

**An Archaeological Evaluation  
on Land at Alfrey Close,  
Southbourne,  
West Sussex.**

**NGR: 476460,105860**

**ASE Project No: 160275  
Site Code: ACL16**

**ASE Report No: 2016348  
OASIS id: archaeol6-263792**



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**Abstract**

*This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East at Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne. The fieldwork was commissioned by Orion Heritage in advance of the development of the site.*

*A small amount of sparsely distributed Prehistoric remains were identified, although with no apparent focus. An urned cremation burial of Middle Bronze Age date was found in Trench 28.*

*The most significant archaeological activity clustered around Trenches 6, 8 and 9. This comprises the southern edge of a probable Roman ditched enclosure of 2nd-early 3rd century date, which extends northwards beyond the site boundary. A significant amount (694 sherds) of pottery was recovered from these ditches indicating occupation activity in the immediate vicinity, presumably within this potential enclosure.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) has been commissioned by Orion Heritage to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne, West Sussex, hereafter 'the site' (centred on NGR 476460,105860; Figure 1).

1.1.2 The site occupies agricultural fields on the western periphery of Southbourne and is bounded to the north by a railway line, to the south by residential plots fronting Alfrey Close and the A259, to the east by residential plots fronting Garsons Road and to the west by further agricultural fields (Figure 2).

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The British Geological Survey map the underlying geology of the site as London Clay Formation overlain with River Terrace Deposits (BGS 2016).

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the work was prepared following consultation between ASE, Orion Heritage and the Chichester District Council Archaeologist. This WSI was prepared in accordance with relevant Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014) and was approved by all parties prior to the commencement of work at the site.

1.3.3 All work was carried out in accordance with the Sussex Archaeological Standards (2015) which outline the methodology to be used in the field, and in reporting and archiving of the results.

### **1.4 Scope of Report**

1.4.1 This report details the findings of the archaeological evaluation carried out between 17/08/16 and 01/09/16. The archaeological work was undertaken by Jake Wilson (Archaeologist) with Gemma Ward and Tom Simms (assistant Archaeologists) with survey done by Vasilis Tsamis. The project was managed by Paul Mason (fieldwork) and by Jim Stevenson (post-excavation).

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 The following background information is paraphrased from the Desk-based Assessment (CgMs 2015).

### **2.2 Prehistoric**

2.2.1 There are no earlier prehistoric remains recorded within the site or in its immediate vicinity. From evidence contained within the Chichester HER, it appears that prehistoric activity was focussed on the coast line c. 600m to the south.

### **2.3 Iron Age/ Roman**

2.3.1 It is clear that the site lay within a heavily exploited landscape in the Iron Age period. Therefore, while no remains are recorded within or in the immediate vicinity of the site, it is considered to have a moderate potential for remains of this date.

2.3.2 The study site lies to the west of Fishbourne Roman Palace and the Roman town of Chichester, which was occupied from the 1st to the 4th centuries. While the site will not contain any remains directly associated with the town or Fishbourne Palace, they are clear indications of a densely settled landscape during the Roman period within which the site was located.

2.3.4 There are few Roman remains located within 500m radius of the site. The A259 follows the line of a Roman road that entered Chichester from the west. A supposed site of a Roman villa is recorded in Prinsted c. 250m to the south east of the site. This assertion is based on the finding of a few fragments of roof tile found in a back garden, however, there is little to suggest that there was a villa at this location.

### **2.4 Anglo-Saxon**

2.4.1 There are no records of any Saxon, early medieval or medieval sites or finds within 500m radius of the site. It lies beyond the historic core of any of the nearby villages and is therefore likely to have been within agricultural fields throughout these periods.

### **2.5 Post-medieval-modern**

2.5.1 The earliest map that shows the study site is a plan of the Manor of Prinsted dated 1640 which shows the site as being agricultural fields with no structures marked. The site remained much the same on the 1823 Prinsted enclosure map and the 1840 Westbourne Tithe map.

2.5.2 The site is depicted as being four fields on the 1875 OS 25" scale map and remained unchanged until 1932 at which time the southern half was an orchard and two small structures had been constructed in the south eastern corner. By 1969 the structures in the south eastern corner had been removed and a

complex of presumably agricultural buildings constructed on the southern boundary. Since this time, two of these buildings have been demolished.

## **2.6 Project Aims and Objectives**

2.6.1 The broad aims of the evaluation, in keeping with previous similar projects are:

- To assess the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of any such remains and deposits
- To assess how they might be affected by the development of the site
- To establish the extent to which previous groundworks and/or other processes have affected archaeological deposits at the site
- To assess what options should be considered for mitigation

2.6.2 The project will seek to inform on the following areas of research in line with the South-Eastern Research Framework (SERF):

- Determine the presence or absence of prehistoric activity on the site. If present the work should seek to clarify the form, character and extent where possible.
- The transition to the late Iron Age.
- Roman landscape and environment



### 3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 Trenches were excavated as close as possible to their proposed locations. Trench 3 was reduced in length by 6m to allow the machine access. No further alterations were required. (Figure 2). A sondage was excavated at the end of Trench 29 to assess the varying geological deposits and accurately determine the correct depths of the geological horizon.
- 3.1.2 The trench locations were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) operated by accredited ASE personnel.
- 3.1.3 Trenches were excavated by a tracked machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision, grading in spits of no more than 200mm at a time until the first archaeological horizon or natural geology was reached.
- 3.1.4 All spoil was placed at a minimum of 0.5m away from the trench edge and separated between topsoil and subsoil as per the contractor's request.
- 3.1.5 All deposits both geological and archaeological were recorded using standard ASE context sheets. A digital photographic record was made of the trenches.
- 3.1.6 Trenches were located and levelled using a GPS and tied into the Ordnance Survey.
- 3.1.7 All spoil heaps and opened trenches were scanned with a metal detector for any unstratified finds.
- 3.1.8 Environmental samples were taken from suitable deposits as they were encountered.

#### 3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at the Novium museum, Chichester in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	166
No. of files/paper record	111
Plan sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	155
Permatrace sheets	2
Trench Record Forms	32

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Geology, overburden and negative trenches

4.1.1 The natural geology was consistent throughout site and comprised of a London Clay Formation overlain with River Terrace Deposits.

4.1.2 Overlying the natural geology in all the trenches was between 0.14m-0.41m of a red-brown silt clay subsoil overlain by 0.22m-0.46m of a dark brown-grey silty clay topsoil/ploughsoil with infrequent flint fragments evenly spread throughout.

4.1.3 Details of archaeologically negative trenches are listed in Appendix 2.

### 4.2 Trench 5

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.33	9.95
5/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.41	-
5/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.02	9.21
5/004	Cut	Posthole	0.24	0.25	0.06	9.21
5/005	Fill	Fill	0.24	0.25	0.06	9.21
5/006	Cut	Pit	0.76	0.1	0.2	9.22
5/007	Fill	Fill	0.76	0.1	0.2	9.22

Table 2: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Trench 5 was located on an East-West alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m. Two features were observed cut into the natural.

4.2.2 [5/004] was the cut of a small posthole which contained a single fill [5/005] of dark red/brown silt clay. No finds were present.

4.2.3 [5/006] was the cut of a small irregular pit containing a dark brown fill of silt clay [5/007]. Small amounts of fire cracked flint were recovered from this feature.

### 4.3 Trench 6

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.32	8.71-9.47
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.38	-
6/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.03	8.82
6/004	Cut	Ditch terminus	10	0.73	0.28	8.82
6/005	Fill	Fill	10	0.73	0.28	8.53
6/006	Cut	Ditch	1.3	1.21	0.12	8.63
6/007	Fill	Fill	1.3	1.21	0.12	8.63

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
6/008	Cut	Pit	2	2.4	0.98	8.54
6/009	Fill	Fill	2	2.4	0.1	8.54
6/010	Fill	Fill	2	2.4	0.24	-
6/011	Fill	Fill	2	2.4	0.46	-
6/012	Fill	Fill	2	2.4	0.26	-

Table 3: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

- 4.3.1 Trench 6 was located on a North-South alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m in length. Several features were observed cut into the natural.
- 4.3.2 [6/004] was the cut of a wide but shallow ditch terminus on an East-West alignment. Comprised of a single mid-dark brown silt clay fill [6/005]. Pottery was recovered dating from the mid Roman period (c.AD120-250).
- 4.3.3 [6/006] was a moderately sized Northeast-Southwest ditch comprised of a single fill of mid-greyish brown silt clay [6/007]. A large amount of Roman pottery was recovered from the fill along with a small amount of struck flint.
- 4.3.4 In the centre of the trench was pit [6/008]. A large rounded feature it contained multiple fills; the base fill [6/009], comprised of a dark grey silt clay deposit with moderate amounts of CBM. [6/010] was a dark brown-mid grey fill with fire cracked flint throughout. [6/011] was another secondary fill which contained a dark brown silt clay fill with moderate amounts of charcoal, fire cracked flint and a piece of worked flint. The upmost fill of [6/012] is a mid-brown silt clay fill with occasional charcoal present. Pottery of mid-Roman was also recovered from every fill.

#### 4.4 Trench 8

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.30-0.34	8.37
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.20-0.32	7.74-8.66
8/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.2	7.78
8/004	Cut	Ditch	2	0.75	0.33	7.78
8/005	Fill	Fill	2	0.75	0.33	7.45
8/006	Cut	Ditch	2	0.96	0.47	7.78
8/007	Fill	Fill	2	0.96	0.47	7.31

Table 4: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Trench 8 was located on an East-West alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m. Two features were observed cut into the natural.
- 4.4.2 [8/004] was the cut of a North-South aligned ditch. Comprised of a single fill of mid grey/brown silt clay [8/005].

4.4.3 [8/006] was a moderately sized Northeast-Southwest aligned ditch comprised of a single fill of dark grey silt clay [8/007]. Pottery dating to the mid-Roman period and fire cracked flint was recovered from this deposit.

#### 4.5 Trench 9

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.32	8.82-8.23
9/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.23	7.70-8.26
9/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.02	7.49
9/004	Cut	Ditch	2	0.65	0.1	7.70
9/005	Fill	Fill	2	0.65	0.1	7.6
9/006	Cut	Pit	1	0.32	0.08	7.70
9/007	Fill	Fill	1	0.32	0.08	7.62
9/008	Cut	Pit	1.02	1.02	0.13	7.78
9/009	Fill	Fill	1.02	1.02	0.13	7.66
9/010	Cut	Ditch	1	1.49	0.41	7.96
9/011	Fill	Fill	1	1.49	0.41	7.55
9/012	Cut	Ditch	1	1.62	0.35	8.12
9/013	Fill	Fill	1	1.62	0.35	7.77

Table 5: Trench 9 list of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Trench 9 was located on a Northeast-Southwest alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m. Multiple features were observed cut into the natural geology.

4.5.2 [9/006] was the cut of a small sub-rounded pit. It contained a mid-grey orange silt clay fill [9/007]. This feature was cut by a small-moderate sized curvilinear gully [9/004] with a similar fill of dark brown-orange silt clay. No finds were recovered from either feature.

4.5.3 [9/008] was a large but shallow sub circular pit. It contained a single fill of dark brown orange silt clay [9/009] with small and infrequent fire cracked flint inclusions.

4.5.4 Running on a Northwest-Southeast alignment was ditch [9/010]. Moderately sized, it contained a single fill of a mid-grey/brown silty clay [9/011]. A large amount of pottery was recovered from this deposit dating to the mid-Roman period along with small amounts of fire cracked flint, CBM and charcoal throughout.

4.5.5 A second ditch [9/012] ran parallel to [9/010] on a northwest-southeast alignment and had a very similar size and depth. Containing a single fill comprised of dark grey/brown silt clay, moderate amounts of fire cracked flint, charcoal and Roman pottery were present.

## 4.6 Trench 16

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
16/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.28-0.35	7.92-8.00
16/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.09-0.28	7.30
16/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.04	7.41
16/004	Cut	Pit	0.91	1.3	0.21	7.41
16/005	Fill	Fill	0.91	1.3	0.14	7.27
16/006	Fill	Fill	0.91	1.3	0.13	7.14
16/008	Cut	Pit	0.32	0.42	0.11	7.40
16/009	Fill	Fill	0.32	0.42	0.11	7.40
16/010	Cut	Pit	0.46	1.39	0.51	7.41
16/011	Fill	Fill	0.46	1.39	0.17	7.41
16/012	Fill	Fill	0.46	1.39	0.35	-
16/013	Cut	Pit	1.74	1.03	0.4	7.61
16/014	Fill	Fill	0.7	1.03	0.4	7.57
16/015	Fill	Fill	1.74	1.03	0.4	7.53
16/016	Cut	Pit	0.25	0.26	0.1	7.49
16/017	Fill	Fill	0.25	0.26	0.1	7.39
16/018	Fill	Fill	0.25	0.26	0.1	7.29

Table 6: Trench 16 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 Trench 16 was located on a Northeast-Southwest alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m. Multiple features were observed cut into the natural.

4.6.2 At the south of the trench were several intercutting pits. The earliest was a large irregular pit [16/004], which contained two burnt fills. The base fill [16/005] was a black charcoal rich silt clay fill with moderate amounts of fire cracked flint throughout. Sealing this was upper fill [16/006] comprised of a light mid-grey silt clay which contained a large amount of fire cracked flint.

Cutting this was [16/010] a sub rounded pit containing two fills. The basal fill [16/011] had a mid-brown silt clay fill with occasional charcoal, degraded CBM and fire cracked flint throughout. The upper fill [16/012] had a similar consistency and was comprised of a dark grey mottled silt clay fill with occasional charcoal and fire cracked flint. No dating evidence was recovered from either fill.

Also cutting [16/004] was a small circular pit [16/008]. It contained a single light grey fill of silty clay [16/009] comprised of a mid-grey fill with a large amount of fire cracked flint throughout. No dating evidence was recovered.

4.6.3 Feature [16/013] was located on the Northeast edge of Trench 16 and was a large circular pit that ran into the trench edge. Comprised of three fills; the basal fill [16/015] was a mid-brown silt clay fill with occasional charcoal and fire cracked flint throughout and a single Roman pot sherd. Sealing this was [16/014] which was a dark grey silt clay deposit with frequent charcoal and fire

cracked flint throughout. The final fill was [16/008] which comprised a dark brown silt clay deposit with a frequent amount of charcoal and fire cracked flint throughout.

4.6.4 Immediately to the south of [16/013] was a small posthole, [16/016], which was composed of only a single fill of mid brown grey silt clay [16/017] with frequent fire cracked flint and occasional CBM flecks throughout.

#### 4.7 Trench 18

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
18/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.33-0.38	7.86-8.27
18/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.18-0.36	7.53
18/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.02	7.50
18/004	Cut	Pit	0.28	0.29	0.08	7.57
18/005	Fill	Fill	0.28	0.29	0.08	7.49
18/006	Cut	Pit	2.07	0.45	0.17	7.52
18/007	Fill	Fill	2.07	0.45	0.17	7.35

Table 7: Trench 18 list of recorded contexts

4.7.1 Trench 18 was located on an East-West alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m. Two features were observed cut into the natural.

4.7.2 [18/004] was the cut of a small circular posthole in the far east of the trench. It contained a single fill [18/005], a mid-brown mottled silt clay with occasional flecks of charcoal throughout.

4.7.3 [18/006] was the cut of a long oval shaped pit south of [18/004]. Composed of a single fill of mid brown silt clay [18/007] it also contained occasional charcoal and fragments of prehistoric (possibly Bronze age) pottery.

#### 4.8 Trench 19

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
19/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.34-0.37	7.91-8.15
19/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.14-0.40	7.41-7.43
19/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.02	7.38
19/004	Cut	Pit	14	1.8	0.85	7.58
19/005	Fill	Fill	14	1.8	0.85	6.73

Table 8: Trench 19 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 Trench 19 was located on an East-West alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m in length. A single feature was observed cut into the natural.

4.8.2 [19/004] was the cut of a very large modern pit. Both of its edges extend beyond the trench limit but not into adjacent trenches. It contained a single fill of dark red/brown silt clay [19/005] and contained infrequent amounts of degraded CBM, porcelain, and a single iron nail.

#### 4.9 Trench 20

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
20/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.30-0.34	8.23-8.37
20/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.14-0.27	7.64
20/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.02	
20/004	Cut	Ditch terminus	2	1.1	0.24	7.72
20/005	Fill	Fill	2	1.1	0.24	7.72
20/006	Cut	Ditch	1	0.52	0.12	7.65
20/007	Fill	Fill	1	0.52	0.12	7.65
20/008	Cut	Ditch	1	0.38	0.11	7.65
20/009	Fill	Fill	1	0.38	0.11	7.65
20/010	Cut	Ditch	1	0.4	0.15	7.43
20/011	Fill	Fill	1	0.4	0.15	7.43
20/012	Cut	Ditch	1	0.45	0.2	7.43
20/013	Fill	Fill	1	0.45	0.2	7.43
20/014	Cut	Ditch	1	0.29	0.15	7.43
20/015	Fill	Fill	1	0.29	0.15	7.43

Table 9: Trench 20 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 Trench 20 was located on an East-West alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m. Two features were observed cut into the natural geology.

4.9.2 [20/004] was a ditch terminus which ran on a north-south alignment terminating in the centre of the trench. Comprised of a single deposit, [20/005] was an orange brown silt clay fill. No artificial inclusions were present. Further investigation of this ditch (cuts, [20/006] [20/010] [20/012] [20/014]) produced a small amount of Roman pottery.

4.9.4 Ditch [20/008] was a moderately sized ditch comprised of one fill [20/009] made up of a mid-yellow brown silt clay with no artificial inclusions present. It cut the fill of [20/006]

#### 4.10 Trench 22

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
22/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.23-0.46	7.26-7.72
22/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.17-0.26	6.37-7.29
22/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.04	
22/004	Cut	Ditch	1	0.8	0.24	6.88
22/005	Fill	Fill	1	0.8	0.24	6.64

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
22/006	Cut	Pit	3.4	1.8	0.2	6.88
22/007	Fill	Fill	3.4	1.8	0.2	6.88

Table 10: Trench 22 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 Trench 22 was located on a Northeast-Southwest alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m. Two features were observed cut into the natural.

4.10.2 [22/004] was an East-West aligned ditch of moderate size located in the northern end of the trench. Comprised of a single brown silt clay [22/005] it contained both fire cracked flint and prehistoric pottery.

4.10.3 [22/006] was the cut of a large sub rounded pit or deposit located at the southern end of the trench. Comprised of a single fill of dark brown silt clay [22/007] it also contained frequent amounts of gravel and a single piece of prehistoric pot.

#### 4.11 Trench 28

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
28/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.25-0.32	7.04-7.25
28/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.26-0.30	6.57-6.61
28/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.04	6.50
28/004	Cut	Pit, cremation	0.27	0.29	0.13	6.50
28/005	Fill	Cremation	0.27	0.29	0.13	6.37

Table 11: Trench 28 list of recorded contexts

4.11.1 Trench 28 was located on an East-West alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m in length. One feature was observed cut into the natural.

4.11.2 Within the centre of the trench was [28/004]: a cut of a cremation burial which contained a single fill comprised of a dark brown/black silt clay [28/005] with frequent charcoal and burnt human bone throughout, this was contained within a Bronze Age urn.

#### 4.12 Trench 31

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
31/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.22-0.32	7.50
31/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.23-0.12	7.11-7.14
31/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	-	7.06
31/004	Layer	Redeposited natural	50	1.8	0.48	-
31/005	Cut	Ditch	3	0.8	0.26	6.93



Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
31/006	Fill	Fill	3	0.8	0.26	6.67

Table 12: Trench 31 list of recorded contexts

4.12.1 Trench 31 was located on a Northwest-Southeast alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m. One feature was observed cut into the natural.

4.12.2 Ditch [31/005] ran on a northeast-southwest alignment and was comprised of a single fill of mid-dark brown silty clay [31/006] with occasional charcoal flecks throughout. Modern inclusions such as glass and ceramics were present.

4.12.3 Within the southeast of the trench a large area of redeposited natural was observed sealing the undisturbed geology. No inclusions were present either artificial or geological.

### 4.13 Trench 32

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
32/001	Layer	Topsoil	50	1.8	0.31-0.36	7.92-8.13
32/002	Layer	Subsoil	50	1.8	0.29-0.31	7.23-7.31
32/003	Layer	Natural	50	1.8	0.03	7.34
32/004	Cut	Posthole	0.4	0.31	0.12	7.34
32/005	Fill	Fill	0.4	0.31	0.12	7.22

Table 13: Trench 32 list of recorded contexts

4.13.1 Trench 32 was located on a North-South alignment and measured 50m x 1.8m. One feature was observed cut into the natural.

4.13.2 Small circular posthole, [32/004] contained a single fill of dark brown silt clay [32/005]. Fire cracked flint was frequent throughout.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A large assemblage of predominantly prehistoric and Roman finds was recovered during the evaluation at Alfrey Close, Southbourne. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. The hand-collected finds were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Appendix 1). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014). Some finds, including a ceramic vessel containing cremated human bone, were recovered from environmental samples. This material is quantified in Table 16

### 5.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 Ten pieces of struck flint weighing 79g were recovered during the evaluation (Table 14). A moderate amount (just over 10 kg) of burnt unworked flint was also recovered. The material was hand collected and retrieved from three environmental bulk samples. The worked flints came from Trenches 6 (four pieces) and 16 (five pieces) and from the topsoil in Trench 31.

Category	Number
Flake	3
Blade	1
Bladelet	2
Irregular waste	2
End scraper	2
Total	10

Table 14: the flintwork

5.2.2 The assemblage comprises two flakes, a blade, two bladelets, two pieces of irregular waste and two end scraper. Both bladelets from context [16/014] and the blade from [16/005] are products of a systematic reduction strategy. They indicate a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. The remaining pieces of débitage can't be securely dated, but a broad Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age is most likely for these pieces. Two end scrapers were recovered. The first one from ditch fill [6/007] is made on a thin blade and displays minimal retouch on the distal end. It is likely to be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic. The second end scraper came from the topsoil in Trench 31. It is in a poor condition and manufactured on a flake. Although it displays a pronounced bulb of percussion, it exhibits thin blade-like flake scar removals on dorsal face. It probably predates the Middle Bronze Age too. This is the only piece made on a dark grey (almost black) flint. The other artefacts are made on a light grey or light brown flint. Their condition varies, but the majority display some signs of weathering that indicate some degrees of movement.

5.2.3 Just over 10kg of burnt unworked flint was recovered. The majority (8.5kg) came from trench 16. Overall, most contexts produced only small amounts of burnt unworked flint, but three contexts ([16/005], [16/014] and [32/005]) were

slightly richer. While the fragments from [16/005] and [16/014] were all heavily calcined to a grey or white colour, some of the fragments from [32/005] displayed a reddish tinge indicating that they were only slightly burnt. Burnt unworked flints are frequently associated with prehistoric activity, and they could be associated with a hearth.

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

- 5.3.1 A small assemblage of uncertainly dated later prehistoric pottery was recovered mostly from trenches in the southern half of the site and a huge quantity of mid Roman ceramics were recovered from Trenches 6, 8 and 9 in the north-western corner of the evaluated area.
- 5.3.2 At present the pottery has been examined for spot-dating and characterisation purposes but not fully quantified according to a fabric and form type-series. It is recommended that the assemblage should be retained for integration into any assessment or analysis process should further archaeological work take place at the site
- 5.3.3 The prehistoric assemblage totals 63 sherds hand-collected, weighing 358g, in addition to 967g of sherds from a cremation vessel recovered from the residue of environmental sample <1>. It was found in contexts [5/007], [18/007], [22/005], [28/005] and [28/007].
- 5.3.4 Amongst this material, the most diagnostic element is a fragmented cremation vessel, mostly recovered from the environmental sample, in fill [28/005], of cremation feature [28/004]; some bodysherds were also hand-collected. The vessel is a relatively small thin-walled barrel urn with a fingernail impressed rim and a horizontal cordon featuring sparse fingernail impressions. The vessel is quite typical of the Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury (DR) tradition though its fairly thin-walled profile and only moderately coarse flint-tempered fabric – with most inclusions of c.1-3mm (and rare examples up to 5mm) – might indicate a relatively late vessel within this tradition.
- 5.3.5 Only one other feature sherd was recovered, from context [28/007]: a large fairly thick-walled jar with a plain in-turning profile and slightly beaded rim. The vessel appears well-fired but somewhat crudely-formed with visible finger-marks from the forming process around the rim and external surface. This piece is of slightly ambiguous date. The fabric is quite comparable to the vessel in [28/005] and the overall form is not dissimilar to barrel urns/hook rim jars of Middle/Late Bronze Age date, though beaded rims are not a typical feature of the Deverel-Rimbury or post-Deverel-Rimbury traditions so it is difficult to rule out the possibility that this is a very coarsely-made Iron Age vessel.
- 5.3.6 The same can probably be said of the other prehistoric pottery, which comprises undiagnostic bodysherds from a very small number of estimated vessels. In general, the fabrics are moderately coarse with moderately-sorted flint, generally ranging from c. 1-3mm. This type of fabric is probably most typical of c. Middle/Late Bronze Age dating but, since flint-tempered fabrics continued to predominate in this area up until the Roman conquest, the possibility of a later date cannot be excluded.

- 5.3.7 The Roman assemblage totals 694 sherds, weighing 10.05kg of which the majority came from just two contexts, ditch fills [6/007] and [9/011]; these each produced over 200 sherds. Moderate groups of more than 30 sherds were found in ditch fills [6/010] and [6/011] and smaller quantities from a number of other contexts in Trenches 6, 8 and 9, including [6/009], [6/012], [6/014], [8/007], and [9/013]. The assemblage is characterised by large unabraded sherds and the largest groups contain substantial parts of vessel profiles. This suggests that the north-western area of the site may represent the edge of an area of intensive settlement. Only a single sherd of Roman pottery, weighing 1 gram, was found outside of this localised area, in context [16/014].
- 5.3.8 The Roman assemblage is very homogenous in character. Around 95% of it is made up by Rowland's Castle grey wares with occasional examples of BB1, other black-burnished style wares, unsourced sandy wares and central Gaulish samian ware. Rowland's Castle ware as a fabric is not in itself very closely datable; the industry spans most of the Roman period, though it probably declined during the 4<sup>th</sup> century. However, given the size of the assemblage, the absence of common later Roman fabric types including Alice Holt, Overwey, Oxfordshire, Nene Valley and New Forest wares probably provide a good indication that activity on site did not extend into the later 3<sup>rd</sup> century.
- 5.3.9 Wherever any diagnostic feature sherds are present, particularly in the largest groups from [6/007], [6/010], [6/011] and [9/011], the pottery belongs demonstrably to the mid Roman period (c.AD120-250). All of these groups contained examples of plain rim and flat/rounded rim dishes based on black-burnished ware proto-types. However, the very common post AD250 bead-and-flange bowl form was notably absent. The presence of central Gaulish samian, including an example of a Dragendorff 18/31 or 31 bowl also points to 2<sup>nd</sup>/early 3<sup>rd</sup> century date range.
- 5.3.10 The most common Rowlands Castle forms are all represented, including examples of Dicks (2009) D2 jars, C1 flagons, B3/D3 carinated jars/bowls and E1/E2 lids. Lids seemed especially common in the largest group from [6/007]. The very distinctive cable rimmed jar with internal finger marks (Dicks D4) is present in relatively low quantities. This may be chronologically significant as these forms appear to become more common over time. For example, in pottery groups dated c.AD180-250 from the Medmerry Managed Realignment Scheme on the Manhood peninsula, D4 jars made up 36% of estimated vessels (Doherty in prep).

#### **5.4 The Ceramic Building Material** by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

- 5.4.1 Only six pieces of brick and tile weighing a total of 734g were recovered from two contexts: [06/011] and [09/011]. The bulk of the material came from [09/011], and – with the exception of one much thinner (albeit very abraded) tile piece that could be medieval – all appeared Roman in date. The best preserved fragments included a flanged piece of tegula that was burnt solid, and a substantial piece of Roman brick, which was particularly thick at 60mm, but otherwise standard in form. The fragment of 'R2' from [09/011], based on the thickness, is likely to also be a piece of tegula, but the piece of 'R3' from [09/011] was abraded to the extent that the original form was unclear, as was the 'R1' fragment from [09/011].

5.4.2 Three Roman fabrics were identified, and one (T1) that could represent later, medieval tile. Fabric descriptions are provided in Table 15.

Fabric	Description
R1	Dense red fabric with moderate medium quartz and sparse cream silty marbled deposits.
R2	Orange fabric with sparse mixed quartz and clay pellets up to 1mm.
R3	Orange fabric with moderate-common medium and coarse quartz and iron rich inclusions.
T1	Beige fabric. Moderate mixed quartz including rose /brown coloured quartz.

Table 15: CBM fabric descriptions for Alfrey Close

### 5.5 The Fired Clay by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.5.1 Seven pieces of fired clay weighing 186g were hand-collected from five evaluation contexts: [06/010], [06/011], [06/012], [08/007] and [16/014]. None of the clay was diagnostic, although the piece from [08/007] did appear to have been shaped. Fragments from [06/010] had the impressions of burnt out organic material which would indicate human utilisation, although the function remains unclear. There was little variety in fabric type; all the fired clay appears composed of the same brown-orange matrix with few inclusions.

### 5.6 The Ironwork by Trista Clifford

5.6.1 Context [6/007] produced a single nail weighing 11g. The nail has a sub-circular head and square sectioned stem with tip missing. It is not inherently dateable but likely to be post Roman in date.

### 5.9 The Cremated Human Bone by Dr Paola Ponce

5.9.1 A considerable amount of cremated bone, weighing 311.43 grams (Table 16) was recovered from one individual context, [28/005]. This was extracted from the environmental sample belonging to a ceramic vessel dating to the Middle Bronze Age which was found within a pit.

5.9.2 The most identifiable fragments of the cremated bone assemblage were found in the 4-8mm and >8 fractions of the sample. These belonged to the axial skeleton of an infant and to the unfused proximal and distal long bone epiphyses of a juvenile/young adult individual of unknown sex.

5.9.3 Other identified cremated remains found within the context were those of animal bones (see 5.9).

Context Number	Fragment size (mm)	Weight per skeletal element (gr.)				Total (grams)
		Skull	Axial	Limbs	Unident.	
(28/005)	2-4	-	-	-	4.80	4.80

	4-8	24.28	18.30	9.20	99.50	151.28
	>8	53.70	1.80	50.90	48.95	155.35
Total (grams)		77.98	20.10	60.1	153.25	311.43

Table 16: Quantification of the cremated bone

5.9.4 With regards to the degree of oxidation of the organic component of bone, it was noted that 50% of the assemblage was fully oxidised white (>c. 600° C) which suggests a highly efficient cremation process. A combination of grey and blue hues were identified in 5% of the total fragments present, thus suggesting an incomplete oxidised process (up to c. 600° C). The remainder 45% of the assemblage presented brown/orange colours which are indicative of a poor oxidation (unburnt) process.

### 5.10 The Animal Bone by Hayley Forsyth-Magee and Gemma Ayton

5.10.1 The excavations at Alfrey Close, Southbourne produced just one single bone fragment from context [8/007] weighing 1g. Identified as a large mammal long bone fragment, the bone has been hand-collected and is in moderate condition with signs of surface erosion present. No evidence of burning, butchery, gnawing or pathology has been noted.

5.10.2 A further 4g of cremated non-human bones were recovered from sample <1>, context [28/005], alongside a substantial amount of cremated human bone (see 5.8). The non-human bone is small and highly fragmented though it is likely that at least some of the assemblage derives from long-bone and rib fragments

### 5.11 The Shell by Trista Clifford

5.11.1 A single edible oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) lower valve weighing 77g was recovered from context [8/005]. The valve is from a mature specimen with some evidence of parasitic activity.

## 6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Mariangela Vitolo

### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Three bulk soil samples were taken from the fills of pits and a possible cremation to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and Mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. The following report summarises the contents of the samples and discusses the information provided by the charred plant remains and charcoal on diet, agrarian economy, vegetation environment and fuel selection and use.

### 6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 The samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively before being air dried. The residues were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Table 17). 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 flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Table 18). Preliminary identifications of macrobotanical remains were made with reference to modern comparative material and published reference atlases (Cappers *et al.* 2006, NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.2.3 Charcoal fragments recovered 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). Genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit more detailed identification. Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997), and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Table 17.

### 6.3 Results

6.3.1 Samples <1> [28/005], <2> [32/005] and <3> [16/005]

All of the samples contained some degree of uncharred vegetative matter, such as rootlets and seeds of goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.). This material indicates low level disturbance across the site and is likely to have infiltrated the deposits through root action. One vetch (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.) was found in possible cremation fill [28/005]. It is unclear whether it represented a wild or a cultivated legume.

Charcoal was present in large amounts only in pit [16/004]. Ten fragments were randomly selected and underwent identification. Most of them were identified as field maple (*Acer campestre*) and the others as oak (*Quercus* sp.)

and the Maloideae subfamily, which includes taxa that cannot be distinguished on grounds of anatomic characteristics, such as apple, pear, hawthorn and rowan, among others. Some fragments were badly distorted and the oak fragments in particular showed post depositional sediment encrustations and signs of vitrification. The former happens when there are repeated cycles of wetting and drying which cause sediment laden water to penetrate the charcoal fragments. Vitrification occurs when the wood anatomy fuses, becoming glassy and it is a pre-depositional phenomenon, usually linked to the use of high temperatures, although other factors, such as prolonged burning or presence of resin in the wood, might contribute to it.

## **6.4 Discussion**

- 6.4.1 The bulk soil samples from Alfrey Close have not yielded any secure crop remains and as such they cannot contribute to discussions on diet and agrarian economy. The charcoal data suggests that a variety of vegetation environments were present near the site and tapped into for fuel procurement. These include deciduous woodland, scrub and hedgerows. Field maple grows on calcareous or clay soils (Stace 1997) and because it is tolerant of shade, it can be found in woods (Taylor 1981). Its wood is not typically used for fuel, but it has been widely used for textile and the sap bled can be used in ale making (Taylor 1981). Oak on the other hand makes an excellent fuel wood and it can also be used for timber and joinery (Taylor 1981). The charcoal assemblage is however rather small and more sampling would be needed.
- 6.4.2 These samples show that there is potential for nearby deposits to also preserve plant macrofossils and charcoal and any future work at the site should continue to include sampling, targeting primary deposits.



Table 17: 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	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Burnt bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	28/005	cremation	15	15	**	<1	**	<1		*	<1	***	159	***	163	****	80	coal **/ <1g - mag. mat. **/ 1g - FCF ***/ 157g - flint */ <1g - pottery ***/ 967g
2	32/005	Pit	10	10	*	<1	**	<1										FCF ****/ 1687g - mag. mat. ***/ 4g - burnt clay */ <1g - coal */ <1g
3	16/005	Pit	30	30	***	21	****	40	<i>Acer campestre</i> 6, Maloideae 2 (distorted), <i>Quercus</i> sp.2 (vitrified)									FCF ****/ 5065g - flint */ 22g - mag. mat. ***/ 5g

Table 18 Flot quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation
1	28/005	3	30	30	70	10				**	*	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp.	+++
2	32/005	<1	<10	<10	40	10				**			
3	16/005	11	50	50	30	10	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	**	***	****			

## **7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence**

- 7.1.1 The trenches were all located in a moderately flat, ploughed field. The surface ground level was highest in the north of site (Trench 4 AOD 10.06) and lowest the south of site (Trench 29 AOD 6.9m).
- 7.1.2 All trenches revealed the same stratigraphic sequence of natural gravels/ clays overlain by subsoil and topsoil/ploughsoil. The depth of overburden over archaeological deposits varied between 0.44m and 0.77m across the site. The natural geology comprised the London Clay Formation overlain with River Terrace Deposits. This was encountered at a maximum elevation of 9.87 AOD in Trench 4 and at a minimum elevation of 6.38 AOD in Trench 22.
- 7.1.3 A small number of prehistoric features were recorded in the central and southern area of the site (in Trenches 16, 18, 22 and 28). A concentration of Roman archaeological remains were present in the northwest of site (in Trenches 6, 8, and 9). The archaeological remains identified, both prehistoric and Roman, were, broadly, distributed towards the edges of the fields rather than the centre

### **7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts**

- 7.2.1 The same stratigraphic sequence was present throughout the evaluation trenches and there was no definitive evidence of severe truncation of the natural horizon. There is the possibility that the centres of the two fields have been ploughed deeper, which may, potentially, account for the trending distribution of archaeological features towards the edges. This is not certain, however.

### **7.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period**

- 7.3.1 The evaluation has revealed archaeological remains from the earlier prehistoric, Bronze Age, Roman and post-medieval periods.

#### **7.3.2 Earlier Prehistoric**

Small amounts of residual worked flint were recovered from later features in Trenches 6 and 16. A single flint scraper was also found in the topsoil of Trench 31.

Within Trench 16, two bladelets, of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date were recovered from pit [16/014] along with a blade from pit [16/005]. Given that they were accompanied by a large amount of fire-cracked flint, it is possible that these features are early in date.

#### **7.3.3 Bronze Age**

An urned cremation burial dating to the Middle Bronze Age was present in Trench 28 ([28/004]). The cremation contained a large amount of cremated

bone, potentially two individuals (one infant, and a juvenile/young adult) along with some cremated animal bone.

Pits [5/007], [18/007], [22/007] and ditch [22/005] all contained fairly undiagnostic pottery, most likely dating to the Middle/Late Bronze Age. These features possibly indicate a small amount of broadly contemporary non-funerary activity in the nearby area.

#### 7.3.4 Roman

A relatively significant concentration of Roman remains was identified in Trenches 6, 8 and 10 in the northwest corner of the site. These remains include a double-ditched enclosure which extends northwards beyond the edge of the evaluation area. The location of this enclosure is conjectured on Figure 15 Ditch [6/008] in Trench 6 is also probably associated with this activity and may form the enclosure's eastern boundary although it does not appear to be on exactly the same orientation as the main enclosure ditches. A large amount of mid-Roman pottery (dating to c.AD120-250) was recovered from the ditches in this area, particularly from fills [6/007] and [9/011].

Although few discrete features were identified in (a single pit in Trench 6 is of definitive Roman date), the very large amount of pottery recovered from the ditches does suggest a focus of occupation in the immediate vicinity, presumably within the postulated enclosure. There was no direct structural evidence, although a small amount of tegula recovered may indicate a building in the wider vicinity.

This focus of activity does not extend southwards – no features were found in Trench 10, for example – or eastwards, only a single prehistoric feature was found in Trench 5.

#### 7.3.5 Post medieval

Two post medieval features were identified on site, both in the southern field. The first was a small ditch in Trench 31 which contained broken glass and modern ceramics. The other was located in Trench 19 and was a very large pit which contained a small amount of porcelain and glass.

### 7.4 Consideration of research aims

7.4.1 The project aimed to inform on the following areas of research in line with the South-Eastern Research Framework (SERF):

- *Determine the presence or absence of prehistoric activity on the site. If present the work should seek to clarify the form, character and extent where possible.*

The evaluation identified limited remains of Mesolithic /Neolithic date (mostly residual flintwork) a Middle Bronze Age urned cremation and a small scatter of other probable Middle/Late Bronze Age features

- *The transition to the late Iron Age.*

No evidence relevant to this research area was recorded.

- *Roman landscape and environment*

The evaluation has identified part of a ditched enclosure extending northwards beyond the site edge. The amount of pottery recovered suggests a focus of occupation in the immediate vicinity, to the north of the evaluated area.

## **7.5 Conclusions**

- 7.5.1 The archaeological remains identified during the evaluation appear to be broadly located towards the edge of the fields. Although there is no definitive evidence, this may show a trend for deeper ploughing towards the centre truncating the surface of the natural geology. The depth of overburden sealing the archaeological features ranges from between 0.44m and 0.77m.
- 7.5.2 A small amount of sparsely distributed prehistoric remains were identified, although there is no clear concentration, with isolated features appearing in Trenches 5, 16, 18 and 22. In addition to this, an urned cremation of Middle Bronze Age date was found in Trench 28.
- 7.5.3 The most significant archaeological activity clustered around Trenches 6, 8 and 9. This comprises the southern edge of a probable double-ditched enclosure of 2<sup>nd</sup>-early 3<sup>rd</sup> century date, which extends northwards beyond the site boundary. Over 10kg of Roman pottery was recovered from these ditches indicating occupation activity in the immediate vicinity, presumably within the potential enclosure.

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HER Summary Form

Site Code	ACL16					
Identification Name and Address	Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	601337 141054					
Geology	London Clay Formation overlain with River Terrace Deposits					
Arch. South-East Project Number	160275					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.					
Type of Site	Green Field					
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.					
Sponsor/Client	Orion					
Project Manager	Paul Mason					
Project Supervisor	Jake Wilson					
Period Summary				BA		RB
<p>Summary</p> <p><i>A small amount of sparsely distributed Prehistoric remains were identified, although with no apparent focus. An urned cremation burial of Middle Bronze Age date was found in Trench 28.</i></p> <p><i>The most significant archaeological activity clustered around Trenches 6, 8 and 9. This comprises the southern edge of a probable Roman ditched enclosure of 2nd-early 3rd century date, which extends northwards beyond the site boundary. A significant amount (694 sherds) of pottery was recovered from these ditches indicating occupation activity in the immediate vicinity, presumably within this potential enclosure.</i></p>						



## OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-263792**

### Project details

Project name Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne

Short description of the project A small amount of sparsely distributed Prehistoric remains were identified, although with no apparent focus. An urned cremation burial of Middle Bronze Age date was found in Trench 28.

The most significant archaeological activity clustered around Trenches 6, 8 and 9. This comprises the southern edge of a probable Roman ditched enclosure of 2nd-early 3rd century date, which extends northwards beyond the site boundary. A significant amount (694 sherds) of pottery was recovered from these ditches indicating occupation activity in the immediate vicinity, presumably within this potential enclosure.

Project dates Start: 17-08-2016 End: 01-09-2016

Previous/future work No / Not known

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m

Significant Finds 0 None

Significant Finds 0 None

Methods & techniques "Sample Trenches"

Development type Rural commercial

Prompt Planning condition

**Project location**

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX CHICHESTER SOUTHBOURNE Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 7636 589 50.84696 -0.91516972 50 50 49 N 000 54 54 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0m Max: 0m

---

**Project creators**

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	Other
Project design originator	ASE
Project director/manager	Paul Mason
Project supervisor	Jake Wilson
Type of sponsor/funding body	client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Orion Heritage

---

**Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient    Local Museum

Physical Contents            "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Human Bones", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient    local museum

Digital Media available      "Database", "GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"

Paper Archive recipient      local museum

Paper Media available        "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Map", "Photograph", "Report", "Section", "Survey"

---

Entered by                      Jake Wilson (Tcrnjrw@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on                      26 September 2016

### Appendix 1

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	FCF	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Shell	Weight (g)
5/007			4	26														
6/005			18	220									1	11				
6/007	3	14	334	5295					1	11			2	39				
6/009			14	376														
6/010			37	839									2	19	3	138		
6/011	1	3	58	1125	2	22							5	100				
6/012			2	19									8	241	1	4		
6/014			13	170														
8/005																	1	77
8/007			3	17	3	41	1	87			1	1	7	65				
9/011	2	59	202	2209	6	718	2	408										
9/013			12	231														
16/005													20	285				
16/006													9	194				
16/009													10	152				
16/011													5	55				
16/012													12	349				
16/014	3	7	1	1									116	1689	1	2		
16/015													31	519				
16/017													5	55				
16/018	1	15											6	180				
18/007			4	4									2	37				
22/005			2	4									3	37				
28/005	2	66	52	136														
22/007			1	198														
31/001	1	36																
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>10870</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>4027</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>77</b>

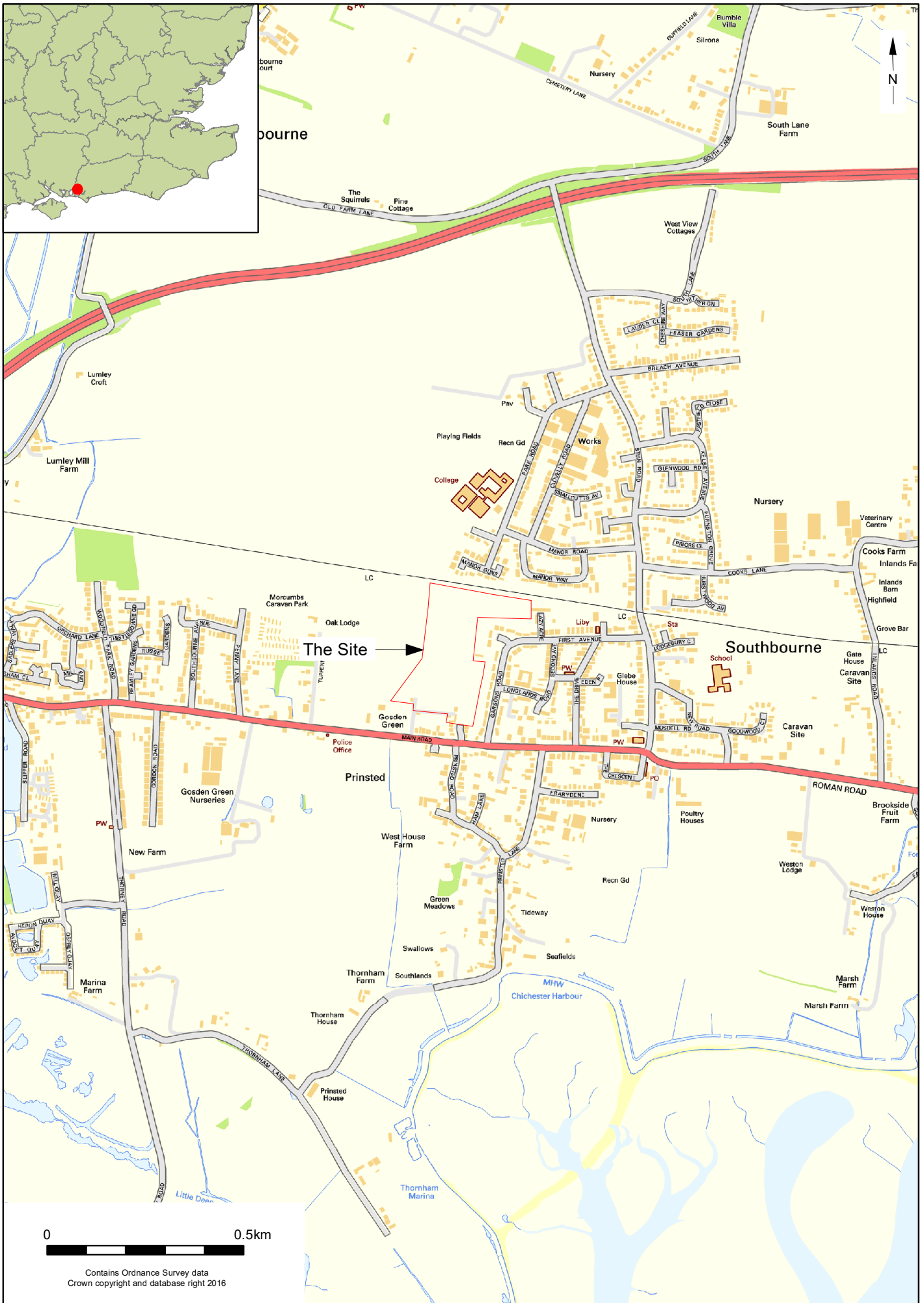
Appendix 1: Finds quantification

## Appendix 2

<b>Trench Number</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Deposit Thickness m</b>
T1	1/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.35
T1	1/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.38
T1	1/003	Layer	Natural	0.06
T2	2/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.35
T2	2/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.42
T2	2/003	Layer	Natural	0.02
T3	3/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.45
T3	3/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.42
T3	3/003	Layer	Natural	0.09
T4	4/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.31
T4	4/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.4
T4	4/003	Layer	Natural	0.05
T7	7/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.28-0.38
T7	7/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.21-0.34
T7	7/003	Layer	Natural	0.04
T10	10/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.30-0.38
T10	10/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.27-0.34
T10	10/003	Layer	Natural	0.04-0.06
T11	11/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.34-0.37
T11	11/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.12-0.30
T11	11/003	Layer	Natural	0.03
T12	12/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.31
T12	12/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.20-0.32
T12	12/003	Layer	Natural	0.01
T13	13/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29-0.35
T13	13/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.15-0.19
T13	13/003	Layer	Natural	0.01
T14	14/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.29-0.38
T14	14/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.25-0.30
T14	14/003	Layer	Natural	0.04
T15	15/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.34
T15	15/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.19-0.32
T15	15/003	Layer	Natural	0.04
T17	17/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.58
T17	17/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.19-0.29
T17	17/003	Layer	Natural	0.03
T21	21/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.32-0.34
T21	21/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.25-0.32
T21	21/003	Layer	Natural	0.02
T23	23/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.32-0.38
T23	23/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.26-0.31
T23	23/003	Layer	Natural	0.02
T24	24/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.34-0.45
T24	24/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.20-0.31
T24	24/003	Layer	Natural	0.04
T25	25/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.30
T25	25/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.18-0.25
T25	25/003	Layer	Natural	0.04
T26	26/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.33-0.36

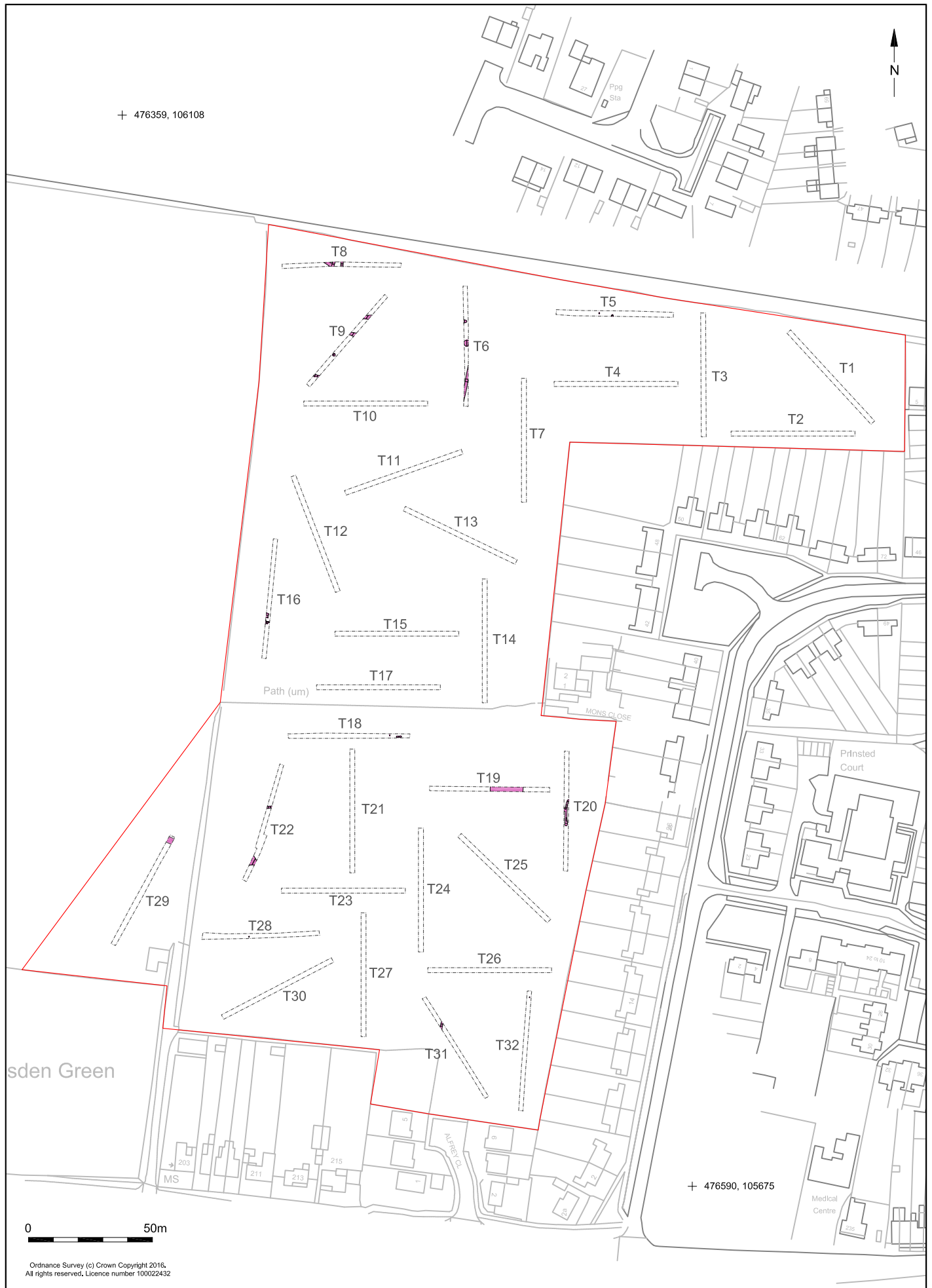
<b>Trench Number</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Deposit Thickness m</b>
T26	26/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.20-0.40
T26	26/003	Layer	Natural	0.03
T27	27/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.21-0.32
T27	27/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.24-0.37
T27	27/003	Layer	Natural	0.06
T23	23/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.32-0.38
T23	23/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.26-0.31
T23	23/003	Layer	Natural	0.02
T24	24/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.34-0.45
T24	24/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.20-0.31
T24	24/003	Layer	Natural	0.04
T25	25/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26-0.30
T25	25/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.18-0.25
T25	25/003	Layer	Natural	0.04
T26	26/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.33-0.36
T26	26/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.20-0.40
T26	26/003	Layer	Natural	0.03
T27	27/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.21-0.32
T27	27/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.24-0.37
T27	27/003	Layer	Natural	0.06
T29	29/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.22-0.32
T29	29/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.11-0.22
T29	29/003	Layer	Natural	0.02
T30	30/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.30
T30	30/002	Layer	Subsoil	23.00-0.32
T30	30/003	Layer	Natural	0.01

Appendix 2: Archaeologically negative trenches: list of recorded contexts



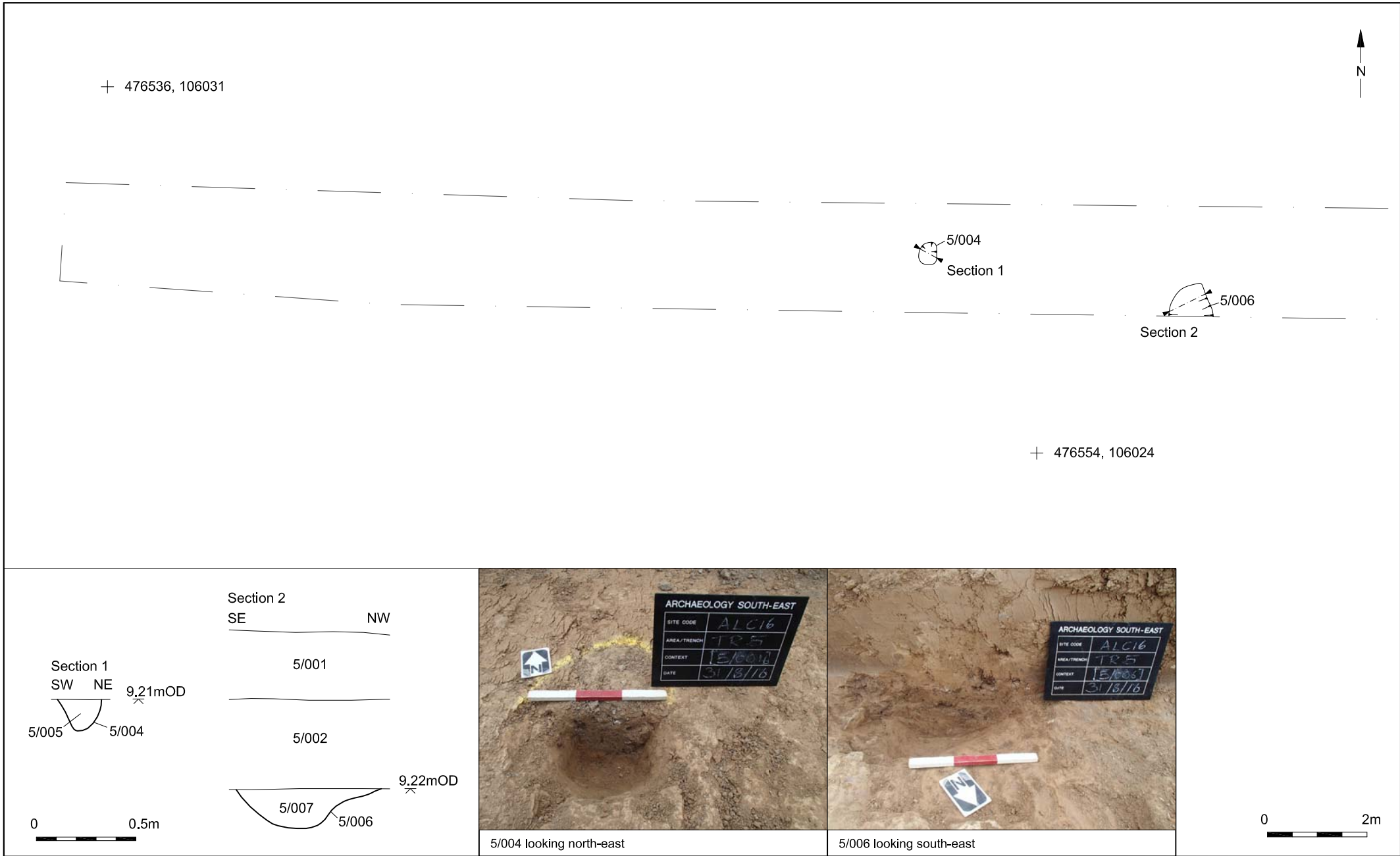
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© Archaeology South-East		Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160275	September 2016	Site location		
Report Ref: 2016348	Drawn by: LG			



© Archaeology South-East		Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 160275	September 2016	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2016348	Drawn by: LG		





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Project Ref: 160275	September 2016	Trench 5 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016348	Drawn by: LG		

+ 476484, 106023



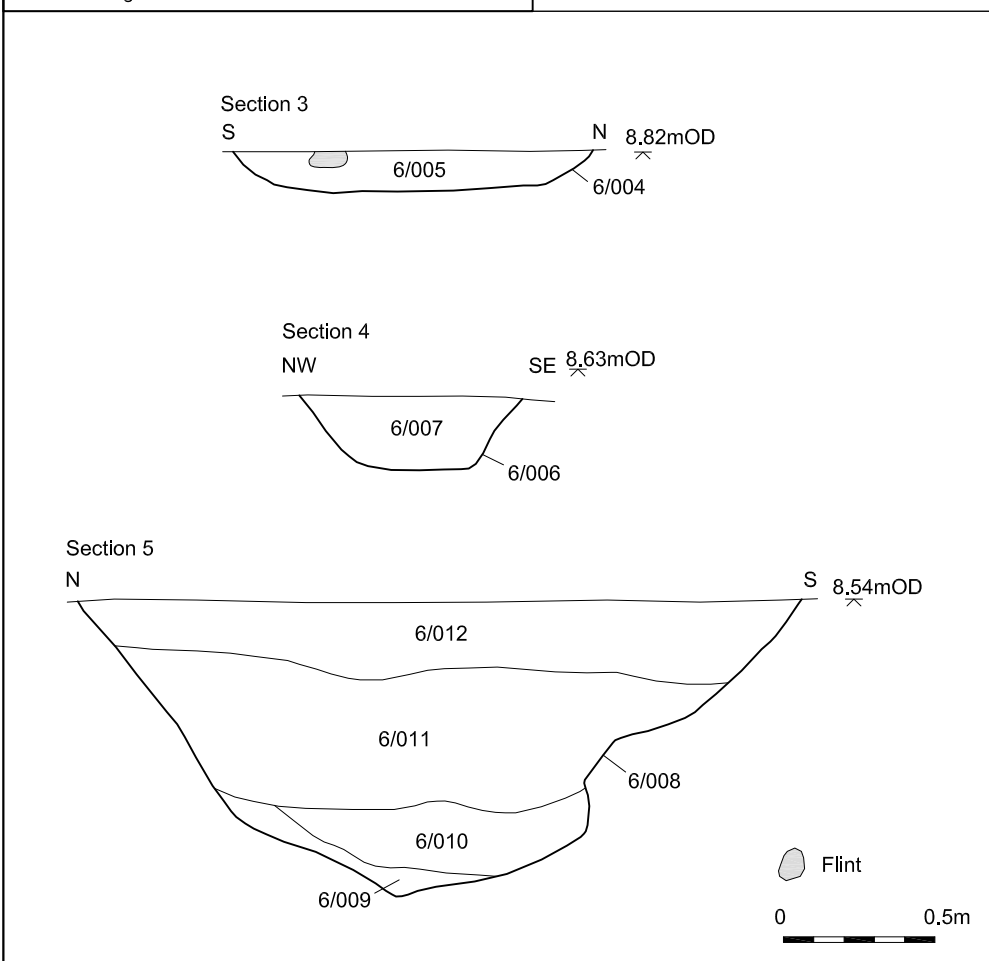
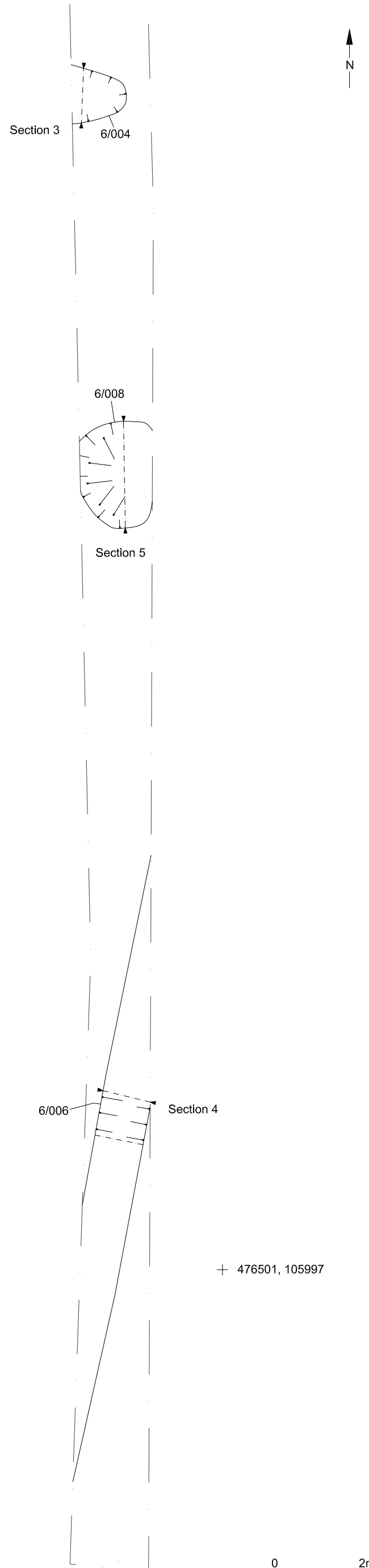
6/004 looking west



6/006 looking north-east

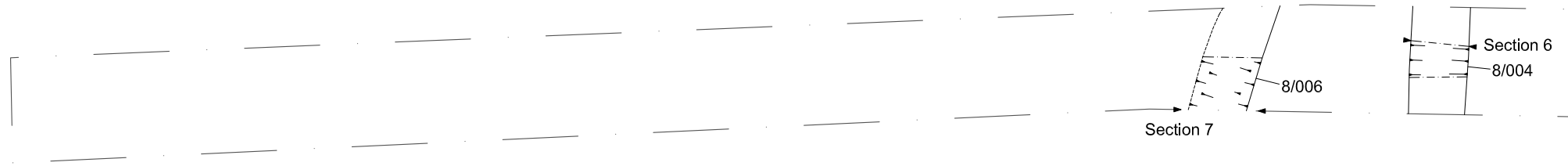


6/008 looking east



© Archaeology South-East		Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne	Fig.4
Project Ref: 160275	September 2016	Trench 6 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016348	Drawn by: LG		

+ 476425, 106051



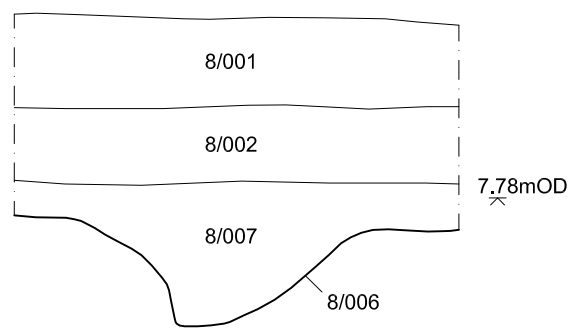
+ 476441, 106044



Section 6  
W E 7.80mOD



Section 7  
E W 7.78mOD



8/004 looking north



8/006 looking south

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Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne

Project Ref: 160275

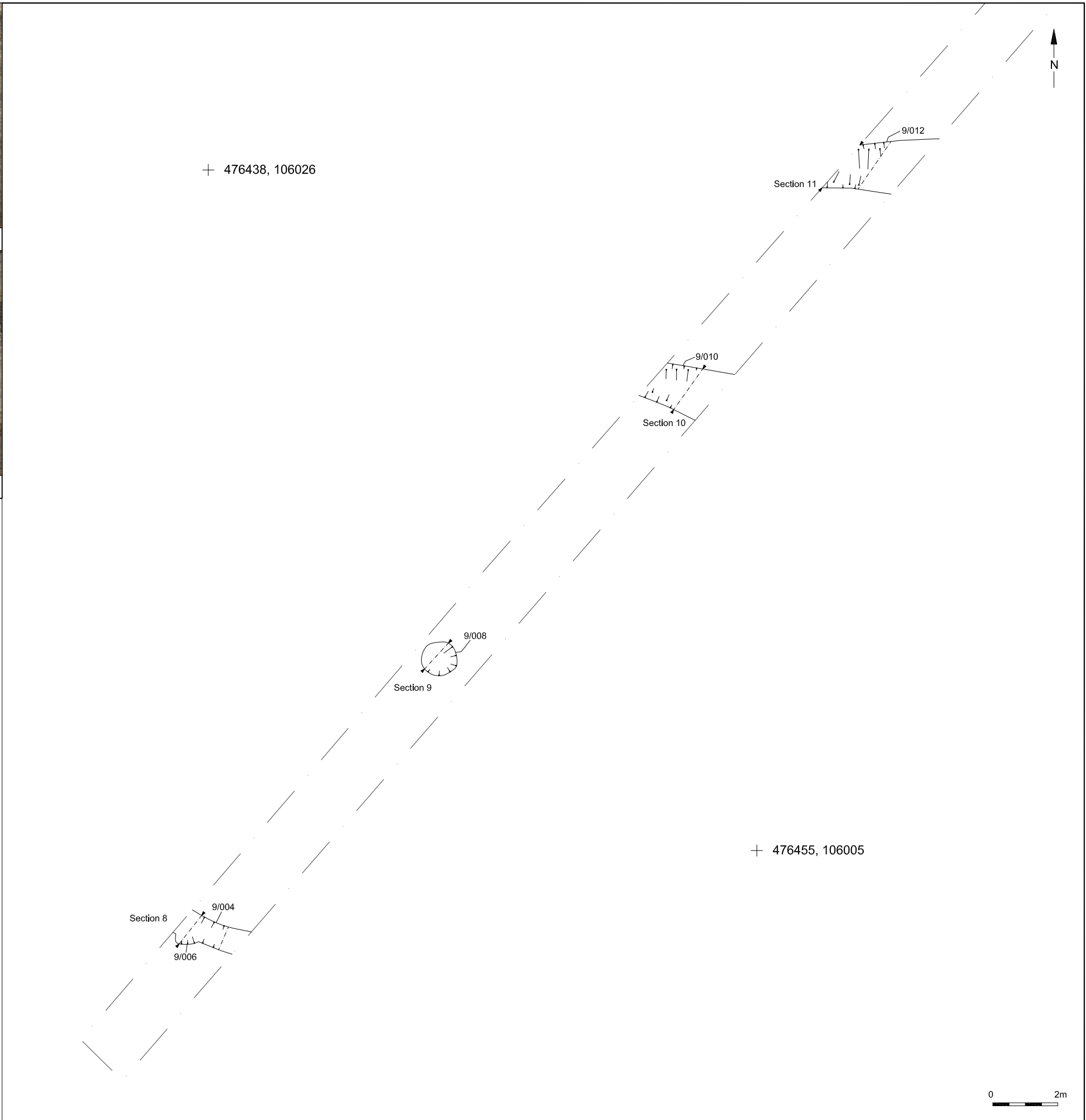
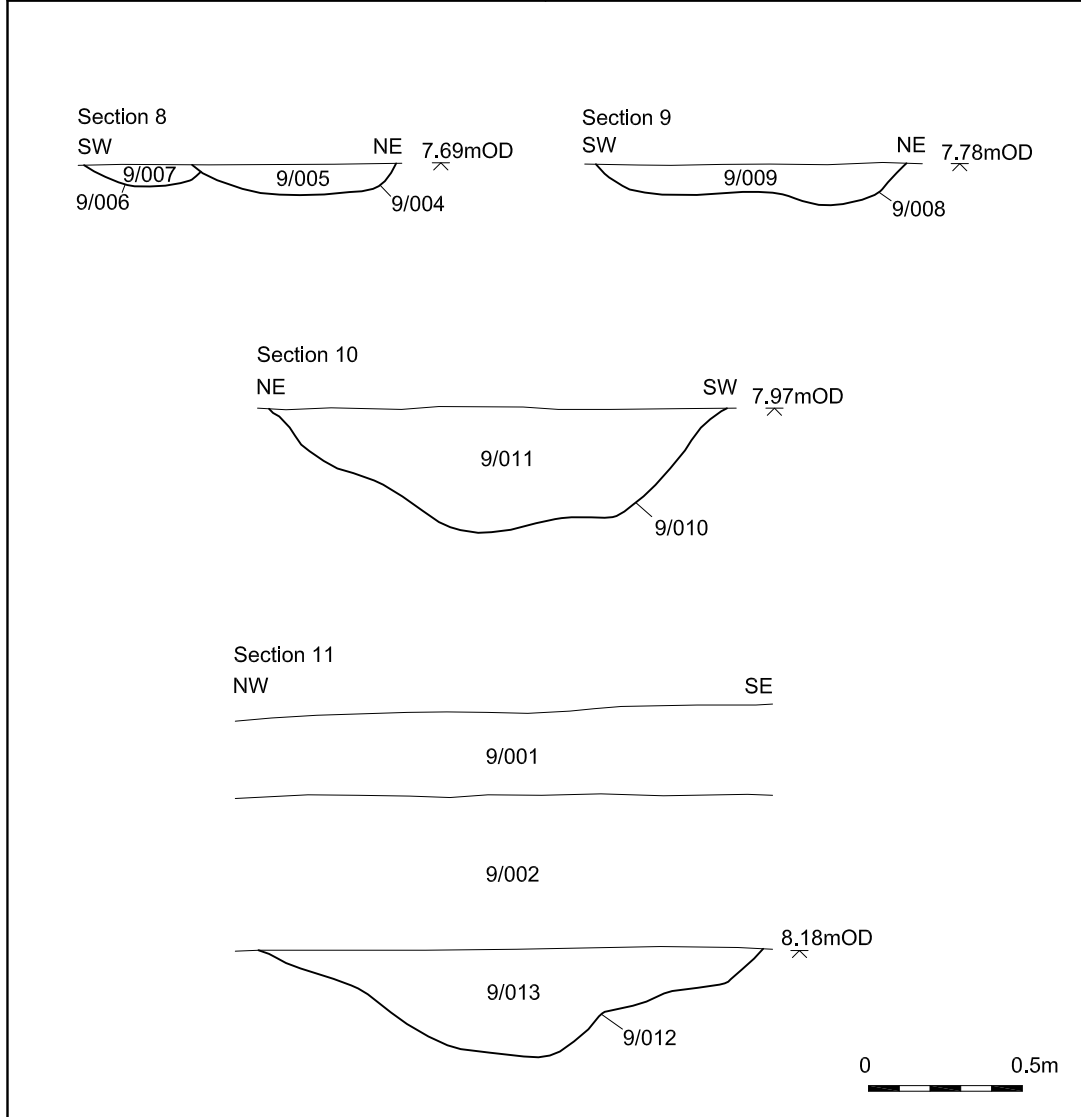
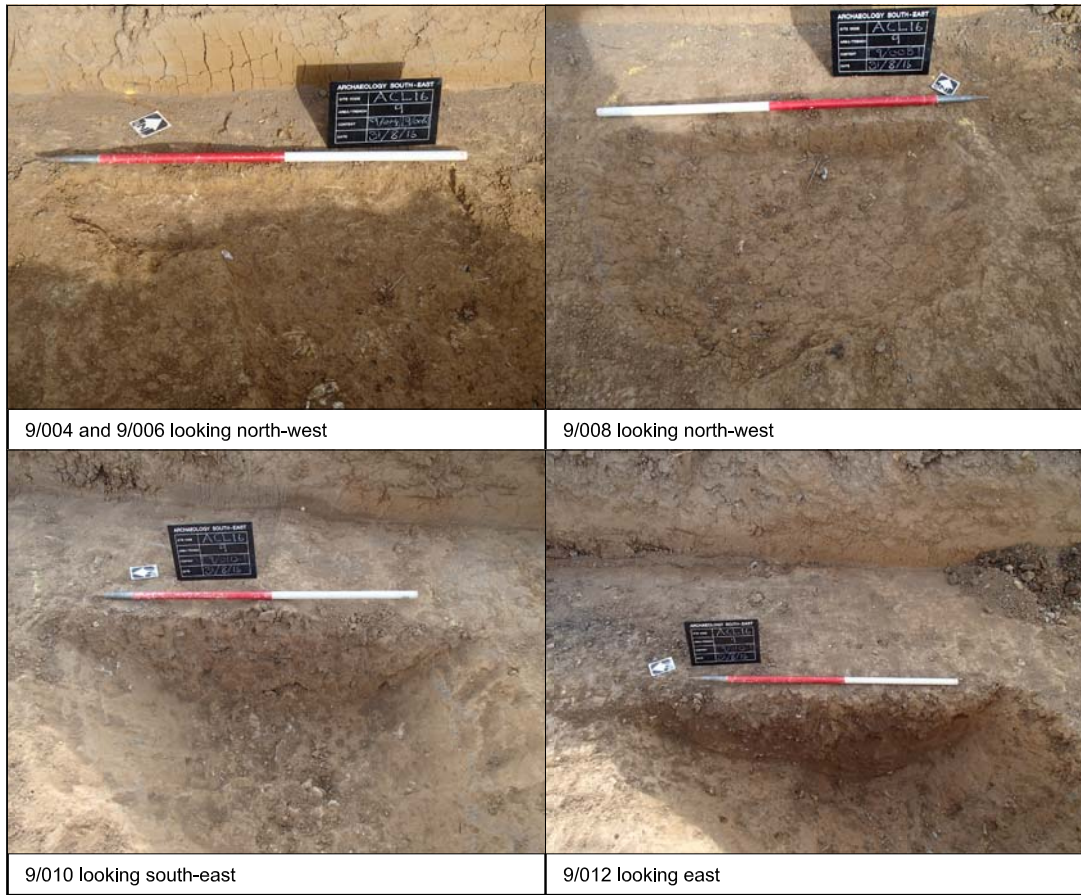
September 2016

Trench 8 plan, sections and photographs

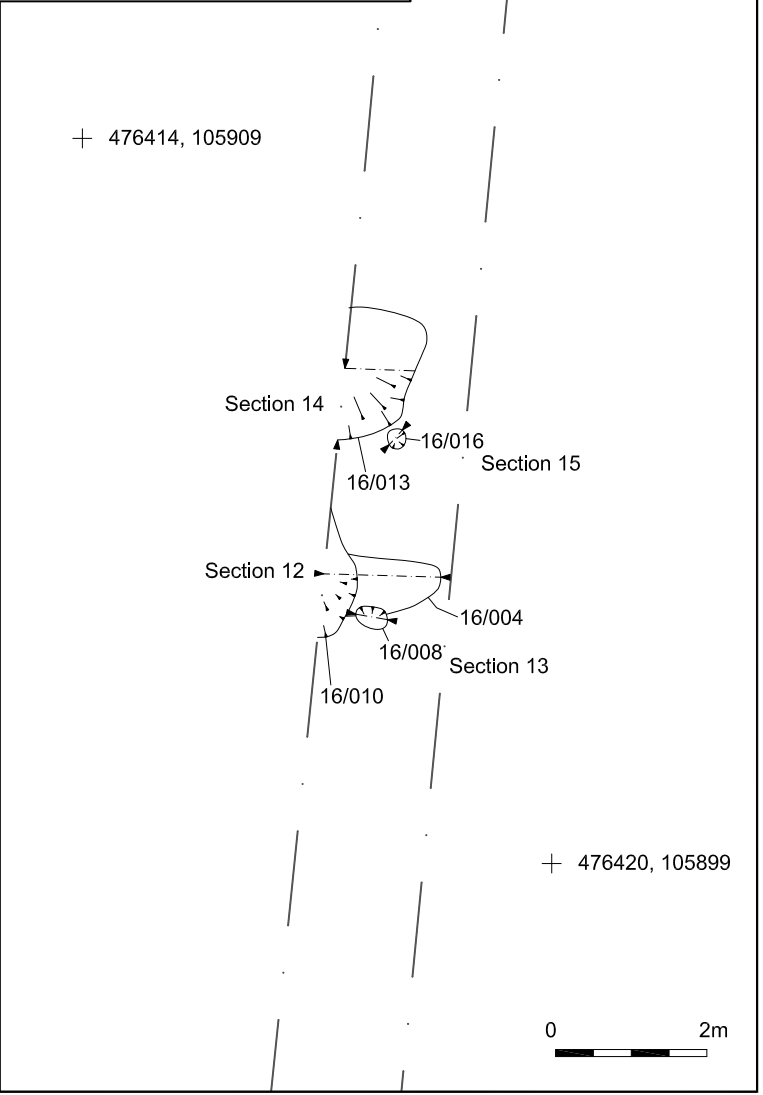
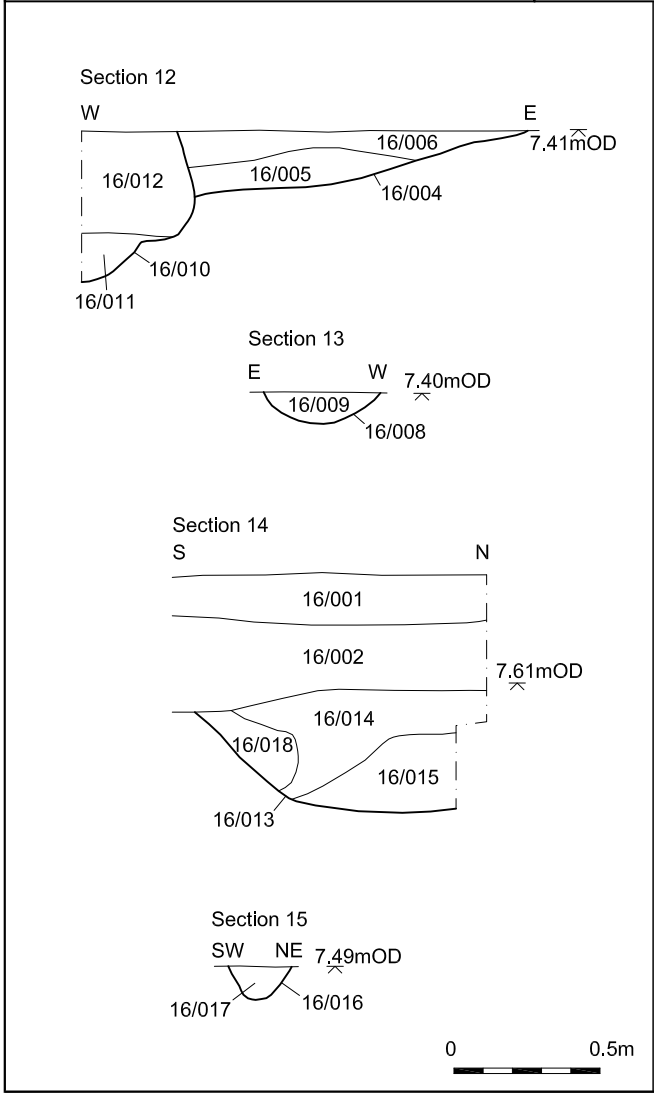
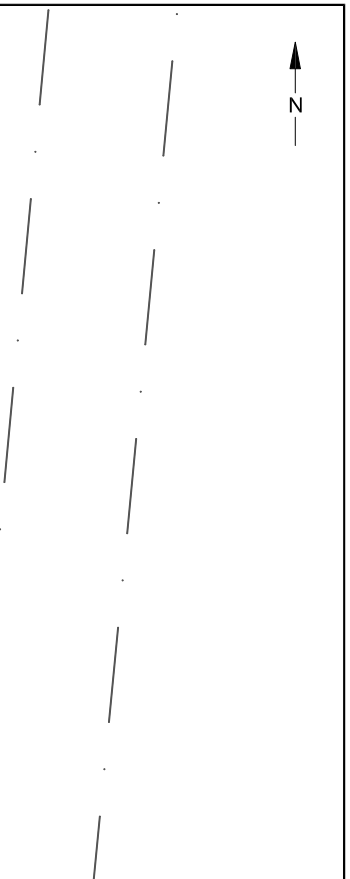
Report Ref: 2016348

Drawn by: LG

Fig.5

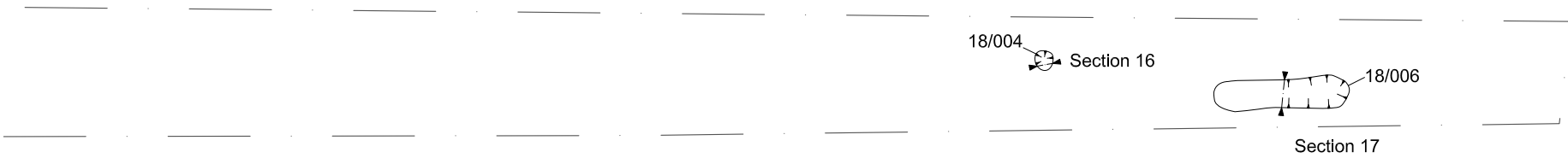


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Project Ref: 160275	September 2016	Trench 9 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016348	Drawn by: LG		

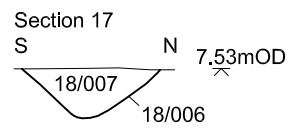
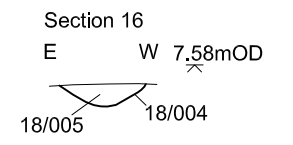




+ 476453, 105861



+ 476474, 105852



18/004 looking south



18/006 looking west



© Archaeology South-East		Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne	Fig.8
Project Ref: 160275	September 2016	Trench 18 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016348	Drawn by: LG		

+ 476507, 105838



19/004

Section 18



East end of 19/004 looking south

West end of 19/004 looking south

+ 476525, 105831



Section 18

E

W

19/001

19/005

19/004

7.38mOD



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Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne

Project Ref: 160275

September 2016

Trench 19 plan, section and photograph

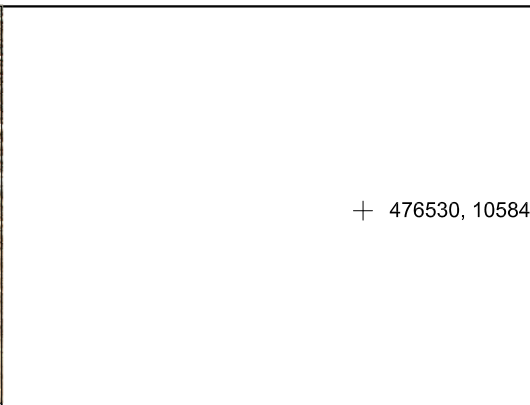
Report Ref: 2016348

Drawn by: LG

Fig.9



20/004 looking north



20/006 looking west



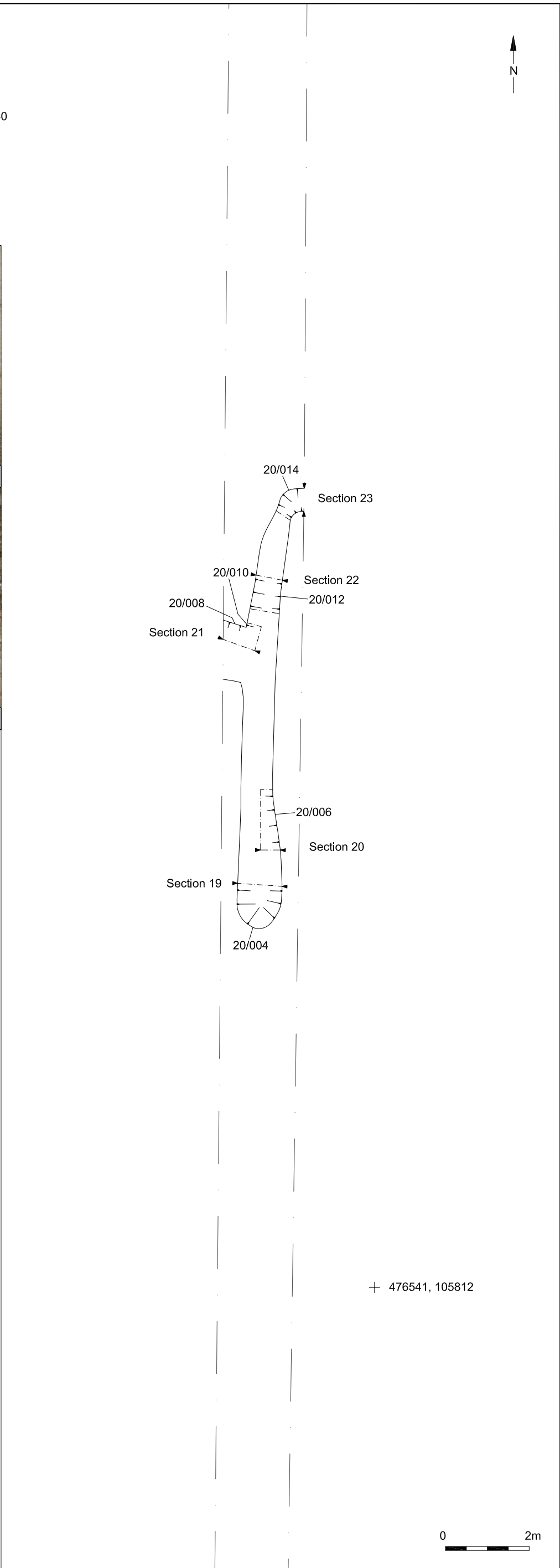
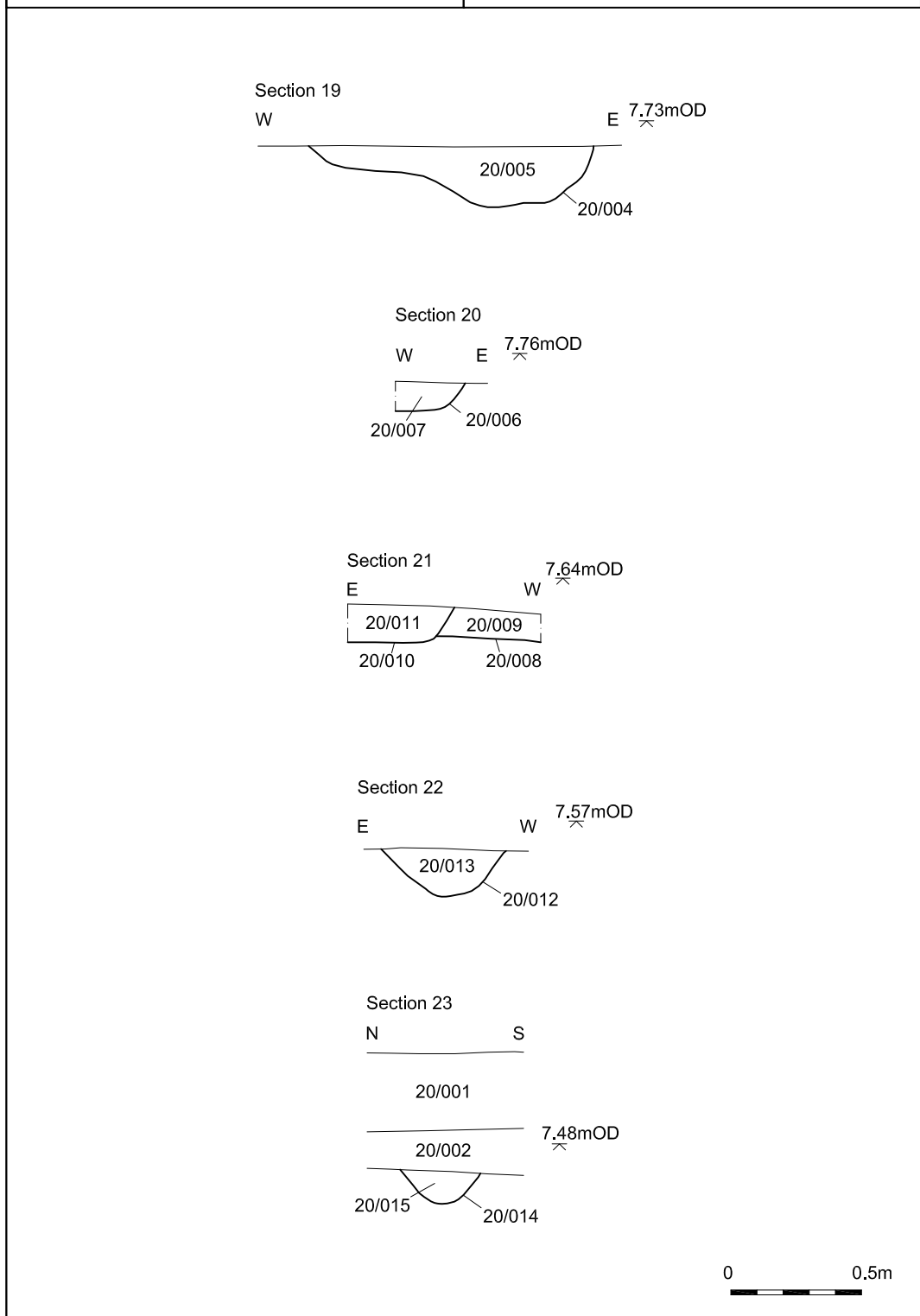
20/008 and 20/010 looking east



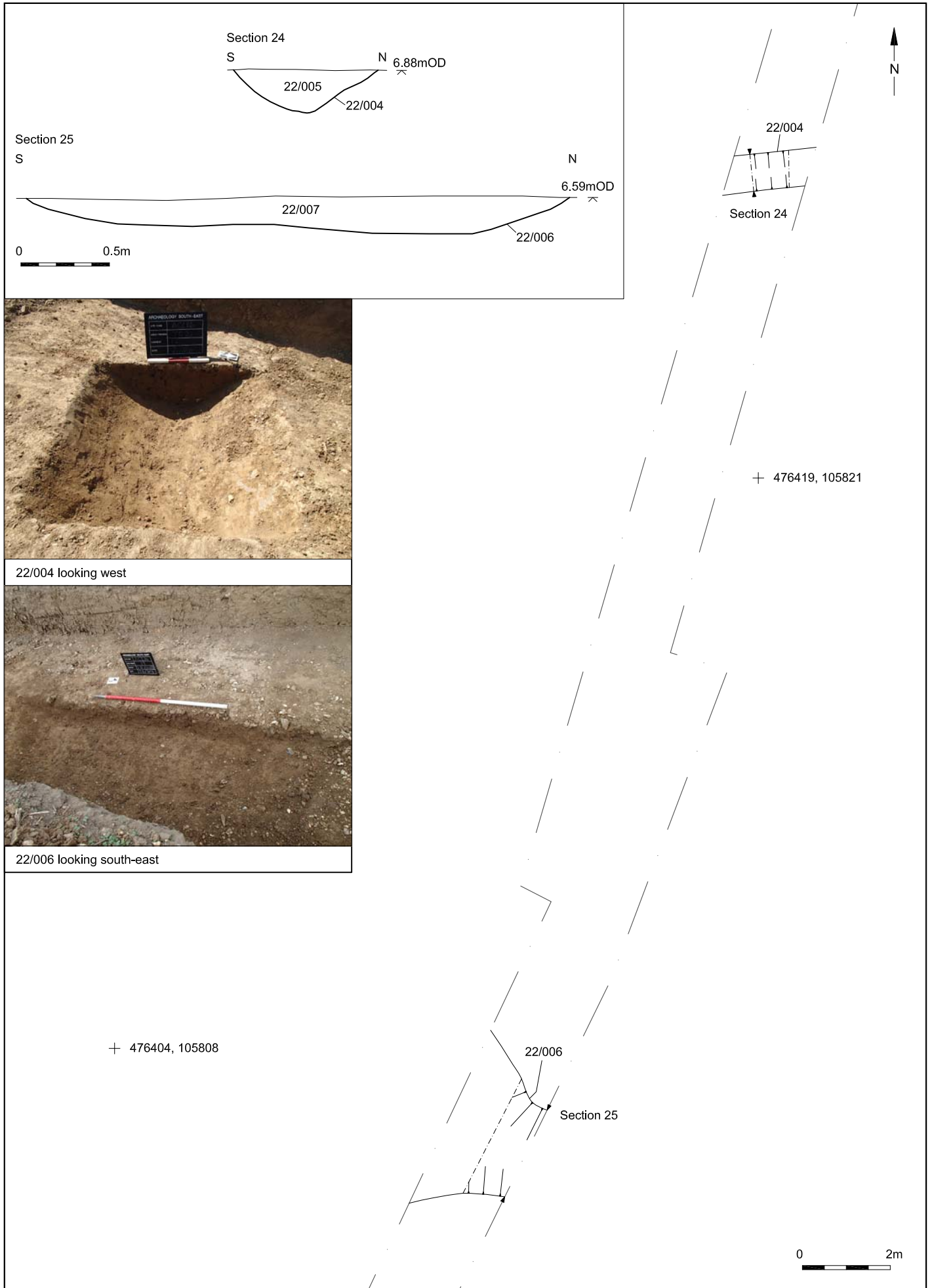
20/012 looking south



20/014 looking east

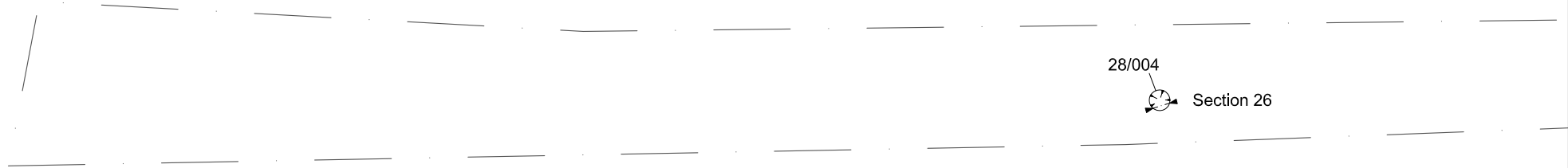






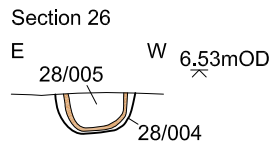
© Archaeology South-East		Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne	Fig. 11
Project Ref: 160275	September 2016	Trench 22 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016348	Drawn by: LG		

+ 476392, 105780



28/004  
Section 26

+ 476409, 105770



Pottery

0 0.5m



28/004 looking south

0 2m

© Archaeology South-East

Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne

Project Ref: 160275

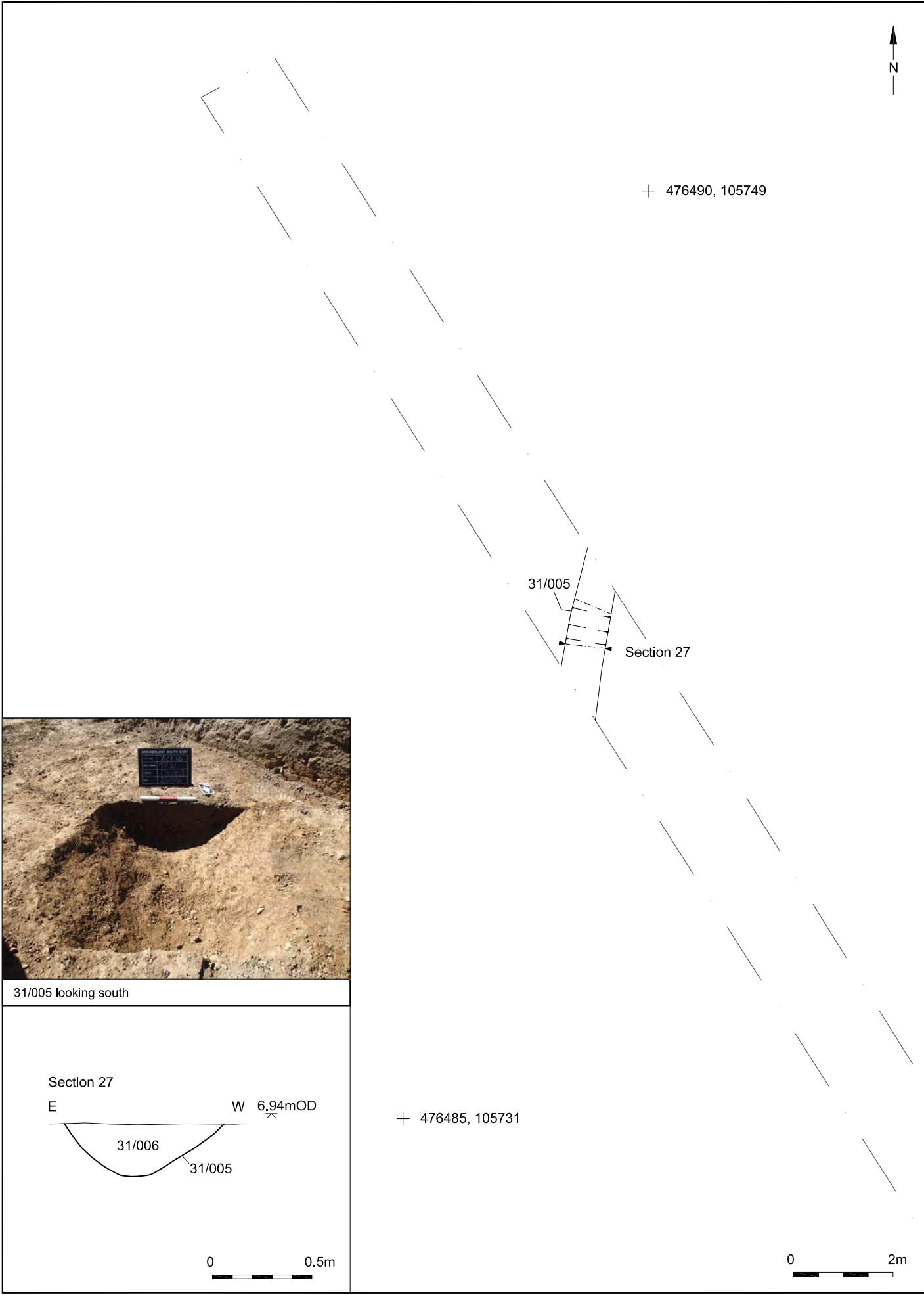
September 2016

Report Ref: 2016348

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Trench 28 plan, section and photograph

Fig.12



© Archaeology South-East		Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne	Fig. 13
Project Ref: 160275	September 2016	Trench 31 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016348	Drawn by: LG		



+ 476513, 105753

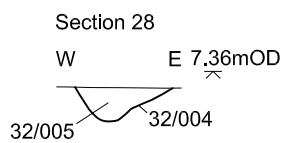
32/004



+ 476525, 105737



32/004 looking south



0                      0.5m

0                      2m

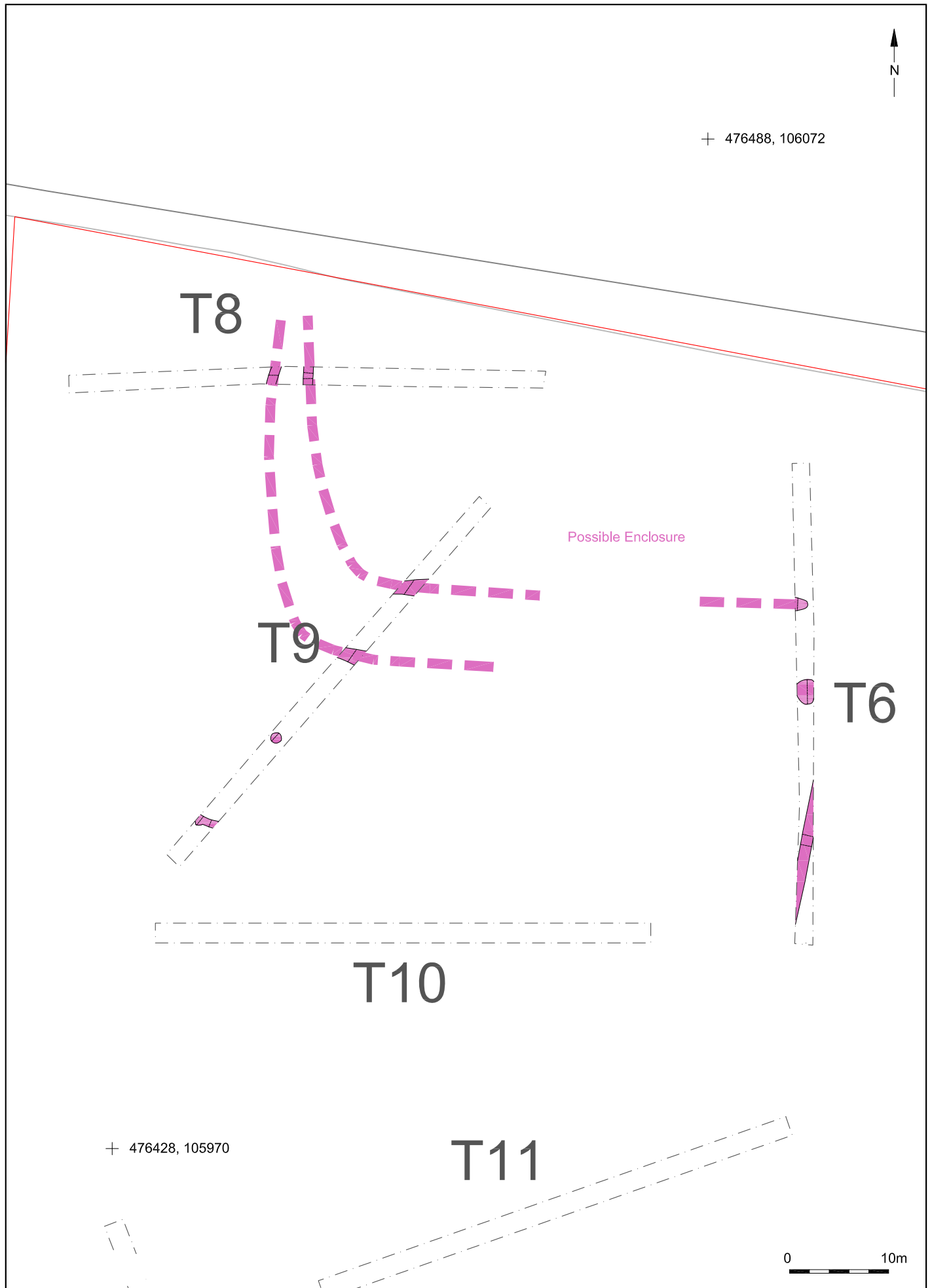
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Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne

Project Ref: 160275      September 2016  
Report Ref: 2016348      Drawn by: LG

Trench 32 plan, section and photograph

Fig. 14



© Archaeology South-East		Land at Alfrey Close, Southbourne	Fig. 15
Project Ref: 160275	September 2016	Detailed plan of Trenches 6, 8 and 10 with conjectured ditch alignments	
Report Ref: 2016348	Drawn by: LG		

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