

**An Archaeological Evaluation at
Lower Barpham Farm, Michelgrove Lane,
nr Arundel, West Sussex**

Planning Ref: A/52/02

NGR 507119 109240

**Project No. 3472
Site Code: LBF 08**

**ASE Report No. 2008090
OASIS id: archaeol6-44222**



**Nick Garland MA
With contributions by
Elke Raemen and Gemma Driver**

June 2008

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Lower Barpham Farm, Michelgrove Lane, near Arundel, West Sussex NGR 507119 109240. The site is located on the boundary of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM 29275) described as a 'deserted medieval settlement'. The work was undertaken on the 12th June 2008 on behalf of the Angmering Park Estate Trust. Three, 1m², test pits were excavated across the area of proposed development.

The underlying natural chalk was encountered at a maximum height of 66.48 m OD to the west of the area of investigation (Test Pit 3).

The foundations of a post-medieval wall was uncovered in Test Pits 1 and 2 aligned east - west, parallel to the existing wall of the 'The Cart Shed' to the south. This wall was a flint and mortar construction with occasional brick along the northern elevation. An accumulation of possible backfill material, including post-medieval finds, was abutting the north of the wall in both test pits.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology UCL, was commissioned by Angmering Park Estate Trust to undertake a Stage 1 Archaeological Field Evaluation on land at Lower Barpham Farm, Michelgrove Lane, near Arundel, West Sussex, (centred NGR 507119 109240), (Fig. 1) in advance of redevelopment on the land.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site is situated on a green field, to the north of the Lower Barpham Farmstead, (specifically just north of 'The Cart Shed'. Green pasture fields border the site to the north, east and west. The fields to the north and west of the site contain a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM 29275), a deserted medieval settlement.

1.2.2 The British Geological Survey (Sheets 317 Chichester, Drift Edition) shows the underlying geology of the site is Upper Chalk.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Class 7 Consent of the Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994 was granted by English Heritage in order to undertake the Stage 1 archaeological fieldwork (ref: A/52/02). In advance of the installation of the conversion of farm buildings to residential dwellings.

1.3.2 Following discussion with the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Richard Massey, the scope and nature of the evaluation (investigation by hand excavated test pits) was outlined in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Archaeology South-East (Griffin 2008). This document was prepared in reference to the relevant *Standards and Guidance of the Institute of Field Archaeologists* and was approved by Richard Massey (EH) prior to the commencement of archaeological fieldwork.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report details the findings of the evaluation undertaken by Archaeology South-East on the 12th of April 2008. The work was completed by Nick Garland Louise Munns and John Woodall. The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager) and Jim Stevenson (Post Excavation Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The site is located on the south-western slope of Harrow hill, part of the Sussex Downs. The investigation area was specifically located on the boundary of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM 29275) described as a 'deserted medieval settlement'. Such deserted settlements are common on the South Downs, with the majority situated in river valleys to take advantage of the water supply (LUC 2005).
- 2.2** The deserted medieval settlement survives only as earthworks, approximately 0.5 metres in height. These earthworks represent the boundaries for eight terraced structures, a single large enclosure measuring 50m by 30m and a sunken trackway to the north, running in an east to west direction. Cultivation ridges can be seen between the boundaries up to a metre in height.
- 2.3** Four other scheduled monuments lie in close proximity to the site at Lower Barpham Farm. These are detailed below
- 2.3.1** Another deserted medieval settlement lies approximately 500 metres to the south-west of the site, at Upper Barpham Farm (SM 29274). Similar to Lower Barpham Farm, this monument survives only as low earthworks. These earthworks represent a trackway and the boundaries of several structures. Archaeological investigations at the monument in the 1950's also revealed the remains of an Anglo-Saxon parish church, with some Roman structural elements incorporated within the building.
- 2.3.2** The largest monument in close proximity to Lower Barpham Farm lies to the north east, the Neolithic flint mine and a Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age enclosure on Harrow Hill. The flint mine includes approximately 245 shafts, including some bell shaped pits, about 5m in depth. Finds associated with the mine include worked flint, animal bone, charcoal and an antler pick. Pictograms have also been found within some of the shafts. The later enclosure is located on the western part of the mine and encloses an area of approximately 0.4 ha. The boundary to this area is formed by a bank measuring up to 6m in width and 0.6m in height, flanked by a ditch measuring up to 4.5m in width and 0.5m in depth.
- 2.3.3** A prehistoric 'L' shaped earthwork lies to the north-west of the site (SM 29249). It is approximately 366 metres in length and is orientated in a north-west to south-east direction. Approximately 60m from the far south-eastern end the earthwork turns sharply to the south. It is composed of a large bank, 3m in height and 11m in width and is flanked upslope by a ditch, 7m in width and 1m deep.
- 2.3.4** A 'Cross Dyke', 246m long, lies to the north-west of the site (SM 29248). The dyke is composed of a 9 metre wide and 1.2m deep ditch, flanked to the south by a 4m wide and 0.4m high bank. An entrance, 5m in width, is located centrally along the dyke.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 The Aims and Objectives of the evaluation were laid out in the WSI (Griffin 2008). These were to:

- (a) establish whether any remains associated with the deserted medieval settlement (SM 29275) are present in this area.
- (b) ensure that any features, artefacts, ecofacts or archaeological interest exposed and affected by the intrusive archaeological investigation are recorded and interpreted to appropriate standards.

3.2 Methodology

3.1.1 Three, 1m² test pits, were hand excavated by archaeologists (Fig. 2). The test pit locations were accurately located using offsets from known positions and a Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS). The location of the test pits were arranged in order to fully investigate the archaeological potential of the site and were agreed with Richard Massey, Inspector of Ancient Monuments (English Heritage), prior to the commencement of excavation.

3.1.2 The test pits were cat-scanned prior to excavation to check for live services.

3.1.3 The test pits were excavated down onto either the top of significant archaeological deposits or the geological drift deposits. Revealed surfaces were manually cleaned to identify any archaeological deposits or features. The sections of the test pits were cleaned to observe and record their stratigraphy. All spoil removed from the test pits was scanned visually and with a metal detector for the presence of any, unstratified artefacts.

3.1.3 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards (IFA) in accordance with the approved WSI using pro-forma context record sheets. Archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 and sections generally drawn at a scale of 1:10. Deposit colours were verified by visual inspection.

3.1.4 A full photographic record of the test pits and associated deposits and features was kept (monochrome prints, colour slides and digital), and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices at Portslade, East Sussex, and will in due course be offered to a suitable local museum.

3.3 Quantification of Site Archive

Number of Contexts	10 contexts
No. of files/paper record	1 folder
Plan and sections sheets	1 drawing sheet
Photographs	23 photographs
Bulk finds	1 box

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Test Pit 1

4.1.1 Test Pit 1 was 1m² and was located 2m north of the 'The Cart Shed' (Fig. 3).

List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
1001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.08 m	66.51 m
1002	Layer	Redeposit	Tr.	Tr.	0.10 m	66.41 m
1003	Wall	Foundations	Tr.	Tr.	<0.3 m	66.33 m
1004	Deposit	Backfill	Tr.	Tr.	<0.3 m	66.33 m

4.1.2 Summary

A layer of redeposited natural, a light grey silty chalk layer with frequent sub-rounded coarse pebble and small stone inclusions, [1002], lay under the topsoil [1001].

The redeposited natural, [1002] lay over a deposit of backfilled material, [1004] that abutted the foundations of a wall [1003] (Fig. 4). The backfill was a mid brown silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular nodules of flint, frequent inclusions of ceramic building material and a moderate amount of mortar fragments. The presence of wall foundations, [1003], prevented the full removal of this context. Red earthenware pottery, of a 18th-19th century date was recovered from [1004].

Wall foundations, [1003], were orientated east to west and lay parallel to the northern wall of 'The Cart Shed'. The foundations were exposed to a width of 0.5m and a depth of 0.3m. They appeared to continue to a greater depth and a greater width to the south, towards 'The Cart Shed'. They were constructed primarily of large irregular shaped flint nodules, approximately 0.1m to 0.2m in size. The wall was bonded by mortar and contained occasional red bricks in a vertical alignment along its northern face, (Fig. 5).

The natural substrate was not revealed in this trench due to the restrictions imposed by the presence of wall foundations [1003].

4.2 Test Pit 2

4.2.1 Test Pit 2 measured 1m² and was located 2m to the north of 'The Cart Shed' (Fig. 3).

List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
2001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.14 m	66.56 m
2002	Layer	Redeposit	Tr.	Tr.	0.06 m	66.42 m
2003	Wall	Foundations	Tr.	Tr.	<0.3 m	66.435 m
2004	Deposit	Backfill	Tr.	Tr.	<0.3 m	66.435 m

4.1.2 Summary

A layer of redeposited natural, a light yellowish grey clayey silt layer with frequent chalk inclusions, [2002], lay under the topsoil [2001].

Layer [2002] lay over a deposit of backfilled material [2004] that abutted the foundations of a wall [2003] (Fig 6). This backfill was a mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent angular and sub-angular nodules of flint. The presence of wall foundations, [2003], prevented the full removal of this context. Finds recovered included ceramic building material, iron objects, glass, animal bone and late post-medieval glazed pottery.

Wall foundations uncovered in Test Pit 2 [2003] appear to be the continuation of the foundations from Test Pit 1, [1003]. They were also orientated east to west and were parallel to the northern wall of 'The Cart Shed'. The construction of the wall was almost identical to the wall foundations in Test Pit 1 [1003], primarily mortared large irregular shaped flint nodules, approximately 0.1m to 0.2m in size. There was not, however, any red brick along the northern face of the foundations (Fig. 7).

The natural substrate was not revealed in this trench due to the restrictions imposed by the presence of wall foundations [2003].

4.3 Test Pit 3

4.3.1 Test Pit 3 measured 1m² and was located approximately 2m north-west of 'The Cart Shed'.

List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
3001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.19 m	66.67 m
3002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	66.48 m

4.3.2 Summary

The topsoil, a light greyish brown silty sand with occasional sub-angular small and medium stone inclusions, [3001] lay directly onto the natural [3002]. The topsoil contained fragments of post-medieval pottery, CBM, iron objects and glass.

The natural was a light greyish orange hard gravelly chalk with frequent inclusions of small, medium and large stones, [3002]. The natural was observed at a depth of 66.48 m OD. No archaeological features were discovered within this test pit.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 The Finds by Elke Raemen

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation. A summary can be found in Table 2.

Context	Pot	Wt	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt	Glass	Wt	CTP	Wt	Shellac	Wt (g)
1001			12	1334										
1004	8	480	5	558										
2001	10	80	11	668			4	104	7	128				
2004	27	630	9	900	2	20	2	40	18	310	2	<2		
3001	4	40	7	474			8	594	4	22			1	<2

Table 2. Quantification of the finds from the evaluation at Lower Barpham Farm.

5.1.2 The Pottery

The earliest pieces from the site date to the mid 18th to early 19th century. These consist of eight sherds of glazed red earthenware from [1004], representing at least two different vessels. All other fragments date to the second half of the 19th century and include a white china bowl fragment, [2001], pieces of a white porcelain cup, [2004], green, blue and brown transfer printed china and Midlands slipware, [2004]. Fragments of yellow ware bowl and oven dish fragments were recovered from [2001] and [2004] and include a piece with brown mocha decoration. A glazed red earthenware jar fragment [2004], a single piece of stoneware [3001] and a fragment of late cream ware [2001] were also recovered.

5.1.3 The Ceramic Building Material

The ceramic building material (CBM) consists mainly of peg tile fragments, mostly of mid 18th to 19th century date. The ceramic building material from [3001] dates to the 19th century. Peg tiles were recovered all contexts. They are in a hard fired fabric with sparse, fine sand-tempering. Some contain in addition rare iron oxide inclusions to 3mm. A few pieces from [2004] and [3001] show white clay streaks and clay pellets to 2mm. A number of pieces show diamond-shaped peg holes [1001] and [2001] or round peg holes [2001] and [3001].

Only three brick fragments were recovered from two different contexts. Context [1004] contained two hard fired pieces, both measuring 48 mm high, with sparse fine sand tempering and occasional iron oxide inclusions to 2 mm. A single 19th century brick fragment, hard fired and containing a heavily mixed temper including slag, was recovered from [3001]. No measurements could be taken from this piece.

5.1.4 The Glass

A total of 27 glass fragments, all of 19th-century date, was recovered from

three different contexts. Contexts [2001], [2004] and [3001] contained green glass wine bottle fragments. Other glass sherds include clear wine glass fragments [2001], aqua cylindrical mineral water bottle fragments [2001], [2004], an aqua square-sectioned bottle fragment [3001] and a single piece of a pale blue bottle of unidentifiable shape [3001]. In addition, a single piece of clear window glass was recovered from [3001].

5.1.5 The Ironwork

Two general purpose nails, [2001] and [3001], were recovered from the site, as well as a heavy duty nail, [3001]. The latter context also contained an eyed suspension mount with screw fixing and a binding fragment for a bucket. A similar binding fragment was recovered from [2004]. All other fragments consist of heavy cast iron sheet fragments, representing cooking pot fragments, [2001] and [2004], cast drain pipe pieces, [3001], and a possible cover for a chest or box, [3001].

5.1.6 Other Finds

Context [3001] contained a single shellac 78 rpm record fragment. Two red clay pipe stem fragments, one with a partial illegible maker's stamp, were recovered from [2004] and date to the second half of the 19th century.

5.2 **The Bone** by Gemma Driver

The bone assemblage consists of two fragments found in context [2004]. Both fragments form part of a left sheep mandible. The fourth deciduous premolar and the first molar are still intact. Using Silver (1969) this ages the animal to between 6 months and 3 years. The relatively unworn teeth suggest a younger animal. The bone is in good condition and the surface shows little sign of weathering. There are no butchery marks, signs of burning, gnawing or pathology on the bone.

5.3 **Potential**

The assemblage is small and mainly Victorian in date. It is not considered to be of any potential for further analysis. No further work is required. It is recommended to discard the finds.

6.0 DISCUSSION

- 6.1** The excavation of the three test pits at Lower Barpham Farm has revealed the presence of flint mortared walling relating to the occupation of the farmstead.
- 6.2** This walling was exposed in Test Pits 1 and 2 on a similar east-west alignment ([1003] and [2003] respectively) and it is highly likely that they are part of the same structure. It is unclear whether this flint and mortar construction represents foundations or the remnants of an upstanding wall, as the investigations were by necessity limited. On balance, the neatness of the work perhaps suggests the latter rather than foundations (Fig. 7) (M. Henderson pers.comm.). The Bungaroosh construction of this wall, (mortar with intermittent brick and flint, sometimes coursed and created in a similar manner to modern shuttered concrete) is very common in this area in the 18th-19th centuries (M.Henderson pers.comm). Visually, the exposed structure was very similar to pre-existing flint walls, (Fig. 8), that survive around the farm and the Cart Shed to the south.
- 6.3** A review of historic maps of the farmstead for the years 1876, 1879 and 1899, shows that no obvious wall is present in this location. This may suggest that it represents an early feature of the farm and its orientation, parallel to the northern wall of 'The Cart Shed', indicates that it may be part of the original farmstead layout. It is possible that the wall relates to a building rather than a boundary, which would tend to be maintained and would probably be identifiable on the historic maps.
- 6.4** The material abutting the wall foundations in Test Pit 1 and 2, ([1004] and [200]) respectively was similar in colour and composition and probably represent a single sequence of activity. The, albeit fairly limited, finds assemblage recovered suggests a date of around the second half of the 19th century for the formation of these contexts, although some earlier, 18th century material was also incorporated. These deposits may represent post-medieval backfill (perhaps within a foundation cut if the mortared flint exposed are foundations rather than upstanding walling) or, more probably, demolished material from the destruction of the wall. The keyhole nature of test pits has prevents further speculation on the nature of this material.
- 6.5** The layer of redeposited natural material in Test Pits 1 and 2, ([1002] and [2002]), is the latest deposit encountered within these test pits. This material perhaps represents levelling of the area after the removal of the wall.
- 6.6** Test Pit 3 contained no archaeological deposits or features. The post-medieval finds found within the topsoil later [3002], may relate to the destruction of the wall found in Test Pits 1 and 2, however, this is difficult to determine. The location of the test pit does not rule out the continuation of the wall foundations to the west, however, it perhaps indicates that it may not have turned south at the western end of 'The Cart Shed'.

7.0 CONCLUSION

- 7.1** From the investigation carried out on Lower Barpham Farm. It appears that no remains associated with the deserted medieval settlement survive at this distance from the farmstead. However, the test pits have given an indication of archaeological remains that probably relate directly to the 18th-19th century development of the farmstead.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The assistance of David Pennel of Angmering Park Estates and Richard Massey, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, English Heritage, is gratefully acknowledged.

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	LBF 08					
Identification Name and Address	Lower Barpham Farm, Michelgrove Land, near Arundel, West Sussex.					
County, District &/or Borough	Angmering, Arun, West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	507119 109240					
Geology	British Geological Survey (Sheet 317) – Upper Chalk					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3472					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 12 th June 08	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Angmering Park Estate Trust					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Nick Garland					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM ✓	Other Modern		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Lower Barpham Farm, Michelgrove Lane, near Arundel, West Sussex NGR 507119 109240. The site is located on the boundary of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM 29275) described as a 'deserted medieval settlement'. The work was undertaken on the 12th June 2008 on behalf of the Angmering Park Estate Trust. Three, 1m², test pits were excavated across the area of proposed development.</p> <p>The underlying natural chalk was encountered at a maximum height of 66.48 m OD to the west of the area of investigation (Test Pit 3).</p> <p>The foundations of a post-medieval wall was uncovered in Test Pits 1 and 2 aligned east - west, parallel to the existing wall of the 'The Cart Shed' to the south. This wall was a flint and mortar construction with occasional brick along the northern elevation. An accumulation of possible backfill material, including post-medieval finds, was abutting the north of the wall in both test pits.</p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-44222

Project details

Project name Lower Barpham Farm

Short description of the project An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Lower Barpham Farm, Michelgrove Lane, near Arundel, West Sussex. The work was undertaken on the 12th June 2008 on behalf of the Angmering Park Estate Trust. Three Test Pits, all measuring 1 metre square were excavated across the area of proposed development. The underlying natural chalk was encountered at a maximum height of 66.48 m OD to the west of the area of investigation (Test Pit 3). The foundations of a Post-medieval wall was encountered continuing across Test Pit 1 and 2 in a east to west orientation, parallel to the pre-existing wall of the 'The Cart Shed' to the south. It was a flint and mortar construction with occasional bricks used for the north facing elevation. An accumulation of possible backfill material, including post-medieval finds, was abutting the wall in both test pits.

Project dates Start: 12-06-2008 End: 12-06-2008

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes LBF 08 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Scheduled Monument (SM)

Current Land use Grassland Heathland 2 - Undisturbed Grassland

Monument type DESERTED SETTLEMENT Medieval

Significant Finds NONE None

Methods & techniques 'Test Pits'

Development type Rural residential

Prompt Scheduled Monument Consent

Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England

Site location WEST SUSSEX ARUN ARUNDEL Lower Barpham Farm

Postcode BN13 3

Study area 100.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 507119 109240 50.8775522194 0.142498432466 50 52 39 N
000 08 32 E Point

Height OD Min: 66.48m Max: 66.48m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator Angmering Park Estate

Project design originator Archaeology South-East

Project director/manager Jon Sygrave

Project supervisor Nick Garland

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Local Museum

recipient

Physical Contents 'Ceramics','Glass','Metal'

Digital Archive recipient Local Museum

Digital Contents 'Ceramics','Glass','Metal'

Digital Media available 'Text'

Paper Archive recipient Local Museum

Paper Contents 'Ceramics','Glass','Metal'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Photograph','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An Archaeological Evaluation at Lower Barpham Farm, Michelgrove Lane, nr Arundel, West Sussex

Author(s)/Editor(s) Garland, N

Other bibliographic details 2008090

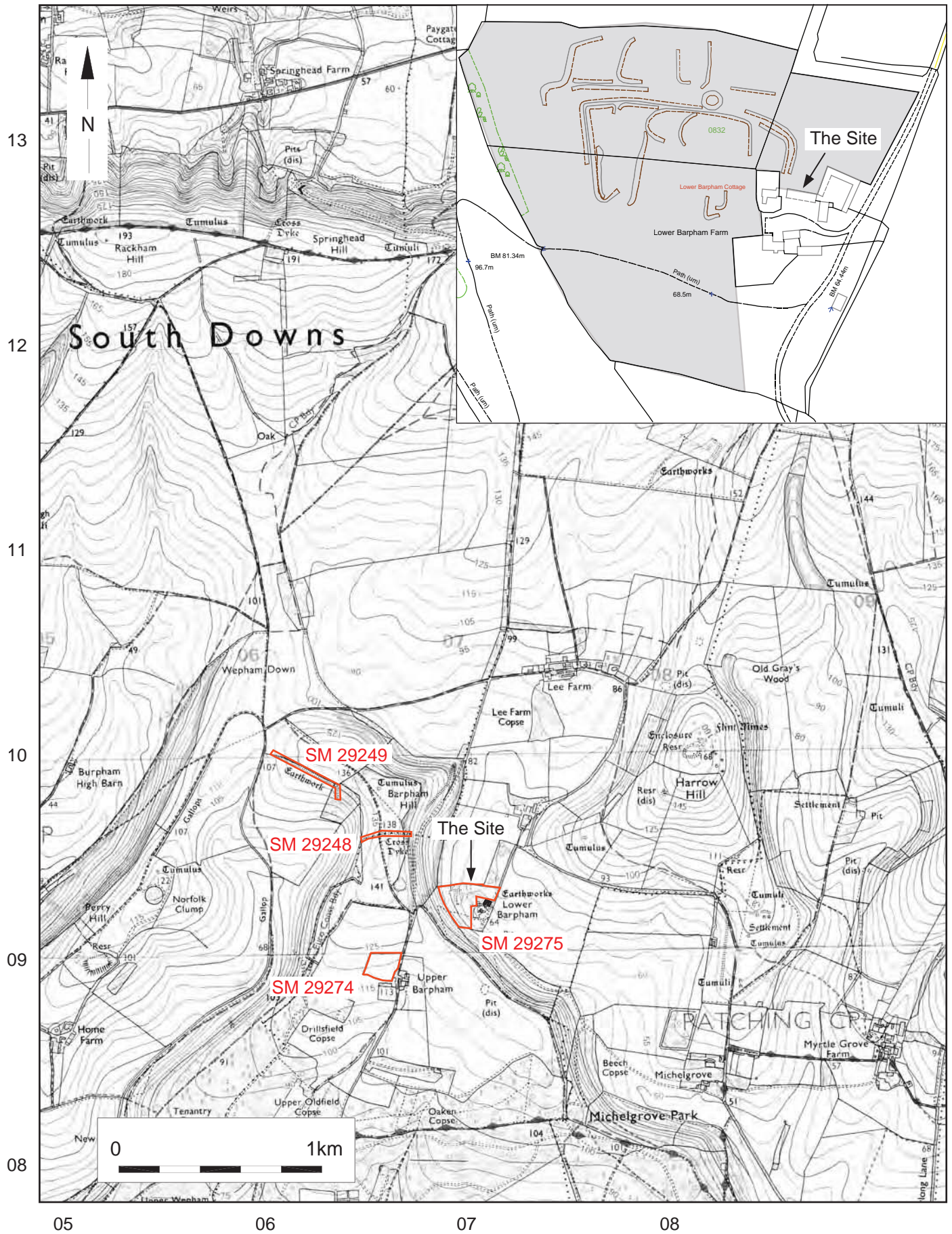
Date 2008

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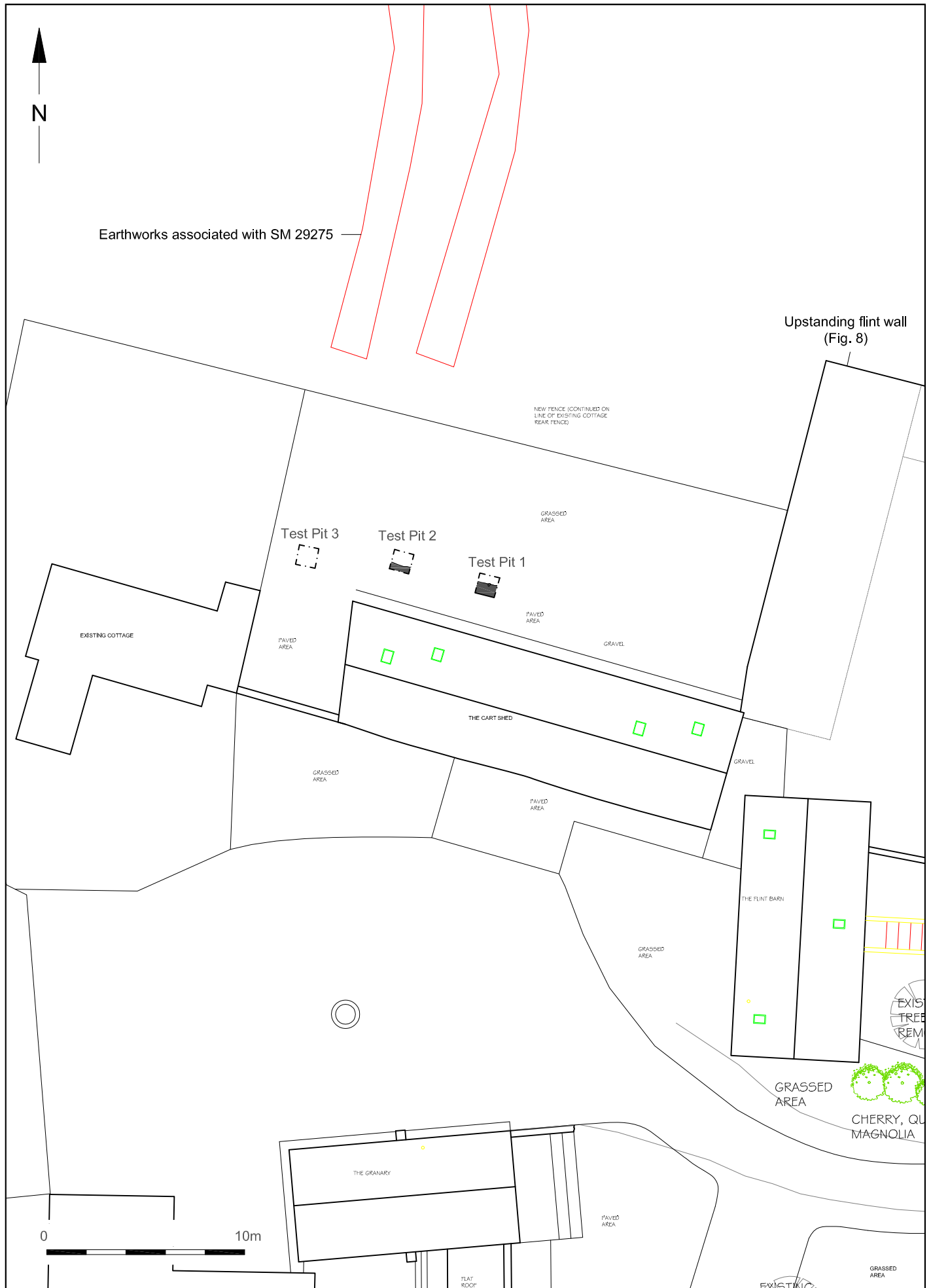
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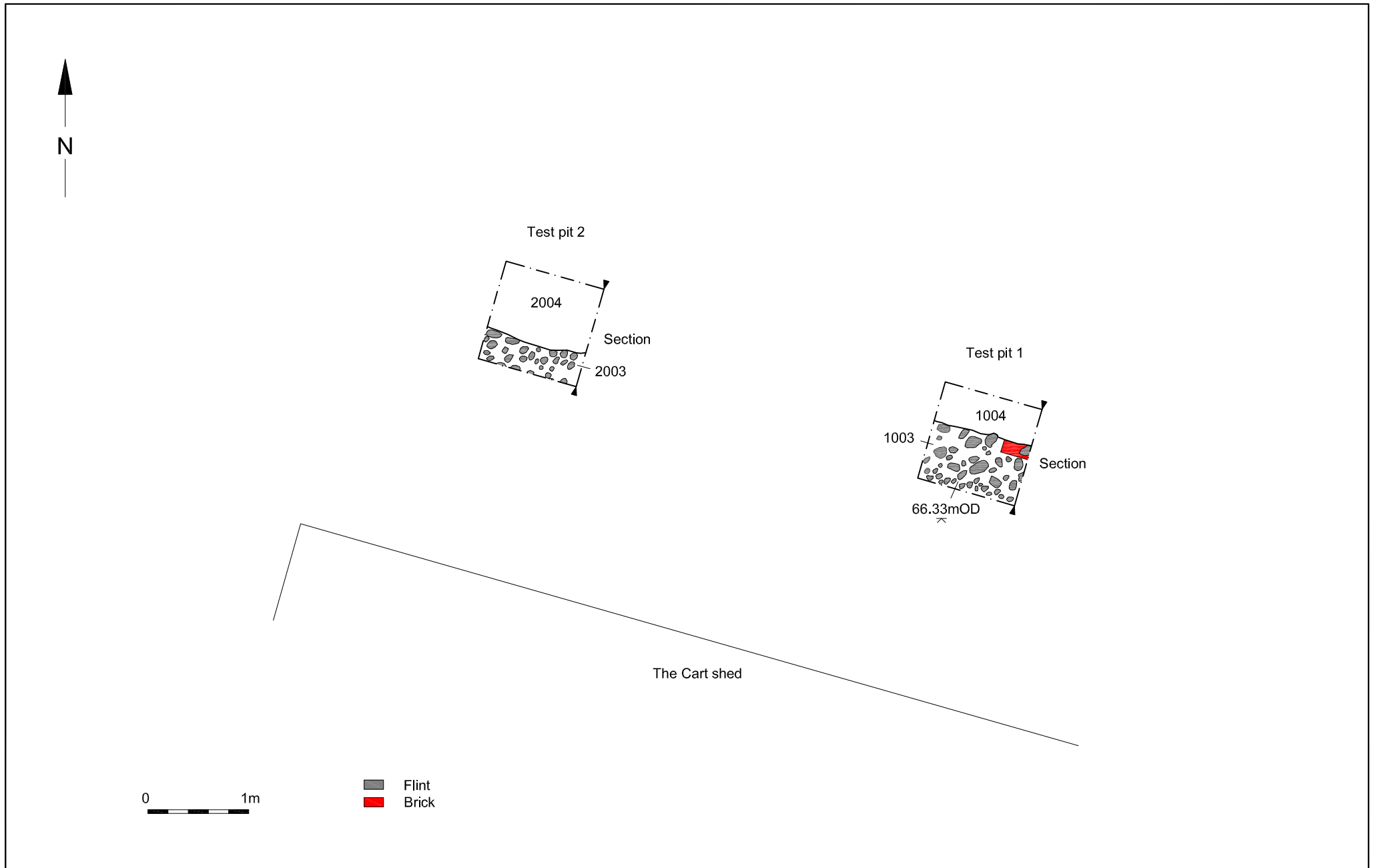


© Archaeology South-East		Lower Barpham Farm	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 3472	July 2008	Site Location Plan	
Report Ref: 2008090	Drawn by: FEG		

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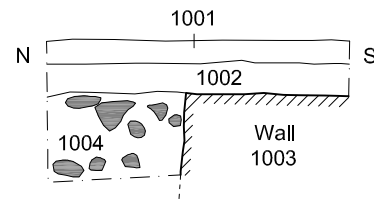


© Archaeology South-East		Lower Barpham Farm		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 3472	July 2008	Test Pit Location		
Report Ref: 2008090	Drawn by: SM			



© Archaeology South-East		Lower Barpham Farm	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 3472	July 2008	Post-excavation plans of Test Pits 1 and 2	
Report Ref: 2008090	Drawn by: SM		

Section of Test Pit 1



0 1m

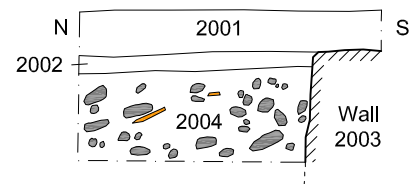
Flint

© Archaeology South-East		Lower Barpham Farm	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 3472	July 2008	West Facing Section of Test Pit 1	
Report Ref: 2008090	Drawn by: SM		



© Archaeology South-East		Lower Barpham Farm	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 3472	July 2008	Wall foundations [1004], Test Pit 1, south facing	
Report Ref: 2008090	Drawn by: SM		

Section of Test Pit 2



- Flint
- Tile

© Archaeology South-East		Lower Barpham Farm	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 3472	July 2008	West Facing Section of Test Pit 2	
Report Ref: 2008090	Drawn by: SM		



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Project Ref: 3472	July 2008	Wall foundations [2004], Test Pit 2, south facing	
Report Ref: 2008090	Drawn by: SM		



© Archaeology South-East		Lower Barpham Farm	Fig. 8
Project Ref: 3472	July 2008	Upstanding flint wall to the north-east of Test Pits	
Report Ref: 2008090	Drawn by: SM		

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