



From: James Kenny [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 October 2015 11:54
To: Planning.Responses
Subject: FW: Manor Farm Solar Park, Shripney - BE/63/14/PL

I can confirm that the attached written scheme of investigation is satisfactory and that the relevant part of the planning condition (BE/63/14/PL, no. 10) has therefore been fulfilled.

James Kenny
Archaeology Officer
Conservation and Design
Chichester District Council

[REDACTED] <http://www.chichester.gov.uk>
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From: Palmer, Darryl [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 October 2015 12:16
To: James Kenny; Tim Pearce
Subject: RE: Manor Farm Solar Park, Shripney

James,

Further to our discussion yesterday, please find attached our draft WSI for your comment & approval.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Regards,

Darryl Palmer,
Assistant Director, Head of Fieldwork & Survey.

Archaeology South-East
(A Division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology, University College London)
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR

From: Palmer, Darryl

Sent: 01 October 2015 13:36

To: James Kenny [REDACTED] Tim Pearce [REDACTED]

Subject: Manor Farm Solar Park, Shripney

James,

We have just been appointed to carry out the required archaeological works at the above site. I attach the Assessment report completed by APS along with a site plan for your information. I understand the condition is already in place as follows:

An archaeological recording and monitoring exercise shall be carried out at the expense of the developer in accordance with a specification (WSI - written scheme of investigation) to be submitted to and agreed by the Local Planning Authority in writing before the commencement of building works.

Reason : To ensure appropriate investigation and recording of archaeological heritage assets on the site prior to commencement of new building works.

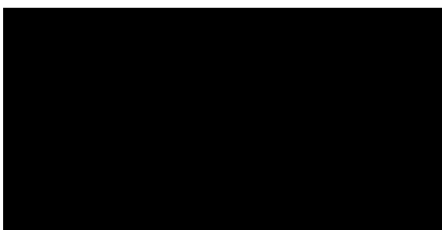
I would be grateful if you could confirm the scale and scope of the work you require to secure discharge of the condition, and we can then get on with the WSI for your comment and approval. For your information, our client would like to submit the WSI with their application next Friday (9th October) so we would aim to get a draft to you mid week next week.

Trust this finds you well, and i look forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards,

Darryl Palmer,
Senior Project Manager.

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<http://www.archaeologyse.co.uk/>

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**Manor Farm Solar Park,
Shripney, West Sussex**

NGR SU 9289 0255

Archaeological Watching Brief

Written Scheme of Investigation

Site Code: SOP 15

ASE Project no: 7841

Planning Reference: BE/63/14/PL

October 2015

**Prepared by
Niall Oakey BA MA MCIfA**

Prepared by:	Niall Oakey	Project Manager	
Reviewed and approved by:	Darryl Palmer	Assistant Director	
Date of Issue:	October 2015		

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) have been commissioned by The Landmark Practice acting on behalf of BNRG Renewables to undertake an archaeological watching brief on a solar photovoltaic park development at Manor Farm, Shripney, West Sussex (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'). The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SU 9289 0255 and its location is shown in Figure 1.
- 1.2 The Site comprises two large fields divided by a trackway running westwards from Shripney Lane to a reservoir. To the south-east the Site is bounded by Shripney Lane and elsewhere by hedged field boundaries and drainage ditches.
- 1.3 Planning permission was granted for solar arrays, transferers, equipment housing, security fencing, internal tracks and ancillary equipment (Planning Ref. BE/63/14/PL) (Figure 2), subject to conditions, including a requirement for a programme of archaeological work (Condition 10). The archaeological condition is as follows:

10. An archaeological recording and monitoring exercise shall be carried out at the expense of the developer in accordance with a specification (WSI – written scheme of investigation) to be submitted to and agreed by the Local Planning Authority in writing before the commencement of building works.

Reason: To ensure appropriate investigation and recording of archaeological heritage assets on the site prior to the commencement of new building works.

- 1.4 Consultation between ASE and James Kenny, Archaeology Advisor Chichester District Council (CDC) (who acts as Archaeology Advisor to Arun District Council) confirmed that an archaeological watching brief would be required during the proposed development.
- 1.5 This document represents a comprehensive *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief and has been submitted to the Archaeology Advisor to Arun District Council for approval. All work will be undertaken in accordance with this document and with the *Sussex Standards for Archaeological Fieldwork*, (2015), hereafter the Sussex Standards and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014a) and their *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014b).

2.0 BACKGROUND

Geology/Topography

- 2.1 According to the British Geological Survey 1:50,000 scale geological mapping available online (BGS 2015), the site lies on the Lewes Nodular, Seaford, Newhaven and Culver Chalk Formations overlain by river terrace deposits of sand, silt and clay. The site lies on the West Sussex Coastal Plain and rises northwards from 2m aOD to 5.5m aOD.

Archaeological and Historic Background

- 2.2 An Archaeological Assessment (Archaeology & Planning Solutions 2014) has been prepared which collates the archaeological and historic background of the site, relevant historic maps and HER data. The information presented below is drawn from that document.
- 2.3 Fieldwalking has recovered Roman pottery from the southern field on Site (HER MWS2385) and further pottery of a similar date with burnt flint and oyster shells is recorded from directly north of the site boundary (MWS5683). Archaeological evaluation c.400m south-west of the site boundary revealed an extensive buried prehistoric (Bronze Age) and Romano-British landscape including occupation areas and small enclosures set amongst ditched field systems. A middle Bronze Age cremation urn and a late Iron Age burial with pottery vessels, a sword, shield boss and helmet were also discovered (MWS7987).
- 2.4 Further evidence of prehistoric and Roman activity from within 500m of the western boundary of the Site includes Roman pottery at the intersection of two cropmarks (possibly part of a field system, MWS2391); Roman artefacts, dark soil and burnt flints (MWS2201); and fire-cracked flint (MWS6971).
- 2.5 In the medieval period a park owned by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1328 may have included part of the Site (MWS2390).
- 2.6 The Portsmouth- Arundel canal (MWS5754) runs east/west c.50m to the north of the northern edge of the Site and was constructed in 1823, not long after the first known cartographic evidence from the Site. The Ordnance Survey First Series map of 1813 shows a small complex of buildings close to or within the footprint of the current reservoir. On the South Berstead tithe map of 1842 these are shown as three buildings around an open courtyard facing east. In the tithe apportionment this is described as a farmyard and buildings, with Barn Field being the name allocated to the field to the south. This was one of nine fields entirely contained within the Site at this date, parts of another three fields also being included. Consolidation had taken place by the Ordnance survey map of 1876; only five fields being present within the Site, all contained within its boundaries. The farm complex remained but in 1898 the Ordnance Survey showed that the southern range had gone and the remainder was labelled "Poplars Barn". This name was marked on Ordnance Survey mapping up to 1947.
- 2.7 In World War II a night decoy site was set up at Poplars Barn (MWS7135), but slightly later aerial photographs show few details. Poplars Barn survived until at least 1989 (Ordnance Survey aerial photograph), but has since been replaced by the reservoir.

3.0 RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

- 3.1.1 The broad aims of the watching brief, in keeping with previous similar projects are:

- To assess the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of any archaeological remains and deposits;
- To assess how they might be affected by the development of the site;
- To establish the extent to which previous groundworks and/or other processes have affected archaeological deposits at the site; and
- To assess what options should be considered for mitigation.

3.1.2 Investigation of the site also has the potential to address the following research questions:

- Does the extensive Prehistoric and Romano-British landscape identified to the south-west extend into the Site?
- Do any traces of the World War II decoy site survive?

4.0 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 Any intrusive groundworks associated with the development (e.g. footings, cable trenching, general ground reduction and landscaping) will be carried out in the presence of an archaeologist. All hand and mechanical excavation and plant movement carried out by the groundworks contractor must be undertaken with due regard for the potential to encounter archaeological remains. **Any machine (tracked 360 excavator or similar) used for removal of material above undisturbed natural subsoil will be fitted with a toothless bucket of appropriate width whenever practicable.**
- 4.2 Where new excavations reveal archaeological remains, an opportunity will be made for careful hand excavation and the collection of samples by the archaeologist in attendance taking site health and safety into account. Adequate time will be made available for appropriate archaeological excavation by hand to identify and record the remains as far as possible within the limits of the works in order to extract archaeological and environmental information, should this prove necessary.
- 4.3 A final decision on site as to how to proceed in the event that significant remains are revealed during the Watching Brief will be determined in agreement with the Archaeology Advisor to Arun District Council, the Local Planning Authority and the client.
- 4.4 The above approach will enable any archaeological deposits disturbed during the proposed works to be adequately recorded in line with the advice given in NPPF and in accordance with the appropriate condition/s of the planning consent.
- 4.5 The spoil from the excavations will also be inspected by archaeologists to recover artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest and routinely scanned with a metal detector.
- 4.6 The Archaeology Advisor to Arun District Council will be kept informed of progress and findings so that he may monitor the archaeological work and advise of any areas within the Site where further archaeological monitoring may be curtailed as development progresses.

5.0 RECORDING AND ANALYSIS

- 5.1 All recording and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with this document unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Archaeology Advisor to Arun District Council.
- 5.2 All archaeological features will be recorded according to standard ASE practice. Where practicable, all features will be planned at 1:20 or by means of survey grade Differential GPS and section/wall elevation drawings will be at 1:10, unless this is impractical in which case an alternative will be agreed with the Archaeology Advisor to Arun District Council. Hand drawings will be on plastic draughting film. Features and deposits will be described on standard pro-forma recording sheets used by ASE. All remains will be levelled with respect to Ordnance Survey datum. A photographic record will be made in digital format, monochrome and colour transparency.
- 5.3 The strategy for sampling archaeological and environmental deposits and structures (which can include soils, timbers, animal bone and human burials) will be developed with reference to Historic England guidelines for environmental archaeology (Historic England 2015) and waterlogged wood and in consultation with the Historic England regional advisor or relevant specialists. Samples will be collected from suitable excavated contexts, including dated/datable buried soils, well-sealed slowly silting features, sealed hearths, sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, peats, waterlogged or cess deposits.
- 5.4 Bulk soil samples (of 40 litres where possible or 100% of the context if smaller) will be taken to target the recovery of plant remains (including wood charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Specialist samples may also be taken to target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), fish and small bone, molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects (in small <20 litre samples) or large mammal bones and marine molluscs (in large samples of ~80-100 litres). When taken, large samples will be extracted wholesale from deposits to maximise the range of bone recovered. As a general rule waterlogged wood specimens will be photographed and recorded in detail in their original location prior to being lifted or sampled for more detailed assessment. Other scientific dating and geo-archaeological techniques will be considered and employed where appropriate. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.
- 5.5 Excavation strategy will be in accordance with the relevant sections of the *CIfA Standards and Conditions*.
- 5.6 Any finds believed to fall potentially within the statutory definition of Treasure, as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, shall be reported to the Finds Liaison Officer. Should the find's status as treasure be confirmed the Coroner, the landowner and the Archaeology Advisor to Arun District Council will also be informed. A record shall be provided to the Coroner and to the Archaeology Advisor to the Arun District Council of the date and circumstances of discovery, the identity of the finder, and the exact location of the find(s) (OS map reference to within 1 metre, and find spot(s) marked onto the site plan).

5. If human remains are found they will be left in situ, covered over and protected. The client and the Archaeology Advisor to the Arun District Council will be informed immediately.

6.0 TREATMENT OF ARTEFACTS AND ECOFACTS

- 6.1 All pottery, bone and worked flint recovered from the excavations will be washed and marked with an appropriate code to identify the site and context. Most ceramic and other building material and burnt flint will be identified, counted, weighed and discarded. Samples will be retained as appropriate. Finds will be bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.
- 6.2 The lithic and ceramic finds will be identified by specialists within ASE, and preliminary identification of faunal remains may be undertaken if the nature of the deposits justifies such study. All finds in an unstable condition will be stabilised using passive conservation techniques where appropriate before being deposited with the receiving museum.
- 6.3 Bulk samples will be processed using tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate (such as for waterlogged samples). Waterlogged samples will be wet sieved through nested sieves and stored in wet, cool conditions or dried if considered an appropriate form of conservation for the remains. Flots and wet samples may be subsampled for assessment purposes. If waterlogged wood specimens are removed from site they will be cleaned, recorded, photographed and a thin section sample will be taken for identification (unless considered detrimental to the artefact preservation or status). These specimens will be stored submerged in water in cool conditions and assessment will establish whether appropriate for conservation. Specialist samples as well as sub-samples of bulk soil samples (taken to recover pollen, parasites, fish and small bone, foraminifera and insects for example) will be sent to appropriate specialists for assessment and analysis.
- 6.4 Provision will be made for obtaining charcoal samples for radiocarbon dating from such archaeological features as structural features (e.g. post holes), hearths, kilns or features that contain good artefactual or ecofactual assemblages.

7.0 REPORTING

- 7.1 Within four weeks of the completion of the fieldwork a full report on the results of the watching brief will be submitted. It will include the local geology and archaeological evidence. It will describe the work undertaken and results of elements described above. It will include a description of archaeological features and tabulated details of finds from each context. A list of environmental samples and any samples taken for dating will also be included. The report will include a plan showing the trench locations. Further plans, sections and photographs of features located and excavated will be included as necessary.
- 7.2 A draft report will be submitted to the Archaeology Advisor to the Arun District Council in the first instance for approval. Once any necessary changes have been made, the approved final report will be submitted to the client and should also be passed to the local planning authority with a further copy

submitted to the Archaeology Advisor to the Arun District Council so that the results may be added to the WSCC Historic Environment Record. A short summary of the work will be prepared for the relevant local archaeological journal.

- 7.3 A further digital copy of the report (including plans, illustrations and photographs) will be supplied to the WSCC Historic Environment Record on CD-ROM in a .pdf format.

8.0 PREPARATION AND DEPOSITION OF THE FINDS AND ARCHIVE

- 8.1 The site archive will be assembled in accordance with the guidelines set out in English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* and in accordance with the guidelines published in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994).
- 8.2 Artefacts and ecofacts recovered during excavation form an important part of an archaeological site archive. The archive will be deposited in the local receiving museum.

9.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 9.1 A risk assessment for the project will be prepared prior to the commencement of work. All relevant health and safety regulations will be adhered to.

10.0 INSURANCE

- 10.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: employer's liability to the value of £50,000,000 each and every loss, any one occurrence; primary public/products liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate for products liability, with an extension for no-fault compensation up to £15,000,000 in the aggregate; professional indemnity to the value of £15,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate.

REFERENCES

Archaeology & Planning Solutions, 2014, *Land to the west of Shripney, West Sussex. Archaeological Assessment*

ClfA 2014a. *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation*. University of Reading

ClfA 2014b. *Code of Conduct*. University of Reading

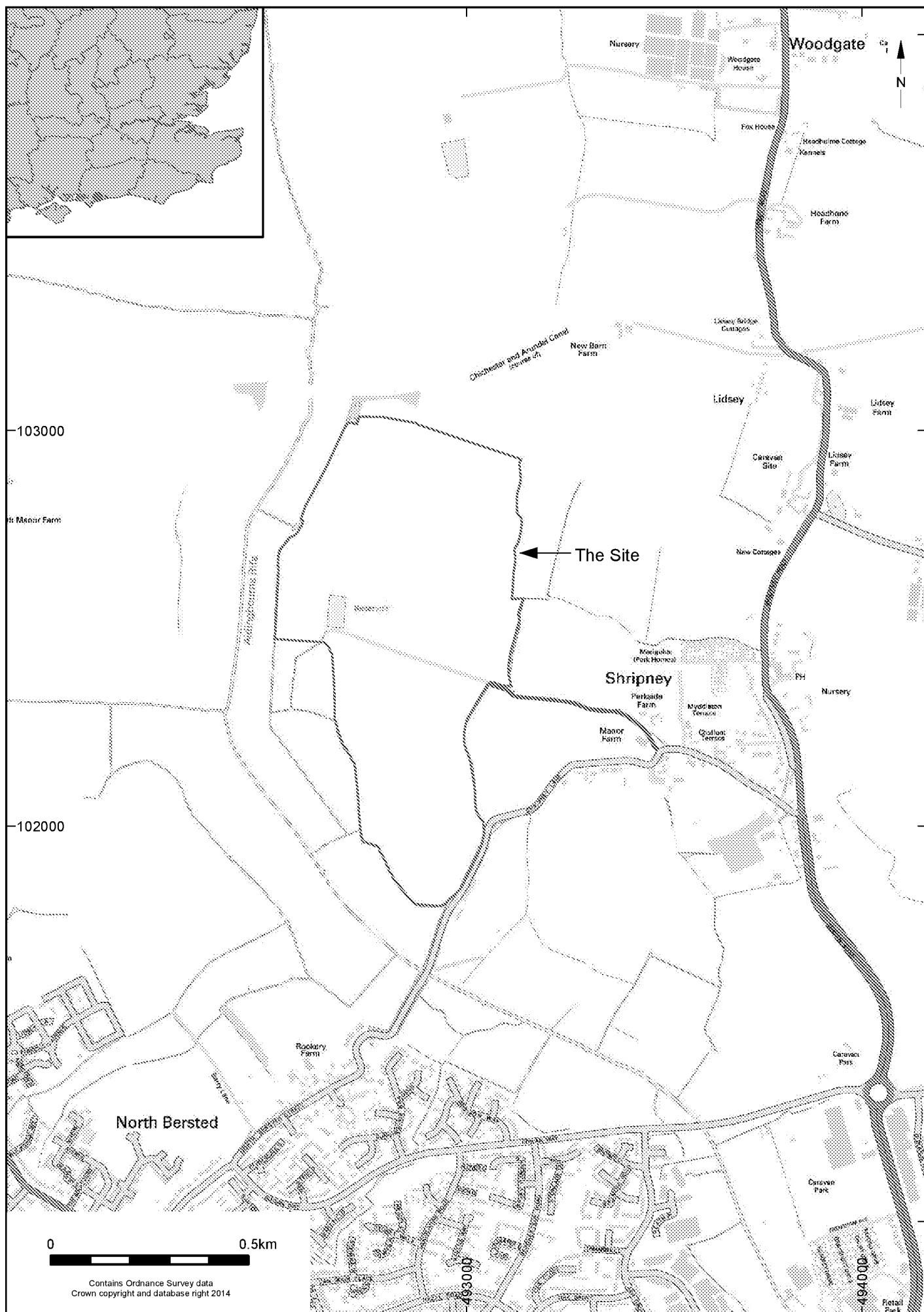
English Heritage, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*

Historic England, 2015 (2nd Ed.) *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*

Online Resources:

BGS 2015. British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed 5th October 2015

**Archaeology South-East,
October 2015**



© Archaeology South-East		Manor Farm Solar Park, Shripney	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 7841	Oct 2015	Site location	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Manor Farm Solar Park, Shripney	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 7841	Oct 2015	Site plan	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: JLR		