LAND AT CHALKERS LANE, HURSTPIERPOINT, WEST SUSSEX

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL

PLANNING REF: 13/03305/OUT

PCA REPORT NO: 12087

SITE CODE: WCLH15

MAY 2015

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

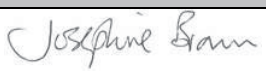
DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

LAND AT CHALKERS LANE, HURSTPIERPOINT, WEST SUSSEX

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
Project Number	K3980
Report Number	R12087

	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Peter Boyer		May 2015
Graphics Prepared by:	Jennifer Simonson		May 2015
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		May 2015
Project Manager Sign-off:	Chris Mayo		May 2015

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Unit 54
Brockley Cross Business Centre
96 Endwell Road
London
SE4 2PD

LAND AT CHALKERS LANE, HURSTPIERPOINT, WEST SUSSEX

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Local Planning Authority:	**Mid Sussex District Council**
Planning Ref:	**13/03305/OUT**
Site Code:	**WCLH15**
Central National Grid Reference:	**TQ 28286 17599**
Written by:	**Peter Boyer**
Project Manager:	**Chris Mayo**
Commissioning Client:	**Mills Whipp Projects**
on behalf of:	**Barratt David Wilson Southern Counties**

Contractor:	**Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd**
	Unit 54 Brockley Cross Business Centre
	96 Endwell Road, Brockley
	London SE4 2PD
Tel:	**020 7732 3925**
E-mail:	**cmayo@pre-construct.com**
Web:	**www.pre-construct.com**

May 2015

PCA Report No: R12087

CONTENTS

ILLUSTRATIONS

APPENDICES

1 ABSTRACT

1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. conducted a targeted archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching on land at Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex between the 20th and 24th of April 2015. The evaluation comprised the excavation of eight trial trenches measuring up to 50m in length, mostly located over areas where anomalies reflecting archaeological potential had been identified during an earlier geophysical survey, though with others located in negative areas as a control measure.

1.2 A number of archaeological features were identified mostly in an area at the north-west of the site, some of which had been highlighted as geophysical anomalies, though some anomalies were not apparent on the ground and there were other features present, not identified by the geophysical survey.

1.3 The majority of the features in the north-west area were associated with activity in the late prehistoric to early Romano-British period, an apparent small settlement being located here with a likely drip gully of an Iron Age round house being set within a wider ditched enclosure with a number of further contemporary features also located in the enclosed area. At least one ditch, possibly representing a late prehistoric field boundary, was also identified further to the south.

1.4 Features possibly representing other phases of activity were also present but their date and nature remain a little uncertain. A large, sub-rectangular cut feature to the south of the round house had the appearance of a sunken floored structure of early medieval date but recovered finds appeared to suggest an earlier period of activity. Similarly, one of a line of postholes cutting this feature and originally thought to be medieval contained prehistoric pottery. Another feature thought to be of possible medieval date also produced a finds assemblage more indicative of earlier activity with one pottery sherd of particular interest, though medieval material was recovered from the topsoil.

1.5 Post-medieval activity was represented by a small number of linear features, probably representing field boundaries or land partition. These were generally poorly dated though one feature produced a brick fragment suggesting an early post-medieval date of deposition. It is likely that the post-medieval features belonged to more than one sub-phase. The most recent phase of activity on the site involved animal grazing, which may have been carried out for some time; there were very few finds in the topsoil in addition to the medieval material.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Between the 20th and 24th of April 2015 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) carried out a targeted archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land at Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex (Figures 1 & 2).

2.2 The work was commissioned by Mills Whipp Projects on behalf of Barratt David Wilson Southern Counties and comprised an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching in open fields within the new development, the trenches being located over anomalies detected during an earlier geophysical survey of the site (Figure 2). The archaeological consultant to the client was Mike Hutchinson of Mills Whipp Projects; the fieldwork was supervised by the author under the project management of Tim Bradley and Chris Mayo, all of PCA.

2.3 The site was located at National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 28286 17599 and was allocated the site code WCLH15.

2.4 It is proposed to develop the site for residential purposes, outline planning consent for which has already been approved (Planning Ref: 13/03305/OUT), though a condition of the consent required an archaeological investigation of the site. Consequently archaeological works were commissioned in response to this condition.

2.5 The aim of the planning condition was to ensure mitigation of archaeological remains which may be impacted by the proposed development. Earlier discussion with West Sussex County Council (WSCC) had recommended that provision be made for an initial, exploratory stage of archaeological investigation, i.e. a non-intrusive geophysical survey. Such a survey was carried out in December 2014 (Masters 2015) and revealed a number of anomalies, which may have been of archaeological interest. Subsequent to this and in accordance with the condition a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a targeted trial trench evaluation was produced by Mills Whipp Projects (Hutchinson 2015) and approved by the local planning authority. The work was carried out according to the WSI during April 2015 and is described in this report.

2.6 As stated in the WSI, the specific aims and objectives of the evaluation were to:

- Assess the effect upon the site of past farming activity i.e. plough damage;
- Assess the interface of deposits sealing the natural drift geology for archaeological features;
- Assess the significance of any alluvial deposits sealing the natural sandy clay and if necessary collect samples for environmental analysis;
- Assess cut features within the natural sandy clay for interpretive information regarding past landuse;
- Assess the base of the archaeological sequence for artefactual material or features;

- Assess deposits recorded as possible archaeological features during the geotechnical investigation;
- Assess features recorded during the magnetometer survey for date and function;
- Assess the site for prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and medieval archaeology;
- Assess other areas of the site as a control check of the negative magnetometer survey results and areas of modern ferrous anomalies.

2.7 Upon completion of the project the completed archive comprising written, drawn and digital image records will eventually be deposited with a suitable local repository, currently expected to be the Marlipins or Lewes Museum, identified by the unique site code WCLH15.

3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 The study site lies towards the north-eastern edge of the village of Hurstpierpoint, to the south-east of Chalkers Lane and a short distance from the junction of this and Cuckfield Road, which extends southwards to the historic village core and High Street.

3.2 According to the British Geological Survey (Sheet 302; Horsham) the underlying geology of the site comprises sedimentary mudstone of the Wealden Clay formation, deposited between *c*. 134 and 125 million years ago during the Cretaceous period in a local environment dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas. No superficial deposits are recorded overlying the Wealden Clay (BGS n.d.), soils forming on the weathered silt and clay of the bedrock formation.

3.3 At the time of the archaeological evaluation the site was accessed via a temporary entrance midway along the Chalkers Lane, which had been created by cutting a gap in the hedge at the edge of the site. Pedestrian access was also possible via a public footpath to the north-east. The site comprises one large field that covers much of the site area, with smaller paddocks at the north-west and north-east and a small yard and stable area at the northern edge. The site lies on broadly flat ground at an elevation of approximately 24m AOD, though slopes gently downwards from west to east and from south to north, a maximum surface elevation of 24.33m AOD being recorded towards the west with a lowest surface elevation of 22.47m AOD being recorded towards the north-east corner.

3.4 The site is bounded to the west by properties that front onto Chalkers Lane and Cuckfield Road, to the north-west by Chalkers Lane, to the north by a public footpath, to the east by agricultural land and woodland and to the south by a recreation ground. The nearest watercourse is a small stream to the east of the site that joins the Herring Stream to the north, this in turn joining the River Adur, some distance to the north-west.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The archaeological background to the study site was discussed in the WSI (Hutchinson 2015) and is summarised here:

4.1 Prehistoric

4.1.1 Only two finds of prehistoric date are listed on the West Sussex Historic Environment Record (WSHER) within the vicinity of the site; a Neolithic axe (WSHER ref. MVVS562) and a flint arrowhead from Tott farm (WSHER ref. MqVVS563), suggesting little activity in the area. However, this may reflect a lack of archaeological investigation within the general area rather than a real dearth of activity. In 2004 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Orchard Way on the western side of Hurstpierpoint (Ford 2004). Although no archaeological features were recorded five struck flints of prehistoric date were recovered, though none of the pieces were closely datable. One possible sherd of Iron Age pottery was also recovered.

4.1.2 The exact nature of the prehistoric activity represented by these finds cannot be determined with any certainty; neither do finds distribution patterns suggest any focus of activity. Although the site lies on the Wealden Clay Formation, it is close to a small water course belonging to the River Adur system. It has been suggested that within West Sussex, land near watercourses may often be seen to have been attractive to ancient settlement, because of the attractions of readily available water supply, fishing and fowling. Generally, prehistoric archaeology is recorded at a greater density on the chalk of the South Downs to the south e.g. Iron Age fort at Wolstonbury Hill, although the occasional outcrop of Greensand in the vicinity of Hurstpierpoint was attractive to early settlement.

4.2 Roman

4.2.1 This area is likely to have been a managed landscape in the Roman period based on a network of villas, farmsteads and small settlements. The remains of a villa are known to exist just south of Hurstpierpoint at Randolphs Farm along with the remains of a tile kiln in the general vicinity. A Roman road lies approximately 2km south of the study site at Hassocks. It is aligned approximately east to west and heads towards Wiggonholt to the west. A further road runs north from Hassocks and lies approximately 2km east of the study site creating a crossroads in Hassocks.

4.2.2 South of the study site, evidence of Roman activity has been recorded archaeologically, including a cemetery at Stonepound Crossroads in Hassocks and at Talbot Field, Hassocks. At Hurstpierpoint churchyard, approximately 800m south of the site, Roman coins and pottery have been recovered on several occasions (WSHER ref. MVVS7316) while at Talbot Field, Hassocks, approximately 2km south-east of the site, Roman wall footings and pits were recorded along with large amounts of Roman pottery (WSHER ref. MVVS7316).

4.3 Early Medieval

4.3.1 Six sherds from a crushed-flint tempered Middle Saxon cooking pot were recovered during the evaluation at Orchard Way (Ford 2004). No archaeological features associated with the pottery were, however, recorded. The Saxon manor of Hurstpierpoint was held by Earl Godwin and Domesday Book records the estate as having 41 hides. The manor is also recorded as having a church and three mills. The name Hurst is first mentioned in the 11th century when Robert de Pierpoint was the Norman lord.

4.4 Late Medieval and Post-Medieval

4.4.1 The medieval village of Hurstpierpoint may have clustered around the church. The study site probably lay in open ground approximately 500m to the north of the historic core of the settlement in an area occupied by farmland. It is likely that Yeakell and Gardner's map of 1778 generally reflects the earlier medieval distribution of farmland and settlements. The study site may be seen to occupy a number of small fields on the eastern side of the lane well to the north of the Hurstpierpoint settlement.

4.4.2 The Ordnance survey maps of 1881, 1910 and 1937 show that the site was occupied by fields up until the present day. That of 1881 shows that an east-west aligned field boundary crossed the middle of the site and is likely to account for an anomaly detected during the earlier geophysical survey of the site. The fields were used for both pasture and arable farming.

4.5 Archaeological Survival

4.5.1 The WSI stated that survival of potential archaeology on the site was likely to be good as this area had not been previously developed, but there may be some plough damage as the natural sandy clay generally lies as shallow as 300mm below ground level in Hurstpierpoint. The evaluation of Orchard Way on the western side of the village in 2004 recorded a humic, sandy topsoil, approximately 350mm deep, overlying a sandy clay natural (Ford 2004, 3). On the northern part of the site this was recorded as a brown topsoil 300mm deep overlying a silty clay which the excavator suggests was probably representing typical farmland (ibid).

4.6 Geophysical Investigation

4.6.1 In total four significant geophysical anomalies that may be archaeological in nature were recorded during the geophysical investigations (Masters 2015). Linear anomalies in the north-western part of the site were thought to represent a ditched enclosure or possibly may "resolve as natural remains in the soil rather than an archaeological feature" (Masters 2015, 3). Within the possible enclosure two pit-like anomalies were recorded. To the south of the enclosure two parallel, linear anomalies were recorded running in an east-west direction. These may represent a field boundary shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1881. Other modern-ferrous anomalies were also recorded.

5 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The development of the site is subject to planning guidance and policies contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and policies of Mid Sussex District Council, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which it is the custodian.

5.1 National Planning Policy

5.1.1 In March 2012, the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). In summary, current national policy provides a framework which protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets and their settings, in appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions regarding the historic environment and provides for the investigation by intrusive or non-intrusive means of sites not significant enough to merit *in-situ* preservation. Relevant paragraphs within the NPPF include the following:

128. *In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.*
129. *Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.*
132. *When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.*
135. *The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.*
139. *Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.*
141. *Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any*

archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.

5.2 Local Planning Policy

5.2.1 The local planning authority responsible for the study site is Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC), which is currently formulating a new District Plan as required by the NPPF and due for adoption in Spring 2016. Meanwhile the Mid Sussex Local plan adopted in May 2004 and saved in September 2007provides the basis for planning policy within the district, including that relating to Scheduled Ancient Monuments and archaeological sites of interest and importance:

B18 Sites of archaeological interest and their settings will be protected and enhanced where possible. In particular, the fabric and setting of Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other nationally important archaeological sites should be preserved intact.

Development proposals or changes of use or management which would have a detrimental impact on sites of archaeological importance and their settings will not normally be permitted. An exception may be made only where the benefits of the proposal (which cannot reasonably be located elsewhere) are so great as to outweigh the possible effects on the archaeological importance of the site.

Where it appears that a proposed development may affect the archaeological or historic interest of a known or potential site of archaeological importance, the applicant will be required to carry out an archaeological assessment and field evaluation. A statement of the findings will be required to accompany the planning application.

There will be preference for preservation in-situ in preference to excavation recording and publication of findings.

Where approved development will affect a site of archaeological interest, the developer will be required either by agreement or by conditions of planning permission to have undertaken a full investigation and recording by excavation and the publication of findings.

5.3 Site Specific Planning Background

5.3.1 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the area of proposed development, the site does not lie within a Conservation Area as defined by MSDC and neither are there any listed buildings in the vicinity, though there are a number of buildings of special architectural or historic interest along the High Street, some distance to the south.

5.3.2 It is now proposed to develop the site for residential purposes, an outline planning application (ref: 13/03305/OUT) having been submitted in September 2013 and approved with conditions by MSDC in August 2014. Condition 6 of the approved plan specifies that:

> No development shall be carried out on the land until the applicant, or their agents or successor in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works for that sub phase in accordance with a written scheme of investigation and timetable which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
>
> Reason: In order to ensure that archaeological features and artefacts on the site will be properly recorded before development and to accord with Policy B18 of the Mid Sussex Local Plan.

5.3.3 The aim of the planning condition was to ensure mitigation of archaeological remains which may be impacted by the proposed development. Earlier discussion with West Sussex County

Council (WSCC), which provides archaeological advice for MSDC had also recommended that provision be made for an initial, exploratory stage of archaeological investigation, i.e. a non-intrusive geophysical survey. Such a survey was carried out in December 2014 (Masters 2015) and revealed a number of anomalies, which may have been of archaeological interest. Subsequent to this and in accordance with the condition a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a targeted trial trench evaluation was produced by Mills Whipp Projects (Hutchinson 2015) and approved by the local planning authority. The work was carried out according to the WSI during April 2015 and is described in this report.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the WSI (Hutchinson 2015) and a site specific health and safety method statement and risk assessment prepared by PCA (Bradley 2015). All aspects of the work followed national (CIfA 2014) and local guidelines, and according to PCA's own fieldwork manual (Taylor and Brown 2009).

6.2 The geophysical survey of the site carried out in December 2014 (Masters 2015) had identified a number of anomalies that were thought to have archaeological potential, particularly within a north-western area of the site. Consequently trial trenching targeted these anomalies with some trenches located as control measures in negative areas.

6.3 Eight trial trenches, one 50m in length and seven of 30m lengths were excavated, the 50m trench (Trench 2) and one 30m trench (Trench 3) being located over the concentration of geophysical anomalies to the north-west (Figure 2). Two further 30m trenches (5 and 6) were located over small anomalies to the east, whilst a further two trenches (4 and 8) were positioned over likely former field boundaries to the south. The final two trenches were located in a negative geophysical area to the south (Trench 7) and an area of likely modern disturbance to the north (Trench 1). The trench positions were established on site, set out to pre-determined National Grid reference points using geographical positioning system (GPS) equipment (Figure 2).

6.4 All trenches were machine excavated in spits to the surface of identifiable archaeological deposits or to the surface of natural deposits if identifiable archaeological remains were not present. All machining was undertaken by a 13 tonne 360˚ tracked excavator using a toothless ditching bucket, under archaeological supervision.

6.5 Longitudinal sections and bases of the trenches were then cleaned, and sample sections and base plans recorded. Identified archaeological features were sample excavated by hand, written and drawn records made of deposits and finds collected. Exposed sections and spoil heaps were also checked in order to collect any dateable evidence and assess the extent of residual finds preservation. A written, drawn, surveyed and photographic record of each trench was made.

6.6 A temporary bench mark (TBM) was also established on the site (value 22.40m AOD), extrapolated from earlier topographic survey data. Following the completion of archaeological work all trenches were backfilled and reinstated using a 180° wheeled excavator (JCB).

7 TRENCH DESCRIPTION AND INTERPRETATION OF FEATURES

In this section the stratigraphic sequence in each of the evaluation trenches is described and the sequences interpreted (Figures 3 - 8).

7.1 Trench 1

7.1.1 Trench 1 was located in the small paddock at the north-east of the site, in an area where the geophysical survey had detected a modern ferrous anomaly. The trench was aligned approximately WNW-ESE (Figures 2 & 3; Plate 1). The basal material exposed was a natural stiff, mid reddish brown clay seen at the eastern end of the trench and recorded at a maximum elevation of 21.95m AOD. It was overlain by coarser natural material [15] comprising very firm to stiff, mid yellowish/reddish brown clayey silt and recorded at an upper elevation of 22.48m AOD. The natural deposits were overlain by a firm, slightly yellowish, mid brown silt subsoil [14], up to 0.15m thick and recorded at an upper elevation of 22.62m AOD. An approximately east to west aligned trench for a ceramic field drain of likely 19th- or 20th-century date was observed cutting through the subsoil and the sequence was completed by modern topsoil (Figure 7.1), up to 0.19m thick and recorded at an upper elevation of 22.85m AOD at the western end of the trench, though the surface sloped down to 22.47m AOD to the east. Other than the relatively recent field drain, no archaeological features or deposits were recorded within the trench.

7.2 Trenches 2 & 3

7.2.1 Trenches 2 and 3 were located towards the north-west of the site, where the greatest concentration of anomalies was detected during the physical survey (Figures 2, 4 & 5; Plates 2-5). The 50m long, east to west aligned Trench 2 was positioned over what appeared to be inner and outer enclosure ditches along with possible internal features, whilst Trench 3 extended 30m south from the approximate mid-point of Trench 2 and was positioned to expose further elements of the possible inner and outer enclosure ditches. The basal deposit exposed within the two trenches was a firmly compacted, mid reddish/yellowish brown, natural clayey silt [3], which was recorded at upper elevations varying between 23.54m AOD and 23.89m AOD.

7.2.2 At the western end of Trench 2 the natural material was cut by a north-west to south-east aligned ditch [5], which was up to 1.58m wide and 0.50m deep, extending beyond the northern and southern edges of the trench. The ditch exhibited a broad, asymmetric 'V'-profile (Figure 8.1; Plate 6) and contained three filling deposits. The basal fill [7] was a firm, mid grey, silty clay, up to 0.14m thick, which yielded a small quantity of coarse pottery. This was overlain by a 0.15m thick deposit of firmly compacted, mid orangey grey clay [6] that also produced sherds of coarse pottery. The upper fill of the ditch [4] was a firmly compacted, mid grey clay, up to 0.28m thick, which yielded a small assemblage of coarse pottery. The ditch was almost certainly the feature detected during the geophysical survey and interpreted as the outer ditch of the double enclosure feature (though the alignment appears to be different; Figure 5), its location here marking the western edge of the enclosure.

7.2.3 Approximately 5.5m to the east of ditch [5] was a NNE-SSW aligned linear feature [56], up to 1.20m wide and 0.68m deep, extending beyond the northern and southern edges of the trench. This ditch exhibited a more symmetrical 'V'-profile than the feature to the west (Figure 8.2) and contained a single fill [55], a firmly compacted, mid greyish brown clay that also yielded a small quantity of coarse pottery. At the southern edge of the trench the backfilled ditch was cut by a small sub-circular pit [12], measuring up to 0.83m across and 0.29m deep. This exhibited a rounded profile in section (Figure 8.3) and was filled with a firmly compacted, mid grey clay [11], which yielded a fragment of possible quern stone.

7.2.4 A little more than 10m to the east of ditch [55] was a further linear feature [52], aligned north to south and extending beyond either side of the evaluation trench. This was up to 0.97m wide and 0.39m deep, exhibiting a somewhat irregular profile (Figure 8.4). The single backfill [51] was a soft but firm, light grey silty clay but yielded no dateable finds. This feature was located in the approximate position of an anomaly detected during the geophysical survey, though interpreted as pit-like or burning (Figure 5).

7.2.5 A further 5m or so to the east was a curvilinear gully [54] that formed an arc, which extended from the northern edge of Trench 2, curving southwards into Trench 3 and extending beyond the eastern edge of the latter trench. The gully was just 0.29m wide and no more than 0.1m deep, exhibiting a shallow 'U'-profile (Figure 8. 5). The fill [53] was a firmly compacted, light grey clay, which produced some small sherds of coarse pottery. What appeared to be the same curvilinear feature was recorded further to the east in Trench 2 as [22] (Plate 7), extending beyond the northern edge of the evaluation trench at an angle (Figure 8.6) but extending to the south approximately perpendicular to the alignment of the trench. The fill [21] of gully [22] was somewhat different from that further to the west, comprising a friable, dark brownish grey silty clay that exhibited extensive burning but produced no dateable finds. The two sections of the gully together, suggested a sub-circular ring gully feature in excess of 10m in diameter. It is very likely that this is the larger of the two sub-circular features interpreted as a possible pit/area of burning during the geophysical survey (Figure 5).

7.2.6 Between the two ring gully sections was an irregular pit [24], which produced finds of possible medieval date, though subsequent analysis suggested late prehistoric or Romano-British deposition was more likely, with one sherd being somewhat enigmatic. The pit measured up to 1.32m north to south by 0.94m east to west but was just 0.20m deep, with slightly concave sides and a flattish base. It was backfilled with a firmly compacted, mid grey clay [23] that produced a sherd of medieval pottery and a burnt stone fragment. A small shard of glass recovered from the fill was most likely intrusive.

7.2.7 Approximately 5.5m east of the ring gully and a little more than 5m from the eastern end of Trench 2 was another north to south aligned linear feature [40], which extended north and south of the trench. It was up to 1.85m wide and 0.63m deep, exhibiting a broadly symmetrical 'V'-profile (Figure 8.7; Plate 8). A number of backfilling deposits were recognised, which suggested that following initial natural silting, the feature was infilled from both sides. The basal fill [48] was

a firmly compacted, light grey silty clay, up to 80mm thick, which contained no dateable finds. It was overlain by a firmly compacted, light brown clay [46], apparently tipped in from the west but also containing no finds. This in turn was overlain by a firmly compacted, mid brownish grey clay, tipped from the east and again containing no finds. Above this was a more extensive deposit of compact, dark grey clay [45], tipped from the west and containing a moderate assemblage of coarse pottery and fragments of burnt stone. This was overlain by firmly compacted, mid brownish grey clay [39], tipped from the east and containing no finds, and the backfilling was completed with a deposit of firmly compacted, mid brownish grey clay with charcoal flecking [38]. This feature appears to have been another section of the outer enclosure ditch identified during the geophysical survey and here would have marked the eastern edge of the enclosure (Figure 5).

7.2.8 Less than 2m to the south of the ring gully in Trench 3 was a large, sub-rectangular cut feature [64] that extended west of the trench and appeared to be aligned approximately north-east to south-west. It measured at least 3.65m north-east to south-west by at least 2.22m north-west to south-east and was 0.26m deep. It had slightly concave sides, breaking to a flattish base and was filled with a firm, mottled light grey and mid greyish brown clayey silt [63], recovered from which, was a small assemblage of poorly fired pottery in a black fabric along with fragments of daub. The feature was tentatively identified as a sunken-floored building (SFB), however the pottery appears to be prehistoric so the actual date and nature of the feature remains somewhat enigmatic but most likely later prehistoric or Romano-British. The backfilled feature was cut by three sub-circular postholes [58], [60] and [62] on an east to west alignment (Plate 9), which were all very shallow having apparently been extensively horizontally truncated. They varied in diameter between 0.36m and 0.44m, the easternmost feature [58] being filled with a firm, mid brownish grey silt [57] that yielded a few sherds of Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery. The other two postholes were filled with a firm, slightly reddish, mid brown silt but neither yielded any dateable finds. The postholes provided possible evidence of a timber structure post-dating the rectangular feature and may have indicated a continuity of occupation.

7.2.9 Approximately 12.5m south of the large sub-rectangular feature was a north-west to south-east aligned ditch [50] that extended beyond both sides of the evaluation trench. This feature was 1.30m wide and 0.40m deep, exhibiting a broad ‘U’-profile (Figure 8.8; Plate 10). It was filled with a firmly compacted, light greyish brown clay [49] that produced a small assemblage of coarse pottery and was almost certainly another section of the outer enclosure ditch identified during the geophysical survey, this location being close to the southern edge of the enclosure (Figure 5).

7.2.10 With the possible (though unlikely) exception of the irregular pit within the area enclosed by the ring gully and the rather enigmatic sub-rectangular feature and posthole alignment, all of the above features in Trenches 2 and 3 appeared to be of late prehistoric or early Romano-British in date and all features in the trenches were sealed by a layer of firmly compacted, mid greyish

brown, clay subsoil [2], up to 0.25m thick and recorded at upper elevations between 23.71m AOD and 23.98m AOD.

7.2.11 Towards the southern end of Trench 3 the subsoil was cut by an approximately east to west aligned ditch [44], which extended east and west of the trench. The ditch was 1.18m wide and 0.54m deep, exhibiting an asymmetric profile with steeply sloping northern edge and much more gently sloping edge to the south, both breaking to a gently concave base. The ditch was backfilled with a firm, mid greyish brown silt [43] that yielded a fragment of early post-medieval glazed brick, which may have represented evidence of kiln activity in the area. The backfilled ditch and subsoil across the evaluation trenches was sealed by modern topsoil [1] up to 0.30m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 24.20m AOD towards the south end of Trench 3 and 23.84m AOD towards the eastern end of Trench 2.

7.2.12 Although the outer enclosure ditch detected during the geophysical survey was identified at three locations in Trenches 2 and 3 and the pit-like/burning features were identified as a ring gully and possible ditch, the inner enclosure ditch was not detected within the trenches.

7.3 **Trench 4**

7.3.1 Trench 4 was aligned approximately NNW-SSE, the northern end positioned *c*. 18m west of the south end of Trench 3 (Figures 2 & 3; Plates 11 & 12). The basal deposit exposed in the trench was very firm, mid yellowish/reddish natural clayey silt [37], recorded at upper elevations between 23.68m AOD and 23.71m AOD. Cut into the natural deposits towards the southern end of the trench was an east to west aligned ditch [42], which was 0.70m wide, 0.42m deep and extended either side of the trench. The ditch yielded a broad 'U' profile (Figure 7.2) and was backfilled with a firm, slightly yellowish, light grey clayey silt, which yielded a possible struck flint but was otherwise undated. It was however, sealed by subsoil suggesting a medieval or earlier date and was possibly one of the smaller features identified in this area during the geophysical survey. The subsoil overlying the backfilled ditch and natural deposits was a firm, slightly yellowish, mid brown silt [36] up to 0.20m thick and recorded at upper elevations between 24.01m AOD and 24.18m AOD (Figures 7.2 & 7.3). No features were recorded cutting into the subsoil and it was sealed by modern topsoil [35] up to 0.19m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 24.19m AOD and 24.33m AOD, a fragment of medieval peg tile being recovered from this layer. The parallel linear features identified during the geophysical survey were not detected within the trench, though it appears that the boundary shown on the 1881 Ordnance Map that these were equated with in the survey report actually lay further to the north (see Trench 6 below).

7.4 **Trench 5**

7.4.1 Trench 5 was positioned 15m east of Trench 3 and aligned approximately WNW-ESE (Figures 2 & 3; Plate 13). The basal deposit exposed was a very firm, mid yellowish/reddish natural clayey silt [34], recorded at upper elevations between 23.29m AOD and 23.66m AOD. The natural deposits were cut by a small feature in the eastern half of the trench, excavation of

which revealed to be somewhat irregular and extending underneath the natural material and suggesting tree rooting. The natural deposits were overlain by a firm, slightly yellowish, mid brown silty subsoil [33] up to 0.16m thick and recorded at upper elevations between 23.43m AOD and 23.80m AOD (Figure 7.4). No features were cut into the subsoil and it was sealed by modern topsoil [32] up to 0.19m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 23.62m AOD and 23.99m AOD. Other than the tree rooting, no further features were present and anomalies identified during the geophysical survey were not identified.

7.5 Trench 6

7.5.1 Trench 6 was aligned north-east to south-west and located approximately 20m east of Trench 5 (Figures 2 & 6; Plate 14). The basal deposit exposed in this trench was a very firm, mid yellowish/reddish natural clayey silt [34], recorded at upper elevations between 23.06m AOD and 23.15m AOD. No features were cut directly into the natural material and it was overlain by a firm, slightly yellowish, mid brown silty subsoil [26] up to 0.16m thick and recorded at upper elevations between 23.27m AOD and 23.32m AOD. Towards the south-western end of the trench the subsoil was cut by two parallel, WNW-ESE aligned ditches, no more than 1.4m apart, that extended beyond the edges of the trench. The south-westernmost ditch [29] was 1.25m wide and 0.46m deep, exhibiting steeply sloping, slightly concaves and a flattish base (Figure 7.5). It was filled with a slightly friable, light brownish grey clayey silt [28]. Ditch [31] to the north-east was 1.00m wide and 0.40m deep, exhibiting moderately steeply sloping, slightly concave sides and a slightly concave base. It was backfilled with a friable, mid greyish brown silt [30]. None of the ditches produced any finds but they were probably post-medieval in date given that they cut into the subsoil. They were not highlighted in the report of the geophysical survey though there are possible anomalies in this area. Indeed the location of these ditches lies very close to a field boundary shown on the 1881 Ordnance Survey, which the geophysical survey report erroneously equated with linear features positioned further south that Trenches 4 and 8 were positioned to detect. The ditches may also equate with a boundary shown on the Yeakell and Gardner map of 1778, though there is some question regarding the accuracy of this image. The backfilled ditches and subsoil were sealed by modern topsoil [25] up to 0.21m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 23.43m AOD and 23.57m AOD. No further features other than the ditches were identified and the apparent geophysical anomaly towards the centre of the trench was not detected.

7.6 Trench 7

7.6.1 Trench 7 was located approximately 55m south of Trench 5 and aligned NNE-SSW (Figures 2 & 6; Plate 15). The basal material in the trench was very firm, mid yellowish/reddish natural clayey silt [10], recorded at upper elevations between 23.68m AOD and 23.71m AOD. The natural material was cut by a small number of irregular features, though excavation of these showed that they were natural in origin, most likely associated with tree rooting. The features and natural clayey silt were overlain by a firm, slightly yellowish, mid brown silty subsoil [9] up to 0.15m thick and recorded at upper elevations between 23.83m AOD and 23.85m AOD (Figure

7.6). This in turn was capped by modern topsoil [8], up to 0.16m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 23.87m AOD and 24.17m AOD. Other than the natural tree rooting, no archaeological features or deposits were identified, though a fragment of medieval peg tile was recovered from the topsoil.

7.7 **Trench 8**

7.7.1 Trench 8 was located approximately 30m south-east of Trench 6, 37m east of Trench 7 and was aligned north-east to south-west (Figures 2 & 6; Plate 16). The basal material recorded in the trench was a very firm, mid yellowish/reddish natural clayey silt [18], recorded at upper elevations between 22.89m AOD and 23.10m AOD. Towards the south-western end of the trench the natural material was cut by a slightly irregular, shallow feature, which excavation revealed to have sinuous edges extending under the natural clayey silt so was interpreted as possible natural tree rooting. The natural material and tree rooting feature were sealed by a firm, slightly yellowish, mid brown silty subsoil [17] up to 0.16m thick and recorded at upper elevations between 23.08m AOD and 23.28m AOD (Figure 7.7). Cut into the subsoil close to the north-eastern end of the trench was a sub-circular posthole [20], measuring up to 0.60m across and 0.41m deep with near-vertical, straight sides and a flattish base. It was filled with a very firm, slightly yellowish, light grey clay [19], though this yielded no finds. However, as the feature appeared to cut into the subsoil, it was interpreted as being of post-medieval date, though no associated features were apparent. The sequence in the trench was completed by a layer of modern topsoil [16] up to 0.19m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 23.23m AOD and 23.49m AOD. Other than the natural tree rooting and posthole, no further features were detected, including the parallel features identified during the geophysical survey (wrongly equated with a boundary feature shown on the 1881 Ordnance Survey Map, see Trench 6 above), though a fragment of medieval peg tile and two sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the topsoil.

8 PHASED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

8.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

8.1.1 Natural silt and clay was recorded in all excavated trenches, though the nature of the natural material varied across the area; in Trench 1 for example, there was a lower, very stiff natural clay deposit whilst the natural material in the more south-easterly trenches had a generally higher clay content than those to the north-west. The maximum surface elevation of the natural geology varied between 24.00m AOD in Trench 4 to 22.46m AOD in Trench 1. In general the natural material on the site appears to have comprised Wealden Clay, which had been subjected to varying levels of natural modification and reworking.

8.2 Phase 2: Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British

8.2.1 The majority of features excavated on the site appeared to be of a late prehistoric to early Romano-British date, with most of these concentrated in Trenches 2 and 3. The excavated archaeology in these trenches strongly supported the interpretation from the geophysical results, that there was a late prehistoric enclosed settlement here. The ring gully recorded in both trenches was most likely the drip gully of an Iron Age round house, though no internal features were identified, mainly because much of the internal area lay outside the trenches. The external enclosure ditch identified in the geophysical report was also evident in three locations within the trenches and generally exhibited a broad 'V'-profile, though this was less marked in the exposure towards the south of Trench 3. A number of other features within the enclosures appeared to be contemporary but are a little more difficult to explain. Ditches [56] and [52] on approximate north to south alignments, may be elements within the outer and inner enclosure respectively, shown on the geophysical interpretation (Masters 2015, Fig. 6), though the latter is shown as an area of burning and the former is not highlighted. Pit [12], which truncated the backfilled ditch [56] was clearly stratigraphically later but was probably another feature associated with activity within the outer enclosure. Puzzlingly, the inner enclosure ditch was not detected during the evaluation, though its southern extent broadly equates with the enigmatic sub-rectangular feature south of the ring gully in Trench 3. The only feature outside of Trenches 2 and 3 that appears to date to this phase was east to west aligned ditch [42] in Trench 4, which is interpreted as a late prehistoric field boundary

8.3 Phase 3: Early Medieval

8.3.1 At the time of writing this report, whether there was an early medieval phase of occupation on the site is a matter of some debate. The only feature thought likely to date to this phase during the investigations was the large, sub-rectangular, cut feature to the south of the ring gully, which took the broad form of a Saxon SFB. However, analysis of the pottery recovered from the feature showed that this material was predominantly of a Late Iron Age or Romano-British date, as indeed was material recovered from a posthole that cut the backfilled feature. The date and function of this feature therefore remains somewhat tentative and although the finds

assemblage may be residual it is more likely that this feature too is broadly contemporary with a late prehistoric or early Roman occupation phase of the site.

8.4 **Phase 4: Medieval**

8.4.1 There was certainly activity in the vicinity of the site during the medieval period, tile recovered from the topsoil overlying Trenches 4, 7 and 8 being of a broad 12th- to 15th-century date. Features of medieval date within the evaluation trenches are however a little less certain. It was originally thought that the line of postholes cutting the backfilled, large rectangular feature were of medieval date, but Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery within one of these and the uncertainty of the date of the large feature have cast some doubt on this. Another feature that originally appeared to have been of medieval date was irregular pit [12], which produced an unglazed sherd from the handle of a vessel, though analysis of the somewhat unusual sherd concluded that this too was likely to be of Late Iron Age or Romano-British date.

8.5 **Phase 5: Medieval/Post-Medieval**

8.5.1 The majority of features excavated on the site were sealed by a subsoil layer, which was sometimes difficult to discern from the weathered surface of the natural clay and silt. No dateable finds were recovered from the subsoil in any of the trenches but all of the features sealed by the deposit appear to have been of medieval and earlier date. Furthermore, all features cutting into the subsoil appear to be post-medieval so the subsoil has been tentatively dated to a medieval/post-medieval transitional phase purely on stratigraphic grounds, though may be earlier given that no definitively medieval features were identified.

8.6 **Phase 6: Post-Medieval**

8.6.1 A small number of features cut into the subsoil, the most clearly dateable of which was ditch [44] towards the southern end of Trench 3, which produced a fragment of brick dateable no later than 1700, indicating an early post-medieval date for the feature, which probably served as a field boundary or possibly a drainage ditch, though does not appear to be visible on the geophysical survey. The parallel ditches in Trench 6 followed a broadly similar alignment but produced no dateable artefactual material. Their fills were very different and it is possible that they were not contemporary, indeed, being so close together, if they were field boundary ditches, one may have been a later replacement for the other, though they may have lain either side of a hedged boundary. They also appear to follow the alignment of a field boundary depicted on the 1881 Ordnance Survey Map, which could have been a hedged and ditched feature. A final post-medieval feature was the posthole in Trench 8. No further apparent features were detected in the area and it is difficult to further interpret the nature of any structure that may have existed here.

8.7 **Phase 7: Modern**

8.7.1 The subsoil and all of the later features were sealed by a modern topsoil layer that extended across the site. This varied little within the large field and between this and the smaller paddocks. Most recently the site had been used for grazing horses and a lack of finds from the

topsoil may suggest that this had been the predominant land-use for quite a considerable time, though a small number of residual finds possibly point to a different form of exploitation in the past.

9 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

9.1 The archaeological evaluation on land at Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex has revealed a number of features of archaeological interest and has shown that there was a previously unknown settlement at the north-west of the site dating back to the late prehistoric period, though there was limited evidence of activity in other areas of the site.

9.2 The earliest deposits exposed were various silts and clays of the broad Cretaceous Wealden Clay Formation, which had been modified by natural processes to varying degrees. The majority of features investigated cut into the natural clays and silts with deposits of archaeological interest concentrated in an area at the north-west of the site.

9.3 Most of the features investigated dated to the late prehistoric to early Romano British period and in the north-western area a likely Iron Age roundhouse was identified, surrounded by an enclosure ditch as indicated by an earlier geophysical survey, though the roundhouse was not identified as such during the survey and some geophysical anomalies were not apparent during the evaluation. There were also further features, apparently broadly contemporary with activity within the enclosure.

9.4 A small number of features cutting directly into natural materials have been a little more difficult to date and interpret. A possible early medieval structure was identified, though the finds assemblage suggested an earlier date and this feature is almost certain to date to the Late Iron Age or Romano-British period, whilst medieval activity, probably from the 12th to 14th centuries, was attested by a small residual finds assemblage recovered from the topsoil, whilst a small number of features originally thought to be medieval are now more likely to be considered of earlier date. All of the earlier features were sealed by subsoil, the formation of which has been tentatively dated to the late medieval/early post-medieval transitional period. This was then cut by a number of features, mostly probably field boundaries from the early post-medieval period onwards, though the site has probably been mostly exploited for animal grazing for quite some time.

9.5 Overall the evaluation has addressed most of the objectives of the WSI: Ploughing in the past has probably truncated archaeological deposits to some extent as a number of features were very shallow and plough marks were occasionally noted cutting into the subsoil during machining; most features cut directly into natural clays and silts, and no apparent alluvial deposits were recognised; features cut into the natural clays and silts have been mostly interpreted as being associated with a late prehistoric to early Romano-British settlement and have produced small, dateable finds assemblages; a number of features identified during the geophysical survey were exposed during the evaluation, though others were not, whilst negative areas on the geophysical survey generally contained no archaeology; and finally, prehistoric, Roman, possibly Saxon and medieval activity was detected.

9.6 Upon completion of the project the completed archive comprising written, drawn and digital image records will eventually be deposited with a suitable local repository, currently expected to be the Marlipins or Lewes Museum, identified by the unique site code WCLH15.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Mike Hutchinson of Mills Whipp Projects for commissioning the work on behalf of Barratt David Wilson Southern Counties. Tara Limited are thanked for providing machinery to excavate and backfill the trenches, in particular the drivers; Fintan Doyle and Bill McClean, who carried out the work.

10.2 The author wishes to thank Tim Bradley and Chris Mayo for project management and the latter for editing this report, Claire Davey for her invaluable assistance on site, Nathalie Barrett for surveying, Jennifer Simonson for the illustrations, John Joyce for organising logistical support, and Kevin Hayward, Barry Bishop, Mike Seager Thomas and Berni Sudds for assessing the finds.

11 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bradley, T. 2015 Archaeological Evaluation at Land off Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex; Site Specific Health and Safety Method Statement & Risk Assessment, Pre-Construct archaeology Ltd. unpublished report

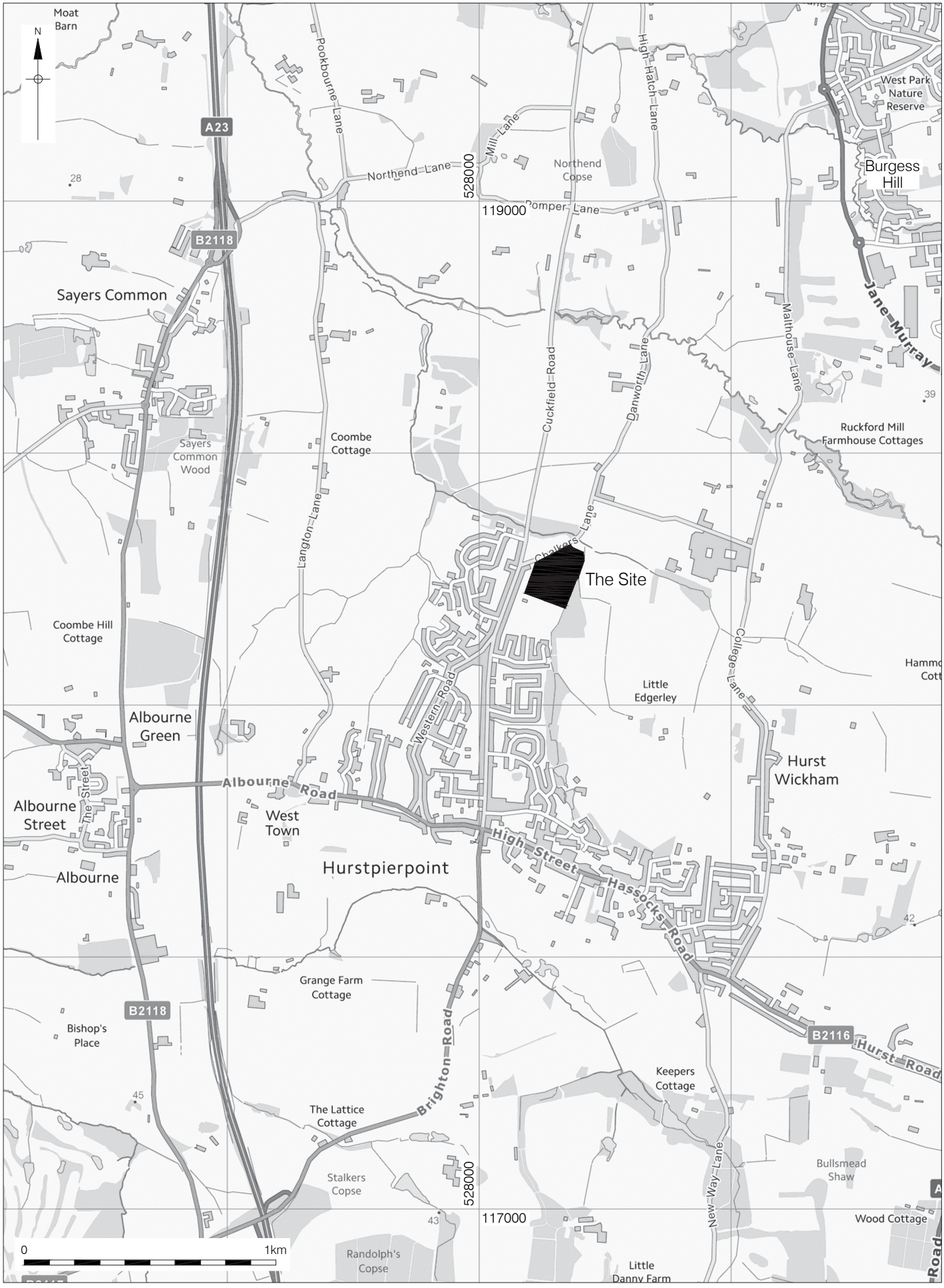
Ford, F. 2004 Orchard Way, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex: An Archaeological Evaluation for Persimmon Homes Limited, Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd. Report 04/75

Hutchinson, M. 2015 Land Off Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex: Archaeological Targeted Trial Trench Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation, Mills Whipp Projects unpublished report

CIfA 2014 Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

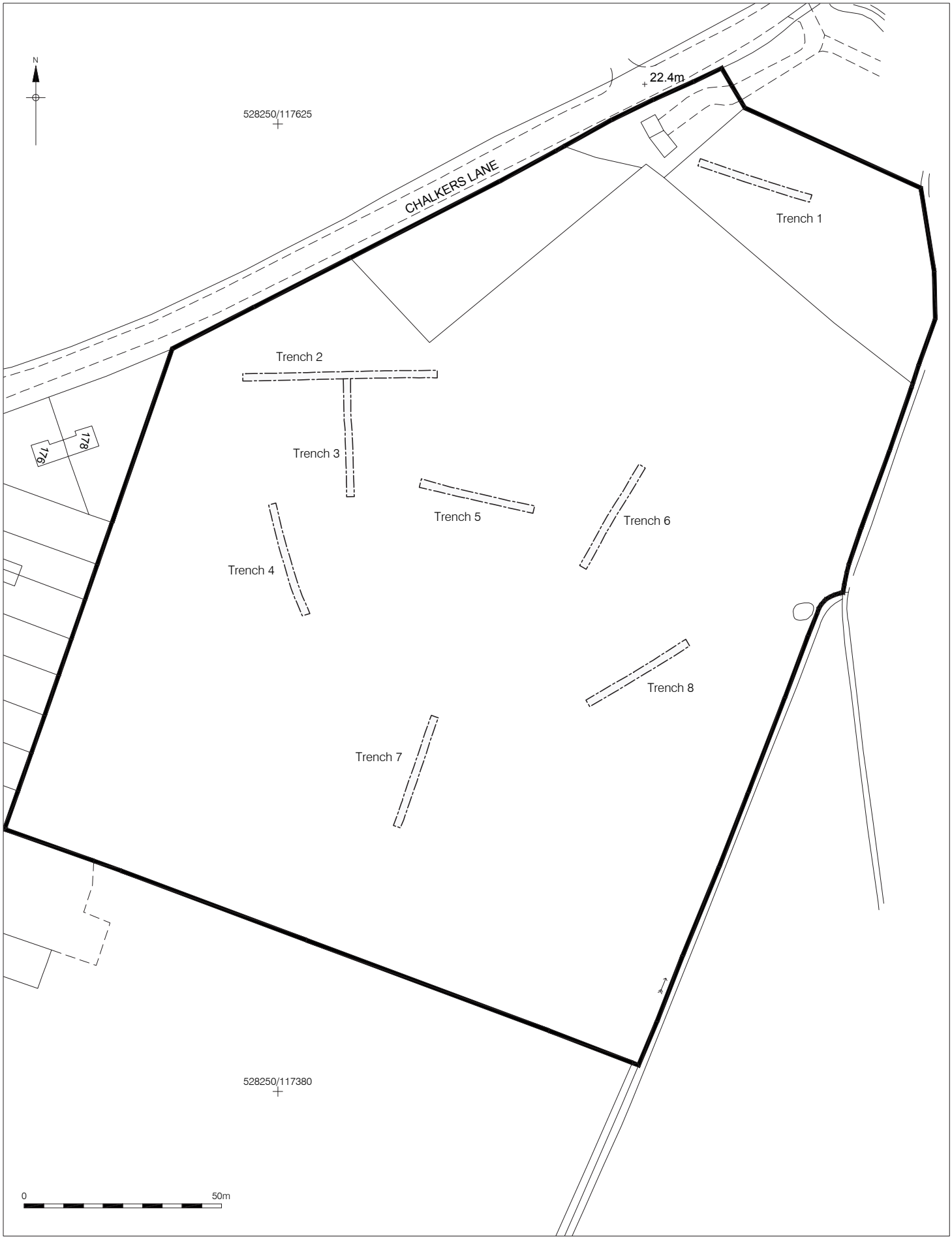
Masters, P. 2015 Geophysical Survey of Land off Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex, Cranfield Forensic Institute Report No. 109

Taylor, J. and Brown, G. 2009 PCA Fieldwork induction manual, (Operations Manual I), London: Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.



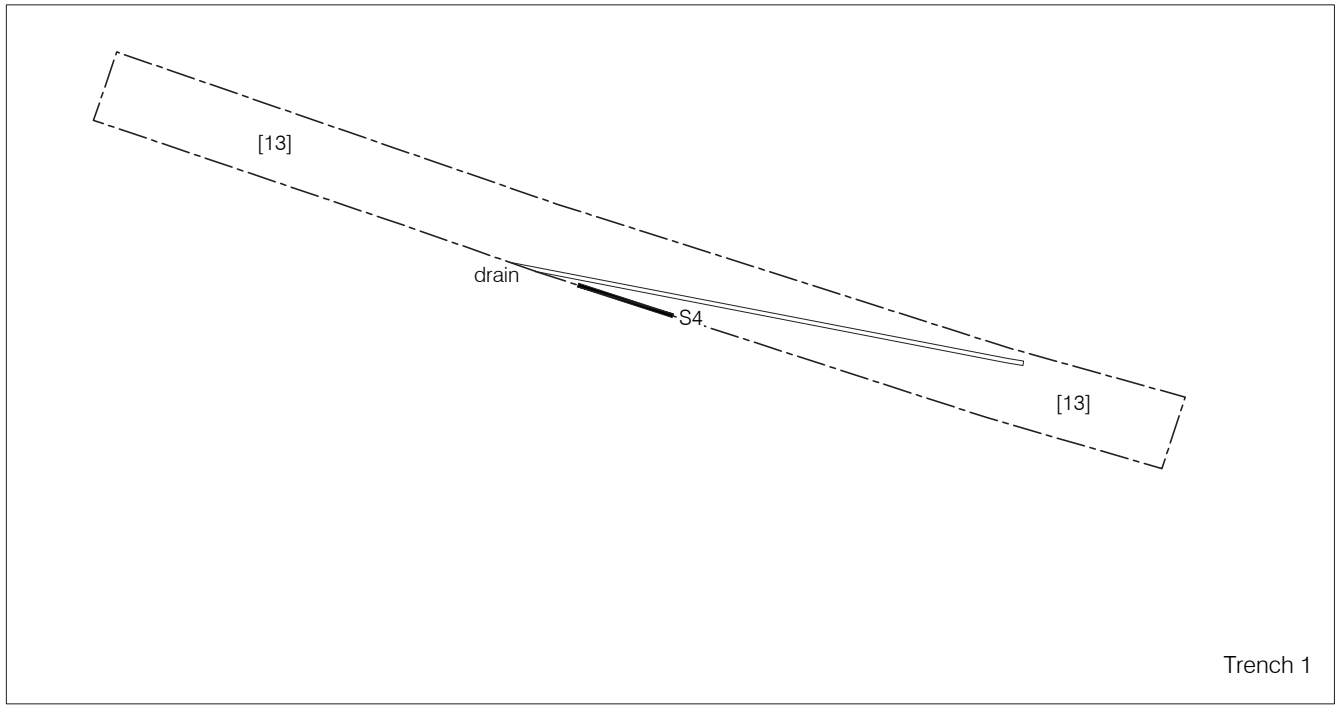
05/05/15 JS

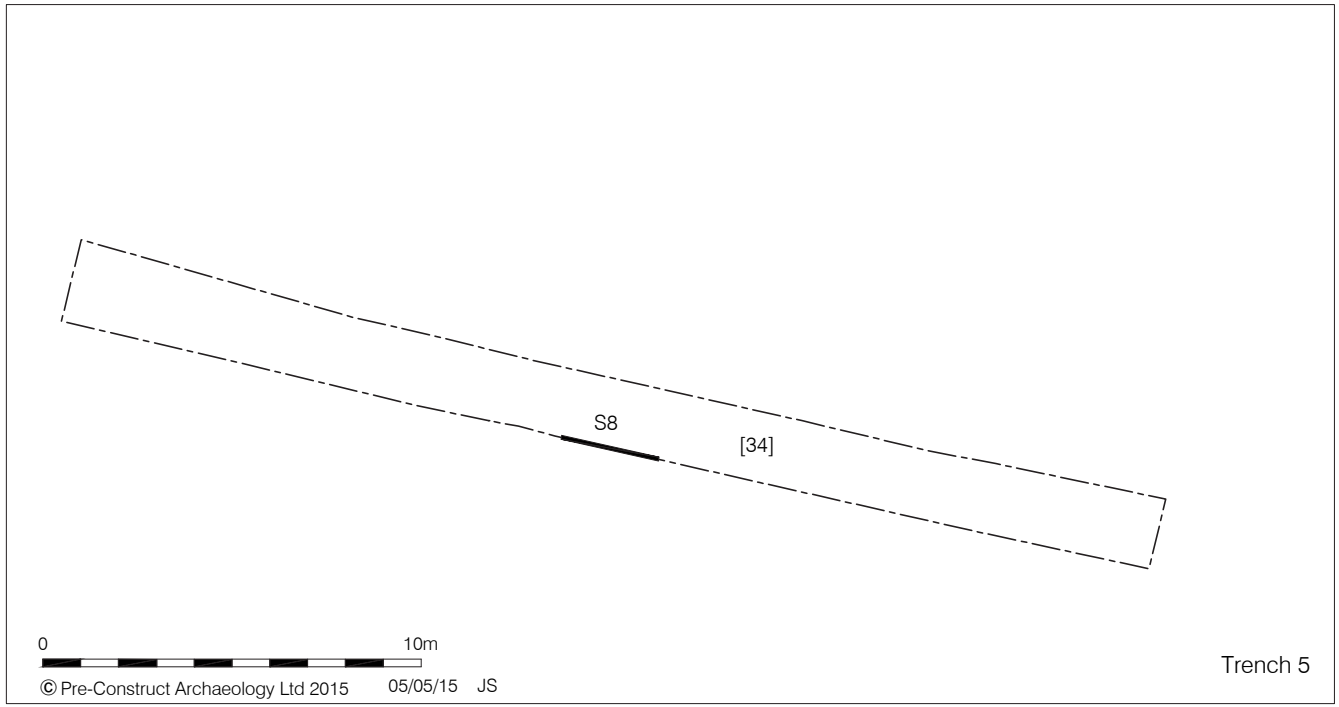
Figure 1
Site Location
1:25,000 at A4



05/05/15 JS

Figure 2
Trench Location
1:1,250 at A4





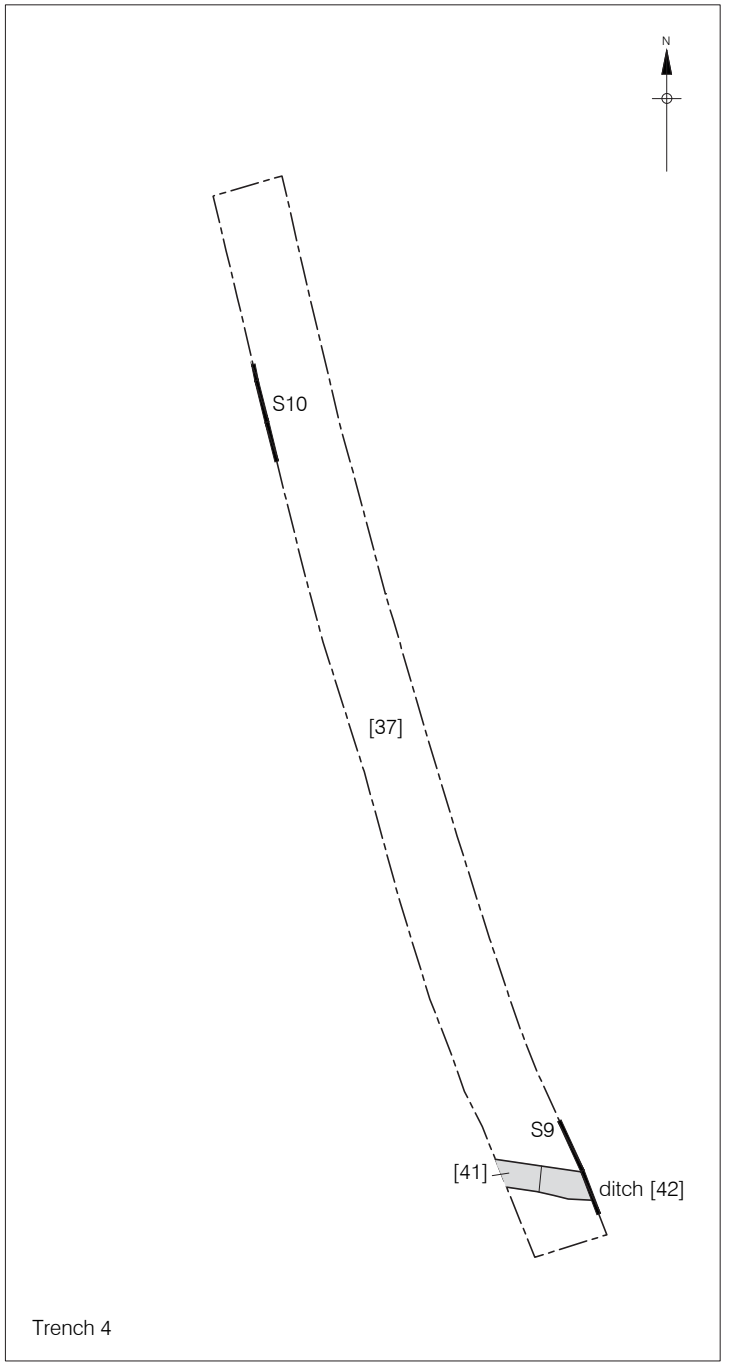


Figure 3
Plan of Trenches 1, 4 & 5
1:200 at A4

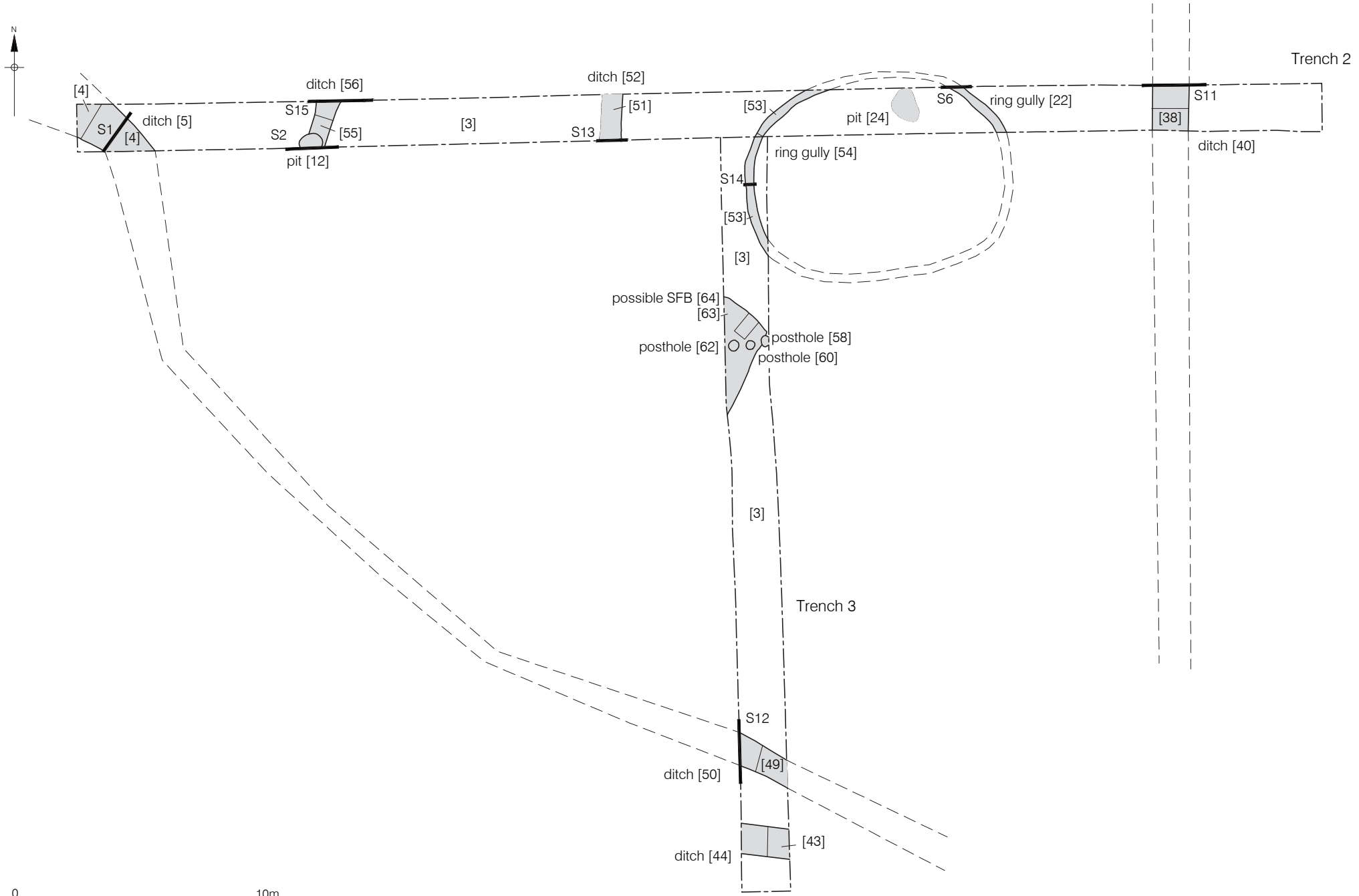
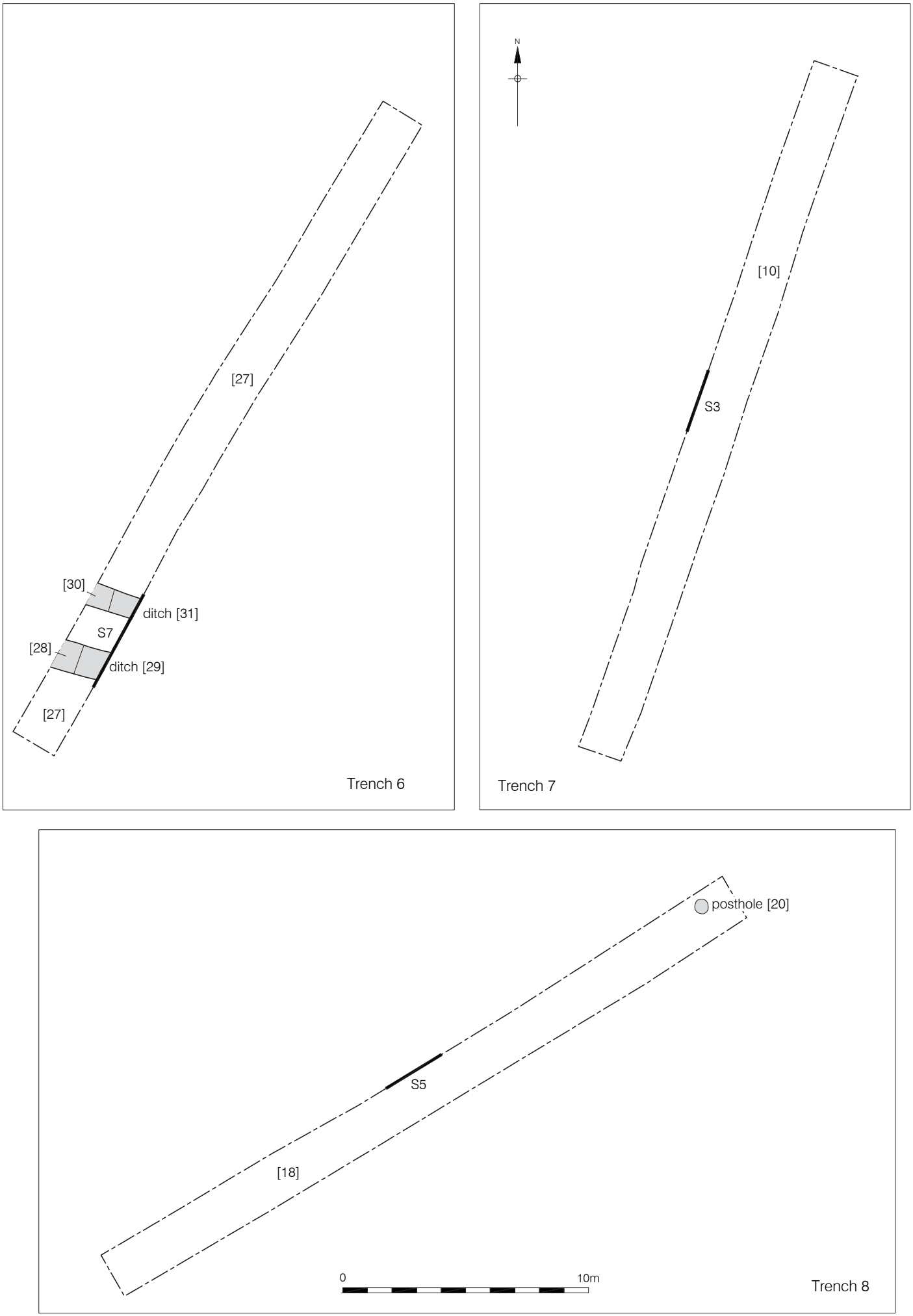


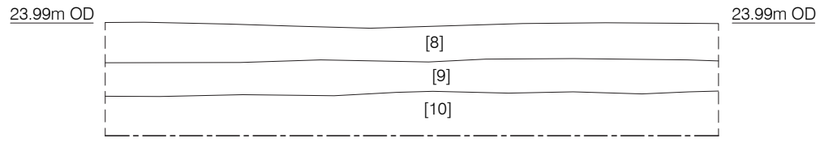
Figure 4
Plan of Trenches 2 & 3
1:200 at A4

Figure 5
Trenches 2 & 3 and Geophysical Anomalies
1:200 at A4

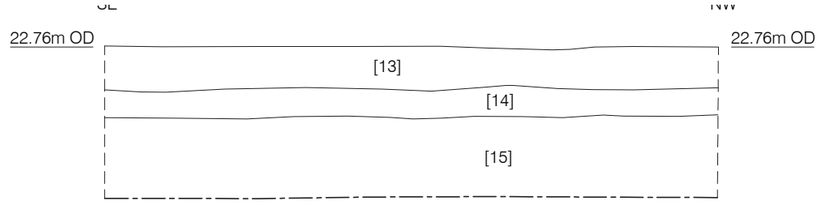


05/05/15 JS

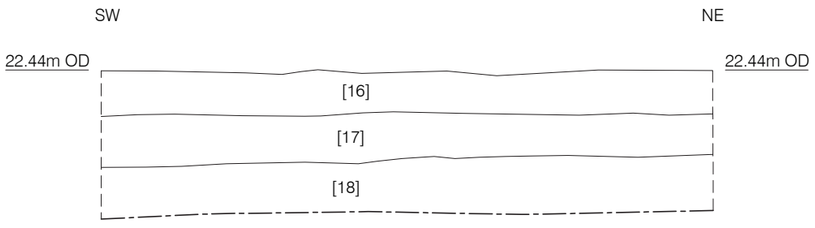
Figure 6
Plan of Trenches 6 - 8
1:200 at A4



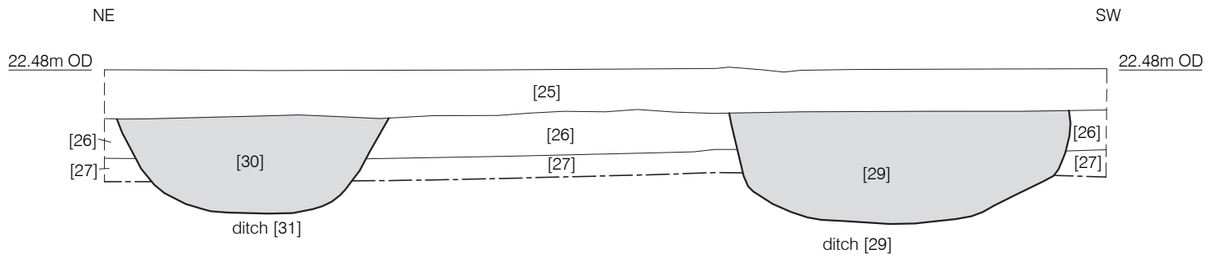
Section 3
Trench 7
Southeast Facing



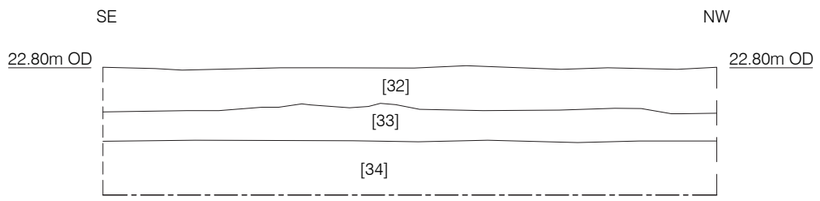
Section 4
Trench 1
Northeast Facing



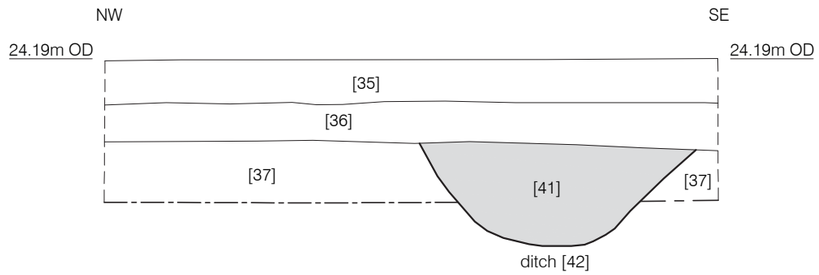
Section 5
Trench 8
Southeast Facing



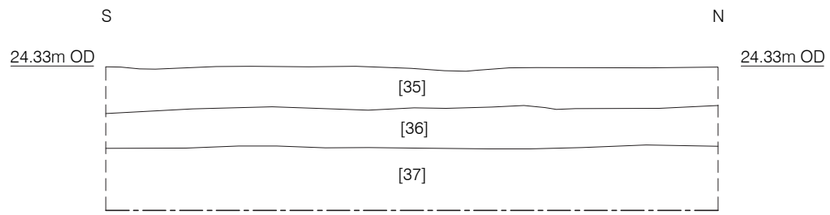
Section 7
Trench 6
Northwest Facing



Section 8
Trench 5
Northeast Facing



Section 9
Trench 4
Southwest Facing

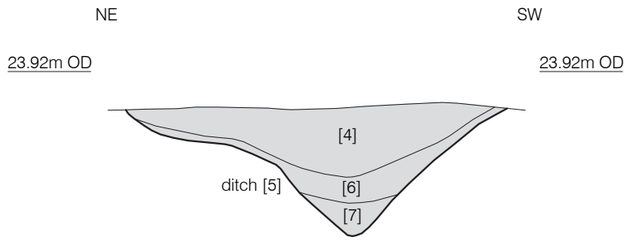


Section 10
Trench 4
East Facing

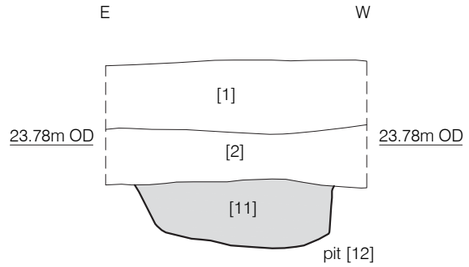
0 1m

05/05/15 JS

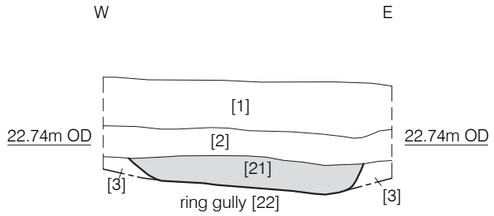
Figure 7
Sample Sections from Trenches 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8
1:25 at A3



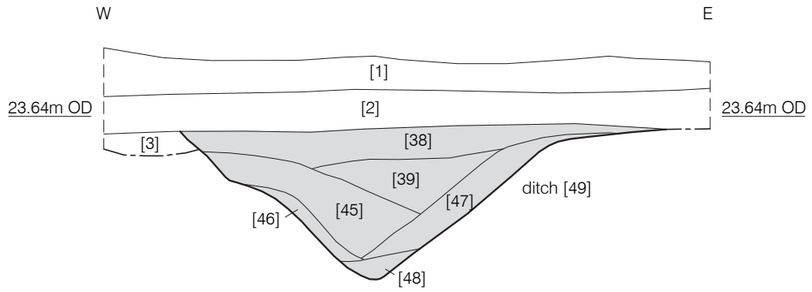
Section 1
Trench 2
Northwest Facing



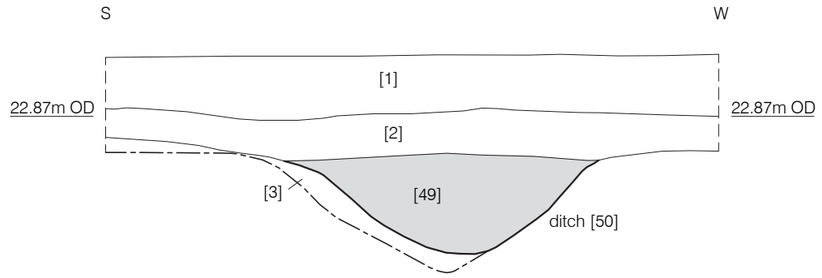
Section 2
Trench 2
North Facing



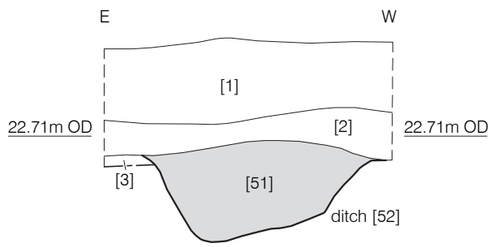
Section 6
Trench 2
South Facing



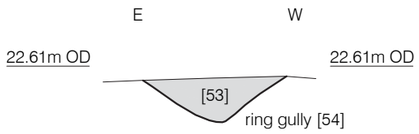
Section 11
Trench 2
South Facing



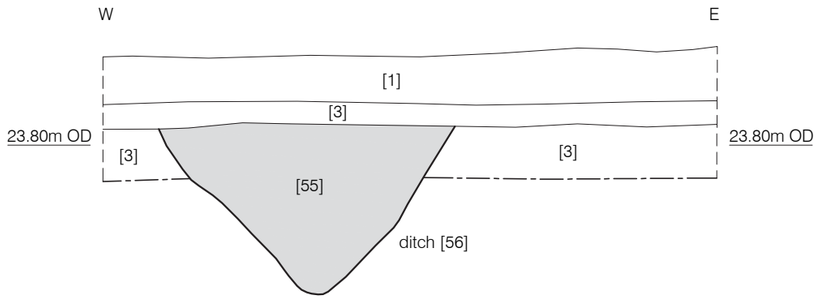
Section 12
Trench 3
East Facing



Section 13
Trench 2
North Facing



Section 14
Trench 3
North Facing



Section 15
Trench 2
South Facing

0 1m

05/05/15 JS

Figure 8
Sections from Trenches 2 & 3
1:25 at A3

APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Scale in all Plates: 1m

Plate 1: Trench 1, Looking South-East

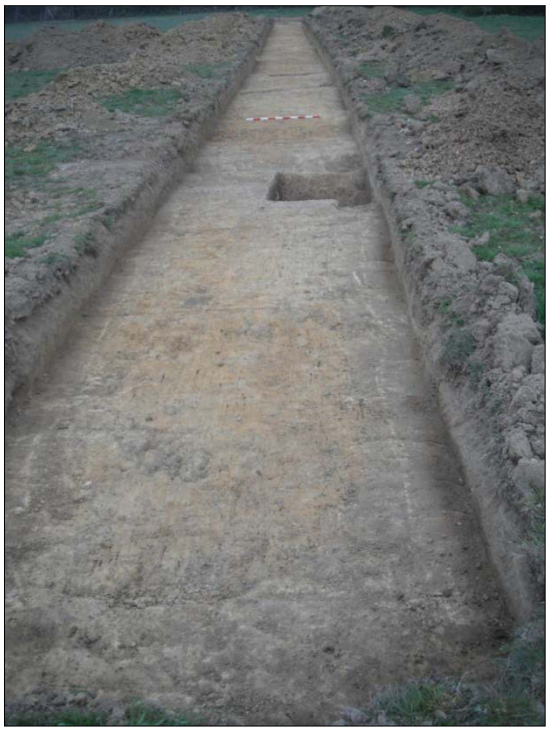


Plate 2: Trench 2, Looking West

Plate 3: Trench 2, Looking East

Plate 4: Trench 3, Looking North

Plate 5: Trench 3, Looking South

Plate 6: Ditch [5], Looking South-East

Plate 7: Gully [22], Looking North-East

Plate 8: Ditch [40], Looking North

Plate 9: Postholes [62], 60] and [58], Looking North

Plate 10: Ditch [50], Looking West

Plate 11: Trench 4, Looking NNW

Plate 12: Trench 4, Looking SSE

Plate 13: Trench 5, Looking WNW

Plate 14: Trench 6, Looking North-East

Plate 15: Trench 7, Looking NNE

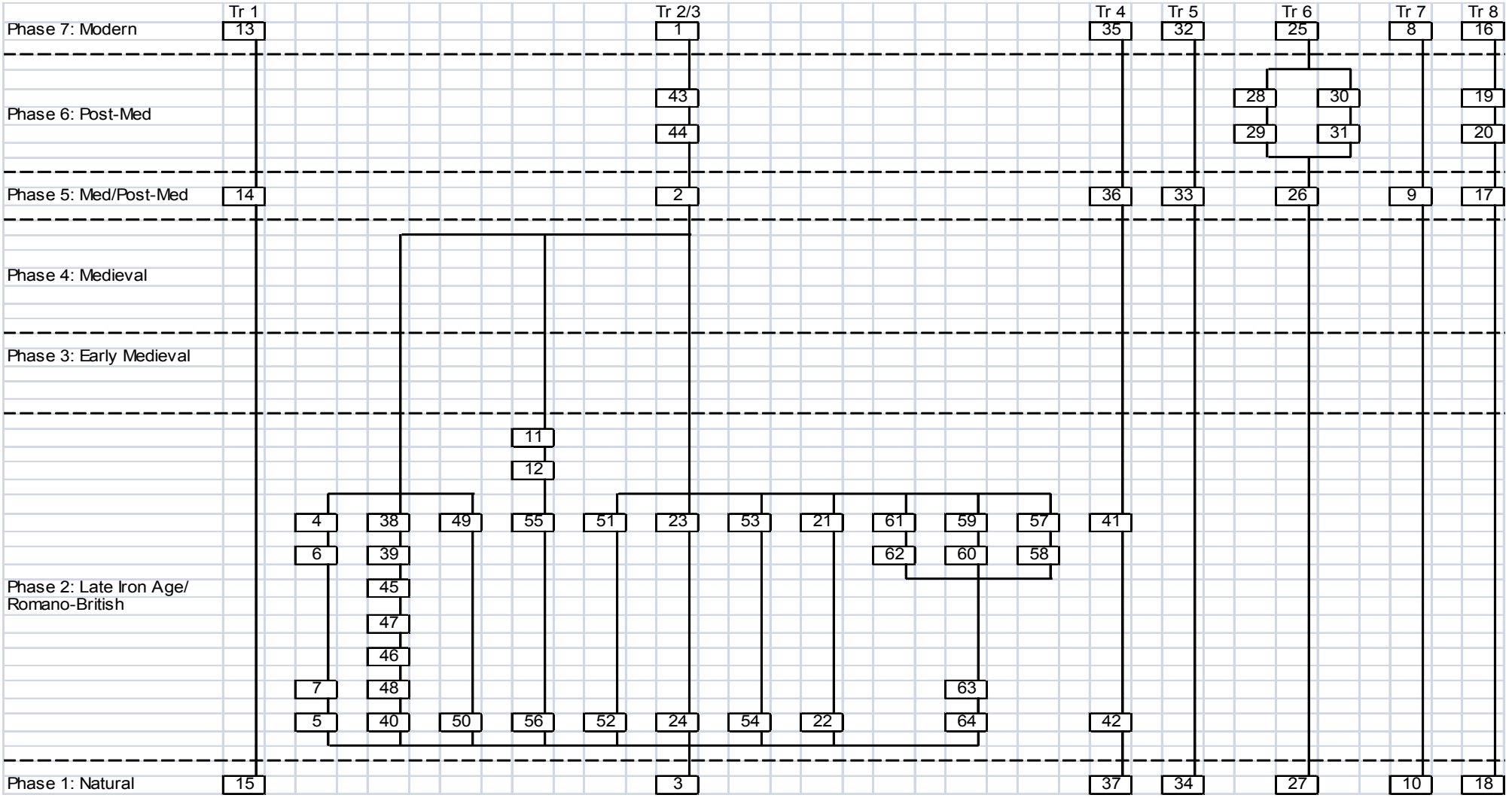
Plate 16: Trench 8, Looking South-West

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context	Type	Trench	Description	Date	Phase
WCLH15	1	Layer	Tr 2	Topsoil	Modern	7
WCLH15	2	Layer	Tr 2	Subsoil	Med/Post-med	5
WCLH15	3	Layer	Tr 2	Natural Clay	Natural	1
WCLH15	4	Fill	Tr 2	Upper fill of [5]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	5	Cut	Tr 2	NW-SE ditch	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	6	Fill	Tr 2	Lower fill of [5]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	7	Fill	Tr 2	Basal fill of [5]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	8	Layer	Tr 7	Topsoil	Modern	7
WCLH15	9	Layer	Tr 7	Subsoil	Med/Post-med	5
WCLH15	10	Layer	Tr 7	Natural Clay	Natural	1
WCLH15	11	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [12]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	12	Cut	Tr 2	Shallow sub-circular pit	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	13	Layer	Tr 1	Topsoil	Modern	7
WCLH15	14	Layer	Tr 1	Subsoil	Med/Post-med	5
WCLH15	15	Layer	Tr 1	Natural Clay	Natural	1
WCLH15	16	Layer	Tr 8	Topsoil	Modern	7
WCLH15	17	Layer	Tr 8	Subsoil	Med/Post-med	5
WCLH15	18	Layer	Tr 8	Natural Clay	Natural	1
WCLH15	19	Fill	Tr 8	Fill of [20]	Post-medieval	6
WCLH15	20	Cut	Tr 8	Possible posthole	Post-medieval	6
WCLH15	21	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [22]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	22	Cut	Tr 2	Ring gully	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	23	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [24]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	24	Cut	Tr 2	Irregular pit	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	25	Layer	Tr 6	Topsoil	Modern	7
WCLH15	26	Layer	Tr 6	Subsoil	Med/Post-med	5
WCLH15	27	Layer	Tr 6	Natural Clay	Natural	1
WCLH15	28	Fill	Tr 6	Fill of [29]	Post-medieval	6
WCLH15	29	Cut	Tr 6	East-west ditch	Post-medieval	6
WCLH15	30	Layer	Tr 6	Fill of [31]	Post-medieval	6
WCLH15	31	Layer	Tr 6	East-west ditch	Post-medieval	6
WCLH15	32	Layer	Tr 5	Topsoil	Modern	7
WCLH15	33	Layer	Tr 5	Subsoil	Med/Post-med	5
WCLH15	34	Fill	Tr 5	Natural Clay	Natural	1
WCLH15	35	Cut	Tr 4	Topsoil	Modern	7
WCLH15	36	Fill	Tr 4	Subsoil	Med/Post-med	5
WCLH15	37	Cut	Tr 4	Natural Clay	Natural	1
WCLH15	38	Layer	Tr 2	Fill of [40]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	39	Layer	Tr 2	Fill of [40]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	40	Layer	Tr 2	North-south ditch	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	41	Fill	Tr 4	Fill of [42]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	42	Cut	Tr 4	East-west ditch	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	43	Cut	Tr 3	Fill of [44]	Post-medieval	6
WCLH15	44	Fill	Tr 3	East-west ditch	Post-medieval	6
WCLH15	45	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [40]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	46	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [40]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	47	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [40]	LIA/R-B	2

Site Code	Context	Type	Trench	Description	Date	Phase
WCLH15	48	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [40]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	49	Fill	Tr 3	Fill of [50]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	50	Cut	Tr 3	NW-SE ditch	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	51	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [52]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	52	Cut	Tr 2	North-south ditch	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	53	Fill	Tr2, Tr3	Fill of [54]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	54	Cut	Tr2, Tr3	Ring gully	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	55	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [56]	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	56	Cut	Tr 2	North-south ditch	LIA/R-B	2
WCLH15	57	Fill	Tr 3	Fill of [58]	Medieval	2
WCLH15	58	Cut	Tr 3	Sub-circular posthole	Medieval	2
WCLH15	59	Fill	Tr 3	Fill of [60]	Medieval	2
WCLH15	60	Cut	Tr 3	Sub-circular posthole	Medieval	2
WCLH15	61	Fill	Tr 3	Fill of [62]	Medieval	2
WCLH15	62	Cut	Tr 3	Sub-circular posthole	Medieval	2
WCLH15	63	Fill	Tr 3	Fill of [64]	Early medieval	2
WCLH15	64	Cut	Tr 3	Possible SFB	Early medieval	2

APPENDIX 3: SITE MATRIX



12 APPENDIX 4: POTTERY ASSESSMENT

By Mike Seager Thomas

12.1 The pottery assemblage from WCLH 15 comprised 96, mostly very weathered sherds. Two long-lived pottery traditions are distinguishable within it and between three and five periods represented (Table 1).

12.2 The earliest sherds belong to the late post Deverel-Rimbury tradition, here most likely dated to the end of the Late Bronze Age or beginning of the Early Iron Age. This tradition/ period is represented by five sherds. These are from contexts 11, 45 and 63, all of which yielded later pottery as well, and context 7. Typo-chronologically diagnostic characteristics in the present assemblage include fine to medium flint tempered fabrics, flint-tempered fabrics with glauconite inclusions and a straight flared neck in such a fabric. A sherd in a sandy glauconitic sherd from context 55 probably belongs to the same tradition, but in (nearby) East Sussex this fabric is known to continue into or to reoccur during the Middle Iron Age (Seager Thomas 2005; 2008).

12.3 The bulk of the pottery belongs to the East Sussex Ware/ Sussex Grog-tempered pottery tradition, here dated to the LIA/RB and the late Roman periods.

12.4 The LIA/RB group could be LIA or RB, or LIA and RB. The characteristics by which we could distinguish the two periods with certainty are absent from the present assemblage. That said, the absence of Roman sandy wares (which were present in context 11 only), could indicate an Iron Age, rather than a Roman date, while the form of three feature sherds from context 45, though possibly Roman, is characteristic of earlier rather than later assemblages (Green 1980). By contrast, the late Roman group, though comprising only three sherds, can be dated precisely. It consists of Thundersbarrow Ware, a late variant of the East Sussex Ware tradition. Its typo-chronologically diagnostic characteristics are the very coarse grog-tempering of two thick bodied sherds and a widely flaring neck. Both of these date to the fourth century BC (ibid.). The sandy ware from context 11, though definitely Roman, is not closely dateable.

12.5 Finally of uncertain date is a fragment of a handle, decorated with an impressed chevron pattern, from context 23. The grog tempered fabric of this sherd would not be out of place in the East Sussex Ware tradition, nor would the chevron pattern comprising its decoration, but decorated handles are currently unknown within it. Since, however, the fabric cannot be paralleled during any other period locally (Luke Barber pers. comm.), a Roman date for it seems most likely.

References

Green, C 1980 Handmade pottery and Society in Late Iron Age and Roman East Sussex, *Sussex Archaeol Collect*, **118**, 69–86

Seager Thomas, M 2005 Understanding Iron Age Norton, *Sussex Archaeol Collect*, **143**, 83–115

Seager Thomas, M 2008a From pot sherds, to people. Sussex Prehistoric pottery: Collared Urns to post Deverel-Rimbury, *c*. 2000–500 BC, *Sussex Archaeol Collect*, **146**, 19–51

Table 1: quantification, diagnostics and spot dating of the pottery from WCLH 15

context	number of sherds	fabric	tradition	comments	spot date
4	1	G	ESW	curved out-turned/ widely flared neck with rounded rim	late RB
	2	CG	ESW/TW	none	
7	2	FMFQ	PDR	none	LBA/EIA
11	8	fine Q	RB	1 wheel thrown	RB
	1	MF	PDR	shoulder of probable shouldered bowl	LBA/EIA
23	3			handle in typical ESW fabric but of an unknown decorative type	LIA/RB and ND
45	50	G	ESW	3 curved out-turned necks from round shouldered jars, one with a pointed rim	LIA/RB
	1	FMF(glau)	late PDR	straight out-turned neck with slightly externally expanded flat-topped rim, probably from a tripartite jar	LBA/EIA
49	3	G	ESW	none	LIA/RB
53	6	G	?ESW	none	?LIA/RB
55	1	Q (glau)	late PDR or saucepan pot continuum	none	LBA/EIA or MIA
57	3	G	ESW	none	LIA/RB
63	13	G	ESW	1 sherd with LIA/ERB cross-hatched decoration	LIA/ERB and LIA/RB
	1	MF	PDR	none	LBA/EIA
	1	GQ	unknown	none	ND
Total	96	Fabrics: G=grog tempered; CG=coarse grog-tempered; FMF= fine to medium flint tempered; Q=quartz sand-rich fabric; MF=medium flint tempered fabric; glau=glauconite sand-rich fabric Pottery traditions: ESW=East Sussex Ware/ Sussex Grog Tempered Ware/ Ouse Valley Ware (terms interchangeable); TW=Thundersbarrow Ware; PDR=post Deverel-Rimbury			

APPENDIX 5: LITHIC ASSESSMENT

By Barry Bishop

A total of five pieces of struck flint were recovered. These comprise a flake from context [01], a conchoidally shattered piece from context [38], two flakes from context [41] and a flake from context [45]. All of the pieces are made from good knapping quality translucent dark brown flint and all four flakes retain a thick relatively unweathered chalky cortex. This indicates that the raw materials had been obtained from very close to the parent chalk and must have been imported to the site. All of the pieces are waste flakes and no typologically diagnostic pieces are present although technologically the flakes would perhaps be most typical of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age flintwork.

APPENDIX 6: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL AND STONE SPOT DATES

By Kevin Hayward, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Catalogue, Typology and Dating

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
8	2271	Medieval peg tile coarse moulding sand	1	1180	1800	1180	1800	1180-1450	No mortar
11	3120	Agglestone Grit or related grit ironstone from the Lower Greensand part worked possible quern	1	1500 bc	1600	1500bc	1600	200BC-AD400+	No mortar
16	2587	Medieval peg tile coarse moulding sand	1	1240	1450	1240	1450	1240-1450	No mortar
23	3120	Burnt Malmstone Upper Greensand	1	1500 bc	1600	1500bc	1600	200BC-AD400+	No mortar
35	2587	Abraded or worn medieval peg tile	1	1240	1450	1240	1450	1240-1450	No mortar
43	3033	Early post medieval brick green glazed may be kiln material	1	1450	1800	1450	1800	1450-1700	No mortar
45	3120; 3102	Burnt malmstone Upper Greensand; Fired clay mottled fabric	4	1500 bc	1600	1500bc	1600	200BC-AD400+	No mortar
63	3102	Fired Clay mottled fabric	3	1500 bc	1600	1500bc	1600	200BC-AD400_+	No mortar

Review

This small building material assemblage (13 fragments 1kg) from Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex (WCLH15) consists of a mixture of prehistoric or possibly Roman burnt clay and locally acquired stone resources, medieval peg tile and an early post medieval brick. The stone recovered consisted of a low-density pale cream Upper Greensand Malmstone and an iron rich possible quern fragment from a late Iron Age Roman feature [11] reflecting the underlying greensand geology of this part of the South Downs.

There is no evidence for Roman ceramic building material but the burnt clay and stone may relate to late prehistoric, Roman or even Saxon activity in the vicinity. Medieval peg tiles from modern topsoil [8] [16] [35], suggest a roofing structure from that period in the vicinity. An uneven green (glass) glazed thin (49mm) red brick from a post-medieval ditch [43] may represent evidence for early post medieval kiln activity in the area.

Recommendations

The stone assemblage very much reflects the background geology of the area, and although burnt daub, medieval peg tile and early post medieval brick suggest a wide range of dates for

this site, quantities are very sparse. On the balance of things no further work should be undertaken on the assemblage in its current state.

APPENDIX 7: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-210292

Project details	
Project name	Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint
Short description of the project	A number of archaeological features were identified mostly in an area at the north-west of the site, some of which had been highlighted as geophysical anomalies, though some anomalies were not apparent on the ground and there were other features not identified by the geophysical survey. The majority of the features in the north-west area were associated with activity in the late prehistoric to early Romano-British period, an apparent small settlement being located here with a likely drip gully of an Iron Age round house being set within a wider ditched enclosure with a number of further contemporary features also located in the enclosed area. At least one ditch, possibly representing a late prehistoric field boundary, was also identified further to the south. Features possibly representing other phases of activity were also present but their date and nature remain a little uncertain. A large, sub-rectangular cut feature to the south of the round house had the appearance of a sunken floored structure of early medieval date but recovered finds appeared to suggest an earlier date. Similarly, one of a line of postholes cutting this feature and originally thought to be medieval, contained prehistoric pottery, though an apparent medieval pit was located further to the north and medieval material was recovered from the topsoil. Post-medieval activity was represented by a small number of linear features, probably representing field boundaries or land partition. These were generally poorly dated though one feature produced a brick fragment suggesting an early post-medieval date of deposition. It is likely that the post-medieval features belonged to more than one sub-phase. The most recent phase of activity on the site involved animal grazing, which may have been carried out for some time; there were very few finds in the topsoil in addition to the medieval material
Project dates	Start: 20-04-2015 End: 24-04-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	WCLH15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	13/03305/OUT - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 2 - Undisturbed Grassland
Monument type	DITCH Late Iron Age
Monument type	PIT Late Iron Age
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	POSTHOLE Post Medieval
Monument type	RING GULLY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval

Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX MID SUSSEX HURSTPIERPOINT Chalkers Lane
Postcode	BN6 9RT
Study area	3.49 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 28286 17599 50.942979473 -0.173770038507 50 56 34 N 000 10 25 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 22.46m Max: 24.00m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	West Sussex County Council
Project design originator	Mills Whipp Projects
Project director/manager	Tim Bradley
Project director/manager	Chris Mayo
Project supervisor	Peter Boyer
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Barratt David Wilson Southern Counties
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Local museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Local museum
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Plan","Report","Section"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex: An Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Boyer, P.
Other bibliographic details	PCA R12087
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	A4 grey literature report with PCA covers
Entered by	Chris Mayo (cmayo@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	5 May 2015

P C A

PCA SOUTH
UNIT 54
BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE
96 ENDWELL ROAD
BROCKLEY
LONDON SE4 2PD
TEL: 020 7732 3925 / 020 7639 9091
FAX: 020 7639 9588
EMAIL: info@pre-construct.com

PCA NORTH
UNIT 19A
TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK
DURHAM DH6 5PG
TEL: 0191 377 1111
FAX: 0191 377 0101
EMAIL: info.north@pre-construct.com

PCA CENTRAL
THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM
BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN
TEL: 01223 845 522
FAX: 01223 845 522
EMAIL: info.central@pre-construct.com

PCA WEST
BLOCK 4
CHILCOMB HOUSE
CHILCOMB LANE
WINCHESTER
HAMPSHIRE SO23 8RB
TEL: 01962 849 549
EMAIL: info.west@pre-construct.com

PCA MIDLANDS
17-19 KETTERING RD
LITTLE BOWDEN
MARKET HARBOROUGH
LEICESTERSHIRE LE16 8AN
TEL: 01858 468 333
EMAIL: info.midlands@pre-construct.com