

**Final Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief
At Charleston Barns, Charleston
Eastbourne Road, Firle
East Sussex**

**NGR: 549035 106895
(TQ 49035 06895)**

**Planning Refs: SDNP/14/00683/FUL & SDNP/14/00684/LIS
ASE Project No: 6815
Site Code: FCH15
ASE Report No: 2019035
OASIS ID: archaeol6-343230**



By Lucy May



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Prepared by:	Lucy May	Archaeologist	
Reviewed and approved by:	Dan Swift	Project Manager	
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**Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR
Tel: 01273 426830
Fax: 01273 420866
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
www.archaeologyse.co.uk**

Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out by Archaeology South-East at Charleston, Firle, East Sussex between 2015 and 2017. The fieldwork was commissioned by The Charleston Trust, in advance of groundworks associated with the new access road and car park as well as groundworks associated with alterations made to the historic farm buildings and surrounding area.

Small quantities of residual early prehistoric flint artefacts were recovered from site during the archaeological works, suggesting a low level of exploitation of the landscape during this period. The earliest evidence of occupation on site was found within Area 1 and dates to the Early Iron Age. Unfortunately, only two features of this date were encountered which consisted of a large pit and a small pit or ditch terminus. Occupation continued into the Late Iron Age- Roman period in which a series of ditches, arranged perpendicular to each other, appear to form a field boundary as well as two parallel ditches which form a trackway around. A small number of pits were also of this date however their relationship to the surrounding activity is unclear.

Area 2 focuses on the Hay barn and Threshing barn complex to the south of Charleston Farmhouse. It is thought, looking at the remains of the timber framing, that this is 17th century in origin which corresponds with the map and documentary research. The building underwent multiple phases of construction over the centuries which became clearer during the groundworks.

Early chalk footings were found beneath the current flint and brick walls of the Hay barn and are likely to be the footings for the original timber structure. An early surface with brick impressions was also found beneath the Threshing Barn which suggests it pre-dated the second phase (early-mid 18th century) in which the Threshing barn was built. Outside in the yard, similar chalk footings were encountered which could be the remains of a previous early structure to the west of the yard.

The third phase of construction during the late 18th century involved the replacement or encasement of the majority of the timber frame within the Hay barn with flint and brick. A number of brick surfaces and partition walls were revealed within the barns which would have been a later addition either during phase 2 or later. These surfaces could indicate a change in function of the farmstead from earlier crop processing and storage to animal husbandry.

Further evidence found in the south-eastern corner of the yard, revealed brick and concrete surface which has the potential to be an open-fronted animal shelter. This structure appears on maps during the early 19th century, but may have undergone renovations during the 20th century with the addition of brickwork and concrete.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location

(Figures 1 and 2)

- 1.1.1 The site is located to the south of the A27 and at the foot of the South Downs. The farmstead lies within the South Downs National Park and within an archaeological notification area defining the medieval and post-medieval manorial farm complex of Charleston.
- 1.1.2 The site comprises of a farm complex made up of the Grade II listed building, Charleston Farmhouse, an L-shaped barn arrangement with the remains of additional structures to the east with surrounding fields. The proposed work will focus on the groundworks associated with alterations to the two barns, one of which is Grade II listed, reconstruction of adjoining granary, the outside courtyard, (Area 2), and new car park and access road to the north-east of the buildings, (Area 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site, according to the British Geological Study (2019), is sat upon Gault Clay Formation, which is described as a pale to dark grey or blue-grey clay. To the south, the ground rises onto the West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation. Within part of the site, the superficial deposits appear to be described as head-clay, silt, sand and gravel.
- 1.2.1 The natural topography of the site is a gradual slope with the farmstead having been terraced into the slope of the South Downs. The eastern side of the farm buildings is approximately 1m lower than the barnyard.

1.3 Scope of the Project

- 1.3.1 Planning permission was granted consent from the South Downs National Park Authority (ref: SDNP/14/00683/FUL), for the repairs and alterations to the farm buildings, reconstruction of timber framed granary, construction of a new gallery and art store together with a kitchen and lavatories and conversion of existing vernacular building. In addition to these building works there are proposals for a new access road to the east and a new car park to the north. Condition No. 4 of the consent reads:

Prior to the commencement of each phase of development, a programme of archaeological works for that phase, which accords with a written scheme of investigation, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The programme of archaeological works therein shall be carried out in accordance with that approval. The written scheme of investigation shall consider the need for archaeological investigation for all elements of the development, including along the new access road (on the site of a former field boundary), new lay bys on the existing road and the car park and pathways.

Reason: The development is likely to disturb remains of archaeological interest, having regard to the National Planning Policy Framework.

- 1.3.2 In accordance with this, Archaeology South-East was commissioned by The Charleston Trust in 2009 to undertake an archaeological and historic buildings assessment (James, R and Henderson, M 2009). This concluded that the barns and barnyard have the potential to reveal earlier phases of building including footings, walls and floors whilst the surrounding fields revealed some features that might represent grubbed-out former hedgerows which may be of late medieval or early post-medieval date.
- 1.3.3 The proposed development detailed impacts on the archaeological resource and following consultation with the County Archaeologist East Sussex County Council, acting as advisor to the South Downs National Park Authority, a project design was approved and a methodology and programme of work was laid out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2014).
- 1.3.4 The fieldwork was undertaken by ASE between 2015 and 2017. The site was staffed by ASE archaeologists, project managed by Neil Griffin and directed by Susie Westall and Lucy May with further supervision by John Hirst, Naomi Humphreys, Odile Rouard and Steve Price .

1.4 Circumstances and Dates of Work

- 1.4.1 Archaeological and Historic Buildings Assessment commissioned by The Charleston Trust –September 2009 (James, R and Henderson, M 2009).

Watching Brief commissioned by The Charleston Trust – 2015 to 2017. This is reported on in this document.

1.5 Archaeological methodology

- 1.5.1 All archaeological fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the Sussex Archaeological Standards (CDC, ESCC, WSCC 2019) and in accordance with the methodology set out in the relevant Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; ASE 2014).
- 1.5.2 The watching brief was carried out in two phases. Area 1 was undertaken between March and April 2015 whilst Area 2 was undertaken between 2016 and 2017. During both phases a suitably-sized mechanical excavator was fitted with a toothless grading bucket was used to remove spits of overburden of up to 0.10m until the level of the natural geology or archaeological features were encountered
- 1.5.3 Area 1 monitored the striping of the area for the access road and the car park. The access road measured c.180m in length by c.5m wide whilst the car park was approximately 95m x 44m.
- 1.5.4 Area 2 monitored the groundworks associated with the repairs and alterations to the L-shaped barn and surrounding yard. This included the recording of a number of test pits, which were excavated in order to find the depth of the walls. This was dug by the contractors without archaeological monitoring. Further groundworks which were monitored included the ground reduction and underpinning within the barn and further ground reduction in the yard to the west of the barns. A small drainage trench was excavated through natural

deposits alongside the access road and measured c. 8m, 0.40m x 0.50m in depth.

- 1.5.5 All resultant features were cleaned as necessary and a pre-excavation plan prepared using Global Positioning System (GPS).
- 1.5.6 After the cleaning and planning of the areas monitored the following sampling strategy was employed:
- all structures and all zones of specialised activity (e.g. funerary, ceremonial, industrial, agricultural processing) were fully excavated and all relationships recorded.
 - ditches and gullies had all relationships defined, investigated and recorded. All terminals were excavated. Sufficient of the feature lengths were excavated to determine the character of the feature over its entire course; the possibility of recuts of parts, and not the whole, of the feature were considered.
 - pits, post and stake holes were 50% excavated, unless deemed necessary for full excavation ensuring that all relationships were investigated.
 - for layers a decision on-site was made as to the extent that they were excavated. The factors governing the judgement included the possibility that they masked earlier remains, the need to understand function and depositional processes, and the necessity to recover sufficient artefacts to date the deposit and to meet the project aims.
- 1.5.7 The features were then investigated by hand-excavation. All deposits were recorded using the standard context record sheets used by Archaeology South-East. All features were either planned using digital survey technology however if not accessible then hand-planning was used. Sections were hand drawn at scales of 1:10 or 1:20. A digital photographic record was maintained of all excavated features.
- 1.5.8 All finds recovered from excavated deposits were collected and retained in line with the ASE artefacts collection policy.

Environmental Sampling Strategy

- 1.5.9 On-site sampling methodology, processing and recording was undertaken within the guidelines laid out by English Heritage (2002).
- 1.5.10 Samples were collected from suitable excavated contexts such as well-sealed features. A standard bulk sample size of 40litres (or 100% of small features) was taken from dated/datable sealed contexts to recover environmental remains such as fish, small mammals, molluscs and botanicals.
- 1.5.11 The sampling aimed to recover spatial and temporal information concerning the occupation of the site. This was best achieved by sampling a range of feature types (pits, ditches, post-holes, cess pits) from across the site, the fills of which can be compared and contrasted.

1.6 Organisation of the Report

- 1.6.1 This report has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (English Heritage 2008).
- 1.6.2 The report seeks to place the results from the site within the local archaeological and historical setting; to quantify and summarise the results; specify their significance and potential, including any capacity to address the original research aims.
- 1.6.3 Work at the site ran as a single excavation, with the finds and environmental archives all recorded under a single site code: FCH15.
- 1.6.4 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE. Following completion of all post-excavation work, including any publication work, the site archive will be deposited with Lewes Museum. Lewes Museum does not assign archive accession numbers in advance of deposition.

2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The following summary is summarised from the Archaeological and Historic Buildings Assessment (James, R and Henderson, M 2009) and from the WSI (ASE 2014).

2.1 Prehistoric and Romano-British

- 2.1.1 Archaeological evidence points to considerable human activity in the vicinity with a late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement on Charleston Brow near Firle Beacon. At least a dozen barrows were listed by English Heritage in 1992. The Romano-British agricultural economy is significantly represented by sites like the Beddingham villa approximately 2km west of Charleston. Recent excavations by the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Survey Field Unit in 2006 have taken place on Charleston land just south of Compton Wood, a few metres west of the present farmhouse, attempting to find a Roman settlement, although with inconclusive results

2.2 Medieval

- 2.2.1 Charleston is first mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Cerlocestone* when it was a settlement of perhaps fourteen families, comprising lords of the manor, villagers and smallholders in the feudal hierarchy. The four manors of Charleston fall into the Pevensey Rape, in the Hundred of Totnore.
- 2.2.2 Research into the history of the farmhouse by Christopher Whittick traces the pattern of landholding from 1086 including the first mention of a house and some other buildings in a conveyance of 1325. The farmstead had become significant enough by 1622 to be drawn on an estate map.

2.3 Post-Medieval

- 2.3.1 Documentary records for the estate from the 17th century onwards make reference to the various farm buildings on the site as well as providing evidence of extensive repairs at Charleston.
- 2.3.2 The bills for repairs show during 1785, a Thomas Weller, worked on the house, barn and stables. This included work on repairing the barn pavement, building quoin and raising barn, digging foundations for the granary and underpinning the barn as well as a lot more alterations to neighbouring structures.
- 2.3.3 The assessment of the farm buildings in 2009 noted that the earliest structure surviving on the site is the east-west oriented part of the barn (Hay Barn) whose timber-framing techniques indicate a mid-17th century date for its construction; interestingly an estate map of 1622 shows a single barn in this location.
- 2.3.4 The second phase of construction, is represented by the north-south orientated range of the barn (Threshing Barn). This appears to have been constructed in the early to mid-18th century.
- 2.3.5 Further work on the barns, probably dating to the late 18th century, saw the encasement/replacement of the majority of timber frame in flint/brickwork as explained above.

- 2.3.6 The late 18th/19th century development of the farmstead included the addition of a granary with open-fronted cart shed on the east side of the farmyard. This is dated 1796 on the basis of documentary sources and replaced an earlier granary and cart shed which had been pulled down the previous year. The 'new' granary was itself dismantled in 1973. A small pig sty or animal pen was added to the north end of the granary at some point, and the farm complex expanded by the addition of a new group of structures forming a second yard to the west and north of Threshing Barn.

3.0 ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS

3.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2014) proposed a series of general aims for the work:

- To monitor the above and below-ground works in order that any evidence relating to the dating and development of the existing buildings or previous phase of development on the site may be recorded and analysed, and used to enhance the understanding of it.
- In addition, the general objectives are to ensure compliance with the requirements of the relevant planning conditions and to make available the results of the work by publication of the results in accordance with the requirements of this WSI. Consideration will also be given to publication of the results in a local journal and/or presentation/s to local historical/archaeological societies should the results be of sufficient interest.

3.2 Further specific areas of potential interest are suggested in the 2009 assessment (James, R and Henderson, M 2009) include:

- The potential for evidence for earlier buildings on the site. A key question would be determining the location/nature of the 1622 barn – is the existing Phase 1 barn (Hay Barn) that which is shown on the 1622 map (Figure 8), or is it a rebuild on earlier footings, or alternatively a completely new building in a slightly different location? The 1622 maps also shows a building located on the west side of the yard – the proposed works in this area have the potential to reveal evidence as to the date and nature of this structure. Similarly, groundworks associated with the reconstruction of the granary have the potential to uncover evidence relating to the former granary structure and its precursor.
- The barnyard. Historical evidence suggests that the existing concrete barnyard masks areas of dumped material relating to late 18th century levelling operations. Earlier barnyard surfaces may survive beneath this material, which in turn may overlay evidence for the earlier medieval and early post-medieval phases of occupation at the site.
- *Landscape features. Features 1 and 2 (Figure 3) represent grubbed out former hedgerows which are probably of late medieval or early post-medieval date. Although not individually of major significance in a hedged landscape, they are important as part of the historic landscape context of the site, and they may contain deposits relevant to the environmental history of Charleston between the 15th and 18th centuries (e.g. within buried soils beneath any remnant bank material, or silts within former ditches). They may also contain artefactual evidence that may assist in dating them, thereby contributing to a better understanding of the enclosure history of the surrounding landscape. Feature 2 will be unaffected by the proposals, although Feature 1 extends into the south-west corner of the proposed car park.*
- A further landscape feature (Feature 3) (Figure 3) was identified to the east of the farm complex: the feature is currently poorly understood: it may represent a modern reservoir or 18th century spoil removal, in which case it is of little significance. However, the former importance of Charleston as a larger

Domesday settlement that has subsequently shrunk to a single farmstead, and the historic map evidence that the track was formerly the main access lane to the farm, raises the possibility that this feature could represent an earlier building platform. The proposed access road to the existing dairy farm will skirt the western edge of this feature.

- 3.3 The South East Research Framework (SERF) sets out a draft research agenda for improving the understanding of the post medieval/modern and industrial period in the region (Barber 2013). The SERF recognises that farms and their associated buildings formed a fundamental foundation for the economy of the region throughout the period, and that although farmhouses are generally maintained, many ancillary buildings which represent the developing mechanics of a farm are being lost to decay or conversion. The SERF recommends that 'it should still be a priority to collect data before it is lost thus accruing a full and balanced dataset for future researchers', and specifically in relation to agriculture recommends that further archaeological survey of agricultural buildings and other ancillary structures is still needed. The research agenda also highlights the importance of the study of post medieval modification to existing structures and better dating thereof.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Individual contexts, referred to thus [***] not (***) , have been sub-grouped and grouped together during post-excavation analysis and features are generally referred to by their sub-group (SG**) or group label (G**). In this way, linear features, such as ditches which may have numerous individual slots and context numbers, are discussed as single entities, and other cut features such as ring-gullies, pits and postholes are grouped together by structure, common date and/or type. Environmental samples are listed within triangular brackets <*>, and registered finds thus: RF<*>. References to sections within this report are referred to thus (3.7).

4.1.2 Based on initial interpretations of stratigraphic and spatial relationships, and dating of finds assemblages, the provisional dated periods and phases are:

Period 1: Early Iron Age (800 - 300BC)

Period 2: Late Iron Age – Roman (100BC – AD 410)

Period 3: Post-Medieval (AD1600+)

4.1.3 A full context list can be found at the end of the report, in Appendix 1

4.2 Summary

4.2.1 Small quantities of residual early prehistoric flint artefacts were recovered from site during the archaeological works, suggesting a low level of exploitation of the landscape during this period.

4.2.2 The earliest evidence of occupation on site was found within Area 1, (Fig 5) and dates between 800BC-300BC. Unfortunately, only two features of this date were encountered which consisted of a large pit and a small pit or ditch terminus. Occupation continued into the Late Iron Age- Roman period in which a series of ditches, arranged perpendicular to each other, appear to form a field boundary as well as two parallel ditches that may form a trackway. A small number of pits were also of this date however their relationship to the surrounding activity is unclear.

4.2.3 Area 2, (Fig 8), focuses on the barn complex to the south of Charleston Farmhouse. It is thought, looking at the remains of the timber framing, that this is 17th century in origin, which corresponds with the map and documentary research. The earliest remains encountered are chalk rubble footings found beneath the current flint and brick walls, which are likely to have been the footings for the original timber structure. Outside in the yard, similar chalk footings were encountered, which could be the remains of a previous structure to the west of the yard.

4.2.4 During the early-mid 18th century a second flint and brick walled barn, the Threshing Barn, was built along the western edge of the Hay Barn. Beneath the current floor of the Threshing Barn, was a mortared surface that had the impressions of bricks on its surface. This could be a brick floor, which pre-dated the Threshing Barn. Unfortunately the bricks have been completely removed; however, it is likely that these would have been reused elsewhere on site rather

than being discarded. These bricks may have been used in the irregular floor recorded within the Hay Barn.

- 4.2.5 A third phase of construction during the late 18th century involved the replacement or encasement of the majority of the timber framed walls with flint and brick, within the Hay Barn. These alterations may also correspond with the irregular brick surfaces and brick partition wall that were found below the made ground and concrete. These surfaces could indicate a change in function of the farmstead from earlier crop processing and storage to animal husbandry.
- 4.2.6 Further evidence found in the south-eastern corner of the yard, revealed a brick and concrete surface, which has the potential to be an open-fronted animal shelter. This structure appears sometime during the early 19th century, but may have undergone renovations during the 20th century with the addition of brickwork and concrete
- 4.2.7 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Tables 1 and 2). Unless otherwise stated, all finds have been retained. The finds and environmental samples ultimately deposited as part of the archive are dependent on specialist recommendations and regional archive requirements.

Context sheets	206
Section sheets	15
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	339
Context register	7
Drawing register	3
Watching brief forms	26
Trench Record forms	0

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	5 boxes
Registered finds (number of)	1
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	6
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	6

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.3 Natural Deposits

Area 1

- 4.3.1 Excavations within Area 1 revealed a typical stratigraphic sequence of 0.10-0.40m of top and subsoil overlying superficial deposits described as head-clay, silt, sand and gravel.
- 4.3.2 All archaeological features within this phase were visibly cut into the head deposit and sealed beneath the topsoil and subsoil horizons

Area 2

- 4.3.3 Within Area 2, the stratigraphic sequence varied between areas monitored with all deposits overlying the natural deposit, Gault Clay. The deposits found above will be described in more detail within the relevant sections.

4.4 Residual Earlier Prehistoric Material

- 4.4.1 A small collection of residual flintwork dating to between the Mesolithic and Early Iron age was recovered from the topsoil and subsoil whilst also appearing within much later ditches, all within the Area 1. These included a total of five worked flint flakes

4.5 Residual Late Iron Age – Roman

- 4.5.1 Also within Area 1, a small assemblage of residual pottery dated to the Late Iron Age – Roman was recovered from either earlier features or within undated ditches, which are thought to be much later features.

4.6 Period 1: Early Iron Age (Figures 4 & 5)

- 4.6.1 Two features spanning this period were encountered within the southern area of the Phase 1 work undertaken during 2015.
- 4.6.2 A small pit or possible ditch terminus, G4, was located heading south beyond the limit of excavation. This feature measured 1.90m x 1.60m and was 0.25m in depth. It consisted of two deposits, the basal fill comprised a very shallow, light grey silty clay whilst the main fill of this feature consisted of a moderately compacted mid brown grey, silty clay which produced a small collection of pottery sherds which dated to the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date.
- 4.6.3 The second feature, G3, is a fairly shallow but large pit like feature, measuring approximately 11.50m x 8.5m. This contained a number of fills, which produced a larger quantity of more closely datable pottery as well as a small quantity of residual medieval pottery.
- 4.6.4 Environmental samples retrieved from both these features contained a small amount of caryopses of an indeterminate cereal.
- 4.6.5 Unfortunately the full extent of the activity within this period is unclear as very little else of this date was encountered, however it is likely that these continued use into the Later Iron Age.

4.7 Period 2: Late Iron Age - Roman (Figures 4 - 6)

- 4.7.1 A total of four ditches, G2, G7, G8, and G10 were excavated at regular intervals along their lengths. Two small pits (G6) and one larger feature (G11) were also recorded.
- 4.7.2 The two pits, G6, were of a similar size measuring between 0.96-0.86m in diameter by 0.12-0.13m in depth. They both had similar fills comprising mid brown grey, silty clay with chalk inclusions with pottery dating to the Late Iron Age-Roman period. Unfortunately, the extent of their use is unknown and their relationship with the surrounding features is unclear.
- 4.7.3 At the northern end of the area was a large, shallow feature, G11 measuring c7-8m in diameter by 0.28m in depth. It consisted of a mid-orange grey silty clay with occasional fragments of Late Iron age/Roman pottery and is a similar shape and size to the pit described in 4.6.3. Due to its location adjacent to G7 (see below), it is possibly associated with it and could represent trample.
- 4.7.4 Two ditches at the southern end of the area, G2 and G8, appear parallel to each other running in an east-south-east to west-north-west alignment and could represent a trackway. G8 is seen to cut through Period 1 feature G3. Both ditches appear to be the same width, c.0.65m-0.71m, but very different profiles; G2 is shallow, c.0.22m-0.30m depth, with steep sides and a flat base, whilst G8 is V-shaped and approximately 0.50m depth. Unfortunately, the visible length of G8 is limited as it continues beyond the limit of excavations to the east and west, whereas G2 extends for approximately 33m and terminates.
- 4.7.5 A third ditch, G7, is 70m in length and aligned north-north-east to south-south-west. This is a fairly substantial ditch, which measures approximately 2.2m wide by 0.43-0.62m in depth. This has the potential to be a field boundary or trackway and could be related to G2 or G8. Unfortunately, the relationship between these ditches is within the baulk to the south and west. Although these look like they could be related and form part of a field boundary, they are very different in size and shape. Running alongside this feature is a much smaller ditch, G9, which cuts the larger ditch. No dating was recovered from this feature, however it is assumed that they are related and that this is a partial recut of G7.
- 4.7.6 The final ditch within this period is G10, which is slightly off the alignment of G7, looks to form part of a trackway. It has sharp sides and a flat base and measures c0.70m wide with a depth varying between 0.15m-0.30m. Unfortunately, once again, this ditch has a different profile to all the others.

4.8 Undated Features (*Figures 4 & 7*)

- 4.8.1 There are three ditches, which remain undated. Two of these, G5 and G12, run on a completely different alignment to the others found within the area and are in fact in alignment with the current field boundary and so is presumed to be a much later, modern feature. The third, G1, is located at the far eastern end of site along the new access road. This is a very shallow feature located alongside the current hedgerow and given its shallow and irregular nature could potentially be associated with this.
- 4.8.2 A single posthole, G57 was located at the southern end of ditch G5. This produced a single waste flint but remains undated.

4.9 Period 3: Post-Medieval (*Figures 8-11*)

- 4.9.1 The third period of activity on site was within the 17th century barn complex to the south west of area 1. This area of the site comprised of an L-shaped barn made up of a number of phases, along with a granary and yard area.

Test Pits (*Figure 8*)

- 4.9.2 Four test pits, hereafter written as TP, were excavated in the outside corners of the Hay barn and Granary.
- 4.9.3 TP1 was located on the south-eastern corner of the Hay Barn and revealed the chalk foundations for the flint/brick walls of the barn, G29, surrounded by made ground deposits, G28, which were built up around the southern edge. TP2 was situated on the north-eastern corner of the barn and within the granary, G35. The flint/brick walls of the barn and a small outside wall (G31) were visible along with the deposits that made up the ground within the Granary. These comprised the natural geology, G30, overlain by a mixed deposit of chalk and redeposited natural, G34, with a layer of chalk, G33, followed by topsoil, G32, above. The same sequence is seen throughout TP3 and TP4, which were located within the corners of the Granary and also revealed the chalk foundation for the flint wall.

Yard (*Figure 11*)

- 4.9.4 The stratigraphic sequence within the western yard area comprised of natural gault clay, G30, overlain by 0.50m-1m of made ground, G56, sealed by concrete slabs, G21, however, in the far north-western corner, the sequence was made up of 0.55m of made ground deposits, G49, and sealed by topsoil, G48.
- 4.9.5 Within the south-eastern corner of the yard the stratigraphic sequence varied and consisted of natural geology, G30, overlain by a layer of chalk, G18. Above this was evidence of a brick floor surface for a potential stable or animal shelter. This ran east to west and butts against the south-western corner of the Threshing Barn. Overall, it measures approximately 14m by 5m wide. It appears to have two main areas, a walkway or yard floor, (G13 and G14), at the front and an area, (G15), which may have been undercover at the back. This was all sealed by a layer of topsoil/made ground, G17.

- 4.9.6 The main area, G15, consists of a single course of red bricks laid in a variety of bonds which are separated by areas of concrete, G16. This concrete may have been a later alteration, as suggested by graffiti that reads 'Renovations by Alf Lake'. This structure appears on the 1844 tithe map, (Figure 13) but brick samples taken from this area suggest a 20th century origin, which would also back support the idea of renovations on the structure at a later date. The concrete also includes broken up concrete pads, which might suggest posts for a roof. Towards the front of this area are half bricks, which make it appear to be the edge of a structure.
- 4.9.7 From there, the level drops and once again has a variety of different bonding patterns, G13 and G14. Unfortunately this has been disturbed to the north so the full extent is unknown leaving it unclear whether the bricks continued as a yard floor or just a small area of walkway.
- 4.9.8 Along the south-western edge of the yard upon the floor surface, was a brick buttress, G20, measuring approximately 0.94m x 0.62m x 0.74m in height. However, there was no evidence of an abutting wall.
- 4.9.9 Towards the north-west corner of the yard, beneath the concrete floor and made ground deposits were the remains of footings, G45. These may be evidence of an earlier phase of building seen in the 1622 map, (Figure 12). This comprised chalk blocks laid in an S-shape and measured 0.40m wide.
- 4.9.10 To the south of the chalk footings, were the remains of concrete footings, G42, which were found below the current concrete floor of the stable block. These measure approximately 0.70m x 0.60m.

Barns (Figure 9 & 10)

- 4.9.11 Within the barns, the stratigraphic sequence comprised mainly of natural gault clay overlain by a demolition/made ground deposit, G41 which was sealed by the concrete floor, G22. Some areas had more specific stratigraphy which will be described in more detail below.
- 4.9.12 The Hay Barn, which is Grade II listed, is the earliest phase of barn dated c. mid-17th century. The current standing structure is made up of flint and brick walls with chalk footings, G29. It is thought that the original structure was made of timber and that the current flint walls are a later addition. Beneath the flint walls were chalk rubble footings, which also continued along what would have been the earlier remains of the western wall (G29; [154 & 186]), of the Hay Barn. One brick fragment was recovered from this and its thickness and quality suggests a later than 1600 date. Alongside this chalk footing, just outside the Hay Barn was posthole G51, with in situ wooden post, which may be evidence of the original timber frame. This was also next to a shallow square pit, G52, which could also be related to the original timber structure.
- 4.9.13 Inside the entrance for the Hay Barn was an area of bricks, which appear to make up a surface G36. The bricks are all laid irregularly and made up of a variety of broken bricks, which could potentially be reused. These bricks appear to be laid on a thin layer brown-grey clay, G37, with a bed of chalk underneath G40, which overlies the natural geology.

- 4.9.14 This surface appears to be divided into small areas by a number of brick footings which are either laid as stretchers, G53, or as headers, G54 across the width of the barn. To the west of one is a small area of brickwork, G50, which appears to be laid as a more substantial floor, unfortunately only a small section survives. It is thought that this floor and partitioning could be a later phase of alterations to the Hay Barn and brick samples taken from G53 and G54 suggest a 19th-20th century date.
- 4.9.15 The Threshing Barn, G38, which is the second phase with an early-mid 18th century origin, comprises flint and brick and appears to be built against the Hay Barn with evidence of brick quoins separating the two. The footings for the majority of the walls appears to be just redeposited clay and chalk, although along the western wall in the south-west corner, a series of bricks were laid in stretcher bond with four courses.
- 4.9.16 A small section of brickwork, G39, measuring 0.23m x 0.11m, was found within the south-western corner. Unfortunately this is all that remains of what could be a brick floor within the barn.
- 4.9.17 Towards the northern end of the Threshing Barn was a second surface that was made out of concrete, G23-24. This was divided by single coursed brick walls G25-26 and may have been used as storage areas.
- 4.9.18 Running east to west across either side of the entrances to the Threshing Barn were two small brick walls, G47. One of these was visible from at floor surface whilst the other was revealed beneath the paving slabs in the entrance. Brick samples were taken from these walls with one of them having a glazed header, popular during the Tudor period and again in the Victorian period, which would correspond with the phases of the building.
- 4.9.19 In between these two walls were a number of deposits, G44. These consisted of redeposited natural and demolition/made ground deposits. These all sealed a mortar-like deposit G43, in which the impressions of bricks could be seen. Due to its depth below the floor level of the barn, this could represent a brick floor that predates the construction of the barn. The bricks have clearly been removed and it is thought that they may have been reused within the irregular floor, G36, described in 4.8.13.

5.0 FINDS ASSESSMENTS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the watching brief at Charleston Barn, Firle. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and bagged by material and context. The hand-collected bulk finds are quantified in Table 3; material recovered from the residues of environmental samples is quantified in Appendix 2. A single find, a whetstone, was assigned a unique registered finds number. This is discussed with the other geological material in section 5.6. All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014).

Context	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Shell	Weight (g)	Flint	Weight (g)	FCF	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)
1			7	486					1	1	6	196		
2									2	17				
6			1	42										
8	3	<2												
10			25	414									1	16
11	17	80							12	54	27	358	2	35
12			1	<2										
14			2	2										
16	16	60												
23	1	<2											3	39
24									1	<1	2	26	1	32
26	2	14									8	174	1	285
28									5	19				
31	36	150							1	9	1	4		
32	1	6									3	70		
34	2	4												
36	2	<2	1	<2										
40									1	10				
41														
44	1	2												
48	2	2									2	32		
51	3	16												
55	2	6			3	20								
56	1	4												
62	1	4					2	38					4	451
68			1	<2										
71									3	14				

74															
88	1	8													
89			1	286											
90	1	19	6	848											
97	1	1													
99	1	2			6	10			1	1			2	39	
104			1	3330											
105			1	3241											
109			1	4022											
170			1	2715											
175			1	2764											
181													1	96	
186			1	405											
188															
191			2	3590											
192			1	2840											
194			1	2860											
196			1	4014											
Total	94	380	56	29095	9	30	2	38	27	122	49	860	15	1093	

Table 3: Quantification of hand-collected bulk finds

5.2 The Flintwork Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 The archaeological work produced a small assemblage of flints considered to be humanly struck. In total, 27 pieces of struck flint, weighing 122g, were recovered from nine numbered contexts. A further 49 fragments of unworked burnt flint, weighing 860g were also collected from seven contexts. The pieces of struck flint were quantified by count and weight and were individually classified using standard sets of codes and morphological descriptions (Butler 2005, Inizan *et al.* 1999). All the pieces not recognised as humanly struck were discarded. The pieces of struck flint were catalogued directly into an Excel spreadsheet. The results are summarised in Table 4.

5.2.2 The pieces were thinly spread across site with twenty four pieces from seven features. The remaining artefacts came from the topsoil, the subsoil and from natural deposits. The largest concentration of unworked burnt flint and worked flint came from context [011] (G3), a fill within a large pit. This deposit produced 12 pieces of worked flint and 32 fragments of unworked burnt flint but given the size of the deposit, the assemblage does not represent a major cluster.

Category	Total
Flake	21
Blade-like	1
Irregular waste	4
Retouched bladelet	1

Total	27
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Table 4: The flintwork

- 5.2.3 The raw material selected for the production of the lithics is characterised by mid to dark grey flint. The outer surface was mostly 1-2mm thick, slightly stained and weathered. No thermal flaws were noted, and the fine-grained dark grey flint appears to offer good flaking quality. This chalk-derived raw material would have been available locally. The majority of the flints display only slight edge damage implying that the material has experienced negligible post-depositional disturbance. Saying that, the condition of the flints from context [011] (G3), varied. A burnt piece displayed extensive edge damage. The different conditions could suggest successive redeposition.
- 5.2.4 The assemblage is composed almost entirely of un-retouched types, including 21 flakes, a blade-like flake and four pieces of irregular waste. The flakes from topsoil [001] and the flakes and blade-like flake from layer [011] (G3) are likely to be Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age in date. The remaining pieces of flint débitage are technologically poor, and only a broad prehistoric date can be proposed for them. A single modified piece was found. It came from context [011], and consists of a very small (<1g) retouched bladelet fragment. The artefact displays minimal retouch on right-hand side. It is likely to indicate a Mesolithic date.
- 5.2.5 Small quantities of burnt unworked flint fragments were recovered. The fragments are calcined or heavily calcined white or mid grey. The assemblage comprises pieces measuring up to 65mm in size. Burnt unworked flints are frequently associated with prehistoric activities, but the small assemblage may represent more recent and accidental burning.
- 5.2.6 The small assemblage of struck flints provides limited evidence for prehistoric presence at the site. A single retouched bladelet is likely to be Mesolithic in date. The remaining pieces cannot be precisely dated with confidence but, based on morphological and technological grounds, a broad Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age date can be proposed for the pieces from context [011] and for the flake from the topsoil. Overall, no large concentration of material was recovered, and the current assemblage suggests only low-key activities during the prehistoric period.
- 5.2.7 The assemblage isn't considered to have any potential for further analysis. It is too small to provide further detailed information regarding the chronology of the prehistoric activity

5.3 The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery By Anna Doherty

Introduction

- 5.3.1 A small assemblage of prehistoric and Roman pottery was recovered during the watching brief, totalling 86 sherds, weighing 310g. The pottery appears to date predominantly to the Late Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age period. A number of contexts also produced Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery but this assemblage was characterised by extremely fragmentary and abraded sherds which could be largely residual.

Methodology

- 5.3.2 The pottery was examined with a x20 binocular microscope and quantified by sherd count, weight and estimated vessel number on *pro forma* records and in an Excel spreadsheet. Prehistoric fabrics were defined according to a site-specific fabric type-series formulated in accordance with the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010; Table 5). In the absence of a regional type-series for East Sussex, Roman fabrics have been recorded using codes from the London/Southwark type-series (Marsh & Tyers 1978; Davies et al 1994)

Fabric	Description
FLGL1	Moderate to common flint of 0.5-3.5mm with moderate glauconite of 0.4-0.5mm
FLGL2	Sparse flint of 0.5-3mm with sparse glauconite of 0.3-0.4mm
FLGL3	Rare flint of 0.5-2mm with moderate fine glauconite of 0.2-0.3mm; rare leached argillaceous inclusions of up to 2mm may occur
FLIN1	Moderate flint of 0.2-2.5mm in a very silty matrix with some quartz just visible at x 20 magnification
FLIN2	Sparse flint of 0.2-1.5mm in a very silty matrix with some quartz just visible at x 20 magnification

Table 5: Prehistoric pottery fabric definitions

Late Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age pottery

- 5.3.3 Pottery dating broadly to the Late Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age period was recovered from four contexts [011], [031] and [032] (G3) and, [016] (G4). Several of these contexts contained multiple sherds from individual vessels and, overall relatively few estimated vessels are represented (Table 6).

Fabric	Sherds	Weight (g)	ENV
FLGL1	15	62	3
FLGL2	3	22	2
FLGL3	35	141	1
FLIN1	13	51	2
FLIN2	4	5	1
Total	70	281	9

Table 6: Quantification of prehistoric pottery fabrics

- 5.3.4 Almost certainly the earliest pottery comes from context [015] (G4). This contained bodysherds from a few vessels in moderately coarse to moderately fine flint-tempered fabrics with silty matrixes (FLIN1 and FLIN2). Fabrics of this type are almost certainly indicative of a Late Bronze Age/earliest Iron Age date range (perhaps c.1000-700BC).
- 5.3.5 The remainder of the prehistoric groups are characterised by glauconitic flint-tempered wares, FLGL1, FLGL2 and FLGL3. Again, no diagnostic feature sherds are represented. These fabrics types have strong parallels in the transitional Early to Middle Iron Age phase (dated c.500-300BC) at Pococks Field, Eastbourne (Doherty in prep); although such fabrics probably have earlier antecedents and could feasibly date anywhere between c. 800-300BC.

Late Iron Age/ Roman pottery

- 5.3.6 Late Iron Age/Roman pottery was recovered from contexts [008] (G2), [011] (G3), [023] (G6), [034] (G8), [044] (G10), [048] (G11), [051] (G6), [055], [056], [068] and [099] (G7). This material is extremely fragmentary with an average sherd weight of less than 2g. No individual context produced more than two sherds and most only produced one. As shown in Table 7, the assemblage is entirely made up by 'East Sussex ware' grog-tempered fabrics and unsourced Roman sandy wares. None of this material can be closely dated. Grog-tempered fabrics could span the whole of the Late Iron Age and Roman periods in the locality and, while the unsourced sandy wares are more certainly of post-Conquest type, they are otherwise undiagnostic.

Fabric	Description	Sherds	Weight (g)	ENV
GROG	Grog-tempered wares	10	21	9
OXID	Unsourced oxidised wares	3	3	3
OXIDF	Unsourced fine oxidised wares	2	2	2
SAND	Unsourced unoxidised wares	1	3	1
Total		16	29	15

Table 7: Quantification of Late Iron Age/Roman pottery fabrics

- 5.3.7 The prehistoric and Roman pottery assemblage is small and undiagnostic. As such, has no potential for further analysis and does not require publication.

5.4 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

- 5.4.1 The archaeological work recovered just five sherds of post-Roman pottery, weighing 39g, from five individually numbered contexts. The material has been fully listed in Table 8 as part of the visible archive. Medieval fabrics have been allocated the Lewes fabric code (Barber forthcoming) as well as a common name while post-medieval ones have been allocated common name only. Overall the pottery consists of tiny to medium-sized sherds. Abrasion ranges from very heavy to none/very limited depending on the sherd. As such, much of the material appears to have seen significant reworking.

Context	Fabric	Period	No	Weight	Comments (including estimated number of different vessels represented)
26	Developed Ringmer Sandy Ware (HML 3b)	HM	1	10g	Cooking pot x1 (oxidised brown, externally sooted)
36	Glazed red earthenware (late)	LPM	1	1g	Undiagnostic of form x1 (clear glaze all over – small vessel – possible cup?)
88	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	1	8g	Flower pot x1 (oxidised, thickened rim)
90	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	1	19g	Flower pot x1 (incised horizontal line around body below which is illegible stamped lettering)
97	Lewes Saxo-Norman Flinty Ware (SNL 3a)	EM	1	1g	Cooking pot x1 (oxidised, externally sooted)

Table 8: Pottery assemblage (EM – Early Medieval c. 1050-1200/25; HM - High Medieval c. 1200/25-1350/75; LPM - Late Post-Medieval c. 1750-1900+).

- 5.4.2 The earliest sherd is the tiny worn granules from context [097] (G9) that is of mid-11th- to mid-12th- century date. However, the condition of this suggests it is likely to be a residual piece. The Ringmer sherd from context [026] (G3) is much fresher and has had only limited reworking. A date between c. 1225 and 1350 is most likely for this vessel. The remaining sherds are of Late Post-medieval date – the glazed red earthenware sherd from context [036] possibly being of c. 1750-1825 date, a period when these smaller vessels were still regularly being made by the Sussex earthenware potters. The flower pots are of 19th- to early 20th- century date.
- 5.4.3 The pottery assemblage is small, mixed and of types well known in the area. It is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis beyond that undertaken for this report and is not suitable for long-term curation in a museum. As such it has been added to the pool of material held for handling/teaching.

5.5 The Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

Introduction

- 5.5.1 Nine pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 18,601g were collected during the most recent watching brief and will be presented as a distinct group below, and then considered in conjunction with the CBM collected during the 2015 watching briefs.
- 5.5.2 All the material was quantified by form, weight and fabric and recorded on standard recording forms. This information was then entered into a digital Excel table. Fabrics were identified with the aid of a x20 binocular microscope and catalogued using site specific codes that use the following conventions: frequency of inclusions (sparse, moderate, common, abundant); the size of inclusions, fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (0.25-0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm). Fabric descriptions are provided below in Table 9.

The 2016 assemblage- Phase 2:

- 5.5.3 The CBM comprised mainly bricks, several of which were complete. Although there were two examples made from other fabric types, the remaining brick was made from the same very hard fired and slightly pick toned fabric, B1, with moderate-common ferrous inclusions of varying sizes. The hard-fired quality of this brick fabric in conjunction with the general form and types of mortar present would suggest these to be late post-medieval, probably of later 19th or even 20th century, date.

Fabric	Description
B1	Hard, pink-tones fabric with ferrous inclusions; sparse yellow calcareous smears.
B2	Similar to B1 but more common calcareous smears/marbling; no apparent ferrous inclusions.
MOLA 3033	Fine fabric with scatter of quartz (up to 0.8mm), sparse calcareous inclusions and black iron oxide, both up to 1.5mm. Occasional flint fragments and small pebbles up to 7mm.

Table 9: Fabric descriptions for bricks

- 5.5.4 Three complete bricks weighing a total of 10,590g were sampled from the floor of the barn; standing structures [104] (G13), [105] (G14) and [109] (G15). All the bricks were unfrogged, with a standard form and dimensions of 223-225mm x 107-108mm x 67-69mm, which is indicative of a 20th century date. Fine striations across the headers and stretchers of the bricks demonstrate the bricks were machine formed, and they were all evenly and hard-fired in a sandy red fabric with burnt ferrous speckle. All surfaces of the bricks had the remnants of adhesive; the bricks from [104] and [105] both had a thick layer of fine off-white, sandy lime mortar in place, and the brick from [109] had the same fine lime mortar and also an additional layer of coarse cement.
- 5.5.5 One B1 brick, fractured since retrieval, from structure [170] (G47) had a glazed header, the fashion for which was popular during the Tudor period and then again in the Victorian period. The later, most probably 19th century, date of the brick was indicated by its shape, but also by the chunky looking but also fine lime mortar present on different surfaces. Other B1 fragments were collected from [175] (G47), [191], [194], (G53) and [196] (G54), and where dimensions were possible to measure they were between: 222-230 x 105-110 x 60mm.
- 5.5.6 The brick piece collected from structure [186] (G29) was in generic red-orange brick fabric 3033 (Museum of London Archaeology fabric code), which was used from extensively during the Tudor period but does continue to be used until the 19th century. The thickness of this brick piece (64mm), combined with an otherwise low-fired quality, could suggest a later-than-1600 date.
- 5.5.7 The only example of brick fabric B2 was recovered from structure [192] (G53). It was not dissimilar to B1 but seemed a little more refined. It was sharply formed and with the same fine cream lime sandy mortar on different surfaces that was found on several B1 examples, sometimes set extremely hard to the point of becoming cement-like. This mortar is also common to the Victorian/early 20th century period.

- 5.5.8 A single complete peg tile was also found in [191] (G53), although it was vitrified solid so no fabric assessment could be made. Roof tile is generally very difficult to date specifically, and form-wise this example was no exception. However, traces of cement on multiple surfaces places it firmly into the second half of the 19th century at the very earliest.

The 2015 assemblages- Phase 1:

- 5.5.9 The earliest works recovered a total of forty-two pieces of CBM weighing 1986g from eight contexts: [01], [06] (G1), [08] (G2), [10] (G10), [12] (G2), [14], [89] and [90]. This watching brief produced the most mixed assemblage, including roof tile in the two fabrics detailed below in Table 10, as well as various examples of cement and mortar, and pieces of 3033 brick. A far greater quantity of CBM that was too small or broken to be identified was collected from this stage of work than in subsequent phases, for instance the material from [08], [12], and [14] was all undiagnostic.
- 5.5.10 Cement once attaching bricks was collected from [90] and is evidence for a mid-19th or later date, although the 20th century is more likely. Nothing else from this phase of work provides firm dating evidence.

T1	Low fired orange, slightly powdery in appearance, with sparse quartz.
T2	Fine salmon-coloured fabric with calcareous speckle.

Table 10: Fabric descriptions for roof tile

Discussion

- 5.5.11 The fabric recorded for the 2015 bricks is similar to B1 as defined for the 2018 assemblage, suggesting that all the bricks had a common fabric type. In size the 2015 bricks were slightly larger, but both assemblages were too small to provide an adequate sample for dictating average size. It seems clear, however, that the bricks shared a common source and are therefore coeval to one another, but this is the extent to which the brick assemblage provides any understanding to how CBM was used at this site, and all CBM recovered from Charleston Barn has since been discarded.

5.6 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

- 5.6.1 The archaeological work recovered 15 pieces of 'stone' from the site. The material has been fully listed in Table 11 as part of the visible archive.
- 5.6.2 All the real stone consists of fragments of local Tertiary ferruginous sandstone with sparse to abundant inclusions of sub-angular flint pieces. Probably originally formed above the chalk, the beds have obviously been eroded and redeposited. None of these pieces show any signs of having been modified at the hand of man. The only other type present is the artificial whetstone, RF <1>, from context [181] that is almost certainly of 20th- century date.

Context	Type	No	Weight	Comments
10	Tertiary ferruginous sandstone with varying quantities of flint grits	1	16g	
11	Tertiary ferruginous sandstone with varying quantities of flint grits	2	35g	
23	Tertiary ferruginous sandstone with varying quantities of flint grits	3	39g	
24	Tertiary ferruginous sandstone with varying quantities of flint grits	1	32g	Very flinty
26	Tertiary ferruginous sandstone with varying quantities of flint grits	1	285g	Sparse flint
62	Tertiary ferruginous sandstone with varying quantities of flint grits	4	451g	
99	Tertiary ferruginous sandstone with varying quantities of flint grits	2	39g	
181	Grey fine sandy artificial whetstone RF <1>	1	196g	Circular sectioned. 37mm di max, tapering down to 18mm di at terminal. 122mm+ long

Table 11: Stone assemblage

5.6.3 The stone is of well-known types for the area and is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis. The assemblage has been discarded.

5.7 The Animal Bone by Emily Johnson

5.7.1 An assemblage of 9 animal bones weighing 30g in total was analysed from the excavations. The specimens were hand-collected from two contexts from the NE-SW trackway ditch (G7), both dated to Period 2: Late Iron Age – Roman. Material was moderately preserved. Ditch fill [55] contained two refitting fragments of ovicaprid tibia featuring canid gnawing, and one medium mammal diaphyseal fragment that had been split using a cleaver. Ditch fill [99] contained a domestic dog atlas, refitting from three fragments, and a further three fragments that were indeterminate.

5.7.2 This small assemblage attests to the presence of domestic dogs onsite in the Late Iron Age – Roman period, both through skeletal evidence and evidence for gnawing. However, based on the very small sample size the assemblage has no archaeological significance and there is no potential for further work.

5.8 The Shell by Elke Raemen

5.8.1 Two complete land snails (weight 38g including internal soil concretions) were found in [062]. Both are garden snails (*Cornu aspersum*). The assemblage is not of significance and holds no potential for further work

6.0 The Environmental Material by Mariangela Vitolo

6.1 Introduction and methods

- 6.1.1 Six bulk soil samples were taken from a range of features and deposit types for the recovery of ecofacts and artefacts.
- 6.1.2 The samples, measuring 40L to 50L in volume, were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively before being air dried. The residues were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 2) Artefacts recovered from the samples were distributed to specialists, and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 3). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.2 Results

- 6.2.1 All samples produced flots with a large percentage of uncharred rootlets and land snail shells, indicating a degree of bioturbation. Charred plant macrofossils were sporadic and only recovered from the heavy residues of the samples. Four caryopses of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* sp.) were recovered from fill [55], whilst the remaining caryopses recovered in this and other contexts were of indeterminate cereal (Cerealia). The majority of the caryopses presented abraded surfaces, possibly due to frictions with sediment and/or trampling.
- 6.2.2 Charcoal fragments were recovered in all sampled contexts, but were not enough to warrant identification work. All fragments displayed signs of sediment encrustations and percolation, due to fluctuations in the ground water level.
- 6.2.3 The plant remains and charcoal from Charleston Barn are of low significance, due to their paucity and poor preservation. The bulk soil samples have yielded sporadic and poorly preserved caryopses of free-threshing wheat and indeterminate cereal. The absence of chaff and remains of crop weeds means that they do not hold potential to inform us on agrarian economy and diet. Charcoal preserved in a fragmented state and evidence of sediment encrustation was noted; therefore it holds no potential for further work.
- 6.2.4 No analysis is recommended on the flots or the charcoal arising from the bulk soil samples, but any information to be included in the final archive or publication report can be extrapolated from this assessment.

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 7.1.1 Excavations within Area 1 revealed a typical stratigraphic sequence of 0.10-0.40m of top and subsoil overlying superficial deposits described as Head-Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel. The natural geology was encountered at a maximum height of 35.38mOD along the western edge, and falling away to the east to a height of 30.17mOD.
- 7.1.2 Within Area 2, the stratigraphic sequence varied between areas monitored with all deposits overlying the natural deposit, Gault Clay. This followed the slope of Area 1 and was encountered at a maximum height of c.42.50mOD to the west of the barns sloping down to the east at a height of 41.15mOD.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 7.2.1 Within Area 1, the archaeological horizon appears to have survived intact and there does not appear to have been any significant affect from any previous groundworks or farming activity.
- 7.2.2 Area 2, which encompassed the farm complex, shows clear truncation from the construction of the buildings. It is also evident that the farmstead has been terraced into the slope of the South Downs.

7.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Residual Prehistoric

- 7.3.1 A small collection of lithics dating to between the Mesolithic and Early Iron Age, were recovered from the topsoil and subsoil whilst also appearing within much later ditches. A small assemblage of Late Iron Age-Roman pottery were also retrieved from much earlier or later features.

Period 1: Early Iron Age

- 7.3.2 The earliest evidence of activity encountered on site was found within Area 1 and dates to between 800 - 300BC. The pottery assemblage is predominantly from this period, however they were retrieved from two features, a large pit and a smaller pit or ditch terminus, both located to the south of area 1. Sadly, the full extent of the activity within this period is unclear as very little else of this date was encountered within the surrounding area.

Period 2: Late Iron Age – Roman

- 7.3.3 A total of four ditches across Area 1, suggests that there was low-level activity into the 2nd century AD and beyond into the Roman period in the form of field boundaries and a potential trackway. Two pits were also found to be of this date but their relationship to the surrounding features is unclear. These features produced Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery. Unfortunately this assemblage was characterised by extremely fragmentary and abraded sherds and most contexts produced only one or two sherds.

Period 3: Post-Medieval

- 7.3.4 This period is the most well represented on site. The main focus is on the barn and yard areas found to the south of Charleston Farmhouse. The L-shaped barn, one side of which is Grade II listed, underwent several phases of alterations over the centuries.
- 7.3.5 The earliest remains, as described in the DBA, suggest a c.mid-17th century origin, which comprised of a timber framed single aisled threshing barn. During the monitoring on site, no further evidence of timber framing was revealed, however chalk footings were found below the current walls and along what would have been the western wall of the barn. This chalk has the potential to be the original footings for the timber structure. Alongside this was a post-hole with in-situ timber which may be related to the original structure.
- 7.3.6 Evidence of a mortar-like surface with brick impressions on it found below the entrance of the second barn described in 4.9.19, suggests that there was once a brick floor, which could pre-date the Threshing Barn. Unfortunately, the bricks have been completely removed but it seems likely that these would have been reused elsewhere on site rather than being discarded. They could have been used in the irregular floor laid within the Hay Barn.
- 7.3.7 Chalk foundations found in the western yard provide evidence for an earlier structure to the west of the site. This structure appears in the 1622 map and once again, may have been a timber structure with the need for foundations.
- 7.3.8 Towards the early-mid 18th century, a new barn, known as the Threshing Barn, was constructed along the western edge of the Hay barn and built out of flint and brick. Excavations for the underpinning revealed the footings for this structure was made up of mortar and redeposited natural rather than chalk rubble like the Hay Barn. A series of bricks were also found along the base of the western wall of the Threshing Barn.
- 7.3.9 The third phase for the barns, dating to the late 18th century, comprised of the replacement of the majority of the timber framed walls with flint and brick, within the Hay Barn. These alterations may also correspond with the irregular brick surfaces and brick partition wall which were found below the made ground and concrete. The brick surface could potentially be reused bricks from the original yard surface described in 7.2.6. These surfaces could indicate a change in use for the farmstead from earlier crop processing and storage in which they may have had a timber floor, to animal husbandry where a more sturdy brick floor was needed.
- 7.3.10 Further evidence found in the south-eastern corner of the yard, revealed brick and concrete surface which has the potential to be an open-fronted animal shelter. This structure appears sometime during the early 19th century, but may have undergone renovations during the 20th century with the addition of brickwork and concrete. This structure would also correspond with the change in use of the farm complex.

7.4 Consideration of research aims

OR1: The potential for evidence for earlier buildings on the site. A key question would be determining the location/nature of the 1622 barn – is the existing Phase 1 barn (Hay Barn) that which is shown on the 1622 map, or is it a rebuild on earlier footings, or alternatively a completely new building in a slightly different location? The 1622 maps also shows a building located on the west side of the yard – the proposed works in this area have the potential to reveal evidence as to the date and nature of this structure. Similarly, groundworks associated with the reconstruction of the granary have the potential to uncover evidence relating to the former granary structure and its precursor

- 7.4.1 The groundworks associated with the alterations to the existing barns involved reducing the ground inside the building and underpinning the existing walls. This gave a good insight into the phases of development for the standing building. There is little evidence to suggest an earlier building within the vicinity, therefore suggesting this barn is either the original or a completely new building to the one shown in the 1622 map.
- 7.4.2 The groundworks revealed chalk footings underneath the flint/brick walls of the Hay Barn whilst also revealing a continuation of the chalk footings running in a north-south alignment along what would have been the western end of the Hay Barn. It is likely that this chalk would have been the footings for the timber structure of the barn, mentioned in the Desk-Based Assessment as c. mid-17th century in date, which was then replaced by the current flint and brick walls as a later alteration to the barn. A series of brick floors and partition walls were also revealed during the ground reduction within the Hay Barn, however these are likely to be a later addition.
- 7.4.3 Outside in the yard, further chalk footings were uncovered beneath the made ground within the north-west corner of site. These could potentially be the footings for the earlier building seen on the west of site on the 1622 map.
- 7.4.4 A brick surface was also revealed in the south-east corner of the yard. This appears to be an open fronted structure which must have undergone alterations over time due to the evidence of graffiti on the concrete and brick work, which is of 20th century origin.
- 7.4.5 Unfortunately, no groundworks for the granary were monitored and the only recording within this area was test pits which recorded chalk footings below the flint and brick wall

OR2: The barnyard. Historical evidence suggests that the existing concrete barnyard masks areas of dumped material relating to late 18th century levelling operations. Earlier barnyard surfaces may survive beneath this material, which in turn may overlay evidence for the earlier medieval and early post-medieval phases of occupation at the site.

- 7.4.6 Once the existing concrete floor in the yard was removed, made ground and a brick surface in the south-eastern corner of the yard was revealed. This butts up against the wall of the Threshing Barn and runs east to west across the south edge of the yard. This structure appears on the 1844 tithe map and suggests it used to be a building, perhaps an animal shelter. It appears to have

undergone alterations over time as the graffiti on the concrete and the bricks suggest a slightly later date during the 20th century.

OR3: Landscape features. Features 1 and 2 (see Figure 3) represent grubbed out former hedgerows which are probably of late medieval or early post-medieval date. Although not individually of major significance in a hedged landscape, they are important as part of the historic landscape context of the site, and they may contain deposits relevant to the environmental history of Charleston between the 15th and 18th centuries (e.g. within buried soils beneath any remnant bank material, or silts within former ditches). They may also contain artefactual evidence that may assist in dating them, thereby contributing to a better understanding of the enclosure history of the surrounding landscape. Feature 2 will be unaffected by the proposals, although Feature 1 extends into the south-west corner of the proposed car park.

- 7.4.7 Area 1 may have incorporated Feature 1 within a small area which ran off towards the west, however no finds or features were encountered within this section of excavation. As the research aim suggest, Feature 2 was not affected by the excavation area.

OR4: A further landscape feature (Feature 3, Figure 3) was identified to the east of the farm complex: the feature is currently poorly understood: it may represent a modern reservoir or 18th century spoil removal, in which case it is of little significance. However, the former importance of Charleston as a larger Domesday settlement that has subsequently shrunk to a single farmstead, and the historic map evidence that the track was formerly the main access lane to the farm, raises the possibility that this feature could represent an earlier building platform. The proposed access road to the existing dairy farm will skirt the western edge of this feature.

- 7.4.8 Feature 3, was left in situ and not impacted upon by any of the groundworks associated with the proposed access road.

SERF1: The South East Research Framework (SERF) recognises that farms and their associated buildings formed a fundamental foundation for the economy of the region throughout the period, and that although farmhouses are generally maintained, many ancillary buildings which represent the developing mechanics of a farm are being lost to decay or conversion. The SERF recommends that 'it should still be a priority to collect data before it is lost thus accruing a full and balanced dataset for future researchers', and specifically in relation to agriculture recommends that further archaeological survey of agricultural buildings and other ancillary structures is still needed. The research agenda also highlights the importance of the study of post medieval modification to existing structures and better dating thereof.

- 7.4.9 The archaeological watching brief looked closely at the farm buildings associated with the Charleston Farmhouse. These are known as the Hay Barn and Threshing barn which originated during the 17th century and underwent a number of renovations throughout the following centuries. This included the addition of the Threshing Barn in the early to mid-18th century, followed by the removal of the original lower timber frame of the Hay Barn in exchange for the flint and brick walls. A number of surfaces were uncovered inside the barn and in the western yard which have the potential to be later alterations and suggest

an increased focus upon the use of the farmstead for animal husbandry, replacing the earlier crop processing and storage for which the barns were first constructed.

7.5 Conclusions

- 7.5.1 Small quantities of residual early prehistoric flint artefacts were recovered from site during the archaeological works, suggesting a low level of exploitation of the landscape during this period. The earliest evidence of occupation on site was found within Area 1 and dates to the Early Iron Age. Unfortunately, only two features of this date were encountered, a large pit and a small pit or ditch terminus. Occupation continued into the Late Iron Age- Roman period in which a series of ditches, arranged perpendicular to each other, appear to form a field boundary as well as two parallel ditches, which may form a trackway. A small number of pits were also of this date, however their relationship to the surrounding activity is unclear.
- 7.5.2 Area 2 focuses on the barn complex to the south of Charleston Farmhouse. It is thought, looking at the remains of the timber framing, that this is 17th century in origin, which corresponds with the map and documentary research. The building underwent multiple phases of construction over the centuries which became clearer during the groundworks. Early chalk footings were found beneath the current flint and brick walls, which are likely to have been the footings for the original timber structure. Outside in the yard, similar chalk footings were encountered, which could be the remains of a previous structure to the west of the yard.
- 7.5.3 During the early-mid 18th century a second flint and brick walled barn, the Threshing Barn, was built along the western edge of the Hay Barn. Beneath the current floor of the Threshing Barn, was a mortared surface, which displayed the impressions of bricks. This is thought to be a brick floor, which pre-dated the Threshing Barn. Unfortunately, the bricks have been completely removed however, it is likely that these would have been reused elsewhere on site rather than being discarded. They may have been used for the irregular floor laid within the Hay Barn.
- 7.5.4 A third phase of construction during the late 18th century involved the replacement or encasement of the majority of the timber framed walls with flint and brick, within the Hay Barn. These alterations may also correspond with the irregular brick surfaces and brick partition wall which were found below the made ground and concrete. These surfaces could indicate a change in function of the farmstead from earlier crop processing and storage to animal husbandry.
- 7.5.5 Further evidence found in the south-eastern corner of the yard, revealed brick and concrete surface, which has the potential to be an open-fronted animal shelter. This structure appears sometime during the early 19th century, but may have undergone renovations during the 20th century with the addition of brickwork and concrete

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Appendix 1: Context Register

Context	Type	Interpretation	Parent	SubGroup	Group
1	Layer	Topsoil	1	1	
2	Layer	Subsoil	2	2	
3	Deposit	Made ground	3	3	
4	Layer	Natural	4	4	
5	Cut	Ditch	5	5	1
6	Fill	Fill	5	5	1
7	Cut	Ditch	7	6	2
8	Fill	Fill	7	6	2
9	Cut	Pit	9	7	3
10	Fill	Fill	9	8	3
11	Fill	Fill	9	7	3
12	Fill	Fill	201	9	2
13	Cut	Land drain	13	10	
14	Fill	Fill	13	10	
15	Cut	Pit	15	11	4
16	Fill	Fill	15	11	4
17	Fill	Fill	15	11	4
18	Cut	Ditch	18	12	5
19	Fill	Fill	18	12	5
20	Cut	Ditch	20	13	2
21	Fill	Fill	20	13	2
22	Fill	Fill	23	14	6
23	Cut	Pit	23	14	6
24	Fill	Fill	25	15	7
25	Cut	Ditch	25	15	7
26	Fill	Fill	29	16	3
27	Fill	Fill	29	16	3
28	Fill	Fill	29	16	3
29	Cut	Pit	29	16	3
30	Cut	Pit	30	17	3
31	Fill	Fill	30	17	3
32	Fill	Fill	30	17	3
33	Cut	Ditch	33	18	8
34	Fill	Fill	33	18	8
35	Void				
36	Void				
37	Fill	Fill	202	19	7
38	Fill	Fill	39	20	9
39	Cut	Ditch	39	20	9

Context	Type	Interpretation	Parent	SubGroup	Group
40	Fill	Fill	41	21	57
41	Cut	Posthole	41	21	57
42	Cut	Ditch terminus	42	22	5
43	Fill	Fill	42	22	5
44	Fill	Fill	45	23	10
45	Cut	Ditch	45	23	10
46	Fill	Fill	47	24	5
47	Cut	Ditch	47	24	5
48	Fill	Fill	58	25	11
49	Fill	Fill	50	26	10
50	Cut	Ditch	50	26	10
51	Fill	Fill	52	27	6
52	Cut	Pit	52	27	6
53	Fill	Fill	54	28	9
54	Cut	Ditch	54	28	9
55	Fill	Fill	57	29	7
56	Fill	Fill	57	29	7
57	Cut	Ditch	57	29	7
58	Cut	Pit	58	25	11
59	Cut	Ditch	59	30	7
60	Cut	Ditch	60	31	9
61	Fill	Fill	58	25	11
62	Fill	Fill	59	30	7
63	Fill	Fill	60	31	9
64	Cut	Ditch	64	32	10
65	Fill	Fill	64	32	10
66	Fill	Fill	203	33	9
67	Fill	Fill	204	34	7
68	Fill	Fill	204	34	7
69	Cut	Ditch	69	35	10
70	Fill	Fill	69	35	10
71	Fill	Fill	72	36	10
72	Cut	Ditch	72	36	10
73	Cut	Ditch	73	37	9
74	Fill	Fill	73	37	9
75	Cut	Ditch	75	38	10
76	Fill	Fill	75	38	10
77	Fill	Fill	79	39	7
78	Fill	Fill	79	39	7
79	Cut	Ditch	79	39	7
80	Cut	Ditch	80	40	12

Context	Type	Interpretation	Parent	SubGroup	Group
81	Fill	Fill	80	40	12
82	Cut	Ditch	82	41	12
83	Fill	Fill	82	41	12
84	Cut	Ditch terminus	84	42	12
85	Fill	Fill	84	42	12
86	Cut	Ditch	86	43	7
87	Fill	Fill	86	43	7
88	Layer	Topsoil	88	1	
89	Layer	Made ground	89	3	
90	Layer	Buried topsoil	90	44	
91	Fill	Fill	92	45	12
92	Cut	Ditch	92	45	12
93	Cut	Ditch	93	46	12
94	Fill	Fill	93	46	12
95	Cut	Ditch	95	47	12
96	Fill	Fill	95	47	12
97	Fill	Fill	98	48	9
98	Cut	Ditch	98	48	9
99	Fill	Fill	100	49	7
100	Cut	Ditch	100	49	7
101	Fill	Fill	102	50	12
102	Cut	Ditch	102	50	12
103	Void				
104	Masonry or other construction	Floor	104	51	13
105	Masonry or other construction	Floor	105	52	14
106	Masonry or other construction	Floor	106	53	15
107	Masonry or other construction	Floor	107	54	15
108	Masonry or other construction	Floor	108	55	16
109	Masonry or other construction	Floor	109	56	15
110	Deposit	Backfill	110	57	17
111	Layer	Levelling deposit	111	58	18
112	Masonry or other construction	Floor	112	59	13
113	Masonry or other construction	Floor	113	60	19
114	Masonry or other construction	Floor	114	61	19
115	Masonry or other construction	Floor	115	52	14
116	Masonry or other construction	Wall	116	62	20

Context	Type	Interpretation	Parent	SubGroup	Group
117	Masonry or other construction	Concrete floor	117	63	21
118	Masonry or other construction	Concrete floor	118	64	22
119	Masonry or other construction	Concrete floor	119	65	23
120	Masonry or other construction	Concrete step	120	66	24
121	Masonry or other construction	Wall	121	67	25
122	Masonry or other construction	Wall	122	68	26
123	Layer	Levelling deposit	123	69	27
124	Deposit	Made ground	124	70	28
125	Masonry or other construction	Wall	125	71	29
126	Masonry or other construction	Wall	126	72	29
127	Masonry or other construction	Foundation	127	73	29
128	Layer	Natural	128	74	30
129	Masonry or other construction	Wall	129	75	29
130	Masonry or other construction	Wall	130	76	31
131	Masonry or other construction	Wall	131	77	29
132	Deposit	Topsoil	132	78	32
133	Deposit	Levelling deposit	133	79	33
134	Deposit	Levelling deposit	134	80	34
135	Deposit	Natural	135	74	30
136	Deposit	Topsoil	136	78	32
137	Deposit	Levelling deposit	137	79	33
138	Masonry or other construction	Wall	138	77	29
139	Masonry or other construction	Foundation	139	81	35
140	Layer	Natural	140	74	30
141	Deposit	Topsoil	141	78	32
142	Deposit	Levelling deposit	142	80	34
143	Masonry or other construction	Wall	143	82	35
144	Masonry or other construction	Foundation	144	81	35
145	Layer	Natural	145	74	30
146	Deposit	Made ground	146	83	28
147	Deposit	Backfill	147	84	28
148	Masonry or other construction	Wall	148	82	35

Context	Type	Interpretation	Parent	SubGroup	Group
149	Masonry or other construction	Floor	149	85	36
150	Layer	Levelling deposit	150	86	37
151	Masonry or other construction	Foundation	151	87	38
152	Masonry or other construction	Concrete floor	152	64	22
153	Masonry or other construction	Floor	153	88	39
154	Masonry or other construction	Foundation	154	89	29
155	Masonry or other construction	Levelling deposit	155	90	
156	Layer	Natural	156	74	30
157	Deposit	Made ground	157	91	41
158	Masonry or other construction	Wall	158	92	38
159	Masonry or other construction	Wall	159	93	38
160	Masonry or other construction	Wall	160	94	38
161	Masonry or other construction	Foundation	161	95	42
162	Cut	Foundation cut	162	96	42
163	Fill	Fill	162	96	42
164	Deposit	Floor	164	97	43
165	Deposit	Make up	165	98	44
166	Deposit	Redeposited natural	166	99	44
167	Deposit	Made ground	167	100	44
168	Deposit	Foundation	168	101	45
169	Masonry or other construction	Floor	169	102	46
170	Masonry or other construction	Wall	170	103	47
171	Deposit	Topsoil	171	104	48
172	Deposit	Made ground	172	105	48
173	Deposit	Made ground	173	106	49
174	Layer	Natural	174	74	30
175	Masonry or other construction	Wall	175	107	47
176	Masonry or other construction	Foundation	176	108	45
177	Deposit	Topsoil	177		
178	Deposit	Subsoil	178		
179	Deposit	Natural	179		
180	Masonry or other construction	Floor	180	109	50
181	Deposit	Made ground	181	91	41
182	Cut	Posthole	182	110	51

Context	Type	Interpretation	Parent	SubGroup	Group
183	Fill	Fill	182	110	51
184	Layer	Natural	184	74	30
185	Cut	Foundation cut	185	89	29
186	Masonry or other construction	Foundation	185	89	29
187	Cut	Pit	187	111	52
188	Fill	Fill	187	111	52
189	Cut	Wall	189	112	53
190	Fill	Fill	189	112	53
191	Masonry or other construction	Footing	191	112	53
192	Masonry or other construction	Footing	192	113	53
193	Masonry or other construction	Floor	193	85	36
194	Masonry or other construction	Footing	194	114	53
195	Masonry or other construction	Floor	195	85	36
196	Masonry or other construction	Footing	196	115	54
197	Deposit	Made ground	197	91	41
198	Masonry or other construction	Floor	198	116	36
199	Cut	Drain	199	117	55
200	Fill	Fill	199	117	55
201	Cut	Ditch	201	9	2
202	Cut	Ditch	202	19	7
203	Cut	Ditch	203	33	9
204	Cut	Ditch	204	34	7
205	Masonry or other construction	Wall	205	118	38
206	Deposit	Made ground	206	119	56

Appendix 2: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, * = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams**

Sample Number	Context	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	16	50	50	*	<2	*	<2							Pottery */ 4g - burnt sandstone */ 20g - FCF */ <2g
2	11	40	40	*	<2	**	<2							FCF */ 32g - industrial debris */ <2g - coal */ <2g - flint */ 10g - pottery */ <2g
3	48	40	40	**	10	***	10	*	<2					FCF */ 50g - coal */ <2g
4	55	40	40			**	<2	*	<2	*	<2	***	2	FCF */ 24g - flint */ 2g
5	53	40	40	*	<2	**	<2	*	<2			**	<2	
6	99	40	40			**	<2	*	<2	*	<2	***	<2	flint */ <2g

Appendix 3: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, * = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)**

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Land Snail Shells
1	16	5.7	100	100	80	10	**				***
2	11	6	175	100	80	10	**				***
3	48	6	100	100	80	10	**	*	Cerealia (1)	+	***
4	55	4.5	60	60	80	10	*	*	<i>Triticum</i> sp., free-threshing (4), Cerealia (4)	+	***
5	53	2.9	60	60	80	10	*	*	Cerealia (1)	+	***
6	99	4	75	75	80	10	**	*	Cerealia (6)	+	***

Appendix 4: HER Summary

HER enquiry no.					
Site code	FCH16				
Project code	6815				
Planning reference	SDNP/14/00683/FUL & SDNP/14/00684/LIS				
Site address	Charleston Barns, Charleston, Eastbourne Road, Firle				
District/Borough	East Sussex				
NGR (12 figures)	549035 106895				
Geology	Gault Clay Formation				
Fieldwork type			WB		
Date of fieldwork	2015 - 20217				
Sponsor/client	The Charleston Trust				
Project manager	Neil Griffin				
Project supervisor	Susie Westall and Lucy May				
Period summary		Mesolithic	Neolithic	Bronze Age	Iron Age
	Roman		Medieval	Post-Medieval	
Project summary (100 word max)	An archaeological watching brief monitoring the groundworks associated with the Charleston Barns and new car park and access road. Results show a low level occupation during the early prehistoric period with agricultural activity dating from the Early Iron Age to Roman period in the form of field boundaries and trackways. During the post-medieval period there is evidence of several phases of construction within the Barn complex.				
Museum/Accession No.					

Finds summary

Find type	Material	Period	Quantity
Pottery	Ceramic	EIA-Roman & P-Med	94
CBM	Ceramic	Post-Med	56
Lithics	Flint	Prehistoric	27
Stone	Stone	Post-Med	15
Bone	Bone	IA-Roman	6

Appendix 4: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-343230

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Watching Brief at Charleston Barns
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was commissioned by The Charleston Trust, in advance of groundworks associated with the new access road and car park as well as groundworks associated with alterations made to the historic farm buildings and surrounding area. Residual flintwork was recovered showing a low level exploitation of the landscape during the early prehistoric period. The earliest occupation on site dates to the Early Iron Age. Unfortunately, only two features of this date were encountered which consisted of a large pit and a small pit or ditch terminus. Occupation continued into the Late Iron Age-Roman period in which a series of ditches, arranged perpendicular to each other, appear to form a field boundary as well as two parallel ditches which form a trackway around. A small number of pits were also of this date however their relationship to the surrounding activity is unclear. Hay barn and Threshing barn complex to the south of Charleston Farmhouse underwent multiple phases of construction over the centuries which became clearer during the groundworks. The earliest evidence on site was from a series of chalk footings thought to be for the earlier timber frame (17th Century) along with a mortar, brick impressed surface. The Threshing Barn was then built Early-mid 18th century which may also relate to the brick surfaces found within the barn and yard. These surfaces could indicate a change in function of the farmstead from earlier crop processing and storage to animal husbandry.
Project dates	Start: 02-03-2015 End: 15-09-2017
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	FCH15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	6815 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	BARNS Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval

Investigation type "Watching Brief"
Prompt Planning condition
Prompt Listed Building Consent

Project location

Country England
Site location EAST SUSSEX LEWES FIRLE Charleston Barns
Postcode BN8 6LL
Study area 0 Hectares
Site coordinates TQ 49035 06895 50.841778364066 0.117036388201 50 50 30 N
000 07 01 E Point
Height OD / Depth Min: 30.17m Max: 42.5m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South East
Project brief originator ASE
Project design originator ASE
Project director/manager Neil Griffin
Project supervisor Lucy May
Type of sponsor/funding body Client
Name of sponsor/funding body The Charleston Trust

Project archives

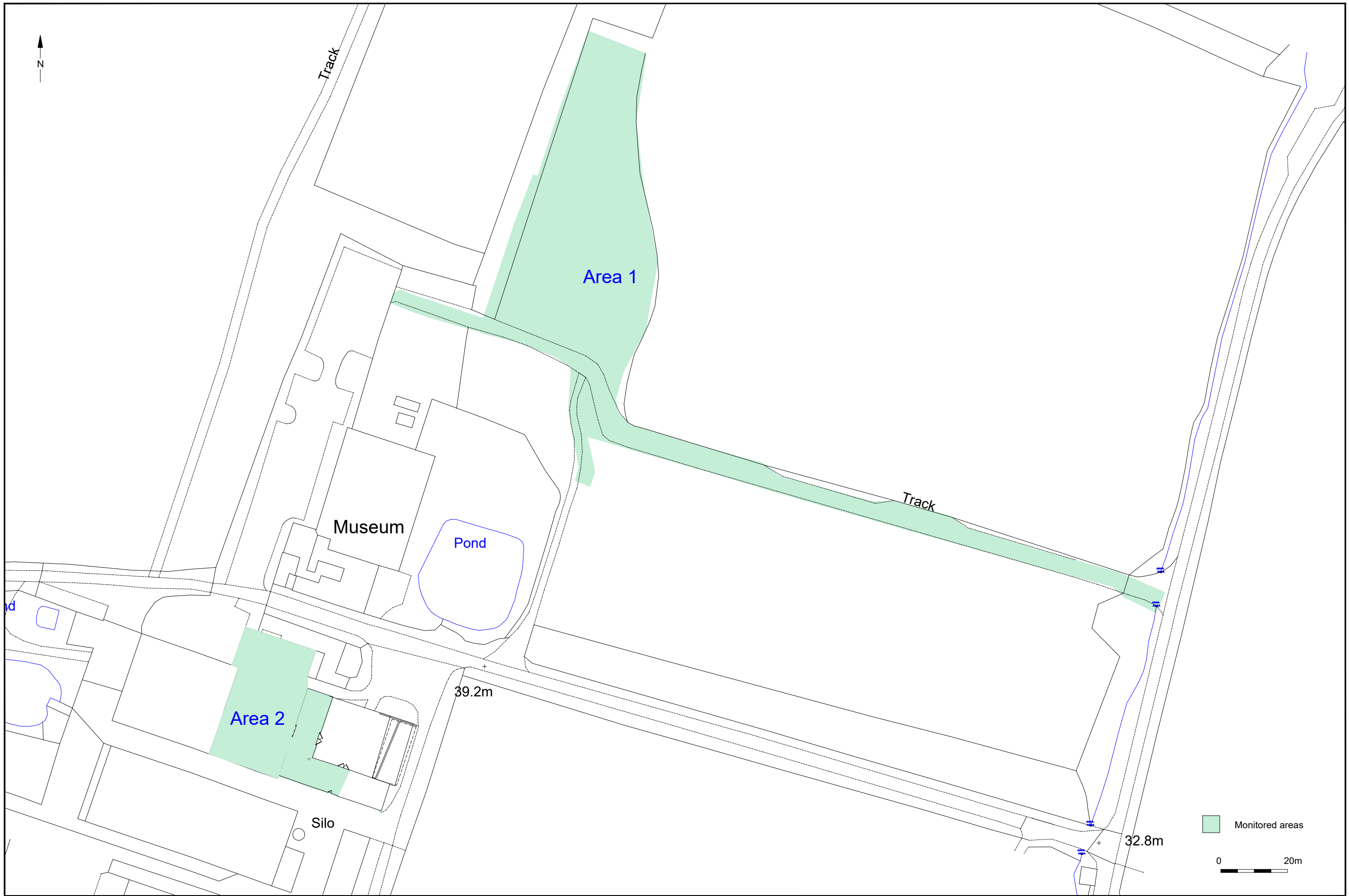
Physical Archive recipient Local Museum
Physical Contents "Ceramics", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient Local Museum
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient Local Museum
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Report", "Section"

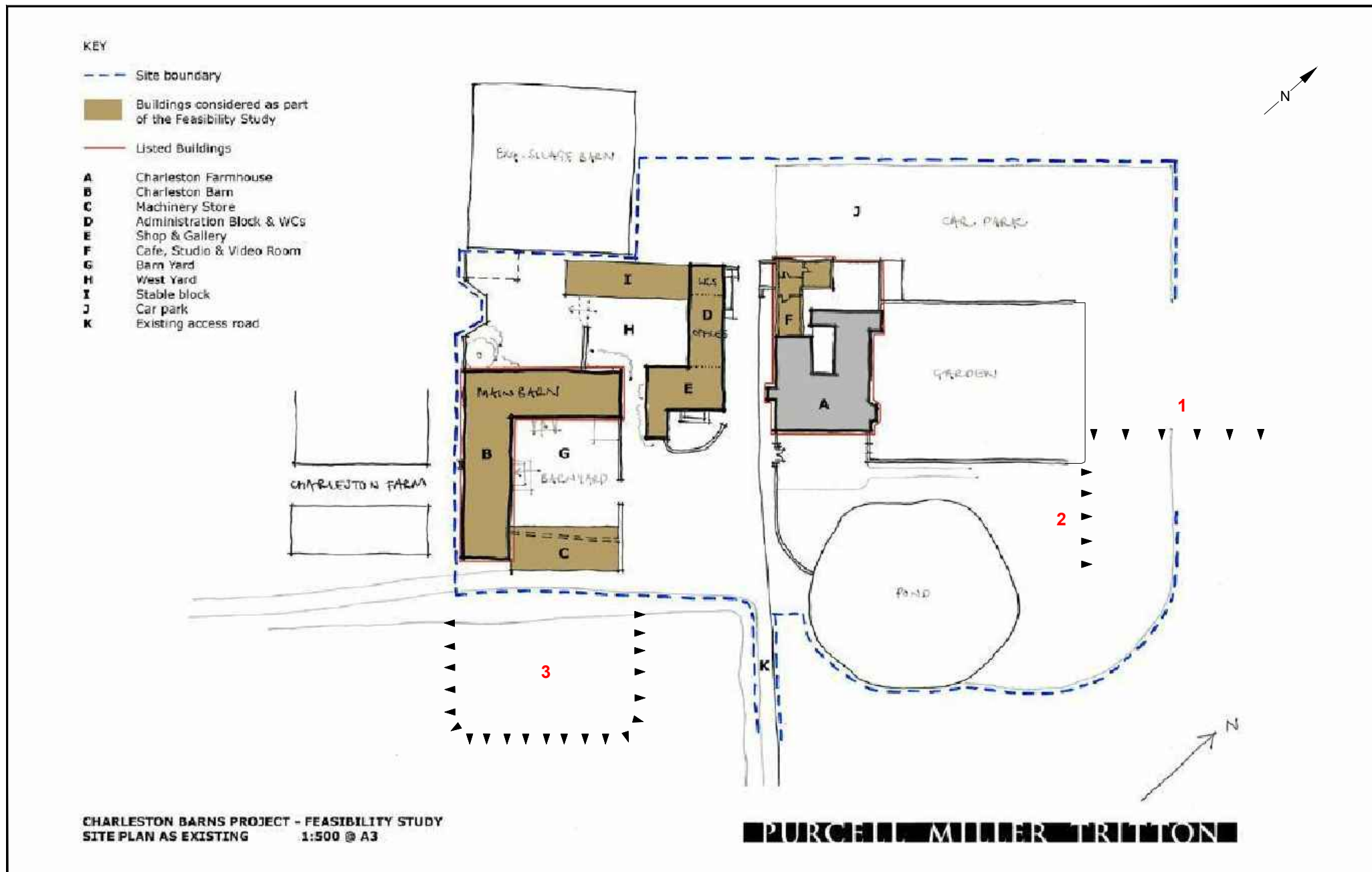
Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Final Report: Charleston Barns, Charleston, Firle, East Sussex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	May, L
Other bibliographic details	Report Number:2019035
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Archaeology South-East
Description	A4 report
Entered by	L May (l.may@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	20 February 2019

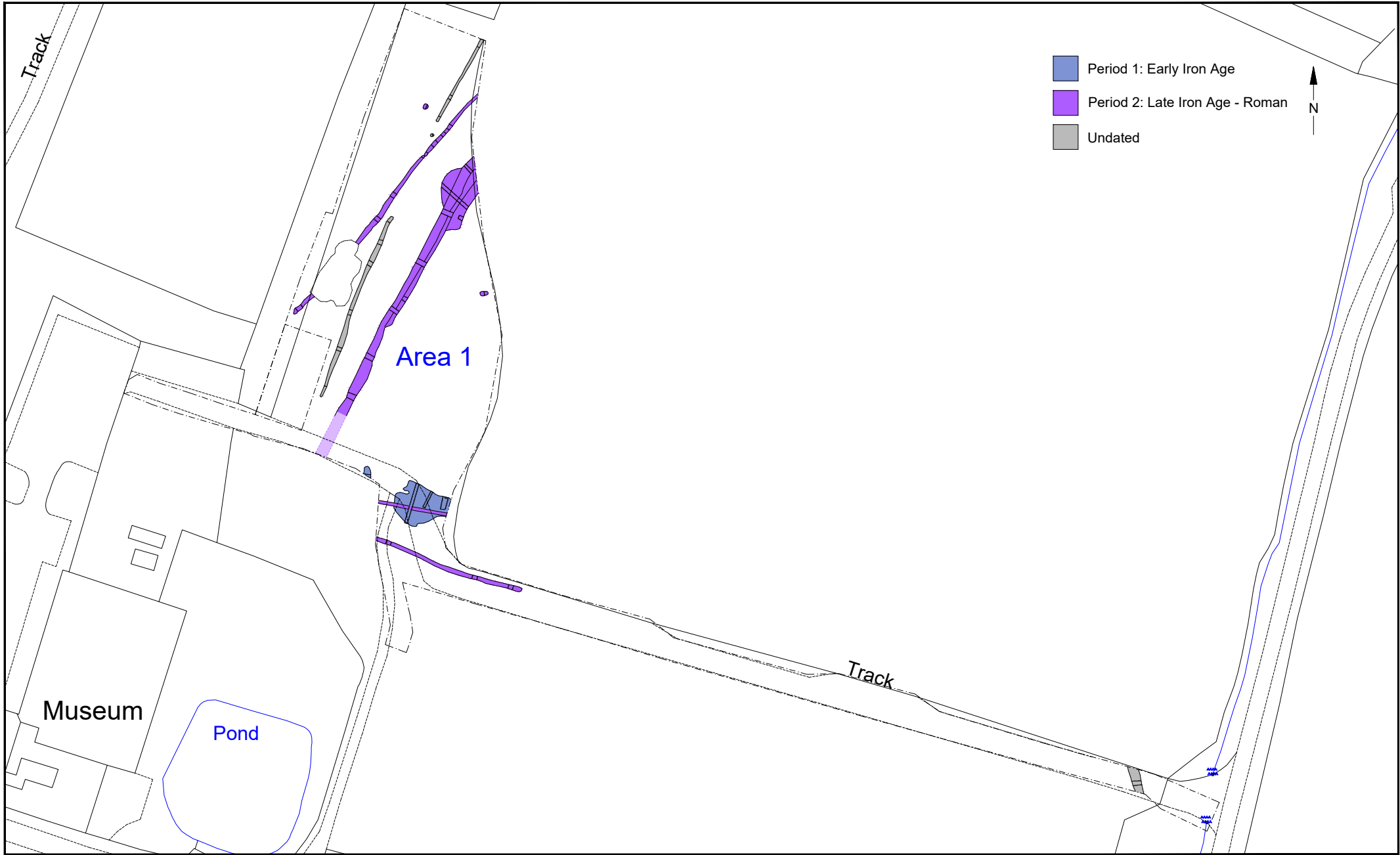


© Archaeology South-East		Charleston Barns, Firle, East Sussex	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 6815	January 2019	Site location	
Report Ref: 2019035	Drawn by: NH		

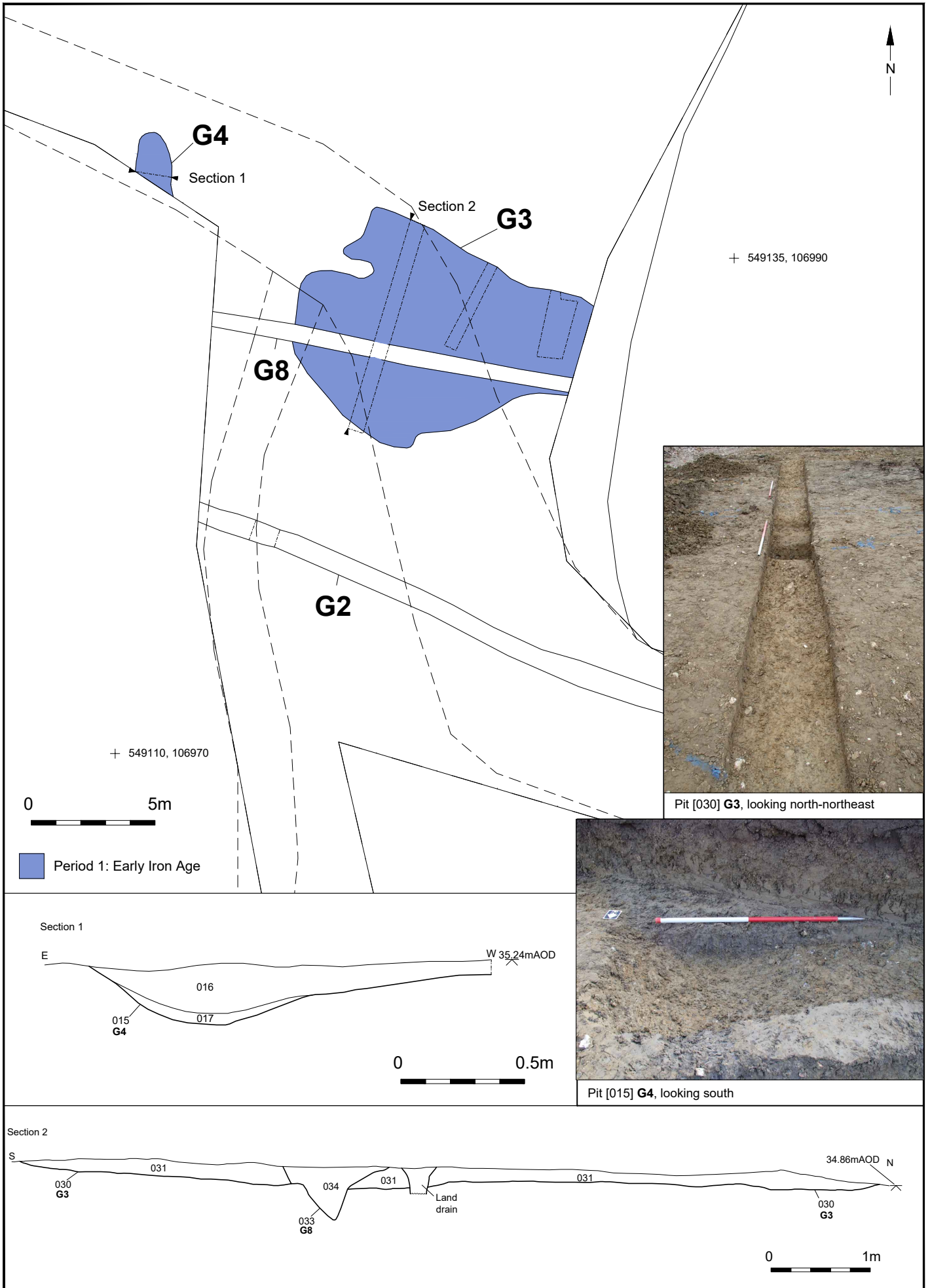


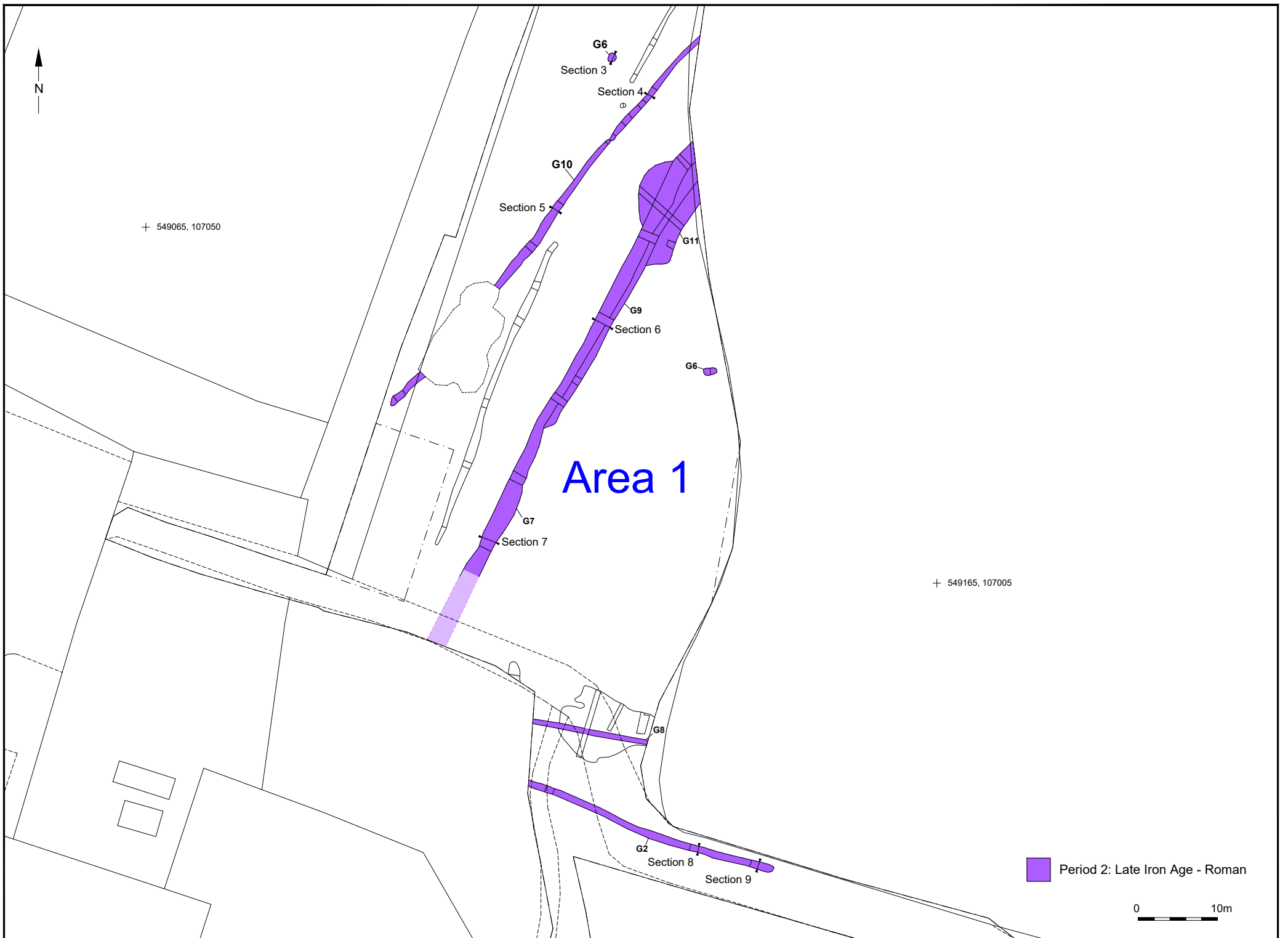


© Archaeology South-East		Charleston Barns, Firle, East Sussex	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 6815	March 2019	Landscape features	
Report Ref: 2019035	Drawn by: NH		



© Archaeology South-East		Charleston Barns, Firle, East Sussex	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 6815	March 2019	Area 1: Phased plan	
Report Ref: 2019035	Drawn by: NH		





Pit [052] G6, looking southeast



Ditch [064] G10, looking southwest



Ditch [045] G10, looking southwest



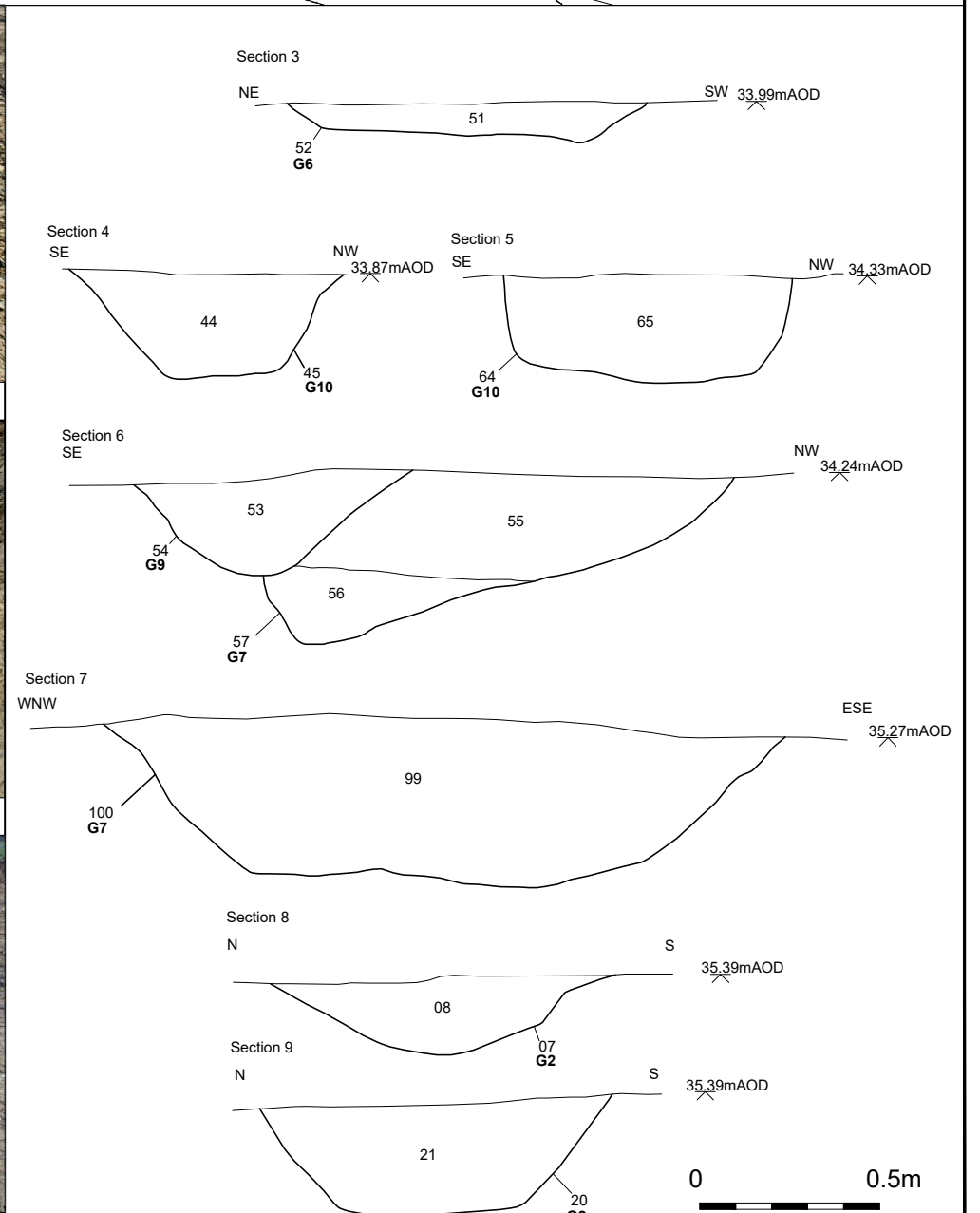
Ditch [054] G9 and ditch [057] G7, looking southwest

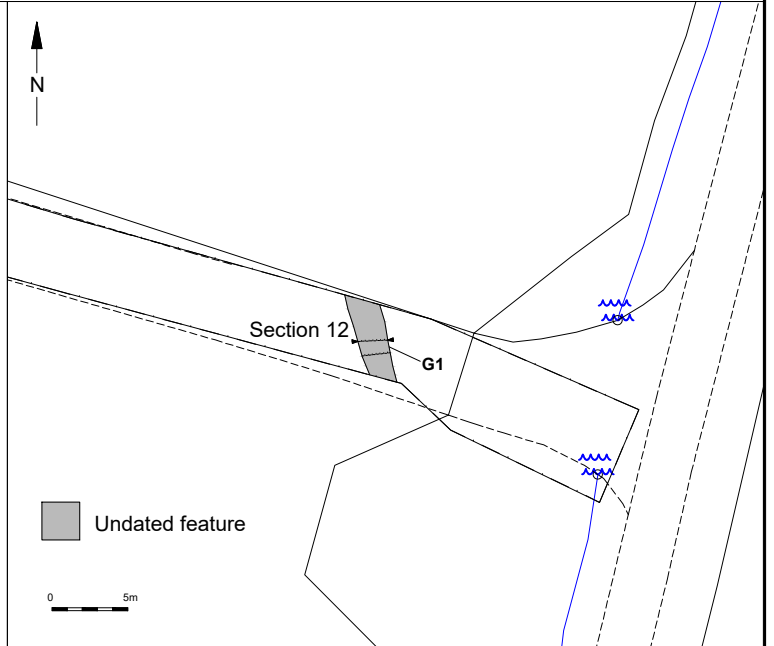
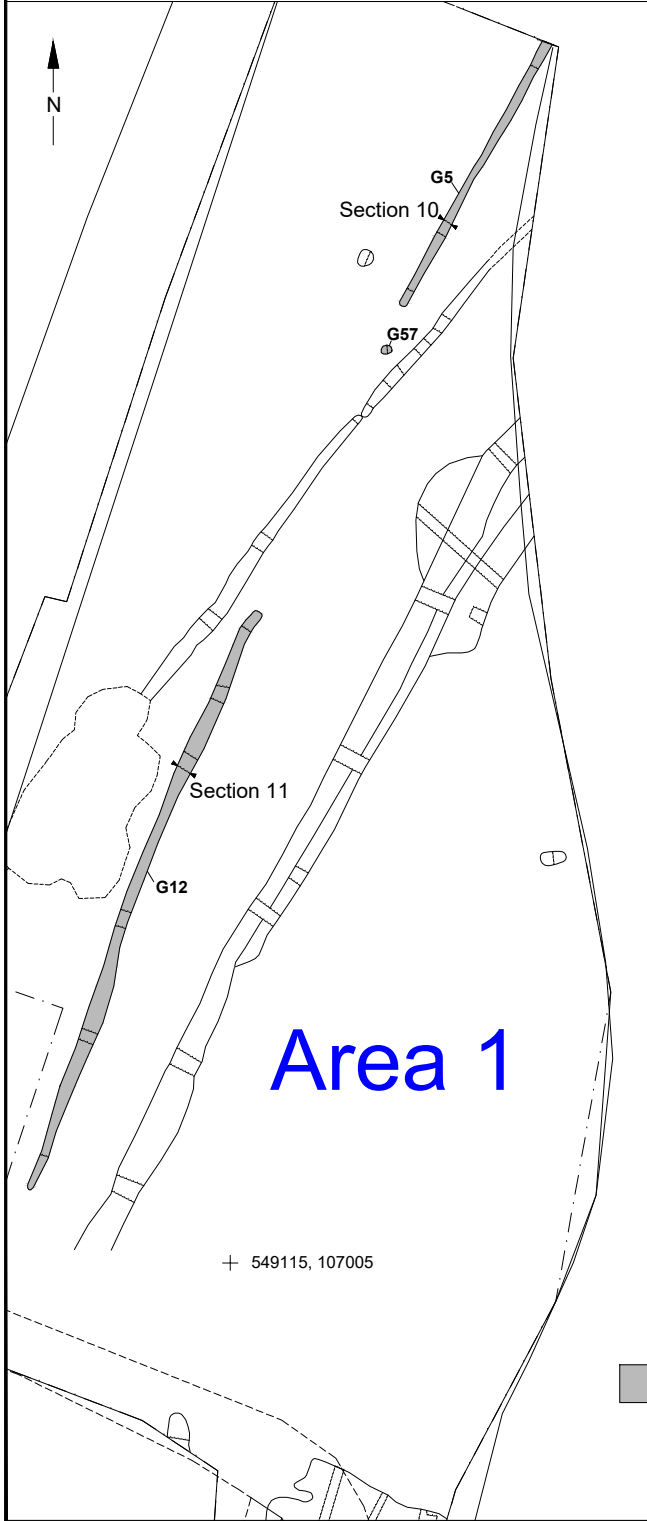
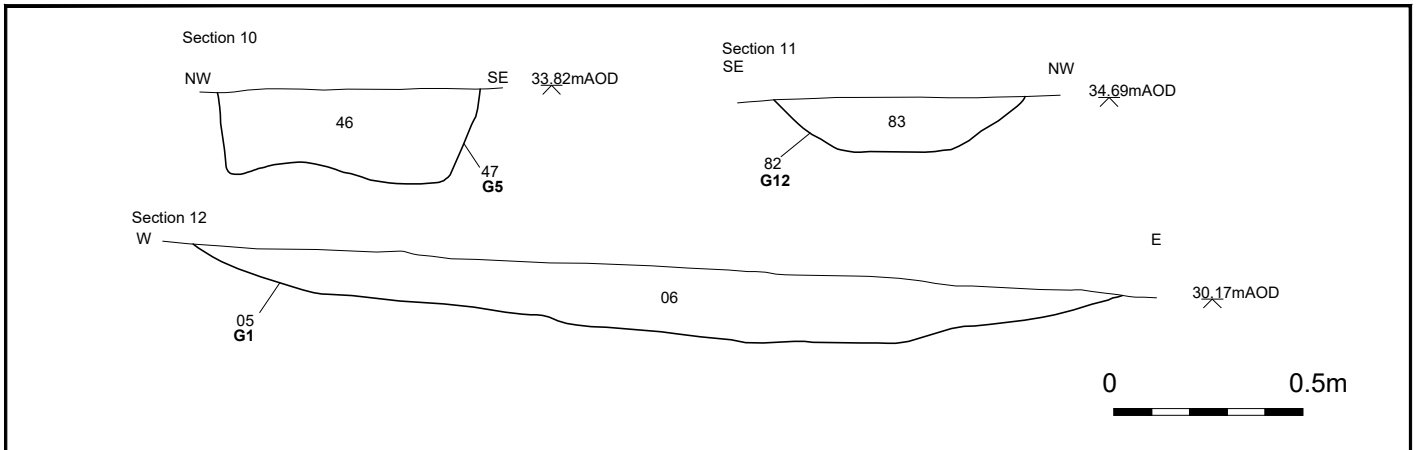


Ditch [100] G7, looking northeast



Ditch [007] G2, looking east-southeast

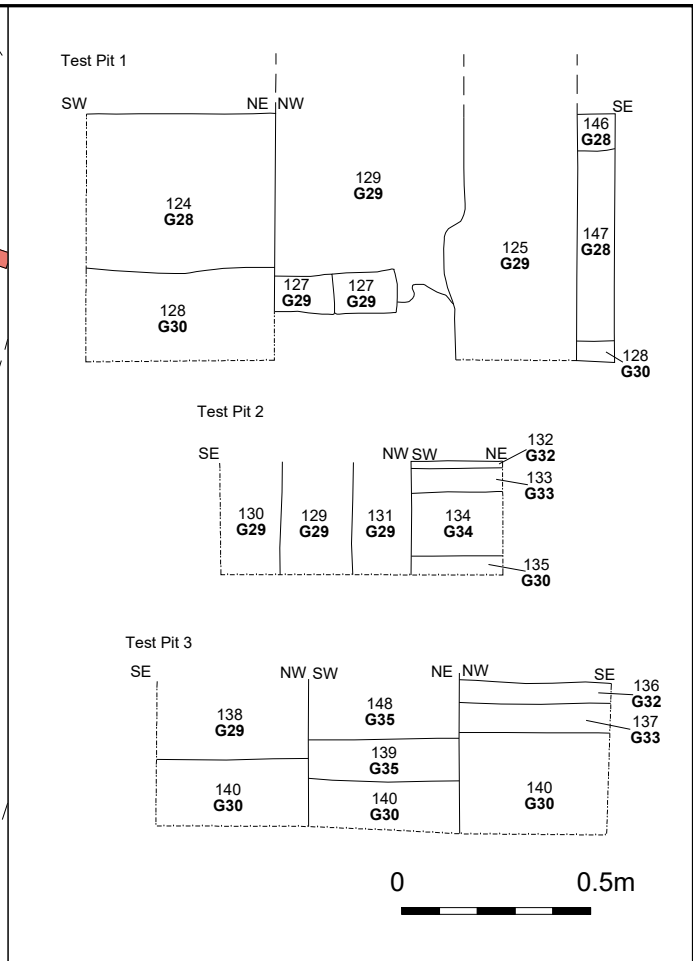
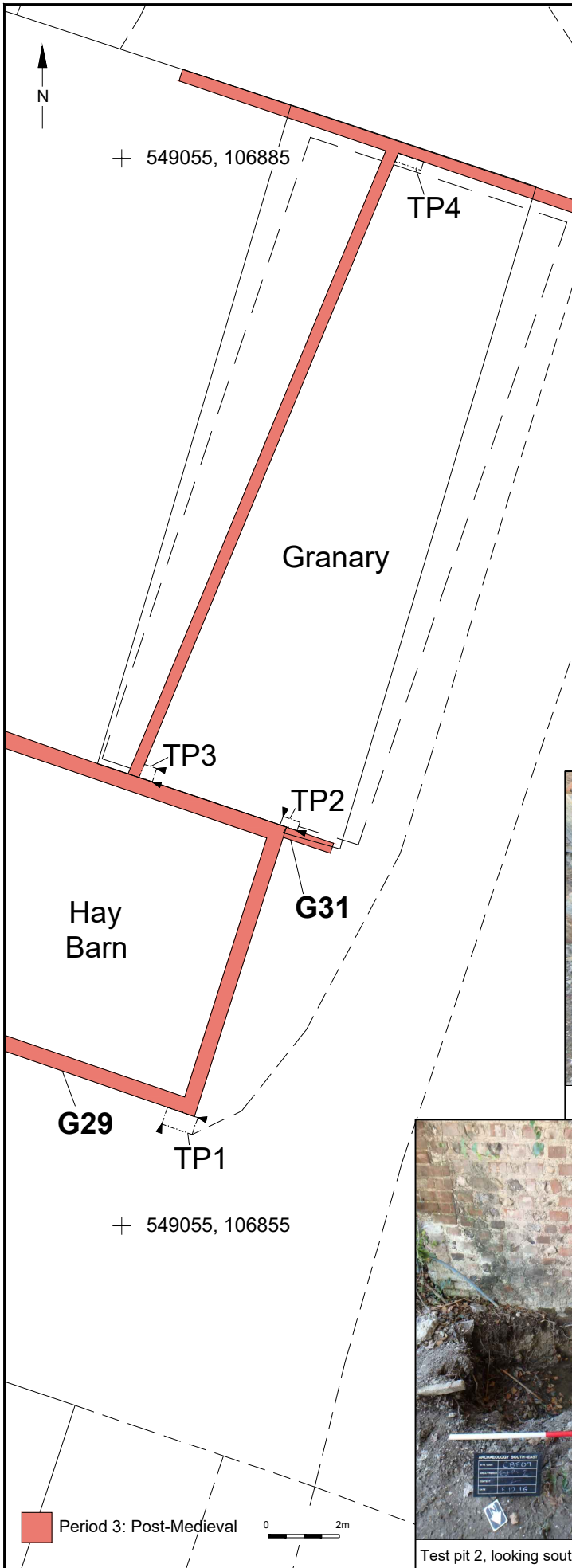




Ditch [047] G5, looking northeast



Ditch [082] G12, looking southwest



Test pit 1, looking north



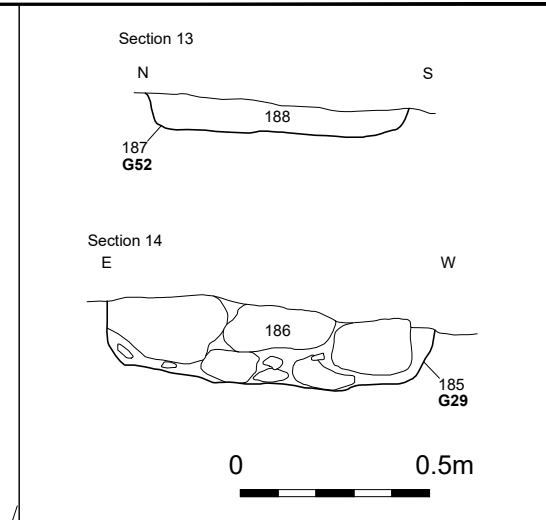
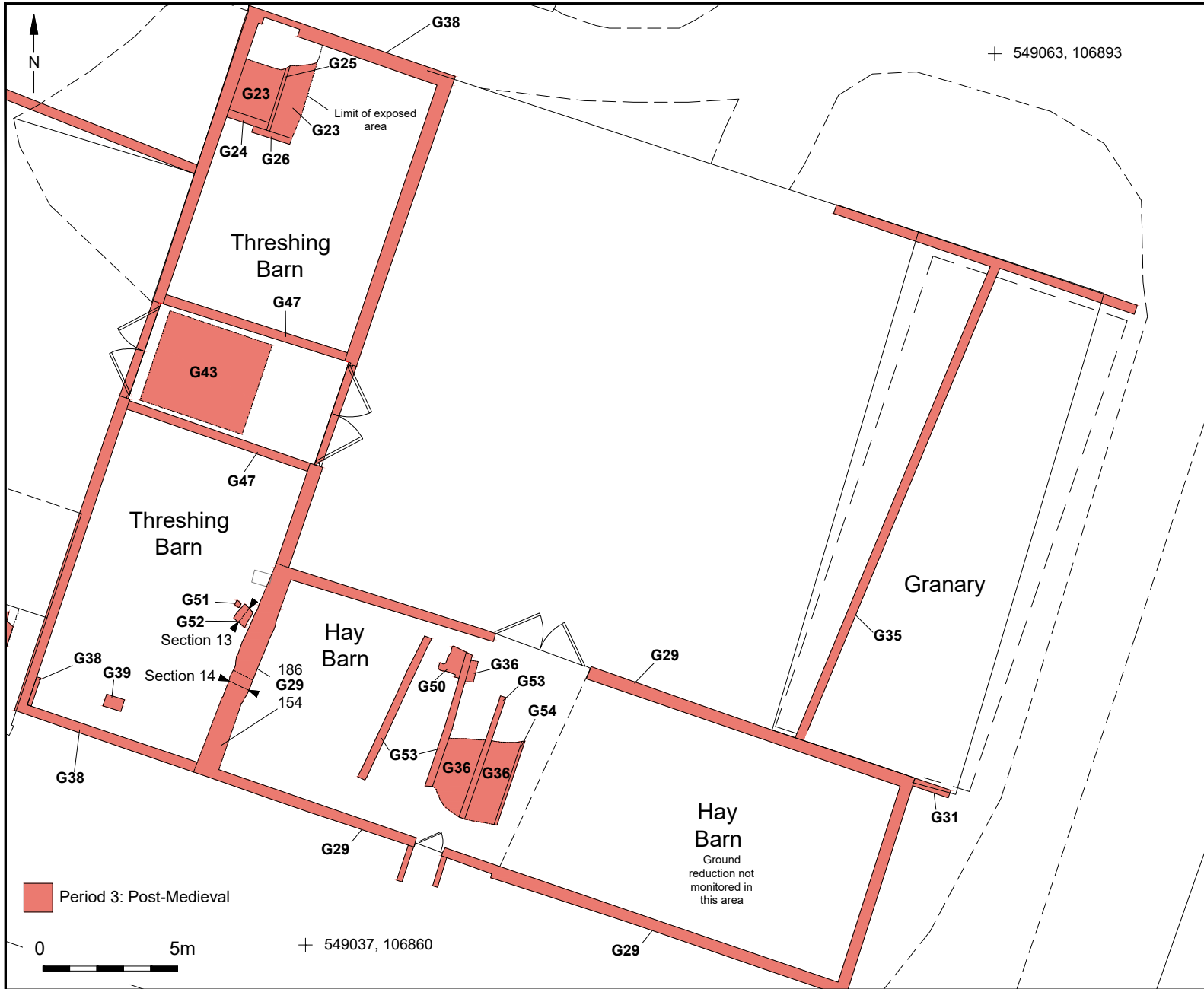
Test pit 2, looking south

Test pit 3, looking west

Test pit 4, looking west

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Project Ref: 6815	March 2019	Area 2: Location of test pits, sections and photos		
Report Ref: 2019035	Drawn by: NH			





G36, G53 and G54, looking southwest

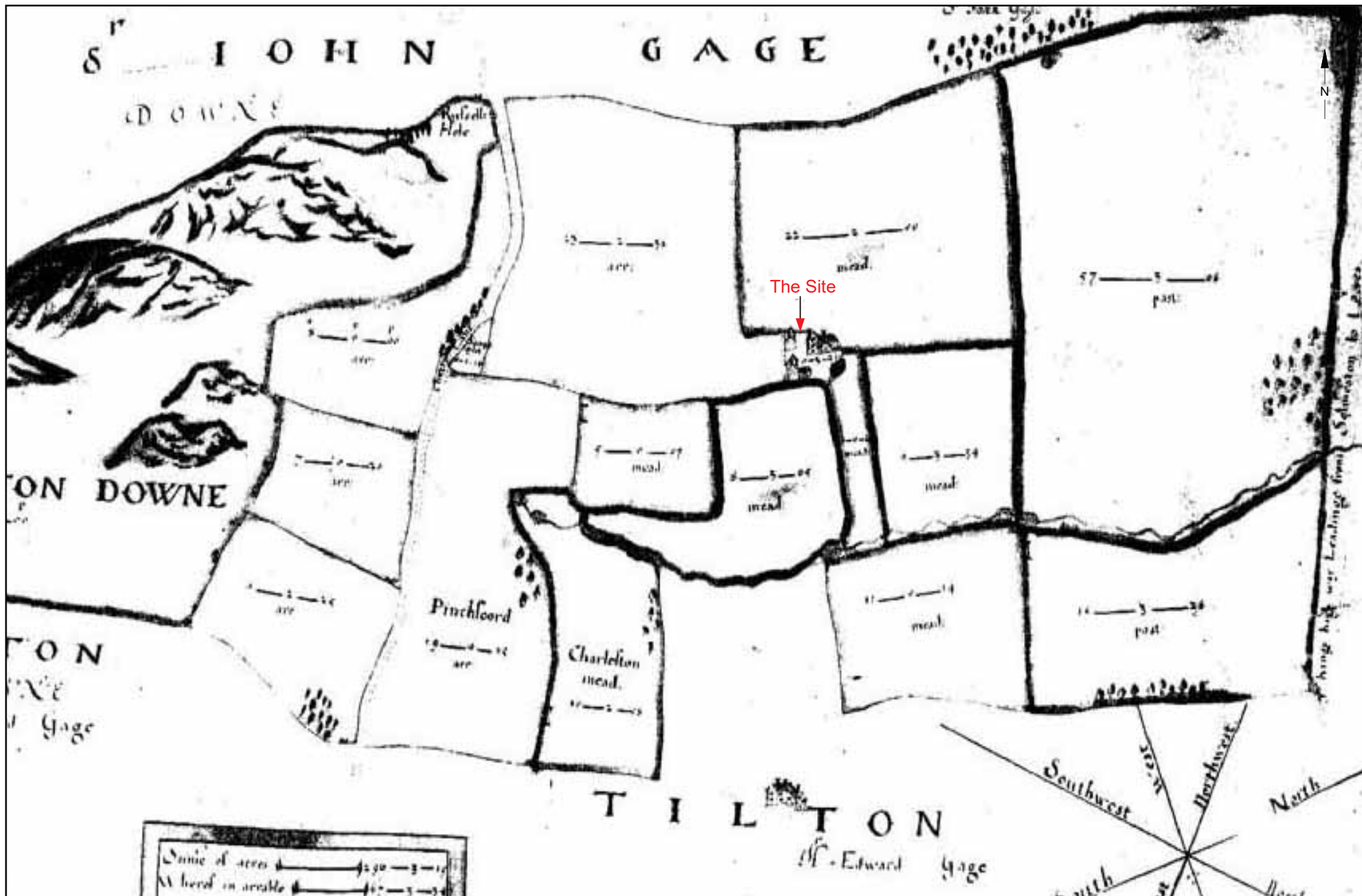


'Impressed' brick floor G43, looking east

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Project Ref: 6815	March 2019	Threshing Barn and Hay Barn: Plan, sections and photos	
Report Ref: 2019035	Drawn by: NH		



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Project Ref: 6815	March 2019	Yard: Plan and photos	
Report Ref: 2019035	Drawn by: NH		





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Project Ref: 6815	March 2019	Area 2 with 1844 Tithe Map	
Report Ref: 2019035	Drawn by: NH		

Sussex Office

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

Essex Office

27 Eastways
Witham
Essex
CM8 3YQ
tel: +44(0)1376 331470
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk

London Office

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

