

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at The Gap Site,
Hastings, East Sussex**

NGR 581543 109485



By

Paul Riccoboni BA (Hons)

Project No. 2727

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at The Gap Site,
Hastings, East Sussex**

NGR 581543 109485

Planning Reference: HS/FA/06/00307

Site Code: GSH 06

By

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With contributions by Lucy Allott and Gemma Driver

Project No: 2727

Report No: 2008/007

February 2008

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief was maintained between 19th February 2007 and the 8th November 2007 during the construction of a new business and shopping centre with associated underground car parking (planning reference HS/FA/06/00307) at The Gap Site, Hastings, East Sussex (NGR 581543 109485). A total of 27 site visits were made over this period. Dark, organic rich deposits and blue/grey clay deposits were encountered beneath Victorian made ground. These deposits formed before the area was in-filled with spoil, created during the construction of the railway in the 19th century. Samples taken from the clay and peat deposits revealed no significant environmental remains. A dog skeleton was recovered from context [8] during the excavation for a foul drain. No other artefacts or ecofacts were recovered.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, were commissioned by Carillion Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of two new commercial/business properties at the Gap site, 11-15 Havelock road, Hastings, East Sussex, hereafter referred to as 'the site' (NGR 581543 109485) (Fig 1.)
- 1.2 The site is situated near the centre of the new town shopping complex, south of the railway station at approximately 8m OD and is bounded to the west by Priory Street and to the east by Havelock Road. The British Geological Survey (Sheet 320/321, 1:50,000 series, Solid and Drift Edition) records the site as lying on Alluvium.
- 1.3 An application for planning permission for the proposed construction of a new commercial/business property with associated car parking has been approved by Hastings Borough Council (the local planning authority) (Planning Reference: HS/FA/05/0064) (Fig.1). In view of the archaeological potential of the site, the County Archaeologist (Casper Johnson) at East Sussex County Council (ESCC) advised the local planning authority that a condition be attached to the planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological work (Condition No. 6).
- 1.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared by Jon Sygrave of Archaeology South East. The Project Design stated that the recommended programme of work should be in the form of an archaeological recording brief (otherwise referred to, for example, in the *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, as a watching brief. The Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared according to the *Recommended Standard Conditions for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording, and Post-Excavation Work (Development Control) in East Sussex V3* (September 2003).
- 1.5 The aims of the watching brief were to record the archaeological remains already exposed and to monitor any further ground work in order to ensure that any features, artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest exposed and affected by the excavations were recorded and interpreted to appropriate standards.
- 1.6 A specific aim was to contribute to the knowledge of the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Hastings.
- 1.7 The fieldwork was undertaken by Paul Riccoboni and Dan Swift (Senior Archaeologists), Deon Whittaker and Alice Thorne (Archaeologists) intermittently between February and November 2007. The project was managed by Jon Sygrave (Project Manager) and Louise Rayner (Post Excavation Manager).

2. Archaeological Background

- 2.1 An HER search was conducted and the results are tabulated in Appendix 1 of this report. An events summary is tabulated within Appendix 2.
- 2.2 The 'Gap' site is shown on Figure 1 and lies within the centre of the town of Hastings, a town with Saxon origins which is mentioned within the 8th Century Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. The first reference to a town is when *Haestingacaestre* appears in the Burghal Hideage assessed at five hundred hides (Aldsworth & Freke 1976, 31). However, Hastings is more famous for its Norman history, when the stone castle was built. The original Norman town was probably within the western valley as there were at least four churches to the west of the castle (Martin 1995). The medieval Old Town, the known historic core of Hastings, lies to the east of the site.
- 2.3 The 'Gap' site lies within the former Priory Valley, a previous marine inlet reclaimed during the early 19th Century, within which the modern town developed.
- 2.4 Located to the south-west of the site lies the remains of the Hastings Augustinian Priory (HER No. 8; MES864). The priory was excavated in advance of development in 1972 (Martin 1973). The excavations revealed extensive remains of the priory and detailed seven periods of construction, from its initial construction in the late 12th to early 13th Century to partial reconstruction of the refectory during the 14th Century.
- 2.5 A map showing a conjectural coastline of Hastings during the medieval period was drawn up by Aldsworth and Freke (1976). This map (Fig 4) shows Hastings Priory (pre c. 1250) next to a north-west south-east aligned tidal inlet. A later map from 1746 (Fig. 5), reproduced by Martin (1973:6), also shows the priory before initial coastal development and shows Priory Farm occupying a group of buildings, which may have utilised the scant remains of the priory.
- 2.6 A large shingle bank or manmade dam was created that spanned the tidal inlet. This may have been created (or partially created) as early as the late 13th Century by the documented storms which damaged Old Winchelsea (Martin, 1973, 8). The bank effectively turned the tidal inlet into an expanse of trapped inland water, known as Priory Marsh or Creek (Fig. 5). This drained into the sea via a stream at its eastern end but was finally and deliberately drained through a culvert in 1836 (Martin, 1973:7). The creek was in-filled with soil from the railway construction later in the 19th century (Martin, 1973:7)
- 2.7 Figures 4 and 5 show that the 'Gap' site appears to lay just beyond the western edge of both the tidal channel and the later marsh.

3. Archaeological Methodology

- 3.1 The excavations across the site were undertaken by the groundwork contractors and monitored at all times by a suitably qualified archaeologist. The excavations included:
- removal of modern concrete and deep Victorian made ground deposits.
 - excavation around existing pile caps
 - excavations for a new lift shaft
 - Excavation of drainage & foul drain trenches
- 3.2 A 13 ton 360° tracked excavator fitted with a ditching bucket was used wherever practicable. Sensitive archaeological areas were excavated by the on site archaeologist. Monitoring took place until/unless it became clear beyond reasonable doubt that no archaeological remains were present.
- 3.3 When archaeological remains of significance were encountered, excavation ceased and adequate time was made available for appropriate archaeological excavation by hand to identify and record the remains as far as possible within the limits of the works.
- 3.4 The spoil from the excavations was inspected by the archaeologist to recover any artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest.
- 3.5 All recording was undertaken in accordance with accepted professional standards according to the *Institute for Archaeologists: Standard and Guidance (2001)* and the Method Statement.
- 3.6 A full photographic record (black and white and colour slide) of the work was kept as appropriate and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held at the Archaeology South East office in Portslade and will be offered to Hastings Museum and Art Gallery in due course.

4. Results (Figs 2, 3)

4.1 Initial Ground Reduction

4.1.1 Mechanical removal of material to the new-build formation level of c 3.80m OD was monitored intermittently across the site. In all areas this revealed made ground deposits consisting of variable grey-brown, orange-brown silty clay containing occasional fragments of sandstone and brick. Initial ground reduction did not reach the base of the made ground in all areas and did not penetrate any underlying deposits.

4.2 Drainage excavations

4.2.1 Directly beneath the Victorian made ground deposits (4.3m OD) two parallel drainage channels (Fig 2; Trenches A & B) were excavated to a length of c. 20m, width of c. 0.50m and depth of c. 0.30m (Fig 2). Three different layers of geological origin were recorded within Trench A (Figure 3; Section 3). Context [2], a mid greyish blue firm clay, was seen at the northern end of the trench, overlaying a dark brown, organic rich deposit (Context [1]). An additional blue grey clay deposit (Context [3]), similar to [2] was seen at the base of the excavations, at a height of 2.40m OD. No archaeological artefacts or ecofacts were discovered within this trench.

4.2.2 Trench B was located adjacent to the southern end of Trench A and only revealed the dark organic deposit [1].

4.2.3 The excavation in advance of a new foul drain was monitored (Fig 2; Trench C, Fig. 3, Sections 1 & 2). The trench reached a depth of c. 1.2m (3.40m OD) and directly beneath the made ground (4.3m OD) a dark greyish brown very organic rich deposit was recorded (Context [7]), which contained occasional tree branches and wood throughout. This was overlain by Context [8], a dark greyish blue clay of a firm consistency. A dog skeleton of unknown date was recovered from this context. Environmental samples <1003> and <1002> were taken from deposits [7] and [8] respectively.

4.2.4 Trench F was excavated to a length of c. 10m, width of c. 1.0m and depth of c. 2m. This revealed a mixture of grey blue clays (Context [9]) No artefacts or ecofacts were recovered.

4.3 Excavations around Pile Caps

4.3.1 Excavation took place around piles caps D and G (see plan). Excavations were c. 5m² in size and reached a depth of c. 1m from the present ground surface (c. 3.40m OD).

4.3.2 Pile Cap D revealed a light greyish blue clay deposit (Context [9]),

which contained no archaeological finds.

- 4.3.3 Pile Cap G was excavated to a total depth of 2m below present ground level and measured c. 2.5m² in size. A very dark grey clay with brown clay mottling throughout (Context [6]) was recorded and a piece of wood recovered.
- 4.3.4 Before the insertion of a new lift shaft (Fig 2; Point E), excavation took place around the already inserted piles. The excavations reached a depth of 3.5m from the present road surface. The excavation went through a mid grey blue clay (Context [9]). The clay was a lighter colour towards the top of the deposit and was mottled with brown patches throughout which were mainly composed of organic wood remains.
- 4.3.5 In the south eastern part of the site the excavations only reached a depth of (4.12m OD). Therefore, the pile cap excavations at points H, I & J (Fig 2) only disturbed the Victorian made ground deposit seen across the site (Context [12]). In this area the deposit was sealed by a layer of concrete (0.90m thick).

5. The Finds

5.1 Animal Bone Gemma Driver

5.1.1 Context [8] produced 24 fragments of bone. The context contains the remains of a dog including complete left and right scapulae, left and right radius, left tibia, femur and humerus and various ribs and vertebrae. The bicipital tuberosity of the scapulae is fused though the distal humerus is unfused. This gives the animal an age of 12-15 months (Silver 1969:285-286). There are no signs of pathology or other modifications.

5.2 Wood Lucy Allott

5.2.1 Segments of uncharred wood were collected from context [6]. Several pieces from a piece of wood measuring approx 10cm in diameter have been identified as *Quercus* sp. (oak). This wood has preserved in a peat-like organic rich deposit in waterlogged conditions. It is well preserved and appears only partially blackened.

6. Environmental Samples Lucy Allott

6.1 Three environmental samples were collected from contexts [2], [7] and [8] during archaeological works. These contexts and samples were described as peat-rich with good potential for recovery of uncharred organics. The samples were wet sieved through a series of graded sieves at 4mm, 2mm, 1mm, 500µm and 250µm. The retained materials were stored in water, in air tight bags prior to analysis. Sub-samples of 50ml of each fraction were extracted and viewed under a stereo-zoom microscope at magnifications of x7-x40.

6.2 The samples produced uncharred wood consisting of branch, twig and root fragments. Occasional large pieces were present however the majority were small non-descript organic matter most likely originating from larger wood fragments. No uncharred seeds or fruits were observed in the sub-samples analysed.

7. Discussion

- 7.1 Although the watching brief at the Gap site did not uncover any archaeological features or finds, it did reveal two very distinct geological deposits, a dark organic rich deposit and a blue/grey clay, across all monitored areas of the site. The thickness of the deposits was considerable, especially towards the south-western end of the site. In Trench A the organic rich deposit was c. 0.80m thick and the blue clays a minimum of c. 1.0m thick. Towards the southern half of the site (Trench C & F) the blue clay deposits were at least 2m thick.
- 7.2 The formation of these deposits requires different environmental conditions. The dark organic deposits would form in a marshy environment with a dominantly freshwater input whilst the clays could result from estuarine conditions or inter-tidal flooding (Dr Mathew Pope pers. comm.) It was noted on site that the dark organic deposit and blue clays had the appearance of a cut and fill (Fig. 6). This could result from tidal scouring of the organic deposits followed by pooling of brackish water and the sedimentation of the clays (Dr Mathew Pope pers. comm.). Very similar deposits and stratigraphy have been recorded further east along the coast at Rye and Dungeness and during geotechnical borehole analysis prior to the construction of the Station Plaza, to the north of the Gap site (James 2006). Alternating bands of organic deposits and clays representing constantly changing environmental conditions were recorded at Dungeness (Long 2004, 13). These may be comparable to the layering seen here in Trench C. With only small windows available for study, the total depth of the deposits at this site remains unknown.
- 7.3 Whilst there is cartographic and historic evidence for two distinct environments in the area with the tidal inlet changing to a marsh, the site appears to be located beyond the western boundary of both (see Figs 4 & 5) However, one possible reason for this could be the inaccuracies of scale and level of detail recorded on historic maps. It is evident that the gap site was once a marsh environment and it could be that an area of marsh was in existence along the western edge of the tidal inlet and not recorded on early maps, or that the Priory marsh actually extended further westwards.
- 7.4 Although the nature of the deposits can be understood, the timing and longevity of these depositional environments cannot be ascertained. It seems probable that the shingle bank was naturally created during the extensive storm activity known to have inundated the south eastern coast from the 13th century (Martin, 1973,8, Long et al, 2004,5). This would have created an environment suitable for freshwater marsh development and subsequent inter-tidal flooding could have scoured the organic deposits and then deposited the clays. Historical records indicate that the adjacent Priory relocated in the 15th century due to the sea flooding, but the excavations did not reveal any evidence of sea

action or damage on the Priory site (Martin, 1973, 8). Perhaps the threat of flooding was highlighted by flooding close to the Priory, possibly on the Gap site itself.

- 7.5 What remains uncertain is the date of the organic marsh deposits. Was an area of marshland in existence before the shingle bank formed or was the Priory marsh more extensive than previously thought? This question is something that future work in the area may be able to address.
- 7.6 The archaeological or palaeoenvironmental potential of the deposits must not be overlooked. The organic rich deposits on this site contained the remains of well preserved wood but nothing of archaeological significance. This does however, highlight the possible preservation of other organic remains within these deposits.
- 7.7 Whilst the precise timing of these depositional events cannot be ascertained it was not until 1836 that this area was fully drained and 'Priory Bridge' destroyed. During the 19th century this area was filled with made ground from the construction of the railways. These made ground deposits were seen to exist at depths of up to 3m from the present street level (of Havelock Road). The made ground deposits were monitored during their removal and were seen directly above the clay and peat layers. These deposits were not considered to be of any significant archaeological interest.
- 7.8 No other finds of archaeological significance were found on the site.

References

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- Long A.J., Plater A.J., Waller M.P., Roberts H., Laidler P.D., Stupples p. and Schofield E. 2004. *The Depositional and Landscape histories of Dungeness Foreland and the Port of Rye: Understanding Past Environments and Coastal Change*. University of Durham
- Martin D 1973 *Hastings Augustinian Priory; an excavation report*. Hastings Area Archaeological Papers No 2 1973
- Martin D & B. 1995. *An archaeological interpretative survey of the old town wall, Hastings, East Sussex*. Commissioned by the Hastings Borough Council. ASE Report Reference No. 243.
- Silver, I.A. 1969. 'The Ageing of Domestic Animals', in D.R. Brothwell and E.S. Higgs (eds) *Science and Archaeology*. London: Thames and Hudson, 283-302.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	GSH 07					
Identification Name and Address	The Gap Site, Hastings					
County, District &/or Borough	Rother District, East Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 81543 09485					
Geology						
Arch. South-East Project Number	2727					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief ✓	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban ✓	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Corrilion					
Project Manager	Jon Sygrave and Louise Rayner					
Project Supervisor	Paul Riccoboni					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED ✓	PM ✓	Other Victorian		
<p><i>100 Word Summary.</i></p> <p><i>An archaeological watching brief was maintained between 19th February 2007 and the 8th November 2007 during the construction of a new business and shopping centre with associated underground car parking (planning reference HS/FA/06/00307) at The Gap Site, Hastings, East Sussex (NGR 581543 109485). A total of 27 site visits were made over this period. Dark, organic rich deposits and blue/grey clay deposits were encountered beneath Victorian made ground. These deposits formed before the area was in-filled with spoil, created during the construction of the railway in the 19th century. Samples taken from the clay and peat deposits revealed no significant environmental remains. A dog skeleton was recovered from context [8] during the excavation for a foul drain. No other artefacts or ecofacts were recovered.</i></p>						

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Appendix 1; HER Summary table

No	HER No	NGR	Description
1	MES836	TQ 8202 0939	Crescent of houses built in 1824-8
2	MES851	TQ 820 094 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	Castle & Collegiate Church. Castle built c.1170, ruined by 1399. Church founded c.1090, dissolved in 1546. Foundations of church, N and E curtain walls and east gate of castle visible. Probably built on an IA enclosure.
3	MES852	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	Two Roman bronze figurines
4	MES853	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	Gold stater of Commius of 1857
5	MES854	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 3000m by 2000m)	Silver coin of Nero
6	MES860	TQ 811 092 (MBR: 300m by 300m)	A Lower Palaeolithic core was found at White Rock and was recorded by Dr J Waecheter as being found in Chalky boulder marl. The geology in the area is Clay in Tunbridge Wells Sand.
7	MES863	TQ 82 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	The ancient town of Hastings, shown on the earlier maps, consisted simply of two parallel streets converging at the upper end, High Street and All Saints Street, connected by various cross-lanes and the Bourne Stream running down the valley between them. This was still the extent of Hastings in the mid-18th c. The old town was protected towards the sea by a wall which stretched across the mouth of the valley from the Castle headland to the East Cliff. The Wall was provided with towers at each end and had 3 gates.
8	MES864	TQ 8147 0945	Priory of Augustinian Canons 1188 to c.1413
9	MES867	TQ 8155 0955	Church (13 th C) (remains of) (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)
10	MES870	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	Church (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)
11	MES871	TQ 8134 0927	Medieval church of St Michaels
12	MES874	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	Gaulish gold 1/4 stater
13	MES875	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	Iron Age gold coin found in 1881
14	MES877	TQ 8146 0977	Coin of Antoninianus of Gallienus
15	MES879	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	Roman coins (1st/4th cent AD)
16	MES882	TQ 811 094 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	Seven Medieval pottery kilns were found in 1914 during construction of the hospital. Excavations revealed them to be in production during the C14/C15.
17	MES883	TQ 811 091 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	Pier built 1869-72
18	MES889	TQ 8182 0946	Baptist Church 5204 Wellington Square (North

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			West Side)
19	MES935	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	125 All Saints Street
20	MES937	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	22 Hill Street
21	MES938	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	23 Hill Street
22	MES941	TQ 814 096 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	Station
23	MES966	TQ 82 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	73-73A All Saints Street
24	MES968	TQ 82 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	11 All Saints Street
25	MES972	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	Church of St. Clements
26	MES973	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	Church of St. Helens
27	MES974	TQ 81 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	Church of All Saints
28	MES1015	TQ 811 094 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	GENERAL HOSPITAL (Modern - 1901 AD to 2050 AD) Founded in 1839 as the Hastings Infirmary, a new hospital was commissioned in 1911. Building commenced in 1914 to a plan comprising an administration block flanked by 2 ward pavilions. Brick built and finished in 1923. Now empty.
29	MES1018	TQ 811 091 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	General hospital of 1886-7 by Young and Hall. It replaced an earlier hospital on the same site and comprised two circular ward towers flanking a central rectangular block. The hospital closed in 1923 and was demolished soon after.
30	MES1023	TQ 816 093 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	A burh is listed at Hastings in the Burghal Hideage. The town was a major burh, there being a mint there from the reign of Athelstan onwards, but no evidence of Saxon settlement has been found.
31	MES1029	TQ 816 093 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	A mint was established at Hastings in the reign of Athelstan, and after a hiatus struck coins almost continually until Harold II's reign.

Appendix 2; Event Summary (archaeological investigations)

No	Event No	NGR	Description
1	EES13968	TQ 82568 09800	Archaeological watching brief maintained during the construction of a porch. No archaeological features or artefacts recovered.
2	EES14022	TQ 8265 0983	An archaeological watching brief was maintained during the construction of a single house with garage to the rear. A number of brick walls were located which related to the workshop buildings which had recently been demolished (James 2000)
3	EES14107	TQ 8210 0960	A site visit was made to the site during initial groundworks. The site was found to have been heavily landscaped in the past resulting in the loss of any archaeological deposits. Hence no deposits, features or finds were encountered (Barber & Stevens 1997).
4	EES14110	TQ 8206 0944	Hastings Castle, Hastings
5	EES14124	TQ 8247 0953	Evaluation trenches recorded a section of medieval town wall with 18th century rebuilding, and evidence of a 14th century building butted up against the wall. An archaeological watching brief was maintained on the 4th and 5th October 2005 during groundworks associated with the construction of a new dwelling on land at 5 Winding Street, Hastings, East Sussex (Planning Reference: WI4400SS/DM). Foundation trenches for four walls were excavated to depths of approximately 1.8m. These trenches revealed the remains of four post-medieval walls and a post-medieval occupation/floor layer (Barber 1992).
6	EES14159	TQ 8266 0984	Leslie Cottage, 33 Bourne Walk, Hastings (Padgam 2002)
7	EES14163	TQ 8261 0984	Excavations were carried out in the rear room of the building as part of a building conservation program on this mid 15th century timber framed hall. The principal features discovered were two stone-lined water channels at the rear, thought to be medieval and designed for collection of water seepage (Padgam 2004).
8	EES14173	TQ 82647 09855	Excavation during restoration work to the rear of the property revealed evidence of 18th century structures and 3 pits. Finds included an e17th C sundial, blacksmithing and butchers waste, as well as gun flints which can be associated with the town gunner Emery Taylor, owner of the property in the e18th Century
9	EES14239	TQ 82579 09647	Excavations following on from those conducted by Archaeology South East

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			recorded 11th century features sealed beneath a clay layer attributed to a flood event.
10	EES14242	TQ 82520 09642	Excavations carried out recorded medieval features including a hearth, a kiln and a later cesspit, and tenement boundary walls.
11	EES14245	TQ 81550 09650	A DBA and borehole analysis concluded this site to be of low archaeological potential (James 2004)
12	EES9460	TQ 823 094	Evaluation (Rudling 1988)
13	EES9515	TQ 82 09 (MBR: 1000m by 1000m)	MAIDENHEAD INN, HIGH STREET
14	EES9516	TQ 823 094 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	Phoenix Brewery Site, Bourne Street, Hastings (Rudling 1988)
15	EES9517	TQ 821 095 (MBR: 100m by 100m)	HASTINGS CASTLE (Gardiner 1985)
16	EES9567	TQ 8245 0954	57 High Street eval (Barber 1992)
17	EES9307	TQ 82140 09460	BASE OF CASTLE HILL
18	EES9310	TQ 82000 09400	HASTINGS CASTLE
19	EES9311	TQ 82000 09400	HASTINGS CASTLE
20	EES9312	TQ 820 094	HASTINGS CASTLE
21	EES9313	TQ 82100 09500	HASTINGS CASTLE
22	EES9314	TQ 81470 09450	Emergency excavations carried out in advance of the construction of a cinema. This uncovered the chapter house, dormitory undercroft and sections of the refectory, cloisters and rere-dorter. At least four phases of construction were recorded dating between the late 12C to the 14th C
23	EES9330	TQ 81100 09400	Royal East Sussex Hospital
24	EES9331	TQ 82510 09520	Excavation in advance of development. A medieval pit and part of a pit were uncovered (Devenish 1974)
25	EES9332	TQ 82500 09500	Excavation in advance of redevelopment of Baths site. 4 medieval pits and two post holes were uncovered (Rudling 1975)

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OASIS ID: archaeol6-37144	
Project details	
Project name	The Gap Site, Hastings
Short description of the project	<i>An archaeological watching brief was maintained between 19th February 2007 and the 8th November 2007 during the construction of a new business and shopping centre with associated underground car parking (planning reference; HS/FA/06/00307) at The Gap Site, Hastings, East Sussex (NGR 581543 109485). A total of 27 site visits were made over this period. Dark, organic rich deposits and blue/grey clay deposits were encountered beneath Victorian made ground. These deposits formed before the area was in-filled with spoil, created during the construction of the railway in the 19th century. Samples taken from the clay and peat deposits revealed no significant environmental remains. A dog skeleton was recovered from context 8 during the excavation for a foul drain. No other artefacts or ecofacts were recovered at the development site. A confidence rating is high that the best possible results were achieved.</i>
Project dates	Start: 19-02-2007 End: 08-11-2007
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	GSH07 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	HS/FA/06/00307 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Significant Finds	BONE Medieval
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX HASTINGS HASTINGS The Gap Site, Hastings
Postcode	TN34 1BP
Study area	100.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 581543 109485 50.8757779958 0.248224207835 50 52 32 N 000 14 53 E Point

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Height OD	Min: 2.40m Max: 3.40m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	Archaeology South East
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Jon Sygrave
Project supervisor	Paul Riccoboni
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	corrilion
Project archives	
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones'
Digital Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet', 'Correspondence', 'Drawing', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section', 'Unpublished Text'
Entered by	Paul Riccoboni (p.riccoboni@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	31 January 2008

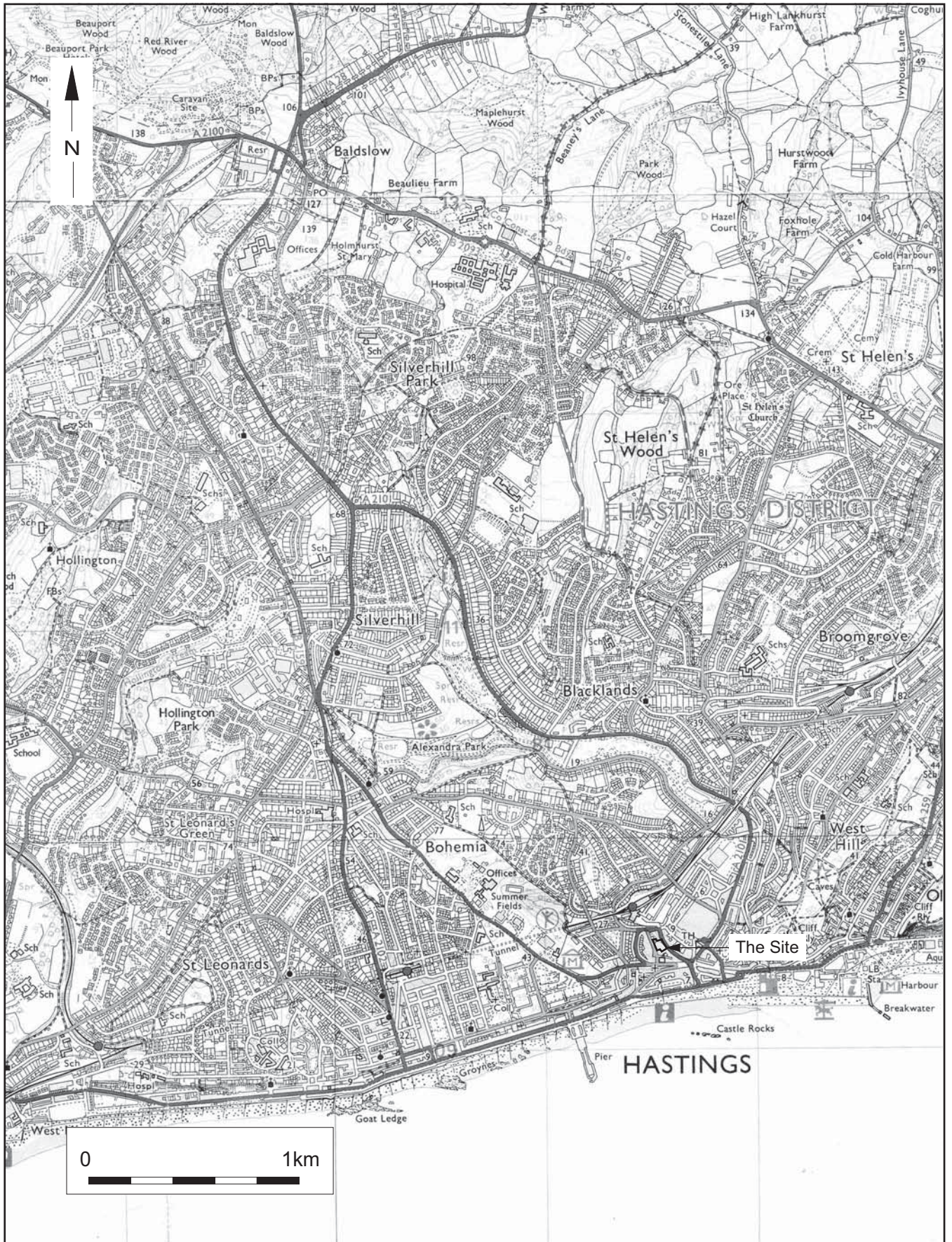
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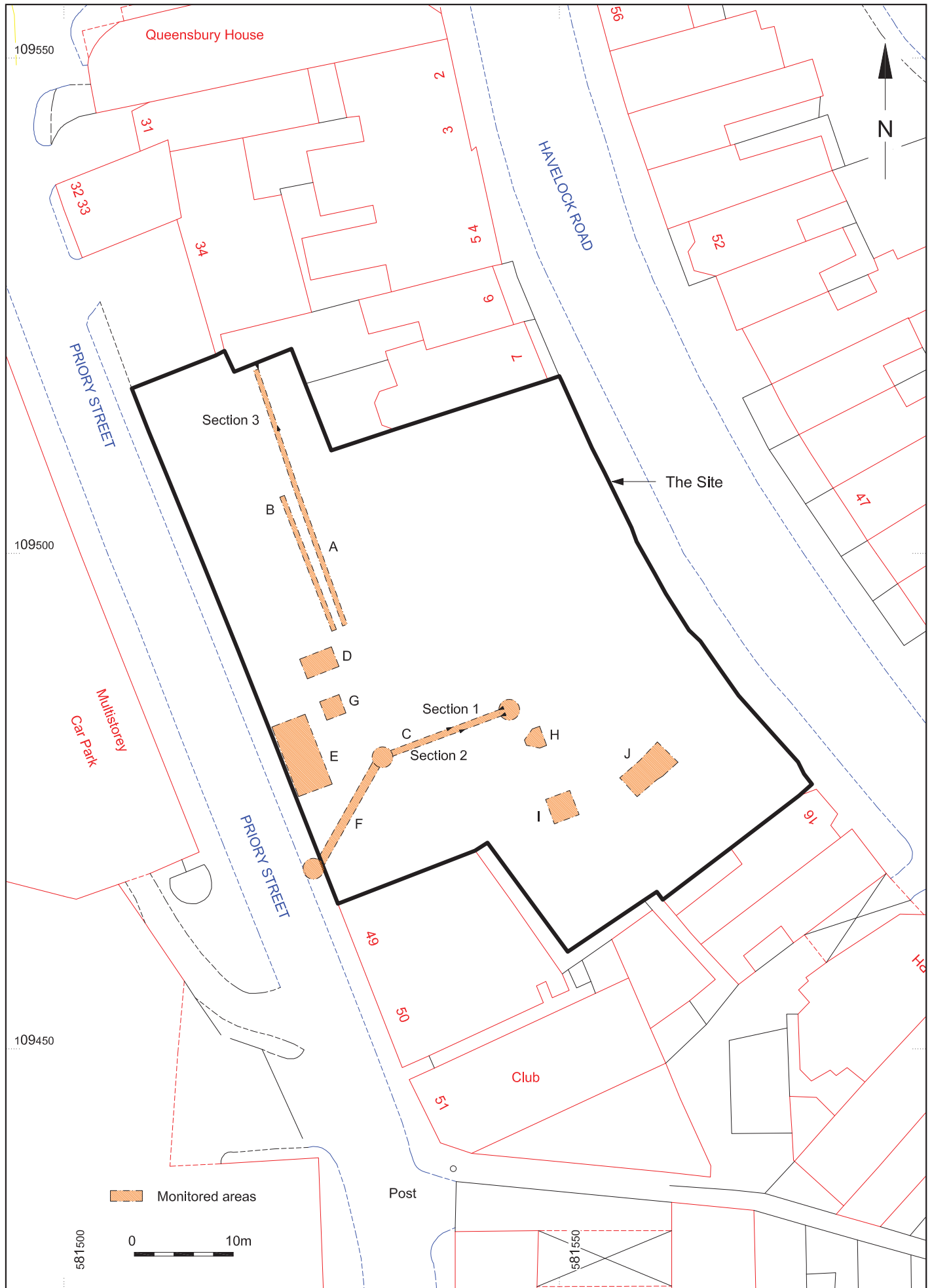
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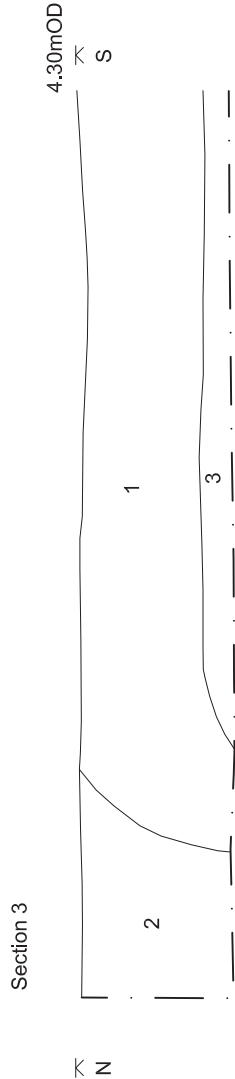
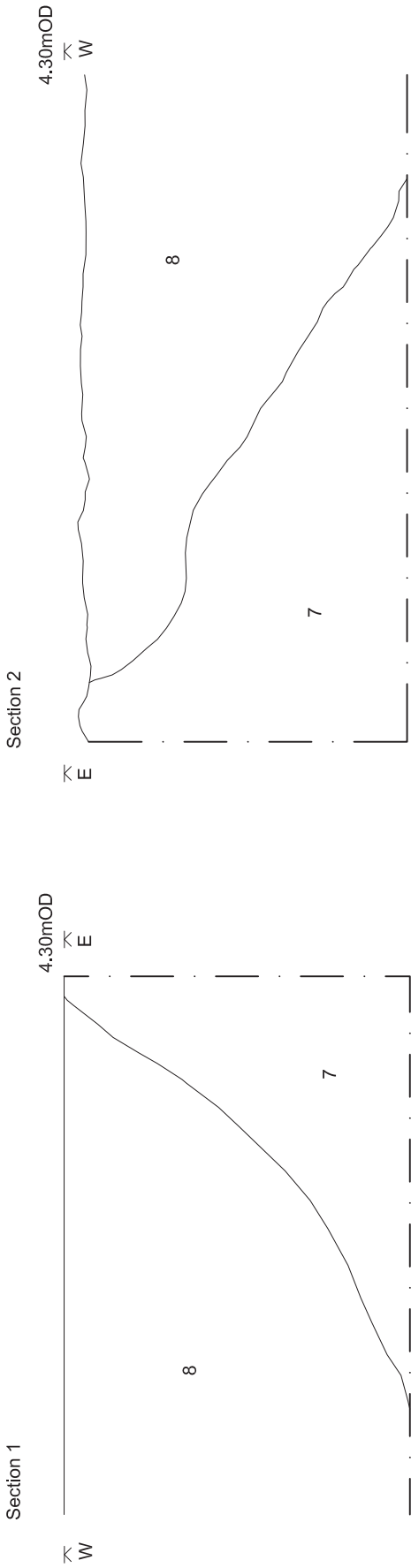
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Project Ref: 2727	Feb 2008	Site Location	
Report Ref: 2008007	Drawn by: JLR		

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Project Ref: 2727	Feb 2008	Site Plan		
Report Ref: 2008007	Drawn by: JLR			

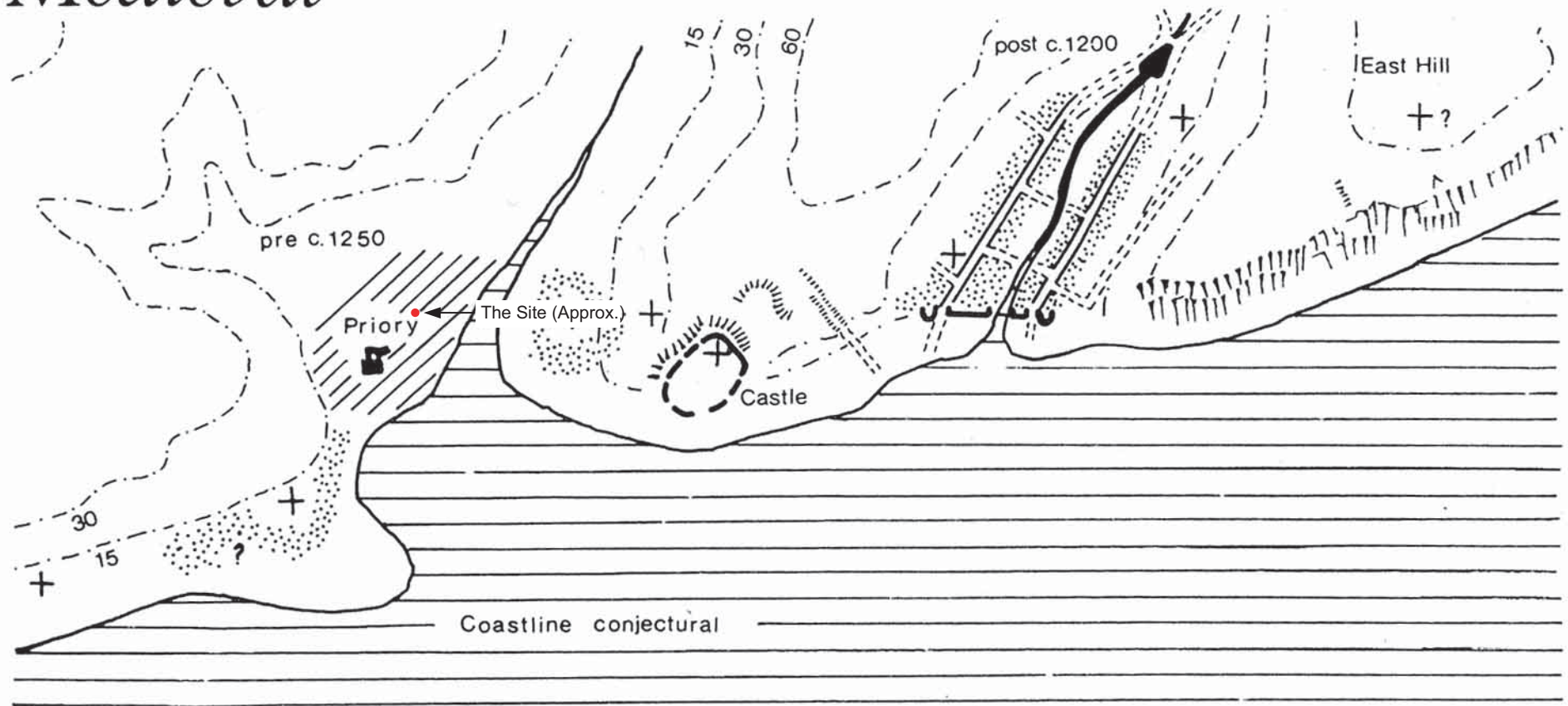


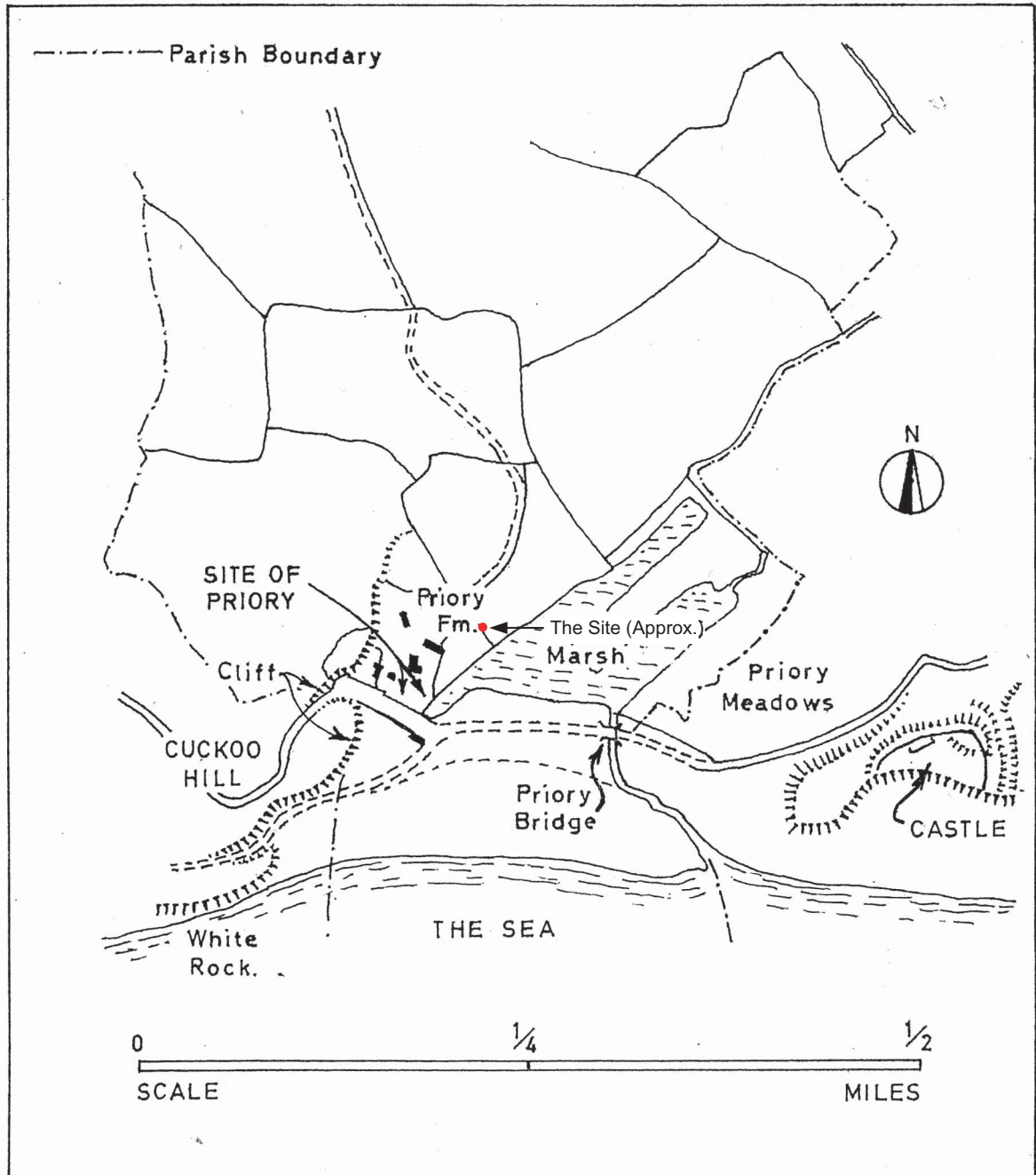
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Project Ref: 2727	Feb 2008	Sections	
Report Ref: 2008007	Drawn by: SM		

Fig. 3

HASTINGS

Medieval





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Project Ref: 2727	Feb 2008	The Site in the 18th Century	
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