



Northern Arc-Eastern Bridge and Link Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex

Archaeological Evaluation Report

October 2019

Client: AECOM

Issue No: 1

OA Reference No: ANNAEV

NGR: TQ 3111 2095



Client Name: AECOM
Document Title: Northern Arc-Eastern Bridge and Link Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex
Document Type: Archaeological Evaluation Report
Report No.: 1
Grid Reference: TQ 3111 2095
Planning Reference: DM/18/5114
Site Code: ANNA19
Invoice Code: ANNAEV
Receiving Body: -
Accession No.: -
OA Document File Location: \\10.0.10.86\Projects\b\Burgess_Hill_Northern Arc\WSI
OA Graphics File Location: \\10.0.10.86\Projects\b\Burgess_Hill_Northern Arc\Geomatics

Issue No: V1
Date: October 2019
Prepared by: Mike Donnelly (Project Officer)
Checked by: John Boothroyd (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by: Edward Biddulph (Senior Project Manager)
Approved for Issue by: David Score (Head of Fieldwork)
Signature:



Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8SQ

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD

t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

e. info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w. oxfordarchaeology.com

Oxford Archaeology is a registered Charity: No. 285627



Director and Chief Executive
Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCIA
Private Limited Company, No: 1618597
Registered Charity, No: 285627
Registered Office: Oxford Archaeology Ltd
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES

Northern Arc-Eastern Bridge and Link Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by Mike Donnelly

With contributions by Sharon Cook, John Cotter and Cynthia Poole, and illustrations by Charles Rousseaux and Matt Bradley

Contents

Summary.....	vii
Acknowledgements.....	viii
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Scope of work.....	1
1.2 Location, topography and geology	1
1.3 Archaeological and historical background	1
1.4 Geophysical Survey.....	1
2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGIES	3
2.1 Aims.....	3
2.2 Specific aims and objectives	3
2.3 Methodology	3
3 RESULTS	5
3.1 Introduction and presentation of results.....	5
3.2 General soils and ground conditions.....	5
3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits	5
3.4 Field 1, Trenches 2-15 (fig. 3).....	5
3.5 Fields 2 and 3, Trenches 16-17 (Fig. 4).....	6
3.6 Field 4, Trenches 18-19 and 21-24 (Fig. 4).....	7
3.7 Finds summary.....	7
3.8 Environmental summary.....	8
4 DISCUSSION	9
4.1 Reliability of field investigation.....	9
4.2 Evaluation objectives and results.....	9
4.3 Interpretation	9
4.4 Significance	10

APPENDIX A	TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY	11
APPENDIX B	FINDS REPORTS.....	21
B.1	Pottery.....	21
B.2	Flint.....	21
B.3	Ceramic building material.....	23
B.4	Fired clay.....	24
APPENDIX C	ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS.....	27
C.1	Environmental samples	27
APPENDIX D	BIBLIOGRAPHY	30
APPENDIX E	SITE SUMMARY DETAILS / OASIS REPORT FORM	32

List of Figures

Fig. 1	Site location
Fig. 2	Trench locations on geophysics
Fig. 3	South-west area of site
Fig. 4	North-east area of site
Fig. 5	Sections, Trenches 2 and 3
Fig. 6	Sections, Trenches 4-7
Fig. 7	Sections, Trenches 8-12 and 15
Fig. 8	Sections, Trenches 16, 17, 19 and 24

List of Plates

Plate 1	Trench 2, view to south
Plate 2	Trench 2, pit 208 view to west
Plate 3	Trench 2, pit 210 view to west
Plate 4	Trench 16, view to east-southeast
Plate 5	Trench 16, pit 1603, view to south-southeast
Plate 6	Trench 19, view to south
Plate 7	Trench 19, pit 1904 view to north-northeast
Plate 8	Trench 19, pit 1904 and repaired drain view to north

Summary

In September 2019, Oxford Archaeology undertook a 22-trench evaluation of land at Burgess Hill in the district of Mid Sussex, on behalf of AECOM as part of the proposed construction of the Northern Arc-Eastern Bridge and Link Road. The evaluation revealed limited amounts of prehistoric archaeology including pits and postholes as well as an undated field system or systems. Pottery sherds were limited to a few medieval fragments from a colluvial horizon while other ceramic finds dated to the post-medieval period. Many struck flints were also recovered, indicating activity across much of Holocene prehistory. The assemblage also included a post-medieval gunflint.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Jennifer Wilson of AECOM Ltd for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Alex Egginton, who monitored the work on behalf of Mid Sussex County Council.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by John Boothroyd. The fieldwork was directed by Mike Donnelly supported by Jim Mumford, Adam Rapiejko and Andy Smith. Survey and digitising were carried out by Adam Rapiejko, Matt Bradley and Gary Jones. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff who cleaned and packaged the finds under the supervision of Geraldine Crann, and processed the environmental remains under the supervision of Sharon Cook.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by AECOM to undertake a trial trench evaluation of the site of the proposed Northern Arc-Eastern Bridge and Link Road.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform the planning authority as part of an outline planning application (DM/18/5114). The scope of the works that were required – geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation – is defined in the written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced by AECOM (2019a) and supplemented by Oxford Archaeology (2019a).
- 1.1.3 All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with standards for archaeological works in Sussex (CDC *et al.* 2019) and Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' guidance (CIfA 2014).

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site is located approximately 1.5 miles north of the centre of Burgess Hill and covers an area of approximately 4.1ha (Fig. 1).
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of eight fields of undeveloped greenfield and agricultural land and is bounded on its western edge by Isaac's Lane (A273). The topography of the site generally comprises gently undulating fields with areas of grassland, natural watercourses and mature trees, with an elevation ranging from approximately 21m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 27m aOD. The north-eastern extent of the site is crossed by a watercourse which flows in a south-westerly direction to the north western edge of Burgess Hill. This watercourse is a tributary of the River Adur, which is located approximately 5km west of the site.
- 1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as sands and clays from the Wealden Group Formation of Cretaceous Age. The clay subgroup covers most of the site, although there are bands of isolated ironstone located in the south-west and eastern parts of the site. Outcrops of sandstone of the Horsham Stone Member are present in strips between Isaac's Lane and Freeks Lane and superficial deposits of alluvium are likely in the valleys of the tributaries of the River Adur (BGS, nd).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 A detailed archaeological background of the site, the wider landscape and previous fieldwork within the area has been detailed in the historic environment desk-based assessment produced by AECOM (2019b). The background has been also summarised in the WSI and as such will not reproduced here (AECOM 2019a).

1.4 Geophysical Survey

- 1.4.1 A geophysical survey undertaken in August 2019 identified no anomalies that could be confidently interpreted as being archaeological in origin (Fig. 2; MS 2019).

- 1.4.2 Anomalies relating to agricultural, modern, natural and undetermined origin were all present within the surveyed area. Drainage features in varying orientations are indicative of multiple phases of land management. Anomalies of undetermined origin in the north of the site are suspected to be agricultural in origin due to their presence near field boundaries. However, due to the narrow survey extent it was not possible to identify their true origin.

2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGIES

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general aims and objectives of the evaluation are:

- i. to confirm the presence or absence of surviving archaeological remains within the proposed development areas of the site;
- ii. to determine the location, nature, extent, date, condition, state of preservation, significance and complexity of any archaeological remains
- iii. to determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present
- iv. to inform a strategy for the recording, preservation and/or management of the identified assets
- v. to interpret the archaeology of the site within its local, regional and national archaeological context; and
- vi. to aid the determination of a suitable mitigation works specification and programme

2.2 Specific aims and objectives

2.2.1 The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation are:

- i. To confirm the results of the geophysical survey.

2.2.2 The programme of archaeological investigation was conducted within the general research parameters and objectives defined by the South East Research Framework (SERF 2019).

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 A programme of twenty-four trenches varying in size from 30m by 2m to 50m by 2m was proposed, representing a 4% sample of the development area. These were laid out as shown in Figure 2 using a GPS. However, two trenches, 1 and 20, could not be accessed at this time and were omitted from the evaluation exercise.

2.3.2 The trenches were initially excavated using an 8-tonne mechanical excavator but this struggled to penetrate a very compact subsoil and was replaced by a 13-tonne machine that proved very suitable to the task at hand. Both were fitted with a toothless bucket, under the direct supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil was stored adjacent to but at a safe distance from the trench edges.

2.3.3 In accordance with the WSI, the following ecological constraints were enacted when setting out the trenches and during machine excavation:

- a 3m stand-off from hedgerows;
- a stand-off area for trees, comprising the extent of the canopy plus 3m;
- a 10m stand-off from all watercourses.

2.3.4 In practice, this resulted in the pivoting of Trench 2 around its central point to avoid a tree canopy.

- 2.3.5 Machining was undertaken in spits down to the top of the undisturbed natural geology or the first archaeological horizon depending on which was encountered first. Once archaeological deposits were exposed, further excavation proceeded by hand and the appropriate use of a machine.
- 2.3.6 The exposed surface was sufficiently cleaned to establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains. A sample of each feature or deposit type was excavated and recorded. Excavation was sufficient to resolve the principal aims of the evaluation.
- 2.3.7 All potential features within the trenches were investigated and the trenches were then archaeologically recorded. Once discussed with and signed off by the county's archaeologist, the trenches were then backfilled.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The soil sequence in the trenches was fairly uniform with a quite thick (c 0.35m) topsoil (dark greyish brown/yellowish brown sandy/silty clay, contexts 100, 200, etc.) overlying a thinner (c 0.12m) and very compact subsoil (very compact mid yellowish brown silty clay, context 101, 201, etc.). The natural geology was mostly a mottled, light yellowish white/blueish grey sandy clay. However, a stonier horizon was present at some locations and is likely to represent the true horizon of weathered parent material and was formed of probable limestone cobbles and pebbles in an identical matrix to the upper natural.
- 3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were very varied with very dry conditions and bright sunshine to start followed by overcast conditions with rain during the second week. This variety in conditions did not appear to impact archaeological feature identification very much and only one new feature weathered out during this timeframe. Therefore, it would appear as if the variations in ground conditions did not impact the discovery of archaeological features.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

- 3.3.1 Archaeological features were more frequent in the southern part of the scheme and largely absent from the northern part, notably Field 4. They consisted of three main elements. First, there were a number of very well defined fire pits that excavations elsewhere have suggested may relate to charcoal production, possibly tied into the Wealden ironworking industry, but also other domestic activities requiring fuel. Second, there were a number of isolated pits and postholes that may have been part of a largely or wholly unenclosed settlement system. Finally, there were several very sterile ditches that probably represent field systems of various dates, some of which have been re-used for the placement of quite extensive drainage culverts/pipes. In addition to this, a low-level background scatter of flint was present in all areas with a slight concentration along the eastern edge of the scheme close to a low-lying area that may have been much wetter in prehistory. This is supported by the identification of a probable paleochannel containing struck flints in Trench 24 that very probably continued at least as far as Trench 23.

3.4 Field 1, Trenches 2-15 (fig. 3)

- 3.4.1 This was the busiest area on site in terms of archaeological cut features, which were present in all trenches except 13 and 14. However, most trenches only contained a limited number of features and only Trenches 2, 3, 5 and 15 could be considered to be busy. The archaeology in Field 1 was made up of four main elements described below.

- 3.4.2 Fire pits were a feature of this evaluation, but Field 1 only contained one example in the westernmost trench, Trench 2 (Plate 1). This feature (210) was near circular in plan at its core but was slightly more irregular on the surface, possibly indicating that it was a sunken component of a larger, truncated structure. Its middle fill was suggestive of a collapsed superstructure (Figs. 3 and 5; Plate 3). It is possible that this feature was some form of oven and not a charcoal burning fire pit although the fired clay analysis has largely ruled this out. These features can have a wide date range and were found to date to either the Iron Age or the Saxo-Norman period on the A21 excavations in southwestern Kent (Oxford Archaeology 2018).
- 3.4.3 Stray features were present in Trenches 2-5, 7-10, 12 and 15. Trench 2 also contained a small pit or posthole (208; Figs. 3 and 5; Plate 2) with a very distinct and possibly charcoal-rich lens at its base that might be related to fire pit/oven 210, and also a very fragmentary feature that continued beyond the eastern baulk that may also have been associated with burning/domestic activities (214).
- 3.4.4 Ditches were present in Trenches 2-3, 5-8, 11, 15 and 17. These ditches were re-used to accommodate large modern culverts/drainage pipes in Trenches 2, 3 and 5 (Figs 2 and 5-8). None of these features yielded any definitive prehistoric finds such as pottery sherds or metalwork. The only artefacts recovered were either post-medieval ceramics, building material or worked and burnt flint. Although the flint was almost certainly prehistoric, it did not actually date these features.

3.5 Fields 2 and 3, Trenches 16-17 (Fig. 4)

- 3.5.1 This part of the evaluation scheme involved the placement of a single trench in each field. The first of these involved Trench 16 which lay at the north end of a large field that was part of the larger field arrangement, but Trench 17 was located within a very small field or paddock in the centre of the scheme and it would seem unlikely that such a small field had ever been heavily ploughed.
- 3.5.2 Trench 16 contained a probable fire pit (1603; Figs. 4 and 8; Plates 4 and 5), which may have been placed at the centre of a larger feature, as the uppermost margins of its cut were irregular and could be seen as flaring out (very similar to feature 210 in Trench 2). Trench 16 also contained flintwork, including one fresh snapped bladelet from 1603 that is most probably residual but does indicate early prehistoric activity here close to a low lying and potentially wetland area.
- 3.5.3 Trench 17 was located in a small paddock and revealed tentative evidence for ridge and furrow agriculture in the form of a wide shallow linear feature 1705 (figs. 4 and 8). The trench also contained a thick colluvial deposit (1704) across much of its north-eastern half that was very similar to the fill of 1705 and would have prevented additional furrows from being identified. Horizon 1704 was tested by hand before removal by machine in order to confirm that it did not seal any buried remains. The layer had prehistoric flint within it but also contained medieval pottery, the only such discovery made during this evaluation. Only natural hollows were identified beneath 1704. While the pottery was of relatively recent date, the colluvium could still be sealing significant and well-preserved remains elsewhere in this part of the evaluation area.

3.6 Field 4, Trenches 18-19 and 21-24 (Fig. 4)

- 3.6.1 This part of the site had little in the way of archaeological features but did contain one fire pit in Trench 19, a paleochannel in Trenches 23 and 24 (and also possibly 21-22) and had a concentration of early struck flint in the north-eastern corner and eastern edge of the area that was leading down towards a low-lying and potentially wetland area.
- 3.6.2 Fire pit 1903 was located towards the low southern end of Trench 19 and was a near circular feature in plan but was heavily truncated and survived to just 0.07m in depth (Figs. 4 and 8, Plates 6-8). It had a charcoal-rich main fill and showed clear signs of a heat-affected natural surface, indicating either *in situ* burning or the dumping of very hot material into the pit. No finds were recovered from this feature and its age remains uncertain, however, it was truncated by a ceramic land drain.
- 3.6.3 A probable paleochannel ran through Trenches 23 and 24, aligning with the putative geophysical anomalies identified in those trenches. Although not visible in the trenches, similar geophysical anomalies were recorded in Trenches 21 and 22 and may represent the continuation of the paleochannel. The channel was very broad at around or over 5m in width and had shallow sloping sides. It was not bottomed due to the difficulty of fully excavating such a wide feature in the narrow confines of an evaluation trench. The presence of field drains running down its length also had to be maintained. The fill of paleochannel 2403 (figs. 4 and 8) contained struck flint of early prehistoric character and it may have been the case that this channel fed the putative wetland area at the northeast corner of the evaluation and might have provided the access corridor towards this potentially resource rich area, hence the discovery of early prehistoric flintwork in its fill.
- 3.6.4 As mentioned above, there was a concentration of early prehistoric flintwork recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits in this area, including six pieces from Trench 24. These included a narrow bladelet, a core tablet and a probable axe working/thinning flake. Classic early core forms such as a single platform bladelet core and a keeled bladelet core were also present. These, together with the core tablet, strongly indicate that knapping occurred at this location during early Holocene prehistory. This activity could date to the Mesolithic or early Neolithic or might even indicate a persistent place that was visited intermittently during much of early prehistory.

3.7 Finds summary

- 3.7.1 This evaluation produced little in the way of finds. Some medieval pottery was recovered but this was limited to colluvial layer 1704 in Trench 17. Post-medieval material was recovered from a number of ditches in Field 1 and limited amounts of slag was also present. Struck flint made up the bulk of the finds but was retrieved from topsoil and subsoil horizons with a limited number of probably residual flints in features, such as the bladelet from fire pit 1603.

3.8 Environmental summary

- 3.8.1 Four samples were taken from a series of three fire pits identified during the evaluation. Charred plant remains were well preserved in these. However, only a rapid assessment was made at this time and further details on the potential of these features must await more detailed study. Such features show clear potential for ecofact-rich deposits to be encountered

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 The variability in ground conditions during the evaluation allowed us to be fairly certain that we identified a true representation of the preserved archaeological remains. Many of these features have been tested through archaeological intervention but have yet to be dated as they either lacked datable material such as pottery or were of a form of feature that is difficult to date without relying on radiocarbon dating. Despite this, it is argued that we have provided a relatively coherent narrative of past activities on this site.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The evaluation has fulfilled its general aims with the exception of the recovery of artefactual material, as will be described below.
- 4.2.2 More specifically the evaluation confirmed the presence of many of the geophysical anomalies. It should be noted that the fire pits, one of the main archaeological components of the landscape were not identified by geophysical survey and the true extent of their distribution can only be estimated.

4.3 Interpretation

- 4.3.1 The earliest evidence comprised struck flints in the topsoil/subsoil and from features as residual finds. These were concentrated in the northern and eastern edges of the evaluation area and are associated with a paleochannel and a putative wetland area to the immediate east of the scheme.
- 4.3.2 A colluvial horizon identified in Trench 16, Field 2, and also potentially found around the low-lying area between Trenches 16-19, may also have preserved buried archaeological remains and potentially even *in situ* deposits, such as flint scatters.
- 4.3.3 The fire pits found in Trenches 2, 16 and 19 are also a feature of archaeological landscape in this part of Sussex, as well as in Kent (Oxford Archaeology 2018). These might be related to iron production but may also relate to the production of charcoal for domestic purposes and could date to any time between the Bronze Age and the early post-medieval period.
- 4.3.4 The scatter of features in the central part of Field 1 included postholes, pits and other features, but these were not accompanied by any culturally rich ditches, nor were any of the ditches indicative of non-linear boundaries. This might indicate unenclosed settlement, potentially of later prehistoric date.
- 4.3.5 The field systems identified are problematic in that they clearly represent more than one phase of activity, given their variability in orientation. However, most of these ditches are undated, and were extremely culturally poor. Where ceramic material has been recovered, they appear to indicate either late or post-medieval phases of activity.

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 Perhaps the most significant discovery was the early prehistoric flintwork found along the north-eastern edge of site and the potential for more substantial discoveries to be made in this area, even though no cut features dating to these periods were identified. The potential of finding *in situ* floors dating to the Mesolithic or Neolithic (or perhaps even the Upper Palaeolithic) periods in the north-eastern limit of site represents the most significant potential discovery here. Such features are rare and have the potential to yield datable material and abundant ecofactual material for periods that are not well understood. Recent work carried out by Oxford Archaeology at Bexhill (Oxford Archaeology 2019b) and Archaeology South East at Seaford (Le Hégarat and Blinkhorn 2016), both in East Sussex have demonstrated the very high potential for these buried environments.
- 4.4.2 Confirmed later prehistoric activity was limited but there is a high probability that the fire pits found throughout the evaluation area and the isolated pits and postholes in Field 1 probably date to this period. The number of features per trench does appear to indicate a relatively rich and dense activity area and it has been suggested that this may have taken the form of a largely unenclosed settlement, mostly due to the fact that all the ditches investigated here appeared to be both linear and sterile and are perhaps far more indicative of field systems.
- 4.4.3 The field systems identified have been tentatively dated to the medieval or post-medieval periods, and this has been confirmed where datable material has been found. It is worth noting that several of the more substantial ditches mirrored the current field arrangements and were still obvious as landscape feature, even after they were repurposed to hold major drainage pipes. Further evidence of which was provided by the very fine gunflint from Trench 5. Medieval domestic activity was also hinted at by the sooted sherds from colluvial horizon 1704. Such a medieval or post-medieval landscape was largely to be expected and does not represent an archaeological find of significance.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	E-S
Trench contained three pits and two ditches, one of which had been used for a service trench. One of the pits had clear signs of in situ burning					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
200	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, dark greyish brown/yellowish brown sandy/silty clay	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil very compact mid yellowish brown silty clay	Flint	
202	Layer	-	-	Natural, mottled whiteish yellow/blue grey sandy clay	-	-
203	Cut	2.8	0.4	E-W aligned ditch with open 'U' shaped profile, runs parallel to current field boundary		
204	Fill	2.8	0.2	Light greyish brown silty clay upper fill of 203	CBM	P-Med
205	Fill	1.2	0.25	Light grey silty clay basal fill in 203		
206	Cut	2.4	0.24	E-W aligned ditch with open 'U' shaped profile, runs parallel to 203		
207	Fill	2.4	0.24	Light greyish brown silty clay fill of 206	CBM	P-Med
208	Cut	0.4	0.26	Small pit or posthole with vertical sided 'U' shaped profile, circular in plan		
209	Fill	0.4	0.26	Light grey silty clay main fill of pit 208		
210	Cut	1.4	0.55	Slightly oval pit with steep sides and a flat base		
211	Fill	1.4	0.13	Compact light grey clay splayed out upper fill of 210 perhaps infilling working hollow around cut		
212	Fill	0.85	0.22	Compact dark grey/light brown mottled silty clay middle fill of 210		
213	Fill	0.8	0.13	Very compact reddish grey clay basal fill of 210, heat affected clay?		
214	Cut	0.5	0.24	Pit or ditch terminus coming out from eastern baulk with steep sided 'V' shaped profile		

215	Fill	0.5	0.24	Compact light greyish brown silty clay fill of 214		
216	Layer	1.8	?	Very firm light greyish brown silty clay, probably natural in origin		
217	Fill	0.22	0.02	Charcoal lens at base and lower sides of 208		

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained two ditches, one of which had been used for a service trench.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
300	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil as 201	Flint	-
302	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
303	Cut	0.59	0.15	N-S aligned ditch truncated by two land drains with an open 'U' shaped profile	-	
304	Fill	0.59	0.15	Light yellowish brown slightly sandy silty clay	-	
305	Cut	2.1	0.2+	NW-SE aligned linear with very open 'V' shaped profile, not bottomed due to service pipe	-	
306	Fill	2.1	0.2+	Yellowish brown sandy silty clay fill of 305	-	

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	ENE-WSW
Trench contained two probable pits and a modern ditch. Prehistoric flintwork was recovered from the topsoil and subsoil.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil, as 200	Flint	-
401	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil as 201	Flint	-
402	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
403	Cut	5.0	0.08	Elongated oval pit only partially in trench with shallow flat-bottomed cut	-	-
404	Fill	5.0	0.08	Light yellowish grey sandy clay fill of 403	-	-
405	Cut	2.1	?	Cut of modern N-S linear, china and glass in upper fill	-	-

406	Fill	2.1	?	Dark brownish grey sandy/silty clay fill of 405	China, Glass (not recovered)	Modern
407	Cut	1.4	0.24	Oval in plan with rounded bowl shaped profile	-	-
408	Fill	1.4	0.24	Light brownish grey sandy clay fill of 407	-	-

Trench 5

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained two ditches orientated NW-SE and a probable pit. Struck flint was recovered from the subsoil. And the basal fill in ditch 508.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
500	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
501	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil, as 201	Flint	-
502	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
503	Cut	1.26	0.13	Pit or treethrow cut, oval in plan with steep sides to SE and gentle sloped sides to NW	-	-
504	Fill	0.55	0.07	Firm dark brownish grey sandy silt upper fill of 503	-	-
505	Fill	1.26	0.13	Firm, whiteish grey/yellow sandy silt main fill of 503	-	-
506	Cut	3.0	0.34+	Linear aligned NW-SE with open 'U' shaped profile, reused as service trench	-	-
507	Fill	3.0	0.34+	Firm, light greyish brown sandy silt fill of 506	Flint	-
508	Cut	1.3	0.21	Linear aligned NW-SE with rounded bowl-shaped profile	-	-
509	Fill	1.3	0.16	Firm mottled greyish-yellowish brown sandy silt upper fill of 508	-	-
510	Fill	1.0	0.05	Firm light yellowish brown clayey silt fill of 508	Burnt stone	-

Trench 6

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained two ditches and a modern feature, probably a service trench. Flint was recovered from the subsoil.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
600	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil as 201	Flint	-
602	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-

603	Cut	1.0	?	E-W linear cut with very mixed modern backfill, not excavated	-	-
604	Cut	0.86	0.22	WNW-ESE aligned ditch parallel to 604, with an open 'V' shaped profile	-	-
605	Fill	0.86	0.22	Firm light brownish grey sandy, clayey silt fill of 604	-	-
606	Cut	1.2+	?	WNW-ESE aligned ditch parallel to 604, not excavated	-	-
607	Fill	1.2+	?	Light greyish brown silty clay fill of 606	-	-

Trench 7

General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contained one ditch, one posthole and a service trench.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
700	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
701	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil as 201	-	-
702	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
703	Cut	0.8	?	NW-SE linear cut with very mixed modern backfill, not excavated	-	-
704	Cut	0.3d	0.14	Circular posthole cut with near vertical sides and a flat base	-	-
705	Fill	0.3d	0.14	Firm dark brownish grey silty clay fill of 704	-	-
706	Cut	0.55	0.22	E-W aligned linear with an open 'V' shaped profile	-	-
707	Fill	0.55	0.22	Firm dark greyish brown clayey, sandy silt fill of 706	-	-

Trench 8

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained a linear and two possible postholes.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
800	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
801	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil as 201	-	-
802	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
803	Fill	0.4	0.18	Firm dark yellowish brown silty clay fill of 804	-	-

804	Cut	0.4	0.18	NW-SE aligned linear with steep 'V' shaped cut with a narrow flat base	-	-
805	Fill	0.65	?	Dark brownish grey silty clay fill of 806	-	-
806	Cut	0.65	?	Oval pit or posthole cut, not excavated	-	-
807	Fill	0.24	0.04	Dark brownish grey silty clay fill of 808	-	-
808	Cut	0.24	0.04	Rectangular posthole cut with vertical sides and a flat base	-	-

Trench 9

General description					Orientation	WNW-ESE
Trench contained a ditch and a probable treethrow as well as having several struck flints from its topsoil and subsoil.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
900	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil, as 200	Flint	-
901	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil as 201	Flint	-
902	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
903	Cut	1.0	0.08	Oval treethrow cut with very shallow edges and a flat base	-	-
904	Fill	1.0	0.08	Firm, dark greyish brown silty, sandy clay fill of 904	-	-
905	Cut	0.58	0.1	Semicircular cut of probable pit or treethrow, mostly under the baulk, with irregular shallow profile	-	-
906	Fill	0.58	0.1	Firm mottled mid grey brown/grey green sandy, silty clay fill of 905	-	-

Trench 10

General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Trench contained one probable feature cut by a drain. Burnt unworked flint was recovered from the subsoil.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1000	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil as 201	Burnt flint	-
1002	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
1003	Fill	0.5	0.1	Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt fill of 1004	-	-

1004	Cut	0.5	0.1	Sub-rectangular, steep sided and inclined base in pit or natural feature	-	-
1005	Fill	0.25	0.4+	Mixed fill of drain 1006	-	Modern
1006	Cut	0.25	0.4+	Drain cut truncating feature 1004	-	Modern

Trench 11

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained one probable ditch or elongated natural feature such as a root bowl (e.g. Gorse) while a second possible feature proved to be burnt out root bowl.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1100	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil as 201	-	-
1102	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
1103	Fill	1.2	0.34	Dark brown silty clay fill of 1104	-	-
1104	Cut	1.2	0.34	Linear E-W aligned cut with stepped profile steep to south and stepped to north	-	-
1105	Fill	1.5	0.1	Fill of 1106	-	-
1106	Cut	1.5	0.1	Natural root bowl	-	-

Trench 12

General description					Orientation	WNW-ESE
Trench contained one ditch that ran along the border between the upper head natural and the lower true natural made up of weathered parent material.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Da34
1200	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
1201	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil as 201	-	-
1202	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
1203	Layer	-	?	Lower natural made up of weathered limestone in a sandy clay matrix	-	-
1204	Cut	1.20	0.22	Linear aligned N-S with a very open bowl-shaped profile.	-	-
1205	Fill	1.20	0.22	Dark yellowish brown sandy silty clay	-	-

Trench 13

General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained no archaeology nor any struck flint.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1300	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
1301	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil as 201	-	-
1302	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-

Trench 14

General description

Trench contained no archaeology nor any struck flint.

Orientation

WNW-ESE

Length (m)

30

Width (m)

1.8

Avg. depth (m)

0.45

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1400	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
1401	Layer	-	0.07	Subsoil as 201	-	-
1402	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-

Trench 15

General description

Trench contained a ditch and two probable pits. Struck flint was recovered from the subsoil.

Orientation

NNE-SSW

Length (m)

50

Width (m)

1.8

Avg. depth (m)

0.38

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1500	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, as 200	Flint	-
1501	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil as 201	Flint	-
1502	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
1503	Cut	0.77	0.14	Small oval cut partially obscured by the baulk, with a shallow dished profile	-	-
1504	Fill	0.77	0.14	Firm mottled light greyish/yellowish brown sandy silt fill of 1503	-	-
1505	Cut	0.57	0.17	N-S aligned linear with a 'V' shaped profile	-	-
1506	Fill	0.57	0.17	Firm light whiteish-yellowish brown sandy silt fill of 1505	-	-
1507	Cut	2.33	0.22	Elongated oval cut aligned NNE-SSW with a very shallow dished profile, possibly archaeological but could also be a bush root bowl such as with Gorse.	-	-
1508	Fill	2.33	0.22	Firm yellowish brown sandy silt fill of 1507	-	-

Trench 16						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contained a probable fire pit or treethrow and a band in the natural that was tested to see if it was a ditch. Struck flint was recovered from the subsoil and from pit 1603, fill 1604.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.41
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1600	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
1601	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil as 201	Flint	-
1602	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
1603	Cut	1.9	0.15	Possible fire pit or treethrow with slightly irregular form in plan but with a regular sided and flat-bottomed profile at its core.	-	-
1604	Fill	1.9	0.15	Very firm very dark grey silty clay fill of 1603	Flint	-
1605	Layer	2.4	0.12	Variation within the natural	-	-

Trench 17						
General description					Orientation	WNW-ESE
Trench contained a ditch or furrow and a probable colluvial horizon containing flint and Medieval pottery, after stripping out the colluvium a possible feature was identified that proved to be natural.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1700	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil, as 200	Flint	-
1701	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil as 201	-	-
1702	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
1703	Cut	0.56	0.26	Voided cut for 1704 as that context is a layer	-	-
1704	Layer	20+	0.21	Mid brownish red slightly silty sandy clay	Burnt stone, pottery	Medieval
1705	Cut	2.1	0.2	NW-SE aligned linear cut with a shallow broad 'U' shaped profile	-	P-Med
1706	Fill	2.1	0.2	Mid greyish brown silty clay fill of 1705	Pottery	P-Med
1707	Cut	3.6	0.12	Putative feature(s) below 1704 that were proven to be natural	-	-
1708	Fill	3.6	0.12	Fill of 1707	-	-

Trench 18						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Trench contained no archaeology but did have a flint flake in the subsoil.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.9

					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1800	Layer	-	0.09	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
1801	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil as 201	Flint	-
1802	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a fire pit and had struck flint in the topsoil					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1900	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, as 200	Flint	-
1901	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil as 201	-	-
1902	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
1903	Cut	0.90	0.07	Near circular cut of pit with heavily truncated sides and a slightly inclined and heat-affected base	-	-
1904	Fill	0.90	0.07	Soft very dark brownish grey silty clay with lenses of burnt natural, fill of 1903	-	-
1905	layer	0.90	0.02	Heat affected natural at base of pit 1903	-	-

Trench 21						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Trench contained no archaeology but did have a flint flake in the subsoil.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2100	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
2101	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil as 201	-	-
2102	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-

Trench 22						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained no archaeology nor any struck flint.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2200	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
2201	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil as 201	-	-
2202	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench did not contain any archaeology but did have struck flint in its topsoil and contained the same probable paleochannel as trench 24.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2300	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil, as 200	-	-
2301	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil as 201	-	-
2302	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
2303	Fill	5.0	?	Mid greyish brown slightly silty, sandy clay fill of 2304	-	-
2304	Cut	5.0	?	Paleochannel cut orientated WNW-ESE not excavated but same as 2403	-	-

Trench 24						
General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW
Trench did not contain any archaeology but did have struck flints in its topsoil and subsoil as well as containing a broad paleochannel at its northern end with struck flint in its fill.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.70
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2400	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil, as 200	Flint	-
2401	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil as 201	Flint	-
2402	Layer	-	?	Natural, as 202	-	-
2403	Cut	5.60	0.30+	E-W aligned broad linear feature with shallow profile truncated by modern drain at its center	-	-
2404	Fill	5.60	0.30+	Soft greyish brown slightly silty, sandy clay fill of 2403	Flint	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By John Cotter

Introduction and methodology

- B.1.1 A total of 4 sherds of pottery weighing 6g were recovered from two contexts. Given the small quantity present, this has not been separately catalogued but is fully described below. Post-medieval fabric codes mentioned are those of the Museum of London (MOLA 2014).

Description

- B.1.2 **Context (1704) Spot-date 12-14C.** Description: 3 sherds (weight 5g). Small abraded body sherds in a coarse unglazed medieval sandy fabric with moderate angular to sub-rounded flint inclusions up to 2mm across. Comprises two joining sherds in a dark grey fabric with traces of internal and external sooting from use. Probably a cooking pot; and a third body sherd in a similar dark grey fabric with a weakly oxidised external surface, possibly sooted. All sherds are fairly thin-walled but showing no definite evidence of wheel-turned manufacture. Fabric similar to medieval cooking pot fabrics over much of coastal Sussex (eg Ringmer kilns).
- B.1.3 **Context (1706) Spot-date c1780-1900?.** Description: 1 sherd (weight 1g). Small body sherd in a bright orange-buff fine sandy post-medieval red earthenware (PMR) with a glossy dark brown glaze on the internal surface. Similar to products of the nearby Burgess Hill and Brede/Chailey potteries.

Recommendations regarding to conservation, discard and retention of material

- B.1.4 The pottery has the potential to inform research through re-analysis - particularly when reviewed alongside other assemblages from the same general area. It is therefore recommended that the pottery be retained.

B.2 Flint

By Michael Donnelly

Introduction

- B.2.1 This evaluation recovered a small assemblage of 31 pieces of struck flint and three pieces of burnt unworked flint weighing 42g. The flints represented a range of forms, tools and cores and included one post-medieval gunflint. The remaining pieces contained numerous early forms with only one or two pieces that might have been contemporary with the archaeological features identified. The majority of the flintwork was from topsoil (41.94%) or subsoil (38.71%) contexts but five pieces were from features including two pieces from paleochannel 2404, one bladelet from fire pit 1603 and two pieces from ditch 506.

CATEGORY TYPE	Number
Flake	6
Blade	1
Bladelet	2
Blade index	33.33% (3/9)
Irregular waste	2
Adze/axe working flake	1
Core tablet	1
Core single platform blades	1
Core other bladelets	1
Core multi-platform flakes	2
Core keeled flakes	1
Core on a flake	1
Core fragment	1
Scraper side	1
Scraper side+end	1
Scraper other	1
Awl	1
Heavy borer	1
Denticulate	1
Retouch other heavy	1
Retouch other	1
Retouch miscellaneous	1
Gunflint	1
Total	31
Burnt unworked (representative total)	3/42g
No. burnt (%)	1/31 (3.23%)
No. broken (%)	11/31 (35.48%)
No cores and core dressing (%)	8/31 (25.81%)
No. retouched (%)	10/31 (32.26%)

- B.2.2 What is of immediate note regarding the assemblage is the abundance of cores and tools, and while this often implies that there was a degree of selectivity in the recovery methodology, nearly all of the flints were recovered by a highly experienced flint specialist and this must be considered to be a relatively accurate sample of the assemblage from this evaluation. It also should be noted that conditions were far from ideal for flint recovery, since the majority of the work was conducted in very dry and bright conditions and it is probably still true that the more obvious pieces would be recovered in such circumstances. However, the figures for cores and tools are extremely high at 25.91% and 32.26% respectively (29.03% not counting the post-medieval gunflint), and must indicate a specialised site or favoured location.
- B.2.3 The presence of numerous cores should normally equate to an abundance of related debitage. However, many early prehistoric strategies rely on bringing pre-formed cores to a specific location to allow for tool creation or immediate repair and it is possible that this is what is happening at this location.
- B.2.4 Alternatively, cores are often thrown away rather forcibly from knapping areas, while tools are a frequently recovered casual loss, and so it may be the case that we are actually at the fringes of a denser flint knapping landscape with the most likely location for any industrial sites being downhill towards the wetland area at the northern and north-eastern edge of site. This was the area that produced the largest assemblage

and also featured numerous clearly early forms such as bladelet cores, bladelets and core tablets.

- B.2.5 This small assemblage indicates a strong potential of significant flint-related remains being encountered at the eastern and north-eastern limit of site where the land slopes down to a putative wetland area. Paleochannels such as 2403 may also contain significant amounts of struck flint, as the discovery of a probable axe thinning flake and a core tablet from 2403 reveals, and it is worth mentioning that both flints from this feature were in very good condition and indicative of knapping activities.

Methodology

- B.2.6 The artefacts were catalogued according to OA South's standard system of broad artefact/debitage type (Anderson-Whymark 2013; Bradley 1999), general condition noted and dating was attempted where possible. The assemblage was catalogued directly onto an Open Office spreadsheet. During the assessment additional information on condition (rolled, abraded, fresh and degree of cortication), and state of the artefact (burnt, broken, or visibly utilised) was also recorded. Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (e.g. Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-9; Bradley 1999). Technological attribute analysis was initially undertaken and included the recording of butt and termination type (Inizan *et al.* 1999), flake type (Harding 1990), hammer mode (Onhuma and Bergman 1982), and the presence of platform edge abrasion.

B.3 Ceramic building material

By Cynthia Poole

Introduction

- B.3.1 A small quantity of ceramic building material (CBM) amounting to three fragments weighing 122g and a piece of road tarmac (266g) was recovered from trenches 2 and 3. The assemblage has been spot dated and a brief record made in the table below.

Description

- B.3.2 The ceramic building material was all post-medieval in date. A fragment of flat rectangular roof tile, probably a peg tile, from context 204, was made in a heavily fired red laminated clay fabric. A machine-made field drain of later 19th century date from deposit 207 has an unusual corrugated exterior surface, made by the extrusion method.
- B.3.3 The single brick fragment from subsoil 301 is probably post-medieval, though the lack of distinctive features means an earlier date cannot be excluded.

Table 1: Record of the CBM & fired clay assemblage

Ctx	Nos	Wt g	Date	Fabric	Form		Description
204	1	51	Pmed	Dark red hard fine clay, faintly laminated, no	Roof: flat	12mm th	Fairly regular even surfaces; edge has sharp arrises. Indented border

				inclusions; heavily fired			12-15mm w at an angle alongside edge
207	1	35	M-L C19	Pinkish red clay with frequent cream clay pellets/laminations	Field drain	17mm th; 95mm bore, 135mm dia	Smooth interior surface and distinctive corrugated exterior surface. Machine extruded.
301	1	36	Pmed?	Dark grey clay containing small cream calcareous inclusions	Brick	>30 x>30mm	Two flat slightly uneven surfaces set at right angles
301	1	266	C20-C21	Tarmac	Road surface	55x70x75mm	Modern tarmac
Total	6	99					

Recommendations

- B.3.4 The assemblage has little intrinsic research value and may be discarded upon completion of the project prior to archiving.

B.4 Fired clay

By Cynthia Poole

Introduction

- B.4.1 The fired or rather burnt clay (FC) amounting to nearly 3000 fragments weighing 2333g was all recovered from sieved samples taken for the recovery of carbonised plant remains from three features in trenches 2, 16 and 19. The assemblage consisted of a range of sizes, but only the coarser sieved grades were examined in any detail and a representative sample retained. Fine burnt clay grit was noted as a significant component of the finer grades (<4mm). The material is not intrinsically dateable and must rely on any associated dateable artefacts for its phasing. The assemblage has been recorded in the table below.

Description

- B.4.2 All samples of fired clay were composed of the local Wealden clay, that formed the natural bedrock on the site. Most pieces were of indeterminate form comprising predominantly amorphous rounded fragments up to 42mm in size, though all contexts produced some pieces with a flat even surface. Although this could imply some form of constructed superstructure, it is more likely that the surfaces represent that formed by the feature cutting the natural. The natural cream clay was burnt to pink, bright red streaks and mottles where iron was present in the clay and to varying shades of grey from pale to dark. The material from all three structures represents fragments from the burnt in situ natural clay surface that has been disturbed from the edges during use or erosion of the sides. There is no evidence from the fired clay to suggest these features were anything more complex than open hearths, though some form of simple clay superstructure cannot be entirely eliminated but is considered unlikely.

Table 2: Record of the fired clay assemblage

Ctx	S	Nos	Wt g	Date	Fabric	Form	size	Description
212	<1>	114	263	U	Weald clay	Indet	10-35mm	Irregular broken fragments, mostly amorphous but some with rough flat or fairly smooth flat surface. Colours range from cream/buff to pink, pink with red streaks and mottles (fe deposits in fissures & planes in clay) and light, mid & dk grey, the latter representing the most intensely heated pieces.
213	<2>	313	1450	U	Weald clay	Indet	10-55mm; 20-35mm thick	Amorphous broken blocky lumps of heated & burnt clay derived from the in situ natural Weald Clay. There are a variety of colours from buff and pale grey through pink to bright red and dark grey. None are solid red, but more generally pale pink with bright red mottles or veins. There are a number of pieces with a very flat smooth surface, and others with a less even flat surface, which may represent the original surface of the structure. At least one of the very smooth surfaces appears to result from machining the surface. Apart from the flat surface no other features are present.
213	<2>	2500	545	U	Weald clay	Indet	4-20mm	Small rounded amorphous fragments of natural clay burnt to a range of colours ranging from the original cream through pink, red, pale, mid and dk grey. One mottled pink fragment (retained) with smooth flat surface slightly blackened
1604	<3>	2	13	U	Weald clay	Indet	15, 42mm L	Amorphous fragments of burnt cream/grey mottled clay and one pink/cream.
1604	<3>	25	8	U	Weald clay	Indet	4-10mm	Fragments mostly amorphous and rounded of cream, pink, grey and red mottled burnt clay fragments, the variation in colour representing different degrees of heating from unfired to heavily burnt (grey). Some pieces with a flat rough or even surface.
1904	<4>	25	54	U	Weald clay	Indet	6-17mm th; 10-30mm	Largely amorphous worn fragments with some hint of a flat surface on some. Includes 2 thin fragments of burnt iron pan or iron rich clay lenses. The thickest pieces range in colour from buff grading to pink with an abrupt boundary to dk grey. Almost all the grit in the 4-10mm size grade are fragments of burnt clay of the same type as the coarser material (est. c 500

								fragments). Similarly, the <4mm grade also contains a high proportion of burnt clay grit.
Total		2979	2333					

Recommendations

- B.4.3 The assemblage provides evidence for the character of the burnt features on the site. The material itself has little intrinsic research value but provides some evidence for the intensity of heating of the structures. A sample of the fired clay has been retained and the bulk of the material will be discarded following sorting of the residues for charred plant remains.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Sharon Cook

Introduction

- C.1.1 Four bulk samples were taken from the evaluation primarily for the retrieval of charred plant remains (CPR) and artefacts.
- C.1.2 The samples originated from the fills of shallow pits with samples 1 (212) and 2 (213) being the fills of pit 210 in trench 2, sample 3 (1604) being the single fill of pit 1603 within trench 16 and sample 4 (1904) being the single fill of pit 1904 within trench 19. All are currently undated.

Method

- C.1.3 The bulk samples were processed in their entirety at Oxford Archaeology using a modified Siraf-type water flotation machine. The flot was collected in a 250µm mesh and heavy residues in a 500µm mesh and dried. The residue fractions were sorted by eye while the flot material was sorted using a low power (x10) binocular microscope to extract cereal grains and chaff, smaller seeds and other quantifiable remains. Due to the large size of the flots only 100ml of each was scanned.

Results

- C.1.4 Table 3 gives full details of the sample lists and the charred taxa identified from them.
- C.1.5 All samples comprised a clay-rich silty clay which required pre-soaking in sodium carbonate (Na₂CO₃) before processing. This produced no finds other than amorphous fragments of burnt clay which may be the result of building a fire on the natural clay.
- C.1.6 The flots produced are all large and appear to solely comprise charcoal, as well as small quantities of uncharred fine roots and occasional uncharred seeds which are likely to be modern.
- C.1.7 Additionally, the flots for samples 1 and 2 contain fungal sclerotia and have some external mineral encrustation, possibly a result of damp burial conditions, although there is no evidence for waterlogging of the feature. The uncharred seeds present appear fairly modern in origin and are generally from those species which prefer damp ground such as sedges (*Carex* sp.).

Table 3: The Charred Remains.

Sample no.	Context no.	Area/Trench	Feature/Deposit	Date	Sample vol. (L)	Flot vol. (ml)	Charcoal >2mm	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Molluscs	Other	Notes
1	212	2	Middle Fill of Pit [210]	U/D	36	800	100+						Flot appears to be entirely charcoal, occasional roundwood fragments noted. Slight external mineral encrustation. Fungal sclerotia common.
2	213	2	Basal Fill of Pit [210]	U/D	32	1100	100+						Flot appears to be entirely charcoal, occasional roundwood fragments noted. Slight external mineral encrustation. Fungal sclerotia common.
3	1604	16	Single Fill of Pit [1603]	U/D	35	700	100+						Flot appears to be entirely charcoal, occasional roundwood fragments noted. Slightly larger proportion of modern roots.
4	1904	19	Single Fill of Pit [1903]	U/D	36	2200	100+						Flot appears to be entirely charcoal, occasional roundwood fragments noted.

Conclusion and discussion

- C.1.8 All four of these flots contain charcoal and fired clay consistent with the interpretation that these are from fire pits that may relate to charcoal production possibly tied into the Wealden ironworking industry or other domestic activities requiring fuel.
- C.1.9 Unfortunately, the rapid timescale available for this report did not allow for any charcoal identification, since the large flots were wet when evaluated, making identification of woods difficult. Identification and analysis of the charcoal assemblages would be possible in future, but given the current absence of dating evidence, at this stage no further work is recommended on these assemblages.

C.1.10 Charred plant remains are clearly preserved on this site and sampling during any further phases of work should be in accordance with the most recent sampling guidelines (eg Oxford Archaeology 2017b or English Heritage 2011). Any sampling strategies should ensure that as wide a range of contexts are sampled as possible, in particularly those which have adequate dating evidence. Since the site lies close to a low lying and potentially wetland area, sampling of any waterlogged features discovered that can be related to flint scatters or other human activity would be a priority.

APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

AECOM 2019a, Northern Arc – Eastern Bridge and Link Road, Written Scheme of Investigation for Geophysical Survey and Trial Trench Evaluation

AECOM 2019b, Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment at Northern Arc – Eastern Bridge and Link Road, AECOM

Anderson-Whymark, H, 2015, the flint, in Allen, T, Barclay, A, Cromarty, A, M, Anderson-Whymark, H, Parker, A, Robinson, M, and Jones, G, *Opening the wood, making the Land; The Archaeology of a Middle Thames Landscape, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age, Vol 1*, Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph **38**

Bamford, H., 1985 *Briar Hill: excavation 1974-1978*, Northampton: Northampton Development Corporation. Archaeological monograph **3**

BGS, nd Geology of Britain viewer, British Geological Survey,
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

Bradley, P, 1999 The worked flint. In A. Barclay and C. Halpin. Eds. *Excavations at Barrow Hills, Radley, Oxfordshire*, Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph **11**: 211-227

CDC, ESCC, WSCC, 2019 *Sussex Archaeological standards*, Chichester District Council, East Sussex County Council, West Sussex County Council,
<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/media/12608/ar-sussex-archaeological-standards-2019.pdf>

CIfA, 2014 Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

English Heritage, 2011 *Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (2nd edition). Centre for Archaeology guidelines

Harding, P, 1990 The worked flint, in *The Stonehenge environs project*, (ed J C Richards) London, English Heritage

Healy, F, 1988 *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Spong Hill, North Elmham, Part VI: Occupation during the seventh to second Millennia BC*, East Anglian Archaeology Report **38**

Inizan, M.-L, Reduron-Ballinger, M, Roche, H and Tixier, J, 1999 *Technology and terminology of knapped stone*, Cercle de Recherches et d'Etudes Préhistoriques, CNRS, Nanterre

Le Hegarat, K and Blinkhorn, E 2016 Archaeological Excavations at Seaford Head Sixth Form Centre, Seaford, East Sussex; Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design Report, Archaeology South-East

MOLA 2014 London medieval and post-medieval pottery codes, Museum of London Archaeology, <http://www.mola.org.uk/medieval-and-post-medieval-pottery-codes>

MS 2019, Geophysical Survey Report of Northern Arc – Eastern Bridge and Link Road. Magnitude Surveys, unpublished client report.

Onhuma, K and Bergman, C A, 1982 Experimental studies in the determination of flake mode, *Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology, London* **19**, 161-171 Saville, A., 1980 On the measurement of struck flakes and flake tools, *Lithics* **1**, 16-20.

Oxford Archaeology 2017 *Sampling guidelines (IV edition)*. Unpublished document

Oxford Archaeology 2018 A21 Tonbridge-to-Pembury Dualling Scheme, Kent; Post-excavation assessment, Volume 1: Excavations

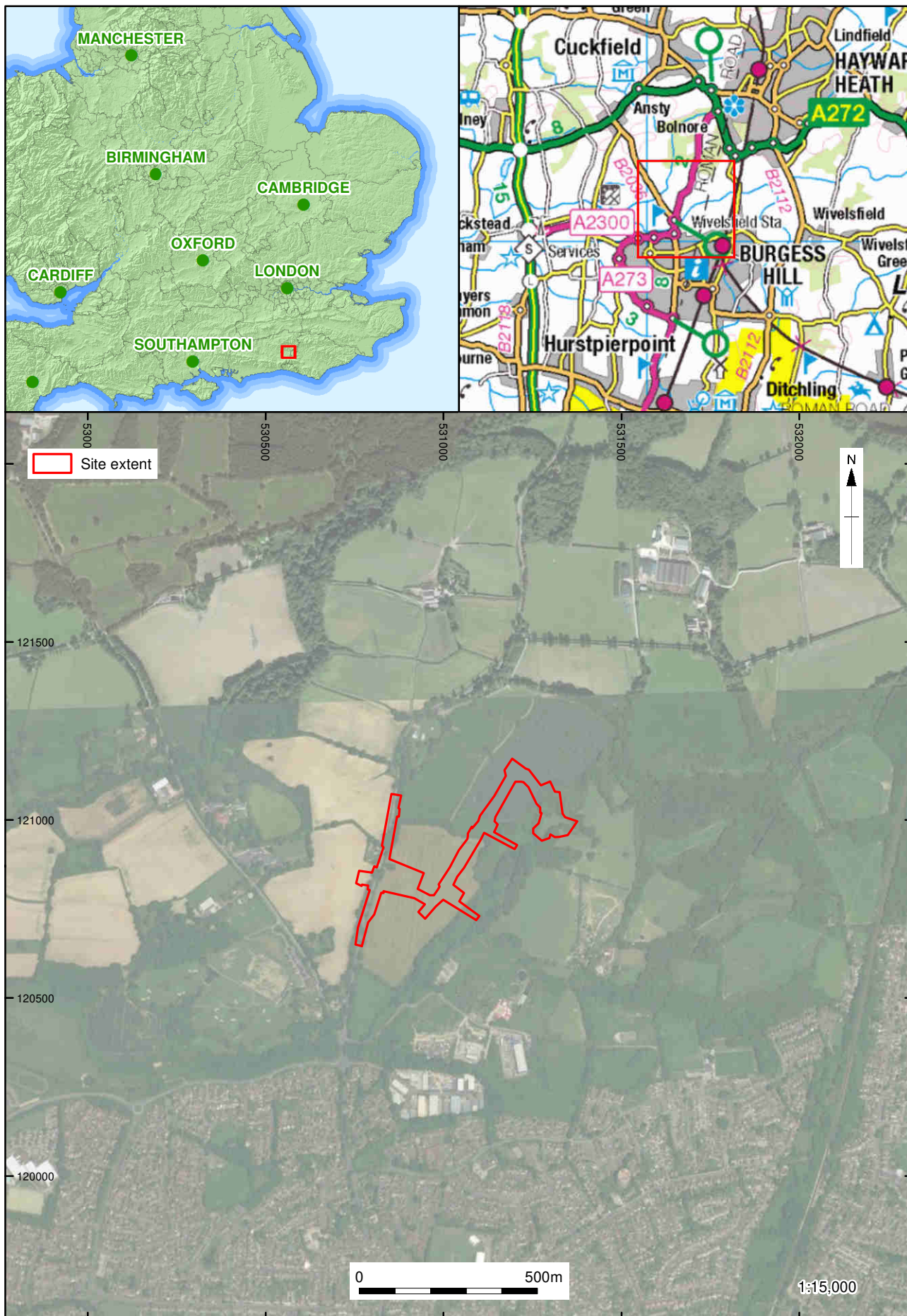
Oxford Archaeology 2019a Northern Arc-Eastern Bridge and Link Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex Method Statement Archaeological Evaluation

Oxford Archaeology 2019b Bexhill to Hastings Link Road Post-excavation assessment and updated project design

SERF, 2019 South East Research Framework, Kent County Council, <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/history-and-heritage/south-east-research-framework>

APPENDIX E**SITE SUMMARY DETAILS / OASIS REPORT FORM**

Site name:	Burgess Hill, Mid Sussex, Northern Arc-Eastern Bridge and Link Road
Site code:	ANNA 19
Grid Reference	TQ 31112095
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	September-October 2019
Area of Site	C. 4ha
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House Osney Mead, Oxford, and will be held here until an appropriate receiving museum becomes available
Summary of Results:	In September 2019, Oxford Archaeology undertook a 22-trench evaluation of land at Burgess Hill in the district of Mid Sussex, on behalf of AECOM as part of the proposed construction of the Northern Arc-Eastern Bridge and Link Road. The evaluation revealed limited amounts of prehistoric archaeology including pits and postholes as well as an undated field system or systems. Pottery sherds were limited to a few medieval fragments from a colluvial horizon while other ceramic finds dated to the post-medieval period. Many struck flints were also recovered, indicating activity across much of Holocene prehistory. The assemblage also included a post-medieval gunflint.



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Figure 1: Site location

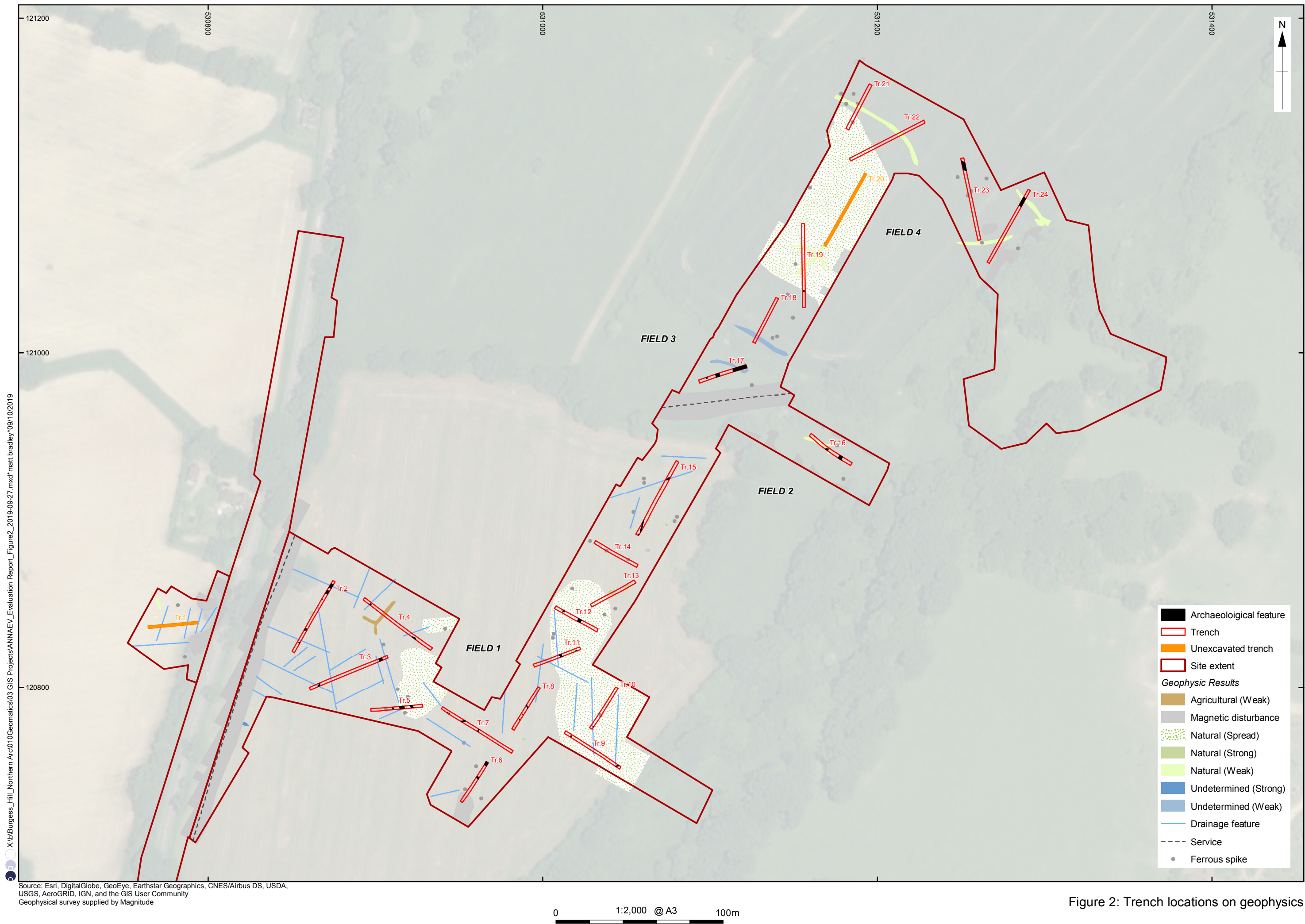
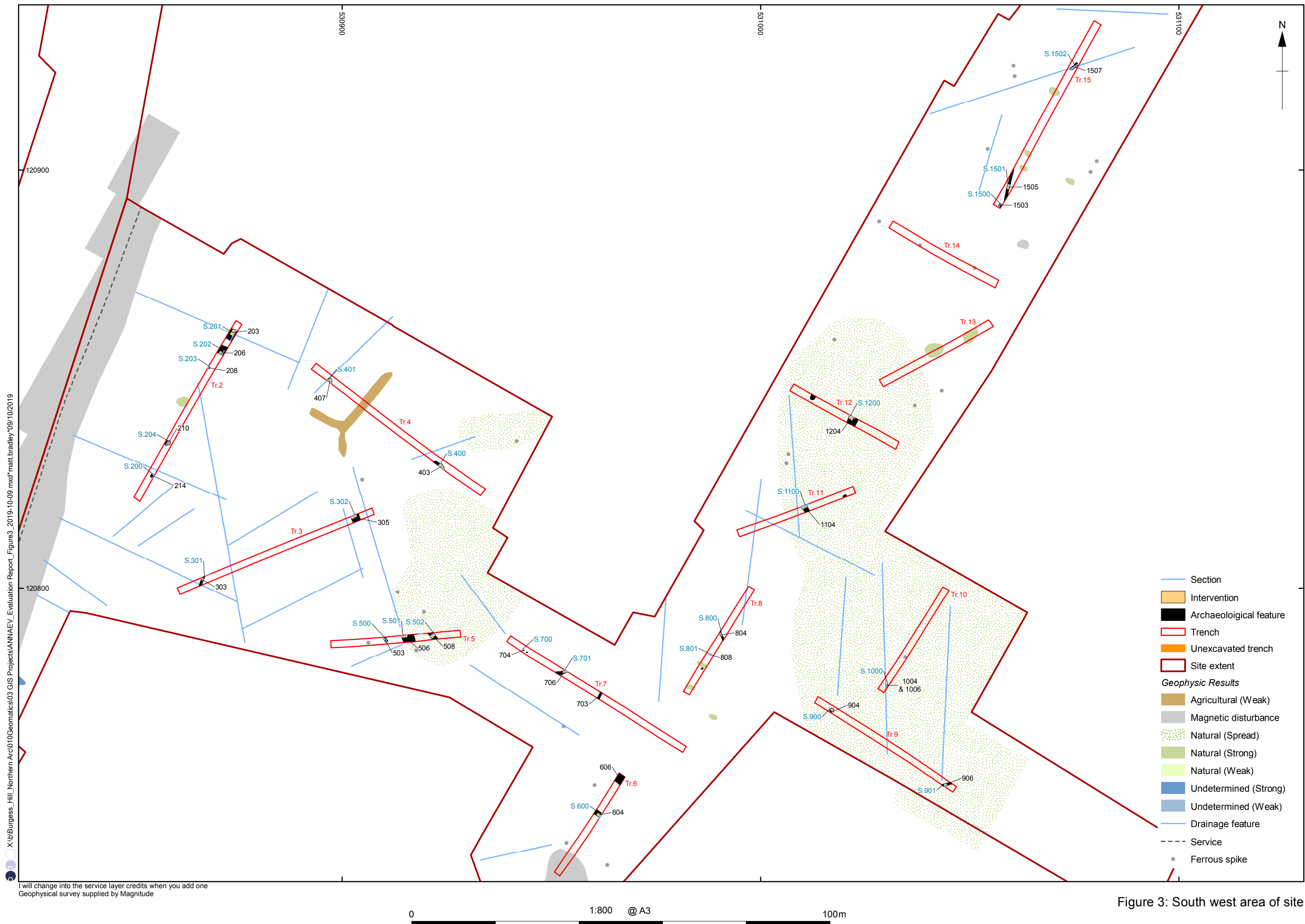


Figure 2: Trench locations on geophysics



I will change into the service layer credits when you add one
Geophysical survey supplied by Magnitude

Figure 3: South west area of site

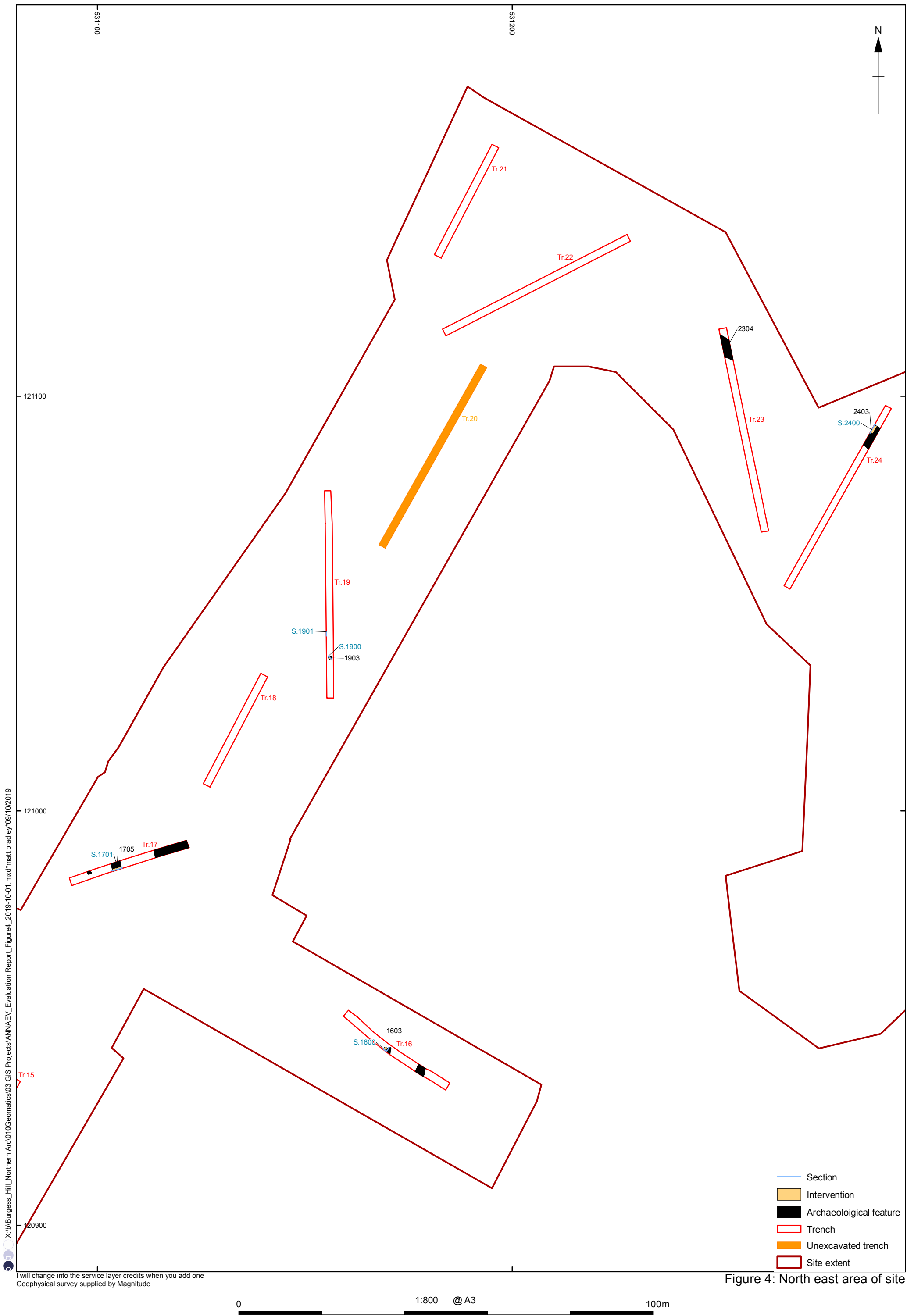
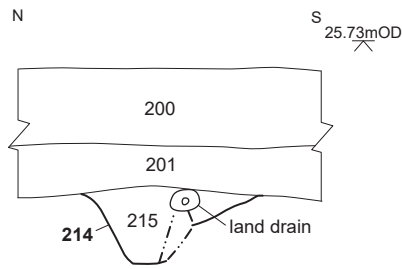


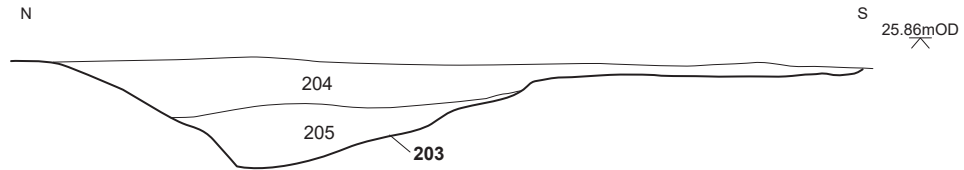
Figure 4: North east area of site

Trench 2

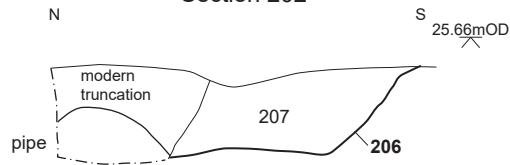
Section 200



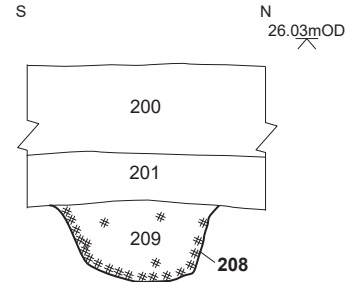
Section 201



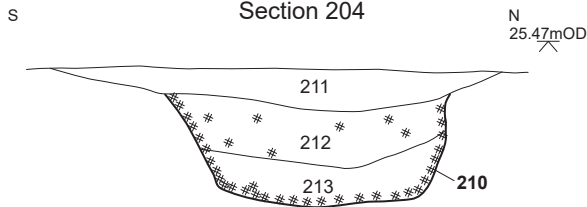
Section 202



Section 203



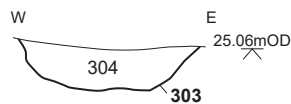
Section 204



* Charcoal

Trench 3

Section 301



Section 302

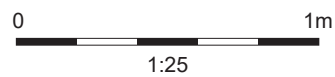
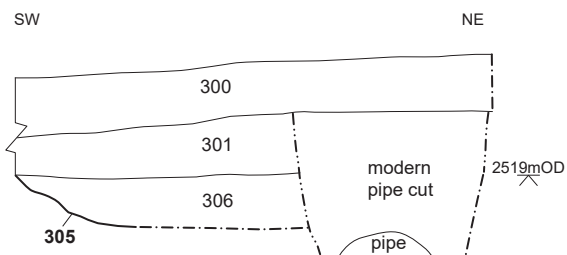
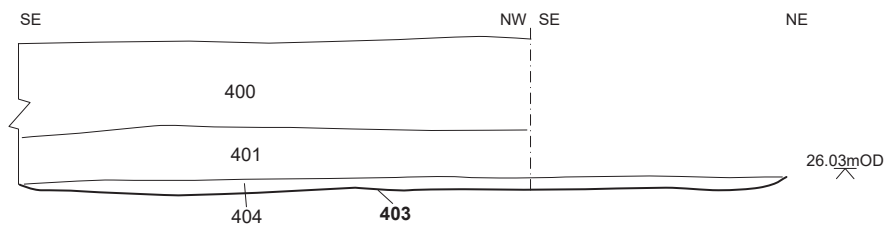


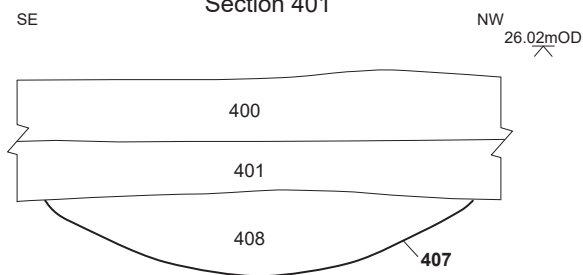
Figure 5: Sections, Trenches 2 and 3

Trench 4

Section 400

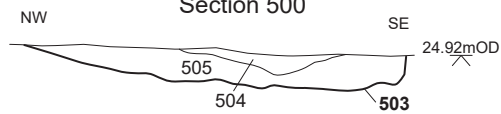


Section 401



Trench 5

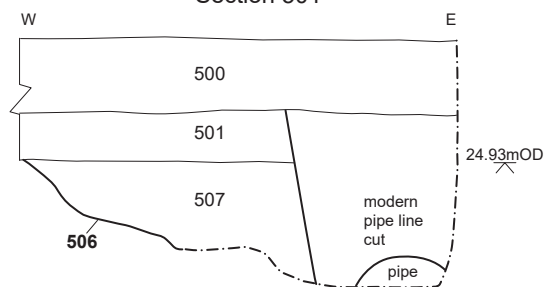
Section 500



Section 502

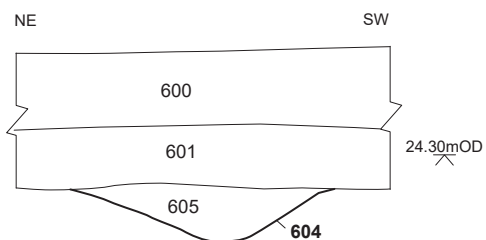


Section 501



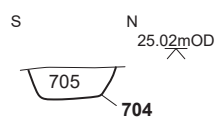
Trench 6

Section 600



Trench 7

Section 700



Section 701

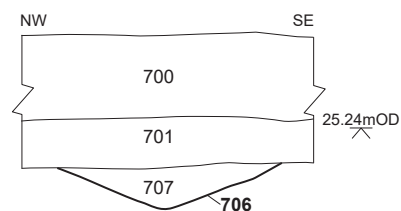
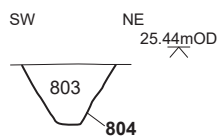


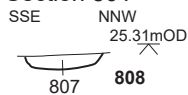
Figure 6: Sections, Trenches 4-7

Trench 8

Section 800

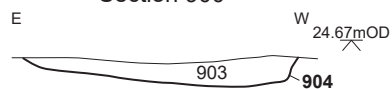


Section 801

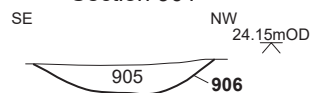


Trench 9

Section 900

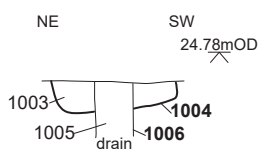


Section 901



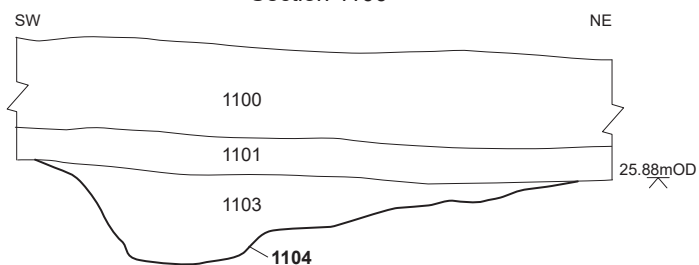
Trench 10

Section 1000



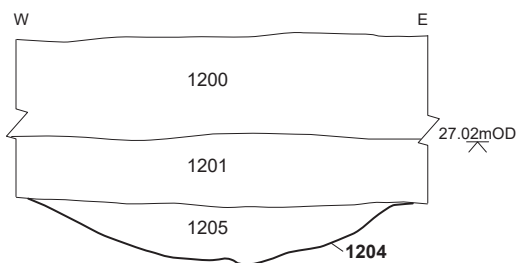
Trench 11

Section 1100



Trench 12

Section 1200



Trench 15

Section 1500



Section 1501



Section 1502

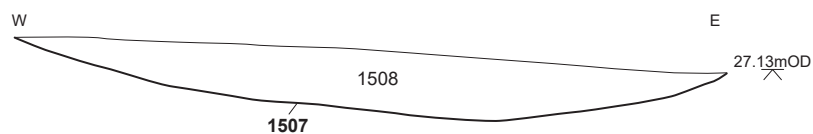


Figure 7: Sections, Trenches 8-12 and 15

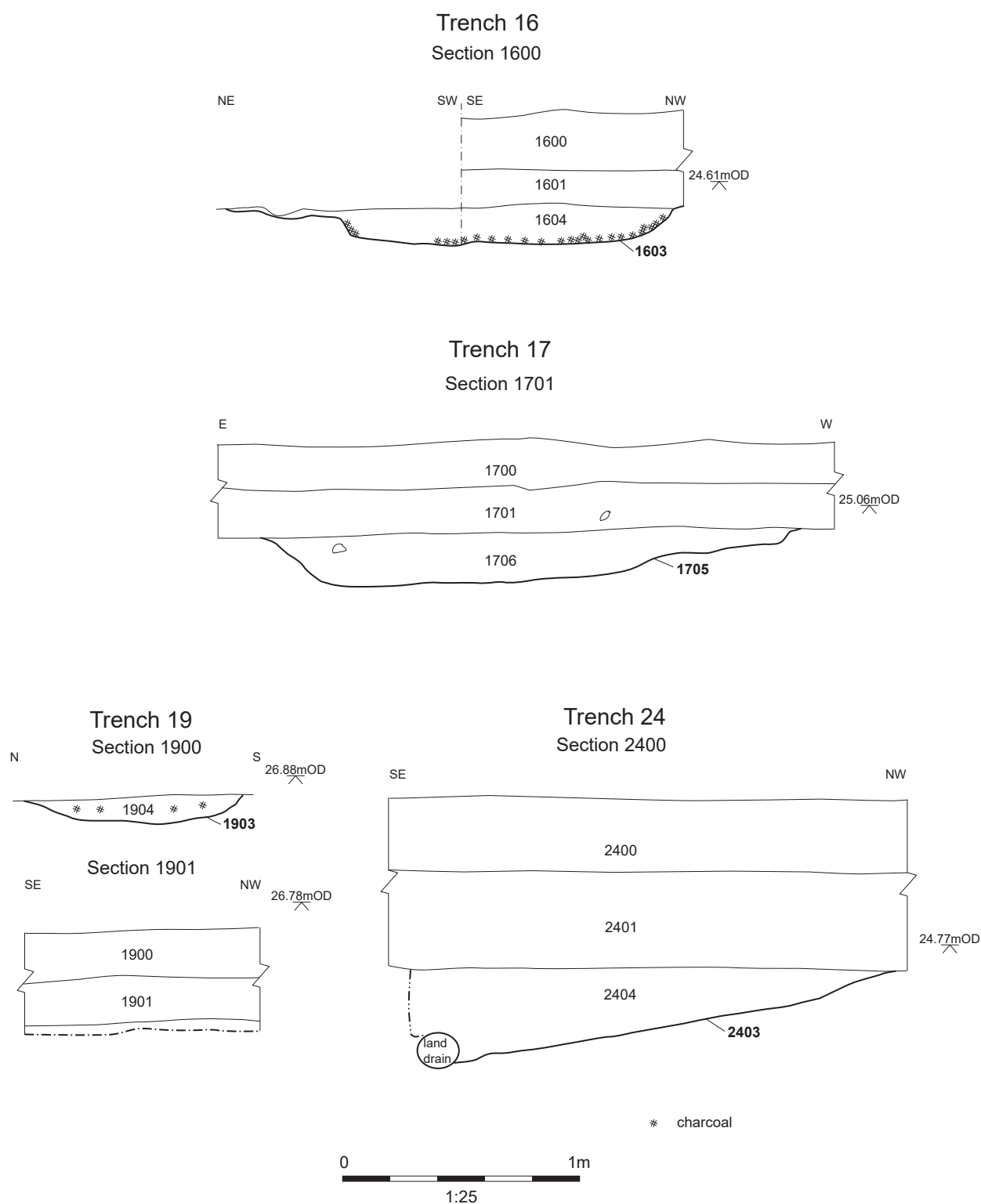


Figure 8: Sections, Trenches 16, 17, 19 and 24



Plate 1: Trench 2, view to south

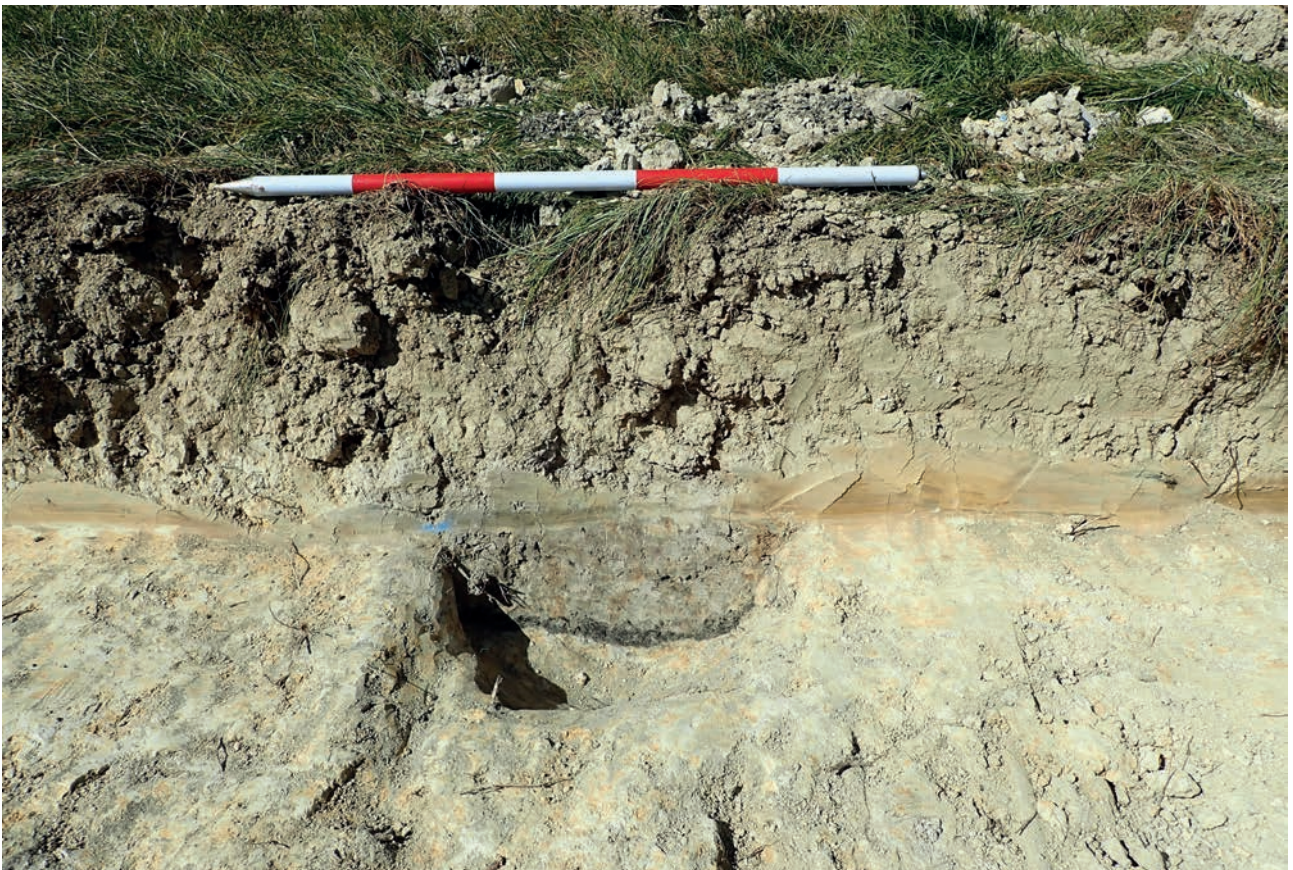


Plate 2: Trench 2, pit 208 view to west

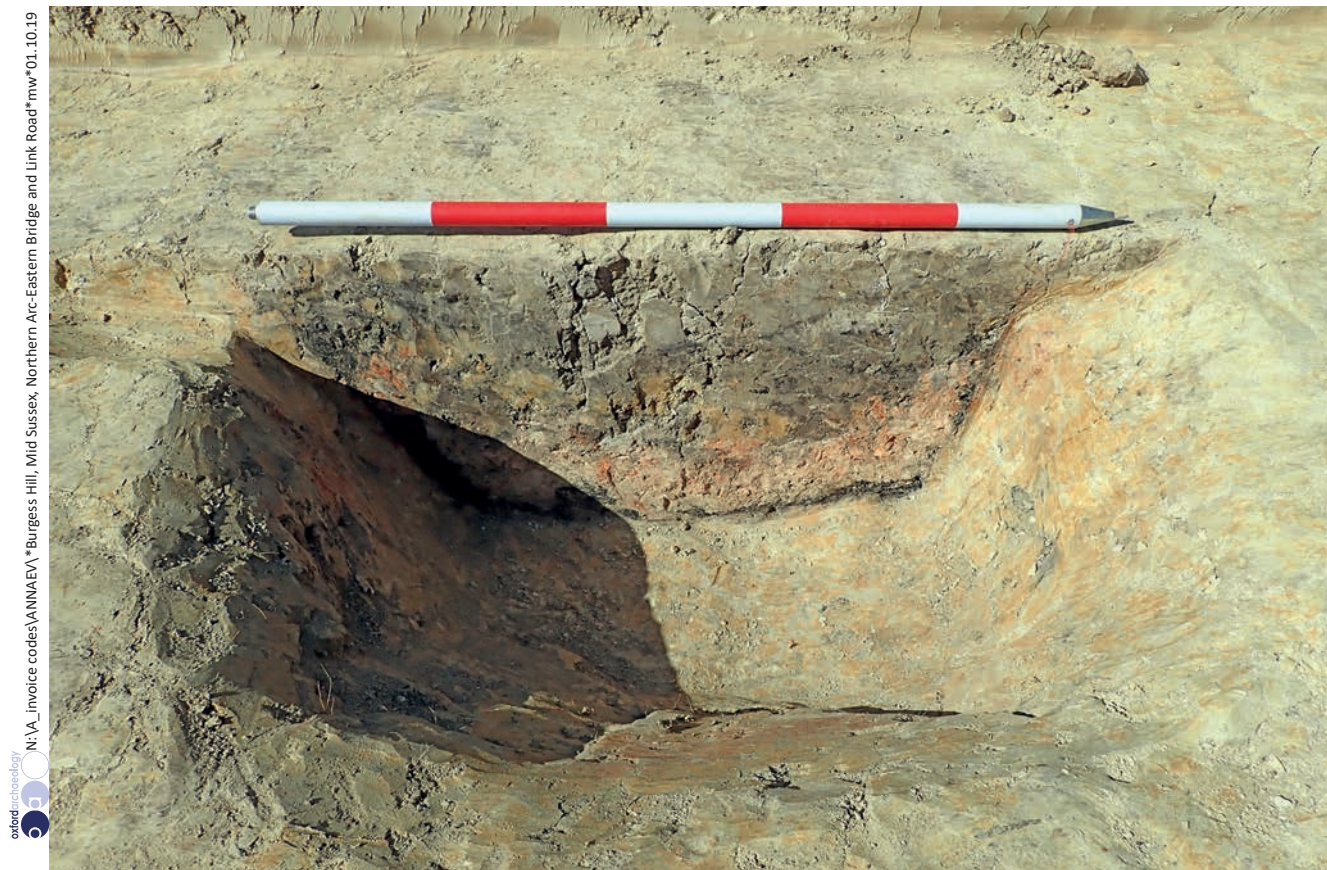


Plate 3: Trench 2, pit 210 view to west



Plate 4: Trench 16, view to east-southeast



Plate 5: Trench 16, pit 1603, view to south-southeast



Plate 6: Trench 19, view to south



Plate 7: Trench 19, pit 1904 view to north-northeast



Plate 8: Trench 19, pit 1904 and repaired drain view to north



**Head Office/Registered Office/
OA South**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850 500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCIfA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*