

**Archaeological Evaluation Report  
Farrington Enterprise Estate, Hoyle Road  
Peacehaven, East Sussex**

**NGR 541560 101310  
(TQ 41560 01310)**

**Planning Reference: LW/13/0710**

**ASE Project No: 7607  
Site Code: FPE 15**

**ASE Report No: 2015302  
OASIS ID: archaeol6-221244**



**By Simon Stevens BA (Hons) MCIfA**



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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Clifford Dann LLP to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Farrington Enterprise Estate, Hoyle Road, Peacehaven, East Sussex. (NGR 541560 101310). Three trenches were mechanically excavated to a cumulative length of 43m.*

*Although there was a paucity of closely datable material, the orientation of one gully suggests it formed the continuation of one of a system of features forming Middle Iron Age droeways recorded on other sites in the locale. The ditch contained a small amount of Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint thought therefore to be residual.*

*The orientation of another gully/ditch suggests a post-medieval date, again based on the alignment of features encountered at other nearby sites in recent years.*

*An otherwise undated post-hole, pit and ?spread may also belong to the Middle Iron Age, or variously to earlier or later periods. Artefacts from these consisted of a group of undiagnostic residual flintwork.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Clifford Dann LLP to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Farrington Enterprise Estate, Hoyle Road, Peacehaven, East Sussex. (NGR 541560 101310; Figure 1).

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The 0.32ha site lies at a height of between 38.10 - 39.50m AOD at the extreme eastern end of Hoyle Road, between the coastal residential area of Peacehaven to the south and the extensive grounds of the Brighton and Hove wastewater treatment works to the north. It is bounded to the south by properties fronting onto Capel Avenue. The site lies partially within the boundaries of an ongoing housing development to the east; the remainder is open ground currently used as a storage area for plant, caravans and various building materials.

1.2.2 According to current data from the British Geological Survey, the site is located on an outcrop of the Lambeth Group of clays, silts and sands, with chalk to the north, west and south. There are no recorded superficial deposits (BGS 2015).

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 Planning permission for the erection of eight business units at the site was granted by Lewes District Council in February 2015 (planning ref. LW/13/0710). Given that the area lies in a locally-defined Archaeological Notification Area (see below), and following consultation between Lewes District Council and Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist at East Sussex County Council (ESCC) (Lewes District Council's advisers on archaeological issues) conditions (Nos. 11 and 12) were attached to the permission requiring that:

*'11. No development shall take place until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Reason: To ensure that the archaeological and historical interest of the site is safeguarded and recorded to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework.*

*12. The development hereby permitted shall not be brought into use until the archaeological site investigation and post investigation assessment (including provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition) has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition [11] to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority, in consultation with the County Planning Authority.*

*Reason: To ensure that the archaeological and historical interest of the site is safeguarded and recorded to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework.'*

- 1.3.3 In accordance with this and after discussions with ESCC a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE 2015) was produced outlining the methodology to be used to evaluate the site in advance of development, in this case by mechanically excavated trial trenches. Procedures to be used in recording, reporting and archiving of results were provided. The possibility that further archaeological work at the site might be necessary should results merit this was also highlighted.

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

- 1.4.1 The general research aims given in the WSI (*ibid.*) were to:

*'To assess the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of any archaeological remains and deposits*

*To assess how these remains might be affected by development of the site*

*To establish the extent to which previous groundworks and/or other processes have affected archaeological deposits at the site*

*To assess what options should be considered for mitigation'*

- 1.4.2 A number of site specific research aims were also given (*ibid.*):

*'Investigation of the site also has the potential to address the following research priorities in alignment with the draft South East Research Framework:*

*To better understand prehistoric occupation of the area, with particular emphasis on the Mesolithic period as Mesolithic activity has previously been found to be focussed on sands and silts of the Lambeth Group, the natural geology on which the site lies*

*To establish whether any linear features identified on adjacent sites can be seen to extend into the current excavation area*

*To establish whether there is any evidence for Late Iron Age/Roman activity and, if so, how this compares to the relatively low-level evidence for this period generally found in this area'*

#### **1.5 Scope of Report**

- 1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation of the site by trial trenching undertaken in August 2015. The archaeological work was undertaken by Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist) and Chris Russel (Archaeologist). The fieldwork was managed by Paul Mason and in post-excavation by Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift.

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 The site lies at the heart of a landscape that has been subject to intensive archaeological scrutiny in recent years. Extensive development on the northern edge of Peacehaven has provided an opportunity for investigation of the former downland landscape of the area on an unprecedented scale.

### **2.2 Recent Archaeological Investigations**

2.2.1 The archaeological context of the site has been considerably enhanced by such recent extensive excavations carried out by ASE in advance of service utility developments immediately to the north of the site which revealed a multi-period prehistoric landscape (ASE 2010b, Hart 2015). Further extensive archaeological investigations undertaken by ASE in advance of residential development at Keymer Avenue (ASE 2008) and Arundel Road (ASE 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2013d, 2014b), at Seaview Avenue (ASE 2010a), and at Farrington Farm, immediately to the east of the current site (ASE 2014a), further illustrate the extensive nature of prehistoric land use in the Peacehaven area. Full results from some of the local sites have recently been published (Hart 2015) and findings from these individual sites are summarised below with all due acknowledgement, along with results from more recently investigated sites.

### **2.3 Brighton and Hove Wastewater Treatment Works site (BHT09)**

2.3.1 Between July and December 2009 Archaeology South-East undertook large scale archaeological excavations at Lower Hoddern Farm in Peacehaven in advance of the construction of the new Brighton and Hove Wastewater Treatment Works. The work involved the excavation of some 30 hectares of chalk downland, making this one of the largest archaeological excavations ever undertaken in Sussex and revealing evidence of some 4000 years of occupation on the site. A chronological overview follows:

#### ***Early activity: The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age c.3700-1700 BC***

2.3.2 A scatter of flint implements of Mesolithic date hints at some activity on or near the site over the period immediately following the end of the Ice Age in Britain, from c. 10,000 to 4,000 years BC. However, it is not until the Early Neolithic period, from about 3,700-3,300 BC that we see the earliest definite evidence for occupation on the site. This comprised a cluster of pits that contained one of the largest assemblages of Early Neolithic pottery to be recovered in Sussex in the last 30 years, as well as significant assemblages of flint tools and cereal processing equipment and even charred grain. Pits such as these are a common feature on Early Neolithic sites in Britain, although their exact meaning and significance is much debated. The Later Neolithic period, from c. 3300-2500 BC is very poorly represented, with just a handful of small pits of this date scattered across the site and suggesting only limited activity during this period. Features of Early Bronze Age date, from c. 2500-1700 BC include a round barrow and several deep shaft-like pits of probable ritual or ceremonial function, as well as exciting new evidence for Early Bronze Age land division in Sussex.

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***A farmed landscape: The Middle and Late Bronze Age c. 1700-950 BC***

- 2.3.3 The Middle Bronze Age period, from c. 1700-1150 BC was marked by the development of an extensive system of fields and drove roads across the site, interspersed with small settlements. The presence of drove roads indicates the seasonal movement of livestock around a carefully managed landscape but the presence of grinding stones and the charred remains of wheat, barley and beans recovered from storage pits associated with Middle Bronze Age settlement suggest a mixed farming economy. The best evidence for Middle Bronze Age settlement on the site comes from a group of two or three roundhouses clustered around an enigmatic circular ditched monument of uncertain date and function. These roundhouses were generally quite humble affairs, consisting of a circle of timber roof support posts set within a hut platform some six or seven metres in diameter with a small south-east facing porch supported on two additional posts. Heating was by means of a small central hearth and several larger pits around the edge of the roundhouse would have been used for storing grain and other perishables.
- 2.3.4 By the beginning of the Late Bronze Age, at around 1150 BC, the small dispersed settlements of the preceding period had been abandoned and the available evidence points to a move towards a new settlement location in the south of the site. Evidence for buildings of this period is rare but includes the poorly preserved remains of at least one possible roundhouse, as well as a rectangular six-post structure that may represent a raised granary or similar feature. Other significant features of this period include a rubbish pit containing one of the largest groups of Late Bronze Age pottery found in Sussex so far.

***Iron Age developments c. 950BC-AD 50***

- 2.3.5 The Early Iron Age on the site is very much a continuation of the Late Bronze Age, with continued settlement in the south of the site and little evidence of activity elsewhere. By the beginning of the Middle Iron Age, around 300 BC, this small settlement had developed into an extensive complex of enclosures. Again, evidence for buildings during this period is rare but includes at least one and possibly two round houses. The Late Iron Age, c. 100 BC-AD50 saw further development of this enclosure system, as well as the creation of several new drove roads and field boundary ditches that indicates an intensification in farming during the period.

***The end of prehistory: The Early Roman period c. AD50-100.***

- 2.3.6 The available evidence suggests a great deal of continuity between the Iron Age and Early Roman period on the site. Those elements of the enclosure system still in use during the Late Iron age appear to remain in use during the early years of the Roman occupation, although there is very little evidence for occupation on the site after c. AD100. Significant features of Early Roman date include a small group of cremation burials in pottery vessels.



### ***The Post-Roman period***

- 2.3.7 There is almost no evidence of activity on the site after the first century AD. The medieval period, c. AD410-1540 is represented by a single sherd of pottery, and just a handful of ditches were dated to the post-medieval period, from c. 1540 onwards.

### **2.4 Investigations at Farrington Farm (FFP14) (ASE 2014a)**

- 2.4.1 Excavation work carried out by Archaeology South-East in 2014, on land adjacent to the current development site, at Farrington Farm, revealed Late Bronze Age to Early Roman features, along with a small amount of residual flintwork spanning the Mesolithic to later prehistoric periods. There were also a number of post-medieval field boundaries. This work expanded on the findings of an initial evaluation carried out by Wessex Archaeology in February 2014.
- 2.4.2 The main phase of activity identified at Farrington Farm dated to the Middle Iron Age. This comprised a sequence of ditches representing the junction of two driveway routes and a number of postholes representing potential buildings or fence lines. Several small midden deposits also dated to this period.
- 2.4.3 Roman pottery was recovered from one of the driveway ditches, suggesting that the Iron Age transport routes may have still been in use during the Roman period, albeit at a reduced intensity. It is known that Roman activity in the wider landscape was much reduced, having become focussed on a small settlement enclosure directly to the north of the site. A small group of pits identified at Farrington Farm close to that enclosure are thought to be associated with its occupation.
- 2.4.4 The Farrington Farm site appears to have fallen out of use after the 1st century AD with no further activity until the post medieval period. Three field boundary ditches identified during the excavation were thought to date to this period

### **2.5 Investigations at Keymer and Seaview Avenues (SKP06 & SPV10)**

- 2.5.1 Geophysical survey and evaluation work undertaken at Keymer Avenue and Seaview Avenue identified the presence of a variety of landscape features which were predominantly Iron Age in date. Subsequent excavations on land to the north of Keymer Avenue revealed a ditched enclosure system, with associated pits and postholes, dating to the Middle Iron Age. Substantial worked flint assemblages of Mesolithic and Neolithic date were also recovered, along with smaller quantities of Neolithic pottery and a scatter of associated features.
- 2.5.2 Residual Mesolithic and Early Neolithic struck flint recovered from the Seaview Avenue site suggests at least some activity of this date in the vicinity of this site. However, the earliest stratified activity appears to be of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date and comprised a large deep pit, containing a small assemblage of 'Beaker' pottery. There is an apparent hiatus in activity during much of the Middle Bronze age and it is not until towards the end of

this period that activity recommences, with the deposition of a near-complete pottery vessel in the north-west corner of the site.

2.5.3 The Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age periods are typified by an expansion in agricultural activity on the site, marked by the appearance of an east - west aligned droveway. A probable hearth or fire pit in the northwest corner of the site can also be dated to this period and, together with pits more broadly dated to the later prehistoric period, may indicate activity peripheral to settlement during the period. No Middle Iron Age activity could be identified on the site and activity of Late Iron Age date is restricted to two large, amorphous features in the northwest corner of the site that represent areas of turbation or mixing of the underlying natural geology, perhaps as a result of trampling by livestock.

2.5.4 Other features dated broadly to the later prehistoric period include an additional droveway and Holloway or lynchet, both aligned along the axis of the dry valley and a group of pits and postholes and north - south aligned ditch in the southeast of the site. These are accompanied by a range of undated features dispersed across the site that include field boundary ditches on a variety of alignments, as well as various pits, postholes and tree throws.

## **2.6 Land North of Arundel Road (ARN 13) (ASE 2013; 2014b)**

2.6.1 Evaluation trenches revealed an undisturbed subsoil across the site and this yielded a good quantity of worked flint and a sherd of prehistoric pottery (ASE 2013d). A finely made Neolithic polished axe was also recovered. Some prehistoric pottery dating to the Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age or Late Iron Age/Roman and Middle/Late Iron Age period was also recovered from two pits.

2.6.2 Subsequent excavation of the majority of the site identified a spread of Middle Neolithic pits, a ?Middle Bronze Age field system, Middle Iron Age pits associated with a group of contemporary droveways, and limited evidence of early Romano-British activity (ASE 2014b)

## **2.7 Designated Sites**

2.7.1 The current site lies within an Archaeological Notification Area (ANA 776) defining an area of prehistoric and Romano-British settlement and activity. Mesolithic activity in particular has been found to be focussed on sands and silts of the Lambeth Group.

### 3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 Three trenches, each measuring 20m by 1.8m was agreed between ASE and ESCC (ASE 2015), targeted within the footprints of proposed buildings. However, none of the trenches could be excavated to the full planned length owing to the presence of on-site obstacles or buried services. The revised, actual trench plan is shown on Figure 2.
- 3.1.2 Mechanical excavation, under archaeological supervision, using a flat-bladed bucket was taken in small spits 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 any archaeological deposits through excessive use of mechanical excavation. Revealed surfaces of the natural geology were manually cleaned to identify archaeological features. Spoil was scanned for the presence of artefacts, both visually and with a metal detector.
- 3.1.3 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were collected, sampled and recorded to accepted professional standards using standard Archaeology South-East recording forms.
- 3.1.4 The trenches and all features were planned using digital survey technology. Sections were hand-drawn at a scale of 1:10. A digital photographic record was maintained of all excavated features and of the site in general.

#### 3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and has been offered to Lewes Museum. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	28
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	2
Digital photos	25 images
Permatrace sheets	2
Trench Record Forms	3

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The trial trenches were mechanically excavated in strong diffuse light, with no rain over the period of the archaeological works. Therefore conditions were good for the identification and recording of archaeological features.

### 4.2 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness
1/001	Layer	Brick Rubble	Trench	Trench	0.11m - 0.19m
1/002	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.37m - 0.38m
1/003	Layer	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.12m - 0.14m
1/004	Layer	'Natural'	Trench	Trench	-
1/005	Cut	Gully	-	-	-
1/006	Fill	Gully	-	1.37m	0.48m

Table 2: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Trench 1 was excavated to a length of 16m and to a depth of 590mm Below Ground Level (BGL) at the western end and to 510mm BGL at the eastern end at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

4.2.2 There were three distinct layers of overburden. The uppermost was a loose brick and concrete rubble hardstanding, context [1/001], laid onto a mid-brown silty clay topsoil, context [1/002], which in turn overlay a deposit of orangey brown silty clay subsoil, context [1/003], which directly overly the brownish orange sandy clay 'natural', context [1/004].

4.2.3 A single archaeological feature was identified, excavated and recorded. Gully [1/005] was 1.37m wide and 480mm deep, and ran from north-west to south-east close to the eastern end of the trench. It was broadly 'v'-shaped in profile. The single fill was context [1/006], an orangey brown sandy clay, which contained a small assemblage of probably residual Mesolithic or Neolithic flintwork.

**4.3 Trench 2** (Figure 4)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness
2/001	Layer	Hardstanding	Trench	Trench	0.25m - 0.27m
2/002	Layer	Terram	Trench	Trench	<5mm
2/003	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.30m - 0.34m
2/004	Layer	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.11m - 0.19m
2/005	Cut	Post-Hole	-	0.54m	-
2/006	Fill	Post-Hole	-	-	0.57m
2/007	Cut	Gully	-	1.54m	-
2/008	Fill	Gully	-	-	0.34m
2/009	Fill	Gully	-	-	0.26m
2/010	Cut	?Pit	-	1.01m	-
2/011	Fill	?Pit	-	-	>0.75m
2/012	Fill	?Pit	-	-	<0.75m
2/013	Fill	?Pit	-	-	>0.75m
2/014	Fill	?Pit	-	-	>0.2m
2/015	Layer	?Spread	-	-	-
2/016	Layer	'Natural'	Trench	Trench	-

Table 3: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

- 4.3.1 Trench 2 was excavated to a length of 17m, and to a depth of 630mm BGL at the western end and to 650mm BGL at the eastern end at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.
- 4.3.2 The overburden consisted of four distinct layers. The uppermost was the current crushed stone and concrete hardstanding surface, context [2/001], laid on a 'terram' geotextile sheet, context [2/002]. This had been laid directly onto a deposit of mid-brown silty clay topsoil, context [2/003], which overlay a orangey brown silty clay subsoil, which directly overlay the brownish orange sandy clay 'natural', context [2/016].
- 4.3.3 Four archaeological features were identified. Ditch [2/007] was located near the western end of the trench. It was 1.54m wide and 540mm deep, with a broadly 'u' shaped profile. There were two discernible fills; the primary fill was context [2/008], a mid-greyish brown silty clay, which was overlain by an orangey brown silty clay, context [2/009]. No artefacts were recovered from the feature.
- 4.3.4 Post-hole [2/005] lay partially under the northern baulk of the trench. It was 540mm in diameter and 570mm deep. No artefacts were recovered from the single fill, a mid-greyish brown clayey sand, context [2/006]. No artefacts were recovered from the feature.
- 4.3.5 Pit [2/010] was 1.01m in diameter and more than 750mm deep (the feature could not be fully excavated in the close confines of the evaluation trench). There were four discernible fills. The earliest fills were contexts [2/011] and [2/013], both mid-orangey brown clayey silts, apparently representing primary silting of the feature. Context [2/013] was overlain by another deposit of mid-orangey brown silty clay, context [2/014]. This was overlain by the upper fill, context [2/012], a mid-greyish brown clayey silt. This deposit contained undiagnostic struck flintwork.

- 4.3.6 The other feature, context [2/015] was not excavated and may form a spread or a possible cut feature. The visible deposit was an orangey brown silty clay. Flintwork was recovered from the deposit during hand cleaning.

#### 4.4 Trench 3

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness m
3/001	Layer	Hardstanding	Trench	Trench	0.10m - 0.18m
3/002	Layer	Terram	Trench	Trench	<5mm
3/003	Layer	Made Ground	Trench	Trench	0.09m - 0.12m
3/004	Layer	Hardstanding	Trench	Trench	0.24m - 0.32m
3/005	Layer	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.10m - 0.24m
3/006	Layer	'Natural'	Trench	Trench	-

Table 4: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Trench 3 was located on the eastern edge of a recently constructed works compound. It was excavated to a length of 10m and to a depth of 600mm BGL at the northern end and to 740mm BGL at which the 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The trench was shortened from the planned length owing to the presence of a detected buried service.
- 4.4.2 The stratigraphic sequence was straightforward. The uppermost layer was the current crushed stone and concrete hardstanding, context [3/001], laid on a 'terram' geotextile sheet, context [3/002], itself laid on a deposit of orangey brown clay made ground/levelling, context [3/003]. This overlay another hardstanding/surface layer, comprising crushed brick, concrete, flint pebbles and pieces of timber, context [3/004], which overlay a deposit of orangey brown silty clay subsoil, context [3/005], which directly overlay the brownish orange sandy clay 'natural', context [3/006].
- 4.4.3 No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 The Flintwork By Karine Le Hégarat

5.1.1 In total, 12 pieces of struck flint weighing 156g were recovered from the site (Table 5). No diagnostic tools were found, but based on morphological and technological grounds the small assemblage (seven pieces) from gully [1/005] is likely to be Mesolithic or Neolithic in date. The remaining artefacts – two flakes from possible pit [2/010] and three flakes from spread [2/015] - can't be closely dated on technological ground.

Types	Flakes **	Blades	Retouched forms	Total
No	10	1	1	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>

Table 5: the flintwork (\*\* include a core face / edge rejuvenation flake)

5.1.2 Gully [1/005] fill [1/006] produced seven pieces including a blade, five flakes including a core face / edge rejuvenation flake and a composite tool. One of the flake displayed signs of utilisation. The composite tool was manufactured on a small secondary blade-like flake. It displays retouch on the right side, and the distal end forms a point. The artefact could have been used as a side scraper and a piercing tool. The small but relatively coherent group from gully [1/005] is likely to be Mesolithic or Neolithic. It is almost certainly residual.

5.1.3 The flint assemblage from Farrington Enterprise Estate provides evidence for prehistoric activities. All the pieces were manufactured from a light to mid grey flint with occasional inclusions, and the majority were in good condition indicating that the material has experienced negligible post-depositional disturbance. Although the assemblage is small, it forms part of a much more extensive spread occurring in the area (Hart 2015).

## **6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **6.1 Overview**

6.1.1 The evaluation of the site by trial trenching has shown that archaeological remains of probable prehistoric date do survive on the site. Dating of the features was somewhat hamstrung by the paucity of finds, but based on the dating of features on other sites in the vicinity, some conclusions can be drawn.

### **6.2 Deposit Survival and Existing Impacts**

6.2.1 Although the site has clearly been utilised for the storage of materials in recent times, there appears to have been little truncation of archaeological deposits during the process of creating hardstanding surfaces, with a layer of subsoil sealing the 'natural' encountered in all three of the evaluation trenches.

### **6.3 ?Middle Iron Age**

6.3.1 The gully encountered in Trench 1 lay on a similar orientation to a system of driveway ditches encountered at the nearby Farrington Farm site and on other sites in the locale, dated to the Middle Iron Age from pottery assemblages (ASE 2014a). It is likely that this gully forms a continuation of one of these features, showing the trackways appear to survive at the current site. The Mesolithic or Neolithic flintwork is thought therefore to probably be residual.

6.3.2 Although again not firmly dated from artefacts, it is presumed that the post-hole and pit (and also the unexcavated feature) found in Trench 2 could also date to this period given their similarity to datable features also seen at Farrington Farm (*ibid.*), thought they may variously be of earlier or later date also.

### **6.4 Post-Medieval**

6.4.1 Again, in the absence of firm dating evidence, the orientation of the ditch encountered in Trench 3 suggests it forms part of a post-medieval field system recorded at the Farrington Farm site (*ibid.*)

### **6.5 Consideration of Research Aims**

6.5.1 The evaluation has met most of the stated research aims insofar as archaeological remains were identified on the site.

### **6.6 Conclusion**

6.6.1 The evaluation has demonstrated the survival of *in situ* archaeological deposits at the site, some arguably relating to Middle Iron Age activity previously recorded in this part of Peacehaven, represented by a series of driveways running along the landscape, overlooking a valley to the north (Hart 2015). Mesolithic or Neolithic flintwork was also encountered as were further undiagnostic flints. Post-medieval ditching and other features may



also exist at the site.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

ASE would like to thank Clifford Dann LLP for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout. Thanks are also due to Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist, East Sussex County Council for his input at all stages of the work.

## HER Summary

Site Code	FPE 15					
Identification Name and Address	Farrington Enterprise Estate, Hoyle Road, Peacehaven					
County, District &/or Borough	Lewes District, East Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	541560 101310					
Geology	Lambeth Group					
Arch. South-East Project Number	7607					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.					
Type of Site	Works Compound					
Dates of Fieldwork	17.08.2015 – 18.08.2015					
Sponsor/Client	Clifford Dann LLP					
Project Manager	Paul Mason					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens					
Period Summary	Meso	Neo		MIA		
			PM			
<p><i>Summary</i></p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Clifford Dann LLP to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Farrington Enterprise Estate, Hoyle Road, Peacehaven, East Sussex. (NGR 541560 101310). Three trenches were mechanically excavated to a cumulative length of 43m.</i></p> <p><i>Although there was a paucity of closely datable material, the orientation of one gully suggests it formed the continuation of one of a system of features forming Middle Iron Age droveways recorded on other sites in the locale. The ditch contained a small amount of Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint thought therefore to be residual.</i></p> <p><i>The orientation of another gully/ditch suggests a post-medieval date, again based on the alignment of features encountered at other nearby sites in recent years.</i></p> <p><i>An otherwise undated post-hole, pit and ?spread may also belong to the Middle Iron Age, or variously to earlier or later periods. Artefacts from these consisted of a group of undiagnostic residual flintwork.</i></p>						

## OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-221244**

### Project details

Project name	Farrington Enterprise Estate, Hoyle Road, Peacehaven, East Sussex
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Clifford Dann LLP to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Farrington Enterprise Estate, Hoyle Road, Peacehaven, East Sussex. (NGR 541560 101310). Three trenches were mechanically excavated to a cumulative length of 43m. Although there was a paucity of closely datable material, the orientation of one gully suggests it formed the continuation of one of a system of features forming Middle Iron Age droeways recorded on other sites in the locale. The ditch contained a small amount of Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint thought therefore to be residual. The orientation of another gully/ditch suggests a post-medieval date, again based on the alignment of features encountered at other nearby sites in recent years. An otherwise undated post-hole, pit and ?spread may also belong to the Middle Iron Age, or variously to earlier or later periods. Artefacts from these consisted of a group of undiagnostic residual flintwork.
Project dates	Start: 17-08-2015 End: 18-08-2015
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	7607 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	FPE 15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LW/13/0710 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	DITCH Middle Iron Age
Monument type	PIT Middle Iron Age
Monument type	POST-HOLE Middle Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINTWORK Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Housing estate

Prompt                      Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Position in the  
planning process              After full determination (eg. As a condition)

---

**Project location**

Country                      England

Site location                EAST SUSSEX LEWES PEACEHAVEN Farrington Enterprise Estate

Postcode                    BN10 8LW

Study area                   0.32 Hectares

Site coordinates            TQ 41560 01310 50.79346221859 0.008770344643 50 47 36 N 000  
00 31 E Point

---

**Project creators**

Name of  
Organisation                Archaeology South-East

Project brief  
originator                   East Sussex County Council

Project design  
originator                   Archaeology South-East

Project  
director/manager           Paul Mason

Project supervisor        Simon Stevens

Type of  
sponsor/funding  
body                        Client

Name of  
sponsor/funding  
body                        Clifford Dann LLP

---

**Project archives**

Physical Archive  
recipient                    Lewes Museum

Physical Contents        "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive  
recipient                    Lewes Museum

Digital Contents        "other"

Digital Media  
available                   "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"

Paper Archive  
recipient                    Lewes Museum

Paper Contents        "other"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Miscellaneous Material", "Plan", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

---

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological Evaluation Report - Farrington Enterprise Estate, Hoyle Road Peacehaven, East Sussex

Author(s)/Editor(s) Stevens, S.

Other bibliographic details ASE Report No. 2015302

Date 2015

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

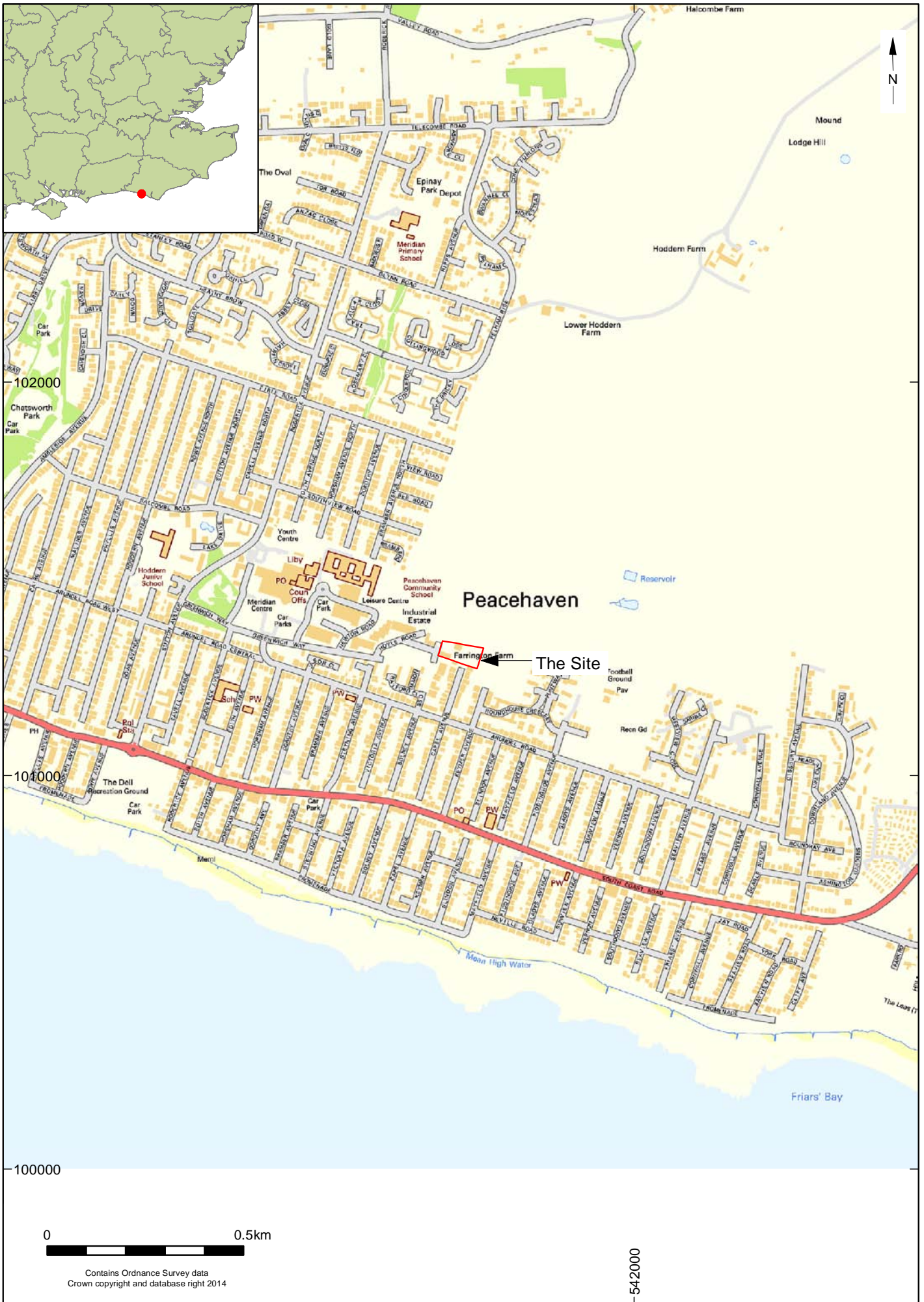
Place of issue or publication Portslade, East Sussex

Description Standard ASE client report. A4-sized with cover logos

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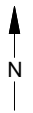
Entered by d (d.swift@ucl.ac.uk)

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© Archaeology South-East		Farrington Enterprise Estate, Peacehaven	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 7607	Aug 2015	Site location	
Report Ref: 2015302	Drawn by: JLR		



+ 541500, 101400



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Farrington Enterprise Estate, Peacehaven

Fig. 2

Project Ref: 7607

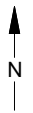
Aug 2015

Report Ref: 2015302

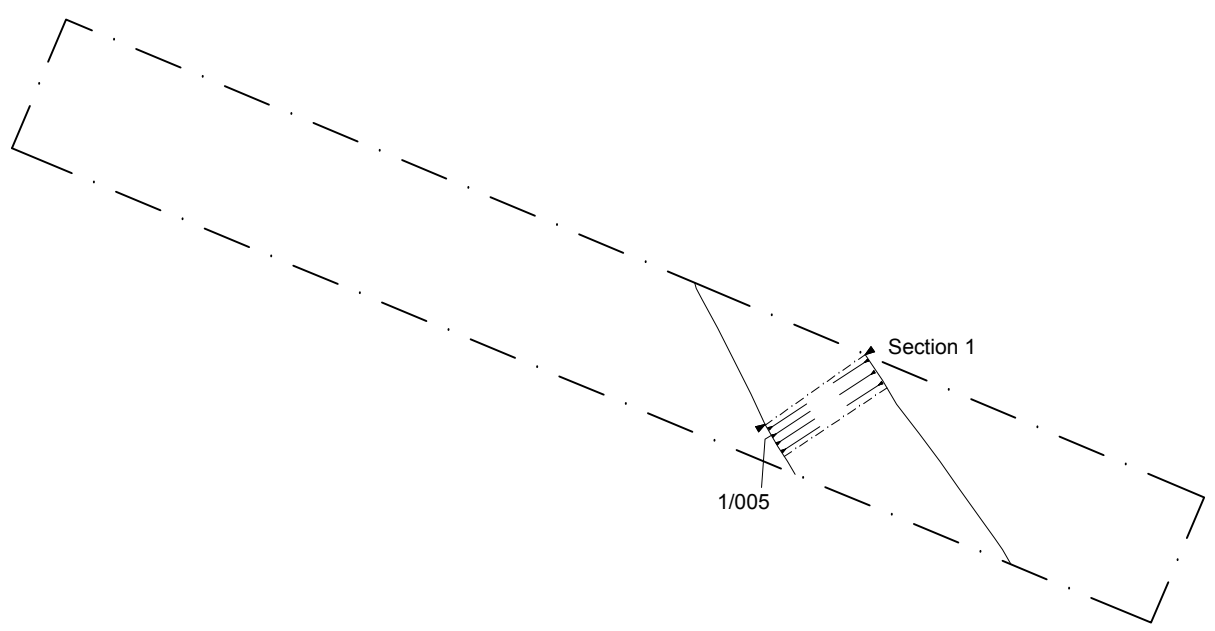
Drawn by: JLR

Trench location

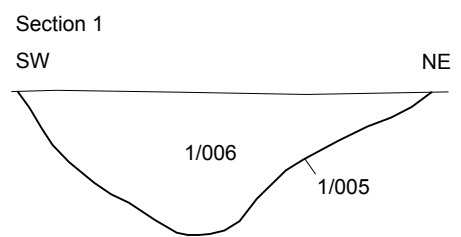




+ 541550, 101300

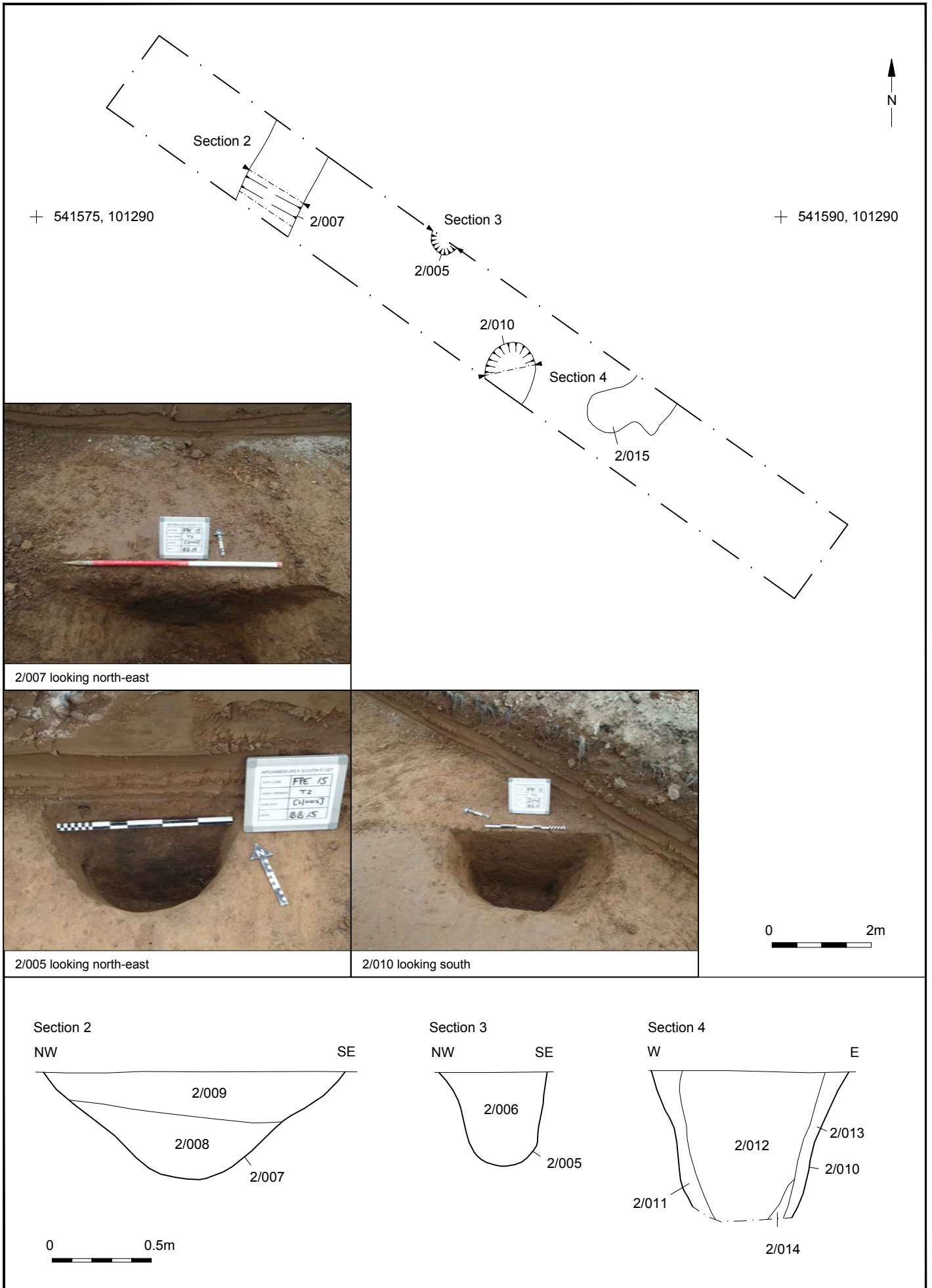


+ 541550, 101285



1/005 looking north-west

<b>© Archaeology South-East</b>		Farrington Enterprise Estate, Peacehaven	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 7607	Aug 2015	Trench 1: plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2015302	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Farrington Enterprise Estate, Peacehaven	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 7607	Aug 2015	Trench 2: plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015302	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Farrington Enterprise Estate, Peacehaven	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 7607	Aug 2015	Trench location and previous archaeological work	
Report Ref: 2015302	Drawn by: JLR		

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