

Central Parade, New Addington  
London Borough of Croydon

Archaeological Evaluation Report



**CENTRAL PARADE, NEW ADDINGTON  
LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON**

**(MOL SITE CODE: CNX07)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

Prepared for  
**CgMs Consulting**  
**Morley House**  
**26 Holborn Viaduct**  
**London**  
**EC1A 2AT**

By  
**Wessex Archaeology**  
**Portway House**  
**Old Sarum Park**  
**SALISBURY**  
**Wiltshire**  
**SP4 6EB**

**Report reference: 65020.02**

**February 2007**

**CENTRAL PARADE, NEW ADDINGTON  
LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON**

**(MOL SITE CODE: CNX07)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

**Contents**

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>4</b>
	1.1 Project Background .....	4
	1.2 Topography and Geology .....	4
<b>2</b>	<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND .....</b>	<b>4</b>
	2.2 Previous investigations .....	2
<b>3</b>	<b>AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....</b>	<b>3</b>
	3.1 Introduction.....	3
<b>4</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>3</b>
	4.1 Project Design.....	3
	4.2 Trial Trench Excavation .....	3
	4.3 Survey.....	3
<b>5</b>	<b>RESULTS.....</b>	<b>3</b>
	5.1 Introduction.....	3
	5.2 Artefact Sampling .....	5
	5.3 Environmental Sampling.....	5
	5.4 Reinstatement.....	5
<b>6</b>	<b>DISCUSSION.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>ARCHIVE .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>6</b>

**FIGURES**

- Figure 1** Site and trench location
- Figure 2** SE facing section of Trench 4
- Figure 3** Plan of Trench 1 and sections of ditches 104 & 106
- Figure 4** Plan of Trench 2 and sections of ditches 204 & 206

**CENTRAL PARADE, NEW ADDINGTON  
LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON**

**(MOL SITE CODE: CNX07)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

**Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting ('the Consultant') to carry out a programme of archaeological evaluation at the Central Parade, New Addington, Croydon, Greater London (hereafter 'the Site'). The Site is centred on Ordnance Survey NGR 538300 162200. The work was required as part of a planning application on behalf of Tesco Stores and their Planning Consultants, Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners ('the Client').

The fieldwork was undertaken between the 26<sup>th</sup> of January and 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2007. Of the eight trenches proposed, only five were excavated due to the presence of live services. Of these three contained no archaeological features.

In the remaining two trenches the evaluation confirmed the presence of linear features in the south-eastern portion of the Site, as indicated by aerial photography, however produced no evidence for their date or function. The nature of the feature fills suggests them to be potentially of a fairly recent date. No stray artefacts indicative of archaeological activity nearby were recovered.

Modern disturbance and evidence of remodelling/landscaping is present across the Site to 0.8m BGL across the Site.

**CENTRAL PARADE, NEW ADDINGTON  
LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON**

**(MOL SITE CODE: CNX07)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

**Acknowledgements**

The project was commissioned by CgMs Consulting and Wessex Archaeology is particularly grateful to Paul Chadwick and Sally Dicks for their advice and assistance during the course of these investigations.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Mike Dinwiddy, Ben Stuckey and Rudy Domzalski. This report was prepared by Mike Dinwiddy, with illustrations prepared by Will Foster. The project was managed by Brigitte Buss on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.

**CENTRAL PARADE, NEW ADDINGTON  
LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON**

**(MOL SITE CODE: CNX07)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Project Background**

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting ('the Consultant') to carry out a programme of archaeological evaluation on land at the Central Parade, New Addington, Croydon, Greater London (centred on Ordnance Survey NGR 538300 162200 hereafter 'the Site', **Figure 1**). The work was required as part of a planning application on behalf of Tesco Stores.

**1.2 Topography and Geology**

1.2.1 The Site is situated in an area of mid-20<sup>th</sup> century urban development (New Addington) within the London Borough of Croydon. It is bound to the northeast by Central Parade and to the south, southwest and northwest by Chertsey Crescent. The Site is currently occupied by a leisure centre and communal facilities with associated parking and open spaces.

1.2.2 The British Geological Survey map of the area (Sheet 270, South London, 1989) indicates that the Site is underlain by Clay with Flints overlying the Upper Chalk Formation.

1.2.3 Within its wider topographic setting, the Site occupies a plateau within an area of undulating chalk landscape. The Site is generally level at approximately 150-152m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), with a long gradual slope down to the northeast. Beyond the Site, this slope heads into a dry valley occupied by Addington and the A2022 (CgMs 2006a).

**2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

2.1.1 A desk-based assessment of the Site was completed in December 2006 by the Consultant (CgMs 2006a). This indicated that only a modest number of sites were present in the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record

(GLSMR) within a 1km radius to the Site. These included sites and find spots of prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman and Medieval date.

- 2.1.2 No Palaeolithic or Mesolithic evidence is known in the study area. One findspot of one Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age polished stone ‘mace’ is included in the GLSMR.
- 2.1.3 No Bronze Age sites are present within the study area, however, burial monuments from that period are common in the wider landscape.
- 2.1.4 The line of a prehistoric ‘ridgeway’, thought to be of a late the Iron Age or Romano-British date, is present *c.* 1km east of the Site and features settlement evidence and finds of that date along its route. One find spot of Iron Age pottery is also recorded *c.* 700m north of the Site.
- 2.1.5 Two Roman coins have been found within the study area, 40m north and 150m northwest of the Site.
- 2.1.6 The character, extent and location of Post-Roman/Saxon settlement in the area is almost completely unknown. There are no Saxon period sites within the study area.
- 2.1.7 Evidence of a medieval settlement - a well and earthworks (suggesting the presence of house platforms, field ditches and lynchets) were identified by the Croydon Natural History Society in the 1970s prior to the development of the New Addington Gold Course (adjacent to the Site to the northwest). During this time, the Site is likely to have been fields serving the settlement.
- 2.1.8 Cartographic evidence suggests that the Site was under agricultural use for most of the post-medieval and modern period.
- 2.1.9 In 1935, the Site was developed as a planned new settlement of a ‘Garden Village’. Following the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, the area was widely occupied by prefab housing. By the late 1950s the Site and wider surroundings had been developed as the New Addington Estate. The Community Centre and swimming baths were erected in 1961, followed by the Social Services Centre in 1971.
- 2.1.10 Aerial photographs, taken both prior to the development of the Site and after, identified five undated cropmark features; these include a small rectilinear enclosure, a rectilinear enclosure with ditches visible as extent earthworks, an irregular shaped enclosure with a further right-angled feature next to it, and a cropmark possibly evidencing quarrying. It was thought that all or some of the cropmarks features related to modern activities, such as service trenching, however an archaeological origin could, without further investigation, not be precluded.

## **2.2 Previous investigations**

- 2.2.1 Geotechnical investigations had recently been undertaken at the Site (Ground Engineering 2006). The borehole data confirmed the presence of the expected geological strata.

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

- 3.1.1 The generic aim of the evaluation was to elucidate the character, distribution, extent, importance and state of preservation of any archaeological and historic remains within the Site.
- 3.1.2 The specific aim of the evaluation was to investigate the origin and nature of cropmarks recorded from aerial photography.

### **4 METHODOLOGY**

#### **4.1 Project Design**

- 4.1.1 The methodology was laid out in full in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI, WA doc ref **65020.01**) produced by Wessex Archaeology and approved by the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS, hereafter ‘the Curator’) prior to the commencement of fieldwork, and will not be reiterated in detail here.

#### **4.2 Trial Trench Excavation**

- 4.2.1 The fieldwork was undertaken between the 29<sup>th</sup> of January and 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2007. Machine-excavation of five trial trenches of eight proposed trenches was undertaken (**Figure 1**). Each trial trench was excavated to the top of the natural geological horizon. **Trenches 3, 5, and 7** could not be excavated due to the presence of live services.
- 4.2.2 The position of the trenches had been targeted to investigate the origin and nature of cropmarks recorded from aerial photography. **Trenches 2, 3 and 5** were the most likely to intercept cropmarks documented from aerial photography in the south-eastern portion of the Site.
- 4.2.3 Topsoil and subsoil were removed by a rubber tracked 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket and under the constant supervision of a qualified professional archaeologist.

#### **4.3 Survey**

- 4.3.1 The trial trenches and the archaeological features were located on the ground using a GPS Leica 500.

### **5 RESULTS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 Modern overburden in all trenches consisted of a topsoil of a medium dark orangey brown silty loam with occasional sub-rounded medium-sized flint of between 0.18m to 0.69m thickness overlying a subsoil of mid orangey brown



clay with pebble-sized sub-angular flint of 0.9m to 0.34m thickness. In two trenches, **Trenches 1 and 4**, this overlay a further modern deposit of 0.17m to 0.26m depth, consisting of a mixed medium orange brown silty clay with a small percentage of sand within the matrix (**Figure 2**). In **Trench 1** this contained modern building materials. This deposit is likely to be the result of localised levelling of the site prior to landscaping. Natural geology was reached in the trench base between 0.55m and 0.8m and consisted across the Site of a reddish brown sandy clay with medium to large sub-angular flint.

- 5.1.2 Summaries of all trenches are included in **Appendix 1**.
- 5.1.3 **Trench 1** was located to the extreme south-east of the Site and was aligned approximately NE/SW. The trench measured 30m x 2m in plan and the maximum trench depth reached 0.91m below ground level (BGL). Towards the northern end of the trench two gullies were recorded (**Figure 3**). A probable terminus, **104**, emerged from the north-eastern trench section at right angles to it. Its base and sides were irregular and concave, with dimensions of 0.75m length, 0.80m width and c.0.18m depth. It contained a single fill, **105**, a light medium orangey brown silty clay with coarse components of moderate sub-angular flint. Gully **106** was aligned alongside the south-western trench section opposite possible terminus **104** for a length of approximately 4m. It terminated to the north with irregular but concave sides and base, and to the south turned at right angles into the south-western trench section. The feature was 0.93m wide and 0.20m deep. Single fill **107** was a light medium orangey brown silty clay, with inclusions of fine sand and sub-angular flint. No finds were recovered from either feature.
- 5.1.4 **Trench 2** was also located to the extreme south-west of the Site and was aligned NNE/SSW. The trench dimensions were 25m x 2m in plan; maximum trench depth reached 0.68m BGL. The northern end of the trench contained two ditches at right angles (**Figure 4**). Ditch **204** was approximately 2.1m long, 0.75m wide and 0.25m in depth with concave sides and a concave base, and crossed the trench in an east-west alignment. The single fill, **203**, was a mid brown silty clay with common sub-angular flint as coarse components. It cut across an earlier NW/SE aligned ditch, **206**, with concave shallow concave sides and concave base, visible for 1.4m length, and of 0.30m width and 0.1m depth. The single fill, **205**, was a mid brown silty clay with common sub-angular flint making up the coarse component. No finds were recovered from either feature.
- 5.1.5 **Trench 3** at the south west of the site remained unexcavated due to the presence of live services.
- 5.1.6 **Trench 4** was located at the centre of the Site and aligned approximately NE/SW. The trench dimension were 20m x 2m in plan; maximum trench depth was reached at 0.79m BLG. Modern truncation containing modern CBM including fragments of grey breeze block, was evident in the base of the trench at the south-western end of the trench. No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

- 5.1.7 **Trench 5** at the central west of the Site was not excavated due to the presence of live services.
- 5.1.8 **Trench 6** was situated at west of the Site. The trench measured 20m x 2m in plan; maximum depth reached was 0.72m BLG. No archaeological features were observed in this trench.
- 5.1.9 **Trench 7** to the north of the Site was not excavated due to the presence of live services
- 5.1.10 **Trench 8** was situated in the north-west of the Site. The trench measured 25m x 2m in plan; maximum trench depth reached was 0.88m BGL. Areas of modern disturbance were evident in the base of the trench which contained sherds of glass bottles, CBM and fragments of concrete.

## **5.2 Artefact Sampling**

- 5.2.1 All artefacts observed were of a demonstrably modern date and therefore not retained.

## **5.3 Environmental Sampling**

- 5.3.1 One sample was taken from ditch/gully **106** but was discarded in the post-excavation stage due to a lack of associated dating evidence.

## **5.4 Reinstatement**

- 5.4.1 Following the completion of the investigation, all trial trenches were fully reinstated, including re-turfing with new grass.

# **6 DISCUSSION**

- 6.1.1 The evaluation demonstrated the presence of modern deposits, and modern disturbances up to 0.8m depth BGL across the Site. The presence of modern made ground underlying the active subsoil suggests that prior to landscaping the Site, or parts of it, were stripped down to natural geology. At a minimum, this process would have caused disturbance/truncation of any archaeological remains present.
- 6.1.2 With the exception of modern material no features or stray finds were recorded in the north-west and centre of the Site. At its south-eastern extreme, in the area where aerial photography had indicated the potential presence of features of an unknown date, a total of four shallow ditches were recorded. Two of these, **104**, and **206** appear to share a NW-SE alignment, while **106** is aligned perpendicular to this. In **Trench 2**, a later ditch, **204**, in approximate east-west alignment cut across **206**, demonstrating that more than one phase of activity is present.
- 6.1.3 None of the features produced dating evidence. All feature fills had similar characteristics, suggesting that they may be broadly contemporary, and

showed similarities with the local soils, possibly indicating a recent date. No finds other than of a modern date were recovered from the soil overburden.

## **7 CONCLUSION**

7.1.1 The evaluation confirmed the presence of linear features in the south-eastern portion of the Site, as indicated by aerial photography, however produced no evidence for their date or function. The nature of the feature fills suggests them to be potentially of a fairly recent date, however no modern materials were retrieved from them to confirm this assumption. No stray artefacts indicative of archaeological activity nearby were recovered.

7.1.2 Modern disturbance and evidence of remodelling/landscaping is present across the Site to a depth of 0.8m BGL, suggesting that it has been subject to wholesale stripping in the recent past.

## **8 ARCHIVE**

8.1.1 The project archive is fully cross-referenced and stable and currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the MOL site code **CNX07**. It is envisaged that it will be deposited with an appropriate museum at a future date.

## **9 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

CgMs Consulting 2006a. *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment, Central Parade, New Addington, Croydon.*

CgMs Consulting 2006b. *Specification for an Archaeological Field Evaluation, Central Parade, New Addington, Croydon*

Wessex Archaeology 2006. *Central Parade, New Addington, Croydon. Written Scheme of investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Evaluation* WA doc ref **65020.01**

## APPENDIX 1

### Context Tables

#### Trench 1

<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
30m	1.90m	0.91m
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
100	Topsoil- medium-dark orange brown silt loam. Contains bioturbation from vegetation above. Contains approx 10% sub-rounded flint inclusions 5-20mm in diameter.	0-0.18m
101	Upper Subsoil- medium orange brown, clay 10%, silt 90%. Contains bioturbation. Contains approx 10-20% sub-angular and sub-rounded flint 5-50mm in diameter.	0.18-0.29m
102	Lower Subsoil- light-medium orange brown clay 35%. Silt 60%. (Sand 5% inclusions). 5% chalk inclusions measuring approx 10-50mm. Modern CBM.	0.29-0.55m
103	Natural- Medium red brown sand clay (glacial drift). Common flint inclusions measuring 100-200mm	0.55+
[104]	Terminus of a ditch. Orientation NW-SW. The cut is irregular. The break of slope from the top is approx 50% to the horizontal. No Finds. No sample taken.	0.18m
105	This is the secondary fill of ditch [104]. It is the only fill. No finds. No evidence of human intervention. No sample taken	0.18m
106	The break of slope at the top of the cut is approx 45% from the horizontal. The linear forms an 'L' type shape. The linear represents a ditch where more flint accumulated towards the NE end. No dating evidence.	0.20m
107	Fill of ditch [106]. Secondary deposition. Bioturbation from modern root systems. No finds. Sample taken.	0.20m

## Trench 2

<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
24.2m	2m	0.68
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
200	Topsoil- dark brown silty clay loam. Chert/flint inclusions <30mm diameter, 15% moderate, sub-angular	0-0.36m
201	Subsoil- mid brown silty clay loam. Chert/flint inclusions <40mm diameter 15% moderate, sub-angular.	0.36-0.70m
202	Natural layer- reddish-yellow silty clay deposit. Mottled. Flint <65mm diameter, 30% common, sub-angular.	0.70m+
203	Fill of gully/ditch. No archaeological components. No sample taken.	0.93m
204	Cut of gully/ditch. No archaeological components. Possibly related to [106].	0.93m
205	Fill of small gully leading into [204]. No archaeological components. Possibly related to [106].	0.80m
206	Cut of small gully leading into [204]. No archaeological components. Possibly related to [106].	0.80m

## Trench 4

<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
19.30m	2m	0.79m
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
400	Topsoil- medium orange brown, silt loam. Contains bioturbation.	0-0.23m
401	Modern layer- light medium orange brown silt 20% clay 80%. Contains fine sand particles. There is a common deposition of modern rubble, CBM. This layer has a diffuse interface with topsoil above (400). There is a 10-20% sub-angular flint inclusion measuring 10-50mm.	0.23-0.32m
402	Upper-subsoil- dark grey brown silt clay containing fine sand particles. <5% sub-angular flint measuring 10-100mm. 1-2% modern CBM.	0.32-0.61m
403	Lower subsoil- medium orange brown silt clay. Contains fine sand particles 1-5% sub-angular flint measuring 10-50mm.	0.61-0.78m
404	Natural light-medium orange brown, sand clay (glacial drift) contains common sub-angular flint measuring 10-200mm.	0.78m
405	Cut of modern truncation. Flat surface towards SW, forming a modern straight edged ditch.	

406	Fill of [405]- medium orange brown clay silt containing fine sand particles and sparse modern CBM, including grey breeze block.	
-----	---	--

### Trench 6

<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
19.10m	2m	0.72
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
600	Topsoil- dark brown silty clay loam. Flint/chert inclusions <20mm diameter, 3% sparse, sub-angular. Masonry 1-3% rare.	0-0.39m
601	Subsoil- mid brown silty clay loam. Flint/chert inclusions <40mm 3% sparse, sub-angular.	0.39m-0.72m
602	Natural layer- reddish-yellow deposited clay. Slightly mottled. Flint inclusions <80mm diameter, 10% common, sub-angular.	0.72+

### Trench 8

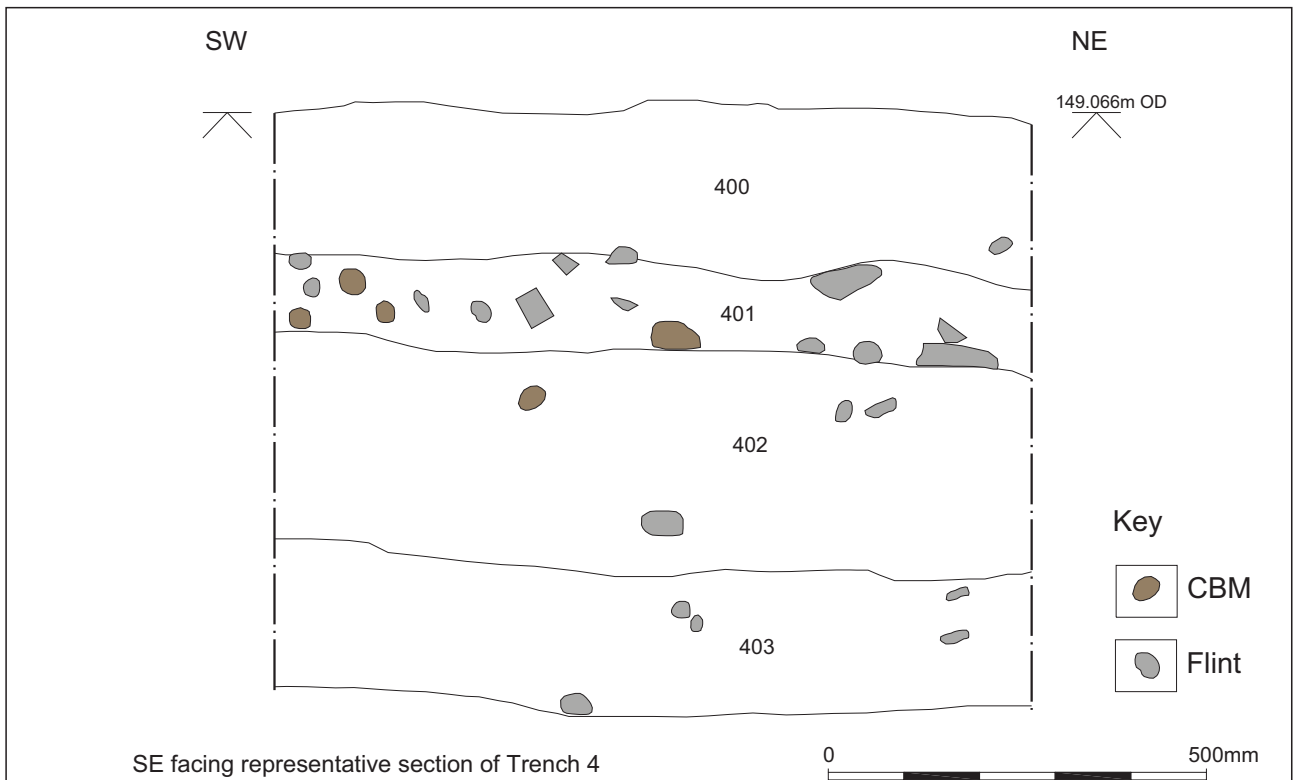
<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
23.60m	1.90m	<b>0.88m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>
800	Topsoil- dark brown silty clay loam. Chert/flint inclusions <20mm diameter, sub-angular, 3-5% sparse. Contains modern building debris, likely to have been deposited from adjacent 1950's housing block during construction.	0-0.69m
801	Subsoil- mid brown silty clay loam. Chert/flint inclusions <35mm diameter sub-angular, 3-5% sparse. Some modern disturbance and building debris.	0.69-0.80m
802	Natural layer- reddish yellow silty clay. Chert/flint <45mm diameter, sub-angular, 10% moderate. Areas of modern disturbance- CBM, concrete, and 1950's glass bottles.	0.80m+




	Reproduced from the 1998 Ordnance Survey (1:50 000) Landranger® map with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright, Wessex Archaeology, Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire. SP4 6EB. Licence Number: 100028190. Digital data reproduced from Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright 2007. All rights reserved. Reference Number: 100020449. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	07/02/09	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	1:1250	Illustrator:	WAF
	Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\65020\Drawing Office\Report Figures (y-m)\Eval\07_02_09\65020_Eval.dwg		

Site and trench location

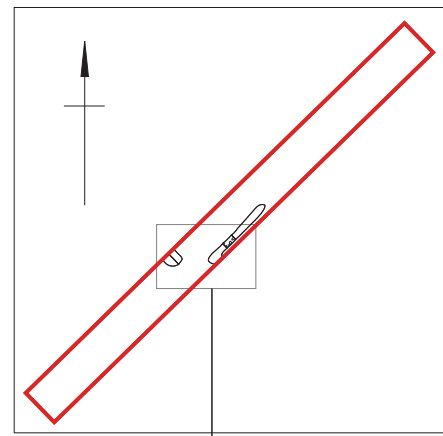
Figure 1



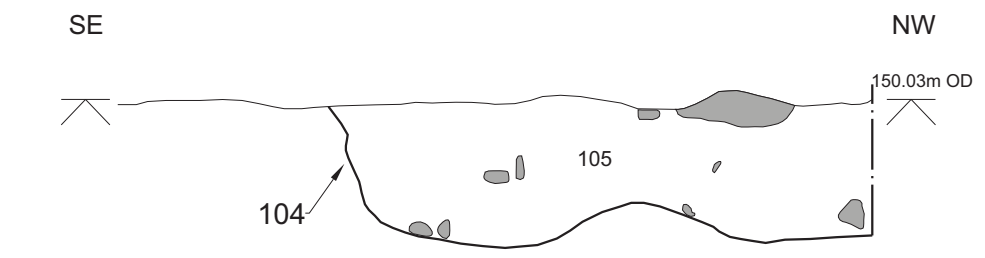
Photograph of SE facing section of trench 4

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	07/02/09	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	1:10 @ A4	Illustrator:	WAF/GDO
	Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\65020\Drawing Office\Report Figures (y-m)\Eval\07_02_09\65020_Eval.dwg		

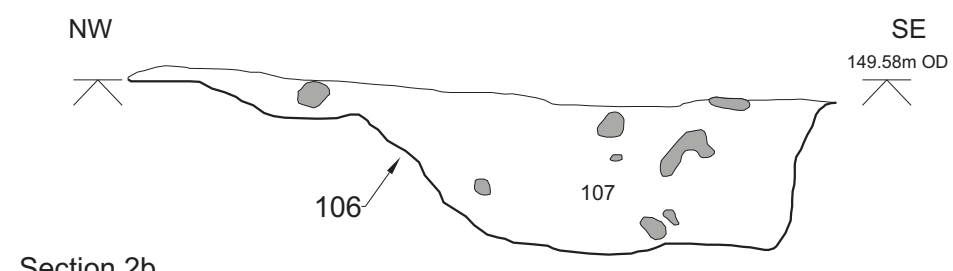
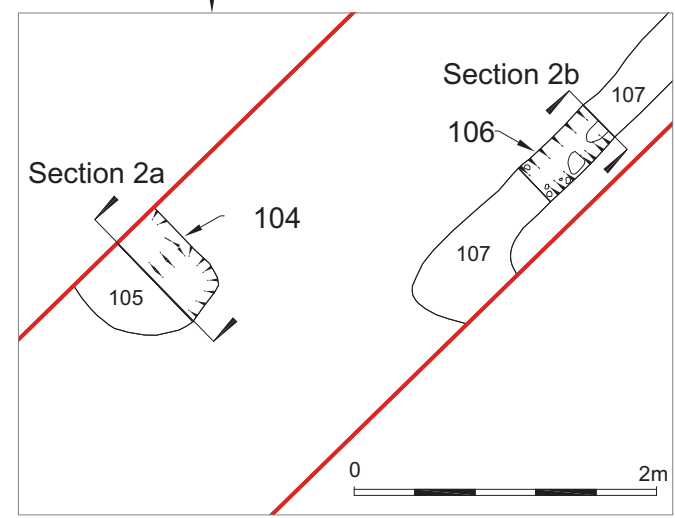




Trench 1



Section 2a



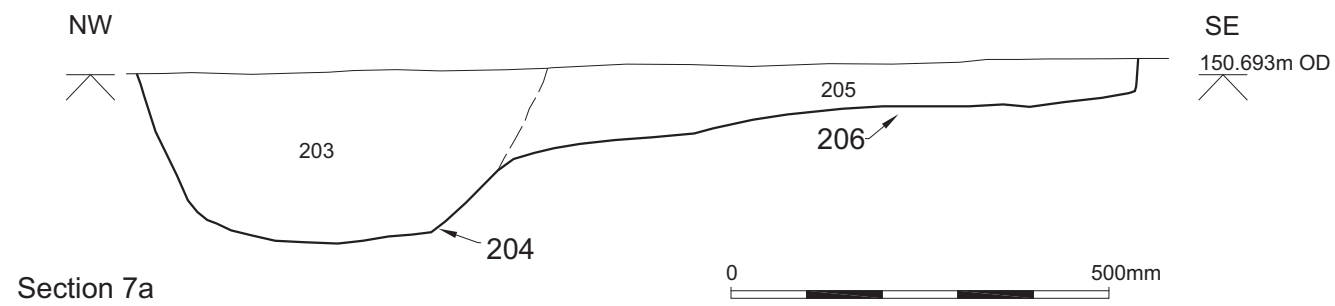
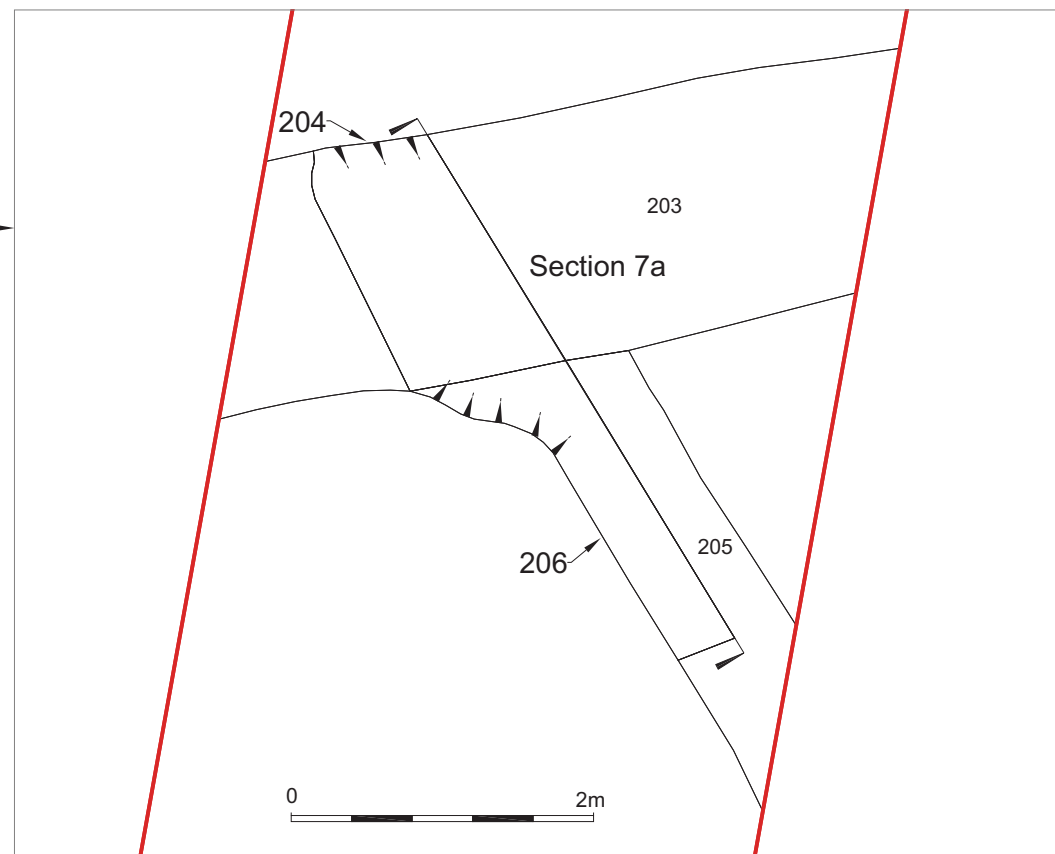
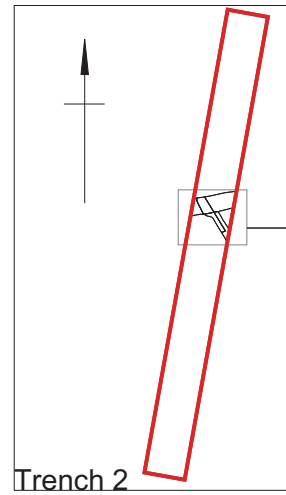
Section 2b



Date:	07/02/09	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:50 & 1:10 @ A3	Illustrator:	GDO
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\65020\Drawing Office\Report Figures (y-m)\Eval\07_02_09\65020_Eval.dwg		

Plan of Trench 1 and sections of ditches 104 and 106

Figure 3





**WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED.**

**Head Office:** Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.

Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 [info@wessexarch.co.uk](mailto:info@wessexarch.co.uk) [www.wessexarch.co.uk](http://www.wessexarch.co.uk)

**London Office:** Unit 113, The Chandlery, 50 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7QY.

Tel: 020 7953 7494 Fax: 020 7953 7499 [london-info@wessexarch.co.uk](mailto:london-info@wessexarch.co.uk) [www.wessexarch.co.uk](http://www.wessexarch.co.uk)

