

Burgess Hill Northern Arc Phase 1C

**Written Scheme of Investigation for
Archaeological Evaluation**

NGR: 530877 120607

Mid Sussex District Council

Site Code: NAP26

ASE Project no. 260262

June 2026

Archaeology South-East

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Reviewed and approved by:	Darryl Palmer	Senior Project Manager	
Date of Issue:	June 2026		
Version:	2		

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) have been commissioned by Hill Holdings Ltd to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation of land forming part of the Burgess Hill Northern Arc scheme, West Sussex, hereafter 'the site' (centred on NGR 530877 120607; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The site lies in a primarily agricultural landscape to the immediate north of Burgess Hill, to the east of Isaacs Lane (A273). The excavation targets the remaining areas within the site boundary that have not previously been investigated (Figs. 2-4).
- 1.3 According to the British Geological Survey the sites lie over Weald Clay Formation (Mudstone). Superficial deposits are not mapped (BGS 2026).
- 1.4 Mid-Sussex District Council have granted outline planning permission for mixed-use development of the wider Burgess Hill Northern Arc site (DM/21/3279, an amendment of DM/18/5114). A reserved matters application for the present works is under planning reference DM/25/1986. The reserved matters application includes an informative requiring compliance with Condition 11 of DM/21/3279/DM/18/5114.

11. No development shall take place within a reserved matters area until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation for that reserved matters area, to be first submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To identify and to secure the appropriate level of work that is necessary before commencement of the development in respect of protecting archaeological heritage assets, and also what may be required after commencement and in some cases after the development has been completed, and to accord with Policy DP34 of the Mid Sussex District Plan 2014 - 2031.

- 1.5 This document represents a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological trial trench evaluation of the site, for submission to Mid Sussex District Council and their archaeological advisors, Place Services, for approval prior to the commencement of work. The document has been prepared in accordance with relevant Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2020, 2023 a & b). All work will be reported upon in line with guidelines set out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE; Historic England 2015).
- 1.6 All work will be carried out in accordance with the WSI and the Sussex Archaeological Standards (WSCC) which outlines the methodology to be used in the field, and in reporting and archiving of the results.
- 1.7 The project will be managed by Hayley Nicholls (Fieldwork Project Manager) and by Dan Swift and Anna Doherty (Post-Excavation Managers).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 What follows is a summary of the pertinent findings of a desk-based assessment undertaken in advance of the current works (ASE 2023), supplemented with the results of recent evaluation (ASE 2025) and mitigation works (ASE 2026).
- 2.2 Extensive works have been undertaken in the landscape within the overall site, including to the north and south of the current site and beyond the watercourse to the east (ASE 2023, *fig 3*) (see bibliography for reports list). The following comprises a summary of the most immediately relevant sites. Trial trench evaluation on land at the Northern Arc Eastern Bridge and Link Road identified a number of undated fire pits, post-holes and pits, possible medieval and probable post-medieval field boundary ditches, a deposit of colluvium and a palaeochannel. In addition, early prehistoric flintwork was recovered from the topsoil and subsoil horizons. Subsequently, two areas totalling c.2.04ha were mechanically stripped including the link road where it passes between the P1.5 & P1.6 areas.
- 2.3 The earliest evidence of activity consisted of a background scatter of flintwork and a shallow spread, both of Mesolithic date. Neolithic flintwork, including an unfinished arrowhead, demonstrated exploitation of the resources of this part of the Weald. However, the first clear alterations to the landscape dated from the Middle Iron Age and comprised pits containing burnt clay, and clusters of post-holes. The most interesting features encountered consisted of a thin scatter of remarkably similar pits/hearths showing evidence of in situ burning and primary fills rich in oak charcoal. These somewhat enigmatic features were spread across both examined mitigation areas. Limited pottery finds and radiocarbon dating suggest these were created in the Romano-British era: a middle Iron Age radiocarbon date from one pit may be an outlier, possibly a result of the 'old-wood effect', whereby older dates can be obtained from unidentified charcoal. Although their function remains unproven, it is suggested they represent the scant remains of woodland clearance although alternative interpretations, such as charcoal production are also considered.
- 2.4 Evidence for medieval activity consisted of abraded pottery recovered from the overburden, and possible field boundaries close to Isaacs Lane, although their date remains unconfirmed. Post-medieval activity was more clearly represented in a varied assemblage of artefacts from the topsoil, and clear land division in the form of substantial ditches corresponding to field boundaries shown on cartographic sources.

Recent Investigations

- 2.5 Fifteen trenches were excavated within the current site area, along the route of a north-south access track and across the southernmost area of the overall works (Figs 2-4). Most of the trenches were found to be archaeologically negative, the only feature being a linear ditch that was recorded in three of the trenches in the southern part of the site, which contained High Medieval pottery. An archaeological watching brief was also conducted nearby during groundworks for an electrical cable trench; no archaeological features, deposits or finds were identified (ASE 2025).

- 2.6 The subsequent mitigation works at the south end of the site have been recently completed (ASE 2026: Project 260043) and have produced evidence of a large north-west/south-east ditch or ditches containing large amounts of medieval pottery and some tile. Other features include a pit with a burnt fill that also contained medieval finds and a curving gully. The report for these works is in prep.

3.0 RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The general aims of the evaluation are:
- To ascertain whether archaeological remains are present on the site and if so to assess their nature, date, survival and significance
 - To determine how such remains might be impacted by the development of the site
 - To enable Place Services, in their role as archaeological advisors to Mid Sussex District Council, to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further archaeological work either in advance of, or during, the development.
- 3.2 The specific aims of the archaeological investigations are to identify:
- To identify any further indications of Medieval activity and to integrate this with the results of previous investigations in the vicinity; and
 - To identify any remains of medieval activity including field systems and iron working.
- 3.3 The works have the potential to contribute to regional research aims set out in the South-East Research Framework (SERF):
- The use of the Weald in later prehistory (SERF Middle Bronze Age – Iron Age Periods)
 - Agricultural economy – structural aspects; animal and plant remains (SERF Roman Period)
 - Better understanding of the landscape of primarily dispersed rural settlement in terms of development and maintenance over space and time (SERF: Medieval)
 - The development of the village in the post-medieval period (SERF: Post-Medieval and Modern)
 - To what extent and in what ways have developments in agricultural technology and demand influenced historic landscape development? (SERF Historic Landscapes)
 - To what extent and in what ways can past landscapes and their components (prehistoric onwards) be understood in the present landscape? (SERF Historic Landscapes)
 - An understanding of the multifaceted landscape (SERF: Post-medieval and modern period)
 - Study of more post-medieval artefact assemblages from urban/rural settings is needed to address consumption, availability, social habits, social status and the zoning of classes (SERF: Post-Medieval and Modern)

4.0 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 Fifty-one trenches measuring 30m by 2m trench will be excavated across the land parcels as shown in Figures 2-5. This corresponds to a 5% sample of the c. 6.08ha. site. Trenches have been located so as to avoid mapped underground services and off-set a least 5m from mapped locations (Figure 5).
- 4.2 The trenches will be accurately laid out using a GPS survey system or total station and tied to the OS National Grid. Some modification to the suggested trench positions may be necessary due to obstructions. Significant variations to the trench layout will be discussed with the client and the Place Services Archaeological Officer.
- 4.3 The trenches will be scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner.
- 4.4 The trenches will be excavated using a suitable mechanical excavator (360° excavator) equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. The tracked excavator will remove only undifferentiated topsoil, made ground and subsoils in spits of no more than 100mm until archaeological deposits/structures are encountered or the top of the underlying natural sediments reached. Care will be taken that archaeological deposits are not damaged due to over machining. All machining will stop if significant archaeological deposits are encountered. All machining will be undertaken under the supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist.
- 4.5 On conclusion of the evaluation, the spoil will be backfilled by ASE's plant. No formal reinstatement to previous condition (i.e. re-turfing) will be undertaken.
- 4.6 A Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) will be produced and agreed with the client prior to the commencement of the work. A copy of this document will be maintained on site by ASE throughout the fieldwork.

5.0 EXCAVATION AND RECORDING TECHNIQUES

- 5.1 All exposed archaeological features and deposits will be cleaned by hand, planned and recorded. All discrete cut features will be sampled as a minimum by half section (i.e. 50% of feature excavated). At least 25% of any linear feature will be sectioned to produce a vertical section where practicable. A minimum 50% of structural features (beamslots, ring ditches) - actual surviving structural elements (walls, collapse/debris fields) will be exposed, cleaned and preserved for excavation in more appropriate circumstances. 50-100% domestic/industrial working features (hearths, ovens) - unless large & structural, in which case see above. All features will be planned at the scale of 1:20 in relation to the trench outline. Further plans at the scale of 1:20 and sections at the scale of 1:10 will be drawn as necessary. Plans will be drawn on plastic film. Comparative site levels will be recorded for each feature or important context with reference to an OS bench mark, or if unfeasible to an arbitrary on-site datum.
- 5.2 All archaeological features and deposits will be recorded using the standard context record sheets used by Archaeology South-East, UCL. A metal detector will be used to scan all excavated material.

- 5.3 The client will be informed immediately of any archaeological features or deposits worthy of preservation *in situ*, and generally of any high quality archaeological remains in order that this written scheme of investigation can be reviewed if necessary.
- 5.4 The strategy for sampling archaeological and environmental deposits and structures encountered during any stage of archaeological fieldwork (which can include soils, timbers, animal bone and human burials) will be developed with reference to Historic England guidelines for environmental archaeology (HE 2025) and waterlogged wood (HE 2025) and in consultation with the Historic England regional advisor or relevant specialists. Samples will be collected from suitable excavated contexts, including dated/datable buried soils, well-sealed slowly silting features, sealed hearths, sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, peats, water-logged or cess deposits.
- 5.5 Bulk soil samples (of 40 litres where possible or 100% of the context if smaller) will be taken to target the recovery of plant remains (including wood charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Specialist samples may also be taken to target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), fish and small bone, molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects (in small <20 litre samples) or large mammal bones and marine molluscs (in large samples of ~80-100 litres). When taken, large samples will be extracted wholesale from deposits to maximise the range of bone recovered. As a general rule, waterlogged wood specimens will be photographed and recorded in detail in their original location prior to being lifted or sampled for more detailed assessment. Other scientific dating and geoarchaeological techniques will be considered and employed where appropriate.
- 5.6 In the event that human remains are discovered the Archaeological Officer will be informed. No human remains will be lifted at evaluation stage unless it is unavoidable and only with the appropriate licence from the Ministry of Justice.
- 5.7 Finds believed to fall potentially within the statutory definition of Treasure, as defined by the Treasure Act 1996 (amended 2003), shall be reported to the local Finds Liaison Officer. Should the find's status as treasure be confirmed the Coroner, the landowner and the County Archaeologist will also be informed. A record shall be provided to the Coroner and to the County Archaeologist of the date and circumstances of discovery, the identity of the finder, and the exact location of the find(s) (OS map reference to within 1 metre and find spot(s) marked onto the site plan).

6.0 PROCESSING AND IDENTIFICATION OF RECOVERED MATERIAL

- 6.1 A Selection Strategy is included in Appendix A. All pottery, bone and worked flint recovered from the excavation will be washed and marked with an appropriate code to identify the site and context. Most ceramic and other building material (not including significant diagnostic material) and burnt flint will be identified, counted, weighed and discarded. Samples will be retained as appropriate. Finds will be bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.

- 6.2 The lithic and ceramic finds will be identified by specialists within Archaeology South-East, and preliminary identification of faunal remains may be undertaken if the nature of the deposits justifies such study. All finds in an unstable condition will be stabilized using passive conservation techniques where appropriate before being deposited with the receiving museum.
- 6.3 Environmental samples will be processed using tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate (such as for waterlogged samples). Bulk samples will target recovery of plant remains (charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Waterlogged samples will be wet sieved through nested sieves and stored in wet, cool conditions or dried if considered an appropriate form of conservation for the remains. Specialist samples may also be taken from dry or waterlogged contexts. Such samples will target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects. Larger samples (80-100 litres) will be extracted wholesale from deposits rich in marine molluscs and large mammal bones. As a general rule waterlogged wood specimens will be recorded in detail in their original location. If removed they will be cleaned, photographed and a thin section sample will be taken for identification. Specimens will either be stored in wet cool conditions or dried if considered appropriate for the material. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.
- 6.4 The following specialists will be used if necessary and where appropriate:

Prehistoric and Roman pottery	Anna Doherty, Kayt Hawkins, Stephen Patton (ASE)
Post-Roman pottery	Sue Anderson (external), Helen Walker (external: Essex), Luke Barber (external)
CBM	Rae Regensberg (ASE)
Fired Clay	Stephen Patton, Trista Clifford (ASE)
Clay Tobacco Pipe	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Glass	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Slag	Luke Barber (external); Trista Clifford (ASE)
Metalwork	Trista Clifford, Elke Raemen (ASE)
Worked Flint	Karine Le Hégarat (ASE)
Geological material / worked stone	Luke Barber (external)
Human bone inc cremated bone	Lucy Sibun (ASE)
Animal bone including fish	Emily Johnson, Hayley Forsyth-McGee (ASE)
Marine shell	Elke Raemen (ASE); David Dunkin (external)
Registered Finds	Elke Raemen and Trista Clifford (ASE)
Coins	Trista Clifford (ASE)
Treasure administration	Trista Clifford (ASE)
Conservation	Alastair Threlfall (ASE)
Geoarchaeology	Matt Pope, Letty Ingrey, Alice Dowsett (ASE)
Macro-plant remains	Lucy Allott, Angela Vitolo, Elsa Neveu (ASE)
Charcoal and waterlogged wood	Lucy Allott, Angela Vitolo (ASE).
Historic Buildings	Michael Shapland (ASE)

7.0 REPORTING

- 7.1 Within six weeks of the completion of the fieldwork a full report on the results of the field evaluation will be submitted. It will include the local geology and archaeological evidence. It will describe the work undertaken and results of elements described above. It will include a description of archaeological features and tabulated details of finds from each context. A list of environmental samples and any samples taken for future dating will also be included. The report will include a plan showing the trench locations. Further plans, sections and photographs of features located and excavated will be included as necessary. The report will also include a timetable of works carried out, a consideration of the project strategy with a confidence rating and all other data required by the Brief.
- 7.2 Following internal review the report will be submitted to the client for comment/approval. Once any necessary amendments have been made by ASE the requisite number of bound and digital copies (PDF format) will be distributed to the Client, Archaeological Officer and other interested parties.

8.0 PREPARATION AND DEPOSITION OF THE FINDS AND ARCHIVE

- 8.1 The site archive will be assembled in accordance with the guidelines set out in Historic England's Management of Archaeological Projects 2 and 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).
- 8.2 Permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit finds and paper archive in an appropriate local museum.
- 8.3 A Data Management Plan (DMP) is included in Appendix B.
- 8.4 Digital data will be deposited with the ADS.

9.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

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

10.0 INSURANCE

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

REFERENCES

- Archaeological Archives Forum 2011, *Archaeological Archives. A guide to best practice*
- ASE, 2019. *Woodfield House, Isaacs Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex: Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (Heritage Statement)*. ASE Report 2016478.
- ASE, 2020a. *Archaeological Evaluation Report: Freek Farm Burgess Hill, West Sussex*. ASE Report 2020111.
- ASE, 2020b. *Archaeological Evaluation Report: Freek Farm, Burgess Hill West Sussex*. ASE Report 2020187.
- ASE, 2021a. *Archaeological Test Pit Evaluation Report: Land at Freek's Farm Burgess Hill, West Sussex*. ASE Report 2021002.
- ASE, 2021b. *Archaeological Investigations at the Northern Arc Eastern Bridge and Link Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex*. ASE Report 2021027.
- ASE, 2022. *Archaeological Evaluation Report: Phase 1 East, Plots 1.1, Burgess Hill, Northern Arc, West Sussex*. ASE Report 2022252.
- ASE, 2023a. *Archaeological Post-Excavation Assessment Report, Burgess Hill, Northern Arc, West Sussex*. ASE Report 2023223.
- ASE 2023b *Northern Arc Phase 1c, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 8RA Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, ASE Report: 2023291
- ASE 2025 *Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report: Northern Arc (Pond 22 and The Avenue), Burgess Hill, West Sussex*
- ASE 2026 *Brookleigh End Drainage, Burgess Hill Northern Arc, West Sussex, Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological SMS Excavation*
- BGS, 2026. <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer>
- ClfA 2020. *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*
- ClfA 2023a *Standard for Archaeological Field Evaluation*
- ClfA 2023b *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*
- CSA Environmental 2022 *Land at South Chailey, Lewes: Heritage Desk-based Assessment*, Report No: CSA/5782/03
- Europae Archaeologiae Consilium 2013, *A Standard and Guide to best practice for Archaeological Archiving in Europe*
- Historic England 2015. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*
- Historic England 2025. *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (third ed.)*

Historic England 2025. Guidance on the excavation, recording, sampling and conservation of waterlogged archaeological wood

Society for Museum Archaeology 2020, 'Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections'

WSSCC, ESSCC, CDC 2019. *Sussex Archaeological Standards*

Archaeology South-East
June 2026

Appendix A: Selection Strategy

Burgess Hill Northern Arc Phase 1C Sitecode NAP26 (ASE project number 260262)

07/05/2026 Version 1

Selection Strategy

Project Information		
Project Management		
Project Manager	Hayley Nicholls	
Archaeological Archive Manager	Nicola Elphick	
Organisation	Archaeology South-East	
Stakeholders		Date Contacted
Collecting Institution(s)	Burgess Hill Museum	tbc
Project Lead / Project Assurance	Essex County Council <i>Planning Archaeologist</i>	tbc
Landowner / Developer	Hill Holdings Ltd	tbc
Other		
Resources Required		
No additional resources have been identified at this point.		
Context		
This selection strategy has been produced using the written scheme of investigation for the project, alongside national and international archiving guidelines and ASE's in-house on-site collection policies. An evaluation area of c 6.08ha comprising the remaining land within the site boundary not previously investigated.		
Standards and Guidance		
This selection strategy has been produced in line with current best practice using standards and guidance listed in the bibliography section at the end of this document		

1 – Digital Data

Stakeholders

Archaeological Archive Manager, Project Manager and Site Supervisor (ASE)
Planning Archaeologist, Collections Curator, RPS

Selection and De-Selected Digital Data

Detailed in attached Data Management Plan (DMP)

Amendments

Date	Amendment	Rationale	Stakeholders

2 – Documents

Stakeholders

Archaeological Archive Manager, Project Manager and Site Supervisor (ASE)
Curator, Collections Curator, RPS

Selection

All site paperwork will be included in the final permanent archive. If the project produces negative results the Selection Strategy will be reconsidered.
All specialist recording sheets will be included in paper form.
All digital photographs will be printed as contact sheets. The final report(s) will be issued alongside project planning and archive documents.

Standards and guidance for paper archives consulted: see bibliography

De-Selected Documents

Any sensitive financial information or information concerning contacts for individuals involved in the project will be de-selected in line with GDPR requirements.

Amendments

Date	Amendment	Rationale	Stakeholders

3 – Materials

Material type	BULK FINDS	Section 3.	1
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Stakeholders

The Project Manager (Hayley Nicholls, ASE) and Site Supervisor (ASE) will ensure the selection strategy is

followed on site and seek appropriate advice as required.

The Finds Processing Supervisor (Steve Patton, ASE) will monitor the preliminary bulk finds archive selection strategy.

ASE's Finds Specialists will be responsible for recording and assessment of bulk finds and will advise on selection for inclusion in the preserved archive.

The Planning Archaeologist (ECC) and Collections Curator will approve retention/ deselection recommendations.

The Archaeological Archive Manager (Nicola Elphick, ASE) will apply the agreed selection strategy to the working project archive for deposition with Horsham Museums.

If amendments to the selection strategy are necessary due to the nature of the deposits uncovered on site or the finds assemblages these will be discussed with the other relevant stakeholders.

Selection

Material will be collected on site in line with ASE's on-site collection policies, **see section 3.1 of ASE Fieldwork Manual (ASE 2021).**

All collected bulk finds will be washed, dried and quantified ahead of recording and appraisal by the relevant specialists.

Material-specific standards and guidance has been consulted (e.g. ACBMG 2002; APABE 2017; Baker and Worley 2019; Barclay et al. 2016; Mitchell and Brickley 2017; ClfA 2014a; ClfA Finds Recording, Finds Reporting and Selection Toolkits)

Find Type	Selection Strategy	Stakeholders	Review Points
POTTERY	Will be recorded and assessed for selection with a presumption for selection to the permanent archive. Later post-medieval pottery may be considered for deselection where it is assessed to be of low significance	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
CTP	Will be recorded in full with a sample retained. The remainder will be deselected.	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
CBM	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/deselection with presumption for deselection of majority if of low significance	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
FIREDAUB	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/deselection with presumption for deselection if of low significance	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording

METALWORKING WASTE	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/deselection with presumption for deselection if of low significance	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
BULK METAL	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/deselection with presumption for deselection if of low significance	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
GLASS	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/deselection with presumption for deselection if of low significance.	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
FIRED CRACKED FLINT (FCF)	Will be recorded in full and discarded if unworked	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
WORKED FLINT	To be collected and recorded in full and retained as part of the permanent archive	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
WORKED BUILDING STONE	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/deselection with presumption for deselection. unless diagnostic.	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
UNWORKED STONE	Will be recorded in full and discarded	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
ANIMAL BONE	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/deselection	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
HUMAN BONE	Will be recorded in full and assessed for selection or appropriate reburial. With a presumption for reburial in line with national guidelines	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
MARINE SHELL	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/deselection with presumption for deselection.	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording
ORGANIC REMAINS e.g. wood, leather	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/deselection if of low significance	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager,	During fieldwork, processing & recording

		Planning Archaeologist	
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Uncollected Material

In line with ASE's Fieldwork Manual (section 3.1) - unstratified unworked stone, unworked flint, bone should not be collected on site. In general, other unstratified bulk finds will not be collected in full, although a sample of diagnostic/datable examples may be retained, especially if they represent types of material or periods not present in stratified deposits. Obviously modern (?20th century or later) finds will only be collected where they are of intrinsic interest. Uncollected finds will be noted on the relevant context sheets and will remain on site.

De-Selected Material

Once all finds have been processed, recorded and assessed, items identified for de-selection will be assessed for handling and education outreach purposes. If this is not appropriate, they will be collected and deselected via a reputable discard service.

Once all human bones have been processed, assessed and recorded, those not being reburied or going into the permanent archive will be assessed for their potential to add to a research reference collection.

Review Points

Project planning, fieldwork / data collection, processing, recording, and archive compilation.

Amendments

Date	Amendment	Rationale	Stakeholders

3 – Materials

Material type	REGISTERED FINDS	Section 3.	2
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Stakeholders

The Project Manager (Hayley Niholls, ASE) and Site Supervisor (ASE) will ensure the selection strategy is followed on site and seek appropriate advice as required.

The Finds Processing Supervisor (Steve Patton, ASE) will monitor the preliminary registered finds archive selection strategy.

ASE's Finds Specialists will be responsible for recording and assessment of bulk finds and will advise on selection for inclusion in the preserved archive.

The Planning Archaeologist (ECC) and Collections Curator will approve retention/ deselection recommendations.

The Archaeological Archive Manager (Nicola Elphick, ASE) will apply the agreed selection strategy to the working project archive for deposition with Horsham Museums.

If amendments to the selection strategy are necessary due to the nature of the deposits uncovered on site or the finds assemblages these will be discussed with the other relevant stakeholders.

Selection

All artefacts identified as Registered Finds (RFs) as per ASE's on-site collection policies (ASE 2021). will be assigned a unique RF number and cleaned/dried/conserved (as appropriate) ahead of recording and appraisal.

Find Type	Selection Strategy	Stakeholders	Review Points
REGISTERED FINDS	Will be recorded in full. For registered finds, presumption is that they will be retained for archaeological archive.	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording

Uncollected Material

All Registered Finds will be collected in full.

De-Selected Material

Registered Finds will generally be retained for archive.

Review Points

Project planning, fieldwork / data collection, processing, recording, and archive compilation.

Amendments

Date	Amendment	Rationale	Stakeholders

3 – Materials

Material type	ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS	Section 3.	2
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Stakeholders

The Project Manager (Hayley Nicholls, ASE) and Site Supervisor (ASE) will ensure the selection strategy is followed on site and seek appropriate advice as required.

ASE's Environmental Specialists will be responsible for monitoring the preliminary bulk sample archive selection strategy. They will also record and appraise materials derived from bulk earth samples and will advise on selection for inclusion in the archaeological archive.

The Planning Archaeologist and Collections Curator will approve retention/ deselection recommendations.

The Archaeological Archive Manager (Nicola Elphick, ASE) will apply the agreed selection strategy to the working project archive for deposition.

If amendments to the selection strategy are necessary due to the nature of the deposits uncovered on site or the finds assemblages these will be discussed with the other relevant stakeholders.

Selection

Bulk samples will be collected on site in line with ASE's on-site collection policies, see section 2.6 of ASE Fieldwork Manual (ASE 2021).

Remains extracted from the processed samples will be assessed and recorded by the relevant specialist.

This selection strategy has been produced using current guidance and standards (Historic England 2008, 2010, 2015; Campbell et al. 2011; Baker and Worley 2019)

Find Type	Selection Strategy	Stakeholders	Review Points
FINDS FROM BULK SAMPLES e.g. Charred plant remains, charcoal, fish bone	Will be recorded and assessed for selection/discard	Specialist, Collections Curator, Archaeological Archive Manager, Planning Archaeologist	During fieldwork, processing & recording

Uncollected Material

De-Selected Material

Once all bulk earth samples have been processed, recorded and assessed, items identified for de-selection will be assessed for handling and education outreach purposes. If this is not appropriate, they will be collected and deselected via a reputable discard service.

Review Points

Project planning, fieldwork / data collection, processing, recording, and archive compilation.

Amendments

Date	Amendment	Rationale	Stakeholders

4 – References

Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England (APABE), 2017 *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England*

Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (ACBMG), 2002 *Ceramic Building Material Minimum Standards for Recovery, Curation, Analysis and Publication*

ASE, 2021 Fieldwork Manual: Excavation and Recording Guidelines

- Baker, P, and Worley, F, 2019 *Animal Bones and Archaeology: Recovery to archive*.
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- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014a *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014b *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), *Selection Toolkit*:
<https://www.archaeologists.net/selection-toolkit>
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), *Specialist Recording Toolkit*:
<https://www.archaeologists.net/toolkits/finds-recording>
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), *Specialist Reporting Toolkit*:
<https://www.archaeologists.net/reporting-toolkit>
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), *Dig Digital Online Resource*:
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- Historic England, 2008 *Guidelines for the Curation of Waterlogged Macroscopic Plant and Invertebrate Remains*
- Historic England, 2010 *Waterlogged Wood Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood*
- Historic England, 2015 *Geoarchaeology: Using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record*
- Mitchell, P D, and Brickley, M, 2017 *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains*
- Perrin, K, Brown, DH, Lange, G, Bibby, D, Carlsson, A, Degraeve, A, Kuna, M, Larsson, Y, Pálsdóttir, SU, Stoll-Tucker, B, Dunning, C, and Rogalla Von Bieberstein, A, 2014 [The Standard and Guide to Best Practice for Archaeological Archiving in Europe](#) (EAC Guidelines 1)

Appendix B: Data Management Plan

BURGESS HILL NORTHERN ARC PHASE 1C

SITE CODE: NAP26

07/05/2026 VERSION 1

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Creator: Nicola Elphick

Affiliation: Archaeology South-East

Template: Digital Curation Centre

Last modified: 07-05-2026

Project abstract

An evaluation area of c 6.08ha comprising the remaining land within the site boundary not previously investigated.

Dataset Repository: Burgess Hill Museum & ADS

Data Collection

What data will you collect or create?

During project planning a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and Selection Strategy will be produced alongside this digital management plan.

During fieldwork digital images will be captured to document the site.

CAD and GIS software will be used.

In the post excavation stage finds specialists will create digital finds records, plans will be produced and a grey literature report written.

How will the data be collected or created?

File naming structure for all files will be project number- what it is- Site code and HER event number. For example: 180932-Final Report-CPI18-ECB4568

Trained members of staff will capture digital images with a digital camera of no less than 12 megapixels or 1/2" CMOS sensor on site. All digital images will be captured in Jpeg format. Finds specialist tables/ records will be created using up-to-date Microsoft Office software. The location of archaeology will be recorded using one of, or a combination of the following methods: survey grade GNSS equipment with SMARTNET correctional data enabled (for example Leica GS18); TST (e.g Leica TS16) tied in to the OS National Grid;

photogrammetric survey using a terrestrial or RPAS (remote pilot aircraft system) mounted camera, georeferenced using GCP (ground control points) tied in with GNSS or TST to the National Grid. RPAS mounted camera will have a 1" CMOS sensor or greater. All spatial data will be stored according to the OSGB36 (EPSG27700) projection/coordinate system. Grey literature reports will be created using up-to-date Microsoft Office software and the drawings will be produced using AutoCAD Map 3D 2018 (or later), and appropriate and current GIS software (ArcMap \ArcGIS Pro\QGIS). The report will also be saved as a Pdfa using Adobe Acrobat 9 Pro or later.

Documentation and Metadata

What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

A metadata document will be produced for this project based on the ADS (Archaeology Data Service) guidelines and template for documenting metadata.

In addition, Archaeology South-East (ASE) finds manual which documents our procedure for finds recording will also accompany the project.

Ethics and Legal Compliance

How will you manage any ethical issues?

Where applicable all personal information will be removed prior to the project's deposition. All sensitive data will be restricted to project managers and will be kept for 5 years prior to being destroyed.

How will you manage copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues?

Archaeology South-East own the digital data but will sign over all rights during the deposition process. We will still retain the right to use images for our own marketing and internal purposes.

As part of the deposition a copy of the report will be uploaded onto OASIS. There will be no delay in the upload of this unless the client requests this.

Storage and Backup

How will the data be stored and backed up during the research?

Archaeology South East backs up their data onto external servers at University College London (UCL) at the end of each day. This is an automated process. In the event of an incident Archaeology South-East's IT support officer and archive officer will be responsible for the recovery of digital data.

How will you manage access and security?

Access to the digital data is via a secured password enabled route onto central servers. Each collaborator that will create or need access to the data will have their own log in. Digital images will be captured and stored onto an external device and these images will be uploaded onto the server once fieldwork has been completed by the project officer.

Selection and Preservation

Which data are of long-term value and should be retained, shared, and/or preserved?

The retained digital archive will be deposited alongside the physical archive at a local repository once all fieldwork and post excavation work has been completed. ASE will comply with each institutions digital requirements prior to deposition.

What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?

Once the dataset has been deposited with the archive repository ASE will retain a copy of the dataset. This dataset will be migrated onto the latest formats for future use.

Data Sharing

How will you share the data?

The final grey literature report will be uploaded onto the ASE website, OASIS and West Sussex County Council's HER. Any other information/ data sharing will be done via requests from members of the public/researchers to either ASE or the repository.

Are any restrictions on data sharing required?

None are required.

Responsibilities and Resources

Who will be responsible for data management?

ASE's archive officer is responsible for implementing the DMP and ensuring it is reviewed and revised as appropriate.

The project officer is responsible for the capture and quality of the digital images.

Each finds specialist is responsible for their respective data sets and the quality they produce.

ASE's IT officer will be responsible for data storage and backup.

ASE's archive officer will also be responsible for metadata production, data archiving and sharing.

What resources will you require to deliver your plan?

Additional funds may be required for the deposition of the dataset to the repository.

This data management plan has been created using current best-practice guidelines for digital data:

ADS (1) Data Management and sharing Plans

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/advice/DataManagementPlans>

ADS (2) Guides to good practice <http://guides.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/g2gp/Main>

ADS (3) Guidelines for Depositors

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/advice/guidelinesForDepositors>

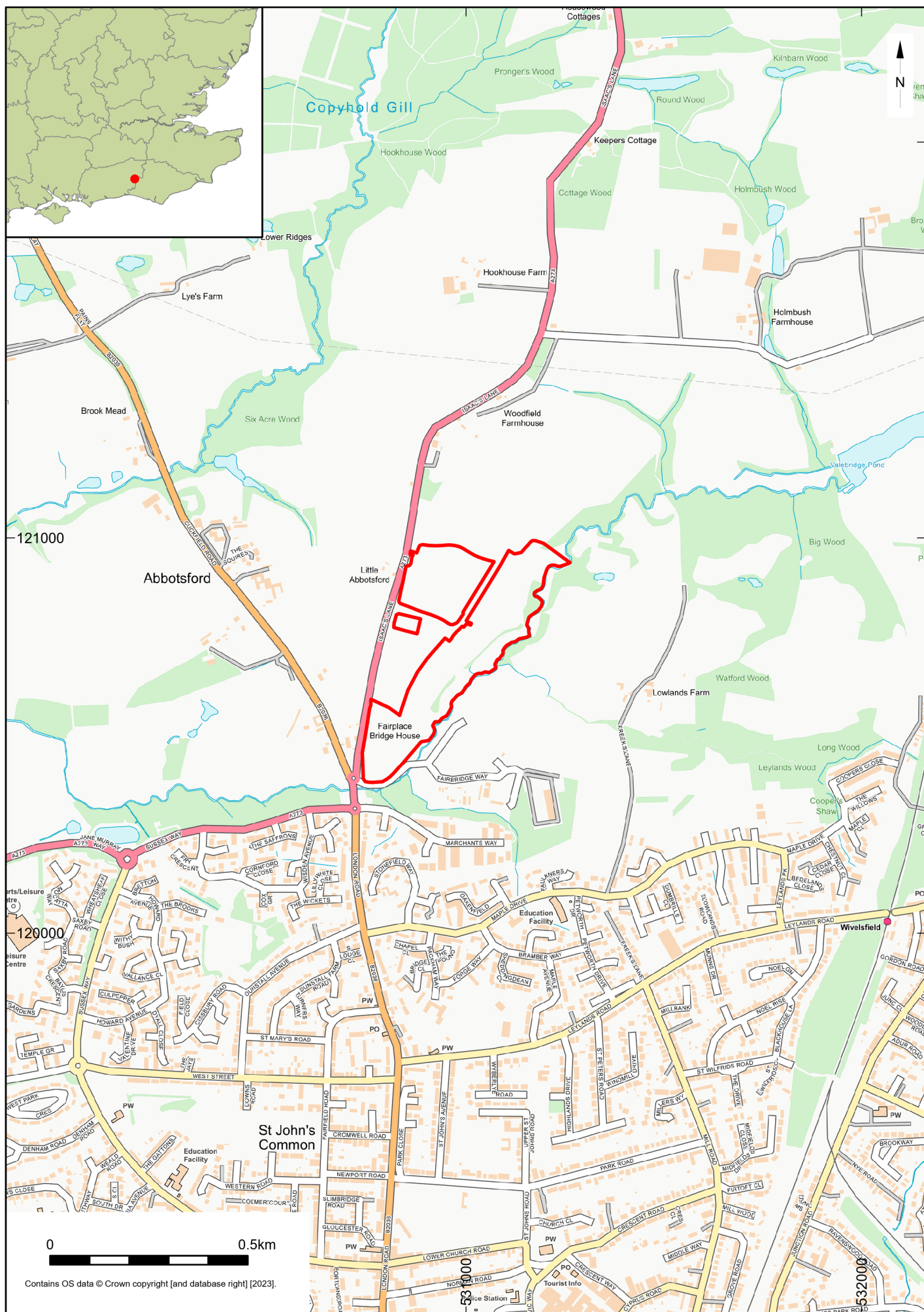
ADS (4) Guidance for the selection of material for deposit and archive

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/advice/selectionGuidance.xhtml>

Brown, D H, 2011 *Archaeological Archives – a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*. Second Edition. Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF)

Perrin, K, Brown, DH, Lange, G, Bibby, D, Carlsson, A, Degraeve, A, Kuna, M, Larsson, Y, Pálsdóttir, SU, Stoll-Tucker, B, Dunning, C and Rogalla Von Bieberstein, A (2014) *The Standard and Guide to Best Practice for Archaeological Archiving in Europe* (EAC Guidelines 1)

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/arches/Wiki.jsp?page=The%20Standard%20and%20Guide%20to%20Best%20Practice%20in%20Archaeological%20Archiving%20in%20Europe>



© Archaeology South-East		Burgess Hill: Northern Arc Phase 1c, RH15 8RA	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 260262	May 2026	Site Location	
Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: AC		

