ASE

Archaeological Evaluation Report Land to the East of Billingshurst South of A272, West Sussex

> NGR: 509428 125780 (TQ 0943 2578)

Planning Ref: DC/13/0735

ASE Project No: 6532 Site Code: WLB11/ LEB14

ASE Report No: 2015321 OASIS id: archaeol6-224098



By Hayley Nicholls

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Prepared by:	Hayley Nicholls	Archaeologist	HNill
Reviewed and approved by:	Dan Swift	Project Manager	0110103-
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Archaeology South-East Units 1 & 2 2 Chapel Place Portslade East Sussex BN41 1DR

Tel: 01273 426830 Fax: 01273 420866 Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk

Abstract

Archaeology South-East were commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land east of Billingshurst, West Sussex, to the South of the A272. A total of 40 archaeological trenches were excavated across the site to reveal the underlying natural sand clay with outcroppings of sandstone at a maximum height of 51.12m AOD in the north-east corner of the site (Trench 66), falling away to 34.17m AOD in the south-west corner of the site (Trench 77).

A small quantity of residual struck flint artefacts, including a polished Neolithic flint axe, suggests some activity of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date in the vicinity of the site. Early Neolithic or possible Middle – Late Bronze Age activity is further suggested by very small quantities of pottery of a similar date within a pit context. However, much of the archaeological activity recorded appears to be related to a settlement of Late Iron Age - Roman date, with a possible eaves-drip gully associated with three pits, a single posthole, a possible enclosure ditch and associated field system. A second possible eaves-drip gully of AD270 – 350 date was also identified.

Medieval activity was limited to a single ditch and two flanking pits of possible 12th-13th century date. Post-medieval features comprised two field boundary ditches, both of which are present on the Billingshurst Tithe of 1841-44 and the Ordnance Survey maps from 1882 up to the 1980s.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Limited, on behalf of their client, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land east of Billingshurst, West Sussex (Figure 1; NGR TQ 0943 2578).

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site covers a total area of *c*.27 ha and lies to the north-east of the centre of Billingshurst and straddles the A272 as it passes eastwards out of the town. This phase of works focusses on the area to the south of the A272 and covers a total area of 9.1ha. The area to the north was evaluated as a separate phase of works.
- 1.2.2 The area to the south of the A272 comprises a single large field of rough scrubland situated on a south-west facing slope with a height of 51.5m AOD at its north-east corner falling to 34m AOD in the south-west corner.
- 1.2.3 According to current data from the British Geological Survey the underlying bedrock across the entire site is part of the Wealden Group of mudstone, siltstone and sandstone. There is no recorded superficial geology (BGS 2015).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning permission (DC/13/0735) has been granted for the residential development of the site, subject to the following planning condition:

Condition 10

Not later than the submission of the Reserved Matters submissions for the Strategic Infrastructure and Open Space, a written Heritage Asset Mitigation Strategy for the whole development site shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. The strategy shall include details of the intended mitigation of the impact of the development on buried archaeological Heritage Assets, including but not limited to:

i. the Roman site;

ii. details of proposed measures for enhancement both of the retained heritage within the site, including Hammond's Windmill and elements of the medieval fieldscape, and of heritage assets which will largely not be retained intact; and

iii. a timetable which phases the mitigation works in accordance with the relevant phasing of development.

Development on the Strategic Infrastructure and Open Space shall not commence until the details have been approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The strategy shall be implemented as approved.

Reason: In order to ensure that buried archaeological heritage assets will be properly recorded before and during development and that heritage assets to be retained will be enhanced as appropriate in accordance with Policy DC10 of the Horsham District Council Local Development Framework: General Development Control Policies (2007).

- 1.3.2 An archaeological desk based assessment was prepared (CgMs 2011) to support a planning application on land at East Billingshurst (DC/11/1654). The report concluded that the whole site had a generally low to moderate potential for as yet undiscovered archaeological assets dating from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods.
- 1.3.3 A geophysical survey (undertaken by Sitescan in 2008), a walkover and geophysical survey and fieldwalking exercise (ASE 2011a) and a programme of trial trenching (ASE 2011b) were also undertaken on land to the north of the A272 to support the application and allow the WSCC archaeological advisor to HDC to make an informed planning decision.
- 1.3.4 The walkover survey identified a number of remnant and existing landscape features across the entire examined area. Similarly the geophysical survey highlighted a number of anomalies of differing character across the site. The surface artefact collection was limited to a single field of c.8.5ha. A range of artefacts including struck and fire-cracked flint and Roman pottery was found, but the vast majority of recovered material was post-medieval in date.
- 1.3.5 Following submission of an addendum to the application, the West Sussex County Council Senior Archaeologist, who advises HDC on archaeological matters, raised no objection to the planning application and confirmed that all further archaeological mitigation measures could follow planning permission secured by condition.
- 1.3.6 The application was refused by HDC planning committee with an officer recommendation for approval and a subsequent application submitted. An updated archaeological desk based assessment was prepared in 2013 (CgMs 2011; revised 2013) to support the revised planning application. Outline planning permission was granted (DC/13/0735) with archaeological mitigation measures secured by Condition 10.
- 1.3.7 A second phase of archaeological trial trenching was undertaken on land to the north of the A272 in 2014 (ASE 2014). Ten of the 27 trenches contained archaeology and these were mostly clustered in the north-eastern part of the site where linear geophysical anomalies and Roman features had been identified in previous phases of survey and evaluation. Further dating evidence from the 1st and 2nd centuries AD was recovered.
- 1.3.8 Based on the results of this phase of trial trenching (ibid.) a targeted excavation was undertaken following consultation between CgMs Consulting Ltd and the WSCC Archaeological advisor to HDC.
- 1.3.9 There remained an outstanding requirement for a programme of archaeological trial trenching to be undertaken on land to the south of the A272 in line with the requirements of Condition 10. This report covers the trial

trenching undertaken across the area to the south of the A272. WSCC archaeologists were retained by HBC as advisors on archaeological matters for this project.

1.3.10 An updated Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by CgMs (2015) prior to the current phase of archaeological evaluation. This outlined the archaeological background of the site, the aims and objectives of the work and the methodology to be used.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report details the findings from the archaeological evaluation on the land to the south of the A272 (Trenches 52-91). The work took place between 5th and the 20th August 2015. It was carried out by Hayley Nicholls (Archaeologist), with Odile Rouard and Philippa Stevenson (Archaeologists) providing secondary supervisory cover. Paul Mason managed the fieldwork and Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift the post-excavation process.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following information is largely drawn from the desk-based assessment (CgMs 2011; revised 2013), and the post excavation assessment of land to the east of Billingshurst (ASE, 2015). The desk based assessment includes a much more detailed historical and archaeological background, including a list of entries on the Historic Environment Record (HER) from a 2km radius of the site. The following section provides a summary of the most significant evidence with an emphasis on information pertinent to the results of the excavation.

2.2 Mesolithic

- 2.2.1 Until recently, relatively little evidence for prehistoric activity was known in the Weald. The area is thought to have been largely covered in dense post-glacial primary forest. However, palaeoenvironmental analysis is now indicating that at least limited, localised forest clearance was being undertaken from this time (Holgate 2003, 30-31), most likely to encourage expansion and diversification in plant and animal species and to make the landscape more accessible for exploitation.
- 2.2.2 Although the thick forest of the Weald is still considered to have been unsuitable territory for most forms of hunting during the Mesolithic, it is considered to have been a favourable environment for foraging (SERF 2007). Isolated finds of Mesolithic date have been identified in the environs of the site, and support the theory that the Weald was utilised to some extent during this period, most likely comprising hunter gathering activity on a seasonal basis.
- 2.2.3 Mesolithic flint flakes and blades were found approximately 500m west of the study site in the garden of "Clevelands House" (SMR 5243 TQ08782558). In addition, the fieldwalking survey across 8.5ha of the site (ASE 2011a) recorded a small dispersed scatter of struck flint possibly of Mesolithic date. Furthermore, the first phase of archaeological trial trenching (ASE 2011b) recorded a single piece of residual Mesolithic flint and the archaeological excavation (ASE 2015) found a further 25 residual flint artefacts with characteristics that would suggest a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date.

2.3 Neolithic

- 2.3.1 A gradual intensification of Wealden woodland clearance is likely during the Neolithic. However, it is considered that such activity would still have been more limited and localised in scale than in the areas immediately south of the Weald due to the underlying heavy clay soils being less suited to agriculture than the surrounding South Downs chalk and the greensands to their immediate north.
- 2.3.2 Some limited evidence for Neolithic activity in the area exists. Four Neolithic polished flint celts were found "near Billingshurst" in 1852. The exact location is unknown but the HER records them as being found just outside the

western boundary of the site to the north of the A272 (SMR 2903 TQ09002600).

2.4 Bronze Age

- 2.4.1 By the Bronze Age, some small-scale agricultural exploitation of the better areas of soils is suggested and the presence of High Wealden Bronze Age barrows would suggest some level of settlement during this period.
- 2.4.2 In the environs of the site, a linear feature with associated worked and firecracked flint possibly relating to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age was revealed during archaeological investigations in 2004 approximately 1km to the west of the study site (SMR 7838 TQ08042614). Further Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age deposits were recovered approximately 1200m west of the site during an archaeological monitoring exercise at the Billingshurst Bypass in 1999.
- 2.4.3 A hoard of five palstave axes were found at Billingshurst in 1877-1909 although the exact location is unknown (SMR 5199 TQ08002500 SMR 2904 TQ09002500).

2.5 Iron Age and Roman

- 2.5.1 The Iron Age saw the beginnings of the Wealden Iron industry; however, most of the iron-working activity was concentrated in the eastern part of the Weald (Gardiner 1990, 46). Evidence of Roman activity is similarly skewed towards iron-working sites in East Sussex although one Roman villa is known at Chiddingfold in Surrey.
- 2.5.2 Recent fieldwork is however, beginning to suggest that the western part of the Weald was more heavily settled in the later Iron Age and Roman periods than previously assumed. Excavations very recently completed by ASE on another large housing development at Broadbridge Heath (ASE, 2013b), 6.9km to the north-east of the current site, have revealed an extensive archaeological landscape and roundhouses and enclosures have been recorded. At Southwater (ASE, 2013a), 6.7km to the east of the site, recent excavations have uncovered a settlement site dating to the 1st century AD with associated enclosure ditches, pits and a possible round-house. The activity seemed to be of largely post-conquest date although there was possible evidence for Late Iron Age origins to the settlement.
- 2.5.3 The alignment of Stane Street, the Roman Road from London to Chichester runs outside the north-western boundary of the study site (A29). The alignment of the road was identified during trial trenching in 1984 and 2004 approximately 1km south west of the study site (SMR 7352 TQ08282506 SMR5191 TQ08302500). Roman coins, pottery and tesserae were found along Billingshurst High Street (which follows the line of Stane Street) approximately 500m west of the study site (SMR 2898 TQ08622588).
- 2.5.4 Archaeological remains suggesting a possible farmstead dating to the late Iron Age and Roman period were recorded within the trial trenching and excavation on land to the north of the A272 (ASE 2011b, 2014, 2015). This

comprised an initial late Iron Age/ early Roman rectangular settlement enclosure containing a single roundhouse and a possible working area, which subsequently underwent extensive reorganisation in the 1st to 2nd centuries AD. An associated large stock enclosure was constructed to the north of the settlement enclosure, along with an extensive field system extending to the east and a drove way. Two cremations were identified, both associated with the stock enclosures' north-west entrance.

2.6 Medieval and post-medieval

- 2.6.1 The settlement of Billingshurst is not recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086. The church was originally constructed in the 12th century (SMR 2906 TQ08752592) and the focus of Billingshurst slowly developed around the church and along the High Street.
- 2.6.2 During this period the site would have lain within agricultural land interspersed with small areas of woodland, outside of the historic core of Billingshurst.
- 2.6.3 An evaluation undertaken on the eastern boundary of the historic core of Billingshurst just outside the western boundary of the study site revealed no evidence of the medieval or post medieval settlement of Billingshurst, with the exception of two sherds of residual medieval pottery found within a former plough soil (SMR 7151 TQ08962599).
- 2.6.4 By the post-medieval period Billingshurst had developed as a parish of dispersed farmsteads outside the focus of the main settlement. In the 17th century Rosier Farmhouse (SMR 299078 TQ09632522) and Little Daux Farmhouse (SMR 299084 TQ0928 2552) were constructed to the south of the site. Both of these farms are now Grade II Listed.
- 2.6.5 An isolated building complex lay to the south of the A272 by the late 18th century which by the 19th century was known as Hoyle Barn. This could imply that the pattern of post-medieval landscape may be older than thought. These buildings were demolished by the late 20th century.

2.7 Project Aims and Objectives

- 2.7.1 The evaluation should aim to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened should be studied.
- 2.7.2 The evaluation should also seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.
- 2.7.3 Within these parameters, the evaluation of this site presents an opportunity to identify any evidence of prehistoric or Roman occupation and its nature and

extent across the remainder of the site.

2.7.4 A key purpose of the evaluation is to inform subsequent mitigation measures Where physical preservation is likely to be considered as a mitigation option, the primary factors affecting the present state of preservation and the direct and indirect effect of the proposed development should also be considered.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological methodology was set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2015). All work was carried out in accordance with this document and in line with the relevant professional standards and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA 2014a; 2014b) and the *Sussex Archaeological Standards* (WSCC 2015)
- 3.1.2 All 40 trenches were excavated and were located as close as possible to specified locations (CgMs, 2015), although site constraints necessitated some minor revision to trench locations. Trenches 55, 56, 61, 62, 63, 65, 66, 67, 70 and 77 were realigned or moved up to a maximum of 10m from their intended locations to avoid damaging existing hedges and perimeter newt fences (Figure 2).
- 3.1.3 An extension to Trench 73 measuring 5.5m x 5.5m was excavated to the north of the centre of the trench to clarify the form of a suspected eaves-drip gully [73/004].
- 3.1.4 The locations of trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT scanner) in order to check for services.
- 3.1.5 The location of the trenches was accurately established using a Leica Viva CS15 RTK GPS instrument.

3.2 Archive

3.2.1 ASE informed Horsham Museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork that a site archive would be generated. The museum is not currently accepting archaeological archives. The paper and digital records, finds and environmental material will continue to be held at the offices of ASE in Portslade until long term storage can be arranged. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	228
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	5
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	159
Permatrace sheets	5
Trench Record Forms	40

Table 1: Quantification	of site archive
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4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Geology and Overburden

- 4.1.1 The trenches were situated on a south-west facing slope with ground levels varying from 51.37m AOD in the north-east corner of the site falling to 34.39m AOD in the south-west corner. All trenches measured *c*. 30m in length and 2.1m wide.
- 4.1.2 The undisturbed natural geology comprised variable firm mottled light grey/ mid grey-brown/ mid orange sand clay with occasional outcroppings of shattered black, orange and grey sandstone. The natural geology was encountered at a maximum elevation of 51.12m AOD in the north-east corner of the site (Trench 66), falling away to 34.17m AOD in the south-west corner of the site (Trench 77).
- 4.1.3 A subsoil deposit measuring between 0.05m and 0.25m thick overlay the natural substrate in the majority of trenches. This comprised moderately soft light yellow-brown sand silt with occasional sandstone inclusions. A subsoil deposit was not present in Trenches 53, 54, 59, and 62 and only partially present in Trenches 55, 56, 58, 61, 63, and 66.
- 4.1.4 A topsoil deposit comprised the uppermost deposit in all trenches and comprised a friable mid brown silt with rare sandstone inclusions which measured between 0.09m and 0.38m thick.
- 4.1.5 Land drains were encountered in Trenches 52, 54, 57, 58, 63, 72, 73, 75, 77, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, and 90. Shallow modern postholes, stakeholes and similarly aligned very shallow gullies were encountered in Trenches 53, 54, 58, 59, 60, 61, 67, 68, and 87. All cut the subsoil when such a deposit was present and the natural substrate.
- 4.1.6 Of the 40 trenches excavated, 29 contained archaeological features. These were either undated, or contained prehistoric, LIA/Early Roman, Late Roman, medieval and/or post-medieval material.

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
52/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.22	37.42
52/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.20	
52/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	37.01
52/004	cut	ditch	12.5	0.29	0.16	37.07
52/005	fill	fill	12.5	0.29	0.16	

4.2 Trench 52

Table 2: Trench 52 list of recorded contexts

- 4.2.1 Trench 52 was located towards the south-west corner of the site, close to the base of the slope and was orientated on an east to west alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.2.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a small ditch

(Figure 4).

- 4.2.3 Ditch [52/004] was located within the east half of the trench and was orientated on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment. Ditch fill [52/005] comprised soft mid brown silt clay with occasional sandstone inclusions.
- 4.2.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [52/002] and topsoil [52/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

4.3 Trench 53

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
53/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.16-0.21	42.89
53/002	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	42.77
53/003	cut	posthole	0.38	0.3	0.14	42.95
53/004	fill	fill	0.38	0.3	0.14	

Table 3: Trench 53 list of recorded contexts

- 4.3.1 Trench 53 was located towards the north-west corner of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.3.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a small posthole (Figure 5).
- 4.3.3 Posthole [53/003] was located within the south half of the trench and was circular in plan. Posthole fill [53/004] comprised friable mid grey-brown silt clay with abundant charcoal and frequent sandstone inclusions.
- 4.3.4 The posthole was sealed by topsoil [53/001]. No subsoil was present within Trench 53. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposit.

4.4 Trench 58

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
58/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.16	42.65
58/002	layer	subsoil	20	trench	0.15-0.16	
58/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	42.56
58/004	cut	pit	1.04	0.5	0.13	42.70
58/005	fill	fill	1.04	0.5	0.13	

Table 4: Trench 58 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Trench 58 was located towards the north-west corner of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.4.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a pit (Figure 6).
- 4.4.3 Pit [58/004] was located within the north half of the trench, partially revealed

against the east edge. Pit fill [58/005] comprised friable mid grey-brown silt clay with rare sandstone inclusions.

4.4.4 The pit was sealed by subsoil [58/002] and topsoil [58/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

4.5 Trench 60

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
60/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.17	44.82
60/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.08-0.16	
60/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	44.6
60/004	cut	ditch	2.42	1.74	0.54	43.9
60/005	fill	fill	2.42	1.74	0.45	
60/006	fill	fill	2.42	1.1	0.18	

Table 5: Trench 60 list of recorded contexts

- 4.5.1 Trench 60 was located within the north-west quarter of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.5.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch (Figure 7).
- 4.5.3 Ditch [60/004] was located within the south half of the trench and was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. Lower ditch fill [60/005] comprised sterile, compact, mottled light grey / orange clay with occasional sandstone inclusions, whilst the overlying upper fill comprised friable light brown silt clay.
- 4.5.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [60/002] and topsoil [60/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

Context	Turne	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth m	Height
	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
62/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.15	47.25
62/002	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	46.65
		Modern chalk				
62/003	layer	slab	8	trench	0.10-0.30	47.14
62/004	cut	ditch	2.1	0.3	0.1	46.60
62/005	fill	fill	2.1	0.3	0.1	
62/006	cut	recut	2.1	0.6	0.15	46.60
62/007	fill	fill	2.1	0.6	0.15	
		Modern made				
62/008	layer	ground	10	trench	0.4	

4.6 Trench 62

Table 6: Trench 62 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 Trench 62 was located along the north site boundary and was orientated on an east-west alignment (Figure 3).

- 4.6.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch, with evidence of a later recutting of the ditch on the same alignment (Figure 8).
- 4.6.3 Ditch [62/004] was located within the west half of the trench and was orientated on a north-south alignment. Ditch fill [62/005] comprised firm light brown-grey sand silt with frequent manganese inclusions. As noted above, ditch [62/004] was truncated by later recut [62/006] which was orientated on the same alignment as the earlier ditch. Ditch recut fill [62/007] comprised firm light blue-grey sand clay silt with occasional manganese inclusions.
- 4.6.4 Both the ditch and the later recut were sealed by topsoil [62/001]. No subsoil was present within the trench. No finds were retrieved from the features or from the overlying deposit.

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
63/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.20	47.92
63/002	layer	subsoil	20	trench	0.05-0.20	
63/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	47.66
63/004	cut	ditch	2.1	0.85	0.2	46.83
63/005	fill	fill	2.1	0.85	0.2	
63/006	cut	pit	0.32	0.81	0.21	46.83
63/007	fill	fill	0.32	0.81	0.21	

4.7 Trench 63

Table 7: Trench 63 list of recorded contexts

- 4.7.1 Trench 63 was located within the north-east quarter of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.7.2 Two archaeological features were identified within the trench, comprising a ditch and a pit, both located towards the south end of the trench (Figure 9).
- 4.7.3 Ditch [63/004] was orientated on an east-west alignment. Ditch fill [63/005] comprised moderately firm mottled light grey/ orange/ mid grey-brown sand silt clay with frequent sandstone inclusions. A single bodysherd of undiagnostic Roman pottery was recovered from the ditch fill.
- 4.7.4 Pit [63/006] was located immediately north of, and was truncated by ditch [63/004]. The pit was partially revealed against the east edge of the trench. Pit fill [63/007] comprised firm mottled light grey-brown / orange / light grey clay sand with frequent sandstone inclusions. No finds were retrieved from the feature.
- 4.7.5 Both the ditch and the pit were sealed by subsoil [63/002] and topsoil [63/001]. No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
64/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.22-0.25	49.79
64/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.15	
64/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	49.56
64/004	cut	ditch	2.2	1.7	0.2	49.58
64/005	fill	fill	2.2	1.7	0.2	
64/006	cut	ditch	2.1	0.9	0.22	49.62
64/007	fill	fill	2.1	0.9	0.22	
64/008	cut	ditch	2.2	0.53	0.05	49.68
64/009	fill	fill	2.2	0.53	0.05	

4.8 Trench 64

Table 8: Trench 64 list of recorded contexts

- 4.8.1 Trench 64 was located within the north-east quarter of the site and was orientated on an east-west alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.8.2 Three archaeological features were identified; all comprising ditches located within the east half of the trench (Figure 10).
- 4.8.3 Ditches [64/004] and [64/008] were both orientated on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment, however, ditch [64/004] was significantly larger than ditch [64/008]. Ditch fill [64/005] from ditch [64/004] comprised firm mottled light grey / orange / light brown clay with occasional sandstone inclusions. Ditch fill [64/009] from ditch [64/008] comprised moderately firm mottled orange/ mid brown clay silt with occasional sandstone inclusions.
- 4.8.4 Ditch [64/006] was orientated on a north-south alignment and lay between ditch [64/004] and [64/008]. Ditch fill [64/007] comprised firm mid brown silt clay with rare sandstone inclusions.
- 4.8.5 All three ditches were sealed by subsoil [64/002] and topsoil [64/001]. No finds were retrieved from the features or from the overlying deposits.

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
66/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.17-0.21	51.34
66/002	layer	subsoil	20	trench	0.07-0.15	
66/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	51.02
66/004	cut	ditch	2.1	1	0.4	51.1
66/005	fill	fill	2.1	1	0.4	

4.9 Trench 66

 Table 9:
 Trench 66 list of recorded contexts

- 4.9.1 Trench 66 was located close to the north-west corner of the site and was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.9.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch (Figure 11).

- 4.9.3 Ditch [66/004] was located within the west half of the trench and was orientated on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment. Ditch fill [66/005] comprised very firm mottled light grey / orange-brown/ mid grey-brown silt sand with frequent sandstone inclusions. Two tiny, highly abraded sherds of possible Late Iron Age or Roman pottery were recovered from an environmental sample taken from ditch fill [66/005]. Burnt sandstone, burnt clay and flint, and nine fragments of daub were also recovered, of which six retained a flat surface. No wattle impressions survived but it is likely the fragments represent structural daub.
- 4.9.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [66/002] and topsoil [66/001]. No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
68/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.25-0.30	39.77
68/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.05-0.15	
68/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	39.49
68/004	cut	ditch terminus	2.34	0.75	0.15	39.62
68/005	fill	fill	2.34	0.75	0.15	

4.10 Trench 68

Table 10: Trench 68 list of recorded contexts

- 4.10.1 Trench 68 was located towards the west edge of the site and was orientated on an east-west alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.10.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch terminus (Figure 12).
- 4.10.3 Ditch terminus [68/004] was located within the east half of the trench, partially revealed against the south edge, orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment. Ditch fill [68/005] comprised friable mottled orange-brown/ light grey-brown silt with frequent manganese and sandstone inclusions. Ditch fill [68/005] contained a single fragment of fired clay.
- 4.10.4 The ditch terminus was sealed by subsoil [68/002] and topsoil [68/001]. No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
70/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.17-0.20	42.02
70/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.20	
70/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	41.68
70/004	cut	ditch	3	0.7	0.25	41.87
70/005	fill	fill	3	0.7	0.25	

4.11 Trench 70

Table 11: Trench 70 list of recorded contexts

- 4.11.1 Trench 70 was located towards the centre of the site and was orientated on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.11.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch (Figure 13).
- 4.11.3 Ditch [70/004] was located within the west half of the trench and was orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment. Ditch fill [70/005] comprised firm mottled light grey / light brown sand clay with occasional sandstone inclusions.
- 4.11.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [70/002] and topsoil [70/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
71/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.15	44.77
71/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.11-0.15	
71/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	44.63
71/004	cut	posthole	0.28	0.26	0.07	44.87
71/005	fill	fill	0.28	0.26	0.07	

4.12 Trench 71

Table 12: Trench 71 list of recorded contexts

- 4.12.1 Trench 71 was located towards the centre of the site and was orientated on an east-west alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.12.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a posthole (Figure 14).
- 4.12.3 Posthole [71/004] was located at the east end of the trench, and was circular in plan. Posthole fill [71/005] comprised firm mid yellow-brown clay silt with occasional small sandstone inclusions.
- 4.12.4 The feature was sealed by subsoil [71/002] and topsoil [71/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
72/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.2	45.42
72/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.20	
72/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	45.15
72/004	cut	ditch	2.2	0.78	0.21	45.52
72/005	fill	fill	2.2	0.78	0.21	
72/006	cut	pit	0.59	0.55	0.09	45.65
72/007	fill	fill	0.59	0.55	0.09	
72/008	cut	ditch	20	1.02	0.26	44.94
72/009	fill	fill	20	1.02	0.26	
72/010	cut	pit	0.93	0.79	0.12	45.48
72/011	fill	fill	0.93	0.79	0.12	

4.13 Trench 72

 Table 13:
 Trench 72 list of recorded contexts

- 4.13.1 Trench 72 was located close to the centre of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.13.2 Four archaeological features were identified within the trench comprising two ditches and two pits (Figure 15).
- 4.13.3 Ditch [72/008] was orientated on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment and was visible within the majority of the trench. Ditch fill [72/009] comprised firm mottled mid brown/ orange/ dark grey-brown silt clay with occasional sandstone inclusions. A mixture of grog-tempered and sandy wares most likely belong to the latter half of the 1st century AD was recovered from the fill.
- 4.13.4 Ditch [72/008] was truncated by ditch [72/004] within the north half of the trench. The later ditch was orientated on a west-north-west to east-southeast alignment. Ditch fill [72/005] comprised compact mid grey-brown silt clay with frequent sandstone and manganese inclusions. Four sherds of medieval pottery of c. AD 1225-1300 date were recovered from the later ditch fill.
- 4.13.5 Two shallow circular pits [72/006] and [72/010] flanked medieval ditch [72/004]. Both pit fills comprised firm dark grey-brown silt clay with occasional sandstone inclusions. Both fills contained small quantities of medieval pottery contemporary with that from ditch [72/004].
- 4.13.6 All features were sealed by subsoil [72/002] and topsoil [72/001]. Six sherds of pottery were recovered from the topsoil, ranging in date from the Late Iron Age through to the medieval. No finds were retrieved from the subsoil.

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
73/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.25	45.89
73/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.20	
73/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	45.5
73/004	cut	gully, eaves- drlp?	4.73	0.33	0.1	45.45
73/005	fill	fill	4.73	0.33	0.1	
73/006	cut	posthole	0.47	0.33	0.3	45.43
73/007	fill	fill	0.47	0.33	0.3	
73/008	cut	pit	1.5	0.73	0.29	45.31
73/009	fill	fill	1.5	0.73	0.29	
73/010	cut	ditch	2.1	0.64	0.2	45.73
73/011	fill	fill	2.1	0.64	0.2	
73/012	void					
73/013	void					
73/014	cut	gully, eaves- drlp?	3.33	0.82	0.35	45.86
73/015	fill	fill	3.33	0.82	0.35	
73/016	cut	gully, eaves- drip? Part of 73/004?	0.8	0.2	0.09	45.76
73/017	fill	fill	0.8	0.2	0.09	
73/018	cut	pit?	0.87	0.67	0.2	45.76
73/019	fill	fill	0.87	0.67	0.2	
73/020	cut	pit	2.7	1.8	0.67	45.76
73/021	fill	fill	2.7	1.8	0.67	
73/022	cut	Pit. Part of 73/020	0.55	0.3	0.12	45.76
73/023	fill	fill	0.55	0.3	0.12	

4.14 Trench 73

Table 14:	Trench 73 list of recorded contexts
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- 4.14.1 Trench 73 was located close to the centre of the site and was orientated on an east-west alignment. A 5.5m x 5.5m extension was excavated to the north of the centre of the trench (Figure 3).
- 4.14.2 Eight archaeological features were identified within the trench comprising two curvilinear gullies, a third possibly curvilinear gully, a ditch, three pits and a posthole (Figure 16).
- 4.14.3 Gully [73/004] was located close to the centre of the trench. The visible extent of the gully was limited, but would suggest a circular form. Gully fill [73/005] comprised a friable dark grey-brown silt clay with frequent charcoal and rare sandstone inclusions. A small group of pottery sherds including a mixture of grog-tempered and sandy wares was retrieved from the fill and are most likely of late 1st century AD date. An environmental sample taken from the gully fill contained small quantity of burnt mammal bone, oak and elm charcoal, burnt sandstone, burnt clay and burnt flint.
- 4.14.4 Posthole [73/006] was located immediately north-west of gully [73/004] and

was circular in plan. Posthole fill [73/007] comprised friable mid grey-brown silt clay with occasional charcoal inclusions. A single residual flint flake likely to predate the Middle Bronze Age and two fragments of daub were recovered from the posthole fill.

- 4.14.5 Pit [73/008] was located to the west of posthole [73/006], partially revealed against the north edge of the trench. Pit fill [73/009] comprised friable light blue-grey silt clay with occasional charcoal and sandstone inclusions. No finds were retrieved from the feature.
- 4.14.6 Ditch [73/010] was located towards the east end of the trench, orientated on a north-south alignment. Ditch fill [73/011] comprised a friable mid grey-brown silt clay. No finds were retrieved from the feature.
- 4.14.7 Gully [73/014] was located within the north extension to the trench. The visible extent of the gully would strongly suggest a circular form. Gully fill [73/015] comprised a friable dark grey-brown silt clay with frequent charcoal and manganese and rare sandstone inclusions. A small group of 16 pottery sherds of probable AD270-350 date were recovered from the fill.
- 4.14.8 Gully [73/016] was located close to the centre of the trench and extended into the north extension. The extent of the feature was obscured by multiple intercutting features but would possibly suggest a circular form. The gully appeared to have been truncated by pit [73/018] to the east, and by gully [73/014] to the north. The relationship of gully [73/016] to gully [73/004] was unclear. Gully fill [73/017] comprised a compact dark grey silt clay with occasional charcoal inclusions. No finds were retrieved from the feature.
- 4.14.9 Pit [73/018] was located immediately north-east of gully [73/016] and appeared oval in plan. Pit fill [73/019] comprised compact dark grey silt clay with occasional manganese inclusions. Six sherds of pottery of Late Iron Age and Early Roman date were retrieved from the fill.
- 4.14.10 Pit [73/020] was located immediately north of, and was truncated by pit [73/018]. The pit was large, sub-square in plan and corresponded with context [73/022]. Pit fill [73/021] comprised very compact dark grey silt clay with frequent yellow sandstone flecks. A small group of late 1st century AD pottery was recovered from the fill, along with a fragment of daub.
- 4.14.11 All features were sealed by subsoil [73/002] and topsoil [73/001]. A large group of pottery of Early Roman, Late Roman and post-medieval date was recovered from the overlying deposits.

4.15 Trench 74

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
74/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.30	47.78
74/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.25	
74/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	46.42
74/004	cut	ditch	2.1	0.75	0.2	46.86
74/005	fill	fill	2.1	0.75	0.2	

Table 15: Trench 74 list of recorded contexts

- 4.15.1 Trench 74 was located within the east half of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.15.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch (Figure 17).
- 4.15.3 Ditch [74/004] was located close to the north end of the trench and was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. Ditch fill [74/005] comprised a friable mid blue-grey-brown silt clay.
- 4.15.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [74/002] and topsoil [74/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

4.16 Trench 75

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
75/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.22	48.17
75/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.20	
75/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	47.77
75/004	cut	ditch	14.52	0.83	0.16	47.41
75/005	fill	fill	14.52	0.83	0.16	

Table 16: Trench 75 list of recorded contexts

- 4.16.1 Trench 75 was located within the east half of the site and was orientated on an east-west alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.16.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising of a ditch (Figure 18).
- 4.16.3 Ditch [75/004] was orientated on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment. Ditch fill [75/005] comprised a friable mid grey-brown silt clay with occasional sandstone inclusions. Five sherds of undiagnostic Late Iron Age/ early Roman pottery were recovered from the ditch fill.
- 4.16.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [75/002] and topsoil [75/001]. No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
76/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.30	49.22
76/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.20	
76/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	48.98
76/004	cut	ditch	2.1	1.16	0.31	49.41
76/005	fill	fill	2.1	1.16	0.31	

4.17 Trench 76

Table 17: Trench 76 list of recorded contexts

- 4.17.1 Trench 76 was located close to the east site boundary, orientated on a northsouth alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.17.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising of a ditch (Figure 19).
- 4.17.3 Ditch [76/004] was orientated on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment. Ditch fill [76/005] comprised a friable mid grey-brown silt clay with occasional sandstone inclusions. The alignment of the ditch and its fill corresponded very closely with that of ditch [75/004] and is likely to represent a continuation of the same feature. Two pieces of undiagnostic iron slag were recovered from the ditch fill.
- 4.17.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [76/002] and topsoil [76/001]. No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
77/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.16-0.18	35.37
77/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.20	
77/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	35.06
77/004	cut	ditch	2.4	0.58	0.15	35.16
77/005	fill	fill	2.4	0.58	0.15	

4.18 Trench 77

Table 18: Trench 77 list of recorded contexts

- 4.18.1 Trench 77 was located along the west site boundary, orientated on a northnorth-west to south-south-east alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.18.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising of a ditch (Figure 20).
- 4.18.3 Ditch [77/004] was located within the north half of the trench, orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. Ditch fill [77/005] comprised a firm mottled light grey/ mid orange/ mid grey-brown clay sand with occasional sandstone inclusions. One residual flint end scraper of Mesolithic-Early Neolithic date was retrieved from the ditch fill.
- 4.18.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [77/002] and topsoil [77/001]. No further finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
78/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.25	37.52
78/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.05-0.15	
78/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	37.15
78/004	cut	ditch	2.4	1	0.25	37.02
78/005	fill	fill	2.4	1	0.25	

4.19 Trench 78

Table 19: Trench 78 list of recorded contexts

- 4.19.1 Trench 78 was located within the south-west corner of the site and was orientated on a north -south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.19.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising of a ditch (Figure 21).
- 4.19.3 Ditch [78/004] was located close to the centre of the trench, orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. Ditch fill [78/005] comprised moderately soft light grey sand clay with frequent charcoal and occasional sandstone inclusions. One residual flint bladelet of Mesolithic date was retrieved from the ditch fill. An environmental sample taken from the ditch fill yielded charred vetch, moderate quantities of oak charcoal and small

quantities of possible beech charcoal.

4.19.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [78/002] and topsoil [78/001]. No further finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
79/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.20	38.09
79/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.25	
79/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	37.76
79/004	cut	gully?/ ditch?	7.3	0.53	0.17	37.49
79/005	fill	fill	7.3	0.53	0.17	
79/006	cut	gully?/ ditch? terminus	1.93	0.6	0.38	37.32
79/007	fill	fill	1.93	0.6	0.38	

Table 20: Trench 79 list of recorded contexts

- 4.20.1 Trench 79 was located within the south-west quarter of the site and was orientated on an east-west alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.20.2 Two archaeological features were identified, comprising a ditch or gully and a ditch or gully terminus, both located within the west half of the trench (Figure 22).
- 4.20.3 Ditch or possible gully [79/004] was orientated on a west-north-west to eastsouth-east alignment. Ditch fill [79/005] comprised moderately firm mid greybrown silt clay with occasional sandstone inclusions.
- 4.20.4 Terminus [79/006] was located immediately west of ditch [79/004] and was orientated on a similar west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. Ditch fill [79/007] comprised firm light grey sand clay with occasional sandstone and rare charcoal inclusions.
- 4.20.5 Both features were sealed by subsoil [79/002] and topsoil [79/001]. No finds were retrieved from ditch [79/004] or from the overlying deposits. Four pieces of residual worked flint were recovered from terminus [79/006] comprising a bladelet, microlith, flake and retouched flake.

4.21 Trench 80

	_		Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
80/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.25	39.65
80/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.22	
80/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	39.29
80/004	cut	Pit?	2.51	1.34	0.25	38.91
80/005	fill	fill	2.51	1.34	0.25	

Table 21: Trench 80 list of recorded contexts

- 4.21.1 Trench 80 was located within the south-west quarter of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.21.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a possible pit (Figure 23).
- 4.21.3 Possible pit [80/004] was located close to the centre of the trench, partially revealed against the west edge. Pit fill [80/005] comprised firm mid brown silt clay with occasional small sandstone inclusions.
- 4.21.4 The feature was sealed by subsoil [80/002] and topsoil [80/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
81/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.17	42.02
81/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.22	
81/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	41.63
81/004	cut	pit	0.6	0.56	0.25	41.11
81/005	fill	fill	0.6	0.56	0.25	

4.22 Trench 81

Table 22: Trench 81 list of recorded contexts

- 4.22.1 Trench 81 was located towards the centre of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.22.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a pit (Figure 24).
- 4.22.3 Pit [81/004] was located at the south end of the trench, and was sub-circular in plan. Pit fill [81/005] comprised firm red-brown silt clay with frequent small sandstone and occasional charcoal inclusions.
- 4.22.4 The feature was sealed by subsoil [81/002] and topsoil [81/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

			Length	Width	Depth m	Height
Context	Туре	Interpretation	m	m		m AOD
82/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.22	42.44
82/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.22	
82/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	42.17
82/004	cut	ditch	2.1	0.9	0.33	42.31
82/005	fill	fill	2.1	0.9	0.33	
		ditch,				
82/006	cut	enclosure?	2.1	2.5	0.4	42.19
82/007	fill	fill, primary			0.3	
82/008	fill	fill, secondary			0.1	
82/009	cut	pit	0.4	1.05	0.2	42.19
82/010	fill	fill	0.4	1.05	0.2	
82/011	cut	pit	0.1	0.9	0.27	42.19
82/012	fill	fill	0.1	0.9	0.27	
82/013	fill	fill, tertiary	2.1	3.1	0.2	

4.23 Trench 82

Table 23: Trench 82 list of recorded contexts

- 4.23.1 Trench 82 was located close to the centre of the site and was orientated on an east-west alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.23.2 Four archaeological features were identified within the trench comprising two ditches and two pits (Figure 25).
- 4.23.3 Ditch [82/004] was located towards the centre of the trench and was orientated on a north-south alignment. Ditch fill [82/005] comprised firm mid grey-brown silt clay with frequent sandstone and manganese inclusions. A small group of grog-tempered wares recovered from the ditch fill suggesting a Late Iron Age/ early Roman date for the feature.
- 4.23.4 Ditch [82/006] was located at the east end of the trench, similarly orientated as ditch [82/004]. Lower ditch fill [82/007] comprised firm light grey silt sand clay with frequent manganese and sandstone inclusions whilst the upper fill comprised firm mid grey-brown silt sand with occasional sandstone and rare charcoal inclusions.
- 4.23.5 A single small bodysherd of Roman pottery was recovered from the lower fill [82/007] whilst a single small bodysherd of medieval pottery was recovered from the upper ditch fill [82/008].
- 4.23.6 Two shallow circular pits [82/009] and [82/011] were partially revealed against the south edge of the trench, flanking ditch [82/006]. Pit [82/009] appeared to cut ditch [82/006] although the relationship was uncertain. Pit fill [82/010] comprised a moderately firm mid orange-brown silt clay sand with frequent sandstone inclusions. Pit [82/011] was truncated by ditch [82/006] and contained a fill [82/012] which comprised soft light grey-brown sand silt. The fill of pit [82/011] contained two sherds of coarse flint-tempered pottery considered to be of Early Neolithic or Middle/Late Bronze Age date.

4.23.7 All features were sealed by subsoil [82/002] and topsoil [82/001]. No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.24 Trench 83

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
83/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.17-0.24	42.86
83/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.20	
83/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	42.46
83/004	cut	Pit? Tree bole	1.07	2.28	0.24	41.84
83/005	fill	fill	1.07	2.28	0.24	

Table 24: Trench 83 list of recorded contexts

- 4.24.1 Trench 83 was located within the south-east quarter of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.24.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising a pit (Figure 26).
- 4.24.3 Possible pit or tree bole [83/004] was located close to the south end of the trench, partially revealed against the west edge. Pit fill [83/005] comprised compact mottled light orange/ light grey silt clay.
- 4.24.4 The feature was sealed by subsoil [83/002] and topsoil [83/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
84/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.20	43.84
84/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.15	
84/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	43.54
		Modern ditch,				
84/004	cut	field boundary	2.1	1.17	NA	43.38
84/005	fill	fill	2.1	1.17	NA	
84/006	cut	pit	0.68	0.55	0.08	43.39
84/007	fill	fill	0.68	0.55	0.08	

4.25 Trench 84

Table 25: Trench 84 list of recorded contexts

- 4.25.1 Trench 84 was located within the south-east quarter of the site and was orientated on an east-west alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.25.2 A single archaeological feature was identified within the trench, comprising a pit (Figure 27).
- 4.25.3 Pit [84/006] was located within the south end of the trench, and was oval in plan. Pit fill [84/007] comprised moderately firm mottled mid grey/ mid greybrown sand clay silt with frequent sandstone inclusions.
- 4.25.4 The feature was sealed by subsoil [84/002] and topsoil [84/001]. No finds

were retrieved from the feature or from the overlying deposits.

4.25.5 A single modern field boundary ditch [84/004] was identified close to the centre of the trench, orientated on a north-south alignment and corresponded with a field boundary first recorded on the Billingshurst Tithe of 1841-44 and remained in use up until the 1980s. Two sherds of pottery were recovered from the surface of ditch [84/004], one of medieval date and one of early post-medieval date.

4.26 Trench 85

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
85/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.20	44.81
85/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	0.07-0.20	
85/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	44.6
85/004	cut	ditch	2.2	1.4	0.35	44.85
85/005	fill	fill	2.2	1.4	0.35	
85/006	cut	posthole	0.37	0.3	0.04	44.88
85/007	fill	fill	0.37	0.3	0.04	
85/008	cut	pit	0.97	0.9	0.18	45.51
85/009	fill	fill	0.97	0.9	0.18	

 Table 26:
 Trench 85 list of recorded contexts

- 4.26.1 Trench 85 was located within the south-east quarter of the site and was orientated on a north-south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.26.2 Three archaeological features were identified within the trench comprising a ditch, a posthole and a pit (Figure 28).
- 4.26.3 Ditch [85/004] was located towards the centre of the trench and was orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment. Ditch fill [85/005] comprised firm mottled mid orange/ mid grey silt clay with occasional sandstone inclusions. A large group of Late 1st century AD Roman pottery was recovered from the fill, along with a flint flake of indeterminate prehistoric date.
- 4.26.4 Posthole [85/006] was located immediately north of ditch [85/004] and was circular in plan. Posthole fill [85/007] comprised firm mid red-brown silt clay with occasional sandstone inclusions. No finds were retrieved from the fill.
- 4.26.5 Pit [85/008] was located towards the north end of the trench, and was circular in plan. Pit fill [82/009] comprised a moderately soft mid grey sand clay with frequent sandstone inclusions. The fill contained two bodysherds of Roman pottery of probable 1st – 2nd century AD date.
- 4.26.6 All features were sealed by subsoil [85/002] and topsoil [85/001]. No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.27 Trench 86

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
86/001	layer	topsoil	trench	trench	0.17-0.22	46.14
86/002	layer	subsoil	trench	trench	12.00-0.18	
86/003	layer	natural	trench	trench	NA	45.67
86/004	fill	fill	2.2	0.76	0.24	
86/005	cut	ditch	2.2	0.76	0.24	45.77

Table 27: Trench 86 list of recorded contexts

- 4.27.1 Trench 86 was located within the south-east corner of the site and was orientated on a north -south alignment (Figure 3).
- 4.27.2 A single feature was identified within the trench, comprising of a ditch (Figure 29).
- 4.27.3 Ditch [86/005] was located close to the centre of the trench, orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. Ditch fill [86/004] comprised a friable mid grey sand clay with occasional sandstone inclusions.
- 4.27.4 The ditch was sealed by subsoil [86/002] and topsoil [85/001]. No finds were retrieved from the feature, however, a single sherd of medieval pottery, 14 fragments of tile of probable post-medieval date and a single piece of 19th to early 20th century glass were recovered from the topsoil whilst two fragments of tile of medieval to post-medieval date were retrieved from the subsoil.

4.28 Trenches 54, 55, 56, 57, 59 61, 65, 67, 69, 87, 88, 89, 90 and 91

- 4.28.1 The above trenches were devoid of significant archaeological features. A table of the depths of overburden in each trench can be located in Appendix 1.
- 4.28.2 A field boundary ditch first recorded shown on the Billingshurst Tithe of 1841 44 and which remained in use until at least the 1980s was identified in Trenches 55, 59, and 69. The ditch also corresponded with ditch [79/004] in Trench 79. A piece of glass of 20th century date, four fragments of tile and two spall of indeterminate date were recovered from the surface of the ditch in Trench 55. A Mesolithic flint blade core and three sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered from the same ditch in Trench 59 whilst prehistoric pottery, undiagnostic iron slag, post-medieval tile and brick were recovered from the ditch in Trench 69.
- 4.28.3 Four pieces of tile of indeterminate date were recovered from a large modern pit in Trench 91.
- 4.28.4 Finds were recovered from overlying deposits in Trenches 54 and 69. In Trench 54 a flint blade of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date was recorded in an unstratified context whist a polished Neolithic flint axe was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 69.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

- 5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation on Land East of Billingshurst. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Appendix 2). All finds have been packed and stored following CIfA guidelines (2014a). No further conservation is required.
- 5.2 Worked Flint by Karine Le Hégarat

Introduction

5.2.1 In total, 28 pieces of flint considered to be humanly struck weighing 310g were recovered during the latest phase of work at the site. A further six fragments (178g) of unworked burnt flint were also hand-collected from four numbered contexts. Based on diagnostic pieces and technological grounds, the flintwork provides evidence for Mesolithic and Neolithic presence at the site. A few pieces might be later in date. The assemblage is small, but it is in keeping with the flints recovered during the previous phases of work at the site (ASE 2015).

Methodology

5.2.2 The pieces of struck flint were quantified by piece count and weight and were individually classified using standard set of codes and morphological descriptions (Butler 2005, Ford 1987 and Inizan *et al.* 1999). The flints were directly catalogued into an Excel spreadsheet table. A breakdown of the composition of the assemblage is provided in Table 28.

Туре	Flakes	Blades, Blade-like flakes, Bladelets	Cores, Core fragments	Retouched forms	Total
No	11	9	3	5	28
Total	11	9	3	5	28

Table 28: The flintwork

Raw material and condition

5.2.3 The most frequently occurring raw material was a light to dark grey flint, but material of a very light brown colour was also encountered. Cortex was uncommon, and where present it consisted of a slightly stained thin and weathered outer surface. The chalk-derived raw material would have been imported to the site. A total of 15 pieces displayed varying degrees of recortication. A few pieces exhibited only partial light blue discoloration, but several artefacts were entirely re-corticated white or milky blue. A large proportion of the flintwork was in a fairly fresh condition, displaying only very light edge damage. This implies that the material had undergone negligible post-depositional disturbance, possibly limited to very slight soil movement.

The assemblage

- 5.2.4 The flint assemblage recovered during the latest phase of work is small and no large concentration of material was found. No context produced more than five pieces. Although the artefacts were thinly spread (28 pieces recovered from ten numbered contexts and from unstratified deposits), a fair proportion of the material was actually found approximately 150 metres down the ridge in the western part of the site.
- 5.2.5 The assemblage was dominated by unmodified pieces of débitage (71.42% of the total assemblage, n=20), including flakes, blade-like flakes, blades and bladelets. Technological indicators point to a blade-orientated industry and suggest a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. The evaluation produced four blade-like flakes, two blades and three bladelets, which represents 45% of the entire débitage component. The recovery of an exhausted blade core (30g) from context [59/005] and two small fragmentary cores weighing 19g and 14g respectively from context [56/003] provides further evidence for the production of narrow blades and bladelets. The three cores indicate a careful reduction strategy.
- 5.2.6 Five modified pieces were found including three diagnostic implements (two microliths and a polished axe). The remaining two retouched pieces consist of an end scraper and a retouched flake. Context [79/007] produced a complete microlith in a fair condition. It consists of an obliquely blunted point (Jacobi 1978, type 1a^c). It has been formed by applying a truncation to the bulbar end of the bladelet. The tool attains 42mm in length, but it is fairly narrow (10mm). The late Mesolithic tradition in the south of England differs from the tradition in the northern part of the country in that in the south, during the late part of the Mesolithic, several formal tools including the truncated points persist in low quantities (Pitts and Jacobi 1979). However, based on its morphology and dimension, the point from context [79/007] is more characteristic of Early Mesolithic assemblages (ibid 1979, 169-70).
- 5.2.7 The second microlith was found unstratified. It consists of an inversely retouched type. It was manufactured on a narrow bladelet, the bulbar end of which was absent. The piece was blunted along both lateral edges. It is most characteristic of a rod. But it displays further inverse retouch at the tip that forms a very sharp point. Microliths are frequently associated with arrows, but this artefact, which is thinner than a borer, could have been utilised as a piercer. Its small dimensions suggest a Late Mesolithic date.
- 5.2.8 A broken finely worked polished axe was recovered from the top soil in trench 69 and provides evidence for Neolithic presence. The artefact was recorticated orange brown, but recent breaks reveal a light grey flint. The cutting edge is absent, and the break may have occurred during use. The axe appeared to have been entirely polished excluding, maybe, the butt end. A few deeper flake scars are also visible. The latter seemed to have been remodified. In profile the axe is widest towards the broken cutting edge, with straight edges tapering towards the butt end. It displays bevelled edges. Viewed from the side, it is symmetrical. Its current length is 111mm. While its maximum width is 54mm, it is 36mm wide at the butt end. It weights 202g.

5.2.9 The end scraper made on a blade-like flake from context [77/005] could be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date, and the retouched flake from [79/007] could be Mesolithic or Neolithic in date.

Discussion

5.2.10 The evaluation work has revealed evidence for Mesolithic and Neolithic presence at the site with knapping activities and tool use. The material is consistent with that from the earlier field walking and excavations undertaken at the site. Mesolithic material is commonly found around Horsham. Nonetheless, the lack of well dated Mesolithic sites means that important gaps exist in the succession of microliths, and sieving is recommended in the event that further work takes place and a flint-rich well stratified or datable deposit is encountered. Sieving will help recover microlithis and small micro-débitage including microburins. Neolithic axes and arrowheads are fairly regularly collected as stray finds in the Weald (Gardiner 1990).

5.3 **Prehistoric and Roman Pottery** by Anna Doherty

- 5.3.1 A moderate assemblage (336 sherds, weighing 2.49 kg) of prehistoric and Roman pottery was recovered, predominantly from Trenches 73 and 85 towards eastern side of the evaluated area. The range of material is similar to that recovered during excavations to the north (ASE 2015), being dominated by earlier Roman pottery with slighter evidence for prehistoric and later Roman activity.
- 5.3.2 The pottery has been examined for spot-dating purposes but has not, at present, been recorded in detail according to a fabric and form type-series. It is recommended that it should be retained and fully integrated into any assessment or analysis programme in the event of further archaeological work at the site.
- 5.3.3 The earliest pottery, from context [82/012], comprises two small coarse, illsorted flint-tempered bodysherds with moderately thick walls. They may belong either to the Early Neolithic or the Middle/Late Bronze Age periods; the latter being more likely in the Weald. Also probably of prehistoric date are several sherds found in contexts [59/005] and [69/005]. They are in a vesicular fabric probably tempered with a calcareous rock which has leached out in the acid soil conditions. In [59/005], this fabric was associated with a partial rim with a beaded to slightly T-shaped profile. It is likely that these sherds are of Middle or Middle to Late Iron Age date.
- 5.3.4 The majority of the assemblage is of Late Iron Age to earlier Roman date, although it should be noted that, in most cases, hand-made grog-tempered wares were stratified with Roman wheel-thrown sandy wares which may suggest that this phase of activity belongs entirely to the post-conquest period. Having said this, a few grog-tempered sherds did occur without Romanised material in context [82/005].
- 5.3.5 Several datable groups, including [72/009], [73/005] and [73/021], have a mix of grog-tempered and sandy wares similar to those produced by the Arun

Valley industry. Where forms are represented they tend to be simple necked jars and there is one bodysherd of North Gaulish white ware. These groups most likely belong to the latter half of the 1st century AD.

- 5.3.6 The largest group comprises 170 sherds from context [85/005]. Many sherds in this group are from one fragmented but partially-complete vessel, a slightly unusual large flagon with a flaring cupped mouth. Early Roman flagons tend to be made exclusively in oxidised wares but this example is in grey ware, again possibly of Arun Valley origin. Although the rim form of this vessel is slightly unusual it is probably best paralleled by 1st century examples like Fishbourne form 126 (Cunliffe 1971, Fig 96). This group also contains probable Arun Valley fine wares including a globular beaker with a short everted rim. This reinforces the impression that the group belongs to the 1st century AD, though the complete lack of grog-tempered wares suggests it is perhaps of marginally later date than the assemblages mentioned above.
- 5.3.7 One stratified context, [73/015], contains a different range of fabrics and forms including necked jars in Alice Holt/Farnham ware, bodysherds of Rowland's Castle ware and New Forest colour-coated ware and a bead-and-flange bowl in a black-burnished style ware. This small group probably dates to around AD270-350. A few other unstratified sherds of later Roman date were also noted, including an everted rim (Dicks 2009 D2) jar and another sherd of New Forest colour-coated ware.

5.4 **Post-Roman Pottery** by Luke Barber

- 5.4.1 The evaluation recovered 20 sherds of post-Roman pottery, weighing 184g, from 10 individually numbered contexts. The material has been spot dated and rapidly described for the current work. Full archive recording and any associated discard was not undertaken at this stage such work will be undertaken at the same time as any Stage 2 post-excavation archiving.
- The earliest material present is of the medieval period. This accounts for 13 5.4.2 sherds (126g), from six different contexts in three different trenches (Trenches 72, 82 and 86). Although some of these finds are from topsoil most are from contemporary features. Although sherd sizes trend towards the small side (typically up to 30mm across) they are relatively fresh suggesting the material relates to occupation activity within the evaluation area rather than simply being a manuring scatter. The assemblage is dominated by fairly open-textured medium sandy ware cooking pots, including an example with a fairly early everted rim (context [72/001]). Overall they would best fit within a later 12th- to 13th- century date range. There is also a single somewhat abraded chalk tempered sherd from [72/005] that is certainly of later 11th- to 12th- century date but this is probably residual. The sandy wares are frequently associated with some quite fine buff sandy glazed jug sherds of west Sussex Ware type. These are unlikely to be much before c. 1225/1250, suggesting that the bulk of activity can best be placed between c. 1225 and 1300.
- 5.4.3 The post-medieval assemblage contains a single early post-medieval sherd: a worn 2g scrap of yellow glazed Border Ware (context [84/005]) of mid 16thto 17th- century date. Unstratified deposits in Trench 73 produced three local

glazed red earthenware sherds of 18th- century type with the remaining late post-medieval sherds relating to later 19th- to early 20th- century activity. Certainly the ceramics would not suggest anything other than manuring scatter for the post-medieval period.

5.5 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

- 5.5.1 A total of 78 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 2121g was taken from eight contexts, including top and subsoil. The vast majority of these fragments were too small or abraded to be diagnostic, but four fabrics were identified and may enable the CBM to be dated to different periods.
- 5.5.2 Of the four CBM fabrics identified, three are very distinct; although it is possible that F1 and F3 may be the same fabric fired to different temperatures (see Table 29). Inclusions of a burnt slag-type material within F2 suggests a post-medieval date of after c.1666, when it became common to add refuse to clay used for building materials, although it should be noted that the slag does not represent a frequent or common inclusion.
- 5.5.3 F4 represents the least common but potentially most diagnostic fabric type, as a number of the pieces within this fabric group have characteristics of Roman CBM, including two possible imbrex tiles from contexts (91/005) and the subsoil of T73, and tegulae fragments, also from the subsoil of T73.
- 5.5.4 One piece of peg-tile was also recovered from (86/001), but was too vitrified to determine fabric.
- 5.5.5 Of all the CBM taken from the land east of Billinghurst, less than half (40%) came from stratified contexts, and with the exception of those items described above none provided any dateable or diagnostic features.

Fabric code	Description
F1	Maroon-orange matrix with common medium calcareous material and marbling; sparse v. coarse calcareous material; sparse very coarse black/ burnt slag. (Possibly an over-fired version of F3?)
F2	Dense, fine orange matrix. Common fine, medium, coarse and very coarse red clay deposits; occasional sparse pale marbling; sparse medium-very coarse Fe or burnt slag? Sparse coarse calcareous fragments.
F3	Dense reddish matrix with common pale clay marbling, common coarse-very coarse red/Fe-rich clay; sparse coarse-very coarse calcareous fragments; occasional red clay marbling.
F4	Sandy orange matrix with medium-very coarse unsorted grey and white quartz; sparse- common medium Fe-rich clay; occasional sparse calcareous material and pale clay deposits; sparse medium Fe.

Table 29: Fabric descriptions for the ceramic building materials recovered from the land east of Billingshurst

5.6 Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.6.1 Two bits of stone were recovered from context [85/005]. The smaller (4g) consists of a typical ferruginous carstone fragment from the Lower Greensand Beds. The other (506g) is a little more unusual in that it is composed of a well-worn non-calcareous ferruginous medium-grained sandstone fragment with a light grey weathered rind. Although not out of place amongst some of the Lower Greensand Beds, the presence of at least three large marine burrows suggests a coastal source. As such a reworked piece of Tertiary sandstone cannot be ruled out.

5.7 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

5.7.1 Three context produced slag during the evaluation. Context [69/005] contained a 36g piece of undiagnostic iron slag. The piece is black to rusty orange in colour, well aerated and slightly vitrified in many places. Although smithing is suspected it could be smelting cinder. Context [76/005] produced two very similar pieces to that in [69/005] (16g). The 70g piece of slag from [86/001] is somewhat different in that it actually consists of a hard vitrified grey clay hearth lining with some adhering fuel ash slag. Such a piece could derive from a number of processes and, coming from a topsoil deposit, is not possible to date.

5.8 The Glass by Elke Raemen

5.8.1 Two glass fragments (weight 25g) were recovered from two different contexts. A probable beer bottle body shard in green glass was recovered from [55/005] and is of 20th-century date. Topsoil [72/001] contained a small wine bottle body shard dating to the 19th to early 20th century.

5.9 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

5.9.1 The topsoil in trench 73 contained two clay tobacco pipe fragments. Included is an abraded stem fragment dating to c. 1680-1800. A second abraded piece comprises c. 20% from an armorial pipe bowl with spur (RF <1>). The piece dates to the second half of the 18th to early 19th century. Too little survives of its profile to refine the dating with certainty, however, a date as late as c. 1790-1820 is probable. The relief moulding is crudely executed and the surviving decoration comprises the Hanoverian Arms facing the smoker and probably placed beneath the Prince of Wales feathers. The motto is illegible, either because of a poor mould or because of subsequent abrasion.

5.10 The Fired Clay by Elke Raemen

- 5.10.1 A small assemblage comprising 15 fragments of fired clay (weight 150g) was recovered from six individually numbered contexts. Three different fabrics were encountered (table 30)
- 5.10.2 Fragments are mostly amorphous, although six pieces retained a flat surface ([66/005]). No wattle impressions survive, however, it is likely the fragments represent structural daub.

Fabric	Description
F1	Silty reddish orange fabric with pale orange streaks; slightly laminated
	Orange silty fabric with moderate very fine quartz and rare iron oxides to
F2	1mm
	Silty, pale calcareous fabric with moderate fine black specks/quartz, rare
F3	red inclusions to 0.5mm and rare fine chalk

Table 30: Overview of the fired clay fabrics

5.11 The Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

5.11.1 Two small, cremated fragments of bone were recovered from the subsoil of Trench 73; these fragments are unidentifiable to taxa and element. There is no evidence of butchery, gnawing or pathology on the bones.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Angela Vitolo and Lucy Allott

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 During archaeological mitigation at the site, 3 bulk soil samples were taken to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. The samples were taken from the fills of 2 ditches and a gully. The following report summarises the contents of these samples and discusses the contribution that the environmental remains can give in regards to the local vegetation environment, fuel use and selection and the agricultural economy or other plant use.

6.2 Methodology

- 6.2.1 Samples were processed by flotation in their entirety. The flots and residues were captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes respectively and were air dried. The dried residues from the flotation samples were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 3). Artefacts recovered from the samples were distributed to specialists, and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The dry flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 4). Identifications of macrobotanical remains have been made through comparison with published reference atlases (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004), and nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).
- 6.2.2 Charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residue of the samples 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, Schweingruber 1990). 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. Taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Table 1, and nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.3 Results

Samples <1> [66/005], <2> [73/005], <3> [78/005]

- 6.3.1 Context [73/005], the fill of a ditch/gully, is spot-dated to the Roman period while deposits [66/005] and [78/005] are undated. All samples produced moderate to large flots, dominated by uncharred vegetative matter such as roots and twigs. Uncharred goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.) seeds were also present. This material is likely to be modern contamination that infiltrated the deposits through root action. The only charred plant macrofossils consisted of a few vetches (*Vicia/Lathyrus* spp.) from ditch fill [78/005] <3>. Moderate amounts of charcoal were recorded in samples <2> and <3>. Both assemblages appear to be dominated by oak (*Quercus* sp.) fragments with elm (*Ulmus* sp.) and possible beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) evident in samples <2> and <3> respectively.
- 6.3.2 In addition, mammal bones (some burnt) were recorded from the residue of sample <2> and finds, such as burnt clay, burnt sandstone, pottery and flint were noted in samples <1> and <2>.

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 Overall, the samples from Billingshurst cannot offer much information regarding diet, agricultural economy or the vegetation environment at the site. They do provide some evidence for woody taxa used as fuel and it appears that oak and other large woodland trees, elm and beech, were selected. These ditch features contain secondary deposits, rather than representing in situ burning and they are therefore likely to contain amalgams of fuel deriving from several sources. As such they provide no indication of fuel collecting preferences associated with primary fuel using activities. However, the presence of charcoal highlights evidence that fuel using activities were taking place in the area and therefore demonstrates the potential for other archaeological features in the vicinity to also preserve charcoal and charred plant remains. Any future work at the site should continue sampling targeting primary deposits in particular.

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 7.1.1 The majority of trenches revealed a similar sequence of natural firm mottled light grey/ mid grey-brown/ mid orange sand clay with occasional outcroppings of shattered black, orange and grey sandstone overlain by a subsoil of light yellow-brown sand silt and a mid-brown silt topsoil.
- 7.1.2 The above sequence was not recorded along the north site boundary within Trenches 53, 54, 59, and 62 where no subsoil deposit was present. A partial subsoil was present in Trenches 55, 56, 58, 61, 63, and 66. Agricultural activity associated with Hoyle's Barn appeared to have truncated the subsoil within these trenches.
- 7.1.3 The undisturbed natural geology was encountered at elevations of between 51.12m AOD in the north-east corner of the site (Trench 66), falling away to 34.17m AOD in the south-west corner of the site (Trench 77).
- 7.1.4 The depth of overburden varied between 0.15m and 0.56m across the site. Generally shallower depths were recorded across the most northern trenches with greater depths recorded down slope within the more southern trenches.
- 7.1.5 Of the 40 trenches excavated, 29 contained archaeological features. These were either undated, or contained prehistoric, LIA/Early Roman, Late Roman, medieval and/or post-medieval material.
- 7.1.6 The methodology, as set out in the WSI (CgMs 2015), was successfully employed during the evaluation. The conditions on site were conducive to confident and efficient identification and recording of archaeological features.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 7.2.1 Intact topsoil and subsoil deposits were identified across the majority of the site, suggesting limited truncation of the underlying archaeological horizon.
- 7.2.2 Agricultural activity associated with a previously existing farm complex had truncated the subsoil across the more northern trenches including trenches 53, 54, 59, and 62 where no subsoil deposit was present. A partial subsoil was present in Trenches 55, 56, 58, 61, 63, and 66.
- 7.2.3 Minimal contamination and truncation from modern land drains was encountered in Trenches 52, 54, 57, 58, 63, 72, 73, 75, 77, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, and 90. Shallow modern postholes, stakeholes and similarly aligned very shallow gullies were encountered in Trenches 53, 54, 58, 59, 60, 61, 67, 68, and 87.
- 7.2.4 A large modern pit cut truncated the subsoil across the majority of Trench 91 in the south-east corner of the site.

7.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Later Prehistoric

- 7.3.1 Small quantities of residual flint artefacts, including a polished Neolithic axe, suggest low level activity of later prehistoric date including knapping activities and tool use within the vicinity. The assemblage was dominated by unmodified pieces of débitage, including flakes, blade-like flakes, blades and bladelets. Technological indicators point to a blade-orientated industry and suggest a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date.
- 7.3.2 The earliest pottery from the site may belong either to the Early Neolithic or the Middle/Late Bronze Age period and comprised two sherds of pottery found within a pit [82/011] located roughly central to the site.

Middle – Late Iron Age

7.3.3 Small quantities of pottery of probable Middle or Middle to Late Iron Age date were recovered from a post-medieval/modern field boundary ditch fill in Trenches 59 and 69. These are considered residual within the ditch but suggest Iron Age activity within the vicinity.

Late Iron Age - Early Roman

- 7.3.4 The Early Roman activity within the site area is characterised by a curvilinear gully, interpreted as a possible eaves-drip gully [73/004], associated with two small and one large pit and a single visible posthole. Proximate ditches to the north and west in Trenches 63, 72, and 82 were also contemporary, one of which [82/006] was large enough to have possibly functioned as a settlement enclosure ditch.
- 7.3.5 Features dated as Early Roman were also identified in Trenches 66, 75, 76, 85 to the east of the eaves-drip gully and comprised three ditches and a pit. The ditches in Trenches 66, 75, and 76 may represent part of an associated field system; however, the quantity of pottery recovered from the ditch in Trench 85 may suggest an alternate function for this ditch.
- 7.3.6 A second possible Early Roman eaves-drip gully [73/016] was identified intercutting with gully [73/004]. The feature remained undated but was certainly cut by and therefore earlier than Later Roman eaves-drip gully [73/014].
- 7.3.7 Multiple ditches were identified to the east and west of the eaves-drip gully [73/004], orientated on various alignments, none of which corresponded with the existing and known post-medieval field system. It is considered most likely that they are of a similar Late Iron Age Roman date given that the recovered pottery assemblage across the site was predominantly of these periods.

Later Roman

7.3.8 A single curvilinear gully [73/014] was securely dated as of Later Roman date and was interpreted as a possible eaves-drip gully. The gully lay immediately north of earlier Roman eaves-drip gully [73/004]. The pottery assemblage recovered would suggest a AD270-350 date.

Medieval

7.3.9 A single possibly medieval ditch with contemporary flanking pits was identified in Trench 72, central to the site area. The ditch [72/004] cut Late Iron Age/ Early Roman ditch [72/008].

Post-medieval/ Modern

- 7.3.10 Post-medieval and modern artefacts were recovered from five ditch contexts, four of which are likely to have formed a single continuous north-south aligned field boundary through trenches 55, 59, 69, and 79 in the west half of the site. The fifth ditch, similarly orientated, was located in the east half of the site in Trench 84. All ditches correspond with field boundaries recorded on shown on the Billingshurst Tithe of 1841 -44 and OS mapping in 1882, and continued to be mapped up until the late 1980s when it is likely they were in filled.
- 7.3.11 A single large modern possible pit cut of unknown function was identified in Trench 91 in the south-east corner of the site. The pit had a width of *c.* 20m.

7.4 Consideration of research aims

- 7.4.1 The general aims of the archaeological field evaluation were to:
 - to determine, as far as was reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- 7.4.2 The field evaluation has established that there are significant archaeological remains, probably of Late Iron Age Roman date located centrally and within the eastern half of the site. The archaeological remains have been interpreted as at least two phases of settlement with identifiable structures, a possible enclosure ditch and associated field system.
 - To seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.
- 7.4.3 Extensive truncation to the subsoil horizon was evident across the natural ridge along the north site boundary, particularly to the west within Trenches 53, 54, 55, 56 and 62. In this area, any surviving archaeological deposits are likely to have been subject to truncation and contamination from post-medieval and modern agricultural activities. However, archaeological deposits did survive to depths of 0.1-0.4m towards the east side of the ridge

where the impact from Hoyle's Barn appeared to have been less extensive.

7.5 Conclusions

- 7.5.1 This investigation has succeeded in identifying archaeological features in 29 of the 40 excavated trenches. A small quantity of residual struck flint artefacts suggests some activity of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date in the vicinity of the site. Early Neolithic or possible Middle Late Bronze Age activity is further suggested by very small quantities of pottery of a similar date within a pit context. However, much of the archaeological activity recorded appears to be related to a settlement of Late Iron Age Roman date, with a possible eaves-drip gully associated with three pits, a single posthole, a possible enclosure ditch and associated field system. A second possible eaves-drip gully of AD270 350 date was also identified.
- 7.5.2 Medieval activity was limited to a single ditch and two flanking pits of possible 12th-13th century date. Post-medieval features comprised two field boundary ditches, both of which are present on the Billingshurst Tithe of 1841 -44 and Ordnance Survey maps from 1882 up to the 1980s.

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HER Summary

HER enquiry no.	NA														
Site code	WLB11 / I	_EB14													
Project code	6532														
Planning reference	DC/13/073	35													
Site address	Land East	Land East of Billingshurst, South of A272													
District/Borough	Horsham	Horsham District Council													
NGR (12 figures)	509428 12	509428 125780													
Geology	Wealden Group of mudstone, siltstone and sandstone														
Fieldwork type	EVAL														
Date of fieldwork	5 th - 20th August 2015														
Sponsor/client	CgMs														
Project manager	Paul Mason														
Project supervisor	Hayley Nicholls														
Period summary		MESOLITHIC	NEOLI		BRONZE AGE	IRON AGE									
	ROMAN		MEDIE	VAL	POST- MEDIEVAL	OTHER									
Project summary						gMs Consulting I of 40 trenches									
(100 word max)						d archaeological									
	activity of Early Neo suggested pit contex appears to with a po posthole, second p identified. Medieval possible 1 field boun	Mesolithic to E lithic or possible l by very small t. However, m o be related to ssible eaves-dr a possible eaves-dr ossible eaves-dr activity was lim 2 th -13 th century dary ditches, b	arly Neo Middle quantities uch of ti a settlem ip gully losure di drip gully tited to a date. Po oth of wh	lithic d – Late s of pot he arch ent of associa itch and / of Al single st-med nich are	ate in the vic Bronze Age a ttery of a simi haeological a Late Iron Age ated with thre d associated D270 – 350 ditch and two lieval features present on	suggests some inity of the site. activity is further lar date within a activity recorded e - Roman date, be pits, a single field system. A date was also o flanking pits of s comprised two the Billingshurst 1882 up to the									

OASIS Form OASIS ID: archae	eol6-224098
Project details	
Project name	Land to the East of Billingshurst, South of A272
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East were commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation. A total of 40 archaeological trenches were excavated across the site to reveal the underlying natural sand clay with outcroppings of sandstone at a maximum height of 51.12m AOD in the north-east corner of the site (Trench 66), falling away to 34.17m AOD in the south-west corner of the site (Trench 77). A small quantity of residual struck flint artefacts suggests some activity of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date in the vicinity of the site. Early Neolithic or possible Middle - Late Bronze Age activity is further suggested by very small quantities of pottery of a similar date within a pit context. However, much of the archaeological activity recorded appears to be related to a settlement of Late Iron Age - Roman date, with a possible eaves-drip gully associated with three pits, a single posthole, a possible enclosure ditch and associated field system. A second possible eaves-drip gully of AD270 - 350 date was also identified. Medieval activity was limited to a single ditch and two flanking pits of possible 12th-13th century date. Post- medieval features comprised two field boundary ditches, both of which are present on the Billingshurst Tithe of 1841 -44 and Ordnance Survey maps from 1882 up to the 1980s.
Project dates	Start: 05-08-2015 End: 20-08-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WLB11 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LEB14 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	DC/13/0735 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	DITCH Late Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	GULLY Late Iron Age
Monument type	GULLY Roman
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"

Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX HORSHAM BILLINGSHURST Land to the East of Billingshurst, South of A272
Postcode	RH14 9DB
Study area	9.1 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 509428 125780 50.892356481942 0.146461671041 50 53 32 N 000 08 47 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 34.17m Max: 51.12m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	west sussex county council
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Paul Mason
Project supervisor	Hayley Nicholls
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting Ltd.
Project archives Physical Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Industrial","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Geophysics","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey

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	","Unpublished Text"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation on Land to the East of Billingshurst, South of A272, West Sussex.
Author(s)/Editor(s) Nicholls, H
Other bibliographic details	2015321
Date	2015
lssuer or publisher	ASE
Place of issue or publication	Portslade
Entered by Entered on	Hayley Nicholls (h.nicholls@ucl.ac.uk) 18 September 2015

Trench	Context	Туре	Interpretation	Depth m	Height m AOD
T54	54/001	layer	topsoil	0.15-0.20	43.6
T54	54/002	layer	natural	0	43.34
T55	55/001	layer	topsoil	0.14-0.18	43.78
T55	55/002	layer	subsoil	0.12	
T55	55/003	layer	natural	0	43.6
T56	56/001	layer	topsoil	0.15-0.20	45.24
T56	56/002	layer	subsoil	0.12	
T56	56/003	layer	natural	0	44.92
T57	57/001	layer	topsoil	0.15-0.20	41.31
T57	57/002	layer	subsoil	0.15-0.20	
T57	57/003	layer	natural	0	41.34
T59	59/001	layer	topsoil	0.2	42.47
T57	59/002	layer	subsoil	0.18	
T57	59/003	layer	natural	0	42.34
T61	61/001	layer	topsoil	0.13-0.15	46.06
T61	61/002	layer	subsoil	0.07-0.09	
T61	61/003	layer	natural	0	45.89
T65	65/001	layer	topsoil	0.20-0.25	50.33
T65	65/002	layer	subsoil	0.15-0.20	
T65	65/003	layer	natural	0	49.9
T67	67/001	layer	topsoil	0.22-0.28	38.16
T67	67/002	layer	subsoil	0.10-0.23	
T67	67/003	layer	natural	0	37.81
T69	69/001	layer	topsoil	0.20-0.24	40.56
T69	69/002	layer	subsoil	0.17-0.20	
T69	69/003	layer	natural	0	40.17
T87	87/001	layer	topsoil	0.10-0.20	35.57
T87	87/002	layer	subsoil	0.05-0.15	
T87	87/003	layer	natural	0	35.3
T88	88/001	layer	topsoil	0.14-0.15	39.45
T88	88/002	layer	subsoil	0.14-0.22	
T88	88/003	layer	natural	0	39.17
T89	89/001	layer	topsoil	25.00-0.28	39.59
T89	89/002	layer	subsoil	0.10-0.15	
T89	89/003	layer	natural	0	39.3
T90	90/001	layer	topsoil	0.22-0.26	40.63
T90	90/002	layer	subsoil	0.17-0.22	
T90	90/003	layer	natural	0	40.28
T91	91/001	layer	topsoil	0.15-0.20	41.06

Appendix 1: Archaeologically negative trenches: list of recorded contexts

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Trench	Context	Туре	Interpretation	Depth m	Height m AOD
T91	91/002	layer	subsoil	0.15	
T91	91/003	layer	natural	0	40.45

Appendix 2: Quantification of the finds

		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt
Context	Pottery	(g)	CBM	(g)	Bone	(g)	Flint	(g)	FCF	(g)	Stone	(g)	Daub	(g)	Glass	(g)	СТР	(g)	Slag	(g)
55/005			6	60											1	6				
56/003							2	54												
58/005							2	29												
59/005	3	11					1	48												
63/005	1	<2																		
66/005	1	<2	8	108									9	76						
68/005													1	13						
69/001							1	202												
69/005	2	6					1	8											1	36
72/001	6	57	1	14																
72/005	4	45																		
72/006	1	5																		
Surface of ditch 72/008	4	12	1	4																
72/009	8	22																		
72/011	4	22																		
73/005	13	253																		
73/007							1	3					2	4						
73/015	16	170																		
73/019	6	65																		
73/021	27	340					1	2					1	16						
75/005	5	30																		
76/005																			2	16
77/005							1	3												
78/005							1	3												
79/007							4	16	1	<1										
82/005	5	50																		
82/007	1	4					1	3												
82/008	1	4																		

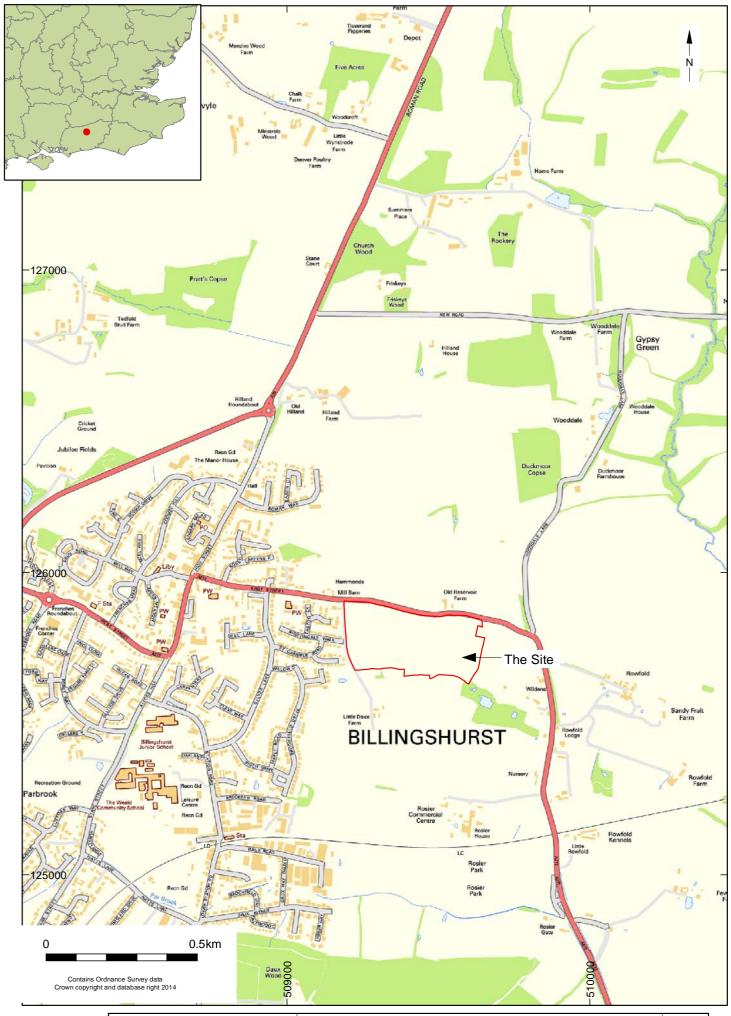
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Archaeology South-East Eval: Land to the East of Billingshurst South of A272, West Sussex ASE Report No: 2015321

		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt		Wt
Context	Pottery	(g)	CBM	(g)	Bone	(g)	Flint	(g)	FCF	(g)	Stone	(g)	Daub	(g)	Glass	(g)	СТР	(g)	Slag	(g)
82/012	2	9																		
84/005	2	3																		
85/005	170	954					1	4			2	514								
85/009	2	7																		
86/001	1	8	14	263											1	19				
86/002			2	46																
91/005			2	106																
T73 Topsoil	68	475															2	8		
T73 Subsoil			18	444	2	<1														
U/S	2	72					13	40	1	1										
U/S T54							1	6												
U/S T80							1	1												
Total	355	2624	52	1045	2	<1	32	422	2	1	2	514	13	109	2	25	2	8	3	52

Appendix 3: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

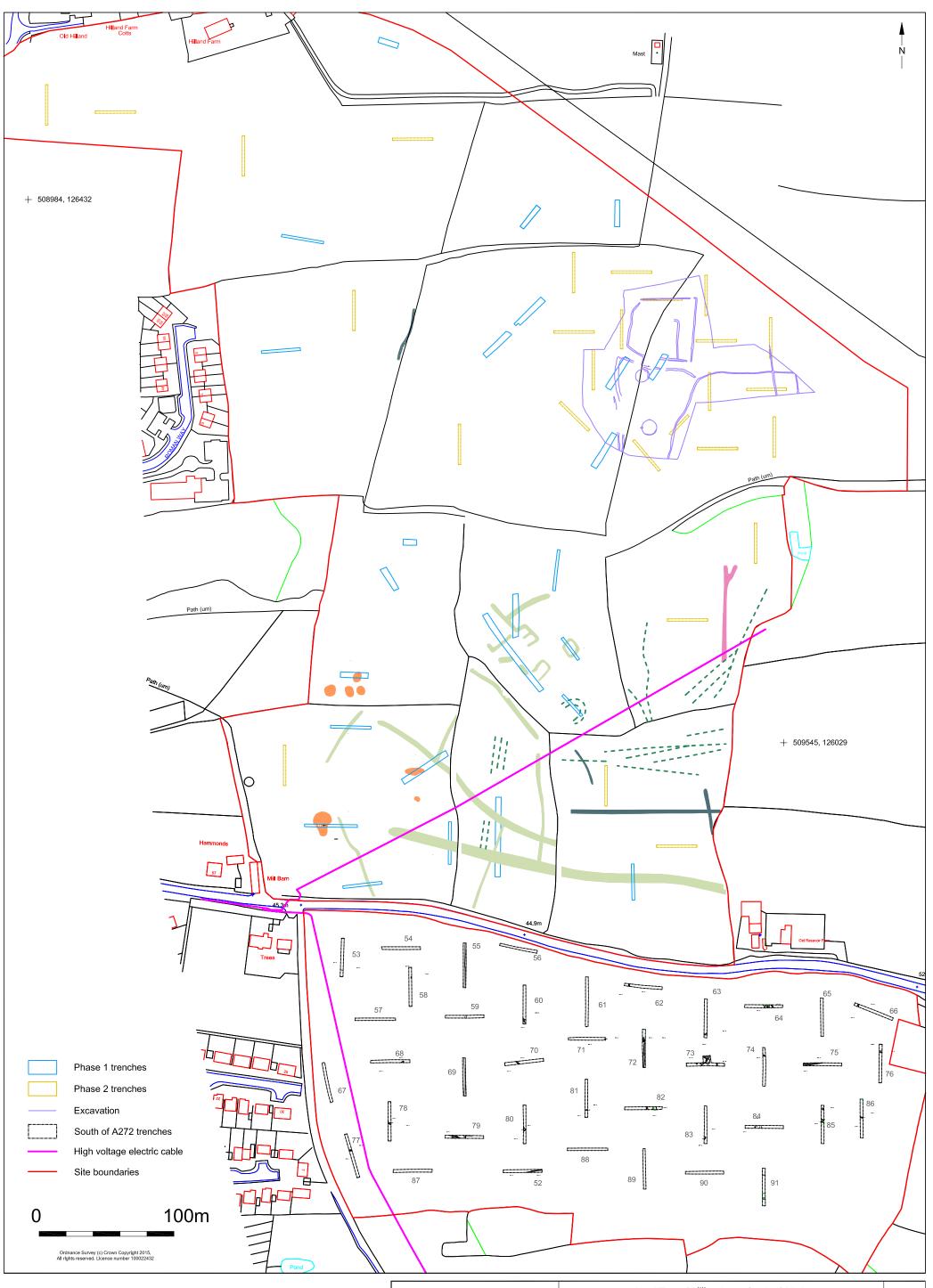
Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal ≺4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Burnt bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	66/005	Ditch	40	40												Burnt clay **/ 340g - Burnt sandstone */ 11g - pottery */ 2g - flint */ 1g
2	73/005	Ditch/gully	40	40	***	26	****	50	Quercus sp. (9), Ulmus sp. (1)	*	5	**	3	**	3	Burnt clay **/ 32g - pottery **/ 39g
3	78/005	Ditch	40	40	****	66	****	120	Quercus sp. (9), Fagus sylvatica (1)							



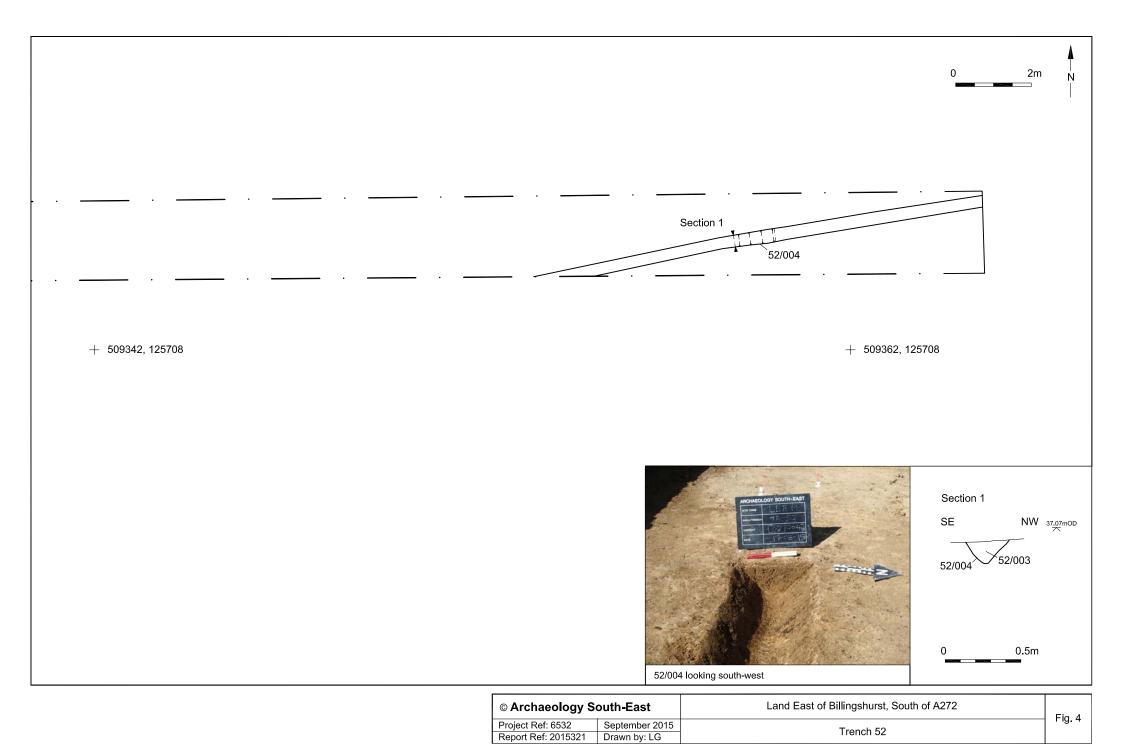
© Archaeology So	outh-East	Land east of Billingshurst, South of A272	Fig. 1				
Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Site location	i ig. i				
Report Ref: 2015321	port Ref: 2015321 Drawn by: JLR Site location						

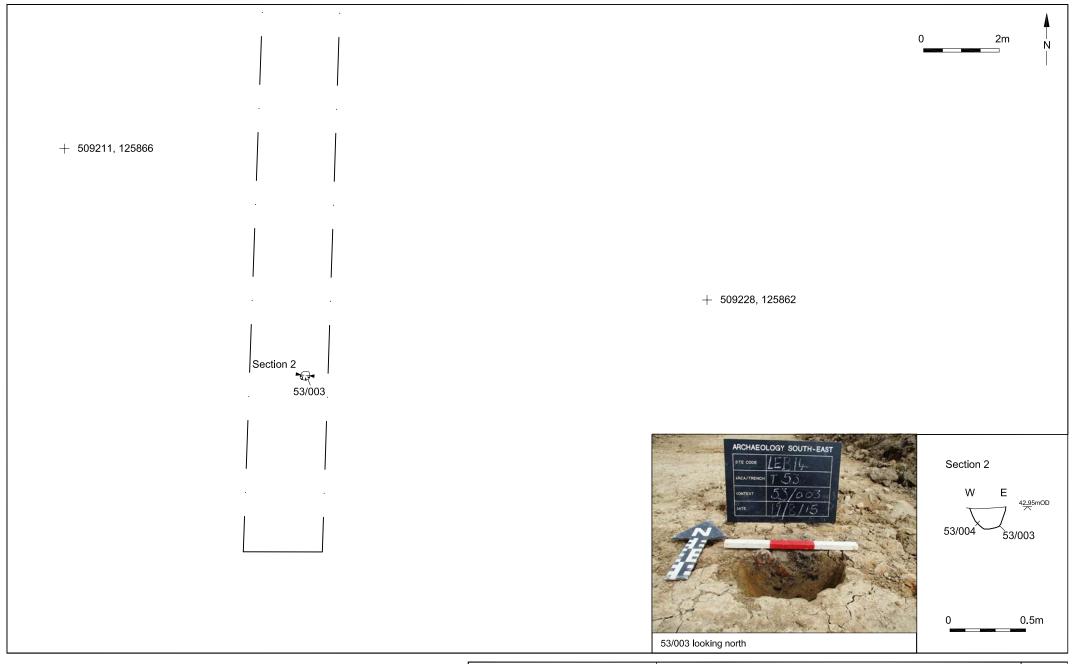


	© Archaeology South-East		Land east of Billingshurst, South of A272	Fig.2
	Project Ref: 6532	Aug 2015	Interim trench plan	r ig.z
	Report Ref: 2015321	oort Ref: 2015321 Drawn by: JLR		

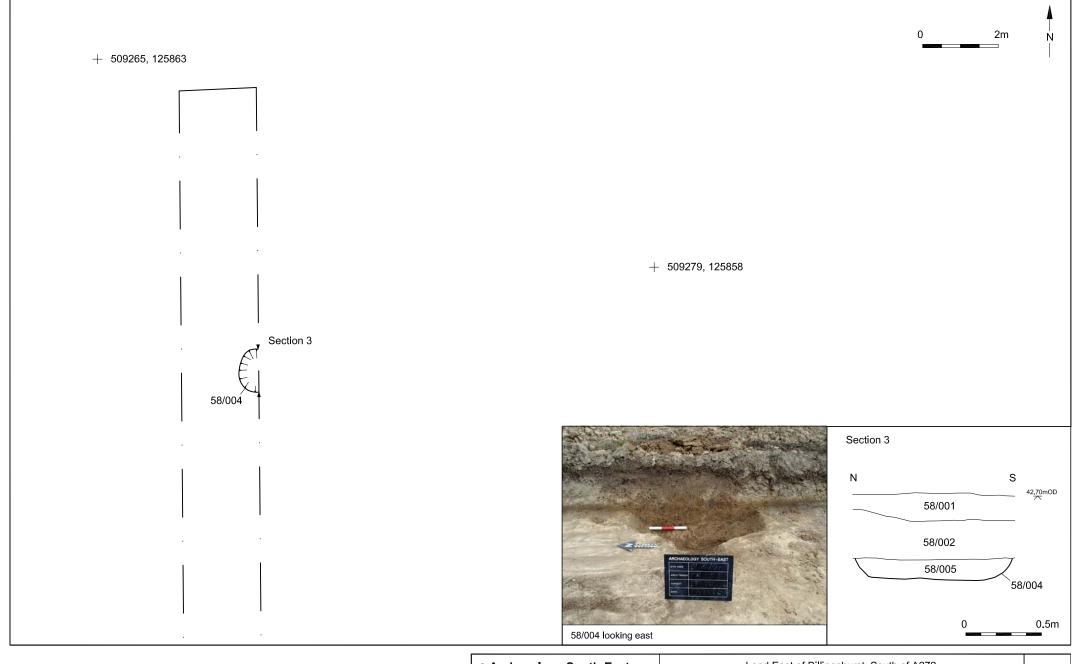


© Archaeology S	outh-East	Land East of Billingshurst, South of A272	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 6532	August 2015	All phases of archaeological investigation	1 ig. 5
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG		

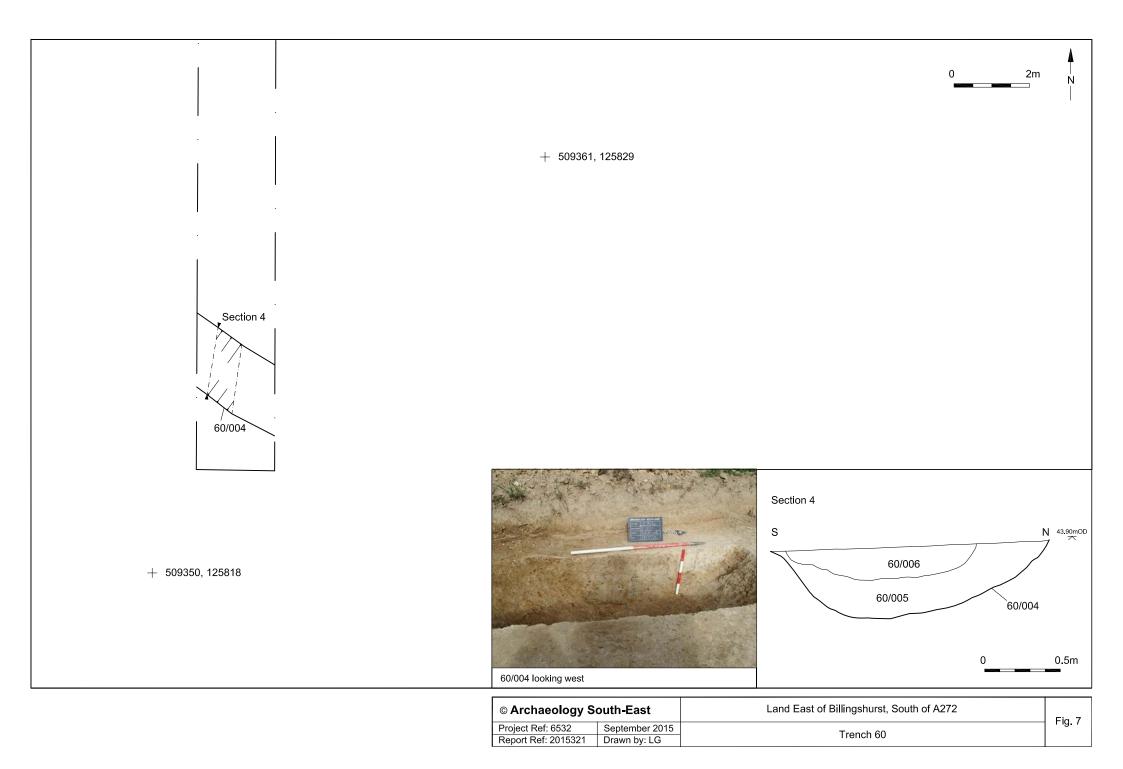


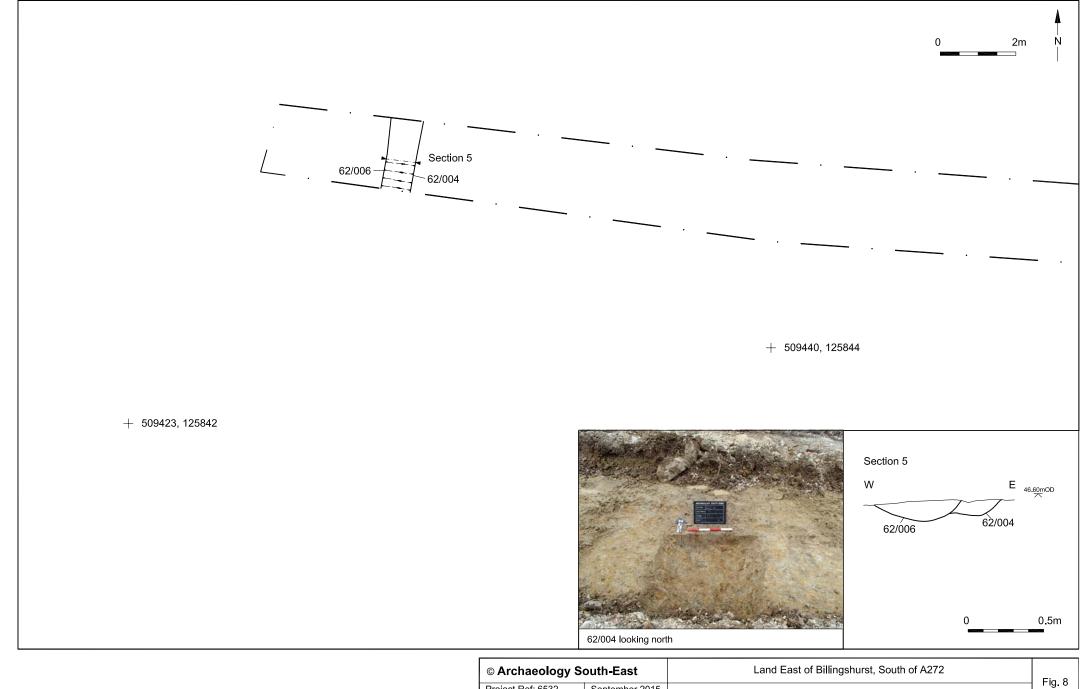


© Archaeology South-East		Land East of Billingshurst, South of A272	Fiq. 5	
Project Ref. 6532	September 2015	Tronch E2	1 ig. 5	
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench 53		

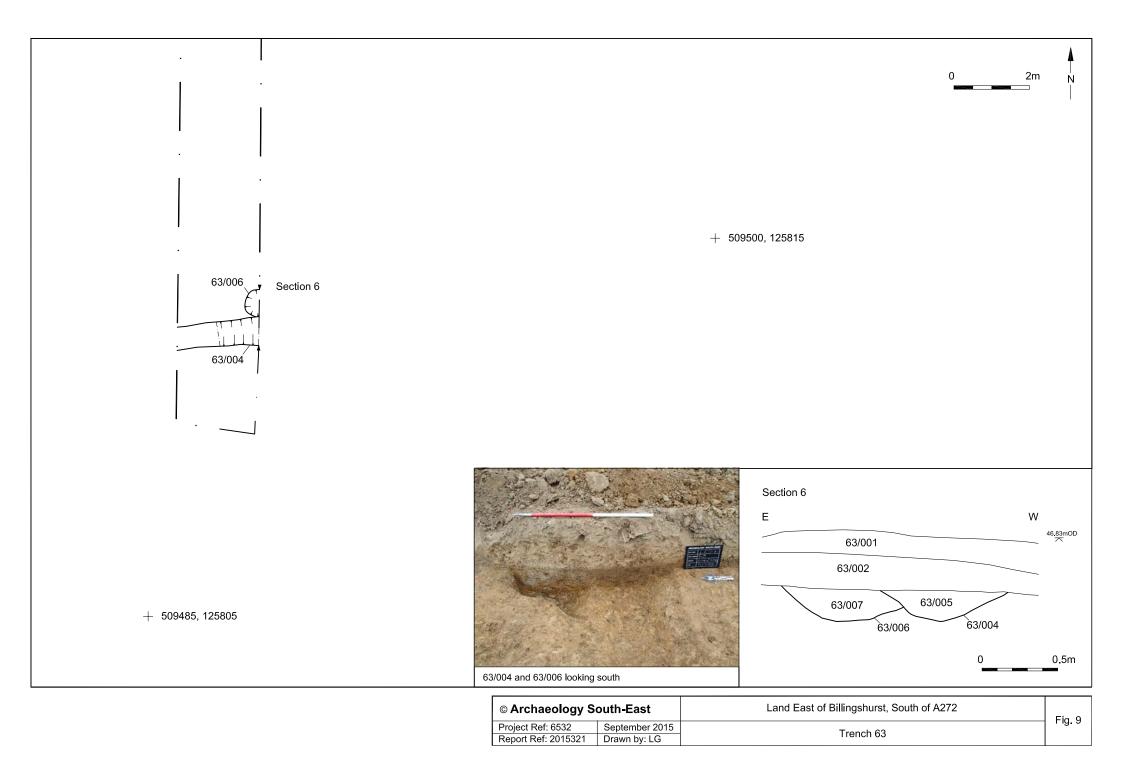


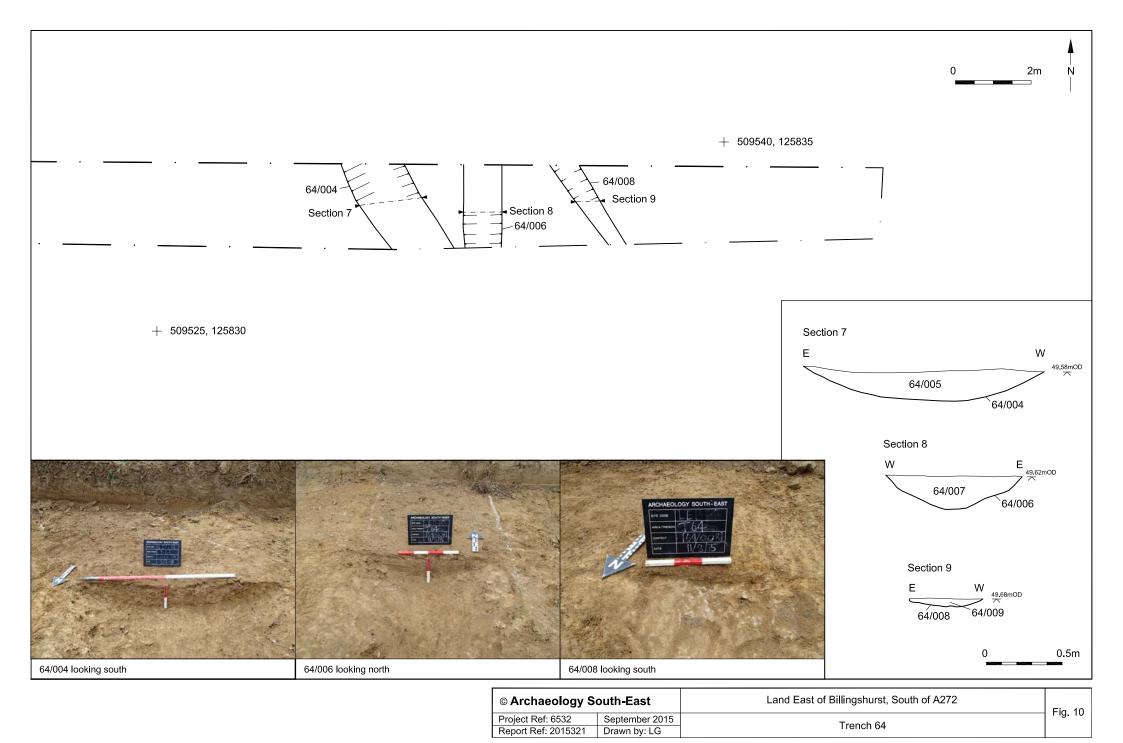
© Archaeology S	outh-East	Land East of Billingshurst, South of A272	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Trongh 59	' ' <u>9</u> .0
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench 58	

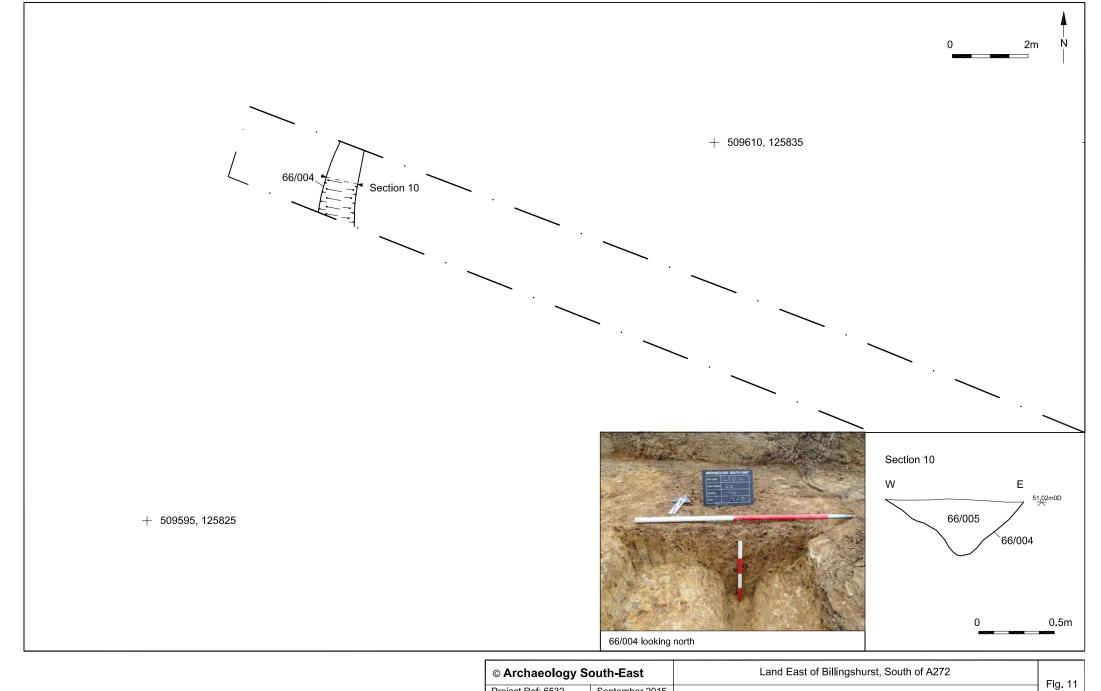




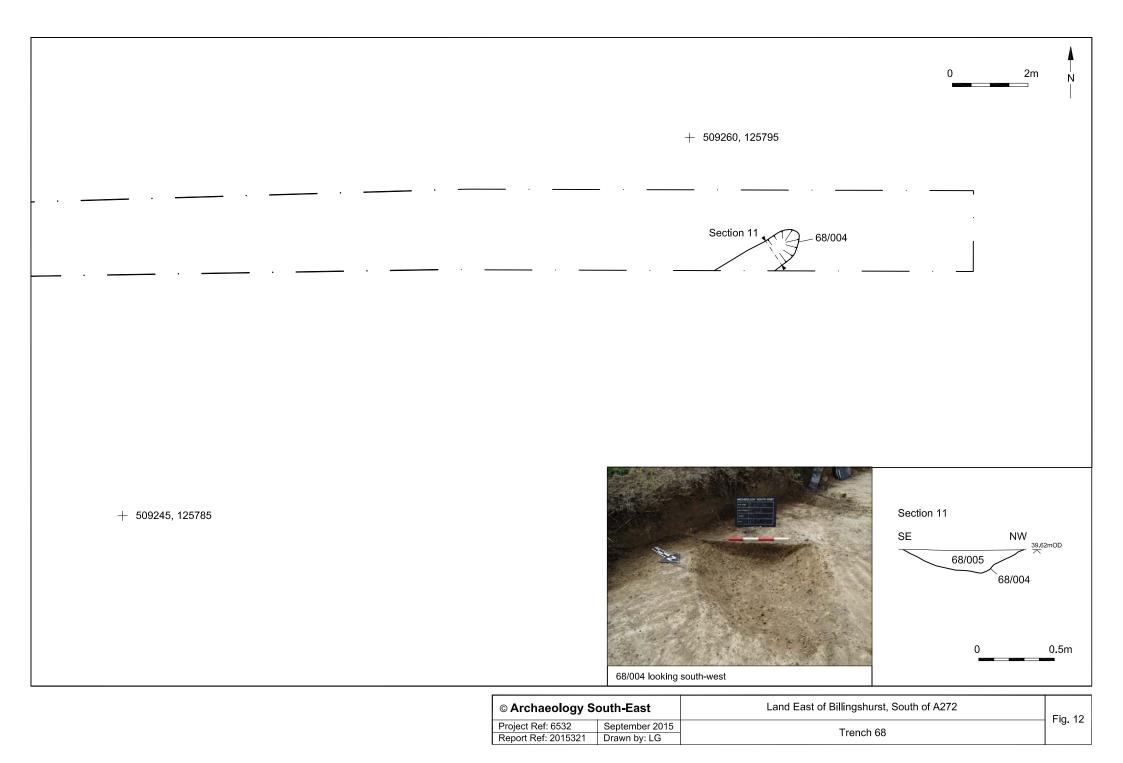
© Archaeology South-East		Land East of Billingshurst, South of A272	Fig
Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Trongh 60	l i ig
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench 62	

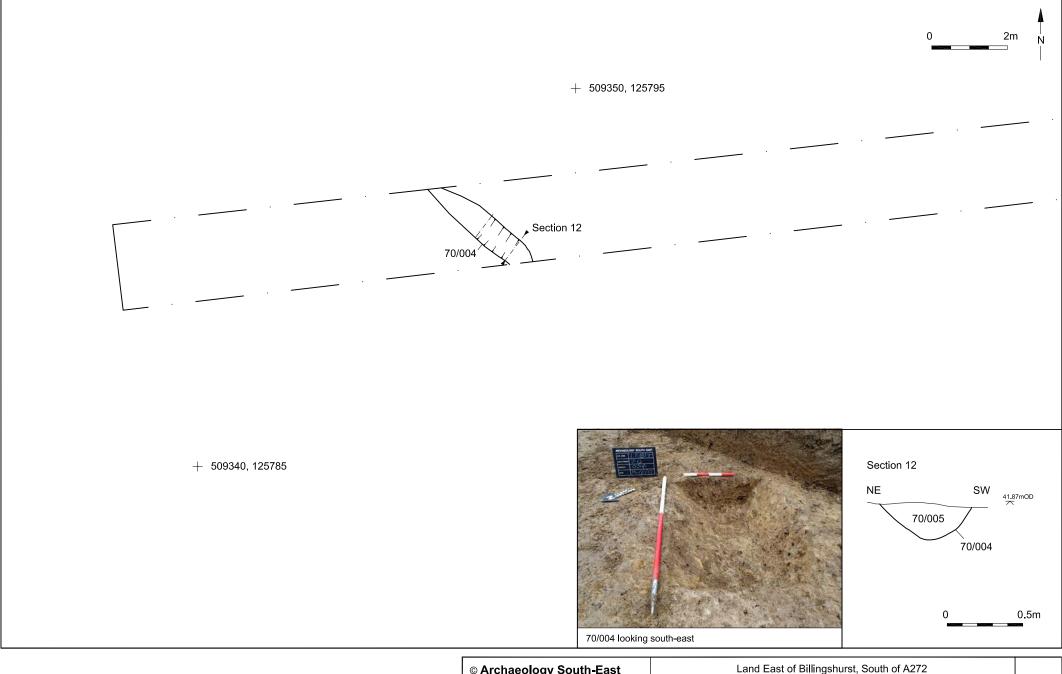




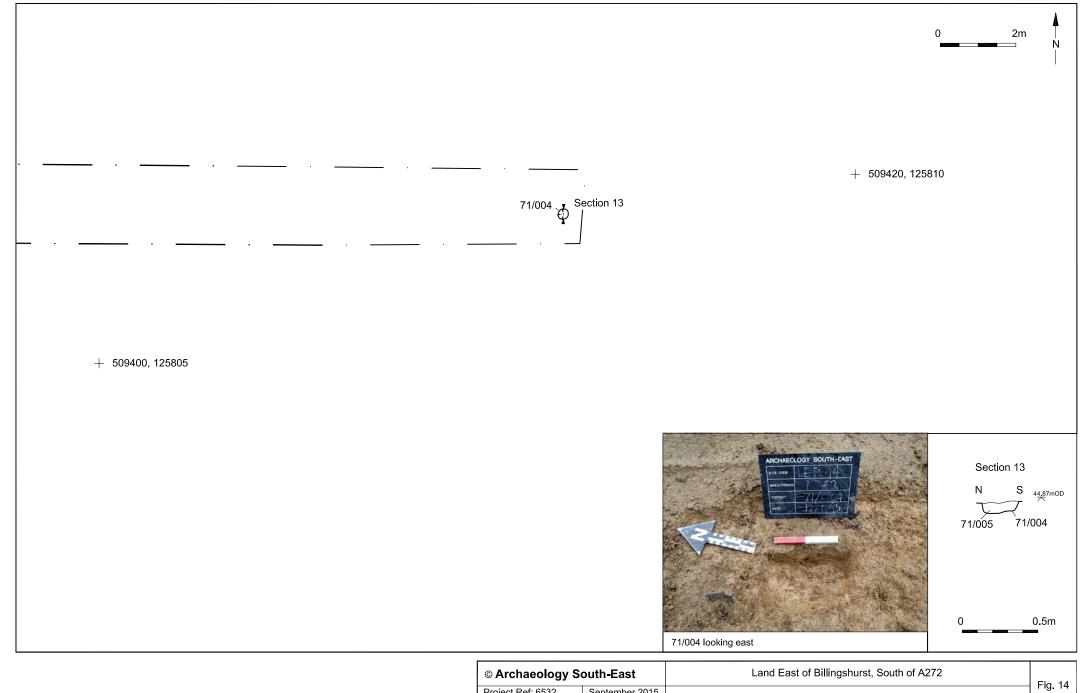


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Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Trench 66	
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench do	

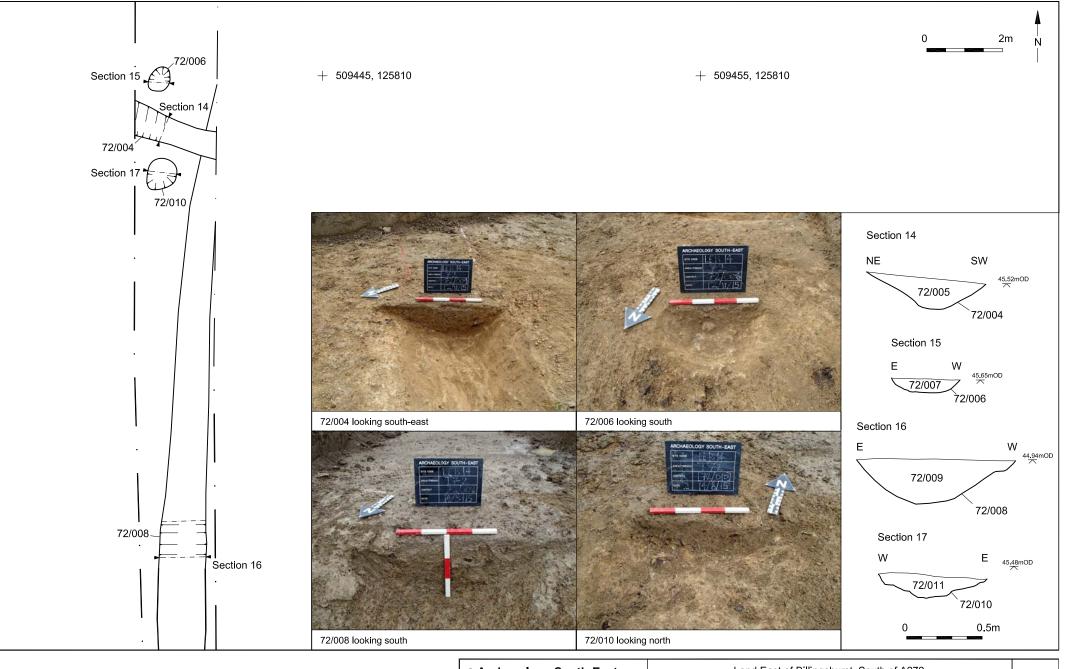




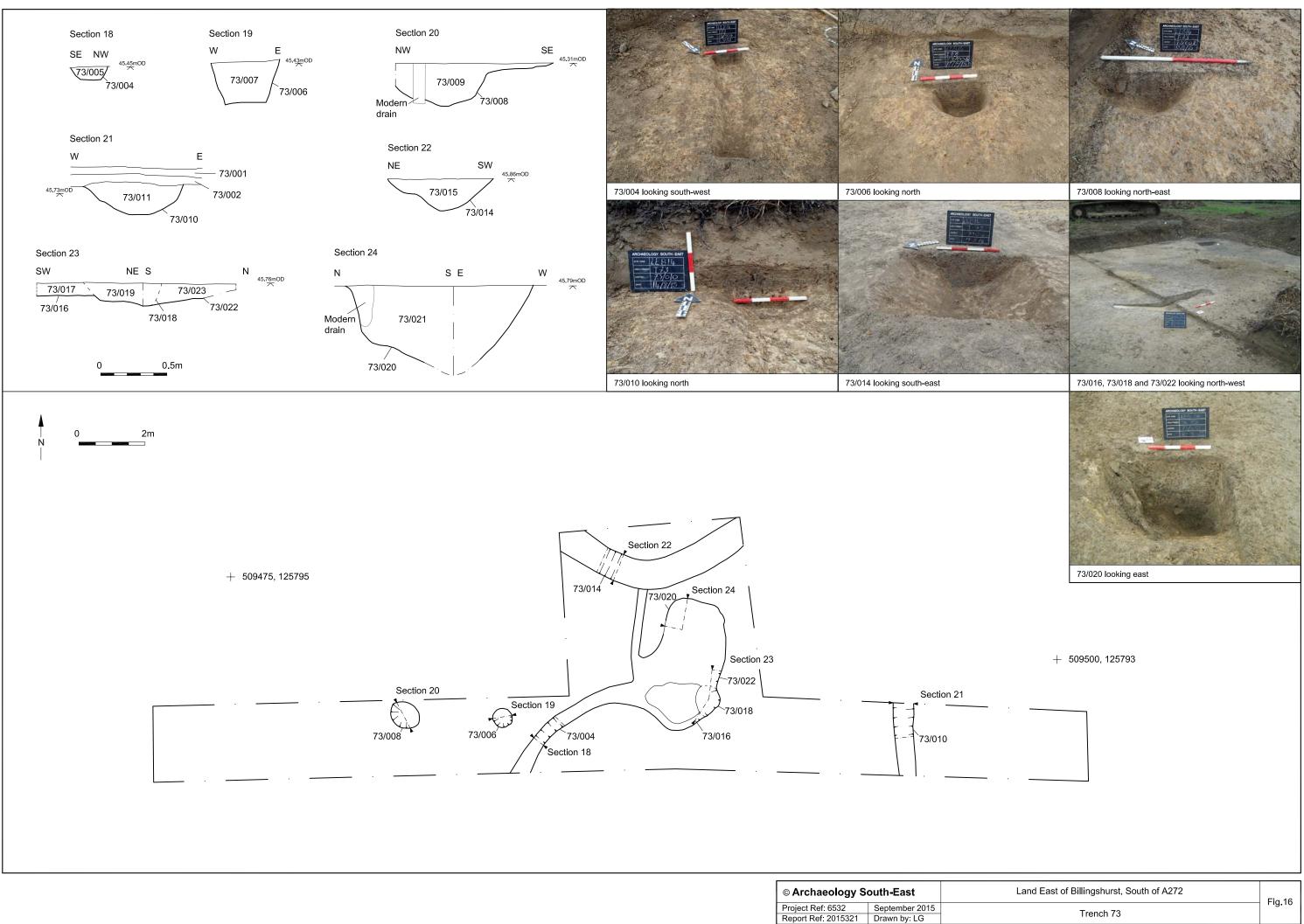
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Project Ref 6532	September 2015	Trench 70	1 lg. 15
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG		



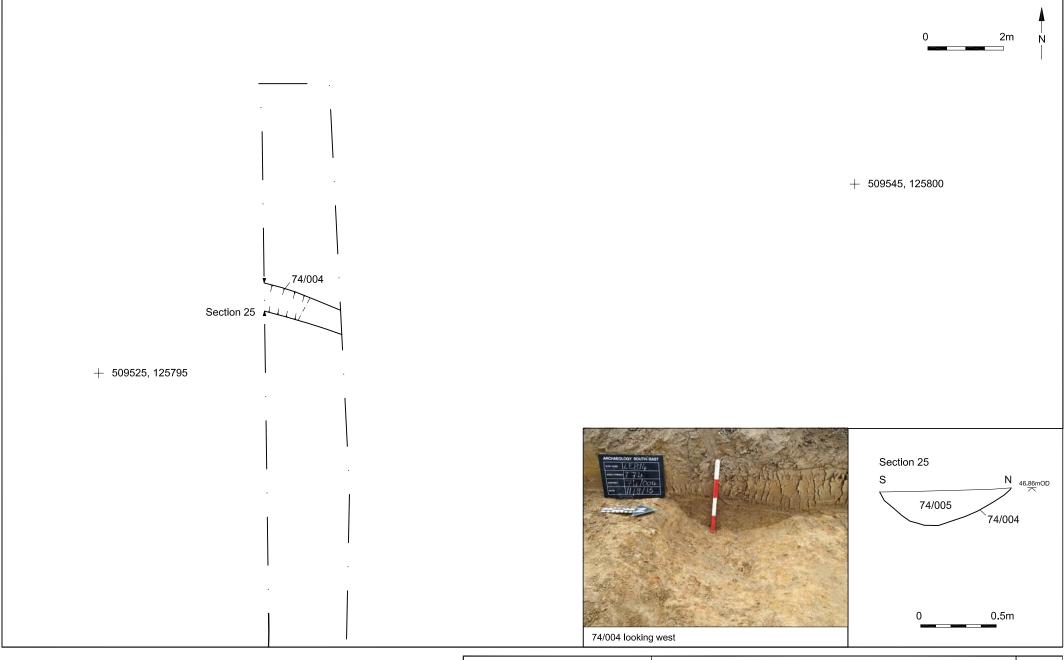
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Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Tranch 71	l i ig
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench 71	i i



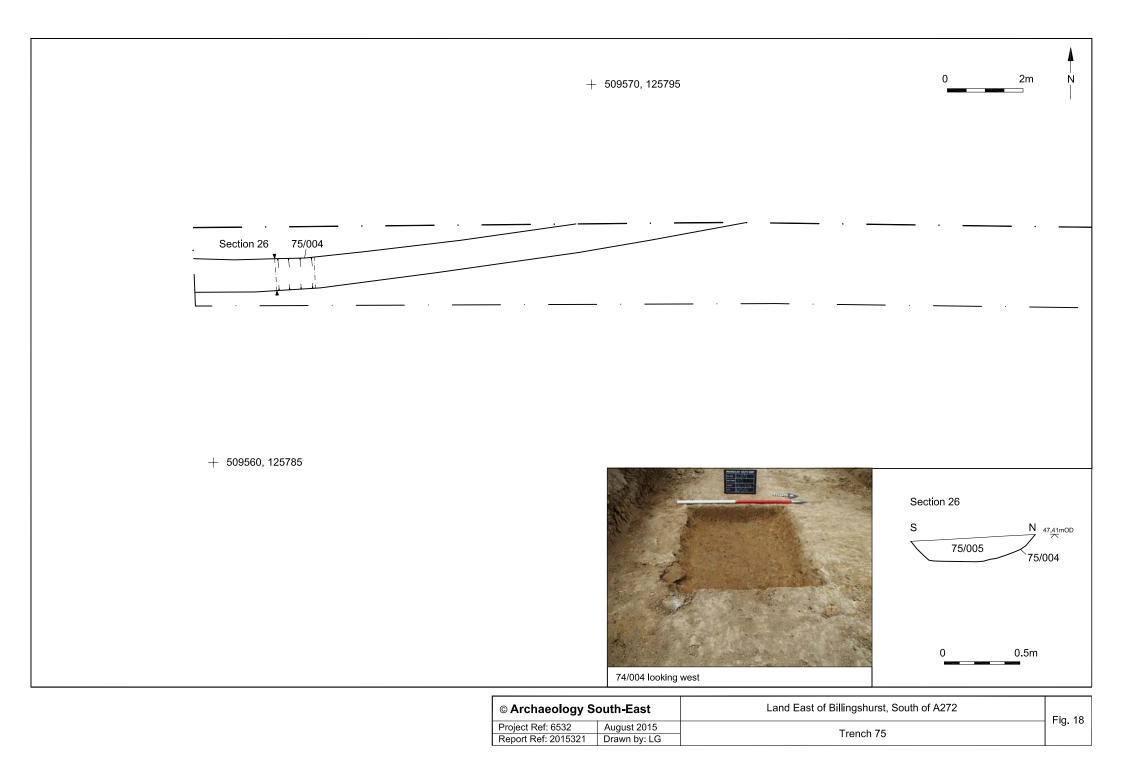
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Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Trench 70	1 lg. 13
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench 72	

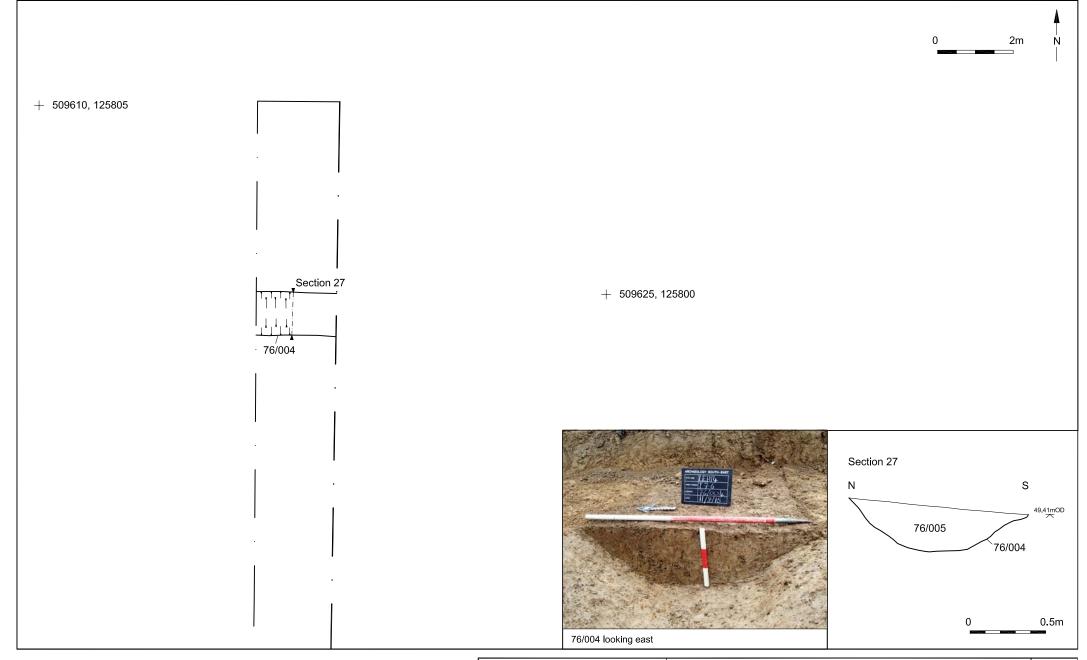


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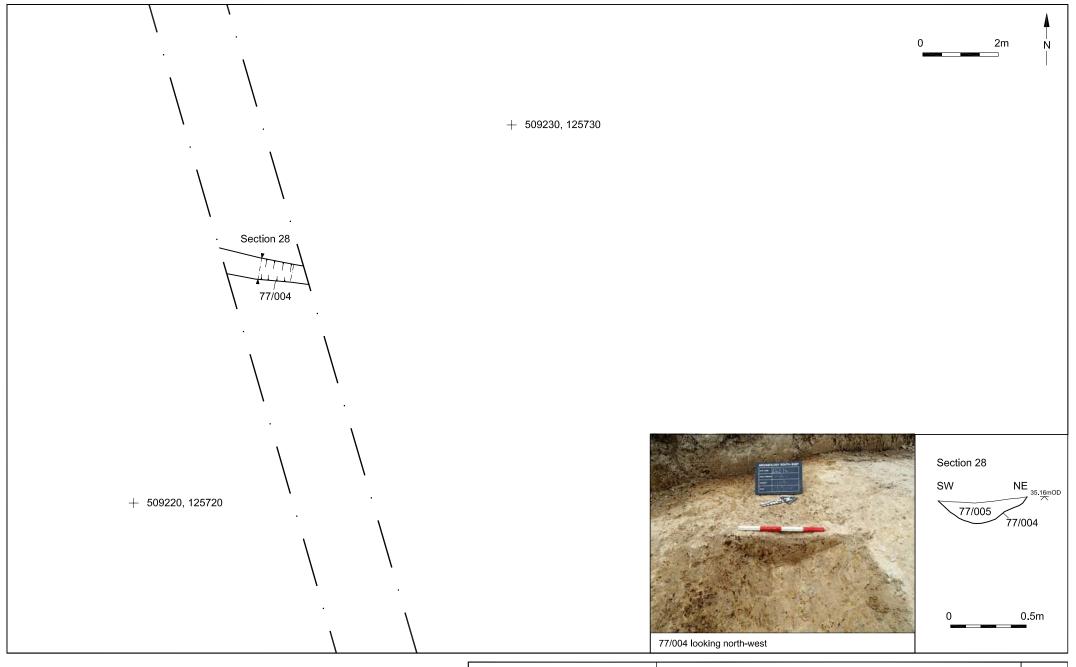


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Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench 74	

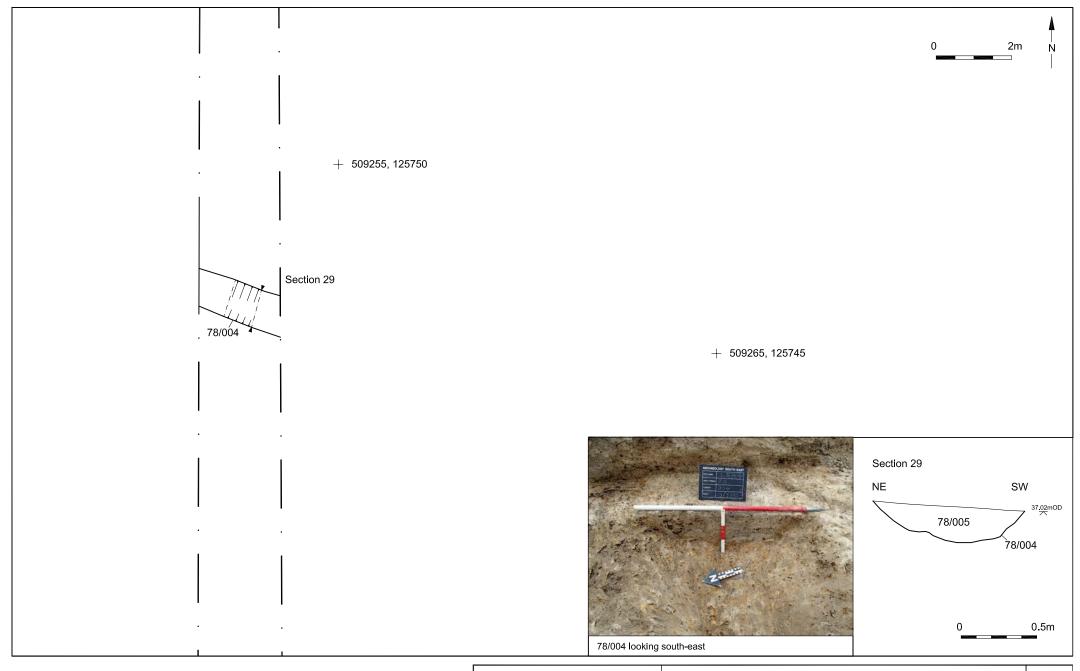




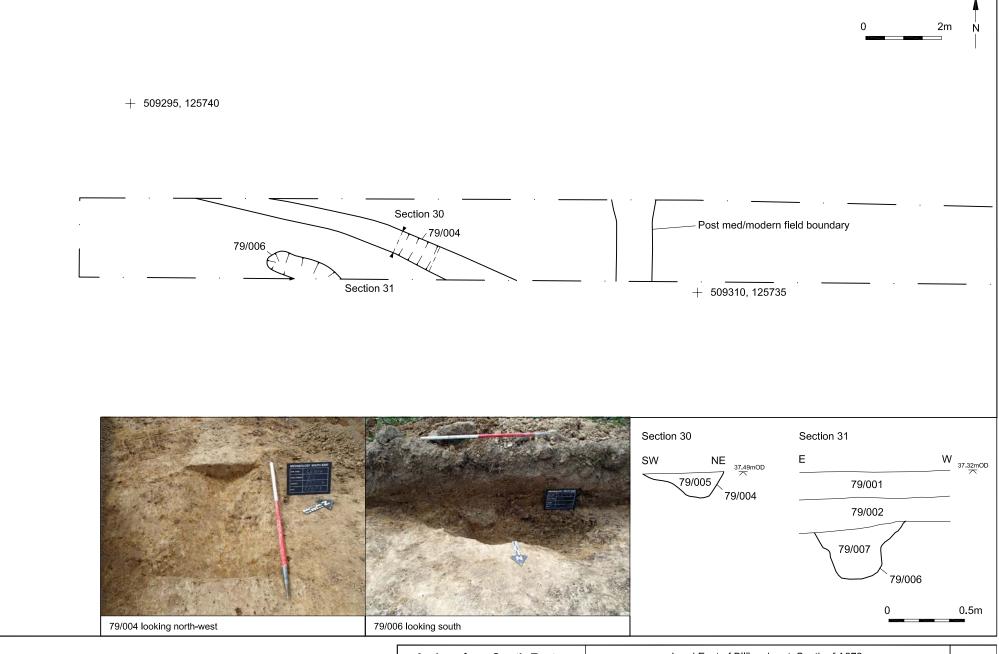
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Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Trench 76	1 9.10
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench 76	



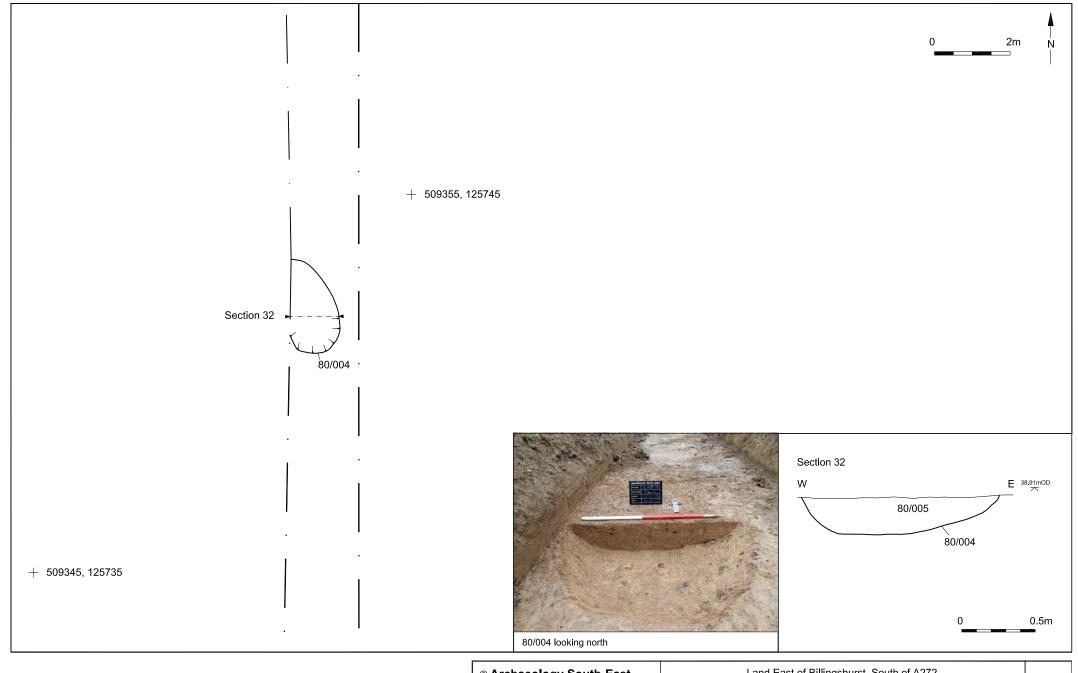
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Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Trongh 77	1 19. 20
Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench 77	



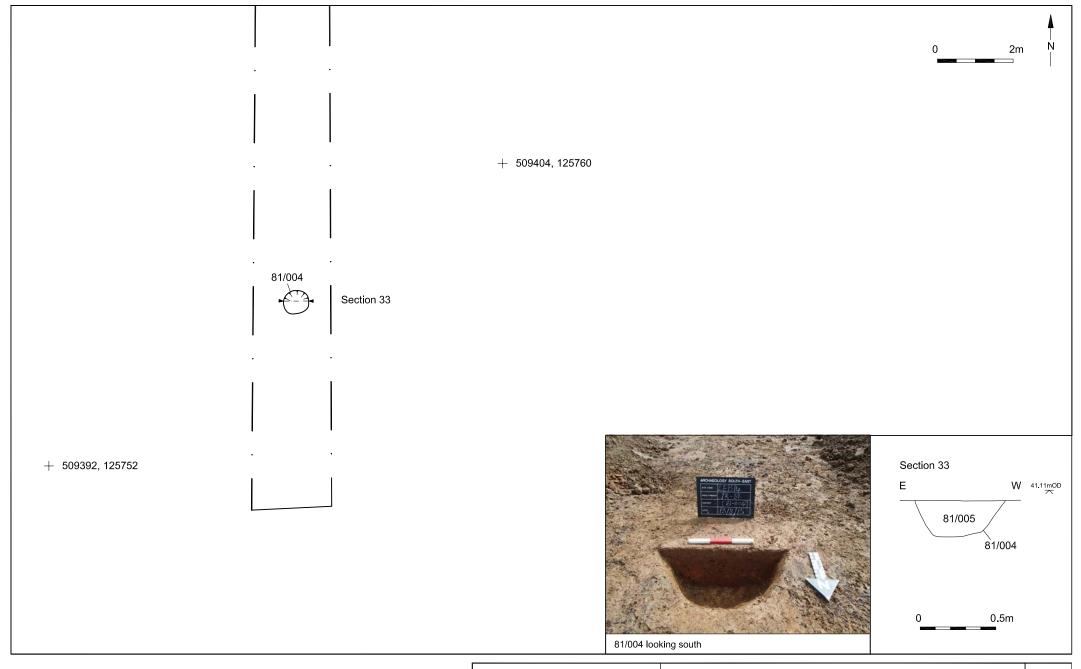
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Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Trench 78	119.21
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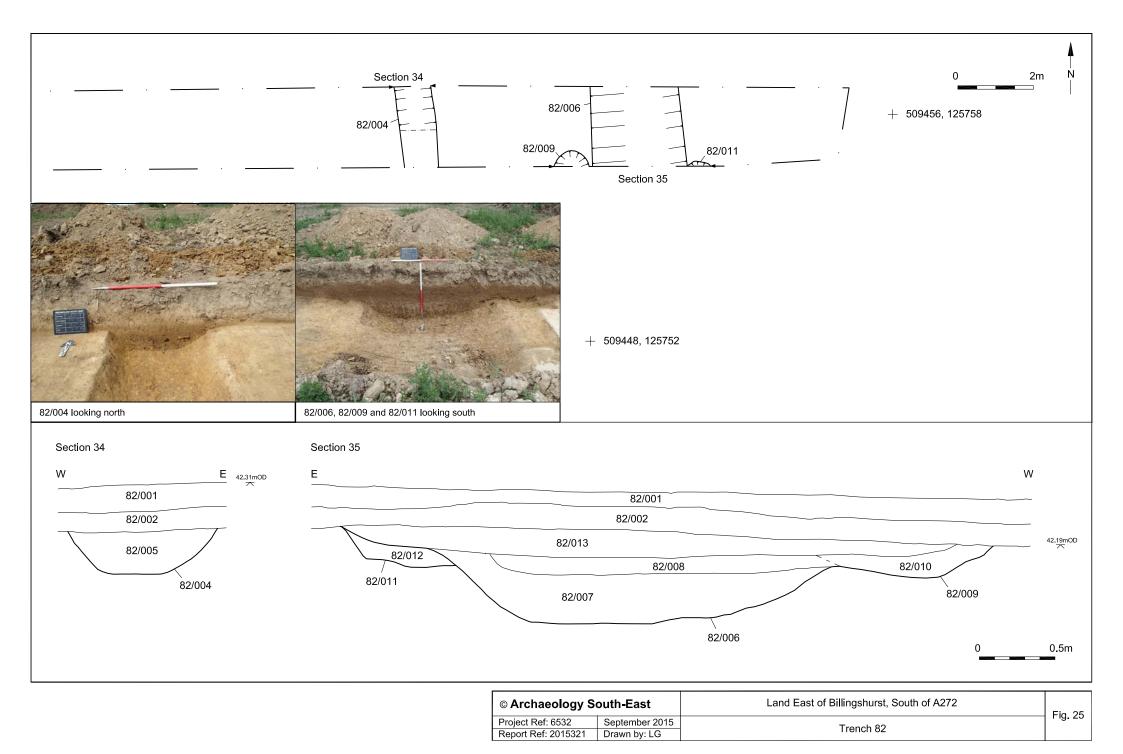
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Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG	Trench 79	

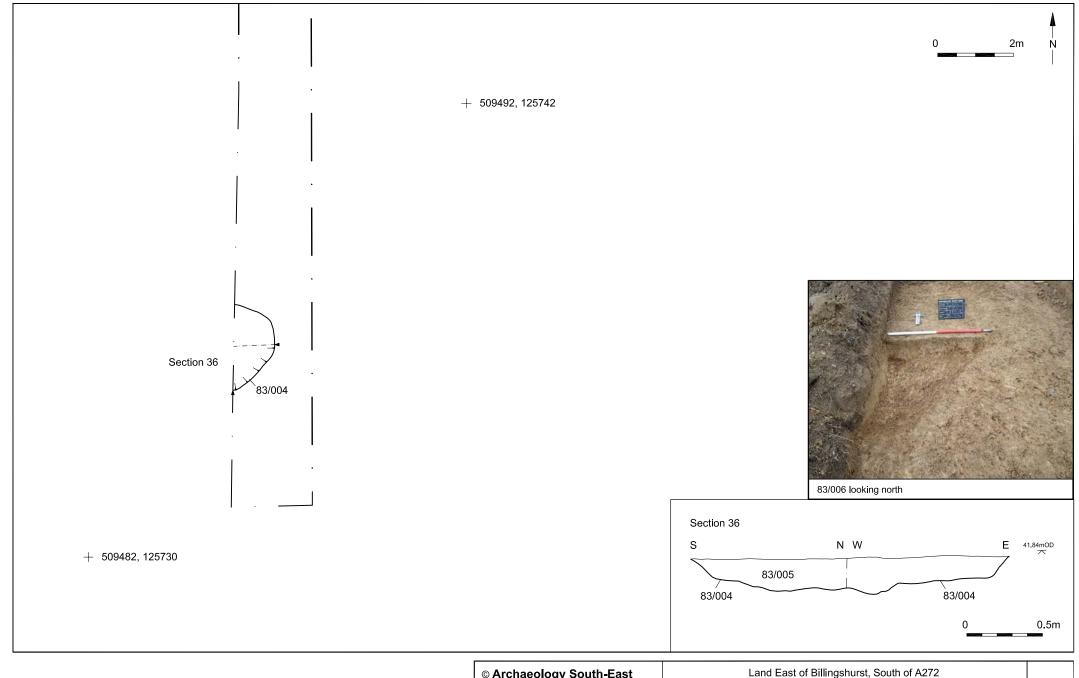


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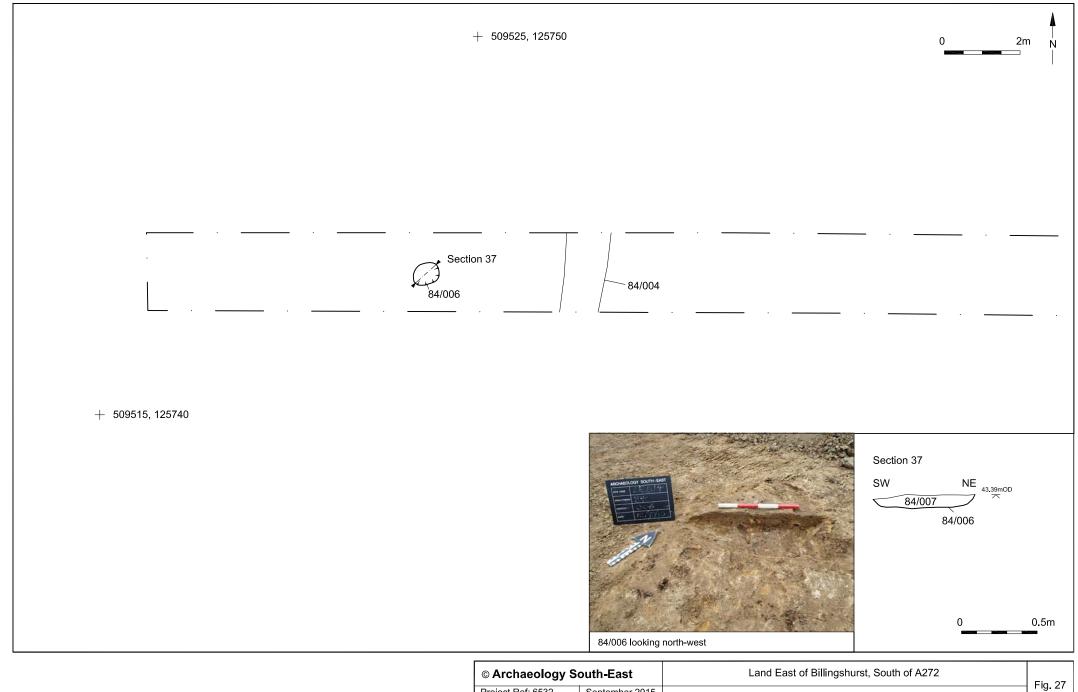


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Report Ref: 2015321	Drawn by: LG		

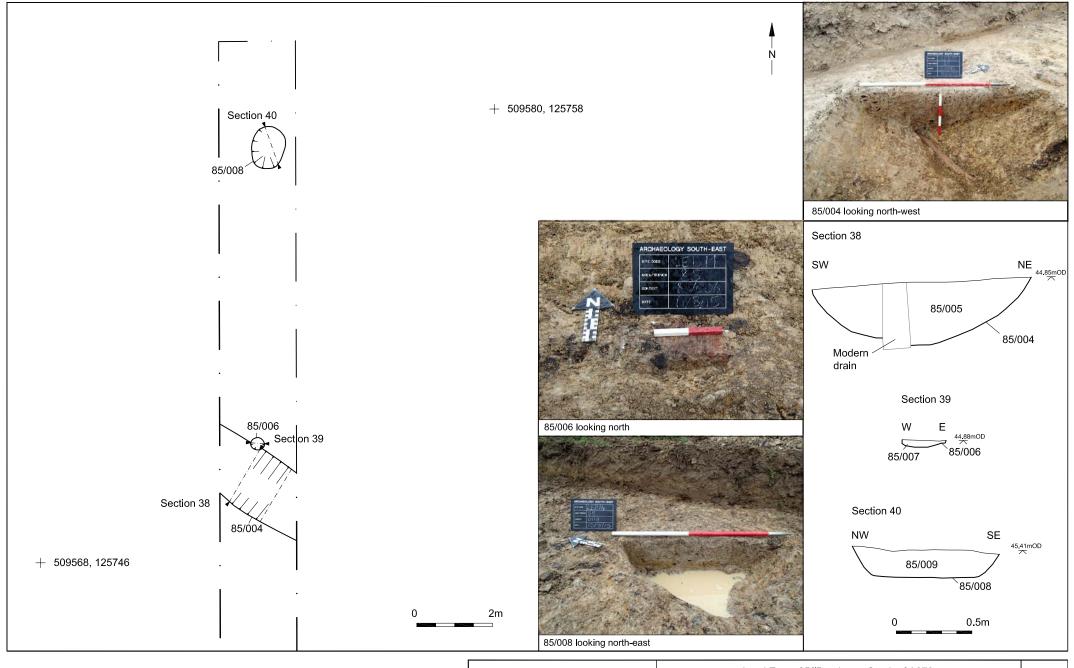




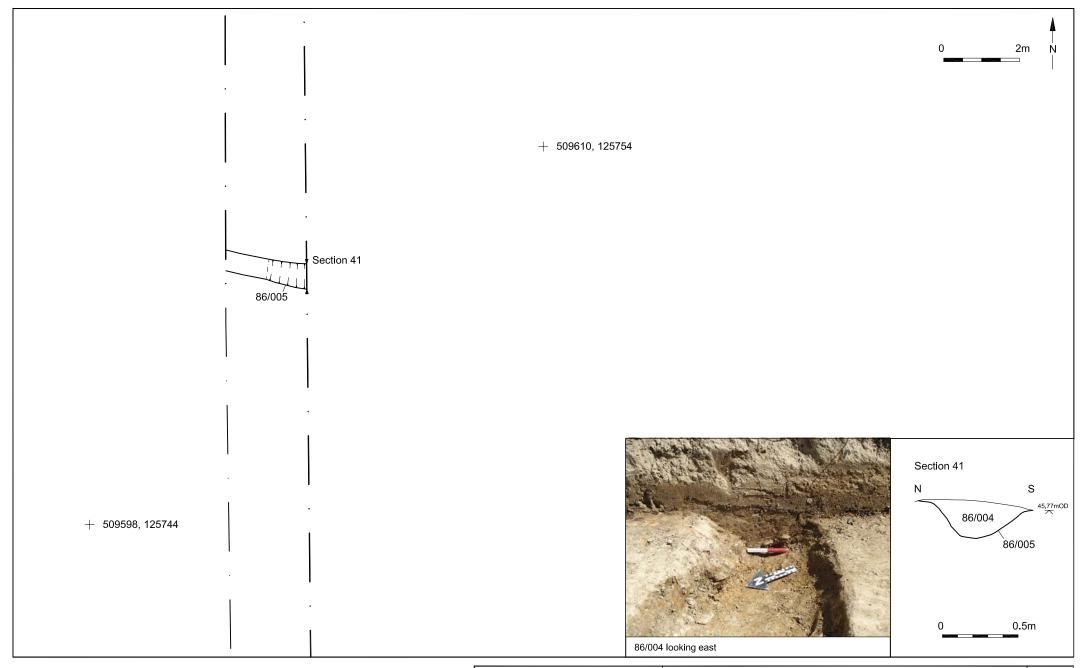
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	Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Trench 85	1 lg. 20	
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Project Ref: 6532	September 2015	Trench 86	1 19. 23	
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Sussex Office

Units 1 & 2 2 Chapel Place Portslade East Sussex BN41 1DR tel: +44(0)1273 426830 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk

Essex Office

The Old Magistrates Court 79 South Street Braintree Essex CM7 3QD tel: +44(0)1376 331470 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk

London Office

Centre for Applied Archaeology UCL Institute of Archaeology 31-34 Gordon Square London WC1H 0PY tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

