AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

AT

THE SHOEBURYNESS HOTEL, 1 HIGH STREET, SHOEBURYNESS, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX

NOVEMBER 2005

AOC
ARCHAEOLOGY
GROUP

On behalf of:	Hollybrook Residential Developments Ltd. Mill House, 8 Mill Street, London. SE1 2AB
National Grid Reference (NGR):	TQ 9390 8490
AOC Archaeology project no:	7344
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1 ABSTRACT

In October 2005 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group at Shoeburyness Hotel, 1 High Street, Shoeburyness on behalf of Hollybrook Ltd. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of the proposed development of the site on any surviving archaeological remains.

The evaluation consisted of a four machine excavated trenches measuring 20m x 1.6m and one trench measuring 10m x 1.6m.

Along the southern boundary of the site, on an east-west alignment, a large ditch was recorded. The ditch extended to the south beyond the limit of our trenches, and measured at least 10m wide and 1.5m deep. The upper fills of this ditch consisted of 19th century levelling dumps while the lower fill was a homogenous fill relating to the slow silting up of the ditch. A smaller ditch, measured 2.60m wide and 1.10m deep was recorded running parallel to the main ditch on its north side.

These two ditches very probably relate to the defensive earthwork around the nearby Iron Age enclosure known as the 'Danish Camp'. Investigations in 1876 describe such a ditch to be 12m wide and 3m deep (AOC 2005). The southern half of this enclosure is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, where buried and visible remains of a defended prehistoric settlement are known.

The deliberate levelling of the earthwork in the 19th century, represented by the later ditch fills, probably happened during the construction of a Garrison in the 1850s. This process resulted in the landscaping and truncation of the prehistoric enclosure.

The pair of enclosure ditches occupy the southern half of the site. In the northern half of the site, outside the enclosure, several smaller ditches were recorded on a north-south alignment and a single posthole was also recorded. All these features were sealed by a layer of subsoil and cut into natural gravels. Several of these features contained coarse, grit tempered, pottery of possible Iron Age date.

2 SITE LOCATION

2.1 The site is located towards the east of Shoeburyness, and is centred on national grid reference TQ 9390 8490 (Figure 1). The site comprises a roughly rectangular parcel of land, fronting onto the High Street to the east and bounded by the rear of residential properties to the north, west and south. The proposed development totals an area of c. 0.35 ha, and is currently occupied by the existing Shoeburyness Hotel toward the High Street, with the hotel garden to the rear. The southern boundary curves inward, following the line of the Iron Age enclosure called the 'Danish Camp'.

2.2 The site is situated at about 5m above Ordnance Datum at the point where the River Thames flows into the North Sea. No previous archaeological or geotechnical investigations are known to have occurred at the site.

2.3 The underlying geological deposits are Boyn Hill Series sands and gravels.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 The site lies to the north-west of a Scheduled Ancient Monument known as the 'Danish Camp' (SAM 29444). Whilst the proposed development does not fall within the designated Monument, Policy C1 of the Southend-on-Sea Borough Council Local Plan, covering Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites, states that:

> *Where important archaeological sites and monuments, whether scheduled or not, and their settings are affected by a proposed development, there will be a presumption in favour of their preservation in situ. In situations where there are grounds for believing that the proposed development would affect important archaeological sites and monuments, developers will be required to arrange for an archaeological field evaluation to be carried out before the planning application is determined, thus enabling an informed and reasonable planning decision to be made. In circumstances where preservation in situ is not possible, nor merited, development will not be permitted until a satisfactory provision has been made for a programme of archaeological investigation and recording prior to the commencement of the development.*
>
> *For important sites affected by a significant development proposal, this means that an evaluation of the site's importance must first be carried out by an appropriate archaeologist appointed by the developer. If planning permission is subsequently given, it is likely to be conditional on:*
>
> - *The developer complying with an archaeological brief, prepared by the Council;*
> - *The approval by the Council of a specification of archaeological work, prepared by a field archaeology unit appointed by the developer;*
> - *The implementation of the specified works before and during development, by the field archaeology unit;*
> - *The recording of the investigation by the field archaeology unit.*

3.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared for an archaeological evaluation of the site prior to submission of the planning application to Southend-on-Sea Borough Council, in line with Policy C1. The results of the evaluation are discussed in this document and are intended to provide supporting information for the submission of the application.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The Shoeburyness Hotel site lies 180m northeast of the 'Danish Camp' Scheduled Ancient Monument. The Scheduled area comprises part of a Middle Iron Age enclosure, where buried and visible remains of a defended prehistoric settlement are known. The enclosure was originally defined by an earthen bank constructed from material excavated from an external ditch. The bank and ditch together formed a defensive 'rampart', perhaps originally surmounted by a timber palisade that has since disappeared.

4.2 Construction of the Garrison in the 1850s started a process of development which has resulted in landscaping and truncation of the prehistoric enclosure. The reduced bank now only survives as fragments visible within the Scheduled area, but there is a possibility that the buried ditch survives, perhaps even with remnants of the bank, and any surviving soils buried beneath the bank. Investigations in 1876 describe the ditch to be 12m wide and 3m deep, however more recent work indicates a more modest width of 4-5m. The original extent of the enclosure continues north and east of the Scheduled remains, following the line to East Street and Rampart Street, and very probably coincides with the south boundary of the Shoeburyness Hotel site.

4.3 Recent archaeological works undertaken during redevelopment of the Old Ranges, Horseshoe Barracks (Gifford & Partners Ltd 1999 Report ref B1644A.3) examined the quality of archaeological survival, both within and beyond the enclosure, and has shown that archaeological deposits occur beneath 300mm-500mm of made ground deposits. In addition to the Scheduled remains, trial trenching within the enclosure has examined areas outside the statutory designation, including Area A, located to the immediate south of the Hotel site. These investigations highlighted the broader archaeological potential which should be considered:

- Mesolithic remains, including fragments of burnt and worked flint, sealed beneath alluvial silt/clays in Gunners Park and within the area of the Scheduled enclosure.
- Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age remains within the area of the Scheduled enclosure.
- Well preserved and dense pattern of Iron Age settlement remains, including four roundhouses within the Scheduled area of the enclosure.
- Late Iron Age and Roman settlement finds suggesting settlement within the Scheduled area east of Mess Lane.

4.4 Further work within Area A, about 200m to the south-east of the current site, conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology in 2003 and 2004, revealed archaeological remains from a number of periods (Mattinson 2005). In contrast to the earlier work, in these investigations the Middle Iron Age features were the most abundant, and consisted of the gullies of three round houses, two four-post structures ('granaries'), and eleven clay lined storage pits. In addition, there were residual Neolithic flints, probable enclosures from the Middle Bronze Age, and various features from the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age. Roman and Medieval features were present but more ephemeral, and there were also Post-medieval field ditches.

5 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

5.1 The general aims of the investigation were:

- To establish the nature and extent of any archaeological remains by characterising the date, nature and significance of such archaeological structures, features and deposits as may be found, and the artefacts and ecofacts which may be contained within or associated with them, along with the impact which development will have upon them.

- To enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any archaeological remains and consider any appropriate mitigation measures either in advance of and/or during development.

5.2 The specific objectives of the work were to:

- Establish whether the Mesolithic material recorded during the 1999 excavations extend into the development area.

- Establish whether the perimeter ditch of the 'Danish Camp' survives within the southern part of the proposed development.

- Establish whether other settlement features or activity associated with the Danish Camp extend to the north of the presumed line of the perimeter ditch.

- Establish the levels of truncation of the archaeological remains associated with the Scheduled Ancient Monument.

- Establish whether building remains related to the mid-19th century development of the Garrison and later military developments exist as sub-surface features.

5.3 The final aim was to make available to interested parties the results of the investigation subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Prior to commencing the evaluation works on site, a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) was prepared by AOC Archaeology (AOC 2005).

6.2 All fieldwork procedure followed AOC Archaeology Group Ltd Fieldwork Sector On-Site Handbook, dated May 2003 (AOC 2003).

6.3 The excavation and recording conformed to current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines. (English Heritage 1991, 1992, 1998a, 1998b, 2002; IFA 1992, 1994, 1997; Museum of London 1994; United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1983, 1990; Council for British Archaeology 1987)

6.4 Before excavation commenced a museum accession number (SOUMU 2005.22) was obtained from the Southend Museum, this was also used as a site code.

6.5 The evaluation consisted of four evaluation trenches measuring 20m x 1.6m at base, and one trench measuring 10m x 1.6m at base (Figure 2). This figure represented 5% of the proposed development area. Three of these trenches were targeted to establish whether remains of the Danish Camp, specifically the perimeter ditch and bank, survive in the southern part of the site. Two further trenches were located to assess whether archaeological remains and deposits were present to the north of the of the perimeter ditch and bank.

6.6 Undifferentiated topsoil or overburden of recent origin was removed in successive level spits down to the first significant archaeological horizon, using a JCB 3CX with a toothless ditching bucket. Excavated material was examined in order to retrieve artefacts, to assist in the analysis of the spatial distribution of artefacts. All machining was carried out under the direct control of an experienced archaeologist.

6.7 On completion of the machine excavation, all faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. All investigation of archaeological horizons was by hand, with cleaning, inspection, and recording both in plan and section.

6.8 A temporary bench mark was set up to the south of Trench 1 valued at 7.84mOD (Figure 2). This was taken from an OSBM on the corner of 36 Chapel Road which has a value of 7.71mOD.

6.9 The evaluation work was undertaken by the author under the overall project management of Tim Carew for AOC Archaeology.

7 RESULTS

7.1 At least four phases of activity were identified on site. The first phase of natural deposits consisted of gravels and brickearth recorded at between 6.75mOD and 6.95mOD. This was cut by a second phase of late pre-historic features consisting of a pair of parallel east-west ditches, one of which was very large, a number of smaller ditches and a single posthole. The third phase of 19th century activity was represented by dumping across the site and the deliberate filling in of the large boundary ditch. The fourth and final phase of activity is associated with the modern use of the site and consists of 20th century dumping, hard-standing and foundations. These phases relate to the recorded stratigraphy and will be re-interpreted when the finds from the site have been analysed.

7.2 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

7.2.1 Natural yellow brown gravel with lenses of mid brown clay (13) was recorded at 6.95 mOD; this was cut by two ditches, a posthole and a tree bowl. An irregular cut [16] at the eastern end of the trench was filled by two soft brown fills (06) and (07). The irregular shape of the cut and the nature of the fills suggest that this was a tree bowl.

7.2.2 Two north-south orientated ditches ran roughly at right angles to the trench. The first [08], in the centre of the trench, measured 0.64m wide and 0.29m deep with steep sides and a V-shaped profile. It was filled with a soft grey brown clay silt (14). At the western end of the trench a second ditch [64] was recorded with a similar alignment. This measured 0.74m wide and 0.34m deep and had gently sloping sides and a rounded base. It was filled with a similar soft brown clay silt (63) with occasional charcoal inclusions.

7.2.3 To the east of ditch [08] a single posthole [09] was recorded. This was sub-circular in plan and measured 0.70m deep and 0.30m in diameter with steeply sloping sides, it extend beyond the trench to the north. It was filled with a soft mid brown clay silt (15) with occasional pebble inclusions.

7.2.4 These features were all sealed by a layer of firm mid brown silty clay sub soil (05) with occasional pebbles which also contained early medieval pottery. This was sealed by a soft dark grey brown dump layer (03) with frequent charcoal inclusions and large quantities of 19th century pottery and glass. This was truncated at the western end of the trench by a modern pit [12] and at the eastern end by the construction cut for a modern wall [65]. These were sealed by modern made ground (02) and tarmac (01) at a height of 7.78mOD.

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth	Level (mOD)
01	Tarmac	Trench	Trench	0.13m	7.78m
02	Modern gravel	Trench	Trench	0.20m	7.68m
03	Soft dark grey brown 19th century dump layer	Trench	Trench	0.24m	7.48m
04	Fill of [65]	Trench	0.74m	0.18m	7.46m
05	Mid brown silty clay sub soil	Trench	Trench	0.54m	7.30m
06	Fill of [16]	0.78m	0.20m	0.18m	6.87m
07	Fill of [16]	0.78m	0.20m	0.14m	7.79m
08	Steep sided ditch cut	Trench	0.64	0.4	6.88m
09	Steep sided posthole	0.44m	0.30m	0.70m	6.91m
10	Modern rubble	Trench	0.60m	0.30m	7.68m
11	Fill of [12]	Trench	2.50m	0.54m	7.58m
12	Modern pit	Trench	2.50m	0.54m	7.58m
13	Natural yellow brown gravel	Trench	Trench	N.F.E	6.95m
14	Fill of [08]	Trench	0.64	0.4	6.88m
15	Fill of [09]	0.44m	0.30m	0.70m	6.91m
16	Irregular cut, possible tree bowl.	0.78m	0.20m	0.18m	6.87m
63	Fill of [64]	Trench	0.74m	0.40m	6.84m
64	Possible ditch cut	Trench	0.74m	0.18m	6.84m
65	Construction cut for modern wall	Trench	0.74m	0.18m	7.46m

Table 1 - Trench 1 deposits

7.3 Trench 2 (Figure 4)

7.3.1 Mid orange brown natural brickearth (21) overlaid natural gravel at 6.91mOD. Cut into the brickearth a large east-west orientated ditch [35] measured 2.60m wide and 1.10m deep with slightly concave sides and a rounded base. It was filled with a primary fill of firm mid brown sandy silt (22) with occational pebbles and charcoal inclusions, which was sealed by a mid brown silty gravel (20). This later fill contained a single sherd of pottery which dates to the Romano-British period.

7.3.2 An east-west orientated ditch [62], measuring over 10.00m wide dominated the southern end of the trench. Cut into the natural brickearth with gently sloping sides, the ditch extend beyond the trench to the south and was not fully bottomed in this trench due to its depth. The earliest fill recorded, at a depth of c.1.70m below ground level, was a soft light grey mottled silt with occasional pebble inclusions, recorded as (25), (33) and (34); a single sherd of pottery recovered from the fill probably dates to the Middle or Late Iron Age. This was sealed by a series of 19th century fills which are associated with the deliberate filling of the ditch, probably during the construction of the Garrison. The first of these fills, a mid grey brown sandy silt (26) = (29) was overlaid by a dump of loose brown gravel (24) = (27); containing red and yellow brick fragments, and finally a compact grey gravel fill (30).

7.3.3 These fills were truncated by a modern ditch cut [32] and sealed by a layer of firm grey brown sandy silt (23) and modern topsoil (17) and (18) at a height of 7.67mOD

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth	Level (mOD)
17	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.18m	7.67m
18	Modern made ground	Trench	Trench	0.14m	7.45m
19	Modern made ground	Trench	Trench	0.36m	7.37m
20	Fill of [35]	Trench	3.50m	0.46m	7.45m
21	Mid orange brown clay silt brickearth natural	Trench	Trench	N.F.E.	6.91m
22	Fill of [35]	0.24m	Trench	3.10m	7.20m
23	Firm mid grey brown silt fill of [62]	Trench	12.60m	0.18m	7.25m
24	Pale grey brown clay silt fill of [62]	Trench	3.60m	0.54m	7.13m
25	Compact orange brown fill of [62]	Trench	0.66m	0.20m	6.79m
26	Loose mid brown grey fill of [62]	Trench	0.88m	0.32m	6.57m
27	Yellow brown gravel fill of [62]	Trench	8.40m	0.70m	7.03m
28	Fill of [32]	Trench	1.20m	0.48m	7.05m
29	Mid grey brown sandy silt fill of [62]	Trench	1.60m	0.44m	6.67m
30	Compact gravel fill of [62]	Trench	6.00m	0.32m	7.02m
31	Modern pit cut	0.80m	0.80m	1.20m	7.37m
32	Modern ditch cut	Trench	2.00m	1.20m	7.04m
33	Primary fill of [62]	Trench	4.60m	N.F.E.	7.37m
34	Same as (33)	Trench	4.60m	N.F.E.	2
35	Ditch cut	Trench	2.80m	1.10m	7.47m
62	Ditch cut	Trench	>10.50m	>1.00m	7.35m

Table 2 - Trench 2 deposits

7.4 Trench 3 (Figure 5)

7.4.1 Natural mid orange brown gravel (40) was recorded at a height of 6.75mOD. Two ditches were cut into the natural. At the eastern end of the trench ditch cut [44] measured 0.45m wide and 0.32m deep with steep sides and a V-shaped profile. It had a northeast-southwest orientation and was filled with a soft mid brown sandy silt (43). At the western end of the trench a second ditch [42] measured 0.45m wide and 0.30m deep and had concave sides and a rounded base. It was filled with a similar soft mid brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal inclusions (41).

7.4.2 Five pieces of fired or burnt clay were recovered from fill (43). Four of the pieces are of a similar fabric, three pieces show perforations, suggesting they may be the remains of perforated clay slabs. It is not fully understood what purpose these perforated clay slabs served, it is suggested they were part of kiln or oven furniture, or connected to salt production. There is not enough remaining from these examples to be certain of their shape, or to date them firmly, however they are of Late Bronze Age/Iron Age date. The fifth piece of fired clay from context [43] has a fine reddish brown fabric and may be a fragment of loomweight.

7.4.3 Both of these ditches were sealed by a mid brown compact sandy silt subsoil (39). This was overlaid by a modern dark grey layer of buried topsoil (37), modern orange gravel (38) and topsoil (36).

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth	Level (mOD)
36	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m	7.80m
37	Modern layer	Trench	Trench	0.30m	7.60m
38	Loose orange modern gravel	Trench	1.60m	0.24m	7.60m
39	Mid brown compact sandy silt subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.50m	7.20m
40	Natural mid orange brown gravel	Trench	Trench	N.F.E.	6.75m
41	Fill of [42]	Trench	0.45m	0.10m	6.44m
42	Ditch cut	Trench	0.45m	0.10m	6.44m
43	Fill of [44]	Trench	0.45m	0.32m	6.73m
44	Ditch cut	Trench	0.45m	0.32m	6.73m

Table 3 – Trench 3 deposits

7.5 Trench 4 (Figure 6)

7.5.1 A series of 19th century and modern deposits were recorded in the western end of the trench to a level of 6.20mOD. These deposits are probably fills of the large ditch recorded in Trench 2 and Trench 5, however the edge of the ditch was not present in this trench.

7.5.2 A layer of compact silty gravel (56) was sealed by a grey ashy dump (55), both of which appeared to be 19th century ditch fills. These in turn were sealed by a modern firm mid brown silt subsoil (54) and a layer of topsoil (53) which was recorded at a height of 7.80mOD.

7.5.3 The eastern end of the trench was entirely truncated by a large modern intrusion [57] which was filled with a soft red brown clay silt (58) with occasional charcoal and oyster shell inclusions. This may be associated with the construction of the extension at the rear of the hotel. The cut was sealed by modern layers of mid brown clay (60), a dump of tarmac (59) and finally topsoil (53).

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth	Level (mOD)
53	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.40m	7.70m
54	Modern layer	Trench	Trench	0.40m	7.30m
55	Grey ashy silt layer	Trench	Trench	0.24m	6.99m
56	Silty gravel layer	Trench	Trench	0.54m	6.80m
57	Modern cut	Trench	10.00m	1.00m	7.25m
58	Fill of [57]	Trench	10.00m	1.00m	7.25m
59	Tarmac dump	Trench	Trench	0.10m	7.40m
60	Modern dump layer	Trench	Trench	0.06m	7.35m
61	Modern dump layer	Trench	Trench	0.20m	7.22m

Table 4 – Trench 4 deposits

7.6 Trench 5 (Figure 7)

7.6.1 Natural orange brown gravel (52) was recorded at a level of 6.82mOD. This was cut by a substantial east west orientated ditch [51], which runs along the southern boundary of the site. The ditch measured at least 9m across and had steeply sloping concave sides, natural gravel (50) at the base of the cut was recorded in a sondage at a level of 5.39mOD.

7.6.2 The primary fill of the ditch consisted of a soft mottled grey clay silt (49) representing the gradual silting up of the feature. This was sealed by a layer of loose mid yellow brown sand and gravel (48) and a dump of grey brown sandy silt (47) both of which relate to the deliberate filling of the ditch in the 19th century.

7.6.3 These fills were sealed by a modern firm, mid brown sandy silt subsoil (46) and a layer of topsoil (45) at 7.36mOD.

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth	Level (mOD)
45	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20m	7.36m
46	Firm sandy silt subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m	7.19m
47	Mid grey brown sandy silt fill of [51]	Trench	8.50m	0.20m	6.89m
48	Yellow brown sandy gravel fill of [51]	Trench	8.50m	0.45m	6.69m
49	Soft mottled grey silt, primary fill of [51]	Trench	8.50m	0.60m	6.15m
50	Orange gravel natural	Trench	Trench	N.F.E.	5.39m
51	Cut of large ditch	Trench	>8.50m	1.30m	6.82m
52	Orange brown gravel natural	Trench	Trench	N.F.E.	6.82m

Table 5 – Trench 5 deposits

8 FINDS

All finds are currently being processed by relevant specialists. Four contexts have been spot dated.

Context No.	Context Description	Date Range
(5)	Mid brown silty clay sub soil	AD1050 – AD1150
(20)	Fill of Ditch cut [35]	400BC – AD400
(34)	Primary fill of large ditch cut [62]	AD50 – AD100
(43)	Fill of Ditch cut [44]	750BC-AD50

Table 6 – Spot Dates

9 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Two east-west aligned ditches were recorded along the southern boundary of the site. The larger of these extended to the south beyond the limit of our trenches, and measured at least 10m wide. A smaller parallel ditch was recorded on its north side. These two ditches very probably relate to a defensive earthwork associated with the nearby Iron Age enclosure known as the 'Danish Camp', where the remains of a defended prehistoric settlement are known (Figure 8). Spot dates for the pottery recovered from homogeneous lower fills within these features give a Late Iron Age or Romano British date. This suggests the initial infilling of the ditches, possibly as the settlement was abandoned, occurred just before or at the beginning of the Roman occupation of Britain.

9.2 The upper fills of the main ditch consisted of 19th century or later levelling dumps. These represent the deliberate levelling of the earthwork in the 19th century, probably associated with the construction of the Garrison in the 1850s. This process resulted in the landscaping and truncation of much of the prehistoric enclosure.

9.3 To the north of these ditches several smaller ditches were recorded on a north-south alignment and a single posthole was also recorded. All these features were sealed by a layer of subsoil and cut into natural gravels. One of these ditches contained pieces of what appears to be a Bronze Age perforated clay tablet, this material is still being analysed. These features appear to represent activity pre-dating the Iron Age enclosure, and may be field boundaries or drainage ditches associated with a prehistoric field system, which extends beyond the northern enclosure boundary.

9.4 No Mesolithic material, or evidence of 19th building associated with the Garrison and later military use, were recorded on the site.

9.5 Given the nature of the identified archaeology, further consideration of impact mitigation is necessary.

9.6 The primary surviving features are the enclosure boundary ditches. The evaluation has confirmed that 19th century landscaping not only resulted in the loss of visible earthwork remains, but also involved infilling of the ditch by dumping imported material. Consequently deposits broadly contemporaneous with the occupation of the enclosure, are buried beneath c.1.70m of 19th and 20th century material.

9.7 Of less significance is the evidence for prehistoric field boundaries/drainage ditches which lie outside the enclosure, and may be earlier.

9.8 It is evident that 19th century landscaping restricts the surviving enclosure features to the ditch, which contains up to 1.70m of 19th century and later deposits, sealing homogeneous deposits. There is no evidence for the survival of the enclosure bank, which is apparent as earthwork features within the better preserved Scheduled enclosure.

9.9 The quality of survival at the Hotel site is consistent with those elements of the enclosure excluded from the recently reviewed Scheduled area. The archaeology beyond the Scheduled area is not considered to meet the DCMS (Department of

Culture, Media and Sport) criteria for Scheduling, which is an established framework for determining national importance. In the absence of evidence for an associated settlement, the earlier field boundaries are appropriately considered to be of local importance.

9.10 The impact to the enclosure boundary ditches that arise from the proposed development is limited in scale, confined to the shallow trench foundations for a single building in the south half of the site. This represents a minor adverse, if not negligible, impact to remains of regional importance. Although more extensive in scale, a similar impact grading applies to the field boundaries of local importance.

9.11 National planning policies require LPA's to consider a presumption in favour of physical in situ preservation for remains of national importance (PPG 16 para 8). More relevant in this instance, as it reflects the relative importance and limited scale of impact, is the advice set out in PPG 16 para 28, which states:

> *'There will no doubt be occasions, particularly where remains of lesser importance are involved, when planning authorities may decide that the significance of the archaeological remains is not sufficient when weighed against all other material considerations, including the need for development, to justify their physical preservation* in situ*, and that the proposed development should proceed. As paragraph 25 explains, planning authorities will, in such cases, need to satisfy themselves that the developer has made appropriate and satisfactory arrangements for the excavation and recording of the archaeological remains and the publication of the results. If this has not already been secured through some form of voluntary agreement, planning authorities can consider granting planning permission subject to conditions which provide for the excavation and recording of the remains before development takes place.'*

9.12 It would appear appropriate, therefore, for the local authority to approve the planning application and secure appropriate archaeological mitigation measures through a planning condition. PPG 16, para 30, suggests the following condition:

> *"No development shall take place within the area indicated (this would be the area of archaeological interest) until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority."*

9.13 As the impact to the boundary ditches is predominantly restricted to later fills a watching brief provides a suitable method of investigation. It is suggested that a similar arrangement would also be appropriate with reference to the field boundary ditches that occur within the Hotel site to the north of the Iron Age enclosure.

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Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:50 000 Landranger Map of 2002
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500m 0 2 km

1:50 000

Figure 1. Site Location

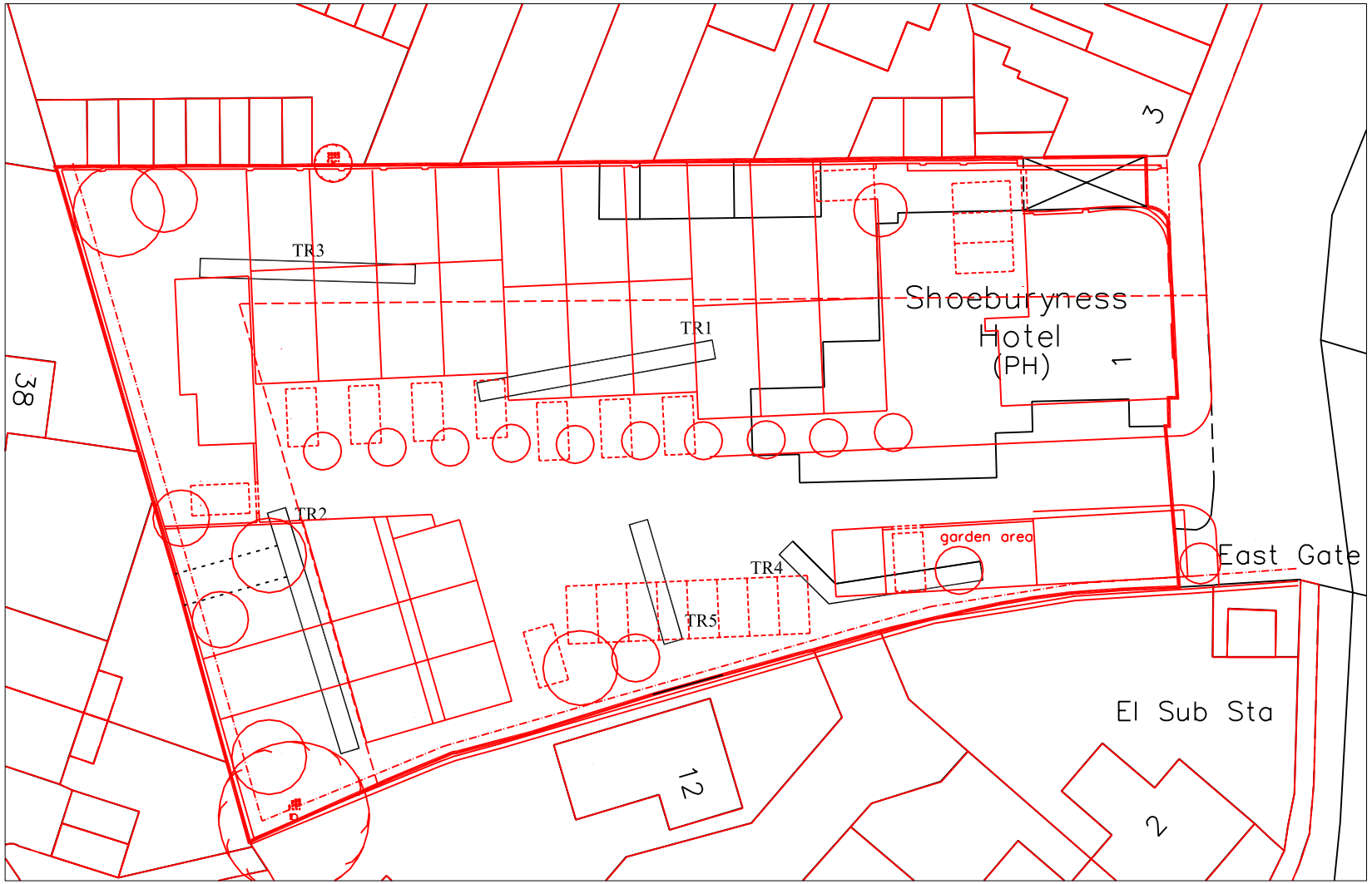

Figure 2: Detailed Site Location / Trench Location Plan

10m 0 20m

1:500

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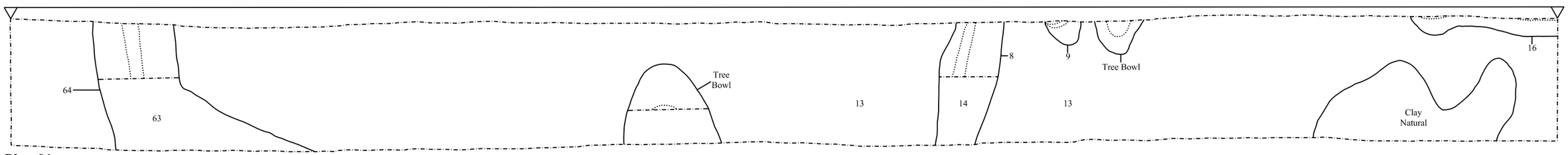
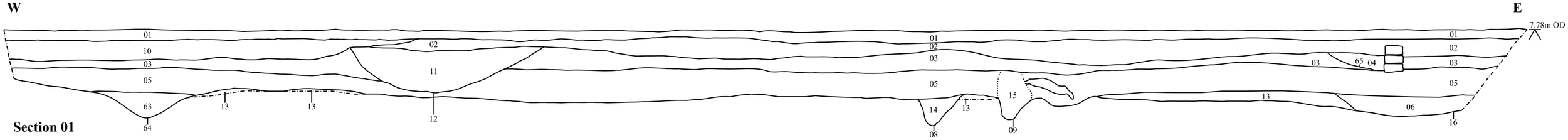
N

Section 01



Plan 01



Section 01

Figure 3: Trench 1: Plan and Section

1m 0 2m

1:50

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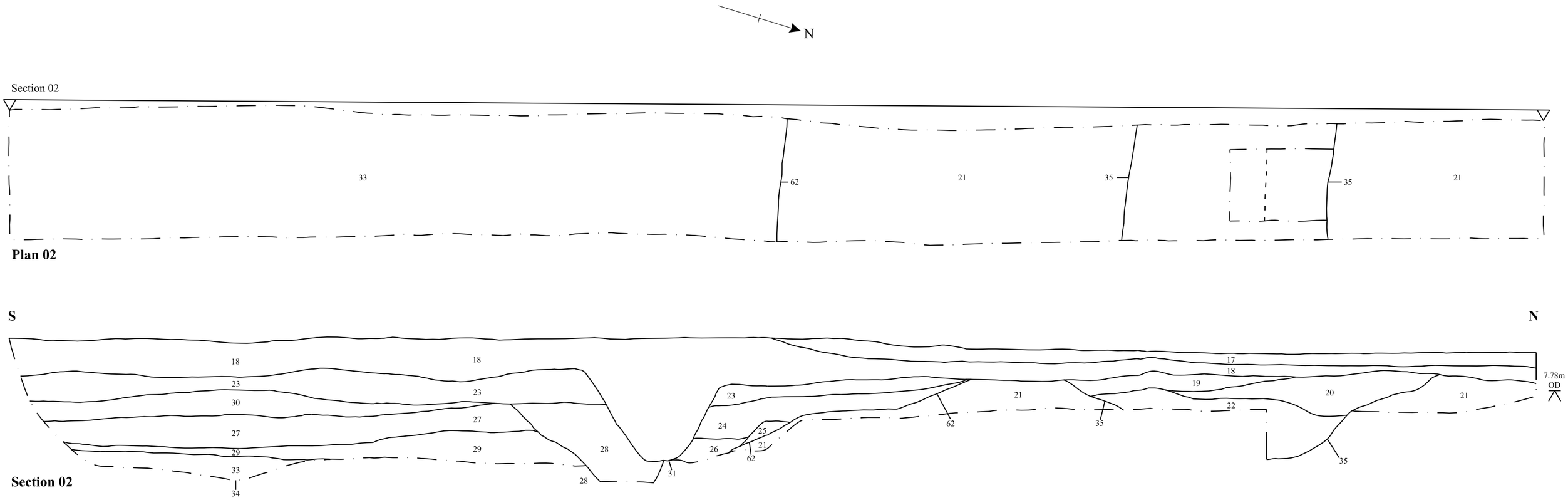

Figure 4: Trench 2: Plan and Section

1m 0 2m

1:50

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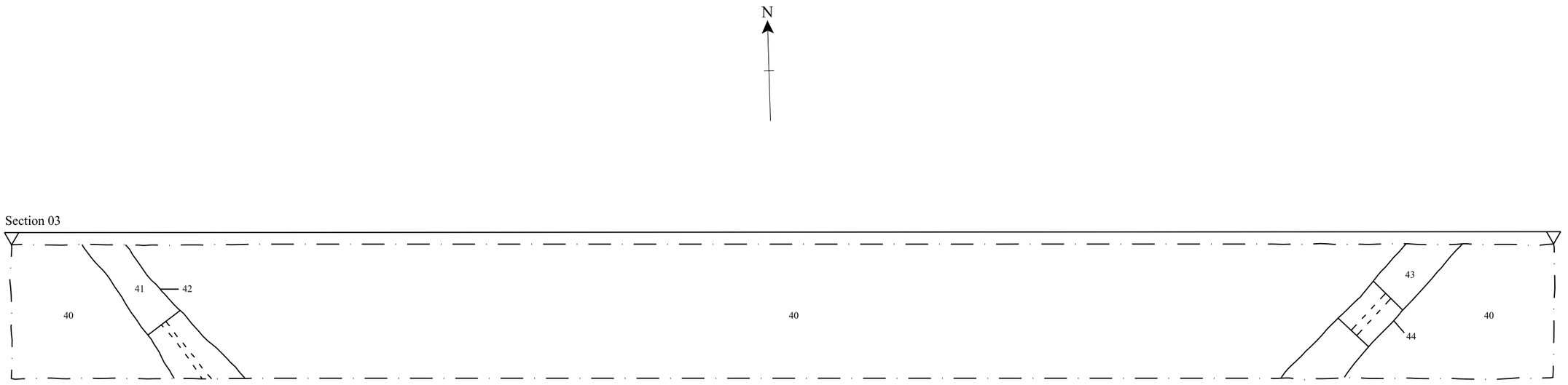

Figure 5: Trench 3: Plan and Section

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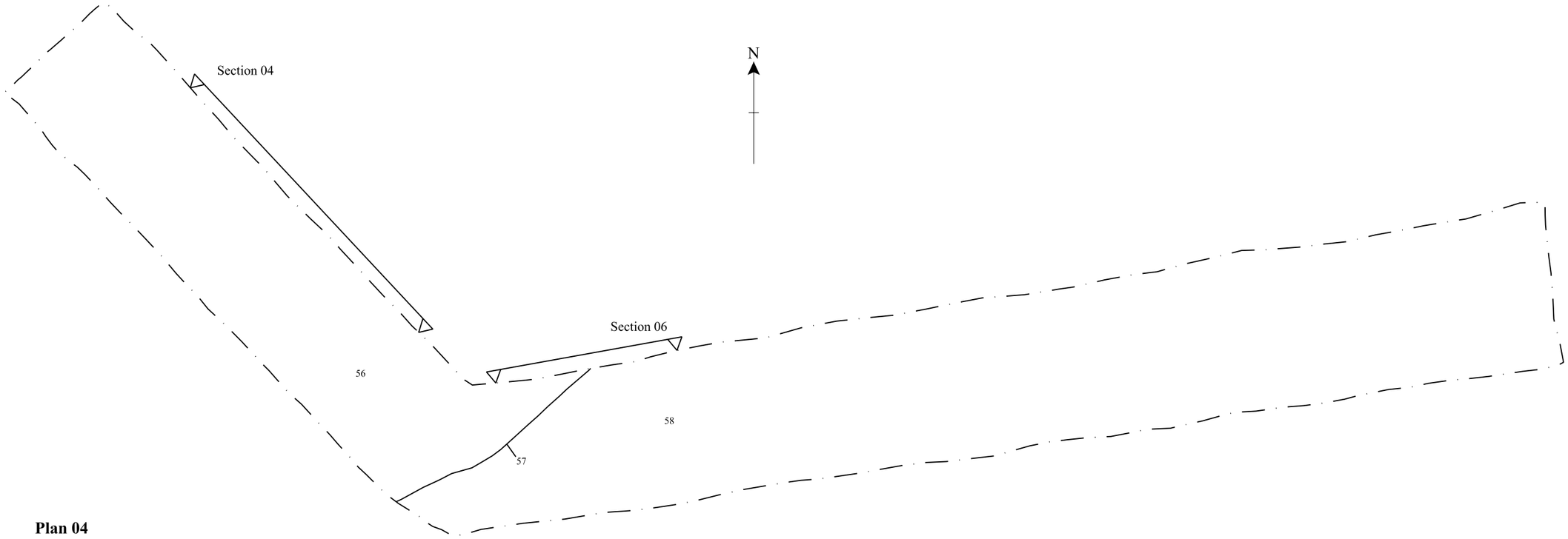
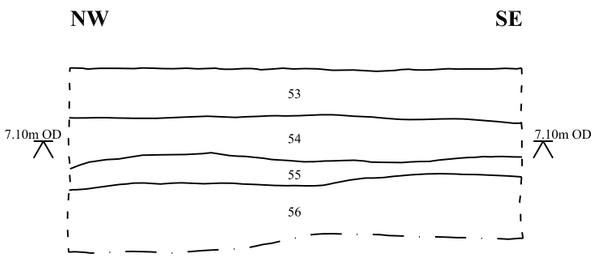
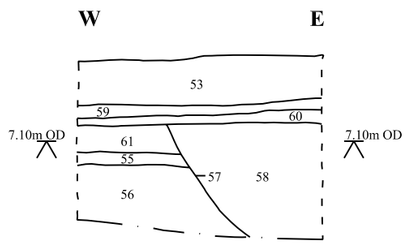


Plan 04

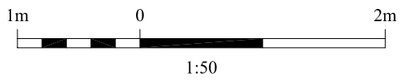


Section 04



Section 06

Figure 6: Trench 4: Plan and Sections



AOC ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

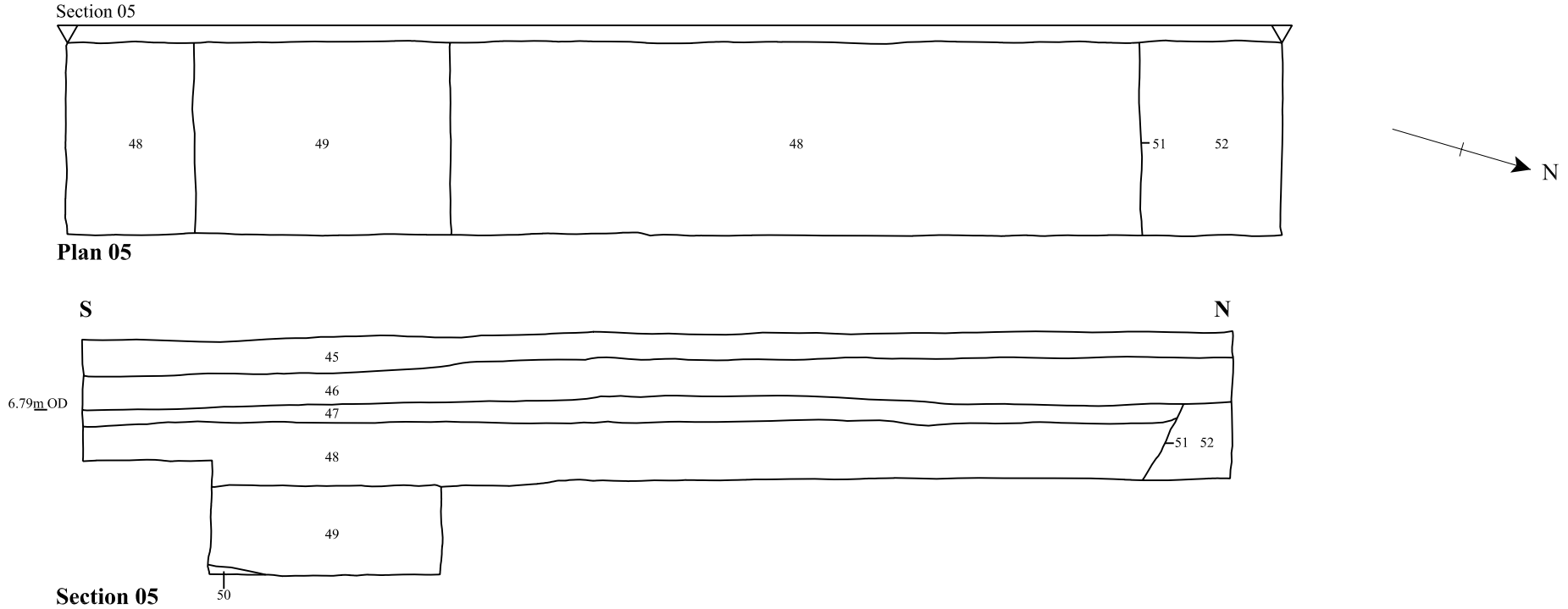
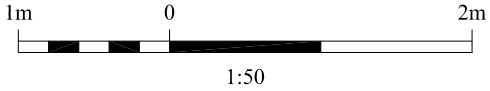


Figure 7: Trench 5: Plan and Section



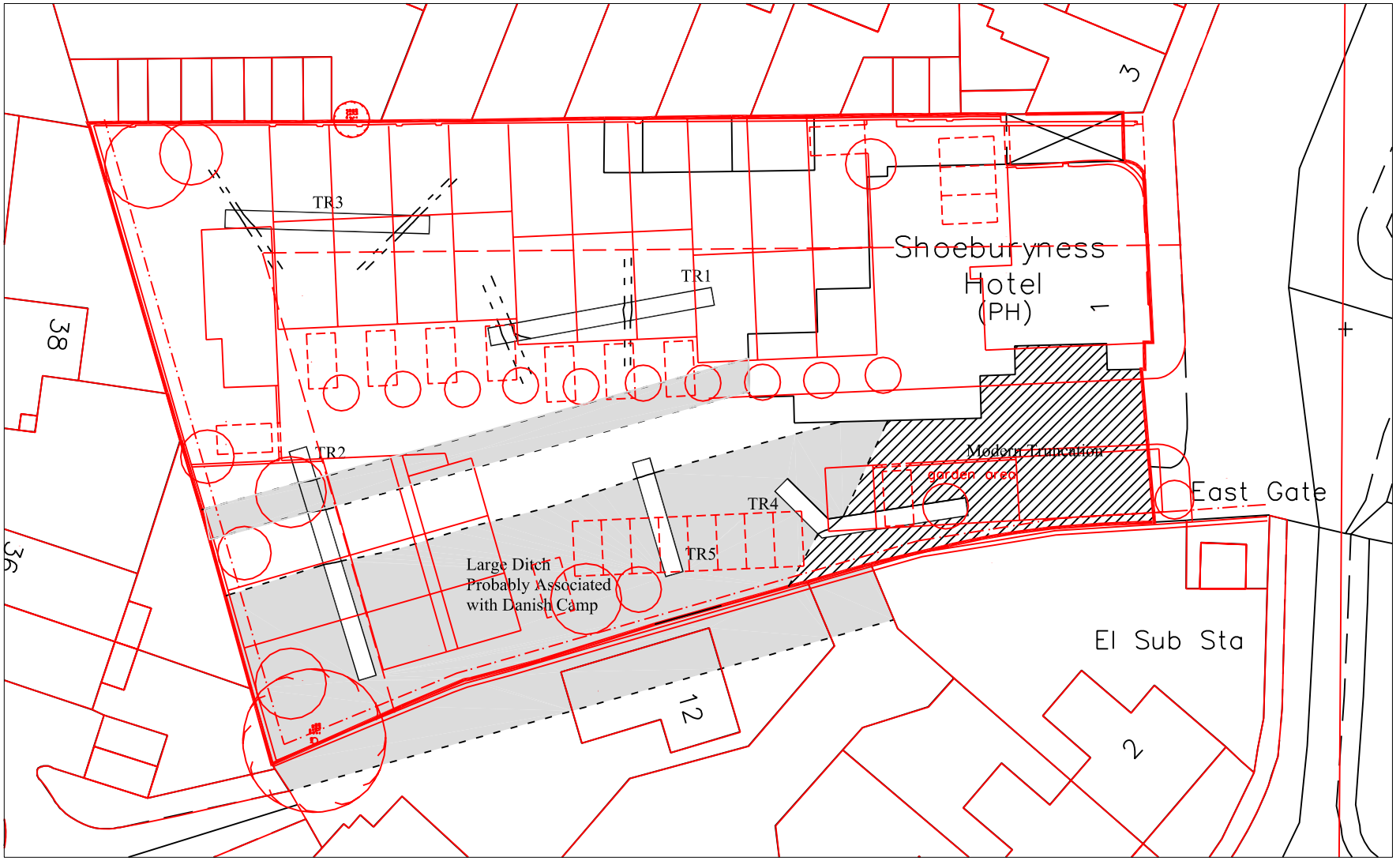


Figure 8: Interpretive Plan

10m 0 20m

1:500

---- Ditch Extension

Rampart Ditch Around Iron Age Enclosure

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Appendix A – Context Register

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth	Trench
1	Tarmac	Trench	Trench	0.13m	1
2	Modern gravel	Trench	Trench	0.20m	1
3	Soft dark grey brown 19th century dump layer	Trench	Trench	0.24m	1
4	Fill of [65]	Trench	0.74m	0.18m	1
5	Mid brown silty clay sub soil	Trench	Trench	0.54m	1
6	Fill of [16]	0.78m	0.20m	0.18m	1
7	Fill of [16]	0.78m	0.20m	0.14m	1
8	Steep sided ditch cut	Trench	0.64	0.4	1
9	Steep sided posthole	0.44m	0.30m	0.70m	1
10	Modern rubble	Trench	0.60m	0.30m	1
11	Fill of [12]	Trench	2.50m	0.54m	1
12	Modern pit	Trench	2.50m	0.54m	1
13	Natural yellow brown gravel	Trench	Trench	N.F.E	1
14	Fill of [08]	Trench	0.64	0.4	1
15	Fill of [09]	0.44m	0.30m	0.70m	1
16	Irregular cut, possible tree bowl.	0.78m	0.20m	0.18m	1
17	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.18m	2
18	Modern made ground	Trench	Trench	0.14m	2
19	Modern made ground	Trench	Trench	0.36m	2
20	Fill of [35]	Trench	3.50m	0.46m	2
21	Mid orange brown clay silt 'brickearth' natural	Trench	Trench	N.F.E.	2
22	Fill of [35]	0.24m	Trench	3.10m	2
23	Firm mid grey brown silt layer	Trench	12.60m	0.18m	2
24	pale grey brown clay silt layer	Trench	3.60m	0.54m	2
25	Compact orange brown fill of [62]	Trench	0.66m	0.20m	2
26	Loose mid brown grey fill of [62]	Trench	0.88m	0.32m	2
27	Yellow brown gravel fill of [62]	Trench	8.40m	0.70m	2
28	Fill of [32]	Trench	1.20m	0.48m	2
29	Mid grey brown sandy silt fill of [62]	Trench	1.60m	0.44m	2
30	Compact gravel fill of [62]	Trench	6.00m	0.32m	2
31	Modern pit cut	0.80m	0.80m	1.20m	2
32	Modern ditch cut	Trench	2.00m	1.20m	2
33	Primary fill of [62]	Trench	4.60m	N.F.E.	2
34	Same as (33)	Trench	4.60m	N.F.E.	2
35	Ditch cut	Trench	2.80m	1.10m	2
36	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m	3
37	Modern layer	Trench	Trench	0.30m	3
38	Loose orange modern gravel	Trench	1.60m	0.24m	3
39	Mid brown compact sandy silt subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.50m	3
40	Natural gravel	Trench	Trench	N.F.E.	3
41	Fill of [42]	Trench	0.45m	0.10m	3
42	Ditch cut	Trench	0.45m	0.10m	3
43	Fill of [44]	Trench	0.45m	0.32m	3
44	Ditch cut	Trench	0.45m	0.32m	3
45	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20m	5
46	Firm sandy silt subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m	5

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth	Trench
47	Mid grey brown sandy silt fill of [51]	Trench	8.50m	0.20m	5
48	Yellow brown sandy gravel fill of [51]	Trench	8.50m	0.45m	5
49	soft mottles grey silt, primary fill of [51]	Trench	8.50m	0.60m	5
50	Orange gravel natural	Trench	Trench	N.F.E.	5
51	Cut of large ditch	Trench	8.50m	1.30m	5
52	Orange gravel natural	Trench	Trench	N.F.E.	5
53	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.40m	4
54	Modern layer	Trench	Trench	0.40m	4
55	Grey ashy silt layer	Trench	Trench	0.24m	4
56	Silty gravel layer	Trench	Trench	0.54m	4
57	Modern cut	Trench	10.00m	1.00m	4
58	Fill of [57]	Trench	10.00m	1.00m	4
59	Tarmac dump	Trench	Trench	0.10m	4
60	Modern dump layer	Trench	Trench	0.06m	4
61	Modern dump layer	Trench	Trench	0.20m	4
62	Ditch cut	10.50m	Trench	1.00m	2
63	Fill of [64]	Trench	0395m	0.40m	1
64	Possible ditch cut	Trench	0.74m	0.18m	1
65	Construction cut for modern wall	Trench	0.74m	0.18m	1

Appendix B – Oasis Form

1.1 OASIS ID: aocarcha1-10871

Project details

Project name	Shoeburyness Hotel
Short description of the project	A five trench evaluation was conducted by AOC Archaeology in October 2005. A very large ditch, measuring over 10m wide, was recorded cutting natural gravels. This was probably part of the defence earthworks of the 'Danish Camp,' a scheduled Iron Age hill fort. A smaller parallel ditch may be part of an outer ditch. Smaller ditches to the north may represent contemporary field boundaries
Project dates	Start: 17-10-2005 End: 21-10-2005
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	SOUMU 2005.22 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX SOUTHEND ON SEA SOUTHEND ON SEA Shoeburyness Hotel
Postcode	SS3 9XX
Study area	0.35 Hectares
National grid reference	TQ 9390 8490 Point
Height OD	Min: 6.75m Max: 6.91m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	AOC Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	AOC Archaeology
Project director/manager	Tim Carew
Project supervisor	Dan Eddisford
Sponsor or funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Southend Museum
Physical Contents	'Ceramics'
Digital Archive recipient	Southend Museum
Digital Media available	'Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Southend Museum
Paper Media available	'Microfilm','Plan','Section','Unpublished Text'
Paper Archive notes	At AOC until deposition. To be microfilmed

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Shoeburyness Hotel, 1 High Street, Shoeburyness - Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	'Eddisford, D.'
Date	2005
Issuer or publisher	AOC Archaeology

Place of issue or publication	AOC Archaeology
Description	A4 bound text and illustrations
Entered by	Daniel Eddisford (daneddisford@aocarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	25 October 2005

Appendix C – Matrices