

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Land at Downview Avenue
Storrington, West Sussex**

**NGR: 509339 115215
(TQ 09339 15215)**

**Planning Ref: DC/19/2015
ASE Project No: 210024
Site Code: DAS21
ASE Report No: 2021082
OASIS id: archaeol6-420390**



By Tom Munnery

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East at Land at Downsview Avenue, Storrington, West Sussex between 6th and 12th April 2021. The fieldwork was commissioned by Croudace Homes Ltd in advance of residential development of the site and its necessary services.

Despite the predominant absence of subsoil, archaeological features were recorded across much of the site. Of the 15 trenches evaluated, 11 contained archaeological features of Middle Iron Age, Late Iron Age/early Roman or post-medieval date. It is suggested that elements of a Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/early Roman farmstead with associated enclosure and field ditches, structural elements, pitting and quarrying exists in the central part of the site in the region of Trenches 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Croudace Homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land north of Downsview Avenue, Storrington, West Sussex (centred on NGR 509339 115215; Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The c.2.05ha site lies to the north of the historic core of the town of Storrington. The site is currently an open field positioned to the north of Downsview Avenue.

1.2.2 The site is bounded on all sides by a mix of trees and bramble-hedgerows and includes a public footpath, which runs broadly north to south near the western boundary of the site.

1.2.3 According to the latest available information from the British Geological Survey (BGS 2021), the site lies on the cusp of two underlying geological formations with the sandstones and mudstones of the Fittleworth Member in the south and the sandstones of the Hythe formation in the north. There are no known deposits of superficial geology at the site.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Outline planning permission was granted by Horsham District Council for the erection of up to 62 residential units and the creation of a new vehicle access in May 2020. Following consultation between Horsham District Council and Place Services, Essex County Council (Horsham District Council's advisers on archaeological issues), a pre-commencement condition (No. 13) was attached to the permission requiring that:

i) No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work has been secured in accordance with a Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

ii) The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until the archaeological site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition [i] and that provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing.

Reason: As this matter is fundamental as the site is of archaeological significance and it is important that it is recorded by excavation before it is destroyed by development in accordance with Policy 34 of the Horsham District Planning Framework (2015).

1.3.2 Accordingly, a written scheme of investigation (ASE 2021) was compiled and approved by all parties prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation undertaken between 6th and 12th April 2021.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The historical and archaeological background of the site was presented in the DBA for an adjacent site (ASE 2017), based on information held in the West Sussex County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) within a 1km radius of the site considered at the time (hereafter 'the Study Area'). Identified assets have been assigned an identifying number shown in **bold** in the text and are plotted on Figure 1. The following background is taken directly from that DBA: full details and references are included in that document (*ibid.*).

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 No evidence dating to the Palaeolithic period has been recorded within the vicinity of the Site, but an isolated lithic working site (**22**) of Mesolithic date is recorded at Sullington Warren. Such activity of this date reflects resource exploitation, often on a seasonal basis, and mainly comprises evidence for hunter gathering activity. The archaeological potential of the Site for these early prehistoric periods is generally considered to be low.

2.2.2 The Neolithic period saw increasing temperatures and more settled human occupation, allowing the development of more permanent farming systems alongside the traditional exploitation of natural resources. Although residual finds and isolated concentrations of worked flint are common in Sussex, evidence for settlement sites of this period is limited, particularly in coastal and floodplain areas where sites are likely to have been truncated by fluctuating sea-levels or become deeply buried beneath later deposits. Two Neolithic leaf arrowheads (WSHER refs: MWS2951 and MWS5635) have been recorded within the north of the Study Area in the High Bar Wood and Abingworth areas, but these isolated findspots were reported as collections from ploughing and their exact locations are unknown, therefore they are not plotted on Figure 1.

2.2.3 An increase in funerary monuments is seen in the Bronze Age period. In Sussex, the vast majority of these are located on the South Downs, overlooking the Weald, river valleys and coastal environments. Within the Study Area, such evidence is characterised by a cluster of scheduled bowl barrows (**1** to **7**) located 634m to the south-east of the site. This group of barrows is also locally designated as an Archaeological Notification Area (**20**) with an alignment pointing directly towards the current site. Archaeological evidence also suggests that a trend towards more sedentary settlement patterns occurred during the Middle and Later Bronze Age. Further evidence of Bronze Age activity within the Study Area is recorded on the HER as non-designated heritage assets: pottery sherds from the same vessel recovered from a colluvial layer (**23**); a ditch and undated gully found at Downsview (**24**); and another possible bowl barrow at Sullington Warren (**25**).

2.2.4 Rapid socio-economic growth occurred during the Iron Age, alongside a rise in population and the increasing exploitation of what had previously been more marginal environments. Consequently, this period is characterised by marked changes throughout the archaeological record of Sussex, from ceramic styles to settlement and funerary practices. A greater emphasis on trade and

exchange can also be seen during the Late Iron Age, demonstrated by the appearance of local coin production and the growing presence of imported Roman goods, culminating in the rapid Romanisation of southern England at this time. Despite this, no Iron Age activity is recorded within the Study Area.

2.3 Romano-British

2.3.1 As one of the nearest parts of Britain to the Continent, Sussex experienced contact with Rome from an early date, first as trade and then as conquest. Following the Roman invasion of AD43, the region became heavily settled, particularly along the Downs and the fertile Coastal Plain, where settlements were mostly associated with farming and are characterised by evidence of continuity with the previous Iron Age. Settlements also occur along principal routes such as Stane Street, which linked the major urban centre of Chichester with London. The principal Roman roads of the local area are the Greensand Way, which follows the northern foot of the Downs from Barcombe to Pulborough, and the London to Brighton road. A section of the Hardham to Barcombe Mills Roman road is located on a north-west to south-east alignment c.500m north of the site and is locally designated as an ANA (19).

2.3.2 No other Romano-British activity is recorded on the HER with the Study Area.

2.4 Early Medieval

2.4.1 No evidence dating to the early medieval period has been recorded within the vicinity of the Site. The archaeological potential of the Study Area for this period is therefore considered to be low.

2.4.2 Prior to the 'official' end of the Roman rule of Britain in c.410AD there seems to have been a gradual decline in both the economy and administration of the colony. The early part of this period is poorly represented in the archaeological record, with few identified settlement sites and much of the archaeological evidence for this period is therefore derived from cemeteries, and the grave goods they contain. Even in the 7th century, there were still no recognisable towns, and it was not until the mid-11th century that a hierarchy of settlements had emerged, reflecting the economic and administrative complexity of the ascendant English society.

2.5 Medieval

2.5.1 Settlements named in Domesday are more numerous in the south and west of Sussex, lying in the area of fertile land between the coastline and the ridge of the downs, than in the Wealden area to the north. The manor of Storrington was originally recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as "*Estorchestone*", and comprised of seven villagers, twelve cottagers, a church and three mills. The church of St Mary was possibly originally built as early as the 11th century and would have formed the focus of the medieval settlement. The name *Storrington* is likely to derive from the Old English form *storca-tūn*, meaning 'storks' farm', or *stork-tun*, meaning 'stork farm', which is likely to reflect the wetland in the area, at Parham and on the floodplain of the Arun at the north of the parish. The site lies outside of the settled area of medieval Storrington which had become a market town by 1399.

- 2.5.2 No records for medieval activity are recorded on the HER within the Study Area, although the nearby grade II listed, 17th century farmhouse at East Wantley (11), is thought to have been constructed on the site of a medieval house whose rafters were extensively re-used in its roof. It is probable that the land around East Wantley and also West Wantley, would have been in the ownership of the Wantley family, who are mentioned in Sullington records from c.1275:

'In 1327 Philip of Wantley settled on John of Wantley a house and yardland in Sullington for life, with successive reversions to John son of Emma Marreys, John of Wantley's daughter Maud, and Philip himself. Another John Wantley in 1412 had lands worth £3 in Sullington, which may be West Wantley, conveyed in the earlier 15th century by Roger Wantley (or Joydewyne) to John Bartlett. John's trustees in 1448 settled it on his son Thomas. In 1550 it was settled on Thomas Bartlett of Billingshurst, with remainder to his second son William. Thomas still held it in 1556. It may have been the farm of Wantleys allegedly granted to Robert Michell in 1560.'

2.6 Post-Medieval

- 2.6.1 Until the 19th century the town was very small consisting of an axis of a few streets. As a result of the rapid expansion of the railway and coastal towns in the county, Storrington saw a period of decline in relative terms from around 1800, but from 1945 it has seen sustained growth. During the post-medieval period the Site lay outside the historic core of the town of Storrington, which is locally designated as an ANA (21) and is positioned on the very edge of the Study Area c.836m south-west of the Site.

- 2.6.2 In addition to the eleven listed farmhouses and cottages of post-medieval date, fourteen non-designated heritage assets of this date (26 to 39;) are also recorded within the Study Area. These are as follows:

- (26) West Wantley House Historic Farmstead (C19), Storrington and Sullington;
- (27) East Wantley Farm Historic Farmstead (C19), Storrington and Sullington;
- (28) Site of Historic Farmstead (C19), Storrington and Sullington;
- (29) Fryern House Historic Farmstead (C19), Storrington and Sullington;
- (30) Snapes Cottage Historic Farmstead (C19), Thakeham;
- (31) Snapes Farm Historic Farmstead (C19), Thakeham;
- (32) New Buildings Historic Farmstead (C19), Thakeham;
- (33) Northlands Historic Outfarm (C19), Thakeham;
- (34) Water Lane Farm Historic Farmstead (C19), Thakeham;
- (35) Site of Historic Outfarm North West of Oldfield Cottage (C19), Storrington and Sullington;
- (36) Watermill - East Wantley;
- (37) Watermill – Storrington;
- (38) Windmill – Storrington; and

- (39) Site of Thakeham Union Workhouse - built between 1789-1791, enlarged 1836 & 1853, demolished 1937.
- 2.6.3 The majority of post-medieval activity recorded on the HER demonstrates the intrinsically agricultural character of the Study Area.
- 2.6.4 The nearest heritage assets to the site are the 19th century historic farmstead at East Wantley Farm (27) and its associated grade II listed, 17th century farmhouse to the north (11). East Wantley farm in 1707 included 114 acres in Sullington, of which only 28 acres was arable.
- 2.6.5 The following text is summarised from 'Sullington: Manors and Other Estates' and relates to the history of the Wantley family as well as the houses of East and West Wantley (to the north of the site):

'The so-called manor of West Wantley was settled in 1633 on Archbishop Abbot, who died in that year, and in 1641 Richard and Anne Abbot sold it to Gregory Haines. It was settled on Richard Haines, a publicist and inventor, on his marriage in 1654. He rebuilt the house in 1656 and died in 1685, leaving as heir his son Gregory. The farm was sold to Edward Shelley in 1692. Shelley died in 1748, leaving West Wantley to his nephew Timothy. It then descended with Champions in Thakeham, passing to George King in 1850. The Kings sold it in 1921 to Bede H. Pickard, still owner in 1983.'

Another farm at Wantley descended with Michelgrove in Clapham from John Michelgrove (d.1459) to William Shelley, owner of EAST WANTLEY in 1556. It may have been the manor of Wantley settled on James Graves in 1602. The farm was settled in 1652 on the marriage of Richard Bridger. He died in possession in 1699, and was succeeded by his son, also Richard, on whose death in or before 1730 East Wantley passed to his son John Bridger. He and his son John sold it in 1760 to John Mordaunt, who in 1764 resold it to Joseph Standen. He by will proved 1780 left it to his widow Mary, and she by will proved 1784 left it in trust for sale; Thomas Bennett of Farnham (Surr.) bought it that year. Mary's son John Standen remained as tenant, and seems to have recovered the property, since in 1822 it was settled in trust for Jane Downer, who later married John's son John Standen. She was owner in 1842 and died in 1846, leaving East Wantley in trust for sale. It was sold with 165 acres in 1853 to George King, and belonged in 1910 to R. M. King, whose family advertised it for sale with 115 acres in 1921. In 1932 the house had been recently acquired by Dr. A. M. Mercer. From c.1971 the owner was Mrs. Dragonetti, who still had the house and 20 acres in 1983.'

2.7 Listed Buildings

- 2.7.1 There are no Listed Buildings recorded on the site, but eleven are recorded within the Study Area (8 to 18). All are of post-medieval date. With the exception

of West Wantley Farmhouse (9), which is a Grade II* listing, all others are Grade II listings. The nearest listed building to the Site is East Wantley (11) which is located 42m to the north of the Site. The majority of these buildings were constructed in the 17th century or earlier, which suggests a period of expansion and development within the broader Study Area at that time.

2.8 Other

2.8.1 One undated site was identified within the Study Area to the south-east of the site at Sem-Nor (40).

2.9 Research Aims and Objectives

2.9.1 The broad aims of the evaluation, in keeping with previous similar projects were:

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

2.9.2 The specific aims of this project were, where possible:

- *To assess if there are any prehistoric deposits at the site associated with the local barrow cemetery*
- *Are there any other prehistoric finds or features present within the site?*
- *Is there any evidence of Romano-British activity within the site?*
- *Is there evidence for medieval or post-medieval woodland clearance and/or farming activities within the site?*
- *Can the evolution of the site's use over time be further understood?*

2.9.3 The site was also considered to have some potential to address the following research priorities identified in the South Eastern Research Framework:

- *The use of the Weald in later prehistory*
- *The relationship between towns and their hinterland (town/country), especially their changing role in the industrial period*
- *More understanding of the landscape of primarily dispersed settlement*

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of 15 trenches, each measuring 30m x 1.80m (Figure 2). All trenches were excavated in the locations agreed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2021) with the exception of Trench 9, the southern end of which was rotated c.1.0m to the east to avoid a previously installed site investigation borehole which was still in use.
- 3.1.2 All trenches were checked with a CAT scanner prior to excavation. Excavation was undertaken under archaeological supervision using a 13t mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless 1.80m wide grading bucket. The trenches were in spits of up to 0.10m through the overburden until the archaeological horizon was reached.
- 3.1.3 Any archaeological features identified were cleaned by hand where appropriate and subsequently planned via GPS. Archaeological features were then sampled by hand using the methodology outlined within the WSI (ASE 2021).
- 3.1.4 Trenches 3, 6, 11 and 13 had minor extensions added to them to aid the clarification of elements of archaeological potential noted within them.
- 3.1.5 All features were drawn in section and planned, and recorded digitally and/or by hand drawn and were photographed.

3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 ASE informed Horsham Museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork that a site archive would be generated. The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at Horsham Museum in due course. An accession numbers has not yet been provided.

Context sheets	71
Section sheets	3
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	108
Context register	0
Drawing register	3
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	15

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

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

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 3

(Figure 3)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	0.28-0.30	46.64-49.36
3/002	Layer	Natural	-	-		46.29-48.87
3/003	Layer	Subsoil	-	-	0.09-0.20	
3/004	Cut	Ditch	-	3.20	0.42	48.06
3/005	Fill	Fill	-	-		
3/006	Fill	Fill	-	-		

Table 3: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

- 4.1.1 Trench 3 was excavated through topsoil/ploughsoil layer [3/001]. Subsoil layer [3/003] was present from the northern end of the trench to approximately two thirds of the way north.
- 4.1.2 One ditch, [3/004], on a north-south alignment was recorded at the southern end of Trench 3. The ditch was approximately 3.20m wide and 0.42m deep with gently sloping sides and a rounded base. It contained two fills; basal [3/005] and upper [3/006]. Middle/Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from upper fill [3/006].

4.2 Trench 4

(Figure 4)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
4/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.24-0.30	49.23-50.50
4/002	Layer	Natural				48.65-50.20
4/003	Layer	Subsoil			0.00-0.20	
4/004	Cut	Ditch		0.55	0.24	49.86
4/005	Fill	Fill				

Table 4: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

- 4.2.1 Trench 4 was excavated through topsoil [4/001]. The northern-most end had a remnant of subsoil [4/003] which only continued a few meters further south. A single ditch was recorded within the trench.
- 4.2.2 The investigated portion of ditch [4/004] was 0.55m wide and 0.24m deep. It contained a single fill from which no finds were recovered.

4.3 Trench 5

(Figure 5)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
5/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.27-0.28	50.54-51.67
5/002	Layer	Natural				50.24-51.26
5/003	Cut	Gully		0.31	0.05	50.75
5/004	Fill	Fill				
5/005	Cut	Gully		0.31	0.04	50.66
5/006	Fill	Fill				

Table 5: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

- 4.3.1 Topsoil layer [5/001] was the only overburden noted within Trench 5. Two parallel gullies were observed towards its eastern end.
- 4.3.2 Gullies [5/003] and [5/005] were very similar in nature to one another. Both were around 0.31m in width and between 0.04m and 0.05m in depth. Each contained a single fill. The only find recovered was from [5/004], the fill of [5/003]; an undiagnostic later prehistoric worked flint.

4.4 Trench 6

(Figure 6)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
6/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.20-0.29	51.05-52.60
6/002	Layer	Natural				50.76-52.25
6/003	Deposit	Original head deposit				

Table 6: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Trench 6 was excavated only through topsoil layer [6/001] until it reached the natural geology beneath. No archaeological features of anthropogenic origin were detected within Trench 6, however, a geological fissure was recorded.
- 4.4.2 The feature present in Trench 6 is thought to be geological in origin, likely the result of a small fissure (gull) in the sandstone geology. Investigation of the feature showed it to be infilled with superficial deposits of Pleistocene origin. At the base of the feature was an angular Head gravel overlain by c.1.5m of fine-grained deposits. These deposits showed distinctive polygonal patterning, suggestive of glacial freeze thaw processes.

4.5 Trench 8

(Figure 7)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
8/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.24-0.28	52.92-53.20
8/002	Layer	Natural				52.64-52.87
8/003	Cut	Posthole	0.56	0.56	0.22	52.78
8/004	Fill	Fill				
8/005	Cut	Posthole	0.35	0.35	0.19	52.76
8/006	Fill	Fill				
8/007	Cut	Posthole	0.55	0.55	0.15	52.76
8/008	Fill	Fill				
8/009	Cut	Ditch		0.65	0.22	52.83
8/010	Fill	Fill				
8/011	Cut	Posthole	0.19	0.19	0.25	52.84
8/012	Fill	Fill				
8/013	Cut	Posthole	0.42	0.42	0.08	52.75
8/014	Fill	Fill				
8/015	Cut	Ditch				

Table 7: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

- 4.5.1 The only overburden observed within Trench 8 was topsoil/ploughsoil layer [8/001]. Two ditches and five postholes were identified within Trench 8.
- 4.5.2 Two parallel ditches on a north-northeast to south-southwest alignment, [8/009] and [8/015] were noted at the western end of the trench. Ditch [8/015] was not further investigated because it appeared to be the same or very similar to ditch [12/003] which had been sampled. Slightly narrower ditch [8/009] was 0.65m wide and 0.22m deep with a rounded base. Observed cutting the ditch within the section was posthole [8/011]. This is thought to have a diameter of around 0.19m with a depth of 0.22m. No finds were recovered from either feature and it is unclear to what extent, if any, the two features are related.
- 4.5.3 A group of four more postholes were recorded towards the eastern end of Trench 8; [8/003], [8/005], [8/007] and [8/013]. These varied in approximate diameter from 0.5m to 0.55m and in depth from 0.08m to 0.22m. They all had gently sloping sides and slightly rounded bases. No finds were recovered from any of these features.

4.6 Trench 9

(Figure 8)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
9/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.24-0.28	52.09-52.71
9/002	Layer	Natural				51.78-52.38
9/003	Cut	Ditch		1.36	0.55	52.11
9/004	Fill	Fill				

Table 8: Trench 9 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 The only overburden noted in Trench 9 was topsoil/ploughsoil [9/001] which lay directly above the natural geology. A single near east-west aligned ditch was observed at the northern end of the trench.

4.6.2 Ditch [9/003] was 1.36m wide and 0.55m deep with fairly steep sides and a rounded base. It contained a single homogenous fill with fairly frequent charcoal flecks and fragments. Middle/Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from its fill. The ditch is considered to continue into Trench 10, where it is encountered as [10/007].

4.7 Trench 10

(Figure 9)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
10/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.22-0.25	51.17-52.20
10/002	Layer	Natural				50.89-51.93
10/003	Cut	Pit	0.58	0.58	0.32	51.89
10/004	Fill	Fill				
10/005	Cut	Ditch				
10/006	Cut	Ditch				
10/007	Cut	Ditch				

Table 9: Trench 10 list of recorded contexts

4.7.1 The excavation of Trench 10 revealed three ditches and a pit. Two ditches, [10/006] and [10/007] probably formed part of a single group of ditches which in turn might have formed an enclosure. Ditch [10/007] which is thought to also have been observed in Trench 9, joins more north-south aligned ditch [10/006]. Similarly aligned ditch [10/005] was also recorded within the trench. It appeared tapered in plan, suggesting that it too might actually be comprised of two ditches at slightly different angles, forming another enclosure area. None of these features were sampled so as to preserve any potential complexities in relationships in case mitigation was necessary.

4.7.2 A single pit, [10/003] was investigated at the western end of Trench 10. It was circular in plan with a diameter of approximately 0.58m and depth of 0.32m. Its sides were gently sloping and the base slightly curved. No finds were recovered from its single, homogeneous fill.

4.8 Trench 11

(Figure 10)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
11/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.26-0.28	51.75
11/002	Layer	Natural				51.42
11/003	Cut	Pit/posthole	0.39	0.37	0.11	51.87
11/004	Fill	Fill				
11/005	Cut	Ditch		1.01	0.45	51.68
11/006	Fill	Fill				
11/007	Fill	Fill				
11/008	Fill	Fill				51.86
11/009	Cut	Pit	0.55	0.55	0.42	51.4
11/010	Fill	Fill				
11/011	Cut	Pit			0.4	51.89
11/012	Fill	Fill				
11/013	Fill	Fill				
11/014	Fill	Fill				
11/015	Fill	Fill				
11/016	Cut	Ditch terminus		0.9	0.09	51.61
11/017	Fill	Fill				
11/018	Cut	Ditch terminus		0.85	0.11	51.69
11/019	Fill	Fill				

Table 10: Trench 11 list of recorded contexts

- 4.8.1 Trench 11 also only had topsoil/ploughsoil layer [11/001] forming any overburden. Two ditch terminals were recorded at the northern end of the trench. Much of the remainder of the rest of the trench was comprised of a large spread of material. An extension to the trench was excavated in an attempt to identify one at least one limit of this spread.
- 4.8.2 The two ditch terminals. [11/016] and [11/018] were similar in form, with both being shallow with a rounded base. The fills were also relatively similar. No finds were recovered from [11/018], but a later prehistoric worked flint was recorded from [11/016].
- 4.8.3 The large spread noted across much of the trench had one exploratory slot excavated into it starting from the edge noted in the trench extension. Within this investigation slot pit or posthole [11/003], ditch [11/005], pit [11/009] and large, shallow ?quarry pit [11/011] were recorded. Pit/posthole [11/003] was approximately 0.38m in diameter and 0.11m deep. Its fill contained reasonable quantities of charcoal which was sampled. Adjacent ditch [11/005] was c.1.00m in width 0.45m deep with a fairly rounded base. Three fills were noted within the ditch, [11/006], [11/007] and [11/008]. Basal fill [11/006] contained later prehistoric worked flint, and upper fill [11/008] yielded Middle/Late Iron Age pottery. Large possible quarry pit [11/011] contained four fills. Middle/Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from basal fill [11/012] and upper fill [11/015]. These comprised. Pit [11/009] observed at the base of [11/011] is thought to have been cut by [11/011].

4.9 Trench 12

(Figure 11)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
12/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.23-0.32	
12/002	Layer	Natural				
12/003	Cut	Ditch		1.18	0.67	53.19
12/004	Fill	Fill, upper				
12/005	Fill	Fill, basal				
12/006	Cut	Posthole	0.23	0.23	0.12	52.91
12/007	Fill	Fill				

Table 11: Trench 12 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 Trench 12 was excavated through topsoil/ploughsoil [12/001] before encountering the natural geology. A ditch was recorded at its north-western end, and a posthole at its south-eastern.

4.9.2 Ditch [12/003] was 1.18m wide and 0.67m deep with fairly steep sides and an almost V-shaped base. It contained two fills, a paler basal fill [12/005] and a darker upper fill [12/004]. The upper fill contained Middle/Late Iron Age pottery.

4.9.3 Posthole [12/006] had a diameter of 0.23m and depth of 0.12m. No finds were recovered from the single recorded fill.

4.10 Trench 13

(Figure 12)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
13/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.30-0.31	53.26-53.75
13/002	Layer	Natural				52.91-53.42
13/003	Cut	Ditch		0.85	0.4	
13/004	Fill	Fill				53.26
13/005	Fill	Fill				
13/006	Fill	Fill				
13/007	Cut	Ditch		1.38	0.54	53.27
13/008	Fill	Fill				
13/009	Fill	Fill				
13/010	Cut	Ditch		0.9	0.48	
13/011	Fill	Fill, upper				
13/012	Fill	Fill, basal				
13/013	Cut	Ditch				

Table 12: Trench 13 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 This trench had just topsoil/ploughsoil [13/001] as its overburden. Once removed, four ditches were revealed cutting the natural.

4.10.2 Two intercutting, parallel ditches on a near east-west alignment were recorded

at the north-western end. The larger of these, [13/007], cut the smaller [13/003]. Ditch [13/007] contained two fills from which no finds were recovered. Earlier ditch [13/003] had three observed fills from which no finds were recovered.

4.10.3 Ditch [13/010] at the south-eastern end of the trench was on a northerly orientation. This has gently sloping sides and a rounded base. The excavated portion contained two fills within which no artefacts were observed.

4.10.4 Another east-west aligned ditch, [13/013] was noted towards the centre of the trench. This feature was not further investigated.

4.11 Trench 14

(Figure 13)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
14/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.28-0.32	52.45-53.11
14/002	Layer	Natural				52.06-52.70
14/003	Cut	Ditch		0.76	0.30	52.65
14/004	Fill	Fill				
14/005	Cut	Posthole	0.47	0.47	0.49	52.29
14/006	Fill	Fill				
14/007	Cut	Posthole	0.32	0.32	0.15	52.19
14/008	Fill	Fill				
14/009	Cut	Posthole	0.45	0.40	0.21	52.29
14/010	Fill	Fill				

Table 13: Trench 14 list of recorded contexts

4.11.1 Topsoil/ploughsoil [14/001] was again the only overburden noted within this trench. One ditch and three postholes were recorded along the length of the trench.

4.11.2 Ditch [14/003] was on a near north-south alignment and had a width of 0.76m and depth of 0.30m with a rounded base. No finds were recovered from its single fill.

4.11.3 Further east three postholes were revealed. [14/007] and [14/009] were both relatively shallow with slightly rounded bases. Each contained only a single fill. While no finds were recovered from [14/007], the fill of [14/009] contained Late Iron Age / Early Roman pottery.

4.11.4 Posthole [14/005] was far more substantial than the others within this trench. It had vertical sides a flat base and reached a depth of 0.49m. A circular headed tack was recovered from its single fill.

4.12 Trench 15

(Figure 14)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
15/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.25-0.30	52.11-52.17
15/002	Layer	Natural				51.62-51.86
15/003	Layer	Subsoil			0.00-0.21	
15/004	Fill	Fill				
15/005	Fill	Fill				
15/006	Cut	Ditch		1.50	0.46	51.66

Table 14: Trench 15 list of recorded contexts

4.12.1 Topsoil/ploughsoil layer [15/001] was recorded along the entire length of the trench. Subsoil layer [15/003] was observed from the southern end of Trench 15 until just beyond halfway along its length. A single ditch was noted at the southern end of the trench.

4.12.2 Ditch [15/006] was 1.50m broad and 0.46m deep with gently sloping sides and a rounded base. Two fills were recorded within the investigated portion of the ditch. A medieval or post medieval tile fragment was recovered from its basal fill and an undiagnostic iron nail from the upper.

4.13 Trenches 1, 2 and 7

(Figure 2)

4.13.1 Trenches 1, 2 and 7 all contained no identifiable archaeological features. All had just topsoil/ploughsoil layer forming their overburdens. This layer ranged in thickness from 0.18m to 0.30m.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.18-0.28	50.17-50.29
1/002	Layer	Natural				49.67-49.95
2/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.28-0.30	48.39-50.46
2/002	Layer	Natural				48.12-50.12
7/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.25-0.26	52.23-53.77
7/002	Layer	Natural				51.96-53.41
14/007	Cut	Posthole	0.32	0.32	0.15	52.19
14/008	Fill	Fill				
14/009	Cut	Posthole	0.45	0.40	0.21	52.29
14/010	Fill	Fill				

Table 15: Archaeologically negative trenches

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was and 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 16; material recovered from the residues of environmental samples is quantified in tables 20 and 21. All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014).

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Bulk Metal	Weight (g)	FCF	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)
3/006			1	13										
5/004	1	4												
9/004	2	14 8	7	34			10	30 4			3	40		
11/00 6	1	6												
11/00 8			12	21			8	65			1	1	2	4
11/01 2			21	13 7										
11/01 4			3	22										
11/01 5			1	4			1	26						
11/01 7	1	12									3	62		
12/00 4			13	52										
13/00 1	1	16												
14/00 6			4	7					1	6	1	6		
14/01 0	1	15	1	7										
15/00 4									1	6				
15/00 5					1	55								
Total	7	20 1	63	29 7	1	55	19	39 5	2	12	8	10 9	2	4

Table 16: Quantification of hand-collected bulk finds

5.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 The evaluation produced seven pieces of worked flint weighing 201g and eight fragments of unworked burnt flint weighing 109g. The flintwork was recovered

from Trenches 9, 11, 13 and 14. The small assemblage comprises three flakes, a blade-like flake, a core fragment and two modified pieces (Table 17). The later consists of a piercer from context [11/017] and a retouched flake from context [14/010]. The piercer is made on a small and relatively thick flake. It displays abrupt and semi-abrupt retouch forming a point at distal left end. It is unlikely to post-date the Early Bronze Age period. It is not possible to date closely the retouched flake beyond a broad prehistoric attribution. Based on technological and morphological grounds, the flakes and blade-like flake from contexts [5/004], [11/006] and [13/001] are likely to predate the Middle Bronze Age. The remaining flake and core fragment from Trench 9 could be later.

- 5.2.2 The assemblage provides limited evidence for prehistoric presence in the landscape. However, it is very small and most pieces are likely to be residual in later contexts.

Context	Flake	Blade-like flake	Core fragment	Piercer	Retouched flake
5/004		1			
9/004	1				
9/004			1		
11/006	1				
11/017				1	
13/001	1				
14/010					1
Total	3	1	1	1	1

Table 17: Quantification of the flintwork

5.3 The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

- 5.3.1 A small assemblage of Middle/Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was recovered during the evaluation, totalling 63 hand-collected sherds, weighing 297g (two additional sherds, weighing 2g were recovered from the residue of sample <2>).
- 5.3.2 The pottery was examined using a x20 binocular microscope and quantified by sherd count, weight, and estimated number of vessels (ENV) on *pro forma* records and in an Excel spreadsheet. At present, prehistoric fabric types have been broadly characterised according to their major inclusion types. Further typological classification of these fabrics may be necessary in the event of further archaeological work at the site, producing a more substantial assemblage, requiring assessment or analysis.
- 5.3.3 Small groups of pottery were recovered from pits, ditches and a posthole in Trenches 3, 9, 11, 12 and 14. As shown in Table 18, the assemblage is dominated by a range of tempered fabrics, of which the most common are a

group of argillaceous rock-tempered wares (ARG), including some variants containing coarse quartz sand (ARGQ). Also represented are relatively fine, well-sorted flint-tempered wares (FLIN), flint-tempered wares with quartz sand (FLQU) and handmade sandy wares (QUAR), all of which can be characterised as typically Middle Iron Age fabrics. In two contexts however, (fill [11/008] of ditch [11/005] and fill [11/012] of [11/011]) wares of this type appeared with one or two sherds of grog tempered pottery (GROG), including a fabric variant containing both flint and grog (FLGR). Stratified groups of this type are likely to represent transitional assemblages of Middle/Late Iron Age date, most likely belonging to around the first half of the 1st century BC, although slightly later dating is possible. Argillaceous rock tempered wares, for example, continued to be present in very small quantities and seemed to be still in contemporary use, in a phase dating to around the middle quarters of the 1st century AD at Wickhurst Green, Broadbridge Heath; however, they were vastly outnumbered by grog-tempered fabrics by this stage (Doherty 2018, 251). The only element of the prehistoric groups which could possibly indicate 1st century AD dating are a group of well-fired quartz rich fabrics (QUAR) noted in fill [11/012] of [11/011] which almost resemble precursors to Roman Arun Valley black-surfaced wares.

Fabric	Description	Sherds	Weight (g)	ENV
ARG	Argillaceous rock tempered wares	30	92	9
ARGQ	Argillaceous rock tempered wares with quartz	18	68	2
FLGR	Flint and grog-tempered wares	1	2	1
FLIN	Flint-tempered wares	5	42	5
FLQU	Flint-tempered wares with quartz	2	22	2
GROG	Grog-tempered wares	2	9	2
QUAR	Handmade quartz rich wares	3	57	2
AVBW	Roman Arun Valley black surfaced wares	4	7	1
Total		65	299	24

Table 18: Quantification of prehistoric and Roman pottery fabrics

5.3.4 Several diagnostic rimsherds were recorded in the assemblage which are again, largely characteristic of the Middle Iron Age. These include a fairly substantial profile from a jar with a slight shoulder and upright rim, in fill [12/004] of ditch [12/003], a partial beaded rim, possibly from a saucepan related form, in fill [11/015] of pit [11/011], strongly out-turning S-profile jars in fills [11/012] and [11/014] of pit [11/011], and partial rims from two necked jars in fill [11/008] of ditch [11/005].

5.3.5 In Trench 14, a single Late Iron Age/early Roman grog-tempered bodysherd was found without any material of earlier character, in fill [14/010] of posthole [14/009], while four conjoining bodysherds in earlier Roman Arun Valley black surfaced ware (AVBW) were recorded in fill [14/006] of posthole [14/005].

5.4 The Ceramic Building Material by Rae Regensberg

5.4.1 One fragment of flat roof tile weighing 55g was collected from the fill of ditch [15/006]. The tile had an orange fabric with moderate fine dark red oxidised

material and a scatter of quartz. It was 12mm thick and was well fired with a lightly reduced core. As flat roof tile is difficult to date due to the consistency in manufacture from the 12th century, the tile has a broad medieval to post-medieval date range. The degree of firing and the fabric however, are more common in the post-medieval period. The tile was recorded by form, weight, dimension and fabric, and entered into an Excel spreadsheet.

5.5 The Fired Clay by Stephen Patton

5.5.1 Two abraded amorphous fragments of fired clay, weighing a total of 4g, were recovered from the fill [11/008] of ditch [11/005] Both have been exposed to temperatures high enough to go through the ceramic change, and both have been oxidised resulting in an orangey-red colour. There are no diagnostic features and so the original forms of the fragments, if there were any, is unidentifiable.

5.6 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.6.1 The archaeological work recovered 19 pieces of stone from the site. The material has been fully listed in Table 19 as part of the visible archive.

Context	Type	No	Weight	Comments
9/004	Lower Greensand	10	304g	Orange, fine sandy, irregular and friable. Worn
11/008	Lower Greensand	8	65g	As above
11/015	Lower Greensand	1	26g	As above but more grey

Table 19: Quantification of the stone assemblage

5.6.2 All the stone consists of unworked weathered pieces of local friable sandstone from the Folkestone Beds of the Lower Greensand. This is natural to the area and is therefore not an unexpected find. The stone is all unworked material of the local bedrock. The assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis. The assemblage has been discarded.

5.7 The Magnetic Residues by Luke Barber

5.7.1 Two of the environmental samples produced small magnetic fractions from their residues (contexts [11/004] and [11/012], <1g and 1g respectively). Each of these was carefully examined under x10 magnification to establish the presence/absence of micro slags. Due to the small size of the particles involved the material was quantified by weight only.

5.7.2 In both cases no micro slags were noted – the magnetic fraction being composed of ‘magnetic fines’ only. These mainly consist of granules of ferruginous sandstone and siltstone that either have their own inherent magnetism or, more often, have had that magnetism enhanced through burning. They are not diagnostic of any industrial activity as such heating can occur in a domestic hearth or bonfire. The magnetic residues are not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and have been discarded.

5.8 The Bulk Metalwork by Trista Clifford

- 5.8.1 The evaluation produced a small assemblage of two nails with a total weight of 12g. Posthole fill [14/006] contained a circular headed tack measuring 28.5mm in length. A nail of 35.5mm length was recovered from [15/004]; the head of this nail is obscured with corrosion product.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Elsa Neveu

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Two bulk samples, ranging from 10 to 40L in volume, were taken during the evaluation at the site and were collected from undated features. Sampling aimed to retrieve dating evidences and environmental remains, such as charcoal and charred plant macrofossils. This report will examine evidence for crops and local vegetation environment.

6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 These samples were processed by flotation using a 500 µm mesh for the heavy residues and a 250 µm mesh for the retention of the flot. Residues and flots were air dried and were passed through 8, 4 and 2mm sieves. Residues were sorted for artefacts and ecofacts, which are quantified in Table 20. A stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications was used in order to scan the flots and identify the remains. The contents from the flots were described and recorded in Table 21. The identification of the charred plant macrofossils was based on observations of gross morphology and surface cell structure. The remains were compared to a botanical modern reference collection and published atlas (Cappers *et al.* 2006) were also consulted. The nomenclature for the taxa follows Stace (1997) and Zohary and Hopf (2000) for the domesticated plants. Quantification was based on approximate number of individuals.

6.3 Results

6.3.1 An array of archaeological remains included charcoal, charred plant macrofossils, pottery, fired clay and magnetic material which may be of natural or industrial origin. These finds have been incorporated into the relevant finds reports. Table 20 and 21 provide an overview of the samples detailing materials retrieved through flotation and sorting. The following text summarise the results.

Undated features:

6.3.2 These samples revealed uncharred material, mainly rootlets, which indicates a moderate level of modern disturbance through root activity. They yielded a few charred plant remains, which were poorly preserved and recorded as wheat (*Triticum* sp.), oat (*Avena* sp.) and unidentifiable cereals (*Cerealina*). In addition, a small amount of charcoal fragments, mostly <2mm, was extracted. Nevertheless no taxonomic identifications were obtained at this stage, because these assemblages of charcoal fragments were too small in order to warrant identification work.

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 These samples could correspond to domestic wastes comprising charred plant remains and fuel that accumulated in these features. Indeed, pits can remain open for extended periods allowing waste to accumulate gradually. The low density of charred plant remains could be explained by the poor state of

preservation of plant macrofossils and the infrequency of activities related to crop husbandry and processing.

- 6.4.2 These samples provided a glimpse of the likely cultivated and consumed cereals, wheat and perhaps oat, at the site. Moreover, these samples indicated there is a potential for nearby deposits to preserved charred plant remains and charcoal fragments. Any future work at the site should continue and that would allow to sample a range of features across the site and retrieve dating evidences and environmental remains.

Table 20: Environmental samples residues quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Context / Deposit Type	Parent Context	Sample Volume (L)	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Charred Botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Other (eg. pot, cbm, etc.) (quantity/ weight)
1	11/004	pit/posthole	11/003	10	**	2	***	5	*	<1	Mag. Mat. >2mm (*/<1g); Mag. Mat. <2mm (**/1g)
2	11/012	pit	11/012	40	**	5	***	6	*	<1	Mag. Mat. >2mm (*/<1g); Mag. Mat. <2mm (*1g); Pottery (*2g)

Table 21: Environmental samples flots quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

Sample Number	Context	Context / Deposit Type	Parent Context	Weight (g)	Flot volume (ml)	Volume Scanned	Uncharred (%)	Sediment (%)	Charcoal <2mm	Crop Seeds Charred	Identifications	Preservation	Potential	notes
1	11/004	pit/posthole	11/003	5	10	100	0	80	**	*	<i>Avena</i> sp. (2), <i>Cerealia</i> (1)	+	CPR: low density; Charcoal: low density	common rootlets
2	11/012	pit	11/012	4.2	9	100	0	80	**	*	<i>Triticum</i> sp. (1), <i>Cerealia</i> (1)	+	CPR: low density; Charcoal: very low density	common rootlets

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 7.1.1 Most trenches revealed a sequence of topsoil lain directly over the natural yellow-brown sand-clay geology. Exceptions to this were Trenches 3, 4 and 15 which each revealed elements of subsoil between the topsoil and natural.
- 7.1.2 The natural geology was encountered at a minimum elevation of 46.29m AOD at the northern end of the site (Trench 3) and a maximum elevation of 53.42m AOD at the southern end (Trench 15).
- 7.1.3 The depth of the overburden varied between 0.18m and 0.50m, although was predominantly between 0.25m and 0.30m.
- 7.1.4 Of the 15 trenches evaluated, 11 contained archaeological features of Middle Iron Age, Late Iron Age/early Roman and post-medieval date. An additional trench contained a geological hollow, similar features of which have been revealed to contained Palaeolithic or Mesolithic material. Observed archaeological features were spread across much of the site, but focussed on the higher ground towards the centre and south of the site. No features were encountered in the western and north-western elements of the investigated sites.
- 7.1.5 The methodology, as set out in the WSI (ASE 2021), was successfully employed during the evaluation. The conditions on site were conducive to confident and efficient identification and recording of archaeological features, and as such it is considered that this evaluation and report has successfully achieved its objective.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 7.2.1 Intact topsoil was encountered across the site. Subsoil was only recorded in the northwest and southwest corners.
- 7.2.2 The absence of subsoil across much of the site suggests a degree of truncation of the archaeological horizon has occurred in the past. Despite this, archaeological features were recorded across much of the site.

7.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Early Prehistoric

- 7.3.1 Just eight pieces of humanly struck flint were recovered from the site, indicating a low-level exploitation of the landscape during this time. These finds included a core fragment, piercer and retouched flake. These range in date from Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age date.
- 7.3.2 Although no anthropogenic evidence was encountered with the geological feature within Trench 6, these types of feature have been known to contain Palaeolithic and Mesolithic material.

Middle Iron Age

- 7.3.3 A small assemblage of Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from across the site. This included the profile of a jar from ditch [12/003], a feature which likely formed the same feature as ditch [8/015]. Several sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery were also recovered from Trench 11, within both pit [11/011] and ditch [11/005]. These two features were revealed within the large spread of material encountered within this trench, indicating a similar date for at least some of this feature(s).
- 7.3.4 The Middle Iron Age features probably represent a portion of a small farmstead or similar, with both enclosure ditches and elements of pitting and/or quarrying identified

Late Iron Age/early Roman

- 7.3.5 A number of Late Iron Age/early Roman sherds were recovered from Trench 14. These were all recovered from postholes within the trench, including substantial example [14/005].
- 7.3.6 This collection of postholes indicates the presence of at least one structure of Late Iron Age/early Roman date within the vicinity of Trench 14.
- 7.3.7 A section of the Hardham to Barcombe Mills (Greensand Way) Roman road is recorded just 500m north of the site, perhaps providing trade and communication routes for the inhabitants of the settlement.

Post-medieval

- 7.3.8 A single fragment of post-medieval tile was recovered from ditch [15/006]. This ditch, along with [13/003] and [13/007] are on a similar alignment to a broadly east-west orientated ditch shown on the OS 1st Edition map of 1876 (Figure 15), suggesting correlation between the two.

Undated

- 7.3.9 A number of features from across the site remain undated. However, paucity of later material encountered across the site, the similarities between their fills and those of Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/early Roman features revealed across site suggest that many, if not most of these relate to enclosures of Iron Age or Roman date.

7.4 Consideration of research aims

- 7.4.1 The broad research aims as set out in the WSI of assessing the extent, preservation, significance and date of any archaeological remains were able to be met as a result of the evaluation. The vulnerability to development of any archaeological remains can also be intimated given the comparatively shallow depth of any overburden.

Consideration of site specific aims

- 7.4.2 No prehistoric deposits were identified that might have related to the nearby barrow cemetery.
- 7.4.3 However, prehistoric (Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/early Roman) activity was identified within the site. This would appear to comprise elements of a small farmstead with its associated enclosure and field ditches, structural elements and pitting or quarrying.
- 7.4.4 No evidence of medieval or post-medieval woodland clearance were recorded within the evaluated area. However, a probably post-medieval ditch was recorded at the south of the site which likely relates to the parcelling of land during this period.
- 7.4.5 The evolution of the site over time was not able to be fully understood within the parameters of the evaluation. Evidence of Middle Iron Age to early Roman activity was recorded, but it is unclear whether this can be said to have had an impact on the evolution of the use of the site over time. This is likely due to the relatively small dataset that an evaluation provides.

Consideration of research priorities

- 7.4.6 Evaluation of the site has demonstrated use of the Weald during the later prehistoric period and into the early Roman period. The precise scale and nature of the activity is unclear, but its use as a small farmstead can be suggested.
- 7.4.7 It was not possible to clarify any relationship between towns and their hinterland. This was a consequence of a lack of relative results.

7.5 Updated Research Agenda

- 7.5.1 A series of Middle Iron Age boundaries were recorded, but it is not clear from the evaluation exactly what function these had. Evidence from the evaluation points towards the possibility of Middle Iron Age settlement activity. It is suggested that building traditions of this date in Sussex and the South Downs are different to the ubiquitous roundhouse construction seen elsewhere (Hart 2015, 290). Can this site provide further examples of Middle Iron Age construction methodologies?
- 7.5.2 Can the site provide further elucidation on the role of seasonality and the impermanence of settlement during the Middle Iron Age, particularly in relation to how different building forms might inform these practices (Hart 2015, 290).
- 7.5.3 The site demonstrated evidence of Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/early Roman settlement. Similar hiatuses between the two periods have been recorded elsewhere in the region. Is this hiatus real, or an artefact of an incomplete or biased record? (Champion 2011).
- 7.5.4 To what extent can any contemporaneity be determined between the evidence found here and the section of Roman road located to the north?

7.6 Conclusions

- 7.6.1 Despite the predominant absence of subsoil, archaeological features were recorded across much of the site. Of the 15 trenches evaluated, 11 contained archaeological features of Middle Iron Age, Late Iron Age/early Roman or post-medieval date. It is suggested that elements of a Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/early Roman farmstead with associated enclosure and field ditches, structural elements, pitting and quarrying exists in the central part of the site in the region of Trenches 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Croudace Homes Ltd for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project, and Maria Medlycott, Archaeological Advisor to Horsham District Council for her guidance and monitoring. The fieldwork was directed by Tom Munnery. Naomi Humphrey produced the figures for this report; Paul Mason and Leonie Pett managed the excavations; Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift the post-excavation process.

HER Summary

Site code	DAS21				
Project code	210024				
Planning reference	DC/19/2015				
Site address	Land at Downsview Avenue, Storrington, West Sussex				
District/Borough	Horsham District				
NGR (12 figures)	509339 115215				
Geology	Fittleworth member of Hythe Formations				
Fieldwork type	Eval				
Date of fieldwork	6 th to 12 th April 2021				
Sponsor/client	Croudace Homes Ltd				
Project manager	Paul Mason and Leonie Pett				
Project supervisor	Tom Munnery				
Period summary					Iron Age
	Roman				
Project summary	Despite the predominant absence of subsoil, archaeological features were recorded across much of the site. Of the 15 trenches evaluated, 11 contained archaeological features of Middle Iron Age, Late Iron Age/early Roman or post-medieval date. It is suggested that elements of a Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/early Roman farmstead with associated enclosure and field ditches, structural elements, pitting and quarrying exists in the central part of the site in the region of Trenches 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.				

Finds summary

Find type	Material	Period	Quantity
Pottery	Ceramic	Middle Iron Age	
Pottery	Ceramic	Late Iron Age/early Roman	
Nail	Iron	Iron Age/Roman	
Flint	Lithic	Mesolithic to Bronze Age	

OASIS Form**OASIS ID: archaeol6-420390****Project details**

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Downsview Avenue, Storrington, West Sussex
Short description of the project	Despite the predominant absence of subsoil, archaeological features were recorded across much of the site. Of the 15 trenches evaluated, 11 contained archaeological features of Middle Iron Age, Late Iron Age/early Roman or post-medieval date. It is suggested that elements of a Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/early Roman farmstead with associated enclosure and field ditches, structural elements, pitting and quarrying exists in the central part of the site in the region of Trenches 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.
Project dates	Start: 06-04-2021 End: 12-04-2021
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	210024 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	DAS21 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Significant Finds	POTTERY Middle Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX HORSHAM STORRINGTON Land at Downsview Avenue, Storrington
Postcode	RH20 4PU
Study area	2.05 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 09339 15215 50.925459060312 -0.444092189168 50 55
31 N 000 26 38 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 46.29m Max: 53.42m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator Archaeology South-East

Project design originator Archaeology South-East

Project director/manager Leonie Pett

Project supervisor Tom Munnery

Type of sponsor/funding body Client

Name of sponsor/funding body Croudace Homes Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Horsham Museum

Physical Contents "Ceramics", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient Horsham Museum

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

Paper Archive recipient Horsham Museum

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Report", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An Archaeological Evaluation at Land At Downsview Avenue, Storrington, West Sussex

Author(s)/Editor(s) Munnery, T

Other bibliographic details 2021082

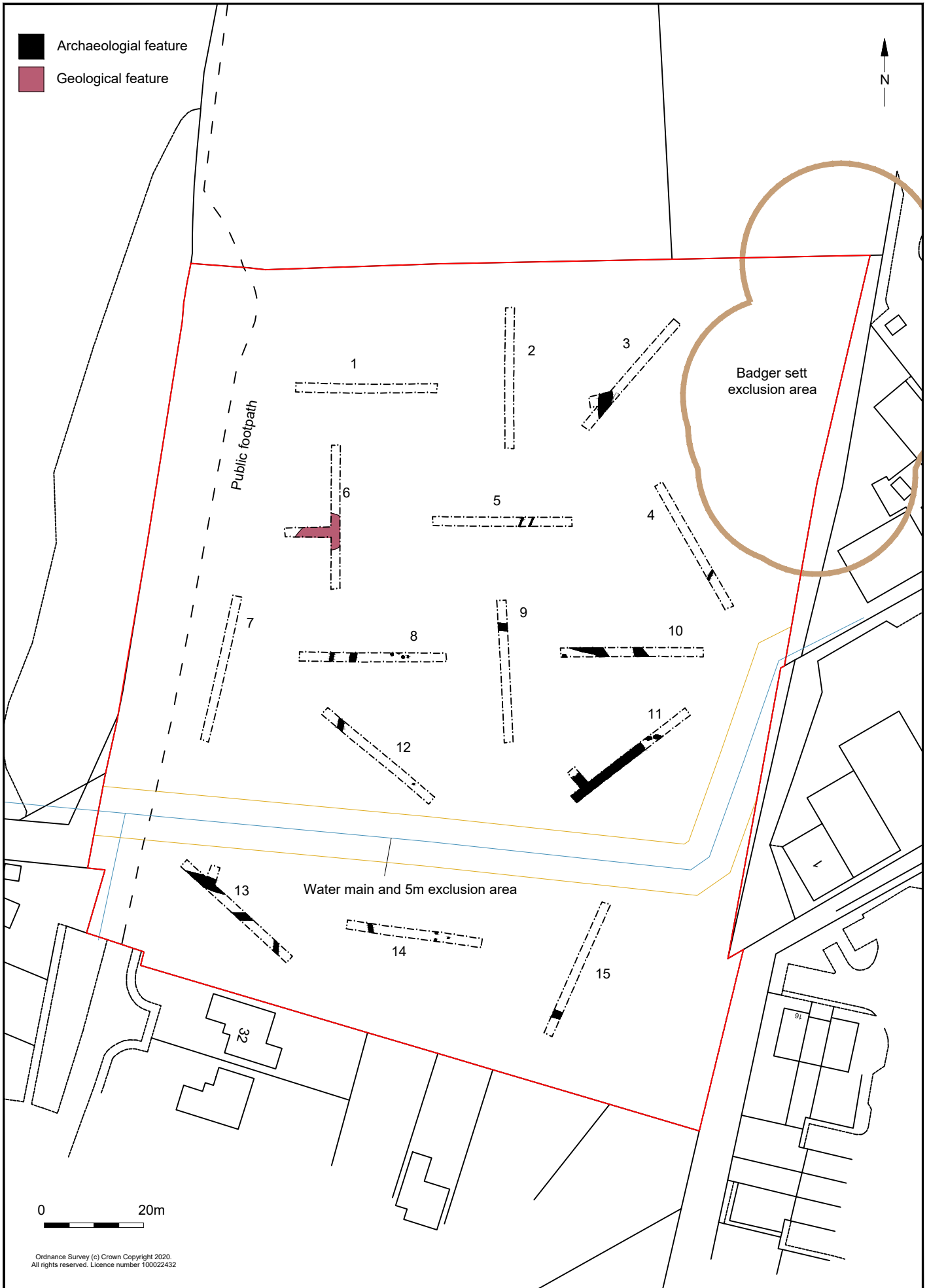
Date 2021

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

Place of issue or
publication West Sussex HER

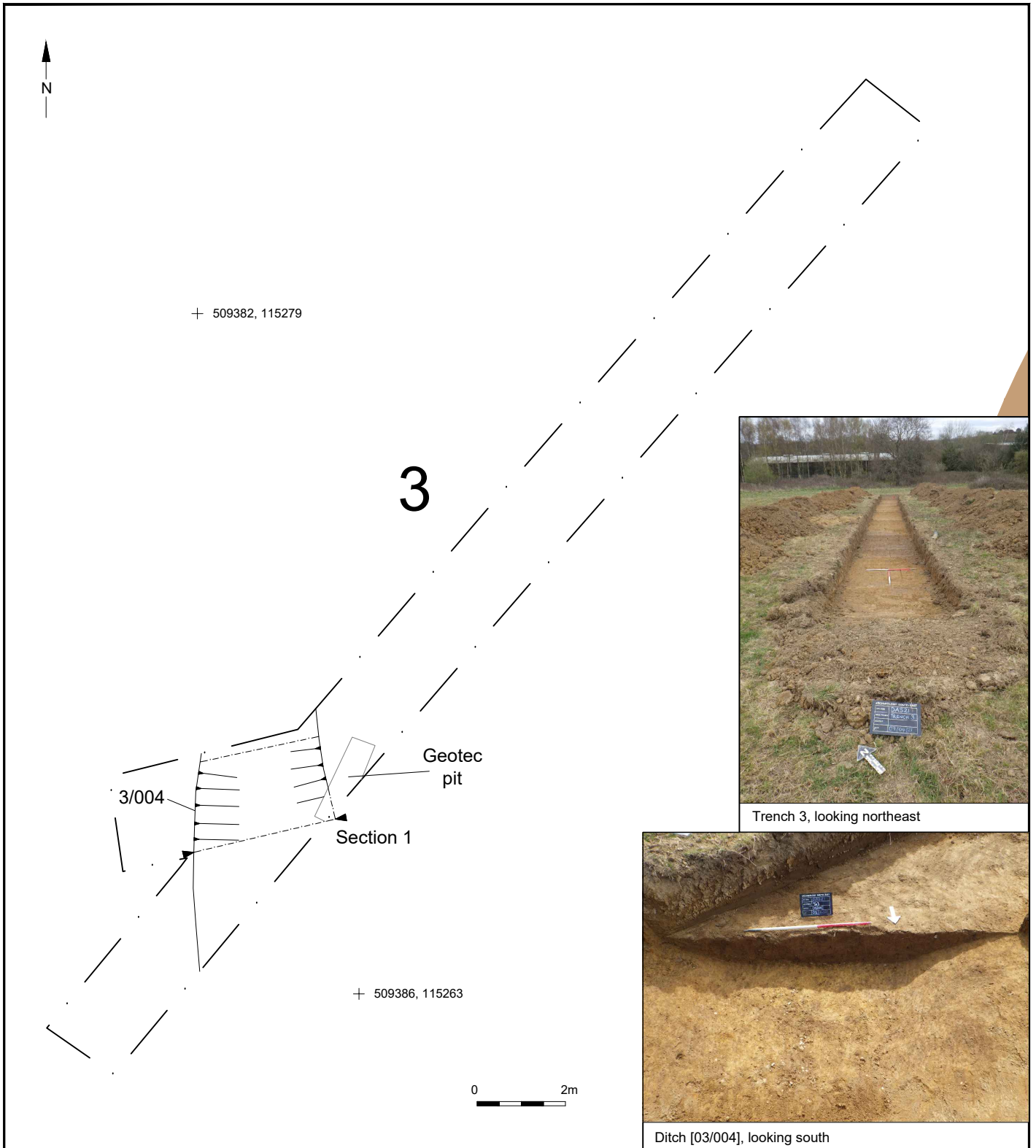
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Entered on 28 April 2021



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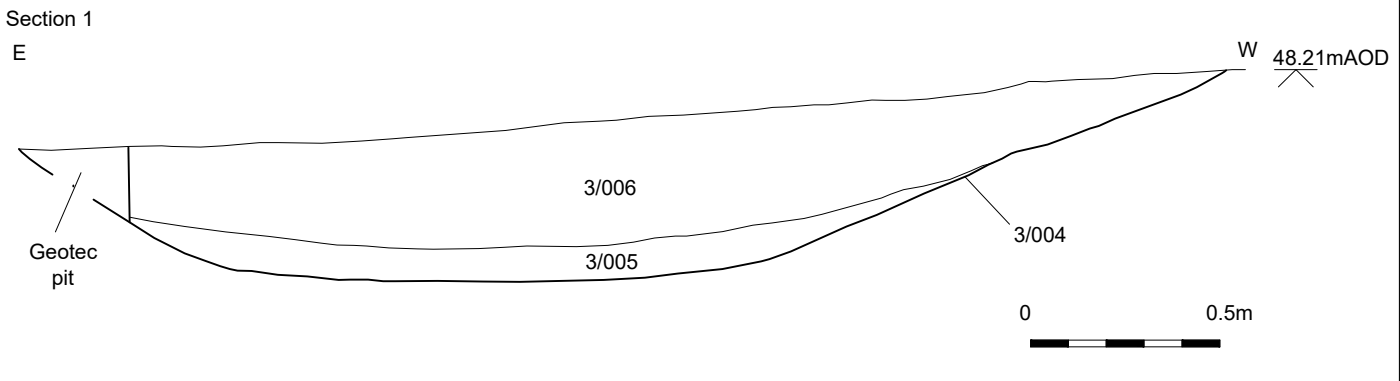
© Archaeology South-East		Land North of Downsview Avenue, Storrington, West Sussex	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 210024	April 2021	Trench plan	
Report Ref: 2021084	Drawn by: NH		



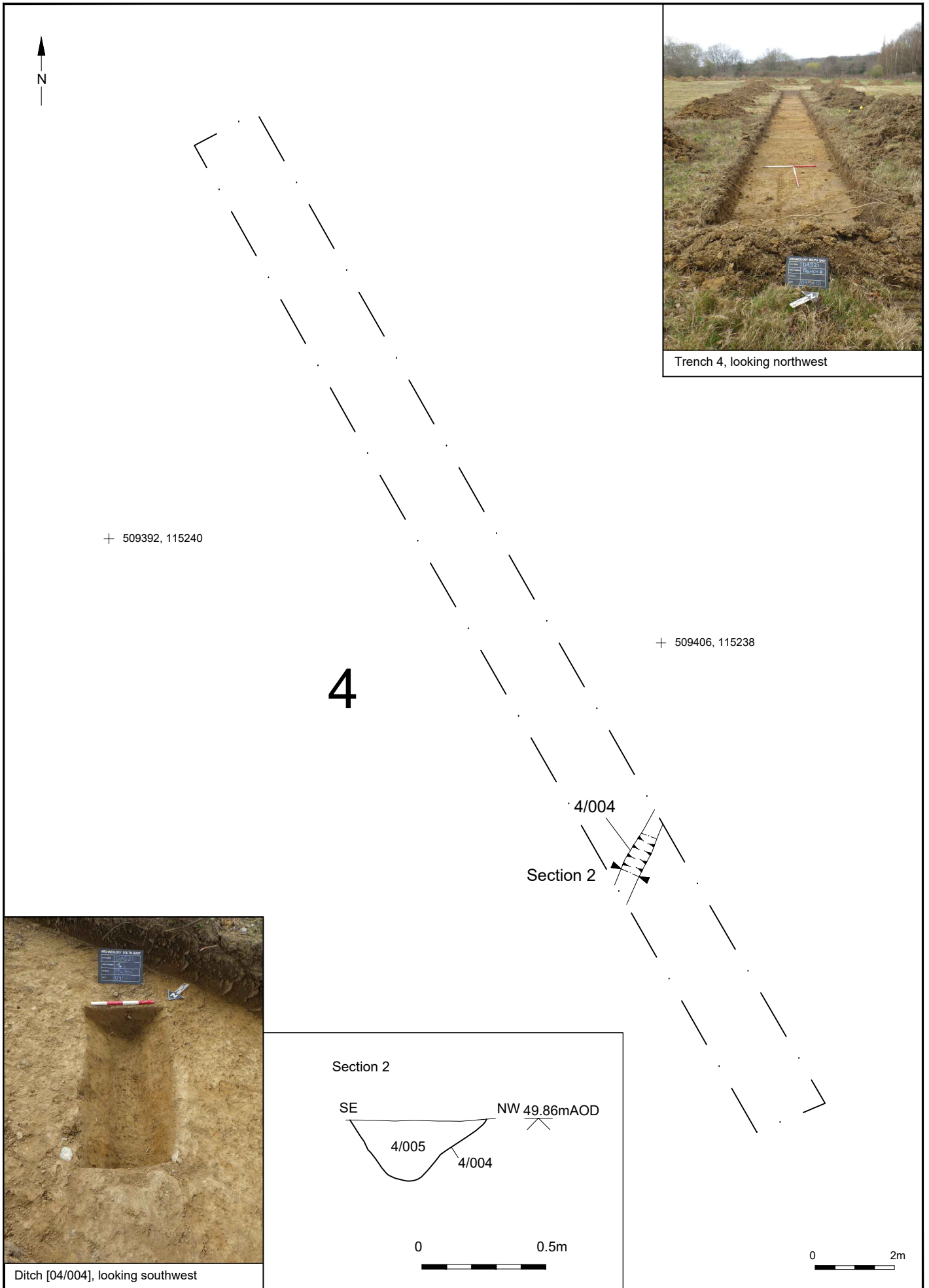
Trench 3, looking northeast



Ditch [03/004], looking south



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Project Ref: 210024	April 2021	Trench 3: Plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2021084	Drawn by: NH		



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Project Ref: 210024	April 2021	Trench 4: Plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2021084	Drawn by: NH		



Trench 5, looking east

+ 509354, 115247

5

Section 3

Section 4

5/003

5/005



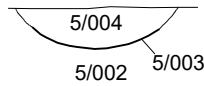
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Section 3

W ————— E

5/001



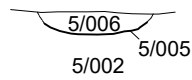
50.72m AOD



Section 4

W ————— E

5/001



50.63m AOD



Gully [5/003], looking north



Gully [5/005], looking north

© Archaeology South-East

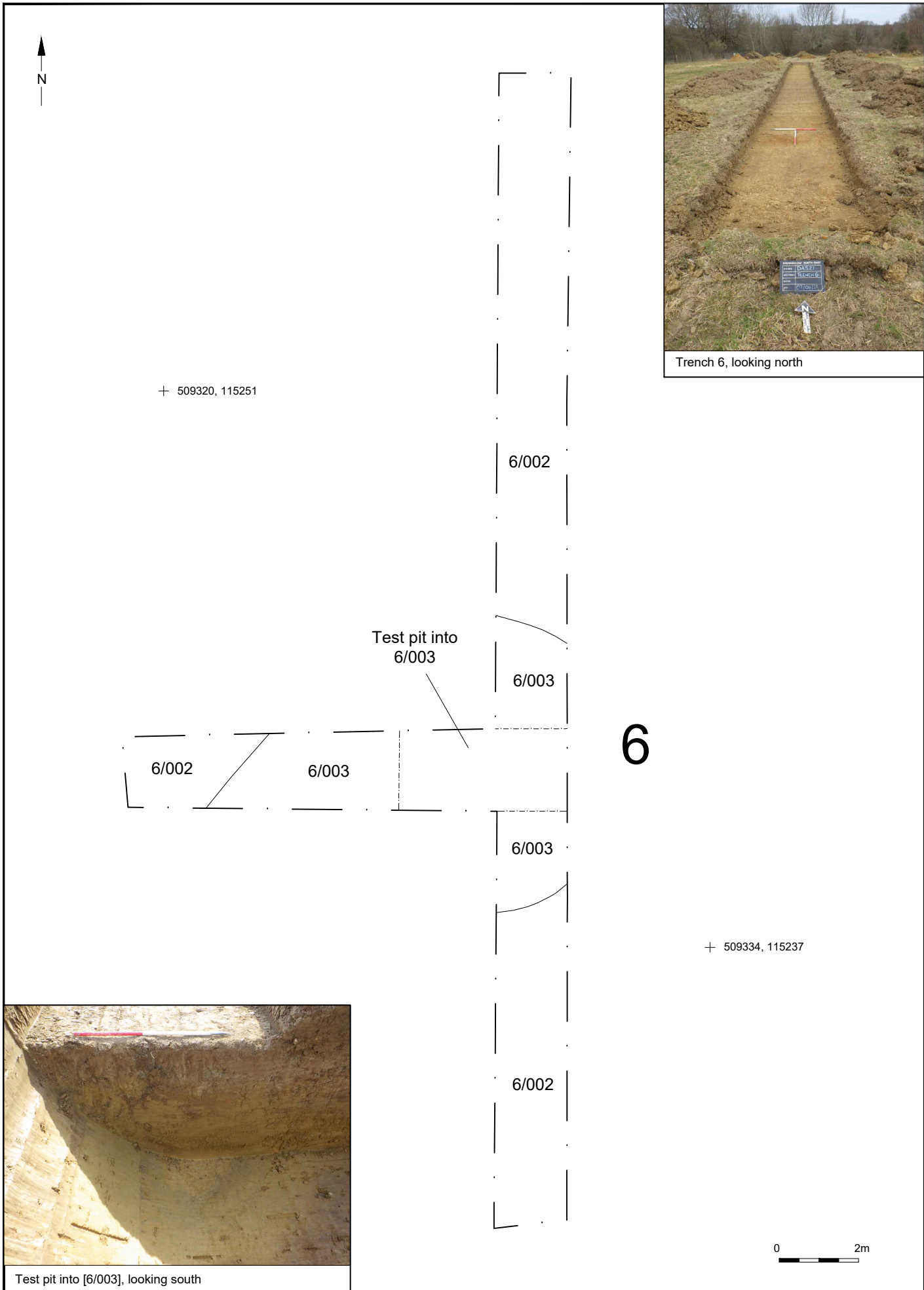
Land North of Downsview Avenue, Storrington, West Sussex

Project Ref: 210024
Report Ref: 2021084

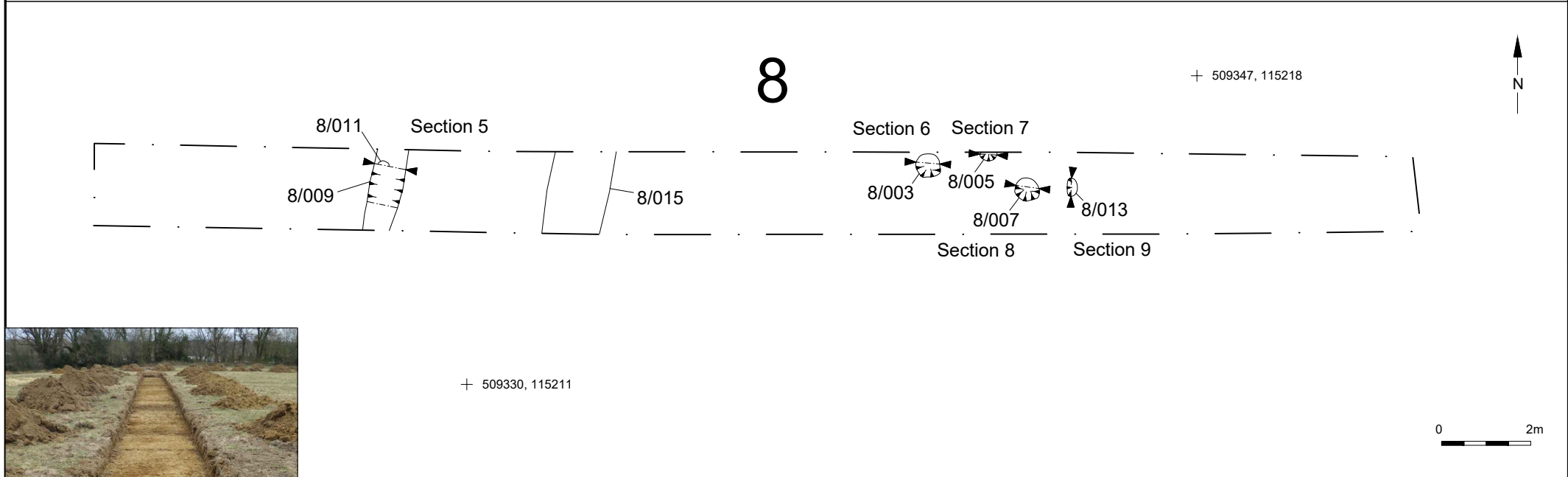
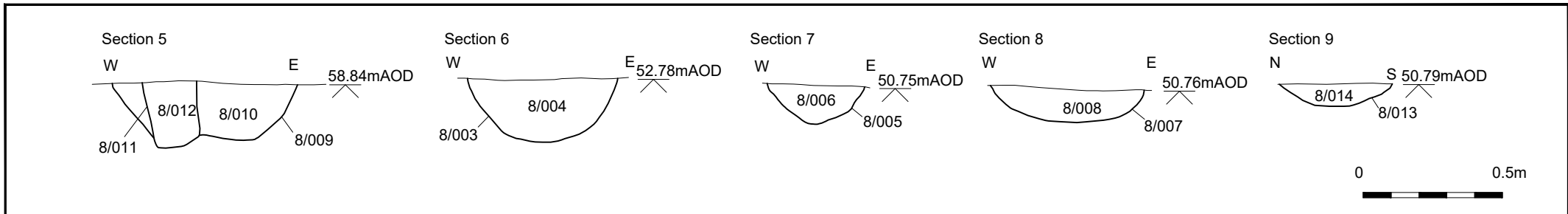
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Trench 5: Plan, sections and photographs

Fig. 5



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Project Ref: 210024	April 2021	Trench 6: Plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2021084	Drawn by: NH		



+ 509330, 115211

0 2m



Trench 8, looking east

Ditch [8/009] and posthole [8/011], looking north

Posthole [8/003], looking north

Posthole [8/007] and posthole [8/005] (behind) looking north

Posthole [8/013], looking east

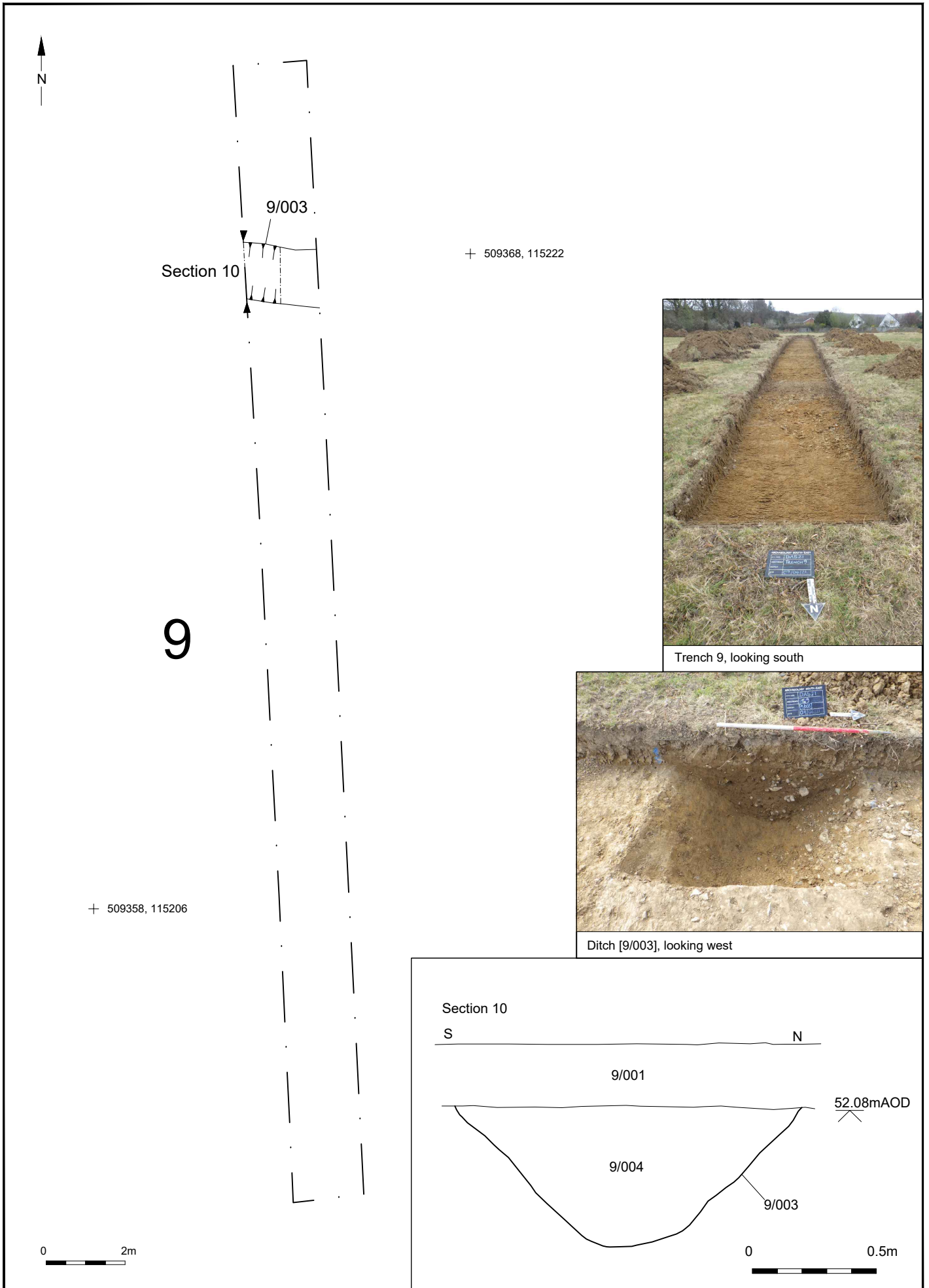
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Land North of Downsview Avenue, Storrington, West Sussex

Project Ref: 210024 April 2021
Report Ref: 2021084 Drawn by: NH

Trench 8: Plan, sections and photographs

Fig. 7

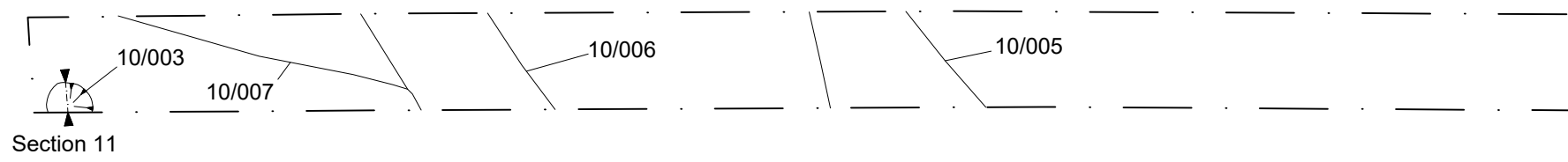


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+ 509396, 115221

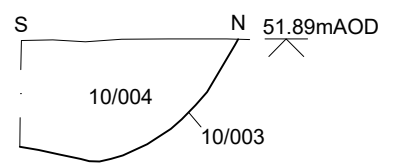
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+ 509381, 115212



Section 11

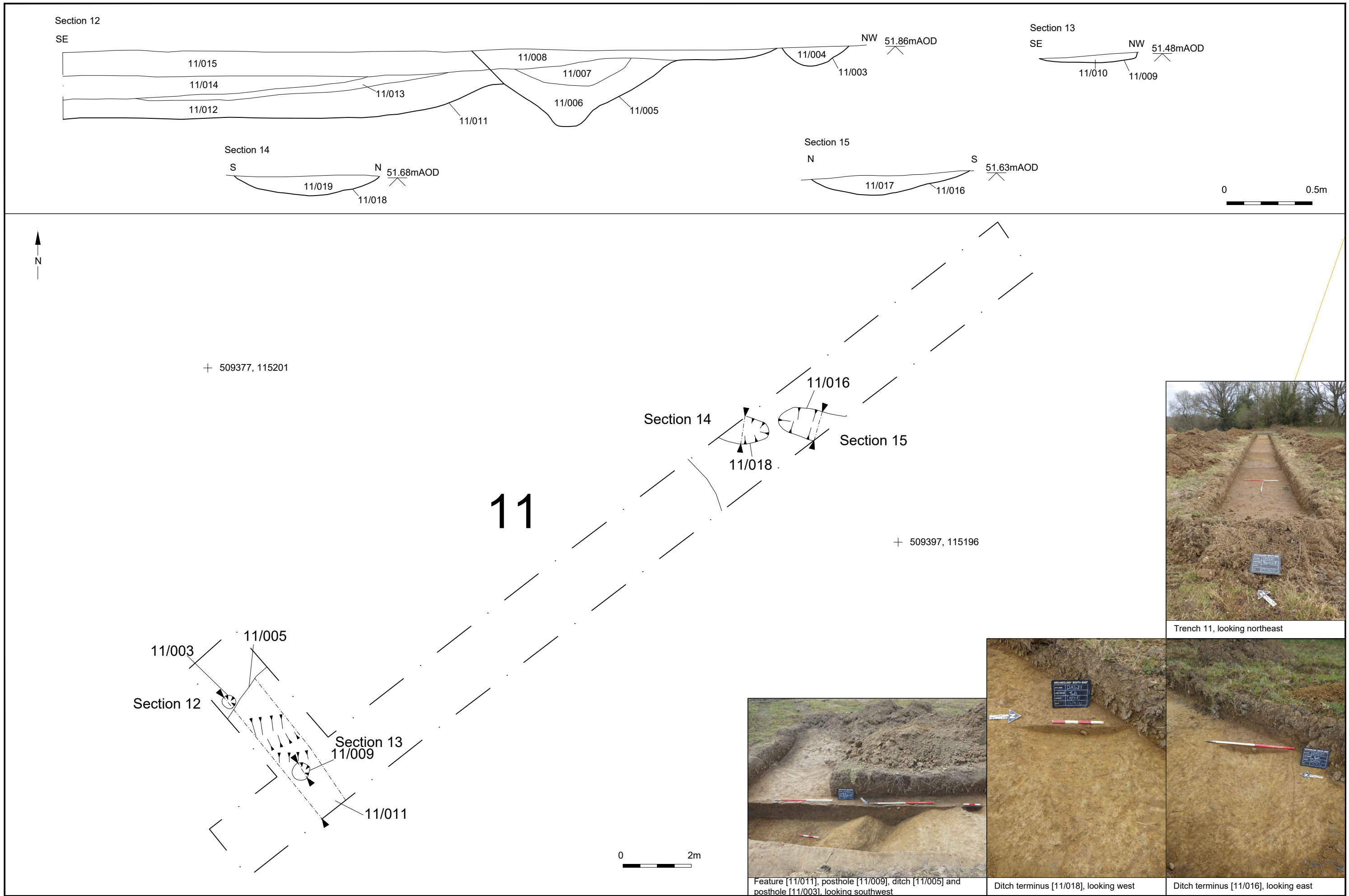


Gully [5/003], looking north

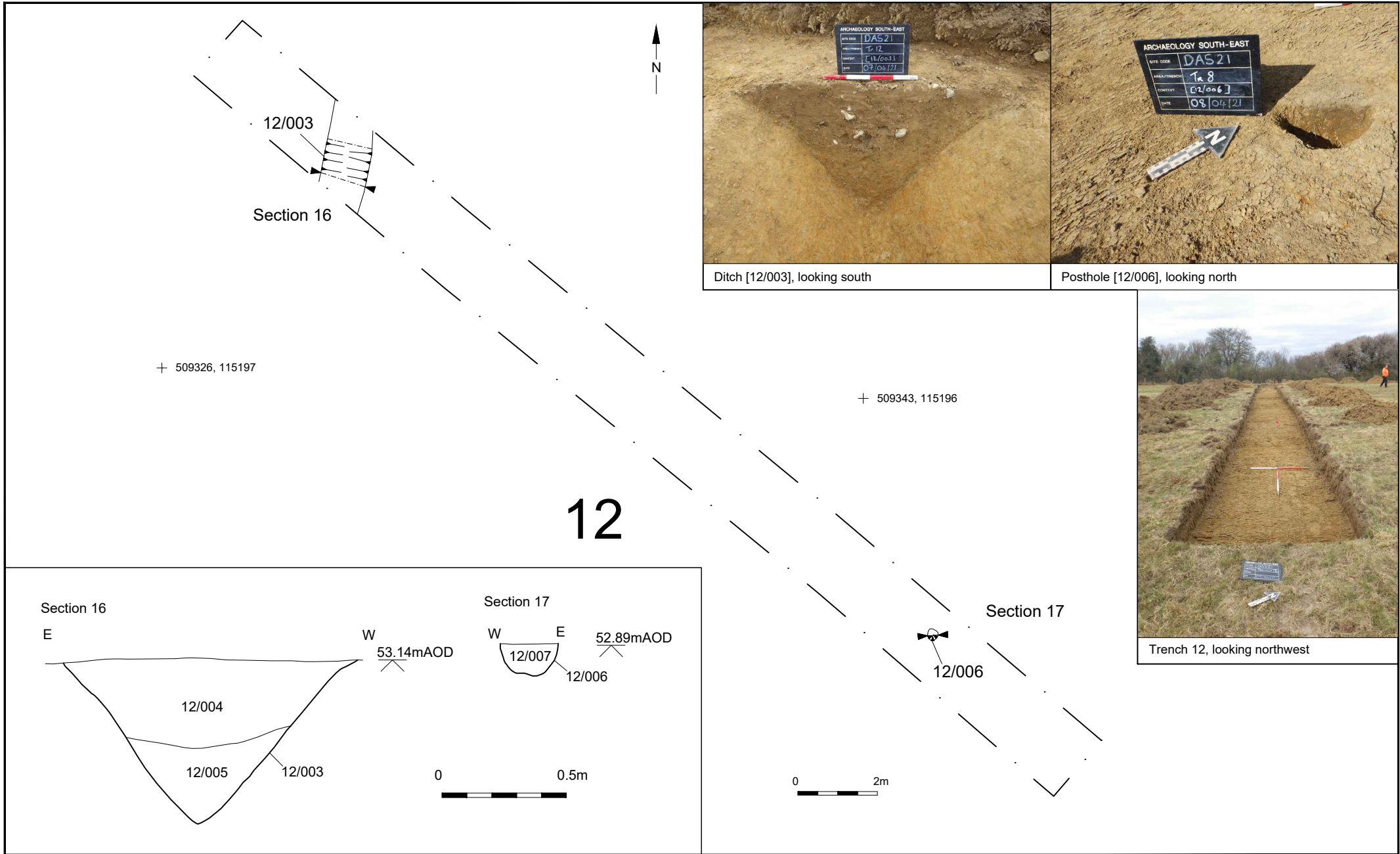


Trench 10, looking east

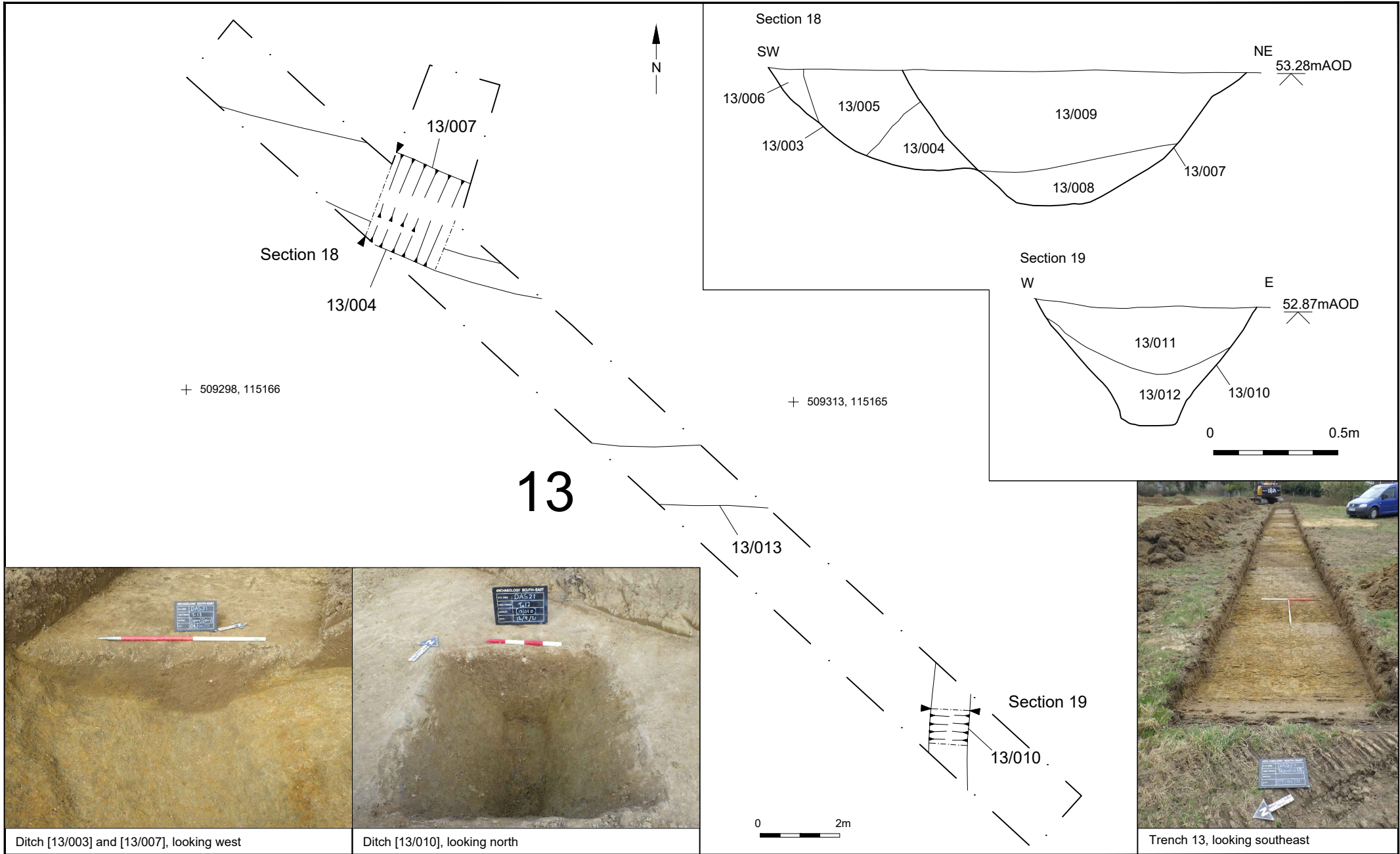
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Project Ref: 210024	April 2021	Trench 10: Plan, section and photographs	
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Ditch [13/003] and [13/007], looking west

Ditch [13/010], looking north

Trench 13, looking southeast

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Project Ref: 210024

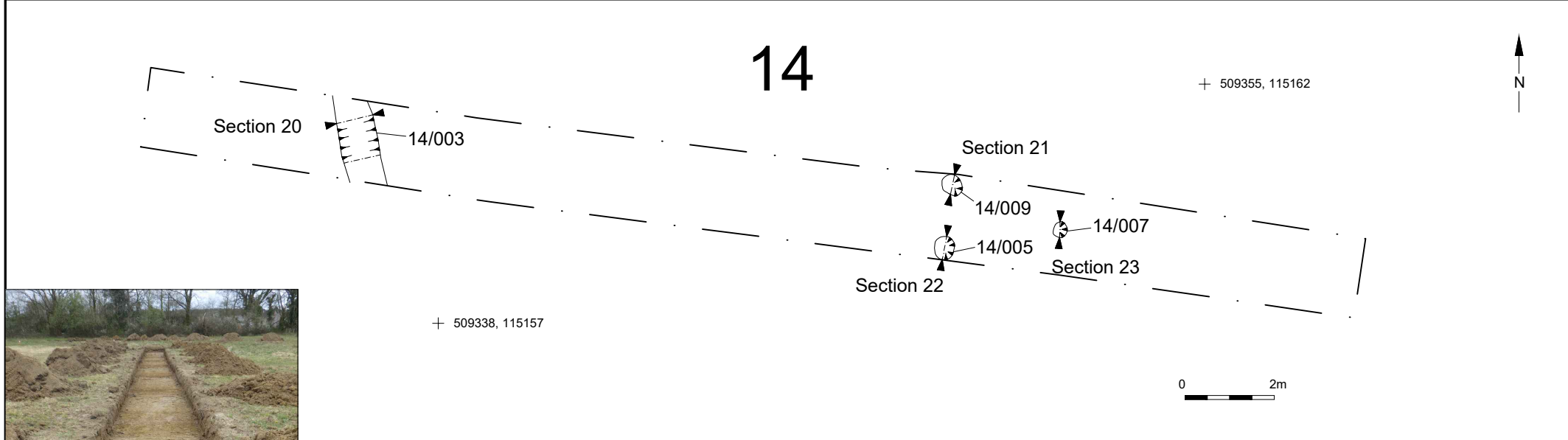
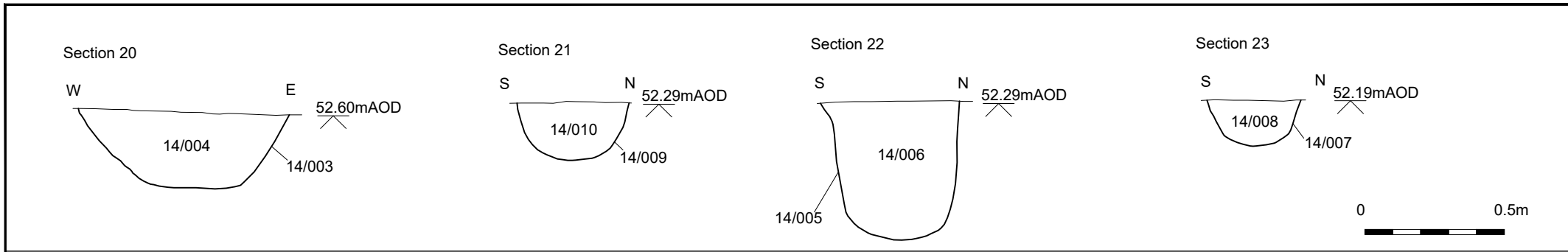
April 2021

Report Ref: 2021084

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Trench 13: Plan, sections and photographs

Fig. 12



Trench 14, looking east

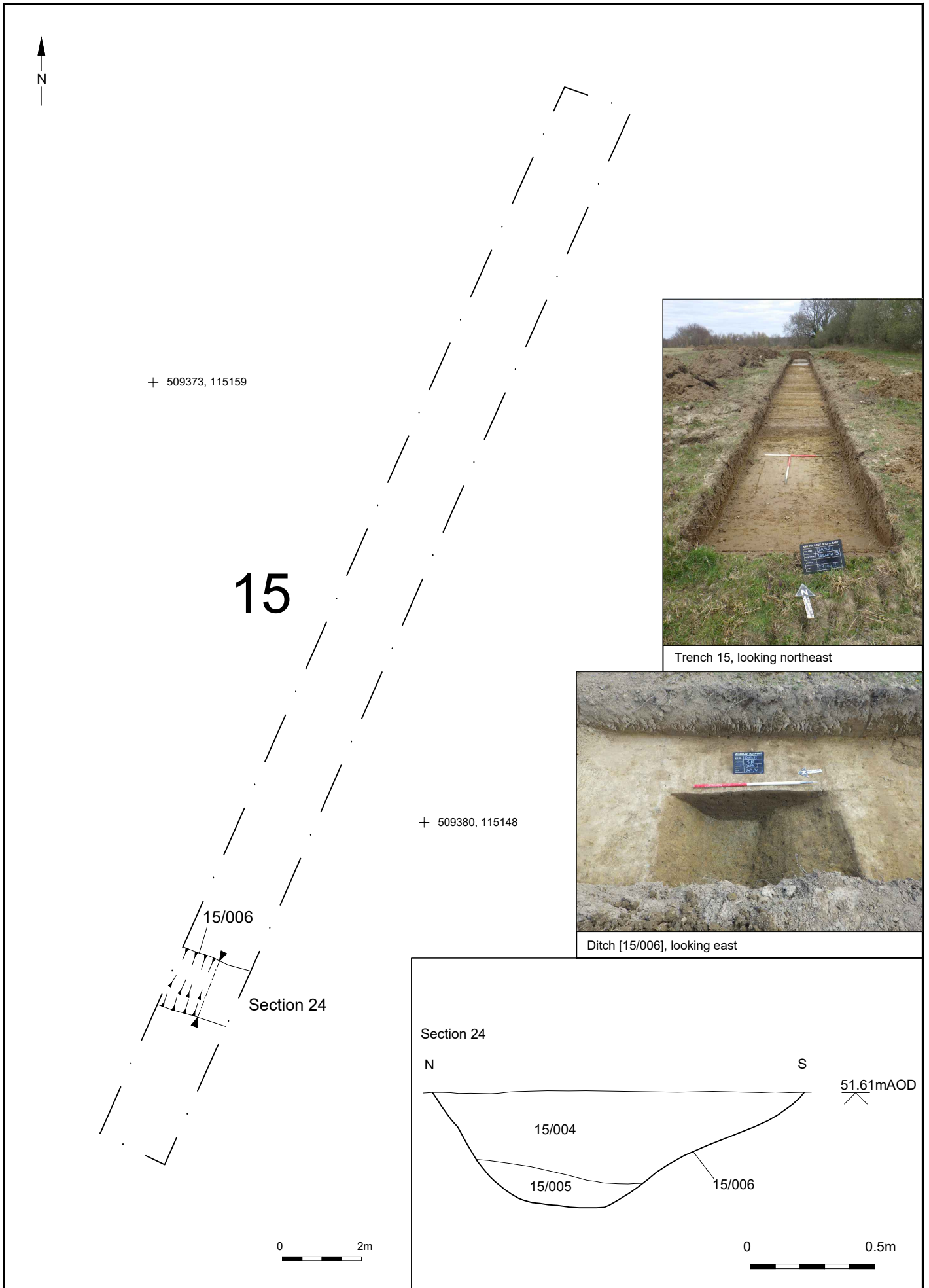
Ditch [14/003], looking north

Posthole [14/009], looking west

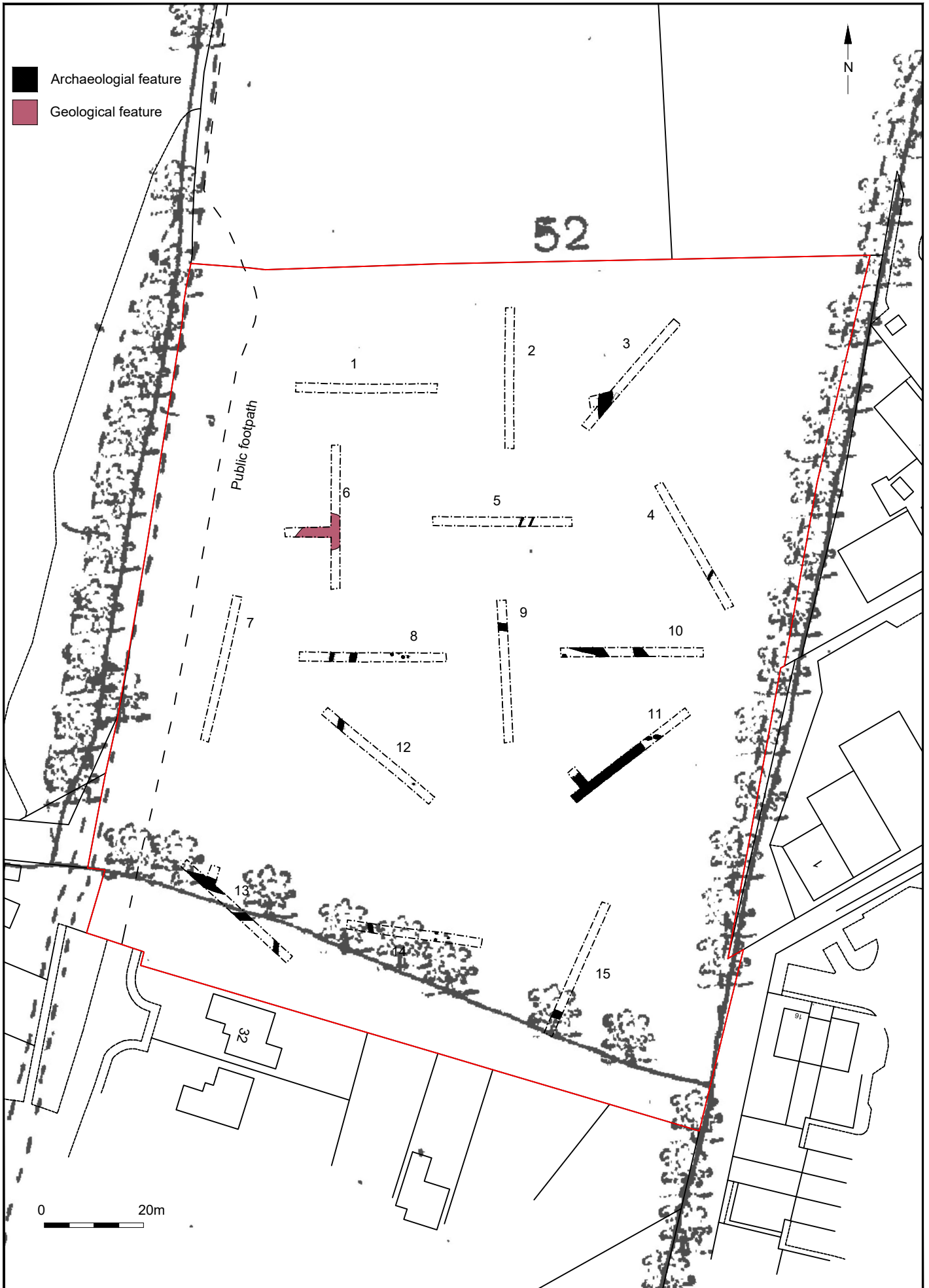
Posthole [14/005], looking west

Posthole [14/017], looking west

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