Wessex Archaeology

Highborough Hill, Eastry Court and Environs, Eastry, Kent

Assessment of the Results from the Archaeological Evaluation

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HIGHBOROUGH HILL, EASTRY COURT and ENVIRONS, EASTRY, KENT

ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULTS FROM THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Prepared on behalf of

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Summary

In May 2005 Videotext Communications Ltd. was commissioned by Channel 4 to carry out an archaeological evaluation, as part of the Time Team television series, at two neighbouring locations; Highborough Hill (centred on NGR 631313 155559), and Eastry Court and environs (centred on NGR 631311 155548), Eastry, Kent. Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to undertake the archaeological site recording, post-excavation processing and assessment of the archaeological evidence recovered.

The high archaeological profile of the area has long been recognised. The line of Eastry High Street follows the course of a major Roman road (Dover to Richborough), which remained an important routeway in the Anglo-Saxon period. Eastry is known to have represented the centre of an Anglo-Saxon royal estate, the palace associated with which is believed to have been located in the vicinity of Eastry Court. Numerous Anglo-Saxon graves and cemeteries have been excavated within and to the south of the village. Over the past decade several fragments of high status Anglo-Saxon metalwork have been recovered during metal-detector surveys over Highborough Hill suggesting the presence of features of that date in the area.

The geophysical survey and subsequent excavation in the village failed to find any evidence for features or deposits that might be associated with the postulated Anglo-Saxon palace or settlement. Settlement evidence of this date is difficult to locate archaeologically and it is possible that the remains of Anglo-Saxon structures may lie below extant buildings.

No further Anglo-Saxon graves were found in the village, either in the same gardens or adjacent to those in which burials have been found. This may suggest that the wealthy burials from the village locations were singletons, however, it is also possible that the evaluation trenches fortuitously fell between gaps in rows or groups of graves.

Although some residual material of prehistoric, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon date was recovered from Highborough Hill, no *in situ* features or deposits related to these periods were revealed either in the geophysical survey or evaluation trenches. The reason for the recovery of so many fragments of Anglo-Saxon metalwork from across the area over the past decade is uncertain. Although no traces of Anglo-Saxon graves were found on the hill, the few artefacts of this date recovered – fragments of a glass cone beaker and cruciform brooch - could have derived originally from burial contexts, the location of which remains unknown.

The majority of features excavated at Highborough Hill appear to be medieval (13th – 14th century) in origin, probably extending into the early post-medieval period. Many of the features – hollow-way, refuse/cess pits, ditches and gullies - probably pertain to the windmill which was situated at the summit of the hill.

Acknowledgements

The evaluation was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd. The collaborative role and assistance of the various landowners is especially acknowledged: Graham and Sonia Caspell, Shrubbery Farm; David Freud, Eastry Court; Eastry Parish Council; and the owners of the High Street properties.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater (GSB Prospection) with the assistance of Daniel Shiel and Emma Wood. Survey and GIS data was collected by Dr. Henry Chapman (Hull University). The evaluation strategy was devised and directed by Professor Mick Aston (Bristol University). Co-ordination of the site recording was by Jacqueline McKinley and the site finds processing by Steve Thompson of Wessex Archaeology. The evaluation was undertaken by the Time Team's retained excavators and a team of local archaeological staff (Canterbury Archaeological Trust) and volunteers (Dover Archaeological Group). The metal-detector survey at Highborough Hill was undertaken by the White Cliffs Detecting Club under the co-ordination of the Kent Finds Liaison Officer (Portable Antiquities Scheme) Andrew Richardson. The background research was undertaken by Oliver Twinch, Kate Edwards and Tom St. John Gray (Time Team Researchers).

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology including management (Roland Smith and Lorraine Mepham), report (Jacqueline I. McKinley), illustrations (Kitty Brandon), general finds (Lorraine Mepham), flint (Dr. Matt Levers), coins (Dr. Nicholas Cooke), animal bone (Dr. Stephanie Knight), and charred plant remains and charcoal (Dr. Chris Stevens).

The progress and successful completion of the project also benefited from on-site discussion with Keith Parfitt (local archaeological specialist) and pottery specialist Paul Blinkhorn.

HIGHBOROUGH HILL AND EASTRY COURT, EASTRY, KENT

ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULTS FROM THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Videotext Communications Ltd. was commissioned by Channel 4 to carry out an archaeological evaluation, as part of the Time Team television series, at two neighbouring locations; Highborough Hill (centred on NGR 631313 155559), and Eastry Court and environs (centred on NGR 631311 155548), Eastry, Kent. Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to undertake the archaeological site recording, post-excavation processing and assessment of the archaeological evidence recovered. This report presents the results of the evaluation, an assessment of the finds, and proposes recommendations for further analysis and publication of the results.

1.2 Site description

1.2.1 Eastry village, in the Parish of Eastry, lies in south-east Kent, *c*. 7 km north-west of the costal town of Deal and *c.* 14 km north of Dover (Figure 1). The project comprised two areas of investigation;

- Highborough Hill (Trenches 1-4; Figures 1 and 2), situated on the north-eastern margins of Eastry, by Statenborough, *c.* 1.16km north of the second area of investigations focused on;

- Eastry Court, situated at the south end of the village adjacent to St. Mary's Church, and its village environs (Trenches 5-15; Figures 1, 3 and 4).

Highborough Hill

1.2.2 The site lies between 17.50m and 26.50m aOD, the summit of this broad conical hill forming one of the easternmost high points of the chalk Downs, bordering the low-lying coastal area between Deal and Margate (Figure 1).

1.2.3 The field in which the hill lies forms part of Shrubbery Farm and is bordered by apple orchards. At the time of the investigations the field was under grass but had formerly been under arable cultivation and subject to annual ploughing (Twinch 2005). The summit of the hill was landscaped in the 20th century to reduce the gradient of a former bank on the north side (*ibid.*).

Eastry Court and environs

1.2.4 The area of investigation lay at the south end of Eastry village between 25.80m (High Street trenches) and 19.68m aOD (south-east end of Eastry Court). The village lies on one of the numerous small spurs along the margins of the chalk Downs, bordering the low-lying costal area to the east. To the south-east the land descends into one of the many small dry valleys dissecting the edge of the Downs. A small brook, feeding into the North Stream, rises close to the valley entrance (Figure 1). It has been postulated that the valley may have formed a tidal inlet, the coastline lying much closer to the Downs up to the Mid-Late Anglo-Saxon period, potentially rendering Eastry accessible by sea (Chadwick Hawkes 1979, 96; Tatton-Brown 1984, fig. 1; Radly 1987, 204-5; Young 2004, 5).

1.2.5 Four trenches were located in the gardens of three houses (*Ashley*, *Thornton* and Larkfield House) situated either side of the north-south High Street, which follows the course of the Roman road between Dover and Richborough. Three trenches were located in the recreation ground situated between Eastry Court and the High Street. Four further trenches were located in the gardens of Eastry Court, which sloped gently down to the east towards the dry valley (Figure 1).

1.2.6 The underlying geology comprises Upper Chalk (North Downs), overlain by the Thanet Beds (Tertiary sediments) at Highborough Hill (BSG England and Wales, Sheet 290 Solid and Drift Edition).

1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 The high archaeological profile of the area has long been recognised (Chadwick Hawkes 1979). The line of Eastry High Street follows the course of a major Roman road (Dover to Richborough), which remained an important routeway in the Anglo-Saxon period (*ibid.*). The Anglo-Saxon and early medieval periods represent the temporal range of primary archaeological significance.

Highborough Hill

1.3.2 There is no record of the name but it is believed to have derived from the Old English (OE) *hēah burh* meaning 'high stronghold' (Ekwall 1964, 96), though an alternative for the latter part of the name may be the OE *beorg* meaning 'hill'.

1.3.3 Metal detector surveys of the field have revealed a range of artefactual material, predominantly of 5th-7th century date. Fragments of a gilded silver garnet-inlaid Kentish disc brooch were recovered in 1987. Between 1993 and 2002 the White Cliffs Metal Detecting Club recovered several fragments of plated copper alloy and silver garnet-inlaid brooches together with non-metal finds (Twinch 2005).

1.3.4 Analysis of maps and aerial photographs (AP) by Andrew Richardson of Kent County Council has identified various crop marks associated with the

hill including a series of sub-circular ditches towards the summit and the base of the hill, which it was believed may represent the remains of an enclosure or series of enclosures (*ibid.*). A north-south linear feature crossing the lower western slopes of the hill may represent the remains of a trackway, though none is evident on later post-medieval maps of the area (Andrews *et al.* 1769; Mudges 1801).

1.3.5 A resistivity survey of the summit and southern part of the hill undertaken in 2005 (Vince Burrows, White Cliffs Metal Detecting Club) found no clear indication of the feature visible in the aerial photographs.

Eastry Court and environs

1.3.6 Eastry is recorded as being the centre of an Anglo-Saxon royal estate or 'vill', rendered famous in legend as the place at which the Kentish king Egbert had two of his cousins murdered (*c*. AD 670; Hastead 1800, 102; Shaw 1870 5-6, 52-3; Witney 1982, 142; Riddler 2004, 26). The site of the royal palace is believed to lie within the vicinity of Eastry Court (Shaw 1870, 4-5; Chadwick Hawkes 1979, 95-6).

1.3.7 At some stage in the early medieval period the manor of Eastry passed into the possession of the see of Canterbury, being transferred to Christchurch in 811, in whose possession it remained until the Dissolution. Thereafter it was awarded by Henry VIII to his newly created dean and chapter of Canterbury (Hasted 1800, 103-4, 118-9).

1.3.8 There is evidence for a minimum of four late 5th - early 8th century inhumation cemeteries around the village (Chadwick Hawkes 1979). In 1792 numerous graves – '...very thick, in rows parallel to each other, in a direction east-west...' (Hasted 1800, 101) - were discovered east of the road between Buttsole and Eastry Cross at the south end of the village (Hasted 1800, 101; Shaw 1870, 2-4), further graves being found in the early 1860s (*ibid.*; Figure 1). Four inhumation graves were uncovered near Eastry Mill, Mill Lane, at the south-west end of the village, in 1967 (Chadwick Hawkes 1979, 95). The remains of a late 6th century female burial were excavated at Eastry House, on the west side of the High Street, in 1970; the implication being that the grave formed part of a cemetery rather than a singleton (Chadwick Hawkes 1979). About 78 late 7th-early 8th century graves have been excavated to date at Updown Farm, *c.* 1.3km to the south-east of the village (Philp and Keller 2002).

1.3.9 A single mid-later 6th century inhumation burial, furnished with a variety of weaponry, was excavated from the garden of *Thornton* in 2003 (Richardson forthcoming).

1.3.10 Other investigations within the village have found evidence for Iron Age (Holman 1992), Anglo-Saxon (Parfitt 1999; Worrall 2004) and medieval (Arnold 1982) features which may be indicative of settlement-related activity.

1.3.11 Documentary sources confirm that the oldest parts of the current buildings at Eastry Court, were constructed in the late 13th century, replacing a timber framed building the date of construction of which is unknown (Chadwick Hawkes 1979, 95; Pearson *et al.* 1994; Twinch 2005).

2 METHODS

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The project design for the evaluation was compiled by Videotext Communications Ltd. (Twinch 2005). Full details of the circumstances and methods of the evaluation may be found in the Project Design which is held in the archive, a summary of its contents being presented below.

2.2 Aims and objectives

2.2.1 The project offered the opportunity to further evaluate and assess the date, form and nature of the archaeological remains at both sites and to provide a condition survey via a combined programme of geophysical survey, trial trenching, fieldwalking and metal-detector survey.

Highborough Hill:

- To determine the significance of the metal artefact scatter
- To investigate the date, form and nature of the crop marks identified from the aerial photographs, and the relationship (if any) between them and the metal artefact scatter
- To ascertain the levels of preservation of archaeological features and deposits over the site

Eastry Court and environs:

- To investigate for evidence of activity pre-dating the construction of the 13th century building at Eastry Court;
- To evaluate for evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlement and the possible presence of the Anglo-Saxon royal palace;
- To identify the possible existence of further Anglo-Saxon burials, indicative of the presence of a cemetery rather than singletons, made on land to either side of the High Street;
- To ascertain the levels of preservation of archaeological features and deposits over the site.

2.3 Fieldwork

2.3.1 The programme of fieldwork was undertaken using a combination of extensive geophysical survey across Highborough Hill, Eastry Court and the recreation ground; a series of targeted trial trenches at both sites; and targeted areas of fieldwalking and metal detector survey at Highborough Hill.

2.3.2 Areas 1-7 of the geophysical survey were investigated by resistance survey using a Geoscan RM15 resistance meter and Area 8 at Highborough Hill was surveyed magnetically using a Bartington Grad 601-2 fluxgate gradiometer (Figures 1-3; GSB Prospecting 2005). The survey grid was set out by Dr. Henry Chapman and tied to the OS grid system using a Trimble Real-Time Differential GPS system.

2.3.3 Conditions for both the magnetic and resistance survey were generally good, all the survey areas being over cut grass. Some of the village locations were of limited extent, being in small gardens, which made interpretation difficult and it was impossible to assess the background levels or put the anomalies in a wider context (*ibid.*)

2.3.4 Fifteen hand-excavated and machine-stripped evaluation trenches of various sizes were opened; Trenches 1-4 at Highborough Hill, and Trenches 5-15 at Eastry Court (four trenches) and its village environs (three in the recreation ground and four in nearby properties bordering the High Street; Figures 1-4). The trench location followed that outlined in the Project Design with the aim of providing data in accordance with the general research aims and objectives (Section 2.2) within the constraints of the topography and presence of extant structures. Additional trenches were situated where appropriate based on the results of the geophysical and metal-detector surveys to provide as comprehensive a sample of the sites as possible within the three day evaluation.

2.3.5 The majority (nine; see Appendix 1) of the trenches were machine stripped using a JCB or mini-digger fitted with a toothless bucket, under constant archaeological supervision, to the top of the *in situ* archaeological deposits or undisturbed natural. Six trenches, inaccessible by machine or inappropriate for machine stripping, were fully excavated by hand. All investigation of archaeological features and deposits was undertaken by hand.

2.3.6 A sufficient sample of all archaeological features and deposits was examined to allow resolution of the principal questions outlined in the aims and objectives (Section 2.2).

2.3.7 All archaeological features and deposits were recording using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts under the site code EAST05. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real-Time Differential GPS survey system, linked to the National Grid and Ordnance Datum. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at 1:20 and sections were drawn at 1:10. All principal features and deposits were related to Ordnance Survey datum. A photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained.

2.3.8 Where appropriate environmental samples were extracted for analysis of organic remains to assist with assessment of the nature of a deposits and/or feature. Standard 10lt samples were taken where possible.

2.3.9 All spoil was scanned by metal-detectorists recommended by the County Archaeologist. In addition, a metal-detector survey was undertaken across all

excepting the northern slope of Highborough Hill, co-ordinated by Andrew Richardson, the Finds Liaison Officer for the Kent Portable Antiquities Scheme. All finds, extracted from within the upper 0.10m of the ploughsoil, were attributed a unique object number (ON) and plotted using a Trimble Real-Time Differential GPS survey system.

2.3.10 A small field-walking survey was undertaken on the south-west downslope side of Highborough Hill, comprising two areas to either side of the hedgeline between the hill field and the adjacent orchard (Figure 1). Area A, in the hill field, comprised a 70 x 20m area divided into 10m squares (contexts 1-14); finds were collected by a timed random walkover. Area B, in the adjacent orchard, comprised 20m square blocks (adjusted to encompass the rows of apple trees; contexts 15-26); finds were collected by timed passes between the rows of trees.

2.3.11 The investigations were undertaken between 3rd – 6th May 2005.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The full geophysical report (GSB Prospection 2005), details of excavated contexts and the finds analysis are retained in the archive. A summary of the excavated trenches is presented in Appendix 1.

3.2 Geophysical survey

Resistance Survey - Eastry Court (Areas 1-4 and 6-7)

3.2.1 The aim of the survey in this area was to try and detect possible remains of the Anglo-Saxon palace or buildings pre-dating the current structure. The potential target was very difficult from a geophysics point of view and the survey results proved largely inconclusive.

3.2.2 Some of the high resistance anomalies correspond to modern garden features, but some others appeared to have a greater archaeological potential (Figure 3). Excavation did not confirm the latter other than in the eastern end of Area 3, where the anomaly was revealed to be a possible floor/yard surface (Trench 7). A large quantity of modern building debris was also excavated from Trench 15 possibly corresponding with an anomaly in Area 7.

Resistance Survey – Village environs (Recreation Ground; Area 5)

3.2.3 A linear high resistance anomaly probably indicates a former path crossing the recreation area and perhaps leading to the old school (Figure 3). This interpretation is supported by the presence of a trend in the data that continues towards the present entrance into the recreation ground. No corresponding features were noted in excavation.

3.2.4 A small high resistance anomaly on the south-west edge of the survey area may have some archaeological significance. The adjacent Trench 13

contained some possible archaeological features but there was substantial tree-root activity and modern intrusions which may also have caused the anomaly. Other trends show some regularity, however, they are weak and any archaeological interpretation is tentative.

3.2.5 Flower beds and trees bordering the recreation ground caused a band of high resistance in the data.

Magnetic Survey – Highborough Hill (Area 8)

3.2.6 The centre of the survey area was marked by a cross-shaped anomaly indicating the location of a former windmill, the foundations of which were revealed in excavation (Figure 2). A curving ditch-type anomaly to the north-east may be associated with the windmill and/or may represent the remains of a feature associated with the bank known to have been removed from the hill last century (see Section 1.2.3).

3.2.7 A series of strong magnetic anomalies forming two bands running along the north and west side of the hill correspond with features evident in the aerial photograph (AP). Map evidence suggests that the bands may coincide with the course of a track (hollow-way) and boundary. This was confirmed by excavation.

3.2.8 An area of increased magnetic response on the southern hill slope was thought to have some archaeological significance. On excavation a series of ditches and pits was revealed in this area but none correspond directly with the recorded anomalies.

3.2.9 A linear anomaly on the eastern side of the hill is likely to represent the course of a field drain or boundary, although an archaeological explanation cannot be discounted. An amorphous anomaly at the southern end of this feature was found to indicate a patch of dark soils containing some charcoal, which on excavation appeared to represent the deliberate backfilling of a possible lynchet.

3.3 Archaeological evaluation

Highborough Hill (Trenches 1-4)

3.3.1 Residual medieval and post-medieval material, including pottery, was recovered from the topsoil/ploughsoil across the area; some possible Romano-British ceramic building material (CBM) was also recovered from Trench 4. The undisturbed natural in all except Trench 3 comprised a mottled yellowish or greyish brown silty clay. In Trench 3 the latter was augmented at the north and south ends of the trench by outcrops of a laminated sandstone.

Trench 1

3.3.2 The major feature within Trench 1 was the cross-shaped windmill foundation trench situated at the summit of the hill (Gp. 108; Figures 2 and 5). The cut (excavated in six segments) defined two slightly unequal, almost straight

arms set NNW-SSE (8.10m long) and NE-SW (8.75m long), ranging from 1.13m to 1.31m width and 0.58-0.71m in depth. The cut had vertical sides and a flat base, the southern and eastern terminals being rounded and the north and west terminal squared.

3.3.3 The lower fills in each segment comprised a dark matrix, *c*. 0.35m wide and 0.07m deep (context 133; see Appendix 1; Figure 5, sections 1a and b), roughly centrally placed, apparently representing infill following the removal of the foundation sill-beam for the mill. To either side of these deposits lay a primary silting layer (134) which had presumably built up against the foundation beam whilst it was in position. Between one and three levels of what probably represents natural silting subsequently occurred in the remaining lower *c*. 0.12-0.22m of the cuts. The upper 0.35-0.50m depth of the foundations appears to have been deliberately backfilled in a single episode.

3.3.4 The only departure from this pattern of fills was seen in the western excavated segment, where the full width of the arm was not quite seen in excavation (widest recorded segment). Here there was a ledge on the north side of the cut and a primary deposit of compact silty clay against the south side not seen in any other segment. This arm of the cut shows a slight bend to the south and it seems likely that the original cut was off-true and had to be adjusted by extending the cut to the north and backfilling it slightly to the south (Figure 5, section 1a).

3.3.5 Finds from both the secondary silting and the backfill include residual late prehistoric and medieval pottery, with some post-medieval material recovered from the later backfilling. A fragment of Anglo-Saxon cone beaker was recovered from the lower fill in one of the central segments. There is no indication of the presence of the mill on maps from 1769 (Andrews *et al*) or 1801 (Mudges). The evidence suggests a later medieval date for the mill's construction and an early post-medieval date for its demolition.

3.3.6 A pair of shallow linear features (136 and 138), set *c*. 2m apart, was recorded towards the top of the hill *c*. 2m south-west of the windmill foundations. The features have the appearance of wheel-ruts but may be more directly related to the mill, the remains of which indicate it represented a post mill, with cross-trees supporting the post on which the mill could be rotated to face the wind. The latter was effected by pushing a tail or tiller beam which extended from the rear of the body of the mill. It is possible that these two linear features represent the grooves created by the movement of successive tiller beams, the slight variation in width and shape reflecting differences in the angle at which the tiller reached the ground.

3.3.7 The linear feature (104) crossing N-S across the lower slope of the hill at the western end of Trench 1 represents the remains of a hollow-way which was also evident from the aerial photographs and in the geophysical survey (Figures 2 and 5). The primary cut of the hollow-way, *c*. 3.0m wide with a flat base and acute vertical sides, had been filled with a thick deposit of hard core and had a surface in which several wheel-ruts were clearly visible (109). This would have provided a relatively stable surface across what could

probably be a wet and muddy area, at least in winter. Several episodes of 're-surfacing' or mending had occurred (115 and 107) prior to the route falling into disrepair and silting up, probably with some down-hill slippage. The upper levels may have been deliberately backfilled to ease subsequent agricultural activity (i.e. ploughing).

3.3.8 No finds were recovered from the primary core of the hollow-way route, but some post-medieval pottery was found in the secondary surfacing (115) suggesting the date of at least the final phases of the route's use. There is no evidence for this trackway on the 1769 (Andrews *et al*) or subsequent maps, though the presence of the adjoining track to the north is indicated on the earlier map.

3.3.9 The only other feature in Trench 1 was a lynchet (105) approximately one-third down-slope from the apex of the hill. Medieval and post-medieval material was recovered from the single fill. This feature may correspond with one of the linear features evident on the aerial photograph.

Trench 2

3.3.10 No archaeological features or deposits were observed in Trench 2, though residual Romano-British and medieval pottery was recovered from the worked subsoil.

Trench 3

3.3.11 Linear features and pits were recorded in Trench 3, which also contained possible evidence for a palaeochannel (341) at the base of the slope (Figure 6). Only the southern edge of the latter was evident in a box section cut at the south-east end of the trench. The presence of only a single, albeit compact, apparently water-lain fill with no organic inclusions or deposits, however, mitigates against this possible interpretation.

3.3.12 Two segments of a north-south, 'V'-shaped ditch (308 and 330) with single fills, contained material of medieval date. The southern terminals of two – possibly three – shallow gullies (337 and 339) on a similar alignment were found in association (indistinguishable fills) with the northernmost segment (330). The ditch is in direct alignment with the south-western arm of the windmill foundations, suggesting a direct relationship with the structure. The lack of silting within the ditch indicates it was kept clean until it was deliberately backfilled, possibly prior to extensive arable cultivation of the field (fills sealed by the ploughsoil).

3.3.13 An east-west ditch (307) ran along the base of the slope at the south end of the trench; this corresponds with the position of one of the linear features seen in the aerial photograph. The ditch contained a single fill from which no dating evidence was recovered. It is likely that ditch 308/330 fed into this further along its course, and that they are contemporaneous and for drainage purposes. The ditch fill, apparently deliberate backfilling, was sealed by the ploughsoil.

3.3.14 The function of the two shallow pits 302 and 305 is uncertain. The former contained three fills with few archaeological inclusions other than a mix of

largely residual material in the central fill including medieval and post-medieval pottery. Medieval pottery was amongst the material recovered from the basal fill of pit 305, but the overall similarities in fills between this and other features in the area suggests the pottery was residual and that the pit is of post-medieval date.

3.3.15 Two adjacent midden pits 321 and 322, of similar size and form (vertical sides, not bottomed) contained almost identical fills, all of which showed substantial central slumping (Figure 6). The lower excavated fills in both cases were rich in organic material including common oyster and mussel shell and had the slightly greenish tinge suggestive of cess. Other debris including medieval pottery and fired clay was also recovered. The lower fills had been sealed by a chalk 'capping', which had subsequently slumped, acquiring later silting and possibly deliberate backfills. The only dating evidence from the pits suggests they may be medieval, and possibly related to the use of the windmill.

3.3.16 The post-hole 313 and small pit 334 are both likely to be relatively modern, the former possibly associated with fencing. A highly corroded paint tin (312) was, probably fortuitously, recovered from the topsoil immediately above the former.

Trench 4

3.3.17 Few features were observed in Trench 4 (Figure 2); a shallow north-south gully (405), not quite in line with a linear feature observed in the geophysical survey; a shallow circular pit of unknown function (403); and a possible lynchet (408).

3.3.18 Most of the features contained fragments of fired clay and burnt flint, and environmental samples taken from both the gully and the possible lynchet were rich in charred plant remains, particularly cereals. The lower fill of 408 was very dark suggestive of a large deposit of burnt organic material (no *in situ* burning) and the position of this feature corresponds with an amorphous shaped anomaly noted in the geophysical survey. All this burnt material may derive from the same event involving the dumping of remains from a burnt store in the vicinity.

3.3.19 Whilst both Romano-British and medieval pottery was recovered from the pit and possible lynchet, suggesting a medieval date for the feature, the former also contained post-medieval CBM and it is possible that the earlier material may all be residual.

Eastry Court (Trenches 6, 7, 13 and 15)

3.3.20 A similar topsoil/garden soil was observed in all four trenches, those nearer the house (6 and 13) containing variable quantities of post-medieval pottery and CBM (Figure 3). The natural in all except Trench 7 comprised degraded chalk; Trench 7, being on the eastern downslope margins of the garden, contained a greater build-up of worked soil, some probably deposited as levelling.

3.3.21 Few features were observed in any of the trenches. Most are likely to be post-medieval or modern in origin, and may be related to the substantial building works undertaken in the late 18th and 19th centuries (Shaw 1870, 53-4).

3.3.22 The foundations of a NW-SE cobbled flint wall (1302), with the remnants of at least one face, were observed in Trench 13, running parallel to and lying equidistant between the south-west side of the house and the neighbouring churchyard wall (Figures 3 and 7). The wall probably marks an earlier boundary between the church and the house. No dating evidence was recovered.

3.3.23 An area of levelling or rough surface (701), corresponding with an anomaly on the geophysical survey, made within a deliberate cut (703) was recorded in Trench 7 (Figure 3). The size and form of the geophysical anomaly suggests this may originally have formed the base for a pathway or similar garden feature. Finds from the make-up indicate a post-medieval date.

3.3.24 The remains of probable drains or soakaways, post-medieval and/or modern, were recorded in Trenches 13 (1305) and 15 (1504). The only feature in Trench 6 was a modern cut, probably a pit (604), of uncertain function, possibly some form of rubbish pit.

Village environs: Recreation ground (Trenches 8, 12 and 14)

3.3.25 Few features, only one possibly earlier than the post-medieval period, and few finds were recovered from this area. Trench 14 was heavily disturbed by root action and modern intrusions (Figure 3). The dirty, degraded chalk natural was recorded in Trenches 12 and 14, Trench 8 did not extend below the undisturbed subsoil.

3.3.26 A small, shallow pit (802) was recorded in Trench 8 and a possible post-hole (1402) in Trench 14 (Figure 3). Both had single fills containing no finds and lay below the topsoil.

3.3.27 The terminal of a modern SW-NE gully (806), on the same alignment as one of the trends in the geophysical survey and possibly related to drainage, was recorded in Trench 8 (Figure 3). An irregular linear feature (1404) and a possible gully/ditch terminal (1406) were seen in Trench 14, with no clear evidence of their date or function (Figure 3).

3.3.28 The NW-SE 'V'-shaped ditch (1206) in Trench 12 appears to have been sealed by the worked subsoil, and the single fill contained fragments of later prehistoric pottery, suggesting a Middle-Late Bronze Age date for the feature (Figure 3). It is likely to represent some form of boundary ditch.

Village environs: High Street (Trenches 5 and 9-11)

3.3.29 The weathered chalk natural was reached at a fairly high level in Trench 11 on the west side of the High Street (Appendix 1; Figure 4). In the Trenches (5 and 10) on the east side of the street only the undisturbed natural subsoil

was observed, below a substantial depth of make-up/build-up and worked soils (*c*. 1.20m).

3.3.30 No archaeological features or deposits were recovered in the trenches on the east side of the High Street (Figure 4). In Trench 5 at *Thornton*, the site of the 2003 find of an Anglo-Saxon 'weapon' burial (Richardson forthcoming), relatively substantial amounts of archaeological inclusions were recovered from the various worked soils including Romano-British pottery and coins (see back cover), and a medieval lead token and pottery.

3.3.31 Although various features were observed in the trenches on the west side of the High Street (Trenches 9 and 11) most, if not all, appear to represent garden-related features, probably largely from planting. Finds were sparse and of post-medieval or modern date.

3.4 Fieldwalking and metal-detector survey

3.4.1 The limited fieldwalking on the south-west side of Highborough Hill resulted in the recovery of a significant proportion of the finds assemblage (see Section 4) and demonstrated the potentially high level of residuality of material in post-medieval contexts.

3.4.2 The metal-detector survey resulted in the recovery of 31, mostly metal finds largely of unknown or post-medieval date with the exception of fragments of an Anglo-Saxon brooch (ON 305, Figure 8) and a medieval horse shoe (Section 4.8). The finds were scattered across the survey area, with a slightly higher proportion from the north-east side of the hill than elsewhere.

4 FINDS

4.1.1 Finds were recovered from 12 of the 15 trenches and from surface artefact collection (fieldwalking and metal-detector survey). A significant proportion of the assemblage (in particular, pottery and worked flint) derives from the fieldwalking collection, and apart from Trench 1 most of the trenches produced relatively small quantities of material. The assemblage ranges in date from prehistoric to post-medieval, although prehistoric and Romano-British material largely occurred residually in medieval and post-medieval contexts.

4.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context. Quantified data form the primary finds archive for the site, and these data are summarised by trench in **Table 1**. Subsequent to quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned in order to gain an overall idea of the range of types present, their condition, and their potential date range. Spot dates have been recorded for selected material types as appropriate (pottery, ceramic building material, clay pipes). All finds data are currently held on an Access database.

4.1.3 This section presents an overview of the finds assemblage, on which is based an assessment of the potential of this assemblage to contribute to an

understanding of the site in its local and regional context, with particular reference to possible Anglo-Saxon activity.

4.2 Pottery

4.2.1 This material type provides the primary dating evidence for the site. The overwhelming majority of the assemblage is of medieval or post-medieval date, with small quantities of later prehistoric and Romano-British material, most of which was residual in later contexts. One sherd (an undiagnostic body sherd in a leached shelly ware) remains undated. Overall condition is fair – the assemblage is fragmentary but, with the exception of the prehistoric and Romano-British sherds, relatively unabraded, probably due to the hard-fired nature of most of the wares. Mean sherd weight overall is 7.1 grammes. The pottery from the surface artefact collection was not noticeably more fragmentary or abraded than the stratified assemblage.

4.2.2 The whole assemblage has been quantified by ware type within each context, and the presence of diagnostic sherds noted. **Table 2** presents the chronological breakdown of the assemblage by ware type.

Later Prehistoric

4.2.3 A small number of sherds are of later prehistoric date (Middle Bronze Age to Late Iron Age). Twelve are in flint-tempered fabrics and one in a sandy fabric. None are diagnostic and have been dated solely on fabric grounds. Both flint-tempered and sandy fabrics have a lengthy currency during the later prehistoric period in Kent (and indeed earlier), and none of these sherds can be dated more closely with any degree of confidence. All stratified sherds were residual in medieval or later contexts, with the possible exception of two sherds from Trench 12 (ditch 1206). There appears to be a small concentration in Trench 1 (corresponding to a similar concentration of worked and burnt flint).

Romano-British

4.2.4 A handful of sherds are Romano-British, comprising coarse greywares and oxidised wares, one sherd of fine whiteware (probably from a beaker or flagon), one sherd from a Spanish Dressel 20 amphora, and one from an Oxfordshire colour coated vessel. The only stratified diagnostic sherd is the colour coated ware (possible lynchet 408), which is of late Romano-British date (mid 3rd to 4th century AD).

Medieval

4.2.5 The medieval assemblage is overwhelmingly dominated by Tyler Hill sandy wares, unsurprising given the virtual monopoly of the Tyler Hill industry over east Kent at its peak of production in the 13th and 14th centuries (Cotter 1991). Hard-fired and predominantly oxidised, these wares can also be reduced to a dark grey colour, or have patchy, partly oxidised surfaces. The Eastry sherds consist largely of the 13th/14th century wares (Canterbury Archaeological Trust [CAT] fabric type M1, dated *c.*1225-1375), although there are a few possible examples of the later medieval variant (CAT fabric LM1, dated *c.*1375-1550). Some of the early medieval sandy wares (CAT fabric EM1, dated *c.*1050-1225), here confined to Trenches 3 and 4 and the

surface artefact collection, are also likely to be Tyler Hill products. Vessel forms consist largely of jars, many with squared rims bearing the characteristic stabbing or pricking found on many Tyler Hill products; very similar jars were found during excavations at Eastry Court Farm in 1980 (Arnold 1982, fig. 6). Earlier jar forms in EM1 have simpler, expanded rim profiles. A few sherds in M1 carry white-slipped decoration and presumably derive from jugs, as do a couple of rod handles.

4.2.6 Other wares are very sparsely represented within the medieval assemblage – a single sherd of sandy/shelly ware (?11th/12th century), one sherd of imported Saintonge ware (late 13th/early 14th century), and one sherd in a sandy fabric with large flakes of mica, obviously of non-local origin and possibly also a continental import. The Saintonge ware came from Trench 1 (windmill foundation Gp. 108), the other two sherds from the surface artefact collection.

Post-medieval

4.2.7 Post-medieval wares were particularly well represented amongst the fieldwalking assemblage, with few sherds coming from the excavated trenches. Coarse redwares make up more than half of the assemblage, with modern refined whitewares also fairly common. The coarse redwares are not in general closely datable, although some of these sherds are obviously modern. One sherd of yellow-glazed white earthenware is of unknown type. Other wares comprise stonewares (mainly modern), Staffordshire-type slipware (late 17th/18th century), tinglazed earthenware (17th/early 18th century) including two wall tile fragments from pit 403, and white saltglaze (early 18th century).

4.3 Ceramic Building Material

4.3.1 The category includes fragments of brick and roof tile. The roof tiles include examples of medieval and post-medieval date. There are also a few fragments (ditch 330, Trench 4 topsoil, possible lynchet 408) which could be Romano-British.

4.4 Fired Clay

4.4.1 This category consists of small, abraded and featureless fragments of soft-fired, sandy clay. These could be of structural origin, from hearth or oven linings or from upstanding structures. Associated pottery suggests a medieval date for this material. There is a small concentration in Trench 4 (gully 405, possible lynchet 408).

4.5 Worked Flint

4.5.1 The flint assemblage is relatively small, consisting of 254 pieces. Most are unretouched flakes and broken flakes and irregular pieces (208 pieces), along with a small blade component (four), flakes cores and fragments (seven), scrapers (ten), a piercer, retouched flakes (22) and other tools (two).

4.5.2 Raw material is varied, including Bullhead flint, various apparently gravel-derived flints, and a small amount of a very fine, lustrous jet-black flint. It is likely that most derives from local river gravels or beaches, with other pieces from the Kentish chalk to the south and north.

4.5.3 The majority of the assemblage is undiagnostic. 116 pieces were recovered during fieldwalking, and these are uniformly abraded and heavily edge damaged. None are chronologically significant, although most show traits typical of hard hammer technologies, which, together with the crudity of the few tools, suggest a Bronze Age date.

4.5.4 The remainder of the assemblage comes from stratified features of various dates (mostly medieval and post-medieval). This assemblage is clearly residual, although the condition of much of it (generally fresh and unpatinated with a minimum of edge damage) suggests that it derives from prehistoric activity in the immediate vicinity. Technology is again predominantly hard hammer and the few cores and tools (including some very crude choppers) suggest a date in the Late Bronze Age.

4.5.5 A very limited number of potentially earlier pieces are present, mostly blades and broken blades struck with soft hammers which are likely to be Mesolithic or early Neolithic.

4.6 Burnt Flint

4.6.1 Burnt, unworked flint was also recovered in some quantity, mainly from Trench 1. This material type is of unknown date and origin; although often associated with prehistoric activity, this does not seem to be the case here where the stratified burnt flint came from medieval or later contexts and there is little other evidence for prehistoric activity.

4.7 Glass

4.7.1 Nearly all of the glass recovered is of post-medieval date, comprising fragments of vessel and window glass. Little of this is likely to pre-date *c.*1750, although a few fragments (two from fieldwalking and 17 from Trench 7) could derive from 'onion' or 'mallet' bottles of later 17th or early 18th century date. Of greater significance, however, is the base of a Saxon cone beaker, possibly Kempston-type, recovered from Trench 1 (windmill foundation Gp. 108). This is a narrow-based example, and therefore probably a later type (late 5th or 6th century), in a pale, greenish glass, with traces of vertical looped trails (see Evison 1987, fig. 14, grave 22, 1).

4.8 Metalwork

4.8.1 Metalwork includes coins and tokens, as well as other objects of copper alloy, iron and lead. Just under one-third of the metal objects were unstratified finds, located by metal detector during the survey at Highborough Hill.

Coins and tokens

4.8.2 Eight coins were recovered, including five unstratified metal detector finds, ranging in date from the Roman period to the 20th century. In general, their condition is very poor, with some coins badly corroded.

4.8.3 The earliest coin is a sestertius of the Emperor Trajan (AD 98 – 117), which was minted between AD 103 and 111 (context 503). Two partially drilled holes in the reverse of this coin may have been designed to allow it to be suspended as a weight. One other coin (unstratified) may be Roman in date, but is too badly worn and corroded to be closely dated.

4.8.4 A halved silver penny of Henry III, minted in Canterbury between AD 1248 and 1250, was recovered from context 101 (topsoil, W. end of trench. At this time it was fairly common for pennies to be halved or even quartered in order to provide small change.

4.8.5 The remaining five coins date to the post-medieval and modern periods. Two (context 503 and unstratified) are post-medieval tokens whilst a third (also unstratified) is probably a copper alloy jeton or reckoning counter struck in Nuremberg. Reckoning counters were aids used in medieval accounting and mathematical calculations. They were used in conjunction with checkerboards or clots in order to record values and sums of money. Specialist tokens were produced from the late 13th century onwards, and they were in widespread use from the 14th century until the late 17th century, when they were made redundant by the increasing spread of Arabic numerals. Nuremberg took over as the main European centre for jeton manufacture in the 16th century.

4.8.6 Two coins – half pennies of Victoria and of George V (both unstratified), date to the 19th or 20th century.

4.8.7 The coins represent a fairly mixed assemblage, although the presence of three tokens or jetons indicate that the site was probably in use during the post-medieval period. It is not clear whether the sestertius of Trajan was lost on the site during the Romano-British period, or much later, perhaps having been used as a weight.

Copper alloy

4.8.8 Other objects of copper alloy (most of which were unstratified finds) include four buckles, three brooches, a button, a strapend, a possible rowel spur fragment, a possible bracelet fragment and two nails or tacks. Most of these are demonstrably or probably of medieval or later date. The possible bracelet, however, could be earlier (Romano-British or even prehistoric), and one of the brooches is a Saxon cruciform type (*c.* 6th century; ON 305, Figure 8); both these objects were unstratified metal-detector finds.

Iron

4.8.9 The iron is in fairly poor condition, heavily corroded, and for this reason some objects remain unidentified at this stage, despite X-radiography. Most of the identifiable objects are nails, with one horseshoe. All these objects are assumed to be of medieval or later date.

Lead

4.8.10 The four lead objects comprise a token (see above), a musket ball, a possible weight and a piece of waste. All are likely to be post-medieval.

4.9 Other Finds

4.9.1 Other finds comprise a handful of clay pipe stems; two schist whetstones, both probably post-medieval; and a few small scraps of marine shell (oyster and whelk).

4.10 Animal Bone

4.10.1 The majority of the 274 bones were in fair condition, with only a few recorded as poorly (4%) or well (7%) preserved. Gnawing incidence was low, at 2%, although loose teeth were fairly frequently observed, at 5% (17% of all identified fragments). This suggests that breakage of bone resulted in the loss of teeth from the jaw. A third of bones were identified to species, this relatively low proportion perhaps also a result of fragmentation.

4.10.2 While cattle were the most common species represented, pigs were also common, with smaller numbers of sheep/goat (**Table 3**). Horse and dog were infrequently observed, and only one bird bone was present. Five rabbit bones in good condition in pit 302 may have been intrusive, and a single fish bone from the same context was undiagnostic.

4.10.3 Forty-seven bones could be aged, a relatively high number, including foetal pig remains from pits 302 and 305, probably of a single individual. Pigs were often immature, with two unerupted third lower molars present, and a mixture of sexes (one female and two male canines positively identified). Sheep/goats, however, were relatively mature, where ageable, and several had very crowded toothrows. Twenty-three bones could be measured, and they included the mandible of a relatively small dog and a slender cattle metatarsal, probably of a castrate.

4.10.4 Butchery marks were few and consisted of chops for portioning cattle and sheep-sized mammals, with one unusual example of a pig humerus with numerous parallel cuts across the posterior shaft, almost along its whole length. These may have been made when cleaning the bone, or a laborious means of filleting of meat from the bone.

4.10.5 With the exception of the partial piglet and rabbit skeletons, no unusual combinations of bone elements were seen, and the assemblage appears to represent general refuse disposal.

4.11 Charred Plant Remains and Charcoals

4.11.1 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh and the residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots were scanned under a x10 - x30 stereo-binocular microscope and presence of charred remains quantified (**Table 4**),

to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and charcoal remains.

4.11.2 The five samples all produced remains of both free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum* sl) and hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.). Only grains were represented except in the sample from post-hole 313, which also contained several free-threshing wheat rachis fragments. These could, in a few cases, be identified as from hexaploid wheats e.g. bread-wheat proper (*Triticum aestivum*). This same sample also contained several fragments of charred culm nodes or straw stems.

4.11.3 The two samples from Trench 4 contained large numbers of grains of both hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare* sl) and free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum* sl) in approximately equal quantities. They also contained a few remains of garden pea (*Pisium sativum*) and several of bean (*Vicia faba*). The only other possible food remains were a few fragments of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*).

4.11.4 Weed seeds were relatively scarce and mainly confined to larger seeded species, in particular oats (*Avena* sp.) and vetches/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.). The sample from pit 321 also had single seeds of perennial rye grass (*Lolium perenne*) and scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*). The most weed seeds came from gully 405 that had ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), cleavers (*Galium aparine*) and brome grass (*Bromus* sp.). Both this and deposit within the possible lynchet also had single seeds of stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), a species associated with cultivation of heavy clay soils and most common from the Anglo-Saxon period onwards (Greig 1991).

4.11.5 That the two samples from Trench 4 contain free-threshing wheat, which is largely believed to be uncultivated in the Romano-British period (cf. van der Veen and O'Conner 1998), suggests a later date for these deposits; similarly for the stinking mayweed (Greig 1991). Despite one sample coming from the gully and the other from the possible lynchet, the similarity in composition and richness of the samples from Trench 4 suggests that the assemblages might derive from a single event. This may have been a burnt store in the vicinity, the burning of sweepings from a store or a dump of waste containing such material. That relatively few weed seeds are present and that these are predominantly large weed seeds indicates that the grain had been almost fully processed and stored after threshing, winnowing and sieving (cf. Jones 1984; 1987).

4.11.6 Given the small size and composition of the sample from post-hole 313, containing both rachis fragments and straw fragments, it is reasonable to assume that it came either from burning of threshing waste or sheaves. The general absence of weed seeds within the sample suggests it is more likely to represent the burning of straw waste from raking, perhaps old thatch or animal bedding.

4.11.7 The remaining samples from pits 321 and 302 contain clean grain, with a few relatively large weed seeds, attributable to crops from the final processing

stages, or waste from these stages, i.e. similar material to that from the Trench 4 samples.

4.11.8 The sample from pit 321 also produced a limited amount of mineralised seeds. Only one could be identified as Brassica type. The sample also contained a small amount of small animal bone including a few fish bones. Although the mineralisation was through calcium phosphate replacement, given the small amount of material it need not necessarily indicate the presence of cess.

4.11.9 Charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 4**.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1.1 The geophysical survey in the village failed to find any evidence for features that might be associated with the postulated Anglo-Saxon palace or settlement. Subsequent excavation also failed to locate any evidence of *in situ* features or deposits of Anglo-Saxon date. This, in itself, should not be taken as absence of evidence. Settlement evidence of this date is notoriously ephemeral and difficult to locate archaeologically, with very few settlements being known of in Kent despite the clear evidence for a substantial Anglo-Saxon presence indicated by the large number of cemeteries and later documentary evidence (Chadwick Hawkes 1979; Philp and Keller 2003, 24). The High Street, known to be on the same alignment as the former Roman road, continued to function in the Anglo-Saxon period, consequently many structures may lie below extant buildings. Similarly with the royal palace, the remains lie directly below the current buildings at Eastry Court.

5.1.2 The failure to find further Anglo-Saxon graves in the village, either in the same gardens (*Thornton*) or ones adjacent to those in which burials have been found (Larkfield House adjacent to Eastry House), may suggest that these wealthy burials were indeed singletons. However, although cemeteries of this period did tend to comprise compact groups of graves there could be fairly sizeable gaps between groups or rows within one cemetery (e.g. Tester 1969, fig. 1; Hogarth 1973, fig. 4; Evison 1987, fig. 2), and the evaluation trenches may have fortuitously fallen between them.

5.1.3 Although there is some evidence suggestive of prehistoric, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon activity in the general vicinity of Highborough Hill, no *in situ* features or deposits related to these periods were revealed either in the geophysical survey or evaluation trenches. The worked flint was mostly recovered during fieldwalking, and this together with the few sherds of prehistoric pottery and Romano-British material is sparse and poorly stratified.

5.1.4 The reason for the recovery of so many fragments of Anglo-Saxon metalwork from across the area over the past decade is uncertain. Although no traces of Anglo-Saxon graves were found on the hill, the glass cone

beaker and cruciform brooch could both have derived originally from burial contexts, the location of which remains unknown.

5.1.5 The majority of features from the area of the hill appear to be medieval in date – probably 13th-14th century – with some extending into the early post-medieval period. Many of the features and deposits probably pertain to the windmill which was situated at the summit of the hill. There is no direct evidence for settlement within the immediate vicinity, but the domestic debris and cess from various pits may have been produced by those working the mill and visiting it. The carbonised processed grain recovered from the mass of burnt debris in Trench 4 may have been from a store where it was awaiting milling. The hollow-way – which does not appear to have continued in use as long as the trackway it joins to the north - may originally have been the route by which grain was delivered to the mill.

5.1.6 The finds assemblage is small and a significant quantity was recovered during surface artefact collection and is therefore essentially unstratified. A high proportion of the datable finds are post-medieval. The fact that many of the coins were recovered unstratified makes them less valuable as dating tools. The animal bone assemblage is in fairly good condition with a high proportion of ageable and measurable bone, which has been little affected by scavenger activity, but the assemblage is small and fragmentary, and many of the contexts are not securely dated, which further reduces the available sample size. These factors limit the potential of the assemblage for further analysis.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1.1 No further work is proposed for any of the finds from the surface artefact collection, but some categories of material from stratified contexts could warrant further comment. These include the Saxon cone beaker and medieval pottery.

6.1.2 Full quantification of remains from the environmental samples would allow more precise figures to be gained for the proportion of barley to free-threshing from lynchet 408 and gully 405. This might then strengthen the argument that they are indeed from the same event. Otherwise there is little further potential in the analysis of the samples.

6.1.3 Analysis of the charcoal would provide species identification for the samples from 408 and 405. This might shed light on whether the sample contained elements of firewood or is perhaps dominated by just one species more characteristic of the burning down of a structure. It might also, through the comparison of the two samples, indicate whether they do represent a single event. It is possible, however, that some degree of mixing occurred during deposition and so the benefit of such analysis may be limited.

6.1.4 Viewing the finds and environment overall in contexts of the date and range of archaeological features and deposits excavated, it is felt that little would be gained from further analysis.

6.1.5 A copy of this report will be submitted to the Kent Sites and Monuments Record. It is recommended that a summary of the results of the evaluation and assessment is submitted as a short note for inclusion in the annual round-up of investigations and excavations in the county journal *Archaeologia Cantiana*.

7 ARCHIVE

7.1.1 The archive, which includes all finds, written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken, is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the site code EAST 05 and Wessex Archaeology project code 59462. It is anticipated, subject to confirmation, that the archive will be deposited at Dover Museum.

7.1.2 The paper archive is contained four lever arch ring binder files. It includes;

Files 1-3: Time Team collated research files
File 4: Evaluation archive comprising;
The Project Design
Finalised Assessment Report
Specialist archive reports

The geophysical report includes a record of all data, plots of the results, interpretation with detailed comments and conclusions.

5 A4 Day book sheets
15 A4 photographic record sheets
7 A4 context index sheets
10 A4 trench record sheets
125 A4 context record sheets
10 A4 graphics register sheets
1 A4 object record sheets
8 A4 environmental sample register & record sheets
32 A4 drawing sheets
4 A3 drawing sheets
4 A1 drawings sheets
2 A4 site matrices and notes

The photographic archive includes:
134 colour transparency slides
6 monochrome films as negatives and contact prints
1 CD digital photographs

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	HIGHBOROUGH HILL					EASTRY COURT & ENVIRONS									
Material	**Tr 1**	**Tr 2**	**Tr 3**	**Tr 4**	**F/walking**	**Tr 5**	**Tr 6**	**Tr 7**	**Tr 8**	**Tr 9**	**Tr 11**	**Tr 12**	**Tr 15**	**M/detector**	**TOTAL**
Pottery	164/733	3/11	9/54	18/249	258/1996	10/136	2/131	2/20	1/5	1/2	2/19	2/18	-	2/7	**474/3381**
Prehistoric	*8/32*	-	-	-	*2/16*	-	-	-	-	-	-	*2/18*	-	*1/4*	***13/70***
Romano-British	-	*1/5*	-	*2/30*	*4/91*	*1/9*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	***8/135***
Medieval	*151/623*	*2/6*	*8/50*	*14/209*	*124/640*	*2/21*	-	*1/4*	*1/5*	-	*1/11*	-	-	1/3	***305/1572***
Post-Medieval	*5/78*	-	-	*2/10*	*128/1249*	*7/106*	*2/131*	*1/16*	-	*1/2*	*1/8*	-	-	-	***147/1600***
Unknown	-	-	*1/4*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	***1/4***
Ceramic Building Material	17/2915	13/14 2	6/139	3/206	14/329	1/19	12/782	-	2/41	-	3/50	-	1/2260	-	**72/6883**
Fired Clay	8/30	-	2/15	64/739	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**74/784**
Clay Pipe	-	-		-	6/14	-	-	1/4	-	-	-	-	-	-	**7/18**
Flint	99/1772	-	7/69	8/133	116/2112	3/47	-		1/16	-	7/186	9/107	-	4/140	**254/4582**
Burnt Flint	105/1451	3/64	6/161	9/483	35/853	3/45	-	1/7	-	1/1	6/190	1/82	-	-	**170/3337**
Stone	-	-	-	-	2/101	-	1/43		-	-	-	-	-	-	**3/144**
Glass	4/27	-	-	-	17/156	-	-	17/362	-	-	-	-	-	-	**38/545**
Metalwork	62	-	-	1	-	5	-	-	6	-	6	-	-	32	**101**
Copper alloy	*2*	-	-	-	-	*3*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*21*	***26***
Iron	*57*	-	-	*1*	-	*2*	-	-	*6*	-	*6*	-	-	*1*	***73***
Lead	-	-	-	-	-	*1*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*1*	***2***
Animal Bone	9/43	-	92/670	157/1853	-	3/86	1/2	3/10	1/2	-	6/50	2/184	-	-	**274/2900**
Marine Shell	1/7	-	7/21	-	-	-	-	2/6	-	1/2	-	-	-	-	**11/36**

Table 1: Finds totals by material type and by trench (number / weight in gammes)

Date Range	Ware Type	No. sherds	Weight (g)
LATER PREHISTORIC	Flint-tempered ware	12	68
	Sandy ware	1	2
	sub-total later prehistoric	***13***	***70***
ROMANO-BRITISH	Whiteware	1	3
	Amphora	1	84
	Oxfordshire colour coated ware	1	25
	Oxidised ware	2	6
	Greyware	3	17
	sub-total Romano-British	***8***	***135***
MEDIEVAL	Early medieval sandy ware	20	248
	Early medieval sandy/shelly ware	1	12
	Tyler Hill ware	276	1271
	Imports	2	5
	Misc. late medieval sandy wares	6	36
	sub-total medieval	***305***	***1572***
POST-MEDIEVAL	Redware	86	1177
	Whiteware	1	3
	Stoneware	13	185
	Staffs-type slipware	2	32
	Tinglaze	3	13
	White saltglaze	2	17
	Refined whiteware	40	173
	sub-total post-medieval	***147***	***1600***
UNDATED	Shelly ware	1	4
	OVERALL TOTAL	**474**	**3381**

Table 2: Chronological breakdown of pottery assemblage by ware type

	Horse	Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Pig	Dog	Bird	Rabbit	Fish	Unidentified	Total
Fragment count	4	32	18	28	1	1	5	1	184	274

Table 3: Animal species present

Feature no	Context	Sample	Volume	Flot size	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Notes	Other	Notes	Charcoal	Other Notes	Res. Charcoal
?medieval/post-medieval													
post-hole													
313	314	301	1.4	5	30	C	A	8x culm nodes 6x *T. aestivum* rachis frags. 3x *Triticum aestivum sl* grains	-	-	-	- -	-
pit													
321	320	302	10	40	10	A	-	3x *Hordeum* grains. 7x *T. aestivum* grains. 4x cereal indet.	C	3x *Avena* sp. 4x *Vicia* sp. 1x *Lolium, T. inodorum* x1.	C	smb (C) min (C)	-
gully													
405	407	401	6	230	5	A**		300x *Hordeum* sp. 300x *Triticum aestivum sl* 1x *Corylus avellana* 2x *Vicia faba*. 1x *Pisum sativum.*.	A*	20x *Vicia/Lathyrus*. 10-20x *Avena Lolium* x5. *Sambucus nigra, Lathyrus* sp. *Plantago lanceolata*. *Bromus* sp. *G. aparine Anthemis cotula*	B		-
possible lynchet													
408	409	402	10	230	60	A**		200+ x *Hordeum* sp. 200+ x *Triticum aestivum* 7x Vicia faba 1x cf. *Pisum sativum*		9x *Vicia/Lathyrus* 6x *Avena* sp. 1x *Anthemis cotula*	A	Moll- t (C)	-
post-medieval													
pit													
302	301	303	10	40	50	C	-	6x *Hordeum* grain. 20x *T. aestivum* grains. 1x *Corylus avellana*		1x Vicia/Lathyrus sp. 1x *Avena* sp.	C	eel (C)	-

Table 4: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Appendix 1: Trench Summaries

Trench 1 (Highborough Hill)		**Type:** machine-stripped	
Dimensions: 65.25m max. length 10.50m max. width	**Max. depth:** 1.30m	**Ground level:** *c.* 20.16 (SW) - 26.50m (NE) aOD	
context	**description**		**depth (bgl)**
101	Topsoil. Mild brown silty clay. Medieval pottery, post-medieval CBM, flint, FE & Cu-alloy objects. Max. depth 0.35.		0-0.35m
102	Natural subsoil. Mottled mid greyish-yellow silty clay.		0.35m +
103	Upper fill post-medieval linear feature 104. Mid greyish brown slightly silty clay with occasional fine chalk and sandstone fragments. 0.35m deep. Medieval pottery, post-medieval CBM, modern glass, flint.		0.20-0.60m
104	Hollow-way. 5.70m wide. Flat base. Stepped-sides (3 up-slope, 2 down-slope), acute straight lower step, obtuse concave upper. 1.02m max. depth.		0.22-1.30m
105	Lynchet. 1.60m wide. Gently sloping base. Shallow concave sides. 0.20m max. depth.		0.25-0.50m
106	Single fill 105. Mottled light greyish yellow silty clay. Rare small chalk & flint pieces. Post-medieval-modern pottery & CBM, glass, animal bone.		0.25-0.50m
107	Compact chalk metalling in hollow-way 104. Between layers 114 & 115. Pale grey silty clay matrix with common chalk pieces. 0.08m deep. Fe object.		0.78-0.83m
108	Gp. no. for windmill foundation. 8.75m E-W, 8.10m N-S, *c.* 1.40m wide. S & E ends rounded terminals, N & W ends squared. Depth 0.70m.		0.35-1.15m
109	Compact chalk hardcore/metalling at base of hollow-way 104; wheel ruts in surface. Pale grey silty clay matrix with frequent chalk pieces/lumps and rare flint nodules. 0.35m deep.		0.90-1.30m.
110	Component of Gp. 108. N terminal. Vertical sides, flat base. 1.24m wide, 0.70m deep.		0.35-1.15m
111	Upper fill 110. i.e. 2 layers. Light olive grey silty clay. Rare flint fragments. 0.46m deep. Late prehistoric & medieval pottery, fired clay, flint & burnt flint, animal bone.		0.35-0.80m
112	Central fill 110. i.e. 2 layers. Mixed dark grey and olive silty clay. Rare flint pebbles. 0.40m deep. Late prehistoric & medieval pottery, flint & burnt flint, Fe object.		0.70-1.00m
113	Fill 104; between 103 & 114. Dark greyish brown silty clay. Rare chalk pieces. 0.18m deep.		0.50-0.65m
114	Fill 104; between 113 & 107. Olive brown compact silty clay. Occasional chalk pieces, common manganese flecks. Rare small fragments CBM. 0.28m deep.		0.60-0.90m
115	Fill/surfacing within hollow-way 104, between 107 and 109. Very compact pale brownish grey silty clay with common chalk pieces. 0.26m deep. Post-medieval pottery.		0.84-1.15m
116	Modern cut. Ovoid, concave sides, cuts edge of hollow-way 104. 1.50m long, min. 0.50m wide. 0.60m deep.		0.15-0.75m
117	Single fill 116. Dark greyish brown silty clay (as topsoil). Occasional chalk pieces. 0.60m deep.		0.15-0.75m
118	Component of Gp. 108. E. segment. 1.13m wide, 0.71m deep.		0.35-1.15m
119	Upper fill 118. Light olive grey silty clay. Occasional flint fragments. 0.51m deep. Medieval pottery, flint & burnt flint, animal bone, Fe object.		0.35-0.88m
120	Central fill 118, between 119 & 133. Light brown & olive silty clay. 0.26m deep. Late prehistoric & medieval pottery, post-medieval CBM, flint & burnt flint, animal bone.		0.68-1.02m
121	Component of Gp. 108. S. terminal. Vertical sides, flat base, rounded terminal. 1.24m wide, 0.64m deep.		0.35-1.0m
122	Upper fill 121. Light olive brown compact silty clay. Rare flint fragments. 0.46m deep. Late prehistoric & medieval pottery, flint & burnt flint, Fe object.		0.35-0.80m
123	Fill 121, between 122 & 133. Mottled light grey & mid brown silty clay. 0.13m deep.		0.75-0.93m
124	Component of Gp. 108; W. segment. Vertical sides, flat base; ledge on N. side. 1.31m wide, 0.58m deep.		0.33-0.90m
125	Upper fill 124. Light greyish brown silty clay. Rare flint fragments. 0.33m deep. Late prehistoric & medieval pottery, medieval - post-medieval CBM, flint & burnt flint, animal bone, fired clay.		0.33-0.64m
126	Central fills of 124, i.e. 2 removed as one. Between 125 & 133. Mottled grey brown & olive grey silty clay. Occasional flint fragments. 0.17m deep.		0.45-0.85m
127	Component Gp. 108. N. quadrant central cross. 0.70m deep. (nfe)		0.30-1.0m +

Trench 1 cont. (Highborough Hill)		**Type:** machine-stripped
Dimensions: 65.25m max. length 10.50m max. width	**Max. depth:** 1.30m	**Ground level:** *c*. 20.16 (SW) - 26.50m (NE) aOD

context	description	depth (bgl)
128	Upper fill 127. Light olive brown compact silty clay. Rare flint fragments. 0.50m deep. Late prehistoric & medieval pottery, medieval/post-medieval CBM, animal bone, flint & burnt flint, fired clay, shell, Fe object.	0.30-0.78m
129	Central/lower fills 127; 2 layers excavated as one. Mottled light grey & brown compact silty clay. Rare charcoal flecks. 0.23m deep (nfe). Medieval pottery.	0.78m+
130	Component Gp. 108. S. quadrant through central cross. 0.70m deep (nfe)	0.30-1.0m +
131	Upper fill 130. Light olive brown compact silty clay. Rare flint fragments. Rare charcoal flecks.0.49m deep.	0.30-0.78m
132	Central/lower fills 130; 2 layers excavated as one. Mottled light greyish brown silty clay. Rare charcoal flecks. 0.20m deep (nfe). Saxon glass.	0.78m +
133	Gp. no. foundation sill beam seen in base all segments Gp. 108. 0.35m wide, 7.40m E-W and 7.75m N-S. Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. 0.07m deep.	0.82-0.92m
134	Gp. no. for primary silting within base all segments Gp. 108, either side/butting 133. Olive grey compact silty clay. Rare flint fragments.0.20m deep.	0.65-0.90m
135	Secondary silting around mill foundation beams in segment 124; between 133 and primary silting 134 (not seen in any other segment of Gp. 108). Mottled light olive brown silty clay. 0.15m deep.	0.70-0.90m
136	North-westerly (upslope) of pair of linear features (see 138). 0.23m wide, 0.10m deep. Flattened 'V-shaped base, uneven sides.	0.35-0.45m
137	Single fill 136. Mid greyish brown friable silty clay (i.e. topsoil within rut).	0.35-0.45m
138	South-easterly (down slope) of pair linear features (se 136). 0.44m wide, 015m deep. Acute 'U' shaped base, acute concave- variable sides.	0.35-0.50m
139	Single fill 138. Mild greyish brown friable silty clay (as topsoil).	0.35-0.50m

Trench 2 (Highborough Hill)		**Type:** hand excavated
Dimensions: 2 x 1m	**Max. depth:** 0.40m	**Ground level:** 17.50m aOD

context	description	depth (bgl)
200	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown sticky silty clay. Very rare flint fragments. Medieval/post-medieval CBM, burnt flint.	0-0.28m
201	Worked subsoil. greyish yellow-brown silty clay. Rare small angular flint. Roman & medieval pottery, burnt flint.	0.28-0.43m
202	Undisturbed subsoil. Mid greyish brown very compact silty clay with yellow mottling & manganese inclusions.	0.43m +

Trench 3 (Highborough Hill)		**Type:** machine stripped
Dimensions: 38.0m max. length 16.0m max. width	**Max. depth:** 1.50m	**Ground level:** 21.40m (SE) – 24.61m (NW) aOD

context	**description**	**depth (bgl)**
300	Topsoil/plough soil. Dark greyish-brown friable silty clay. Rare chalk pieces. 0.30m deep. Post-medieval CBM, burnt flint, animal bone.	0-0.30m
301	Central fill 302, between 310 & 311. Dark greyish brown silty clay. Common charcoal flecks. 0.24m deep. Medieval pottery, post-medieval CBM, flint & burnt flint, animal bone	0.26-0.50m
302	Circular pit, flat base, shallow concave sides. 1.98 x 0.98m, 0.40m deep.	0.32-0.70m
303	Upper fill 305. Dark brown friable silty clay with orange & grey clay lenses. Rare flint fragments. 0.11m deep.	0.30-0.41m
304	Primary fill 305. Mild brownish grey silty clay, very rare chalk & flint. 0.24m deep. Medieval pottery, flint & burnt flint, animal bone	0.35-0.65m.
305	Sub-rectangular pit. Flat base, acute concave sides except E, obtuse. 1.34 x 1.06m, 0.40m deep.	0.30-0.70m
306	Single fill 307. Light greyish brown silty clay rare small flint. Very rare charcoal flecks. 0.36m deep. Relationship with cut 337 not recorded.	0.30-0.66m
307	E-W ditch cut. 1.20m wide, 0.36m deep. Shallow concave base, obtuse upslope & acute downslope sides/	0.30-0.66m.
308	N-S ditch cut. Flat base, acute sides. 0.10m wide, 0.35m deep.	
309	Single fill 308. Mid greyish-brown silty clay. Very rare flint pieces. Very rare charcoal flecks. 0.35m deep. Medieval pottery, burnt flint.	0.30-0.64m
310	Upper fill 302. Mid yellowish grey silty clay with rare flint inclusions. 0.10m deep.	0.25-0.35m
311	Primary fill 302. Pale yellow slightly silty clay. 0.20m deep. Animal bone.	0.30-0.63m
312	Iron vessel within topsoil 'sat' on subsoil. Above 313. Paint tin – discarded.	
313	Sub-rectangular ?posthole, uneven concave sides & base. Below 312. 0.20 x 0.18m, 0.13m deep.	0.30-0.43m
314	Single fill 313. Greyish brown silty clay. 0.13m deep. Flint.	0.30-0.43m
315	Layer, confined to S. end trench. Between 333 and 332, possibly fill of palaeochannel? pale yellowish brown very compact, plastic slightly silty clay. 0.60m deep.	0.44-1.10m
316	Upper fill cut 321, between 300 & 317. Mottled orange & grey silty clay with clay mottles. Rare small flint, chalk & ironstone. 0.30m deep. Flint	0.30-0.65m
317	Fill cut 321 between 316 & 318. Light greyish brown silty clay, common chalk pieces. 0.22m deep.	0.32-0.90m
318	Chalk 'capping' in cut 321, between 318 & 319. Light greyish brown silty clay matrix within 95% small-medium chalk pieces. 0.20m deep.	0.33-1.05m
319	Fill cut 321, between 318 & 320. Greenish-grey silty clay with mottled orange clay. 0.35m deep. Medieval pottery, shell, animal bone, fired clay.	0.35-1.42m
320	Lower-most excavated fill cut 321. Greenish grey, very compact silty clay. 0.60m + deep (nfe). Oyster & mussel shell, animal bone.	0.85m +
321	Sub-circular cess/midden pit. 1.50m long (in section edge), 1.20m + deep (nfe). Vertical sides.	0.30-1.50m+
322	Sub-circular cess/midden pit. 1.65m wide. Vertical sides. Recut upper levels by 342. Excavated depth 0.65m (nfe)	0.30-0.95m+
323	Single fill 342, recut in upper levels pit 322. Mid-light greyish brown silty clay; very rare small flint & chalk & charcoal flecks. 0.31m deep.	0.30-0.63m
324	Upper fill pit 322, above 325, cut by 342. Mid greyish brown silty clay with mottles orange sandy clay. Very rare small chalk & flint, rare charcoal flecks. 0.25m deep.	0.30-0.68m
325	Fill pit 322, between 324 & 326. Mid brownish grey friable silty clay with common small chalk & rare charcoal flecks. 0.15m deep.	0.30-0.70m
326	Chalk 'capping' in pit 322, between 325 & 327. Light greyish brown friable silty clay matrix in compact small-large chalk fill (95%). 0.20m deep.	0.40-0.83m
327	Fill pit 322, between 326 & 328. Mid greenish grey silty clay, rare small flint & chalk & charcoal flecks. 0.65m+ (nfe). Common oyster & mussel shell.	0.30m+
328	Fill pit 322 (?primary silting/collapse), below 327. Mottled greenish grey & orange compact & loose sandy clay. 0.65m deep.	0.30m+

Trench 3 (Highborough Hill)		**Type:** machine stripped
Dimensions: 38.0m max. length 16.0m max. width	**Max. depth:** 1.50m	**Ground level:** 21.40m (SE) – 24.61m (NW) aOD

context	description	depth (bgl)
329	Single fill of ditch 330. Mid-light greyish brown silty clay. Very rare small flint. 0.33m deep. Medieval pottery, CBM (?Romano-British).	0.30-0.63m
330	N-S ditch cut = 308. 0.90m wide. Concave base and steep concave sides.	0.30-0.63m
331	Natural subsoil recorded at S. end trench only. Similar to 315 (below) but more friable. Pale yellowish brown friable silty clay. 0.48m deep. .	0.24-0.79m
332	Layer; interface between sandstone 333 and subsoil 331. Mottled pale –mid yellowish brown silty clay, common platy sandstone fragments. 0.24m deep.	0.70-0.98m
333	Natural sandstone; mid yellowish-brown laminated. Evident only N end & in parts southern end of trench (undulating).	0.98m+
334	Cut. Obtuse concave sides & base, only seen in section at S. end. Cuts 331 & 332. 1.10m wide, 0.30m deep.	0.18-0.48m
335	Single fill cut 334. Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare sandstone fragments, common root action. 0.30m deep.	0.18-0.48m
336	Single fill shallow gully 337. Mid-light greyish brown silty clay (indistinguishable from 329). 0.10m deep. Fired clay, flint.	0.30-0.40m
337	Shallow N-S gully with southern terminal. Relationship with ditch 330 unclear. 0.40m wide, 0.10m deep.	0.30-0.40m
338	Single fill N-S gully 339. Mottled brownish grey & yellowish orange silty clay. 0.20m deep.	0.30-0.50m
339	N-S gully parallel to 330 & 337, S. terminal. Flat base, acute angled sides. 0.70m wide, 0.20m deep.	0.30-0.50m
340	Natural subsoil in central area trench. Mottled mid-yellowish brown compact silty clay. Cleaner than 331 to S. & probably stratigraphically above sandstone 333.	0.30m+
341	'Cut'/S. edge of possible palaeochannel in S. end trench. Acute concave S. edge, flat base commencing rise c. 2.50m to north (seen in box section only). c. 0.30m deep.	0.70-0.93m
342	Recut in upper fill pit 322. Subcircular 1.05m wide, 0.35m deep.	0.30-0.65m

Trench 4 (Highborough Hill)		**Type:** machine excavated
Dimensions: 14.50 x 4.0m	**Max. depth:** 0.55m	**Ground level:** 21.56 (SW) – 20.42m (NE) aOD

context	description	depth (bgl)
401	Topsoil. Mid-brown silty clay. 0.26m deep. Medieval pottery, Romano-British CBM, animal bone, flint, fired clay.	0-0.26m
402	Natural. Mottled light grey & mid yellow brown silty clay.	0.22m+
403	Circular pit cut. Flat base, acute straight sides. 1.02m diameter, 0.15m deep.	0.26-0.41m
404	Single fill pit 403. Mild brown silty clay, rare flint pebbles. 0.15m deep. Medieval pottery, post-medieval CBM, flint & burnt flint, animal bone	0.26-0.41m
405	Gully. Shallow concave base, acute W edge and obtuse E. 0.43m wide, 0.12m deep.	0.32-0.44m
406	Lower fill 405. Mid yellowish brown silty clay. 0.06m deep. Fired clay.	0.32-0.38m
407	Lower fill 405. Dark greyish brown silty clay. 0.06m deep. Fired clay.	0.35-0.44m
408	Lynchet. Flat base, shallow sloping sides. 5.60m wide. 0.37m deep.	0.28-0.56m
409	Lower fill 408 (upslope side). Dark greyish brown/black silty clay. 0.25m deep. Romano-British & medieval pottery, ?Romano-British CBM, fired clay, burnt flint, animal bone, iron object.	0.30-0.56m
410	Upper fill 408. Light grey silty clay. 0.20m deep. Medieval pottery, flint & burnt flint, fired clay, animal bone	0.18-0.45m

Trench 5 (*Thornton*, Eastry)		**Type:**	hand excavated
Dimensions: 2.50 x 1.80	**Max. depth:** 0.92m	**Ground level:** *c.* 25.80m aOD	

context	description	depth (bgl)
501	Topsoil. Dark brown slightly sandy silty clay. Occasional chalk and flint pieces. 0.35m deep. Medieval & modern pottery, modern CBM, flint & burnt flint, iron & copper-alloy objects.	0-0.35m
502	Worked soil/made ground. Mid greyish brown silt with rare flint pebbles. 0.27m deep. Post-medieval & modern pottery, flint, animal bone.	0.35-0.62m
503	Worked subsoil/?made ground. Orange brown clayey silt with rare flint pebbles. 0.40m + deep (nfe). Romano-British, medieval & post-medieval pottery, animal bone, flint & burnt flint, copper alloy & lead objects.	0.62m+

Trench 6 (Eastry Court, Eastry)		**Type:**	hand excavated
Dimensions: 3.3 x 1.50m	**Max. depth:** 0.60m	**Ground level:** *c.* 23.22m aOD	

context	description	depth (bgl)
601	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown loam, frequent small chalk & occasional flint pebbles. 0.33m deep. Post-medieval pottery & CBM.	0-0.33m
602	Upper fill 604. Grey loam occasional chalk pieces. 0.10m deep.	0.31-0.41m
603	Lower fill 604. Dark grey loam occasional chalk pieces. 0.30m deep. Post-medieval pottery & CBM, worked stone object, animal bone.	0.31-0.60m+
604	Cut with steeply concave sides in one corner of tench – shape and true dimension not ascertained. 0.65m deep (nfe).	0.31-0.60m+
605	Worked subsoil cut by 604. Orange brown silty clay frequent small chalk pieces & occasional flint nodules. 0.30m deep.	0.30-0.60m
606	Chalk natural.	0.60m+

Trench 7 (Eastry Court, Eastry)		**Type:**	hand excavated
Dimensions: 1.73 x 1.30m	**Max. depth:** 0.86m	**Ground level:** 19.68m aOD	

context	description	depth (bgl)
700	Topsoil. Dark brown loam. 0.24m deep.	0-0.24m
701	Single fill cut 703. Hardcore/levelling surface, common CBM, occasional flint nodules, mortar fragments & rare charcoal flecks. 0.25m deep. Medieval & post-medieval pottery, shell, animal bone, post-medieval glass, clay pipe, burnt flint.	0.24-0.44m
702	Mixed interface between 701 & 704; made-up ground (for garden) Mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks & fragments CBM, rare charcoal flecks. 0.50m deep	0.20-0.74m
703	Cut for inserted of surface hardcore/levelling. 0.25m deep.	0.24-0.44m
704	Natural subsoil. Mid-brown compact silty clay.	0.75m+

Trench 8 (Eastry)		**Type:**	machine excavated
Dimensions: 5 x 2m	**Max. depth: 0.65m**	**Ground level:** 25.67m aOD	

context	description	depth (bgl)
801	Topsoil. Dark grey sandy silt very rare flint pebbles. 0.30m deep. Flint, CBM & iron objects.	0-0.30m
802	Sub-circular pit cut. Very shallow uneven concave base and sides. 1.10m wide, 0.15m deep.	0.30-0.46m
803	Single fill of pit 802. Reddish brown silty clay with light brown mottles. Occasional charcoal flecks. 0.15m deep.	0.30-0.46m
804	?worked subsoil. Reddish brown sandy silt clay occasional small flints. 0.30m deep.	0.30-0.60m
805	Clean, un-oxidised subsoil. Mid yellowish brown silty clay with large flint nodules and occasional chalk patches. (nfe) Medieval pottery from surface.	0.60m+
806	SW-NE gully with terminal at NE end. 0.50m wide, 0.35m deep.	0.30-0.65m
807	Single fill 806. Reddish brown silty clay with occasional flint nodules. 0.35m deep. Modern CBM, animal bone.	0.30-0.65m

Trench 9 (Larkfield House, Eastry)		**Type:**	machine excavated
Dimensions: 4.70 x 1.23m	**Max. depth:** 0.84m	**Ground level:** 25.28m aOD	

context	description	depth (bgl)
901	Single fill cut 905. Dark grey brown silty clay with rare chalk flecks, mortar & daub. 0.17m deep (nfe). Post-medieval pottery, shell, burnt flint.	0.40m +
902	Single fill of 906. Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare chalk, mortar & daub flecks. 0.09m deep.	not recorded
903	Fill of 907. dark greyish brown silty clay with rare mottled orange clay. Charcoal flecks, chalk & daub. 0.10m deep.	not recorded
904	Upper fill 909. Brownish grey silty clay with common chalk fragments, rare CBM & flint. 0.48m deep.	0.15-0.62m
905	Shallow, sub-circular cut with flat base and moderate sloping sides. 0.86m wide, 0.17m deep.	0.40m+
906	Sub-circular cut, Uneven base, moderately sloping sides. 0.46m diameter, 0.09m deep.	not recorded
907	Sub-circular cut, acute side, flattish base. c. 0.98 x 0.55m, 0.10m deep. Cut by 906.	not recorded
908	Lower fill of cut 909. Dark brown silty clay common chalk pieces, rare flint pebbles & modern CMB. 0.40m deep.	0.15-0.84m
909	Linear cut, only W. edge defined. Roughly flat base, steep sides. min. 1.50m wide. c. 0.70m deep.	0.15-0.84m
910	Single fill of cut 911. Dark brown loam, rare chalk flecks & daub. 0.28m deep.	0.15-0.43m
911	Circular cut, concave base, steep sides. Cut by 909. Min. 0.50 x 0.60m, 0.28m deep.	0.15-0.43m
912	Fill of unexcavated cut 913.Dark brown loam with common chalk inclusions.	not recorded
913	Unexcavated feature in NW corner of trench. Possibly circular/sub-circular.	not recorded
914	Mixed overburden. Dark brown loam, common chalk fragments, rare flint fragments & modern CBM. Excavated depth 0.26m (nfe)	0.15-0.41m
915	Rammed chalk at base of cut 909. Light brown clay matrix with pockets orange clay.	0.35m +

Trench 10 (*Ashley*, Eastry)		**Type:**	hand excavated
Dimensions: 2 x 1 m	**Max. depth:** 1.20m	**Ground level:** 25.60m aOD	

context	description	depth (bgl)
1000	Topsoil. Dark brow loam. 0.30m deep.	0-0.30m
1001	Worked soil. Mid greyish brown silty clay. 0.15m deep.	0.30-0.45m
1002	Disturbed subsoil. Orange silty clay. 0.85m deep (by auger)	0.45-1.20m
1003	Natural subsoil. Yellowish brown slightly sandy silty clay. (augured).	1.20m+

Trench 11 (Larkfield House, Eastry)		**Type:**	machine excavated
Dimensions: 6 x 1m	**Max. depth:** 0.95m	**Ground level:** 25.60m	

context	description	depth (bgl)
1101	Topsoil. Dark brown loam. 0.25m deep. Medieval pottery, animal bone, iron objects, burnt flint.	0-0.25m
1102	Weathered chalk with flints, orange brown solution features	0.25+
1103	Single fill of cut 1104. Mild brown silty clay. Small flints, charcoal flecks. 0.70m deep. Post-medieval pottery & CBM, burnt flint, animal bone.	0.25-0.95m
1104	Circular pit/ditch terminal cut; flat base concave sides. 1.50m diameter, 0.70m deep.	0.25-0.95m

Trench 12 (Eastry)		**Type:**	machine excavated
Dimensions: 5.5 x 1m	**Max. depth:** 1.00m	**Ground level:** 25.70m	

context	description	depth (bgl)
1201	Topsoil. Dark brown loam. 0.40m deep.	0-0.40m
1202	Worked subsoil. Light brown silty clay.0.30m deep.	0.40-0.70m
1203	Subsoil. Mild brown silty clay with flints. 0.30m deep.	0.70-1.0m
1204	Chalk natural	1.0m+
1205	Single fill ditch 1206. Mid-dark brown silty clay with flints. 0.30m deep.	0.70-1.00m
1206	Ditch, shallow 'V' shaped. 1.20m wide, 0.30m deep. Prehistoric pottery, animal bone, flint and burnt flint.	

Trench 13 (Eastry Court, Eastry)		**Type:**	hand excavated
Dimensions: 3 x 1m	**Max. depth:** 0.55m	**Ground level:** 23.79m aOD	

context	description	depth (bgl)
1301	Topsoil/garden soil. Dark brown grey loam. Moderate small sub-angular flint & chalk. Charcoal flecks & modern CBM. 0.18m deep.	0-0.18m
1302	Cobbled flint wall foundations with compact sandy mortar. 0.40m wide, min. 0.32m high.	0.10-0.30m
1303	Possible levelling layer for wall 1302. Light brown sandy silt with moderate chalk & flint fragments. 0.15m deep.	0.30-0.58m
1304	Weathered chalk natural. White & pale brown with silty clay mottles.	0.58m+
1305	Sub-rectangular cut modern soakaway (only visible one corner of trench); acute sides.	0.18m+
1306	Fill 1305. Light grey sandy silt with small sub-angular flint nodules & chalk fragments. Modern CBM, charcoal flecks & mortar. 0.20m excavated depth	0.10-0.30m
1307	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common chalk and flint fragments. Butts wall 1302, ?collapse. 0.07m deep.	0.18-0.25m
1308	Construction cut for wall 1302. 0.75m wide. nfe.	0.20m+

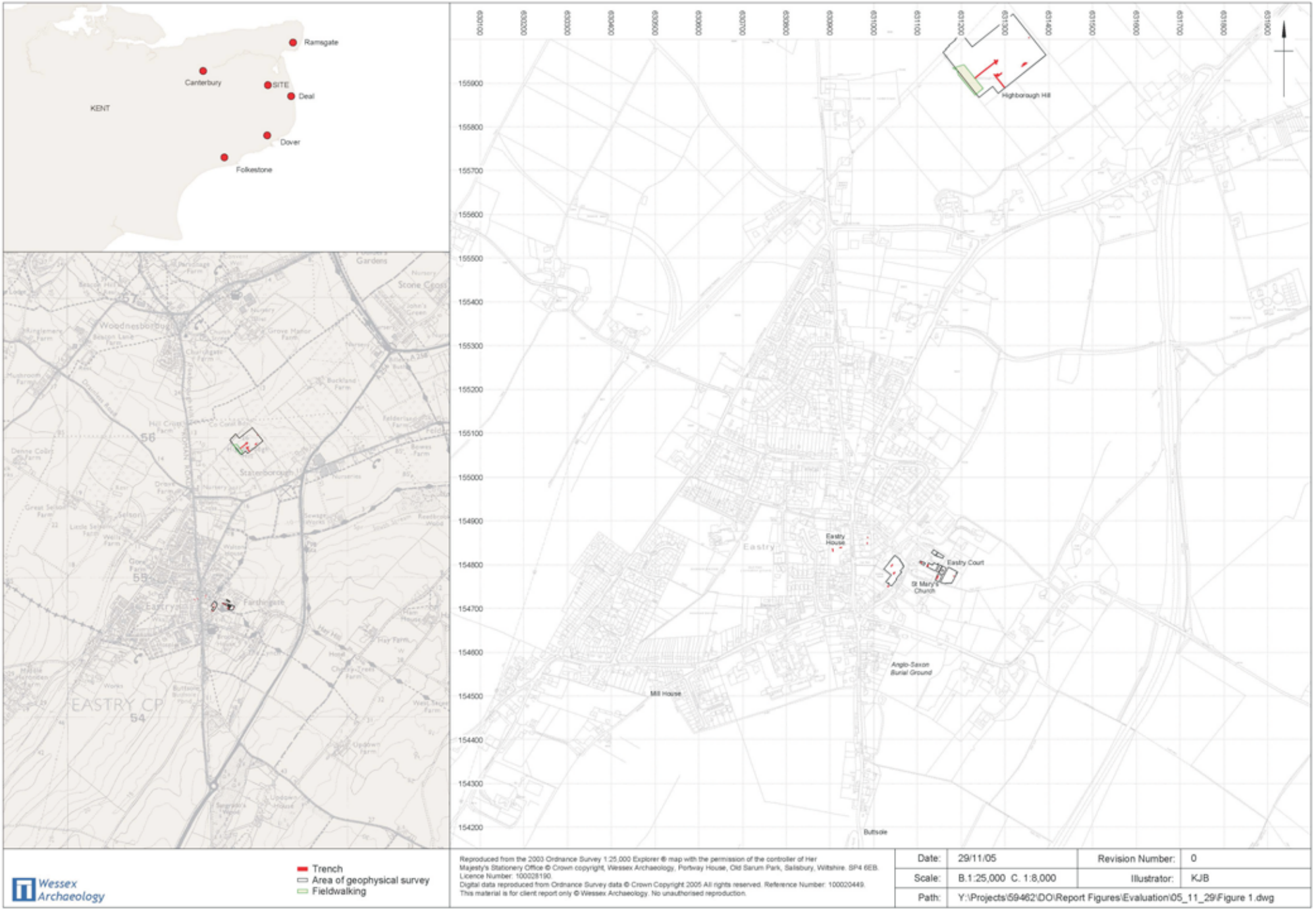
Trench 14 (Eastry)		**Type:**	machine excavated
Dimensions: 2 x 1.50m	**Max. depth:** 0.60m	**Ground level:** 25.35m aOD	

context	description	depth (bgl)
1400	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown loam. heavily root disturbed.	0-0.30m
1401	Single fill 1402. Mild yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk flecks. 0.38m deep.	0.30-0.68m
1402	Sub-rectangular ?post-hole 0.59 x 0.34m, 0.38m deep.	0.30-0.68m
1403	Single fill cut 1404. Mid yellowish brown silty clay with common small chalk pieces. 0.27m deep.	0.30-0.57m
1404	Irregular linear features, heavily disturbed by modern intrusions. 0.89 x 0.36m, 0.27m deep. Slightly concave base, steep sides.	0.30-0.57m
1405	Single fill of 1406. Mid yellowish brown silty clay with occasional small chalk fragments. 0.15m deep.	0.30-0.45m
1406	Possible terminal E-W gully. Concave base, moderately sloping sides. 0.39m wide, 0.15m deep. Heavily disturbed by modern intrusions.	0.30-0.45m
1407	Dirty chalk natural with patches pale brown silty clay.	0.60m+

Trench 15 (Eastry Court, Eastry)		**Type:**	machine excavated
Dimensions: 12 x 0.80m	**Max. depth:** 1.30m	**Ground level:** 21.31m aOD	

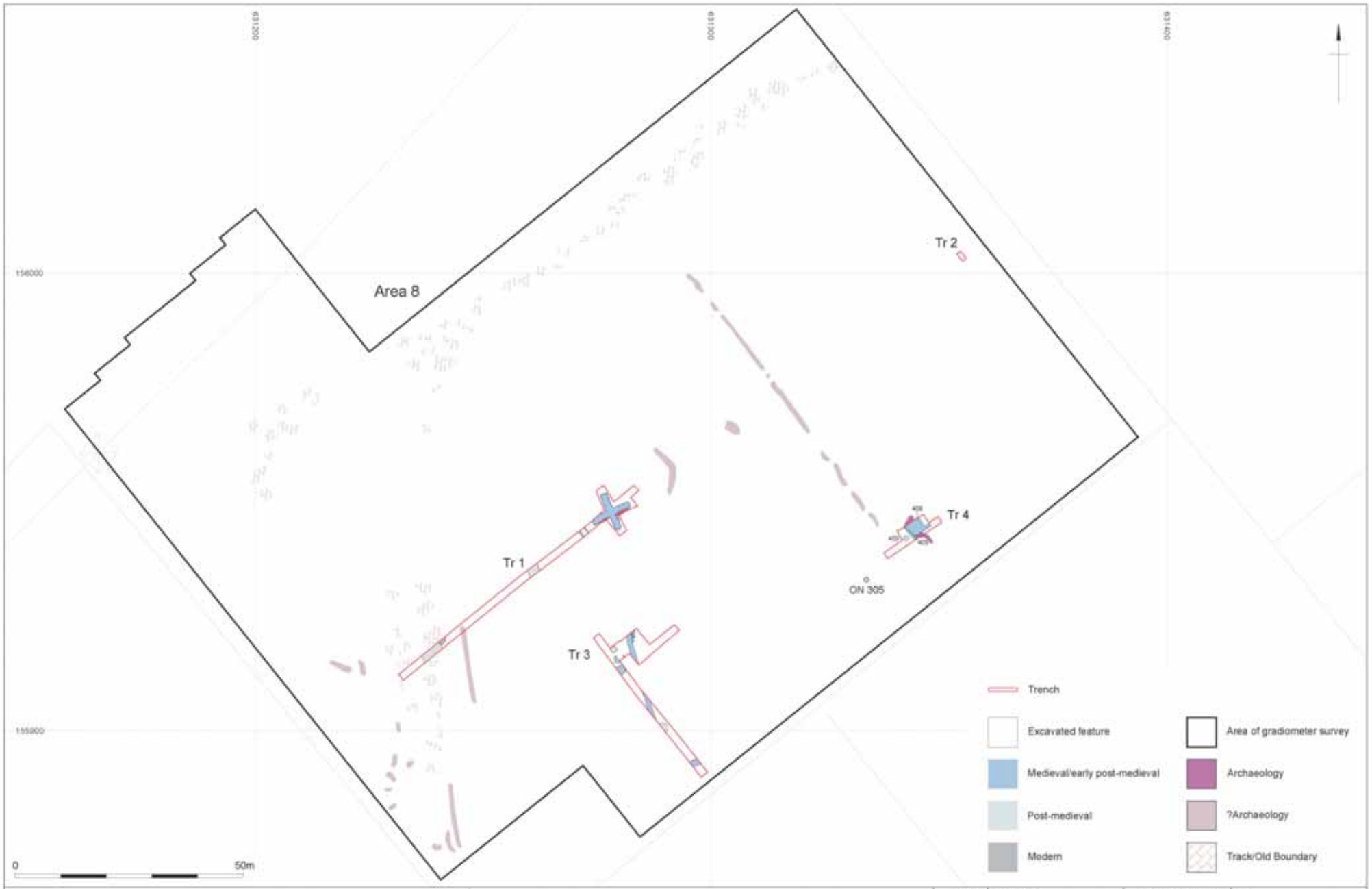
context	description	depth (bgl)
1501	Topsoil. Light-mid greyish brown loam. 0.21m deep.	0-0.21m
5102	Subsoil. Light yellowish brown silty clay with common small chalk fragments.	0.21-0.42m
1503	Degraded chalk natural.	0.42m +
1504	Cut of drain/soakaway. Not bottomed.	0.60m +
1505	Mixed loose rubble fill of 1504. Mid greyish brown & light grey silty clay with common brick rubble, chalk blocks and large flint.	0.23m +

KEY: bgl – below ground level. nfe – not fully excavated.



Location plans: Site location; trench and fieldwalking locations; areas of geophysical investigation

Figure 1



Wessex Archaeology

Geophysical data courtesy of GSB Prospection Ltd

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Highborough Hill: Trench and geophysical area locations with all features

Figure 2

Geophysical data courtesy of GSB Prospection Ltd

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Eastry Court: Trench and geophysical area locations with all features and geophysical anomalies

Figure 3

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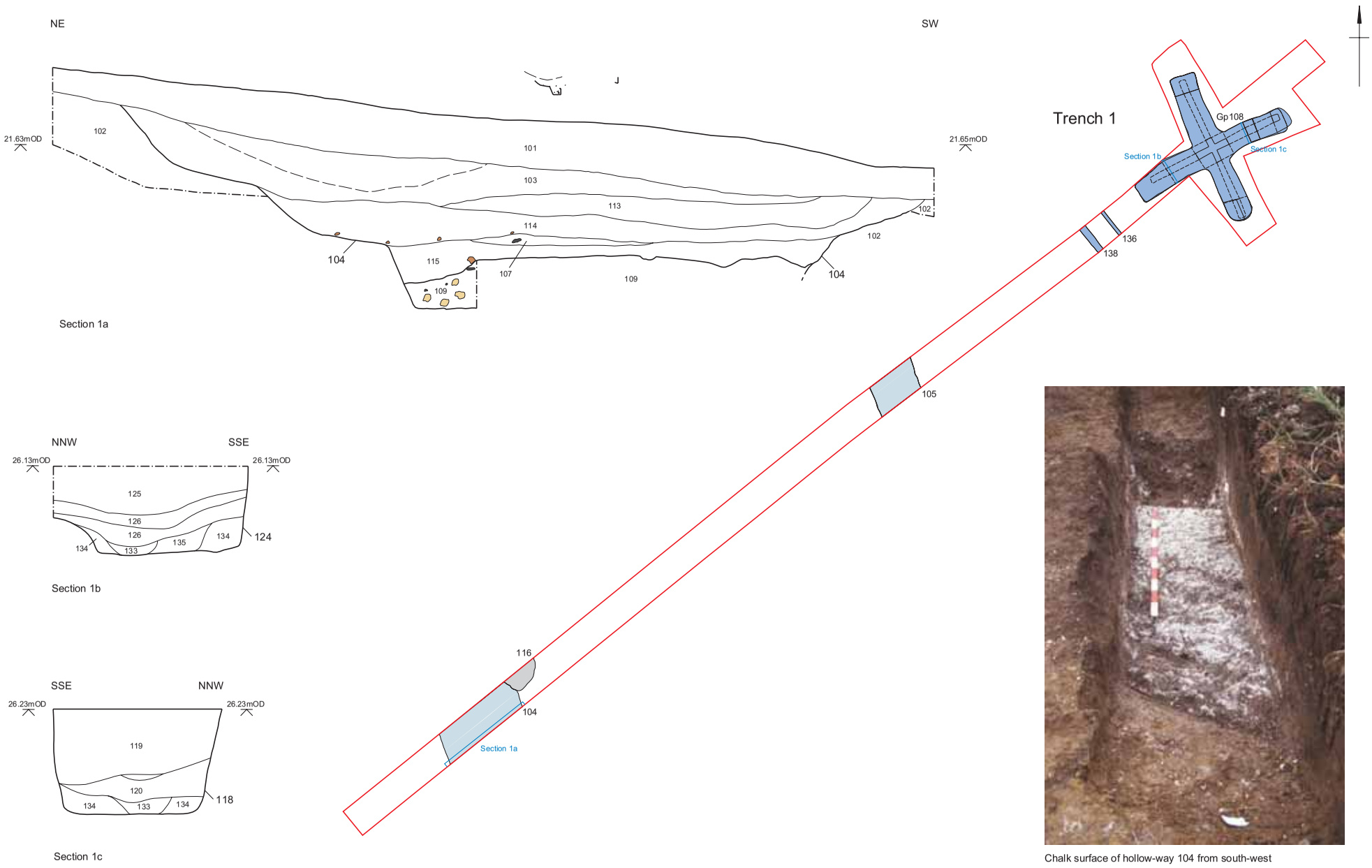
Eastry village environs: Trench locations and all features

Figure 4



Chalk surface of hollow-way 104 from south-west

Wessex Archaeology

0 10m
Plan 1:200
0 1m
Sections 1:25

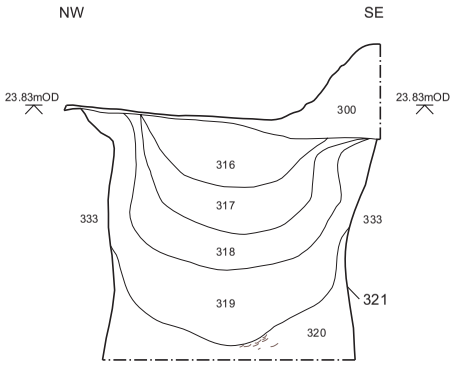
Trench
Chalk
Flint
Brick
Medieval/early post-medieval
Post-medieval
Modern

Date:	30/12/05	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plan 1:200, sections 1:25	Illustrator:	KJB
Path:	Y:\Projects\59462\Drawing Office\Report Figs\Evaluation\05_11_29\		

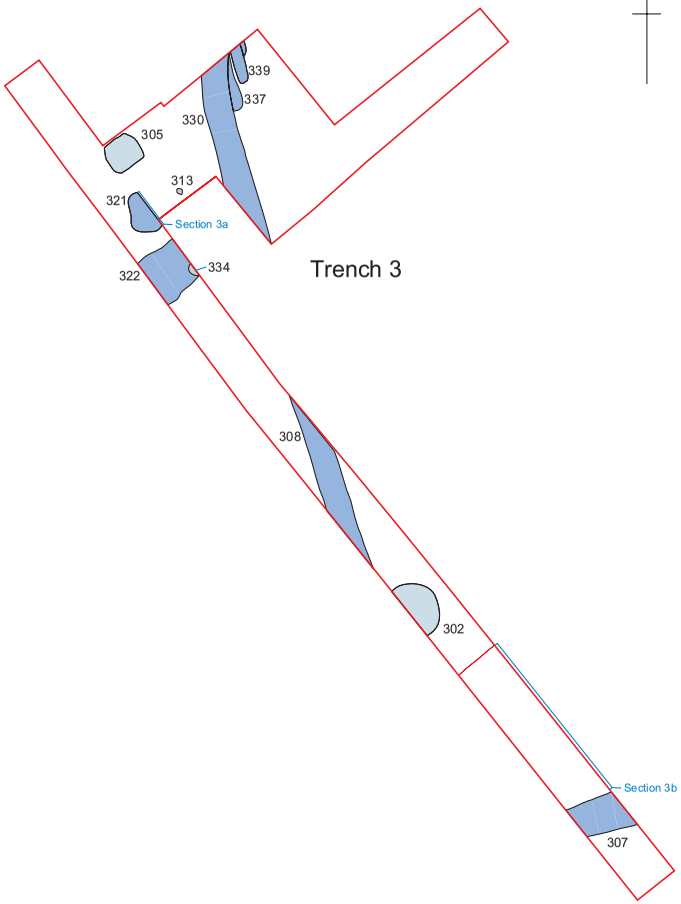
Highborough Hill: Trench 1 plan; sections through hollow-way 104 and windmill foundations 108 (segments 118 and 124)

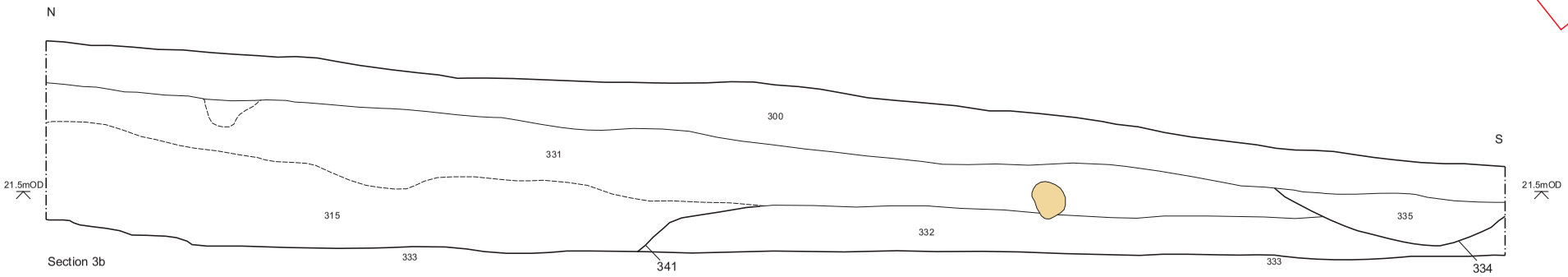
Figure 5

South-west facing section of midden/cess pit 321



Section 3a





Section 3b

Wessex Archaeology

0 10m
Plan 1:200
0 1m
Sections 1:25

Trench
Chalk
Oyster shells
Medieval/early post-medieval
Post-medieval
Modern

Date:	30/12/05	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plan 1:200, sections 1:40	Illustrator:	KJB
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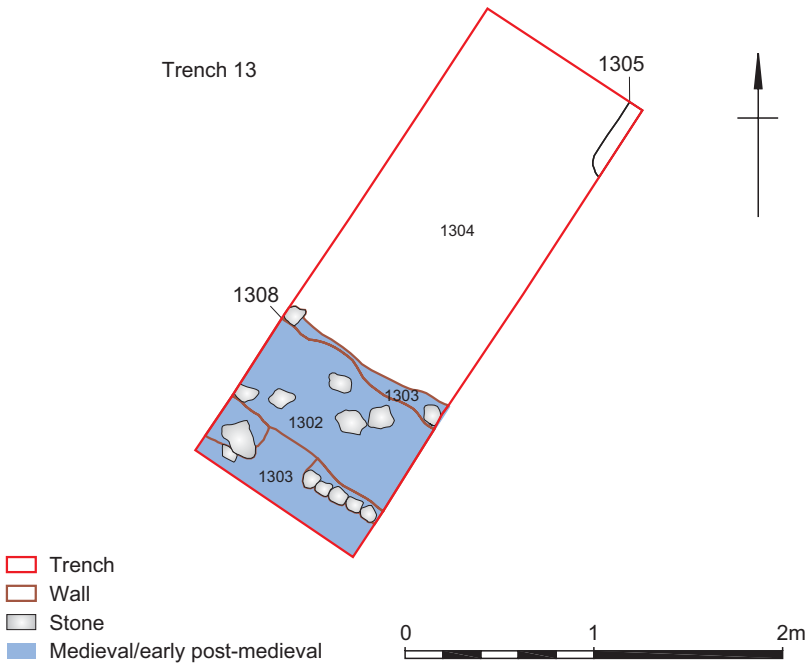
Highborough Hill: Trench 3 plan and sections through midden/cess pit 321 and ?palaeochannel 341

Figure 6



Cobbled flint wall foundations (1302), view from north-west

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Eastry Court: Trench 13 plan and detail of wall foundations 1302 Figure 7

Wessex Archaeology	Date:	19/12/05	Illustrator:	KJB
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Fragment of cruciform copper alloy brooch ON 305

Figure 8

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