

**Archaeological Evaluation Report  
Bodiam Castle  
Bodiam, East Sussex**

**NGR: 578313 125804 & 578519 125200**

**Part of the National Trust Bodiam 100 Project**

**ASE Project No: 240201  
Site Code: ESBOD24**

**ASE Report No: 2024249  
OASIS id: archaeol6-529300**



**By Stephen White**



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<b>Date of Issue:</b>	<b>December 2024</b>		
<b>Version:</b>	<b>3</b>		

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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by the National Trust (NT) to manage, supervise and report on an archaeological evaluation within the grounds surrounding Bodiam Castle in East Sussex as part of the wider Bodiam 100 project during summer 2024. The project was conceived as a community endeavour and designed to utilise, and train both UCL archaeology students and volunteers as trench supervisors and excavators. Evaluation trenching was undertaken in two areas, Dokes Field to the north of the castle and Freren Mead to the south.*

*The fieldwork recorded a number of significant discoveries. Firstly, Roman activity was identified in Dokes Field. Here, based on the recovered finds, a road recorded in Trenches 5 and 6 is considered to be Roman. Secondly, deposits recorded in Freren Mead suggests that some of the deeper alluvial deposits correspond to historical flooding that occurred in the Roman period. A programme of geoarchaeological boreholes in Freren Mead has the potential to provide further information about the flood depositional sequence there. Also, it was observed that the base of the valley is shallower as one progresses to the south-west in Freren Mead. If possible, therefore, excavation in the far south-west of the field, within the scheduled area, may expose Roman archaeology at much shallower depths. Targeted metal-detecting of this area might facilitate the identification of suitable trench locations. Ditches, presumably related to water management and evidence for 20th century hop growing were also uncovered in Freren Mead.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by the National Trust (NT) to manage, supervise and report on an archaeological evaluation within the grounds surrounding Bodiam Castle in East Sussex (NGR: 578313 125804 & 578519 125200) as part of the wider Bodiam 100 project during summer 2024. The project was conceived as a community endeavour and designed to utilise and train both UCL archaeology students and volunteers as trench supervisors and excavators.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

- 1.2.1 The site is situated in the small village of Bodiam, in the Rother Valley. The river, which bisects the site, forms a parish boundary, with Dokes Field located within the Parish of Bodiam and Freren Mead within the Parish of Ewhurst (Figure 1).
- 1.2.2 Bodiam is a linear settlement, aligned along an ancient routeway leading to a river crossing at Bodiam Bridge. The castle is located to the east of the village; Court Farm to the north-east was the centre of the medieval manor together with the nearby St. Giles' Church. Dokes Field is situated in the northern part of the village, between the castle, manor and church, while Freren Mead is located to the south of the village, within the floodplain on the southern side of the river.
- 1.2.3 Dokes Field is a pasture field measuring c.6 hectares in area. It is at c.40m AOD at the north-west corner and slopes to the south-east, and is at c.15m AOD at the south-east corner and contains a central dry valley. Freren Mead, formerly a hop ground, is pasture and is situated on reclaimed marshland in the valley bottom. The field is broadly level at c.4m AOD but with a slightly higher area in the south-west part of the field corresponding to the scheduled area.
- 1.2.4 The British Geological Survey (BGS 2024) maps a simple geological profile in Dokes Field of interbedded sandstone and siltstone of the Ashdown Formation with no superficial deposits. Freren Mead is more complex and comprises alluvium. Palaeoenvironmental sampling has revealed that the alluvium is up to 2m deep, overlying a peat deposit up to 7m deep, with a blue-grey silty clay as the lowest identified deposit. These deposits also include a major palaeochannel.

### **1.3 Project Background**

- 1.3.1 The year 2026 marks the centenary of the acquisition of Bodiam Castle by NT, and to mark this milestone they have planned a three-year archaeological project to investigate the wider landscape context of the property (Bodiam 100).
- 1.3.2 A project design was prepared by ASE and the National Trust (ASE 2024) in relation to the running of a programme of archaeological fieldwork within two key locations (Figure 1):
- Dokes Field (NGR 578313 125804), located to the north-west of the castle and south-west of Court Lodge. Recent geophysical survey (Barker, Copeland, Sly & Strutt 2012; Figure 2) has identified anomalies interpreted as a Roman road and a rectangular enclosure within the field, and Iron Age cremations have been recorded just outside it.
  - Freren Mead (NGR 578519 125200), a field located immediately south of the River Rother to the south of the castle. This field has considerable potential for palaeoenvironmental deposits relating to earlier phases of the Rother and also Roman deposits relating to a

possible port located just to the west. Historical records also indicate a medieval tenement lay within the field, and it also has industrial archaeology interest through its former use for hop cultivation by the Guinness brewery.

## **1.4 Scope of Report**

- 1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation trial trenching undertaken during the July and August 2024.

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction & Previous Archaeological investigations**

2.1.1 The following period background information has been drawn from the Project Design for Bodiam 100 (ASE, NT 2024).

2.1.2 Archaeological investigations of various types have been undertaken within Dokes Field and Freren Mead; these include:

#### *Dokes Field*

- 2010: Magnetometry survey by Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group (HAARG) to confirm the line of the Roman road (ESHER Ref. EES14770) (Cornwell, Cornwell & Padgham 2012).
- 2010: Geophysical survey by University of Southampton (EES14945) (Barker, Copeland, Sly & Strutt 2012).

#### *Freren Mead*

- 1960: Roman pottery observed within the south-west corner of the site after ploughing.
- 1960: Watching brief during the laying of a Post Office cable in or adjacent to (exact location unknown) the south-west corner of the site located sandstone blocks covered by 2 inches of 'iron ore' at a depth of 3ft 1 in (0.94m) and interpreted as possible Roman road.
- 1960: Limited investigation recovered a collection of Roman and medieval material from 'The Clappers'.
- 1970s: Fieldwalking located a spread of Roman and medieval pottery covering 0.4 hectares in the south-west corner of the field.
- 1985: Resistivity and magnetometry surveys by Ancient Monuments Laboratory (no results due to modern metal disturbance and deep alluvium).
- 1980s: Eleven boreholes across the field by Paul Burrin and Rob Scaife recorded complex alluvial deposits.
- 2007: Archaeological and historic landscape survey by ASE (EES14405).
- 2010: Geophysical survey by University of Southampton (EES14945).
- 2024: Geophysical surveys by Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group and Wealden Archaeology Group

2.1.3 In addition, a limited amount of excavation (c.18m<sup>2</sup>) has taken place in the field to the west of Freren Mead. In September 1959 Guinness Hop Farms Co. Ltd. ploughed up the field, uncovering a number of pieces of Roman tile and pottery (Lemmon & Hill 1966). Investigations by Lemmon and Hill located further areas of supposed Roman activity, comprising up to eight phases of activity dated to between the mid-1<sup>st</sup> and mid-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD. The earliest phase containing clear Roman material was Level 4 at a depth of 0.7m below ground level. The lowest level (Level 8) was found at a depth of 0.33m aOD. Cropmarks of a large structure have been observed in the south-western part of the field not far from Bodiam railway station (MES3475 & 3859).

### **2.2 Prehistoric**

2.2.1 The prehistory of the High Weald is still little understood, and few sites of prehistoric date have been excavated in the area. The study of the fossil pollen record and the valley sediment stratigraphies of the Rother valley has indicated that the surrounding landscape was dominated by a mixed deciduous woodland environment including oak (*Quercus*), lime (*Tilia*),

ash (*Fraxinus*) and some elm (*Ulmus*). The floodplain was dominated by hazel (*Corylus*) but with areas of alder (*Alnus*). It has been suggested that woodland clearance in the Rother valley may have started in the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age.

2.2.2 The development of the Rother valley over the last ten thousand years is complex, but studies show that the valley is dominated by inorganic sediments upstream from Bodiam and a thicker and more complex perimarine or near coastal association downstream. A thick blanket of peat exists across the valley below Bodiam, part of which appears to have been exposed in 1998 during a watching brief for a new sewage treatment plant on the north side of the river and again during drainage works in 2003. The peat was at a depth of c.1-2m and was radiocarbon dated to the Bronze Age. The landscape associated with the peat would have comprised a carr fauna and flora dominated by alder with willow and some silver birch with braided river channels across the valley floor. The valley sides were dominated by limewoods until the woodland clearances of the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. Sedimentation started above the peat in the Later Bronze Age (c. 1500-1000BC).

2.2.3 Settlement in this marginal landscape was sparse and piecemeal. Scattered findspots of flintwork spanning the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods testify to the presence of hunting bands in the area but provide little secure evidence for settlement at this period. The communities represented by the artefacts may have operated from temporary encampments located at key points in the landscape, but such sites tend to be elusive in the archaeological record

2.2.4 The earliest definite sign of settlement is of Late Iron Age date, relating to a cinerary urn found just west of the castle in 1902 (MES3482), although this discovery casts little light on the nature of any associated settlement. This period saw the wider utilisation of the Wealden interior for iron ore extraction, and the presence of a later Romano-British industrial focus at Bodiam has prompted suggestions of an Iron Age precursor, perhaps reflecting the early importance of a port and/or crossing of the Rother.

## 2.3 Romano-British

2.3.1 The evidence for Romano-British activity at Bodiam is significant, and somewhat controversial, comprising a settlement and industrial focus interpreted as a port and a road.

### *The Settlement and Industrial site*

2.3.2 In 1959, deep ploughing by Guinness in the field to the west of the Site revealed scatters of Romano-British tile and pottery (Lemmon & Hill 1966) (MES3475). Trial trenching in that year, followed by a larger excavation in 1960 revealed substantial evidence for Romano-British activity. Eight separate contexts interpreted as occupation levels were observed to a depth of 1.4m below existing ground level and included lengths of sandstone walling and tiled paved areas indicating the presence of buildings. One feature was interpreted as a possible kiln or hypocaust. Finds included Terra Sigillata (samian) and Terra Mammata (a type of bossed tile or brick, sometimes used in hypocaust systems), leading to the suggestion that an important building existed in the vicinity, possibly represented by a large rectangular cropmark observed on air photographs (MES3859). The excavators interpreted the settlement as being a river port operated by the Classis Britannica, the 'Channel Fleet' of the Imperial Navy. The port would have served to export the products of the iron industry, and possibly other goods such as timber. Geoarchaeological work has suggested that the river at this time flowed in a constrained navigable channel situated to the south of its present course.

2.3.3 All the excavated evidence relates to the area west of the site. However, scatters of Romano-British pottery were also observed in the south-western corner of Freren Mead when it was ploughed in 1960, and again during fieldwalking by local researchers in the 1970s. Auguring

during a geophysical survey in the 1980s produced evidence of charcoal deposits. Geophysical survey in 2012 produced anomalies suggestive of kilns within the southern part of Freren Mead together with a rectilinear feature in the south-west corner interpreted as a possible building (Barker, Copeland, Sly & Strutt 2012).

### *The Road*

- 2.3.4 Bodiam lies along the line of a Roman road (purple line on Figure 13) from Rochester to Hastings, classified by Margary as Route 1. The line of the road to the north of the river has been the subject of much discussion, with Margary suggesting a route running adjacent to the west side of the castle (an area of marshy springs now occupied by ponds) and crossing the river using a ford just to the east of the present bridge. No secure evidence exists for such a ford in the Roman period (the finding of stones in the area may reflect the dumping of ballast from medieval and post-medieval shipping), and the geoarchaeological evidence suggests that the Roman channel lay further to the south. A recent re-interpretation (Johnson et al 2001) suggests that the road may actually have followed the line of Bodiam High Street, and this was confirmed in 2012 by geophysical survey in Dokes Field which identified parallel anomalies interpreted as roadside ditches (Cornwell et al 2012). Further geophysical survey in 2012 by the University of Southampton extended this survey and further resolved the road alignment as well as picking up a possible branch heading to the south-east. An intriguing rectangular enclosure in the south-west corner of the field is undated (Barker, Copeland, Sly & Strutt 2012).
- 2.3.5 The line of the road on the south bank of the river is less problematic. In Margary's view, the road ran south along the present line of the road from Bodiam to Staplecross and Sedlescombe. A crossing of the valley accords well with the archaeological evidence existing on the south bank of the river – good access is provided to the 'port' (the road would actually bisect it if the scheduled area is a valid guide to its location and extent) and also to the 12 other known sites, including a bloomery and a putative villa, situated on the higher ground to the south of the valley. The iron ore and sandstone deposit observed in the cable trench c.1960 was interpreted as an 'old surface', but only provides circumstantial support for the road line as it produced no dating evidence.

## **2.4 Medieval**

- 2.4.1 Little is known of the Bodiam and Ewhurst areas in the centuries between the ending of Roman control and the Norman Conquest. Place name evidence is limited, as no names are recorded earlier than the Domesday Survey in 1086, although Bodiam derives from 'Boda's ham', an Anglo-Saxon word-form Meading the farmstead of Boda. Until the Conquest, Bodiam was a subordinate settlement of Ewhurst, in both tenurial and ecclesiastical terms, a relationship facilitated by the presence of an earlier crossing point of the river.
- 2.4.2 Medieval Bodiam appears to have been a small settlement that grew up around a communication node where the north-south Roman road crossed the Rother. In form, the village forms a loose linear straggle of buildings along the road from the river crossing to Sandhurst. It could perhaps be described as linear polyfocal in form, with one focus around the parish church of St Giles and Court Lodge Farm, the original manorial caput, to the north of Dokes Field, and a second focus around the river crossing, with further scattered settlement across the river, including a former tenement within the site (MES3858). However, in terms of the number of historic structures it is little more than a hamlet – this is fully consistent with the dominant settlement pattern of the Weald, comprising dispersed settlement of farmsteads and small hamlets. The importance of the location prior to the construction of the castle was twofold: lush riverside meadows providing grazing land, and the presence of a riverine port.

2.4.3 The meadows were economically valuable to the monastic authorities at Robertsbridge, who characteristically exploited the resources they held to the full. Possession of both banks of the river also had a further economic benefit – control of river traffic. Bodiam was one of a number of minor landing places that grew up along the rivers of the region, providing a fairly crude but crucial transport infrastructure for the shipping of bulky materials such as timber from the Wealden interior, much of it destined for London as firewood as well as building materials. A wharf was established by Abbot Walter in 1157-71, although the first specific reference to a quay for timber occurred in 1357 – there is no indication as to which side of the river the quay was located, but it was probably the north side. Prior to the 14th century, the river may have been navigable as far as Salehurst.

2.4.4 The most prominent historic building in the settlement, the castle (MES3474), was built around 1385 by Sir Edward Dallingridge. It lay within a wider landscape incorporating some designed elements, often described as a water garden providing a dramatic stage to enhance the status of the castle, although this interpretation has been questioned. There is evidence to suggest that Dallingridge had the river diverted further to the south at this time, a clear demonstration of seigneurial power. The castle declined following the death of Richard Dallingridge in 1470.

## 2.5 Post-Medieval

2.5.1 The river retained its importance for communications, although under some pressure from the increased inking of the waterside meadows along the Rother – the levels at Bodiam were reported as being perennially flooded in the mid-16th century.

2.5.2 Bodiam Bridge retained its position as the highest navigable point on the river, and a number of commodities were shipped from there. Ironworking was important in the area, with a furnace reported at Ewhurst by 1588 and still in use in 1653. Also of importance was hop-growing: in 1830 coal was shipped from Rye to the bridge, and then overland to Robertsbridge, for drying hops. The industry culminated with the use of Freren Mead and the surrounding fields for hop growing by the Guinness brewery between 1905 and 1976.

2.5.3 The landscape of Bodiam remained relatively unchanged during this period. A number of houses survive from the 17th – 19th centuries, preserved as listed buildings. The bridge itself was of medieval origin but survives in its present form from 1797. General agricultural activities are demonstrated by a number of features relating to drainage activities, a task of fundamental importance in valley bottoms.

2.5.4 A dramatic change to the landscape came about with the construction of the Kent & East Sussex Railway, now forming the southern boundary of Freren Mead. Early plans were put forward in the 1850s but came to nothing. In 1896 a new proposal was made to build light railway, the Rother Valley Railway. It opened in April 1900, and had changed name to the Kent & East Sussex Railway by 1905. It became increasingly unprofitable through the 1930s but survived until nationalisation in 1948. Passenger traffic closed in 1954, and the goods service finally closed in 1961.

2.5.5 The strategic importance of Bodiam for military defence was briefly recognised in 1940 with the construction of an anti-tank pillbox just to the south of the castle. The structure formed part of the Corps (Rother) Stop Line extending from Uckfield to Romney Marsh. Its proximity to the beaches made it one of the first lines of defence against a German invasion, with Bodiam Bridge and the causeway formed by the Roman road representing a target crossing point for enemy armour. It is unknown whether any additional defensive measures were taken to defend the bridge, but common measures such as anti-tank blocks and barriers, flame

fougasse and rifle pits might survive as buried archaeological features

## **2.6 Project Aims and Objectives**

### *Aims*

2.6.1 The general aims of the archaeological work were twofold:

- *To enhance the understanding of the nature and significance of the wider archaeological context of Bodiam, for management (with particular regard to future flood risk management) and interpretation purposes.*
- *To provide a structured, Meaningful and research-driven fieldwork training opportunity for IoA students and local volunteers and provide outreach opportunities for the wider community.*

### *General Objectives*

2.6.2 Based on the results of the previous archaeological investigations undertaken within the site and its surrounding vicinity, the general objectives identified for the project were:

#### *Dokes Field*

- *To determine whether any further evidence survives for the Iron Age cremation found just south of the field in 1902, and whether it forms part of a larger cemetery.*
- *To confirm the revised alignment of the Roman road, as plotted through geophysical survey, to characterise and date it and its associated branches and investigate any associated features (e.g. roadside settlement).*
- *To characterise and date the rectangular enclosure.*
- *To establish whether any further medieval features exist between the castle and the manor site.*

#### *Freren Mead*

- *To confirm whether any Roman structural remains exist within the site. If so, what is the nature and significance of the remains and how do they fit in with the results of the 1960s works? Can the interpretation of the Roman activity as a port and fleet base be confirmed and refined?*
- *To establish what archaeological evidence survives for the historically attested medieval occupation / land use.*
- *To gain further understanding of the management of the valley bottom meadows, drainage etc during the medieval and post-medieval periods.*
- *To establish what evidence survives for the post-medieval hop industry.*
- *To gain a better understanding of the condition and preservation of archaeological deposits of all periods, particularly in relation to deposit depths (e.g. depths of protective overburden, areas of erosion etc).*



### *Research Objectives*

- 2.6.3 The above general objectives are underpinned by a number of research questions and topics as identified for the region in the South-East Research Framework (South East Research Framework - Kent County Council 2024)
- 2.6.4 The research objectives are designed to provide a framework of academic enquiry and understanding to guide and inform the fieldwork process and the subsequent analysis/interpretation of results. These are based on the research agendas published within SERF, with some commentary on the opportunities provided by the project.

### *Pleistocene Environments*

- *By contrast with the Thames the Wealden area remains little understood in terms of the nature of the sequences and their archaeological potential. The relative paucity of faunal and floral remains in the Weald have made it difficult to correlate sequences of river terraces with those to the north and south of the downland blocks. Some parts of the Weald are now being routinely examined for palaeoenvironmental records (both those associated with the river gravels as well as the 'inland' sequences) but the challenge remains to boost this record. Further investigation of the riverine deposits within Freren Mead, building on the earlier work of Burrin and Scaife, would be of regional significance.*

### *Prehistoric*

- *Prehistoric settlement remains under-researched in the Weald. What is the context of the Iron Age cremation found in Bodiam, was it part of a larger cemetery? Was there associated settlement?*

### *Roman*

- *Can our understanding of the Classis Britannica, and its relationship with inland sites, be enhanced? If settlement evidence exists in Freren Mead, it can contribute to this objective.*
- *The road network requires re-examination. Beyond basics such as route, the network needs to be examined for insights concerning construction techniques, maintenance and dating of these, plus final use. Dokes Field provides an excellent opportunity to examine this.*
- *Bridges and fords are of importance, particularly in light of any re-examination of the road network. Previous geoarchaeological work indicates an earlier river channel running through the centre of Freren Mead which provides the opportunity to investigate how the river crossing was achieved.*
- *All elements of ports need further investigation, from wharf and mole construction (dating and techniques) to waterside structures. Any trace of vessels (whether wrecks or reused timbers found elsewhere) is of great interest. Freren Mead is a key location for examining this topic.*

### *Medieval*

- *Comparison of castle life and communities over time and space in terms of social, cultural and experiential factors within castles, relationships between castles and castle hinterlands, and between defensive sites on local and regional scales. Of particular relevance in this project is the relationship between the castle and its wider landscape.*
- *More understanding of the landscape of primarily dispersed rural settlement in terms of*

*development and maintenance over space and time. The project can help understand the apparently medieval tenement in Freren Mead and how it relates to the more nucleated settlement in Bodiam to the north and the dispersed settlements of Ockham and Ewhurst to the south.*

- *Survey and comparison of individual settlement layouts in terms of relationships with other features such as moats and manor houses as well as industry and trade. Dokes Field occupies a key location between the church/manor to the north and the castle/river port to the south, and Freren Mead could provide further evidence of the use of the river frontage.*
- *Interdisciplinary village-based schemes involving both locals (many village or small town focussed interest groups already exist in the region) and professionals (this will contribute much to research as well as a sense of place for those taking part); local concerns articulated with wider debates via a region-wide scheme of research, dissemination and education. This will harness an existing local interest in the property and will foster future research opportunities (e.g. garden test-pitting).*
- *Further investigation of agricultural practices (including animal husbandry) and land use through more systematic sampling and analyses than hitherto. The property is situated on the northern slope of the valley and extends down into the valley floor, providing an opportunity to understand how these different areas were used.*
- *The relationships between ecclesiastical centres and their hinterlands and wider landscapes. Freren Mead was used as grazing meadow by Robertsbridge Abbey – can this be identified in the archaeological record, and does it differ from secular use?*

#### Post-Medieval

- *The development of the village in the post-medieval period.*
- *The reclamation of wetlands: the methods used, the resultant field patterns and management systems and the impact on the population and economy of the area.*
- *More hop-pickers huts and associated structures and landscape features to be studied archaeologically*

### 3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The trenches were broadly located as per the WSI specification, with slight adjustments to better fit the geophysical results. Trenches 1-4 were located within the Freren Mead field to the south of the castle, while Trenches 5-8 were located within Dokes Field to the north of the castle (Figure 2).
- 3.1.2 Trenches 1-4 in Freren Mead were all initially opened by a 7-tonne tracked excavator, generally to a dept of c. 0.50m. In Trenches 3 and 4, further general hand excavation of stepped areas was undertaken, to a maximum excavated depth of 2.21m in Trench 3 and 1.50m in Trench 4.
- 3.1.3 Trenches 5-8 in Dokes Field were excavated by hand.

#### 3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited with the National Trust in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below.

Context sheets	130
Section sheets	23
Plans sheets	30
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	346
Context register	9
Drawing register	2
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	0

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box )	5 boxes
Registered finds (number of)	10
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	1 box
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	2
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	8L

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

- 3.2.2 The site archive will be assembled in accordance with the guidelines set out in: 'Archaeological Archives. A guide to best practice' (AAF 2011); 'A Standard and Guide to best practice for Archaeological Archiving in Europe' (EAC 2013); and 'Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections' (SMA 2020).

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Trench 1 (Figures 3 & 4)

- 4.1.1 Trench 1 was in the south-eastern quadrant of the Freren Mead field on the southern side of Bodiam castle; the trench measured 15m east-west by 14.5m north-south. It was located 117m east-south-east of TR2, 80m south-east of TR3 and 96m east of TR4. The 'natural' deposits observed within Trench 1 comprised historically deposited alluvial layers, so while they were 'naturally' deposited they sealed activity across the rest of the field that has been dated as Late Iron Age/Roman.
- 4.1.2 The archaeological sequence within the trench broadly consisted of a (stratigraphically) earlier ditch ([1/018], [1/021] & [1/027]) [probably that shown on 19<sup>th</sup> century Ordnance Survey mapping] running east-north-east to west-south-west across the trench truncated by a 'later' ditch ([1/004], [1/016] & [1/009]) on the same orientation. After the ditches had been backfilled various items of 'hop furniture' ([1/034], [1/035], [1/036], & [1/037]) were inserted into the upper alluvial deposits.
- 4.1.3 The earlier ditch was excavated in three separate slots in the east, centre and west of Trench 1. In the easternmost slot, ditch [1/018] was not fully excavated across its width owing to water ingress and the lack of pumps. The base of the ditch was reached though, and it was observed to contain five fills: primary fill [1/031], secondary fill [1/030], tertiary fill [1/028], fill [1/028] and upper fill [1/017]. The primary fill ([1/031]) was a very organic, dark humic deposit, while the other fills were variations of alluvial depositional activities. In the central slot, ditch [1/027] contained primary fill [1/026], secondary fill [1/025], tertiary fill [1/024], fill [1/023] and upper fill [1/022]. In the western slot ditch [1/021] was not fully excavated owing to water ingress but did contain at least fill [1/020] and upper fill [1/019]. Other than the primary fill in the eastern slot, all of the fills across the rest of the ditch consisted of variations of blue-grey alluvial clay. The ditch was between 2.06m and 3.50m wide, and between 0.80m and 1.16m deep.
- 4.1.4 The later ditch was observed to run on almost the same alignment as the earlier one, and in each of the excavated slots it was recorded truncating the earlier feature. In the eastern slot, ditch [1/018] upper fill [1/017] was truncated by the later ditch [1/004] that contained primary fill [1/011], secondary fill [1/003] and upper fill [1/002]. In the central slot the upper fill of ditch [1/027] (fill [1/022]) was truncated by ditch [1/009] that contained a single fill (the context numbers for fills [1/008], [1/012] and [1/013] were all taken out prior to the section being complete and it being revealed that these were one homogenous fill. With finds being sent down every day for volunteers to process it was necessary to sometimes take out multiple numbers that would then be equated during post-excavation). In the western slot the upper fill of ditch [1/021] (fill [1/019]) was truncated by ditch [1/016], within which were primary fill [1/014] and upper fill [1/015]. The ditch was between 2.00 and 2.64m wide and between 0.56m and 0.60m deep. At the bottom of the cut, sealed by the various backfills was a concrete storm drain. It seems likely that this was installed when Guinness owned the field, possible as a method of water management, if so then the backfilling of this ditch would be dated to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 4.1.5 The various items of hop furniture that were recorded within Trench 1 ([1/034], [1/035], [1/036], & [1/037]) comprised a solid timber baseplate with an iron 'anchor' fastened to it and a possible fragment of surviving hop pole from NE corner of the trench.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Height (M OD)	Parent
1/001	Layer	Topsoil					
1/002	Fill	Fill, upper		2.3	0.3		1/004
1/003	Fill	Fill, secondary		2.44	0.28		1/004
1/004	Cut	Ditch	1	2.64	0.58		1/004
1/005	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit			0.68		
1/006	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit			0.68		
1/007	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit			0.68		
1/008	Fill	Fill		2	0.56	2.35	1/009
1/009	Cut	Ditch		2	0.56	1.8	1/009
1/010	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit			0.68	2.46	
1/011	Fill	Fill, primary		1.84	0.18		1/004
1/012	Fill	Fill					1/009
1/013	Fill	Fill					1/009
1/014	Fill	Fill, primary		2.3	0.3		1/016
1/015	Fill	Fill, upper		2.3	0.3		1/016
1/016	Cut	Ditch	1	2.3	0.6		1/016
1/017	Fill	Fill, upper		1.7	0.41		1/018
1/018	Cut	Ditch	1	2.06	1.1		1/018
1/019	Fill	Fill, upper			0.2		1/021
1/020	Fill	Fill			0.25		1/021
1/021	Cut	Ditch	1	3.5	0.8		1/021
1/022	Fill	Fill, upper		1.36	0.45	2.46	1/027
1/023	Fill	Fill		1.24	0.51	2.46	1/027
1/024	Fill	Fill, tertiary		2.06	0.26	2.46	1/027
1/025	Fill	Fill, secondary		1.52	0.16	2.23	1/027
1/026	Fill	Fill, primary		2.08	0.55	1.7	1/027
1/027	Cut	Ditch	1	2.87	1.16	1.23	1/027
1/028	Fill	Fill		1.96	0.38		1/018
1/029	Fill	Fill, tertiary		0.94	0.13		1/018
1/030	Fill	Fill, secondary		1.8	0.26		1/018
1/031	Fill	Fill, primary		0.68	0.12		1/018
1/032	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit			0.32	1.71	
1/033	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit				1.42	
1/034	Timber	Hop furniture					
1/035	Timber	Hop furniture					
1/036	Timber	Hop furniture					
1/037	Timber	Hop furniture					

Table 3: Trench 1 recorded contexts

## 4.2 Trench 2

- 4.2.1 Trench 2 was located west of centre of the Freren Mead field, and measured 10m north to south by 5m east to west. It was 117m west-north-west of TR1, 52m west of TR3 and 39m north of TR4. The 'natural' deposits observed within Trench 2 comprised historically deposited alluvial layers, so while they were 'naturally' deposited they sealed activity across the rest of the field that has been dated as Late Iron Age/Roman.
- 4.2.2 The archaeological sequence within Trench 2 consisted of ditch [2/009] truncating the alluvial deposits. Ditch [2/009] contained two fills; primary fill [2/010] and secondary fill [2/011]; the ditch bisected the trench on a roughly south-west to north-east alignment and was 7.07m long by 3.54m wide to a maximum depth of 1.23m. As in the later ditch in Trench 1, the primary fill of the ditch sealed a concrete storm drainpipe indicating a 20<sup>th</sup> century date and also that this ditch was probably part of the same water management system. An unusual, curved land drain (probably mid-19th century so predating land drainage arrangements for hop field) [2/007] was also recorded. Trench 2 is not, therefore, illustrated.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Height (m OD)	Parent
2/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.34	3.02	
2/002	Layer	Subsoil			0.18		
2/003	Cut	Land drain					2/003
2/004	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit			0.32	2.66	
2/005	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit				2.34	
2/006	Fill	Fill, upper			0.35	2.65	2/009
2/007	Cut	Land drain					2/007
2/008	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit			0.6		
2/009	Cut	Ditch	7.07	3.54	1.23	1.42	2/009
2/010	Fill	Fill, primary			0.54	1.76	2/009
2/011	Fill	Fill, secondary			0.34	2.3	2/009
2/012	Void						

Table 4: Trench 2 recorded contexts

## 4.3 Trench 3 (Figures 5 & 6)

- 4.3.1 Trench 3 was situated towards the centre of the Freren Mead field, measuring roughly 5m x 5m square. It was situated 80m north-west of TR 1, 52m east of TR2 and 69m north-west of TR4. The sequence within Trench 3 facilitated the understanding of the alluvial sequence across the Rother floodplain. Ground height around the trench was 3.02m OD
- 4.3.2 The base of the sequence was situated on deposit [3/016] between 0.81m and 1.03m OD and comprised a dense compact dark grey (with occasional pale mottling) riverine clay within inclusions of degraded sandstone as well as lenses of leafy organic material. This was overlain by [3/015] between 0.87m and 1.03m OD, a compact dark blackish grey layer of partially degraded vegetation including intact leaves, that may correspond to a seasonal flood event. Sealing this was deposit [3/014] (at 0.91-1.23m OD), a compact dark grey clay that contained occasional pieces of plant material (roots, reeds, leaves, etc.) as well as fragments of wood. From this deposit an in situ single abraded grog-tempered body sherd of Late Iron Age/Roman 'East Sussex ware' was recovered. Sample <4> from [3/014] contained uncharred wood fragments as well as large amounts of waterlogged plant remains; insect shell fragments were also numerous within this sample.

- 4.3.3 Above the datable Late Iron Age/Roman context was a series of alluvial deposits ([3/013] at 1.33-1.43m OD, [3/012] at 1.57-1.63m OD, [3/011] at 1.63-1.72m OD, [3/010] 1.73-1.85m OD, [3/009] 1.77-1.93m OD, [3/008] 1.96m OD, [3/007] 2.00-2.03m OD, [3/005] 2.05-2.11m OD, [3/004] 2.22-2.25m OD, [3/003] at 2.55-2.62m OD) overlain by subsoil [3/002] (at 2.87m OD) and sealed at ground height by top soil [3/001] at 3.02m OD. Broadly speaking all of the alluvial deposits sloped downwards as they progressed south to north across the trench, indicating a descending ground height in the direction of the river to the north.
- 4.3.4 While no cut archaeological features were observed within the trench, the Roman dating from towards the bottom of the sequence (deposit [3/014]) is indicative of the depth of the historic Roman river side activity, some 1.79m to 2.11m below the ground height in Freren Mead field. It is worth noting that this is the depth at the location of Trench 3, as one moves south away from this location the Roman activity may be shallower, as observed within Trench 4.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth (m)	Height (m OD)
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.15	3.02
3/002	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.4	2.87
3/003	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.20-0.30	2.55-2.64
3/004	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.10-0.15	2.22-2.25
3/005	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.06-0.10	2.05-2.11
3/006	VOID	VOID		
3/007	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.05	2.00-2.03
3/008	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.3	1.96
3/009	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.04-0.10	1.77-1.93
3/010	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.08-0.12	1.73-1.85
3/011	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.06-0.11	1.63-1.72
3/012	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.14-0.20	1.57-1.63
3/013	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.20-0.50	1.33-1.43
3/014	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.35	0.91-1.23
3/015	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit	0.02-0.04	0.87-1.03
3/016	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit/palaeochannel(?)	0.5	0.81-1.03

Table 5: Trench 3 recorded contexts

#### 4.4 Trench 4 (Figures 7 & 8)

- 4.4.1 Trench 4 was in the south-western quadrant of the Freren Mead field and measured 5.15m north to south by 4.75m east to west. It was located 96m west of TR1, 39m south of TR2 and 69m south-west of TR3. The sequence within trench 4 further facilitated the understanding of the alluvial sequence across the river Rother floodplain. Ground height around the trench was 3.07m OD.
- 4.4.2 The bottom of the archaeological sequence in TR4 comprised layer [4/016], which has been interpreted as a type of foreshore style deposit (*pers comms* Cohen & Oswald). Bearing in mind the specialisms of those on site (Nathalie Cohen of the National Trust and Alistair Oswald of the University of York) this interpretation of the deposit seems eminently realistic. Layer [4/016] comprised a compact mid-dark grey pure alluvial clay with frequent fragments of wood and other organic materials, including multiple tree trunks that were mostly 0.10-0.20m in diameter and at least four tree stumps, tentatively identified as alder, growing into

and over the fallen wood. It was situated between 1.63 and 1.67m OD. Sample <6> from layer [4/016] contained small amounts of charcoal, as well as scarce volumes of insect shell fragments. A sample of Alder (*Alnus sp.*) taken from [4/016] has been retained for potential C14 dating (see section 5.12 below).

- 4.4.3 Layer [4/016] was then sealed by a compact pale grey-orange clay deposit, possibly indicative of a flood episode or event at 2.09-2.26m OD. This was in turn overlain by deposit [4/013], a gritty bright orange-brown silty sand (with occasional clay patches) that may represent a buried soil horizon (at 2.12-2.29m OD, the 'B' horizon to [4/010]). This was sealed by soft brownish black organic deposit [4/010] that may represent a buried turf line at 2.17-2.32m OD. This deposit was then truncated by an irregular possible pit [4/015] (that was only observed in section) that had a moderately steep side with a fairly level rounded base and contained a single fill, [4/014], a loose friable dark grey sandy-clayey silt that contained no material culture. The pit was sealed at 2.32-2.41m OD by layer [4/006], a firm brownish grey clay with ironstone inclusions, with a lower lens of paler greyish-brown clay.
- 4.4.4 These deposits were then overlain by deposit [4/002], a yellowish grey compact silty clay at 2.47m OD that again formed part of the historical process of flood deposition within the wider valley. This riverine deposit was truncated by a land drain, that was in turn sealed by top soil [4/001] at a ground height of 3.07-3.13m OD.
- 4.4.5 No finds dating evidence was recovered from the deposits towards the bottom of the archaeological sequence in TR4, however the similarity to the deposits at the base of TR3 should be noted. Depending on how the deposits match up, it possible that similar foreshore style deposits were between c.0.60-0.80m higher in TR4 than in TR2.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Height (m OD)	Parent
4/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.5	3.07-3.13	
4/002	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit			0.10-0.30	2.47	
4/003	Fill	Backfill		0.4	0.5		4/004
4/004	Cut	Construction cut		0.4	0.5		4/004
4/005	Masonry or other construction	Land drain		0.4	0.5		4/004
4/006	Layer	Buried soil horizon			0.20-0.40	2.32-2.41	
4/007	Layer	Natural alluvial deposit			0.50-0.60	2.09-2.26	
4/008	Void						
4/009	Void						
4/010	Layer	Buried soil horizon			0.04-0.10	2.17-2.32	
4/011	Void						
4/012	Fill	Fill					4/004
4/013	Layer	Buried soil horizon			0.12	2.12-2.29	
4/014	Fill	Backfill		0.62	0.18	2.27	4/015
4/015	Cut	Pit		0.62	0.18	2.09	4/015
4/016	Layer	Natural foreshore deposit			0.10-0.30	1.63-1.67	

Table 6: Trench 4 recorded contexts



## 4.5 Trench 5 (Figures 9 and 9a)

- 4.5.1 Trench 5 was the northern most trench within the evaluation, located towards centre of Dokes Field. It was located 106m west-north-west of TR6, 129m north-east of TR7 and 108m north of TR8. The trench measured c. 15m west to east by 1.50m north to south.
- 4.5.2 The base of the stratigraphic sequence encountered comprised levelling deposits ([5/017], [5/019] & [5/020]) observed in slots through the various phases of road at 28.41m OD. Directly above the levelling deposits the earliest phase of road, [5/018] was observed between 28.51 and 28.55m OD, the road appeared to bisect the trench running roughly north to south. The first phase of road comprised a redeposited clay surface that contained some nine intact wheel ruts, indicative of the type of equipment that would have been used to traverse along the road.
- 4.5.3 Directly overlaying the first phase of road was a second phase of road, consisting of deposits [5/010] and [5/015] situated at 28.54-28.62m OD and 28.52-28.60m OD respectively. Surface [5/010] overlay [5/015] and was a dark brown deposit primarily composed of slag and iron panning nodules. Layer [5/015] was a sandy silt deposit with frequent sandstone inclusions. A logical conclusion is that [5/015] represented a foundation for the actual road surface, [5/010].
- 4.5.4 The third phase of road comprised layer [5/007], its foundation [5/005] as well as levelling deposit [5/006]. Road surface [5/007] was observed at 28.68-28.80m OD and comprised a silty sandy clay with inclusions of slag. Material culture from levelling deposit [5/006] included a small group of Roman pottery sherds, giving a Roman date for this phase of the road.
- 4.5.5 The final phase of the road consisted of surfaces [5/004] and [5/014], these were undoubtedly the same context but truncated by gulley [5/003] with [5/004] becoming the western side of the truncated and [5/014] the eastern. Road surfaces [5/004] and [5/014] were observed at 28.83m and 28.72-28.81m OD respectively. Road surface [5/004] was a strongly cemented light brown clay layer with slag compacted into a hard surface, as was [5/014]. The amount of slag is perhaps indicative of nearby industry.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Height (m OD)	Parent
5/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.30-0.50		
5/002	Fill	Fill		0.3	0.12		5/003
5/003	Cut	Gully		0.3	0.12	28.68-28.7	5/003
5/004	Layer	Road surface		0.8	0.02	28.83	5/010
5/005	Layer	Surface (possibly early road foundation)		0.66		28.69-28.7	
5/006	Layer	Levelling deposit		2.3	0.32	28.66-28.67	
5/007	Layer	Road surface		1.72	0.06-0.09	28.68-28.8	5/010
5/008	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.10-0.12		
5/009	Layer	Subsoil			0.10-0.12		
5/010	Layer	Road surface		1	0.1	28.54-28.62	5/010
5/011	Layer	Subsoil			0.10-0.15		
5/012	Layer	Levelling deposit			0.1	29.05-29.15	
5/013	Layer	Levelling deposit				29.05-29.15	
5/014	Layer	Road surface		1.42	0.29	28.72-28.81	
5/015	Layer	Surface		2.5	0.2	28.52-28.6	
5/016	Layer	Surface		1.6	0.1	28.59	
5/017	Layer	Levelling deposit				28.41	
5/018	Layer	Road surface		1.24	0.1	28.51-28.55	
5/019	Layer	Levelling deposit				28.41	
5/020	Layer	Levelling deposit			0.28	28.41	
5/021	Void						

Table 7: Trench 5 recorded contexts

#### 4.6 Trench 6 (Figures 10 & 11)

- 4.6.1 Trench 6 was located to the south of Dokes's field, 106m east-south-east of TR5, 44m east of TR7 and 22m west of TR8. It measured 8m east to west by 1.50m north to south.
- 4.6.2 The base of the archaeological sequence comprised natural deposits [6/013] and [6/014]. These were directly overlain by a series of levelling deposits ([6/004], [6/011] and [6/012]) that provided the support for the first phase of road encountered in TR 6, layers [6/005] and [6/010]. [6/005] was a hard packed yellowing grey clay deposit containing irregular pieces of sandstone, [6/010] could be described in similar terms. [6/005] was located at 28.12-8.32m OD and [6/010] at 27.90-28.00m OD.
- 4.6.3 Layers [6/002] and [6/003] (both hard packed yellowish grey clay with sandstone) could be described as the next phase of road in sequence but could also be described as a repair to the first phase. They were situated between 28.08-28.13m and 27.96-28.06m OD respectfully.
- 4.6.4 The final phase of road observable within TR6 was that of [6/007] and [6/009], hard packed reddish-brown clay with ironstone situated at 28.42-28.47m OD. Sealing the latest phase of road was layer [6/006], a deposit that may have been levelling for a now removed upper road surface, possibly one more like the compacted slag surface of context [5/004] and [5/014] in TR5. A tiny, abraded sherd of Samian gives a broad Roman date to this context.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Height (m OD)	Parent
6/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.20-0.30	27.7-29.26	
6/002	Layer	Surface		0.42	0.12	28.08-28.13	6/010
6/003	Layer	Road		1.9	0.1	27.96-28.06	6/010
6/004	Layer	Levelling deposit		2	0.3		
6/005	Layer	Road		1.2	0.12	28.12-28.32	6/010
6/006	Layer	Levelling deposit		1.5	0.10-0.15		
6/007	Layer	Road		0.95	0.1	28.42-28.47	6/007
6/008	Cut	Wheel rut		0.1			6/008
6/009	Layer	Road		1.4	0.15		
6/010	Layer	Road			0.1	27.9-28.00	6/010
6/011	Layer	Levelling deposit	2.63	-0.1			
6/012	Layer	Levelling deposit	1.7	-0.1			
6/013	Deposit	Natural					
6/014	Deposit	Natural					

Table 8: Trench 6 recorded contexts

#### 4.7 Trench 7

- 4.7.1 Trench 7 was in the south-west corner of Dokes's field, on a roughly north to south alignment measuring 15m long by 2m wide.
- 4.7.2 The sequence within this trench comprised a number of natural deposits ([7/008], [7/007], [7/006], [7/005], [7/004] – the upper most [7/004] situated at 33.78m OD) sealed by hill wash ([7/003] at 34.38m OD) that was in turn overlain by subsoil ([7/002] at 34.70m OD) and then sealed at ground level by topsoil ([7/001] at 35.36m OD). The trench is not illustrated.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth	Height (m OD)
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.18	35.36
7/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.2	34.7
7/003	Layer	Hill wash	0.17	34.38
7/004	Deposit	Natural	0.2	33.78
7/005	Deposit	Natural	0.15	
7/006	Deposit	Natural	0.22	
7/007	Deposit	Natural	0.07	
7/008	Deposit	Natural	0.16	

Table 9: Trench 7 recorded contexts

## 4.8 Trench 8 (Figure 12)

- 4.8.1 Trench 8 was located to the south of Dokes Field measuring 5m east to west by 2m north to south.
- 4.8.2 The stratigraphic sequence consisted of a series of hill wash deposits ([8/005], [8/004], [8/003]) truncated by possible pit [8/006] that was in turn sealed by subsoil and topsoil. Natural deposits were not observed within the trench.
- 4.8.3 The uppermost hill wash deposit, [8/003] was recorded at 24.38m OD, comprising a silty clay. This was truncated by an irregular potential pit, [8/006]. The pit was not observed in plan but is estimated to project 0.30m into the trench and was 1.24m wide and 0.44m deep. No material culture was recovered from its sole fill, [8/007]. The pit was sealed by subsoil [8/002] at 24.48m OD, which was in turn overlain by topsoil at ground level of 23.76-24.58m (the trench was situated on the side of a hill).
- 4.8.4 The lowest hill wash deposit [8/005] contained 2 x fragments of CBM and slag. These are not reported on in this report as they are in the possession of the NT archaeologist and will be added to this report at a later date.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	Height (m OD)	Parent
8/001	Layer	Topsoil				23.76-24.58	
8/002	Layer	Subsoil			0.1	24.48	
8/003	Deposit	Hill wash			0.31	24.38	
8/004	Deposit	Hill wash			0.33		
8/005	Deposit	Hill wash			0.3	23.38	
8/006	Cut	Ditch terminus/pit	0.3	1.24	0.44	23.93	8/006
8/007	Fill	Backfill	0.3	1.24	0.44	24.38	8/006

Table 10: Trench 8 recorded contexts

## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Summary

- 5.1.1 A moderate assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation at Bodiam Castle. Finds (other than those of iron and copper alloy) requiring cleaning were washed by hand and left to air dry as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and bagged by material and context. The hand-collected bulk finds are quantified in Appendix 1.
- 5.1.2 Ten of the finds have been assigned unique registered finds numbers, detailed in section 5.14/Table 11. All metal objects other than those of lead were x radiographed according to Historic England guidelines (Fell et al 2006). Conservation of artefacts, where required, has been carried out, or is ongoing. All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014). If conservation recommendations have been made they are detailed in the relevant material section.

Context	RF No	Material	Object	No	Wt (g)	Period
1/001	1	IRON	HOSH	1	56	MED/EPMED
2/001	2	IRON	HOSH	1	270	MED/EPMED
5/001	3	IRON	HOSH	1	584	MED/EPMED
6/001	4	COPP	PENC	1	7	PMED
6/001	5	CERA	PIPE	1	5	PMED
7/003	6	CERA	PIPE	1	1.5	PMED
5/001	7	GLAS	WIND	1	9	?ROM
7/002	8	GLAS	VESS	1	4	?ROM
2/006	9	BONE	BUTT	1	4	PMED
1/001	10	IRON	ROVE	1	88	MED/EPMED

Table 11: Summary of the Registered Finds

### 5.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

- 5.2.1 The excavation produced eight pieces of worked flint weighing 27g and a small fragment of burnt unworked flint weighing just 3g. No diagnostic tools were found, and the small assemblage consists of pieces of debitage (Table 12). The condition of the flints and the fact that no concentrations were found imply that they were redeposited.

Context	Category type	Total no
2/005	Flake	1
5/001	Bladelet	1
5/001	Blade-like flake	1
5/001	Flake	1
5/009	Flake	1
5/009	Blade-like flake	1
7/003	Flake	2

Table 12: The worked flint

- 5.2.2 The bladelet from topsoil [5/001] is irregular and displays a cortical butt. It was most likely produced during flake production rather than the result of a blade-based industry, and only a broad prehistoric date can be proposed for the piece. The tiny blade-like flake fragment from

context [5/009] on the other hand exhibits parallel ridges on the dorsal face and is likely Mesolithic or Neolithic in date. The small bladeliike distal fragment and flake from topsoil [5/001] are likely Mesolithic, Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. The remaining pieces are not chronologically distinctive.

- 5.2.3 The evaluation has revealed sparse evidence for prehistoric presence. It is, however, very small and overall, poorly dated.

### 5.3 The Pottery by Anna Doherty

- 5.3.1 A small assemblage of predominantly grog-tempered 'East Sussex ware' sherds was recovered during the evaluation, totalling 12 sherds, weighing 68g. The assemblage is quantified below in Table 13.

Fabric	Sherds	Weight (g)	ENV
Grog-tempered 'East Sussex ware'	10	54	10
South Gaulish samian ware	1	1	1
Central/East Gaulish samian ware	1	13	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>12</b>

Table 13: Quantification of Late Iron Age/Roman pottery fabrics

- 5.3.2 Most of the assemblage is made up by grog-tempered body sherds, broadly attributable to the Late Iron Age/Roman 'East Sussex ware' tradition. These are not closely datable although most examples appear relatively well fired to greyish or fully oxidised hues: attributes which are typical of post-Conquest assemblages. Two samian ware sherds were also noted. An extremely abraded 1g fragment of mid/late 1<sup>st</sup> century AD south Gaulish samian ware was recorded in context [6/006], while a larger body sherd, in very limestone rich samian fabric of uncertain central or east Gaulish origin, dating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> or early 3<sup>rd</sup> century, was recovered from context [3/001]. In a few cases, the probable Roman pottery was clearly residual, or from unstratified deposits, but single sherds or very small groups were potentially in situ in contexts [3/014], [5/006], [6/006] and [6/010]. In context [6/010], a partial rim sherd probable from a black burnished style plain dish was recorded in a grog-tempered fabric. Black-burnished style forms in grog-tempered fabrics are quite characteristic of the later Roman period in southern Britain (c. AD 270-410).

### 5.4 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

- 5.4.1 The archaeological work recovered 104 sherds of pottery, weighing 599g, from 17 individually numbered contexts. The material has been fully listed in Table 14 as part of the visible archive. Medieval fabrics have been correlated with the fabric series for Winchelsea and Rye (partly published in Barber 2017) while post-medieval ones have been allocated common name only. Overall the pottery consists of small to medium-sized sherds with moderate to extensive signs of abrasion. As such the material appears to have been subjected notable reworking – a suggestion confirmed by the chronological mixing noted in many of the deposits.
- 5.4.2 The earliest post-Roman sherd from the site consists of the somewhat worn and clearly residual coarse alluvial flint gritted piece from context [5/011]. Although difficult to date precisely in isolation it is suspected to fall within a 9<sup>th</sup>- to 10<sup>th</sup>- century date range. There is only a single Saxo-Norman sherd from the site (residual in context [5/001]). This is tempered with finer alluvial flint and is probably of the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Both these sherds suggest only limited activity at this early date.

- 5.4.3 The High Medieval period is better represented with six sherds (15g), recovered from Trenches 5, 6 and 7. All four fabrics represented can be considered as originating from the Rye industry and span the 13<sup>th</sup> to mid 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. No forms are recognisable but the assemblage suggests an increased use of the land at this time, perhaps associated with manuring cultivated land with domestic waste.
- 5.4.4 The Late Medieval period sees another increase in quantities of pottery (14/43g). The earliest of these consist of the tiny scraps of Late Rye sandy ware from contexts [7/002] and [7/003] which can best be placed between c. 1350 and 1450. These show a continuation of activity, albeit at a much reduced scale, after the plague of the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century. Most of the sherds in this group belong to the period of the mid 15<sup>th</sup> to mid 16<sup>th</sup> centuries and are essentially composed of hard-fired sandy earthenwares, many of which are certainly from Rye. The only non-local sherd is the imported Rhenish Raeren stoneware piece from context [7/002] (dated c. 1475-1550). Unfortunately no sherds of this period are diagnostic of form. In addition there are a further nine sherds (69g) that are suspected of being of Late Medieval date but the types continued to be used well into the early post-medieval period. These essentially consist of fine (no visible temper) hard-fired earthenwares, again probably from Rye, that can best be placed between c. 1450/75 and 1650. A jar is present in context [5/001] and a jug in context [7/002].
- 5.4.5 The early post-medieval is represented by 12 sherds (56g) though, as noted above, some of the hard-fired fine earthenwares could also belong to this period. The majority of the assemblage consists of locally produced glazed red earthenwares though no sherds are diagnostic of form. These can only be broadly dated between the early/mid 16<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Regional wares include a scrap of tin-glazed ware of the 17<sup>th</sup> century (context [2/002]) and part of a white salt-glazed stoneware teabowl of the early/mid 18<sup>th</sup> century (context [6/001]). Imports of the period consist of part of a 17<sup>th</sup>- to early 18<sup>th</sup>- century Dutch cockerel bowl (context [5/001]) and three sherds of 17<sup>th</sup>- to early 18<sup>th</sup>- century German Westerwald stoneware (also from context [5/001]). This would suggest the presence of a fairly affluent household of this date in the area.
- 5.4.6 The late post-medieval period accounts for the majority of the post-Roman pottery (61 sherds weighing 406g). Local glazed red earthenwares (6/44g) are well represented, including a bowl from context [6/001] and there are a few creamware and pearlware sherds suggesting refuse of the later 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries is represented (Trenches 5 and 7). However, the majority of the late post-medieval pottery can be placed in the later 19<sup>th</sup> to early/mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and it is probable that it relates to the years of hop picking on the site. Late English stoneware is well represented (11/166g), most commonly with preserve jars and ginger beer bottles though unfortunately none of the latter are identifiable to maker.

Context	Fabric	Period	No	Weight (g)	Comments (including estimated number of different vessels represented by form. ? = undiagnostic of form)
1/001	Hard-fired earthenware	LM/EPM	1	4	?x1 (oxidised, worn)
1/001	Glazed red earthenware (late)	LPM	1	1	?x1 (clear glaze internally)
1/001	Blue transfer-printed whiteware	LPM	2	5	Plate x1 (unclear design)
1/001	Brown transfer-printed whiteware	LPM	1	1	?Plate x1 (?floral design)
1/001	Refined whiteware	LPM	6	8	?x3
1/001	Refined whiteware (coloured glaze)	LPM	2	1	?x2 (x1 green glazed, x1 pale green glaze with exterior moulding)

Context	Fabric	Period	No	Weight (g)	Comments (including estimated number of different vessels represented by form. ? = undiagnostic of form)
1/001	Bone china (porcelain)	LPM	1	1	Saucer x1
1/002	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	1	8	Dish x1 (rounded club rim)
1/006	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	1	2	Flower pot x1
1/015	English stoneware	LPM	1	2	?x1 (grey Bristol glaze)
1/015	Refined whiteware	LPM	4	5	Plate x1 (blue rim-edge band); ?x1
2/001	English stoneware	LPM	3	36	Ginger beer bottles x2 (x1 iron wash & salt glaze, x1 with oval black transfer print '?..YE // ...G // GRI?...'; tan exterior, Bristol glaze); ?x1 (iron wash, salt glaze)
2/001	Bone china (porcelain)	LPM	1	2	Cup x1
2/002	Tin-glazed earthenware	EPM	1	1	?x1 (blue design)
2/002	Glazed red earthenware (late)	LPM	1	3	?x1 (clear glaze internally)
2/002	English stoneware	LPM	2	21	Preserve jar x1 (grey Bristol glaze, string groove rim)
2/002	Refined whiteware	LPM	2	2	?x1
2/002	Bone china (porcelain)	LPM	1	8	Cup x1
2/006	English stoneware	LPM	4	98	Preserve jar x1 (wide-set vertical grooves, grey Bristol glaze); ginger beer bottle x1 (black transfer-print, Bristol glaze)
2/006	Refined whiteware	LPM	1	3	?Bowl x1 (green cut sponge decoration)
2/006	Bone china (porcelain)	LPM	1	3	Saucer x1
5/001	Moderate/common alluvial flint	EM	1	7	?x1 (oxidised, worn). C12th
5/001	Rye sandy ware (medium)	HM	2	6	?x2 (oxidised, worn). Mid C13th-mid 14th
5/001	Hard-fired sandy earthenware	LM	2	9	?x1 (oxidised). ?C16th
5/001	Hard-fired earthenware	LM/EPM	3	19	Jar x1 (oxidised, moulded club rim); ?x2 (oxidised & bitone)
5/001	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	10	?x1 (green glazed internally). Mid C16th-17th
5/001	Dutch Redware	EPM	1	5	Cockerel bowl x1 (simple upright rim above carination with white slip lines)
5/001	Westerwald stoneware	EPM	3	21	?Jug x1 (cobalt blue & moulded annular bands); tankard x1 (cobalt blue annular bands); ?x1 (cobalt blue line)
5/001	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	1	8	Flower pot x1
5/001	Glazed red earthenware (late)	LPM	1	22	?x1 (clear glaze internally)
5/001	Creamware	LPM	1	2	?Bowl x1
5/001	Pearlware	LPM	1	1	?x1
5/008	Pearlware (transfer-printed)	LPM	2	2	?Saucer x1 (geometric design)



Context	Fabric	Period	No	Weight (g)	Comments (including estimated number of different vessels represented by form. ? = undiagnostic of form)
5/008	Refined whiteware	LPM	5	90	Preserve jar x1 (base stamped MALING)
5/009	Rye sandy ware (medium/coarse)	HM	1	3	?x1 (oxidised). Mid C13th-early 14th
5/009	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	8	?x1 (green glazed internally). Mid C16th-17th
5/011	Moderate coarse alluvial flint	M/LS	1	3	?x1 (reduced) Mid/Late Saxon
5/011	Rye sandy ware (sparse flint)	HM	1	1	?x1 (oxidised/reduced, very worn) ?C13th
6/001	Rye sandy ware (fine)	HM	1	3	?x1 (oxidised)
6/001	Hard-fired earthenware	LM/EPM	1	20	?x1 (reduced base)
6/001	White salt-glazed stoneware	EPM	1	1	?Teabowl x1
6/001	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	1	9	Flower pot x1 (rounded club rim with vertical incised lines on edge & horizontal incised line on body)
6/001	Glazed red earthenware (late)	LPM	2	16	Bowl x1 (tapering club rim, clear glaze internally)
6/001	Refined redware	LPM	1	2	?x1 (clear glaze all over)
6/001	Yellow ware	LPM	1	2	?x1
6/001	English stoneware	LPM	1	9	?x1 (iron wash, salt glaze)
6/002	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	4	?x1 (clear glaze internally)
6/003	Hard-fired earthenware (Rye)	LM/EPM	1	4	?x1 (oxidised)
7/001	Hard-fired sandy earthenware (Rye)	LM	3	9	?x3 (oxidised & reduced)
7/001	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	2	?x1 (clear glaze internally)
7/001	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	1	7	?Flower pot x1 (thinned rim)
7/001	Yellow ware	LPM	1	4	Bowl x1
7/001	Pearlware	LPM	1	1	?Saucer x1
7/002	Rye sandy ware (fine)	HM	1	2	?x1 (oxidised, very worn)
7/002	Late Rye sandy ware	LM	1	1	?x1 (bitone)
7/002	Hard-fired sandy earthenware (Rye)	LM	6	19	?x6 (oxidised & reduced)
7/002	Hard-fired earthenware	LM/EPM	3	22	Jug x1 (bitone with collared rim); ?x2 (oxidised/reduced)
7/002	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	3	?x1 (clear glaze internally)
7/002	Raeren stoneware	LM	1	3	?x1 (iron mottle, salt glaze)
7/002	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	3	17	Flower pot x1 (flatted D-club rim)
7/002	Glazed red earthenware (late)	LPM	1	2	?x1 (clear glaze internally)
7/002	Yellow ware	LPM	1	2	?x1 (green mocha decoration)
7/003	Late Rye sandy ware	LM	1	2	?x1 (oxidised)
7/003	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	1	?x1 (clear glaze internally)

Table 14: Pottery assemblage (M/LS – Mid-Late Saxon c. 750-1050; ; EM – Early Medieval c. 1050-1200/25; HM - High Medieval c. 1200/25-1350/75; LM – Late Medieval c. 1350/75-1525/50; EPM – Early Post-Medieval c. 1525/50-1750; LPM - Late Post-Medieval c. 1750-1900+).

## 5.5 The Ceramic Building Material by Rae Regensberg

- 5.5.1 A moderate assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) consisting of 120 pieces collectively weighing 10,026g was recovered during the evaluation at Bodiam Castle. One fragment of Roman tegula was retrieved but the majority of the assemblage was composed of flat roof tile with a broad medieval to post-medieval date and post-medieval brick. A collection of machine-made land drain was also collected, including two complete sections of pipe. All of these are late post-medieval in date.
- 5.5.2 All the material was recorded by form, weight, complete dimensions (when present) and fabric, and entered into an Excel spreadsheet. Fabrics were identified with the aid of a x20 binocular microscope, and site specific fabric codes have been applied using the following conventions: frequency of inclusions (sparse, moderate, common, abundant); the size of inclusions, fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (0.25-0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm). Fabric descriptions are provided in Table 15. The material has been retained in full, should further work be undertaken.

Fabric	Description
R1	Light orange fabric with common medium, sometimes coarse, black oxidised material. Sparse fine calcareous material.
T1	Orange fabric with moderate fine and medium black oxidised material, occasional cream streaks and medium and coarse cream pellets.
T1A	Gritty version.
T2	Orange, sometimes pinkish, fabric with cream streaks and sparse fine dark red to black oxidised material.
T3	Orange fabric with common fine quartz and sparse fine black oxidised material.
T4	Orange fabric with moderate, fine calcarous material and some very fine white speckling.
B1	Light red/pink to orange and red, powdery fabric with moderate fine black/dark red oxidised material, occasionally coarse. Some fragments have cream streaking but quite inconsistent.
B1A	Coarse version with sparse to moderate fine quartz.
B2	Light orange to pink fabric with lighter silty pellets, cream streaking and sparse to moderate dark orange to red oxidised material.
P1	Orange fabric with some fine cream streaks, sparse fine quartz, sparse fine black oxidised material and sparse fine calcareous material.

Table 15: Ceramic building material fabric descriptions

- 5.5.3 The Roman tegula was collected from the fill of ditch [1/021]. It had a distinct light orange fabric with large quantities of black oxidised material incorporated. The flange had been removed but enough remained to confirm it was tegula. It was 21mm thick with thick grey core reduction and had knife trim present on the side.
- 5.5.4 The bulk of the flat roof tile was broadly medieval to post-medieval in date, due to the difficulty dating flat roof tile within this period. However, one fragment had a square peg hole, which indicates a post-medieval date. The most common fabric was T1 with 27 fragments. These varied in quality with some well fired, neat examples and some more inconsistent fragments. This may indicate that the fabric was in use over a long period of time. Although not the same as the Roman R1 fabric, the oxidised material was the defining feature, which may suggest

a common raw material source in the area (also seen in the most common brick fabric, B1). The T1 fragments were between 12mm and 14mm thick, although most were 12mm. As noted earlier, most were medieval to post-medieval but the post-medieval fragment with the square peg hole was in this fabric (recovered from the topsoil in trench [6]). The grittier T1A fabric the second most common fabric. Other than the presence of quartz in the fabric however, the fragments were much the same as the pieces of T1 tile. The remaining fabrics were present in small quantities, with no one fabric type having more than 6 fragments. No features were found with which to narrow the medieval to post-medieval date for these fragments. Although, the quartz rich T3 fabric is potentially older as medieval and early post-medieval roof tile is more likely to be gritty than post-medieval roof tile. However, as this was all found in the topsoil of trench [1] and the topsoil and subsoil of trench [7], it is not particularly useful. The roof tile fragments were sparsely distributed, with no context having more than 10 individual fragments present.

- 5.5.5 A small assemblage of brick was recorded, much of which consisted of small, abraded fragments. The larger fragments tended to be neat with sharp arrises and minor creasing, which indicates a post-medieval date. The B1 fabric was the most common with 20 fragments recorded. As noted earlier, this fabric was also distinguished by the presence of black oxidised material. One of the B1 pieces was 60mm thick. No other complete dimensions were possible. Where present, the B1 brick fragments had neat arrises and no notable creasing, except for one example recovered from the topsoil of trench [5], which had a creased stretcher and rounded arris. This is potentially an early post-medieval example. The post-medieval B1 pieces were retrieved from the topsoil of trenches [2] and [7], and from contexts; [1/011], [2/002], [2/003], [2/006], [7/002] and [7/003]. Eight small fragments of brick in the coarser version of the B1 fabric, B1A, were recorded, one of which had part of a neat frog present. Lastly, the B2 fragments were all neat with sharp arrises and smooth surfaces. Two were 65mm and 78mm in thickness. These are likely to be later post-medieval in date. They were collected from the topsoil of trench [1] and [6] and the upper fill of ditch [1/016].
- 5.5.6 One piece of floor tile in the FT1 fabric was found in the topsoil of trench [2]. It is 135mm in breadth and 21mm thick. The floor tile is well fired and neat in form, both of which suggest a post-medieval date.
- 5.5.7 Lastly, 19 pieces of machine made land drain were recovered. Two complete sections were retrieved from contexts [2/007] and [4/005]. These were L:338 D:100 Th:13 mm and L:303 D:107 Th:16 mm in dimension respectively. The majority of the land drain appeared to be extruded, which indicate a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century+ date, and one had ridges, which suggests it was moulded. The ridged example is later in date, possibly 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## 5.6 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

### *Introduction*

- 5.6.1 A small assemblage comprising 20 clay tobacco pipe (CTP) fragments with a combined weight of 50g was found across nine different contexts, including the top- and subsoil as well as stratified contexts. Included are 17 stem fragments and three bowl fragments. No mouthpieces were recovered. Bowls were classified according to the London "Chronology of Bowl Types" (prefix AO) by Atkinson and Oswald (1969).

### *Overview*

- 5.6.2 Stem fragments range in date from the mid 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. A fragment from [5/009] dates to c. 1640-1680 but the remaining eight early examples can only be dated broadly between c. 1640 or 1660 and 1710 (e.g. [5/001] and [5/008]). Eight stems date to c. 1750-

1910.

- 5.6.3 Three bowl fragments were also recovered, two of which were allocated Registered Finds numbers (RF <5> and <6>) as they contain maker's marks, in both instances in the form of relief moulded initials on the heel or spur sides. RF <5>, recovered from the topsoil in Trench 6, may represent part of an AO25 bowl (Atkinson and Oswald 1969), dating to c. 1700-1770. Initials are unclear, possibly reading **?W?N**. Context [7/003] contained RF <6> which is an AO28 bowl (ibid.) dating to c. 1820 and 1860. The bowl shows **PR** in relief on its spur sides. There are no known makers working in the area for either of these sets of initials. Finally, a bowl from the topsoil in Trench 5 represents the earliest example, comprising an AO18 (ibid.) which dates between c. 1660 and 1680.

## **5.7 The Glass by Elke Raemen**

### *Introduction*

- 5.7.1 A relatively small assemblage consisting of 108 fragments of glass weighing 1250g was recovered from 14 different contexts. Included is both window and vessel glass. A total of 60 fragments derive from stratified contexts, whilst the remainder was found in the top- and subsoil across various trenches. The assemblage has been recorded in full on pro forma sheets and data has been transferred onto digital spreadsheet. Nearly all of the assemblage is of 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century date, however, two unstratified fragments may be of Roman date, and have been allocated Registered Finds numbers accordingly (RF <7> and RF <8>).

### *Overview*

#### *Roman*

- 5.7.2 A green window glass fragment (RF <7>; 5mm thick) recovered from topsoil [5/001] is missing its surfaces but its quality, the bubbled glass and colour suggest that it is probably "matt/gloss" window glass dating to the 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD. A second fragment (RF <8>) of potentially Roman date, this time a cylindrical vessel fragment, was found in subsoil [7/002]. It too has lost its original surfaces. Although less certain than RF <7>, it has a similar green colour and quality of glass that suggests it may be of Roman date.

#### *Post-medieval*

#### *Vessels*

- 5.7.3 The remainder of the assemblage is of late post-medieval and modern date. Wine bottles form the largest group with 27 shards, the largest group of which was recovered from [2/006] with 13 shards. Just 16 bottles are represented in total, all of the true cylindrical type, and none predate the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Other alcohol containers comprise amber beer bottle fragments (e.g. [1/015]) and a green gin bottle fragment ([2/006]) of 20<sup>th</sup>-century date.
- 5.7.4 A total of 24 cylindrical bottles, representing at least eight individual bottles, were found too. They include both aqua and clear glass examples, the former most likely representing mineral water bottles. Apart from a crude rim fragment from topsoil [2/001] which could be as early as the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, bottles all date to the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. A definite mineral water bottle was recovered from [2/006]. The aqua bottle fragment is embossed "THIS BO[TTL]E] IS THE PROPERTY OF J WOODCOCK HASTINGS", and on its reverse "[...] BOTTLE" and "ALFRED ALEXANDER & Co MAKERS LONDON", dating the bottle between 1870 and 1895.

5.7.5 Domestic vessels include a probable jelly mould fragment in clear glass, dating to the 20<sup>th</sup> century and found in [2/006]. A 20<sup>th</sup>-century milk bottle base was found in topsoil [2/001]. Clear glass jars were recovered from both topsoil [1/001] and subsoil [2/002], dating to the 20<sup>th</sup> and late 19<sup>th</sup> to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century respectively. A few small possible vase fragments were also recovered, all of 20<sup>th</sup>-century date and including a pink glass example and a possible rectangular vase in clear glass.

5.7.6 Hardly any pharmaceutical or toiletry related glass was recovered. A novelty bottle embossed "LAVONA HAIR TONIC" to one side body, "RDND557908" on its reverse and "B642 S B UGB" beneath the base was recovered from [2/006]. The bottle, in clear glass, is complete, with perforated dome glass top for application. It dates to the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### Window glass

5.7.7 Finally, 14 fragments of window glass were recovered. The earliest, all green tinged and measuring between 0.45 and 1.5mm thick, are of 18<sup>th</sup>- to 19<sup>th</sup>- century date. They include eight fragments from top- and subsoil. The remainder of the glass, with stratified material recovered from [1/003] and [1/015], is all clear or colourless. They range in thickness from 1.1 to 6.8mm, and all date to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### 5.8 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.8.1 The archaeological work recovered 441 pieces of stone, weighing 4153g, from 27 individually numbered contexts. The material has been fully listed in Table 16 as part of the visible archive.

5.8.2 Much of the assemblage is composed of local stone types that can be considered natural to the site, particularly after some limited natural reworking/transportation by fluvial processes etc. These consist of 46 pieces of worn Hastings Beds ferruginous sandstone, 85 pieces of iron concretion and 19 pieces of fossiliferous Wealden Clay Ironstone. The latter (Trenches 5, 6 and 7) are generally in slightly fresher condition and, being of ore quality, may well represent material brought in for smelting during the Roman period. There are three fresh pieces of Greensand chert, very close to Kentish Ragstone from which it almost certainly derives (contexts [1/001] and [2/006]) that are suspected of being late post-medieval in date. Similarly, the piece of south-west limestone from context [2/001] is suspected as being a late post-medieval import (similar stone was used in the 18<sup>th</sup>- century river defences at Newhaven). The two pieces of Welsh slate are probably of the mid 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and that from context [7/003], being polished, is almost certainly from a school writing slate. The remaining stone consists of numerous small to large pieces of coal and coal shale (Trenches 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7) that are of late post-medieval date that is probably remnants of fuel used for the steam driven agricultural machinery noted in the report of the slag from the site.

Context	Sample	Stone type	No	Weight (g)	Comments
1/001		1a Coal	21	119	Shiny
1/001		2a Ferruginous concretion	2	4	
1/001		5a Greensand chert	1	29	?Ballast. Close to Kentish Ragstone
1/001		6a Welsh slate	1	7	4mm thick
1/002		1a Coal	7	19	Shiny
1/006		1a Coal	1	8	
1/006		2a Ferruginous concretion	5	14	
1/008		1a Coal	6	36	Shiny. Fresh

Context	Sample	Stone type	No	Weight (g)	Comments
1/008		2a Ferruginous concretion	3	10	
1/010		1a Coal	2	10	Shiny. Fresh
1/015		1a Coal	27	182	Shiny
1/015		1b Coal shale	2	29	
1/015		2a Ferruginous concretion	19	100	
1/019		1a Coal	1	21	
1/020		1b Coal shale	2	11	Burnt
1/020		2a Ferruginous concretion	4	31	
1/026	5	1a Coal	68	6	
1/026	5	1b Coal shale	1	7	Burnt
2/001		1a Coal	5	48	Shiny. Fresh
2/001		7a South-west limestone	1	60	
2/002		1a Coal	20	157	Shiny. Fresh
2/002		1b Coal shale	1	3	
2/002		8a Chalk	1	13	Irregular
2/006		1a Coal	27	781	Shiny, fresh. Large
2/006		1b Coal shale	3	285	
2/006		5a Greensand chert	2	117	
2/008		1a Coal	6	75	Shiny. Fresh
4/001		1b Coal shale	2	7	
4/001		2a Ferruginous concretion	21	303	
4/002		3a Fine/medium ferruginous Hastings Beds Sast	1	1	Worn
4/003		1b Coal shale	1	4	
4/003		2a Ferruginous concretion	16	218	
5/001		1a Coal	6	14	Shiny. Fresh
5/001		3a Fine/medium ferruginous Hastings Beds Sast	6	73	
5/001		4a Shelly Wealden Clay Ironstone	12	249	
5/008		1a Coal	3	7	
5/008		3a Fine/medium ferruginous Hastings Beds Sast	1	7	
5/009		2a Ferruginous concretion	2	72	
5/009		3a Fine/medium ferruginous Hastings Beds Sast	2	21	
5/009		4a Shelly Wealden Clay Ironstone	3	97	
6/001		1a Coal	16	100	Shiny. Fresh
6/001		2a Ferruginous concretion	1	30	
6/001		3a Fine/medium ferruginous Hastings Beds Sast	3	172	
6/001		4a Shelly Wealden Clay Ironstone	1	57	
6/002		1a Coal	1	3	
6/004		2a Ferruginous concretion	12	65	
6/004		3a Fine/medium ferruginous Hastings Beds Sast	23	195	Weathered
6/006		1a Coal	1	2	Shiny
6/007		3a Fine/medium ferruginous Hastings Beds Sast	6	120	Weathered

Context	Sample	Stone type	No	Weight (g)	Comments
7/001		1a Coal	16	39	Shiny. Fresh
7/001		3a Fine/medium ferruginous Hastings Beds Sast	3	13	Weathered
7/002		1a Coal	13	21	Shiny
7/003		1a Coal	25	35	Shiny
7/003		3a Fine/medium ferruginous Hastings Beds Sast	1	2	Burnt
7/003		4a Shelly Wealden Clay Ironstone	3	17	
7/003		6a Welsh slate	1	27	4mm thick. Polished. School slate

Table 16: Stone assemblage

## 5.9 The Metallurgical Remains/Magnetic Material by Luke Barber

- 5.9.1 The excavations recovered 698 pieces of slag, weighing 14,135g, from 23 individually numbered contexts. These totals include five pieces (24g) from a single environmental residue – the rest being collected by hand in the field. The sample included a 1g magnetic fraction that was carefully examined under x10 magnification to establish the presence/absence of micro slags. Due to the small size of the particles involved the material from the magnetic fraction was quantified by weight only. The assemblage is summarised in Table 17.
- 5.9.2 The vast majority of the slag by weight consists of iron smelting waste from the bloomery process. Although the only true diagnostic pieces consist of the tap slag fragments (116/4485g) there are a further 140 pieces (5068g) of very dense slag in association that are almost certainly derived from the same process. Collectively this smelting slag was recovered from Trenches 1 (3/272g), 5 (37/2054g), 6 (207/6730g) and 7 (9/497g). Clearly the most dense concentration is in Trench 6 but most of the slag shows moderate signs of wear suggesting it has been subjected to notable weathering and/or reworking. This smelting waste is certainly related to the extensive Roman iron working in the area. There are also 11 pieces (159g) of blast furnace slag (contexts [1/001], [5/001] and [5/008]). The type is derived from smelting iron using the blast furnace process – one in common use in the Wealden iron industry from the 16<sup>th</sup> to early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. However, the slag was frequently subsequently quarried for re-use as hardcore/road metalling both at the time it was created and as late as the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. As such the material is found widely spread in the Weald well beyond the actual ironworks that produced it.
- 5.9.3 There are 13 pieces (626g) of iron slag that is not diagnostic of process – it could have been created either by smelting or smithing (either primary or secondary). All was recovered from Trenches 5 and 6 where most of the bloomery smelting slag was found and it is suspected it relates to Roman iron working. There is no definite iron smithing slag in the assemblage and the single magnetic residue produced just granules of ferruginous sandstone but no hammerscale.
- 5.9.4 The majority of the slag (by count) consists of waste derived from burning coal as fuel (the clinker and coal fuel ash slag). This material was widespread between the trenches with combined totals of 108/975g (Trench 1); 3/6g (Trench 2); 304/2761g (Trench 4); 2/43g (Trench 5) and 1/11g (Trench 7). This material is clearly of late post-medieval date and is suspected as deriving from the use of steam-powered agricultural machines on the land

rather than relating to being part of a spread of domestic waste (ie including waste material from coal fired domestic ranges/stoves).

Context	Sample	Fraction	Type	No	Weight (g)	Comments
1/001			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	1	109	Worn
1/001			4a Blast furnace slag (iron smelting)	3	35	Worn
1/001			5a Clinker	2	8	Black, brittle, aerated
1/001			5b Coal fuel ash slag	16	129	Aerated, some vitrification
1/008			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	1	134	Quite fresh
1/008			5a Clinker	5	19	
1/008			5b Coal fuel ash slag	2	6	
1/015			5a Clinker	2	4	
1/015			5b Coal fuel ash slag	14	237	
1/017			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	1	29	Quite fresh
1/020			5a Clinker	1	5	
1/020			5b Coal fuel ash slag	61	544	Fresh
1/026	5	>2mm	5b Coal fuel ash slag	5	23	
1/026	5	Magnetic	6a Magnetic fines		1	Granules ferruginous sandstone
2/002			5a Clinker	1	2	
2/006			5a Clinker	2	4	
4/001			5a Clinker	2	16	
4/001			5b Coal fuel ash slag	184	1761	
4/002			5b Coal fuel ash slag	3	23	
4/003			5b Coal fuel ash slag	115	961	
5/001			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	11	576	Quite worn
5/001			2b Dense iron bloomery slag (smelting)	6	139	Worn
5/001			3a Undiagnostic iron slag	3	123	Rusty brown, aerated
5/001			4a Blast furnace slag (iron smelting)	7	99	Worn
5/001			5a Clinker	1	17	
5/004			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	3	524	Quite worn
5/004			2b Dense iron bloomery slag (smelting)	14	759	Quite worn
5/004			3a Undiagnostic iron slag	1	36	
5/007			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	1	42	Very worn
5/008			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	1	7	
5/008			4a Blast furnace slag (iron smelting)	1	25	Quite fresh
5/009			2b Dense iron bloomery slag (smelting)	1	7	Very worn
5/009			5a Clinker	1	26	Worn
6/001			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	13	399	Quite worn
6/001			2b Dense iron bloomery slag (smelting)	6	341	Quite worn
6/002			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	3	50	Quite worn
6/002			2b Dense iron bloomery slag (smelting)	1	34	Quite worn



6/004			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	79	2493	Moderately worn
6/004			2b Dense iron bloomery slag (smelting)	104	3397	Moderately worn
6/004			3a Undiagnostic iron slag	5	59	
6/004			3b Undiagnostic iron slag (dense)	4	408	
6/006			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	1	16	Much adhering clay
7/001			2a Tap slag (iron smelting)	1	106	Quite fresh
7/001			2b Dense iron bloomery slag (smelting)	3	256	Slight wear
7/002			2b Dense iron bloomery slag (smelting)	1	84	Worn
7/002			5a Clinker	1	11	
7/003			2b Dense iron bloomery slag (smelting)	4	51	Quite worn

Table 17: The slag assemblage

## 5.10 The Bulk Metalwork by Elke Raemen

### *Introduction*

- 5.10.1 A medium-sized assemblage comprising 234 fragments weighing a combined 4163g was recovered from 21 different contexts. The vast majority was recovered from top- and subsoil contexts, and those that are dateable all belong to the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century. Included is ironwork, as well as smaller quantities of copper-alloy, lead and white metal.
- 5.10.2 A metal survey also took place, and those finds (labelled D-001 etc and SF1 onwards) have been reported on elsewhere. All other bulk metal finds have been recorded in full on *pro forma* sheets and data has been entered onto digital spreadsheet.

### *Overview of the assemblage*

#### *Stratified material*

- 5.10.3 Structural fittings include eight iron, general purpose nail fragments, found in five different contexts ([1/015], [2/006], [3/010], [5/008] and [5/009]). None are intrinsically dateable. Both a square-headed and a circular-headed nail are represented.
- 5.10.4 Eighteen further fragments and objects were recovered, including a U-staple ([1/008]), wire fragments ([1/008], a rod fragment ([1/005]) and a cast plate fragment ([1/008]), were also recovered. A copper-alloy binding strip with crudely punched nail or rivet holes along both lengths and with adhering leather as well as oil was recovered from [2/006] and dates to the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The same context also contained an iron, grey-painted framework fragment, e.g. from a sun lounger, dating to the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A copper-alloy screw, found in [1/008] also clearly dates to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The remainder of objects are undiagnostic and all can be broadly dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

#### *Unstratified material*

- 5.10.5 The largest group of unstratified finds comprises structural fittings, including 37 nails and nail fragments, including both generally purpose and heavy duty examples. Included are both hand-wrought and machine-made examples. Iron structural fittings also include bolt fragments, staples, oval loops possibly representing chain links and wire fragments. A square

rove with circular perforation and slightly bent looks identical to those described as 'hop roves' elsewhere (see metal detecting survey report). Several iron hooks with screw thread were also recovered. Machinery fragments, possibly agricultural, were also recovered, and include cast plate fragments.

- 5.10.6 Domestic material includes white metal bottle and jar caps and lids, as well as enamel sheeting, probably from a cylindrical vessel. A shoe or boot was represented by a heel iron as well as a range of rivets.
- 5.10.7 A small quantity of lead-working waste was recovered, often found to be ubiquitous in topsoil and subsoil assemblages. The pliability and ease of melting and working lead meant that its use did not require skill, and it was often used for home-made objects such as weights, as well as ad hoc repairs. None of the waste can be dated.
- 5.10.8 Ammunition includes two fired .303 cases, both with abraded and now illegible base, as well as a 12 bore shotgun case. A copper-alloy possible driving band fragment from a shell was also noted ([1/001]).
- 5.10.9 Part of a bicycle bell (2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century) was also found, as well as the legs of a copper-alloy statuette and a copper-alloy, moulded miniature key with kidney-shaped bow and simple bit. The latter may have been functional, and was perhaps part of a toy. None of the bulk metal finds need to predate the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and most are probably of 20<sup>th</sup>-century date.

## 5.11 The Animal Bone by Hayley Forsyth-Magee

- 5.11.1 Excavations produced just one bone fragment weighing 2g, recovered from context [2/002]. The bone has been identified as a medium mammal rib bone fragment.

## 5.12 The Wood by Hannah Street

### Introduction

- 5.12.1 One timber was recovered from context [3/014]. It is most likely to be a stake, sawn to a point at one end, made from Alder (*Alnus sp.*). 13 small wood fragments were also recovered from Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 4. Only one from [4/016] has been selected for possible radiocarbon dating, but the rest have not been processed at this stage. The wood from [3/014] and [4/016] is quantified below in Table 18.

Context	Timber Type	Length (mm)	Breadth (mm)	Width (mm)	Taxonomic ID.
3/014	Stake	620	60	80	<i>Alnus sp.</i>
4/016	unworked wood fragment	90	40	20	<i>Alnus sp.</i>

Table 18: Waterlogged wood from Bodiam

- 5.12.2 The timber stake from [3/014] provides evidence of utilising the local woodland for woodworking. It is likely from the Roman period based on initial pottery dating.
- 5.12.3 Due to the small number of tree-rings, timber [3/014], it would not be suitable for

dendrochronological dating. However, the wood fragment form [4/016] could be used for C14 dating. Further work involved species identification and dating of the smaller, unprocessed fragments could be undertaken if necessary.

### 5.13 The Miscellaneous Finds by Elke Raemen

- 5.13.1 A leather shoe or boot heel fragment was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 2. It includes copper-alloy rivet fragments and may have been from a woman's or child's shoe or boot (heel width 47mm). The fragment dates to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.13.2 Another piece of interest is a complete, early 20<sup>th</sup>-century bakelite mouthpiece from a tobacco pipe, recovered from the topsoil in Trench 1. The remainder of finds comprise plastic fragments and objects of modern date.

### 5.14 The Registered Finds by Elke Raemen

- 5.14.1 A small number of finds, predating the 20<sup>th</sup> century, were allocated individual registered finds numbers (RF <1>-<10>). These have been packaged individually and were recorded on individual pro forma sheets for archive. An overview can be found in Table 11. Glass and clay tobacco pipes have been discussed within their functional categories. The remainder of the assemblage include three iron horse shoes. RF <1> comprises a branch fragment with slight thickening towards the end, whilst RF <2> is complete, including at least one farrier nail. It shows no calkin or thickening. RF <3> is complete too, and may have a thickened calkin, but details are obscured by corrosion products. X-rays may enable the horse shoes to be dated more accurately, however, they are all of probable medieval or early post-medieval date. All three were found in the topsoil. A medieval or early post-medieval rovenail (RF <10>) was recovered from the topsoil too ([1/001]). It comprises a diamond-shaped rove with remains of a bolt or nail with circular head. Rovenails such as this can be indicative of ship building or breaking, although they are also found associated with high status doors, e.g. of churches, well covers and other double-thickness timber construction (Goodburn 2009, 100; Goodall 2011, 164).
- 5.14.2 Of interest is a copper-alloy pencil sharpener (RF <4>) with decorative moulding, recovered from topsoil [6/001]. Remains of its iron blade survive. Early pencil sharpeners are uncommon finds. A handful of examples can be found in the Portable Antiquities Database (e.g. LON-36D5E8, IOW-36B614 and LON-6F3630), all of which are in lead alloy. Pencil sharpeners of this type date to the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.14.3 Finally, a bone button (RF <9>) of 19<sup>th</sup>-century date was found in ditch [2/009] (fill [2/006]). The button (diam. 19mm) is a plain, four-hole example with raised border.

## 6.0 The Environmental Samples by Mariangela Vitolo

### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Three bulk soil samples were taken for the recovery of environmental remains such as plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and Mollusca as well as to assist finds retrieval. Dating information was not available at the time of writing. The following report discusses the information that the plant remains provide on agrarian economy, vegetation environment and plant use.

### 6.2 Methodology

- 6.2.1 Samples measured 40L in volume. As they derived from waterlogged features, a 2L sub-sample was extracted from each of the samples. These subsamples were washed through a stack of geological sieves measuring 4, 2, 1, 0.5 and 0.25 mm and kept wet. 8L were retained for future specialist analysis. The remaining 30L from each of the samples were processed by flotation using a 250µm mesh for retention of the flots and a 500µm mesh for the heavy residues, before being air-dried. The flot from sample <4> was found to contain large amounts of waterlogged plant remains and was therefore kept wet. The heavy residues were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (table 19). Finds and ecofacts extracted from the residues have been distributed to specialists and they are included in the relevant reports where they add further information to the hand-collected assemblages.
- 6.2.2 Flots and wet-sieved fractions were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications, and their contents were recorded (tables 20 and 21). As flot <4> was kept wet, its contents have been added to the wet-sieved fractions table. Nomenclature follows Stace(2010)

### 6.3 Results

- 6.3.1 Samples produced small to moderate amounts of uncharred plant macrofossils, likely preserved by the anoxic waterlogged conditions of the deposits. All the recovered seeds and shells derived from wild plants growing in the vicinity of the features. These plant remains indicate the presence of shrubs, such as hazel (*Corylus avellana*), bramble (*Rubus sec Glandulosus*) and lime (cf *Tilia* sp). Plants of an open, possibly ruderal, environment include dock (*Rumex* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), buttercups (*Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus*), as well as large grass (Poaceae/Cereal) caryopses. Various types of seeds from the sedge family (Cyperaceae), both lenticular and trigonous, indicate the presence of wet environments. No charred plant remains were recovered.
- 6.3.2 Uncharred wood fragments were recovered from samples <4> and <5>. These were not numerous enough to warrant identification work. Insect shell fragments were numerous in sample <4> and only scarce in sample <6>.
- 6.3.3 Charcoal preserved in small amounts in ditch fill [1/026] and deposit [4/016]. No identification work was warranted. Other ecofacts were not present. Finds from the residue of sample <5> included coal, glass, magnetic material and slag.

### 6.4 Discussion

- 6.4.1 The bulk soil samples yielded ecofacts preserved through the anoxic conditions granted by the waterlogged environment of their deposits. These ecofacts can provide information about the local environmental conditions.

- 6.4.2 Future fieldwork at the site should continue to include sampling, targeting well-sealed primary deposits. If publication work is carried out, it is recommended that the samples taken during the evaluation are included a post-excavation assessment and analysis work. The waterlogged plant remains recovered can provide information on the vegetation growing in the vicinity of the features. Samples <4> and <6> should also undergo an insect assessment, using the 8L of retained deposit from each sample.

Sample Number	Context	Context / Deposit Type	Sample Volume (L)	Sub-Sample Volume (L)	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg. pot, cbm, etc.) (quantity/ weight)
4	3/014	layer	40	30					
5	1/026	ditch	40	30	**	5	**	1	Coal >2mm (**/6g); Glass >2mm (* /1g); Mag. Mat. <2mm (* /<1g); Slag >2mm (**/34g)
6	4/016	deposit	40	30	*	1	*	1	

Table 19: Residue quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and weights in grams, with charcoal identifications

Sample Number	Context	Weight (g)	Flot volume (ml)	Volume Scanned	Uncharred (%)	Sediment (%)		Seeds Uncharred	Charcoal 2-4mm	Charcoal <2mm
5	1/026	73	375	100	85	5	** <i>Rubus</i> sp., <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Persicaria</i> cf <i>hydropiper</i>			**
6	4/016	272	1250	100	85	5	** Apiaceae, Polygonaceae			**

Table 20: Flot quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and weight in grams

Table 21: Wet-sieved fractions

Sample Number	Context	Waterlogged Macrobotanical Remains >4mm	Waterlogged Macrobotanical Remains 2-4mm	Waterlogged Macrobotanical Remains 0.5-2mm	Waterlogged Macrobotanical Remains 0.25-0.5mm	Uncharred Wood >4mm	Uncharred wood 2-4mm	Uncharred wood <2mm	Insects and Fly pupae	Notes on insect remains
4	3/014	* <i>Corylus</i> , cf <i>Tilia</i> sp., bud, leaf fragments, <i>Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus</i>	** cf <i>Rumex</i> sp., Cyperaceae, lenticular and trigonous, cf Brassicaceae			*	***	***	**	coleoptera shells in most fractions
5	1/026	* <i>Prunus spinosa/domestica</i>		* Polygonaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. Cyperaceae, lenticular and trigonous, large Poaceae/Cereal		**	***			
6	4/016		** Apiaceae, Poaceae/Cereal	** Apiaceae, Asteraceae. Seeds to ID	** seeds to ID, cf Poaceae				*	shell fragments in 2/0.5mm



## 7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence, deposit survival and existing impacts

- 7.1.1 Evaluation was undertaken in Dokes Field to the north of Bodiam Castle and Freren Mead to the south.
- 7.1.2 In Dokes Field the trenches were situated on the sides and top of a hill. The sequence here was either completely sterile, with occasional hill wash sealing natural deposits (Trenches 7 and 8) or contained a Roman road (Trenches 5 and 6) that was reworked on at least two occasions. The various phases of road were observed between 28.51m and 28.89m OD towards the centre of Dokes Field in TR5, and between 27.90m and 28.47m OD to the south of Dokes Field in TR6.
- 7.1.3 In Freren Mead the sequence is quite different, owing to its placement within the historic flood plain of the River Rother. The trenches here revealed a potential Roman foreshore in TR3 and TR4 situated between 0.81m and 1.03m OD towards the centre of the field in trench 3 and between 1.63m and 1.67m OD 70m to the south-west in trench 4. These deposits are then sealed by alluvial deposits, presumably part of the historical inundations of such deposits within the River Rother floodplain. The upper levels of these deposits are then truncated by at least two phases of ditches, presumably related to water management, as well as evidence for 20<sup>th</sup> century hop growing in the field.

### 7.2 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

#### *Roman*

- 7.2.1 Roman activity can be identified in both Dokes Field and Freren Mead.
- 7.2.2 The activity in Dokes field is more concrete, consisting of several phase of road observable within both Trench 5 and trench 6. The upper surface incorporating slag that was observed in TR5 ([5/004] & [5/014]) was not recorded in TR6, although it should be noted that the road was closer to ground level in TR6 and historic ploughing may well have removed it. If one was to project the line of the road through TR5 and TR6 and further south, it looks to intersect with the river very close to the location of the current bridge.
- 7.2.3 The Roman activity observed within Freren Mead is probably better characterised as 'background' activity. No discrete Roman features were observed within the trenches here, but the presence of Roman pottery within the layers of alluvial inundation allows us to frame that the deeper elements of this deposition appear to have taken place within the Roman period.

#### *Post-Medieval*

- 7.2.4 The earlier ditch observed running through TR1 ([1/018], [1/021], [1/027]) roughly east to west is probably later post-medieval in date. It seems likely that this is a precursor the 20<sup>th</sup> century water management ditch.

#### *Modern*

- 7.2.5 The later ditch observed in both TR1 ([1/004], [1/009], [1/016]) and TR2 ([2/009]) contained a storm drain that was then backfilled. The concrete of the pipe clearly marks

it as 20<sup>th</sup> century in date, and presumably is related to when Guinness owned the field and had the hop gardens running across the valley.

### **7.3 Consideration of research aims**

#### **7.3.1 The general aims of the archaeological work were twofold:**

- *To enhance the understanding of the nature and significance of the wider archaeological context of Bodiam, for management (with particular regard to future flood risk management) and interpretation purposes.*
- *To provide a structured, meaningful and research-driven fieldwork training opportunity for IoA students and local volunteers and provide outreach opportunities for the wider community.*

Both objectives were broadly achieved during the fieldwork. The wider context of Bodiam has a Roman character, but in Freren Mead the sequence is up to 2m below ground level. As one moves to the south and south-west through that field the potential Roman sequence becomes shallower. If one were to excavate in the far south-west of the field, it seems plausible that the sequence may be within easy reach.

#### **7.3.2 Based on the results of the previous archaeological investigations undertaken within the site and its surrounding vicinity, the general objectives identified for the project were:**

##### **Dokes Field**

- *To determine whether any further evidence survives for the Iron Age cremation found just south of the field in 1902, and whether it forms part of a larger cemetery.*
- *To confirm the revised alignment of the Roman road, as plotted through geophysical survey, to characterise and date it and its associated branches and investigate any associated features (e.g. roadside settlement).*
- *To characterise and date the rectangular enclosure.*
- *To establish whether any further medieval features exist between the castle and the manor site.*

No evidence for a funerary landscape around the Iron Age cremation was observed, nor was the rectangular enclosure or any further medieval features between the castle or the manor site. The Roman Road was observed in both Trenches 5 and 6, and its route could be plotted south to potentially intersect with the River Rother close to where the current bridge stands.

##### **Freren Mead**

- *To confirm whether any Roman structural remains exist within the site. If so, what is the nature and significance of the remains and how do they fit in with the results of the 1960s works? Can the interpretation of the Roman activity as a port and fleet base be confirmed and refined?*

No Roman structural remains were recorded, although background Roman activity was observed at the bottom of the sequence in TR3.

- *To establish what archaeological evidence survives for the historically attested medieval occupation / land use.*

No evidence for this was observed.

- *To gain further understanding of the management of the valley bottom meadows, drainage etc during the medieval and post-medieval periods.*

Drainage ditches were observed in TR1 and TR2. Multiple phases of ditch were observed, suggesting that drainage was an issue that need addressing constantly.

- *To establish what evidence survives for the post-medieval hop industry.*

Hop furniture was observed within TR1 that married to the geophysical returns in this field.

- *To gain a better understanding of the condition and preservation of archaeological deposits of all periods, particularly in relation to deposit depths (e.g. depths of protective overburden, areas of erosion etc).*

Towards the centre of the field (TR3) the earlier historic deposits sit under at least 2m of historic alluvial deposition presumably associated with the flood plain of the River Rother. As one progresses further south (presumably up the side of the valley) the alluvial deposition becomes shallower, but still measured 1.50m depth in TR4.

### **Research Objectives**

- 7.3.3 The above general objectives are underpinned by a number of research questions and topics as identified for the region in the South-East Research Framework (KCC 2024).
- 7.3.4 The research objectives are designed to provide a framework of academic enquiry and understanding to guide and inform the fieldwork process and the subsequent analysis/interpretation of results. These are based on the research agendas published within SERF, with some commentary on the opportunities provided by the project.

### **Pleistocene Environments**

- *By contrast with the Thames the Wealden area remains little understood in terms of the nature of the sequences and their archaeological potential. The relative paucity of faunal and floral remains in the Weald have made it difficult to correlate sequences of river terraces with those to the north and south of the downland blocks. Some parts of the Weald are now being routinely examined for palaeoenvironmental records (both those associated with the river gravels as well as the 'inland' sequences) but the challenge remains to boost this record. Further investigation of the riverine deposits within Freren Mead, building on the earlier work of Burrin and Scaife, would be of regional significance.*

A programme of further geoarchaeological work would greatly help with the understanding of Freren Mead. The archaeological trenches allowed some observation of these deposits, but a borehole transect across the entire valley would perhaps be more suitable than further general trenching.

## **Prehistoric**

- *Prehistoric settlement remains under-researched in the Weald. What is the context of the Iron Age cremation found in Bodiam, was it part of a larger cemetery? Was there associated settlement?*

No evidence for this was observed.

## **Roman**

- *Can our understanding of the Classis Britannica, and its relationship with inland sites, be enhanced? If settlement evidence exists in Freren Mead, it can contribute to this objective.*

No evidence for this was observed.

- *The road network requires re-examination. Beyond basics such as route, the network needs to be examined for insights concerning construction techniques, maintenance and dating of these, plus final use. Dokes Field provides an excellent opportunity to examine this.*

The Roman Road was observed running broadly north to south through Dokes Field. Further careful excavation of the road may allow addition insight into the construction methodologies of the road.

- *Bridges and fords are of importance, particularly in light of any re-examination of the road network. Previous geoarchaeological work indicates an earlier river channel running through the centre of Freren Mead which provides the opportunity to investigate how the river crossing was achieved.*

No evidence for this was observed.

- *All elements of ports need further investigation, from wharf and mole construction (dating and techniques) to waterside structures. Any trace of vessels (whether wrecks or reused timbers found elsewhere) is of great interest. Freren Mead is a key location for examining this topic.*

No evidence for this was observed.

## **Medieval**

- *Comparison of castle life and communities over time and space in terms of social, cultural and experiential factors within castles, relationships between castles and castle hinterlands, and between defensive sites on local and regional scales. Of particular relevance in this project is the relationship between the castle and its wider landscape.*

No evidence for this was observed.

- *More understanding of the landscape of primarily dispersed rural settlement in terms of development and maintenance over space and time. The project can help understand the apparently medieval tenement in Freren Mead and how it relates to the more nucleated settlement in Bodiam to the north and the dispersed settlements of Ockham and Ewhurst to the south.*

No evidence for this was observed.

- *Survey and comparison of individual settlement layouts in terms of relationships with other features such as moats and manor houses as well as industry and trade. Dokes Field occupies a key location between the church/manor to the north and the castle/river port to the south, and Freren Mead could provide further evidence of the use of the river frontage*

No evidence for this was observed.

- *Interdisciplinary village-based schemes involving both locals (many village or small town focussed interest groups already exist in the region) and professionals (this will contribute much to research as well as a sense of place for those taking part); local concerns articulated with wider debates via a region-wide scheme of research, dissemination and education. This will harness an existing local interest in the property and will foster future research opportunities (e.g. garden test-pitting).*

A research topic to be looked at with regards to further field work.

- *Further investigation of agricultural practices (including animal husbandry) and land use through more systematic sampling and analyses than hitherto. The property is situated on the northern slope of the valley and extends down into the valley floor, providing an opportunity to understand how these different areas were used.*

No evidence for this was observed.

- *The relationships between ecclesiastical centres and their hinterlands and wider landscapes. Freren Mead was used as grazing meadow by Robertsbridge Abbey – can this be identified in the archaeological record, and does it differ from secular use?*

No evidence for this was observed.

### **Post-Medieval**

- *The development of the village in the post-medieval period.*

No evidence for this was observed.

- *The reclamation of wetlands: the methods used, the resultant field patterns and management systems and the impact on the population and economy of the area.*

No evidence for this was observed.

- *More hop-pickers huts and associated structures and landscape features to be studied archaeologically*

No evidence for this was observed.

## 7.4 Conclusions

- 7.4.1 Evaluation trenching was undertaken in two areas, Dokes Field to the north of the castle and Freren Mead to the south. The fieldwork recorded a number of significant discoveries. Firstly, Roman activity was identified in Dokes Field. Here, based on the recovered finds, a road recorded in Trenches 5 and 6 is considered to be Roman. Secondly, deposits recorded in Freren Mead suggests that some of the deeper alluvial deposits correspond to historical flooding that occurred in the Roman period. A programme of geoarchaeological boreholes in Freren Mead has the potential to provide further information about the flood depositional sequence there. Also, it was observed that the base of the valley is shallower as one progresses to the south-west in Freren Mead. If possible, therefore, excavation in the far south-west of the field, within the scheduled area, may expose Roman archaeology at much shallower depths. Targeted metal-detecting of this area might facilitate the identification of suitable trench locations. Ditches, presumably related to water management and evidence for 20th century hop growing were also uncovered in Freren Mead.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Nathalie Cohen of the National Trust for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project. The field work was directed by Stephen White with Simon Stevens providing secondary supervisory cover. The author would like to thank all archaeologists, volunteers and students from the IOA who worked on the excavations; Adam Cheshire who produced the figures for this report; Darryl Palmer who project managed the excavations and Dan Swift who project managed the post-excavation process. Special thanks must also go to all the faculty of the IOA and ASE who pitched in on site including Murray Andrews, Hazel Crabb, Lucy Sladen, Paul Wordsworth, and of course Charlotte Frearson.



## HER Summary

Site code	ESBOD24					
Project code	240201					
Planning reference	N/A					
Site address	Bodiam Castle, Bodiam					
District/Borough	Rother District					
NGR (12 figures)	578313 125804 & 578519 125200					
Geology	Clay					
Fieldwork type	Eval					
Date of fieldwork	July – August 2024					
Sponsor/client	The National Trust					
Project manager	Darryl Palmer					
Project supervisor	Stephen White					
Period summary						
	Roman			Post-Medieval	Other	
Project summary	<p>Evaluation trenching was undertaken in two areas, Dokes Field to the north of the castle and Freren Mead to the south. The fieldwork recorded a number of significant discoveries. Firstly, Roman activity was identified in Dokes Field. Here, based on the recovered finds, a road recorded in Trenches 5 and 6 is considered to be Roman. Secondly, deposits recorded in Freren Mead suggests that some of the deeper alluvial deposits correspond to historical flooding that occurred in the Roman period. A programme of geoarchaeological boreholes in Freren Mead has the potential to provide further information about the flood depositional sequence there. Also, it was observed that the base of the valley is shallower as one progresses to the south-west in Freren Mead. If possible, therefore, excavation in the far south-west of the field, within the scheduled area, may expose Roman archaeology at much shallower depths. Targeted metal-detecting of this area might facilitate the identification of suitable trench locations. Ditches, presumably related to water management and evidence for 20th century hop growing were also uncovered in Freren Mead.</p>					

## OASIS Form

OASIS ID (UID): archaeol6-529300

Project Name: Evaluation at Bodiam Castle

Activity type: Evaluation

Sitecode(s): ESBOD24

Project Identifier(s): Bodiam 100

Reason for Investigation: Community research

Organisation Responsible for work: Archaeology South-East

Project Dates: 25-Jul-2024 - 17-Aug-2024

HER: East Sussex HER

HER: National Trust HBSMR

**Project Methodology:** The trenches were broadly located as per the WSI specification, with some slightly movement to better fit the geophysical results. Trenches 1-4 were located within the Freren Mead field to the south of the castle, while trenches 5-8 were located within Dokes Field to the north of the castle. The trenches (TR1-TR4) in Freren Mead were all initially opened by a 7-tonne tracked excavator, generally to a dept of c. 0.50m. In trenches 3 and 4 further general hand excavation of stepped areas was undertaken, to a maximum excavated depth of 2.21m in Trench 3 and 1.50m in Trench 4. The trenches (TR5-TR8) in Dokes Field were all cut and excavated by hand.

**Project Results:** The fieldwork recorded a number of significant discoveries. Firstly, Roman activity was identified in Dokes Field. Here, based on the recovered finds, a road recorded in Trenches 5 and 6 is considered to be Roman. Secondly, deposits recorded in Freren Mead suggests that some of the deeper alluvial deposits correspond to historical flooding that occurred in the Roman period. A programme of geoarchaeological boreholes in Freren Mead has the potential to provide further information about the flood depositional sequence there. Also, it was observed that the base of the valley is shallower as one progresses to the south-west in Freren Mead. If possible, therefore, excavation in the far south-west of the field, within the scheduled area, may expose Roman archaeology at much shallower depths. Targeted metal-detecting of this area might facilitate the identification of suitable trench locations. Ditches, presumably related to water management and evidence for 20th century hop growing were also uncovered in Freren Mead.

**Keywords:** Subject/Period: Road: ROMAN

**Archive:** Physical Archive, Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with National Trust;

**Reports in OASIS:** White, S. and White, S., (2024). *Evaluation at Bodiam Castle*. Portslade: Archaeology South-East. 240249.

## Appendix 1: Table 22 Quantification of hand-collected bulk finds

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Slag	Weight (g)	Copper Alloy	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Lead	Weight (g)	Metal	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Clay Tobacco Pipe	Weight (g)	Glass	Weight (g)	Wood	Weight (g)	Leather	Weight (g)
1/001			14	21	6	804			22	281	17	163	90	1845	5	62	5	6			1	1	17	59				
1/002			1	8	1	125	4	3					1	11														
1/003																							1	158				
1/005													1	47														
1/006			1	2			5	14			1	1	1	90									1	2				
1/008			1	5	4	54	3	10	8	159	1	1	8	100														
1/010																												
1/011					1	19																						
1/012					2	675																						
1/015			5	7	2	131	23	104	16	241			1	4							2	3	6	13				
1/017									1	29																		
1/019																												
1/020					2	770	6	42	62	549																		
1/026							69	13	5	24																		
1/045																												
1/US											3	13	7	214	1	2	8	5										
2/001			4	38	2	314					2	16	6	1000			1	40					4	101			2	2
2/002			7	35	12	184			1	2	1	1	23	125					1	2	2	5	19	58				
2/003					8	638																						
2/005	1	2																										
2/006			6	104	3	1065	2	35	2	4	1	52	2	46					1	4			39	730				
2/007					1	1234																						
2/008																												
3/001			1	13							1	10	4	140									1	12				
3/010													1	2														

3/014			1	4																					1	-		
4/001					7	292	23	310	186	1777	1	29	22	364			1	4										
4/002									3	23												1	6					
4/003							17	222	115	961																		
4/005					1	1890																						
4/016																									1	-		
5/001	3	13	18	116	8	539	20	323	28	954			5	615	2	3					8	27	11	82				
5/004									18	1319																		
5/006			4	16																								
5/007									1	42																		
5/008			7	92			1	7	2	32			2	12							1	2						
5/009	2	2	2	11	7	245	7	190	2	33			3	8							2	4	1	2				
5/011			3	6																								
6/001			9	62	15	477	5	259	19	740	1	7	4	64							1	5	1	1				
6/002			1	4	5	17			4	84																		
6/003			1	4																								
6/004					6	11	31	226	192	6357			2	20														
6/006			1	1					1	16			2	32														
6/007																												
6/010			2	21																								
7/001			7	23	8	270			4	362			1	2									5	22				
7/002			18	71	12	144			2	95	1	4									1	1	1	4				
7/003	2	10	2	3	7	128	4	19	4	51											2	3						
62/006																												
Total	8	27	116	667	120	10026	220	1777	698	14135	30	297	186	4741	8	67	15	55	2	6	20	51	108	1250	2	N/A	2	2

## **Appendix 2: Bodiam Metal Detecting Survey Report**

## **Appendix 2: Bodiam Metal Detecting Survey Report**

# Bodiam Metal Detecting Survey Report, 6<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## Introduction

A metal detecting survey was undertaken in support of National Trust archaeological activities conducted in the vicinity of Bodiam Castle over the period 6<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> August 2024. In addition to searching for metallic artifacts within trenches and their associated spoil heaps, a general survey was also undertaken to obtain a snapshot of objects buried within the top soil.

## Scope

The majority of effort was focussed in Doke's Field around trenches 5, 6, 7 and 8. A lesser survey was also undertaken within the unscheduled area of South Field, mainly in the vicinity of trenches 1 and 3. In all cases, finds were recovered and their locations recorded using GPS surveying techniques. A total of 85 objects were recorded including 7 items from South Field. These are listed in Tables 1 and 2 at Appendix A and include a provisional identification. Find spots located using a handheld Garmin GPSMAP64 device are given in Table 3 at Appendix B.

A non-invasive survey was also undertaken in the north east corner of Doke's field to establish finds density in the vicinity of a large rectangular feature shown on previously obtained LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data.

## Limitations

Findspots were located using a variety of GPS enabled surveying equipment including a handheld Garmin GPSMAP64. Accuracy of this device was probably in the order of 3-4m.

Detecting was only undertaken over areas where the grass had been mown, i.e. around trench locations and along connecting pathways.

## Discussion

### South Field

The majority of finds recovered in South Field were attributed to hop growing activities extant there in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. These included a number of square iron washers and a possible copper alloy horse harness fitting. A small amount of modern decimal coinage, ring pulls and other metallic detritus were also recovered but not recorded. Whilst it was not possible to provide a definitive date for any recovered artefacts, it is likely that nothing was found dating to earlier than the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

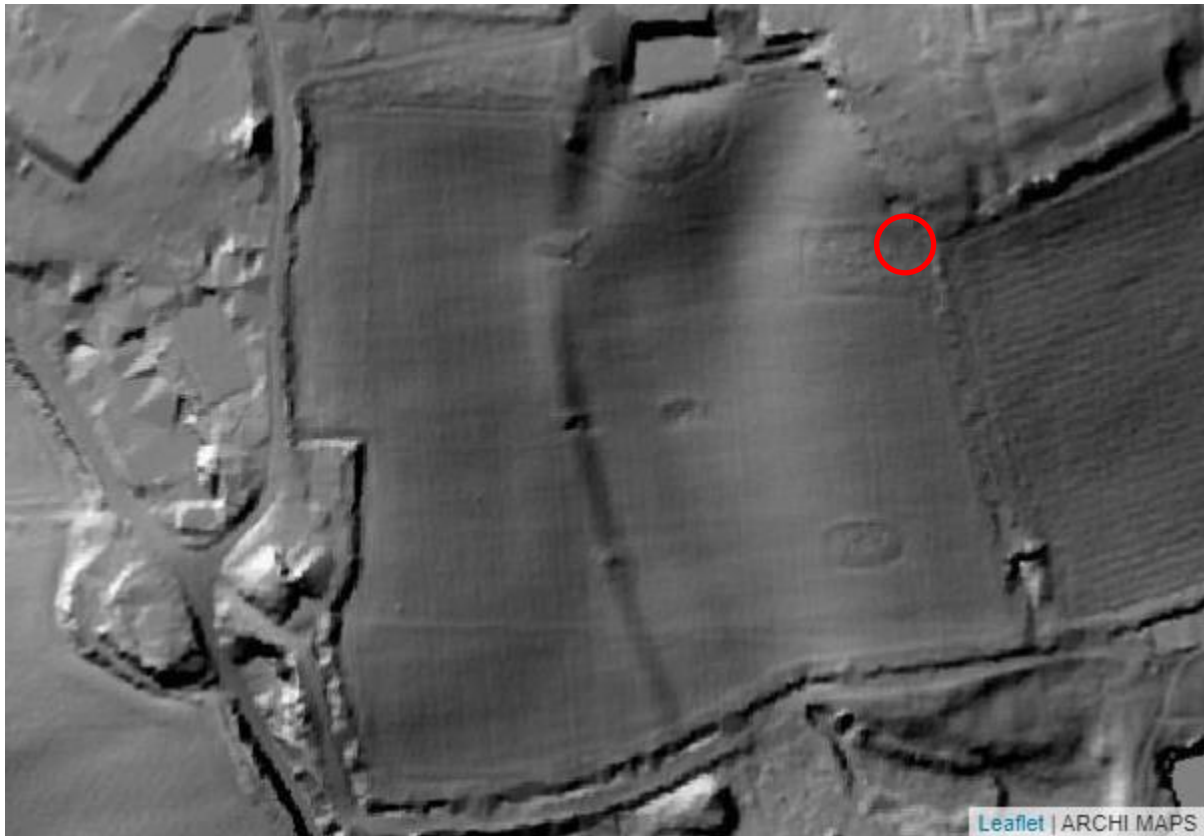
### Doke's Field

A more comprehensive survey was undertaken in Doke's Field, focusing around the trench locations and the mown paths between them. Finds included a range of projectiles, a wide variety of iron detritus including nails and bolts etc, some coinage, buttons and ironstone nodules. One particular find of note (D-033 and D-034) comprised a copper alloy Victorian 'skirt lifter' which would have been used to hitch up a long dress so as to prevent it dragging on wet and muddy ground. As in South Field, a small amount of decimal coinage, ring pulls and other modern detritus were also recovered but not recorded.

A non-invasive reconnaissance survey was also undertaken in the north east corner of Doke's field to investigate finds density in the vicinity of a rectangular feature shown on previously obtained LiDAR data in Figure 1. Long grass restricted searching to a small area under the trees where Doke's field boundary intersects with the adjacent vineyard, as shown by the red circle on Figure 1. Upon

inspection the whole area appeared to be contaminated with modern rubbish (probable c19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century), including quantities of dumped building material. Signals were consequently numerous and mostly ferrous in nature. No sign of the rectangular feature in Figure 1 was visible on the ground.

It may be of interest to note that a small circle of mature, very closely spaced trees in this area also appeared to comprise alternate species of lime and maple. It seems unlikely for this to have occurred naturally and hence these may have been planted in this configuration deliberately.



*Figure 1; LiDAR data for Doke's field showing a large rectangular feature and the approximate location detected.*

The recovered finds assemblage indicates that Doke's field has seen recent recreational use including shooting, (arrows and 0.22" rifle), probable picnics, dog walking and other outdoor activities involving large tents or marquees, possibly connected with the nearby school. There may also be some evidence for the use of machinery and heavy horses.

It may be of interest to note that the majority of ironstone nodules were located tending towards trench 5.

With the possible exception of the items described below, it is likely that the majority of metal artefacts recovered from within the top soil of Doke's field date to no earlier than the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Items D-011, D-015, D-017 and D-025 recovered in the vicinity of trench 7 have been tentatively identified as iron pistol balls dating from the 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. A lack of other contemporary objects from Doke's field may cast doubt on their authenticity however. Two lead musket/pistol balls were recovered from this area (D-012 and D-019), although their condition suggests that they may be modern reproductions possibly associated with re-enactment activities.



It has also been proposed that these objects may be naturally occurring iron concretions (*acknowledgement Natalie Cohen*). This is considered unlikely however, due to their consistent spherical nature and also, they were found to be strongly attracted to a magnet, implying the presence of elemental iron.

Some evidence for the use of iron pistol or musket shot has been identified from the open literature and internet forums for example. A personal communication on the subject (*acknowledgement Bob Washington*) is also reproduced at Appendix C.

There are at least two entries for similar items in the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database. DUR-854AF4 was found in Hartlepool and is dated to the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century. No specific dimension or weight data is recorded although a diameter of approx. 15mm can be inferred from the accompanying photo. There are no references or other supporting information. SWYOR-418202 was found in Selby, North Yorkshire. Its identity and dating (c18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>) are less certain however. Dimensions and weight data are given as 9.3mm and 3.1g respectively.

David Edge and John Miles Paddock mention the use of cast iron shot with the development of hand guns in the fifteenth century; probably for its armour piercing qualities – see *p31, Arms and Armour of the Medieval Knight*. Bore diameters are quoted as ranging from 16mm to 22mm.

Florida Museum also has an iron musket ball in its collection allegedly from a Spanish matchlock firearm dating to the fifteenth century. (<https://www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu/100-years/object/spanish-musket-ball>). No information regarding its dimensions or weight are provided however.

Northampton Museum and Art Gallery, reputedly has a number of iron matchlock musket balls in its collection (*NOMCM: 1936-7.6*), allegedly from the battle of Naseby in 1645. See also Appendix C. Caution is advised regarding authenticity however, as their provenance and identification remain uncertain. Again, no information regarding dimensions or weight is recorded.

## Conclusions

As a result of this limited survey, it can be concluded that:

- The majority of metal finds in both Doke's and South Fields appear to reside in the top soil only, with almost nothing in the layers below. This is evidenced to the respective depths recorded for each of the excavated trenches.
- The majority of metal artefacts located within the top soil of South Field are likely to be associated with hop growing activities undertaken there in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- The majority of metal artefacts recovered from within the top soil in both Doke's and South Fields probably date to no earlier than the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- The possible recovery of four iron pistol balls in Doke's field could be significant in linking its use to the nearby castle.

## Detectors Used:

Minelab Manticore

C-Scope CS3MXi

XP Deus 1.1

Minelab Equinox 800

Laser 'Thames' Scout with 8" Coil

## Appendix A – Finds lists for Doke's and South Fields

Doke's Field MD Finds to 09/08/24		
ID	Description	Photo
D-001	Iron Fragments	Yes
D-002	Iron Rod	Yes
D-003	Iron Wire + Red Rubber Coating	Yes
D-004	Iron Bolt/Stud	Yes
D-005	Iron Lug	Yes
D-006	Iron Tent Peg - Very Large Marquee Type	Yes
D-007	Iron Nail	Yes
D-008	Iron Ring	Yes
D-009	0.22" Rifle Cartridge	Yes
D-010	Iron Nail/Bolt	Yes
D-011	Iron Pistol Ball?	No
D-012	Lead Pistol/Musket Ball	Yes
D-013	Iron Staple	Yes
D-014	Iron Wire/Fence Barb?	Yes
D-015	Iron Pistol Ball?	Yes
D-016	Iron/Aluminium Pipe Fragment	Yes
D-017	Iron Pistol Ball?	No
D-018	Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-019	Lead Pistol/Musket Ball	Yes
D-020	Cu Alloy Fitting	Yes
D-021	Iron Bracket	Yes
D-022	Coke Nodule	Yes
D-023	Iron Hook	Yes
D-024	Cu Alloy Button?	Yes
D-025	Iron Pistol Ball	Yes
D-026	Iron Fragment	Yes
D-027	Small Iron Fragment	Yes
D-028	0.22" Rifle Cartridge	Yes
D-029	0.22" Lead Rifle Bullet	Yes
D-030	Iron Nail	Yes
D-031	0.22" Lead Rifle Bullet	Yes
D-032	Iron Nodule	Yes
D-033	Pressed Cu-Alloy Mount, Probably Associated with Item D-034	Yes
D-034	Cu-Alloy Skirt Lifter	Yes
D-035	Lead Weight?	Yes
D-036	Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-037	Non-ferrous Ring	No
D-038	Shotgun Primer	No
D-039	Iron Tent Peg - Small Marquee Type	No
D-040	Iron Wire Fragments	No

Doke's Field MD Finds 13/08/24 to 16/08/24		
D-041	Iron Nail	Yes
D-042	WWII Armour Piercing Bullet?	Yes
D-043	Iron Nail	Yes
D-044	Iron Collar Fragments	Yes
D-045	Iron Fence Bar Fragment?	Yes
D-046	Iron Fence Bar Fragment?	Yes
D-047	Large Horseshoe - Shire Horse?	Yes
D-048	Large Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-049	Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-050	Lead Fragment	Yes
D-051	Iron Fragment - Bar Shaped?	Yes
D-052	Iron Fragment	Yes
D-053	0.22" Bullet	Yes
D-054	Iron Pipe Fragment	Yes
D-055	0.22" Bullet	Yes
D-056	Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-057	Large Iron Staple With Decorative Twist?	Yes
D-058	Cast Iron Gear Rack Fragment?	Yes
D-059	Cu-Alloy Fragment	Yes
D-060	Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-061	Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-062	Iron Bolt/Nail	Yes
D-063	Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-064	Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-065	Counterfeit Georgian Halfpenny?	Yes
D-066	Iron Spade Fragment?	Yes
D-067	Bronze Fragment	Yes
D-068	1962 One Shilling	Yes
D-069	1966 Two Shillings	Yes
D-070	1969 Fifty Pence	Yes
D-071	Cu-Alloy Button	No
D-072	Steel Arrow Tip?	Yes
D-073	Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-074	Cu-Alloy Button	Yes
D-075	Iron Smelting Waste?	Yes
D-076	Iron Hoop	Yes
D-077	Large Ironstone Nodule	Yes
D-078	Steel Arrow Tip?	Yes

*Table 1; Finds list for Doke's Field Metal Detector Survey*

South Field MD Finds to 09/08/24		
ID	Description	Photo
SF-001	Iron Hop Rove	Yes
SF-002	Iron Hop Rove	Yes
SF-003	Cu-Alloy Harness Mount?	Yes
SF-004	Iron Hop Rove	Yes
SF-005	Cast Iron Fragments - Drain Cover/Cistern?	Yes
SF-006	Cast Iron Fragment	Yes
SF-007	Iron Chain Link	Yes

*Table 2; Finds list for South Field Metal Detector Survey.*

## Appendix B – Finds spots recorded with Garmin GPSMAP64

ID	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation	Creation Time
D-033	51.00283097	0.538767027	24.49572	2024-08-16T14:04:51Z
D-034	51.002837	0.538765015	24.765308	2024-08-16T14:05:24Z
D-035	51.00289802	0.539067015	23.623047	2024-08-16T14:06:43Z
D-036	51.002923	0.539143961	24.296421	2024-08-16T14:08:09Z
D-037	51.002865	0.538736014	30.636032	2024-08-16T14:03:15Z
D-038	51.00284002	0.538778007	28.307819	2024-08-16T14:03:55Z
D-040	51.00292803	0.539157037	24.499073	2024-08-16T14:07:32Z
D-041	51.00314897	0.538865011	33.11676	2024-08-16T09:52:46Z
D-042	51.00361702	0.540663013	18.368828	2024-08-16T09:33:26Z
D-043	51.00362599	0.540662007	20.456997	2024-08-16T09:32:13Z
D-044	51.00381098	0.540392026	20.957844	2024-08-16T09:30:43Z
D-057	51.003412	0.539036002	32.718826	2024-08-16T09:58:33Z
D-058	51.00334302	0.538987974	33.08049	2024-08-16T09:57:40Z
D-059	51.00290104	0.53873702	34.449036	2024-08-16T14:02:14Z
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D-066	51.00323397	0.539502036	26.527813	2024-08-16T09:47:57Z
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D-073	51.00394199	0.540187005	22.031116	2024-08-16T09:29:20Z
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D-076	51.00441003	0.539331967	34.468166	2024-08-16T09:16:00Z
D-077	51.00401298	0.540110981	23.497211	2024-08-16T09:23:39Z
D-078	51.00398499	0.54013202	23.484798	2024-08-16T09:26:54Z

*Table 3; Doke's Field GPS Findspots.*

## Appendix C – Personal communication re iron pistol shot

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 26 August 2024 13:37  
**To:** James Ward  
**Subject:** Shot

Hi James

I have found number of images on the Internet regarding iron shot but the most relevant is the link below

<https://images.app.goo.gl/UEBvWpJcvw3uMRMN8>

They are displayed in the northampton museum and were recovered from the battle of Naseby civil War site.

Iron musket shot has been recorded being used by the Spanish and more recent metal detecting finds have come from the American civil war battle field sites.

In the UK detectorists have also been surprised by finding iron shot and has come up in several md forums, unsurprisingly most detectorists discriminate iron out on open field sites and this probably accounts for the lack of finds.

It seems the preference of lead shot is down to it's abundance and availability when on campaign, it also can easily be manufactured around a camp fire.

The down side is that pure lead is very soft and it was less effective against good armour that became available during the civil war, whereas iron has a better velocity and distorts less on impact.

I believe improvements in gunpowder refinement and the development of flintlock over matchlocks would also have been a factor.

I have also met with Peter Nyland whose field of expertise is firearms and he said that iron shot although not used in abundance, suggested that it was use used during the reign of Henry 8th and up through to the civil war.

He said that they were also used in pistols of the period and were probably supplied as part of a kit with a new gun, along with a moulding tool that would be included so lead shot could be made.

He confirmed that iron shot was also used in canister form for use with cannon against personnel.

I have come across an interesting book called, Musket Ball & Small Shot Identification by Daniel Sivilich, unfortunately I don't have a copy but will try and get hold of one.

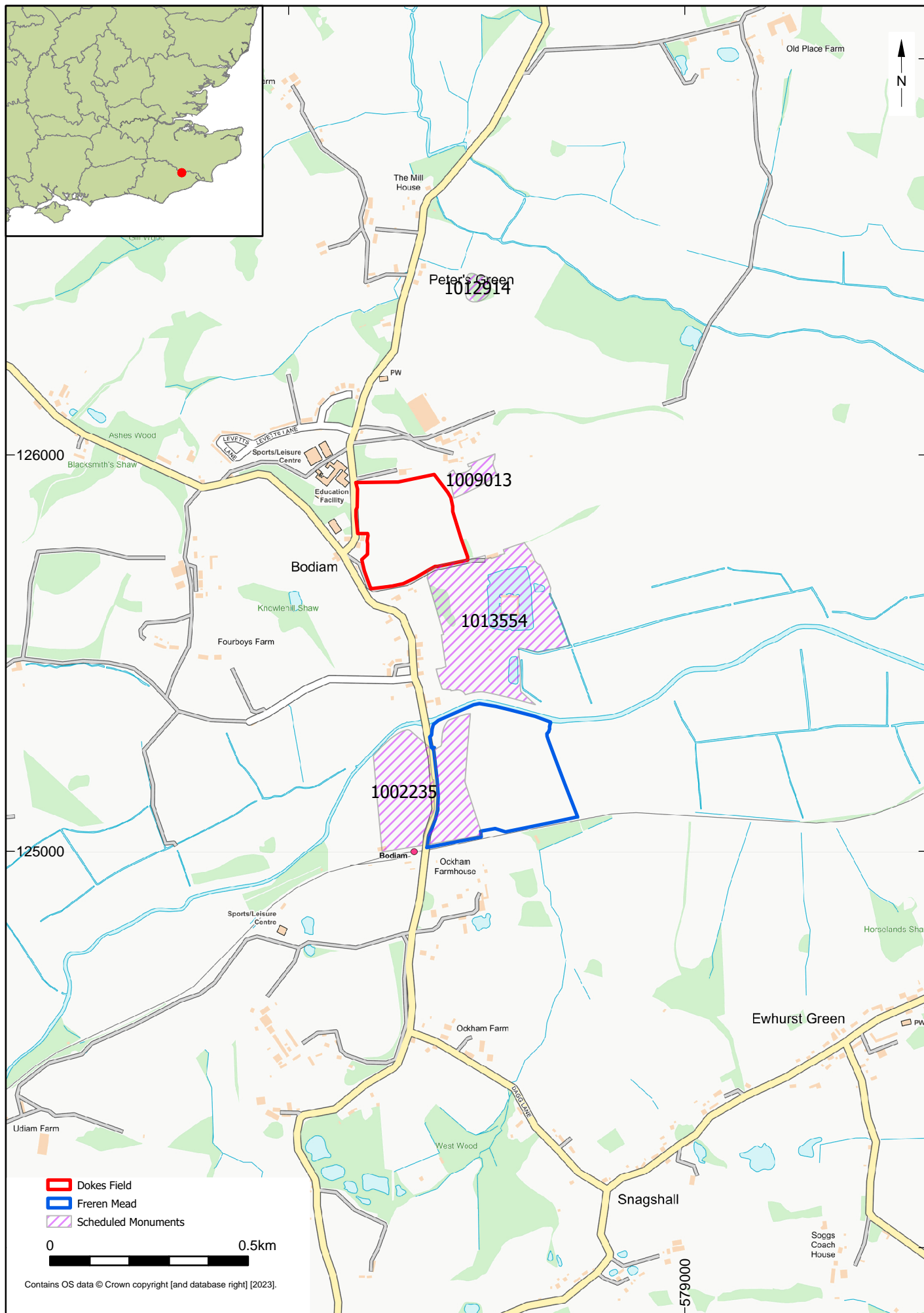
I hope this is of help.

Regards

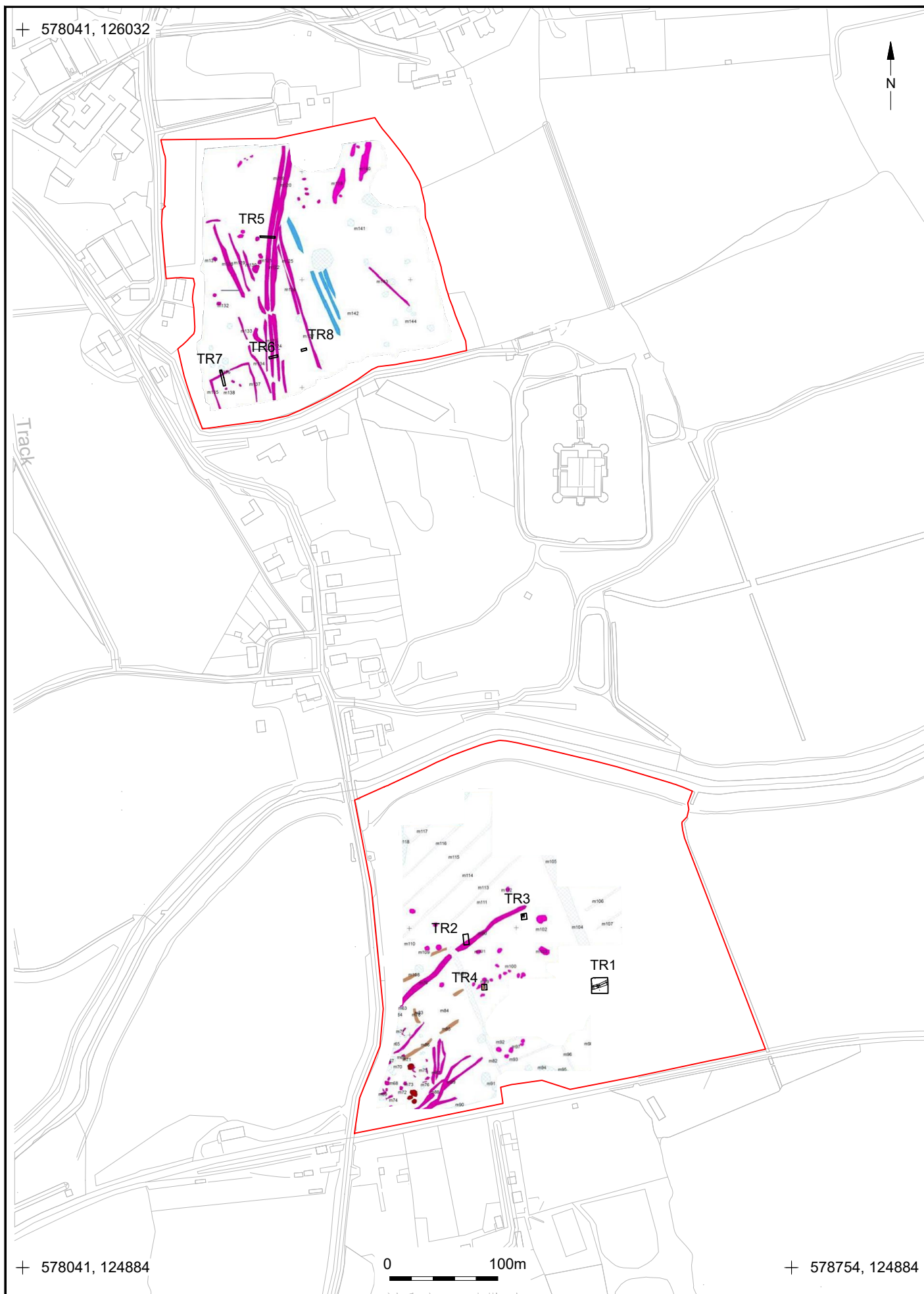
Bob

James Ward

September 2024

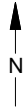


© Archaeology South-East		An Archeological Evaluation at Bodium Castle	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 240201	November 2024	Site Location	
Report Ref: 2024201	Drawn by: AC		

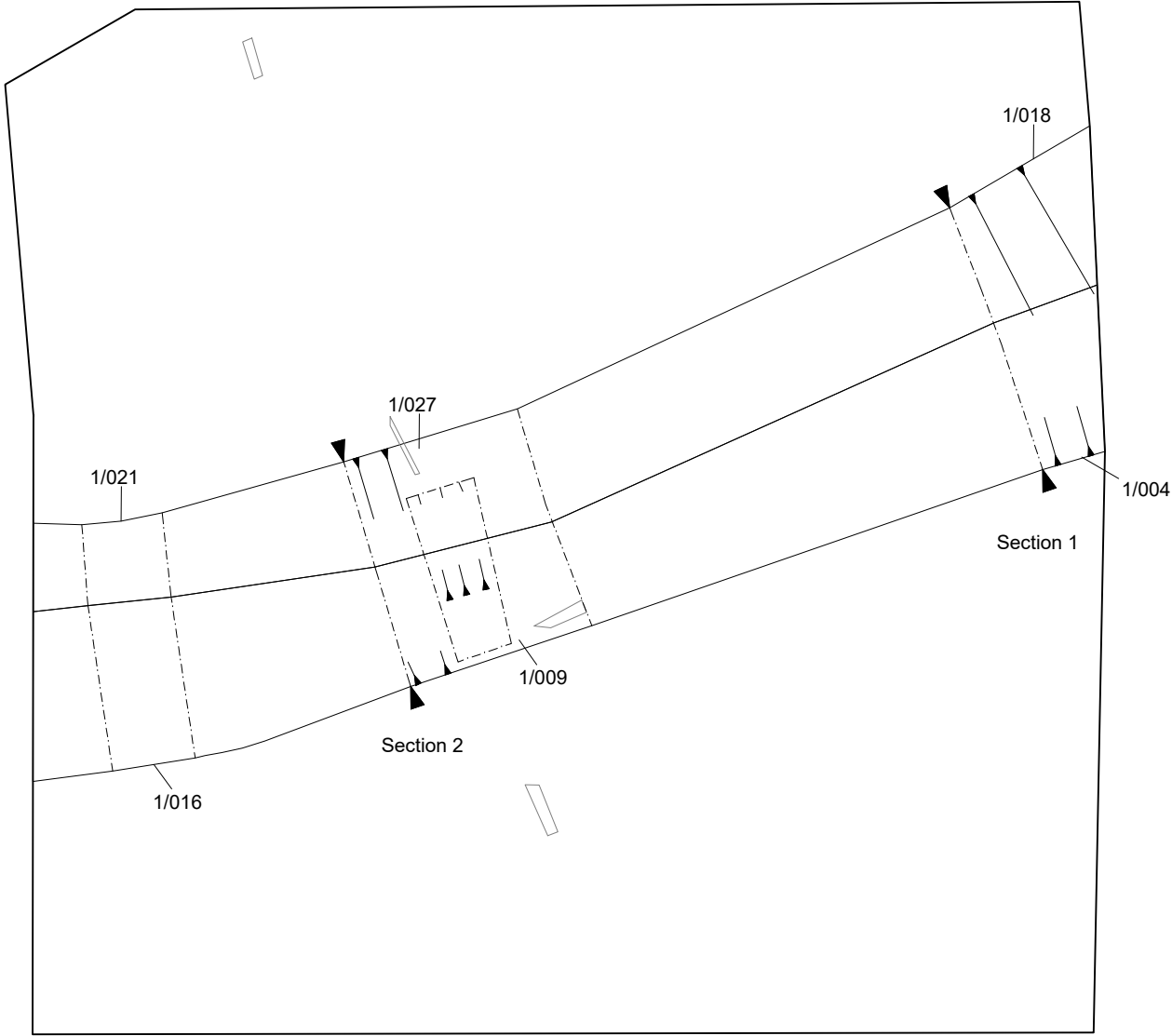




+ 578564, 125156



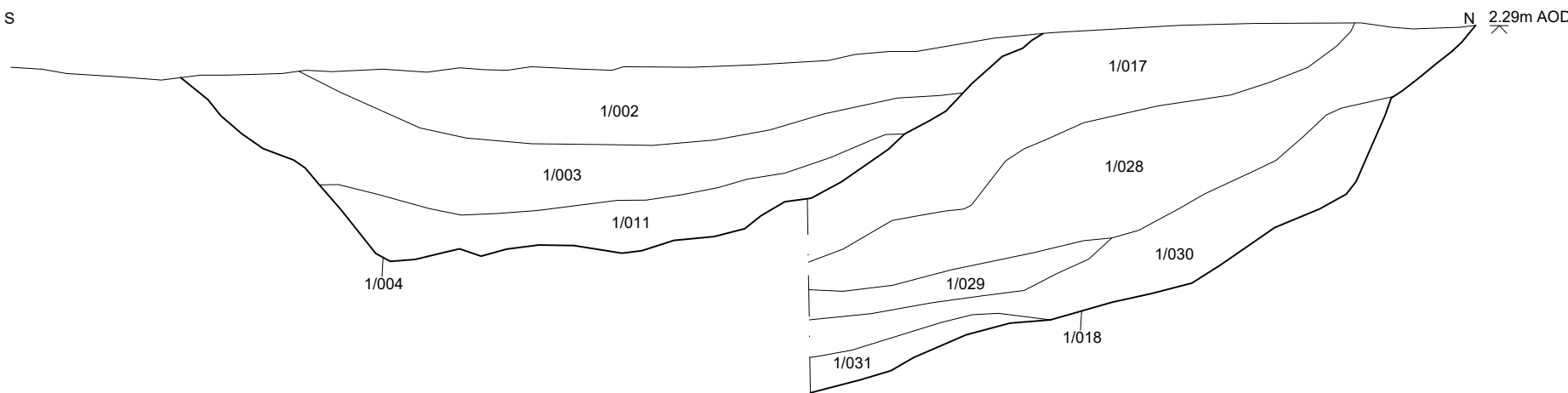
Trench 1



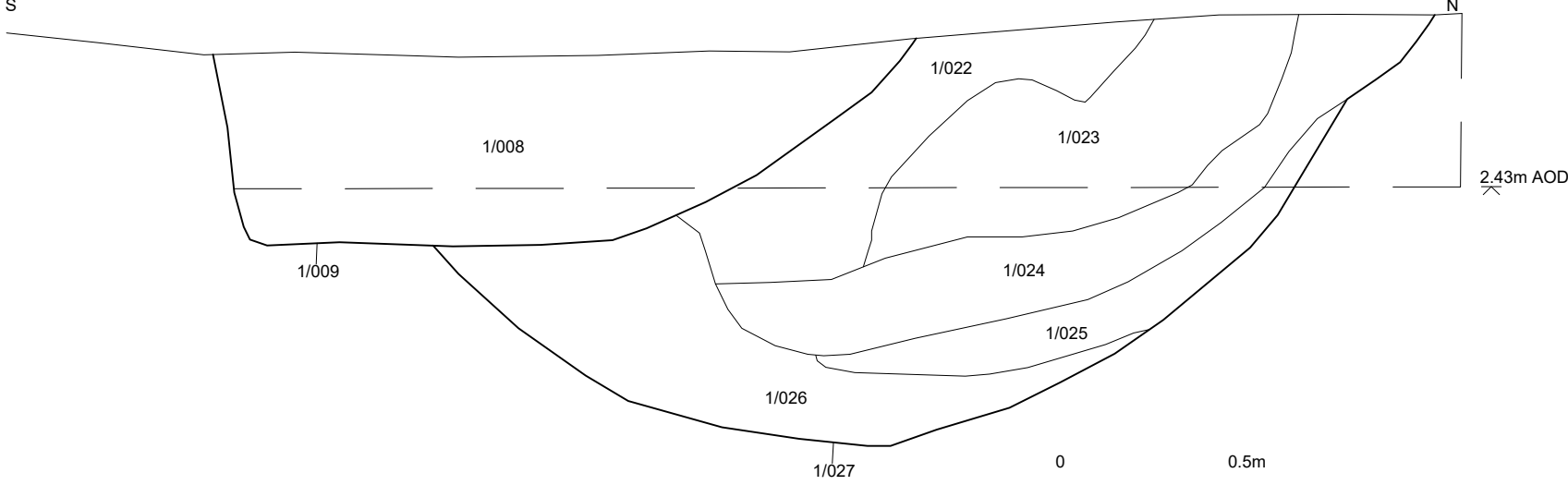
+ 578564, 125135

+ 578585, 125135

Section 1  
S



Section 2  
S







1/004 and 1/018 looking south-west



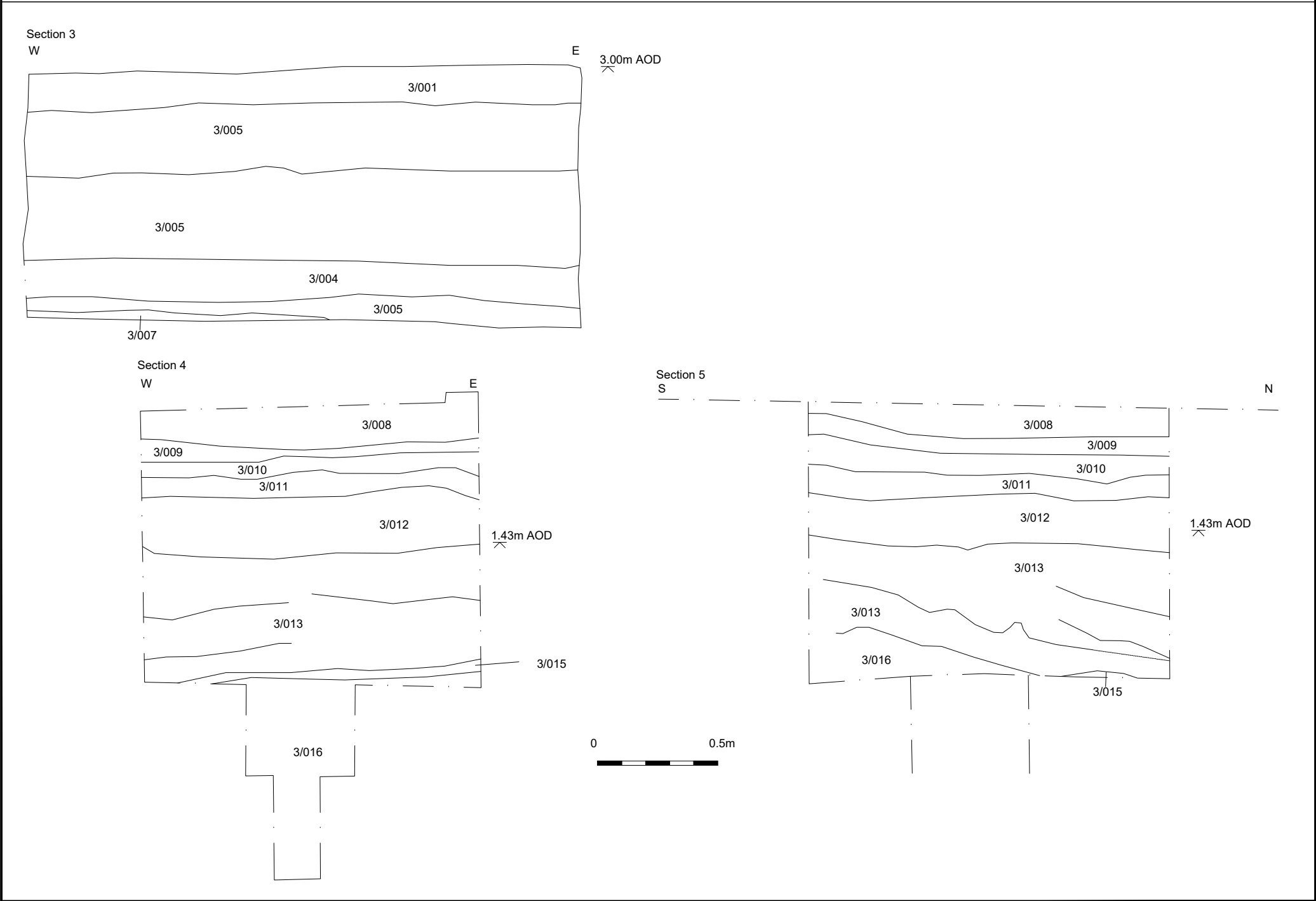
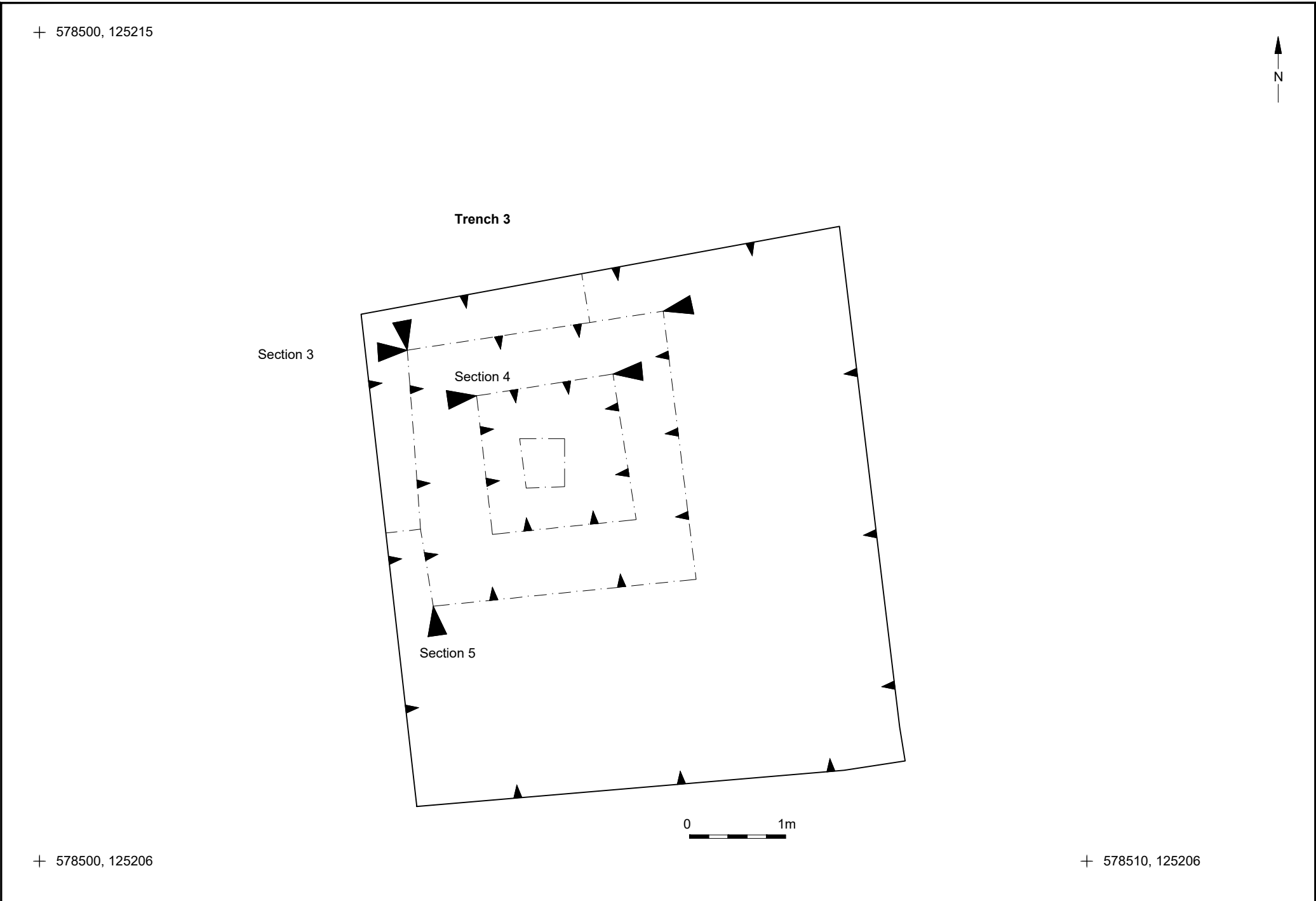
1/009 and 1/027 looking south-west



Hop Furniture looking south



Hop Furniture looking south







Trench 3 looking north



Trench 3 looking west

+ 578463, 125150



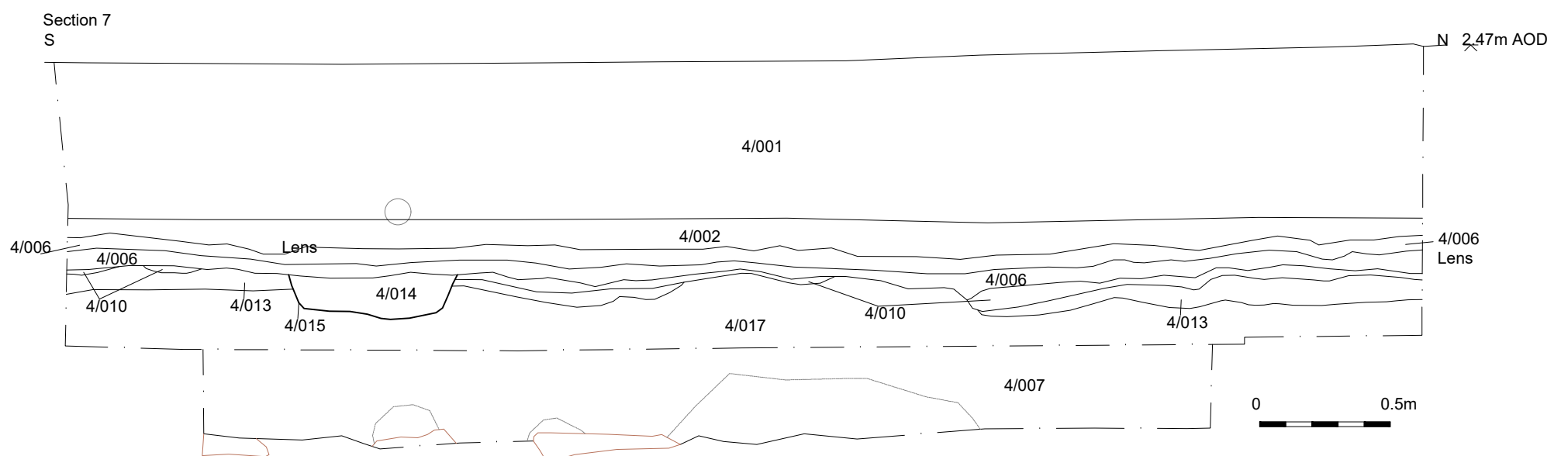
Trench 4



— Timber  
— Sample Location

+ 578463, 125138

+ 578474, 125138





Trench 4 looking west

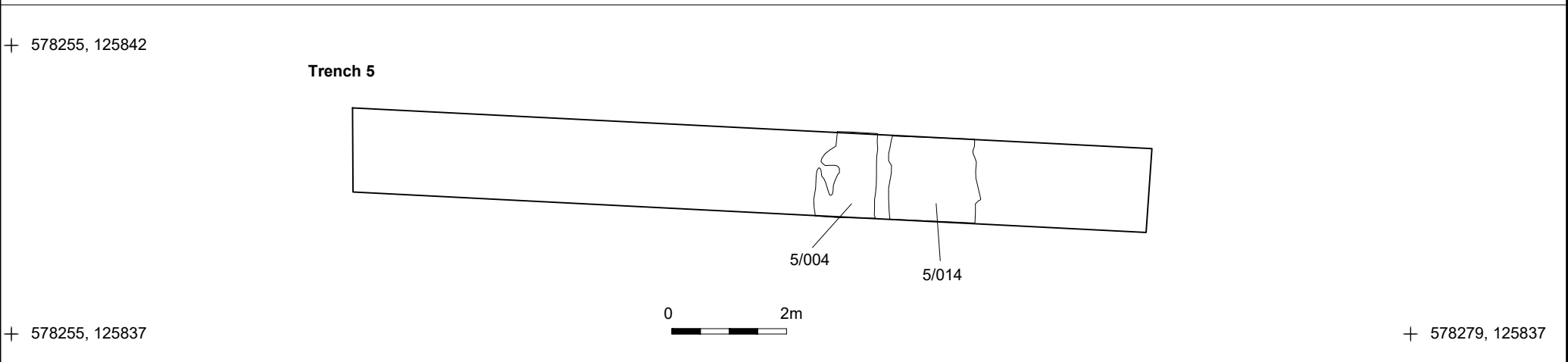
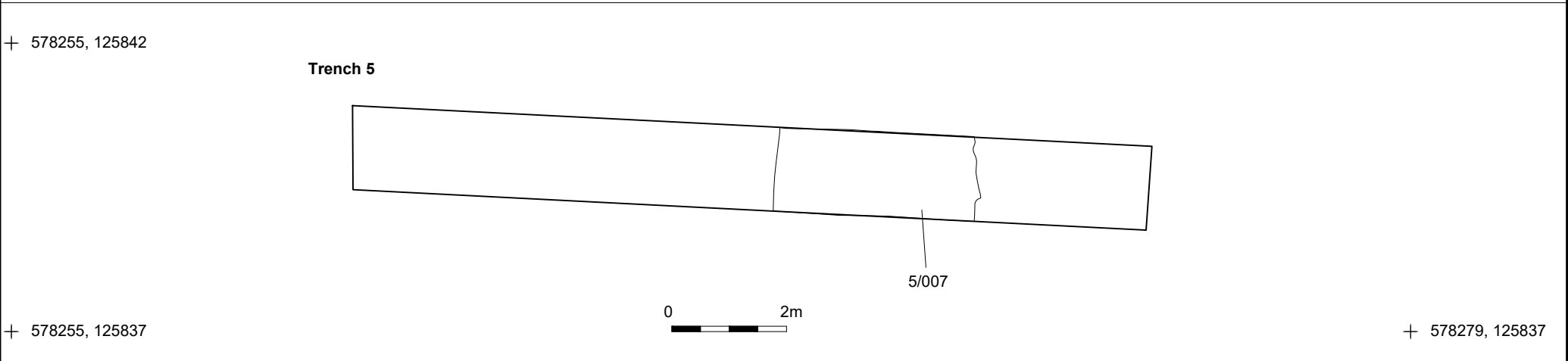
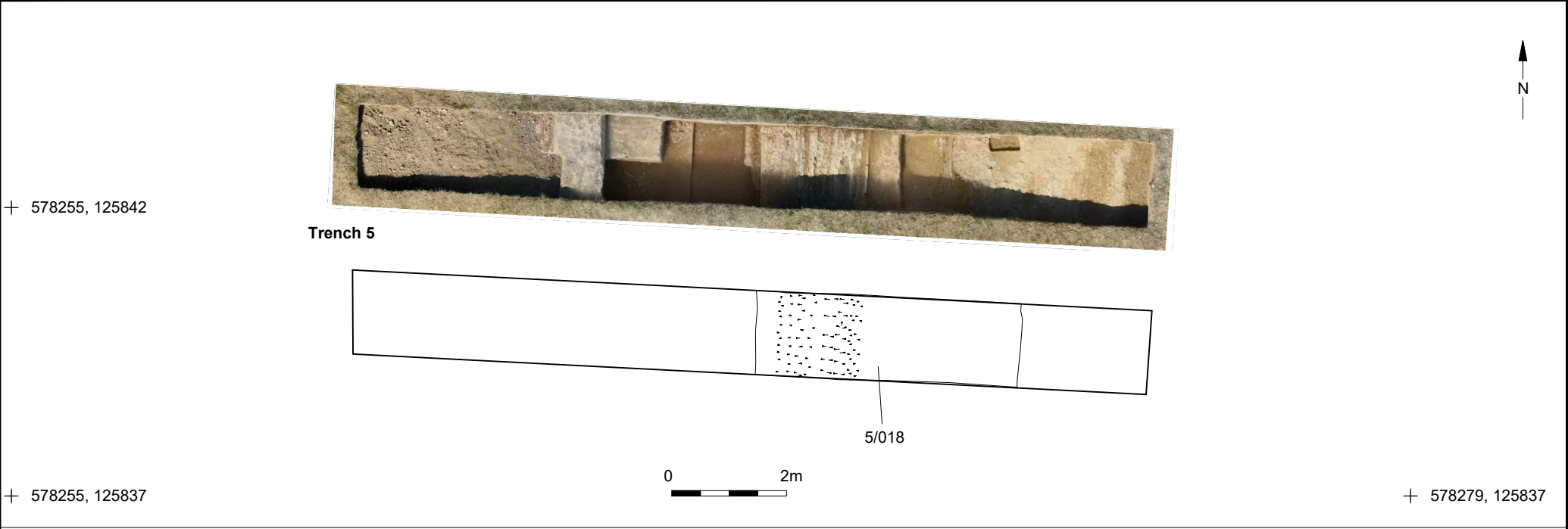


Trench 4 looking west

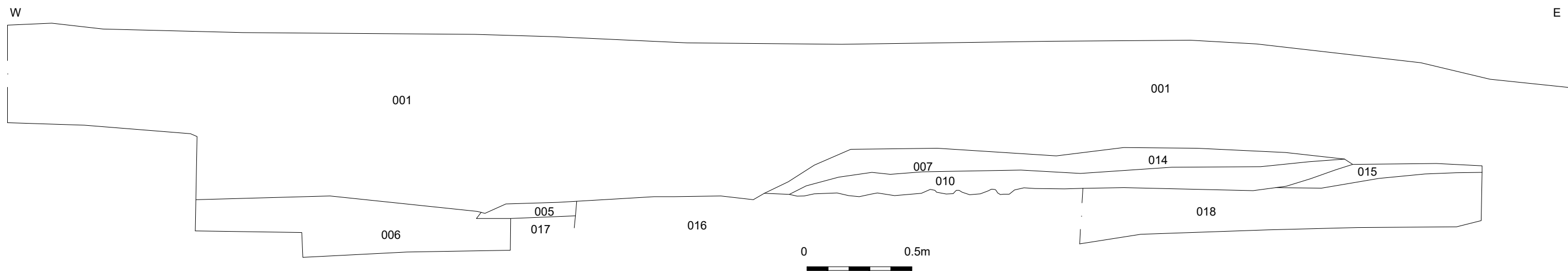


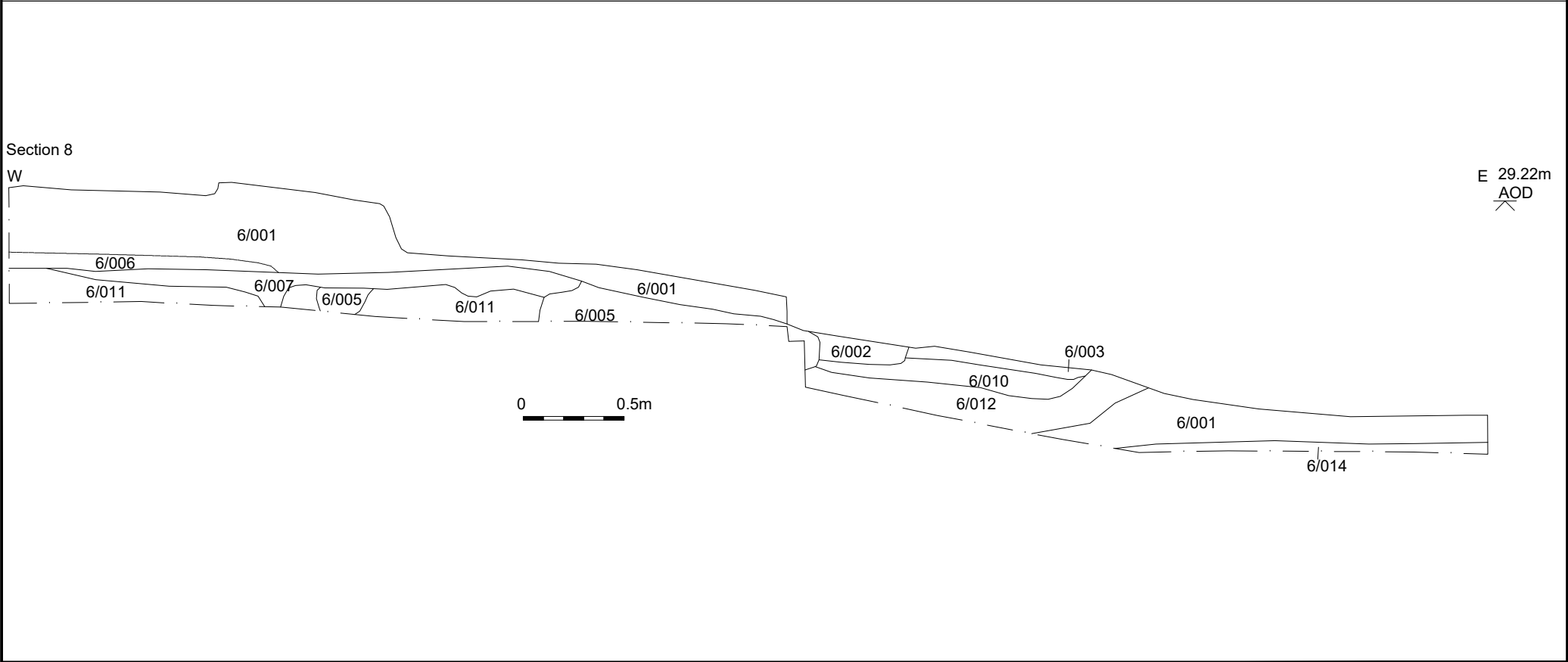
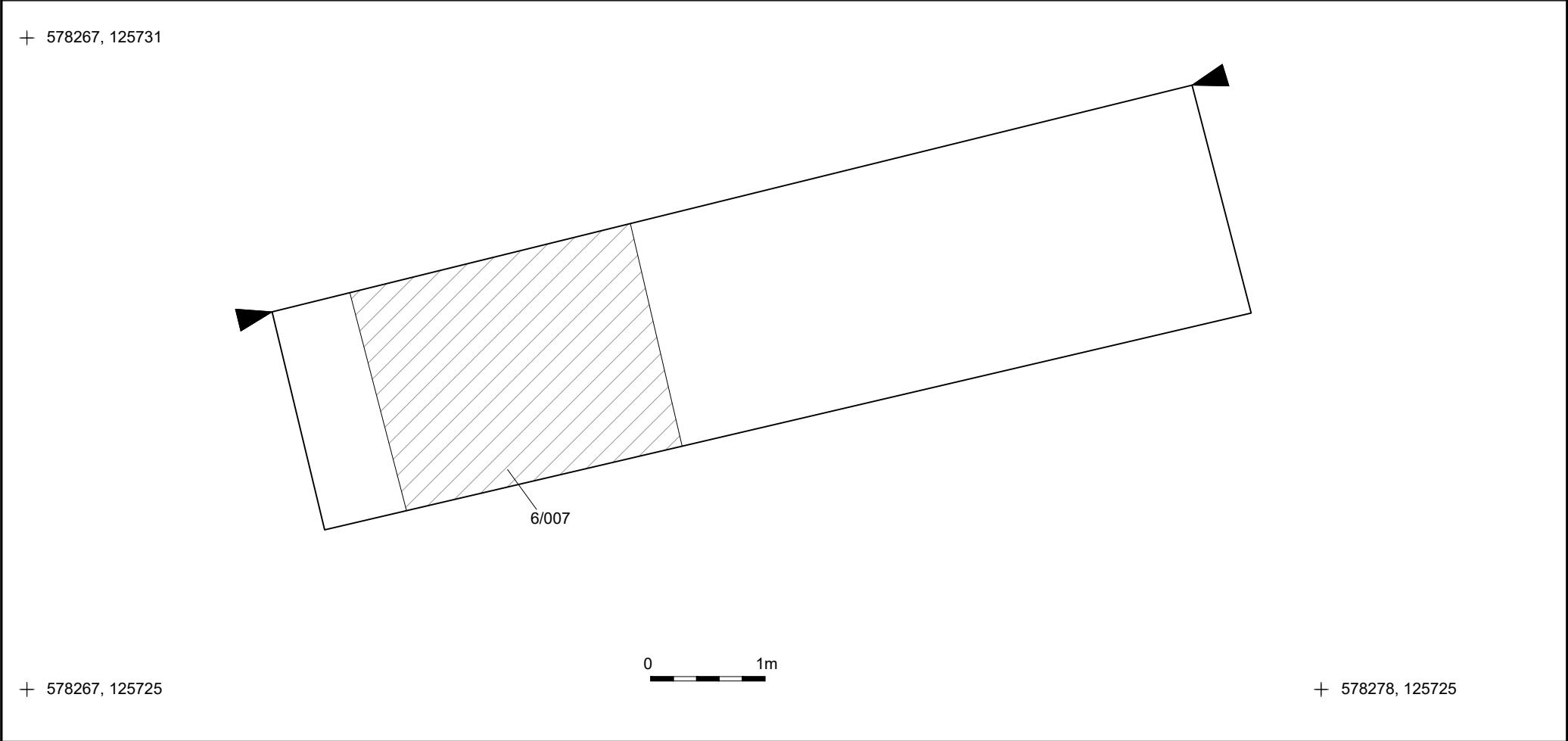
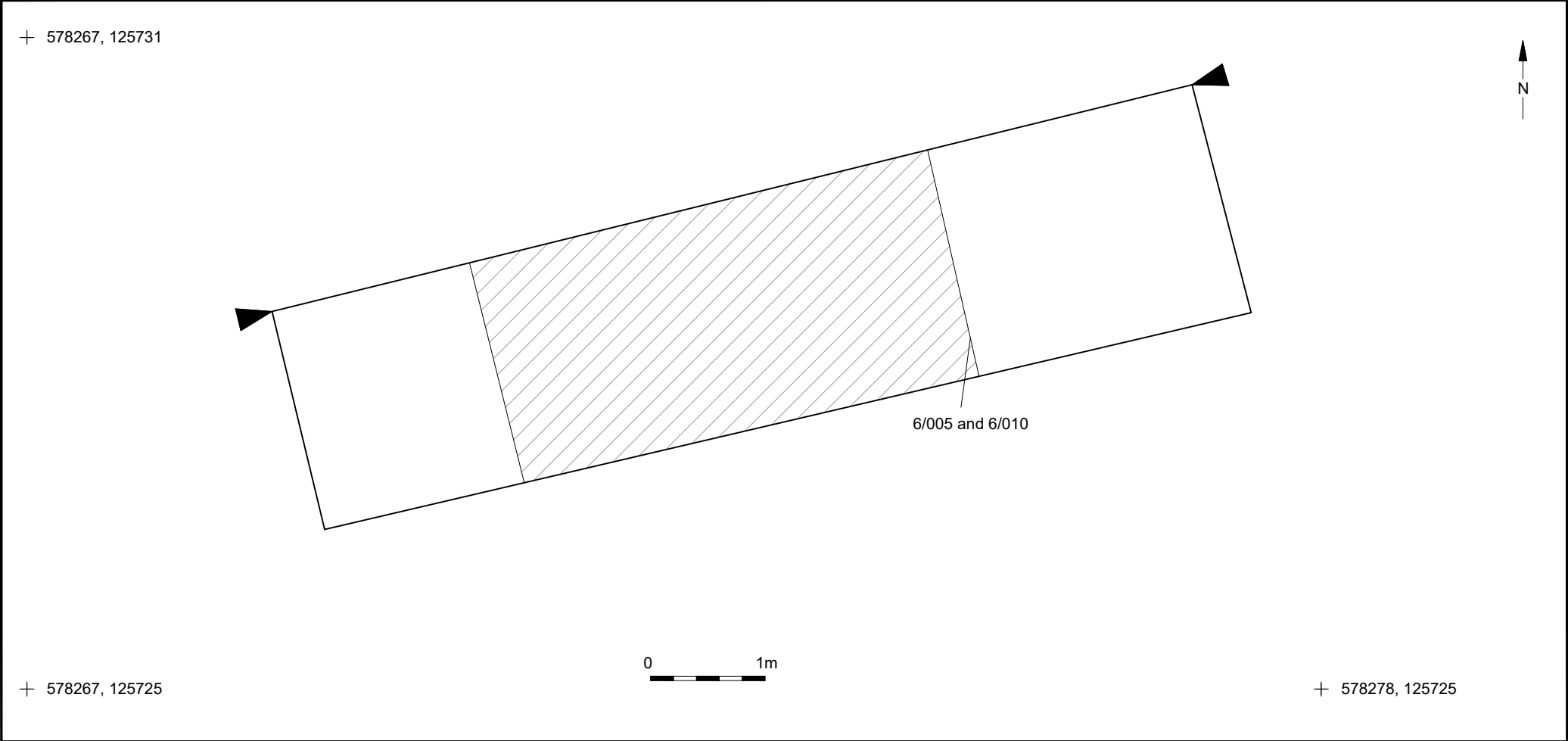
Trench 4 looking south





5/004 and 5/014 looking north





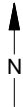




Trench 6 looking north-east

© Archaeology South-East		An Archeological Evaluation at Bodium Castle	Fig.11
Project Ref: 240201	November 2024	Selected Trench 6 Photograph	
Report Ref: 2024249	Drawn by: AC		

+ 578281, 125742

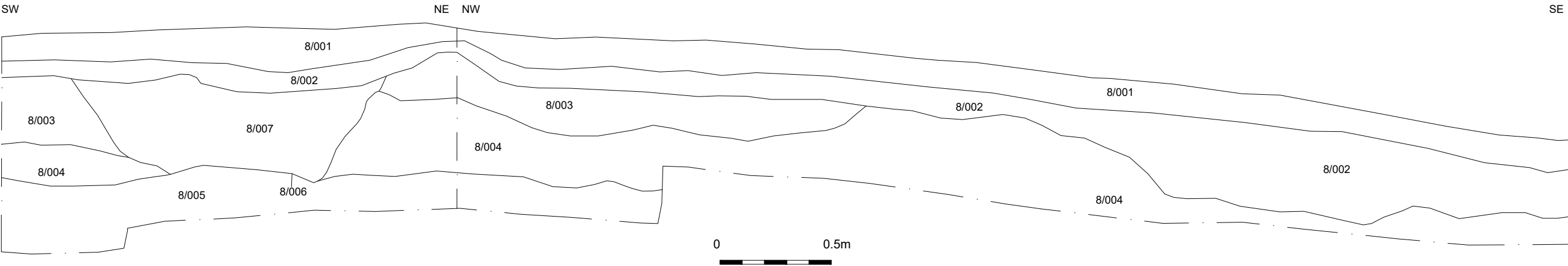


Trench 8



+ 578281, 125728

+ 578317, 125728









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