

Growing Baldock

Environmental Statement Addendum
Volume 2: Figures & Appendices

Chapter 9: Archaeology

Appendix 9.2 Historic Environment Management Plan

Growing Baldock Development Site

Baldock, Hertfordshire

Historic Environment Management Plan

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Growing Baldock Development Site

Historic Environment Management Plan

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SUMMARY

Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by Urban&Civic to prepare an archaeological historic environment management plan that details how the archaeological heritage assets affected by development proposals within the Site will be managed in the development of land to the north and east of Baldock, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 25341 34423).

The use of the site is being changed from arable farmland and heath to an urban development that incorporates areas of residential dwellings and employment space, as well as associated infrastructure, landscaping and planting.

Previous assessment of the historical and baseline data indicates that in addition to the scheduled monument associated with the Late Iron Age settlement and Romano-British small town in Walls Field, there are areas of archaeological interest associated with Neolithic to Bronze Age barrows in BA1, BA2 and BA10; Iron Age pits and agricultural activity in BA3; Late Iron Age to Romano-British roadside and hinterland activity in BA1, BA3 and BA10; and medieval settlement and associated activity in BA1 and Walls Field.

This archaeological historic environment management plan provides an iterative framework for the management of the site that will be updated throughout the more detailed design of the development. It presents details relating to the safeguarding of the archaeological heritage assets on the site with the aim to ensure their long-term protection. The plan includes methods of protecting the heritage significance of the archaeological remains both during and after the construction of the development, as well as details of measures to enhance public knowledge.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) has been commissioned by Urban&Civic to prepare an archaeological historic environment management plan (HEMP) for the protection of archaeological remains within land to the north and east of Baldock, henceforth known as 'the Site'. The Site is centred on NGR TL 25341 34423, and its location is shown on Figure 1.

1.1.2 This document has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2022); *Planning Practice Guidance – Historic Environment*, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG 2019); and Historic England's *Good Practice Advice in Planning 1-3* (2015a; 2015b; 2017) and *Advice Note 12* (2019).

1.2 Proposed development

1.2.1 The outline planning application was submitted to the North Hertfordshire Council on 08 October 2025 and validated on 13 October 2025. The decision date is 02 February 2026. At this outline stage, the HEMP is an iterative document that will be reviewed and updated throughout the life of the project. Documents associated with the outline planning application for the development are available at https://documentportal.north-herts.gov.uk/GetDocList/Default.aspx?doc_class_code=DC&case_number=25/02571/OP#.

1.2.2 This document forms part of the development plan associated with the Site and its planning application. The latest version of the document will be circulated to all contractors and sub-contractors working on the site when they become involved with the project, and updates will be circulated to those already involved in the project.

1.3 Location

1.3.1 The Site covers seven land parcels within c. 220ha that were defined within the North Hertfordshire Local Plan (North Herts Council 2022; Fig. 2). These are predominantly agricultural land on the northern and eastern edges of the town of Baldock, c. 50km to the north of London and c. 21.5km to the south-east of Bedford.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 The planning background relevant to the site, as well as the archaeological remains and their significance, have already been outlined in a [desk-based assessment](#) (DBA) and [Environmental Statement](#) (ES) produced for the development. The purpose of this HEMP is to detail how the archaeological heritage assets within the Site will be managed with regard to the issues and constraints of the Site.

2.1.2 As the development is currently at the outline planning stage, definitive designs have not yet been produced. As such, this is an iterative document that provides details of where archaeology will influence the detailed design of the development. This document will:

- a) Highlight current management issues;
- b) Detail iterative strategies for the protection and enhancement of the archaeological heritage assets, particularly the Scheduled Monument in Walls Field, in order to ensure their continued significance;
- c) Detail a commitment to an iterative design approach for all stages of the project, with archaeological data and future mitigation results feeding into the design for the development, such as for: land use, built form, green space, street layout and SuDs design;
- d) Outline opportunities for community engagement and the enhancement of public knowledge of the site and its significance; and
- e) Outline future management procedures and how the HEMP will be implemented and reviewed.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 The planning background associated with the development has been outlined within the [DBA](#), with relevant national policies including:
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979) (as amended);
 - Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990; and
 - National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF; MHCLG 2025), which is currently under review with the aim of increasing the accessibility and clarity of the policies (MHCLG 2025a; MHCLG 2025b).
- 3.1.2 The Site falls within three parishes (Baldock, Bygrave and Clothall) within the North Hertfordshire District of the County of Hertfordshire. As such, the site also falls under the local planning policy within:
- The North Hertfordshire Local Plan (North Herts Council 2022) where the site covers four areas (BA1-3 and BA10) that have been allocated for development; and
 - The Baldock, Bygrave and Clothall Neighbourhood Plan (Baldock, Bygrave and Clothall Planning Group, 2021).
- 3.1.3 In addition to these, although the settings of Scheduled Monuments are not subject to Scheduled Monument Consent, they contribute to their significance and may require other consents such as planning permission or development consent (DCMS 2013, 15).
- 3.1.4 As outlined in the [planning statement](#) (paragraphs 3.42-3.57), U&C utilise a tiered approach in the delivery of strategic sites via the master developer model. This allows for the approval of the appropriate level of detail at the appropriate time, cascading down from the high level to granular detail. This results in three tiers.
- Tier 1: Outline submission. This sets out the broad quantum and disposition of land uses through the development specification,

parameter plan, mitigation measures, and design and spatial principles.

Discussions with arch to agree mitigation excavation areas

- Tier 2: 'Framework' submission. This shapes the phases of the development that gives the master developer and LPA a high level of control over implementation to deliver a joined-up approach. This tier includes the formulation of a design code and technical delivery documents.

At this stage, the Design Code will be drafted reflecting existing knowledge of archaeology. As a live document, the HEMP will be updated if needed to include any heritage related design requirements/features set out within the Phase Design Code.

Parcel BA2 is not being included in this tier in order to bring it forward as early as possible in the development programme, but with more detailed design requirements included as part of the Tier 1 material and a reserved matters application (RMA) submitted immediately post-issue of outline planning permission (OPP).

- Tier 3: Reserved Matters. This will include statements setting out how the infrastructure and development complies with the Tier 1 and relevant Tier 2 material through RMAs.

The county archaeologist would have input to influence the detailed design based on the archaeological data produced from excavations. Ideally any issues should have been discussed and resolved before RMAs are submitted.

Within this, a condition within the OPP to allow enabling works (including archaeology) to be approved via RMAs in advance of Tier 2 approvals is being sought.

4 BASELINE CONDITIONS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The baseline conditions and archaeological background of the site were established in August 2025 during previous archaeological works (geophysical survey and evaluation) and the production of a [DBA](#), with their significance outlined in the [ES](#) in accordance with NPPF 207 and the Local Plan (Policy HE1). The condition of the archaeological remains is taken from this point, with three archaeological assets identified as having the potential to be impacted by the proposed development.

- Settlement site south of Blackhorse Farm Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1003548);
- Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1016305); and
- Archaeological remains within the site.

- 4.1.2 Parts of this history are preserved within the site, including the scheduled area of the Romano-British town, while the late medieval layout of the town is preserved within the conservation area to the west. The scheduled monuments and their settings also preserve elements of the town's relationship with its agricultural hinterland, the River Ivel and the historical route of Ermine Street. Part of this can be seen today with their evolved settlement setting that incorporates modern agricultural land and residential development.
- 4.2 Settlement site south of Blackhorse Farm Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1003548)**
- 4.2.1 This area of buried archaeological remains lies c. 17m to the west of BA1 on the opposite side of North Road and is managed as grazed meadow. The scheduled area is bordered by allotment gardens, grassland and trees to the north, west and south, with North Road and the agricultural land of BA1 to its east. Beyond the trees to the west is the A1(M), which was audible at times during the site visit. The scheduled area is on lower ground overlooked by the Site (BA1) with hedges and trees on both sides of North Road providing some screening between. Additional modern intrusions that contribute to the separation of the open land to the east of the scheduled area from its historical context, and provide an evolved setting for the monument, include an overhead line on the northern side of the road and a housing estate c. 30m to the south-east of the scheduled area. The significance of the asset primarily relates to its below-ground evidential and archaeological value, but due to the adjacent presence of Ermine Street it has connections to the Late Iron Age to Romano-British settlement to the south-east (NHLE 1016305). Although some cropmarks and raised areas that may indicate earthworks are visible, there are no clearly defined earthworks or prominent built forms that provide tangible evidence of the settlement with which the monument can be appreciated. As such, the setting makes a negligible contribution to the significance of the scheduled area.
- 4.3 Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock scheduled monument (NHLE 1016305)**
- 4.3.1 This area of buried archaeological remains lies within the Walls Field area of the Site, c. 13m to the west of BA3. The south-western part is currently public playing fields, the west within school grounds, and the east (within the site) agricultural land. The scheduled area is bordered by residential development to the north, west and south. Although agricultural land extends to the east, a garden centre and the continuation of Clothall Road partially detract from this. There are no clearly defined earthworks or prominent built forms that provide tangible evidence with which the monument can be appreciated. This designated area is on the Heritage at Risk Register due to its condition, the threat from ploughing and major localised problems. Although its significance largely derives from its evidential archaeological value, it also has connections with other Romano-British remains in the area, such as those at Blackhorse Farm (NHLE 1003548) and Radwell Villa (NHLE 1016308) to the north-west, due to the presence of Ermine Street extending northwards between the two. As such, the setting of the of the scheduled

area makes a low (beneficial) contribution to the significance of the scheduled area.

4.4 Archaeological remains within the site

- 4.4.1 The geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trench evaluations undertaken across the site have demonstrated that with the former and current agricultural cultivation across most of the Site, there is a high level of archaeological survival within its area. Although there is potential for remains from all periods to be encountered, there is a greater potential for those relating to Bronze Age funerary monuments, continued Late Iron Age to Romano-British settlement and agricultural activity from the Late Iron Age onwards to be encountered. Following the archaeological evaluation of the site, there is a good understanding of the archaeological remains within the site, and these are considered to be of local to regional interest.

5 POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 This section outlines the main management issues for the archaeological heritage assets that are apparent at the time of the HEMP being produced.

5.2 Present management and use

- 5.2.1 The site is currently predominantly under arable cultivation but also includes an area of heath in the north of BA3. At present, the arable land is subject to ploughing and agricultural activities that may disturb any archaeological remains, while the heathland is overgrown with low scrub.
- 5.2.2 Public access is currently limited to public rights of way (PROWs) that cross areas BA1, the north of BA3, BA10, Urban Open Land and Walls Field, limiting the ability for the archaeological resource to be appreciated and understood by the public. Where archaeological remains have been identified within the site, there is no indication of these on the ground, further restricting understanding of the resource.
- 5.2.3 Although the open nature of the land provides the potential for connecting to the settings of the archaeological heritage assets, there is nothing to indicate these connections on the ground.

5.3 Proposed development

- 5.3.1 The proposed development is for residential and employment development of land allocated under the North Hertfordshire Local Plan (sites BA1, BA2, BA3 and BA10) for up to 3,200 dwellings and 16ha of employment land, alongside supporting infrastructure and open space. An additional two areas (Land West of North Road and Walls Field) are included within the design to be included as part of the green infrastructure.
- 5.3.2 At present, the development is at the outline planning stage, with a [parameter plan](#) produced (ref. UAC092-002 Revision R).
- 5.3.3 The potential impacts of the proposed scheme have been outlined in the [DBA](#) and [ES](#). In general, the development extends the urban boundary of

Baldock to the north and east. These include disturbance during the construction process which would be likely to cause the removal/destruction of archaeological remains. These would be permanent and irreversible and include:

- Site clearance/demolition works;
- Removal of topsoil and subsoil within the Site;
- Excavation works associated with building foundations, the sustainable drainage corridor and SuDs basins, and the installation of services, highways infrastructure and the sustainable travel network;
- Hard landscaping, including planting;
- Rutting caused by vehicle movements;
- Compression of the ground; and
- Hydrological changes due to construction works and the removal of areas of hedgerow and vegetation.

5.3.4 In addition, indirect impacts on the setting of the scheduled monuments (NHLE 1016305 and 1003548) were also identified. These include:

- Temporary visibility, lighting and noise of construction works;
- Permanent impact of lighting from the built development;
- Removal of the Scheduled Monument of the Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock (NHLE 1016305) from agricultural cultivation to become an informal open space;
- Permanent impact of the presence of new buildings (up to three storeys); and
- Change in the setting of the Scheduled Monuments through the extension of the urban boundary of Baldock to the north and east: from a modern agricultural and open landscape to urban development with pockets of open space.

5.3.5 With regard to the identified archaeological heritage assets that will be affected by development within the Site, the significance of the effect of the development, without mitigation, has been identified for each of the three archaeological heritage assets.

Settlement site south of Blackhorse Farm (NHLE 1003548)

5.3.6 The setting of this monument is currently characterised by the surrounding settlement of Baldock, and by its nature, the Scheduled Monument is a settlement site. The proposed layout of the development within the parameter plan has been designed to include sufficient green space to mitigate any effects caused by settlement growth in the surrounding area, and although there will be a change in the character of the setting of the Scheduled Monument, this forms part of an evolved landscape of settlement growth.

5.3.7 For this Scheduled Monument, the magnitude of impact of the development has been identified as minor adverse due to its significance relating to its

evidential, archaeological value and the evolved setting being of modern agriculture and residential development. This will also have a minor adverse impact resulting from the construction works associated with the development due to their temporary nature and the evidential focus of the Scheduled Monument on the below-ground archaeological value.

Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock (NHLE 1016305)

- 5.3.8 For this Scheduled Monument, the magnitude of impact of the development has been identified as moderate beneficial due to its significance relating to its evidential, archaeological value, its evolved setting being of modern agriculture and residential development, and the slowing of the erosion of archaeological remains associated with the Roman settlement. This will also have a minor adverse impact resulting from the construction works associated with the development due to their temporary nature and the evidential focus of the Scheduled Monument on the below-ground archaeological value.

Archaeological remains within the site

- 5.3.9 For the archaeological remains within the site, the magnitude of impact of the development has been identified as moderate adverse due to the complete removal of archaeological remains during construction works.

6 MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 This section, in accordance with the Local Plan and in conjunction with the [development specification](#) and [design and access statement](#), details how the issues identified in Section 5 will be mitigated against during both the construction and the life of the development in order to maintain and enhance the significance of the archaeological heritage assets. In order to minimise the potential for conflict between archaeology and the development, these measures take into account the significance of the archaeological heritage assets as well as the uses and interests of the Site, the practicalities of managing the land, and the heritage opportunities identified within the [Growing Baldock Strategic Masterplan](#) framework of celebrating heritage and putting place-making at the heart of the development that includes:

- respecting and responding to Baldock's unique character and built form;

6.1.2 and utilising opportunities:

- to celebrate the area's rich heritage to positively influence the landscape and reference and interpret some of the area's archaeology within the landscape and movement framework; and
- for the new development to reflect and sensitively relate to the historic character and strong identity of Baldock, defined by its rich

history, its landmarks and its strong visual and physical connections to the countryside.

6.1.3 They also consider recommendations as provided by:

- Historic England (2016), *Preserving Archaeological Remains: Decision-taking for sites under development*;
- Historic England (2023), *Management of Archaeological Sites on Grassland*; and
- Davis et al. (2004), *Mitigation of Construction Impact on Archaeological Remains*.

6.1.4 The combination of the measures outlined below will aid in the preservation of the archaeological heritage assets within the site, as well as the setting of those in the vicinity. They will also facilitate greater public understanding of the archaeological heritage assets by providing greater access alongside improved information and interpretation of the Site, to be made available both on and off the Site.

6.1.5 The approach taken in this plan is to detail measures that will apply across the whole development (site-wide management), with measures relating specifically to each of the three archaeological heritage assets detailed within these. These will be updated as the design of the development progresses.

6.2 Measure 1: Layout

6.2.1 The history of Baldock and the archaeological remains within the site and scheduled areas provide a positive opportunity for the development to have a character that connects to the history of the town and its surrounding landscape. The layout of the development and its streets form an important design component that will help physically and visually integrate the development with the existing town and in relation to the archaeological heritage assets. It will also be designed to give identity to specific locations through, for example, contrasting materials, different species of tree and landscape planting, use of public art, and variations in street furniture. This will be achieved through the following measures:

- a) The development layout (through landscape design, street alignment or built form), in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan (Policies E5 and G5), will be influenced by the historic development of the town. This will include consideration of, and reference to, the alignment of the Winterbourne palaeochannel, the Icknield Way, Roman roads (including Ermine Street and especially in relation to remains in BA2), the Romano-British settlement layout, the medieval street and burgrave plot layout of Baldock, former field boundaries, Millers Way, areas of common (including Bygrave and Clothall Commons), lines of sight to and from St Mary's Church, and the historic landscape character identified within the site.
- b) The determination of street names will consider the history of the town and remains identified within the site. Public consultation will

also be sought in order to facilitate greater engagement with the development.

- c) Design of the SuDs channel will be made with consideration of the Winterbourne palaeochannel and the surrounding identified archaeological resource.
- d) Strategic views, including those identified within the [green infrastructure strategy](#) such as from the high ground within BA1 towards Bygrave Common in the north of its area, will be established in order to retain a connection throughout its area.

Archaeological remains within the site

- e) Detailed designs of the development will factor in any areas identified as of higher archaeological interest during the earlier phases of archaeological works. This may include preserving archaeological remains *in situ* if any unknown remains of high significance are identified during archaeological investigations and preservation *in situ* is considered the most appropriate response (detailed in Measures 7e and 8). Current designs utilise areas of strategic green space informed by the geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation work. If any areas of preservation *in situ* are identified during the archaeological works, these may allow for targeted utilisation of development that has a lower impact, such as open space, on the areas that are considered to be of higher interest and create potential areas for preservation *in situ*.
- f) The results of the archaeological excavations will be used to influence the design of the development, where appropriate and viable, in order to link the site to its past land use. In addition to links to the Winterbourne palaeochannel, Icknield Way and Ermine Street, this may include, but not be limited to, elements such as the outline of settlement boundaries, tithe boundaries or pit alignments being used to influence the layout or alignment of modern neighbourhoods; the use of the footprints of structures within the design of any public art installations; or the arrangement of the Bronze Age barrows within the layout of green space, planting or neighbourhood areas. They may also be used to influence the naming of streets.

6.3 Measure 2: Open and green space and public access

6.3.1 Although the proposed development would extend the built form of Baldock and alter the wider setting of the archaeological heritage assets, the use of open space and green buffers is embedded within the parameter plan for the development to preserve their significance in accordance with NPPF 212 and 213, where possible. The implementation of open space will allow the archaeological heritage assets of the site to be better appreciated by their more tangible presence within the landscape (reflected in open spaces), with connections possible through corridors of open space, such as the landscape corridor proposed along Bygrave Road.

- a) Open spaces will be utilised to limit the density of development within sight of the Scheduled Monuments as far as practicable.

- b) In order to embed archaeology into the site's history and layout, and enhance public connections to historical routes within the Site, and in conjunction with the heritage trail and interpretation panels outlined in Measure 9d and e, and in accordance with NPPF 219 and the Local Plan (Policies SP13 and SP14):

The historic footpath (Millers Way) on the northern edge of BA1, will be retained as a grass track.

The historic route of the Icknield Way (Fig. 2) will be retained and its alignment utilised within the development layout.

The route of the Winterbourne palaeochannel (Fig. 2) will be utilised as an open space corridor and in the SuDs design.

A heritage park will be established in the east of BA1. This will utilise heritage themes in its landscaping, layout and choices of planted species.

The design of play areas and equipment will reflect the character of the archaeological heritage assets in their area.

U&C have utilised the use of heritage trails and areas at other sites, such as Priors Hall (case study B in App. A)

- c) The long-term management and maintenance of open spaces will be in accordance with the stewardship approach outlined in the [planning statement](#), and will be agreed with HCC and NHC.

Management of open spaces that are also AoPs will include strategies identified within Measure 8.

Management of the open spaces will be to a consistent high-quality standard throughout and tailored to each type of open space, with emphasis including the protection of heritage assets. It will include suitable maintenance carried out at appropriate times and repairs undertaken as necessary.

Funding and stewardship options include: NHC adoption of open spaces; the use of a management company (such as ManCo established by U&C); management by a charitable trust; and community ownership and long-term stewardship. This may vary between open spaces depending on their individual requirements. Discussions will be held on this and detailed as a condition of the development and in accordance with a Section 106 agreement as appropriate.

Settlement site south of Blackhorse Farm Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1003548)

- 6.3.2 The western end of BA1, fronting towards the Scheduled Monument, is intended as a gateway that signals the arrival into Baldock from the north. This is to be characterised by a landscape setting that includes a new SuDs corridor that will provide visual links to the countryside. The retention of open space around the Scheduled Monument will help to prevent

substantial harm to its setting by retaining the visibility of open space and reducing the visibility of built development.

- d) Development in the west of BA1, will include the use of open space to set the area of built development back from North Road as much as feasible within the parameters of the development and in consultation with Historic England. This will not be less than is currently indicated by the [parameter plan](#).
- e) Referencing of the Winterbourne palaeochannel as part of the open space to the north-west of the scheduled monument will help preserve the open setting that forms part of the significance of the Scheduled Monument.
- f) The area within Land west of North Road, to the south of the Scheduled Monument, will be retained as public open space (allotments). This is in keeping with the adjacent area of allotments and will avoid development within this area of grassland, maintaining the open setting in this direction.
- g) Where practicable, view corridors will be established through any blocks of development in the west of BA1 in order to retain as much of the open character to the east of the Scheduled Monument as possible.

Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1016305)

- 6.3.3 As part of the development, the scheduled area within the Site (Walls Field) will be removed from agricultural cultivation and incorporated as an area of public open space for light recreational use with ecological enhancement as an area of meadow and wildflower grassland. This would enhance the significance of the scheduled monument in accordance with NPPF 219, the Local Plan (Policies HE1, HE2 and SP13) and the Neighbourhood Plan (Policy G2). This will respect the archaeological sensitivity of the monument and increase the amenity value of the monument. It will enable the protection of the buried remains from further disturbance and slow erosion by ploughing and enable greater public access.
- 6.3.4 The combination of these measures may help to better preserve the archaeological remains and enhance their significance. If this is achieved, the development may remove the scheduled monument from the Heritage at Risk register, as suggested by Historic England in their [consultation response](#) dated 10 November 2025.
- 6.3.5 In order to achieve this, the following measures will be implemented:
 - h) Scheduled monument consent (SMC) will be sought for the change in use of Walls Field (and any works carried out within its area).
 - i) If any work is to be undertaken within the scheduled area, and SMC is granted, archaeological investigation will be undertaken within the affected area(s) and works will be carried out under archaeological supervision. These will follow national guidelines and be in accordance with Measures 7 and 8f below.

Archaeological investigation within the scheduled monument will allow for the current condition of the buried remains and the full impact of the ploughing to be established. This information will be fed into the archaeological interpretation of the development and outlined in Measure 9a below and will help to increase understanding of the site and its significance.

- j) The scheduled area will be managed in accordance with Historic England's guidelines for the owners and occupiers of scheduled monuments (Historic England 2014) and will focus on providing good land management and minimising disturbance to the ground in order to ensure the preservation and enhancement of the scheduled monument, in accordance with NPPF 212.
- k) The final design of the cycle access and paths (including locations, widths, depths, materials, grading, compaction and construction and repair methodologies) are yet to be finalised, but at present are indicated in the west of Walls Field.

Their location and construction will be decided in consultation with Historic England.

These will be introduced through the implementation of minimal excavation techniques, such as limiting any intrusive elements to the depth of the topsoil, the installation of separation geotextiles, the use of raised surfaces or treatments that limit any required excavation to the depth of the topsoil, and spreading the load of any material used in the construction of the cycle paths.

Designs may also focus on the use of porous materials in order to maintain hydrological conditions and prevent further erosion of the surrounding area from excessive run-off from these paths onto the surrounding ground.

- l) Grassland may be introduced through methods such as hand sowing or direct drilling and seed slotting to cause minimal disturbance, and weeds will be controlled by topping or the targeted use of selective herbicides. If re-seeding is required, minimal cultivation techniques will be employed.

Paths (including the PRoW (Baldock 037) and informal routes) will be formed of mown areas. This will allow for the periodic relocation of the PRoW in order to minimise disturbance caused by erosion.

Mowing will be used to maintain the grassland and paths (with timeframes and responsibility to be confirmed) to control weeds and encourage a healthy meadow. This will help manage vegetation growth across the site and constrain the growth of roots. Maintenance cuts will only use machinery in dry conditions with firm ground.

- m) In order to reduce the damage caused by weeds and scrub, their encroachment will be removed by non-mechanical means and with consideration of the ecological impact.

- n) Evidence for the presence of burrowing animals was identified during the site walkover associated with the DBA (paragraph 8.1.18). In order to control further disturbance to the buried remains of the scheduled area, humane control of burrowing populations will be established, including blocking-up burrow entrances. With the scheduled area intended to be mown, wire netting mesh will not be suitable.
- o) The area on the opposite side of Clothall Road to the Scheduled Area is designated as Urban Open Land that will incorporate sports pitches, enhanced allotments and potentially play provision, depending upon the final allocation of BA3 to its north.

If BA3 includes a secondary school, Urban Open Land will primarily be part of the school campus and used for grass sports pitches.

If there is no secondary school in BA3, Urban Open Land will incorporate all weather sports pitches and play provision, as well as associated facilities, such as parking and a sports pavilion.

6.4 Measure 3: Building design

6.4.1 Building designs will reflect the existing built heritage of Baldock, in accordance with the Local Plan (Policies HE1 and HE3) and Neighbourhood Plan (Policy G5). These are embedded as part of the site wide principles within the design and access statement, and will include:

- a) Building designs that are intended to reinterpret and echo the best of the town's local vernacular and design elements, including the warm palette of materials typical of the town, carriage arches, high pitched roofs with prominent gables addressing the street in places, consistent building lines, and ornamentation around window and door openings. In this way new streets, buildings and spaces will be embedded in the established style.
- b) Building heights will be limited as much as is feasible within sight of the Scheduled Monuments in order to reduce building visibility within their setting and retain open space. Currently, these areas incorporate building heights of up to 3 storeys (12.5m from finished floor level to the building ridge height). Detailed designs have yet to be produced but should be no higher than existing buildings that currently front onto North Road.

6.5 Measure 4: Planting

6.5.1 It is planned that structural planting/green infrastructure will be used within the northern edge of Bygrave Common (north-east of BA1) and eastern edge of the Heritage Park (eastern end of BA1) to integrate the site into its surrounding landscape. With regard to archaeological heritage assets, measures will include:

- a) The retention of existing trees/hedgerows and other vegetation of value (including those currently serving as a screen to adjacent assets) where possible, including those considered of importance. Where they are to be removed as part of the development (including along

North Road), they will be retained for as long as possible to minimise the impact of the works.

- b) The archaeobotanical results from the archaeological mitigation will be used to help influence the green infrastructure, including planting choices, within the site.

Settlement site south of Blackhorse Farm Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1003548)

- c) The existing tree/hedge line to the north-east of North Road, between the scheduled monument and the site, and which is considered of importance, will be protected and enhanced in order to break up and minimise the visibility of built development beyond. The siting of any breaks in this hedge for access points will be considered in conjunction with the development design beyond in order to provide the potential for the creation of corridors of open space when looking out from the scheduled area.

The use of trees and hedges around this Scheduled Monument is in keeping with the landscape that exists to the north and west of the scheduled area.

Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1016305)

- d) Where planting is to be included, it is to be on the boundaries of the field and will be of immature non-invasive shrub and hedgerow species. These will be chosen to have shallow roots in order to limit roots extending to the depth of the archaeological horizon.

6.6 Measure 5: Lighting

6.6.1 With lighting across the development having been identified within the ES ([Chapter 15](#)) as resulting in a slight increase in light sky glow, site aura and light presence, as well as light 'glare' and visual intrusion from the construction processes, there will be an impact upon the setting of the archaeological heritage assets. Measures to protect these include:

- a) Lighting controls and shielding during construction, as detailed in Construction Environment Management Plans (CEMPs) that will be detailed as part of the reserved matters.
- b) Focusing the direction of light into the development area in order to reduce light spill and glare away from adjacent sites.
- c) The use of dark sky compliant lanterns, directional luminaries and warm-spectrum lighting where possible to reduce glare.

6.7 Measure 6: Construction techniques

6.7.1 In order to minimise the impact of construction (especially visual and auditory) on the setting of the archaeological heritage assets, construction best practices, as adopted by the [Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan](#) (OCEMP) will be adhered to. More detailed CEMPs will be submitted for each phase of the development and with each relevant

Reserved Matters Application prior to the relevant phase of the construction works. This will help to ensure that the construction stage effects upon the archaeological heritage assets remain as low as possible. Measures within this for the protection of the archaeological heritage assets include:

- a) Mechanical plant will be operated by trained operators in suitable and well-maintained plant to minimise excessive ground disturbance and avoid accidental over digging and ground contamination. This will include the use of toothless ditching buckets in areas of archaeological mitigation.
- b) Operation times will be confined to:
Monday to Friday 0800-1800
Saturday 0800-1300
No works permitted on Sundays or Bank Holidays.
Any works outside these times will require agreement with the Local Planning Authority.
- c) Construction haul routes will avoid any areas of preservation *in situ* (AoPs), with these areas remaining fenced throughout the development process, as detailed in Measure 8.
- d) Constraints of areas of construction include:
No built development or above ground infrastructure works including access routes, compounds and storage areas (with the exception of interpretation boards, landscaping, planting and/or soft works) will take place within AoPs or Scheduled Monuments.
No built development (with the exception of the provision of sports pitches and ancillary facilities, footways/cycleways, sports pavilion and local road access) within Urban Open Land.

6.8 Measure 7: Archaeological mitigation

- 6.8.1 Previous archaeological works across the site have identified areas that are of archaeological interest and that these would be impacted by the development. These remains include the site of a potential Bronze Age barrow cemetery, an Iron Age and Romano-British occupation site and roadside activity alongside the Roman road of Ermine Street. Following consultation with the Hertfordshire Council Archaeological Advisor, and in accordance with NPPF 218 and the Local Plan (Policy HE4), it was proposed that targeted archaeological mitigation in the form of excavation or preservation *in situ* (where practicable) was the best solution for the management of the archaeological potential on the site. HCC Archaeology, in their [consultee response](#) (dated 12 November 2025) recommended archaeological conditions being attached to any consent that is given to the development. At present, detailed designs have not yet been produced. However, in order to protect and enhance the archaeological remains that survive within the site, archaeological mitigation will be utilised to preserve the archaeological heritage asset by record. This will allow for the retrieval of information that may be lost through the deterioration of archaeological

remains, provide public access to archaeological information about the site and facilitate further research and understanding on the history of the site and Baldock.

- a) The exact scope and detail of the mitigation areas will be agreed in consultation with the Hertfordshire LEADS team, with the current proposals for open area excavation as outlined below and shown in Figure 3.

Table 1: Potential archaeological mitigation areas

Area	Size (ha)	Archaeology	Proposed predominant land uses
1	1.1	Romano-British roadside activity	Road infrastructure: main access into the development off North Rd. Green space and residential
2	4.4	2x Bronze Age barrows (south) and Romano-British enclosure (north)	Northern half = green space Southern half = residential buildings
3	1.98	5x Bronze Age barrows, showing significant plough disturbance	Residential buildings
4	6.1	Romano-British enclosures and late medieval settlement and industrial activity	Green space
5	7.1	Late Iron Age and Romano-British enclosures and settlement	Residential buildings
5a	1.87	Late Iron Age and Romano-British enclosures and settlement	Commercial buildings
6	5.33	3x Bronze Age round barrows and Romano-British enclosures and field systems	Green space, including playing pitches
7	1.31	Roman road and adjacent activity	Residential buildings
8	4.84	Iron Age pit alignment and Romano-British enclosure and field systems	Buildings, TBC residential or school

- b) Archaeological mitigation will be carried out following approval of the planning application and prior to any construction related activities commencing within their area (currently anticipated to commence in 2027). At present, the planned sequence for delivery of the development is:

BA2 → BA1 (from west to east) → BA10 → BA3

Although it would be possible to reflect this in a phased approach to the archaeological mitigation, in order for the archaeological results to best inform the design of the development, archaeological mitigation should be begun as soon as possible, before the development gets too far into the detailed design phase.

It is currently planned for archaeological works to be undertaken prior to land-sale to developers, and will be funded by U&C. This has been demonstrated to work well for large-scale projects like this at previous U&C sites such as Wintringham. This allows for greater control of the archaeological fieldwork programme and prevents splitting mitigation areas between developers

- c) Ahead of any archaeological mitigation being carried out, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) will be produced and agreed with the Hertfordshire LEADS team. This will detail the areas to be excavated, the methodology that will be applied and the fieldwork management principles that will be followed.
- d) Archaeological mitigation will be undertaken by an approved archaeological contractor in accordance with industry standard good practice and outlined in the WSI and ClfA.
- e) If, during the archaeological mitigation, any remains of higher significance than have previously been indicated are identified, work in that area will stop and the Hertfordshire LEADS team (and Historic England if appropriate) will be contacted. This may include remains such as earthworks of Bronze Age barrows, remains of a Roman villa, or the surface of Ermine Street.

Discussions between the archaeological contractor and the Hertfordshire LEADS team (and Historic England as necessary) will be held in order to establish the significance of the remains and whether preservation *in situ* may become necessary. The decision will include consideration of the significance of the remains as well as their condition and potential to survive continued burial, in accordance with Historic England guidance (Historic England 2016).

In order to characterise the significance of the remains, archaeological investigation will be required in order to establish their full form and extent, as well as the condition in which they are preserved.

If preservation *in situ* is decided upon, the extent of the AoP and any specific treatment will be established during these discussions. The specified area will be treated in accordance with Measure 9 below.

The design of the development will be updated to reflect the addition of an AoP. This may include creating an area of open space or soft landscaping over the area. Alternatively, the development could be redesigned to bridge over the remains through techniques such as ground beams, piling or tensioned concrete slabs in order to transfer the load away from the archaeological remains.

- f) The results of the archaeological mitigation will include a Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design (PXA), followed by a full analysis report. These will be made available through the Hertfordshire HER, OASIS and ADS and the physical archive will be deposited with a local museum. Depending on the final results of the archaeological mitigation, further presentation of the results of the mitigation may include publication.

6.9 Measure 8: Areas of preservation *in situ* (AoP)

- 6.9.1 Preservation *in situ* will be considered when archaeological remains of a high significance, that was previously unknown, are identified. This may include remains such as the earthworks of Bronze Age barrows, remains of a Roman villa or the surface of Ermine Street. Currently, the archaeological work undertaken across the site indicates that the significance of the

archaeological remains within the site is low, other than within the scheduled area of Walls Field.

- 6.9.2 Any areas of preservation *in situ*, including the Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1016305) in Walls Field and those, if any, that are identified during archaeological mitigation (see measure 7 above for the procedure following their identification), will be protected throughout all stages of the development to prevent accidental incursion during its construction, and to limit potential effects such as ground disturbance and contamination. This will be undertaken in accordance with Historic England's (2016) document *Preserving Archaeological Remains*.
- 6.9.3 This will ensure the protection of buried remains with the Scheduled Monument area and any other identified AoPs within their original location and context. Although the archaeological remains are not visible, this allows for an appreciation of their setting and the preservation of the remains for potential future research in its original context. It also provides the potential for the layout of remains to be reflected in ground treatments (such as paths and planting) so that they can be more tangibly understood and appreciated.
- a) All AoPs and Scheduled Monument areas will be designated within the CEMPs as areas of no entry except for permitted works.
 - b) Plans showing all AoPs and Scheduled Monument areas within the site and adjacent to it will be produced and provided to all contractors and sub-contractors prior to them beginning work on the development. The outlines of these will also be provided in CAD/GIS format to all contractors and sub-contractors ahead of any work that they do on site. These areas will be marked on the ground using identifiable markers.
 - c) Temporary (HERAS style) fencing will be erected at least 1m outside the areas of preservation and scheduled monument areas in order to act as a visual and physical barrier to prevent accidental incursion. Signs will be placed on the fencing stating that the enclosed area is not to be entered except for authorised works. Following the completion of groundworks, this fencing will be removed.

Weekly inspections will be undertaken by the Client or their agent in order to ensure that fencing remains standing in the correct location and has not been damaged.

In any instances where damage is identified, this will be reported to the on-site lead and enquiries as to the cause will be carried out.
 - d) In the event that a contractor or sub-contractor encroaches into any of these areas, they are to report it to site management so that further measures to prevent incursion can be investigated and implemented. Any additional measures will be added to the HEMP and an updated version issued to all contractors and sub-contractors.
 - e) If any work is to be carried out within, or vehicular access required across, an AoP for any reason (such as permitted works), routes will be

designed to cross areas that have already seen the highest previous disturbance.

- f) In order to minimise ground disturbance and loading across areas of higher archaeological potential, works will be limited to as small an area as possible, with no materials storage to take place within their area.

Fencing will be erected around the area for which access is required to limit ground disturbance as much as possible.

A barrier, such as a geogrid, will be placed across the ground surface in areas of vehicular access. This will be decided upon in consideration of Historic England guidance on the reburial of archaeological sites (Historic England 2016, App. 5) and aims to limit the potential for rutting and reduce potential compaction from high-point loads.

Works within these areas will only be undertaken in dry conditions when the ground is firm to prevent damage caused by rutting.

Ahead of these works, the depth of overlying deposits will be ascertained from the archaeological trial trench results of the appropriate area. If possible, excavation within these areas will be kept to a shallower depth than these deposits.

Works will be carried out under archaeological supervision to monitor the depth of works and to ensure that any unexpected remains can be dealt with appropriately and to industry standards. Only specified areas will have topsoil removed so that the subsoil is not exposed to compaction from construction traffic or weather fluctuations.

Mechanical plant used in these areas will have a maximum loaded weight of 20 tonnes and excavators will use a toothless ditching bucket no more than 2m wide.

Movement across any AoP will be kept to a minimum and no excavation is anticipated within AoPs. If there are urgent requirements, excavation within an AoP will only be within pre-agreed areas of the design and under archaeological supervision.

If compaction is to take place within an AoP (such as for the consolidation of paths), only non-vibratory rollers will be used to minimise disturbance to the below-ground remains.

A separation material, such as a needle-punched geotextile barrier, will be inserted around the areas where excavation has been undertaken as part of the groundworks across the site. This will be decided upon in consideration of Historic England guidance on the reburial of archaeological sites (Historic England 2016, App. 5). This will provide a physical barrier between the surrounding soil and the sub-base to help spread the load of overlying deposits, reduce the spread of weeds and tree roots but allow the movement of water and prevent locally waterlogged conditions. This will also provide a small degree of load-spreading.

- g) Where planting is to take place within an AoP, only species with shallow roots will be planted in order to limit roots extending to the depth of the archaeological horizon.

Planting will only be carried out in dry conditions with firm ground.

- h) Monitoring and fixed-point photography will be undertaken in order to provide a visual record of the condition of the AoPs. Locations and frequency for these are tbc.
- i) Long-term management of AoPs will be undertaken with regard to the open space management outlined in Measure 2c and will maintain public access where appropriate.

Strategies for the management of AoPs will include prohibiting vehicular access, litter-picking, maintenance of access and paths and condition surveys.

Evidence of burrowing from animals will be controlled by monitoring and the blocking-up of burrows.

Any trees or hedges that border the AoP will be maintained so that they do not spread.

Strategies for grass cutting could include:

- o Not cutting the grass when the ground is too wet (exact timings to be flexible to allow for weather conditions;
- o Not using vehicular means or flail mowers;
- o Cutting at increased heights (150mm) to avoid scalping and maintain any wildlife habitats;
- o Cutting the grass in a centre-out method to allow wildlife a chance to move; and
- o Removing any cuttings within a week of the strimming to prevent suffocation of plant species.

Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock scheduled monument (NHLE 1016305)

- j) No works will be undertaken within the area of the scheduled monument without SMC.

6.10 Measure 9: Public engagement

- 6.10.1 The archaeological remains within the Site and scheduled areas provide a positive opportunity to enable residents and visitors to feel more connected with local heritage. The results of the archaeological work will provide a sense of history and place with which to associate the site. At present, the archaeological remains on the site are unable to be experienced, are unappreciated and their value uncommunicated. The implementation of the following measures (in accordance with NPPF 219, the Neighbourhood Plan (Policy G2) and the Growing Baldock Masterplan) will have a positive impact on the site's heritage significance by increasing the access that the public have to the site and its interpretation, the ability of the public to understand

the archaeological remains and what they represent, and thereby the archaeological interest and evidential value of the archaeological heritage assets.

- a) The results of the archaeological works will be disseminated through the Hertfordshire HER, OASIS and ADS and in accordance with their WSI (Measure 7c). These will include details of how the site relates to the earlier phases of archaeological investigation within the site, as well as those carried out within Baldock (such as those outlined by Burleigh and Fitzpatrick-Matthews 2010). These will also place the site within the context of its wider area (such as that provided by the DBA and within Burleigh 2020), as well as its relationship to the local, regional, or national context as appropriate.
- b) Community involvement, including the Baldock Archaeological Society and North Herts Archaeological Society, will be sought to be included in excavations (where possible).
- c) There will be a commitment to yearly open days presenting the findings of the archaeological works. These will be established for during archaeological works and for a few years following its completion, with the number of years following the completion of works to be determined as part of the Section 106 agreement. A similar approach has been undertaken by U&C at other sites, such as Alconbury and Wintringham (case studies A and D in App. A). These will help to convey the significance of the Site and advance their understanding within the context of the wider area. These will incorporate details of the archaeological mitigation work carried out with the history of the town and details of the scheduled monuments. Exact timings of these will be established in discussion with the archaeological contractor and local community groups.
- d) A heritage trail, included within design specification SP12, will be designed as a 'circular' footpath around the development that will connect key archaeological heritage assets, including the two Scheduled Monuments. This will embed the heritage of the site into the landscape and connect and share information about the site and Baldock's history.

Interpretation along this route will include features such as interpretation boards/signage, wayfinding, landscape features and/or public art. These may also include the use QR codes providing links to archaeological reports available through ADS, or other technology as it becomes available.

Key vantage points within strategic green space (including at Clothall Common, Eastern Park, Urban Open Land, Walls Field and Weston End) will provide views to Baldock and across the surrounding landscape.

- e) Interpretation panels will be located at the Scheduled Monuments and sites of areas of interest identified during the archaeological works. These will present an outline of the archaeology for that part of the site and how it fits into the wider area. These will help to enable

the scheduled monuments and archaeological findings across the site to be better appreciated and understood.

Panels will be regularly inspected for their condition and maintenance carried out as necessary. Responsibility for this will be established as part of the stewardship options for open space (Measure 2c).

The content and design of these panels will be undertaken as part of the reserved matters, with final content to be agreed following consultation with the Hertfordshire LEADS team and Historic England. Although the content of these is yet to be determined, it is likely to include:

- o An outline of the remains identified on the site and how they relate to other remains within the vicinity.
 - o A plan of the identified archaeological remains within the site.
 - o Information regarding the nature of the remains as identified within the archaeological works.
 - o Information on the archaeological investigations that have taken place.
- f) Engagement with local schools will be sought, with possible interactions including arranging school visits to the site during archaeological works (where practicable), the preparation of education packs about the site and how it links to the wider history of the area and tied to the curriculum of the local schools, and the presentation of results within the schools through displays and/or talks. This would provide an opportunity for promoting an understanding of the site and the history of the area.
- g) The local library already has a small display on the history of Baldock, and engagement with them has already been established, including discussions being held on putting material from Growing Baldock within the library. This engagement will be continued throughout the project as an additional outlet for the dissemination of information about the site. Further presentation of information regarding the history of the site may also be provided in new community centres or facilities.

Scope for the dissemination of this information may include pamphlets, pop-up museums, and/or the permanent display of artefacts from the site, with any information presented to be agreed with the facility displaying it and in consultation with the Hertfordshire LEADS team.

Settlement site south of Blackhorse Farm Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1003548)

- h) A crossing will be incorporated across North Road at the gateway to the development to provide connectivity to Ivel Springs Local Nature Reserve and the Scheduled Monument. This will provide an accessible link between the scheduled monument and the development.

*Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock
Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1016305)*

- i) SMC consent (and archaeological monitoring) will be sought for where any seating and wayfinding/interpretation boards are sited within the scheduled area as part of the heritage trail.
- j) The layout of the Scheduled Monument will be used to inform the design of informal recreational routes across the field.
- k) Interpretation panels will be placed towards either end of the PRow that crosses the site.

6.11 Measure 10: Funding

6.11.1 In order to maintain, protect and enhance the archaeological heritage assets throughout the development and beyond, funding will be required for two key areas:

- a) Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1016305).

For any archaeological works undertaken within the site during the course of the development, funding will be provided by the developer as part of the costs of the development.

For future management of the scheduled area, the source of funding is still to be determined, but will be in accordance with the stewardship option for open spaces that is chosen as a Reserved Matter in accordance with Measure 2c.

- b) Archaeological remains within the site.

For archaeological mitigation works undertaken across the site, funding will be provided by the developer as part of the cost of the development.

If any areas are identified as AoPs through the procedure outlined in Measure 7e, the longer term the source of funding required is still to be determined, but will be in accordance with the stewardship option for open spaces that is chosen as a Reserved Matter in accordance with Measure 2c.

7 ACTION PLAN

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The following section outlines actions that will be taken in order to ensure that the archaeological heritage assets are protected and are reflected within the development. It will be updated, with further details added, throughout the development process.

7.1.2 This includes actions that will form part of the longer-term management of the scheduled monument within Walls Field and other AoPs following the completion of the development. This will be included as part of the management of open spaces.

7.2 Scheduled Monument Consent

7.2.1 Scheduled monument consent will be sought:

- Prior to the change of use of the scheduled monument within Walls Field, outlining any permitted works that would be required for the scheduled area's continued maintenance (such as mowing); and
- Prior to any non-permitted works being undertaken within the scheduled area.

7.2.2 No works will be undertaken within Walls Field without SMC.

7.3 Meetings

7.3.1 Meetings will be held online between the Archaeological Consultant and design team during the establishment of the Design Code(s) in order to inform these at the Tier 2 stage, with parameters established in relation to archaeological heritage assets at this point. They may also be held prior to Reserved Matters Applications for the detailed designs of each area in order to ensure that the detailed designs demonstrate compliance with the HEMP. These will discuss whether the latest designs protect and enhance the archaeological heritage assets and where alterations are required. Consideration of these designs will be fed into the HEMP and the HEMP updated as necessary. Any alterations to the HEMP will be agreed with the Hertfordshire LEADS team and Historic England.

7.3.2 If conflict between archaeology and the design of the development arises, additional meetings between the project teams will be arranged in order to discuss and try to resolve the issue so that the protection of the archaeological heritage assets can be maintained in conjunction with the viability of the development. The resolution of any issues should be sought as soon as possible, and may include seeking further advice from the Hertfordshire LEADS team or Historic England.

7.4 Actions

7.4.1 The tables below outline the specific actions that will be taken in order to protect and enhance the significance of the archaeological heritage assets through the Measures detailed in Section 6. These include actions that are both site-wide and related to the protection of the scheduled monument within Walls Field.

7.4.2 These will be updated with additional information and responsibilities as more detailed designs of the development are made.

Table 2: Actions to be undertaken as part of the management of the archaeological heritage assets within the Site

Action	Timeframe
Archaeological mitigation works	Ahead of any construction works within each area of the development.
Creation and installation of information boards	At the end of construction works within the area to which they relate.
Engagement with schools, possibly including tours, visits and activities	Throughout the archaeological works.

Action	Timeframe
	For a few years after archaeological works, with scope to be determined as part of the S106 agreement.
Engagement with the local library and community centres to establish the scope of displays	Following completion of the archaeological works
Dissemination of archaeological results through PXA	Depending on the programme of works, within 9 months of either: the completion of each phase of works; or the completion of all archaeological mitigation.
Dissemination of archaeological results through analysis report and publication	Tbc during assessment stage.
Deposition of physical archaeological archive within a local museum	Following completion of the analysis of the archaeological material.
Promotion of open days	Yearly, both during and for a few years after construction, with details to be determined within the S106 agreement.
Monitoring of the condition of any AoPs, including fixed-point photography and for any indications of animal burrowing	Yearly, in conjunction with one of the mowings. Responsibility with U&C during development and as part of the stewardship of open spaces afterwards.
Update and clean signs and interpretive panels	As required
Remove rubbish	As required

Table 3: Actions to be undertaken as part of the long-term management of Romano-British small town and Late Iron Age settlement at Baldock scheduled monument (NHLE 1016305) as part of the open area management

Action	Timeframe
SMC to be sought/granted	Prior to the change of use of Walls Field Ahead of any and each works within Walls Field
Planting of grassland seeds and trees/hedges	Tbc
Formalisation of access points and paths	Tbc
Creation and installation of information boards (subject to SMC)	Tbc
Maintain vegetation, including surrounding hedges and encroaching scrub from the grassland	Yearly (date tbc)
Mowing of the PRow and informal paths	Apr, Jun, Sept
Maintenance of cycle access point/infrastructure	As required
Update and clean signs and interpretive panels	As required
Remove rubbish	As required
Monitoring of the condition of the site, including fixed-point photography and for indications of animal burrowing	Yearly, in conjunction with one of the mowings

8 MONITORING AND REVIEW

8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 The HEMP is a statement of intent and relies upon implementation backed up by a system of monitoring and review. This section outlines the monitoring and review that will be undertaken.

8.2 Monitoring

- 8.2.1 Monitoring and reporting will be undertaken for the duration of the construction phase in order to demonstrate the effectiveness of the measures set out in the HEMP and allow for corrective action to be taken where necessary.
- 8.2.2 The Archaeological Consultant will be responsible for monitoring adherence to all requirements of the HEMP throughout the construction of the development. They will observe site activities and report any deviations from the HEMP within a logbook, along with the action taken and general conditions at the time. The Principal Contractor will be informed of any deviations from the HEMP as soon as possible following identification of such issues. The Archaeological Consultant would also act as a day-to-day contact with relevant local authorities and other regulatory agencies, such as the Hertfordshire LEADS team and Historic England.
- 8.2.3 Additional monitoring to ensure compliance with the HEMP may also be carried out by the Hertfordshire LEADS team, the local planning authority and/or Historic England.

8.3 Recording

- 8.3.1 The Archaeological Consultant will retain records of all monitoring, inspections, and audits. These records will include:
- Results of routine site inspections;
 - Results of archaeological surveys and investigations;
 - Test records, licences, and approvals for equipment used during archaeological works; and
 - Corrective actions taken in response to incidents, breaches of the approved HEMP or complaints received from a third party.
- 8.3.2 The HEMP will be updated if it is necessary to add additional control measures, with a full review as required throughout the construction period. Existing control measures and mitigation will not be amended without prior agreement with the Hertfordshire LEADS team and Historic England.
- 8.3.3 A clear, detailed record of all works carried out, and materials used during any works within AoPs will be maintained and deposited with the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record to inform any future works.
- ### **8.4 Review**
- 8.4.1 In order to reflect any changing circumstances (such as design changes), the HEMP will be reviewed at each phase of the development and discussions between the archaeological contractor and design team held in order to
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establish whether the latest designs reflect the requirement of the HEMP. Review will also be carried out alongside any changes to local or national planning policy. The HEMP will be updated to reflect any changes that have been made, such as with more detailed designs. This is anticipated to coincide with each phase of the construction and in support of the relevant Reserved Matters (as outlined in the OCEMP) but will also include when there are relevant changes to the design. These changes will be agreed with the Hertfordshire LEADS team and Historic England prior to any associated work being undertaken.

8.4.2 Following the completion of the construction works, the Site and HEMP will be reviewed to ensure the compliance of the development and provide a baseline for long-term management. The HEMP will then be reviewed every five years to ensure that its measures reflect the latest guidance.

8.4.3 Following any changes to the HEMP, the updated version will be recirculated to all involved in the project.

8.5 Future works

8.5.1 Should further intrusive works be required within AoPs, agreement will need to be sought with Hertfordshire Council. If any works are required within Walls Field, they will require SMC. These may require the implementation of further archaeological mitigation for the excavation and recording of archaeological remains to current industry standards.

9 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

9.1.1 Overall, this document has considered the potential impacts of the development to the archaeological heritage assets that will be affected by development of the Site. It has outlined the mitigation measures that are being incorporated in order to ensure the preservation of their heritage significance.

9.1.2 Although the development is only at the outline planning stage and detailed designs have not been produced, the HEMP has been able to outline indicative measures that will be utilised during and after the construction of the development. Measures to protect the archaeological heritage assets and their significance include:

- Referencing the archaeological heritage assets within the layout and building design of the development;
- Using open space to create greater public access and appreciation of the assets;
- Using sensitive construction techniques;
- The need for SMC for the change of use of, and any works within, Walls Field;
- The application of archaeological mitigation, including open area excavation and the potential for areas of preservation in situ; and
- Public engagement.

- 9.1.3 Overall, if the measures proposed in this HEMP are followed, the development will promote the history of the Site and Baldock, take into account the significance of the archaeological heritage assets within its vicinity, enhancing the preservation of the Scheduled Monument within the site and protecting the significance of the settings of the archaeological heritage assets. It will also ensure public interaction with the archaeological heritage and provide greater access to it, better revealing their significance in accordance with local and national planning policy.

APPENDIX A CASE STUDIES

Alconbury Airfield

Excavation works undertaken at Alconbury Airfield, Cambridgeshire on behalf of U&C have included public engagement. As part of this development, U&C have incorporated:

- Public open days with display boards that could be used in multiple events, finds on display and archaeologists being on hand to discuss the site and finds with visitors;
- Excavation work featuring on *Digging for Britain*.

Priors Hall, Corby

Previous development undertaken by U&C at Priors Hall, Corby, Northamptonshire identified remains relating to a Roman villa. The area of the villa was designated as an area of preservation *in situ* and a Heritage Management Strategy and Plan (Blick 2019) was produced as a condition of this development in order to avoid unacceptable harm to, and promote, the heritage significance of the recorded archaeological remains. This aimed to:

- Protect the villa remains from construction works;
- Provide for the long-term preservation of the villa remains;
- Enhance public access to the villa remains;
- Enhance public knowledge and understanding of the villa remains;
- Promote the villa remains as a local educational resource; and
- Identify mitigation measures for the other archaeological deposits within the site.

This outlined measures that would be implemented within later stages of the development, such as requirements to be included in the CEMP, specifications for planting and hedgerow species, the exploration of the inclusion of a heritage trail, and the material to be included within the educational material and information boards.

The archaeological advisor for the archaeological mitigation works associated with this plan set a requirement that identified areas for mitigation were not to be split into smaller components in response to development plans.

The public engagement element of this project has also included:

- The display of finds and information about the site at a local event (Roman Fest 2024);
- The presentation of results at the ARRC conference;
- School visits incorporating presentations, finds handling and activities;
- An article in Current Archaeology.

Waterbeach

Excavations carried out at Waterbeach Barracks, Cambridgeshire, on behalf of U&C incorporated a public engagement approach. Despite limitations caused by the covid-19 pandemic, community involvement during, and following the excavation work was able to include:

- Members of a local community group volunteering on the site during excavation work;
- Weekend tours of the site, carried out by archaeologists, for the local community towards the end of the excavations;
- Weekday tours of the site for the local primary school;
- Open days with display boards, finds and archaeologists, with the display boards also available for the local farmland museum that is adjacent to the site.

Wintringham

Excavations carried out at Wintringham, Cambridgeshire, on behalf of U&C incorporated a public engagement approach. Community involvement during, and following the excavation work included:

- Yearly heritage events, with each of these including talks, an exhibition, and activities;
- A presentation at the CAS conference;
- Excavation work featured on *Digging for Britain*.

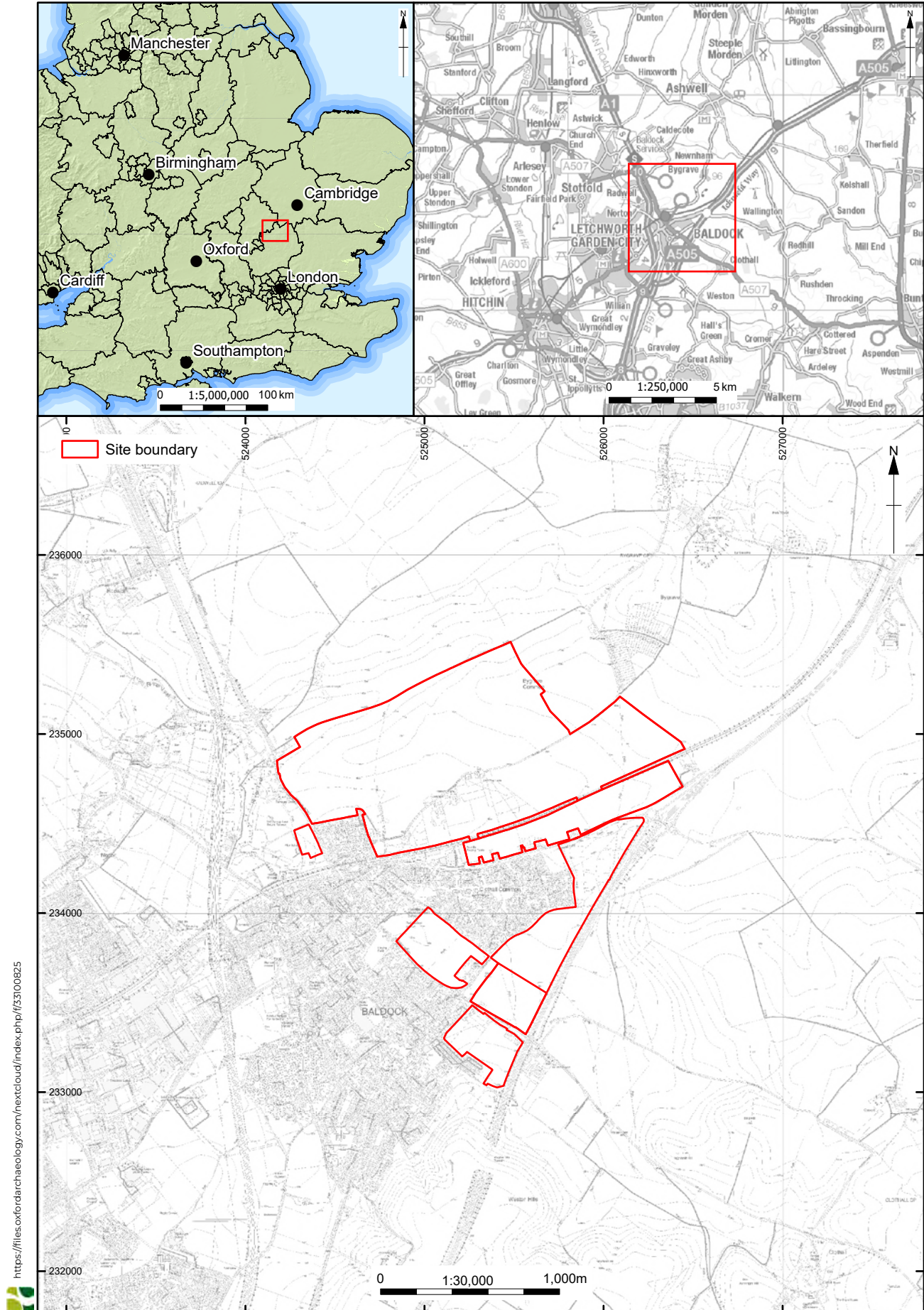
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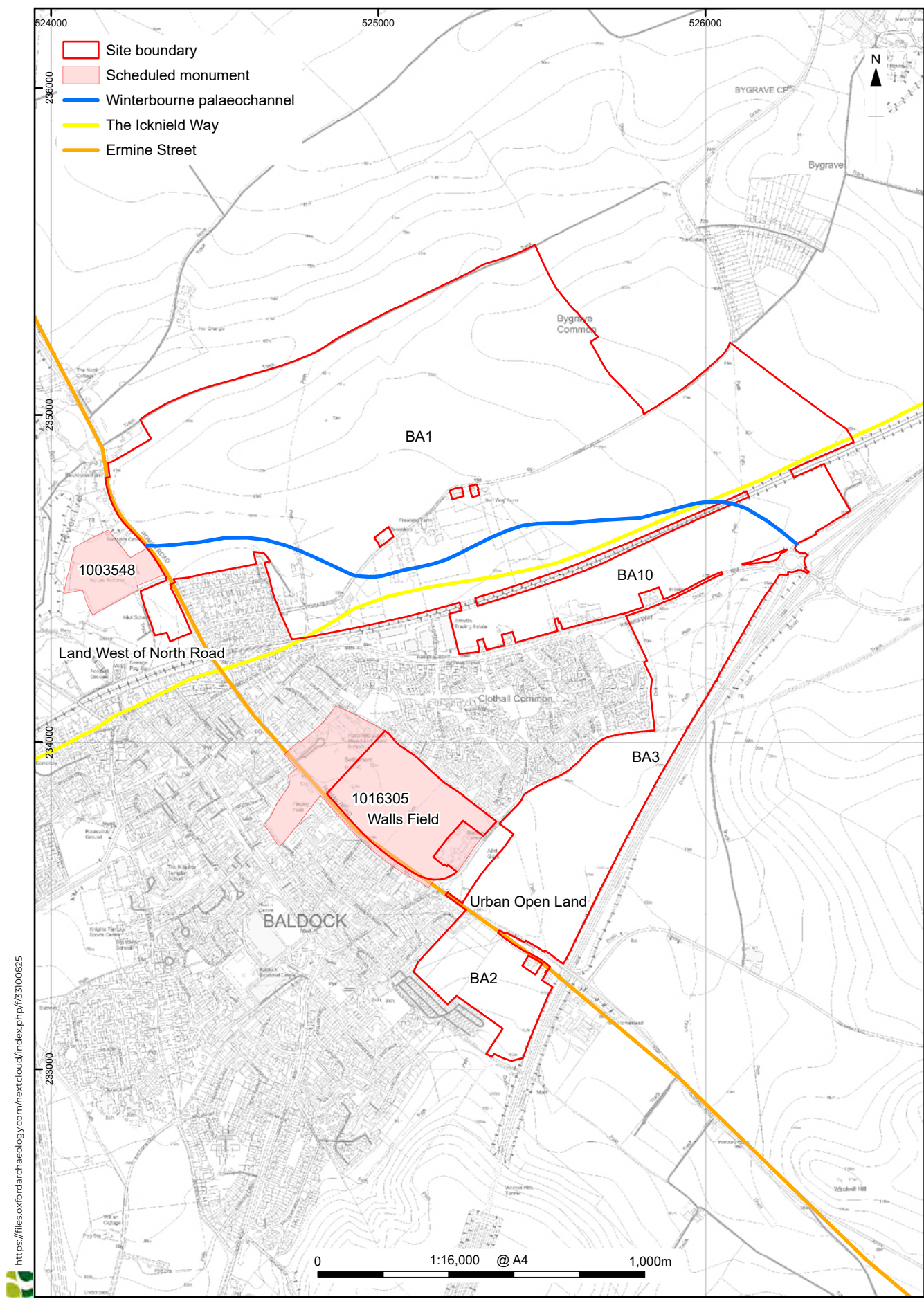
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Figure 1: Site location map



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Figure 2: Site layout with affected Scheduled Monuments

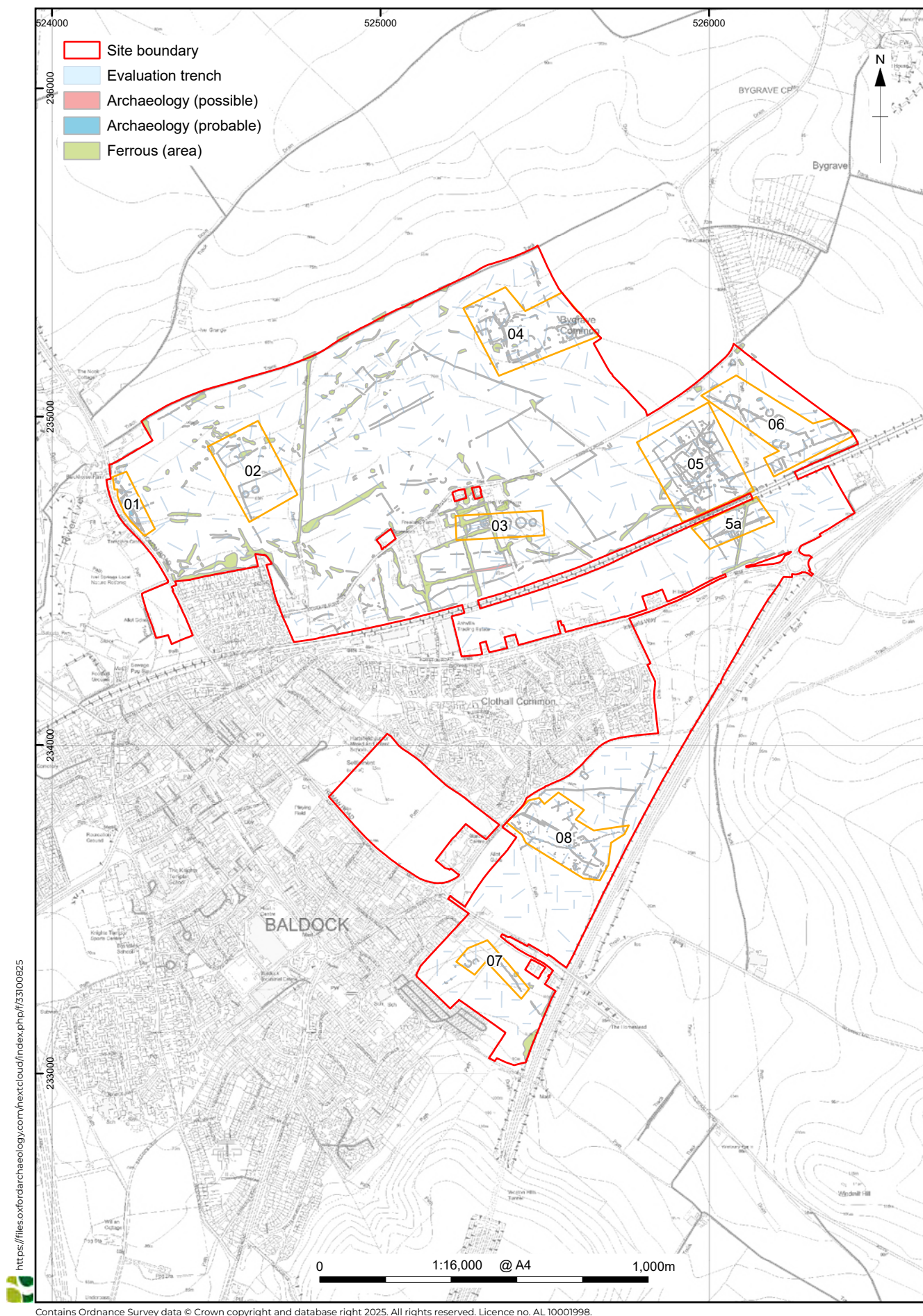


Figure 3: Proposed areas of archaeological mitigation, showing previous evaluation trenches and results of geophysical survey

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