

**LAND AT PARSONAGE FARM,  
HENFIELD, WEST SUSSEX.**

**NGR: TQ 2109 1673, centred**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

November 2010  
Report No. 948

**Quality Assurance**

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Author: James Vessey

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Approved:

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## Land at Parsonage Farm, Henfield: Archaeological Evaluation

**Site name:** Land at Parsonage Farm, Henfield, West Sussex  
**Site code:** PFH10  
**Grid reference:** TQ 2109 1673  
**Site activity:** Archaeological Evaluation  
**Date of fieldwork:** 8<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> November 2010  
**Site area:** approximately 5 hectares  
**Project manager:** Roy King  
**Site supervisor:** James Vessey  
**Archive location:** Foundations Archaeology

### SUMMARY

In November 2010 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation on land at Parsonage Farm, Henfield, West Sussex. The project was commissioned by Charles Church South Coast.

A planning application (Planning Ref: DC/09/1222) has been submitted to West Sussex County Council to develop an area of land at Parsonage Farm for residential usage. A desk-based assessment of the site was undertaken by Foundations Archaeology in July 2009. The assessment highlighted that the site has some archaeological potential for finds and features of the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods. It also noted that the site area appears to have low potential for finds or features of the later Prehistoric, Roman or Saxon periods, which would be consistent with the results of evaluation trenching associated with earlier phases of development. Therefore, in accordance with the general principles of PPS5 (Planning Policy Statement 5), a condition requiring a programme of archaeological evaluation works was attached to the planning application by West Sussex County Council.

A total of twenty five 50m by 2m trenches and fifty hand dug test-pits approximately 2m by 2m, excavated within the confines of the trenches, were excavated across the study area.

No archaeological features were revealed during the course of the project, although one struck flake was identified in trench 18, and burnt flint was identified in trench 21. Natural head clay deposits were present in all trenches.

## **GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

### **Archaeology**

For the purpose of this project, archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from prehistoric times to the modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

### **CBM**

Ceramic Building Material.

### **Medieval**

The period between AD1066 and AD1500.

### **Natural**

In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site.

### **NGR**

National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

### **OD**

Ordnance datum; used to express a given height above sea-level. (AOD Above Ordnance Datum).

### **OS**

Ordnance Survey.

### **Post-medieval**

The period between AD1500 and AD1900.

### **Prehistoric**

The period prior to the Roman invasion of AD 43. Traditionally sub divided into; *Palaeolithic* – c. 500,000 BC to c. 12,000 BC; *Mesolithic* – c. 12,000 BC to c. 4,500 BC; *Neolithic* – c. 4,500 BC to c. 2,000 BC; *Bronze Age* – c. 2,000 BC to c. 800 BC; *Iron Age* – c. 800 BC to AD 43.

### **Roman**

The period traditionally dated AD 43 until AD 410.

### **Saxon**

The period between AD 410 and AD 1066.

### **Sunken Featured Building**

A type of archaeological feature commonly associated with Saxon settlement.



## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report presents the findings of a programme of archaeological evaluation undertaken by Foundations Archaeology between 8<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> November 2010, on land at Parsonage farm, henfield, West Sussex (NGR: TQ 2109 1673, centred). The project was commissioned by Charles Church South Coast.
- 1.2 The project was undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2010), and approved by the West Sussex County Archaeological Officer. The WSI was based on a specification within the planning consent. The fieldwork complied with IfA *Standards and Guidance on Archaeological Evaluation* (revision 2008) and Archaeological Guidance Paper: *Archaeological Evaluation: (guidelines)* issued by English Heritage (London Region). The project was undertaken in accordance with the principles of *Planning Policy Statement 5* (PPS5, 2010).
- 1.3 This report constitutes the results of the archaeological works.

## 2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A planning application (DC/09/1222) has been submitted to West Sussex County Council to develop an area of land at Parsonage Farm, henfield for residential usage. In accordance with the general principles of PPS5 (Planning Policy Statement 5) and Condition 3 of the planning permission, which states that:

*“An archaeological investigation shall be carried out within the site at the expense of the developer in accordance with a specification to be submitted to and agreed by the Local Planning Authority in writing and before the commencement of building works.*

*Reason: In order to ensure that archaeological features on the site will be properly recorded before the development in accordance with policy DC10 of the Horsham District Council Local Development Framework: General Development Control Policies (2007)”.*

a programme of archaeological evaluation works was required.

- 2.2 The site consists of an area covering approximately 5ha to the north of the historic core of Henfield and to the west of Parsonage Farm at NGR: TQ 2109 1673. The site is currently under arable cultivation, with farmland to the east and north. Landuse to the south comprises 20<sup>th</sup> century development, including a school, a leisure centre and associated playing fields. Modern residential development is located to the west and forms part of the same overall development, of which the current scheme comprises Phase III.
- 2.3 The underlying geology comprised head deposits over Weald Clay (BGS 1984).

- 2.4 A desk-based assessment of the site was undertaken by Foundations Archaeology in July 2009. The assessment highlighted that the site has some archaeological potential for finds and features of the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods. It also noted that the site area appears to have low potential for finds or features of the later Prehistoric, Roman or Saxon periods, which would be consistent with the results of evaluation trenching associated with earlier phases of development.
- 2.5 During the Medieval period the site is likely to have been partly, or completely included within a deer park and only been used or returned to agricultural use after the mid-late 17<sup>th</sup> century. As such it has limited archaeological potential. The site has been utilised for agricultural purposes since the mid-late 17<sup>th</sup> century and the potential for significant finds or features of this period may be considered low.
- 2.6 The main archaeological potential for the site is therefore for stray finds of Mesolithic date. A geoarchaeological assessment undertaken to inform the desk-based assessment has also highlighted the fact that Palaeolithic finds and associated palaeoenvironmental data may also be preserved on site, although such finds are currently acknowledged to be rare from the middle reaches of the River Adur. However this did not prejudice the archaeological works against the recovery of data relating to other periods

### **3 AIMS**

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits in order to provide sufficient information to establish the nature, extent, preservation and potential of any surviving archaeological remains. This would allow informed decisions to be taken regarding potential mitigation works for any identified archaeological resource within the areas affected by the proposed development
- 3.2 Given the potential for the presence of Palaeolithic remains within the site, it was a specific aim of the project to provide information relating to deposits which could potentially contain Palaeolithic material.
- 3.3 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:
- i) to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;
  - ii) to attempt to characterise the nature and preservation of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning and extent of features present on the site;
  - iii) to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence which will attempt to determine the complexity of the horizontal and vertical stratigraphy present, and to recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples;

iv) to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present;

v) to identify the presence of Palaeolithic material within River Terrace Gravel or Head deposits.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1 A total of twenty five 50m by 2m **evaluation trenches**, which constituted a total investigation area of 2500m<sup>2</sup>, were excavated. Trenches 1, 2, 8 and 25 were slightly reduced in length to avoid a ditched boundary.
- 4.2 Non-significant overburden was removed to the top of archaeological deposits or natural substrates, whichever was encountered first. This was achieved through use of a 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket, working under constant archaeological supervision.
- 4.3 Fifty test-pits measuring approximately 2m by 2m were excavated within the confines of the trenches, with one test pit positioned at either end of each trench. This was intended to examine the potential for concentrations of flintwork within the topsoil, on the basis of previous discoveries to the north-west of such flint scatters within topsoil. The test pits were excavated in spits through the ploughsoil onto the top of the undisturbed head deposits, and the spoil examined for artefacts.
- 4.4 All archaeological trenches, features and topsoil spoil heaps were scanned with a metal detector.
- 4.5 All excavation and recording work was undertaken in accordance with the WSI and the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual.

## **5 RESULTS**

- 5.1 Twenty five trenches were dug in the positions shown on Figure 2. The trenches were 2m wide and ranged in length from 34.20m to 52.40m, and in depth from 0.28m to 0.66m. A trench summary is provided in Appendix 1. The majority of the trenches revealed an identical stratigraphy, with ploughsoil directly overlying natural head deposits. Modern plough furrows were evident in a number of trenches, suggesting a degree of truncation to the head clays. However, trenches 23 and 24 revealed a thick make up deposit comprising rubble and associated debris from the construction of phase one in 2004. It would appear that this area has been previously stripped and later reinstated, thereby truncating any archaeology that may have been present. A struck flint flake was identified in the ploughsoil of trench 18, and burnt flint was recovered from the ploughsoil of trench 21. No archaeological features

were present within the trenches. No archaeological finds were identified through the use of the metal detector.

- 5.2 Eighteen Geo-archaeological test pits were excavated by machine into undisturbed natural deposits. Trenches 1-9 were excavated and recorded by Foundations archaeology, a summary of which can be found in Appendix 2. Trenches 10-18 were excavated and recorded by Dr Martin bates, whose report is reproduced in Appendix 3. The stratigraphy of these test pits showed the ploughsoil overlying Pleistocene sediments, which in turn overlies the Weald clay (See Appendix 2 for full Geo-archaeological report).

## **6 CONCLUSIONS**

- 6.1 No archaeological features were revealed during the course of the project, although one prehistoric flake was recovered from the ploughsoil in trench 18, and burnt flint was identified in trench 21. Natural head deposits were present in all trenches. Modern activity was present in Trenches 23 and 24 in the form of a thick make-up comprising rubble and associated debris from the construction of phase one in 2004. It would appear that this area has been previously stripped and later reinstated, thereby truncating any archaeology that may have been present. The general paucity of finds suggests that the archaeological activity identified in phase one does not extend this far west.
- 6.2 The Geo-archaeological test pits spread across the site, recorded an absence of fluvial deposits in the areas investigated, indicating that the traditional foci of investigation for Palaeolithic artefacts at the site is missing. However, it is known that some sites have produced artefacts from non fluvial contexts, therefore, the potential for surviving Palaeolithic archaeology should not be discounted on this score alone. Nevertheless, the lack of evidence produced from both the evaluation trenches and test pits suggests that any further mitigation would be unnecessary, especially when considered in the light of the relatively limited impact of the proposed development.
- 6.3 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology, but will be deposited within 12 months with Henfield Museum under an accession code to be ascertained. A short note will be submitted for publication in the relevant local archaeological journal and an OASIS form will also be submitted to ADS.

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## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Charles Church South Coast and John Mills of West Sussex County for their help during the course of this project.

**APPENDIX 1: Trench Summary**

<b>Trench number</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>Height OD</b>	<b>Comment</b>
1	34.40	2	0.28	16.74 W 16.97 E	No archaeology or finds, 0.23m ploughsoil onto natural head
2	34.20	2	0.32	17.91 E 17.51 W	No archaeology or finds, 0.26m ploughsoil over natural head
3	49.90	2	0.36	17.59 S 16.08 N	No archaeology or finds, 0.29m ploughsoil over natural head
4	50.30	2	0.37	16.67 NE 17.97 SW	No archaeology or finds, 0.33m ploughsoil over natural head
5	50.45	2	0.31	19.57 W 19.29 E	No archaeology or finds, 0.26m ploughsoil over natural head
6	51.49	2	0.26	20.02 E 20.21 W	No archaeology or finds, 0.21m ploughsoil over natural head
7	50.50	2	0.34	18.30 N 20.19 S	No archaeology or finds, 0.28m ploughsoil over natural head
8	40.70	2	0.34	19.62 SW 18.39 NE	No archaeology or finds, 0.28m ploughsoil over natural head
9	26.60	2	0.33	21.13 E 20.98 W	No archaeology or finds, 0.27m ploughsoil over natural head
10	50.60	2	0.32	21.78 SE 21.23 NW	No archaeology or finds, 0.25m ploughsoil over natural head
11	50.50	2	0.34	22.82 S 22.02 N	No archaeology or finds, 0.29m over natural head
12	50.00	2	0.30	21.77 E 22.63 W	No archaeology or finds, 0.25m ploughsoil over natural head
13	50.50	2	0.29	22.68 E 22.75 W	No archaeology or finds, 0.24m ploughsoil over natural head
14	50.60	2	0.31	22.81 SW 22.01 NE	No archaeology or finds, 0.26m ploughsoil over natural head
15	49.90	2	0.34	22.86 W 23.16 E	No archaeology or finds, 0.29m ploughsoil over natural head
16	50.50	2	0.29	22.22 NE 22.61 SW	No archaeology or finds, 0.25m ploughsoil over natural head
17	50.40	2	0.34	21.59 W 21.89 E	No archaeology or finds, 0.29m ploughsoil over natural head
18	51.40	2	0.33	22.22 W 22.50 E	No archaeology, one flint flake from ploughsoil. 0.28m ploughsoil over natural head
19	52.40	2	0.36	22.12 S 20.93 N	No archaeology or finds, 0.30m ploughsoil over natural head
20	51.10	2	0.32	20.99 N 21.94 S	No archaeology or finds, 0.27m ploughsoil over natural head
21	50.10	2	0.29	20.97 SE 20.56 NW	No archaeology, burnt flint identified in ploughsoil, 0.24m ploughsoil over natural head

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22	50.05	2	0.33	21.78 S 20.72 N	No archaeology or finds, 0.29m ploughsoil over natural head
23	50.10	2	0.66	16.71 SW 16.13 NE	Thick layer of modern makeup, 0.62m over natural head. (head deposits truncated)
24	50.50	2	0.61	16.11 E 16.01W	Thick layer of modern makeup, 0.58m over natural head. (head deposits truncated)
25	40.05	2	0.35	21.10 E 20.97 W	No archaeology of finds, 0.29m ploughsoil over natural head

**APPENDIX 2: Geo-archaeological Trench Summary**

<b>Tp 1</b>	<b>Elevation: 15.04m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground surface (m)</b>	<b>Description</b>
0.00 – 0.33	Ploughsoil
0.33 – 0.69	Mixed orange brown silt clay with banded re-worked gravels
0.69 – 1.50	Dark yellow silt clay
1.50 – 2.00	Light grey clay. Very dense and compact. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---

<b>Tp 2</b>	<b>Elevation: 16.06m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground surface (m)</b>	<b>Description</b>
0.00 – 0.36	Ploughsoil
0.36 – 0.75	Mixed orange brown silt clay with banded re-worked gravels
0.75 - >2.45	Light grey clay. Very dense and compact. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---

<b>Tp 3</b>	<b>Elevation: 18.05m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground surface (m)</b>	<b>Description</b>
0.00 – 0.30	Ploughsoil
0.31 – 0.65	Yellow brown sandy clay with iron panning.
0.65 – 1.28	Yellow brown poorly sorted flint gravel.
1.28 – 1.58	Yellow brown clay with grey mottling.
1.658– 1.90	Red brown clayey flint gravel.
1.90 - >2.40	Dark grey clay. Very dense and compact. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---

<b>Tp 4</b>	<b>Elevation: 22.39m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground surface (m)</b>	<b>Lithology</b>
0.00 – 0.45	Ploughsoil
0.45 – 2.30	Mid grey brown clay-silt with some sand
2.30 - >2.50	Grey brown clay – very dense and compact. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---



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<b> Tp 5 </b>	<b> Elevation: 22.55m O.D. </b>
<b> Depth below ground surface (m) </b>	<b> Lithology </b>
0.00 – 0.30	Ploughsoil
	Grey clay silt with some sand and iron panning
0.30 – 0.70	Dense flint gravel with iron panning
0.70 – 1.20	Mixed grey and yellow brown clay silt. With pockets of gravel.
1.20 - >2.00	Light grey compact clay.
	---base of test pit---

<b> Tp 6 </b>	<b> Elevation: 20.57m O.D. </b>
<b> Depth below ground surface (m) </b>	<b> Lithology </b>
0.00 – 0.39	Ploughsoil
0.39 – 0.81	Grey brown soft slightly sandy clay silt with iron panning
0.81 – 2.55	Grey brown clay – very dense and compact. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---

<b> Tp 7 </b>	<b> Elevation: 22.71m O.D. </b>
<b> Depth below ground surface (m) </b>	<b> Description </b>
0.00 – 0.42	Ploughsoil
0.42 – 0.96	Grey brown sandy clay silt with iron panning
0.96 – 2.49	Grey brown clay – very dense and compact. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---

<b> Tp 8 </b>	<b> Elevation: 20.07m O.D. </b>
<b> Depth below ground surface (m) </b>	<b> Description </b>
0.00 – 0.35	Ploughsoil
0.35 – 0.75	Yellow brown clay silt with occasional gravel
0.75 - >2.60	Yellow brown clay and silt with blue grey patches. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---

<b> Tp 9 </b>	<b> Elevation: 18.32m O.D. </b>
<b> Depth below ground surface (m) </b>	<b> Description </b>
0.00 – 0.30	Ploughsoil
0.30 – 0.67	Yellow brown grey sandy clay with iron panning
0.67 – 1.30	Mid yellowish brown flint gravel
1.30 – 1.85	Yellow brown silt clay with some sand
1.85 – 2.55	Yellow brown grey clay. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---

## APPENDIX 3: Geo-archaeological Assessment

### Background

The site lies within the Adur Valley immediately to the north west of Henfield (TV 21085 16730 – site centre). The site lies on a north facing slope of a small tributary valley of the Adur that trends in an east to west direction along the base of the valley. Bedrock geology (Figure 1) in the vicinity of the site is Weald Clay and Lower Greensand. British Geological Survey mapping shows the presence of a small east/west trending syncline beneath Henfield to the south of the site and the boundary between the Weald Clay and Lower Greensand is mapped just south of the site boundary. The Weald Clay consists of a range of facies including clay ironstones as well as shales and mudstones. The Lower Greensand is also typically variable but contains clays and silts as well as sand units.

Superficial geology within the region is mapped as Head and River Terrace deposits. Sediments mapped as River Terrace 2/3 dominate the higher slopes of the valley in patches while River Terrace 1/2 occur to the west. No differentiation of the sediments mapped as river terrace deposits occur downslope to the north. Head deposits (undifferentiated mixed clay/silt/sand/gravel) occur towards the base of the slope beyond the northern limits of the site. The site itself is mapped as containing River Terrace 2/3 sediments in places and elsewhere Weald Clay outcropping at the surface (Figures 1 and 2).

A few findspots for artefacts do occur within the vicinity of Henfield (Figure 2) where Woodcock (1981) has described sites in the vicinity of Catsfold Farm (TQ 197 156 and TQ 1895 1609) where a possible handaxe tip, waste flake and well made Levallois flake have been recovered. In all cases the artefacts are reworked and abraded. A second site at Turners Farm, Henfield also produced an abraded cordate handaxe.

These few findspots do however suggest that significance should be placed on Henfield as a source of Palaeolithic artefacts as other Palaeolithic findspots from the Weald area are few and at present poorly known. It should also be noted that the focus of research has, until recently, been on searching fluvial sediments for sites. However, some sites do exist in other contexts and may be of relevance to the present study. To the east an important site is known just south of the Chalk escarpment at Limsfield where mixed gravels are present resting on Lower Greensand or Weald Clay (Wymer, 1999 page 169). The stratigraphic context of the site is indeterminate but it is likely that much of the material has slumped downslope with reworking by fluvial and periglacial processes. Another site is that recently discovered at Dartford (Wenban-Smith *et al.*, 2010) where flakes were found in Head and slope deposits of early Devensian age. Consequently it might be that only a partial picture has been gained of the Palaeolithic occupation of the Weald by focusing on deposits of fluvial origin and that other contexts such as gullies cut into the bedrock might provide findspots of some significance (Pope, 2010). For example at least since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century workers such as Dawkins (1869), Topley (1875) and then Harrison (1928) demonstrated that Palaeolithic artefacts might occur in fissures within the Weald. This has most recently been demonstrated by Pope's work at Beedings (Pope, 2010) on the Lower Greensand.

## **Site investigation**

Nine test pits were excavated under the supervision of the author. These were dug with the toothless bucket using a JCB. Excavation proceeded by the controlled removal of spits of sediment approximately 20cm thick. Careful monitoring of the exposed surfaces were made to ensure no artefacts were encountered during the machining. Observations were made by entering the pits down to a safe depth of no more than 1.20m depth. From this depth to the base of the test pit observations were made on grab samples from the machine bucket and depths were measured from the surface with a tape measure. Descriptions of individual pits are given in Appendix 1. Profiles along north/south and east/west transects are presented in Figure 3.

## **Discussion**

In all test pits bedrock was attained at the base of the trenches. The bedrock at the site appears to consist of a dense clay or sandy clay that varies from grey to yellow brown in colour. Mapped bedrock for the area was previously noted as Weald Clay (Figure 1) although the nature of the sediments suggests that possibly that elements of the Lower Greensand may also be present and that the mapped boundaries of the survey data may require modification.

Pleistocene sediments occur in all test pits and are typically less than 2m in thickness (Figure 3). No consistent pattern is noted in the nature and distribution of the sediments. Sediments are dominated by sands, silts and clays (Plate 1) but gravels are also present (TP 13/16, Plate 1). Where gravels are present the gravels are poorly sorted and typically angular to sub-angular in shape. In Test Pit 11 at a depth of 0.90m a possible buried surface, underlain by rooted sediments (0.90-1.68m), was recorded. Similar evidence of rooting was also noted in Test Pit 13 between 1.25 and 1.60m. This may be evidence for the presence of a temporary, short-lived break in sedimentation and the impact of weathering and soil formation on the sequence.

The nature of the sediments suggests that all sequences observed are representative of deposits mapped as Head by the British Geological Survey. Typically these are sediments that have accumulated through a series of processes associated with slopes and generally cold climate conditions. The principle process of deposition was probably downslope flow of sediments, perhaps under spring thaw conditions, during one or more cold stages in the Pleistocene. Occasional higher energy events may have caused local gullying downslope and the deposition of gravels derived from upslope in small, temporary fluvial channels running across the slope. In no trench were sediments indicative of large scale fluvial environments of deposition found. This does not however mean that some of the deposits were not originally fluvial in origin but simply that any fluvial sediments have been moved, reworked and deposited downslope by slopewash processes. The nature of Head deposits and their associated environments of deposition mean that sediments are going to be laterally discontinuous and potentially of a variety of ages.

The absence of any fluvial sediments at the site indicates that the BGS mapping (Figure 3) requires reconsideration. Furthermore the absence of fluvial sediments and the presence of slope derived Head deposits suggests that any artefacts present are going to be reworked, rolled and out of context. This conclusion is perhaps similar to the conclusions derived from the rolled state of the artefacts recovered elsewhere in the Henfield area (Woodcock, 1981).

### Conclusions and recommendations for further work

The absence of fluvial sediments at the site (at least in the observed test pits) indicates that the traditional foci of investigation for Palaeolithic artefacts at the site is missing. However, given the recent interest in the Palaeolithic potential of gullies in bedrock by Pope (2010) and the fact that sites such as Limpsfield are known to produce artefacts in non-fluvial contexts the absence of fluvial sediments here should not be taken to indicate no Palaeolithic potential. However, the difficulty arises in dealing with the potential of Head deposits to produce artefacts is in the low density of artefacts likely to be present within such sediments and the consequent nature of the methods required to ascertain whether or not artefacts are present. At Dartford (Wenban-Smith *et al.*, 2010) an initial phase of test pitting failed to produce artefacts and artefacts were only discovered through the excavation of large stepped trenches (c.400m long) dug through the sequences to enable close examination. This was possible because of the nature of the impact through major road cuttings. At the present site additional test pitting is unlikely to produce evidence for Palaeolithic artefacts and larger scale interventions are unlikely to be required due to the limited nature of the impact.

Consequently it is not recommended that further investigation is undertaken except within the context of watching brief works associated with drain cutting. The study has however provided new information on the vicinity and information that should be incorporated into a reconsideration of the boundaries of the BGS mapping.

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**Test pit descriptions**

<b> Tp 10</b>	<b>Elevation: 15.04m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground surface (m)</b>	<b>Lithology</b>
0.00 – 0.30	Mid brown clayey silt. Occasional flint clasts (sub-angular, <3cm). Stiff and structureless. (Topsoil)
	---sharp contact---
0.30 – 0.65	Yellow-brown slightly sandy clay silt. Mottled with strong yellowish red and black (Mn). Occasional gravel clasts (<5cm, angular and rolled). No structure. Moderately dense and compact.
	---diffuse contact---
0.65 – 1.20	Yellow-brown sand with some clay silt. Very few flint clasts, occasional pockets of flints. Less compact than above.
	---abrupt contact---
1.20 – 1.60	As above but rich in gravel clasts (2-10cm, sub-angular and rolled).
	---abrupt contact---
1.60 – 2.00	Yellow grey becoming blue clay with depth. Dense and compact and very firm. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---
Photographs	6059/6060

<b> Tp 11</b>	<b>Elevation: 16.02m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground surface (m)</b>	<b>Lithology</b>
0.00 – 0.28	Topsoil
	---abrupt contact---
0.28 – 0.90	Strong yellow brown sandy clay with occasional sub-angular flint clasts (<6cm). Common black Mn staining. Compact and firm.
	---abrupt contact ---weathering surface?---
0.90 – 1.68	Mid grey clayey sand to sandy clay with red/yellow brown mottles. Dense and compact. No clasts, possibly rooted with large root canals present throughout.
	---sharp contact---
1.68 – 1.90	Mixed sandy gravel and clay-sand gravel. Patches of strong yellow brown soft clay with coarse sand and small angular flint clasts (<2cm). Patches of clayey flints, very poorly sorted (<10cm), sub-angular and rolled.
	---abrupt contact---
1.90 – 2.40	Yellow brown clay silt to grey clay silt. Relatively soft and unconsolidated. Occasional patches of black staining. (weathered bedrock)
	---base of test pit---
Photographs	6061/6062

<b> Tp 12</b>	<b>Elevation: 17.08m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground</b>	<b>Lithology</b>

**Land at Parsonage Farm, Henfield: Archaeological Evaluation**

<b>surface (m)</b>	
0.00 – 0.30	Topsoil
	---abrupt contact---
0.30 – 0.80	Yellow red to grey sandy clay with black Mn mottles. Moderately firm and compact although slightly pliable.
	---diffuse contact---
0.80 – 1.10	Red yellow gravelly clay. Moderately dense and compact. Clasts 2-8cm, sub-angular and rolled.
	---diffuse contact---
1.10 – 2.50	Red brown to grey sandy clay. Occasional yellow brown patches. Dense and compact and structureless. Occasional patches of gravel.
	---abrupt/dipping contact---
2.50 – 3.00	Grey sand with clay. Relatively soft and structureless (bedrock?)
	---base of test pit---
Photographs	6063/6064

<b>Tp 13</b>	<b>Elevation: 18.77m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground surface (m)</b>	<b>Lithology</b>
0.00 – 0.30	Topsoil.
	---abrupt contact---
0.30 – 0.65	Yellow brown to grey sandy clay with black Mn mottles. Dense, compact and structureless.
	---sharp contact---
0.65 – 1.25	Yellow brown very poorly sorted flint gravel. Clasts 2->10cm, sub-angular and rolled. Matrix supported with dense sandy clay matrix.
	---abrupt/dipping contact---
1.25 – 1.60	Yellow brown clay silt with some sand. Grey mottles. Occasional flint clasts. Possibly rooted.
	---abrupt contact---
1.60 – 1.90	Red brown clayey flint gravel.
	---abrupt contact---
1.90 - >2.50	Yellow brown to grey clay. Very dense and compact. Shear planes noted. (bedrock).
	---base of test pit---
Photographs	6065/6066

<b>Tp 14</b>	<b>Elevation: 21.48m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground surface (m)</b>	<b>Lithology</b>
0.00 – 0.30	Topsoil
	---abrupt contact---
0.30 – 0.90	Yellow brown clay silt with occasional gravel clasts (especially towards the base). Very dense and compact.
	---abrupt/undulating contact---
0.90 - >2.50	Yellow brown clay and silt. Dense and compact. Blue grey is patches. (bedrock)

Land at Parsonage Farm, Henfield: Archaeological Evaluation

	---base of test pit---
Photographs	6067/6068

<b> Tp 15 </b>	<b> Elevation: 22.70m O.D. </b>
<b> Depth below ground surface (m) </b>	<b> Lithology </b>
0.00 – 0.30	Topsoil. ---abrupt contact---
0.30 – 0.70	Yellow brown silty sand with common black Mn mottles. Structureless and massive. ---sharp contact---
0.70 – 1.20	Dark reddish brown coarse sand with common flint clasts (<10cm). Patches of grey sandy clay in places. ---sharp contact---
1.20 - >2.00	Yellow brown dense clay with patches of grey. Angular flints (2-4cm) occur in patches. Very compact and firm. (bedrock) ---base of test pit---
Photographs	6072/6073/6074

<b> Tp 16 </b>	<b> Elevation: 22.18m O.D. </b>
<b> Depth below ground surface (m) </b>	<b> Lithology </b>
0.00 – 0.40	Topsoil. ---sharp contact---
0.40 – 0.75	Mid grey to reddish brown clay-silt with some sand. Very dense and compact. Structureless. ---abrupt contact---
0.75 – 1.00	Red brown to yellow brown gravel with clay silt and sand matrix. Black Mn stains common. Clasts of <10cm, sub-angular and rolled. ---sharp contact---
1.00 – 2.20	Grey clay with yellow brown staining. Very dense and compact. Firm and structureless. Shear planes in places seen. ---sharp/undulating contact---
2.20 – 2.30	Dark grey gravel with clay matrix. Clasts 2-4cm, angular. ---sharp contact---
2.30 – 2.50	Grey brown clay – very dense and compact. (bedrock) ---base of test pit---
Photographs	6075/6076/6077

<b> Tp 17 </b>	<b> Elevation: 21.68m O.D. </b>
<b> Depth below ground surface (m) </b>	<b> Lithology </b>
0.00 – 0.30	Topsoil ---abrupt contact---
0.30 – 0.50	Grey clay silt with some sand. Black Mn staining. Soft and pliable. ---abrupt/dipping contact---



**Land at Parsonage Farm, Henfield: Archaeological Evaluation**

0.50 – 0.65	Black Mn stained flint gravel. Clasts <10cm, sub-angular. Moderately dense.
	---abrupt/dipping contact---
0.65 – 1.00	Mixed grey and yellow brown clay silt. Pockets of gravel as above. Dense and compact.
	---undulating/abrupt contact---
1.00 – 2.00	Light grey clay. Shear planes noted. Very dense and compact. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---
Photographs	6078/6079

<b>Tp 18</b>	<b>Elevation: 21.09m O.D.</b>
<b>Depth below ground surface (m)</b>	<b>Lithology</b>
0.00 – 0.35	Topsoil
	---abrupt contact---
0.35 – 0.75	Grey brown soft slightly sandy clay silt. Black Mn staining. Structureless and contains occasional flint clasts (<3cm).
	---abrupt/undulating---
0.75 - >2.60	Light grey to yellow brown clay silt. Very dense and compact. Shear planes visible. No structure. (bedrock)
	---base of test pit---
Photographs	6080/6081/6082

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**Plate 1.** A: Test pit 12. B: Test pit 16.



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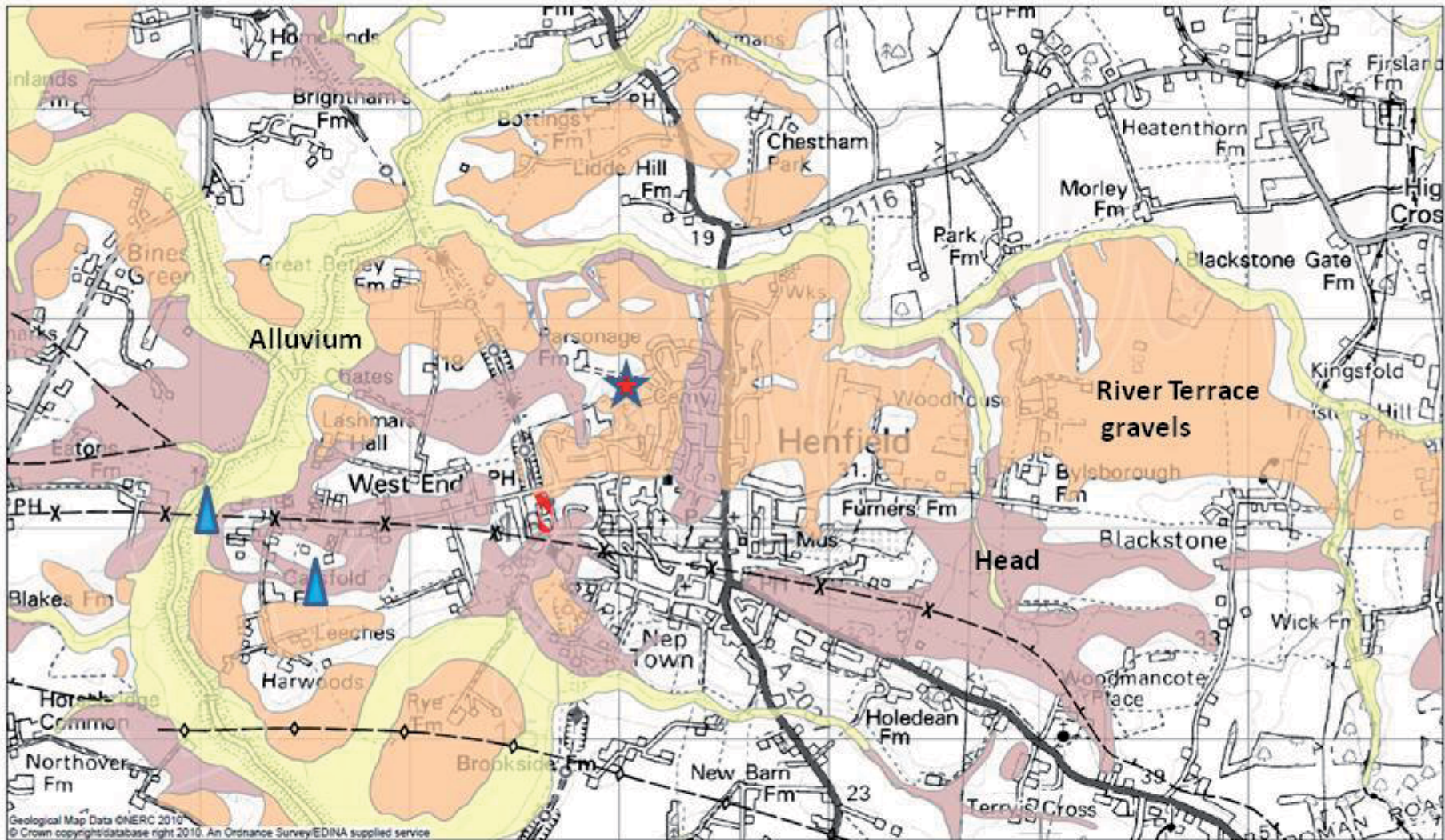
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 Causerwayside House  
 150 Causerwayside  
 Edinburgh  
 EH9 1PR  
 UK



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 Trinity College  
 Carmarthen

 Study site





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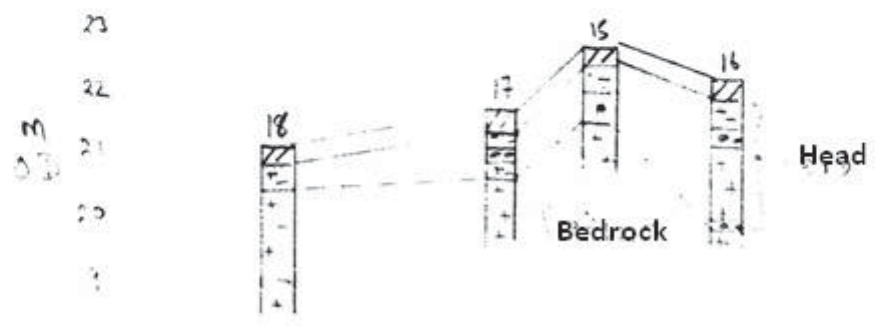
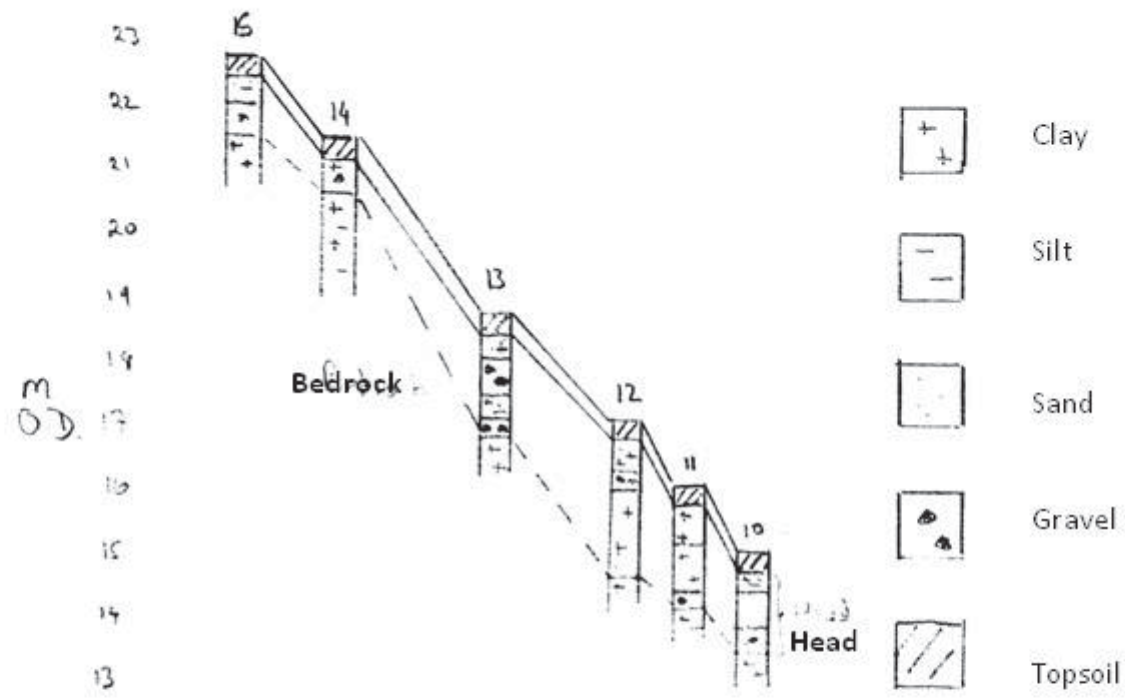


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Trinity College  
Carmarthen

 Study site

 Find spots for Palaeolithic archaeology at Catsfold Farm





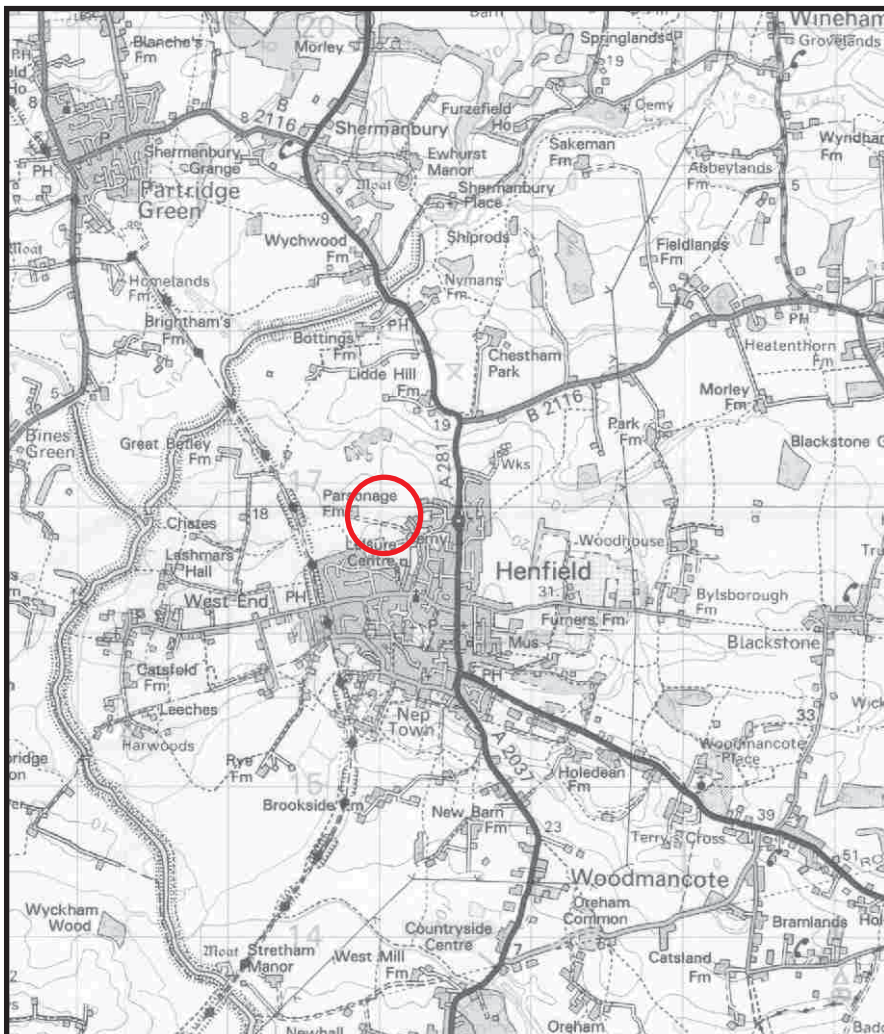
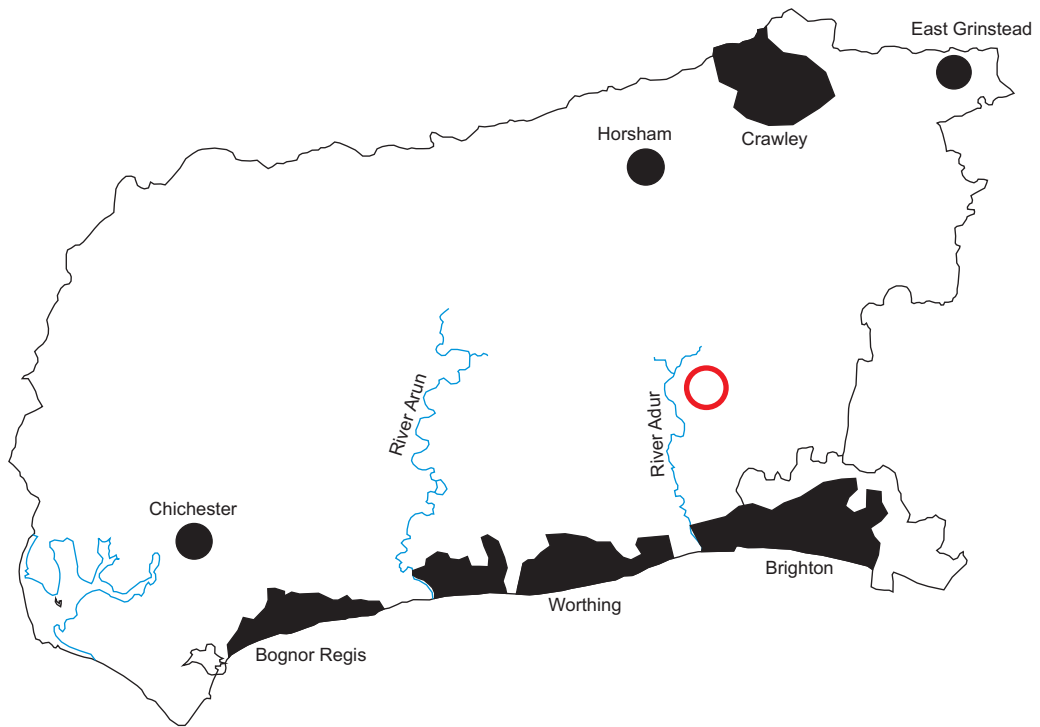
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B



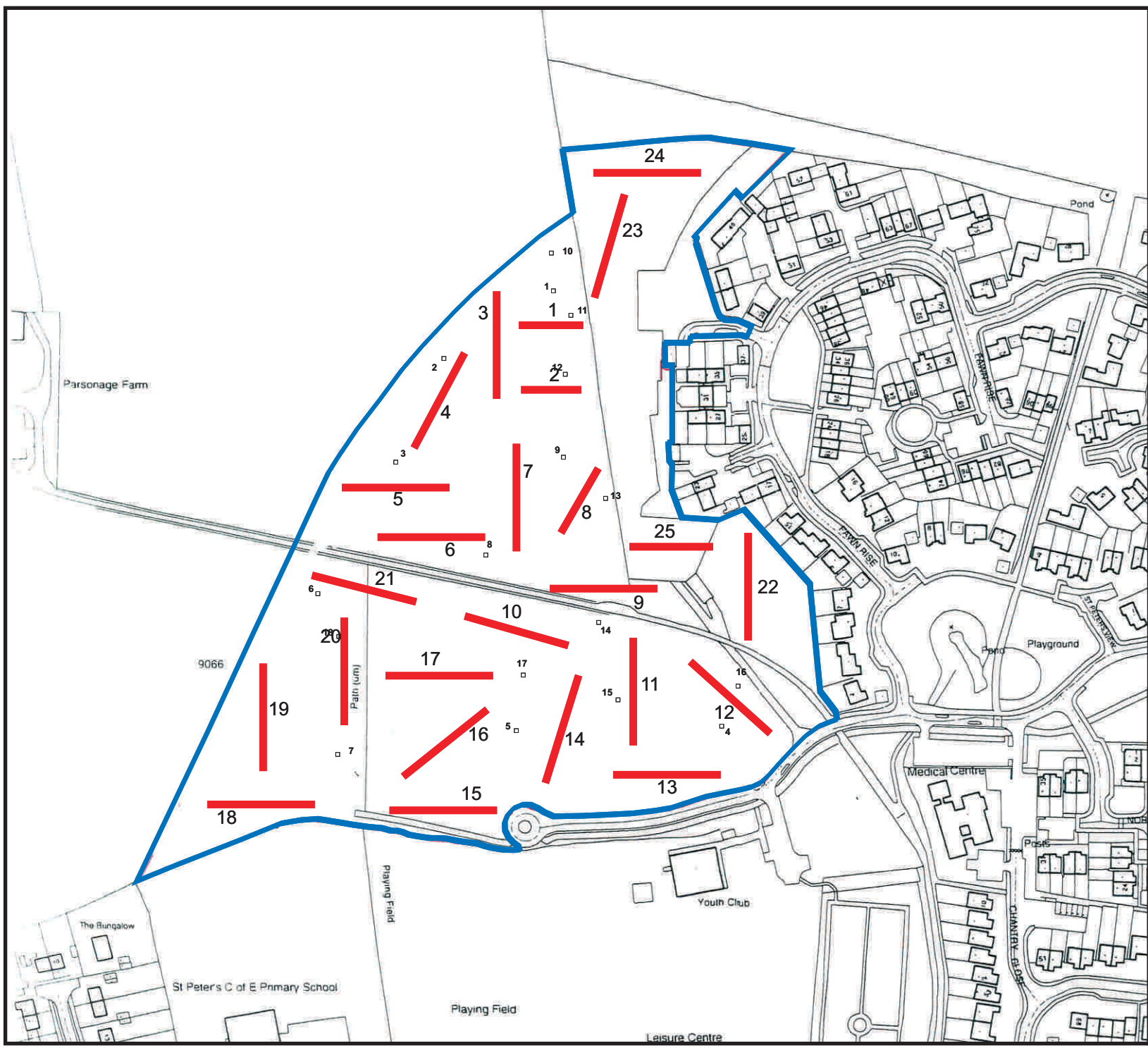




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**FIGURE 1: Site Location**



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**N**

— TRENCHES  
 — SITE LOCATION

0m 100m  
 1:2500@A4

**FIGURE 2: Trench Locations**