

**Final Report on Archaeological Investigations at  
The Mill Development, Shepham Lane  
Polegate, East Sussex**

**NGR 594500 050640**

**Wealden District Council Planning Reference WD/07/1054/MEA**

**ASE Project No: 4969**

**Site Code: SLP12**

**ASE Report No: 2012125**

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-127467**

**Eastbourne Museum Accession Number ELHAMS 2011.49**

**By Simon Stevens BA MIFA**

**With contributions from  
Anna Doherty, Luke Barber, Trista Clifford,  
Karine Le Hégarat and Dawn Elise Mooney**



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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the east of Shepham Lane, Polegate, East Sussex (The Mill Development). Trial trenching revealed a series of gullies and other features, but it was found that they were so amorphous and truncated that a large-scale excavation of the area was not deemed necessary. However, the extension of some of the trenches and the mechanical stripping of two Mitigation Areas allowed the examination of a limited range of archaeological deposits in advance of development.*

*A limited assemblage of residual struck flints dating from the Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age was recovered from the overburden and from a limited number of archaeological features. A single feature was datable to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period.*

*The majority of datable features identified at the current site could be dated to the medieval period, apparently forming a periodically realigned field system in use from the Saxo-Norman period through to the late 13<sup>th</sup> century. Only limited evidence of post-medieval activity was uncovered during the current project, often in the form of truncation of earlier archaeological features apparently from clearance of trees and bushes.*

*It is envisaged that the results of the archaeological work from the current site and other local excavations will be assimilated to provide a detailed chronological narrative of the sequence of human activity in the Dittons Road/Shepham Lane area of Polegate. It is suggested this work will be submitted for publication in a future volume of the Sussex Archaeological Collections.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London (UCL) Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the east of Shepham Lane, Polegate, East Sussex, now *The Mill* development (NGR594500 050640; Figure 1).

### **1.2 Topography and Geology**

1.2.1 The site is located to the north-east of the commercial centre of Polegate to the east of Shepham Lane at heights varying between c.9m AOD and c.15mAOD. It is bounded to the west by Shepham Lane, to the south by properties fronting onto Dittons Road, and to the north and east by agricultural land.

1.2.2 According to current data from the British Geological Survey the underlying bedrock across the entire site is part of the Wealden Clay Formation. There is no recorded superficial geology (BGS 2012).

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 Planning permission was granted by Wealden District Council for a residential development of 260 units at the site in 2007 (planning reference WD/07/1054/MEA). Following consultation between Wealden District Council and East Sussex County Council (Wealden District Council's advisers on archaeological issues), a condition (No. 45) was attached to the permission requiring that:

*'No development shall take place within the area indicated 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 which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the District Planning Authority.'*

1.3.2 Following consultation between CgMs Consulting Limited (acting on behalf of the developer, Taylor Wimpey) and East Sussex County Council (ESCC), it was agreed that an archaeological evaluation of the site by trial trenches should be undertaken, as a step to fulfilling the planning condition.

1.3.2 Subsequently a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; CgMs 2011) was produced by CgMs Consulting Ltd. outlining the techniques to be used in the field, and in the production of a report and an archive. This document was duly approved by ESCC before the commencement of archaeological work at the site.

1.3.4 Following the results of the initial trial trenching at the site and after consultation between CgMs Consulting Ltd, ASE and ESCC it was agreed that expansion of some trenches, and stripping and excavation of archaeological features within agreed mitigation areas would fulfil the planning condition. The current report provides results of all stages of the archaeological work at the site.

## **1.4 Aims and Objectives**

1.4.1 The aims of the archaeological work given in the WSI (*ibid.*) were:

- *To assess whether archaeological remains extend across the development site*
- *To assess the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of any such remains and deposits*
- *To assess how they might be affected by the development of the site*
- *To assess what options should be considered for mitigation*

## **1.5 Scope of Report**

1.5.1 The current report provides results of the archaeological work at the site carried out between late April 2012 and September 2012 by a team comprising Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist), Nick Garland, Ben Sharp and Gary Webster (Archaeologists), Nicola Bennett (Archaeological Assistant) and Rob Cole and Lesley Davidson (Archaeological Surveyors). The project was managed by Darryl Palmer (Senior Project) and by Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift (Post-Excavation).



## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Prehistoric**

2.1.1 Fieldwalking prior to the construction of the A27 Polegate Bypass to the north of the site led to the recovery of a small assemblage of flintwork, and a subsequent watching brief during the groundworks for the road uncovered further worked flint dated to the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age (Stevens 2007). A similar background scatter of flintwork was recovered from the Bluebells Development site immediately to the east (Stevens forthcoming a)

2.1.2 Significant prehistoric discoveries have been made to the south of the site on the Willingdon Levels, including a preserved wooden platform and associated trackways known as 'Shinewater', dating from the Late Bronze Age, described as '*a unique site*' (Hamilton and Manley 1999, 20). Shinewater is as-yet-unpublished.

### **2.2 Late Iron Age/Romano-British**

2.2.1 Little Late Iron Age/Romano-British material has been recorded in the general area despite the relative proximity of the late third century fort at Pevensey (*Anderitum*), and the known site of a villa in Eastbourne. Archaeological work has produced evidence of activity to the south (e.g. ASE 2010 and more notably Greatorex forthcoming). The probable courses of two Roman roads also lie close to the current site (SEAS 1991).

2.2.2 However, recent excavations immediately to the east of the site suggest the presence of a Late Iron Age/Romano-British farmstead occupied during the 1st and 2nd centuries AD. An associated field system and droveways, shows some evidence of the redigging of ditches over time. An ephemeral structure was also encountered within the field system, which showed signs of rebuilding. There were clear indications that salt-working was being undertaken at the site or nearby, as well as more domestic/agricultural activities such as crop processing and smithing (Stevens, forthcoming a).

### **2.3 Anglo-Saxon**

2.3.1 Until recently there were no recorded finds of Anglo-Saxon material in the Polegate area. However, there is clear evidence of Anglo-Saxon occupation in Eastbourne in the form of numerous finds of accompanied and unaccompanied graves (e.g. Greatorex *op. cit*).

2.3.2 Again the adjacent Bluebells Development to the east produced evidence of activity during this period, as the site appears to have been re-occupied during the Mid-Saxon period, represented by a scatter of charcoal-rich pits. C14 samples from charcoal from one such feature returned dates of 670AD to 880AD and 660AD to 870AD (Stevens, forthcoming a)

### **2.4 Medieval**

2.4.1 Remains of a medieval farmstead were excavated and recorded prior to the construction the A27 Polegate Bypass. Finds suggested the site was occupied from the late 12<sup>th</sup> to the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century (Stevens 2007). Other medieval features have been found in the general area (e.g. ASE 2004), and there is an unexcavated pottery production centre known to the north-east at Abbots Wood (Barton 1979), and a

medieval monastic site to the north of the Bypass at Otham Court (SEAS *op. cit.*). Pottery sherds from a single medieval vessel were recovered at the Bluebells site (Stevens, forthcoming a).

- 2.4.2 A recent archaeological *Strip, Map and Sample* area was actually located near the north-western corner of the current site. The archaeological work, associated with the laying of a rising main replacement uncovered limited remains of a medieval field system of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> century date within the boundaries of the current site (ASE 2012).

## **2.5 Post-Medieval**

- 2.5.1 Two post-medieval kilns were recorded during archaeological work on the Bypass close to Otham Court, suggesting a campaign of repair work to the medieval fabric. Unfortunately bricks left *in situ* in one of the kilns could only be dated loosely between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries (Stevens forthcoming b).
- 2.5.2 Other local sites of brick kilns are known from documentary and cartographic sources (SEAS 1991), and limited scatters of late post-medieval material were noted during the watching brief on the construction of the Bypass (Stevens 2007).
- 2.5.3 Evidence of post-medieval activity was sparse at the Bluebells site, limited to the deposition of domestic rubbish, either deliberately in the vicinity of the houses fronting onto Dittons Road, or accidentally during manuring. Two late post-medieval domestic animal burials were also encountered relatively close to the Dittons Road frontage (Stevens, forthcoming a).

**3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 A plan showing the location of the evaluation trenches was produced by CgMs. This plan, following re-working due to ecological and other constraints, was approved by Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist, ESCC before the commencement of work on site. All trenches were excavated to a length of 50m unless otherwise stated. Following discussions with all interested parties, some of the trenches were expanded, extra trenches were excavated and mitigation areas were stripped to allow fuller investigation of the buried archaeological remains at the site.
- 3.2 The location of each trench or mitigation area was scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. The trenches were excavated by a 13 or 20 tonne 360° excavator fitted with a 1.8m or 2.0m wide toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of staff from ASE. All trenches were 50m long and 2m wide unless otherwise stated.
- 3.3 The mechanical excavation was taken down to the top of ‘natural’ geological deposits, or to the top of any recognisable archaeological deposits, whichever was the higher. Care was taken not to damage archaeological deposits through excessive use of mechanical excavation. Revealed surfaces of the ‘natural’ were manually cleaned in an attempt to identify individual archaeological features. Spoil was scanned for the presence of artefacts, both visually and with a metal detector.
- 3.4 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded to accepted professional standards using standard Archaeology South-East *pro forma* recording sheets. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart. All work was conducted in line with the methodology specified within the WSI (CgMs 2011).
- 3.5 A full photographic record of the work was kept and forms part of the site archive which is currently held at Archaeology South-East offices in Portslade, and has been accepted for deposition at Eastbourne Museum. It will be deposited in due course under the accession number ELHAMS 2011.49. The archive consists of the following material:

Number of Contexts	223
Trench Record Sheets	37
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	7
Bulk Samples	14
Photographs	218 digital images
Bulk finds	2 boxes
Registered finds	1
Environmental flots/residue	14 samples taken

Table 1: Quantification of Site Archive

## 4.0 RESULTS - THE EVALUATION TRENCHES

(Figure 2)

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The trial trenching was undertaken somewhat sporadically between April 2012 and September 2012 owing to ecological constraints. Land was archaeologically evaluated as and when it became available during this period. The mitigation areas were stripped and recorded in September 2012.

### 4.2 Trench 1

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
1/001	Deposit	Topsoil	220mm
1/002	Deposit	Subsoil	190mm
1/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 2: Recorded Contexts in Trench 1

4.2.1 Trench 1 was excavated to a depth of 340mm (13.51mAOD) at the western end and to 370mm (12.97mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

4.2.2 The overburden consisted of two distinct layers. The uppermost was context [1/001], a mid-brown humic topsoil/ploughsoil. It overlay context [1/002], a mid-orangey brown layer of subsoil. This in turn overlay the 'natural', yellow silty clay which contained pockets of stiff reddish clay, context [1/003].

4.2.3 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, in an area of the site which was until recently covered in thick vegetation with subsequent root disturbance to the underlying deposits. No artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

### 4.3 Trench 2 (Figure 3)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
2/001	Deposit	Topsoil	150mm
2/002	Deposit	Subsoil	240mm
2/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
2/004	Cut	Gully	-
2/005	Fill	Gully	180mm
2/006	Cut	Pit	-
2/007	Fill	Pit	80mm

Table 3: Recorded Contexts in Trench 2

4.3.1 Trench 2 was excavated to a depth of 270mm (13.57mAOD) at the north-western end and to 420mm (13.47mAOD) at the south-eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. Two archaeological features were encountered and recorded.

- 4.3.2 Gully [2/004] ran broadly from east to west across the trench. It was 1.55m wide and 180mm deep. The single fill was context [2/005], a grey silty clay. The other feature was a shallow pit. Pit [2/006] was sub-rectangular but was of unknown extent as it ran under the baulk of the trench. The examined element was 1.3m wide and 80mm deep. The single fill was context [2/007], an orangey grey silty clay. The only artefacts recovered from the feature consisted of the largest assemblage of struck flint found at the site, suggesting a prehistoric date, although this is far from certain.

#### 4.4 Trench 3

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
3/001	Deposit	Topsoil	200mm
3/002	Deposit	Subsoil	200mm
3/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 4: Recorded Contexts in Trench 3

- 4.4.1 Trench 3 was moved c.20m from the planned location to avoid a new fence. It was excavated to a length of 40m, and to a depth of 260mm (12.87mAOD) at the western end and to 240mm (12.24mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.
- 4.4.2 The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered.

#### 4.5 Trench 4 (Figure 4)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
4/001	Deposit	Topsoil	100mm
4/002	Deposit	Subsoil	210mm
4/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
4/004	Cut	Pit	-
4/005	Fill	Pit	300mm
4/006	Cut	Pit/Spread	-
4/007	Fill	Pit/Spread	170mm
4/008	Cut	Pit	-
4/009	Fill	Pit	80mm

Table 5: Recorded Contexts in Trench 4

- 4.5.1 Trench 4 was excavated to a depth of 270mm (12.58mAOD) at the northern end and to 300mm (13.20mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. Three archaeological features were encountered and recorded.
- 4.5.2 Pit [4/004] had a diameter of 840mm and a depth of 300mm. The single fill was context [4/005] a mid-brownish grey silty clay. An environmental sample was taken from this undated feature which contained a piece of waterlogged ash from a branch joint, and poorly preserved charcoal mostly of oak. The other recorded feature was [4/006] a shallow pit or spread of material, with a diameter of 2.7m and a depth of only 180mm. The fill was context [4/007], greyish orange silty clay. The other feature

was pit [4/008], which lay partly under the baulk of the trench. The examined part was 750mm in diameter and 80mm in depth. The single fill was context [4/009], bluish grey silty clay. No datable material was recovered from any of the features encountered in the trench.

#### 4.6 Trench 5(Figure 5)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
5/001	Deposit	Topsoil	180mm
5/002	Deposit	Subsoil	200mm
5/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
5/004	Cut	Pit	-
5/005	Fill	Pit	70mm
5/006	Cut	Pit	-
5/007	Fill	Pit	160mm
5/008	Cut	Pit	-
5/009	Fill	Pit	80mm
5/010	Cut	?Hollow	-
5/011	Fill	?Hollow	20mm

Table 6: Recorded Contexts in Trench 5

- 4.6.1 Trench 5 It was excavated to a depth of 250mm (13.41mAOD) at the western end and also to 220mm (12.59mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. Four archaeological features were encountered and recorded.
- 4.6.2 Pit [5/004] lay partially under the baulk of the trench. The investigated portion was 1.16m in diameter but only 70mm in depth. The single fill, context [5/005] was a greenish grey silty clay from which a single struck flint was recovered. Pit [5/006] may have actually been a naturally-occurring hollow in the surface of the geological deposits at the site. It occupied c.3.2m of the trench, running under both baulks and was a maximum of 160mm deep. The single fill was context [5/007] a mid-greenish grey silty clay. Again a single struck flint was recovered from the fill.
- 4.6.3 The other feature, pit [5/008] was sub-rectangular in shape, measuring 480mm by 480mm by 80mm deep. The single fill was context [5/009], a dark, charcoal-rich silty clay from which a single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered, but also iron nails of a Romano-British or post-medieval type. An environmental sample contained poorly preserved charcoal, mostly of oak.
- 4.6.4 The other feature encountered was Cut [5/010], a hollow of uncertain extent, which was only 20mm in depth. The single fill was context [5/011], a mid-grey silty clay from which residual struck flint and a fragment of modern glass were recovered.

#### 4.7 Trench 6

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
6/001	Deposit	Topsoil	270mm
6/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 7: Recorded Contexts in Trench 6

4.7.1 Trench 6 was excavated to a depth of 270mm (11.43mAOD) at the north-eastern end and to 130mm (10.14mAOD) at the south-western end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. There was no discernible subsoil layer, no archaeological features were observed, and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.8 Trench 7(Figure 6)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
7/001	Deposit	Topsoil	450mm
7/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-
7/003	Cut	?Tree Throw	740mm
7/004	Fill	?Tree Throw	740mm
7/005	Cut	Gully	-
7/006	Fill	Gully	-

Table 8: Recorded Contexts in Trench 7

4.8.1 Trench 7 was excavated to a depth of 350mm (11.16mAOD) at the northern end and to 450mm (11.23mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. One archaeological feature was encountered at the northern end of the trench, which was expanded to encompass the entire feature. Another feature was encountered at the southern end.

4.8.2 Cut [7/003] was 3.3m in diameter and a maximum of 740mm in depth, with irregular sides and base. The fill, context [7/004] was a dark grey silty clay containing numerous roots and decaying organic matter and a post-medieval button. The feature appeared to be a tree throw of relatively recent origin.

4.8.3 Gully [7/005] was not excavated as the area was heavily rooted. It appeared to be c.700mm in width and ran from south-east to north-west across the trench. The single visible fill, context [7/006] was a greyish brown silty clay. It appeared to continue south-eastwards into Trenches 8 and 15.

**4.9 Trench 8**(Figure 7)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
8/001	Deposit	Topsoil	380mm
8/002	Deposit	'Natural'	
8/003	Cut	Gully	-
8/004	Fill	Gully	160mm

Table 9: Recorded Contexts in Trench 8

4.9.1 Trench 8 was excavated to a depth of 380mm (12.56mAOD) at the western end and to 260mm (11.20mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. A single struck flint was recovered from the topsoil. One archaeological feature was encountered and recorded.

4.9.2 Gully [8/003] was 750mm wide and 160mm deep and ran from south-east to north-west at the extreme eastern end of the trench. The single fill was a greyish brown silty clay, context [8/004]. No datable material was recovered from the feature, which apparently continued to the south-east into Trench 15 and to the north-west into Trench T7

**4.10 Trench 9**(Figure 8)

4.10.1 Trench 9 was originally excavated to a length of 45m and to a depth of 280mm (12.22mAOD) at the northern end and to 210mm (12.20mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Following the identification of a number of archaeological features, the trench was extended to the west. All of the encountered features are described below.

4.10.2 Seven discrete features were identified and recorded. Pit/post hole [9/004] was 760mm in diameter and 70mm in depth. The single fill was context [9/005], a light greyish brown silty clay, which contained a small assemblage of Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery and fragments of Romano-British tile, the only feature of this date range positively identified at the site.

4.10.3 Pit/post hole [9/018] was 460mm in diameter and 170mm in depth. The single fill was context [9/019], a charcoal rich dark brown silty clay, which contained hobnails, suggesting a Romano-British date, although this is far from certain. An environmental sample contained charcoal from a range of sources. Pit/post hole [9/010] was 800mm in diameter and 130mm in depth and lay partly under the eastern baulk of the trench. The single fill was context [9/011] was an orangey grey silty clay, from which a single struck flint was recovered. Pit/post hole [9/022] was 440mm in diameter and 70mm in depth. The single fill was context [9/023], a dark greyish brown silty clay. Again, the only artefact recovered was a single struck flint.

4.10.4 Three larger features were also encountered. The largest was pit [9/008], an irregular feature measuring c.3m by c.3m by 360mm in depth (where excavated). The single encountered fill was context [9/009], a brownish grey silty clay from which struck flint was recovered. Pit [9/014] was 840mm in diameter and 220mm in depth. The single fill was context [9/015], a mid-brownish grey silty clay. The other discrete feature was pit [9/024], which was 1.01m in diameter and 80mm in depth. The single fill was



context [9/025], a mid-greyish brown silty clay, which contained a small quantity of flintwork.

- 4.10.5 Five linear features were also encountered, three of which terminated within the trench. Gullies [9/012] (460mm wide, 70mm deep) and [9/030] (570mm wide, 90mm deep) were probably lengths of the same gully which ran from north-east to south-west across the trench, through a heavily rotted area which made identification of features difficult. The single fills, (contexts [9/013] and [9/031] were both grey silty clays. Fire cracked flint was recovered from context [9/013].
- 4.10.6 Two sections were excavated into each of two gullies which both ran east to west across the trench and terminated within it. Gully [9/006] was encountered in the original trench. It was 1.1m wide and 340mm deep. The single fill was [9/007], a bluish grey silty clay from which a single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered, as well as struck flint and fire-cracked flint. An environmental sample contained nothing of significance. The terminus of the feature, Cut [9/032] was 660mm wide and 220mm deep. The single fill was context [9/033], an orangey brown silty clay, from which only fire-cracked flint was recovered.
- 4.10.7 To the west another gully was recorded by two sections. Cut [9/028] was 410mm wide and 70mm deep. The single fill was context [9/029], a mid-orangey brown silty clay. The terminus was recorded as cut [9/026], and was 290mm wide and also 70mm in depth. The single fill, context [9/027] was similar in colour and texture to context [9/029]. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature.
- 4.10.8 Another gully terminated in the trench. Gully [9/020] ran north-east to south-west across the trench. It was 610mm wide and 290mm deep. The single fill was context [9/021], an orangey grey silty clay from which Saxo-Norman pottery was recovered. The stratigraphic relationship between this feature and gully [9/016] could not be ascertained. This feature ran from north-west to south-east and petered out within the trench at both ends with no clear termini. It was 530mm wide and but only 60mm deep. The single fill was context [9/017], an orangey brown silty clay, which contained a small quantity of flintwork. It may have continued to the south-east as gully [20/004] in Trench 20.

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Max. Deposit Thickness</b>
9/001	Deposit	Topsoil	210mm
9/002	Deposit	Subsoil	200mm
9/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
9/004	Cut	Pit	-
9/005	Fill	Pit	70mm
9/006	Cut	Gully	-
9/007	Fill	Gully	340mm
9/008	Cut	Pit	-
9/009	Fill	Pit	360mm
9/010	Cut	Pit	-
9/011	Fill	Pit	130mm
9/012	Cut	Gully	-
9/013	Fill	Gully	70mm
9/014	Cut	Pit	-
9/015	Fill	Pit	220mm
9/016	Cut	Gully	-
9/017	Fill	Gully	60mm
9/018	Cut	Pit	-
9/019	Fill	Pit	170mm
9/020	Cut	Gully	-
9/021	Fill	Gully	290mm
9/022	Cut	Pit	-
9/023	Fill	Pit	70mm
9/024	Cut	Pit	-
9/025	Fill	Pit	80mm
9/026	Cut	Gully Terminus	-
9/027	Fill	Gully Terminus	70mm
9/028	Cut	Gully	-
9/029	Fill	Gully	70mm
9/030	Cut	Gully	-
9/031	Fill	Gully	90mm
9/032	Cut	Gully Terminus	-
9/033	Fill	Gully Terminus	220mm

Table 10: Recorded Contexts in Trench 9

**4.11 Trench 10**(Figure 9)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
10/001	Deposit	Topsoil	150mm
10/002	Deposit	Subsoil	180mm
10/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
10/004	Cut	Gully	-
10/005	Fill	Gully	70mm
10/006	Cut	Post Hole	-
10/007	Fill	Post Hole	150mm
10/008	Cut	Gully	-
10/009	Fill	Gully	60mm
10/010	Deposit	Spread	550mm
10/011	Cut	Post Hole	-
10/012	Fill	Post Hole	140mm
10/013	Deposit	Spread	150mm

Table 11: Recorded Contexts in Trench 10

- 4.11.1 Trench 10 was originally excavated to a length of 45m, and to a depth of 280mm (12.22mAOD) at the northern end and to 210mm (12.20mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Following the identification of a number of archaeological features, the trench was extended to the north and south. All of the encountered features are described below.
- 4.11.2 Two gullies were encountered in the eastern half of the original trench. Gully [10/004] ran from north-west to south-east across the trench. It was 780mm wide and 70mm deep. The single fill was context [10/005], a greenish brown silty clay. The feature contained struck flint and may have continued to the north-west as Gully [9/016] in Trench 6. Gully [10/008] ran from south-west to north-east across the trench. It was 390mm wide and 60mm deep. The single fill was context [10/009], a reddish brown silty clay, which contained struck flint.
- 4.11.3 Context [10/010] was an irregular spread of brownish grey silty clay, which was a maximum of 550mm in thickness, possibly the remains of an infilled or silted up pond. It contained sherds of Saxo-Norman pottery and fragments of daub. An environmental sample contained little of interest. Following the discovery of a post hole at the base of the deposit, the majority of the context was mechanically removed but no further post holes were identified. Post hole [10/011] was 250mm in diameter and 140mm in depth. The single fill was context [10/012], a bluish grey silty clay. Another similar feature was encountered to the west of Context [10/010], Post hole [10/006] was 380mm in diameter and 150mm in depth. The single fill was context [10/007], a greenish brown silty clay.
- 4.11.4 The other feature was another irregular spread of material, context [10/013], a greyish green silty clay. It was a maximum of 150mm in thickness and contained Saxo-Norman pottery, daub and residual flintwork.

**4.12 Trench 11**(Figure 10)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
11/001	Deposit	Topsoil	180mm
11/002	Deposit	Subsoil	150mm
11/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
11/004	Cut	Gully	-
11/005	Fill	Gully	210mm

Table 12: Recorded Contexts in Trench 11

4.12.1 Trench 11 was excavated to a depth of 280mm (12.08mAOD) at the northern end and to 220mm (12.27mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. A single archaeological feature was encountered and recorded.

4.12.2 Gully [11/004] ran broadly east to west across the trench. It was 980mm wide and 210mm deep. The single fill was context [11/005], a greenish grey silty clay from which no datable material was recovered.

**4.13 Trench 12**

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
12/001	Deposit	Topsoil	380mm
12/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 13: Recorded Contexts in Trench 12

4.13.1 Trench 12 was excavated to a depth of 360mm (9.49mAOD) at the northern end and to 380mm (9.82mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

**4.14 Trench 13**

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
13/001	Deposit	Topsoil	330mm
13/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 14: Recorded Contexts in Trench 13

4.14.1 Trench 13 was excavated to a depth of 330mm (10.75mAOD) at the north-western end and to 250mm (9.27mAOD) at the south-eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.15 Trench 14

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
14/001	Deposit	Topsoil	420mm
14/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 15: Recorded Contexts in Trench 14

4.15.1 Trench 14 was excavated to a depth of 300mm (10.78mAOD) at the north-western end and to 420mm (10.01mAOD) at the south-eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.16 Trench 15(Figure 11)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
15/001	Deposit	Topsoil	570mm
15/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-
15/003	Cut	?Three Throw	-
15/004	Fill	?Three Throw	200mm
15/005	Cut	Pit	-
15/006	Fill	Pit	120mm
15/007	Cut	Gully	-
15/008	Fill	Gully	210mm

Table 16: Recorded Contexts in Trench 15

4.16.1 Trench 15 was excavated to a depth of 570mm (11.31mAOD) at the western end and to 300mm [10.02mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. Three archaeological features were encountered, excavated and recorded.

4.16.2 Cut [15/003] was a feature with irregular sides and base which lay partly under the southern baulk of the trench. It was 1.72m in diameter and 200mm in depth. The single fill was a grey clay, context [15/004] which contained numerous roots, some heavily decayed. An environmental sample contained nothing of note. The feature was interpreted as a tree throw of relatively recent origin. The other discrete feature was pit [15/05], which was more regular in plan, and lay partially under the northern baulk of the trench. It was 1.67m in diameter and 120mm in depth. The single fill was context [15/006], a mid-grey clay. A single struck flint of possible Mesolithic date was recovered from the feature; an environmental sample contained little of interest.

4.16.3 Gully [15/007] ran across the trench from south-east to north-west and appeared to continue north-westwards where it was probably encountered in trenches 7 and 8. It was 1.07m wide and 210mm depth and contained a single mid-greyish brown clay fill, context [15/008]. A ?residual struck flint was recovered from the feature. An environmental sample showed little potential for analysis of charred or other botanical remains.

#### 4.17 Trench 16

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Max. Deposit Thickness</b>
16/001	Deposit	Topsoil	250mm
16/002	Deposit	Subsoil	160mm
16/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 17: Recorded Contexts in Trench 16

4.17.1 Trench 16 was excavated to a length of 25m and to a depth of 290mm (11.07mAOD) at the northern end to 270mm (11.37mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

4.4.2 The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered.

#### 4.18 Trench 17

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Max. Deposit Thickness</b>
17/001	Deposit	Topsoil	120mm
17/002	Deposit	Subsoil	180mm
17/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 18: Recorded Contexts in Trench 17

4.17.1 Trench 17 was excavated to a depth of 270mm (11.93mAOD) at the western end and to 280mm (10.80mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

4.4.2 The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered.

#### 4.19 Trench 18 (Figure 12)

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Max. Deposit Thickness</b>
18/001	Deposit	Topsoil	360mm
18/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-
18/003	Cut	Pit	-
18/004	Fill	Pit	160mm
18/005	Cut	Gully	-
18/006	Fill	Gully	90mm

Table 19: Recorded Contexts in Trench 18

4.19.1 Trench 18 was excavated to a depth of 300mm (9.37mAOD) at the northern end and to 360mm (8.48mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. Two archaeological features were encountered; the trench was extended at the eastern end to allow recording of one of them.

4.19.2 Pit [18/003] was 3.47m in diameter but only a maximum of 160mm in depth. The single fill was a mid-orangey brown silty clay, context [18/004]. No datable material was recovered from the fill. The other feature was gully [18/005], which was 500mm wide, 90mm deep and ran from south-west to north-east across the trench. No datable material was recovered from the single fill, context [18/006], a mid-orangey brown silty clay.

#### 4.20 Trench 19

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
19/001	Deposit	Topsoil	220mm
19/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 20: Recorded Contexts in Trench 19

4.20.1 Trench 19 was excavated to a depth of 220mm (8.74mAOD) at the northern end and to 180mm (8.78mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.21 Trench 20 (Figure 13)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
20/001	Deposit	Topsoil	290mm
20/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-
20/003	Cut	Pit	-
20/004	Fill	Pit	80mm

Table 21: Recorded Contexts in Trench 20

4.21.1 Trench 20 was excavated to a depth of 170mm (9.15mAOD) at the western end and to 290mm (8.22mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. A single archaeological feature was encountered, excavated and recorded.

4.21.2 Pit [20/003] was 440mm in diameter and 80mm in depth, suggesting truncation. No datable material was recovered from the single fill, context [20/004], a mid-grey silty clay. An environmental sample produced nothing of significance.

#### 4.22 Trench 21(Figure 14)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
21/001	Deposit	Topsoil	360mm
21/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-
21/003	Cut	Gully	-
21/004	Fill	Gully	110mm

Table 22: Recorded Contexts in Trench 21

- 4.22.1 Trench 21 was excavated to a depth of 350mm (8.13mAOD) at the north-eastern end and to 360mm (9.37mAOD) at the south-western end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. A single archaeological feature was encountered, excavated and recorded.
- 4.22.2 Gully [21/003] was 470mm wide and 110mm deep and ran from north-east to south-west across the trench. Late post-medieval material was recovered from the single dark greyish brown clayey silt fill, context [21/004]. It continued to the south-east, where it was encountered in Trench 22.

#### 4.23 Trench 22

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
22/001	Deposit	Topsoil	390mm
22/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-
22/003	Cut	Gully	-
22/004	Fill	Gully	-

Table 23: Recorded Contexts in Trench 22

- 4.23.1 Trench 22 was excavated to a length of 45m in an 'L' shaped arrangement to avoid a large pile of hardcore. It was excavated to depth of 390mm (9.56mAOD) at the north-western end and also to 390mm (9.79mAOD) at the south-western end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. A single archaeological feature was encountered, a continuation of the late post-medieval gully seen in Trench 21. It was recorded as gully [22/003], fill [22/004] and not excavated

#### 4.24 Trench 23

- 4.24.1 Trench 23 was excavated to a length of 50m in an 'L' shaped arrangement to fit within the area enclosed by a reptile fence. It was excavated to a depth of 130mm (8.12m AOD) at the western end, and to 180mm (7.51mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The entire extent of the trench was re-examined as part of *Mitigation Area B*, and all of the features encountered in the evaluation trench are described in Section 5.0 below.



#### 4.25 Trench 24

4.25.1 Trench 24 was excavated to a depth of 240mm (8.37mAOD) at the western end and to 470mm (7.13mAOD) at the eastern end at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The trench was extended to the north and subsequently much of the trench was re-examined as part of *Mitigation Area A*, and all of the features encountered in the evaluation trench are described in Section 5.0 below.

#### 4.26 Trench 25 (Figure 15)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
25/001	Deposit	Topsoil	240mm
25/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-
25/003	Cut	Gully	-
25/004	Fill	Gully	60mm
25/005	Cut	?Pit	-
25/006	Fill	?Pit	260mm
25/007	Cut	Pit	-
25/008	Fill	Pit	130mm

Table 24: Recorded Contexts in Trench 25

4.26.1 Trench 25 was excavated to a depth of 240mm (7.74mAOD) at the northern end and to 200mm (7.76mAOD) at the southern end at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. Three archaeological features were encountered, excavated and recorded.

4.26.2 Gully [25/003] ran from south-west to north-east near the southern end of the trench. It was 290mm in width and only 60mm in depth. No datable artefacts were recovered from the single fill, context [25/004], a mid-grey silty clay. Further to the north a feature of uncertain extent was encountered. Pit [25/005] extended outside of the bounds of the trench and was sectioned to reveal a width/diameter of 2.5m and a maximum depth of 260mm. No datable artefacts were recovered from the single fill, context [25/006], a mid-grey silty clay.

4.26.3 The other feature was pit [25/007], which lay partially under the western baulk of the trench. It was 930mm in diameter and 130mm deep. Again no datable material was recovered from the single fill, context [25/008], a greyish brown silty clay.

#### 4.27 Trench 26

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
26/001	Deposit	Topsoil	420mm
26/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 25: Recorded Contexts in Trench 26

4.27.1 Trench 26 was excavated to a depth of 420mm (8.04mAOD) at the northern end and to 390mm (9.55mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural'

were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.28 Trench 27

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
27/001	Deposit	Topsoil	350mm
27/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 26: Recorded Contexts in Trench 27

- 4.28.1 Trench 27 was excavated to a length of 32m and to a depth of 350mm (9.74mAOD) at the north-eastern and to 300mm (10.34mAOD) at the south-western end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.
- 4.28.2 Humic mid-brown topsoil, context [27/001] was found to lay directly over the 'natural', context [27/002] (i.e. there was again no clear evidence of a subsoil layer in an area which was until recently part of a garden). No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered.

#### 4.29 Trench 28

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
28/001	Deposit	Topsoil/Rubble	320mm
28/002	Deposit	Topsoil	80mm
28/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 27: Recorded Contexts in Trench 28

- 4.29.1 Trench 28 was excavated in an area formally occupied by the rear garden of a recently demolished house which fronted onto Dittons Road (*Maybury*). It was excavated to a depth of 270mm (11.41mAOD) at the north-eastern and to 410mm (12.58mAOD) at the south-western end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.
- 4.29.2 The uppermost deposit was context [28/001], a mixture of garden soil and demolition rubble. It overlay context [28/002] a layer of mid-greyish brown silty clay, possibly the surviving topsoil of the garden. This directly overlay the 'natural', context [28/003].

#### 4.30 Trench 29

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
29/001	Deposit	Topsoil	430mm
29/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 28: Recorded Contexts in Trench 29

- 4.30.1 Trench 29 was excavated to a depth of 420mm (7.97mAOD) at the western end and to 430mm (8.32mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were

observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.31 Trench 30

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
30/001	Deposit	Topsoil	410mm
30/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 29: Recorded Contexts in Trench 30

4.31.1 Trench 30 was excavated to a depth of 370mm (9.55mAOD) at the western end and to 410mm (8.77mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.32 Trench 31

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
31/001	Deposit	Topsoil	460mm
31/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 30: Recorded Contexts in Trench 31

4.32.1 Trench 31 was excavated to a depth of 460mm (10.48mAOD) at the north-eastern end and to 370mm (11.26mAOD) at the south-western end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.33 Trench 32

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
32/001	Deposit	Topsoil	410mm
32/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 31: Recorded Contexts in Trench 32

4.33.1 Trench 32 was excavated to a depth of 410mm (9.85mAOD) at the northern end and to 360mm (11.20mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.34 Trench 33

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
33/001	Deposit	Topsoil	520mm
33/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 32: Recorded Contexts in Trench 33

4.34.1 The position of Trench 33 was moved to avoid standing greenhouses and other buildings of the former nursery. It was excavated to a length of 20m and to a depth of 330mm (13.04mAOD) at the western end and to 520mm (13.33mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.35 Trench 34

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
34/001	Deposit	Topsoil	420mm
34/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 33: Recorded Contexts in Trench 34

4.35.1 Trench 34 was excavated to a depth of 420mm (10.97mAOD) at the western end and to 360mm (9.96mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

#### 4.36 Trench 35

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
35/001	Deposit	Topsoil	330mm
35/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 34: Recorded Contexts in Trench 35

4.36.1 Trench 35 was excavated to a depth of 330mm (8.31mAOD) at the northern end and also to 330mm (9.76mAOD) at the southern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil.

**4.39 Trench 36**

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
36/001	Deposit	Topsoil	210mm
36/002	Deposit	Subsoil	200mm
36/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 35: Recorded Contexts in Trench 36

4.39.1 Trench 36 was excavated in order to trace any further discernible alignment of gully [2/004] previously encountered in Trench 2. It was excavated to a length of 20m and to a width of 2.2m and to a depth of 370mm (12.83mAOD) at the north-western end and to 260mm (12.96mAOD) at the south-eastern end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

4.39.2 The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered.

**4.40 Trench 37**

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
37/001	Deposit	Topsoil	200mm
37/002	Deposit	Subsoil	200mm
37/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 36: Recorded Contexts in Trench 37

4.40.1 Trench 37 was excavated in order to trace any further discernible alignment of gully [11/004] previously encountered in Trench 11. It was excavated to a length of 20m and to a width of 2.2m and to a depth of 340mm (12.42mAOD) at the north-eastern end and to 220mm (12.69mAOD) at the south-western end, at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

4.40.2 The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered.

## 5.0 RESULTS - THE MITIGATION AREAS

(Figure 2)

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Following the results of the initial trial trenching at the site, and after consultation between ASE, CgMs Consulting Ltd and ESCC, it was agreed that two mitigation areas would be examined at the site, corresponding to a junction of two access roads traversed by Trenches 19, 20 and 24, and to the area of the site around Trench 23. Both of the mitigation areas were mechanically stripped, excavated and recorded in September 2012.

### 5.2 Mitigation Area A (Figure 16)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
24/001& 100	Deposit	Topsoil	320mm
24/002& 101	Deposit	'Natural'	-
24/003	Cut	Gully	-
24/004	Fill	Gully	210mm
24/005	Cut	Gully	-
24/006	Fill	Gully	160mm
24/007	Cut	Gully	-
24/008	Fill	Gully	240mm
102	Cut	Gully	-
103	Fill	Gully	160mm
104	Cut	Gully	-
105	Fill	Gully	70mm
106	Cut	Gully	-
107	Fill	Gully	60mm
108	Cut	Gully	-
109	Fill	Gully	160mm
110	Cut	Pit	-
111	Fill	Pit	110mm

Table 37: Recorded Contexts in Mitigation Area A

5.2.1 The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. Three archaeological features were encountered and recorded in Trench 24. Two of the features were re-examined in Mitigation Area A, and two other features were recorded. No datable artefacts were recovered from any of the features and only a small assemblage of flintwork was found in the overburden. Modern drains were also noted crossing the stripped area.

5.2.2 Gully [24/003] ran from north to south across Trench 24 but was not detected in the northern extension. It was 360mm wide and 210mm deep and contained a single light grey clay fill, context [24/004]. An environmental sample contained nothing of significance. The feature was traced running southwards into Mitigation Area A where it terminated close to the southern baulk. It was sectioned twice in the open area and recorded as gully [104], fill [105], and gully [106], fill [107] (the gully terminus). The fills were similar in character to those seen in the original section, although the feature became noticeably shallower as it ran southwards.

5.2.3 Gully [24/005] ran from south-west to north-east across Trench 24, but again was not

detected in the northern extension of the trench. It was 340mm wide and 160mm deep, and the single fill was context [24/006], a light grey clay. An environmental sample contained nothing of significance. The feature did not run south-westwards across Mitigation Area A as it terminated on the edge of Trench 24, where it was recorded as gully [102]. The single fill, context [103] was similar in character to that encountered in the first section across the feature.

- 5.2.4 The other feature encountered in Trench 24 was wholly within the northern extension to the trench. Gully [24/007] was a curvilinear feature which ran under the northern and western baulks of the extension. It was 550mm wide and 240mm deep. The single fill was context [24/008], a greyish brown silty clay.
- 5.2.5 Two features were recorded in the remainder of Mitigation Area A. Pit [110] lay close to the southern extent of the area, close to the position of Trench 20. It was 510mm in diameter and 110mm in depth. The single fill was context [111], a mid-grey silty clay. The other feature was gully [108], the terminus of a feature which ran into the northern end of the stripped area. It was 480mm wide and 160mm wide. The fill was context [109], a brownish grey silty clay.
- 5.2.6 Although no dating evidence was recovered from the features within the Mitigation Area, medieval pottery was recovered from the continuation of the feature to the north, excavated and recorded during the recent *Strip, Map and Sample* (ASE 2012). Therefore, although based on somewhat thin evidence, the features encountered appear to present the remains of medieval land division.

### 5.3 Mitigation Area B(Figure 17)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
23/001& 200	Deposit	Topsoil	310mm
23/002& 201	Deposit	'Natural'	-
23/003	Cut	Gully	-
23/004	Fill	Gully	180mm
23/005	Cut	Pit	-
23/006	Fill	Pit	90mm
23/007	Cut	Pit	-
23/008	Fill	Pit	210mm
23/009	Cut	Pit	-
23/010	Fill	Pit	-
202	Cut	Gully	-
203	Fill	Gully	40mm
204	Cut	Gully	-
205	Fill	Gully	90mm
206	Cut	Gully	-
207	Fill	Gully	110mm
208	Cut	Gully	-
209	Fill	Gully	30mm
210	Cut	Gully	-
211	Fill	Gully	110mm
212	Cut	Gully	-
213	Fill	Gully	40mm
214	Cut	Gully	-
215	Fill	Gully	110mm
216	Cut	Gully	-
217	Fill	Gully	170mm
218	Cut	Gully	-
219	Fill	Gully	130mm
220	Cut	Gully	-
221	Fill	Gully	180mm
222	Cut	Gully	-
223	Fill	Gully	310mm
224	Cut	Gully	-
225	Fill	Gully	210mm

Table 38: Recorded Contexts in Mitigation Area B

5.3.1 The layers of topsoil and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 6. A small assemblage of flintwork was found in the overburden. Four archaeological features were encountered and recorded in Trench 23. One of the features were re-examined in Mitigation Area B, and a number of linear features were recorded. These were found to have been particularly heavily disturbed by roots.

5.3.2 The most striking feature was a gully which ran from south-west to north-east across the area (and across Trench 23), before turning at a right-angle to run towards the north-west before terminating. The feature was initially recorded in the evaluation trench as gully [23/003]. It was 820mm wide and 180mm deep. The single fill was context [23/004], a light grey silty clay, from which a small sherd of medieval pottery was recovered, dating from the period c.1100 to 1225. An environmental sample contained no significant evidence.

5.3.3 Four more sections, including the terminus were excavated through the feature,



recorded as gullies [204], [206], [214] and [216] (terminus). These sections were somewhat shallower than the 'original' section, probably as a result of the aforementioned localised root truncation. All of the encountered fills (contexts [205], [207], [215] and [217] respectively) were broadly similar in character to that encountered in the evaluation trench, but more orangey brown in colour. A small sherd of residual Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery was recovered from context [217].

- 5.3.4 It is possible that gully [222] which lay on a matching south-west to north-west alignment to this feature formed part of the same field system. It was 1.22m wide and 310mm deep. The single fill, context [223], a mid-greyish brown silty clay contained the largest assemblage of medieval pottery recovered at the site, dated to the period c.1175 to 1250. It continued south-eastwards into the *Strip, Map and Sample* area from where more medieval pottery was recovered. Unfortunately the course of the feature to the north-east was obscured by an area of heavy root disturbance.
- 5.3.5 Arguably, based on its orientation, Gully [218], which terminated in the stripped area could belong to this field system. It was 360mm wide and 130mm deep. The single fill was context [219], an orangey brown silty clay. No datable finds were recovered from this feature, although another feature on broadly the same orientation, gully [220] did contain pottery contemporary with that recovered from context [223]. It was 890mm wide and 180mm deep, and contained a single mid-greyish brown silty clay fill, from which pottery dated to the period c.1100 to 1225 was recovered.
- 5.3.6 Gully [224] was also questionably part of the same field system as it contained broadly contemporary pottery and lay on a similar alignment to Gully [222]. It was 910mm wide and 210mm deep. The single fill was notably different to that encountered in the other gullies; a dark greyish charcoal-rich silty clay, context [225], from which a varied assemblage including pottery (dated c.1200 to 1250), quernstone fragments, oven furniture, fired clay, as well as environmental evidence for the cultivation of cereals, including wheat and oats.
- 5.3.7 The only other feature which contained datable material was gully [203], encountered in the extreme south-eastern corner of the stripped area. It was 460mm in width but only survived to a depth of 40mm at this point and was not traced running southwards into the *Strip, Map and Sample* area. The fill was context [203], a mid-greyish brown silty clay, from which a single sherd of medieval pottery dated c.1225 to 1350 was recovered.
- 5.3.8 A broadly parallel gully probably belonged to the same medieval field system, and terminated within the stripped area. Gully [212] was 520mm wide and again only 40mm in depth. It contained a mid-grey silty clay fill, context [213], but no dating evidence. It was detected in the *Strip, Map and Sample* area, again producing no firm dating evidence. It truncated an earlier feature, Gully [210], which also terminated in the Mitigation Area; gully [210] was 1.29m wide and 110mm deep. The single undated fill, context [211] was an orangey brown silty clay. This feature was not seen in the *Strip, Map and Sample* area.
- 5.3.9 The only other feature encountered was a short stretch of gully recorded in the north-western corner of the stripped area. Gully [208] was 310mm wide and only survived to a depth of 30mm and ran north-west to south-east where it was truncated away by a concentration of rooting. The only fill was context [209], an orangey brown silty clay.

- 5.3.10 Pits [23/005], [23/007] and [23/009] recorded in the evaluation trench were found to be part of the extensive areas of root truncation seen in plan both in the current area and to the south. A recent date for this activity is supported by the presence of late post-medieval glass in one of the 'fills', context [23/008] and from an environmental sample from the feature.
- 5.3.11 Although perhaps difficult to closely define given the absence of large datable assemblages and the extensive root truncation, the features encountered in *Mitigation Area B* appear to represent at least two phases of the medieval field systems first encountered and recorded immediately to the south during the *Strip, Map and Sample* (ASE 2012).

## **6.0 THE FINDS**

### **6.1 Introduction**

6.1.1 A moderate assemblage of finds was recovered during the archaeological work at Shepham Lane, Polegate. An assemblage is tabulated in the appendix at the end of this report.

### **6.2 The Late Iron Age/Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty**

6.2.1 The fieldwork produced a total of 12 sherds of Late Iron Age/ Roman pottery. With the exception of a single sherd, all of the pottery of this date was recovered from [9/005], the fill of pit/post-hole [9/004]. All of the sherds are in a similar well-fired grog-tempered fabric containing rare white inclusions, probably of siltstone. This group contains two rimsherds from a storage jar, featuring a shoulder cordon. This form is influenced by the Aylesford-Swarling pottery tradition and can be broadly dated to the period c.AD10-120. A very small bodysherd in similar fabric type was also found in ditch fill [217]. Although possibly contemporary with the other group, this sherd could be of a much wider date range since grog-tempered wares were common throughout the Late Iron Age and Roman periods in East Sussex.

### **6.3 The Medieval Pottery by Luke Barber**

6.3.1 The archaeological work recovered 88 sherds of pottery, weighing 712g, from 10 individually numbered contexts. This total includes two small sherds from two environmental residues. In all some 20 different vessels are represented.

6.3.2 The assemblage is characterised by small sherds (average size 8.1g) with moderate to heavy signs of abrasion and/or attack from acidic subsoil, the latter often resulting in the loss of the original surface of the sherd. As such, in most instances the assemblages appear to have suffered some reworking, but their generally poor condition is likely to be more the result of their burial environment. Many of the contexts produced only isolated or small quantities of bodysherds: two produced just one sherd each, while six produced between three and 10 sherds. Close dating of contexts with any degree of certainty is therefore often difficult. Only contexts [9/021] and [223] produced larger assemblages, of 19 and 36 sherds respectively. However, these context groups are both represented by sherds from single cooking pots.

A number of fabrics, typical of the area, are present:

*A – Abundant fine/medium multi-coloured (white, red, brown) flint grits to 0.75mm. Usually medium fired, oxidised orange and thin walled. Only undecorated cooking pots are represented, the late 11<sup>th</sup>- to later 12<sup>th</sup>- century types having flaring rims (eg context [10/010]) and a higher degree of reduced surfaces. The later types have more square clubbed rims, (e.g. context [223]), and probably span the late 12<sup>th</sup>- to later 13<sup>th</sup>- century, A similar fabric was made at the Abbot's Wood kiln (Barton 1979 but other local sources are possible as this is by far the most common fabric on the site, accounting for 55 sherds (62.5%) of the overall assemblage.*

*B – Moderate/abundant fine/medium multi-coloured (mainly black/brown) flint grits to 0.75mm. Usually medium fired reduced brown/black and thin/medium walled. All three recognised vessels are from oxidised/reduced undecorated cooking pots, one with simple everted rim, possibly of mid-11<sup>th</sup>- to 12<sup>th</sup>- century date. Probably a variant of M1 but at 22 sherds (25%) nowhere near as common.*

*C – Moderate/abundant fine multi-coloured (white, red, brown) flint grits to 0.25mm with rare/sparse quartz.* Medium fired, oxidised orange/brown and thin walled. A single oxidised base sherd from a cooking pot was recovered from [9/007]. Possibly from the Abbot's Wood kiln or Ringmer.

*D – Moderate/abundant medium quartz with rare/sparse fine/medium multicoloured (white, red, brown) flint grits to 0.75mm.* Usually medium fired, oxidised brown orange and thin/medium walled. The seven sherds (contexts [219] and [225]) are from at least three different cooking pots. Those from [225] deriving from a vessel with hollow-topped rim, typical of vessels of mid-12<sup>th</sup>- to mid-13<sup>th</sup>- century date from the Ringmer area (Barber in prep).

*E – Moderate/abundant medium quartz.* Usually medium fired, oxidised orange or brown and thin walled. The two sherds are from a single cooking pot with out-turned rim (context [219]). A number of sources could be suggested for this fabric, including Ringmer.

*F – Moderate fine quartz with rare white flint inclusions to 0.75mm.* The only sherd (context [203]: 17g) is from an oxidised vessel, possibly a jug, and is almost certainly a Ringmer product.

6.3.3 Overall the whole assemblage appears to be fairly homogenous and suggests low-status activity between 1050/1100 and 1250/75. Although some sherds (e.g. Fabrics E and F) could easily run into the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the complete absence of glaze on any vessels suggests occupation had ceased prior to glazing becoming common. More comprehensive assemblages have been excavated from Hailsham (Barton 1979, 152) and indeed much closer, at an agricultural settlement probably using the very same ditched field system excavated at the present site (Barber 2007). All of these sites share a similar suite of flinty fabrics of basic type with very low levels of decoration.

#### 6.4 The Glass by Luke Barber

6.4.1 The excavations produced nine pieces of glass, weighing 367g, from four individually numbered contexts. This total includes a 1g chip from environmental residue <11> (context [23/008]). All of the material is uncorroded and is clearly of late post-medieval date, perhaps spanning c. 1875/1900 to 1940.

6.4.2 Context [5/011] produced a 3g fragment from the shoulder of a square/rectangular medicine bottle in amber coloured glass while a 2g fragment from a cylindrical bottle in colourless glass was intrusive in [9/007]. Context [21/004] produced a complete cylindrical mineral water bottle in aqua glass (54mm diameter base, 189mm tall and weighing 347g) embossed R. FRY & Co (a well-known Brighton mineral water company spanning c. 1874 to 1961). The bottle is probably of the period 1920-1940. Context [23/008] produced four shards (9g) from a cylindrical bottle in aqua glass as well as a 5g piece from a cylindrical bottle in amber glass. The residue from this context produced a 1g chip of amber glass, probably from the same vessel.

**6.5 The Ceramic Building Material** by Luke Barber

6.5.1 Context [9/005] produced the earliest ceramic building material from the site: two pieces of Roman date. The assemblage consists of a 567g fragment from a weathered 49mm thick floor/flat tile in a poorly mixed fabric tempered with sparse silt/fine sand, abundant marl swirls and sparse iron oxide pellets to 1mm. The piece is medium fired though there is some self-glazing in evidence on its underside. The other piece consists of a 74g fragment from a 22mm thick tile (probably from a tegula) tempered with sparse silt/fine sand and rare iron oxides to 1mm. The piece is medium fired dull orange throughout.

6.5.2 The only other ceramic building material recovered from the site consists of a neatly formed red brick fragment with flat-based frog (136mm+ x 102mm x 65mm: 1354g) from context [21/004]. The brick is tempered with moderate fine sand with rare iron oxides to 2mm and is well fired. A mid/late 19<sup>th</sup>- century date is probable.

**6.6 The Fired Clay** by Trista Clifford

6.6.1 A total of 90 fragments of fired clay weighing just over 3.5kg were hand collected from four separate contexts and retrieved from environmental samples. The fragments were examined with the naked eye for diagnostic characteristics indicating form and/or function, and recorded on *pro-forma* archive sheets as well as digital archive. The primary characteristics indicating function used in the analysis include: wattle impressions, smoothed surfaces, diagnostic piercings or being part of a known object form, with the presence of at least two diagnostic features informing identification. Fabric type was similar to the grog/ iron oxide tempered fabric F1 found at the adjacent site of Dittons Road, Polegate (Clifford 2011) indicating the utilisation of a local clay resource across both sites.

6.6.2 The mean fragment weight (MFW) is 39.2g. Table 39 shows an overview of the assemblage by context date, expressed as a percentage of the total assemblage by weight, which shows that over 90% showed some indication of having been utilised. The high MFW suggests that the fragments have not been subject to much, if any, redeposition, although some abrasion is apparent.

Form	1050-1175	1200-1250	Total
?BRIQ		0.6	0.6
?W	2.3	1.8	4.1
A	7.3		7.3
F, W		2.6	2.6
OFS		20.6	20.6
OP		32.9	32.9
OP, F		7.4	7.4
OS, W		16.3	16.3
W	8.2		8.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>82.3</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 39: Overview of the Fired Clay Assemblage

Forms present by context date shown as a percentage of the total assemblage by weight. Key: BRIQ=briquetage, W=wattle impression(s), A= amorphous, F=finger impressions, OFS=one flat surface, OP=oven plate, OS=oven structure

- 6.6.3 Possible briquetage was recovered from a single context, ditch fill [225]. The fragment is small, however, and very hard fired so this identification is not certain.
- 6.6.4 Oven furniture was recovered from ditch fill [225], which included a substantial fragment of circular oven plate/slab with one, possibly two, perforations apparent. The first perforation appears to be at the centre of the object, and measures c.57mm in diameter; a curved indentation which may also be a perforation on the side of the fragment measures c.39mm across. A second curved fragment with a raised lip is possibly a continuation of the central perforation. The thickness of the object increases from 14mm at the outer edge to 64.8mm in the centre. The underside of the plate has been left unfinished. If the original object was circular, the minimum diameter would be 320mm. Several other pieces with a wedge shaped section and finger smoothed or one flat surface from the same context could be part of the same object, although none of the pieces conjoin. Also from this context were four fragments with wattle impressions indicative of being part of an oven or heating structure.
- 6.6.5 Other fragments with wattle impressions of 9-17mm diameter from occupation layers [10/010] and [10/013] are likely to be structural in nature, although they are too small to identify function.
- 6.6.6 Although the fabric is similar to that utilised a Ditton's Road, that assemblage was almost entirely recovered from late Iron Age to early Roman features; these contexts appear to be of medieval date. Unfortunately the material is not intrinsically diagnostic of date. It is possible that this represents LIA-Roman material redeposited within later features; alternatively it may simply indicate that the same local clay was used by the inhabitants and that fabric is therefore not chronologically significant.

**6.7 The Ironwork** by Trista Clifford

- 6.7.1 The ironwork assemblage consists entirely of nails, a total of 117 weighing 148g from two separate contexts, most of which were recovered from environmental samples <1>[5/009] and <4>[9/019]. An overview by nail type (percentage of total assemblage by count) is presented in Table 40.

Nail type	Context		
	5/009	9/019	Total
GP1	0	7	7
GP2	0	4	4
GP3	4	0	4
Hobnail	0	23	23
HS1/HS2	56	0	56
Tack	0	6	6
<b>Total</b>	60	40	100

Table 40: Overview of the nail assemblage by type (percentage of total assemblage by count)

- 6.7.2 Four nail types are present, indicative of a range of activity:
- 6.7.3 General purpose nails (GP1, GP2, and GP3) are present in both contexts. All are circular or sub circular headed with square sectioned stems, varying in size from GP1, the smallest (length 15.9mm) up to GP3, the largest (length 29-38.5). All complete nails of type GP3 are clenched and were only present within context [5/009].
- 6.7.4 Hobnails with faceted domed heads were found solely in ditch fill [5/009]. The form is characteristic of Roman hobnails although they could also possibly be post-medieval in date. Hobnailed shoes are not typical of the medieval period.
- 6.7.5 Small tacks with short square sectioned shanks were recovered from ditch fill [5/009]. The form is not inherently datable and could be Roman to early post-medieval in date.
- 6.7.6 Horse shoe nails HS1 and HS2 are identical in form however HS1 is noticeably larger than HS2. Both have T-shaped to trapezoidal heads with short, square sectioned stems. Double clenching is evident on some complete nails. The form is known as the 'fiddle-key' nail and the T shaped head is indicative of considerable wear; only one in the assemblage is unworn. It may be the case that some of the nails were produced T-shaped, a form which precedes the fiddle-key type (Clarke 1995, 85). Both forms were used with Type 1 horseshoes of 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century date; fiddle key nails continued in use with Type 2 shoes until the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century (Clarke 1995, 92). The smaller examples may have been used with ox shoes rather than horse shoes.

## **6.8 The Geological Material** by Luke Barber

- 6.8.1 Stone was recovered from only two contexts on site. The environmental residue from [4/004] produced a 1g fragment of coal, with the remainder of the stone being recovered from early/mid-13<sup>th</sup> century deposit [225]. This produced three pieces (402g) of Lower Greensand rotary quern. The pieces are too small to establish the diameter of the stone/s involved, or indeed if upper or lower stones are represented. However, two of the pieces have parts of the grinding face still surviving and give stone thicknesses of 30 and 41mm+ thick. As such it is likely that fragments from an upper and lower stone are represented.

## **6.9 The Slag** by Luke Barber

- 6.9.1 Context [15/004] (environmental sample <8>) produced the only definite slag from the site: a 1g piece of glassy fuel ash slag that could have been generated by any high temperature process, including domestic hearths. The residues from contexts [5/009] and [9/019] also produced material initially labelled as slag. However, close examination showed the material to consist of magnetic 'fines' of burnt clay/siltstone granules. These could easily have been heated/magnetised by a domestic hearth. The sample from [5/009] also contained a number of small rust fragments, including a few shanks from possible hobnails.

## 6.10 Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

6.10.1 In total, 42 pieces of flint considered to be humanly struck, weighing 658g were recovered through hand-collection and from a sample residue during the evaluation and subsequent excavation work at the site. In addition, 12 fragments (158g) of burnt unworked flint were retrieved from nine numbered contexts. The majority of the struck flint came from cut features (pits and gullies) and deposits in Trenches 2, 5, 9, 10 and 15. An additional six pieces originated from topsoil contexts. Although most contexts produced only very small quantities of struck flint, undated pit [2/006] (fill [2/007]) produced a small concentration of material (12 pieces). The general technological appearance of the assemblage indicates human activity from the Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age.

6.10.2 The artefacts were individually examined and classified using standard set of codes and morphological descriptions (Butler 2005; Ford 1987 and Inizanet *al.* 1999). Basic technological details as well as further information regarding the condition of the artefacts were recorded. Dating was attempted when possible. All data have been entered onto a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, and it is summarized by feature and artefact types in Table 41.

Context types	Contexts	Flakes	Blades, Blade-like flakes, Bladelets	Chips	Irregular waste	Cores, Core fragments	Retouched forms	Total	%
Pits	2/007, 5/005, 5/007, 9/005, 9/011, 9/023, 9/025, 15/006	12	6		1			19	45.23%
Gullies	9/007, 9/017, 10/005, 10/009, 15/008	4			2	1		7	16.67%
Other contexts (deposits, topsoil)	5/011, 8/001, 10/010, 10/013, 20	7	2	2	3	1	1	16	38.10%
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>42</b>	

Table 41: The Flintwork by feature type and artefact type

6.10.3 The condition of the flintwork varied within the assemblage. A large proportion exhibited only a moderate degree of edge damage, implying that the material had undergone negligible post-depositional disturbance. Nonetheless, six pieces displayed extensive edge chipping associated with successive re-deposition. V-shaped nicks sometimes associated with ploughing activities were also noted. Fifteen pieces were recorded as broken. The majority of the artefacts were free from surface cortication, but two flakes and a bladelet displayed incipient traces of bluish white surface discolouration. Two raw materials were identified. The majority of the flints



were manufactured from light to dark grey to almost black fine-grained to very fine-grained flint. The thick to slightly weathered off-white chalky cortex is typical of chalk-derived flint which is available from surface deposits on the Downs or locally from tertiary deposits. Several artefacts exhibited a thin pitted cortex. This material could have been acquired from local gravel sources.

### ***Technology and dating***

- 6.10.4 The assemblage is dominated by knapping débitage and comprised 23 flakes, three blade-like-flakes, one blade, 4 bladelets, six pieces of irregular waste and two chips. A relatively large proportion of pieces were technologically poor. Nonetheless, the presence of bladelets, blade, blade-like-flakes and flakes with platform preparation and dorsal blade scar removals suggests a Mesolithic or early Neolithic blade-orientated industry. A small quantity of crudely worked flakes with more prominent bulb of percussion, larger butts with pronounced cone of percussion which could be of later (Late Neolithic or Bronze Age) date was also evident.
- 6.10.5 Cores were virtually absent from the assemblage and archaeological work produced only two examples recovered from the topsoil and from gully fill context [9/017]. Although both the fragmentary core and the core on a flake were in a poor condition, the scar attributes are more likely to be of Mesolithic / Neolithic date. Only one retouched piece whose form is undiagnostic was retrieved during the archaeological work. The miscellaneous piece from topsoil [200] was manufactured on a flake removed from a very fine grained dark flint with dorsal flake scars and a cortical platform. It displayed direct retouch on the right lateral edge.

### ***Discussion***

- 6.10.6 Despite the absence of chronologically diagnostic pieces, the archaeological work has revealed limited evidence for prehistoric activity. Some of the material is more consistent with a Mesolithic / Early Neolithic date, although later prehistoric activity may also be represented. The assemblage represents only a background scatter suggesting only low-key and sporadic activity. A slightly larger Mesolithic and Neolithic scatter has been found at the adjacent Bluebells Development (ASE 2011) and, although the assemblage from the current site is small, it almost certainly forms part of a much more extensive spread occurring in the area.

## **6.11 The Registered Finds** by Trista Clifford

- 6.11.1 A single copper alloy button, RF<1>, was recovered from [7/004]. The button is flat and circular and decorated with a white metal coating, probably tin, and has an intact applied loop on the reverse. A 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century date is probable

## 7.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

By Karine Le Hegarat and Dawn Elise Mooney

- 7.1 A total of fourteen bulk soil samples were taken during archaeological works at The Mill Development, Shepham Lane, Polegate to establish evidence for environmental indicators such as charred macrobotanical remains, wood, bones, and molluscs. The majority of samples came from a range of features including pits, postholes and gullies. Another sample came from deposit ([10/010]) which may represent the remains of a silted up pond. Gullies [9/006] and [224] and layer [10/010] contained ceramics dated to the medieval period. This report characterises the composition of the samples and discusses evidence for agriculture, fuel use as well as evidence for the past vegetation.
- 7.2 Samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes and were air dried prior to sorting. The residues were passed through graded sieves (8, 4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Appendix 2: Table 42). The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 2: Table 43). Preliminary identifications were made for the macrobotanical remains by comparing them with specimens documented in reference manuals (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004). Charred wood remains from three samples were analysed from the site. One hundred charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residue of each sample were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale & Cutler 2000), and examined using an incident light microscope at 50x to 400x magnification in order to assess the range of woody taxa present. Identifications were made by D. E. Mooney using modern comparative material and reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schochet *al.* 2004). Identifications have been given to species where possible, however genera, family or group names are given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit satisfactory identification. Where identifications are uncertain due to poor preservation or limited size of charcoal specimens the identification is preceded by cf., denoting 'compares with'.

## 7.3 Results

- 7.3.1 Samples produced flots ranging in size from 40ml to 600ml. They consisted almost entirely of uncharred vegetation including fine rootlets and fine stem fragments as well as an amalgam of broken down plant matter. A limited amount of uncharred seeds were also noticed including blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg./*idaeus*), buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.), clover (*Trifolium* sp.) as well as seeds from the goosefoot, dead-nettle and pink (Chenopodiaceae, Lamiaceae and Caryophyllaceae) families.
- 7.3.2 Overall, charred macroplant remains were sparse in these samples. The exception is sample <14> (fill of gully [225]) which contained a good quantity (between 100 and 110 items) of charred crop remains and charred weed seeds. The crop assemblage comprised grains of wheat including potential free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* cf. *aestivum*), possible rye (cf. *Secale cereale*) and barley (cf. *Hordeum* sp.) as well as several unidentified grains (Cerealia). A single pulse with a surface dimension of 3mm may indicate the presence of a cultivated vetch/pea (*Vicia/Pisum* sp.). The charred weed seeds consisted of grass (Poaceae) seeds and oat (*Avena* sp.) and

corn marigold (*Chrysanthemum segetum*). The remaining charred macroplant remains consist of infrequent grains, weed seeds, bud and nutshell fragment found in samples <1>, <2>, <4>, <5>, <11> and <14>. The weed flora comprised knotgrass / dock (*Polygonum / Rumex* sp.), bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) and seeds of grass (Poaceae).

- 7.3.3 Pieces of uncharred wood present in sample <2> taken from the fill [4/004] of posthole [4/005] were retained wet to limit their deterioration. One of these fragments, a relatively large piece of wood originating from a branch joint, was identified as ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). The preservation of the wood was poor and it was much deteriorated on the external faces. The morphology of the wood makes it unlikely that this fragment represents remains of the primary structural fill of the posthole.
- 7.3.4 The quantities of charred wood remains from the site were in general small, and only three samples contained sufficient material to merit analysis for wood species identification. The charcoal fragments from samples <1>, <2> and <4>, although relatively numerous, were very poorly preserved. Many fragments in all three samples were distorted during the charring process to the point where diagnostic anatomical features could no longer be distinguished. Furthermore, charcoal from samples <1> and <4> displayed partial mineralization and accretions of iron oxide and sediment which obscured the suites of anatomical features necessary for species identification. For these reasons, large numbers of the fragments analysed could not be assigned taxonomic identifications, as is shown in Table 44 in Appendix 2.
- 7.3.5 Of the charred wood remains which were sufficiently well preserved to permit identification, oak (*Quercus* sp.) was the dominant taxon in all three samples. Willow/poplar (*Salix/Populus*), wild cherry/blackthorn (*Prunus* sp.) and Maloideae taxa (incorporating whitebeam and rowan (*Sorbus* sp.), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), apple (*Malus* sp.) and pear (*Pyrus* sp.)) were also observed in sample <1>. In addition to oak, sample <2> also contained hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) fragments. Sample <4> produced the most diverse range of woody taxa, including oak, wild cherry/blackthorn, willow/poplar, hazel/alder (*Corylus/Alnus*), birch (*Betula* sp.) and lime (*Tilia* sp.). These results are presented in Table 44; Appendix 2. All samples also produced fragments of small roundwood, particularly of hazel and birch, and twigwood of oak and wild cherry/blackthorn.
- 7.3.6 No other biological remains were recorded in the samples. However, the residues produced occasional fragments of pottery and burnt clay, a small amount of coal, glass and magnetised material, a moderate quantity of nails and a single struck flint.

## 7.4 Discussion

- 7.4.1 The flots contained high proportions of uncharred vegetation including high numbers of roots which were also recorded during the site investigation. However, when deposits remain sufficiently moist or well-sealed, uncharred plant remains contemporary with the infilling of the features can survive. However, the samples were extracted from deposits which were recorded as dry or moist. In several cases, the samples originated from shallow features. Furthermore, a moderate number of modern fungal sclerotia which are common in active soils were recorded in the flots. It is therefore more likely that the presence of roots indicates some post-depositional disturbance within the features with the possibility of contamination by later intrusions.

- 7.4.2 Sample <14> provided evidence for the use of free-threshing wheat, oat, possible barley and rye as well as pulses during the medieval period. The data reflects results from other contemporary sites in the area (Hinton 2008, Allott in prep). However, the charred weed seeds were uncommon, and no significant interpretation can be gained from this small assemblage regarding crop husbandry. The absence of chaff and low concentration of weed seeds suggests that the remains are likely to derive from background scatters of grains and pulses burnt during food preparation. The presence of several crops suggests that the plant material relates to several burning events. It is likely that the material would have accumulated over time into the open ditch. Sample <5> originated from context [10/010], a deposit interpreted as a possible silted up pond. No botanical remains indicative of wetland environment were present in this sample.
- 7.4.3 Despite the poor preservation of charred wood remains, the charcoal analysis produced sufficient evidence to facilitate a limited discussion of the woody taxa present in the environment surrounding the site. The charcoal fragments analysed from the site are likely to comprise fuel debris re-deposited from hearths that may have been used for domestic or industrial purposes. These deposits probably contain amalgams of fragments of a variety of origins, and although the assemblages provide a broad overview of taxa used, without evidence from the primary features they provide little potential to examine the selection of species used as fuel in detail.
- 7.4.4 The wide variety of species present, particularly in sample <4>, indicate the presence of both mature woodland and woodland margin environments, both of which were exploited for fuel procurement. The presence of small amounts of willow/poplar charcoal also indicates the exploitation of damp woodland environments. The dominance of oak in all three samples indicates that this was likely to have been the primary taxon used for fuel wood. Oak is an excellent fuel wood on account of its high calorific value, and it is commonly found in British archaeological charcoal assemblages from all periods. The presence of small roundwood in samples <1> and <2> may indicate woodland management through coppicing, particularly of hazel stands, however the number of fragments identifiable in these samples are too few to give a clear insight into any potential woodland management practices.
- 7.4.5 The single piece of waterlogged wood from the posthole fill [4/005] seems unlikely to represent the remains of a structural element, due to the origin of the piece from a branch joint. Although no evidence of woodworking was visible on the timber, its outer surfaces were in very poor condition and this may have obscured any tool marks which were once present. This wooden element may therefore represent a timber offcut, indicating that ash was used for construction purposes at the site. Considering its ubiquity in the charcoal samples, it is likely that oak would also have been used for construction.
- 7.4.6 Overall, the charcoal and wood assemblage is of low significance, with limited quantities and poor preservation constraining the potential of these remains to contribute to the interpretation of the site.

## **8.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **8.1 Introduction**

8.1.1 The archaeological evaluation of the site by mechanically excavated trial trenches showed that extensively root damaged limited archaeological remains survived. Extension of some of the trenches and the mechanical stripping of two Mitigation Areas allowed the examination of a range of archaeological deposits in advance of development.

### **8.2 The Prehistoric Period**

8.2.1 Although no features could be dated to this period with certainty, an assemblage of residual struck flints dating from the Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age were recovered from the overburden and from a limited number of archaeological features. The majority of the material can be more firmly dated to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic suggesting hunter/gatherer activity rather than permanent habitation and/or discernible alterations to the environment. This 'background scatter' of flintwork was also observed at the Bluebells Development (ASE 2012)

### **8.3 Late Iron Age and Romano-British Period**

8.3.1 Only a single feature could be positively dated to this period, a small pit in Trench 9, although the presence of possible Romano-British style hobnails suggests other features might belong to this period. A single sherd of residual Romano-British pottery was also recovered from a medieval gully in Mitigation Area B.

8.3.2 Clearly the concentration of features of this date identified and recorded immediately to the east of the current site at the Bluebells Development (Stevens 2011) was not seen in the evaluation trenches or Mitigation Areas. No Romano-British features were identified on the *Strip, Map and Sample*, either between the two Mitigation Area or immediately to the north of the Bluebells Development (ASE 2012), suggesting the focus of the site had been identified on the Bluebells site.

### **8.4 The Medieval Period**

8.4.1 The majority of datable features identified at the current site (and during the rising main replacement) can be assigned to this period. Given the presence of a known broadly contemporary farmstead c.1.5km to the west (Stevens 2007), evidence from the current site suggests an organised, sub-divided agricultural landscape at the time. Dating evidence shows that the field system was probably in use from the Saxo-Norman period through to the late 13<sup>th</sup> century. As shown on Figure 18, although most of the linear features follow a broadly similar orientation, there are some slightly differently aligned ditches, perhaps indicating periodic reorganisation.

8.4.2 Artefactual and environmental evidence from Mitigation Area B suggests the presence of farmstead buildings in the vicinity, a suggestion also put forward for evidence seen in the raising main replacement (ASE 2011). Clearly the Polegate area was a favoured location for medieval settlement; and agricultural (the current site, ASE 2012 and Stevens 2007), industrial (the unexcavated pottery production

site at Abbots Wood; Barton*op. cit.*) and religious (Otham Court, a Premonstratensian monastic foundation; SEAS*op. cit.*) medieval activity is all evidenced in the area.

## **8.5 The Post-Medieval Period**

- 8.5.1 Only limited evidence of post-medieval activity was uncovered during the current project, often in the form of truncation of earlier archaeological features apparently from clearance of trees and bushes, an activity seen at the adjacent Bluebells site (ASE 2011).

## **8.6 Publication of Results**

- 8.6.1 It is envisaged that the results of the archaeological work from the current site and the *Strip, Map and Sample* work both adjacent to the current site and elsewhere (ASE 2012) will be added to those from the Bluebells Development (ASE 2011) to provide a detailed chronological narrative of the sequence of human activity in the Dittons Road/Shepham Lane area of Polegate. It is suggested this work will be submitted for publication in a future volume of the *Sussex Archaeological Collections*.

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## HER Summary Form

Site Code	SLP12					
Identification Name and Address	Land East of Shepham Lane, Polegate, East Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	Wealden District, East Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	594500 050640					
Geology	Weald Clay					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4969					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav. ✓	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	<b>Eval.</b> 26.04.2012 – 24.09.2012	<b>Excav.</b>	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting Ltd.					
Project Manager	Darryl Palmer/Jim Stevenson					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.? ✓	Neo. .? ✓	BA	IA	RB✓
	AS	MED ✓	PM ✓	Other		
<b>Summary</b>						
<p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the east of Shepham Lane, Polegate, East Sussex (The Mill Development). Trial trenching revealed a series of gullies and other features, but it was found that they were so amorphous and truncated that a large-scale excavation of the area was not deemed necessary. However, the extension of some of the trenches and the mechanical stripping of two Mitigation Areas allowed the examination of a limited range of archaeological deposits in advance of development.</i></p> <p><i>A limited assemblage of residual struck flints dating from the Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age was recovered from the overburden and from a limited number of archaeological features. A single feature was datable to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period.</i></p> <p><i>The majority of datable features identified at the current site could be dated to the medieval period, apparently forming a periodically realigned field system in use from the Saxo-Norman period through to the late 13<sup>th</sup> century. Only limited evidence of post-medieval activity was uncovered during the current project, often in the form of truncation of earlier archaeological features apparently from clearance of trees and bushes.</i></p>						

## OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-127467**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological Investigations on land East of Shepham Lane, Polegate, East Sussex
Short description of the project	<p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the east of Shepham Lane, Polegate, East Sussex (The Mill Development). Trial trenching revealed a series of gullies and other features, but it was found that they were so amorphous and truncated that a large-scale excavation of the area was not deemed necessary. However, the extension of some of the trenches and the mechanical stripping of two Mitigation Areas allowed the examination of a limited range of archaeological deposits in advance of development.</p> <p>A limited assemblage of residual struck flints dating from the Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age was recovered from the overburden and from a limited number of archaeological features. A single feature was datable to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period.</p> <p>The majority of datable features identified at the current site could be dated to the medieval period, apparently forming a periodically realigned field system in use from the Saxo-Norman period through to the late 13<sup>th</sup> century. Only limited evidence of post-medieval activity was uncovered during the current project, often in the form of truncation of earlier archaeological features apparently from clearance of trees and bushes.</p>
Project dates	Start: 26-04-2012 End: 24-09-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	4969 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	SLP12 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	WDA/07/1054/MEA - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Medieval

Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
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)

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#### **Project location**

Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX WEALDEN POLEGATE East of Shepham Lane
Postcode	BN26 6LZ
Study area	10.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 9450 5064 51 0 51 13 16 N 000 47 08 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 9.00m Max: 11.00m

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#### **Project creators**

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Darryl Palmer/Jim Stevenson
Project supervisor	Simon Stevens
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting on behalf of Taylor Wimpey

---

#### **Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient	Eastbourne Museum Service
Physical Archive ID	ELHAMS 2011.49
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive	Eastbourne Museum Service

recipient

Digital Archive ID ELHAMS 2011.49

Digital Contents "other"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Eastbourne Museum Service

Paper Archive ID ELHAMS 2011.49

Paper Contents "other"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Correspondence","MiscellaneousMaterial","Notebook - Excavation"," Research"," General Notes","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

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**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological Investigations on land East Of Shepham Lane, Polegate, East Sussex

Author(s)/Editor(s) Stevens, S.

Other bibliographic details ASE Report No. 2012125

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Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

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Description ASE client report. A4-sized with cover logos.

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Entered by Simon Stevens (simon.stevens@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 21 November 2012

**Appendix 1 - Finds Quantification Table**

Context	Pottery	wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Flint	wt (g)	FCF	wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Iron	wt (g)	Glass	wt (g)	Fired clay	wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)	Ceramic Item	wt (g)
Unstrat.					5	54														
100							4	60												
200					1	34	2	28												
203	1	16																		
217	1	<2																		
219	6	26																		
221	6	78																		
223	36	314																		
225	9	132							4	426					31	2908				
2/007					12	63														
5/005					1	6														
5/009	1	6									5	8								
5/007					1	6														
5/011					5	18							1	<2						
8/001					1	181														
9/005	11	638	2	640	1	58														
9/007	1	10			1	19	1	4					1	2						
9/009							2	82												
9/011					1	2														
9/013							2	48												
9/017					2	70	1	<2												
9/019											1	<2								
9/021	19	76																		
9/023					1	<2														
9/025					1	<2	1	6												

Context	Pottery	wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Flint	wt (g)	FCF	wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Iron	wt (g)	Glass	wt (g)	Fired clay	wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)	Ceramic Item	wt (g)	
9/033							3	6													
10/005					1	8															
10/009					2	92															
10/010	3	20			1	19									30	388					
10/013	3	18			2	2	2	12							17	248					
15/006					1	1															
15/008					1	8															
21/004			2	1356									1	346						1	6
23/004	1	8																			
23/008													5	14	6	4	1	16			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1342</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>3548</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	

**Appendix 2: Environmental Tables**

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	5/009	Fill of pit [5/008]	20	20	***	38	**	<2			Magnetised mat. **/2g - Nail ***/58g
2	4/005	Fill of posthole [4/004]	20	20	***	4	**	<2	* cf. nutshell (unid.)	<2	Coal */<2g - Uncharred wood (P)
3	9/007	Fill of gully [9/006]	40	40	**	4	**	4			Flint */10g - FCF */6g
4	9/019	Fill of pit [9/018]	20	20	***	144	**	<2			Magnetised mat. **/<2g - Nails ***/66g
5	10/010	Layer	40	40	*	<2	*	<2	* <i>Triticum</i> sp. (1), <i>Hordeum</i> sp. (1)	<2	Pottery */<2g - Burnt clay **/48g - Uncharred botanical remains **/<2g
6	20/004	Fill of pit [20/003]	20	20	*	<2	*	<2			
7	15/008	Fill of gully [15/007]	40	40	**	<2	**	2			Flint */<2g
8	15/004	Fill of poss. tree hole [15/003]	40	40	**	2	**	2			Slag */<2g
9	15/006	Fill of pit [15/005]	20	20	*	<2	*	<2			Flint */<2g

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
10	23/004	Fill of gully [23/003]	40	40	*	<2	**	<2			Flint */12g
11	23/008	Fill of pit [23/007]	40	40	**	4	**	<2			Fired clay */2g - Glass */<2g
12	24/004	Fill of gully [24/003]	10	10			*	<2			
13	24/006	Fill of gully [24/005]	10	10							EMPTY
14	225	Fill of gully [224]	40	40	**	8	***	2	*** <i>Triticum</i> sp. (8), <i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>aestivum</i> (3), <i>Secale cereale</i> (12), cf. <i>Hordeum</i> sp. (1), cf. <i>Avena</i> sp. (3), Poaceae (4), Cerealia (21), <i>Vicia / Pisum</i> sp. (1)	<2	Pottery */<2g - Burnt clay **/128g

Table 42: Residues Quantification (\* = 0-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51 – 250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and weights (in grams)



Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Other botanical charred	Identifications	Preservation
1	5/009	6	85	85	98	1	Caryophyllaceae (1)		*	*				*	<i>Polygonum / Rumex</i> sp. (1)	++			
2	4/005	28	250	250	95	1	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), Fabaceae (1)	*	**	**							*	unid. bud (1)	+
3	9/007	11	105	105	98	1		*	*	*									
4	9/019	58	250	250	45	2	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1), <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Ranunculus</i> sp. (2)	**	***	***				*	<i>Polygonum / Rumex</i> sp. (3)	++			
5	10/010	34	300	300	99	1	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), unind. fruiting structure (1)			*				*	Poaceae (1)	++			

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Other botanical charred	Identifications	Preservation	
6	20/004	18	160	160	98	2	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), unind. seed (1), Lamiaceae (*)	*	*	*										
7	15/008	88	500	500	99	1	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Trifolium</i> sp. (1), Lamiaceae (*)			*										
8	15/004	50	350	350	99	1	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*)			*										
9	15/006	32	275	275	99	1	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), Lamiaceae (1)			*										
10	23/004	32	300	300	92	8	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*)			*										

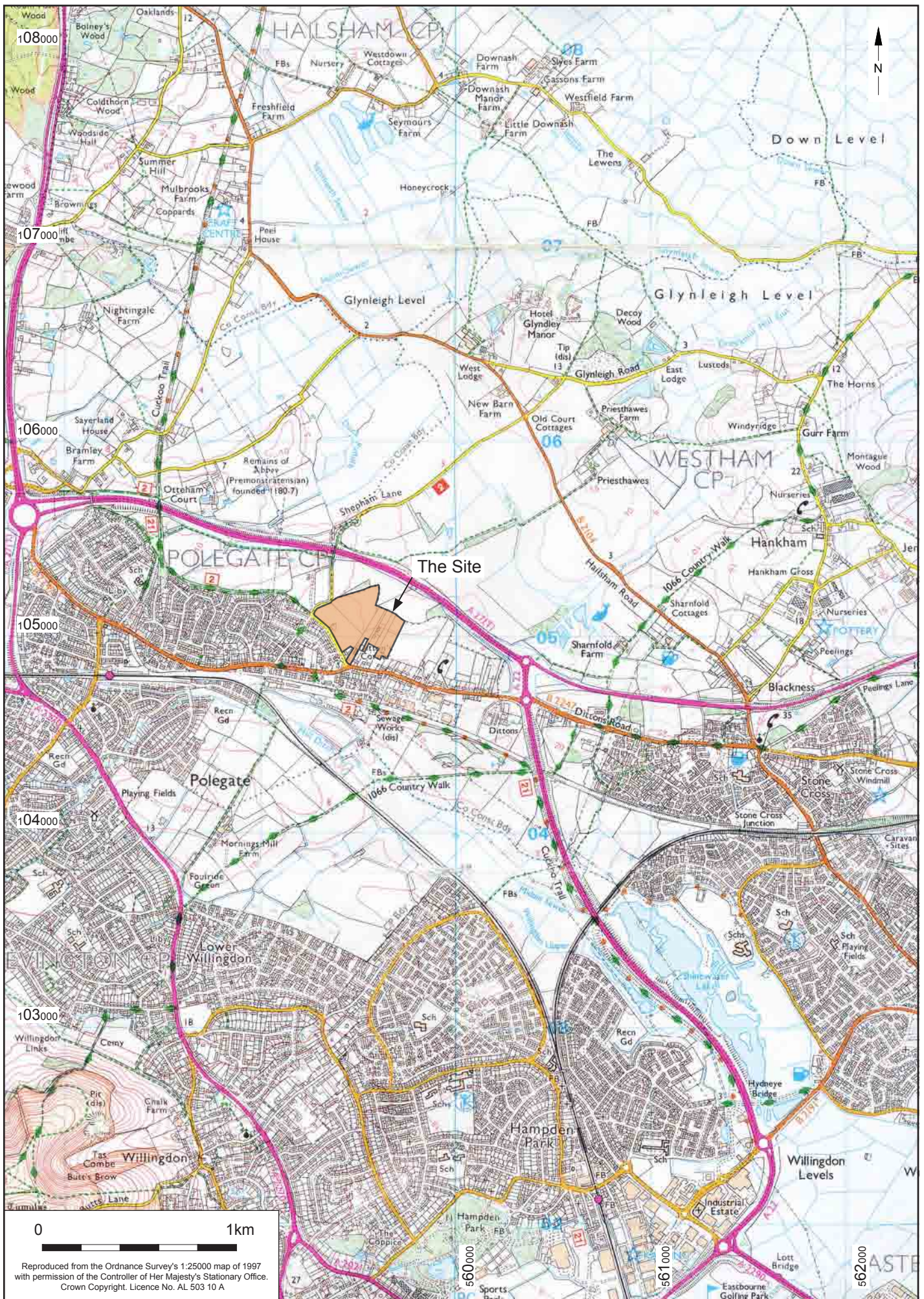
Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Other botanical charred	Identifications	Preservation
11	23/008	6	600	600	99	1	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), cf. <i>Ranunculus</i> sp. (1), Lamiaceae (1)	*	*	*				*	<i>Galium</i> sp. (1)	++			
12	24/004	56	50	50	98	2				*									
13	24/006	4	40	40	99	1		*	*	*									
14	225	58	370	370	95	1		*	**	***	*	<i>Triticum</i> sp. (18), <i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>aestivum</i> (6), cf. <i>Secale cereale</i> (9), Cerealialia (14)	+ to ++	*	<i>Avena</i> sp. (3), cf. <i>Avena</i> sp. (2), Poaceae (1), <i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i> (9), unid. seeds X 2	+ to ++			

Table 43: Flots Quantification (\* = 0-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51 – 250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

	<b>Sample Number</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>Context</b>	5/009	4/005	9/019
	<b>Parent Context</b>	5/008	4/004	9/018
	<b>Feature Type</b>	P	SP	D
<b>Taxonomic Identifications</b>	<b>English Name</b>			
<i>Quercus</i> sp.	Oak	53	52	43
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash		2	
cf. Maloideae group	hawthorn, whitebeam, rowan, apple, pear	1		
Prunoideae <i>Prunus</i> sp.	cherry/blackthorn	8		2
cf. <i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel		28	
<i>Betula</i> sp.	Birch			11
<i>Corylus/Alnus</i>	hazel/alder			6
<i>Tilia</i> sp.	Lime			2
<i>Salix/Populus</i>	willow/poplar	1		2
indet. Distorted		37	18	34
Total		100	100	100

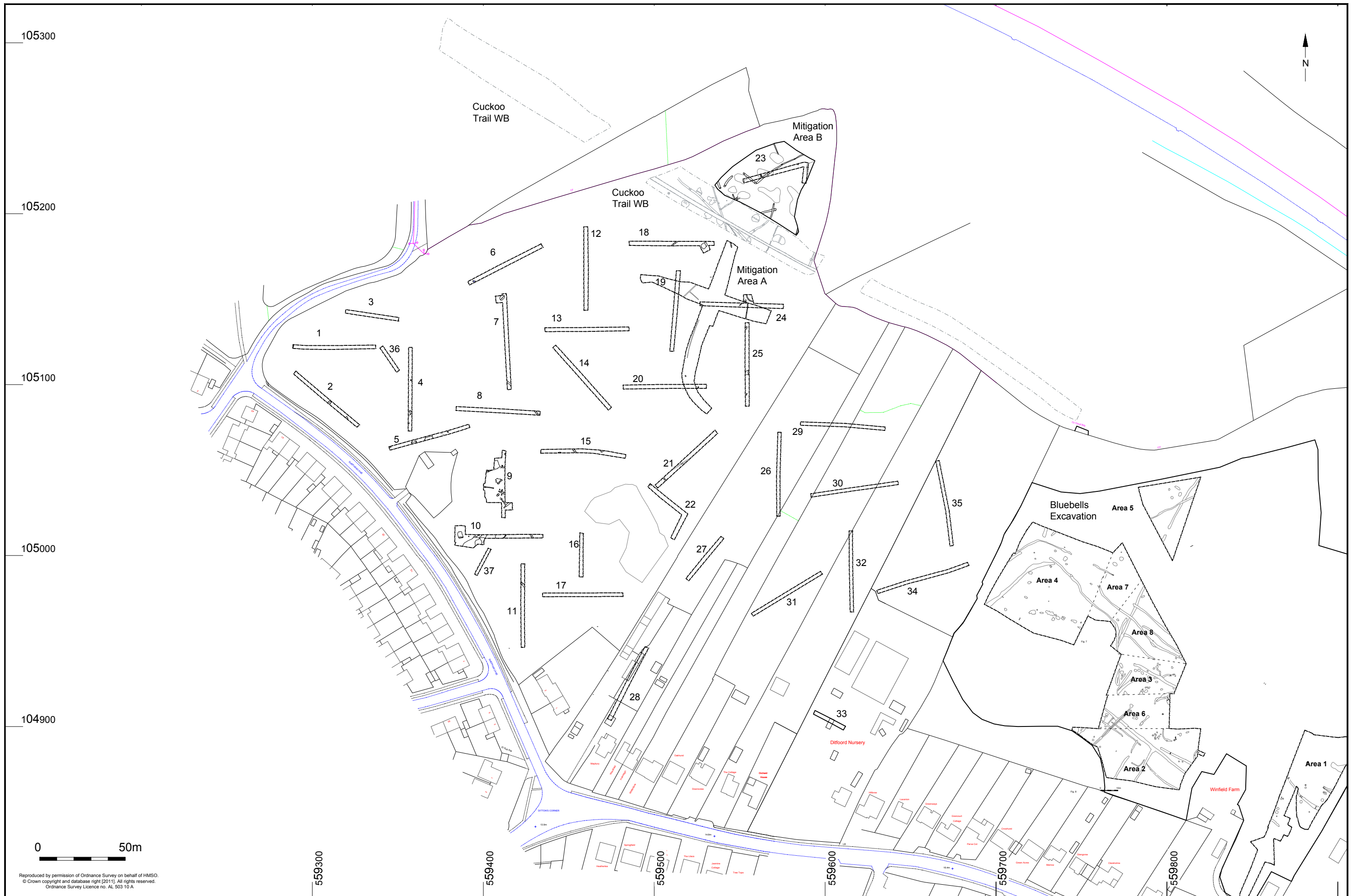
Table 44: Charcoal Identification and Quantification





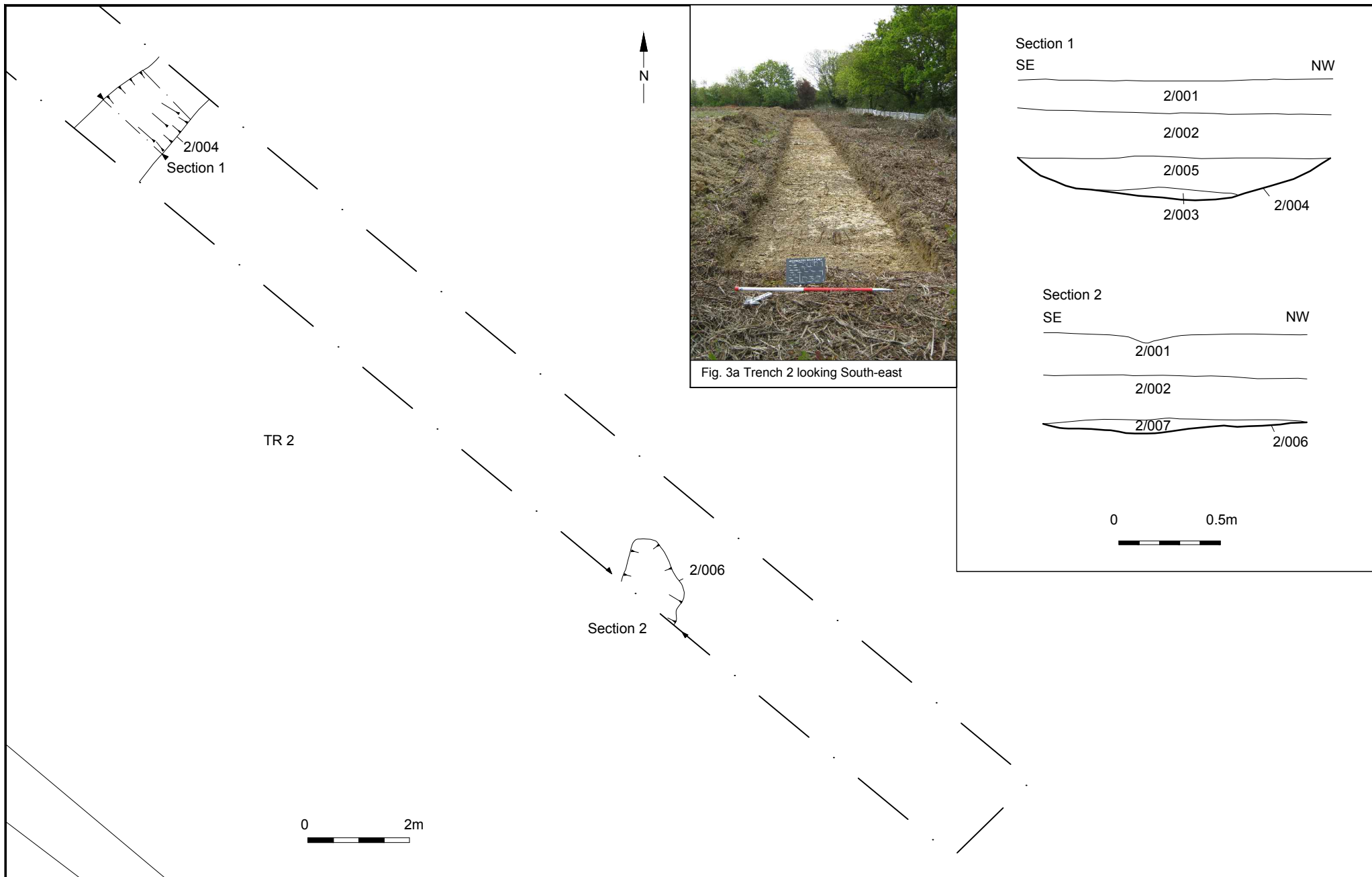
© Archaeology South-East		Land East of Shepham Lane, Polegate		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4969	Oct 2011	Site location		
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: JLR			





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© Archaeology South-East		Land East of Shepham Lane, Polegate		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4969	Jan 2013	Trench location		
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: RHC			



© Archaeology South-East		Land East of Shepham Lane, Polegate	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 4969	Jan 2013	Trench 2 Plan, Sections and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: RHC		

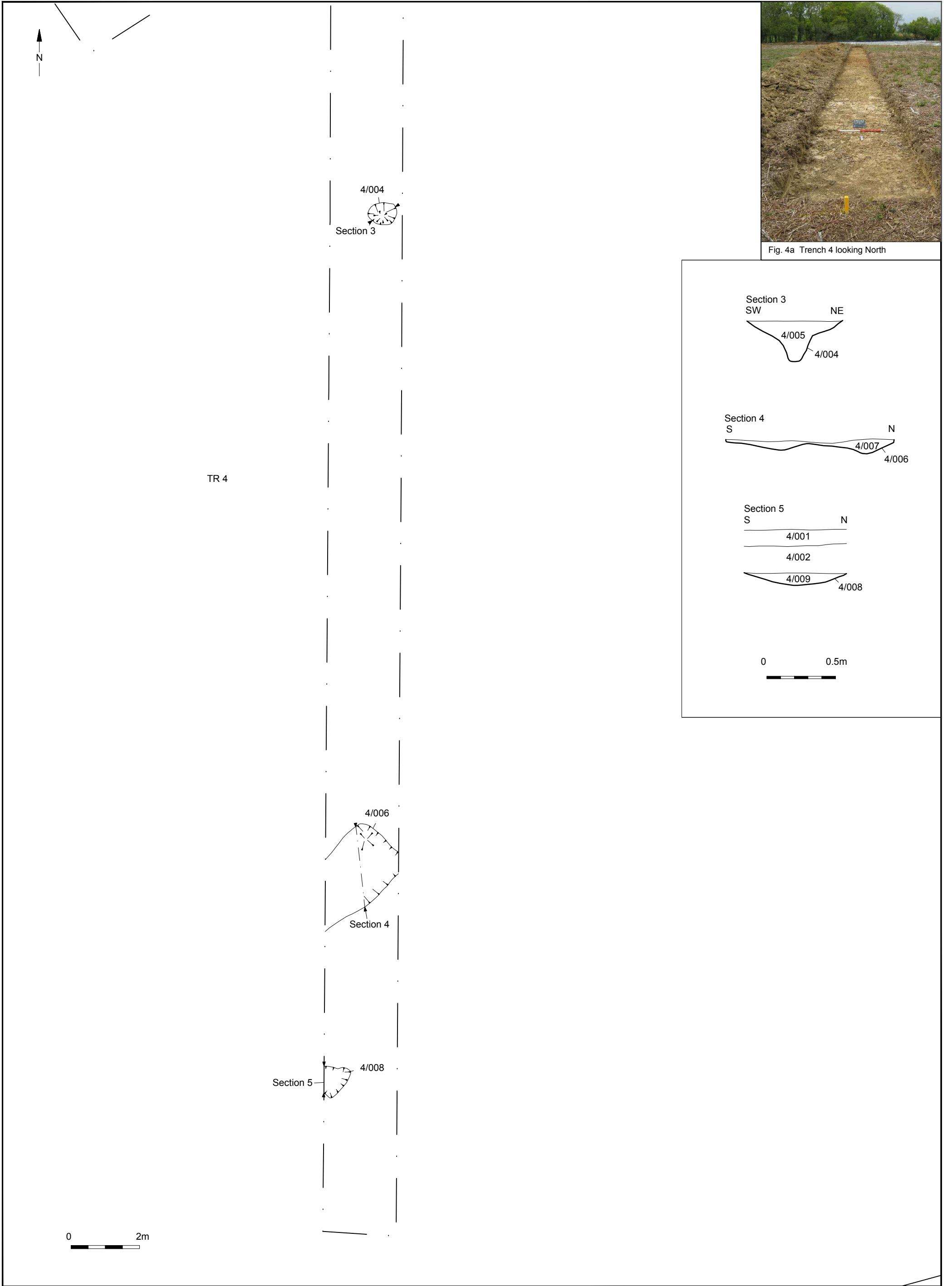


Fig. 4a Trench 4 looking North



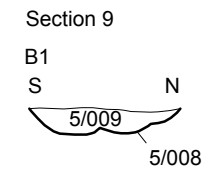
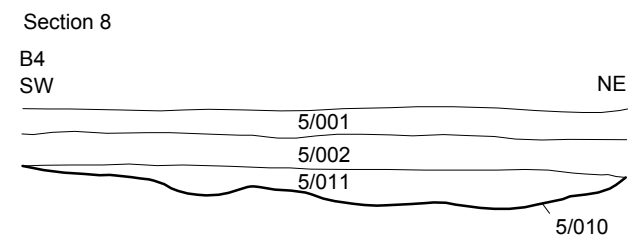
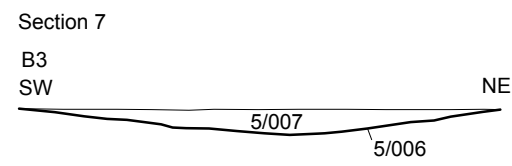
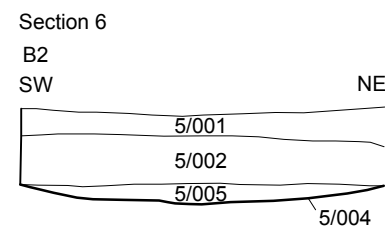
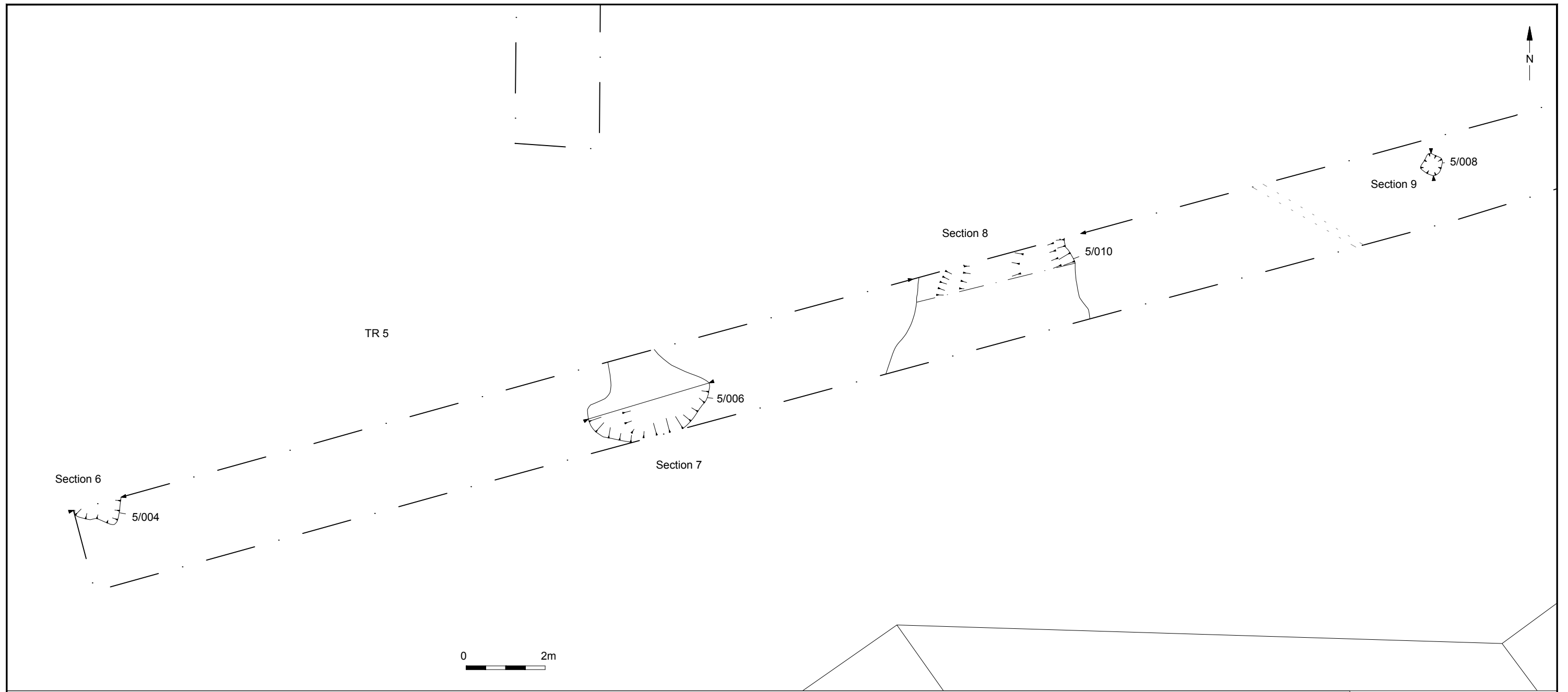
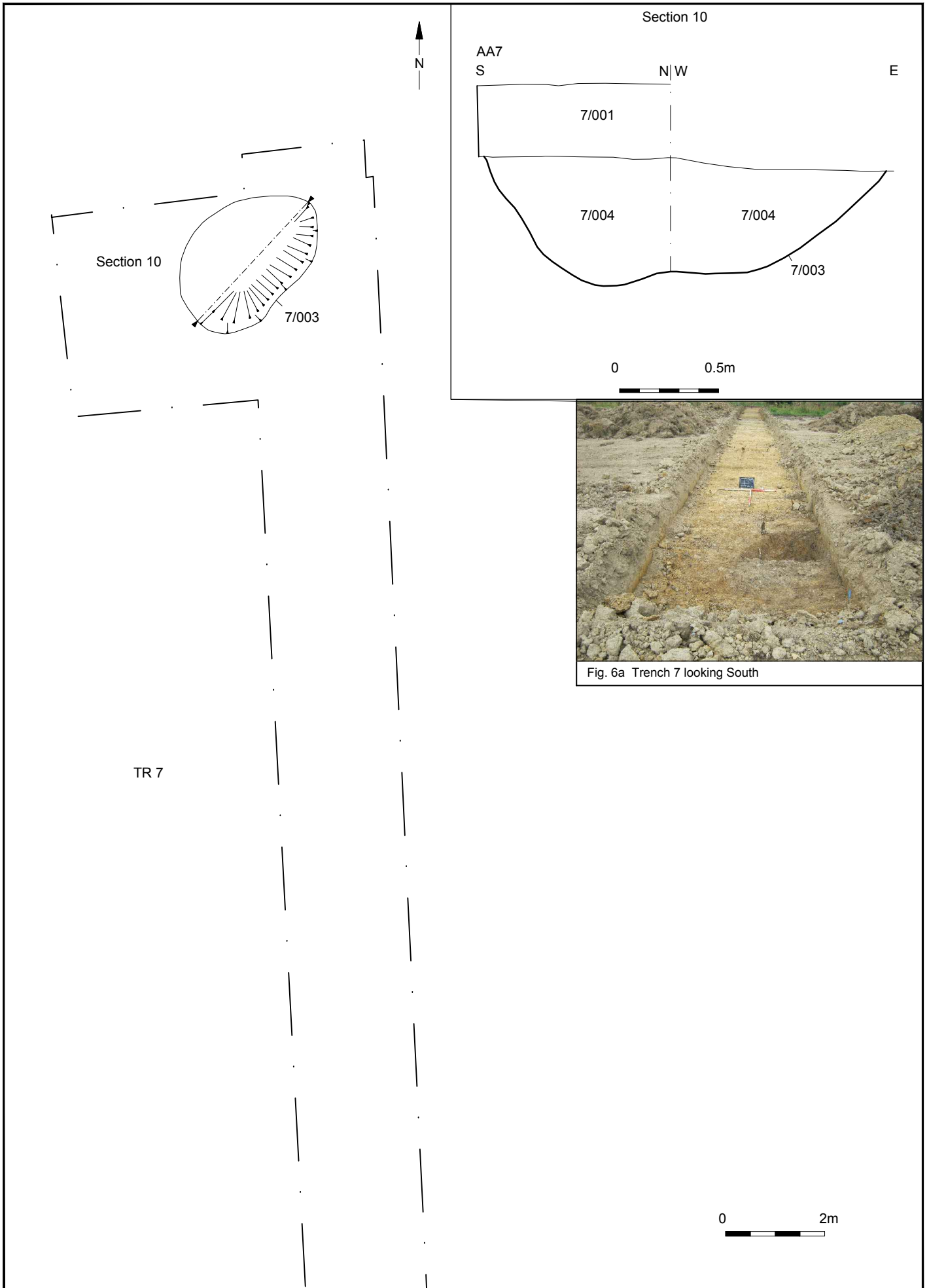


Fig. 5a Trench 5 looking North East



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Project Ref: 4969	Jan 2013	Trench 7 Plan, Section and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: RHC		

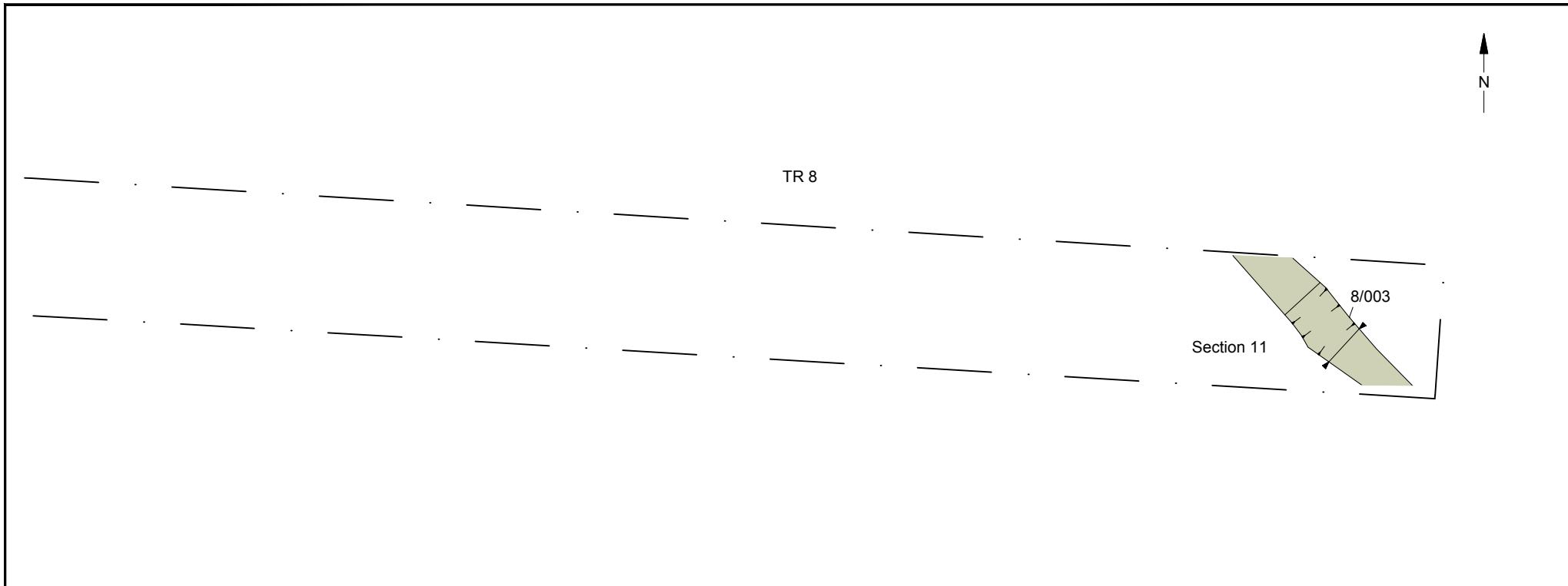
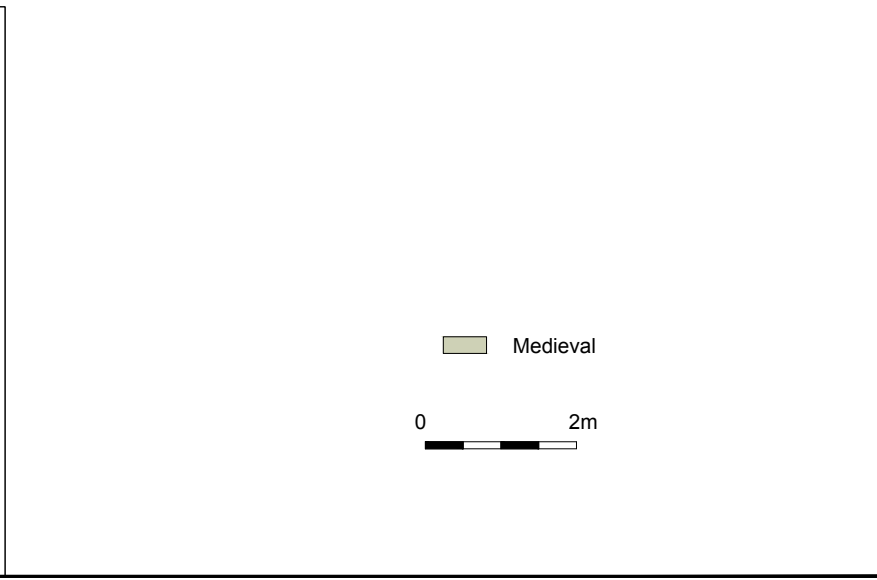
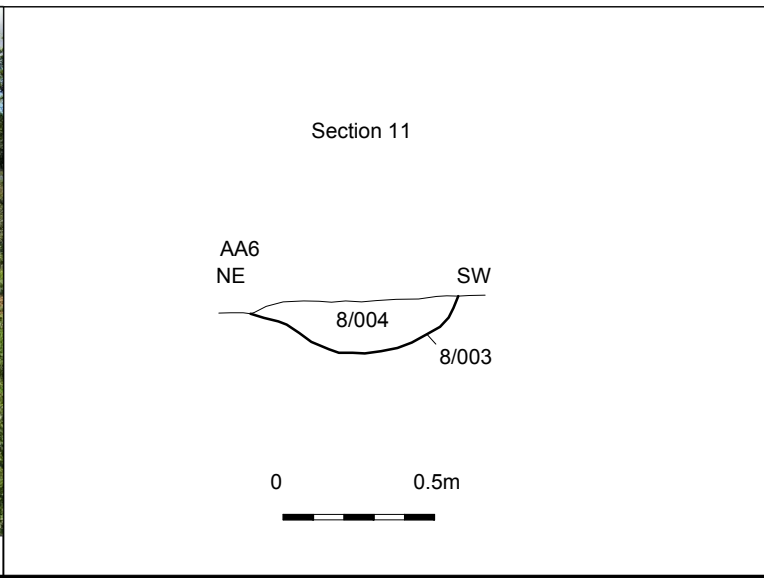


Fig. 7a Trench 8 looking West



© Archaeology South-East		Land East of Shepham Lane, Polegate	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 4969	Jan 2013	Trench 8 Plan, Section and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: RHC		

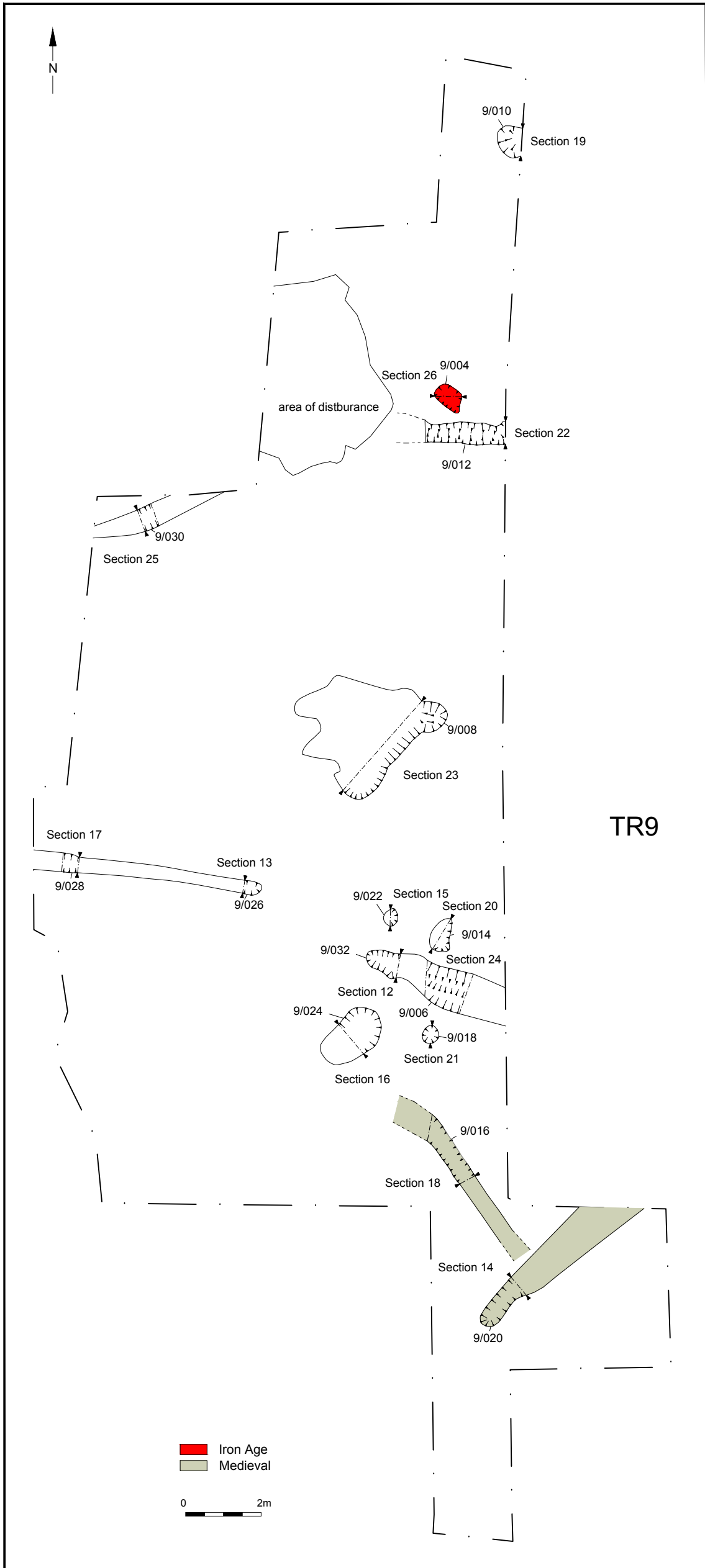
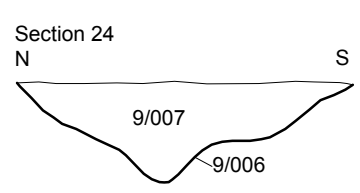
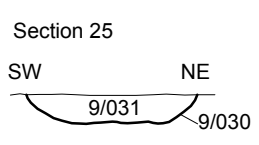
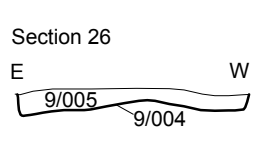
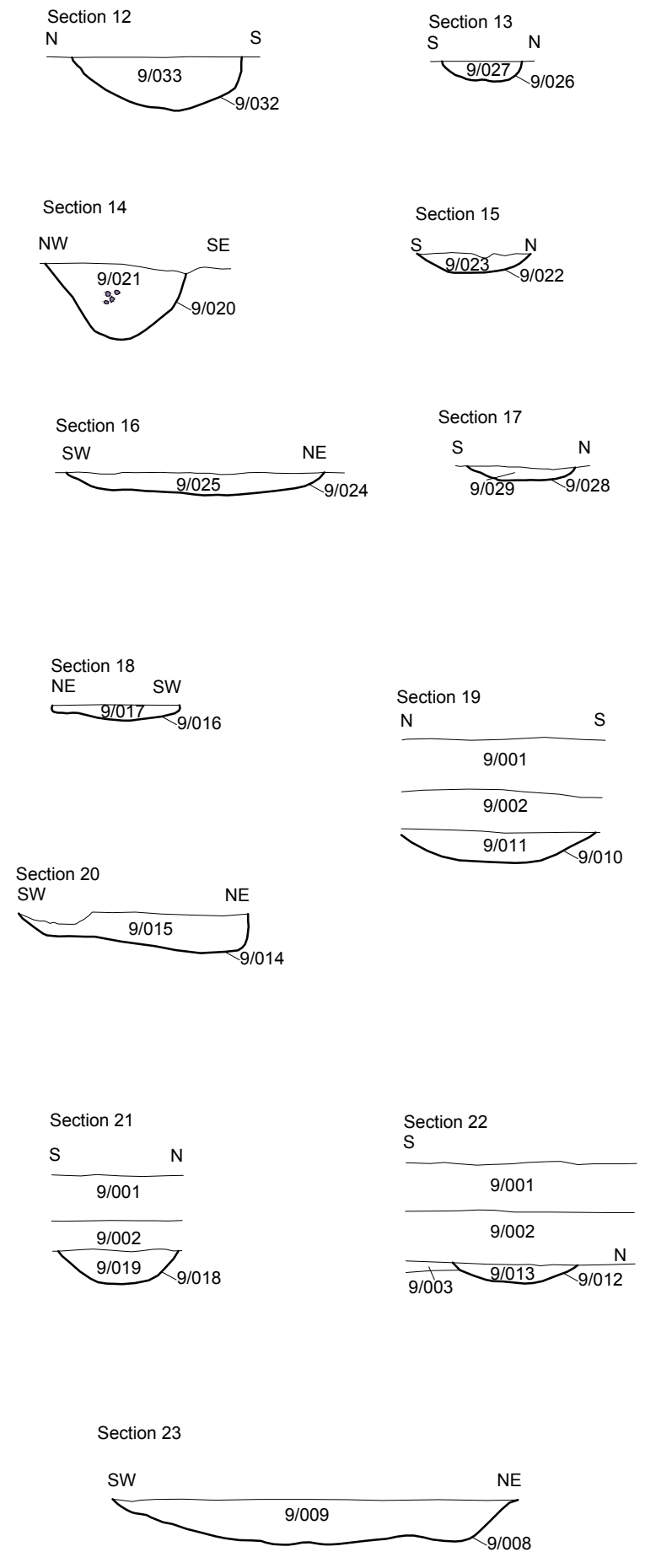


Fig. 8a Trench 9 extension looking North



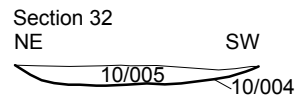
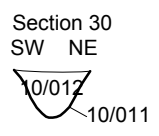
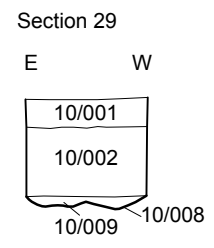
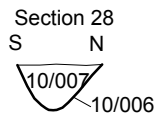
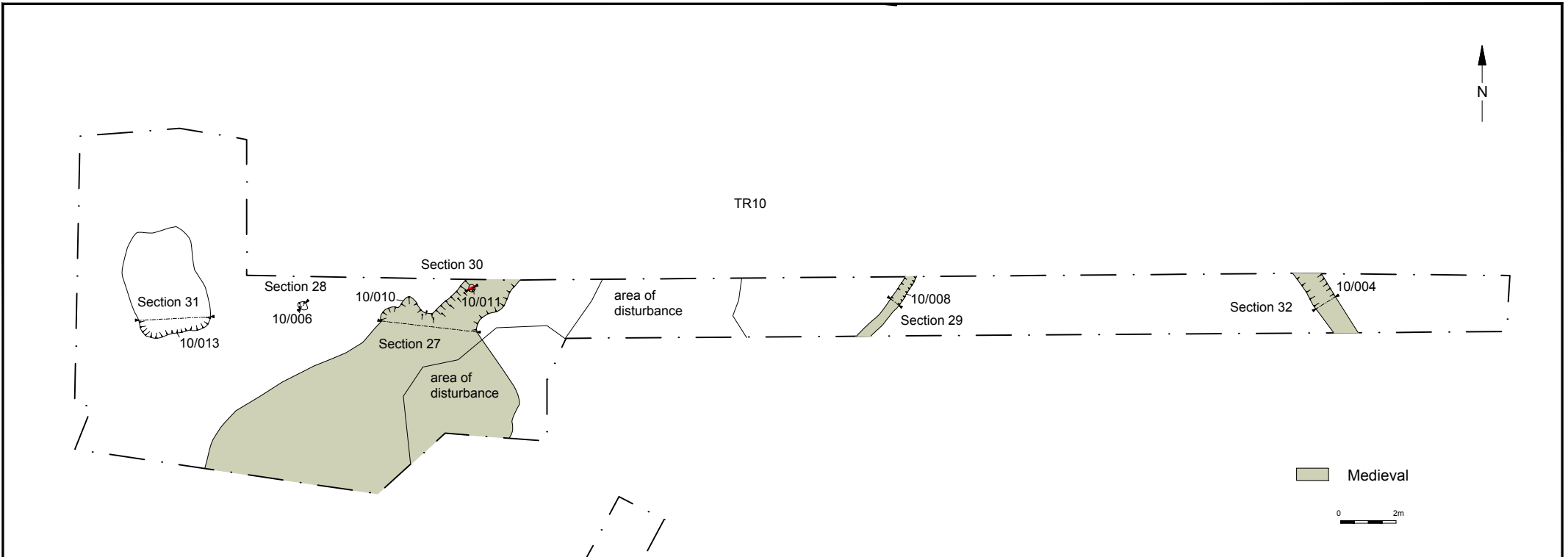


Fig. 9a Trench 10 and extension looking East

© Archaeology South-East		Land East of Shepham Lane, Polegate	Fig. 9
Project Ref: 4969	2012	Trench 9 Plan, Sections and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: AR		

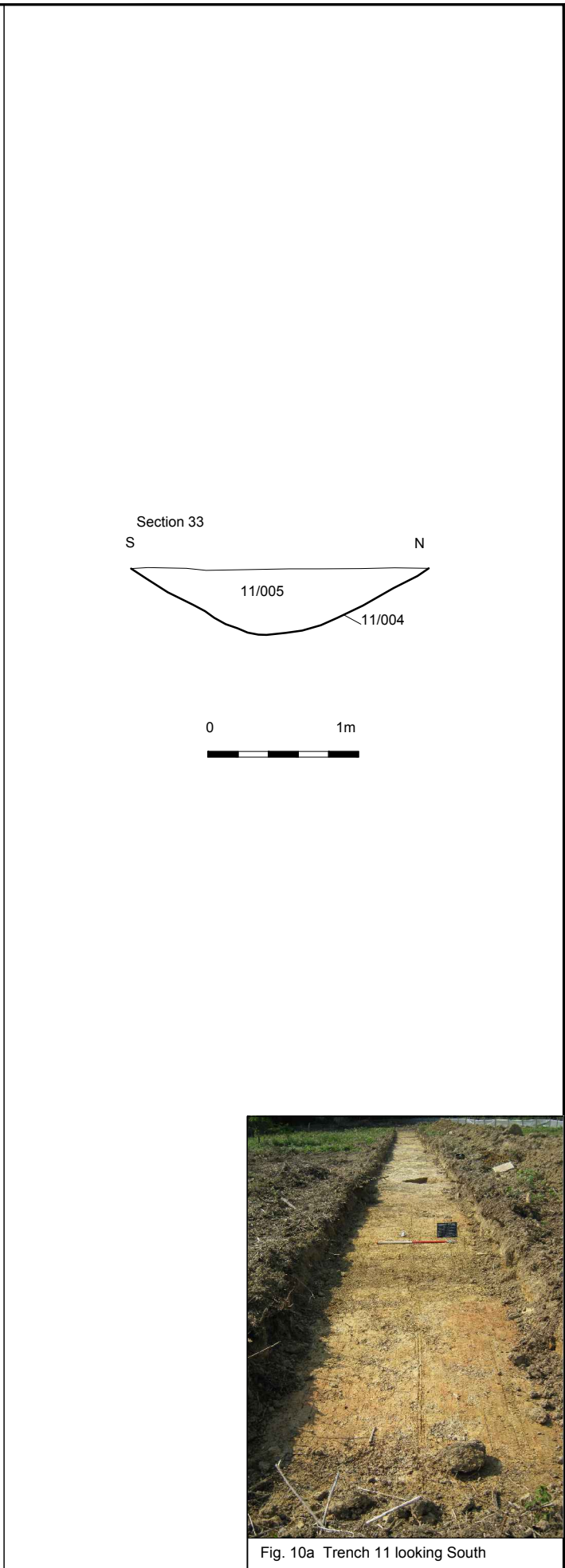
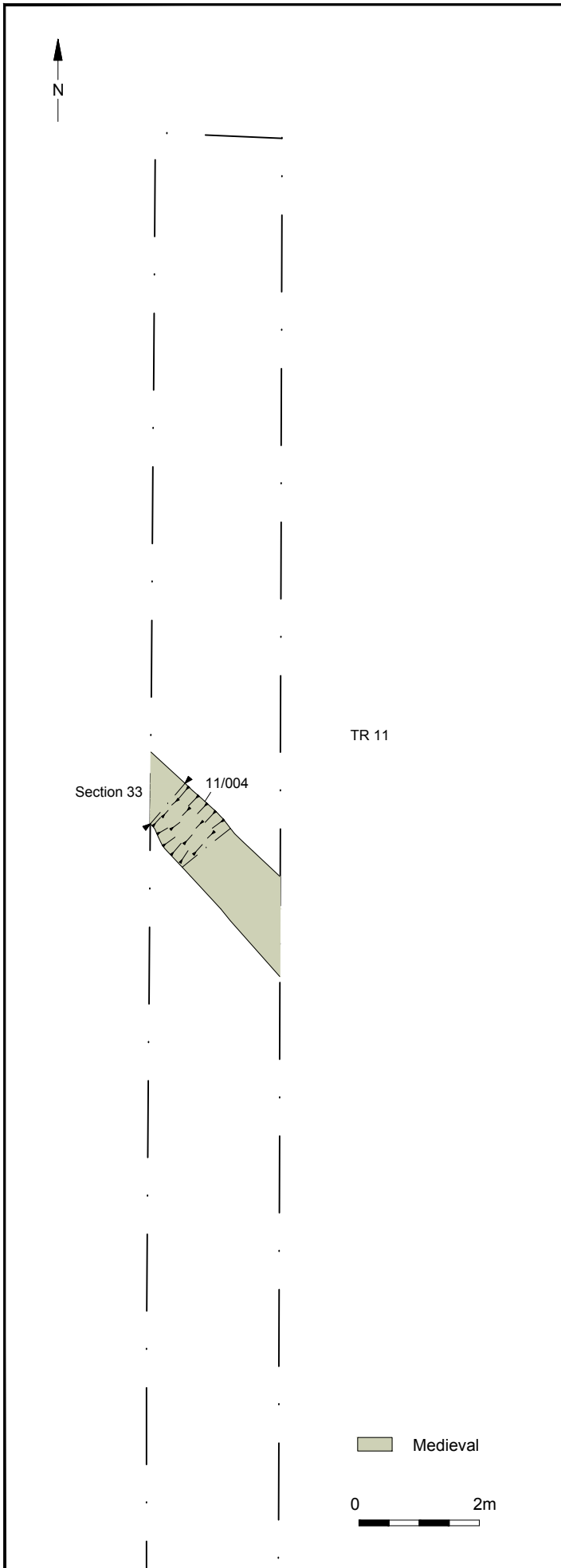


Fig. 10a Trench 11 looking South

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Project Ref: 4969	Jan 2013	Trench 11 Plan, Section and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: RHC		



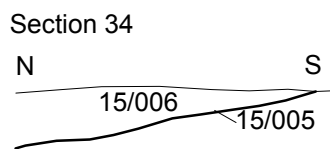
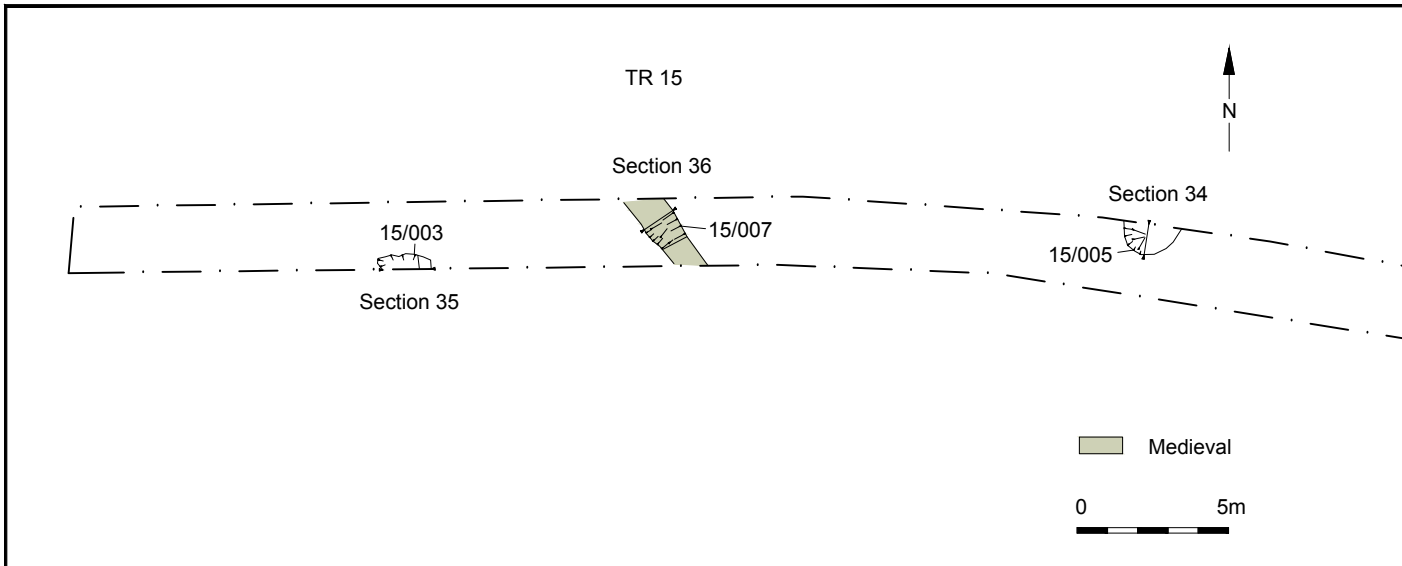


Fig. 11a Trench 15 looking North



0 0.5m



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Project Ref: 4969	Jan 2013	Trench 15 Plan, Sections and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: RHC		

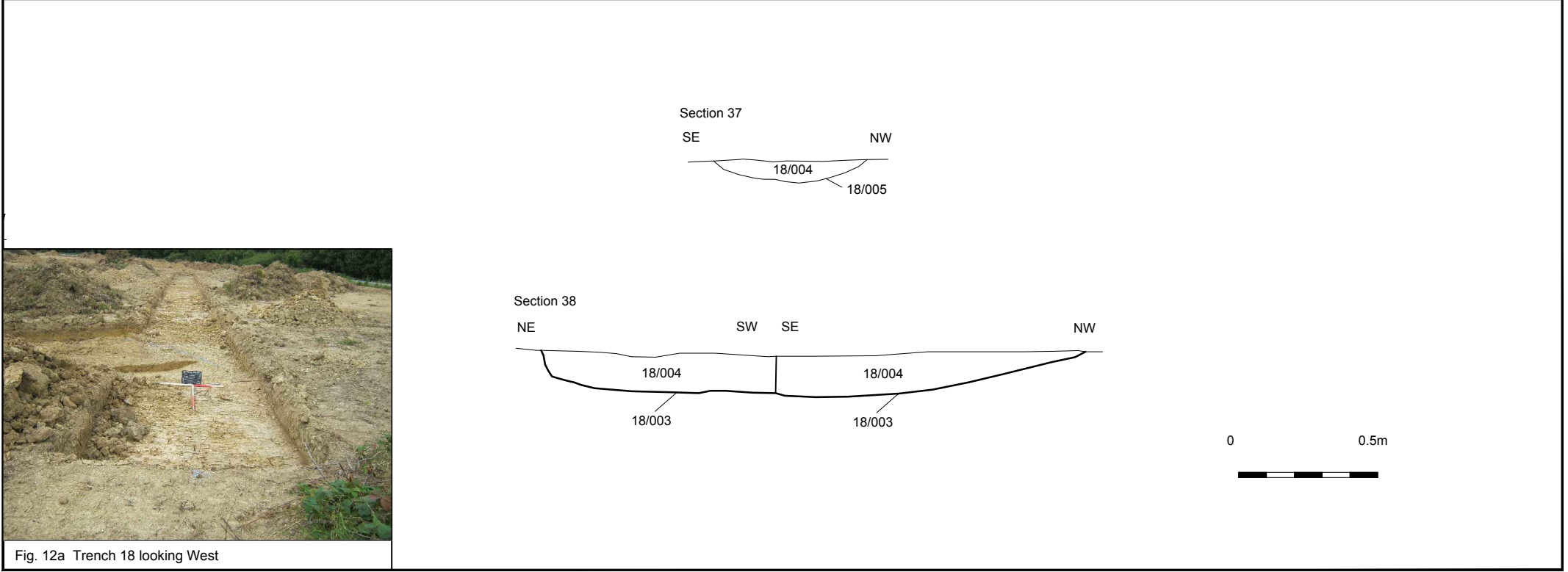
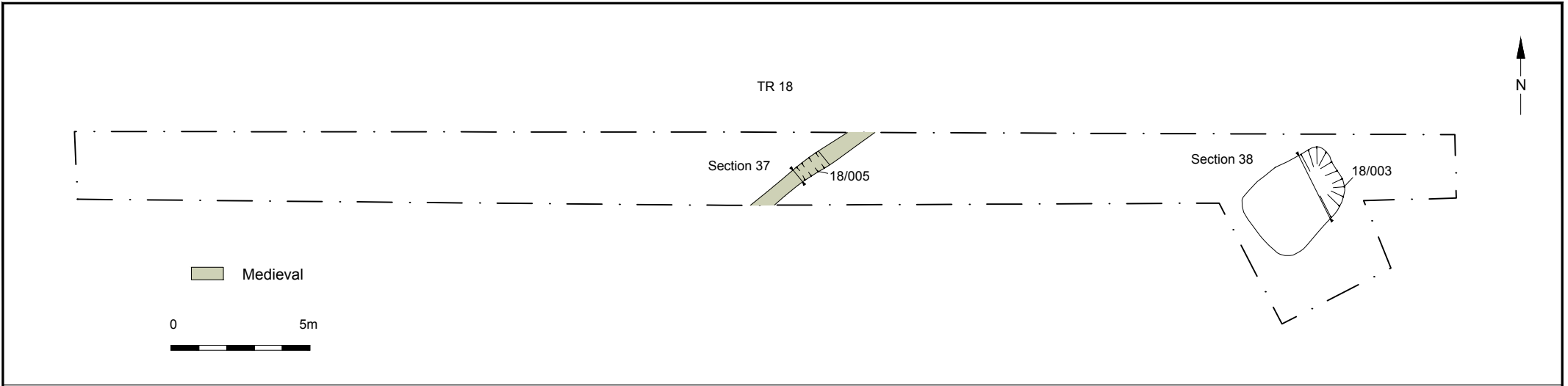


Fig. 12a Trench 18 looking West

© Archaeology South-East		Land East of Shepham Lane, Polegate	Fig. 12
Project Ref: 4969	Jan 2012	Trench 18 Plan, Sections and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: AR		



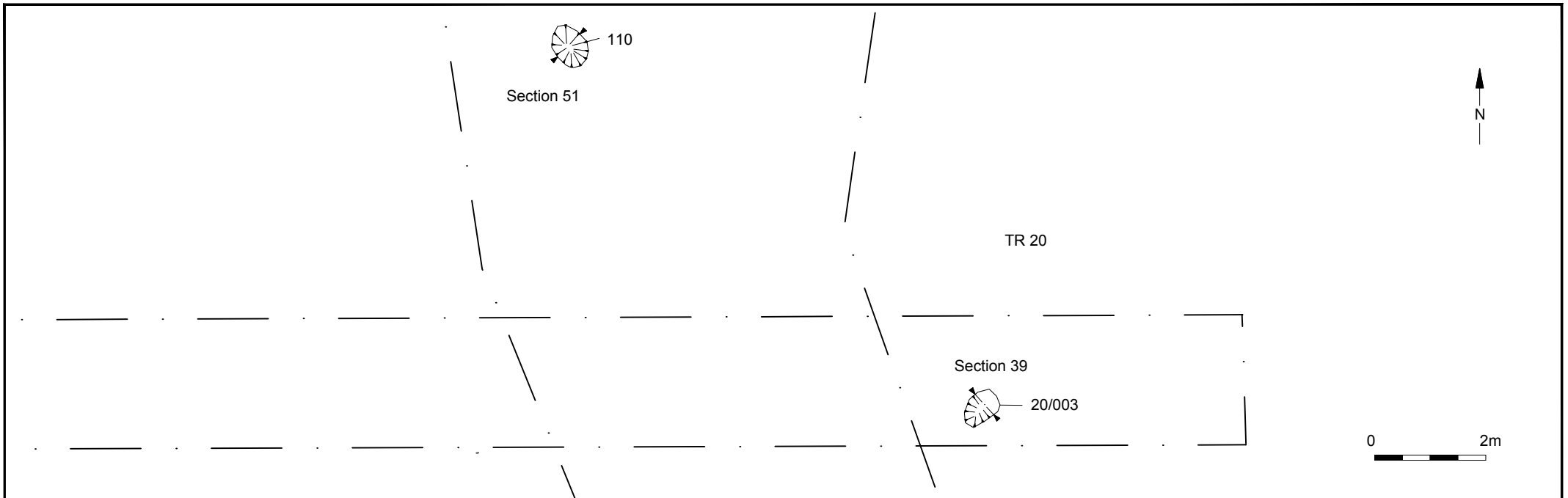
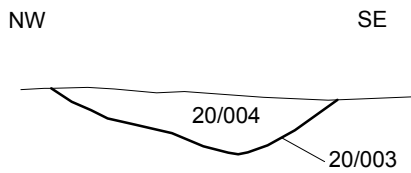
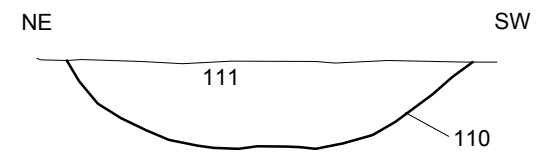


Fig. 13a Trench 20 looking West

Section 39



Section 51



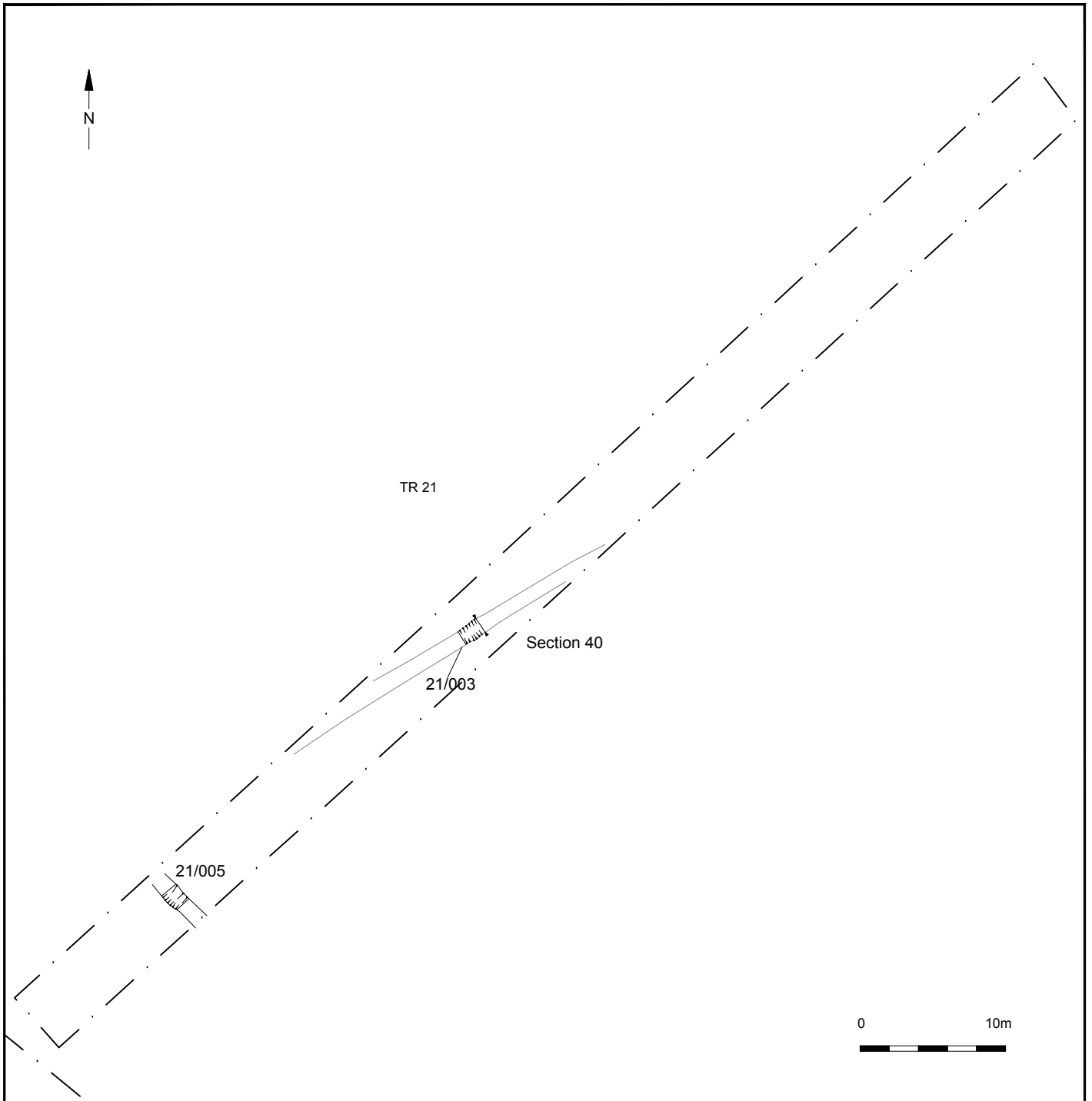
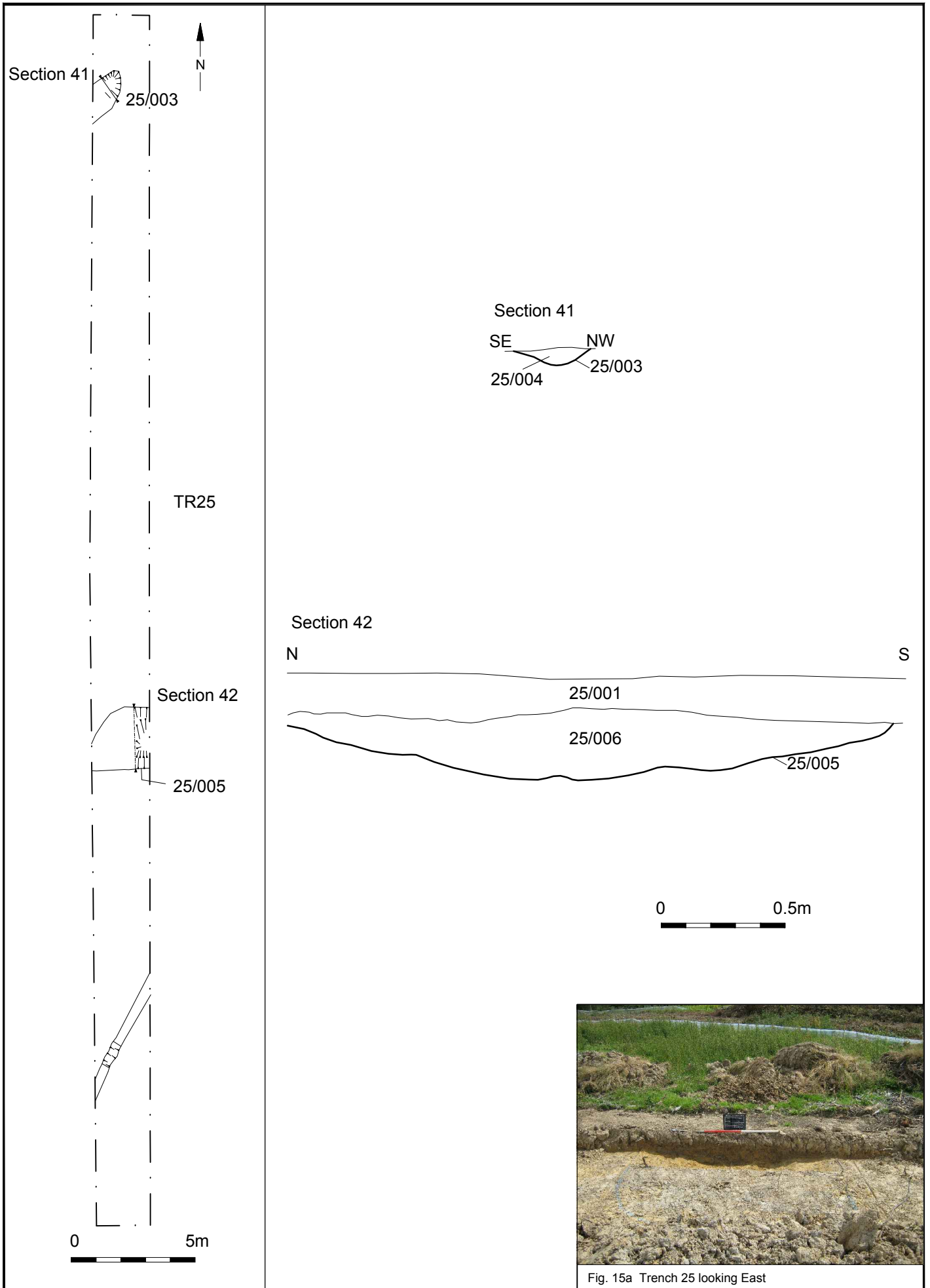


Fig. 14a Trench 21 looking South West

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Project Ref: 4969	Jan 2013	Trench 21 Plan and Section and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: RHC		



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Project Ref: 4969	Jan 2013	Trench 25 Plan, Sections and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2012125	Drawn by: RHC		

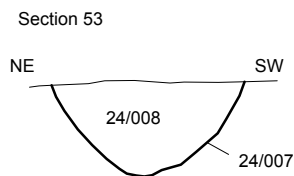
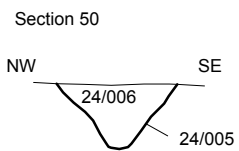
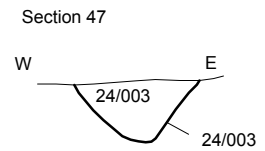
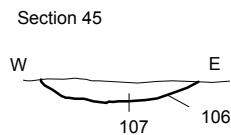
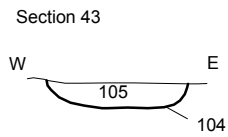
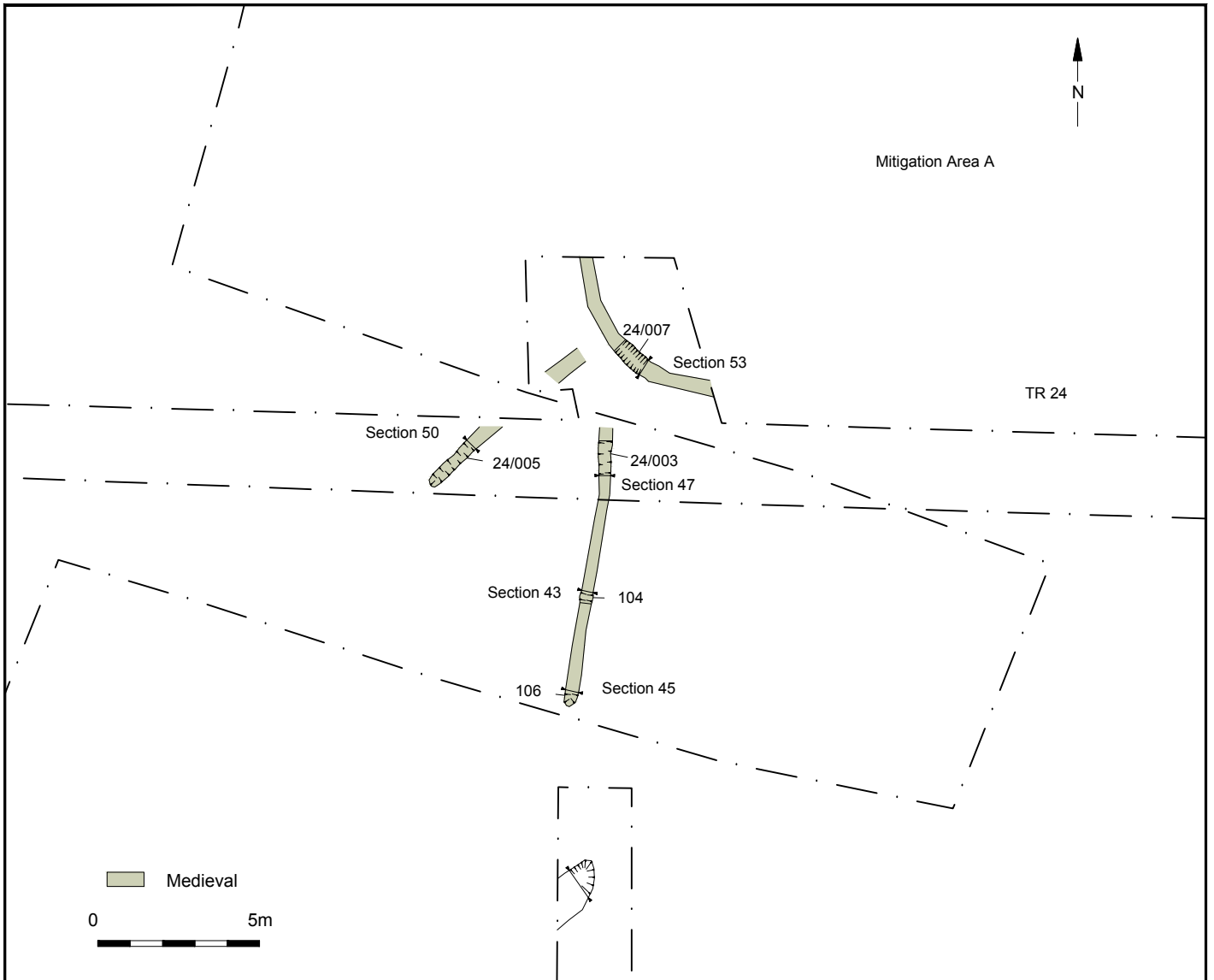


Fig. 16a Mitigation Area A looking West

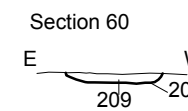
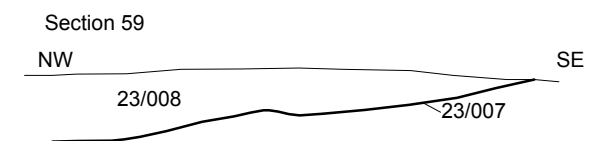
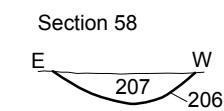
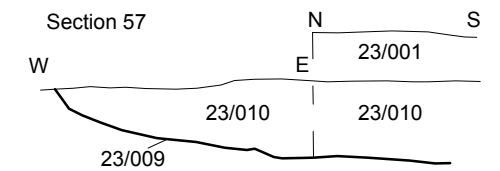
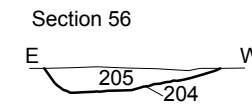
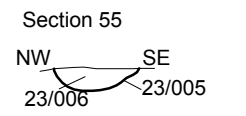
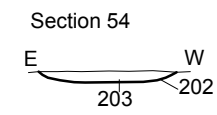
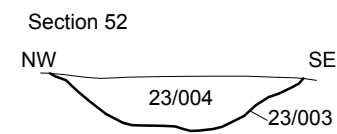
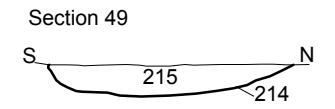
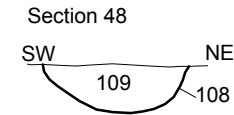
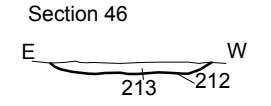
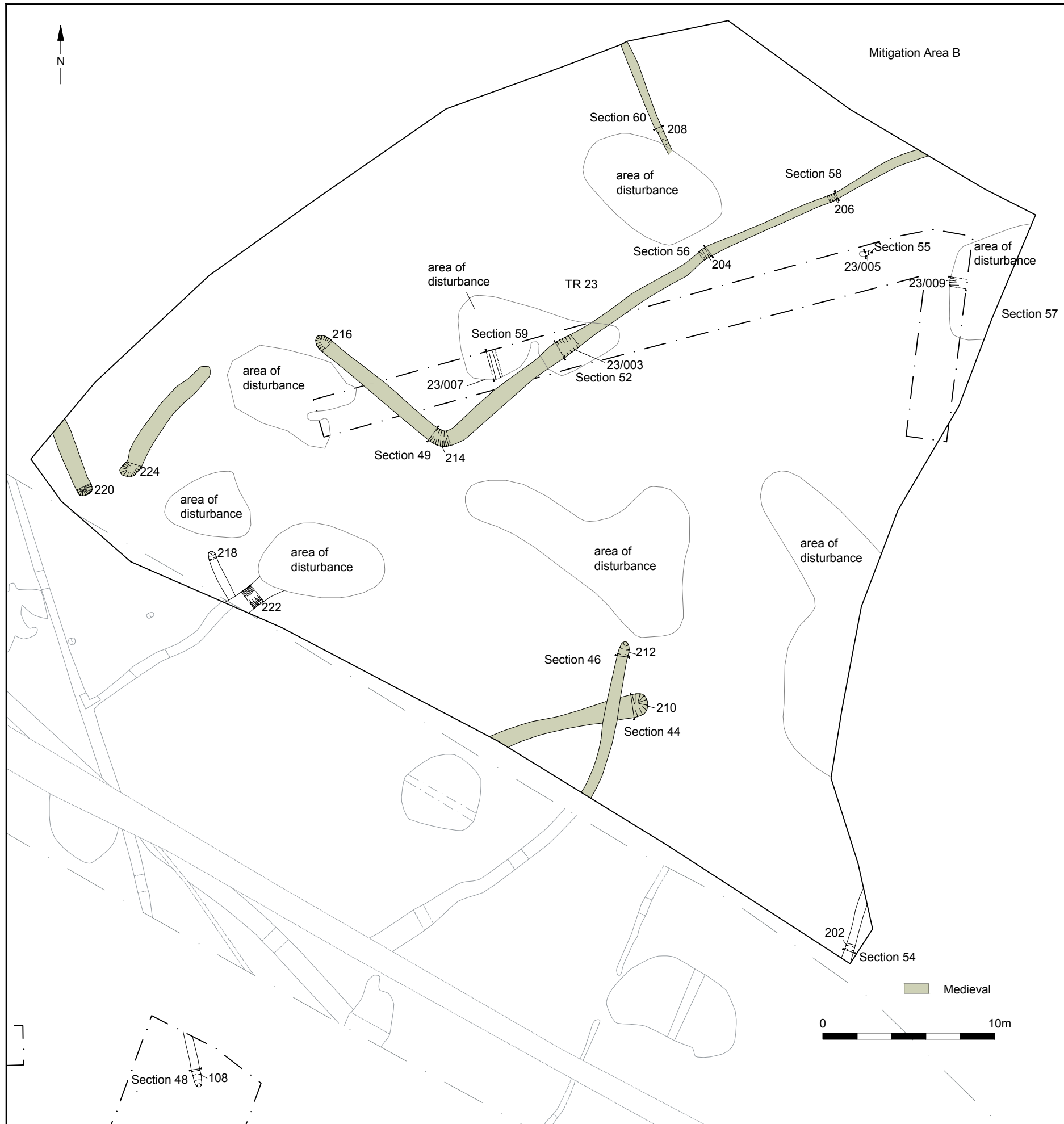


Fig. 17a Mitigation Area B looking South





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 Report Ref: 2012125    Drawn by: RHC

Land East of Shepham Lane, Polegate  
 Plan showing probable medieval field system

Fig. 18

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