

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Land West of New Barn Lane
North Bersted, Bognor Regis
West Sussex**

**NGR: 491571 101061
(Centered: SU 9155 0107)**

**Planning Ref: BE/142/15/OUT
ASE Project No: 171203
Site Code: NBL18
ASE Report No: 2018046
OASIS id: archaeo16 - 309384**



By John Hirst

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs. to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed development of land west of New Barn Lane, Bersted, West Sussex. Thirty trenches were excavated.

The evaluation identified archaeological features in 13 of the 30 trenches. The features were predominantly located in the central-southern part of the site. Those features that were excavated appear to be mostly of an Earlier Iron Age date, comprising ditches most likely forming a field system(s) possibly relating to livestock management, although a fair quantity of discrete features including postholes and pits were also found, as were two cremations which also suggest occupation activity.

CONTENTS

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

Bibliography
Acknowledgements

HER Summary
OASIS Form

Appendix 1: Archaeologically negative trenches

TABLES

Table 1:	Quantification of site paper archive
Table 2:	Quantification of artefact and environmental samples
Table 3:	Trench 1 list of recorded contexts
Table 4:	Trench 12 list of recorded contexts
Table 5:	Trench 13 list of recorded contexts
Table 6:	Trench 15 list of recorded contexts
Table 7:	Trench 16 list of recorded contexts
Table 8:	Trench 17 list of recorded contexts
Table 9:	Trench 18 list of recorded contexts
Table 10:	Trench 19 list of recorded contexts
Table 11:	Trench 21 list of recorded contexts
Table 12:	Trench 22 list of recorded contexts
Table 13:	Trench 23 list of recorded contexts
Table 14:	Trench 24 list of recorded contexts
Table 15:	Trench 30 list of recorded contexts
Table 16:	The Finds
Table 17:	Residue Quantification

FIGURES

Figure 1:	Site location
Figure 2:	Trench location
Figure 3:	Trench 1: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 4:	Trench 12: Plan, sections and photographs
Figure 5:	Trench 13: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 6:	Trench 15: Plan, sections and photographs
Figure 7:	Trench 16: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 8:	Trench 17: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 9:	Trench 18: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 10:	Trench 19: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 11:	Trench 21: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 12:	Trench 22: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 13:	Trench 23: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 14:	Trench 24: Plan, section and photographs
Figure 15:	Trench 30: Plan, section and photographs

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land west of New Barn Lane, North Bersted, Bognor Regis, West Sussex. The evaluated area overall comprises a sub-rectangular parcel of land measuring approximately 3.7ha in total. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 491571 101061 and its location is shown in Figure 1.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The underlying geology of the site is described by the British Geological Survey (BGS) as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation, Culver Chalk Formation and Portsdown Chalk Formation chalk. The superficial geological deposits comprise River Terrace Deposits of sand, silt and clay. The site lies c 1500m south-west of the Aldingbourne Rife (CgMs 2015).

1.2.2 The site lies on the Sussex coastal plain and is fairly level at c. 4.96m (AOD) in the east of the site to c. 4.22m (AOD) in the north of site. The site is comprised of open land and is bounded to the north, west and south by a drainage channel and to the east by New Barn Lane.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A planning application (Ref. No.: BE/142/15/OUT) for the site has been granted. Condition 4 of the decision notice states:

No development shall take place within the area indicated until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.

Reason: The site is of archaeological significance in accordance with Arun District Local Plan Policy GEN7

1.3.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs, 2018) was duly prepared, submitted to and approved by the archaeological advisor to West Sussex County Council prior to the commencement of fieldwork. All work was carried out in accordance with this document, *Sussex Archaeological Standards* (ESCC, WSCC & CDC 2017) and *ClfA Standards and Guidance* (ClfA 2018).

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report provides the results of the archaeological evaluation of the site, carried out between the 22nd and 31st January 2018.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following is a summary derived from the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2015):

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 A possible Pleistocene lake was recorded during a 2009 archaeological evaluation (Cotswold Archaeology 2009) approximately 300m north-west of the site. The presence of charcoal within its deposits suggests the potential for survival of evidence relating to hominid activity. Close by, a residual Mid-Palaeolithic hand axe fragment was recorded.

2.2.2 A small assemblage of Early Neolithic pottery sherds and a large assemblage of worked flint including debitage was recorded from a ditch during the 2009 archaeological evaluation approximately 600m north of the site. Undated features close by could also be of similar date. In addition, a vessel of possible Neolithic date was found in a pit along with struck and burnt flint during an archaeological evaluation approximately 750m north-east of the site area.

2.2.3 Evidence of Bronze Age activity was recorded during the 2009 archaeological evaluation comprising ditches, a possible burnt mound, postholes and pits predominantly located in the northern part of the evaluation area approximately 500m north/north-west of the site. An undated ring ditch, possibly the ploughed out remains of a Bronze Age barrow, was recorded approximately 750m south-west of the site on a topographical high point within the site.

2.2.4 Possible prehistoric mounds were recorded during a walkover survey approximately 750m north-east of the site. A large archaeological evaluation on land at north Bersted approximately 550m-1km east/south-east of the site recorded evidence of Bronze Age occupation comprising ditched field systems, a cremation urn, burnt mounds, ditched trackways, pits, postholes. Evidence of continuation of activity into the Iron Age period was identified. Archaeological investigations at Bognor Community College approximately 800m south-east of the site recorded evidence of a Late Bronze Age/Iron Age field system and associated round house.

2.2.5 A number of Iron Age ditches and pits were also recorded during the 2009 evaluation particularly concentrated in the northern part of the evaluation area approximately 750m north-west of the site suggesting nearby Iron Age settlement activity. A possible holloway was recorded approximately 300m south-west and a ditch containing a substantial assemblage of pottery recorded approximately 500m south-west of the study suggests may have been the focus of occupation. Iron Age pottery sherds were discovered during road widening works approximately 750m south of the site.

2.3 Roman

- 2.3.1 Evidence of Roman settlement activity was recorded during the 2009 archaeological evaluation on relatively high ground approximately 500m north-west of the site. Where the ground fell away to the north and south, ditches associated with a Roman field system were recorded. Evidence of industrial activity comprising a hearth/kiln close to a waterhole was recorded on another topographical high point approximately 400m south-west of the site.
- 2.3.2 Two trenches excavated during the 2009 evaluation adjacent to the west of the site also recorded three ditches of Roman date that could potentially extend into the northern part of the site. Trench 209 recorded a ditch on a north-east/south-west alignment. The ditch was wide and deep with a steep U-shaped profile and was filled by a series of fills. The lower fill contained animal bone, unworked burnt flint and 11 sherds of late 1st to 2nd century AD Roman pottery. Two sherds of 1st century AD Roman pottery were recovered from the middle fill whilst the upper fill contained burnt flint and CBM fragments. The second ditch was an east/west aligned ditch which was narrow and shallow with a steep, almost v-shaped profile. It was filled with a single fill containing unworked burnt flint, oyster shell and five sherds of 2nd century AD or later Roman pottery. Trench 210 recorded a northeast/south-west aligned ditch. It was narrow and shallow with a steep, almost V shaped profile. It was filled with a single fill containing fired clay, animal bone and eight sherds of late 1st to 3rd century AD Roman pottery.
- 2.3.3 A number of pits containing Roman pottery sherds including Samian and the bottom of rotary quern and a hearth or oven were discovered during a watching brief during road widening works approximately 750m south of the site. The large archaeological evaluation on land at North Bersted (TVAS 20012) approximately 550m east/south-east of the site recorded evidence of an early Romano-British settlement and associated field system. A Roman field system and possible trackway were recorded during the investigations at Bognor Community College approximately 800m south-east of the site. A gold coin was found at the Caravan Park immediately north of the study site. A scatter of burnt flint, oyster shells and late Roman pottery were found on the surface of a ploughed field immediately south-west of the site. A number of coins were found in a field approximately 600m north-east of the site.

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

- 2.4.1 Bersted formed part of the estate of Pagham granted by Caedwalla, King of Wessex to Wilfrid and subsequently conveyed to the see of Canterbury. The Archbishops manor was called North Bersted by 1397. St Mary Magdalene Church was built in 13th century in South Bersted approximately 2km southeast of the site and most likely formed the focus of the early settlement at Bersted.
- 2.4.2 Medieval pottery sherds were recorded during road widening works approximately 750m south of the site. A single medieval gully was recorded during the evaluation approximately 500m south-east of the site. Evidence of ridge and furrow was recorded during the 2009 evaluation.

2.5 Post-Medieval and Modern

- 2.5.1 During the post-medieval period the site comprised part of three agricultural fields bounded to the south by New Barn Lane within a wider rural landscape some distance from the settlements of North and South Bersted. A possible post-medieval field boundary and animal burial was recorded during the 2009 archaeological evaluation approximately 100m southeast of the site. The 1786 estate map shows the site in more detail. There was no change to the site by the early 19th century. The 1842 Tithe map records the site as comprising part of three arable fields. By the late 19th century the former field boundaries on the site had been removed and the site comprised of a single field.
- 2.5.2 Land to the south-west of the site was used during the Second World War as part of the site of an advanced landing ground (ALG) airfield constructed in advance of the 1944 D Day invasion. Bognor ALG was designed and built as a temporary structure with runways laid on removable Summerfield Track rather than on tarmac. A pre-construction inventory and accompanying plan of the ALG lists two runways; dispersal areas; hardcore working/parking areas; hangars; accommodation and technical buildings and air raid trenches. Most of the ALG buildings were new builds, but some existing buildings were requisitioned, including those at Morell's Farm approximately 1km south-west of the site. By September 1944 Bognor ALG was replaced by ALGs on the continent and was formally handed back to the original owners for agricultural use. The ALG did not extend into the site.

2.6 Geophysical Survey

- 2.6.1 A detailed magnetometer survey (Stratascan 2016) was conducted over approximately 3.6 hectares of grassland. No features of probable or possible archaeology were identified. All of the responses detected were natural or modern and included areas of natural magnetic variation, disturbance from nearby fencing, an area of made ground and magnetic spikes which were likely to be modern rubbish.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 All mechanical and hand excavation, and recording was carried out in accordance with the methodology in the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2018).
- 3.1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in a single phase and comprised the excavation of 30 trenches.
- 3.1.3 Trenches 4 and 30 had to be moved slightly to avoid tree canopies along the site boundary and Trench 27 was moved slightly to avoid the site entrance.
- 3.1.4 Trenches 17 and 21 contained cremation deposits which were not excavated but were mapped using GPS, covered over with plastic sheeting and left in situ.
- 3.1.5 Trench 16 was extended by c. 3m at the north end to fully expose a feature.
- 3.1.6 All other trenches were excavated in their intended locations.
- 3.1.7 The locations of trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT scanner) in order to check for services.
- 3.1.8 Location of the trenches was accurately established using a Leica Viva CS15 RTK GPS instrument.

3.2 Archive

3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at Archaeology South-East offices in Portslade, and will be offered to an appropriate Museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Context sheets	60
Section sheets	1
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	153
Context register	0
Drawing register	1
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	30

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	0.5 of a box
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	0.75 of a box
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 Geology and Overburden

- 4.1.1 The site is situated on predominantly flat ground at between c. 4.96m (AOD) in the east of the site and c. 4.22m (AOD) in the north of site.
- 4.1.2 The depths of the excavated trenches were fairly consistent across the site from c.0.68m deep in the south to c.0.76m deep in the north. Across the entirety of the site the overburden consisted of a simple stratigraphic sequence of natural clay overlain by brickearth, subsoil and topsoil, varying in depth from c.0.45m deep to c.0.60m deep.
- 4.1.3 The undisturbed natural geology comprised a firm yellow silt clay with occasional patches of weathered chalk and bands of a bluish grey clay throughout. The natural geology was encountered at a maximum elevation of 4.39m AOD towards the south of the site area (Trench 20), falling away to 3.54m AOD in the north of the site (Trench 1).
- 4.1.4 The natural substrate appeared to be undisturbed throughout the site.
- 4.1.5 Of the 30 trenches excavated, 13 were identified as containing archaeological features. Trenches 17 and 21 were identified as containing a single cremation each which were unexcavated and left in situ.
- 4.1.6 Of the 27 features excavated, 11 produced finds of a later prehistoric date consistent with the Early Iron Age.

4.2 Trench 1

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.20	4.23-4.50
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.18	
1/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.19-0.28	
1/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.54-3.61
1/005	Cut	Pit	1.2	1	0.16-0.16	3.59-3.70
1/006	Fill	Fill, single	1.2	1	0.16-0.16	

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

- 4.2.1 Trench 1 was located towards the extreme north of the site. The trench measured 28.50m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.2.2 One archaeological feature was identified within the trench comprising a shallow burnt pit. (Figure 3)
- 4.2.3 Pit [1/005] was located towards the north of the trench, the single fill [1/006] comprised a dark black and bluish-brown silt clay with c.20% charcoal

inclusions suggesting possible hearth clearance. There was no evidence of burning in situ.

4.2.4 A single piece of fire cracked flint and a single fragment of fired clay was recovered from pit fill [1/006].

4.2.7 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.3 Trench 12

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.16-0.20	4.78-4.85
12/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.18	
12/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.15-0.20	
12/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.28-4.33
12/005	Cut	Ditch	2	0.48	0.32-0.32	4.23-4.25
12/006	Fill	Fill, single	2	0.48	0.32-0.32	
12/007	Cut	Ditch	2	0.53	0.30-0.30	4.30-4.78
12/008	Fill	Fill, single	2	0.53	0.30-0.30	
12/009	Cut	Posthole	0.25	0.21	0.10-0.10	4.33-4.33
12/010	Fill	Fill, single	0.25	0.21	0.10-0.10	
12/011	Cut	Posthole	0.25	0.18	0.08-0.08	4.35-4.35
12/012	Fill	Fill, single	0.25	0.18	0.08-0.08	

Table 4: Trench 12 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 Trench 12 was located towards the north-west of site. The trench measured 29.60m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a west to east alignment (Figure 2).

4.3.2 Four archaeological features were identified within the trench, comprising two parallel ditches and two postholes (Figure 4)

4.3.3 Ditch [12/005] was located towards the centre of the trench, orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment. The ditch fill [12/006] comprised a soft bluish-brown silt clay.

4.3.4 Five undiagnostic pieces of worked flint and fifteen pieces of fire cracked flint were recovered from ditch fill [12/006].

4.3.5 Ditch [12/007] was also located towards the centre of the trench, c. 4m to the east of trench [12/005], orientated on north-east to south-west alignment. The ditch fill [12/008] comprised a soft light bluish-brown silt clay.

4.3.6 A single, undiagnostic piece of worked flint and eighteen pieces of fire cracked flint were recovered from ditch fill [12/008].

4.3.7 It is possible that both ditches were cut to form parts of a prehistoric field system.

4.3.8 Two shallow postholes [12/009] and [12/011] were located towards the east end of the trench. Fill [12/010] comprised a friable dark blackish-brown clay silt and fill [12/012] comprised a friable mid brown silt clay.

4.3.9 Two pottery sherds of probable early Iron Age date were recovered from posthole fill [12/010].

4.3.10 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.4 Trench 13

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
13/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.14	4.37-4.54
13/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.11-0.14	
13/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.26-0.40	
13/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.69-3.98
13/005	Cut	Ditch	2	0.8	0.16-0.16	3.65-3.66
13/006	Fill	Fill, single	2	0.8	0.16-0.16	

Table 5: Trench 13 list of recorded contexts

4.4.1 Trench 13 was located at the extreme west of the site, the trench measured 28.70m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a west to east alignment (Figure 2).

4.4.2 One archaeological feature was identified and excavated within the trench comprising a single ditch (Figure 5)

4.4.3 Ditch [13/005] was located towards the west of the trench, orientated on a north to south alignment. The ditch fill [12/006] comprised a compact, mid orangey-grey silt clay with moderate manganese inclusions. No finds were retrieved from the fill.

4.4.4 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.5 Trench 15

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
15/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.20	4.78-4.96
15/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.16	
15/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.31-0.44	
15/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.91-4.26
15/005	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.89	0.13-0.13	4.21-4.23
15/006	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.89	0.13-0.13	
15/007	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.84	0.12-0.12	4.33-4.35
15/008	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.84	0.12-0.12	

Table 6: Trench 15 list of recorded contexts

- 4.5.1 Trench 15 was located at the centre of the site, the trench measured 28.20m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a west to east alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.5.2 Two archaeological features were identified and excavated within the trench comprising two parallel ditches. The ditches are possibly a continuation of ditches [12/005] and [12/007] located in trench 12 to the north east although their respective profiles differ considerably (Figure 6).
- 4.5.3 Ditch [15/005] was broadly located towards the centre of the trench and orientated on a north to south alignment. The ditch fill [15/006] comprised a firm, pale greyish-orange silt clay with occasional manganese patches. No finds were retrieved from the fill.
- 4.5.4 Ditch [15/007] was located towards the east of the trench orientated on a north south alignment, c.6m to the east of ditch [15/005]. The ditch fill [15/008] comprised a firm pale greyish-yellow silt clay with occasional manganese patches. No finds were retrieved from the fill.
- 4.5.5 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.6 Trench 16

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
16/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.12	4.94-4.94
16/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.12	
16/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.22-0.38	
16/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.25-4.29
16/005	Cut	Posthole	0.42	0.39	0.23-0.23	4.13-4.15
16/006	Fill	Fill, single	0.42	0.39	0.23-0.23	
16/007	Cut	Ditch	2.2	1.3	0.32-0.32	4.03-4.23
16/008	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	1.3	0.32-0.32	

Table 7: Trench 16 list of recorded contexts

- 4.6.1 Trench 16 was located towards the east of the site, the trench measured 31.65m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.6.2 The trench was extended by c.3m at the north end to fully expose ditch [16/007].
- 4.6.3 Two archaeological features were identified and excavated within the trench comprising a single posthole and a single ditch (Figure 7).
- 4.6.4 Posthole [16/005] was located towards the north end of the trench, the posthole fill [16/006] comprised a firm, light grey silt clay with occasional manganese stains.
- 4.6.5 Two fragments of fire cracked flint were retrieved from posthole fill [16/006].
- 4.6.6 Ditch [16/007] was located at the north end of the trench orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment. The ditch fill [16/008] comprised a firm, pale grey silt clay with occasional manganese stains.
- 4.6.7 One highly abraded pottery sherd of probable Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date was recovered from ditch fill [16/008]. The fragment is considered to be a residual element in context [16/008].
- 4.6.8 Three undiagnostic pieces of worked flint, twenty-four undiagnostic fragments of pottery (of possible early iron age date) and nine fragments of fire cracked flint were also retrieved from ditch fill [16/008].
- 4.6.9 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.7 Trench 17

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
17/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.16-0.16	4.81-4.90
17/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.16	
17/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.30-0.35	
17/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.15-4.29
17/005	Cut	Pit	0.85	0.76	0.30-0.30	4.22-4.24
17/006	Fill	Fill, single	0.85	0.76	0.30-0.30	
17/007	Deposit	Cremation	0.3	0.3	0	4.24-4.24
17/008	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.65	0.23-0.23	4.22-4.22
17/009	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.65	0.23-0.23	
17/010	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.4	0.35-0.35	4.22-4.22
17/011	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.4	0.35-0.35	
17/012	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.53	0.20-0.20	4.11-4.12
17/013	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.53	0.20-0.20	

Table 8: Trench 17 list of recorded contexts

- 4.7.1 Trench 17 was located at the extreme east of site, the trench measured 28.10m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.7.2 Five archaeological features were identified of which four were excavated comprising a single pit, three ditches (two of which were intercutting) and a single cremation which was not excavated (Figure 8).
- 4.7.3 Pit [17/005] was located towards the north-west end of the trench, the pit fill [17/006] comprised a friable, mid grey clay silt.
- 4.7.4 Cremation [17/007] was located towards the south-east end of trench, in between the intersection of ditches [17/008] and [17/010]. It was left in situ and mapped using GPS.
- 4.7.5 Ditch [17/008] was broadly located towards the south-east of the trench, orientated on a north to south alignment and appeared to cut ditch [17/010]. The ditch fill [17/009] comprised a firm mid grey silt clay with occasional manganese patches.
- 4.7.6 Four undiagnostic pieces of worked flint and one fragment of fired clay were retrieved from ditch fill [17/009].
- 4.7.7 A single fragment of iron was also recovered from context [17/009]. The fragment is probably part of a tanged blade or tool. A medieval or early post medieval date is probable.
- 4.7.8 Ditch [17/010] was broadly located towards the south-east end of the trench, orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment and appeared to be cut by ditch [17/008]. The ditch fill [17/011] comprised a firm mid-grey silt clay with occasional manganese patches.

- 4.7.9 Ditch [17/012] was located at the extreme south-east end of the trench, passing under the north-east and south-west baulks, orientated on a west to east alignment. The ditch fill [17/013] comprised a firm mid-grey silt clay.
- 4.7.10 A single broken blade-like flake from ditch fill [17/013] is likely to be Mesolithic or Neolithic in date.
- 4.7.11 Three undiagnostic flint flakes, two undiagnostic pottery sherds (of possible earlier Iron Age date) and eight pieces of fire-cracked-flint were also recovered from ditch fill [17/013].
- 4.7.12 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.8 Trench 18

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
18/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.11-0.14	4.66-4.86
18/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.10	
18/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.28-0.32	
18/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.99-4.24
18/005	Cut	Pit	1.2	0.45	0.18-0.18	4.22-4.23
18/006	Fill	Fill, single	1.2	0.45	0.18-0.18	
18/007	Cut	Gully	2.2	0.6	0.13-0.13	4.75-4.78
18/008	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.6	0.13-0.13	
18/009	Cut	Posthole	0.45	0.45	0.22-0.22	4.17-4.18
18/010	Fill	Fill, single	0.45	0.45	0.22-0.22	
18/011	Cut	Ditch	2	1.2	0.30-0.30	4.02-4.05
18/012	Fill	Fill, single	2	1.2	0.30-0.30	

Table 9: Trench 18 list of recorded contexts

- 4.8.1 Trench 18 was broadly located towards the west of site, the trench measured 28.20m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a west to east alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.8.2 Four archaeological features were identified and excavated comprising a single pit, a single gully, a single posthole and a single ditch (Figure 9).
- 4.8.3 Pit [18/005] was located towards the east end of the trench, pit fill [18/006] comprised a friable, mid orangey-grey silt clay with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions. No finds were retrieved from the fill.
- 4.8.4 Gully [18/007] was located towards the middle of the trench, orientated on a north to south alignment. The gully fill [18/008] comprised a friable, mid brownish-grey silt clay. No finds were retrieved from the fill.
- 4.8.5 Posthole [18/009] was located at the middle of the trench, posthole fill [18/010] comprised a friable, mid greyish-brown silt clay.
- 4.8.6 A single piece of fire cracked flint was retrieved from posthole fill [18/010].

4.8.7 Ditch [18/011] was located towards the western end of the trench, orientated on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment. Ditch fill [18/012] comprised a compact mid orangey-grey silt clay. No finds were retrieved from the fill.

4.8.8 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.9 Trench 19

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
19/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.14	4.80-4.88
19/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.12	
19/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.16-0.26	
19/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.23-4.38
19/005	Cut	Ditch	2.6	0.97	0.30-0.30	4.32-4.33
19/006	Fill	Fill, single	2.6	0.97	0.30-0.30	

Table 10: Trench 19 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 Trench 19 was located towards the centre of the site, the trench measured 28.60m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).

4.9.2 A single archaeological feature was identified and excavated comprising a ditch (Figure 10).

4.9.3 Ditch [19/005] was located towards the southern end of the trench, orientated on a west to east alignment. Ditch fill [14/006] comprised a compact, mid orangey-brown silt clay with occasional flint pieces.

4.9.4 Two pieces of undiagnostic worked flint and six pieces of fire cracked flint were retrieved from ditch fill [14/006].

4.9.5 A single wine bottle fragment weighing was also recovered from [19/006]. The piece is of mid-19th to mid-20th century date.

4.9.6 A single fragment of poorly preserved animal bone was also retrieved from ditch fill [19/006], the bone was identifiable as a large mammal humerus.

4.9.7 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.10 Trench 21

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
21/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.16-0.16	4.76-4.80
21/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.16	
21/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.18-0.20	
21/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.18-4.22
21/005	Cut	Gully	3.05	0.64	0.07-0.07	4.27-4.27
21/006	Fill	Fill, single	3.05	0.64	0.07-0.07	
21/007	Deposit	Cremation	0.36	0.3	0	4.31-4.31

Table 11: Trench 21 list of recorded contexts

- 4.10.1 Trench 21 was located towards the south-east of site, the trench measured 28.60m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.10.2 Two archaeological features were identified of which one was excavated; comprising a single, shallow gully and a single cremation which was left in situ (Figure 11).
- 4.10.3 Gully [21/005] was located towards the southern end of the trench, orientated on a west-south-west to east-north-east alignment and was very shallow. Gully fill [21/006] comprised a firm, pale brown silt clay with occasional manganese fleck inclusions.
- 4.10.4 A single piece of undiagnostic worked flint, two undiagnostic fragments of pottery (of possible early iron age date) and one piece of fire cracked flint were retrieved from gully fill [21/006].
- 4.10.5 Cremation [21/007] was located towards the middle of the trench. It was unexcavated and mapped using GPS.
- 4.10.6 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.11 Trench 22

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
22/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.19	4.70-4.79
22/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.12	
22/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.26-0.26	
22/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.10-4.28
22/005	Cut	Pit	1	0.7	0.12-0.12	
22/006	Fill	Fill, single	1	0.7	0.12-0.12	
22/007	Cut	Gully	2	0.85	0.14-0.14	
22/008	Fill	Fill, single	2	0.85	0.14-0.14	

Table 12: Trench 22 list of recorded contexts

- 4.11.1 Trench 22 was located towards the south-west of site, the trench measured 30.80m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.11.2 Two archaeological features were identified and excavated, comprising a single pit and a single gully (Figure 12).
- 4.11.3 Pit [22/005] was located towards the north end of the trench, pit fill [22/006] comprised a friable, mid orangey-grey silt clay. No finds were retrieved from the fill.
- 4.11.4 Gully [22/007] was located towards the north end of the trench, orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. Gully fill [22/008] comprised a friable, mid orangey-grey silt clay with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions.
- 4.11.5 A single undiagnostic piece of worked flint and five pieces of fire cracked flint were retrieved from gully fill [22/008].
- 4.11.6 A single medieval pottery bodysherd was recovered from overlying deposit [22/003].

4.12 Trench 23

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
23/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.15	4.78-4.85
23/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.10	
23/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.21-0.26	
23/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.19-4.24
23/005	Cut	Pit	0.7	0.51	0.19-0.19	4.19-4.20
23/006	Fill	Fill, single	0.7	0.51	0.19-0.19	
23/007	Cut	Gully	2	0.65	0.12-0.12	4.25-4.27
23/008	Fill	Fill, single	2	0.65	0.12-0.12	
23/009	Cut	Hedge line	2	1.15	0.04-0.04	4.25-4.30
23/010	Fill	Fill, single	2	1.15	0.04-0.04	

Table 13: Trench 23 list of recorded contexts

- 4.12.1 Trench 23 was located towards the south-west of site and measured 28.40m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a west to east alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.12.2 Three archaeological features were identified and excavated, comprising a single pit, a single gully and a single hedge-line (Figure 13).
- 4.12.3 Pit [23/005] was located towards the west end of the trench, the pit fill [23/006] comprised a friable, light orangey-grey silt clay with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions.
- 4.12.4 Two pieces of fire cracked flint were retrieved from pit fill [23/006].
- 4.12.5 Gully [23/007] was located towards the middle of the trench, orientated on a north to south alignment, the gully fill [23/008] comprised a friable mid greyish-orange silt clay. No finds were retrieved from the fill.
- 4.12.6 Hedge-line [23/009] was located towards the eastern end of the trench, orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment, the hedge-line fill [23/010] comprised a friable, mid orangey-grey silt clay with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions.
- 4.12.7 A single piece of undiagnostic worked flint and one piece of fire cracked flint was retrieved from hedge-line fill [23/010].
- 4.12.8 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.13 Trench 24

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
24/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.20	4.74-4.81
24/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.18	
24/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.22-0.30	
24/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0.22-0.30	4.08-4.19
24/005	Cut	Ditch	2	1.2	0.40-0.40	4.12-4.14
24/006	Fill	Fill, single	2	1.2	0.40-0.40	

Table 14: Trench 24 list of recorded contexts

- 4.13.1 Trench 24 was located towards the south of site and measured 28.90m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.13.2 One archaeological feature was identified and excavated, comprising a single ditch (Figure 14).
- 4.13.3 Ditch [24/005] was located at the south end of the trench, orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment with a slight curve. Ditch fill [24/006] comprised a firm, mid greyish-brown silt clay with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions.
- 4.13.4 Two pieces of fire cracked flint were retrieved from ditch fill [24/006].
- 4.13.5 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.14 Trench 30

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
30/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.16	4.67-4.75
30/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.16	
30/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.20-0.32	
30/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.03-4.20
30/005	Cut	Ditch	2	1	0.19-0.19	3.95-3.98
30/006	Fill	Fill, single	2	1	0.19-0.19	

Table 15: Trench 30 list of recorded contexts

- 4.14.1 Trench 30 was located at the extreme south of site and measured 29.60m in length, 2.10m wide and was orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.14.2 One archaeological feature was identified and excavated comprising a single ditch (Figure 15).
- 4.14.3 Ditch [30/005] was located towards the south-west end of the trench, orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment, ditch fill [30/006] comprised

a friable, mid orangey-brown silt clay with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions. No finds were retrieved from the fill.

4.14.4 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

4.15 Archaeologically Negative Trenches

4.15.1 More than half of the trenches excavated were devoid of archaeological deposits (see Appendix 1).

4.15.2 These were mostly located in the northern and extreme southern parts of the site.

4.15.3 The depths of the archaeologically negative trenches were fairly consistent across the site from c.0.68m deep in the south to c.0.76m deep in the north. Across the entirety of site the overburden consisted of a simple stratigraphic sequence of natural clay overlain by brickearth, subsoil and topsoil, varying in depth from c.0.45m deep to c.0.60m deep.

4.15.4 The natural horizon appeared to be undisturbed.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation and 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 16). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014).

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Fire Cracked Flint	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Glass	Weight (g)
1/006											1	5	1	11		
12/006	5	43									15	45				
12/008	1	27									18	76				
12/010			2	4												
16/006					1	573					2	90				
16/008	3	930	25	25							9	173				
16/013	4	41	2	6							8	154				
17/009	4	114					1	14			1	28				
17/011											1	55				
18/006																
18/010											1	17				
19/006	2	11							1	6	6	57			1	4
21/006	1	43	2	2							1	42				
22/003			1	5												
22/008	1	21									5	148				
23/006											2	39				
23/010	1	2									1	47				
24/006											2	64				
Total	22	1232	31	42	1	573	1	14	1	6	73	1040	2	16	1	4

Table 16: Finds quantification

5.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

- 5.2.1 In total, seven pieces of struck flint weighing 83g and 73 fragments of burnt unworked flint weighing 1040g were recovered from the site. No diagnostic tools were found, but based on morphological and technological grounds the broken blade-like flake from context [17/013] is likely to be Mesolithic or Neolithic in date. The remaining flints – six flakes from contexts [12/006], [17/009], [17/013], [19/006], [22/008] and [22/001] – are technologically poor and can't be closely dated on technological ground. The pieces are mainly made from mid grey flint with thin (<1mm) abraded cortex. They displayed some signs of weathering, indicating that they have experienced some post-depositional disturbance.
- 5.2.2 The burnt unworked flint fragments were recovered from 15 numbered contexts in ten trenches (trenches 1, 12, 16-19, 21-24). The majority were calcined light grey, with a few fragments displaying some reddish tinge. The size of the fragments varied too. The average size was approximately 45mm, but some contexts contained only very small fragments measuring up to 25mm. Burnt unworked flints are frequently associated with later prehistoric (Middle Bronze Age to Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age) activities, but they can also be found in earlier and later contexts.
- 5.2.3 The small assemblage of worked flint demonstrates early presence at the site during the prehistoric period.

5.3 The Prehistoric Pottery by Anna Doherty

- 5.3.1 A small fragmentary assemblage of prehistoric pottery, recovered during the evaluation, amounts to 30 sherds, weighing 37g. At this stage the pottery has been examined with a x20 binocular microscope for the purposes for spot-dating and characterisation but not fully recorded according to a fabric type-series. It is recommended that it should be retained and integrated into any future recording process in the event of further archaeological work at the site.
- 5.3.2 The earliest fragment is a highly abraded, low-fired oxidised sherd, tempered with common rounded grog of c. 1mm in size, found as a probable residual element in context [16/008]. This fabric type is very typical of the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. The relatively thin-walled nature of the sherd suggests it is likely to belong either to the Late Neolithic Grooved Ware or Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Beaker tradition. A previous excavation in North Bersted is one of very few sites in Sussex to have produced non-funerary ceramics of this period (Raymond 2014).
- 5.3.3 Four contexts, [12/010], [16/008], [17/013] and [21/006], contained small fragments of flint-tempered pottery. Although there was some minor variability in the size and frequency of the flint inclusions, they can all be described as relatively fine (flint of <2mm) and well-sorted fabrics, with fairly well-fired silty matrixes. It is not possible to date very small assemblages of flint-tempered body sherds with absolute certainty; however, fabrics of this type are probably suggestive of a broad earlier Iron Age date range, since later Bronze Age assemblages tend to have a coarser range of fabrics and later Iron Age ones

tend to include some non-flint-tempered wares.

5.4 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

- 5.4.1 A single somewhat abraded small body sherd (6g) was recovered from context [22/003]. The sherd is not particularly diagnostic but would appear to derive from a reduced grey fine sand tempered cooking pot with traces of external sooting. A date between c. 1275 and 1400 is considered most likely. The sherd has been retained for the moment so it can be assessed in the light of any further finds that may be made during any mitigation works.

5.5 The Fired Clay by Trista Clifford

- 5.5.1 A single fragment of fired clay weighing 16g was recovered from context [1/006]. The fragment is made in a sparsely sand tempered fabric. It is an irregular lump which is not indicative of function.

5.6 The Glass by Elke Raemen

- 5.6.1 A single wine bottle fragment weighing 4g was recovered from [19/006]. The piece is of mid-19th to mid-20th century date.

5.7 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

- 5.7.1 A single piece of stone (574g) was recovered from the site during the evaluation (context [16/006]). This consists of a grey-brown slightly crystalline metamorphic rock with some signs of water wear but none of modification at the hand of man. The piece is probably a naturally occurring erratic, many of which are found on the coastal plain, particularly south of Chichester. The stone is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis as it is unworked – it has been discarded.

5.8 Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

- 5.8.1 A single environmental sample produced a tiny magnetic fraction from its residue (context [1/006], sample <1>). A close examination of this under x10 magnification showed it to mainly consist of granules of natural ferruginous stone/oxides (<1g). However, a single hammerscale flake (1mm across) was present, suggesting some iron smithing in the general vicinity. The slag is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

5.9 The Iron by Trista Clifford

- 5.9.1 A single fragment of iron weighing 14g was recovered from context [17/009]. The fragment is probably part of a tanged blade or tool. A medieval or early post medieval date is probable.

5.10 The Animal Bone by Emily Johnson

- 5.10.1 One fragment of animal bone was hand collected from context [19/006], the fill of a ditch, weighing approximately 6g in total. The bone was in a very poor state of preservation, with surface erosion and flaking of the cortical surface. The bone was identifiable as a large mammal humerus.

6.0 The Environmental Samples by Lucy Allott

6.1 Introduction and methodology

- 6.1.1 A single sample was taken from [1/006] <1>, the charcoal rich fill of a possible hearth/pit [1/005] for the recovery of environmental remains as well as to assist finds retrieval. The 20 litre sample was processed in a flotation tank with the flots and residue captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes, respectively. The heavy residue was passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted (Table 17). The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and the contents recorded.
- 6.1.2 Charcoal fragments 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 500x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa. 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). Quantification and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Table 17 and nomenclature follows Stace (1997).

6.2 Results and Discussion

6.2.1 Sample <1> [1/006] pit/hearth [1/005]

The heavy residues consisted of wood charcoal, fired clay, fire-cracked flint and magnetic material. Many of the wood charcoal fragments were large, >8mm in size and well preserved with only limited evidence for sediment encrusting. The flots contained approximately 40% uncharred material including fine roots and occasional seeds of fat hen (*Chenopodium album*). Wood charcoal fragments were also prominent but in this instance the assemblage primarily comprised very small flecks (<2mm).

- 6.2.2 Oak (*Quercus* sp.) was the only taxon identified in the charcoal and, of the fragments viewed, all display tightly spaced growth rings and almost no evidence for ring curvature. This indicates they originate from large, slow grown wood, which is most likely from the main stem of large trees or large branches. A few charred grass (Poaceae) stem fragments were also noted. Although the grass stems were not abundant, the combination of oak wood charcoal and grass stems and the absence of other charred plant remains is interesting and suggests they may have been used together as fuel. The grasses could have been used as kindling for example. The assemblage is, however, limited and presents no opportunity for further interpretation or potential to obtain a date for the feature. The assemblage demonstrates excellent preservation and any future work in the vicinity should sample for comparable assemblages.

Sample Number	Context/ Parent Context	Context / Deposit Type	Sample Volume (L)	Sub-Sample Volume (L)	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Other (eg. pot, cbm, etc.) (quantity/ weight)	Notes
1	1/006 [1/005]	Pit/ Hearth	20	20	****	55	****	30	Quercus sp. (10)	F.Clay (* /8g) FCF (* /2g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (** /<1g)	20% of 2- 4mm charcoal extracted.

Table 17: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 7.1.1 The undisturbed natural geology comprised a firm yellow silt clay with occasional patches of weathered chalk and bands of a bluish grey clay throughout. The natural geology was encountered at a maximum elevation of 4.39m AOD towards the south of the site area (Trench 20), falling away to 3.54m AOD in the north of the site (Trench 1).
- 7.1.2 The depths of the excavated trenches were fairly consistent across the site from c.0.68m deep in the south to c.0.76m deep in the north. Across the entirety of site the overburden consisted of a simple stratigraphic sequence of natural clay overlain by brickearth, subsoil and topsoil, varying in depth from c.0.45m deep to c.0.60m deep.
- 7.1.3 The evaluation identified archaeological features in 13 of the 30 trenches.
- 7.1.4 Owing to the poor quality of the recovered finds it has been hard to ascertain a secure date for the archaeological features but a small assemblage of flint tempered pottery bodysherds are probably suggestive of a broad earlier Iron Age date range.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 7.2.1 Minimal disturbance to the natural substrate was encountered across the entirety of the evaluated area.

7.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Prehistoric

- 7.3.1 In total, seven pieces of struck flint weighing 83g and 73 fragments of burnt unworked flint weighing 1040g were recovered from the site. No diagnostic tools were found, but based on morphological and technological grounds the broken blade-like flake from context [17/013] is likely to be Mesolithic or Neolithic in date. The remaining flints – six flakes from contexts [12/006], [17/009], [17/013], [19/006], [22/008] and [22/001] – are technologically poor and can't be closely dated on technological ground.
- 7.3.2 The small assemblage of worked flint demonstrates early presence at the site during the prehistoric period.
- 7.3.3 A small assemblage of prehistoric pottery was recovered during the evaluation, totalling 30 sherds, weighing 37g. The assemblage is largely undiagnostic and it is therefore difficult to date conclusively; however, a single fragment typical of the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age was recovered and was probably a residual element in context [16/008].
- 7.3.4 Considering the assemblage as a whole, the range of fabrics would be consistent with a c. Early Iron Age date.

Medieval

- 7.3.5 A single somewhat abraded small bodysherd (6g) was recovered from context [22/003]. The sherd is not particularly diagnostic but would appear to derive from a reduced grey fine sand tempered cooking pot with traces of external sooting. A date between c. 1275 and 1400 is considered most likely.
- 7.3.6 A single fragment of iron weighing 14g was recovered from context [17/009]. The fragment is probably part of a tanged blade or tool. A medieval or early post medieval date is probable.

Post-Medieval

- 7.3.7 A single wine bottle fragment weighing 4g was recovered from [19/006]. The piece is of mid-19th to mid-20th century date.

Undated

- 7.3.8 The remainder of the excavated archaeological features are undated. These comprised five ditches, two pits, and two gullies.

7.4 Consideration of project aims

- 7.4.1 The field evaluation has established that there are archaeological remains mostly across the central-southern part of the site. The archaeological remains have been interpreted as mostly an Earlier Iron Age date.
- 7.4.2 Two undated cremations were also identified but not excavated during the evaluation. Each was left in situ and mapped using GPS.
- 7.4.3 The depth of archaeological deposits varies between 0.68m and 0.76m below ground surface. Generally, the preservation of the archaeological deposits is considered good with minimal contamination.
- 7.4.4 Minimal disturbance to the natural substrate was encountered across the entirety of the evaluated area.

7.5 Conclusions

- 7.5.1 The evaluation identified archaeological features in 13 of the 30 trenches. The features were predominantly located in the central-southern part of the site. Those features that were excavated appear to be mostly of an Earlier Iron Age date, comprising ditches most likely forming a field system(s) possibly relating to livestock management, although a fair quantity of discrete features including postholes and pits were also found, as were two cremations which also suggest occupation activity.

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HER Summary

Site code	NBL 18				
Project code	171203				
Planning reference	BE/142/15/OUT				
Site address	Land west of New Barn Lane, North Bersted, West Sussex.				
District/Borough	Arun District Council				
NGR (12 figures)	491571 101061				
Geology	Brickearth and River Terrace Deposits of sand, silt and clay				
Fieldwork type	EVAL				
Date of fieldwork	22 nd and 31 st January 2018				
Sponsor/client	CgMs				
Project manager	Darryl Palmer				
Project supervisor	John Hirst				
Period summary					Iron Age
Project summary	<p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs. to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed development of land west of New Barn Lane, Bersted, West Sussex. Thirty trenches were excavated.</p> <p>The evaluation identified archaeological features in 13 of the 30 trenches. The features were predominantly located in the central-southern part of the site. Those features that were excavated appear to be mostly of an Earlier Iron Age date, comprising ditches most likely forming a field system(s) possibly relating to livestock management, although a fair quantity of discrete features including postholes and pits were also found, as were two cremations which also suggest occupation activity.</p>				

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-309384

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation at land west of New Barn Lane, North Bersted, West Sussex
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs. to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed development of land west of New Barn Lane, Bersted, West Sussex. Thirty trenches were excavated. The evaluation identified archaeological features in 13 of the 30 trenches. The features were predominantly located in the central-southern part of the site. Those features that were excavated appear to be mostly of an Earlier Iron Age date, comprising ditches most likely forming a field system(s) possibly relating to livestock management, although a fair quantity of discrete features including postholes and pits were also found, as were two cremations which also suggest occupation activity.
Project dates	Start: 22-01-2018 End: 31-01-2018
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX ARUN BERSTED Land west of New Barn Lane, North Bersted
Study area	3.7 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 9155 0107 50.801380795936 -0.700695624906 50 48 04 N 000 42 02 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 3.54m Max: 4.39m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design	ASE

originator

Project director/manager Darryl Palmer

Project supervisor John Hirst

Project archives

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal"

Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"

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

Paper Contents "Animal Bones","Glass","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Manuscript","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

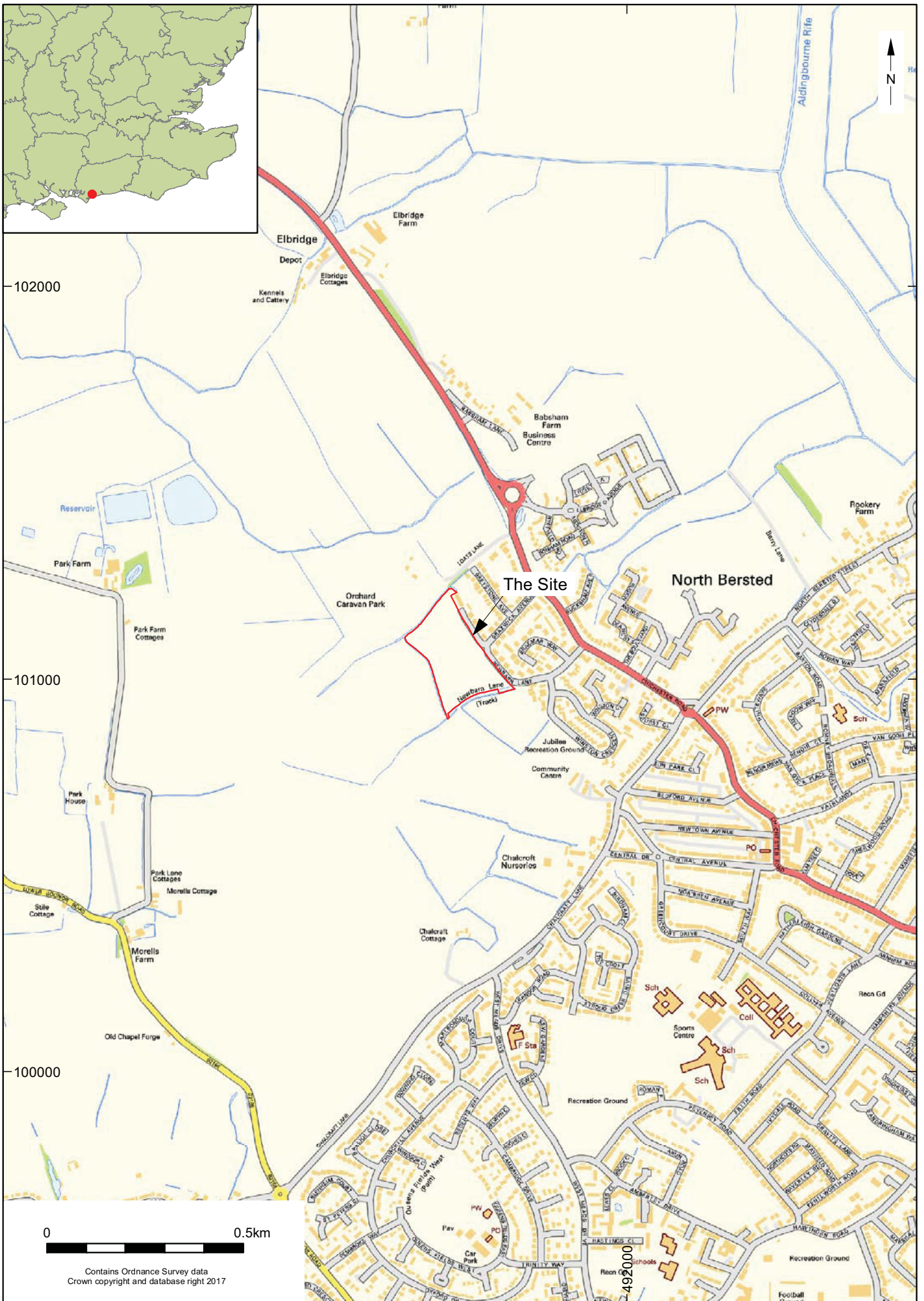
Entered by John Hirst (j.hirst@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 16 February 2018

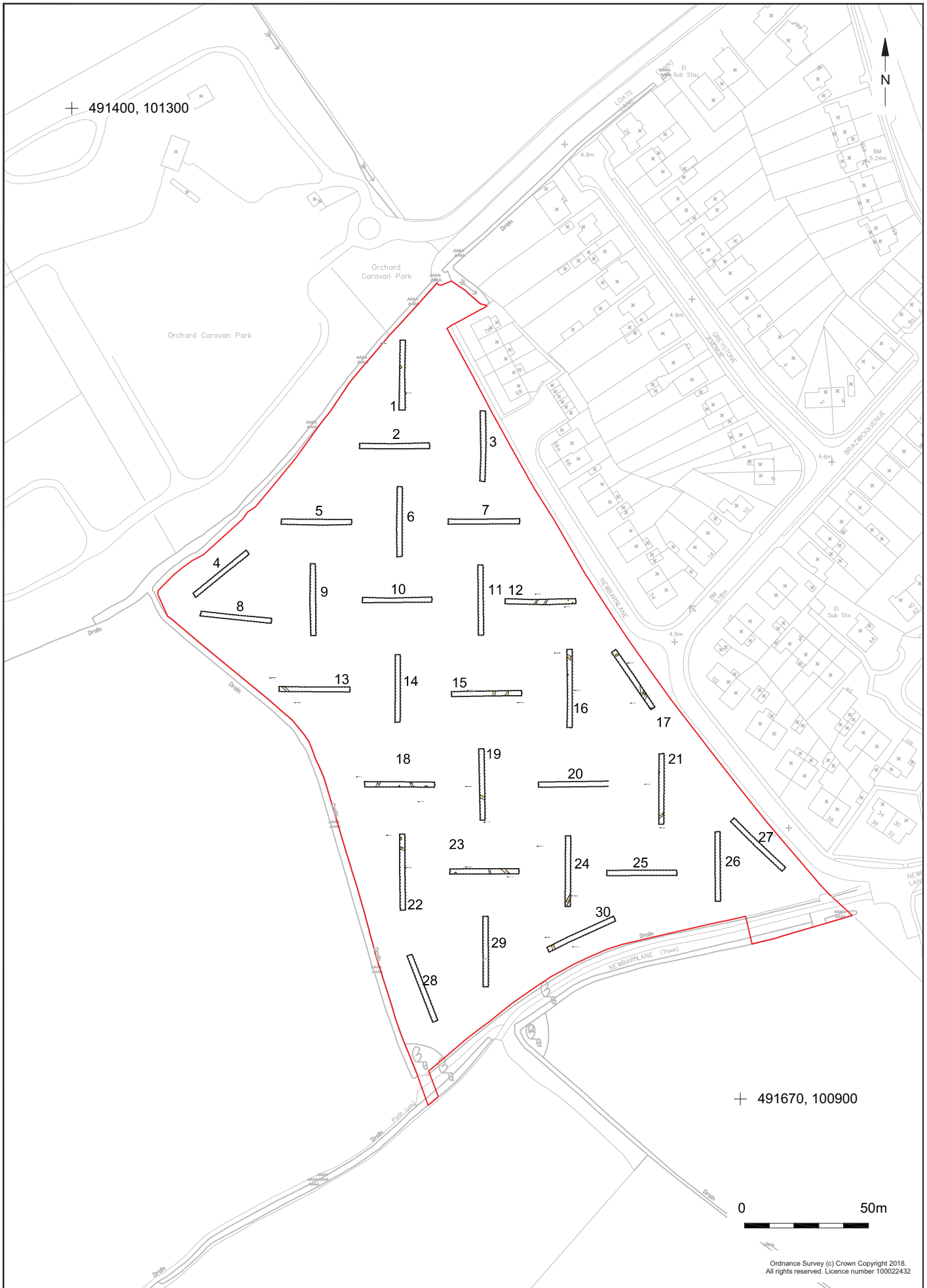
Appendix 1: Archaeologically negative trenches

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.18	4.22-4.27
2/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.11	
2/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.20-0.22	
2/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.59-3.70
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.15	4.32-4.44
3/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.08-0.09	
3/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.26-0.35	
3/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.57-3.59
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.14	4.32-4.42
4/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.11	
4/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.21-0.28	
4/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.85-3.89
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.14	4.31-4.40
5/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.15	
5/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.20-0.24	
5/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.73-3.80
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.20	4.34-4.41
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.17	
6/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.26-0.33	
6/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.77-3.87
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.18-0.20	4.54-4.66
7/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.15	
7/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.34-0.36	
7/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.94-3.94
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.10	4.31-4.42
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.08-0.12	
8/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.16-0.28	
8/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.80-3.99
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.15	4.39-4.42
9/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.16	
9/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.16-0.24	
9/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.91-3.99
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.14	4.51-4.65
10/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.12	
10/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.12-0.22	
10/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.98-4.07
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.11-0.18	4.75-4.82
11/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.15	
11/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.05-0.28	
11/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.19-4.29
14/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.18	4.57-4.64
14/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.18	
14/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.32-0.38	
14/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.84-3.95
20/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.16	4.92-4.92
20/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.10	
20/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.15-0.26	
20/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.33-4.39
25/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.16	4.70-4.78
25/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.18	

25/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.25-0.40	
25/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.13-4.19
26/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.15	4.69-4.79
26/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.15	
26/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.26-0.36	
26/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.15-4.16
27/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.16	4.68-4.81
27/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.11-0.15	
27/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.25-0.28	
27/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.15-4.24
28/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.14	4.66-4.75
28/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.14	
28/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.30-0.38	
28/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.12-4.24
29/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.18	4.70-4.83
29/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.14	
29/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.26-0.34	
29/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.06-4.16

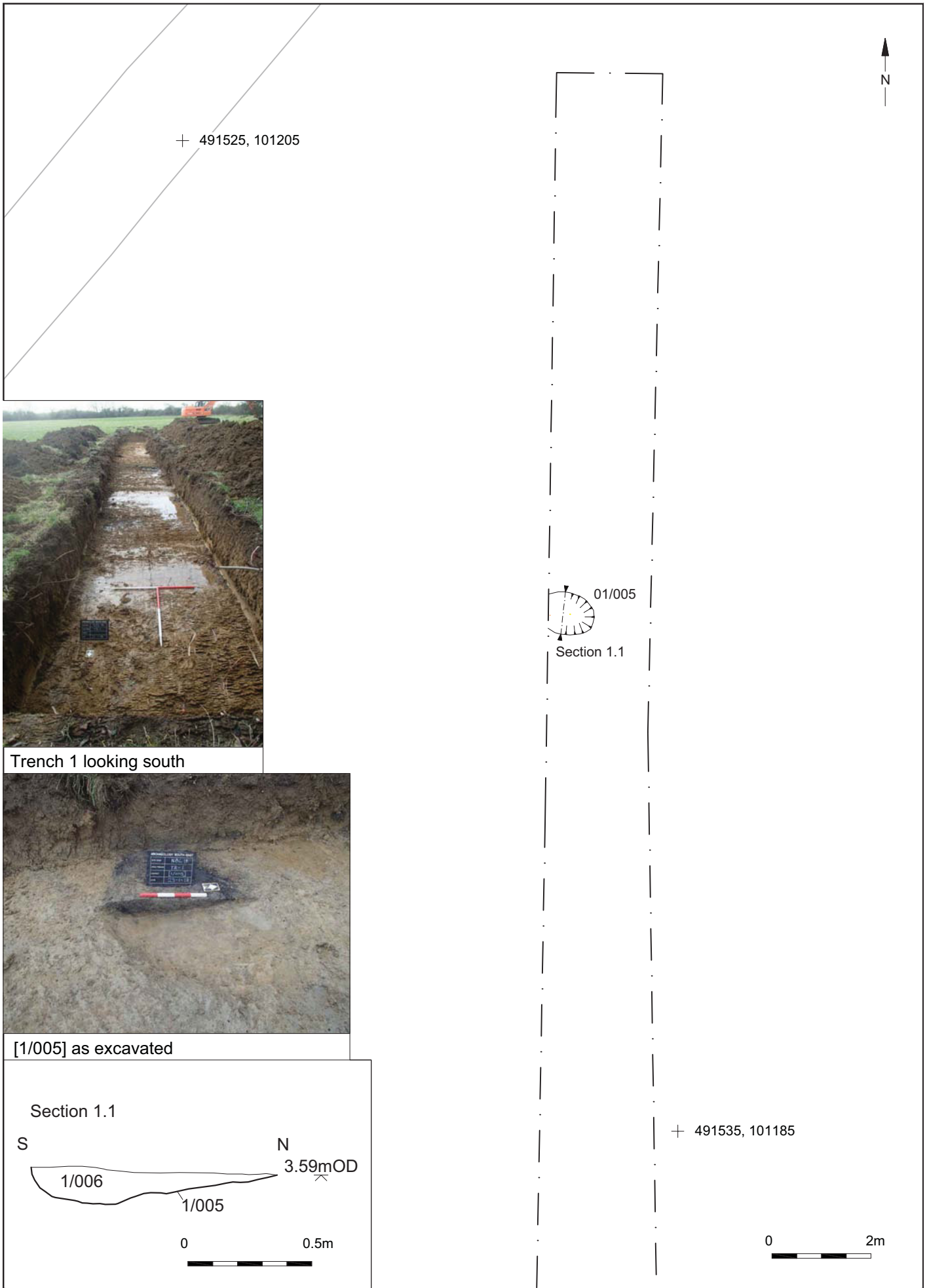


© Archaeology South-East		Land west of New Barn Lane, North Bersted, Bognor Regis		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 171203	Jan 2018	Site location		
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: JLR			



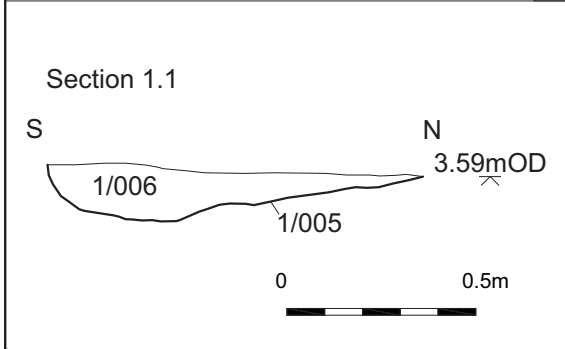
• Archaeology South-East		Land West of New Barn Lane, North Bersted. Bognor Regis	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: JC		

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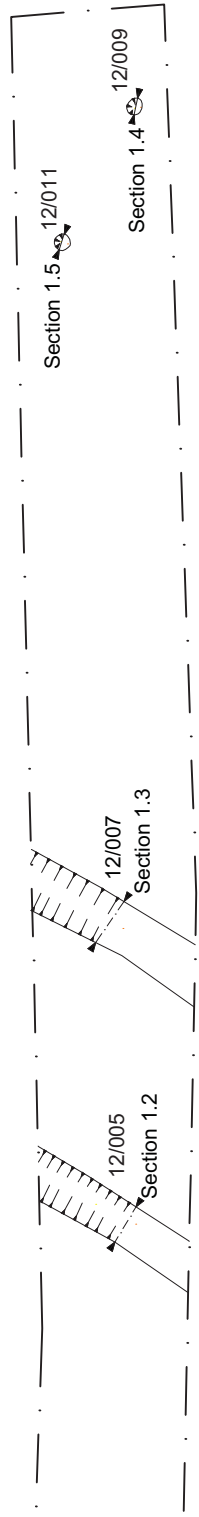
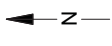
Trench 1 looking south

[1/005] as excavated



<p>• Archaeology South-East</p>		<p>Trench 1 plan, sections and photographs</p>		<p>Fig.3</p>
<p>Project Ref: 171203</p>	<p>February 2018</p>	<p>New Barn Lane, North Bersted</p>		
<p>Report Ref: 2018039</p>	<p>Drawn by: SC/JC</p>			

+ 491587, 101104



+ 491599, 101099



[12/009] as excavated



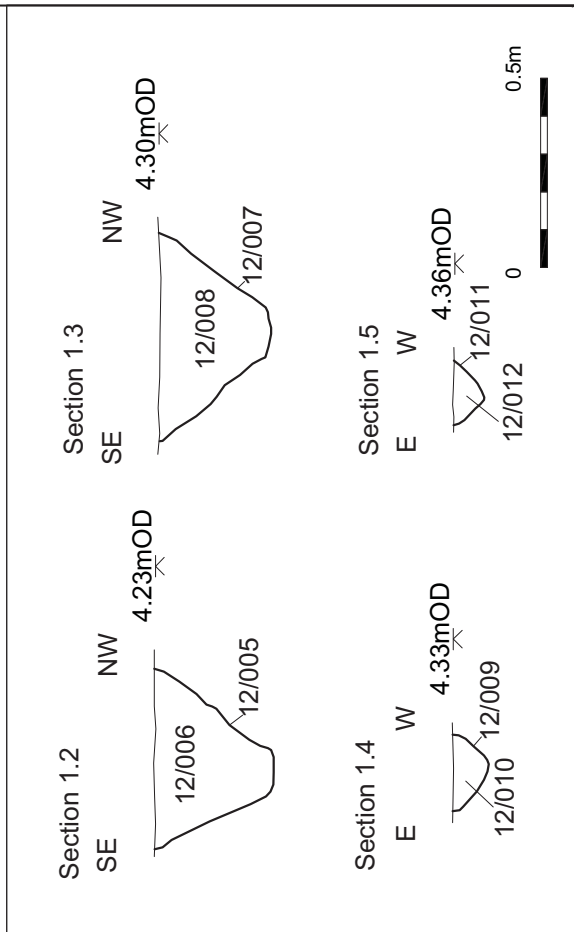
Trench 12 looking west



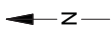
[12/005] as excavated



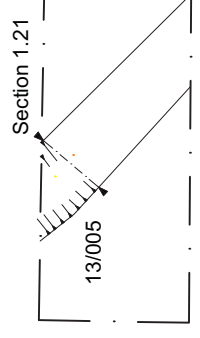
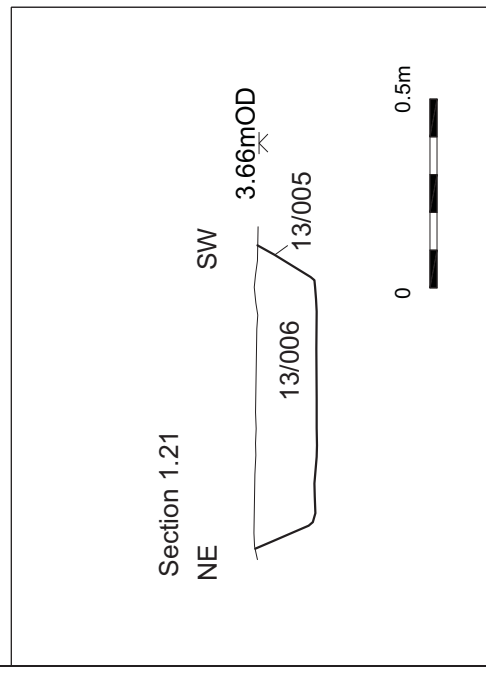
[12/007] as excavated



<p>• Archaeology South-East</p>		<p>Trench 12 plan, sections and photographs</p>	
<p>Project Ref: 171203</p>	<p>February 2018</p>	<p>New Barn Lane, North Bersted</p>	
<p>Report Ref: 2018039</p>	<p>Drawn by: SC/JC</p>	<p>Fig. 4</p>	



+ 491480, 101070



+ 491490, 101060



[13/005] as excavated



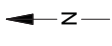
Trench 13 facing west

• Archaeology South-East		
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: SC/JC	

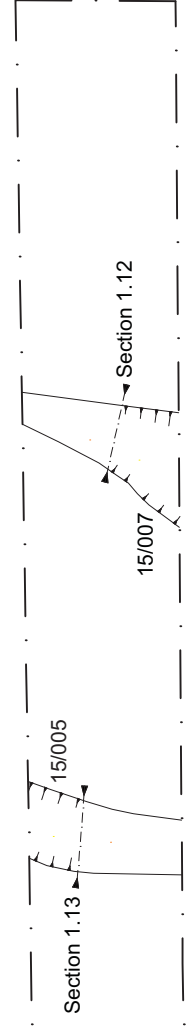
Trench 13 plan, sections and photographs

New Barn Lane, North Bersted

Fig. 5



+ 491560, 101065



+ 491580, 101060



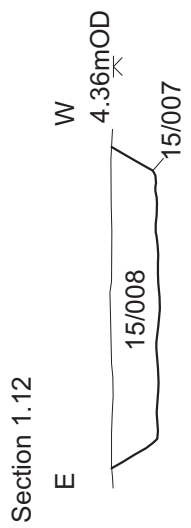
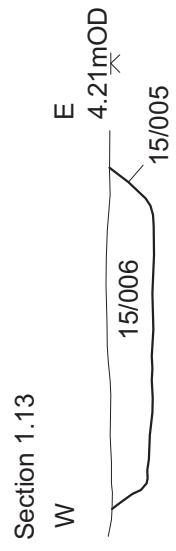
[15/007] as excavated



[15/005] as excavated



Trench 15 facing west



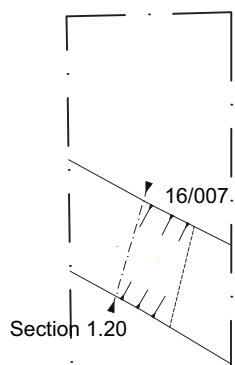
• Archaeology South-East		Trench 15 plan, sections and photographs	
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	New Barn Lane, North Bersted	
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: SC/JC		

Fig. 6



Trench 16 facing north

+ 491595, 101080



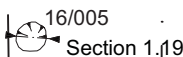
Section 1.20



[16/007] as excavated



[16/005] as excavated



Section 1.19

+ 491603, 101065



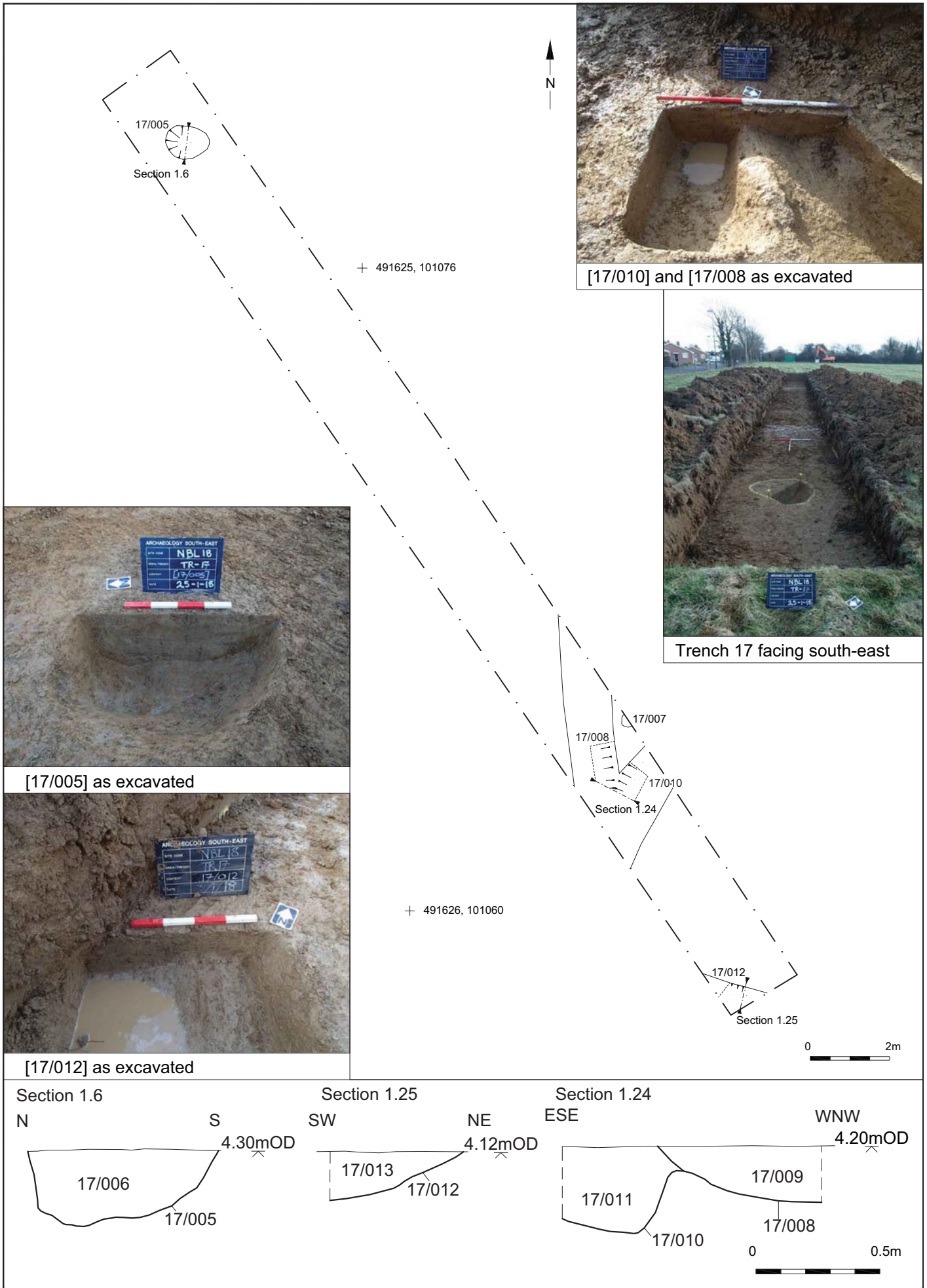
Section 1.20
S



Section 1.19
E W



• Archaeology South-East		Trench 16 plan, sections and photographs	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	New Barn Lane, North Bersted	
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: SC/JC		



• Archaeology South-East		Trench 17 plan, sections and photographs		Fig. 8
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	New Barn Lane, North Bersted		
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: SC/JC			

+ 491515, 101030



Trench 18 facing east



[18/005] as excavated



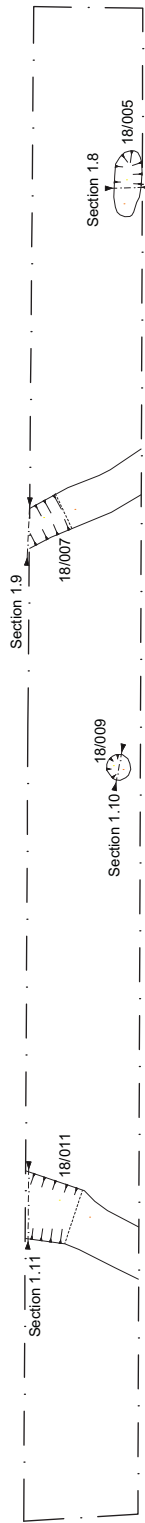
[18/009] as excavated



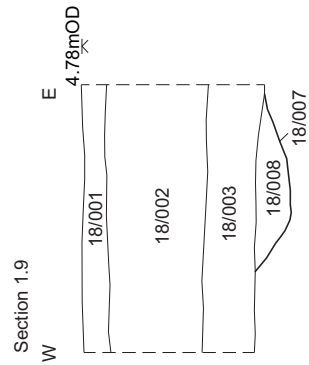
[18/007] as excavated



[18/011] as excavated



+ 491540, 101020



Section 1.9

W

E

Section 1.10

W

E

Section 1.8

S

N

Section 1.11

W

E

Section 1.8

S

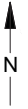
N

Section 1.11

W

E



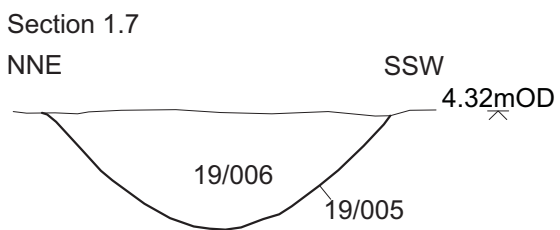


+ 491559, 101026

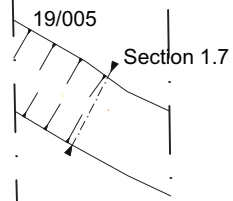
[19/005] as excavated



Trench 19 facing north



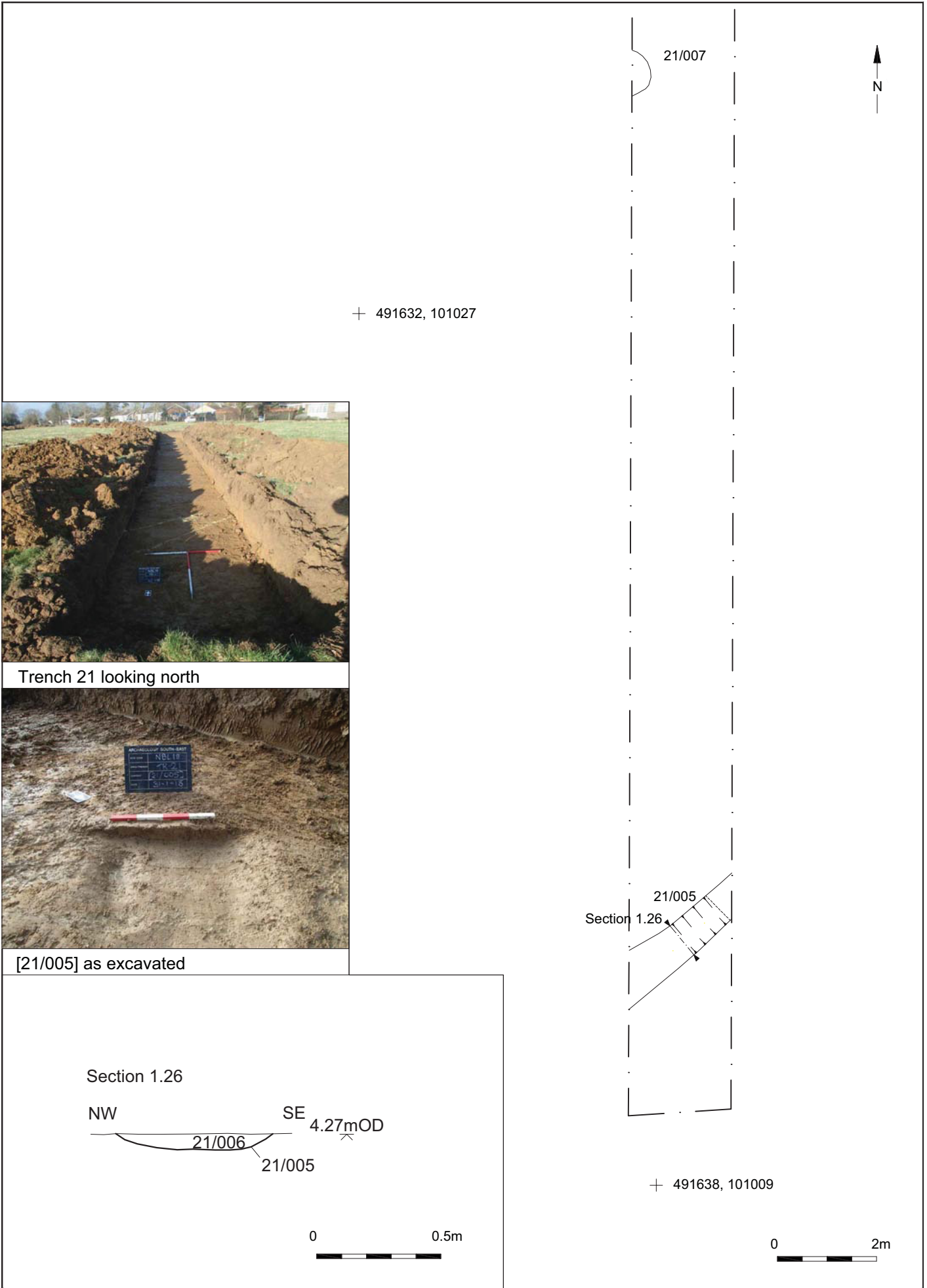
0 0.5m



+ 491566, 101012

0 2m





• Archaeology South-East		Trench 21 plan, sections and photographs	Fig. 11
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	New Barn Lane, North Bursted	
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: SC/JC		

+ 491527, 101006



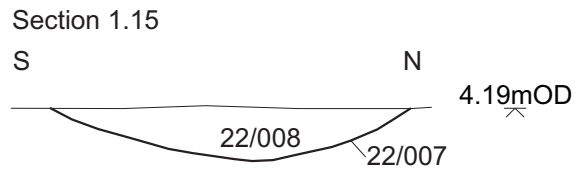
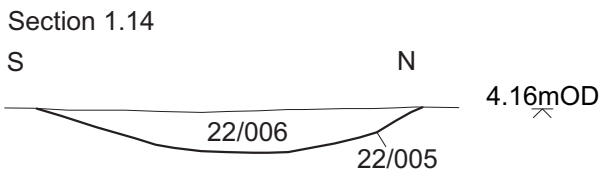
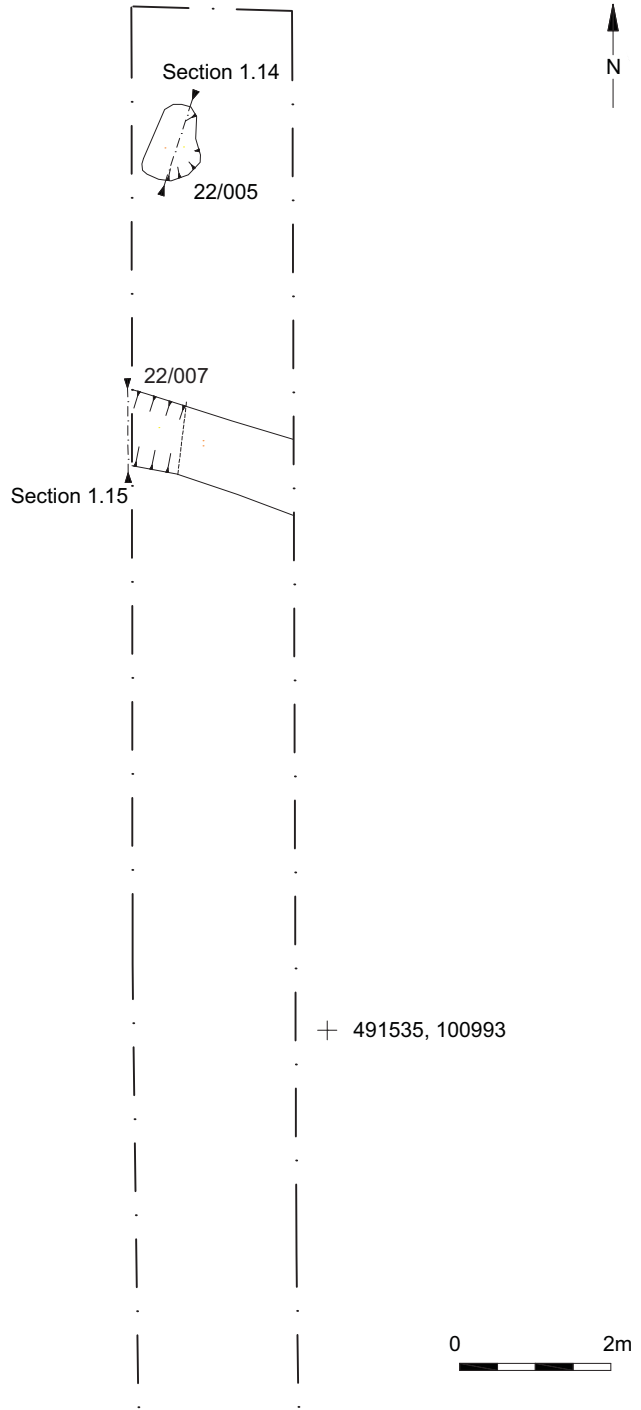
[22/007] as excavated



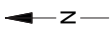
[22/005] as excavated



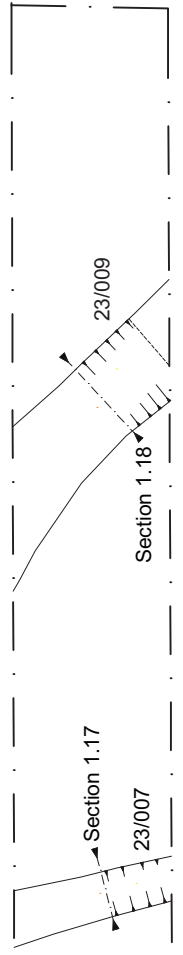
Trench 22 looking south



• Archaeology South-East		Trench 22 plan, sections and photographs	Fig. 12
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	New Barn Lane, North Bersted	
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: SC/JC		



+ 491559, 100994



Section 1.16
23/005



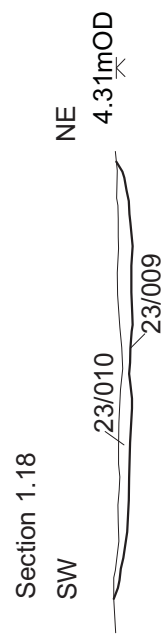
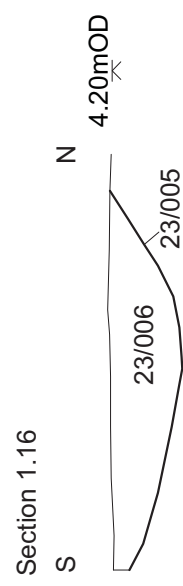
+ 491576, 100990



[23/007] as excavated

[23/005] as excavated

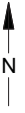
Trench 23 facing north



Archaeology South-East		Trench 23 plan, sections and photographs	
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	New Barn Lane, North Bersted	
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: SC/JC		

Fig. 13

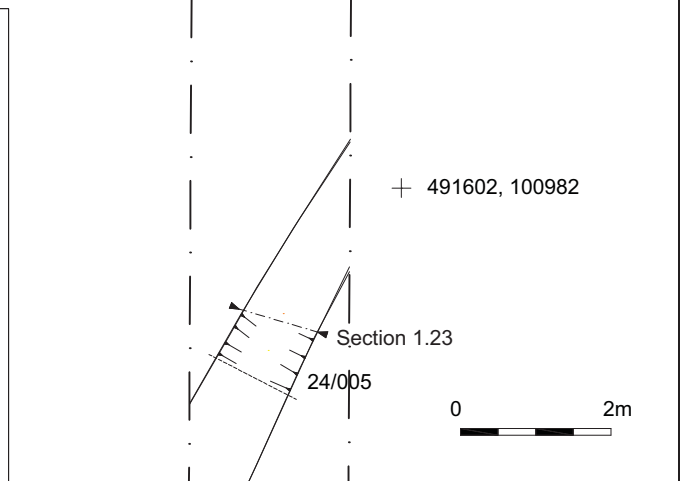
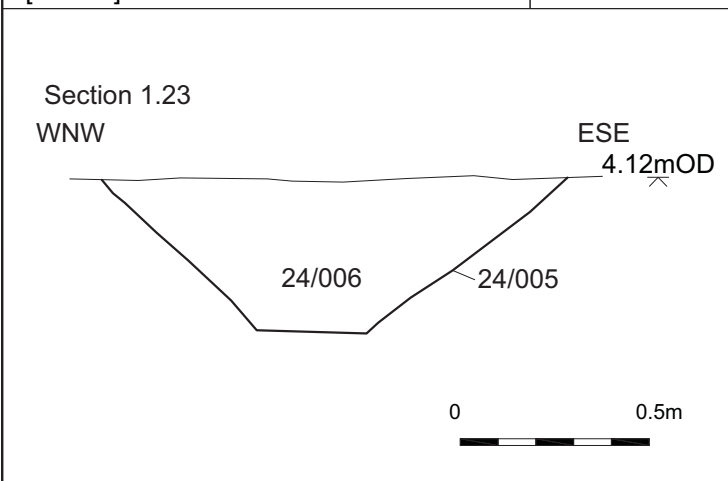
+ 491588, 101002



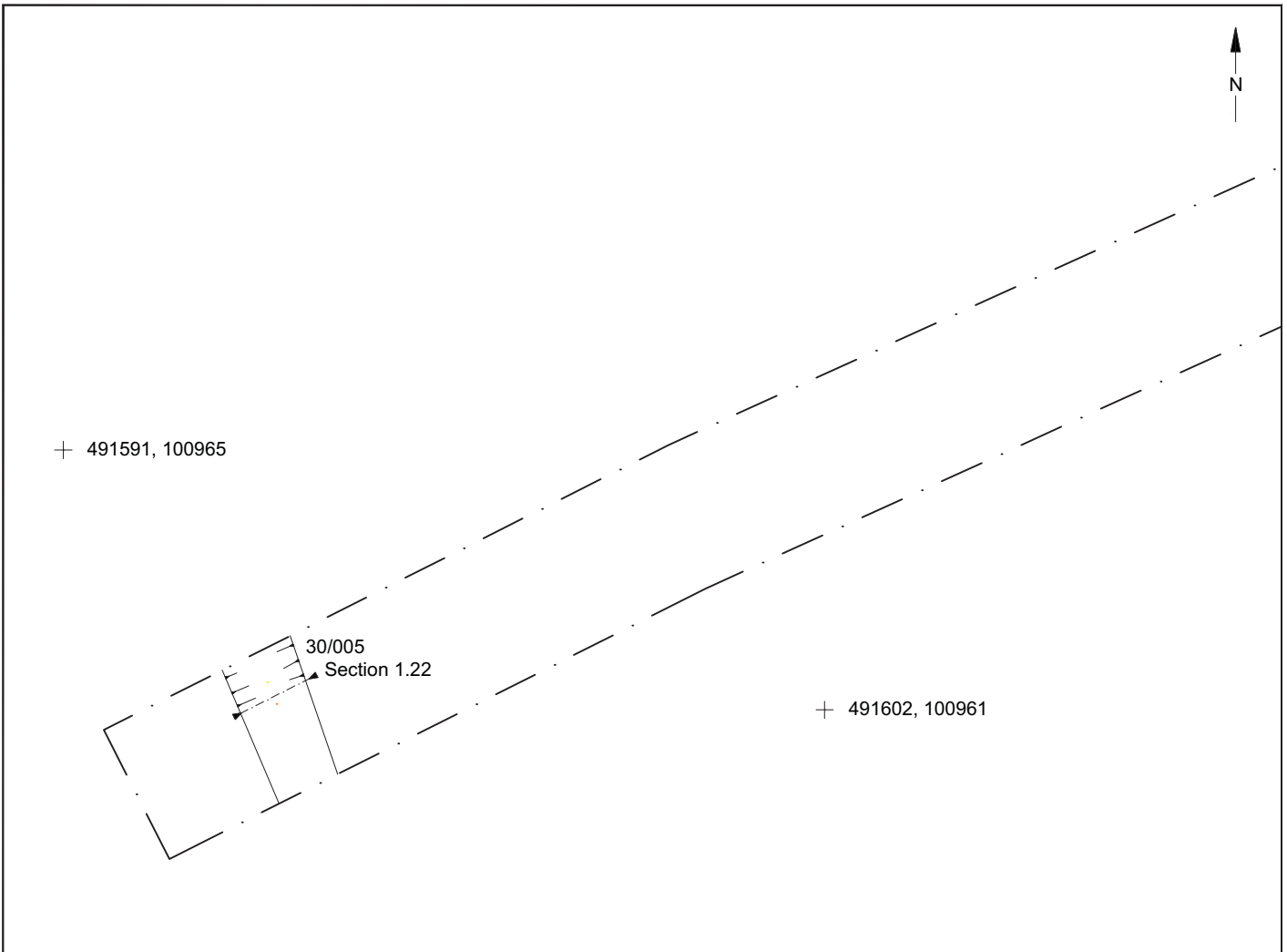
Trench 24 facing south



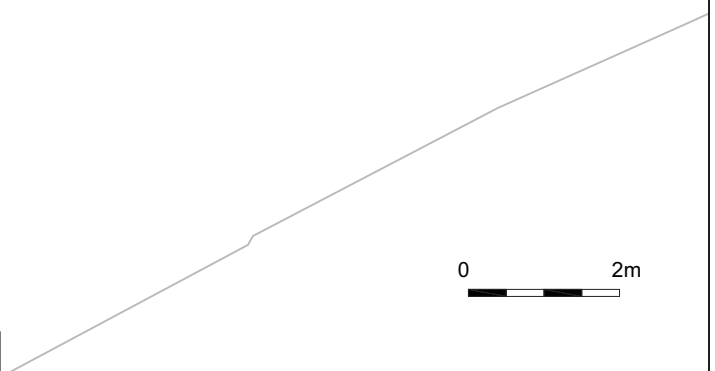
[24/005] as excavated



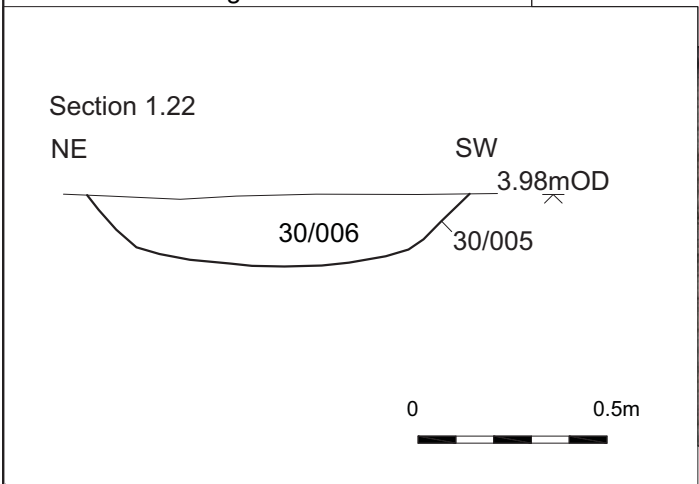
• Archaeology South-East		Trench 24 plan, section and photographs	Fig. 14
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	New Barn Lane, North Bersted	
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: SC/JC		



Trench 30 looking north-east



0 2m



[30/005] as excavated

• Archaeology South-East		Trench 30 plan, sections and photographs	Fig. 15
Project Ref: 171203	February 2018	New Barn Lane, North Bersted	
Report Ref: 2018039	Drawn by: SC/JC		

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