

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Luckley Field, Wye, Kent**

NGR: 060510 146440

**ASE Project No: 5902
Site Code: LFW13**

**ASE Report No: 2013030
OASIS ID: archaeol6-143239**

**By Giles Dawkes BA MIFA
With contributions by Luke Barber, Anna Doherty,
Karine Le Hégarat and Elke Raeman**

February 2013

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Luckley Field, Wye, Kent**

NGR: 060510 146440

**ASE Project No: 5902
Site Code: LFW13**

**ASE Report No: 2013030
OASIS ID: archaeol6-143239**

**By Giles Dawkes BA MIFA
With contributions by Luke Barber, Anna Doherty,
Karine Le Hégarat and Elke Raeman**

February 2013

**Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR**

**Tel: 01273 426830
Fax: 01273 420866
Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk**

Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development at Luckley Field, Wye, Kent.

The evaluation identified a series of ditches, and occasional pits, exclusively in the south-western half of the site. Although some datable finds were recovered, these were limited to no more than a single piece from any feature, and the dating of all the features is at best tentative.

The ditches were all noticeably similar and are likely to have been agricultural, possibly stock enclosures or paddocks, laid-out on the well-draining loam soils to the immediate south to the historic medieval core of Wye village.

Two somewhat enigmatic features in Trench 6 (a possible tree throw and ditch) may represent an earlier phase of activity, possibly of early prehistoric date.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 Finds**
- 6.0 Environmental Sample**
- 7.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

Bibliography
Acknowledgements

HER Summary Sheet
OASIS Form

TABLES

Table 1:	Archive quantification
Table 2:	Trench 1 recorded contexts
Table 3:	Trench 2 recorded contexts
Table 4:	Trench 3 recorded contexts
Table 5:	Trench 4 recorded contexts
Table 6:	Trench 5 recorded contexts
Table 7:	Trench 6 recorded contexts
Table 8:	Trench 7 recorded contexts
Table 9:	Trench 8 recorded contexts
Table 10:	Trench 9 recorded contexts
Table 11:	Trench 10 recorded contexts
Table 12:	Trench 11 recorded contexts
Table 13:	Trench 12 recorded contexts
Table 14:	Finds quantification
Table 15:	Sample Quantification

FIGURES

Figure 1:	Site location
Figure 2:	Trench location
Figure 3:	Trench 1, Plan and section
Figure 4:	Trench 3, Plan and section
Figure 5:	Trench 6, Plan, section and photograph
Figure 6:	Trench 9, Plan and section
Figure 7:	Trench 10, Plan, section and photograph
Figure 8:	Trench 11, Plan and section
Figure 9:	Trench 12, Plan and sections

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological and geoarchaeological evaluation in advance of a housing development at Luckley Field, Wye, Kent. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR 060510 146440) and its location is shown in Figure 1.

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site is level and the underlying geology is River Terrace Gravels.
- 1.2.2 The site is an open field bounded by residential buildings to the north and open fields elsewhere.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 In advance of the proposals to develop this site for residential use, the Archaeological Officer for Ashford Borough Council recommended that the site should be subject to a programme of archaeological work in order to clarify the historical and archaeological elements within the site.
- 1.3.2 An Archaeological Desk-Based assessment (DBA) of the site was undertaken by CgMs (2010), and subsequent *Specification for Archaeological Evaluation* was produced by Heritage Conservation Group Kent County Council (HCGKCC 2012). Further to this document, a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) for archaeological evaluation was produced by Archaeology South-East (2013), which was approved by CgMs and HCGKCC.
- 1.3.3 All work was carried out in accordance with the *Specification* and the WSI, as well as with the *Standards and Guidance: Archaeological Excavations* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2012), and other codes of practise and relevant documents of the IfA.

1.4 Research Aims and Objectives

- 1.4.1 The aims of the evaluation as outlined in the WSI (ASE 2013) were as follows:
- Whether archaeological remains are present on the site and if so assess the date, survival and condition of said remains
 - The character date and quality of ancient remains and deposits
 - How they might be affected by the development of the site
 - What options should be considered for mitigation
 - To make public the results of the archaeological evaluation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

- 1.4.2 Specifically, the research agenda of the project is to determine the presence of any Roman remains, be it field/enclosure ditches or settlement remains which, if present, will be considered in consultation with Kent County Council's forthcoming South East Research Framework.

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out between 15th and 22nd January 2013 and has been prepared in accordance with the *Specification* (HCGKCC 2012) and the WSI (ASE 2013). The results of the geoarchaeological evaluation will be released in an updated version of this report when specialist samples (pollen and microfossils) have been returned from assessment. The work was carried out by Giles Dawkes (Senior Archaeologist), Dr Matt Pope (Senior Geoarchaeologist) and managed by Andy Leonard (fieldwork) and Jim Stevenson (post-excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 This summary of the archaeological background is taken from the DBA (CgMs 2010).
- 2.1.2 The underlying geology is shown by the British Geological Survey as River Terrace Gravels. The River Gravels are shown underlain by Thanet Beds which comprise fine-grained grey and brown sands.

2.2 Prehistoric

- 2.2.1 A Neolithic polished flint axe was found in 1966 at a garden at Oxenturn Lane c. 300m east of the study site (HER Ref. MKE3878 at TR 0546 4629).
- 2.2.2 Archaeological investigations on land off Bridge Street c. 300m northwest of the site recorded a ditch containing Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery (HER Ref. MKE15335 at TR 049 468). In addition, excavations at Taylor's Garage on Bridge Street recovered a small assemblage of Bronze Age pottery (HER Ref. MKE42943 at TR 05290 46670).

2.3 Roman

- 2.3.1 A Roman building was excavated in 1972 after some tiles and pottery sherds were found c.24m west of the River Stour. The HER reference (HER Ref. MKE3912 at TR 0477 4648) places the site of the excavation to the east of the river, c.200m southwest. However, it is known that the site lies in the area marked on the 2010 Ordnance Survey at Grid Reference TR 0485 4629.
- 2.3.2 The HER reference which relates to the Roman building to the west of the River Stour (HER Ref. MKE3912 at TR 0477 4648) also mentions the discovery of Roman occupation debris during excavations for drainage ditches at Grid Reference TR 0494 4610 on the east side of the River Stour. The occupation debris found during the excavations for drainage ditches included pottery sherds, animal bone other domestic material and a number of coins dated to the 4th century AD.
- 2.3.3 During excavations at a house on Church Field Way, c.400m north of the site, a quantity of Roman pottery, some iron objects and 2 Roman coins were found in 1952 (HER Ref. MKE3876 at TR 0514 4695). In addition, a large quantity of Roman brick and tile was recovered during the cutting of a service trench along the front of 70-72 Church Fields Way (HER Ref. MKE18169 at TR 0514 4687).
- 2.3.4 Although, there is extensive evidence for Roman occupation to the west, south and southwest, there is little to suggest that settlement remains extended towards the site. Therefore, although a low potential is identified for Roman building remains, a moderate potential is identified for evidence of Roman activity in the form of field and enclosure ditches.

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

- 2.4.1 An early medieval grave was found during repair work on the Wye to Dover road. The inhumation burial contained a male skeleton, a shield umbo, a sword, a glass drinking cup and a number of smaller objects (HER Ref. MKE3865 at TR 05 46).

2.5 Post-medieval and Modern

- 2.5.1 According to cartographic evidence the site has been open fields during the post-medieval and modern periods.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Archaeological Methodology

- 3.1.1 Twelve trenches measuring 20m x 1.8m were excavated as laid out in Figure 2.
- 3.1.2 The trenches were located using a Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS).
- 3.1.3 The trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision by a JCB machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.
- 3.1.4 The excavation was taken down in small spits to the top of the underlying geology to identify archaeological features. The sections of the trenches were cleaned to observe and record stratigraphy.
- 3.1.5 All removed spoil was scanned for the presence of stray, unstratified artefacts.
- 3.1.6 All encountered deposits, features and finds were recorded and sampled according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the *Specification* (HCGKCC 2012) using pro-forma ASE recording sheets.
- 3.1.7 All features were investigated by sondage, by hand and planned using digital survey equipment.
- 3.1.8 A photographic record of the work was kept and forms part of the site archive which is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices at Portslade and will be offered to a suitable local museum or archive repository at the end of the project.

3.2 Geoarchaeological Methodology

- 3.2.1 Four test pits were excavated to establish the depth and sequence of the River Terrace gravels and to identify any Palaeolithic artefacts which may have been present. The test pits were located within Trenches 2, 5, 6 and 7. The excavation of the test pits was directed on site by Dr Matt Pope.

Number of Contexts	32
No. of files/paper record	40
Plan and sections sheets	2
Bulk Samples	2
Photographs	16
Bulk finds	7
Registered finds	-
Environmental flots/residue	2

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Stratigraphic sequence

4.1.1 The evaluation trench generally exhibited a simple stratigraphic sequence of natural clay or gravel overlain by subsoil, overlain by topsoil. Possible archaeological features were revealed in seven of the trenches. In all cases, archaeological features were cut into the natural substrate and sealed by the subsoil.

4.2 Trench 1

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.34m
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.45m
1/003	Fill	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
1/004	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	1.42m	0.46m
1/005	Fill	Ditch primary fill	Tr.	1.42m	0.3m
1/006	Fill	Ditch secondary fill	Tr.	1.42m	0.16m
1/007	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	0.9m	0.53m
1/008	Fill	Ditch fill	Tr.	0.9m	0.53m
1/009	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	1.9m	0.14m
1/010	Fill	Ditch fill	Tr.	1.9m	0.14m
1/011	Cut	Posthole	0.69m	-	0.42m
1/012	Fill	Posthole fill	0.69m	-	0.42m
1/013	Cut	Pit	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m
1/014	Fill	Pit primary fill	Tr.	Tr.	0.06m
1/015	Fill	Pit secondary fill	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m

Table 2: Trench 1 recorded contexts

The natural orange brown gravel clay, [1/003], was encountered at c. 35.98m OD (Fig 3).

Five negative features were identified: three shallow ditches cut into the natural and a pit and a posthole cutting the westernmost ditch.

The ditches, [1/004], [1/007] and [1/009] were filled with brown silt clays, [1/005], [1/006], [1/008] and [1/010] containing no finds. The ditches are likely to have been field boundary divisions with [1/007] and [1/004] appearing to be a paired boundary probably containing a central hedge.

Posthole [1/011] and pit [1/013] were both also filled with brown clays [1/012], [1/014] and [1/015]. Neither feature contained any datable material.

The features were sealed by the subsoil.

4.3 Trench 2

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.3m
2/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.5m

2/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
-------	-------	---------	-----	-----	---

Table 3: Trench 2 recorded contexts

The orange brown natural clay, [2/003], was encountered at c. 36.42m OD.

No archaeological features were identified in the trench.

4.3 Trench 3

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.3m
3/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.5m
3/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
3/004	Fill	Ditch fill	Tr.		0.18m
3/005	Cut	Ditch	Tr.		0.18m

Table 4: Trench 3 recorded contexts

The orange brown natural clay [3/003] was encountered at c. 35.88m OD (Fig 4).

Cut into the natural was gully [3/004] filled by brown silt clay [3/003] with no finds.

The feature was sealed by the subsoil.

4.4 Trench 4

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
4/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
4/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 5: Trench 4 recorded contexts

The natural brown clay, [4/003], was encountered at c. 36.38m OD.

No archaeological features were identified in the trench.

4.5 Trench 5

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.23m
5/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.33m
5/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 6: Trench 5 recorded contexts

The natural brown clay [5/003] was encountered at c. 36.72m OD.

No archaeological features were identified in the trench.

4.6 Trench 6

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.3m
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.3m
6/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
6/004	Fill	Ditch fill		1m	0.2m
6/005	Cut	Ditch		1m	0.2m
6/006	Fill	?Tree throw fill	1.4m	Tr.	0.2m
6/007	Cut	?Tree throw	1.4m	Tr.	0.2m

Table 7: Trench 6 recorded contexts

The natural brown clay, [6/003], was encountered at c. 36.01m OD (Fig 5).

Cut into the natural was possible tree throw [6/007] and ditch [6/005]. Both features were filled with a yellow brown clay sand, [6/006] and [6/005] respectively, with the former containing a single broken flint blade of possible Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. Only a small part of these features was exposed, and their dating, based on a single stuck flint, is clearly highly tentative. Nevertheless, the fills were different to the features seen elsewhere and these potentially represent an earlier phase of activity.

The features were sealed by the subsoil.

4.7 Trench 7

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m
7/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.3m
7/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 8: Trench 7 recorded contexts

The natural brown clay [7/003] was encountered at c. 35.74m OD.

No archaeological features were identified in the trench.

4.8 Trench 8

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.25m
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.46m
8/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 9: Trench 8 recorded contexts

The natural brown clay [8/003] was encountered at c. 36.65m OD.

No archaeological features were identified in the trench.

4.9 Trench 9

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m
9/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
9/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
9/004	Fill	Ditch fill	Tr.	0.82m	0.18m
9/005	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	0.82m	0.18m

Table 10: Trench 9 recorded contexts

The natural brown clay [9/003] was encountered at c. 36.24m OD (Fig 6).

East-west ditch [9/005] was filled with brown silt clay [9/004] with a single find of a 13th century abraded pottery sherd.

The feature was sealed by the subsoil.

4.10 Trench 10

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.18m
10/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
10/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
10/004	Fill	Ditch fill	Tr.	0.54m	0.16m
10/005	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	0.54m	0.16m

Table 11: Trench 10 recorded contexts

The natural brown clay [10/003] was encountered at c. 35.12m OD (Fig 7).

East-west ditch [10/005] was filled by brown silt [10/004] containing a small amount of fire-cracked flint.

The feature was sealed by the subsoil.

4.11 Trench 11

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.22m
11/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.3m
11/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
11/004	Fill	Ditch fill	Tr.	0.55m	0.14m
11/005	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	0.55m	0.14m

Table 12: Trench 11 recorded contexts

The natural brown clay [11/003] was encountered at c. 35.04m OD (Fig 8).

East-west ditch [11/005] had concave sides and base and was filled by orange brown silt clay [11/004] with no finds.

The features were sealed by the subsoil.

4.12 Trench 12

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.2m
12/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.3m
12/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
12/004	Fill	Ditch fill	Tr.	0.8m	0.3m
12/005	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	0.8m	0.3m
12/006	Fill	Pit fill	1m	-	0.31m
12/007	Cut	Pit	1m	-	0.31m
12/008	Fill	Ditch fill	Tr.	1.24m	0.42m
12/009	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	1.24m	0.42m
12/010	Fill	Ditch fill	Tr.	1.4m	0.2m
12/011	Cut	Ditch	Tr.	1.4m	0.2m

Table 13: Trench 12 recorded contexts

The natural brown clay [12/003] was encountered at c. 36.40m OD (Fig 9).

Cut into the natural were three parallel ditches and a sub-circular pit.

The ditches [12/005], [12/009] and [12/011] all had concave sides, flat and bases and were filled with light brown clay fills [12/004], [12/008] and [12/010]. The only finds were a single abraded sherd of 13th century pottery from fill [12/008].

Pit [12/009] had concave sides and base and was filled by brown clay [12/006] containing no finds.

The features were sealed by the subsoil.

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Overview

A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the excavations. An overview can be found in Table 14. Finds were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were counted, weighed and bagged by material and by context.

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	F. Clay	Wt (g)
2/002			2	196						
6/001	7	220								
6/004					2	6				
6/006					1	<2				
8/002			1	554					1	40
9/004	1	<2								
10/004							1	6		
Total	8	222	3	750	3	6	1	6	1	40

Table 14: Finds quantification (hand collected finds)

5.2 The Prehistoric Pottery by Anna Doherty

- 5.2.1 A tiny rimsherd (less than 2g in weight) was recovered from context [9/004]. This is in a coarse and ill-sorted flint-tempered fabric with common flint inclusions, ranging from 0.3-3mm in size. The rim appears to be from a simple, slightly closed form with relatively thin walls. It is likely of later Bronze Age date; however it should be noted similar combinations of fabric and rim shape might be encountered in other prehistoric periods, including the Early Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age and earlier Iron Age. However, sherds collected from the environmental samples are medieval in date (Barber, below).

5.3 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

- 5.3.1 A small amount of post-Roman pottery was collected from the site during the evaluation. By far the earliest consists of a notably abraded stabbed strap handle from a frying pan or pipkin in a buff fine/medium sand tempered ware from [6/001]. The piece is likely to be from the Potter's Corner, Ashford industry and date to between the later 13th to mid-14th century. The same deposit produced a large (60g) fresh bodysherd from a glazed red earthenware bowl of late 18th- or 19th- century date.
- 5.3.2 Several sherds were subsequently recovered from the residues of two environmental samples. Context [9/004] produced two tiny (2g) heavily abraded oxidised sherds of sandy shelly ware. Small abraded sherds of similar date were found in the residue from context [12/008]. These are almost certainly products of the Potter's Corner industry, but, falling between 1200 and 1275, of earlier date than the sherd from [6/001].

- 5.3.3 The residue from [12/008] produced two further heavily abraded scraps of 13th- century sandy shelly Potter's Corner products (4g) together with a chip of possible burnt clay (<1g).

5.4 The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

- 5.4.1 Tile was recovered from three contexts at the site. By far the earliest was recovered from [8/002]. This context produced a single large fragment (560g) from a 30mm thick flat tile of Roman date tempered with common medium sand and iron oxide inclusions to 2mm. The base is notably sanded with medium sand and common flint grits to 2mm. The piece is slightly abraded, but not excessively so.
- 5.4.2 Context [2/002] produced three peg tile fragments. All are in a quite well formed and medium fired fabric (11mm thick) tempered with sparse fine sand (giving a powdery texture) and sparse calcareous inclusions to 1mm. A 15th- to 16th- century date is thought most likely, though a date in the 17th century cannot be ruled out. All three pieces are quite abraded suggesting they have been reworked to some extent.
- 5.4.3. Context [6/001] produced two very heavily abraded medium fired fragments tempered with sparse fine sand, with some clay pellets/swirls. Neither have their full thicknesses surviving but they are most likely to come from peg tiles of a general early post-medieval date.

5.5 The Flintwork by Karine le Hégarat

- 5.5.1 Three pieces of struck flint weighing 6g have been recovered from contexts [6/004] and [6/006]. Dark grey fine grained flint has been used to manufacture the artefacts. The artefacts were in a fair state of preservation, although one piece was broken and one piece was partly burnt. Context [6/004] produced two flakes, one of which exhibits flake scars on the dorsal face. Context [6/006] produced a thin blade-like flake which displays platform preparation and parallel ridges on the dorsal face. None of the pieces are diagnostic, but they could be of Mesolithic or early Neolithic date.

5.6 The Fired Clay by Elke Raemen

- 5.6.1 A single fired clay fragment was recovered from [8/002]. The piece consists of a corner fragment (c. 45° angle), possibly from a slab. However, too little survives to establish the form. The fabric is medium fired and moderate medium sand-tempered with occasional voids/organic temper.

6.0 The Environmental Samples by Karine Le Hégarat

- 6.1 Two ditch fill contexts ((9/004), ditch slot [9/005] sample <1> and (12/008), ditch slot [12/009] sample <2>) were sampled during evaluation work. The samples were taken for the recovery of environmental remains such as charcoal, charred macrobotanical remains, fauna and mollusca, to assist finds recovery to determine the soil pH. A third sample (<3>) was extracted from a geoarchaeological test pit. Once sub-samples were taken from samples <1 and 2> for pH testing and from sample <3> for pollen and microfossils analysis, samples were processed in a flotation tank, and the residues and flots were retained on 500 and 250µm meshes. The flots from samples <1 and 2> were air dried, and the flot from sample <3> was retained wet to limit deterioration of the organic remains. The residues were passed through graded sieves (8, 4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Table 15). Flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and their contents recorded (Table 15).
- 6.2 Samples <1 and 2> produced small flots (<2mm and 4ml respectively) which consisted almost entirely of modern fine rootlets. Charred plant remains were absent from these flots. Nonetheless, very small quantities of charred wood fragments and charred macroplant remains were present in the residues. The assemblage of charcoal recorded in samples <1> and <2> comprised mainly small pieces <4mm. The residue from sample <2> contained three cereal grains (*Cerealia*); however these were too poorly preserved to be identified to genus level. Both these samples produced a small amount of pottery (see Barber). The pH testing confirmed the soils from both samples <1> and <2> were only slightly acid returning values of 6 and 6.5 respectively.
- 6.3 The residue and flot from sample <3> contained no charred plant remains. The large flot consisted of an amalgam of broken down plant matter with a few small unidentified fragments of stems, roots or rhizomes.
- 6.4 Sampling has confirmed the presence of a low concentration of charred botanicals and a small amount of pottery. The assemblage of charred botanicals was scarce and poorly preserved and none of the charcoal or charred macrobotanicals is considered suitable for dating or for further analysis. The bulk environmental samples <1 and 2> taken during the evaluation work have also confirmed the presence of modern uncharred roots that provide evidence for modern disturbances and potential contamination within the deposits.

Table 15: Sample Quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Flot							Residue						
				Flot types (D = Dry; W = Wet)	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned ml	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds, fruits, roots, stems, rhizomes, leaves uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	9/004	Ditch	40	D	<2	40	40	98	2	-			*	<2			Pottery */2g
2	12/008	Ditch	40	D	4	60	60	98	2	-	**	<2	**	<2	*	<2	Pottery */6g
3	GTP2.3	Ditch	40	W	-	350	100	99	1	small unid. fragments of stems, roots, rhizomes							Empty

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The evaluation identified a series of ditches, and occasional pits, exclusively in the south-western half of the site. The features were cut into the natural substrate and occurred between 35.04mAOD and 36.65m AOD. They were all sealed by the subsoil and topsoil which ranged from 0.50m to 0.79m in combined depth.
- 7.2 The reasons why Trenches 2, 4, 5, 7 and 8 were blank is uncertain as the alignments some of the ditches found in the south-west appeared likely to continue to the north-east (for instance, northern elements of the ditches in Trench 12 could potentially have been seen in Trench 8).
- 7.3 Although some datable finds were recovered, these were limited to no more than a single piece from any feature, and the dating of all the features is at best tentative.
- 7.4 The ditches were all noticeably similar: they were filled by similar silt clays; they were all relatively small and they were aligned grid-like, north–south and east–west. This suggests that they were likely to have been contemporary and the presence of two 13th century medieval pottery sherds from ditches [9/005] and [12/009] is the best indication of date. These ditches are likely to have been agricultural, possibly stock enclosures or paddocks, laid-out on the well-draining loam soils to the immediate south to the historic medieval core of Wye village.
- 7.5 The somewhat enigmatic features in Trench 6 (possible tree throw [6/007] and ditch [6/005]) may represent an earlier phase of activity, possibly prehistoric, but this is again highly tentative.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASE 2013 Luckley Field, Wye, Kent, Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological evaluation

CgMs 2010 *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment, Land at Luckley Field, Wye, Kent*, unpublished report

English Heritage 2002. *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*. English Heritage

English Heritage 2008. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment, Project Planning Notes 3: Archaeological Excavation*

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

Heritage Conservation Group Kent County Council 2012, *Specification for Archaeological Evaluation of Luckley Field, Wye, Kent*, unpublished report

IfA 2012: *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*.
http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/nodefiles/ifa_standards_field_eval.pdf

Museums and Galleries Commission, 1994 *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990 *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeology South-East would like to thank Sally Dicks of CgMs for commissioning the work and Wendy Rogers of KCC for her assistance throughout the project.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	LFW 13					
Identification Name and Address	Luckley Field, Wye					
County, District &/or Borough	Kent					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 0507 4643					
Geology	River Terrace Gravels					
Arch. South-East Project Number	5902					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green✓ Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. Jan13	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Giles Dawkes					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso. ✓	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED ✓	PM	Other Modern		
<p>Summary Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development at Luckley Field, Wye, Kent.</p> <p>The evaluation identified a series of ditches, and occasional pits, exclusively in the south-western half of the site. Although some datable finds were recovered, these were limited to no more than a single piece from any feature, and the dating of all the features is at best tentative.</p> <p>The ditches were all noticeably similar and are likely to have been agricultural, possibly stock enclosures or paddocks, laid-out on the well-draining loam soils to the immediate south to the historic medieval core of Wye village.</p> <p>Two somewhat enigmatic features in Trench 6 (a possible tree throw and ditch) may represent an earlier phase of activity, possibly of early prehistoric date.</p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-143239

Project details

Project name	Luckley Fields, Wye
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development at Luckley Field, Wye, Kent. The evaluation identified a series of ditches, and occasional pits, exclusively in the south-western half of the site. Although some datable finds were recovered, these were limited to no more than a single piece from any feature, and the dating of all the features is at best tentative. The ditches were all noticeably similar and are likely to have been agricultural, possibly stock enclosures or paddocks, laid-out on the well-draining loam soils to the immediate south to the historic medieval core of Wye village. Two somewhat enigmatic features in Trench 6 (a possible tree throw and ditch) may represent an earlier phase of activity, possibly of early prehistoric date.
Project dates	Start: 15-01-2013 End: 22-01-2013
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LFW13 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	5902 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Mesolithic
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	KENT ASHFORD WYE WITH HINXHILL Luckley Fields, Wye
Postcode	TN25 5AZ
Study area	0.50 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 610507 154643 50 0 50 54 56 N 000 17 28 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 35.00m Max: 36.00m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Kent County Council
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project	Andy Leonard

director/manager

Project supervisor Giles Dawkes

Type of sponsor/funding body private client

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Local Museum

Physical Contents "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient Local Museum

Digital Contents "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Stratigraphic", "Survey", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Media available "Database", "GIS", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient Local Museum

Paper Contents "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Stratigraphic"

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

Project bibliography
 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological Evaluation Report Luckley Field, Wye, Kent

Author(s)/Editor(s) Giles Dawkes

Other bibliographic details 2013030

Date 2013

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

Place of issue or publication Portslade

Description Grey report

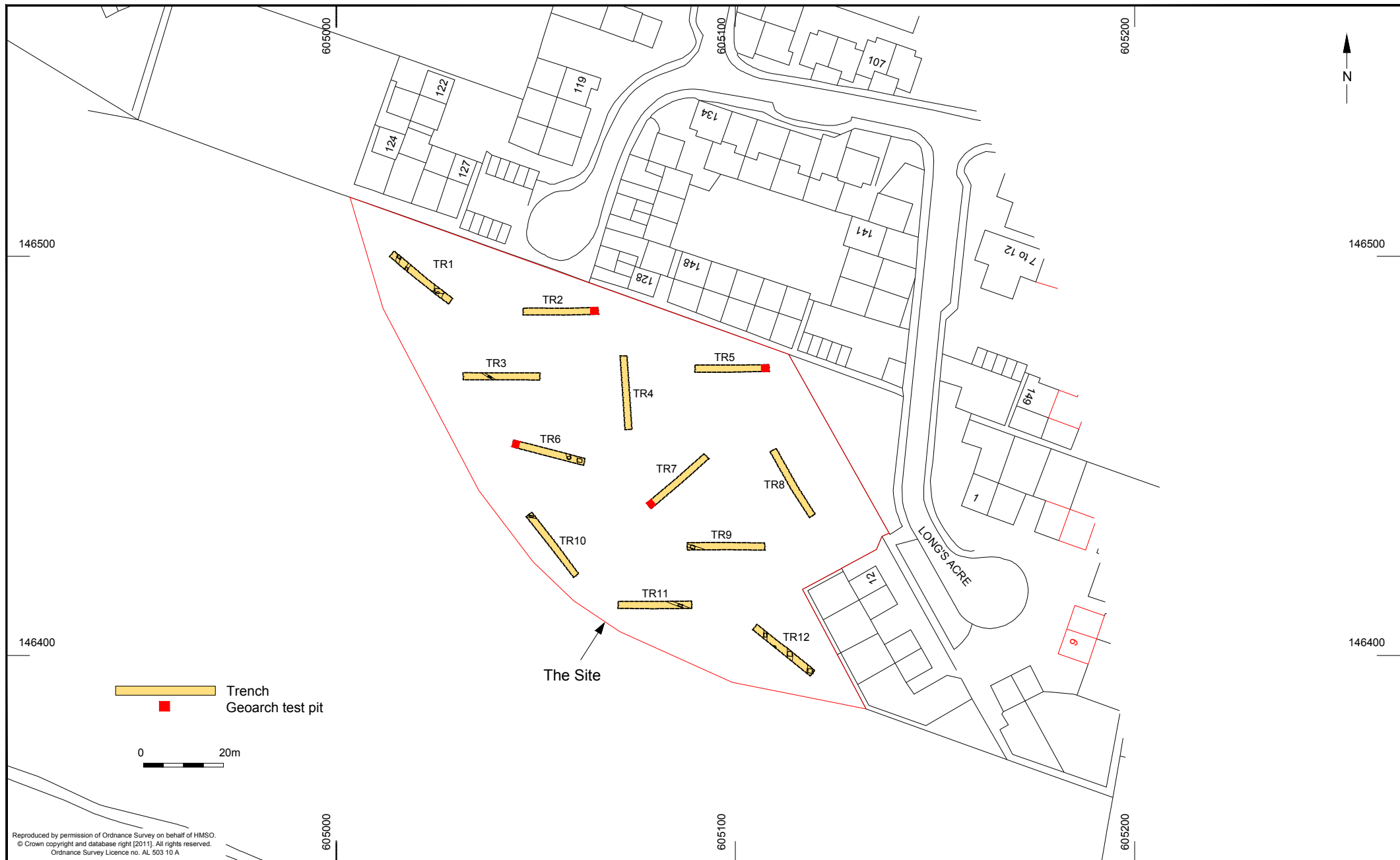
Entered by Giles Dawkes (gilesdawkes@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 8 February 2013



© Archaeology South-East		Luckley Field, Wye, Kent	
Project Ref: 5902	Jan 2013	Site location	
Report Ref: 2013030	Drawn by: AR		

Fig. 1



Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO.
© Crown copyright and database right [2011]. All rights reserved.
Ordnance Survey Licence no. AL 503 10 A

© Archaeology South-East

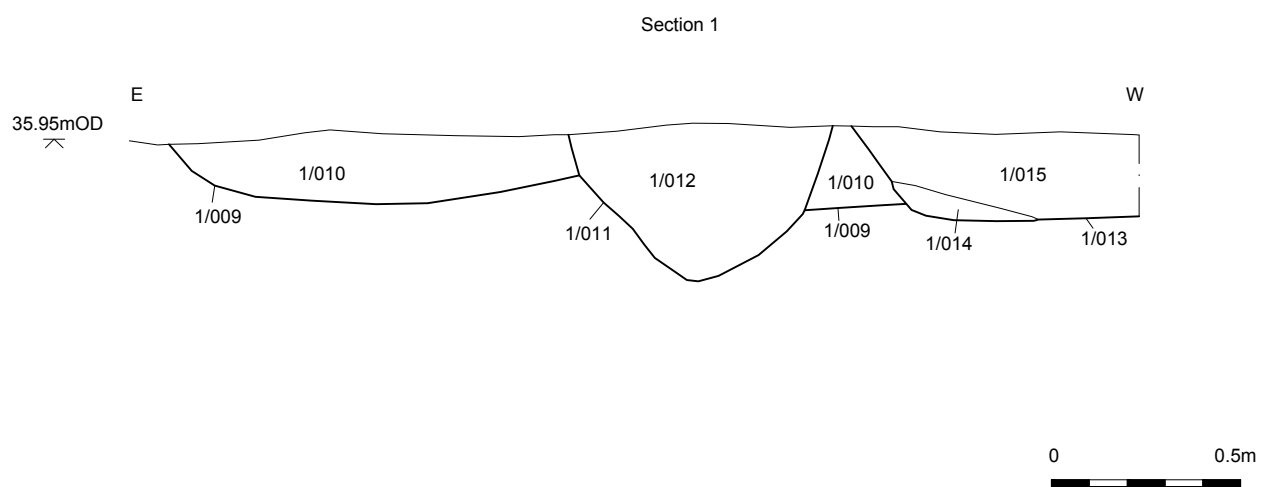
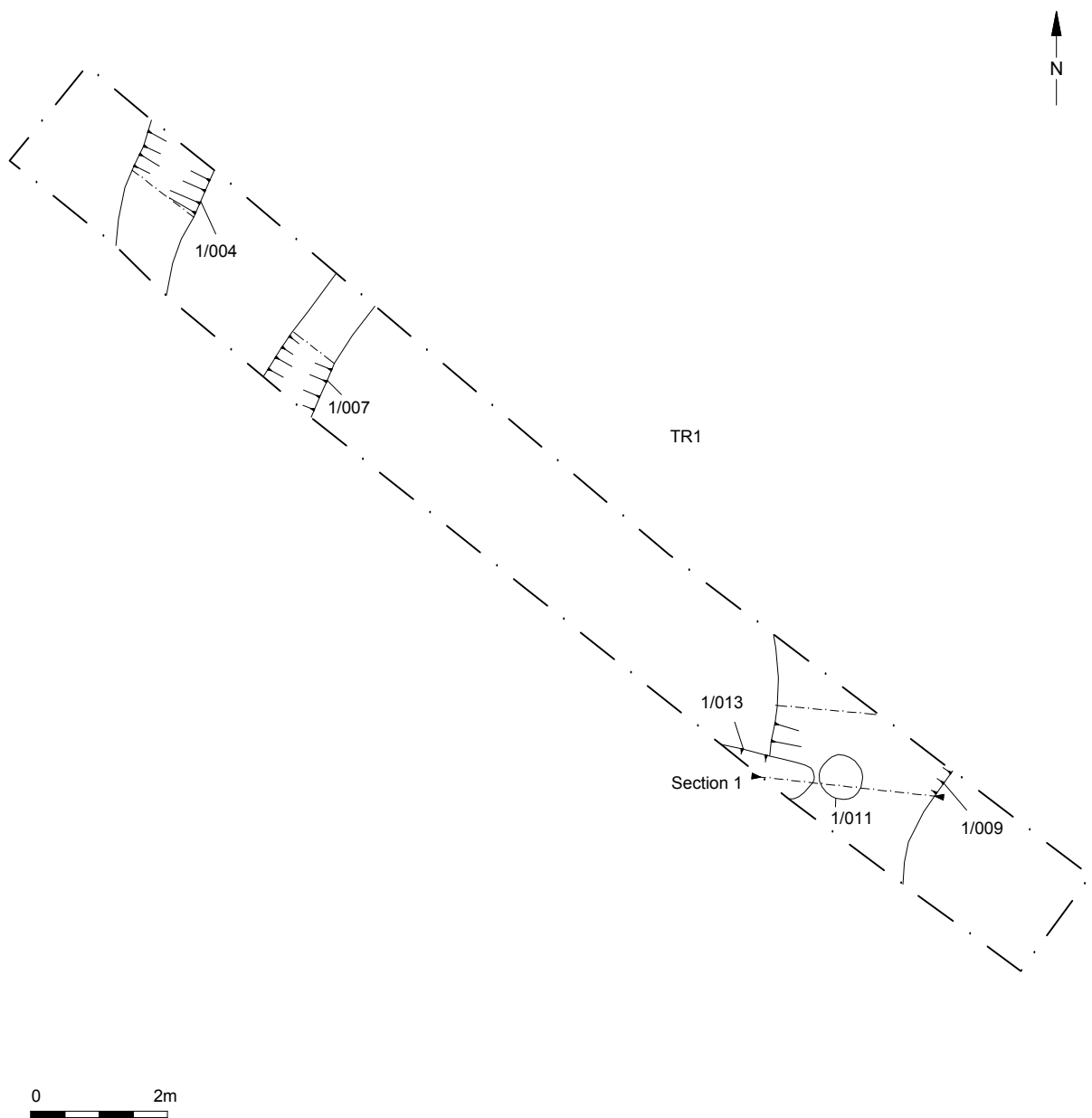
Project Ref: 5902
Report Ref: 2013030

Jan 2013
Drawn by: AR

Luckley Field, Wye, Kent

Trench location

Fig. 2



© Archaeology South-East		Luckley Field, Wye, Kent	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 5902	Jan 2013	Trench 1, Plan and section.	
Report Ref: 2013030	Drawn by: AR		



TR3



0 2m

© Archaeology South-East

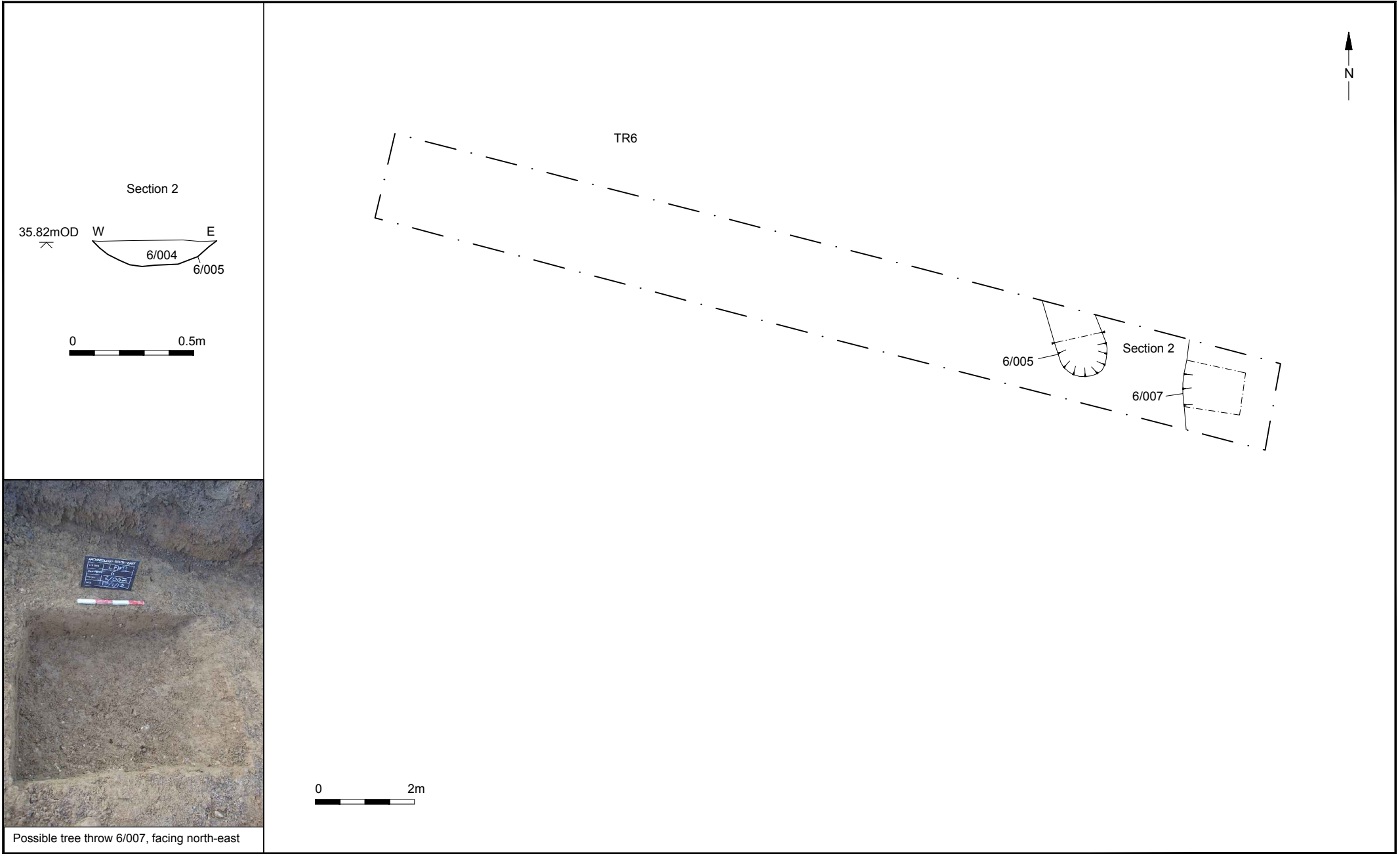
Project Ref: 5902
Report Ref: 2013030

Jan 2013
Drawn by: AR

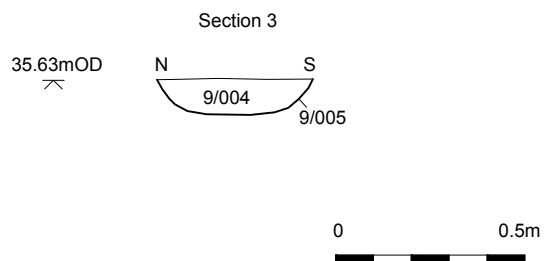
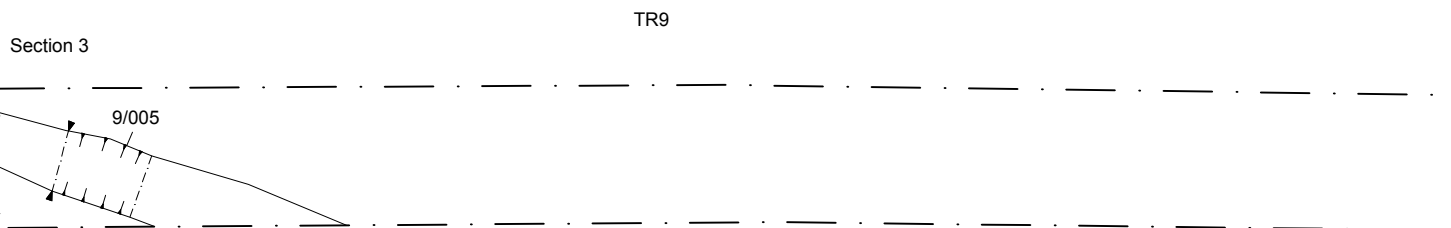
Luckley Field, Wye, Kent

Trench 3, Plan.

Fig. 4



© Archaeology South-East		Luckley Field, Wye, Kent	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 5902	Jan 2013	Trench 6, Plan, section and photograph.	
Report Ref: 2013030	Drawn by: AR		



© Archaeology South-East

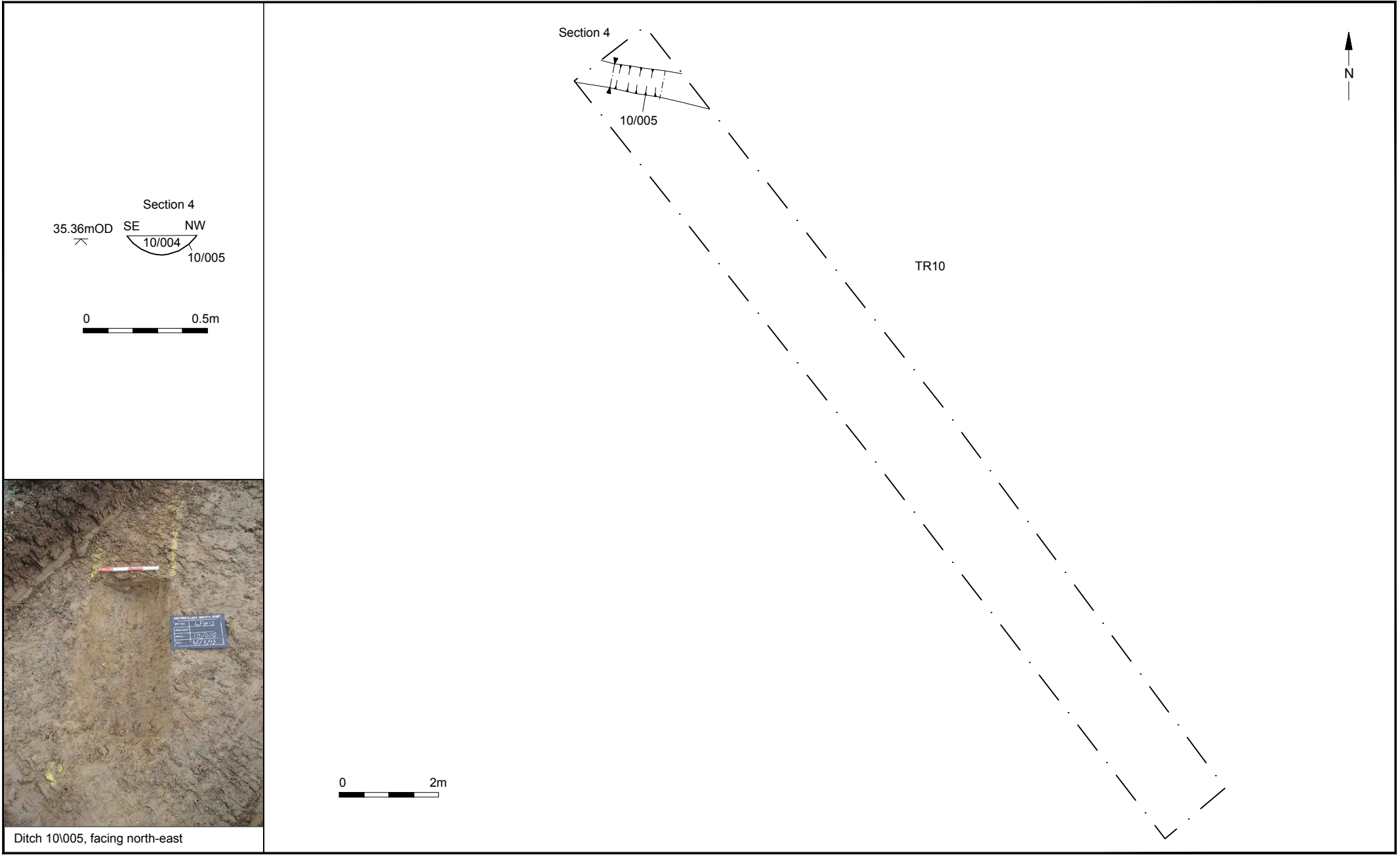
Project Ref: 5902
Report Ref: 2013030

Jan 2013
Drawn by: AR

Luckley Field, Wye, Kent

Trench 9, Plan and section.

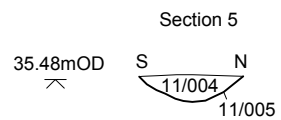
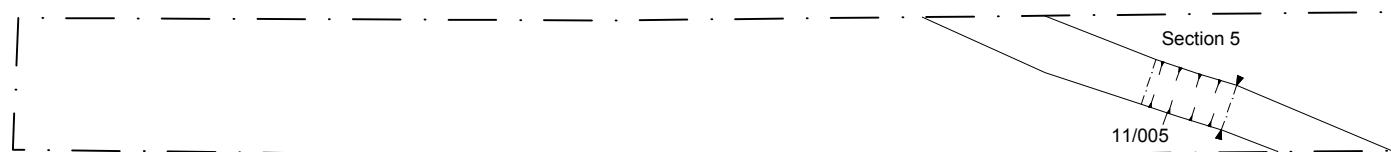
Fig. 6



© Archaeology South-East		Luckley Field, Wye, Kent	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 5902	Jan 2013	Trench 10, Plan, section and photograph.	
Report Ref: 2013030	Drawn by: AR		



TR11



© Archaeology South-East

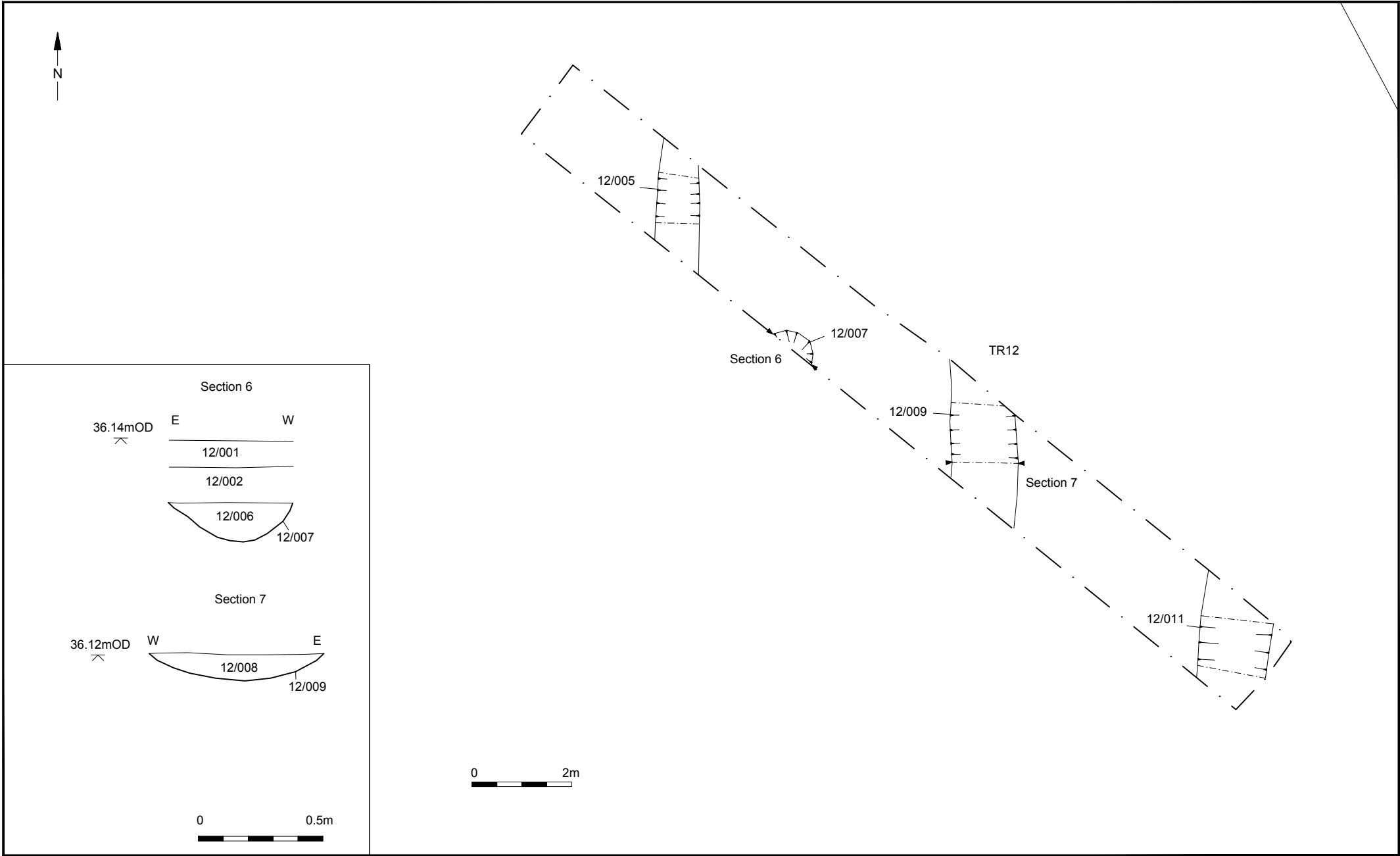
Project Ref: 5902
Report Ref: 2013030

Jan 2013
Drawn by: AR

Luckley Field, Wye, Kent

Trench 11, Plan and section.

Fig. 8



© Archaeology South-East		Luckley Field, Wye, Kent	
Project Ref: 5902	Jan 2013	Trench 12, Plan and sections	
Report Ref: 2013030	Drawn by: AR		

Fig. 9

Head Office
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1DR
Tel: +44(0)1273 426830 Fax: +44(0)1273 420866
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
Web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk



London Office
Centre for Applied Archaeology
Institute of Archaeology
University College London
31-34 Gordon Square, London, WC1 0PY
Tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778
Fax: +44(0)20 7383 2572
Web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

The contracts division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, University College London 

©Archaeology South-East