

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

S O U T H

**Long Copse Lane, Westbourne,
Chichester, West Sussex**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Luis Esteves and Andy Taylor

Site Code: LCL16/107

(SU 7562 0797)

**Long Copse Lane, Westbourne,
Chichester, West Sussex**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Southcott Homes**

by Luis Esteves and Andy Taylor
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code LCL16/107

June 2016

Summary

Site name: Long Copse Lane, Westbourne, Chichester, West Sussex

Grid reference: SU 7562 0797

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 31st May-2nd June 2016

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Luis Esteves

Site code: LCL 16/107

Area of site: 0.49ha

Summary of results: The evaluation revealed a number of features comprising ditches, pits and a post hole all certainly or probably of medieval date.

A few pieces of struck flint, one possibly of Upper Palaeolithic/ early Mesolithic date /the other of Neolithic or Bronze Age date indicate a little prehistoric activity on the site.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Chichester Museum in due course.

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www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.*

Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 23.06.16 Danielle Milbank ✓ 23.06.16
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Long Copse Lane, Westbourne, Chichester, West Sussex An Archaeological Evaluation

by Luis Esteves and Andy Taylor

Report 16/107

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Long Copse Lane, Westbourne, Chichester, West Sussex (SU 7562 0797) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Andy Mogg, Commercial Director on behalf of Southcott Homes Limited, The Barn, Calcot Mount Business Park, Calcot Lane, Curdridge, Southampton, SO32 2BN.

Planning permission has been gained on appeal (APP/L2815/W/15/3003656) from Chichester District Council to redevelop the site for housing and related access and landscaping. The permission is subject to a condition (15) relating to archaeology, which requires a field evaluation by means of machine trenching.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012), and the District Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr James Kenny, Archaeology Officer with Chichester District Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Luis Esteves, Thomas Stewart and Benedikt Tebbit between 31st May and 2nd June 2016 and the site code is LCL 16/107. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Chichester Museum in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on a flat parcel of land in Westbourne, Chichester and is bounded by Long Copse Lane to the south, School Lane on its north western side, North Street on its eastern side and residential properties to the north. Westbourne is located to the east of Havant and west of Chichester. In terms of geology, the site lies between the Aeolian Deposits (Brickearth) and the Head Gravel (BGS 1996), which was observed across the site.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a desk-based assessment (ACDA 2012). In

summary this potential stems from its location on the archaeological rich Sussex coastal plain and within the wider hinterland of the Roman town of Chichester. A modest number of finds are recorded within the county historic environment record for the environs of the site with Bronze Age burial recorded to the east, late Bronze Age occupation to the south, Roman coins also to the south and Saxon pottery to the south east.

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.

Specific aims of the project were;

- To determine if archaeologically relevant have survived on this site.
- To determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present.

10 trenches were to be dug measuring 15m long and 1.60m wide. These were dug using a small 360° type machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket under constant archaeological supervision. All spoilheaps were monitored for finds.

Results

All 10 trenches were dug as close as possible to their intended locations. These measured between 14.20m and 15.50m long and between 0.37m and 0.55m deep. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

Trench 1

This trench was aligned NE-SW and measured 14.20m long and 0.41m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.23m of topsoil overlying 0.12m of subsoil overlying gravel and brickearth natural geology.

Trench 2

This trench was aligned approximately N-S and measured 15.50m long and 0.37m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil overlying 0.08m of subsoil overlying gravel natural geology.

Trench 3

This trench was aligned approximately NE-SW and measured 15.20m long and 0.48m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.29m of topsoil overlying 0.14m of subsoil overlying gravel natural geology.

Trench 4 (Figs. 4 and 5)

This trench was aligned approximately NW-SE and measured 15.30m long and 0.49m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil overlying 0.18m of subsoil overlying gravel natural geology. A posthole (9) was noted at the southern end of the trench measuring 0.29m in diameter and 0.15m deep. Its light yellow grey silty clay fill (59) did not contain any dating evidence. Ditch 11 was 1m wide and 0.40m deep. Its light orange brown silty clay fill (58) contained one sherd of medieval pottery. A second ditch (8) was 0.94m wide but only 0.2m deep. Its light orange brown silty clay fill (63) contained 13 sherds of medieval pottery.

Trench 5

This trench was aligned approximately NE-SW and measured 15.10m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil overlying 0.10m of subsoil overlying gravel and brickearth natural geology.

Trench 6 (Figs. 4 and 5; Pls. 1 and 4)

This trench was aligned approximately NW-SE and measured 14.90m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil overlying 0.17m of subsoil overlying gravel and brickearth natural geology. Ditch 7 was 1.05m wide and 0.38m deep. Its light brown silty clay fill (56) produced 20 sherds of medieval pottery, 18 tile fragments and a fragment of animal bone. A second ditch (10) was 1.10m wide and 0.22m deep. Its dark red brown silty clay fill (57) contained a piece of burnt flint, and a struck flint.

Trench 7 (Figs. 4 and 5; Pl. 2)

This trench was aligned E-W and measured 14.20m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil overlying 0.20m of subsoil overlying gravel natural geology. Ditch 1 was noted at the western end of the trench which was 1m wide and 0.30m deep. Its dark red brown silty clay fill (52) did not produce any dating evidence.

Trench 8 (Figs. 4 and 5; Pl. 3)

This trench was aligned approximately N-S and measured 14.70m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.33m of topsoil overlying 0.17m of subsoil overlying gravel natural geology. At the southern end of the trench was an animal burial, most likely modern. Also at the southern end was pit (3) which measured 0.80m wide and 0.34m deep. Its light yellow brown silty clay fill (54) did not produce any dating evidence. At 5m from the southern end of the trench was a possible gully terminus (5), although this was not excavated. At the centre of the trench was another pit (2) that measured 0.44m wide and 0.13m deep. Its light yellow brown silty clay fill (53) contained one piece of struck flint.

Trench 9 (Figs 4 and 5)

This trench was aligned NE-SW and measured 15.20m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil overlying gravel natural geology. At the south western end of the trench was ditch 12 which was 1.25m wide and 0.69m deep. It was found to contain three fills (60, 61 and 62) with 60, mid grey brown silty clay producing a piece of tile of 19th century or modern date, possibly intrusive. Deposit 61 was a light blue grey silty clay and 62, a mid grey brown silty clay. Neither of these produced any finds.

Trench 10 (Figs 4 and 5)

This trench was aligned approximately E-W and measured 14.50m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.35m of topsoil overlying 0.16m of subsoil overlying gravel natural geology. A ditch (6) was recorded which was 1.20m wide and 0.40m deep. Its light grey brown silty sand fill (55) contained 15 sherds of medieval (13th century) pottery, three pieces of tile including a residual Roman fragment, and one piece of animal bone.

Finds

Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 49 sherds with a total weight of 479g. It was all medieval. The following fabric types were noted:

LGW: Local Glazed Wares, 13th -14th century (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 320-2). fabric similar to LUW, softer, with sparser inclusions. Dull green glaze. 1 sherd, 17g.

LSW: Local Sandy Wares, 13th – 14th century (ibid). Mainly buff to red oxidized wares with sparse to dense sand temper. Glazed jars and unglazed jugs. 41 sherds, 373g.

LUW: Local Unglazed Gritty Wares, 13th – 14th century. Hard, largely oxidized fabrics with varying quantities of sand and flint (ibid). 7 sherds, 89g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Appendix 3. The assemblage is generally in fairly good condition, although there is some attrition to most sherds, probably as a result of soil conditions.

The range of fabric types is typical of medieval kilns in the town (Barton 1979, 160). Given the amount of variation in the fabric from any single source in Chichester, it is entirely possible that they are all the products of

the same manufactory (ibid, 159). The assemblage comprised a mixture of jars and glazed jugs, with most of the latter in fairly fine sandy fabrics, and with applied or incised decoration.

Animal Bone by Lizzi Lewins

A small assemblage of animal bone (64 pieces) was recovered during the course of the evaluation. 60 fragments represent the partially truncated remains of an articulated animal burial 4 (64) and consists of the thoracic spine, ribs and a partial refitted scapula as well as a number of non-descript fragments. No evidence of butchery was noted. A small number of un-fused vertebral bodies and 1 un-fused plate were present amongst the assemblage. The remains likely represent those of a cow.

Of the 3 fragments recovered from ditch 6 (55) only 1 was identifiable and comprised a partial distal metapodial from a large mammal.

Struck Flint by Steve Ford

Two struck flints were recovered during the evaluation. One piece was a spall (pieces less than 20x20mm from ditch 10 (57). This piece cannot be closely dated but is likely to be of Neolithic or Bronze Age date. The other was a large broken blade from pit 2 (53). It was made from an homogenous black flint and was in very good condition with little post-depositional damage. It was made using a soft hammer with some platform preparation. It was at least 58mm long with several blade scars on the dorsal surface. It is likely to be of Mesolithic date, but given its size, it is possibly of Upper Palaeolithic date.

Ceramic Building Material by Danielle Milbank

Three contexts encountered in the evaluation contained ceramic building material, a total of 23 fragments (818g). These were examined under x10 magnification and are summarised in Appendix 5. They comprised three tile fragments from 6 (deposit 55), two of which are a hard, coarse sandy fabric of a light buff colour with a pale grey core indicating reducing conditions while firing. They are 9 to 11mm thick and slightly uneven, with slight edge-thickening. These characteristics suggest they are of later medieval date, perhaps 14th or 15th century. A third piece of tile (47g) represents fragment of Roman box-flue tile in a soft, fine inclusion free fabric.

Context 7 (56) contained 18 pieces, 6 of a moderate to dense sandy fabric with sparse to moderate coarse flint and chalk inclusions, and 11 fragments of a moderate to dense hard sandy fabric.

A tile piece recovered from 12 (deposit 60) is a hard to medium, evenly-fired fine clay of likely 19th or early 20th century date, and represents a piece of ceramic land drain.

Overall, the tile assemblage is modest, largely consisting of flat tile forms of broadly medieval date. This type of tile was produced from the late 12th to 19th century, though it did not become widespread until the late 13th century and was generally limited to high-status buildings before becoming more common from the 15th century onwards. . The fabrics suggest a local source, and tiles are known from a number of kilns in the region (Barton 1979, 64). A single example of Roman tile was present as a residual find.

Cut	Deposit	Type	Area	No	Wt (g)
6	55	Ditch	Tr10	3	146
7	56	Ditch	Tr6	18	574
12	60	Ditch	Tr9	2	98
				23	818

Burnt Flint by Andy Taylor

A single piece of burnt flint, weighing 10g, was recovered from the fill of ditch 10 in trench six.

Conclusion

The evaluation identified a moderate amount of archaeological deposits concentrated on the eastern and southern parts of the site. These were, where evidence was recovered, dated to the medieval period. These included several linear features, most likely representing field systems or boundary features, however in order to ascertain their nature and extent further work would be required prior to the development of the site. A few pieces of struck flint, one possibly of Upper Palaeolithic/ early Mesolithic date /the other of Neolithic or Bronze Age date indicate a little prehistoric activity on the site, with Roman activity suggested by a single tile fragment.

References

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 Barton, K, 1979 *Medieval Sussex Pottery* Phillimore, Chichester
 BGS, 1996, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 317/332, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
 Harley, L S, 1974, *A typology of brick*, BAA, London
 McCarthy, MR and Brooks, CM, 1988 *Medieval Pottery in Britain AD900-1600* Leicester University Press
 NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London

APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S or W end

Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
1	14.20	1.60	0.41	0-0.23m topsoil; 0.23m-0.35m subsoil; 0.35m-0.41m+ gravel and brickearth natural geology.
2	15.50	1.60	0.37	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25m-0.33m subsoil; 0.33m-0.37m+ gravel natural geology.
3	15.20	1.60	0.48	0-0.29m topsoil; 0.29m-0.43m subsoil; 0.43m-0.48m+ gravel natural geology.
4	15.30	1.60	0.49	0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26m-0.44m subsoil; 0.44m-0.49m+ gravel natural geology. Ditches 8 and 11, Posthole 9
5	15.10	1.60	0.40	0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26m-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m-0.40m+ gravel and brickearth natural geology.
6	14.90	1.60	0.46	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25m-0.42m subsoil; 0.42m-0.46m+ gravel and brickearth natural geology. Ditches 7 and 10; Pls. 1 and 4
7	14.20	1.60	0.50	0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28m-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m-0.50m+ gravel natural geology. Ditch 1; Pl. 2
8	14.70	1.60	0.55	0-0.33m topsoil; 0.33m-0.50m subsoil; 0.50m-0.55m+ gravel natural geology. Pits 2 and 3, Animal Burial 4, Gully Terminus 5; Pl. 3
9	15.20	1.60	0.50	0-0.30m topsoil; 0.30m-0.46m subsoil; 0.46m-0.50m+ gravel natural geology. Ditch 12
10	14.50	1.60	0.55	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35m-0.51m subsoil; 0.51m-0.55m+ gravel natural geology. Ditch 6

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

Trench	Cut	Fill (s)	Type	Date	Dating evidence
4	8	63	Ditch	Medieval 13th C	pottery
4	9	59	Posthole	-	-
4	11	58	Ditch	Medieval 13th C	pottery
6	7	56	Ditch	Medieval 13th C	pottery
6	10	57	Ditch	-	-
7	1	52	Ditch	-	-
8	2	53	Pit	-	-
8	3	54	Pit	-	-
8	4	64	Animal Burial	-	-
8	5	65	Gully Terminus	-	-
9	12	60-62	Ditch	-	-
10	6	55	Ditch	Medieval 13th C	pottery

APPENDIX 3: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

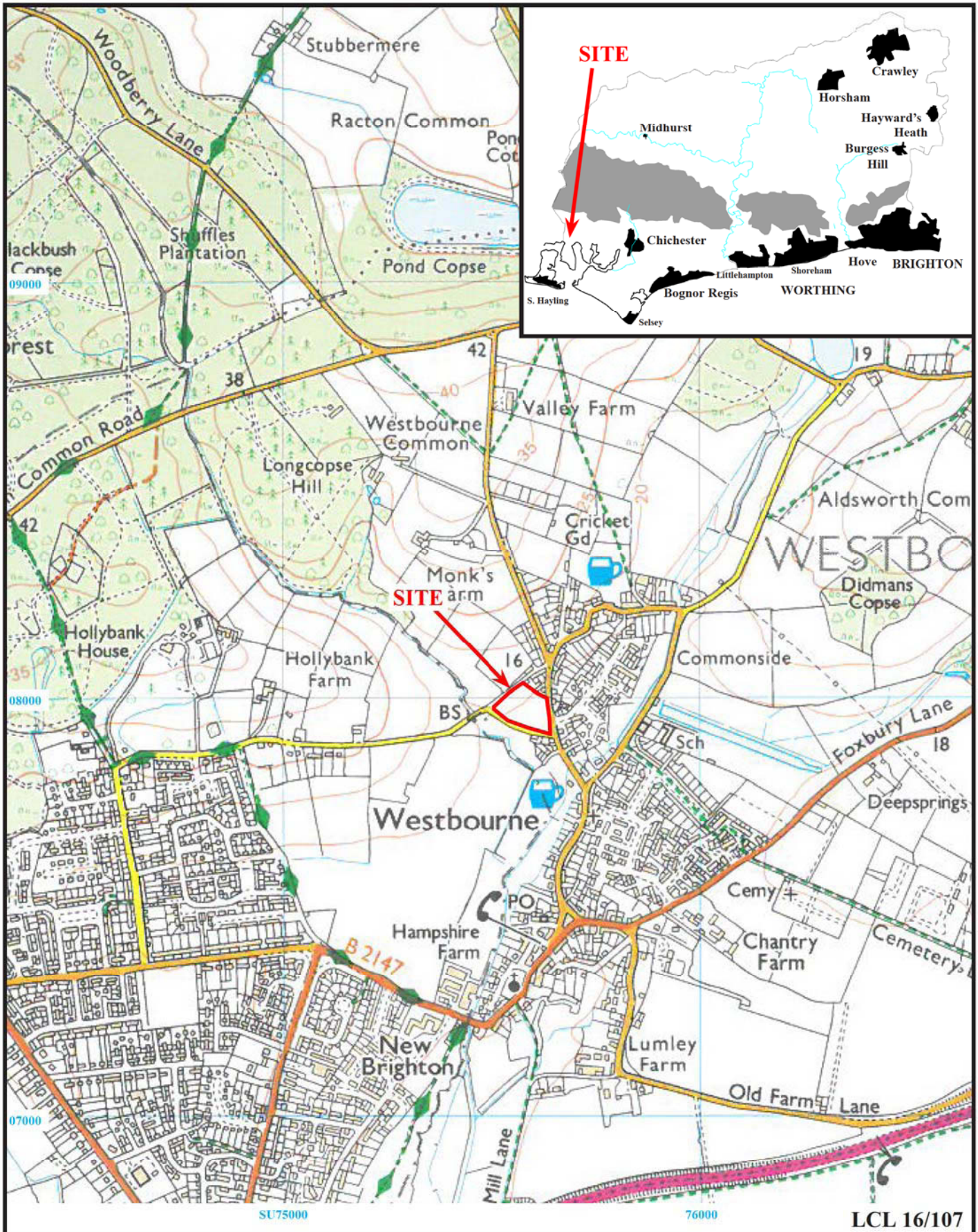
Cut	Fill	LUW		LSW		LGW	
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
6	55			15	177		
7	56	6	79	13	133	1	17
8	63			13	63		
11	58	1	10				
	Total	7	89	41	373	1	17

APPENDIX 4 - Animal Bone Inventory

Trench	Cut	Deposit	Type	No. of Frags	Wt (g)	Cattle	Large Mammal	Unid
8	4	64	Animal Burial	60	842	60		
10	6	55	Ditch	3	16		1	2
6	7	56	Ditch	1	8			1
Total				64	866			

APPENDIX 5: Feature details

Cut	Deposit	Type	Area	No	Wt (g)
6	55	Ditch	Tr10	3	146
7	56	Ditch	Tr6	18	574
12	60	Ditch	Tr9	2	98
				23	818

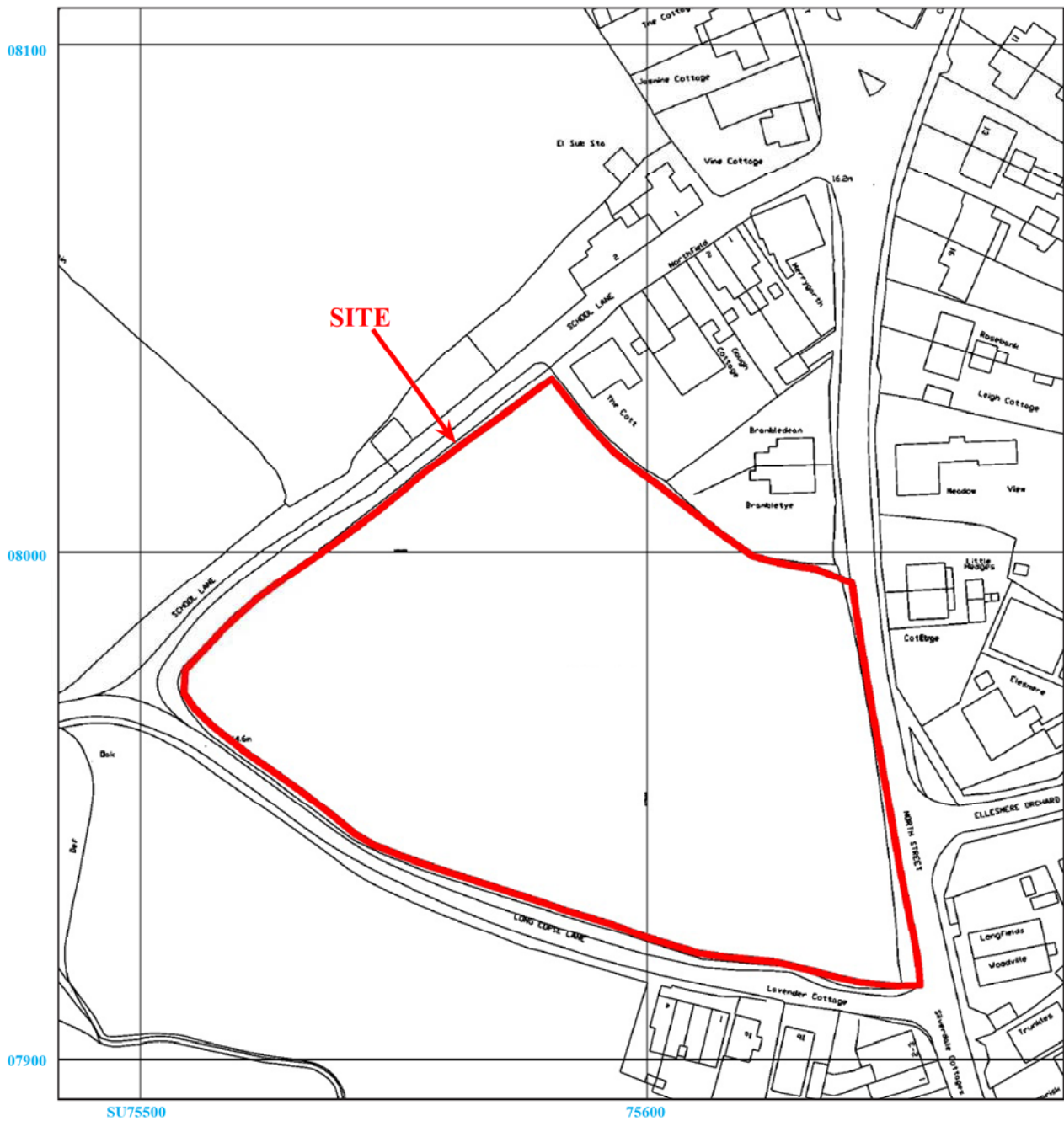


**Long Copse Lane, Westbourne,
Chichester, West Sussex, 2016
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Westbourne and West Sussex.

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**Long Cope Lane, Westbourne,
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Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Long Cope Lane.

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Figure 2. Location of trenches and features.

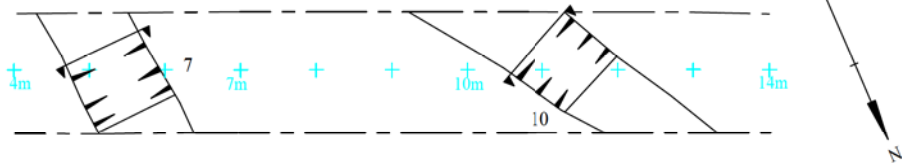


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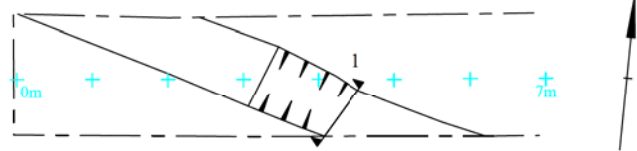
Trench 4



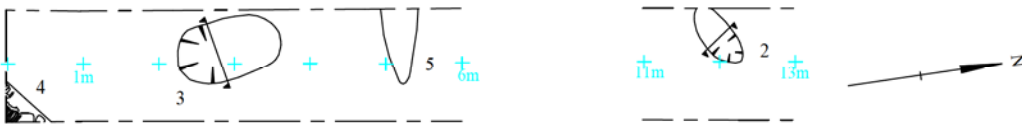
Trench 6



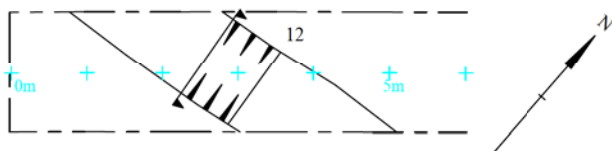
Trench 7



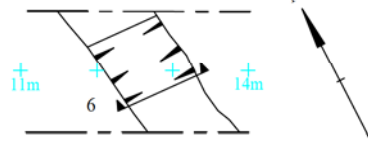
Trench 8



Trench 9



Trench 10

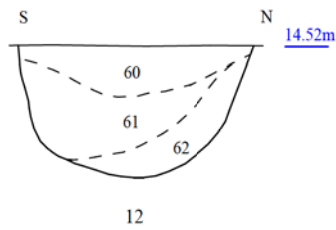
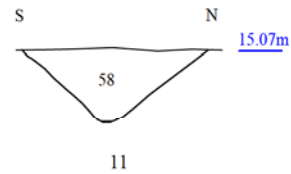
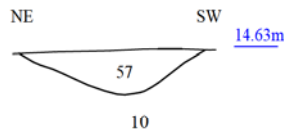
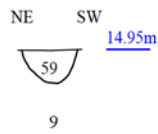
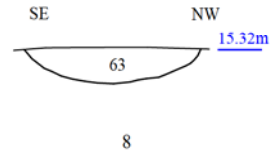
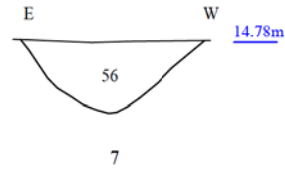
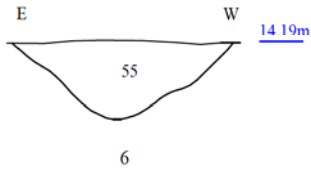
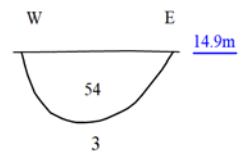
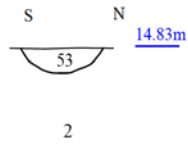
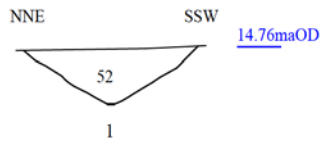


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Figure 4. Trench Details.





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Figure 5. Sections.



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Plate 1. Trench 6, looking north west, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 7, looking east north east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

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**Long Copse Lane, Westbourne,
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Plates 1 - 2.**

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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
Iron Age _____	BC/AD 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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