

Archaeological Evaluation Report Bolnore Village (Phase 5)

NGR: 532643, 123389
(TQ 32643 23389)

Planning Ref: HH/04/02676/OUT

ASE Project No: 6725
Site Code: BVD 06

ASE Report No: 2014275
OASIS id: archaeol6-186966



By Dylan Hopkinson

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Bolnore Village (Phase 5)
Near Haywards Heath
West Sussex**

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August 2014

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Crest Nicholson (South) Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of redevelopment of land at the Bolnore Village development (Phase 5), just south-west of Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

A total of 14 evaluation trenches were excavated and it was found that only two of these contained cut features of any kind. In one trench a shallow ditch was identified that was found to contain modern brick and glass in its fill; while a second trench produced two shallow undated postholes.

All of the remaining evaluation trenches produced no archaeological finds or features and showed no indication that archaeological remains had been truncated by modern impacts.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Archaeological Background
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology
- 4.0 Results
- 5.0 Discussion and Conclusions

Bibliography
Acknowledgements

Appendix 1: Contexts recorded in trenches 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 42, and 43

HER Summary
OASIS Form

TABLES

Table 1: Quantification of site archive
Table 2: Trench 37 list of recorded contexts
Table 3: Trench 41 list of recorded contexts

FIGURES

Front Cover Image: One of two undated postholes identified in trench 41 [41/06]

Figure 1: Site location
Figure 2: Site plan
Figure 3: Trench 37 plan, section, and photo
Figure 4: Trench 41 plan, sections, and photos

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by Crest Nicholson (South) Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of redevelopment of land at the Bolnore Village development (Phase 5), hereafter referred to as 'the site'. The site is located immediately to the south-west of Haywards Heath, West Sussex (NGR 532643, 123389) and its location is shown on Figure 1.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 2014), the site lies on interbedded sandstone and siltstone of the Wealden Group. The site comprises a trapezoid plot of land directly south of Climping Close and west of the railway cutting linking Haywards Heath and Wivelsfield. To the west lies a recently developed area of domestic dwellings which projects south from Shire Lane, and it is otherwise bounded by partially wooded grassland.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Outline planning permission has been granted for the development of this land as part of a phase 4 of a multi-phased development of the immediate area for domestic properties and associated amenities (Planning ref HH/04/02676/OUT).

1.3.2 A desk-based assessment covering phases 4 and 5 of the development area was prepared by Archaeology South-East prior to the development (ASE 2004a). This report indicated low to moderate potential for prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval remains.

1.3.3 Due to the archaeological potential of the site, a programme of archaeological work is required prior to the redevelopment of the site, consisting of an archaeological trial trench evaluation. A Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation was compiled (ASE 2010) and approved prior to commencement of the fieldwork.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 The current report provides the results of the archaeological evaluation of Phase 5 of a multi-phased project; the work was carried out between 14th and 17th July 2014. The on-site work was undertaken by Cat Douglas (Archaeologist) and was staffed by ASE archaeologists. The project was managed by Darryl Palmer (Project Manager) and by Jim Stephenson (Post-Excavation Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A full archaeological background is presented in the Desk Based Assessment (ASE 2004a) and is not reproduced here.
- 2.2 Evaluation of land as Phase 3 of the development was undertaken by ASE in 2004 and this revealed a small number of mainly undated linear features (ASE 2004b). One area of these features appeared to be of late Iron Age / early Roman date and was subsequently stripped of topsoil and archaeologically excavated. This revealed a double-ditched enclosure with a number of internal features. This site lies approximately 1km to the southeast of the present evaluation.
- 2.3 Evaluation of land as Phase 4 of the development was undertaken by ASE in 2010, 68 trenches were excavated, 13 of which contained possible archaeological features. The majority of these features were isolated pits, tree throws or post-medieval field boundaries. Most of field boundaries were traceable on historic maps. However, in one trench a denser pattern of archaeological features of medieval date were identified which could represent the remnant of a small, isolated settlement (ASE 2010a).
- 2.4 Two further evaluation trenches were excavated within the Phase 4 area in November 2006 ahead of the construction of access points onto the site, but revealed no archaeological features or deposits and no finds of archaeological significance (ASE 2006).

2.3 Project Aims and Objectives

- 2.3.1 The aims of the evaluation were listed in the WSI (ASE 2010b). The general objectives of the archaeological evaluation were to determine as far as reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains likely to be threatened by the proposed works. The works aimed to establish how any surviving remains might be impacted by the development, whether preservation in situ was appropriate for more significant remains and what other options should be considered for mitigation if features were encountered.
- 2.3.2 The final aim is to make public the results of the work, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 Trenches were located as per the WSI using a Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS Total Station. Trench 30 was moved slightly to the north-west to avoid a public footpath, and Trench 42 was initially located over an area of dense vegetation and was consequently moved c. 10m to the east.
- 3.1.2 This phase of work was the final phase (Phase 5) of an on-going scheme and involved the excavation under archaeological supervision of 14 trenches measuring 30m x 2m (Figure 2); these trenches were set out as trenches 30 to 43. The pattern of trial trenches was designed to achieve a 4% sample of the area.
- 3.1.3 The trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a cable avoidance tool.
- 3.1.4 All mechanical excavation was carried out with a tracked excavator fitted with a flat ditching blade under the supervision of an ASE Archaeologist.
- 3.1.5 Excavation was undertaken in spits of no more than 0.25m to the top of the underlying natural substrate.
- 3.1.6 Hand excavation of features identified in Trenches 37 and 42 was undertaken by sondage and half-section. All deposits were recorded using standard ASE recording sheets, with colours recorded by visual inspection only.
- 3.1.7 Trenches were located and levelled using GPS and tied in to the Ordnance Survey.
- 3.1.6 Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned by eye, for unstratified artefacts.

3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held by Archaeology South-East at the offices in Portslade and will be deposited at a suitable museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Context Sheets	10
Trench Record Forms	14
No. of files/paper record	1 file
Plan and sections sheets	1
Photographs	31 digital
Bulk finds	1 box

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 37 (Figure 3)

- 4.1.1 Trench 37 contained a single north – south orientated ditch observed towards the eastern end of the trench [37/05]. This was 2.23m wide and crossed the entire width of the trench with a depth of 0.16m.
- 4.1.2 The ditch was filled with a single fill of light yellowish brown silt containing occasional flecks of burnt clay and charcoal from which modern glass and frogged brick fragments were recovered [37/05].
- 4.1.3 The feature was then stratigraphically sealed by up to 0.30m of subsoil and 0.14m of topsoil (4.3.2).

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
37	37/01	Topsoil	-	-	0.10-0.14	59.65
37	37/02	Subsoil	-	-	0.13-0.30	59.53
37	37/03	Natural	-	-	0.24+	59.33
37	37/04	Gully Cut	Trench Width	1.23	0.16	59.30
37	37/05	Gully Fill	Trench Width	1.23	0.16	59.30

Table 2: Trench 37 list of recorded contexts

4.2 Trench 41 (Figure 4)

- 4.2.1 In the middle of Trench 41 two small postholes were identified in close proximity to each other [41/04] and [41/06.]
- 4.2.2 Cut [41/04] was sub circular and measured 0.20m by 0.12m in plan with a depth of 0.08m. The fill was light grey brown silt containing manganese flecks but no finds [41/05].
- 4.2.3 The second posthole was also sub circular and measured 0.36m by 0.18m in plan and was 0.16m deep [41/06]. The fill of this feature was also light grey brown silt containing manganese flecks from which no finds were recovered [41/07].
- 4.2.4 The features were then stratigraphically sealed by up to 0.20m of subsoil and 0.10m of topsoil (4.3.2).

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
41	41/01	Topsoil	-	-	0.10	58.68
41	41/02	Subsoil	-	-	0.15-0.20	58.58
41	41/03	Natural	-	-	0.21+	58.40
41	41/04	Posthole Cut	0.20	0.12	0.08	58.29
41	41/05	Posthole Fill	0.20	0.12	0.08	58.29
41	41/06	Posthole Cut	0.36	0.18	0.16	58.26
41	41/07	Posthole Fill	0.36	0.18	0.16	58.26

Table 3: Trench 41 list of recorded contexts

4.3 Trenches 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 42, and 43

- 4.3.1 Of the 14 trenches evaluated 12 were found to contain no archaeological features, and these were recorded on Evaluation Trench Record Sheets which indicate that the natural sandy clay is sealed by similar sequences of subsoil and topsoil across the site (Appendix 1). The natural observed in Trench 35 was very sandy and included many areas of exposed sandstone [35/03].
- 4.3.2 The topsoil varied in thickness from 0.08m to 0.18m and was mid grey brown sandy silt, while the subsoil varied in thickness from 0.10m to 0.54m and was a slightly redder greyish brown sandy silt.
- 4.3.3 In Trench 36 a deposit of modern made ground was identified that was 0.38m thick and was a mid to dark brown sandy silt containing charcoal flecks and CBM; this was observed in the northern end of the trench only [36/04].

5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Summary of results

- 5.1.1 The evaluation has revealed a relatively simple stratigraphic sequence of natural geology overlain by 0.10m-0.41m of subsoil, which was in turn overlain by 0.08-0.18m of topsoil. A localised area of modern made ground was also identified at the northern end of Trench 36 which was identified between the topsoil and subsoil.
- 5.1.2 The natural deposit was orangey brown sandy clay mottled with blue speckles and was encountered at a maximum height of 64.71m OD in the north-west of the site and 56.24m OD in the south-east.
- 5.1.3 A single ditch was identified on a north – south alignment in Trench 37 close to the south-western site boundary, this was deemed to be of modern origin due to the presence of late post medieval glass and a fragment of frogged brick within its single fill.
- 5.1.4 Two undated postholes were recorded in Trench 41 close to the south eastern site boundary.
- 5.1.5 All other trenches were found to be clear of any archaeological finds or features.

5.2 Existing Impacts

- 5.2.1 Half the trenches evaluated identified the presence of land drains (Trenches 30, 32, 36, 37, 39, 41 and 43) and a rusty metal pipe was identified in Trench 31. None of these features had any significant impact on the stratigraphic sequence.
- 5.2.2 No major areas of truncation were identified and the subsoil was observed to be intact across the site.

5.3 Impact on archaeological remains

- 5.3.1 It is not anticipated that the development of the site will have a significant impact on archaeological remains. Only three features were recorded during the evaluation, one of which was considered to be a ditch of modern origin while the remaining features were shallow undated postholes in close proximity to each other.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Crest Nicholson (South) Ltd. for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project, and John Mills County Archaeologist West Sussex County Council for his guidance and monitoring. The excavation was directed by Catherine Douglas. The author would like to thank all archaeologists who worked on the excavations; Darryl Palmer who project managed the excavations and Jim Stephenson and Dan Swift who project managed the post-excavation process.

Appendix 1: Contexts recorded in trenches 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 42, and 43

Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
30	30/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.10-0.14	65.05
30	30/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.23-0.25	64.94
30	30/03	Layer	Natural	0.05+	64.71
31	31/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.13-0.17	64.03
31	31/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.18-0.31	63.91
31	31/03	Layer	Natural	0.09+	63.71
32	32/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.14-0.16	65.42
32	32/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.20-0.21	65.35
32	32/03	Layer	Natural	0.06+	65.15
33	33/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.10-0.14	63.72
33	33/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.24-0.36	63.59
33	33/03	Layer	Natural	0.13+	63.35
34	34/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.13-0.14	61.63
34	34/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.16-0.32	61.50
34	34/03	Layer	Natural	0.07+	61.34
35	35/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.12-0.15	62.53
35	35/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.21-0.25	62.34
35	35/03	Layer	Natural	0.05+	62.09
36	36/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.12	61.25
36	36/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.26-0.40	60.75
36	36/03	Layer	Natural	0.12+	60.49
36	36/04	Layer	Modern Made Ground	0.38	61.13
38	38/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.12-0.15	61.14
38	38/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.34-0.37	61.02
38	38/03	Layer	Natural	0.12+	60.66
39	39/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.10-0.15	60.44
39	39/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.15-0.24	60.34
39	39/03	Layer	Natural	0.16+	60.14
40	40/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.09-0.17	60.13
40	40/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.10-0.11	60.01
40	40/03	Layer	Natural	0.18+	59.91
42	42/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.12-0.18	57.78
42	42/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.42-0.54	57.55
42	42/03	Layer	Natural	0.10+	57.01
43	43/01	Layer	Topsoil	0.08-0.16	56.75
43	43/02	Layer	Subsoil	0.28-0.41	56.65
43	43/03	Layer	Natural	0.08+	56.24

HER Summary

Site Code	BVD 06					
Identification Name and Address	Bolnore Village, Haywards Heath					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex, Haywards Heath					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR 532643,1233					
Geology	Interbedded sandstone and siltstone of the Wealden Group					
Arch. South-East Project Number	6725					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. X					
Type of Site	Green Field X					
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 14-07-2014 to 17-07-2014					
Sponsor/Client	Crest Nicholson (South) Ltd.					
Project Manager	Darryl Palmer/Jim Stevenson					
Project Supervisor	Catherine Douglas					
Period Summary						
						Other Modern X
<p>Summary</p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Crest Nicholson (South) Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of redevelopment of land at the Bolnore Village development (Phase 5).</i></p> <p><i>A total of 14 evaluation trenches were excavated and it was found that only two of these contained cut features of any kind. In one trench a shallow ditch was identified that was found to contain modern brick and glass in its fill; while a second trench produced two shallow undated postholes.</i></p> <p><i>All the remaining evaluation trenches produced no archaeological finds or features and showed no indication that archaeological remains had been truncated by modern impacts.</i></p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-186966

Project details

Project name	Bolnore Village (Phase 5)
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Crest Nicholson (South) Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of redevelopment of land at the Bolnore Village development (Phase 5). A total of 14 evaluation trenches were excavated and it was found that only two of these contained cut features of any kind. In one trench a shallow ditch was identified that was found to contain modern brick and glass in its fill; while a second trench produced two shallow undated postholes. All the remaining evaluation trenches produced no archaeological finds or features and showed no indication that archaeological remains had been truncated by modern impacts.
Project dates	Start: 14-07-2014 End: 17-07-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	BVD 06 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 2 - Undisturbed Grassland
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	POSTHOLE Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX MID SUSSEX HAYWARDS HEATH Bolnore Village (Phase 5)
Postcode	RH16 4DY

Study area	2.70 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 32643 23389 50.9940344286 -0.109668957099 50 59 38 N 000 06 34 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	WGS 84 Datum
Height OD / Depth	Min: 56.24m Max: 64.71m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	west sussex county council
Project design originator	west sussex county council
Project director/manager	Darryl Palmer
Project supervisor	Catherine Douglas
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Crest Nicholson (South) Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	n/a
Digital Media available	"Text"
Paper Archive recipient	n/a
Paper Contents	"Survey"
Paper Media available	"Photograph", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

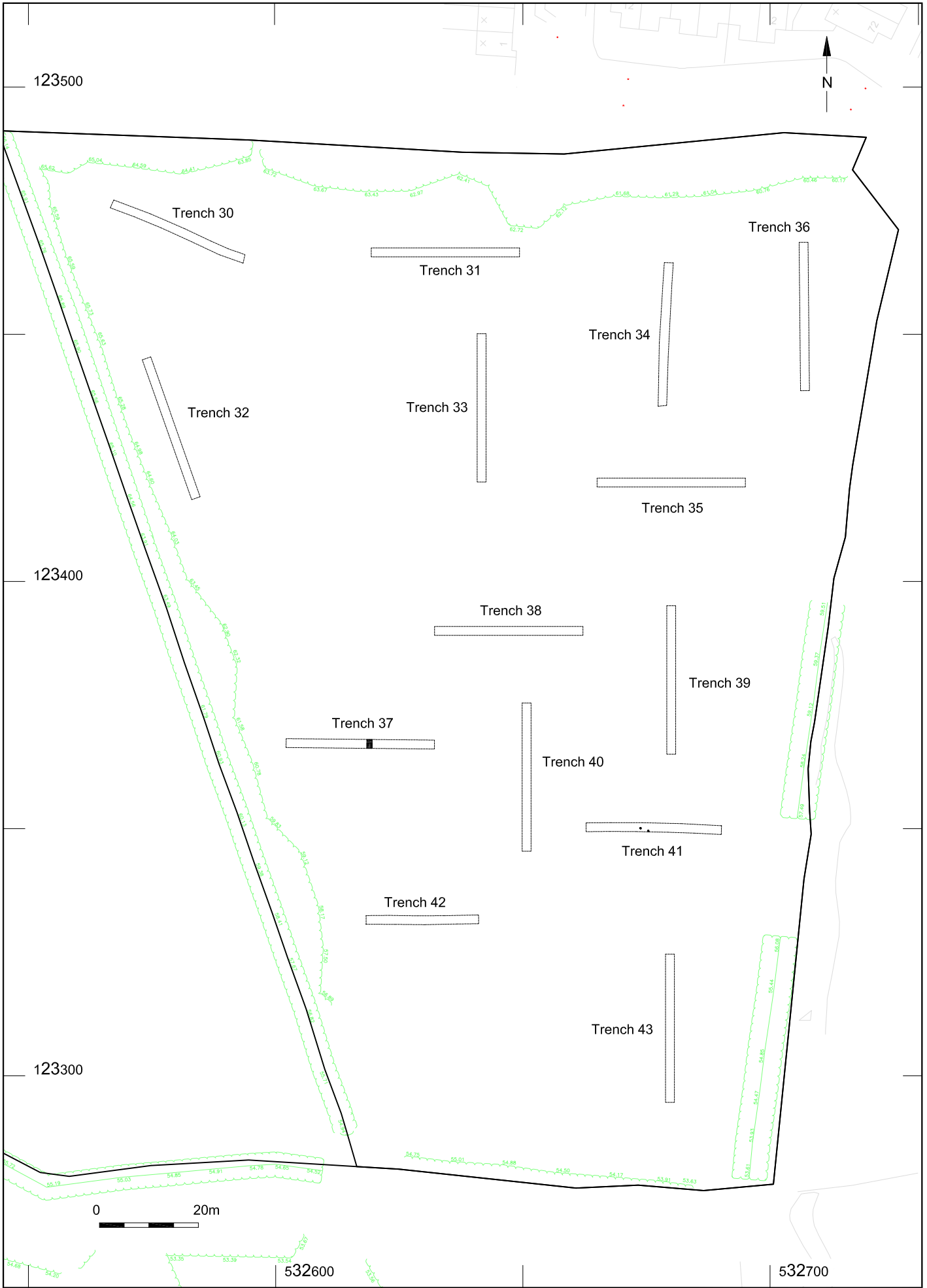
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at Bolnore Village (Phase 5)

Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hopkinson, D.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No: 2014275
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade, East Sussex
Description	16 page A4 bound report with 4 colour illustrations

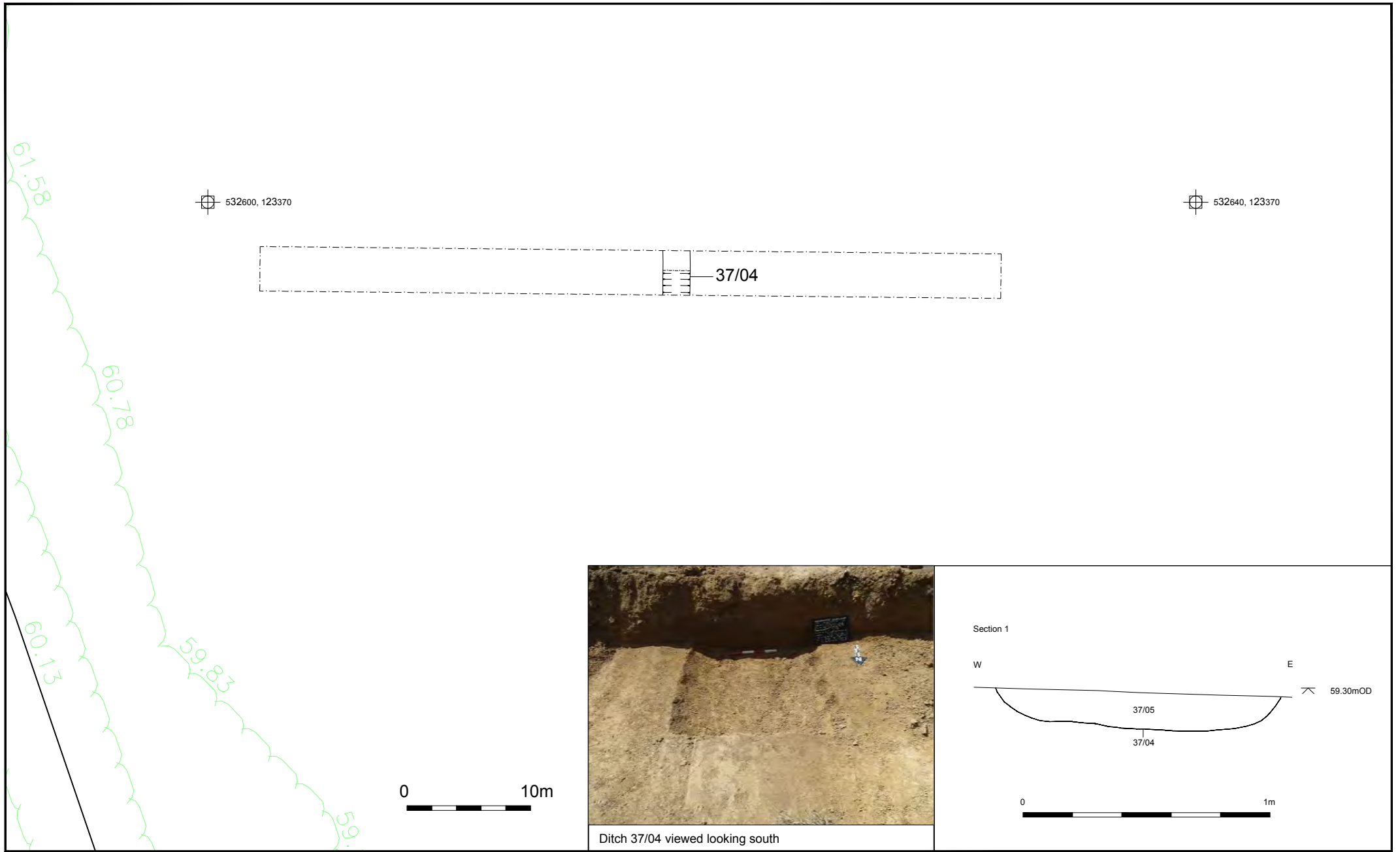


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© Archaeology South-East		Bolnore Village (Phase 5)		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 6725	August 2014	Site location		
Report Ref: 2014275	Drawn by: DJH			



© Archaeology South-East		Bolnore Village (Phase 5)	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 6725	August 2014	Site Plan	
Report Ref: 2014275	Drawn by: DJH		



Ditch 37/04 viewed looking south

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Bolnore Village (Phase 5)

Project Ref: 6725

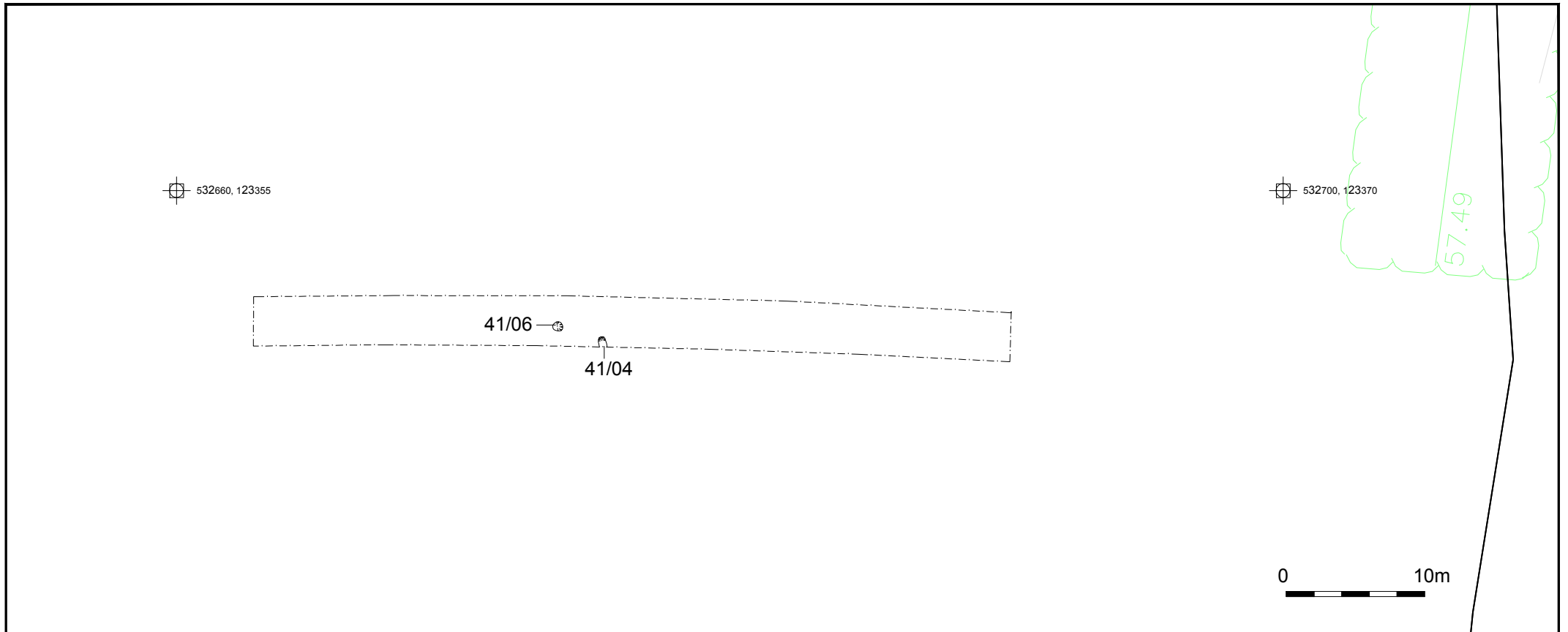
August 2014

Report Ref: 2014275

Drawn by: DJH

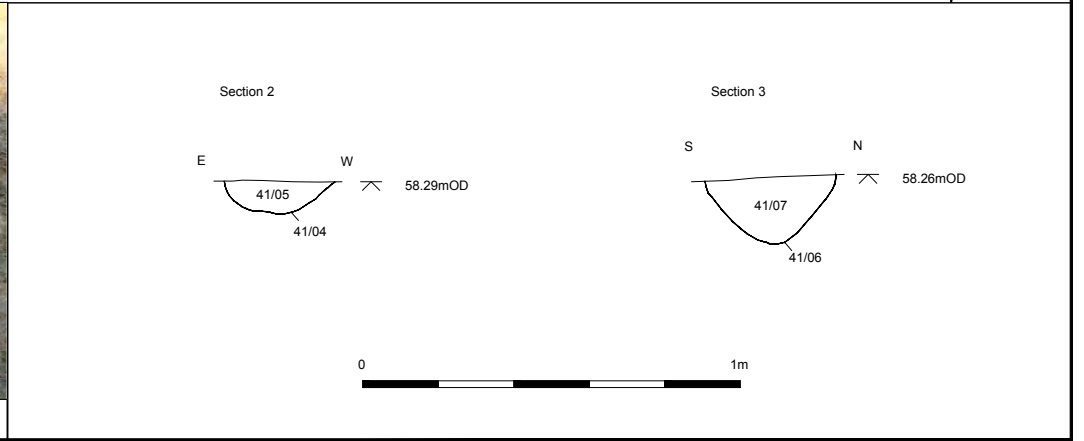
Trench 37 plan, section, and photo

Fig. 3



Posthole 41/04 viewed looking south

Posthole 41/06 viewed looking west



© Archaeology South-East		Bolnore Village (Phase 5)	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 6725	August 2014	Trench 41 plan, sections, and photos	
Report Ref: 2014275	Drawn by: DJH		

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