

**An Archaeological Evaluation
Mid Kent College, Horsted Centre,
Maidstone Road, Chatham,
Kent**

NGR: 5748 1648

Planning Application Code: MC/11/0001

**ASE Project no: 5015
ASE Report No: 2011183**

**Site Code: WKC11
Oasis ID: archaeol6-105780**

By Giles Dawkes BA MIFA

July 2011

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Abstract

A 23 trench archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East (ASE) at the site of the former Mid Kent College campus, Chatham, Kent in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The work was carried out in July 2011 and was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of Countryside Properties.

The trenches can be divided into two groups: those on the hill-top (Trenches 1-4 and 17-23) and those on the eastern hill slope (Trenches 5-16). Apart from Trenches 8 and 10 located on the cusp of the eastern hill-slope, all the trenches located on the hill-top were devoid of cut archaeological features and finds suggesting this area has been previously truncated, either during the construction of the 19th century fort or, more likely, the construction of the college in the 20th century. The trenches located on the hill-slope were similarly devoid of archaeological features and finds. No buried topsoil deposit was found suggesting the area was stripped of topsoil before the levelling material was dumped.

Undated cut features did survive in Trenches 8 and 10 on the periphery of the hill-top but their shallow depth suggests they also have suffered a degree of horizontal truncation. There was no indication of the date or function of these features despite their complete excavation within the trenches.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology (UCLCAA), was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. on behalf of their client, Countryside Partnership, to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of redevelopment on the site of the former Mid Kent College, Chatham, Kent (NGR 5748 1648; Figure 1) hereafter referred to as 'the site'.

1.2 Location, Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site currently comprises a former college facility on the eastern side of Maidstone Road.
- 1.2.2 According to current data from the British Geological Survey the superficial geology of the site is clay-with-flints formation and the underlying bedrock is Seaford Chalk formation (BGS 2011).
- 1.2.3 The original topography of the study site comprised a downward slope from north to south. Terracing has been carried out associated with the construction of the existing former college facility.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological evaluation followed recommendations made by the Heritage Conservation Group at Kent County Council to Medway Borough Council in response to planning application MC/11/0001. The following condition was attached to the planning consent:

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 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation and timetable which has been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: to ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded in accordance with Policy BNE21 of the Medway Local Plan 2003.

- 1.3.2 A Specification (CgMs 2011) for the archaeological evaluation was prepared by CgMs and approved by the Heritage Conservation Group at Kent County Council (HCG, KCC). This document outlined the requirements for the archaeological fieldwork.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The aims and objectives for the evaluation were laid out in the Specification (CgMs 2011) and are reproduced below. The evaluation aimed to

- assess whether any archaeological remains survive on site and to provide an assessment of their significance
- consider the likely impact of the development proposals of the scheme on any archaeological remains
- provide guidance on what mitigation measures would be appropriate

1.4.2 As a general objective the evaluation set out to ascertain the extent, depth below ground surface, depth of deposit, character, significance and condition of any archaeological remains on site.

1.5 Scope of this Report

1.5.1 This document presents the results of the archaeological evaluation conducted at the site.

1.5.2 The fieldwork was undertaken by Giles Dawkes (Senior Archaeologist), Catherine Douglas (Assistant Archaeologist) and surveyed by John Cook (Archaeologist). The project was managed by Jon Sygrave (Project Manager) and Jim Stevenson (Post-excavation Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The Desk Based Assessment

- 2.1.1 An archaeological desk-based study of the site was produced by CgMs (2010) and the following, with due reference, is a summary.

2.2 Prehistoric

- 2.2.1 No prehistoric features or finds have been identified within 750m of the study area and the potential for this period is considered low.

2.3 Roman

- 2.3.1 The Roman town of Rochester (*Durobrivae*) developed northwest of the study site, where the line of Watling Street crossed the River Medway towards London. The road running along the western boundary of the study site forms part of the Roman road linking Rochester with Maidstone and Hastings. The study site is considered to have moderate potential for this period.

2.4 Medieval

- 2.4.1 During the medieval period, Rochester developed in association with the Castle and Cathedral to the northwest, while Chatham to the northeast comprised a small fishing village. No features or finds of medieval date have been identified within 750m of the site although a medieval manor is likely to have lain to the immediate north. The potential for this period is considered as moderate.

2.5 Post-medieval

- 2.5.1 The First Edition Ordnance Survey (1866) shows the study site comprising unoccupied land, with the buildings of Horsted Farm situated in the southwestern corner, and the road running across the central part of the site.
- 2.5.2 In 1859, Lord Palmerston instigated the *Royal Commission on the Defence of the United Kingdom* to review the nation's defences, in view of possible French attack and because developing military technology had rendered existing facilities obsolete. Its report the following year recommended the construction of a series of forts to strengthen the existing Chatham Lines against landward attack from the east. Fort Horsted, which abuts the northeastern boundary of the study site, was the largest of five forts which made up the 'Chatham Ring', which comprised the last fixed fortifications built in England. The forts were completed 1875-1890, and it understood that Horsted was complete by 1889.
- 2.5.3 The forts comprised massive concrete structures with additional earthen mounds positioned over magazines and barrack rooms. The fort ditches were also reinforced with concrete and counterscarp galleries were included beyond the footprint of the forts, to provide firing positions into the moat of the fort should it be overrun during attack. The forts did not feature fixed artillery firing positions as developing military theory was in favour of mobile weaponry at the time of construction. The potential for the post-medieval period is considered low.

2.6 Modern

- 2.6.1 The impact of previous development is believed to have been severe and widespread as a result of 20th-century development.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork

- 3.1.1 The evaluation work comprised of 23 archaeological trenches measuring 20m by 1.8m excavated under archaeological supervision using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. The trenches were located in between the standing building and in the former car park.
- 3.1.2 The trenches were located and levelled using a GPS station (Figure 2). Any uncovered archaeological features or deposits were planned. A photographic record of the site, trenches and archaeological features was maintained throughout the evaluation.
- 3.1.3 The excavations were excavated to the top of the underlying geology or to the surface of any archaeological deposit; whichever was higher. Revealed surfaces were manually cleaned to identify individual archaeological features. Each deposit uncovered during the archaeological trial-trenching was assigned its own unique context number prefixed with the trench number. The sections of the trenches were cleaned to observe and record their stratigraphy. The removed spoil was scanned for the presence of any stray, unstratified artefacts which were recovered and bagged for dating and analysis.

3.2 The Site Archive

- 3.2.1 The project archive is currently held at offices of ASE and has been offered to Maidstone Museum from whom we await a reply. The contents of the archive are tabulated below for reference in this report (Table 1).

Number of Trenches	23
Number of Contexts	80
No. of files/paper record	1 file
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	0
Photographs	40
Bulk finds	0
Registered finds	0
Environmental flots/residue	0

Table 1: Quantification of the site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height Max m AOD
1/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	115.57
1/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	115.47
1/003	Deposit	Brown clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	115.17

Table 2: List of recorded contexts from Trench 1

4.1.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.2 Trench 2 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
2/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	115.60
2/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	115.50
2/003	Deposit	Brown clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	115.25

Table 3: List of recorded contexts from Trench 2

4.2.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.2.2 A sondage was excavated in the south end of the trench into the natural to a depth of 1.25m below ground level.

4.3 Trench 3 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
3/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	116.34
3/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	116.24
3/003	Deposit	Brown clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	116.04

Table 4: List of recorded contexts from Trench 3

4.3.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.3.2 A sondage was excavated in the south end of the trench into the natural to a depth of 1.55m below ground level.

4.4 Trench 4 (Figure 2)

Context	Context	Context	Max	Max	Deposit	Height
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Number	Type	Description	Length	Width	Thickness (max)	Max m AOD
4/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	116.60
4/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	116.50

Table 5: List of recorded contexts from Trench 4

4.4.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.4.2 A gas service pipe was encountered along the entire length of the trench and the excavation was stopped.

4.5 Trench 5 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
5/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	115.96
5/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	115.86
5/003	Deposit	Redeposited chalk layer	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	115.61
5/004	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flint natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	115.41

Table 6: List of recorded contexts from Trench 5

4.5.1 Layer [5/003] was a sterile redeposited chalk seen throughout the trench and around 0.2m thick. The trench was adjacent to the south side of the ditch of the post-medieval fort and layer [5/003] may be an upcast deposit from the digging of the ditch and associated with the levelling of the area around the military installation. However, there were no finds from the layer and this deposit could equally date to the construction of the college in the mid-20th century.

4.6 Trench 6 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
6/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	115.59
6/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	115.44
6/003	Deposit	Brown clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	115.19

Table 7: List of recorded contexts from Trench 6

4.6.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.7 Trench 7 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
7/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.05m	114.01
7/002	Deposit	Clay and chalk fragments	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	113.96
7/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints	Tr.	Tr.	NA	113.66

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
		natural				

Table 8: List of recorded contexts from Trench 7

4.7.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.8 Trench 8 (Figures 2 and 3)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
8/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	115.76
8/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.80m	115.56
8/003	Deposit	Clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	114.76
8/004	Cut	Gully	Tr.	0.82m	0.10m	114.76
8/005	Fill	Gully fill	Tr.	0.82m	0.10m	114.76
8/006	Cut	Gully	Tr.	2.66m	0.07m	114.76
8/007	Fill	Gully fill	Tr.	2.66m	0.07m	114.76
8/008	Cut	Pit	1.3m	-	0.08m	114.76
8/009	Fill	Pit fill	1.3m	-	0.08m	114.76

Table 9: List of recorded contexts from Trench 8

4.8.1 Gullies [8/004] and [8/006] were both aligned approximately north-south with flat bases and shallow sides. Fills [8/005] and [8/007] were both sterile green grey clays with no finds and no inclusions.

4.8.2 Sub-circular pit [8/008] had concave sides with a flat base and was filled by sterile grey clay [8/009].

4.9 Trench 9 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
9/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	113.44
9/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.50m	113.24
9/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	112.74

Table 10: List of recorded contexts from Trench 9

4.9.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.10 Trench 10 (Figures 2 and 4)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
10/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	115.72
10/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	115.52
10/003	Deposit	Clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	115.32

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
10/004	Cut	Sub-circular pit	0.76m	-	0.2m	115.32
10/005	Fill	Pit fill	0.76m	-	0.2m	115.32

Table 11: List of recorded contexts from Trench 10

4.10.1 Solitary sub-circular pit [10/004] was cut into the natural. The feature had concave sides with a flat base and was filled by sterile green grey stiff clay [10/005] with no finds.

4.11 Trench 11 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
11/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	113.47
11/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.80m	113.27
11/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	112.47

Table 12: List of recorded contexts from Trench 11

4.11.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.11.2 Deposit [11/002] comprised dumps of modern brick rubble, brown silt and chalk tipped down the hill from the west to level the slope in advance of the construction of the mid-20th century car park.

4.12 Trench 12 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
12/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	115.40
12/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.80m	115.20
12/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	114.40

Table 13: List of recorded contexts from Trench 12

4.12.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.12.2 Deposit [12/002] comprised dumps of modern brick rubble, brown silt and chalk tipped down the hill from the west to level the slope in advance of the construction of the mid-20th century car park.

4.13 Trench 13 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
13/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	114.07

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
13/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.65m	113.92
13/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	113.27

Table 14: List of recorded contexts from Trench 13

4.13.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.13.2 Deposit [13/002] comprised dumps of modern brick rubble, brown silt and chalk tipped down the hill from the west to level the slope in advance of the construction of the mid-20th century car park.

4.14 Trench 14 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
14/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	115.34
14/002	Deposit	Brown gravel silt colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	115.14
14/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	114.94

Table 15: List of recorded contexts from Trench 14

4.14.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.15 Trench 15 (Figures 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
15/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	115.38
15/002	Deposit	Brown gravel silt colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	115.18
15/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	114.88

Table 16: List of recorded contexts from Trench 15

4.15.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.16 Trench 16 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
16/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	114.88
16/002	Deposit	Brown gravel silt colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	114.68
16/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	114.38

Table 17: List of recorded contexts from Trench 16

4.16.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.17 Trench 17 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
17/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	116.85
17/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	116.75
17/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	116.45

Table 18: List of recorded contexts from Trench 17

4.17.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.18 Trench 18 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
18/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	117.43
18/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	117.23
18/003	Deposit	Clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	116.93

Table 19: List of recorded contexts from Trench 18

4.18.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.19 Trench 19 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
19/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	117.59
19/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m	117.39
19/003	Deposit	Buried topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	116.99
19/004	Deposit	Chalk natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	116.79

Table 20: List of recorded contexts from Trench 19

4.19.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.19.2 Deposit [19/002] was dumped above previous topsoil as part of the landscaping of the college grounds.

4.20 Trench 20 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
20/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	117.34
20/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.80m	117.14
20/003	Deposit	Clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	116.44

Table 21: List of recorded contexts from Trench 20

4.20.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.21 Trench 21 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
21/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	117.19
21/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	117.09
21/003	Deposit	Chalk and clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	116.79

Table 22: List of recorded contexts from Trench 21

4.21.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.22 Trench 22 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
22/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	116.11
22/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m	115.91
22/003	Deposit	Clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	115.51

Table 23: List of recorded contexts from Trench 22

4.22.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.23 Trench 23 (Figure 2)

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Max Length	Max Width	Deposit Thickness (max)	Height Max m AOD
23/001	Deposit	Tarmac	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	116.67
23/002	Deposit	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m	116.57
23/003	Masonry	Concrete footings	Tr.	0.3m	NA	116.57
23/004	Deposit	Clay with flints natural	Tr.	Tr.	NA	116.17

Table 24: List of recorded contexts from Trench 23

4.23.1 No archaeological features or finds were encountered.

4.23.2 Concrete footing [23/003] comprised concrete foundation beams and the stubs of two vertical stanchions of a former modern building.

5.0 Finds and Samples

- 5.1 There were no finds recovered during the evaluation and no deposits suitable for environmental sampling were exposed.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1** The trenches can be divided into two groups: those on the hill-top (Trenches 1-4 and 17-23) and those on the eastern hill slope (Trenches 5-16).
- 6.2** Apart from Trenches 8 and 10, located on the cusp of the eastern hill-slope, all the trenches located on the hill-top were devoid of cut archaeological features and finds. This suggests that this area has been previously truncated, either during the construction of the 19th century fort or, more likely, the construction of the college in the 20th century.
- 6.3** The trenches located on the hill-slope were similarly devoid of archaeological features and finds. No buried topsoil deposit was found, suggesting before the levelling material was dumped, the area was stripped of topsoil.
- 6.4** The undated features appeared to survive to the periphery of the hill-top but their shallow depth suggests they also have suffered a degree of horizontal truncation. There is no indication of the date or function of these features despite their complete excavation within the trenches.
- 6.5** The extensive evidence of truncation and the absence of dated archaeological features strongly suggest that the site has little or no potential for the survival of archaeological deposits.

Bibliography

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HER Summary Form

Site Code	MKC 11					
Identification Name and Address	Mid Kent College, Horsted Centre, Maidstone Road, Chatham					
County, District &/or Borough	Chatham, Kent					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 748 648					
Geology	Chalk					
Arch. South-East Project Number	5015					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. June 2011	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Countryside Properties					
Project Manager	Jon Sygrave					
Project Supervisor	Giles Dawkes					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Modern		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>A 23 trench archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East (ASE) at the site of the former Mid Kent College campus, Chatham, Kent in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The work was carried out in July 2011 and was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of Countryside Properties.</i></p> <p><i>The trenches can be divided into two groups: those on the hill-top (Trenches 1-4 and 17-23) and those on the eastern hill slope (Trenches 5-16). Apart from Trenches 8 and 10 located on the cusp of the eastern hill-slope, all the trenches located on the hill-top were devoid of cut archaeological features and finds suggesting this area has been previously truncated, either during the construction of the 19th century fort or, more likely, the construction of the college in the 20th century. The trenches located on the hill-slope were similarly devoid of archaeological features and finds. No buried topsoil deposit was found suggesting the area was stripped of topsoil before the levelling material was dumped.</i></p> <p><i>Undated cut features did survive in Trenches 8 and 10 on the periphery of the hill-top but their shallow depth suggests they also have suffered a degree of horizontal truncation. There was no indication of the date or function of these features despite their complete excavation within the trenches.</i></p>						

OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: archaeol6-105780

Project details

Project name Mid Kent College Chatham

A 23 trench archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East (ASE) at the site of the former Mid Kent College campus, Chatham, Kent in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The work was carried out in July 2011 and was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of Countryside Properties.

Short description of the project

The trenches can be divided into two groups: those on the hill-top (Trenches 1-4 and 17-23) and those on the eastern hill slope (Trenches 5-16). Apart from Trenches 8 and 10 located on the cusp of the eastern hill-slope, all the trenches located on the hill-top were devoid of cut archaeological features and finds suggesting this area has been previously truncated, either during the construction of the 19th century fort or, more likely, the construction of the college in the 20th century. The trenches located on the hill-slope were similarly devoid of archaeological features and finds. No buried topsoil deposit was found suggesting the area was stripped of topsoil before the levelling material was dumped.

Undated cut features did survive in Trenches 8 and 10 on the periphery of the hill-top but their shallow depth suggests they also have suffered a degree of horizontal truncation. There was no indication of the date or function of these features despite their complete excavation within the trenches.

Project dates Start: 18-07-2011 End: 22-07-2011

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project reference codes 5015 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes MKC11 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Community Service 1 - Community Buildings

Monument type PIT Uncertain

Methods & techniques 'Sample Trenches'

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt Planning condition

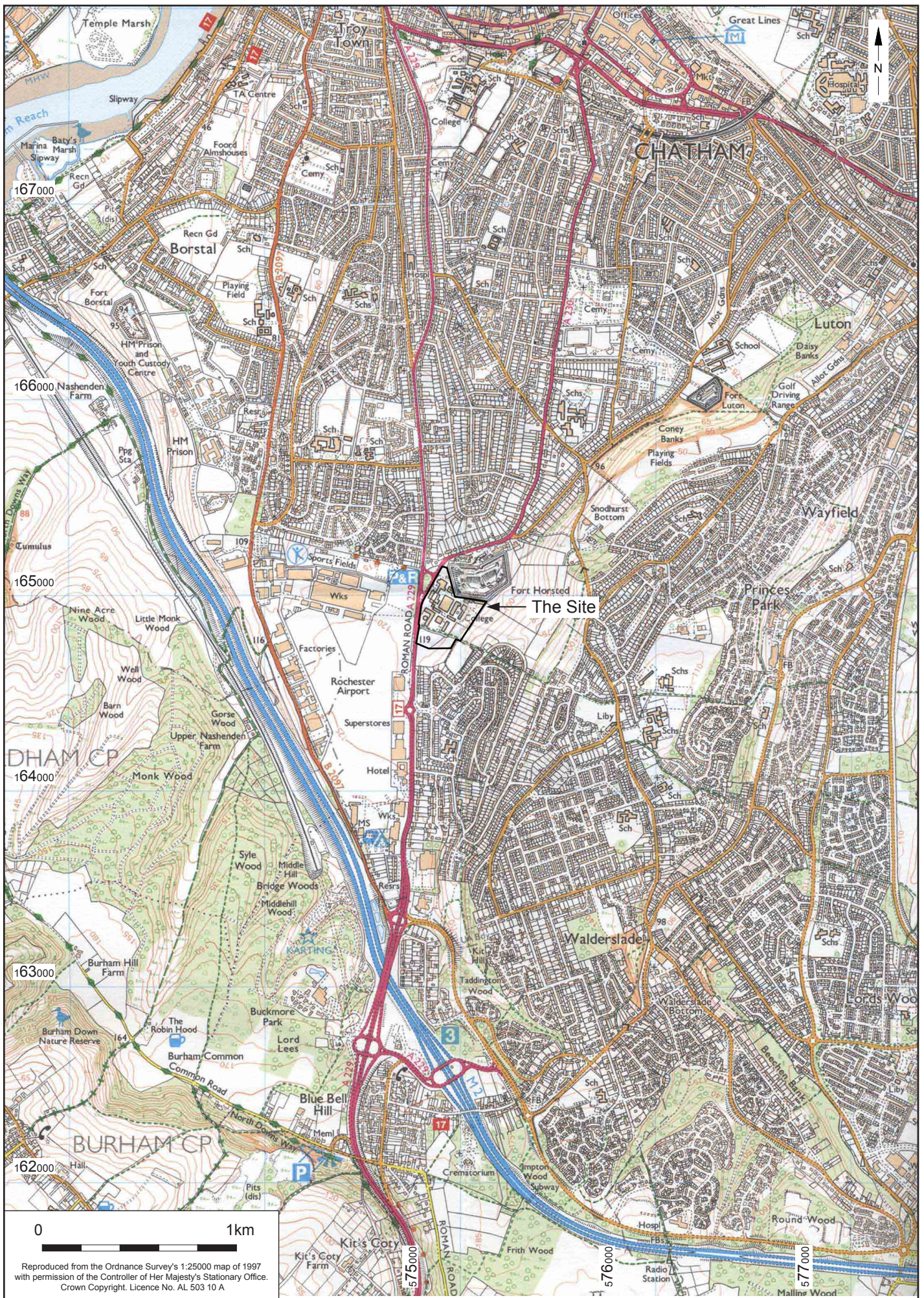
Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England

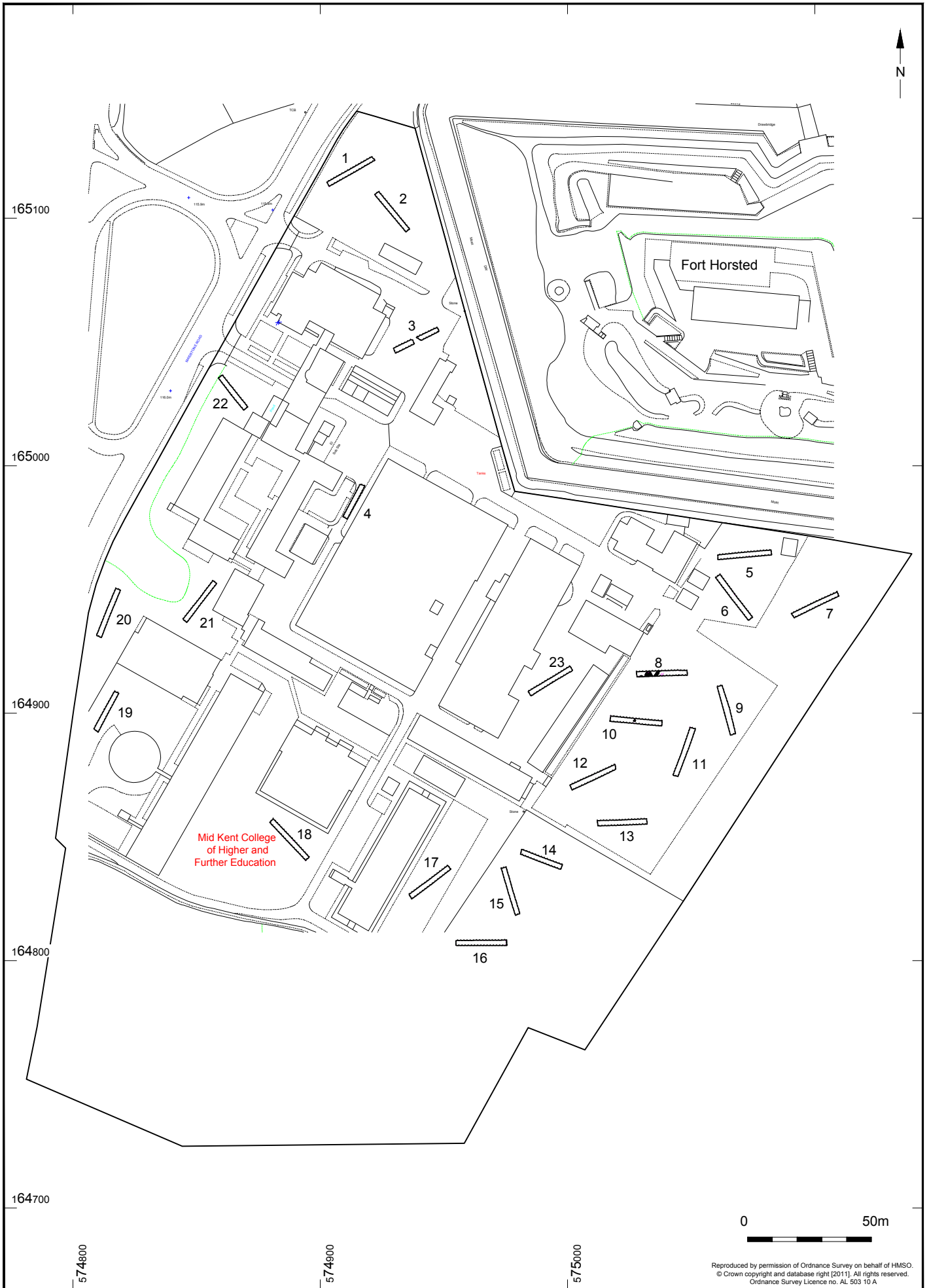
Site location KENT MEDWAY CHATHAM Mid Kent College, Horsted Centre, Maidstone Road, Chatham, Kent

Postcode ME1 2XY
Study area 1.20 Hectares
Site coordinates TQ 748 648 51.3547971973 0.510721810306 51 21 17 N 000
30 38 E Point
Height OD / Depth Min: 115.00m Max: 116.00m
Project creators
Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator Kent County Council
Project design originator CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager Jon Sygrave
Project supervisor Giles Dawkes
Type of sponsor/funding body private client
Name of sponsor/funding body Countryside Properties
Project archives
Physical Archive recipient MAIDSTONE MUSEUM
Digital Archive recipient MAIDSTONE MUSEUM
Digital Media available 'Text'
Paper Archive recipient MAIDSTONE MUSEUM
Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey '
Project bibliography 1
Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title An Archaeological Evaluation Mid Kent College, Horsted Centre, Maidstone Road, Chatham, Kent
Author(s)/Editor(s) Giles Dawkes
Other bibliographic details 2011183
Date 2011
Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication Portslade
Description Grey report
Entered by Giles Dawkes (gilesdawkes@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on 25 July 2011

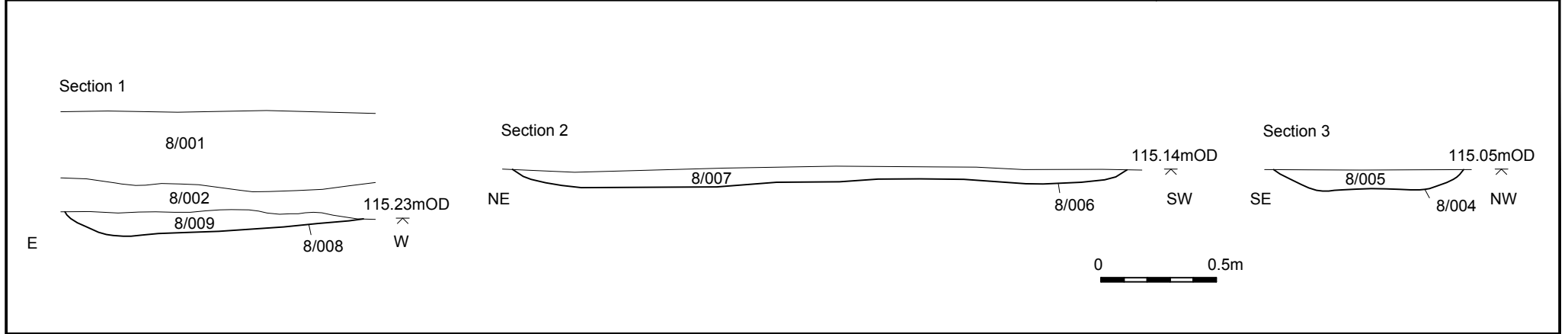
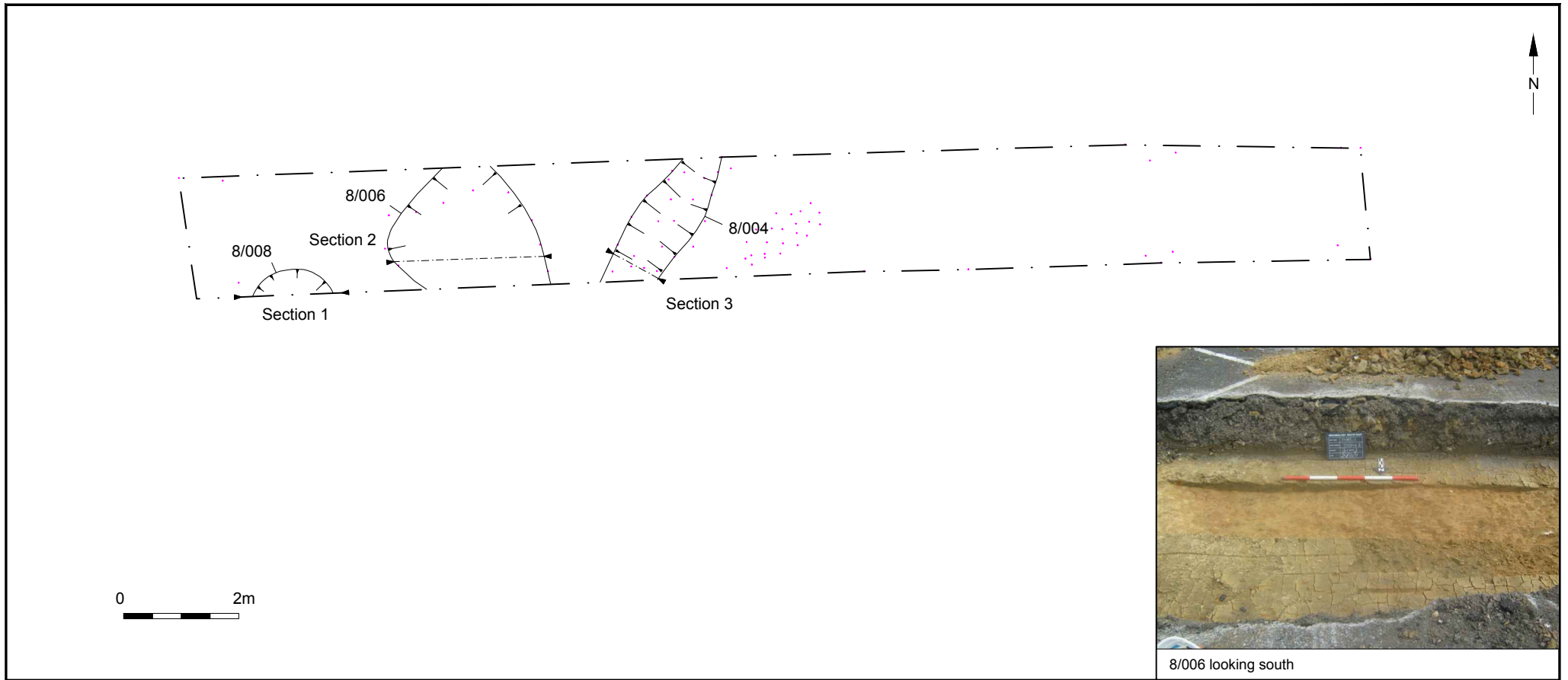


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Project Ref: 5015	July 2011	Site location	
Report Ref: 2011183	Drawn by: JLR		

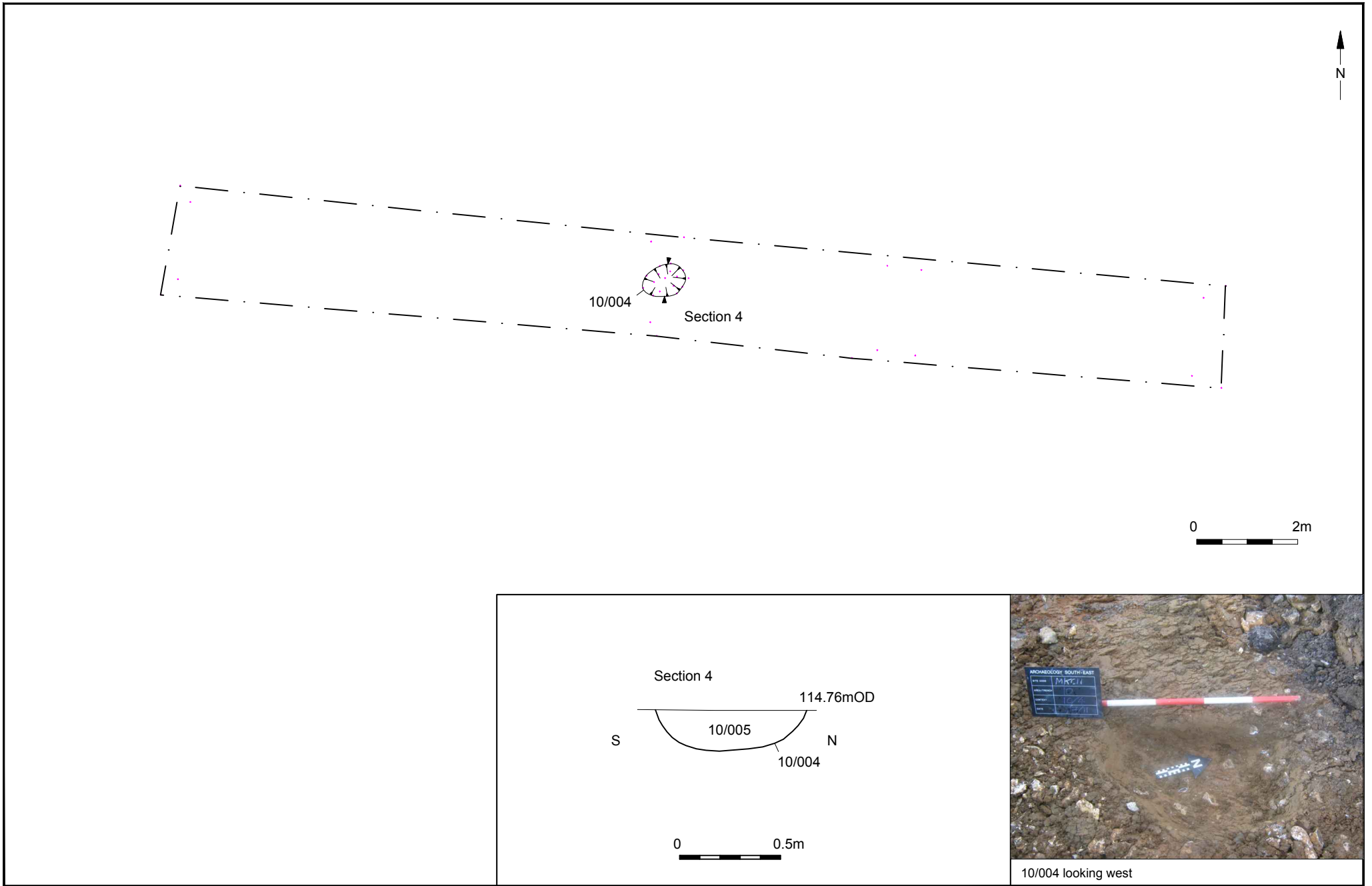
Fig. 1



© Archaeology South-East		Mid Kent College, Chatham	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 5015	July 2011	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2011183	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Mid Kent College, Chatham	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 5015	July 2011	Trench 8: plan, sections and photograph	
Report Ref: 2011183	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Mid Kent College, Chatham	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 5015	July 2011	Trench 10: plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2011183	Drawn by: JLR		

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