

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush
Crawley, West Sussex**

**NGR: 523245 134630
(TQ23245 34630)**

**ASE Project No: 5646
Site Code: KVC12**

**ASE Report No: 2012171
OASIS id: archaeol6-132059**



**By Alice Thorne
With contributions by
Luke Barber**

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client Crest Nicholson to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of residential development of a site at Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley, West Sussex.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley. Twenty-five 50m long trenches were excavated to the east of the Browns landfill site. An undated ditch, evidence of two areas of burning and a series of recent postholes were identified in the northern area of the site. A post-medieval ditch probably associated with the Holmbush Brick and tile works was identified in the southern area (bog field).

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client Crest Nicholson to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of residential development of a site at Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley, West Sussex (NGR: 523245 134630; Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 Kilnwood Vale is situated to the western edge of Crawley to the north of the A264, west of Bewbush and east of Faygate.

1.2.2 The underlying geology is recorded as Weald Clay, with some superficial quaternary period river terrace deposits comprising sands and gravels (Edina Digimap, accessed 3/08/12)

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The work represents the start of the first phase of a new development of 2500 residential units. Permission has been granted by Horsham District Council with conditions, one of which (condition 31) is archaeological. The site will be developed in five phases, with Phase 1 consisting of 291 dwellings.

1.3.2 An Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by SLR Consulting on behalf of Crest Strategic Projects for Phase 1 of the development (SLR 2011).

1.3.3 ASE was contracted by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the site.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The broad objective of the archaeological evaluation is to ascertain the character and quality of any surviving archaeological remains within the footprint of phase 1 of the development.

1.4.2 These results will guide development for determining a suitable and proportionate strategy for mitigating the likely impact of the scheme (SLR 2011, 1).

1.4.3 The specific aims of the site investigation are:

- *To undertake a programme of archaeological trial trenching, investigating the undisturbed ground within the site to identify the survival, type and condition of any archaeological remains*

- *To assess the results of these investigations in consultation with West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) and propose and carry out further investigations and/or mitigation as necessary to allow the full discharge of planning condition 31*

- *Identify whether the known Mesolithic occupation material (flint scatters) recorded to the south of the A264 extends into the Phase 1 area*

- *The concentration of iron ore extraction pits and earthworks in Pondtail Shaw may be accompanied by iron working or other industrial operations nearby, dating from the Roman, medieval or early post-medieval periods. The investigations will identify whether ironworking or other extraction remains survive within the Phase 1 area, and will endeavour to characterize the nature of their date, character and processes?*

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report presents the results of the first phase of archaeological evaluation of the site.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Whilst there has been no investigation within the area of Phase 1 of the site, prehistoric occupation has been identified nearby through finds of flint tools, burial mounds and ancient ridgeways in the general vicinity. One possible barrow mound is located 500m east of the site at Two Trees Hill, although a small investigation by SLR in 2009, reported on in the Environmental Assessment for the site (dated 2010) proved inconclusive.
- 2.2 In the medieval and post-medieval periods the Bewbush area lies in a landscape dominated by forest and woodland, with reclamation of heathland and dispersed cottage building during the early 19th century. The development site lies within the lands of Bewbush and Holmbush manors. Bewbush moated manor lies just to the east of the eastern boundary to the development site, and is designated as both a scheduled monument and a listed building.
- 2.3 Fairs were held for cattle and feral horses, and the “new town” of Crawley was created in the 12th or 13th century, taking advantage of the London – Shoreham road. The main economic activity was farming, based on stock husbandry, as well as maintenance of the deer park of St Leonard’s Forest during the medieval period.
- 2.4 During the late 16th – early 17th century mining for iron ore, smelting and iron working became a significant activity, as part of the wider Wealden industry. This involved substantial remodelling of the landscape with large millpond reservoirs being created for two hammer (later corn) mills, at Bewbush and further downstream at Ifield. Building stone was another local quarrying industry intermittently practised, and brickworks are recorded to the south and west of the development area.
- 2.5 More recently, large portions of the site and surrounding land have been buried beneath an area of land raise under an exemption from waste management licensing, with the northern two thirds of the site having been raised by 3-4m. In addition, tree planting has recently taken place in the southern portion of the site, alongside the A264 (SLR 2011, 4).
- 2.6 In addition to the medieval Bewbush Manor, it is also interesting to note the presence of a medieval park at Bewbush mentioned from 1295 (Hudson, 1987, 19). Hudson suggests this park was probably on the less fertile lands in the south part of Bewbush tithing around the modern Holmbush House. In 1326 the park is known to have comprised 500 acres. In the mid-16th century it was disparted (*ibid*). Within this context, the extant field boundary bordering the east of the evaluation site, which forms part of a boundary delimiting a space within the north-eastern corner of the historic parish of Lower Beeding, could be of potential interest.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

(Figure 2)

- 3.1 Twenty-five, 50m long trenches were machine excavated across the site by 20 tonne mechanical excavator fitted with a 2.10m wide flat blade ditching bucket.
- 3.2 All trenches were set out using GPS survey equipment.
- 3.3 Trenches were CAT scanned prior to excavation, and all machining was carried out under the supervision of a qualified archaeologist.
- 3.4 Some minor alterations to trench locations were required because of the presence of field drains, presence of trees and large wood stacks. Where the location of a trench was shifted slightly or shortened to accommodate an obstruction, the location has been resurveyed, and is depicted on Figure 2.
- 3.5 All discreet features were half-sectioned, recorded and then the remainder of the fill removed. Linear features were sample sectioned.
- 3.6 All features and trenches were photographed.
- 3.7 Trenches were hand planned at a scale of 1:100. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Heights are shown on the relevant feature section.
- 3.8 Trenches were backfilled upon completion of the evaluation.
- 3.9 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and has been offered to Crawley Museum. We are currently awaiting a response. Crawley Museum does not give out archive accession numbers. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	102
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	4
Bulk Samples	2
Photographs	97
Bulk finds	1 small box
Registered finds	N/A
Environmental flots/residue	1 small box

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Geology and overburden

- 4.1.1 The overburden on site was of dark grey-brown clayey silt topsoil, measuring between 0.28m to 0.30m thick. This contained only occasional late post medieval to modern CBM fragments or modern rubbish (fragments of car number plates, coke cans, and chrome fittings) within trenches 9 – 25. The topsoil was found to directly overly the surface of the underlying geology within trenches 1-8, and trench 16.
- 4.1.2 The geology comprised orangish-brown slightly silty clay, with very frequent areas of geological variability and discolouration. Frequent manganese and ironstone outcrops caused localised reddish-brown patches of staining. Frequent areas of mottling and irregular undulating seams of a blue-grey silt geology were also identified within most of the trenches.
- 4.1.3 Within the south-eastern part of the site, a redeposited layer of made ground was encountered in trenches 14 15 21, 23, 24 and 25. This deposit measured between 20cm to 0.80m thick, and is thought to have been a dump of landfill material, spread out across the field, possibly to raise up a wet and waterlogged area. Several of the trenches within this area of the site also had substantial rooting disturbance and in several of these trenches a bioturbated interface layer between the base of the topsoil and top of the natural geology was recorded.

4.2 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
1/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30
1/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
1/003	Cut	Pit		1.60	0.03 – 0.05
1/004	Fill	Pit		1.60	0.03 – 0.05
1/005	Cut	Poss. Posthole		0.34	0.08
1/006	Fill	Poss. Posthole		0.34	0.08

Table 2: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Two features were identified within the trench. Both were very shallow, and no dating evidence was obtained from either, despite 100% excavation of the exposed fills. Feature 1/003 comprised a very shallow sub-oval feature with shallow irregular sides and a slightly undulating base. It was filled by a mottled orangish brown silty clay containing charcoal fragments, and very frequent ironstone inclusions (1/004). Slight scorching of the underlying natural suggests that this feature may represent the base of a bonfire or area of surface burning. An environmental sample of the fill of this feature <2> confirmed a small quantity of charcoal, but could not provide any further information as to its function. To the north-east a small circular feature (1/005) with an irregular base filled by a mid to dark grey-blue silty clay containing occasional charcoal fragments (1/006) is thought to represent the remains of a posthole. Both features are undated.

4.3 Trench 2 (Figure 4)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
2/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30
2/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
2/003	Cut	Posthole		0.27m	0.06
2/004	Fill	Posthole		0.27m	0.06

Table 3: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 One small undated posthole was recorded within the trench (2/003). It had a sharp north-western side, and an irregular tapered south-eastern side, perhaps resulting from the process of post removal. It was filled by a dark grey-brown clayey silt, contrasting well against the surrounding natural geology. Occasional fragments of charcoal were noted within this fill (2/004).

4.4 Trench 3 (Figure 5)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
3/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30
3/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
3/003	Cut	Ditch		0.80m	0.21m
3/004	Fill	Ditch		0.80m	0.21m
3/005	Poss Cut	Trample/ treebowl?		1.80m	0.14m
3/006	Poss Fill	Trample/ treebowl?		1.80m	0.14m

Table 4: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 A north-south orientated linear was observed within the southern end of trench 3. This feature had parallel sides, and a concave profile, with a break of slope on the western edge (3/003). It was filled by a mid orangish- brown clayey silt containing occasional charcoal flecks and ironstone fragments (3/004). Following excavation and recording of the initial 1m wide slot through this feature, a further 2 metres of fill was removed from along its length, in an attempt to ascertain date. Unfortunately no datable material was recovered.
- 4.4.2 Located just to the north of this feature a sub-oval area of mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt was observed, extending out from the western baulk of the trench. Upon excavation this was found to have a shallow concave profile, with irregular edges (3/005) and was found to contain occasional charcoal and ironstone (3/006). 100% of the exposed area of this feature was excavated but no dating material obtained. This feature may represent an area of trample at the edge of ditch 3/004, or perhaps more likely an area of rooting or tree-bowl, perhaps a remnant of a hedge line associated with the ditch.

4.5 Trench 4 (Figure 6)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
4/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m
4/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
4/003	Cut	Pit		1.10m	0.06m
4/004	Fill	Pit		1.10m	0.06m
4/005	Cut	Posthole		0.30m	0.33m
4/006	Fill	Posthole		0.30m	0.33m

Table 5: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Feature 4/003 comprised a sub-oval area of dark-greyish brown clayey silt containing moderate quantities of charcoal, occasional fragments of burnt clay and frequent ironstone fragments (4/004). This feature measured a maximum of 0.06m deep, with irregular edges and a flattish base. *In situ* scorching of the underlying natural geology testifies to an area of burning in this location, and it is thought probable that this feature represents the base of a bonfire. No dating evidence was obtained despite 100% excavation of the shallow fill.

4.5.2 A small posthole was indentified within the northern part of trench 4. This feature had near vertical sides, a pointed base (4/005) and was filled by a mid darkish brown clayey silt (4/006). This feature was 100% excavated but no dating evidence was obtained.

4.6 Trench 6 (Figure 7)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
6/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m
6/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
6/003	Cut	Pit	-	0.90m	0.20m
6/004	Fill	Pit		0.90m	0.20m
6/005	Cut	Posthole		0.44m	0.09m
6/006	Fill	Posthole		0.44m	0.09m
6/007	Cut	Posthole	0.39m	0.35m	0.18m
6/008	Fill	Posthole	0.39m	0.35m	0.18m

Table 6: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 Feature 6/003 comprised a sub-oval area pit or possible posthole, filled by a mid greyish-brown clayey silt containing moderate ironstone fragments (6/004). Feature 6/005 comprised a shallow sub-oval feature with a concave profile, filled by a mid greyish-brown clayey silt (6/006). Feature 6/007 comprised a sub-rectangular with steep concave sides and was filled by a mid brown clayey silt (6/008). Both these features are thought to represent the base of postholes. All the features in this trench were 100% excavated following recording, but no dating evidence was recovered.

4.7 Trench 8 (Figure 8)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
8/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m
8/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
8/003	Cut	Pit	-	0.45m	0.06m
8/004	Fill	Pit		0.45m	0.06m

Table 7: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

4.7.1 Feature 8/003 comprised a circular posthole, with a flattish base, filled by a mid grey-silty clay containing occasional charcoal flecks (8/004). No dating material was obtained.

4.8 Trench 12 (Figure 10)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
12/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m
12/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
12/003	Cut	Ditch	-	1.60m	-
12/004	Fill	Ditch		1.60m	-
12/005	Possible cut	Probable rooting		0.70m	0.11m max
12/006	Possible fill	Probable rooting		0.70m	0.11m max

Table 8: Trench 12 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 Visible as an extant landscape feature, a recently backfilled ditch was observed crossing the southern extent of Trench 12. This feature had straight parallel sides (12/003) and had been filled by a black silty clay, containing a modern coke can (12/004). This feature still retained water, and upon excavation immediately flooded the southern end of the trench. As a result this feature was recorded in plan only, although it was excavated within trench 20 (see paragraph 4.11.2).

4.8.2 One further feature was observed within this trench, a sub-circular feature, partially exposed extending from the western baulk (12/005). This feature had irregular edges and was filled by a friable pale blue-grey silty clay (12/006). This feature is thought to comprise a patch of root disturbed geological variation.

4.9 Trench 13 (Figure 11)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
13/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m
13/002	Deposit	Rooted Interface	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m
13/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
13/004	Fill	Ditch	-	1.20m	-
13/005	Cut	Ditch	-	1.20m	-

Table 9: Trench 13 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 A continuation of the recently backfilled ditch observed within trench 12 was also observed within this trench. This feature (13/005) also still contained water, and immediately flooded the northern part of the trench. The black silty clay backfill was observed to contain gun cartridges, plastic and a modern drink can (13/004).

4.10 Trench 19 (Figure 13)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
19/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.32m
19/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
19/003	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	1.80m	-
19/004	Fill	Ditch	-	1.80m	-
19/005	Possible Cut/Edge	Geology	2.0m	0.74m	0.40m
19/006	Possible fill/deposit	Geology	2.0m	0.74m	0.40m

Table 10: Trench 19 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 A continuation of the ditch observed within trenches 12 and 13 was also observed within this trench. This feature (19/003) was not excavated but two pieces of mid-19th to early-20th century date CBM was recovered from the surface of the fill (19/004).

4.10.2 One feature was recorded within this trench, comprising an irregular, sub oval shaped feature in plan with irregular concave edges (19/005). Although the edges were fairly well defined, the fill consisted of a sterile pale blue grey silt (19/006) believed to represent an area of geological variation.

4.11 Trench 20 (Figure 14)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
20/001	Deposit	Reworked topsoil/ wood clearance layer	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m
20/002	Deposit	Rooted interface	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m
20/003	Fill	Ditch	-	0.40m	0.30m
20/004	Fill	Ditch		1.50m	0.10m
20/005	Cut	Ditch	-	1.50m	0.40m
20/006	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 11: Trench 20 list of recorded contexts

4.11.1 A section of the curvilinear ditch observed within trenches 12, 13 and 19 was also encountered within trench 20. In this area, a machine dug slot was excavated through the feature, allowing a short period of access to photo and record the section before the slot filled with water. This demonstrated that the ditch had heavily rooted, parallel sides with a shallow concave profile, and a gently rounded base (20/003). A primary fill comprised of a heavily rooted soft greyish mid brown slightly clayey silt (20/004). The upper fill contained wood mulch, twigs and roots within a dark silty matrix (20/003).

4.12 Trench 25 (Figure 16)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
25/001	Deposit	Made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m
25/002	Deposit	Buried Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m
25/003	Deposit	Alluvial silts	10m	Tr.	0.11m
25/004	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
25/005	Possible Cut	Ditch	Tr.	1.5m	0.35m
25/006	Possible Fill	Ditch	Tr.	1.5m	0.35m
25/007	Possible Cut/Edge	Geology	0.96m	0.80m	0.08m
25/008	Possible fill/deposit	Geology	0.96m	0.80m	0.08m
25/009	Possible Cut/Edge	Geology	0.84m	0.60m	0.06m
25/010	Possible fill/deposit	Geology	0.84m	0.60m	0.06m
25/011	Possible Cut/Edge	Geology	0.42m	0.32m	0.08m
25/012	Possible fill/deposit	Geology	0.42m	0.32m	0.08m

Table 12: Trench 25 list of recorded contexts

4.12.1 An irregular sided linear feature was observed crossing the southern extent of the trench on an E-W alignment. This had a tapered southern edge, and an undulating northern edge with an irregular concave base (25/005). The feature was filled by a blue-grey silty clay (25/006). Overlying this feature and spread out across the southern part of the trench, a thin spread of blue-grey silt was encountered (25/003). This deposit may have resulted from rooting disturbance and/or alluvial silting in this very wet and waterlogged field.

4.12.2 Three further features were investigated within the trench. These were circular to sub-circular in plan, but were all found to be shallow with diffuse edges, and are thought to represent area of rooting disturbance and geological variability.

4.13 Trenches 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23 and 24

(Figures 9, 12 and 15)

4.13.1 Several trenches were entirely negative and are tabulated below in table 13.

4.13.2 In trenches 11, 15 and 23 naturally occurring features were investigated. These were filled by fine blue-grey silt. The features had a variety of forms, ranging from diffuse, root disturbed edges, to clear, almost cut-like sides. However, all feature contained the same, homogenous, sterile blue silt with no inclusions at all, artefactual or geological. One feature in trench 23 did contain a few charcoal flecks (Fig. 15) and an environmental was taken to look for charred cereals or other indicators of an anthropomorphic origin. The sample <1> produced only a small quantity of wood charcoal fragments, which could easily have derived from rooting disturbance.

Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
5	001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.30m	77.71
5	002	Deposit	Natural	-	77.41
7	001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.30m	79.89
7	002	Deposit	Natural	-	79.59
9	001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.25m	79.50
9	002	Deposit	Natural	-	79.25
10	001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.30m	79.64
10	002	Deposit	Natural	-	79.34
11	001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.28m	80.27
11	002	Deposit	Natural	-	79.99
11	003	Possible Cut/Edge	Geology	0.22m	79.69
11	004	Possible fill/deposit	Geology	0.22m	79.69
14	001	Deposit	Made ground	0.20m	80.45
14	002	Deposit	Topsoil	0.20m	80.25
14	003	Deposit	Natural	-	80.05
15	001	Deposit	Made ground	0.75m	81.03
15	002	Possible fill/deposit	Geology	0.25m	80.43
15	003	Possible Cut/Edge	Geology	0.25m	80.43
15	004	Deposit	Natural	-	80.28
16	001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.28m	80.11
16	002	Deposit	Natural	-	79.83
17	001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.30m	80.71
17	002	Deposit	Natural	-	80.41
18	001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.30m	80.75
18	002	Deposit	Natural	-	80.45
21	001	Deposit	Made ground	0.35m	82.24
21	002	Deposit	Topsoil	0.20m	81.89
21	003	Deposit	Natural	-	81.69
22	001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.20m	82.20
22	002	Deposit	Rooted interface	0.10m	82.00
22	003	Deposit	Natural	-	81.90
23	001	Deposit	Made ground	0.25m	82.40
23	002	Deposit	Topsoil	0.20m	82.15
23	003	Possible fill/deposit	Geology	0.29m	81.00
23	004	Possible Cut/Edge	Geology	0.29m	81.00
23	005	Deposit	Natural	-	81.95
24	001	Deposit	Made ground	0.25m	82.74
24	002	Deposit	Topsoil	0.25m	82.49
24	003	Deposit	Natural	-	

Table 13: Trenches 5,7,9,10,11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24 list of recorded contexts

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

5.1.1 Four contexts produced just six pieces of ceramic building material during the evaluation work. The material is all in relatively fresh condition suggesting it has not been subjected to significant reworking. The assemblage is quantified in Table 1.

Context	CBM	wt (g)
2/001	1	50
8/001	1	78
15/001	2	96
19/004	2	2538
Total	6	2762

Table 14: Quantification of finds

- 5.1.2 Context [2/001] produced a single small piece from an English stoneware drain or water closet. The fragment has an internal Bristol glaze and can be dated to anywhere between 1840 and 1940.
- 5.1.3 Context [8/001] produced a well formed and fired peg tile fragment, measuring some 13mm thick, and tempered with sparse fine sand and abundant marl swirls/layers. A 19th- to early 20th- century date is likely.
- 5.1.4 Context [15/001] produced another piece of English stoneware drain, this time with an iron wash, as well as a fragment of peg tile similar to that in [8/001] except the marl is more in pellet form rather than in layers/swirls. A similar 19th- to early 20th- century date is likely.
- 5.1.5 Context [19/004] produced two pieces of ceramic building material. The largest consists of a fragment of red brick measuring 112mm wide and 65mm tall. The brick is well formed and fired, with a neat shallow flat-bottomed frog with illegible maker's name. The tempering consists of sparse fine sand with sparse/moderate iron oxides to 6mm and marl to 4mm. A mid-19th to early 20th- century date is likely. A similar date can be applied to the ridge tile fragment from the same deposit. This piece is also well formed and fired and tempered with sparse fine to medium sand and rare marl pellets/patches.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Karine Le Hégarat

- 6.1 Two bulk soil samples were taken during the archaeological work at Kilnwood Vale, Crawley. Sample <1> (5L) was extracted from the bluish clay layer [23/004] which was interpreted as a possible natural deposit. Sample <2> (40L) came from context [1/004] which may represent the fill of a possible hearth or bonfire. Sampling aimed to establish evidence for environmental remains such as wood charcoal, charred macroplant remains, bones and shells which could support the interpretation of the deposits. The samples were processed in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes and air dried. The residues and flots were scanned for environmental and artefact remains.
- 6.2 Sample <1> - The very small flot was mainly composed of small fine uncharred rootlets. As the deposit was not waterlogged or well enough sealed for anaerobic preservation this could indicate some post-depositional disturbance and potential modern contamination. Nonetheless, sampling produced a small quantity of wood charcoal fragments. While the flot contained only a small amount of charcoal flecks, moderately well preserved pieces >4mm in size were recorded in the small residue. No other environmental remains and no artefacts were noticed in this sample.
- 6.3 Sample <2> - Although the flot from sample <2> was larger than the previous flot, it consisted almost entirely of uncharred very fine rootlets. Probable modern fungal sclerotia, that are often associated with active soils, were also present. The charred archaeobotanical remains were restricted to infrequent and predominantly small fragments of wood charcoal measuring <4mm in size. The large residue was composed mainly of ironstones (up to 150mm in size), and with the exception of uncommon small pieces of charcoal no other environmental remains were present.
- 6.4 Environmental remains were scarce in both samples. Nonetheless, sampling has confirmed the presence of a small quantity of wood charcoal fragments. The assemblage of charcoal fragments in sample <2> is too small to attest the interpretation of the feature as a hearth or bonfire. The wood charcoal fragments recorded in sample <1> may represent wood used for fuel. However the remains were found within heavily rootled layer and they might have been deposited through bioturbation.

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 Assessment of the remains identified during the process of archaeological evaluation have been hampered by a lack of artefactual dating evidence. However, some broad conclusions can be drawn.
- 7.2 Linear 3/003, located in the north-western part of the site adjacent to Pondtail Shaw, constitutes the most promising archaeological feature revealed within the trenches. This ditch was orientated north-south, replicating the principal alignment of the field boundaries in this area. The feature is therefore thought to represent an old field boundary ditch, possibly with evidence of an associated hedgerow (3/005).
- 7.3 Despite the lack of dating evidence, postholes (1/005, 2/003, 4/005, 6/005, 6/007 and 8/003) appeared of recent origin.
- 7.4 Two shallow features, also in the northern part of the site, indicate the presence of potential hearths or bonfires. Neither feature 1/003 or 4/004 contained any datable material, despite full excavation, and as a result interpretation is severely hampered. The features may simply represent the remains of discreet areas of burning such as bonfires.
- 7.5 In the southern part of the site a curvilinear ditch, still visible as an extant landscape feature, was identified in trenches 12, 13, 19 and 20. This feature is depicted on the 1:2500 OS county series map of 1879 (Edina Digimap, accessed 10/08/12), and appears to lead from the 19th century Holmbush brick, tile and pottery works located to the south of the A264. This feature was found to contain mid to early 20th century CBM and modern rubbish, including coke cans and gun cartridges, and is thought to represent a backfilled drain leading from the old brick and tile works.
- 7.6 A number of other features were investigated during the process of evaluation, but are thought to represent areas of probable rooting disturbance (12/005, 25/007 and 25/009) or areas of geological variability (11/003, 15/002, 19/005, 23/003 and 25/011). The southern field in particular (bog field) is low-lying and very waterlogged, a characteristic which may have restricted the use of this piece of land for settlement or agricultural activity throughout its history.
- 7.7 In the south-east corner of the site a possible linear, orientated east-west, with a fairly regular concave profile may represent the remains of a boundary ditch (25/005). It was however, filled by a very similar blue-grey silt which in other features has indicated a natural origin.

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Date accessed: 10 August 2012

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ASE would like to thank CgMs for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project, and John Mills County Archaeologist West Sussex County Council for his guidance and monitoring. Justin Russell produced the figures for this report. Andy Leonard project managed the excavations and Dan Swift project managed the post-excavation process.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	KVC12					
Identification Name and Address	Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ23245 34630					
Geology	Weald Clay					
Arch. South-East Project Number	5646					
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. 23 rd /07/12 – 31/07/12	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Alice Thorne					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		
<p>Summary</p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client Crest Nicholson to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of residential development of a site at Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley, West Sussex.</i></p> <p><i>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley. Twenty-five 50m long trenches were excavated to the east of the Browns landfill site. An undated ditch, evidence of two areas of burning and a series of recent postholes were identified in the northern area of the site. A post-medieval ditch probably associated with the Holmbush Brick and tile works was identified in the southern area (bog field).</i></p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-132059

Project details

Project name	Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley
Short description of the project	<p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client Crest Nicholson to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of residential development of a site at Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley, West Sussex.</p> <p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley. Twenty-five 50m long trenches were excavated to the east of the Browns landfill site. An undated ditch, evidence of two areas of burning and a series of recent postholes were identified in the northern area of the site. A post-medieval ditch probably associated with the Holmbush Brick and tile works was identified in the southern area (bog field).</p>
Project dates	Start: 23-07-2012 End: 31-07-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	KVC12 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	CBM Post 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 CRAWLEY CRAWLEY Kilnwood Vale, Bewbush, Crawley

Postcode	XXXXXX
Study area	1250.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 23245 34630 51 0 51 05 49 N 000 14 22 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 77.00m Max: 82.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Alice Thorne
Type of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	"Ceramics","Environmental","Stratigraphic","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Map","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An Archaeological Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Thorne, A

Other bibliographic details 2012171

Date 2012

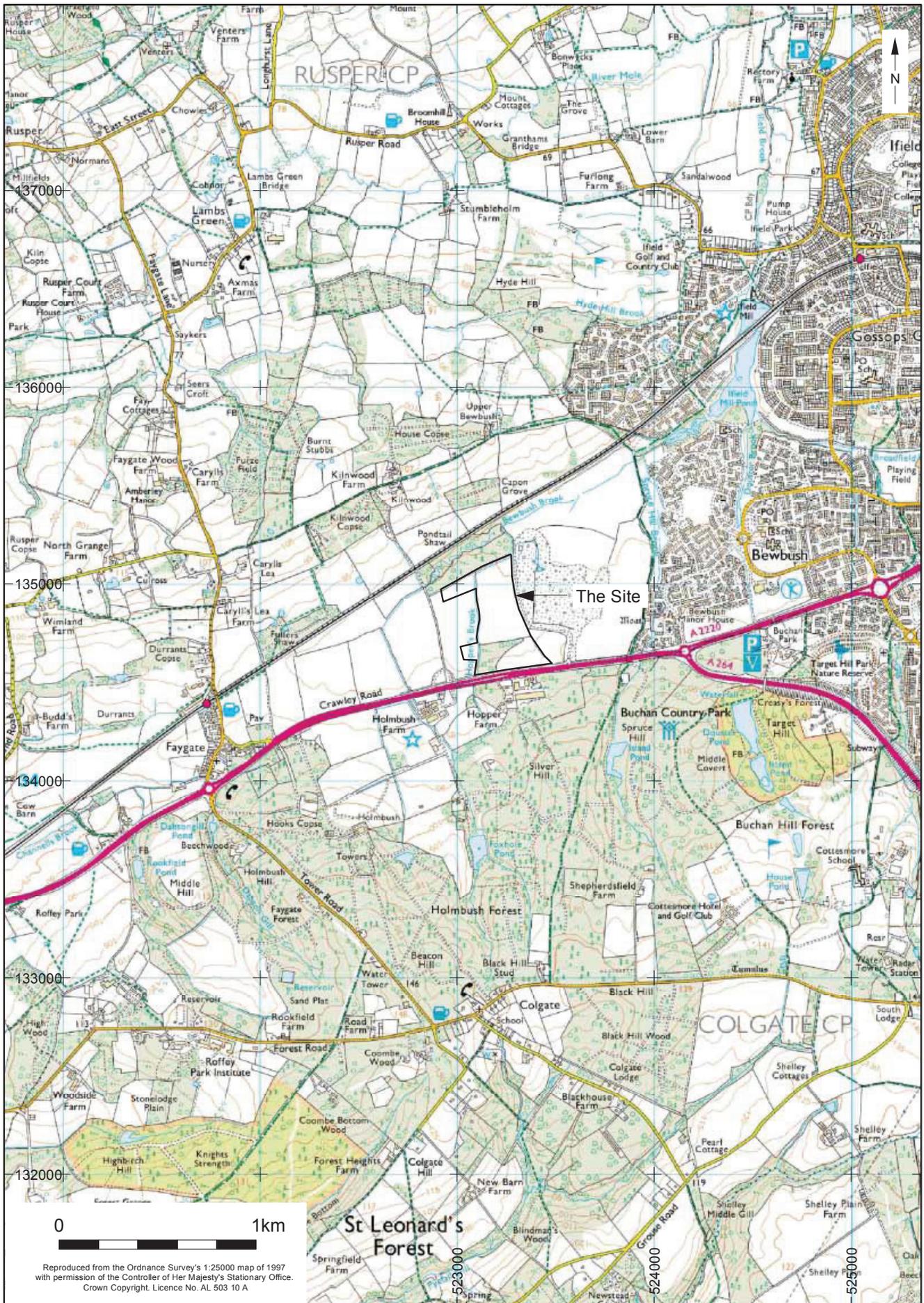
Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

Place of issue or publication Archaeology South-East

Description Grey Literature

Entered by Alice Thorne (tcrnath@live.ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 10 August 2012

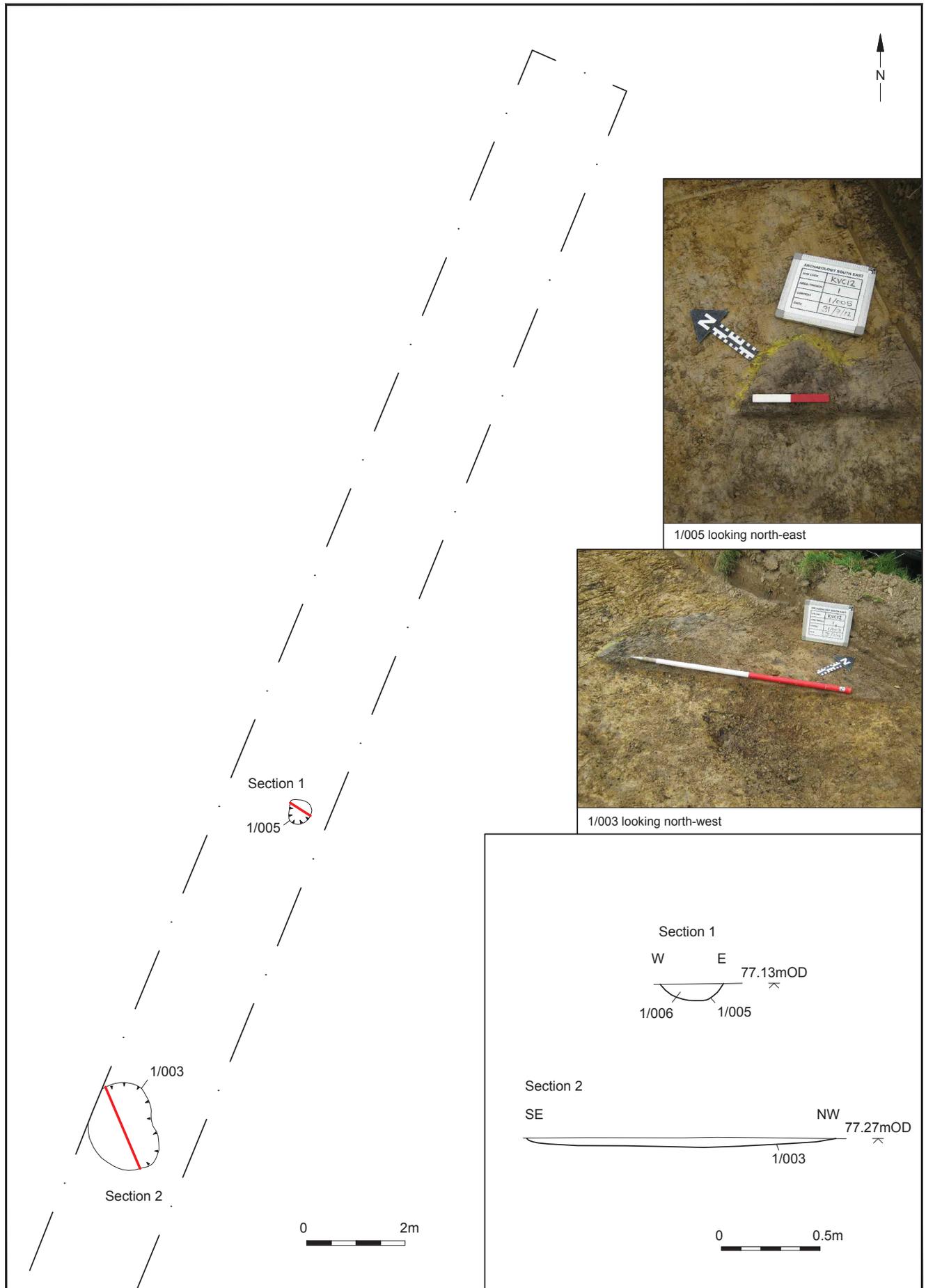


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Report Ref: 2012171	Drawn by: JLR		

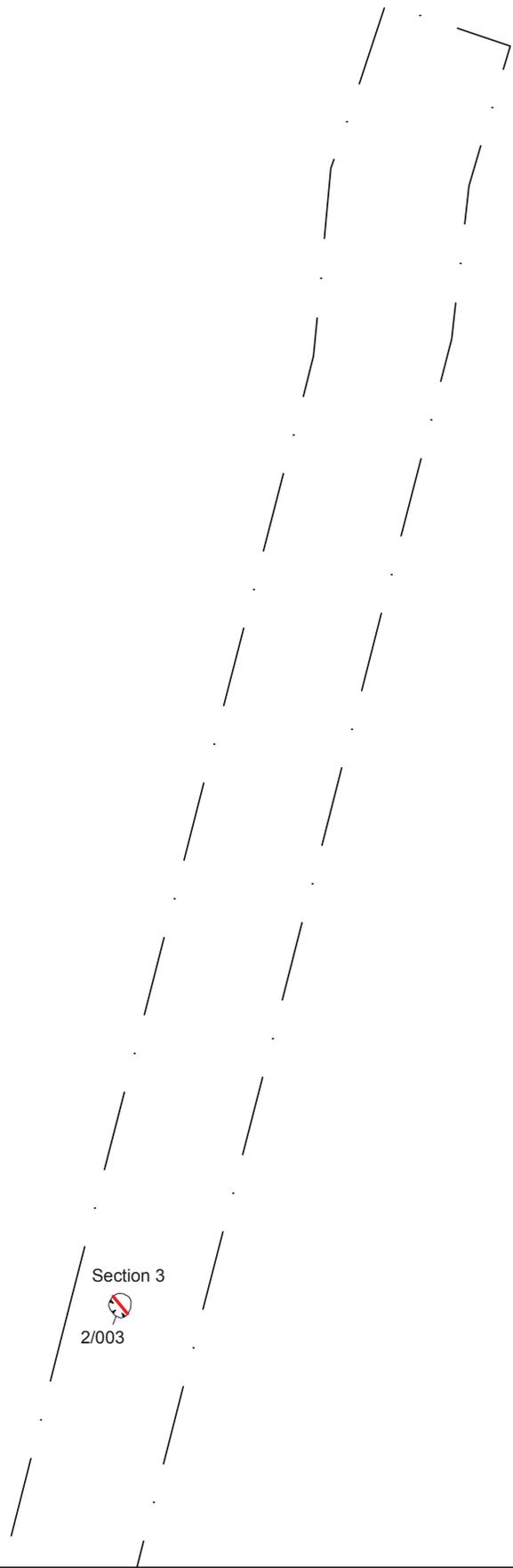
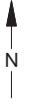


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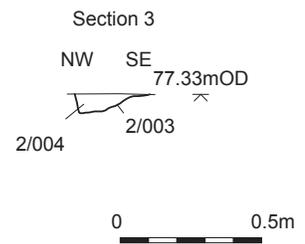
Fig. 2



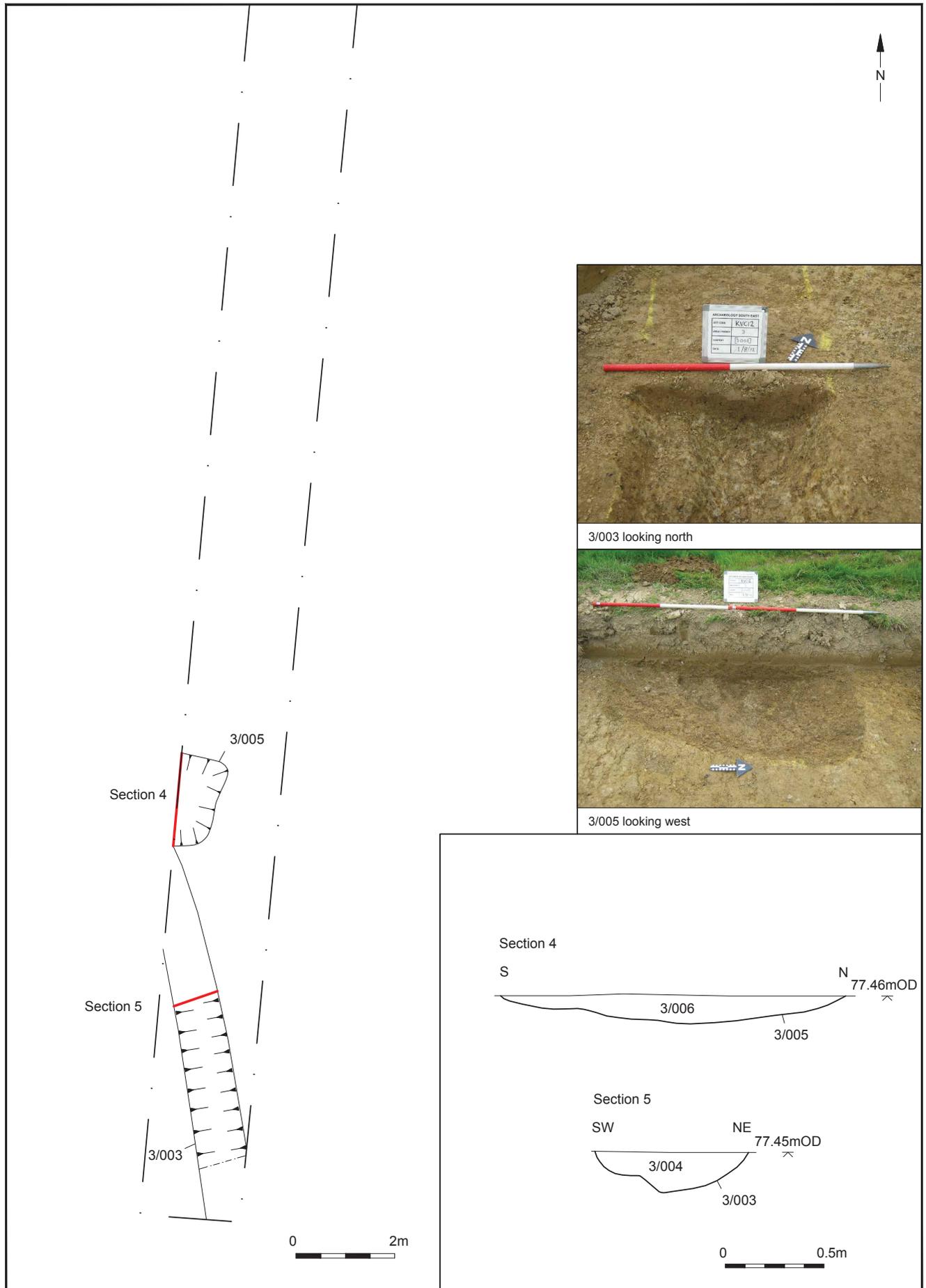
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Project Ref: 5646	Aug 2012	Trench 1: plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		



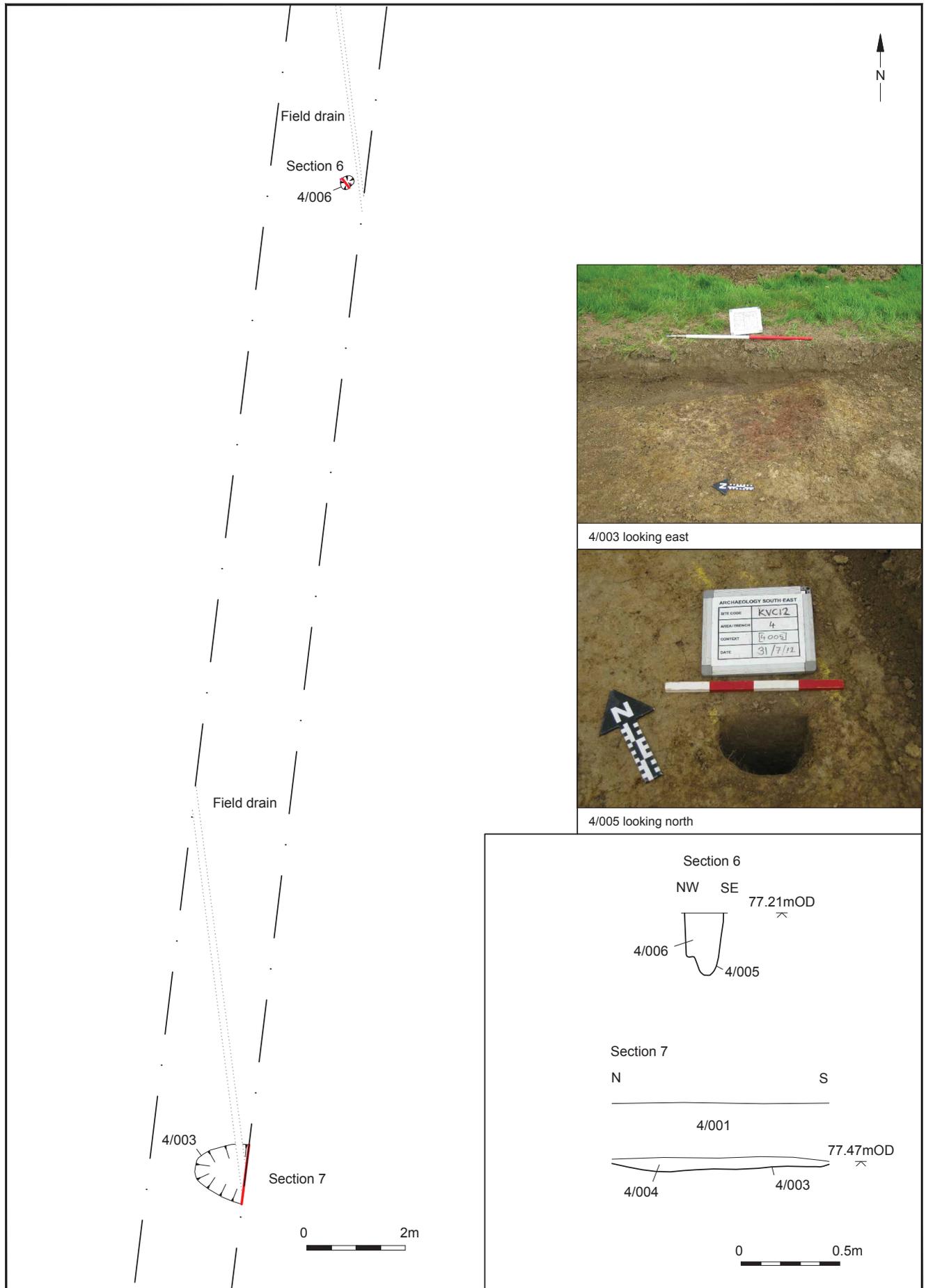
2/003 looking north-east



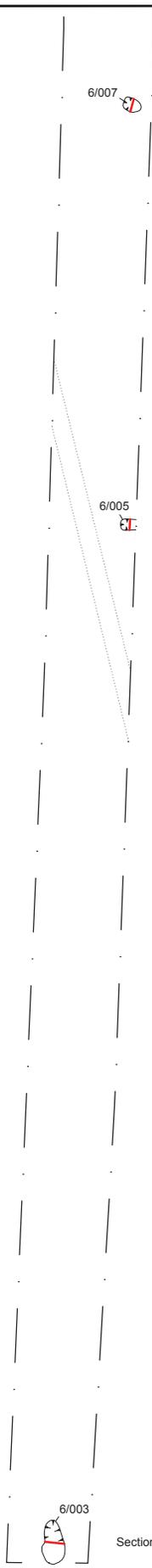
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Project Ref: 5646	Aug 2012	Trench 2: plan, section and photograph	
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Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		



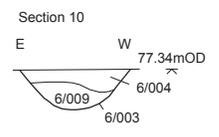
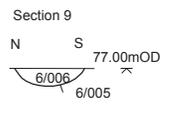
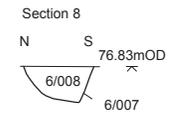
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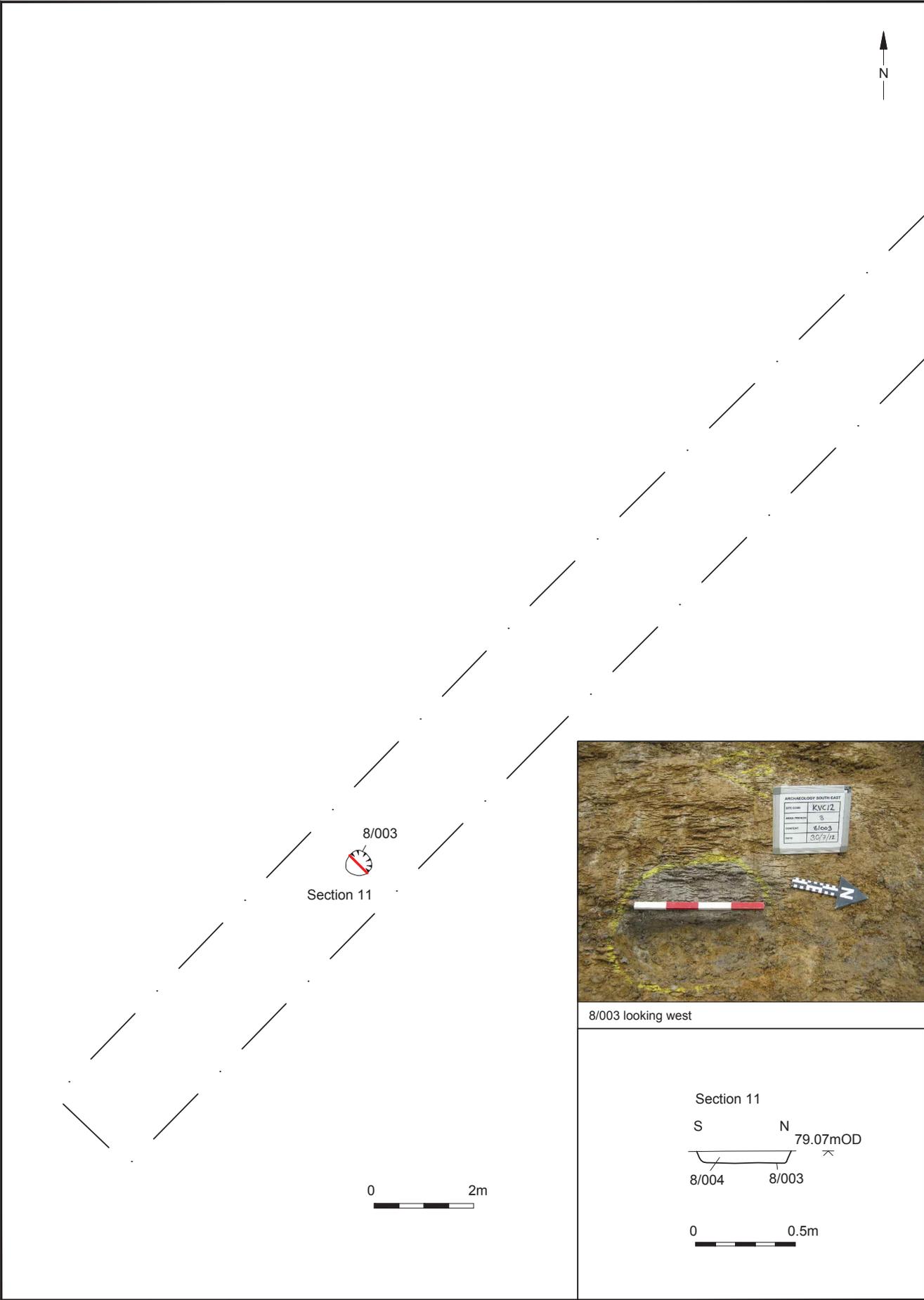


6/005 looking east

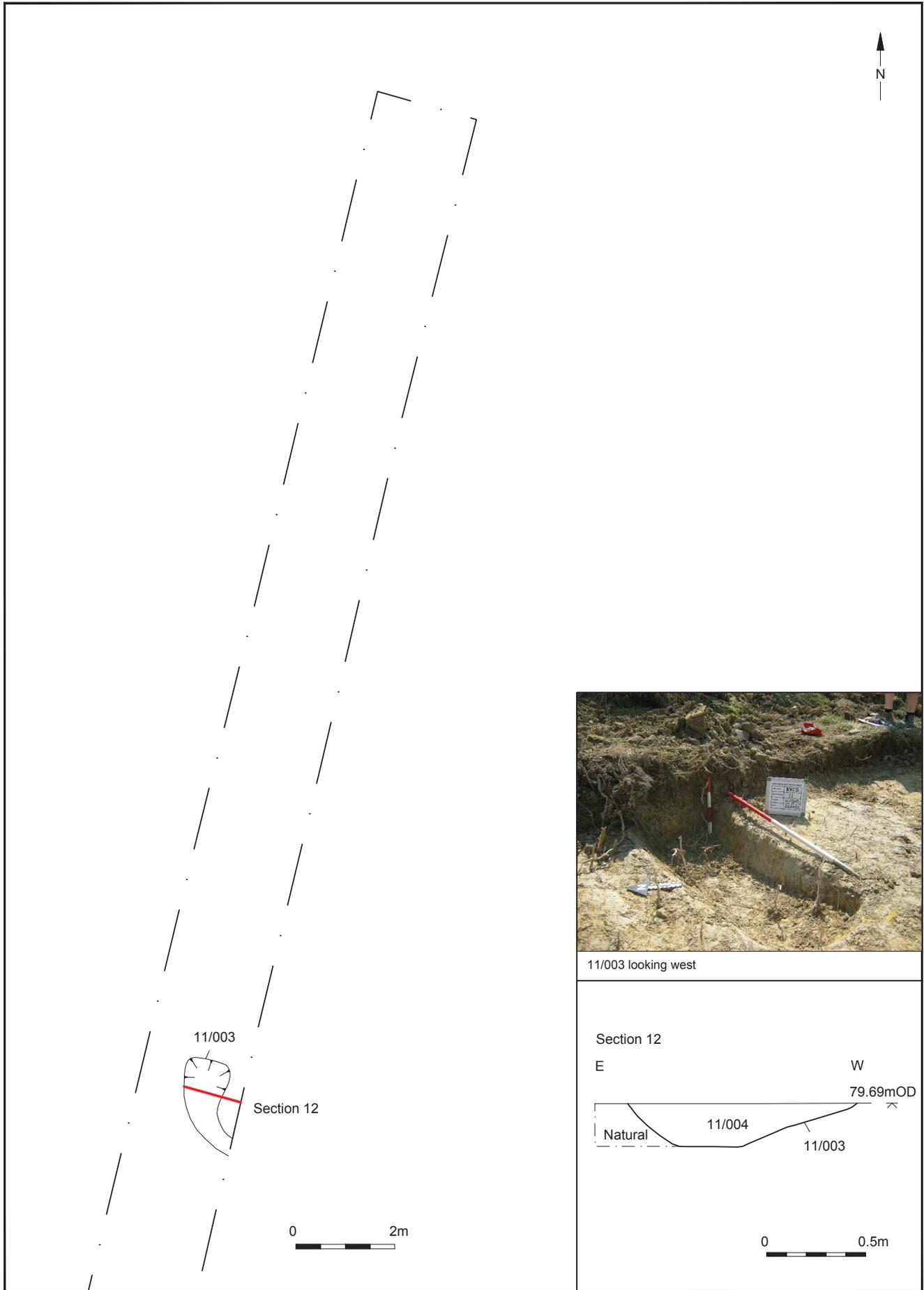


6/003 looking south





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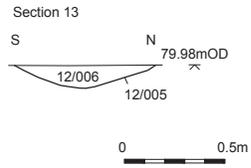


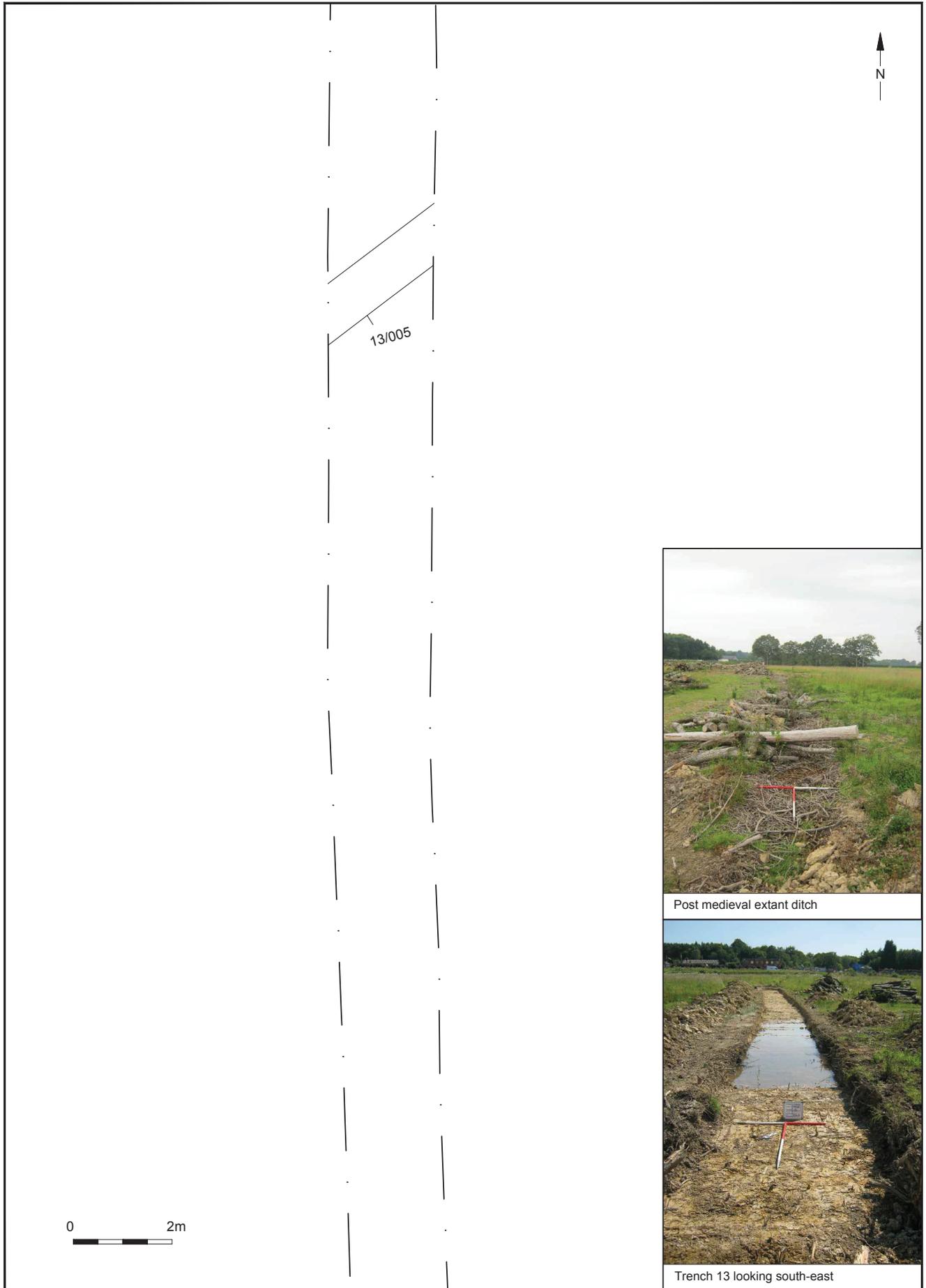
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12/005

12/003

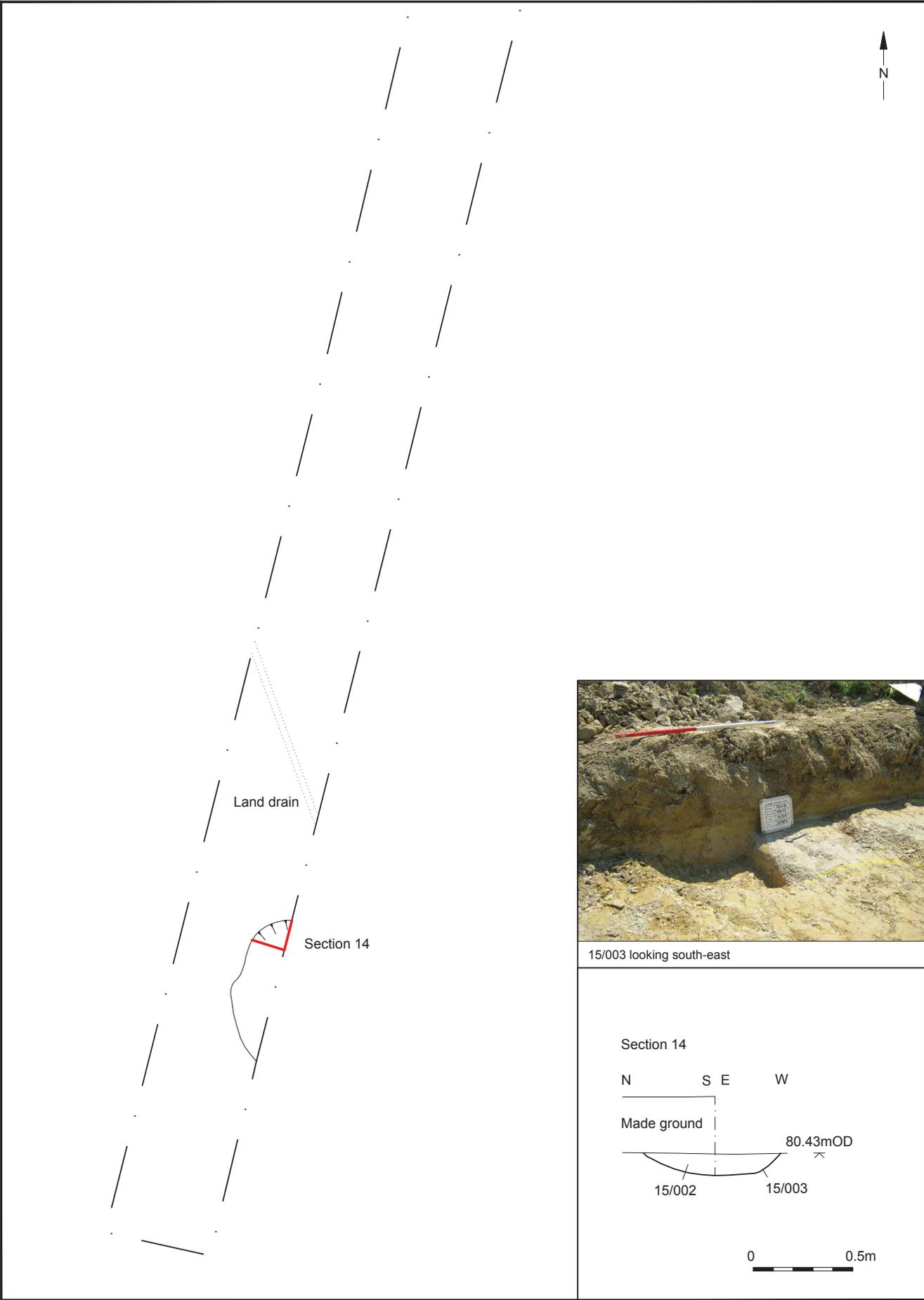


12/005 looking north

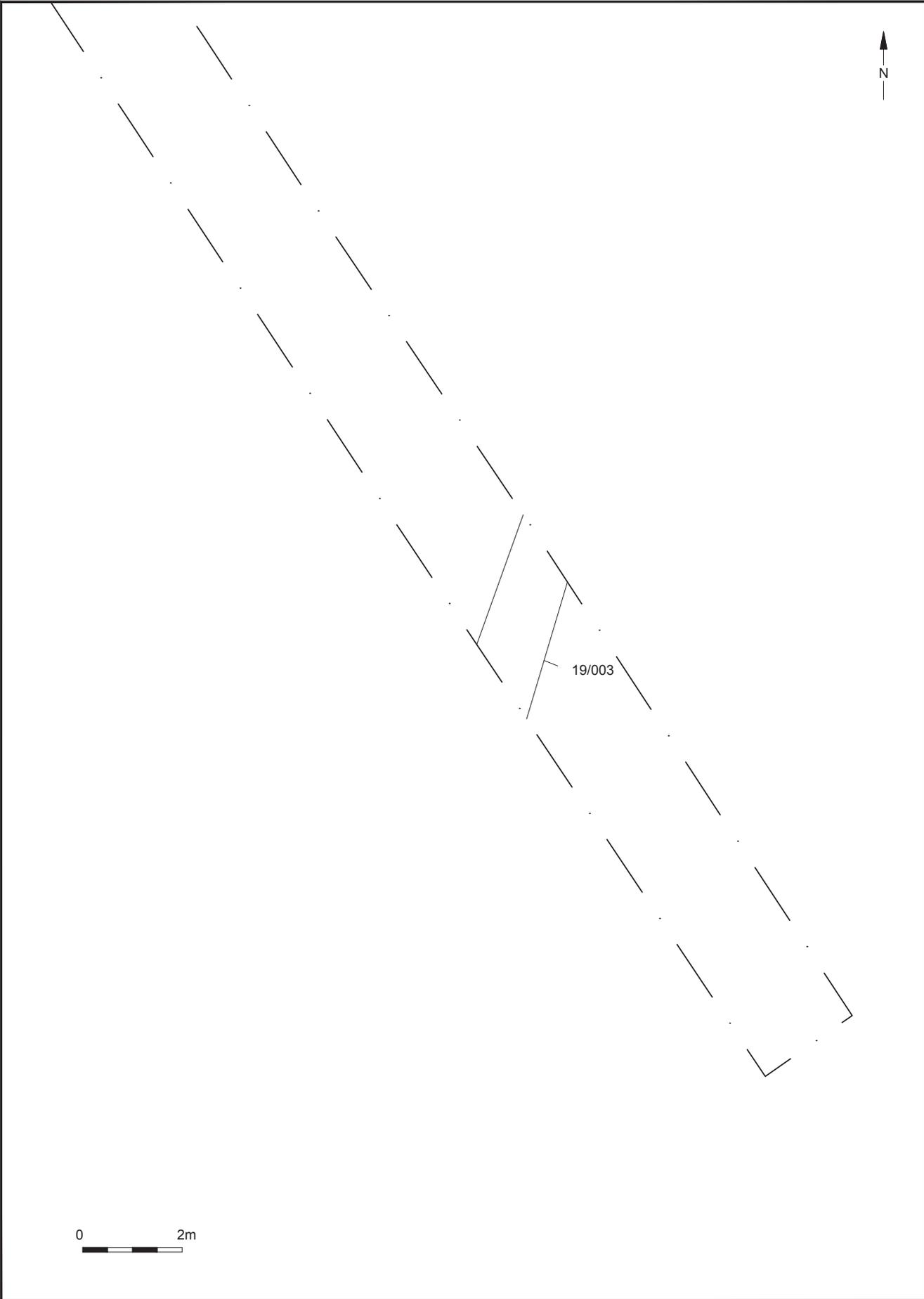




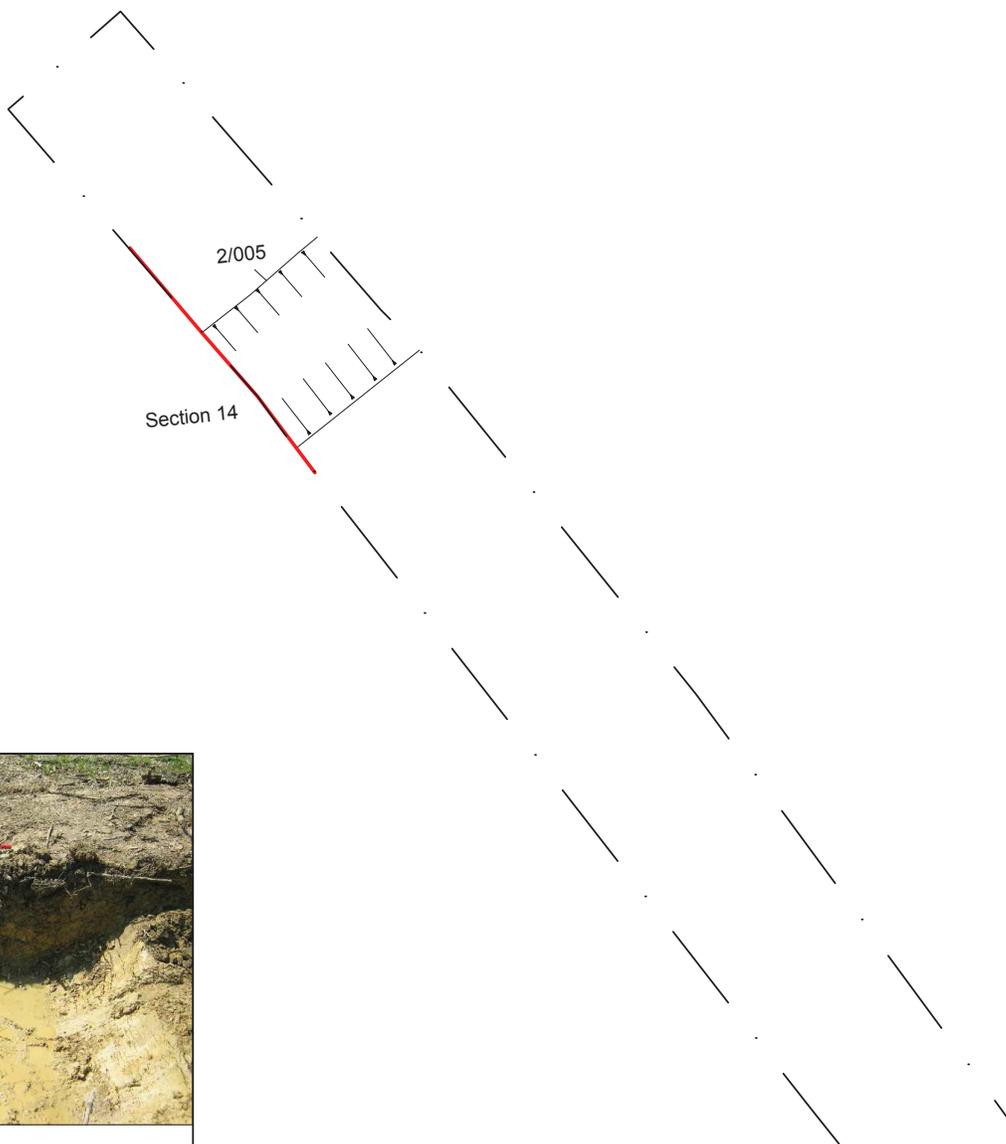
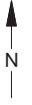
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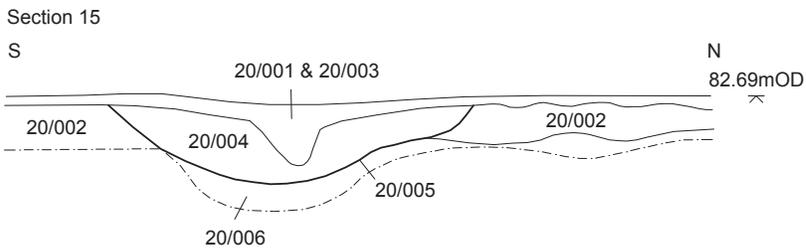
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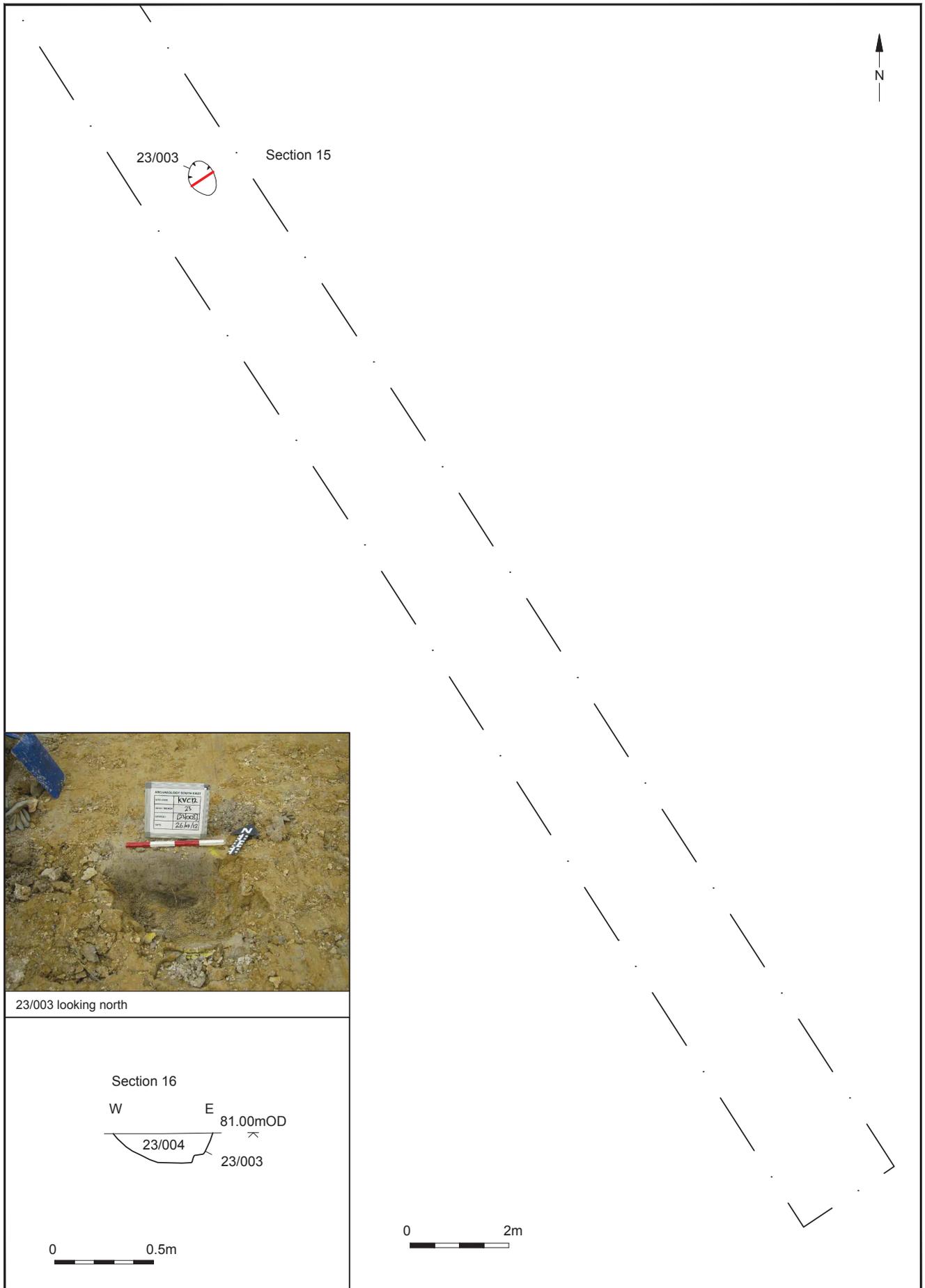
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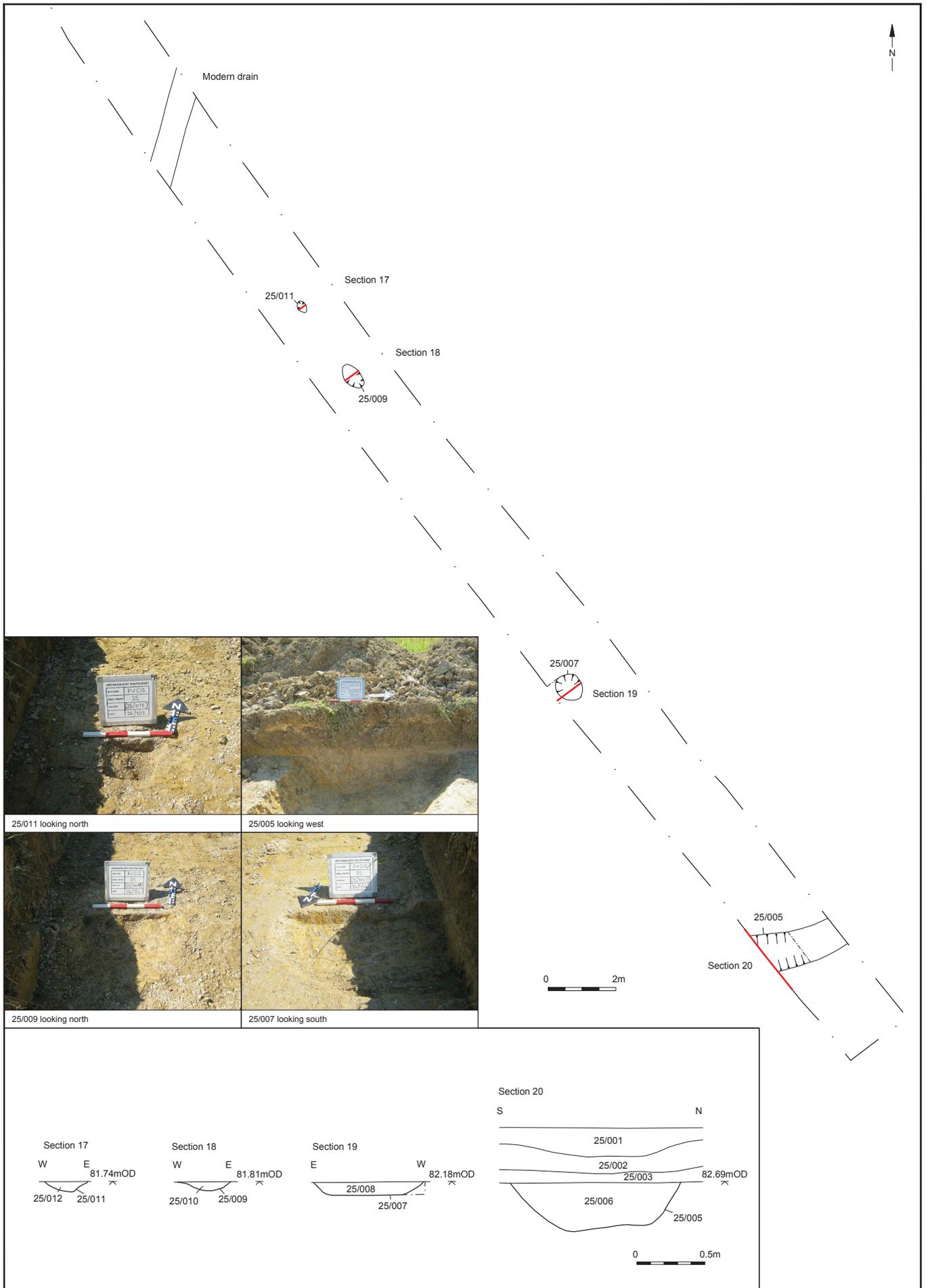
20/005 looking west



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