

A WATCHING BRIEF AT TICKERAGE MILL, BLACKBOYS, UCKFIELD, EAST SUSSEX.

ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICES LEWES

Project Number: ASL 130-17



The excavation of Area 1 in progress with the top of [102] and [105] exposed.

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SUMMARY

An intermittent watching brief was maintained by ASL at Tickerage Mill, Blackboys, East Sussex, between October 2017 and January 2018. Two areas were monitored and an undated linear feature (a scrubbed-up hedgerow) was recorded in Area 1, along with three undated post-holes. No features were recorded in Area 2, where the soil had previously been partly stripped down to the natural to provide a car park during the late 20th century.

A single, residual prehistoric flint was recovered from the backfill of the scrubbed-up hedgerow and is the earliest artefact found, with a long gap of time between the next phase of activity on the Site. The early post-medieval ceramics recovered appear to be of the late 16th to 17th centuries, with elements of wear which suggest manuring of the land prior to the house being built in the 18th century. A small assemblage of ceramic building material with varied fabrics was recovered from both areas, echoing several phases of building and/or repair to the adjacent house between the 18th and 19th centuries. The majority of artefacts post-date the construction of the house and are from the 19th–20th centuries.

CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

2.0 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

4.0 AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

5.0 RESULTS

6.0 FINDS

7.0 DISCUSSION

8.0 ARCHIVE

9.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

APPENDIX 1: TABLES

APPENDIX 2: FIGURES

APPENDIX 3: PLATES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report is the result of an archaeological watching brief which was maintained during the excavation of ground works associated with development at Tickerage Mill, Tickerage Lane, Blackboys, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 5LU (Figs 1 and 2, hereafter referred to as the Site), centred on TQ 51593 21068.

This report has been produced for the owner, Mr Davis, by Lisa Fisher, Principal Archaeologist at Archaeology Services Lewes (ASL). A planning application was approved by Wealden District Council for landscaping to the gardens of the existing property, reference number WD/2017/1281/F.

The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by ASL in August 2017 which was submitted to, and approved by, the ESCC Archaeology Team as well as Wealden District Council. This followed the recommendations made in a brief issued to the client by the ESCC Archaeology Team, as advisors to the District Council and in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2012).

The watching brief was also carried out with regard to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) Standards and Guidance, as well as the ESCC Archaeological Standards 2017.

2.0 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

The Site lies at an approximate height of 41m above sea level.

The underlying geology is the Ashdown Formation, comprising sandstone, siltstone and mudstone. This is a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 134 to 146 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period¹. The local environment was previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas. In addition, there are alluvial deposits 20m north-west of the Site, with clay, silt, sand and gravel deposits within Tickerage stream, adjacent to the mill house.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

A full search was obtained of the Historic Environment Record (HER), held by the East Sussex Records Office (ESRO), The Keep, Falmer; reference number 354/17. This is fully detailed in the WSI (see WSI section 2.0) and summarised below.

The development is situated within an Archaeological Notification Area (ANA; reference number DES10179) encompassing a post-medieval forge complex, a late 17th/18th century watermill and Tickerage Mill house, an 18th-century building once in the ownership of the actress Vivien Leigh.

The listings information archived with Historic England (I.D number; 1028359) reads:

'Late C17. Two storeys and attic. Three windows. Three dormers. Tile-hung. Tiled roof. Casement windows. Doorway with narrow fanlight, flat hood on brackets and studded door. Two modern wings at the back.'

The listing date has since been challenged and the house found to date to the 18th century.

The Archaeological Notification Area is defined due to the potential remains of the post-medieval forge site (MES3237) and the extant 17th century mill (MES23807), adjacent to the original miller's house which is currently referred to as Tickerage Mill (the Site: MES3258). Historic mapping records a building on a similar footprint as the current house on the early 19th century tithe map (not illustrated) which evolves into a larger footprint by the late 19th-

¹ (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>)

century, with further changes in the early/mid-20th century. An Historic interpretive building survey² (EES17755) maps these changes more comprehensively and shows that the building has had several successive phases of development, starting in the early/mid-18th century. There is a spring or well shown from the 1870s onwards to the south of the house. The iron manufactory, which is believed to have previously existed nearby, does not appear in a 1574 list of ironworks, but a reference made to a 'cottage near the hammer' in 1617 shows it must have existed by then³. The forge was recorded as still working in 1653, but ruinous by 1664⁴. Further remains of this industry are still present, including the remains of a pond bay for the hammer pond, but these are south-east of the Site. The extant watermill is a disused cornmill which ceased working in around 1950, when the wheel and machinery were removed, and it is believed that this building stands on the former forge site, some 50m west of the Site. Below the pond bay is a large patch of black soil containing furnace slag and cinder. Behind the Site, upon a rise of ground, is an area of black ash containing heavy concentrations of slag and cinder⁵.

In addition to the mill there is a late post-medieval farmstead known as Tickerage Farm (MES20458), which is listed in the 1840 Tithe Award for Framfield as: '*House and garden occupied by David Homewood, owned by Charles Goring*'. Goring also owned Tickerage Mill house at the time. This is situated approximately 500m west of the Site.

4.0 AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

In line with the principles of the NPPF, the overall aims were to identify and record heritage remains on this site (see WSI section 3.0) and to make the results publicly accessible through the submission of a report to the East Sussex Historic Environment Record and the project archive to the local museum. In addition it was hoped to determine a better understanding of the depth, extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.

Specific objectives were:

- To seek any artefacts which may pre-date the industrial phase of the Site.
- To seek any evidence of iron-working which may relate to the Site's known history.
- To look for any signs of earlier buildings which may also relate to the industrial history of the Site. Finally, the remains of the well might be encountered to the south; this would be recorded prior to capping, if not previously backfilled.

There were four areas which were scheduled to be monitored during excavations. These were as follows:

- Area 1: the re-grading of the side garden with footings trenches excavated for new retaining walls.
- Area 2: the creation of a new entrance courtyard, facilitated by ground reduction of the existing car park and the construction of new retaining walls.
- Area 3: the removal of modern steps and lowering of the terrace to the rear of the property.
- Area 4: the creation of a new footbridge with small areas of ground reduction either side of the stream.

² Martin, B and Martin, D., 2016. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATIVE SURVEY OF TICKERAGE MILL, FRAMFIELD, EAST SUSSEX

³ Straker, E. 1931. *Wealden Iron*. London; p 392

⁴ Cleere, H. and Crossley, D. 1985. *The Iron Industry of the Weald*. Leicester University Press; p361

⁵ Wealden Iron Research Group Iron Site Database

Area 3 was not monitored as the existing block and beam construction was removed, with new steps built in place, requiring no new excavation of the ground (Plate 1). The ESCC Archaeological Team was briefed and it was agreed that no monitoring was required in this area.

Area 4 was not monitored as the excavations proved to be shallow and in an area which had already been disturbed by the insertion of a new oil tank. Additionally, the watching brief proved that thick layers of made ground existed across the Site. The ESCC Archaeological Team was briefed and it was agreed that no monitoring was required in this area.

All areas of ground reduction were excavated by machine with a toothless bucket, in controlled spits approximately 100mm thick, to allow for constant archaeological monitoring. A plan detailing the trenches is in Fig. 3.

The trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.40m in Trench 1 and 1.60m in Trench 2.

5.0 RESULTS

There were 33 contexts in total and all contexts have been detailed in Table 4, Appendix 1. The trenches contained no archaeological features of any great age.

In **Area 1**, the stratigraphy consisted, on average, of 0.35m of topsoil (100) above sandy clay substrate (101) 0.45m thick, on average. This in turn overlay natural sandy clay geology (113) at depths of between 0.70–0.80m below ground levels (Fig. 8). Several cut features were found (*see* site plan, Fig. 4; individual plans, Fig. 5; sections, Figs 6–8) which were sealed by (100) and cut through (101). The line of a scrubbed-out hedge [102] (Plates 2–4 and 16) and [105] (Plates 5–7) extended across the trench and into the baulk on both sides, with a narrow break in-between. The deepest extent was 0.45m and it was 2.30m at the widest point. Fill (104) of cut [102] recovered four pieces of ceramic building material dating between the 18th–19th centuries. Fill (107) of cut [105] contained a probable prehistoric flint flake, a single sherd of early post-medieval pottery and seven pieces of 18th–19th-century ceramic building material, with one piece possibly earlier. Rooting was evident in the sections which were excavated by hand and the fill was very similar to the topsoil on the Site, which also contained a single sherd of early post-medieval pottery. Ceramic building material, dating mainly to the 18th–19th centuries, was also recovered from the topsoil, with one piece possibly earlier. A ceramic land drain running through the trench was 19th century.

Immediately north-west of the break between the terminals of the former hedgerow, were several other cut features, all of which cut substrate (101) but did not extend into the natural. Some of these proved to be tree holes when excavated and three were probable post holes. Cut [108] (Plate 8) was 0.38m thick and contained post-pipe [110], so was interpreted as a post-hole. Cut [111] (Plate 9) may also be a post-hole, but was shallow at 0.15m thick and did not have a post-pipe within. Cut [114] (Plate 10) was similar at 0.15m thick. Five other sub-circular features were recorded; [116]; [118]; [120]; [122] and [124], but these were very shallow and irregular and were interpreted as the basal cut of tree planting holes with rooting holes from shrubs (*see* Fig. 4; Fig. 7 and Plates 11–15).

In **Area 2**, the stratigraphy was highly mixed and disturbed due to a car park (200) existing on this side of the property. Where the soil profile was intact, at the far north-east side of the trench only (Fig. 9 and Plate 17), there was 0.20–0.35m of topsoil (201) above sandy clay substrate (203), which varied but averaged 0.40m thick. In turn, this overlay natural, sandy clay geology (204) at depths between 0.60–0.75m below ground level. Elsewhere, there was a mixed made ground layer (200), approximately 0.20m thick, which overlay re-deposited topsoil (202) below the car park (Plates 18 and 19). It is likely that this area was subjected to a

cut-and-fill episode, which explains why three sherds of abraded early post-medieval pottery were recovered from this layer alongside a fragment of brick which dates to between the 17th–19th century. The only features in this trench were two modern service trenches, one containing the oil pipe for the modern heating system and the other containing a ceramic glazed drain [205] (Fig. 10 and Plate 20). This was recorded as a feature, due to the high percentage of ash, clinker and slag within the fill (206), as the Site has links with the local iron industry.

6.0 FINDS

The Worked Flint by Lisa Fisher

A single piece of worked flint (7g) was recovered from context (104), the fill of linear feature [102].

The flint is light grey in colour and has three removals on the dorsal side, with 30% cortex and some recent damage (Fig. 11). As a consequence, part of the platform has been removed and the lateral sides have been denuded. It is difficult to be confident about the date of the flint as there are few diagnostic elements remaining. It is in a fresh condition and could even be the result of a knapping episode from flint walling on-site. However, there do not appear to be any such walls present, although that is not to say that they did not exist at some point in time. The Site is not close to any natural flint outcrops, so it is unlikely that flint walls would have been built here. Consequently, it is more likely that the flint is a fragment of prehistoric debitage, the result of flint knapping somewhere within the vicinity.

Although recovered from the fill of a linear feature, likely to be a former field boundary, the flint is likely to be a residual artefact disturbed when the field boundary was scrubbed up and backfilled.

The flint has no potential for further analysis and is not worthy of long-term curation. It will be returned to the owner.

The Pre-1750 Pottery by Luke Barber

The archaeological work recovered five sherds of pre-1750 pottery, weighing 114g, from four individually numbered contexts. The material has been fully listed by common name in Table 5 as part of the visible archive.

All of the pre-1750 sherds are of the early post-medieval period and virtually all show moderate to extensive signs of abrasion. Although this may be due, in part, to the acidic nature of the subsoil, it is also partly the result of significant reworking. The majority of sherds appear to be of the late 16th to 17th centuries and the fabrics represented are fairly typical for the Weald at this time. By far the freshest sherd was recovered from context (202), but this is also the latest, probably belonging to the 18th century. There is nothing to suggest anything other than a domestic assemblage, but too little is present to draw firm conclusions.

The pottery assemblage is small, mixed and of types well known in the Weald. It is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis beyond that undertaken for this report and has been discarded.

The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

A relatively small sample assemblage of brick and tile was recovered during the archaeological work. The material was generally in quite fresh condition, with little signs of abrasion. The assemblage is summarised in Tables 6 (fabrics) and 7 (quantification).

The ceramic building material assemblage is notably varied in fabrics, particularly considering all of it is of late post-medieval date. It would certainly appear that several different tile works supplied the site between the 18th and 19th centuries. This probably suggests several phases of building and/or repair, but much appears to have been subsequently mixed during the reworking of the deposits on-site.

The ceramic building material assemblage is small, with much deriving from open/mixed deposits. As such, the assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis beyond that undertaken for this report. This material has been discarded.

The Late Post-Medieval Ceramics by Lisa Fisher

A small assemblage of late post-medieval ceramics (Table 8) were recovered from the Site. In total, 63 sherds weighing 796g were recovered from both areas monitored. **Area 1** produced 29 sherds weighing 556g whilst **Area 2** produced 34 sherds weighing 240g.

The majority of ceramics consisted of plain creamwares and whitewares, which amounted to just over 50% of the assemblage. Most were fine tablewares, with just one utilitarian ointment pot represented. The condition ranged from fresh to patinated and they date from the 19th–20th centuries.

The heaviest sherds (47%) were, not surprisingly, in the form of the locally produced Sussex wares. These red earthenwares, of thick dimensions, the majority glazed internally only, are likely to represent water containers. Given their close proximity to the well, these must represent breakages; the larger sherds were partially collected and discarded elsewhere, with the smaller fragments left behind.

A small amount (19%) of transfer-printed, refined earthenwares were recovered, which is fairly small and unusual given the size of the trenches. It likely shows that refuse was being disposed of elsewhere, away from the house. It is possible that these sherds, along with two porcelain sherds, represent fine tableware in the form of cups and plates which were used within the garden and subsequently broken during use.

A very small assemblage of domestic, utilitarian wares was recovered, with a single stoneware ink pot sherd and two sherds from ointment pots from across the Site. Once again, it is likely that the majority of the refuse was dumped elsewhere. Elsewhere, just four flowerpot sherds were recovered, which is also unusual, given that the trenches were located entirely within the gardens belonging to the house. It may be due to some of the soil being stripped when the car park was created in **Area 2**.

The assemblage does not hold any potential for further analysis and has been returned to the owner.

The Glass Assemblage by Lisa Fisher

A very small assemblage of glass (Table 9) was recovered from the monitoring, with six pieces weighing 203g.

Only one complete vessel was recovered, being an early, tall-necked Bovril jar dating to the late 19th century.

Other fragments were in a fairly fresh condition, with no highly-patinated pieces present. They all date to the 20th century and do not hold much potential for further analysis, so have been discarded.

The Metalwork by Lisa Fisher

A small assemblage of metal objects was recovered from the monitoring, with six objects weighing 85g.

Two corroded iron strips were found in the topsoil. One of these was a long fixing plate from (200) of unknown form. In shape it is similar to a bracket for rainwater guttering, but the shank is substantially longer and has a very corroded bolt at the end. The smaller object from (100) may be an iron tool of some form (22g), but it is highly corroded and unidentifiable. A very corroded, amorphous bolt (57g), 80mm long with an 18mm square head, was recovered from (200) and is likely to be of 19th-century date.

Other objects are all 20th century in date and include two copper alloy shotgun cartridge (4g) end plates from context (100), one impressed 'Nouno', and an aluminium plant label from (200).

All of the metal objects were recovered from the topsoil contexts in both areas and, as such, have no great age to them. Therefore there is little potential for further analysis and the objects will be disposed of.

The Waste Slag Material by Lisa Fisher

Twenty-three pieces of blast furnace slag (1174g) were recovered from both areas of the Site. A single piece of fuel ash slag (724g) from the base of a furnace, was recovered from context (100), with the rest of the assemblage being glassy, highly vitrified, lightweight tap slag. As a waste product from the iron making industry, such material was commonly used to form path or track surfaces, being brought in from elsewhere. It is possible that this material was sourced locally from the site nearby at Tickerage but is not *in situ*, as charcoal or ash/clinker deposits were not found with the slag.

Consequently, it is considered that this material was brought in from elsewhere, has no potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

Miscellaneous Finds by Lisa Fisher

A round-ended, bone implement handle (32g) was recovered from context (107), the fill of the linear feature [105]. Such items would have been used as fork or knife handles at the dinner table, with this one stylistically dating from the 19th century through to the 20th century.

A fragment of a clay tobacco pipe stem (3g) was recovered from topsoil (100) in **Area 1** with a borehole of 1.5mm diameter; a contemporary date for the construction of the house can be ascribed, between 1750–1800⁶. Another clay tobacco pipe stem fragment (5g) was recovered from topsoil (201) in **Area 2**, with a borehole diameter of 3mm, dating from an earlier period, somewhere between 1620–1650⁷.

None of these have the potential for further analysis and will be returned to the owner.

7.0 DISCUSSION

The earliest activity on the Site is represented by the recovery of a single, residual prehistoric flint, which was recovered from the backfill of the scrubbed-up hedgerow [102]/[105], in **Area 1** although this is unlikely to date the feature. 18th – 19th century CBM was also recovered from the fill of both cuts, proving a mixed deposit. This would suggest limited prehistoric activity nearby, with no other artefacts recovered from this period.

⁶ Harrington, J.C., 1954. Dating Stem Fragments of Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Clay Tobacco Pipes. *Quarterly Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of Virginia* 9(1):10–14

⁷ *Ibid*

There is a long gap between the prehistoric period and the next phase of activity on the Site, represented by the recovery of early post-medieval ceramics from the late 16th to 17th centuries. There are elements of wear on the sherds, which suggests manuring of the land prior to the house being built in the 18th century. There is then continuous activity from this period to the modern day.

A small assemblage of ceramic building material with varied fabrics was recovered from both areas, echoing several phases of building and/or repair to the adjacent house, between the 18th and 19th centuries. The majority of artefacts post-date the construction of the house and is from the 19th–20th centuries.

The dating of the hedgerow and adjacent post-holes is difficult, and the hedge *may* have been planted when the house was built, to prevent animals straying into the garden. No meaningful pattern was seen with the postholes in **Area 1**, apart from [108] which may have provided a post for a gate between cut features [102] and [105], which *may* have closed against the tree trunk in tree hole [116]. The other tree holes would have been planted after the hedge was scrubbed up or the gate fell out of use as they form a barrier, closing off the gap. It is possible that cuts [111] and [114] may also be the base of tree holes, but these were more defined with no rooting so the function of these cuts is not clear.

Specific objectives were:

- To seek any artefacts which may pre-date the industrial phase of the Site.
- To seek any evidence of iron-working which may relate to the Site's known history.
- To look for any signs of earlier buildings which may also relate to the industrial history of the Site. Finally, the remains of the well might be encountered to the south; this would be recorded prior to capping, if not previously backfilled.

Excavation provided no evidence for any *in-situ* industrial activity on this part of the Site and no earlier buildings were found. One of the aims was to record the well, but unfortunately this was not possible as the capping was not removed and the interior of the well could not be seen. The exterior is entirely modern.

The watching brief at Tickerage Mill successfully investigated those parts of the site which were impacted by the landscaping. Although no archaeological features of great age were recorded, evidence of prehistoric activity was found. In addition, it is likely that the Site did not see any significant activity from this period through to the early post-medieval period onwards. A small assemblage of artefacts from these periods evidences the past activity on the Site and some evidence of material culture, dating to the period when the actress Vivienne Leigh lived at the property, was recovered.

A high confidence rating can be applied to the employed methodology and results of this small watching brief.

8.0 ARCHIVE

Sussex Museum of Archaeology, Barbican House, Lewes has been approached to take the archive but is not able to at present as the museum stores are full. In light of this, ASL will retain the archive until such a time as the museum store is able to take it, or an alternative repository is found. A review of this situation will be undertaken on a yearly cycle in connection with advice from the ESCC Archaeology Team or the museums officer from the relevant museum.

9.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASL wish to thank the owner, Mr Davis, and the agents J.D.Clarke for commissioning ASL to undertake the fieldwork. Thanks are also due to the ESCC Archaeology Team for their guidance before and during the fieldwork and to Steve Etheridge, from ESSE Landscapes, for kind permission to use their drone shots.

Lisa Fisher, BA (Hons), MA, ACIfA

Archaeology Service Lewes, May 2018

DRAFT

APPENDIX 1

TABLES

Table 1. HER summary sheet.

Site Code	TMB17
Site identification and address	Tickerage Mill, Tickerage Lane, Blackboys, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 5LU.
County, district and / or borough	Uckfield, East Sussex.
O.S. grid ref	TQ 51593 21068.
Geology	Ashdown Formation and superficial alluvial deposits.
Project number	ASL 130-17.
Fieldwork type	Watching brief.
Site type	Domestic; landscaping of garden.
Date of fieldwork	October 2017 and January 2018.
Sponsor/client	Mr Davis.
Project manager	Lisa Fisher.
Project supervisor	Lisa Fisher.
Period summary	1 residual prehistoric flint flake represents the earliest period with a long break to the next phase, represented by late 16 th to 17 th century ceramics which then continue through to the modern period.
Project summary	<p>An intermittent watching brief was maintained by ASL at Tickerage Mill, Blackboys, East Sussex, between October 2017 and January 2018. Two areas were monitored and an undated linear feature was recorded in Area 1, with three undated postholes. No features were recorded in Area 2.</p> <p>A single, residual prehistoric flint was recovered from the backfill of the linear feature, and is the earliest artefact found on the Site. Early Post-medieval ceramics recovered appear to be of the late 16th to 17th centuries, with elements of wear which suggest manuring of the land prior to the house being built in the 18th century. A small assemblage of ceramic building material with varied fabrics was recovered from both areas, echoing several phases of building and/or repair to the adjacent house, between the 18th and 19th centuries. The majority of artefacts post-date the construction of the house between the 19th – 20th centuries.</p>

Table 2. Archive contents.

Number of Contexts:	23
Number of Files/Paper Record:	1
Measured sketch plan and Section Sheets:	4
Photographs:	138
Bulk Finds:	-
Environmental Flots/Residue:	-

Table 3. Trench details.

Trench No.	Length	Breadth	Depth	Details
1; Area 1	11m SE-NW	17m SW-NE	<1.40m	Open trench
2; Area 2	16.70m SE-NW	15m SW-NE	<1.60m	Open trench

Table 4. Context descriptions.

Context	Type	Description	Location	Dimensions	Deposit depth below ground	Above:	Below:
(100)	Layer	Topsoil. Firm, mid-brown silty clay with less than 1% sub-rounded gravel <30mm and less than 1% yellow sandstone <80mm. Occasional charcoal flecks. Sharp interface with (101) below.	Area 1	<0.35m thick.	0-0.35m on average.	(101)	-
(101)	Layer	Substrate. Firm, light yellow sandy clay (30%-70%) with orange patching and <30% sub-angular, yellow sandstone <100mm in size.	Area 1	<0.45m on average.	0.35m-0.80m on average.	(113)	(100)
[102]	Cut	Former hedge boundary. Linear cut with gradual break of slope to top and base, sloping sides and dished base. Aligned SW-NE and filled by (103) and (104).	Area 1	2.30m at widest point and <0.45m at deepest. Terminal section: 0.80m wide and 0.15m deep.	0.35m	Cuts (101)	(100)
(103)	Top fill of [102]	Loose to firm spread; patches of light grey and yellow re-deposited clay; not across whole feature and fragmentary.	Area 1	<0.05m thick.	0.35m on average	(104) SE only	(100)
(104)	Fill of [102]	Same as (100) but with larger stone pieces <120mm towards base of feature.	Area 1	<0.35m thick	0.25m on average but 0.30m where under (103)	Fills [102]	(100) and (103) in places
[105]	Cut	Probable continuation of hedge line. Irregular linear with gradual break of slope at top and base, sloping sides and flat base. Orientated SW-NE and filled by (106) and (107)	Area 1	<1.24m wide and <0.40m deep.	0.35m	Cuts (101)	(100)
(106)	Top fill of [105]	Same as (103).	Area 1	Thin spread <0.05m thick	0.35m on average	Fills [102]	(100)
(107)	Fill of [105]	Loose to firm, light grey silty clay with <5% sub-angular yellow sandstone pieces <80mm. One large piece 110mm at base. Less than 1% sub-rounded gravel <30mm in size.	Area 1	<0.41m thick	0.35m on average but 0.40m where under (106)	Fills [105]	(100) NE side (106) SW side
[108]	Cut	Post hole. Sub-circular with sharp break of slope on east side and gradual on west side. Vertical one side, gradual the other. Dished base. Filled by (109) with post pipe [110].	Area 1	0.50m diameter and 0.38m deep.	0.35m	Cuts (101)	(100)
(109)	Fill of [108]	Loose, mid-brown, silty clay with less than 1% sub-angular, yellow sandstone <5mm. Post pipe [110] cuts through this.	Area 1	0.38m thick.	0.25m	Fills [108]	(100)
[110]	Cut	Post pipe. Circular with sharp break of slope to top, vertical sides and dished	Area 1	0.10m diameter and	0.35m	Cuts (109)	(100)

A watching brief at Tickerage Mill, Blackboys. ASL project number: 130-17.

		base. Post missing with void apparent.		0.30m deep.			
[111]	Cut	Post hole. Sub-circular, with gradual break of slope NE side and sharp on SW side. Sloping sides, sharp break of slope to base on NE side and gradual to SW side with flat base. Filled by (112).	Area 1	0.44m N-S and 0.38m E-W. 0.15m deep.	0.35m	Cuts (101)	(100)
(112)	Fill	Same as (100) but darker in colour.	Area 1	0.15m thick.	0.35m	Fills [111]	(100)
(113)	Layer	Natural geology. Very firm, light yellow sandy clay (60%-40%) with orange and light grey patches. Up to 75%, angular, yellow sandstone pieces within <100mm in size, often laminated.	Area 1	-	0.70m at top of slope, 0.80m at base of slope.	-	All
[114]	Cut	Post hole. Sub-circular with gradual break of slope to top, sharp sides on the east and sloping on the west with flattish base. Filled by (115).	Area 1	0.30m N-S and 0.38m E-W and 0.15m deep.	0.35m	Cuts (101)	(100)
(115)	Fill	Same as (100).	Area 1	0.15m thick.	0.35m	Fills [114]	(100)
[116]	Cut	Probable tree Hole 1 (TH1);	Area 1	0.90m wide and 0.21m deep	Approximately 0.35m.	Cuts (101)	(100)
(117)	Fill	Fill of TH1; same as (100).	Area 1	0.21m thick	Approximately 0.35m.	Fills [116]	(100)
[118]	Cut	Probable tree Hole 2 (TH2)	Area 1	1.20m wide and 0.25m deep	Approximately 0.35m.	Cuts (101)	(100)
(119)	Fill	Fill of TH2; same as (100).	Area 1	<0.25m thick	Approximately 0.35m.	Fills [118]	(100)
[120]	Cut	Probable tree Hole 3 (TH3)	Area 1	0.40m wide and 0.08m deep	Approximately 0.35m.	Cuts (101)	(100)
(121)	Fill	Fill of TH3; same as (100).	Area 1	<0.08m thick	Approximately 0.35m.	Fills [119]	(100)
[122]	Cut	Probable tree Hole 4 (TH4)	Area 1	0.45m wide and 0.07m deep	Approximately 0.35m.	Cuts (101)	(100)
(123)	Fill	Fill of TH4; same as (100).	Area 1	<0.07m thick	Approximately 0.35m.	Fills [122]	(100)
[124]	Cut	Probable tree Hole 4 (TH5)	Area 1	0.38m wide and 0.12m deep	Approximately 0.35m.	Cuts (101)	(100)
(125)	Fill	Fill of TH5; same as (100).	Area 1	<0.12m thick	Approximately 0.35m.	Fills [124]	(100)
(200)	Layer	Made ground car park surface. Firm, variable in colour from black to light brown. Re-deposited clay with layers of asphalt, gravel and MOT mixed.	Area 2; does not extend across whole trench.	0.20m on average.	0-0.20m on average.	(201)	-
(201)	Layer	Topsoil on NE side only. Firm, light to medium brown silty clay lensing to orange brown @0.30m deep. Occasional pieces of slag but otherwise fairly homogenous.	Area 2	0.30m thick on average.	0-0.30m on average.	(203)	-
(202)	Layer	Re-deposited topsoil. Firm to loose, light yellowish brown silty clay. A mixed soil with patches of grey clay and occasional pieces of yellow, angular sandstone <70mm with some larger <230mm at base. Likely re-deposited topsoil underneath car park area.	Area 2	Variable.	0.30m on average.	(204)	(200)
(203)	Layer	Subsoil. Firm, light orange brown, homogenous sandy clay. Lenses gradually to natural clay below at top end of trench only. Lower part has been truncated so profile is mixed.	Area 2 NE corner only. Not below car park.	0.40m thick on average.	0.30m – 0.70m	(204)	(201)
(204)	Layer	Natural geology. Firm, light yellow clay with grey patching. Some larger pieces of yellow, angular sandstone <230mm at interface with subsoil above.	Area 2	-	0.70m on average.	-	(202) and (203)
[205]	Cut	Land drain cut, running south-west towards stream.	Area 2	0.50m wide and 0.60m deep minimum.	0.20m	Cuts (204)	(203)
(206)	Fill	Fill of land drain cut. Loose, mid-dark	Area 2	0.60m thick	0.20m	Fills [205]	Below

		grey ash and clinker mixed with burnt coke, stone and slag and some vitrified CBM.					disturbed (203)
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Table 5. Pottery assemblage (EPM – early post-medieval c. 1525/50–1750).

Context	Fabric	Period	No	Weight	Comments (including estimated number of different vessels represented)
100	Unglazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	6g	Undiagnostic of form x1 (oxidised) Worn
107	Unglazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	32g	Undiagnostic of form x1 (oxidised, oval-sectioned strap handle)
202	Hard-fired earthenware (oxidised)	EPM	1	16g	Undiagnostic of form x1 (Bitone)
202	Wealden Buff Earthenware	EPM	1	34g	Undiagnostic of form x1 (Green glazed interior). Worn
202	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	1	26g	Jar x1 (clear glaze internally, rounded club rim). Fresh

Table 6. Ceramic building material fabrics.

Fabric	Description	Comments	Suggested date
BH2	Dull red. Moderate black/purple iron oxides to 5mm, occasional 'marl' pellets to 2mm. Occasionally with very rare buff fine sandstone to 3mm	Quite well to well formed. Medium fired	Mainly C18th – 19 th (though some cruder examples may be from the C17th)
PH1	Dull red. Sparse to moderate black iron oxides to 1mm, occasionally rare quartz grains, occasionally rare/ sparse fine buff sandstone to 0.5mm	Well formed. Well fired	C19th
TD3	Dull red. Moderate fine quartz, rare-sparse black iron oxides to 1mm, rare patches of 'marl'	Well formed, well fired	C18th – 19th
TH1	Dull red. Moderate black iron oxides to 1mm, no/very rare 'marl' streaks	Well formed, well fired	C18th – 19th
TH3	Red, often with grey core. Common to abundant black iron oxides to 1mm, occasional 'marl' streaking evident	Quite well formed, well to hard fired	Mainly C18th – 19 th (though some cruder examples may be from the C16/17th)
TI3	Red-purple. Moderate to common 'marl' streaks and patches to 5mm, sparse to moderate black/purple iron oxides to 2mm, occasional fine buff sandstone pellets to 5mm	Quite well formed, well/hard fired	C18th-19th
TI5	Dull red. Moderate to common 'marl' streaks and moderate pellets too. Sparse red/purple iron oxides to 1mm	Well formed, well fired	C18th-19th
TJ3	Pale orange red. Moderate 'marl' pellets/mottling, moderate/common brown/black iron oxides to 1mm	Well formed, well fired	C18th – 19th
TL2	Dull orange red (to purple in overfired examples). Sparse/moderate purple red siltstone/ laminated grog pellets to 3mm, sparse black iron oxides to 1mm, sparse/moderate 'marl' streaks and very rarely white ?calcareous and/or sandstone inclusions to 2mm	Quite crudely finished/poorly mixed. Well to hard fired	C18th - C19th

Table 7. Ceramic building material fabrics.

Context	Form	Fabric	No	Weight	Comments
100	Peg tile	TD3 C18th – 19th	1	36g	11mm thick. Crude oval peg hole 10 x 8mm
100	Peg tile	TH3 C18th – 19 th poss 16-17th	1	64g	12mm thick
100	Peg tile	TI3 C18th – 19th	2	344g	12mm thick. Overfired
100	Land drain	PH1 19th	1	84g	8mm thick wall. Has circular cut-out in pipe. Hard fired.
104	Peg tile	TH1 C18th – 19th	1	446g	145mm wide, 12mm thick. With x2 diamond peg holes (8x9mm tapering to 5x5mm) set 30mm down from top edge and 38mm in from sides
104	Peg tile	TJ3 C18th – 19th	2	94g	12mm thick
104	Peg tile	TL2 C18th – 19th	1	100g	14mm thick. Diamond peg hole (10 x 7mm tapering to 8x7mm) set 25mm down from top edge and 40mm in from side (measured to centre of peg hole)
107	Peg tile	TH3 C18th – 19 th poss 16-17th	1	164g	12mm thick
107	Peg tile	TI5 C18th – 19th	5	386g	11-12mm thick. Diamond peg hole (part)
202	Brick	BH2 C18th – 19 th poss 17th	1	114g	61mm thick. Green glaze on header

Table 8. Late post-medieval ceramic assemblage.

Context	Sub-division	Quantity	Weight (g)	Date	Comments
100	Sussex ware	5	275	C19th	Thick sherds from a large, shouldered storage jar glazed internally so likely water container with thick club rim and zig-zag motif flanked by two lines of impressed square dots. One sherd thinner and glazed both sides.
107		2	81	C19th	Conjoining, thick sherds in fresh condition from a large storage jar glazed internally so likely water container.
200		1	9	C19th	Fine ware glazed one side only, abraded. Unknown form.
202		1	11	C19th	Thick storage jar sherds glazed internally so likely water container.
	Transfer prints				
100		6	82	Early C20th?	Various blue and white floral decorated, refined earthenware, fine tableware sherds. One Willow pattern and one blue glazed with white stripe.
100		1	11	Early C20th?	Over-painted blue and white refined earthenware sherd with floral decoration and impressed (Wedge?) wood and Co. On the base
100		1	6	Late C19th	Fragment from ointment pot lid with decoration and letters 'NT' 'for' '33 each'.
201		1	1	Late C19th	Blue and white refined earthenware with floral decoration, abraded.
202		3	32	C19th	Blue and white refined earthenware sherds, one with scalloped, feather painted edges, one Willow pattern and other unknown form.
	Saltglazed stoneware				
100		1	21	Late C19th-C20th.	Rim sherd from a grey stoneware ink jar or pot.
	White ware				
100		4	25	C20th	Refined earthenware, plain sherds of unknown form, very fresh
107		2	3	C19th-C20th	Refined earthenware, plain sherds of unknown form, fresh but crazed slightly
200		1	3	C19th	Refined earthenware with hand painted blue lines in oriental style pattern,

					crazed.
201		15	97	Early C20th	Plain refined earthenware sherds from soup bowl, recently broken and very stained.
202		3	46	C20th	Base of small, plain, bone china cup.
202		2	8	C19th	Plain refined earthenware flat sherds of unknown form, crazed.
	Cream ware				
100		1	6	C20th	Plain Refined earthenware base sherd, probably ointment pot.
104		1	10	Late C19th-20th	Plain sherd from the base of a bowl in fresh condition.
107		1	1	Late C19th-20th	Plain Refined earthenware sherd, fresh but slightly crazed.
200		2	15	C19th	Plain, refined earthenware, rolled rim sherds, crazed and patinated.
201		1	3	C19th	Plain, dark cream, crazed sherd of unknown form.
	Porcelain				
100		1	8	C20th	Plain, white base sherd of upright form
201		1	3	C20th	Plain white sherd of unknown form, very fresh condition.
	Earthen ware				
100		3	46	C20th	Two abraded flowerpot rim sherds and a body sherd, very fresh.
200		2	2	C19th	Fine sherds glazed with dark brown treacle glaze on both sides, unknown form.
200		1	12	C19th	Plain flowerpot sherd.

Table 9. Glass assemblage.

Context	Sub-division	Quantity	Weight (g)	Date	Comments
	Clear				
100		1	30	C20th	Small cylindrical, upright bottle, 26mm diameter with flat rim fragment.
200		1	49	C20th	Sherd from bowl rim in fresh condition.
	Green				
100		1	20	Early C20th	Fresh sherd, not patinated, bottle fragment.
	Brown				
100		1	101	Late C19th	Complete Bovril jar, 8cm high with '3oz' impressed on side and 'H3' on base.
	White				
100		1	2	C20th	Opaque sherd, not patinated, of unknown form.
	Light Blue				
100		1	1	C20th	Opaque sherd in fresh condition, unknown form.

APPENDIX 2

FIGURES

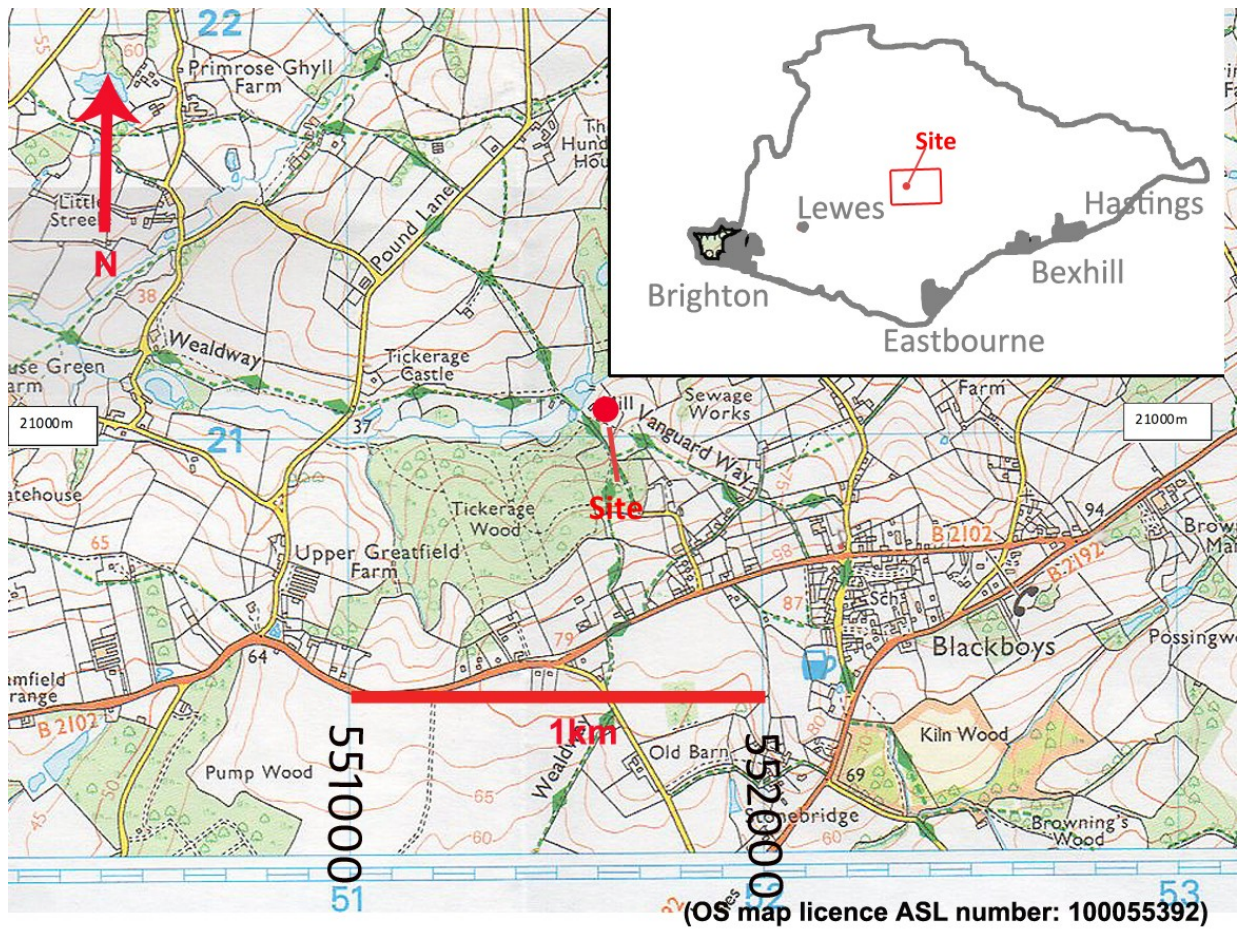
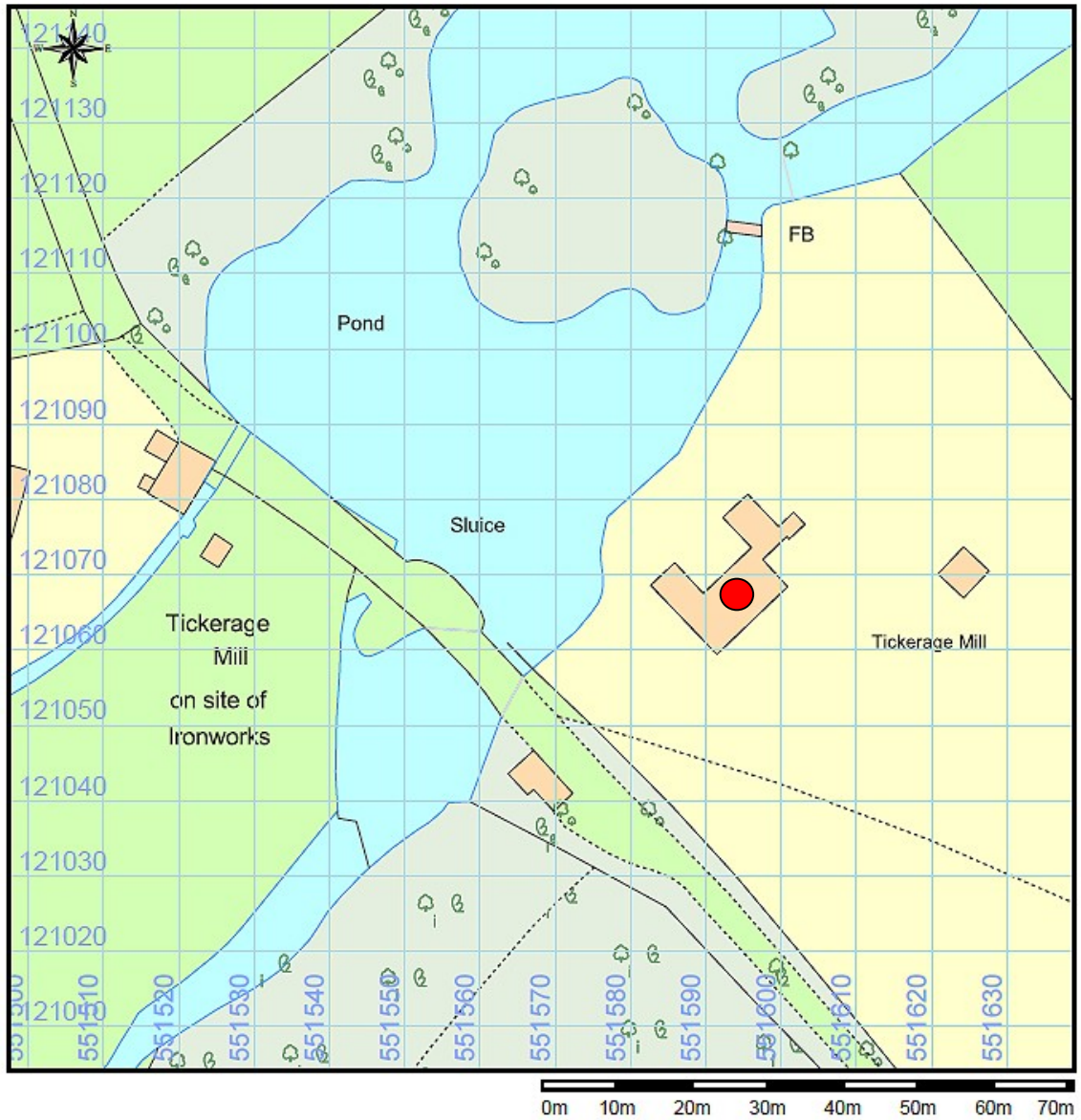


Fig. 1. Site location. Reproduction in whole or in part is prohibited without the prior permission of the Ordnance Survey ©Crown copyright and database rights 2017.



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Fig. 2. Site plan.

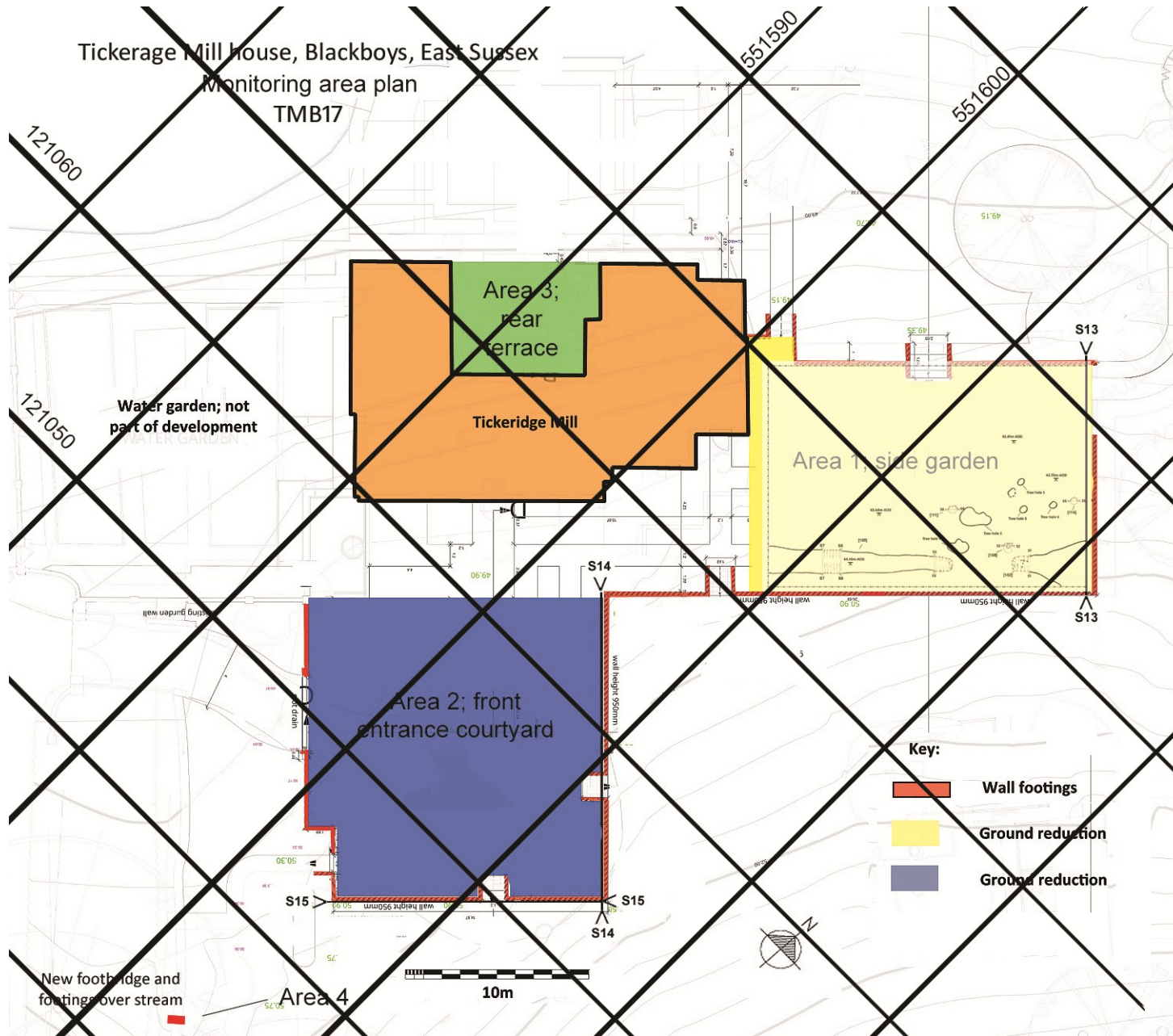


Fig. 3. Area locations superimposed on architects' plan ©J. D. Clarke Chartered Architects drawing number 10256/112.

Tickerage Mill, Blackboys
TMB17
Area 1 Plan ASL 130-17

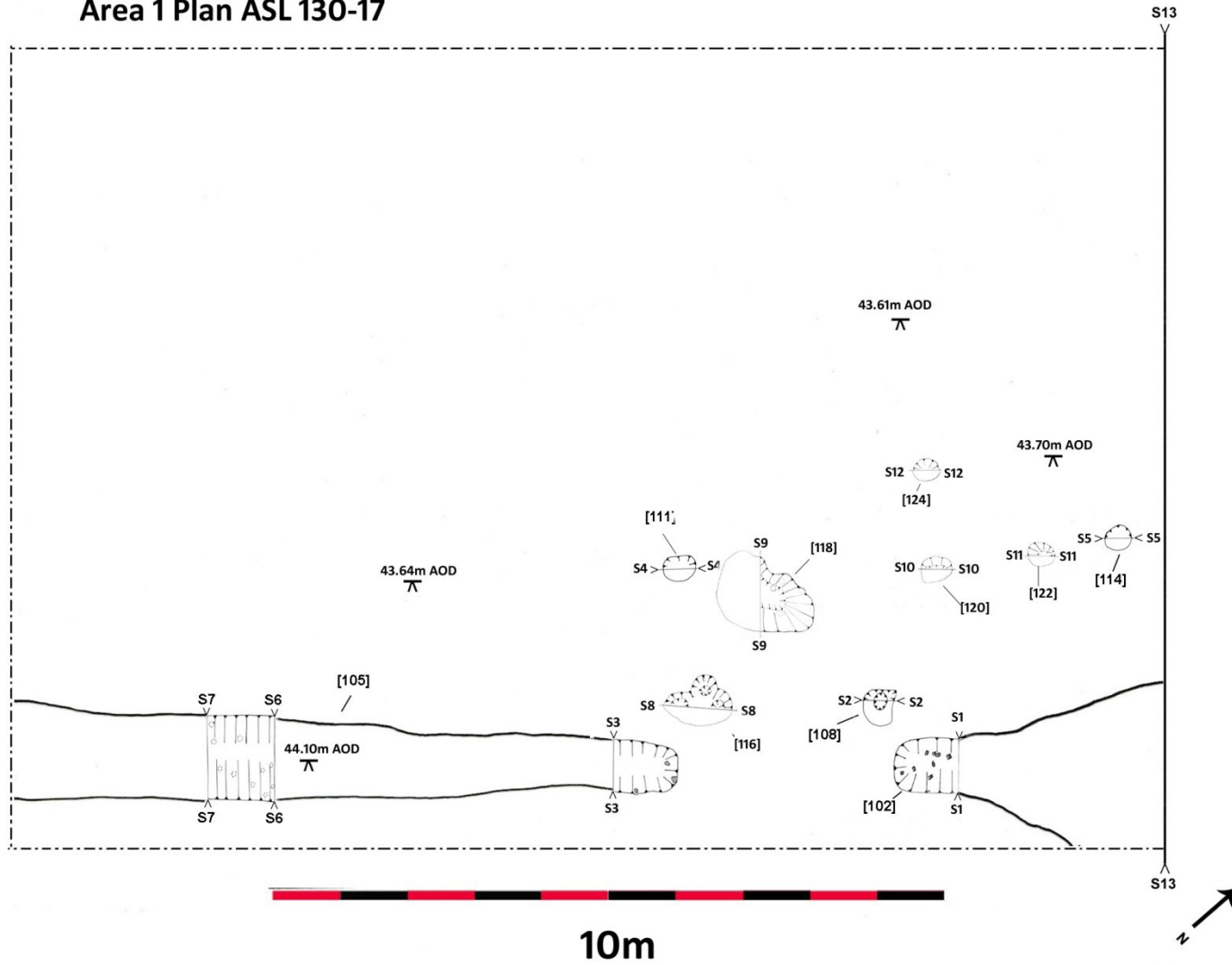


Fig. 4. Area 1 trench plan.

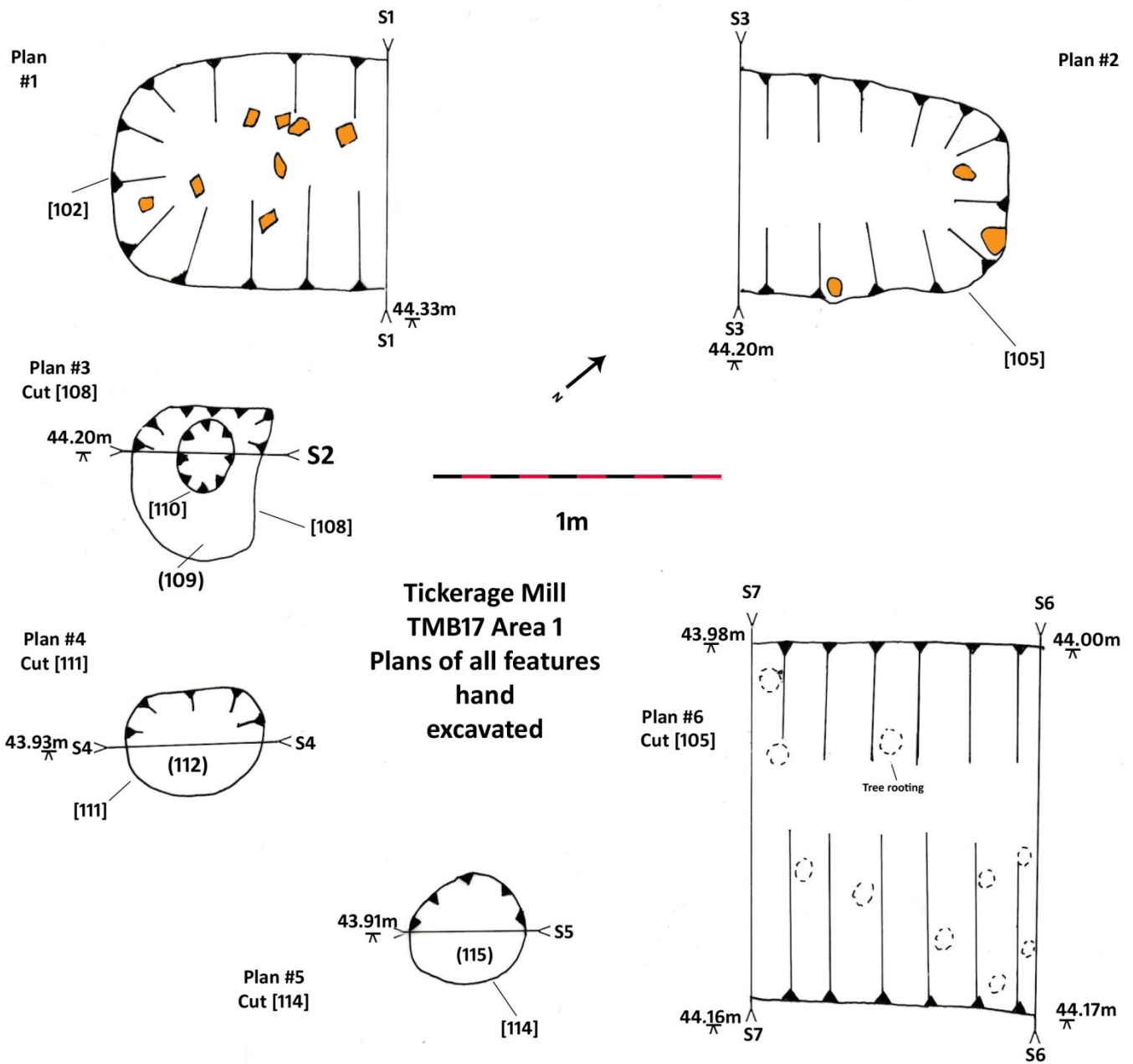


Fig. 5. Plans of all archaeological cut features in Area 1.

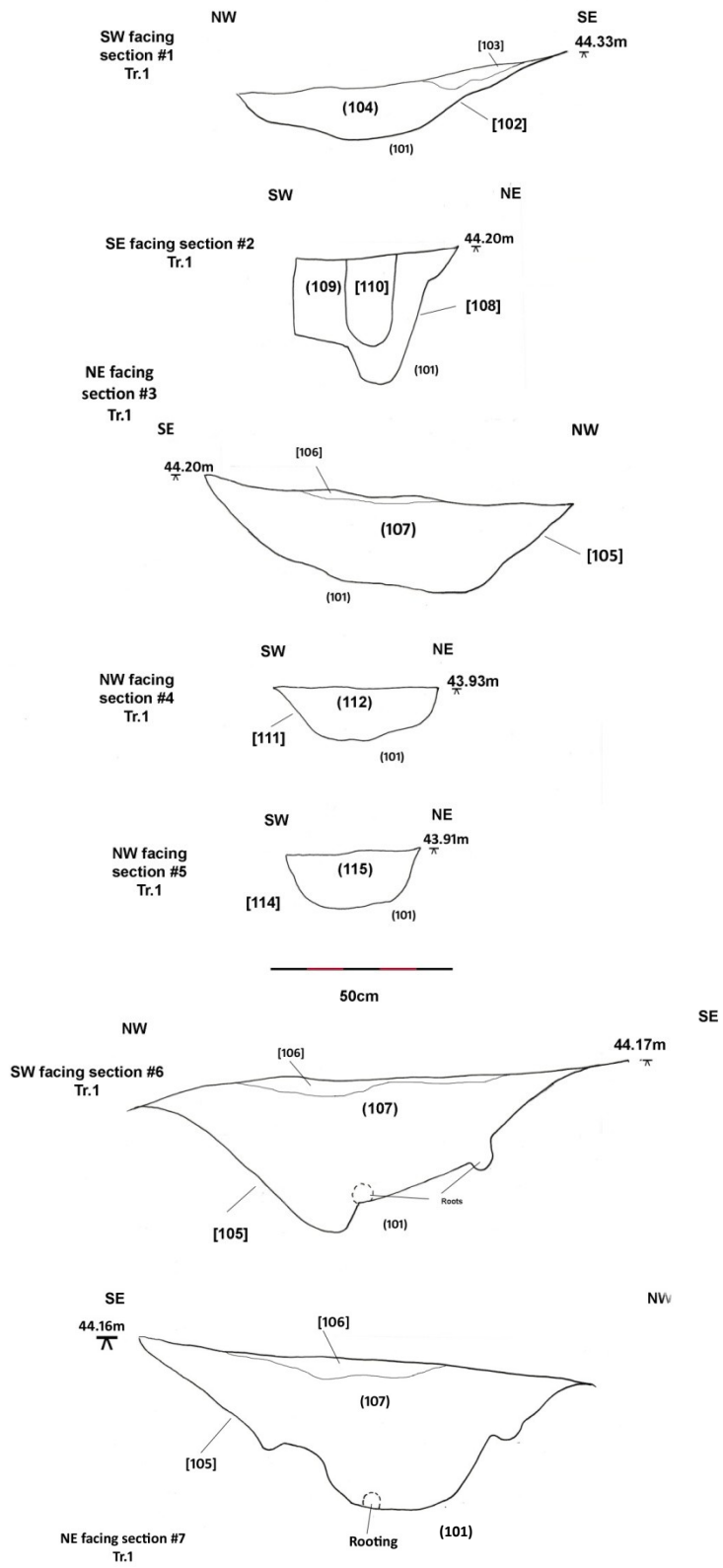
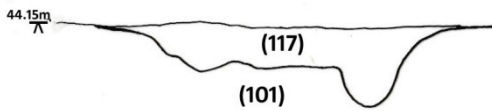


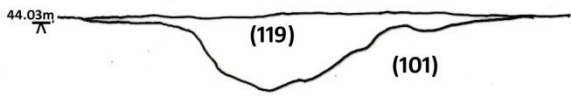
Fig. 6. Sections of all cut archaeological features in Area 1.

NE SW



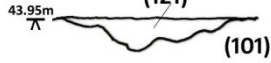
[116] Section #8

SE NW



[118] Section #9

NE SW



[120] Section #10

NE SW



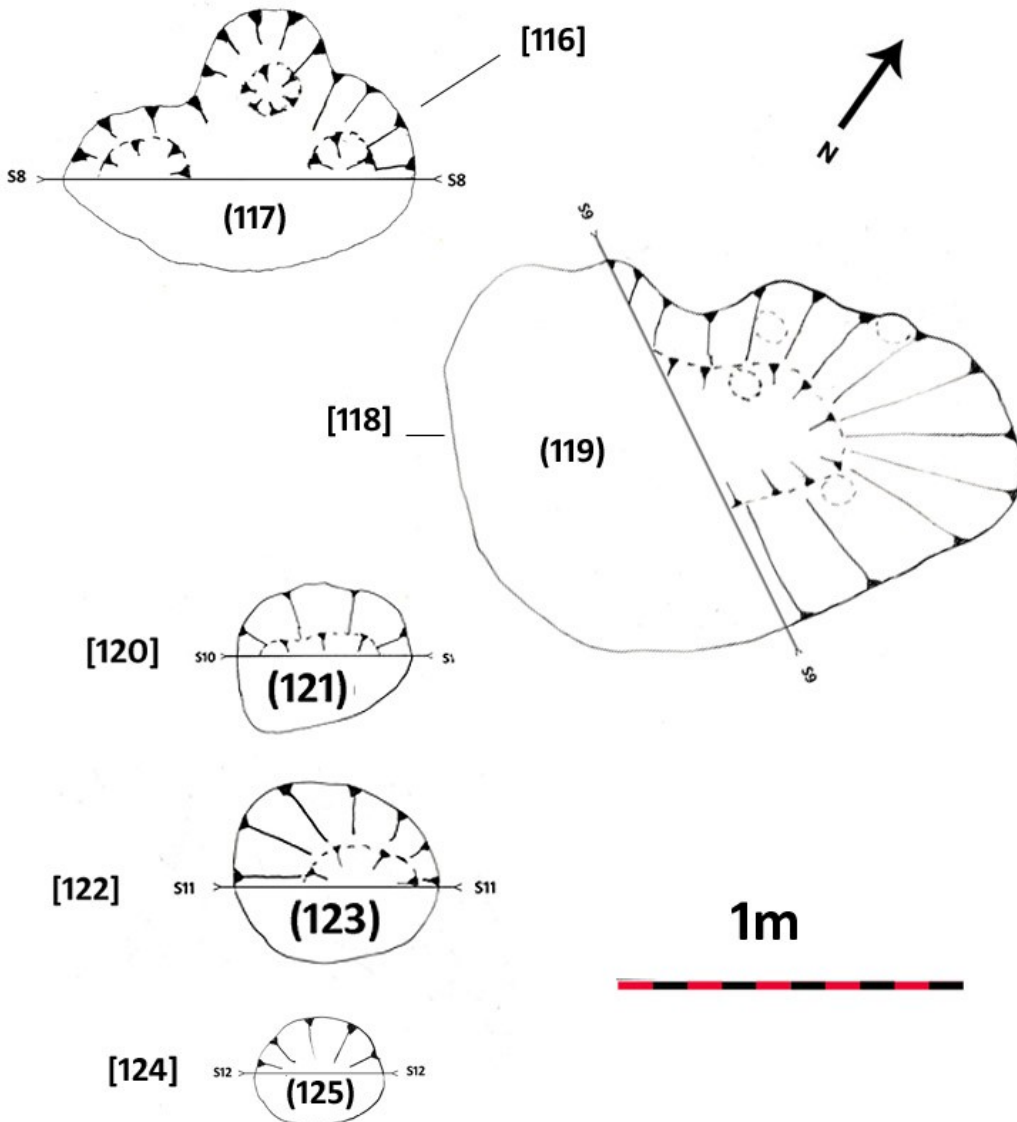
[122] Section #11

NE SW



[124] Section #12

1M



DRAFT

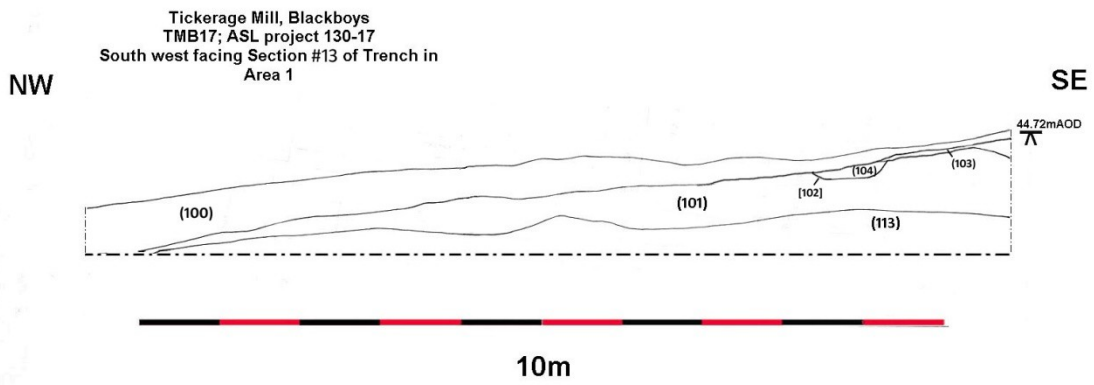


Fig. 8. Section #13 of Trench 1 in Area 1 (see Figs 3 and 4 for location).

Tickerage Mill, Blackboys
TMB17 ASL project 130-17
South-west facing section 14, Trench 2 in Area 2

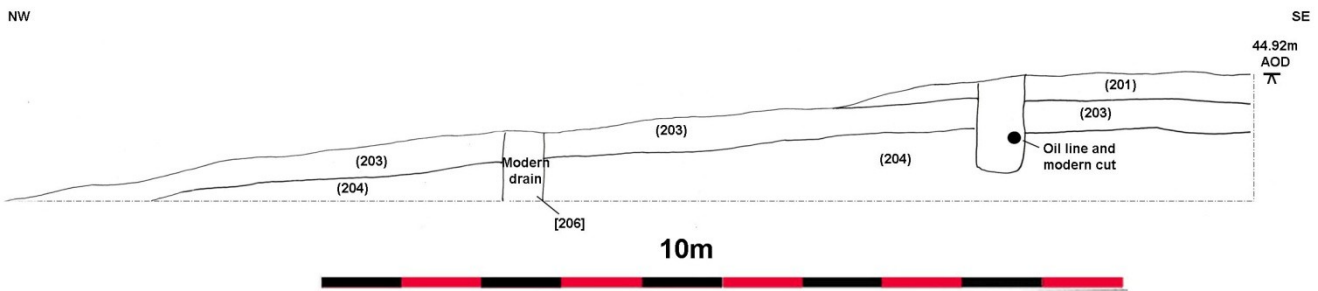


Fig. 9. Section #14 of Trench 2 in Area 2 (see Fig. 3 for location).

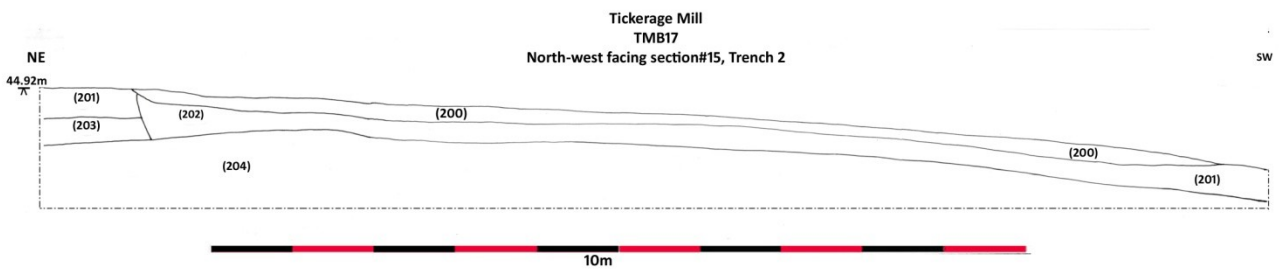


Fig. 10. Section #15 of Trench 2 in Area 2 (see Fig. 3 for location).

TMB17
Flint flake from (104)

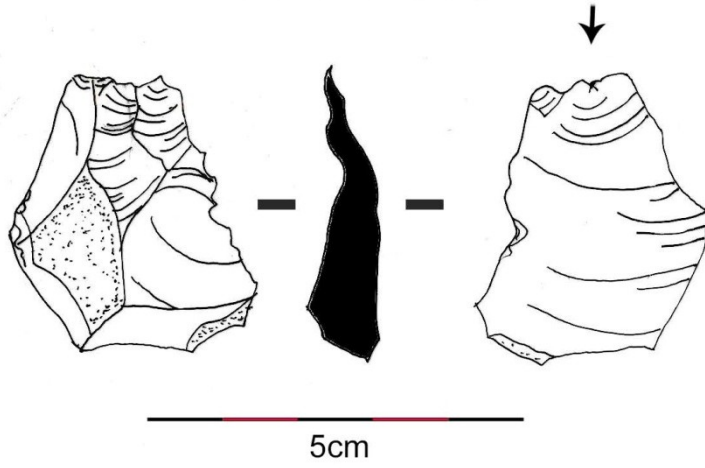


Fig. 11. Flint flake from (104).

APPENDIX 3

PLATES



Plate 1. Area 3 showing removal of block and beam steps on top of thick concrete.



Plate 2. Section #1 through feature [102] (scales 1m, 50cm and 20cm).



Plate 3. Looking down on section #1 across [102] (scales 1m, 50cm and 20cm).



Plate 4. Looking south-west down [102] to [105] beyond (scales 1m and 20cm).



Plate 5. Section #3 across [105] (scale 20cm).



Plate 6. Section #6 across [105] (scales 1m and 50cm).



Plate 7. Section #7 across [105] (scales 1m and 50cm).



Plate 8. Section #2 across [108] (scales 50cm and 20cm).



Plate 9. Section #4 across [111] (scales 50cm and 20cm).



Plate 10. Section #5 across [114] (scales 50cm and 20cm).



Plate 11. Section hand excavated across tree hole [116] (Scales 20cm).



Plate 12. Section hand excavated across tree hole [118](Scales 50cm and 20cm).



Plate 13. Section hand excavated across tree hole [120] (Scales 50cm and 20cm).



Plate 14. Section hand excavated across tree hole [122] (Scales 50cm and 20cm).



Plate 15. Section hand excavated across tree hole [124] (Scales 50cm and 20cm).



Plate 16. South-west facing edge of Trench 1, showing [102] in section (scales 2m and 1m).



Plate 17. South-east corner of Trench 2 in Area 2 showing topsoil, substrate and natural geology (scale 1m).



Plate 18. North-west facing baulk of Trench 2, showing re-deposited soil over stripped, natural geology (scale 50cm) below car park.



Plate 19. Cross section of car park in Trench 2 showing made ground over disturbed, re-deposited topsoil.

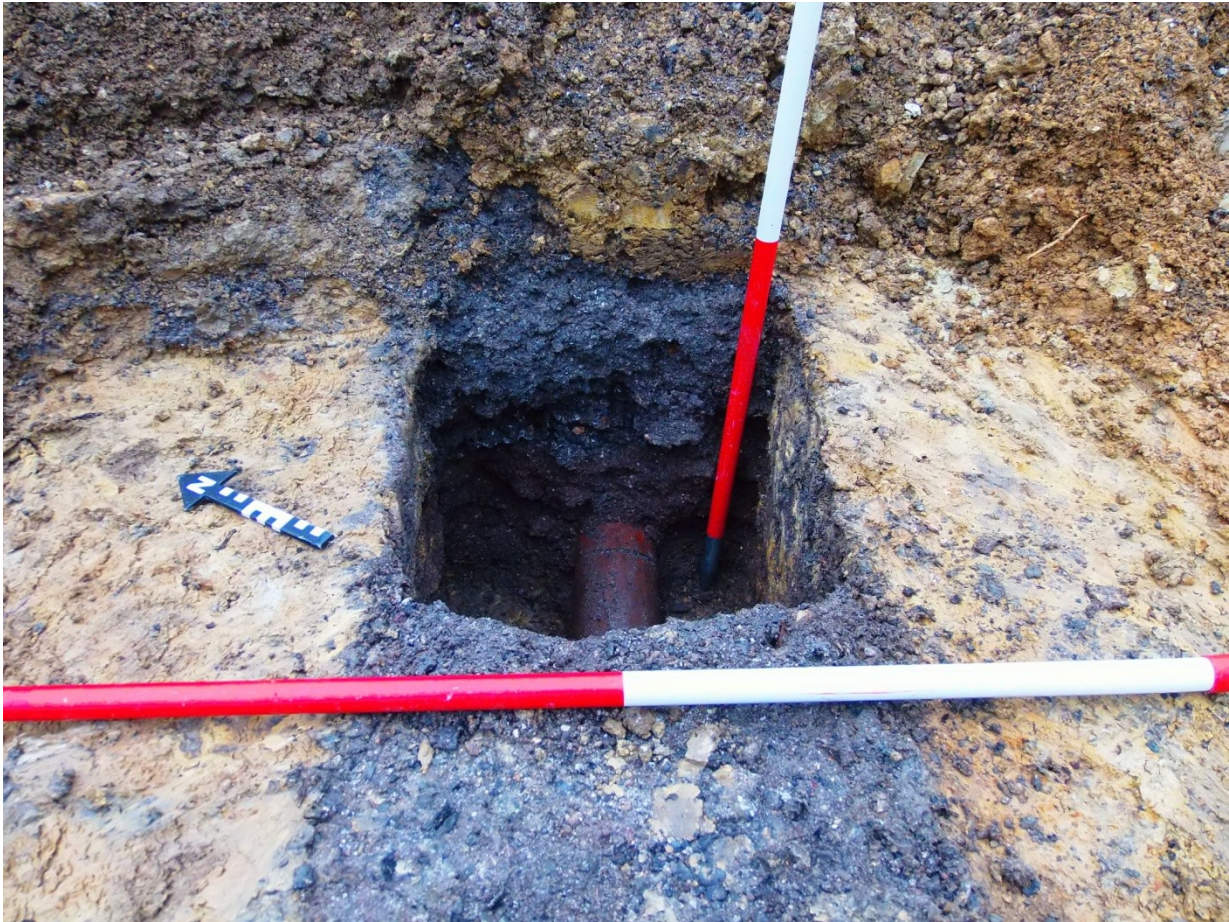


Plate 20. Modern cut [205] with ceramic drainpipe in Area 2 (scales in increments of 50cm).

A WATCHING BRIEF AT TICKERAGE MILL, BLACKBOYS, EAST SUSSEX.

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Project Number: ASL 130-17

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