

**An Archaeological Evaluation at Becket's Barn,  
Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex**

**Planning Application No.: Pre-Application**

**Prepared for A & M Architectural Partnership**

**NGR 488422, 097396**

**Project No. 4595  
Site Code: PHP10**

**ASE Report No. 2010204  
OASIS id: archaeol6-86181**

**Greg Priestley-Bell  
With a contributions by  
Lucy Allott, Karine Le Hegarat, Sarah Porteus and Elke Raemen**

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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by A & M Architectural Partnership to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Becket's Barn, Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex (NGR 488422 097396). Two evaluation trenches were excavated. Trench 1 was taken down to the top of the alluvium at between 1.63m – 1.93m AOD: two ditches or channels were revealed at the base, running broadly N-S and a fragment of probably Medieval floor tile was recovered from one of the featurefills. These features almost certainly represented the edges of a c. 10m wide and 60m long linear depression; this was an element of extensive earthworks on the site which have been variously interpreted as fish ponds or sluices related to a suggested tide-mill immediately to the south. Trench 2 was taken down to the top of the alluvium at 1.65m AOD: a pattern of fine cracking in the alluvium and the presence of a thin overlying deposit of humified peat was evidence for the relatively rapid drying out of this area of the site.*

## CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Archaeological Background
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology
- 4.0 Results
- 5.0 The Finds
- 6.0 Environmental Evidence
- 7.0 Discussion

### Bibliography

### SMR Summary Sheet OASIS Form

### FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Trench location
- Figure 3: Site plan from 1958 excavation report (SAC 96)
- Figure 4: Trench plan, sections and photographs

### TABLES

- Table 1: Quantification of site archive
- Table 2: Quantification of finds
- Table 3: Residue quantification
- Table 4: Flot quantification

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) (a division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) has been commissioned by A & M Architectural Partnership (hereafter referred to as 'the client') to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Becket's Barn, Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex (NGR 488422 097396; Figure 1) (hereafter referred to as 'the site').

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The site lies within the curtilage of Scheduled Ancient Monument 219 (West Sussex), Becket's Barn. The site is currently open lawn bounded to the north by Becket's Barn, to the east by a bowling green, to the south by tennis courts and to the west by a fenced caravan park.

1.2.2 The 1:50 000 Geological Survey Drift Geology Map of Great Britain (Sheet 332) shows the subject site on the edge of the brickearth and the alluvium (tidal flat deposits) at the northern boundary of Pagham Harbour.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 A planning application for the construction of a new multi-use building will be submitted to Arun District Council.

1.3.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by ASE (Sygrave 2010) with reference to the *Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions (WSSC)*. All work was carried out in accordance with this document, and the relevant *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).

### **1.4 Aims and Objectives**

1.4.1 The general aim of the archaeological work is to establish the character, extent and height (m OD) of archaeological deposits within the footprint of the proposed building, in order to allow for their full consideration and mitigation during the construction stage of the proposed building.

### **1.5 Scope of Report**

1.5.1 The fieldwork was undertaken by Greg Priestley-Bell (Senior Archaeologist) and John Cook (Surveyor) on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2010. This report details the results of this work.

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Becket's Barn**

2.1.1 Becket's Barn has been described as one of the "humbler" surviving buildings of the former Pagham Rectory. (Collins and Fleming 1958, 135). The earliest written record of the Rectory date to 1299, at which time the Barn, built originally as a dwelling in the first half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, had been standing for at least 50 years (Gregory 1976, 208). It is not clear from written records whether the Barn was in fact the Parsonage House, however, by the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, a survey of the Rectory refers to the building as a barn and this appears to have been its function until the late 20<sup>th</sup> century (Gregory 1976 208) The wider site is thought to have once contained a granary. Depressions to the south of the barn have been interpreted as fish ponds and a moat or sluices associated with Pagham Mill which is thought to lie to the south east of the site (Collins and Fleming 1958, 138).

### **2.2 Previous investigations**

2.2.1 Three significant archaeological investigations have been undertaken at Becket's Barn or in its immediate environs in modern times. Between 1956 and 1957, excavations within the barn itself revealed a series of medieval/post-medieval floors and an internal wall (Collins and Fleming 1958). A cobbled surface, subsequently re-excavated in 1974 (see below) was found in a trench to the north of the barn.

2.2.2 In 1974, four trenches were excavated, two to the north, one within the barn and one immediately to the south (Gregory 1976). Three phases of activity were identified: Romano-British, Saxon and Medieval. Romano-British remains comprised c. 2<sup>nd</sup>-century AD drainage ditches. Saxon remains included an 8<sup>th</sup>-century AD cobbled path (previously recorded during the 1956-7 excavations) and a probable midden. The cobbled surface was cut by several ditches and a small gully, which contained carbonised grain and charcoal dated to 820 +/- 60 A.D. Medieval mortar floor levels dating to the later 13<sup>th</sup> – early 14<sup>th</sup> century were recorded within the barn, while the footings of a corridor or pentice were revealed against the south wall of the barn. Further to the north, Medieval ditches, a probable floor and 14<sup>th</sup>-century rubbish pits were also recorded.

2.1.3 In 1993, SEAS excavated two evaluation trenches to the south of the barn (Fig. 2) (Gardiner 1993). Prehistoric and Saxo-Norman pottery was recovered from a later deposit, but no associated features were identified. The 'corridor' recorded in 1974 was re-excavated and interpreted as a possible later garden feature, while an undated area of Mixon stone possible pavement was uncovered further to the south.

2.1.4 Two further archaeological investigations in the area are worthy of note. In 1954, a Saxon cinerary urn of suggested late 6<sup>th</sup>- to 7<sup>th</sup>-century date was found in St Thomas a Becket's churchyard to the north-west of the barn (Collins 1955, 123-5). In 1990, the Trust for Wessex Archaeology excavated a trench to the east of Church Farm and carried out fieldwalking in a field to the west of the Holiday Village (Heaton and Trott 1990).

**3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1** Two evaluation trenches measuring 15m and 10m long respectively and 1.8m wide, were excavated under archaeological supervision using a 360 degree slew mechanical digger equipped with a toothless bucket. Due to the presence of a possibly live water service, the westernmost c. 2m of Trench 1 could not be excavated to full depth.
- 3.2** The area of the two evaluation trenches was fenced using Heras style fencing. The trenches were accurately located using a Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS). The trench locations were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT).
- 3.3** Machine excavation continued to the top of significant archaeological deposits or the surface of geological drift deposits, whichever was uppermost. Machine excavation proceeded in spits of no more than 200mm depth. Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned with a metal detector as will the spoil derived from excavated features.
- 3.4** All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the approved ASE Written Scheme of Investigation using pro-forma context record sheets.
- 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.
- 3.6** Trenches were backfilled and compacted upon completion but no formal re-instatement (e.g. turf etc.) was undertaken.

Number of contexts	14
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	2
Photographs Digital	32
B+W	6
CS	6
Bulk finds	1 box
Registered finds	-
Environmental flots/residue	2 sample

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Trench 1 (Figs 2 and 4)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m	2.58
1/002	Layer	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m (E) - 0.6m (W)	2.28
1/003	Deposit	Humified peat (specific to earthwork)	10m	Tr.	0.15m	1.78
1/004	Deposit	Alluvium (specific to earthwork)	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	1.63 (W)
1/005	Deposit	Alluvium	5m	Tr.	N/A	1.93 (E)
1/006	Cut	Ditch/channel	1.8m	0.75m	0.2m	1.45
1/007	Fill		1.8m	0.75m	0.2m	
1/008	Cut	Ditch/channel	1.8m	0.85m	0.15m	1.52
1/009	Fill		1.8m	0.85m	0.15m	
1/010	Timber	Oak stave				1.52

4.1.1 Topsoil [1/001] consisting of dark greyish brown slightly clayey, sandy silt with occasional CBM, flint cobbles, pebbles and rooting, overlay made ground [1/002] consisting of mid/dark yellowish brown clayey silt/silty clay with frequent pebbles and occasional CBM, wood, plastic and iron. Layer [1/002] overlay humified peat [1/003] consisting of very dark reddishbrown slightly clayey silt. Deposit [1/003] overlay alluvium [1/004] consisting of mid grey silty clay with very occasional rounded flint pebbles. At the eastern end of the trench, layer [1/002] overlay alluvium [1/005] consisting of mottled light/mid grey/mid reddish brown slightly silty clay.

4.1.2 A linear cut [1/006] at the western end of the trench contained a single fill [1/007] consisting of mid yellowish grey silty clay, from which a single Roman pot sherd was recovered. A second linear cut [1/008] towards the eastern end of the trench contained a fill [1/009] consisting of mid yellowish grey silty clay. A fragment of oak stave [1/010] was recovered from the upper edge of cut [1/008]. These linear cuts defined the edges of a N-S buried depression or earthwork that ran through the site.

### 4.2 Trench 2 (Figs 2 and 4)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m	2.60
2/002	Layer	Modern made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.50m	2.35
2/003	Deposit	Humified peat	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m	1.85
2/004	Deposit	Alluvium	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	1.65



- 4.2.1 Topsoil [2/001] consisting of dark greyish brown slightly clayey, sandy silt with occasional flint cobbles, pebbles and rooting, overlay made ground [2/002] consisting of mid/dark yellowish brown clayey silt/silty clay with frequent pebbles and occasional CBM. Layer [2/002] overlay humified peat [2/003] consisting of very dark reddish brown slightly clayey silt with occasional/frequent CBM. Deposit [2/003] overlay alluvium [2/004] consisting of mid grey silty clay with occasional CBM.
- 4.2.2 No archaeological features were present.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Overview

- 5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds, mainly consisting of ceramic building material (CBM), was recovered during the archaeological work. An overview can be found in Table 2. Finds have all been washed and dried. They were counted, weighed and bagged by material and context. None of the pieces require further conservation.

Context	CBM	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Wood	wt (g)
1/003/004	1	44	1	972		
1/004	2	88				
1/009	1	38				
1/010					1	1374
2/002	5	1098				
2/003	26	1886				
2/004 upper	6	512	1	124		
2/004 lower	6	522	2	78		
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>4188</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1174</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1374</b>

Table 2: Quantification of the Finds.

### 5.2 The Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

One very small, partial rimsherd from grey ware necked jar was recovered from the residue of environmental sample <1> of context [1/007]. Neither the fabric nor the form is very closely datable within the Roman period, although it perhaps has more similarities to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century jars forms than later Roman ones

### 5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

- 5.3.1 A total of 47 fragments of ceramic building material with a combined weight of 4188g were recovered from the work. The assemblage included material of medieval and post medieval date with a single fragment of brick being of possible Roman date. A provisional fabric series has been drawn up with the aid of a x10 binocular microscope and the material has been quantified by weight, count and form on pro-forma recording form and transferred to an Excel database.
- 5.3.2 A single fragment of completely vitrified brick with a thickness of 38mm was recovered from context [2/003]. The fragment appears to be Roman in form, but the dating is uncertain and the fragment was recovered from a context with medieval and possible early post-medieval material.
- 5.3.3 A fragment of medieval ridge tile with totally reduced core and green glaze was recovered from context [2/003] (1/38g). Also from context [2/003] were fragments of 18mm thick tile with totally reduced core (5/378g) also of probable medieval date. An abraded fragment of possible hearth brick or floor tile of 25mm thickness was recovered

from context [2/004] (upper) (1/220g) and was heat affected and in provisional fabric T4, a soft sandy fabric with moderate coarse quartz and abundant fine black iron rich inclusions with moderate very coarse angular flint.

- 5.3.4 The majority of the peg tile could not be easily assigned to either a medieval or post-medieval date, the fragments were usually warped in appearance and less well formed than the later peg tile but not as coarse and reduced as the peg tile of certain medieval date. Two fabric types were identified, T1, a fine sandy orange fabric with abundant fine rounded black iron rich inclusions and abundant fine quartz and some fine silt streaking; and T2, a fine sandy fabric with sparse medium quartz inclusions and sparse black iron rich inclusions. A variant of T1 with less silt streaking was also identified, nrT1. Peg tile in fabric T1 was recovered from contexts [1/09] (1/36g), [2/003] (3/120g), [2/004] (lower 800mm+) (3/120g). The fragment from context [1/009] had a greyed vitrified surface. Peg tile in fabric nrT1 were recovered from context [1/004] (1/44g) and [2/003] (4/392g). Peg tile fragments in fabric T2 were recovered from [1/03/04] (1/44g), [1/004] (1/46g), [2/003] (11/400g), and [2/004] (upper) (3/116g).
- 5.3.5 Post-medieval peg tile was identified in fabric T3, an orange sandy fabric with moderate coarse quartz and moderate medium to coarse sized black iron rich inclusions and is of likely broad 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century date and was recovered from context [2/004] (lower) (3/380g). Context [4/002] contained brick fragments in a purplish red fabric with abundant fine ash and slag inclusions with abraded upper surface of mid 18<sup>th</sup>- to 19<sup>th</sup>-century date (1/506g) and fragments of 20<sup>th</sup>-century frogged brick in a chunky silt fabric (5/1096g). A small quantity of material was too vitrified to permit dating including peg tile from [2/003] (1/100g) and tile from [2/004] (upper) (2/172g).
- 5.3.6 The majority of the material recovered is of Medieval or early post-medieval date, most likely 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> century. A single fragment of brick of possible Roman date was also present along with a quantity of later post-medieval or modern brick. The material has been retained with labelled fabrics of the provisional type series.

#### 5.4 **The Geological Material** by Elke Raemen

- 5.4.1 Three pieces of slate were recovered. Context [2/004] (lower) contained two pieces of Welsh slate, whereas a fragment of West Country slate was recovered from [2/004] (upper).

#### 5.5 **The Wood** by Lucy Allott

- 5.5.1 A single piece of oak (*Quercus* sp.) wood was collected from context [1/010]. This piece measured approximately 440mm x 120mm and no clear tool marks were observed on the surface. Several Apiaceae family seeds were observed on the surface of the wood. These remains are well preserved and may be identifiable through comparison with reference material.

## 6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE by Karine Le Hégarat

### 6.1 Introduction

6.6.1 Two bulk samples were taken during the evaluation work at Becket's Barn, Pagham to establish evidence for environmental remains such as wood charcoal, charred macrobotanicals remains, fauna and mollusca. Both samples were extracted from the fills ([1/007] and [1/009]) of two cut features defining the western and eastern edges of a broad, buried linear depression/earthwork.

### 6.2 Methodology

6.6.2. Samples were processed in a flotation tank, the flots and residues were captured on 250 and 500µm meshes respectively and were air dried prior to sorting. The residues were sieved through 4 and 2mm geological sieves and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Table 3). The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and an overview of their contents recorded (Table 4). Preliminary identifications of macrobotanical remains have been made with reference to modern comparative material and reference texts (Cappers et al. 2006 and NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997). Abundance and preservation of the macrobotanicals have been recorded to establish their potential for further analysis.

### 6.3 Results

6.3.1 Sampling produced small flots (10ml and 4ml respectively) consisting almost entirely of uncharred material and sediment. The uncharred vegetation included very fine indeterminate debris and a moderate to large quantity of seeds such as knotweed/ docks (*Polygonum/Rumex* sp.), pondweeds (*Potamogeton* sp.), buttercups (*Ranunculus* sp.), possible three-lobbed crowfoot/pond water crowfoot/common water-crowfoot (cf. *Ranunculustripartitus/peltatus/aquatilis*) as well as seeds from the daisy (*Asteraceae*) family and various unidentified seeds. Charred plant remains were limited to infrequent small charred wood fragments. No other classes of biological material were noted apart from some infrequent small bones in the residue from sample <1>.

6.3.2 A small quantity of slate, glass, fired clay, mortar, metal and pottery was also recorded in the residues.

### 6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 Sampling has confirmed the presence of environmental remains. These were restricted to a small quantity of sparse and highly fragmented wood charcoal fragments. Samples from the ditch deposits were dominated by uncharred botanical remains, which could indicate a small degree of modern post-depositional disturbance and potential contamination. However, if the deposits were sufficiently moist, uncharred seeds could have been preserved in anoxic conditions. Therefore, if they originate from well sealed deposits, the possibility that some of the uncharred seeds are contemporary with the infilling of the feature is possible. If the uncharred seeds have been preserved by waterlogging they can provide evidence for the immediate environment. Three-lobbed crowfoot grows in wet mud and pond-like habitats. Pond water crowfoot, common water-crowfoot as well as pondweeds are associated with both fresh and brackish environments as well as still and slow flowing water, conditions that could well have

existed in ditch/channel environments.

Table 3: Residue quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250)

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	1/07	Ditch fill or channel	40	40	*	<2	**	<2	*	<2	Glass */<2g - Fired clay */<2g - Fabric */<2g - Metal */<2g - Slate ***/62g - Mortar */54g - FCF **/28g - Pottery */2g
2	1/09	Ditch fill or channel	20	20			*	<2			Fired clay */<2g - Slate */<2g

Table 4: Flot quantification (\*=1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250)

Sample Number	Context	weight g	Flot volume ml	Uncharred %	sediment %	seeds uncharred
1	1/07	10	10	67	33	**** Asteraceae, <i>Potamogeton</i> sp. <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i> sp., <i>Ranunculus</i> sp., cf. <i>Ranunculustripartitus/peltatus/aquatilis</i> , unident. seeds
2	1/09	4	4	65	35	*** Asteraceae, <i>Potamogeton</i> sp., unident. seeds

## 7.0 DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION

- 7.1 Until relatively recently, the area to the south and east of Becket's Barn was a large meadow in which an extensive pattern of earthworks was evident. These earthworks are shown on Figure 3 which has been reproduced from the 1958 excavations report, the plan of which is based upon the 1910 OS Map 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Modern development and landscaping has completely buried or removed all trace of these features in the immediate area of the site. In 1962 the OS Record Card SZ89NE 18 recorded the fishponds to be in "fair condition", however by 1971 the OS Archaeological Officer recorded that there was "no trace of antiquity in the field to the south [of the Barn]" It was presumably between these two dates that the made ground layer was laid over the earthworks. The earthworks have usually been interpreted as fish ponds or sluices related to a tide-mill (Fig 3), although documentary evidence perhaps suggests alternative interpretations. In 1451 a 'cove' on the seashore near the mill of Pagham for the farming of oysters is recorded (VCH 1953, 4, 227-233). A 1575 rental of lands belonging to the parsonage of Pagham refers to the meadow containing the earthworks as 'salteslipen' or 'slipegrounde', while the Manorial Map of 1786 calls the earthworks 'moats' (Collins and Fleming 1958, 138). Although the date of the earthworks is unclear, they are probably medieval or early post-medieval in origin. A watching brief on a pipe trench aligned north-south across the earthworks, carried out by the Ancient Monuments Inspectorate in 1963, found a layer of burnt material containing charcoal and burnt flint three feet below the topsoil, which was thought to represent salt working debris (OS Record Card SZ89NE 18). Another possible interpretation may be that the layer represents a burnt mound deposit of prehistoric date, pre-dating the earthworks (John Mills pers. comm.). Trench 1 was orientated broadly at right angles to the line of a particular element of the earthworks that consists of a c. 60m long and 10m wide depression. Trench 2 was located entirely within a rectangular, apparently level area between two linear depressions/earthworks (Fig 3).
- 7.2 The limit of excavation in both trenches was in alluvium ([1/004]/[1/005] and [2/004]). The top of the alluvium in Trench 1 was at 1.63m AOD and at between 1.65m AOD - 1.93m AOD in Trench 2. In Trench 2, alluvium [2/004] showed the characteristic hexagonal pattern of fine cracks that results from the drying out of the deposit. This observation was supported by the presence of an overlying thin deposit of humified peat [2/003] that suggested that the process had been relatively fast. A similar deposit of humified peat [1/003] in Trench 1 was specific to a buried depression/earthwork (see below). The character of the deposits in Trench 2 is clear evidence that the site has evolved from an intertidal mudflat environment that became colonised by plants and eventually developed into a salt marsh; as the marsh became progressively drier, the peat deposits that would have developed became humified. Above the humified peat deposit [2/003] there was no evidence of any further marine encroachment.
- 7.3 The presence of a significant quantity of probably medieval ceramic building material (CBM) within the alluvium in Trench 2 suggests that the cultural material became incorporated while the alluvium was still waterlogged. Although it is unclear whether the recovered CBM was related to the construction of medieval buildings on the site or to their destruction, it is perhaps more likely that the site was drained before construction began and that the former was the case. The drying out of the site may have been due to the increasing efficacy of drainage works or may have been as a result of changes in the dynamic harbour environment or a combination of factors.

- 7.4** The two ditches or channels ([1/006] and [1/008]) revealed at the base of Trench 1 almost certainly represented the edges of a buried c. 10m wide and 60m long linear depression/earthwork. The small fragment of Roman pottery recovered from ditch fill [1/007] whilst probably residual within the context, suggest at least some Romano-British activity, as is also evidenced by the 1974 excavations (Gregory 1976). A fragment of oak stave [1/010] aligned along the cut of [1/008] perhaps represented the remains of a revetment or fallen fence. The eastern edge of the depression was clearly seen in the section of Trench 1, while the western edge was probably just beyond the limit of the excavation (Fig 4). Deposits of alluvium [1/004] and humified peat [1/003] were specific to this linear depression. This feature is an element of extensive earthworks on the site which are discussed above.
- 7.5** The substantial deposit of made ground recorded in both trenches ([1/002] and [2/002]) was probably predominantly associated with the early 1990s construction of the existing sales lounge and landscaped courtyard. However the archaeological evaluation by SEAS in advance of the sales lounge development recorded significant disturbance in '1993 Trench 1', extending down to c. 1.70m AOD; disturbance was also present in '1993 Trench 2' but to a lesser extent, going down to c. 1.90m AOD (Fig 2). Gardiner suggested that this made ground deposit was the same as reported by Gregory during the work in 1974, and had presumably been laid down between 1962 and 1971. In the eastern end of '1993 Trench 1' Gardiner also identified the cut and backfill of the trench excavated by Fleming and Collins in 1956-7.
- 7.6** The results of the fieldwork have demonstrated that the height of the potential archaeological deposits is dependent upon the surface height of the buried earthworks. The highest level at which the old land surface was recorded during the current work was on the alluvium [1/005] at 1.93m AOD at the eastern end of Trench 1 where the existing ground surface was 2.58m AOD. The lowest recorded height for potential archaeology was 1.45m AOD at the western end of Trench 1. In Trench 2, the highest level at which the humified peat deposit (the highest deposit with archaeological potential) [2/003] was recorded was 1.85m AOD where the existing ground surface was 2.60m AOD.

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**SMR Summary Form**

Site Code	PHP10					
Identification Name and Address	Becket's Barn, Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR 488422 097396					
Geology	Alluvium					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4595					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. X	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other Coastal alluvium		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 20 <sup>th</sup> to 21st October 2010	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	A & M Architectural Partnership					
Project Manager	Jon Sygrave					
Project Supervisor	Greg Priestley-Bell					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED X	PM X	Other Modern X		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by A &amp; M Architectural Partnership to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Becket's Barn, Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex (NGR SZ 88422 97396). Two evaluation trenches were excavated. Trench T1 was taken down to the top of the alluvium at between 1.63m – 1.93m AOD: two ditches or channels were revealed at the base, running broadly N-S and a fragment of probably Medieval floor tile was recovered from one of the fills. These features almost certainly represented the edges of a c. 10m wide and 60m long linear depression; this was an element of extensive earthworks on the site which have been variously interpreted as fish ponds or sluices related to a suggested tide-mill immediately to the south. Trench 2 was taken down to the top of the alluvium at 1.65m AOD: a pattern of fine cracking in the alluvium and the presence of a thin overlying deposit of humified peat was evidence for the relatively rapid drying out of this area of the site.</i></p>						

## OASIS FORM

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**OASIS ID: archaeol6-86181**

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### Project details

Project name	Becket's Barn, Pagham, West Sussex
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by A & M Architectural Partnership to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Becket's Barn, Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex (NGR 488422 097396). Two evaluation trenches were excavated. Trench 1 was taken down to the top of the alluvium at between 1.63m – 1.93m AOD: two ditches or channels were revealed at the base, running broadly N-S and a fragment of probably Medieval floor tile was recovered from one of the feature fills. These features almost certainly represented the edges of a c. 10m wide and 60m long linear depression; this was an element of extensive earthworks on the site which have been variously interpreted as fish ponds or sluices related to a suggested tide-mill immediately to the south. Trench 2 was taken down to the top of the alluvium at 1.65m AOD: a pattern of fine cracking in the alluvium and the presence of a thin overlying deposit of humified peat was evidence for the relatively rapid drying out of this area of the site.
Project dates	Start: 20-10-2010 End: 21-10-2010
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Community Service 2 - Leisure and recreational buildings
Monument type	EARTHWORK Medieval
Monument type	EARTHWORK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Scheduled Monument Consent
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

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### Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX ARUN PAGHAM Becket's Barn
Postcode	PO10
Study area	700.00 Square metres

Site coordinates SZ 88422 97396 50.7688325574 -0.745961699627 50 46 07 N 000 44 45 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 1.45m Max: 2.60m

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**Project creators**

Name of Organisation Archaeology South East

Project brief originator A and M Architectural Partnership

Project design originator Archaeology South-East

Project director/manager Jon Sygrave

Project supervisor Greg Priestley-Bell

Type of sponsor/funding body Client

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**Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient Local Museum

Physical Contents 'Ceramics','Wood','Worked stone/lithics'

Digital Archive recipient Local Museum

Digital Contents 'other'

Digital Media available 'Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'

Paper Archive recipient Local Museum

Paper Contents 'other'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Correspondence','Drawing','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section'

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**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An Archaeological evaluation at Becket's Barn, Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham, West Sussex

Author(s)/Editor(s) Priestley-Bell, G.

Other bibliographic details 2010204

Date 2010

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

Place of issue or  
publication      Portslade

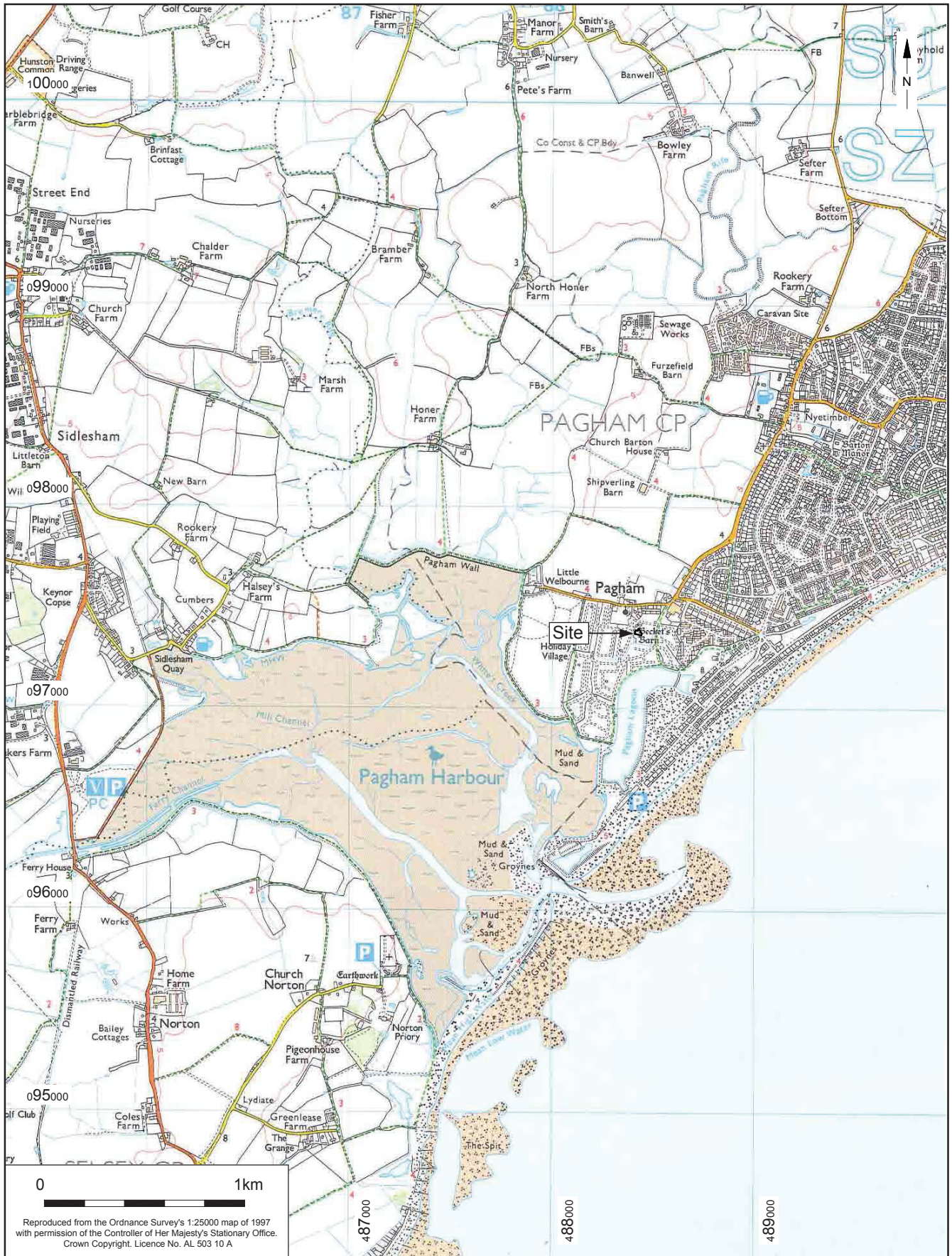
Description      A4 binder

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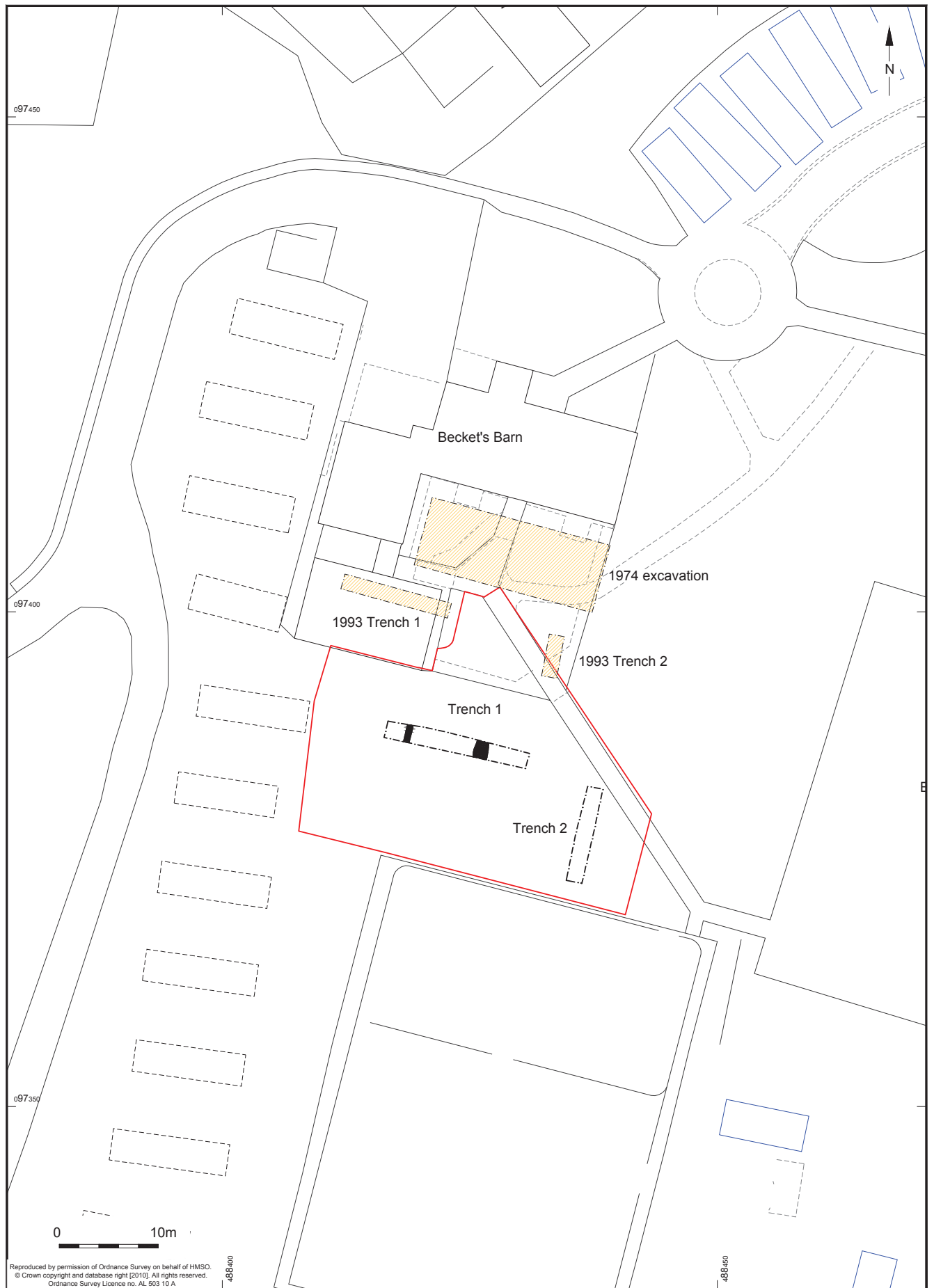
Entered by      Greg Priestley-Bell (gregpbell@btinternet.com)

Entered on      11 November 2010

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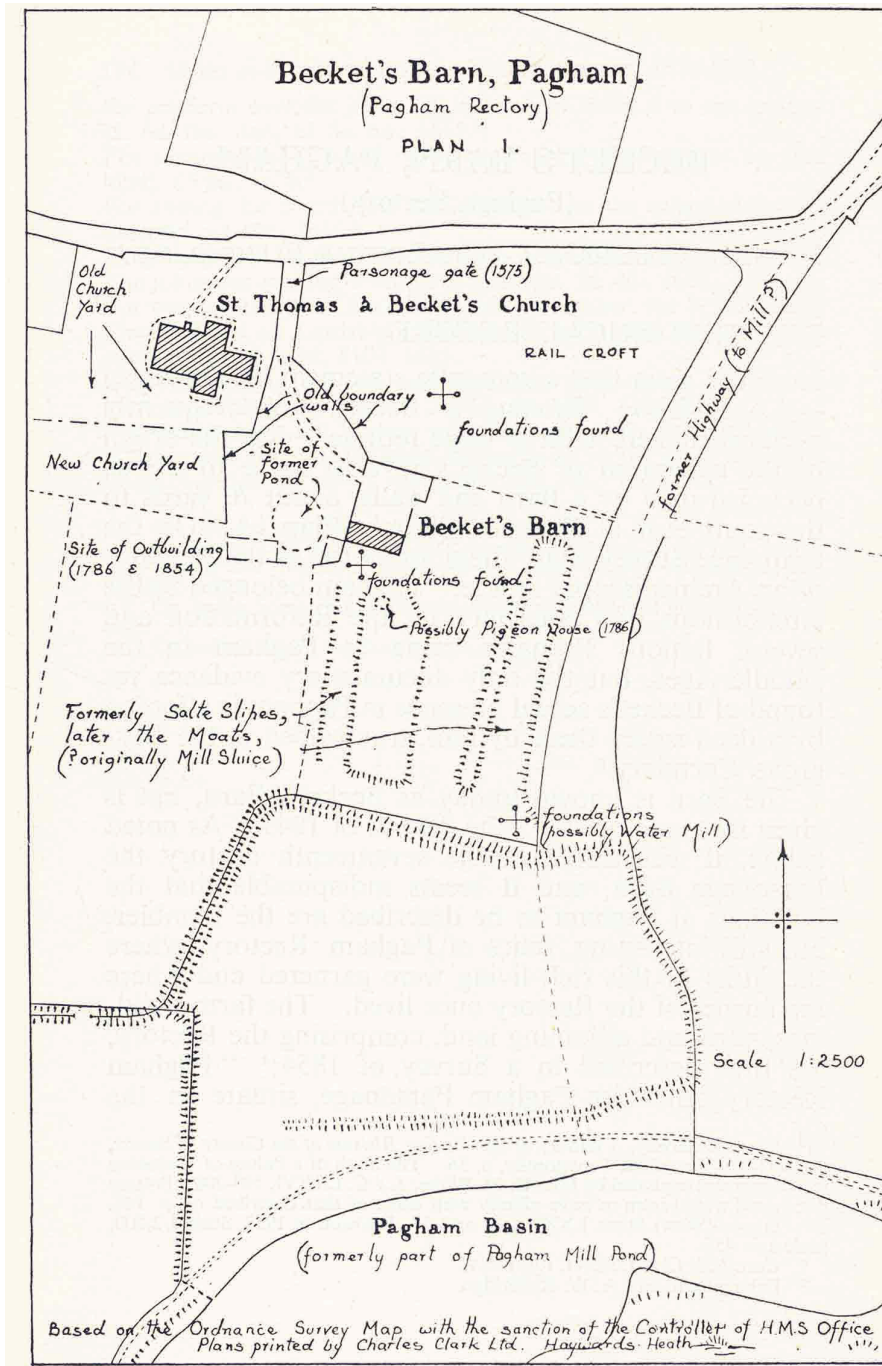


© Archaeology South-East		Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4595	Nov 2010	Site Location	
Report Ref: 2010204	Drawn by: DJH		

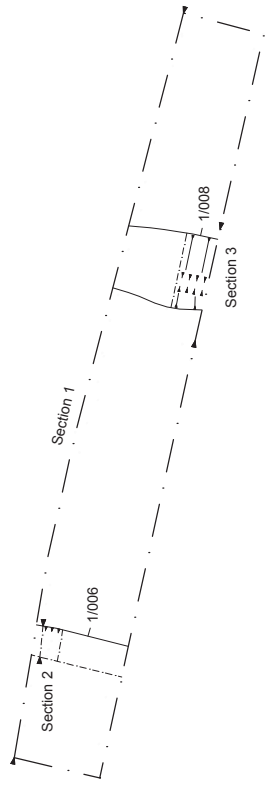


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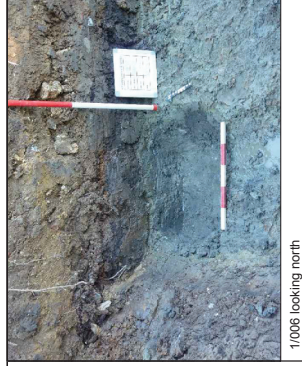
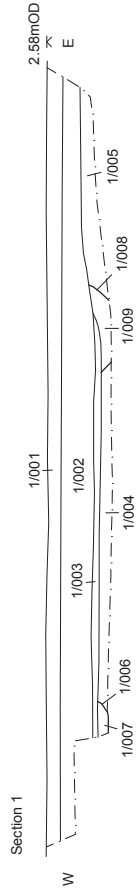
© Archaeology South-East		Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4595	Nov 2010	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2010204	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Church Farm Holiday Village, Pagham	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 4595	Nov 2010	Site plan from 1958 report (SAC 96)	
Report Ref: 2010204	Drawn by: JLR		

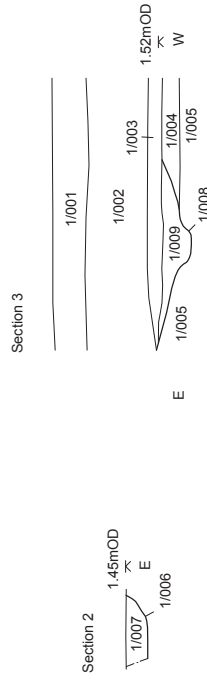


Trench 1 looking west

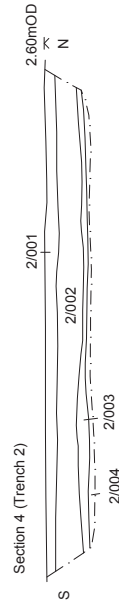


1/006 looking north

1/008 looking south



0 1m



0 2m



Trench 2 looking south



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