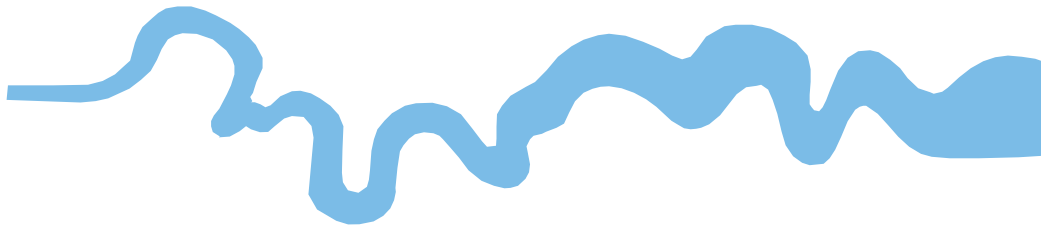


**T V A S**



**SOUTH**

**Allington Farm Cottages, Allington Lane,  
East Chiltington, East Sussex**

**Archaeological Evaluation**

**by Odile Rouard**

**Site Code: AFL17/216**

**(TQ 3856 1366)**

**Allington Farm Cottages, Allington Lane,  
East Chiltington, East Sussex**

**An Archaeological Evaluation**

**for Mr Paul Spain**

by Odile Rouard

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code AFL 17/216

**February 2018**

## Summary

**Site name:** Allington Farm Cottages, Allington Lane, East Chiltington, East Sussex

**Grid reference:** TQ 3856 1366

**Site activity:** Evaluation

**Date and duration of project:** 12th February 2018

**Project manager:** Sean Wallis

**Site supervisor:** Odile Rouard

**Site code:** AFL 17/216

**Area of site:** c. 0.1 ha

**Summary of results:** The archaeological evaluation to the west of Allington Lane, East Chiltington successfully investigated those areas which will be most affected by the development of the site. No archaeological finds or features were identified during the evaluation.

**Location and reference of archive:** The archive is presently held at TVAS, Brighton and will be deposited with an approved local museum in due course.

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[www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp](http://www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp).*

Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 15.02.18 Steve Preston ✓ 15.02.18
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# Allington Farm Cottages, Allington Lane An Archaeological Evaluation

by Odile Rouard

**Report 17/216b**

## **Introduction**

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out to the west of Allington Lane, East Chiltington, East Sussex (TQ 3856 1366) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Paul Spain, of Boundary Place, Longhouse Lane, Warninglid, RH17 5TE.

Planning permission (SDNP/17/04692) has been granted by the South Downs National Park Authority to demolish the existing cottages and construct a new house and double garage on the site. The consent is subject to a standard planning condition relating to archaeology and the historic environment, which requires a programme of archaeological evaluation prior to the commencement of groundworks. This document covers the trial trench evaluation.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012), and the South Downs National Park Authority's policies (inherited from Lewes District Council) on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Greg Chuter, the East Sussex County Council Archaeological Officer. The fieldwork was undertaken by Odile Rouard and Jim Webster on 12th February 2018, and the site code is AFL 17/216. The archive is presently held at T V A S, Brighton, and the preferred repository would be Lewes Museum, which is not currently accepting archives.

## **Location, topography and geology**

The site is located immediately to the south-east of the historic core of East Chiltington, and is centred on NGR TQ 3856 1366 (Figs 1 and 2). It consists of one cottage divided into two properties and their respective gardens. The site is bounded to the south by Allington Farm, to the east by Allington Lane, to the north by a tree clump and to the west by pasture land. The area is reasonably flat at 32m above Ordnance Datum is . According to the British Geological Survey the underlying geology consists of Gault Formation - Mudstone (BGS 1981) and the geology recorded in the trenches consisted of mid to light grey brown clay with frequent flint inclusions in Trench 1 to a light grey brown clay with moderate flint and chalk inclusions in Trench 2.

## **Archaeological background**

The archaeological potential of the site has been summarized in a recent desk-based assessment (Baljkas 2017). The site is situated within an Archaeological Notification Area associated with Allington Farmhouse. The house is situated to the south of the present site, and is a Grade II Listed Building, probably dating from the 17th century. It is possible that the present house may have replaced an earlier medieval structure, and that the property was originally surrounded by a moat. The pond to the east of the house may be a surviving section of this moat, which may have extended northwards towards the present site. Historic maps indicate that the Allington Farm Cottages were built in the 20th century.

## **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 the proposed development.

Specific aims of the project were:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site;
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- to determine whether any evidence of medieval activity is present;
- to determine whether any evidence of post-medieval activity is present; and
- to determine whether the moat associated with Allington House is present.

Two trenches were to be dug, measuring 7m and 11m in length and 1.60m in width. The trenches were largely positioned to target the possible moat or ditch dating to the medieval period. They were to be dug using a 360° type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. All spoilheaps were to be monitored for finds. Where the archaeological features were certainly or probably present, the stripped areas were to be cleaned using appropriate hand tools and sufficient of the features were to be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims outlined above. Where relevant and appropriate, the recommendations of the *Sussex Archaeological Standards* (ESCC2017) were to be followed.

## **Results**

The two trenches were dug as close as possible to their original planned positions (Fig. 3). They were 1.60m wide, and measured respectively 7.50m and 10.60m in length, and 0.38m and 0.40m in depth. A complete list of the trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

#### Trench 1 (Fig. 4; Pl. 1)

Trench 1 was orientated approximately SE-NW, and was 7.50m long and up to 0.38m deep. The natural geology was observed directly beneath 0.25m of topsoil (50); there was no subsoil visible. No archaeological features were identified within the trench.

#### Trench 2 (Fig.4; Pls. 2 & 3)

This trench was 10.60m long and up to 0.40m deep, and was orientated approximately SE-NW. In the south-eastern end, the natural geology was observed beneath 0.33m of topsoil (50); there was no subsoil visible. In the north-western end, the natural geology was observed beneath 0.10m of buried topsoil (52), 0.10m of subsoil (51) and 0.15m of topsoil (50). No archaeological features were identified within the trench.

### **Conclusion**

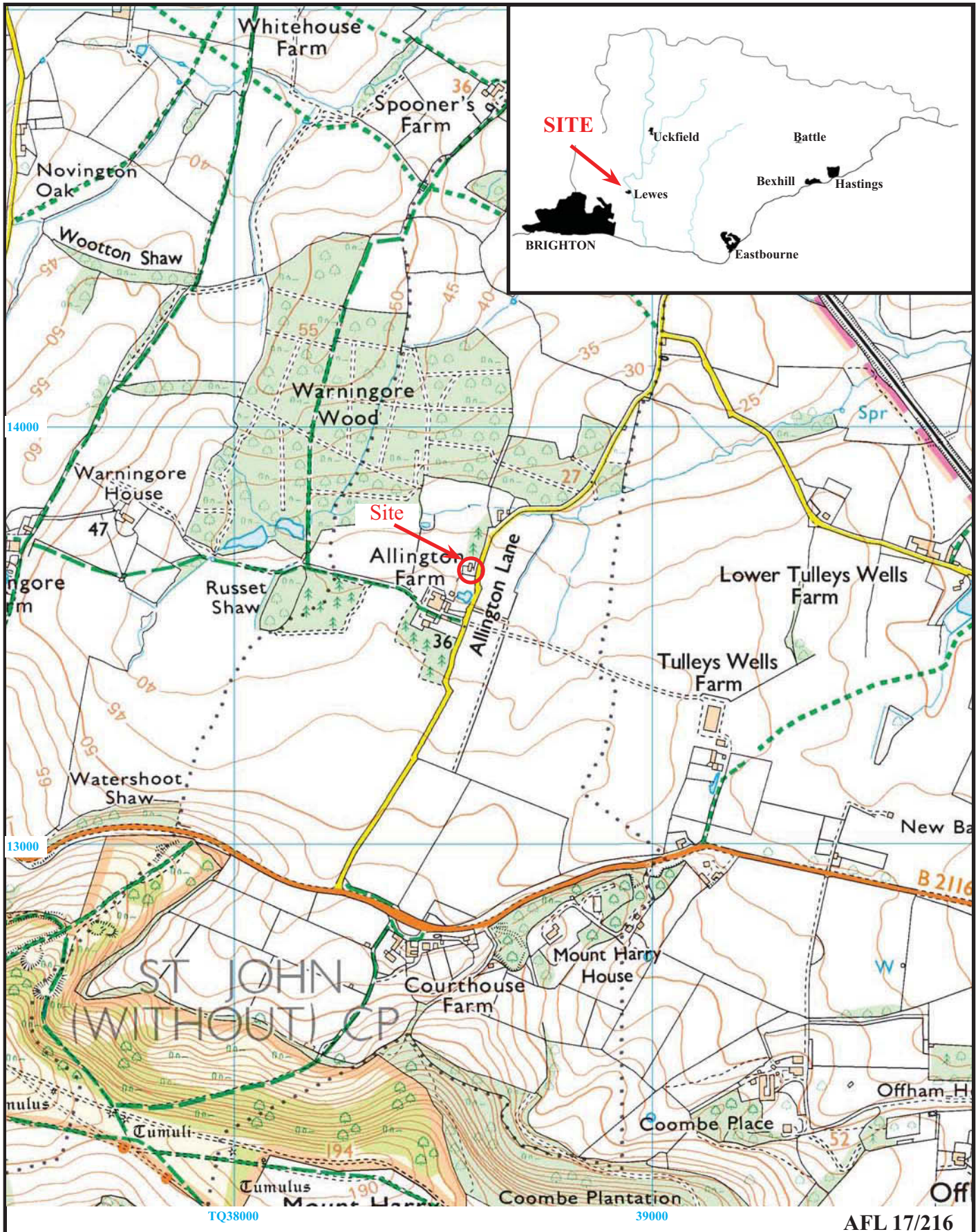
The archaeological evaluation to the west of Allington Lane, East Chiltington, successfully investigated those areas which will be most affected by the re-development of the site. It is highly probable the site underwent some landscaping when the cottages were first built in the 20th century as no subsoil was observed in Trench 1 nor in the south-east corner of Trench 2, where the topsoil lay directly atop the natural geology. A difference in levels is also visible to the north of the cottages, where the ground slopes down slightly towards the tree clump. The possible ditch or moat that was originally thought to cross the site was not identified, although a slight depression was visible in the ground, immediately south of Trench 2. The north-western end of Trench 2 was disturbed by modern drainage however, and the depression in the ground (that seems to head south towards Allington farm's pond and is also visible to the north of the pond) might thus be evidence of this drainage system. No archaeological finds or features were identified during the evaluation.

### **References**

- Baljkas, G, 2017, 'Allington Farm Cottages, Allington Lane, East Chiltington, East Sussex: an archaeological desk-based assessment', TVAS unpubl rep 17/216, Brighton  
BGS, 1981, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 301, Drift Edition, Keyworth  
ESCC, 2017, *Sussex Archaeological Standards*, East Sussex County Council, Lewes  
NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Government, London

**APPENDIX 1: Trench details**

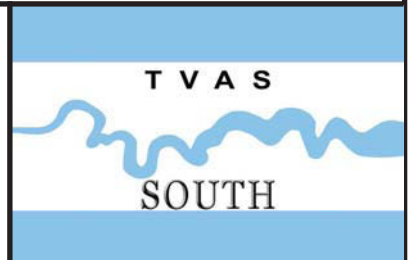
<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	7.50	1.60	0.38	0-0.25m topsoil (50); 0.25m+ natural geology (Clay with Flint inclusions) <b>[Pl. 1]</b>
2	10.60	1.60	0.40	SE end: 0-0.33m topsoil (50); 0.33m+ natural geology (Clay with Flint and Chalk inclusions). NW end: 0-0.15m topsoil (50); 0.15-0.25m subsoil (51); 0.25-0.35m buried topsoil (52); 0.35+ natural geology (Clay with Flint and Chalk inclusions). <b>[Pls 2 and 3]</b>



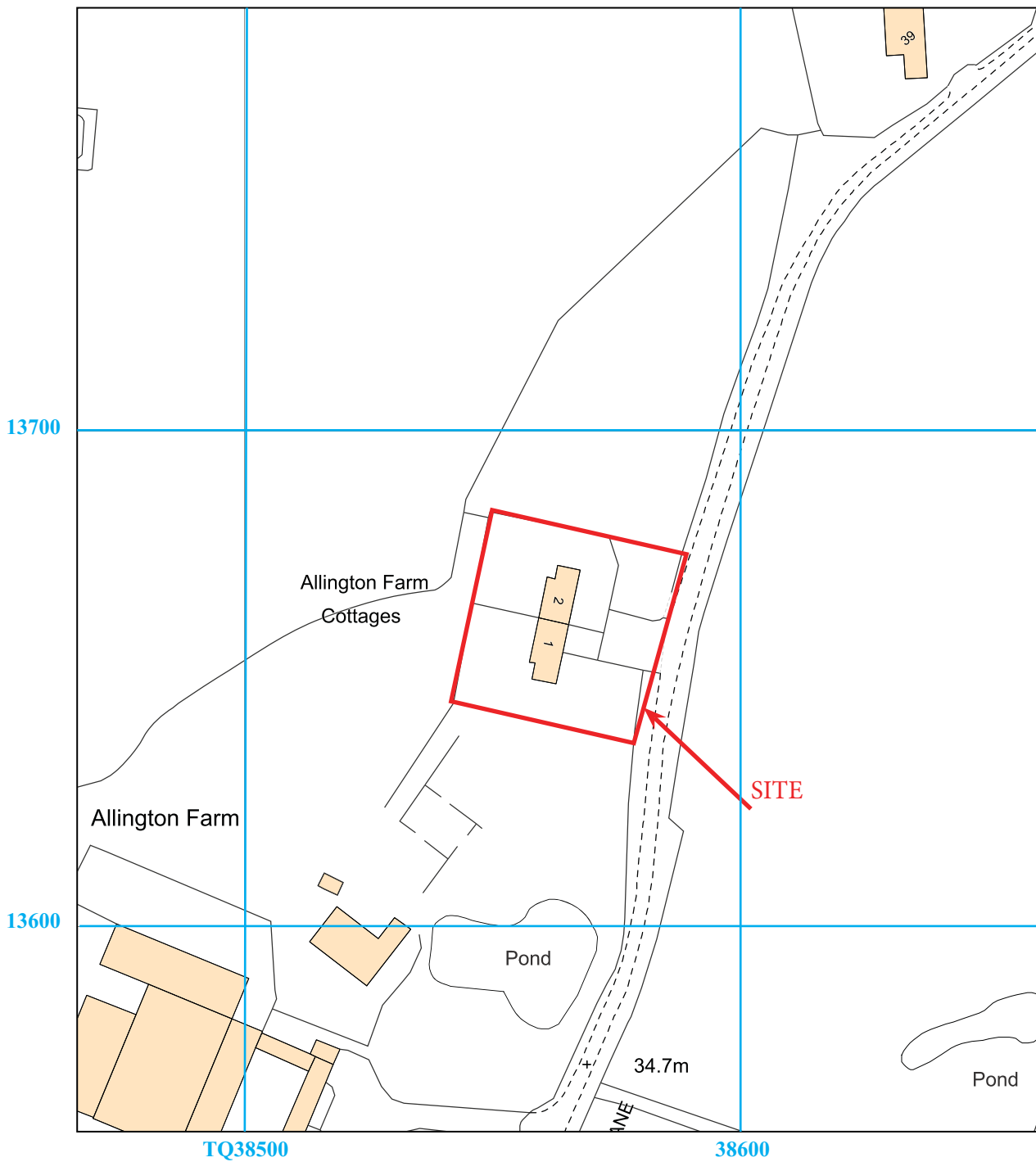
**Allington Farm Cottages, Allington Lane,  
 East Chiltington, East Sussex, 2018  
 Archaeological Evaluation**

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

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 Crown copyright reserved. Scale 1:12500







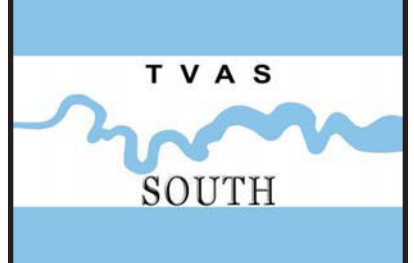
AFL 17/216

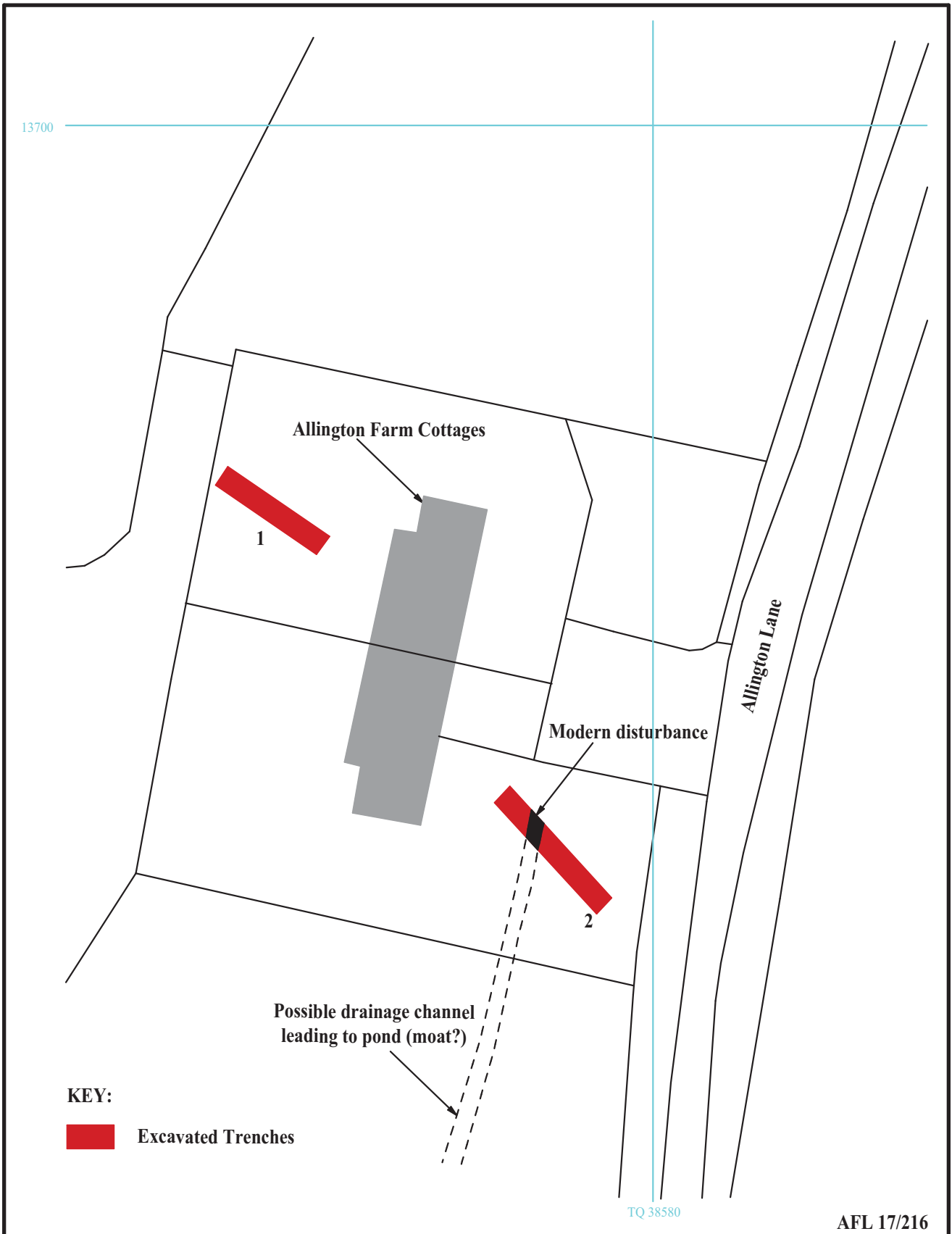


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Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 2. Detailed location of site

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**KEY:**

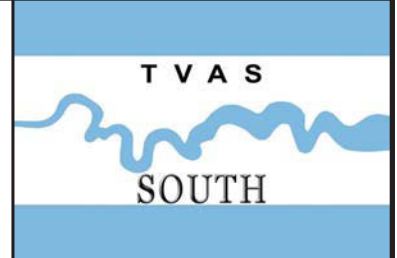
 Excavated Trenches

AFL 17/216

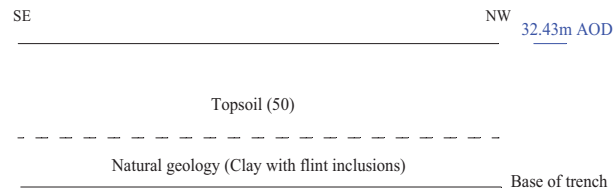


**Allington Farm Cottages, East Chiltington,  
East Sussex, 2018  
Archaeological Evaluation**

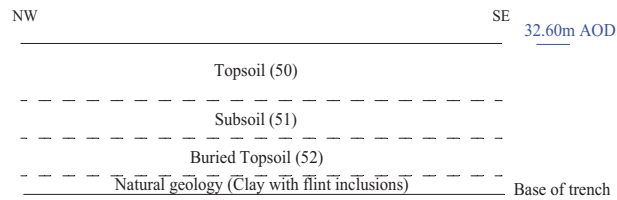
Figure 3. Site plan showing excavated trenches.



### Trench 1



### Trench 2



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Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 4. Representative sections.





Plate 1. Trench 1, looking North-West.  
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 2, looking South-East.  
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 3. Trench 2, buried topsoil.  
Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

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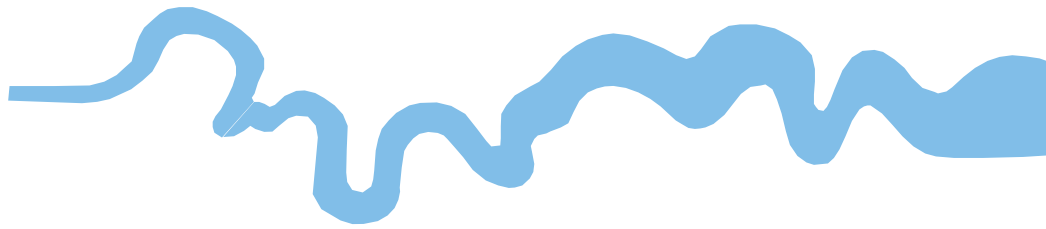
Allington Farm Cottages, Allington Lane,  
East Chiltington, East Sussex, 2018  
Archaeological Evaluation  
Plates 1 - 3.



## 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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