

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Church Farm Holiday Village
Pagham, West Sussex**

**NGR: 488483 097349
(SZ 88483 97349)**

**ASE Project No: 5403
Site Code: PHP10**

**ASE Report No. 2012099
OASIS ID: archaeol6-124218**

By John Cook BSc AlfA

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**Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR**

**Tel: 01273 426830
Fax: 01273 420866
Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk**

Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by A & M Architectural Partnership on behalf of their client Bourne Leisure Ltd to conduct a programme of archaeological evaluation on land at Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex in advance of a proposed development. The work was undertaken on the 19th April 2012. A single evaluation trench, measuring 2 metres in length was excavated. The trench was excavated to the maximum reach of the excavator at 1.53m OD.

Despite known archaeological activity in the surrounding area, no evidence of archaeological remains was recorded and no artefacts were recovered in the evaluation. Made ground was identified in three layers with a total thickness of 1.55m. The made ground identified corresponds with the raised area of the existing bowling green suggesting that the ground was raised up during construction. Although no archaeological evidence was observed the depth of made ground has provided a protective layer and there is still the potential that archaeological remains may exist below this horizon.

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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 (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL), was commissioned by A & M Architectural Partnership on behalf of their client Bourne Leisure Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex (Figure 1; centred on NGR 488483 097349) in advance of minor development (hereafter 'the site').

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site comprises a small plot of grass adjacent to an existing bowling green within Church Farm Holiday Village, bounded by trees and hedges to the south and east.

1.2.2 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 2012) the site lies over bedrock geology of London Clay Formation - Clay, Silt And Sand with superficial deposits of Raised Marine Deposits - Clay, Silt, Sand And Gravel and River Terrace Deposits (Undifferentiated) - Sand, Silt And Clay.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The proposed development comprises the erection of a new activity base adjacent to existing outdoor leisure facilities within the holiday village (Figure 2).

1.3.2 A planning application and Scheduled Monument Consent application will be submitted in due course, but due to the sites archaeological potential (see below) and legal status as a Scheduled Monument it has been deemed appropriate by Richard Massey, (English Heritage) that a small machine dug test trench be excavated in advance of determination of the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC). This approach will also allow the John Mills, Senior Archaeologist, West Sussex County Council to provide informed comments to the Local Planning Authority when consulted during consideration of the planning application.

1.3.3 In the event that locally, or greater, significant archaeology is present that will be unavoidably damaged by the proposed development, relevant areas are very likely require a further, more detailed archaeological fieldwork stage (Stage 2) of excavation, recording and reporting. Such Stage 2 works may be in the form of targeted or open area archaeological excavation in advance of development or by means of an archaeological watching brief during development.

1.3.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the Stage 1 Trial Trench Evaluation was prepared by Archaeology South-East (ASE 2012) and submitted to Richard Massey and John Mills for approval prior to the commencement of the work.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

- 1.4.1 The evaluation aimed to determine the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- 1.4.2 The evaluation also sought to clarify the nature and extent of any existing disturbance and intrusions and assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 This report details the findings of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by John Cook and Liz Chambers on the 19th April 2012. The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager) and Dan Swift (Project Manager, post-excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The following background section has been reproduced from the WSI (*ibid.*).
- 2.1.1 Becket's Barn has been described as one of the "humbler" surviving buildings of the former Pagham Rectory. (Collins and Fleming 1958, 135). The earliest written record of the Rectory date to 1299, at which time the Barn, built originally as a dwelling in the first half of the 13th century, had been standing for at least 50 years (Gregory 1976, 208). It is not clear from written records whether the Barn was in fact the Parsonage House, however, by the second half of the 17th century, a survey of the Rectory refers to the building as a barn and this appears to have been its function until the late 20th century (Gregory 1976 208) The wider site is thought to have once contained a granary. Depressions to the south of the barn have been interpreted as fish ponds and a moat or sluices associated with Pagham Mill which is thought to lie to the south east of the site (Collins and Fleming 1958, 138).
- 2.2 Previous investigations
- 2.2.1 Three significant archaeological investigations have been undertaken at Becket's Barn or in its immediate environs in modern times. Between 1956 and 1957, excavations within the barn itself revealed a series of medieval/post-medieval floors and an internal wall (Collins and Fleming 1958). A cobbled surface, subsequently re-excavated in 1974 (see below) was found in a trench to the north of the barn.
- 2.2.2 In 1974, four trenches were excavated, two to the north, one within the barn and one immediately to the south (Gregory 1976). Three phases of activity were identified: Romano-British, Saxon and Medieval. Romano-British remains comprised c. 2nd-century AD drainage ditches. Saxon remains included an 8th-century AD cobbled path (previously recorded during the 1956-7 excavations) and a probable midden. The cobbled surface was cut by several ditches and a small gully, which contained carbonised grain and charcoal dated to 820 +/- 60 A.D. medieval mortar floor levels dating to the later 13th – early 14th century were recorded within the barn, while the footings of a corridor or pentice were revealed against the south wall of the barn. Further to the north, medieval ditches, a probable floor and 14th-century rubbish pits were also recorded.
- 2.2.3 In 1993, SEAS excavated two evaluation trenches to the south of the barn (Fig. 2) (Gardiner 1993). Prehistoric and Saxo-Norman pottery was recovered from a later deposit, but no associated features were identified. The 'corridor' recorded in 1974 was re-excavated and interpreted as a possible later garden feature, while an undated area of Mixon stone possible pavement was uncovered further to the south.
- 2.2.4 In 1954, a Saxon cinerary urn of suggested late 6th- to 7th-century date was found in St Thomas a Becket's churchyard to the north-west of the barn (Collins 1955, 123-5). In 1990, the Trust for Wessex Archaeology excavated a trench to the east of Church Farm and carried out fieldwalking in a field to the west of the Holiday Village (Heaton and Trott 1990).

- 2.2.5 ASE carried out an archaeological evaluation on the site in advance of the submission of the planning application for the construction of a new building adjacent to the existing central reception building (ASE 2010). Two evaluation trenches were excavated. Trench T1 was taken down to the top of the alluvium at between 1.63m – 1.93m AOD: two ditches or channels were revealed at the base, running broadly N-S and a fragment of probably medieval floor tile was recovered from one of the fills. These features almost certainly represented the edges of a c. 10m wide and 60m long linear depression; this was an element of extensive earthworks on the site which have been variously interpreted as fish ponds or sluices related to a suggested tide-mill immediately to the south. Trench 2 was taken down to the top of the alluvium at 1.65mAOD: a pattern of fine cracking in the alluvium and the presence of a thin overlying deposit of humified peat was evidence for the relatively rapid drying out of this area of the site.
- 2.2.6 A subsequent watching brief (ASE forthcoming) identified a possible burnt mound which if verified may date to the Middle or Late Bronze Age. With the exception of a single sherd of Roman pottery from the alluvium, the watching brief did not identify any more evidence for the Romano-British or Saxon activity recorded during previous investigations. Chronologically, the next significant remains identified on the site probably represented a circular pigeon house that was perhaps an element of the original 13th-century Pagham Rectory complex. The origins of the earthworks to the south and east of Becket's Barn remain unclear, although they probably date to medieval or early post-medieval period.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 A single trench measuring 2m x 1m was machine excavated (Figure 2) as per the location specified in the WSI (ASE 2012). All work was conducted to accepted professional standards following the methodology described in the WSI (*ibid.*) and in line with West Sussex (WSCC 2007) and Institute for Archaeologists guidance documentation (IfA 2009).
- 3.2 The trench was excavated under archaeological supervision by a 0.85 tonne 360° excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Revealed surfaces were manually cleaned to identify any archaeological deposits or features. All spoil removed from the trenches was scanned visually and also scanned with a metal detector for the presence of any stray, unstratified artefacts.
- 3.3 Only undifferentiated topsoil, subsoil and overburden of recent origin was removed by machine and kept separately. The excavation was taken, in spits of no more than 0.1m for the top and sub soil, down to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the top of the underlying 'natural'
- 3.4 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2012.). Archaeological features and deposits were planned by GPS. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10.
- 3.5 A photographic record of the trenches and associated deposits and features was kept and forms part of the site archive.
- 3.6 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE. Permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit finds and paper archive in Chichester Museum. Chichester Museum have been given advance notice of the fieldwork.

Number of Contexts	4 contexts
No. of files/paper record	1 folder
Photographs	8 digital

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS (Figures 3 - 4)

Introduction

The trench was excavated near to an existing bowling green and encountered deposits of made ground and demolition material. No archaeological features or finds were found. The trench is numbered 3 following on from previous 2 trenches recorded at the site by ASE (ASE 2010).

4.1 Trench 3

Context No	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
3/001	Deposit	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.68m	3.12
3/002	Deposit	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.29m	2.44
3/003	Deposit	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.58m	2.15
3/004	Deposit	Alluvium?	Tr.	Tr.	-	1.57

Table 2: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

- 4.1.1 Trench 3 measured 2m in length and 1m in width and was orientated on an east-west alignment. The trench was excavated to the full reach of the excavator and did not encounter the natural horizon. No archaeological features or finds were observed within this trench.
- 4.1.2 An deposit [3/004], a mid greyish brown, probably alluvial, clay was observed at 1.57 m OD in the base of the trench. A made ground layer, [3/003], a mid orangey brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular pebbles, modern ceramic building material, and plastic, lay over [3/004]. Overlying [3/003] was a second layer of made ground, [3/002], a light greyish yellow silty sand with occasional sub-angular pebbles, ceramic building material and breeze blocks underlying a further deposit of made ground, [3/001], a mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional sub-angular pebbles, ceramic building material and a concrete slab.

5.0 DISCUSSION

5.1 Summary

- 5.1.1 The archaeological investigation uncovered no archaeological activity at the site.
- 5.1.1 Three deposits of recent made ground were identified in Trench 3. The natural horizon was not recorded due to the limitations of the excavation. A possible alluvial clay was observed right at the base of the trench.

5.2 Conclusions

- 5.2.1 Despite known archaeological activity in the surrounding area, no evidence of archaeological remains was recorded and no artefacts were recovered in the evaluation.
- 5.2.2 Made ground was identified in three layers with a total thickness of 1.55m. The made ground identified corresponds with the raised area of the existing bowling green suggesting that the ground was raised up during construction.
- 5.2.3 Although no archaeological evidence was observed there is still the potential that archaeological remains to exist below the made ground horizon.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank A & M Architectural Partnership and their client Bourne Leisure Ltd for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project, and John Mills, Senior Archaeologist, West Sussex County Council for his guidance and monitoring.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	PHP10					
Identification Name and Address	Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex.					
OS Grid Refs.	488483 097349					
Geology	London Clay Formation - Clay, Silt And Sand with superficial deposits of Raised Marine Deposits - Clay, Silt, Sand And Gravel and River Terrace Deposits (Undifferentiated) - Sand, Silt And Clay					
Arch. South-East Project Number	5403					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. X	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field X	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 19/4/12	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	A & M Architectural Partnership					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	John Cook					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		
Summary						
<p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by A & M Architectural Partnership on behalf of their client Bourne Leisure Ltd to conduct a programme of archaeological evaluation on land at Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex in advance of a proposed development. The work was undertaken on the 19th April 2012. A single evaluation trench, measuring 2 metres in length was excavated. The trench was excavated to the maximum reach of the excavator at 1.53m OD.</i></p> <p><i>Despite known archaeological activity in the surrounding area, no evidence of archaeological remains was recorded and no artefacts were recovered in the evaluation. Made ground was identified in three layers with a total thickness of 1.55m. The made ground identified corresponds with the raised area of the existing bowling green suggesting that the ground was raised up during construction. Although no archaeological evidence was observed the depth of made ground has provided a protective layer and there is still the potential that archaeological remains may exist below this horizon.</i></p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-124218

Project details

Project name Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by A & M Architectural Partnership on behalf of their client Bourne Leisure Ltd to conduct a programme of archaeological evaluation on land at Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex in advance of a proposed development. The work was undertaken on the 19th April 2012. A single evaluation trench, measuring 2 metres in length was excavated. The trench was excavated to the maximum reach of the excavator at 1.53m OD.

Short description of the project

Despite known archaeological activity in the surrounding area, no evidence of archaeological remains was recorded and no artefacts were recovered in the evaluation. Made ground was identified in three layers with a total thickness of 1.55m. The made ground identified corresponds with the raised area of the existing bowling green suggesting that the ground was raised up during construction. Although no archaeological evidence was observed the depth of made ground has provided a protective layer and there is still the potential that archaeological remains may exist below this horizon.

Project dates Start: 19-04-2012 End: 19-04-2012

Previous/future work Yes / Yes

Any associated project reference codes 4595 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes 4834 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Scheduled Monument (SM)

Current Land use Other 14 - Recreational usage

Methods & techniques 'Sample Trenches'

Development type Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)

Prompt Scheduled Monument Consent

Position in the planning process Pre-application

Project location

Country England

Site location WEST SUSSEX ARUN PAGHAM Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex

Postcode PO21 4NR

Study area 370.00 Square metres

Site coordinates SZ 88483 97349 50.7684006467 -0.745108100449 50 46 06 N 000 44 42
W Point

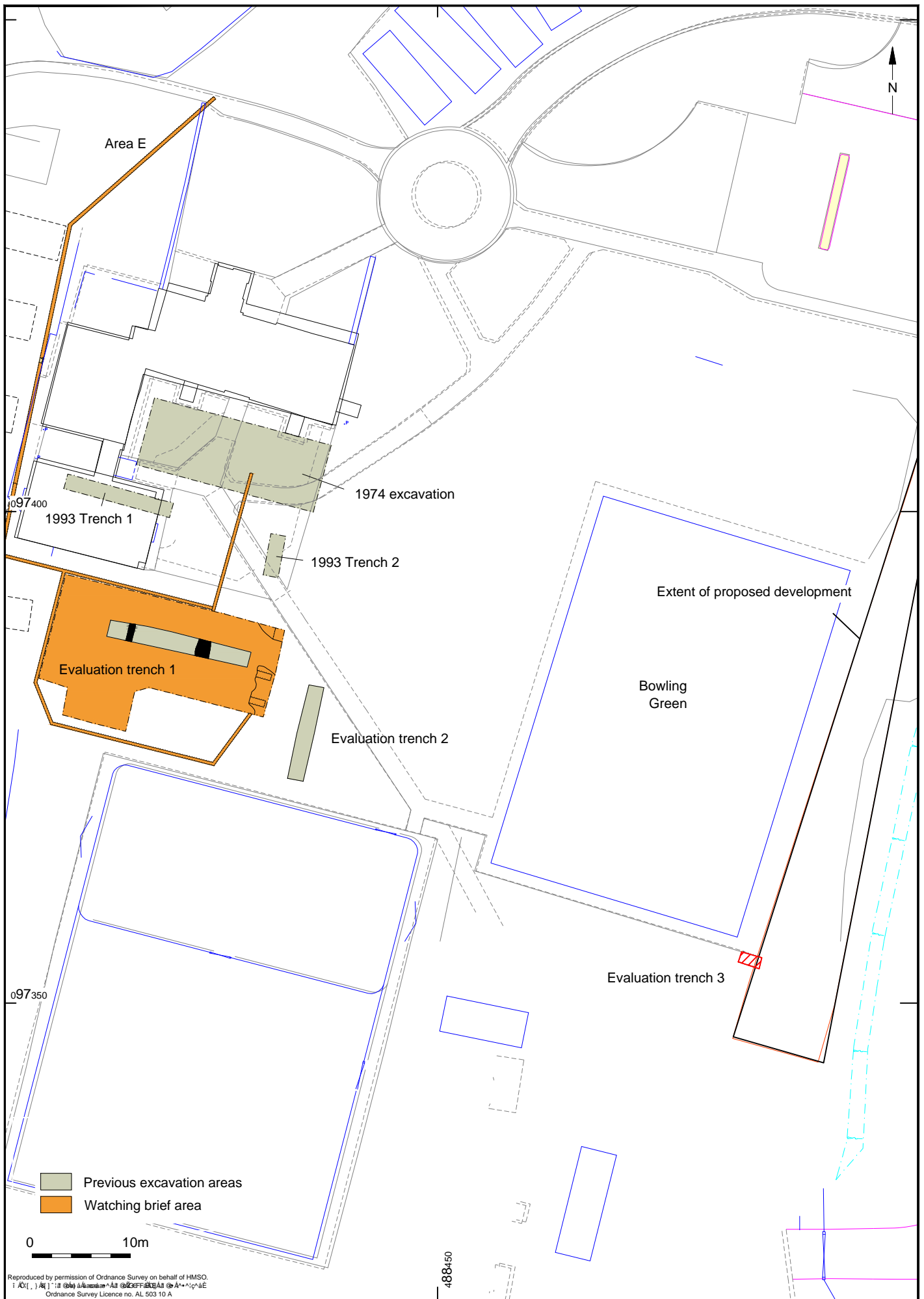
Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator	A and M Architectural Partnership
Project design originator	west sussex county council
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	John Cook
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Chichester Museum
Digital Contents	'Survey'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Chichester Museum
Paper Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey '
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cook, J.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No. 2012099
Date	2012
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Entered by	John Cook (john.cook@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	25 April 2012

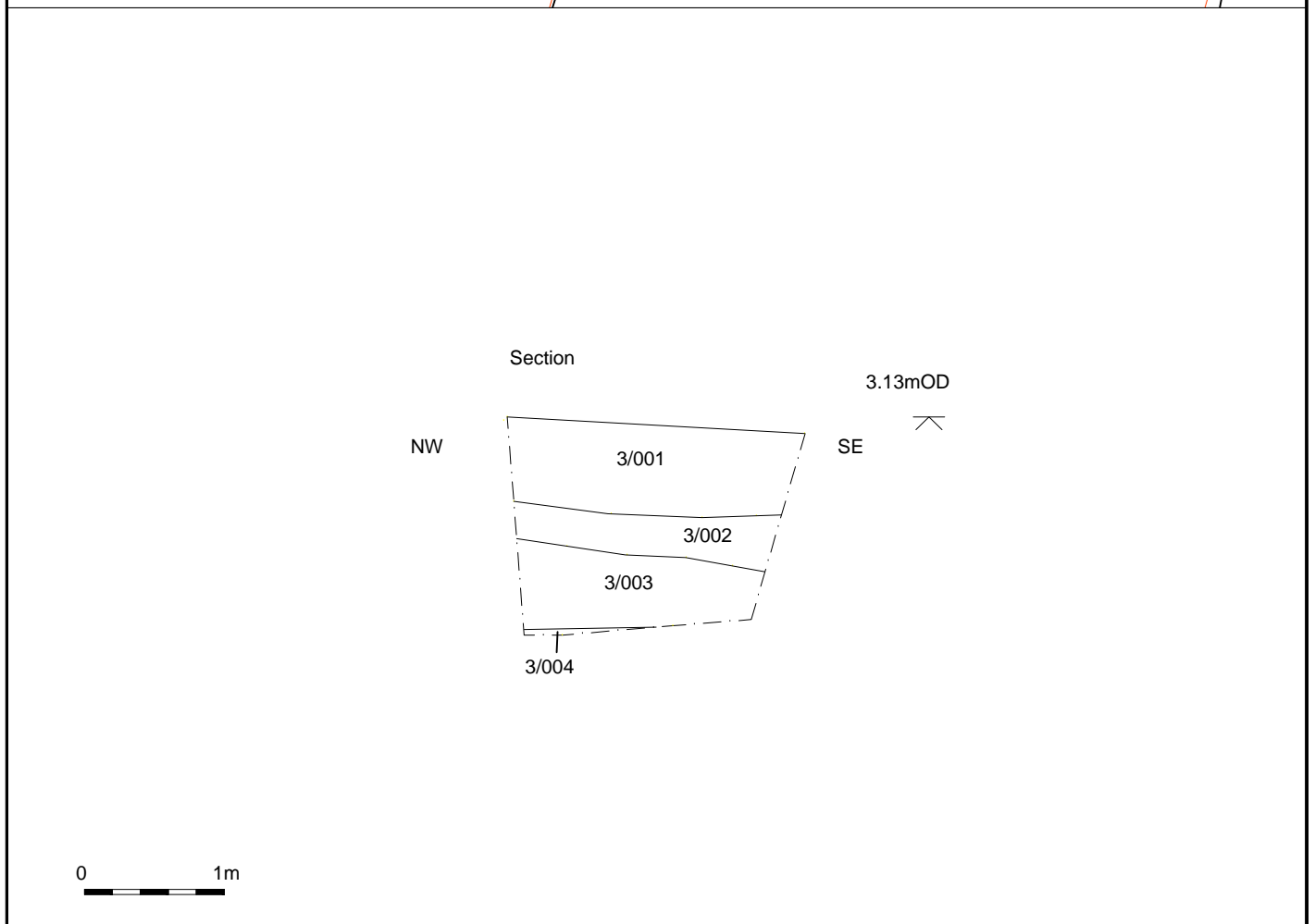
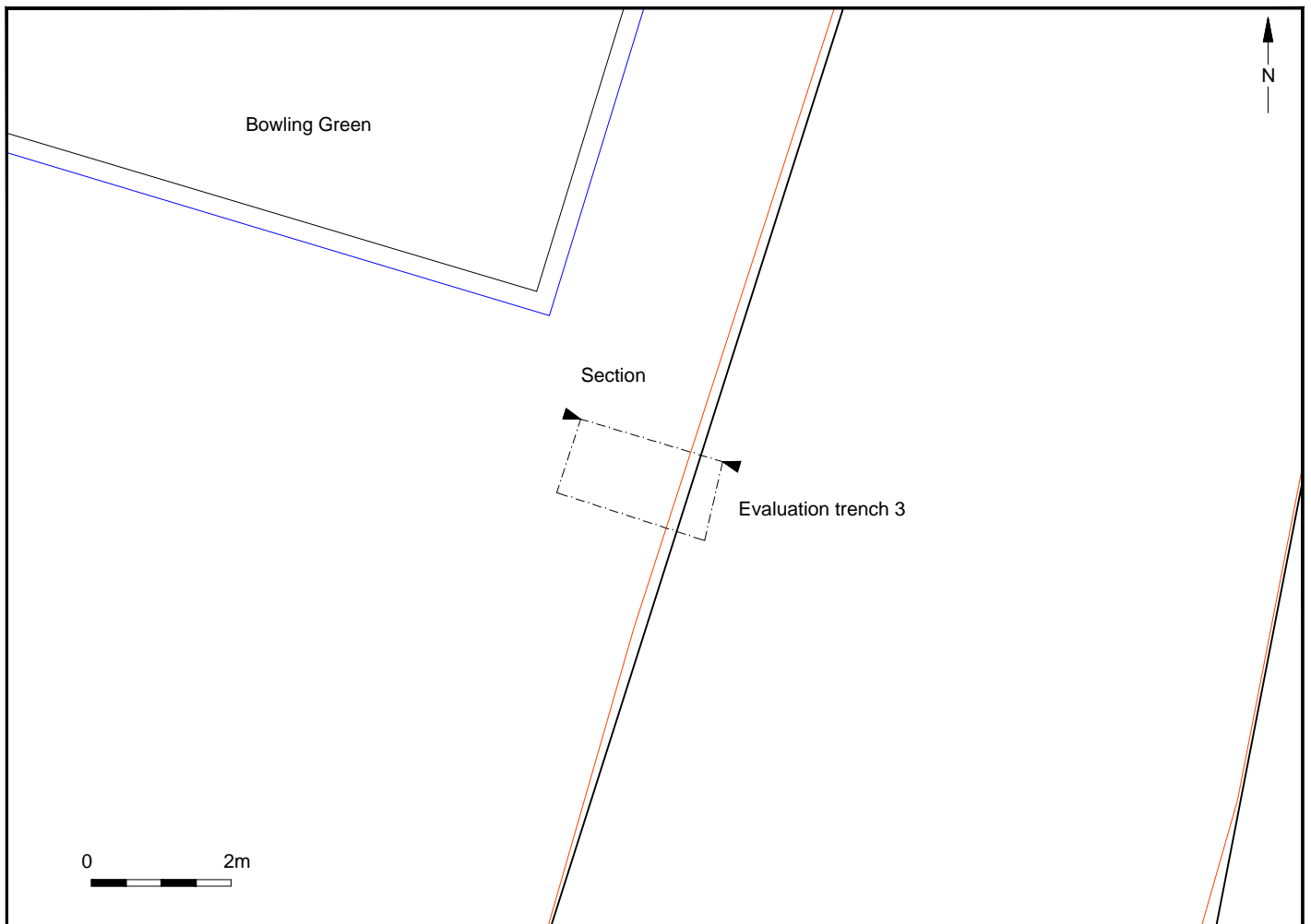


© Archaeology South-East		Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 5403	April 2012	Site location	
Report Ref: 2012099	Drawn by: JLR		



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↑ Archaeology South-East		Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 5403	April 2012	Site location showing nearby excavation areas		
Report Ref: 2012099	Drawn by: JC			



↑ Archaeology South-East		Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 5403	April 2012	Trench 3 section	
Report Ref: 2012099	Drawn by: JLR		



Fig.4a: Trench 3, facing north west



Fig.4b: Trench 3, section facing north east

↑ Archaeology South-East		Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 5403	April 2012	Photographs	
Report Ref: 2012099	Drawn by: JC		

Head Office
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1DR
Tel: +44(0)1273 426830 Fax:+44(0)1273 420866
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
Web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk



London Office
Centre for Applied Archaeology
Institute of Archaeology
University College London
31-34 Gordon Square, London, WC1 0PY
Tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778
Fax:+44(0)20 7383 2572
Web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

The contracts division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, University College London 

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