Archaeology South-East

ASE

Archaeological Evaluation Report
Land at London Road, Maresfield, East Sussex

NGR 546999 123691
(TQ 46999 23691)

Wealden District Council Planning Reference WD/2015/2741/MAJ

ASE Project No: 160088
Site Code: LMA 16

ASE Report No: 2016074
OASIS ID: archaeol6-243326

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With contributions by
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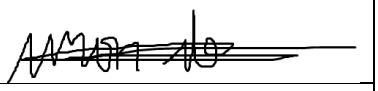
Prepared by:	Simon Stevens	Archaeologist	
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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Asprey Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a 1.8ha site at London Road, Maresfield, East Sussex (NGR 546999 123691). The site lies within an Archaeological Notification Area associated with a medieval manorial complex, and later ironworking.

A range of archaeological deposits were encountered, excavated and recorded during the evaluation of the site. A thin scatter of flintwork suggests prehistoric activity in the general area. However there were clear issues with close dating of the later buried features. The earliest are either Late Iron Age or Romano-British in date, and later features are early post-medieval, but with indications of medieval activity in the vicinity. Encountered isolated masonry contains reused medieval stonework.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by Asprey Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at London Road, Maresfield, East Sussex (NGR546999123691) (Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The *c.*1.8ha site lies on the north-eastern side of London Road, to the south-east of the centre of the settlement of Maresfield. The grounds of Mill House lie to the south-east and the surviving mill stream runs along the north-eastern boundary of the site. The playing fields of Bonners C of E Primary School lie to the north-west, along with properties fronting onto the road. The site is currently divided into two paddocks.

1.2.2 There is a marked slope at the site leading down from the summit of the hill (occupied by the school) towards Mill House. Within the site boundaries the ground drops from *c.*40mAOD to *c.*32mAOD. There is also a notable slope in the eastern part of the site as the ground drops away towards the former mill stream from *c.*40mAOD to *c.*31mAOD.

1.2.3 According to current data from the British Geological Survey, the underlying bedrock is Ardingly Sandstone. There are superficial deposits of Alluvium immediately to the east of the site (BGS 2016).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 An application for a residential development at the site has been submitted to Wealden District Council (planning ref. WD/2015/2741/MAJ). Following discussions between Wealden District Council and East Sussex County Council (ESCC) (acting in their capacity as archaeological advisers to the Local Planning Authority, Wealden District Council), and based on the archaeological potential of the site, it was recommended that programme of archaeological fieldwork should be undertaken prior to development.

1.3.2 The site lies within an ESCC *Archaeological Notification Area*, associated with a medieval manorial complex, and later ironworking. Given the potential significance of any buried remains ESCC recommended the implementation of a geophysical survey, which was carried out by ASE in January 2016. The results indicated that buried archaeological features potentially survive at the site (ASE 2016a)

1.3.3 Based on these results, ESCC recommended further work to evaluate the character of any remains. A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) was produced by ASE outlining the methodology to be used to archaeologically evaluate the site by mechanically excavated trial trenches. Procedures to be used in recording, reporting and archiving of results were provided. The possibility that further archaeological work at the site might be necessary should results merit this was also highlighted (ASE 2016b).

1.4 Research Aims and Objectives

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

- *To test/corroborate the results of the geophysical survey*
- *To assess the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of any archaeological remains and deposits*
- *To assess how these remains might be affected by development of the site*
- *To establish the extent to which previous groundworks and/or other processes have affected archaeological deposits at the site*

1.4.2 The site specific aims of the archaeological investigation are to:

- *Prehistoric sites being scarce in the Weald, can any traces of occupation or activity be identified for this period?*
- *Late Iron Age and Early Roman features and finds associated with domestic, agricultural and iron-working have been found in the vicinity of the site. Can we get a better understanding of activity and economy in the Weald for this period?*
- *The site reportedly lies within the area of the medieval manor house of Maresfield. Can any traces of the manor house be found?*

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation of the site by trial trenching undertaken during February 2016. The archaeological work was undertaken by a team from ASE comprising Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist) John Hirst and Lucy May (Assistant Archaeologists), and Vasilis Tsamis (Archaeological Surveyor). The project was managed by and Paul Mason (Fieldwork Manager) and by Jim Stevenson (Post-Excavation Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The results of a search of relevant entries on the East Sussex County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) are presented in the geophysical survey report (ASE 2016b). The following information is paraphrased from this document and supplemented with the additional information supplied by the Christopher Whittick, Senior Archivist at the East Sussex Record Office.

2.2 No prehistoric evidence has been identified in the HER data in the vicinity of the site.

2.3 Roman or Romano-British evidence close to the site comprises the London - Lewes Roman Road (MES5138) c. 1.25km to the northwest, a 4th century AD Roman coin find spot (MES4577) c. 1 km WNW of the site, and extensive evidence from the Park Farm site (MES25879) c. 0.8km to the west where various Late Iron Age/early Roman-British features and finds suggestive of domestic, agricultural and iron-working were discovered (ASE 2011).

2.4 No evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity has been identified in the HER data in the vicinity of the site.

2.5 The site is recorded in the HER as located within the vicinity of a medieval hunting lodge at Mill Wood (DES8571). However, research undertaken by the ESCC Senior Archivist suggests that it probably lies on, or within close proximity to, the site of the second medieval manor house of Maresfield (Christopher Whittock, pers comm). The original manor house is believed to have stood in the car park of *The Chequers Inn* in the centre of Maresfield but in *c.*1220 Gilbert Aquila, lord of the Honour of Pevensey, built a new manor house and endowed the chapel within it with lands of the old manor house.

2.6 Much evidence survives for the medieval and post-medieval village of Maresfield (MES16284), approximately 0.5km to the north-west. HER entries adjacent to the site comprise the 15th century farm complex at Gatehouse Farm (MES24322) to the north-east, and the late medieval complex at Blackhouse Farm (DES11404) to the south. Further, to the west, Park Farm constitutes a large medieval and post-medieval farmstead complex (MES8049).

2.7 The geophysical survey provided evidence for possible archaeological features, represented by discrete and linear positive anomalies found across the site but mostly concentrated in the southern enclosure where the anomalies form possible rectilinear features. These are representative of cut features such as pits and ditches with possible banks. It is possible that a number of these anomalies may also relate to in filled natural features. Small areas of magnetic debris, dipolar and possible thermoremanent anomalies may indicate made ground and possible industrial activity (ASE 2016).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology (Figures 2, 3 and 4)

3.1.1 Ten trenches were located to investigate geophysical anomalies as well as the footprints of the proposed new dwellings (nine trenches of 30m x 1.8m and one trench of 20m by 1.8m). In the event an additional trench, measuring 6m by 1.8m) was excavated and recorded at the request of Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist, ESCC.

3.1.2 Mechanical excavation, under archaeological supervision, using a flat-bladed bucket was taken in small spits down to the top of natural geological deposits, or to the top of any recognisable archaeological deposits, whichever was the higher. Care was taken not to damage archaeological deposits through excessive use of mechanical excavation. Revealed surfaces of the natural geology were manually cleaned to identify archaeological features. Spoil was scanned for the presence of artefacts, both visually and with a metal detector.

3.1.3 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were collected, sampled and recorded to accepted professional standards using standard Archaeology South-East recording forms.

3.1.4 The trenches and all features were planned using digital survey technology. Sections were hand-drawn at scales of 1:10 and 1:20. A digital photographic record was maintained of all trenches, excavated features and of the site in general.

3.2 Archive

3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be offered to Lewes Museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Context sheets	62
Section sheets	4
Plans sheets	1
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	207 images
Context register	11
Drawing register	1
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	11

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	1 box
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	0
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

3.3.2 A county-wide policy of selection and retention of archaeological finds is currently under review by the Sussex Archaeological Museum Group working party. Once the policy is agreed and in place, it will be implemented by Archaeology South-East. The finds archive will be revised in accordance with this policy in the event that it is implemented before deposition of the archive occurs.

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Weather conditions varied between strong sunshine and occasional heavy rain, but were on the whole good for the identification, excavation and recording of archaeological features, which were identified in nine of the eleven completed evaluation trenches.

4.1.2 The site was divide into two paddocks. Trenches 1 to 3 were located in the northern paddock, with all other trenches in the southern paddock. Small assemblages of artefacts were recovered from the overburden in the most of the trenches.

4.2 Trench 1

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.40 - 0.76	38.09 – 39.78
1/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	37.67 – 39.33

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Trench 1 was excavated to a length of 30m. The stratigraphic sequence recorded in the trench (and in all of trenches excavated at the site) was straightforward and consisted of a layer of mid-brown silty clay topsoil, context [1/001], which directly overlay the 'natural' sandstone, clay and sand [1/002]. The 'natural' varied in colour between brownish orange and orangey yellow. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered.

4.2.2 This variation in the character of the underlying 'natural' deposits shows that the geophysical survey highlighted entirely geological anomalies across much of the site, an acknowledged possibility in such geophysical survey (ASE 2016).

4.3 Trench 2 (Figure 5)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.46 - 0.57	38.81 - 40.55
2/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	39.21 - 39.98
2/003	Cut	Gully Terminus	-	0.51	0.31	39.30
2/004	Fill	Gully Terminus	-	0.51	0.31	-
2/005	Cut	Gully	-	1.31	0.71	39.98
2/006	Fill	Gully	-	1.31	0.71	

Table 4: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 Trench 2 was excavated to a length of 30m. The stratigraphic sequence was the same as that recorded in Trench 1. Two archaeological features were identified, excavated and recorded, a possible gully terminus and a separate stretch of gully.

4.3.2 Possible flat-bottomed gully [2/003] ran broadly east to west for a short distance within the trench and contained a single mid-grey clayey silt fill, context [2/004] from which no datable artefacts were recovered. However, gully [2/005] ran broadly north to south across the trench and contained pottery dating from the Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British period, recovered from the single yellowish grey clayey silt fill, context [2/006]. It was more 'v' shaped in profile. An environmental sample <1002> taken from context [2/006] contained a range of artefacts and ecofacts.

4.4 Trench 3

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.58 - 0.62	32.80 - 35.56
3/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	32.38 - 34.90

Table 5: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

4.4.1 Trench 3 was excavated to a length of 30m. Again the stratigraphic sequence was the same as that seen in Trench 1. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, and it appears the geophysical survey had again highlighted geological, rather than archaeological features.

4.5 Trench 4 (Figure 6)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.27 - 0.58	37.13 - 37.77
4/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	36.55 - 37.70
4/003	Cut	Ditch	-	8.0	>1.2	37.10
4/004	Fill	Ditch	-	-	>0.25	-
4/005	Fill	Ditch	-	-	>0.30	-
4/006	Fill	Ditch	-	-	0.55	-
4/007	Fill	Ditch			0.17	-
4/008	Fill	Ditch			0.47	-

Table 6: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Trench 4 was excavated to a length of 20m. The topsoil and 'natural' were similar in character to those seen elsewhere at the site. A substantial buried feature (also encountered in Trenches 5 and 6) ran broadly east to west across the trench and survived as a low earthwork, in the form of a linear hollow right across the site. The feature is clearly visible in the geophysical results (Figure 3).

4.5.2 Ditch [4/003] was investigated by the manual excavation of a sondage, which was halted at a depth of 1.2m below the current ground surface on grounds of safety. The recorded section displayed episodes of backfilling of the feature. The oldest was context [4/008], a reddish brown sand, which was overlain by context [4/004], a brownish grey silty sand, which in turn overlay context [4/005], a dark greyish brown silty sand. The next fill was context [4/006], a mid-brownish grey silty sand, which was overlain by context [4/007], a yellowish grey silty sand.

4.5.3 The only deposit from which datable material was recovered was context [4/006] and was dated to the late 17th or 18th centuries A map dating from 1792 suggests that the feature was a hollow way running across the field and ran towards the mill stream and across it to the east (Figure 14), but had disappeared by a century later (Figure 15).

4.6 Trench 5 (Figure 7)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.24 - 0.61	35.21 - 36.04
5/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	34.60 - 35.21
5/003	Cut	Ditch	-	*c.*7.0	-	-
5/004	Fill	Ditch	-	-	-	-

Table 7: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 Trench 5 was excavated to a length of 30m. The topsoil and natural were similar in character to those encountered in the other trenches at the site. One substantial feature was encountered and partially excavated, the continuation of the ditch/hollow way previously recorded in Trench 5

4.6.2 Ditch [5/003] was not fully investigated on ground of safety. But metalwork was recovered from the surface of the highly mixed visible fill, context [5/004], which contained a mixture of mid-brown silty clay topsoil and yellower silty sand. This concentration of metalwork is thought to have resulted in the anomaly recorded during the geophysical survey (Figure 3)

4.7 Trench 6 (Figure 8)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.24 - 0.61	33.02 - 35.18
6/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	32.58 – 34.85
6/003	Cut	Ditch	-	*c.*7.0	*c.*2.0	
6/004	Fill	Ditch	-	-	*c.*2.0	-

Table 8: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

4.7.1 Trench 6 was excavated to a length of 30m. The topsoil and natural were

similar in character to those encountered in the other trenches at the site. One substantial feature was encountered and partially excavated, the continuation of the ditch/hollow way previously recorded in Trenches 4 and 5.

4.7.2 The machine was used in an attempt to excavate a section through ditch [6/003]. Unfortunately owing to the depth of the feature and the unconsolidated nature of the fill, context [6/004], which was similar in its mixed character to context [5/004], there was repeated collapse of the sections. It was ascertained that the feature was *c.*2m in depth, but little else could be learned and the feature was backfilled on grounds of safety.

4.8 Trench 7 (Figure 9)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.36 - 0.53	35.98 - 37.06
7/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	35.62 - 36.53
7/003	Cut	Gully	-	0.78	0.22	35.71
7/004	Fill	Gully	-	0.78	0.22	-
7/005	Cut	Pit	-	0.44	0.40	36.15
7/006	Fill	Pit	-	0.44	0.40	-

Table 9: Trench 7 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 Trench 7 was excavated to a length of 30m. The topsoil and 'natural' were similar in character to those seen elsewhere at the site. Two features were identified and recorded, although neither contained any datable material.

4.8.2 Gully [7/003] was 'v'-shaped in profile and ran broadly north to south across the trench. The single fill was a mid-brown silty sand, context [7/004]. Pit [7/005] lay partially under the southern baulk of the trench. The single fill was context [7/006], a dark brown sandy clay.

4.9 Trench 8 (Figure 10)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.68 - 0.87	33.65 - 35.86
8/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	32.98 - 34.99
8/003	Cut	Gully	-	0.88	0.22	34.69
8/004	Fill	Gully	-	0.88	0.22	-

Table 10: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 Trench 8 was excavated to a length of 30m. The topsoil and 'natural' were similar in character to those seen elsewhere at the site. One archaeological feature was identified, excavated and recorded. Gully [8/003] ran from north-west to south-east across the trench, and had a broadly 'v'-shaped profile. The single reddish brown silty sand fill, context [8/004] contained a flint flake.

4.10 Trench 9 (Figure 11)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.36 - 1.1	33.26 - 35.71
9/002	Layer	?Subsoil	*c.*2m	Trench	0.25 - 0.26	-
9/003	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	32.90 - 34.59
9/004	Cut	Ditch	-	>2.0	0.43	34.23
9/005	Fill	Ditch	-	-	0.30	-
9/006	Cut	Pit	-	0.47	0.48	34.99
9/007	Fill	Pit	-	0.47	0.48	-
9/008	Fill	Ditch	-	-	0.13	-
9/009	Fill	Ditch	-	-	0.23	-
9/010	Cut	Ditch	-	>3.0	0.46	34.23
9/011	Fill	Ditch	-	>3.0	0.46	-

Table 11: Trench 9 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 Trench 8 was excavated to a length of 30m. The topsoil and 'natural' were similar in character to those seen elsewhere at the site, although an isolated patch of mid-yellowish grey silty sand, context [[9/002] encountered at the north-western end of the trench between the topsoil and 'natural' was interpreted as an isolated survival of subsoil. A pit and two intercutting flat-bottomed ditches were encountered, excavated and recorded.

4.10.2 Pit [9/006] lay partially under the north-eastern baulk of the trench. No datable material was recovered from the single light brown silty sand fill, context [9/007].

4.10.3 The ditches ran from south-west to north-east across the trench. The oldest of the two intercutting features was Ditch [9/010]. The single fill was a mid-brown clayey sand, context [9/011] which contained early post-medieval ceramic building material. The latest was ditch [9/004], which contained three discernible fills.

4.10.4 The basal fill was a mid-brownish grey silty sand, context [9/005], from which early post-medieval material and residual medieval material was recovered. It was overlain by a thin lens of charcoal-rich, brownish grey silty sand, context [9/008]. The upper fill was a mid-brownish grey silty sand, context [9/009] from which 17th to 18th century material was recovered. An environmental sample <1001> taken from context [9/008] contained a range of artefacts and ecofacts.

4.11 **Trench 10** (Figure 12)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.57 - 0.89	32.75 - 33.36
10/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	32.18 - 32.47
10/003	Cut	Construction Cut	-	-	-	
10/004	Masonry	Footing	-	0.32	0.53	32.03
10/005	Masonry	Footing	-	0.22	-	32.00
10/006	Fill	Backfill	-	-	-	-
10/007	Fill	Backfill	-	-		-
10/008	Fill	Backfill	-	-	0.30	-
10/009	Fill	Backfill	-	-	0.20	-
10/010	Fill	Backfill	-	-	0.34	-
10/011	Cut	Robber Trench	-	-	*c.*1.5	-

Table 12: Trench 10 list of recorded contexts

4.11.1 Trench 10 was excavated to a length of 30m. The topsoil and 'natural' were similar in character to those seen elsewhere at the site. The trench was dominated by a *c.*10m wide feature which ran north to south across the trench. This proved to be a robber trench, with associated surviving masonry.

4.11.2 Masonry was encountered during the manual excavation of a sondage to establish the depth of this feature. It consisted of two types of stonework both bonded with local yellow sand. Masonry [10/004] consisted of regular Wealden Sandstone blocks, some showing evidence of tool marks, laid to form a vertical face surviving to a depth of 530mm, facing north-westwards. On the opposite side of the wall, masonry [10/005] was made up of a similar material, but laid in a far more random pattern. Both type of masonry lay in vertically-sided construction cut [10/003]. A deposit of mid-brownish orange sand, context [10/006] had been backfilled against the masonry within this cut on the south-western side. It is not though that a wall of this width would be capable of taking the weight of a substantial medieval manor house

4.11.3 The construction cut and masonry had been truncated by a substantial robber trench, recorded as cut [10/011]. Detailed recording of the feature was hampered by the depth of the feature and repeated collapse of the trench sections owing to its loose fills. The fills of the majority of the feature were mechanically removed to ascertain the size of the robber trench, and establish if any further stretches of masonry had survived. The section could not be drawn owing to the repeated section collapse.

4.11.4 The basal fill of the feature was a dark grey silty sand, context [10/009]. It was overlain by mid-brownish grey silty sand, context [10/008], which was in turn overlain by another layer of mid-greyish brown silty sand, context [10/007] which contained Wealden Sandstone rubble and two small sherds of 16th century pottery. A slump of 'natural' silty sand orangey grey silty sand, context [10/010] was encountered on the south-western edge of the feature.

4.12 **Trench 11** (Figure 13)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height mAOD
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	1.04 – 1.06	33.71 – 34.71
11/002	Layer	Natural	Trench	Trench	-	32.67 – 33.78
11/003	Cut	Ditch	-	0.71	0.44	33.54
11/004	Fill	Ditch	-	0.71	0.44	--
11/005	Cut	Ditch	-	1.60	0.44	33.54
11/006	Fill	Ditch	-	1.60	0.44	-

Table 13: Trench 11 list of recorded contexts

4.12.1 Trench 7 was excavated at the request of Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist, ESCC to ascertain if the masonry encountered in Trench 10 turned following the geophysical anomaly between existing trenches 9 and 10. It was excavated to a length of 6m. The two intercutting flat-bottomed ditches encountered in Trench 9 were encountered and recorded but no masonry was found. The topsoil and 'natural' were similar in character to those seen elsewhere at the site.

4.12.2 In keeping with the relationship seen in Trench 9, the southernmost feature proved to be the earliest. Ditch [11/003], contained a single mid-brown silty sand fill, context [11/004], which contained three sherds of medieval pottery and a fragment of early post-medieval brick.

4.12.3 The later feature was ditch [11/005]. The single fill was a mid-greyish brown clayey sand, context [11/006]. No datable material was recovered from this feature.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of material ranging in date from prehistoric to post-medieval was recovered during the evaluation. The material was air dried as appropriate, subsequently quantified by count and weight, and was bagged and labelled (Appendix 1). The objects were packed and stored following CIfA guidelines (CIfA 2014c). No further conservation is required.

5.2 **The Flintwork** by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 The evaluation produced three pieces of struck flint weighing 150g. The assemblage comprises a flake (context [8/001]), a blade-like flake (context [8/004]) and a multiplatform flake core (context [7/001]). The core is in poor condition. Originally used to remove blade-like flakes, it may have been crudely re-used. Both the flake and blade-like flake display narrow platform with minimal preparation. They are likely to pre-date the Middle Bronze Age.

5.3 **The Late Iron Age/Roman Pottery** by Anna Doherty

5.3.1 A total of seven bodysherds of Late Iron Age/Roman grog-tempered pottery, weighing 66g were recovered from context [2/006]. The grog-tempering tradition was extremely long-lived in East Sussex and it is therefore difficult to place the sherds with certainty within the period c.50BC-AD410. When significant numbers of grog-tempered sherds occur without Roman sandy fabrics, this is usually a good indicator of Late Iron Age/early Roman dating. The seven sherds represented here (two of them conjoining) are probably not a substantial enough group to rule out the possibility of a mid or later Roman date, although one of the sherds may possibly represent part of the wall of a grog-tempered Gallo-Belgic style platter: a typical form of the 1st century AD.

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

5.4.1 The archaeological evaluation recovered 21 sherds of post-Roman pottery, weighing 253g, from 11 individually numbered contexts. The material has been fully listed in Table 14 as part of the visible archive. Medieval fabrics have been given a summary descriptive fabric name, as this part of the Weald has no established fabric series. Post-medieval fabrics have been allocated common names that are used county-wide.

5.4.2 The earliest post-Roman pottery from the site is of the High Medieval period and consists of a number of quite fresh sherds from stratified deposits. These are all in quite well developed sandy wares with no flint or shell tempering in evidence. This, in combination with the quite well-fired nature of the glazed jug from [9/005], suggests an emphasis on the latter part of the chronological range. As such a date range of *c.*1275 to 1350/75 is suggested for this activity.

Context	Fabric	Period	No	Weight	Comments
2/001	Unglazed earthenware	LPM	1	8g	Flower pot x1
2/001	Refined whiteware	LPM	1	20g	Cup x1
4/001	Pearlware	LPM	1	26g	Uncertain form x1 (oval base, early glaze)
4/001	Green transfer-printed whiteware	LPM	1	2g	Uncertain form x1
5/001	English porcelain	LPM	1	4g	Side plate x1
6/001	Refined redware	LPM	1	22g	Teapot x1 (all over green glaze)
8/001	Creamware	LPM	1	1g	Plate x1
9/001	Yellow ware	LPM	1	4g	Bowl x1 (white/black slipped annular lines)
9/005	Oxidised medium sandy ware	HM	3	26g	Cooking pot x1
9/005	Oxidised fine sandy ware	HM	2	18g	Jug x1 (well fired, clear glaze)
9/005	Hard-fired earthenware (reduced)	LM	1	46g	Uncertain form x1 (knife trimmed)
10/001	Blue transfer-printed whiteware	LPM	1	12g	Plate x1 (willow pattern)
10/007	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	4g	Jug x1 (buff with external green glaze0
10/007	Cologne/Frechen stoneware	EPM	1	2g	Jug/mug? x1 (moulded decoration on girth band)
11/001	Glazed red earthenware (late)	LPM	1	8g	Uncertain form x1 (all over glaze)
11/004	Medium/coarse reduced sandy ware	HM	1	14g	Uncertain form x1
11/004	Medium reduced sandy ware	HM	1	16g	Cooking pot x1 (sooted)
11/004	Oxidised medium sandy ware	HM	1	20g	Cooking pot x1 (hollow-topped expanded rim)

Table 14: Pottery assemblage (HM - High Medieval c. 1200/25-1350/75; LM – Late Medieval c. 1350/75-1525/50; EPM – Early Post-Medieval c. 1525/50-1750; LPM - Late Post-Medieval c. 1750-1900+).

5.4.3 The site has also produced some evidence of activity in the 15th to 16th centuries, though none need be before *c.*1475. The hard-fired earthenware sherd in [9/005] and the 16th- century pieces in [10/007] hint at a resurgence of activity, perhaps in association with the establishment of the blast furnace phase of the local iron industry. All three sherds show slight signs of abrasion.

5.4.4 The remaining pottery was all recovered from topsoil deposits and appears to represent a domestic spread spanning the later 18th to early 20th centuries. On the whole the sherds are small and appear to have seen a notable degree of reworking.

5.4.5 The post-Roman pottery assemblage is small but some is considered to be of interest for long-term curation in a museum. Pottery from Maresfield has been exceedingly scarce due to the lack of fieldwork. Recent small-scale work has recovered occasional medieval and early post-medieval sherds but the current assemblage doubles the quantities already recovered. All this material should be retained. The late post-medieval assemblage consists of common types well known in the county and has been discarded.

5.5 The Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay by Luke Barber

5.5.1 A moderate-sized assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered during the archaeological work. The material was in mixed condition, with the earlier types being notably abraded and the later ones quite fresh. The assemblage is summarised in Tables 15 (fabrics) and 16 (quantification) as part of the visible archive.

Fabric	Description	Comments	Suggested date
B1	Moderate fine 'sugary' quartz, abundant marl swirls and sparse/ common iron oxides to 5mm	Well formed, medium fired	Late C17th – 18th
B2	Moderate fine 'sugary' quartz, common marl swirls and sparse/common iron oxides to 4mm	Well formed, medium fired	Late C17th – 18th
B3	Moderate fine' sugary' quartz, common/ abundant iron oxides (inc ferruginous sandstone) to 4mm, sparse off-white sandstone to 2mm	Well formed, medium fired	Later C17th – 18th
B4	Moderate fine 'sugary' quartz, common iron oxides to 2mm and common marl swirls.	Crudely formed, low fired	C17th – 18th
B5	Moderate/abundant fine 'sugary' quartz, common iron oxides to 2mm and common marl swirls	Crudely formed, low fired	C16th – early 17th
B6	Moderate/abundant fine 'sugary' quartz with occasional iron oxides to 2mm	Crudely formed, low/medium fired	C16th – 17th
T1a	Sparse fine quartz, moderate/abundant iron oxides/ferruginous sandstone to 3mm	Quite well formed and fired A buff /marl-rich fabric	C16th – 17th
T1b	Sparse fine quartz	Quite well formed and fired. A buff fabric	C16th – 17th
T2a	Sparse/common fine quartz, common iron oxides to 1mm, occasional/rare marl	Quite crude finish, hard fired	Late C17th – early 19th
T2b	As T2a but with common marl streaks	Quite crude finish, medium fired	Late C17th – 18th
T3	Sparse/common fine quartz, rare iron oxides to 1mm	Quite crudely formed, hard fired	Late C17th – 18th
T4	Sparse fine quartz, common iron oxides to 1mm, moderate marl swirls and common sandstone pellets to 4mm	Quite well formed, medium fired	C16th – 17th
F1	Moderate fine/medium quartz, common iron oxides to 2mm	Quite well formed, low/medium fired. Bevelled edged unglazed floor tiles	C16th – 17th

Table 15: Ceramic Building Material fabrics

Context	Form	Fabric	No	Weight	Comments
2/006	Burnt clay	-	4	54g	Fine silty clay with abundant iron oxide pellets & siltstone to 4mm. Amorphous
4/006	Brick	B1	2	556g	59mm thick
4/006	Brick	B2	4	1170g	62, 62, 63mm thick
4/006	Brick	B3	4	1552g	59, 59, 60, 61mm thick. X1 self-glazed, x1 overfired
4/006	Brick	B4	3	424g	No dimensions survive. x1 overfired
4/006	Ridge tile	T1a	1	58g	15mm thick
4/006	Peg tile	T2a	5	488g	10-12mm thick. Diamond peg hole x1. Overfired x1
4/006	Peg tile	T3	2	110g	11-12mm thick
8/001	Peg tile	T2b	1	68g	13mm thick
9/005	Brick	B5	5	174g	Amorphous
9/005	Brick	B6	3	182g	Amorphous
9/005	Peg tile	T1a	3	190g	14mm thick
9/005	Peg tile	T1b	1	22g	13mm thick
9/005	Peg tile	T4	4	222g	14mm thick
9/009	Brick	B5	1	52g	Amorphous
9/009	Brick	B6	2	208g	Amorphous
9/009	Brick	B4	1	34g	Amorphous
9/009	Ridge tile	T4	1	68g	16mm thick
9/009	Valley tile	T3	1	446g	11mm thick. Overfired. 7 x 7mm diamond peg holes, 22mm down from top edge, 75mm apart (centre to centre)
9/009	Burnt clay	-	3	10g	Soft low-fired silt clay. Amorphous
9/011	Brick	B6	3	32g	Amorphous
10/001	Brick	B5	1	8g	Amorphous
10/007	Brick	B5	1	72g	Amorphous
10/007	Peg tile	T1a	1	46g	14mm thick
10/007	Floor tile	F1	3	496g	27-29mm thick. Bevelled edges
11/004	Brick	B6	1	74g	Amorphous

Table 16: Ceramic Building Material assemblage

5.5.2 The CBM assemblage shows a fair degree of variety in fabrics though many are clearly related. All appears to belong to the post-medieval period, though a good spread of 16th- to 17th- century material appears to be present. It is a shame more of the current assemblage is not associated with secure pottery dates. Despite this at least context [10/007] appears to have pottery and ceramic building material types in close agreement. Close dating of many of the fabrics is not possible at present – few excavations in Maresfield have produced brick and tile and even fewer have produced large pieces and/or independently dated ones. The crisp-formed nature of the bricks in [4/006], together with their thicknesses and 'sugary' textures strongly suggests a late 17th- to 18th- century date. There are very few pieces of definite post C18th-century date but further assemblages of material would be needed to ascertain the exact nature of the 19th- century brick and tile in the town.

5.5.3 A total of fifteen fragments of CBM were retrieved from environmental sample <1002> from context [9/008]. This included: nine fragments of post-medieval roof tile weighing 208g; five abraded fragments of brick in a reddish fabric with sparse paler streaks weighing 80g; and one largish brick spall fragment weighing 24g in a marbled cream and red fabric. This material is most likely all of mid-late post-medieval date.

5.5.4 Sixteen fragments of fired clay weighing 100g were extracted from environmental sample <1002> from context [9/008]. All the clay was abraded and undiagnostic. One fragment had a possible flat surface and several revealed burnt out chaff or organic impressions. All sixteen fragments appeared to be formed of the same fine reddish clay, clearly oxidised through being subject to heat and with some areas slightly reduced

5.5.5 The ceramic building material assemblage is relatively small, lacks diagnostic pieces and is mainly from contexts that have some degree of mixing/residuality. Little is associated with reliable pottery dates. As such the assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis beyond that undertaken for this report. With the exception of fabric samples for the county reference collection the assemblage has been discarded.

5.6 The Glass by Luke Barber

5.6.1 The only glass recovered from the site consists of two complete later 20th-century bottles from context [2/001]. The first is a green cylindrical example with 27mm diameter crown cap closure (184g, 50mm di base, 144mm tall). The vessel has embossed texture on its shoulder and grip ridges around the edge of its base with partially illegible embossing across the base (including '113ml'). This would appear to have held a carbonated fruit juice of mixer. The other bottle is in brown glass and is the classic marmite form (130g with 135mm diameter base, 48mm di rim and measuring 57mm tall). Across each short site is embossed '2 OZ // MARMITE'.

5.6.2 The glass assemblage is modern and holds no potential for further study. The material has been recycled.

5.7 The Ironwork by Luke Barber and Elena Baldi

5.7.1 Context [4/006] produced 12 pieces of iron (382g). Although heavily corroded, with significant adhering corrosion products, the form of the object is discernible in one of a number of fresh breaks. The pieces appear to be from a 24mm wide binding strip.

5.7.2 Six pieces of cast iron were recovered from context [5/004]. These fragments are quite large in size and weigh 12,814 g in total. Two pieces are from the rim, with flat edge, two are curved body parts and two are flat rectangular pieces (see table 17). The thickness of the body is around 10-15 mm.

Rim 1	48 mm in length	2,262 g
Rim 2	34 mm in length	3,254 g
Body part 1	28 mm in length, 20 mm in width	2,260 g
Body part 2	30 mm in length, 18 mm in width	2,719 g
Flat piece 1	20 mm in length, 13 mm in width	1,159 g
Flat piece 2	20 mm in length, 15 mm in width	1,160 g

Table 17: Summary of cast iron assemblage from context [5/004]

5.7.3 Overall, the pieces show a quite high degree of corrosion although some of the original surface is visible. They were recovered from the surface of the context, the fill of ditch [5/003] and no other finds are associated with this object; however it appears to date to the post medieval period.

5.7.9 Cauldrons used as cooking vessels were normally produced in alloys of copper (Egan 1998, p. 161 ff.) and are not commonly found in the archaeological record. Copper cauldrons date as early as the 13th century, and they were superseded by cast iron types only from the early 18th as they became cheaper. In some areas iron examples were still in use in the 20th century (Butler and Green 2003, 28).

5.7.10 Further to the cauldron fragments seventeen iron nail fragments weighing a total of 45g were recovered in environmental sample <1008> taken from context [9/008]. Due to their corroded and concreted nature they are largely undiagnostic, though are most likely of a post medieval date.

5.8 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

5.8.1 Fifteen pieces of slag were recovered from the site. The assemblage has been listed in Table 4 as part of the visible archive.

Context	Slag type	No/weight	Comments
4/006	Undiagnostic iron	2/1738g	X1 very dense piece (magnetic) with flattish base is probably a hearth bottom
4/006	Blast furnace?	1/16g	Olive green glassy and aerated
8/001	Tap slag (iron smelting)	1/56g	Classic flow structure. Weathered
9/009	Blast furnace	3/50g	Black/olive green glassy
10/001	Blast furnace	1/10g	Black/olive green glassy
10/001	Iron smelting	1/180g	Very dense and grey. Weathered
10/007	Blast furnace	5/122g	Black/olive green glassy
11/001	Blast furnace	1/56g	Black/olive green glassy

Table 18: Summary of slag assemblage

5.8.2 The assemblage certainly contains a little weathered material that is clearly from the bloomery smelting process (contexts [8/001] and [10/001]). This material can only generally be dated to between the Iron Age and medieval periods but quantities do not suggest working in the immediate vicinity of the trenches. The bulk of the slag from [4/006] is of a type that could be from a bloomery or blast furnace, however, the one piece of glassy slag, if not intrusive, suggests the latter. The remaining slag all consists of fresh blast furnace slag of 16th- to early 18th- century date. The assemblage is fresh but

again, is in small quantities and may simple represent hard-core transported a short distance from an iron-working site.

5.8.3 The slag assemblage is small and holds little potential for further analysis beyond that undertaken for this report. The material has been discarded.

5.9 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.9.1 Fifteen pieces of stone were recovered from the site. The assemblage has been listed in Table 18 as part of the visible archive.

5.9.2 The assemblage of stone can be split into three groups. The first consists of local Wealden stone that has not been worked, though some has been burnt. This material could relate to a scatter of material from iron-working activity (note the iron ore) but this cannot be proven without a larger assemblage.

5.9.3 The largest bulk of material is composed of local Wealden sandstone faced and architectural blocks. All are quite notably weathered and none are diagnostic of date beyond a general medieval to early post-medieval range. Those from [10/007] were associated with some 16th- century pottery and this would not be out of place for the stones. However, their notably weathered nature suggests there is a possibility they represent earlier building material re-used in the 16th century. Whatever the case their presence hints at a prestigious masonry building in the vicinity. The final group relates to imported pieces of 19th- to early 20th- century welsh roofing slate from topsoil deposits.

Context	Stone type	No/weight	Comments
4/006	Dull orange-yellow fine Wealden sandstone	3/480g	Irregular
4/006	Wealden ironstone (ore quality)	1/142g	Irregular
9/001	Welsh slate	2/20g	C19th- roofing
9/005	Dull orange-yellow fine Wealden sandstone	4/106g	Irregular, burnt
9/009	Dull orange-yellow fine Wealden sandstone	2/268g	Irregular, burnt
10/004	Mottled granular fine Wealden sandstone	1/6500g	Weathered remains of block with double chamfer (window mullion). 165mm tall with chamfered faces 90mm+, 90mm & 100mm+
10/004	Dull orange-yellow fine Wealden sandstone	1/12,500g	Weathered remains of faced block. 228= x 218+ x 120mm
10/004	Mottled granular fine Wealden sandstone	1/c. 20,500g	Weathered roughly shaped block. C. 280 x 370 x 220mm
10/007	Mottled granular fine Wealden sandstone	1/14,500g	Weathered faced block. 310 x 240 x 140mm
10/007	Mottled granular fine Wealden sandstone	1/3900g	Weathered roughly faced block. 205 x 150 x 90mm
10/007	Mottled granular fine Wealden sandstone	1/6000g	Weathered chamfered block. 110mm tall with faces 200mm+ and 130mm+. From mullion, window reveal or door surround
11/001	Welsh slate	1/10g	C19th- roofing

Table 19: Stone assemblage

5.9.4 The stone assemblage does not contain diagnostic pieces and, beyond that undertaken for the current report, holds no potential for further analysis. The material has been discarded.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview

7.1.1 A range of archaeological deposits were encountered, excavated and recorded during the evaluation of the site. A thin scatter of flintwork suggests prehistoric activity in the general area. However there were clear issues with close dating of the later buried features. The earliest are either Late Iron Age or Romano-British in date, and later features are early post-medieval, but with indications of medieval activity in the vicinity.

7.2 Deposit Survival and Existing Impacts

7.2.1 Although the absence of a widespread subsoil layer at the site suggests deep ploughing at some point (as arguably does the great depth of topsoil), there was little evidence of severe truncation of the buried features. However, clearly the robbing at the site, although itself an archaeological episode, has undoubtedly led to the loss of *in situ* deposits.

7.3 Prehistoric

7.3.1 Arguably the gullies identified in Trenches 7 and 8 can be assigned to the broad prehistoric era, in the absence of any other datable evidence; the feature in Trench 8 contained a struck flint flake. This suggests the presence of a field system of some kind at the site, although the paucity of positive dating remains problematic

7.3.2 More positively, the small assemblage of residual worked and fire-cracked flint recovered from the overburden in a number of trenches, suggests some level of activity in the general area in the remote past.

7.4 Late Iron Age/Romano-British

7.4.1 Although challenging in terms of close dating, the grog-tempered pottery recovered from the gully in Trench 2 is nonetheless evidence of activity at the site within this broad timeframe. Taken with evidence from the features excavated at the nearby Park Farm site (ASE 2011), it suggests an area of intensive occupation at the time.

7.4.2 Given the absence of ironworking slag in the feature (and paucity at the site in general) the material cannot be directly linked to the well-known local ironworking industry. However, it has been suggested that much of the Weald was administered as an 'Imperial Estate' linked to security of the supply of iron for the Roman military machine (Cleere & Crossley 1995, 68), and such organisation and control may predate the conquest (Stevens 2013; Lea & English 2015). Therefore, despite the evidence for direct ironworking, the current site may represent the domestic remains linked to the closely-controlled industry.

7.5 Medieval

7.5.1 Despite the strong documentary evidence for the location of high status medieval buildings at the site (Christopher Whittick, *pers. comm.*), very little

provably medieval material was encountered.

7.5.2 A small assemblage of medieval pottery was recovered from features in Trenches 9 and 11, but in no way in the quantities which would be expected in the immediate vicinity of a medieval manor house. It is possible that the earliest of the ditches encountered in Trenches 9 and 11 date to this period, based on the presence of residual medieval pottery in both of the later features.

7.5.3 The worn nature of the stonework encountered in Trench 9 suggests re-use, and although the material may have originated in a medieval building, it appears likely that the encountered wall is later in date. The medieval manor house was ruinous by the middle of the 16th century and would have offered a tempting local quarry for stonework.

7.5.4 However, it might also be argued that the stub of masonry encountered in the trench represents *in situ* medieval masonry, with all associated elements removed by the substantial robber trench. However, the scarcity of medieval finds and the lack of associated floor deposits (or evidence of their former location in the form of broken tiles or beds of mortar) strongly suggest this is not the case.

7.6 Post-Medieval

7.6.1 Arguably the somewhat enigmatic stonework belongs to early part of this period, but its function (and extent) remain unclear. It is obvious that a substantial robber trench was dug later, sometime in the 16th or 17th century, and that the masonry encountered in Trench 10 was not removed and was left *in situ.*

7.6.2 The later ditch encountered in Trenches 9 and 11 contained 16th and 17th century material, both CBM and pottery, providing all-too-rare close dating for a feature at the site.

7.6.3 The substantial feature encountered and partially excavated in Trenches 4, 5 and 6 contained CBM dated to the late 17th to the 18th century, but appears visible in maps of the late 18th century (Figure 14).

7.6.4 The overburden contained a thin scatter of post-medieval material, the result of manuring of the field, or casual loss. The presence of blast furnace slag is not directly indicative of a local furnace given its notorious mobility in the Weald (Cleere and Crossley 1995, 275)

7.7 Consideration of Research Aims

7.7.1 In terms of the general site research aims, the excavation and recording of the evaluation trenches has shown that a range of archaeological remains do survive at the site. There had been little obvious recent truncation of the archaeological remains, and *in situ* deposits ranging in date from the Late Iron Age/Romano-British to the post-medieval period survive at the site.

7.7.2 Although there was some corroboration between the results of the geophysical survey and the results from the evaluation trenches, some of the geophysical readings were clearly the result of the varied nature of the geology at the site.

7.7.3 The site specific research aims can also be addressed. There was somewhat enigmatic evidence of prehistoric activity, although it remains possible that some of the features date from the distant past. Certainly the flintwork adds to a limited corpus recovered from this part of the Weald.

7.7.4 The discovery of late Iron Age/Romano-British material, without accompanying ironworking slag suggested domestic rather than strictly industrial activity was undertaken at the site at this time.

7.7.5 Arguably the most problematic issues are associated the location of the medieval manor house. Although the masonry encountered in Trench 10 probably originally came from a high status building in the vicinity, it may have been re-used or might represent an isolated survival of *in situ* masonry of a smaller medieval building. The robber trench has removed all associated evidence and the function and date of the stonework remains somewhat open to question. It is suggested that the scarcity of medieval material at the site strongly suggest that it is not the site of a medieval manor house.

7.8 Conclusions

7.8.1 The evaluation of the site by mechanically excavated trial trenches has proved effective in uncovering a range of archaeological remains and allowing them to be excavated and recorded.

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Appendix 1: Finds Quantification

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)	F. clay	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)
2/001	2	28															2	315
2/006	7	66	1	5											4	58		
4/001	2	26																
4/006			22	5004					4	622	12	419	3	1754				
5/001	1	4					1	17										
5/004											6	13627						
6/001	1	22			1	2												
7/001					1	129												
8/001	1	<2	1	76	1	9			1	55								
8/004					1	11												
9/001	1	4	1	30	1	19			2	20								
9/005	6	88	16	929					4	109								
9/009	4	17	7	1014					1	166			3	50				
9/011			3	46														
10/001	1	11	1	9					1	192			1	11				
10/004									3	45414								
10/007	2	8	6	604					1	10092			5	123	3	119		
11/001	1	10							2	25040			1	57				
11/004	3	53	1	90														
Total	32	337	59	7807	5	170	1	17	19	81710	18	14046	13	1995	7	177	2	315

HER Summary

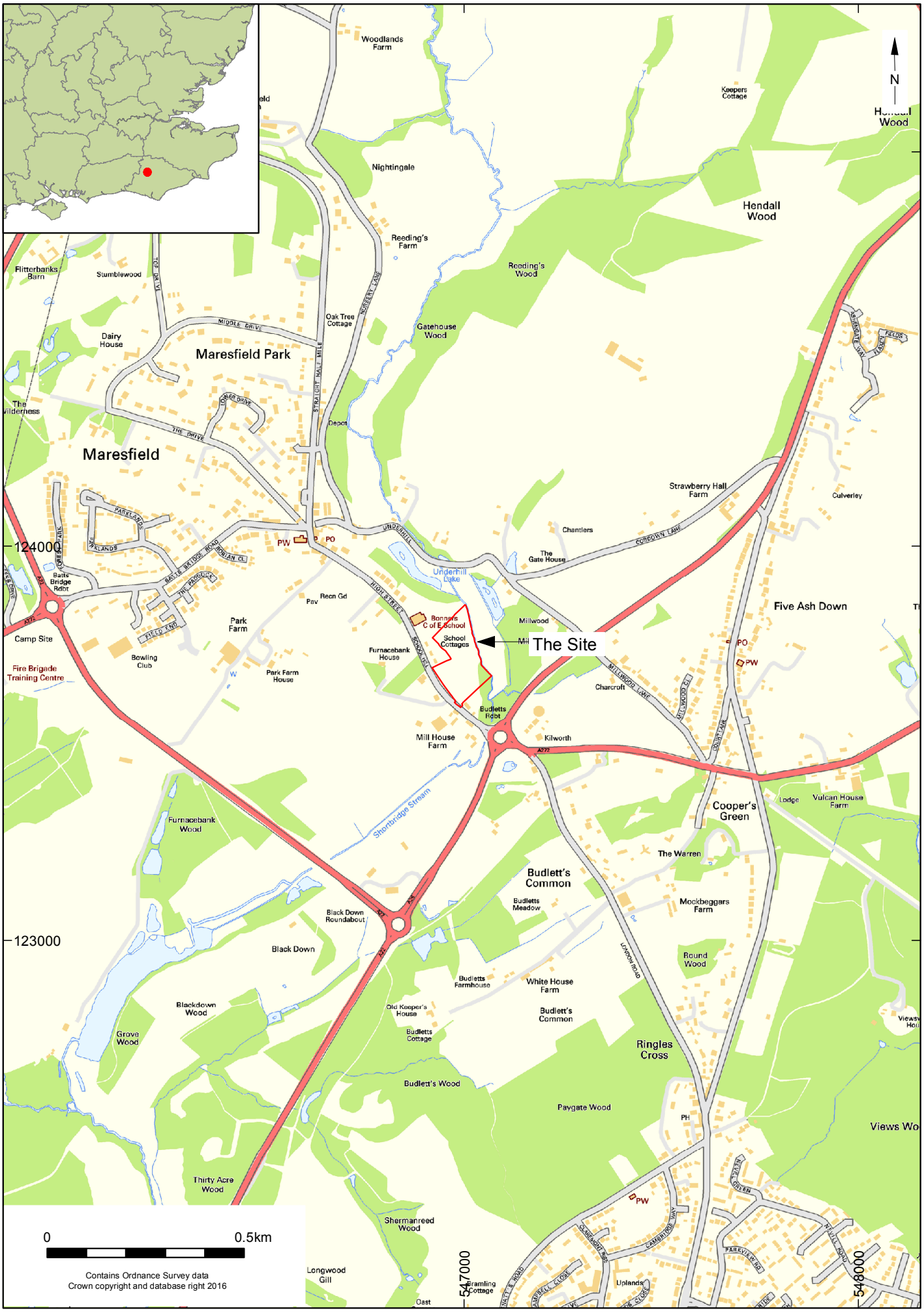
Site Code	LMA 16					
Identification Name and Address	Land at London Road, Maresfield					
County, District &/or Borough	Wealden District, East Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	546999 123691					
Geology	Ardingly Sandstone					
Arch. South-East Project Number	160088					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓					
Type of Site	Green Field ✓					
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 08.02.2016 – 12.02.2016					
Sponsor/Client	Asprey Homes					
Project Manager	Paul Mason					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens					
Period Summary					IA ✓	RB ✓
		Med. ✓	PM ✓			

Summary

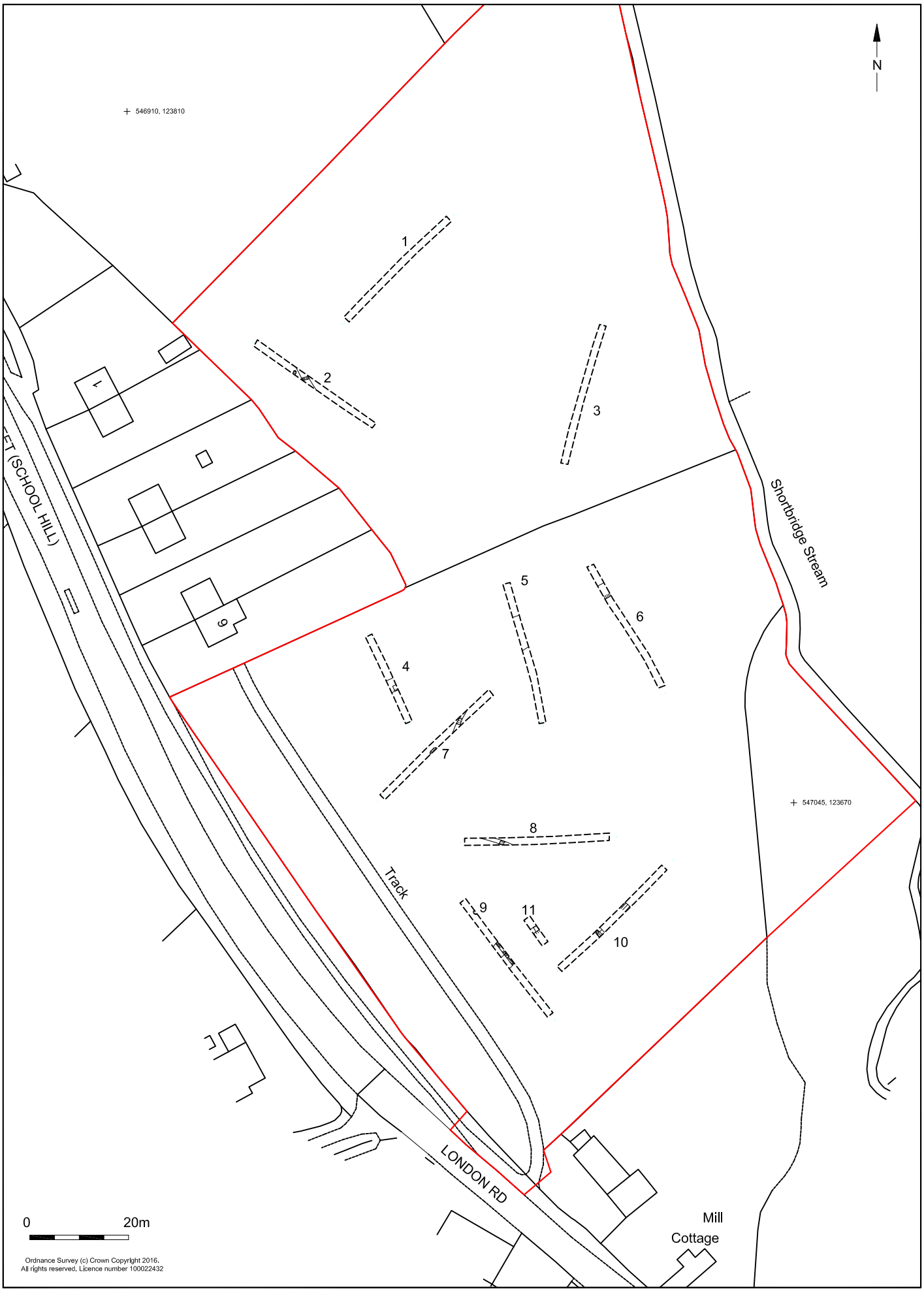
ASE was commissioned by Asprey Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a 1.8ha site at London Road, Maresfield, East Sussex. The site lies within an Archaeological Notification Area associated with a medieval manorial complex, and later ironworking.

A range of archaeological deposits were encountered, excavated and recorded during the evaluation of the site. A thin scatter of flintwork suggests prehistoric activity in the general area. However there were clear issues with close dating of the later buried features. The earliest are either Late Iron Age or Romano-British in date, and later features are early post-medieval, but with indications of medieval activity in the vicinity. Encountered isolated masonry contains reused medieval stonework.

OASIS Form

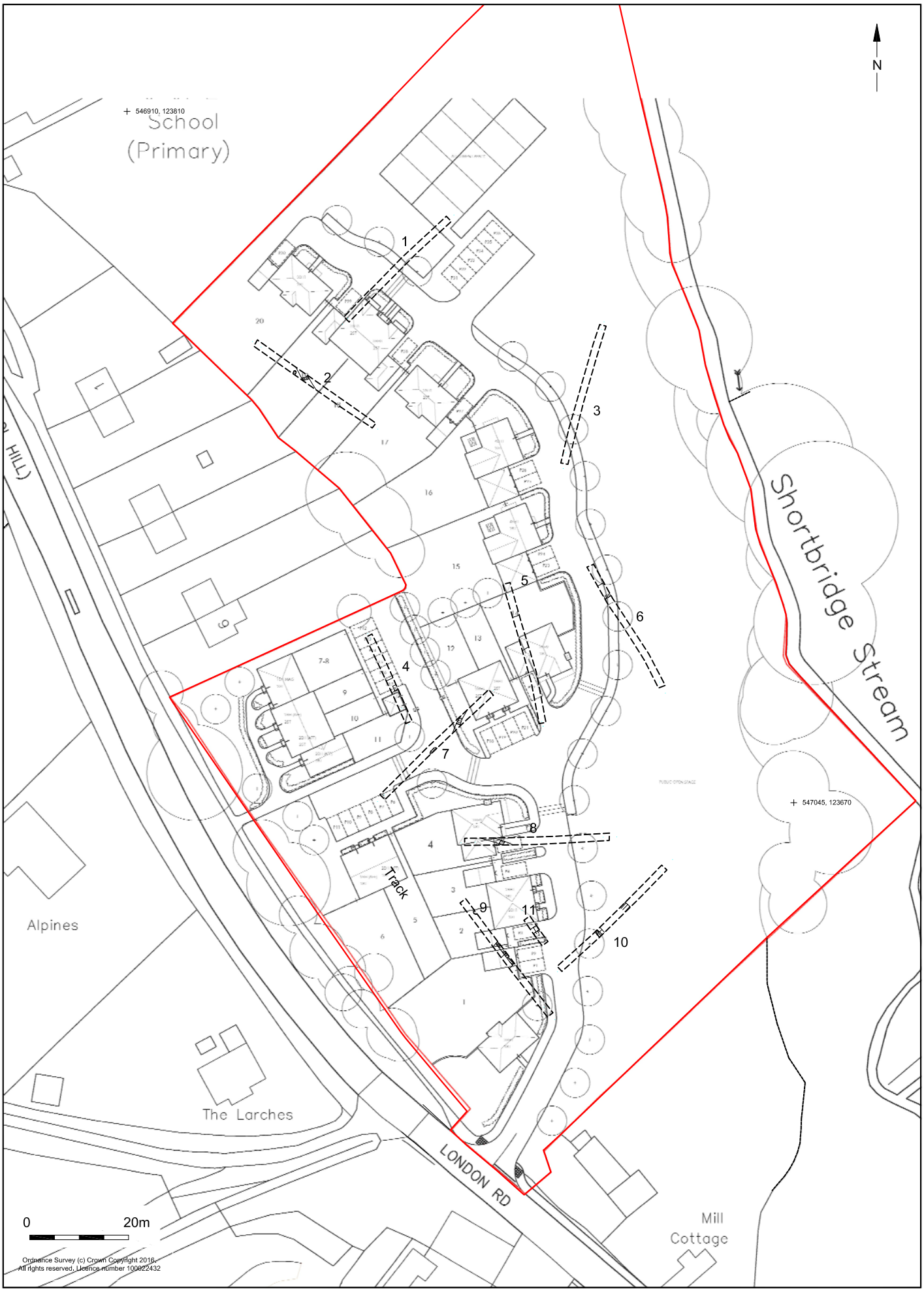


© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Site location	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

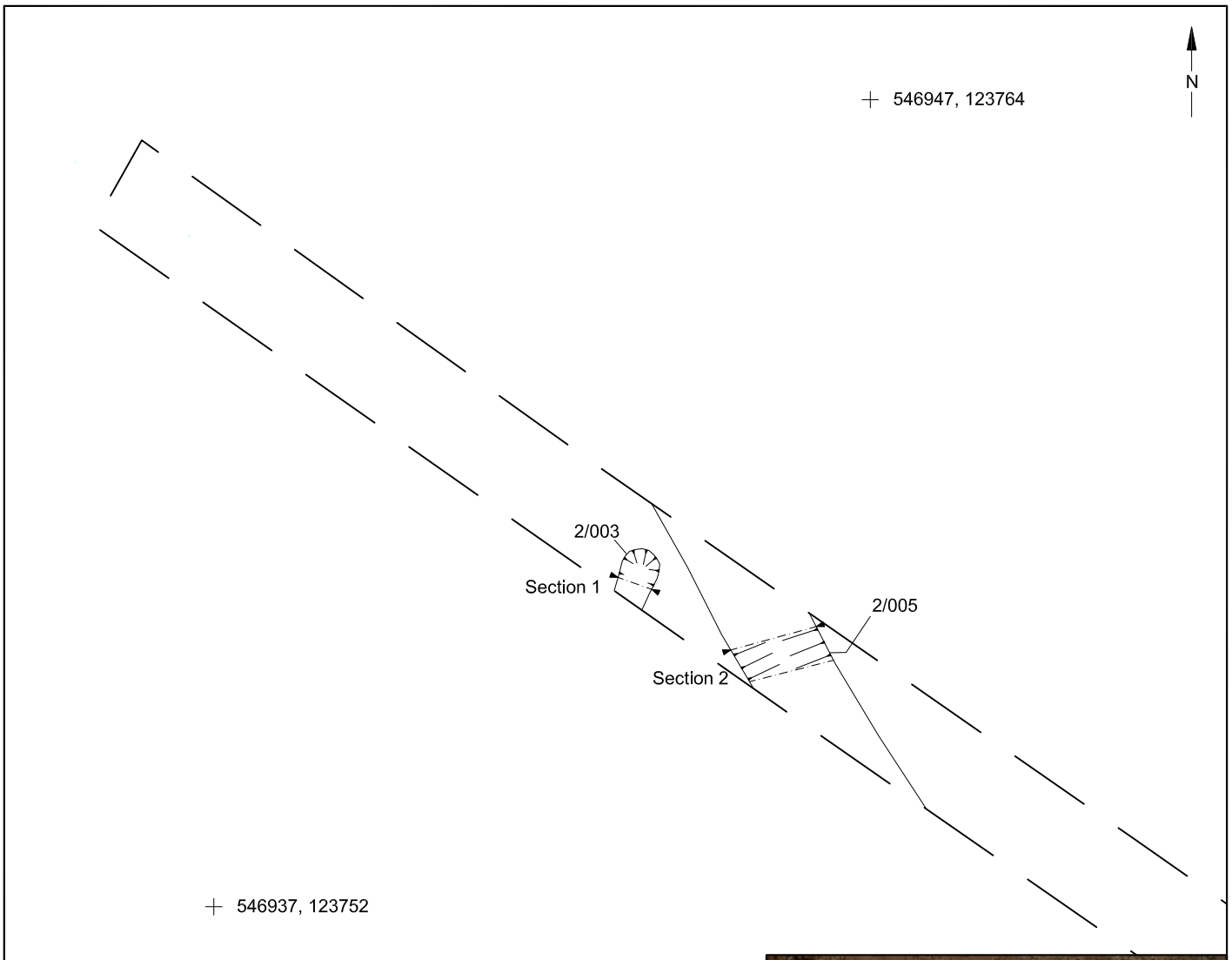


© **Archaeology South-East**		London Road, Maresfield	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench Location	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

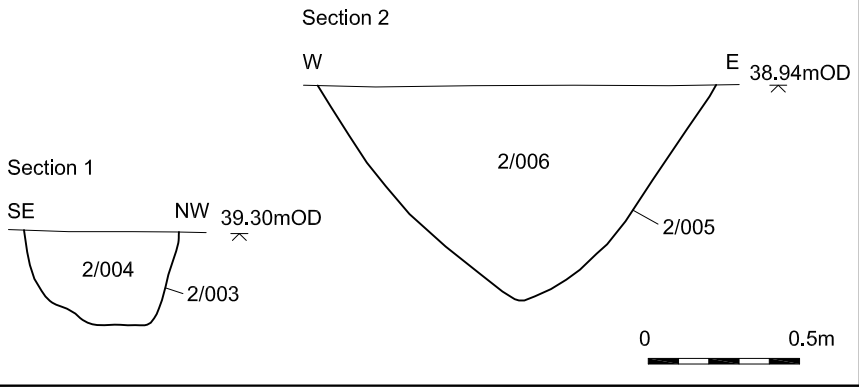
© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench Location with Geophysics results	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		



© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench Location and proposed development	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

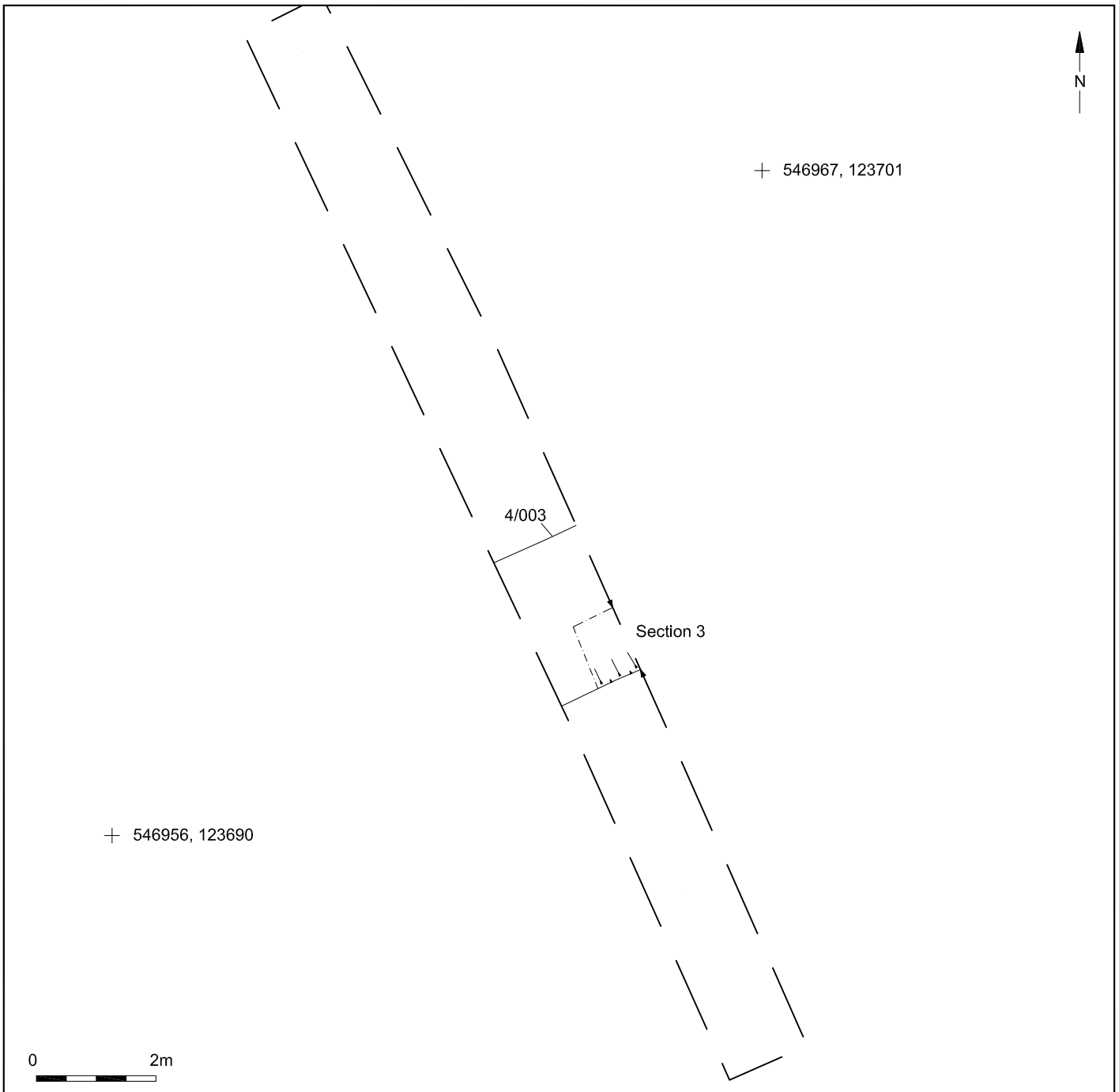


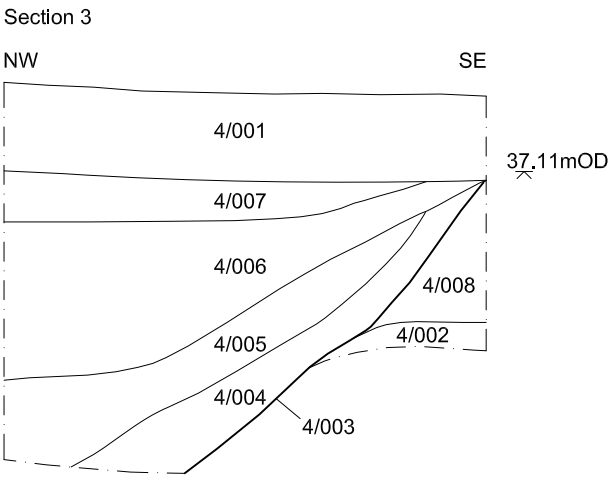
2/003 looking south-west



2/005 looking north

© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.5
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench 2 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		





4/003 looking north-east

© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.6
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench 4 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

N

546995, 123713

5/003

Metalwork found here

546986, 123694

0 2m

Metalwork found in fill of 5/003

© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.7
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench 5 plan, and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

N

547014, 123716

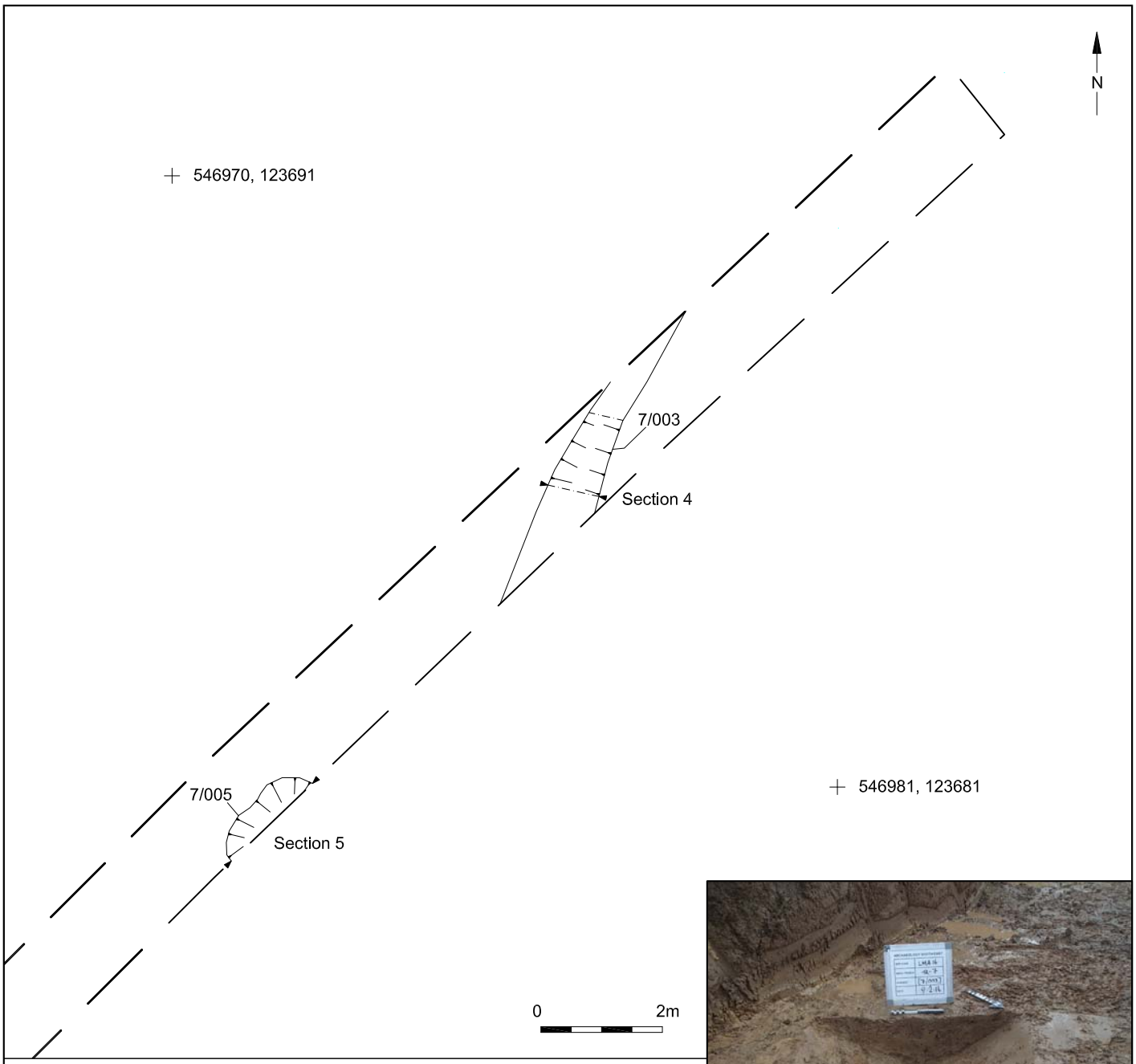
6/003

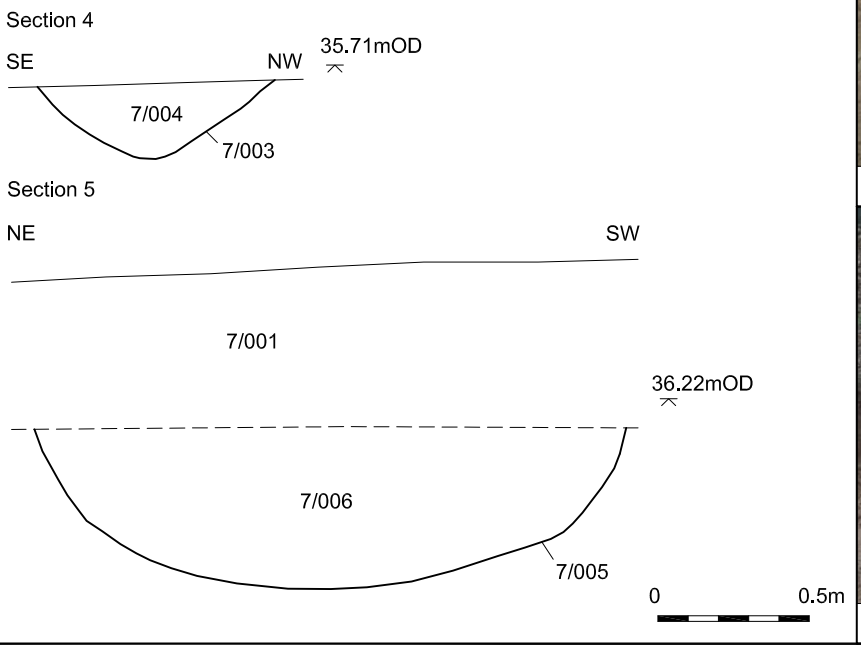
547005, 123702

Machine slot through 6/003 looking north-east

0 2m

© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.8
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench 6 plan, and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

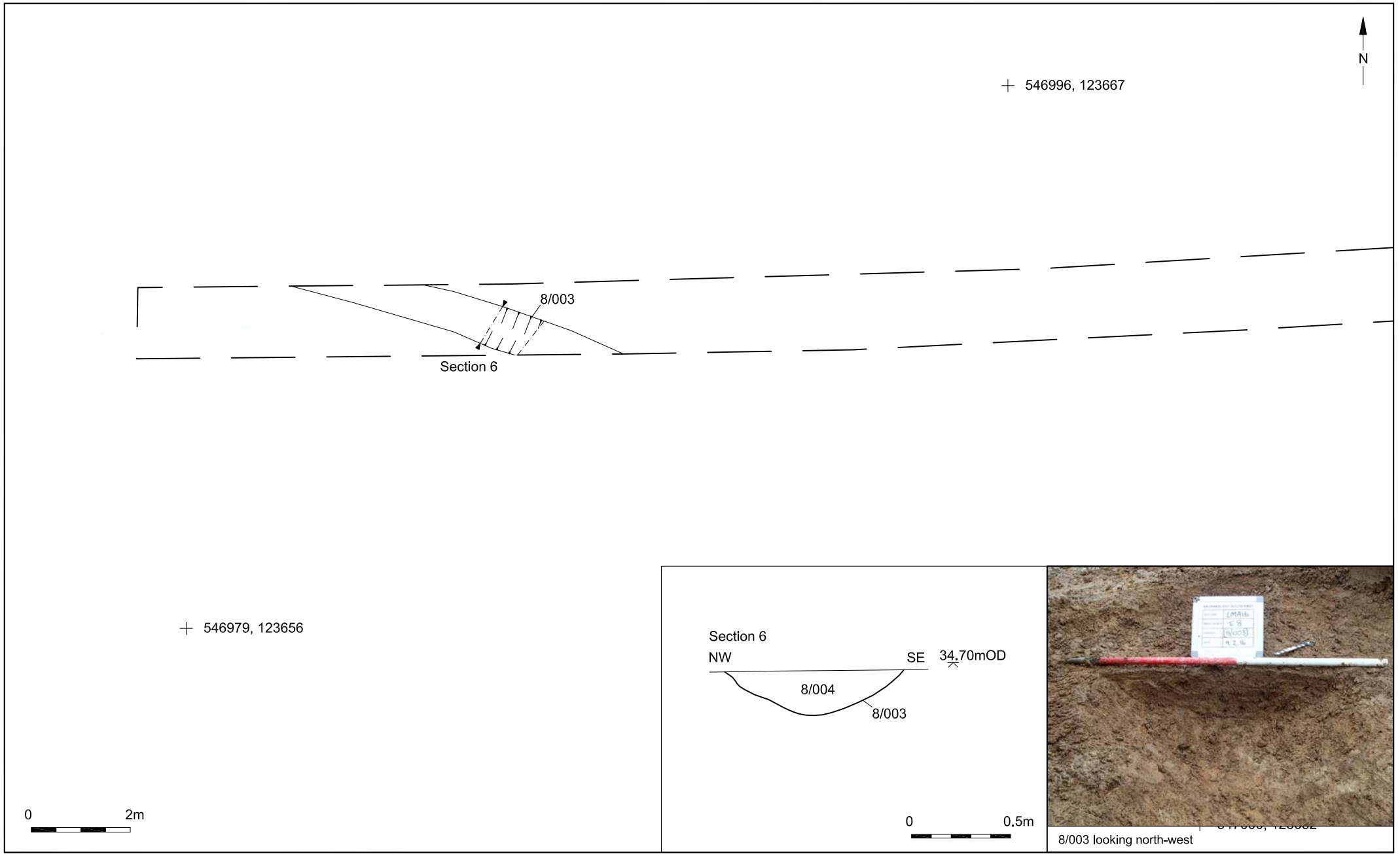




7/003 looking south-west

7/005 looking south-east

© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.9
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench 7 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		



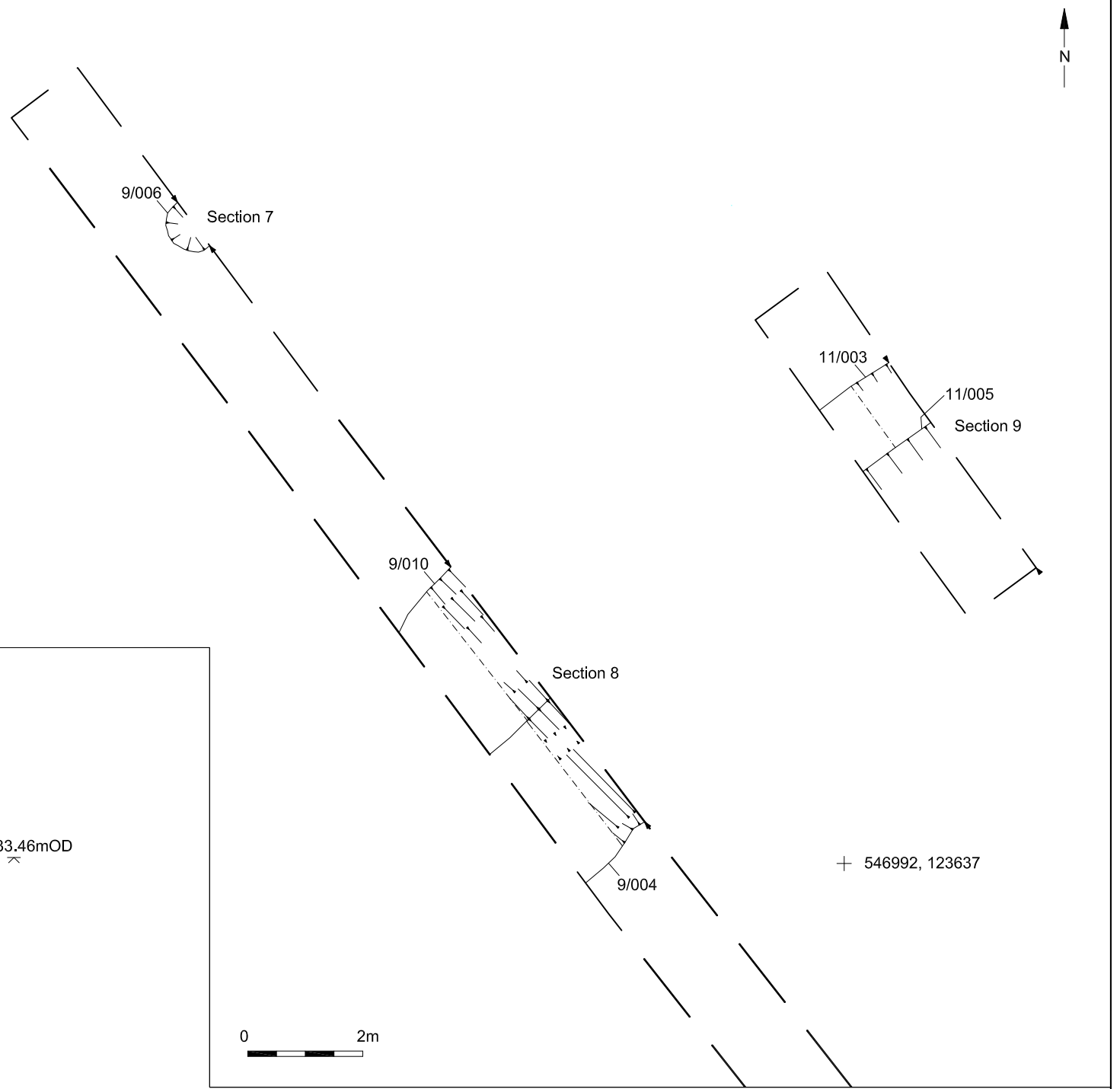
© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.10
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench 8 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

9/006 looking north-east

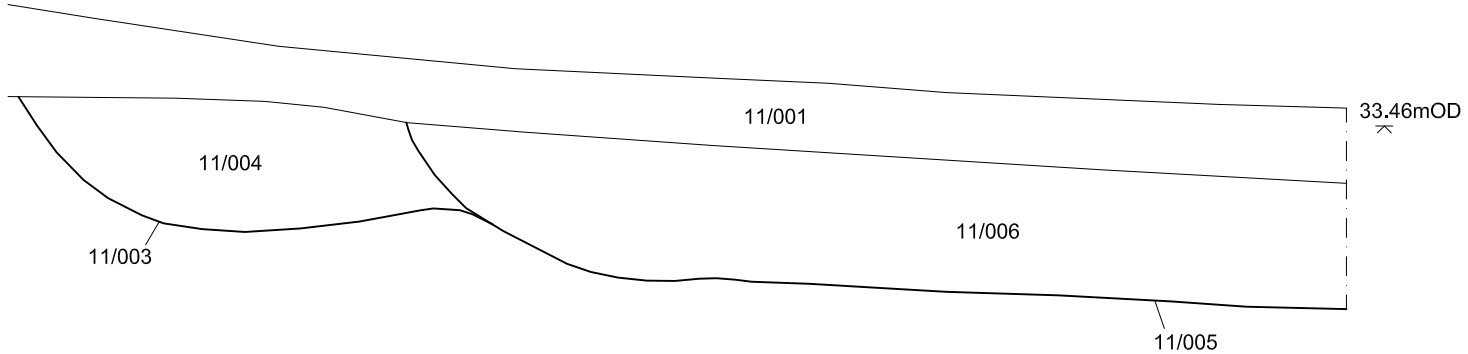
9/004 and 9/010 looking south-east

11/003 and 11/005 looking north-east

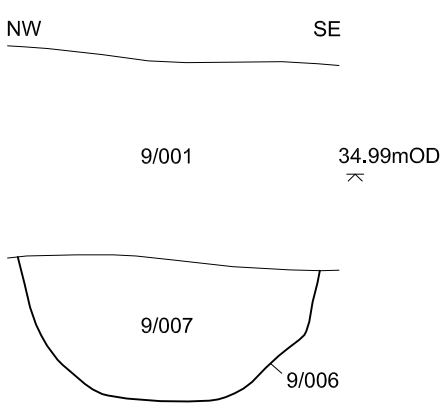
546967, 123649



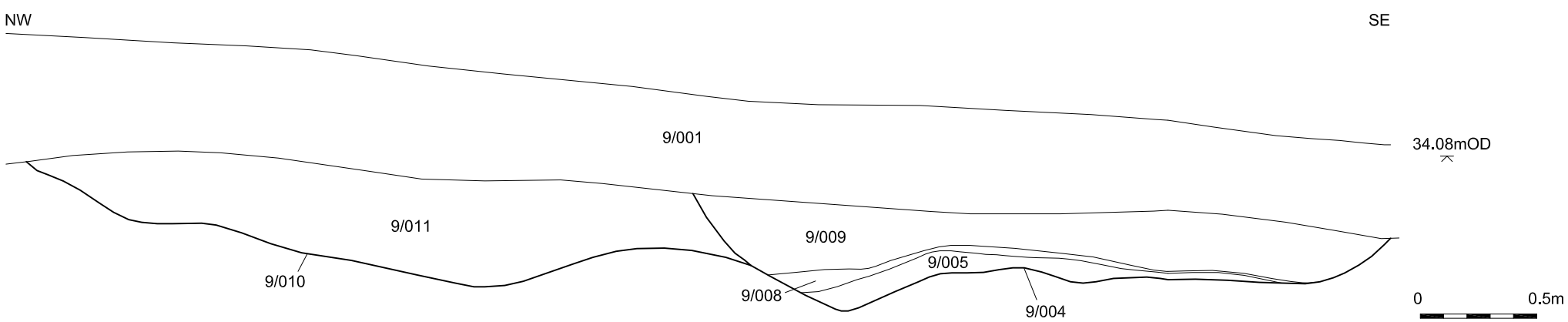
Section 9



Section 7



Section 8



© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.11
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trenches 9 and 11 plan, sections and photgraphs	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

547000, 123652

N

10/011

Section 10

10/005

Section 11

10/011

10/004

547013, 123642

0 2m

10/003, 10/004, 10/005 and 10/011 looking north-west

Section 10

SW NE

10/001

10/002

10/010

32.36mOD

10/007

10/011

10/003

10/004

10/008

Section 11

SE NW 32.12mOD

10/004

Sandstone

0 0.5m

© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.12
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	Trench 10 plan, sections and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.13
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	OS Surveyors map of 1792	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

© Archaeology South-East		London Road, Maresfield	Fig.14
Project Ref: 160088	March 2016	First Edition OS Map of 1874	
Report Ref: 2016074	Drawn by: LG		

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