

Archaeological Evaluation Report

# CHURCH GATE HARTEST

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For Foinaven Limited

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Matthew Williams MA MifA

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L~P:ARCHÆOLOGY

Archaeological Evaluation Report

# CHURCH GATE HARTEST

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Client: Foinaven Limited

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Local Authority: Babergh District Council

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NGR: 583465, 252418

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Planning App: B/10/00943

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Author(s): M.Williams

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Doc Ref: LPI122E-AER-v1.3

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Site Code: HRT025

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Date: April 11

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## L~P:ARCHAEOLOGY

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# Abstract

*An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Church Gate, Hartest, Suffolk. The evaluation was implemented because of the potential for archaeological remains on the site. The work was carried out by L - P : Archaeology. This report has been prepared by Matthew Williams of L – P : Archaeology on behalf of Foinaven Ltd.*

*The site lies immediately to the north of the churchyard of the Medieval All Saints Church, Hartest. The evaluation was conducted in the rear garden of Church Gate house which dates from the 18<sup>th</sup> century with considerable renovation and alteration in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.*

*The objectives of the evaluation were to assess the presence of any archaeological deposits and the nature of these deposits.*

*The evaluation was restricted by the presence of numerous services associated with Church Gate house. The trenching identified a possible linear feature containing late 18<sup>th</sup> /19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and a small undated linear feature. The features were below a subsoil layer which contained no finds.*

*Due to the limited evidence recorded and no Medieval features identified any further work would be in the form of a watching brief during construction ground works.*

# 1. Introduction

1.1.This evaluation report has been prepared by Matthew Williams of L - P : Archaeology on behalf of Foinaven Ltd.

1.2.The fieldwork was carried out by John Duffy of L – P : Archaeology on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

1.3.The site is located in at Church Green, Hartest, Suffolk, IP29 4DH (FIGURE 1). The NGR is 583465,252418.

1.4.The site code allocated by Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) is HRT 025.

1.5.The work was carried out in accordance with the Specification for Archaeological Evaluation at Church Green, Hartest prepared by Steven Campion of L – P : Archaeology.

## 2. Site Background

### 2.1.PLANNING

- 2.1.1. Planning consent has been granted for the development. The reference is B/10/00943.
- 2.1.2. The site does not contain any scheduled monuments or any listed buildings. The site is within an area of archaeological importance as defined in the SHER.
- 2.1.3. The site is in Babergh District Council who take archaeological advice from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT).
- 2.1.4. When considering an application, Babergh District Council is bound by local policy CN17 within the Babergh Local Plan (adopted 2006), regarding archaeology and planning. As such, the following condition was attached to the development.
- 4 - No development shall take place on site until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
- 2.1.5. Foinaven Ltd and Babergh District Council have agreed the methodology for these works in the Specification for Archaeological Evaluation at Church Gate, Hartest prepared by Steven Campion of L – P : Archaeology (2011). The Specification was based on a brief provided by SCCAS/CT.

### 2.2.GEOLOGY

- 2.2.1. The drift geology is clay overlying a solid geology of chalk (SCCAS).
- 2.2.2. The drift geology was confirmed during the site works as stiff orange and grey clay with occasional chalk inclusions.

### 2.3.TOPOGRAPHY

- 2.3.1. The site is located on the southern side of Hartest Green within the village of Hartest, Suffolk (FIGURE 1).

2.3.2. The site is bounded by Hartest Green to the north, All Saints church to the south, gardens to the east and an access road to the church to the west (FIGURE 2)

2.3.3. The site is generally flat, with an average height of 56.7m OD. The access track to the existing garage slopes down to the modern road level.

## 2.4.SITE CONDITIONS

2.4.1. The site is currently a garden and provides vehicular access to the existing garage.

## 2.5.ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

2.5.1. Hartest has Medieval origins and is described in the Domesday book as owned by the Abbot of Ely before and after 1066. There was one church, four horses, twenty beasts and twenty-five pigs. The site is within the historic settlement core as defined by the SHER.

2.5.2. The site lies on the north side of All Saints Church, a grade I listed building of stone and flint. The is mainly 15<sup>th</sup> century although it was considerably restored in the 19<sup>th</sup> century ([WWW.HERITAGEGATEWAY.ORG.UK](http://WWW.HERITAGEGATEWAY.ORG.UK)).

2.5.3. Church Gate is a two storey 18<sup>th</sup> century timber framed and plastered house that was renovated and altered in the 20<sup>th</sup> century ([WWW.HERITAGEGATEWAY.ORG.UK](http://WWW.HERITAGEGATEWAY.ORG.UK)).

2.5.4. The Ordnance Survey 1885 (not reproduced in this report) shows the existing buildings (one small central building and one N-S building in the west of the site), and the site divided into three plots. The eastern plot covers the land from the central building eastwards, the central plot covers the central building and the land to the south, and the western plot covers the remaining land to the west, including the N-S building. Two further buildings are shown attached to the N-S building, running eastwards. There is no suggestion as to the function of these buildings.



## 3. Aims

3.1. The general aims of the evaluation are:

- ◆ To determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or remains.
- ◆ To assess the character, date, location and preservation of any archaeological remains on the site. The results will include a comment on the quality and significance of the remains.
- ◆ To assess the nature and extent of any previous damage to archaeological remains on the site.
- ◆ To assess the anticipated impact of the development proposals on any surviving archaeological remains.
- ◆ To collect enough information to allow a suitable mitigation strategy to be devised, if required.

3.2. The specific aims of the evaluation are:

- ◆ Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- ◆ To establish presence or absence of medieval deposits in an area subjected to little previous archaeological investigation.

## 4. Methodology

- 4.1. Three trenches were excavated using a tracked excavator with a ditching bucket (FIGURE 2). The actual trench layout was different to that described in the specification due to services encountered on site. The change in trench plan was agreed at a site meeting with Sarah Poppy of SCCAS/CT during the excavation works.
- 4.2. Archaeological deposits were hand cleaned and excavated. Full context and photographic registers were maintained.
- 4.3. For a full description of the archaeological methodology please refer to section 4 of the specification document (CAMPION 2011).

## 5. Results

5.1. Results are given below trench by trench. Deposit numbers are given in (parentheses) and cut numbers are given in [square brackets].

### 5.2. TRENCH 1A

5.2.1. Trench 1A was located in the south west of the site and measured 2.70m N-S, 1.80m E-W and 1.20m deep (FIGURE 2 and FIGURE 3). A 0.34m thick dark grey brown silt sand topsoil (7) overlay a 0.72m thick dark grey brown clay sand subsoil (8). The topsoil contained two sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery, a fragment of animal bone and seven oyster shells. No finds were recovered from the subsoil (8). The base of the trench was a compact orange sand clay natural geology (9) at 55.80m OD.

*Plate 1 - General view of Trench 1A looking south. 2m scale.*

### 5.3.TRENCH 1B

- 5.3.1. Trench 1B was located in the south west of the site and measured 1.80m N-S, 2.00m E-W and 0.85m deep (FIGURE 2 and FIGURE 3). The uppermost deposit was an orange gravel drive surfacing 0.10m thick (10), which overlay a 0.75m thick subsoil (11), the same as (8) in Trench 1A.
- 5.3.2. Subsoil (11) sealed an ephemeral linear feature [13], which was 1.40m in length E-W, 0.48m wide and 0.12m deep. It was filled with a compact grey brown sand clay with occasional chalk inclusion (12), no artefacts were recovered. The function of this feature is unknown and it was not in the area of any previous buildings shown on the 1885 OS map. It may be related to drainage as the soil is very clay heavy in this area.
- 5.3.3. Feature [13] cut a compact orange clay natural geology (14). The top of (14) was at 56.00m OD.

*Plate 2 - General view of Trench 1B looking east. 2m scale.*

### 5.4.TRENCH 2

- 5.4.1. Trench 2 was located in the east of the site and measured 1.80m N-S, 7.50m E-W and 1.20m deep (FIGURE 2 and FIGURE 4).The uppermost deposit in Trench

2 was a 0.35m thick topsoil (1), the same as (7) in Trench 1A. This overlay a 0.5m thick subsoil (2), the same as (8) in Trench 1A. The topsoil contained four sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and abraded fragments of ceramic building material (CBM). No finds were recovered for the subsoil (2).

*Plate 3 - General view of Trench 2 looking west. 2m scale.*

5.4.2. Subsoil (2) sealed a cut [4], which measured 4.50m E-W, 0.9m N-S and 0.64m deep within the trench. It was filled by a compact brown grey sand clay (3) with occasional flint and chalk pebbles, and contained late 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds, mammal bones from domestic stock species, and an iron nail. There was an area of loose soil within (3) caused by animal disturbance. The assemblage suggests a late 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century rubbish deposit from the existing house possibly backfilling an earlier feature. It is not in the area of any previous buildings and no features that could be directly related to this feature are shown on the 1885 OS map. However, the feature was on the

same alignment as the tree line forming the churchyard boundary and may have formed part of an associated boundary ditch.

*Plate 4 - Cut [4] looking west. 1m scale.*

5.4.3. Feature [4] cut two natural deposits (5) and (6) at 56.00m OD. Deposit (5) was a compact orange clay natural and deposit (6) was a compact grey/white chalky clay.

## 6. Finds and Samples

6.1.No environmental samples were taken. Finds were collected by hand from excavated deposits.

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	MATERIAL	COUNT	DECORATION/NOTES	PERIOD
1	Topsoil	Pottery	4	Small/medium sherds of glazed domestic creamwares.	19 <sup>th</sup> c.
1	Topsoil	CBM	2	Abraded fragments.	Late Post med.
3	Feature fill	Pottery	4	Small/medium sherds of glazed domestic creamwares and a single sherd of earthenware.	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> / 19 <sup>th</sup> c.
3	Feature fill	CBM	12	Abraded fragments.	Late Post Med.
3	Feature fill	Iron	1	Nail.	Post Med.
3	Feature fill	Animal Bone	3	Long bone fragments from large mammal.	
7	Topsoil	Pottery	2	Small/medium sherds of glazed domestic wares.	19 <sup>th</sup> c.
7	Topsoil	Animal Bone	1	Long bone fragments from large mammal.	
7	Topsoil	Shell	7	Oyster.	

Table 1 - Finds by context

6.2.The finds represent a domestic assemblage resulting from casual discard and residual deposition.

6.3.The pottery and mammal bone suggests that context (3) may be a rubbish deposit, although the density of artefacts within the deposit is rather low for this to be certain.

## 7. Summary and Conclusions

7.1.A site at Church Gate, Hartest is proposed for redevelopment. The proposed redevelopment involves an extension to the existing dwelling and the construction of a new car port. The footings for the extension is expected to 1.2m deep and the car port footings are expected to be 1m deep.

7.2.Trial trenching revealed a topsoil and subsoil up to 1.20m thick. This sealed two linear features. The function of the shallow ditch in Trench 1B is unknown, although it may be related to drainage as the soil in the area is heavy clay. The deeper pit or ditch terminus in Trench 2 contained late 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and large mammal bone, suggesting a refuse deposit.

7.3.No finds or features relating to adjacent Medieval church or the historic settlement of Hartest was found. No residual Medieval artefacts were recovered from any deposits.

7.4.No remains associated with the extensions to Church Gate shown on the 1885 OS map were identified during the evaluation. It is possible that these structures were temporary with no substantial footings.



## 8. Archive

8.1. The paper archive consists of:

- ◆ 1 x Drawing Register
- ◆ 1 x Drawing Film
- ◆ 1 x Photographic Register
- ◆ 1 x Black and white photographs and negatives
- ◆ 1 x Context Register
- ◆ 14 x Context sheets

8.2. The finds archive consists of:

- ◆ 1 x box artefacts as described in Section 6 (all materials).

8.3. The archive is to be deposited at the County Store, Suffolk County Council under site code HRT 025.

# SOURCES CONSULTED

## **BIBLIOGRAPHIC**

CAMPION S 2011 Specification for Archaeological Evaluation at Church Gate Hartest. L – P :  
Archaeology.

## **CARTOGRAPHIC AND PICTORIAL**

1885 ORDNANCE SURVEY 6"

## **ELECTRONIC**

[www.domesdaybook.co.uk/suffolk3.html](http://www.domesdaybook.co.uk/suffolk3.html) Accessed 23/03/2011

[www.heritagegateway.co.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.co.uk) Accessed 23/03/11

## **STATUTORY AND GUIDANCE**

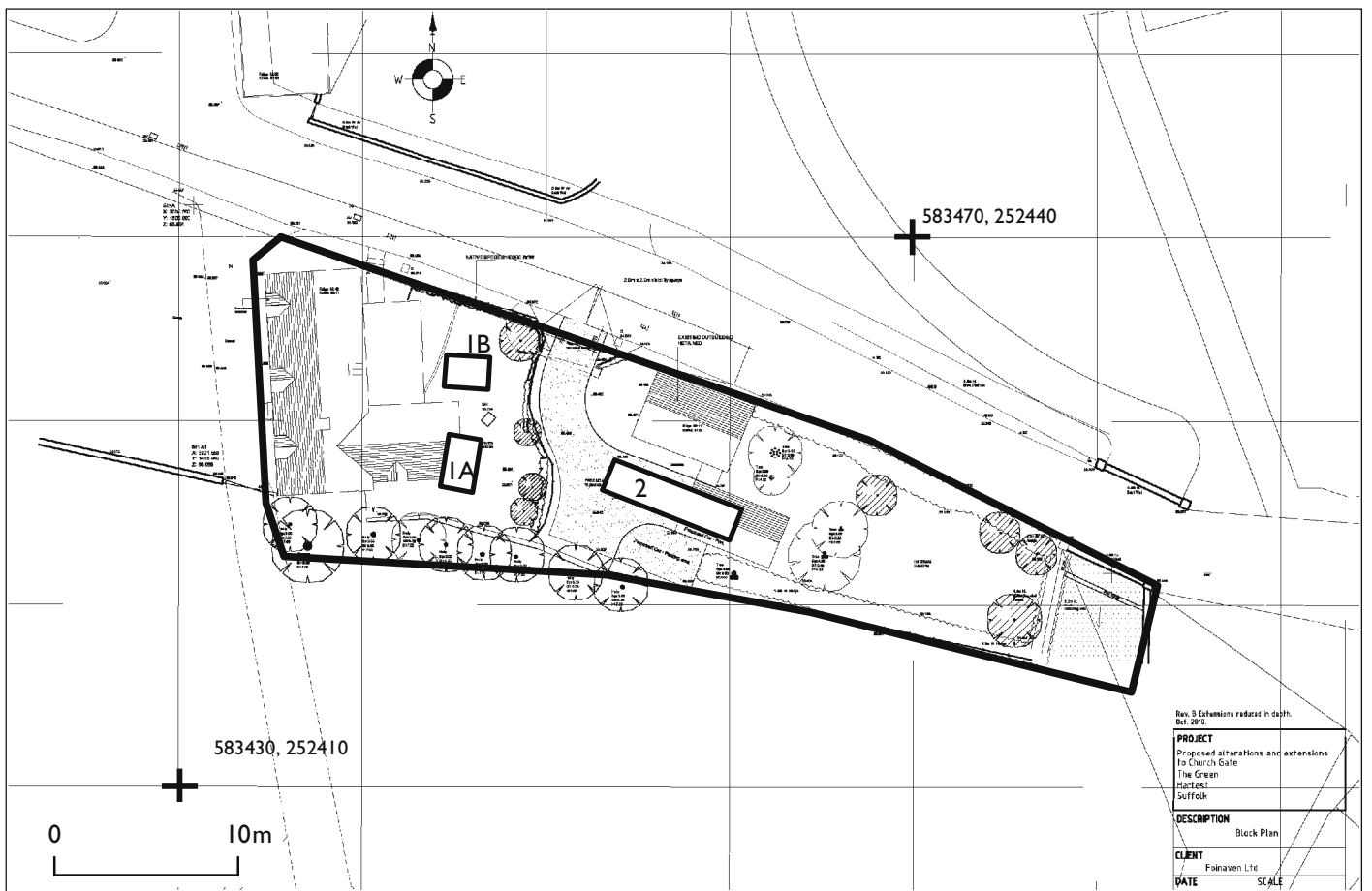
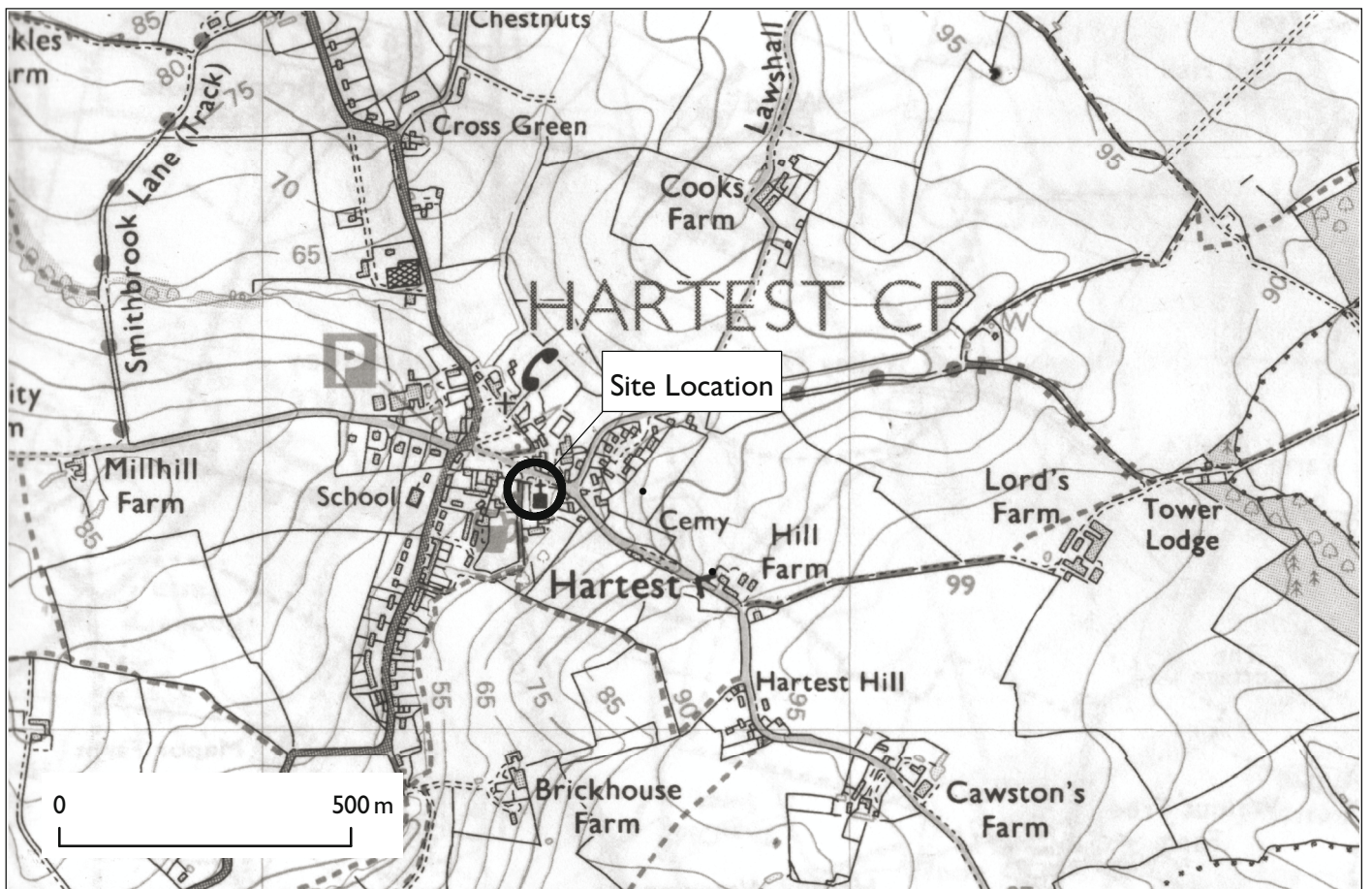
STANDARD AND GUIDANCE FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION Institute for  
Archaeologists 2008

STANDARDS FOR FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE EAST OF ENGLAND East Anglian  
Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 14 2003

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# FIGURES

FIGURE 1 // Site location and trench locations



Top - Site location 1:12500@A4

Bottom - Trench locations over proposed development: 1:400@A4



PROJECT // 1122E- Hartest

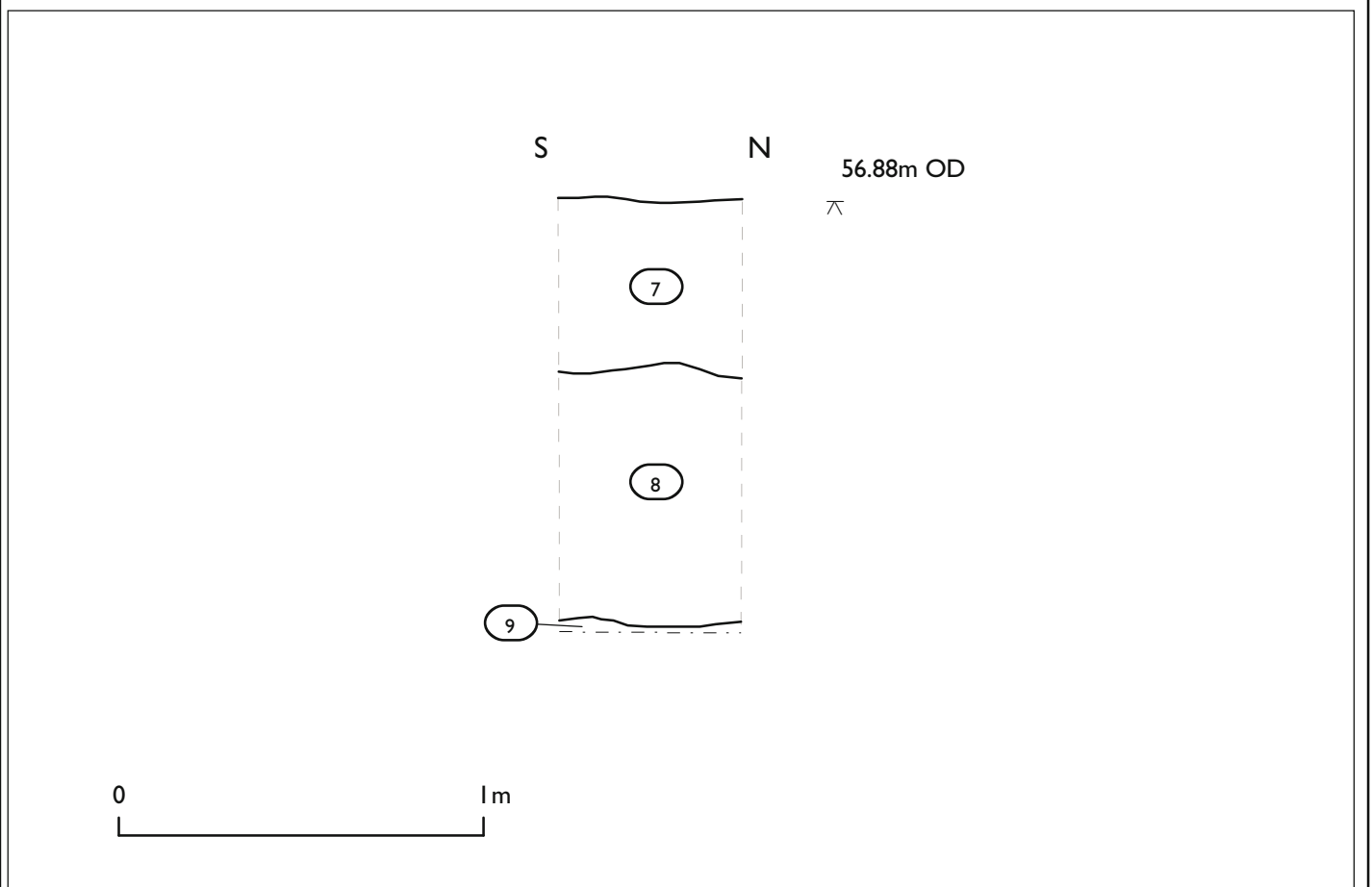
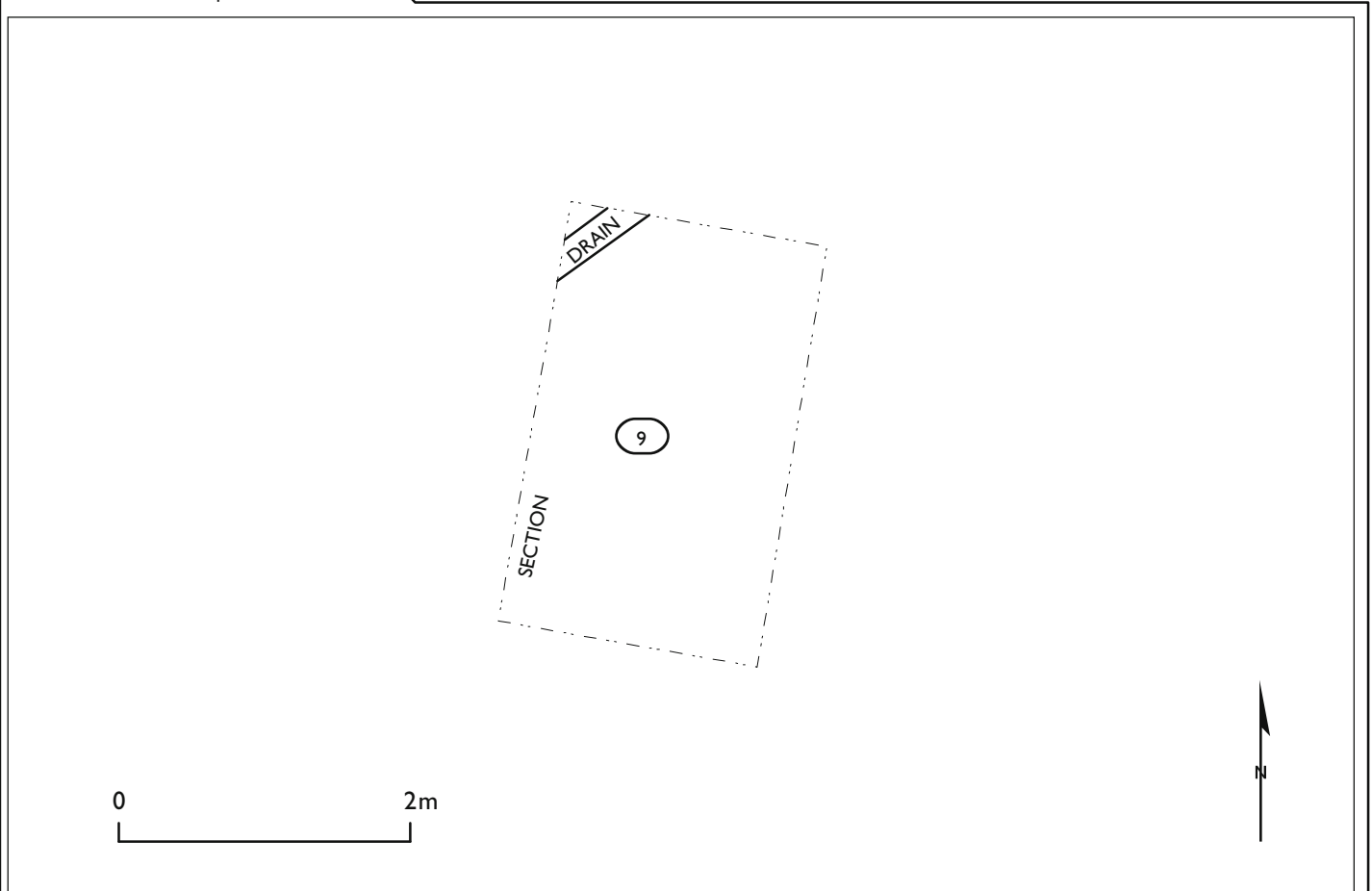
DESCRIPTION // Site location and trench location

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FIGURE 2// Trench IA plan and section



TOP - PLAN 1:50@A4

BOTTOM - SECTION. 1:20@A4

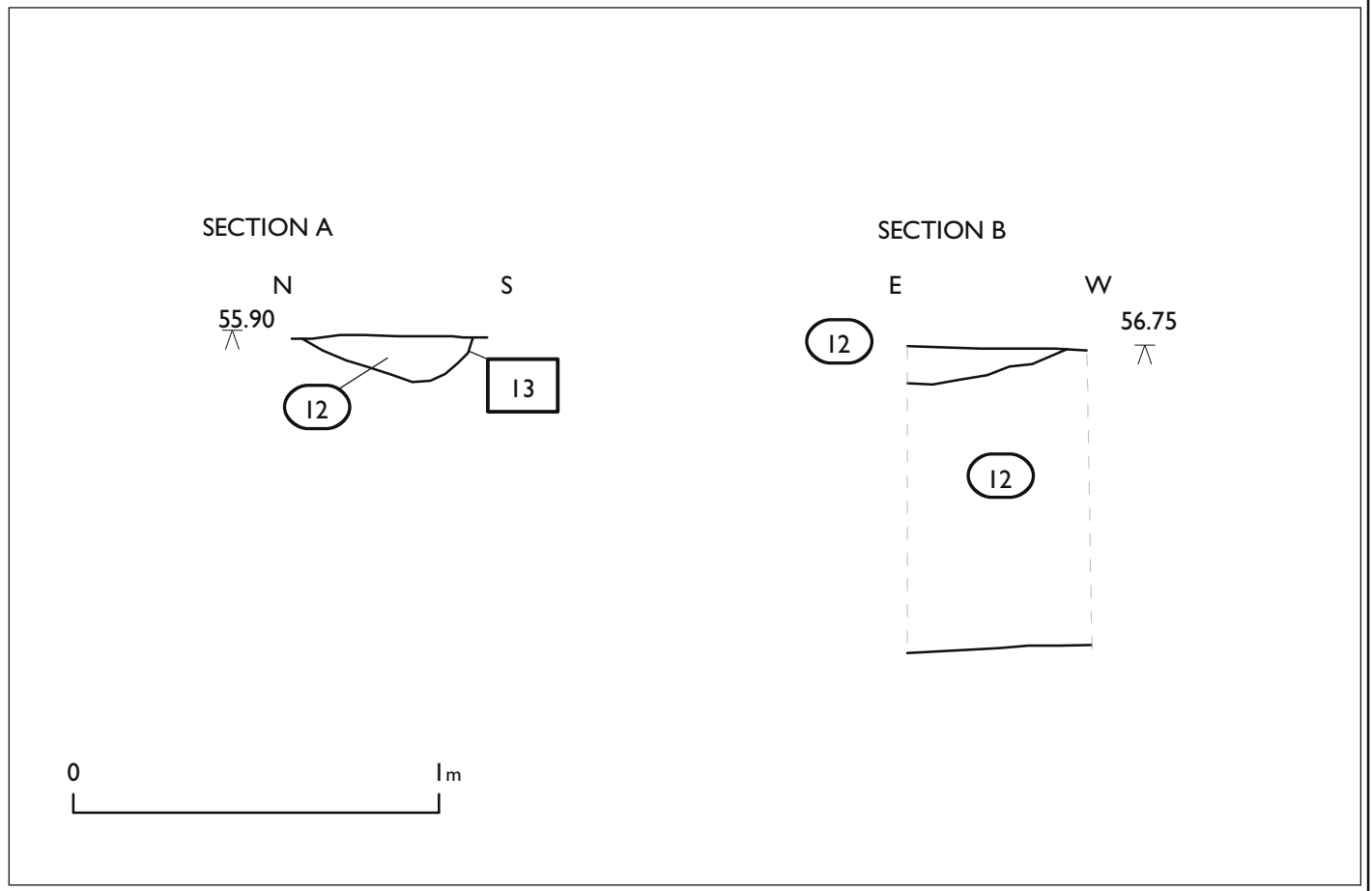
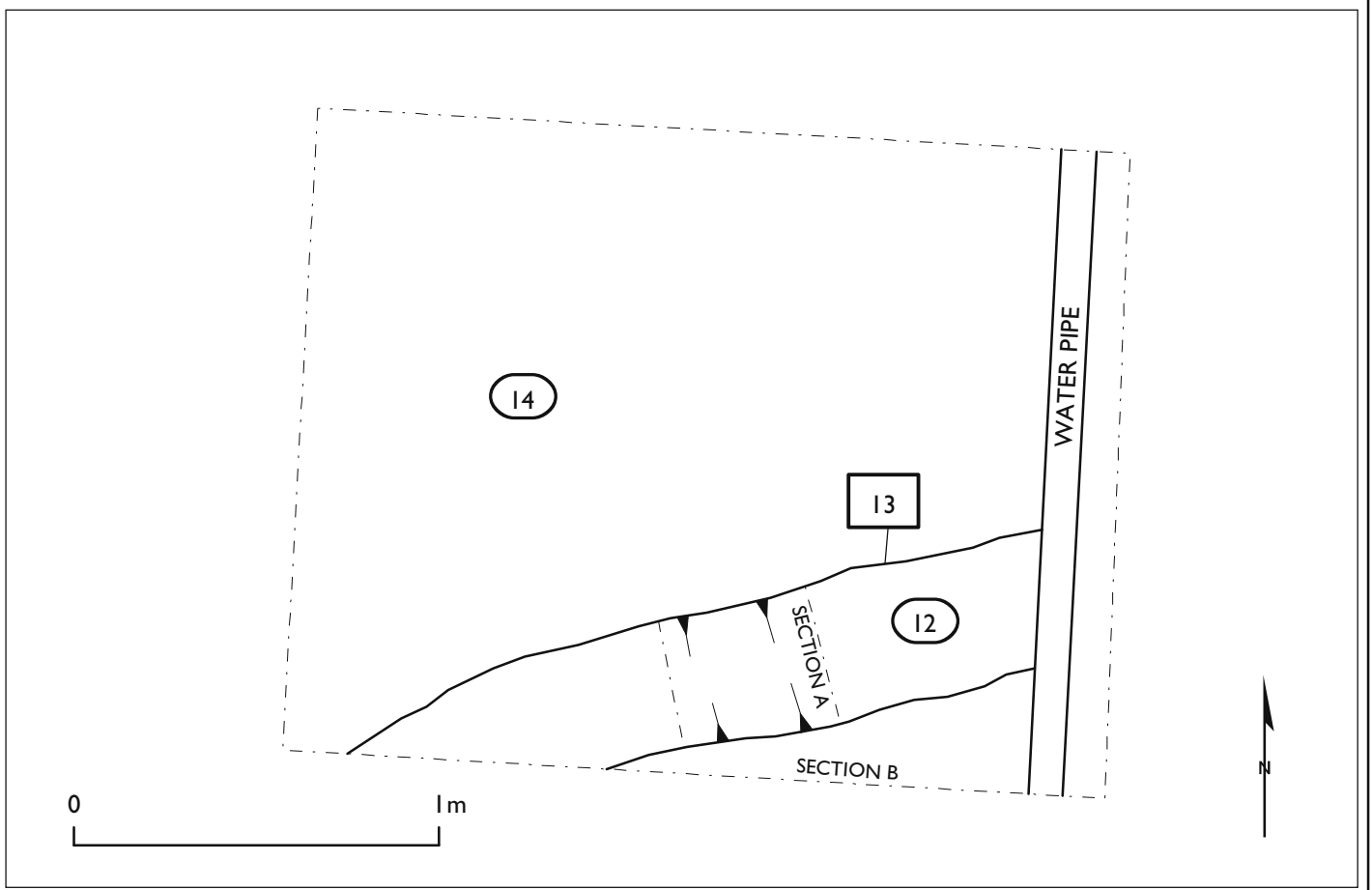
PROJECT // 1122E- Hartest

DESCRIPTION // Trench IA plan and section

DOC REF: LPI 1122E-AERv1

L-P:ARCHÆOLOGY

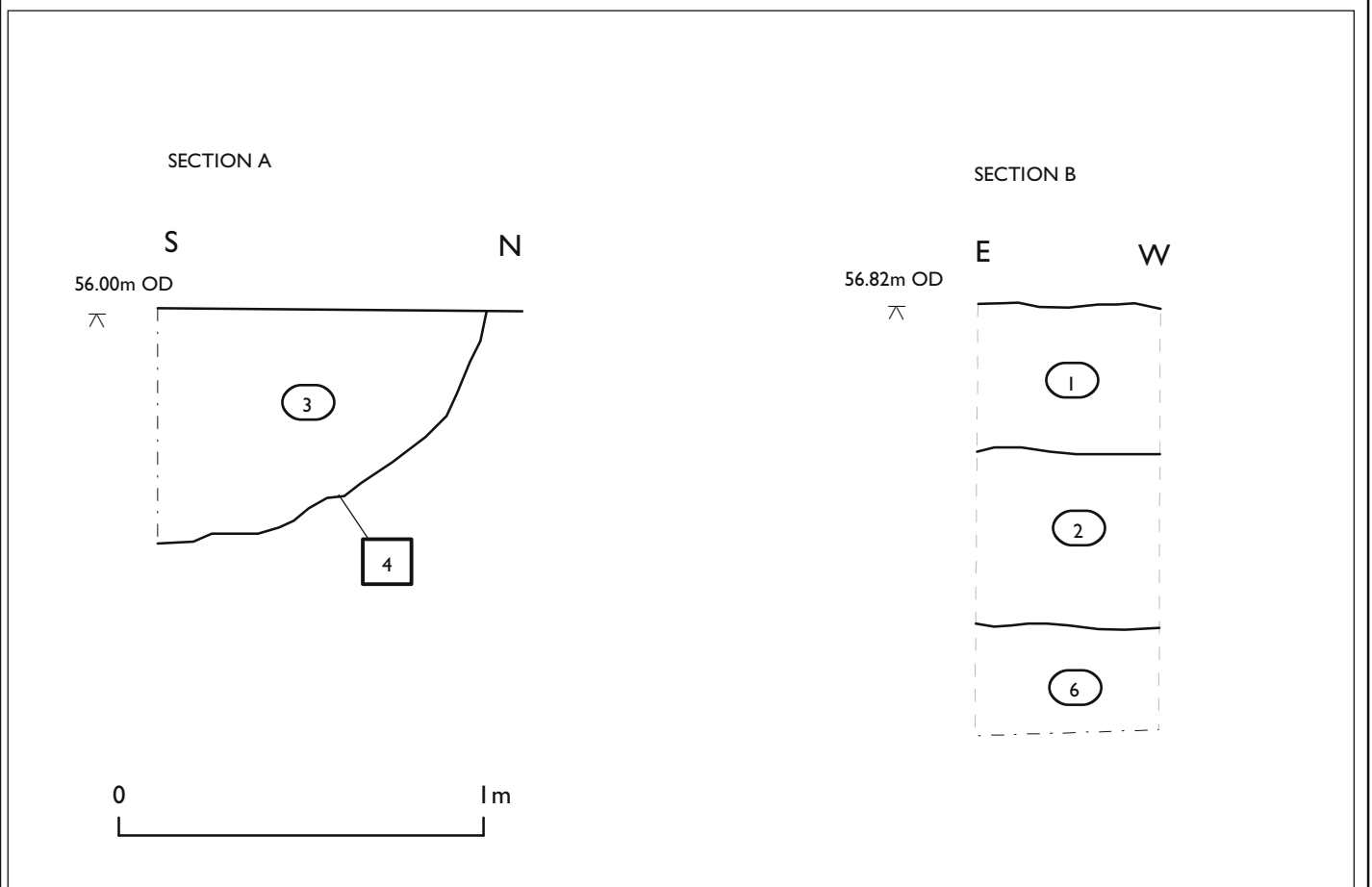
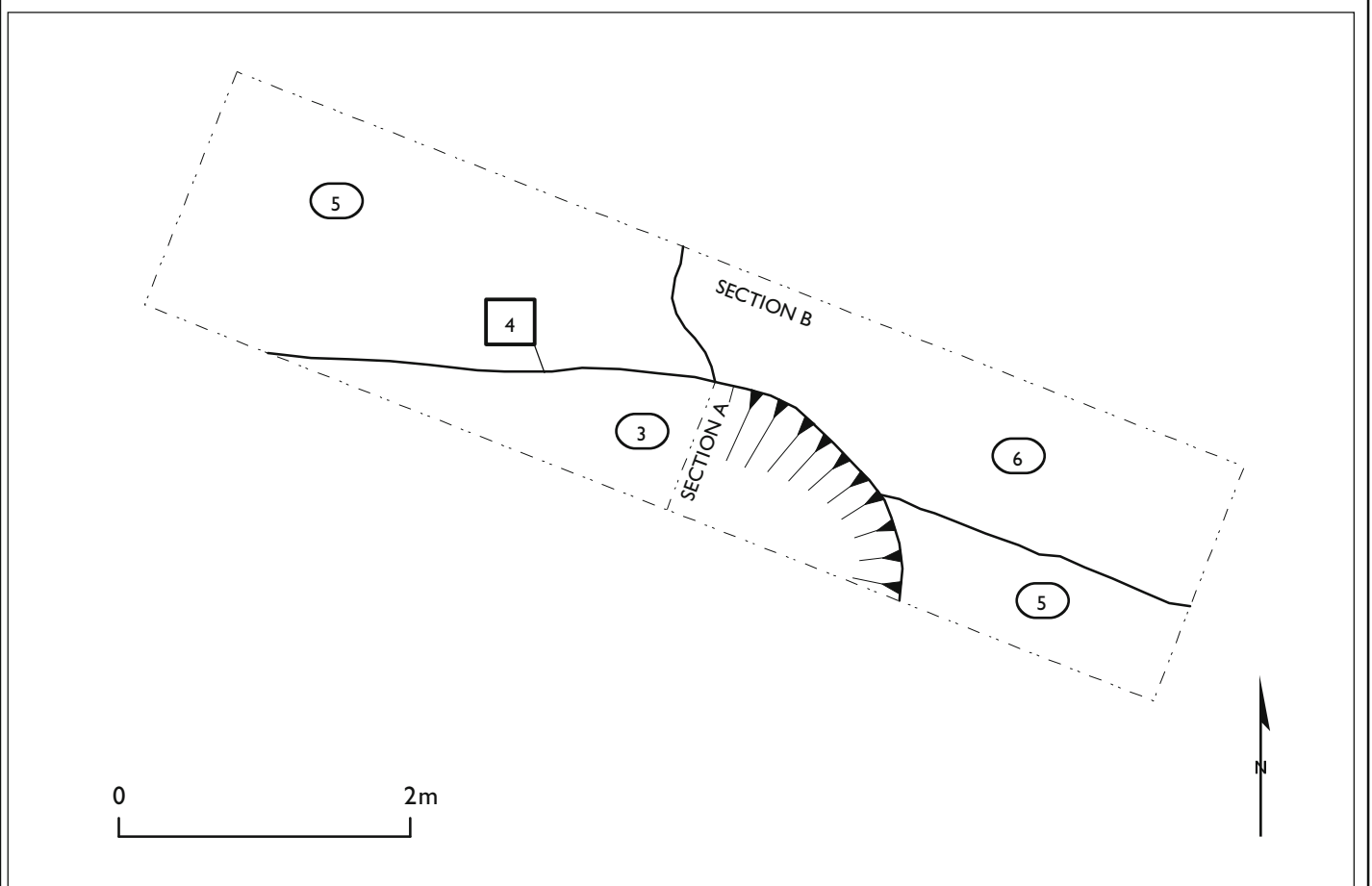
FIGURE 3 // IB plan and section



TOP: PLAN 1:20@A4  
BOTTOM 1:20@A4

PROJECT // I122E- Hartest  
DESCRIPTION // Trench IB plan and section  
DOC REF: LPI122E-AERv1 L-P:ARCHÆOLOGY

FIGURE 4// Trench 2 plan and section



TOP - PLAN 1:50@A4

BOTTOM - SECTION. 1:20@A4

PROJECT // 1122E- Hartest

DESCRIPTION // Trench 2 plan and section

DOC REF: LPI122E-AERv1

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# OASIS FORM

## APPENDIX I

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM:

## England

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### Printable version

**OASIS ID: Iparchae1-97679**

#### Project details

Project name	Church Gate, Hartest
Short description of the project	Archaeological evaluation on the rear garden of Church Gate, Hartest ahead of the construction of a new car port and an extension to the existing house.
Project dates	Start: 16-03-2011 End: 16-03-2011
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	B/10/00943 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Small-scale extensions (e.g. garages, porches, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH HARTEST Church Gate, Hartest
Postcode	IP29 4DH
Study area	400.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 83465 52418 52.1390740914 0.681266944888 52 08 20 N 000 40 52 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 56.75m Max: 56.88m

**Project creators**

Name of Organisation L - P : Archaeology  
 Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body  
 Project design originator L - P : Archaeology  
 Project director/manager John Duffy  
 Project supervisor John Duffy  
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer  
 Name of sponsor/funding body Foinaven Ltd

**Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient Suffolk County Council  
 Physical Archive ID HRT 025  
 Physical Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Metal'  
 Digital Archive recipient Suffolk County Council  
 Digital Archive ID HRT 025  
 Digital Contents 'Stratigraphic','Survey'  
 Digital Media available 'Images raster / digital photography','Images vector','Text'  
 Paper Archive recipient Suffolk County Council  
 Paper Archive ID HRT 025  
 Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic','Survey'  
 Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Map','Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished Text','Photograph'

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
 Title Archaeological Evaluation Report at Church Gate, Hartest  
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Williams, M.  
 Other bibliographic details LP1122E-AER-v1  
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# OASIS:

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