LAND NORTH OF KINGS BARN LANE, STEYNING, WEST SUSSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT





**PCA REPORT NO: R14853** 

**SITE CODE: WSKS21** 

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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

## LAND NORTH OF KINGS BARN LANE, STEYNING, WEST SUSSEX: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVAULATION REPORT

Local Planning Authority: Horsham District Council

Central NGR: TQ 18488 11547

Site Code: WSKS21

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#### 1 ABSTRACT

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by RPS Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land North of King's Barn Lane, Steyning, West Sussex. The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the Site and, where present, determine their nature, extent, date, condition and significance, taking account of their potential to contain biological and palaeo-environmental remains. A secondary aim of the evaluation was to test the reliability of the geophysical survey results in terms of identifying features of potential archaeological origin.

The evaluation identified archaeological features in seven out of twelve trenches, mostly concentrated to the centre/ south of the Site, these features were primarily linear ditches demonstrating evidence of land use from the early Bronze Age to the Romano-British period.

Specialist assessment of the finds assemblage identified pre-Conquest Gallo – Belgic pottery imports, suggesting the site may have been of high social status during the late Iron Age. A possible Ballista bolt head could suggest some Roman military presence or activity on or near the Site.

The evaluation achieved its secondary aim of testing the reliability of the geophysical survey results in terms of identifying features of potential archaeological origin. Although not accurate across the entirety of the Site many geophysical anomalies were proven to relate to archaeological features identified in the evaluation.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Project Background

- 2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by RPS Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land North of King's Barn Lane, Steyning, West Sussex (Figure 1), hereafter 'the Site' (centred at NGR TQ 18488 11547). The site is a subject of proposed residential development with associated access.
- 2.1.2 The evaluation was required, in keeping with NPPF Section 16 and Local Plan Policy, by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) Horsham District Council in order to provide information toward understanding the archaeological implications of the proposed development and determining the subsequent treatment of archaeological resources within it. The evaluation forms part of a staged approach to understanding the archaeological implications of the proposed development, following the advice of the LPA's Archaeological Advisor.
- 2.1.3 This document provides the results for the trial trench evaluation, which comprised a total of 12 30m X 2m trenches, out of a proposed 17; five trenches were not possible owing to on-site constraints (**Figure 2**). This document has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (ClfA 2020) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England, 2015).

#### 2.2 Location, Topography and Geology

- 2.2.1 The Site, a total area of approximately 13.4ha is c.520m northwest of Steyning in the Horsham District of West Sussex, north of King's Barn Lane and west of A283 Steyning-By-Pass and is centred at NGR TQ 18488 11547.
- 2.2.2 The Site slopes from 10m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the south 4m aOD in the north.

  The Site undulates between 10m to 6m aOD from west to east.
- 2.2.3 The nearest water course is a small stream associated with the River Adur located 121m east of the Site.
- 2.2.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the Site comprises Gault Formation Mudstone as recorded by the British Geological Survey (BGS online). Superficial deposits of Head Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel are recorded in the centre of the study area, along with a patch of River Terrace Deposits 2 (Adur) Sand and Gravel. River Terrace Deposits 2 (Adur) Sand and Gravel are recorded on the south side of the Site with no superficial deposits recorded at the west of the study area. Alluvium Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel and Alluvium Clay, Silt, Sand and Peat are recorded directly north of the Site.

#### 2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.3.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment of the Site was carried out by CgMs Heritage (Part of RPS) in 2020 and will not be repeated in detail here. The following is taken from the executive summary of the document:

'... In terms of relevant designated heritage assets, no World Heritage sites, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Battlefield or Historic Wreck sites have been identified within the study site or its immediate vicinity. The Scheduled Monument Bramber Castle (DWS19, TQ 1853 1072) is located approximately 600m south of the study site. Three further Scheduled Ancient Monuments are located within the 1.25km search area. These are: Group of Salterns and a possible Moat 250m East of Bramber Castle (DWS227, TQ 1880 1082) located c. 513m south of the study site; Group of Salterns North of St Peter's Church (DWS226, TQ 1923 1150) located 759m southeast of the study site and Saltern in Saltings Field, 220m North of Beeding Bridge (DWS225, TQ 1920 1082) located 338m east of the study site.

(...) The study site is not located within any Archaeological Notification Areas (ANA) as identified by the Horsham District Council. The Archaeological Notification Area (ANA) – Steyning Historic Core and associated Early Medieval and Medieval Occupation (DWS8580) is located 144m west of the study site. The ANA – The Site of Sele Priory and the Parish Church of St Peter, Upper Beeding (DWS8578) is located 330m east of the study site. The ANA – Bramber Historic Core and Medieval Salt Working and Occupation (DWS8579) is located 396m south of the study site. The proposed development will not impact on any ANAs.

The Map accompanying Policy 34 of the Horsham District Planning Framework indicates that the eastern half of the study site is occupied by an archaeological site, however this is not the case. Conversations with the County Archaeologist revealed that this site was likely to have been erroneously recorded on the Framework mapping as there is no record of the site in the HER data and the area is not designated as an ANA.

The study site has been occupied by agricultural land for all of its recorded history. This will have had a moderate and widespread negative impact on any archaeological deposits should they be present.

The study site can be determined to have a moderate archaeological potential for significant Saxon/Early Medieval remains and a low potential for significant remains dating from all other periods.'

- 2.3.2 In addition, a geophysical survey of the Site was carried out by Magnitude Surveys (2021).The following is the summary of the results:
- 2.3.3 'Geophysical survey has detected a range of different types of anomalies of archaeological, agricultural and undetermined origins. (...) Two possible enclosures have been identified which lie on an elevated area in the landscape. Further anomalies of possible archaeological origin have been detected throughout the survey areas and may relate to unmapped field systems or boundary features.

2.3.4 Anomalies of undetermined origin have also been identified. These are considered likely to be refuse or stone lined pits, both of which have been identified within the landscape. A Natural origin is possible, but unlikely due to size of the anomalies on a relatively narrow alignment.'

#### 3 AIM

#### 3.1 Archaeological Evaluation

- 3.1.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the Site and, where present, determine their nature, extent, date, condition and significance, taking account of their potential to contain biological and palaeo-environmental remains.
- 3.1.2 The secondary aim of the evaluation was to test the reliability of the geophysical survey results in terms of identifying features of potential archaeological origin.
- 3.1.3 This report on the results of the evaluation aims to provide a context for archaeological remains that were identified and provide sufficient information so that the future treatment of the remains, in respect of the proposed development, may be determined in consultation with the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority.

#### 4 RESULTS

#### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The following presents a summary of the evaluation results based upon the Site archive, which comprises a Site diary, trench recording sheets, drawings, digital photographs and material assemblages. A summary of recorded contexts is provided in a Trench Index in Appendix 1 and photographs of the trenches in Appendix 2. The archive is held at PCA's Winchester office under the site code WSKS21 and will in due course be deposited with Steyning Museum. The following is supported by Figures 3 and 4, for trench plans, and
- 4.1.2 **Figure 5** for representative sections and **Figure 6** for feature sections.

#### 4.2 Methodology

- 4.2.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken following the methodology that was detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2021), which was approved by the Local Planning Authority in advance of the commencement of works and on the advice of their archaeological advisor.
- 4.2.2 The evaluation comprised the excavation of twelve trenches measuring 30m x 2m (**Figure 2**, **Plates 1 and 2**). Seventeen trenches were proposed for this stage of evaluation but five (Trenches 7, 9, 12, 15 & 17) were inaccessible due to the presence of livestock. It was agreed by the LPA's archaeological advisor that the shortfall would be added to any subsequent stage of evaluation that is undertaken. The array of trenches was intended to target anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Magnitude Surveys 2021), to test the reliability of the geophysical survey results in terms of identifying features of potential archaeological origin. All proposed trenches were opened and investigated between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

#### 4.3 Summary of Deposition Sequence

- 4.3.1 Natural geology was reached in all trenches and varied across the Site. In trench 1 the geology consisted of a light yellow brown silty clay with light blue grey clay and mudstone, in trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5 the geology consisted of a firm mid red or red/orange brown clay/ silty clay, In trench 6 the geology was observed to be a mid orange brown/ grey silty clay. The geology in trench 8 consisted of a mid orange brown/ grey silty clay with mid brown yellow clay, in trenches 10, 11, 13, 14 and 16 the geology was a consistent mid yellow brown silty clay with flint gravel and patches of chalk marl.
- 4.3.2 The topsoil observed across the Site was a relatively consistent dark grey brown clayey silt; in trenches 1, 6 and 8 it was recorded as a sandy silt. The average thickness of the topsoil was between 0.2m BGL (below ground level) and 0.3m BGL; Trench 11 was the shallowest at 0.14m BGL and Trench 3 was the deepest at 0.48m BGL (**Figure 5, Plates 3 & 4**).

#### 4.4 Archaeological Features

- 4.4.1 Of the excavated trenches, archaeological features were identified in trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 8, while no archaeological features or deposits were revealed by trenches 10, 11, 13, 14 & 16.
- 4.4.2 Trench 1 (**Figures 3 & 6**) contained a single archaeological feature [103], near the centre of the trench. It was linear in shape with steep sloping sides and a flat base. The feature was on a north south orientation and measured 0.81m wide and 0.31m deep (**Plate 5**). It contained a single fil [102] which consisted of a compact brownish grey silty clay, pottery of middle to late Iron Age (300 0BC), late Iron Age to Romano-British (50BC AD250) and Romano-British (AD50 100) date was recovered from this context.
- 4.4.3 Trench 2 (**Figures 4 & 6**) contained two archaeological features. In the north of the trench was feature [203], a linear feature with moderately steep concave sides and a mostly concave base with a gentle slope to the southern edge. It was on a north west south east orientation and measured 1.8m wide and 0.42m deep. It contained a single fill [202] which consisted of a firm mid brown grey clay/ sandy clay with frequent small to medium flint inclusions. Pottery of middle Bronze Age (1750 1150BC) and late Iron Age to Romano British (50BC AD250) dates and struck flint of Neolithic to early Bronze Age date were recovered from this context.
- 4.4.4 In the south of the trench was feature [205], a sub circular feature with a steep concave eastern side and steep straight western side and flat base. It measured 0.51m long, 0.45m wide and 0.15m deep. This feature contained a single fill [204] which consisted of a firm mid brownish grey sandy clay with sparse small flint and charcoal inclusions; no finds were recovered from this context.
- 4.4.5 Trench 3 (**Figures 4 & 6**) contained three archaeological features to the centre of the trench. These features were in close proximity to and running parallel with one another (**Plate 6**). Feature [303] was a linear feature with moderately steep concave sides and a flat base. This feature was on a roughly east west orientation measuring 1.2m wide and 0.29m deep.
- 4.4.6 Feature [305] was a linear feature with steep concave sides and shallow pointed base. This feature was on a general east west orientation measuring 1.46m wide and 0.14m deep.
- 4.4.7 Feature [307] was a linear feature with shallow straight sides and a pointed to rounded base. This feature was on a roughly east west orientation, measuring 0.57m wide and 0.15m deep.
- 4.4.8 These features each contained a single fill of similar material which consisted of a firm mid brownish grey clayey silt with sparse small flint inclusions. Fill [302] of feature [303] contained pottery of middle to late Iron Age to Romano British (1150BC 0 and 50BC –

- AD250) dates. Fills [304] and [306] of features [305] and [307] respectively contained pottery of middle to late Iron Age (300 0BC) date.
- 4.4.9 Trench 4 (**Figures 3 & 6**) contained four archaeological features, however these were not excavated due to the trench flooding. Each feature was recorded with GPS, the description of upper fills recorded and any visible surface finds retrieved before this trench flooded.
- 4.4.10 In the north east end of the trench 4 were features [404] and [406]. These features both appeared to be linear in shape and on a north west south east orientation. Feature [404] measured 1.2m wide and contained fill [405] which consisted of a firm mid grey, brown clayey silt with moderate flint inclusions, A single sherd of late Iron Age to Romano British pottery (50BC 0) date and post medieval to modern (AD1700 1950+) CBM peg tile were recovered from the surface of this fill. Feature [406] measured 2.1m wide and contained fill [407] which consisted of a firm dark brown, grey clayey silt, pottery of middle to late Iron Age (1150 0BC) and late Iron Age to Romano British (50BC AD70) date was recovered from the surface of this fill.
- 4.4.11 In the centre of trench 4 was feature [402]. This feature appeared to be linear in shape on a north south orientation. Feature [402] measured 4.7m wide and contained fill [403] which consisted of a firm mid grey brown clayey silt with moderate flint inclusions, pottery of middle to late Iron Age (300 0BC) and late Iron Age to Romano British (50BC AD250) date was recovered from the surface of this fill.
- 4.4.12 In the south west of trench was feature [409]. This feature appeared to be linear in shape and on a north west south east orientation. Feature [409] measured 0.5m wide and contained fill [410] which consisted of a firm mid brown grey clayey silt with sparse small flint inclusions, no finds were retrieved from this fill.
- 4.4.13 Trench 5 (Figures 3 & 6) contained two archaeological features. Central to the trench was feature [503], a large circular shaped feature with stepped sloping sides and a flat base. The feature extended beyond the width of the trench, the exposed area measured 4.41m in diameter and 0.27m deep. This feature contained a single fill [502] which consisted of a firm mid greyish brown silty clay with sparse small flint inclusions, pottery of late Iron Age to Romano British (50BC AD150) date and one pottery sherd of medieval (AD1200 1350) date was recovered from this fill.
- 4.4.14 Feature [503] was found to be cutting fill [504] of feature [505] (**Plate 7**). This feature was a narrow curvilinear feature exterior to and surrounding [503]. The cut measured 0.39m wide and 0.22m deep. The total diameter of the curvilinear feature was 5.1m. Fill [504] was comprised of a firm mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint inclusions, pottery of middle to Late Iron Age (300 50/0BC) date was recovered from this fill.
- 4.4.15 In the north west of trench 5 was feature [507], a linear feature with moderately steep straight sides and a rounded base (**Plate 8**). The feature was on a north/ north east south/south west orientation, measuring 0.49m wide and 0.12m deep. [507] contained a single fill [506] which consisted of a firm mid brown grey clayey silt with common small to

medium flint inclusions, pottery of middle to late Iron Age (300 – 0BC) date and animal bone were recovered from this context.

- Trench 6 (**Figures 3 & 6**) contained four archaeological features. Two small pits were identified against the south western bulk of the trench. Feature [605] was subcircular in shape with stepped straight to concave sides and a pointed base. This feature measured 1.48m long, 0.63m wide and 0.34m deep and contained 3 fills. Lowest fill [604] consisted of a compact light brown grey silty sand with sparse flint inclusions, this context measured 0.08m thick, no finds were recovered from this context. Above fill [604] was fill [603] which consisted of a firm light white grey silty sand with common small chalk inclusions. This context measured 0.07m thick, no finds were recovered. Above [603] was upper fill [602] which consisted of a firm mid brownish grey clayey silt with sparse small flint inclusions. This context measured 0.17m thick, Pottery and CBM of late post medieval to modern (AD1850 1950+) date were recovered from this context.
- 4.4.17 Feature [611] was subcircular in shape with concave sides and a concave base. This feature measured 0.5m long, 0.59m wide and 0.1m deep and contained a single fill [610] which consisted of a friable to firm mid brownish grey clayey silt with sparse small flint inclusions. No finds were recovered from this context. The western side of [610] and [611] were truncated by an animal burrow.
- 4.4.18 Two linears were identified in the centre/ south east of trench 6 (**Plate 9**). These features appeared to be intersecting and therefore, on guidance from LPA were not excavated to preserve their relationship. Central to the trench was feature [606] which appeared to be linear in shape on a north south orientation. Feature [606] measuring 6.89m wide and contained fill [607] which consisted of a firm mid grey brown clay/ sandy clay with common small to large flint inclusions, pottery of late Iron Age to Romano British (50BC AD250) and Romano British (15BC AD150) date was recovered from the surface of this fill.
- 4.4.19 [606]/ [607] appeared to be truncated to the south west by feature [608]. This feature appeared to be linear in shape on a north east south west orientation, measuring 2.48m wide and contained a single fill [609] which consisted of a mid brown grey clay/ sandy clay with common small to large flint inclusions, pottery of late Iron Age to Romano British (50BC AD150) and Romano British (15BC AD25) was recovered from the surface of this fill.
- Trench 8 (**Figures 3 & 6**) contained three archaeological features. Feature [802] was a linear feature with stepped, shallow concave to steep concave sides and a base that sloped to the south west (**Plate 10**). The feature was on a north west to south east orientation measuring 10.24m wide and 0.71m deep. [802] contained three fills. The lowest fill [807] consisted of a compact mid brownish grey silty clay with light grey and orange sandy flecks with moderate charcoal and sparse cess material inclusions, this context measured 0.18m thick. Pottery of late Iron Age to Romano British (50BC AD250) date,

- animal bone and an Iron object, thought to be a 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> century Ballista bolt head, were recovered from this context.
- Above [807] was fill [804] which consisted of a firm dark black grey silty clay with common small to medium flint and sparse charcoal inclusions, this context measured 0.38m thick. Pottery of Bronze Age (1750 1150BC), middle to late Iron Age (300 0BC), late Iron Age to Romano British (50BC AD100) and Romano British (15BC AD65) was recovered from this context. Above [804] was upper fill [803] which consisted of a firm light grey brown silty clay with common small to large flint inclusions, this context measured 0.29m thick. Pottery of Bronze Age (1750 1150BC) and late Iron Age to Romano British (50BC AD150) date and one sherd of medieval (AD1200 1350) pottery date were recovered from this context as well as some fired clay objects that may be Romano British in date.
- 4.4.22 Two additional linear features were identified towards the north east end of trench 8, however these were not investigated due to this end of the trench filling with water before they could be excavated. These features were recorded with a GPS device and surface finds retrieved where possible.
- 4.4.23 Feature [805] appeared to be linear in shape on a north south orientation. This feature measured 4.54m wide and contained fill [806] which consisted of a firm mid grey brown silty clay with moderate flint inclusions, undatable CBM was recovered from the surface of this fill. Feature [808] appeared to be an irregular to linear shaped feature on a north west south east orientation. This feature measured 1.9m wide and contained fill [809] which consisted of a firm mid grey brown clayey silt with common flint inclusions, no finds were recovered from this context.

#### 4.5 Discussion and Phasing

- 4.5.1 The archaeological features identified in the evaluation trenches can be phased as result of pottery dating. The earliest identified phase (Phase 1) is Bronze Age to late Iron Age; the only feature identified as belonging securely to this phase is linear [203] in Trench 2. This feature is thought to be a ditch, possibly a land or field boundary.
- 4.5.2 Phase 2 is identified as mid to late Iron Age and is represented in Trench 3 by linears [305] and [307] interpreted as possible enclosure ditches and in Trench 5 by linear [507] which is interpreted as a ditch, possibly representing a small enclosure.
- 4.5.3 Phase 3 represents the major phase of activity on the site and has been divided into sub phases, phase 3A mid/late Iron age to Romano-British and phase 3B late Iron Age to Romano-British, reflecting the date ranges of pottery recovered.
- 4.5.4 Phase 3A is represented in Trench 1 by linear [103] which is interpreted as a possible enclosure ditch and in Trench 3 by linear [303] which is also interpreted as a possible enclosure ditch. Phase 3A is represented in Trench 4 by features [402] and [406], as they were not excavated no interpretation can be made other than it is thought they represent linear ditches.

- 4.5.5 Phase 3B is represented in Trench 5 by features [503] and [505], these features are not readily interpretable. In Trench 6 unexcavated features [606] and [608] cannot be fully interpreted but are thought to represent linear ditches. In Trench 8 feature [802] is thought to be a large ditch, possibly a land division.
- 4.5.6 Phase 4 is identified as late post-medieval to modern and is represented in Trench 6 by feature [605] which is interpreted as a small rubbish pit.
- 4.5.7 Phase 5 is identified as undated and is represented in Trench 2 by Feature [205] which is interpreted as a small pit or possible post hole. In Trenches 4 and 8, features [409], [805] and [808] are assigned phase 5 as no dateable finds were recovered from the surface of these features; it is considered likely that these features have the potential to contain datable finds material that could be recovered in any future investigations. Features [409], [805] and [808] are thought to represent linear ditches.

#### 4.6 Conclusion

- 4.6.1 The evaluation identified archaeological features in seven out of the twelve excavated trenches. Archaeological features were mostly concentrated to the centre/ south of the Site and were primarily linear features demonstrating clear evidence of land use from the early Bronze Age to the Romano-British period.
- 4.6.2 The finds recovered from the archaeological features provide good dating evidence for the long use of the Site from the Bronze Age to the Romano-British period. Perhaps of most significance in the pottery assemblage is the presence of pre-Conquest Gallo Belgic imports, suggesting the Site may have been of high social status during the late Iron Age, while the recovery of a possible *ballista* bolt head from fill [807] of feature [802] could suggest Roman military presence or activity on or near the Site.
- 4.6.3 The evaluation achieved its secondary aim of testing the reliability of the geophysical survey results in terms of identifying features of potential archaeological origin. Although not accurate across the entirety of the Site, several geophysical anomalies were proven to relate to archaeological features identified in the evaluation, particularly in the central/southern part of the Site.

#### 5 ARCHIVE PRERARATION AND DEPOSITION

#### 5.1 The Site Archive

5.1.1 The Site archive, to include all project records and cultural material produced by the project, will be prepared in accordance with 'Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage' (UKIC 1990) and the Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives' (ClfA 2014). On completion of the project PCA will arrange for the archive to be deposited with Steyning Museum

#### 5.2 Copyright

- 5.2.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. Steyning Museum however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003. Further distribution and uses of the report either in its entirety or part thereof in paper or electronic form is prohibited without the prior consent of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
- 5.2.2 The licence extends to the use of all documents arising from this project in all matters relating directly to the project, as well as for bona fide research purposes (which includes The West Sussex Historic Environment Record).
- 5.2.3 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the content of this report. However, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd cannot accept any liability in respect of, or resulting from, errors, inaccuracies or omissions this report contains.

#### 6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The evaluation was supervised by Dominic McAtominey with site assistance from Tom Oliffe.

This report was prepared by Dominic McAtominey with graphics prepared by Mark Roughley. The project was managed by Paul McCulloch.

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### **Appendix 1: Trench Index**

Context Number	Area/Trench	Туре	Description	Interpretation	Date	Phase
101	Tr 1	Layer	Dark greyish brown loose sandy silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
102	Tr 1	Fill	Compact brownish grey silty clay	Backfilling of Ditch 103	Mid to Late Iron Age - Romano British	3а
103	Tr 1	Cut	Linear feature with steep sloping sides and a flat base	Possible Enclosure Ditch	Mid to Late Iron Age - Romano British	3a
104	Tr 1	Layer	Light yellowish brown silty clay with light blue grey clay/ mudstone	Natural	Natural Geology	0
201	Tr 2	Layer	Friable/ soft, light grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
202	Tr 2	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay/ sandy clay with frequent small to medium flint inclusions.	Fill of ditch 203, silting?	Bronze Age - Late Iron Age	1
203	Tr 2	Cut	Linear feature with moderately steep concave sides and a concave base which gently slopes to the south	Possible prehistoric land/ filed boundary?	Bronze Age - Late Iron Age	1
204	Tr 2	Fill	Firm mid brown grey sandy clay with sparse small charcoal and flint inclusions	Silting fill of pit 205	Undated	5
205	Tr 2	Cut	Sub circular feature with steep concave eastern side and steep straight western side and a flat base	Small pit or possible post hole	Undated	5
206	Tr 2	Layer	Firm mid red/orange brown clay/ silty clay	Natural	Natural Geology	0
301	Tr 3	Layer	Mid grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern	6

Context Number	Area/Trench	Туре	Description	Interpretation	Date	Phase
302	Tr 3	Fill	Firm mid brownish grey clayey silt with sparse small flint inclusions.	Fill of ditch 303, possibly deliberate backfilling	Mid to Late Iron Age - Romano British	3a
303	Tr 3	Cut	Linear feature with moderately steep concave sides and a flat base, one of three parallel ditches	One of three parallel ditches, Iron Age enclosure?	Mid to Late Iron Age - Romano British	3a
304	Tr 3	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clayey silt with sparse small flint inclusions	Fill of ditch 305, possibly deliberate backfilling	Mid to Late Iron Age	2
305	Tr 3	Cut	Linear feature with steep concave sides and a shallow pointed base	One of three parallel ditches, Iron Age enclosure?	Mid to Late Iron Age	2
306	Tr 3	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clayey silt with sparse small flint inclusions	Fill of ditch 307, possibly deliberate backfilling	Mid to Late Iron Age	2
307	Tr 3	Cut	Linear feature with shallow straight sides and a pointed to rounded base.	One of three parallel ditches, Iron Age enclosure?	Mid to Late Iron Age	2
308	Tr 3	Layer	Mid orange brown clay/ silty clay	Natural	Natural Geology	0
401	Tr 4	Layer	Dark greyish brown loose clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
402	Tr 4	Cut	Linear feature UNEXCAVATED	Unexcavated feature, presumed ditch	Mid to Late Iron Age - Romano British	3a
403	Tr 4	Fill	Firm Mid grey brown clayey silt with moderate flint inclusions. UNEXCAVATED	Fill of ditch 402, silting? Pottery recovered from surface	Mid to Late Iron Age - Romano British	3a
404	Tr 4	Cut	Linear Feature UNEXCAVATED	Unexcavated feature, presumed ditch	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b

Context Number	Area/Trench	Туре	Description	Interpretation	Date	Phase
405	Tr 4	Fill	Firm Mid grey brown clayey silt with moderate flint inclusions. UNEXCAVATED	Fill of ditch 404, silting? Pottery recovered from surface	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b
406	Tr 4	Cut	Linear Feature UNEXCAVATED	Unexcavated feature, presumed ditch	Mid to Late Iron Age - Romano British	3a
407	Tr 4	Fill	Firm Dark brown grey clayey silt	Fill of ditch 406, silting? Pottery recovered from surface	Mid to Late Iron Age - Romano British	3a
408	Tr 4	Layer	Firm mid orange brown silty clay	Natural	Natural Geology	0
409	Tr 4	Cut	Linear Feature UNEXCAVATED	Unexcavated feature, presumed ditch	Undated	5
410	Tr 4	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clayey silt with sparse small flint inclusions	Fill of ditch 409, silting?	Undated	5
501	Tr 5	Layer	Dark greyish brown loose clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
502	Tr 5	Fill	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, similar to 504	Fill of large feature 503, possibly backfilling	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b
503	Tr 5	Cut	Large circular feature with stepped sloping sides and a flat base, cuts fill 504 of 505	Large circular feature with outer ditch	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b
504	Tr 5	Fill	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint inclusions	Fill of ditch 505, backfill?  Mid to Iron A		2
505	Tr 5	Cut	Curvilinear feature with steep straight sides and a pointed base	Narrow curvilinear feature external to large feature 503	Mid to Late Iron Age	2

Context Number	Area/Trench	Туре	Description	Interpretation	Date	Phase
506	Tr 5	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clayey silt with common small to medium flint inclusions	Backfill of ditch 507	Mid to Late Iron Age	2
507	Tr 5	Cut	Linear feature with moderately steep straight sides and a rounded base	Narrow shallow ditch, small enclosure?	Mid to Late Iron Age	2
508	Tr 5	Layer	Firm mid orange brown clay/ silty clay	Natural	Natural Geology	0
601	Tr 6	Layer	Dark brownish grey sandy silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
602	Tr 6	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clayey silt with sparse flint inclusions	Upper fill of 605, refuse material	Late Post medieval - modern	4
603	Tr 6	Fill	Firm light white grey silty clay with common small chalk fragments	Possible rubbish material, middle fill 605	Undated	5
604	Tr 6	Fill	Compact light brown grey silty clay with sparse flint	Bottom fill 605, redeposited natural?	Undated	5
605	Tr 6	Cut	sub circular feature with stepped, steep straight to concave sides and a pointed base	Probable small rubbish pit	Late Post medieval - modern	4
606	Tr 6	Cut	Linear Feature UNEXCAVATED	Unexcavated feature, presumed ditch	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b
607	Tr 6	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay/ sandy clay with common small to large flint. UNEXCAVATED	Fill of ditch 606, backfilling? Pottery recovered from surface	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b
608	Tr 6	Cut	Linear Feature UNEXCAVATED	Unexcavated feature, presumed ditch	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b
609	Tr 6	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay/ sandy clay with common small to large flint. UNEXCAVATED	Fill of ditch 608, backfilling? Pottery recovered from surface	Late Iron Age -	3b

Context Number	Area/Trench	Туре	Description	Interpretation	Date	Phase
					Romano British	
610	Tr 6	Fill	Friable to firm, mid brown grey clayey silt with sparse small flint inclusions. Disturbed by animal burrow	Possible refuse material in pit 611	Undated	5
611	Tr 6	Cut	Small subcircular feature with concave sides and a concave base, truncated by animal burrow	Possible reuse pit	Undated	5
612	Tr 6	Layer	Mid orange brown /grey silty clay	Natural	Natural Geology	0
801	Tr 8	Layer	Dark brown grey sandy silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
802	Tr 8	Cut	Very large linear feature with stepped shallow concave sides and a base sloping to west, contains 3 fills	Large ditch or possibly series of ditches, capped by 803?	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b
803	Tr 8	Fill	Firm light grey brown silty clay with common small to large flint inclusions	Possible capping material in/ above 802	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b
804	Tr 8	Fill	Firm dark black grey silty clay with common small to medium flint and sparse charcoal inclusions	Rubbish backfill of feature 802	Mid to Late Iron Age - Romano British	3a
805	Tr 8	Cut	Linear Feature UNEXCAVATED	Unexcavated feature, presumed ditch	Undated	5
806	Tr 8	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay with moderate flint inclusions	Fill of ditch 805, silting?	Undated	5
807	Tr 8	Fill	Compact mid brown grey silty clay with light grey and orange sandy clay flecks, moderate charcoal and sparse cess inclusions	Rubish material in base of 802	Late Iron Age - Romano British	3b

Context Number	Area/Trench	Туре	Description	Interpretation	Date	Phase
808	Tr 8	Cut	Linear feature UNEXCAVATED	Unexcavated feature, presumed ditch	Undated	5
809	Tr 8	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clayey silt with common flint inclusions. UNEXCAVATED	Fill of ditch 808, silting?	Undated	5
810	Tr 8	Layer	Mid orange brown/ grey silty clay with brown yellow clay	Natural	Natural Geology	0
1001	Tr 10	Layer	Dark grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
1002	Tr 10	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty clay with medium sub angular stones	Natural	Natural Geology	0
1101	Tr 11	Layer	Dark grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
1102	Tr 11	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty clay with medium sub angular stones	Natural	Natural Geology	0
1301	Tr 13	Layer	Dark grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
1302	Tr 13	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty clay with medium sub angular stones	Natural	Natural Geology	0
1401	Tr 14	Layer	Dark grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
1402	Tr 14	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty clay with medium sub angular stones	Natural	Natural Geology	0
1601	Tr 16	Layer	Dark grey brown clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern	6
1602	Tr 16	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty clay with medium sub angular stones	Natural	Natural Geology	0

#### Appendix 2: Photographs (Plates 1 - 10)



Plate 1. Trench 1, View to West, Scale 1m



Plate 2. Trench 14, View to East, Scale 1m



Plate 3. Trench 6 Representative Section, View to North East, Scale 1m



Plate 4. Trench 16 Representative Section, View to West, Scale 1m



Plate 5. South Facing Section of Ditch [103], Scale 1m



Plate 6. Location Shot of Ditches [303] foreground, [305] mid shot and [307] background, View to South East, Scale 1m



Plate 7. South West Facing Section of Features [503] & [505], Scale 1m



Plate 8. North East Facing Section of ditch [507], Scale 1m



Plate 9. Shot of Unexcavated Linears [606] Foreground and [608] Background, View to South East, Scale 1m



Plate 10. South East Facing Section of Ditch [802], Scale 1m

#### Appendix 3: Specialist Report - Lithic Assessment

#### The Lithics

By Lynden Cooper

#### Introduction

The material was examined visually and with a low-power video magnifier and then classified/quantified by individual context. Descriptions followed standard, accepted British prehistoric lithic terminology (e.g. Healy 1987; Butler 2005).

#### The Material

There were three pieces of worked lithic material. Fill (202) of ditch [203] produced a secondary flake and a flake fragment of dark brown flint of good quality. The flake has a small, plain butt and core front preparation (abrasion) and is probably of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age technology. Fill (803) of linear feature [802] produced a secondary flake of brown flint with grey speckling with no evidence for core preparation. It can only be assigned a general prehistoric date.

Two large pieces of heavily burnt apparently unworked flint (167g, 126g maximum) were recovered from fill (506) of feature [504]. Such heavily surface-fractured, grey flint is indicative of pyrolithic activity that is often associated with water heating/cooking ('pot boilers') but may also indicate 'calcined' flint that may be used as pottery temper.

Natural flint was also recovered from (803) and (506), one and two pieces respectively.

#### **Potential**

The sparse worked flint attests to undefined prehistoric activity at the site. The material should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

#### Appendix 4: Specialist Report – Prehistoric to Roman Pottery

The Later Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

By Malcolm Lyne

#### Introduction

The site yielded 188 sherds (1858) of Prehistoric and Roman pottery from 16 contexts. This pottery includes a few residual middle Bronze Age fragments and middle Iron Age sherds from features of that date but the bulk of the material belongs to the late Iron Age extending into the earliest years of the Roman occupation.

#### Methodology

All of the pottery assemblages were quantified by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric. These fabrics were identified using a x10 magnification lens with built-in artificial illumination source, in order to determine the natures, sizes, frequencies and forms of added filler inclusions and those naturally present in the potting clay.

Five numbered fabric series were drawn up with the prefixes BA, MLIA, LIAR, C and F for Bronze Age, Middle to Late Iron Age, Late Iron Age to Roman, Coarse Roman and Fine Roman (see Appendix 1 – Fabrics present).

None of the pottery assemblages are large enough for further quantification by Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) based on rim sherds (Orton 1975).

#### The Assemblages

Middle Bronze Age. c.1750-1150 BC

This period is represented by seven residual sherds, of which two come from the fill of Ditch cut [202], three from the capping over Ditch cut [802] and two from the fill of that ditch. The last five sherds come from an urn or urns of uncertain form.

Middle to late Iron Age 1. c.300-50 BC

Parallel Ditch cuts [305] and [307] appear to be of this date: Ditch cut [305] yielded six fragments from handmade jars in black polished fabric MLIA2 with profuse fine <1.00 mm calcined-flint filler and Ditch cut [307] produced 15 sherds from a single jar in similar fabric.

Ditch cut [505] produced one fresh sherd from a bead-rimmed saucepan-pot in fabric MLIA2: Ditch cut 507 yielded another fresh sherd in similar fabric.

Late Iron Age 2 to earliest Roman. c.50BC-AD.50-60

The most significant feature of this date is cut [802] across a length of ditch running north-west to south-east in Area 5. The primary fill of this feature (807) produced 17 fresh sherds (178g) of pottery, comprising two in polished black fabric LIAR1 with crushed tufa filler, 13 in a variety of East Sussex Wares with grog filler (c.50BC-AD70/250) and two of a chaff-tempered salt briquetage container from a salt production centre in the Folkestone area (c.50BC-AD.100+). The East Sussex Ware fragments include one from an Asham pot (c.50BC-AD70): such vessels continued being made into the mid-3rd century but this sherd is clearly from an early example.

The main fill of the ditch [804] yielded a somewhat larger 61 sherd (862g) assemblage, including 45 in a variety of grog-tempered East Sussex Wares. These grog-tempered wares include two fresh sherds from a cauldron or bucket in black fabric LIAR3C; this vessel is fired brown and has traces of a vertical looped handle rising from its rim, with internal decoration. No parallels have been seen by the author, so dating remains uncertain. Gallo-Belgic and ?Central Gaulish finewares are also present and represented by one fragment each from a CAM112A ovoid beaker in TR3 fabric (c.15BC-AD65) and a CAM5A platter in Terra Nigra (c.15BC-AD25), as well as five fragments from a flagon in pale buff fabric F3 (c.15BC-AD.60). All of these imports could have arrived before the Roman Conquest: the platter in TR2 fabric most certainly did. Post-Conquest sherds are represented by four fragments from two jars in coarse Arun Valley greyware: the earliest date for these is some time between AD43 and 50.

Ditch fill (804) was overlain by capping layer (803) which yielded eight further sherds, which lack diagnostic fragments and can only be broadly dated to c.25BC-AD50.

The pottery assemblages from the fills of Ditch cuts [103], [203] and [303] and those recovered from the upper surfaces of the unexcavated fills in Ditch cuts [402], [404], [406], [606] and [608] appear to be of broadly similar date, with the 31 sherd assemblage from the fill of Ditch cut [103] including two from a CAM 112A ovoid beaker in TR 3 fabric (c.15BC-AD.65). The 18 sherd assemblage from the unexcavated fills of Ditch cut [606] include two from a CAM 5A platter in TR 2 fabric (c.15BC-AD.25) and two from a flagon in fabric F3 (c.15 BC-AD.60).

The presence of pre-Conquest Gallo-Belgic imports on this site suggests that it is one of high social status as such imports are more normally associated with tribal centres such as oppida during the Late Iron Age.

#### Appendix 5: Specialist Report – Post Roman Pottery

#### **The Post Roman Pottery**

By Berni Sudds

#### **Introduction and Methodology**

Just four sherds of post-Roman pottery were recovered during the evaluation, weighing 63g. The pottery was recorded and quantified for each context by fabric, vessel form and decoration, using sherd count (with fresh breaks discounted) and weight. The fabrics were examined under x20 magnification and recorded using provisional mnemonic codes. Where possible these have been cross referenced to other coding classifications used in the county (Gardiner 1997). A summary catalogue of the pottery by context appears in Table 1.

#### Range

Two sherds of medieval pottery were identified, both of 13th to mid-14th century date. They are both sandy wares with grey cores and orange or orange-buff surfaces. One is a jar rim from the top of ditch [802] and the other, from the fill of circular feature [503], is a strap-handle from a slipped and glazed jug. The fabrics are similar to descriptions of pottery produced in Steyning, particularly the Steyning medium sandy and Steyning coarse sandy micaceous wares, but similar wares were also made at other locations in West Sussex, including Binstead and Chichester and it is possible they originate from further afield (Gardiner 1997, 163; Marter Brown and Mepham 2012, 59).

The two remaining sherds are from modern high-fired red earthenware flowerpots in the upper fill of pit [605] ([602]).

#### **Discussion**

The small number of sherds recovered would suggest the site was not being intensively exploited in the post-Roman period, with the pottery potentially being deposited on site from contemporary activity nearby, or in the broader area, through field manuring. It is possible the sherds represent intrusive finds in the top of the features, particularly within [503] and [802].

#### Recommendations

The pottery should be retained as part of the site archive. No further work is recommended.

Table 1, catalogue of the pottery

Cxt	Tr	Fabric	Comments	sc	Wg	Date	range	Spot date
502	5	Miscellaneous/	Jug strap handle (fresh break).	1	16	1200	1350	1200 - 1350
		unsourced	Coarse sandy fabric with poorly					
		glazed ware	sorted sub-angular to rounded clear,					
		(MISC GL)	opaque and red/iron-stained quartz					
			and sparse iron ore (up to 2mm).					
			Light thumbed decoration to either					
			edge. Small patches of surviving					
			white slip and clear glaze. Possibly =					
			SCSm (Gardiner 1997)					

602	6	Late post-	Thickened rim and body sherd from	2	31	1850	1950+	1850 –
		medieval red	two modern flowerpots. The rim					1950+
		earthenware	sherd has an external cordon with a					
		(LPMR)	band of notched rouletting to the					
			body below.					
803	5	Miscellaneous/	Jar neck and rim. Everted, down-	1	16	1200	1350	1200 - 1350
		unsourced	turned rim with internal bead					
		coarseware	(externally bevelled top). Mid grey					
		(MISC CW)	core and oxidised margins and					
			surfaces. Slightly abraded surfaces.					
			Possibly = SCSm/ SMS or possibly					
			West Sussex coarseware (Gardiner					
			1997)					

Cxt = context; Tr = Trench; SC = sherd count; Wg = weight in grams.

#### Appendix 6: Specialist Report – Metalwork

#### The Metal Finds

By Gary Taylor

#### Introduction

A single metal item weighing 7g was recovered. The find was examined and reported in January 2022 in accordance with ClfA guidelines (2020).

#### Results

Table 1, the metal finds

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt(g)	Context date
807	Iron	Ballista bolt head?, 42mm	1	7	Roman, mid 1 <sup>st</sup> -mid 2 <sup>nd</sup>
		long			century?

#### **Provenance**

The item was recovered from fill (807) of linear feature [802] within Trench 8.

#### **Discussion**

A possible ballista bolt head was recovered. It has a narrowed waist with one terminal, probably the base, widening and apparently of circular cross-section. The other terminal widens from the waist before narrowing to a point and appears to be of rectangular cross-section. In form this appears to be a ballista bolt head, although previous discoveries of such tend to be about twice the size of this example (Manning 1976, fig 13; Crummy 1995, 135-6; Howard-Davis and Whitworth, fig 70, nos 61-2). An example from Colchester is dated from the mid 1st to mid 2nd century (Crummy, ibid.). Such an item suggests possible Roman military activity in the area.

#### **Potential and Recommendations**

The metal find is of moderate potential and significance. It may suggest a miliary presence in the area in the Roman era. The object should be X-rayed and illustrated (drawn or photographed) and retained for archive-storage.

#### **Abbreviations**

ClfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

No. Number

Wt(g) Weight (grams)

#### Appendix 7: Specialist Report – Animal Bone

#### **The Animal Bone**

By Kevin Rielly

#### Introduction

This site is located at the north-eastern perimeter of Steyning, some five miles north-east of Worthing, with the Steyning By-Pass to the west and King Barns Lane to the south. Sixteen strip trenches were excavated within a large study area, with archaeological features limited to just seven trenches in the south-central part of this area. These revealed evidence for early Bronze Age through to Roman-British activity. Animal bones were hand recovered from two adjacent trenches i.e., 5 and 8

#### Methodology

The bone was recorded to species/taxonomic category where possible and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of longbone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments. Recording follows the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic including natural and anthropogenic modifications to the bone were registered. A concerted effort was undertaken to refit as many bones as possible, noting the actual number of fragments prior to refitting.

#### Description of faunal assemblage

The site provided the fragmented remains of just five bones, refitted from an actual total of twenty-four fragments. These include a cattle mandible (with a toothrow signifying an old adult) as well as a pig mandibular incisor (also from an adult individual) from the fill (807) of ditch [802] (Trench 8) dated to the early Romano-British period; and then from Trench 5 - another cattle mandible (clearly subadult, potentially a 2nd year) as well as a cattle atlas (probably adult) from the fill (506) of ditch [507] dated to the later Iron Age era and finally a cattle loose maxillary molar (1st or 2nd and certainly adult) from the fill (504) of ditch [505], which has also been dated to the later Iron Age.

#### Conclusions and recommendations for further work

This is a small collection, notably fragmented and, with at least two out of three deposits, tending towards a wide date of deposition. However, dating may well be at an early stage of analysis and the fragmentation is clearly related to recovery pressures rather than any chemical weathering. The refitted bones clearly provide useful information concerning the age of the animals exploited. Further excavation, perhaps focused in the vicinity of Trenches 5 and 8, will certainly provide further bones, although it cannot be envisaged that the subsequent quantity will be sufficient to warrant more than a cursory description of animal usage within the stated occupation range of this site.

#### **Appendix 8: Oasis Form**

OASIS ID (UID) preconst1-504567

Project Name Evaluation at Land North of King's Barn Lane, Steyning, West Sussex

Activity type Evaluation

Project Identifier(s) King's Barn Lane, Steyning, West Sussex

Planning Id

Reason For Investigation Planning: Pre application

Organisation

Responsible for work Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project Dates 07-Dec-2022 - 16-Dec-2022

Location Land North of King's Barn Lane, Steyning, West Sussex

NGR: TQ 18488 11547

LL: 50.89126410317, -0.316710499804525

12 Fig: 518488,111547

Administrative Areas Country: England

County: West Sussex
District: Horsham
Parish: Steyning

Project Methodology The evaluation comprised the excavation of twelve trenches measuring 30m x 2m. 17 trenches were intended for this stage of evaluation but were inaccessible due to the presence of livestock. The array of trenches was intended to target anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Magnitude Surveys 2021) to test the reliability of the geophysical survey results in terms of identifying features of potential archaeological origin.

Project Results The evaluation identified archaeological features in 7 out of 12

excavated trenches, mostly concentrated to the centre/ south of the site, these features were primarily linear ditches demonstrating clear evidence of land use from the early Bronze Age to the Romano British period.

The finds recovered from the archaeological features are of some interest. Specialist analysis of the finds assemblage identified some pre-Conquest Gallo – Belgic pottery imports suggesting the site may have been of high social status during the late Iron Age and a possible Ballista bolt head could suggest some Roman military presence or activity on or near the Site.

The evaluation achieved its secondary aim of testing the reliability of the geophysical survey results in terms of identifying features of potential archaeological origin. Although not accurate across the entirety of the Site many geophysical anomalies were proven to relate to archaeological features identified in the evaluation.

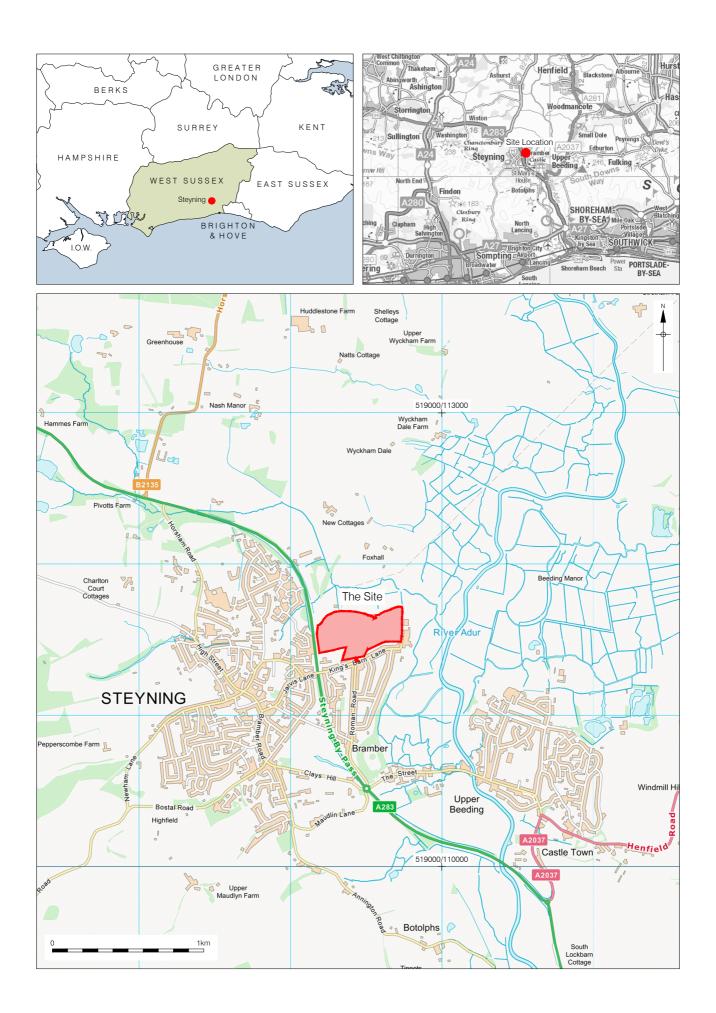
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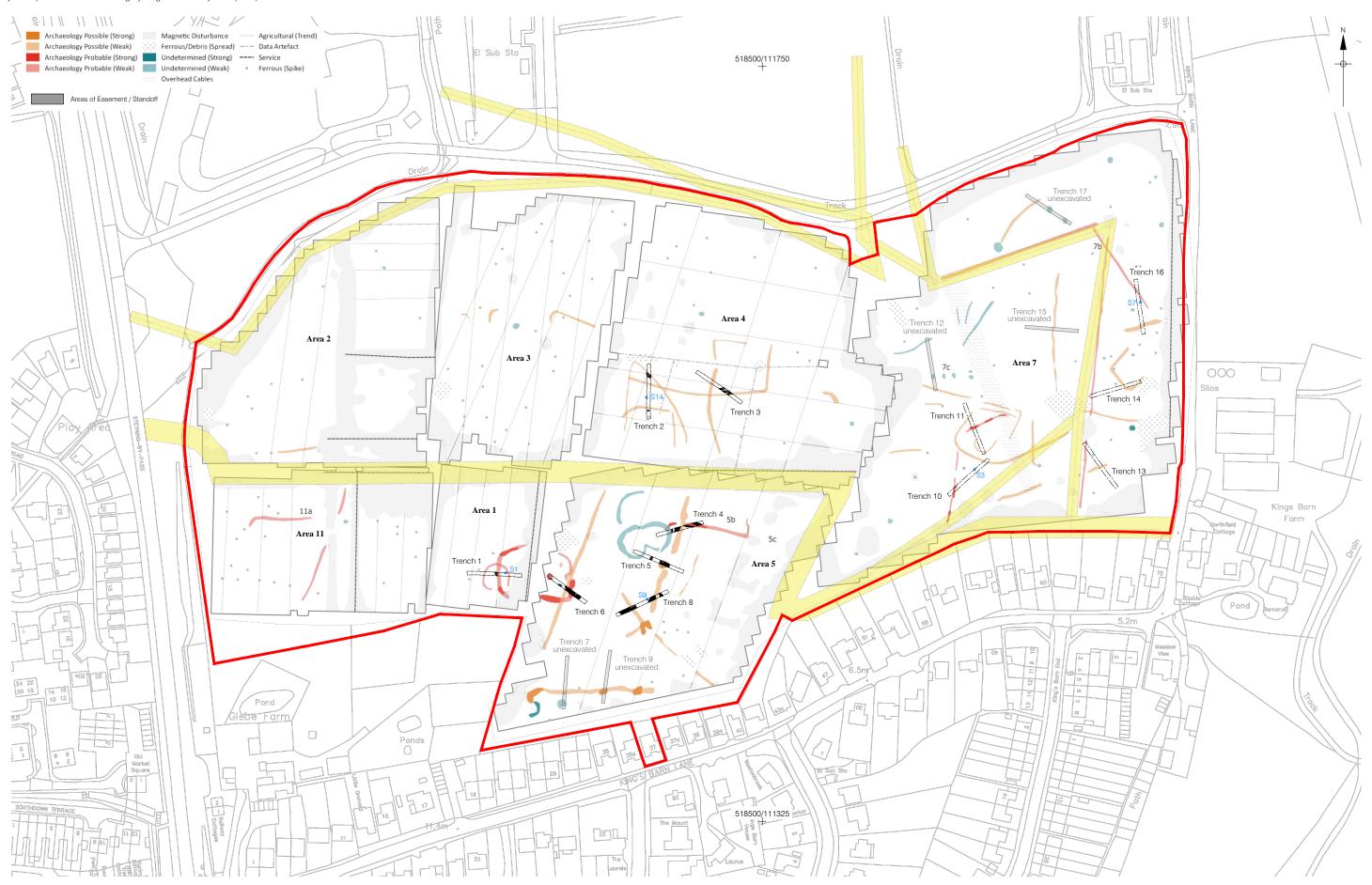
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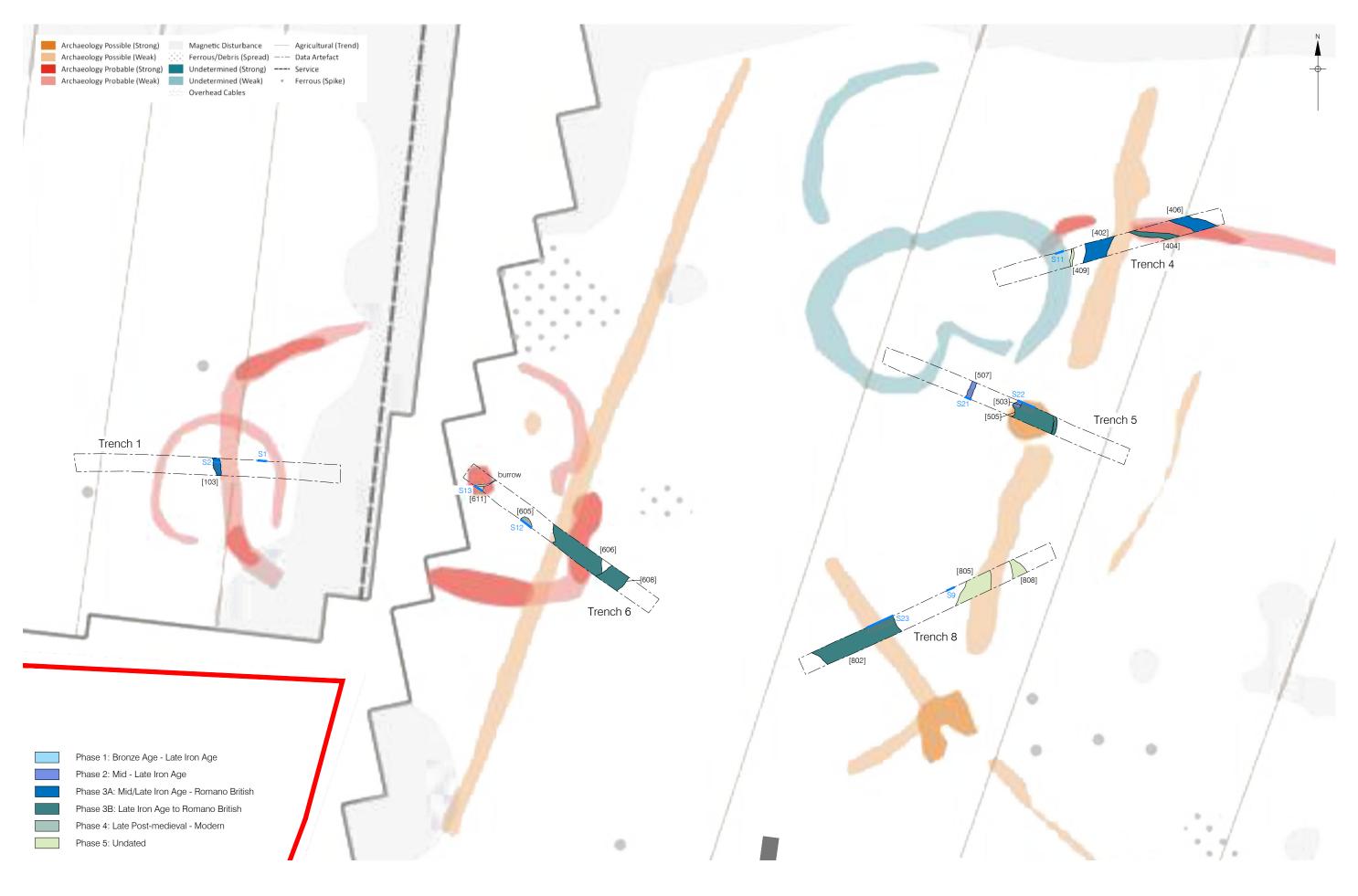
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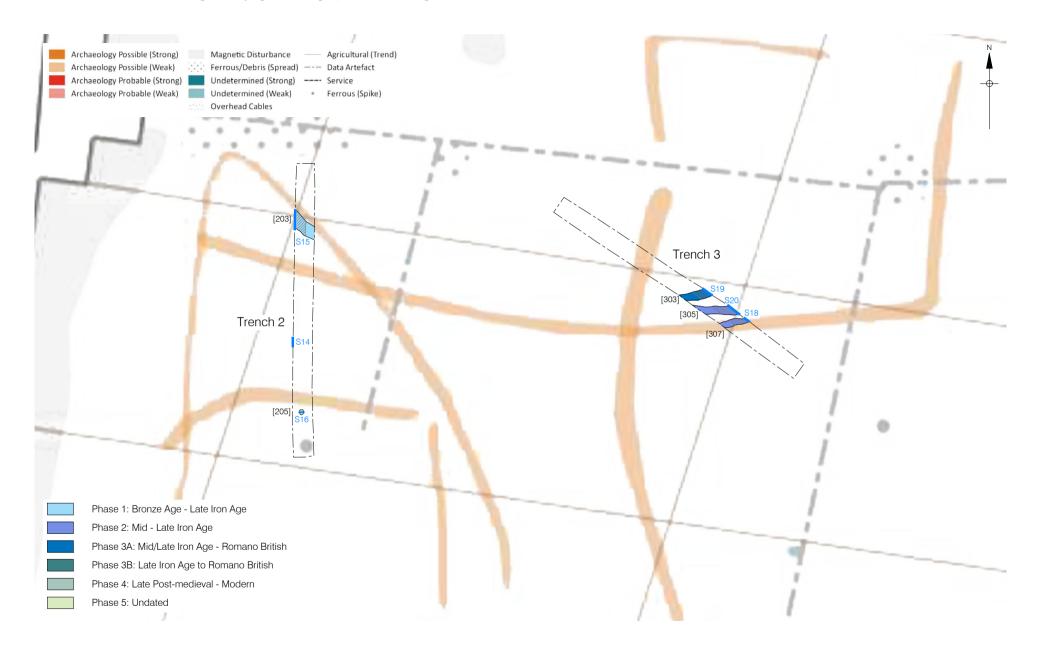
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**HER Identifiers** 

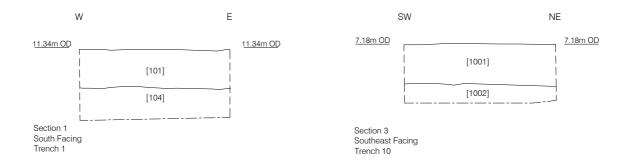


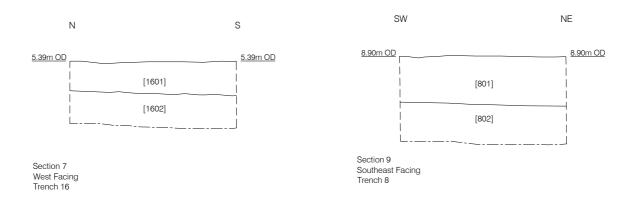


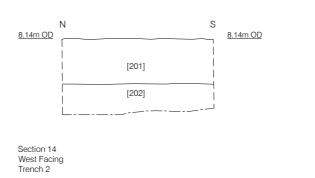






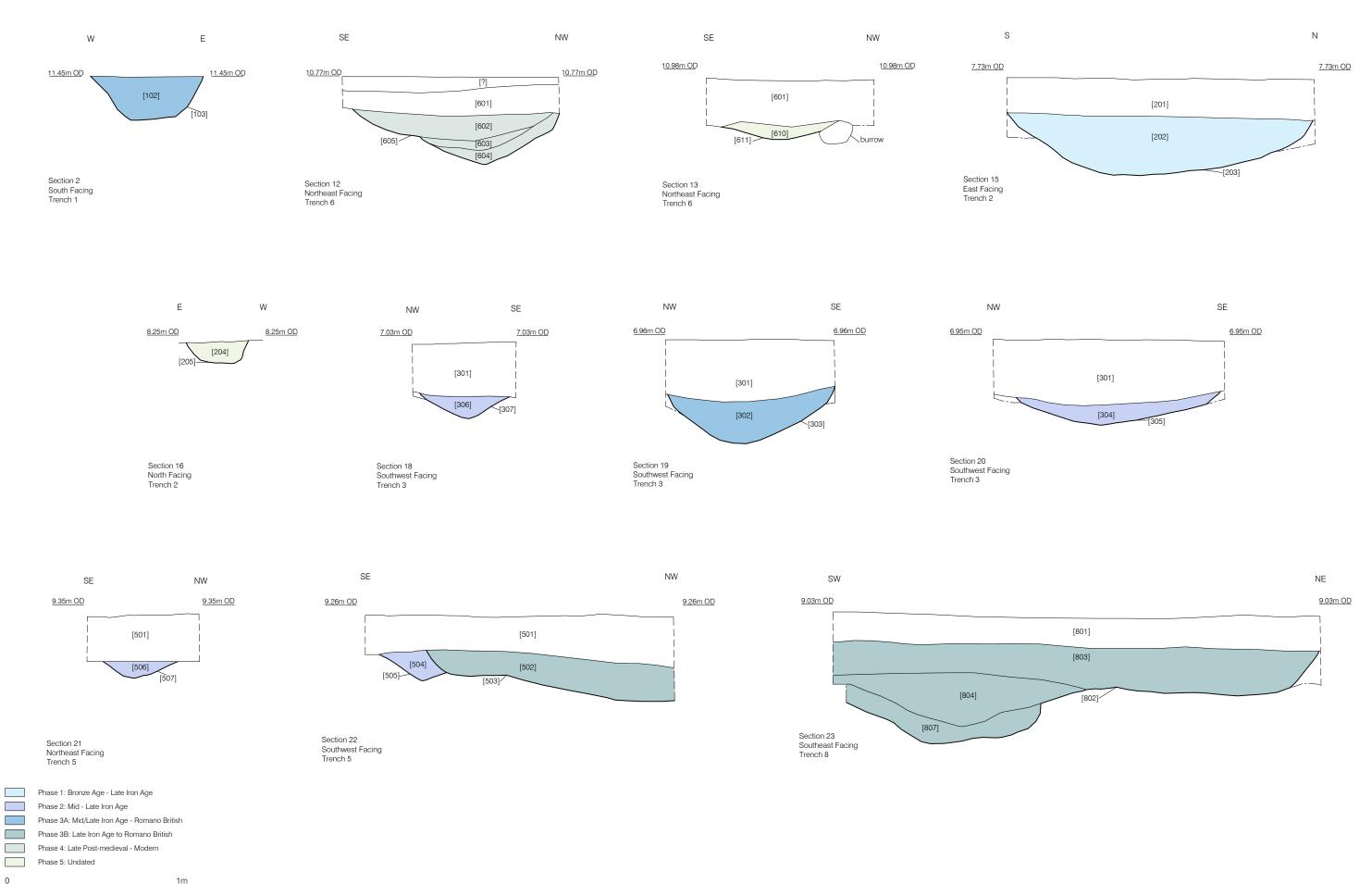






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