

**An Archaeological Evaluation at land at Provender,
Provender Lane, Norton, Faversham, Kent**

Planning Ref: SW/06/150

**NGR 597240, 160798
(TQ 97240 60798)**

**Project No: 4009
Site Code: PLN 09**

**ASE Report No. 2009154
OASIS id: archaeol6-66065**

Nick Garland

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**Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR**

**Tel: 01273 426830
Fax: 01273 420866
Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk**

Abstract

A programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Provender, Provender Lane, Norton, Near Faversham, Kent. The work was undertaken between the 5th and 7th of October 2009 on behalf of Eastland. Ten evaluation trenches sampled the archaeology across the site. The natural horizon varied in depth from 40.17m OD in the north of the site and 41.95m OD in the south of the site. No archaeological remains, deposits or artefacts were discovered.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contacting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, were commissioned by Eastland to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development on land at Provender Lane, Norton near Faverham, Kent (NGR TQ 97240 60798).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site is located to the west of Provender Lane and is bounded on all sides by fields used for agriculture. Three buildings lie opposite the site on the other side of the road.

1.2.2 The British Geological Survey (BGS) sheet (274) shows that the site lies on Thanet Beds.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning permission was granted by Swale Borough Council for the erection of various homes on the site. Following consultation between Swale County Council and The Heritage Conservation Group at Kent County Council, a condition was attached to the permission requiring that:

'No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implantation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.'

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.'

1.3.2 A Specification for the work was produced by the Heritage Conservation Group, Kent County Council (KCC) and consisted of a site specific element (*Part A*) and a set of guidelines covering general procedures (*Part B*) (KCC 2009). In combination, these documents outlined the methods to be used during the archaeological evaluation of the site, namely the excavation and recording of ten 20m x 1.8m archaeological evaluation trenches.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The aims of the work were outlined in Kent County Councils Site Specific Requirements and are summarised below with due acknowledgement (KCC 2009).

- Is there any further evidence of medieval or bronze age activity in the development area?
- Is there any evidence for other prehistoric, Roman or Saxon activity in the development area?
- Is there any evidence for post-medieval activity on the site?

- What impact will the development proposals have on any buried archaeology?

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report details the findings of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Nick Garland between the 5th and 7th October 2009. The project was managed by Darryl Palmer (Senior Project Manager) and Jim Stevenson (Project Manager, Post-Excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by Kent County Council, and held at County Hall, Maidstone, was consulted and the results are summarised below. Details were taken of all archaeological sites and listed buildings within a 500 metre radius of the centre of the Site. Only archaeology dating to the Bronze Age, medieval and post-medieval periods was encountered during this search. The identified sites (numbered 1 – 10) are discussed below, tabulated in Appendix 1 and plotted on Figure 1.

2.2 Archaeological Periods Represented

2.2.1 Bronze Age

A possible Bronze Age enclosure (1: TQ 96 SE 36 / MKE3571) was located to the north-east of the site. It has been identified through aerial photographs of the area as well as soil colour differences noted at the site.

2.2.2 Medieval

Two other buildings of medieval date, Whitbourne Cottage (2: TQ 96 SE 1116 / MKE 34305) to the south-west of the site and Barbary Farmhouse (3: TQ 96 SE 1129 / MKE 34439) located to the north-east of the site, were located within the study area. Both buildings are Grade II Listed buildings predominantly built in the 15th century, while Whitbourne cottage is of a timber frame construction.

The largest building of medieval origin within the study area is Provender (4: TQ 96 SE 1152 / MKE 34440), located immediately to the east of the site. It was originally constructed in the 15th century but has since been restored and extended both in the medieval and modern periods (TQ 96 SE 30 / MKE 3565).

2.2.3 Post-Medieval

Five buildings of post-medieval date were located within the study area. The Old Rectory (5: TQ 96 SE 1094 / MKE 33022) lay to the north-east of the site and was predominantly built in the 18th century. Provender Farmhouse (6: TQ 96 SE 1107 / MKE33027) and the garden walls of Provender (7: TQ 96 SE 1104 / MKE 33294) were both associated with the continued occupation of earlier medieval building Provender. Both structures are Grade II Listed buildings. The Farmhouse is timber framed in construction and was built between 1500-1750 and the garden walls were built in the 18th century. Both structures are located to the east of the site.

Horse wheel (8: TQ 96 SE 1068 / MKE33293) is a Grade II Listed building, built in the 18th century and located to 15 metres from the Barbary Farmhouse, mentioned above. The Coach House and stables (9: TQ 96 SE 1106 / MKE33295) are also a Grade II listed building built in the 18th century. Both buildings are located to the north-east of the site.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1** Ten trial trenches, measuring 20m x 1.8m, were machine excavated across the area of proposed development under archaeological supervision (Figure 2).
- 3.2** The positioning of the trenches was slightly inhibited by the location of patches of thick vegetation on the study area and trenches were moved to order to avoid them. Figure 2 shows the affected areas.
- 3.3** The trial trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT). All of the trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision, using a 21 tonne 360° tracked excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Revealed surfaces were manually cleaned in an attempt to identify any archaeological deposits or features. The sections of the trenches were selectively cleaned to observe and record their stratigraphy. All spoil removed from the trenches was scanned visually and with a metal detector for the presence of any stray, unstratified artefacts.
- 3.4** All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the KCC Specification, using pro-forma context record sheets. Archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 and sections generally drawn at a scale of 1:10. Deposit colours were verified by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- 3.5** A full photographic record of the trenches and associated deposits and features was kept (including monochrome prints, colour slides and digital), and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices at Portslade, East Sussex, and will in due course be offered to a suitable local museum.
- 3.6** Only undifferentiated topsoil, subsoil and overburden of recent origin was removed by machine and kept separately. The excavation was taken, in spits of no more than 0.1m for the topsoil and subsoil, down to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the top of the underlying 'natural'.

Number of Contexts	30 contexts
No. of files/paper record	1 folder
Plan and sections sheets	1 sheets
Photographs	10 colour slides, 10 B+W, 20 digital

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.22 m	41.525
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.18 m	41.305
1/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.125

Table 2: Recorded Contexts within Trench 1

Summary

4.1.1 The natural [1/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 40.82 OD in the north of the trench and 41.43 OD in the south of the trench. Subsoil layer [1/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [1/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

4.2 Trench 2

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.30 m	41.135
2/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.18 m	40.835
2/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	40.655

Table 3: Recorded Contexts within Trench 2

Summary

4.2.1 The natural [2/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 40.77 OD in the east of the trench and 40.54 OD in the west of the trench. Subsoil layer [2/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [2/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

4.3 Trench 3

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.27 m	40.995
3/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.22 m	40.725
3/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	40.505

Table 4: Recorded Contexts within Trench 3

Summary

4.3.1 The natural [3/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 40.65 OD in the east of the trench and 40.35 OD in the west of the trench. Subsoil layer [3/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [3/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

4.4 Trench 4

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.22 m	41.055
4/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.18 m	40.835
4/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	40.655

Table 5: Recorded Contexts within Trench 4

Summary

4.4.1 The natural [4/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 40.44 OD in the north of the trench and 40.87 OD in the south of the trench. Subsoil layer [4/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [4/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

4.5 Trench 5

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.27 m	40.895
5/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.26 m	40.625
5/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	40.365

Table 6: Recorded Contexts within Trench 5

Summary

4.5.1 The natural [5/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 40.56 OD in the east of the trench and 40.17 OD in the west of the trench. Subsoil layer [5/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [5/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

4.6 Trench 6

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.26 m	41.41
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.2 m	41.15
6/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	40.95

Table 7: Recorded Contexts within Trench 6

Summary

4.6.1 The natural [6/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 41.05 OD in the east of the trench and 40.85 OD in the west of the trench. Subsoil layer [6/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [6/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

4.7 Trench 7

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.3 m	41.81
7/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.26 m	41.51
7/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.25

Table 8: Recorded Contexts within Trench 7

Summary

4.7.1 The natural [7/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 41.29 OD in the east of the trench and 41.20 OD in the west of the trench. Subsoil layer [7/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [7/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

4.8 Trench 8

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.22 m	41.77
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.2 m	41.55
8/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.35

Table 9: Recorded Contexts within Trench 8

Summary

4.8.1 The natural [8/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 41.24 OD in the north of the trench and 41.46 OD in the south of the trench. Subsoil layer [8/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [8/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

4.9 Trench 9

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.2 m	42.02
9/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.33 m	41.84
9/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.51

Table 10: Recorded Contexts within Trench 9

Summary

4.9.1 The natural [9/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 41.42 OD in the east of the trench and 41.59 OD in the west of the trench. Subsoil layer [9/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [9/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

4.10 Trench 10

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A	0.22 m	42.29
10/002	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A	0.2 m	42.07
10/003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.87

Table 11: Recorded Contexts within Trench 10

Summary

4.10.1 The natural [10/003], a mid orange silty clay with moderate small and medium sub-angular flint inclusions, was observed between 41.79 OD in the north of the trench and 41.95 OD in the south of the trench. Subsoil layer [10/002], a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stone inclusions lay over the natural and underneath a layer of topsoil [10/001]. No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Conclusion of Aims

5.2 During the evaluation of this site no archaeological deposits, features or finds were uncovered. It was not therefore possible to make a connection between the occupation of this site and the archaeological material within the immediate area.

5.3 The lack of archaeological remains throughout the evaluation trenches indicates that the proposed development is unlikely to impact on buried archaeological remains.

5.4 Evidence of disturbance of the site was confined to the topsoil and subsoil deposits, which had been rotovated in recent years (Richard East *pers comm*), however, this had not affected the level of the natural horizon. Vegetation on the site had encouraged rooting of some parts of the natural but only in isolated areas.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

KCC 2009. *Specification for an archaeological evaluation of land at Provender, Provender Lane, Norton near Faversham in Kent*. Unpub grey literature

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The assistance of Richard East, the client, and Adam Single of Kent County Council is gratefully acknowledged.

Appendix 1:

Gazetteer of Sites and Finds within a 500 m Radius of land at Provender, Norton, Faversham.

	NGR	SMR Reference	Period	Details/Description
1.	TR 9730 6092	TQ 96 SE 36 - MKE3571	Bronze Age	BRONZE AGE ENCLOSURE Possible Bronze Age enclosure seen in curvilinear crop mark and soil colour differences.
2.	TR 9695 6065	TQ 96 SE 1116 - MKE34305	Medieval	WHITBOURNE COTTAGE Grade II timber framed Listed Building built in the 15 th century.
3.	TR 9748 6121	TQ 96 SE 1129 - MKE34439	Medieval	BARBARY FARMHOUSE Grade II Listed building built in the 15 th century.
4.	TR 9737 6080	TQ 96 SE 1152 - MKE34440	Medieval to post-medieval	PROVENDER Grade II Listed building predominantly constructed in the 15th century, since restored and enlarged.
5.	TR 9741 6126	TQ 96 SE 1094 - MKE33022	Post-medieval	THE OLD RECTORY Post-medieval timber framed house predominantly built in the 18 th century.
6.	TR 9734 6071	TQ 96 SE 1107 - MKE33027	Post-medieval	PROVENDER FARMHOUSE Grade II timber framed Listed building built predominantly 1500-1750.
7.	TR 9737 6082	TQ 96 SE 1104 - MKE33294	Post-medieval	GARDEN WALLS OF PROVENDER Grade II Listed built predominantly built in 18 th century.
8.	TR 9744 6120	TQ 96 SE 1068 - MKE33293	Post-medieval	HORSE WHEEL Grade II listed building predominantly built in the 18 th century, 15 metres to W of Barbary farmhouse.

9.	TR 9739 6126	TQ 96 SE 1106 - MKE33295	Post-medieval	COACH HOUSE AND STABLES Grade II Listed building built predominantly in the 18 th century, 15 metres west of the old rectory.
10.	TR 9737 6080	TQ 96 SE 30 - MKE3565	Post-medieval to modern	PROVENDER Grade II timber framed Listed building – earliest sections constructed in the 16 th century.

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	PLN 09					
Identification Name and Address	Land at Provender, Provender Lane, Norton, Faversham, Kent					
County, District &/or Borough	Faversham, Swale, Kent					
OS Grid Refs.	597240, 160798					
Geology	Thanet Beds					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4009					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 5/10/09 to 7/10/09	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Eastland					
Project Manager	Darryl Palmer					
Project Supervisor	Nick Garland					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modern		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>A programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Provender, Provender Lane, Norton, Near Faversham, Kent. The work was undertaken between the 5th and 7th of October 2009 on behalf of Eastland. Ten evaluation trenches sampled the archaeology across the site. The natural horizon varied in depth from 40.17m OD in the north of the site and 41.95m OD in the south of the site. No archaeological remains, deposits or artefacts were discovered.</i></p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-66065

Project details

Project name	Land at Provender, Provender Lane, Norton
Short description of the project	A programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Provender, Provender Lane, Norton, Near Faversham, Kent. The work was undertaken between the 5th and 7th of October 2009 on behalf of Eastland. Ten evaluation trenches sampled the archaeology across the site. The natural horizon varied in depth from 40.17m OD in the north of the site and 41.95m OD in the south of the site. No archaeological remains, deposits or artefacts were discovered.
Project dates	Start: 05-10-2009 End: 07-10-2009
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	PLN09 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	KENT SWALE FAVERSHAM Land at Provender, Provender Lane, Norton
Postcode	ME13 O
Study area	8042.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 97420 60798 51.3114140941 0.833001882465 51 18 41 N 000 49 58 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 40.17m Max: 41.95m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	Kent County Council
Project design	Kent County Council

originator

Project director/manager Darryl Palmer

Project supervisor Nick Garland

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body Eastland

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Local Museum

Digital Contents 'Survey'

Digital Media available 'Survey','Text'

Paper Archive recipient Local Museum

Paper Contents 'Survey'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Map','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Report','Survey '

Project bibliography

1

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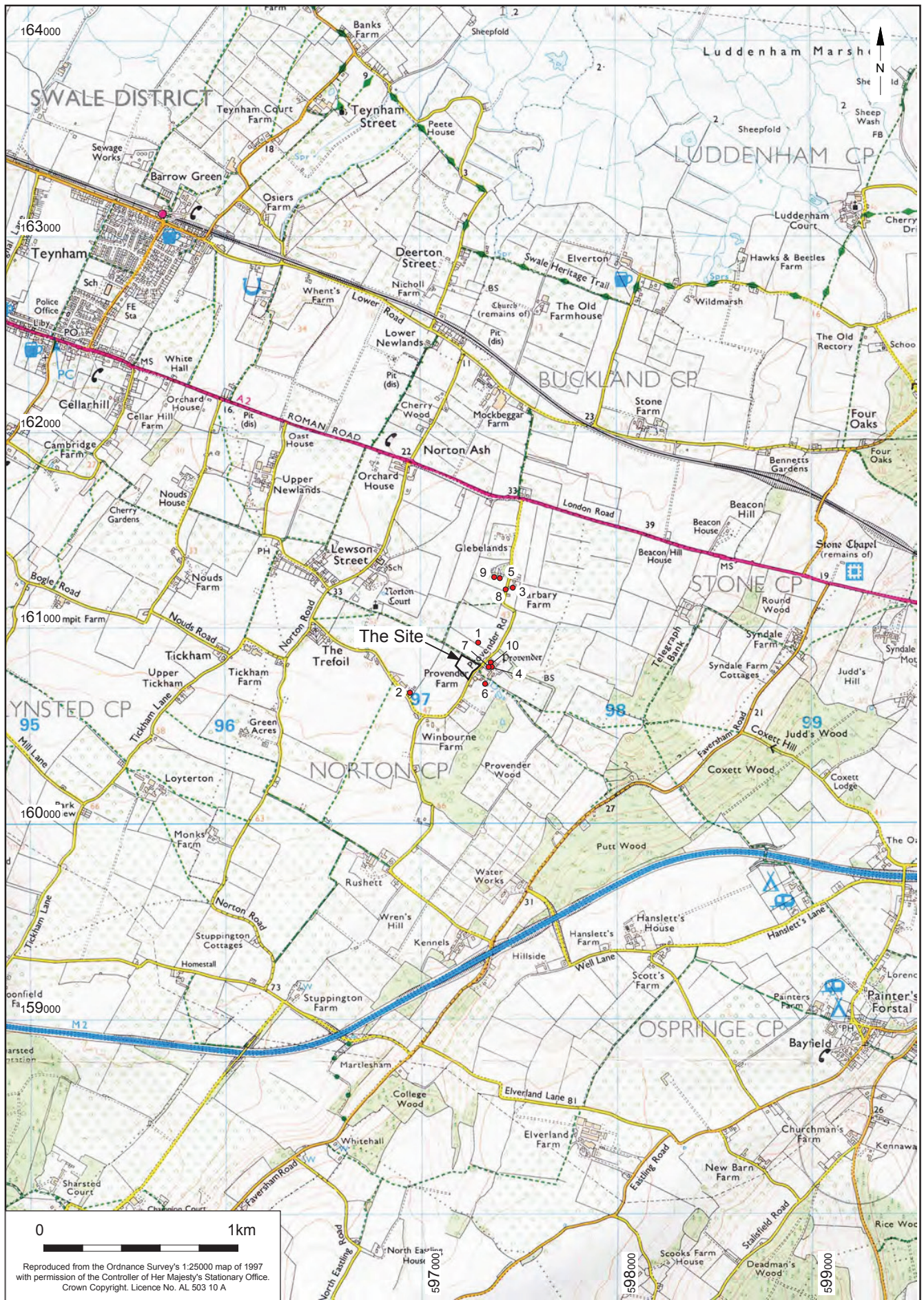
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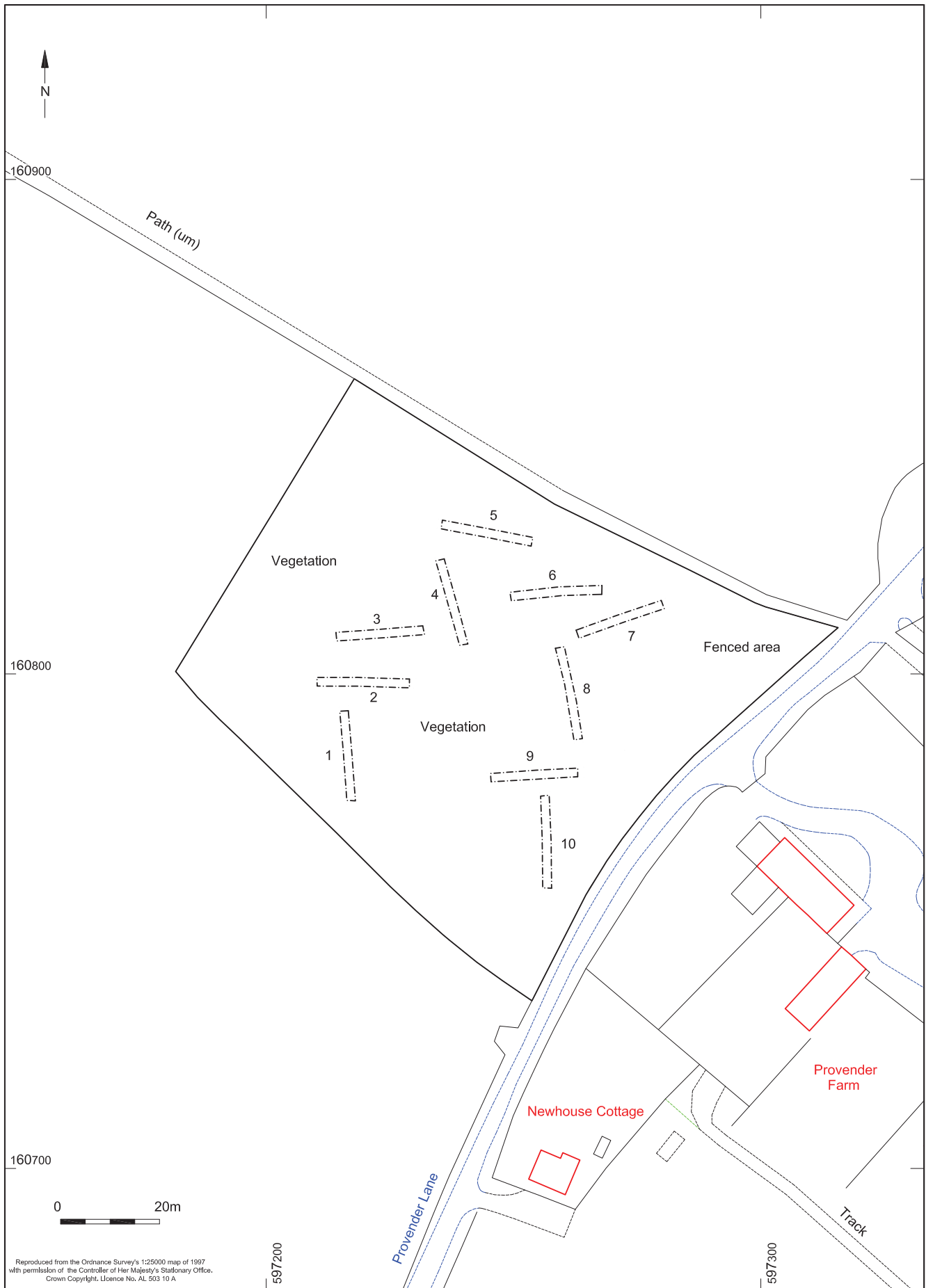
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© Archaeology South-East		Provender Lane, Norton	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4009	Oct 2009	Site location and HER data	
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© Archaeology South-East		Provender Lane, Norton	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4009	Oct 2009	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2009154	Drawn by: JLR		

Head Office
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1DR
Tel: +44(0)1273 426830 Fax: +44(0)1273 420866
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
Web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk



London Office
Centre for Applied Archaeology
Institute of Archaeology
University College London
31-34 Gordon Square, London, WC1 0PY
Tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778 Fax: +44(0)20 7383 2572
Web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

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