

# **Land at East Hunston, West Sussex**

## **Archaeological Evaluation**

*for*

**PMC Construction & Development Services Ltd**

CA Project: 770036  
CA Report: 13716

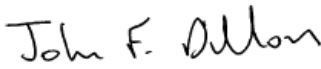
January 2014

# LAND AT EAST HUNSTON, WEST SUSSEX

## Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 770036

CA Report: 13716

prepared by	Jamie Wright (Project Officer)
date	20 December 2013
checked by	Richard Greatedorex (Principal Fieldwork Manager)
date	03 February 2014
approved by	John Dillon
signed	
date	03 February 2014
issue	01

*This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.*

---

© Cotswold Archaeology

<b>Cirencester</b> Building 11 Kemble Enterprise Park Kemble, Cirencester Gloucestershire, GL7 6BQ t. 01285 771022 f. 01285 771033	<b>Milton Keynes</b> Unit 4 Cromwell Business Centre Howard Way, Newport Pagnell MK16 9QS t. 01908 218320	<b>Andover</b> Stanley House Walworth Road Andover, Hampshire SP10 5LH t. 01264 347630
e. <a href="mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk">enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk</a>		

## CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
<i>The site</i> .....	3
<i>Archaeological background</i> .....	3
<i>Archaeological objectives</i> .....	5
<i>Methodology</i> .....	5
2. RESULTS (FIG. 2) .....	6
<i>The finds evidence</i> .....	7
3. DISCUSSION.....	8
4. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	8
5. REFERENCES.....	8
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS .....	10
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	11
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM .....	12

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Figure 1** Site location plan (1:25,000)  
**Figure 2** Trench location plan (1:2000)



## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** Land at East Hunston  
**Location:** West Sussex  
**NGR:** SU 8654 0217  
**Type:** Evaluation  
**Date:** 16-18 December 2011  
**Planning Reference:**  
**Location of Archive:** Chichester District Museum  
**Accession Number:** CHC DM 2014.1  
**Site Code:** LEH 13

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in December 2013 on Land at East Hunston, West Sussex. Seven trenches were excavated.

No archaeological features were identified in any of the trenches, during the evaluation.

Pottery and worked flint were recovered however, from the overburden in some of the trenches indicating that there has been human activity either on or close to the Site during the prehistoric and medieval periods.

From a sondage in **Trench 5**, evidence of later prehistoric activity was recovered in the form of burnt flint, indicating that the reworked brown silty clay brickearth must have formed at some point during the Holocene. Whilst no Raised Beach deposits were identified (these clearly existing at greater depth at this location), evidence of deposits associated with the alluvial fan, which formed after the Lavant breached the South Downs were recorded.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In December 2013 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for PMC Construction & Development Services Ltd on Land at East Hunston (centred on NGR: SU 8654 0217; **Figure 1** – hereafter referred to as the Site). The evaluation was commissioned by PMC Construction & Development Services Ltd.
- 1.2 The evaluation was requested by James Kenny, Archaeological Officer for Chichester District Council (CDC), for the Local Planning Authority (LPA), with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2013) and approved by Mr Kenny. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2009), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006). It was monitored by Mr Kenny, including a site visit on 17 December 2013.

### ***The site***

- 1.3 The proposed development area encloses an area of approximately 0.45ha, and is relatively level, comprising a single rectangular field of scrub vegetation at the north-eastern edge of Hunston. The Site is bounded to the west by Foxbridge Drive, to the south by modern housing, and to the north and east by fields. The Site slopes slightly from 7.5m above ordnance datum (aOD) in the east to 6.0m aOD in the west.
- 1.4 The solid geology of the Site comprises Tertiary London Clay Formation. The drift geology is mapped as Alluvial Fan Deposits, which overlie Pleistocene Younger Raised Beach Deposits (BGS 2013). The brown silty clay exposed in all the trenches was probably an alluvially reworked Brickearth (James Kenny pers. com.).

### ***Archaeological background***

- 1.5 The archaeological potential of the Site was examined in a Heritage Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) by CA (2012) which followed and added to an earlier DBA of 2008 (*cf.* CA 2012, 3). The details of the later DBA are summarised as follows: the

Chichester District Historic Environment Record (CDHER) holds details for 19 recorded heritage assets within a c. 500m radius of the Site; of these assets, only two pre-dated the post-medieval (1540 – 1800 AD) and modern (1801 – present) periods.

- 1.7 Potential was identified for encountering (at depth) both *in-situ* and unstratified Palaeolithic material within the Raised Beach deposits that the Site overlies. Some potential was also identified for deposits of palaeo-environmental interest to be sealed within alluvial deposits, although none had previously been recorded within the study area and the potential was therefore considered to be low. The find of a Bronze Age spearhead (2400 – 700 BC), was recorded c.450m to the south-west of the Site. No other known prehistoric sites are recorded for the Site or its immediate environs.
- 1.8 The find of a Roman coin was recorded, c. 300m to the west of the Site. No other Roman find spots have been recorded within the immediate environs of the Site.
- 1.9 No early medieval or medieval sites are recorded within the Site or its environs. Medieval activity in the wider vicinity appears to have been focused elsewhere. The Manor House at Church Farm, c. 600m to the south of the Site, does however include some medieval elements (VCH 1997).
- 1.10 Hunston is a small parish historically situated in the Hundred of Box and Stockbridge (VCH 1997, 156). The Site is first depicted on Yeakell and Gardner's 1778 map of Sussex and parts of the Site boundaries are shown on an 1832 estate map. The entire Site is first depicted in detail on the 1847 Hunston Parish Tithe Map and subsequently, in the later 19th and 20th centuries, by the Ordnance Survey, and from the 1940s on aerial photographs.
- 1.11 The 1778 map shows the settlement at Hunston focused at Church Farm to the south of the Site, with ribbon development evident along the main road leading north to Chichester, the modern B2145. The Site at this time was located to the east of a group of three buildings on the main road.
- 1.12 The First Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1875 shows a small square building and the eastern ends of two other external farm buildings within the western area of the Site but these had been removed by the time of the OS mapping of 1912.

- 1.14 The line of the Portsmouth-Arundel Canal (also referred to as the Chichester Canal) runs c. 40m to the north of the Site. The section of the canal, constructed between 1818 and 1823, was between the River Arun to the east and Chichester Channel, and formed the final part of the link between London and Portsmouth. There is no evidence to suggest features associated with the canal extended within the Site.
- 1.16 Three brickworks are recorded in the immediate environs of the Site, two to the immediate east and south of the Site respectively and a third c. 700m to the south-west. The two closer brickworks were first shown on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1898 and do not appear to have extended within the Site.
- 1.17 Roadblocks, and other features associated with the WWII defences of Chichester are recorded to the west, north and north-east of the Site. No WWII features are recorded within the Site.
- 1.18 In the later 20th-century the land to the south of the Site was re-developed as housing. Recent aerial photographs show that the entire Site was subject to disturbance, which appears to have comprised topsoil stripping, during the construction work.

### ***Archaeological objectives***

- 1.19 The objectives of the evaluation are to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2009). This information will enable the Chichester District Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

### ***Methodology***

- 1.20 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of seven trenches of 20m length, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The trenches were positioned to cover as large an area of the development as possible, and were not specifically targeted;

two trenches had to be rotated slightly to avoid a tree and a water depth monitor respectively. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual* (2012).

- 1.21 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2013).
- 1.22 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003) but no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (1995).
- 1.23 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Chichester District Museum, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 2. RESULTS (FIG. 2)

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively.
- 2.2 The stratigraphy in all seven trenches was similar, with a turf-line overlying brown silty clay, containing modern building rubble, to a depth of between 0.4m and 0.6m below ground level (BGL). The silty clay brickearth below this depth contained rare natural flint. No features were present at the level of machining.
- 2.3 However as indicated below, evidence of past activity on or close to the Site was identified in the overburden of the Site and this included sherds of medieval flint tempered coarseware and glazed pottery of approximate 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> century date



from **Trench 5**. Medieval/post-medieval ceramic building material was recovered from the subsoil in both **Trenches 5** and **7**. Unstratified prehistoric worked flint was recovered from **Trenches 4, 6** and **7**.

- 2.4 At the request of the Archaeological Officer for CDC, a sondage was mechanically excavated at the eastern end of **Trench 5** to a depth of 2m to investigate the geological deposits; ground level was at 7.2m aOD. The objective was to examine whether Raised Beach deposits, with their potential (here) for Palaeolithic material or overlying alluvial fan/delta deposits were present. BGS mapping indicates that most of Foxbridge Drive overlies a south draining channel of alluvium, with the Raised Beach mapped near the eastern end of the drive. The fall in ground level therefore, from east to west, is probably generally consistent with the mapping. On Health and Safety grounds recording of the deposits was only undertaken from the top of the section. Brickearth, **503**, extended to 0.8m BGL and had a sharp boundary with pale yellow/brown clay, **504**. Two fragments of burnt flint were recovered from the brickearth/clay interface. At 1.3m BGL the clay had a gradual boundary to a brown coarse sandy clay, **505**, which had two 'pockets' of 0.3m diameter containing coarse sand. It was not clear whether these 'pockets' were involutions of a cold climate or possible animal burrows filled with coarse sand. The base of the coarse sandy clay was at 1.8m BGL, below which was a fine sand, **506**, very pale grey in colour with reddish brown patches and layers. While the interpretation of layer **505** is not certain, the remaining strata exposed, probably represent deposits of alluvium, most likely part of the alluvial fan formed after the Lavant breached the South Downs and not of the underlying Brighton or 25 ft - 7.5m raised beach (Woodcock 1986).

### ***The finds evidence***

#### ***Pottery***

- 2.5 Four sherds of pottery in an oxidised, flint-tempered, unglazed medieval coarseware fabric were recovered from subsoil **502**. These included two joining rimsherds from an everted rim jar. One sherd from the handle of a glazed medieval jug was recovered from subsoil **502**, in addition to one sherd in a medieval sandy coarseware fabric.

#### ***Ceramic building material***

- 2.6 A total of six fragments of medieval or post-medieval tile were recovered from subsoils **502** and **702**.

### *Worked flint*

- 2.7 A total of three pieces of worked flint were recovered: a broken flake from subsoil **401**, a flake from **Trench 6** and a broken flake from **Trench 2**. The latter two finds were unstratified. None of these items can be dated more precisely than to the prehistoric period.

## **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 No archaeological features were identified in any of the trenches, during the evaluation.
- 3.2 Worked flint and medieval pottery were however recovered from the overburden in some of the trenches indicating that there has been human activity on or close to the Site during the prehistoric and medieval periods.
- 3.3 From the sondage in **Trench 5**, evidence of later prehistoric activity was recovered in the form of burnt flint, indicating that the reworked brown silty clay brickearth must have formed at some point during the Holocene. Whilst no Raised Beach deposits were identified (these clearly existing at greater depth at this location), evidence of deposits associated with the alluvial fan, which formed after the Lavant breached the South Downs were recorded.

## **4. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jamie Wright, assisted by Eddie Dougherty. The report was written by Jamie Wright, assisted by Eddie Dougherty. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Hazel O' Neil and prepared for deposition by Jon Hart. The project was managed for CA by Richard Greatorex.

## **5. REFERENCES**

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2011 *Geology of Britain Viewer*  
[http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology\\_viewer\\_google/googleviewer.html](http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html) Accessed 23  
December 2013

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 *Land at East Hunston, West Sussex: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

Woodcock, AG 1986 'The Lower and Middle Palaeolithic in Sussex: a summary of current knowledge, present research and future objectives' in *The Palaeolithic of Britain and Its Nearest Neighbours: Recent Trends* ed. SN Collcutt, Sheffield, John R Collis



## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Tr. No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	101	Layer	Topsoil and turf	mid grey brown silt clay	19.5	1.55	0.09	modern
1	102	Layer	Deposit	pale grey gravels, concrete and building debris	6.0	1.55	0.31	modern
1	103	Layer	Deposit	demolition deposit, building debris in W of trench	4.5	1.55	0.51	modern
1	104	Layer	Subsoil	orange brown silt clay degrading stone fragments and flint inclusions	19.5	1.55	0.15	
1	105	Drain	Feature	Ceramic land drain	1.8			modern
1	106	Layer	Natural	mid brown orange alluvial silt clay	19.5	1.55	>0.10	
2	201	Layer	Topsoil and turf	mid grey brown silt clay and building debris	18.0	1.55	0.09	modern
2	202	Layer	Deposit	pale grey gravels, concrete and building debris	8.0	1.55	0.67	modern
2	203	Layer	Deposit	pale grey gravels, concrete and building debris	7.2	1.55	0.36	modern
2	204	Layer	Deposit	pale grey gravels, concrete and building debris	18.0	1.55	0.40	modern
2	205	Layer	Sub-soil	orange brown silt clay, degrading stone fragments and flint inclusions	18.0	1.55	0.16	
2	206	Layer	Natural	mid brown orange silt clay	18.0	1.55	>0.35	
3	301	Layer	Topsoil and turf	mid grey brown silt clay and modern building debris	19.5	1.55	0.12	modern
3	302	Layer	Deposit	pale grey gravels, concrete and modern building debris	6.5	1.55	0.40	modern
3	303	Layer	Deposit	pale grey gravels, concrete and modern building debris	7.0	1.55	0.20	modern
3	304	Layer	Deposit	pale grey gravels, concrete and modern building debris	19.5	1.55	0.35	modern
3	305	Layer	Sub-soil	orange brown silt clay with degrading stone fragments and flint inclusions	19.5	1.55	0.17	
3	306	layer	Natural	mid brown orange silt clay	19.5	1.55	0.14.	
4	401	Layer	Topsoil and turf	mid grey brown silt clay and modern building debris	19.9	1.55	0.09	modern
4	402	layer	Deposit	pale grey gravels, concrete and modern building debris	19.9	1.55	0.31	modern
4	403	Layer	Deposit	orange brown silt clay with inclusions of flint and degrading stone fragments	19.9	1.55	0.26	
4	404	Layer	Natural	mid brown orange silt clay	19.9	1.55	0.19	
5	501	Layer	Topsoil and turf	mid grey brown silt clay and modern building debris	20.5	1.55	0.19	modern
5	502	Layer	Sub-soil	orange brown silt clay with inclusions of flint and degrading stone fragments	20.5	1.55	0.21	
5	503	Layer	Brickearth	mid brown orange silt clay containing inclusions of burnt flint	20.5	1.55	0.40	
5	504	Layer	Natural clay	pale yellowish brown clay and red/brown lenses	>1.1	1.55	0.40	
5	505	Layer	Natural, ?cold climate deposit	brown coarse sandy clay with two coarse sand lenses of 0.3m diam. Only occurrence of coarse sand noted.	>1.1	1.55	0.50	
5	506	Layer	Natural	Very pale grey fine sand containing lenses of reddish brown. ? alluvium	>1.1	1.55	>0.17	
6	601	Layer	Topsoil and turf	mid grey brownish silt clay and rare modern building debris	19.5	1.55	>0.29	modern
6	602	Layer	Sub-soil	orange brown silt clay with inclusions of flint and degrading stone fragments	19.5	1.55	0.19	
6	603	Layer	Natural	mid brown orange silt clay	19.5	1.55	>0.04	
7	701	Layer	Topsoil and turf	mid grey brownish silt clay and rare modern building debris	20.2	1.55	0.19	modern
7	702	Layer	Sub-soil	Orange brown silt clay with inclusions of flint and degrading stone fragments	20.2	1.55	0.31	
7	703	Layer	Natural	mid brown orange silt clay	20.2	1.55	>0.18	

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

### Project 770036: Finds by Jacky Sommerville

Finds recovered from the evaluation included pottery, ceramic building material and worked flint.

#### *Pottery*

Four sherds of pottery in an oxidised, flint-tempered, unglazed medieval coarseware fabric were recovered from subsoil **502**. These included two joining rimsherds from an everted rim jar.

One sherd from the handle of a glazed medieval jug was recovered from subsoil **502**, in addition to one sherd in a medieval sandy coarseware fabric.

#### *Ceramic building material*

A total of six fragments of medieval or post-medieval tile were recovered from subsoils **502** and **702**.

#### *Worked flint*

A total of three pieces of worked flint were recovered: a broken flake from subsoil **401**, a flake from **Trench 6** and a broken flake from **Trench 2**. The latter two finds were unstratified. None of these items can be dated more precisely than to the prehistoric period.

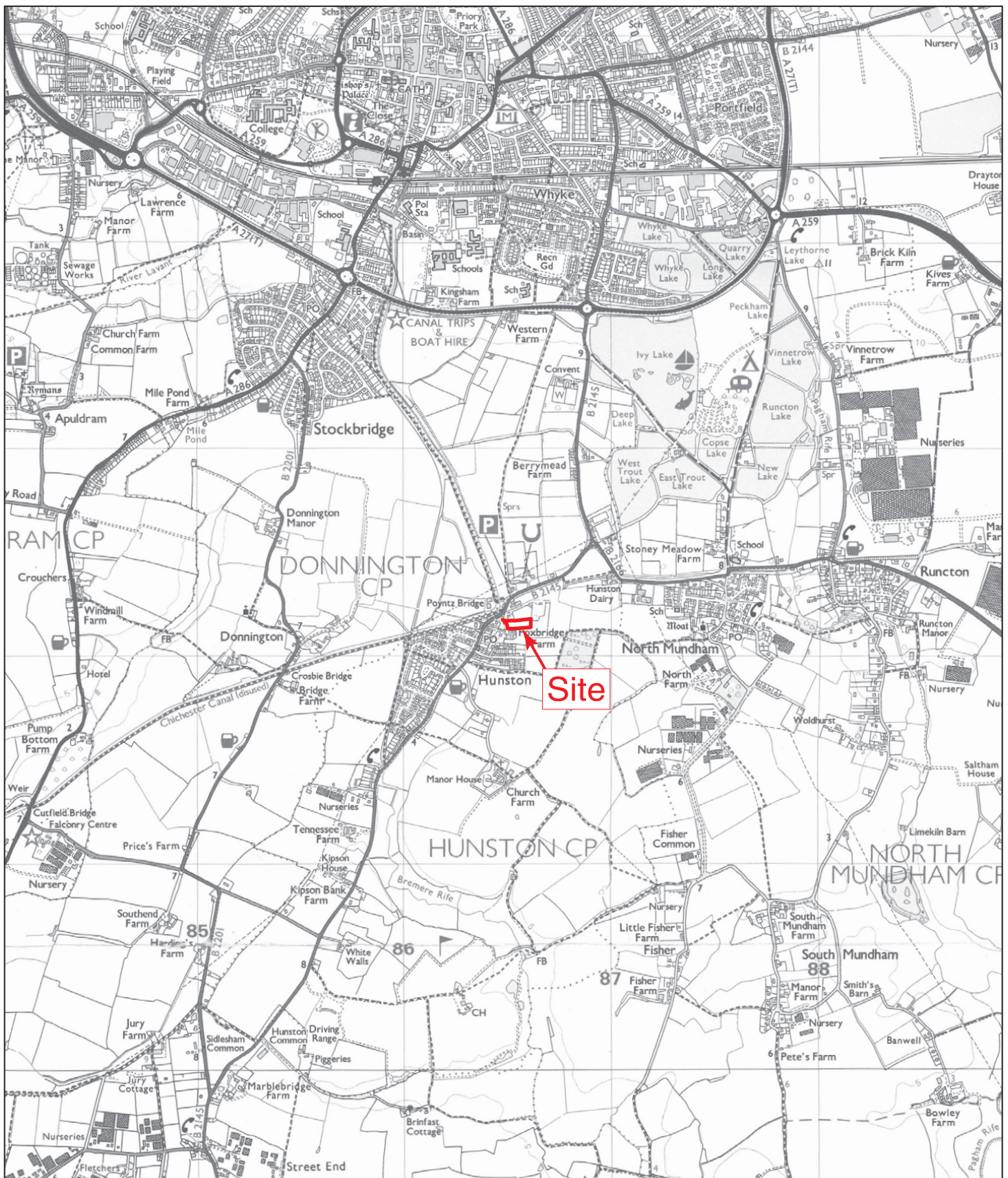
Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Spot-date
<b>Tr2</b>	Worked flint	1	7	-
	Burnt flint	5	168	-
<b>Tr5</b>	Medieval pottery: flint-and-quartz tempered unglazed coarseware	1	8	-
	Burnt flint	2	35	-
<b>Tr6</b>	Worked flint	1	0	-
<b>401</b>	Worked flint	1	10	-
<b>404</b>	Burnt flint	1	10	-
<b>502</b>	Medieval pottery: oxidised, flint-tempered coarseware fabric	4	101	C13-C14
	Medieval pottery: jug fabric	1		
	Medieval pottery: sand-tempered coarseware	1		
	Medieval/post-medieval ceramic building material: tile	2	59	
<b>503</b>	Burnt flint	3	82	-
<b>603</b>	Burnt flint	1	46	-
<b>702</b>	Medieval ceramic building material: tile	4	104	-

## APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at East Hunston, West Sussex	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in December 2013 on Land at East Hunston, West Sussex. Seven trenches were excavated. No archaeological features were identified in any of the trenches, during the evaluation.</p> <p>Worked flint and medieval pottery and were recovered, however, from the overburden in some of the trenches across the Site, indicating that there has been human activity either on or close to the Site during the prehistoric and medieval periods.</p> <p>From a sondage in <b>Trench 5</b>, evidence of later prehistoric activity was recovered in the form of burnt flint, indicating that the reworked brown silty clay brickearth from which it was recovered, must have formed at some point during the Holocene. Whilst no Raised Beach deposits were identified (these clearly existing at greater depth at this location), evidence of deposits associated with the alluvial fan, which formed after the Lavant breached the South Downs were recorded.</p>	
Project dates	16-18 December 2013	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	Land at East Hunston, Chichester District, West Sussex: Heritage Desk-Based Assessment, Cotswold Archaeology, Unpublished Client Report Ref. 12009	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land at East Hunston, West Sussex	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	0.45ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 8654 0217	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Chichester District Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Greateorex	
Project Supervisor	Jamie Wright	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Chichester District Museum	Ceramics etc
Paper	Chichester District Museum	Context and trench sheets, etc
Digital	Chichester District Museum	Survey data, digital photos etc
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 Land at East Hunston, West Sussex: <i>Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report <b>13716</b>		





**Cotswold  
Archaeology**

Cirencester 01285 771022  
Milton Keynes 01908 218320  
Andover 01264 347630  
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

**PROJECT TITLE**

**Land at East Hunston  
West Sussex**

**FIGURE TITLE**

**Site location plan**

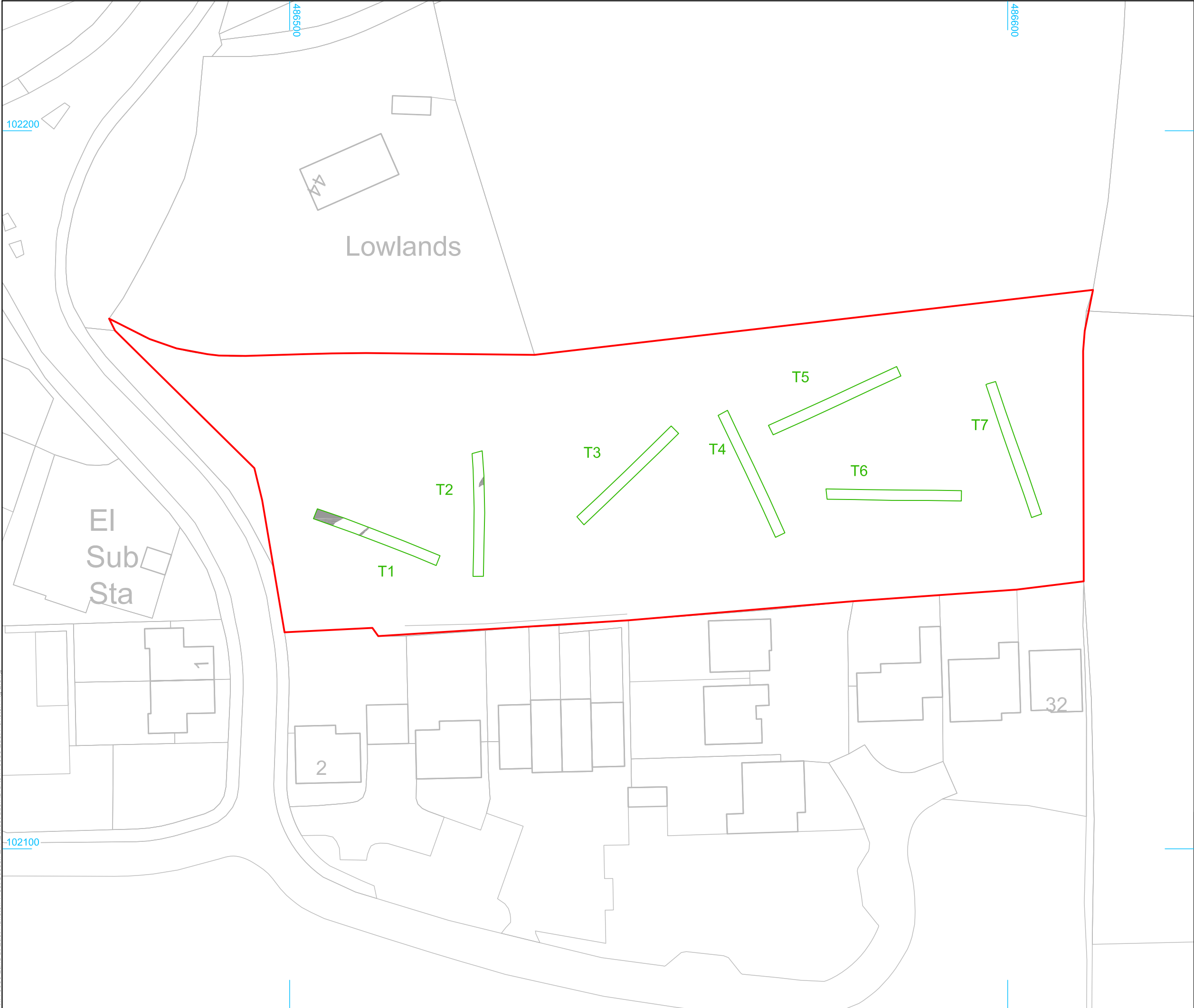
0 1km

Reproduced from the 2009 Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright  
Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109

PROJECT NO. 770036 DATE 21-01-2014  
DRAWN BY LG REVISION 00  
APPROVED BY LM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

**1**



- site
- excavated evaluation trench
- modern



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Digital mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109.



Cirencester 01285 771022  
Milton Keynes 01908 218320  
Andover 01264 347630  
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE  
Land at East Hunston  
West Sussex

FIGURE TITLE  
Trench location plan, showing  
recorded modern features

PROJECT NO. 770036 DATE 21-01-2014  
DRAWN BY LG REVISION 00  
APPROVED BY LM SCALE@A3 1:500

FIGURE NO.  
2