



# Land off The Street Bramley, Hampshire

Archaeological Excavation Report



Planning Ref: 15/02682/OUT & 18/00366/RES  
Accession Number: A2018.56  
Document Ref.: 211000.03  
June 2019



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## Document Information

Document title	Land off the Street, Bramley, Hampshire
Document subtitle	Archaeological Excavation Report
Document reference	211000.03
Consultant	CgMs
Address	Burlington House Lypiatt Road Cheltenham GL50 2SY
On behalf of the client	Taylor Wimpey West London
Address	Form 1, 17 Bartley Wood Business Park Bartley Way Hook Hampshire RG27 9XA
Site location	The Street, Bramley, RG26 5DD
County	Hampshire
National grid reference	464795 158915 (SU 64795 58915)
Statutory designations	None
Planning authority	Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
Planning reference	15/02682/OUT
Museum name	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Museum accession code	A2018.56
WA project name	Land off The Street, Bramley, Hampshire
WA project code	211000
Dates of fieldwork	20 – 21 August 2018
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## Quality Assurance

Issue number & date	Status	Author	Approved by
1 21.09.18	Internal Draft	RAD	DDR
2 21.09.18	External Draft to client	RAD	DDR
3 27.09.18	External Draft following client comment	DDR	Nick Cooke - CgMs
4 07.06.19	Updated External draft following comment from HCC County Archaeologist	DDR/LNM	Nick Cooke - CgMs
5 12.06.19	Final	DDR	David Hopkins – HCC CA





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## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of Taylor Wimpey Homes West London to carry out an archaeological investigation of a 10 x 10 m area at Land off the Street, Bramley, Hampshire, centred on National Grid Reference 464795 158915.

The investigation focused on a Late Bronze Age - Early Iron Age pit found in a previous evaluation. The strip, map and sample was successful in locating and revealing the full extents of the pit and a further shallow pit or scoop which contained pottery of a similar Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age date. A total of 89 sherds of pottery were recovered from the larger pit, taking the total number recovered in conjunction with the evaluation to 212 sherds. This pit has been subjected to 100% excavation. The smaller pit or scoop contained three sherds of pottery and two pieces of burnt flint. Environmental samples were retrieved from both pits but these did not contain any remains of significance.

Assessment of the full pottery assemblage from the strip, map and sample investigation and evaluation suggests a date range between the 9th and 7th centuries BC based on the occurrence of one Early All Cannings Cross-style decorated jar, and decorative treatments on rims and shoulders, which belong to the later, 'decorated phase' of the post-Deverel-Rimbury tradition

Environmental samples were retrieved from both pits but these did not contain any remains of significance, which may have helped to inform the nature of activity being undertaken at the site .

No further archaeological features were identified within in the excavation area to inform the nature of the activity being undertaken at the site and possibly suggesting that if further archaeology survives it may be located to the northwest, outside of the development site. Extension of the area to the north was constrained by the presence of buried high voltage cables along with site boundary.

The strip, map and sample was carried out over two days 20th – 21st August 2018.

## Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank CgMs, for commissioning the archaeological investigation, and Nick Cooke. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful to Neil Adam, Senior Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council, who monitored the project on behalf of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

The fieldwork was directed by Rachel Williams. This report was compiled by Rachel Williams and edited by Damian De Rosa. The project was managed by Damian De Rosa on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.



# Land off the Street, Bramley, Hampshire

## Archaeological Excavation Report

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of Taylor Wimpey West London (the client), to carry out a programme of archaeological excavation within a parcel of development land located in the village of Bramley, Hampshire, RG26 5DD. The area of land is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 464795 158915 (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 Following consultation with David Hopkins (Hampshire County Archaeologist), the archaeological advisor to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, the local planning authority (LPA) an archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the site in 2018 (TVAS 2018) in relation to the outline planning application (15/02682/OUT) approved by the LPA in accordance with condition 24 which stated:

*Prior to the commencement of development an archaeological investigation shall be carried out in accordance with a specification submitted to and approved by in writing the Local Planning Authority, the results of which will inform a Written Scheme of Investigation and Mitigation Statement also to be submitted to and approved by in writing the Local Planning Authority. The investigation and mitigation works shall be carried out in accordance with the details so approved, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

1.1.3 The evaluation produced, among others, prehistoric struck flints and medieval and later pottery. The main feature of interest was a pit in the north-east corner of the site which produced a large quantity of Early Iron Age pottery (TVAS 2018).

1.1.4 Following consultation with David Hopkins, the archaeological advisor to the LPA, and in order to further address condition 24 it was agreed that a strip of a 10 m x 10 m trench focussed on the Early Iron Age pit and to map and record any archaeology should be undertaken. It was agreed that should additional archaeological features be found in this area, the trench would be expanded to incorporate them. This expanded area would cease where a 10m blank area has been identified between archaeological features and the trench edge, but would not exceed 900m sq.

1.1.5 The investigation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed (Wessex Archaeology 2018 a). David Hopkins, approved the WSI, acting as archaeological advisor on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.6 The fieldwork was undertaken between 20th and 21st August 2018. Based on the evidence revealed the archaeological advisor at a site monitoring meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2018 did not require for the trench to be expanded beyond the 10 m x 10 m area on three sides of the area to the west east and south. The possibility to expand the area to the north was constrained due to the presence of buried high voltage electricity cables, and immediately beyond which lay the site boundary. It was therefore not possible to expand the area any



further to determine if more archaeological features were present to further inform these results.

## **1.2 Scope of document**

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the archaeological strip, map and sample, to interpret the results within their local or regional context (or otherwise), and to assess their potential to address the aims outlined in the WSI, thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

## **1.3 Location, topography and geology**

- 1.3.1 The development area covers an area of approximately 3.2 hectares and is located on the south western margins of modern Bramley at the junction of The Street and Cufaude Lane and is centred on NGR 464772 158820 (**Figure 1**). To the east is the former site of Bramley Ordnance Depot, a former WWI ammunition depot which, now serves as a training facility.
- 1.3.2 The site lies on or near level ground at a height of 69 m above Ordnance Datum.
- 1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as Bagshot Beds (British Geological Survey online viewer).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in a prior Heritage Statement undertaken on the site (Walker 2015), which considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 1 km study area of the proposed development. A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the Hampshire Historic Environment Record (HER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

### **2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development**

#### *Heritage Statement (2015)*

- 2.2.1 The Heritage Statement (Walker 2015) examined readily available resources and concluded that the site does not contain any statutorily designated historic environment assets. There are a number of listed buildings and unlisted, but locally significant buildings within the 1km search area and most of these are situated in the historic core of Bramley. At the time of the Heritage Statement there were no documented HER records either within or directly adjacent to the site and no previous archaeological investigation had been undertaken within the site itself. A site walkover found no evidence for upstanding archaeological remain.

#### *Archaeological Evaluation (2018)*

- 2.2.2 An archaeological evaluation consisting of seventeen machine excavated trenches was undertaken in June 2018 (TVAS 2018). This evaluation summarised its findings as follows: "The evaluation revealed few deposits of archaeological interest. The main feature of interest was an Early Iron Age pit in the north-east corner of the site from which 176 sherds of pottery were recovered. Elsewhere, a post-medieval gully was recorded and several trenches produced prehistoric struck flints (including a Mesolithic piece) and medieval and later pottery. The remainder of the site is considered to have no archaeological potential". In total archaeological work resulted in the recovery of 221 sherds of pottery including



material of predominately Early Iron Age date, along with lesser amounts of Roman, medieval and post-medieval date.

## 2.3 Archaeological and historical context

### *Earlier prehistoric*

- 2.3.1 Several pieces of worked flint were found during fieldwalking in the Lodden Valley (HER 36219). Several unstratified flints were also found during the electricity cable watching brief, c700m to the north-west of the site (HER 60067). The recent field evaluation also recovered a quantity of struck flint from the trenches (TVAS 2018). Among these was a single Mesolithic piece.

### *Iron Age/Roman*

- 2.3.2 There is extensive evidence of Iron Age and subsequent Roman settlement and activity in the wider area. Bulls Down Iron Age hillfort lies 2.1km to the south-east (Scheduled Monument 100194). Some 3.5km to the north is Silchester, which during the Late Iron Age was the centre of the Kingdom of the Atrebates, developing into a significant Roman town known as Calleva Atrebatum after the conquest. There are various references to Iron Age and Roman finds and cropmark sites between the northern edge of Bramley Frith Wood, c. 1 km to the north of the site, and Calleva.
- 2.3.3 The recent evaluation identified an Early Iron Age pit containing 176 sherds of pottery in the north of the site, which could potentially be an indication of potential settlement or industrial activity being undertaken within the site and its wider vicinity. A lesser amount of Roman pottery recovered indicates a general background of activity dating to this period being present within the site.

### *Medieval*

- 2.3.4 Bramley has its origins in the Saxon period and during the reign of Edward the Confessor was held by Alvic. A church mentioned at Domesday was probably constructed during the later Saxon period. The Domesday Book indicates that Bramley was a fairly significant settlement by the mid-11th century, with a church, two mills and fairly extensive woodland. Licence to enclose wood at Bramley was granted to Robert St John in 1245, marking the formation of Bramley Park, which today is thought to be Bramley Frith Wood.
- 2.3.5 The proposed development site lay outside the core of the medieval settlement of Bramley and it is likely that it was part of the open fields of the parish during the medieval period and therefore did not support any settlement.

### *Post-medieval/modern*

- 2.3.6 The earliest maps of the area include the 1575 map Hampshire by Saxton and the 1759 county map by Taylor. Beaurepaire Park is shown to west of Bramley on the 1575 map and Pamber Forest to the west of that. The layout of the roads on the 1759 map around the village are slightly different during this period, with the road to the village from the west coming straight up to the Manor House on Vyne Road. The Street curved northwards to the church before turning sharply to the south. Although the VCH records that in the first half of the 19th century new roads were made in the parish, farms were consolidated and hedgerows grubbed up, map evidence seems to suggest that some roads went out of use.
- 2.3.7 Bramley Ordnance Depot, later known as Bramley Central Ammunition Depot opened on the large areas of scrub land in north Hampshire in 1917 for the manufacture and storage of ammunition. In 1922 the Royal Army Ordnance Corps School of Ammunition is established. In 1974 the School of Ammunition moves to Kineton and by 1987 the British

Army leaves the ammunition depot and the US Army takes over. In 1987 the US Army leaves and the area is called Bramley Training Area and subsequently used for a variety of purposes including the filming of TV shows (Wikipedia.org/Bramley training area).

- 2.3.8 The ammunition depot was defended during the threat of invasion in the early part of World War Two by a ring of pillboxes. The Defence of Britain project lists many of these defensive features, and one pillbox within the site, which has been reported on by Wessex Archaeology (WA 2018b) in regard of the development of the site under planning reference 18/00366/RES (pursuant to 15/02682/OUT), is listed on the Defence of Britain site as S0010965 (Type FW3/26). It is shown as outside the camp and further to the west.

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 General aims**

3.1.1 The general aims (or purpose) of the strip map and record, in compliance with the ClfA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological field excavation* (ClfA 2014b), were:

- To examine the archaeological resource within the site
- To seek a better understanding of and compile a lasting record of that resource, to analyse and interpret the results, and disseminate them

#### **3.2 General objectives**

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the excavation were:

- To determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- To establish, within the constraints of the excavation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- To place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- To make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

#### **3.3 Site-specific objectives**

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework, the site-specific objectives of the investigation were:

- To examine the survival and extent of the Early Iron Age archaeology. Are the remains identified in the previous evaluation an isolated event or is there more extensive archaeology dating to this period present within the site?

### **4 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY**

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018a) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

## 4.2 Fieldwork methods

### *General*

- 4.2.1 The watching archaeologist monitored all mechanical excavations. Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on Site and not retained.

### *Recording*

- 4.2.2 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.
- 4.2.3 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.4 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

## 4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

## 4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The Senior Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council, acting as the archaeological advisor on behalf of the LPA, monitored the excavation.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The following sections provide a summary of the results of the archaeological excavation. The results should be read in conjunction with the results of the prior archaeological evaluation (TVAS 2018) and the trench summary (**Appendix 1**).

### 5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The stratigraphic sequence for the site consisted of a turf covered friable light brown/grey sandy clay 0.25 m thick with very rare sub rounded and sub angular gravels, this had a diffuse horizon with the moderately compacted light grey with orange hue subsoil, which

contained rare sub angular and subrounded fine gravels, rare flecks of charcoal, rare ceramic building material (CBM) and burnt flint. An irregular horizon separated the subsoil from the compacted, orange brown sandy clay which contained small patches of coarse gravels (**Plate 1**).

### 5.3 Archaeological features

- 5.3.1 Two pits were recorded during the excavation (**Figure 1**). Pit **1804** was the same pit partially uncovered during the TVAS evaluation in Trench 17 and recorded as Pit 2. The excavation uncovered the full extent of this oval Pit (0.87 x 0.74 x 0.14 m) which had steep straight sides and an undulating base (**Figure 2 section** and **Plate 2**). The pit contained a single fill (1805) from which 86 sherds of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery were recovered. The detail of the material is set out below in Section 6.
- 5.3.2 The second Pit **1806** (**Figure 2 section** and **Plate 3**) was a very shallow sub circular feature (0.67 x 0.56 x 0.05 m) with straight moderate sides and a flat base. This may have been a shallow scoop in the natural or truncated pit. The pit contained a single fill (1807) from which 3 sherds of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery were recovered. The detail of the material is set out below in Section 6.
- 5.3.3 Environmental samples were retrieved from both pits but these did not contain any remains of significance. The details are set out below in Section 7.

## 6 FINDS

- 6.1.1 Finds were recovered from two contexts; most came from 1805 (fill of pit 1804), with a few from 1807 (fill of pit 1806). These consist almost entirely of pottery, with two pieces of burnt, unworked flint. Quantities by context are given in Table 1 along with the pottery recovered during the evaluation. Pit 1804 had been previously excavated during the TVAS evaluation as pit 2 (WA pit 1804) with pottery recovered from fill 51 equating to WA context 1805.

**Table 1** All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	Burnt Flint	Pottery
1805		86/508
1807	2/73	3/14
<b>Total</b>	<b>2/73</b>	<b>89/522</b>
Fill 51 (Pit 2- TVAS) (WA fill 1805)		123/475
<b>Overall total</b>		<b>212/997</b>

### 6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 The small pottery assemblage amounts to 89 sherds weighing 522 g, of which 86 were recovered from the secondary fill of pit 1804 (fill 1805). The other three sherds came from the secondary fill of pit 1806 (fill 1807). Pit 1804 had been previously excavated during the TVAS evaluation as pit 2, which also produced pottery, and this has been re-examined for the purposes of this report (but not the remainder of the TVAS assemblage). Pit 2 (fill 51) produced a further 123 sherds (weighing 475 g). Note that there is some discrepancy between the quantification presented here, and that given in the TVAS evaluation report – this is because the latter report counted conjoining sherds with new breaks as single sherds (the current report counts them separately), and also there were a number of tiny, indeterminate crumbs amongst the TVAS assemblage which have not been included here.

6.2.2 The whole assemblage is of late prehistoric date. The condition is fair to poor. It is extremely fragmentary, and there is a relatively high level of surface and edge abrasion, although a few new breaks were also noted. Mean sherd weight overall is 4.7 g. While it appears, from a visual examination, that the assemblage includes some same-vessel sherd groups, only a very few conjoining sherds were noted (and these only amongst the diagnostic pieces). Likewise, no conjoins were found between the TVAS pit 2 and WA pit 1804 groups, despite the similarity in diagnostic sherds between the two suggesting that some belong to the same vessel(s). Indeed, it would be surprising if the two groups did not include some cross-context same-vessel sherd groups.

6.2.3 For the sake of clarity, pit 1804 will be referred to here under that number alone, although the discussions of the pit assemblage below do include the material from TVAS pit 2.

#### *Methods*

6.2.4 The assemblage has been subjected to full fabric and form analysis, following the standard Wessex Archaeology system for the recording of pottery (Morris 1994), which accords with nationally recommended standards for a detailed analytical record (Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group et al 2016, section 2.4.6). Fabrics have been defined and coded on the basis of dominant inclusion type. Given the very fragmentary condition of the assemblage, and the small number of diagnostic sherds, overall vessel forms have been impossible to determine, although some assumptions have been made on the basis of what is present. Rim EVEs (Estimated Vessel Equivalents) were not calculated, as no rim sherds were sufficiently large to enable the determination of rim diameter. Detailed pottery records form part of the project archive.

#### *Description of the assemblage*

6.2.5 With the exception of two sherds, all of the pottery is in fabrics containing flint inclusions, ranging from heavily flint-tempered examples to those containing sparse and possibly incidental inclusions. The majority of these are likely to represent variations on a spectrum rather than series of discrete types, and these have been grouped as a single type (FL2); a second fabric type (FL1) was visually quite distinct. These definitions follow those used for the TVAS assemblage:

FL1: Fine sandy clay matrix containing common, poorly-sorted, subangular calcined flint <5mm; rare iron oxides (6 sherds, 90 g).

FL2: Fine sandy clay matrix containing rare to sparse, poorly-sorted, subangular calcined flint (204 sherds, 900 g).

6.2.6 Diagnostic sherds, which were confined to pit 1804, include the rim and shoulder of a jar with upright, slightly externally thickened rim and zoned stabbed decoration in Early All Cannings Cross style on the neck and shoulder (**Fig. 2, 1**), the rim from a weakly-shouldered vessel with simple upright rim, both rim and shoulder bearing a row of short upright incisions, though that on the rim is largely obscured by surface concretion (**Fig. 2, 2**), and the rim from a biconical jar or bowl with inturned, thickened rim (**Fig. 2, 3**). There are nine other rims which cannot be definitively assigned to specific vessel forms, three externally thickened and six with simple rounded profiles, but which are also likely to belong to shouldered vessels. Seven of these have short vertical or oblique incisions (some may be fingernail impressions) on the rim (**Fig. 2, 4**), and there are 14 sherds (two pairs of conjoining sherds) from shoulders with similar upright or vertical incisions.

6.2.7 Two sherds are in different fabrics. One, from pit 1804, contains irregular voids, possibly representing leached-out calcareous inclusions. The second, from pit 1806, is a medium-



grained sandy ware. There is no reason to suspect that these sherds are anything other than contemporaneous with the rest of the assemblage.

- 6.2.8 The fabrics, vessel forms and decorative treatments are sufficient to place this small assemblage within the post-Deverel-Rimbury ceramic tradition of southern England, with a currency through the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age. In this instance, the overwhelming predominance of flint-tempered fabrics with only one sherd of sandy ware suggests a date earlier within that range, in the plainware tradition of the Late Bronze Age. There are parallels, for example, amongst the assemblages from Aldermaston Wharf and Knight's Farm 1, Berkshire, which are dated conservatively to the 11th–10th centuries BC (Bradley et al 1980).
- 6.2.9 There are other traits, however, which probably place this assemblage slightly later. At Green Park (Reading Business Park), the absence of shouldered vessels, such as appear here, was taken as an indication of an earlier date, perhaps 11th to 10th century BC (Morris 2004, 67). The occurrence of one Early All Cannings Cross-style decorated jar from the evaluation, and decorative treatments on rims and shoulders, used by Barrett as part of his definition for the later, 'decorated phase' of the post-Deverel-Rimbury tradition (Barrett 1980, fig. 6), would also support a later date. A date range between the 9th and 7th centuries BC could therefore be suggested for this small assemblage.

### 6.3 Burnt Flint

- 6.3.1 Two pieces of burnt, unworked flint were found in pit 1806. This material type is intrinsically undatable, although often taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity. Here, the association with Late Bronze Age pottery appears to support this dating.

## 7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

### 7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 Two bulk sediment samples were taken from pits of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age chronology of a total of 25 litres and were processed and assessed for the presence of environmental evidence.

### 7.2 Aims and Methods

- 7.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to determine the potential of the environmental remains preserved at the site to address project aims and to provide archaeobotanical data valuable for wider research frameworks.
- 7.2.2 The size of the samples on average was around 12.5 litres. The bulk sediment samples were processed by standard flotation methods on a Syraf-type flotation tank; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots and the finer residue fractions (5.6/1mm) were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy (Leica MS5 microscope) at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of environmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (e.g. *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as earthworm eggs and insects, which would not be preserved unless anoxic conditions prevailed on site. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains was recorded, but there was no identification for the presence of any other environmental remains such as molluscs, animal bone and insects (in cases of anoxic conditions for their preservation).



- 7.2.3 Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals. Abundance of remains is qualitatively quantified (A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5) as an estimation of the minimum number of individuals and not the number of remains per taxa.

### **7.3 Results**

- 7.3.1 The flots were generally small (Table 2) and there were high numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred plant remains were rare and poorly preserved, comprising a wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grain and a wheat grain fragment, in addition to a small amount of mature wood charcoal fragments, mostly iron coated.
- 7.3.2 No other environmental remains such as molluscs, animal bone and insects were identified.

### **7.4 Discussion**

- 7.4.1 The assemblages of charred plant remains and charcoal are of little significance.

### **7.5 Further potential**

- 7.5.1 The assemblages recovered have little potential and require no further analysis.

## **8 CONCLUSIONS**

### **8.1 Summary**

- 8.1.1 The excavation demonstrated that the pit and possible pit identified by the previous phase of evaluation along with the possible pit located in this phase of works appear to be an isolated cluster of features in the northern corner of the Site.
- 8.1.2 Pit 1804 is the same feature as that recorded by TVAS as Pit 2. This Pit has yielded 209 sherds of pottery with at least two different fabric types. The two environmental samples recovered from the pit have yielded very little further information.
- 8.1.3 Shallow pit 1806 appears to be similar to a small possible pit identified by TVAS, in that they are very shallow scoops containing small quantities of archaeological material. It is possible that these features are the result of residual material being pushed in to the malleable sandy clay natural during wet weather.
- 8.1.4 Assessment of the pottery assemblage recovered during both the evaluation and excavation dates the features within the post-Deverel-Rimbury ceramic tradition of southern England, with a currency through the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age. Within this the assessment of the assemblage concludes that a date range between the 9th and 7th centuries BC can be suggested based on one Early All Cannings Cross-style decorated jar, and decorative treatments on rims and shoulders.
- 8.1.5 From the limited archaeological features recorded during the evaluation and strip, map sample it is likely that there may be a possible focus of Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age activity located to the northeast of the current Site, and given the quantity of material recovered it would seem unlikely that these features are isolated events. Given the limited scope of the investigation, and the lack of significant or good environmental evidence to

inform the results, it is not possible to determine what the nature of any such activity may have been.

## **9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION**

### **9.1 Museum**

9.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. The Hampshire Cultural Trust has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code **A2018.56**. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

### **9.2 Preparation of the archive**

9.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Hampshire Cultural Trust, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

9.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the **site/accession code**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 1 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type;
- 1 files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics;

### **9.3 Selection policy**

9.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, and any specific guidance prepared by the museum, a process of selection and retention will be followed so that only those artefacts or ecofacts that are considered to have potential for future study will be retained. The selection policy will be agreed with the museum and is fully documented in the project archive.

### **9.4 Security copy**

9.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

### **9.5 OASIS**

9.5.1 An OASIS online record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated, with key fields and a .pdf version of the final report submitted. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service ArchSearch catalogue.



## **9.6 Publication**

- 9.6.1 Within one year of the published date of the final approved copy of this document a summary of the results will be submitted to and published in the yearly round up of archaeological events of *Hampshire Studies: Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society*.

## **10 COPYRIGHT**

### **10.1 Archive and report copyright**

- 10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- 10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

### **10.2 Third party data copyright**

- 10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.



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Wessex Archaeology 2018b *Land off The Street, Bramley, Hampshire. Historic Building Record*  
Unpublished client report ref 211000.04



## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 Trench summary

NGR coordinates and OD heights taken at centre of the area; depth bgl = below ground level

<b>Area 18</b>	<b>10 m x 10 m</b>		<b>NGR 464793 158914</b>	<b>69.5 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
1801	Topsoil		Light brown -grey sandy clay with very rare subrounded and subangular gravels. Rare CBM. Friable, loose topsoil with a diffuse horizon with 1802.	0.00 – 0.25
1802	Subsoil		Light grey with orange hues sandy clay. Rare subangular and subrounded fine gravels. Rare CBM and charcoal, patches of burnt flint. Moderately compacted with a distinct, undulating horizon with 1803.	0.25 – 0.35
1803	Natural		Mid orange brown with grey hues sandy clay, rare patches of gravel.	0.35 +
1804	Cut		Pit. Oval shaped pit with steep straight sides and an undulating base. 0.87 x 0.74 x 0.14 m. 0.37 m of the length had been fully excavated in the previous evaluation. Contained a single fill 1804.	0.35 – 0.49
1805	Secondary Fill	1804	Light grey brown sandy clay with rare subangular and sub rounded medium gravels. Most of the pottery was located around the base and edges.	0.35 – 0.49
1806	Cut		Pit. Circular pit with straight moderate sides and a flat base 0.67 x 0.56 x 0.05 m. Contained a single fill 1807.	0.35 – 0.40
1807	Secondary Fill	1806	Mid grey sandy clay with rare medium gravels. Contained pottery and burnt flint.	0.35 – 0.40



## Appendix 2 Environmental Data

**Table 2** Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Comments (Preservation)
1804	1805	1	15	40	80%, A, E, I, F	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp.	-	-	5	Mature, some iron coating	-	Poor
1806	1807	2	10	20	80%, A, E, I, F	-	-	-	-	-	2	Mature, some iron coating	-	

Key: A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5; Bioturbation proxies: Roots (%), Uncharred seeds (scale of abundance), F = mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia, E = earthworm eggs, I = insects.



## Appendix 3 OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: wessexar1-328952**

### Project details

Project name Land off the Street, Bramley, Hampshire

Short description of the project Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological investigation of a 10 x 10 m area at Land off the Street, Bramley, Hampshire, centred on National Grid Reference 464795 158915.

The investigation focused on a Late Bronze Age - Early Iron Age pit found in a previous evaluation. The strip, map and sample was successful in locating and revealing the full extents of the pit and a further shallow pit or scoop which contained pottery of a similar Late Bronze Age - Early Iron Age date. A total of 89 sherds of pottery were recovered from the larger pit, taking the total number recovered in conjunction with the evaluation to 212 sherds. This pit has been subjected to 100% excavation. The smaller pit or scoop contained three sherds of pottery and two pieces of burnt flint. Environmental samples were retrieved from both pits but these did not contain any remains of significance.

Assessment of the full pottery assemblage from the strip, map and sample investigation and evaluation suggests a date range between the 9th and 7th centuries BC based on the occurrence of one Early All Cannings Cross-style decorated jar, and decorative treatments on rims and shoulders, which belong to the later, 'decorated phase' of the post-Deverel-Rimbury tradition

Environmental samples were retrieved from both pits but these did not contain any remains of significance, which may have helped to inform the nature of activity being undertaken at the site .

No further archaeological features were identified within in the excavation area to inform the nature of the activity being undertaken at the site and possibly suggesting that if further archaeology survives it may be located to the northwest, outside of the development site. Extension of the area to the north was constrained by the presence of buried high voltage cables along with site boundary.

The strip, map and sample was carried out over two days 20th - 21st August 2018.

Project dates Start: 20-08-2018 End: 21-08-2018

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any project codes associated reference 211000 - Sitecode

Any project codes associated reference A2018.56 - Museum accession ID

Any project codes associated reference 15/02682/OUT - Planning Application No.

Type of project Recording project



Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 2 - Undisturbed Grassland
Monument type	PIT Late Bronze Age
Monument type	PIT Early Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Iron Age
Significant Finds	BURNT FLINT Late Prehistoric
Investigation type	""Full excavation""
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE BRAMLEY Land off the Street, Bramley, Hampshire
Postcode	RG26 5DD
Study area	100 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 64772 58820 51.325136481203 -1.069981870609 51 19 30 N 001 04 11 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 69m Max: 69m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	of Wessex Archaeology
Project originator	brief Wessex Archaeology
Project originator	design Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Damian De Rosa
Project supervisor	Rachel Williams
Type sponsor/funding body	of Consultancy
Name sponsor/funding body	of CgMs Heritage

### Project archives

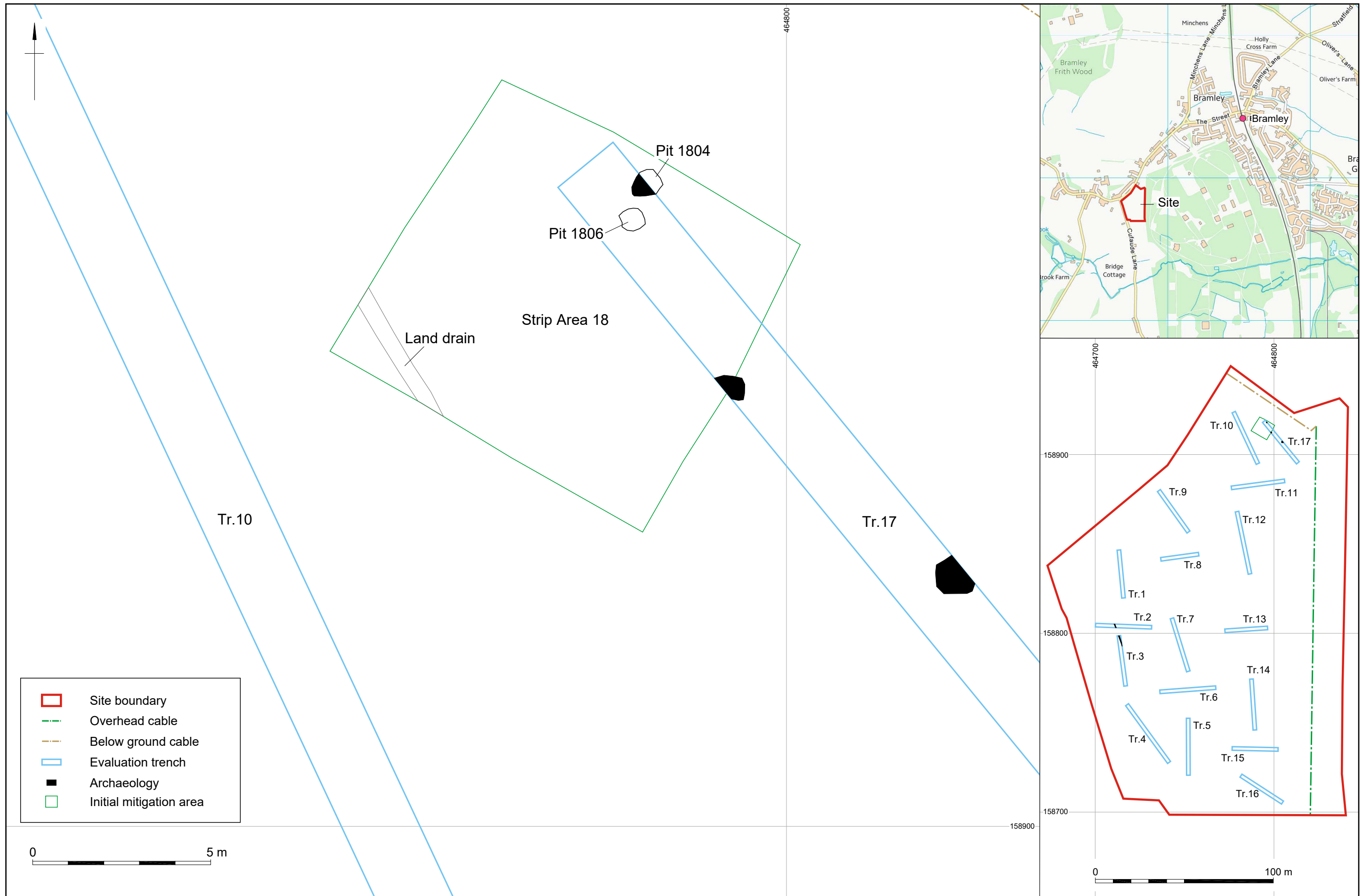
Physical recipient	Archive Hampshire Cultural Trust
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"





Digital recipient	Archive	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Digital available	Media	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper recipient	Archive	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Paper available	Media	"Context sheet","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation"," Research"," General Notes","Plan","Report"

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- ▭ Site boundary
- - - Overhead cable
- - - Below ground cable
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- Archaeology
- ▭ Initial mitigation area

0 5 m

0 100 m

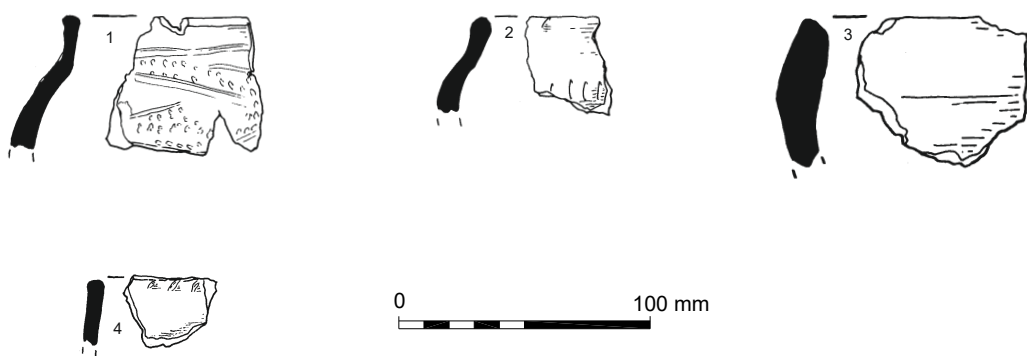
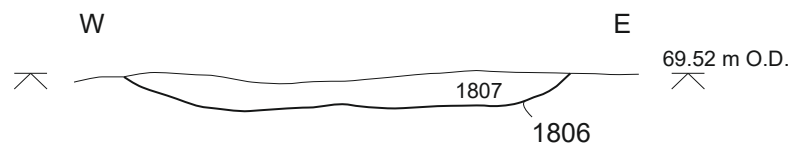
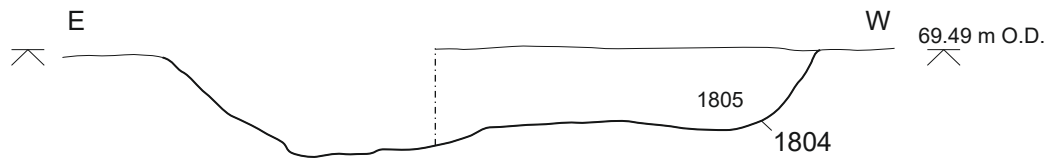
Coordinate system:  
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

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Areas of archaeological strip, map and sample

Figure 1



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Pit sections and late prehistoric pottery from pit 1804/TVAS pit 2

Figure 2



Plate 1: North-east facing representative section of Area 18. Scale is 1 m.



Plate 2: South facing section of Pit 1804. Scale is 0.5 m.



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Plate 3: South facing section of Pit 1806. Scale is 0.5 m.

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