

T V A S



SOUTH

**Land east of Winterfold, Durbans Road,
Wisborough Green, West Sussex**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Steve Ford

Site Code: DRWG17/17

(TQ 0508 2619)

**Land east of Winterfold, Durbans Road,
Wisborough Green, West Sussex**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Runnymede Homes**

by Steve Ford

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code DRWG17/17

June 2018

Summary

Site name: Land east of Winterfold, Durbans Road, Wisborough Green, West Sussex

Grid reference: TQ 0508 2619

Site activity: Archaeological Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 11th–13th June 2018

Project coordinator: Danielle Milbank

Site supervisor: Steve Ford

Site code: DRWG17/17

Area of site: 1.2ha

Summary of results: The evaluation revealed no deposits of archaeological interest. The only items of interest recovered were a few sherds of medieval and later pottery and one of possible late prehistoric or Roman date. These are probably indicative of manuring practice. Similarly a single prehistoric struck flint was probably a product of casual loss or discard. The site is considered to have no archaeological potential.

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

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Land east of Winterfold, Durbans Road, Wisborough Green, West Sussex An Archaeological Evaluation

by Steve Ford and Danielle Milbank

Report 17/241

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out on land east of Durbans Road, Wisborough Green, West Sussex (TQ 0508 2619) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Mike Weeks of Runnymede Homes, 182 Brooklands Road, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 0RJ.

Planning permission (WR/15/03366/OUT)) has been gained from Chichester District Council to construct new housing on the site which would also include open space, landscaping and attenuation ponds. The consent is subject to a condition (11) that requires a programme of archaeological investigation on the site. 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. This investigation was to take the form, initially, of evaluation by means of trial trenching to establish if the site has any archaeological potential, and to inform a mitigation strategy if required. The investigation followed a written scheme of investigation approved by Mr James Kenny, Archaeology Officer for Chichester District Council.

The fieldwork was supervised by Steve Ford assisted by Daniel Neal from 11th to 13th June 2018. The site code is DRWG17/17. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Chichester Museum in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the northern margins of Wisborough Green on the east side of Durban Road (Fig. 1 and 2). The area is an L-shaped parcel of land of about 3.2ha to the rear of Winterfold (Fig. 2), of which about 1.2ha was to be developed. The site lies on near level ground at a height of *c.* 22m above Ordnance Datum. The underlying geology is mapped as Weald Clay (BGS 1981), which was confirmed in the trenches.

Archaeological background

The site is located within the Weald which until recently was not noted for its wealth of pre-Medieval sites and finds. The site lies just north of the Medieval village with the parish church lying to the south having late 11th-century origins.

A number of listed buildings of 18th century date stand to the south and west in the village. To the north-west a collection of Mesolithic and Neolithic flintwork has been recorded and post-medieval glassworks are also known. Recent fieldwork on Weald Clay at Alford some distance to the north has revealed Roman and medieval occupation (Wallis in prep).

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.

The specific aims were to:

- determine if archaeological relevant levels survived on the site;
- determine if archaeological deposits of any period were present; and to
- inform a strategy for mitigation if required.

Sixteen trenches were to be excavated 25m long and 1.6-2m wide. Topsoil and any other overburden were to be removed to expose archaeologically sensitive levels by a machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Where archaeological features were certainly or probably present, the stripped areas were to be cleaned using appropriate hand tools. Sufficient of the archaeological features and deposits exposed were then to be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims of the project, without compromising the integrity of any features that might warrant preservation *in situ* or might better be investigated under the conditions pertaining to full excavation.

Results

Seventeen trenches were eventually dug, more or less in the positions intended (Fig. 3). One trench (13) had to be subdivided (giving rise to trench 17) due to an obstruction. They ranged in length from 9.8-25.1m and in depth from 0.3-0.4m. All were 1.6m wide. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

Trench 1 (Fig. 3; Pl. 1)

Trench 1 was aligned E - W and was 24.7m long and up to 0.54m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of turf/topsoil above 0.16m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. A land drain was observed at the eastern end.

Trench 2 (Fig. 3)

Trench 2 was aligned SW – NE and was 22.9m long and up to 0.47m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of turf/topsoil above 0.19m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. A land drain was observed at the NE eastern end.

Trench 3 (Fig. 3)

Trench 3 was aligned SW - NE and was 21.2m long and up to 0.44m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of turf/topsoil above 0.06m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. A land drain was observed towards the centre of the trench.

Trench 4 (Figs 3 and 4)

Trench 4 was aligned NW - SE and was 23.6m long and up to 0.5m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of turf/topsoil above 0.13m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. A land drain was observed at the NW end.

Trench 5 (Fig. 3)

Trench 5 was aligned NW – SE and was 25.1m long and up to 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of turf/topsoil above 0.08m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan.

Trench 6 (Fig. 3)

Trench 6 was aligned NW - SE and was 23.8m long and up to 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.19m of turf/topsoil above 0.11m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. A charcoal patch 0.3m in diameter was observed at 18m from the SE end.

Trench 7 (Fig. 3)

Trench 7 was aligned N - S and was 23.9m long and up to 0.52m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of turf/topsoil above 0.07m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. Two land drains were observed at the S end.

Trench 8 (Fig. 3)

Trench 8 was aligned NE - SW and was 22.3m long and up to 0.5m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of turf/topsoil above 0.12m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. Two land drains were observed. A charcoal patch 0.5m in diameter was observed at 1m from the SE end.

Trench 9 (Fig. 3; Pl. 2)

Trench 9 was aligned NE - SW and was 20.6m long and up to 0.44m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of turf/topsoil above 0.08m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan.

Trench 10 (Fig. 3)

Trench 10 was aligned N - S and was 23.7m long and up to 0.43m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of turf/topsoil above 0.04m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. A land drain was observed at the N end.

Trench 11 (Figs 3 and 4; Pl. 3)

Trench 11 was aligned N - S and was 24.6m long and up to 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.2m of turf/topsoil above 0.08m of brown silty clay above red/brown silty clay with some iron pan. Four land drains were observed.

Trench 12 (Fig. 3)

Trench 12 was aligned SW - NE and was 24.5m long and up to 0.3m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of turf/topsoil above 0.04m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. Two land drains were observed at the NE end.

Trench 13 (Fig. 3; Pl. 4)

Trench 13 was aligned NW - SE and was 9.8m long and up to 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.19m of turf/topsoil above 0.05m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. A land drain was observed at towards the centre of the trench.

Trench 14 (Fig. 3; Pl. 5)

Trench 14 was aligned SW - NE and was 23.6m long and up to 0.36m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of turf/topsoil above 0.06m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan.

Trench 15 (Fig. 3)

Trench 15 was aligned E - W and was 22.6m long and up to 0.34m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of turf/topsoil above 0.05m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. A land drain was observed at the NE end.

Trench 16 (Fig. 3)

Trench 16 was aligned E - W and was 23.7m long and up to 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of turf/topsoil above 0.07m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. Two land drains were observed at the NW end.

Trench 17 (Fig. 3; Pl. 6)

Trench 17 was aligned NW - SE and was 15.8m long and up to 0.3m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of turf/topsoil above 0.04m of brown silty clay above brown silty clay with some iron pan. A land drain was observed at the NW end.

Finds

Pottery by Jane Timby

The evaluation produced a very small assemblage of eight sherds of pottery weighing 46 g from three of the evaluation trenches (Trenches 1, 3 and 10). The pottery is in mixed condition with an overall average sherd size of 5.75 g. The assemblage is catalogued below but comprises wares dating to the late medieval-post-medieval period and one poorly preserved earlier sherd from Tr 10 which may be later prehistoric or early Roman. The sherds are all surface finds.

Catalogue

Trench 1 E. end.

1. One bodysherd of glazed red earthenware. Wt. 7 g. Date: Post-medieval.
2. One bodysherd of sandy ware with glaze splatters on the exterior. Probably a product of the Graffham area (Aldsworth *et al.* 1990). Wt. 7 g. Date: Late medieval.
3. One sherd of post-medieval industrial earthenware (china). Discarded.

Trench 3 SW end.

- 4-6. One basesherd; one a rim from a bowl and one small chip of green-glazed white ware. Surrey Hampshire Border ware (Pearce 1992). Wt. 22 g. Date: 16th-17th century.
7. One basesherd with a bright green glaze. Wt. 4 g. Date: post-medieval.
8. One bodysherd of glazed red earthenware with interior and exterior glaze, Wt. 3 g. Date: post-medieval

Trench 10

9. One bodysherd with abraded surfaces and edges. Pale brown exterior and grey interior. The finely micaceous paste contains ill-sorted fine quartz sand and iron. Wt. 3 g. Date: uncertain but possible later prehistoric or early Roman.

Struck flint by Steve Ford

A single struck flint flake was recovered from trench 16. It is not closely datable but is likely to be of Neolithic or Bronze Age date.

Conclusion

The evaluation was carried out as intended but did not reveal any deposits of archaeological interest. A few finds of medieval and later pottery were recovered which are probably indicative of manuring practice. A single prehistoric flint flake was probably a result of casual loss or discard in the wider landscape and not indicative of any nearby occupation. Similarly the single sherd of possible prehistoric or Roman pottery has little significance for the potential of the site, also probably being introduced with manure, but if the dating is correct, does indicate the presence of a contemporary settlement somewhere in the wider area. On the basis of these results, the site is considered to have no archaeological potential.

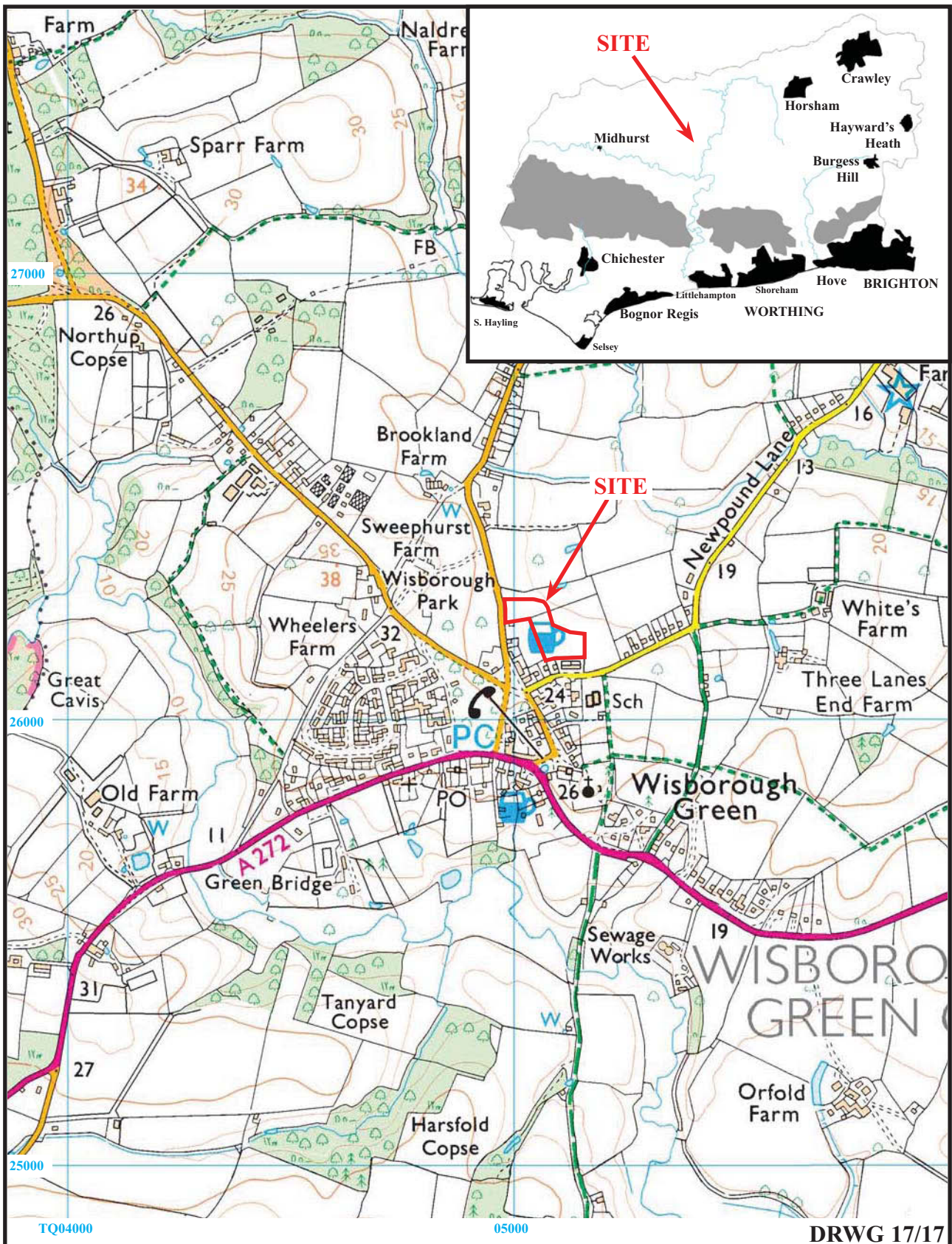
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- NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London
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APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S or W end

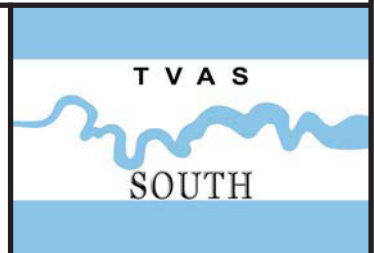
<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	24.7	1.6	0.54	0-0.18m Turf/Topsoil; 0.18-0.34m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.34m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drain [PI. 1]
2	22.9	1.6	0.47	0-0.17m Turf/Topsoil; 0.17-0.36m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.36m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drain
3	21.2	1.6	0.44	0-0.17m Turf/Topsoil; 0.17-0.23m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.23m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drain
4	23.6	1.6	0.5	0-0.16m Turf/Topsoil; 0.16-0.29m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.29m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drain
5	25.1	1.6	0.32	0-0.18m Turf/Topsoil; 0.18-0.26m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.26m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology).
6	23.8	1.6	0.46	0-0.19m Turf/Topsoil; 0.19-0.30m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.30m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Charcoal patch at 18m
7	23.9	1.6	0.52	0-0.18m Turf/Topsoil; 0.18-0.25m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.25m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drains
8	22.3	1.6	0.5	0-0.24m Turf/Topsoil; 0.24-0.36m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.36m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drains charcoal patch at 1m
9	20.6	1.6	0.44	0-0.22m Turf/Topsoil; 0.22-0.30m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.30m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). [PI. 2]
10	23.7	1.6	0.43	0-0.17m Turf/Topsoil; 0.17-0.21m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.21m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drain
11	24.6	1.6	0.32	0-0.20m Turf/Topsoil; 0.20-0.28m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.28m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drains [PI. 3]
12	24.5	1.6	0.3	0-0.15m Turf/Topsoil; 0.15-0.19m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.19m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drains
13	9.8	1.6	0.35	0-0.19m Turf/Topsoil; 0.19-0.24m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.24m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drain [PI. 4]
14	23.6	1.6	0.36	0-0.15m Turf/Topsoil; 0.15-0.21m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.21m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). [PI. 5]
15	22.6	1.6	0.34	0-0.18m Turf/Topsoil; 0.18-0.23m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.23m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drain
16	23.7	1.6	0.32	0-0.16m Turf/Topsoil; 0.16-0.23m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.23m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drains
17	15.8	1.6	0.3	0-0.18m Turf/Topsoil; 0.18-0.22m brown silty clay subsoil; 0.22m+ Brown silty clay with iron pan (natural geology). Land drain [PI. 6]

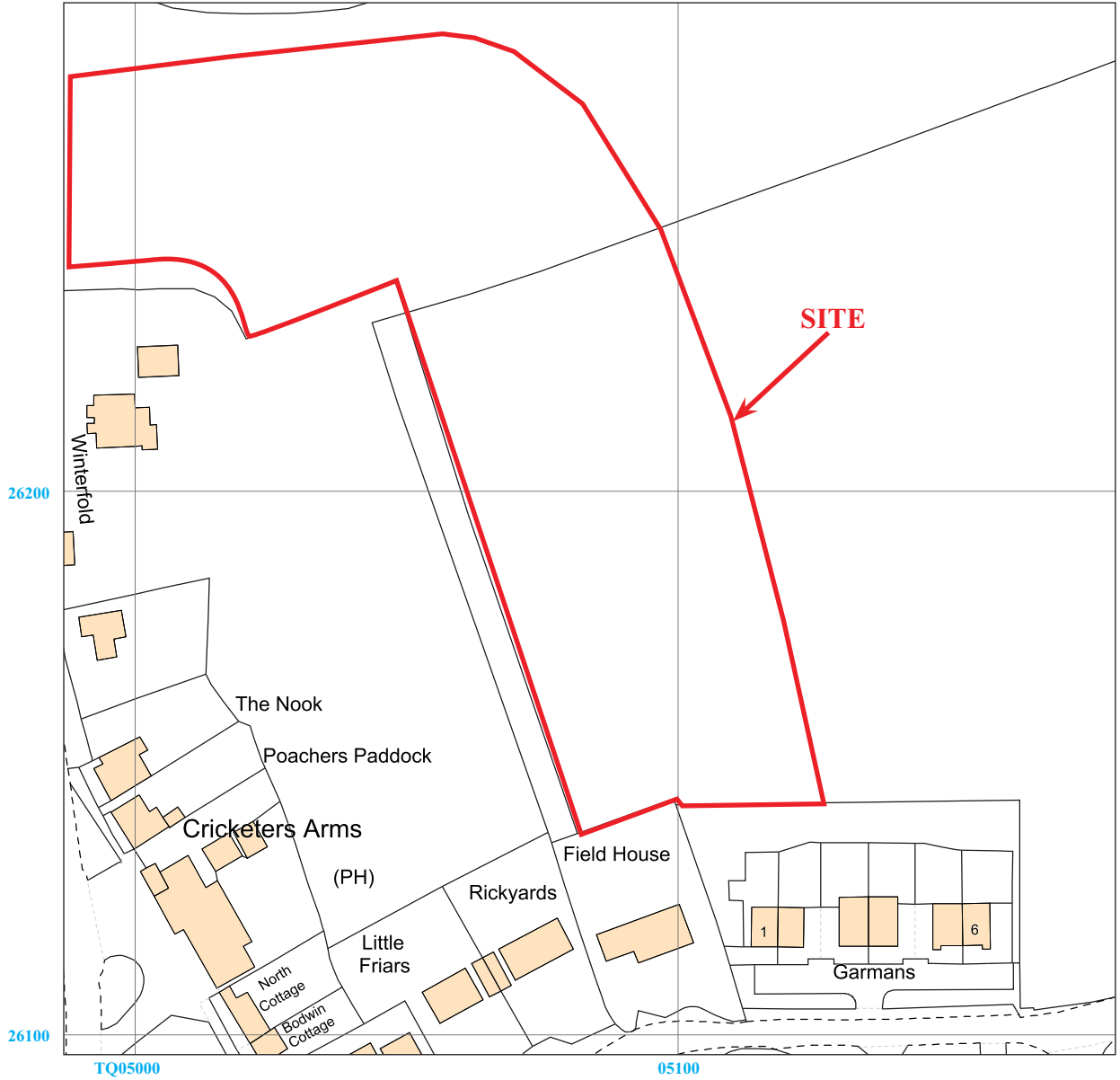


**Land at Durban Road, Wisborough Green,
West Sussex, 2018
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Wisborough Green and West Sussex.

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**Land at Durban Road, Wisborough Green,
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Figure 2. Detailed location of site.

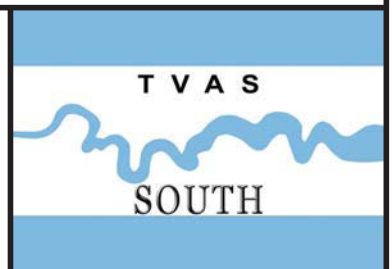
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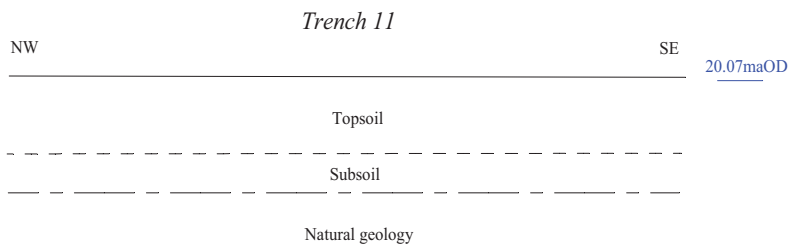
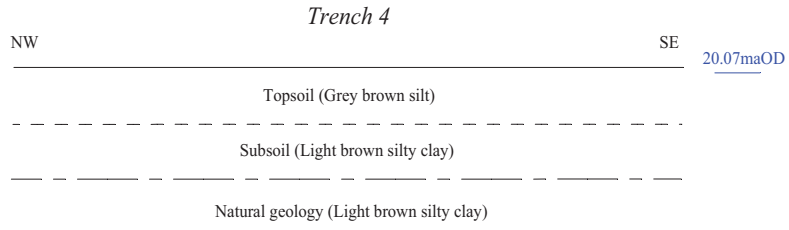


**Land at Durban Road, Wisborough Green,
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Figure 3. Plan of trenches.



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Figure 4. Representative sections.

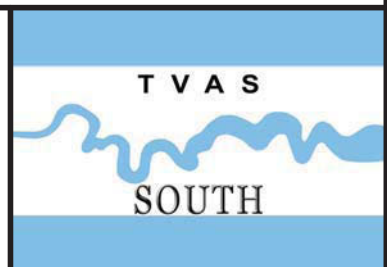




Plate 1. Trench 1, looking north east,
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 9, looking north,
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

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**Land at Durban Road, Wisborough Green,
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Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 1 and 2.**





Plate 3. Trench 11, looking north,
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 4. Trench 13, looking south east,
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

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**Land at Durban Road, Wisborough Green,
West Sussex, 2018
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 3 and 4.**

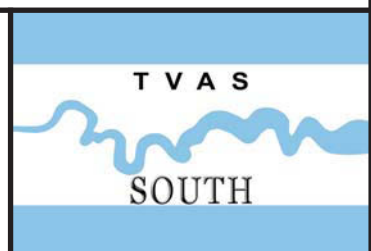




Plate 5. Trench 14, looking north north east,
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 6. Trench 17, looking south east,
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

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**Land at Durban Road, Wisborough Green,
West Sussex, 2018
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 5 and 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





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