

**Archaeological Evaluation Report  
Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club  
New Training Ground,  
New Monks Farm, Lancing  
West Sussex**

**NGR 51904 10485  
(TQ 190 048)**

**Planning ref: AWDM/0205/12**

**ASE Project No: 5796  
Site Code: BHT12**

**ASE Report No: 2012267  
OASIS ID: archaeol6-141028**

**By Diccon Hart  
With contributions by  
Karine le Hégarat  
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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Buckingham Group Contracting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the site of the proposed new Brighton and Hove Albion Training Ground, New Monk's Farm, Lancing, West Sussex, in advance of the redevelopment of the site.*

*A total of 39 trenches were excavated on the site, targeted on areas of elevated ground to the north and south of the site that are considered to have formed foci for past human activity. The underlying natural geology of the site generally consisted of an outcrop of head deposits in the south of the site, recorded between 4.72m OD and 4.28m OD, with alluvial deposits of the River Adur across the remainder of the site, recorded between 4.56m OD and 2.59m OD.*

*Archaeological features recorded during the course of the evaluation appear to be restricted to the higher ground targeted by the trenching exercise and largely consisted of elements of a historic agricultural landscape. This included evidence for the former Mash Barn Lane, depicted on historic mapping from the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards, as well as a number of field boundary ditches broadly perpendicular to or parallel with the line of Mash Barn Lane and probably representing evidence for an associated field system. Other features recorded include an undated ditch on a WNW-ESE alignment that may represent evidence for earlier land division on the site and a small pit of prehistoric date containing a large quantity of charred hazelnut shells and wood charcoal as well as a small assemblage of struck flint. The feature may be Mesolithic or Early Bronze Age. Some Late Iron Age/Roman pottery was also recovered though this is thought to represent residual material.*

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London (UCL) Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA) was commissioned by Buckingham Group Contracting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the site of a proposed new Brighton and Hove Albion Training Ground, New Monks Farm, West Sussex in advance of the development of the site. This trenching forms Phase 1 of the trenching evaluation, Phase 2 not being undertaken at this time because of the need to avoid ecological mitigation zones. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 51904 10485 and its location is shown in Figure 1.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 According to the latest data from the British Geological Survey, the underlying geology of the site comprises raised beach deposits and head deposits over Newhaven chalk formation (BGS 2012). Prior field observation, however has demonstrated the existence of up to 2.10m of alluvial deposits on the site (PCA 2012) and no evidence for the presence of raised beach deposits has so far been identified on the site.

1.2.2 The site occupies a broadly level plot of land, situated between c. 2.75m OD and 5.10m OD, on the western fringes of the River Adur floodplain and currently comprises fallow agricultural land. It is bounded to the south by a railway line, to the west by residential development, to the east by large scale landscape reworking and agricultural land to the north.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 A planning application has been submitted for the proposed development of the site as the new training ground for Brighton and Hove Albion (Planning Reference: AWDM/0205/12. A prior *Desk Based Assessment* of the site prepared by Gifford (Gifford 2011) had outlined the archaeological potential of the site and, having considered that document, the Senior Archaeologist at West Sussex County Council (WSSC), in his capacity as advisor to Adur District Council on archaeological matters, recommended that a condition be attached to any planning consent for a programme of archaeological work.

1.3.2 Accordingly, an *Archaeological Mitigation Strategy* which outlined the scope of such a programme of archaeological work was prepared by Ramboll (Ramboll 2012) and duly approved by WSSC. A *Written Scheme of Investigation*, setting out the requirements of a targeted evaluation of the site by sample trial trenching as stipulated in the *Archaeological Mitigation Strategy*, was subsequently prepared by Archaeology South-East (ASE 2012) and approved by WSSC. All work was undertaken in accordance with these documents and with the relevant standard and guidance documents of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2009) and the WSSC *Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions* (WSSC 2007)

#### **1.4 Aims and Objectives**

1.4.1 The aims of the programme of trial trenching were outlined in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE 2012) and are reproduced below:

- *The evaluation will aim to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened will be studied.*
- *The evaluation will also seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.*
- *Within these parameters, the evaluation of this site presents an opportunity to address the following objectives:*
- *To establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits, especially those identified in section 2 above.*
- *Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development.*
- *To enable Ramboll UK and the West Sussex County Council archaeologist to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further mitigation work.*
- *Specific aims are:*
  - 1) *Is there any evidence of exploitation of the marshland, such as salt-working?*
  - 2) *Is there evidence for the past alluvial environment?*

#### **1.5 Scope of report**

1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation of the site, carried out between 6<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012 by Diccon Hart (Senior Archaeologist), Lesley Davidson (Surveyor) and John Hurst (Assistant Archaeologist). The project was managed by Darryl Palmer (Senior Project Manager) and Jim Stevenson (Post-excavation Manager).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 The archaeological background to the site was outlined in a prior Desk Based Assessment (Gifford 2011) and is summarised below with due acknowledgement.

### **2.2 Prehistoric**

2.2.1 The HER records no evidence for any prehistoric finds from the study area and it is likely the area was marshland during the prehistoric period.

### **2.3 Roman**

2.3.1 From the HER, one findspot dates to the Roman period. A group of Late Iron Age to Roman dated pottery sherds were found in a garden c. 750m north-west of the site whilst other evidence for Roman activity occurs just outside the study area. However, whilst evidence for settlement from the Roman period surrounds Lancing, the site itself was most likely to have remained marshland during this period, as it was in the later Saxon and medieval periods. It is assumed that if it was exploited at all, it would have been utilised as pastureland or for hunting, rather than for settlement, which seemed to have taken place on higher and drier ground. It is also unlikely that the marshes were being used for the production of salt, as salt-water was normally taken directly from estuaries rather than the marshlands during the Roman period.

### **2.4 Saxon**

2.4.1 Just outside the site, at Hoecourt, a 6th-century cemetery has been found, suggesting that a settlement was present there at that date. However, no traces of early Saxon remains have been found within the site.

### **2.5 Medieval**

2.5.1 From the HER, evidence of a group of saltworks to the east and north-east of the application site is known to exist. There the remains of at least 18 mounds relating to salt-working have been found. Fieldwalking across the site of the mounds found unglazed Saxo-Norman or early medieval pottery dating from the 10th to 15th centuries and one sherd of Portchester ware, dating to the 10th century. A scale-like deposit found on one of the sherds was analysed as showing that the vessel was in use for the boiling of brine. An excavation was also undertaken in conjunction with the field-walking. It focused on a large ploughed-out mound, which appeared to have been an area of occupation. Similar Saxo-Norman or early medieval pottery was recovered, as well as evidence of pits, hearths and a group of stakeholes which may have represented a windbreak.



## **2.6 Post-Medieval**

- 2.6.1 The site during the post-medieval period is seen to be located within the area of reclaimed farmland of both Old Salts Farm and Monks Farm. At the end of the 16th century, land attached to Lancing manor was leased out and divided between North and South Lancing farms, the latter of which was also known as Monks Farm. A farmhouse is known to have existed at Old Salts Farm in 1698 and it is thought that Old Salts Farm was probably located on the land after 1684.

## **2.7 Previous Archaeological Work**

- 2.7.1 Geophysical survey of the site was proposed in order to identify anomalies likely to be associated with below-ground archaeological remains, former creeks and other natural magnetic variations in the alluvial soils. Survey of the site by ArchaeoPhysica commenced on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012 utilising an ATV-towed sensor array (using four or six Geometrics G858 caesium magnetometers), with data collected to meet 1.0m x 0.25m spatial resolution. Results from the first day of survey indicated that significant electromagnetic interference was being experienced on the site, thus rendering meaningful survey impossible. Surveying of the remainder of the site was abandoned.
- 2.7.2 A watching brief in connection with the current planning application was undertaken on geotechnical test pits across the application site during November 2011. This encountered a sequence of natural alluvial layers between the topsoil and the natural chalk deposits. These alluvial layers were interpreted as natural deposits, laid down either by the shifting estuary systems of the River Adur, or by periodic tidal flooding of the same. However, no evidence of salt-working was seen (PCA 2012). It may be that the site was located in an area too far west of the Adur estuary to have had the appropriate conditions for salt-working, while still being too marshy in nature to be useful for settlement purposes.

### **3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 The archaeological evaluation consisted of the excavation of 39 trial trenches, each measuring 25.0m by 1.9m, as shown in Figure 2. The trenches were targeted on two discrete 'islands' (Areas 1 and 2; Figure 2) of slightly elevated ground in the north and south of the site that are deemed to be possible foci of past human activity within the marshy floodplain. In addition, the trenches on the northern 'island' (Area 2; Figure 2) were also placed so as to assess the archaeological potential of a series of smaller mounds apparent on the topographic survey of the site (Ramboll 2012).
- 3.2 The trenching has been designed to be undertaken in two phases due to ecological constraints on parts of the site; this phase, Phase 1, is largely targeted based on the site's topography. Full details of the reasoning behind the trench locations can be found in Section 3.3.2 of the Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (*ibid.*). Phase 2 trenching will be undertaken in tandem with an ecological survey. The number and location of Phase 2 trenches will be set out in a separate document to this.
- 3.3 The trenches were excavated utilising a 13 ton tracked excavator fitted with a smooth blade ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation was undertaken in thin spits of no more than 0.10m thickness and ceased at the top of geological deposits.
- 3.4 Trench locations and all exposed archaeological features were surveyed using DGPS.
- 3.5 All hand excavation and recording was carried out in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2012). All encountered deposits were recorded according to accepted professional standards using standard Archaeology South-East recording sheets.
- 3.6 The spoil from the excavations was inspected to recover any artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest.
- 3.7 Trenches were backfilled and compacted by machine but no further reinstatement was undertaken.

**3.7 The Site Archive**

3.8 A full digital photographic record of the work was kept and will form part of the site archive. The archive, which has been quantified in the table below, is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices in Portslade and has been offered to Worthing Museum.

Number of Contexts	135
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	6
Bulk Samples	1
Photographs	150 digital images
Bulk finds	1 small box
Registered finds	N/A
Environmental flots/residue	1 small box

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

## **4 RESULTS**

*In this section of the report, geology and overburden are discussed first, followed by those trenches containing archaeological features (6, 7, 9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 32, 33 and 36) and lastly by trenches devoid of features (1-5, 8, 11-15, 19-31, 34, 35, 37, 38 and 39).*

### **4.1 Geology and overburden**

- 4.1.1 The underlying natural geology of the site generally consisted of head deposits overlain by alluvial deposits of the River Adur. Head deposits, consisting of mid yellowish brown silty clay and gravel, were only observed in the south of the site, in Trenches 25, 27, and 29-39 and were recorded between 4.72m OD (Trench 29) and 4.28m OD (Trench 25). Across the remainder of the excavated trenches the earliest recorded deposits consisted of mid yellowish brown silty clay alluvial deposits, recorded between 4.56m OD (Trench 28) and 2.59m OD (Trench 18).
- 4.1.2 The overburden recorded across the site generally consisted of a layer of mid brown silty clay ploughsoil that varied in depth from 0.25m to 0.38m and was recorded at between 5.10m OD (Trench 38) and 3.43m OD (Trench 12). A potential subsoil horizon of mid yellowish brown silty clay that appears to represent weathering disturbance of the uppermost levels of alluvium was also noted in Trenches 6, 9 and 16. This varied in depth from 0.10m to 0.25m and was recorded at between 4.16m OD (Trench 16) and 3.44m OD (Trench 6).
- 4.1.3 In addition, a layer of mid yellowish brown silty clay was seen to overlie the head deposits in Trenches 25, 27 and Trenches 30-38 to the south of the site, recorded between 4.85m OD (Trench 38) and 3.98m OD (Trench 25) and varying in depth from 0.10m to 0.30m. This deposit may represent either alluvium or a partially surviving subsoil horizon.

**4.2 Trench 6**

(Figure 3)

4.2.1 Length: 25.00m      Width: 1.90m      Depth: 0.40m max  
 Orientation: ENE-WSW

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	3.69
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	3.44
6/003	Cut	Ditch cut	1.90m	0.60m	0.22m	3.25
6/004	Fill	Fill of [6/003]	1.90m	0.60m	0.22m	3.25
6/005	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.34

Table 2: List of recorded contexts Trench 6

*Summary*

4.2.2 Natural alluvium [6/003] was recorded at a maximum elevation of 3.34m OD at the western end of the trench, falling away to 3.10m OD to the east. A single north-south aligned ditch was recorded within this trench, consisting of a shallow ditch cut with broadly rounded profile [6/003], filled with mid reddish brown silty clay [6/004]. No finds were recovered from the feature, which was sealed by a thin layer of subsoil [6/002], in turn overlain by the ploughsoil horizon of the site [6/001].

**4.3 Trench 7**

(Figure 4)

4.3.1 Length: 25.00m      Width: 1.90m      Depth: 0.45m max  
 Orientation: NNW-SSE

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.46
7/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.16
7/003	Cut	Ditch cut	2.90m	0.84m	0.22m	3.89
7/004	Fill	Fill of [7/003]	2.90m	0.84m	0.22m	3.89

Table 3: List of recorded contexts Trench 7

*Summary*

4.3.2 Natural alluvium [7/002] was observed at a maximum elevation of 4.16m OD at the south end of the trench, falling away to 3.82m OD to the north. An east-west aligned ditch was recorded at the southern end of this trench, consisting of a ditch cut with broadly rounded profile [7/003], filled with dark yellowish brown silty clay [7/004]. No finds were recovered from the feature, which was overlain by ploughsoil horizon [7/001].

4.4 Trench 9

(Figure 5)

4.4.1 Length: 25.00m Width: 1.90m Depth: 0.50m max  
Orientation: NNW-SSE

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m	4.41
9/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m	3.83
9/003	Cut	Ditch cut	0.52m exc.	0.38m	0.21m	3.62
9/004	Fill	Fill of [9/003]	0.52m exc.	0.38m	0.21m	3.62
9/005	Cut	Ditch cut	0.40m exc.	0.29m	0.20m	3.69
9/006	Fill	Fill of [9/005]	0.40m exc.	0.29m	0.20m	3.69
9/007	Fill	Fill of [9/012]	0.56m exc.	0.39m	0.25m	3.69
9/008	Cut	Ditch cut	0.45m exc.	0.54m	0.27m	3.70
9/009	Fill	Fill of [9/008]	0.45m exc.	0.54m	0.27m	3.70
9/010	Cut	Ditch cut	0.55m exc.	0.42m	0.24m	3.80
9/011	Fill	Fill of [9/010]	0.55m exc.	0.42m	0.24m	3.80
9/012	Cut	Ditch cut	0.56m exc.	0.39m	0.25m	3.69
9/013	Fill	Fill of [9/014]	0.75m exc.	0.78m	0.36m	3.78
9/014	Cut	Ditch cut	0.75m exc.	0.78m	0.36m	3.78
9/015	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.06

Table 4: List of recorded contexts Trench 9

*Summary*

- 4.4.2 Natural alluvium [9/015] was recorded at between 3.78m OD and 4.05m OD. A series of ditches were recorded within this trench. These include two parallel east-west orientated ditches [9/010] and [9/008=9/012], both of which had steep sided and flat bottomed profiles and similar fills of dark greyish brown silty clay [9/011] and [9/009=9/007] respectively.
- 4.4.3 Two north-south aligned ditches were also present. The westernmost of these, [9/003=9/005] had a steep sided, flat bottomed profile similar to the east-west ditches described above and was filled with a similar dark greyish brown silty clay [9/004=9/006]. This ditch is broadly perpendicular to ditches [9/010] and [9/008=9/012] and is probably related; certainly, the ditch did not continue beyond ditch [9/008=9/012], suggesting the two features are broadly contemporary. However, the feature was clearly truncated by the east west aligned ditch [9/008=9/012], indicating that this latter ditch remained in use after [9/003=9/005] had silted up.
- 4.4.4 The final ditch excavated in this trench consisted of a north-south aligned cut with a pronounced V-shaped profile [9/014], filled with a mid yellowish brown silty clay [9/013]. All these ditches were sealed by a thin layer of mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil [9/002], in turn overlain by the ploughsoil horizon of the site [9/001].

**4.5 Trench 10**

(Figure 6)

4.5.1 Length: 25.00m      Width: 1.90m      Depth: 0.40m max  
Orientation: ENE-WSW

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.28m	4.16
10/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.88
10/003	Cut	Ditch cut	2.85m	1.54m	0.24m	3.66
10/004	Fill	Fill of [10/003]	2.85m	1.54m	0.24m	4.66

Table 5: List of recorded contexts Trench 10

*Summary*

- 4.5.2 Natural alluvium [10/002] was recorded at 3.88m OD at the eastern end of the trench and 3.61m OD at the western end.
- 4.5.3 A wide shallow ditch with a rounded profile [10/003], filled with mid yellowish brown silty clay [10/004], was recorded within this trench. The feature is notable in that it lay on a broadly WNW-ESE alignment that does not appear to correspond with other ditches on the site and may belong to a different phase of land division. No finds were recovered from the feature, which was sealed by the ploughsoil horizon of the site [10/001]

**4.6 Trench 16**

(Figure 7)

4.6.1 Length: 25.00m      Width: 1.90m      Depth: 0.50m max  
 Orientation: NNW-SSE

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
16/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.40
16/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	4.16
16/003	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.		4.02
16/004	Cut	Ditch cut	1.90m	1.35m	0.65m	4.14
16/005	Fill	Fill of [16/006]	1.90m	0.65m	0.38m	4.17
16/006	Cut	possible wheel rut	1.90m	0.65m	0.38m	4.17
16/007	Fill	Fill of [16/008]	1.90m	1.60m	0.40m	3.93
16/008	Cut	Ditch cut	1.90m	1.60m	0.40m	3.93
16/009	Fill	Latest fill of [16/004]	1.90m	1.20m	0.30m	3.93
16/010	Fill	Fill of [16/004]	0.60m exc.	0.38m	0.20m	
16/011	Fill	Fill of [16/004]	0.60m exc.	0.98m	0.20m	
16/012	Fill	Fill of [16/004]	0.60m exc.	0.58m	0.12m	
16/013	Fill	Fill of [16/004]	0.60m exc.	0.70m	0.55m	
16/014	Layer	gravel road surface	1.90m	1.20m	0.12m	4.15

Table 6: List of recorded contexts Trench 16

*Summary*

- 4.6.2 Natural alluvium [16/003] was recorded at 4.05m OD at the northern end of the trench, falling away to 3.51m OD to the south. This was overlain by a layer of mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil [16/002], through which three east-west aligned linear features were cut. These features appear to represent elements of the former Mash Barn Lane and include two parallel ditches which presumably flanked the lane and an irregular linear feature [16/006] filled with flint cobbles and fragments of brick [16/005] which may represent an infilled wheel rut. This latter feature was overlain by a layer of flint gravel [16/014] which probably represents part of the surface of Mash Barn Lane.
- 4.6.3 The surface [16/014] was truncated by the northernmost of the flanking ditches [16/004], which consisted of a cut with V-shaped profile in which a series of fills were recorded, including (in order of deposition) [16/013], [16/012], [16/011], [16/010] and [16/009]. Fill [16/011] in particular contained a significant amount of flint gravel and appears to be derived from the adjacent surface [16/014]. The southern of the flanking ditches [16/008] also had a broadly V-shaped profile, although less acute, and contained just a single fill of mid yellowish brown.
- 4.6.4 Finds recovered from these features include fragments of 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century and 19<sup>th</sup> century brick from ditch [16/004] and wheel rut [16/006] (fills [16/013] and [16/005] respectively). The features were sealed by the ploughsoil horizon [16/001].



**4.7 Trench 17**

(Figure 8)

4.7.1 Length: 25.00m      Width: 1.90m      Depth: 0.45m max  
 Orientation: ENE-WSW

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
17/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.17
17/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.92
17/003	Fill	Fill of [17/004]	0.70m exc.	1.20m	0.23m	
17/004	Cut	Ditch cut	7.73m	1.40m	0.50m	3.71
17/005	Fill	latest fill of [17/004]	7.73m	1.40m	0.30m	3.71

Table 7: List of recorded contexts Trench 17

*Summary*

- 4.7.2 Natural alluvium [17/002] was observed between 3.92m OD and 2.79m OD in this trench. A single east-west aligned ditch was recorded within this trench, consisting of a wide ditch cut with U-shaped profile [17/004] with a primary fill of mid greyish yellow silty clay [17/003] overlain by a fill of dark greyish brown silt clay [17/005].
- 4.7.3 Whilst this ditch may represent the easterly continuation of the northern flanking ditch of Mash Barn Lane recorded as [16/004] in Trench 16 to the west, the alignment does not correspond exactly with that of ditch [17/004], nor are the profiles that similar. A single fragment of grog tempered pottery of Late Iron Age-Roman date was recovered from the primary fill [17/003]. The ditch was sealed by ploughsoil horizon [17/001].

#### 4.8 Trench 18

(Figure 9)

4.8.1 Length: 25.00m      Width: 1.90m      Depth: 0.30m max  
Orientation: NNW-SSE

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
18/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	3.89
18/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	2.59
18/003	Fill	Fill of [18/004]	1.90m	1.15m	0.40m	3.50
18/004	Cut	Ditch cut	1.90m	1.15m	0.40m	3.50
18/005	Fill	Fill of [18/006]	1.90m	0.50m	0.20m	3.69
18/006	Cut	possible wheel rut	1.90m	0.50m	0.20m	3.69
18/007	Fill	Fill of [18/008]	1.90m	0.90m	0.30m	3.66
18/008	Cut	possible recut of [18/004]	1.90m	0.90m	0.30m	3.66

Table 8: List of recorded contexts Trench 18

##### *Summary*

- 4.8.2 Natural alluvium [18/002] was recorded at 3.59m OD at the southern end of the trench, falling away to 3.28m OD to the north. Two linear features were recorded at the southern end of this trench, which appear to represent the continuation of elements of the former Mash Barn Lane observed in Trenches 16 and 17 to the west. These include northern flanking ditch [18/004], which may form the continuation of ditch [17/004] to the west with which it shares a similar alignment and profile. Here, the ditch appears to have been re-cut, for the primary fill [18/003] was truncated by ditch cut [18/008], filled with dark greyish brown silty clay [18/007].
- 4.8.3 A shallow linear feature [18/006] filled with flint cobbles [18/005] probably represents an infilled wheel rut similar to [16/006] recorded to the west in Trench 16.
- 4.8.4 Finds recovered from these features include an abraded sherd of grog-tempered Late Iron Age-Roman pottery from primary ditch fill [18/003] and a fragment of 19<sup>th</sup> century welsh slate from the fill of the re-cut [18/008].
- 4.8.5 The features were overlain by ploughsoil [18/001].

#### 4.9 Trench 32

(Figure 10)

4.9.1 Length: 25.00m      Width: 1.90m      Depth: 0.50m max  
Orientation: NNW-SSE

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
32/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.89
32/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.59
32/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.38
32/004	Fill	Fill of [32/005]	3.90m	0.80m	0.28m	4.34
32/005	Cut	Ditch cut	3.90m	0.80m	0.28m	4.34

Table 9: List of recorded contexts Trench 32

##### *Summary*

- 4.9.2 Natural head deposits [32/003] were encountered between 4.38m OD and 4.29m OD. A single north-south aligned ditch was recorded within this trench, consisting of a ditch cut with broadly rounded profile [32/005] and terminus, filled with mid yellowish brown silty clay [32/004].
- 4.9.3 No finds were recovered from the feature which was sealed by a layer of mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil or alluvium [32/002], in turn overlain by the ploughsoil horizon of the site [32/001].

#### 4.10 Trench 33

(Figure 11)

4.10.1 Length: 25.00m      Width: 1.90m      Depth: 0.60m max  
Orientation: ENE-WSW

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
33/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.97
33/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	4.67
33/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.57
33/004	Fill	Fill of [33/005]	1.90m	0.60m	0.23m	4.52
33/005	Cut	Ditch cut	1.90m	0.60m	0.23m	4.52

Table 10: List of recorded contexts Trench 33

##### *Summary*

- 4.10.2 Natural head deposits were recorded between 4.54m OD and 4.57m OD.
- 4.10.3 A north-south aligned ditch was present within this trench, consisting of a shallow ditch cut with broadly V-shaped profile [33/005], filled with mid yellowish brown silty clay [33/004]. No finds were recovered from the feature. The ditch was sealed by a layer of mid yellowish brown silty clay alluvium or subsoil horizon [33/002], in turn overlain by ploughsoil [33/001].

**4.11 Trench 36**

(Figure 12)

4.11.1 Length: 25.00m      Width: 1.90m      Depth: 0.45m max  
 Orientation: ENE-WSW

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m. OD
36/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.66
36/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	10.00m	Tr.	0.15m	4.32
36/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.41
36/004	Cut	Pit cut	0.70m	0.66m	0.11m	4.32
36/005	Fill	Fill of [36/004]	0.70m	0.66m	0.11m	4.32

Table 11: List of recorded contexts Trench 36

*Summary*

4.11.2 Natural Head Deposits were observed at 4.41m OD at the western end of the trench, falling away to 4.17m OD to the east. A small circular pit [36/004] was identified at the western end of the trench. The fill of the feature consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional small fragments of fire cracked flint and charcoal. Analysis of an environmental sample retrieved from this feature has identified a range of woody taxa in the charcoal assemblage, including oak (*Quercus* sp.), yew (*Taxus baccata*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), alder (*Alnus* sp.) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*), as well as a large quantity of charred hazelnut shell fragments (see Section 5). A small assemblage of undiagnostic struck flint was also recovered from the feature and hints at a broad Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age date for the feature. The variety of material present, including cores, chips and primary, secondary and tertiary flakes, struck with both hard and soft hammers, in conjunction with the fresh condition of the material, strongly suggests that this material is the result of a knapping episode in the immediate vicinity.

4.11.3 The natural head deposits were overlain by a thin layer of mid yellowish brown silty clay alluvium or subsoil horizon [36/002], although unfortunately poor light conditions meant that the relationship between this deposit and pit [36/004] was not identified during machining. Ploughsoil horizon [36/001] capped the sequence.

#### 4.12 Trenches devoid of archaeological features

4.12.1 Trenches 1-5, 8, 11-15, 19-31, 34, 35, 37, 38 and 39 contained no archaeological features. The relevant contexts recorded in these trenches can be found in Table 12.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Depth	Height m. OD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.08
1/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.78
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	0.57
2/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.79
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.28m	4.18
3/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.90
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.22
4/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.92
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.34m	3.88
5/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.65
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.43
8/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.13
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m	3.91
11/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.56
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	3.43
12/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.13
13/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.38m	4.41
13/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.03
14/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.70
14/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.40
15/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.40
15/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.10
19/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.01
19/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.71
20/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	3.73
20/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.43
21/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m	3.70
21/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	3.35
22/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.28m	4.68
22/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.43
23/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.28m	4.80
23/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.52
24/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.63
24/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.33
25/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.53
25/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	15.00m	Tr.	0.20m	3.98
25/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.28
26/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.73
26/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.45
27/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.28m	4.93
27/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m	4.65
27/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	20.00m min.	Tr.	N/A	4.66
28/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.86
28/002	Layer	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.56

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Depth	Height m. OD
29/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	5.02
29/002	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.72
30/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.75
30/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	4.45
30/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.30
31/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.85
31/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m	4.55
31/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.45
34/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.87
34/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	4.62
34/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.47
35/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	4.90
35/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	4.60
35/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.50
37/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m	4.83
37/002	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.53
38/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	5.10
38/002	Layer	Subsoil/alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m	4.85
38/003	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.65
39/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m	4.74
39/002	Layer	Natural head deposits	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.47

Table 12: List of recorded contexts, trenches devoid of archaeological features

## 5 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLE

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 A very small collection of finds was recovered during the evaluation (Table 13)

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Slate	Wt (g)
17/003	1	6				
16/005			4	1250		
18/003	1	8			1	8
16/0013			2	208		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1458</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>

Table 13: Quantification of finds

### 5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

- 5.2.1 The evaluation recovered just two sherds of pottery from the site, both of which are featureless body fragments. Context [17/003] contained a slightly abraded reduced sherd of grog-tempered pottery that could be placed anywhere between the Late Iron Age to Roman period. Context [18/003] produced a similarly dated grog-tempered sherd though this example has rare flint inclusions, is oxidised and is notably more abraded.

### 5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

- 5.3.1 All of the ceramic building material from the site is of post-medieval date, the assemblage being dominated by fragments of brick. Context [16/005] produced three pieces, the earliest of which probably date to between the 17<sup>th</sup> and mid-18<sup>th</sup> centuries, though a slightly earlier date cannot be ruled out (2/1149g). These measure 100mm wide by 47mm thick, are quite well made/fired and tempered with sparse fine sand with rare iron oxide (to 1mm) and calcined flint (to 6mm) inclusions. Both pieces have some self-glazing and some wear on one of the stretchers suggests they were laid on edge in a floor. The other brick from [16/005] (31g) is quite well formed and tempered with sparse fine sand with common iron oxides to 4mm and rare angular flint gravel to 6mm. A general 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century date is suggested. The remaining two brick fragments were recovered from [16/013]. The largest of these (187g) is a yellow stock brick with a thickness of 65mm. It is quite well formed (though with many small internal voids) and tempered with sparse fine sand and abundant red iron oxides to 3mm. A 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century date is probable. The other piece (10g) is tempered with sparse fine sand and rare iron oxide inclusions to 1mm only. An 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century date is likely.
- 5.3.2 The only tile from the site consists of a 44g fragment from a well-made and fired 10mm thick peg tile tempered with sparse fine sand and rare marl streaks (context [16/005]). The piece is unlikely to date much before the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century but could be as late as the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



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

5.4.1 A single 8g piece of Welsh slate was recovered from context [18/003]. This roofing material was imported into Sussex in large quantities during the 19<sup>th</sup> century though whether it is intrusive in this deposit or not is uncertain.

#### 5.5 **The Struck Flint** by Karine Le Hégarat

5.5.1 In total, 69 pieces of flint considered to be humanly struck, weighing 691g and a further 35 fragments of burnt unworked flints weighing 310g were recovered during archaeological work at Brighton & Hove FC Training Ground. The flintwork was retrieved from the residue of environmental sample <01> which was extracted from pit [36/004]. Although no typologically diagnostic pieces were found, a broad Mesolithic/early Bronze Age date is suggested based on technological grounds.

5.5.2 A large proportion of the material was in a fairly fresh condition, displaying only very light edge damage. This implies that the material had undergone negligible post-depositional disturbance, possibly limited to very slight soil movement. Two raw materials were identified. The majority of the flint was manufactured from dark grey flint with a thin off-white cortex. This raw material is characteristic of chalk-derived flint and nodules could have been collected locally. Gravel flint was also evident in the assemblage with a flake exhibiting a pitted brown cortex.

5.5.3 The assemblage of struck flints consisted entirely of unretouched artefacts including flakes, chips, irregular waste pieces and cores. The pieces of knapping débitage were struck using both soft and hard hammer percussors, and the assemblage of flakes included primary, secondary as well as tertiary flakes. The presence of two single platform cores and chips together with the flakes and irregular waste pieces suggest that knapping activities were carried out in the vicinity of the pit.

## 5.6 The Environmental Sample by Karine Le Hégarat & Dawn Elise Mooney

### *Introduction*

- 5.6.1 A single 40L bulk soil sample was taken from the fill (36/005) of undated pit [36/004] during the evaluation at Brighton & Hove FC Training Ground, to establish the presence of environmental remains such as charcoal, charred macrobotanical remains, bones and shells and to assist finds recovery.

### *Methodology*

- 5.6.2 Sample <1> was processed in its entirety in a flotation tank, and the flot and residue were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes and air dried. The residue was passed through graded sieves (8, 4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Table 14). The flot was scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and its content recorded (Table 15). Identifications have been provided for macrobotanical remains through comparison with specimens documented in reference manuals/texts (Cappers *et al.* 2006 and NIAB 2004) and modern comparative material.
- 5.6.3 Charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residue of the sample were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale & Cutler 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schoch *et al.* 2004), and by comparison with modern reference material held at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. Identifications have been given to species where possible, however genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit satisfactory identification. Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

### *Results*

- 5.6.4 Sampling produced a moderate flot (60ml) which contained a relatively high concentration of fine rootlets (60% of the total flot). The sample contained a large quantity of charred macroplant remains. The assemblage was dominated by hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments. These were present in the residue. In addition, two charred weed seeds of bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) were evident in the flot. Although charred wood fragments were relatively uncommon in the flot, the residue produced a moderate assemblage of wood charcoal. Preservation of the charcoal was fair, with some instance of sediment infiltration related to ground water level fluctuations. A range of woody taxa was recorded in the assemblage, comprising oak (*Quercus* sp.), yew (*Taxus baccata*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), alder (*Alnus* sp.) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*).

- 5.6.5 No other biological remains were found in the sample. The residue produced a small quantity of burnt unworked flint as well as a small assemblage of unburnt struck flint.

*Discussion*

- 5.6.6 Sampling has confirmed the presence of charcoal and charred macroplant remains. It has also produced a small quantity of flint artefacts. Hazel nutshell fragments dominate the assemblage of charred macroplant remains. All the nutshells are fragmentary suggesting that they are more likely to represent remains from wild food plant rather than nuts simply attached to fuel wood brought back to the site. Although the pit is currently undated, a small assemblage of prehistoric flintwork was found in the residue. During the prehistoric period, wild plants represent a valuable part of the daily food (Moffett *et al.* 1989 and Robinson 2000). The absence of charred crop remains in the pit could be an indication that the feature is early prehistoric in date. However, even when cereals became the major dietary staple, this was still supplemented by the collection of wild food (Stevens and Fuller, 2012). In the vicinity of the site, excavation at Brighton Community Stadium, Falmer produced a small quantity of hazel nutshell fragments from deposits possibly associated with Mesolithic occupations (Allott forthcoming). The nutshell fragments are likely to represent food waste debris. Given the size of the assemblage, it is possible that the debris represent a unique event. They may have become charred *in situ*; they could also have been deliberately thrown as burnt debris into the feature. The hazel nutshell fragments are well preserved, and they could be submitted for radiocarbon dating.
- 5.6.7 It is probable that the charcoal fragments examined here represent the remains of fires fuelled by wood collected from local woodlands. Most the taxa identified in the sample have been commonly found both historically and archaeologically in the local area (Somerville 2003), and are frequently recorded in archaeological charcoal assemblages from across southern England (Taylor 1981). Yew is less commonly identified however this taxon is commonly found on chalk soils such as the nearby South Downs (Watt 1926, Stace 1997) and as such is also likely to originate from local woodlands. As the charcoal remains are relatively well preserved, samples should be taken from charcoal-rich deposits in any future archaeological investigations at the site in order to contribute to a discussion of local wooded environment and fuel procurement strategies.

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	36/005	Pit	40	40	***	6	***	8	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (45), <i>Taxus baccata</i> (19), <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (19), <i>Alnus</i> sp. (7), <i>Corylus avellana</i> (2)	***	12	Fire-cracked flint **/310g, Flint ***/1098g

Table 14: 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	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation
1	36/005	12	60	60	60	2	-	*	**	***	*	<i>Galium</i> sp. (2)	++

Table 15: Flots quantification (\* = 0-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51 – 250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

## **6 DISCUSSION**

- 6.1 The evaluation has demonstrated the existence of archaeological features across much of the site, with features present in 10 of the 39 trenches. The features appear to be restricted to the higher ground targeted by the trenching exercise, above the 3.75m contour line to the north of the site and the 4.75m contour line to the south, where the underlying head deposits appear to outcrop.
- 6.2 The archaeological features are sealed by a typical ploughsoil horizon, with an intermittently surviving subsoil horizon that indicates minimal disturbance of archaeological features beyond any horizontal truncation from ploughing.
- 6.3 For the most part, the features recorded appear to represent elements of an historic agricultural landscape. This includes evidence for Mash Barn Lane, which crosses the northern end of the site from east to west and a number of field boundary ditches and/or wheel ruts aligned either broadly perpendicular to or parallel to the line of Mash Barn Lane which may be considered to form part of associated fields.
- 6.4 Dating evidence for this agricultural landscape is minimal, as is so often the case with field systems. Mash Barn Lane itself appears on historic maps from the 1770 Survey of the Manors of North and South Lancing onwards (see Gifford 2011) and this is reflected in the associated finds which range in date from 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century. Though the associated field system remains undated, the fact that none of the excavated field boundaries can be correlated with boundaries shown on any of the available historic maps might be taken to suggest that most predate the later 18<sup>th</sup> century.
- 6.5 Other features of note revealed during the course of the fieldwork include the WNW-ESE aligned ditch [10/003] whose orientation does not correspond with any of the other recorded boundaries and which, although undated, may represent an earlier episode of land division on the site and the small pit [36/004] excavated at the far southern end of the site.
- 6.6 The latter feature appears to represent a small refuse pit containing hazelnut shells and a small but varied assemblage of wood charcoal that may provide evidence for both subsistence strategies and fuel wood procurement in the local area. It also contained a small assemblage of struck flint which appears to be the result of a single knapping event. Unfortunately, the worked flint can only be very broadly to the Mesolithic-Early Bronze Age, although the hazelnut shells are sufficiently well preserved to permit radiocarbon dating, if required. Hazelnut is a known Mesolithic and Bronze Age food source. Certainly, refinement of this dating would be advantageous.
- 6.7 Two sherds of Late Iron Age/Roman pottery were recovered from ditches [17/004] / [18/004]. These sherds are thought to be residual within later features and most likely representative of transient Late Iron Age/Roman activity in the area as the site was almost certainly marshland at this time.
- 6.8 No evidence for medieval salt-working was identified during the course of the fieldwork, despite the presence of a group of medieval saltern mounds

known to the east of the subject site at New Monks Farm (ASE 2002; Holden and Hudson 1981). The small areas of elevated ground evident on the topographic survey of the site therefore appear to represent topographic variation in natural geology rather than any evidence of salt-working.

- 6.9 However, given the location of the site on two 'islands' of relatively high ground, close to the edge of the Adur floodplain, the site is definitely peripheral to the principal areas of medieval salt production. Certainly, the known distribution of saltern sites within the Adur Valley (*ibid.* Fig. 1) suggests that salt production was concentrated on lower lying areas within the floodplain itself.

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**HER Summary Form**

Site Code	BGR12					
Identification Name and Address	Brighton and Hove Albion new Training Ground, New Monks Farm, Lancing, West Sussex.					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR 51904 10485					
Geology	Alluvium over Head Deposits					
Arch. South-East Project Number	5796					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 6-18.12.12	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Buckingham Contracting Ltd					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard/Darryl Palmer					
Project Supervisor	Diccon Hart					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM ✓	Other <b>prehistoric</b>		
<p>Summary</p> <p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Buckingham Group Contracting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the site of the proposed new Brighton and Hove Albion Training Ground, New Monk's Farm, Lancing, West Sussex, in advance of the redevelopment of the site.</p> <p>A total of 39 trenches were excavated on the site, targeted on areas of elevated ground to the north and south of the site that are considered to have formed foci for past human activity. The underlying natural geology of the site generally consisted of an outcrop of head deposits in the south of the site, recorded between 4.72m OD and 4.28m OD, with alluvial deposits of the River Adur across the remainder of the site, recorded between 4.56m OD and 2.59m OD.</p> <p>Archaeological features recorded during the course of the evaluation appear to be restricted to the higher ground targeted by the trenching exercise and largely consisted of elements of a historic agricultural landscape. This included evidence for the former Mash Barn Lane, depicted on historic mapping from the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards, as well as a number of field boundary ditches broadly perpendicular to or parallel with the line of Mash Barn Lane and probably representing evidence for an associated field system. Other features recorded include an undated ditch on a WNW-ESE alignment that may represent evidence for earlier land division on the site and a small pit of prehistoric date containing a large quantity of charred hazelnut shells and wood charcoal as well as a small assemblage of struck flint. The feature may be Mesolithic or Early Bronze Age. Some Late Iron Age/Roman pottery was also recovered though this is thought to represent residual material.</p>						

**OASIS Form**

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-141028**

Project details

Project name Brighton and Hove Albion new training ground, New Monks Farm, Lancing. West Sussex

Short description of the project Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Buckingham Group Contracting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the site of the proposed new Brighton and Hove Albion Training Ground, New Monk's Farm, Lancing, West Sussex, in advance of the redevelopment of the site.

A total of 39 trenches were excavated on the site, targeted on areas of elevated ground to the north and south of the site that are considered to have formed foci for past human activity. The underlying natural geology of the site generally consisted of an outcrop of head deposits in the south of the site, recorded between 4.72m OD and 4.28m OD, with alluvial deposits of the River Adur across the remainder of the site, recorded between 4.56m OD and 2.59m OD.

Archaeological features recorded during the course of the evaluation appear to be restricted to the higher ground targeted by the trenching exercise and largely consisted of elements of a historic agricultural landscape. This included evidence for the former Mash Barn Lane, depicted on historic mapping from the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards, as well as a number of field boundary ditches broadly perpendicular to or parallel with the line of Mash Barn Lane and probably representing evidence for an associated field system. Other features recorded include an undated ditch on a WNW-ESE alignment that may represent evidence for earlier land division on the site and a small pit of prehistoric date containing a large quantity of charred hazelnut shells and wood charcoal as well as a small assemblage of struck flint. The feature may be Mesolithic or Early Bronze Age. Some Late Iron Age/Roman pottery was also recovered though this is thought to represent residual material.

Project dates Start: 06-12-2012 End: 18-12-2012

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference codes BHT12 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes 5796 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m

Current Land use Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed

Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	ROAD Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	CORE Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	DEBITAGE Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Amenity area (e.g. public open space)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX ADUR LANCING Brighton and Hove Albion new training ground, New Monks Farm, Lancing, West Sussex
Postcode	BN15 9EJ
Study area	14.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 190 048 50 0 50 49 47 N 000 18 36 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 2.59m Max: 4.72m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Ramboll
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Diccon Hart
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Buckingham Contracting Ltd
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Worthing Museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Environmental", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive	Marlipins

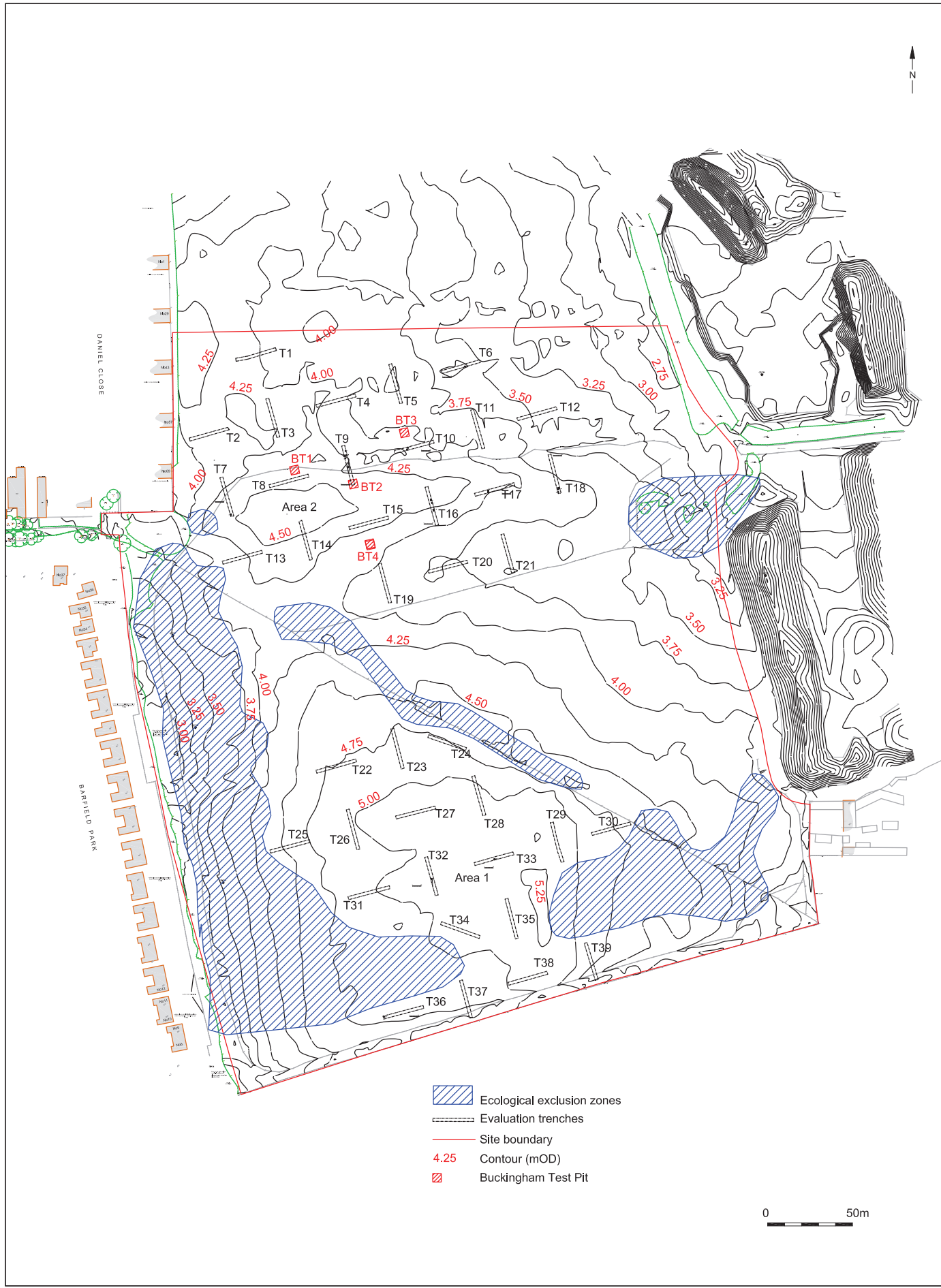




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© Archaeology South-East		Brighton and Hove Albion Training Ground, Lancing	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 5796	Nov 2012	Site location	
Report Ref: 2012267	Drawn by: JLR		





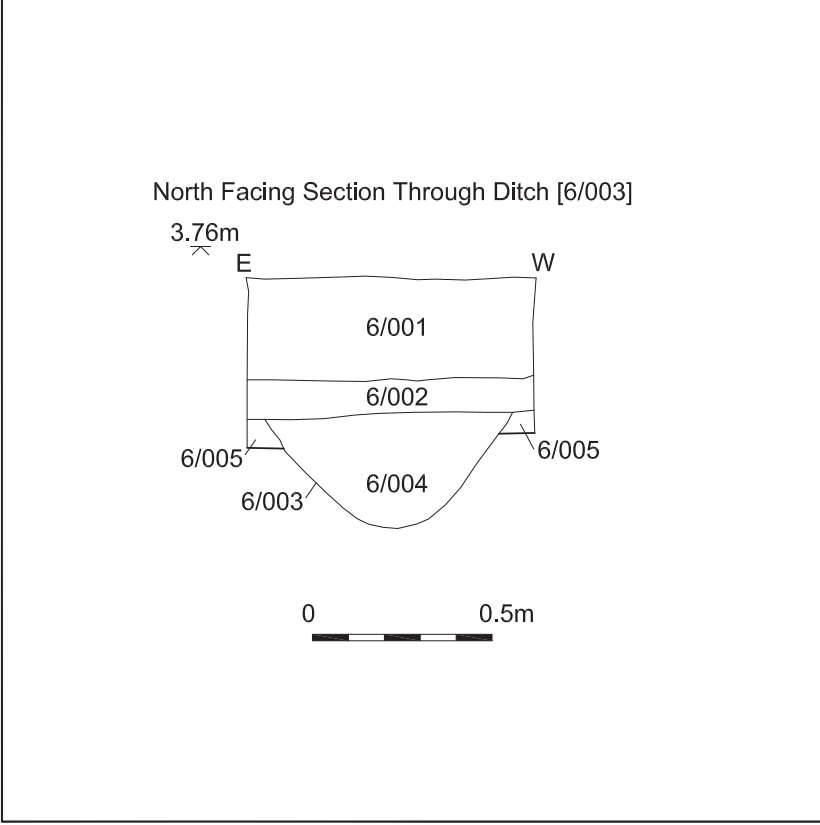
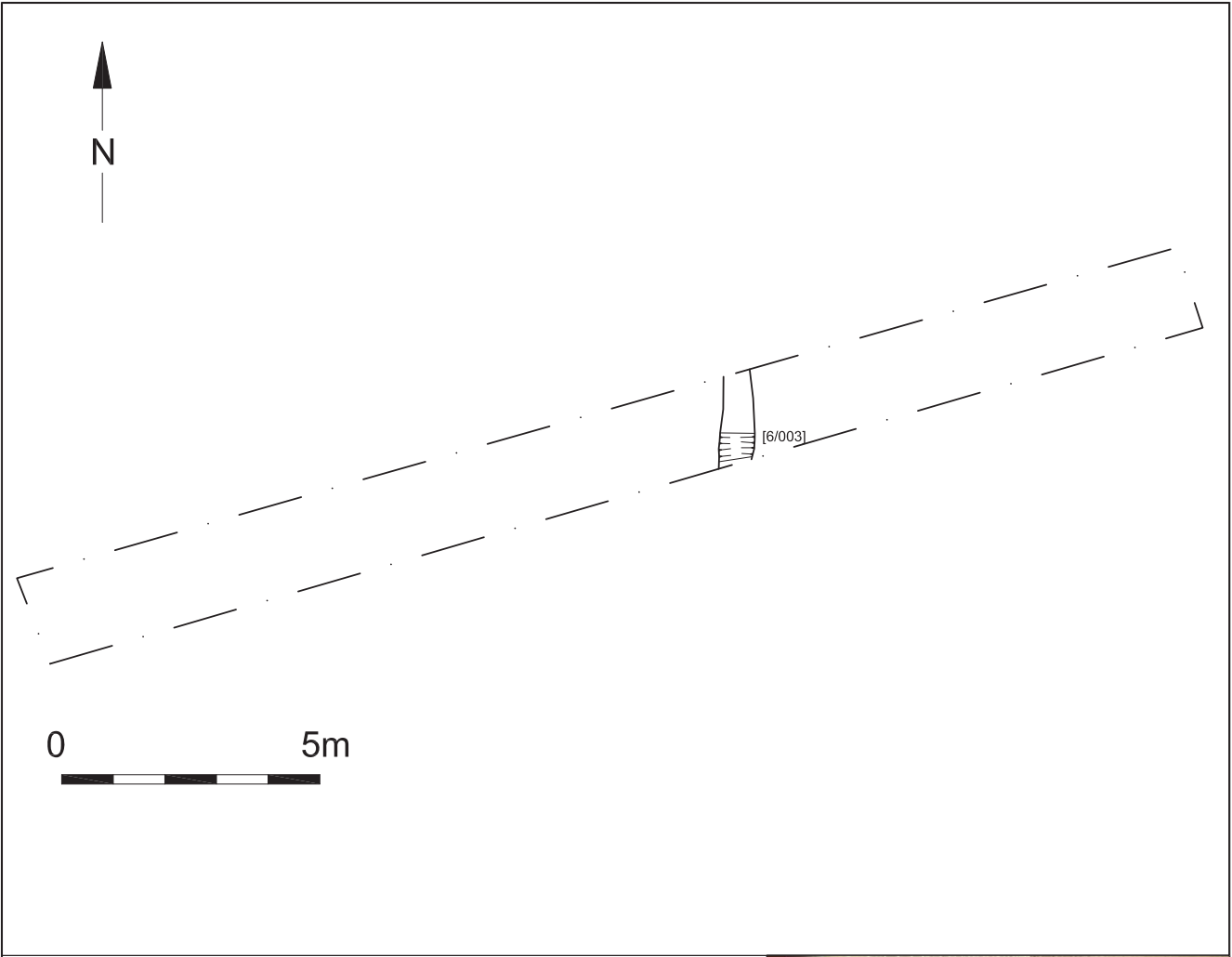
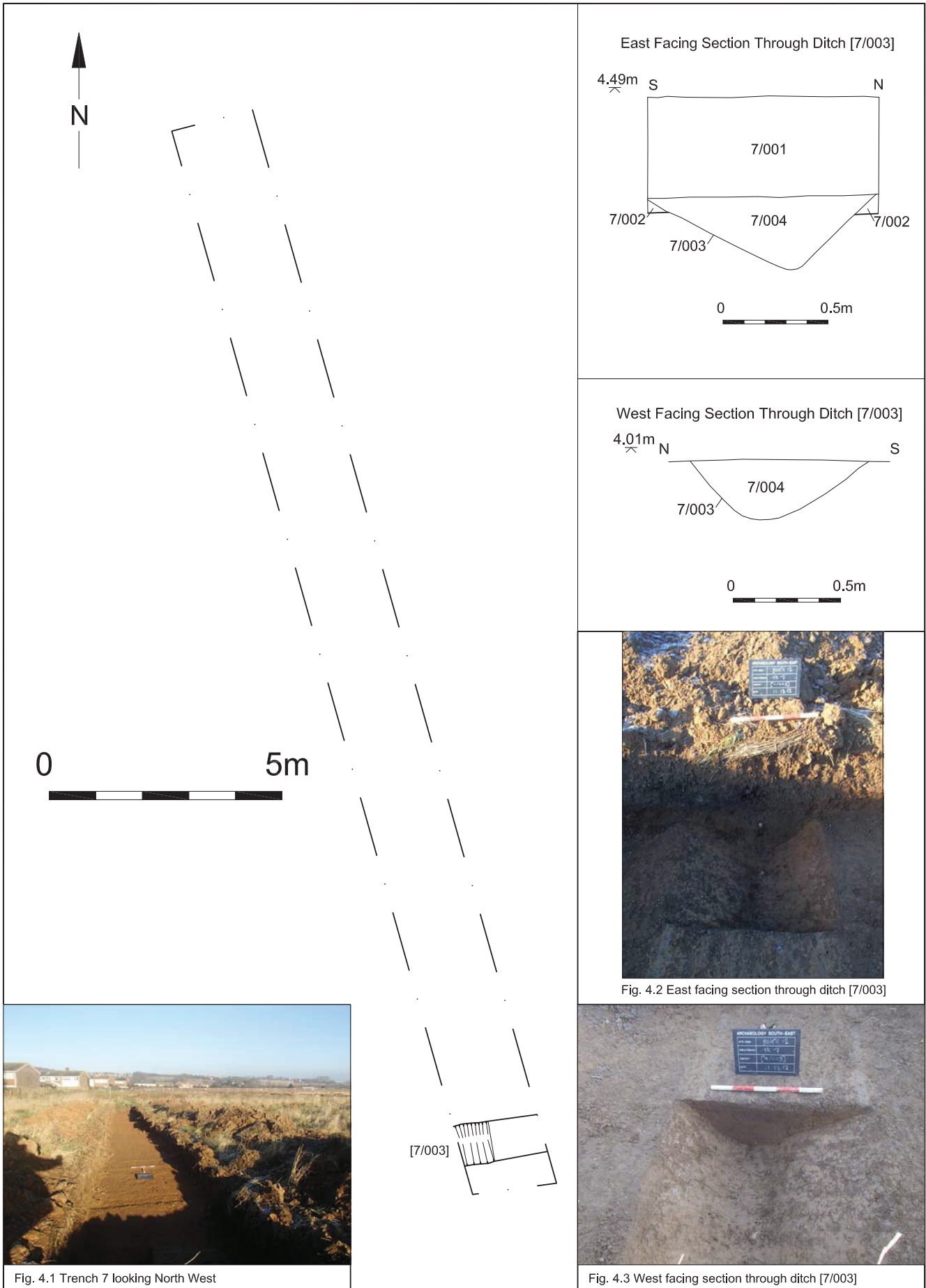


Fig. 3.1 Trench 6 looking North East



Fig. 3.2 North facing section through ditch [6/005]



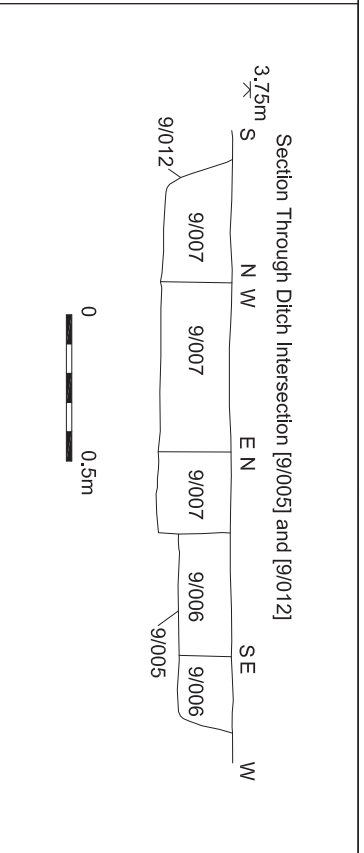
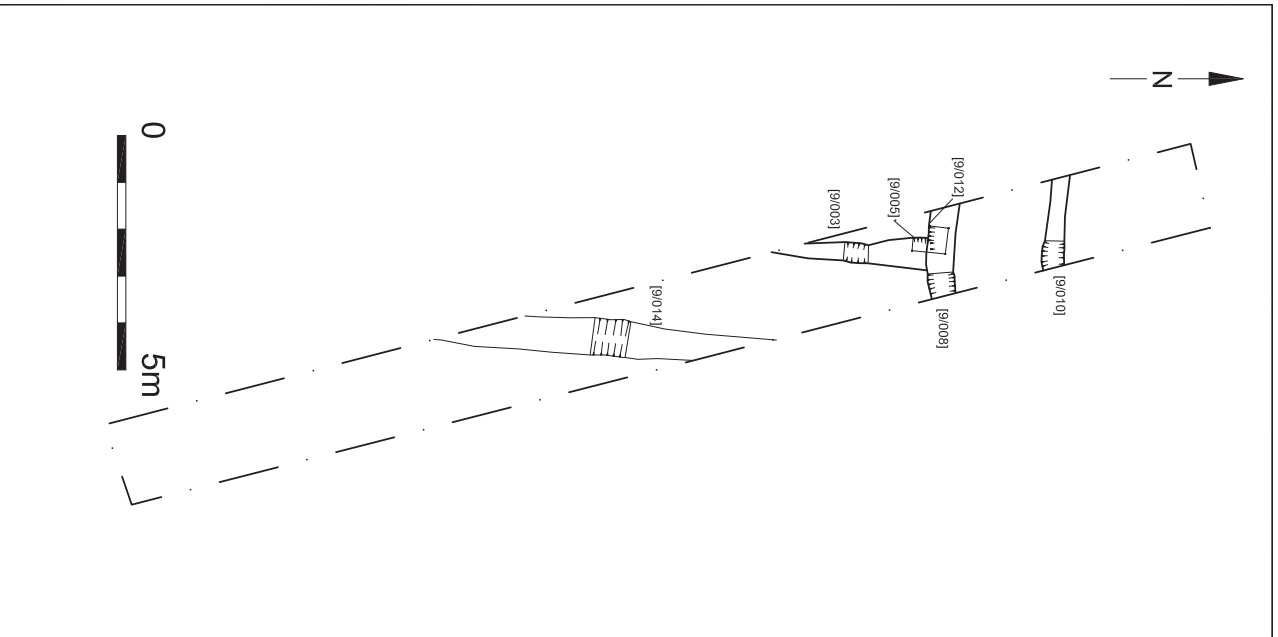


Fig. 5.2 West facing section through ditch [9/008]

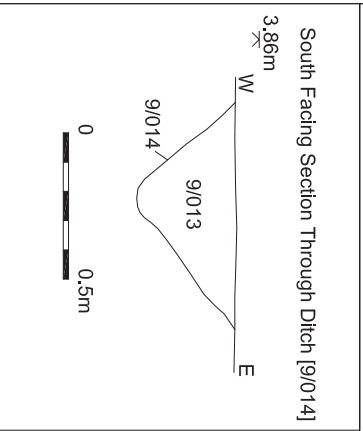


Fig. 5.1 West facing section through ditch [9/010]



Fig. 5.3 South facing section through ditch [9/003]

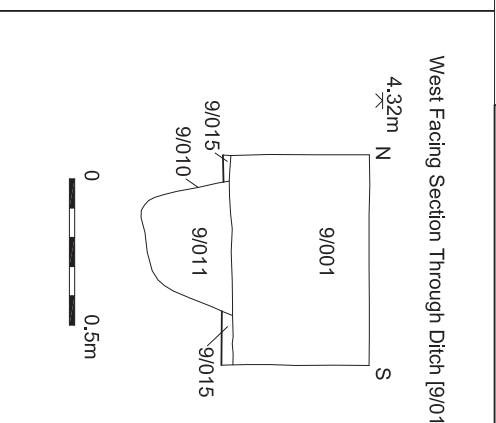
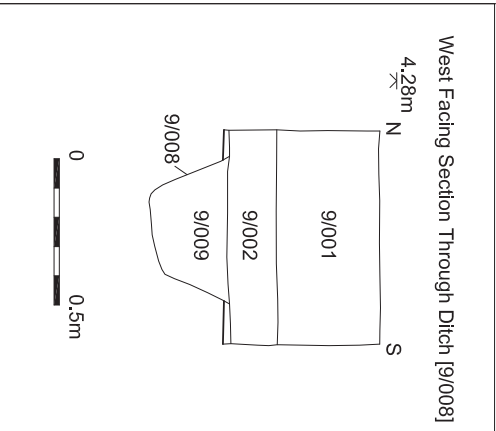
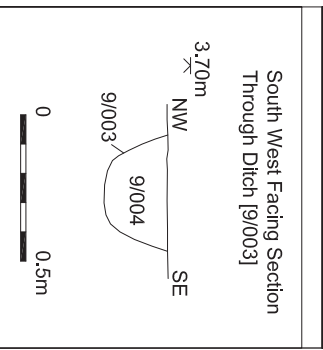


Fig. 5.4 South facing section through ditch [9/014]





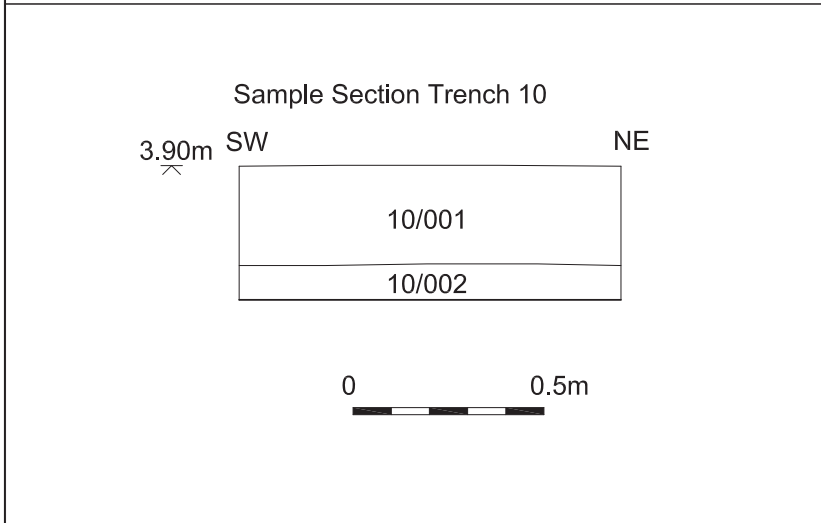
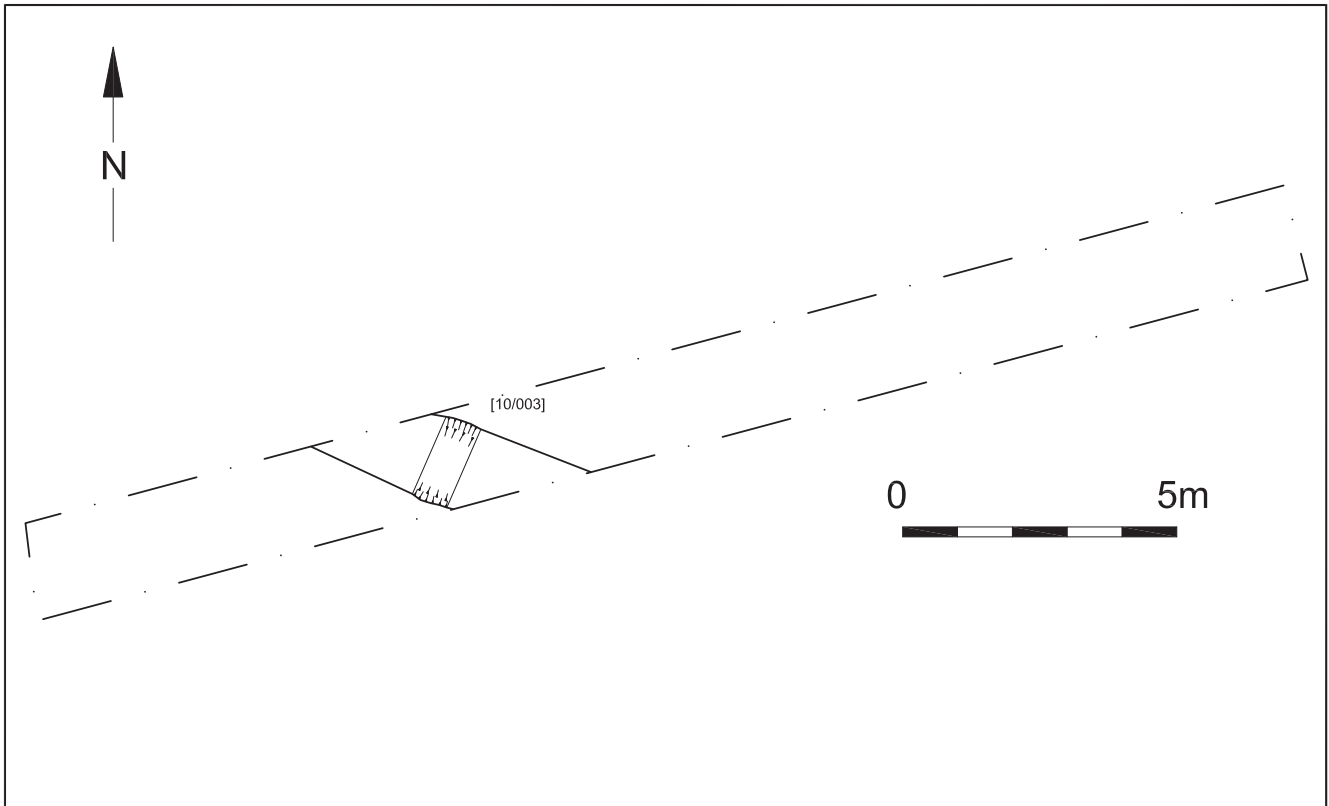


Fig. 6.1 Trench 10 looking North East

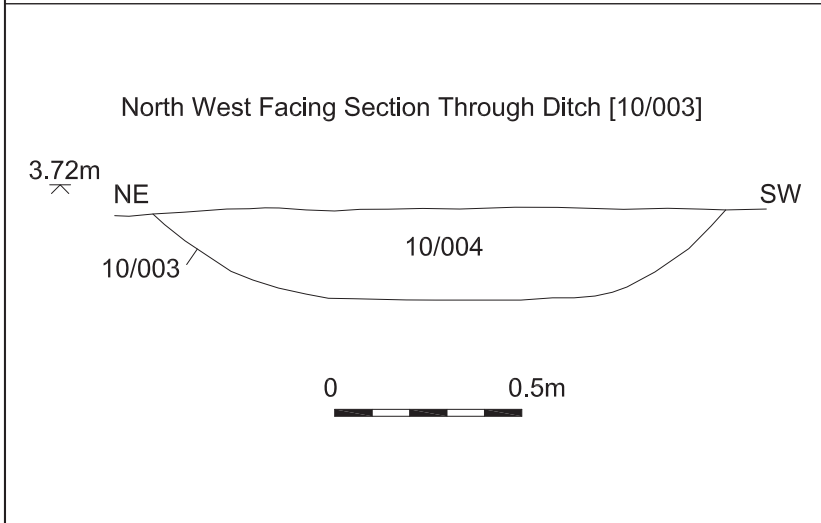
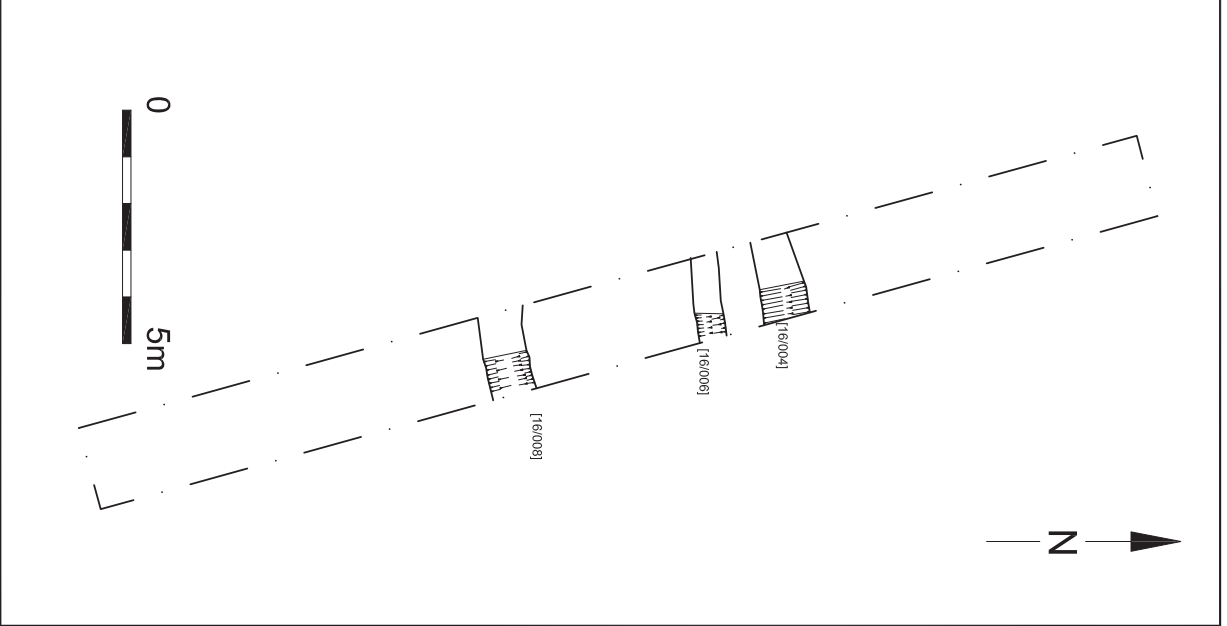
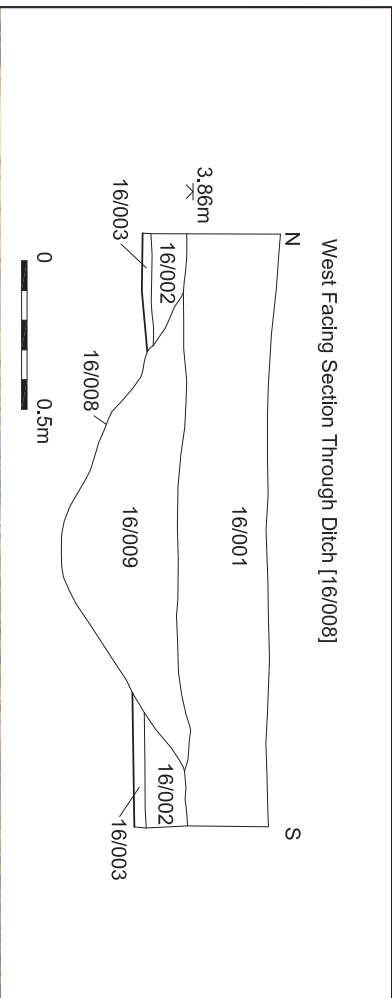
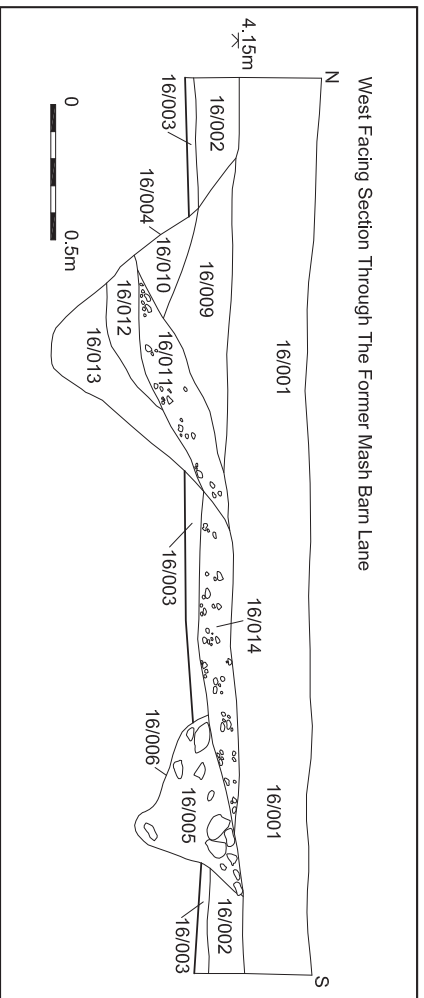


Fig. 6.2 North West Facing section through ditch [10/003]



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Project Ref: 5796	December 2012	Trench 16 Plans, Sections and Photographs	
Report Ref: 2012267	Drawn by: RHC		
		Fig. 7	

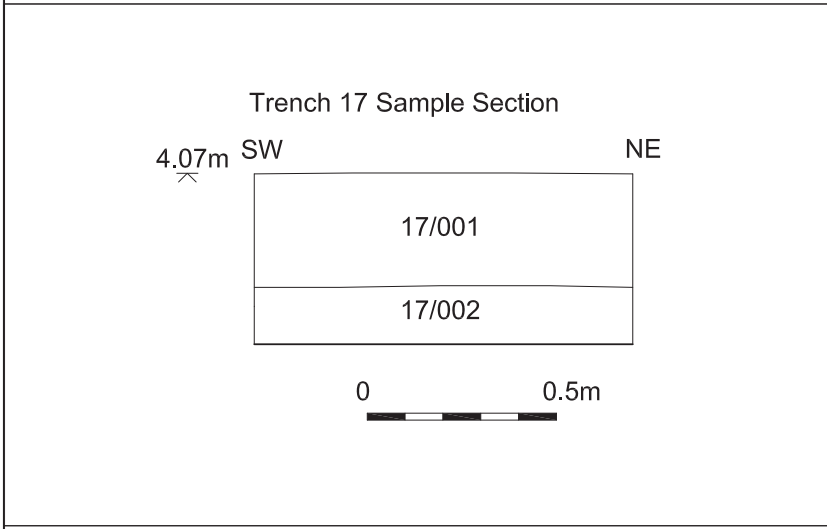
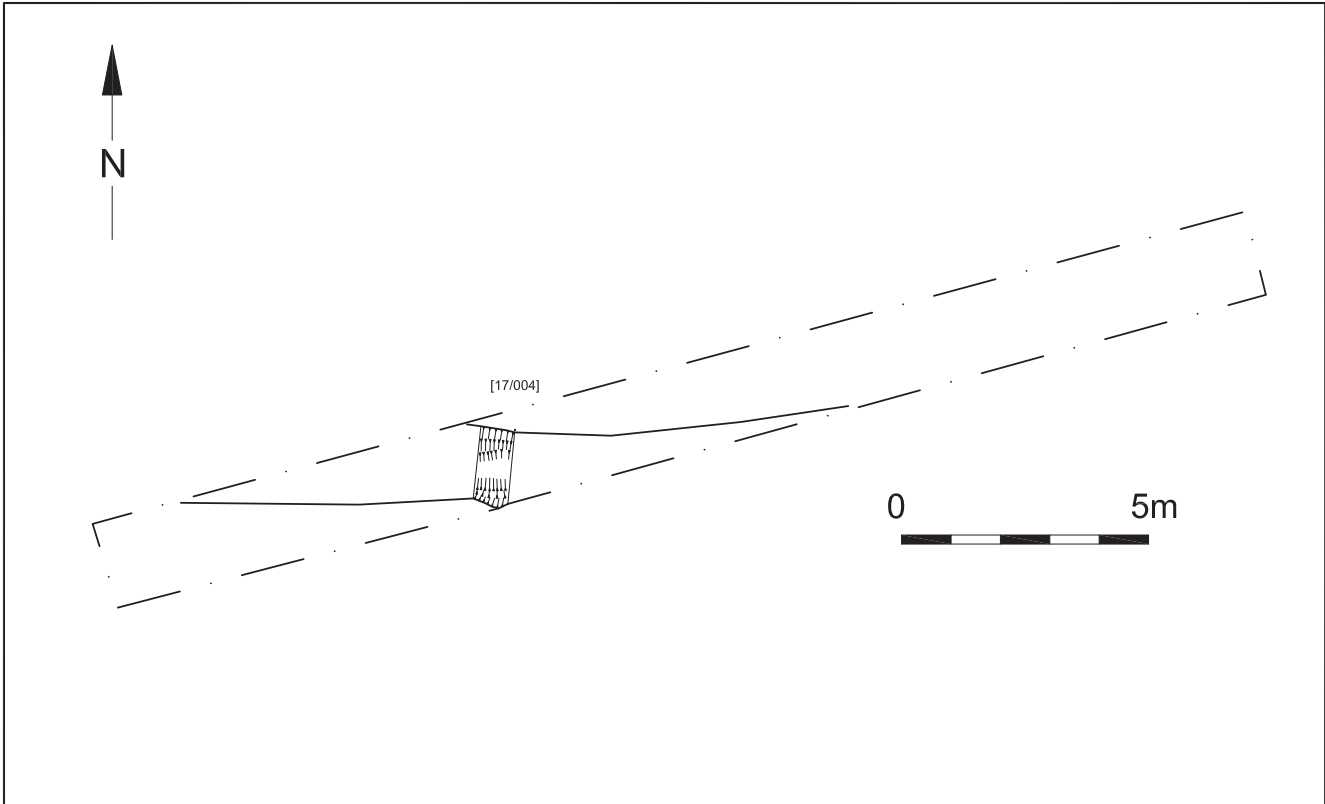


Fig. 8.1 Trench 17m looking North East

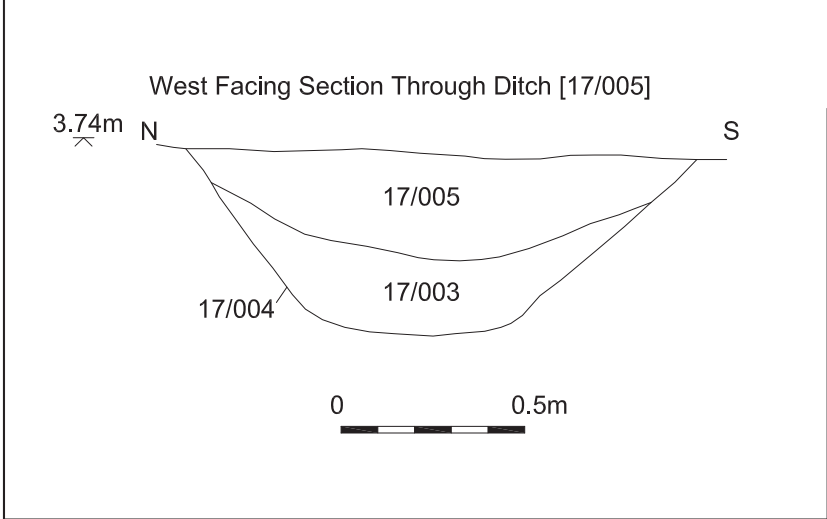
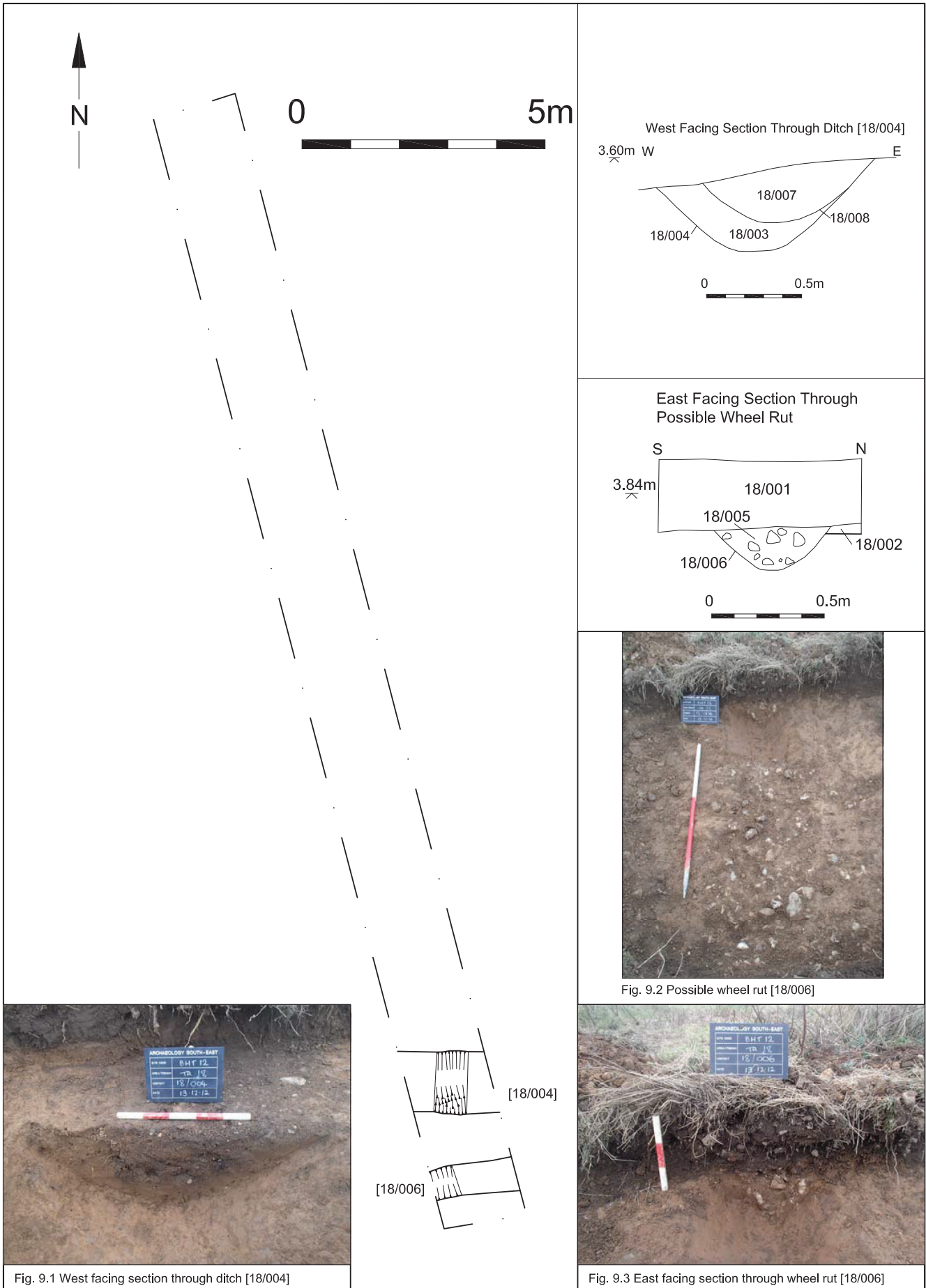


Fig. 8.2 West facing section through ditch [17/005]





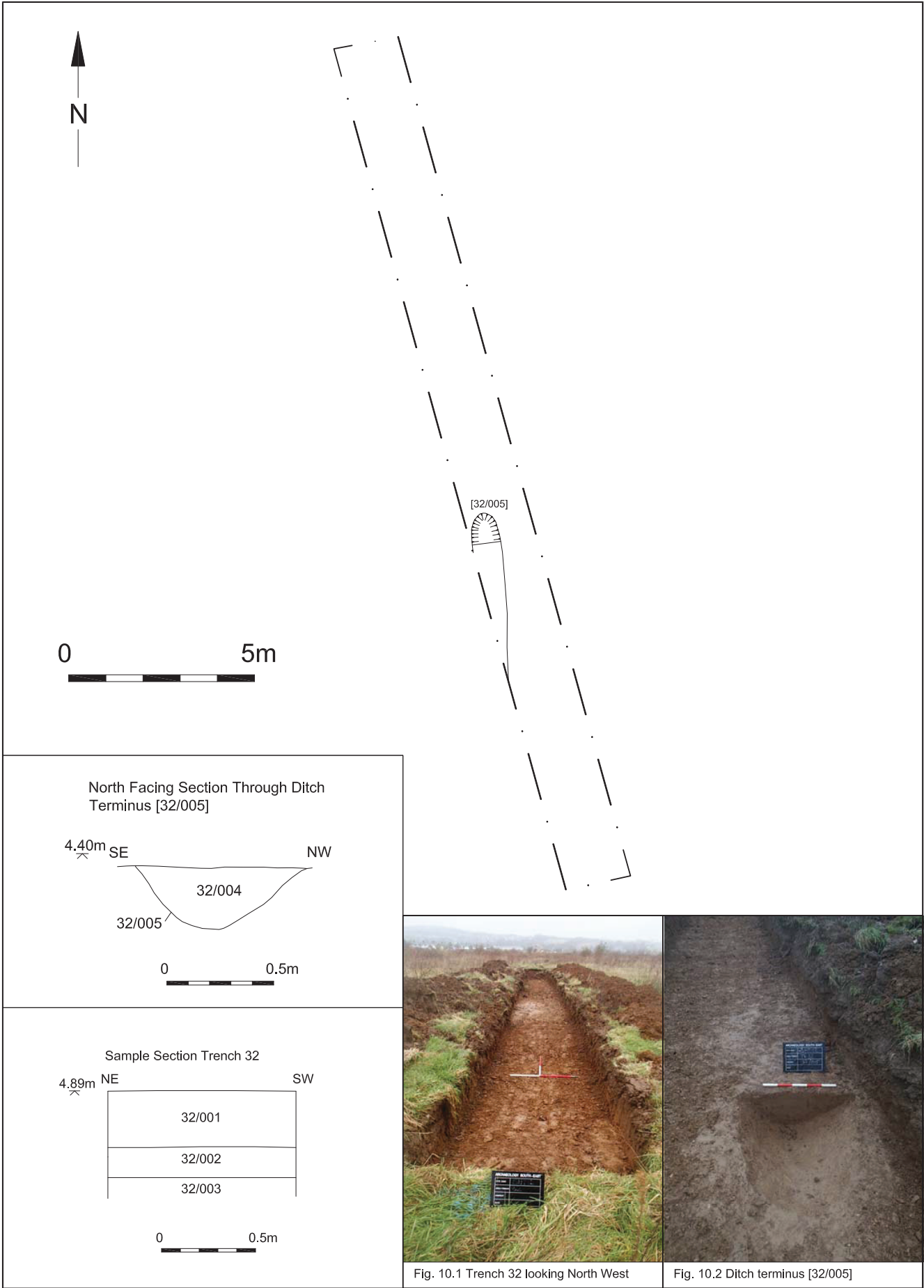


Fig. 10.1 Trench 32 looking North West

Fig. 10.2 Ditch terminus [32/005]

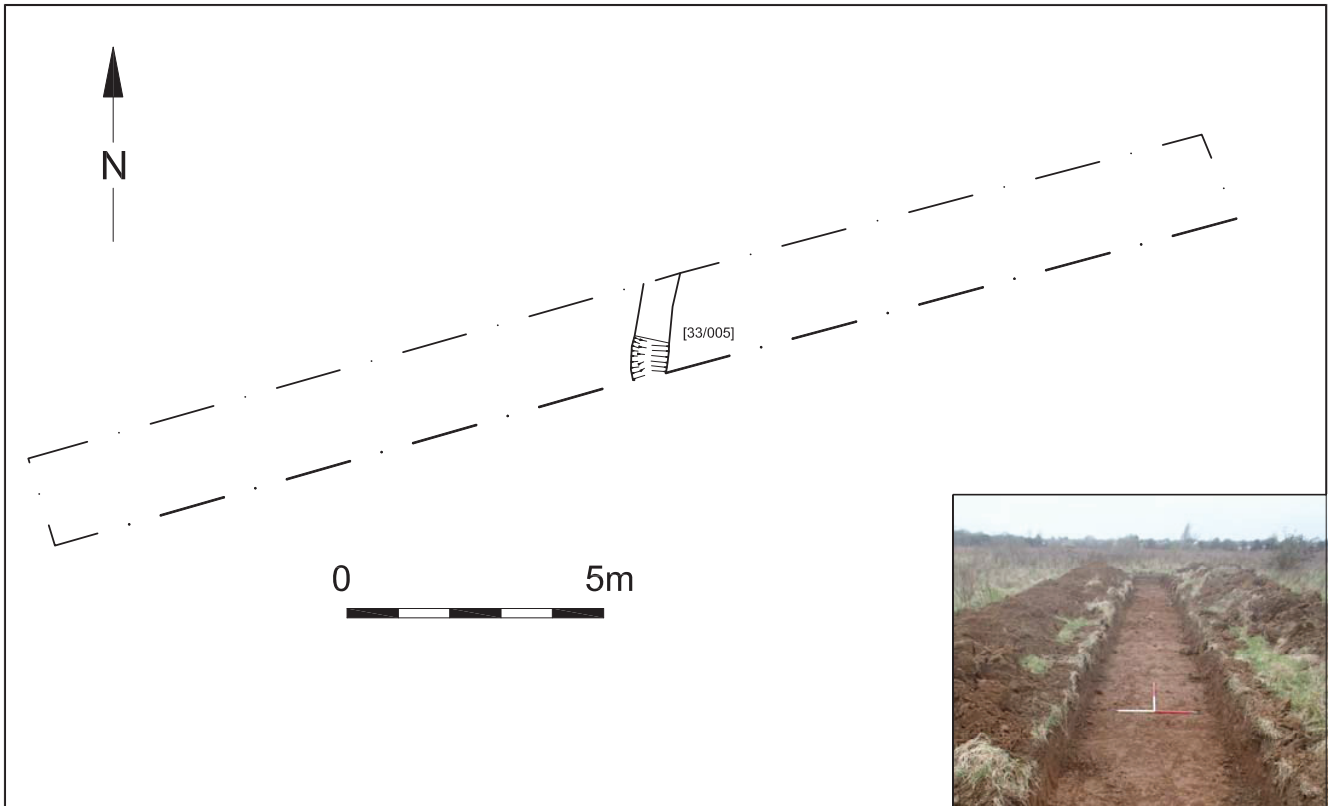


Fig. 11.3 Trench 32 looking North East

South Facing Section Through Ditch [33/005]

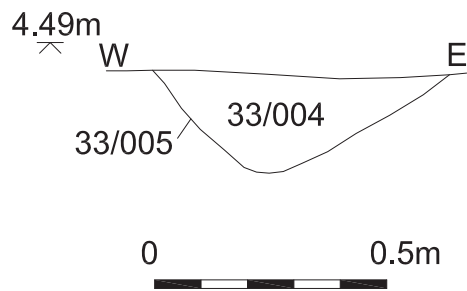


Fig. 11.2 South facing section through ditch [33/005]

North Facing Section Through Ditch [33/005]

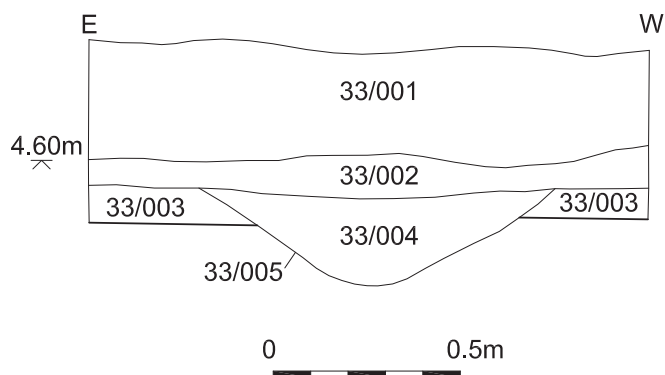


Fig 11.1 North facing section through ditch [33/005]

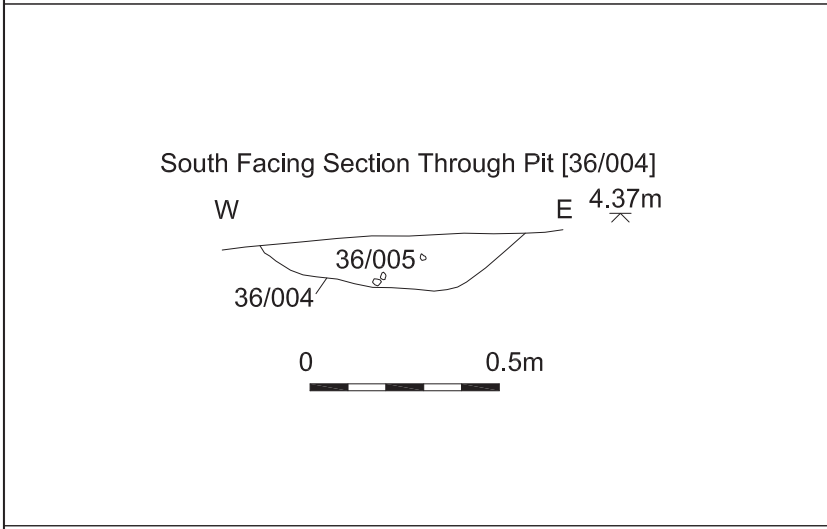
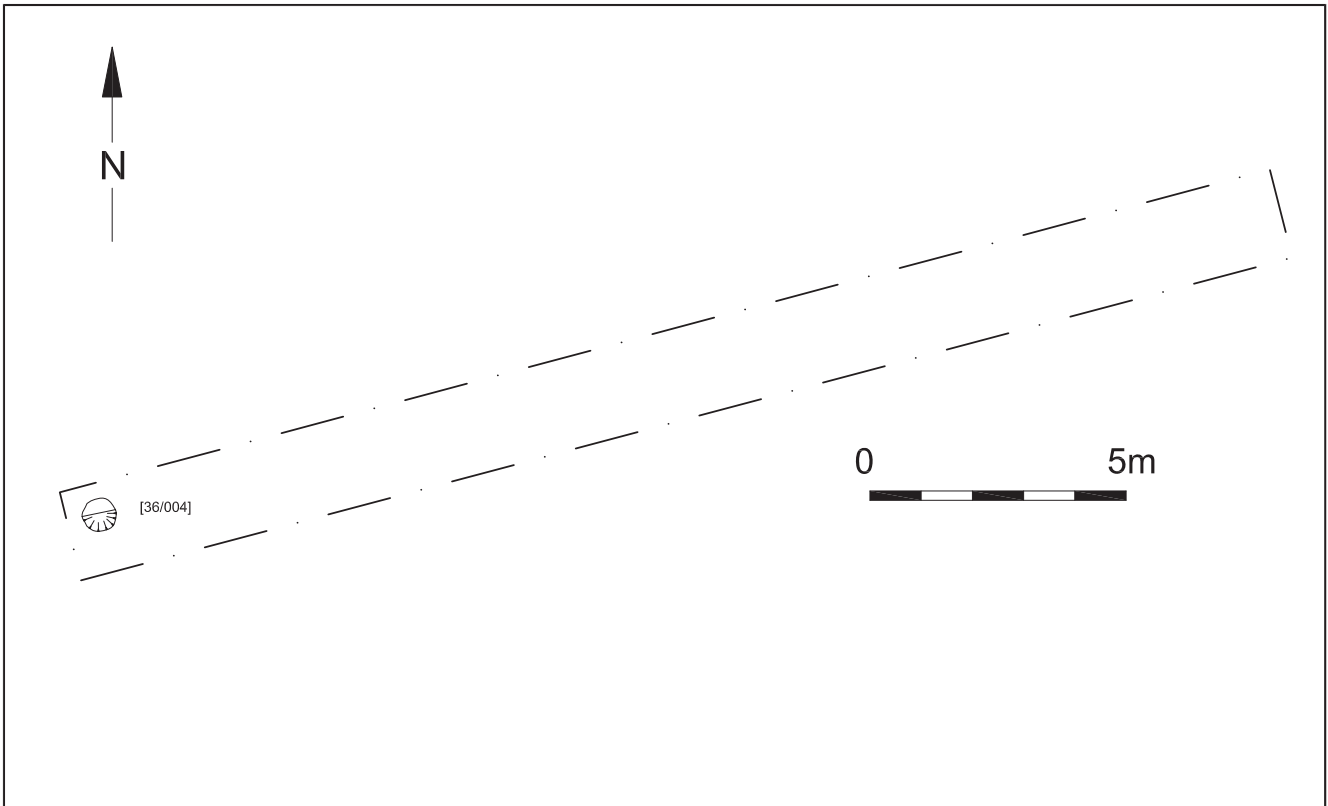


Fig. 12.1 Trench 36m looking North East

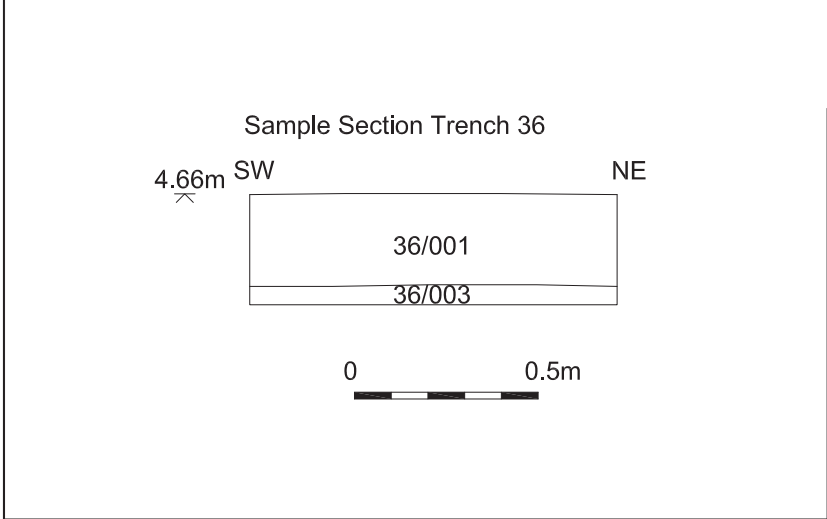


Fig. 12.2 South facing section through pit [36/004]

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