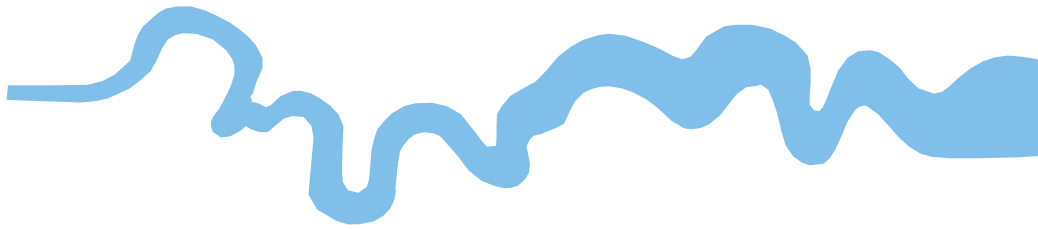


**T V A S**



**SOUTH**

**2 Midhurst Walk, Hove,  
East Sussex**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**by Sean Wallis**

**Site Code: MWH17/19**

**(TQ 2756 0725)**

# **2 Midhurst Walk, Hove, East Sussex**

**An Archaeological Watching Brief**

**For Ms Katerina Stoklakova**

by Sean Wallis

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code: MWH17/19

**July 2017**

## Summary

**Site name:** 2 Midhurst Walk, Hove, East Sussex

**Grid reference:** TQ 2756 0725

**Planning reference:** BH2016/05888

**Site activity:** Watching Brief

**Date and duration of project:** 14th - 15th June 2017

**Project manager:** Sean Wallis

**Site supervisor:** Jim Webster

**Site code:** MWH 17/19

**Area of site:** c. 21 sq m

**Summary of results:** The watching brief at Midhurst Walk successfully investigated those parts of the site which were to be most affected by the construction of a new extension. Despite the fact that the area had not been significantly truncated in the past, no archaeological finds or features were recorded in the footing trenches.

**Location and reference of archive:** The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with an approved local museum in due course.

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Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 11.07.17 Steve Preston ✓ 11.07.17
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## **2 Midhurst Walk, Hove, East Sussex An Archaeological Watching Brief**

by Sean Wallis

**Report 17/19**

### **Introduction**

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at 2 Midhurst Walk, Hove, East Sussex (TQ 2756 0725) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by the property's owner, Ms Katerina Stoklaskova.

Planning permission (BH2016/05888) had been gained from Brighton and Hove City Council to build a new single-storey side extension. The permission was subject to a standard planning condition (4) relating to archaeology and historic environment. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits on site which may be damaged or destroyed by the planned building work, it was proposed to carry out a watching brief as set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF, 2012) and the City Council's policies on archaeology and the historic environment. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation approved by the East Sussex County Council Archaeological Officer, Mr Greg Chuter, who advises the City Council on archaeological matters. Where appropriate and relevant, the recommendations in *Sussex Archaeological Standards* (ESCC 2015) were to be followed.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Jim Webster between the 14th and 15th June 2017, and the site code is MWH 17/19. The preferred depository for the site archive is Brighton Museum, but unfortunately the museum is not accepting new material at the present time. As a result, the archive will be held by Thames Valley Archaeological Services until a suitable depository is found.

### **Location, topography and geology**

The site is located at the junction of Midhurst Walk and Bramber Avenue, approximately 2.5km north of the historic core of Hove, East Sussex (Fig. 2). The surrounding area was substantially developed for residential housing after the Second World War. Although the area generally slopes down towards the south, the site itself was relatively flat, and lies at a height of approximately 88m above Ordnance Datum. According to the British Geological Survey the underlying consists of the Tarrant Chalk Member of the Culver Chalk Formation (BGS 2006), and this was confirmed during the watching brief, with chalk being recorded in all the foundation trenches.

## **Archaeological background**

A search of the East Sussex Historic Environment Record was carried out in February 2017 to provide archaeological background information on the site. In summary, the site lies within an Archaeological Notification Area associated with West Blatchington Roman villa. The villa was partially excavated in the middle of the 20th century, and much of the area has subsequently been built upon. As well as features relating to Roman occupation, evidence of activity in the late Bronze Age and Iron Age periods was recorded. Prehistoric and Roman finds have been recorded elsewhere in the wider area around the present site, sometimes during archaeological fieldwork projects. The site is located close to the presumed border between the former manors of Hangleton and West Blatchington. These manors developed into hamlets within Hove parish during the late Saxon period, and continued to be separate settlements until the area was developed in the late 19th and 20th centuries.

## **Objectives and methodology**

The aims of the watching brief were to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the proposed groundworks. This was to involve the examination of all areas of intrusive groundworks, including any significant ground reduction and the digging of foundation trenches for the new house. Where archaeological deposits which may warrant preservation *in situ* the features will be excavated by hand and fully recorded, to ensure their 'preservation by record'.

## **Results**

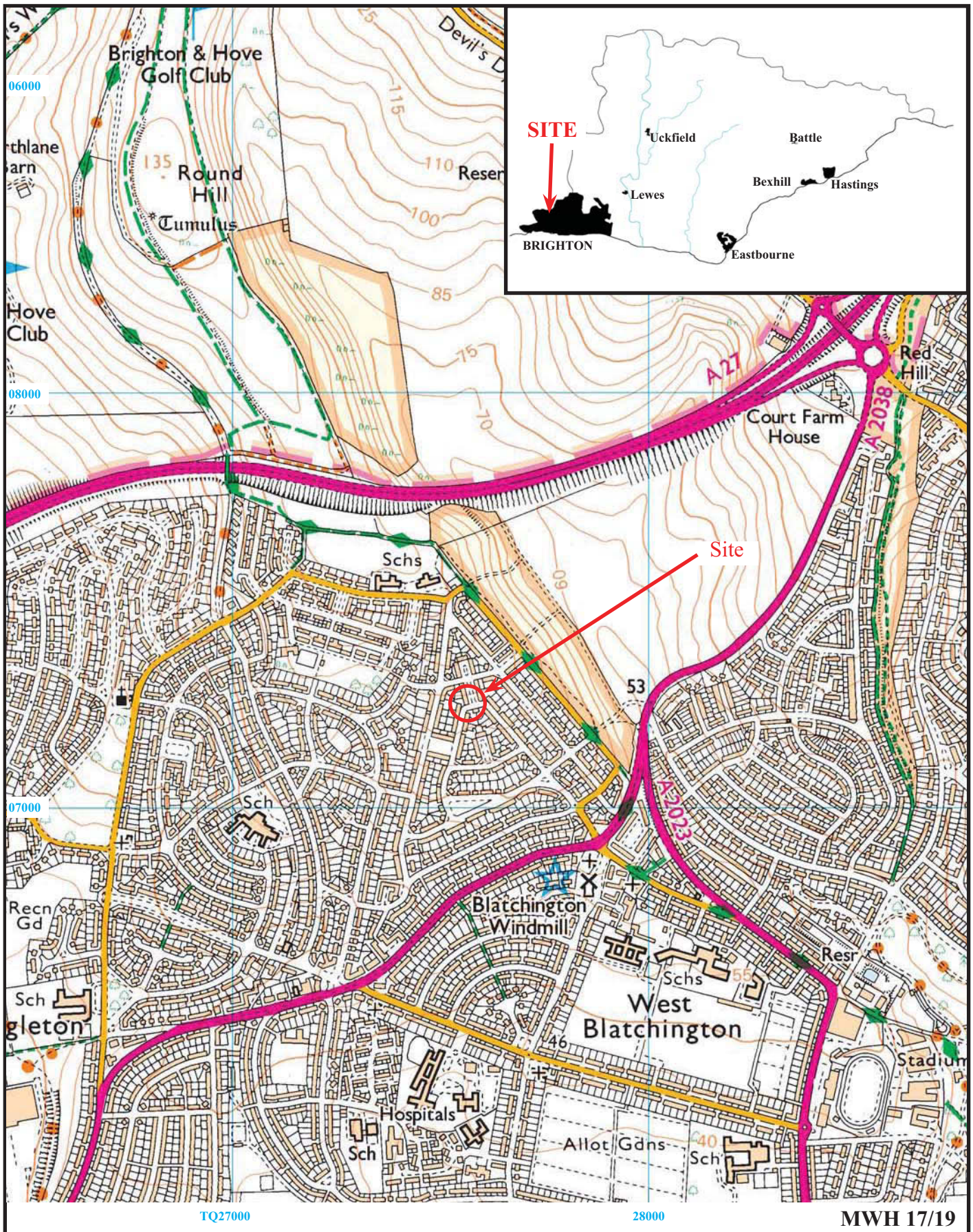
The footing trenches for the new extension were excavated under constant archaeological supervision. All the footing trenches were about 0.70m wide, and between 1.00m and 1.05m deep (Figs 3 and 4; Pls 1-6). The stratigraphy above the natural chalk geology recorded in the footing trenches consisted of between 0.15m and 0.20m of concrete and sand bedding, onto between 0.15m and 0.30m of buried soil (50), onto between 0.50m and 0.64m of light brown silty clay subsoil (51). No archaeological finds or features were recorded.

## **Conclusion**

The watching brief at Midhurst Walk successfully investigated those parts of the site which were to be most affected by the construction of a new extension. Despite the fact that the area had not been significantly truncated in the past, no archaeological finds or features were recorded in the footing trenches.

## **References**

- BGS, 2006, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet 318//333, Bedrock and Superficial Deposits Edition, Keyworth.
- ESHER, 2017, East Sussex Historic Environment Record Search, reference 041/17, Lewes.
- ESCC, 2015, *Sussex Archaeological Standards*, East Sussex County Council, Lewes.
- NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept of Communities and Local Government, London

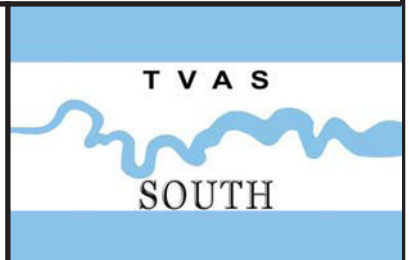


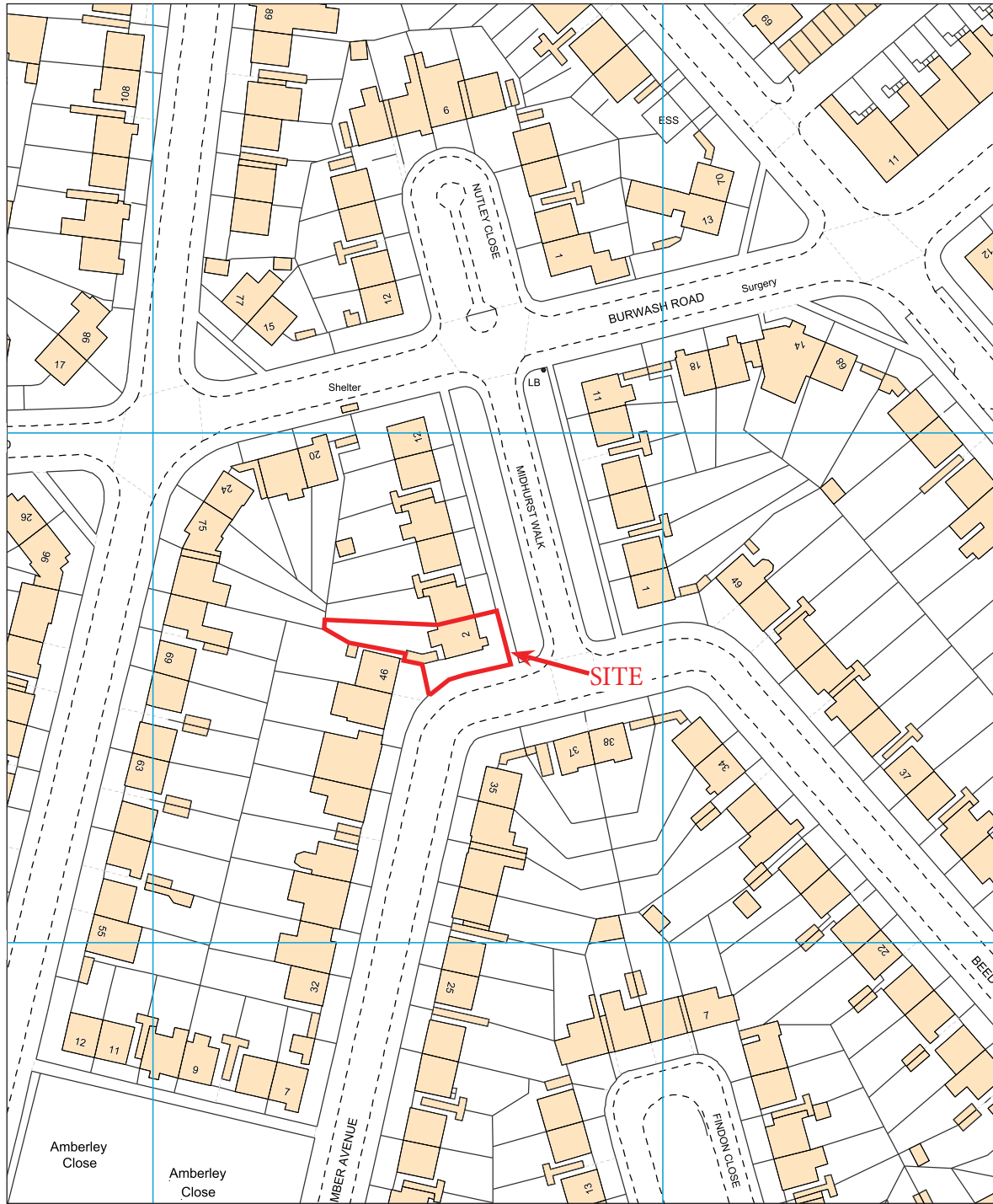
2 Midhurst Walk, Hove,  
East Sussex, 2017

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

Figure 1. Location of site within Hove and  
East Sussex.

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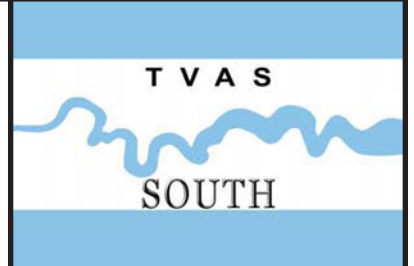


MWH 17/19

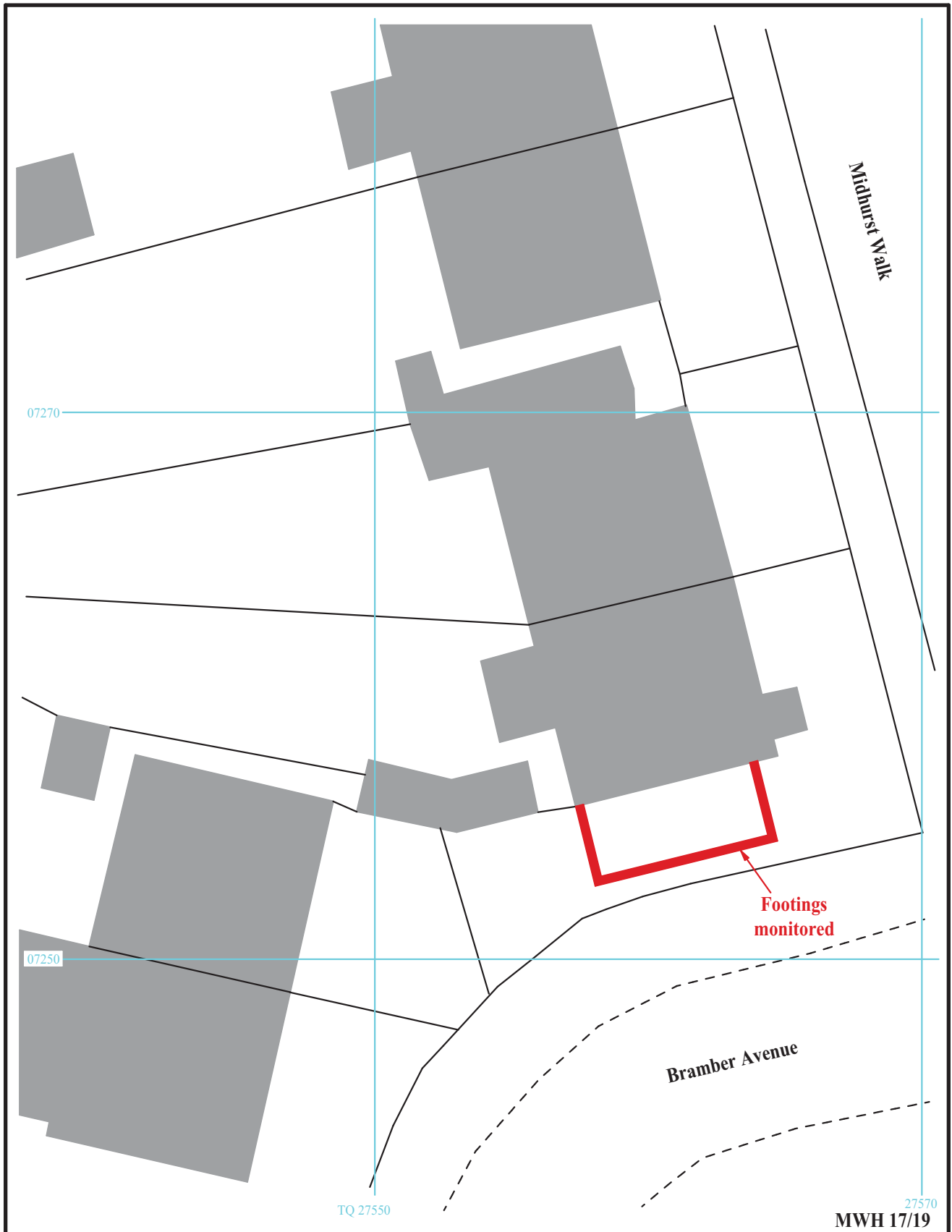


**Midhurst Walk, Hove,  
East Sussex, 2017  
Archaeological Watching Brief  
Figure 2. Detailed location of site**

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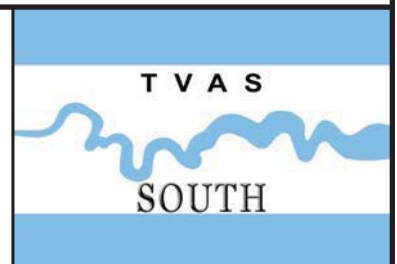




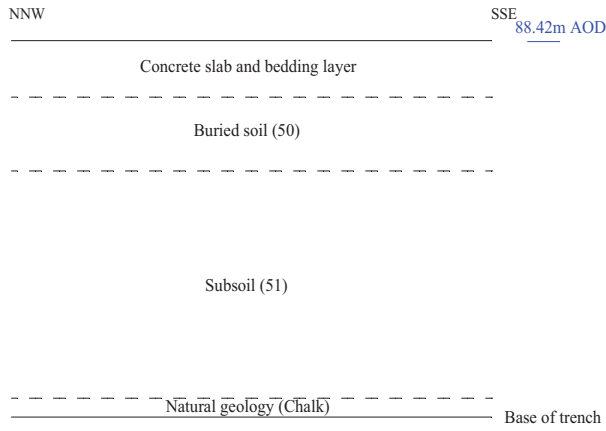


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Archaeological Watching Brief**

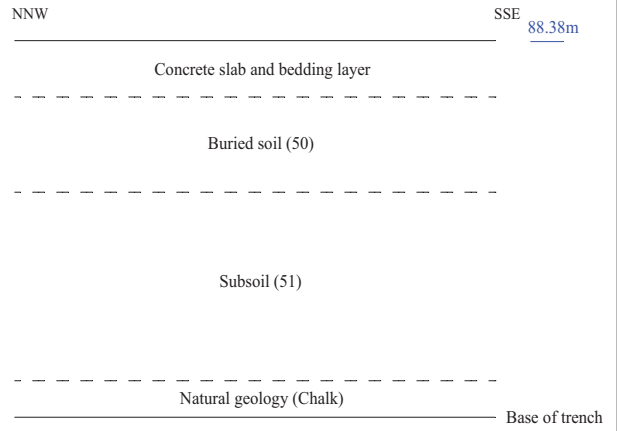
Figure 3. Site plan showing monitored areas.



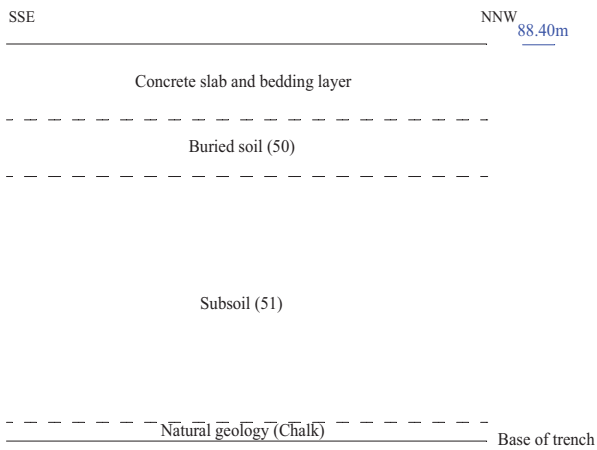
**Footing trench (North-east corner)**



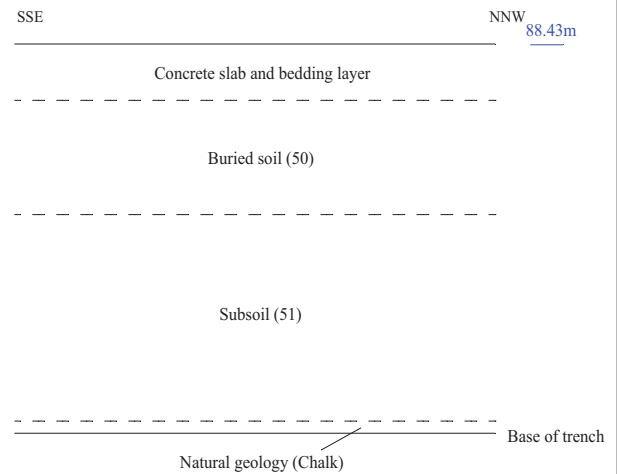
**Footing trench (South-east corner)**



**Footing trench (South-west corner)**



**Footing trench (North-west corner)**



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**2 Midhurst Walk, Hove,  
East Sussex 2017  
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Figure 4. Representative sections.

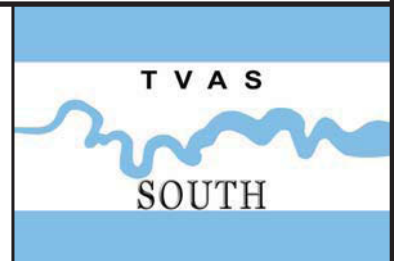




Plate 1. Eastern footing trench, looking North.  
Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 2. Western footing trench, looking North.  
Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 3. Southern footing trench, looking West.  
Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 4. Southern footing trench, looking South-west.  
Scales: 2m and 1m.

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**2 Midhurst Walk, Hove,  
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Plates 1 - 4.**





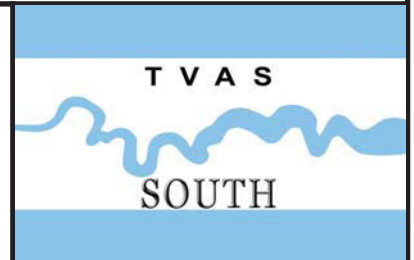
Plate 5. General view, looking East.



Plate 6. General view, looking West.

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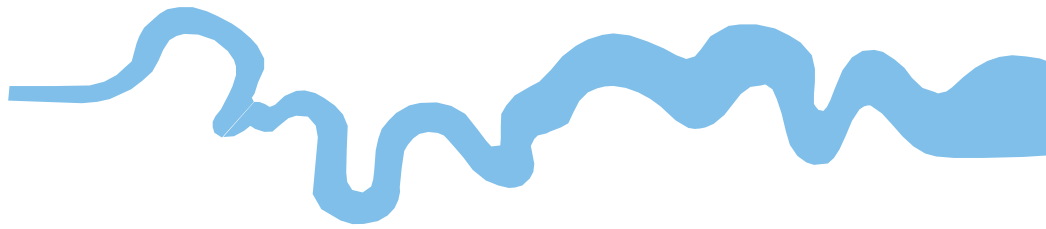
**2 Midhurst Walk, Hove,  
East Sussex, 2017  
Archaeological Watching Brief  
Plates 5 - 6.**



## 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





**TVAS (South),  
77a Hollingdean Terrace  
Brighton, BN1 7HB**

**Tel: 01273 554198  
Email: [south@tvas.co.uk](mailto:south@tvas.co.uk)  
Web: [www.tvas.co.uk/south](http://www.tvas.co.uk/south)**

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