

# LAND ADJACENT TO 80 WESTERN ROAD, BOROUGH GREEN, KENT

## An Archaeological Evaluation Report

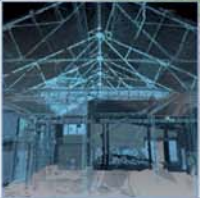
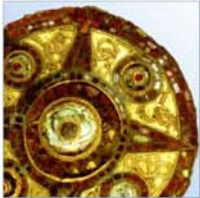
Planning Application Number: TM/04/04058/OA

National Grid Reference Number: TQ 60582 57357

AOC Project no: 30374

Site Code: WRBGA 09

Date: February 2009



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Archaeology  
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# LAND ADJACENT TO 80 WESTERN ROAD, BOROUGH GREEN, KENT

## An Archaeological Evaluation Report

**On Behalf of:** Manor Development Solutions  
Chequers Hill  
Bough Beech  
Edenbridge  
TN8 7PD

**National Grid Reference (NGR):** TQ 60582 57357

**AOC Project No:** 30374

**Prepared by:** Chris Pole

**Illustration by:** Jonathon Moller

**Date of Excavation:** 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009

**Date of Report:** February 2009

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

**Author:** Chris Pole **Date:** February 2009

**Approved by:** Tim Carew **Date:** February 2009

**Draft/Final Report Stage:** **Date:**

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## **Non-Technical Summary**

On the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009 AOC Archaeology Group conducted an archaeological evaluation at land adjacent to 80 Western Road, Borough Green, Kent on behalf of Manor Development Solutions. The evaluation consisted of a single trench measuring 10m x 2m.

The evaluation revealed a layer of buried post-medieval garden soil, but no archaeological finds or features of any significance.

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document is a report on an Archaeological Evaluation undertaken at land adjacent to 80 Western Road, Borough green, Kent (Figure 1). The work was undertaken on behalf of Manor Development Solutions.
- 1.2 The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 60582 57357 and is within land bounded by the London to Maidstone railway line to the north, no.80 Western Road to the east, Western Road to the south and an unnamed access road to the west.
- 1.3 The site is irregular in shape and covers a total area of approximately 0.085 hectares (850m<sup>2</sup>).
- 1.4 The proposed development has already taken place and consists of a two storey detached dwelling with garage. The archaeological evaluation was focused on the undeveloped rear garden, which is roughly rectangular in shape and covers an area of approximately 0.0112hectares (112m<sup>2</sup>).

## 2. Planning Background

- 2.1 The local planning authority is the Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council. Archaeology advice to the council is provided by Ben Found, Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.
- 2.2 Planning permission to undertake the development has been granted under the Town and Country Planning Act (1990) (Ref No.: TM04/04058/OA), subject to conditions. Condition 4 states that:  
  
*“No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (including a timetable for investigation) which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority.”*
- 2.3 This condition has been required in accordance with Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16) issued by the Department of the Environment in 1990 (DoE, 1990), and was recommended by Ben Found, archaeology advisor to the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.
- 2.5 The application site does not fall within a designated area of high archaeological importance, and no listed buildings or scheduled ancient monuments lie within the development area. However, the site does lie within an area of archaeological potential as defined by a specification for works by Kent County Council (Kent County Council 2008).
- 2.6 The proposed development has already taken place and involved the construction of a new detached house (Figure 2), with associated gardens and garages, across the southern area of the site with a rear garden to the north.
- 2.7 A Desk Based Assessment was not been required as part of this process due to the limited scale of the development.
- 2.8 An Archaeological Evaluation was recommended to inform on the impact of the development and was carried out in accordance with a previous Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2009).
- 2.9 This report details the results of the Archaeological Evaluation.

### **3. Geological Background**

- 3.1 The Specification (Kent County Council 2008) indicates that the site is situated upon Folkestone Beds.

### **4. Archaeological & Historical Background**

#### **Prehistoric**

- 4.1 Several findspots of prehistoric artefacts are recorded in a 1km radius of the site. Palaeolithic implements were present to the southwest of the application site in Edge of Head geology, whilst a Palaeolithic handaxe was discovered in alluvium to the northwest of the site. Neolithic implements have also been found to the west of the site. A barrow site is also known to the southeast.

#### **Roman**

- 4.2 The A25 which has a junction with the A227 in Borough Green follows the course of the Roman Military Way Westward.
- 4.3 Two Roman cremation sites have been unearthed in Borough Green in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A number of cinerary urns were discovered at Borough Field in 1839 to the southwest of the site, while another find of Roman cinerary urns were located in the 1880's to the north of the station.
- 4.4 To the immediate west of the application site Roman pottery and the foundations of a Roman building were allegedly found in 1900. (SMR No: TQ 65 NW 38).

#### **Medieval**

- 4.5 Borough Green does not appear in the Domesday Book and does not appear to have been a significant settlement until the Post-medieval period.

#### **Post-medieval**

- 4.6 Borough Green was referred to under a series of names in the post-medieval period. Barrow Green in 1575 and 1587, Boroe Green in 1594, Burrough Green in 1697 and Burrow Green in 1713. The name "Borough Green" has several possible origins. The first is that it was the "green" or playing fields for the Borough of Wrotham. A second is that it refers to "Barrow" Green, which is possible given the remains of barrows and Roman activity in the area.
- 4.7 The location of Borough Green on an important trade route from Gravesend to Hastings meant a large number of coaching inns were built including the Red Lion and the Black Bull in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

### **5. Aims & Objectives**

- 5.1 The aims of the Evaluation were defined as being:
- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
  - To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
  - To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
  - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.

- To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To enable Ben Found, Kent County Council, to make an informed decision on the status of the archaeology condition and any requirement for further mitigation work.
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation in order to inform the mitigation strategy as part of the planning process.

5.2 The specific aims of the Evaluation were:

- To determine the presence of any remains of Roman date on site.
- To assess the impact of the completed works on any potential archaeological remains

5.3 The final aim was to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

## 6. Methodology

6.1 The evaluation consisted of the excavation of a single trench measuring 10m x 2m at base in the back garden of the property (Figure 2).

6.3 All machining during the evaluation was carried out using a 3 ton 360° tracked excavator with a smooth bladed ditching bucket, under the constant supervision of the Archaeological Project Supervisor.

6.4 The site code **WRBGA 09** was obtained for the project, and used for all fieldwork.

6.5 The evaluation trenches was accurately located to the National Grid and levels calculated using a temporary benchmark with a value of 83.85mOD.

6.6 All recording was in accordance with the standards and requirements of the Museum of London's *Archaeological Field Manual* (MoL 3rd edition 1994).

6.7 All of the work was carried out in line with:

- *Archaeological Guidance Paper (AGP): 3, Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork* (English Heritage June 1998)
- *IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*. (IFA 1995, revised 2001).

6.8 Written descriptions, comprising both factual data and interpretative elements, were recorded on standardised sheets.



## 7. Results



Plate 1: Overall Shot of Trench

- 7.1 The evaluation trench was located in the rear garden of the property measuring 10m x 2m at base and aligned northeast – southwest. It contained no archaeological features.
- 7.2 The trench revealed the natural geology (105) which consisted of a light orange yellow clay sand with occasional large angular stone. This was present at a height of 83.68mOD to the northeast and sloped down to a height of 83.38 to the southwest.
- 7.3 The natural geology was overlain by a 0.23m thick layer of subsoil (104), which consisted of a light brown grey clay sand with inclusions of yellow-white mortar, and unfrogged brick fragments. This layer contained 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> century garden flower pot sherds and English willow pattern porcelain which were used for spot dating but not retained.
- 7.4 This was overlain by a layer of buried topsoil (103) which consisted of a dark black grey clay sand silt with frequent unfrogged brick fragments. This layer was 0.50m thick to the northeast, becoming 0.70m thick in the southwest. It contained / 20<sup>th</sup> century garden flower pot sherds and English willow pattern porcelain which were not retained.
- 7.5 The post-medieval sediments were sealed by a layer of modern made ground (102) 0.10m thick which consisted of a very dark black grey clay sand silt with frequent brick fragments and modern rubbish dating to the 1990's.
- 7.6 The uppermost layer was a recently laid layer of turf (101) 0.05m thick. This sloped from a height of 84.55mOD in the northeast to 84.32mOD in the southeast.



Plate 2: Section 1



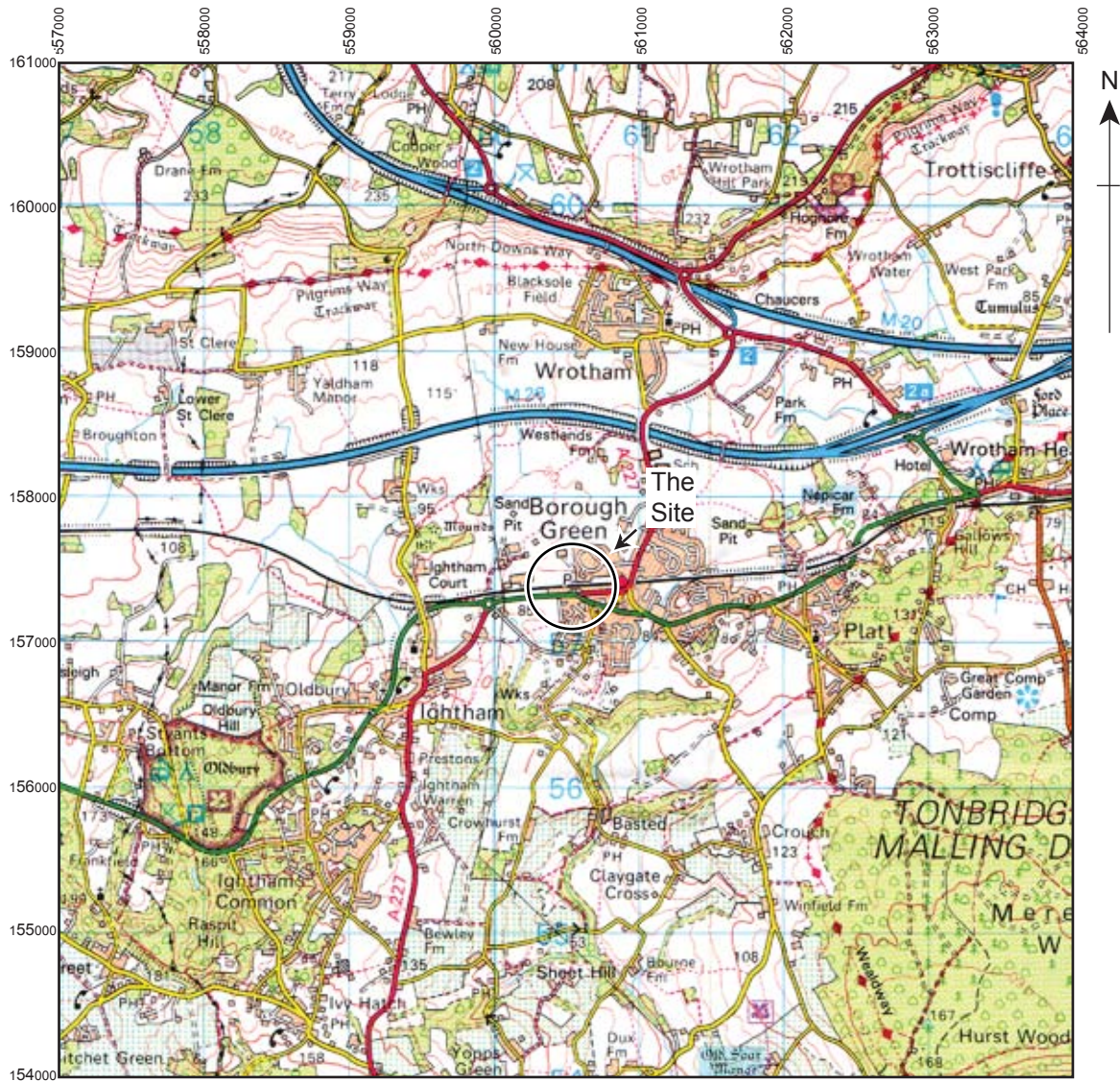
Plate 2: Section 2

## 8. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 8.1 The aims of the evaluation were to determine the presence of any Roman remains, and assess the impact of the completed works on any potential archaeological remains.
- 8.2 No finds or features of Roman date were present.
- 8.3 The only feature of interest was a layer of post-medieval garden soil. It is therefore unlikely that the completed works have impacted any archaeological remains.
- 8.4 It is not considered that further works on site would produce any significant results. However, the final decision will rest with the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and its archaeology advisor, Ben Found.
- 8.6 Publication of the results will be through the ADS OASIS form (Appendix C) with a short summary submitted to the relevant roundup 2009.

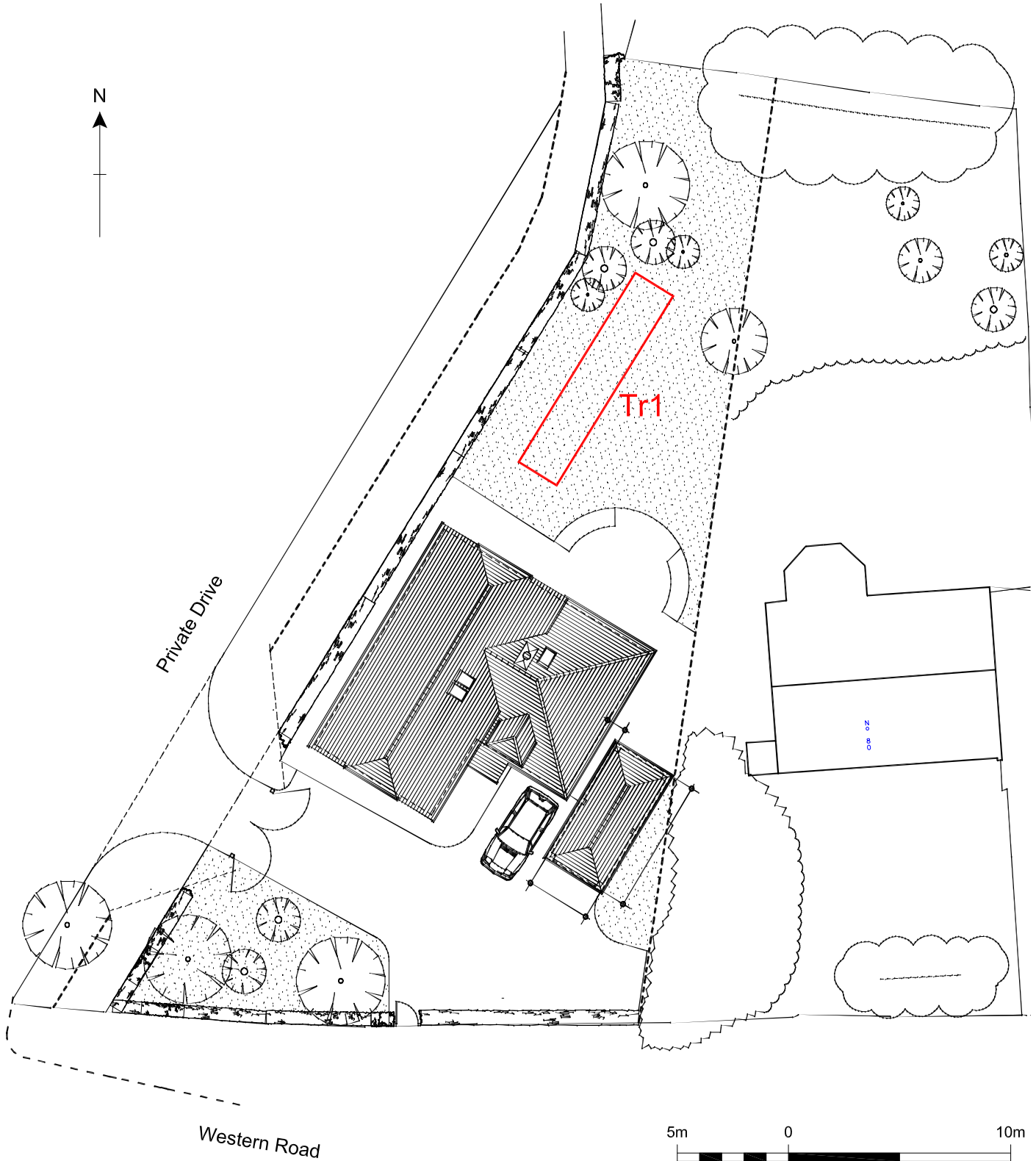
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- Institute of Field Archaeologists (1994, revised 2001). *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*.
- Kent County Council (2008) *Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation at Land Adjacent to 80 Western Road, Borough Green, Kent*
- Museum of London (1994). *Archaeological Site Manual* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).



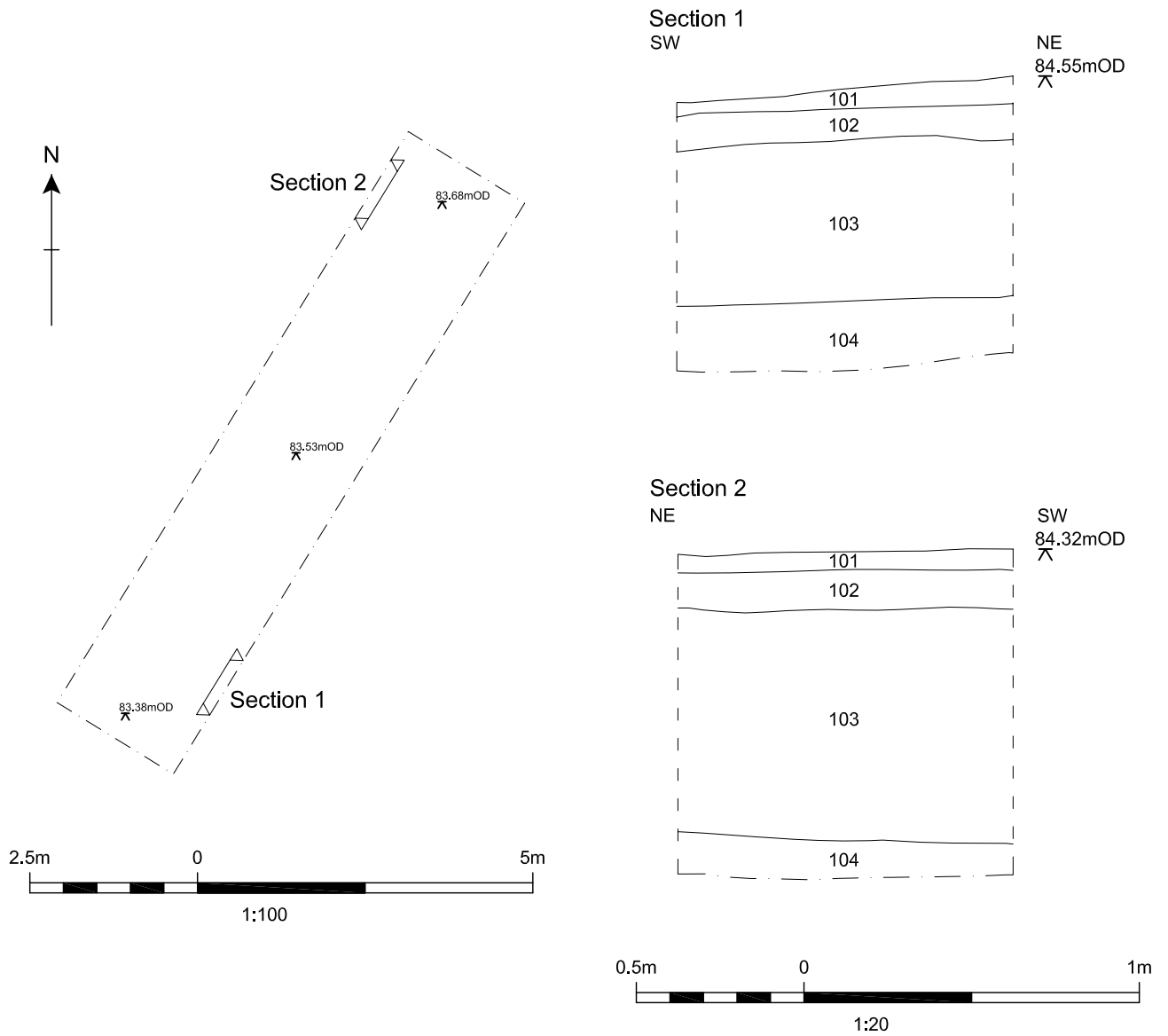
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**Figure 1:** Site Location



Based on the Plan Produced by Pentar Architecture

**Figure 2:** Detailed Site/Trench Location Plan



**Figure 3:** Trench 1: Plan (1:100) & Sample Sections (1:20)

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## Appendices

## Appendix A Context Index

| Context | Depth | Extent   | Interpretation               |
|---------|-------|----------|------------------------------|
| 101     | 0.05m | 10m x 2m | Turf                         |
| 102     | 0.10m | 10m x 2m | Modern Made ground           |
| 103     | 0.70m | 10m x 2m | Buried Post-medieval topsoil |
| 104     | 0.23m | 10m x 2m | Subsoil                      |
| 105     | NFE   | 10m x 2m | Natural                      |

## Appendix B OASIS Form

### OASIS ID: aocarcha1-55575

#### Project details

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Project name                           | Land adjacent to 80 Western Road, Borough Green, Kent   |
| Short description of the project       | The evaluation consisted of a single trench measuring 10m x 2m. The evaluation revealed a layer of buried post-medieval garden soil, but no archaeological finds or features of any significance. |
| Project dates                          | Start: 16-02-2009 End: 16-02-2009   |
| Previous/future work                   | No / Not known  |
| Any associated project reference codes | TM/04/04058/OA - Planning Application No.   |
| Any associated project reference codes | WRBGA09 - Sitecode  |
| Type of project                        | Field evaluation  |
| Site status (other)                    | Area of archaeological potential  |
| Current Land use                       | Residential 1 - General Residential   |
| Methods & techniques                   | 'Targeted Trenches'   |
| Development type                       | Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)   |
| Prompt                                 | Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16   |
| Position in the planning process       | After full determination (eg. As a condition)   |

#### Project location

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Country           | England  |
| Site location     | KENT TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH GREEN Land adjacent to 80 Western Road, Borough Green, Kent |
| Postcode          | TN15 8AH   |
| Study area        | 0.09 Square metres   |
| Site coordinates  | TQ 60582 57357 51.2921290772 0.303333989751 51 17 31 N 000 18 12 E Point                       |
| Height OD / Depth | Min: 83.38m Max: 83.68m  |

#### Project creators

|                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Name of Organisation      | AOC Archaeology Group |
| Project brief originator  | Kent County Council   |
| Project design originator | AOC Archaeology Group |
| Project director/manager  | Andy Leonard          |
| Project supervisor        | Chris Pole            |



Type of Developer  
 sponsor/funding body

Name of Manor Development Solutions  
 sponsor/funding body

**Project archives**

Digital Archive AOC Archaeology  
 recipient

Digital Media 'GIS','Images raster / digital photography','Images vector','Text'  
 available

Paper Archive AOC Archaeology  
 recipient

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Drawing','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section'

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land adjacent to 80 Western Road, Borough Green, Kent: An Archaeological Evaluation Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Pole, C

Date 2009

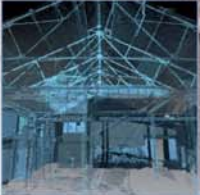
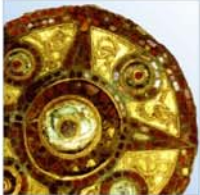
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