Archaeology South-East

ASE

Final Report on Archaeological Investigations at Hereson School, Broadstairs Kent

NGR 639236 166990
(TQ 39236 66990)

ASE Project No: 6161
Site Code: HRB13

ASE Report No: 2013186
Oasis id: archaeol6-155684

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with contributions by

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology, UCL was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological excavation on the site of the former Hereson School, Broadstairs, Kent. Four areas were excavated, targeted on the results of a prior evaluation of the site.

The earliest activity on the site dates to the end of the Middle/Late Bronze Age and consists of an extended, supine inhumation, radiocarbon dated to 1406-1135 cal BC. The burial appears to be non-monumental, with no associated barrow evidence and probably represents later funerary activity peripheral to the well-documented barrow cemetery at Bradstow School to the east of the site. Other prehistoric activity on the site dates to the Late Bronze Age and includes a possible field boundary ditch and two curvilinear ditches of uncertain extent and function, although they may represent partially preserved ring-ditches. A group of small pits which yielded a moderately sized assemblage of Late Bronze Age pottery appears to post-date the ditches and probably represents activity peripheral to known Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement elsewhere in the vicinity. Other activity on the site includes a late post-medieval/modern quarry pit, from which a small residual assemblage of Roman tile was recovered.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology, UCL was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological strip, map and sample on the site of the former Hereson School, Broadstairs, Kent, hereafter referred to as 'the site' (centred NGR 639236 166990; Figure 1).

1.1.2 The site is located to the south of the A255 Queens Road in Broadstairs and is bounded elsewhere by residential properties to the east and south and a deep railway line cutting to the west. The fieldwork was undertaken between 12th and 19th June 2013 under sitecode HRB13.

1.1.3 Following the granting of planning permission for the construction of 150 houses, the archaeological works took a staged approach of an initial desk-based assessment (TfTA 2008) including a geophysical survey and a subsequent archaeological evaluation (WA 2013). Based on these results, a final stage of four mitigation areas were agreed by CgMs and the archaeology advisors at Kent County Council.

1.1.4 The four mitigation areas were targeted on the evaluation trenches containing identified archaeology. These are as follows:

Mitigation area	Evaluation trench number	Archaeology in trench	Size
1	29	Bronze Age features	15m by 15m (including contingency area)
2	17	Human burial	25m by 25m
3	13	Quarry pit	10m by 10m
4	2	Undated ditch	10m by 10m

Table 1: Mitigation areas

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The British Geological Survey indicates the underlying geology is Upper Chalk (BGS Solid and Drift Edition Sheet 274, Ramsgate 1:50,000). A small area of Head Brickearth is present in the north-east (Area 1).

1.2.2 The topography of the site is dominated by a broad east-west ridge crossing the northern end of the site. The top of the ridge is located at a height of *c.* 45m OD and sloping gently down to *c.* 35m OD in the south. Area 1 was located on the north-facing slope of the ridge and Areas 2-4 on the southern. Area 1 was located in an area of open ground and Areas 2-4 on the former school sports playing fields.

1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 Broadstairs, as well as the Isle of Thanet as a whole, is particularly rich in archaeological remains of all periods, but are especially noted for prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon burials.

1.3.2 By far the most significant prehistoric site in the near vicinity is the Bronze Age barrow cemetery at Bradstow School *c.* 200m to the east (Figures 2, 3 and 8). This important site has been subject to several investigations, both antiquarian and modern. The barrow cemetery comprised at least six ring ditch monuments of varying size, including three round barrows with associated inhumations, with a further three partially exposed ring ditches of uncertain function and configuration, as well as evidence of Iron Age occupation (Hart 2008, Hart forthcoming; Moody 2008). Further afield another Bronze Age barrow cemetery was identified at Cliffside Drive, *c.* 0.5km to the south, as well as Bronze Age enclosures and Iron Age occupation (WA 2013, 2).

1.3.3 The most significant Roman occupation in the area was recorded at Upton House to the north-west, and other features included a well, quarry pits and a possible masonry building (Moody 2008, 147). Roman inhumations are also known to the west along the Western esplanade (WS 2013, 2).

1.3.4 The post-Roman archaeology of the area is dominated by the large and exceptionally rich Anglo-Saxon cemetery centred on the pre-existing barrow cemetery at Bradstow School (see Figure 8). Successive excavations at the site have found over 100 graves, including a nucleated group of warrior burials and grave goods of glass and amber beads, a green glass claw beaker and a bronze bowl containing hazelnuts and fruit (Moody 2008, 160-166; WA 2013, 2-3; Hart 2008, Hart, forthcoming).

2.0 EXCAVATION RESULTS

2.1 Overburden and truncation

2.1.1 The evaluation and subsequent excavation of the site demonstrated the existence of a subsoil or colluvial horizon across the majority of the site, which varied in depth from 0.50m in the far north of the site (Area 1; Trench 29) to 0.20m towards the south (Area 3; Trench 13). The absence of any such subsoil or colluvium in the far southeast of the site (Trenches 3, 5, 6, 7) is almost certainly the result of landscaping associated with the levelling of the site for use as playing fields and here it is probable that any potential archaeological features may have been truncated. Elsewhere, however, the presence of a subsoil horizon indicates that landscaping was not of sufficient depth to impact archaeological horizons. Indeed, the presence of modern made ground deposits in the south and central areas of the site, (Areas 2, 3 and 4; Trenches 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 12,13, 14 and 15), attests to ground-raising operations associated with the levelling of the site, rather than ground reduction.

2.2 Period 1: Middle/Late Bronze Age (c. 1,500 – 800 BC)

Area 1 (Figure 4)

2.2.1 Late Bronze Age activity was recorded in Area 1, in the form of ditches, pits and a tree throw (Figure 4). The ditches consisted of two small, shallow inter-cutting features on broadly east-west and northeast-southwest alignments, from which a moderate assemblage of Late Bronze Age pottery was retrieved (Group 1). Three small shallow pits were also recorded in this area, including pits [006], [010] and [028]. Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from pits [006] and [028]; this latter feature was also seen to truncate the Group 1 ditches. The final feature recorded in this area consisted of an extensive and irregular tree-throw [004], which also produced a moderate group of Late Bronze Age pottery.

2.2.2 All of the features in this area were sealed by *c.* 0.5m thick deposit of colluvium and topsoil.

Area 2 (Figure 5)

2.2.3 A human inhumation [020] recorded in grave [018] was the only archaeological feature identified in Area 2 (Figure 5). The skeleton was highly truncated, disturbed by both the creation of the sports playing field and by its initial identification during the archaeological evaluation (Wessex 2013). Analysis of the surviving skeletal elements indicates that the burial is that of a young adult possibly male individual.

2.2.4 The main elements surviving *in situ* were the upper arms, the right clavicle and some lumbar vertebrae fragments. The body was laid supine with the head to the east and the arms at the side. Although no finds were recovered from this grave, a C14 radiocarbon sample obtained from a molar from this skeleton (SUERC-47382; 3034 ± 33 BP) suggests it is of Middle Bronze Age date; a slight overlap with the Late Bronze Age is possible when calibrated at 95.4% confidence (1406-1135 cal BC) but the calibration plot indicates a 94.5% chance that the sample comes from a date range which is wholly

Middle Bronze Age (1406-1208 cal BC). It is possible, therefore, that the burial is slightly earlier in date than the Late Bronze Age features identified in Area 1.

Area 4 (Figure 6)

2.2.5 A solitary feature recorded in this area was ditch Group 2 (Figure 6). This was small, shallow and contained a single sherd of Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery. Apart from the features recorded in Area 1, no other ditches were found in the evaluation or mitigation areas suggesting that this feature existed in isolation or that other elements may have been removed by the creation of the modern sports field.

2.2.6 The Group 2 ditch may represent another area of Late Bronze Age activity fringing the Bradstow School barrow cemetery. Although its function and extent are uncertain, in the absence of any other associated features it is considered that it may represent a Bronze Age field boundary. It may suggest that further Bronze Age activity existed or exists below or to the west of the railway line.

2.3 Period 2: Post-medieval

Area 3 (Figure 7)

2.3.1 A large quarry pit [017] (*c.* 6.6m in diameter and at least 2.5m dee)p was recorded in Area 3 (Figure 7). The size of the feature meant excavation was undertaken by machine and the base only partially exposed.

2.3.2 The quarry was dug into the solid chalk geology and had near vertical sides and an undulating base. The fills [15] and [16] were largely composed of sterile silts and gravels. A small assemblage of six fragments of abraded Roman tile was recovered from the upper fills of this feature, although some post-medieval material was also recovered from this feature during the evaluation of the site (WA 2013, 6)

3.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

3.1 **The Prehistoric Pottery** by Anna Doherty

3.1.1 A small assemblage of prehistoric pottery, amounting to 41 sherds, weighing 206 grams, was recovered from the excavation area. The assemblage is considered likely to be of Late Bronze Age date, although only one diagnostic feature sherd was present.

FLIN 1 moderate to common moderately to ill-sorted flint generally ranging from0.5-2.5mm (with rare examples up to 4mm) in a relatively quartz free matrix

FLIN 2 sparse to moderate, moderately to well-sorted flint of 0.2-1.5mm, in a relatively quartz free matrix

FLIN 3 rare flint of c.0.2-0.5mm in a relatively quartz free matrix containing sparse large (probably naturally occurring) clay pellets of c. 2-3mm

3.1.2 The majority of the pottery is in a moderately coarse flint-tempered fabric (FLIN 1), fairly typical of the Late Bronze Age. Most of the remaining sherds are associated with a fine-ware fabric with well-finished burnished surfaces (FLIN2). A single rim sherd was recorded, from a plain profile, open jar in fabric FLIN1. Although this might be a form which developed from Middle Bronze Age Bucket Urns, both the thinness of the vessel walls and the fineness of the fabric, as well as its association with a moderate group of other Late Bronze Age fabrics, suggest it should be dated to the Late Bronze Age.

3.1.3 Seven small sherds were recovered from tree throw [4] and ditch G2 in the evaluation phase (WA 2013). These were assigned a Middle to Late Bronze Age date, probably because the sherds are small and undiagnostic. These may well be broadly contemporary with the current assemblage, which can be more confidently assigned to the Late Bronze Age because two moderate sized groups of sherds are present, from contexts [7] and [5].

3.1.4 The absence of coarser fabric types and the presence of thin-walled fine wares almost certainly places these groups later than *c*.1150BC. The lack of inclusions other than flint and the plainness of the one diagnostic rimsherd, from group [5], probably suggest that these contexts belong in the earlier (plain ware) phase of the Post Deverel-Rimbury tradition, currently understood to date to around 1150-800 BC. Another context, [30], contained a single bodysherd in fabric FLIN1. Although this is less certainly datable, it is consistent with the Late Bronze Age groups.

3.1.5 A fourth context, [32], produced two small sherds in a slightly different fabric type (FLIN3) containing only rare flint and also featuring some large argillaceous inclusions, which may be natural occurring clay pellets rather than added grog temper. This fabric is less typical of Bronze Age assemblages although the sherds may be of any later prehistoric date (*c*. Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age).

3.2 **Flintwork** by Karine Le Hégarat

3.2.1 In total, four pieces of broadly prehistoric struck flint (weighing 166g) have been recovered from three numbered contexts through hand collection and from environmental samples during the archaeological work at the site. The small assemblage comprised two flakes, a flake fragment and a multiplatform flake core. No platform preparations were present on the core from context [35].

3.2.2 The artefacts are moderately damaged implying some degree of post-depositional disturbance. The raw material chosen for the production of the lithics is characterised by a light to dark grey flint. The outer surface is present on two artefacts. In the first instance it is abraded to a thin buff-coloured surface. In the second instance it consists of a thin dark brown outer surface with an underlying orange band which is characteristic of Bullhead flint. Three pieces displayed traces of surface discolouration.

3.2.3 No diagnostic pieces were recovered to allow the flintwork to be more precisely dated.

3.3 **Environmental samples** by Karine Le Hégarat

3.3.1 Three 40L bulk soil samples were extracted during the archaeological work at the site to establish the presence of charcoal, charred macroplant remains, bones and shells as well as to maximise finds recovery. Sample <01> came from shallow pit [06] (fill (07)) which produced a small amount of pottery dated to the Late Bronze Age. Sample <03> came from ditch fill (35) and sample <02> from the fill (19) of grave [18].

3.3.2 The samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank, and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes and air dried prior to sorting. The residues were passed through graded sieves (8, 4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Table 2). Flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and their contents recorded (Table 3).

3.3.3 Sampling produced relatively small flots which contained large proportions of uncharred vegetation including mainly fine roots but also two uncharred seeds of elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*). Land snail shells and worm egg capsules were numerous in these flots. The residues produced a small quantity of artefacts including pottery, flint, FCF and pebbles. Sample <02> from grave fill context (19) contained a moderate quantity of human bones and teeth. A single fish vertebra was also evident in this sample. The human remains and the artefacts collected from the residues have been included into the relevant specialist reports.

3.3.4 Charred wood fragments were present in very small quantity in these samples. The small assemblage comprised principally very small fragments <2mm and flecks. No taxonomic identifications have been provided as the data would be limited and provide insignificant information regarding fuel use. Charred macroplant remains were only present in sample <01>. The assemblage consisted of a single charred grain and a single grass (Poaceae) caryopsis. The charred grain was heavily abraded and could only be classified as unidentifiable (Cerealia).

3.3.5 The assessment has confirmed the presence of limited charred and uncharred plant remains including scarce macrobotanicals and a small assemblage of charcoal. Bones, teeth, land snail shells and worm egg capsules were also recorded in the samples. The two uncharred elderberry seeds are likely to represent recent contaminants. Nonetheless, sufficient moist conditions at the time of burial combined with anoxic burial environment, such as sealed deposits or high water table can ensure the survival of uncharred vegetation. The deposits were recorded as dry, and it is therefore unlikely that they would have been favourable to such preservation. Nonetheless, if the seeds are considered contemporary with the site occupation, the assemblage could provide limited evidence for the consumption of elderberries. The fruits would have been gathered in the wild. The presence of elderberries could also simply represent natural vegetation growing in the vicinity of the site.

3.3.6 Sample <01> from Late Bronze Age shallow pit [06] contained a very small assemblage of charred macrobotanical remains. This assemblage is far too limited to provide significant information relating to the agricultural economy and the local vegetation of the site. The very small quantity of charred wood fragments and flecks present in these samples holds no potential to characterise fuel use or wood selection and is unlikely to provide material suitable for dating. The remains are likely to represent re-deposited background scatters.

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	7	Pit	40	40	*	< 2	*	< 2						FCF */2g - Pottery */4g
2	19	Grave	40	40						***	146	*	< 2	Flint */<2g - Pebbles */68g - FCF */2g
3	35	Ditch	40	40										Flint */ 148g

Table 2: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Land Snail Shells
1	7	4	25	25	60	5	*Sambucus nigra* (1)	*	*	*	Poaceae (1)	++	*** 15%
2	19	8	40	40	65	5		*	*				*** 20%
3	35	2	20	20	65	5	*Sambucus nigra* (1)		*				*** 15%

Table 3: Flot quantification (*=1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

3.4 **The Ceramic Building Material** by Luke Barber

3.4.1 Context [15] produced six pieces of somewhat abraded tile of Roman date. The largest piece (126g), most probably from a tegula tile, measures 24mm thick and is tempered with sparse fine sand and occasional clay pellets to 2mm. The remaining five pieces have recently been shattered and they all conjoin to form part of a 15mm thick tegula tile with 36mm tall poorly formed flange.

3.4.2 These few isolated fragments of Roman tile are not considered to hold any potential further study beyond that already undertaken for this report. The material is recommended for discard.

3.5 **Human bone** by Lucy Sibun

3.5.1 A single, partial inhumation was excavated on site ([20], grave [18]). The preservation of the human bone was extremely poor with all surviving elements highly fragmented and having suffered from surface erosion. It is also likely that the inhumation has been disturbed at some point as some elements were recorded as disarticulated. In addition to the bone recovered from the burial itself, further human bone was recovered from the grave fill [19], which was collected from environmental sample <2>. The bone recovered from grave fill [19] was also examined and as no repeated elements were noted, it is likely that this also belongs to individual [20].

3.5.2 A C14 radiocarbon date of a sample of a tooth from skeleton [020] (SUERC-47382; 3034 ± 33 BP), indicates the burial is probably of later Middle Bronze Age date (1406-1208 cal BC at 94.5% confidence).

3.5.3 Skeletal remains from [19] and [20] have been studied together and a complete skeletal and dental inventory has been produced for the skeleton. Due to the poor condition of the remains the age estimate is based solely on tooth wear analysis (Miles 1963, Brothwell 1981, reproduced in Hillson 1996). Sexually diamorphic traits have been examined according to Bass (1987) and

Buikstra & Ubelaker (1994). No metrical data was available due the fragmentary nature of the skeleton. All skeletal elements were also examined for pathlological lesions.

3.5.4 The inhumation was incomplete and partially disturbed. No complete elements were present but those represented are tabulated below:

	Left		Right
humerus	✓		✓
radius	✓		
ulna	✓		✓
clavicle			✓
metacarpals		x 2 shaft frags	
vertebrae		lumbar fragments	
ribs		fragments only	
innominate	✓		✓
Femur			✓
Tibia	✓		

Table 4: Skeletal elements present

3.5.5 In addition to the elements tabulated above, loose teeth from the maxilla and mandible were recovered, with 28 out of the possible 32 adult teeth present.

Age

3.5.6 Based upon fragment size and dental development the individual is an adult. Tooth wear analysis (Miles 1963; Brothwell 1981) indicated that the individual is a young adult (aged 18-25).

Sex

3.5.7 The only sexually diagnostic fragments present were sciatic notch fragments. These suggest that the individual is probably male, but it should be noted that these are small fragments and a confident sex estimate cannot be made upon the observation on one characteristic alone.

Pathology

3.5.8 A small fragment of ulna shaft displays slight thickening of the cortical bone, with a resulting reduction of the medullary cavity. It is not possible to provide a differential diagnosis based upon one lesion on a fragmentary element but the absence of any similar lesions in other areas of the skeleton suggest that this be the result of localised infection or trauma.

3.6 **The Radiocarbon Sample** by Anna Doherty

3.6.1 A human molar taken from skeleton [20] was submitted for AMS radiocarbon dating at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC). The purpose of submitting the sample was to provide a date for the skeleton and to determine whether it was associated with Late Bronze Age features in the vicinity.

3.6.2 Details of the radiocarbon date are given in Table 5 quoted in accordance with the international standard, Trondheim convention (Stuiver & Kra 1986), and are given as conventional radiocarbon ages (Stuiver & Polach 1977). 2 Sigma calibrated dates, obtained using IntCal04 (Reimer *et al.* 2004), are also given at the 95% confidence level.

Lab Code	Context	Material	Analysis Method	Conventional Radiocarbon age (BP)	Delta C13	2 Sigma calibrated date (95.4% confidence)
SUERC-47382 (GU-31246)	20	Human Bone	AMS	3034 ±33	-20.3 ‰	1406-1135 cal BC* *1406-1208 cal BC at 94.5% confidence

Table 5: AMS date for human molar taken from skeleton [20]

3.6.3 The results indicate that the skeleton is likely of Middle Bronze Age date. Although the calibrated date range cited at 2 Sigma (95.4%) confidence (1406-1135 cal BC) has a slight overlap into the Late Bronze Age, the calibration plot indicates that there is a 94.5% chance that the sample comes from a date range which is wholly Middle Bronze Age (1406-1208 cal BC).

3.6.4 This suggests that the skeleton is probably of slightly earlier date than the pottery from the site, which is though likely to postdate c. 1150 BC. However, it is possible that both the pottery assemblages and the skeleton may have been deposited during a fairly brief period within c. 50-100 years of each other. The pottery mostly derives from the fills of tree-throw [04] and pit [06], and it remains possible that other features from the site, including the enclosure ditch, were open at around the time the skeleton was interred.

4.0 DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This investigation has succeeded in identifying a range of archaeological features in the four excavation areas, including pits, ditches and burial evidence. The available dating evidence suggests that much of the recorded activity dates to the Middle/Late Bronze Age, although at least one feature (quarry pit [017]) appears to be of post-medieval or modern date.

4.2 Period 1: Middle/Late Bronze Age

4.2.1 Middle/Late Bronze Age activity is slight but significant, including burial evidence as well as occasional ditches and pits. The burial in Area 2, which dates to the end of the Middle Bronze Age, attests to continued funerary activity in the wider landscape surrounding the Early Bronze Age barrow cemetery centred on Bradstow School immediately to the east of the site. The continued usage of barrow monuments in Kent during the Middle Bronze Age is by no means unknown (Champion 2007, 89-92; Perkins 2010, 283) but the inhumation burial identified on this site is unusual during a period in which cremation was the predominant funerary tradition in southern Britain (Ellison 1980; Bruck, 2006, 299). The non-monumental context of this particular burial is also of some note and stands in contrast to the inhumations associated with the nearby barrow cemetery. That recent groundworks have not simply truncated any evidence for any associated ring-ditch seems clear, given the evidence for a subsoil horizon in this area of the site identified during the evaluation. Bronze Age burials in flat-graves, without any associated barrow evidence, have also been found elsewhere on Thanet, such as Monkton (Champion 2007, 92) and, in conjunction with the evidence from this site, hint at the presence of a non-monumental funerary tradition on the island towards the end of the Middle Bronze Age.

4.2.2 The Late Bronze Age ditches and pits identified in Areas 1 and 4 remain difficult to interpret. The east-west aligned ditch in Area 4 is probably best interpreted as a Bronze Age field boundary and the general paucity of archaeological features across much the site is certainly consistent with a largely agricultural land use. The extent, function and significance of the intersecting curvilinear ditches in Area 1, on the other hand, are more difficult to establish. It is possible the features could represent two small circular or sub-circular enclosures, for instance. Alternatively, it is not impossible that the features represent partially preserved ring-ditches; their projected diameter is something in the region of 21 metres, within the size range of ring-ditches and round barrows in Thanet (Perkins 2010) and comparable in size to some of the ring-ditches excavated at Bradstow School (see Figure 8). However, barrow ring ditches on Thanet are usually fairly wide and deep with truncated V-shaped profiles, but shallower and smaller ditches with U-shaped profiles similar to the Group 1 ditches are not completely unknown (see for instance Perkins 2010, Appendix 1). Ultimately, the interpretation of these features is far from certain.

4.2.3 It should be noted that while a moderate assemblage of Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from this area, almost all of this was recovered from pits, with just one sherd associated with the Group 1 ditches. Given that at least one of these pits clearly post-dates the Group 1 ditches and in view of

the quantities of pottery recovered, it seems probable that the pits represent a later phase of settlement-related activity of Late Bronze Age date. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement-related activity is known from the adjacent Bradstow School site, in the form of four-post structures and other posthole arrangements seemingly centred on the massive ring-ditch excavated on this site (Hart, forthcoming). Further afield, Bronze and Iron Age settlement evidence is well-attested as a result of work at Dumpton Gap (Moody 2006), South Dumpton Down (Perkins 1995) and Merrivale Heights (Moody 2009). The features and finds recorded on the present site are certainly not inconsistent with this evidence from the wider landscape, although the lack of any definite structural evidence in Area 1 might suggest this activity was peripheral to the evidence observed elsewhere in the vicinity.

4.3 Period 2: Post-medieval

4.3.1 Quarry pit [017] in Area 3 is a type of post-medieval feature commonly found on chalk geology in Kent. As chalk is a poor building stone, extraction was usually for the use in kilns producing lime for the use of agricultural soil improvement.

4.4 Residual Roman material

4.4.1 In addition to the stratified evidence for prehistoric and post-medieval activity on the site, a small assemblage of abraded, residual Roman tile from quarry [017] hints at the presence of a Roman building in the wider vicinity. In view of the residual character of this Roman material, however, its significance is hard to gauge, although it is certainly consistent with the evidence from elsewhere in the vicinity. There are early reports of a Roman masonry building at Dumpton Gap for instance, while more recent fieldwork carried out at the enclosed Iron Age site at Dumpton recovered quantities of Roman roof tile and pottery (Moody 2008, 147). It seems probable that the Roman material from quarry [017] represented a background scatter of residual material incorporated into the upper fills of the quarry during landscaping operations associated with the formation of the school playing fields.

5.0 PUBLICATION PROJECT

5.1 It is intended to publish the Bronze Age results of these excavations in a monograph with other ASE excavations undertaken on the Isle of Thanet (*c.* 2,000 word count). The publication text would be derived from the current report.

5.2 The project team will be composed as follows:

Team Member	**Initials**	**Tasks**
Giles Dawkes	GD	Text production; archive collation
Fiona Griffin	FG	Publication figure production and typesetting
Jim Stevenson Dan Swift	JS DS	Project management and editing

Table 6: Project Team

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Appendix 1

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	AREA	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	GROUP	Spot Date (all *circa*)
1	Deposit	1		1	Topsoil		
2	Deposit	1		2	Colluvium	6	
3	Deposit	1		3	Natural		
4	Cut	1	TH	4	Tree throw	3	
5	Fill	1	TH	4	Tree throw fill	3	LBA (c.1150-800 BC)
6	Cut	1	P	6	Pit	3	
7	Fill	1	P	6	Pit fill	3	LBA (c.1150-800 BC)
8	Cut	1	D	8	Ditch	1	
9	Fill	1	D	8	Ditch fill	1	
10	Cut	1	P	10	Pit	3	
11	Fill	1	P	10	Pit fill	3	
12	Deposit	3		12	Topsoil		
13	Deposit	3		13	Subsoil		
14	Deposit	3		14	Natural		
15	Fill	3	P	17	Pit fill	4	
16	Fill	3	P	17	Pit fill	4	
17	Cut	3	PQ	17	Quarry pit	4	
18	Cut	2	G	18	Grave cut	5	
19	Fill	2	G	18	Grave fill	5	
20	Skeleton	2	SK	18	Skeleton	5	
21	Fill	4	D	22	Ditch fill	2	LBA pot; fired clay; Neolithic flint
22	Cut	4	D	22	Ditch	2	
23	Fill	4	D	24	Ditch fill	2	
24	Cut	4	D	24	Ditch	2	
25	Deposit	4		25	Topsoil		
26	Deposit	4		26	Subsoil		

CONTEXT	CONTEXT TYPE	AREA	FEATURE TYPE	PARENT CONTEXT	COMMENTS	GROUP	Spot Date (all *circa*)
27	Deposit	4		27	Natural		
28	Cut	1	P	28	Pit	3	
29	Fill	1	P	28	Pit fill	3	
30	Fill	1	P	28	Pit fill	3	?LBA
31	Cut	1	D	31	Ditch	1	
32	Fill	1	D	31	Ditch fill	1	?LBA
33	Cut	1	D	33	Ditch	1	
34	Fill	1	D	33	Ditch fill	1	
35	Fill	1	D	35	Ditch fill	1	
36	Cut	1	D	36	Ditch	1	

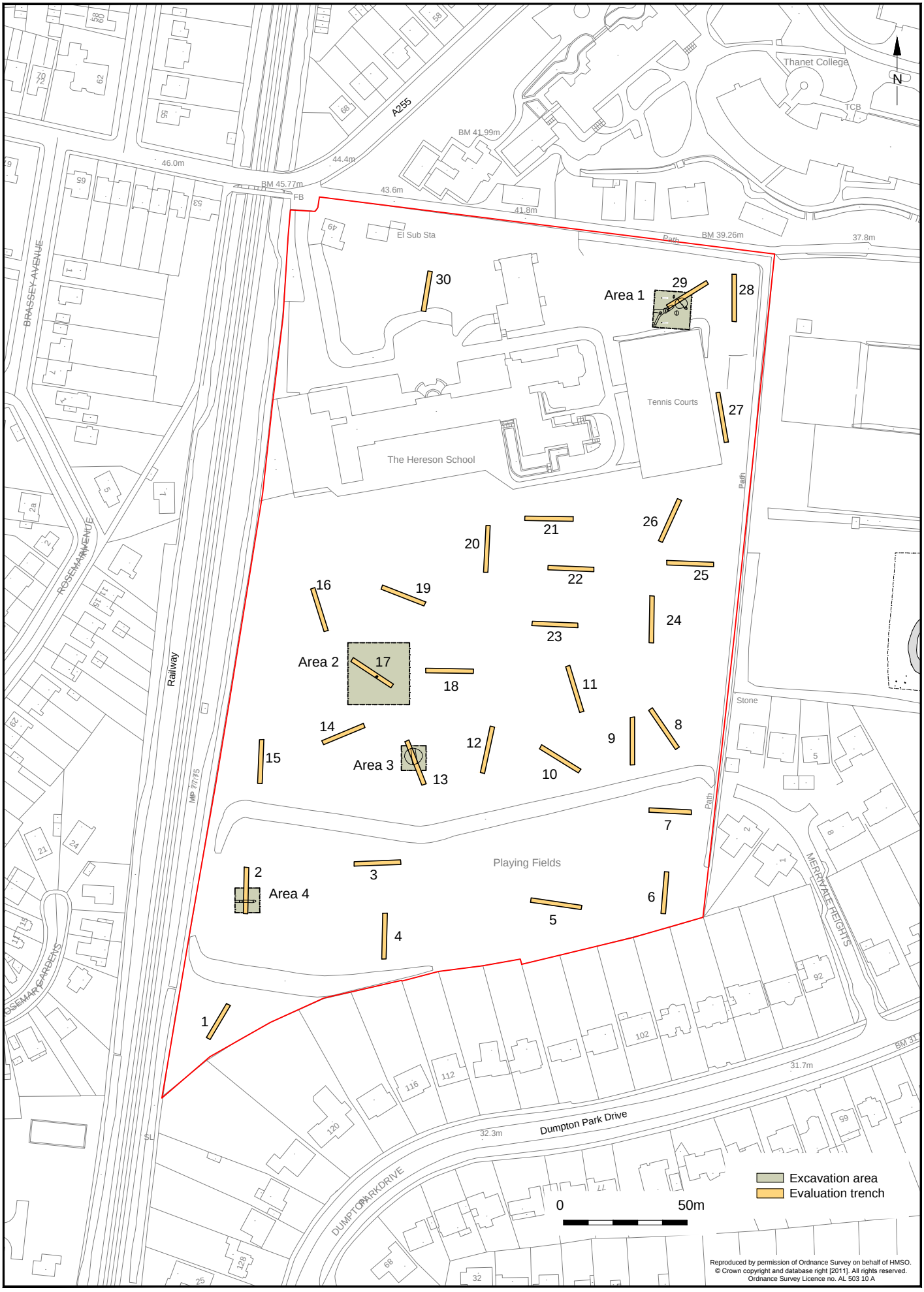
OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-155684

Project details	
Project name	Hereson School
Short description of the project	*Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology, UCL was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological excavation on the site of the former Hereson School, Broadstairs, Kent. Four areas were excavated, targeted on the results of a prior evaluation of the site.* *The earliest activity on the site dates to the end of the Middle/Late Bronze Age and consists of an extended, supine inhumation, radiocarbon dated to 1406-1135 cal BC. The burial appears to be non-monumental, with no associated barrow evidence and probably represents later funerary activity peripheral to the well-documented barrow cemetery at Bradstow School to the east of the site. Other prehistoric activity on the site dates to the Late Bronze Age and includes a possible field boundary ditch and two curvilinear ditches of uncertain extent and function, although they may represent partially preserved ring-ditches. A group of small pits which yielded a moderately sized assemblage of Late Bronze Age pottery appears to post-date the ditches and probably represents activity peripheral to known Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement elsewhere in the vicinity. Other activity on the site includes a late post-medieval/modern quarry pit, from which a small residual assemblage of Roman tile was recovered.*
Project dates	Start: 12-06-2013 End: 19-06-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	HRB13 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	6161 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	PIT Late Bronze Age
Monument type	INHUMATION Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Bronze Age
Investigation type	"Full excavation"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Project location	
Country	England

Site location	KENT THANET BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETERS Hereson School
Postcode	CT10 1PN
Study area	1.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 639236 166990 50 0 50 55 33 N 000 19 57 E Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andrew Leonard
Project supervisor	Giles Dawkes
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Kent HER
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Contents	"Ceramics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Report"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Investigations at Hereson School, Broadstairs, Kent
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Giles Dawkes
Other bibliographic details	2013186
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade
Entered by	Giles Dawkes (gilesdawkes@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	25 July 2013

© Archaeology South-East		Hereson School Excavation, Broadstairs	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 6161	Aug 2013	Site location	
Report Ref: 2013186	Drawn by: JLR		



© **Archaeology South-East**		Hereson School Excavation, Broadstairs	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 6161	Aug 2013	Location of excavation areas and evaluation trenches	
Report Ref: 2013186	Drawn by: JLR		

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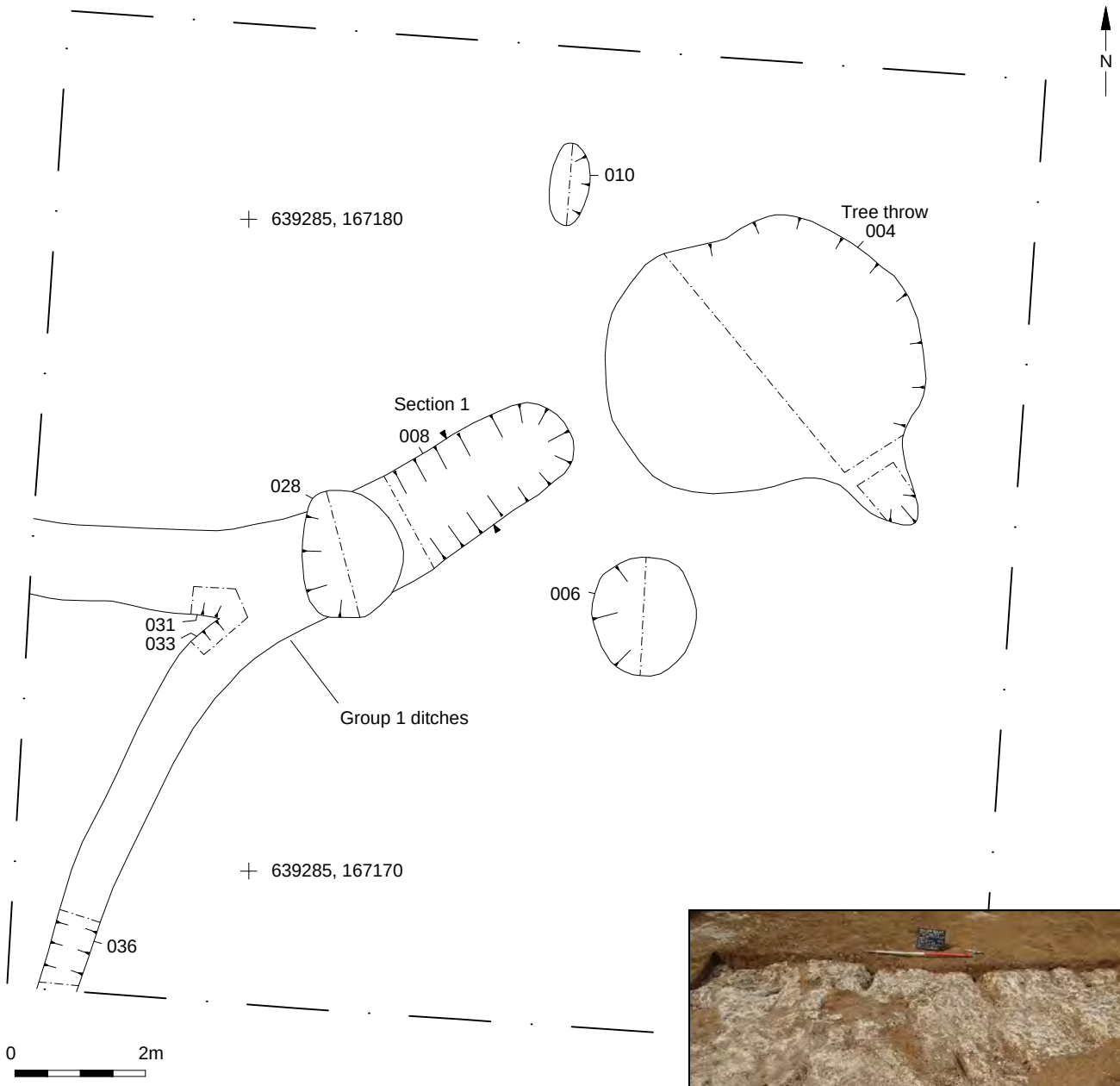
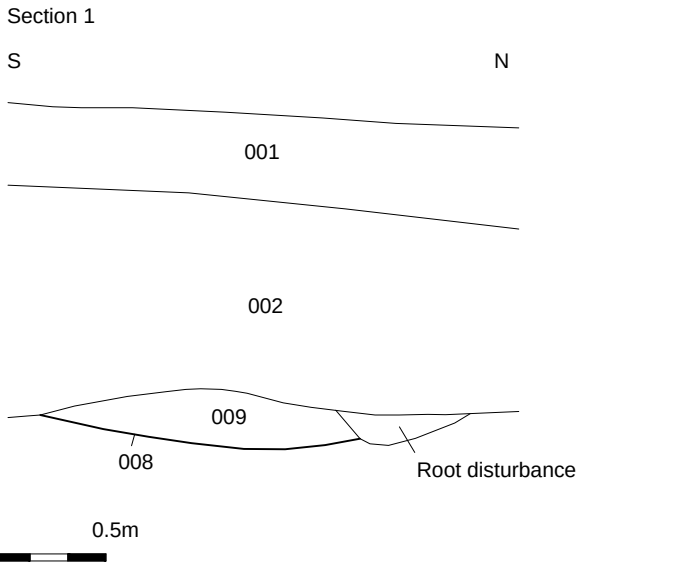
Project Ref: 6161	Aug 2013	Aerial photograph	
Report Ref: 2013186	Drawn by: JLR		





004 looking south-west

006 looking east

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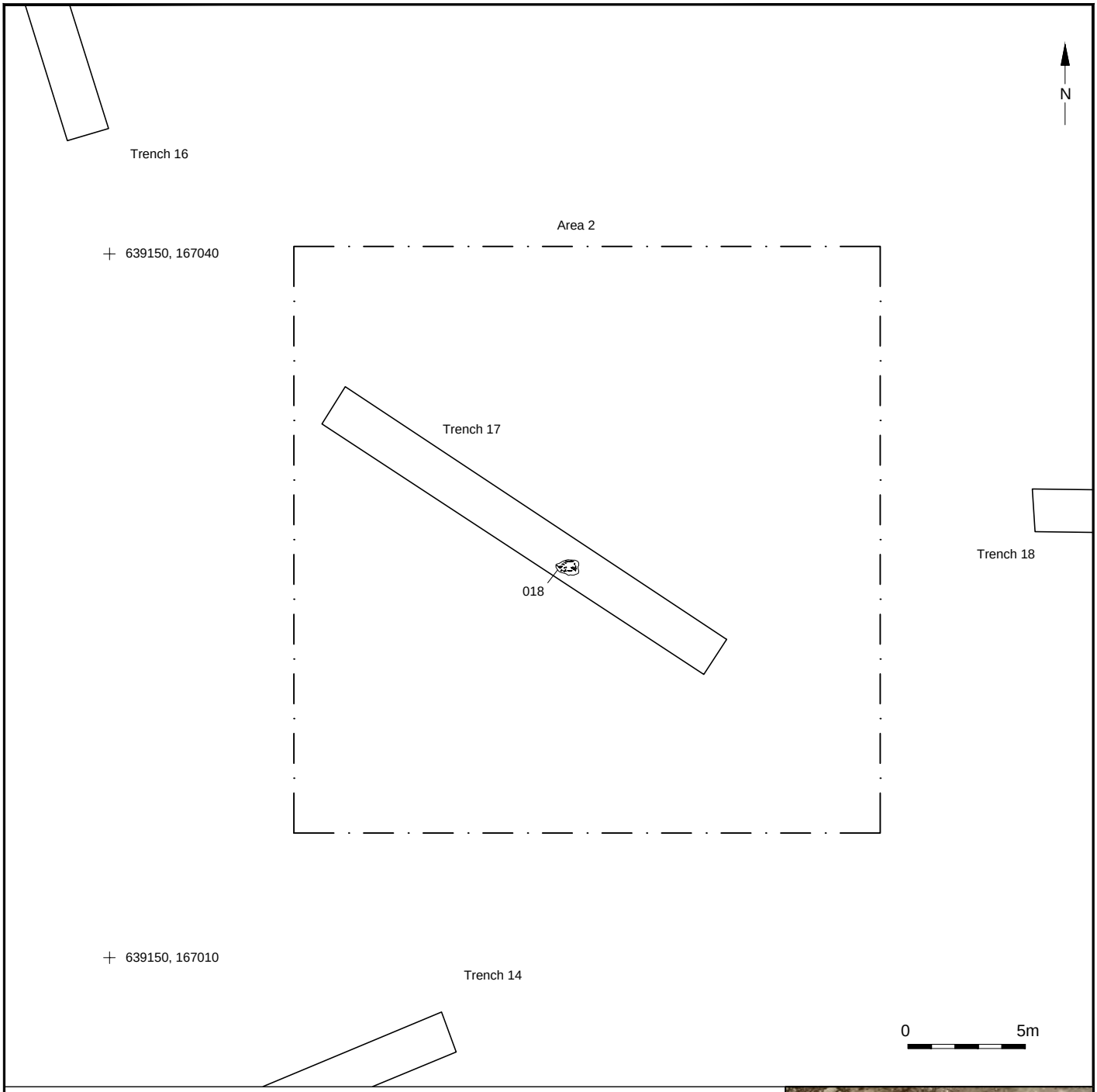
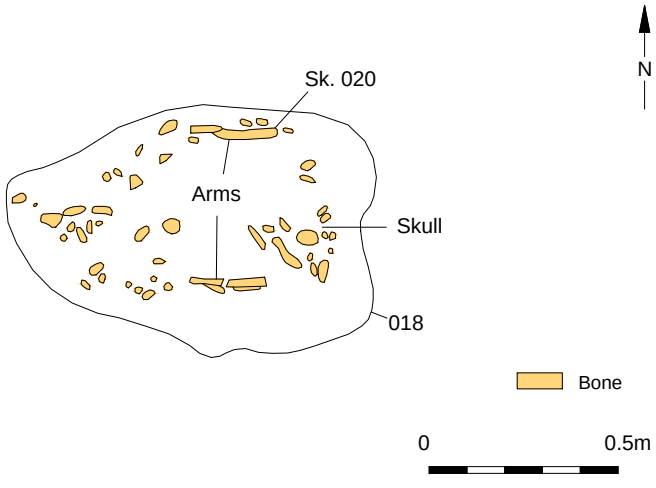
Project Ref: 6161	Aug 2013	Area 1: plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2013186	Drawn by: JLR		





Burial 020 looking west

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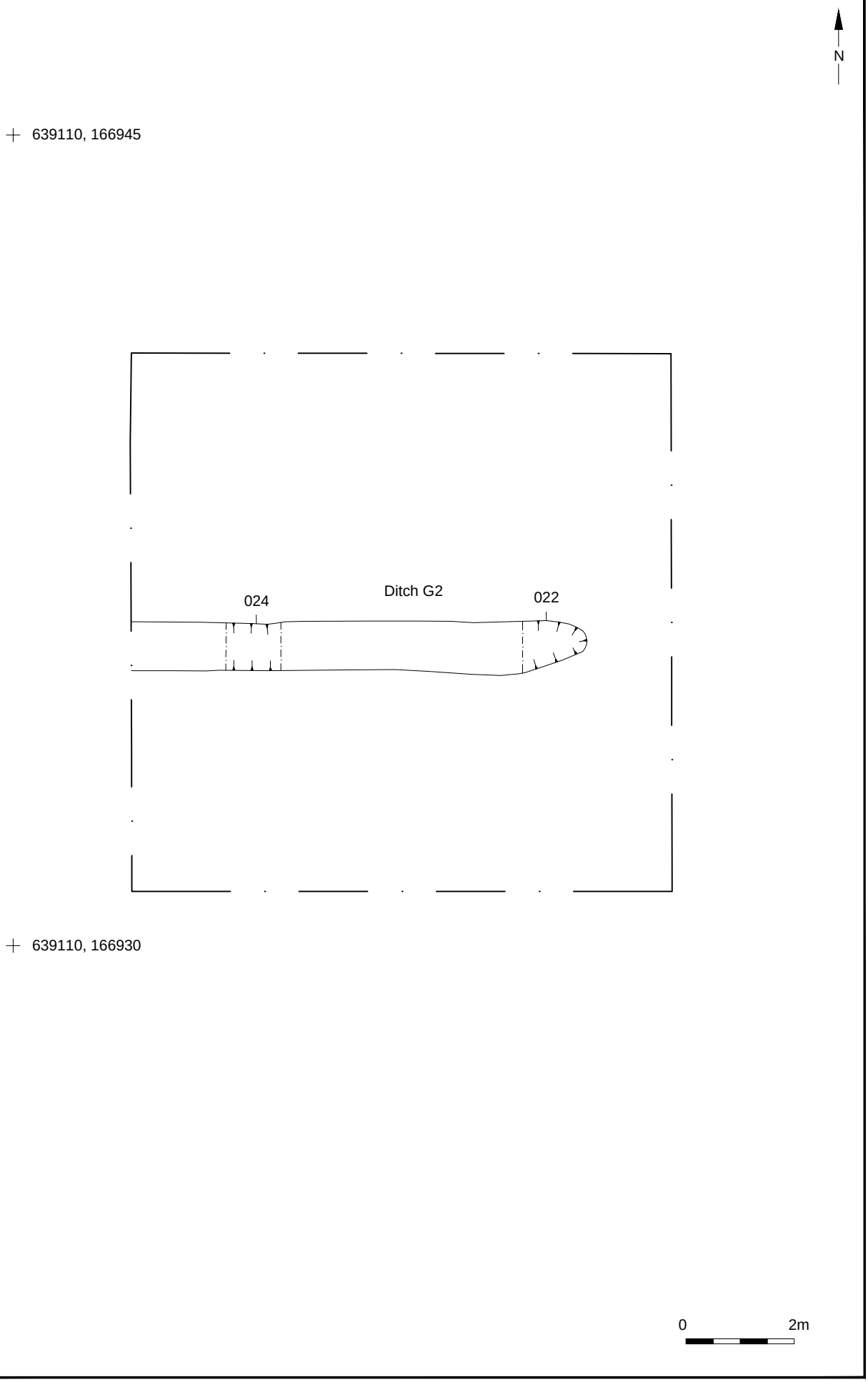
Project Ref: 6161	Aug 2013	Area 2: plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2013186	Drawn by: JLR		



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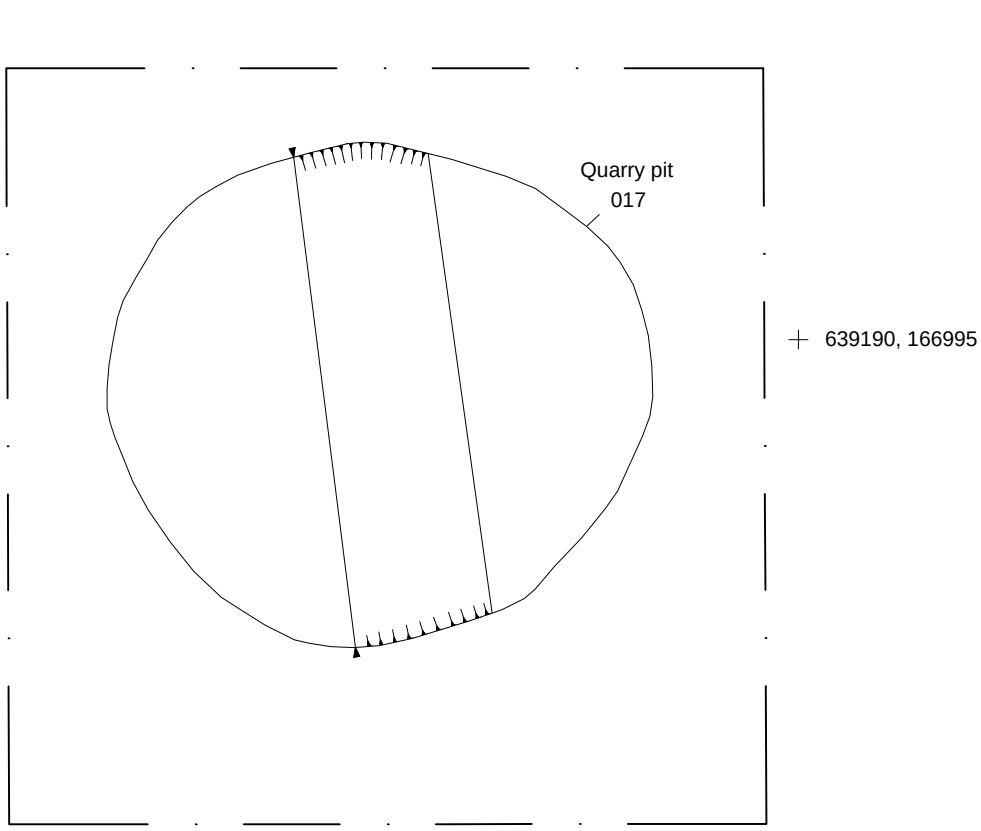
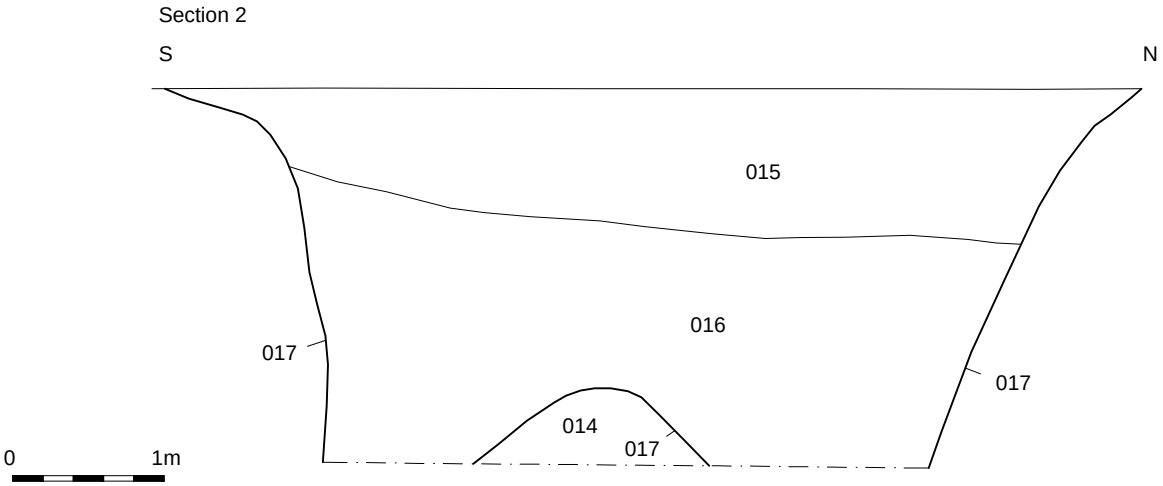
Project Ref: 6161	Aug 2013	Area 4: plan	
Report Ref: 2013186	Drawn by: JLR		



017 looking east



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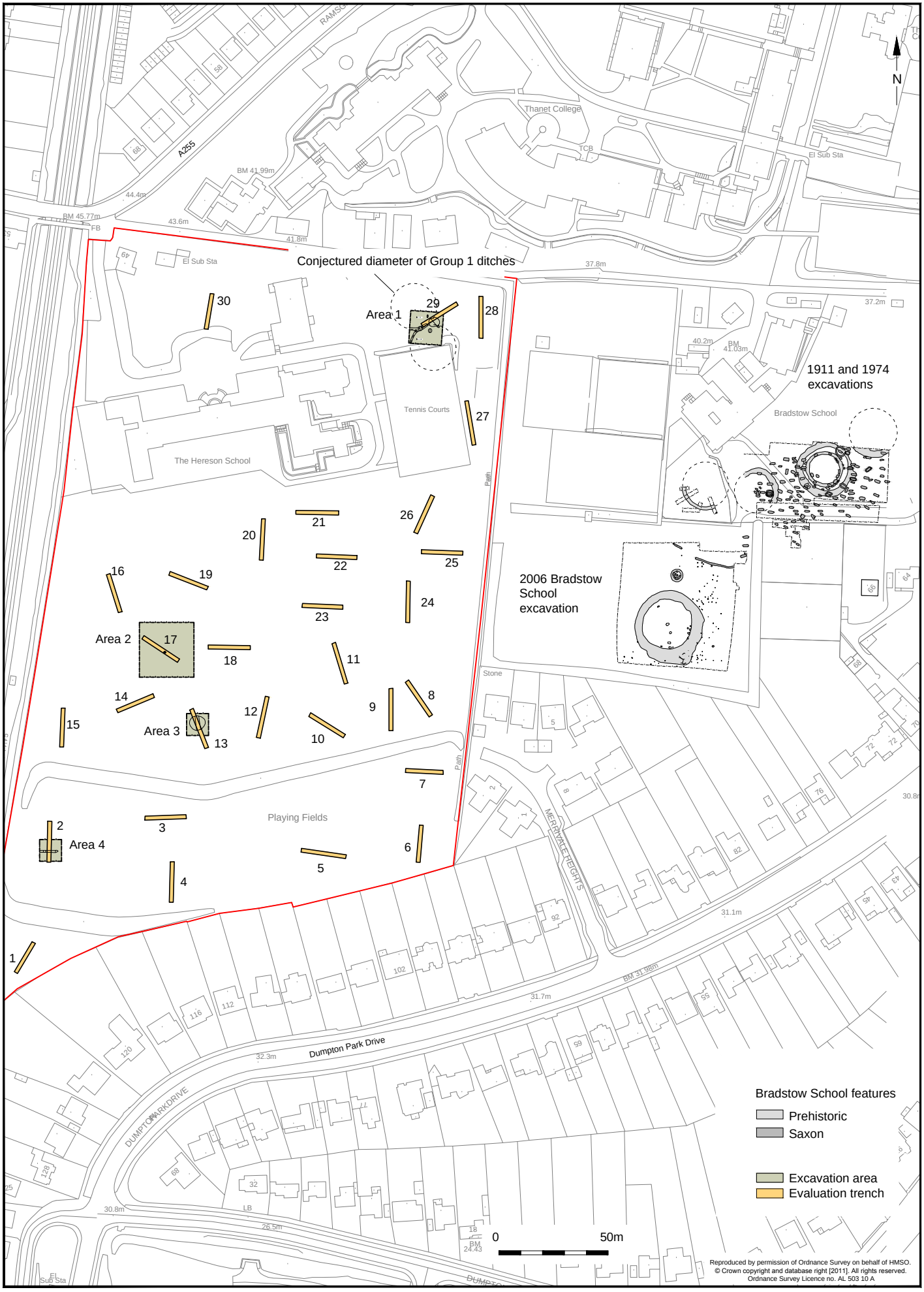
Project Ref: 6161	Aug 2013	Area 3: plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2013186	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 6161	Aug 2013	Location of excavation areas and evaluation trenches in relation to Bradstow School barrow complex and Saxon cemetery	
Report Ref: 2013186	Drawn by: DAH		

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