

**An Archaeological Evaluation on  
Land off Penrith Way, Langney  
Eastbourne, East Sussex**

**NGR 56230 10370**

**Planning Refs: WD/2010/2218/MAJ**

**Project No: 4631  
Site Code: PWL11**

**ASE Report No: 2011174  
OASIS id: archaeol6-105394  
Archive Accession No: ELHAMS 2011.12**

**Alice Thorne**

**With contributions by  
Anna Doherty,  
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## **Abstract**

*An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land off Penrith Way, Langney, Eastbourne, East Sussex, in July 2011 (site centred NGR TQ 6230 0370). Ten 30m long evaluation trenches were excavated.*

*A small number of discrete features and ditches were identified, together with a very small quantity of pottery of typical Late Iron Age or Romano-British fabric (7 small body sherds weighing 6 grams in total). No positive evidence of settlement activity was recorded and the small finds assemblage suggests that these features probably represent remote agricultural field boundary ditches.*

*Another field boundary ditch of probable post-medieval date was also observed in Trench 9 and several undated features were identified across the site.*

*A small focus of modern activity was recorded in the northern part of Trench 6.*

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the UCL Institute of Archaeology, were commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological evaluation at land off Penrith Way, Langney, Eastbourne, East Sussex, (centred NGR TQ 6230 0370; Fig 1) henceforth referred to as 'the site'.
- 1.1.2 The site measures approximately 1.1 ha and is triangular in shape, bound to the north by a lane leading to Friday Street Farm, to the east by fields and to the southwest by houses fronting Penrith Way.

### 1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The underlying solid geology of the site is Weald Clay, the alluvium of the Willingdon and Mountney Levels lying to the west and east respectively.
- 1.2.2 The topography of the site itself is sloping to the south, dropping from c. 24mOD at the north part of the site, near the lane, to c. 14mOD at the south-east of the site.

### 1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 In support of a planning application for the development of the site an archaeological Desk Based Assessment (CgMs, 2010) was prepared. Having considered that document the East Sussex County Archaeologist recommended that a condition be attached to any planning consent for a programme of archaeological fieldwork.
- 1.3.2 Planning consent (Ref: WD/2010/2218/MAJ) was granted on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2010, subject to conditions. Condition 22 states:

*"No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work [including archaeological evaluation] in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, including a timetable for the investigation, which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and the works shall be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.*

*Before any works hereby permitted are begun, details of the foundations, piling configuration, drainage and services, to include a detailed design and method statement, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, such details to show the preservation of significant archaeological remains which are where possible to remain in situ."*

REASON: To enable the preservation or recording of any items of historical or archaeological interest, as the development is likely to disturb remains of archaeological interest, in accordance with requirements within PPS 5 'Planning for the Historic Environment'; and Policy BE12 of the Non Statutory Wealden Local Plan.

- 1.3.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Archaeology South East with reference to the ESCC *Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions*, henceforth "the Standard Conditions". This was submitted to and accepted by ESCC. All work was carried out in accordance with these documents and the relevant

*Standards and Guidance* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008).

#### **1.4 Scope of Report**

1.4.1 The fieldwork was undertaken by Alice Thorne (Senior Archaeologist), Gary Webster (Assistant Archaeologist) and Lesley Davidson (surveyor) between the 11/07/2011 to the 14/07/2011. This report outlines the results of the evaluation.

#### **1.5 Aims and Objectives**

1.5.1 The purpose of the archaeological investigation as outlined in the written scheme of investigation (ASE 2011) was to ascertain the character, quality and degree of survival of archaeological remains on the site and the potential impact of development upon them and to record all archaeological features that will be impacted by the scheme.

##### 1.5.2 Specific Aims

- To understand the prehistoric development of landuse in the area
- To establish the presence/absence of any further Roman roads or associated features
- To determine the presence or absence of any settlement activity from the medieval period.

1.5.3 The aim of the investigation is also to enable the East Sussex County Archaeologist to make an informed decision on the status of the planning condition and any requirement for further work to fulfil that condition.

1.5.4 The final aim is to make public the results of the evaluation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

2.0.1 The following information is drawn from the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (CgMs, 2010).

### **2.1 Prehistoric**

2.1.1 There are no Palaeolithic artefacts noted on the East Sussex County Council HER within 1km of the site.

2.1.2 Early Mesolithic to Neolithic flints have been found at Bembridge Road, c. 750m to the southwest of the site, Pevensey and Westham Station, c. 1km to the northeast and c. 1km to the east of the site on the Mountney Levels during a fieldwalking exercise.

2.1.3 Approximately 1km to the west of the site a timber and clay causeway dating from the early Neolithic to late Bronze Age period was found, measuring 8m in width and sealed by a peat deposit. It was flanked by ditches 2m wide and 400mm deep. A short distance to the south of the causeway a late Bronze Age timber platform was also identified.

2.1.4 A Bronze Age barrow is located c. 1km to the southwest of the site at The Hydney measuring 22m in diameter. A small community excavation in 2005 in the area of the mound identified a ditch 600mm wide by at least 400mm deep.

2.1.5 The levels of Mountney and Willingdon would have been attractive to the hunter-gatherers of the Bronze Age, as represented by the causeway mentioned above. However, there is less evidence for such activity on the higher ground on the Weald Clay, where the site is located, which probably remained wooded during this period.

### **2.2 Roman**

2.2.1 The east-west aligned Roman road from Pevensey to Glynde is noted to run approximately 750m to the north of the site. A branch road from this was located during excavations in 1968 to the northeast of the site. The road was 2.5m wide and built of flint.

2.2.2 A former channel and possible Roman wooden quayside were found during construction work in the 1980's in Westham and an archaeological evaluation undertaken at Rattle Road in Westham identified a gully of Romano-British date along with pottery sherds and two possible Roman pits or postholes.

2.2.3 A pit or posthole of Roman date was found during building alterations at Peelings Lane, Westham and several fragments of Roman greyware pottery were recovered at Pevensey Road, Westham.

2.2.4 A recently excavated site at Ditton's Rd, Polegate (2.8km to the northwest of Penrith Way) revealed the remains of an enclosed late Iron Age/Early Romano-British farmstead, with associated field system and droveways (ASE forthcoming). The excavation also revealed evidence of an ephemeral structure and indications that salt-working, crop processing and possibly smithing were being undertaken at or nearby the farmstead.



## **2.3 Saxon and Medieval**

- 2.3.1 There is little evidence for Saxon activity in the vicinity of the site other than a Saxon cemetery reportedly excavated at Hydeye, approximately 1km to the southwest of the site and sherds of Saxon pottery to the south of Westham and Pevensy Station, 1km to the north of the site.
- 2.3.2 A deserted medieval village (DMV) is reportedly located near Westham and is named in the Domesday Book as Cudnow. A second DMV and port are present at Hydneye, approximately 1km to the southwest of the site. Hydneye village was a port attached to Hastings from early times and is first referenced in 1229 in a deed, with later mentions throughout the period from 1235 to 1308. A possible harbour has been postulated although this evidently silted up by the mid 14th century depriving the community of its livelihood.
- 2.3.3 A medieval Cluniac monastery and 12th-14th century chapel are recorded at Langney Priory, 1km to the southeast of the site. The chapel is one of a group of chapels confirmed to Lewes Priory by Seffrid II, Bishop of Chichester at the end of the 12th century.
- 2.3.4 A medieval hospital, The Hospital of St John the Baptist founded in 1302, is recorded at Westham although there is no positive evidence for its existence in the archaeological record.
- 2.3.5 A late medieval road or lane survives in sections as Green Lane and field boundaries approximately 1km northeast of the site, leading from Ketcham Corner onto the Pevensy Levels in the northeast.

## **2.4 Post-medieval and Modern**

- 2.4.1 The Stone Cross Windmill is an 18th century Grade II Listed Building located on high ground to the northwest of the site.
- 2.4.2 The site itself was open land to the southeast of Stone Cross until the early-mid 19th century when the site was used for arable agriculture. From the second half of the 19th century to modern times there have been small phases of development around the periphery of the site but the field itself has undergone little alteration.

### 3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Fieldwork methodology

- 3.1.1 The methodology comprised the machine excavation under archaeological supervision of 10 x 30m long trenches by a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket.
- 3.1.2 The location of one trench (Trench 1) was shifted approximately 10m to the east from its original planned location, due to the presence of ecological fencing.
- 3.1.3 The location of each trench was scanned prior to excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT scanner).
- 3.1.4 The excavation was taken down to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the top of the underlying 'natural', whichever was uppermost.
- 3.1.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using the standard context record sheets used by Archaeology South-East.
- 3.1.6 All context numbers were prefixed by the relevant trench number.
- 3.1.7 The locations of the trenches were surveyed by Digital Global Positioning System [DGPS] and are located according to the National Grid.
- 3.1.8 Spoil was stored adjacent to each trenches and was backfilled upon completion of the recording by machine.
- 3.1.9 All excavation, recording and sampling was conducted in line with the specifications laid out in the approved WSI (ASE 2011).

#### 3.2 The site archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at ASE offices in Portslade but will be submitted to Eastbourne Leisure Heritage and Museum Service at the end of the project. The archive accession number is ELHAMS 2011.12.

Number of contexts	48
No. of files/paper record	1 File
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk samples	2
Photographs	45 digital images
Bulk finds	1 small Box
Registered finds	-
Environmental flots/residue	1 small box

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Overburden and Geology

4.1.1 The trenches were located within open fields to the north of Penrith Way (Figures 1 and 2). The topsoil [001] across the site comprised firm to friable mid greyish brown silty clay of between 0.20 and 0.30m thick. Below this, a firm mid brownish orange slightly silty clay subsoil/ interface layer [002] was present, measuring between 0.12 and 0.15m thick. The natural Wealden Clay geology [003] was comprised of a very compact bright orangish-brown clay, which contained frequent patches of manganese panning, ironstone and poorly sorted flint nodules. The clay was extremely hard, often breaking up in large clumps, making the process of machine and hand excavation slow and problematic.

4.1.2 Unless otherwise stated in the results below, the archaeological features observed were cut into the natural clay [003] and sealed by subsoil [002].

### 4.2 Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

4.2.1 Trench 1 was located in the north-west part of the site. It measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
1/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	19.36
1/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.06m	19.06
1003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	19.00
1/004	Cut	Post hole	-	0.30m	0.10m	18.96
1/005	Fill	Post hole	-	0.30m	0.10m	18.96

Table 2: Context Register, Trench 1

#### 4.2.2 Summary

4.2.3 A small circular feature was observed in the western part of the trench [1/004]. This feature comprised a small posthole, filled with a mottled orangish-brown silty clay [1/005]. No artefactual material was recovered from the posthole, despite 100% excavation of the fill.

### 4.3 Trench 2

4.3.1 Trench 2 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
2/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	20.16
2/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	19.91
2003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	19.77

Table 3: Context Register, Trench 2

4.3.2 Summary

4.3.3 No archaeological features were observed within this trench.

### 4.4 Trench 3 (Fig. 3)

4.4.1 Trench 3 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
3/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	20.29
3/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	20.04
3/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	19.94
3/004	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	0.56	0.18m	19.24
3/005	Fill	Ditch	Tr.	0.56	0.18m	19.24

Table 4: Context Register, Trench 3

4.4.2 Summary

4.4.3 A linear feature orientated south-west to north-east was observed crossing the northern part of this trench [3/004]. This feature had a concave profile, and was filled with a compact pale orangish brown silty clay [3/005]. No artefactual material was recovered from this ditch.

#### 4.5 Trench 4

4.5.1 Trench 4 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
4/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.27m	17.17
4/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.08m	16.90
4/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	16.82

Table 5: Context Register, Trench 4

4.5.2 Summary

4.5.3 No archaeological features were observed within this trench.

#### 4.6 Trench 5

4.6.1 Trench 5 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
5/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.22m	19.97
5/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	19.75
5/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	19.65
5/004	Cut	Possible pit	-	1.40m	0.12m	19.70
5/005	Fill	Possible pit	-	1.40m	0.12m	19.70

Table 6: Context Register, Trench 5

4.6.2 Summary

4.6.3 A sub-oval feature was observed, partially exposed within the north-eastern corner of the trench [5/004]. This feature had poorly defined gentle concave sides and a flattish base. It contained a very compact pale orangish grey silty clay, with frequent manganese flecks [5/005]. No artefactual material was recovered from this feature, and it is thought that whilst this may represent the remains of a shallow pit, it is thought more probable that this feature represents a natural feature, possibly a tree-throw.

#### 4.7 Trench 6 [Fig. 4]

4.7.1 Trench 6 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
6/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	18.84
6/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m	18.54
6/003	Deposit	Ploughsoil /colluvium	20m	Tr.	0.31m	18.42
6/004	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	18.11
6/005	Cut	Posthole	-	0.16m	0.08m	18.52
6/006	Fill	Posthole	-	0.16m	0.08m	18.52

Table 7: Context Register, Trench 6

#### 4.7.2 Summary

4.7.3 A series of small modern postholes were observed at the northern end of the trench, cutting through the subsoil. These features measured between 0.16m to 0.09m in diameter and were filled by a friable dark greyish brown ashy-silt, containing occasional charcoal fragments, chips of burnt or blown brick, frequent small flint gravels and occasional small chips of burnt flint [6/006]. The postholes became increasingly narrower and shallower down slope, where they appear to have been ploughed out. One of the most substantial of the northernmost postholes was 100% excavated, and shown to be a maximum of 0.08m in depth with vertical sides and a flattish base [6/005].

4.7.4 Three lines of these closely spaced postholes were revealed (with possibly more to the north, extending beyond the confines of the trench). The function of these features is unclear.

4.7.5 A dark reddish-brown silty clay deposit, containing a very high percentage of manganese and iron stone was observed within this trench, located below the subsoil, and extending for 20m from the northern end of the trench before lensing out to the south [6/003]. Occasional unworked flint nodules, and very occasional tiny, and undiagnostic chips of cbm were located within this layer. This deposit had an undulating base, and measured a maximum of 0.31m thick. No cut was observed, and given the high prevalence for the geology of the site to crack and open during periods of dry weather, the fragments of cbm may well be intrusive. This layer is thought to represent an accumulation of plough soil or colluvium.

4.7.5 No archaeological features were observed within this trench.

#### 4.8 Trench 7

4.8.1 Trench 7 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
7/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	14.46
7/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.08m	14.16
7/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	14.08

Table 8: Context Register, Trench 7

4.8.2 Summary

4.8.3 No archaeological features were observed within this trench.

#### 4.9 Trench 8 (Fig. 4)

4.9.1 Trench 8 measured 30m in length and was orientated on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
8/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	14.80
8/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.05m	14.50
8/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	14.45
8/004	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	0.44m	0.10m	14.00
8/005	Fill	Ditch	Tr.	0.44m	0.10m	14.00
8/006	Cut	Deposit	Tr.	To 1.10m	0.15m	12.83
8/007	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	1.27m	0.07m	13.58
8/008	Fill	Ditch	Tr.	1.27m	0.07m	13.58

Table 9: Context Register, Trench 8

4.9.2 Summary

4.9.3 In the northern part of the trench an irregularly sided linear feature was observed, crossing the trench on a north-east to south-west alignment [8/004]. This feature had an irregular concave profile, and was filled by a very compact mid to dark grey brown silty clay, containing frequent fragments of charcoal and burnt clay [8/005].

4.9.4 A second linear was observed to the south, orientated upon a similar alignment [8/007]. This feature had a much broad, shallower profile, and was filled by a very compact dark greyish brown silty clay containing a flint end scraper and a single sherd of Middle Iron Age to early Roman period [8/008]. However, given the high potential for such a small sherd to represent an intrusive piece, the feature cannot be dated with certainty.

4.9.5 A third possible feature was observed to the south, but upon excavation was found to represent an area of geological variation. The clay in this area was extremely hard and broken up, and a small fragment of coal and chip of degraded cbm are

believed to represent intrusive objects which had washed into cracks within the underlying geology. No cut could be observed [8/006].

#### 4.10 Trench 9 (Fig. 4)

4.10.1 Trench 9 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
9/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	16.53
9/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.14m	16.23
9/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	16.09
9/004	Void					
9/005	Deposit	Burnt Natural	1.47m	1.16m	0.09m	16.34
9/006	Cut	Cut of Gully	Tr.	0.45m	0.20m	16.24
9/007	Fill	Fill of Gully	Tr.	0.45m	0.20m	16.24
9/008	Cut	Cut of Ditch	Tr.	1.15m exposed	0.37m exposed	16.32
9/009	Fill	Fill of Ditch	Tr.	1.15m exposed	0.37m exposed	16.32

Table 10: Context Register, Trench 9

#### 4.10.2 Summary

4.10.3 An irregular sub-circular patch of compact reddish-brown clay with occasional charcoal fragments [9/005] located within the eastern end of the trench represents the scorched surface of the underlying natural geology. No distinct cut was observed, and this feature is thought to represent traces of a surface bonfire or heath. No dating evidence was observed.

4.10.4 An irregularly sided linear feature, measuring up to 0.45m in width, with a maximum depth of 0.20m was observed crossing the trench on a north-south axis [9/006]. This feature had a very irregular concave profile, with an irregular concave base. It was filled by compact dark brownish grey silty clay, which contained occasional fragments of burnt clay, charcoal and 5 small sherds of Middle Iron Age to the early Roman period pottery [9/007].

4.10.5 At the far eastern end of a trench a second linear was observed, partially exposed extending from the eastern baulk [9/008]. 1.15m of the width of this feature was exposed in plan. Upon excavation this feature was found to have a concave western profile, with a partially exposed concave base. It was filled by a mid orangish brown, extremely compact silty clay, which contained occasional FCF, and a single sherd of Late Iron Age to early Roman pottery. The single sherd recovered from this fill cannot be used to definitely date this feature, and it was thought during excavation that the similarity of the feature fill to the overlying subsoil deposit may indicate that the ditch represents a late, possibly post-medieval boundary ditch [9/009].



#### 4.11 Trench 10

4.11.1 Trench 10 measured 30m in length, and was orientated and was orientated on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment.

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Max Height m.AOD
10/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	20.43
10/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	20.13
10/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	20.03

Table 11: Context Register, Trench 10

#### 4.11.2 Summary

4.11.3 No archaeological features were observed within this trench. Several potential features were investigated, but confirmed to be of geological origin.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 A small collection of finds was recovered during the evaluation at Penrith Way, Langley, Eastbourne. The assemblage is quantified in Table 1, below:

Context	Pottery	wt [g]	CBM	wt [g]	Flint	wt [g]	FCF	wt [g]	CTP	wt [g]	F Clay	wt [g]	Glass	wt [g]
6 002	1	42	1	70					2	4				
10 002			1	42										
8 008	1	<2	1	<2	1	30								
3 002					1	30								
9 007	5	4	2	<2										
9 005			4	<2										
9 009	1	<2					1	6						
9 001	3	80									3	46	1	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>36</b>

Table 12 Quantification of finds

### 5.2 The prehistoric and Roman pottery by Anna Doherty

5.2.1 The evaluation produced 7 small bodysherds, weighing 6 grams. A sparsely flint-tempered sherd with a quartz-rich matrix was recovered from context [8/008] and 5 small sherds in a glauconitic ware were found in context [9/007]. Both these fabric types are most characteristic of groups dating from the Middle Iron Age to the very early Roman period, although they probably first appeared earlier in the 1st millennium BC. Context [9/009] produced a single grog-tempered sherd. This fabric type was common throughout the Late Iron Age and Roman periods in East Sussex.

### 5.3 The post Roman pottery by Trista Clifford

5.3.1 Three fragments of 19th –early 20th century pottery were recovered from context [9/001], including pieces from a stoneware bottle. Context [6/002] contained a dark green glazed base fragment from a stoneware dish or bowl.

### 5.4 The fired clay by Trista Clifford

5.4.1 Three amorphous fired clay fragments in a low fired, grog tempered fabric were recovered from [9/001]. They are undiagnostic of date.

### 5.5 The clay tobacco pipe by Trista Clifford

5.5.1 Two stem fragments from two separate clay tobacco pipes came from [6/002]. Both are late 18<sup>th</sup>- 19<sup>th</sup> century in date.

**5.6 The glass** by Trista Clifford

5.6.1 A single neck fragment from a colourless mineral water bottle was recovered from [9/001]. It is 20<sup>th</sup> century in date.

**5.7 The Ceramic Building Material** by Sarah Porteus

5.7.1 A small assemblage of ceramic building material was recovered with a combined weight of 112g. The assemblage was highly abraded suggesting possible displacement through ploughing. The only easily datable fragment was recovered from context [6/002] which contained a peg tile with well formed square peg hole of 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century day in an orange sandy fabric with abundant fine calcareous inclusions. In a similar fabric to the peg tile was an under-fired fragment of CBM from context [10/002] of uncertain form, most likely brick, the fragment could be of any date between the Roman and modern periods. Contexts [9/007] [9/005] and [8/008] all contained highly abraded fragments of possible CBM, though may be very high fired clay, these fragments are all small enough to be intrusive to any context and cannot be accurately dated.

**5.8 Flintwork** by Karine Le Hégarat

5.8.1 The small lithic assemblage recovered from the archaeological work on Land off Penrith Way, Langley, Eastbourne was composed of a single burnt unworked flint weighing 6g and a single struck flint weighing 30g. The implement came from the fill [8/008] of ditch [8/007]. It was manufactured from light to mid grey fine grey flint with frequent cherty inclusions and consisted of an end scraper made on a tertiary flake. The artefact displayed continuous abrupt retouches along the convex distal end and, although unretouched, both lateral edges showed signs of having been utilised. The tool isn't chronologically diagnostic.

Context	Context description	End Scraper	Fire-cracked flint No./Wt. [g]
8/008	Fill of ditch [8/007]	1	-
9/009	Fill of ditch [9/008]	-	1/6
<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1/6</b>

Table 13: The flintwork

## **6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Karine Le Hégarat**

### **6.1 Introduction and Methodology**

6.1.1 Two bulk soil samples were extracted from Trench 8 and 9 during the course of the evaluation work at the site to establish evidence for charred macrobotanical remains, charcoal, bones and shells. Both samples originated from features containing ceramics dated to the Middle Iron Age to Early Roman. Sample <1> was taken from the silty clay fill [9/007] of gully [9/006] interpreted as a possible boundary or enclosure ditch and sample <2> originated from the silty clay fill [8/005] of ditch [8/004]. The samples were processed in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes and air dried. The residues were passed through graded sieves (4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains. The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications. An overview of the sample contents is recorded in Table 14.

### **6.2 Results**

6.2.1 The flots were dominated by uncharred vegetation (97% and 98% of the total flots respectively), consisting almost entirely of modern fine roots. As the deposits were not waterlogged or well enough sealed for anaerobic preservation, this could indicate some post-depositional disturbance and potential contamination of the deposits. The archaeobotanical remains were restricted to infrequent and predominantly small fragments of wood charcoal. No other classes of biological materials were present. A small amount of amorphous fragments of fired clay measuring <12mm in size were recovered from both residues.

### **6.3 Discussion**

6.3.1 The bulk environmental samples taken during the evaluation work confirmed the presence of a limited assemblage of charcoal. However, the assemblage is too limited to provide meaningful interpretations regarding fuel use or the vegetation environment and the evidence for modern disturbance limits their dating potential.

Table 14: Sample Quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	sub-Sample Volume litres	Flot									Residue				Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
					weight g	Flot volume ml	Sub-Sample ml	Uncharred %	sediment %	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)		
1	9/007	Fill of gully [9/006]	40	40	86	500	100	97	2	*	**	**			*	<2	FCF */<2g - B. Clay **/16g	
2	8/005	Fill of ditch [8/004]	30	30	26	170	-	97	2	*	*		**	2	*	<2	FCF */<2g - B. Clay **/10g	

## **7.0 DISCUSSION**

### **7.1 Prehistoric to early Roman**

7.1.1 Seven Middle Iron Age to Early Roman pottery sherds were recovered from features within Trenches 8 and 9. However, these probably represent residual finds.

### **7.2 Post-medieval**

7.2.1 Despite a lack of dating evidence, it is thought that the North-South orientated linear feature [9/008], located at the far eastern end of Trench 9 may represent the remains of a post-medieval boundary ditch, broadly following the same alignment as the modern field boundary.

### **7.3 Modern**

7.3.1 A series of small modern postholes, located at the northern end of Trench 9 were found cut through the site subsoil. They have no clear agricultural function, and it has been considered that these features may represent traces of military defences, for example anti-aircraft fences. However, the shallow and fairly ephemeral nature of the postholes may preclude this suggestion.

### **7.4 Undated**

7.4.1 An undated posthole was identified in Trench 1, and a shallow irregularly sided pit located in Trench 5 may represent an area of bioturbation. A single undated gully was observed in Trench 3. A trace of burning, likely to have derived from a surface fire, located within Trench 9 may be related to the Middle Iron Age to early Roman period activity described above.

## **8.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- 8.1** A small number of discrete features and ditches were identified, together with a very small quantity of pottery of typical Late Iron Age or Romano-British fabric (7 small body sherds weighing 6 grams in total). No positive evidence of settlement activity was recorded and the small finds assemblage suggests that these features probably represent remote agricultural field boundary ditches.
- 8.2** Another field boundary ditch of probable post-medieval date was also observed in Trench 9 and several undated features were identified across the site.
- 8.3** A small focus of modern activity was recorded in the northern part of Trench 6.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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CgMs, 2010. Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land off Penrith Way, Langney, Eastbourne, East Sussex

ESCC, 2009. Standards and Requirements for Archaeological Fieldwork in East Sussex

IFA, 2008. Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field evaluation

## **Acknowledgements**

ASE would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work and ESCC for their guidance throughout the project.



**HER Summary Form**

<b>Site Code</b>	PWL11					
<b>Identification Name and Address</b>	Penrith Way, Langley, Eastbourne, East Sussex					
<b>County, District &amp;/or Borough</b>	East Sussex					
<b>OS Grid Refs.</b>	56230 10370					
<b>Geology</b>	Weald Clay					
<b>Arch. South-East Project Number</b>	4631					
<b>Type of Fieldwork</b>	Eval. X	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
<b>Type of Site</b>	Green Field X	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
<b>Dates of Fieldwork</b>	Eval. 11- 14/07/ 2011	Excav.	WB.	Other		
<b>Sponsor/Client</b>	CgMs					
<b>Project Manager</b>	Andy Leonard					
<b>Project Supervisor</b>	Alice Thorne					
<b>Period Summary</b>	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA X	RB
	AS	MED	PM X	Other Modern		
<b>100 Word Summary</b>						
<p>An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land off Penrith Way, Langney, Eastbourne, East Sussex, in July 2011 (site centred NGR TQ 6230 0370). Ten 30m long evaluation trenches were excavated. A small number of discrete features and ditches were identified, together with a very small quantity of pottery of typical Late Iron Age or Romano-British fabric (7 small body sherds weighing 6 grams in total). No positive evidence of settlement activity was recorded and the small finds assemblage suggests that these features probably represent remote agricultural field boundary ditches. Another field boundary ditch of probable post-medieval date was also observed in Trench 9 and several undated features were identified across the site. A small focus of modern activity was recorded in the northern part of Trench 6.</p>						

## OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-105394**

### Project details

Project name	Penrith Way, Langney
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land off Penrith Way, Langney, Eastbourne, East Sussex, in July 2011 (site centred NGR TQ 6230 0370). Ten 30m long evaluation trenches were excavated. A small number of discrete features and ditches were identified, together with a very small quantity of pottery of typical Late Iron Age or Romano-British fabric (7 small body sherds weighing 6 grams in total). No positive evidence of settlement activity was recorded and the small finds assemblage suggests that these features probably represent remote agricultural field boundary ditches. Another field boundary ditch of probable post-medieval date was also observed in Trench 9 and several undated features were identified across the site. A small focus of modern activity was recorded in the northern part of Trench 6.
Project dates	Start: 11-07-2011 End: 14-07-2011
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	PWL11 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	DITCH Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination [eg. As a condition]

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX EASTBOURNE EASTBOURNE Penrith Way, Langney
Postcode	XXXXXX
Study area	300.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 6230 0370 50.8094887244 0.303894936170 50 48 34 N 000 18 14 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 12.00m Max: 20.00m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	East Sussex County Council
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Alice Thorne
Type of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Eastbourne Leisure Heritage and Museum Service ( accession number ELHAMS 2011.12).
Physical Contents	'Ceramics'
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Contents	Eastbourne Leisure Heritage and Museum Service ( accession

	number ELHAMS 2011.12).
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Survey'
Paper Archive recipient	Eastbourne Leisure Heritage and Museum Service (accession number ELHAMS 2011.12).
Paper Contents	'Ceramics','Environmental','Stratigraphic','Worked stone/lithics','other'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section'

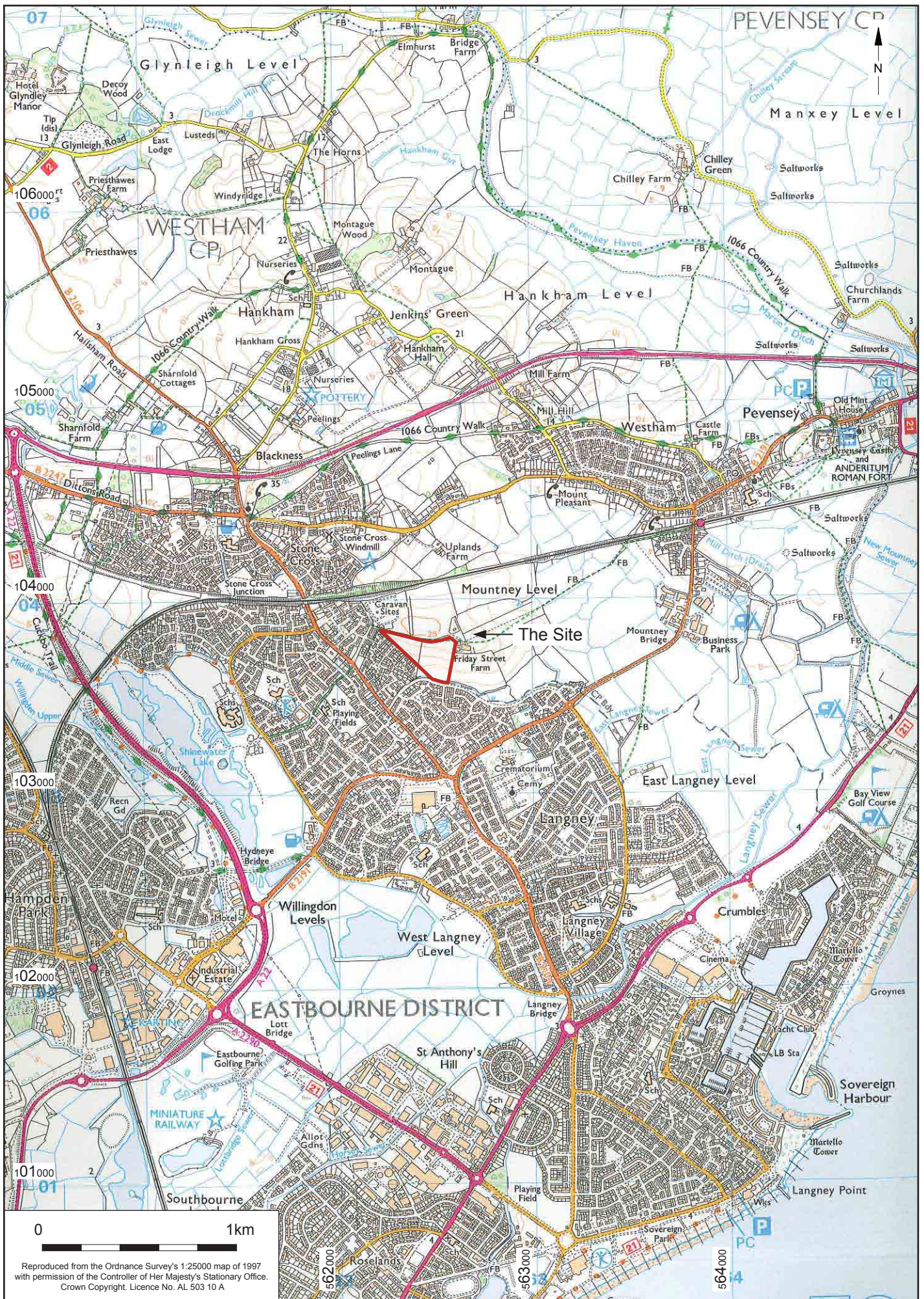
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**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature [unpublished document/manuscript]
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation on
Author[s]/Editor[s]	Thorne, A
Other bibliographic details	2011174
Date	2011
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Archaeology South-East
Description	Grey literature

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Entered by	Alice Thorne [tcrnath@ucl.ac.uk]
Entered on	18 July 2011

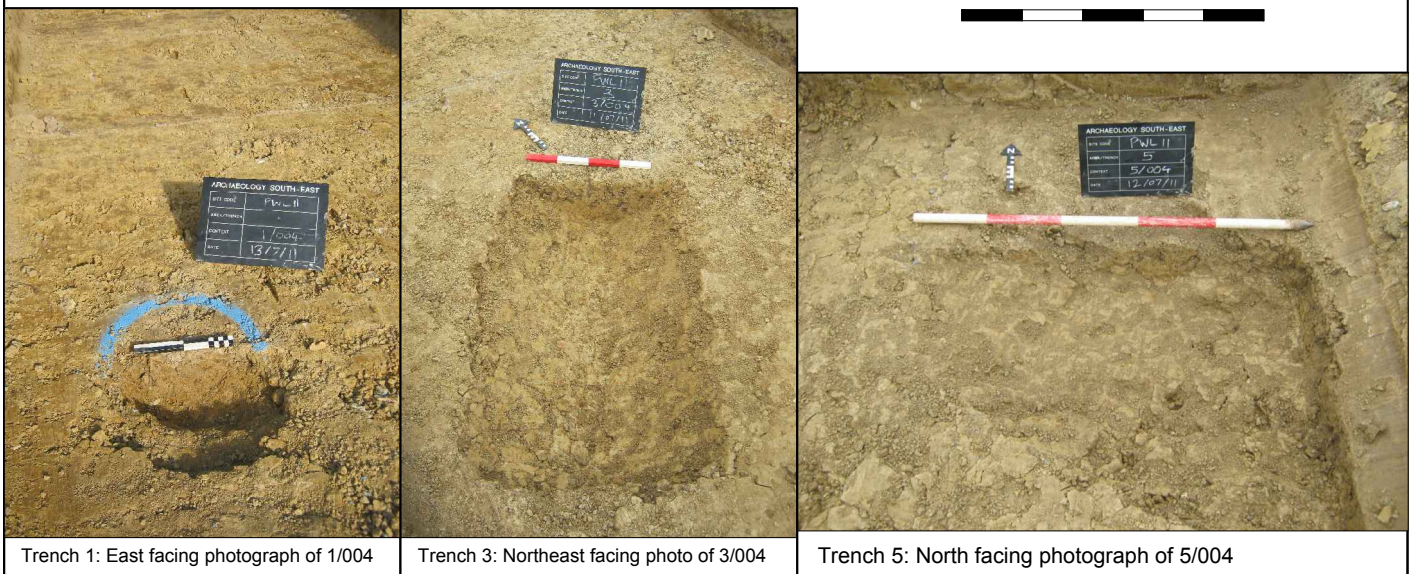
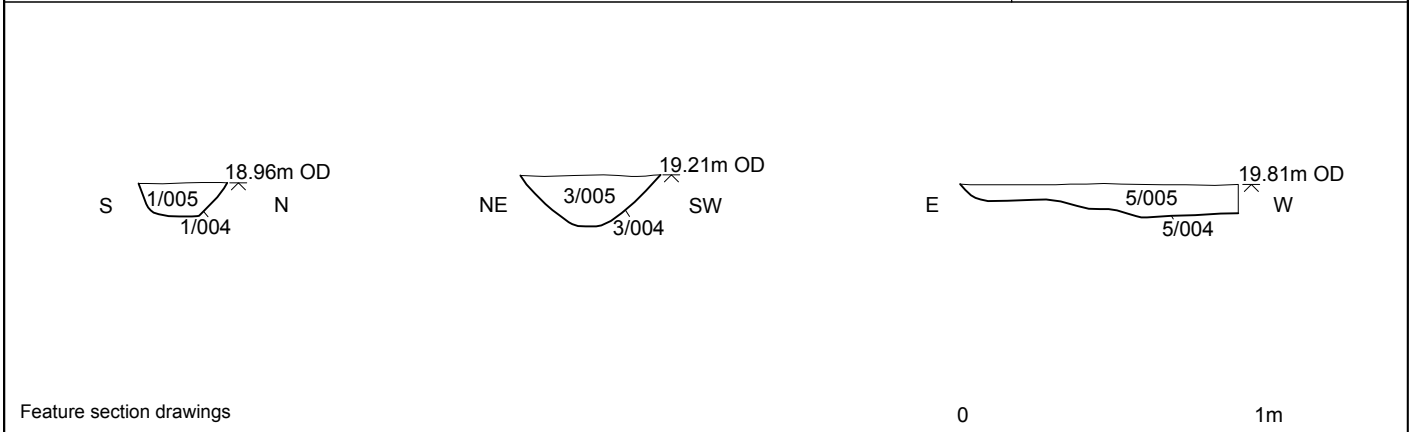
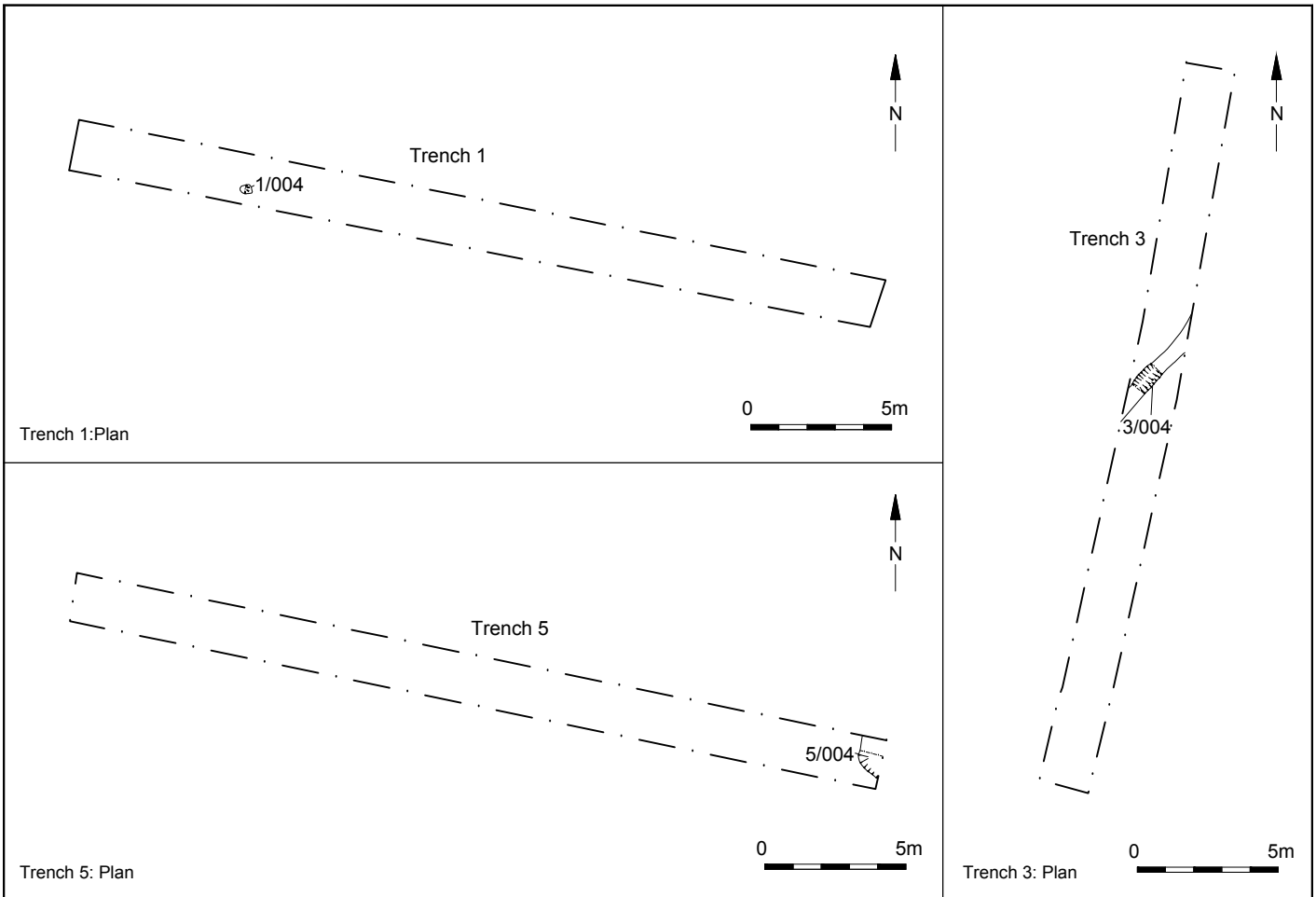


© Archaeology South-East		Penrith Way, Langney, Eastbourne	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4631	July 2011	Site location	
Report Ref: 2011174	Drawn by: LD		



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© Archaeology South-East		Penrith Way, Langney, Eastbourne	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4631	May 2011	Trench location plan	
Report Ref: 2011174	Drawn by: LD		



© Archaeology South-East		Penrith Way, Langney, Eastbourne		Fig. 3
Project Ref: 4631	July 2011	Trench 1, 3 and 5: plans, sections and photographs		
Report Ref: 2011174	Drawn by: LD			



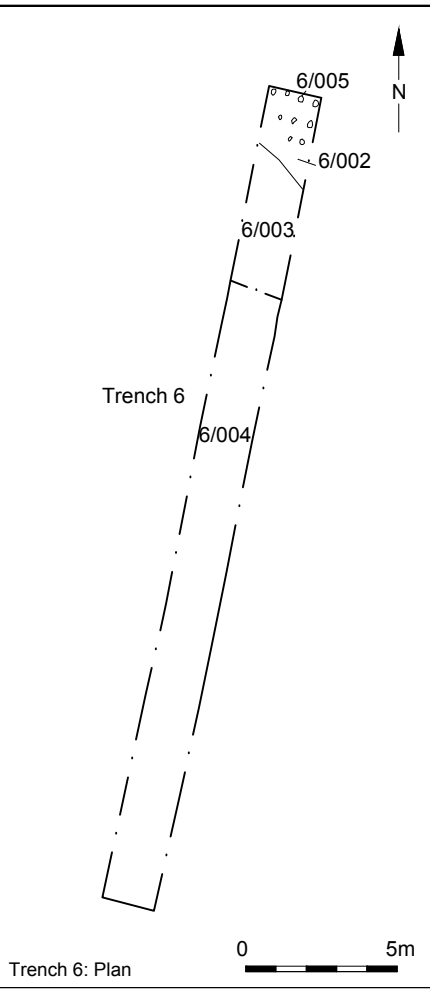
Trench 6: North facing photograph of 6/005



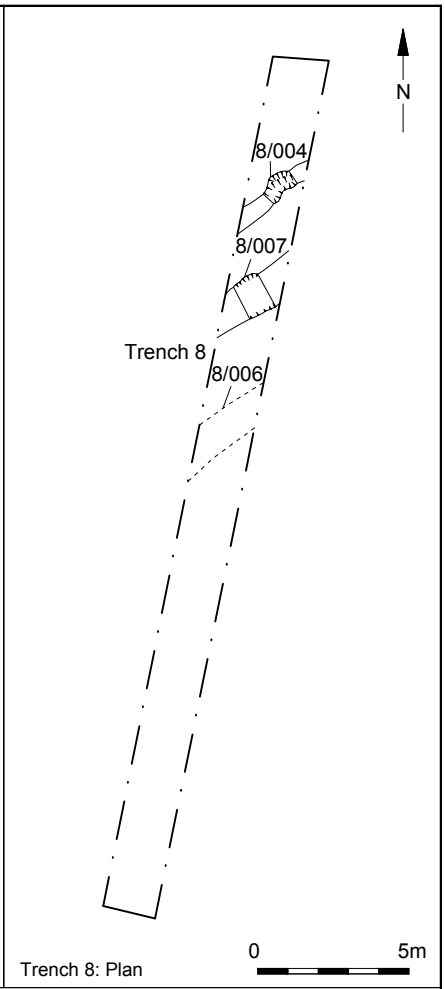
Trench 8: East facing photograph of 8/004



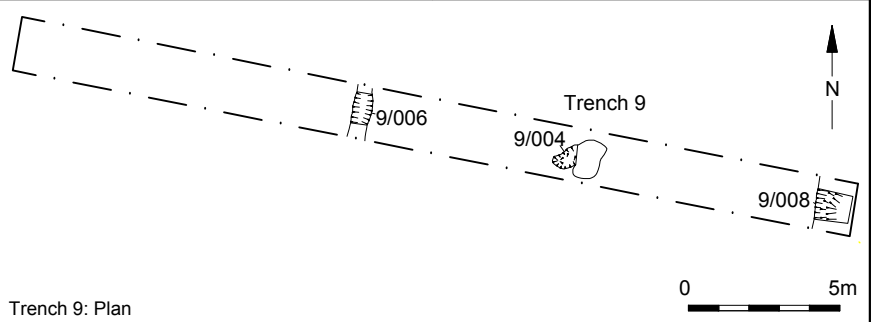
Trench 9: North facing photograph of 9/008



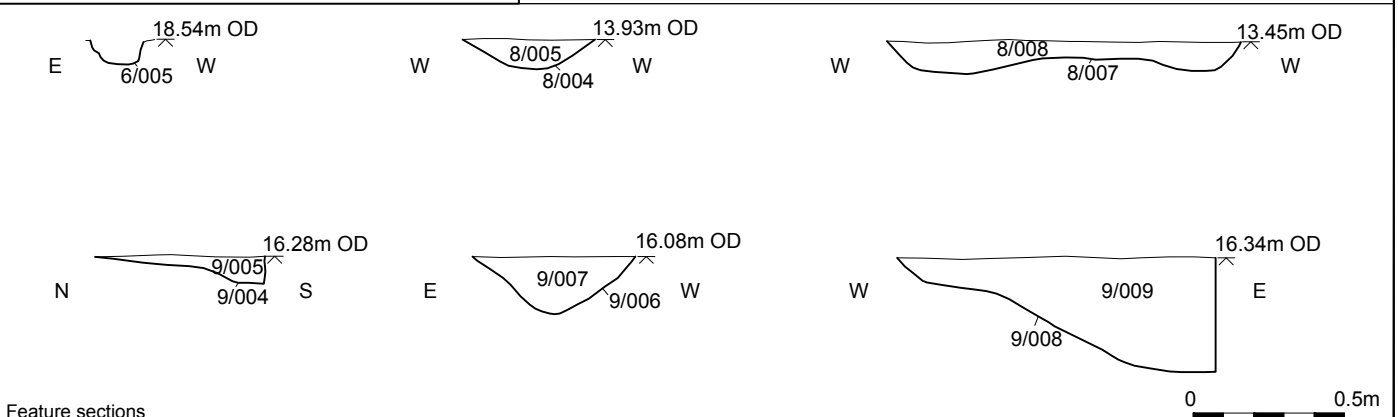
Trench 6: Plan



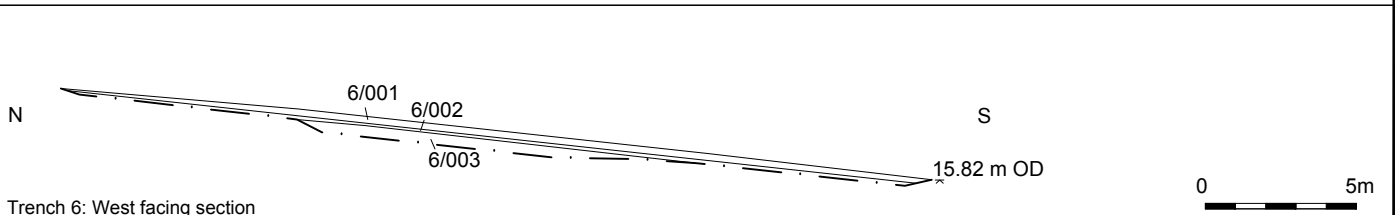
Trench 8: Plan



Trench 9: Plan



Feature sections



Trench 6: West facing section

© Archaeology South-East		Penrith Way, Langney, Eastbourne	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 4631	July 2011	Trench 6, 8 and 9: Plan, sections and Photographs	
Report Ref: 2011174	Drawn by: LD		



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