

**Archaeological Evaluation Report  
Kings Way, Burgess Hill, West Sussex**

**NGR 53293 11869  
(TQ 3293 1869)**

**Mid Sussex District Council Planning Ref. 12/01532/OUT**

**ASE Project No: 6080  
Site Code: KWB13**

**ASE Report No: 2013125  
OASIS ID: archaeol6-151886**



**By Giles Dawkes BA MIFA**

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**By Giles Dawkes BA MIFA  
With contributions by Luke Barber  
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**June 2013**

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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by The Sunley Group Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land east of Kings Way, Burgess Hill, West Sussex. A total of 94 trial trenches of varying lengths were mechanically excavated across the site. The trenches were located to target geophysical anomalies identified during a previous magnetometer survey.*

*The most obvious finding of the evaluation was the near complete absence of archaeological features and finds from the site. Of the 94 trenches, two field boundary ditches and a small undated linear feature were the only remains identified. The earliest find from the site was residual later 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> century roof tile from a 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century ditch. This may derive from one of the early post-medieval buildings known to have stood in the vicinity.*

*Of the three ditches identified, only one contained datable finds. However considering the form and location of the other two, these are more than likely also former post-medieval land divisions. In conclusion, before enclosure in the late medieval/post-medieval period the site seems to have been woodland lacking any substantial human activity.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East, the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, was commissioned by The Sunley Group Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land east of Kings Way, Burgess Hill, West Sussex (NGR TQ 3293 1869; Fig. 1).

### **1.2 Topography and Geology**

1.2.1 The site is irregular in shape and is bound by residential development to the southwest and northwest, and by the unenclosed scrub and rough grazing of Ditchling Common Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) to the east.

1.2.2 According to current data from the British Geological Survey, the underlying bedrock is the Weald Clay formation; no superficial deposits have been recorded in the area (BGS 2013).

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 Proposals for the construction of c. 480 residential units and associated infrastructure have been submitted to Mid Sussex District Council (Ref.: 12/01532/OUT). An archaeological Desk Based Assessment (PAC 2009) and a geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2012) had previously been carried out at the site. Having considered these reports, West Sussex County Council, who provide archaeological advice to Mid Sussex District Council, recommended that a programme of archaeological trial trenching be undertaken as a condition of planning consent

The wording of the condition reads as follows:

*'No development on any phase or sub phase of the development shall commence (unless otherwise approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority) until a programme of archaeological work including an Archaeological Mitigation Strategy for the whole site and a Written Scheme of Investigation for that phase or sub phase has been submitted to and approved in writing. The scheme shall include research questions; and*

- 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
- 2. The programme for post investigation assessment*
- 3. Provision to be made for analysis of the archaeological archive arising from the site investigation and recording*
- 4. Provision to be made for the compilation and appropriate conservation of the archaeological site archive and insofar as may be reasonably practicable its deposition in an appropriate museum or publicly accessible repository.*
- 5. Nomination of a competent person or persons or organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation*

*No development shall take place other than in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation.*

*REASON: In order to ensure that archaeological features on the site will be properly recorded before and during development'.*

- 1.3.2 In accordance with the planning condition, a Written Scheme of Investigation was submitted to and approved by West Sussex County Council in advance of the archaeological trial-trenching (ASE 2013).

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

- 1.4.1 The evaluation aimed 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.

- 1.4.2 The evaluation also sought 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 presented an opportunity to address the following objectives:

- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits and finds and in particular to determine whether anomalies identified in the geophysical survey correspond with buried archaeological features (Wessex Archaeology 2012)
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development.
- To enable the West Sussex County Council archaeologist to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further mitigation work.

- 1.4.4 Specific research aims for the investigation sought to establish:

- Is there evidence for Mesolithic/Neolithic activity, similar to the hunting camp found to the north of the site?
- Is there any evidence of Bronze Age settlement activity; how does this activity relate to the hoard found to the east of the site.
- Is there any evidence of Iron Age/Roman activity on the site, specifically associated with iron working? How does this activity inform on the accepted theories about the Low Weald during this period?
- Is there any evidence of the medieval settlement of Frekebergh?
- Is there any evidence of the perceived change in land use towards the end of the medieval period with the land being enclosed and possibly used as a Baronial hunting chase?
- Is there any evidence of the farmsteads and buildings noted on cartographic sources from the 18th and 19th centuries?

## **1.5 Scope of Report**

- 1.5.1 The current report provides the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out in May 2013. The on-site work was undertaken by Giles Dawkes (Senior Archaeologists) and by John Cook (Archaeological Surveyor). The project was managed by Andy Leonard (Project Manager) and by Dan Swift (Post-Excavation Manager).



## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 The following information is largely taken from the Desk Based Assessment and is reproduced here with due acknowledgement (PAC 2009).

### **2.2 Earlier Prehistory**

2.2.1 A possible Mesolithic/early Neolithic hunting camp has been identified 350m to the north-east of the site at the confluence of two streams. A large quantity of prehistoric worked flint (10% of which were implements) was recovered during a watching brief at Malthouse Farm on the southwest edge of Burgess Hill. These are thought to be late Neolithic/early Bronze Age in date, as were several sherds of pottery that were also recovered from the site. Several circular/oval features are thought to be of the same period. Charcoal from one of the features was carbon dated to the Early Bronze Age. Additionally a Bronze Age hoard has been found at Ditchling Common 250m east of the site, comprising bronze ingots and a socketed axe.

### **2.3 Later Prehistory**

2.3.1 Specialist use of the Weald in the later prehistoric period is exemplified by the often small-scale bloomery based beginnings of the Wealden iron industry in the mid and late Iron Age, located predominantly in the Low Weald. However, as was the case at Broadfield, near Crawley, such undertakings could cover a substantial area (although much of this iron working site dated to the Roman period).

### **2.4 Roman**

2.4.1 The Roman road running west from Barcombe Mills is located to the south of the site. However, the Low Weald north of this feature is almost devoid of evidence for contemporary settlement or other activity, with the exception of iron-working sites, although the great majority of these are located in the High Weald. Likewise, the line of the Roman Road from London to Brighton runs to the west of the site.

2.4.2 A roman earthenware vessel is recorded as being found 900m west of the site, Romano-British pottery was found during work 350m north of the site.

### **2.5 Saxon and Medieval**

2.5.1 The modern town of Burgess Hill developed in an area formerly occupied by the commons and demesne woodland belonging to the settlements of Clayton, Keymer and Ditchling. The site itself would have been located in farmland enclosed from an area formerly known as 'Frekebergh', a large tract of woodland or free chase belonging to the lords of Lewes barony and possibly originating as a Saxon hunting ground. The earliest reference to Frekebergh is in a charter of 1090. Its precise boundaries are not known, but it originally laid partly within the manor and parish of Ditchling and partly within the manor and parish of Keymer. The east boundary appears to have

run along what is now the west edge of Ditchling Common, and was subsequently adopted as the east edge of Burgess Hill in 1934, and later still as the county boundary.

- 2.5.2 Enclosure and clearance of woodland began early in the medieval period, and by c.1450 only 200-250 acres of free chase were left. This seems to have occurred earlier on the east side (i.e. that part in which the site is located); the land may have remained open into the Tudor period on the west. In addition to the lack of precision over the boundaries of Frekebergh, there is similarly little data on its composition. Whether it was woodland in the sense of a coppice and standard wood or more a wood-pasture (or a mixture of both) is not known.

## **2.6 Post-Medieval**

- 2.6.1 The settlement along the west side of Ditchling Common may have originated in the late medieval period, although only one extant building is of late medieval date. Elsewhere in 'Burgess Hill' in the 16th century, settlement would have consisted of a ring of cottages around the commons (e.g. St John's), and this remained little changed until the enclosures of the 19th century. The present day settlement started to develop with the advent of a permanent railway station in 1844, which in effect gave its name to the town. The term 'Burgess Hill' referred specifically to a hill close to the later location for the railway station.
- 2.6.2 The Tithe map records an enclosed landscape that probably remained little changed from the 16th and 17th centuries and perhaps to some extent from the late medieval period. Many of its component features are still extant today, although the Railway has cut across the historic grain of the land and the growth of Burgess Hill has replaced small, hedged fields with residential estates and the Keymer Brickworks to the east and north of the site.
- 2.6.3 Originally, the enclosure boundaries were likely to have been relatively insignificant features and are now defined more by the hedges and trees that grow on them than by the earthworks themselves. In combination they document the transformation from open woodland to enclosed farmland and are an important component of, and to a great degree define the character of, the historic landscape in the region. As such their historic value lies more in the landscape character they have created and the changes they record than in any archaeological data that may be preserved in their structure.
- 2.6.4 Integral to the historic landscape are the farms and homesteads from which it was farmed, as well as ancillary buildings such as barns that were located around farmyards or spread through the landscape. These farmsteads are likely to be contemporary with the transformation from open woodland/common to enclosed farmland and some, e.g. Pollards Farm, may have their origins in the medieval period.

- 2.6.5 Comparison of modern surveys with the 1843 Tithe map indicates that although the location of farmsteads etc. remains broadly the same across the site today, there are significant changes in detail from the earlier maps. At least two buildings are recorded on the extreme north edge of the site that are no longer extant as above ground remains. One building may not be located within the site, but this does not appear to be the case for the second. The buildings in the former 'Sawyers Land Farm' have become subsumed in what is now the Ditchling Common Stud. The buildings that made up a homestead and were later known as 'Little Inholmes', have been substantially altered. The structures on the west side of the plot appear to be no longer extant as above ground remains, although this could not be verified by a site visit. It was not possible to establish the extent to which historic fabric is retained within Freckborough Manor. A modern house, 'Trendlewood', has been constructed immediately to the south. The Cottage at Pollards Farm appears to be unchanged; the house to the north is a more recent addition. There appears to be a building recorded to the west of The Cottage, Pollards Farm; and Folders Lane Cottage appears to be unchanged. Two of these buildings, Folders Lane Gate Cottage and The Cottage, Pollards farm are listed.
- 2.6.7 In light of the established history of the site it seems likely that all of the settlements within the site are of at least 16th or 17th century origin, and some are probably earlier. However, it has not been possible to determine the exact extent to which historic buildings and structures have survived through to the modern era, although where buildings recorded on the Tithe map are no longer visible it is possible that traces remain below ground.

## **2.7 Previous Investigations**

- 2.7.1 The geophysical survey carried out on the site found a number of discrete features of probable and possible archaeological origin. A post medieval boundary ditch seen on historic maps was also recorded; a number of other probable field boundaries were also noted.

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

3.1.1 The archaeological methodology was originally set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation which was prepared with reference to the WSCC *Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions* (WSCC 2007). All work will be carried out in accordance with those documents and the relevant *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2009).

#### **3.2 Excavation**

3.2.1 The proposed fieldwork methodology comprised the mechanical excavation of 98 trenches measuring between 10m and 50m x 2m. The trenches were predominantly targeted on anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2012).

3.2.2 Ecological and service constraints as well as existing buildings meant that some modification of the trench layout shown on Figure 2 of the WSI (ASE 2013) was made. There was also a reduction in the number of trenches from 98 to 94. Trench 21 could not be excavated due to overhead power lines; Trench 21 because of trees and Trenches 49 and 50 because they were proposed within a protected ecological zone on the east of the site. The finalised trench layout is shown on Figures 2-5.

3.2.3 The location of each of the trenches was scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. The trenches were then excavated by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under the constant supervision of staff from Archaeology South-East.

3.2.4 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 archaeological features. Spoil was scanned for the presence of artefacts, both visually and with a metal detector.

3.2.5 The finds collection, sampling and processing strategy was in line with that described in the WSI (ASE 2013).

#### **3.3 Recording**

3.3.1 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded to accepted professional standards using standard Archaeology South-East context record forms. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.

3.3.2 Trenches were laid out and all features were surveyed using GPS planning technology. Sections were drawn on drafting film at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate. A full photographic record of the work was also kept.

### 3.4 Archive

3.4.1 The site archive is currently held by Archaeology South-East at the offices in Portslade. The archive consists of the following material:

Number of Contexts	210
Trench Record Forms	105
No. of files/paper record	110
Plan and sections sheets	2
Bulk Samples	0
Photographs	110
Bulk finds	1 box
Registered finds	-
Environmental flots/residue	-

Table 1: Quantification of Site Archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Ninety-four trenches were excavated across Areas A – Z (Figures 2-5).

### 4.2 Blank Trenches

4.1.1 The vast majority of trenches (91 of 94) were devoid of archaeological features and finds, and on excavation, the targeted geophysical anomalies were discovered to be variations in the natural Weald Clay geology.

4.1.2 The stratigraphy in these trenches was without exception a thin layer of topsoil (generally between 0.15m and 0.25m thick) overlying the natural clay. For a complete list of the negative trenches see Appendix A.

4.1.3 A field boundary ditch was apparent in Trenches 51, 52 and 55 and its profile could still be discerned as an extant landscape feature. However, before the hand excavation of this feature could be undertaken the trenches filled with water and no further work was possible.

### 4.2 Trench 64 (Figure 6)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
64/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m
64/002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
64/003	Fill	Gully Fill	Tr.	0.67m	0.2m
64/004	Cut	Gully	Tr.	0.67m	

Table 2: List of Recorded Contexts in Trench 64

4.2.1 The natural clay, [64/002], was encountered at c. 44.31m AOD.

4.2.2 Cut into the clay was gully [64/004], aligned north-south with shallow concave sides and filled by brown silt clay, [64/003], with no finds. This feature was parallel and at right-angles to the existing field boundaries and may have been a former subdivision.

4.2.3 The feature was sealed by topsoil [64/001].

### 4.3 Trench 75 (Figure 7)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
75/001	Cut	Gully	Tr.	0.5m	0.14m
75/002	Fill	Gully fill	Tr.	0.5m	0.14m
75/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
75/004	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m

Table 3: List of Recorded Contexts in Trench 75

- 4.3.1 The natural clay, [75/003], was encountered at c. 47.84m AOD.
- 4.3.2 Cut into the clay was gully [75/001], aligned east-west with shallow concave sides and filled by yellow brown silt clay, [75/002]. The gully was slightly dog-legged in plan and the fill contained a single piece of fire-cracked flint. The date and function of this feature are uncertain: it may be a post-medieval field boundary or represent an earlier, possibly prehistoric, division. However, gully fill [75/002] was very similar to post-medieval gully fill [104/005] in Field Z to the south and this may suggest a contemporary date.
- 4.3.3 The feature was sealed by topsoil [75/004].

### 4.4 Trench 104 (Figure 8)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
104/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.3m
104/002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
104/003	VOID				
104/004	Cut	Gully	Tr.	1.3m	0.25m
104/005	Fill	Gully fill	Tr.	1.3m	0.25m

Table 4: List of Recorded Contexts in Trench 75

- 4.4.1 The natural clay, [104/002], was encountered at c. 47.02m OD.
- 4.4.2 Cut into the clay was gully [104/004], aligned north-south with shallow concave sides and filled by yellow brown silt clay, [104/005]. The fill contained finds of late medieval/early post-medieval CBM and glass, and a single sherd of 19<sup>th</sup> century/early 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery. This feature was parallel and at right-angles to the existing field boundaries and may have been a former subdivision.
- 4.4.3 The feature was sealed by topsoil [104/001].

## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small finds assemblage was recovered during the evaluation (Table 5). Finds have been washed and dried and were quantified by count and weight. Pieces were bagged by material and context. No further conservation is required.

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	CBM (kg)
104/005	1	14	1	8	1	8	3.932
75/002			1	4			

Table 5: Quantification of the finds

### 5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The evaluation recovered a single piece of post-Roman pottery from the site (context [104/005]). This consists of part of the simple rim from an unglazed earthenware dish of 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

### 5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Sue Pringle

5.3.1 A total of thirteen items of ceramic building materials weighing 1.966 kg was examined from one context, [104/005]. The assemblage consisted of post-medieval brick, late medieval or early post-medieval roof tile and fired clay and daub. The total weight and number of fragments in each category is set out in Table 6.

Material	No. of items	Weight kg.
Post-medieval brick	2	1.640
Fired clay/daub	7	0.168
Peg tile	4	0.158
Total	13	1.966

Table 6: Summary of building materials

5.3.2 All the ceramic building material was recorded on a standard recording form. Tile was quantified by form, weight and fragment count and the information was entered onto an Excel spreadsheet. Only material of interest was retained.

5.3.3 The latest material in [104/005] was the post-medieval brick, which probably dated from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The peg tiles were probably of late medieval or early post-medieval date. The daub and fired clay were not datable, but may have been residual from earlier periods; the fired clay may have been of prehistoric origin although confirmation of this would be required.



Post-medieval bricks

- 5.3.4 An unfrosted brick with smooth flat sides and sharp arrises, dimensions c. 125+ mm x 103 mm x 64 mm, was recorded in an orange fabric containing very coarse pale silty inclusions and dark red iron-rich material. There was glassy vitrification on all surfaces, including the broken face, suggesting that it had been burnt post-use. Bricks of this type were mainly associated with 18<sup>th</sup> century structures, although it could be a little earlier or later. A second very abraded brick, 60 mm thick, was noted in a similar orange fabric.

Late medieval/post-medieval roof tile

- 5.3.5 Four fragments of peg tile were recorded. Two were very burnt, one of which had a square nail-hole set diagonally. The hole was large, approximately 12 mm square, and slightly rounded, probably dating the tile to the later 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> century. The remaining tile fragments were in a fine micaceous orange fabric with pale grey cores. Apart from their fine moulding sand, there were no features or edges surviving. They are likely to have been early post-medieval in date.

Fired clay and daub

- 5.3.6 Four fragments of fired and reduced clay were present. The clay contained coarse flint flakes (up to c. 5 mm) and common inclusions of medium to very coarse grade iron-rich material, some of which may have been grog. Three fragments of abraded daub in orange and yellow marbled clays were also noted; no features or original surfaces survived.

Summary

- 5.3.7 The material from the site was not particularly well-dated; the roof tile was probably late medieval or early post-medieval and the bricks from the later 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century. The fired clay and daub were probably residual from earlier, possibly prehistoric, periods of occupation but could not be closely dated. There was no indication that any of the building materials were the result of primary deposition.

**5.4 The Glass** by Elke Raemen

- 5.4.1 A single, green glass, wine bottle body fragment was recovered from [104/005]. The piece dates to c. 1650-1750 and probably derives from a shaft-and-globe bottle.

## **6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 6.1 The most obvious finding of the evaluation was the near complete absence of archaeological features and finds from the site. Of the 94 trenches, two field boundary ditches and a small undated linear feature were the only remains identified.
- 6.2 Of the three gullies identified, only one contained datable finds ([104/004]). However considering the form and location of the other two, these are more than likely also former post-medieval land divisions.
- 6.3 Of the more substantial anomalies identified in the geophysical survey a possible north-east south-west aligned linear feature in Field A was not identified in Trench 5. Anomalies in Fields O and P were originally identified as possibly separate features (Wessex Archaeology 2012). In the current fieldwork this feature was identified as a still open ditch. However severe waterlogging in this area made further investigation of this feature impractical. Other less certain anomalies identified by geophysics were all found to be explained by variations in natural geology.
- 6.4 No clear evidence of archaeology pre-dating the post-medieval period was recorded although residual later 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> century roof tile was found in a 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century ditch [104/004]. This may derive from early post-medieval buildings which are known to have stood in the vicinity.
- 6.5 In conclusion, before enclosure in the late medieval or early post-medieval period, the site seems to have been woodland and if it was ever occupied, it was fleeting and left no archaeological trace.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

ASE would like to thank the Sunley Group Ltd for commissioning the archaeological work at the site. Thanks are also due to John Mills, Senior Archaeologist, West Sussex County Council for his guidance throughout the project, and to Guy and John Dudenay.

**HER Summary Form**

Site Code	KWB 13					
Identification Name and Address	Kingsway, Burgess Hill					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 3293 1869					
Geology	Weald Clay					
ASE Project Number	6080					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 07.05.12 - 21.05.12	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Sunley Group Ltd.					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard/Dan Swift					
Project Supervisor	Giles Dawkes					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other		
<p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by The Sunley Group Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land east of Kings Way, Burgess Hill, West Sussex. A total of 94 trial trenches of varying lengths were mechanically excavated across the site. The trenches were located to target geophysical anomalies identified during a previous magnetometer survey.</p> <p>The most obvious finding of the evaluation was the near complete absence of archaeological features and finds from the site. Of the 94 trenches, two field boundary ditches and a small undated linear feature were the only remains identified. The earliest find from the site was residual later 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> century roof tile from a 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century ditch. This may derive from one of the early post-medieval buildings known to have stood in the vicinity.</p> <p>Of the three ditches identified, only one contained datable finds. However considering the form and location of the other two, these are more than likely also former post-medieval land divisions. In conclusion, before enclosure in the late medieval/ post-medieval period the site seems to have been woodland lacking any substantial human activity</p>						

**OASIS Form**

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-151886**

**Project details**

Project name Kingsway, Burgess Hill

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by The Sunley Group Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land east of Kings Way, Burgess Hill, West Sussex. A total of 94 trial trenches of varying lengths were mechanically excavated across the site. The trenches were located to target geophysical anomalies identified during a previous magnetometer survey.

**Short description of the project**

The most obvious finding of the evaluation was the near complete absence of archaeological features and finds from the site. Of the 94 trenches, two field boundary ditches and a small undated linear feature were the only remains identified. The earliest find from the site was residual later 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> century roof tile from a 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century ditch. This may derive from one of the early post-medieval buildings known to have stood in the vicinity.

Of the three ditches identified, only one contained datable finds. However considering the form and location of the other two, these are more than likely also former post-medieval land divisions. In conclusion, before enclosure in the late medieval/post-medieval period the site seems to have been woodland lacking any substantial human activity

Project dates Start: 07-05-2013 End: 21-05-2013

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated project reference codes KWB13 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes 6080 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation

Monument type DITCH Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"

Development type Housing estate

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Position in the planning process Not known / Not recorded

**Project location**

Country England

Site location WEST SUSSEX MID SUSSEX BURGESS HILL Kingsway, Burgess Hill

Postcode RH15 0SE

Study area 10.00 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 3293 1869 50 0 50 57 06 N 000 06 26 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 42.00m Max: 50.00m

**Project creators**

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator West Sussex County Council

Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Giles Dawkes
Type of sponsor/funding body	private client
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Burgess Hill Museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Glass"
Digital Archive recipient	Burgess Hill Museum
Digital Contents	"Ceramics", "Glass", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Burgess Hill Museum
Paper Contents	"Ceramics", "Glass", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report Kings Way, Burgess Hill, West Sussex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Giles Dawkes
Other bibliographic details	2013125
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade
Description	grey report
Entered by	Giles Dawkes (gilesdawkes@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	3 June 2013

**Appendix A: Negative Trenches**

<b>Trench Number</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Deposit Thickness</b>	<b>Height m AOD</b>
1	1/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	43.4
1	1/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
2	2/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	42.51
2	2/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
3	3/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	42.09
3	3/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
4	4/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	43.64
4	4/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
5	5/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	42.65
5	5/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
6	6/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	41.33
6	6/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
7	7/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	39.97
7	7/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
8	8/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	45.03
8	8/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
9	9/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	44.87
9	9/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
10	10/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	46.38
10	10/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
11	11/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	46.58
11	11/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
12	12/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.23	45.53
12	12/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
13	13/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24	44.94
13	13/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
14	14/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	46.28
14	14/002	Layer	Natural Clay		

Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness	Height m AOD
15	15/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	45.43
15	15/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
16	16/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	44.03
16	16/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
17	17/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	44.51
17	17/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
18	18/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	45.35
18	18/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
19	19/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	45.81
19	19/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
22	22/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	43.5
22	22/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
23	23/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	43.57
23	23/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
24	24/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	43.17
24	24/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
25	25/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.23	43.62
25	25/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
26	26/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	42.57
26	26/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
27	27/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26	46.19
27	27/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
28	28/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.19	46.84
28	28/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
29	29/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.21	46.75
29	29/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
33	33/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.18	46.77
33	33/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
34	34/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.21	47.33



Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness	Height m AOD
34	34/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
35	35/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	47.22
35	35/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
36	36/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.21	46.34
36	36/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
37	37/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	45.93
37	37/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
38	38/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	46.49
38	38/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
39	39/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.23	45.99
39	39/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
40	40/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	45.64
40	40/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
41	41/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	46.31
41	41/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
42	42/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.19	46.26
42	42/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
43	43/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	44.75
43	43/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
44	44/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	43.7
44	44/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
45	45/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.4	45.64
45	45/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
46	46/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.35	44.98
46	46/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
47	47/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.4	42.43
47	47/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
48	48/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.4	43.32
48	48/002	Layer	Natural Clay		

Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness	Height m AOD
51	51/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	45.89
51	51/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
52	52/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	45.18
52	52/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
53	53/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	46.03
53	53/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
54	54/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.15	47.15
54	54/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
55	55/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26	44.1
55	55/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
56	56/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.18	43.82
56	56/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
57	57/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	44.04
57	57/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
58	58/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.18	44.13
58	58/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
59	59/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	43.77
59	59/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
60	60/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	44.01
60	60/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
61	61/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	44.39
61	61/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
62	62/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26	44.5
62	62/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
63	63/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24	44.7
63	63/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
65	65/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.1	44.65
65	65/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
66	66/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	44.46

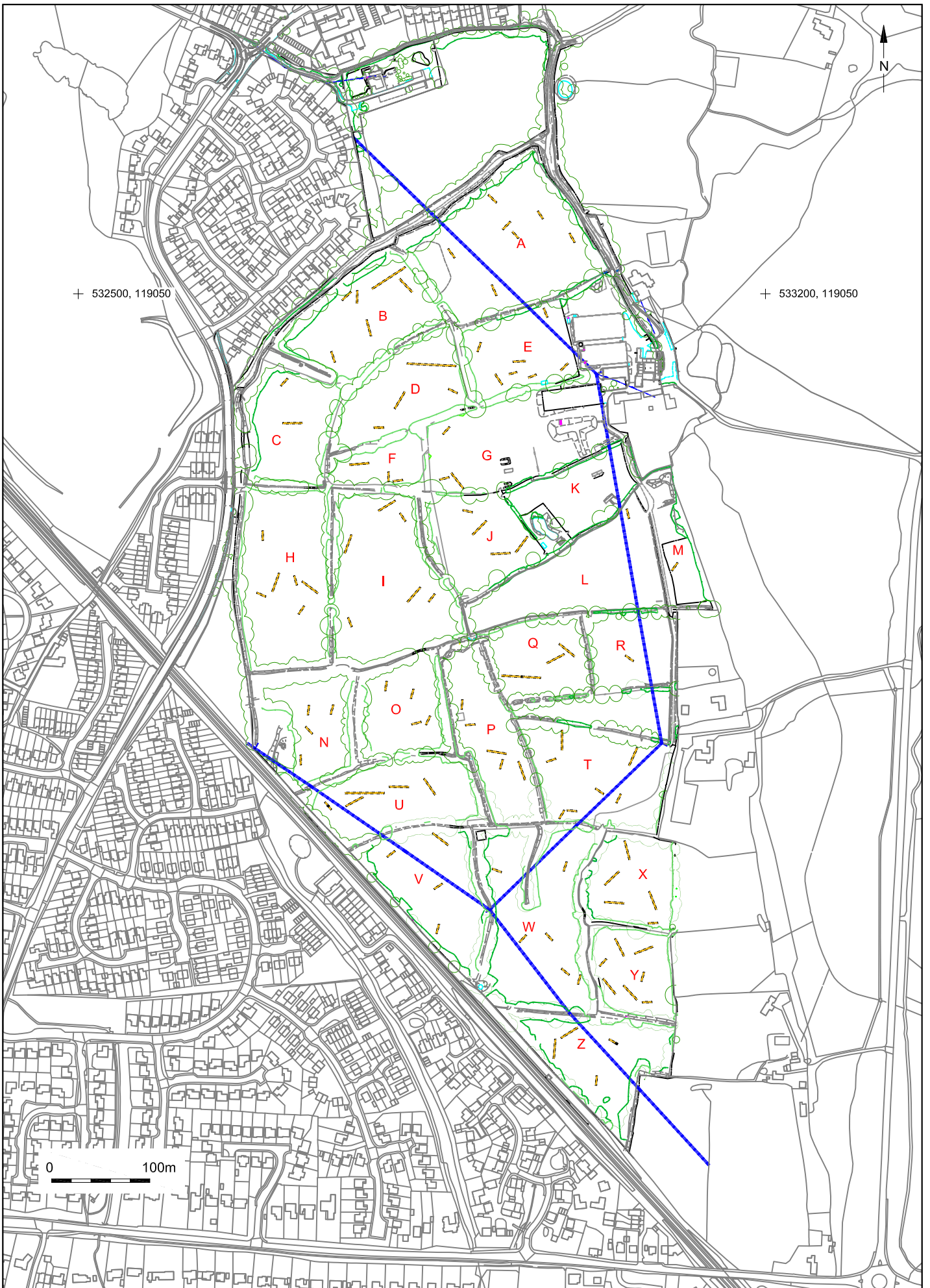
Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness	Height m AOD
66	66/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
67	67/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.21	44.23
67	67/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
68	68/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	45.76
68	68/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
69	69/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	45.64
69	69/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
70	70/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	46.08
70	70/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
71	71/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.35	46.1
71	71/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
72	72/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.35	45.53
72	72/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
73	73/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.4	45.47
73	73/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
74	74/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.4	45.12
74	74/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
76	76/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.4	46.79
76	76/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
77	77/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.35	46.47
77	77/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
78	78/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	45.93
78	78/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
80	80/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	47.46
80	80/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
81	81/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.23	49.46
81	81/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
82	82/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	48.68
82	82/002	Layer	Natural Clay		

Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness	Height m AOD
83	83/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	49.38
83	83/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
84	84/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	46.01
84	84/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
85	85/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	46.94
85	85/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
86	86/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	48.26
86	86/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
87	87/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.38	49.12
87	87/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
88	88/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.14	49.27
88	88/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
89	89/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.15	47.67
89	89/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
90	90/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	47.88
90	90/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
91	91/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24	48.1
91	91/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
92	92/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.18	48.87
92	92/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
93	93/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	48.12
93	93/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
94	94/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.18	48.22
94	94/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
95	95/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29	49.78
95	95/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
96	96/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26	50.26
96	96/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
97	97/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	49.99

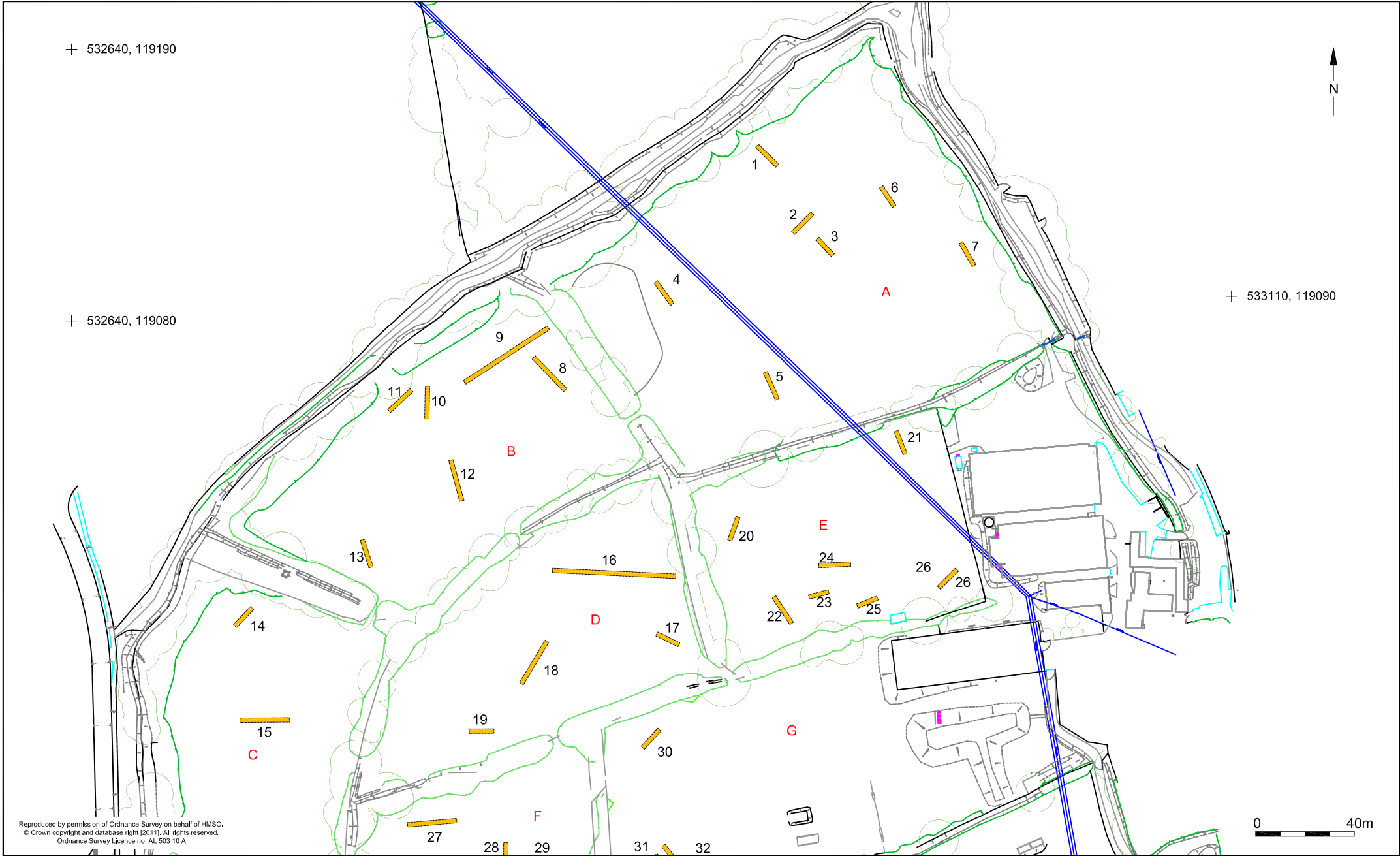
<b>Trench Number</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Deposit Thickness</b>	<b>Height m AOD</b>
97	97/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
98	98/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28	50.3
98	98/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
99	99/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27	49.78
99	99/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
100	100/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27	49.9
100	100/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
101	101/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	49.22
101	101/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
102	102/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	48.46
102	102/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
103	103/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.4	48.14
103	103/002	Layer	Natural Clay		
105	105/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.4	47.65
105	105/002	Layer	Natural Clay		



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Project Ref: 6080	April 2013	Site location	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		



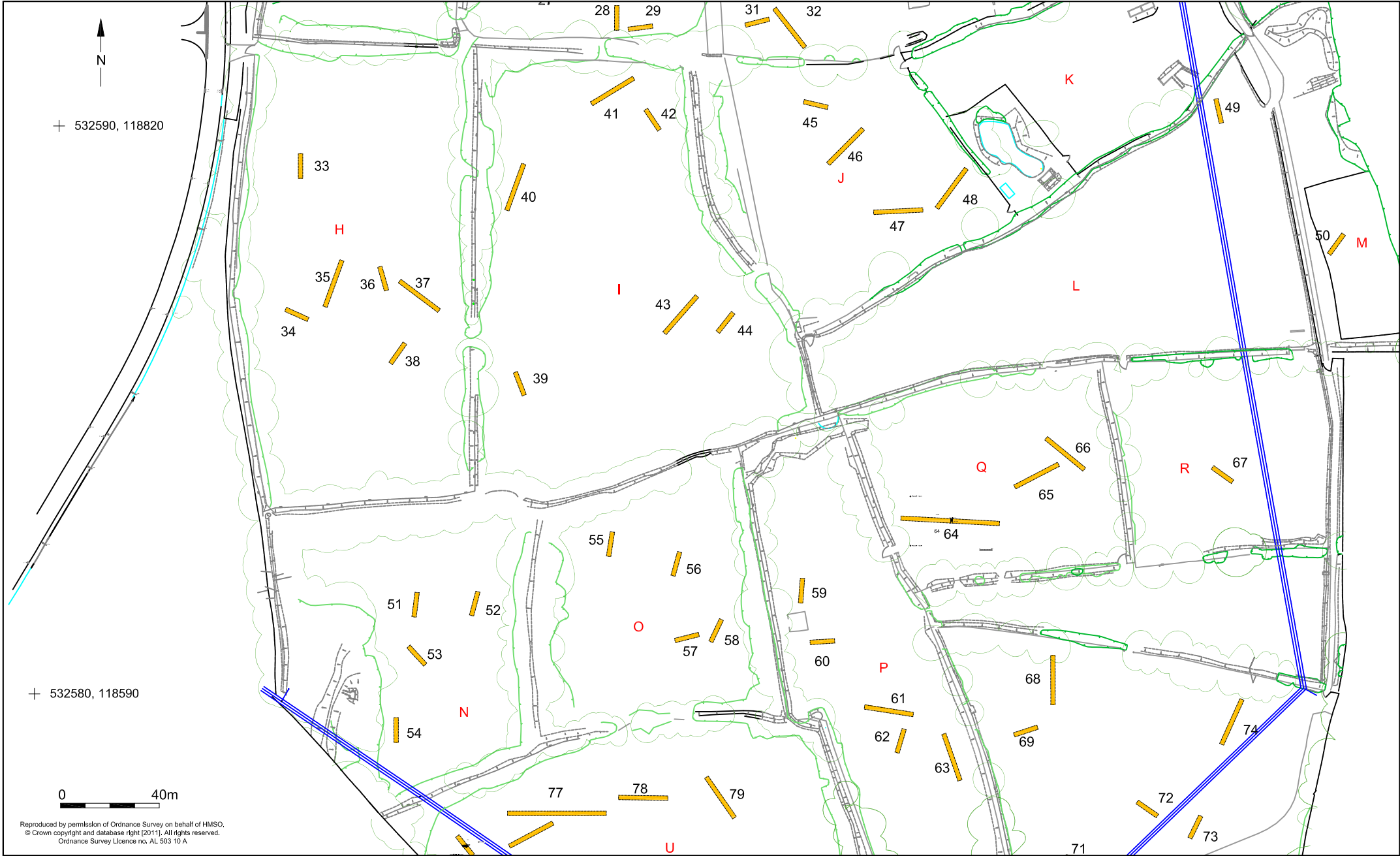
© Archaeology South-East		Burgess Hill, Kingsway Evaluation	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 6080	June 2013	Trench Location	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: RHC/AR		



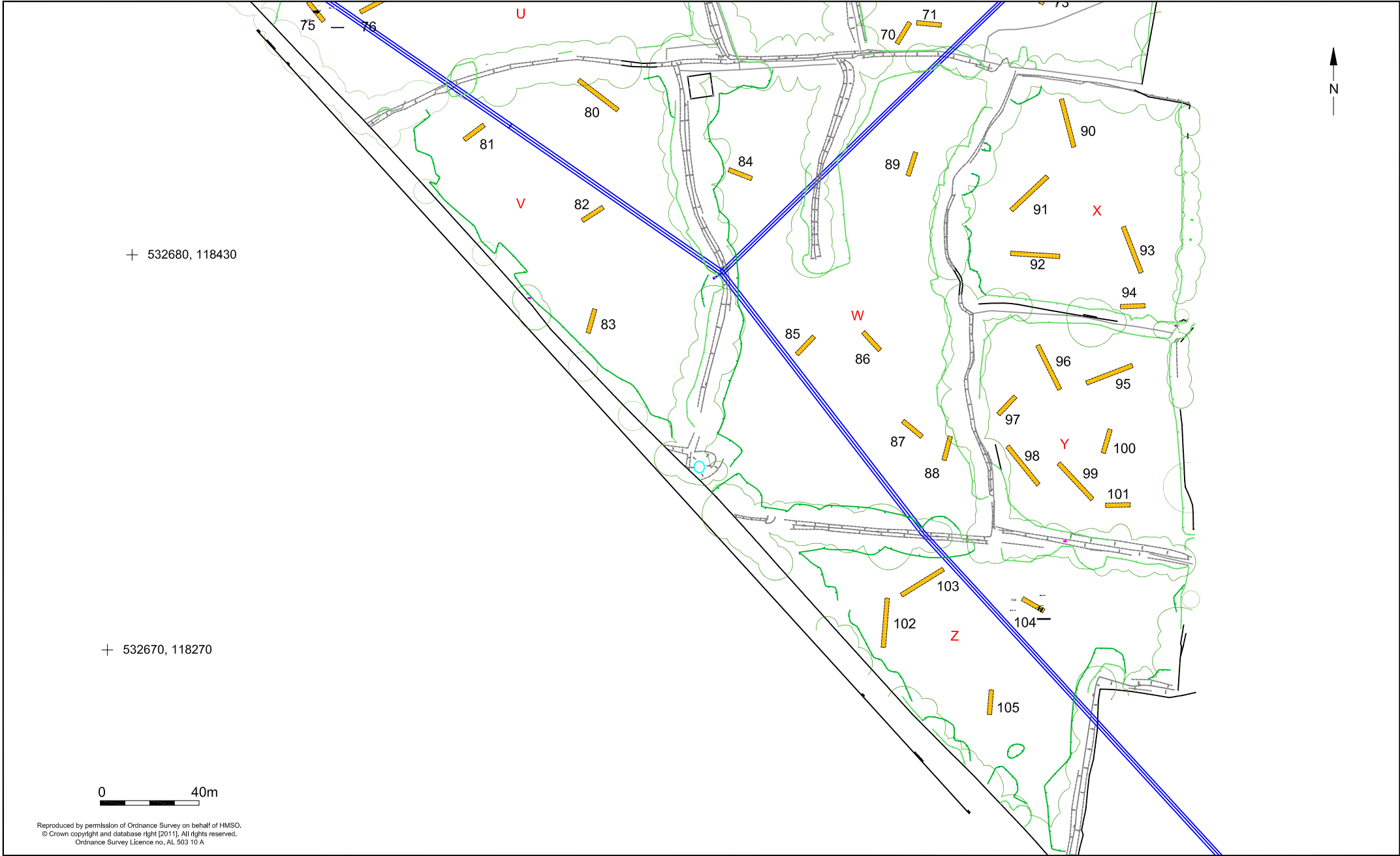
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Project Ref: 6080	June 2013	Area A, B, C, D, E, F, G, K Trench location		
Report Ref:	Drawn by: AR			



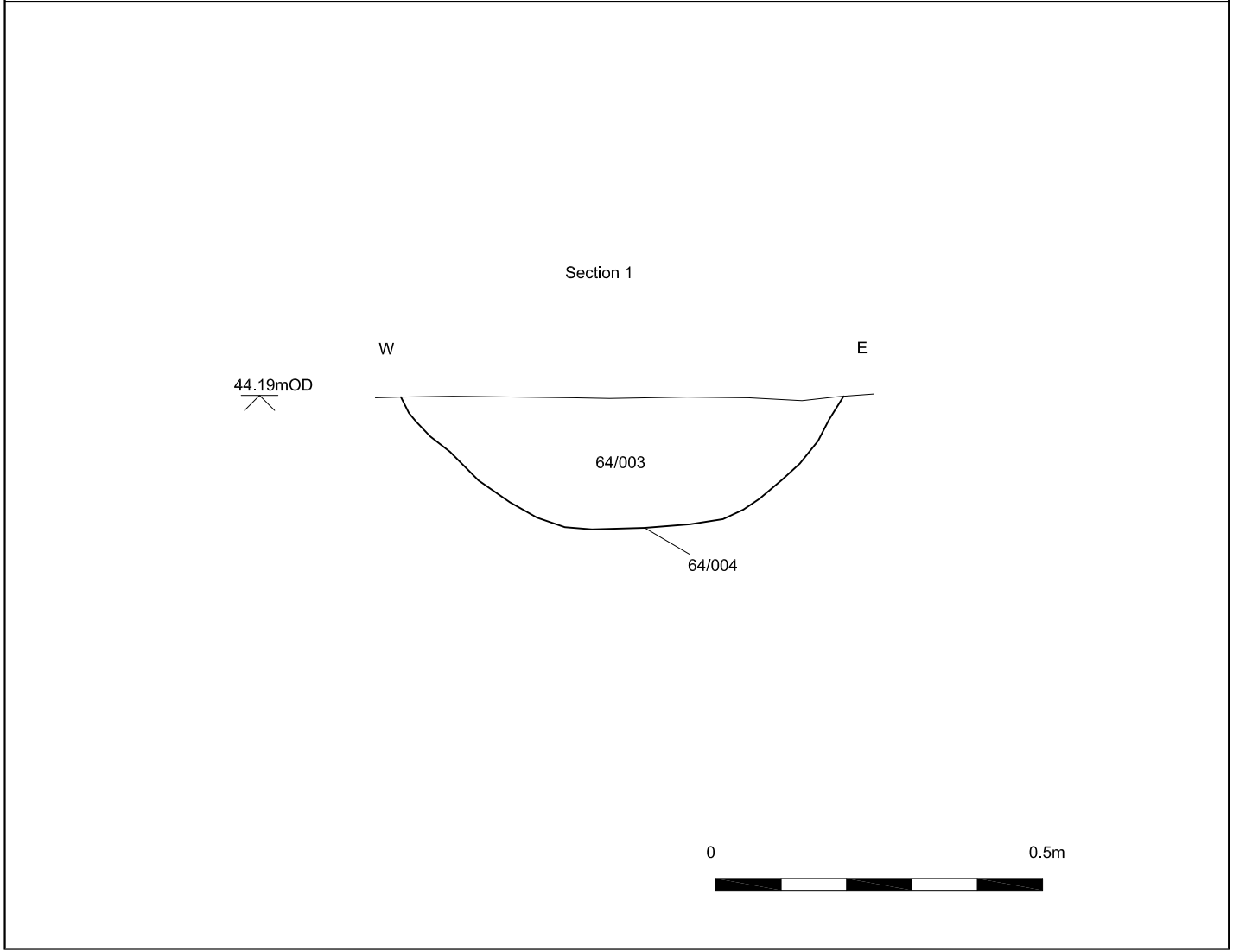
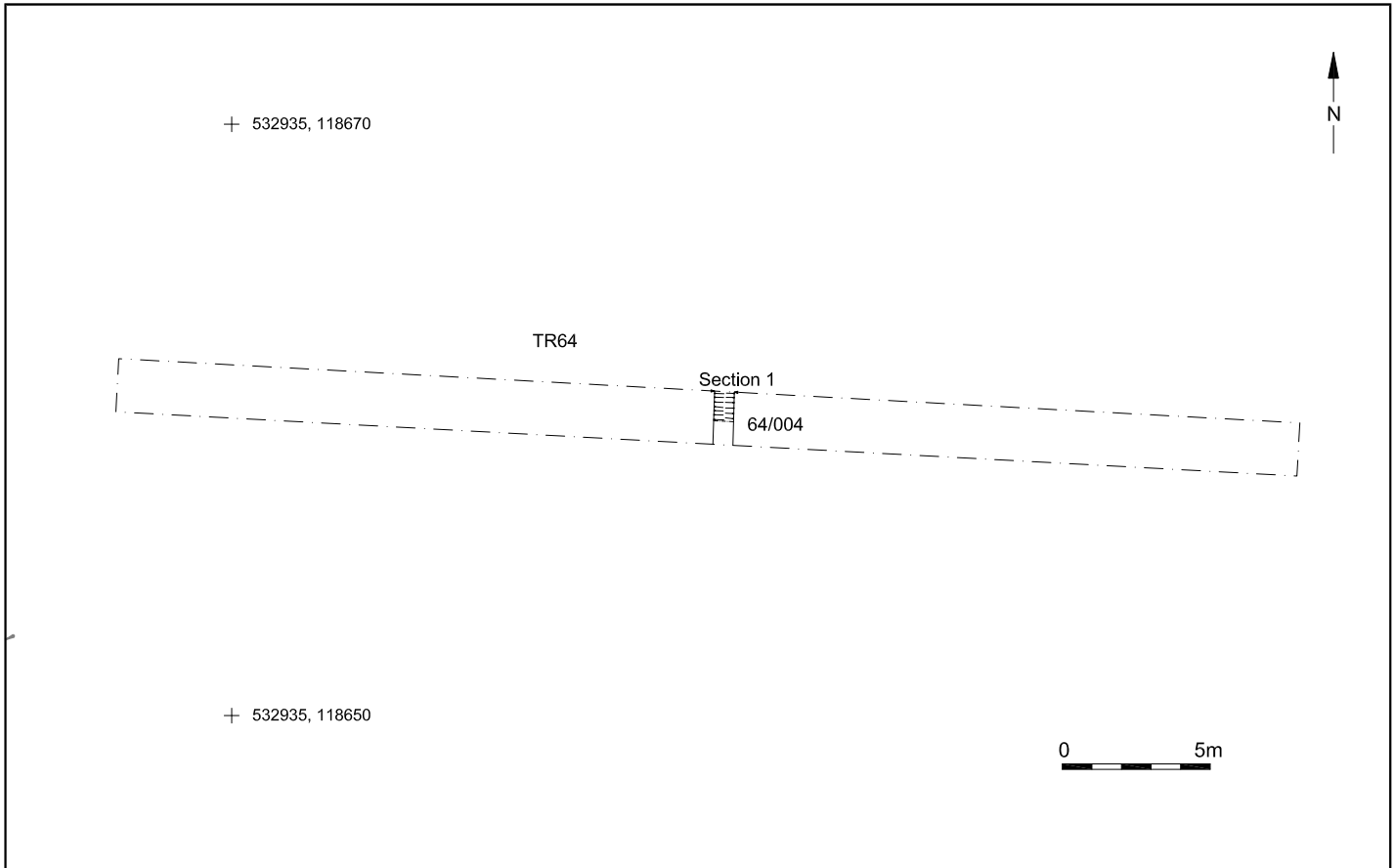


© Archaeology South-East		Kings Way, Burgess Hill		Fig. 4
Project Ref: 6080	June 2013	Area K, H, I, J, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, U, T, Trench location		
Report Ref:	Drawn by: AR			



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© Archaeology South-East		Kings Way, Burgess Hill		Fig. 5
Project Ref: 6080	June 2013	Area U, P, T, V, W, X, Y, Z, Trench location		
Report Ref:	Drawn by: AR			



© Archaeology South-East		Burgess Hill, Kingsway Evaluation	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 6080	June 2013	Trench 64 Plan and Section	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: AR/RHC		

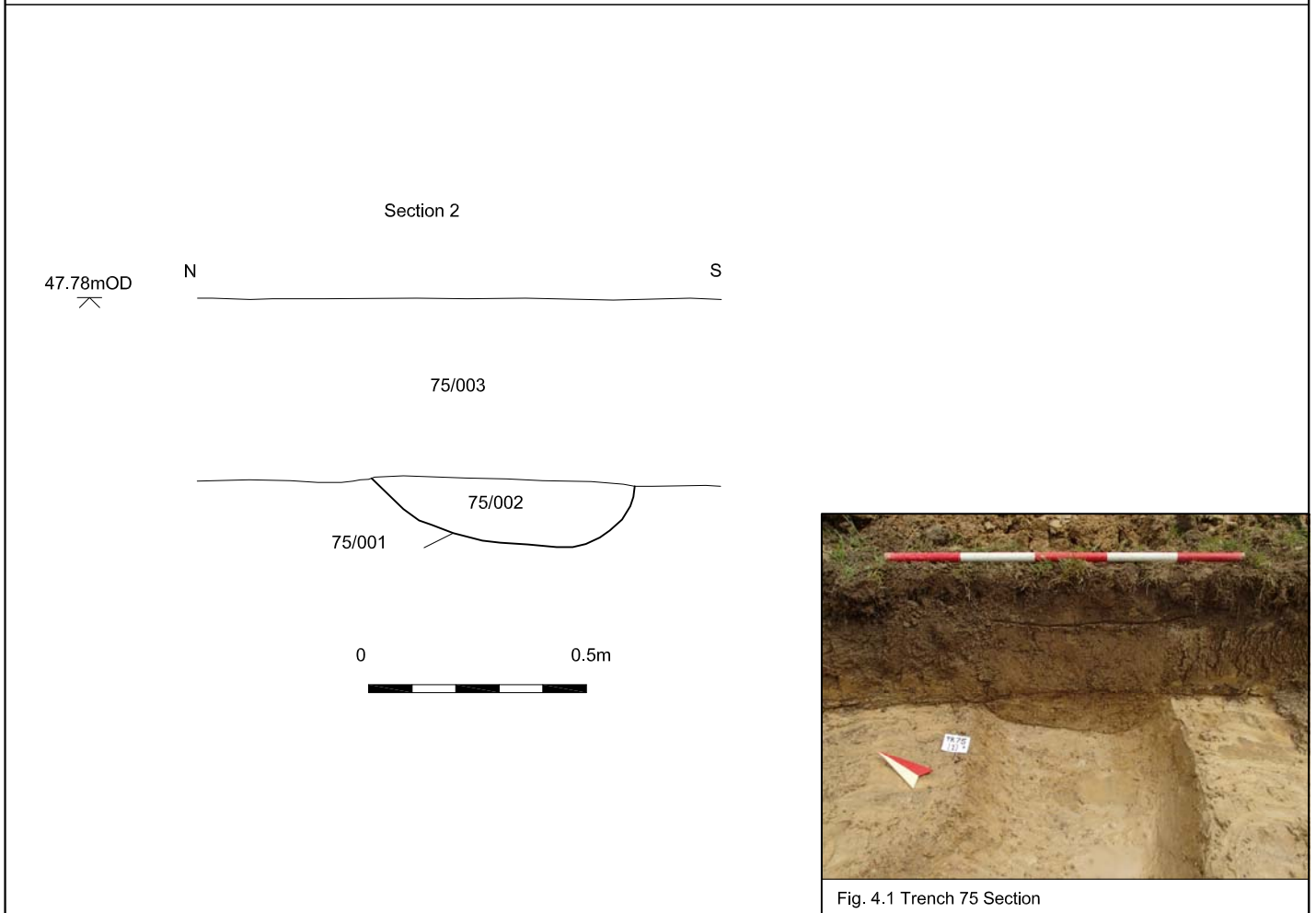
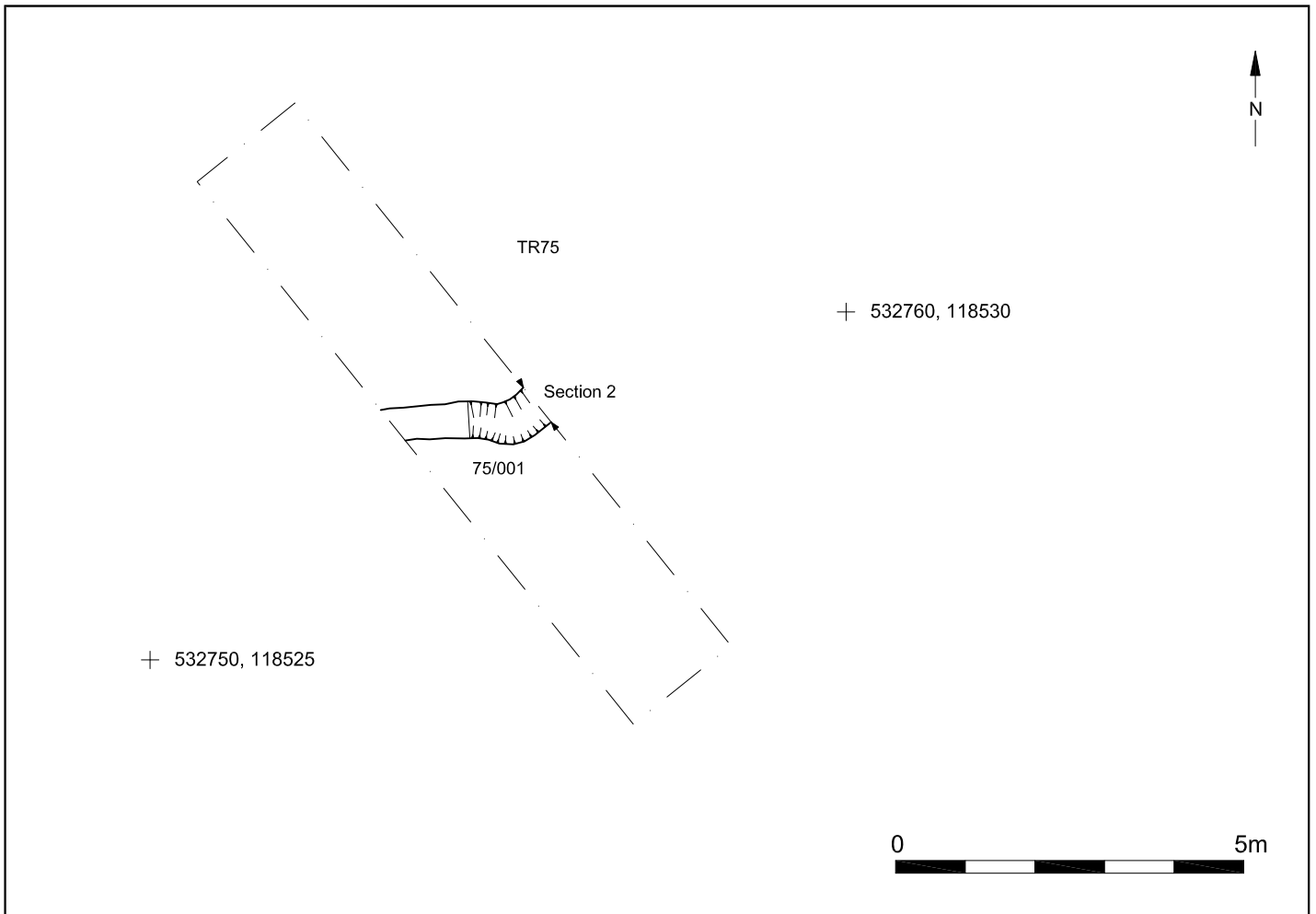
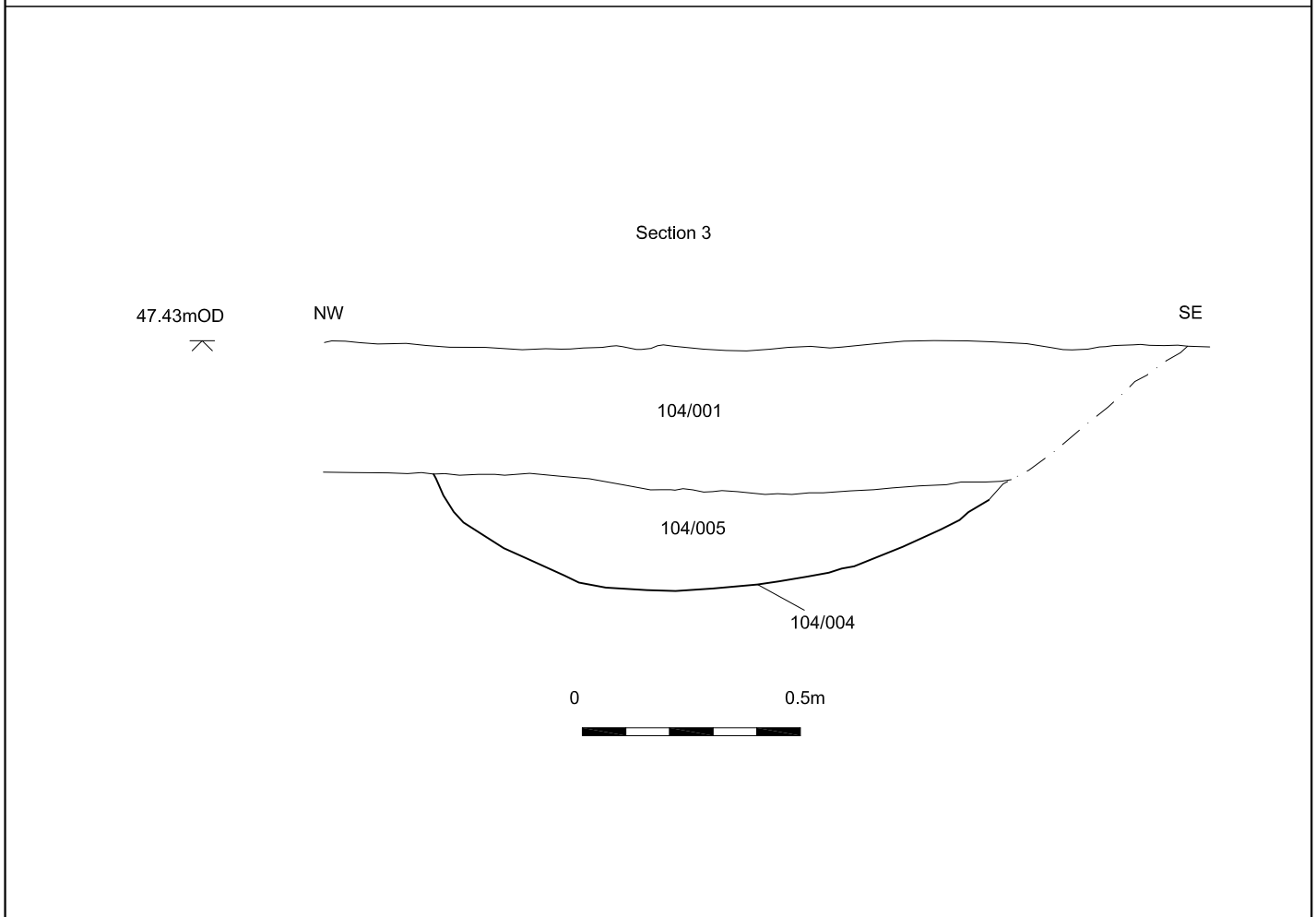
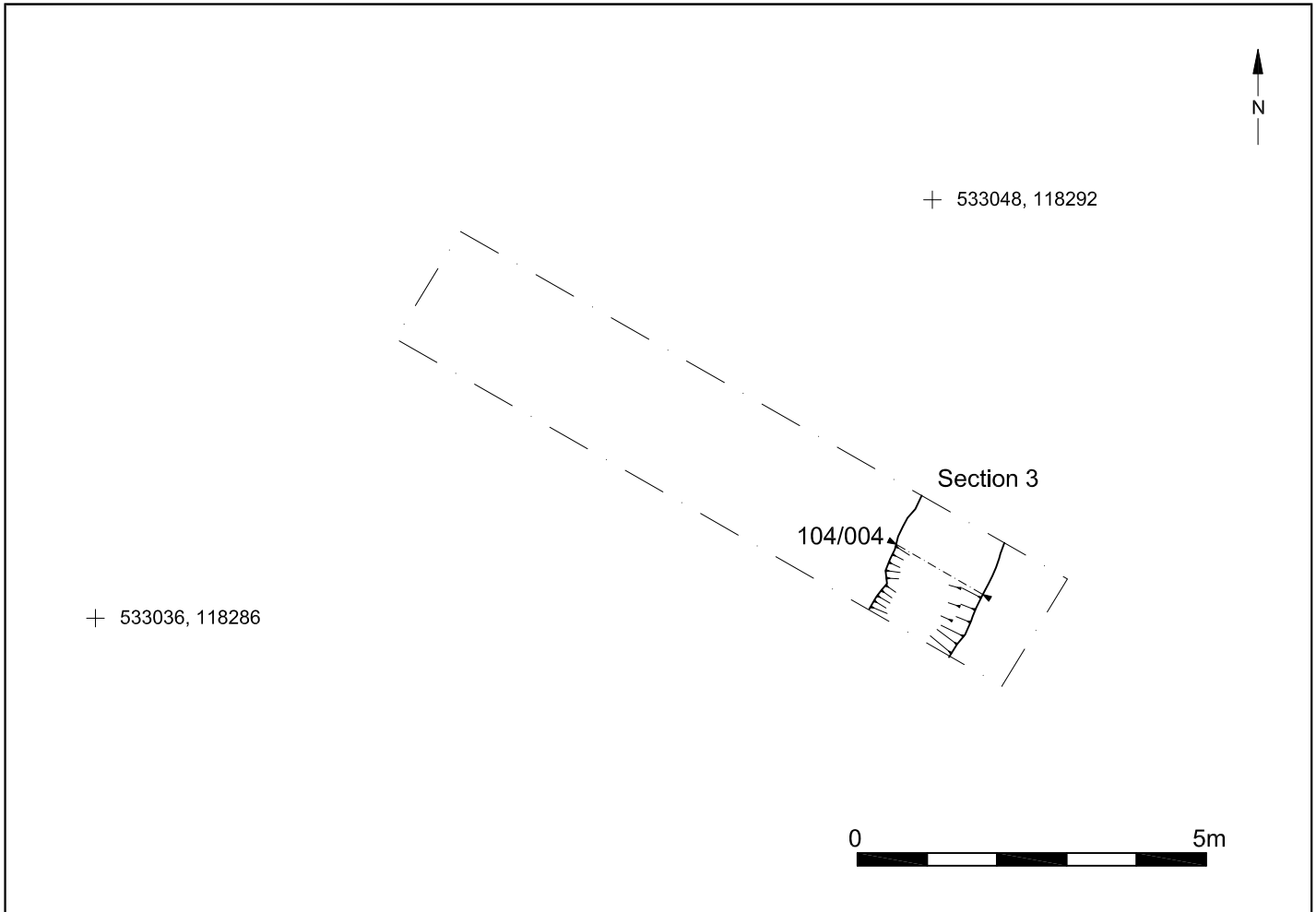


Fig. 4.1 Trench 75 Section

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Project Ref: 6080	June 2013	Trench 75 Plan and Section and Photograph	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: RHC		



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Project Ref: 6080	June 2013	Trench 104 Plan and Section	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: RHC		

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