

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Access Road, Land at West Horton Heath,
Eastleigh, Hampshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Andy Taylor

**Site Code: WHHE20/09
(SU 4890 1600)**

Access Road, Land at West Horton Heath, Eastleigh, Hampshire

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Eastleigh Borough Council**

by Andy Taylor

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code WHHE 20/09

February 2020

Summary

Site name: Access Road, Land at West Horton Heath, Eastleigh, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 4890 1600

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 10th-20th February 2020

Project coordinator: Tim Dawson

Site supervisor: Andy Taylor

Site code: WHHE 20/09

Area of site: c. 3.3 ha

Summary of results: A single linear feature was recorded. Although undated it is likely to be of 19th- or 20th-century date. On the basis of these results, this access road has no archaeological potential.

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

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

Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 26.02.20 Steve Preston ✓ 26.02.20

Access Road, Land at West Horton Heath, Eastleigh, Hampshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by Andy Taylor

Report 20/09

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out on an Access Road, at West Horton Heath, Eastleigh, Hampshire (SU 4890 1600) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Bob Spokes, for Eastleigh Borough Council.

Planning consent (appln. no. X/19/86303) has been granted by Eastleigh Borough Council to develop a 25 hectare parcel of land (excluding woodland). This consent includes a condition (17) relating to archaeology, in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2019), and the Council's policies on archaeology. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits on the site which may be damaged or destroyed by proposed re-development of the site, it was proposed to carry out a field evaluation, to determine the archaeological potential of the site and to help formulate a mitigation strategy as necessary. This report deals with the area required as an access road within the much larger overall development .

The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Neil Adam, Senior Archaeologist with Hampshire County Council, advisers to the Borough on matters relating to archaeology. The fieldwork was undertaken by Andy Taylor with Cosmo Bacon and Dan Neal between 10th and 20th February 2020. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on part of an open field which lies on the western margins of Horton Heath, which itself lies c.7.5km east of Eastleigh, Hampshire (Fig. 1). The area for the access road is surrounded by open fields with Burnetts Lane bisecting the site (Fig. 2). An industrial estate lies to the south-west. The underlying geology is mapped as Wittering Formation (BGS 1987), which consisted of clay on the northern part of the site with clayey sand, and sand patches towards the south. The site lies at a height of c.21.50m above Ordnance Datum on the northern part of the site, sloping up to c.37.50m aOD in the centre and down to c.30.50m aOD at the southern end.

Archaeological background

The site lies within the Hampshire basin formed by outcrops of tertiary geology not noted for their high density of archaeological deposits. These geologies are also rarely suited for prospection by geophysics or aerial photography, in contrast to the nearby archaeologically rich Hampshire chalkland. Relatively few finds have come to light from small scale observations or chance finds. There are no known heritage assets recorded for the site itself but there are a number of post-medieval listed buildings recorded in the county Historic Environment Record (HER) for the area and which may indicate a much fuller use of the landscape going back into late Medieval times. The HER records few items prior to post-Medieval times nearby. A collection of Mesolithic flintwork was found to the south-west of the site with other Mesolithic finds to the north-west and south-east. A prehistoric enclosure is reported to the south-west of the site with Medieval finds to the west.

Recent survey fieldwork has, however, begun to demonstrate that these outcrops are not archaeologically barren, with prehistoric and Roman sites being discovered. At Hatch Farm, Eastleigh, Middle Iron Age occupation has been discovered (Taylor in press) with further Iron Age occupation at Bedhampton (Bray and Platt 2017). At Stubbington, near Havant fieldwork in advance of a new road revealed Roman enclosure and settlement with some Iron Age activity (Manisse in press). The large size of this site suggests that there is an increased likelihood of finding archaeological sites simply by chance.

Evaluation of an access road site for the adjacent development to the north revealed a small number of linear features (field boundaries) of medieval and later date (Attard and Taylor 2020).

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 levels have survived on this site;
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present; and
- to inform a strategy for mitigation if required.

It was proposed to dig 39 trenches, each measuring 25m long and 2m wide. These were dug using a 360° type machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. All spoilheaps were to be monitored for finds.

Results

The 39 trenches were dug as close as possible to their intended locations (Fig. 2) measuring 1.80m wide and between 25.70m and 30.80m long and between 0.27m 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 approximately E-W and measured 28.00m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.09m of topsoil overlying 0.25m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 2

This trench was aligned approximately NE-SW and measured 25.70m long and 0.36m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.10m of topsoil overlying 0.24m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 3

This trench was aligned NE-SW and measured 26.50m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.11m of topsoil overlying 0.27m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 4 (Pl. 1)

This trench was aligned N-S and measured 27m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.08m of topsoil overlying 0.30m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 5

This trench was aligned NE-SW and measured 27m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.09m of topsoil overlying 0.25m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 6

This trench was aligned approximately N-S and measured 26.70m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.08m of topsoil overlying 0.31m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 7

This trench was aligned approximately N-S and measured 25.70m long and 0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.10m of topsoil overlying 0.20m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 8

This trench was aligned approximately E-W and measured 26.50m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.10m of topsoil overlying 0.28m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 9

This trench was aligned approximately NW-SE and measured 26.50m long and 0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.07m of topsoil overlying 0.21m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 10

This trench was aligned E-W and measured 28m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.11m of topsoil overlying 0.37m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 11

This trench was aligned approximately NW-SE and measured 28.50m long and 0.38m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.09m of topsoil overlying 0.27m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology,

Trench 12

This trench was aligned NW-SE and measured 26.80m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil overlying 0.24m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 13

This trench was aligned approximately NE-SW and measured 27.30m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.10m of topsoil overlying 0.24m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 14

This trench was aligned approximately NE-SW and measured 27.50m long and 0.34m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.34m of topsoil directly overlying sandy clay natural.

Trench 15

This trench was aligned approximately NW-SE and measured 26.90m long and 0.36m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.36m of topsoil directly overlying sandy clay natural.

Trench 16

This trench was aligned approximately NE-SW and measured 28m long and 0.38m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.38m of topsoil directly overlying sandy clay natural.

Trench 17

This trench was aligned NE-SW and measured 28.20m long and 0.48m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.48m of topsoil directly overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 18

This trench was aligned NW-SE and measured 27.90m long and 0.37m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.37m of topsoil directly overlying clay natural.

Trench 19

This trench was aligned N-S and measured 27m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil overlying 0.20m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology.

Trench 20 (Pl. 3)

This trench was aligned NW-SE and measured 30.80m long and 0.37m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil overlying 0.09m of subsoil overlying sand natural geology.

Trench 21

This trench was aligned approximately E-W and measured 29.50m long and 0.36m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil overlying 0.10m of subsoil overlying sand natural geology.

Trench 22

This trench was aligned N-S and measured 27.70m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil overlying 0.11m of subsoil overlying sand natural geology.

Trench 23

This trench was aligned NE-SW and measured 29m long and 0.47m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.23m of topsoil overlying 0.24m of subsoil overlying sand natural geology.

Trench 24

This trench was aligned approximately NE-SW and measured 27.60m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil overlying 0.08m of subsoil overlying sand natural geology.

Trench 25

This trench was aligned E-W and measured 30m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil overlying 0.11m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology.

Trench 26 (Fig. 3; Pls 4 and 6)

This trench was aligned NW-SE and measured 28.80m long and 0.27m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil overlying 0.09m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology. A gully (1) was noted between 22.60m and 24.10m from the south-east end of the trench, into which a slot was dug. This revealed it to be 0.84m wide and 0.13m deep. Its mid grey brown clayey sand fill (52) did not produce any finds. Its similarity to other investigated features nearby suggests this is likely to be a Victorian or later feature.

Trench 27 (Pl. 2)

This trench was aligned E-W and measured 28.30m long and 0.38m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil overlying 0.11m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology. A linear feature at 13m was investigated and was found to contain clinker and as such was not recorded further.

Trench 28

This trench was aligned N-S and measured 28.70m long and 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil overlying 0.12m of subsoil overlying clayey sand with gravel patches natural geology.

Trench 29

This trench was aligned NW-SE and measured 28.50m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil overlying 0.16m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology. A linear feature was noted at

the NW end of the trench, which after investigation was found to contain the base of a Victorian bottle, brick and clinker and was not recorded further.

Trench 30

This trench was aligned E-W and measured 28.20m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil overlying 0.31m of subsoil overlying sand natural geology.

Trench 31

This trench was aligned approximately E-W and measured 29.10m long and 0.54m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.29m of topsoil overlying 0.25m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology.

Trench 32

This trench was aligned approximately NW-SE and measured 29.70m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil overlying 0.30m of subsoil overlying sand natural geology.

Trench 33

This trench was aligned approximately NW-SE and measured 30m long and 0.48m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil overlying 0.24m of subsoil overlying clay natural geology. A linear feature was noted at the SE end of the trench which was found to contain pieces of clay pigeon and was not recorded further.

Trench 34 (Pl. 5)

This trench was aligned NE-SW and measured 28.20m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil overlying 0.18m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology. A linear feature was observed at 20m, which also appeared in trenches 36 and 39.

Trench 35

This trench was aligned approximately E-W and measured 29.20m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil overlying 0.07m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology.

Trench 36

This trench was aligned approximately NW-SE and measured 29.40m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil overlying 0.15m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology. The same linear

feature observed in trench 34 was also present and found to contain clinker and brick and was not recorded further.

Trench 37

This trench was aligned approximately NE-SW and measured 28.50m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.19m of topsoil overlying 0.16m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology.

Trench 38

This trench was aligned NW-SE and measured 27m long and 0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil overlying 0.13m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology.

Trench 39

This trench was aligned NE-SW and measured 27.30m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil overlying 0.15m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology. The same linear feature observed in trenches 34 and 36 was also noted in this trench.

Finds

No finds of any archaeological interest were recovered during the evaluation. Modern material observed was retained on site.

Conclusion

Despite the potential for archaeology to be present on the site no deposits or finds of any archaeological interest were recorded during the course of the evaluation. The only feature observed was an undated ditch which is aligned on the modern field boundaries and itself is most likely to be modern. These results indicate that this access road has no archaeological potential.

References

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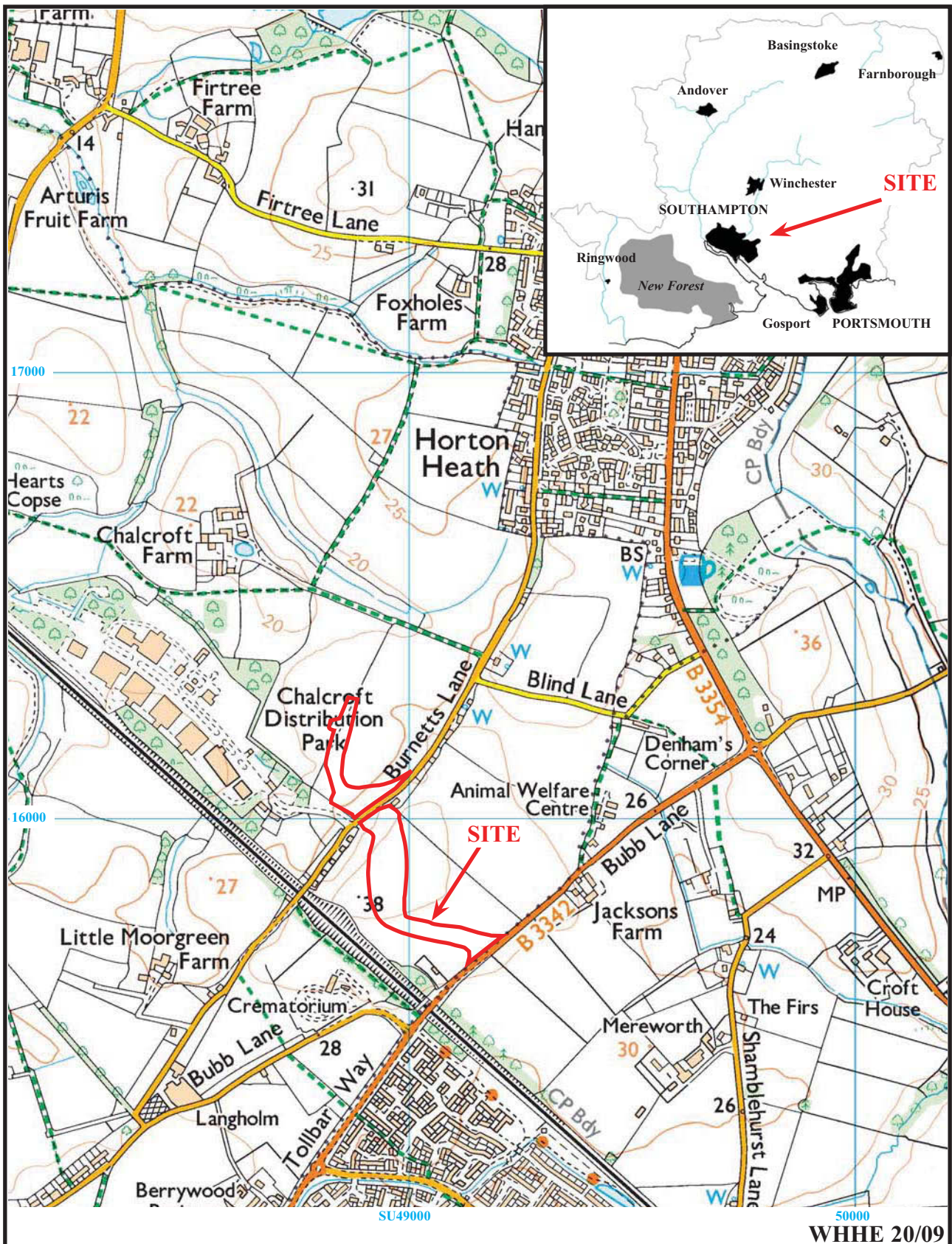
APPENDIX 1: Trench details

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	28.00	1.80	0.35	0-0.09m topsoil; 0.09m-0.34m subsoil; 0.34m-0.35m+ clay natural geology.
2	25.70	1.80	0.36	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.10m-0.34m subsoil; 0.34m-0.36m+ clay natural geology.
3	26.50	1.80	0.40	0-0.11m topsoil; 0.11m-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m-0.40m+ clay natural geology.
4	27.00	1.80	0.40	0-0.08m topsoil; 0.08m-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m-0.40m+ clay natural geology. [Pl. 1]
5	27.00	1.80	0.35	0-0.09m topsoil; 0.09m-0.34m subsoil; 0.34m-0.35m+ clay natural geology.
6	26.70	1.80	0.40	0-0.08m topsoil; 0.08m-0.39m subsoil; 0.39m-0.40m+ clay natural geology.
7	25.70	1.80	0.30	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.10m-0.30m subsoil; 0.30m+ clay natural geology.
8	26.50	1.80	0.40	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.10m-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m-0.40m+ clay natural geology.
9	26.50	1.80	0.30	0-0.07m topsoil; 0.07m-0.28m subsoil; 0.28m-0.30m+ clay natural geology.
10	28.00	1.80	0.50	0-0.11m topsoil; 0.11m-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m-0.50m+ clay natural geology.
11	28.50	1.80	0.38	0-0.09m topsoil; 0.09m-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m-0.38m+ clay natural geology.
12	26.80	1.80	0.40	0-0.15m topsoil; 0.15m-0.39m subsoil; 0.39m-0.40m+ clay natural geology.
13	27.30	1.80	0.35	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.10m-0.34m subsoil; 0.34m-0.35m+ clay natural geology.
14	27.50	1.80	0.34	0-0.34m topsoil; 0.34m+ clay natural geology.
15	26.90	1.80	0.36	0-0.36m topsoil; 0.36m+ clay natural geology.
16	28.00	1.80	0.38	0-0.38m topsoil; 0.38m+ clay natural geology.
17	28.20	1.80	0.48	0-0.48m topsoil; 0.48m+ clay natural geology.
18	27.90	1.80	0.37	0-0.37m topsoil; 0.37m+ clay natural geology.
19	27.00	1.80	0.42	0-0.22m topsoil; 0.22m-0.42m subsoil; 0.42m+ clay natural geology.
20	30.80	1.80	0.37	0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28m-0.37m subsoil; 0.37m+ sand natural geology. [Pl 3]
21	29.50	1.80	0.36	0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26m-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m+ sand natural geology.
22	27.70	1.80	0.35	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24m-0.35m subsoil; 0.35m+ sand natural geology.
23	29.00	1.80	0.47	0-0.23m topsoil; 0.23m-0.47m subsoil; 0.47m+ sand natural geology.
24	27.60	1.80	0.35	0-0.27m topsoil; 0.27m-0.35m subsoil; 0.35m+ sand natural geology.
25	30.00	1.80	0.33	0-0.22m topsoil; 0.22m-0.33m subsoil; 0.33m + clayey sand natural geology.
26	28.80	1.80	0.27	0-0.18m topsoil; 0.18m-0.27m subsoil; 0.27m+ clayey sand natural geology. Gully 1. [Pls 4 and 6]
27	28.30	1.80	0.38	0-0.27m topsoil; 0.27m-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m+ clayey sand and gravel natural geology. [Pl. 2]
28	28.70	1.80	0.32	0-0.20m topsoil; 0.20m-0.32m subsoil; 0.32m+ sand and gravel natural geology.
29	28.50	1.80	0.33	0-0.17m topsoil; 0.17m-0.33m subsoil; 0.33m+ clayey sand natural geology.
30	28.20	1.80	0.54	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24m-0.54m subsoil; 0.54+ sand natural geology.
31	29.10	1.80	0.54	0-0.29m topsoil; 0.29m-0.54m subsoil; 0.54m+ sand natural geology.
32	29.70	1.80	0.50	0-0.20m topsoil; 0.20m-0.50m subsoil; 0.50m+ clayey sand natural geology.
33	30.00	1.80	0.48	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24m-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m+ clay natural geology.
34	28.20	1.80	0.40	0-0.22m topsoil; 0.22m-0.40m subsoil; 0.40m+ clayey sand natural geology. [Pl. 5]
35	29.20	1.80	0.33	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24m-0.31m subsoil; 0.31m-0.33m+ clayey sand natural geology.
36	29.40	1.80	0.33	0-0.18m topsoil; 0.18m-0.33m subsoil; 0.33m+ clayey sand natural geology.
37	28.50	1.80	0.35	0-0.19m topsoil; 0.19m-0.35m subsoil; 0.35m+ clayey sand natural geology.
38	27.00	1.80	0.30	0-0.17m topsoil; 0.17m-0.30m subsoil; 0.30m+ clayey sand natural geology.
39	27.30	1.80	0.33	0-0.18m topsoil; 0.18m-0.33m subsoil; 0.33m+ clayey sand natural geology.

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
26	1	52	Ditch	-	-

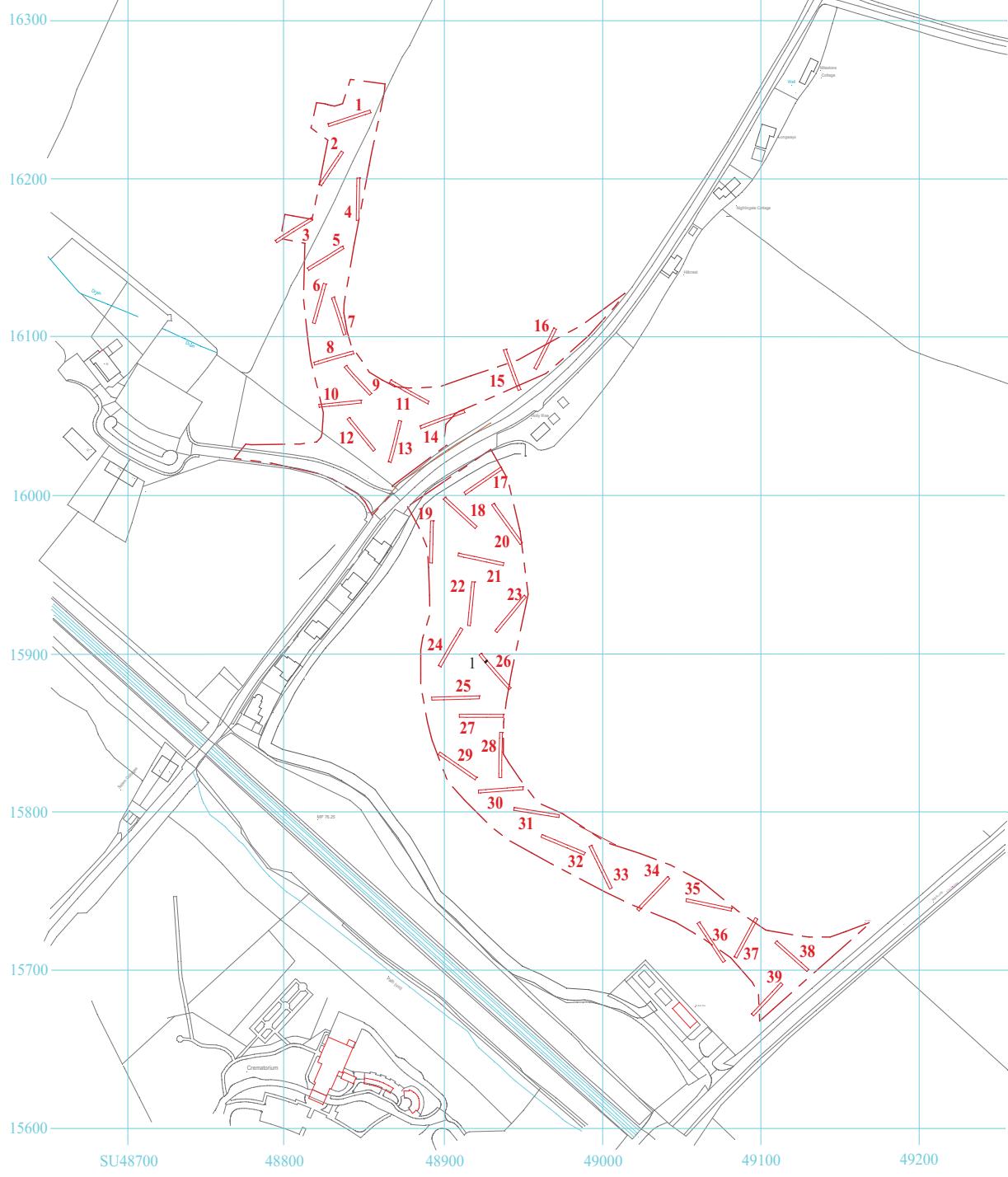


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Figure 1. Location of site in relation to West Horton and within Hampshire.

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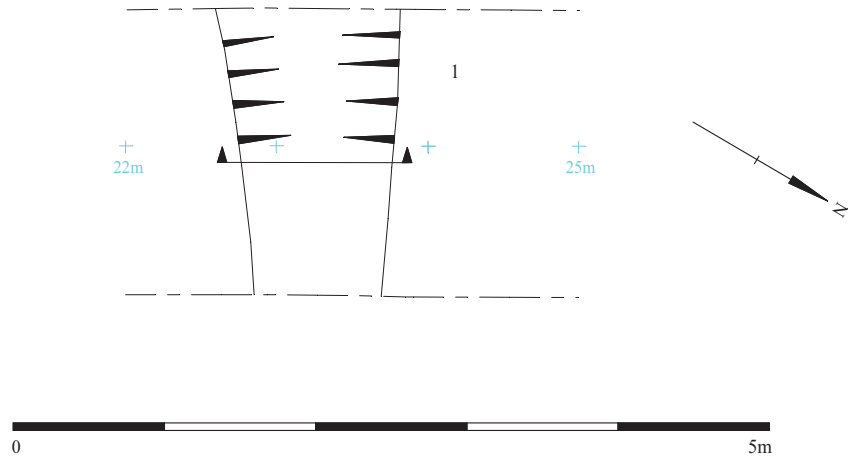
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Figure 2. Location of trenches.

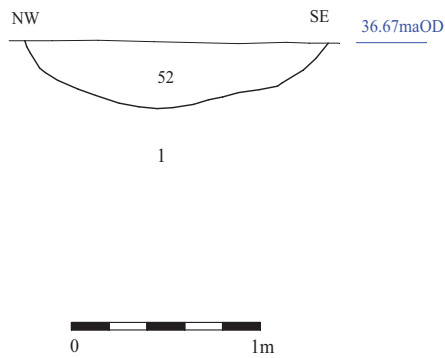


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Trench 26



Trench 26



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Figure 3. Details of Trench 26.

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Plate 1. Trench 4, looking north west, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.3m.



Plate 2. Trench 17, looking north east, Scales: 2m and 1m.

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**Access Road, Land at West Horton Heath,
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Plates 1 and 2.**

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Plate 3. Trench 20, looking north east, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 4. Trench 26, looking south east, Scales: 2m and 1m.

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**Access Road, Land at West Horton Heath,
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Plates 3 and 4.**

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Plate 5. Trench 34, looking north west,
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m. vertical 0.3m.



Plate 6. Trench 26, ditch 1, looking east north east,
Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

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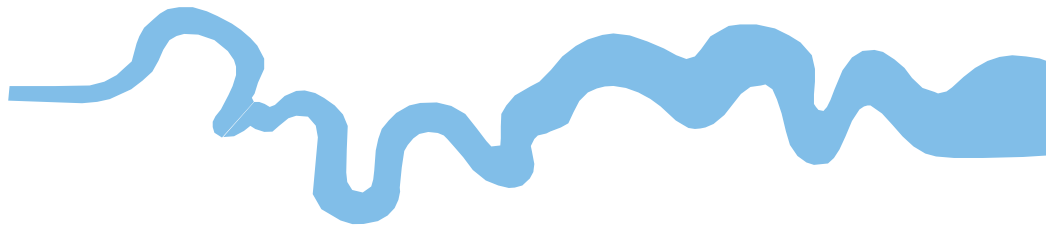
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Plates 5 and 6.**

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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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