Archaeology South-East

ASE

Archaeological Evaluation Report
Land East of Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex

NGR 521660 116480

Horsham District Council Planning Application Ref: DC/11/1962

Planning Inspectorate Appeal Decision Ref: APP/Z3825/A/12/2172558

ASE Project No. 5896
Site Code: MCH 13

ASE Report No: 2013033
OASIS ID: archaeol6-143603

by
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With contributions from
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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 Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex (NGR 521660 116480).Thirty one trenches were mechanically excavated to a cumulative length of 930m providing a c.5% sample of the site.

No archaeological deposits or features were encountered. A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden, mostly post-medieval in date, but including a small quantity of medieval pottery and Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flintwork.

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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 Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex (NGR 521660 116480; Figure 1).

1.2 Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The roughly rectangular site lies to the east of the A281, the main spine road through the centre of Henfield. It is bounded to the west by properties fronting onto Manor Close, Nyes Close, Benson Road and Wantley Hill Estate, to the south by properties fronting onto Furners Lane, and to the north and west by open fields. There is a marked slope downwards from south to north; the highest point is *c.*30m AOD with a lowpoint of *c.*21m AOD.

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 with superficial geological deposits of River Terrace Gravels (BGS 2013).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A planning application for the construction of up to 102 dwellings with associated landscaping and access was submitted to Horsham District Council in 2011 (ref: DC/11/1962) and was turned down. The application was granted on appeal by the Planning Inspectorate in September 2012 (ref: APP/Z3825/A/12/2172558). A condition was attached to the permission requiring that:

> *'No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.'*

1.3.2 In accordance with the terms of the condition a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) was produced by ASE. It outlined the research aims and objectives of the work as well as the methodology to be used during the archaeological evaluation and subsequent reporting and archiving of the results (ASE 2013). It was approved by West Sussex County Council (WSCC) before the commencement of work at the site.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The purpose of the evaluation was to provide evidence enabling a decision to be made by Horsham District Council's archaeology advisor as to the requirement for any future archaeological mitigation work

1.4.2 The broad aims of the archaeological work given in the WSI (ibid.) were:

- 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.

- To 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.

1.4.3 Within these parameters, the evaluation of this site also presented an opportunity to address the following research objectives with reference to the framework set down in the Sussex Extensive Urban Survey for Henfield (Harris 2004):

- **RQ1** What was the nature of the palaeo-environment (ancient environment), and the prehistoric, Roman and Early Anglo-Saxon human activity in the area?
- **RQ6** What was the extent of the village in the 11th to 16th centuries, and to what extent did it change over this period?
- **RQ7** When and how did built-up street frontage of the east side of the High Street occur?
- **RQ14** What was the relationship between Henfield and its hinterland, and with nearby towns?'

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 The current report provides results of the archaeological work at the site carried out in late January and early February 2013 by a team comprising Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist), Elizabeth Chambers and Mornington John Woodall (Archaeologists) and John Cook (Archaeological Surveyor). The project was managed by Andy Leonard (Project Manager) and by Jim Stevenson (Post-Excavation Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following archaeological background is taken from the WSI (ASE 2013), itself based on results of a Desk-Based Assessment of land close to the current site at West End Lane (CgMs 2012)

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 Mesolithic microliths have been identified on the Greensand Ridge at Henfield Common to the south of the site (TQ 21820 15870). Quantities of Mesolithic flintwork, including arrowheads, were identified on the Common within the earthwork feature discussed below (2.2.3).

2.2.2 To the north-west of the site, quantities of Mesolithic flintwork have been gathered by the farmer at Parsonage Farm, generally after ploughing, along the 25ft (7.62m AOD) contour ridge. Finds have included microliths, a Thames pick, a tranchet axe and a large number of borers, punches, blades, and scrapers (TQ 20900 16800). Archaeological work at Parsonage Farm revealed struck flint in the topsoil (TQ 2120 1680).

2.2.3 Neolithic and Bronze Age flintwork has been identified at Furners Farm to the south of the site (TQ 22000 16000). A barbed and tanged arrowhead, stylistically dated to the Bronze Age, was identified within the topsoil within the earthwork feature at Henfield Common (see below; (TQ 22070 15780). A similar artefact was identified at Flower Farm Close to the west of the site (TQ 20800 16300).

2.2.4 Archaeological evaluation at Furners Lane to the south of the site revealed a Bronze Age cremation burial (TQ 21638 16160). An earthwork enclosure identified on Henfield Common to the south of the site, on the opposite side of the village centre, may be of late Prehistoric date, although limited fieldwork revealed a very small quantity of pottery which may date it to the Roman/Medieval period (TQ 22070 15780).

2.2.5 Iron Age pottery has been identified in water meadows near Hess Bridge to the northwest of the site (TQ 21510 17190). An Iron Age gold *stater* (coin) was found in the garden of 14 South View, on the southern edge of the town to the southwest of the site (TQ 21160 15620).

2.3 Romano-British

2.3.1 The east-west 'Greensand Way' Roman road passes *c.*2.2km south of the centre of the Henfield (Harris 2004, 13). An earthwork enclosure identified on Henfield Common to the south of the site, may be of late prehistoric date, although limited fieldwork revealed a small amount of pottery which may date it to the Roman/Medieval period (TQ 22070 15780). Anecdotal evidence suggests a Roman cremation cemetery at Barrow Hill to the south-east of the site, although there appears to be little physical evidence of finds (TQ 21400 15500), and Roman 'relics' were apparently identified at Furners Farm to the south of the site (TQ 21900 16100)

2.4 Anglo-Saxon & Medieval

2.4.1 A church has been present at Henfield since *c*.770 AD. The name Henfield is thought to derive from the Old English for 'high open land' or 'open land characterised by rocks'. There has been no evidence of Anglo Saxon material identified through archaeological work in the vicinity of the site and documentary evidence, save for the church, is limited (Harris 2004, 14).

2.4.2 An earthwork enclosure identified on Henfield Common to the south of the site, on the opposite side of the village centre, may be of late prehistoric date, although fieldwork revealed pottery which may date it to the Roman/Medieval period (TQ 22070 15780).

2.4.3 A deer park was in existence during the medieval period at Henfield. It is mentioned in documents dating to 1315, when it belonged to the Bishop of Chichester (TQ 22000 17000). The park is thought to have gone out of use in the seventeenth century; part of the boundary has been identified at Parsonage Farm to the west of the site, running along the western side of London Road before turning westwards (TQ 21500 16880)

2.4.4 An archaeological evaluation on land at Furners Lane to the south of the site revealed pits and ditches containing 13th-14th century pottery, with associated burnt flint and charcoal (TQ 21638 16160). A copper alloy steelyard weight was identified to the southeast of the site (TQ 21524 16158).

2.5 Post-Medieval

2.5.1 Late eighteenth and early nineteenth century maps show the site to lie north-east of Henfield. The Henfield Tithe Map of 1845 shows the site lying within an area of arable land. The railway through Henfield (the line from Horsham to Steyning and Shoreham-by-Sea) was opened in 1861. By the publication of the first Ordnance Survey map of 1874 the site was bounded by a group of buildings to the south-west but was otherwise unchanged, The Ordnance Survey map of 1956 map shows a major housing development to the west of the site.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 All work was conducted in line with the methodology specified within the WSI (ASE 2013).Thirty-one evaluation trenches were excavated, providing a *c.*5% sample of the site (Fig. 2). There were minor alterations to the layout proposed in the WSI, owing to the presence of on-site obstacles. These are detailed in the results section (4.0)

3.2 The location of each trench was scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. The trenches were excavated by a 13 tonne 360°excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of staff from ASE. All trenches were 30m long unless otherwise stated in the results section (4.0).

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 geology 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.

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. The archive has been accepted for deposition at Henfield Museum. No accession number has been issued at this stage. The archive consists of the following material:

Number of Contexts	94
Trench Record Sheets	31
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	-
Photographs	91 digital photos
Bulk finds	1 box
Registered finds	-
Environmental flots/residue	-

Table 1: Quantification of Site Archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All of the trenches revealed a similar sequence of natural Weald clay overlain by subsoil and topsoil, with the exception of Trench 31, where a slightly varying natural geology was directly overlain by the topsoil. Only a single feature, a probable tree-throw, was uncovered in Trench 25. A detailed account of the results for each trench is provided below.

4.2 Trench 1

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
1/001	Deposit	Topsoil	240mm
1/002	Deposit	Subsoil	400mm
1/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 2: Recorded Contexts in Trench 1

4.2.1 Trench 1 was excavated to a depth of 490mm (21.23m AOD) at the western end and to 580mm (22.16m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology 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-brownish grey layer of sandy clay subsoil. This in turn overlay the 'natural', yellowish orange clay which contained pockets of sandy flint gravel and deposits of manganese, context [1/003].

4.2.3 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.3 Trench 2

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
2/001	Deposit	Topsoil	190mm
2/002	Deposit	Subsoil	210mm
2/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 3: Recorded Contexts in Trench 2

4.3.1 Trench 2 was excavated to a depth of 280mm (22.97m AOD) at the western end and to 340mm (22.89m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.4 Trench 3

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
3/001	Deposit	Topsoil	230mm
3/002	Deposit	Subsoil	310mm
3/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 4: Recorded Contexts in Trench 3

4.4.1 The planned position of Trench 3 was moved and rotated by 90° to avoid a watercourse/culvert running from east to west across the field. It was excavated to a depth of 500mm (22.00m AOD) at the western end and to 360mm (22.81m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level the natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.5 Trench 4

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
4/001	Deposit	Topsoil	260mm
4/002	Deposit	Subsoil	320mm
4/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 5: Recorded Contexts in Trench 4

4.5.1 The planned position of Trench 4 was moved in order to avoid an area of dense undergrowth. It was excavated to a depth of 660mm (22.66m AOD) at the north-eastern end and to 570mm (23.59m AOD) at the south-western end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.6 Trench 5

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
5/001	Deposit	Topsoil	220mm
5/002	Deposit	Subsoil	440mm
5/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 6: Recorded Contexts in Trench 5

4.6.1 Trench 5 It was excavated to a depth of 580mm (23.07m AOD) at the western end and also to 600mm (23.60m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.7 Trench 6

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
6/001	Deposit	Topsoil	240mm
6/002	Deposit	Subsoil	450mm
6/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 7: Recorded Contexts in Trench 6

4.7.1 Trench 6 was excavated to a depth of 620mm (23.38mvAOD) at the northern end and to 310mm (24.05mvAOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.8 Trench 7

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
7/001	Deposit	Topsoil	240mm
7/002	Deposit	Subsoil	290mm
7/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 8: Recorded Contexts in Trench 7

4.8.1 Trench 7 was excavated to a depth of 400mm (24.37m AOD) at the western end and to 410mm (24.58m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.9 Trench 8

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
8/001	Deposit	Topsoil	240mm
8/002	Deposit	Subsoil	290mm
8/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 9: Recorded Contexts in Trench 8

4.9.1 Trench 8 was excavated to a depth of 340mm (24.04m AOD) at the northern end and to 400mm (24.90m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.10 Trench 9

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
9/001	Deposit	Topsoil	240mm
9/002	Deposit	Subsoil	330mm
9/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 10: Recorded Contexts in Trench 9

4.10.1 Trench 9 was excavated and to a depth of 550mm (24.34m AOD) at the western end and to 560mm (24.46m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.11 Trench 10

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
10/001	Deposit	Topsoil	240mm
10/002	Deposit	Subsoil	280mm
10/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 11: Recorded Contexts in Trench 10

4.11.1 Trench 10 was excavated to a depth of 500mm (24.95m AOD) at the northern end and to 430mm (25.39m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.12 Trench 11

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
11/001	Deposit	Topsoil	190mm
11/002	Deposit	Subsoil	320mm
11/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 12: Recorded Contexts in Trench 11

4.12.1 Trench 11 was excavated to a depth of 430mm (25.29m AOD) at the western end and to 480mm (25.33m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.13 Trench 12

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
12/001	Deposit	Topsoil	220mm
12/002	Deposit	Subsoil	480mm
12/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 13: Recorded Contexts in Trench 12

4.13.1 Trench 12 was excavated to a depth of 490mm (25.08m AOD) at the northern end and to 620mm (25.58m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.14 Trench 13

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
13/001	Deposit	Topsoil	260mm
13/002	Deposit	Subsoil	340mm
13/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 14: Recorded Contexts in Trench 13

4.14.1 Trench 13 was excavated to a depth of 340mm (25.71m AOD) at the western end and to 510mm (24.76m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.15 Trench 14

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
14/001	Deposit	Topsoil	230mm
14/002	Deposit	Subsoil	280mm
14/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 15: Recorded Contexts in Trench 14

4.15.1 Trench 14 was excavated to a depth of 330mm (25.72m AOD) at the northern end and to 440mm (25.99m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.16 Trench 15

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
15/001	Deposit	Topsoil	280mm
15/002	Deposit	Subsoil	350mm
15/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 16: Recorded Contexts in Trench 15

4.16.1 Trench 15 was excavated to a depth of 490mm (25.90m AOD) at the western end and to 560mm (26.06m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.17 Trench 16

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
16/001	Deposit	Topsoil	300mm
16/002	Deposit	Subsoil	380mm
16/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 17: Recorded Contexts in Trench 16

4.17.1 Trench 16 was excavated to a depth of 620mm (25.66m AOD) at the northern end and 630mm (25.75m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.18 Trench 17

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
17/001	Deposit	Topsoil	320mm
17/002	Deposit	Subsoil	400mm
17/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 18: Recorded Contexts in Trench 17

4.17.1 Trench 17 was excavated to a depth of 660mm (25.94m AOD) at the western end and to 680mm (26.29m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.19 Trench 18

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
18/001	Deposit	Topsoil	260mm
18/002	Deposit	Subsoil	400mm
18/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 19: Recorded Contexts in Trench 18

4.19.1 Trench 18 was excavated to a depth of 640mm (26.30m AOD) and 50mm (27.26m AOD) at the southern end. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. The trench was left shallow at the southern end to avoid a possible service which ran from south-west to north-east, which was also encountered at the northern end of Trench 19. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.20 Trench 19

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
19/001	Deposit	Topsoil	270mm
19/002	Deposit	Subsoil	370mm
19/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 20: Recorded Contexts in Trench 19

4.20.1 Trench 19 was excavated to a depth of 260mm (26.68m AOD) at the northern end and to 290mm (27.21m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered. A possible service was encountered the extreme northern end of the trench.

4.21 Trench 20

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
20/001	Deposit	Topsoil	250mm
20/002	Deposit	Subsoil	330mm
20/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 21: Recorded Contexts in Trench 20

4.21.1 Trench 20 was excavated to a depth of 590mm (27.01m AOD) at the western end and to 410mm (27.21mAOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.22 Trench 21

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
21/001	Deposit	Topsoil	300mm
21/002	Deposit	Subsoil	350mm
21/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 22: Recorded Contexts in Trench 21

4.22.1 Trench 21 was excavated to a depth of 630mm (26.65m AOD) at the northern end and to 550mm (26.82m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.23 Trench 22

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
22/001	Deposit	Topsoil	220mm
22/002	Deposit	Subsoil	350mm
22/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 23: Recorded Contexts in Trench 22

4.23.1 Trench 22 was excavated to a depth of 550mm (27.25m AOD) at the western end and to 480mm (27.79m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.24 Trench 23

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
23/001	Deposit	Topsoil	320mm
23/002	Deposit	Subsoil	390mm
23/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 24: Recorded Contexts in Trench 23

4.24.1 The planned position of Trench 23 was moved southwards to avoid a rabbit burrow. It was excavated to a depth of 440mm (28.14m AOD) at the northern end and to 530mm (28.80m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.25 Trench 24

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
24/001	Deposit	Topsoil	220mm
24/002	Deposit	Subsoil	400mm
24/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 25: Recorded Contexts in Trench 24

4.25.1 Trench 24 was excavated to a depth of 340mm (27.00m AOD) at the western end and to 600mm (27.61m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.26 Trench 25 (Fig. 3)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
25/001	Deposit	Topsoil	300mm
25/002	Deposit	Subsoil	220mm
25/003	Fill	Tree-Throw	140mm
25/004	Cut	Tree-Throw	-
25/005	Deposit	'Natural'	

Table 26: Recorded Contexts in Trench 25

4.26.1 Trench 25 was excavated to a depth of 510mm (27.83m AOD) at the western end and to 430mm (28.44m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology 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 possible archaeological feature identified and recorded.

4.26.2 Cut [25/004] was an oval or linear feature, running west to east across the trench and extending beyond the trench edges in both directions. The excavated portion was 1.27m wide and 140mm deep and was extremely irregular in profile. The single fill was context [25/003], a mid-brown silty clay from which no artefacts were recovered. This feature is thought likely to represent part of a tree throw.

4.27 Trench 26

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
26/001	Deposit	Topsoil	250mm
26/002	Deposit	Subsoil	90mm
26/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 27: Recorded Contexts in Trench 26

4.27.1 Trench 26 was excavated to a depth of 270mm (28.76m AOD) at the western end and also to 270mm (29.25m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of

artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.28 Trench 27

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
27/001	Deposit	Topsoil	270mm
27/002	Deposit	Subsoil	430mm
27/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 28: Recorded Contexts in Trench 27

4.28.1 The planned location of Trench 27 was moved to allow access to the site. It was excavated to a depth of 680mm (27.40m AOD) at the northern end and to 460mm (28.09m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.29 Trench 28

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
28/001	Deposit	Topsoil/Rubble	300mm
28/002	Deposit	Topsoil	120mm
28/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 29: Recorded Contexts in Trench 28

4.29.1 Trench 28 was excavated to a depth of 360mm (28.55m AOD) at the western end and to 310mm (29.29m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.30 Trench 29

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
29/001	Deposit	Topsoil	240mm
29/002	Deposit	Subsoil	140mm
29/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 30: Recorded Contexts in Trench 29

4.30.1 Trench 29 was excavated to a depth of 230mm (29.58m AOD) at the northern end and to 220mm (29.96m AOD) at the southern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.31 Trench 30

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
30/001	Deposit	Topsoil	300mm
30/002	Deposit	Subsoil	350mm
30/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 31: Recorded Contexts in Trench 30

4.31.1 Trench 30 was excavated to a depth of 620mm (27.64m AOD) at the western end and to 260mm (28.73m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The two layers of overburden and underlying 'natural' were similar in character to those found in Trench 1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered.

4.32 Trench 31

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
31/001	Deposit	Topsoil	350mm
31/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

Table 32: Recorded Contexts in Trench 31

4.32.1 The location of Trench 31 was moved to avoid an area of dense undergrowth. It was excavated to a depth of 310mm (29.55m AOD) at the western end and to 280mm (29.97m AOD) at the eastern end, at which level natural geology was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The topsoil was similar in character to that found in Trench 1, but the natural geology was a yellow sticky clay with no patches of gravel or manganese. There was no evidence of a subsoil layer. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered during the archaeological work. Finds are all from the topsoil and mainly of late post-medieval date. All finds have been washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were quantified by count and weight and subsequently bagged by material and context. A summary quantification by context is provided in Table 33.

Cxt	Pot	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	Copper	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (gr)	CTP	Wt (gr)	Fe	Wt (gr)
1/001	1	20					1	32												
3/001	1	<2			1	9														
4/001	2	<2											3	14						
5/001	1	<2																		
6/001			2	54					1	10										
7/001	1	8	1	14					1	2	1	4	3	14						
8/001			1	68																
9/001					2	24														
10/001	1	6	2	22	2	12														
13/001	1	2							1	136									8	66
16/001	2	2											1	6						
17/001			1	26																
18/001			1	78																
21/001	3	12	2	30									1	182	4	20	1	<2		
26/001	1	<2	1	26																
28/001			2	66																
31/001	1	4																		
Total	**15**	**54**	**13**	**384**	**5**	**45**	**1**	**32**	**3**	**148**	**1**	**4**	**8**	**216**	**4**	**20**	**1**	**0**	**8**	**66**

Table 33: Quantification of the Finds.

5.2 **The Pottery** by Elke Raemen

5.2.1 A small assemblage consisting of 15 sherds was recovered from the topsoil in eleven different trenches. The group comprises two medieval ([16/001], [31/001]), a transitional ([26/001]) and an early post-medieval fragment ([16/001]); however, the majority is of late post-medieval date. Included is a glazed red earthenware sherd of 18th- to 19th-century date ([10/001]), a pearlware base fragment dating to the early 19th century ([3/001]), plain white china ([4/001]) and red ([4/001]) and blue ([5/001], [21/001]) transfer-printed china, all of 19th-century date.

5.2.2 A Bristol-glazed stoneware bottle fragment of later 19th- to early 20th-century date was recovered from [7/001]. Other stoneware, of 19th-century date, was recovered from [13/001] and [21/001]. In addition, Trenches 1 and 21 (contexts [1/001] and [21/001]) contained unglazed red earthenware flowerpot fragments dating to the 19th or 20th

centuries.

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Elke Raemen

5.3.1 A total of 13 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from nine different trenches. Included are eight roof tile fragments, one of which is of early post-medieval date and in a medium fired sparse fine sand-tempered fabric with occasional iron oxides to 5mm, moderate clay pellets to 2mm and rare quartz to 1mm. The tile measures 17mm thick. The remaining tiles date to the 18th to 19th century and are mostly in a medium to hard sparse fine sand-tempered fabric with occasional clay pellets to 3mm and rare quartz to 0.5mm.

5.3.2 Two brick fragments were found, both of late post-medieval date. In addition, an undiagnostic amorphous fragment of low fired clay was recovered from [6/001]. The fragment is moderate fine sand-tempered with moderate iron oxides to 2mm and occasional clay pellets to 4mm. A medium fired abundant medium sand-tempered fragment with rare iron oxides to 2mm is likely to derive from a brick ([10/001]). It is undiagnostic of date. A second undiagnostic, abraded fragment was recovered from [21/001].

5.4 The Glass by Elke Raemen

5.4.1 Three glass fragments were recovered from the topsoil. A 19th-century green glass wine bottle fragment was found in [7/001]. A wine bottle base dating to the late 19th to early 20th century was recovered from [13/001]. In addition, topsoil [6/001] contained a green glass fragment from a panelled bottle of 19th-century date. Part of the embossing ("[…]RSDE[…]") survives. The contents would likely have been pharmaceutical.

5.5 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 A plain clay tobacco pipe (CTP) stem fragment was found in topsoil [21/001]. The fragment dates to *c*. 1750-1910.

5.6 The Metalwork by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 A small assemblage of nine fragments was recovered from two different contexts. Topsoil [21/001] contained six iron sheet fragments (c. 2mm thick) of 19th- to mid 20th-century date, as well as two iron general purpose nails, one of which is machine-made. A copper-alloy circular rove of late 19th- to 20th-century date was recovered from [7/001].

5.7 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.7.1 A total of five pieces of struck flint weighing 45g and a single fragment of burnt unworked flint (32g) were recovered from topsoil contexts in Trenches 1, 3, 9 and 10. The small assemblage of struck flints included four flakes and a blade. The material was made from very fine grained dark grey flint, and the raw material appears to be of good flaking quality. Several pieces exhibited incipient traces of bluish white surface re-colouration. The flintwork was in a relatively poor state of preservation. The pieces of flint débitage displayed post-depositional edge damage consistent with re-deposited material found in topsoil deposits. No diagnostic pieces were present; nonetheless, the long piece from Trench 9 with parallel lateral margins as well as blade scar removals on the dorsal face is typical of a blade-based industry and may

therefore be of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date.

5.8 The Geological Material by Elke Raemen

5.8.1 A small assemblage consisting of eight fragments from four different trenches was recovered during the archaeological work. Topsoil [4/001] contained two Welsh slate fragments as well as a piece of West County slate. A further three West County slate fragments were recovered from topsoil [5/001]. Topsoil [16/001] contained another fragment of Welsh slate. In addition, a fragment of probable Wealden sandstone was found in [21/001].

5.9 The Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

5.9.1 A complete, left dog mandible was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 21. The bone is in a good state of preservation and all adult teeth are erupted and in-situ. It is likely that the mandible derives from a domestic pet.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 The results of the archaeological evaluation by trial trenching strongly suggest that no significant archaeological remains survive in the development area to the east of Manor Close. The only buried feature encountered contained no cultural or environmental material. Given its irregular profile, it is interpreted as a tree-throw of probable natural origin. It is not considered archaeologically significant.

6.2 Apart from some probable buried services, the evaluation produced no evidence of truncation or disturbance, suggesting that the negative results represent a real absence of activity.

6.3 A varied selection of finds was recovered from the topsoil. The very limited unstratified flintwork assemblage is possibly indicative of transient Mesolithic hunter/gatherer activity, which typically leaves no buried archaeological features. Much more significant and diagnostic flintwork assemblages have already been documented in the vicinity so this material does not significantly add to our understanding.

6.4 Similarly the presence of medieval and post-medieval material is probably the result of manuring of arable fields away from the centre of occupation to the south-west and does not suggest any level of settled activity within the boundaries of the site.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Duncan Hawkins of CgMs for commissioning the fieldwork, and for his input throughout. Thanks are also due to John Mills, Senior Archaeologist, West Sussex County Council for monitoring the site on behalf of Horsham District Council.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	MCH 13					
Identification Name and Address	Land East of Manor Close, Henfield					
County, District &/or Borough	Horsham District, West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	521660 116480					
Geology	River Terrace Gravels over Weald Clay					
Arch. South-East Project Number	5896					
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. 29.01.2013 – 08.02.2013	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting Ltd.					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard/Jim Stevenson					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso. ✓	Neo. ✓	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED ✓	PM ✓	Other		

Summary

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the east of Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex (NGR 521660 116480).Thirty one trenches were mechanically excavated to a cumulative length of 930m providing a c.5% sample of the site.

No archaeological deposits or features were encountered. A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden, mostly post-medieval in date, but including medieval pottery and Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flintwork.

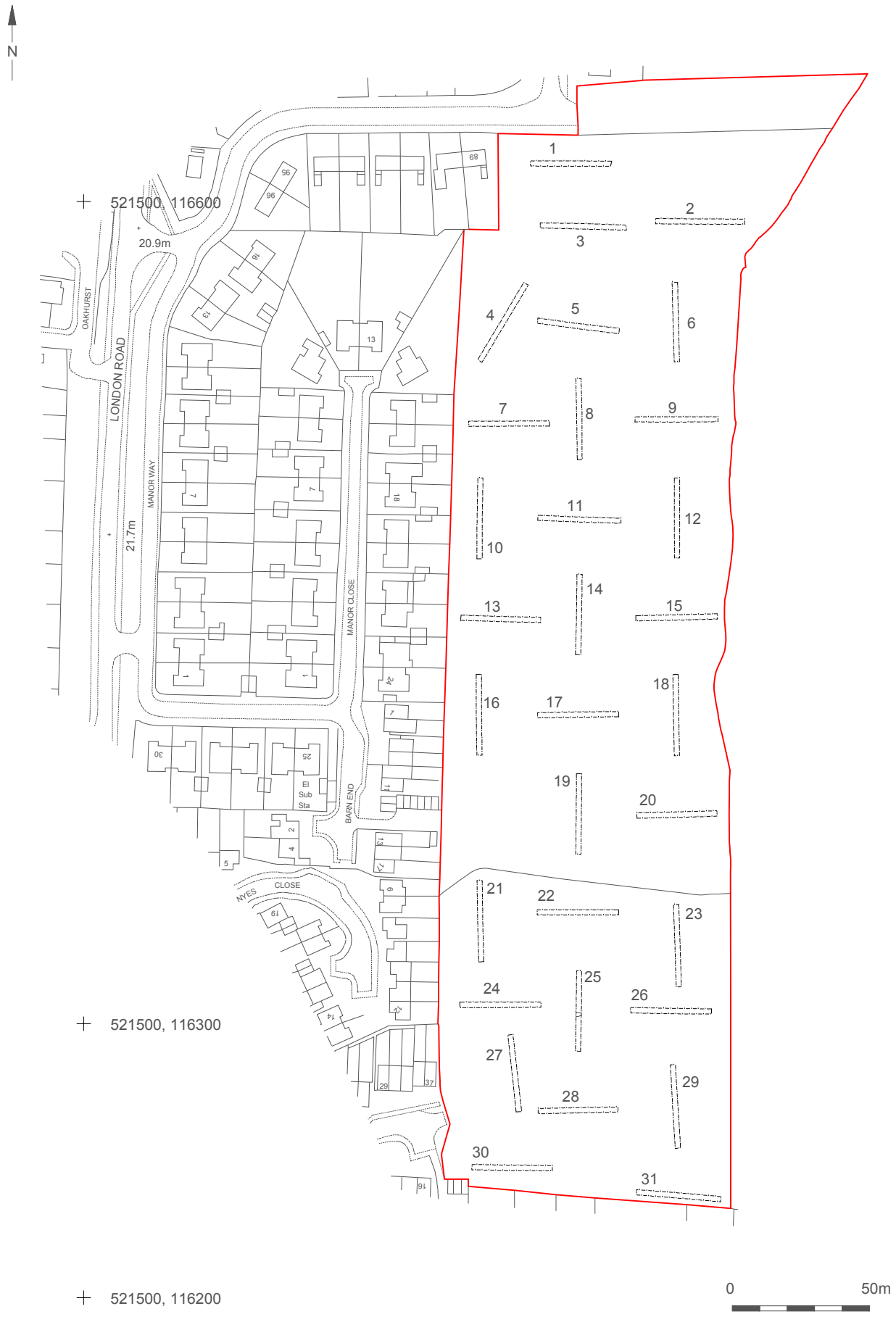
OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-143603

Project details	
Project name	Land East of Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the east of Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex (NGR 521660 116480).Thirty one trenches were mechanically excavated to a cumulative length of 930m providing a c.5% sample of the site. No significant archaeological deposits or features encountered. A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden, mostly post-medieval in date, but including medieval pottery and Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flintwork.
Project dates	Start: 29-01-2013 End: 08-02-2013
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	5896 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	MCH 13 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	APP/Z3825/A/12/2172558 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	FLINTWORK Late Prehistoric
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)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX HORSHAM HENFIELD Land East of Manor Close
Postcode	BN5 9LB
Study area	9.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 2166 1648 50 0 50 56 03 N 000 16 06 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 21.00m Max: 30.00m
Project creators	
Name of	Archaeology South-East

Organisation	
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard/Jim Stevenson
Project supervisor	Simon Stevens
Type of sponsor/funding body	client
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Miscellaneous Material","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation Report - Land East of Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Stevens, S.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No. 2013033
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade, East Sussex
Description	ASE client report. A4-sized with cover logos
Entered by	Simon Stevens (simon.stevens@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	21 February 2013

© **Archaeology South-East**		Land east of Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 5896	Jan 2013	Site location	
Report Ref: 2013033	Drawn by: RHC		



© Archaeology South-East		Land east of Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 5896	February 2013	ench location	
Report Ref: 2013033	Drawn by: RHC		

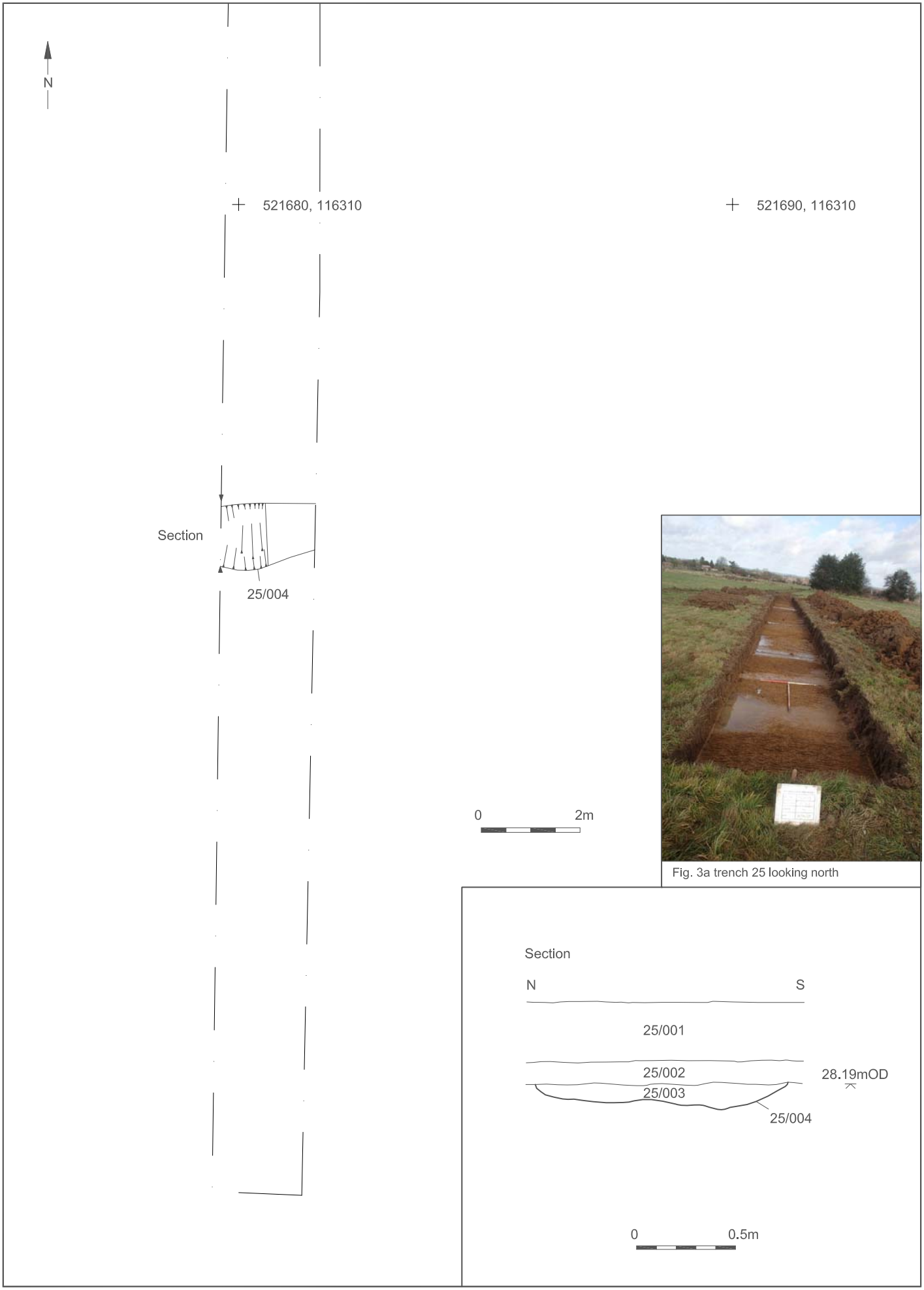


Fig. 3a trench 25 looking north

© Archaeology South-East		Land east of Manor Close, Henfield, West Sussex	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 5896	February 2013	ench 25 Plan, Section and Photograph	
Report Ref: 2013033	Drawn by: RHC		

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