

**An Archaeological Evaluation at
Sir Robert Woodard Academy,
Lancing, West Sussex**

**NGR 517580 105250
(TQ 17580 05250)**



**Project No: 4012
Site Code: WOO 09**

**ASE Report No: 2009136
OASIS id: archaeol6-64663**

**By
Andrew Margetts BA (Hons)
With contributions by Matt Pope, Anna Doherty, Luke Barber,
Sarah Porteus, Luke Barber, Chris Butler,
Lucy Allott and Elke Raeman**

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the UCL Institute of Archaeology, were commissioned by Gifford, on behalf of West Sussex County Council, to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the proposed site of the Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Lancing in advance of the construction of the new academy. The work took place from the 24th of August to the 1st September 2009.

A total of 34 trenches and two geoarchaeological test pits were excavated across the site. Brickearth Head Deposits were encountered at a maximum height of 15.68m AOD to the north of the site, falling away to 13.24m AOD to the south. A total of 10 features were recorded during the investigation, including ditches or gullies, postholes and a possible surface. The geoarchaeology comprised a sequence of fine grained Brickearths overlying head gravels to a maximum observed depth of 2.6m. It is considered that these represent solifluction deposits derived from the downs to the north of the site and may overlie sediments associated with 250,000 year old Brighton-Norton Raised Beach.

The archaeological investigation succeeded in its general aim of ascertaining the character, quality and degree of survival of archaeological remains on the site. Although only a small quantity of features was encountered, a minority of these produced very interesting prehistoric pottery. Trenches 21a and 21b produced the most significant activity and an interesting cobbled feature was encountered within Trench 25. It would be prudent to conduct further archaeological work where there is proposed developmental impact in the area around Trenches 18 – 33.

The geoarchaeological investigation succeeded in broadly characterising Pleistocene sediments underlying the site. No artifacts or ecofacts were found associated with these deposits but the small scale of the investigation must be taken into account. The presence of fine grained Brickearths does offer the possibility of localised preservation of artifact scatters. The possibility of terrestrial, inter-tidal or marine deposits being present at greater depth is high.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Field Archaeology Unit (UCLFAU), were commissioned by Gifford to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the proposed site of the Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Lancing in advance of the construction of the new academy (NGR 517580 105250; Figure1).
- 1.1.2 Due to the potential for archaeological deposits to survive on the site Gifford proposed that an archaeological field evaluation take place in advance of development. They sought and obtained agreement for these proposed works from West Sussex County Council, and then designed the trench layout. The results of this evaluation will be used to assess the impact of the proposed development and for Gifford to put forward suitable mitigation measures for those impacts.
- 1.1.3 The site consists of existing school playing fields bounded to the north by the A27, to the east by Boundstone Lane, and to the south and west by residential buildings.

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The playing fields are generally level with a very slight drop to the south. The site occupies part of the Sussex coastal plain between the South Downs and the English Channel. The ground level of the site is some 15m above ordnance datum. The local topography forms part of the West Sussex Coastal Plain and is therefore low-lying, with a gentle incline dipping seawards to the south (Roberts and Pope, In Prep). The Coastal Plain is relatively narrow at this locality compared to its more extensive westerly expression, being only 2000m wide from north to south. The site is situated approximately 0.2km to the south of the inferred cliffline of the Brighton-Norton Raised Beach (see below). Given the altitude of the site it was considered possible from the start that deposits forming part of the terrestrial and marine facies of the Norton Formation (Bates *et al* 1997; Bates *et al* 1998a; Bates *et al* 1998b; Bates *et-al*; 2000), or associated overlying Head or Brickearth, would be present under the site.
- 1.2.2 The BGS Sheet 318 (1984) shows the site to be underlain by Cretaceous Chalk and Quaternary Head deposits (Young and Lake 1988). The latter can be readily seen in the Black Rock raised beach section, 16 km to the east, and form a series of bedded colluvial deposits comprising red to pinkish silts supporting consolidated beds of sub-angular chalk and flint gravel. Some of these beds are orientated in relation to the remnant chalk cliff of the Brighton-Norton Raised Beach and have bedding angles of up to 45 degrees orientated on a broadly n-s axis, dipping towards the south. Other associated deposits are of dry valley origin and have generally horizontal bedding angles and form the fill of north-south oriented valley profiles. A dry valley (Halewick Valley) exists to the east of the school site (c.200m).
- 1.2.3 The sediments mapped in the Lancing area form part of a wider sequence of deposits spread across 50km of the Coastal Plain of Sussex (Figure 1) and eastern Hampshire (Prestwich 1859; Roberts and Pope In Prep; Bates and

Wenban-Smith In Prep). Together they provide a detailed record of environmental change and the activities of extinct human species during alternating periods of warm and cold climate. In West Sussex these deposits are currently being mapped and investigated through mapping surveys, funded directly by English Heritage (Roberts and Pope In Prep; Bates and Wenban-Smith In Prep). This plain is an area of low relief, rising from sea level at the current channel coast to 50m OD. where it abuts the foot of the South Downs. The plain is underlain by Upper Chalk and Tertiary bedrock, which forms a continuous platform covered by sediments deposited during the past 0.5 million years. These overlying deposits include sands and gravels relating to a series of raised beaches which formed during warm intervals between longer periods of sub-arctic conditions (glacial).

- 1.2.4 The Brighton-Norton Raised Beach has been documented at a number of localities within West Sussex, being represented by sands, silts and beach deposits overlying a platform at between c.8-12m above sea-level. The beach itself has been traced along the foot of the Downs at Sussex Pad, north of Shoreham (Bates *et al* 1997), through Worthing close to the north of the railway line (Young and Lake 1988). Archaeological finds are admittedly rare from the Brighton-Norton formation compared to other raised beaches (Calkin 1934; Woodcock 1981; Roberts and Parfitt 1999). However, flint tools have been found occasionally from these deposits in West Sussex and the Brighton and Hove area and attest to human (Neanderthal) occupation at this time.

1.3 Aims and Objectives

- 1.3.1 The general research aims for the evaluation included:

'to ascertain the character, quality and degree of survival of archaeological remains on the site, the potential impact of development upon them and to publish the results'.

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This document represents the required evaluation report described in section 7.0. of the *Written Scheme of Investigation* prepared by ASE and subsequently approved by West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) prior to commencement of the work (ASE 2009).

1.5 Project Staff

- 1.5.1 The on-site archaeological work was carried out from the 24th of August to the 1st September 2009 by Andrew Margetts (Archaeologist) and Kathy Grant (Archaeologist), with on site assistance provided by Michelle Statton, Deon Whittaker, Liane Peyre and Dave Honess (Assistant Archaeologists). On site GPS survey was carried out by Lesley Davidson and Robert Cole (Surveyors). The project was managed by Jon Sygrave (Project Manager) and by Dan Swift (Post-Excavation Manager).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 For full discussion of the archaeological and historic background of the site, reference should be made to the *Tender Specification for Archaeological Evaluation* (Gifford 2009), which in turn built upon a desk-based assessment (DBA) of the site by L-P Archaeology (Young 2008) and is summarised below with due acknowledgement.
- 2.2 Potential for discoveries of earlier prehistoric activity at the site is considered to be low.
- 2.3 Two find spots close by the site imply that there may have been activity and settlement in the area during the Bronze Age. The location of a hoard discovered c. 800m to the north-west of the site has been subsequently surveyed, the results of which suggest the presence of a field system. The second find spot lies approximately 400m to the east of the site. This marks the recovery of a Middle Bronze Age incense cup, and several bowls and urns. The DBA concludes that there is a moderate to low potential for activity from this period to be present.
- 2.4 Although Iron Age activity in the area has been proven by excavation, the potential for evidence of this period being encountered at the site was considered to be moderate to low.
- 2.5 Roman burials to the east of the site, further burials and a Roman ditch at Sompting and a Romano Celtic Temple at Lancing Down, together with find spots and the possible Roman origins of the A27 led to the potential for Roman evidence to be encountered at the site being considered moderate to high.
- 2.6 The site was probably part of Cokeham manor in the medieval period and Cokeham remained the nearest area of settlement (300m to the south) into post-medieval times.
- 2.7 An archaeological evaluation and associated geoarchaeological investigations was undertaken in the existing college campus by Archaeology South-East in 2007 (Swift and Hart 2007). Although no archaeological features were encountered, activity dating to the prehistoric and early modern periods was evidenced by the recovery of residual finds.
- 2.8 An archaeological watching brief was also undertaken by Archaeology South East in 2007 at Boundstone Nursery School (Whittaker 2007). Again, no archaeological features were encountered but c.20 residual pieces of possibly early Neolithic flintwork were, however, recovered.
- 2.9 A previous geoarchaeological assessment was carried out close to the site by ARCDAS (Pine 2007). This was located just to the north of the investigated area and revealed sequences of weathered fine grained Head Deposits overlying intact Brickearth covering the weathered chalk at a depth of 1.5m. If this chalk represents intact, undisturbed cretaceous solid it suggests the Brighton-Norton cliff line lies to the south of this locality, potentially within the grounds of the school and within the area covered by our recent evaluation.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The methodology comprised machine excavation under archaeological supervision of 34 trial trenches, 29 of which measured 20m by 1.8m, four 10m by 1.8m and a single contingency trench which measured 6 by 1.8m (Figure 2). Two geoarchaeological test-pits were also excavated.
- 3.2 As the trenches were to be reinstated with turf, a visual record of the ground was made to record defects before works started.
- 3.3 The geoarchaeological test-pits were undertaken by Dr Matt Pope. Two geoarchaeological test pits were sited within the footprint of previously assessed and recorded evaluation trenches. The location of these trenches was agreed in advance with WSCC to provide the maximum coverage across the site by placing one at each extremity of the investigated area covered in the evaluation. The test pits each measured approximately 3m x 2m and were excavated to the surface of the solid (Cretaceous) geology. For the excavation, a mechanical excavator with toothless bucket was used which provided up to 4m reach. The pits were recorded on the basis of 0.25m spits and all units and unit boundaries were fully described following the methodology of Jones *et al.* (1999). Given the depth of the test pits, the arisings were placed in stratigraphic order to enable description and recording. Each test pit was undertaken either to prove the solid or to a maximum depth of 3m. During excavation, dry sieving of c.75kg of each sand and gravel unit took place to look for lithic artifacts. In conjunction with the sieving, the spoil was constantly checked for artifacts as the trench was dug. Sediments were recorded in the following manner. Beneath the modern horizons, the running section was recorded to allow the development of a series of detailed sediment logs. These comprised detailed sediment descriptions at 0.25m intervals or at the junction of major stratigraphic or lithological boundaries. The descriptions comprised matrix lithology, coarse components, sediment cohesion as well as characterisation of superficial structures and likelihood of decalcification. Given the presence of depositional contexts likely to preserve either artifactual or macrofaunal material at depths which are below the possibility of direct in-situ inspection, the arisings were placed in stratigraphical order to enable sieving, description and recording.
- 3.4 Care was taken to ensure that the plant did not damage the turf surface unduly.
- 3.5 An experienced metal-detectorist undertook the metal detecting survey, including the keeping of a metal-detecting log.
- 3.6 The trenches were fenced at all times.
- 3.7 The locations of the trenches were established using GPS.
- 3.8 The locations of the trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. The trenches were mechanically excavated using a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision.
- 3.9 Only undifferentiated topsoil, subsoil and overburden of recent origin was removed by machine and was kept separately. The excavation was

undertaken in spits of no more than 0.25m, down to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or to the top of the underlying 'natural', whichever was uppermost. All machining was undertaken under the supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist. Some modification to the trench positions were necessary due to obstructions. Significant variations to the trench layouts were discussed with Gifford and the WSCC Archaeologist.

- 3.10 Spoil was divided into topsoil, subsoil and made ground, as appropriate, and backfilled sequentially. Spoil was stored by the trench side on laid-out plastic sheeting to protect the turf.
- 3.11 Backfilling and compaction was undertaken by the machine on completion of the work in spits of 150mm. The trenches were then rotovated and new topsoil and turf laid by ISS Waterers Landscaping Ltd. The new surface will be maintained by the landscaping contractor until the new grass has taken, usually a period of around six weeks.
- 3.12 Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned with a metal detector, as was the spoil derived from excavated features.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

(Figures 2 - 4)

4.1.1 **Trench 1** was excavated to a length of c.10 metres and to depths of between c.0.5m (13.2m A.O.D) at the western end and to c.0.45m (13.24m A.O.D) at the eastern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
1/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	13.62m
1/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact, mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	N/A
1/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	13.24m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench, however, some modern disturbance was noted towards the eastern end.

4.1.2 **Trench 2** was excavated to a length of c.10 metres and to depths of between c.0.35m (13.29m A.O.D) mid-trench and to c.0.4m (13.12m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
2/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	13.6m
2/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	N/A
2/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	13.29m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.3 **Trench 3** was excavated to a length of c.10 metres and to depths of between 0.26m (13.46m A.O.D) at the northern end and to c.0.32m (13.41m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
3/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey	Tr.	Tr.	0.24m	13.71m

		brown.				
3/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.08m	N/A
3/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	13.46m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.4 **Trench 4** was excavated to a length of c.10 metres and to depths of between c.0.35m (13.35m A.O.D) at the eastern end and to c.0.35m (13.44m A.O.D) at the western end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
4/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	13.69m
4/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	N/A
4/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	13.44m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.5 **Trench 5** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to a depth of c.0.39m (14.25m A.O.D) at the eastern end and to a depth of c.0.55m (14.33m A.O.D) mid-trench, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
5/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	14.69m
5/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	N/A
5/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.33m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench, however, some modern disturbance was noted at the eastern end.

4.1.6 **Trench 6** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between 0.47m (14.61m A.O.D) at the northern end and to c.0.5m (14.75m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
6/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	14.99m
6/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.22m	N/A
6/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.75m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench, however, a modern service was noted at the southern end.

4.1.7 **Trench 7** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.37m (14.73m A.O.D) at the southern end and to c.0.39m (14.79m A.O.D) at the northern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
7/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	15.12m
7/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.19m	N/A
7/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.79m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench, however, a modern posthole was excavated towards the western end.

4.1.8 **Trench 8** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.40m (14.59m A.O.D) at the southern end and to c.0.44m (14.67m A.O.D) at the northern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
8/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	14.96m
8/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.24m	N/A
8/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.67m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench; however; some modern disturbance was noted at the eastern end.

4.1.9 **Trench 9** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to a depth of c.0.38m (14.27m A.O.D) at the eastern end and the same c.0. 38m (14.5m A.O.D) at the western end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
9/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	14.76m
9/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.18m	N/A
9/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.5m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.10 **Trench 10** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.35m (14.19m A.O.D) at the southern end and to c.0.39m (14.32m A.O.D) at the northern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
10/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	14.60m
10/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	N/A
10/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.32m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.11 **Trench 11** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.36m (14.78m A.O.D) at the western end and to c.0.5m (14.7m A.O.D) at the eastern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
11/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m	15.1m
11/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	N/A

		clay silt				
11/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.78m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.12 **Trench 12** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.38m (14.48m A.O.D) at the southern end and to c.0.5m (14.69m A.O.D) at the northern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
12/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m	14.98m
12/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	N/A
12/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.69m
12/004	Cut	Linear	Tr.	0.6m	0.33m	15.5m
12/005	Fill	Dark grey brown clay silt	Tr.	0.6m	0.33m	N/A

A single archaeological feature was encountered within the trench. Linear feature [12/004] measured c.0.6m wide, c.0.33m deep and ran the width of the trench. It had rounded sides and a flattish base and was filled by dark grey brown clay silt that contained inclusions of occasional fire-cracked flint (FCF) and frequent charcoal fragments, as well as finds of post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM). This feature was interpreted as a possible drainage or boundary gully or ditch.

4.1.13 **Trench 13** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.4m (14.25m A.O.D) at the western end and to c.0.51m (13.88m A.O.D) at the eastern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The trench was crossed by a modern tarmac path that was left intact.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
13/001	Layer	Top/Ploughsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.3m	14.5m
13/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown clay silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	N/A
13/003	Deposit	Natural. Mixed mid yellow brown silt clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.25m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.14 **Trench 14** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.43m (15.07m A.O.D) at the southern end and to c.0.44m (15.08m A.O.D) at the northern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
14/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.18m	15.38m
14/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	N/A
14/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.08m

No archaeological features were revealed within the trench, however, two modern postholes, thought to be goalposts, were encountered.

4.1.15 **Trench 15** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.4m (14.91m A.O.D) at the southern end and to c.0.4m (14.97m A.O.D) at the northern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
15/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	15.31m
15/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	N/A
15/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.97m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.16 **Trench 16** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.34m (14.68m A.O.D) at the eastern end and to c.0.34m (14.86m A.O.D) at the western end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
16/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m	14.97m
16/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact	Tr.	Tr.	0.22m	N/A

		mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions				
16/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.86m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.17 **Trench 17** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.31m (15.52m A.O.D) at the northern end and to c.0.4m (14.49m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
17/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m	14.82m
17/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.24m	N/A
17/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.52m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.18 **Trench 18** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.36m (14.78m A.O.D) at the eastern end and to c.0.37m (14.91m A.O.D) at the western end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
18/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	15.26m
18/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.17m	N/A
18/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.91m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.19 **Trench 19** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.35m (14.68m A.O.D) at the northern end and to c.0.36m (14.65m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
19/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	15.05m
19/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.21m	N/A
19/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.68m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.20 **Trench 20** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.32m (14.48m A.O.D) at the western end and to c.0.4m (14.63m A.O.D) at the eastern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
20/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m	14.78m
20/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.28m	N/A
20/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.63m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.21 **Trench 21a** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.39m (15.07m A.O.D) at the northern end and to c.0.4m (15.22m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
21a/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m	15.6m
21a/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.24m	N/A
21a/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.22m

21a/004	Fill	Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	1.5m	0.2m	N/A
21a/005	Cut	Linear	Tr.	1.5m	0.2m	15.17m
21a/006	Fill	Light grey brown clay silt	0.3m	0.3m	0.12m	N/A
21a/007	Cut	Posthole?	0.3m	0.3m	0.12m	15.19m
21a/008	Fill	Mid grey brown clay silt	0.28m	0.28m	0.05m	N/A
21a/009	Cut	Posthole?	0.28m	0.28m	0.05m	15.19m

Three archaeological features were identified within the trench. Situated towards the northern end was a linear feature measuring 1.5m in width, 0.2m in depth and running the width of the trench [21a/005]. It had gradually sloping sides to a fairly flat base and was filled by light brown yellow firm sandy clay [21a/004] that contained occasional angular flint nodules as well as 76 sherds of Mid-Late Bronze Age pottery and a quantity of worked flint. In addition to this ditch-like feature, two possible postholes were also encountered within the trench. [21a/007] comprised a 0.3m diameter, 0.12m deep feature with gradually sloping sides and a rounded base. It was filled by light grey brown clay silt [21a/006] that contained sherds of Mid-Late Bronze Age pottery and a piece of struck flint. To the south of [21a/007] was [21a/009], a 0.28m diameter and 0.05m deep feature that was filled by mid grey brown clay silt [21a/008]. This fill contained occasional inclusions of charcoal and burnt clay, as well as a small piece of post-medieval porcelain that may be intrusive.

4.1.22 **Trench 21b** was excavated to a length of c.6 metres and to depths of between c.0.4m (15.50m A.O.D) at the northern end and to c.0.4m (15.13m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
21b/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m	15.55m
21b/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.24m	N/A
21b/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.05m
21b/004	Fill	Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	1.18m	0.26m	N/A
21b/005	Cut	Linear	Tr.	1.18m	0.26m	15.12m

This trench was cut in order to trace linear feature [21a/005] and was additional to the submitted and approved trial trench location plan. It revealed the continuation of [21b/005] that comprised a 1.18m wide, 0.26m deep and 2m long linear feature with gradually sloping sides and a fairly flat base. This feature was filled by light brown yellow sandy clay that contained occasional inclusions of angular flint nodules as well as finds of worked and fire-cracked

flint. In addition to the finds there was also some evidence of in-situ burning from the upper levels of this fill.

4.1.23 **Trench 22** was excavated to a length of c.24 metres and to depths of between c.0.35m (14.56m A.O.D) at the eastern end and to c.0.4m (14.79m A.O.D) at the western end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
22/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.13m	15.1m
22/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.29m	N/A
22/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.79m
22/004	Fill	Light grey brown clay silt	Tr.	0.38m	0.13m	N/A
22/005	Cut	Linear	Tr.	0.38m	0.13m	14.70m
22/006	Fill	Light grey brown clay silt	Tr.	0.37m	0.12m	N/A
22/007	Cut	Linear	Tr.	0.37m	0.12m	14.67m

A single gully-like linear feature measuring c.0.4m in width, c.0.15m in depth and approximately 14m in length was identified running diagonally through the trench along a roughly ENE to SSW orientation. Two slots were excavated through this feature ([2/005] and [22/007]) showing it to have gradually sloping sides and a rounded base. It was filled by light grey brown clay silt that contained occasional inclusions of sub angular flint nodules ([22/004 and [22/006]). A single piece of fire-cracked flint was recovered from [22/004].

4.1.24 **Trench 23** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.41m (15.37m A.O.D) at the southern end and to c.0.46m (15.58m A.O.D) at the northern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
23/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	16.03m
23/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.28m	N/A
23/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.58

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.25 **Trench 24** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.39m (14.95m A.O.D) at the eastern end and to c.0.42m (15.16m A.O.D) at the western end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
24/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m	15.49m
24/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.22m	N/A
24/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.16m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench and a modern astro-turf cricket pitch was left *in situ*.

4.1.26 **Trench 25** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.38m (14.92m A.O.D) at the northern end and to c.0.48m (14.75m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
25/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m	15.22m
25/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.32m	N/A
25/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.92m
25/004	Deposit	Flint Cobbles	5m	2.5m	0.2m	14.85m

Towards the northern end of the trench a deposit of large flint cobbles were encountered. This feature was irregular in plan and was only one cobble (c.0.2m) deep. Extensions either side of the trench were excavated in order to investigate the extent of the feature and a 1m wide slot was dug through the middle. A suspension hook of indeterminate date was recovered from the surface of the feature and a single small sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date along with c.25 pieces of fire cracked flint (FCF) were recovered from amongst the cobbles themselves.

4.1.27 **Trench 26** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.46m (14.45m A.O.D) at the northern end and to c.0.63m (14.15m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
26/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.13m	14.89m
26/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.5m	N/A
26/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.45m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench and it was extremely disturbed through rooting derived from nearby trees.

4.1.28 **Trench 27** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.41m (15.02m A.O.D) at the southern end and to c.0.42m (15.07m A.O.D) at the northern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
27/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m	15.45m
27/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	N/A
27/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.07m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.29 **Trench 28** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.37m (14.87m A.O.D) at the western end and the same c.0.37m (14.64m A.O.D) at the eastern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
28/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	15.19m
28/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt	Tr.	Tr.	0.17m	N/A

		clay, occ. gravel inclusions				
28/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	14.87m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.30 **Trench 29** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.54m (15.68m A.O.D) at the western end and the same c.0.57m (15.43m A.O.D) at the eastern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
29/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.19m	16.2m
29/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.28m	N/A
29/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.68m
29/004	Fill	Light grey brown clay silt	-	>0.5m	0.11m	N/A
29/005	Cut	Linear (terminal?)	-	>0.5m	0.11m	15.37m
29/006	Fill	Light grey brown clay silt	0.6m	0.6m	0.11m	N/A
29/007	Cut	Linear	-	0.6m	0.11m	15.46m

A single linear feature was encountered within this trench and two slots were excavated to investigate it ([29/005], [29/007]). The 1.0m wide slot [29/007] offered the only complete profile of the feature, measuring 0.6m wide, 0.11m deep with gradually sloping sides and a rounded base. It was filled by [29/006], a light grey brown clay silt with occasional inclusions of small chalk fragments and sub-angular flint nodules. Finds of bone, shell and struck flint were retrieved from the fill. The other 1.0m wide slot [29/005] was excavated at the western end of the feature and consisted either of a ditch terminal or a possible turn into the baulk. It measured at least 0.5m wide and 0.11m deep and was filled with light grey-brown clay silt with occasional inclusions of small chalk fragments and sub-angular flint nodules ([29/004]). Finds of bone, glass, clay tobacco pipe, iron and post-medieval pottery were retrieved from the fill.

4.1.31 **Trench 30** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.37m (15.80m A.O.D) at the southern end and to c.0.44m (15.47m A.O.D) at the northern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
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30/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m	15.93m
30/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.28m	N/A
30/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.80m
30/004	Fill	Light grey brown clay silt	Tr.	2.4m	0.1m	N/A
30/005	Cut	Linear	Tr.	2.4m	0.1m	15.19m

A single archaeological feature ([30/005]) was encountered in this trench. It comprised a 2.4m wide, 0.1m deep and 1.8m long feature that had gradually sloping sides and a rounded base. It was filled by [30/004], a light grey brown clay silt that contained inclusions of occasional sub-angular flint nodules as well as finds of post-medieval pottery.

4.1.32 **Trench 31** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.39m (15m A.O.D) at the eastern end and the same c.0.44m (15.09m A.O.D) at the western end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
31/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m	15.47m
31/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.29m	N/A
31/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.09m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.33 **Trench 32** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.39m (15.65m A.O.D) at the eastern end and the same c.0.52m (15.29m A.O.D) at the western end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
32/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.17m	15.78m

32/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.34m	N/A
32/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.65m

No archaeological features were encountered within the trench.

4.1.34 **Trench 33** was excavated to a length of c.20 metres and to depths of between c.0.45m (15.02m A.O.D) at the northern end and to c.0.56m (14.88 m A.O.D) at the southern end, at which point Brickearth Head deposits were encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth	Height (mAOD)
33/001	Layer	Topsoil Clay silt, mid grey brown.	Tr.	Tr.	0.18m	15.41m
33/002	Layer	Subsoil, Compact mid grey brown silt clay, occ. gravel inclusions	Tr.	Tr.	0.38m	N/A
33/003	Deposit	Natural. Light brown yellow sandy clay	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	15.02m
33/004	Fill	Light grey brown clay silt	Tr.	1m	0.22m	N/A
33/005	Cut	Linear (terminal?)	Tr.	1m	0.22m	14.92m

A single archaeological feature ([33/005]) was encountered in this trench. It comprised a 1m wide, 0.22m deep and 1.8m long linear feature that had steeply sloping sides and a flattish base. It was filled by [33/004], a light grey brown clay silt that contained inclusions of occasional sub-angular flint nodules as well as finds of post-medieval pottery.

4.2 GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.2.1 The following observations were made at during the course of the geoaerchaeological evaluation.

SRWA Lancing GTP1 (Trench 25: Southern end)

Depth	Stratigraphy	Colour (Munsell)	Lithology	Clast Component	Notes
0	Topsoil	10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown	Silty Clay	10% angular flint gravel 10-30mm	
0.1	Subsoil	10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown	Clay Silt	<5% angular flint gravel 10-20mm	Possibly truncated in landscaping, very compact. Mixed contact with below
0.25	Brickearth	10YR 5/6 yellowish brown	Medium Sand	<5% patinated angular flint gravel 10-30mm	Very compact. Sharp contact with below.
0.65	Decalcified Head	10YR 5/6 yellowish brown	Silty clay	80% patinated angular flint gravel 10-40mm	Filling solution hollows into below.
1.7-2.6m	Calcareous Head	10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown	Clay Silt	.70% patinated angular flint gravel 10-60mm	To base of hole

Table 1: Recorded Sediment Log from GTP1

SRWA Lancing GTP2 (Trench 2: Northern End)

Depth	Stratigraphy	Colour (Munsell)	Lithology	Clast Component	Notes
0	Topsoil	10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown	Silty Clay	10% angular flint gravel 10-30mm	
0.1	Subsoil	10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown	Clay Silt	<5% angular flint gravel 10-20mm	Possibly truncated in landscaping, very compact. Mixed contact with below
0.25	Brickearth	10YR 5/6 yellowish brown	Medium Sand	<5% patinated angular flint gravel 10-30mm	Very compact. Sharp contact with below.
0.7	Decalcified Head	10YR 5/6 yellowish brown	Silty clay	80% patinated angular flint gravel 10-40mm	Filling solution hollows into below.
1.8-2.5m	Calcareous Head	10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown	Clay Silt	70% patinated angular flint gravel 10-60mm	Hole collapsing due to unstable Decalcified Head

Table 2: Recorded Sediment Log from GTP2

4.2.2 The recorded sections at each locality show a typical sequence through Quaternary Head Deposits of the Lower Coastal Plain of West Sussex. It demonstrates that, beneath topsoil and relatively thin subsoil, the site is underlain by silty clay Brickearth up to 0.5m in thickness (Figure 5). This

deposit gives way to Head Deposits, decalcified to a depth of 1.9m and thence calcareous to the maximum observed depth of 2.6m.

- 4.2.3 No artifacts, faunal fragments or molluscs were recovered from either test pit. 100litre bulk samples were retained for each unit and a further 250ml were assessed off site for micro debitage. Processing of these samples revealed no indication of human activity.

5 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSEMBLAGES

A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the archaeological work. A summary can be found in Appendix 1.

5.1 The later Bronze Age Pottery by Anna Doherty

- 5.1.1 An assemblage of 112 sherds weighing 1582g of Middle to Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered, mostly from two contexts in Trench 21. The pottery was examined using a x20 binocular microscope and quantified by sherd count and weight. A preliminary site-specific fabric type-series was defined according to the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (1995). However, fabrics on a continuum have been grouped quite broadly at present so, in the event of further excavation, fabric definitions may need to be reviewed if a larger assemblage is recovered. The condition of the pottery is generally quite good with some very large and fairly unabraded sherds, including one large stratified group which probably indicates some element of primary deposition on the site.

Fabrics groups

- FL1** Common ill-sorted flint mostly in the range c. 0.5-3mm (although very rare examples may be larger), in matrix with no visible quartz grains
- FL2** Common ill-sorted flint mostly in the range c.1-4mm but with some noticeably larger pieces up to 6mm in size, in a matrix with no visible quartz grains

- 5.1.2 Although most of the diagnostic material in the assemblage is more strongly associated with Middle Bronze Age, Deverel Rimbury (DR) traditions than with Late Bronze Age post-Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) wares, it is notable that only around a third of sherds are of the coarser FL2 fabric which would be more readily associated with the Middle Bronze Age. The much more common fabric, FL1, although almost always occurring on thick-walled vessels derived from the DR urn tradition, is of a type which often forms the coarsest element in plain ware PDR assemblages. A few of the FL1 sherds are quite thin-walled and have better finished surfaces, again indicating that this may be a transitional DR/PDR assemblage. Although the shift from DR to PDR styles is currently understood to occur around 1150BC, recent work on later Bronze Age assemblages from Sussex has led to emphasis on continuity over this period, especially in terms of fabrics (Every & Mephram 2006, 29; Seager-Thomas Unpublished b). One of the finer sherds features a burnt food residue suitable for C14 dating, which should refine the chronology of the key group from [21a/004].

- 5.1.3 An unusually high number of diagnostic feature sherds were recovered from this relatively small assemblage. Perhaps most notable are four conjoining bodysherds featuring a pierced lug-handle similar to that on Ellison's type 5 (1978, figures 5 and 33), although the curve of the wall suggests a taller vessel and, unlike type 5, it features a cordon which may be formed from the vessel wall, and which is decorated with fine, evenly-spaced fingernail impressions; there is also possible evidence of vertical combing below the cordon. As more DR assemblages have come to light, cultural similarities between the Sussex DR tradition and that in other regions, most notably the Ardleigh group, has been emphasised; however, pierced lugs remain a very distinctive trait of local DR assemblages (Seager-Thomas 2008, 37). Four

conjoining rim sherds from a simple squared rim form, with a tall barrel-shaped profile, are very similar to the handled sherds in terms of the oxidised firing colour, wall-thickness and fabric, and may therefore be from the same vessel. A number of similar bodysherds are also present, possibly indicating that the vessel was deposited partially intact. Two examples of more neutral bucket shaped urns were also recovered. Coarser, relatively crudely applied finger-impressed cordons feature on two different vessels. This decorative trait forms an essential element of DR assemblages in Sussex, as well as further afield (see Ellison 1978, types 10-13).

- 5.1.4 It should be noted that, individually, most of the above typological features continue to appear in smaller quantities in plain ware PDR assemblages of c. 1150-950 cal BC; however, there is an absence of clear PDR forms, particularly shouldered jars, in the substantial group from [21a/004]. One partially complete vessel, from fill [21a/006], features a simple rim and bag-like profile with an unusually small diameter of around 120mm. It appears to be well smoothed although its fabric is exceptionally coarse for a relatively thin-walled bowl/cup like vessel. Although this vessel is the only one in the assemblage which may be firmly attributable to the PDR tradition, the fabric is unusual, and further research on local parallels is therefore required. A single sherd, which may be residual within context 25/004, also showed possible evidence of finger-tipping: another typical PDR trait.

5.2 The Post Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

- 5.2.1 The archaeological work recovered a small assemblage of pottery, much of which came from unstratified deposits. All of the material is of 19th- century date. The unstratified material, from Trenches 5, 7, 8, 9 and 11 (totalling 11 sherds) is a typical range of domestic wares of the period. Coarsewares include an unglazed earthenware flower pot from T5 and a small English stoneware ink/blacking bottle from T11. Tablewares include two sherds from pearlware plates with blue shell-edged decoration, a transfer-printed pearlware plate/bowl (all from T9) as well as a few sherds of coloured and plain white refined earthenware.
- 5.2.2 Four sherds are from numbered contexts. Context [14/005] produced a tiny chip from a refined white earthenware saucer rim. The piece is likely to be of the second half of the 19th century but could easily be intrusive. Context [29/004] produced a small early 19th- century sherd of pearlware with black transfer-printed decoration and context [30/004] a large sherd from a 19th- century post-medieval redware storage jar. A complete (59mm di) plain pot lid in refined white earthenware and probably of the later 19th century was recovered from [33/004].

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

5.3.1 A total of three fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from the site. A single, unstratified, tile fragment from Trench 9 in a fine orange fabric with sparse fine quartz and black sand with sparse coarse silt inclusions is of unknown date. A small, abraded unstratified brick fragment from Trench 21 in a fine sandy fabric with moderate cream silt marbling and moderate fine quartz is also of unknown date. An abraded fragment of frogged brick from [T12/005] in Museum of London fabric MoL3032, a reddish purple fabric containing ashes and iron rich inclusions as well as ashes and occasional bone, is of mid 18th- to 19th-century date.

5.4 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

5.4.1 A single plain clay tobacco pipe (CTP) stem fragment was recovered from [29/004]. The piece is of 19th-century date.

5.4.2 Other than providing additional dating evidence, the piece is of no significance and no further work is required.

5.5 The Glass by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 An unstratified aqua kick fragment, i.e. from a mineral water bottle, was recovered from Trench 7. The piece is of 19th- to early 20th-century date. In addition, [29/004] contained a clear window glass fragment dating to the mid 19th- to 20th-century.

5.5.2 The assemblage is too small to be of any potential for further analysis. No further work is required.

5.6 The Registered Finds by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 Two finds were assigned unique registered finds numbers (RF <00>) and were recorded individually (Table 1). One of these is an iron suspension hook fragment (RF <1>), recovered from [25/004]. The same deposit contained a Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery sherd, implying the hook may be intrusive or the sherd residual. The hook cannot be closely dated. In addition, an iron possible spoon bit fragment (for woodworking) of late post-medieval date was recovered from [29/004].

CONTEXT	RF No	OBJECT	MATERIAL	PERIOD	WT (g)	Comments
25/004	1	HOOK	IRON	UNK	10	incomplete; suspension
29/004	2	TOOL	IRON	PMED	10	incomplete; ?spoon bit

Table 1. Overview of the Registered Finds.

5.6.2 The assemblage is small and undiagnostic of date and is therefore not considered to merit any further research. No further work is required.

5.7 The Bone by Gemma Driver

- 5.7.1 The bone assemblage contains two fragments of bone recovered from two contexts. Context [29/006] contains a rabbit mandible complete with incisors and cheek teeth. Context [29/004] contains a sheep-sized rib fragment displaying cut and knife marks. The bone is in a good condition with little evidence of surface erosion. There is no evidence of gnawing, burning or pathology on the bone.
- 5.7.2 Due to the size of the assemblage, the bone has no potential for further statistical analysis.

5.8 The Marine Shell by Elke Raemen

- 5.8.1 Only three shell fragments were recovered during excavations. The topsoil in Trench 8 contained a scallop fragment. Two mussel fragments were found in [29/006].
- 5.8.2 The assemblage is too small to be of any potential for further analysis. No further work is required.

5.9 The Flintwork by Chris Butler

- 5.9.1 A small assemblage of 24 pieces of worked flint weighing 331g was recovered during the evaluation excavations at Lancing (Table 1).
- 5.9.2 The assessment comprised a visual inspection of each bag, counting the number of pieces of each type of worked flint present, noting details of the range and variety of pieces, general condition, and the potential for further detailed analysis. Classification follows Butler (2005). A hand-written archive of the assemblage was produced at this stage.
- 5.9.3 The flint raw material is predominantly a dark grey to black coloured flint which has probably derived from a Downland source, apart from one or two pieces which may be beach pebble flint. A few pieces had a light grey patination and one piece was heavily patinated white with blue blotches.

Hard hammer-struck flakes	14
Soft hammer-struck flakes	1
Chips	2
Fragments	4
Two platform flake core	1
Combination tool	1
Notched piece	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>24</i>

Table 3: Prehistoric Flintwork

- 5.9.4 The majority of the assemblage comprises hard hammer-struck flakes, few of which have any indication of platform preparation. The single soft-hammer struck flake is likely to have been struck with a soft stone hammer, and also

has some retouch along one lateral edge. The fragments are mostly flake fragments although one is a medial fragment from a blade (21/unstrat), and may be the result of microlith production.

- 5.9.5 The core (T2/001) is a small flake core with two platforms at 90° to one another, although one face may have had some flakes removed from different edges, and resembles a discoidal core; there may also be evidence of some platform preparation.
- 5.9.6 There are two tools in the assemblage, the first being a fragment with a small notch (21/unstrat) on one edge. The second tool is a combination tool manufactured on a hard hammer-struck flake (31/002), and has abrupt retouch at the distal end to form a scraper, and two notches, one on each lateral edge, together with some additional retouch.
- 5.9.7 Although one or two of these pieces may be Mesolithic, it is likely that the majority of the assemblage is Neolithic or perhaps Early Bronze Age in date.
- 5.9.8 The majority of this assemblage is likely to be residual, and is too small and too broadly distributed for any meaningful further analysis. The exception to this would be the group of material from Trench 21; this concentration may suggest the presence of Neolithic/Bronze Age activity at this location.

5.10 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

- 5.10.1 Two pieces of 'slag' were recovered from the site. Trench 3 context [002] produced a small fragment of clinker, likely to be of 19th- century date while unstratified deposits in Trench 6 produced a single piece of iron smithing slag of indeterminate date.

5.11 The Environmental Samples by Lucy Allott

- 5.11.1 Four samples were taken to establish evidence for environmental remains including charred macrobotanicals, charred wood, bone, and molluscs. Sampling aimed to retrieve evidence for land use activities such as fuel use and agriculture as well as evidence for the past vegetation. Samples were taken from the fills of 4 linear features [29/004], [22/006], [21a/004] and [21b/004]
- 5.11.2 Samples were processed in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively and were air dried prior to sorting. The residues were passed through 4mm and 2mm geological sieves and each fraction sorted for environmental and artifact remains (Appendix 2). The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at magnifications of x7-45 and an overview of their contents recorded (Appendix 3).
- 5.10.3 The flots from these samples were dominated by uncharred vegetation including small roots, seeds and fruiting structures which provide evidence for modern post-depositional disturbances. In addition, wood charcoal and very poorly preserved cereal grain fragments were also noted, however these were infrequent. Two roundwood charcoal fragments, measuring less than

2cm in diameter, were hand collected from [12/005], the fill of a linear feature. The samples also produced a small quantity of land snail molluscs, fish bone, industrial debris, cbm and pot fragments.

- 5.10.4 Due to the prominence of uncharred vegetation in these samples it is possible that any environmental remains present have been subject to post-depositional movement within the soils. Given the potential for disturbances no further identifications have been provided for the charcoal fragments as they are not considered suitable for radiocarbon dating. In addition there are too few charred macrobotanical remains, charcoal or other environmental remains to provide evidence for land use or past vegetation.

6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The recorded sequence indicates that the entire site is underlain by Quaternary Head Deposits. These take the form of fine grained Brickearths, comprising both water-lain and windblown clay to silt sized particles and underlying Head Gravel derived from erosion of the Downlands to the north. The depth of these Head Deposits (>2.6m) compares markedly with the relatively shallow depth of Head (0.5m) recorded to the immediate north of the site by ARCDAS in 2007. This suggests that the cliff line of the Brighton Norton Raised beach may cross the site and gives rise to the inferred step in the underlying chalk surface.
- 6.2 It was found during the project that the site had received some degree of disturbance of modern origin. This mainly comprised light truncation in the area of Boundstone Nursery School. It is most probable that this disturbance relates to construction activities monitored previously by ASE (Whittaker, 2007). Disturbance via rooting across the site proved to be negligible, the only significant impact from bio-turbation occurring in the area of Trench 26. Ploughing was evidenced at the site by deep scars that had created thick subsoil deposits truncating the upper levels of archaeological features. It is also a possibility that some of this truncation may be due to leveling of the site to create the existing playing field.
- 6.3 Post-medieval features at the site were readily recognizable due to their relatively dark fills and inclination to hold marl from comparatively recent ploughing. Prehistoric features on the other hand were difficult to recognize due to the similarity between their fill deposits and the surrounding natural matrix. This discrepancy in recognition was compounded due to the extended period of dry weather during which the fieldwork was undertaken. This said any deposits that showed a possibility of being derived from archaeological activity (i.e. the presence of FCF in trench bases) were tested by means of mattock slots and wetting.
- 6.4 This investigation succeeded in identifying archaeological features on the site. For the most part, these appear to comprise linear features with two discrete postholes and a cobbled 'surface'. Features were distributed throughout the site, Trench 21, however, shows a particular concentration of prehistoric activity.

- 6.5 The earliest activity encountered comprised unstratified flintwork of possible Mesolithic date probably derived from transient activity relating to this period at the site.
- 6.6 Activity of Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date is also represented at the site by flintwork (mainly retrieved from unstratified contexts). This serves to reinforce the evidence for activity of this date retrieved from earlier investigations in the immediate vicinity (e.g. Whittaker 2007).
- 6.7 Mid-Late Bronze Age activity was encountered at the site and was largely evidenced in the area of Trench 21a and 21b. Features corresponding to this phase include a single or perhaps two linear features ([21a/005] and [21b/005]), probably constituting a truncated ditch or ditches as well as a posthole [21a/007]. The substantial quantity of pottery, together with evidence of burning from these features and posthole [21a/009] which may also be of this date (although the only find from its fill comprised a small piece of possibly intrusive post-medieval pottery), may suggest possible occupation activity in this area. The large amount of pottery sherds retrieved from the fill of [21a/005] are also interesting in that they may be derived from an episode/s of structured deposition and be of transitional DR/PDR significance. If further work is undertaken at the site and/or publication is required the significance of this pottery assemblage is outlined below.
- 6.8 Additionally, the possible cobble surface in Trench 25 may be an area of hard-standing of Bronze Age date, perhaps in proximity to a waterhole or well for example. However, the finding of an iron suspension hook, if not an intrusive find, seems to imply that this feature is much later in date.
- 6.9 Ditches containing post-medieval pottery were encountered in Trenches 12, 29, 30 and 33. The ditches in Trenches 29, 30 and 33 may well form sections of the same feature, most likely a post-medieval boundary or drainage feature. The ditch in Trench 12 did not appear in any other trench, though this is perhaps as it fell south of Trench 17 and north of Trench 11.
- 6.10 Most of the Bronze Age pottery comes from one well-stratified ditch fill [21a/004], which contained a significant number of diagnostic feature sherds making it of clear regional importance, especially if a reliable C14 date can be obtained. Further analysis should include a consideration of [21a/004] as a possible placed deposit as well as a discussion of function and status, making reference to other local DR assemblages from both domestic and funerary contexts, including: Roundstone Lane, Angmering; Centenary House, Worthing; Fordacres, Climping; Varley Halls; Mile Oak Farm and Downsview (Seager-Thomas Unpublished a, b & c; Hamilton 1997; 2002 a & b). At present this is estimated to require around 2 days for further reading and the preparation of a publication text; however, if the site is subject to further excavation, the current assemblage should be fully integrated and analysed in conjunction with any other pottery recovered.
- 6.11 Seven vessels from the current assemblage are suitable for illustration and provision should be made for an AMS date on one sample of burnt food residue from [21a/004].
- 6.12 In conclusion, the archaeological investigation succeeded in its general aim of ascertaining the character, quality and degree of survival of archaeological

remains on the site. Although only a small quantity of features were encountered, a minority of these produced interesting prehistoric material. Trenches 21a and 21b produced the most significant activity and an interesting cobbled feature was encountered within Trench 25. It would be prudent to conduct further archaeological work where there is proposed developmental impact in the area around Trenches 18 – 33.

- 6.13 The geoarchaeological assessment determined the presence of fine grained Pleistocene sedimentation at the site at relatively shallow depth. Such deposits offer the potential for preserving intact signatures of ancient human activity and palaeoenvironmental evidence. However, no humanly modified material or ecofacts were recovered during the limited investigation. Further work could be considered to sample more extensive areas of the Brickearth at the site. The high possibility that the Brighton-Norton Raised Beach crosses the site is of palaeogeographical significance. This could be tested by limited borehole survey and this work should be considered desirable if any element of the proposed development impacts below 2.5m depth.

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Appendix 1: Finds Quantification

Context	Pot	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Shell	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)	Charcoal	Wt (g)
2/001									1	64	2	68								
3/002																	1	<2		
4/003											1	64								
T5	3	8									1	32								
T6	1	6									1	86					1	44		
T7	1	6																		
7/002	6	14																		
T8	1	6					1	2												
T9	5	36	1	4							1	22								
T11	1	94																		
12/005			1	72															2	4
14/003									1	16										
T21	2	8	1	<2					5	54	2	34								
21a/004	76	1412							13	122										
21a/006	31	154							1	4										
21b/004									1	32	2	58								
22/004											1	18								
25/004	1	6									17	208								
29/004	1	4			1	2							1	<2	1	<2				
29/006					1	<2	2	<2	2	8										
30/004	1	108																		
31/002									1	30										
33/004	1	34																		
Total	132	1896	3	76	3	8	3	2	25	330	28	590	1	0	1	0	2	44	2	4

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

Sample Number	Context	Sample Volume litres	sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Molluscs	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	29/004	20	20	*	<2	*	<2			*	<2	*	4	FCF */12g, POT */ 2g, GLASS */<2g, INDUSTRIAL WASTE */6g
2	22/006	20	20			*	<2							FCF */<2g
3	21a/004	20	20	*	<2	*	<2							POT */22g, FCF */<2g
4	21b/004	20	20			*	<2	* Indet cerealia	<2					FCF */48g, CBM **/68g

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

Sample Number	Context	Flot volume ml	Uncharred %	sediment %	seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	other botanical charred	Identifications	Preservation	LSS
1	29/004	40	80	10	**	*	**	***	*	Cerealia indet.	+	*	cpr indet	+	**
2	22/006	10	98		**		*	**				*	cpr indet	+	
3	21a/004	15	85	10	**	*	**	***				*	cpr indet	+	**
4	21b/004	20	80	10	**		*	**				*	cpr indet	+	**

SMR Summary Sheet

Site Code	WOO09					
Identification Name and Address	Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Lancing, West Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	Worthing, West Sussex					
Ordnance Survey Grid Reference	TQ 17580 05250					
Archaeology South-East Proj. No.	4012					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other Playing Field ✓		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 24.07.09- 01.08.09	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Gifford					
Project Manager	Jon Sygrave					
Project Supervisor	Andy Margetts					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso. ✓?	Neo. ✓	BA ✓	IA ✓	RB
	AS	MED	PM ✓	Other		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p>Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the UCL Institute of Archaeology, were commissioned by Gifford, on behalf of West Sussex County Council, to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Lancing (NGR 517580 105250) in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The work took place from the 24th of August to the 1st September 2009.</p> <p>A total of 34 trenches were excavated by machine across the site. Brickearth Head Deposits were encountered at a maximum height of 15.68m AOD to the north of the site, falling away to 13.24m AOD to the south. A total of 10 features were recorded during the investigation, including ditches or gullies, postholes and a possible surface.</p> <p>The archaeological investigation succeeded in its general aim of ascertaining the character, quality and degree of survival of archaeological remains on the site. Although only a small quantity of features was encountered a minority of these produced interesting prehistoric material. Trenches 21a and 21b produced the most significant activity and an interesting cobbled feature was encountered within Trench 25.</p>						

OASIS ID: archaeol6-64663

Project details

Project name	Sir Robert Woodard Academy
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the UCL Institute of Archaeology, were commissioned by Gifford, on behalf of West Sussex County Council, to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Lancing (NGR 517580 105250) in advance of the redevelopment of the site . The work took place from the 24th of August to the 1st September 2009. A total of 34 trenches were excavated by machine across the site. Brickearth Head Deposits were encountered at a maximum height of 15.68m AOD to the north of the site, falling away to 13.24m AOD to the south. A total of 10 features were recorded during the investigation, including ditches or gullies, postholes and a possible surface. The archaeological investigation succeeded in its general aim of ascertaining the character, quality and degree of survival of archaeological remains on the site. Although only a small quantity of features was encountered; a minority of these produced interesting prehistoric material. Trenches 21a and 21b produced the most significant activity and an interesting cobbled feature was encountered within Trench 25.
Project dates	Start: 01-07-2009 End: 24-08-2009
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WOO09 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	DITCH Bronze Age
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Mesolithic
Significant Finds	FLINT Neolithic
Significant Finds	POTTERY Bronze Age
Significant Finds	FINDS Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'

Development type	Large/ medium scale extensions to existing structures (e.g. church, school, hospitals, law courts, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX WORTHING WORTHING Sir Robert Woodard Academy
Postcode	BN15 9XX
Study area	1.90 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 17580 05250 50.8342540463 -0.330079004737 50 50 03 N 000 19 48 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 13.24m Max: 15.68m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	west sussex county council
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Jon Sygrave
Project supervisor	Andrew Margetts
Type of sponsor/funding body	consultant
Type of sponsor/funding body	County Council
Name of sponsor/funding body	Gifford

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive Exists? No

Paper Archive Exists? No

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An Archaeological Evaluation at Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Lancing, West Sussex

Author(s)/Editor(s) Margetts, A.

Other bibliographic details ASE Report No: 2009136

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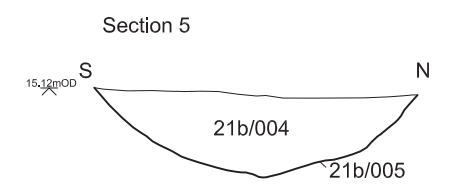
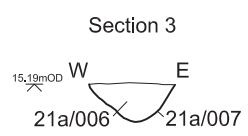
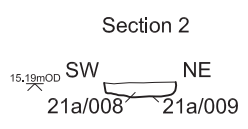
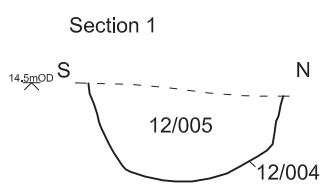


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Project Ref: 4012	Sept 2009	Site location		
Report Ref: 2009136	Drawn by: JLR			

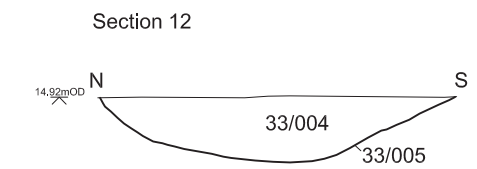
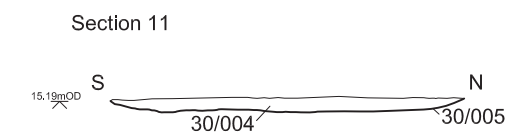
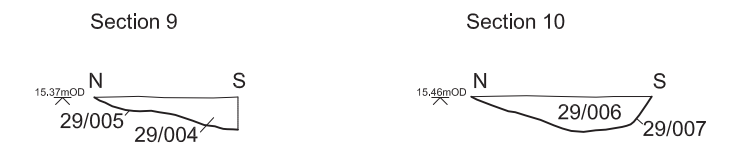
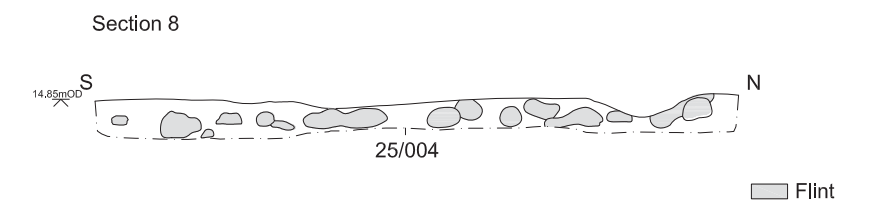
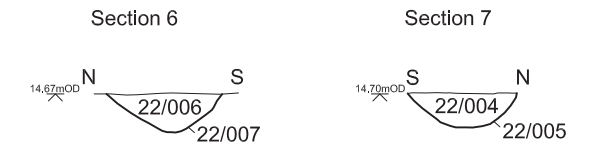
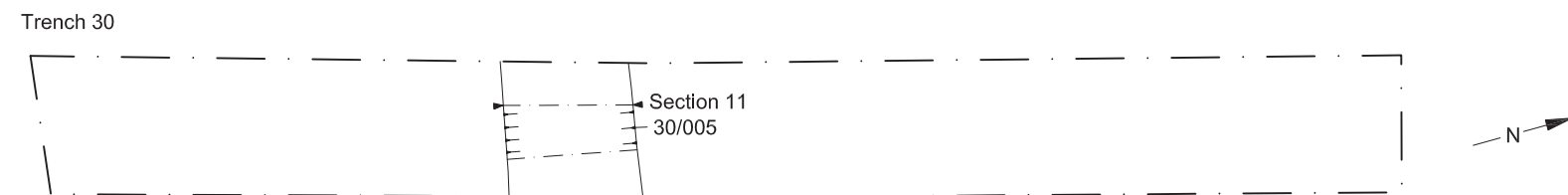
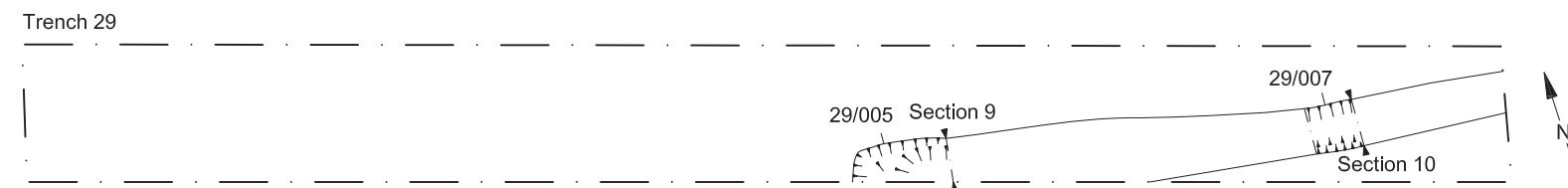
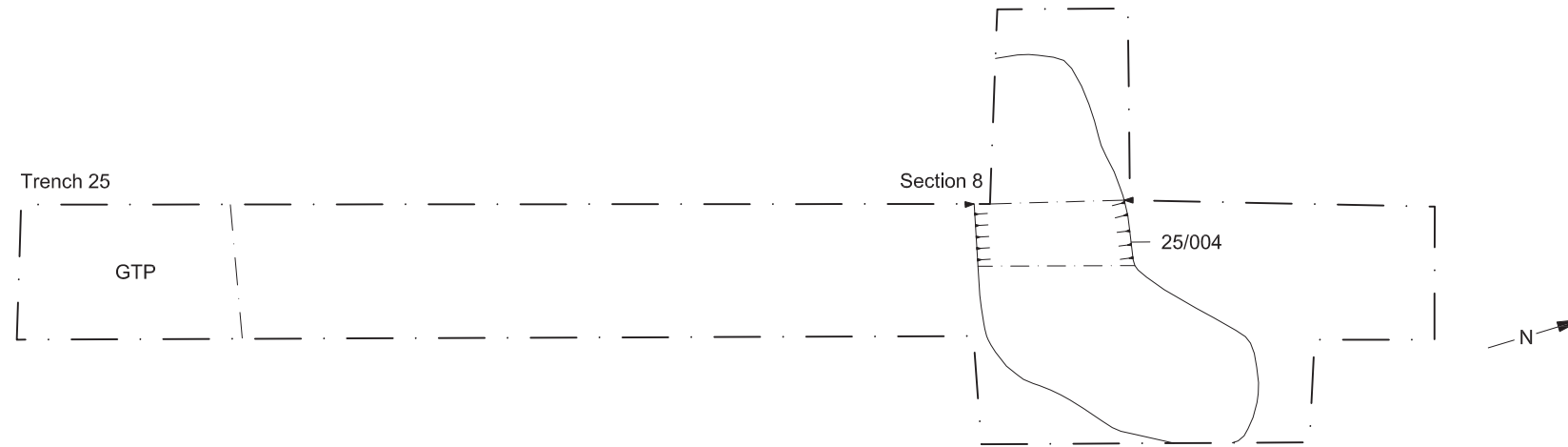
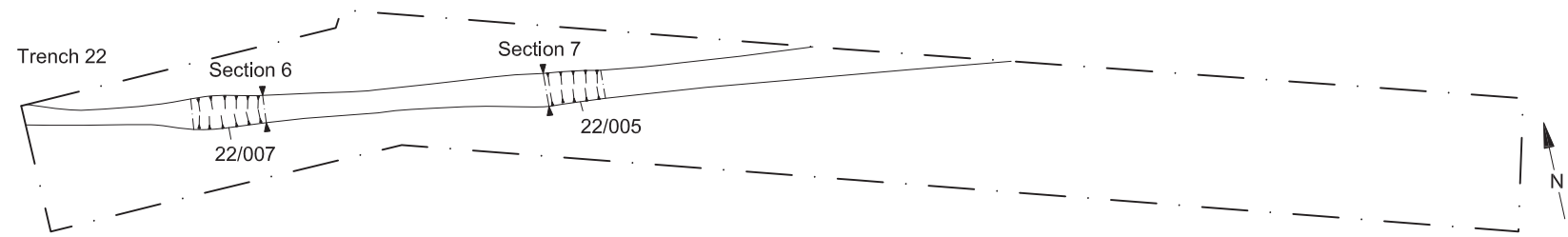
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Project Ref: 4012	Sept 2009	Trench location		
Report Ref: 2009136	Drawn by: HLF			



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Project Ref: 4012	Sept 2009	Plans and sections		
Report Ref: 2009136	Drawn by: JLR			





Observed sedimentary sequence through GPT1. Section shows brickearth overlying head deposits.

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Project Ref: 4012	Sept 2009			
Report Ref: 2009136	Drawn by: JLR			

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