

**Archaeological Excavations Report  
Goresbrook Village, Dagenham  
London Borough of Barking and Dagenham**

**NGR: 546950 183760**

**Planning Reference: 12/00854/FUL**

**ASE Project No: 6020  
Site Code: GOR13**



**ASE Report No: 2013220  
OASIS ID: archaeol6-161771**

**By Catherine Douglas**

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**By Catherine Douglas**

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Elke Raemen, Gemma Ayton, Dawn Elise Mooney  
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## **Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological excavation following on from an archaeological evaluation at Goresbrook Village, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham, London Borough of Barking & Dagenham in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The evaluation consisted of 9 evaluation trenches and the subsequent excavation involved the archaeological investigation of an area measuring 17m x 13m centred on an area in the south-east of the site where Late Bronze Age features were identified. Four further evaluation trenches are to be excavated at the site.*

*Natural river terrace gravels were recorded at c. 5.70m OD. The earliest identifiable activity on the site dates to the Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age and consisted of a single pit containing three barbed and tanged flint arrowheads and evidence of possible ritual activity. An area of intercut and discrete Late Bronze Age pits and post holes are perhaps indicative of domestic activity, if not on the site itself, then in immediate proximity. Occupation of the site continues into the Iron Age with the identification of a pit containing Early Iron Age pottery and unidentified cremated bone. More recent activity was of an 18<sup>th</sup> century routeway and a 20<sup>th</sup> century pit.*

*The use of C14 dating to better understand the chronology of the site may be highly valuable in properly interpreting the archaeological results which merit publication in a short article within the journal London Archaeologist. Any further prehistoric evidence uncovered by the remaining evaluation trenches should also be incorporated into the publication.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

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 Ltd to undertake an archaeological field evaluation and subsequent programme of mitigation works at Goresbrook Village, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham, London Borough of Barking & Dagenham (NGR 546940 183760; Figure 1).

## **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey 1:50,000 map, the site lies on London Clay, overlain by Taplow Gravels, defined as 'post-diversionary river terrace deposits'. Alluvial deposits associated with the River Thames lie south of the site. Ripple Road (the A13) forms the site boundary on the south.

## **1.3 Scope of the Project**

1.3.1 Planning permission for the construction of residential dwellings with associated access, car-parking and services was granted by London Borough of Barking and Dagenham Council, with the condition that a programme of archaeological work be undertaken prior to the commencement of any construction work.

1.3.2 The first stage in the programme of work comprised the excavation of 13 evaluation trial trenches in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2013), of which 9 trenches have so far been excavated. One trench (Trench 13) contained several features including a prehistoric pit. Consequently, CgMs, in consultation with the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS) agreed that a programme of targeted archaeological excavations would be an appropriate mitigation strategy for this part of the site. All 8 of the other trenches were devoid of archaeological features.

1.3.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the mitigation work was subsequently prepared and approved by GLAAS prior to the excavation (ASE 2013).

## **1.4 Circumstances and Dates of Work**

- DBA (CgMs 2012) prepared on behalf of Countryside Properties August 2012
- Evaluation commissioned by CgMs on behalf of Countryside Properties, carried out in August 2013
- Excavation commissioned by CgMs on behalf of Countryside Properties carried out in August 2013

1.4.1 All fieldwork was undertaken by ASE during August 2013. The site was staffed by ASE archaeologists, project managed by Darryl Palmer and Andy Leonard (Fieldwork) and Jim Stevenson (Post-Excavation manager) and directed by Catherine Douglas.

## **1.5 Archaeological methodology**

- 1.5.1 An area was extended around evaluation Trench 13 where archaeological remains had been encountered during the evaluation. The excavation area was extended to 17m x 13m at which point the GLAAS archaeological advisor (Adam Single) was satisfied that the extent of the area of archaeological activity had been fully exposed.
- 1.5.2 The area was surveyed using GPS survey equipment and excavated using a 20 tonne mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m wide flat blade ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. Overburden deposits (e.g. demolition material, modern made ground) were removed and excavation continued to the surface of natural geology whereupon archaeological features were exposed. Care was taken not to machine off seemingly homogenous layers that might have been the upper parts of archaeological features.
- 1.5.3 The resultant surfaces were cleaned as necessary and a pre-excavation plan prepared using Global Positioning System (GPS) planning technology in combination with Total Station surveying.
- 1.5.4 The area was CAT scanned to detect any live services prior to excavation, and all machining was carried out under the supervision of a qualified archaeologist.
- 1.5.5 The area was left open to allow for potential weathering out of features, and inspected regularly. All discreet features were then sectioned and recorded. Linear features were sample sectioned. Ditches and gullies had all relationships defined, investigated and recorded. Sufficient of the feature lengths were excavated to determine the character of the feature over its entire course; the possibility of recuts of parts, and not the whole, of the feature were considered.
- 1.5.6 All excavated deposits and features were recorded according to current professional standards using the ASE recording sheets. Features were hand-planned at a scale of 1:20 and levelled using a dumpy level after excavation. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. All features were photographed.
- 1.5.7 All finds recovered from excavated deposits were collected and retained in line with the ASE artefacts collection policy.
- 1.5.8 On site sampling methodology, processing and recording was undertaken within the guidelines laid out by English Heritage (2002). The sampling aimed to recover spatial and temporal information concerning the occupation of the site. This was best achieved by sampling a range of feature types (pits, ditches, post-holes) from across the site, the fills of which can be compared and contrasted. A standard bulk sample size of 40litres (or 100% of small features) was taken from dated/datable sealed contexts to recover environmental remains such as fish, small mammals, molluscs and botanicals.

## **1.6 Organisation of the Report**

- 1.6.1 This report has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines laid out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (English Heritage 2008)*.
- 1.6.2 The report seeks to place the results from the site within their local archaeological and historical setting; to quantify and summarise the results; specify their significance and potential, including any capacity to address the original research aims.
- 1.6.3 Following on from the previous archaeological evaluation conducted by Archaeology South-East work at the site ran as a single excavation, with the finds and environmental archives all recorded under a single site code: GOR13.
- 1.6.4 The results from evaluation Trench 13 have been integrated and assessed with the results from the main excavation. None of the other evaluation trenches are included.

## **1.7 Site Archive**

- 1.7.1 Archaeology South-East informed the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) that the fieldwork would be taking place and that an archive would be generated. The site code GOR13 has been assigned to the archive by the LAARC. It is currently held at the offices of ASE and it is anticipated that the archive will be deposited with the LAARC on completion of all stages of fieldwork and reporting. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	78
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	5
Bulk Samples	5
Photographs	97
Bulk finds	1 small box
Environmental flots/residue	5

Table 1: Quantification of site archive



## **2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 The full archaeological background is contained within the Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2012). A summary is produced below. No scheduled Ancient Monuments lie within the study area and the site does not lie within an Archaeological Priority Zone. However, the site is considered to have a general archaeological potential for remains of prehistoric date.

### **2.2 Prehistoric**

2.2.1 The area has been seen as a focus of activity throughout the prehistoric periods, with settlement focused on the gravel terrace and seasonal exploitation of the alluvial floodplain to the south.

2.2.2 Palaeolithic flint tools have been identified in drift deposits in the Barking area, and during gravel extraction at Gale Street to the north-east of the site.

2.2.3 Finds and features of a prehistoric date within a 1km radius of the site include a Neolithic axehead from the Barking area, a single east-west ditch containing pottery of Late Bronze Age / early Iron Age date at Bromhall Road to the north-west and a single sherd of Bronze Age pottery from Gale Street.

### **2.3 Roman**

2.3.1 A Roman vase was identified in the Barking area, and four sherds of pottery of possible Roman date have been found at Castle Green, Gale Street, to the east of the site.

### **2.4 Anglo Saxon and Medieval**

2.4.1 No finds of Anglo-Saxon date have been identified within a 1km radius of the site.

2.4.2 According to historic mapping, the site lay in open farmland surrounded by pockets of small-scale settlement, which can be traced back as far as the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

### **2.5 Recent Development**

2.5.1 Three housing blocks previously stood on the western part of the site and two multi-storey car-parks to the north-west and south-east, with associated roads and pathways. This has resulted in extensive truncation of the site. During the archaeological fieldwork, it was clear that the south car park basement, to the south of the evaluation trenches 12 and 13, was constructed into the gravel thus removing the archaeological horizon in this area.

## **2.6 Previous work on the site**

2.6.1 The Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (*ibid.*) undertaken in August 2012 concluded the site has the potential for prehistoric remains and this led, in August 2013, to the need for archaeological evaluation. The work comprised the machine excavation 9 trial trenches excavated across the site (with a further 4 trenches to be completed at a later phase of groundworks). Trench 13 contained 2 pits, one of which contained possible Late Bronze Age pottery. All other trenches were archaeologically sterile.

## **3.0 RESEARCH AIMS**

3.1 The aims of the archaeological excavation as listed in the WSI (ASE 2013) are:

- To establish the date of the features identified during the evaluation
- To further establish the function of the features identified during the evaluation
- To establish whether further features exist in the vicinity
- To report on the results of the archaeological excavation

## 4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

(Figures 2 – 8)

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The archaeological features exposed in the excavation area included ditches, pits and post holes.

4.1.2 The archaeology is discussed under provisional date-phased headings determined primarily through assessment of the dateable artefacts, predominantly the pottery, and secondarily through the creation of relative chronologies where stratigraphic relationships exist. Although several stratified contexts produced relatively large groups of pottery sherds there are few diagnostic elements meaning most context groups can only be broadly dated. On the basis of this, 5 phases of activity have been defined.

Period 1 Phase 1	Late Neolithic / early Bronze Age	2500-1800BC
Period 2 Phase 1	Late Bronze Age	1150-600BC
Period 2 Phase 2	Early Iron Age	600-400BC
Period 3 Phase 1	Post-medieval	AD1700-1800
Period 3 Phase 2	Post-Medieval	AD1900-2000

Table 2: Archaeological periods represented on the site

4.1.3 The archaeological sequence is discussed by land use entities where possible. In this way, linear features, such as ditches which may have numerous individual slots and context numbers, are discussed as single entities, and other cut features such as pits and postholes are grouped together by structure, common date and/or type.

### 4.2 Natural Geology and Topography

4.2.1 The Taplow Sand and Gravel geology was encountered at roughly the same level throughout the excavation area ranging from 5.65m AOD to 5.81m AOD.

4.2.2 The overburden on site comprised a layer of made ground formed of silt and brick rubble and tarmac measuring a thickness of 0.15m, which immediately overlay the geology. This in turn was overlain by a 10cm thick layer of brick ballast, forming the surface of the former car park. The site was stripped of topsoil and subsoil in the 1990s.

4.2.3 No archaeological finds were present within the overburden.

### **4.3 Period 1 phase 1: Late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age 2500-1800**

(Figure 3)

*Open Area 1: A single pit*

- 4.3.1 The earliest identifiable activity on the site was a late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age pit [13/005]. The pit contained two sandy silt fills, with the lowest containing evidence of burning. The environmental sample <01> taken from the primary pit fill was found to contain significant quantities of burnt flint and stone, along with 3 barbed and tanged flint arrowheads, probably representing an *in situ* burning event. Similar barbed and tanged arrowheads are usually associated with the Beaker phase of the Late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age.
- 4.3.2 As discussed in Section 6 below, the presence of a significant component of wild clematis in this sample is unusual, as the thin stems of this climbing shrub are unsuitable as fuel and are not commonly found in archaeological charcoal assemblages. These fragments may be the remains of kindling, however given their dominance in the assemblage it seems probable that clematis formed a significant component of the burning event, for example as a wreath or a woven basket (cf. Bichard 2008, Gale & Cutler 2000) used in a ritual or symbolic burning.

### **4.4 Period 2 Phase 1: Late Bronze Age 1150-600BC**

(Figure 4)

*Open Area 2: An area of intercutting pits and discrete pits and post holes*

- 4.4.1 The evidence for Open Area 2 comprises a large pit (GP3), or a possible series of intercutting pits forming a large roughly circular area with a diameter of 5m. A possible three contemporary pits [022/053/056] were identified, with similar U-shaped profiles and slightly undulating bases. The pits are roughly 0.40m deep but were probably some 0.20m - 0.30m deeper originally; before topsoil and subsoil overburden were removed. Each pit contained 2 fills containing large quantities of Late Bronze Age pottery and showed possible evidence of recut. They were partially truncated by the later post medieval track way. Fired clay fragments were also recovered.
- 4.4.2 Four post holes (GP1) surrounded the intercutting pits. Three (SGs 13, 23 and 24) were of similar size, shape and depth of c. 0.20m, but they do not appear to have any structural association with each other, and it is not certain that they are contemporary as only one (SG13) contained contemporary dating evidence.
- 4.4.3 A scatter of other pits (GP2) to the east of the large pit (GP3) are also assigned to this period based on the dating of pottery found in 3 of the features and the similar size and character of the remaining features. They range from 0.35m to 0.50m in diameter, with depths of 0.10-0.25m. They all had U-shaped profiles with flat bases and each contained a single silty sand fill.

- 4.4.4 The samples from these features produced an interesting if small assemblage of charred grains and charcoal fragments which can inform as to the contemporary local environment, wood fuel and agricultural practises.

#### **4.5 Period 2 Phase 2: Early Iron Age 600-400BC**

(Figure 5)

*Open Area 3: A single pit*

- 4.5.1 A single pit [39] contained a diagnostic pot sherd dating to 600-400BC. This was larger, shallower and slightly more irregular in shape than the surrounding pits and post holes which are thought to be of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age date. This pit has therefore been given a slightly later date range than the surrounding features; however, this is based on more fragmentary and less conclusive pot sherds. The pit also contained fired clay fragments and an unidentifiable fragment of cremated bone retrieved from sample <5>. The sample also produced an interesting assemblage of charred grains and charcoal fragments which can inform as to the contemporary local environment, wood fuel and agricultural practises.
- 4.5.2 The fact that there are similar features of a Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age date may be indicative of an overall broad phase of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age occupation from c. 1150-400BC, rather than two separate phases of activity.

#### **4.6 Period 3 Phase 1: Post-medieval AD1700-1800**

(Figure 6)

*Routeway 1*

- 4.6.1 Two parallel north-south aligned ditches (GP4 and GP5) were recorded c. 1.70m apart. The ditches were excavated by 6 sondages at regular intervals and were found to be shallow and almost ephemeral in some areas, with similar U-shaped profiles.
- 4.6.2 The ditches are interpreted as delineating a possible routeway between fields. The easternmost ditch (GP5) clearly truncated the large Late Bronze Age pit GP3 and a single plain stem fragment of clay tobacco pipe dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century was recovered as well as 3 tiny colourless fragments of glass dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 4.6.3 This routeway is not represented on any historic maps, but it follows the same north-south – east-west orientation as the current land boundary and surrounding roads attesting to its recent date.

**4.7 Period 3 Phase 2: Post-medieval AD1900-2000**

(Figure 7)

*Open Area 4: A single pit*

- 4.7.1 A single 20<sup>th</sup> century pit was identified adjacent to the modern drain on the southern limit of the excavation area. This contained a single sand fill with 2 small pieces of CBM typical of London Brick Company bricks as well as late post-medieval glass.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds, mostly consisting of pottery, was recovered during the work. Finds recovered from environmental residues are summarised in Appendix 2. Finds were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were quantified by count and weighed and then bagged by material and context. Finds were packed and stored according to IFA guidelines (2008). None of the finds require further conservation.

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)	F. Clay	Wt (g)	Mortar	Wt (g)
13/009	35	380					4	48								
9			2	8					2	4						
19					3	112										
21	1	18														
25	1	22					2	58								
27											1	4			1	30
28	57	362														
30	2	4														
40	36	242														
42	22	78														
44							3	22								
55	123	926					18	280					5	8		
<b>Total</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>

Table 3: Quantification of the finds

### 5.2 Flintwork by Karine Le Hegarat

5.2.1 A total of 7 pieces of struck flint weighing 15g were recovered while processing environmental samples <01, 03 and 04>. Sample <03> from context (480) and sample <04> from context (28) produced just 3 flakes which are not closely datable.

5.2.2 Sample <01> which came from the primary fill (13/006) of pit [13/005] produced 3 barbed and tanged arrowheads (Figure 8) and a chip with invasive retouch on 1 face. The latter could not refit to the arrowheads. While the pit measures 1m in length, 0.9m in breadth and 0.41m in depth, fill (13/006) measures only 0.16m in depth. It is interesting to note that the material recovered from this basal fill differs from the material in the uppermost fill in that it appears slightly burnt.

5.2.3 The residue also contained a moderate amount of burnt rounded stones and a small assemblage of charcoal (see Mooney & Le Hégarat below). All the stones had been moderately burnt to a reddish colour. It is likely that the retouched flints were deliberately placed in the pit and were burnt in the feature. Similar barbed and tanged arrowheads are usually associated with the Beaker phase of the Late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age.

- 5.2.4 The first barbed and tanged arrowhead (the left hand-side one on Figure 8) is incomplete. It is the largest of the three. Approximately 85% of the artefact is present, with one of the barbs being absent. It has been manufactured from a mid grey flint and is slightly burnt. The damage is mostly visible on one of the surfaces. The artefact is sub-triangular in plan and displays straight lateral edges. The arrowhead is 28.19mm long, 1.27mm thick and weights 1g. It would have been approximately 19.28mm wide. It is finely invasively pressure-flaked on both surfaces. It has a sub-square barb measuring 1.95mm long and a sub-square tang measuring 4.18mm long (D/G). It seems that the second barb wasn't damage during the initial production of the implement, but rather after the heating episode. The arrowhead fits into the sub-classification of "non-fancy" barbed and tanged arrowhead described as Sutton type (subdivision b; Green 1984).
- 5.2.5 The second barbed and tanged arrowhead (the central one on Figure 8) is complete. It was made on a mid-brown flint. It is sub-triangular in shape. While one of the lateral edge is straight, the second one is slightly convex. It is finely made and displays invasive retouch on both faces. The arrowhead measures 22.10mm in length, 18.68mm in breath, 3.70mm in thickness and weights 2g. One face is relatively flat, and the other one, more prominent, appears to have received less flaking. The first barb measures 1.69mm and is rounded, the sub-squared tang measures 3.85mm and the second barb is obliquely cut and measures 1.86mm. This arrowhead is also of Sutton type (Sutton b, *ibid.*).
- 5.2.6 The last barbed and tanged arrowhead (the right hand-side one on Figure 8) is incomplete. The tip and one of the barb are absent. The artefact is also slightly burnt, and one of the surfaces exhibits extensive heat damage. While one of the lateral edges is straight, the opposite edge appears to be more convex. The actual length is 17.04mm, but it may have been as long as the previous artifact. The actual breadth is 14.25mm. It is 0.78mm thick and weights 1g. The surviving barb is squared as is the tang (B/F). The barb measures 3.11mm and the tang 3.62mm. One face is finely worked with invasive retouch. The heat damage on the other surface is too bad to determine if the retouch covered the entire artifact. This last arrowhead fits into the sub-classification of "fancy" barbed and tanged arrowhead described as Conygar Hill type (*ibid.*).

### **5.3 The Prehistoric Pottery by Anna Doherty**

5.3.1 A moderate assemblage of prehistoric pottery was recovered from the mitigation area and including material from evaluation Trench 13 this totals 277 sherds, weighing 2.03kg. Although several stratified contexts produced relatively large groups of sherds there are few diagnostic elements and consequently, most context groups can only be dated quite broadly. The majority of fabrics and diagnostic forms would be in keeping with a Late Bronze Age date; however one or two sherds from a single context may be indicative of activity in the Early Iron Age.

#### **5.3.2 Methodology**

5.3.3 The pottery was examined using a x20 binocular microscope. It was recorded according to a site-specific type-series which was defined using the



guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010). The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight and Estimated Vessel Number (EVE) on *pro forma* sheets and data was entered into an Excel spreadsheet.

#### 5.3.4 Site specific fabric codes

FLIN1 A broad grouping of medium coarse flint-tempered wares. Generally contains moderate, moderately sorted flint of 0.5-2mm (although may contain rare larger examples). The matrix generally contains moderate quartz of silt-size to 0.1mm although rare coarser quartz grains up to 0.4mm may also appear.

FLIN2 Sparse flint of 0.2-1mm (although may contain rare slightly larger examples) within a silty background matrix.

FLSH1 Similar to FLIN1 but with sparse shell of 0.5-1mm

QUAR1 Common quartz of silt-sized to 0.1mm and rare larger quartz grains up to 0.4mm

SHEL1 Moderate fine shell inclusions (frequently leached out) of 0.2-0.5mm in a silty background matrix

#### 5.3.5 Overview

5.3.6 The vast majority of the assemblage is flint-tempered: about 80% of the sherds could be assigned to one medium coarse flint-tempered fabric grouping (FLIN1) whilst roughly 17% were associated with a flint-tempered fine ware (FLIN2). Both of these ware groups are very typical of post Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) assemblages of the Late Bronze Age. More particularly, the absence of very coarsely flint-tempered wares and the presence of moderate quantities of fine quartz in most examples are probably more typical traits in 1<sup>st</sup> millennium assemblages rather than those from the very beginning of the Late Bronze Age.

5.3.7 Most rimsherds are fragmentary, making it difficult to classify any of the form types with much certainty. However, there are several examples of simple necked jar/bowls and one partial rim from what appears to be a hemispherical bowl. Several examples of flint-gritted bases (another very typical PDR trait) were also recorded.

5.3.8 The majority of the assemblage is undecorated, although context [55] contained several examples of impressed/incised decoration. One partial rimsherd in this group had a flaring profile with finger-tipping along the rim interior and an applied cordon on the exterior. The use of external cordons was noted in the Late Bronze Age assemblage from North Shoebury (Brown 1995, 80 and fig 64.65). Two other body/shoulder sherds in this group also feature fingertip/fingernail decoration. A single rounded shoulder sherd from a fine ware vessel found in this group also included a series of incised horizontal lines. Both finger-tipping and horizontal line decoration are common decorative styles in the local East London/south Essex area and in the wider South-East region. Although individual decorated sherds may be

encountered in plain ware PDR assemblages (c.1150-800), an increasing use of decoration is a feature of the later part of the Late Bronze Age (c.800-600).

5.3.9 One substantial group of pottery, from context [40], generally comprises bodysherds and a few partial rims comparable to other material the site as a whole. However, a small number of sherds in this group are in slightly different fabrics including a shelly ware (SHEL1), a flint-with-shell fabric (FLSH1) and a purely sandy fabric (QUAR1). It is of some note that shelly fabrics were entirely absent from the Mucking Late Bronze Age assemblage despite the presence of some elements of decorated PDR pottery from the South Rings (Brudenell 2008). This suggests that shelly wares should be considered a development of the Early Iron Age in the local area. One diagnostic feature sherd, a well formed footring base, recovered from the residue of the environmental sample from this context, also seems to confirm an element of Early Iron Age dating. This is a typical Early Iron Age form which can, for example, be paralleled in local assemblages of this date from Hunt's Hill Farm and Rectory Road, Orsett (Cotton et al 2011, Fig 40, P58; Hamilton 1988, Fig.68, no 5, 79).

#### **5.4 The Ceramic Building Material** by Luke Barber

5.4.1 The only material from the site consists of two small pieces of brick from context [9]. These are of a well-fired granular fabric with notable calcareous inclusions, typical of London Brick Company bricks of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **5.5 The Clay Tobacco Pipe** by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 A single plain stem fragment of clay tobacco pipe (CTP) was recovered from [27]. The fragment is of 18<sup>th</sup>-century date.

#### **5.6 The Glass** by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 A small assemblage comprising five fragments of glass was recovered from two individual contexts, including both hand-collected glass and fragments recovered from environmental residues. None predate the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A clear cylindrical bottle fragment, possibly from a milk bottle and of similar date, was recovered from [9]. The same context also contained an amber body fragment, again from a cylindrical bottle and of mid 19<sup>th</sup>-to mid 20<sup>th</sup>-century date. Three tiny colourless fragments dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century were recovered from [48].

#### **5.7 The Fired Clay** by Elke Raemen

5.7.1 A small assemblage consisting of 18 fired clay fragments (wt 144g) was recovered from 3 different contexts. The majority of the assemblage (13 pieces) was recovered from environmental residues, although five hand-collected fragments are also included. Three different fabrics were noted:

- Fabric 1: Orange matrix with common fine quartz
- Fabric 2: Orange matrix with moderate coarse quartz. Rare very coarse quartz.
- Fabric 3: Silty, light orange matrix with common fine quartz, rare coarse quartz and common organic temper.

5.7.2 Fragments are severely abraded and therefore largely amorphous, with only fragments from [40] retaining some features. Included are two rounded corner fragments and three fragments retaining one flat surface.

**5.8 The Animal Bone** by Gemma Ayton

5.8.1 A small assemblage of 3 fragments of animal bone was recovered during the excavation from context [19], the fill of an 18<sup>th</sup> century ditch. The fragments are in a very poor condition with evidence of substantial surface erosion. Two of the specimens derive from a large mammal and formed part of a long-bone, the third fragment is unidentifiable.

5.8.2 A further unidentifiable fragment of cremated bone was retrieved from sample <5>.

## **6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

By Dawn Elise Mooney & Karine Le Hégarat

### **6.1 Introduction**

6.1.1 Five bulk environmental samples were taken during evaluation and excavation work at the site to recover environmental indicators such as wood charcoal, charred macrobotanical remains, fauna and mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. Sample <01> was recovered from the basal fill (13/006) of Late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age pit [13/005]. Samples <02> and <04> came from Late Bronze Age pits [13/008] and [20]. Sample <05> originated from the fill (40) of Early Iron Age pit [39], and sample <03> from the fill (48) of shallow ditch [47]. The later feature is dated to the post-medieval period.

### **6.2 Methods**

6.2.1 The samples were processed in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 300µm meshes respectively and air dried. The residues were passed through graded sieves of 8mm, 4mm and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 2). The flots were analysed under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 2). Identifications of macrobotanical remains were made through comparison with published reference atlases (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006) and nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.2.2 Charred wood remains from 4 samples were analysed from the site. Twenty charcoal fragments (or the total number of fragments >4mm if less than 20) recovered from the heavy residue of each sample were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale & Cutler 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schoch *et al.* 2004), and by comparison with modern reference material held at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. Identifications have been given to species where possible, however genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit satisfactory identification. Where identifications were uncertain due to poor preservation or limited size of charcoal specimens the identification is preceded by cf., denoting 'compares with'. Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997), and taxonomic identifications of charcoal area recorded in Appendix 2.

### 6.3 Results

#### 6.3.1 Period 1 phase 1: The Late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age 2500-1800

##### *Open Area 1*

6.3.2 Sample <01> from the lower fill (13/006) of pit [13/005] SG27 produced a large flot (90ml) which contained a relatively large quantity of charred wood fragments. The charcoal remains were comprised of approximately equal quantities of mature oak (*Quercus* sp.) wood and small roundwood of wild clematis (cf. *Clematis vitalba*). The sample produced a moderate amount of charred plant remains including charred weed seeds and unidentified fragments of bulbs and/or tubers. A single indeterminate charred fruit stone fragment was also present in the residue. The assemblage of charred weeds seeds consisted mainly of bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), although occasional seeds of vetch / vetchling / tare (*Vicia / Lathyrus* sp.), bedstraws (*Galium* spp.), possible privets (cf. *Ligustrum* sp.) were also recorded. Burnt stones including fragments of burnt unworked flint were common in the residue. In addition, worked flints including three barbed and tanged arrowheads and a small amount of magnetised material were also recorded.

#### 6.3.3 Period 2 Phase 1: Late Bronze Age 1150-600BC

##### *Open Area 2*

6.3.4 Two samples were examined from phase 2.1 land use. Sample <2> was taken from the single fill (13/009) of pit [13/008] and sample <4> came from the basal fill (28) of pit [20].

6.3.5 Charred wood fragments were less common in the flot from sample <02> extracted from pit fill context (13/009) SG28, however a wide range of wood taxa were recorded including cherry/blackthorn (*Prunus* sp.), Maloideae (a group of taxa which includes hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), rowan, whitebeam and service (*Sorbus* sp.), apple (*Malus* sp.) and pear (*Pyrus* sp.)), wild privet (cf. *Ligustrum vulgare*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), birch (*Betula* sp.), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), and oak. The sample contained a small assemblage of charred grains (between 25 and 30 items) the majority of which were too fragmented to be identified. They provide limited evidence for glume wheat (either emmer or spelt) and possibly barley (cf. *Hordeum* sp.). A small amount of chaff was recorded including spikelet forks, glume bases, and spikelet bases. Although the majority were in a poor condition and could be either of spelt or emmer, one of the glume bases displayed characteristics of spelt; strong veins, slight angular appearance with a strong primary keel and a slight secondary keel. A single twisted oat (*Avena* sp) awn fragment was present. It could represent wild or cultivated oat. Charred weed seeds were present in small amount. The assemblage included knotgrass / dock (*Polygonum / Rumex* sp.), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and a seed from the pink (Caryophyllaceae) family. A small amount of pottery, magnetised material and burnt unworked flint were present in the residue.

6.3.6 Samples <04> from pit fill (28) [20] SG9 contained a small amount of charred wood fragments. The charcoal assemblage was dominated by oak, however cherry/blackthorn and willow/poplar (*Salix/Populus*) were also present.

Charred cereal remains were uncommon. The assemblage comprised less than five grains and a poorly preserved glume base. The remains provide limited evidence for glume wheat (either emmer or spelt). Charred weed seeds were uncommon including bedstraws and possible grass. The residue contained a small amount of pottery, fired clay and burnt unworked flint.

### 6.3.7 Period 2 Phase 2: Early Iron Age 600-400BC

#### *Open Area 3*

6.3.8 Charred plant remains were slightly more numerous in sample <05> from pit fill (40) [39] SG18. Charred cereal remains were limited to a single grain of glume wheat (either emmer or spelt) and a single grain of possible barley, and chaff was limited to a poorly preserved glume base. Nonetheless, sample <05> produced a moderate assemblage of charred weed seeds including black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), red shank / pale persicaria type (*Persicaria maculosa* / *lapathifolia*), possible knotgrass (*Polygonum* cf. *aviculare*), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), vetch / vetling / tare (*Vicia* sp / *Lathyrus* sp.), wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) as well as some blackberry / raspberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg. / *idaeus*). The charcoal assemblage was again dominated by oak with smaller quantity of cherry/blackthorn also recorded. A small burnt bone fragment was present, and the residue produced a small amount of pottery, fired clay and burnt unworked flint.

### 6.3.9 Period 3 Phase 1: Post-medieval AD1700-1800

#### *Route way 1*

6.3.10 Sample <03> from ditch fill context (048) [047] SG22 produced a small flot which contained very few charred plant remains. The assemblage of charred plant macrofossils was limited to a single charred grain which was too poorly preserved to be identified, a seed of blackberry / raspberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg. / *idaeus*) and a single grass (Poaceae) caryopsis. A single unidentified fragment of bulb and/or tuber was also present. A very small amount of glass and burnt unworked flint were present in the residue.

### 6.3.11 Discussion

6.3.12 Sampling has confirmed the presence of charcoal and charred plant macrofossils. Other environmental indicators were scarce.

#### *Charred plant macrofossils*

6.3.13 Charred crop remains were present in small to moderate quantities in features dating from the Late Bronze Age, Early Iron Age and post-medieval periods. While the charred grain from the post-medieval ditch was too poorly preserved to be identified, the charred crop remains from the prehistoric features appeared to be dominated by domestic waste including food preparation debris (charred grains) and processing waste of glume wheat (charred chaff and charred weed seeds). Chaff can assist in identifying the range of glume wheat species (either emmer or spelt). A single glume base identified as spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) was present in pit fill (13/009). A

large proportion of the grains were poorly preserved (highly pitted and fragmentary) preventing any identifications beyond the genus level. Nonetheless, spelt wheat was probably included as the species was identified from the chaff element. A single possible grain of barley was also recorded. The assemblage is typical of the period during which regular crop processing was carried out. The material is likely to represent general waste which has either worked its way into open features or was deliberately discarded.

- 6.3.14 The assemblage of charred macrobotanical remains in sample <01> consisted entirely of charred weed seeds, mostly bugle but also bedstraw, vetch / vetchling / tare and possible privets. Bugle grows in woodland, in damp grassland. The plants could have been accidentally collected with the wood or they may have been deliberately placed in the feature.

#### *Charcoal*

- 6.3.15 For the most part, the charcoal assemblage from the site results from features likely to represent the secondary deposition of burnt material, and as such is of limited value in the discussion of the selection of wood as fuel for specific purposes. The assemblage indicates that firewood was procured from local oak-dominated deciduous woodland, with woodland margin or hedgerow environments also exploited (indicated by the presence of cherry/blackthorn, Maloideae, birch, privet and holly fragments). The presence of willow/poplar charcoal may also indicate the limited exploitation of damp woodland or wetland margin environments for fuel procurement.
- 6.3.16 Sample <1>, from the lower fill [13/006] of pit [13/005], also contained significant quantities of burnt flint and stone, along with the three flint arrowheads which had also been burnt (see Le Hégarat above), and as such this context may represent an *in situ* burning event. The presence of a significant component of wild clematis in this sample is unusual, as the thin stems of this climbing shrub are unsuitable as fuel and are not commonly found in archaeological charcoal assemblages. These fragments may be the remains of kindling, however given their dominance in the assemblage it seems probable that clematis formed a significant component of the burning event, for example as a wreath or a woven basket (cf. Bichard 2008, Gale & Cutler 2000) used in a ritual or symbolic burning.

## **7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **7.1 Introduction**

7.1.1 The investigation of this site has provided evidence of archaeological activity spanning some two millennia, from the Late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age, to the Early Iron Age. The series of pits and postholes encountered strongly suggests that prehistoric settlement existed nearby. Although large groups of pottery sherds were encountered in several stratified contexts there were few diagnostic sherds, therefore most context groups are quite broadly dated.

### **7.2 Period 1 Phase 1: Late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age pit**

7.2.1 The Late Neolithic period in London is characterised by a general movement of settlement from earlier Neolithic riverside locations to the gravel and brickearth areas of the Thames and its tributaries (MoLAS 2000).

7.2.2 Settlement sites of this period are rare, and are usually represented by scatters of lithic and ceramic material and by shallow pits. It is not that unusual to find an isolated pit, such as the one identified during this excavation. Isolated pits at sites on the Thames gravel terraces in the areas around Heathrow and at Mucking, Essex have been found to contain pottery, flint tools, animal bone and charred fruit pips and hazelnut seeds.

7.2.3 However, the significant quantities of burnt flint and stone and clematis found within the pit on this site are likely to represent an *in situ* burning event, and the presence of barbed and tanged arrowheads suggests structured deposition and evidence of such activity is much less common. A known example of similar activity was found at a site in Holloway Lane, Harmondsworth, Middlesex where 6 barbed and tanged arrowheads of Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age date were found in a pit along with the remains of an aurochs (*ibid.*).

7.2.4 On the present site, given the absence of any other Neolithic / Early Bronze Age finds the possibility that the arrowheads may represent anciently curated finds deposited within a later Bronze Age pit cannot be discounted.

### **7.3 Period 2 Phase 1: Late Bronze Age activity**

7.3.1 There is evidence for the emergence of more permanent and intensive forms of land use on the Thames gravel terraces from the middle of the Bronze Age (MoLAS 2000).

7.3.2 Settlements are usually characterised by features such as postholes, pits, waterholes, gullies and ditches. The presence of large intercutting pits (GP3) containing Late Bronze Age pottery and fired clay fragments may represent domestic activity. The undiagnostic quality of the pottery and lack of charred wood, wheat or grain from the environmental sample makes it difficult to understand the function of the pits, but it is possible they were used as large storage pits. The pits do not appear to belong to a sunken building; although the base is slightly irregular and undulating and the feature is surrounded by at least 4 post holes so it is possible. The sheer size (5m in diameter with a possible depth of up to 0.80m) and large concentration of pottery suggest that the site is at least within close proximity to a settlement.



7.3.3 As no archaeology was encountered in Trenches 10 or 11 to the north of the excavation area, it is possible that the archaeology continues either beyond the eastern site boundary beneath undeveloped grassland or to the south although here 3 rows of former houses constructed in the 1940's in this area will have caused severe truncation.

#### **7.4 Period 2 Phase 2: Early Iron Age pit**

7.4.1 Although the majority of fabrics and diagnostic forms of pottery identified were in keeping with a Late Bronze Age date; evidence of Early Iron Age activity was indicated by sherds and fired clay fragments found in a single pit [39], suggesting there may have been a broader phase of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age period occupation between 1150-400BC.

7.4.2 Interestingly, the pit also contained an unidentifiable fragment of cremated bone from sample <5> which provides further possible evidence of funerary / ritual activity.

#### **7.5 Period 3 Phase 1: Post-medieval routeway**

7.5.1 This 18<sup>th</sup> century track was probably used for agricultural purposes and provided a route between the east - west oriented Ripple Road to the south and White Farm which is shown to the north on the 1777 Chapman and Andre Map of Essex. The 1919 Ordnance Survey map of the area shows that the site remained undeveloped arable farmland until the 20<sup>th</sup> century (CgMs 2012).

#### **7.6 Period 3 Phase 2: Post-medieval activity**

7.6.1 The single pit possibly relates to post 1939 residential development (CgMs 2012).

#### **7.7 Publication Proposals**

7.7.1 The prehistoric results of this investigation are considered to be of sufficient local and regional significance to merit publication as a short article, with accompanying plans, photographs and sections in a suitable regional journal such as London Archaeologist. It is also understood that there is to be a further 4 evaluation trenches at the site and any further significant prehistoric evidence that may be uncovered in these should also be included in this article.

7.7.2 The future use of C14 dating on some of the prehistoric material may prove to be highly valuable in properly understanding the chronology of the site for final dissemination.

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## Appendix 1: Context Register

Context	Context Type	Interpretative ID	Feature Type	Parent Context	Comments	Overall spot-date	Dating comments	Sub group	Group	Landuse	Period	Phase	Sample No
1	L		ES		1 Carpark surface								
2	L		ES		2 Made Ground								
3	L		NS		3 Sand & Gravels								
4	C	C	PH		4			1		2 OA2		2	1
5	F	U	PH		4			1		2 OA2		2	1
6	C	C	PH		6			2		2 OA2		2	1
7	F	U	PH		6			2		2 OA2		2	1
8	C	C	P		8			3		6 OA4		3	2
9	F	U	P		8	AD1900-2000	CBM	3		6 OA4		3	2
10	C	C	D		10			4		5 RW1		3	1
11	F	U	D		10			4		5 RW1		3	1
12	C	C	D		12			5		4 RW1		3	1
13	F	U	D		12			5		4 RW1		3	1
14	C	C	D		14			6		4 RW1		3	1
15	F	U	D		14			6		4 RW1		3	1
16	C	C	PH		16			7		2 OA2		2	1
17	F	U	PH		16			7		2 OA2		2	1
18	C	C	D		18			8		5 RW1		3	1
19	F	U	D		18			8		5 RW1		3	1
20	C	C	P		20			9		3 OA2		2	1
21	F	U	P		20 2nd Fill	??1150-600BC	Based on one pot sherd	9		3 OA2		2	1
22	C	C	P		22			10		3 OA2		2	1
23	F	U	P		22			10		3 OA2		2	1
24	C	C	P		24			11		3 OA2		2	1
25	F	U	P		24	??1150-600BC	Based on one pot sherd	11		3 OA2		2	1
26	C	C	D		26			12		5 RW1		3	1
27	F	U	D		26	AD1700-1800	One CTP frag	12		5 RW1		3	1
28	F	U	P		20 Primary fill	1150-600BC	diagnostic pot; assscoate	9		3 OA2		2	1
29	C	C	PH		29			13		1 OA2		2	1
30	F	U	PH		29	1150-600BC	2 diagnostic rims	13		1 OA2		2	1
31	C	C	P		31			14		2 OA2		2	1
32	F	U	P		31			14		2 OA2		2	1
33	C	C	P		33			15		2 OA2		2	1
34	F	U	P		33			15		2 OA2		2	1
35	C	C	P		35			16		2 OA2		2	1

36	F	U	P		35			16	2 OA2		2	1	
37	C	C	P		37			17	2 OA2		2	1	
38	F	U	P		37			17	2 OA2		2	1	
39	C	C	P		39			18	8 OA3		2	2	
40	F	U	P		39	??600-400BC with	One diagnostic piece of	18	8 OA3		2	2	5
41	C	C	P		41			19	2 OA2		2	1	
42	F	U	P		41	1150-600BC	diagnostic pot	19	2 OA2		2	1	
43	C	C	P		43			20	2 OA2		2	1	
44	F	U	P		43	4000BC-AD40	Nothing inherently data	20	2 OA2		2	1	
45	C	C	PH		45			21	1 OA2		2	1	
46	F	U	PH		45			21	1 OA2		2	1	
47	C	C	D		47			22	4 RW1		3	1	
48	F	U	D		47	9000BC-AD40	Not a very reliable date	22	4 RW1		3	1	3
49	C	C	PH		49			23	1 OA2		2	1	
50	F	U	PH		49			23	1 OA2		2	1	
51	C	C	PH		51			24	1 OA2		2	1	
52	F	U	PH		51			24	1 OA2		2	1	
53	C	C	P		53			25	3 OA2		2	1	
54	F	U	P		53	Primary fill		25	3 OA2		2	1	
55	F	U	P		53	2nd Fill	1150-600BC (prob diagnostic pot; presence	25	3 OA2		2	1	
56	C	C	P		56			26	3 OA2		2	1	
57	F	U	P		56			26	3 OA2		2	1	
13/005	C	C	P	13/005				27	7 OA1		1	1	
13/006	F	U	P	13/005	Primary fill	2500-1800 BC*	3 barbed and tanged arr	27	7 OA1		1	1	1
13/007	F	D	P	13/005	2nd fill			27	7 OA1		1	1	
13/008	C	C	P	13/008				28	2 OA2		2	1	
13/009	F	U	P	13/008		1300-600 BC	moderate pot group, pr	28	2 OA2		2	1	2

## Appendix 2: Environmental Data

Use " * " rating for enviro remains quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250), give weights in grams.													Estimate quant. & weight (eg. Pot star rating *****/5g)	
Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	13/006	Pit	30	30	**	2	***	2	cf. <i>Clematis vitalba</i> (12), <i>Quercus</i> sp. (8)	*	<2			Flint (including 3 arrowheads) **/4g - Stone */6g - FCF **/272g - Magnetised material ****/82g
2	13/009	Pit	40	40	**	2	***	2	cf. <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> (2), <i>Prunus</i> sp. (5), Maloideae (5), <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (2), <i>Betula</i> sp. (3), <i>Quercus</i> sp. (1), <i>Ilex</i> <i>aquifolium</i> (1)					Quartz */<2g - Pot **/84g - FCF **/322g - Magnetised material ***/8g
3	48	Ditch	40	40										Flint */2g - Glass */<2g - FCF */34g
4	28	Pit	40	40	*	<2	**	<2	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (3), <i>Prunus</i> sp. (2), <i>Salix/Populus</i> (1)					Pot **/52g - Fired clay */6g - Flint */9g - FCF **/36g
5	40	Pit	40	40	**	4	***	2	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (19), <i>Prunus</i> sp. (1)		*	<2		Pot **/124g - Fired clay **/136g - FCF **/596g

**Appendix 3: HER Summary Sheet**

Site Code	GOR13					
Identification Name and Address	Goresbrook Village, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham, London Borough of Barking & Dagenham					
County, District &/or Borough	London Borough of Barking & Dagenham					
OS Grid Refs.	546950 183760					
Geology	Taplow gravels overlying London Clay					
Arch. South-East Project Number	6020					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	<b>Excav.</b>	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	<b>Shallow Urban</b>	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	<b>Excav.</b> August 2013	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs					
Project Manager	Darryl Palmer / Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Catherine Douglas					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	<b>Neo.</b>	<b>BA</b>	<b>IA</b>	RB
	AS	MED	<b>PM</b>	Other Modern		
<p>Summary</p> <p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological excavation following on from an archaeological evaluation at Goresbrook Village, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham, London Borough of Barking &amp; Dagenham in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The evaluation consisted of 9 evaluation trenches and the subsequent excavation involved the archaeological investigation of an area measuring 17m x 13m centred on an area in the south-east of the site where Late Bronze Age features were identified.</p> <p>Natural river terrace gravels were recorded at c. 5.70m OD. The earliest identifiable activity on the site dates to the Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age and consisted of a single pit containing three barbed and tanged flint arrowheads and evidence of possible ritual activity. An area of intercut and discrete Late Bronze Age pits and post holes are perhaps indicative of domestic activity, if not on the site itself, then in immediate proximity. Occupation of the site continues into the Iron Age with the identification of a pit contained Early Iron Age pottery and unidentified cremated bone. More recent activity was of an 18<sup>th</sup> century routeway and a 20<sup>th</sup> century pit.</p>						

## Appendix 4: OASIS Summary Sheet

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-161771**

### Project details

Project name	An Archaeological excavation at Goresbrook Village, Dagenham
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological excavation following on from an archaeological evaluation at Goresbrook Village, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham, London Borough of Barking & Dagenham in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The evaluation consisted of 9 evaluation trenches and the subsequent excavation involved the archaeological investigation of an area measuring 17m x 13m centred on an area in the south-east of the site where Late Bronze Age features were identified. Natural river terrace gravels were recorded at c. 5.70m OD. The earliest identifiable activity on the site dates to the Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age and consisted of a single pit containing three barbed and tanged flint arrowheads and evidence of possible ritual activity. An area of intercut and discrete Late Bronze Age pits and post holes are perhaps indicative of domestic activity, if not on the site itself, then in immediate proximity. Occupation of the site continues into the Iron Age with the identification of a pit contained Early Iron Age pottery and unidentified cremated bone. More recent activity was of an 18 <sup>th</sup> century routeway and a 20 <sup>th</sup> century pit.
Project dates	Start: 26-08-2013 End: 03-09-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Significant Finds	FLINT TOOLS Upper Palaeolithic
Significant Finds	AXEHEAD Late Neolithic
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON BARKING AND DAGENHAM DAGENHAM Goresbrook Village
Study area	17.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 546940 183760 50 0 50 56 36 N 000 12 08 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 5.65m Max: 5.81m



**Project creators**

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard/Darryl Palmer
Project supervisor	Catherine Douglas
Type of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting

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**Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient	Museum of London
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Map", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

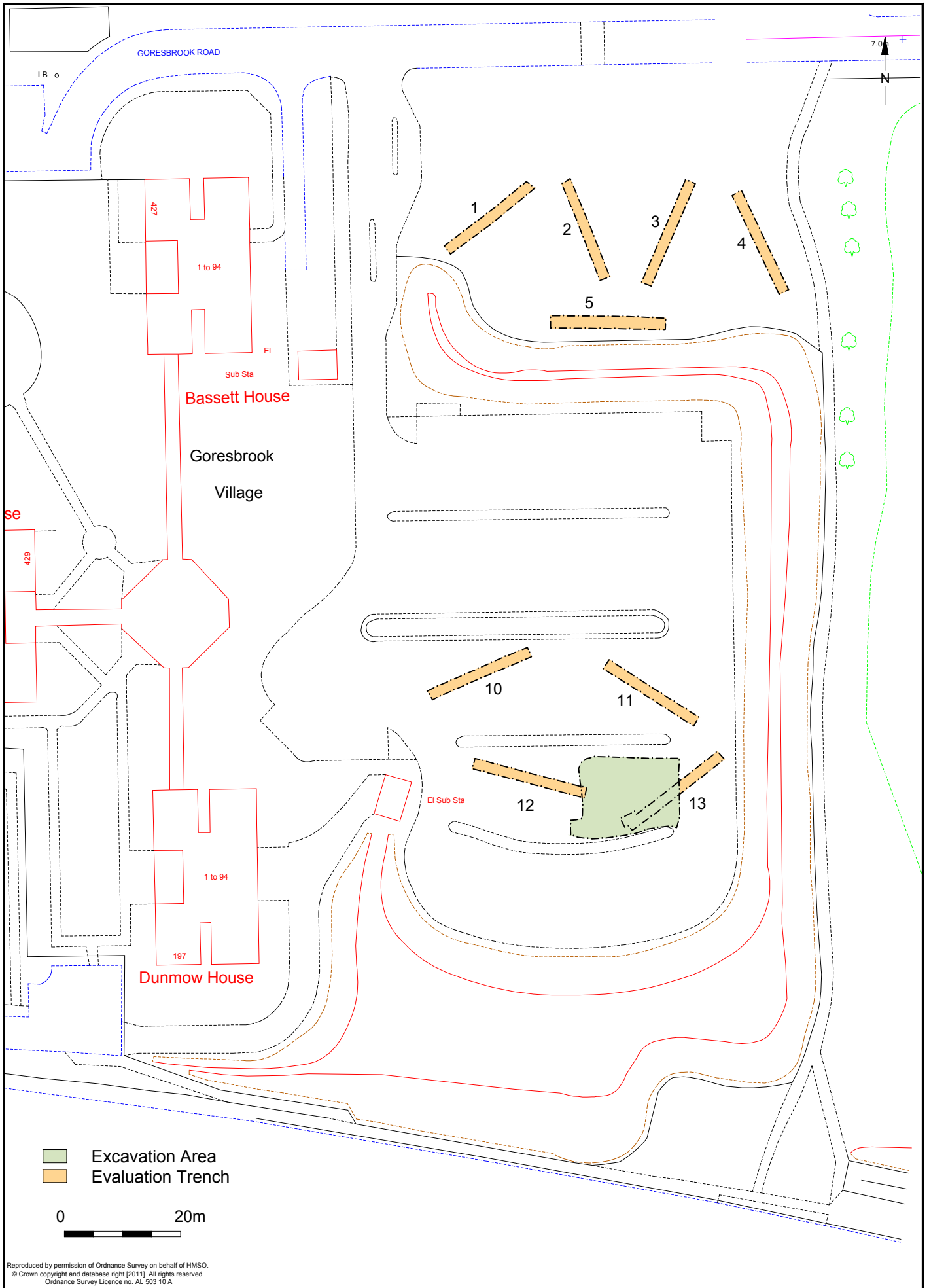
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Entered by	Catherine Douglas (catherine.douglas@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	17 October 2013

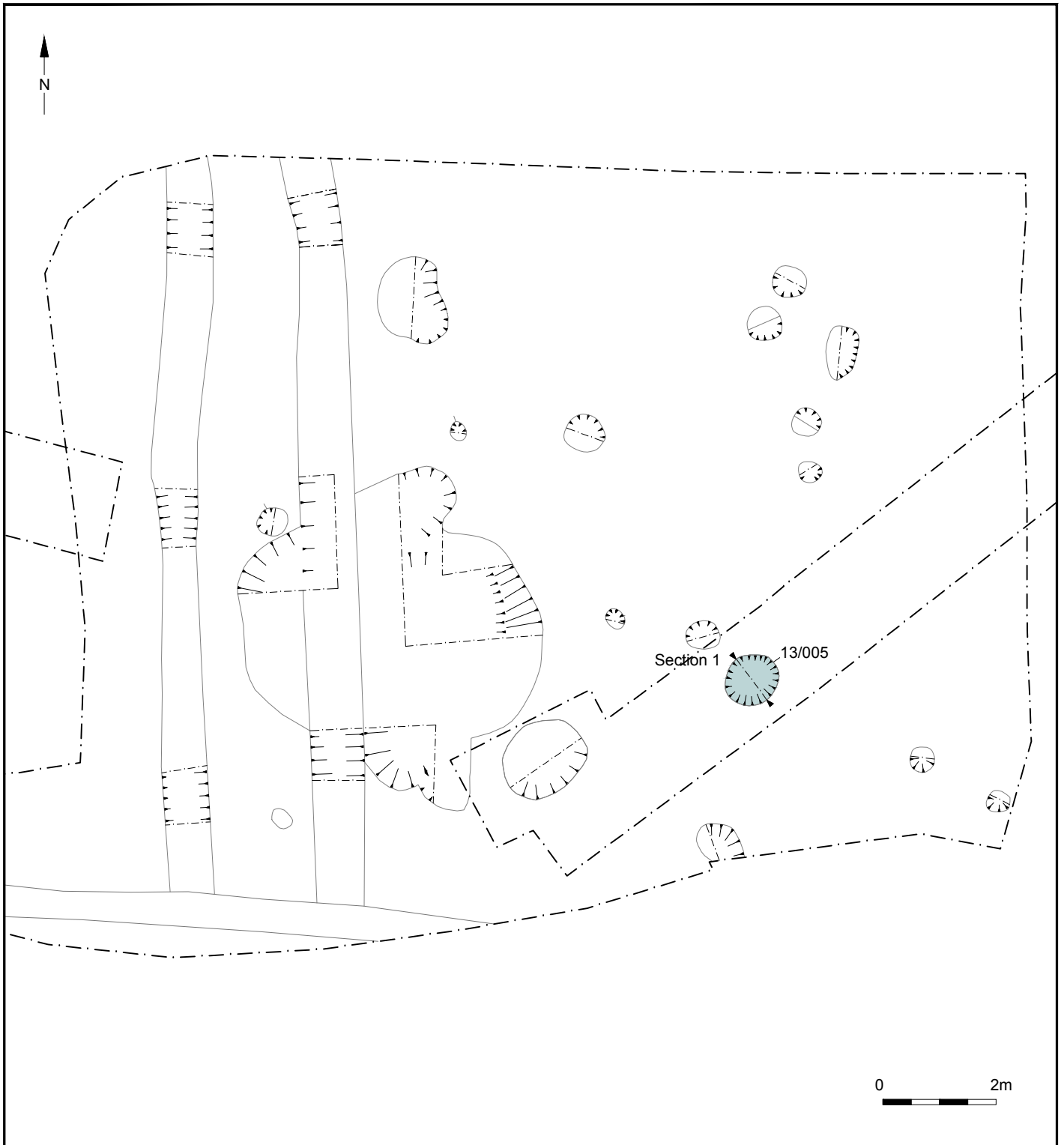


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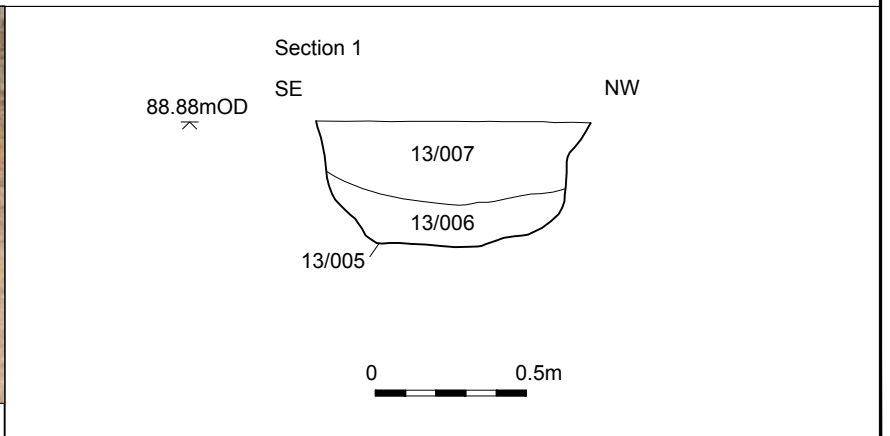
© Archaeology South-East		Goresbrook Village, Dagenham		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 6020	Oct 2013	Site location		
Report Ref: 2013220	Drawn by: JLR			



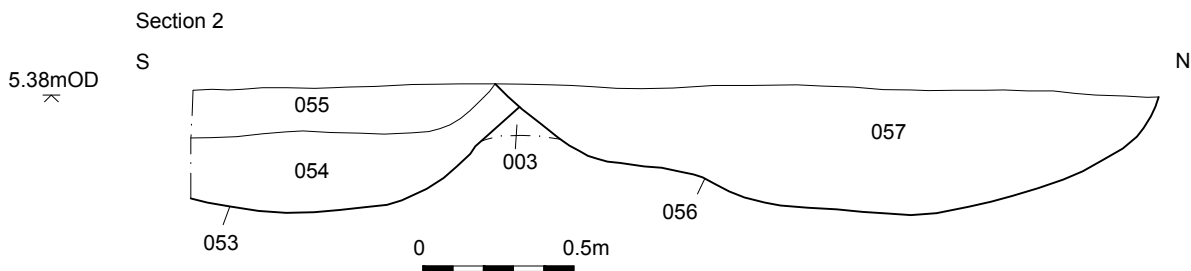
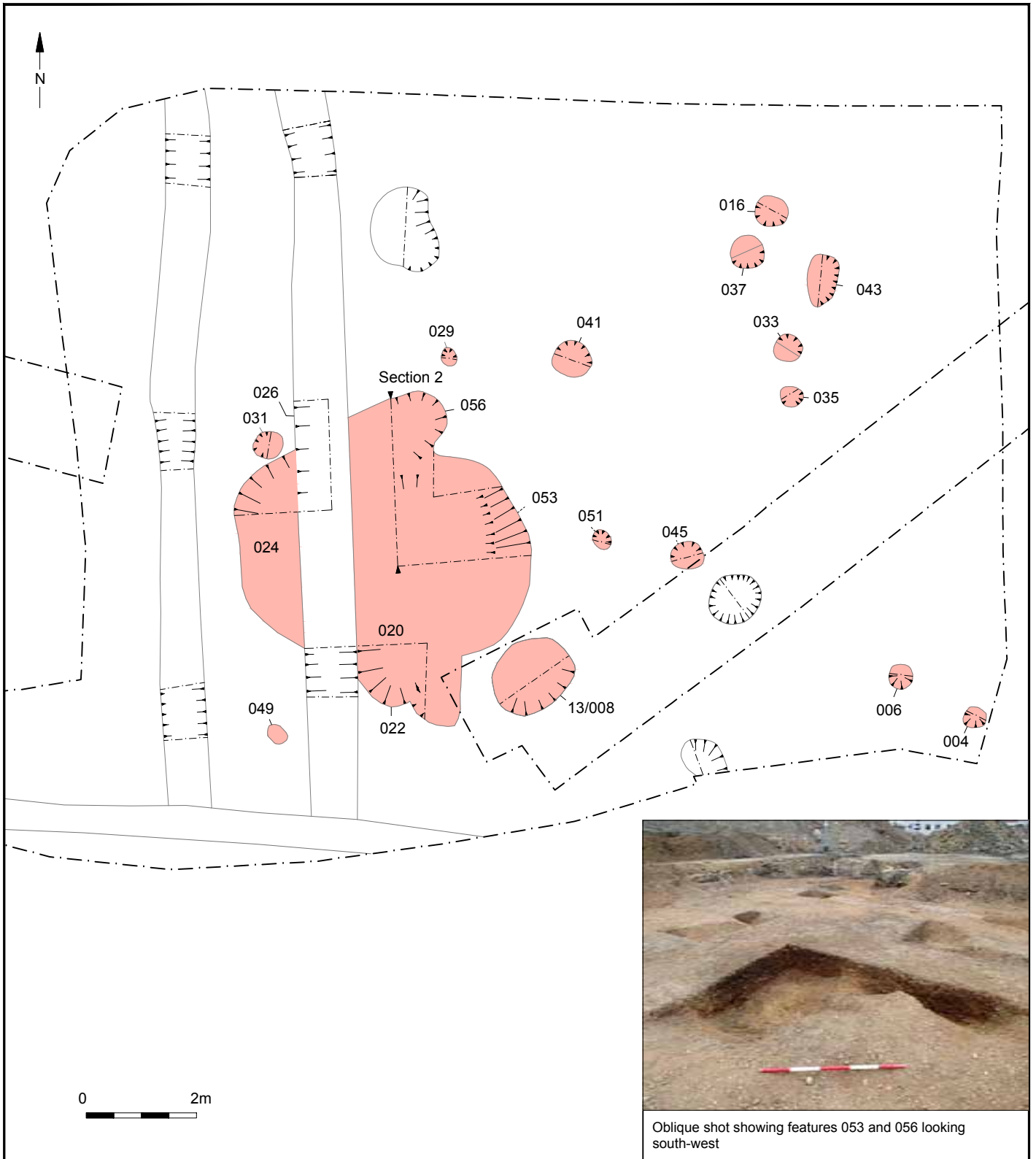
© Archaeology South-East		Goresbrook Village, Dagenham	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 6020	October 2013	Site Plan	
Report Ref: 2013220	Drawn by: RHC		



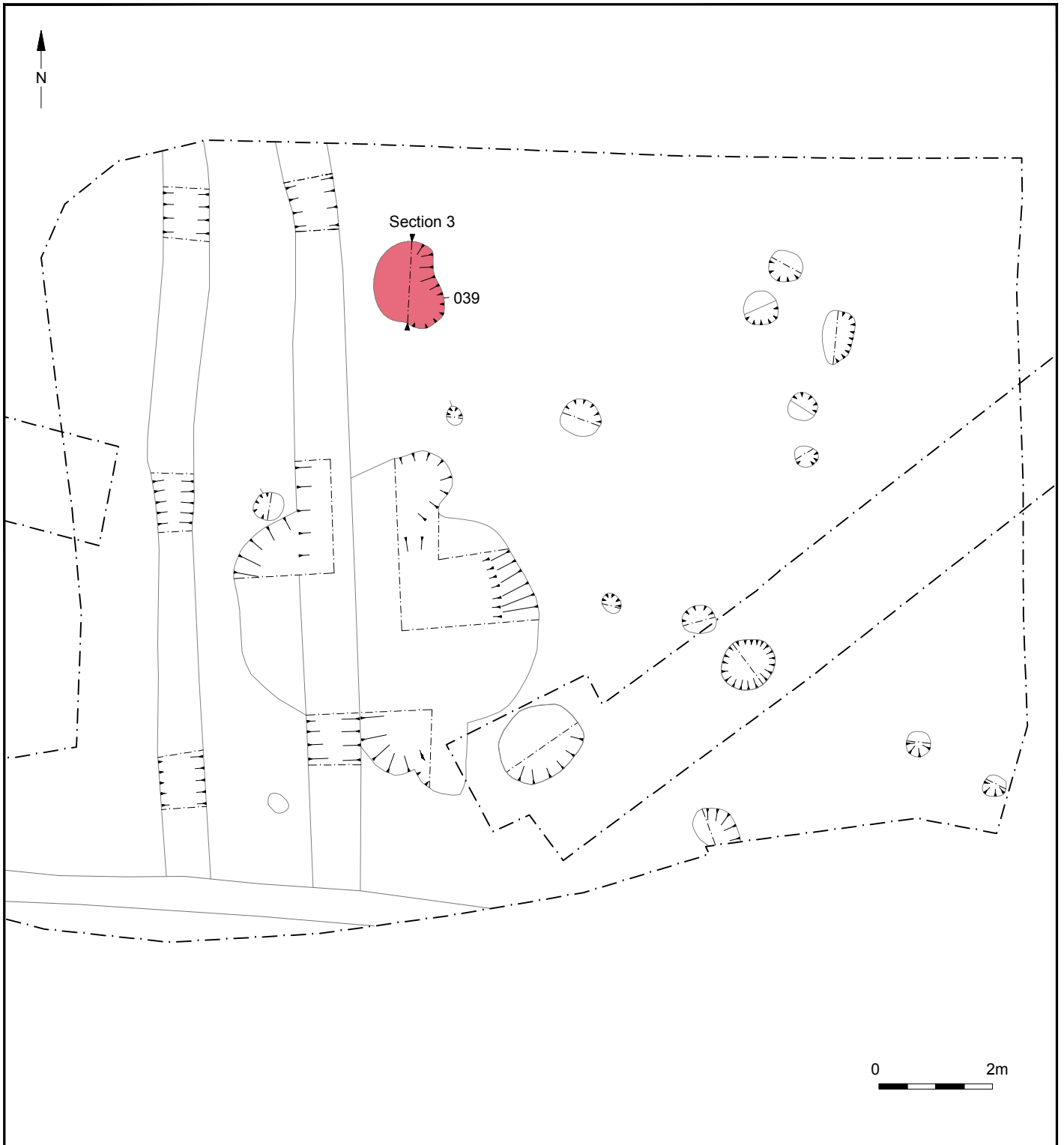
13/005 looking south-west



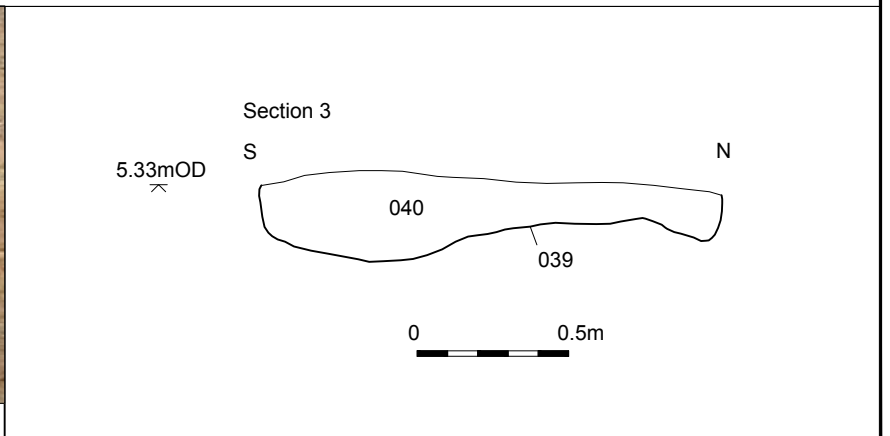
© Archaeology South-East		Goresbrook Village, Dagenham	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 6020	October 2013	Period 1 Phase 1: Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age 2500-1800 BC	
Report Ref: 2013220	Drawn by: RHC		



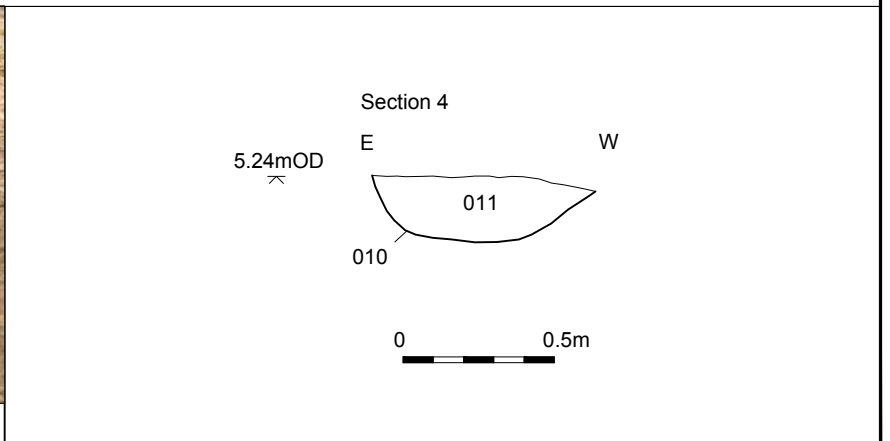
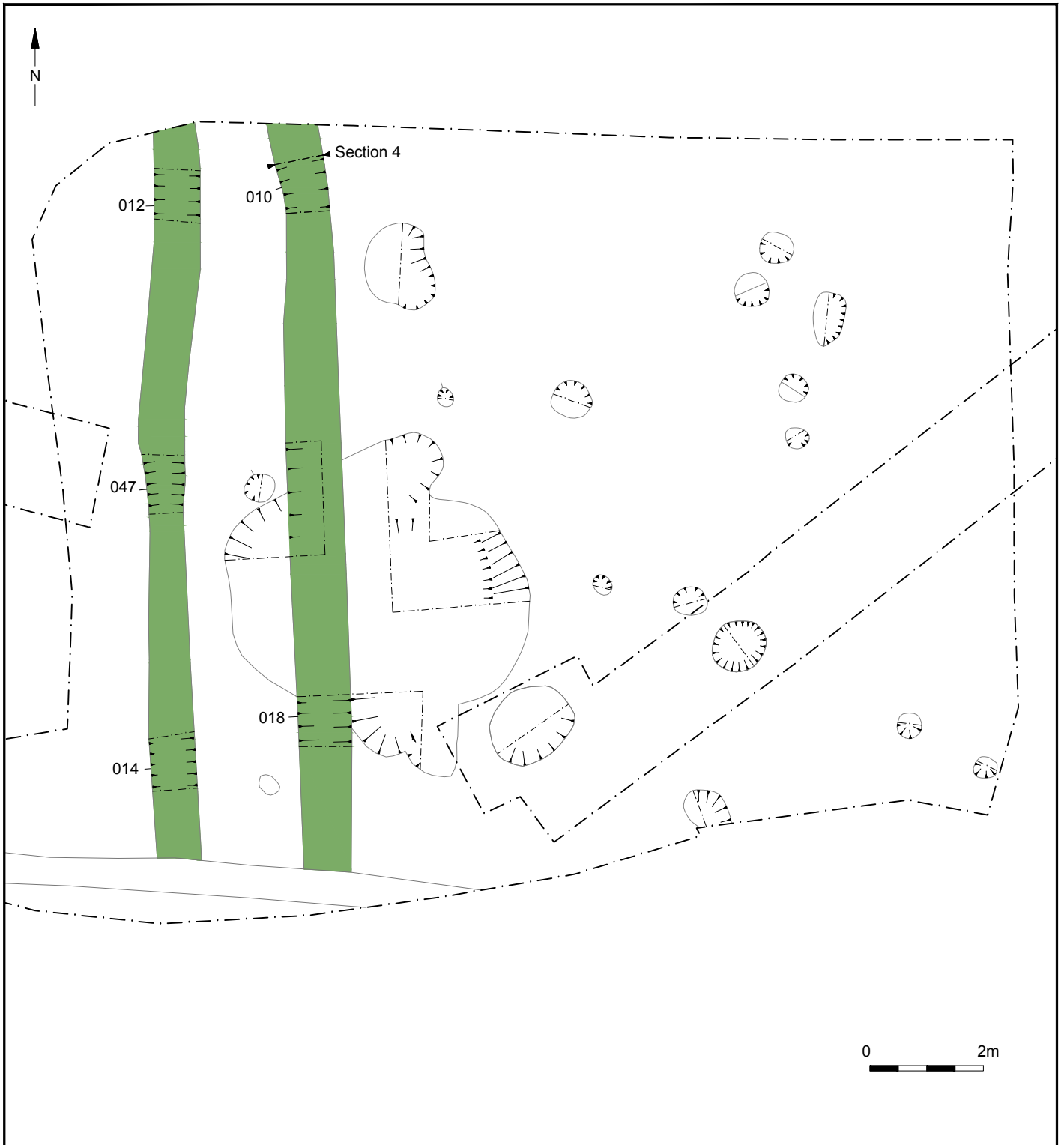
© Archaeology South-East		Goresbrook Village, Dagenham	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 6020	October 2013	Period 2 Phase 1: Late Bronze Age 1150-600 BC	
Report Ref: 2013220	Drawn by: RHC		



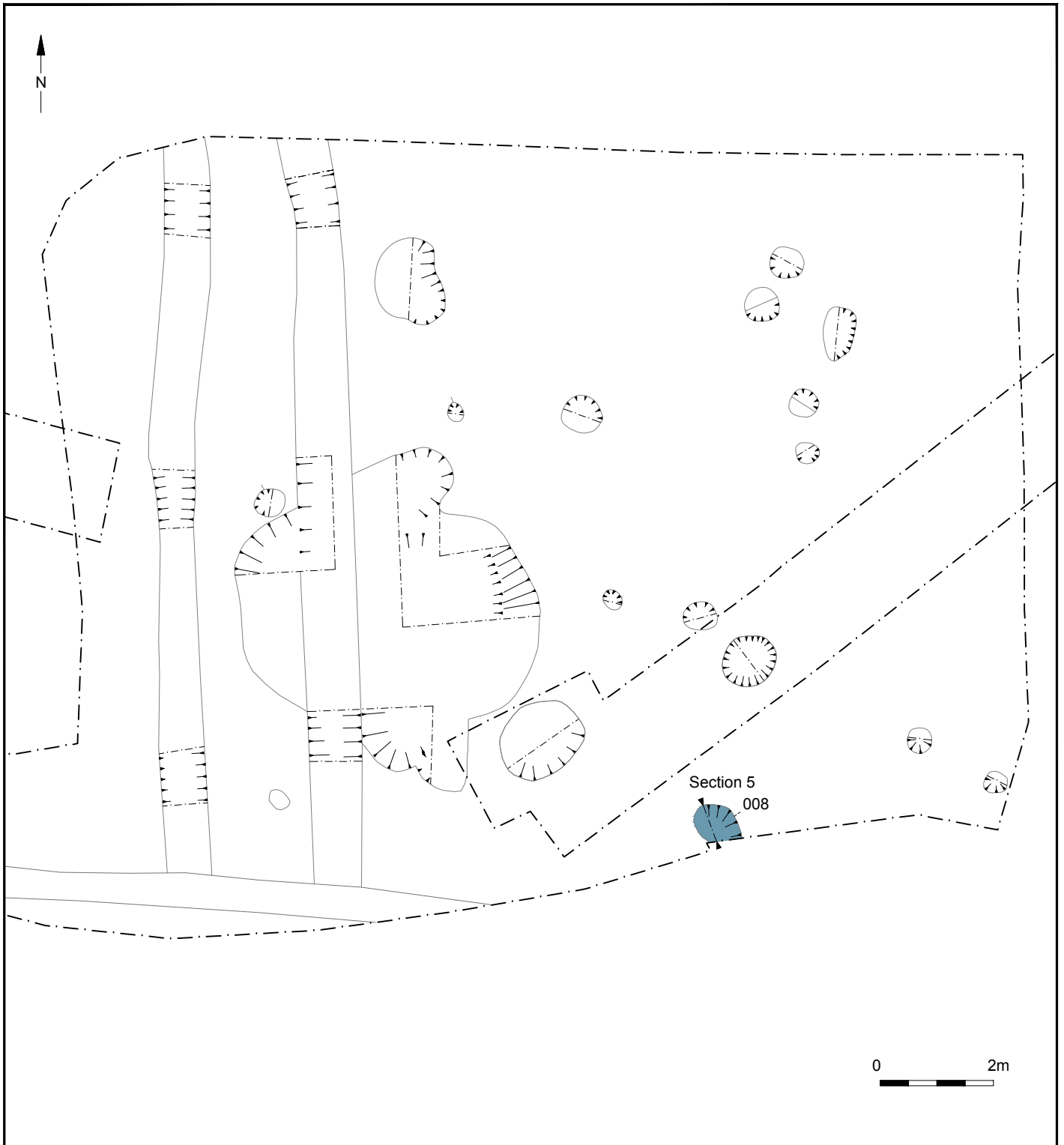
039 looking west



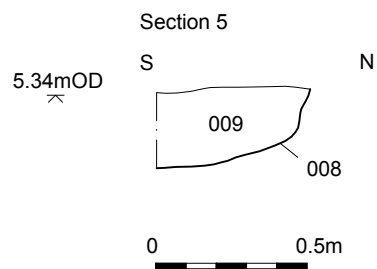
© Archaeology South-East		Goresbrook Village, Dagenham	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 6020	October 2013	Period 2 Phase 2: Early Iron Age 600-400 BC	
Report Ref: 2013220	Drawn by: RHC		



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Project Ref: 6020	October 2013	Period 3 Phase 1: Post Medieval AD1700-1800	
Report Ref: 2013220	Drawn by: RHC		



008 looking south-west



© Archaeology South-East		Goresbrook Village, Dagenham	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 6020	October 2013	Period 3 Phase 2: AD1900-2000	
Report Ref: 2013220	Drawn by: RHC		





© Archaeology South-East		Goresbrook Village, Dagenham	Fig. 8
Project Ref: 6020	Oct 2013	Barbed and tanged arrowheads from pit 13/005 and fill 13/006	
Report Ref: 2013220	Drawn by: JLR		

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