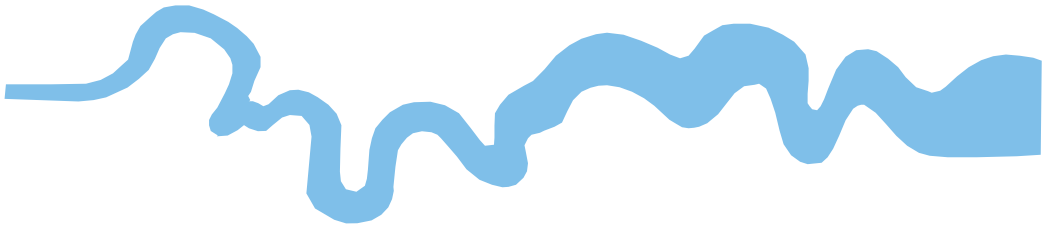
T V A S



SOUTH

Land adjoining The Showground, Staple Street, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent

Archaeological Evaluation

by Pierre-Damien Manisse

Site Code: SFK19/105

(TR 0481 6045)

Land adjoining The Showground, Staple Street, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent

An Archaeological Evaluation

For Memoria Limited

by Pierre-Damien Manisse

TVAS South

Site Code SFK 19/150

March 2022

Summary

Site name: Land adjoining The Showground, Staple Street, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent

Grid reference: TR 0481 6045

Site activity: Archaeological Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 14th to 18th March 2022

Project manager: Tim Dawson

Site supervisor: Pierre-Damien Manisse

Site code: SFK 19/150

Area of site: *c*. 3.55 ha (including the access track)

Summary of results: A total of 35 trenches were successfully opened as intended. The trenches located in the lower part of the field were blank except for traces of its previous use as an orchard. Archaeological features, however, concentrated in the upper (eastern) part of the field. Several ditches or gullies probably of medieval date, a refuse pit full of shells and a firepit were seen in five trenches. A few prehistoric finds suggest there may be an earlier phase of activity but no features are dated to this phase. This part of the site can be considered to have some archaeological potential.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at a local museum approved by Kent Heritage in due course

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford✓ 31.03.22
	Steve Preston✓ 31.03.22

Land adjoining The Showground, Staple Street, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent
An Archaeological Evaluation

by Pierre-Damien Manisse

Report 19/150b

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out on land adjoining The Showground, Staple Street, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent (TR 0481 6045) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Jamieson Hodgson on behalf of Memoria Limited, The Pool House, Bicester Road, Stratton Audley, Oxfordshire OX27 9BS.

Planning consent (app 20/503666/FULL) had been granted by Swale Borough Council for the construction of a new crematorium, access and garden of remembrance. The consent is subject to a condition (33) that relates to archaeology and which requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This was to take the form, initially, of evaluation by means of trial trenching, to inform a mitigation strategy depending on the results.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2019) and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Simon Mason, Principal Archaeological Officer for the County. The fieldwork was undertaken by Pierre-Damien Manisse assisted by Luciano Cicu, Paul Greenslade, Jake Flower Bond and Mikaila Walker and the site code is SFK 19/150. The archive is presently held at TVAS South, Brighton and will be deposited at a local museum approved by Kent Heritage in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located just over 2km east of Faversham, close to the junction between the A2 and the M2 (Fig. 1). The site is set back off Staple Street and accessed via a Tarmacadamed road. It is a roughly rectangular plot of land, occupying the northern corner of a larger cultivated field (Fig. 2). It is bordered to the north by more farm land and to the west by a pasture. The field slopes from 23m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the west up to 28m aOD at the eastern field boundary. After this steady slope there is an abrupt drop in elevation with a small unnamed valley to the east at only 8m aOD. The site does not occupy the highest part of the ridge as slightly higher ground can be found to both north and south. Nonetheless the easternmost part of the field offered a wide

prospect over the surrounding area. The underlying geology is mapped (BGS 1974) as Thanet Beds, green-grey sand with shell beds and sandy clay.

Archaeological background

The site's archaeological potential was addressed in a desk-based assessment (Baljkas 2019). The overall summary was that not much is known of the archaeological resource in the immediate vicinity, except for a Roman road, Watling Street, projected to pass around 0.5km to the south, and very rare stray finds. But the report considered that this low presence of archaeology may have more to do with the lack of investigation nearby rather than any genuine absence of potential. Not much further afield, Late Iron Age/Roman occupation of industrial nature was found during the major roadworks on the M2/A2. Moreover the overlooking position of part of the site in the landscape could have been attractive to earlier settlement. Several farms in the wider area may have medieval origins.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of development.

More specifically, as expressed in the project specification, the project aimed:

to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site;
to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
to determine if archaeological deposits of Roman or Medieval date are present; and
to provide information with which to draw up a mitigation strategy if necessary.

This phase of work was to follow the guidelines for evaluation provided by CIfA (CIfA 2020) and Kent County Council (KCC 2013). It was proposed that 35 trenches be dug by machine under constant archaeological supervision. They were to be 25m long and 1.6-2m wide. Spoils heaps were to be monitored for finds and any feature were to be hand cleaned and sufficiently sampled by excavation to satisfy the objectives outlined above.

Results

The trenches were opened using A 360º excavator equipped with a 1.80m wide toothless bucket. A metal detector (Minelabs Vanquish 540Pro) was used on spoil heaps, but without success. Of the 35 trenches, Trench 2

had to be shifted south-east to avoid proximity of the field boundary hedge; all other trenches were opened as planned (Fig. 3).

The stratigraphy was consistent in all trenches (Pls 1, 3 and 4). The topsoil (50) was a firm dark brown or mid brownish grey silt, 0.25-0.35m thick. It usually overlay a firm mid brown to greyish brown clayey silt, of similar thickness. In trenches 2-4, 6-7, 9 and 12 tiny chalk inclusions were noticeable in this deposit. Overall this subsoil (51) could also include rare natural small flint nodules. occasional sherds of post-medieval pottery also came from this deposit. Below was the natural geology, a firm orange brown clay with rare local variations of colour (olive brown or light bluish grey clay). The differentiation between subsoil, infill of features and geology was sometimes subtle. At least three different land drain systems were observed in various trenches.

The trenches ranged in length from 24.50m to 26.20m and in depth from 0.55m to 0.80m. Their breadth was around 1.85m. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. Only the trenches where potential archaeological features were present are described below.

Trench 10 (Figs 3-5; Pl. 2)

Trench 10 was aligned South - North and was 25.20m long and 0.65m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.35m subsoil overlying natural geology. A small test slot was made at north end (0.80m deep) to confirm the interpretation of the natural geology and the stratigraphy. A geotechnical test pit was also observed towards that same end. Around 2m from the south end of the trench, two possible circular stakeholes, 1 and 2, were noted and half-excavated. They had very steep sloping sides and a slight inclination, to pointed bases. Cut 1 was 0.23m deep and 0.17m in diameter. Stakehole 2 was smaller, only 0.14m in diameter. No finds were recovered from them. After other trenches were opened it became clear that these most probably relate to the previous landuse of the field as an orchard. Remnants of wooden stakes or traces of stakeholes in the ground were noted in trenches 5, 6, 8, 11 and 12. The features in trench 10 are thus probably also of relatively recent origin.

Trench 25 (Figs 3-5; Pls 5 and 8)

Trench 25 was aligned South - North and was 26.20m long and 0.70m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.32m of topsoil and 0.35m subsoil overlying natural geology. At the south end of the trench, was a 6m+ wide patch of firm mid grey brown silty clay with very rare charcoal flecks and rare natural flints. Investigation concluded that this was in fact two small ditches (16, 17) at either end, separated by a thick spread (71), in the absence of an obvious cut, though this interpretation remains somewhat tentative, and it was not clear if the ditches cut the

spread, though this appeared likely. The spread (71) contained a single sherd of early medieval pottery and an intact flint flake. The ditch towards the south end, 17, was 0.80m wide and 0.23m deep. It contained a single sherd of early medieval pottery, two small fragments of animal bone, and burnt flints. It had a concave profile. At the opposite end of the patch was ditch 16, 1.30m wide and 0.55m deep, from which five sherds of early Medieval pottery were collected, along with a clearly residual flint flake. It had more of a flared v-shaped profile. At 22.50m from the south end was pit 5. It was at least 0.50m in width and 0.55m in length for a depth of 0.23m. It was filled with a dense concentration of seashells, so was likely a refuse pit. The upper fill (57) consisted mostly of cockles while oyster shells were more present in a primary infill (58). Even though the subsoil was seen as a uniform deposit, the stratigraphy here seems to indicate that it was composed of several phases. The pit was dug into the subsoil, but not its upper horizon. A small sherd of what might be prehistoric pottery, or just fired clay (daub?) came from the top till, 57. The pit was truncating undated gully 6 below, a linear feature aligned north-north-east to south-south-west. This gully was 0.60m wide and 0.14m deep, though the deposit had likely been overdug to make it more distinct from the surrounding natural. No finds came from it.

Trench 27 (Figs 3-5; Pl. 6)

Trench 27 was aligned South - North and was 24.50m long and 0.70-0.85m deep (taken deeper at the north end to clarify the geological horizon). The stratigraphy consisted of 0.35m of topsoil and 0.30m subsoil overlying natural geology. At 11.40m from the west end of the trench, ditch terminus 7 was recorded, which was at least 0.40m wide and 0.40m deep and filled with a single deposit (60). The infill was a firm mid grey silty clay, shared by all the features in this trench. A fragment of animal bone, a flint flake, and two sherds of medieval cooking pot were collected. This rounded end had a concave profile. It was orientated SSW-NNE. Sharing the same orientation was ditch 8, visible 15m from the south end and disappearing at 21.80m. It had a shallow concave profile. It was 0.60m wide and only around 0.1m deep. Only burnt flints and a worked flint flake were collected from its fill. It was excavated further as slot 10 and close to its junction with the trench baulk at 21.5m another linear feature, 11, only barely visible, seemed to branch from it. The relationship between the two remained unclear but most likely ditch 10 cut feature 11. Almost parallel to 8 was another ditch, 15 with a similar branching perpendicular to it, 14. Ditch 15 was 0.90m wide where best preserved and at least 0.17m deep. Feature 14 was 0.80m wide and had the same depth. No finds were recovered in either and again the relationship was difficult to determine.

Trench 28 (Figs 3–5; Pl. 7)

Trench 28 was aligned North-West - South-East and was 25.20m long and 0.85-0.95m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.32m of topsoil and 0.48m subsoil overlying natural geology. At 10.60m from the north-west end of the trench, ditch 13 was recorded which was 1m wide and 0.24m deep and filled with a firm grey brown clayey silt. Less than 1.5m further south-east was another seemingly parallel ditch, 12. It was 0.78m wide and 0.19m deep. No dating evidence were recovered from ditch 12, while from ditch 13 came a flint flake and a scraper, but these are likely to be residual as both ditches appear to align well on the ditches (8, 15) in trench 27.

Trench 31 (Figs 3–5)

Trench 31 was aligned West - East and was 24.90m long and 0.75m to 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.35m subsoil overlying natural geology. Between 1.2m and 1.6m from the west end of the trench, a burnt patch (9) was recorded which was 0.40m wide, at least 0.48m long, continuing under the baulk, and only a few centimetres thick, only a very shallow scoop. It consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and burnt clay patches. It was interpreted as a single use, low intensity ?hearth. No finds were recovered.

Trench 34 (Figs 3-5)

Trench 34 was aligned close to south–north and was 25.70m long and 0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.25m subsoil overlying natural geology. At 7m from the south end of the trench, ditch 3 was recorded which was about 3.06m wide and 0.79m deep. It had moderate slope and a flattish base. It was aligned east-west, possibly on a slight curve. It was indeed not observed in trench 33. Its depth was hard to assess due to the presence of bioturbation and the recorded thickness is possibly over-estimated. Three small sherd of likely late prehistoric pottery, and a flint flake, but also one tiny sherd of medieval cooking pot, four small pieces of animal bone, and a small piece of iron slag were recovered from its single fill (55), a firm mid brown grey silty clay with rare flint nodules. There was also a moderate amount of burnt flint. The medieval pottery might easily be intrusive in a late prehistoric feature, but at face value this ditch may be of the same period as the other dated features on the site.

At the very south end of the trench several amorphous patches were observed. The largest and more regular of these (4) was half-sectioned and sampled. It was a shallow circular dip, 0.50m x 0.55m, with a depth not exceeding 0.05m. It contained a firm dark grey silty clay with common charcoal and burnt flints but no datable finds.

Finds

Pottery by Luke Barber

The archaeological work recovered 17 sherds of pottery, weighing 97g, from nine contexts (Appendix 3) Medieval fabrics have been allocated the fabric code established by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust for eastern Kent. Sherds of other periods have either a descriptive name or, for the post-medieval period, common ware names. Overall the pottery consists of small to medium sized sherds. The earliest pieces are usually heavily abraded suggesting significant reworking but the later ones are fairly fresh.

The earliest pottery from the site appears to be of prehistoric origin but may be residual in later deposits. A very worn sherd from pit 5, context 57 but the piece has no diagnostic characteristics about it in either form or fabric and it may in fact be burnt clay. The more definite material was recovered in ditch 3, context 55 where at least one piece is relatively unabraded, but associated with a medieval sherd. The material would appear to represent a background scatter but more diagnostic pieces would be needed to confirm closer dating within the general period.

The majority of the assemblage is of the medieval period (10 sherds, 53g). This small group is composed of small/medium sized sherds that are in fresh condition suggesting they have not been subjected to reworking. All appear to derive from the Canterbury industry of the mid 11th to 12th centuries. Indeed the general nature of the fabric and the single rim sherd present suggests the activity can be placed between *c.* 1050 and 1150.

The next period represented is the early post-medieval one – with three sherds being recovered from the topsoil/subsoil in Trenches 2, 3 and 17. These appear to essentially belong to the later 17th to mid 18th centuries and presumably represent a light manuring scatter of domestic waste spread on the land during periods of arable cultivation.

Struck Flint by Steve Ford

A small collection of 10 struck flints was recovered from the evaluation. These comprised 9 flakes and a scraper (Appendix 4). Some of the flints are made from a gravel source and at least one was made on distinctive bullhead flint derived originally from the interface of the Reading Beds and Upper Chalk. The flints cannot be closely dated and only a later Neolithic or Bronze Age date can be suggested. The one narrow flake is not obviously of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic manufacture. All the pieces appear to be in much later (medieval) contexts).

Metalwork by Danielle Milbank

Two severely corroded iron fragments from ditch slot 15 (68), one of which is not identifiable, and one which represents a short piece of the shaft of a (probably handmade) nail. The pieces are not datable.

Slag by Danielle Milbank

One piece of slag weighing 64g was recovered from ditch slot 3 (55) which weighs 64g. It is likely to represent iron slag with a thin layer of fine fired clay adhering to one side, but it not diagnostic of any particular metallurgical process.

Fired clay by Danielle Milbank

Two contexts contained fired clay (Appendix 5). These comprise seven pieces (28g) in a fairly fine red grey slightly soft clay with moderate sparse fine voids, recovered from a sieved soil sample taken from fire pit 9 (62); and one piece was recovered from ditch slot 16 (69), which is a fairly soft fine clay in a light orange colour. Neither context contained pieces with any notable characteristics.

Worked stone by Danielle Milbank

A single piece of stone was recovered in the course of the evaluation, from the subsoil layer 51 in trench 22. This weighs 12g and is a rounded fragment of a Niedermendig or Mayen lava, used for querns which were imported in large quantities in the Roman and medieval periods. The small piece has no flat surfaces or signs of wear which might indicate the quern type.

Burnt flint

Small quantities of burnt flint were recovered from ten of the excavated features (Appendix 6), with no marked concentrations (499g from ditch 3 being the largest single context assemblage). Flint can be burnt through a number of processes (including accidentally) and is not inherently datable.

Animal Bone by Cristina Mateos Leal

17 pieces of animal bone were recovered from 3 contexts, ditches 3, 7 and 17 (Appendix 7).

Mollusca by Cristina Mateos Leal

A small assemblage of mollusca was recovered from pit 5, weighing a combine total of 2100g. The main group of shells belong to common cockle (*Cerastoderma edule* L), followed by common oysters (*Ostrea edulis*). A small amount of snail sea shells (*Buccinum undatum*) and mussels *(Mutilis edulis* L.) have been recorded as well (Appendix 8)

The processing of the mollusca was undertaken using the methods of Winder (2011). The assemblage was quantified to enable an assessment of the minimum number of individuals. Left and the right valves were counted when possible. Very small fragments were counted and weighed but no more. Where possible, the maximum length and width and number of whorls were also recorded. Many specimens are not complete or they are just fragments. Shellfish were commonly consumed in medieval times, although survival of the shells is somewhat haphazard, as not only are they very fragile but (oysters in particular) can be processed for other uses. Such a concentrated dump might suggest these shells (few of which were complete) were intended to be crushed for some secondary use.

Charred plant remains by Elspeth St John Brookes

A total 7 samples were taken from contexts from a series of features across the site. The preservation of the charred remains was similar from sample to sample with an observed moderate to high level of preservation.

The samples taken were between 8 and 16L and were floated and sieved using a 0.25mm mesh and the resultant flots air dried. The sample flots were then passed through 0.5cm, 0.25cm and 0.10cm sieves and fragments large enough were fractured using a blade for species identification. These were then examined with a hand lens at x8 magnification and under a lower powered microscope at magnifications between x50 and x1000. Identification of charcoal was carried out using Hather (2000) and Schweingruber (1978) along with online resources http://www.plantatlas.eu/za.php and http://www.woodanatomy.ch/. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow Stace (1997). The Macrofossil environmental results are shown in Appendix 9.

Environmental macrofossils were found in 4 of the samples, both charcoal and seeds were identified. The seeds assemblage was variable, largely due to the samples taken from refuse pit 5. This pit contained wheat (*Triticum sp*.), oat (*Avena sp*.), rye (*Secale cereale sp*.), barley (*Hordeum sp*.), a seed from the pea family (Fabaceae) along with cleavers (*Galium sp*.) weed seeds and a small number of indeterminate cereal grains. The presence of (likely) bread wheat along with barley could be indicative of coarse bread making where this assemblage is derived from domestic processing waste. This confirms the identification of this feature as a refuse pit. Wheat, oat, rye and barley have multiple uses in prehistory including bread, porridge, cake and ale making

and production (Dinely and Dinely 2000).). In addition, these four species found together could also be evidence of cereal cultivation management practices as barley has been recorded as a dredge crop with oats used as an adverse weather buffer (Stone 2009). Cleaver weed seeds can be found in correlation with cereals as these are generally found in arable fields and therefore are easily incorporated into domestic occupation deposits (Hillman 1981; Jacomet 2006).

Charcoal was found just in fire pit 9 containing Ash (*Fraxinus Excelsior*) fragments. As this is a small charcoal assemblage it does not give an objective and clear understanding of the use of wood on site and the identified taxa are not considered to be proportionately representative of the availability of wood resources in the environment around this site.

The macrofossil assemblage produced at this site was varied due to the assemblage found in refuse pit 5 both in diversity and quantity. Cereals were clearly being utilised and processed on or near this site with the presence of spikelets supporting this interpretation.

Conclusion

The trenches offered contrasting evidence with the majority being blank, especially in the lower ground in the west and south, while archaeological features concentrated in only five trenches towards the east. A caveat is that the nature of the geological horizon, of the subsoil and of the infill of the features were only barely distinguishable. Nonetheless it can be tentatively thought that the close-set parallel ditches observed in trenches 25, 27 and 28 likely related to each other. This might be indicative of a trackway with roadside gullies and an associated field system with perpendicular ditches joining it. The larger ditch observed in trench 34 might be the western end of an enclosure taking place in the highest spot in the field and taking advantage of that vantage point, marking the landscape. The datable features all appear to be early Medieval but the persistent presence of small numbers of prehistoric finds (flints and perhaps pottery) suggests there may be earlier activity on the site as well, albeit not clearly represented by cut features in the trenches.

It is considered that the archaeological potential is limited to the east part of the site.

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http://www.woodanatomy.ch/ - Online Digital Wood Archive

APPENDIX 1: Trench details
0m at S, W or NW end

Trench	*Length (m)*	*Breadth (m)*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*
1	26.2	1.85	0.65	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25-.0.60 subsoil mid grey brown clayey silt; 0.60m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
2	24.5	1.85	0.7	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
3	24.5	1.85	0.6	0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
4	25	1.85	0.6	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
5	25	1.85	0.55m WNW 0.7m ESE	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
6	26.2	1.85	0.6	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
7	25.6	1.85	0.7	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
8	25	1.85	0.55	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
9	25	1.85	0.75 NE 0.65 SW	0-0.4m topsoil; -.4-0.75m subsoil; 0.75m+ orange brown clay (natural geology) **[Pl. 1]**
10	25.2	1.85	0.65	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m+ orange brown clay (natural geology) Stakeholes 1 and 2 **[Pl. 2]**
11	25	1.85	0.75	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.75m subsoil; 0.75m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
12	24.8	1.85	0.65	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology) **[Pl. 3]**
13	25	1.85	0.65	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
14	25	1.85	0.55	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
15	25.6	1.85	0.6	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3--0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
16	25.2	1.85	0.6	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
17	25.1	1.85	0.7	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
18	25	1.85	0.75	0-0.35 topsoil; 0.35-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
19	25.9	1.85	0.9	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.75m subsoil; 0.75m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
20	25.2	1.85	0.7	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
21	26.2	1.85	0.6	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
22	26	1.85	0.75	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
23	24.8	1.85	0.75	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
24	25.9	1.85	0.6	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
25	26.2	1.85	0.7	0-0.32m topsoil; 0.32-0.67m subsoil; 0.67m+ orange brown clay (natural geology) Gullies 6 and 16, Pit 5 and spread 71 **[Pls 5 and 8]**
26	26	1.85	0.85	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.7m subsoil; 0.7m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
27	24.5	1.85	0.85	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m+ orange brown clay (natural geology) Ditches 8/10, 11, 14 and 15. Ditch terminus 7**[Pl. 6]**
28	25.2	1.85	0.95	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.8m subsoil; 0.8m+ orange brown clay (natural geology) Ditches 12 and 13 **[Pl. 7]**
29	25	1.85	0.8	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
30	25.2	1.85	0.7	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
31	24.9	1.85	0.8	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ orange brown clay (natural geology) Pit/ Linear Terminus 9
32	24.6	1.85	0.65	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)
33	25.7	1.85	0.6	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology) **[Pl. 4]**
34	25.7	1.85	0.6	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown clay (natural geology) Ditch 3 an d Posthole 4
35	24.7	1.85	0.5	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ orange brown clay (natural geology)

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

Trench	*Cut*	*Fill (s)*	*Type*	*Date*	*Dating evidence*
all		50	topsoil	Modern	
all		51	subsoil	Post-Medieval	pottery
10	1	52-53	stakehole	Modern	association
10	2	54	stakehole	Modern	association
34	3	55	ditch	Uncertain, prehistoric or medieval	Pottery
31	4	56	Pit		
25	5	57-58	pit	Possible prehistoric	Pottery/daub
25	6	59	gully		
27	7	60	Ditch terminus	Early medieval	Pottery
27	8	61	ditch		
31	9	62	pit		
27	10	63	ditch		
27	11	64	gully		
28	12	65	ditch		
28	13	66	ditch		
27	14	67	ditch		
27	15	68	ditch		
25	16	69	ditch	Early medieval	Pottery
25	17	70	ditch	Early medieval	Pottery
25		71	spread	Early medieval	Pottery

APPENDIX 3: Catalogue of Pottery

Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Fabric*	*Period*	*No*	*Wt (g)*	*Comments*
2		51	Tin-glazed ware	EPM	1	1	plain white glaze. Worn
3		51	White salt-glazed stoneware	EPM	1	12	Bowl
17		51	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	19	oxidised, clear/green glaze internally
34	3	55	Moderate ill-sorted calcined flint	Prehist	1	5	reduced, quite fresh
34	3	55	Silty with moderate fine calcined flint	Prehist	1	2	reduced, very worn
34	3	55	Silty/grog tempered	?Prehist	1	3	oxidised, very worn
34	3	55	EM1/M1 Canterbury-type/Tyler Hill sandy ware	EM	1	1	?Cooking pot oxidised, externally sooted
25	5	57	Silty/fine sugary quartz, rare larger quartz	?Prehist	1	2	oxidised, very worn
27	7	60	EM1 Canterbury-type sandy ware	EM	2	18	Cooking pot oxidised, fresh, beaded flaring rim
25	16	69	EM1 Canterbury-type sandy ware	EM	5	29	?Cooking pots oxidised, externally sooted
25	17	70	EM1 Canterbury-type sandy ware	EM	1	2	Cooking pot oxidised, externally sooted
25		71	EM1 Canterbury-type sandy ware	EM	1	3	oxidised

Key: Prehist – prehistoric 1st millennium BC;

EM – Early Medieval c. 1050-1200/25;

EPM – Early Post-Medieval c. 1525/50-1750.

APPENDIX 4: Catalogue of Struck flint

Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Intact Flake*	*Intact narrow flake*	*Broken flake*	*Other*
3		51			1	
34	3	55			1	
27	7	60			1	
27	8	61	1	1	1	
28	13	66			1	Scraper
25	16	69			1	
25		71	1 (bullhead)			

APPENDIX 5: Catalogue of Fired clay

Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Type*	*No.*	*Wt (g)*
31	9	62	fire pit	7	28
25	16	69	ditch	1	22

APPENDIX 6: Catalogue of Burnt flint

Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Type*	*Wt (g)*
2		51	Subsoil	64
34	3	55	ditch	499
34	4	56	burning deposit?	315
25	5	57	refuse pit	14
25	5	58	refuse pit	17
25	6	59	ditch	5
27	7	60	ditch terminus	5
27	8	61	ditch	39
28	12	65	ditch	194
27	15	68	ditch	26
25	16	69	ditch	57
25	17	70	ditch	10
25		71	spread?	178

APPENDIX 7: Catalogue of Animal bone

Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Type*	*No Frags*	*Wt (g)*
34	3	55	ditch	4	79
27	7	60	ditch terminus	11	125
25	17	70	ditch	2	22

APPENDIX 8: Catalogue of Shell

Cut	*Fill*	*Type*	*No*	*Wt (g)*	*Species*	*Whorls*	*Length X height (mm)*	*Left valves*	*Measurement (mm)*	*Right valves*	*Measurement (mm)*	*Comment*
51		Subsoil	3	11	Oyster					2		
							Range from 17x19 to					
5	57	Refuse pit	849	1139	cockle		25x30					
									49x34			
									71x46		49x34	
5	57	Refuse pit	20	72	oyster			7	57x49	4	44x37	
							48x26					
					snail	3x7	41x26					
5	57	Refuse pit	10	50	shell	4x6	54x29					
5	57	Refuse pit	2	3	mussels			2				
									41x27			
									65x46		49x31	
									42x33		38x27	
					oyster				34x29		35x27	Notches
									53x46		38x27	
5	58	Refuse pit	35	106				14	61x35	9	44x34	
5	58	Refuse pit	6	3	mussels			3				
							44x24					
							48x26					
							11x9					
						10x7	53x29					
						1x4	49x25					
					snail	1x5	34x19					
					shell	1x8	33x19					
						6x6	47x26					
							48x26					
							49x26					
5	58	Refuse pit	22	120			36x20					
							Range from					
					cockle		16x18 to					
5	58	Refuse pit	466	596			29x30					

APPENDIX 9a: Plant Macrofossils

Cut	5	6	8	9	
Context	58	59	61	62	
Sample	4	5	6	7	
Feature Type	Refuse Pit	Ditch	Ditch	Fire Pit	
LATIN BINOMAL					**Common Name**
Triticum sp.	59				Wheat
Avena sp.	5				Oat
Secale cereale sp.	18	1		1	Rye
Hordeum sp.	6		1		Barley
FABACEAE	1				Pea Family
Galium sp.	16		4		Cleavers (weed)
Spikelets	5	1			Spikelets
Indeterminate Cereal	6				Indeterminate Cereal

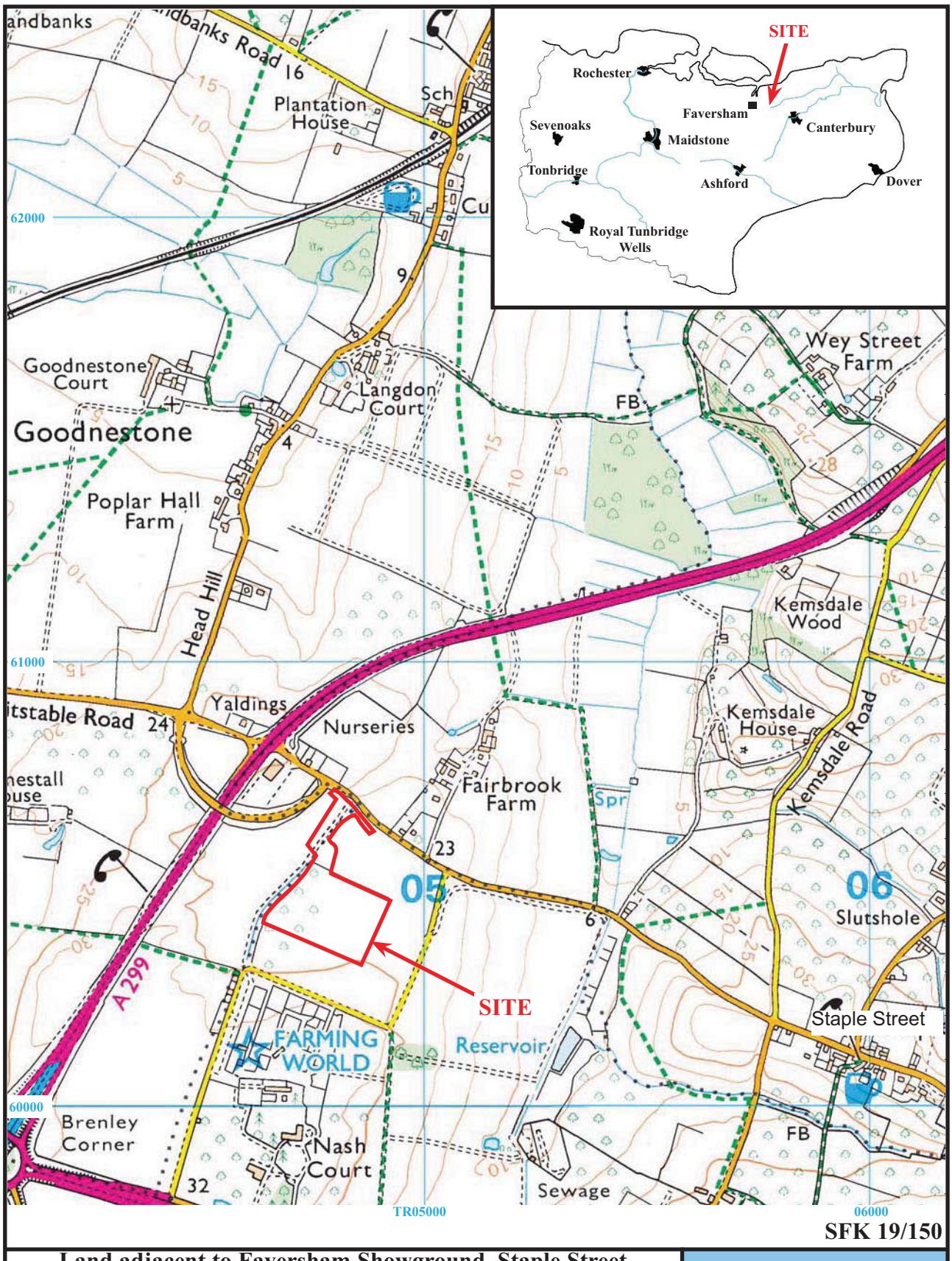
APPENDIX 9ab: Charcoal

Cut	9	
Context	62	
Sample	7	
Feature Type	Fire Pit	
No. fgts.	45	
Max. size (mm)	42	
LATIN BINOMAL		**Common Name**
Fraxinus Excelsior	25	Ash
Indeterminate	20	Indeterminate

.

Kent County Council SMR summary form

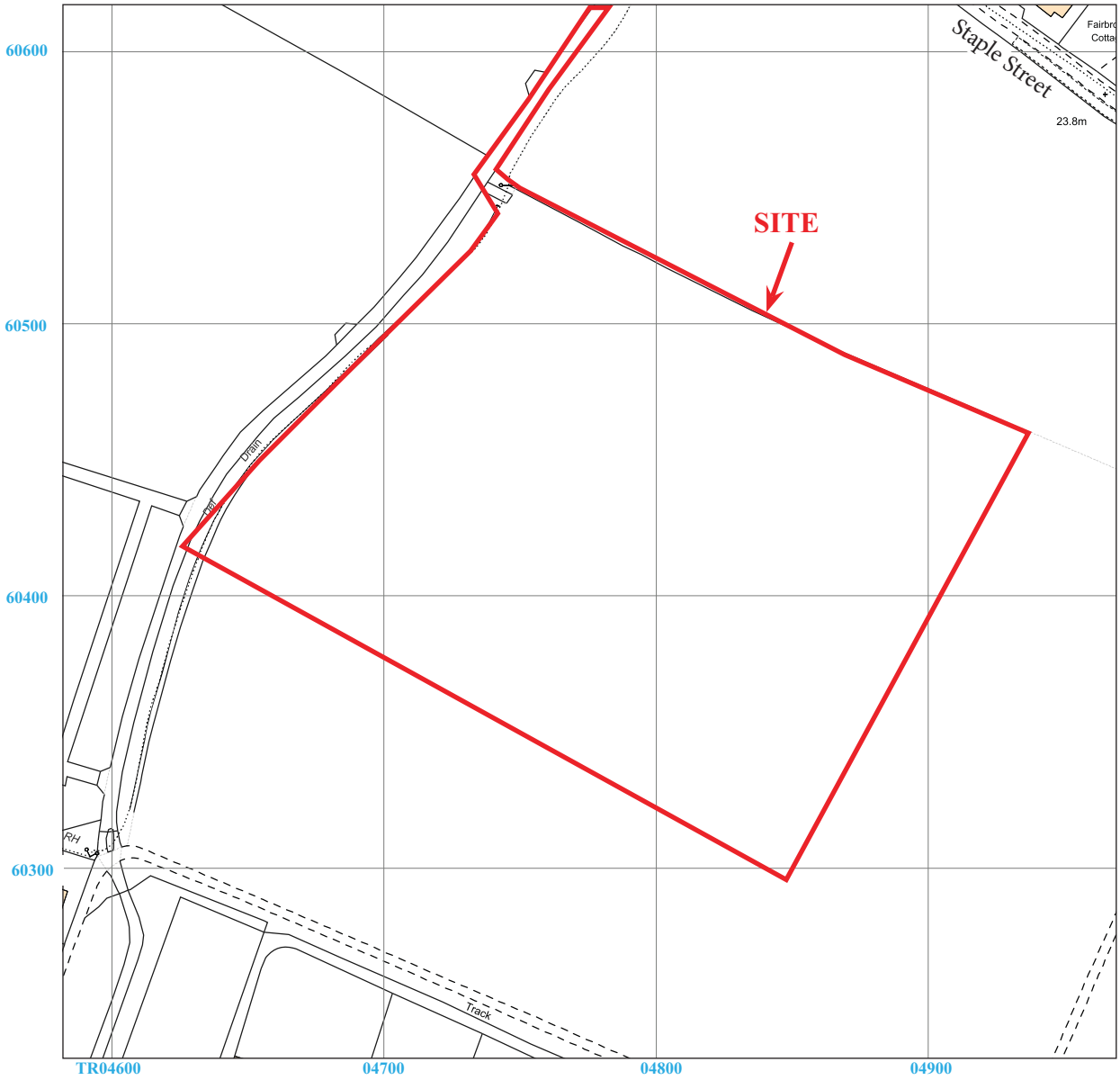
Site Name: Land adjoining The Showground, Staple Street, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent	
Site Address: Land adjoining The Showground, Staple Street, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent	
Summary: In advance of the construction of a new crematorium and associated garden and access a trial-trenching programme of 35 trenches took place.	
District/Unitary:Swale	**Parish**: Faversham
Period(s): Medieval, possible prehistoric	
NGR (centre of site: 8 figures): TR 0481 6045	
Type of archaeological work: Evaluation	
Date of recording: 14/03/2022 - 18/03/2022	
Unit undertaking recording: Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd (TVAS South)	
Geology: Thanet Beds	
Title and author of accompanying report: Land adjoining The Showground, Staple Street, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent – An archaeological evaluation by Pierre-Damien Manisse	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate): Several ditches, some Medieval and others undated but likely associated with the former, were noted in the upper part of the field. A pit full of marine mollusc shell and a pit with traces of burning, both undated were also observed in the same area. In the lower ground, only traces of modern activity (orchard) were noted in the form of stakeholes. A few prehistoric finds also suggest some earlier activity.	
Location of archive/finds: presently held at TVAS, 47-49 De Beauvoir Road, Reading RG1 5NR and to be deposited in a local museum agreed by Kent Council	
Contact at Unit: Tim Dawson	**Date**: 23/03/2022



Land adjacent to Faversham Showground, Staple Street, Faversham, Kent, 2022
Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 1. Location of site in relation to Staple Street and Faversham, within Kent.

TVAS SOUTH

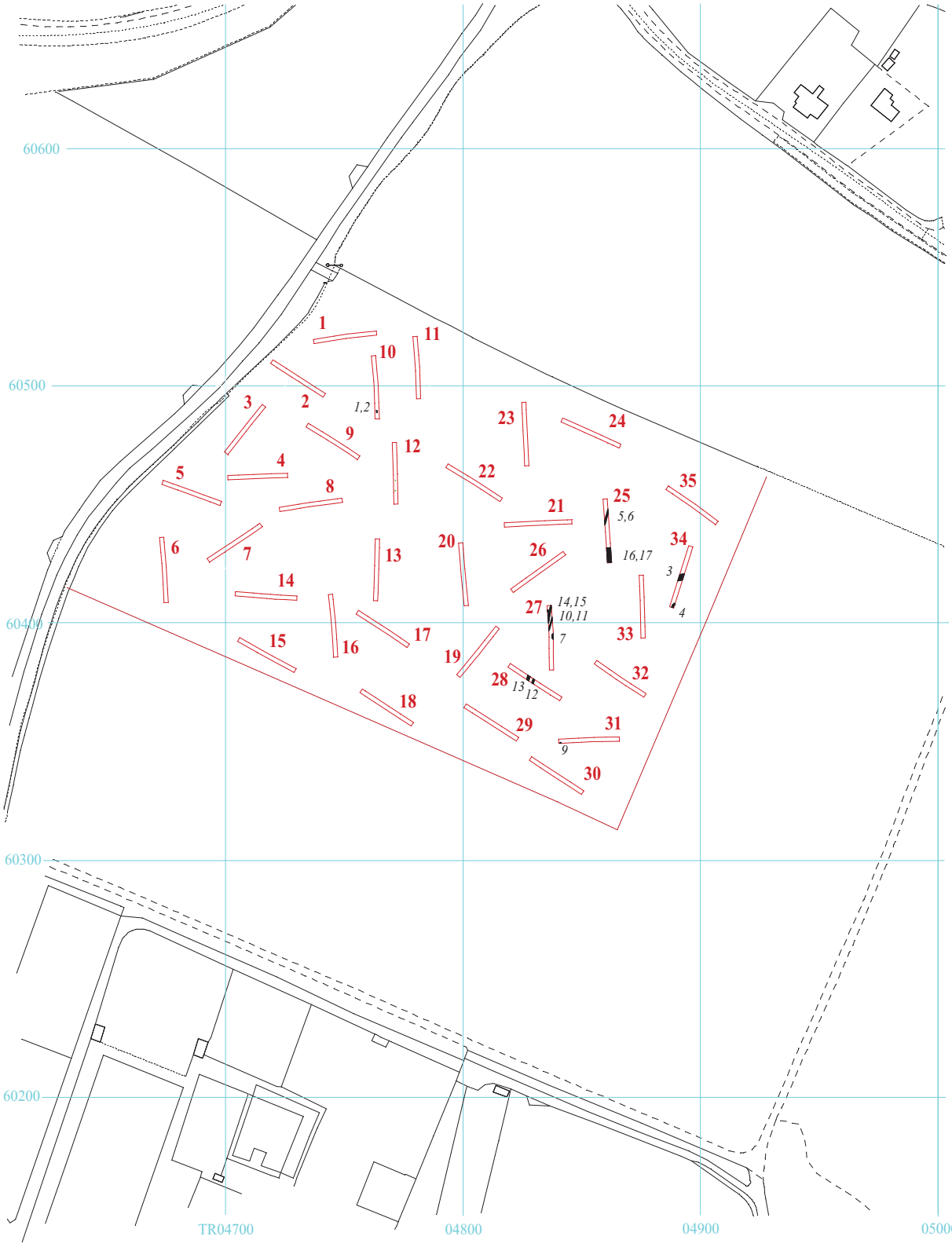


SFK 19/150

N

Land adjacent to Faversham Showground, Staple Street, Faverham, Kent, 2022
Archaeological Evaluation
Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Staple Street.

TVAS SOUTH



SFK 19/150

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Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 3. Location of trenches.

0 125m

TVAS SOUTH

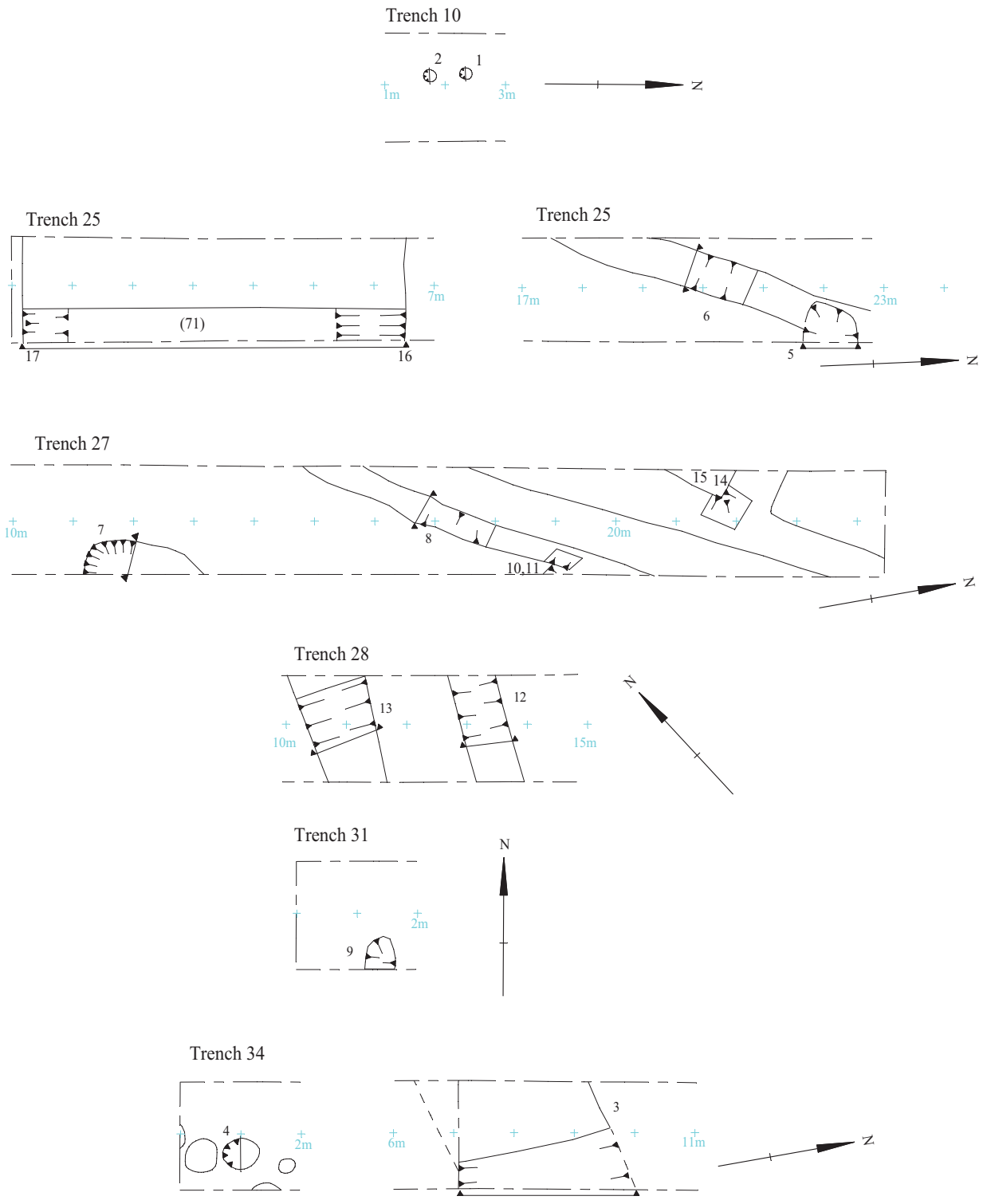

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Figure 4. Detail of trenches.

0 5m

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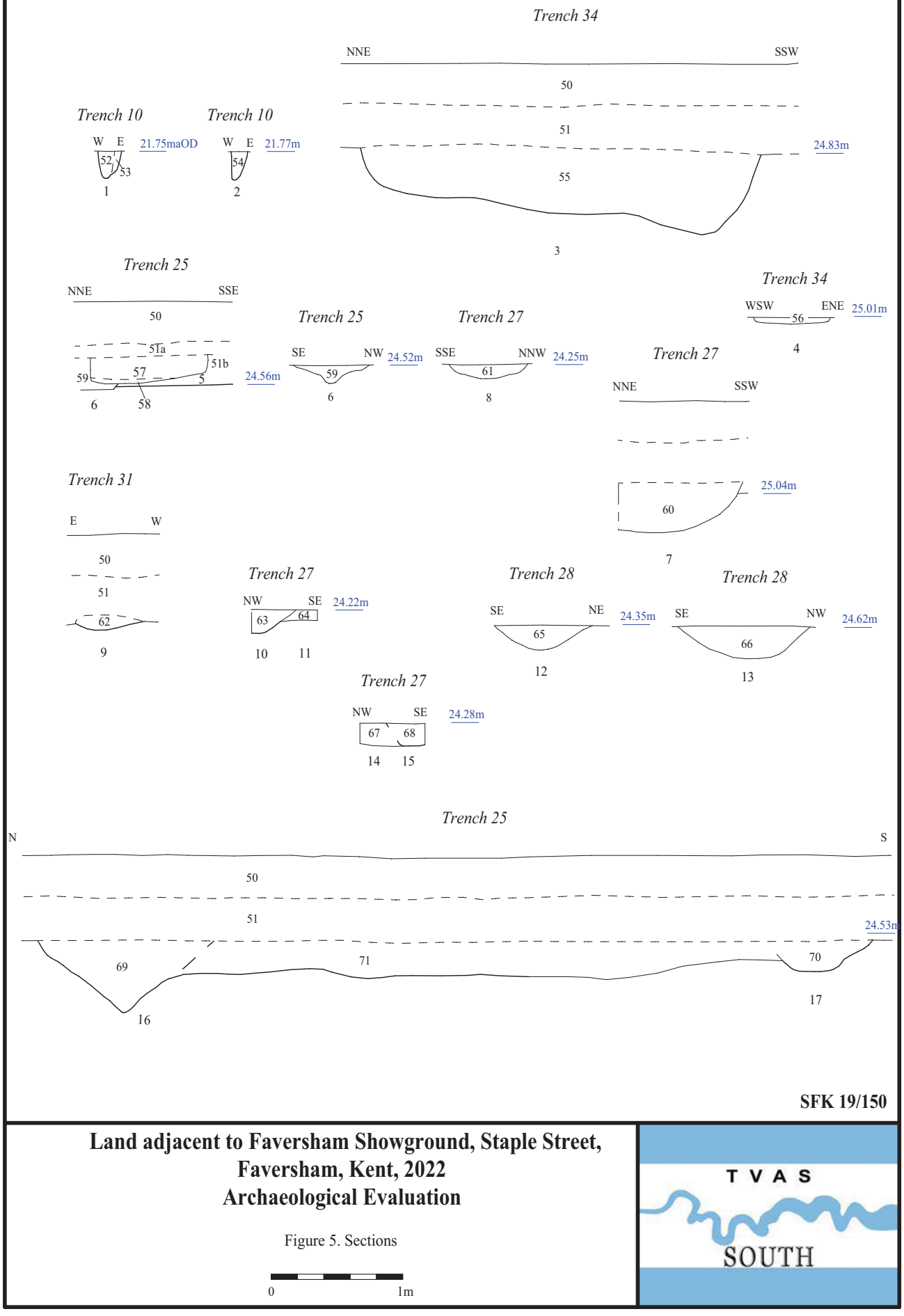

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Figure 5. Sections

0 1m

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Plate 1. Trench 9 section, looking South-West.
Scales: horizontal 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 2. Trench 10, Stakeholes 1 and 2, looking North.
Scales: horizontal 0.2m, vertical 0.2m.

Plate 3. Trench 12, looking South.
Scales: 2m and 1m.

Plate 4. Trench 33, looking East.
Scales: horizontal 1m, vertical 0.5m.

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Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 1 - 4.

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Plate 5. Trench 25, Pit 5 cutting gully 6, looking East.
Scales: horizontal 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 6. Trench 27, ditch terminus 7, looking North.
Scales: horizontal 0.5m, vertical 0.2m.

Plate 7. Trench 28, gully 12, looking South-West.
Scales: horizontal 0.5m and vertical 0.2m.

Plate 8. Trench 25, ditches 16 and 17, with spread 71, looking South-East. Scales: horizontal 2m, vertical 2x1m.

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Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 5 - 8.

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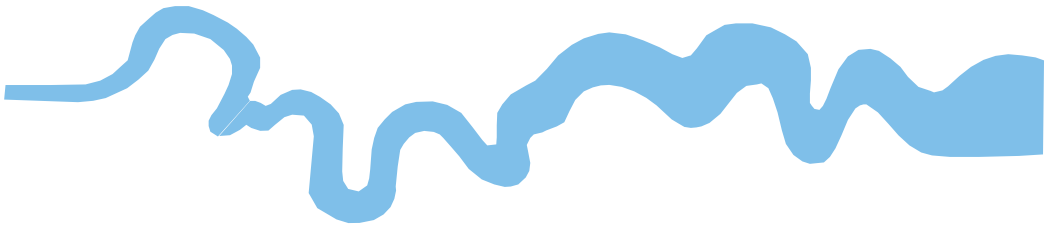
TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern	AD 1901
Victorian	AD 1837
Post Medieval	AD 1500
Medieval	AD 1066
Saxon	AD 410
Roman	AD 43
	AD 0 BC
Iron Age	750 BC
Bronze Age: Late	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC



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