Archaeology South-East

ASE

An Archaeological and Geoarchaeological Evaluation at 'Oddstones', Stane Street, Pulborough, West Sussex

NGR 505340 119783

Horsham District Council Planning Reference DC/09/0488 (APP/Z3825/A/09/2114137)

ASE Project No: 4803
Site Code: ODD 11

ASE Report No: 2011075
OASIS ID: archaeol6-99485

By Simon Stevens BA (Hons) MIFA

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Abstract

Twenty-six evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated to a cumulative length of 613m providing a c.5% sample of the site. The positions of most of the trenches were based on the results of a previous geophysical survey of the site.

A number of archaeological features were encountered, excavated and recorded. Most were ditches or gullies, with some pits and post-holes, as well as limited remains of a farmhouse known to have occupied part of the site since at least the 19th century.

Dating evidence from the features was extremely sparse, but suggests prehistoric activity in the area represented by the remains of a field system(s), possibly realigned at some point, perhaps after the construction of adjacent Stane Street.

Geological features of potential geoarchaeological significance were identified during the geoarchaeological work, and were partially investigated in two of the evaluation trenches.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology (UCLCAA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. on behalf of their client Taylor Wimpey to undertake an archaeological evaluation at 'Oddstones', Stane Street, Pulborough, West Sussex (NGR 505340 119783; Fig. 1) henceforth referred to as 'the site'.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The 2.39ha site lies on the western side of Stane Street (the modern A29) to the north of the settlement of Pulborough on the northern side of Stane Street Close. It consists of the former gardens of 'Oddstones' and a pasture field to the west. The site slopes gently from west to east at heights varying between *c.*48mAOD and *c.*43mAOD.

1.2.2 According to the British Geological Survey 1: 50 000 map of the area (Sheet 317/322 *Chichester and Bognor Regis*) the underlying geology at the site is Lower Cretaceous Wealden and Lower Greensand

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning permission for the erection of 87 dwellings and associated access and parking was refused by Horsham District Council in 2009 (planning ref. DC/09/0488). There was a subsequent appeal, which was successful (ref. APP/Z3825/A/09/2114137). Following consultation between Horsham District Council and West Sussex County Council (Horsham District Council's advisers on archaeological issues) a condition was attached to the original application requiring a programme of archaeological work prior to the commencement of the development, and this was included as Condition 11 in the later permission.

1.3.2 Initial archaeological work consisted of the production of an archaeological assessment of the potential of the site (Howland 2009). A specification for the archaeological evaluation of the site was produced by CgMs in 2011 (Bourn 2011). This was followed by the completion of a resistivity survey at the site in late February and early March 2011 (ASE 2011)

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The stated aims given in the specification for the current work (Bourn 2011) were to:

> *'determine as far as is reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development.*
>
> *The evaluation will also seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any*

surviving structures of archaeological significance.

Within these parameters, the evaluation of the site represents an opportunity to address the following objectives:

1) *To establish the presence or absence of archaeological; deposits*

2) *Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development.*

3) *Indentify any evidence of medieval and post-medieval occupation and its nature and extent.*

1.4.2 The specification (*ibid*) also noted that mitigation measures might be necessary, dependent on the results of the archaeological evaluation of the site.

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 The current report provides results of the archaeological evaluation of the site undertaken during late March and early April 2011. The on-site work was undertaken by Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist), Chris Killeen, Liane Peyre, Gary Webster (Assistant Archaeologists) and by Rob Cole (Archaeological Surveyor). The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager) and by Jim Stevenson (Post-Excavation Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 A detailed archaeological background of the site may be found in the DBA (Howland 2009), a summary of which is listed below.

2.2 There are no reported sites or finds within the boundaries of the site. However, the site is adjacent to the Roman road from Chichester to London known as Stane Street, which runs from broadly from north to south immediately to the east, under the course of the modern A29.

2.3 However, cartographic research and the survival of standing masonry suggest that the site holds some potential for the survival of buried remains. Soper's Farm stood within the site until the 1960s. Buildings are shown on the site on historical maps from 1795 onwards, and the farm may have been of a much earlier date, possibly associated with a local (West Chiltington) family named Soper, recorded in 1699 (*ibid)*. A wall built in stone and brick survives in the south-eastern corner of the site. The house called 'Oddstones' itself appears to be post-war in date (see 7.5 below).

2.4 In the wider area, finds and sites ranging from Neolithic flints to medieval buildings have been recorded within 1km of the site although the majority of these are concentrated in Pulborough a village located some distance to the south.

2.5 The resistivity survey carried out at the site (ASE 2011) identified a number of anomalies that might have been archaeological in origin. In addition, results from the survey were strongly indicative of the potential presence of geoarchaeological remains. A recent study has highlighted the potential for the discovery of Palaeolithic assemblages in fissures in the local Greensand deposits (Pope 2010).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Twenty-five evaluation trenches (varying between 15m and 30m in length x 1.8m in width) were excavated providing a 5% sample of the site. These were mostly concentrated on anomalies recorded by the geophysical survey. An extra trench (T26) was added during the evaluation to aid in the understanding of the site (Fig. 2).

3.2 The location of each of the trenches was scanned with a CAT scanner for the presence of buried services prior to the commencement of work. The archaeological evaluation trenches were then excavated by a 13 tonne 360° tracked excavator fitted with a 1.8m toothless ditching bucket under the constant supervision of ASE archaeologists.

3.3 Mechanical excavation was taken down to the top of 'natural' geological deposits, or to the top of any recognisable archaeological deposits, whichever was the higher. Care was taken not to damage any archaeological deposits through excessive use of mechanical excavation. Revealed surfaces of the 'natural' were manually cleaned to characterise individual archaeological features. Resultant spoil from the mechanical excavations was scanned for the presence of artefacts, both visually and with a metal detector.

3.4 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards, using standard Archaeology South-East context record sheets. All trenches and features were levelled to the Ordnance Datum.

3.5 Following archaeological recording, two of the trenches (T8 and T10) were excavated to a depth of *c.*1m so that potential underlying geological features of potential geoarchaeological significance could be investigated (see Appendix 1). Following an on-site meeting between representatives of ASE, Rob Bourn of CgMs and John Mills, Senior Archaeologist, West Sussex County Council, all trenches were mechanically backfilled.

3.6 A full photographic record of the work was kept and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held at the Archaeology South-East office in Portslade and will be offered to suitable museum in due course. It consists of:

Number of Contexts	150
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	-
Photographs	59 digital photos 1 colour slide film 1 B&W film
Bulk finds	1 small box
Brick Samples	-
Registered finds	-
Environmental flots/residue	small quantity

Table 1: Quantification of Site Archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
1/001	Deposit	Topsoil	350mm
1/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	350mm
1/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
1/004	Cut	Pit	230mm
1/005	Fill	Pit	230mm
1/006	Cut	Pit	260mm
1/007	Fill	Pit	260mm

4.1.1 Trench 1 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 510mm (46.94mAOD) at the north-western end and to 600mm (46.90mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased.

4.1.2 The overburden consisted of two distinct layers, context [1/001], a slightly humic mid-greyish brown clayey sand topsoil which overlay context [1/002], an orangey-brown silty sand subsoil/colluvium. The 'natural' was a light orangey brown silty sand with occasional darker sandstone patches, context [1/003].

4.1.3 Two features were observed, excavated and recorded. Pit [1/004] was 1.25m in diameter and 230mm in depth. The single fill was context [1/005], a mid-greyish brown silty sand. Pit [1/006] was 1.38m in diameter and 260mm in depth. The single fill was context [1/007], which was similar in character to context [1/005]. No dating evidence was recovered from either of the features and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 4)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
2/001	Deposit	Topsoil	320mm
2/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	340mm
2/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
2/004	Cut	Ditch	240mm
2/005	Fill	Ditch	240mm
2/006	Cut	Ditch	Not excavated
2/007	Fill	Ditch	Not excavated

4.2.1 Trench 2 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 460mm (47.06mAOD) at the south-western end and to 530mm (47.29mAOD) at the north-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those encountered in Trench 1; topsoil [2/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [2/002]. The 'natural', context [2/003] was

also similar in colour and texture to that previously encountered in Trench 1.

4.2.2 Two features were encountered. Ditch [2/004] was a 1.3m wide, 240mm deep flat-bottomed ditch, which ran broadly north-east to south-west across the trench. The single fill was context [2/005], a mid-greyish brown silty sand. No datable artefacts were recovered from the feature. It may have continued to the south-east as Ditch [9/004] in Trench 9.

4.2.3 The other feature was not excavated but be part of ditch [6/008]. Ditch [2/006] was 1.15m wide and ran from north to south. Manual cleaning suggested that the feature terminated in the trench. Later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age pottery and two pieces of broadly contemporary flintwork were recovered from the surface of the reddish brown silty sand fill, context [2/007]. No datable artefacts were recovered from the overburden

4.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 5)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
3/001	Deposit	Topsoil	200mm
3/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	450mm
3/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
3/004	Cut	Tree throw	300mm
3/005	Fill	Tree throw	

4.3.1 Trench 3 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 630mm (48.23mAOD) at the northern end and to 560mm (47.62mAOD) at the southern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [3/001] and subsoil/icolluvium layer [3/002]. The 'natural', context [3/003] was also similar to that found in Trench 1.

4.3.2 Only one feature was encountered, a tree throw, cut [3/005], which had an irregular shape and a maximum depth of 300mm. The single fill was context [3/005], a mid-greyish brown silty sand. No datable artefacts were recovered from the feature or from the overburden.

4.4 Trench 4

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
4/001	Deposit	Topsoil	330mm
4/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	150mm
4/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.4.1 Trench 4 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 480mm (48.05mAOD) at the western end and to 430mm (48.10mAOD) at the eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [4/001] and subsoil/icolluvium layer [4/002]. The 'natural', context [4/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed, and no

artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.5 Trench 5

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
5/001	Deposit	Topsoil	350mm
5/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	150mm
5/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.5.1 Trench 5 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 480mm (48.94mAOD) at the north-western end and to 470mm (48.68m AOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [5/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [5/002]. The 'natural', context [5/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed, and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.6 Trench 6 (Fig. 6)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
6/001	Deposit	Topsoil	260mm
6/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	400mm
6/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
6/004	Cut	Pit/Post-Hole	100mm
6/005	Fill	Pit/Post-Hole	100mm
6/006	Cut	Pit/Post-Hole	50mm
6/007	Fill	Pit/Post-Hole	50mm
6/008	Cut	Ditch	-
6/009	Fill	Ditch	-
6/010	Cut	Ditch	300mm
6/011	Fill	Ditch	300mm

4.6.1 Trench 6 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 530mm (47.03mAOD) at the north-western end and to 610mm (46.78mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [6/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [6/002]. The 'natural', context [6/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1.

4.6.2 Four archaeological features were encountered. Cut [6/004] was a small pit/post-hole with a diameter of 350mm and a depth of 100mm. The single fill, context [6/005] was a mid-greyish brown silty. It contained a modern, partly-painted metal spike (not retained). Cut [6/006] was a small pit/post-hole with a diameter of 250mm and a depth of 50mm. The single fill was context [6/007], which was similar in character to context [6/005].

4.6.3 The other two features were intercutting ditches, [6/008] and [6/010]. The older of the two was ditch [6/008] which ran broadly from north to south

across the trench and appeared to continue as ditch [2/006] in Trench 2. The extent and depth of the feature could not be ascertained in the confines of the evaluation trench, but the encountered fill, context [6/009] was a mid-yellowish brown silty sand. No datable artefacts were recovered from the feature.

4.6.4 It had been heavily truncated by ditch [6/010] which appeared to run broadly east to west across the trench. Again the exact dimensions of the feature could not be ascertained, but it was 300mm in depth in the recorded section. The single fill, context [6/011] was a mid-greyish brown silty sand from which two small sherds of Middle or Late Iron Age pottery and a single struck flint were recovered. An environmental sample taken from the feature contained abundant charcoal and a charred cereal grain.

4.7 Trench 7

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
7/001	Deposit	Topsoil	410mm
7/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	450mm
7/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.7.1 Trench 7 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 830mm (47.53mAOD) at the north-eastern end and to 680mm (47.75mAOD) at the south-western end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [7/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [7/002]. The 'natural', context [7/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed, and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.8 Trench 8

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
8/001	Deposit	Topsoil	200mm
8/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	380mm
8/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.8.1 Trench 8 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 600mm (48.33mAOD) at the north-western end and to 590mm (47.79mmAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation was halted. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [8/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [8/002]. The 'natural', context [8/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed, and two small sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the overburden.

4.8.2 Trench 8 was deepened under the supervision of Dr. Matt Pope to evaluate geoarchaeological potential (see Appendix 1). It was excavated to a depth of 1.2m (47.73mAOD) at the north-western end and to 1.05m (47.41mAOD) at the south-eastern end

4.9 Trench 9 (Fig. 7)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
9/001	Deposit	Topsoil	350mm
9/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	220mm
9/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
9/004	Cut	Ditch	150mm
9/005	Fill	Ditch	150mm

4.9.1 Trench 9 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 520mm (46.98mAOD) at the north-western end and also to 570mm (46.28mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [9/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [9/002]. The 'natural', context [9/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1.

4.9.2 One archaeological feature was encountered, excavated and recorded. Ditch [9/004] ran from north-east to south-west across the trench. It was 1m wide and 150mm in depth with a broadly flat base. The single fill was context [9/005] a mid-greyish brown sandy silt. No datable artefacts were recovered from the feature or from the overburden. It is possible that this feature continued to the south-west as Ditch [2/004] in Trench 2.

4.10 Trench 10

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
10/001	Deposit	Topsoil	300mm
10/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	150mm
10/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.10.1 Trench 10 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 420mm (47.13mAOD) at the north-western end and to 450mm (46.40mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [10/001] and subsoil/icolluvium layer [10/002]. The 'natural', context [10/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed, and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.10.2 The trench was deepened under the supervision of Dr. Matt Pope to evaluate geoarchaeological potential (see Appendix 1). It was excavated to a depth of 1.38m (46.17mAOD) at the north-western end and to 0.97m (45.88mAOD) at the south-eastern end.

4.11 Trench 11 (Fig. 8)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
11/001	Deposit	Topsoil	400mm
11/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	200mm
11/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
11/004	Cut	Gully/Ditch	300mm
11/005	Fill	Gully/Ditch	300mm
11/006	Cut	Gully/Ditch	240mm
11/007	Fill	Gully/Ditch	240mm
11/008	Cut	Gully/Ditch	150mm
11/009	Fill	Gully/Ditch	150mm

4.11.1 Trench 11 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 560mm (47.24mAOD) at the north-western end and also to 330mm (46.53mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [11/001] and subsoil/icolluvium layer [11/002]. The 'natural', context [11/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. Three linear features were encountered, excavated and recorded. All ran from north-east to south-west across the trench.

4.11.2 Ditch/gully [11/004] was 900mm wide and 300mm deep. The single fill was context [11/005], a mid-greyish brown silty sand. Gully [11/006] was 590mm wide and 240mm deep. The single fill was context [11/007] which was similar in character to context [11/005]. Gully [11/008] was 750mm wide and 150mm deep. The single fill, context [11/009] was also similar in character to context [11/007]. No datable artefacts were recovered from any of the features in the trench or from the overburden. It is possible that [11/004] or [11/006] continued as far as Trench 12.

4.12 Trench 12 (Fig. 9)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
12/001	Deposit	Topsoil	220mm
12/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	590mm
12/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
12/004	Cut	Ditch	430mm
12/005	Fill	Ditch	430mm
12/006	Cut	Gully	140mm
12/007	Fill	Gully	140mm
12/008	Cut	Ditch/Gully	310mm
12/009	Fill	Ditch/Gully	310mm
12/010	Cut	?Pit	120mm
12/011	Fill	?Pit	120mm

4.12.1 Trench 12 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 480mm (46.11mAOD) at the north-eastern end and to 810mm (45.83mAOD) at the

south-western end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [12/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [12/002]. The 'natural', context [12/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. Four archaeological features were identified, excavated and recorded.

4.12.2 The most striking feature encountered in the trench was a ditch which ran down the entire axis of the trench, which was extended in order to allow the full width of the feature to be investigated. Ditch [12/004], 1.2m wide by 430mm deep, with a flat bottom. No datable artefacts were recovered from the single fill, context [12/005], which was a mid-greyish brown silty clay. Little useful material was recovered from an environmental sample. It is possible that this feature is a continuation of one of the linear features recorded in Trench 11.

4.12.3 Ditch [12/004] truncated the three other features encountered in the trench. Gully [12/006] ran from south-east to north-west across the trench and apparently terminated where it had been truncated. It was 400mm wide and 140mm deep, with a 'v' shaped profile. The single fill was a mid-grey silty sand, context [12/007]. Gully [12/008] lay on a similar orientation. It was 920mm wide and 310mm deep and was also 'v' shaped in profile. The single fill was context [12/009], a mid-greyish brown silty sand from which a single piece of flintwork was recovered. The gullies may have continued to the south-east to be recorded in Trench 13, or even as far as Trench 22.

4.12.4 The other feature truncated by ditch [12/004] was pit [12/010]. It was 1.55m in diameter and 120mm deep. The single fill was context [12/011], a mid-greyish brown silty sand. No dating evidence was recovered from any of the features which were truncated by ditch [12/004].

4.12.5 A complete 18th century clay pipe bowl was recovered from the overburden.

4.13 Trench 13 (Fig. 10)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
13/001	Deposit	Topsoil	310mm
13/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	220mm
13/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
13/004	Cut	Ditch	360mm
13/005	Fill	Ditch	360mm
13/006	Cut	Ditch/Gully	260mm
13/007	Fill	Ditch/Gully	260mm
13/008	Cut	Ditch	450mm
13/009	Fill	Ditch	450mm
13/010	Cut	Ditch	not excavated
13/011	Fill	Ditch	not excavated

4.13.1 Trench 13 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 530mm (45.95mAOD) at the north-western end and to 450mm (45.14mAOD) at the

south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden [13/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [13/002]. The 'natural', context [13/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. Four archaeological features were identified. Three were excavated and recorded. Two may represent further stretches of the gullies investigated in Trench 13.

4.13.2 Ditch [13/004] was 1.13m in width and 360mm in depth and ran broadly east to west across the trench. The single fill was context [13/005], an orangey brown clayey sand from which a single piece of flintwork and burnt sandstone were recovered. It was partially truncated by ditch [13/006], which was 760mm in width and 260mm in depth and ran on a similar alignment. Both had 'u' shaped profiles. No datable finds were recovered from the single orangey brown clayey sand fill, context [13/007].

4.13.3 At the southern end of the trench there were two intercutting features. Ditch [13/008] was 810mm wide and 450mm deep with a vaguely pointed 'u' shaped profile, and ran broadly east to west across the trench. The single orangey brown sandy clay fill, context [13/009] contained two small sherds of prehistoric pottery and two pieces of flintwork. The other feature, ditch [13/010] ran from north to south across the trench. It was of similar width to ditch [13/008], with a similar fill, context [13/011]. This feature was not excavated and hence relationship with ditch [13/008] was not investigated.

4.14 Trench 14

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
14/001	Deposit	Topsoil	330mm
14/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	370mm
14/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.14.1 Trench 14 was excavated to a length of 15m and to a depth of 650mm (45.00mAOD) at the western end and to 500mm (45.14mAOD) at the eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [14/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [14/002]. The 'natural', Context [14/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed, and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.15 Trench 15 (Fig. 11)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
15/001	Deposit	Topsoil	400mm
15/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-
15/003	Cut	Pit/Post-Hole	100mm
15/004	Fill	Pit/Post-Hole	100mm

4.15.1 Trench 15 was excavated to a length of 15m and to a depth of 400mm (45.76mAOD) at the north-eastern end and also to 380mm (45.69mAOD) at the south-western end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and

mechanical excavation ceased. There was no evidence of a layer of subsoil in the trench so therefore topsoil [15/001] directly overly the 'natural', Context [15/003] which was again was similar to that found in Trench 1.

4.15.2 One archaeological feature was identified, excavated and recorded. Pit/Post-Hole [15/003] was 450mm in diameter and 100mm deep. The single fill was context [15/004], an orangey brown clayey sand. No datable artefacts were recovered from the feature or from the overburden.

4.16 Trench 16

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
16/001	Deposit	Topsoil	300mm
16/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	250mm
16/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.16.1 Trench 16 was excavated to a length of 15m and to a depth of 430mm (46.37mAOD) at the north-eastern end and also to 350mm (46.09mAOD) at the south-western end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [16/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [16/002]. The 'natural', context [16/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed, and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.17 Trench 17

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
17/001	Deposit	Topsoil	510mm
17/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	550mm
17/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.17.1 Trench 17 was excavated to a length of 15m and to a depth of 790mm (44.42mAOD) at the north-western end and to 810mm (44.10mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [17/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [17/002]. The 'natural', context [17/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. There was clearly a build-up of overburden in this area of the site, presumably associated with the construction of the house and or other associated landscaping. No archaeological features were observed, and no datable artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.18 Trench 18

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
18/001	Deposit	Topsoil	410mm
18/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	700mm
18/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.18.1 Trench 18 was excavated to a length of 15m and to a depth of 910mm (44.06mAOD) at the north-eastern end and to 830mm (43.80mAOD) at the south-western end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [18/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [18/002]. The 'natural', context [18/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. Again, there was clearly a build-up of overburden in this area of the site, presumably associated with the construction of the house and or other associated landscaping. No archaeological features were observed, and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.19 Trench 19

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
19/001	Deposit	Topsoil	700mm
19/002	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.19.1 Trench 19 was excavated to a depth of 660mm (45.67mAOD) at the north-western end but to only 180mm (45.18mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The area was adjacent to a pond in an area that had clearly been landscaped. No subsoil was observed so the topsoil [19/001], which showed evidence of recent bonfires lay directly over the 'natural', context [19/003], which was again similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed and no significant artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.20 Trench 20

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
20/001	Deposit	Topsoil	570mm
20/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	430mm
20/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.20.1 Trench 20 was excavated to a length of 20m and to a depth of 990mm (43.53mAOD) at the north-western end and also to 660mm (43.25mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden; topsoil [20/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [20/002].

4.20.2 The topsoil was darker in colour and greater in depth with a much higher humic content than the previously excavated trenches, reflected its position in

the former garden of Soper's Farm. The 'natural', context [20/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed, but a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.21 Trench 21 (Fig. 12)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
21/001	Deposit	Topsoil	310mm
21/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	440mm
21/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
21/004	Deposit	Concrete	140mm
21/005	Deposit	Dump	320mm
21/006	Deposit	Dump	120mm
21/007	Deposit	Dump	380mm
21/008	Deposit	Dump	140mm
21/009	Deposit	Dump	130mm
21/010	Deposit	Dump	90mm
21/011	Fill	Unassigned	580mm
21/012	Deposit	Dump	450mm
21/013	Deposit	Dump	200mm
21/014	Deposit	Dump	550mm
21/015	Deposit	Dump	30mm
21/016	Deposit	Dump	80mm
21/017	Fill	Robber Trench	410mm
21/018	Fill	Robber Trench	600mm
21/019	Deposit	Dump	190mm
21/020	Deposit	Dump	240mm
21/021	Deposit	Dump	170mm
21/022	Cut	Hollow	510mm
21/023	Cut	Robber Trench	600mm
21/024	Cut	Unassigned	580mm

4.21.1 Trench 21 was excavated to a depth of 710mm (42.86mAOD) at the northern end and to 530mm (42.70mAOD) at the southern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered for much of the length of the trench; topsoil [21/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [21/002]. The 'natural', context [21/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1.

4.21.2 However the end of the trench closest to the standing wall did produce evidence of the former site of Soper's Farm (see Paragraph 2.3 above), below a 120mm thick layer of concrete, context [21/004]. A large hollow at the southern end of the trench, recorded as cut [21/022] contained remains of a robbed out wall, and infilling associated with the demolition of the building and reuse of the area.

4.21.3 The robber trench, cut [21/023] was 360mm in width and 600mm in depth, and was filled with a dark grey silty sand, context [21/018], which contained shaped building stone and mortar. The deposit had slumped to the north to

form context [21/017], which was therefore of similar character to context [21/018]. It was a maximum of 410mm in thickness. The area had subsequently been backfilled with dumped deposits, some of which contained modern material.

4.21.4 The earliest of these deposits consisted of a dump of redeposited 'natural' yellowish brown sand, context [2/008] with was 140mm in thickness. It had been overlain by context [21/005], a 320mm thick deposit of greenish grey clayey sand, then by context [21/006], a 120mm thick layer of crushed chalk, and finally by context [21/007], a 380mm thick layer of light grey clayey sand. This was in turn overlain by context [21/009], a 130mm thick layer of dark grey silty sand, and then by context [21/010], a 90mm thick layer of crushed chalk.

4.21.5 These deposits had been truncated by a feature of unknown function, cut [21/024], which was 580mm wide and 490mm deep. It was filled by context [21/011], an orangey grey silty sand.

4.21.6 The dumped deposits continued to the north. The earliest was [21/012], a 450mm thick orangey grey silty sand. It was overlain by context [21/013], a 200mm thick mid-grey silty sand, which was in turn overlain by [21/014], a 550mm thick deposit of greenish brown silty sand, which contained a 30mm thick lens of greenish yellow silty sand, context [21/015], and was in turn overlain by context [21/016], an 80mm thick deposit of dark grey sandy silt. The presence of a late 20th century marble in context [21/013] is indicative of the recent date of the demolition of the structure.

4.21.7 To the north of robber trench [21/023], the earliest deposit was context [21/019], a 190mm thick layer of greenish brown silty clay, which was overlain by context [21/020], a 240mm thick layer of dark brown silty sand. This was overlain by context [21/021], a 170mm thick, dark grey sandy silt.

4.22 Trench 22 (Fig. 13)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
22/001	Deposit	Topsoil	400mm
22/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	410mm
22/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
22/004	Cut	Ditch/Gully	220mm
22/005	Fill	Ditch/Gully	220mm

4.22.1 Trench 22 was excavated to a length of 15m and to a depth of 650mm (43.38mAOD) at the north-western end and to mm (42.95mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [22/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [22/002]. The 'natural', context [22/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1.

4.22.2 A single archaeological feature was encountered and recorded. Gully [22/004] was 730mm wide and 200mm in depth with a flat bottom. The single fill was context [22/005], an orangey brown silty sand from which a single

struck flint was recovered. No significant material was recovered from an environmental sample. No artefacts were recovered from the overburden. It is possible that this feature forms a continuation of a linear features recorded to the west in Trenches 12 and 13.

4.23 Trench 23

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
23/001	Deposit	Topsoil	350mm
23/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	810mm
23/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.23.1 Trench 23 was excavated to a length of 15m and to a depth of 1.01m (42.62mAOD) at the north-eastern end and to 790mm (42.68mAOD) at the south-western end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [22/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [22/002], which was particularly thick in this trench. The 'natural', context [22/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. There had been heavy root disturbance from a line of trees which screened the site from Stane Street, which may help to explain the depth of the trench and the geophysics reading in the vicinity. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.24 Trench 24

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
24/001	Deposit	Topsoil	300mm
24/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	710mm
24/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.24.1 Trench 24 was excavated to a length of 15m and to a depth of 760mm (42.81mAOD) at the north-western end and to 700mm (42.54mAOD) at the south-eastern end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [22/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [22/002], which was again notably thicker than elsewhere at the site. The 'natural', context [22/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. There was heavy root disturbance in the end of the trench nearest the road/treeline, detected during the geophysical survey. No archaeological features were observed, and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.25 **Trench 25** (Fig. 14)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
25/001	Deposit	Topsoil	290mm
25/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	490mm
25/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-
25/004	Cut	Ditch	230mm
25/005	Fill	Ditch	230mm
25/006	Cut	Ditch	520mm
25/007	Fill	Ditch	520mm
25/008	Cut	Pit	220mm
25/009	Fill	Pit	220mm

4.25.1 Trench 25 was excavated to a length of 30m and to a depth of 720mm (42.89mAOD) at the north-eastern end and to 600mm (43.02mAOD) at the south-western end at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden of similar character to those previously encountered; topsoil [22/001] and subsoil/colluvium layer [22/002], which was again noticeably thick at this point. The 'natural', context [22/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1.

4.25.2 Three archaeological features were identified, excavated and recorded. Cut [25/004] appeared to be the terminus of a ditch which ran from south-east to north-west. It was flat-bottomed and 1.2m wide and 230mm deep. The single fill was context [25/005], an orangey brown clayey sand, from which a Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint scraper was recovered.

4.25.3 Ditch [25/006] also ran from south-east to north-west across the trench. It was more than 2m wide and 520mm deep. The single fill was context [25/007] was similar in character to context [25/005].the other feature was pit [25/008], which lay partially under the south-eastern baulk of the trench. It was 1.5m in diameter and 220mm deep. The single fill, context [25/009] was also similar to context [25/005]. No datable artefacts were recovered from either of the features or from the overburden.

4.26 Trench 26

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
26/001	Deposit	Topsoil	610mm
26/002	Deposit	Subsoil/colluvium	140mm
26/003	Deposit	'Natural'	-

4.26.1 Trench 26 was excavated to a length of 8m as an additional trench aimed at establishing the extent of the buried remains of Soper's Farm. It was excavated to a depth of 440mm (43.13mAOD) at the northern end and to 610mm (42.91mAOD) at the southern end (adjacent to a standing wall) at which the underlying 'natural' was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. Again there were two distinct layers of overburden; topsoil [22/001] was similar to that encountered in Trench 20 and subsoil/colluvium layer [22/002], which was thinner than in most of the other trenches The 'natural', context [22/003] was similar to that found in Trench 1. No archaeological features were observed, although a small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the archaeological work. An overview is given in Table 2. Finds were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently counted, weighed and bagged by context and by material. None of the finds require further conservation.

Context	Pot	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Iron	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)
6/011	2	4					2	10		10	942							
12/005									1	12								
12/009							1	4	1	2								
13/005							1	<2			5	78						
13/009	2	6					2	32	1	6	12	984						
2/007	1	<2					2	6										
21/005	1	24																
21/013															1	6		
21/019			1	204	1	90												
22/005							1	<2										
25/005							1	64										
u/s T8	2	10																
u/s T12																	1	12
u/s T18			3	54													1	2
u/s T20	5	46	6	110			1	76					1	10	2	466		
u/s T26	8	22	9	354											1	52	1	<2
Total	**21**	**112**	**19**	**722**	**1**	**90**	**11**	**192**	**3**	**30**	**959**	**1062**	**1**	**10**	**4**	**524**	**3**	**14**

Table 2: Quantification of Finds

5.2 **The Prehistoric Pottery** by Anna Doherty

5.2.1 A very small quantity of prehistoric pottery, amounting to 5 sherds, weighing 10 grams, was recovered from 3 stratified deposits in the evaluation trenches. All are undiagnostic bodysherds and, as such, cannot be dated with certainty. It should also be noted that the sherds are all small and highly abraded and there is a strong possibility that some or all may be residual within their contexts.

5.2.2 Context [2/007] produced a single sherd in a low-fired fabric with a poorly prepared clay matrix, containing sparse grog of 1-2mm and sparse, ill-sorted flint of around 1-3mm. Fabrics of this type would be most commonly associated with pottery of the Later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age, including Grooved Ware, Beaker and the Early Bronze Age Urn traditions. It is notable however, that the sherd is relatively thin-walled and is perhaps unlikely to come from an Urn form.

5.2.3 Two sherds of one vessel were recovered from context [6/011]. They are in very vesicular fabric with frequent rounded voids, indicating the leeching of calcareous sedimentary inclusions. This fabric type is considered most likely

to be of Middle or Late Iron Age date.

5.2.4 Context [13/009] was the only deposit to produce two associated sherds. One of these is in a glauconitic fabric with sparse flint of c.1mm. The other contains sparse well-sorted fine flint of 0.5-1mm, in a matrix containing moderate large red iron-rich inclusions. Glauconitic fabrics are generally thought to first occur in groups of the developed plain ware phase of the post Deverel-Rimbury tradition (post c.950BC; Seager Thomas 2008, 41), however, they are also encountered throughout the Iron Age.

5.3 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

5.3.1 The evaluation recovered a small assemblage of post-Roman pottery, all of which is of post-medieval date. The earliest sherd was recovered from unstratified deposits in Trench 8. This consists of a glazed red earthenware bodysherd of probable late 17th- to mid 18th- century date. The other pot from this trench is a 2g scrap from a pearlware handle with black painted decoration. Unstratified deposits in Trench 20 produced two further sherds of glazed red earthenware (of later 18th- to 19th- century type) as well as a blue glazed buff earthenware, a 3g sherd of German Seltzer bottle and a 6g fragment of purple sprigged English porcelain. All can be placed in the 19th-century.

5.3.2 Trench 21, context [21/005] produced a further glazed red earthenware sherd, possibly from one of the same vessels noted in Trench 20. The final trench to produce post-Roman pottery was T26 (unstratified). Four sherds from glazed red earthenware jars/bowls (two with D-club rims), two creamware sherds (5g) and two pearlware sherds (2g) were recovered, all suggesting a later 18th- to early 19th- century date.

5.4 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

5.4.1 A total of 19 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) with a combined weight of 722g were recovered during the evaluation. The assemblage is entirely of post-medieval date with most being recovered from unstratified contexts. A provisional fabric series has been drawn up and the material has been recorded on pro-forma record forms, samples of the fabrics have been retained and the remainder of the unstratified material has been discarded, a summary of the material is given in Table 3.

Fabric	Description	form	context
T1	Fine sandy fabric with sparse fine to medium quartz and sparse coarse red iron rich silt inclusions	Peg Tile	U/S T26
T2	Orange tile with fine cream silt marbling and moderate black iron rich inclusions	Peg Tile	U/S T20, U/S T26, U/S T18
T3	Hard fired red sandy fabric with sparse coarse quartz and black iron rich inclusions	Peg Tile	U/S T20
B1	Reddish orange fabric with moderate very coarse silt and coarse black iron rich inclusions	brick	U/S T26
V	Vitrified, fabric not identifiable	Peg Tile	U/ST r20, U/S T26, 21/019

Table 3: Summary of CBM fabrics and forms with contexts

5.4.2 The majority of the material was peg tile of 18th to 19th century date in fabrics T1, T2 and V. Brick in fabric B1 and peg tile in fabric T3 from U/S T26 and U/S T20 respectively are both of 19th or 20th century date.

5.5 The Glass by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 Four pieces of glass with a combined weight of 524g were recovered from three individually numbered contexts. Included is a complete rectangular-sectioned bottle (height 205mm) in clear glass and embossed "MITRE COFFEE & CHICORY ESSENCE" and "KEARLEY & TONGEL TD LONDON". The bottle was recovered from the topsoil in T20 and dates to the late 19th to early 20th century. Two cylindrical bottle base fragments, both of 20th-century date and including a clear (Trench 26) and amber (Trench 20) example were recovered from the topsoil. Both would have contained household or pharmaceutical products. In addition, [21/013] contained a marble of late 20th-century date.

5.6 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 Three clay tobacco pipe (CTP) fragments with a total weight of 15g were recovered from the topsoil in three different trenches. Included are two plain stem fragments dating to ca. 1660-1720 ca. 1750-1910. A complete bowl, unmarked and undecorated, was recovered from T12. The bowl is unabraded and dates to ca. 1700-40 (OS10, see Oswald 1975).

5.7 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.7.1 Stone was recovered from three individually numbered contexts ([6/011], [13/005] and [13/009]). All of the material is derived from the local Lower Greensand beds. The most common type consists of irregular and slightly weathered pieces of dull yellow, buff or brown glauconitic Lower Greensand. A few pieces from [13/009] are slightly cherty while other pieces from this context, as well as [6/011], show some surface reddening/blackening suggesting they have been subjected to heating. The only other stone type is medium-grained ferruginous carstone (context [6/011]) which is also derived from the same geological beds.

5.8 The Flintwork by Nick Marples

5.8.1 Ten worked flints weighing 119g were collected from 7 contexts, with no single context producing more than two lithic items. Eight of the flints are in good condition, with fresh, unabraded edges and surfaces, and only 2 pieces display a small degree of surface modification indicative of weathering or limited re-working. Small ferruginous concretions suggesting localized waterlogging are present on 5 flints.

5.8.2 The flint is mostly mid to dark grey, and mottled, with off-white to buff cortex suggesting ultimate derivation from a chalk or clay-with-flints source, although the cortex on 1 fragment from context [22/005] is thin and waterworn, and this can be attributed to a gravel pebble source.

5.8.3 None of the flints are burnt, but seven are fragmentary, and some of these might have been of blade-like proportions prior to breakage. One complete

piece classified as a blade may be of incidental origin, however, rather than the intended product of a blade technology. All of the flints show evidence of prior flaking on their dorsal surfaces, and in one instance this is clearly bidirectional.

5.8.4 An end-and-side scraper produced on a thick flake, with only a small area of remnant cortex, is of Neolithic/Early Bronze Age character (context 25/005). The general appearance of the rest of the flintwork suggests that it may well be of similar date.

5.8.5 One double bulb, and an incipient cone of percussion present on one proximal fragment, and several miss-hits visible on the dorsal surface of the scraper, indicate the use of a hard hammerstone.

5.9 Animal Bone by Lucy Sibun

5.9.1 The evaluation produced a single fragment of bone, recovered from [21/019]. This was identified as a shaft of cattle metacarpal. No further information is available.

5.10 Other Finds by Elke Raemen

5.10.1 An iron machine-made general purpose nail (length 78mm, head diameter 7.5mm) was recovered from the overburden in T20. The piece is of late post-medieval date.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Lucy Allott

6.1 Three samples were taken during an archaeological evaluation at Oddstones, Pulborough to establish evidence for environmental remains such as wood charcoal, archaeobotanical remains, fauna and mollusca. Bulk samples were extracted from a possible prehistoric gully, [22/004], a charcoal rich dump [6/011] located at the intersection of ditch features [6/008] and [6/010] and the fill of ditch [12/004]. Spot dating evidence is limited for these assemblages although pot sherds from the charcoal rich deposit [6/011] are consistent with fabric types of Middle or Late Iron Age date (see Doherty).

6.2 Samples were processed in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes and air dried. The residues were passed through graded sieves (4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Table 4). Flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and an overview of their contents recorded (Table 5). Charcoal fragments were fractured following standardised procedures (Gale and Cutler 2000) and viewed under an incident light microscope at x50, 100, 200 and 400x magnifications. Macrobotanical remains and charcoal have been identified through comparison with modern reference specimens and taxa recorded in reference atlases (Cappers *et al*. 2006, Hather 2000, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004, Schoch *et al.* 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.3 Samples <1001>, [22/005] and <1002>, [12/005] produced small flots (Table 5) consisting primarily of uncharred, modern roots and elder (*Sambucus nigra*) seeds that are probably intrusive within these features. Occasional charcoal fragments are also evident although on the whole these are small measuring <2mm in size. Charred macrobotanical remains are absent in sample <1001> and only a few poorly preserved wild/weed seeds of goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), woodruff (*Asperula* sp.) and fragments of possible knotgrass/dock (cf. *Polygonum/Rumex* sp.) are evident. No other environmental indicators or artefacts are present in either the residues or flots from these samples.

6.4 Charcoal fragments are abundant in sample <1003>, [6/011] and are generally well preserved with clear anatomical features. Several deciduous oak (*Quercus* sp.) fragments have been identified although other taxa may also be present. The sample contains no uncharred weed seeds and on the whole this sample shows little evidence for modern disturbance or contamination. A small assemblage of charred macrobotanical remains consists of blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus* sp.), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and a glume wheat cereal caryopsis of emmer or spelt wheat. Fragments of flint and burnt stone are also apparent in the residue.

6.5 Although the macrobotancial remains are not particularly abundant they represent both wild and cultivated plants. Bramble and nettle are typically found on disturbed or waste ground often associated with habitations or they could equally have grown on disturbed area adjacent to agricultural land. It is likely that brambles were used for their berries and charred seeds in this deposit may represent such food resources or they could have been present in the soil matrix becoming incidentally incorporated in the fire.

6.6 The rich assemblage of wood charcoal dumped with other burnt debris almost certainly derives from fuel using activities undertaken in the local area. As oak has a high calorific content it is an ideal fuel used for many purposes and is common in archaeological deposits. Unfortunately the nature and extent of the activities for which it was used is not clear from these samples or the current excavation.

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)
1001	22/005	Fill of gully [22/004]	10	10			*	<2	
1002	12/005	Fill of ditch [12/004	10	10			*	<2	
1003	6/011	Fill of intersections of ditches [6/008] and [6/010]	40	40	***	64	***	10	Flint */<2g, Burnt Stone ** 530g

Table 4: Residue Quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds/fruiting bodies uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	wild/weed seeds/fruiting bodies charred	Identifications	Preservation
1001	22/005	<2	100	97	1	*Sambucus nigra* (**)		*	*						
1002	12/005	4	28	97	2	*Sambucus nigra* (***)			*				*	*Chenopodium* sp., cf. *Asperula* sp., cf. *Polygonum/ Rumex* sp. frags & indet cpr	+
1003	6/011	198	700	8	2		***	***	***	*	*Triticum* cf. *dicoccum/ spelta*	++	*	*Rubus* sp. (**), *Urtica dioica* (*)	+++

Table 5: Flot Quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 A range of archaeological features were encountered, excavated and recorded in the trial trenches. Most of the features appear to form part of the remains of a system of fields which probably predates the construction of Stane Street, thought to have been sometime before 70AD (discussed in Priestley-Bell 2010, 50-1). The poor dating evidence recovered from the features at the site does not allow particularly close dating of the field system(s), but the presence of some prehistoric pottery and flintwork does support the view that the road was driven through a landscape which had been divided by ditches for many centuries, a known phenomenon in the general area (Yates 2007). It is possible that the coming of the road led to a subtle realignment of the system of gullies and ditches at the site, suggested by the slightly different orientation of the ditches encountered in the trenches closer to the road. However, problems with establishing accurate alignments in relatively narrow trial trenches perhaps precludes any firm conclusions in this regard, as does the absence of dating evidence from these features.

7.2 Evidence of post-Roman activity at the site was also scarce. The paucity of material from the overburden of the trenches was unusual and perhaps illustrates the site's spatial isolation from domestic activity until the construction of Soper's Farm (see Paragraph 2.3 above), Oddstones and then the houses of adjacent Stane Street Close. The presence of the thick deposits of sub-soil and/or colluvium suggest ploughing on the site for a considerable period, (especially given the thicknesses of overburden at the lowest point of the site adjacent to Stane Street) and the absence of material derived from manuring of the field highlights the remoteness of the site from the historic centre of Billingshurst.

7.3 The excavation of Trench 21 did uncover physical evidence of the structure of Soper's Farm but showed that the surviving below ground remains are somewhat limited in extent and quality. There was also little in the way of material culture in this or the other trenches adjacent to the former building(s). This was also true of Oddstones itself, still a standing building at the time of the evaluation. Virtually no associated material culture was recovered from the group of trenches adjacent to the main house, which is first shown in a map surveyed in 1957 (Howland, 2009, 3 and Fig. 10).

7.4 Arguably the most significant aspect of the evaluation was the presence of features of potential geoarchaeological significance, highlighted during the geophysical survey (ASE 2011). Although many of the anomalies from the geophysics results appear to be the result of irregularities and rooting in the deep topsoil and equally thick sub-soil/colluvium, the geophysics did allow the accurate targeting of trenches to investigate potential locations of surviving *in situ* quaternary archaeology (cf. Pope 2010). Results and discussion of the geoarchaeological investigation are appended below.

7.5 The evaluation of the site by trial trenches was found to be an efficient methodology for the identification of archaeological and geoarchaeological features and resulted in the recognition and recording of a range of buried archaeological remains.

7.6 It is understood that an archaeological watching brief is likely to be required

on the western two thirds of the site (John Mills pers comm). Any such work should be concentrated upon attempting to date the field system and associated archaeology by collection of dateable material.

Appendix 1: Geoarchaeological Investigation of Subsoil Structural Features

1.0 Introduction

1.1 It was noted during the original consideration of the site that the solid geology is Hythe Beds of the Lower Greensand Formation. Further to this, the site's location on the edge of a north-south orientated valley and its general proximity to the Early Upper Palaeolithic site of Beedings 3km to the east suggested conditions likely to lead to processes of landscape development associated with cambering (Gallois 1967). As this process is likely to give rise to the formation of fissures structures and micro-grabens (Zischinksy 1969; Collcutt 2001; Pope 2010) it was considered essential that the site be assessed for fissure like features. Geophysical assessment was undertaken using a RM15 resistance metre across the site and a number of potential low resistance linear anomalies were determined (ASE 2011)

1.2 Consequently geoarchaeological investigation was undertaken in March 2011 at Oddstones in order to ground-truth the low-resistance targets suspected by this stage to be Gulls (fissures in the Lower Greensand geology). This work represents the first attempt in a commercial context anywhere in the UK to actively consider Gulls as a geoarchaeological context. Therefore, from a methodological point of view offers an opportunity to develop approaches for their identification, assessment and possible excavation under archaeological conditions.

2.0 Methodology and Results

2.1 Two evaluation trenches sited which crossed four of these targets were stripped to the base of topsoil and were demonstrated at this depth to be devoid of archaeological features or any apparent geological features consistent with Gulls.

These trenches were then carefully deepened to the agreed safe limit of 1m using a flat bladed bucket in 20cm spits, using a geoarchaeological methodology developed for the investigation of sub-surface geology likely to contain archaeology (eg. River gravels/Brickearth). These deposits were sifted for archaeological finds.

In both trenches (Trench 8 and Trench 10), at a depth of about 1m, the weathered Greensand subsoil gave way to solid Hythe Beds geology. In two locations, at this depth of 1m, two anomalies were confirmed as having an origin in the structure of the sub-surface geology. The observed sequences were as follows:

2.2 In both cases Gull structures were identified (Gulls are vertical fissures in the solid geology caused by the pulling apart of sedimentary rocks under processes of long-term valley and slope formation). A further linear anomaly in Trench 8 (LR 10) was resolved as a build up of topsoil, perhaps relating to a field bank. No firm identification of the second linear anomaly in Trench 10 was identified but it is possible this could be resolved at greater depth.

3.0 Formation of Gulls at Oddstones

3.1 At Oddstones the solid geology is made up of the Hythe Beds formation of the Lower Greensand which is a strongly bedded sandstone comprising alternate beds of cemented sand (Rag Beds) and loosely consolidated coarse sand with clay (Hassock Beds). The Rag and Hassock at Oddstones is heavily weathered below the topsoil until about 1m below ground level where it becomes remarkably more consolidated. At greater depths (>1m) the Rag beds thicken into blocky, solid sandstone and these lie at greater depth on relatively soft Atherfield Clay which carries an aquifer and spring line where intersected by slopes.

3.2 Slope processes, accelerated by both periglacial freeze thaw during glacials and spring line activity during interglacial has lead to large blocks of the Lower Greensand becoming mobile and tipping towards developing valleys. This leads to the stretching, slipping and eventual widening of vertical joints within the Lower Greensand along axes parallel to valleys structures. When highly developed, close to valleys sides or steep slope, these can take the form of wide fissures within the parent rock several metres in width. At Oddstones however the topography is relatively gentle and the valley margins quite some distance off, therefore the fissures are relatively immature and take the form of poorly defined gulls in which the parent rock has been stretched and weathered.

4.0 Identification of Gulls through geophysics and excavation

4.1 The gulls are not apparent until a depth of c.1m in either location. At this depth machine excavated trenches revealed an interruption in the solid geology of the Rag Beds filled with reddish clay deposits. Prior to this depth sections revealed on subtle differences in the overlying weathered sandstone subsoil but below this depth an intact gull the clay fill was found to fill the vertical, v-shaped fissure in the solid geology. The clay consists of both fine-grained material from the Hassocks beds and possibly introduced material from biological disturbance and captured wind-blown elements including loess. The formation of clay rich deposits within the gull is significant given the sand rich and highly porous nature of the local solid geology. They clay fill of these linear gulls retains significant quantities of moisture and has lead to both a high degree of rooting and earthworm activity throughout the sedimentary sequence. This biological activity and high moisture content would produce a strong geophysical signal despite the actual depth at which the gulls become visible as distinctive features.

4.2 Given the relatively low contrast of surface archaeological features in terms of fill and parent material, these subsurface differences may provide a high degree of background noise making identification of the former problematic.

4.3 The implications are that, given the depth of weathered subsoil, fissures may be more prevalent below 1m depth and will not have been detected in their entirety across the site. Resistivity arrays, which have been used with success in Kent to identify large scale fissures, might be successful in picking out these smaller Gulls at depths below 1m but this cannot be guaranteed. It must be remembered that we are in the process of developing methodologies to detect and map these subsurface features and the Oddstones investigation

represents the first attempt to do so in a commercial context.

5.0 Parallels

5.1 Gulls are a prevalent feature on the Lower Greensand geologies of the Hythe Beds in Sussex, Surrey and Kent (Gallois 1969). Indeed recent research has suggested they should be expected in all hilltop and slope situations across the distribution of this rock type. At the site of Beedings, West Sussex, which lies just 2km to the eats of the Oddstones sites gulls containing *in-situ* Palaeolithic archaeology comprising Lower, Middle and Upper Palaeolithic material were identified and excavated. OSL dates suggest that infilling of the main, clay-rich fills had largely been completed by 30,000yrs B.P. (Pope *et al.* In prep). However, smaller gulls also contained Mesolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age archaeology.

5.2 The Oddstones situation is different to Beedings in two major respects, firstly at Beedings fissures were apparent and clearly defined immediately below the topsoil, and secondly, the topsoil itself had a rich assemblage of prehistoric flintwork which continued down into the fissure fills. Beedings also sat in a topographic position (scarp edge) that both lent itself to strategic use by hunter gatherers and structurally to the formation of gulls. The relatively gentle topography at Oddstones and the lack of surface signatures of prehistoric flintwork might indicate both a less favourable location for hunter gatherer activity and less development of fissure structures.

5.3 These contexts should be considered as a geological resource with potential for archaeological features but not as equivalents to archaeological features in their own right. Work in Kent has shown extensive faunal assemblages might be found alongside lithic material in suitable gulls, notably at Ightham where deep fissures contained rich faunal assemblages from the Middle and Late Pleistocene (Pope 2010). With the gulls we now have a clear context which has been demonstrated to preserve fine-grained archaeology from the Middle and Late Pleistocene for hill top locations. In south east England, which lacks high quality sites for these periods, this now provides a proxy for cave deposits found in the west and north of the country. Through development control led archaeology and research projects the apparent dearth of human occupation during these periods can now be tested. A suitable methodology now needs to be developed to a) determine their presence and b) sample them effectively for archaeology.

6.0 Suggested Approach

6.1 Given the possible prevalence of gulls across the site, impact upon these contexts is possible where development impacts at or below 1m in depth. Systematic assessment or an enhanced/targeted watching brief would both be possible approaches to determine the presence of archaeology at depth and to recover associated dating and palaeoenvironmental material. The possibility of significant stone age archaeology is lessened by the landscape context which neither has a strong view shed or proximity to a springline but the identification of these unique capture points does warrant some level of further investigation.

As no flintwork was recovered either from the surface of, or within, the

weathered subsoil horizon down to depths of c.1m, a watching brief approach could be implemented for shallow impacts to this depth across the site.

6.2 Deeper impacts could be approached in the one of the following ways, but the exact methodology should be developed in conjunction with the county archaeologist. The final approach will of course very much depend on the nature and depth of impact across the site once these are known.

a) Enhanced watching brief with the attendance of a suitable expert to supervise the careful removal of fissure fills where present. This would be on the normal proviso that should *in situ* archaeology be encountered it is the expectation that an approach to proper recovery be implemented and contingencies made for this eventuality.

b) A predevelopment programme of excavation targeting fissures to be impacted upon by development. This could require 1) determining the presence of deeply buried fissures through geophysics arrays and 2) drawing up a plan to show where impacts below 1m cross the gulls. A series of stepped test pits could then be excavated in these locations.

Depth	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Component	Sample	Notes
0	Topsoil	Fine Sand	Dark Brown	None		
0.2	Subsoil	Medium Sand	Light Yellowish brown	5% sub-angular Hythe beds sandstone fragments 10-20mm	Y	
0.7	Weathered Hassock Beds	Coarse Sand with clay	Light Greenish Yellow	20% sub-angular Hythe beds sandstone fragments 10-20mm	Y	Evident sagging of attenuated and weathered strata.
1.1	Gull Fill	Clay with Sand	Reddish Brown	None	Y	Cohesive, periglacial weathering structures noted
1.3	Gull Fill	Clay with Sand	Reddish Brown	None	Y	Cohesive, periglacial weathering structures noted

Observations at Trench 8 (Eastern End) through Low resistance Anomaly 3 (LR3)

Depth	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Component	Sample	Notes
0	Topsoil	Fine Sand	Dark Brown	None		
0.3	Subsoil	Medium Sand	Light Yellowish brown	5% sub-angular Hythe beds sandstone fragments 10-20mm	Y	Earthworm pipes throughout, bioturbated
0.45	Weathered Hassock Beds	Coarse Sand with clay	Light Greenish Yellow	20% sub-angular Hythe beds sandstone fragments 10-20mm	Y	Earthworm pipes throughout, bioturbated
0.8	Gull Fill	Clay with Sand	Reddish Brown	None	Y	Cohesive, periglacial weathering structures noted
1.2	Gull Fill	Clay with Sand	Reddish Brown	None	Y	Cohesive, periglacial weathering structures noted

Observations at Trench 10 (Eastern End) through Low resistance Anomaly 2 (LR2)

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SMR Summary Form

Site Code	ODD11					
Identification Name and Address	'Oddstones', Stane Street, Pulborough					
County, District &/or Borough	Horsham District, West Sussex					
OS Grid Reference.	505340 119783					
Geology	Lower Greensand					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4803					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 24.03.11 – 01.04.2011	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs on behalf of Taylor Wimpey					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo. ?✓	BA ✓	IA ✓	RB
	AS	MED	PM ✓	Other		

100 Word Summary.

Twenty-six evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated to a cumulative length of 613m providing a c.5% sample of the site. The positions of most of the trenches were based on the results of a previous geophysical survey of the site.

A number of archaeological features were encountered, excavated and recorded. Most were ditches/gullies, with some pits and post-holes, as well as limited remains of a farmhouse known to have occupied part of the site since at least the 19th century.

Dating evidence from the features was extremely sparse, but suggests prehistoric activity in the area represented by the remains of a field system(s), realigned at some point, perhaps after the construction of adjacent Stane Street.

Geological features of potential geoarchaeological significance were identified during the geoarchaeological work, and were partially investigated in two of the evaluation trenches

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-99485

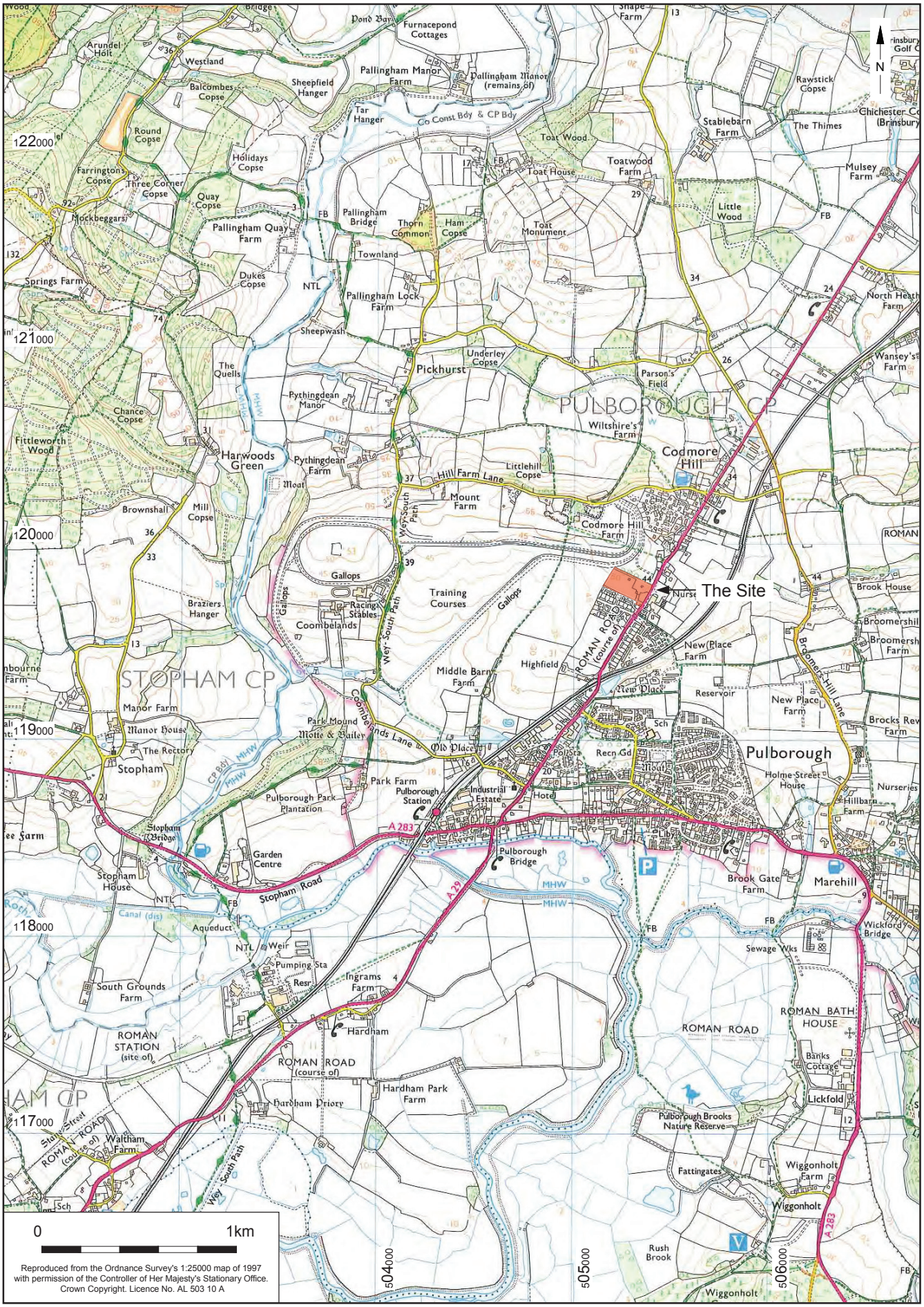
Project details

Project name	An Archaeological and Geoarchaeological Evaluation at 'Oddstones', Stane Street, Pulborough, West Sussex
Short description of the project	Twenty-six evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated to a cumulative length of 613m providing a c.5% sample of the site. The positions of most of the trenches were based on the results of a previous geophysical survey of the site. A number of archaeological features were encountered, excavated and recorded. Most were ditches/gullies, with some pits and post-holes, as well as limited remains of a farmhouse known to have occupied part of the site since at least the 19th century. Dating evidence from the features was extremely sparse, but suggests prehistoric activity in the area represented by the remains of a field system(s), possibly realigned at some point, perhaps after the construction of adjacent Stane Street. Geological features of potential geoarchaeological significance were identified during the geoarchaeological work, and were partially investigated in two of the evaluation trenches.
Project dates	Start: 24-03-2011 End: 01-04-2011
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	4803 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ODD11 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	FLINTWORK Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination (e.g. As a condition)

Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX HORSHAM PULBOROUGH 'Oddstones', Stane Street.
Postcode	RH20 1BQ
Study area	2.39 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 05340 19783 50.9672718177 -0.499655592839 50 58 02 N 000 29 58 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 42.00m Max: 48.00m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin/Jim Stevenson
Project supervisor	Simon Stevens
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting on behalf of Taylor Wimpey
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Physical Contents	'Ceramics','Environmental','Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Archive recipient	Horsham Museum
Digital Contents	'other'
Digital Media available	'Database','Images raster / digital photography','Spreadsheets','Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Horsham Museum

Paper Contents	'other'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Miscellaneous Material','Photograph','Plan','Section','Survey ','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological and Geoarchaeological Evaluation at 'Oddstones', Stane Street, Pulborough, West Sussex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Stevens, S.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No. 2011075
Date	2011
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade, East Sussex
Description	Standard ASE client report - A4 sized with cover logos



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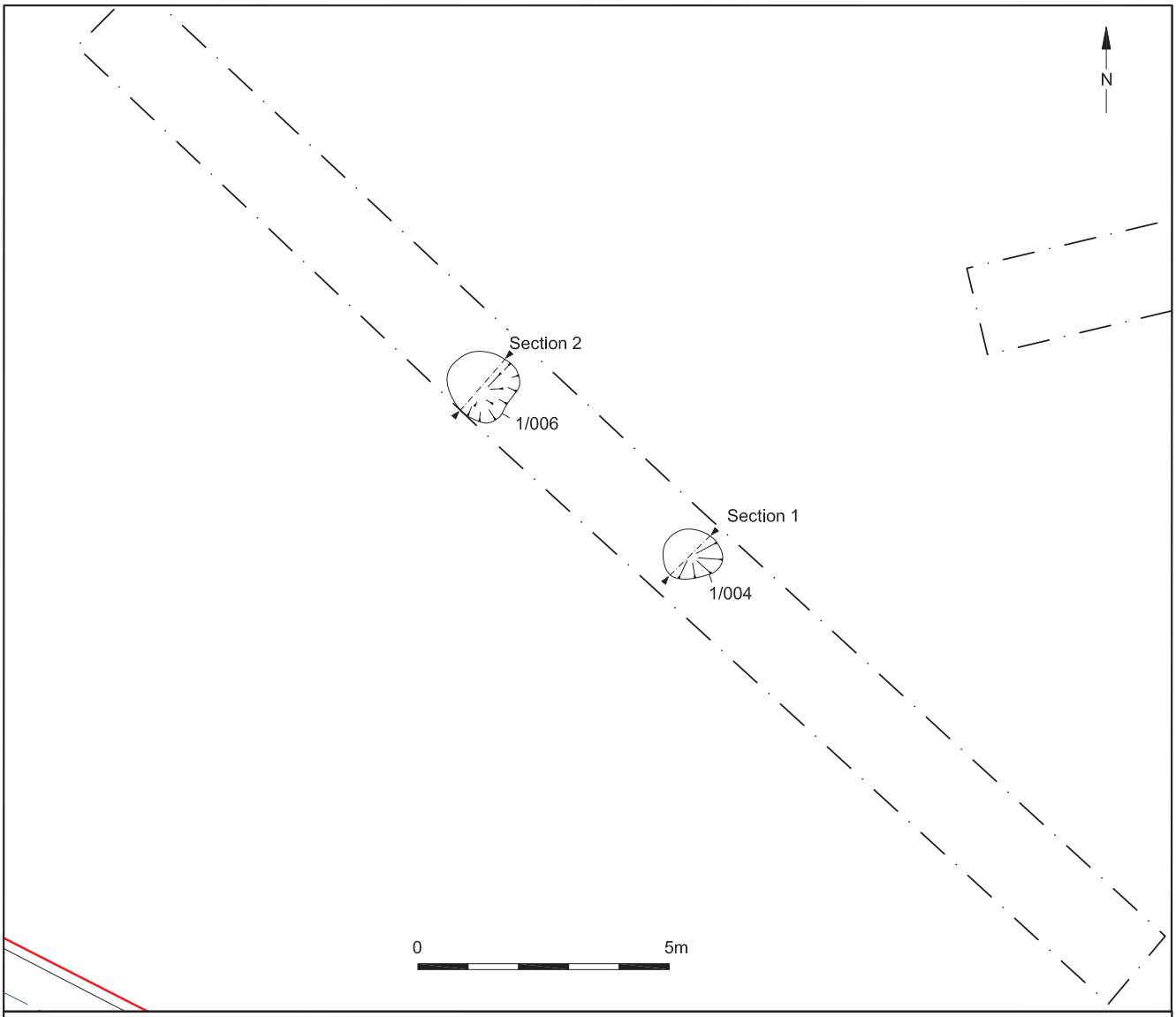
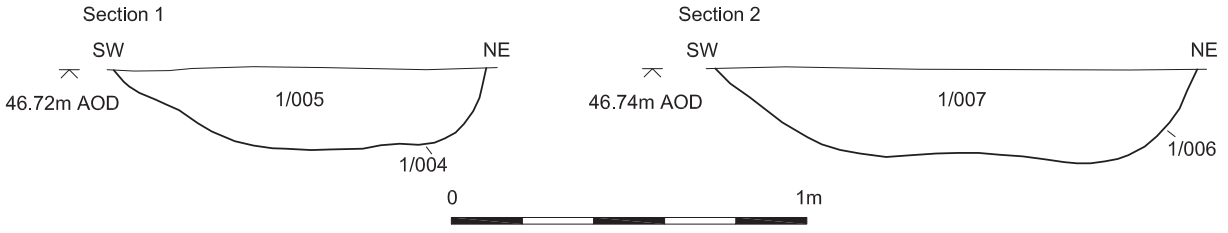
Report Ref: 2011054	Drawn by: DJH		

© Archaeology South-East		Oddstones, Stane St, Pulborough	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4803	April 2011	Trench location showing resistivity survey results	
Report Ref: 2011075	Drawn by: DJH		





Pit cut 1/004 looking northwest

Pit cut 1/006 looking northwest

© **Archaeology South-East**		'Oddstones', Stane Street, Pulborough	Fig. 3
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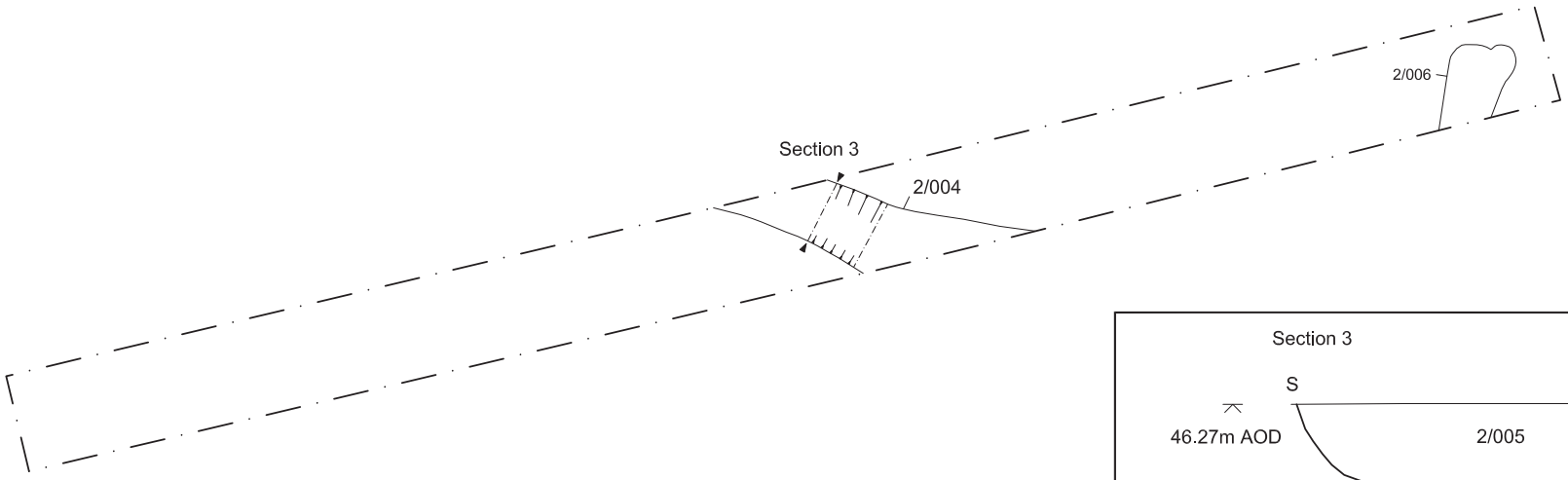
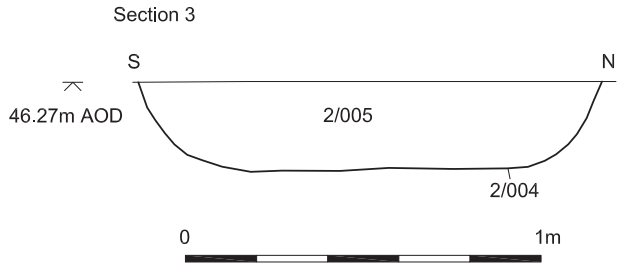
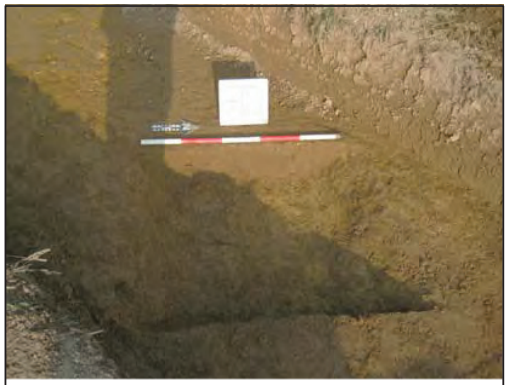
Report Ref: 2011075	Drawn by: FEG		







Ditch cut 2/004 looking west

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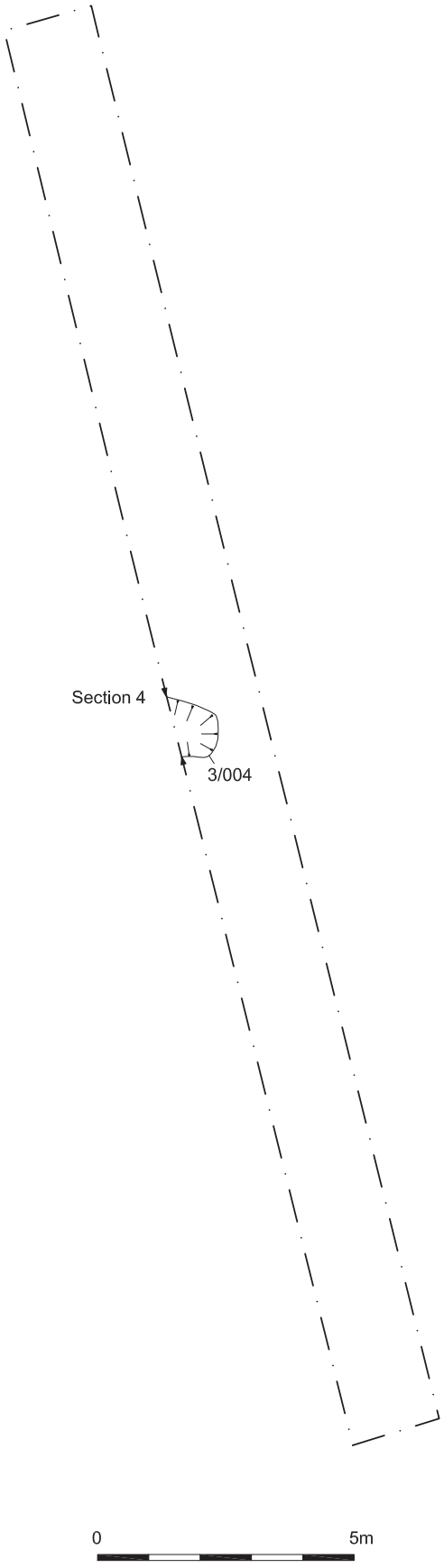

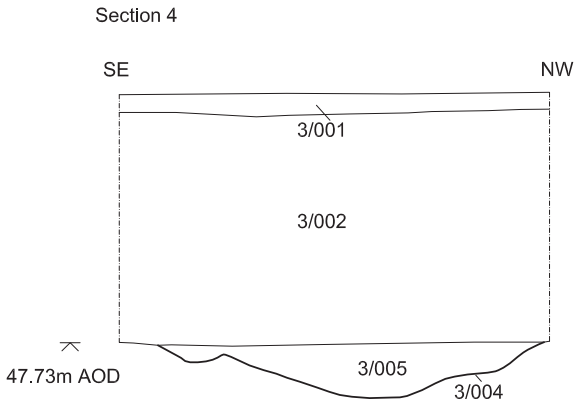

Tree throw 3/004 looking west

© Archaeology South-East		'Oddstones', Stane Street, Pulborough	Fig. 5
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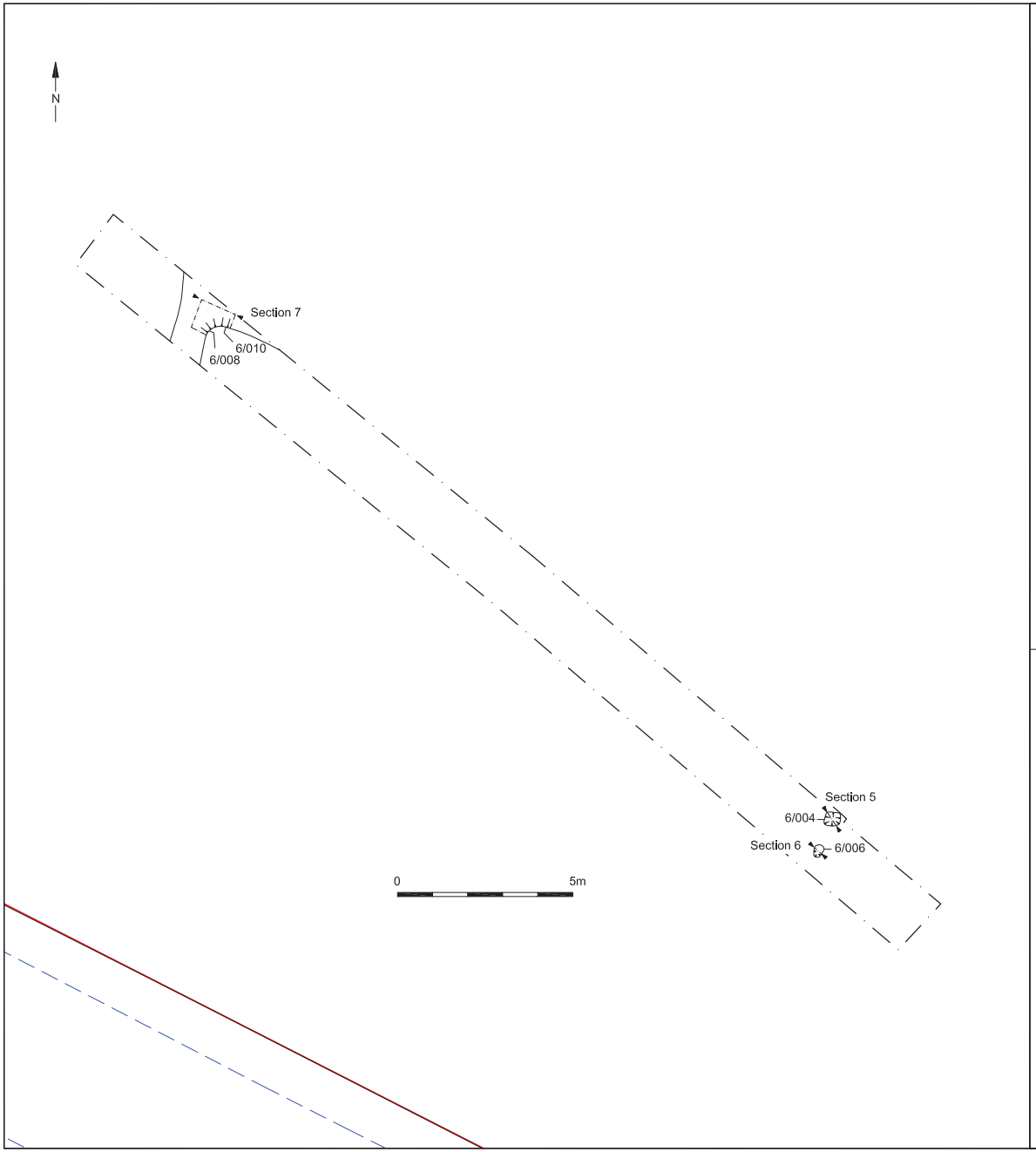
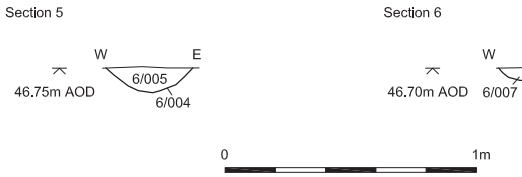
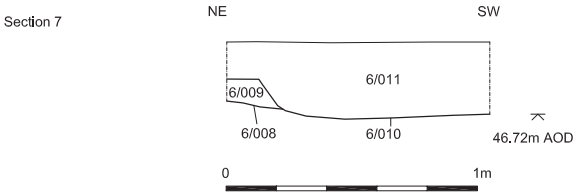





Posthole cut 6/004 looking north


Posthole cut 6/006 looking north




Ditch cuts 6/008 and 6/010 looking north

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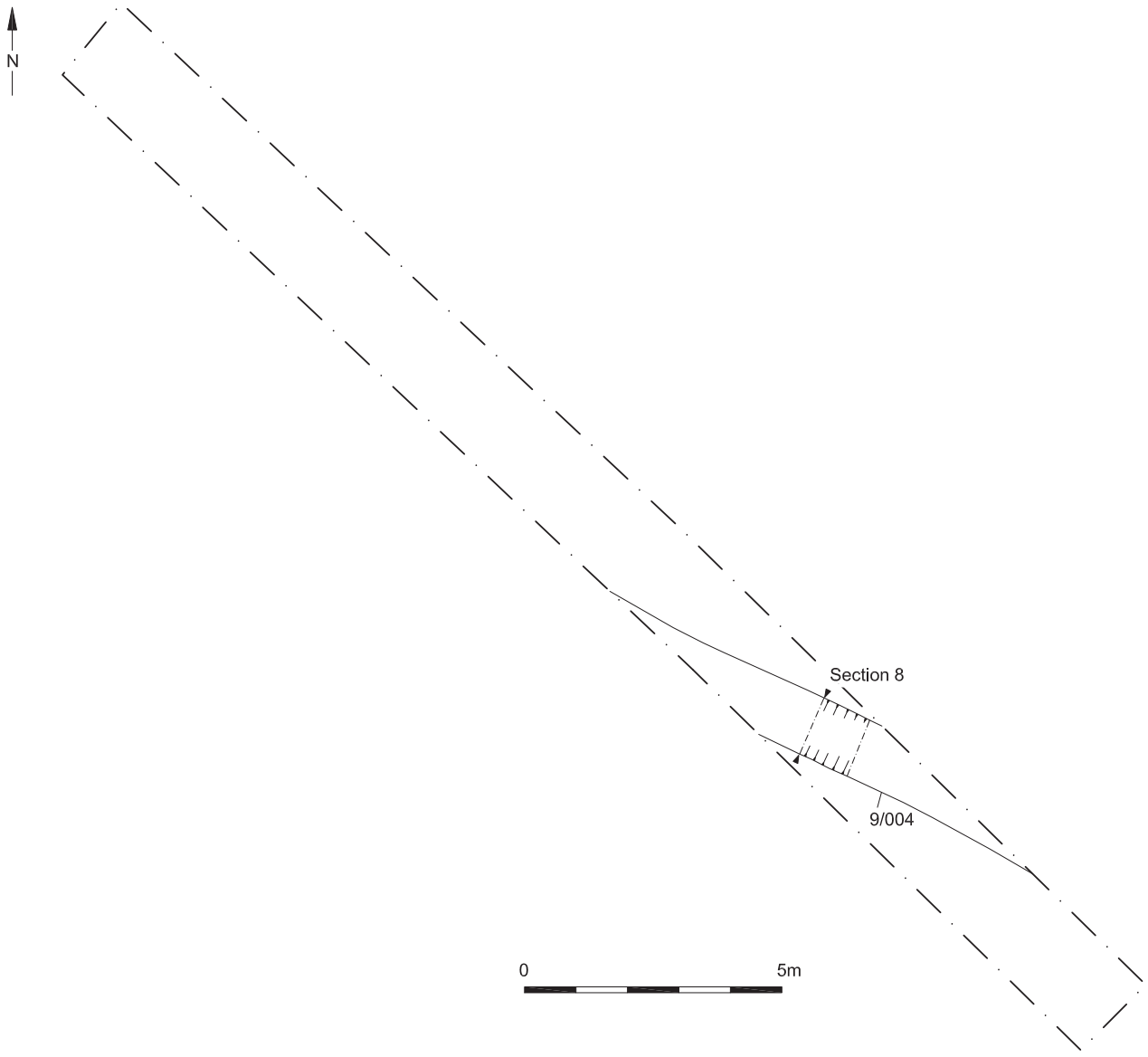

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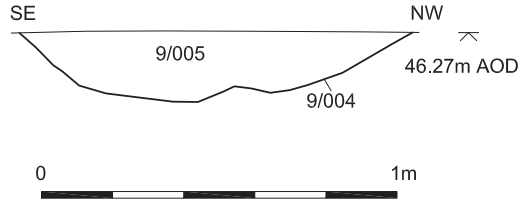

Ditch cut 9/004 looking northwest

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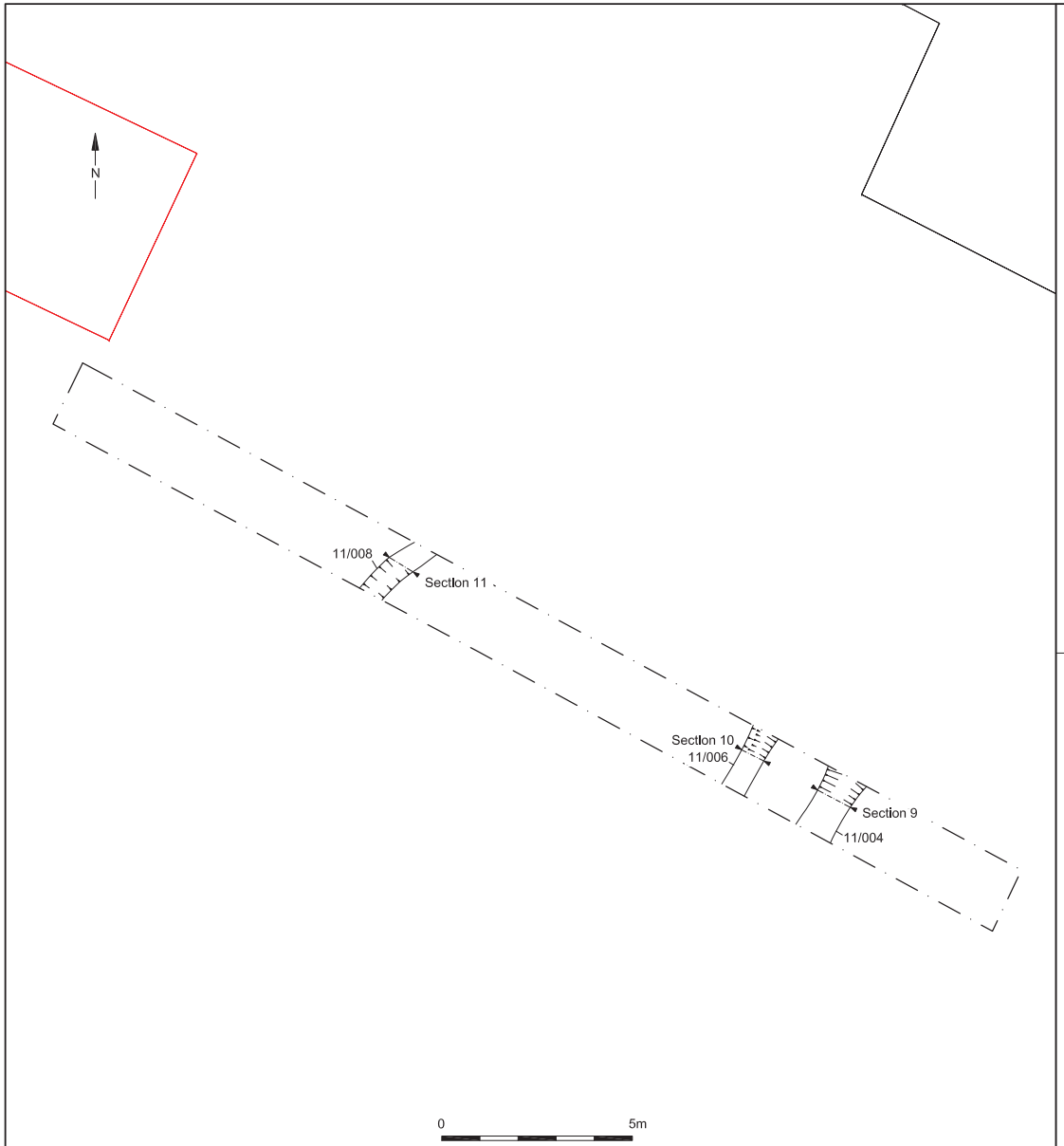

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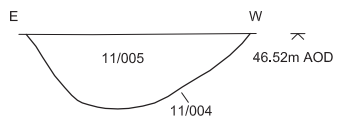
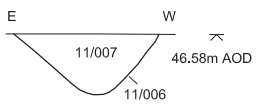


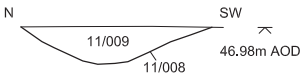
Section 10



Ditch cut 11/004 looking north

Ditch cut 11/006 looking north

Section 11



Ditch cut 11/009 looking northeast

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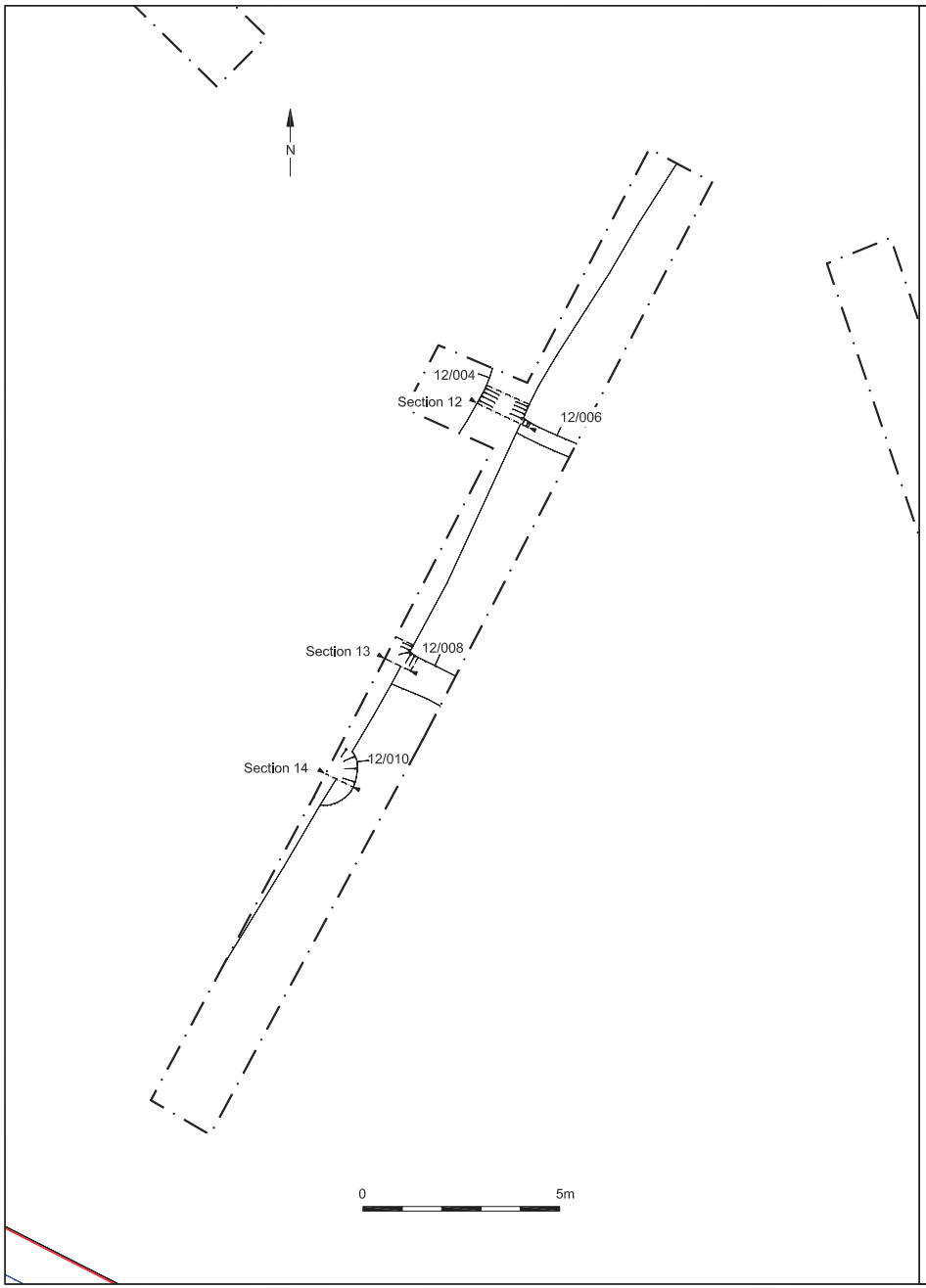
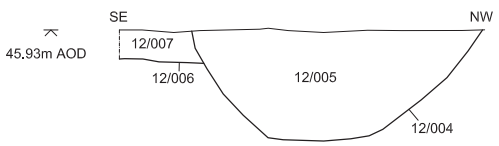
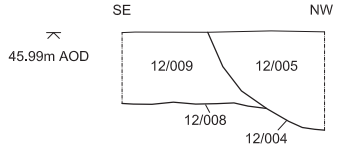


Section 12



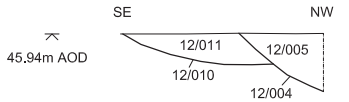
Ditch cuts 12/004 and 12/006 looking southwest

Section 13



Ditch cuts 12/004 and 12/008 looking southwest

Section 14



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Ditch cut 12/004 and Plt 12/010 looking southwest

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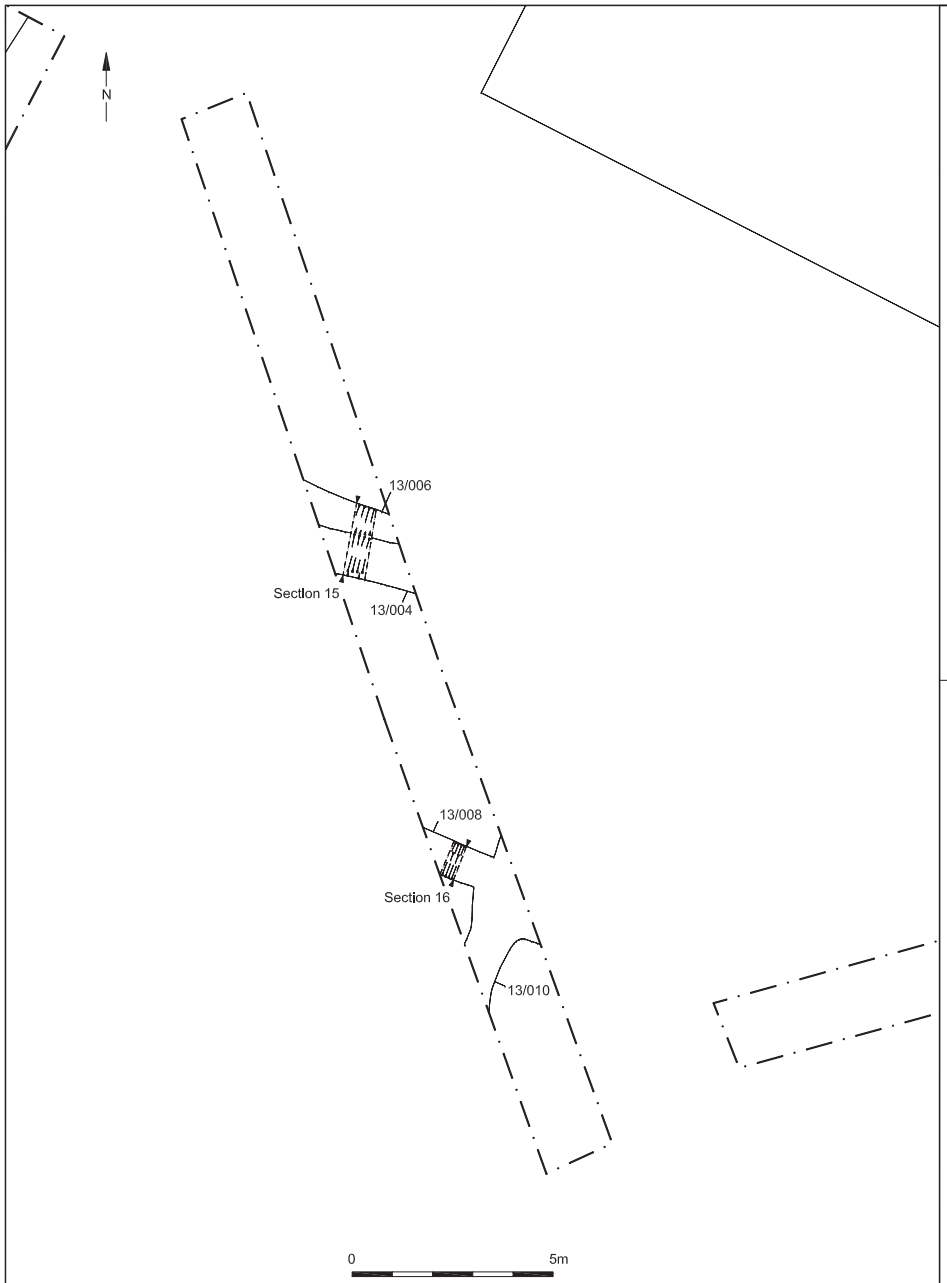
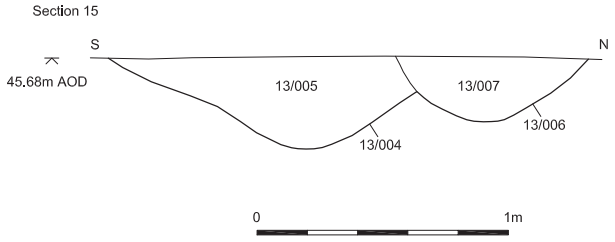
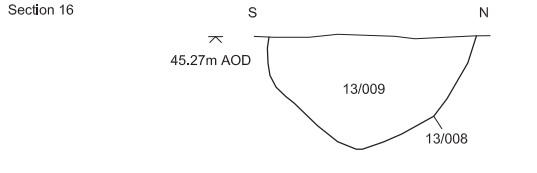




Ditch cuts 13/004 and Pit 13/006 looking west



Ditch cut 13/008 looking west

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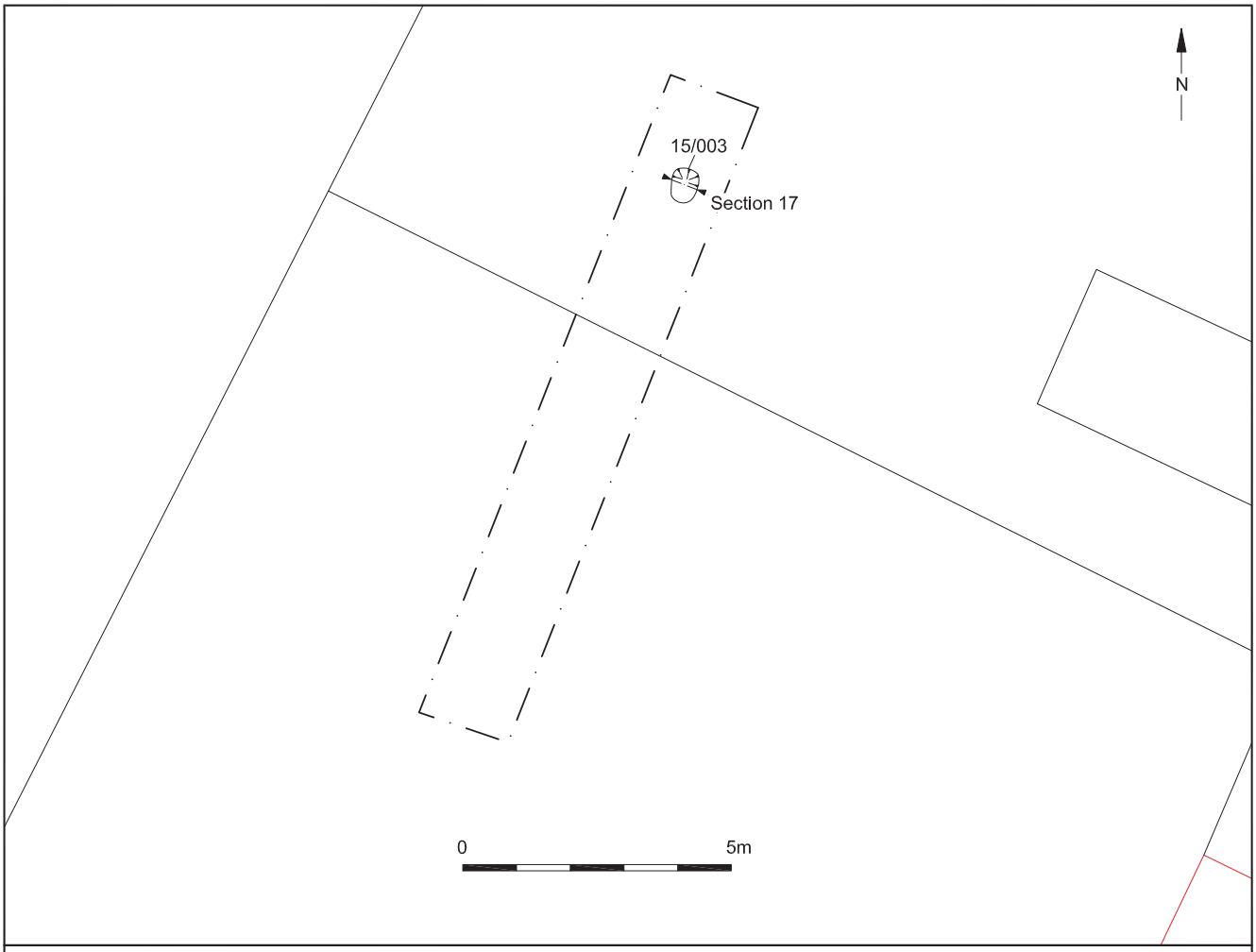

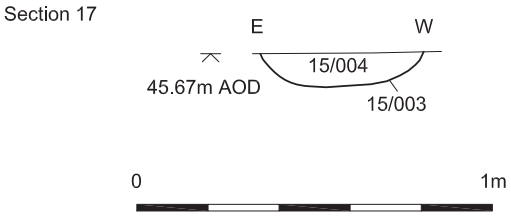

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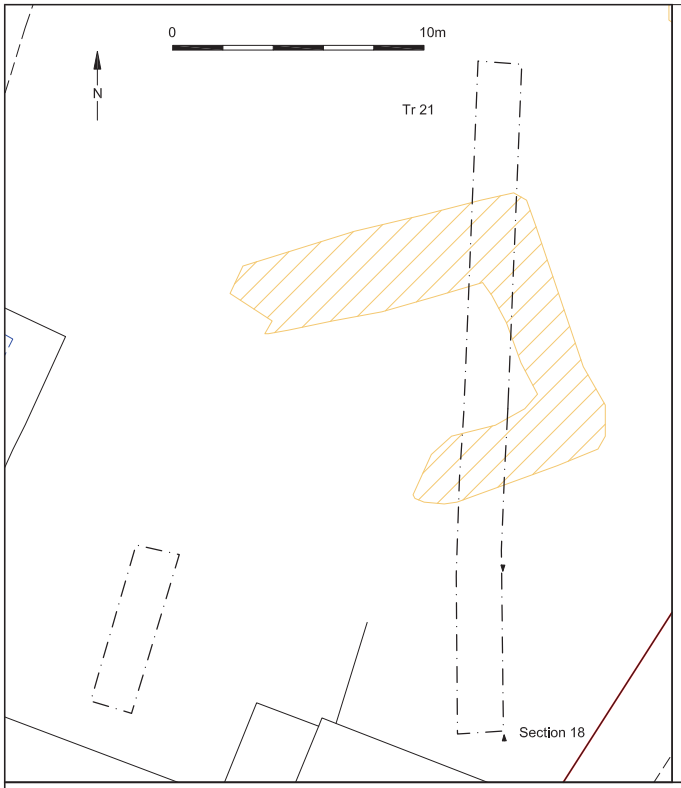
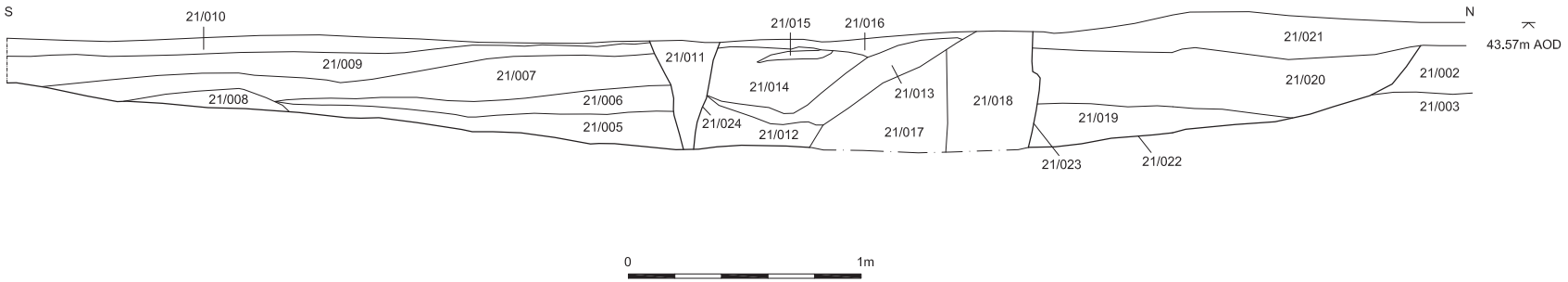



Trench section looking west


Trench section looking west


Trench section looking west

Section 18



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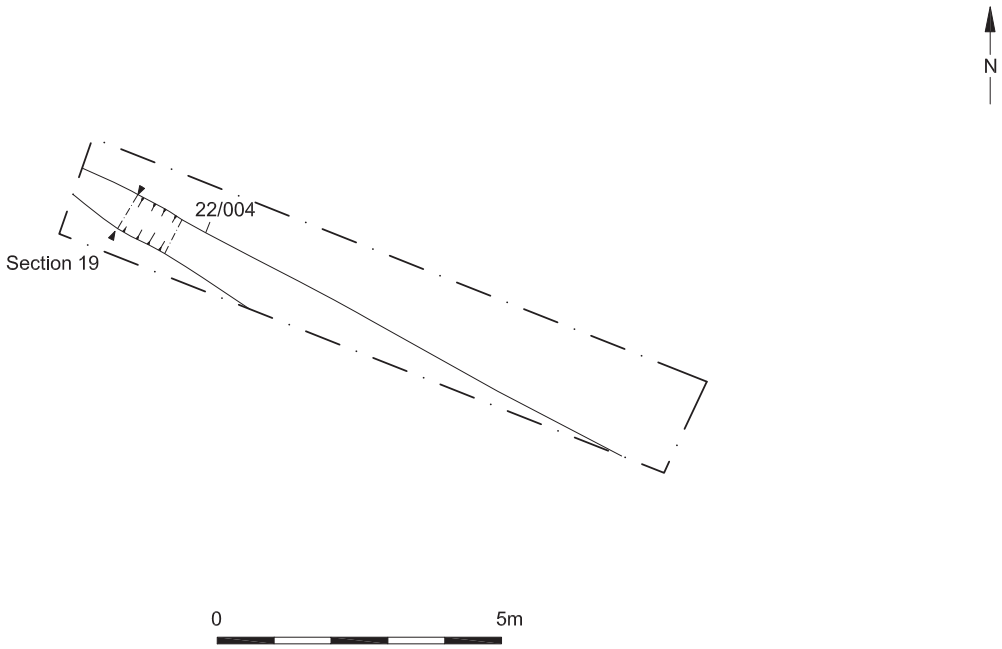

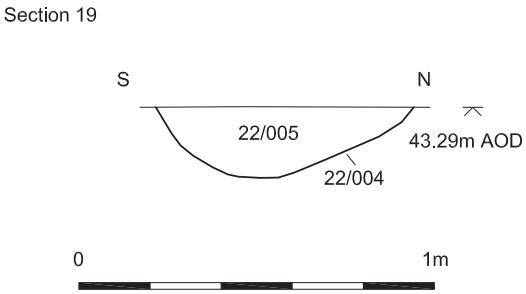

Ditch cut 22/004 looking northwest

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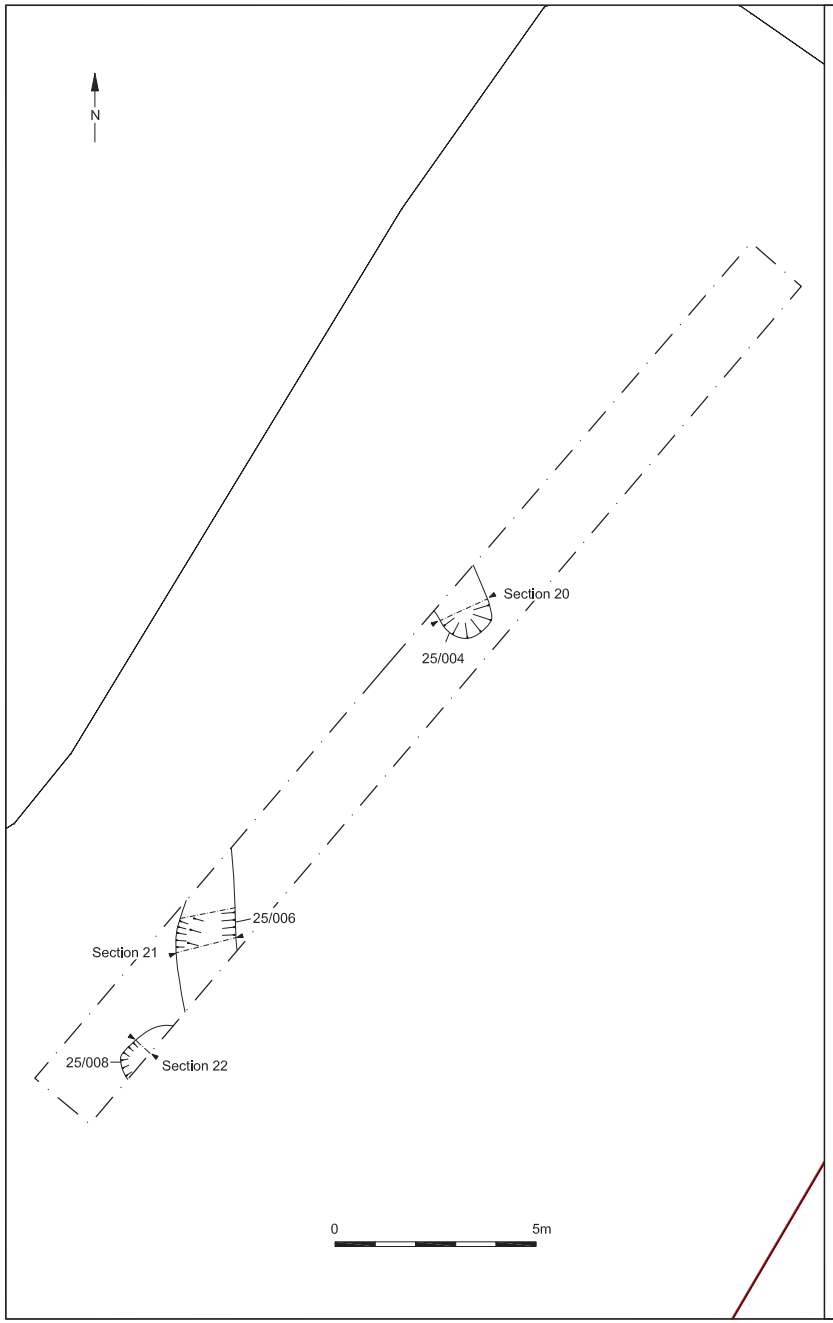
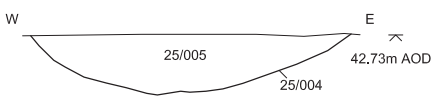
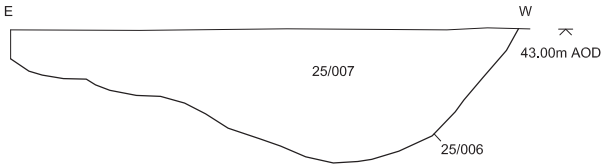


Section 20



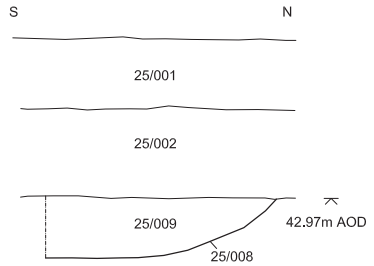
Ditch terminus cut 25/004 looking north

Section 21



Ditch cut 25/006 looking south

Section 22



Pit cut 25/008 looking southeast

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