nine sites (Green Hill A, A2, B, C, D, E, F, G, and BESS). Eight of the sites are located between Northampton and Wellingborough in Northamptonshire (Green Hill A to F and BESS). Site G is located to the north of Lavendon in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Collectively, the sites cover approximately 1224ha within a swathe of land measuring approximately 23km from north to south and11.5km from east to west. During the excavation of the evaluation trenches, the topsoil and recent overburden were removed down to the natural substrate in successive level spits of a maximum 0.2m thickness, using a tracked machine equipped with a wide toothless ditching bucket. The groundwork was carried out under direct archaeological supervision. All the exposed features were cleaned and excavated by hand. The sections of the excavated features were drawn at a 1:10 scale and planned at a 1:20 scale. All archaeological features were scanned with an XR ADX150 metal detector prior, during, and after excavation. The trenches and all archaeological remains were surveyed and tied into the National Grid using a Trimble GPS.
Project Results	Archaeological evaluation trial trenching was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd at the proposed Green Hill Solar Farm from August 2024 to March 2025 to inform a planning application for a solar farm development. The archaeological features recorded across the Sites are indicative of rural settlement and agricultural practice dating from the Iron Age into the Roman periods. These features include rectilinear enclosures of varying complexity, probable round houses, and boundary ditches which may have served as land divisions or functional drainage.
Keywords	
Funder	Private or public corporation Greenhill Solar Farm Ltd
HER	Northamptonshire SMR - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	P Mann
HER Identifiers	
Archives	

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