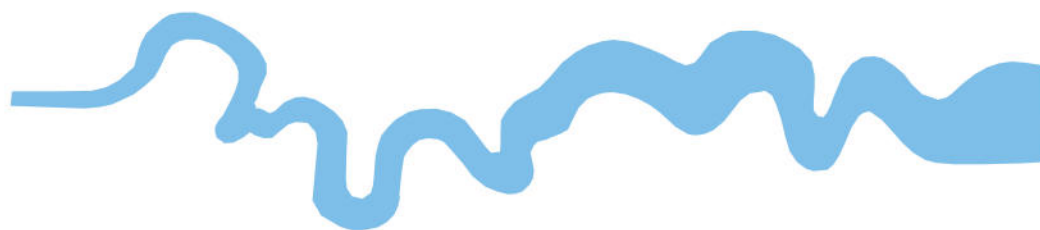


T V A S



SOUTH

**Land south of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
Woodgate, West Sussex**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Pierre-Damien Manisse

Site Code: WCW23/163

(SU 9413 0411)

Land south of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre, Woodgate, West Sussex

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Persimmon Homes (South Coast)**

by Pierre-Damien Manisse
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code WCW 23/163

November 2023

Summary

Site name: Land south of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre, Woodgate, West Sussex

Grid reference: SU 9413 0411

Site activity: Archaeological Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 23rd October to 2nd November 2023

Project manager: David Sanchez

Site supervisor: Pierre-Damien Manisse

Site code: WCW 23/163

Area of site: c 7.17ha

Summary of results: A total of 56 trenches were opened. No deposits of archaeological interest were revealed and a single sherd of Iron Age pottery was the only artefact of interest recovered. As a consequence the archaeological potential of the site is considered to be very low.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at TVAS South, Brighton and will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service in due course.

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

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford✓ 21.11.23 Steve Preston✓ 20.11.23
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Land south of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre, Woodgate, West Sussex An Archaeological Evaluation

by Pierre-Damien Manisse

Report 23/163

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out on land south of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre, Woodgate, West Sussex (centred on SU 9413 0411) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Gregg Allison, of Persimmon Homes (South Coast), Aviation House, George Curl Way, Eastleigh, Southampton SO18 2RY.

Planning consent (AL/107/21/PL) has been granted by Arun District Council for the demolition of the Woodgate Centre buildings and the construction of 180 residential dwellings, with associated amenities. The consent is subject to a condition (no. 14) that requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological investigation. This is in accordance with the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government's, *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2021), and the District Council's policies on archaeology (Local Plan Policy HER DM6). The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr James Kenny, the archaeological adviser to the District Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Pierre-Damien Manisse, assisted by Paul Greenslade, between 23rd October and 2nd November 2023. The site code is WCW 23/163. The archive is presently held at TVAS South, Brighton and will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located to the east of Woodgate, a village 5km north of Bognor Regis, West Sussex (Fig. 1). It lies west of the A29, accessed through Oak Tree Lane (Fig. 2). The overall site covers a roughly rectangular area of 7.17ha, with just under 6ha of this to be developed. The area comprises several open grass fields with buildings of the former Woodgate Centre in the central northern part, in the form of various abandoned sheds/garages, stable blocks, Tarmac areas and a horse paddock. The site is bordered to the north and east by meadows while to the west are residential properties and to the south there is a caravan park (Fig. 2). Most of the site is relatively flat at 6-7m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) but the west end rises to 10m aOD and the land drops down to the east to 3m aOD. A small stream, the Eastergate Rife, flows north to south at the east edge of the site. The

underlying geology (BGS 1996) is Aeolian deposits ('Brickearth'), mainly silts, in part containing gravel. The eastern fringes, closer to the rivulet, could be sand and gravels (Raised Beach Deposits).

Archaeological background

A geophysical survey of the site in 2020 (Sumo 2020) recorded no anomalies of archaeological interest although this might reflect the geology being poorly responsive to such methods. A desk-based assessment considered the site's archaeological potential (TOR 2021). To summarize, this potential derives in general from its location on the archaeologically rich Sussex coastal plain (e.g., Manley 2008; Taylor *et al.* 2014) rather than on any specific local finds. The county's Historic Environment Record shows no entry predating the Modern era in the immediate vicinity. Woodgate as a settlement is of fairly recent date, with brickworks and railway station driving its development in the 19th century. However not much further north, at Eastergate and Westergate, more findspots and sites are recorded, spanning various periods. At Lidsey Landfill, to the south-west, an extensive excavation revealed an Iron Age settlement (Wallis and Ford 2014).

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological/palaeoenvironmental deposits or relevant levels, of any period, within the area of development.

The specific research aims of this project are:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site; and
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present.

It was proposed to dig 60 trenches, each 25m long and 1.8m wide, avoiding tree protection zones and known services, with a contingency of 50m to clarify any uncertain results. The trenches were randomly positioned to offer even coverage. The trenches were to be excavated by machine, equipped with a ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Topsoil and subsoil were to be segregated if possible and spoil heaps monitored for artefacts. Any archaeological deposits revealed were to be hand cleaned and sufficiently sampled to answer the objectives outlined above. This work was to be carried out in a manner which would not compromise the integrity of archaeological features or deposits which might warrant preservation *in situ*, or might better be excavated under conditions pertaining to full excavation. The investigation was to follow

the relevant recommendations of the CifA (CifA 2020). Any finds were to be assessed in relation to national (HE 2017) or more thematic/local research frameworks as relevant (SERFA 2019).

Results (Figs 2-4; Pls 1-8)

The trenches were opened by 360° excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, 2m wide. A narrower bucket was used to break concrete in Trench 19. Only 56 of the proposed trenches could be dug due various constraints. Further, the general methodology had to be modified due to ecological constraints. The western half of the site was initially fully stripped of its upper topsoil horizon under ecologist supervision. They created linear bunds of spoil about every 3m. The eastern half remained free of this but the archaeological team worked with the added presence of an ecologist. No spoil could be put on grass and the machine was not allowed to drive on any high grass. As a result bands of about 10x25m were stripped of upper topsoil deposit (to leave enough space around the trenches and for topsoil/subsoil heaps) under ecological monitoring and the regular archaeological investigation followed this.

The project took place under generally poor weather conditions (intermittent rain) and the ecological strip in the west part was not without its inconveniences.

A total of 56 trenches were opened, mostly in locations intended (Fig. 2). Trench 3 was shortened to half its length to avoid a water pipe. Trench 12 was aborted as partially under the canopy of a tree on one half and with a water service pipe on the opposite half. Trench 14 was dug in two parts to avoid another water pipe. Trench 15 was moved from the Tarmac courtyard at the centre of the buildings to the horse paddock south of trench 17 to avoid unnecessary complications with various services (both water and electric). Trench 24's orientation was adjusted to avoid a large heap of rubbish, which caused also trench 20 to be shortened. After the latter had already been opened, Trenches 20-21 and 27-28 were abandoned because of the presence of suspected asbestos.

The trenches ranged in length from 15.10m to 27.50m and in depth from 0.25m to 1.30m. They were all 2.10m wide. Spoil heaps were checked for finds without success. The only discovery was a sherd of pottery on the stripped surface of trench 34. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. Overall the stratigraphy was consistent, consisting of about 0.30m of topsoil (in most cases half stripped by the ecological survey) above 0.15-0.25m of subsoil overlying the natural geology. With some local variations in colour, the geology matched the expected 'brickearth' deposit.

Trench 1 (Pl. 1)

Trench 1 was aligned WSW - ENE and was 24.70m long and 0.45-0.57m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil, a grey brown silt above 0.19m of subsoil, a yellow silt with iron oxide smears and rare natural flinty pebbles. This overlay natural geology, an orange brown and yellow clayey silt with occasional stains by oxides. The trench was shifted slightly east to avoid a massive spoil heap created during the ecological strip. No finds were recovered nor features observed.

Trench 2

Trench 2 was aligned W - E and was 24m long and 0.55m deep on average. A 0.75m deep test slot was made at the west end to verify the stratigraphy. It consisted of 0.17m of remaining topsoil, 0.25m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No archaeological features were encountered and no finds were recovered.

Trench 3 (Fig. 3)

Trench 3 was aligned W - E and was 15.10m long and 0.53m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil (fully preserved at one end) and 0.16m of subsoil overlying natural geology. The trench was interrupted as it followed the path of a water pipe, expected to be further north. The active service, appearing at about 0.40m below ground level, was broken by the machine and immediately repaired. No finds were recovered.

Trench 4

Trench 4 was aligned W - E and was 18.30m long and 0.25-0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.10m of topsoil and 0.15m of subsoil overlying natural geology. The trench length was reduced due to a tree canopy and services at north and south preventing its extension. No features were observed nor finds recovered.

Trench 5 (Pl. 2)

Trench 5 was aligned NW - SE and was 23.20m long and 0.35-0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil (greyish brown silty clay to clayey silt) and 0.18m of subsoil (yellowish brown/grey clay) overlying natural geology (orange brown silty clay to clay). There were no features in this trench and no finds were recovered.

Trench 6 (Pl. 3)

Trench 6 was aligned W - E and was 20.90m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.20m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 7

Trench 7 was aligned SSW - NNE and was 25.50m long and 0.25-0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.07m of topsoil and 0.18m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 8

Trench 8 was aligned ESE - WNW and was 23.6m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil and 0.17m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 9

Trench 9 was aligned E - W and was 24.90m long and 0.30-0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.10m of topsoil and 0.16m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 10

Trench 10 was aligned W - E and was 24.70m long. It was 0.36m deep at west and 0.45m deep at east. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil and 0.18m subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 11 (Pl. 4)

Trench 11 was aligned NNE - SSW and was 20.30m long and 0.44m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil and 0.15m subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 12

Trench 12 was cancelled as it was mostly located under the canopy of a tree. Moreover the ecological strip resulted in a large part of its neighbouring area being flooded and the manhole indicating the presence of the main water service to the south was not visible anymore. As such caution advised abandoning the trench.

Trench 13 (Pl. 5)

Trench 13 was aligned S - N and was 23.40m long and 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.12m of topsoil and 0.20m of subsoil overlying natural geology (here more yellowish brown or brownish yellow than orange). At 22.4m from the south end of the trench an unmapped cable was noted. No finds were recovered.

Trench 14

Trench 14 was aligned WNW – ESE. It was opened in two parts, respectively 12m and 13.7m long to avoid a service. An unmapped drain had also been noted at the western end of the first part. Both were 0.38m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.13m of topsoil and 0.23m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 15

Trench 15 was moved from its original location to avoid services. It was displaced further south, on the location of a horse paddock. The trench was aligned SE - NW and was 23.20m long and 0.75m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of sandy made ground, 0.25-0.55m made ground (chalk, clay, modern brick fragments) overlying natural geology. A drain made of rubble was spotted between 16m and 19m, going E-W. No finds were recovered.

Trench 16 (Fig. 4)

Trench 16 was aligned ESE – WSW but bending to NW to avoid a waterpipe. It was opened in two parts totalling 24m long and was 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil (fully preserved here) and 0.18m of subsoil overlying natural geology. Some modern truncations replaced topsoil in places, sometimes intruding into the geology. A north-south unmapped old foul water service pipe coming from the stable blocks and another water plastic pipe, aligned WNW-ESE were noted. No finds were recovered.

Trench 17

Trench 17 was aligned W - E and was 24m long and 0.50m deep. A test pit, 0.85m deep, was made at the western end to ascertain the stratigraphy. It consisted of 0.25-0.30m of topsoil (mid to dark grey silt) and 0.20-25m of subsoil (light brownish grey clay with rare pebbles or gravels) overlying natural geology (light orange brown to light greyish orange clay, with very rare gravels). A chalk land drain was visible from 5.5m to 7.3m. No finds were recovered.

Trench 18

Trench 18 was aligned close to N - S and was 23.10m long and 0.60-0.65m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.12m of topsoil and 0.25m subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered. At 8.5m from north end there was a ditch backfilled with obviously modern rubble.

Trench 19 (Pl. 6)

Trench 19 was aligned ESE - WNW and was 25m long and 0.87-1.10m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.012m of concrete on top of up to 0.78m of made ground, overlying the natural geology. Being sealed, the geology had taken a light bluish grey tint. No finds were recovered.

Trench 20

Trench 20 was aligned NNE - SSW and was 17.30m long and 0.80-1m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.75m of made ground deposits, deepening towards the south. The geology was not encountered after 4.50m from northern end with deeper modern truncation. The trench was not dug any deeper because of the possible

presence of asbestos. At the southern end, the trench was stopped due to a massive pile of various accumulated modern rubbish. No finds were recovered.

Trench 22 (Pl. 7)

Trench 22 was aligned SW - NE and was 26.70m long and 0.47-0.50m deep (only 0.20m at the NE end). The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil and 0.22m of subsoil overlying natural geology. The geology rises up at 18m from SW, with topsoil directly above the natural horizon. A chalk land drain was going from the mid SW end to 5m east. No finds were recovered.

Trench 23

Trench 23 was aligned SE - NW and was 19m long and 0.65-1.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.65m or more of made ground (concrete fragments, bricks, gravels) overlying natural geology. A N-S land drain was present from 2.5m to 6m from NE end. No finds were recovered.

Trench 24

Trench 24 was aligned NW - SE and was 19.20m long and 0.75-0.80m deep maximum. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.40-0.75m of made ground (thicker at the NW end, with still some part of the geology truncated by it) overlying natural geology (orange and grey clay with occasional gravels). No finds were recovered.

Trench 25 (Pl. 8)

Trench 25 was aligned SW - NE and was 22m long and 0.40m deep. A 0.65m deep test slot was made at the SW end of the trench. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil (mid brownish grey to dark grey silty clay/clayey silt) and 0.20m of subsoil (brownish-yellow/yellowish grey clay) overlying natural geology (light yellowish grey and orange brown clay, with occasional gravels). Some modern truncations were observed locally around 5m from the SW end. At 11m from the SW end the geology changed to a more yellowish clay. Aligned S-N, at 14-16m from the SW end, was a ditch backfilled with modern rubble. On the same orientation there was a chalk drain between 17.4 and 19.6m. No finds were recovered.

Trench 26

Trench 26 was aligned NE - SW and was 25.60m long and 0.40-0.45m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil and 0.15m of subsoil overlying natural geology. One chalk land drain was going from the south side of the trench's NE end to 2.7m, joining a perpendicular chalk land drain, disappearing at 5.80m on the south side. Another chalk land drain was present at 23m from SW end. No finds were recovered.

Trench 29 (Pl. 9)

Trench 29 was aligned WNW - ESE and was 24.30m long and 0.50-0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil (dark brown grey clayey silt) and 0.26m of subsoil (light brownish-yellow grey clay) overlying natural geology (orange brown clay with grey patches towards the ENE with scarce unsorted gravels). A chalk land drain was noticed across the trench. No finds were recovered.

Trench 30 (Pl. 10)

Trench 30 was aligned SSE - NNW and was 23m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil (mid brown grey or grey brown silty clay to clayey silt) and 0.25m of subsoil (yellowish grey clay) overlying natural geology (orange clay and gravels). The trench followed a land drain from 0m to 9.30m. At 10m from the SSE end there was a chalk land drain perpendicular to the trench. No finds were recovered.

Trench 31

Trench 31 was aligned S - N and was 27m long and 0.25m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil directly overlying natural geology, a yellow clay with occasional gravels. This trench was located on the slope down to the river to the east. At 14.20m from north there was a chalk land drain. No finds were recovered.

Trench 32 (Pl. 11)

Trench 32 was aligned almost W - E and was 26.20m long and 0.60-0.65m deep, with a deeper test slot at the west end. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil (mid grey brown/brownish grey clayey silt) and 0.35m of subsoil (mid brown to grey brown clay) overlying natural geology (mottled yellow and brown to orange brown silt or clay with rare unsorted gravels). At 12.5m from the west end a disused water pipe was present. No finds were recovered.

Trench 33

Trench 33 was aligned SE - NW and was 22.60m long and 0.45-0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.22m subsoil overlying natural geology. A chalk land drain was noted, aligned E-W from 12m to 16.90m. No finds were recovered.

Trench 34

Trench 34 was aligned almost W - E and was 26.20m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying natural geology. A single fragmented potsherd was recovered from the trench surface.

Trench 35

Trench 35 was aligned WNW - ESE and was 25.20m long and 0.50-0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil and 0.32m of subsoil overlying natural geology. A chalk land drain was present from 2m from the west end to 12.50m. No finds were recovered.

Trench 36 (Pl. 12)

Trench 36 was aligned ESE - WNW and was 26.70m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil and 0.28m subsoil overlying natural geology. No features were present and no finds were recovered.

Trench 37

Trench 37 was aligned ESE - WNW and was 25m long and 0.45-0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil and 0.24m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered nor features observed.

Trench 38

Trench 38 was aligned NE - SW and was 25m long and 0.45m deep at SW, 0.60m at NE. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil and 0.24m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No features were observed nor finds recovered.

Trench 39

Trench 39 was aligned ENE - WSW and was 23.20m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.25m subsoil overlying natural geology. There were no features and no finds were recovered.

Trench 40

Trench 40 was aligned E - W and was 25.20m long and 0.45m deep, with a 0.60m test slot at east end. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil and 0.18m of subsoil overlying natural geology. A ceramic pipe land drain was following more or less the same orientation as the trench. No finds were recovered.

Trench 41

Trench 41 was aligned NE - SW and was 25.20m long and 0.50-0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.20m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 42

Trench 42 was aligned W-E and was 23.20m long and 0.40-0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.20m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 43 (Pl. 13)

Trench 43 was aligned ESE - WNW and was 24.30m long and 0.20-0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20–0.30m of subsoil (all topsoil having been stripped by the ecologists) overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 44

Trench 44 was aligned W - E and was 23.80m long and 0.44-0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil and 0.14-0.16m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 45 (Fig. 3)

Trench 45 was aligned NW - SE and was 25.30m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.25m of subsoil overlying natural geology. A W-E land drain was noted at 12-13m from the NW end of the trench. No finds were recovered.

Trench 46 (Pl. 14)

Trench 46 was aligned S - N and was 24.20m long and 0.45m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.20m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 47

Trench 47 was aligned SW - NE and was 24.30m long and 0.54-0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil and 0.30m subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 48

Trench 48 was aligned SE - NW and was 24.40m long and 0.45m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil and 0.23m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 49 (Pl. 15)

Trench 49 was aligned almost S - N and was 26m long. It was 0.45m deep at the south end and 0.55m deep at the north. A test slot, 0.65m deep, was made at 2m from the south end. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.22m subsoil overlying natural geology. There were no features in this trench, and no finds were recovered.

Trench 50 (Pl. 16)

Trench 50 was aligned W - E and was 25.20m long and 0.55-0.65m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil and 0.35m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered nor features observed.

Trench 51

Trench 51 was aligned WSW - ENE and was 26.70m long and 0.55-0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.25m of subsoil overlying natural geology. At 13.40m from the trench's western end there was a disused water pipe. No finds were recovered.

Trench 52

Trench 52 was aligned WSW - ENE and was 24.70m long and 0.50-0.60m deep. A test slot was made at the west end, 0.75m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.24m of subsoil overlying natural geology. At 3.30m from the western end, a water pipe crossed the trench. No finds were recovered.

Trench 53 (Pl. 17)

Trench 53 was aligned W - E and was 0.20m long and 0.55-0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.30m subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 54

Trench 54 was aligned almost S - N and was 23.20m long and 0.50m deep. A test slot, 0.70m deep was made at south end. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil and 0.31m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No features were present in this trench and no finds were recovered.

Trench 55 (Pl. 18)

Trench 55 was aligned almost E - W and was 26.30m long and 0.45m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying natural geology. No features were present and no finds were recovered.

Trench 56

Trench 56 was aligned SE - NW and was 25.70m long and 0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil and 0.11m of subsoil overlying natural geology. A chalk land drain was present at the very SE end of the trench. No finds were recovered.

Trench 57 (Fig. 4)

Trench 57 was aligned SE - NW and was 25.60m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.30m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds were recovered.

Trench 58

Trench 58 was aligned SW - NE and was 24.50m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil and 0.18m of subsoil overlying natural geology. No features were present and no finds were recovered.

Trench 59

Trench 59 was aligned SE - NW and was 27.50m long and 0.35-0.45m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.20m subsoil overlying natural geology. A land drain was aligned E-W between 14m and 17.30m. Another chalk land drain was aligned S-N from 22.20m to 23.80m. No finds were recovered.

Trench 60

Trench 60 was aligned SE - NW and was 27.50m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil and 0.20m subsoil overlying natural geology. A chalk land drain was going E-W from 1.80 to 6.30m. Another land drain was going from 13.3m to 19m. No finds were recovered.

Finds

Pottery by Cristina Mateos Leal

The evaluation recovered a single fragment of poorly preserved pottery weighing 11g dating to the Iron Age. The sherd comes from the surface of Trench 34. The fabric is:

FLOR (coarse), a soft grey flint organic ware with orange outer surface with spare sub-angular poorly-sorted burnt flint (2mm); abundant elongate voids (4mm); spare sub-rounded poorly-sorted quartz (1mm) and abundant well sorted white mica (0.5mm). No features.

The characteristics of the sherd do not allow any more than a generic Iron Age date, likely Early Iron Age on the basis of similar fabrics found at Roundstone Lane, Angmering (Seager Thomas 2002).

Conclusion

With minor modifications to the original layout and amendments to the number of trenches dug, the archaeological evaluation took place successfully with 56 trenches opened. Despite a location with a locally dominating point of view and easy access to water with the stream at east, there does not seem to be any intensive trace of human activity on site before the modern period. No archaeologically relevant features were observed and the only pre-modern find was a single sherd of unstratified pottery. On the basis of these results, the archaeological potential of the site has to be considered as very low.

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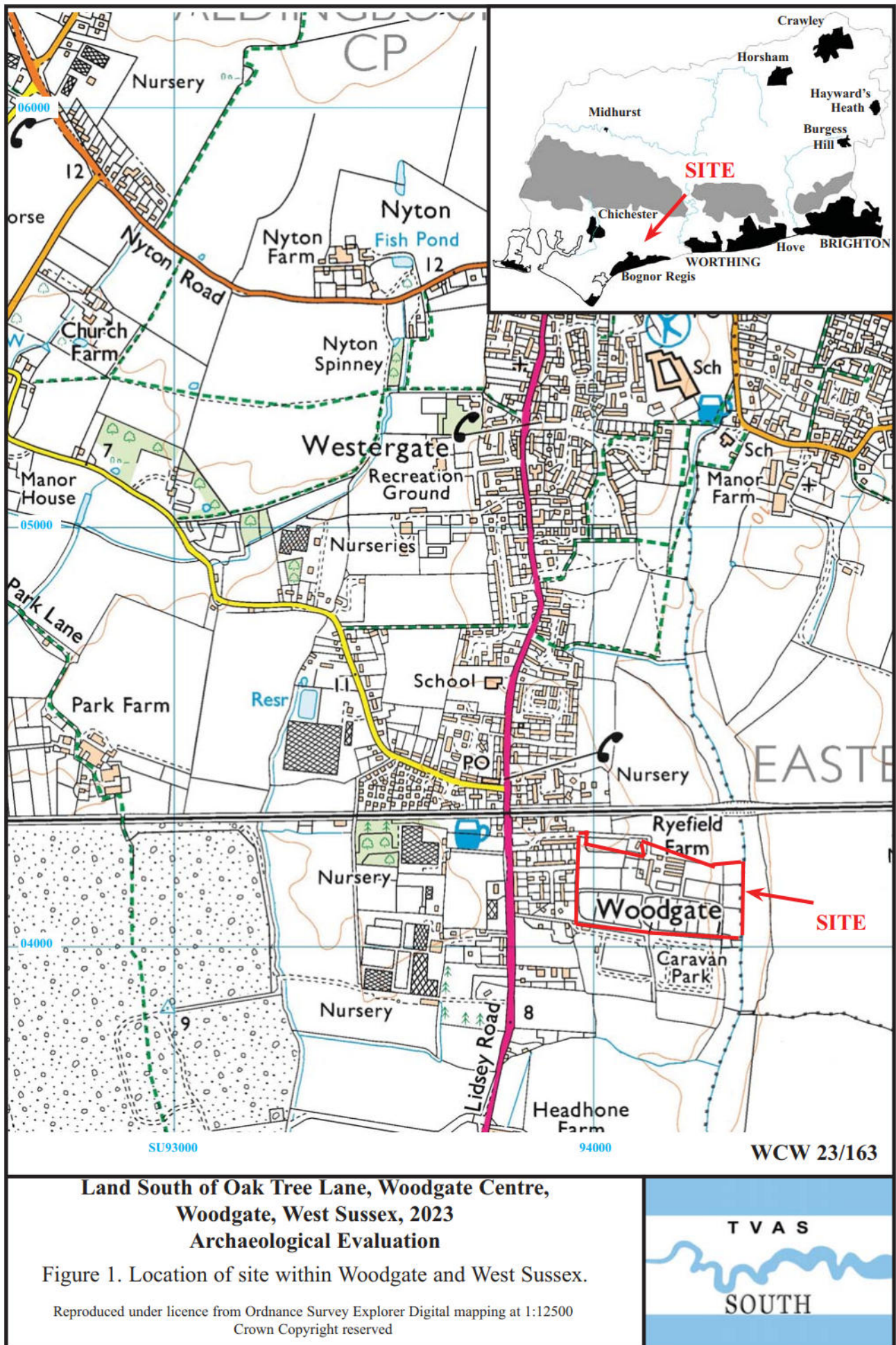
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APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S, SW or W end

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	24.7	2.1	0.45-0.57	0–0.17m topsoil (soft grey brown or brownish grey silt to clayey silt), 0.17-0.36m subsoil (compact yellow silt with oxides stains, rare natural flint), >0.36m natural geology (brickearth). [Pl. 1]
2	24	2.1	0.55	0–0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.42m subsoil, >0.42m natural geology.
3	15.1	2.1	0.53-0.63	0–0.28m topsoil (turf preserved), 0.28-0.44m subsoil, >0.44m natural geology.
4	18.3	2.1	0.35-0.30	0–0.10m topsoil, 0.10-0.25m subsoil, >0.25m natural geology.
5	23.2	2.1	0.35-0.40	0–0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.33m subsoil, >0.33m natural geology. [Pl. 2]
6	20.9	2.1	0.55	0–0.30m topsoil, 0.30-0.50m subsoil, >0.50m natural geology. [Pl. 3]
7	25.5	2.1	0.25-.35	0–0.07m topsoil, 0.07-0.25m subsoil, >0.25m natural geology.
8	23.6	2.1	0.35	0–0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.32m subsoil, >0.32m natural geology.
9	24.9	2.1	0.3-0.35	0–0.10m topsoil, 0.10-0.26m subsoil, >0.26m natural geology.
10	24.7	2.1	0.36-0.45	0–0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.35m subsoil, >0.35m natural geology.
11	20.3	2.1	0.44	0–0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.30m subsoil, >0.30m natural geology. [Pl. 4]
12	CANCELLED (tree protection, services)			
13	23.4	2.1	0.32	0–0.12m topsoil, 0.12-0.32m subsoil, >0.32m natural geology. [Pl. 5]
14	12+13.7	2.1	0.38	0–0.13m topsoil, 0.13-0.36m subsoil, >0.36m natural geology.
15	23.20	2.1	0.75	0–0.20m levelling sandy deposits, 0.20-0.45m made ground, >0.45m natural geology.
16	24	2.1	0.50	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28-0.46m subsoil, >0.46m natural geology.
17	24	2.1	0.50	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28-0.50m subsoil (light brownish grey clay, rare pebbles and gravels), >0.36m natural geology.
18	23.1	2.1	0.60-0.65	0–0.12m topsoil, 0.12-0.37m subsoil, >0.37m natural geology.
19	25.0	2.1	0.87-1.10	0–0.12m concrete, 0.12-0.90m made ground, >0.90m natural geology. [Pl. 6]
20	17.3	2.1	0.80-1.00	0–0.75m made ground, >0.75m natural geology.
21	CANCELLED (asbestos)			
22	26.7	2.1	0.20-0.50	0–0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.40m subsoil, >0.40m natural geology. [Pl. 7]
23	19	2.1	0.65-1.30	0–0.65m made ground, >0.65m natural geology.
24	19.2	2.1	0.60-0.80	0–0.40m made ground, >0.40m natural geology.
25	22	2.1	0.40	0–0.20m topsoil, >0.40m natural geology. [Pl. 8]
26	2560	2.1	0.40-0.45	0–0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.30m subsoil, >0.30m natural geology.
27	CANCELLED (asbestos)			
28	CANCELLED (asbestos)			
29	24.3	2.1	0.50-0.60	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22-0.48m subsoil, >0.48m natural geology. [Pl. 9]
30	23.0	2.1	0.5	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25-0.50m subsoil, >0.50m natural geology. [Pl. 10]
31	27.0	2.1	0.25	0–0.20m topsoil, >0.20m natural geology (yellow clay with occasional to frequent gravels).
32	26.2	2.1	0.60-0.65	0–0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.50m subsoil, >0.50m natural geology. [Pl. 11]
33	22.6	2.1	0.45-0.50	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25-0.47m subsoil, >0.47m natural geology.
34	26.2	2.1	0.50	0–0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.34m subsoil, >0.34m natural geology.
35	25.2	2.1	0.50-0.55	0–0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.50m subsoil, >0.50m natural geology.
36	26.7	2.1	0.50	0–0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.45m subsoil, >0.45m natural geology. [Pl. 12]
37	24.3	2.1	0.45-0.50	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22-0.46m subsoil, >0.46m natural geology.
38	25.0	2.1	0.45-0.60	0–0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.40m subsoil, >0.40m natural geology.
39	23.2	2.1	0.50	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.45m subsoil, >0.45m natural geology.
40	25.2	2.1	0.45-0.60	0–0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.36m subsoil, >0.36m natural geology.
41	25.2	2.1	0.50-0.55	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.40m subsoil, >0.40m natural geology.
42	23.0	2.1	0.40-0.50	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.40m subsoil, >0.40m natural geology.
43	24.3	2.1	0.20-0.30	0–0.30m subsoil, >0.30m natural geology. [Pl. 13]
44	23.8	2.1	0.44-0.50	0–0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.32m subsoil, >0.32m natural geology.
45	25.3	2.1	0.50	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25-0.50m subsoil, >0.50m natural geology.
46	24.2	2.1	0.45	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.40m subsoil, >0.40m natural geology. [Pl. 14]
47	24.3	2.1	0.54-0.60	0–0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.46m subsoil, >0.46m natural geology.
48	24.4	2.1	0.45	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22-0.45m subsoil, >0.45m natural geology.
49	26.0	2.1	0.45-0.55	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.42m subsoil, >0.42m natural geology. [Pl. 15]
50	25.2	2.1	0.55-0.65	0–0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.50m subsoil, >0.50m natural geology. [Pl. 16]
51	26.7	2.1	0.55-0.60	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.45m subsoil, >0.45m natural geology.
52	24.7	2.1	0.50-0.60	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.44m subsoil, >0.44m natural geology.
53	22.7	2.1	0.55-0.60	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.50m subsoil, >0.50m natural geology. [Pl. 17]
54	23.2	2.1	0.50	0–0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.48m subsoil, >0.48m natural geology.
55	26.3	2.1	0.45	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22-0.38m subsoil, >0.38m natural geology. [Pl. 18]
56	25.7	2.1	0.28-0.30	0–0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.28m subsoil, >0.28m natural geology.
57	25.6	2.1	0.5	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.50m subsoil, >0.50m natural geology.
58	24.5	2.1	0.40	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22-0.40m subsoil, >0.40m natural geology.
59	27.5	2.1	0.35-0.45	0–0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.40m subsoil, >0.40m natural geology.
60	27.5	2.1	0.35	0–0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.35m subsoil, >0.35m natural geology.





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**Land South of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
Woodgate, West Sussex, 2023
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 2. Site plan.



0 100m



TRENCH 3

E _____ W [10.44m aOD](#)

TOPSOIL

SUBSOIL

NATURAL GEOLOGY

TRENCH 45

NW _____ SE [8.14m aOD](#)

TOPSOIL

SUBSOIL

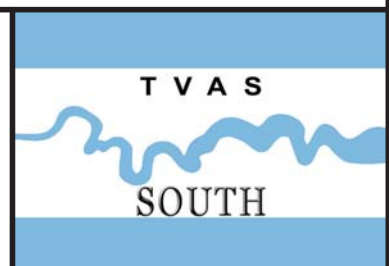
NATURAL GEOLOGY

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**Land south of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
Woodgate, West Sussex, 2017
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 3. Representative sections.

0 _____ 0.5m



TRENCH 16

E _____ W [8.42m aOD](#)

TOPSOIL

SUBSOIL

NATURAL GEOLOGY

TRENCH 57

NW _____ SE [7.70m aOD](#)

TOPSOIL

SUBSOIL

NATURAL GEOLOGY

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**Land south of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
Woodgate, West Sussex, 2017
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 4. Representative sections.

0 _____ 0.5m

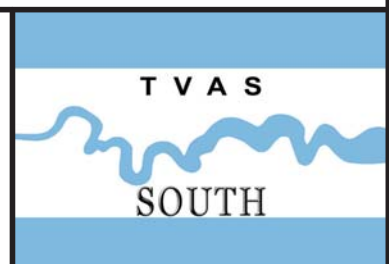




Plate 1: Trench 1, looking North East;
Scales: 2x1m and 0.5m



Plate 3: Trench 6, looking East;
Scales: 2x1m and 0.5m



Plate 2: Trench 5 - representative section, looking North East; Scales: 1m and 0.3m

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Land South of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
Woodgate, West Sussex, 2023
Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 1 - 3.

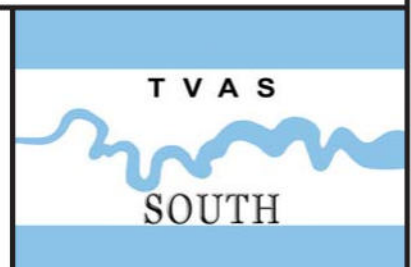




Plate 4: Trench 11 - representative section, looking South East;
Scales : 1m and 0.3m



Plate 5: Trench 13, looking North;
Scales: 2x1m and 0.3m



Plate 6: Trench 19, looking North West; Scales: 2x1m and 0.3m

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**Land South of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
Woodgate, West Sussex, 2023
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Plates 4 - 6.

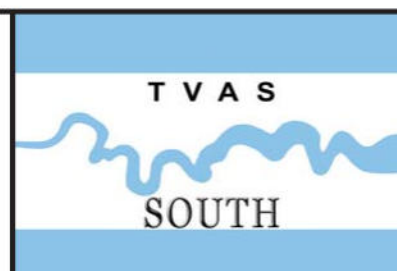




Plate 7: Trench 22 - representative section, looking North West; Scales: 1m and 0.5m



Plate 9: Trench 29, looking South East; Scales : 2x1m and 0.5m)



Plate 8: Trench 25, looking South West; Scales: 2x1m and 0.3m

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Land South of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
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Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 7 - 9.





Plate 11: Trench 32 - representative section, looking South; Scales: 1m and 0.5m



Plate 12: Trench 36 - representative section, looking South West; Scales : 1m and 0.5m



Plate 10: Trench 30, looking North East; Scales: 2x1m and 0.5m

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**Land South of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
Woodgate, West Sussex, 2023
Archaeological Evaluation**

Plates 10 - 12.





Plate 13: Trench 43 - representative section, looking North East; Scales: 1m and 0.2m



Plate 14: Trench 46, looking North; Scales: 2x1m and 0.5m



Plate 15: Trench 49, looking North; Scales: 2x1m and 0.5m

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Land South of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
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Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 13 - 15.





Plate 16: Trench 50 - Representative section, looking North; Scales: 1m and 0.5m



Plate 17: Trench 53 - Representative section, looking South; Scales: 2x1m and 0.5m



Plate 18: Trench 55, looking East; Scales: 2x1m and 0.5m)

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Land South of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
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Plates 16 - 18.





Plate 16: Trench 50 - Representative section, looking N; scales : 1m (horizontal) and 0.5m (vertical)



Plate 17: Trench 53 - Representative section, looking S; scales : 2x1m (horizontal) and 0.5m (vertical)

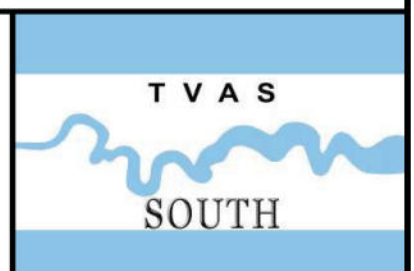


Plate 18: Trench 55, looking E; scales : 2x1m (horizontal) and 0.5m (vertical)

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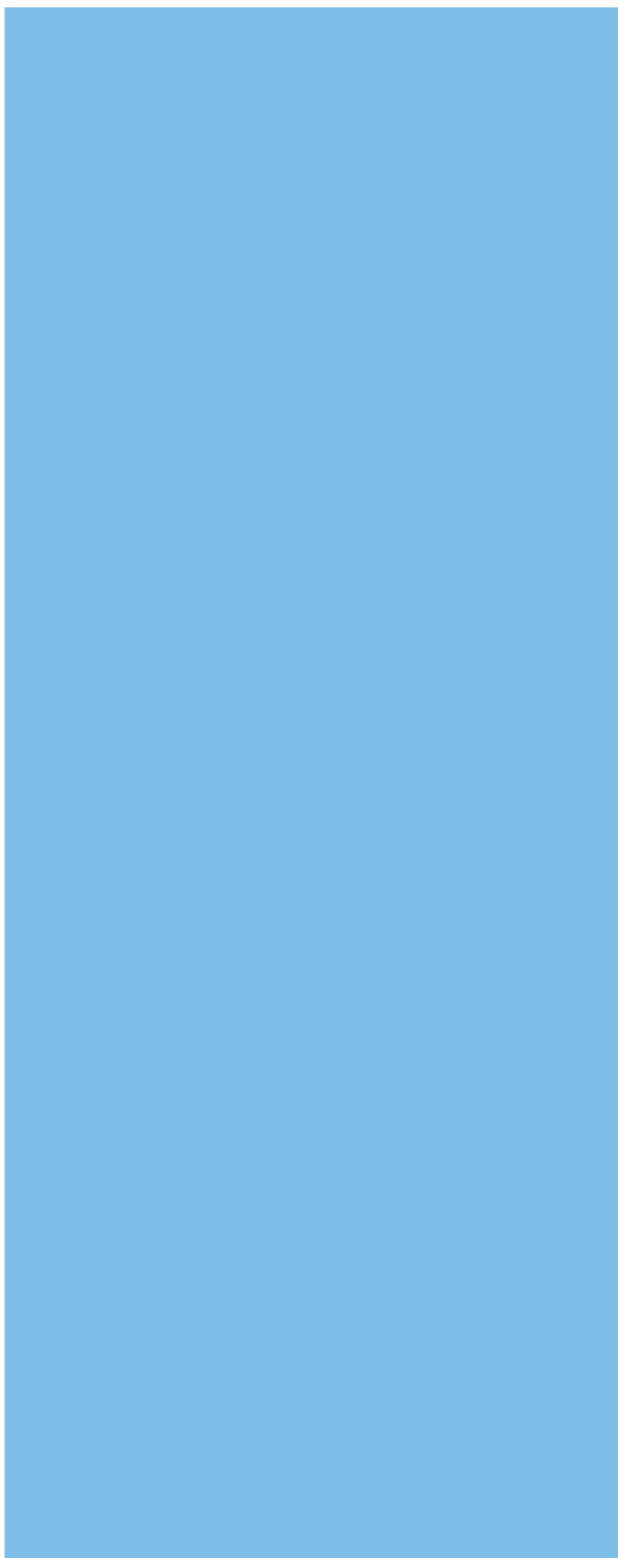
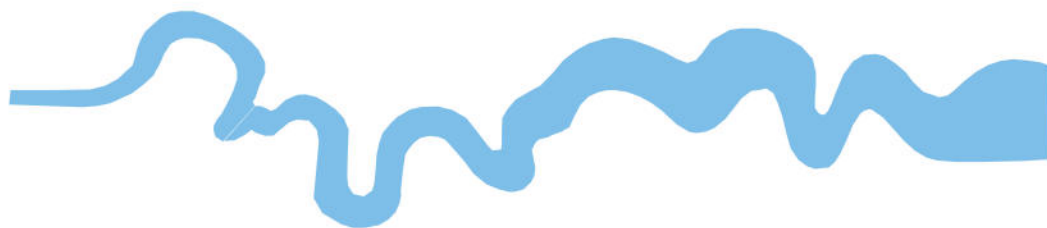
**Land South of Oak Tree Lane, Woodgate Centre,
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Plates 16 - 18.

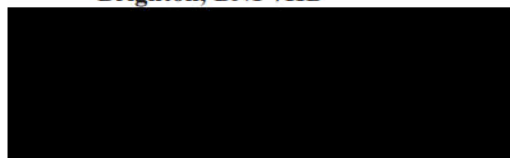


TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
	AD 0 BC
Iron Age _____	750 BC
Bronze Age: Late _____	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle _____	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early _____	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC
↓	↓



**TVAS (South),
77a Hollingdean Terrace
Brighton, BN1 7HB**



*Offices in:
Reading, Taunton, Stoke-on-Trent, Wellingborough
and Ennis (Ireland)*