

**An Archaeological Evaluation on
Land Parcels 13 and 17, Thistle Hill, Minster
Isle of Sheppey, Kent**

NGR 594858 171888

Planning Refs: SW/04/1058, SW/95/1059

Project No: 4644

Site Code: THI07

**ASE Report No: 2011059
OASIS id: archaeol6-97636**

Alice Thorne

**With contributions by
Luke Barber, Lucy Sibun
Trista Clifford, Sarah Porteus
Karine Le Hégarat**

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Parcels 13 and 17, Thistle Hill, Minster, Isle of Sheppey, between the 7th and the 11th of March, 2011. Twenty trenches measuring up to 30m in length were excavated.

Worked flint and several poorly stratified fragments of probable Roman brick attest to prehistoric and Roman activity within the vicinity of the site.

Some evidence of medieval activity was revealed in the form of a pit and two probable truncated pits or areas of trample. These are thought to be associated with the medieval farmstead identified at the excavations located immediately to the north-west of the site.

Additionally, a series of intersecting ditches of early 20th century date are likely to represent military features such as practice and/or drainage trenches associated with the training or temporary settlement of troops on the island.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 The Finds**
- 6.0 The Environmental Samples**
- 7.0 Discussion**
- 8.0 Conclusions**

Bibliography
Acknowledgements

SMR Summary Sheet
OASIS Form

FIGURES

| | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Figure 1: | Site location |
| Figure 2: | Trench locations |
| Figure 3: | Trench locations and previous work |
| Figure 4: | Trench 64, plan, sections and photos |
| Figure 5: | Trench 65, plan, sections and photos |
| Figure 6: | Trench 66, plan, sections and photos |
| Figure 7: | Trench 67, plan, sections and photos |
| Figure 8: | Trench 68, plan, sections and photos |
| Figure 9: | Trench 77, plan, sections and photos |
| Figure 10: | Trench 79, plan, sections and photos |

TABLES

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Table 1: | Quantification of site archive |
| Table 2: | Context Register, Trench 64 |
| Table 3: | Context Register, Trench 65 |
| Table 4: | Context Register, Trench 66 |
| Table 5: | Context Register, Trench 67 |
| Table 6: | Context Register, Trench 68 |
| Table 7: | Context Register, Trench 69 |
| Table 8: | Context Register, Trench 70 |
| Table 9: | Context Register, Trench 72 |
| Table 10: | Context Register, Trench 73 |
| Table 11: | Context Register, Trench 74 |
| Table 12: | Context Register, Trench 75 |
| Table 13: | Context Register, Trench 76 |
| Table 14: | Context Register, Trench 77 |
| Table 15: | Context Register, Trench 78 |
| Table 16: | Context Register, Trench 79 |
| Table 17: | Context Register, Trench 80 |
| Table 18: | Context Register, Trench 81 |
| Table 19: | Context Register, Trench 82 |
| Table 20: | Context Register, Trench 83 |
| Table 21: | Context Register, Trench 84 |
| Table 22: | Quantification of finds |
| Table 23: | The registered finds |
| Table 24: | Provisional CBM fabric series descriptions |
| Table 25: | The flintwork |
| Table 26: | Residue quantification |
| Table 27: | Flot quantification |

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Bovis Homes Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation on the site of the large-scale Thistle Hill development. The areas of the proposed new development under investigation henceforth referred to as 'the site' were designated land parcels: 13 and 17 (Fig. 1; NGR 594858 171888).

1.1.2 The site is located at the southern edge of Minster, around 4km east of Queenborough. It is bound to the north-west by a contractor's storage compound, to the north-east by new residential development, to the south by farmland and the Sunny View property and to the east by Scocles Road and farm.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey (1:50 000 map sheet no 272, Chatham), the wider underlying geology at the site is predominately London Clay.

1.2.2 The topography of the site itself is gently sloping to the north-west. Prior to archaeological work commencing, the area comprised pasture farmland.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning permission was granted by Swale Borough Council for large-scale development of the site (ref: SW/04/1058, SW/95/1059). Owing to the archaeologically sensitive nature of the area, and after consultation with the Heritage Conservation Group of Kent County Council (HCGKCC; Swale Borough Council's advisers on archaeological issues) a condition was attached to this consent requiring a programme of archaeological works to be implemented to the satisfaction of HCGKCC prior to development.

1.3.2 Evaluation and excavation work by Archaeology South-East (Collings 2007, Margetts 2007) connected with earlier phases of the development have highlighted that areas of significant archaeological activity exist in the locale. The current phase of work represents the continuance of a program of archaeological work at Thistle Hill. This document relates to archaeological interventions undertaken between the 7th to the 11th of March 2011 within land parcels: 13 and 17.

1.3.3 The specification (HCGKCC 2007) supplied by HCGKCC for previous evaluation work at Thistle Hill (Collings 2007) was adhered to throughout the evaluation. A method statement and risk assessment for the archaeological evaluation of parcels 13 and 17 was prepared by Archaeology South-East (ASE 2011). All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with these documents, and with the standard IFA guidelines for archaeological evaluation work (IFA 2008).

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report outlines the results of the evaluation.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The Isle of Sheppey has long been recognised as an area rich in archaeological remains. Previous phases of fieldwork (Collings 2007, Margetts 2007) within the area of the new housing development have indicated that Thistle Hill contains archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age through to the medieval period. In addition, the scheduled monument of Minster Abbey lies approximately 1.5 km to the north east and is visible from Thistle Hill.

2.2 In 2007, an archaeological excavation (Margetts 2007) was conducted by Archaeology South- East immediately to the north-west of the current evaluation area. This excavation produced evidence of a probable 12th to 13th century medieval farmstead, incorporating a series of small rectilinear enclosures and a possible dwelling structure. A series of pits and postholes were also identified within the enclosed area and a peripheral scatter of features was located outside the main medieval complex. Late Iron Age to Early Roman features were also identified.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 The methodology comprised the machine excavation of 20 trenches by a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision.

3.2 Sixteen trenches measured 30m long. A further 4 trenches, all located in the western corner of the site, required shifting and shortening, due to on-site constraints imposed by the presence of a contractors storage compound, temporary car-park and newly installed fencing. The trenches were numbered 64 to 84 continuing on from the trench numbering of the previous evaluation (Collings 2007) recorded under the same site code.

3.3 Trench 67 was shifted from its original location, and due to space restrictions, an additional trench (Trench 84) was also excavated to the east of contractors storage cabins. Trench 66 was shifted slightly from its original positions, due to the location of a new fence line. Overhead power cables, crossing the site on an east-west axis, also required the shifting of several trenches from their original planned positions. Trench 71 was abandoned. The locations of all trenches, as excavated, are shown on Figure 2.

3.4 A 20m wide exclusion zone under the overhead power lines was demarked by hazard tape (in line with HSE Guidance Note GS6).

3.5 The location of each trench was scanned prior to excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT scanner).

- 3.6** The excavation was taken down to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the top of the underlying 'natural', whichever was uppermost.
- 3.7** All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using the standard context record sheets used by Archaeology South-East.
- 3.8** All context numbers were prefixed by the relevant trench number.
- 3.9** The locations of the trenches were surveyed by Global Positioning System and are located according to the National Grid.
- 3.10** Spoil was stored adjacent to each trenches, scanned by metal detector and was backfilled upon completion of the recording by machine.
- 3.11** The fieldwork was undertaken by Alice Thorne (Senior Archaeologist), Ben Sharp and Cat Douglas between the 7th and the 11th of March 2011. The surveying was undertaken by Rob Cole (Surveyor).

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Number of contexts | 86 |
| No. of files/paper record | 1 File |
| Plan and sections sheets | 2 |
| Bulk samples | 1 |
| Photographs | 47 digital images |
| Bulk finds | 1 Box |
| Registered finds | 4 |
| Environmental flots/residue | 1 small box |

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Overburden and Geology

4.1.1 The trenches were located within open fields to the east of the current Thistle Hill housing development (Figure 1). The topsoil [001] across the site comprised friable dark greyish brown clayey silt of between 0.25 and 0.35m thick. Below this, a friable mid greyish-brown clayey-silt subsoil/ interface layer [002] was present, measuring between 0.12 and 0.15m thick. The natural London Clay geology [003] was fairly homogeneous across the site comprising firm light orangish-brown silty-clay, within which occasional fragments of sandstone and shell were observed.

4.1.2 Unless otherwise stated in the results below, the archaeological features observed were cut into the natural clay [003] and sealed by subsoil [002].

4.2 Trench 64 (Fig. 4)

4.2.1 Trench 64 was located in the north-west part of the site. It measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a south-west to north-east alignment.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 64/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 14.57 |
| 64/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.15m | 14.27 |
| 64/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 14.12 |
| 64/004 | Cut | Post hole | - | 0.32m | 0.13m | 13.90 |
| 64/005 | Fill | Post hole | - | 0.32m | 0.13m | 13.90 |
| 64/006 | Cut | Post hole | - | 0.28m | 0.12m | 13.90 |
| 64/007 | Fill | Post hole | - | 0.28m | 0.12m | 13.90 |

Table 2: Context Register, Trench 64

4.2.2 Summary

4.2.3 Two small circular features, probably postholes, were observed in the north-eastern part of the trench [64/004] and [64/006]. No finds were recovered from these features, (despite 100% excavation), although their friable mid to dark silty fill may indicate a late post medieval or possible 20th century origin – perhaps deriving from a similar phase of activity as those features observed in trenches 65 and 66 to the east (see paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4 below).

4.3 Trench 65 (Fig. 5)

4.3.1 Trench 65 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a north to south alignment.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 65/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 14.46 |
| 65/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.15m | 14.16 |
| 65/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 14.01 |
| 65/004 | Cut | Ditch | Tr. | 0.92 | 0.35m | 13.67 |
| 65/005 | Fill | Ditch | Tr. | 0.92 | 0.35m | 13.67 |
| 65/006 | Cut | Ditch | Tr. | 0.78m | 0.35m | 13.67 |
| 65/007 | Fill | Ditch | Tr. | 0.78m | 0.35m | 13.67 |
| 65/008 | Cut | Ditch | Tr. | 0.56m | 0.27m | 13.67 |
| 65/009 | Fill | Ditch | Tr. | 0.56m | 0.27m | 13.67 |

Table 3: Context Register, Trench 65

4.3.2 Summary

4.3.3 A series of three intersecting ditches were observed within this trench.

4.3.4 Feature [65/004] was orientated south-west to north-east, and had a steep concave profile. It was filled by a friable dark brownish grey clayey silt [65/005] containing occasional charcoal and occasional small stones. Finds included fragments of possible 19th to 20th century glass, a copper hinge plate fragment, WW2 shell fragments, a fragment of cattle bone, fragments of lightweight fuel ash slag, and coal.

4.3.5 Feature [65/006] was orientated south-east to north-west and had a slightly broader concave profile. It was filled by a friable dark brownish grey clayey silt [65/007] containing occasional charcoal, small stones and patches of redeposited clay. Finds included fragments of lightweight fuel ash slag, and fragments of residual late medieval or post medieval brick and tile and a fragment of possible Roman tile.

4.3.6 Feature [65/008] was orientated south-west to north-east, and had a steep concave profile. It was filled by a friable dark brownish grey clayey silt [65/009] containing occasional charcoal and patches of redeposited clay. Finds included fragments of coal and fragments of residual late medieval or post medieval brick and tile.

4.3.7 A Mark 7.303 unfired WW2 bullet was recovered from the subsoil immediately above these features [65/002].

4.3.8 An 'L' slot dug at the intersection of these features provided no evidence of stratigraphic relationship. The similarities in ditch profile and the similarities in colour and texture of the respective fills indicate that these features are contemporary. They are thought to represent part of an 20th century military complex, and may represent practise or drainage trenches.

4.4 Trench 66 (Fig. 6)

4.4.1 Trench 66 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 66/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 14.23 |
| 66/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.10m | 13.93 |
| 66/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 13.83 |
| 66/004 | Cut | Ditch | Tr. | 0.80m | 0.42m | 13.50 |
| 66/005 | Fill | Ditch | Tr. | 0.80m | 0.42m | 13.50 |
| 66/006 | Cut | Pit | - | 0.25m | 0.05m | 13.55 |
| 66/007 | Fill | Pit | - | 0.25m | 0.05m | 13.55 |

Table 4: Context Register, Trench 66

4.4.2 Summary

4.4.3 A linear feature orientated south-west to north-east was observed crossing the northern part of this trench [66/004]. This feature had sharp tapered sides and a rounded base. It was filled with a friable mid to dark silty clay [66/005], with large patches of clean re-deposited clay. A cap badge, RF <1>, of the Kings Royal Rifle Corps was recovered from the fill of this feature which can be dated to post – 1901. Several fragments of residual late medieval or early post-medieval brick and tile were also recovered.

4.4.4 The profile and fill of this feature was very similar to the fill of those stretches of ditch observed within trench 65, and the ditch is thought to be a continuation of linear [65/008].

4.4.5 A small sub-oval pit was also observed within this trench [66/006]. This feature had steep concave edges and a short flattish base. It was filled by a mid brown silty clay [66/007], with large patches of re-deposited clay. Although no artefactual material was recovered from this feature, similarities in colour, texture and composition of fills [66/005] and [66/007] suggest that the two features in Trench 66 are contemporary.

4.5 Trench 67 (Figs. 3 and 7)

4.5.1 Trench 67 measured 14m in length, and was orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment. This trench was moved and shortened as a result of space restrictions imposed by the contractor's compound, and the presence of a live electrical service located to the north-east.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-----------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 67/001 | Deposit | Modern hardcore | Tr. | Tr. | 0.25m | 15.25 |
| 67/002 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.18m | 15.00 |
| 67/003 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.20m | 15.82 |
| 67/004 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 15.62 |
| 67/005 | Cut | Pit | - | 0.65m | 0.23m | 15.62 |
| 67/006 | Fill | Pit | - | 0.65m | 0.23m | 15.62 |

Table 5: Context Register, Trench 67

4.5.2 Summary

4.5.3 A single circular pit, with a steep concave profile was observed within this trench, partially exposed extending out from the eastern baulk of the trench [67/005]. This feature was filled by a dark orangish grey silty clay [67/006], which contained occasional charcoal, a cattle mandible and two small fragments of medieval pottery, likely dating from mid 11th to the early or mid 12th century.

4.5.4 This feature is thought to represent the remains of a small medieval pit, probably associated with the remains of the medieval farmstead identified at the site to immediately the north-west (Margetts 2007).

4.5.5 No other archaeological features were observed within this trench, although there were three small areas of modern intrusion (one containing a crisp packet) within the line of rooting disturbance associated with a grubbed-out hedge at the south-west end of the trench.

4.6 Trench 68 (Fig. 8)

4.6.1 Trench 68 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on an east to west alignment.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 68/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.22m | 15.64 |
| 68/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.07m | 15.42 |
| 68/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 15.35 |
| 68/004 | Cut | Pit | - | 0.65m | 0.07m | 15.35 |
| 68/005 | Fill | Pit | - | 0.65m | 0.07m | 15.35 |

Table 6: Context Register, Trench 68

4.6.2 Summary

4.6.3 A single, small sub-oval pit was observed within this trench [68/004]. This feature had a poorly defined gentle concave profile, and contained a firm mid greyish-brown fine silty clay [68/005] containing fragments of a sheep humerus and sheep-sized long bone, rib and juvenile vertebrae fragments. No dating evidence was obtained from the feature.

4.7 Trench 69

4.7.1 Trench 69 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a north to south alignment.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 69/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.33m | 16.08 |
| 69/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.15m | 15.75 |
| 69/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 15.60 |

Table 7: Context Register, Trench 69

4.7.2 Summary

4.7.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench.

4.8 Trench 70

4.8.1 Trench 70 measured 30m in length, and was orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 70/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.29m | 16.29 |
| 70/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.10m | 16.00 |
| 70/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 15.90 |

Table 8: Context Register, Trench 70

4.8.2 Summary

4.8.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench.

4.9 Trench 72

4.9.1 Trench 72 measured 15m in length. This trench was considerably shortened, due to the presence of contractor's cabins to the north, and a newly erected fence line to the south. The trench was orientated on a north to south alignment.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 72/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 15.66 |
| 72/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.10m | 15.36 |
| 72/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 15.26 |

Table 9: Context Register, Trench 72

4.9.2 Summary

4.9.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench.

4.10 Trench 73

4.10.1 Trench 73 measured 30m in length, and was orientated west to east.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 73/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 16.11 |
| 73/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.10m | 15.81 |
| 73/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 15.71 |

Table 10: Context Register, Trench 73

4.10.2 Summary

4.10.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench.

4.11 Trench 74

4.11.1 Trench 74 measured 30m in length, and was orientated north to south.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 74/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.34m | 16.65 |
| 74/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.13m | 16.31 |
| 74/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 16.18 |

Table 11: Context Register, Trench 74

4.11.2 Summary

4.11.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench.

4.12 Trench 75

4.12.1 Trench 75 measured 30m in length, and was orientated west to east.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 75/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.27m | 19.95 |
| 75/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.11m | 19.68 |
| 75/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 19.57 |

Table 12: Context Register, Trench 75

4.12.2 Summary

4.12.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench. Substantial areas of rooting disturbance were present within the eastern end of the trench, and it is thought possible that a small orchard

adjacent to Scocles Farm may have once extended westwards into the evaluation area.

4.13 Trench 76

4.13.1 Trench 76 measured 24m in length, and was orientated west to east. This trench was shortened due to the presence of a new fence line to the east of the trench.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 74/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 16.65 |
| 74/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.10m | 16.35 |
| 74/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 16.25 |

Table 13: Context Register, Trench 76

4.13.2 Summary

4.13.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench.

4.14 Trench 77 (Fig. 9)

4.14.1 Trench 77 measured 30m in length, and was orientated north-west to south-east.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 77/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 17.33 |
| 77/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.14m | 17.03 |
| 77/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 16.89 |
| 77/004 | Cut | Spread | Tr. | 1.20m | 0.16m | 16.89 |
| 77/005 | Fill | Spread | Tr. | 1.20m | 0.16m | 16.89 |

Table 14: Context Register, Trench 77

4.14.2 Summary

4.14.3 An irregular spread or possible remains of an irregularly shaped shallow pit was observed within the eastern end of the trench [77/004]. This feature had very diffuse, irregular edges, and an undulating base. It was filled by a mottled mid greyish brown silty clay [77/005], with diffuse edges and contained frequent fragments of oyster and occasional cockle shell. A single fragment of brick was retrieved from the surface of this feature, which has a possible Roman date. No other dating evidence was obtained.

4.14.4 This feature is thought to represent the remains of either a very shallow irregular pit or an area of dump/ trample containing the remnant of shellfish waste.

4.15 Trench 78

4.15.1 Trench 78 measured 30m in length, and was orientated west to east.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 78/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 17.85 |
| 78/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.10m | 17.55 |
| 78/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 17.45 |

Table 15: Context Register, Trench 78

4.15.2 Summary

4.15.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench.

4.16 Trench 79 (Fig. 10)

4.16.1 Trench 79 measured 30m in length, and was orientated north to south.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|--------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 79/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.31m | 19.23 |
| 79/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.10m | 18.92 |
| 79/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 18.82 |
| 79/004 | Cut | Possible Pit | - | 2.55m | 0.30m | 18.61 |
| 79/005 | Fill | Possible Pit | - | 2.55m | 0.30m | 18.61 |
| 79/006 | Cut | Possible Pit | 4.35 | 0.30m ex | 0.40m | 18.66 |
| 79/007 | Fill | Possible Pit | 4.35 | 0.30m ex | 0.40m | 18.66 |

Table 16: Context Register, Trench 79

4.16.2 Summary

4.16.3 Two large, irregular features were observed within this trench, partially exposed extending from the western and eastern baulks.

4.16.4 Feature [79/004] comprised a sub-oval feature partially exposed extending from the western baulk. This feature had short tapered sides, and a broad, undulating base. This feature was filled by a firm light greyish brown silty clay [79/005], which contained occasional charcoal, two fragments of mid 11th to mid 12th century pottery and a third sherd most likely of the same date, although an earlier date cannot be ruled out. This feature is thought to represent the remains of a shallow pit, or an area of trample.

4.16.5 Feature [79/006] also comprised an irregularly shaped feature, only partially exposed extending from the eastern baulk of the trench. The feature had short concave sides, and an undulating base, with the deepest area to the north. It was filled by firm light greyish brown silty clay [79/007], which contained occasional fragments of charcoal degraded CBM, shell and five

small fragments of mid 11th to mid 12th century pottery. This feature is also thought to represent the remains of a shallow, root disturbed pit, or an area of trample.

4.17 Trench 80

4.17.1 Trench 80 measured 30m in length, and was orientated north- west to south- east.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 80/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 19.45 |
| 80/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.12m | 19.15 |
| 80/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 19.03 |

Table 17: Context Register, Trench 80

4.17.2 Summary

4.17.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench. Some rooting disturbance was present, concentrated particularly at the south- east end.

4.18 Trench 81

4.18.1 Trench 81 measured 30m in length, and was orientated north-east to south-west.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 81/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 19.49 |
| 81/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.15m | 19.19 |
| 81/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 19.04 |

Table 18: Context Register, Trench 81

4.18.2 Summary

4.18.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench. Rooting disturbance was present throughout the trench, and is thought to derive from the hedge line bordering Scocles Road immediately to the east of the trench.

4.19 Trench 82

4.19.1 Trench 82 measured 30m in length, and was orientated east to west.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 82/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.30m | 19.87 |
| 82/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.10m | 19.57 |
| 82/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 19.47 |

Table 19: Context Register, Trench 82

4.19.2 Summary

4.19.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench.

4.20 Trench 83

4.20.1 Trench 83 measured 30m in length, and was orientated north to south.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 83/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.20m | 20.27 |
| 83/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.12m | 20.07 |
| 83/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 19.95 |

Table 20: Context Register, Trench 83

4.20.2 Summary

4.20.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench.

4.21 Trench 84

4.21.1 Trench 84 was an additional trench excavated to compensate for the shortening of trenches 67 and 72. This trench was located within the contractor's compound, in a small area available, and was situated as close as possible to the location of the medieval farmstead identified to the north-west in 2007. The trench measured 13m in length, and was orientated north to south.

| Context No | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max Deposit Thickness | Max Height m.AOD |
|------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 84/001 | Deposit | Topsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.35m | 15.20 |
| 84/002 | Deposit | Subsoil | Tr. | Tr. | 0.10m | 14.85 |
| 84/003 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | - | 14.75 |
| 84/004 | Deposit | Made ground | Tr. | Tr. | 0.15m | 15.35 |

Table 21: Context Register, Trench 84

4.21.2 Summary

4.21.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed within this trench. A layer of modern made ground [84/004] was located within the northern end of the trench, deriving from recent machine movement or re-working of soil within the area of the contractors compound.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 A small collection of finds was recovered during the evaluation at Thistle Hill (Land Parcel 13 and 17), Isle of Sheppey. The finds are quantified in Table 22.

| Context | Pot | Wt (g) | CBM | Wt (g) | Bone | Wt (g) | Shell | Wt (g) | Flint | Wt (g) | Stone | Wt (g) | FE | Wt (g) | Glass | Wg (g) | Slag | Wt (g) |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 64/002 | | | 1 | 64 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 65/002 | | | | | | | | | 4 | 12 | | | | | | | | |
| 65/005 | | | 13 | 832 | 1 | 10 | | | | | | | 2 | 34 | 2 | 24 | | |
| 66/005 | | | 9 | 420 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 65/007 | | | 13 | 154 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 12 |
| 65/009 | | | 5 | 38 | | | | | | | 4 | 30 | | | | | | |
| 67/006 | 2 | 2 | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 68/002 | | | | | | | | | 1 | 60 | | | | | | | | |
| 68/005 | | | | | 37 | 22 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 77/005 | | | 1 | 268 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 78/002 | | | | | | | | | 1 | 20 | | | | | | | | |
| 79/005 | 3 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 79/007 | 5 | 14 | | | | | 5 | 40 | | | 1 | 66 | | | | | | |
| Total | 10 | 24 | 42 | 1776 | 39 | 34 | 5 | 40 | 6 | 92 | 5 | 96 | 2 | 34 | 2 | 24 | 1 | 12 |

Table 22: Quantification of finds

5.2 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The evaluation recovered a small assemblage of pottery all of which is of an early medieval date. Although sherd sizes are small, most are fresh. The small sherd size is the result of the generally low-fired nature of the sherds rather than the reworking of the associated deposits. Unfortunately the complete absence of diagnostic sherds has meant all dating has had to rely on fabrics alone. Diagnostic sherds, and/or a larger assemblage would be needed to confirm/tighten the current dating. The assemblage is totally dominated by thin-walled shell tempered cooking pot sherds (Kent fabric EM2). Both reduced and oxidised (brown) sherds are present in [67/006] (2/2g), [79/005] (2/16g and [79/007] (4/11g). Although a date of between AD1050 and AD1200 is possible it is considered likely the material predates to early/mid 12th century as there is a total absence of sand and shell EM3 wares. The only other fabric is represented by a fresh reduced bodysherd in abundant flint tempered ware (similar to EM33) from [79/005] (1/3g). The sherd is most likely to date between AD1000 and AD1100 but a later 9th- to 10th- century date cannot be ruled out.

5.3 The Slag by Luke Barber

- 5.3.1 Context [65/007] produced two fragments of lightweight fuel ash slag which shows some signs of surface vitrification. This material could have originated from any number of high temperature processes, including a domestic hearth.

5.4 Geological Material by Luke Barber

- 5.4.1 Context [65/009] produced four pieces of coal, three of which have been partially burnt. A post-medieval date is likely. The only other stone consists of a weathered fragment from a septaria nodule from [79/007]. This stone type originates from the London Clay and is a common find on Sheppey.

5.5 Animal Bone by Lucy Sibun

- 5.5.1 A very small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from three contexts. The bone was in a poor state of preservation and very fragmentary. Context [65/005] produced a single fragment of cattle sized long bone, [67/006] contained a small, weathered fragment of possible cattle-sized mandible and [68/005] produced fragments of a sheep humerus and sheep-sized long bone, rib and juvenile vertebrae fragments. No further data was obtainable.

5.6 Glass by Trista Clifford

- 5.6.1 Two clear glass fragments from a 19th- 20th century bottle were recovered from [65/005].

5.7 Shell by Trista Clifford

- 5.7.1 Context [79/007] contained one complete and one fragmentary lower Common Oyster, *Ostrea edulis* valve.

5.8 Registered Finds by Trista Clifford

- 5.8.1 Registered finds are washed, air dried or cleaned by a conservator as appropriate to the material requirements. Objects have been packed appropriately in line with IFA guidelines. All objects are assigned a unique registered find number (RF<00>) and recorded on the basis of material, object type and date (shown in Table 2). Metal work is boxed in airtight Stewart tubs with silica gel.
- 5.8.2 The finds are in fair condition with some active corrosion present particularly on the copper alloy objects; the iron objects are fragmentary and highly corroded. The registered finds assemblage is summarised in Table 23, below:

| Context | RF number | Object | Material | Period | Wt (g) | Comments |
|---------|-----------|--------|----------|--------|--------|---|
| 66/005 | 1 | Badge | COPP | Modern | 16 | Cap Badge; Kings Royal Rifle Corps; post 1901 |
| 65/005 | 2 | Hinge | COPP | Modern | 24 | Hinge plate fragment |
| 65/002 | 3 | BULL | COPP | Modern | 12 | Mark 7 .303 Unfired WW2 |
| 65/005 | 4 | AMMU | IRON | Modern | 34 | WW2 Shell fragments |

Table 23: The registered finds

5.9 Military equipment

- 5.9.1 A cap badge, RF <1>, of the Kings Royal Rifle Corps was recovered from [66/005]. The badge can be dated to post - 1901 (Wilkinson 1980).
- 5.9.2 Context [65/002] contained a single Mark 7 .303 bullet, RF <3>, dating to World War II and of probable American manufacture for the British army. Nitro cellulose propellant is present in the base of the bullet; the neck of the cartridge is also present, indicating that the bullet is unfired.
- 5.9.3 Two iron shell splinters, RF <4>, from a World War II shell of uncertain type were recovered from context [65/005].

5.10 Fittings

- 5.10.1 A copper alloy hinge plate fragment, RF <2>, exhibiting two countersunk nail holes was recovered from context [65/005]. The fitting is of modern date and could derive from a variety of sources.

5.11 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

- 5.11.1 A total of 42 fragments of ceramic building material with a combined weight of 1776g were recovered from 6 contexts. The assemblage contained material of possible Roman and later medieval or early post-medieval material.
- 5.11.2 A provisional fabric series was drawn up (table 24) with the aid of a x10 binocular microscope. The material has been retained with labelled fabric numbers.

| Fabric code | Description | Date range |
|-------------|---|-------------|
| T1 | Pale cream fabric with abundant fine rose quartz and sparse black iron rich inclusions | C15th-C17th |
| T2 | Fine sandy orange fabric with abundant micaceous speckling and sparse fine orange silt inclusions with sparse coarse quartz | C15th-C17th |
| T3 | Fine orange fabric with sparse calcareous inclusions | Roman? |
| T4 | Orange fabric with abundant angular coarse quartz | C17th-C19th |
| B1 | Sandy orange fabric with sparse coarse flint inclusions and sparse black iron rich inclusions | C15th-C18th |
| B2 | Orange fine sandy fabric with sparse micaceous speckling with sparse coarse quartz and sparse black coarse iron rich inclusions | Roman |

Table 24: provisional CBM fabric series descriptions

- 5.11.3 The earliest material recovered was a single fragment of brick of possible Roman date from context [77/005]. The brick in fabric B2 weighed 268g and had a thickness of 40mm and had abraded edges. Also of possible Roman date was an abraded tile fragment in fabric T3 which appeared to be residual to context [65/007].
- 5.11.4 Fragments of brick in fabric B1, of probable late medieval or early post-medieval date were recovered from contexts [65/009], [65/005]/ [66/005] and [65/007]. Peg tile in fabric T2 was recovered from context [64/002], [65/009], [65/005]/ [66/005] and [65/007]. The peg tile was soft fired and abraded in all cases. A pale cream peg tile fabric T1 was recovered from context [65/005]/ [66/005] and is also believed to be of later medieval or early post-medieval date.
- 5.11.5 A probable post-medieval tile fragment in fabric T4 was recovered from context [65/007] a broad date of 17th to 19th century is likely.
- 5.11.6 Context [65/005] contained a single brick made of a cream fabric with abundant very coarse gravel in a fine cream silt matrix. The surface of the brick appears to be heat affected. The date of this brick is uncertain.

5.12 Flintwork By Karine Le Hégarat

5.12.1 A very small collection comprising just six pieces of debitage weighing 92g was recovered, as detailed in Table 25. All six pieces originated from subsoil context. A blade fragment, a flake fragment, a chip and a shattered piece were found in Trench 65. The narrow blade fragment (18mm X 58mm) exhibits parallels lateral margins. The dorsal surface displays scars of previous blade removals. The flint was manufactured from a fine-grained honey coloured flint and although the proximal end is absent, both lateral edges are in a very fresh condition. The chip found in the same deposit can be refitted to the small broken flake and the refitted flake displays some possible use damage along both lateral edges. Both the narrow blade fragment and the refitted small flake are characteristic of the Mesolithic/early Neolithic. Trench 68 produced a flake fragment removed with a hard hammer. Light brown to honey coloured coarse-grained material with occasional lighter mottled patches, frequent inclusions and thin buff cortex was used for the production of this flake. Trench 78 yielded a flake with a narrow but and a diffuse bulk of percussion, which are most characteristic of a soft hammer technology, often associated with a Mesolithic or Neolithic date. The flake was manufactured from a black very fine-grained flint with a cortex abraded to a smooth thin dark gravel surface. It displays some possible use damage along the left-hand lateral edges.

5.12.2 Although the assemblage of struck flint is small and none of the pieces are diagnostic, it provides limited evidence for Mesolithic and Neolithic activities. The assemblage should be retained to allow integration with any assemblage recovered in the event of further work.

| Context | Interpretation | Flint spot date | Flake | Flake fragment | Blade fragment | Chip | Shattered piece |
|--------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|
| 65/002 | subsoil | Mesolithic/early Neolithic | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 68/002 | subsoil | - | | 1 | | | |
| 78/002 | subsoil | Mesolithic/Neolithic? | 1 | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Table 25: The flintwork

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Karine Le Hégarat

- 6.1** A single 20L bulk soil sample was taken during the evaluation to recover environmental remains such as wood charcoal, charred macrobotanical remains, fauna and mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. The sample was extracted from the fill [67/006] of a circular pit [67/005], which yielded a small assemblage of medieval pottery. The sample was processed in a flotation tank and the residue and flot were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes and air dried. The residue was passed through graded sieves (4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Table 26). The flot was scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and their contents recorded (Table 27).
- 6.2** The small flot (25ml) consisted almost entirely of uncharred vegetation (90%) including high numbers of very fine roots, which suggests some post-depositional disturbances and potential modern contamination of the deposit. There was a general paucity of environmental remains in the sample including charcoal and charred macrobotanical remains. The wood charcoal fragments were sparse and predominantly small (<2mm in size). The small assemblage of charred macroplants consisted of charred caryopses including wheat (*Triticum* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) as well as some unidentified cereal (Cerealia) and wild/weed seeds including stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*) and a single unidentified grass (Poaceae). The charred cereal remains revealed poor preservation. The grains were either heavily puffed up and distorted or fragmentary and heavily pitted. The small charred weed seeds were better preserved. No other classes of biological material were represented however a small assemblage of pottery was recovered from the residue.
- 6.3** Sampling from the pit fill deposit confirmed the presence of a very small quantity of charred archaeobotanical remains. While the wood charcoal assemblage is insufficient to provide meaningful interpretations regarding fuel use or the vegetation environment, macrobotanical remains provide evidence for cereal crops; wheat and possibly barley. Stinking mayweed is a typical weed of this period and is often associated with crops, particularly wheat that can be grown on heavy clay soils. The assemblage is very limited however and is too poorly preserved to provide further information about the agricultural economy.

| Sample Number | Context | Context / deposit type | Sample Volume litres | sub-Sample Volume litres | Charcoal >4mm | Weight (g) | Charcoal <4mm | Weight (g) | Other (eg ind, pot, cbm) |
|---------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 67/006 | Fill of pit [67/005] | 20 | 20 | * | <2 | * | <2 | Pot */6g – uncharred bot. */<2g |

Table 26: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

| Sample Number | Context | weight g | Flot volume ml | Uncharred % | sediment % | seeds uncharred | Charcoal <2mm | crop seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | weed seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation |
|---------------|---------|----------|----------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|---|--------------|--------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1 | 67/006 | 2 | 25 | 90 | 2 | * | ** | * | <i>Triticum</i> sp., cf <i>Hordeum</i> sp., Cerealina | + to ++ | ** | <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , Poaceae | ++ to +++ |

Table 27: Flot quantification (*=1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

7.0 DISCUSSION

7.1 Prehistoric

7.1 Limited evidence of Mesolithic and Neolithic activity was represented by an unstratified background scatter of worked flint, recovered from subsoil deposits across the site

7.2 Roman Period

7.2.1 The evaluation has provided very limited evidence of Roman activity. A residual fragment of probable Roman tile was recovered from 20th century feature [65/007]. In addition, a single fragment of possible Roman tile was recovered from the surface of an otherwise undated irregular spread/truncated pit [77/004] within Trench 77.

7.2.2 No securely stratified Roman remains were encountered during this phase of archaeological evaluation. However, the results complement the results of earlier phases of work at Thistle Hill (Margetts 2007, 45), and indicate the potential for Roman remains to exist in the vicinity of the site.

7.3 Medieval

7.3.1 A small circular pit, [67/005], partially exposed within Trench 67 contained fragments of 11th to the early or mid 12th century pottery. This feature is thought to be associated with the remains of the medieval farmstead, identified to the immediate north-west of the site (ibid, 45). The 2 medieval features observed in Trench 79 may represent outlying pits and/or areas of trample associated with this farm complex.

7.4 Modern

7.4.1 The evaluation has also uncovered probable evidence of 20th century military activity. A series of ditches and finds including a military cap badge of the Kings Royal Rifle Corps, a probable WWII bullet and fragments of shell splinters were identified in Trenches 65 and 66.

7.4.2 A military tented encampment is known to have been located on Scocles Road in 1910. Several photographs of the encampment can be viewed via the Kent History Forum website (<http://www.kenthistoryforum.co.uk>).

7.4.3 It is possible that the complex of features identified in Trenches 65 and 66 represent features such as practise, defensive and/or enclosure or drainage trenches associated with this camp and the finds also suggest that this area was used for military training or activity into WWII.

7.5 Undated

7.5.1 Based upon the similarities in colour and texture of the fills, it is thought possible that two undated postholes in trench 64 and an undated pit in trench 66 may represent features associated with the 20th century military features described above (section 7.3).

- 7.5.2 An undated small pit [68/004] in Trench 68 which contained fragments of sheep bone may represent an outlying agricultural feature associated with the medieval farmstead described above (section 7.3).

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Parcel 13 (Fig. 2)

- 8.1.1 Worked flint and several poorly stratified fragments of probable Roman brick attest to prehistoric and Roman activity within the vicinity of the site.
- 8.1.2 Some medieval activity occurred on the site. This is thought to be associated with the medieval farmstead identified immediately north-west of the site (Margetts 2007, 45).
- 8.1.3 Early 20th century military activity was also detected. This probably represent practise or drainage trenches associated with the training or temporary settlement of troops on the island.

8.2 Parcel 17 (Fig. 2)

- 8.2.1 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were identified in the trenches on Parcel 17.

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SMR Summary Form

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------|-------|
| Site Code | THI07 | | | | | |
| Identification Name and Address | Parcels 13 and 17, Thistle Hill, Minster, Isle of Sheppey | | | | | |
| County, District &/or Borough | Kent | | | | | |
| OS Grid Refs. | 594858 171888 | | | | | |
| Geology | London Clay | | | | | |
| Arch. South-East Project Number | 4644 | | | | | |
| Type of Fieldwork | Eval. X | Excav. | Watching Brief | Standing Structure | Survey | Other |
| Type of Site | Green Field X | Shallow Urban | Deep Urban | Other | | |
| Dates of Fieldwork | Eval. 7- 11/03/201 1 | Excav. | WB. | Other | | |
| Sponsor/Client | Bovis | | | | | |
| Project Manager | Darryl Palmer | | | | | |
| Project Supervisor | Alice Thorne | | | | | |
| Period Summary | Palaeo. | Meso. | Neo. | BA | IA | RB |
| | AS | MED X | PM | Other Modern | | |
| 100 Word Summary | | | | | | |
| <p><i>An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Parcels 13 and 17, Thistle Hill, Minster, Isle of Sheppey, between the 7th and the 11th of March, 2011. Twenty trenches measuring up to 30m in length were excavated.</i></p> <p><i>Worked flint and several poorly stratified fragments of probable Roman brick attest to prehistoric and Roman activity within the vicinity of the site.</i></p> <p><i>Some evidence of medieval activity was revealed in the form of a pit and two probable truncated pits or areas of trample. These are thought to be associated with the medieval farmstead identified at the excavations located immediately to the north-west of the site.</i></p> <p><i>Additionally, a series of intersecting ditches of early 20th century date are likely to represent military features such as practice and/or drainage trenches associated with the training or temporary settlement of troops on the island.</i></p> | | | | | | |

OASIS ID: archaeol6-97636

Project details

| | |
|--|--|
| Project name | Thistle Hill |
| Short description of the project | An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Parcels 13 and 17, Thistle Hill, Minster, Isle of Sheppey, between the 7 th and the 11 th of March, 2011. Twenty trenches measuring up to 30m in length were excavated. Worked flint and several poorly stratified fragments of probable Roman brick attest to prehistoric and Roman activity within the vicinity of the site. Some evidence of medieval activity was revealed in the form of a pit and two probable truncated pits or areas of trample. These are thought to be associated with the medieval farmstead identified at the excavations located immediately to the north-west of the site. Additionally, a series of intersecting ditches of early 20 th century date are likely to represent military features such as practice and/or drainage trenches associated with the training or temporary settlement of troops on the island. |
| Project dates | Start: 07-03-2011 End: 11-03-2011 |
| Previous/future work | Yes / Yes |
| Any associated project reference codes | THI07 - Sitecode |
| Type of project | Field evaluation |
| Site status | None |
| Current Land use | Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation |
| Monument type | DITCH Modern |
| Monument type | PIT Medieval |
| Significant Finds | CAP BADGE Modern |
| Significant Finds | POTTERY Medieval |
| Methods & techniques | 'Sample Trenches' |
| Development type | Housing estate |
| Prompt | Planning condition |
| Position in the planning process | After full determination (eg. As a condition) |

Project location

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Country | England |
| Site location | KENT SWALE SHEERNESS Thistle Hill, Minster |
| Postcode | XXXXXX |
| Study area | 500.00 Square metres |
| Site coordinates | TR 594858 171888 50.8950052948 1.690554969440 50 53 42 N 001 41 26 E Point |
| Height OD / Depth | Min: 13.00m Max: 20.00m |

Project creators

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Name of Organisation | Archaeology South East |
| Project brief originator | Heritage Conservation Kent County Council |
| Project design originator | The Heritage Conservation Group Kent County Council |
| Project director/manager | Darryl Palmer |
| Project supervisor | Alice Thorne |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | Client |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | Bovis |

Project archives

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Physical Archive recipient | Local Museum |
| Physical Contents | 'Ceramics','Metal' |
| Digital Archive recipient | Local Museum |
| Digital Contents | 'other' |
| Digital Media available | 'Images raster / digital photography' |
| Paper Archive recipient | Local Museum |

Paper Contents 'Ceramics','Metal','other'
Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Diary','Map','Notebook - Excavation','
Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Section'

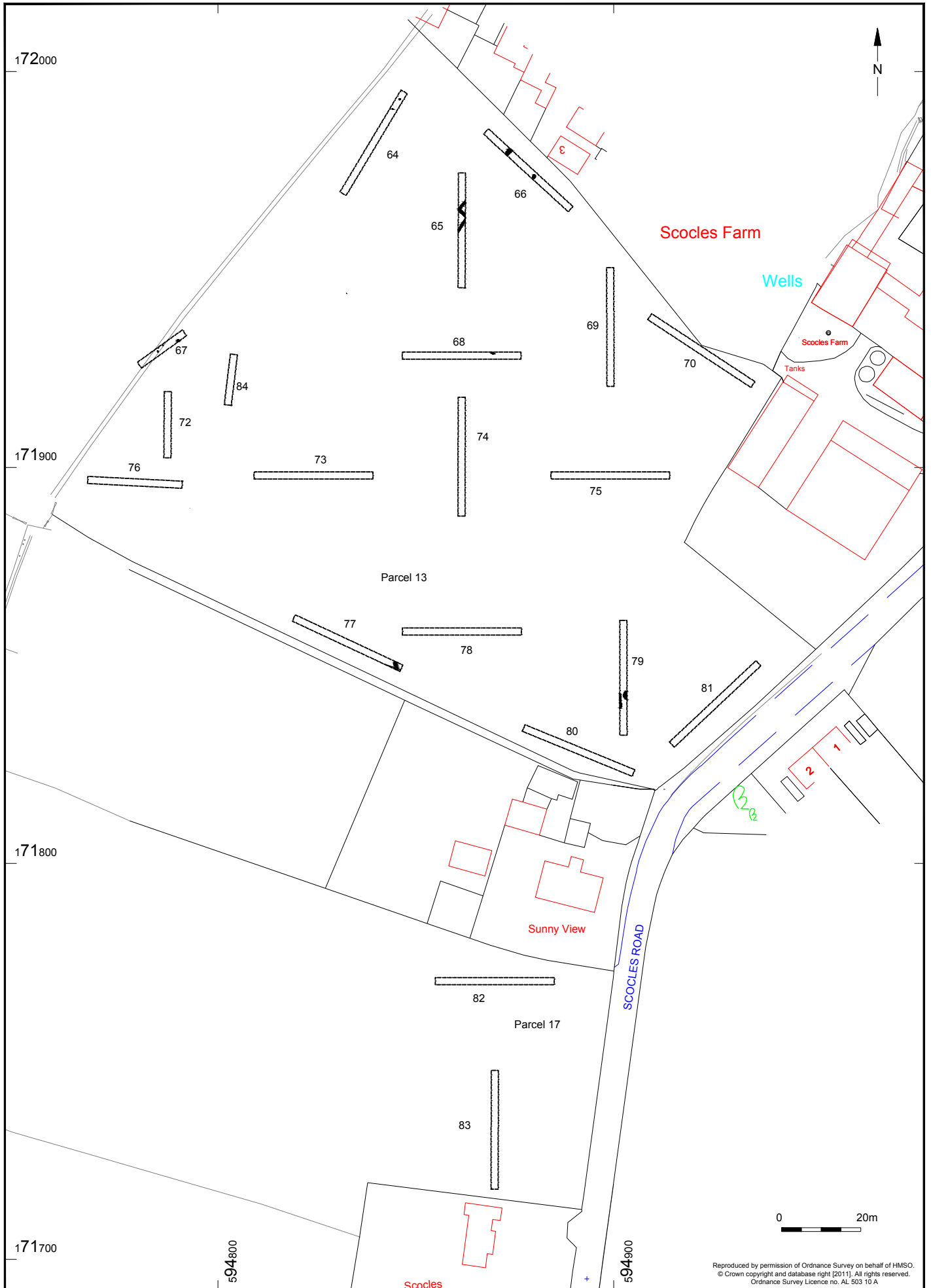
**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title An Archaeological Evaluation on land Parcels 13 and 17,
Thistle Hill
Author(s)/Editor(s) Thorne, A
Other bibliographic details 2011059
Date 2011
Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication Archaeology South-East
Description grey literature

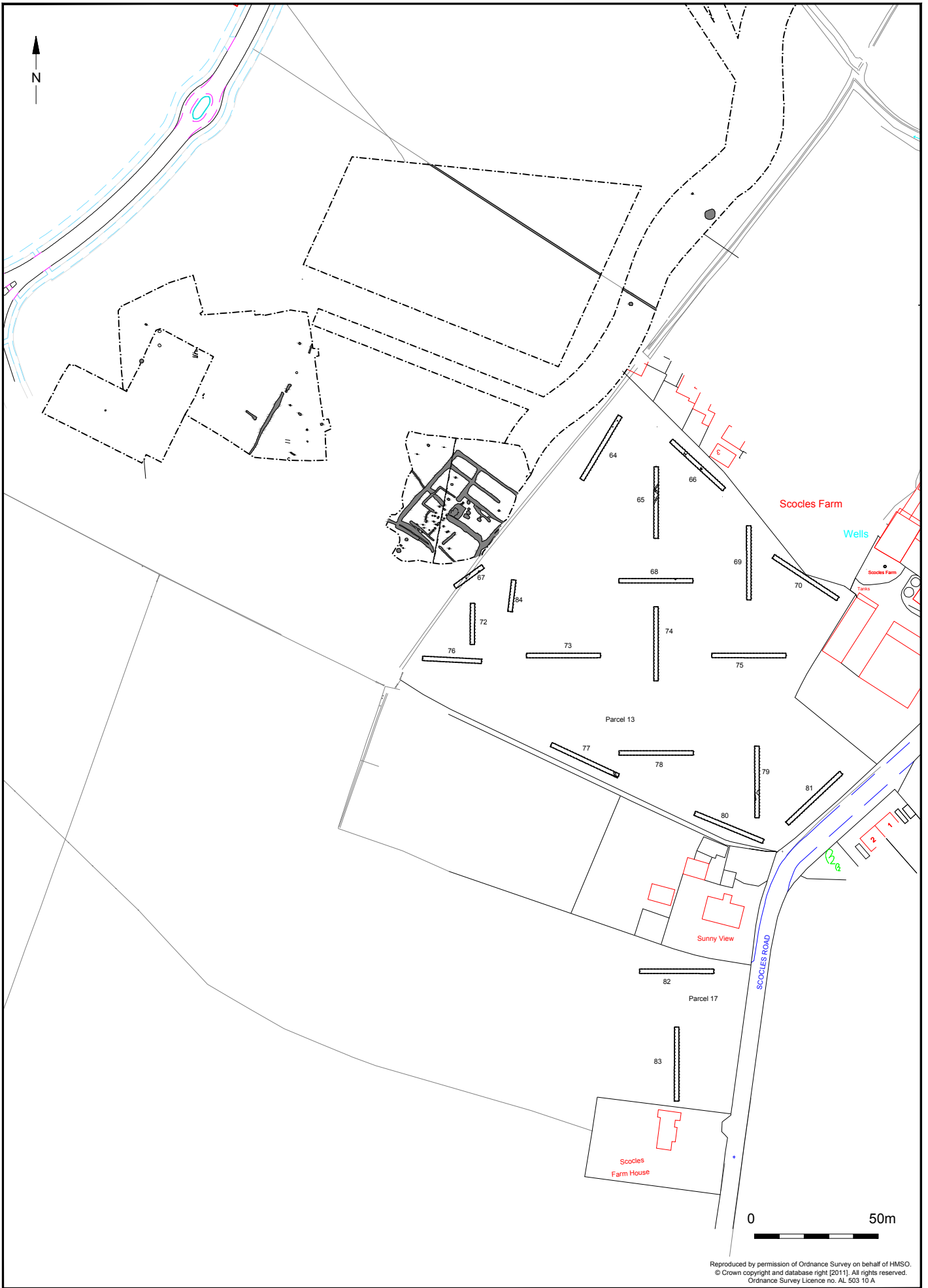
Entered by A Thorne (tcrnath@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on 28 March 2011



| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Land Parcel 13, Thistle Hill, Sheppey | | Fig. 1 |
| Project Ref: 4644 | March 2011 | Site location | | |
| Report Ref: 2011059 | Drawn by: JLR | | | |



| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Land Parcel 13, Thistle Hill, Sheppey | Fig. 2 |
| Project Ref: 4644 | March 2011 | Trench location | |
| Report Ref: 2011059 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Land Parcel 13, Thistle Hill, Sheppey | Fig. 3 |
| Project Ref: 4644 | March 2011 | Trench location and previous work | |
| Report Ref: 2011059 | Drawn by: JLR | | |

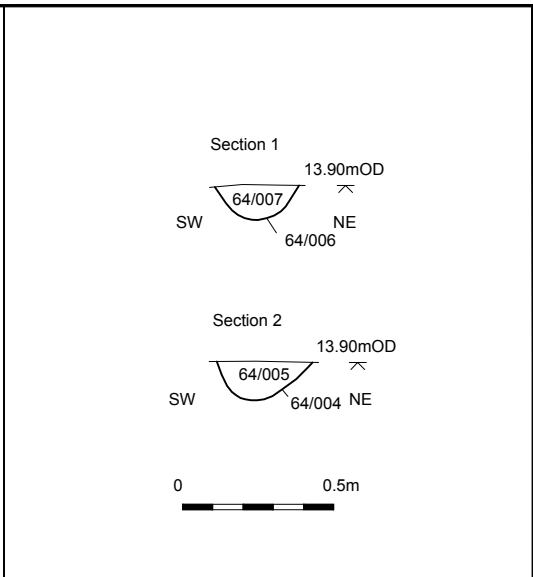
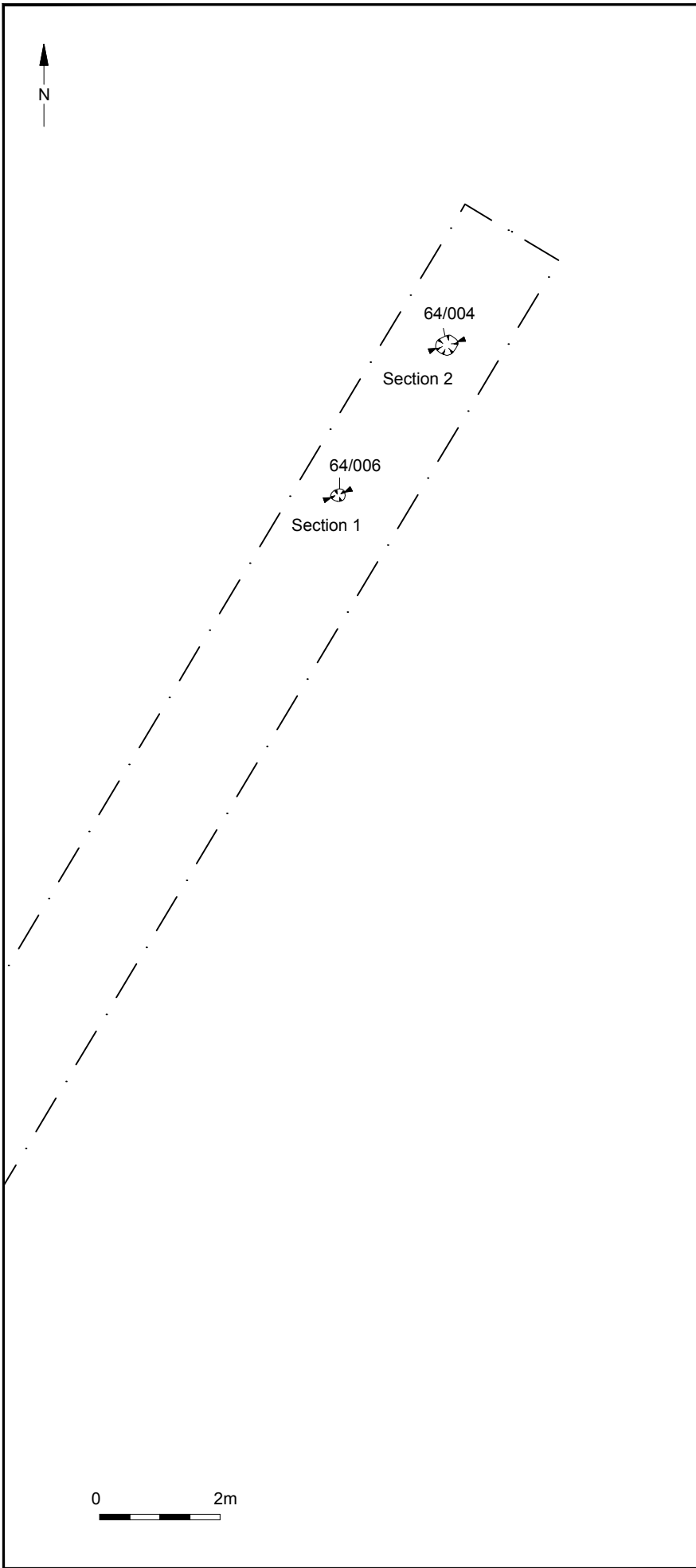


Fig. 4.1: 64/006 looking north-west



Fig. 4.2: 64/004 looking north-west

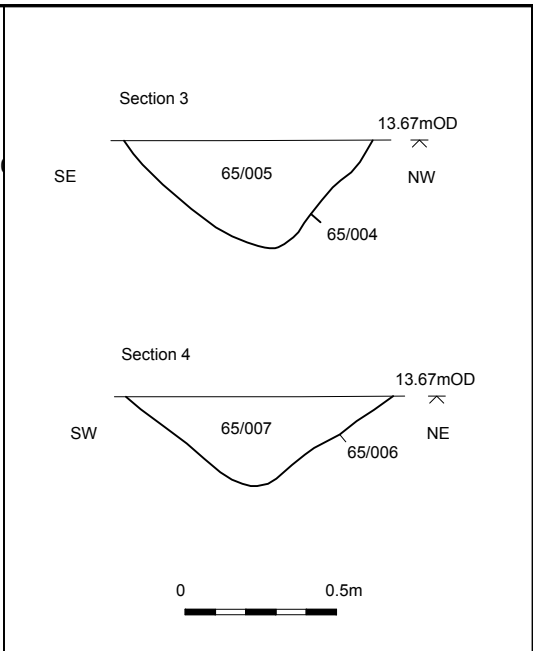
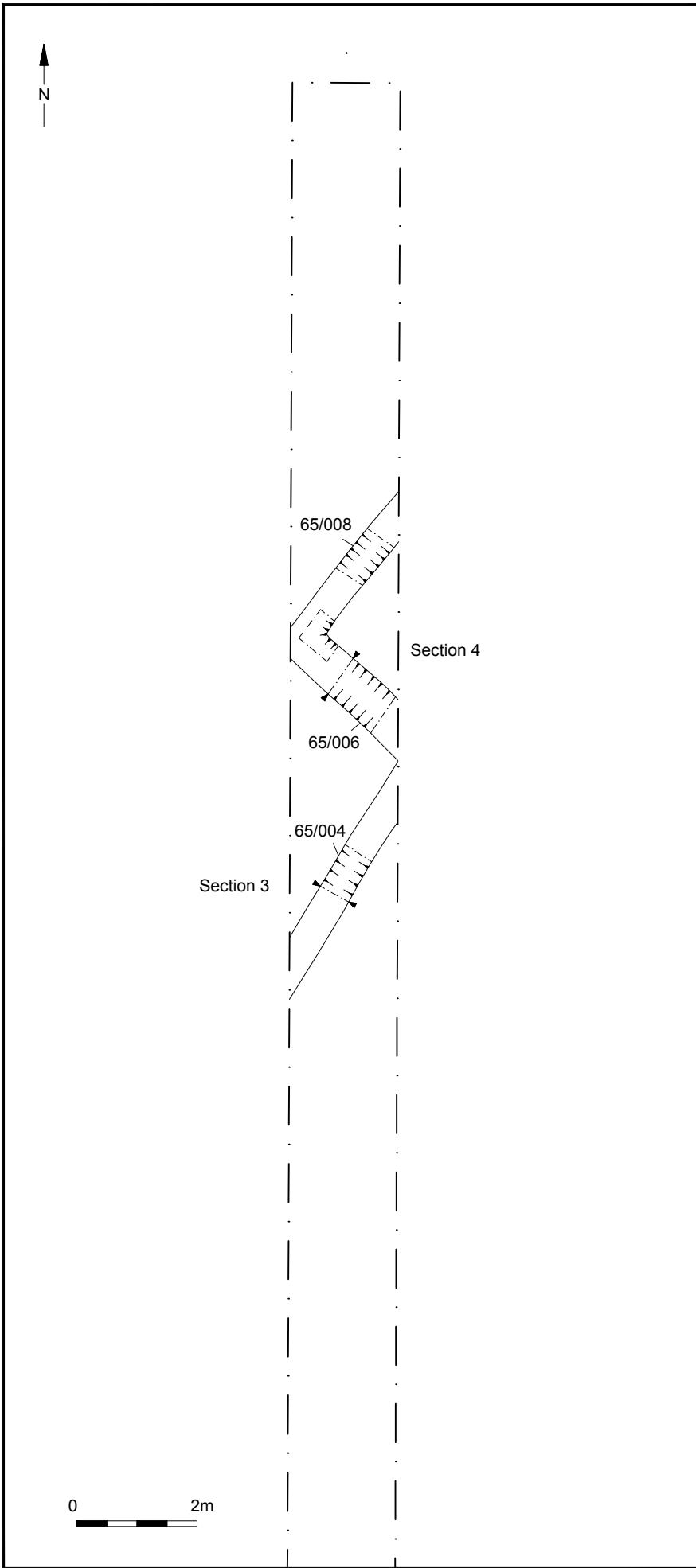


Fig. 5.1: 65/006 looking north-west



Fig. 5.2: 65/006 looking south-west



Fig. 5.3: 65/006 and 65/008 looking north-west

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|--------------------------|---------------|---|--------|
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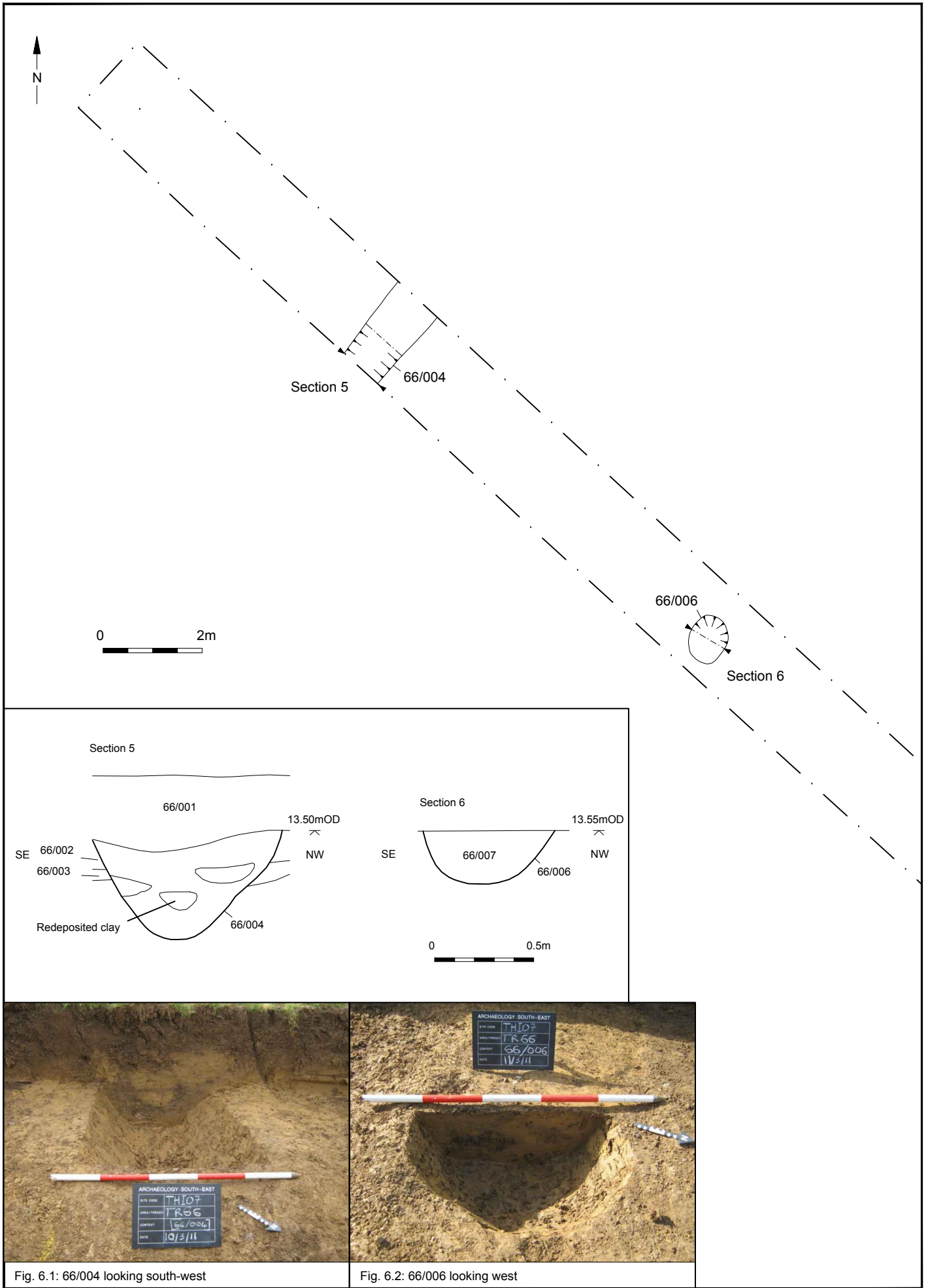


Fig. 6.1: 66/004 looking south-west

Fig. 6.2: 66/006 looking west

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|--------------------------|---------------|---|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Land Parcel 13, Thistle Hill, Sheppey | Fig. 6 |
| Project Ref: 4644 | March 2011 | Trench 66: Plan, sections and photographs | |
| Report Ref: 2011059 | Drawn by: JLR | | |

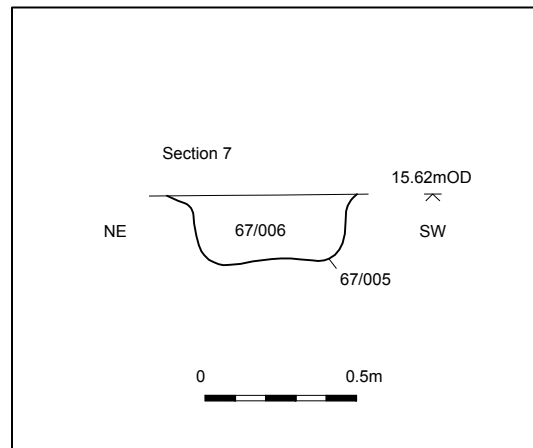
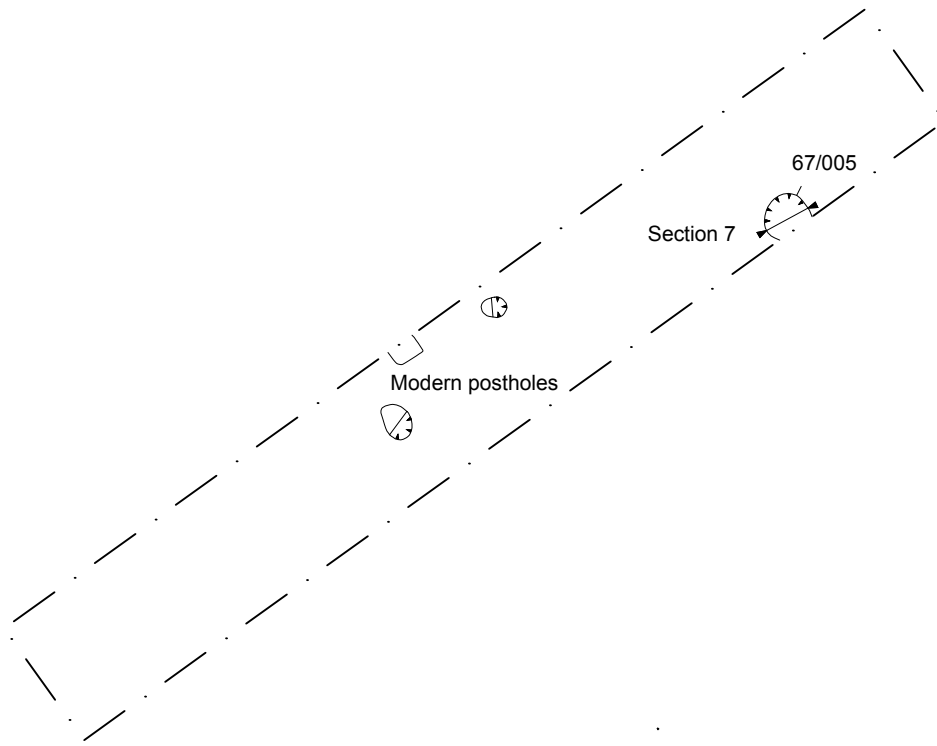
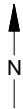


Fig. 7.1:67/005 looking south-east

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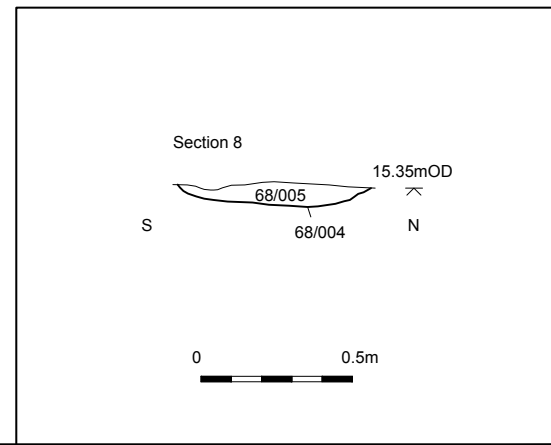
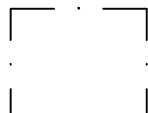
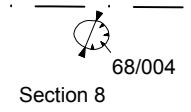
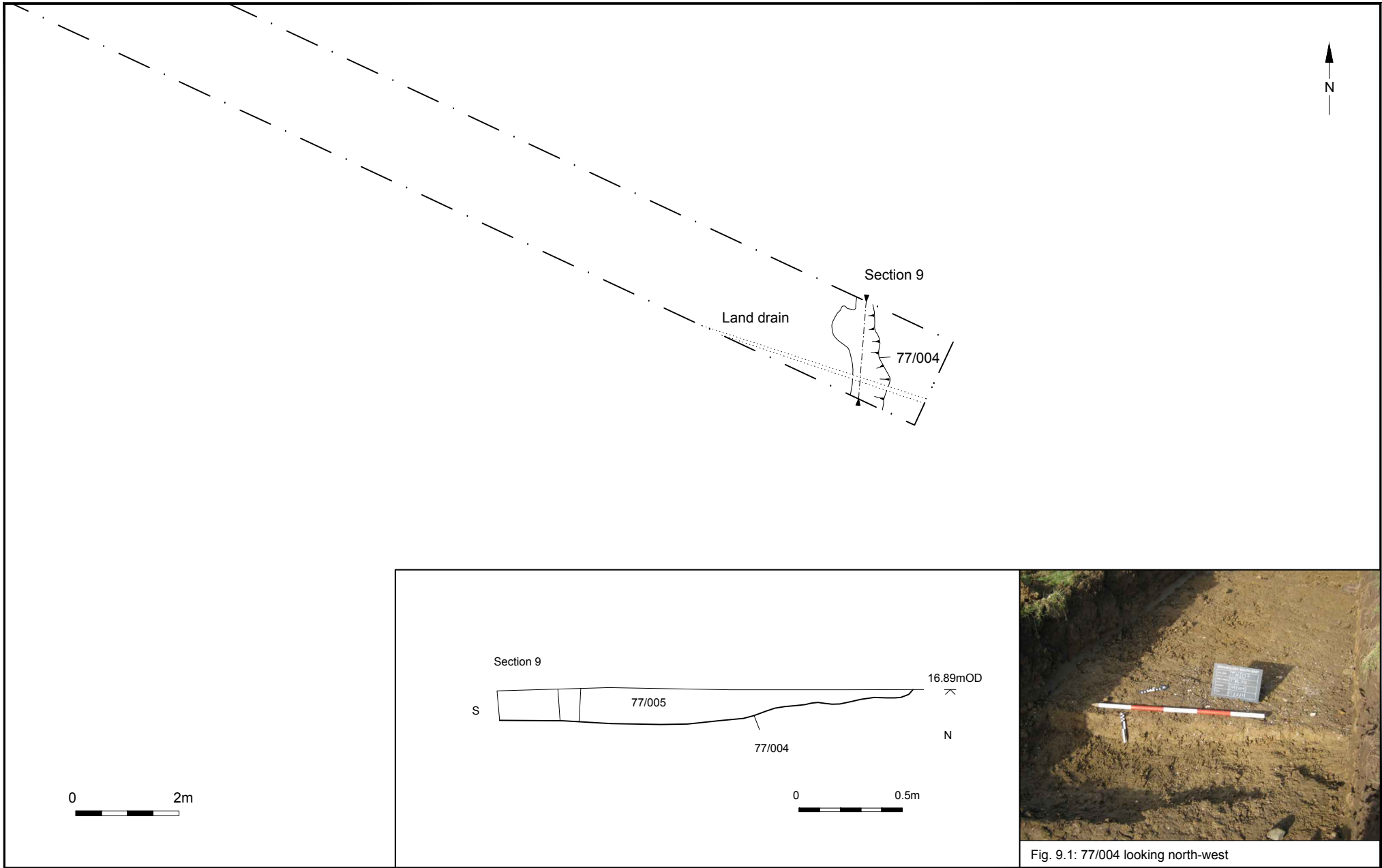
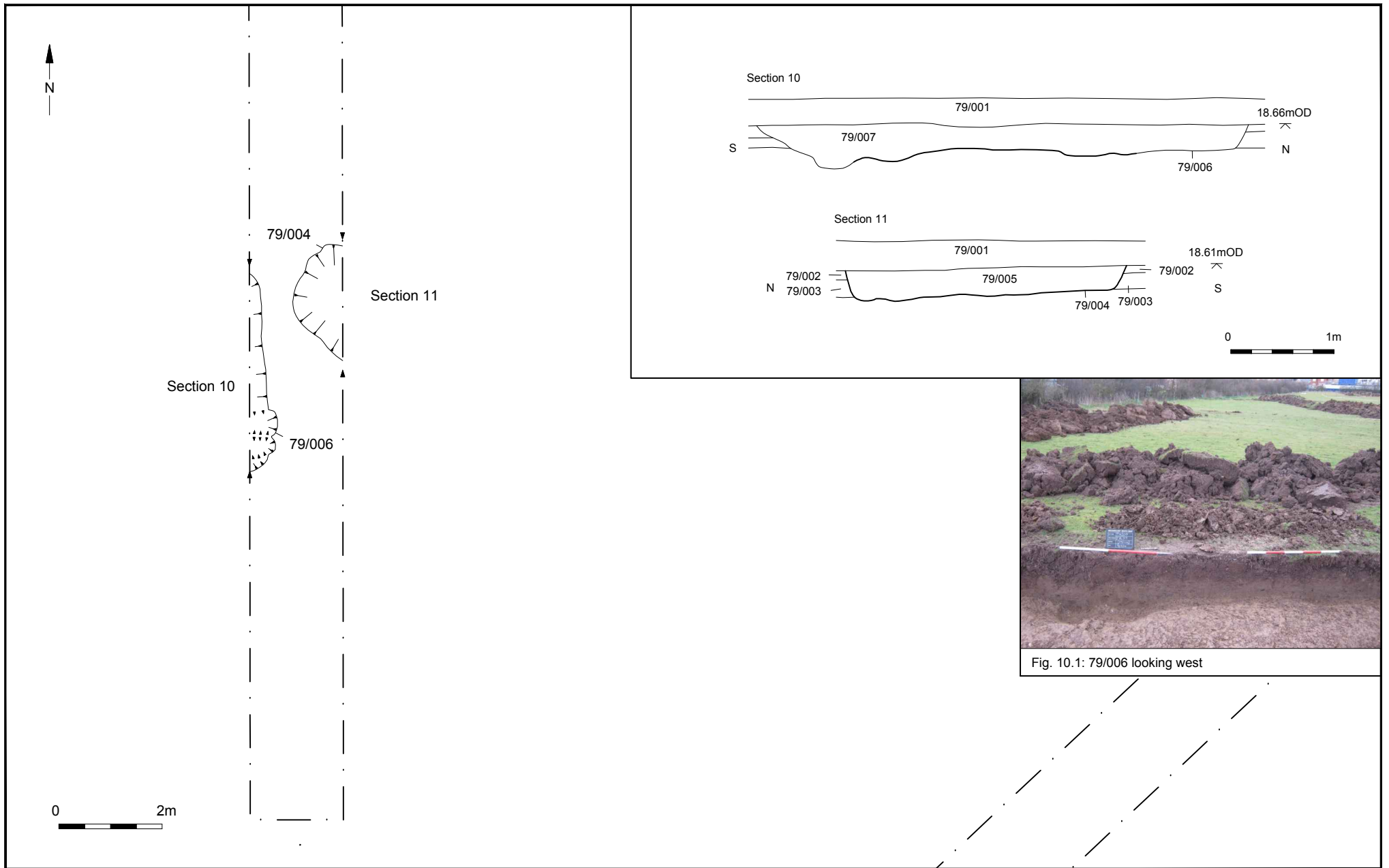


Fig. 8.1: 68/004 looking west

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| © Archaeology South-East | | Land Parcel 13, Thistle Hill, Sheppey | Fig. 8 |
| Project Ref: 4644 | March 2011 | Trench 68: Plan, section and photograph | |
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| Project Ref: 4644 | March 2011 | Trench 77: Plan, section and photograph | |
| Report Ref: 2011059 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



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| Project Ref: 4644 | March 2011 | Trench 79: Plan, sections and photograph | |
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