

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AT
LAND WEST OF NEW BARN LANE
NORTH BERSTED, BOGNOR REGIS
WEST SUSSEX**

**NGR: 491571 101061
(SU 91571 01061)**

**A POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND
UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN REPORT**

Outline Planning Consent Ref: BE/142/15/OUT

**ASE Project No: 180189
Site Code: NBL18**

**ASE Report No: 2018249
OASIS ID: archaeol6-322999**



By Giles Dawkes

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Abstract

This report presents the results of programme of archaeology carried out by Archaeology South-East (UCL Institute of Archaeology) on Land West of New Barn Lane North Bersted, Bognor Regis, West Sussex in April 2018. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in advance of residential redevelopment. Three periods of archaeological occupation were identified, from the earlier prehistoric to the medieval era.

The earliest archaeologically identifiable feature was a single Neolithic pit. The first wide-spread occupation of the site was a Middle Bronze Age/Early Iron Age field system and a scatter of pits. Later activity comprised of isolated field boundary ditches of Roman and medieval date. In addition, a small finds assemblage was recovered.

This report is written and structured so as to conform to the standards required of post-excavation work as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (HM Gov 2012) and the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (English Heritage 2008). Interim analysis of the stratigraphic, finds and environmental material has indicated a provisional chronology, and assessed the potential of the site archive to address the original research agenda, as well as assessing the significance of those findings. This has highlighted what further analysis work is required in order to enable suitable dissemination of the findings in a final publication. It is suggested that there should be no further work.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location

- 1.1.1 The site is located on land west of New Barn Lane, North Bersted, Bognor Regis, West Sussex. The site comprises a sub-rectangular parcel of land measuring approximately 3.7ha. (Figs 1 and 2).

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies on the Sussex coastal plain and is approximately level at c. 4.96m (AOD) in the east of the site to c 4.22m (AOD) in the north of site. According to the British Geological Survey (BGS) the underlying geology of the site is Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation, Culver Chalk Formation and Portsdown Chalk Formation chalk. The superficial geological deposits comprise River Terrace Deposits of sand, silt and clay.

1.3 Scope of the Project

- 1.3.1 The site was granted outline planning permission with an attached archaeological condition by Arun District Council on 21st January, 2016 (Outline Planning Consent Ref: OL/TH/15/0537).
- 1.3.2 Based on the results previous work of a desk-based assessment (CgMs 2015), geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016) and evaluation trenching (ASE 2018), it was agreed by the archaeology adviser to the local planning authority and CgMs Consulting that a programme of mitigation work (archaeological excavation and additional trenching) should be undertaken (Fig 2).
- 1.3.3 The mitigation excavation comprised three areas of c6300 m² (Area 1), c2030m² (Area 2) and c88m² (Area 3). These were centred on the significant archaeological features identified in the evaluation trenching. However, in the event Area 2 was unexcavated due to extensive flooding (Fig 2).
- 1.3.4 Following a commission by CgMs Consulting to undertake the programme of archaeological works, CgMs produced a detailed written scheme of investigation (WSI) outlining the methodology and timetable for the archaeological work (CgMs 2018).

1.4 Circumstances and Dates of Work

- 1.4.1 The main excavation phase was undertaken by ASE in April 2018. The site was staffed by ASE archaeologists and directed by John Hirst. The fieldwork project manager was Darryl Palmer, and the post-excavation analysis and reporting by Jim Stevenson.
- 1.4.3 The fieldwork was monitored through regular visits by James Kenny, archaeological advisor to Chichester District Council.

1.5 Archaeological methodology

- 1.5.1 All excavation areas were machine stripped using a tracked mechanical 360° excavator. All mechanical excavation was undertaken using toothless ditching

buckets under the direct supervision of experienced archaeologists. The machine excavation stopped at the top of archaeological features.

- 1.5.2 The resultant machined surfaces were cleaned as necessary and a pre-excavation plan prepared using Global Positioning System (GPS) planning technology in combination with Total Station surveying. This was made available to the Project Manager, the Supervisor, CgMs Consulting and the archaeological advisor immediately, or at the latest the day after the recording had taken place.
- 1.5.3 This pre-excavation plan was made available in Autocad and PDF format and printed at a suitable scale (1:20 or 1:50) for on site use. The plan was updated by regular visits to site by ASE Surveyors who plotted excavated features and recorded levels in close consultation with the supervisors. Where necessary (for example detailed structural features) features were hand planned at a scale of 1:20 and then digitised to be included on the overall plan.
- 1.5.4 After the cleaning and planning of the excavation areas the following sampling strategy was employed:
- All structures and all zones of specialised activity (for example, funerary, ceremonial, industrial, agricultural processing) were fully excavated and all relationships recorded.
 - Ditches and gullies had all relationships defined, investigated and recorded. All terminals were excavated. Sufficient of the feature lengths were excavated to determine the character of the feature over its entire course; the possibility of recuts of parts, and not the whole, of the feature were considered.
 - Pits were initially excavated and fully recorded.
 - Post and stake holes were fully excavated.
 - For other types of feature such as working hollows, quarry pits etc., all relationships at least were ascertained. Further investigation was a matter of on-site judgement, but sought to establish as a minimum their extent, date and function.
- 1.5.5 All excavated deposits and features were recorded according to current professional standards using pro-forma ASE context record sheets.
- 1.5.6 A full digital photographic record of all features was maintained by hand-held cameras (3 and 8 megapixels), pole camera (4 megapixels) and drone (5 megapixels). The photographic record also includes working shots to provide an overview represent more generally the nature of the fieldwork.
- 1.5.7 All finds recovered from excavated deposits were collected and retained in line with the ASE artefacts collection policy.
- 1.5.8 All finds covered by the Treasure Act were moved to a safe place and reported to the coroner's office according to the procedures of this Act. Where removal could not be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures were taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage.
- 1.5.9 The excavation areas and spoil heaps were metal detected for artefact recovery.

- 1.5.10 Samples were collected from suitable excavated contexts, including dated/datable buried soils, well-sealed slowly silted features, sealed hearths, and sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, water-logged or cess deposits. On-site sampling methodology, processing and recording was undertaken within the guidelines laid out by English Heritage (2011).
- 1.5.11 The sampling aimed to recover spatial and temporal information concerning the occupation of the site. This was best achieved by sampling a range of feature types (pits, ditches, post-holes, cess pits) from across the site, the fills of which can be compared and contrasted.
- 1.5.12 A standard bulk sample size of 40 litres (or 100% of small features) was taken from dated/datable sealed contexts to recover environmental remains such as fish, small mammals, molluscs and botanicals.

1.6 Organisation of the Report

- 1.6.1 This post-excavation assessment (PXA) and updated project design (UPD) has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (English Heritage 2008).
- 1.6.2 The report seeks to place the results from the site within the local and regional archaeological and historical setting; to quantify and summarise the results; specify their significance and potential, including any capacity to address the original research aims, listing any new research criteria; and to lay out what further analysis work is required to enable their final dissemination, and what form the latter should take.
- 1.6.3 The excavation was undertaken under a single site code (NBL18) and this assessment report represents a unified narrative of preliminary results.

2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The following summary is drawn from the desk-based assessment (CgMs 2015) with due acknowledgement and the report on the evaluation trenching (ASE 2018).

Prehistoric

- 2.2 A possible Pleistocene lake was recorded during a 2009 archaeological evaluation approximately 300m north-west of the site. The presence of charcoal within its deposits suggests the potential for survival of evidence relating to hominid activity. A Mid-Palaeolithic hand axe fragment has been recorded close by.
- 2.3 A small assemblage of Early Neolithic pottery sherds and a large assemblage of worked flint including debitage was recorded from a ditch during the 2009 archaeological evaluation approximately 600m north of the site. Undated features close by could be of similar date. A vessel of possible Neolithic date was found in a pit along with struck and burnt flint during archaeological evaluation approximately 750m north-east of the site.
- 2.4 The 2009 archaeological evaluation recorded evidence of Bronze Age activity comprising ditches, a possible burnt mound, postholes and pits concentrated to the north of the evaluation area approximately 500m north/north-west of the site. An undated ring ditch, possibly the ploughed out remains of a Bronze Age barrow, was recorded approximately 750m south-west of the site.
- 2.5 Possible prehistoric mounds were recorded during a walkover survey approximately 750m north-east of the site. A large archaeological evaluation on land approximately 550m-1km east/south-east of the site recorded evidence of Bronze Age occupation comprising ditched field systems, a cremation urn, burnt mounds, ditched trackways, pits, postholes. There was evidence for continued activity into the Iron Age. Archaeological investigations at Bognor Community College approximately 800m south-east of the site recorded a Late Bronze Age/Iron Age field system and associated round house.
- 2.6 Evidence for Iron Age occupation is provided by pits and ditches recorded approximately 750m north-west of the site, suggesting nearby settlement. A possible holloway was recorded approximately 300m south-west and a ditch containing a substantial assemblage of pottery recorded approximately 500m south-west of the study. Iron Age pottery sherds were discovered during road widening works approximately 750m south of the site.

Roman

- 2.7 Roman settlement evidence and another area of industrial activity comprising a hearth/kiln close to a waterhole were recorded on topographical highs during the 2009 archaeological evaluation adjacent to the west of the Site. There was evidence of a field system on lower ground. Evidence of Roman settlement has also been identified at other locations in proximity to the site: c 750m south of the site (pits containing Roman pottery sherds including Samian, rotary quern, and a hearth or oven); 550m east/south-east of the site (early Romano-British settlement and associated field system); at Bognor

Community College c 800m to the south-east (Roman field system and possible trackway). A gold coin was found at the Caravan Park immediately north of the site and further coins 600m to the north-east. A scatter of burnt flint, oyster shells and late Roman pottery were found in ploughsoil immediately south-west of the site.

- 2.8 The 2009 evaluation adjacent to the west of the site recorded three ditches of Roman date that could potentially extend into the northern part of the current site. Evidence for this was not identified during the evaluation.

Early medieval and medieval

- 2.9 Bersted formed part of the estate of Pagham granted by Caedwalla, King of Wessex to Wilfrid and subsequently conveyed to the see of Canterbury. The Archbishops manor was called North Bersted by 1397. St Mary Magdalene Church was built in the 13th century in South Bersted approximately 2km southeast of the site and most likely formed the focus of the early settlement at Bersted.
- 2.10 Medieval pottery sherds were recorded during road widening works approximately 750m south of the site. A single medieval gully was recorded during the evaluation approximately 500m south-east of the site. Evidence of ridge and furrow was recorded during the 2009 evaluation.

Results of the Magnetometer Survey

- 2.11 A detailed magnetometer survey (Stratascan 2016) was conducted over the majority of the site area (3.6 hectares). No probable or possible archaeological features were identified. All of the responses detected were natural or modern and included areas of natural magnetic variation, disturbance from nearby fencing, an area of made ground and magnetic spikes, which were likely to be modern rubbish.

Results of the evaluation trenching

- 2.12 The undisturbed natural geology comprised a firm yellow silt clay with occasional patches of weathered chalk and bands of a bluish grey clay throughout. The natural geology was encountered at a maximum height of 4.39m AOD towards the south of the site area (Trench 20), falling away to 3.54m AOD in the north of the site (Trench 1). The overburden comprised a simple stratigraphic sequence of natural clay overlain by brickearth, subsoil and topsoil, varying in depth from c 0.45m deep to 0.60m deep. Trenches were excavated to a consistent depth across the site, from 0.68m deep in the south to c 0.76m deep in the north.
- 2.13 A small assemblage of worked flint demonstrates early presence at the site during the prehistoric period. Seven pieces of struck flint weighing 83g and 73 fragments of burnt unworked flint weighing 1040g include no diagnostic tools but a broken blade-like flake from context [17/013] is likely to be Mesolithic or Neolithic in date. The remaining flints; six flakes from contexts [12/006], [17/009], [17/013], [19/006], [22/008] and [22/001] cannot be closely dated.
- 2.14 The evaluation identified archaeological features in 13 of the 30 trenches. These were mostly concentrated towards the centre of the southern half of

the evaluated area. The features were predominantly ditches and gullies (trenches 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 30) with 5 pits (trenches 1, 17, 18, 22, 23) and 4 postholes (trenches 12, 16, 18). Trenches 17 and 21 each contained single cremation deposits, which were not excavated but were mapped using GPS, covered over with plastic sheeting and left in situ. The dating evidence retrieved from the archaeological features was poorly constrained but a small assemblage of flint-tempered pottery bodysherds suggest a broad earlier Iron Age date range for the identified features.

3.0 ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS

3.1 Research questions were generated for the mitigation work based on South-East Research Framework (SERF). These were:

- ORA1 - The site is apparently characterised by Early – Mid Iron Age activity. This period is frequently under-represented in the region, much regional evidence pointing to some form of major hiatus at this point. Can this site contribute to the small but growing body of evidence for this period on the West Sussex Coastal plain?
- ORA2 - The Middle Iron Age sees the development of a series of large hillforts, but in general the only other sites are findspots. The paucity of evidence is such that the Middle Iron Age cannot be clearly distinguished in the county. Can the site contribute specifically to evidence for Middle Bronze Age activity?
- ORA3 - Can the site inform on the nature of the Middle Iron Age – Late Iron Age transition?

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Terminology

- 4.1.1 During this stage of post-excavation assessment, individual contexts, (shown in square brackets [000]), have been sub-grouped, grouped and preliminary land-uses assigned. Features are generally referred to by their context, group label (G00) or land-use (for example, EN1). In this way, linear features, such as ditches, which may have numerous individual slots and context numbers, are discussed as single entities, and other cut features such as ring-gullies, pits and postholes are grouped together by structure, common date and/or type. Environmental samples are listed within triangular brackets <00>, and registered finds thus: RF<0>. Cross-references to sections within this report are referred to thus (section 3.7).

Type	Description	Quantity	Notes
Context sheets	Individual context sheets	428	
Section sheets	A1 Multi-context permatrace sheets 1:10	3	
Plans	Multi-context DWG plans A1 permatrace sheets 1:20 or 1:50		All features GPS surveyed and/or photomapped
Photos	Black and white transparency films Colour slide films Digital images	187	Does not include photos for 3D modelling
Environmental sample sheets	Individual sample sheets	5	
Context register	Context register sheets	4	
Environmental sample register	Environmental sample register sheets	1	
Photographic register	Photograph register sheets	5	
Drawing register	Section register sheets	3	
Small finds register	Small finds register sheets	1	

Table 1: Site archive quantification table

4.2 Archaeological evaluation

- 4.2.1 Archaeological features were present in 13 of the 30 trenches excavated during the evaluation stage of works, reported elsewhere (ASE 2018). These features were predominantly located in the central-southern part of the site, and appeared to be mostly of an Earlier Iron Age date, comprising ditches most likely forming a field system(s) possibly relating to livestock management, although a fair quantity of discrete features including postholes and pits were also found, as were two cremations which also suggest occupation activity. Context details for the evaluation can be found in Appendix 1.

4.3 Natural Deposits

- 4.3.1 The excavations revealed the natural clay across the entirety of the mitigations areas. The clay was relatively level and located between c 4.3m and 3.6m OD.

4.4 Period 1 Neolithic (c 4000-2500 BC)

- 4.4.1 An early presence in the landscape was represented by a solitary pit and a small amount of pottery sherds and flintwork found residually in later features (Fig 3). Sub-circular pit [51] was c 1m in diameter and 0.45m deep with irregular sides and concave base. The pit was filled with grey brown silt clays ([52], [53] and [54]) and contained two tiny bodysherds of pottery and four flint blades. These finds broadly date to the feature to the Neolithic period.

4.5 Period 2 Middle Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c 1500-800 BC)

Field System 1

- 4.5.1 Remnants of a field system were recorded across Area 1 comprising shallow ditch lengths (G1-8) representing boundaries (Fig 4). Three of these boundaries were formed by parallel pairs of features (G1/G2, G3/G4 & G5/G6) indicative of drainage ditches either side of hedges. The ditches were filled with grey brown silt clays containing relatively few finds.
- 4.5.2 The only find of note was the base and lower wall of a probable Middle Bronze Age urn from fill [96] in ditch [95] (G3), which measured 0.6m in diameter and 0.23m deep and was cut into earlier ditch [93]. The truncation apparent across this vessel suggests it may have been placed intact as a structured deposit in the open ditch.
- 4.5.3 Two unurned cremation burials [8] and [30] were identified in the east of the excavation area. Both measured approximately 0.5m² and were 0.07-0.08m deep. The cremation burials contained very small amounts of burnt human bone, comprising less than 4% of the expected weight of a complete cremation, and can therefore be considered as 'token' deposits (see section 5.12). Although both were undated, lacking both finds and stratigraphic relationships, the cremations are believed to be of middle Bronze or early Iron Age date.
- 4.5.4 Scattered towards the east of Area 1, were pits [1-9], [13-15], [67], [73], [87], [91], [108-110] (G9), combined with a single pit in Area 1. Most of these pits were shallow and filled with grey brown silts and only [005] produced any finds, including a whetstone fragment, pottery sherds and burnt flint.

4.6 Period 3 Roman (c AD 43-410)

- 4.6.1 Two intercutting ditches ([23], [27], 37, [45], [49], [71], 79, [89] G10) were recorded, representing a small portion of a larger field system (Fig 5). Both were irregular in form with the ditch running NW-SE ranging in diameter from 0.62-1.83m with a depth of 0.25-0.95m, and the intersecting SW-NE ditch measured 0.45-1.05m across and 0.26-0.44m in depth. Both ditches were filled with grey brown silt clays and contained a small finds assemblage of Roman pottery and residual earlier finds.

4.7 Period 4 Medieval (c AD 1066-1450)

- 4.7.1 The latest archaeological feature identified was a solitary ditch ([11-12], [23], [33], [39], [41], [47] G11) aligned north-west to south-east representing a field boundary (Fig 6). The ditch was filled with grey clays and ranged in diameter

from 0.43-1.21m, although was fairly shallow throughout at only 0.25-0.39m deep. Only a very small group of finds was recovered from the ditch fill, including pottery sherds of late medieval date (c.1350-1550), medieval or post-medieval roof tile and various other objects such as shell and fire-cracked flint which do not lend themselves to more specific dating.

5.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation and excavation at New Barn Lane, North Bersted. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and bagged by material and context. The hand-collected bulk finds are quantified in Table 2; material recovered from the residues of environmental samples is quantified separately in Tables 10 and 11. All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014).

5.1.2 For the sake of completeness, the finds report below includes relevant information from the evaluation phase of work. Details of evaluations contexts can be found in Appendix 1.

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Slag	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Burnt Flint	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Glass	Weight (g)	Shell	Weight (g)
6	5	3			1	125	1	125							54	545						
12			1	50											2	91					1	8
16															11	107						
24							1	43							7	116					3	18
28															1	6						
32			1	3											1	16						
42	4	18			1	6									35	435						
44					5	135									16	122					2	5
46															1	24						
48	1	5			1	28																
50			4	10					2	2					20	322						
52	1	3	1	3											2	4						
54	8	17	1	6											7	36						
60	1	5													3	41						
64	3	7													12	219						
66	1	1													2	28						
72	1	2	3	41									32	69	10	184						
74			3	13											15	316						
76															3	30						
78															1	4						
82			4	56											5	33						
84	1	1	1	1																		
88	6	17																				
90	7	24													4	531						
92	2	11																				
96			25	570			1	220							7	52						
105	2	12													10	72						
109			1	1											1	4						
112			1	5											1	9						
113			5	21											1	1						
115	2	3	177	1519									19	28	6	193						
1/006															1	5	1	11				
12/006	7	4													15	45						
12/008															18	76						
12/010			2	4																		
16/006							1	573							2	90						

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Slag	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Burnt Flint	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Glass	Weight (g)	Shell	Weight (g)
16/008			23	20											9	173	1	5				
16/013	5	11	2	6											8	154						
17/009	2	37									1	14			1	28						
17/011															1	55						
18/010															1	17						
19/006	1	7											1	6	6	57		1	4			
21/006			2	2											1	42						
22/003			1	5																		
22/008	1	21													5	148						
23/006															2	39						
23/010	1	4													1	47						
24/006															2	64						
us	11	91	1	11							1	88			1	345						
Total	41	299	259	2347	7	167	4	961	2	2	2	102	52	103	312	4926	2	16	1	4	6	31

Table 2: Quantification of hand-collected bulk finds

5.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 A total of 41 pieces of struck flint weighing 299g and a small amount of unworked burnt flint (4101g) were recovered during the evaluation and the excavation. The pieces of struck flint were quantified by piece count and weight and were individually classified using standard set of codes and morphological descriptions (Butler 2005, Ford 1987 and Inizan et al 1999). The flints were directly catalogued into an Excel spreadsheet table, summarised in Table 3. The unworked burnt flint fragments were scanned for worked pieces and quantified by weight.

Category type	Total no
Flake	28
Blade	4
Blade-like flake	5
Bladelet	1
Chip	1
Irregular waste	1
End scraper	1
Total	41

Table 3: The Flintwork

5.2.2 The pieces are made from a mid-grey and occasionally mid-brown flint with a thin (1mm or less) abraded cortex. Flaws including cherty inclusions and frost/thermal fractures were occasionally recorded. It is likely that the material derive from the superficial brickearth deposits covering the chalk. It would have been available in the vicinity of the site. The condition of the flints vary but none are fresh. The unstratified pieces are in a poor condition indicating successive redepositions. But overall, the pieces display moderate edge damage implying that they have experienced some degree of post-

depositional disturbance or that they were exposed for some time before burial. A total of 18 pieces are recorded as broken, three are slightly burnt, and seven display incipient traces of light bluish surface discolouration or are fully recorticated white.

5.2.3 The pieces of struck flint were spread across the site with no apparent clustering. In total 37 pieces came from 25 numbered contexts, and four pieces were found unstratified. Except for an end scraper from [064] (G6), the assemblage is entirely composed of unmodified pieces of flint débitage including 28 flakes, four blades, five blade-like flakes, a bladelet, a chip and a piece of irregular waste. The morphological and technological traits of the flintwork suggest that the pieces represent a multi-period assemblage. The bladelet from [90] (G10) and the unstratified blade with parallel ridges on the dorsal face are likely to be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic. A broad Mesolithic-Middle Neolithic date can be given to the blades from [52], [54] (P1), [88] and [115] (G9), and the blade-like flake from context [16/013] is likely to pre-date the Early Bronze Age. The remaining pieces of débitage are technologically poor and can't be closely dated on technological ground. Saying that, approximately eight flakes with thin flake removal scars on the dorsal surface could predate the Middle Bronze Age. The end scraper from context [64] (G6) is made on a small flake. It displays direct semi abrupt retouch along the distal end that forms a convex edge. It exhibits a small plain platform but is otherwise chronologically undiagnostic.

5.2.4 The burnt unworked flint fragments (just over 4kg) were recovered from 43 numbered contexts, and no major concentrations were noted. Most fragments were heavily calcined white or light to mid grey with just a few pieces displaying a reddish tinge. Overall, the fragments were small, with only six fragments measuring more than 45mm. Burnt unworked flints are frequently associated with later prehistoric (Middle to Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age) activities, but they can also be found in earlier and later contexts.

5.3 The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

5.3.1 A small assemblage of prehistoric and Roman pottery was recovered during the evaluation and excavation, totalling 259 sherds, weighing 2.34kg, from an estimated 133 vessels. A few possible sherds of earlier prehistoric (Neolithic/Early Bronze Age) pottery were noted but the assemblage appears to be of predominately of Middle Bronze Age/earlier Late Bronze Age date. Just a single sherd of Roman pottery was recorded.

5.3.2 The pottery was examined using a x 20 binocular microscope and quantified by sherd count, weight and estimated vessel number on pro forma records and in an Excel spreadsheet. Fabrics were defined according to a site-specific type-series, formulated in accordance with the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (Table 4; PCRG 2010).

Fabric	Description
FLIN1	Dense slightly laminar, very silty matrix with sparse/moderate ill-sorted flint of 0.5-3mm
FLIN2	Dense slightly laminar, very silty matrix with rare/sparse ill-sorted flint of 0.2-4mm
FLIN3	Common/abundant well-sorted flint of 0.5-2.5mm, in a silty matrix

FLIN4	Very common ill-sorted flint mostly of 0.2-4mm (rarely up to 5mm) in a very silty matrix
FLIN5	Moderate/common ill-sorted flint mostly of 0.2-3mm (rarely up to 4mm) in a very silty matrix
FLIN6	Moderate/common ill-sorted flint of 0.2-4mm (rarely up to 6mm) in a very silty matrix
FLIN7	Moderate flint of 1-2mm in a silty matrix
FLQU1	Moderate/common ill-sorted flint of 0.2-6mm with common quartz of silt-sized to 0.1mm
FLQU2	Moderate, well-sorted flint of 0.2-1.5mm with common quartz of silt-sized to 0.1mm
FLQU3	Sparse/moderate quartz of 0.2-4mm with common quartz of silt-sized to 0.1mm
GRFL1	Moderate grog of 1-2mm and rare flint mostly of 0.2-1mm (some examples up to 2mm) in a very silty matrix
GROG1	Moderate grog of 1-2mm in a dense fairly quartz free matrix

Table 4: Site-specific fabric descriptions for prehistoric pottery

Early Neolithic

- 5.3.3 Two flint-tempered bodysherds recovered from [32] (G10) and [52] (P1) potentially represent the earliest pottery in the assemblage. Their fairly low-fired, laminar matrices and sparse quantities of ill-sorted flint (fabrics FLIN1 and FLIN2) are possibly suggestive of the Early Neolithic Plain Bowl tradition (dating to c 3700-3300 BC), although it is always difficult to distinguish single bodysherds of Early Neolithic pottery from later prehistoric ones on the basis of fabric type alone. The sherd from [32] (G10) also had a very coarsely finished exterior in comparison to a well-burnished interior: an effect with is fairly typical in Early Neolithic assemblages. In addition, it features a small rounded applied lug. In general, the 'Whitehawk style' Plain Bowl tradition in Sussex is characterised by larger flat oval lugs though smaller, circular section lugs are not unknown (see for example Curwen 1931, Plate X, no 1, 135, from The Trundle).

Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

- 5.3.4 A highly abraded, low-fired oxidised sherd, tempered with common rounded grog of c 1mm in size (fabric GROG1), was found as a probable residual element in context [16/008] (G10) and a similar grog-with-flint fabric (GRFL1) was found singly in context [54] (P1). On the West Sussex coastal plain, pre-Late Iron Age grog-tempered fabrics are indicative of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age dating. The relatively thin-walled nature of the sherds suggest that they are likely to belong either to the Late Neolithic Grooved Ware or Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Beaker traditions, since grog-tempered Early Bronze Age urns tend to be much thicker-walled. A previous excavation in North Bersted is one of very few sites in Sussex to have produced non-funerary ceramics of this period (Raymond 2014).

Later prehistoric

- 5.3.5 The remainder of the prehistoric assemblage (quantified by fabric type in Table 5) appears to date predominantly to the later 2nd millennium BC, belonging to the Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury (DR) or very early part of the Late Bronze Age post Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) tradition. More than half of the total assemblage (178 sherds, weighing 1.44kg) comes from one large group found in [115] (G9). Fabrics in this feature are dominated by moderately-coarse to coarse, non-sandy flint-tempered wares, FLIN4 and

FLIN6, with maximum inclusions up to c.4-6mm. Two other minor fabric variants of similar type, FLQU1 and FLQU3, feature much siltier matrices but this probably reflects very fine quartz occurring naturally in the clay rather than added quartz temper. A few bodysherds are associated with slightly finer, better-sorted flint-tempered wares.

- 5.3.6 In general, most of the sherds are relatively thick-walled but some thinner walled profiles were noted. This tends to suggest that context [115] (G9) is dominated by Middle Bronze Age DR pottery but may have been deposited into the earlier part of the Late Bronze Age (post c 1150BC), associated with the early 'plain ware' PDR tradition. Few diagnostic sherds were noted in this group but the two small rim profiles also seem to reflect the group's possible transitional character. Two small conjoining rimsherds from a typical DR barrel urn were recorded; however, a second partial rimsherd is of similar, but significantly thinner-walled, profile and perhaps represents an early PDR hook rim jar.

Fabric	Sherds	Weight (g)	ENV
FLIN3	12	44	11
FLIN4	99	1003	57
FLIN5	3	15	2
FLIN6	34	159	29
FLIN7	30	29	5
FLQU1	32	624	3
FLQU2	3	8	2
FLQU3	41	265	16
Total	254	2147	125

Table 5: Quantification of later prehistoric pottery fabrics

- 5.3.7 The other context of note in terms of prehistoric pottery is [96] (G3), which contains the base and lower wall of a probable Middle Bronze Age DR urn, which may have been placed intact and horizontally truncated. It is possible therefore, that this vessel represents a structured deposit of some kind.
- 5.3.8 The remainder of the prehistoric assemblage is entirely made up by very small groups of featureless flint-tempered bodysherds which are difficult to date with much precision. Pottery recovered from other excavation contexts, including [74], [82], [109], [112] and [113] (G9), generally comprises a similar range of coarse flint-tempered fabrics to those in the larger context groups. They also tend to include at least some thick-walled sherds, suggesting that they also likely to be of later 2nd millennium BC, Middle to Late Bronze Age date.
- 5.3.9 In a few cases, including in most of the evaluation contexts which contained prehistoric pottery ([12/010] (G9), [16/008] (G10), [16/013], [21/006], the fabrics (e.g. FLIN3, FLIN7, FLQU2) tended to contain slightly finer grades of flint with maximum inclusions of up to 2-3mm; sherds were also predominantly quite thin-walled. This is probably more suggestive of a pottery from the 1st millennium BC but this material is so fragmentary as to be very uncertainly dated.

Roman

- 5.3.10 A single bodysherd of Rowland's Castle grey ware, weighing 3g, was noted in context [50] (G10). Rowland's Castle was the major source of coarse pottery in the western part of the coastal plain throughout the Roman period and the sherd is therefore not closely datable. The single Roman pottery sherd did occur with three small flint-tempered sherds in fabric FLIN3. Since later prehistoric flint-tempered wares can persist into the early Roman period on the coastal plain, it is possible that all four sherds represent a contemporary Late Iron Age/early Roman group; however, it is equally likely that the flint-tempered sherds are entirely residual, deriving from earlier 1st millennium BC activity.

5.4 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

- 5.4.1 The evaluation and subsequent excavation produced negligible quantities of post-Roman pottery. The three sherds are summarised in Table 6.

Context	Fabric	Period	No	Weight (g)	Comments (including estimated number of different vessels represented)
22/003	Abundant fine quartz	HM/LM	1	6	Cooking pot x1 (reduced, externally sooted). Worn
U/S	Painted ware (sparse fine quartz)	LM	1	10	Undiagnostic of form x1 (Bitone)
12	Painted ware (sparse fine quartz)	LM	1	50	?Dish x1 (oxidised, green glazed internally). Very worn

Table 6: The post-Roman pottery (HM – High Medieval c 1225-1350, LM – Late Medieval c 1350-1550)

5.5 The Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

- 5.5.1 Seven pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) collectively weighing 167g were collected from three ditch fills: [42], [48] (G11) and [44] (G10). The bulk of this assemblage comprised roof tile fragments, which could not be precisely dated although an early-mid post-medieval date is suggested.
- 5.5.2 All the material was quantified by form, weight and fabric and recorded on standard recording forms. This information was then entered into a digital Excel table. Fabric descriptions were developed with the aid of a x20 binocular microscope and use the following conventions: frequency of inclusions as sparse, moderate, common or abundant; the size of inclusions as fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (up to 0.25 and 0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm).
- 5.5.3 All the roof tile was recovered from ditch fills [44] (G10) and [48] (G11) formed from the same fabric, a micaceous medium orange clay with sparse coarse quartz. None of the roof tile was in especially good condition, all displaying either heavy surface abrasion or chipping. This could be seen to indicate an earlier date, as more recently deposited tile may not have been so damaged, but this is the only basis on which to attempt to tighten up possible dates for the roof tile. It could be of any medieval or post-medieval date.
- 5.5.4 A single fragment of amorphous clay was collected from [42] (G11), which

may represent a heavily abraded piece of brick or alternatively a piece of fired clay. This item cannot be dated at all.

5.6 The Fired Clay by Elke Raemen

- 5.6.1 A single fragment of fired clay (weight 10g) was recovered from [1/006] (G9). The fragment is amorphous and in a silty orange clay with moderate voids.

5.7 The Glass by Elke Raemen

- 5.7.1 Just one fragment of glass (weight 4g) was found during the archaeological work. The piece ([19/006]) comprised an olive-green fragment from a panelled bottle (e.g. pharmaceutical or gin). The fragment is of 19th-century date.

5.8 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

- 5.8.1 Just five pieces of stone (963g) were recovered during the archaeological works at the site. The assemblage has been fully listed in Table 7.

Context	Sample	Stone type	No	Weight (g)	Comments
16/006		Grey brown metamorphic rock	1	574	Slightly crystalline, some water wear. Probably an erratic
6		Compact brown grey micaceous fine sandstone	1	126	Not calcareous. Fragment of tabular whetstone (87 x 52 x 12mm) with traces of incised groove running around three faces
24		Flint pebble	1	42	Beach (white) 43 x 34 x 18mm
96		Lodsworth type Hythe Beds sandstone	1	220	Quern fragment. Upper stone with part of grinding face
8	1	Slate (?Welsh)	1	1	Intrusive

Table 7: The geological material

- 5.8.2 The single piece of stone from the evaluation is undoubtedly an erratic, not an uncommon occurrence on the western portion of the Coastal Plain. The current piece shows no sign of having been modified at the hand of man. The flint pebble could equally occur naturally on site. Three pieces of stone appear to have been deliberately imported by human activity. These consist of the whetstone and quern fragments and the intrusive chip of 19th- century Welsh roofing slate. The quern is of the most commonly used stone types for querns in Sussex. The source of the whetstone is less certain.

5.9 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

- 5.9.1 The excavations recovered just 10g of slag from the site. This total is composed of two hand-collected pieces from a single deposit (3g) with the remainder deriving from one of five environmental sample residues. The latter were only quantified by weight due to the presence of numerous very small

pieces. The minimum weight value recorded was 1g, even if the sample contained less than that figure. Each residue was carefully scanned under x10 magnification in order to establish the presence and nature of any micro slags. The assemblage has been fully listed in Table 8.

Context	Sample	Type	No	Weight (g)	Comments
1/006	1	Magnetic fines	-	1	Ferruginous siltstone granules
1/006	1	Hammerscale	-	1	Flake (1mm) x1
50		Fuel ash	2	3	Vitrified, aerated with some iron staining
8	1	Magnetic fines	-	1	
30	2	Magnetic fines	-	1	
42	4	Magnetic fines	-	1	
42	4	Hammerscale	-	1	Flakes (to 2mm) <x10
54	3	Magnetic fines	-	1	

Table 8: The slag assemblage

- 5.9.2 The fuel ash slag from [50] (G10) is of a type that is undiagnostic of process. Such slag can be formed in a metalworking hearth as well as a domestic one. There are very tiny amounts of hammerscale ([1/006] (G9) and [42] (G11)) that suggests some iron smithing in the general area, though quantities are such this is unlikely to have been anywhere close to the excavation area. So small is the material that it could easily be intrusive in its contexts. The remaining pieces consist of 'magnetic fines'; granules of ferruginous stone whose magnetic properties have been enhanced through burning.

5.10 The Bulk Metalwork by Elke Raemen

- 5.10.1 Two fragments of ironwork (weight 102g) were recovered during the excavations from two different contexts. Included is a strip fragment from [17/009] (G11), which probably derives from a tool or knife blade. It is not intrinsically dateable, although it is probably no later than the 18th century.
- 5.10.2 The topsoil contained a tapering strip of iron (length 126mm, width 14 to 27.65mm, thickness 6mm). The piece is of late post-medieval date. Two possible nail hole are visible and the fragment may represent a hinge strap.

5.11 The Animal Bone by Emily Johnson

- 5.11.1 A poorly-preserved, fragmentary assemblage of 52 animal bones weighing approximately 103 in total was analysed from an excavation at North Bersted: New Barn Lane. Material derived from two hand-collected contexts; ditch fill [72] (G10) and pit fill [115] (G9). The assemblage was recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet. Ditch fill [72] (G10) contained a fragment of cattle distal tibia, which was fused and thus belonging to an animal over 24-36 months in age (Silver 1969) and several fragments of possibly associated large mammal long bone. Pit fill [115] (G9) included a number of cattle tooth fragments. Both contexts also contained a number of indeterminate fragments.

5.12 The Cremated Human Bone by Lucy Sibun

5.12.1 Small quantities of burnt bone were recovered from environmental samples taken from four contexts, two of which ([8] and [30]) were recorded as cremation burials. The bone from both of these features was positively identified as human and is discussed in more detail below. The other two contexts that produced burnt bone were [42] and [54], both of which produced less than 1g of unidentifiable bone.

5.12.2 Both cremated bone assemblages were processed as environmental samples and fractions of 2-4mm, 4-8mm and >8mm were received for assessment. The assessment of this material was undertaken according to standard guidelines (McKinley 2004). The total of weight of each cremation deposit was established. Each assemblage was then examined to record the degree of fragmentation and fragment colour. The presence and weight of fragments from all skeletal areas (skull, axial skeleton, upper limb and lower limb) was noted. Possible demographic information was considered and any surface pathology looked for. Any demographic and pathological information was recorded and fragments were also scanned for the presence of possible staining on bone or for animal bone.

Results

5.12.3 The cremated bone assemblages from cremation burials [8] and [30] are quantified in the Table 9.

Context Number	Sample Number	Fragment size (mm)	Weight per skeletal element (grams)					Total
			Skull	Axial	Upper limb	Lower limb	Unident	
8	1	2-4					23.26	60.04
		5-8	1.96	0.1	5.67	5.59	12.87	
		9-20	0.35		3.75	6.49		
30	2	2-4					10.64	26.36
		5-8	1.23		1.79	1.95	9.58	
		9-20			0.49	0.68		

Table 9 Quantification of cremated human bone

5.12.4 Only small quantities of bone were recovered from both contexts. In [8] the identifiable assemblage included elements from all skeletal areas but only skull and limb fragments were identified in [30]. The assemblages were highly fragmented with the majority recovered from the 0-4 and 5-8mm fractions in both cases. The lack of a protective urn associated with the burials could have contributed to the fragmentation, but both the small quantities and fragmentation could result from a degree of post-depositional disturbance to the cremation burial, particularly as both features were only 7-8cm deep. The assemblages constitute less than 4% of the expected weight for an adult burial (McKinley 1993, 285).

5.12.5 The analysis suggests that each cremation deposit contains the remains of a single individual, with no repeated elements noted. Due to the high degree of

fragmentation and small quantities present, fragments enabling age at death or sex to be confidently established were not identified but fragment size indicates that the individuals represented are juvenile/adult. No evidence of pathology was noted on any fragments. The cremation process was highly efficient in all cases and as a result, 95% of all bone was an off-white colour.

5.13 The Shell by Elke Raemen

- 5.13.1 A total of six shell fragments were recovered. Just three marine shell fragments are included, all three of which are oyster shell (*Ostrea edulis*). Context [78] (G2) contained two abraded fragments representing just one oyster shell. Fragments are too abraded to establish its maturity. A right valve was recovered from [24] (G11); the piece is again too abraded but there are hints of parasitic activity. The same context also contained two landsnail fragments, probably representing a garden snail (*Cornu aspersum*). Finally, [12] (G11) contained a near complete garden snail.

5.14 The Environmental Samples by Mariangela Vitolo

- 5.14.1 During excavation work at the site four bulk soil samples were taken from various features, including two cremations, a pit and a ditch, for the recovery of environmental remains such as plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, faunal remains and mollusca, as well as to assist finds recovery. The following report summarises the contents of the environmental samples and establishes the significance and the potential of the plant macrofossils and wood charcoal to provide information on the arable economy, fuel use and selection and the local environment.
- 5.14.2 Samples ranged from 30L to 50L in volume and were processed in their entirety by flotation using a 500µm mesh for the heavy residue and a 250µm mesh for the retention of the flot before being air dried. The residues were passed through 8, 4 and 2mm sieves and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Table 10). 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. Flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Table 11). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

Samples <1> [8], <2> [30], <3> [54] and <4> [42]

- 5.14.3 Samples produced flots of varying size, dominated by uncharred material, including rootlets and occasional seeds of goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.). Context [42] also yielded a large amount of land snail shells. This material is likely indicative of disturbance through root action. Charcoal was present in small amounts and no charred crop remains were recorded. A large number of charred hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments were recorded from pit fill [054] (P1). These could have become accidentally charred alongside other plant material, such as branches and twigs, used for fuel or could derive from nuts that have been consumed by the site's inhabitants. The residues yielded a number of finds, and the cremations produced a large amount of burnt bone. Charcoal was generally scarce and no identification work was carried out.

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

Sample Number	Context	Context / Deposit Type	Sample Volume (L)	Sub-Sample Volume (L)	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Charred Botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Land Snail Shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg. pot, cbm, etc.) (quantity/ weight)
1	008	Cremation	50	50	**	1	***	3			**	12	***	28	****	24			Slate (*/<1g) FCF (**/10g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (**/1g)
2	030	Cremation	30	30			**	<1			*	2	**	16	****	24			FCF (*1g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/<1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (**/1g)
3	054	Pit	40	40	**	4	***	4	*** <i>Corylus avellana</i>	10					*	<1			FCF (*15g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (***/2g)
4	042	Ditch	40	40											*	<1	**	11	Pot (*2g) FCF (*11g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/<1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (**/1g)

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

Sample Number	Context	Weight (g)	Flot volume (ml)	Volume Scanned (ml)	Uncharred (%)	Sediment (%)	Seeds Uncharred	Charcoal 2-4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Land Snail Shells
1	008	8	120	120	80	10			***	
2	030	3.5	60	60	80	10			***	
3	054	4.5	40	40	60	10	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	*	****	
4	042	10	30	30	50	40			**	****

6.0 POTENTIAL & SIGNIFICANCE OF RESULTS

6.1 Realisation of the original research aims

ORA1 - The site is apparently characterised by Early – Mid Iron Age activity. This period is frequently under-represented in the region, much regional evidence pointing to some form of major hiatus at this point. Can this site contribute to the small but growing body of evidence for this period on the West Sussex Coastal plain?

- 6.1.1 There were no features of this date identified on the site and the results can offer no contribution.

ORA2 - The Middle Iron Age sees the development of a series of large hillforts, but in general the only other sites are findspots. The paucity of evidence is such that the Middle Iron Age cannot be clearly distinguished in the county. Can the site contribute specifically to evidence for Middle Bronze Age activity?

- 6.1.2 There were no features of this date identified on the site and the results can offer no contribution.

ORA3 - Can the site inform on the nature of the Middle Iron Age – Late Iron Age transition?

- 6.1.3 There were no features of this date identified on the site and the results can offer no contribution.

6.2 The Stratigraphic Sequence

- 6.2.1 The site is not significant with a general paucity of archaeological features and the results are only of moderate local interest.

- 6.2.2 The most significant evidence was the Middle Bronze Age/ (Period 2) with a field system (FS1) and two cremation burials. Although the cremation burials were only tentatively dated, this burial rite was the overwhelming practise in this period in southern Britain. Cremation burials are often found at some distance from contemporary settlements and, although more commonly found in association with earlier barrows, are occasionally located within agricultural fields (Dawkes 2017, 70-73; Caswell & Roberts forthcoming).

6.3 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

- 6.3.1 The assemblage provides limited evidence for early presence in the local landscape during the prehistoric period. The flintwork appears to be of mixed date, but in the absence of chronologically diagnostic pieces and / or large groups of material, it is difficult to date accurately. A few pieces are products of a blade technology and indicate a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date, but most pieces cannot be confidently dated. Overall, the assemblage represents a small background scatter. It suggests low-key and sporadic activity at the site.

- 6.3.2 The assemblage is too limited, and overall it is too poorly dated. Most pieces are likely to be residual in later contexts. Given its undiagnostic nature, and

given the absence of well-stratified groups, the potential for further study is limited.

6.4 The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

- 6.4.1 The small prehistoric and Roman pottery assemblage is fairly undiagnostic and the majority of it belongs to the Middle/Late Bronze Age period which is very already well-represented in the published record from the coastal plain. The few possible earlier prehistoric sherds come from periods that are less common in the region but this material is too undiagnostic to warrant standalone specialist publication. The presence of one large mixed pottery group from context [115] (G9) and one possible placed vessel in [96] (G3) are probably suggestive of settlement activity. There is no potential for further specialist analysis.

6.5 The Post-Roman Pottery

- 6.5.1 The post-Roman pottery is both isolated and somewhat abraded. Undoubtedly it relates to sporadic periods of manuring during episodes of arable cultivation in the late medieval period.

6.6 The Ceramic Building Material

- 6.6.1 The CBM is of little archaeological significance as it cannot be well-dated, nor are the quantities great enough to suggest the CBM originated from a structure on site. Instead this material probably represents debris redeposited from elsewhere. This assemblage has no potential for future research

6.7 The Fired Clay

- 6.7.1 As just a single amorphous fragment was recovered from an undated context, the fired clay is of no significance. There is no potential for further work

6.8 The Geological Material

- 6.8.1 The stone assemblage is small and rather isolated. Too little is present to draw conclusions from. With the exception of the whetstone, which could contribute to future provenancing studies, the assemblage has been discarded.

6.9 The Metallurgical Remains

- 6.9.1 The slag assemblage is tiny and does not suggest the presence of metal working anywhere near the site. The material is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

6.10 The Bulk Metalwork

- 6.10.1 Neither object shed light on site activities and neither are of intrinsic interest. The assemblage is not considered to be of potential for further work

6.11 The Animal Bone

- 6.11.1 Given the small size of the assemblage, the paucity of fully identifiable material and the overall poor preservation, it has no significance on a local, regional or national level and no further work is suggested.

6.12 The Cremated Human Bone

- 6.12.1 Both cremation burials produced only small quantities of identifiable bone. Due to the small assemblage size and the high degree of fragmentation, it is not considered likely that additional information, for example more precise age or sex data would be obtained from further analysis work.

6.13 The Shell

- 6.13.1 The assemblage is too small to be of significance and is not considered to be of potential for further work.

6.14 The Glass

- 6.14.1 The glass assemblage is of no significance beyond the dating of a single feature. It is of no potential for further work.

6.15 The Environmental Samples

- 6.15 The environmental remains have low significance due to their paucity. The bulk soil samples have produced no charred remains of crops and a limited amount of charcoal. This could be due to circumstances of deposition. These remains do not hold potential for further work.

7.0 FURTHER WORK AND PUBLICATION PROPOSALS

7.1 Stratigraphic Method Statement

- 7.1.1 No further work is required due to the insignificance of the results. it does not require publication.

7.2 The Flintwork

- 7.2.1 No further analysis is proposed, and no report on the flints and unworked burnt flint is needed.

7.3 The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

- 7.3.1 No further specialist analysis or publication is recommended.

7.4 The Post-Roman Pottery

- 7.4.1 No further specialist analysis or publication is recommended.

7.5 The Ceramic Building Material

- 7.5.1 No publication report is needed and no further work is proposed.

7.6 The Fired Clay

- 7.6.1 No further work is recommended

7.7 The Geological Material

- 7.7.1 No publication report is needed and no further work is proposed.

7.8 The Metallurgical Remains

- 7.8.1 No publication report is needed and no further work is proposed.

7.9 The Bulk Metalwork

- 7.9.1 No publication report is needed and no further work is proposed.

7.10 The Cremated Human Bone: Further Work

- 7.10.1 No publication report is needed and no further work is proposed.

7.11 The Animal Bone

- 7.11.1 No publication report is needed and no further work is proposed.

7.12 The Environmental samples

- 7.12.1 No publication report is needed and no further work is proposed.

7.13 Artefacts and Archive Deposition

- 7.13.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE. Following completion of all post-excavation work, the site archive will be deposited with a local museum.

7.14 Publication Proposals

- 7.14.1 Due to the insignificance of the results, no publication is proposed. This assessment report will be kept with the archive and added to the Historic Environment Record for West Sussex.

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OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

OASIS ID: archaeol6-322999

Project details

Project name NORTH BERSTED, BOGNOR REGIS WEST SUSSEX

Short description of the project This report presents the results of programme of archaeology carried out by Archaeology South-East (UCL Institute of Archaeology) at Land West of New Barn Lane North Bersted, Bognor Regis, West Sussex in April 2018. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in advance of residential redevelopment. Three periods of archaeological occupation were identified, from the earlier prehistoric to the medieval era.

Project dates Start: 01-04-2018 End: 30-04-2018

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated project reference NBL18 - Sitecode codes

Any associated project reference 180189 - Contracting Unit No. codes

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m

Monument type DITCH Middle Bronze Age

Monument type DITCH Roman

Significant Finds POTTERY Neolithic

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Investigation type "Full excavation"

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country England

Site location WEST SUSSEX ARUN BERSTED LAND WEST OF NEW BARN LANE NORTH BERSTED, BOGNOR REGIS WEST SUSSEX

Postcode PO21 5TY

Study area 3 Hectares

Site coordinates SU 491571 101061 50.887793231667 -1.301066743705 50 53 16 N 001 18 03 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 3m Max: 4m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project originator brief CgMs Consulting

Project originator design CgMs Consulting

Project director/manager Darryl Palmer

Project supervisor John Hirst

Type of sponsor/funding body Private

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Chichester Museum

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive
 recipient Chichester Museum

Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"

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

Paper Archive
 recipient Chichester Museum

Paper Contents "Human Bones","Industrial","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics","Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass"

Paper Media
 available "Context sheet","Correspondence","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AT LAND WEST OF NEW BARN LANE NORTH BERSTED, BOGNOR REGIS WEST SUSSEX A POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN REPORT

Author(s)/Editor(s) Dawkes, G.

Other bibliographic details 2018249

Date 2018

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Entered on 19 July 2018

APPENDIX 1

Evaluation: List of recorded contexts

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.20	4.23-4.50
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.18	
1/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.19-0.28	
1/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.54-3.61
1/005	Cut	Pit	1.2	1	0.16-0.16	3.59-3.70
1/006	Fill	Fill, single	1.2	1	0.16-0.16	
13/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.14	4.37-4.54
13/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.11-0.14	
13/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.26-0.40	
13/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.69-3.98
13/005	Cut	Ditch	2	0.8	0.16-0.16	3.65-3.66
13/006	Fill	Fill, single	2	0.8	0.16-0.16	
15/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.20	4.78-4.96
15/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.16	
15/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.31-0.44	
15/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.91-4.26
15/005	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.89	0.13-0.13	4.21-4.23
15/006	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.89	0.13-0.13	
15/007	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.84	0.12-0.12	4.33-4.35
15/008	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.84	0.12-0.12	
16/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.12	4.94-4.94
16/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.12	
16/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.22-0.38	
16/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.25-4.29
16/005	Cut	Posthole	0.42	0.39	0.23-0.23	4.13-4.15
16/006	Fill	Fill, single	0.42	0.39	0.23-0.23	
16/007	Cut	Ditch	2.2	1.3	0.32-0.32	4.03-4.23
16/008	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	1.3	0.32-0.32	
17/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.16-0.16	4.81-4.90
17/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.16	
17/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.30-0.35	
17/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.15-4.29
17/005	Cut	Pit	0.85	0.76	0.30-0.30	4.22-4.24
17/006	Fill	Fill, single	0.85	0.76	0.30-0.30	
17/007	Deposit	Cremation	0.3	0.3	0	4.24-4.24
17/008	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.65	0.23-0.23	4.22-4.22
17/009	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.65	0.23-0.23	
17/010	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.4	0.35-0.35	4.22-4.22
17/011	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.4	0.35-0.35	
17/012	Cut	Ditch	2.2	0.53	0.20-0.20	4.11-4.12
17/013	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.53	0.20-0.20	
18/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.11-0.14	4.66-4.86
18/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.10	
18/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.28-0.32	
18/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	3.99-4.24
18/005	Cut	Pit	1.2	0.45	0.18-0.18	4.22-4.23
18/006	Fill	Fill, single	1.2	0.45	0.18-0.18	
18/007	Cut	Gully	2.2	0.6	0.13-0.13	4.75-4.78
18/008	Fill	Fill, single	2.2	0.6	0.13-0.13	
18/009	Cut	Posthole	0.45	0.45	0.22-0.22	4.17-4.18

18/010	Fill	Fill, single	0.45	0.45	0.22-0.22	
18/011	Cut	Ditch	2	1.2	0.30-0.30	4.02-4.05
18/012	Fill	Fill, single	2	1.2	0.30-0.30	
19/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.14	4.80-4.88
19/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.12	
19/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.16-0.26	
19/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.23-4.38
19/005	Cut	Ditch	2.6	0.97	0.30-0.30	4.32-4.33
19/006	Fill	Fill, single	2.6	0.97	0.30-0.30	
21/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.16-0.16	4.76-4.80
21/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.16	
21/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.18-0.20	
21/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.18-4.22
21/005	Cut	Gully	3.05	0.64	0.07-0.07	4.27-4.27
21/006	Fill	Fill, single	3.05	0.64	0.07-0.07	
21/007	Deposit	Cremation	0.36	0.3	0	4.31-4.31
22/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.12-0.19	4.70-4.79
22/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.12	
22/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.26-0.26	
22/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.10-4.28
22/005	Cut	Pit	1	0.7	0.12-0.12	
22/006	Fill	Fill, single	1	0.7	0.12-0.12	
22/007	Cut	Gully	2	0.85	0.14-0.14	
22/008	Fill	Fill, single	2	0.85	0.14-0.14	
23/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.15	4.78-4.85
23/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.09-0.10	
23/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.21-0.26	
23/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.19-4.24
23/005	Cut	Pit	0.7	0.51	0.19-0.19	4.19-4.20
23/006	Fill	Fill, single	0.7	0.51	0.19-0.19	
23/007	Cut	Gully	2	0.65	0.12-0.12	4.25-4.27
23/008	Fill	Fill, single	2	0.65	0.12-0.12	
23/009	Cut	Hedge line	2	1.15	0.04-0.04	4.25-4.30
23/010	Fill	Fill, single	2	1.15	0.04-0.04	
24/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.20	4.74-4.81
24/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.10-0.18	
24/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.22-0.30	
24/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0.22-0.30	4.08-4.19
24/005	Cut	Ditch	2	1.2	0.40-0.40	4.12-4.14
24/006	Fill	Fill, single	2	1.2	0.40-0.40	
30/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.13-0.16	4.67-4.75
30/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.16	
30/003	Deposit	Brickearth	trench	trench	0.20-0.32	
30/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0	4.03-4.20
30/005	Cut	Ditch	2	1	0.19-0.19	3.95-3.98
30/006	Fill	Fill, single	2	1	0.19-0.19	

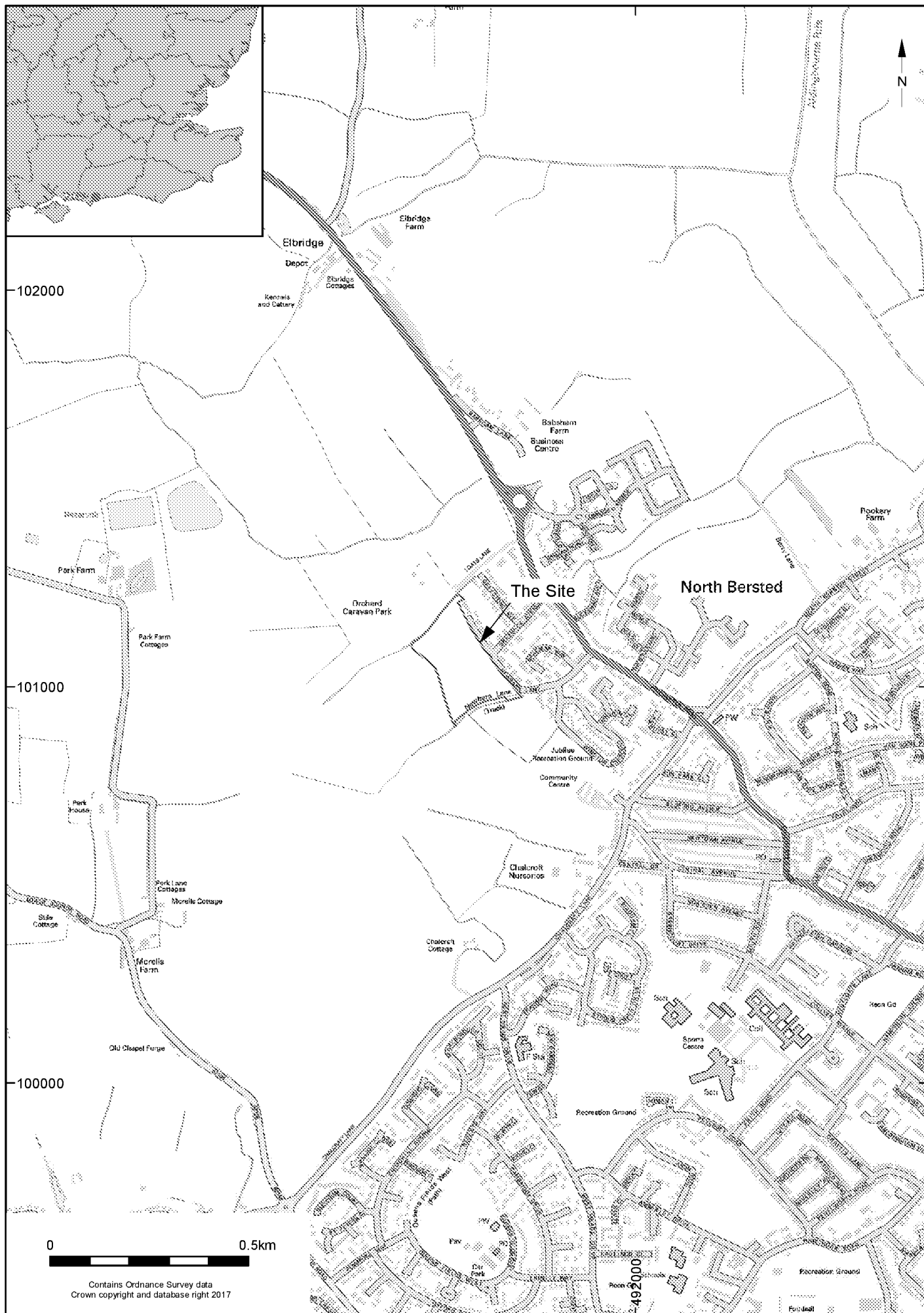
APPENDIX 2

Excavation: list of recorded contexts

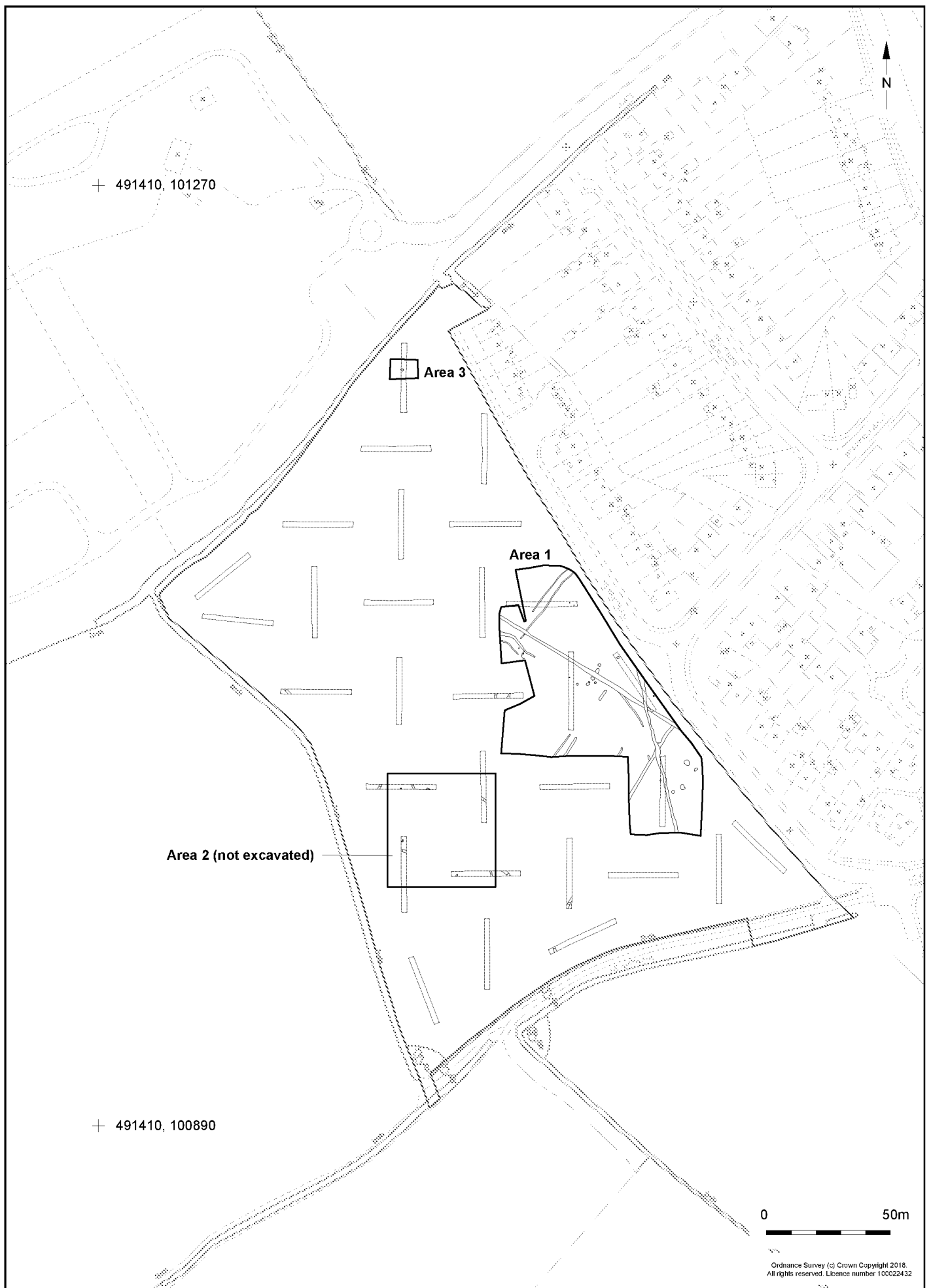
Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height M AOD
1	Cut	Pit	1.65	2.44	0.22	4.101
2	Fill	Fill, single			0.22	
3	Cut	Pit	1.62	1.3	0.23	4.079
4	Fill	Fill, single			0.23	
5	Cut	Pit	2.19	1.18	0.2	4.034
6	Fill	Fill, single			0.2	
7	Cut	Pit, cremation	0.53	0.5	0.07	4.179
8	Fill	Cremation			0.07	
9	Cut	Pit	2.08	1.85	0.4	3.783
10	Fill	Fill, single			0.4	
11	Cut	Ditch	1.25	1.21	0.39	3.826
12	Fill	Fill, single			0.39	
13	Cut	Pit	0.66	0.6	0.25	3.94
14	Fill	Fill, single			0.25	
15	Cut	Pit	2.37	0.63	0.22	4.081
16	Fill	Fill, single			0.22	
17	Cut	Ditch	1	1.05	0.39	3.834
18	Fill	Fill, single			0.39	
19	Layer	Topsoil			0.15-0.20	
20	Layer	Subsoil			0.12-0.16	
21	Deposit	Brickearth			0.3-0.35	
22	Layer	Natural			0	
23	Cut	Ditch	1.03	1	0.26	4.017
24	Fill	Fill, single			0.26	
25	Cut	Ditch	1.18	0.62	0.16	
26	Fill	Fill, single			0.16	
27	Cut	Ditch	1.7	0.62	0.3	3.864
28	Fill	Fill, single			0.3	
29	Cut	Pit, cremation	0.47	0.47	0.08	4.214
30	Fill	Cremation			0.08	
31	Cut	Ditch	-	0.98	0.44	3.801
32	Fill	Fill, single			0.44	
33	Cut	Ditch	0.76	0.54	0.34	3.792
34	Fill	Fill, basal			0.05	
35	Fill	Fill, intermediate			0.09	
36	Fill	Fill, upper	-	-	0.2	
37	Cut	Ditch	0.94	0.82	0.38	3.926
38	Fill	Fill, single			0.38	
39	Cut	Pit	1.72	-	0.5	3.637
40	Fill	Fill, single			0.5	
41	Cut	Ditch	-	0.5	0.27	3.871
42	Fill	Fill, single			0.27	
43	Cut	Ditch	2	0.45	0.35	3.86
44	Fill	Fill, single			0.35	
45	Cut	Ditch	-	0.5	0.2	3.878
46	Fill	Fill, single			0.2	
47	Cut	Ditch, ring	1.33	0.43	0.25	3.868
48	Fill	Fill, single			0.25	
49	Cut	Ditch	-	1.83	0.95	3.313
50	Fill	Fill, upper			0.16-0.23	

51	Cut	Pit	1.1	1	0.55	3.769
52	Fill	Fill, basal			0.3	
53	Fill	Fill, intermediate			0.1	
54	Fill	Fill, upper			0.15	
55	Cut	Ditch terminus	0.4	0.5	0.13	4.15
56	Fill	Fill, single			0.13	
57	Void					
58	Fill	Fill, basal			0.72-0.77	
59	Cut	Ditch	8.5	0.85	0.15	4.075
60	Fill	Fill, single			0.15	
61	Cut	Ditch	8.5	0.9	0.18	4.037
62	Fill	Fill, single			0.18	
63	Cut	Ditch, segmented	2	0.8	0.2	3.916
64	Fill	Fill, single			0.2	
65	Cut	Ditch	-	0.55	0.22	4.039
66	Fill	Fill, single			0.22	
67	Cut	Ditch, segmented	-	0.83	0.25	3.919
68	Fill	Fill, single			0.25	
69	Cut	Ditch terminus	-	0.45	0.15	4.094
70	Fill	Fill, single			0.15	
71	Cut	Ditch	-	1.1	0.67	3.53
72	Fill	Fill, single			0.67	
73	Cut	Pit	0.8	0.8	0.17	4.114
74	Fill	Fill, single			0.17	
75	Cut	Ditch terminus	-	0.35	0.18	4.028
76	Fill	Fill, single			0.18	
77	Cut	Ditch	-	0.35	0.17	4.05
78	Fill	Fill, single			0.17	
79	Cut	Ditch	-	1.2	>0.25	3.934
80	Fill	Fill, single			0.25	
81	Cut	Posthole	0.42	0.42	0.22	4.061
82	Fill	Fill, single			0.22	
83	Cut	Ditch terminus	-	0.45	0.18	
84	Fill	Fill, single			0.18	
85	Cut	Ditch	-	0.45	0.15	4.11
86	Fill	Fill, single			0.15	
87	Cut	Pit	2.62	0.73	0.28	4.018
88	Fill	Fill, single			0.28	
89	Cut	Ditch	-	1.88-2.10	0.5	3.8
90	Fill	Fill, single				
91	Cut	Pit	0.84	1.202	0.25	4.062
92	Fill	Fill, single			0.25	
93	Cut	Ditch	1.4	1.11	0.36	4.172
94	Fill	Fill, single			0.36	
95	Cut	Ditch	-	0.6	0.23	4.04
96	Fill	Fill, single			0.23	
97	Cut	Ditch	3.2	0.4	0.2	4.042
98	Fill	Fill, single			0.2	
99	Cut	Ditch	1.6	0.4	0.1	4.178
100	Fill	Fill, basal			0.04	
101	Fill	Fill, upper			0.07	
102	Cut	Ditch	0.89	0.51	0.12	4.008
103	Fill	Fill, single			0.12	
104	Cut	Ditch	0.68	0.4	0.26	4.047

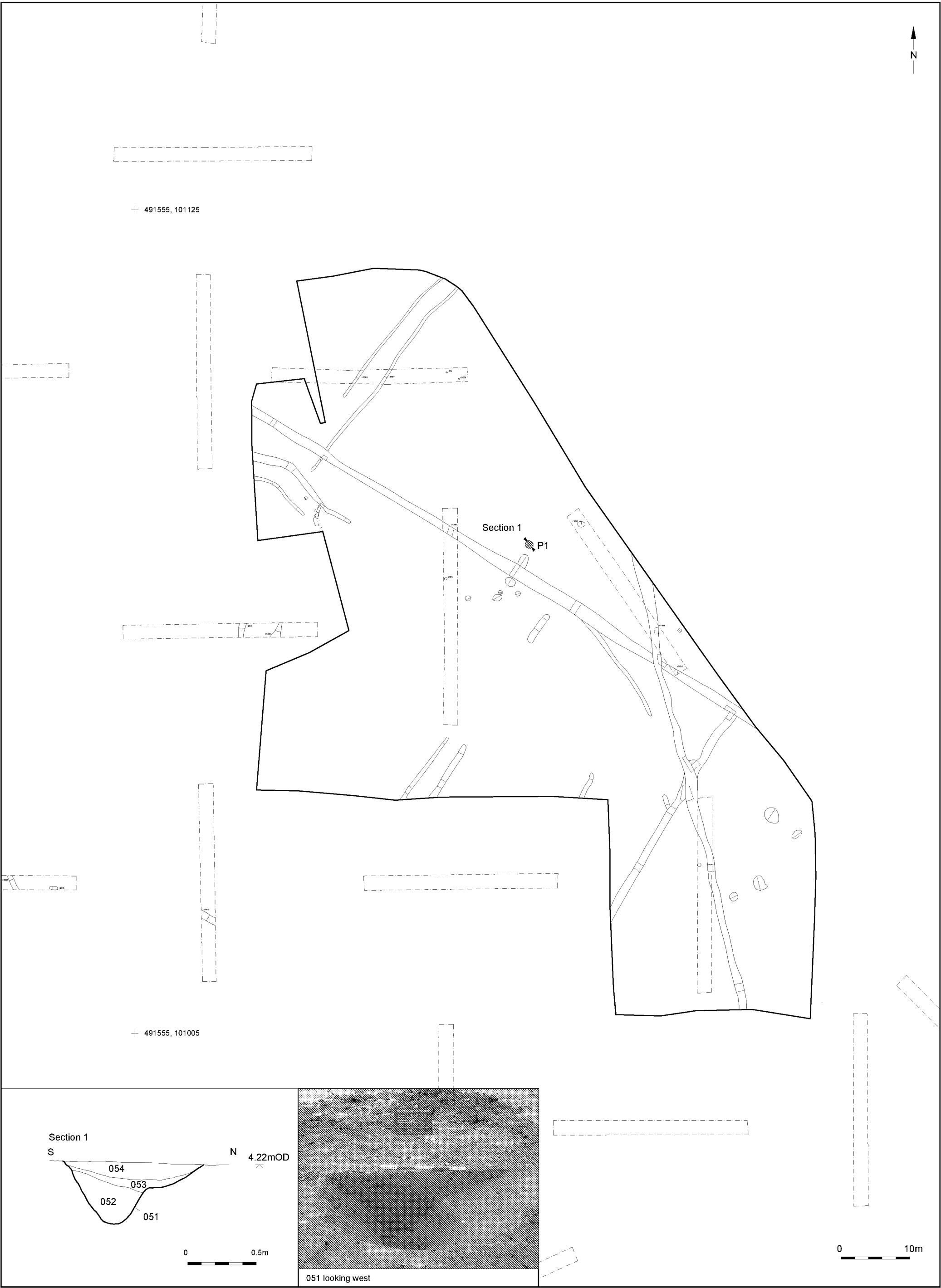
105	Fill	Fill, single	0.68	0.4	0.26	
106	Cut	Ditch	0.4	0.24	0.28	4.038
107	Fill	Fill, single			0.28	
108	Cut	Pit	0.73	0.6	0.2	3.939
109	Fill	Fill, single			0.2	
110	Cut	Pit	1.25	0.6	0.31	3.925
111	Fill	Fill, basal	0.49	0.6	0.12	
112	Fill	Fill, intermediate	1.13	0.6	0.19	
113	Fill	Fill, upper	0.62	0.6	0.16	
114	Cut	Pit	0.89	0.7	0.25	3.846
115	Fill	Fill, single			0.25	



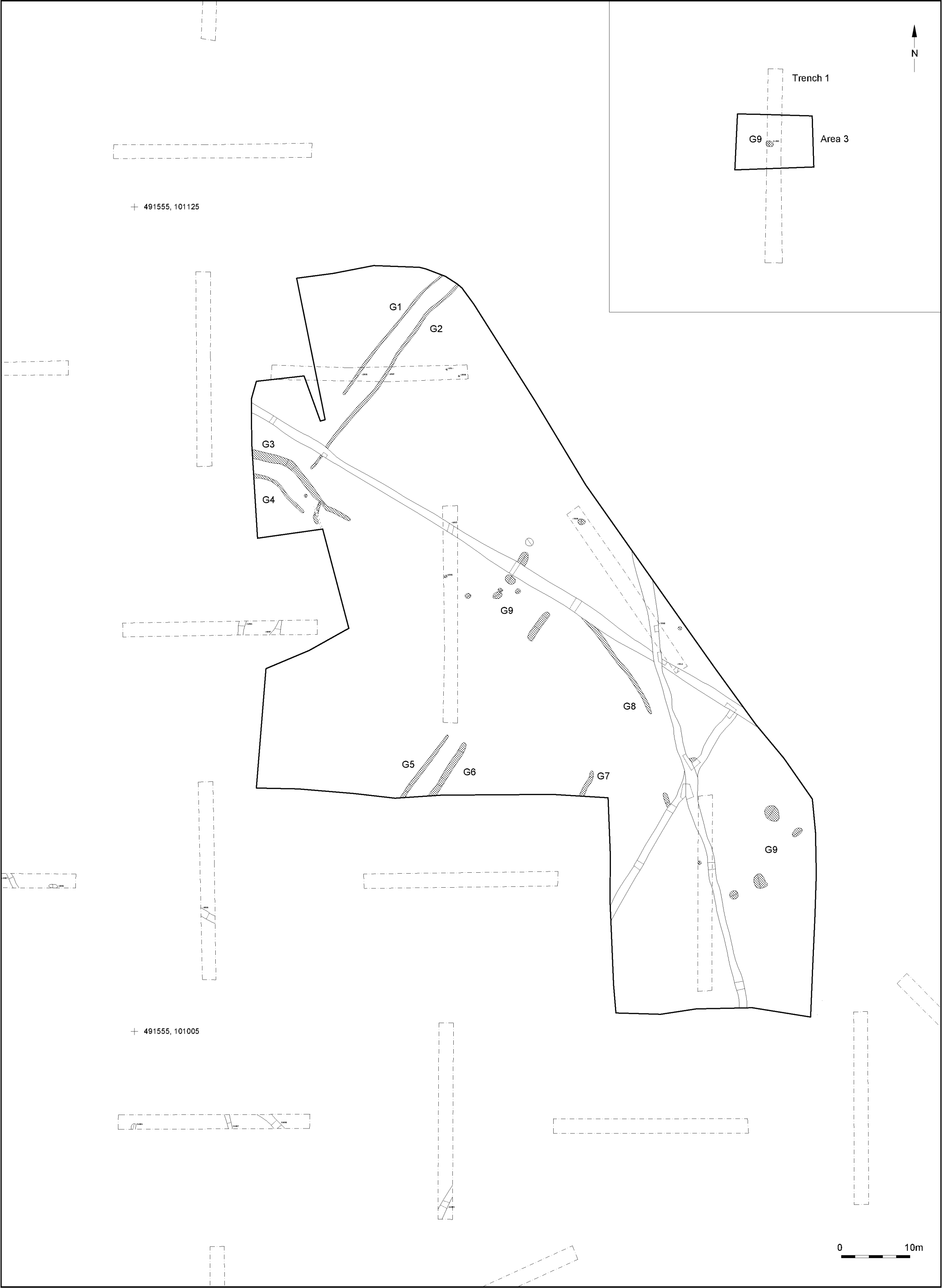
© Archaeology South-East		Land west of New Barn Lane, North Bersted, Bognor Regis	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 180189	July 2018	Site location	
Report Ref: 2018249	Drawn by: JLR		



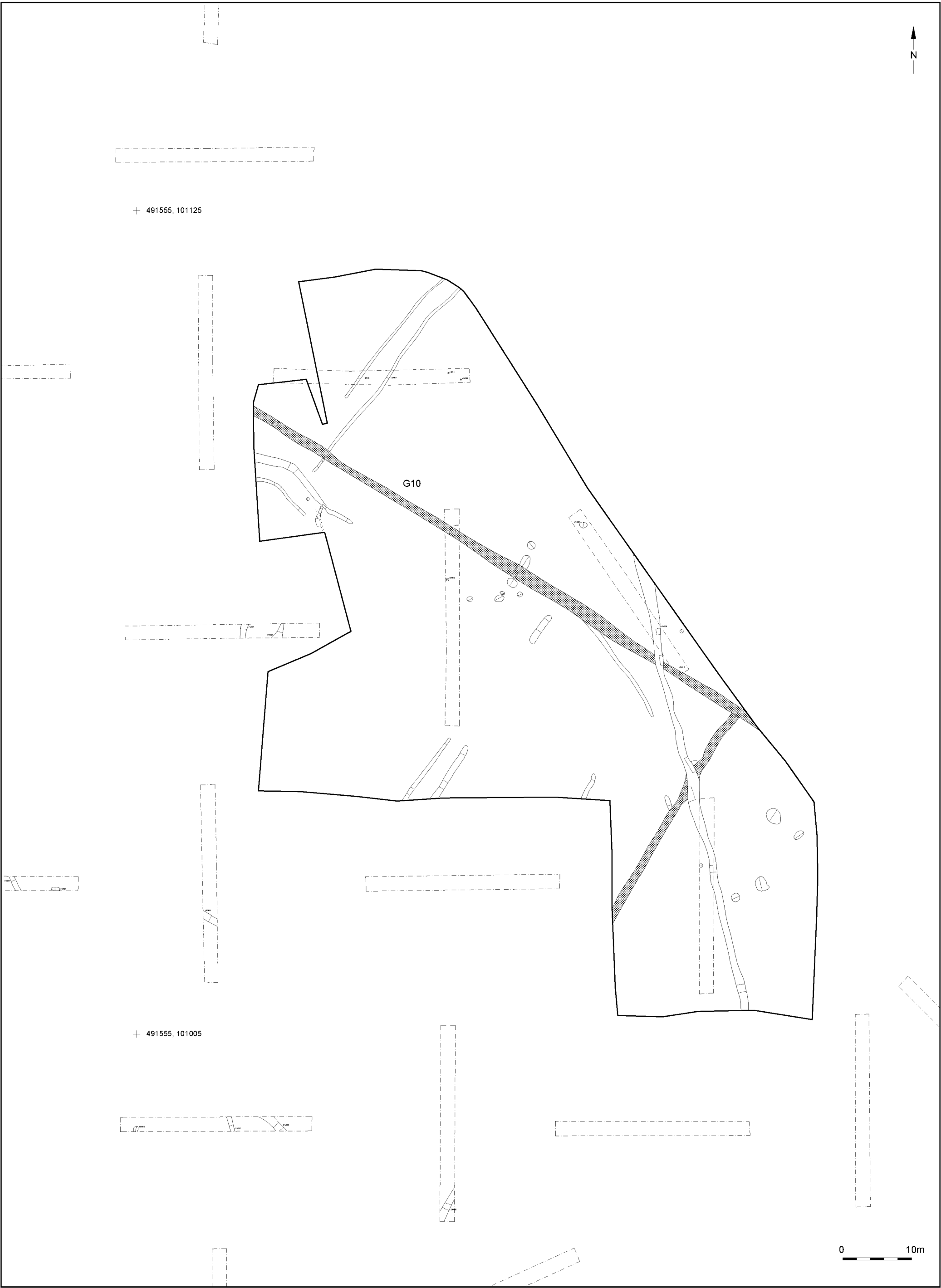
© Archaeology South-East		Land West of New Barn Lane, North Bersted. Bognor Regis	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 180189	July 2018	Excavation areas	
Report Ref: 2018249	Drawn by: JC		



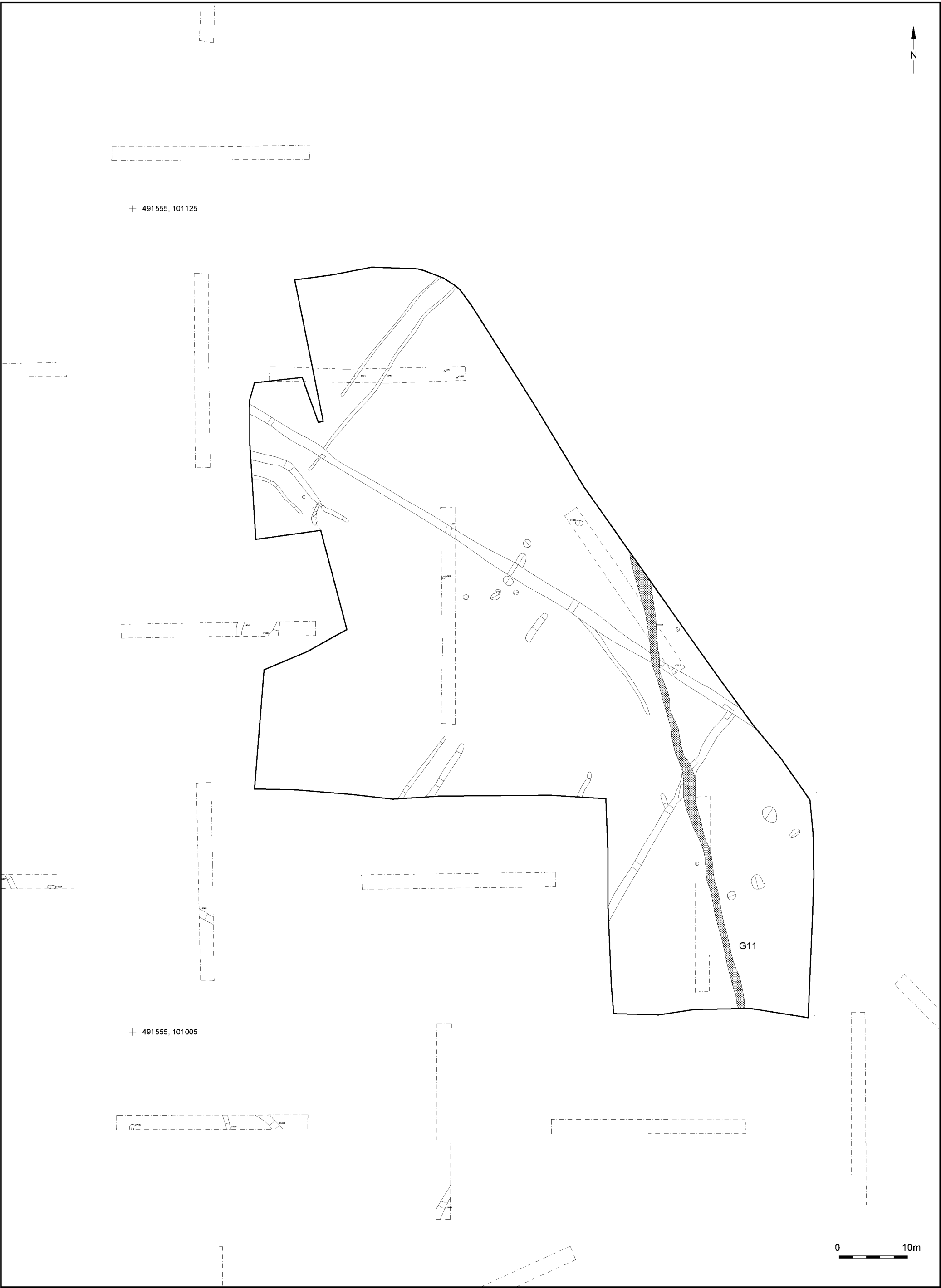
© Archaeology South-East		Land West of New Barn Lane, North Bersted. Bognor Regis	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 180189	July 2018	Period 1 plan and section	
Report Ref: 2018249	Drawn by: JR		



© Archaeology South-East		Land West of New Barn Lane, North Bersted. Bognor Regis	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 180189	July 2018	Period 2 plan	
Report Ref: 2018249	Drawn by: JR		



© Archaeology South-East		Land West of New Barn Lane, North Bersted. Bognor Regis	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 180189	July 2018	Period 3 plan	
Report Ref: 2018249	Drawn by: JR		



© Archaeology South-East		Land West of New Barn Lane, North Bersted. Bognor Regis	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 180189	July 2018	Period 4 plan	
Report Ref: 2018249	Drawn by: JR		

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