

**Archaeological Mitigation Report
Pound Nursery, Roundstone Lane
Angmering, West Sussex**

**NGR: 535158 124294
(TQ 351 242)**

Planning Ref: Arun Planning Reference A/135/12

**ASE Project No: 7573
Site Code: ARL14**

**ASE Report No: 2015328
OASIS id: archaeol6-198317**



By Diccon Hart

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake a programme of archaeological mitigation work at Pound Nursery, Roundstone Lane, Angmering, West Sussex. The work comprised the archaeological monitoring of soil stripping of an easement measuring around 5m in width across the site and three additional small areas excavated to further expose features encountered during a prior evaluation of the site. Taken with the results of the evaluation the work has identified elements of probable Later Bronze Age or Early Iron Age land division, along with a handful of pits and postholes, one of which contained a possible structured deposit of a fragment of quern or rubbing stone. In addition, a small quantity of possible Early Neolithic pottery and two blade-like flint flakes of Mesolithic-Early Neolithic date are suggestive of some activity of this date on or near the site.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake a programme of archaeological mitigation at the old Pound Nursery, Angmering, West Sussex (centred: NGR 535158 124294; Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies on the eastern side of Roundstone Lane in an area formerly occupied by nurseries, to the south-east of the commercial centre of Angmering. At the time of the fieldwork the site comprised open grassland, with some light polytunnel and greenhouse structures. The site was bounded to the south by a sports fields, to the east and north by the current housing developments off Roundstone Lane and to the west by Roundstone Lane itself.
- 1.2.2 According to current data from the British Geological Survey, the underlying geology of the site comprises superficial river terrace deposits of sand, silt and clay, overlying solid geology of Lewes Chalk Formation (BGS 2015).

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 Planning permission for a residential development at the site was granted by Arun District Council, (planning ref. A/135/12). Due to the archaeological potential of the site, as demonstrated in a prior Desk Based Assessment (L-P Archaeology 2013) a condition was attached to the planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological works prior to the development of the site. Condition 13 of the Decision Notice therefore stated that:

Development shall not commence until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written Archaeological Mitigation Strategy document to be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The Mitigation Strategy shall include commitments to:

- carry out on site archaeological investigation in accordance with an agreed project design;

- preserve in situ and intact non-designated archaeological heritage assets that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments (with reference to Historic Environment guidance in Paragraphs 132, 133 and 139 of the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012));

- fully investigate, record, analyse and report, to a specification to be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority, and to a standard proportionate to their significance, archaeological heritage assets that unavoidably will be affected adversely by development-related ground excavations;

- prepare and implement satisfactory procedures to communicate the

findings of archaeological investigation to the local community.

Reason: To ensure the archaeological interests of the site are protected.

- 1.3.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation, which outlined the scope of an initial Stage 1 trial trench evaluation of the site, was prepared by Archaeology South-East (ASE 2014a) and duly approved by West Sussex County Council (WSCC) in their capacity as advisors to the Local Planning Authority on archaeological matters. The scope of subsequent mitigation works required was agreed between Archaeology South-East, CgMs Consulting and the Chichester District Council (CDC) Archaeological Officer, in their subsequent capacity as archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority. All work was carried out in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (ibid.), the Sussex Archaeological Standards (SCC 2015) and the relevant standards and guidance documents of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a; 2014b)

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological mitigation works carried out on the site in May 2015. The archaeological work was undertaken by Tom Munnery (Senior Archaeologist) Pip Stephenson (Archaeologist), Susan Chandler (Assistant Archaeologist), and Vasilis Tsamis (Surveyor). The project was managed by Darryl Palmer (Fieldwork) and by Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift (Post-Excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The following summary is drawn from excavations along the route of the Angmering bypass (Oxford Archaeology 2002), the results of fieldwork to the west north and east of the site (ASE 2003; ASE 2014b) and from information in the prior Desk Based Assessment of the site (L-P Archaeology 2013).

2.2 Prehistoric

- 2.2.1 A series of prehistoric sites and find spots are known in close proximity to the site. A multi-period site is recorded to the north-east, including a Bronze Age enclosure, with later Iron Age pottery and activity from the Roman period onwards, while a further area of Bronze Age activity is recorded immediately to the west, including a Middle Bronze Age cremation, postholes and a curvilinear feature (ASE 2003).
- 2.2.2 Limited prehistoric activity was also recorded to the south-west of the site during the excavation of a Roman and medieval site, while a Bronze Age farmstead is recorded to the north. Find spots in the area include the discovery of Neolithic and Bronze Age adzes to the south-west, a Neolithic flint scatter to the west, a prehistoric flint scatter to the north-east and Late Bronze Age material to the north-west of the current site. Overall, the archaeological potential for the later prehistoric periods (Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age) was considered to be high in the DBA (L-P Archaeology 2013).
- 2.2.3 More recently, an evaluation immediately to the north and east of the site (ASE 2014b) provided broad evidence of Neolithic to Bronze Age activity by means of an assemblage of worked flint. Further evidence was also revealed in the form of ditches, gullies, pits and postholes containing Middle Bronze Age to 1st century AD pottery, daub and ironworking slag, suggesting field divisions and domestic activity of this date. The initial stages of a subsequent excavation on this site have provided further evidence for Bronze and Iron Age activity here, along with unstratified finds of Mesolithic origin.

2.3 Romano-British

- 2.3.1 Iron Age pottery and Roman features and finds are known to the north-east of the site, during the construction of the Angmering bypass (Oxford Archaeology 2002), while Roman activity is recorded to the west of the site, including a cremation, a ditch and postholes (ASE 2003). Roman occupation is also recorded to the south-west of the site and a possible Roman road is known approximately 1km to the south and a short stretch of metalled trackway to the west (L-P: Archaeology 2013). A variety of find spots of Roman material are also known to the north, west and south of the site, including finds of a quern stone, coins and pottery. Minimal Romano-British evidence was recovered from the adjacent evaluation (ASE 2014b).

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

- 2.4.1 The first reference to Angmering dates to c. 880AD and the settlement is recorded in the Domesday Book. Evidence for medieval activity within a 1km radius of the site is limited but includes features of this period recorded to the north-east of the site on the Angmering bypass scheme and a medieval ditch is recorded to the south-west. Find spots of medieval material are also known to the south and north-east. The DBA (*ibid.*) concluded that the archaeological potential of the site for these periods was medium to low.

2.5 Post-Medieval

- 2.5.1 The site appears to consist of little more than fields throughout the 19th century, as shown on historic maps. Although the Grade II Listed Pound House lies to the north-west of the site and a building, known as Pound Cottage, is shown on several 19th century maps to lie on the south-western boundary of the site. Other listed buildings in the wider vicinity include Eccleden Manor and its associated dovecote, as well as a series of listed buildings within the Angmering Conservation Area.
- 2.5.2 Two post-medieval windmills are recorded to the west and north-east of the site, while scattered post-medieval features are also recorded to the west and south-west. The potential for post-medieval features within the site was considered to be low (*Ibid.*).

2.6 Previous Archaeological Work on the Site

- 2.6.1 The prior archaeological evaluation of the site was carried out in December 2014 and consisted of the excavation of 17 trenches across the site, of which 11 contained archaeological features, including ditches, pits and postholes. Pottery, dating from the Neolithic through to the second century AD, was recovered along with flintwork relating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age and fragments of two later Bronze Age loomweights. A possibly Neolithic feature was recorded and there was clear evidence of later systematic land organisation in the survival of ditches probably dating to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. Pits and postholes, indicative of domestic activity were also recorded. A probable Early Roman ditch was also revealed. No features thought to be of medieval or post-medieval were recorded; however, several other ditches and pits remain entirely undated.

2.7 Project Aims and Objectives

2.7.1 The general aims (ASE 2014b) of the work are:

- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains and deposits within the site
- To determine the survival, extent and minimum depth below modern ground level of any such remains
- To determine the nature and significance of any archaeological deposits
- To enable Arun District Council to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further archaeological work at the site

2.7.2 In addition, specific research aims, based on the findings of the South-East Research Framework (SERF) include the following:

Bronze Age and Iron Age

- Is there any evidence for Later Bronze Age land division on the site and can such evidence inform on the long-term history of Bronze Age land division in Sussex?
- Is there any evidence for Later Iron Age occupation on the site and if so, can this inform on the nature of the Middle Iron Age – Late Iron Age transition?

Roman

- Is there any evidence for Roman occupation on the site and can this inform on the character of Roman rural settlement and the Roman agricultural economy in the area?

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological mitigation of the impact of the proposed development on the site comprised the archaeological monitoring of soil stripping of a pipeline easement (Trench 76) across the site and the excavation of three additional areas, Trenches 77, 78 and 79. The location of the various mitigation areas are shown in Figure 2.
- 3.1.2 Mechanical excavation, under archaeological supervision, using a flat-bladed bucket was taken in small spits down to the top of natural geological deposits, or to the top of any recognisable archaeological deposits, whichever was higher. Care was taken not to damage archaeological deposits through excessive use of mechanical excavation. Revealed surfaces of the natural geology were manually cleaned to identify archaeological features. Spoil and trench bases were scanned for the presence of artefacts, both visually and with a metal detector.
- 3.1.3 All encountered archaeological finds were collected, and deposits and features sampled and recorded to accepted professional standards (ASE 2014b) using standard ASE recording forms.
- 3.1.4 All excavation areas and archaeological features were planned using digital survey technology. Sections were hand-drawn at a scale of 1:10. A digital photographic record was maintained of all trenches and excavated features and of the site in general.

3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at Littlehampton Museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	42
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	2
Bulk Samples	2
Photographs	38
Environmental flots/residue	1 box

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Geology and overburden

4.1.1 The underlying natural geology and sequence of overburden recorded in all four mitigation areas is consistent with that observed during the prior evaluation of the site. This consisted of natural alluvial overbank deposits of mid yellowish brown silty clay, overlain by a sequence of subsoil and topsoil.

4.2 Trench 76 (Figures 2 and 3)

Context	Type	Parent context	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	Spot date
76/001	cut	76/001	gully	4.5	0.45	0.22	
76/002	fill	76/001	fill	4.5	0.45	0.22	
76/003	cut	76/003	gully	2.95	1	0.18	
76/004	fill	76/003	fill	2.95	1	0.18	
76/005	cut	76/005	ditch	5.9	0.74	0.25	
76/006	fill	76/005	fill	5.9	0.74	0.25	LBA?
76/007	cut	76/007	posthole	0.35	0.31	0.2	
76/008	fill	76/007	fill	0.35	0.31	0.2	
76/009	cut	76/009	ditch terminus	1.91	0.55	0.28	
76/010	fill	76/009	fill	1.91	0.55	0.28	
76/011	cut	76/011	ditch	4.12	0.73	0.22	
76/012	fill	76/011	fill	4.12	0.73	0.22	
76/013	cut	76/013	posthole	0.36	0.32	0.18	
76/014	fill	76/013	fill	0.36	0.32	0.18	
76/015	cut	76/015	pit	0.83	0.6	0.2	
76/016	fill	76/015	fill	0.83	0.6	0.2	
76/017	cut	76/017	gully	0.45	4.05	0.21	
76/018	fill	76/017	fill	0.45	4.05	0.21	
76/019	cut	76/019	gully	0.62	4.05	0.2	
76/020	fill	76/019	fill	0.62	4.05	0.2	
76/021	layer		topsoil	Tr	Tr		
76/022	layer		subsoil	Tr	Tr		
76/023	layer		natural	Tr	Tr	n/a	

Table 3: Trench 76 list of recorded contexts

Summary

- 4.2.1 This trench was excavated to a depth of 0.50 – 0.60m. No features were identified at the western end of the site. A small north-south aligned gully [76/001], filled with mid yellowish brown silty clay [76/002] comprised the westernmost feature recorded. This was seen to run parallel to a wide north-south ditch or possible Holloway previously excavated in Trench 67 immediately to the north. To the east were two small ditches or gullies on broadly similar north-east/south-west alignments, including [76/003] and [76/005]. Both features were filled with similar deposits of mid brownish yellow silty clay [76/004] and [76/006] respectively. Ditch [76/006], which produced a single sherd of probable Late Bronze Age pottery, was previously recorded during the evaluation of the site in Trench 70 to the north-east.
- 4.2.2 Towards the eastern end of the trench were a group of four parallel ditches north-south aligned ditches arranged in two pairs spaced c. 2.65m apart. Together these features may represent the evidence for a trackway or ditched hedgeline whose western limits were defined by ditches [76/009] and [76/011] and eastern limits by [76/017] and the later re-cut [76/019].
- 4.2.3 The remaining two features recorded within this trench consisted of two small pits or postholes the eastern end of the trench, including [76/007] and [76/013], both of which were filled with similar deposits of mid greyish brown silty clay [76/008] and [76/014], and a small ovoid pit [76/015], with a fill of mid yellowish brown silty clay [76/016].
- 4.2.4 With the exception of the single sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery recovered from ditch [76/00], finds recovered from features within this trench were limited to assemblages of fire-cracked flint from features [76/005], [76/011], [76/013] and [76/019] and two undiagnostic struck flint flakes from features [76/005] and [76/020]. All features were sealed by subsoil horizon [76/022] and topsoil [76/023].

4.3 Trench 77 (Figures 2 and 4)

Context	Type	Parent context	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	Spot date
77/001	cut	77/01	posthole	0.24	0.24	0.3	
77/002	fill	77/01	fill	0.24	0.24	0.3	
77/003	layer		topsoil	Tr	Tr		
77/004	layer		subsoil	Tr	Tr		
77/005	layer		natural	Tr	Tr	n/a	

Table 3: Trench 77 list of recorded contexts

Summary

- 4.3.1 This trench was excavated to a depth of 0.45m. The posthole identified during evaluation [65/004] was re-located. In addition, a single additional posthole [77/001], with a fill of mid yellowish brown silty clay [77/002], was also identified approximately 1.5m to the north-east of [65/004]. A small fragment from a quern or rubbing stone was recovered from this feature, which was sealed by subsoil horizon [77/004] and topsoil [77/003].

4.4 Trench 78 (Figures 2 and 3)

Context	Type	Parent context	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	Spot date
78/001	layer		topsoil	Tr	Tr		
78/002	layer		subsoil	Tr	Tr		
78/003	layer		natural	Tr	Tr		
78/004	cut	78/004	ditch	6.95	9.8	0.5	
78/005	fill	78/004	fill	6.95	9.8	0.5	LBA?
78/006	cut	78/006	ditch	2	0.78	0.3	
78/007	fill	78/006	fill	2	0.78	0.3	Prehist

Table 4: Trench 78 list of recorded contexts

Summary

- 4.4.1 This trench was excavated to a depth of 0.55 – 0.60m. A large north-south aligned linear [78/004], with a fill of dark greyish brown silty clay [78/005] was recorded within this trench. The feature, which measured up to 6.95m wide and 0.50m deep, was also recorded during the prior evaluation of the site in Trench 67 and 68 to the north and may represent a holloway or similar feature. A small assemblage of probable Late Bronze Age pottery, broadly consistent with the dating previously recovered in Trench 68, was recovered from the feature, along with a quantity of fire-cracked flint and struck flint, the latter including a blade-like flake. This latter item is probably of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date and thus presumably residual within this feature. A further east-west aligned ditch or gully [78/006], with a fill of mid brownish yellow silty clay [78/007], was also recorded within this trench. Finds recovered from this feature include a single undiagnostic flint flake, six pieces

of fire-cracked flint and four tiny chips of pottery indicative only of a broad later prehistoric date. The stratigraphic relationship of this ditch with the possible holloway [78/004] remains undetermined, despite the excavation of the intersection of these two features.

4.4.2 Both features were sealed by subsoil horizon [78/002] and topsoil [78/001].

4.5 Trench 79 (Figures 2 and 3)

Context	Type	Parent context	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	spot date
79/001	layer		topsoil	Tr	Tr		
79/002	layer		subsoil	Tr	Tr		
79/003	layer		natural	Tr	Tr		
79/004	cut	79/004	ditch terminus	1.5	0.9	0.65	
79/005	fill	79/004	fill	1.5	0.9	0.65	Eneo?
79/006	cut	79/006	pit	0.28	0.13	0.3	
79/007	fill	79/006	fill	0.28	0.13	0.3	

Table 5: Trench 79 list of recorded contexts

Summary

- 4.5.1 This trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.60m, although features were observed from a depth of 0.45m. The trench was extended to the north to further expose features previously recorded in evaluation Trench 70. This includes the north-east south-west aligned ditch [70/010], which, upon re-excavation, proved to terminate to the south-west. The southern limits of pit [70/006] was defined and excavated in this trench, where it was recorded as [79/006]. A small group of possible Early Neolithic pottery was recovered from this feature during this phase of work, as well as a blade-like flake of probable Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. The pottery is consistent in fabric and date with that recovered during the evaluation, though the absence of any diagnostic elements means that the Early Neolithic date remains uncertain.
- 4.5.2 The continuation of the north-east/southwest aligned ditch recorded in Trenches 68, 70 and 76 was identified in the south-east corner of the trench, though it was not excavated here.
- 4.5.3 All the features described above were sealed by subsoil horizon [79/002] and topsoil [79/001].

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the archaeological mitigation work on the site. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 6). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (ClfA 2014a). No further conservation is required.

Context	Pottery	Wt(g)	Flint	Wt(g)	FCF	Wt(g)	Stone	Wt(g)	F. Clay	Wt(g)
76/006	1	2	1	<1	34	382				
76/010							1	44		
76/012					13	168				
76/014					4	52				
76/020			1	<1	15	338				
77/002							1	24		
78/005	4	22	6	33	10	264			1	<2
78/007	4	<2	1	15	6	110				
79/005	3	14	2	<1	1	<2				
Total	12	38	11	48	83	1314	2	68	1	0

Table 6: Quantification of the finds

5.2 Worked Flint by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 The mitigation work produced a total of 11 pieces of flint considered to be humanly struck, weighing 48g. A further 83 fragments (1314g) of burnt unworked flint were recovered from seven contexts. The 11 pieces of struck flint were hand-collected from five contexts in three trenches (Trenches 76, 78 and 79). The small assemblage consists entirely of knapping debris and comprises eight flakes, two blade-like flakes and a chip. All the flint artefacts are manufactured from a light to dark grey flint. Where present the cortex is slightly stained and mostly weathered. It varies from less than 1mm to 4mm in thickness. The raw material would have been available locally from surface deposits. Both blade-like flakes – from [78/005] and [79/005]) are related to blade-based industry, and they are likely to be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date. The remaining artefacts are otherwise undiagnostic; some could be later in date.

5.2.2 A small assemblage of burnt unworked flint was recovered. The majority of fragments had been heavily calcined to a white grey colour. They were mostly small-sized, with the largest pieces measuring only 45mm. Although un-datable, burnt unworked flints are frequently associated with prehistoric activities.

5.2.3 The small assemblage of flints provides limited evidence for prehistoric presence. It is in keeping with the flintwork previously recovered at the site.

5.3 Prehistoric Pottery by Louise Rayner

- 5.3.1 A very small assemblage of prehistoric pottery totalling 12 sherds/fragments was recovered from four contexts. All sherds are flint-tempered although there is variety in the fabrics, possibly indicative of differing dates. No diagnostic sherds are present and six pieces are little more than tiny chips of pottery, making dating very difficult to assign with any certainty.

Context no	Description
76/006	1 sherd probably Later Bronze Age
78/005	4 pieces (2 sherds; 2 chips) moderate flint-temper probably Late Bronze Age
78/007	4 chips prehistoric/late 1st mill
79/005	3 pieces, coarser flint in dense matrix. The coarse flint could be indicative of an Early Neolithic date but aside from the fabric there is little to base this on.

Table 7: The prehistoric pottery

- 5.3.2 This small collection of pottery adds little to our understanding of the site beyond providing some broad dating and generally indicating prehistoric activity in the area. This is not surprising given the location of the complex multi-phase landscape across Roundstone Lane which produced a large assemblage of Middle Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age/Earliest Iron Age pottery. Despite the undiagnostic nature of the pottery recovered recently this undoubtedly sits within the range of the larger assemblage although given the size and lack of feature sherds little can be elucidated about the character of the activity to which it relates.
- 5.3.3 Given the size and condition of the pottery, there is little potential for further study and no further work is required.

5.4 The Fired Clay by Trista Clifford

- 5.4.1 A small assemblage of 42 fired clay fragments, weighing a total of 96g, was hand collected and retrieved from environmental sample <120>. The bulk of the assemblage consists of small fragments in a silty pinkish orange fabric with reduced patches with poorly sorted grassy voids from [77/002] <120>. Some of the larger pieces appear to have roughly smoothed outer surface, however they are too small to be diagnostic of form. Context [78/005] produced a tiny fragment in a reduced fabric weighing less than 1g. The assemblage is not diagnostic of date.

5.5 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

- 5.5.1 Just two pieces of stone were recovered from the site during the recent fieldwork. Context [76/010] produced a 44g fragment of local Tertiary ferruginous medium-grained sandstone, while context [77/002] contained a 24g fragment of Lower Greensand, The latter has part of a grinding face still remaining and almost certainly originated from a rubbing stone or quern though the piece is too small to discern form.
- 5.5.2 The stone has no potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Angela Vitolo

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 During archaeological mitigation at the site, two bulk soil samples were taken from post-hole and ditch terminus fills to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca, as well as to assist finds recovery. The following report summarises the contents of these samples and discusses the contribution that the environmental remains can give with regards to the local vegetation environment, fuel use and selection and the agricultural economy or other plant use.

6.2 Methodology

- 6.2.1 The two samples were processed by flotation in their entirety. The flots and residues were captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes respectively and were air dried. The dried residues from the flotation samples were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Table 8). Artefacts recovered from the samples were distributed to specialists, and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The dried flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Table 9). Identifications of macrobotanical remains have been made through comparison with published reference atlases (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004), and nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.3 Results

- 6.3.1 The flots were dominated by uncharred vegetative matter, such as rootlets and uncharred goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.) seeds, which are likely to have infiltrated the deposit through root action. No charred plant remains were present. Sample <1> was charcoal rich, but most of the fragments were <2mm and therefore not suitable for identification. Neither sample was deemed to contain enough charcoal to warrant identification work. A little amount of hammer scale was noted in flot <2>.
- 6.3.2 The heavy residues did not contain environmental remains, except occasional charcoal fragments. Finds included ceramic building material, flint, sandstone, cola, fire cracked flint and magnetised material.

6.4 Discussion

- 6.4.1 The environmental samples from this phase of work on the site have not contributed significant information on diet and economy at the site. The flots were generally dominated by uncharred modern contaminants and the lack of plant remains made no discussion on plant use possible. However, previous work on environmental samples from this site revealed the presence of charred plant macrofossils and oak charcoal (Hinton 2003, ASE 2014b), suggesting the potential of local deposits for the preservation of charred remains. The absence of plant remains from these particular samples could therefore be due to the choice of sampled features and any future work at the site should continue sampling, targeting primary deposits.

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
120	77/002	Post-hole	10	10	*	<2	**	<2	Flint */<2g - CBM/burnt sandstone */24g - Burnt clay **/96g
121	79/005	Ditch terminus	40	40	**	<2	**	<2	Flint */<2g - Ind. Debris **/<2g - Coal */<2g - Mag.Mat. **/<2g - FCF */10g

Table 8: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Industrial debris hammerscale
120	77/002	5	50	50	50	10		*	**	****	
121	79/005	2	50	50	70	10	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.		*	**	*

Table 9: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 7.1.1 The stratigraphic sequence recorded during the mitigation works is consistent with that recorded during the prior evaluation phase, consisting of alluvial deposits sealed by a uniform sequence of subsoil and topsoil. All recorded features were sealed by the subsoil horizon of the site.
- 7.1.2 The range and character of the identified archaeological features is also consistent with that recorded during the evaluation. This is due to the scope of the mitigation work which was focussed on the further exposure of features identified during the evaluation. Ditches and trackways or holloways were seen to conform to two principal alignments: a north-south alignment and a north-east/south-west alignment. There is no clear chronological distinction between the two alignments but again this is probably a function of the limited exposure afforded by the fieldwork carried out to date. Other features recorded include a handful of postholes and pits. Taken with the results of the evaluation these do not form any meaningful patterning though as with the ditches discussed above the limited nature of the work undertaken should be borne in mind.
- 7.1.3 Dating evidence is also very limited but is consistent with that previously recovered, with much of the available dating indicating a Late Bronze Age date, with the suggestion of some earlier activity, possibly of Early Neolithic date.

7.2 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Mesolithic/Early Neolithic

- 7.2.1 The recovery of a few small sherds of Early Neolithic pottery from pit [70/006=79/006], as well as two blade-like flakes of a broader Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date is certainly suggestive of some activity of this period on or near to the site. The undiagnostic nature of the pottery renders its precise dating tentative and the possibility it is later cannot be ruled out, nor can the possibility of residuality.

Later Bronze Age and Early Iron Age

- 7.2.2 A limited quantity of probable Later Bronze Age pottery was recovered from ditches [76/005] and [78/004]. When taken with the similar dating evidence recovered during the evaluation this suggests that much of the recorded activity on the site can be dated broadly to the late 2nd/earlier 1st millennium BC. In itself, this is unsurprising and the evidence garnered from previous excavations to the west of the site (ASE 2003) and recent work to the east and north of the site suggests that the site lies within an extensive Later Bronze Age and Early Iron Age landscape that includes field systems, settlement and funerary evidence (ASE 2003; ASE 2014b). The predominance of ditches recorded on the current site might be best taken to suggest that the site lies primarily within an agricultural landscape of fields and trackways. Unfortunately, however, the limited nature of the fieldwork undertaken on the site makes it very difficult to expand on this general

observation, or to adequately address the research aims outlined in Section 2.7 above. Certainly, the consideration of the size, form and function both of individual fields and the wider field system is largely beyond the scope of the available evidence, other than noting that the evidence for probable trackways on the site might be taken to indicate the movement of livestock.

7.2.3 It should also be noted that it is impossible to categorically discount the presence of settlement-related features on the site on the basis of the available evidence. The presence of part of a probable quern or rubber and within a posthole in Trench 77, for example, is strongly reminiscent of elements of Later Bronze Age structured deposition that are often associated with buildings and settlement, particularly when considered alongside the two Late Bronze Age loom weights recovered from the adjacent posthole [65/004] during the evaluation (ASE 2014b). Deposits of fragmentary querns within Middle Bronze Age roundhouses have been noted at a number of sites in Sussex, such as Black Patch, Itford Hill, Cock Hill or New Barn Down (Curwen 1934a; Ratcliffe-Densham & Ratcliffe-Densham 1961; Burstow and Holleyman 1957; Drewett 1982a). The size and spacing of the two postholes in Trench 77 is not inconsistent with the evidence for the typical internal post-ring roof support of a Middle Bronze Age roundhouse (Guilbert 1982), much of the remainder of which would extend beyond the limits of the excavation area.

7.2.4 With regard to the research aims outlined above, it seems probable therefore that there is evidence for Bronze Age land division on the site but the limited nature of the evidence to hand does not provide any useful contribution to our understanding of the long-term history of Bronze Age land division in Sussex. The limited dating evidence for example was recovered from the infilling of field boundary ditches, almost certainly relates to the use and/or abandonment of the ditches, rather than dating their inception. As stated above, the chronological relationship between the two principal alignments observed on the site also remains undetermined and imposes limitations on any consideration of the long-term history of Bronze Age land division in the county. In sum, the evidence at best can be considered to be broadly consistent with current understanding of Later Bronze Age land division in Sussex and southern Britain (e.g. Yates 2007).

7.2.5 No evidence for Later Iron Age occupation was identified during the evaluation or mitigation work and the small quantity of Roman material recovered during the prior evaluation suggests limited activity of this date which is best seen as peripheral to that observed during earlier excavations to the west of the site (ASE 2003; 2014b)

7.3 Conclusions

7.3.1 The mitigation work has provided limited evidence to complement that garnered during the evaluation of the site for land division on the site of probable Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age date, alongside some limited evidence for earlier activity of possible Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date on or in the vicinity of the site.

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HER Summary

Site Code	ARL 14					
Identification Name and Address	Pound Nursery, Roundstone Lane, Angmering, West Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex, Arun					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 351 242					
Geology	Brickearth					
Arch. South-East Project Number	7165					
Type of Fieldwork	Exc					
Type of Site	Green Field					
Dates of Fieldwork	May 2015					
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting Ltd					
Project Manager	Darryl Palmer					
Project Supervisor	Pipe Stephenson					
Period Summary			Neo.	BA	IA	
<i>Summary</i> <i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake a programme of archaeological mitigation work at Pound Nursery, Roundstone Lane, Angmering, West Sussex. The work comprised the archaeological monitoring of soil stripping of an easement measuring around 5m in width across the site and three additional small areas excavated to further expose features encountered during a prior evaluation of the site. Taken with the results of the evaluation the work has identified elements of probable Later Bronze Age or Early Iron Age land division, along with a handful of pits and postholes, one of which contained a possible structured deposit of a fragment of quern or rubbing stone. In addition, a small quantity of possible Early Neolithic pottery and two blade-like flint flakes of Mesolithic-Early Neolithic date are suggestive of some activity of this date on or near the site.</i>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-223954

Project details

Project name Archaeological mitigation work Pound Nursery, Roundstone Lane Angmering, West Sussex

Short description of the project Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to undertake a programme of archaeological mitigation work at Pound Nursery, Roundstone Lane, Angmering, West Sussex. The work comprised the archaeological monitoring of soil stripping of an easement measuring around 5m in width across the site and three additional small areas excavated to further expose features encountered during a prior evaluation of the site. Taken with the results of the evaluation the work has identified elements of probable Later Bronze Age or Early Iron Age land division, along with a handful of pits and postholes, one of which contained a possible structured deposit of a fragment of quern or rubbing stone. In addition, a small quantity of possible Early Neolithic pottery and two blade-like flint flakes of Mesolithic-Early Neolithic date are suggestive of some activity of this date on or near the site.

Project dates Start: 19-05-2015 End: 27-05-2015

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated project reference ARL14 - Sitecode codes

Any associated project reference 7573 - Contracting Unit No. codes

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed

Monument type PIT Early Neolithic

Monument type FIELD BOUNDARY Bronze Age

Monument type FIELD SYSTEM Bronze Age

Monument type POSTHOLE Bronze Age

Significant Finds POTTERY Bronze Age

Significant Finds FLINT FLAKE Early Neolithic

Investigation type "Part Excavation", "Watching Brief"

Prompt Planning condition

Project location

Country England

Site location WEST SUSSEX ARUN ANGMERING Former Ound Nursery, Roundstone Lane, Angmering

Postcode BN16 4FJ

Study area 545 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 351 242 51.00075105413 -0.074372736404 51 00 02 N 000 04 27 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 13.09m Max: 14m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project originator brief Archaeology South-East

Project originator design Archaeology South-East

Project director/manager Darryl Palmer

Project supervisor Philippa Stephenson

Type of sponsor/funding body CgMs Consulting

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Littlehampton Museum

Physical Contents "Ceramics", "Environmental"

Digital Archive recipient Littlehampton Museum

Digital Contents "Stratigraphic", "Survey"

Digital available Media "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Survey"

Paper Archive recipient Littlehampton Museum

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic"

Paper available Media "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

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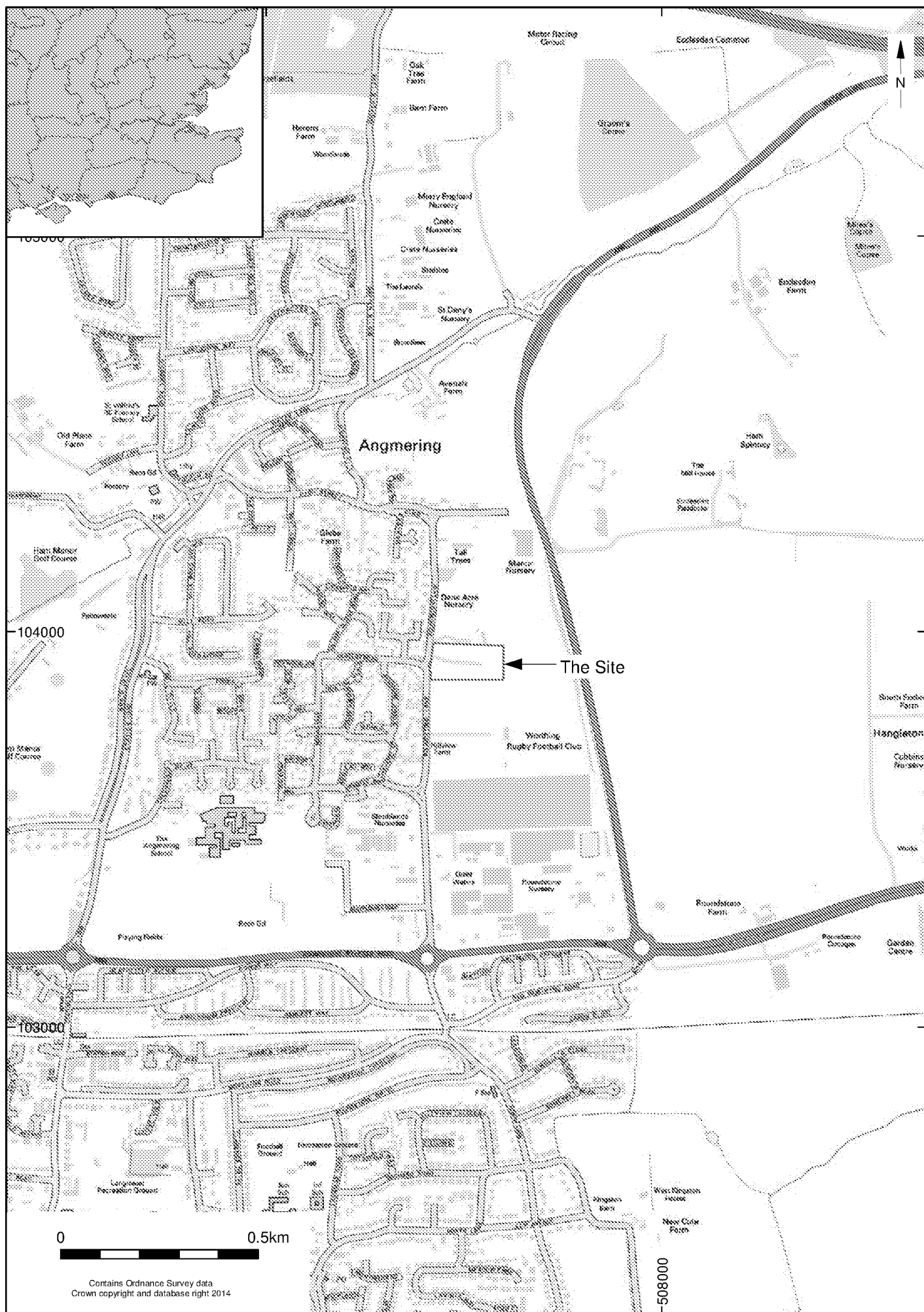
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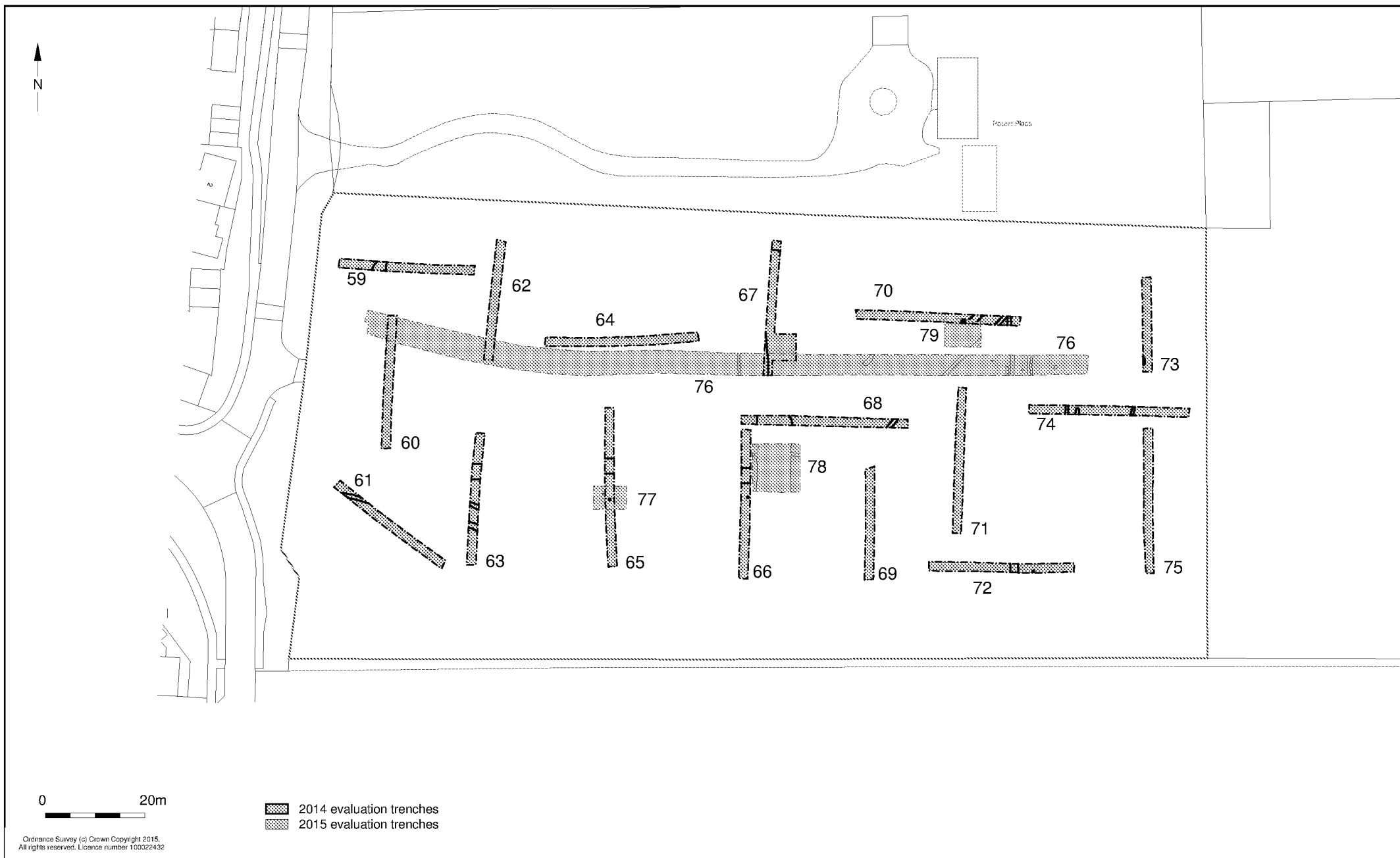
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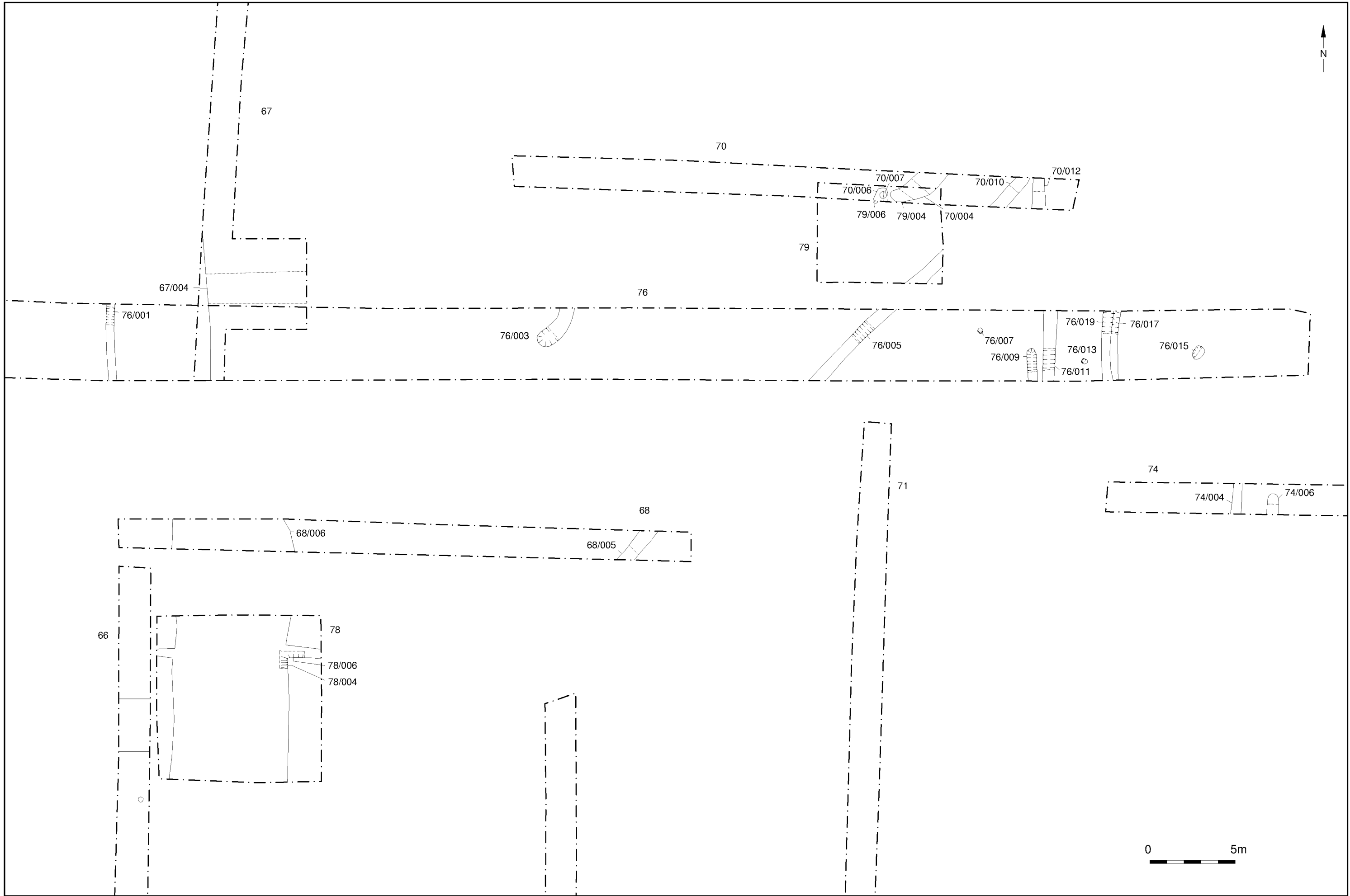
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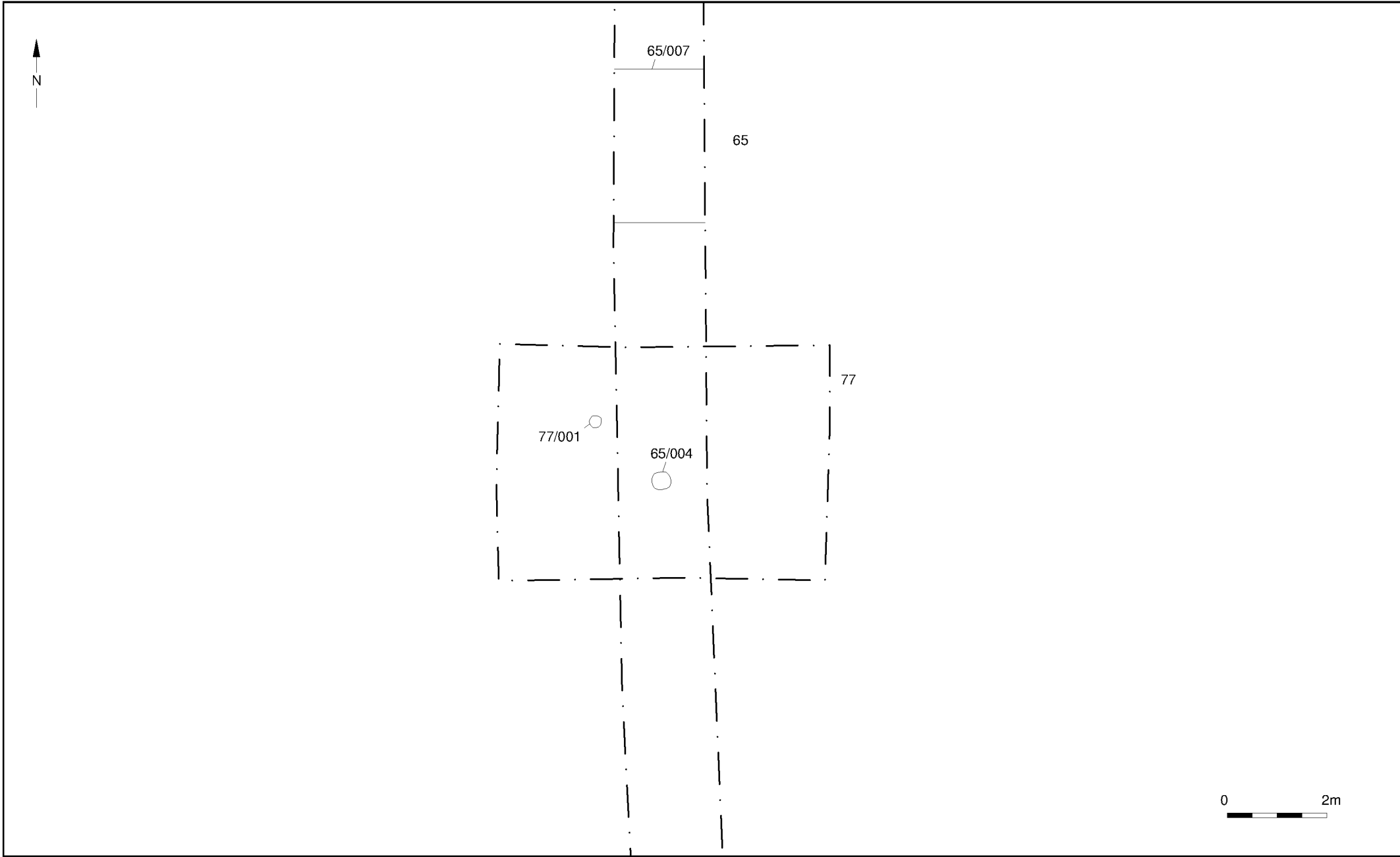
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Project Ref: 7573	June 2015	Site location	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 7573	June 2015	Trench location	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 7573	June 2015	Trenches 76, 78 and 79	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 7573

June 2015

Report Ref:

Drawn by: JLR

Vestbrick Pound Nursey, Angmering

Trench 77

Fig. 4

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