



Land at Folders Lane Burgess Hill, West Sussex

Archaeological Evaluation



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Jones Homes, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 1.74 ha parcel of land located to the south of Folders Lane, Burgess Hill, centred on NGR 532972 117927.

The proposed development comprises the construction of 40 dwellings, with access from a previous phase of development and provision for parking, access roads and landscaping. The evaluation was undertaken as part of a planning condition on the development.

The evaluation identified a single ditch terminal and three modern agricultural furrows within three of the 12 excavated trenches. The three furrows were all recorded cutting through subsoil deposits and were clearly post-medieval/modern in date. The ditch terminal shared an alignment and profile with one of the furrows and may represent a furrow rather than a ditch. The only datable material recovered during the evaluation was a single post-medieval/modern sherd of pottery.

The evaluation was undertaken between 6 and 9 July 2026

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Jones Homes for commissioning the archaeological evaluation. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Historic Environment Consultant at Place Services, who monitored the project for Mid-Sussex District Council.

Land at Folders Lane Burgess Hill, West Sussex

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Jones Homes, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 1.74 ha parcel of land located to the south of Folders Lane, Burgess Hill, centred on NGR 532972 117927 (Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The proposed development comprises the construction of 40 dwellings, with access from a previous phase of development and provision for parking, access roads and landscaping. A planning application (**DM/23/0532**) submitted to Mid Sussex District Council, was granted, subject to conditions, one of which relates to archaeological investigation.

Condition 6

- i. No development or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until the completion of the programme of archaeological evaluation identified in the submitted Written Scheme of Investigation and confirmed by the local authority archaeological advisors.*
- ii. A mitigation strategy detailing the excavation / preservation strategy shall be submitted to the local planning authority following the completion of the archaeological evaluation.*
- iii. No development or preliminary groundworks can commence on those areas containing archaeological deposits until the satisfactory completion of fieldwork, as detailed in the mitigation strategy, and which has been approved in writing by the local planning authority.*
- iv. The applicant will submit to the local planning authority a post excavation assessment (to be submitted within six months of the completion of the fieldwork, unless otherwise agreed in advance with the Planning Authority). This will result in the completion of post excavation analysis, preparation of a full site archive and report ready for deposition at the local museum, and submission of a publication rep*

Reason: To protect the archaeological value of the site and to accord with policy DP34 of the Mid Sussex District Plan 2014-2031.

1.1.3 All works were undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed (Wessex Archaeology 2022). The Historic Environment Consultant (HEC) at Place Services approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to the fieldwork.

1.1.4 The evaluation, comprising 12 trial trenches, was undertaken 6 to 9 July 2026.

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.

- 1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the proposed development and facilitate an informed decision with regard to the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The evaluation area is located to the south of Folders Lane, on the southern side of the town of Burgess Hill. The West Sussex County border is immediately to the south and east of the site. The southern properties of Folders Lane are to the north, a new housing estate is to the west and the Ridgeview wine estate buildings are to the south. The site is otherwise predominantly surrounded by agricultural land and hedgerows. The site is on a gentle slope with views of the South Downs
- 1.3.2 The underlying geology is mapped as Weald Clay Formation - sandstone and mudstone. No superficial geology is recorded (British Geological Survey 2026).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has not been previously assessed. There are no previous investigations related to this development. The following section summaries the recorded historical environment resource within a 1 km study area of the development. The results are presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the West Sussex Historic Environment Record (WSHER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

2.2 Previous investigations

88 Folders Lane

- 2.2.1 A desk-based assessment (DBA CgMs 2014) and a geophysical survey (ASE 2017) have been carried out on a 7 hectare area 50 m to the west of the site. The DBA reported a low to medium potential for archaeological resources and the geophysical survey results indicated the presence of linear features that may represent ditches and a ridge and furrow system. An archaeological evaluation was requested but the results of this are not yet available.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric

- 2.3.1 The prehistoric period in this part of Sussex is very well represented in the archaeological record. The earliest find in the Burgess Hill area is a single blade or burin from the Palaeolithic period.
- 2.3.2 A number of sites in and around Burgess Hill have recorded the presence of probably Mesolithic flints.
- 2.3.3 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Folders Farm in 2007 on the northern side of Folders Lane. Over 80 worked flints were found to the north-east of the site at the confluence of two streams. The residual finds dated from the Neolithic through to the Iron Age. In addition, a number of undated pits and post holes were recorded (MWS9092).
- 2.3.4 An archaeological watching brief approximately 1 km to the north-east of the site recorded a concentration of worked and waste flints dating from the Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age (MES7395 & MES7394).

2.3.5 A Bronze Age hoard composed of 42 objects, including a brass bar, a crucible and several masses of molten copper was found in Ditchling Common approximately 850 m north east of the study site (MES1301). Other Bronze Age artefacts recorded in the study area are a spearhead 1 km to the south (MES2069) and a socketed axe 1 km to the south-west (MWS968).

2.3.6 A collection of prehistoric worked flint has been recorded 900 m to the north-west of the site (MWS8064).

Roman

2.3.7 It is likely that during the Roman period the study site lay within the heavily wooded weald and is unlikely to have been a focus of significant Roman settlement or activity.

2.3.8 The only Roman remains recorded within the study area is a unguentarium at Pope's Farm on Ditchling Common approximately 900 m south-east of the site (MES1394).

Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

2.3.9 No evidence dating to the Anglo-Saxon period has been recorded within the vicinity of the site.

2.3.10 It is likely that during the medieval period the site lay within the estate of Frekeberge and was given over to woodland or agricultural land.

2.3.11 A large medieval farmstead known as 'Frekeberge' is recorded immediately to the south, on the site of the present Fragbarrow Farm and is designated an East Sussex Archaeology Notification Area (MES8051).

2.3.12 A small medieval settlement is recorded 700 to the south-east of the site (MES8051) and ridge and furrow lines have been recorded 900m to the north-east (MES23346)

Post-Medieval and Modern

2.3.13 Many of the existing farms and homesteads within the vicinity of the site will have originated within the post medieval period as the Wealden Forest began to be cleared and brought into cultivation. The archaeological evaluation undertaken at Folders Farm to the north of the site recorded evidence of boundary ditches and tree throws suggesting enclosure and woodland clearance during this period.

2.3.14 There are a number of records of post-medieval sites and structures within the study area including: early 18th century brickworks (MES1315), a trackway (MES4599), a parkscape (MWS 120), a number of brickyards and brick fields (MWS4891, 4892 & 5133) and a number of historic farmsteads (MWS9093, 9518, 9598, 10390 & 10585).

2.3.15 Gardner and Gream's map of 1795 shows the site occupied by agricultural land by this date. There was little change by the time of the 1813 OS map of the area and Greenwood's map of 1825. The 1839 Ditchling Tithe Map depicts the site as comprising of a number of fields and the site remains unchanged on the 1874 OS map. The housing along Folders Lane is first depicted on the 1937 OS map

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022), were to:

- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
- inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022) and in general compliance with ClfA standards and guidance (ClfA 2023a–b). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

- 4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the approximate positions proposed in the WSI, although trenches 3, 10, 11 and 12 shortened slightly due to on-site constraints (Fig. 1).
- 4.2.2 A total of 12 trial trenches, each originally measuring 30 m in length and 2 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.
- 4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the project aims.

- 4.2.4 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained.
- 4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the HEC were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

Recording

- 4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.
- 4.2.7 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014a), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (Historic England 2025), and ClfA's (n.d. a) *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The HEC monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and the HEC.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 A total of 3 of the 12 excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, indicating archaeological remains are present within the site, although three of those features are modern agricultural furrows (Fig. 1).
- 5.1.2 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological features and deposits discussed by trench.
- 5.1.3 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Figure 1 shows the site location and trench layout. Figure 2 shows the archaeological results.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The stratigraphic sequence was consistent across the site, with mid-grey brown silty clay topsoil present across the site to depths of between 0.1 and 0.2 m below ground level (bgl). The topsoil deposits directly overlay deposits of mid-brown yellow/brown silty clay subsoil between 0.14 and 0.22 m thick, which in turn overlaid of mid red/yellow orange clay natural.

5.3 Archaeological results

- 5.3.1 Trenches 1-7, 9 and 11 did not contain any archaeological features or deposits and are not discussed further.

Trench 8

- 5.3.2 Trench 8 was located in the southern half of the site, on an east/west alignment, and contained a single agricultural furrow. North-northwest/south-southeast aligned furrow 804 was recorded in the eastern half of the trench, cut through the subsoil deposits, and contained a single secondary fill. The furrow measured at least 2.35 m long, 1.35 m wide and 0.1 m deep, with shallow concave sides and a flat base.

Trench 10

- 5.3.3 Trench 10 was located in the southern half of the site, on a northwest/southeast alignment, and contained an agricultural furrow and a ditch terminal. Northeast/southwest aligned furrow 1007 was recorded in the northwest half of the trench, cut through the subsoil deposits, and contained two secondary fills. The furrow measured at least 2.4 m long, 0.31 m wide and 0.3 m deep, with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. A single sherd of post-medieval pottery (5g) was recovered from the lower fill.

- 5.3.4 North-northwest/south-southeast aligned ditch terminal 1004 was recorded in the southeast half of the trench and contained two secondary fills. The ditch measured at least 2.3 m long, 1 m wide and 0.25 m deep, with shallow concave sides and a flat base. It is possible the terminal is actually an agricultural furrow, due to its similar profile and alignment to parallel furrow 804, but the feature was not seen clearly truncating the subsoil deposits as all of the furrows were.

Trench 12

- 5.3.5 Trench 12 was located in the southern half of the site, on an east-northeast/west-southwest alignment, and contained a single agricultural furrow. Northeast/southwest aligned furrow 1204 was recorded in the approximate centre of the trench, cut through the subsoil deposits and contained a single secondary fill. The furrow measured at least 2.4 m long, 2.1 m wide and 0.19 m deep, with shallow, concave sides and a flat base.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 The finds were limited to a single pottery sherd, which has been cleaned, air dried, quantified (count and weight in grammes) and bagged, and recorded to a digital database which forms part of the archive. The reporting presented here corresponds with ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (ClfA 2021) Level 1: 'Description', which aims to include appropriate quantification and a broad characterisation of the assemblage.
- 6.1.2 The single sherd of pottery, recovered from furrow 1007, is a bodysherd of glazed red earthenware which dates from the late 16th to late 18th centuries AD. It is internally and externally glazed and thin-walled, potentially from a bowl.

Table 1 Summary of finds by trench number, feature and material (count and weight in grammes)

Trench	Feature	Material	Count	Weight (g)
10	Furrow 1007	Pottery	1	5

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits requiring environmental sampling were identified during the evaluation.

8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1.1 The evaluation was successful in fulfilling the aims and objectives as laid out in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022). One archaeological feature was recorded, along with three modern agricultural furrows, in three of the excavated trenches.
- 8.1.2 The ditch terminal was undated and had no clear purpose, but is likely to also be agricultural in nature. The terminal was roughly aligned with one of the furrows, with the two remaining furrows were on a completely separate alignment, suggesting that the terminal may also have been an agricultural furrow. The three agricultural furrows were all seen cutting through subsoil deposits, indicating they are recent features and not archaeologically significant. The only find retained from the site was a post-medieval sherd of pottery which was recovered from one of the furrows.

9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

- 9.1.1 The archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Meopham and Amesbury. The site falls within an area where there is currently no collecting museum. Every effort will be made to identify a suitable repository for the archive resulting from the fieldwork, and if this is not possible, Wessex Archaeology will initiate discussions with the local planning authority in an attempt to resolve the issue. If no suitable repository is identified, Wessex Archaeology will continue to store the archive, but may institute a charge to the client for ongoing storage beyond a set period.

9.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

- 9.2.1 The physical archive will be prepared in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014b; SMA 1995).
- 9.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the site code 255640, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 01 files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics

Digital archive

- 9.2.3 The digital archive, which comprises born-digital data (e.g., site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

9.3 Selection strategy

- 9.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected for retention are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities (i.e., the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving museum).
- 9.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's (n.d. b) *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (e.g., Wessex Archaeology's specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.
- 9.3.3 Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. The proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (e.g., museum, local authority), prior to deposition of the archive. Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

Finds

- 9.3.4 Pottery (1 sherd): single sherd of post-medieval pottery, limited potential. Discard.

Documentary records

- 9.3.5 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (written scheme of investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

Digital data

- 9.3.6 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others that are not directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

9.4 Security copy

- 9.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g., Brown 2011), on completion of the project, a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file.

9.5 OASIS

- 9.5.1 Given the very limited results of the fieldwork, it is considered that the site conforms to the definition of a 'sterile project' (i.e., one that produces nothing of evidential value), according to the ClfA (n.d. b) *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives (archaeological archives from sterile projects)*. It is therefore recommended that only selected digital data are deposited with the ADS, an approach commensurate with the scale and significance of the project. Deposition will involve uploading of the site report via OASIS only.

- 9.5.2 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 2). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the HEC on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Archive and report copyright

- 10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
- 10.1.2 Digital copies of the final report will be made available to the Historic Environment Record (HER) through OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations). Geospatial/survey data forming part of the digital archive will be supplied, on request, to the HER.

10.2 Third party data copyright

- 10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summaries

depth bgl = below ground level

Trench No 1		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. rare rooting.	0.00–0.13	
102		Subsoil	Mid brownish yellow. silty clay. moderate manganese.	0.13–0.32	
103		Natural	Mid reddish yellow. clay. moderate manganese.	0.32–0.38+	

Trench No 2		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.33 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. rare rooting.	0.00–0.10	
202		Subsoil	Mid brownish yellow. silty clay.	0.10–0.25	
203		Natural	Mid reddish yellow with a blue hue. clay.	0.25–0.33+	

Trench No 3		Length 22 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. rare rooting.	0.00–0.10	
302		Subsoil	Mid brownish yellow. silty clay.	0.10–0.28	
303		Natural	Mid reddish orange . clay. moderate rooting.	0.28–0.40+	

Trench No 4		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. rare rooting.	0.00–0.15	
402		Subsoil	Mid brownish yellow. silty clay.	0.15–0.31	
403		Natural	Mid reddish orange . clay. moderate rooting.	0.31–0.38+	

Trench No 5		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. rare rooting.	0.00–0.10	
502		Subsoil	Mid brownish yellow. silty clay. rare manganese.	0.10–0.28	
503		Natural	Mid reddish orange. clay. moderate manganese.	0.28–0.38+	



Trench No 6		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. rare rooting.	0.00–0.12	
602		Subsoil	Mid brownish yellow. silty clay. rare manganese.	0.12–0.26	
603		Natural	Mid reddish orange. clay. moderate manganese.	0.26–0.36+	

Trench No 7		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.46 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
701		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. abundant rooting.	0.00–0.17	
702		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown. silty clay.	0.17–0.36	
703		Natural	Mid yellowish orange. clay. rare rooting.	0.36–0.46+	

Trench No 8		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.39 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
801		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. moderate rooting.	0.00–0.15	
802		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown. silty clay.	0.15–0.30	
803		Natural	Mid yellowish orange. clay. rare rooting.	0.30–0.39+	
804	805	Furrow	Linear furrow aligned NW- SE with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 2.35 m. Width: 1.35 m. Depth: 0.10 m.		
805	804	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay		

Trench No 9		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.39 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
901		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. abundant rooting.	0.00–0.17	
902		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown. silty clay.	0.17–0.36	
903		Natural	Mid yellowish orange. clay. rare rooting.	0.36–0.39+	

Trench No 10		Length 23 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
1001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. abundant rooting.	0.00–0.20	
1002		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown. silty clay.	0.20–0.36	
1003		Natural	Mid yellowish orange. clay. moderate rooting.	0.36–0.40+	



1004	1005, 1006	Ditch terminal	Linear ditch terminal aligned N-S with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >2.30 m. Width: 1.00 m. Depth: 0.25 m.	
1005	1004	Secondary fill	Light blueish yellow silty clay with manganese	
1006	1004	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with rooting	
1007	1008, 1009	Furrow	Linear furrow aligned NW- SE with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 0.31 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
1008	1007	Secondary fill	Light grey silty clay	
1009	1007	Secondary fill	Mid grey with patches of yellow silty clay	

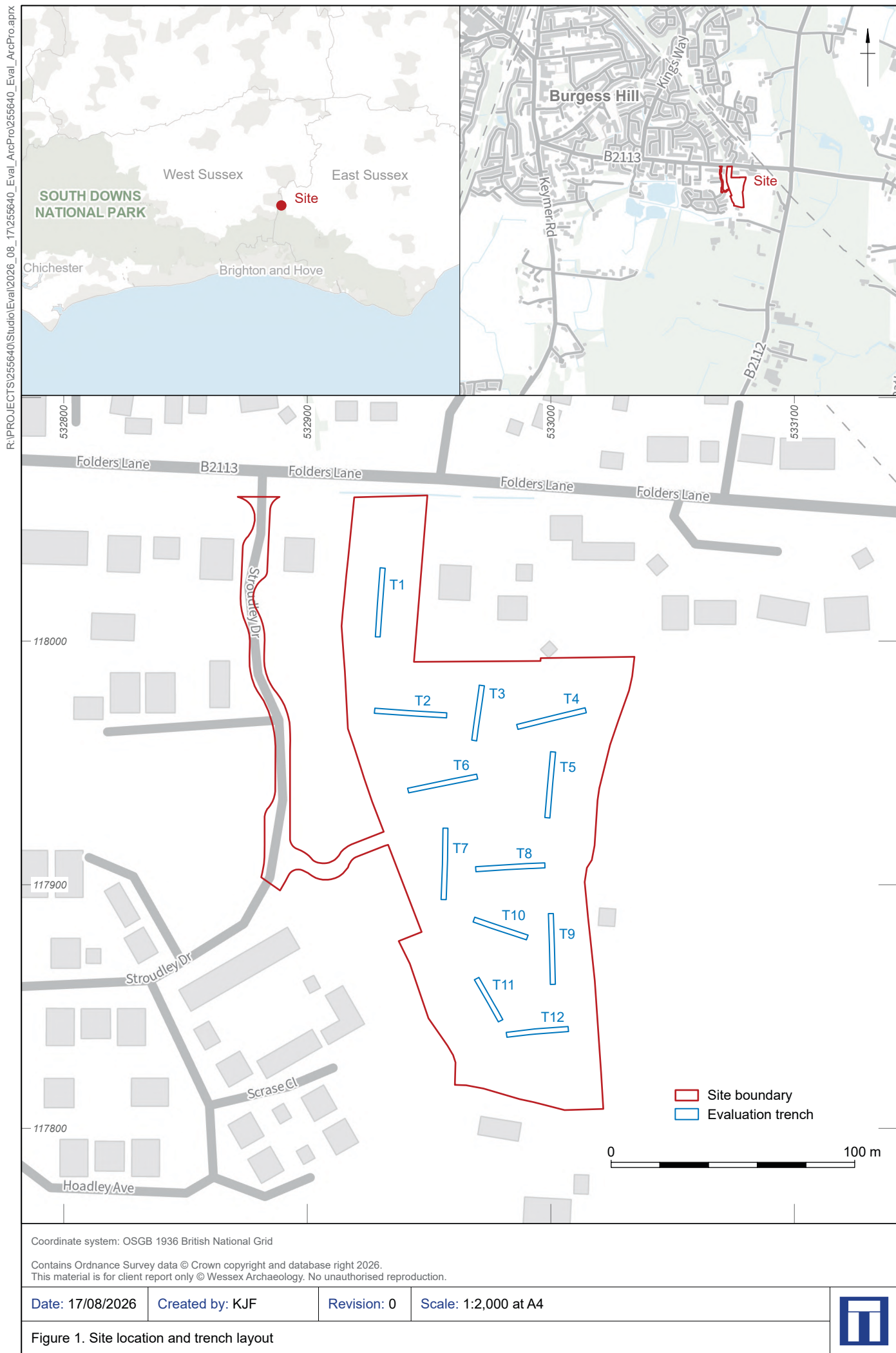
Trench No 11		Length 20 m		Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
1101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. moderate rooting.	0.00–0.15	
1102		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown. silty clay.	0.15–0.35	
1103		Natural	Mid yellowish orange. clay. rare rooting.	0.35–0.45+	

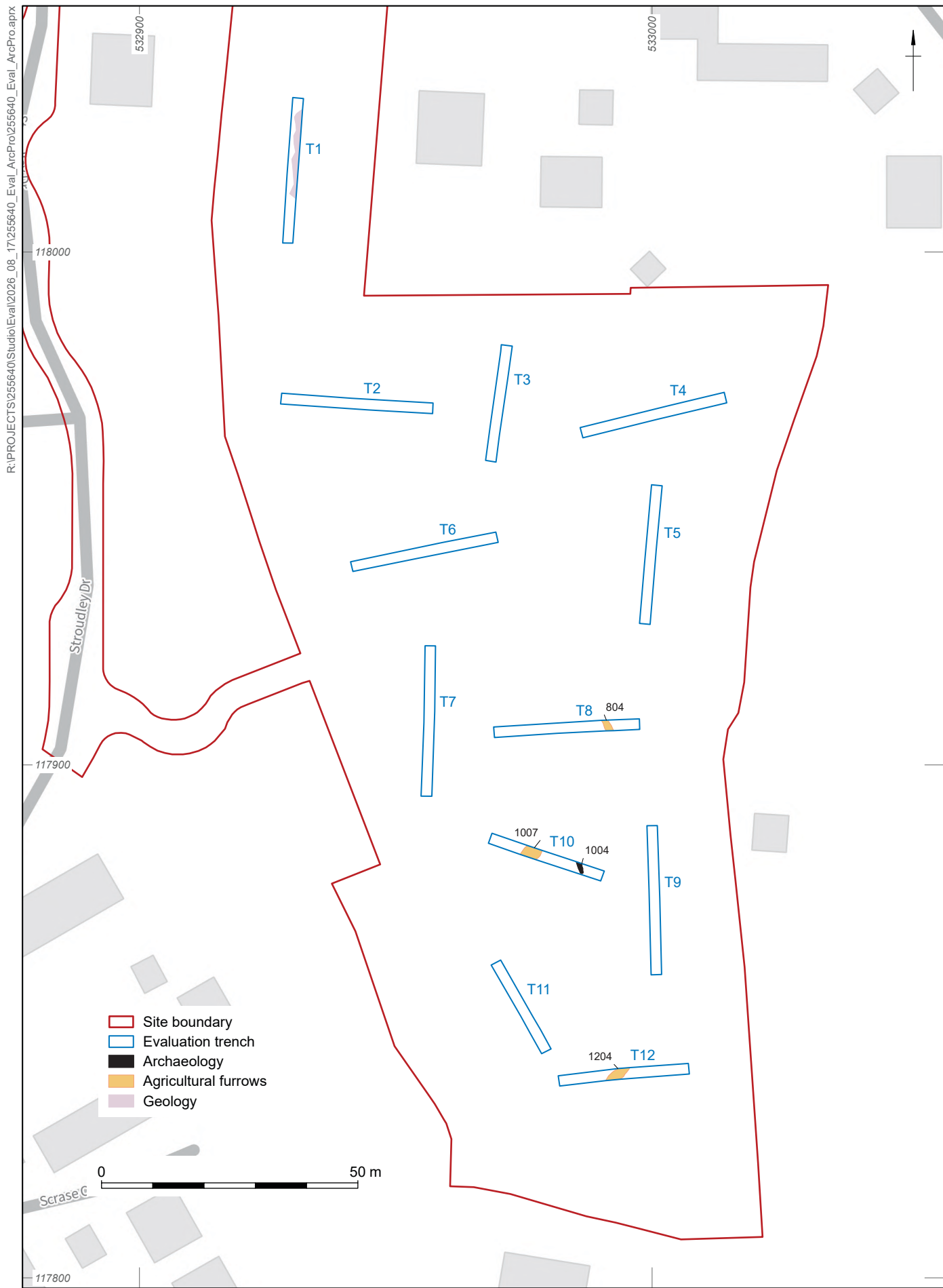
Trench No 12		Length 26 m		Width 2 m	Depth 0.42 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
1201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. silty clay. abundant rooting.	0.00–0.14	
1202		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown. silty clay.	0.14–0.36	
1203		Natural	Mid yellowish orange. clay. moderate rooting.	0.36–0.42+	
1204	1205	Furrow	Linear furrow aligned NNE / SSW with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >2.40 m. Width: 2.10 m. Depth: 0.19 m.		
1205	1204	Secondary fill	Light orangish brown, grey mottling silty clay with rare sub-rounded flint, rare CBM inclusions		



Appendix 2 OASIS summary

OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-545157
Project Name	Land at Folders Lane, Burgess Hill, West Sussex: Archaeological Evaluation
Sitename	Land at Folders Lane, Burgess Hill, West Sussex
Sitecode	255640
Project Identifier(s)	255640
Activity type	Evaluation
Planning Id	DM/23/0532
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	06-Jul-2026 - 09-Jul-2026
Location	Land at Folders Lane, Burgess Hill, West Sussex NGR: TQ 32972 17927 LL: 50.94545452642698, -0.108566884209189 12 Fig: 532972,117927
Administrative Areas	Country: England County/Local Authority: West Sussex Local Authority District: Mid Sussex Parish: Burgess Hill
Project Methodology	12 trial trenches, each originally measuring 30 m in length and 2 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed. Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the project aims.
Project Results	The proposed development comprises the construction of 40 dwellings, with access from a previous phase of development and provision for parking, access roads and landscaping. The evaluation was undertaken as part of a planning condition on the development. The evaluation identified a single ditch terminal and three modern agricultural furrows within three of the 12 excavated trenches. The three furrows were all recorded cutting through subsoil deposits and were clearly post-medieval/modern in date. The ditch terminal shared an alignment and profile with one of the furrows, and may represent a furrow rather than a ditch. The only datable material recovered during the evaluation was a single post-medieval/modern sherd of pottery.
Keywords	Ditch - Uncertain - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Private or public corporation Jones Homes (Southern) LTD
HER	West Sussex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Martin Banikov
HER Identifiers	





Coordinate system: OSGB 1936 British National Grid

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Date: 17/08/2026	Created by: KJF	Revision: 0	Scale: 1:1,000 at A4
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Figure 2. Archaeological results



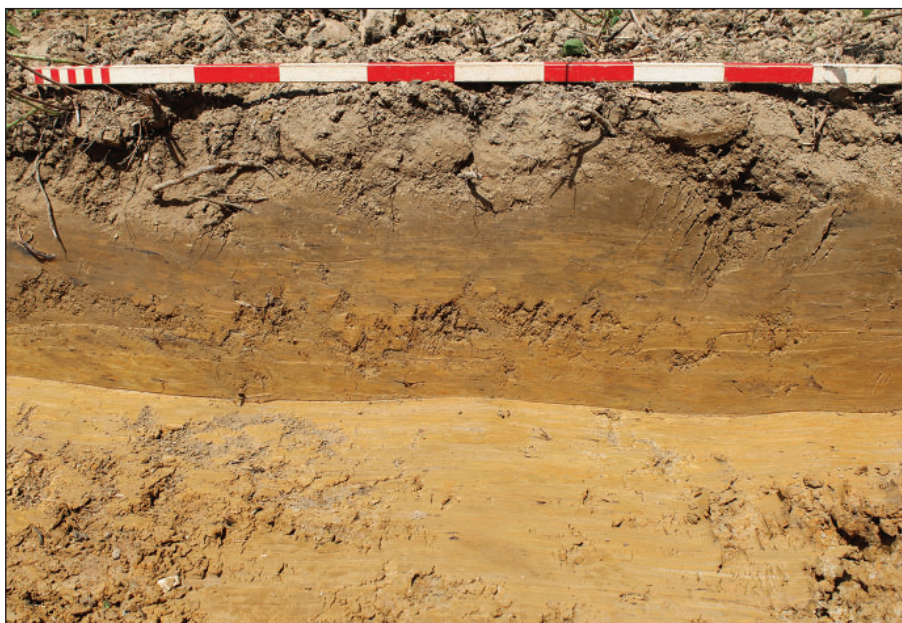


Figure 3. Representative section of Trench 4, viewed from the south



Figure 4. Trench 11, viewed from the southeast



Figure 5. Ditch terminal 1004, viewed from the northeast



Figure 6. Agricultural furrow 1007, viewed from the southwest



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