

BOGC/01



BEATRICE ONSHORE GRID CONNECTION

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF GROUND INVESTIGATION WORKS

commissioned by Arcus Consultancy Services Ltd

December 2015

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project info

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 **HEADLAND
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PROJECT SUMMARY

A programme of archaeological monitoring, commissioned by Arcus Consultancy Services Ltd, was undertaken by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd during excavation of geotechnical trial trenches along the route of the proposed Beatrice Onshore Grid Connection (BOGC). Monitoring was undertaken at locations identified from the Environmental Statement as having moderate to high archaeological potential. No significant archaeological features or finds were discovered during the works.

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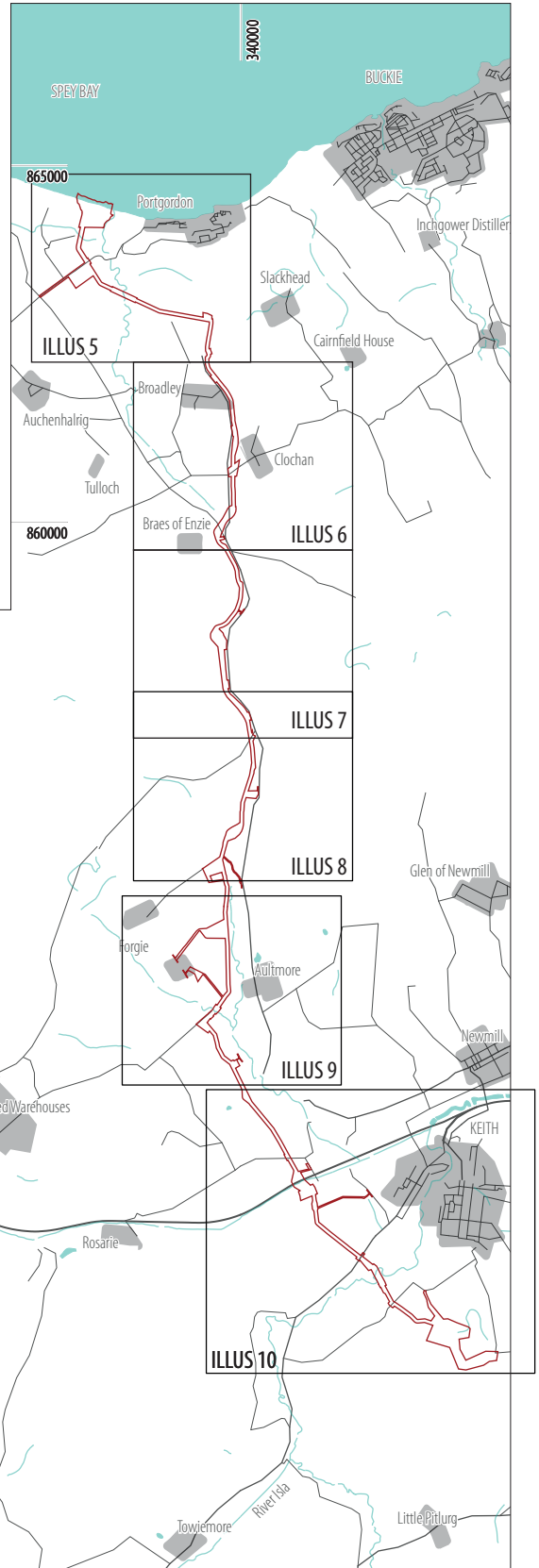
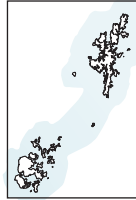
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BEATRICE ONSHORE GRID CONNECTION (BOGC/01)

land between Portgordon and Keith
Moray

0 200km



KEY
 pipeline corridor

0 50km
 N
 scale 1:100,000 @ A4

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ILLUS 1
 Site location

BEATRICE ONSHORE GRID CONNECTION

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF GROUND INVESTIGATION WORKS

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Arcus Consultancy Services Ltd to undertake archaeological monitoring of ground investigations along the route of the proposed Beatrice Onshore Grid Connection (BOGC). The fieldwork was carried out from 7th to 22nd September 2015.

2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The trial trenches were located along the route of the proposed grid connection running from Blackhillock, south of Keith, to Ha' of Auchenreath, west of Portgordon. The Environmental Statement identified the northern section of the grid connection route as being of high archaeological potential, due to its proximity to known heritage assets and areas of archaeological sensitivity. Although 44 trial trenches were excavated along the route, only 19 of these were in areas of high archaeological potential. A further 25 trenches were excavated in areas of moderate archaeological potential in the southern section of the route. 15 of these 25 were also subject to archaeological monitoring due to the proximity of known heritage assets.

For trial trench and heritage asset locations in areas of high archaeological potential, please refer to **ILLUS 5** to **ILLUS 10**. Photographs of trial trenches 1, 16 and 32 are included as representative examples (**ILLUS 2** to **ILLUS 4**).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to monitor ground-breaking works associated with the excavation of trial trenches;
- to determine the nature, extent, condition, date and significance of any archaeological remains within the area affected by the site investigation.

4 METHODOLOGY

Mechanical excavation was undertaken by Balfour Beattie and was continuously monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. All trenches were excavated in controlled spits by a JCB equipped with a toothed 0.6m wide bucket to a depth of 1.4m from the ground surface.

A record was made of the location, layout, depth and general stratigraphy of each trench, irrespective of whether archaeological remains were identified. Where potential remains were identified, they were investigated by hand.

Archaeological investigation was undertaken in a manner so as to minimise any delay and disruption to the Geotechnical Investigation. However, where necessary the monitoring archaeologist instructed short suspensions of mechanical excavation, and asked for backfilling to be delayed.

All aspects of work were undertaken in accordance with the ClfA Standards and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief.

5 RESULTS

A full summary of all excavated geotechnical trenches is provided in **TABLE 1** overleaf (see **ILLUS 1**, and **ILLUS 5** to **ILLUS 10** for locations).

6 DISCUSSION

No archaeological features or finds were discovered. However, the small scale and targeted nature of the trial trenching means that the archaeological potential of the pipeline corridor could not be fully assessed. Archaeological features and/or finds may remain to be discovered in those areas within the route corridor that were not subject to trial trenching.

Trench	Illus	Land use	L	W	D	Orientation	Potential	Interpretation / Summary
TR1	5	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	High	No archaeology
TR2	5	Arable field	30	0.6	1.2	NE/SW	High	No archaeology
TR3	5	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	High	No archaeology
TR4	5	Pasture	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	High	Poor terrain, trench not excavated
TR5	5	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	N/S	High	No archaeology
TR6	5	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	N/S	High	No archaeology
TR7	5	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	N/S	High	No archaeology
TR8	6	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	High	No archaeology
TR9	6	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	High	No archaeology
TR10	6	Arable field	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	High	Access issues, trench not excavated
TR11	6	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	High	No archaeology
TR12	6	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	NW/SE	High	No archaeology
TR13	6	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	High	No archaeology
TR14	6	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	High	No archaeology
TR15	6	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	High	No archaeology
TR16	6	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	High	No archaeology
TR17	7	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	N/S	High	No archaeology
TR18	7	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	High	No archaeology
TR19	7	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	High	No archaeology
TR20	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR21	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR22	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR23	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required

TABLE 1
Results of SI monitoring

Trench	Illus	Land use	L	W	D	Orientation	Potential	Interpretation / Summary
TR24	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR25	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	N/S	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR26	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR27	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR28	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR29	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required
TR30	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR31	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required
TR32	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR33	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR34	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR35	n/a	Arable field	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR36	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	E/W	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR37	n/a	Pasture	30	0.6	1.4	NE/SW	Moderate, but close to known asset	No archaeology
TR38	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required
TR39	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required
TR40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required
TR41	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required
TR42	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required
TR43	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required
TR44	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate	Archaeologist not required



ILLUS 2

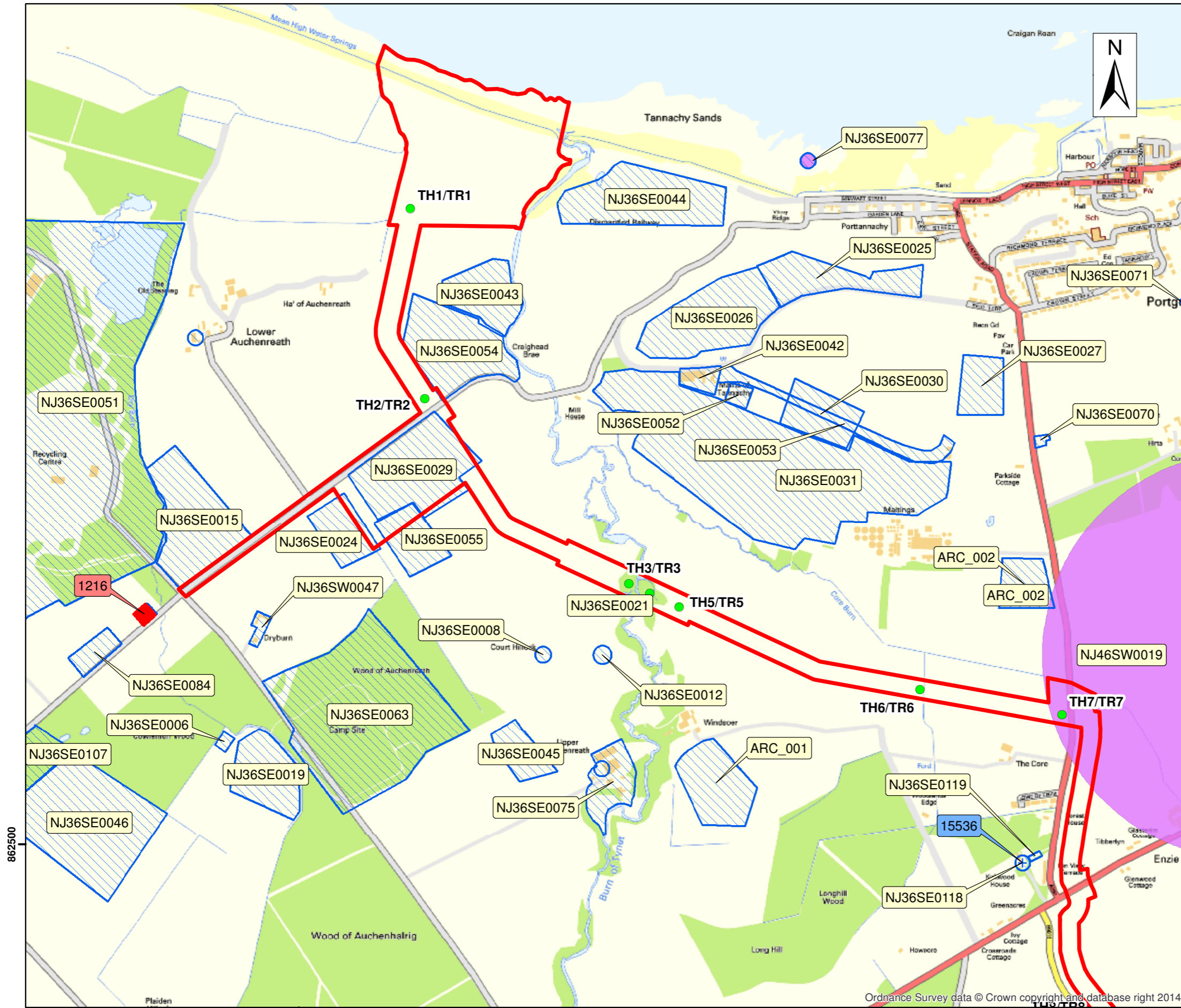
Trench 1, facing east

ILLUS 3

Trench 16, facing east

ILLUS 4

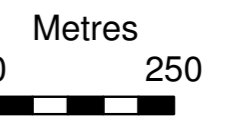
Trench 32, facing southwest



Key

- Proposed Trial Hole
- Pipeline Corridor
- Scheduled Monument
- + Category A Listed Building
- + Category B Listed Building
- + Category C Listed Building
- Cultural Heritage Asset
- Cultural Heritage Asset
- Findspot (approximate location)

1:10000 at A3



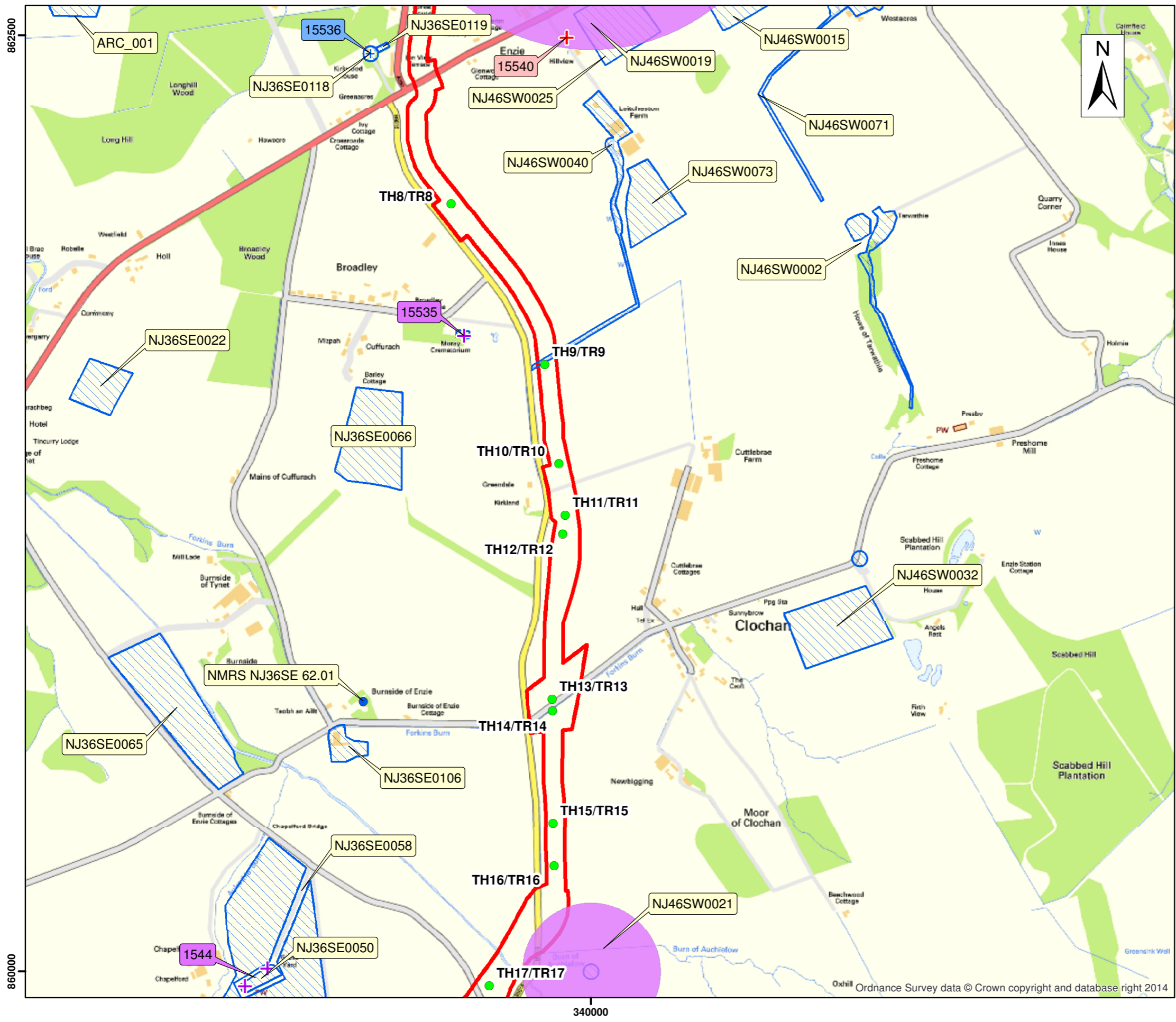
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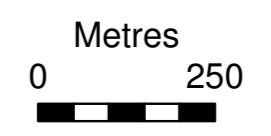
Beatrice Onshore Route

ILLUS 5
Trial trench locations



- Key**
- Proposed Trial Hole
 - ▭ Pipeline Corridor
 - ▭ Scheduled Monument
 - ⊕ Category A Listed Building
 - ⊕ Category B Listed Building
 - ⊕ Category C Listed Building
 - ▭ Cultural Heritage Asset
 - ▭ Cultural Heritage Asset
 - Findspot (approximate location)

1:10000 at A3



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BOGC_TJ_16/10/15

Beatrice Onshore Route

ILLUS 6
Trial trench locations

862500
860000

340000

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Key

- Proposed Trial Hole
- Pipeline Corridor
- + Category A Listed Building
- + Category B Listed Building
- + Category C Listed Building
- Cultural Heritage Asset
- Cultural Heritage Asset
- Findspot (approximate location)

1:10000 at A3

Metres



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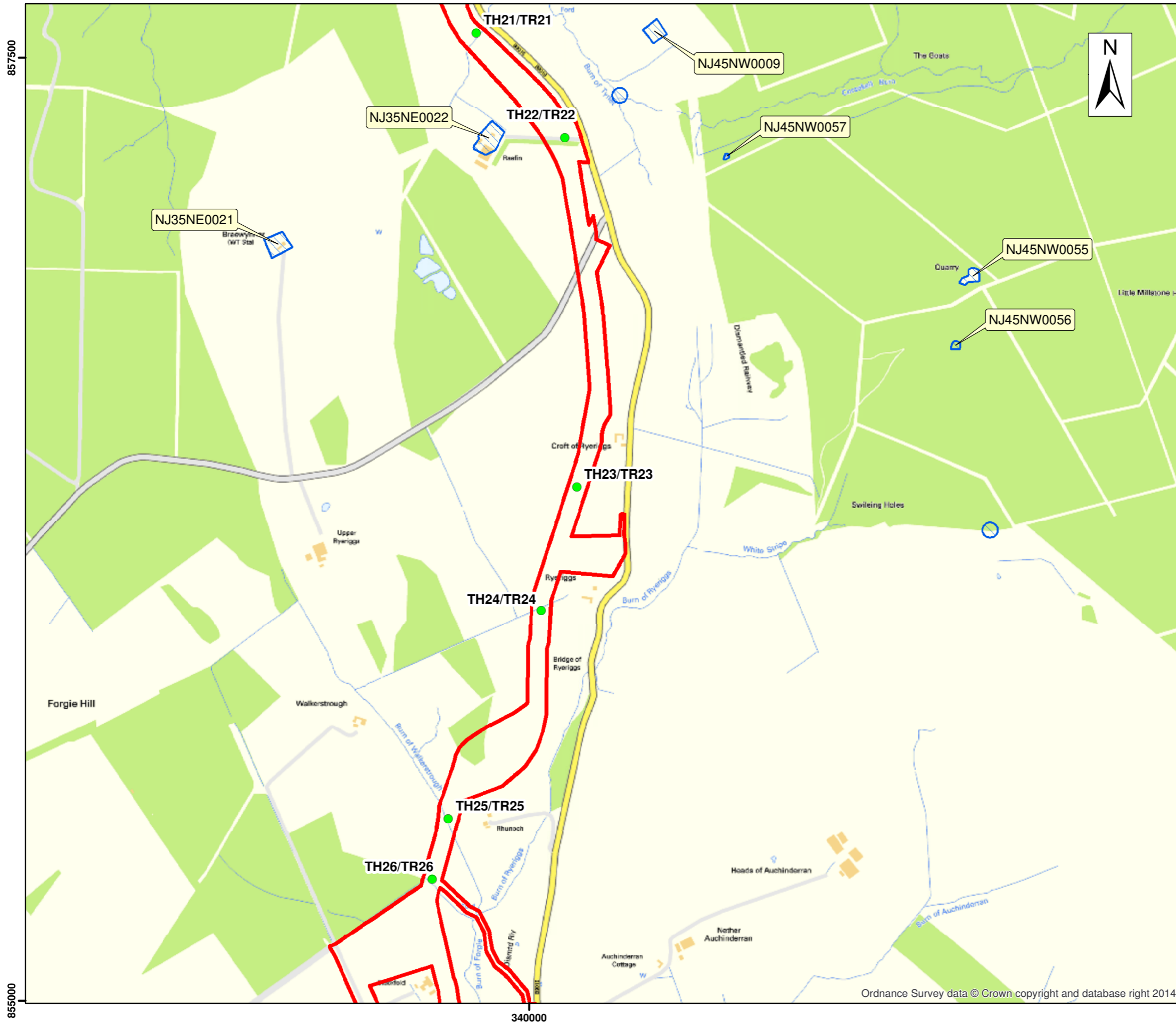
BOGC_TJ_16/1/0/15

Beatrice Onshore Route

ILLUS 7

Trial trench locations

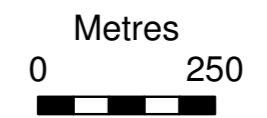
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Key

- Proposed Trial Hole
- Pipeline Corridor
- Cultural Heritage Asset

1:10000 at A3



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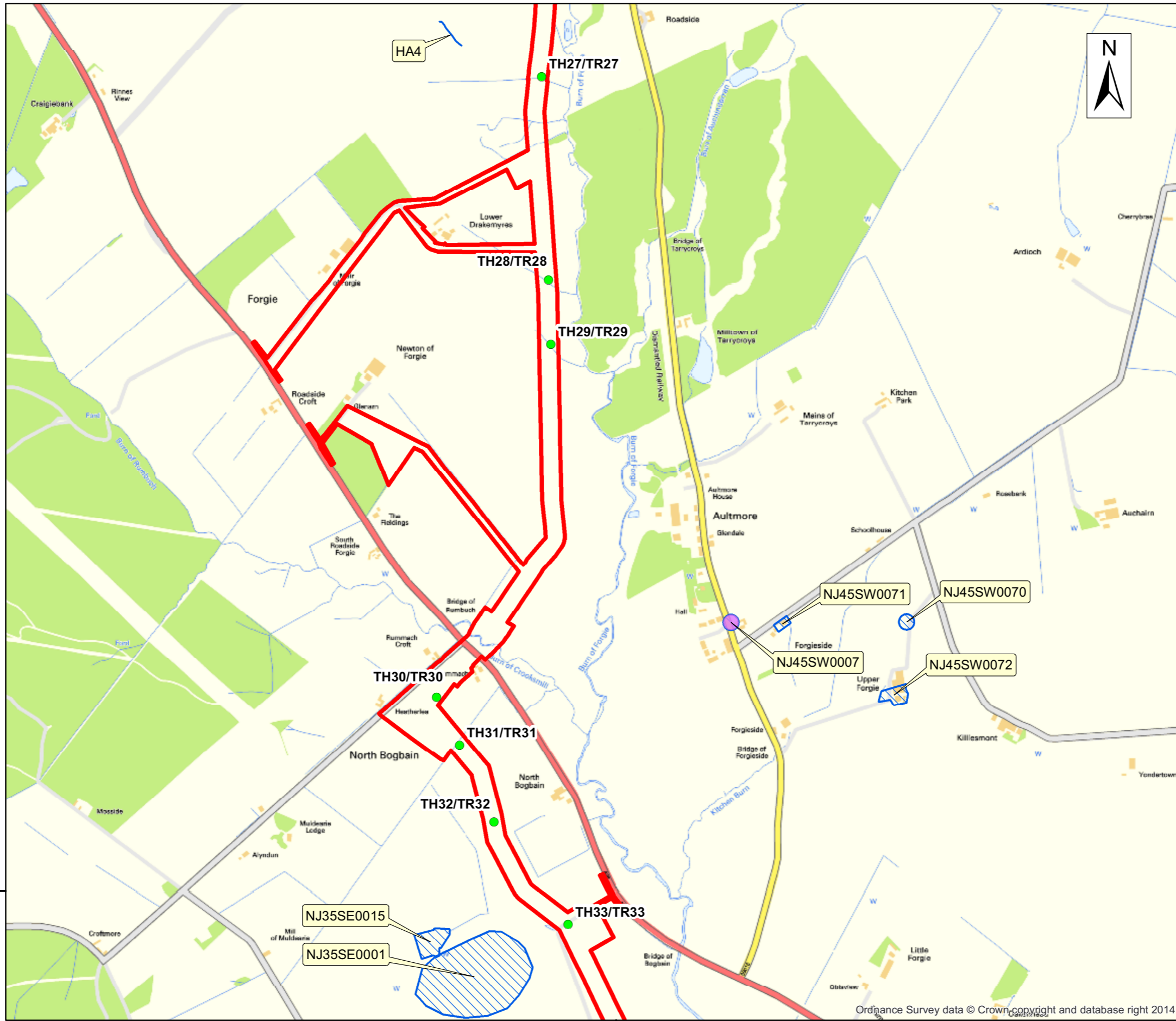
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BOGC_TJ_30/11/15

Beatrice Onshore Route

ILLUS 8

Trial trench locations



Key

- Proposed Trial Hole
- Pipeline Corridor
- Cultural Heritage Asset
- Cultural Heritage Asset
- Findspot (approximate location)

1:10000 at A3

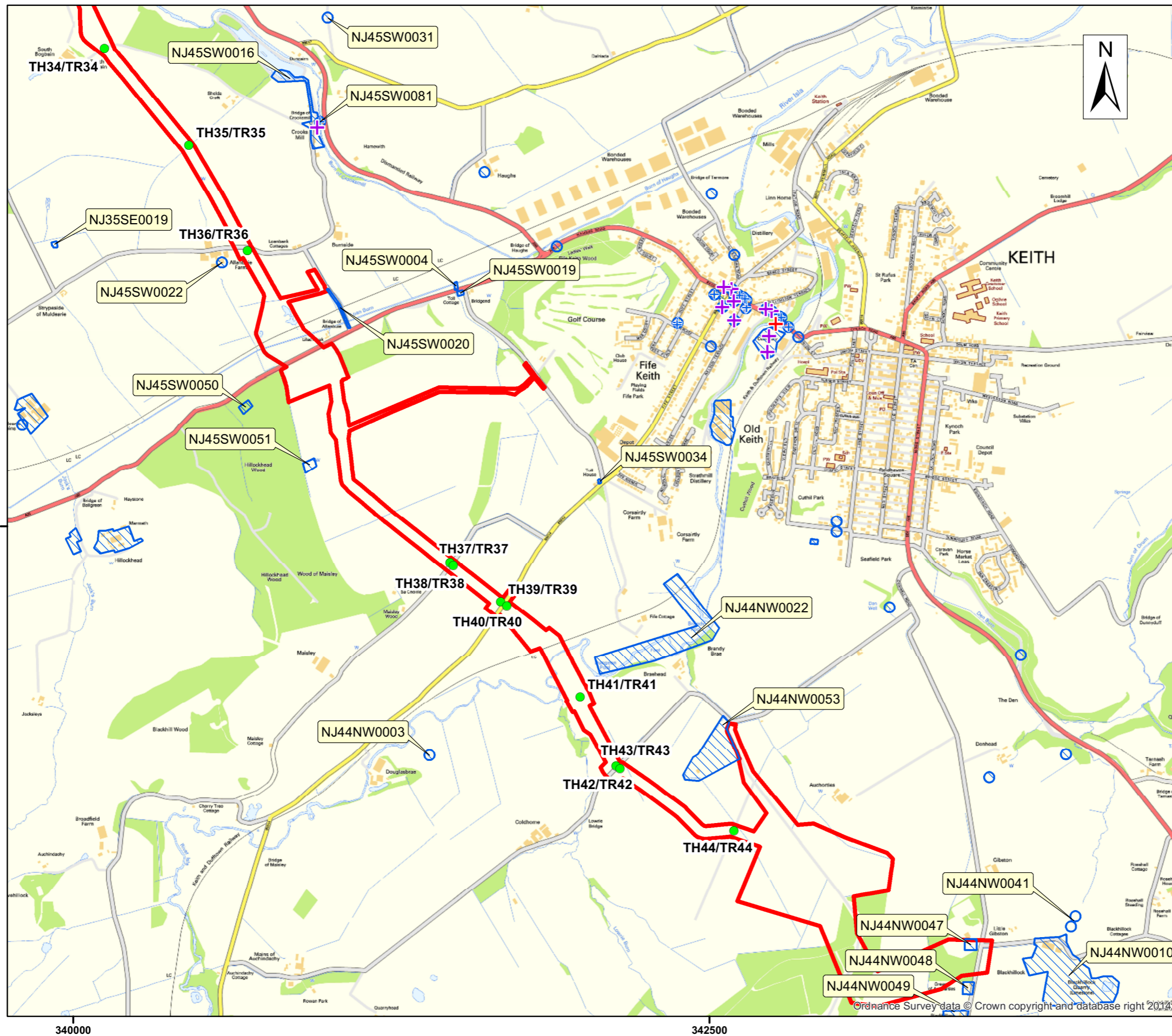


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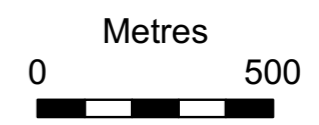
BOGC_TJ_30/11/15

Beatrice Onshore Route



- Key**
- Proposed Trial Hole
 - ▭ Pipeline Corridor
 - ⊕ Category A Listed Building
 - ⊕ Category B Listed Building
 - ⊕ Category C Listed Building
 - ▨ Cultural Heritage Asset
 - ▨ Cultural Heritage Asset
 - Findspot (approximate location)

1:15000 at A3



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BOGC_TJ_30/11/15

Beatrice Onshore Route

7 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 PHOTO REGISTER

Photo	Direction	Trench	Description	Photo	Direction	Trench	Description
1	S	4	Mid-ex	20	NE	14	Post-ex
2	n/a	4	Section	21	E	15	Post-ex
3	SE	4	Mid-ex	22	n/a	15	Section
4	S	4	Post-ex	23	n/a	16	Section
5	S	5	Post-ex	24	NW	17	General view
6	n/a	5	Section	25	W	17	General view
7	N	6	Mid-ex	26	SW	17	General view
8	n/a	6	Section	27	NW	17	Post-ex
9	N	6	Post-ex	28	E	18	Post-ex
10	N	7	Post-ex	29	W	20	Post-ex
11	NE	8	Post-ex	30	W	22	Post-ex
12	n/a	9	Section	31	SW	24	Post-ex
13	NE	9	Post-ex	32	n/a	25	Section
14	E	1	Post-ex	33	NW	25	Post-ex
15	E	16	Post-ex	34	n/a	25	Ceramic field drain
16	SW	32	Post-ex	35	NW	28	Post-ex
17	E	11	Post-ex	36	NW	28	Post-ex
18	n/a	11	Section	37	NE	35	Post-ex
19	NE	13	Post-ex	38	SW	37	Post-ex



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