

Archaeological Evaluation

**Corringham Hall Farm
Corringham, Essex, SS17 9AT**

**ASE Project No: 170350
Site Code: CGM17**

ASE Report No: 2017361



September 2017

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NGR: TQ 71066 83249

Planning Application No: 16/01635/FUL

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**ASE Report No: 2017361
OASIS id: 295906**

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Go Planning Ltd to carry out an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at Corringham Hall Farm, Corringham, Essex. This work was undertaken in advance of the site's residential redevelopment.

Seven evaluation trenches were excavated within the accessible areas of the 0.63ha site. Archaeological features were identified in four trenches. These remains comprised a low density and low complexity of linear ditches and pits.

The dated archaeological features are all of definite or probable post-medieval and modern date. It is likely that the undated remains are also similarly of post-medieval to modern date. All are presumed to be associated with the historic farmstead that occupied this site.

The impact of redevelopment upon further below-ground archaeological remains present within this site, and of importance to the study of the origins and development of both this site and the wider settlement of Corringham, is judged to be minor to negligible.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 Finds and Environmental Remains**
- 6.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

Bibliography

Acknowledgements

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: HER Summary

Appendix 2: OASIS Form

FIGURES

Front Cover Image: Barn at Corringham Hall Farm

- Figure 1: Site location, with HER references
- Figure 2: Trench locations
- Figure 3: Trench 1 plan, section and photographs
- Figure 4: Trench 3 plan, sections and photographs
- Figure 5: Trench 4 plan, sections and photographs
- Figure 6: Trench 5 plan and photograph

TABLES

- Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive
- Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental archive
- Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts
- Table 4: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts
- Table 5: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts
- Table 6: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts
- Table 7: List of recorded contexts in archaeologically negative trenches
- Table 8: Finds Quantification
- Table 9: CBM Fabric Descriptions

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Go Planning Ltd to carry out an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at Corringham Hall Farm in Corringham, Essex. The evaluation was undertaken in order to assess the potential for, and nature of, archaeological remains in advance of the demolition of residential dwellings and associated buildings to construct a replacement dwelling and the conversion of two barns and small farm buildings to four dwellings with associated parking and landscaping.

1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The town of Corringham is in Thurrock Unitary, in the south of Essex close to the Thames Estuary. The site is located on the south-eastern side of Corringham on flat ground, which drops off immediately to the south-west (TQ 71066 83249; Figure 1).

1.2.2 The site comprises an irregular parcel of land measuring 6355sq m. It is bound to the north by The Bull public house, to the west by Church Road and the Church of St Mary the Virgin and to the east and south by agricultural fields. It is within the Conservation Area of Corringham. At the time of the evaluation, the site was largely occupied by a number of farm buildings and associated hard standing.

1.2.3 The solid underlying solid geology in the area is categorised as London Clay formation overlain by superficial deposits of river terrace sands and gravels by the British Geological Survey (BGS 2017).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A planning application (Ref: 16/01635/FUL) was granted by Thurrock District Council for the demolition of residential dwellings and associated buildings to construct a replacement dwelling and the conversion of two barns and small farm buildings to four dwellings with associated parking and landscaping. As the site lies within an area of archaeological potential, the designated conservation area of Corringham, a full archaeological condition was recommended in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

1.3.2 An Archaeological Brief was issued by Place Services (2017) and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by ASE outlining the scope of work (ASE 2017a), methodology and research aims for a programme of archaeological evaluation consisting of seven trenches based upon this. The WSI was approved by ECC Place Services prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

1.3.3 This archaeological evaluation was preceded by a Historic Building Survey (ref: 16/01636/LBC), undertaken in May 2017 and reported upon separately (ASE 2017b).

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report describes and assesses the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out at Corringham Hall Farm, Corringham, Essex, over the period of 7th to the 10th August 2017. The fieldwork was supervised by Rob Cullum (Archaeologist) and was managed by Sarah Ritchie.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following is a summary of the most pertinent information contained in the WSI and drawn from the Archaeological Brief issued by Place Services (2017), the Planning, Design, Access and Heritage Statement (Bell 2016), the Historic Building Report (ASE 2017b) and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER).

2.2 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic

2.2.1 The fields immediately to the east of the site contain findspots of Mesolithic/Neolithic flint scrapers (EHER 7134, TQ 713 833) and works relating to the constructing of the Stanford le Hope Bypass revealed a Palaeolithic and a Mesolithic flint flake c.230m south west of the site (EHER 7246/7247, TQ 714 834).

2.3 Bronze Age

2.3.1 No evidence for activity in Bronze Age has been recorded in the immediate surroundings of Corringham Hall Farm.

2.4 Iron Age and Roman

2.3.1 Past construction works at Corringham Hall Farm have revealed Iron Age and Roman pottery, including a 1st century Roman vessel with cremated bone found during the construction a Dutch Barn, thought to be building 19.

2.5 Saxon/Early Medieval and Medieval

2.5.1 Corringham Hall Farm lies adjacent to Grade I listed St Mary's Church which has its origins in the 11th century (RCHME 1923, 25-7; EHER 7097/7098/7099, TQ 709 832). The site itself is thought to have originated as a manorial settlement in the late Anglo-Saxon period, forming the focus for a medieval and earlier settlement overlooking grazing marsh to the south. It is recorded in the Domesday Book as a modest estate of four hides (Williams and Martin 2002, 977).

2.6 Post-Medieval and Modern

2.6.1 The current Corringham Hall was constructed in the 18th century and the farm complex within which it sits is a mix of farm buildings dating from the post-medieval and modern periods, although they may contain earlier elements. Full details of these can be found in the Historic Buildings Record (ASE 2017b).

2.7 Project Aims and Objectives

2.7.1 The general aims of the archaeological evaluation, as outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), were:

- To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.
- To enable Essex County Council's Historic Environment Management Team to Make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work in order to satisfy the archaeological condition.

2.7.2 Specific research objectives were to establish the presence of:

- Evidence relating to the function and use of the farm buildings
- Evidence relating to the history of the farm complex and its association with the medieval Church/Hall complex
- Evidence of earlier occupation relating to the occupation of Corringham

2.7.3 With reference to the East Anglian research framework, further research objectives were identified:

- The origins and characteristics of the hall-and-church complexes that are so characteristic of the region need targeted research (Medlycott 2011, 70)
- What forms do farms take, what range of building types are present and how far can functions be attributed to them? Are there regional or landscape variations in settlement location, density or type? How far can the size and shape of fields be related to agricultural regimes? What is the relationship between rural and urban sites? (Medlycott 2011, 70)

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The methodology specified for the archaeological work carried out at Corringham Hall Farm can be found in full in the WSI (ASE 2017a). What follows is a brief summary of this methodology and a discussion of any changes made during the evaluation.
- 3.1.2 Seven trenches were opened in the locations shown on Figure 2. Trench 6 was shifted slightly in order to enable access to farm machinery, Trench 3 was shortened by 10m in order to avoid a paved driveway and Trench 5 was shortened following the discovery of an asbestos-filled pit during initial excavation.
- 3.1.3 Machining of the trenches was undertaken using a tracked excavator fitted with a flat-edged bucket under close archaeological supervision, with topsoil/made-ground and subsoil being removed stratigraphically until archaeological remains and/or underlying natural geology was encountered.
- 3.1.4 All archaeological features were hand-excavated with the exception of post-medieval pit [1/006], which was machine excavated to its maximum depth following initial investigation by hand.
- 3.1.5 A 50% sample of all discreet contexts and 1m-long segments of linear features were excavated.
- 3.1.6 All trench and feature locations were located and planned using GPS. Post-excavation photographs were taken of each trench and soil stratigraphy was recorded, regardless of the presence/absence of archaeological features. Hand-written trench record sheets were maintained throughout the site, supplemented by context sheets where appropriate. Photographic and drawn records were maintained of all features excavated.
- 3.1.7 All finds from all excavated deposits were retrieved and retained for specialist identification and study.
- 3.1.7 Bulk soil samples were collected from deposits deemed appropriate for environmental study and/or for the recovery of small artefacts.
- 3.1.8 A metal-detector was used throughout excavations prior to and during the excavation of trenches and were used on trench bases and spoil heaps. Feature fills were also scanned.

3.2 Archive

3.3.1 Finds from the fieldwork will be kept with the archival material and permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit the finds and paper archive with Thurrock Museum.

3.3.2 The contents of the site archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Item	Quantity
Context sheets	22
Section sheets	2
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	40
Context register	0
Drawing register	1
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	7

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	4
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

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 A deposit sequence comprising a 0.20-0.52m thickness of hard standing or else 0.09-0.20m topsoil overlying 0.28-0.60m of subsoil, was recorded in all trenches. These deposits overlay the undisturbed natural deposit of a yellowy mid-brown sandy gravel in all but trench 1 (see section 4.2).
- 4.1.2 Of the seven trenches excavated, four contained archaeological remains. These recorded remains comprised ditches, gullies and pits cut, in most instances, directly into natural deposits but on occasion into subsoil or, in the case of Trench 1, layers of redeposited natural/subsoil.
- 4.1.3 The trenches that contained archaeological features are described individually in sections 4.2-4.5. The three archaeologically negative trenches are given summary description in section 4.6 and further details of their recorded deposit sequences are presented in Table 7.
- 4.1.4 The trenches that contained archaeological remains exhibited no concentration in any particular part of the site. However, Trench 4 contained a notably higher quantity of features than its counterparts.

4.2 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

Heights at NW end of trench = 16.05m AOD (top), 15.20m OAD (bottom)

Heights at SE end of trench = 15.76 AOD (top), 15.16m AOD (bottom)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/Depth m
[1/001]	Layer	Made-ground	20m+	2m+	0.20m-0.40m
[1/002]	Layer	Manure	20m+	2m+	0.10m-0.12m
[1/003]	Layer	Redeposited Subsoil	20m+	2m+	0.24m-0.40m
[1/004]	Layer	Redeposited Natural	20m+	2m+	0.20m
[1/005]	Fill	Of Pit [1/006]	3.6m	1.15m+	1.26m
[1/006]	Cut	Pit	3.6m	1.15+	1.26m
[1/007]	Deposit	In Pit [1/006]	3.9m	N/A	0.12m
[1/008]	Layer	Mixed Sand/Tarmac	20m+	2m+	0.64m

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

- 4.2.1 Trench 1, located toward the north end of the site, was aligned NW/SE and positioned within the footprint of a recently demolished cowshed and in the area of a natural spring. It contained a 0.20m-0.40m thick layer of rubble hardcore [1/001] laid following the demolition of the cowshed, overlying 0.10m-0.12m of organic material seemingly predominantly comprised of cow manure [1/002]. Below this was a 0.24m-0.40m layer of mid brown –grey sandy gravel redeposited subsoil [1/003] and a 0.20m thick layer of redeposited natural sandy gravel [1/004]. This overlaid a layer of mixed sand and tarmac fragments [1/008] that continued beyond the maximum trench depth of 1.6m.
- 4.2.2 Probably sub-rectangular pit [1/006] measured 4.8m by in excess of 1.15m wide and 1.26m deep, the majority of it extending beyond the trench limit. It was cut through redeposited subsoil layer [1/003]. It had a stepped, steeply sloping, eastern side and contained a single fill, [1/005], of loose dark-grey silty

sand with frequent angular-rounded flints. Overlying this was deposit [1/007], consisting solely of peg tile fragments of 17/18th century or later date – perhaps a capping or consolidation deposit in the top of the pit.

4.3 Trench 3 (Figure 4)

Heights at E end of trench = 15.66m AOD (top), 15.56m AOD (bottom)

Heights at W end of trench = 15.59m AOD (top), 15.46m AOD (bottom)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/Depth m
[3/001]	Layer	Topsoil	18m+	2m+	0.09m-0.17m
[3/002]	Layer	Natural	18m+	2m+	-
[3/003]	Fill	Of Pit [3/004]	1.7m	0.6m	0.6m
[3/004]	Cut	Pit	1.7m	0.6m+	0.6m
[3/005]	Fill	Of Pit [3/006]	0.9m+	0.9m	0.2m
[3/006]	Cut	Pit	0.9m+	0.9m	0.2m
[3/007]	Fill	Of Gully [3/008]	2m+	0.55m	0.3m
[3/008]	Cut	Gully	2m+	0.55m	0.3m

Table 4: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 Trench 3 was aligned ENE/WSW in the centre of the site. A deposit sequence of loose dark brown sandy silt [3/001] overlying pale yellow natural sand and gravel [3/002] was recorded. Pits [3/004] and [3/006] and gully [3/008], all in its south-west half, were cut into the natural deposit.

4.3.2 Pit [3/004] was a rounded or oval cut that was partially exposed within the trench. It was steep sided, down to a rounded base. Its single fill [3/003] was a loose mid-grey-brown silty sand with frequent sub-angular flints. A single animal bone was retrieved.

4.3.3 Similarly-sized, probably oval, shallow pit [3/006] was also partially exposed within the trench. Its cut had a steep side and flat base. Its fill [3/005] was a loose mid-grey-brown silty sand with frequent sub-rounded to sun-angular flints. A single, small piece of medieval or post-medieval tile was retrieved from it.

4.3.4 Gully [3/008] crossed the eastern end of the trench on a NNW/SSE alignment. It had a fairly steep west side and an irregular, slightly concave, east side, down to a narrow concave base. Its single fill [3/007] was a loose mid-grey-brown silty sand with frequent sub-angular flints from which no finds were retrieved.

4.4 Trench 4 (Figure 5)

Heights at NE end of trench = 15.70m AOD (top), 14.99m AOD (bottom)

Heights at SW end of trench = 16.01m AOD (top), 15.15m AOD (bottom)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/Depth m
[4/001]	Layer	Topsoil	30m+	2m+	0.25m-0.52m
[4/002]	Layer	Subsoil	30m+	2m+	0.30m-0.38m
[4/003]	Layer	Natural	30m+	2m+	0.04m-0.07m
[4/004]	Fill	Of [4/006]	2m+	3.10m	1.20m
[4/005]	Fill	Of [4/006]	2m+	1.10m	0.60m
[4/006]	Cut	Ditch	2m+	3.10m	1.50m

[4/007]	Fill	Of [4/008]	2m+	1.20m	0.28m
[4/008]	Cut	Ditch	2m+	1.20m	0.28m
[4/009]	Fill	Of [4/010]	2m+	1.10m	0.25m
[4/010]	Cut	Ditch	2m+	1.10m	0.25m
[4/011]	Fill	Of [4/012]	2m+	1.00m	0.29m
[4/012]	Cut	Ditch	2m+	1.00m	0.29m
[4/013]	Fill	Of [4/014]	5m+	0.8m	0.09m
[4/014]	Cut	Ditch	5m+	0.8m	0.09m
[4/015]	Fill	Of [4/016]	0.70m	0.44m	0.19m
[4/016]	Cut	Pit	0.70m	0.44m	0.19m

Table 5: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Trench 4 was located in the south of the site on a NE/SW orientation. It contained a deposit sequence of dark grey-brown sand-silt topsoil and turf [4/001] overlying mid brown-grey sandy gravel subsoil layer [4/002]. This in turn overlay the natural deposit [4/003] of mid brown-yellow sandy gravel. Five linear archaeological features and a single pit were recorded.
- 4.4.2 [4/006] was a relatively substantial ditch that crossed the middle of the trench on a NW/SE orientation. Its southwest side was straight and steeply sloping, while the northeast was less regular and had a slight step. Overall, the ditch had a V-shaped profile. Notably, it was recorded to be cut through subsoil [4/002]. It contained two fills. Basal fill [4/005] was a mid-grey-brown accumulation of silty sand with occasional inclusions of gravel. Upper fill [4/004] was a mid-brown-grey sandy gravel with occasional small to medium sized CBM pieces and small charcoal pieces. A half brick and a tile fragment of probable post-medieval date were retrieved from this lower fill.
- 4.4.3 Ditch [4/008] crossed the northwest of the trench on a WNW/ESE alignment. This linear cut has a gently sloping southern side and a steeped undulating northern side, down to a narrow concave base. It contained a single fill, [4/007], of compacted mid-brown-grey silty gravel with frequent gravel inclusions. No finds were retrieved. [4/008] was cut into the fill of ditch [4/010] and was overlain by subsoil.
- 4.4.4 Ditch [4/010] ran into Trench 4 on a roughly north/south alignment and terminated within it. Although truncated by ditch [4/008], it was discerned that it had a moderately sloping eastern side and a rounded terminal end. Its single fill [4/009] was a compacted mid-brown-grey silty sand with moderately frequent gravel inclusions. No finds were retrieved.
- 4.4.5 [4/012] crossed the trench on a NW/SE alignment. Its SW side was moderately sloping and the NE more gently splayed and undulating, with a slightly rounded narrow base. Its single fill [4/011] was a compact mid-grey-brown sandy gravel with some silt content. It was truncated by ditch [4/010] where the two intersected at the NW trench limit. No finds were retrieved.
- 4.4.6 [4/014] was the southern end of a shallow ditch extending into the trench on a NE/SW alignment. Perhaps significantly, it was perpendicular to ditch [4/012] and could possibly have been contemporary with it. A slight rounded cut in profile, it was filled with a loose dark-grey-brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions [4/013], from which no finds were retrieved. As was the case with all the other ditches except [4/006], infilled ditch [4/014] was overlain by subsoil.

- 4.4.7 Feature [4/016] was a small sub-oval pit at the southwest end of the trench. It had a rounded U-shaped profile and its single fill [4/015] was a loose dark-grey-brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions. No finds were retrieved. Subsoil was also recorded to overlie this pit.

4.5 Trench 5 (Figure 6)

Heights at E end of trench = 16.40m AOD (top), 15.10m AOD (bottom)

Heights at W end of trench = 16.28m AOD (top), 15.51m AOD (bottom)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Thickness/Depth m
[5/001]	Layer	Topsoil	20m+	2m+	0.12m
[5/002]	Layer	Made-ground	20m+	2m+	0.10m-0.22m
[5/003]	Layer	Subsoil	20m+	2m+	0.50m-0.54m
[5/004]	Layer	Natural	20m+	2m+	0.15m-0.42m
[5/005]	Fill	Of [5/006]	2m+	3.15m	unex
[5/006]	Cut	Ditch	2m+	3.15m	unex
[5/007]	Fill	Of [5/008]	2m+	1.8m	unex
[5/008]	Cut	Pit	2m+	1.8m	unex

Table 6: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

- 4.5.1 Trench 5 was located in the south of the site on a NNW/SSE orientation. It contained a deposit sequence comprising a thin layer of topsoil [5/001] over a variable thickness of rubbly made-ground [5/002] that extended across the southern three-quarters of the trench. This in turn overlay mid brown-grey sandy gravel subsoil [5/003] over light yellow natural gravel and sand [5/004].
- 4.5.2 Trench 5 was shortened by 10m at its southeastern end due to the discovery a pit filled with apparent asbestos. This end of the trench was backfilled immediately and none of the features present elsewhere excavated in case of contamination.
- 4.5.3 Ditch [5/006] ran down virtually the whole length of the trench, on a NNW/SSE alignment. It possibly terminated at, or just beyond, the northern end of the trench. Clearly the northward continuation of ditch [4/006], in Trench 4, this feature was not further investigated here.
- 4.5.4 Modern rubbish pit [5/008] extended across the northern part of the trench. It was cut through ditch [5/006]. Being of clearly modern date it was not excavated.

4.6 Archaeologically negative trenches

- 4.5.1 Trenches 2, 6 and 7 were found to be devoid of archaeological remains.
- 4.5.2 Trenches 2 and 6 were cut through made-ground and Trench 7 through turf and topsoil. These deposits overlay subsoil which in turn overlay undisturbed natural deposits of sand and gravel. The thickness of made-ground varied between 0.13m-0.34m and subsoil between 0.28m-0.60m. Further details of the deposit sequences noted in these trenches are presented in Table 7.

4.5.2 A single land drain was observed in each of Trenches 2 and 7. A water pipe crossed Trenches 2 and 6.

Trench	Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth m	Height m AOD
2	[2/001]	Layer	Made Ground	0.20m-0.34m	15.81-16.29
2	[2/002]	Layer	Subsoil	0.28m-0.46m	-
2	[2/003]	Layer	Natural	-	15.42-15.64
6	[6/001]	Layer	Made Ground	0.13m-0.20m	16.40-16.28
6	[6/002]	Layer	Subsoil	0.21m-0.60m	-
6	[6/003]	Layer	Natural	-	16.03-15.74
7	[7/001]	Layer	Topsoil	0.17m-0.20m	16.35-16.24
7	[7/002]	Layer	Subsoil	0.31m-0.40m	-
7	[7/003]	Layer	Natural	-	15.76-15.69

Table 7: List of recorded contexts in archaeologically negative trenches

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation at Corringham Hall Farm, Church Road, Corringham. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 8). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014).

Context	CBM	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)
1/006	17	1502		
3/003	1	40		
3/005			2	102
4/004	2	814		
<i>Total</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>2356</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>102</i>

Table 8: Finds quantification

5.2 Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.2.1 Twenty pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 2309g were hand-collected from three contexts across four evaluation trenches: [1/006]; [3/003]; and [04/004]. The material was varied in type across all the contexts, with each trench producing material of a different possible date although in more than one instance the CBM was difficult to identify conclusively, and therefore no firm dating could be provided. Fabric descriptions for the various fragments of CBM are provided below in Table 9.

5.2.2 Context [01/006] produced the most CBM; seventeen fragments of thick peg tile, all in the same fabric, T1. The moulding sand was well-sorted medium quartz and the tile was all well-made. Only one tile fragment had a partial peg hole, which was approximately square in shape. Peg tile is typically very difficult to date with any precision, but based on the level of firing and the standardised form of the tile, a mid-post medieval date of the 17th-18th century is suggested.

5.2.3 The only piece of CBM to be found in TR 3, in [3/003], was a very under-fired flat fragment, most likely some form of tile (?T2). The fabric was unusually soft for CBM with many burnt out voids and platy calcareous inclusions that are most likely to be shell. The surface was very abraded, but the thickness appeared otherwise intact and was 20mm. This thickness is most common to Roman tegula but this fragment is far too underfired to be Roman CBM, and also for most medieval and post-medieval tile. The date for this context is therefore unclear, but if it had to be placed in any period, a medieval date seems most likely as odd, experimental, forms of medieval CBM are occasionally found dating to the medieval period.

5.2.4 Two pieces of CBM were recovered from [4/004], one clearly approximately half a brick and the other a fragment of thick and well-fired tile. The brick was over-fired and close to vitrification which had crystallised the fabric slightly, but had measurable width and thickness: ?? x 105 x 50mm. These dimensions suggest an early post-medieval date of the late 15th-16th century. The

accompanying fragment of thick tile was harder to date, as at 30mm it could either be a fragment of early post-medieval floor tile (c.16th century) or a piece of Roman brick. There was no evidence of glaze, as one might expect if it was a floor tile, and the upper surface was heavily reduced which is a feature typical of Roman bricks that have been used in heat-proof structures. However, the fabric was more comparable to floor tile fabrics originating in the Low Countries than Roman fabrics from the Essex region, and so the identification of floor tile is more likely.

Fabric	Description
T1	Micaceous orange fabric with common fine and medium quartz.
?T2	Soft fabric with moderate plate-y calcareous inclusions (shell?). Slightly soapy texture.
B1	Red fabric with common medium quartz and sparse very coarse calcareous inclusions; calcareous speckle.
?FT1	Slightly micaceous orange fabric with moderate medium quartz and black speckle.

Table 9: Fabric descriptions for CBM

5.3 Animal Bone by Hayley Forsyth-Magee

- 5.3.1 A single animal bone fragment weighing 102g was recovered from the excavation. The bone was retrieved through hand-collection from context [3/005] and is in a poor state of preservation with severe signs of surface erosion and weathering evident. The bone has been identified as a cattle metacarpal proximal and shaft fragment. No evidence of butchery, gnawing, non-metric traits or pathology were observed.

5.4 Environmental Remains

- 5.4.1 No pre-modern features and deposits were encountered that were judged to have potential for the recovery of environmental remains. No soil samples were collected.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

6.1.1 A deposit sequence comprising a 0.20-0.52m thickness of rubble hardcore or else 0.09-0.20m topsoil overlying 0.28-0.60m of subsoil, was recorded in all trenches. These deposits overlay the undisturbed natural deposit of yellowy mid-brown sandy gravel in all but Trench 1 (see section 4.2).

7.1.2 The evaluation revealed the presence of archaeological features in four of the seven excavated trenches. The features were cut into the natural deposit and were overlain by topsoil and, where present, by subsoil in all but one recorded incidence.

7.1.3 The recorded archaeological remains comprised linear ditches and pits. These generally displayed a low level of intercut complexity. Feature density across the site was modest and fairly even, although there is a notably higher density of features in Trench 4 than in any other.

7.3 Deposit survival and existing impacts

7.3.1 Deposit survival was moderate, with most features cut into natural deposits and sealed by a reasonable depth of topsoil and subsoil. A single feature, ditch [4/006], was cut into subsoil and overlain only by topsoil. A high degree of post-medieval disturbance was encountered in Trench 1, probably due to its location within the footprint of a recently demolished cowshed.

7.3.2 Modern rubbish pits appear to have been dug in and around the former farm complex; two such pits were demonstrated to truncate archaeological features in Trench 5.

7.3.3 The impact of modern agricultural land drainage and other intrusions such as services appears to be low. Land drains were present in Trenches 2 and 7, and water pipes in Trenches 2 and 6, but did not impact upon any archaeological remains.

7.4 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Post-medieval

7.4.1 None of the recorded features within the trenches were demonstrably earlier than the post-medieval period. Pit [01/006], pit [3/006] and ditch [4/006] contained tile or brick fragments indicative of their likely late date. Ditch [4/006 / 5/006] was cut through the subsoil deposit in Trench 4, a further indication of its late date. This feature ran on a NNW/SSE alignment, which is the prevailing orientation of the post-medieval farm complex; however, it does not correspond to any boundary shown on historic OS mapping.

Modern

7.4.2 Pit [5/008], although unexcavated, was almost certainly modern, being cut into the infilled post-medieval ditch [5/006].

Undated

- 7.4.3 Pits [3/004] and [4/016], and ditches [4/008], [4/010], [4/012] and [4/014], lacked any artefact evidence in their fills and are therefore undated. However, most, if not all, are likely to in fact to be of post-medieval date and associated with the historic farm complex. Ditch [4/12] ran parallel with, and ditch [4/014] perpendicular to, post-medieval ditch [4/006] and it is probable that these were broadly contemporary with it. The recorded stratigraphic sequence noted for the intercut ditches at this north-east end of Trench 4, if correct, would show ditches [4/008] and [4/010] to be later.

7.5 Consideration of research aims

- 7.5.1 The evaluation has been successful in generally determining the presence/absence, location, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the site and enabling an informed decision regarding further archaeological work required prior to the commencement of groundworks.
- 7.5.2 Due to the low incidence and limited range of archaeological features recorded by the evaluation, the site has little potential to contribute to the understanding of the function and use of the historic farm buildings. The paucity of dated artefact assemblages does not facilitate study of history of the farm complex or its association with the medieval Church/Hall complex.
- 7.5.3 No features or artefacts have been found that evidence any earlier occupation of the site. It therefore has no potential to contribute to research into the origins and development of the settlement of Corringham itself.
- 7.5.4 Given the above, the evaluation results do not address any of the East Anglian research framework objectives identified as being of potential relevance to the project (2.7.3), in terms of study of hall-and-church complexes, historic farm forms, field systems and agricultural regimes, etc.
- 7.5.5 While it is likely that further below-ground remains of pits and ditches, and possibly of former farm buildings and other structures, are likely to be present in other, unevaluated, parts of the site, it is probable that they have low potential to contribute to the identified research aims and objectives.

7.6 Potential Development Impacts

- 7.6.1 The recorded archaeological features are buried below overburden and subsoil deposits that vary between 0.25-0.80m thickness (averaging c.0.6m thickness). It is probable that these remains will be impacted by any intrusive groundworks associated with redevelopment that intrude below this depth range. Such development impacts may comprise general ground reduction/landscaping, excavation of foundation trenches and service runs, road construction, heavy plant movement, etc.
- 7.6.2 However, the low significance and potential of the remains recorded by the evaluation suggests that this impact will be minor in terms of loss of important archaeological evidence.

7.7 Conclusions

- 7.7.1 Archaeological remains have been found in four of the seven evaluation trenches excavated, comprising a low density and low complexity of pits and ditches overlain by modern overburden and subsoil deposits.
- 7.7.2 Dated archaeological features are all of definite or probable post-medieval or modern date. It is likely that the undated remains are also similarly of post-medieval to modern date. All are presumed to be associated with the historic farmstead that occupied this site.
- 7.7.3 The impact of redevelopment upon further below-ground archaeological remains present within this site, and of importance to the study of the origins and development of both this site and the wider settlement of Corringham, is judged to be minor to negligible.

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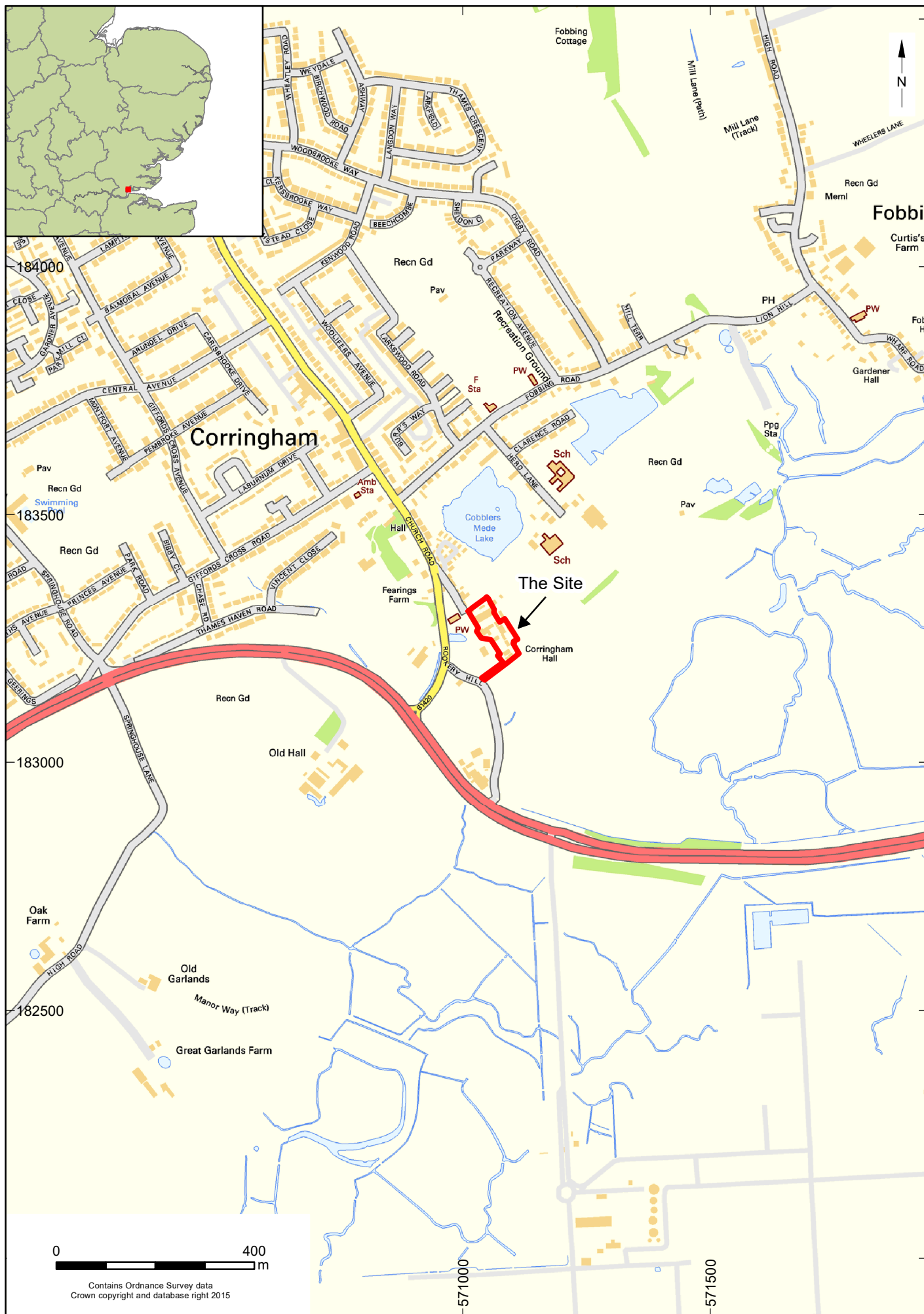
Appendix 1: EHER Summary

Site name/Address: Corringham Hall Farm, Corringham, Essex SS17 9AT	
Parish: Corringham	District: Thurrock
NGR: TQ 71066 83249	Site Code: CGM17
Type of Work: Evaluation	Site Director/Group: Rob Cullum, Archaeology South-East
Date of Work: 07-10 August 2017	Size of Area Investigated: 6355sq m
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Thurrock Museum	Funding source: Developer
Further Seasons Anticipated?: unknown	Related HER No's:
Final Report: ADS Grey Lit	OASIS No: 295906
Periods Represented: Post-medieval, Modern, undated	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>A trial trenching evaluation was undertaken at Corringham Hall Farm in advance of residential redevelopment, the site being a historic hall-and-farm complex.</p> <p>Seven evaluation trenches were excavated within the accessible areas of the site. Archaeological features were identified in four trenches. These remains comprised a low density and low complexity of linear ditches and pits.</p> <p>The dated archaeological features are all of definite or probable post-medieval and modern date. It is likely that the undated remains are also similarly of post-medieval to modern date. All are presumed to be associated with the historic farmstead that occupied this site.</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports:	
<p>ASE. 2017b, <i>Corringham Hall Farm, Church Road, Corringham, Essex. Historic Building Record</i>. Unpubl. ASE report no. 2017234</p>	
Author of Summary: Mark Atkinson	Date of Summary: 14/09/2017

Appendix 2: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-295906	
Project details	
Project name	Corringham Hall Farm
Short description of the project	Seven evaluation trenches were excavated within the accessible areas of the 0.63ha site. Evaluation in advance of residential redevelopment identified remains in four of seven trenches excavated. These remains comprised a low density and low complexity of linear ditches and pits. The dated archaeological features are all of definite or probable post-medieval and modern date. It is likely that the undated remains are also similarly of post-medieval to modern date. All are presumed to be associated with the historic farmstead that occupied this site.
Project dates	Start: 07-08-2017 End: 10-08-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	170350 - Contracting Unit No. CGM17 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	ESSEX THURROCK CORRINGHAM Corringham Hall Farm
Postcode	SS17 9AT
Study area	6355 Kilometres
Site coordinates	TQ 71066 83249
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Essex County Council Place Services
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard

Project supervisor	Rob Cullum
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	Thurrock Museum
Digital Contents	"Ceramics", "Stratigraphic", "Animal Bones"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"
Project bibliography	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation. Corringham Hall Farm, Corringham, Essex, SS17 9AT
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cullum, R.
Other bibliographic details	ASE rep. 2017361
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Witham
Description	A4, PDF
Entered by	Mark Atkinson (mark.atkinson@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	15 September 2017



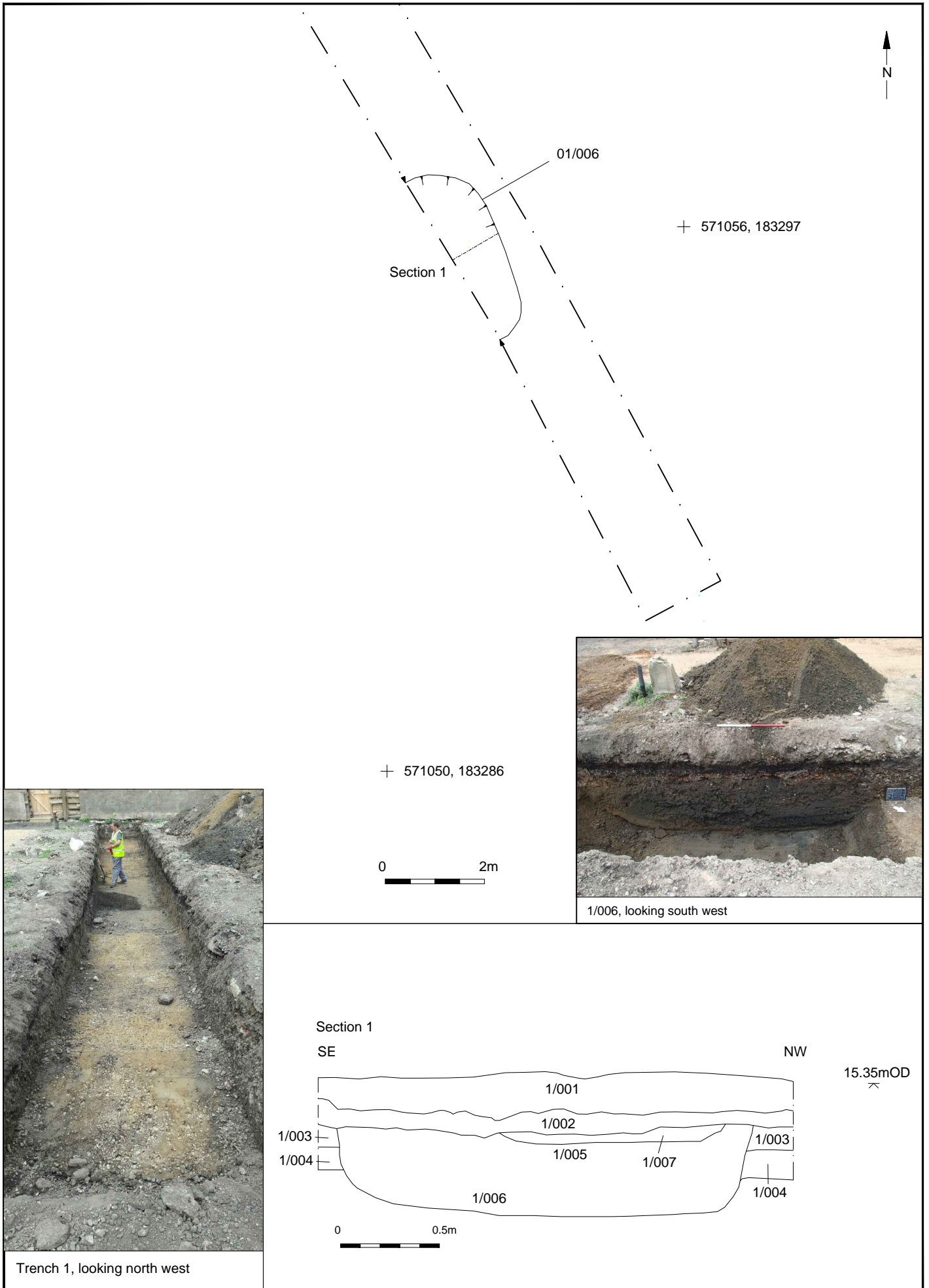
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© Archaeology South-East		Corringham Hall Farm, Church Road, Corringham	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 170350	September 2017	Site location	
Report No: 2017361	Drawn by: AR		



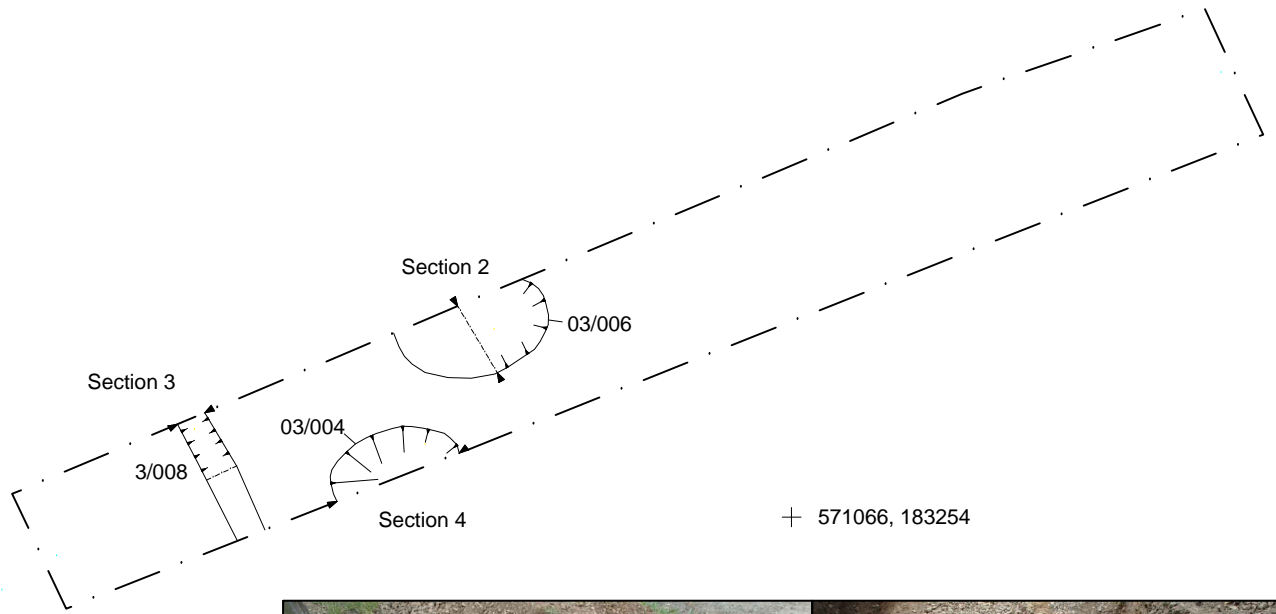
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© Archaeology South-East		Corringham Hall Farm, Church Road, Corringham		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 170350	September 2017	Trench Location		
Report Ref: 2017361	Drawn by: AR			



© Archaeology South-East		Corringham Hall Farm, Church Road, Corringham	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 170350	September 2017	Trench 1, plan section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2017361	Drawn by: AR		

+ 571057, 183261



0 2m



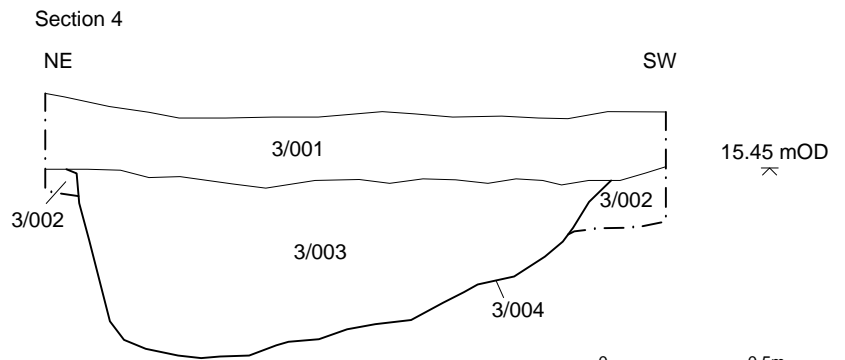
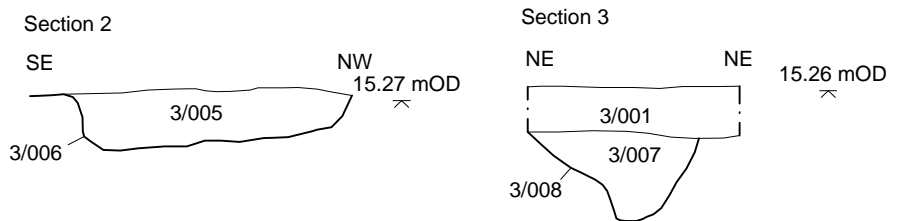
3/004, looking south east



3/006, looking south west



Trench 2, looking north west



0 0.5m

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Corringham Hall Farm, Church Road, Corringham

Project Ref: 170350

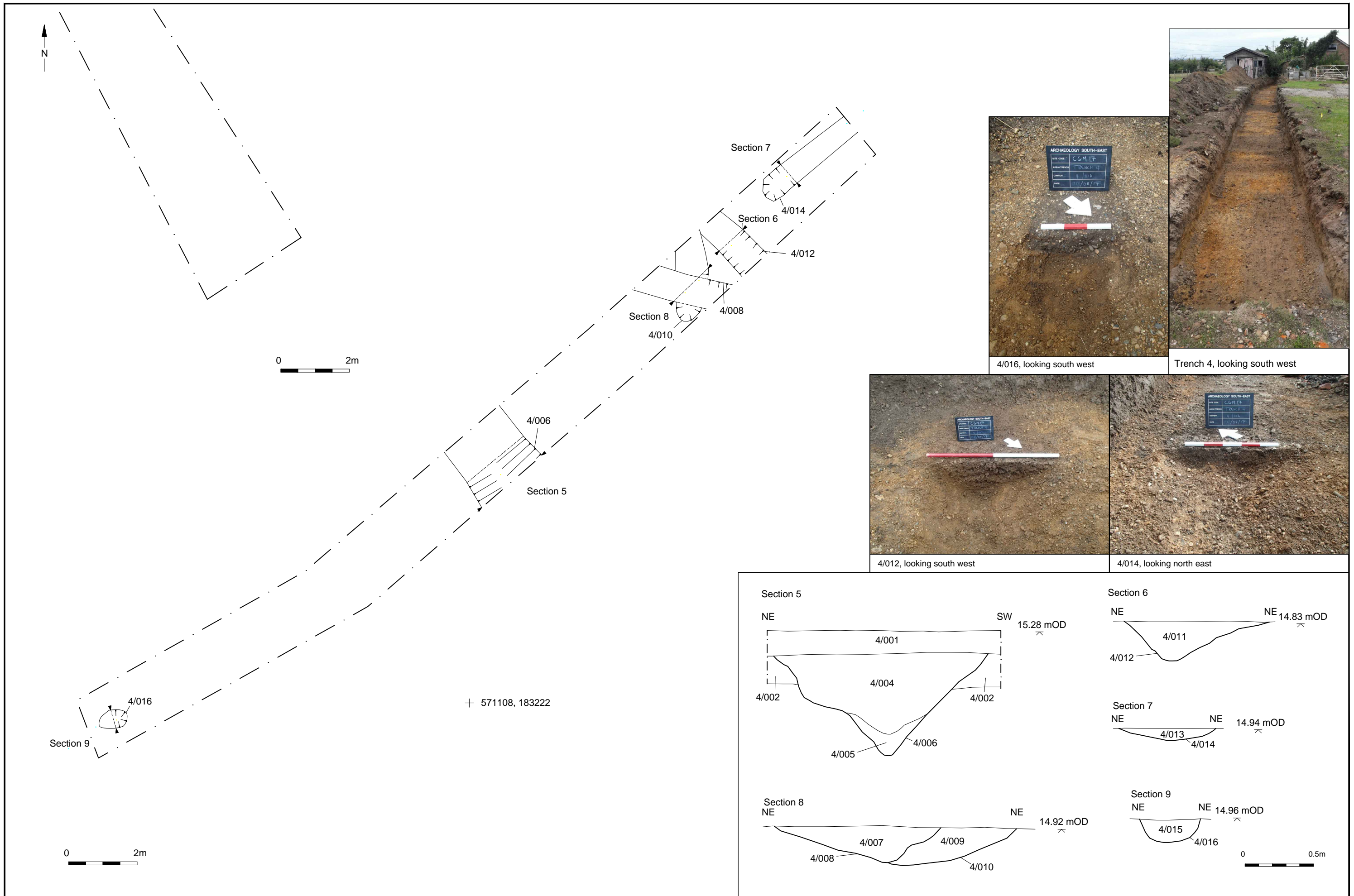
September 2017

Trench 3, plan, sections and photographs

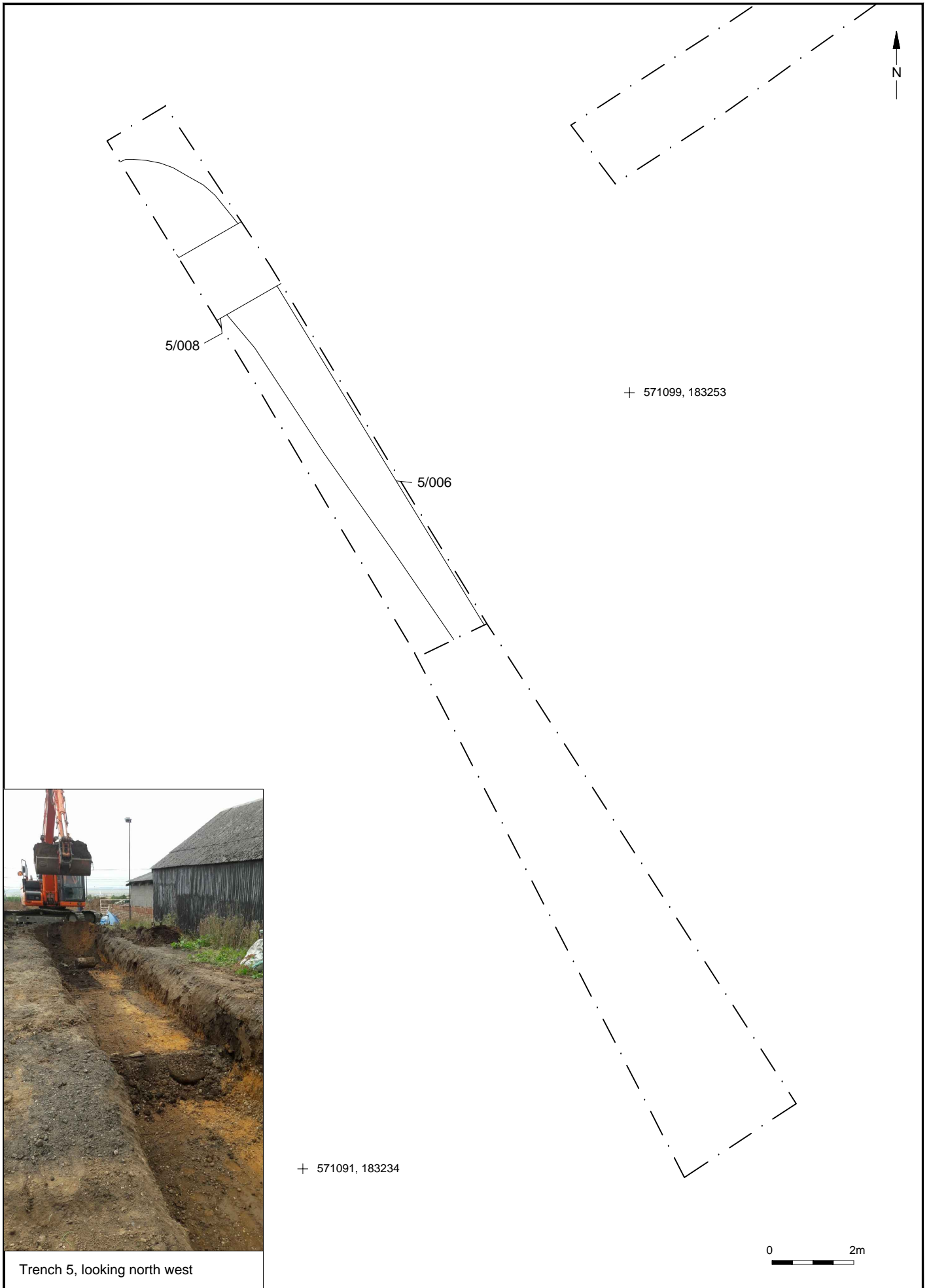
Report Ref: 2017361

Drawn by: AR

Fig. 4



© Archaeology South-East		Corringham Hall Farm, Church Road, Corringham	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 170350	September 2017	Trench 4, plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2017361	Drawn by: AR		



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