Cotswold Archaeology

The "Secrets of the High Woods" Project East Dean Woods, West Sussex

Archaeological Excavation

for
South Downs National Park Authority

CA Project: 770374
CA Report: 16372

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Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

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East Dean Woods,
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CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

LIST OF TABLES

SUMMARY

Project Name:	The ñSecrets of the High Woodsò Project, East Dean Woods
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A community archaeological excavation was supported by Cotswold Archaeology in May, 2016, at East Dean Woods, to the southwest of Graffham, in the South Downs National Park, West Sussex. The single excavation trench was located across a north/south-orientated trackway, and an associated relict field boundary, comprising elements of an extensive relict landscape within East Dean Woods.

The excavation identified a sequence of seven phases of activity between the Mesolithic and Modern periods, although only a broad later prehistoric date could be assigned to most of these. The very limited artefact assemblages from the excavation were almost entirely residual in nature. The earliest evidence of activity on the site was indicated by a possible Mesolithic/Early Neolithic component of the lithic assemblage. A sequence of relict plough soils and clearance cairns which spanned the later prehistoric and Roman periods were identified within the excavation trench. A Trackway had been cut through relict plough soils along the line of a series of north/south-orientated field boundaries, which appear to represent an earlier land division.

The earliest identified cultivated soils were located to the west of the Trackway, and were up to 0.3m in depth. A deposit of large flints, probably representing a clearance cairn, had accumulated on the surface of the earliest ploughsoil, and on the boundary of the two fields to the west of the Trackway. Immediately to the north of the cairn deposit was a deep ploughsoil, and the stratigraphic relationship between these two features suggested that the cairn was formed at the same time as the soil was being cultivated. Worked flint and prehistoric pottery in abraded condition were recorded from this ploughsoil.

To the west of the Trackway, and underlying part of the cairn, was a deep ploughsoil deposit from which abraded Roman sherds were recovered, thus suggesting a later phase of

cultivation. Fragments of post-medieval tile from this context are likely to represent intrusive material.

The Trackway ran north-south across the eastern part of the trench, and along the western edge of the field immediately to its east. Its western side cut through a sequence of earlier ploughsoils, indicating that it was a later feature. The trackway was 6.2m wide and 1.4m deep, and was surfaced by coarse flint-gravel laid on the underlying natural chalk.

Overlain by the eastern limits of the Trackway, and overlying later ploughsoils, was a further clearance cairn, which was visible as a prominent north/south-aligned bank between the Trackway and the lower eastern field. The entire trench was sealed by a thin layer of decayed leaf litter, which represented a late phase of woodland establishment in the early Modern period.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In May, 2016, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) supported a community archaeological excavation at the request of the South Downs National Park Authority, within East Dean Woods, West Sussex (centred on NGR: SU 91623 15705; Fig. 1). The purpose of the excavation was to investigate a north/south-orientated trackway, and an associated field boundary earthwork, within an extensive relict landscape representing an ancient field system. East Dean Woods are owned by the Goodwood Estate, and are currently managed, under a long-term lease, by the Forestry Commission.

1.2 The community excavation was part of the South Downs National Park-hosted and Heritage Lottery-funded community project; 'Secrets of the High Woods' (SHW). This project is currently investigating over 305 km² of downland within the National Park in West Sussex and East Hampshire, using the mapping of cropmark features and earthworks identified by Lidar survey, field survey and archival research.

1.3 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2016), and approved by the Chichester District archaeologist as archaeological advisor to the South Downs National Park Authority. The fieldwork stage of this project has followed the *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Excavation* (CIfA 2014), the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MORPHE) (English Heritage 2006); and *Project Manager's Guide and accompanying PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015). It was monitored by James Kenny, Chichester District Archaeologist, including a site visit made on 16 May, 2016.

The site

1.4 The excavation site was located between two blocks of beech plantation woodland, within an extensive area of managed and semi-natural woodland within East Dean Woods, within the South Downs National Park (Fig. 1). The excavation site is situated at an elevation of approximately 184m AOD, and approximately half-way down the south-facing dip-slope of the South Downs escarpment.

1.5 The underlying geology is mapped as the Upper Chalk of the Seaford Formation, dating to the Cretaceous Period. No overlying superficial deposits are recorded

within the excavation site itself, although deposits of clay-with-flints are recorded slightly to the north, towards the crest of the chalk escarpment (BGS 2016). The natural substrate encountered during the evaluation comprised white chalk, consistent with the mapped deposits.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 East Dean Woods comprise part of a complex and nationally-important archaeological landscape, with a number of scheduled monuments and recorded archaeological features located within the vicinity of the excavation site. Scheduled prehistoric barrows and Cross Dykes are recorded at Heyshott Down, on the crest of the Downs *c*. 700m to the north of the excavation site (Scheduled Monuments 1017614, 1018059, 1008738, 1008739 and 1008740), with further barrows located *c*. 1.3k to the south-east, at Waltham Down (Scheduled Monuments 108762, 1009911, 1009913 and 1009914).

2.3 Roman-period settlement evidence is also attested within this area, including the recorded remains of a fourth-century timber building containing a corn-drying oven, at NGR SU 9162 1539, which was identified during excavations by Miss P.A.M. Keef, in 1953-54. This site has not been fully published, and much of the archive has subsequently been lost, although a short summary, compiled by Oliver Gilkes in 1990, has reviewed the known evidence (Gilkes 1990, 246). The site was located on a south-facing spur, where a levelled platform had partly truncated an underlying lynchet. The single corn-drying oven had been abandoned and backfilled before being sealed by a floor, which was thought to be associated with the timber-framed building of 4th century AD date. Further evidence of Roman settlement is known within the surrounding area. A shallow depression of *c.* 8-10m diameter, associated with Roman pottery, has also been recorded at the northern end of Brookhurst Bottom, *c*. 400m to the south of the site (HER ref 1836).

2.4 The presence of extensive field systems and trackways within East Dean Woods has been known for some time. The extensive earthwork remains of an Iron Age or Roman-period field system and lynchets are designated as a Scheduled Monument at Lambs Lea, immediately to the south of East Dean Woods (Scheduled Monument 1005820). The scheduled earthworks are contiguous with those within East Dean Wood, which have been subsequently recorded by the National Mapping Program

(NMP). In addition, a north/south-aligned trackway, the subject of the current investigation, is recorded on the HER (ref 1835) as a 'Celtic road', with field lynchets located immediately to the east and west. Another trackway, located *c.* 50m to the east, is also recorded by the HER (ref 1779).

2.5 Until the advent of Lidar survey, an appreciation of the full extent and survival of these ancient landscapes has not been possible. The National Mapping Programme has mapped an extensive and well-preserved field system, from both Lidar imagery and cropmarks on aerial photographs (Figs. 2 and 3). The system comprises complexes of small, sub-rectangular fields formed by banked boundaries. The majority of these boundaries are aligned north-east/south-west, with close conformity of alignment (NMP 202535). Much of the mapped field system within East Dean Woods therefore exhibits a clear co-axial character, and evidence of a planned layout.

2.6 These networks have been assigned only a broad prehistoric date-range by the NMP, which reflects widely-recognised problems with the dating and phasing of these systems. Some recorded systems on the South Downs are of confirmed Bronze Age origin, as attested by large-scale excavations in advance of development at Twyford Down, Hampshire (Walker and Farwell, 2000); the Brighton Bypass (Rudling, 2002); Peacehaven, East Sussex (Hart Forthcoming), and local excavation at Little Combes Hill, West Dean (Siller *et al*, 2008). Dating evidence from comparable lowland field systems indicates that Bronze Age systems were frequently maintained and modified in the subsequent Iron Age and Roman periods. The evidence suggesting long-term continuity of use, and reuse and adaptation, of these networks, within an otherwise poorly-understood framework of evolution, means that the phasing of field systems on the basis of morphology alone is not possible (Bradley and Yates, 2007: 96).

2.7 A current, complementary programme of fieldwork within East Dean Woods has been led by Dr Mark Roberts (University College London), which has recorded soil profiles and earthwork lynchets associated with the field system, and has identified a number of extant additional relict landscape features, including possible flint clearance cairns and barrows. This work has also highlighted the artefactual associations of a number of ancient fields within East Dean Woods, including prolific finds of worked and burnt flint, and pottery evidence of late prehistoric and Roman manure-scatters.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the community excavation at East Dean Woods were:

- to excavate, record and date the origins and development of a sample of the field systems within East Dean Woods;
- to achieve the above as part of a community excavation, and to provide training for project volunteers in excavation methodologies, archaeological recording and basic finds analysis;
- to provide information which can be used to develop best-practice guidelines for the future management of this form of archaeological resource;
- to engage the public, and promote the work of the SHW project and the South Downs National Park, in accordance with the following purposes of the SDNP Authority:
    - *Purpose 1: To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area.*
    - *Purpose 2: To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public.*

3.2 The aims of the community excavation were to explore specific research questions arising from the programme of NMP mapping and the *Secrets of the High Woods Research Agenda* (Thorne and Bennet 2015):

- What evidence exists for deforestation and the uptake of agriculture during the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods within the study area?
- Can we successfully distinguish between periods of establishment, use, re-use and abandonment of field systems, allowing the extent and nature of agriculture to be assessed in relation to other evidence?
- An assessment of the application for Airborne Laser Scanning to investigate systems such as these. Can the 3D model be used to quantify the most heavily ñusedò areas of the landscape in terms of agriculture? Do these relate to hypotheses of aspect and land viability? Are there areas that deviate from the general pattern of exploitation?

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2016). The location of the excavation area was agreed with James Kenny (Chichester District Council) and Alice Thorne (South Downs National Park Authority). An 'L'-shaped excavation area, measuring 33m by 2m to 1m, was set out, by hand, over a north/south-aligned trackway and an adjacent relict field boundary (Fig. 3 and inset). The trench was surveyed by hand, in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual*, and was located by the use of three grid points located on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates, using Leica GPS. The excavation area was scanned for live services by trained CA staff, using CAT and Genny equipment, in accordance with the CA Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services.

4.2 Fieldwork commenced with the removal, by hand, of topsoil and leaf litter within the excavation area, to reveal the underlying subsoil, which consisted of relict plough soils.

4.3 The archaeological features exposed were hand-excavated to the bottom of archaeological stratigraphy. This included a full section through the north/south-aligned trackway. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with CA *Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.4 Deposits were assessed for their environmental potential, and the relict plough soils and trackway deposits were subject to sampling for geochemical analysis. In addition, the ploughsoils to the west of the trackway were sampled for OSL dating by Professor Martin Bell and Elspeth St John-Brooks of Reading University. It was subsequently agreed with Alice Thorne (SDNPA) that no further sampling was to be undertaken.

4.5 All artefacts recovered from the excavation were retained in accordance with CA *Technical Manual 3: Treatment of finds immediately after excavation*.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 4–7)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the excavation results. Detailed summaries of the contexts, finds and environmental samples (biological evidence) are to be found in Appendices Aï C of this report.

5.2 The date-range of the material evidence recovered extends from the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic to the post-medieval periods. The earlier prehistoric period phase is represented on this site only by finds. The stratigraphic analysis of later prehistoric/Roman features and finds indicated that a number of deposits on site have been extensively re-worked by long-term cultivation, and that the finds assemblage is almost entirely residual in character. A sequence of seven distinguishable phases of activity has been identified, although Phases 2-5 can only be assigned a broad later prehistoric date and Phase 6 a probable Roman date:

- Phase 0: Geology
- Phase 1: Earlier prehistoric activity

  Later prehistoric
- Phase 2: Early cultivated soils
- Phase 3: Clearance Cairn1010, and fields to west of the trackway
- Phase 4: Later ploughsoils

  Phase 5: The Trackway

  Roman
- Phase 6: Latest activity with in the fields

  Modern
- Phase 7; Modern Plantation and Woodland

Phase 0: Geology

5.3 The natural geological substrate, 1011, comprising a white, natural chalk, was exposed throughout the trench (Fig. 5). Cut into the surface of the chalk were a number of north-west/south-east aligned periglacial scars, and a number of small, natural solution-hollows.

Phase 1: Earlier prehistoric activity

5.4 A small proportion of the worked flint retrieved from relict ploughsoils 1005 and 1006 may be indicative of transient activity during the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic periods. Later Neolithic activity is evidenced by a residual oblique flint arrowhead from 1005 (Fig. 7).

Phase 2: Early cultivated soils

5.5 The earliest identified deposit on site, a plough soil, 1006, was located to the west of trackway 1016. This sealed the natural chalk, 1011, and ranged in depth from 0.04m

in the far south of the trench, to 0.32m adjacent to the trackway in the north of the trench (Fig. 5). It comprised an orange-brown clay silt, with a 15% inclusion of flint gravel, and 5% chalk fragments, and represented a relatively stone-free soil compared with overlying deposits. A number of abraded flint flakes were recovered from this layer, suggesting that it was a cultivated soil. However, the residual nature of the finds assemblage makes any dating of this deposit difficult beyond a broad Bronze Age/Iron Age attribution.

Phase 3: Clearance Cairn 1010, and fields to west of the trackway

5.6 An undated deposit of large flints, 1010, was established on the surface of the relict ploughsoil 1006, on the line of the east/west boundary between the two fields to the west of the Trackway (Fig. 4). It had poorly-defined interfaces with adjacent deposits, and comprised a dark, orange-brown silt clay, with flint cobbles and nodules comprising 25% of the deposit. This was interpreted as a clearance cairn, as it occupied the earthwork lynchet boundary between the two fields (Fig. 3). It is possible that this deposit accumulated over considerable time, between the abandonment of the relict ploughsoil 1006 and the cultivation of ploughsoil 1004.

5.7 To the north of 1010, was the 0.32m-deep, relict plough soil 1005**,** which comprised a mixed deposit of orange-brown clay silt, with a 25% inclusion of coarse flint-gravel and small stones (Fig. 4). It had a clear, relatively sharp, boundary with the underlying context 1006 and, like 1006, contained abraded waste flint flakes which suggested that it was a cultivated deposit. The southern limit of 1005 was defined by 1010, which also sealed the southern margins of this context, and suggested that the formation of 1010 may have been coeval with the cultivation of 1005. Worked flint and pottery were both retrieved from this layer; although the mixed nature of this deposit, like 1006, precludes any dating beyond the broad late prehistoric period.

Phase 4: Later ploughsoils

5.8 To the west of the Trackway, and also underlying the northern margin of clearance cairn 1010, was a 0.4m-deep, relict ploughsoil, 1004 (Fig. 4). It overlay, and was very similar in composition to, 1005, but was slightly lighter in colour. A Roman rim sherd and four fragments of post-medieval tile were recovered from this deposit, suggesting that cultivation within the fields to the west of the trackway, and the formation of the clearance cairn 1010, may have continued at least until the end of the Roman period. Within a highly disturbed soil matrix, the post-medieval material within this context appears to be intrusive.

5.9 Underlying the eastern bank of the Trackway was a 2.25m-wide and 0.22m-deep strip of undated relict plough soil, 1014. It comprised a mixed, dark orange-brown clay silt, with a 50% inclusion of small flint stones (Fig. 5).

Phase 5: The Trackway

5.10 Running north/south across the eastern portion of Trench 1, and along the western edge of the lower field, was Trackway 1016 (Figs. 3 and 5). The overall definition of the earthwork bank on its western side suggested that this was an intentionally-constructed feature, and may possible represent an earthwork boundary which preceded the formation of the Trackway. Its cut, 1019, was 6.2m wide by *c*.1.4m deep. It had a moderately-sloping western side, which cut through relict plough soils 1004, 1005 and 1006, into the natural substrate. The Trackway had a 2.8m-wide flat base, and a shallow, moderately-sloping eastern side, which cut relict ploughsoil 1014 (Fig. 5). The first fill of the cut was 1018, which comprised a 0.32m-deep, dark orange-brown clay silt, with a 25% inclusion of flint rubble. This material was piled up against the western side of the cut, possibly to stabilise it. In the base of the cut, surface 1016 was laid directly on the natural chalk. It comprised a 0.13m-deep, poorly-compacted, coarse flint gravel in a dark orange-brown, clay silt matrix, which overlay the eastern extent of 1018 (Fig. 5). It is probable that the small quantity of prehistoric pottery from 1018 is residual, and as the Trackway construction cut 1019 clearly cuts the relict plough soil 1004, the Trackway feature in its final form is possibly of later date than elements of the late prehistoric field system.

Phase 6; Latest activity within the fields

5.11 Within the upper field to the west of the trackway, a 0.16m-deep, light orange-brown clay silt soil, 1003, developed over the relict ploughsoil 1004, and the clearance cairn 1010 (Figs. 4 and 5). The fine texture of soil 1003 suggested the partial incorporation of a loess-type deposit, and this suggestion was strengthened by the observations made by Prof. Martin Bell in 7.6 of this report (cf. Catt 1978, 12-20). The two sherds of Roman pottery recovered from 1003 may result from later manure scatter, although the presence of post-medieval tile in the underlying layer 1004 must surely be intrusive. To the south of the base of the clearance cairn 1010, was the 0.26m-deep, undated, orange-brown relict ploughsoil 1009. It had developed

over the southern extent of the early relict ploughsoil 1006, and represents an accumulation of ploughsoil within the lower field to the west of the trackway.

5.12 To the east of the Trackway, the undated, relict ploughsoil 1012, developed within the negative field lynchet 1017 (Fig. 5). It cut into the natural chalk, and its fill, 1012, comprise a 0.32m-deep, dark brown-black, chalky clay silt. This layer sloped downwards to the point where it merged with a similar, but less chalky, relict plough-soil, 1001, which formed the principal deposit within the lower eastern field. From 1001, two large sherds of mid-16th to 18th-century pottery were recorded, which are interpreted as intrusive items.

5.13 Underlying the eastern limits of Trackway 1016, and overlying the western limits of 1012 and the relict ploughsoil 1014, was a clearance cairn, 1013 (Fig. 5). It was visible on the surface as a pronounced north/south-aligned earthwork bank between the Trackway and the lower eastern field, and comprised a jumble of flint nodules in a matrix of dark orange-brown clay silt. It is probable that the two sherds of Iron Age pottery retrieved from this deposit are residual, given the clear association, and probable contemporaneity, of this feature with the latest development of the Trackway.

5.14 Overlying the Trackway surface 1016, was topsoil 1002/1015. It was 0.09m deep, and very similar in character to the relict ploughsoil layer 1003, and it is suggested that both layers were of common origin (Fig. 5). A fragment of post-medieval brick, a further intrusive item, was retrieved from layer 1002.

Phase 7; Modern Plantation and Woodland

5.15 Overlying the southern edge of clearance cairn, 1010, and the relict ploughsoil 1009, was an undated dump deposit ,1007 (Fig. 4). This comprised a 0.26m-deep, mixed deposit of orange-brown clay silt, with a 33% inclusion of flint gravel and cobbles. At this point, the east/west-aligned earthwork lynchet division between the two fields west of the trackway was not well pronounced, unlike further to the west, where this feature survived as a substantial positive lynchet. This suggested that this part of the earthwork had been levelled at an unknown date, and it is therefore possible that dump deposit 1007 represents the spoil from the slighting of this earthwork.

5.16 Sealing the whole trench was the 0.06m-deep, dark-brown decayed leaf layer, 1008, which forms the modern woodland floor.

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Finds recovered are listed in Table 1, below. Details are to be found in Appendices B and C of this report.

Table 1: Quantification of finds

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Prehistoric	42	239
	Roman	6	31
	Post-medieval	2	28
	Total	*50*	*298*
Worked flint		125	1684
Burnt flint unworked		57	3599
Metalwork	Fe other	1	-
CBM		4	-
fired/burnt clay		1	3
Worked stone		1	158

The Artefactual Assemblage

6.2 The finds from East Dean Woods are limited, in terms of both the quantity and range of material recovered. The lithic assemblage is small and entirely redeposited, and diagnostically of the Late Neolithic or Bronze Age periods, although a small proportion may conceivably be of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. The only truly diagnostic item is an oblique arrowhead of Late Neolithic date (Fig. 7). The small pottery assemblage is generally in abraded condition, and principally comprises flint-tempered Iron Age fabrics of local character, with very small Roman and post-medieval components. A small number of metalwork, CBM and worked stone items are described below.

Lithics by Jacky Sommerville

Introduction and methodology

6.3 A total of 125 worked flints (1.684kg), and 57 pieces of burnt, unworked flint (3.599kg), was hand-recovered from the excavation of five deposits. Lithics were recorded according to broad artefact/debitage type, and were catalogued directly onto a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. The attributes recorded included colour, cortex description (the outer óskinô on a flint nodule or pebble), the degree of edge-damage (micro-flaking), rolling (abrasion), breakage, burning and recortication. The latter is apparent as a white or blueish surface discoloration, resulting from chemical change

within the burial environment (Shepherd 1972, 109). For items of debitage (unretouched flakes and blades), dimensions, butt and termination type, and knapping stage were also recorded, unless precluded by breakage. The breakdown of the lithic assemblage is given in Table 3, Appendix B, of this report.

Raw material, provenance and condition

6.4 The raw material comprised flint in all cases. Cortex remained on 93 items, and was chalky on 87 (94%), indicating the almost exclusive use of primary (chalk) sources. On two items (2%), the cortex was abraded, indicating the exploitation of local beach or river-gravel sources, and on four (4%) it took the form of previously worked and recorticated surfaces, thus evidencing the órecyclingôof worked flint tools from earlier periods. The latter category is most typical of the Bronze Age period (Edmonds 1995, 175ï 6). In general, the flint is fine-grained and of good quality. The majority of items (66%) are brown in colour, with the remainder mostly grey (11%) or partially blue or white (21%), the latter due to recortication. The excavation site is relatively close to two recorded ancient flint mines, namely those at Long Down, at a distance of *c*. 4km, and Stoke Down at *c*. 8km, which may have provided some of the raw material (Barber ***et al.*** 1999).

6.5 Only two pieces of burnt flint were recorded from the trackway fill 1019. The remainder of the assemblage was retrieved from secondary contexts, including from topsoil 1002 and relict ploughsoils 1003, 1004, 1005 and 1006. Two of the worked flints (2%) had also been burnt, and 29% were broken. The breakage figure is on the low side for a redeposited assemblage, and this may simply reflect the fact that much of the debitage is quite thick and sturdy in character. Moderate to heavy edge-damage was recorded on 76% of flint items, and moderate rolling on 54%. These relatively high figures are to be expected of residual material. A degree of recortication was observed on 56% of lithic items.

Range and variety

Primary technology

6.6 Debitage totals 110 items, including four blades and 106 flakes. Where possible, debitage was classified as primary (fully cortical dorsal face), secondary (partially cortical dorsal face), or tertiary (no dorsal cortex). The proportion of tertiary items was very low, at 8%. The majority (87%) were secondary, and a small number (5%) were primary. This suggests that much of the initial decortication was carried out

elsewhere, perhaps at the flint source, but that the stages of flintworking represented at the site are still early in the sequence.

6.7 Terminations were either feathered (79%) or hinged (21%). Hinge terminations often result from unskilled knapping (Whittaker 1994, 109), and a high proportion, as seen here, would be expected in a Bronze Age assemblage (Ford *et al.* 1984, 163). Plain butts were the most common type (66%), and 21% were cortical. The latter is a particularly high percentage, which is consistent with debitage derived from an early stage in the knapping sequence.

6.8 Average flake thickness is 9mm, which falls within the expected range for Late Neolithic to Bronze Age flakes (*ibid*.). There are a few aspects of the assemblage which suggest that a proportion may derive from the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods. These include the presence of blade types, although at 4% of the debitage, the proportion of these was low, together with evidence of preparation of striking platforms on two flakes and one blade.

6.9 Four cores were recovered, comprising one multi-platform and three single-platform types, all of which had been used to remove flakes. Two of the single-platform examples had only two or three flake scars: this is often seen in Later Neolithic and Bronze Age assemblages, as flintworking was often undertaken on a rather *ad hoc,* basis at this time, and cores were rarely knapped to exhaustion (Butler 2005, 155).

Secondary technology

6.10 The retouched tools total 11 (Table 3). Most are retouched or notched flakes, plus one retouched blade, and three scrapers are also included. The latter were all made on flake blanks: the two end-and-side types feature regular, semi-abrupt retouch along the distal dorsal edge, and one lateral dorsal edge. The end scraper displays irregular, steep retouch along the proximal ventral edge. None of these tools are closely dateable.

6.11 Of particular note is an oblique arrowhead recovered from the relict ploughsoil 1005 (Fig 7). This example has been minimally retouched; only along the bottom edge on both faces. Oblique arrowheads are a diagnostically Late Neolithic type, often found in association with Grooved Ware (Green 1980, 115).

Discussion

6.12 The lithic assemblage from East Dean Woods is small, and entirely redeposited. The majority of this material is broadly dateable to the Late Neolithic or Bronze Age periods, although a small proportion may reflect Mesolithic or Early Neolithic activity. The only truly diagnostic item is the oblique arrowhead, of Late Neolithic date (Fig. 7).

The Pottery by E. R. McSloy

6.3 Pottery, amounting to just 50 sherds (298g), was hand-recovered from seven deposits. The majority of this material, comprising 47 sherds dating from the Middle Bronze Age to the post-medieval periods, was recovered from 'relict ploughsoil' deposits. The remaining three sherds, all of later prehistoric (probably Iron Age) date, were associated with the 'clearance cairn' feature 1013, and the fill of the Trackway 1018.

6.4 The pottery has been fully recorded; quantification has included sherd count and weight by fabric and rim EVEs. Also recorded were vessel form, where identifiable, sherd thickness range, and evidence for use (residues). The fabric codings used for recording are listed in Appendix C, which also includes fabric descriptions and summary quantification.

6.5 The pottery assemblage survives for the most part in poor condition, with most sherds small, with a mean sherd weight of 6g. Recovered sherds also exhibit surface loss and abrasion. The single sherd from trackway fill 1018 is, by contrast, unabraded and large, weighing 88g. The majority of the assemblage consists of unfeatured bodysherds, a factor which makes any refinement of chronology difficult. The dating, as set out below, has for the most part been undertaken through reference to pottery fabrics and/or firing characteristics, and is necessarily broad.

Prehistoric (Bronze Age and Iron Age)

6.6 This grouping accounts for the great majority of recovered material, and comprises some 42 sherds (239g). Most material was re-deposited within relict ploughsoil deposits 1005 (14 sherds) and 1006 (24 sherds). Pottery from clearance cairn layer 1013 consists of body sherds in the flint-tempered fabric F1, which is suggestive of a

broadly late prehistoric (probably Iron Age) date. A large base-sherd in the same fabric, from trackway deposit 1018, is more certainly of Iron Age date.

6.7 The composition of the prehistoric pottery group is set out in Table 4, Appendix C, of this report. The entire group comprises body or base-sherds, and decoration was noted on only two examples (below). Handmade flint-tempered types, which differ in inclusion size/abundance, are strongly dominant (37 sherds or 88%), the remainder comprising handmade quartz-tempered types. The flint-gritted fabrics belong to a persistent ceramic tradition in south central Britain which is known from the Neolithic period onwards, and occurs also in the Middle and Late Bronze Age periods, and throughout the Iron Age. With featured sherds scarce amongst this group, dating is difficult. A single sherd, from relict ploughsoil 1005, can be attributed a Middle Bronze Age date. This occurs in a coarse, flint-tempered fabric F4, and exhibits decoration in the form of an applied and thumb-impressed strip. The fabric, sherd thickness (12mm) and form of decoration suggest that this belongs to the later Deverel-Rimbury tradition, the characteristic ceramic style in this area from *c.* 1600 to *c*. 1000 BC.

6.8 The generally finer, moderately well-sorted character of the flint-tempered fabrics probably indicate that most sherds are of later prehistoric date. This may also be indicated by the reduced sherd thicknesses, in the range of 6-8mm. One sherd in finer-flinted type F2, from relict ploughsoil 1005, and which exhibits decoration as a ósshallow-tooledôhorizontal line, accords best with a Middle or Later Iron Age date. A similar date-range is also most likely for the small number of sherds in handmade quartz-tempered fabrics.

Roman

6.9 The small Roman group, comprising only six sherds, weighing 31g, was hand-recovered from the relict ploughsoil deposits 1003 and 1004. Five of these sherds were in grey-firing, reduced coarseware fabrics (Table 4, Appendix C), of indeterminate source and only broadly dateable. A body-sherd in a buff-fired, sandy fabric (BUF1) is similarly undiagnostic. Featured sherds are present as rim-sherds, both almost certainly from jar forms, in fabric GW1 from deposits 1003 and 1004.

Post-medieval/modern

6.10 Pottery of this period, comprising two sherds weighing 28g, was recorded from relict ploughsoil 1001 only. The two sherds occur in the same pale, orange-fired glazed earthenware fabric, which is broadly dateable to a mid-16th to 18th-century range.

Pottery fabric descriptions

6.11

F1	Dark-grey throughout; soft with irreg. fracture and harsh feel. Contains abundant, moderately-sorted flint (1-2mm), and sparse sub-rounded chalk (1-2mm)
F2	Dark-grey throughout or with brown surfaces; soft, with irreg. fracture and harsh feel. Contains abundant, well-sorted fine, crushed flint (0.5-1mm)
F3	Dark grey throughout, or with brown surfaces; soft, with irreg. fracture and harsh feel. Contains sparse to common mod-sorted coarse flint (2-4mm)
F4	Grey, with light-brown external surface/margin. Soft, with irregular fracture and harsh feel. Common, moderately-sorted angular flint (1-3mm)
Q1	Grey, with red-brown surfaces/margin. Soft, with fine facture and sandy feel. Contains common, fine quartz sand (<0.3mm). May contain sparse flint (< 0.5mm)
Q2	Dark-grey throughout. Soft, with finely irreg. fracture and sandy feel. Contains common quartz sand (0.3mm), and sparse flint (0.5-1mm)
GW1	Grey throughout. Soft, with sandy feel/finely irreg. fractures. Abundant, fine quartz sand (<0.3mm), and common angular, dark-grey inclusions
GW2	Dark-grey throughout. Soft, with finely irreg. fracture and sandy feel. Contains common, fine quartz sand (<0.3mm)
BUF1	Buff throughout. Soft, with sandy feel/irreg. fracture. Contains common, well-sorted sub-angular quartz (0.3-0.4mm). Slightly micaceous
PMGRE	Buff-orange, with grey core. Hard, dense fabric with fine fracture and smooth feel. Abundant, fine quartz sand. Dark-brown glaze

Ceramic Building Material by Katie Marsden

6.12 Five fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were recorded from two deposits. A brick fragment, in a sandy, orange fabric, was recorded from topsoil 1002. Four fragments of tile, of probable post-medieval date, were recorded from relict ploughsoil 1004, and appear to represent intrusive material

Fired Clay by Katie Marsden

6.13 One fragment of fired clay (3g) was recorded from the relict ploughsoil 1004. The fragment occurs in a soft, pale orange fabric, with no visible voids or inclusions. No features of form were preserved to determine a date or original function.

Worked stone by Katie Marsden

6.14 One object of worked stone, a possible fragment of a whetstone (158g), was recovered from relict ploughsoil 1006. Such items are difficult to date in isolation, but pottery from this context suggests a later prehistoric date for this item.

Metalwork by Katie Marsden

6.15 One metal object, of iron, was recorded from relict ploughsoil 1005. The object is of wholly indeterminate form, function or date.

7. GEOCHEMICAL AND OSL SAMPLING by Martin Bell

7.1 Soil conditions on the site precluded the identifiable survival of plant macrofossil or pollen evidence, and the decalcified character of accumulated soils in this location has precluded the survival of any molluscan record. Consequently, the possibility of soil sampling was ruled out at an early stage of excavation.

7.2 Cotswold Archaeology was able to assist Prof. Martin Bell, and his doctoral research student, Elspeth St John Brooks, Reading University, in the obtaining of samples for geochemical analysis and Optically-Stimulated Luminescent dating (OSL). The methodology of sampling is outlined below. The results of analysis and dating will be available at a later stage, and consequently have not been included in this report.

7.3 During the course of excavation in East Dean Woods, a borehole survey and sampling was carried out with the objective of establishing evidence of a geochemical signature associated with the ancient use of the trackway. This formed part of the AHRC-funded PhD research project of Elspeth St John Brooks.

7.4 In order to put the excavated lynchet within a wider soil and geochemical context, a borehole transect survey was undertaken, by extending the line of the main excavation trench a further 100m to the east. A gouge auger was used, with boreholes made at 10m internals, with additional boreholes where double-lynchet tracks were crossed. In all, 17 boreholes were recorded. Recording was on standard record sheets, and each was photographed, and a sample taken, of each stratigraphic unit. This meant that the sampling transect crossed the original excavated lynchet and Trackway, a field to its east, and then a second double-lynchet trackway to the east of that, and then extended a further 20m into an adjoining ancient field to the east. The transect was levelled, and a borehole profile will be produced.

7.5 From the excavated trench section, two columns of samples were taken, and marked on the section drawings. One was from the deepest part of the lynchet accumulation, 5m east of the west end of the trench, where a sequence of 22 samples was taken. The second was from the centre of the excavated double-lynchet trackway. Soil samples were also taken at 0.5m intervals, along the base of the excavated trench, and 5cm above the chalk.

7.6 A notable aspect both of the excavated trench, and of the boreholes, was that the lynchet and field soils were decalcified, but overlay periglacially-altered chalk. It is likely that loess and superficial Clay-with-flints deposits have been significant contributors to these soils, and that this can be established analytically. Decalcification precluded the use of mollusc analysis (i.e. the use of introduction dates for known species, to date the lynchet). It also precluded the use of Uranium-Series dating of mollusc shells, both of which have been used successfully to date lynchet sequences elsewhere. The situation here appears to be comparable to that at the National Nature Reserve at Lullington Heath, in East Sussex, where extensive 'Celtic' fields, on decalcified soils, support botanically-significant heathland communities. The critical question in this case is the date at which decalcification may have taken place, and whether the originally-cultivated soils of these field systems became decalcified at the time of cultivation, or whether this process has occurred subsequently. That question is unlikely to be resolved by the present programme of analysis, but should be considered in any subsequent investigations, which could include micromorphological analysis.

7.7 In order to contribute to the dating of the lynchet, four samples were taken for dating by Optically Stimulated Luminescence, and these will be submitted for analysis to the laboratory at the University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham. The samples were taken from the deepest part of the lynchet adjoining the geochemical sequence at 5m, and were marked on the section drawing. The deposits were very stony, and only the basal sample from the pre-lynchet soil sampled well. When taking the sample above this, from the base of the lynchet, the sampling tube broke, and is therefore unlikely to produce a viable sample. Two samples from higher in the lynchet may have been partially successful, but have not yet been assessed.

7.8 Proposed analysis from the trench and borehole samples includes particle size analysis on a few selected samples, to establish the contribution of loess to these soils, together with elemental analysis to identify geochemical traces of animal movement along the double-lynchet tracks. This analytical work will take place after the present field season, in Autumn, 2016.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 It is clear from the sequence of deposits and structures observed within the excavations that the development of the earthworks within this part of East Dean Wood were long and episodic, as witnessed by the succession of thick and distinctively different relict ploughsoils observed in the trench. Stratigraphic analysis of features and finds has suggested that the majority of the ploughsoil deposits were extensively re-worked over time, and consequently the finds recovered are almost entirely residual, or later intrusive, items.

8.2 This excavation has only provided only a broad dating framework for the possibly episodic formation of the complex relict landscape identified throughout East Dean Woods. However, the limited evidence from this excavation does conform broadly to that from a number of other investigated prehistoric field systems on chalk downland within the region, including those at Twyford Down, Hants (Walker and Farwell 2000), Snail Down, Wiltshire (Thomas, 2005), Chalton, Hants (Cunliffe 1973) and Stockbridge Down, Hants (Cunliffe and Poole 2000). Dry valley evidence in West Sussex suggests that the first datable episodes of colluviation resulting from cultivation occurred in the later Bronze Age, and indicated widespread woodland clearance on downland slopes, together with extensive areas of cultivation of

rendzina soils (Boardman 1992, 9-19; Wilkinson 2003, 747; Rudling 2003, 236). In particular, the limited artefactual evidence recovered is comparable to that from sampled field lynchets in comparable environments (Walker and Farwell 2000, 34-35).

8.3 A small proportion of the residual worked flint items retrieved from the relict soils 1005 and 1006 suggests some transient activity during the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic periods. The bulk of the small assemblage was otherwise diagnostic of the later Neolithic and Bronze Age periods, and included a high proportion of debitage, suggesting that some early production stages of basic flintworking were being undertaken. While this material was entirely re-deposited, and as such typical of many locations on the dip-slope of the South Downs, it may represent a phase of relatively sedentary activity, and possibly settlement, which pre-dates the formation of some, or all, of the field systems. This speculation may be furthered by the recorded quantity of burnt flint, together with a single sherd of Middle Bronze Age date, which may derive from earlier settlement activity, although such items could equally represent contemporary manure scatters.

8.4 The earliest deposit, 1006, has been identified as a cultivated soil in view of the abraded character of the numerous flint flakes recovered, although the wholly residual nature of the finds recorded from these relict soils makes more precise dating impossible. The relatively stone-free nature of this soil suggested that the earliest cultivation did not substantially cut in to the underlying chalk, and that the clay-with-flints deposits overlying the higher areas of the chalk did not significantly contribute to this soil. In addition, the limited presence of chalk within this deposit may also indicate that substantial de-calcification may have occurred, an observation also made by Prof. Martin Bell (section 7.6, above). The stonier nature of the post-1006 sequence of ploughsoils (relict plough soils 1004, 1005 and 1009), may conceivably result from stones moving down-slope within a longer-term process of colluviation. This might also suggest changes in plough technology, and/or the intensity of cultivation, between the relict plough soils 1006 and 1005.

8.5 The latest evidence of change within the field system appears to include an accumulation of a loess-like soil, 1003, over the relict plough soil 1004 and the clearance cairn 1010 of the upper field, suggesting that cultivation had ceased with in this field (Bell, Section 7.6 of this report). To the south of clearance cairn 1010, the relict plough soil 1009 suggested that cultivation had continued longer in this

field, as loess-type soils had not acclimated on its surface (Catt 1978, 12-20). The accumulation of the thin, loess-type soil, 1015, over the Trackway surface, suggested that the track may have been abandoned at some time after the last cultivation in the upper field to the west of the Trackway, but before the remaining two fields went out of cultivation. The field to the east of the Trackway corresponds to a long, thin area of pasture depicted on the 1874 Ordnance Survey Map, which then disappears under woodland encroachment in the late 1890ôs. It would be interesting to speculate on the date of the final phase of cultivation here, but there is no reason why this should have continued much beyond the end of the Roman period, which is elsewhere widely associated with a period of woodland regression (Rackham 1986, 81). It is entirely possible that a phase of later Roman cultivation may have been associated with the contemporary building and corn-drier recorded at Lambôs Lea, immediately to the south of East Dean Woods (Gilkes 1990, 246-248).

8.6 The Lidar survey model displays a clear spatial distinction between different elements of the East Dean field system. The markedly irregular size and layout of the fields recorded further down-slope, and around the sides of dry valleys, appear to result from a more organic, aggregate pattern of development (Bradley and Richards 1978; Bowen 1961), and their location may simply reflect the earlier accessibility of deeper soils. Moffat (1988, 15-17), in assessing the evidence of neighbouring East Hampshire, has concluded that soil type and aspect were critical determinants of the location of early field systems, and that such systems subsequently underwent rapid soil run-off and degradation. In contrast with these irregular layouts are a number of highly regular, apparently planned, blocks of fields which are generally located further upslope, and include the area around the excavation site. These field blocks exhibit remarkable conformity of field size, and are consistently oriented in a NNE/SSW direction, approximately 15º from north. This orientation conforms closely to that of a number of recorded systems in Sussex and elsewhere, including one of comparable scale at neighbouring Kingley Vale, West Sussex (English 2012, 168, Fig. 6.6). Such systems are clearly definable as co-axial (Bradley and Richards 1978; Fleming 1987), and appear to represent a coherent, highly-planned phase of agricultural expansion, which has important implications for the role of contemporary biosocial factors and socio-political agency (Fowler 1983, 104-5). Some of these regular field layouts extend far up the dip-slope, in places almost to the crest of the downs and to the interface with clay-with-flints deposits, and therefore must have included some of the thinnest soils. Some of

these higher field boundaries have only a faint Lidar signature, perhaps indicating their limited agricultural potential, with correspondingly limited periods of use and low levels of lynchet formation.

8.7 Field blocks of comparable size and plan have been recorded on Salisbury Plain (McOmish *et al* 2002, 51-56). Here, as on the Marlborough Downs, there is well-attested evidence for the establishment of cultivation by the early Bronze Age (Gingell 1984, 153; McOmish 2005, 133), and comparable evidence was established within the Stonehenge environs (Richards 1990). Within these well-studied locations, evidence of early cultivation has generally been subsumed within later complex networks, and such is likely to be the case at East Dean. In those areas where Bronze Age systems have not undergone change and amendment in later periods (particularly the Roman), the principal elements of such complex systems are widely considered to be of Middle Bronze Age date, and broadly contemporary with Deverel-Rimbury culture of *c*. 1500-1000 BC.

8.8 Continuing evidence of use in the Roman period is suggested by small quantities of abraded pottery. Future research, involving a more detailed assessment of the Lidar model might provide tentative evidence of the removal, or ploughing over, of some intermediate field boundaries at this time, possibly to facilitate the use of larger Roman ploughs. There is otherwise no evidence of any later formalised landscape boundaries, such as the linear ditches which bisect field systems in Wessex (McOmish *et al* 2002, 56-66; Bradley *et al* 1994), although it is possible that prominent trackways, possibly embodying earlier boundary banks, may have performed this function here. Early recording by E. and C. Curwen (1923, 31-32) of a number of Sussex field systems has emphasised the ósinalô location of many trackways in relation to surrounding fields, which suggests that these were integral to the initial layout of the systems, but may have developed into more incised features at a later stage (cf. Curwen and Curwen 1925, 148-162). The trackway investigated in this case has clearly cut, or simply worn through, a number of earlier ploughsoil deposits, although these appear to correspond to earlier, established field boundaries.

8.9 A close association between field networks and Deverel-Rimbury settlements is generally evident elsewhere across Southern Britain (McOmish 2005, 134). Black Patch may be one of the best-attested examples of such settlements in Sussex (Drewett 1988; English 2012, 172), although Chalton, Hants (Cunliffe 1973) may

provide a geographically closer parallel. The Lidar model for East Dean Woods provides no obvious evidence of the slighting of field systems for enclosed settlement, although it is possible that any associated settlement foci were situated elsewhere, possibly on lower ground to the south. In any case, it is possible that much contemporary settlement may have been unenclosed and integrated with the field system as a series of individual house terraces on the Black Patch pattern. Evidence elsewhere suggests that enclosed settlement occurs late in the sequence of field system development. Here it is pertinent to consider the origin of the residual later prehistoric pottery and burnt flint in investigated ploughsoils, at least some of must derive from nearby domestic contexts. This material, along with flintwork of Bronze Age character, might suggest that domestic settlement was more intimately integrated with the contemporary farming landscape than the Lidar model suggests, and indicates further scope for detailed Lidar interpretation and field investigation.

In this context, it is also important to consider the relation of the East Dean and other downland systems to the contemporary field and settlement networks recorded on the brickearths of the adjacent Sussex Plain (Yates 2007, 46-52), where broadly similar layouts exist, albeit in ditched form.

8.10 A small number of finds of post-medieval date were recovered from ploughsoil deposits. These include fragments of tile in 1004, mid-sixteenth to eighteenth-century pottery from 1001, and a fragment of brick from 1002. This material is potentially problematic, but must be regarded as intrusive, and for a number of compelling reasons. Firstly, there otherwise exists no archaeological evidence for the continuing cultivation of these fields beyond the end of the Roman period. The items concerned are too few in number to suggest a limited phase of cultivation in the post-medieval period, and this possibility is further precluded by documentary evidence for land use at this time. In addition, there is no artefactual evidence of any preceding medieval phase of cultivation. Well-preserved lynchets and field boundaries within East Dean Woods are of authentic late prehistoric character, and display no evidence of modification (i.e. strip cultivation) resulting from later use.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Busby, assisted by Stephanie Duensing and Emily Stynes from CA; Community Archaeological Team Leaders Steven Cleverly and John Crane, and Community Archaeologists Andrew Baker, Jessica Butler, Tim

Burr, Colin Caisley, Dick Cole, Margaret Dean, Tony Douglas, Dom Escott, John Grimster, Deborah Jordan, Mike Joyner, Mary Iden, Elaine Irecanp, Abby Rice, Mark Seaman, Jim Searle, Keven Sloan, Juliet Smith, Brian Tomkinson, Henry Wakeford and Sarah Walkmann. The report was written by Peter Busby and Richard Massey. The pottery and metal finds reports were written by Ed McSloy, the CBM, fired clay, worked stone and metalwork finds reports by Katie Marsden and the worked flint report by Jacky Sommerville. A short report on OSL sampling was provided by Prof. Martin Bell of the University of Reading. The illustrations were prepared by Sam O'Leary. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The fieldwork was managed for CA by Damian De Rosa, and the post-excavation was managed by Richard Massey.

10. STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices in Kemble while post-excavation work proceeds. Upon completion of the project, and with the agreement of the legal landowners, the site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with the Novium Museum, Chichester (Accession No. CHCDM 2016.12). A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Table 2: Context Descriptions

Trench No.	Context Number	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot Date
1	1001	Layer		Relict plough soil	Very dark brown-black clay silt with 5% fine rounded chalk gravel	>2.15	>2	0.26	
1	1002	Layer	1019	Top soil	Orange brown Clay silt with 5% small flint stones	>2	2.25	0.09	
1	1003	Layer		Relict plough soil	Light orange-brown clay silt with 1% flint pebbles	>6.6	>5.6	0.16	
1	1004	Layer		Relict plough soil	Mottled light-brown clay silt with 25% angular flint stones, and 5% flint gravel	>7	>6.2	0.4	
1	1005	Layer		Relict plough soil	Orange-brown clay silt with 25% flint stones and 1% flint cobbles	>11.4	>8.3	0.32	
1	1006	Layer		Relict plough soil	Orange-brown clay silt with 5% chalk gravel and 5% flint gravel	>16.7	>10.5	0.32	
1	1007	Layer		Dump	Orange-brown clay silt with 33% coarse angular flint gravel/cobbles	>6.05	>1	0.26	
1	1008	Layer		Forest soil	Very dark brown clay silt with 50% decayed leaf litter	>18.5	>17.5	0.06	
1	1009	Layer		Relict plough soil	Orange-brown clay silt with 25% flint gravel/small stones	>5.25	>1	0.26	
1	1010	Layer		Clearance cairn	Dark, orange-brown silt clay with 25% cobbles and 1% angular flint nodules	>1	5.95	0.66	
1	1011	Layer		Natural Chalk	White chalk with linear periglacial features filled with brown silt clay	>18.5	>17.5	-	
1	1012	Fill	1017	Relict plough soil	Dark brown-black clay silt with 5%flint gravel and 5% chalk gravel	2.35	>2	0.32	
1	1013	Layer		Clearance cairn	Dark, orange-brown clay silt, with 75% flint stones/boulders	>2	2.55	0.23	
1	1014	Layer		Relict plough soil	Dark orange-brown clay silt, with 50% angular flint stones/nodules	>2	2.25	0.22	
1	1015	Fill	1019	Top soil	As 1002	>2	2.25	0.09	
1	1016	Fill	1019	Trackway	Dark orange-brown clay silt with 75% coarse flint gravel	>2	>2.55	0.13	
1	1017	Cut		Field lynchet	N/S-orientated cut in plan, exists only as a steep western side and a base that gradually slopes to the east	>2	>0.6	0.15	
1	1018	Fill	1019	First fill	Dark orange-brown clay silt, with 25% angular flint stones and nodules and 5% flint gravel	0.2	3.35	0.35	
1	1019	Cut		Trackway cut	N/S-orientated cut in plan, with moderately steep sides and a flat base	>2	6.2	1.4	

APPENDIX B : BREAKDOWN OF THE LITHICS ASSEMBLAGE

Table 3: Breakdown of the lithics assemblage

(Burnt unworked	57)
Primary technology	
Blade	4
Core	4
Flake	106
Secondary technology	
Arrowhead (oblique)	1
Notched flake	1
Retouched blade	1
Retouched flake	5
Scraper (end)	1
Scraper (end-and-side)	2
Total	**125**

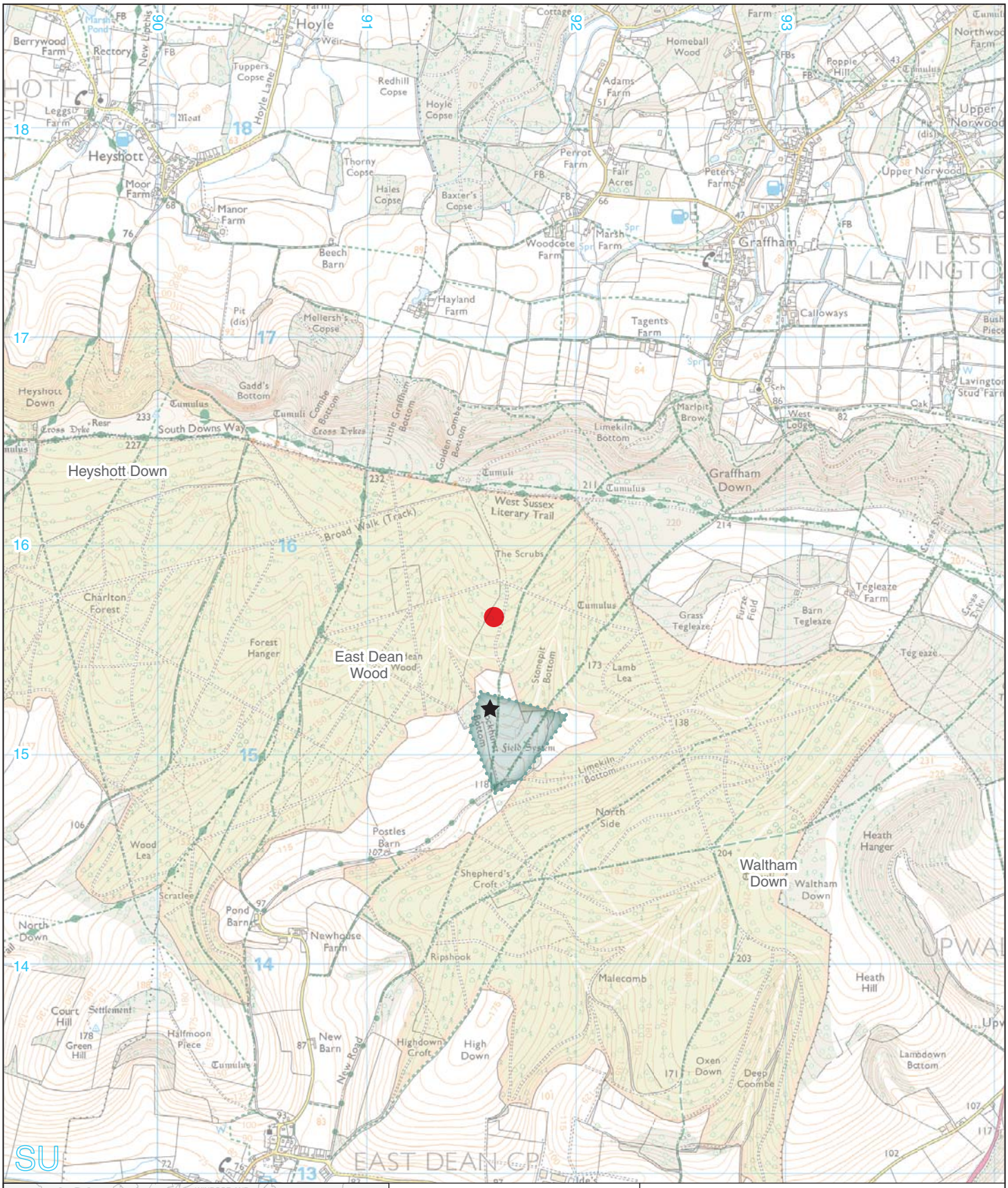
APPENDIX C: POTTERY DISTRIBUTION BY CONTEXT

Table 4: Pottery distribution by context number

	Context (sherd Ct.)							Total	
Fabric	**1001**	**1003**	**1004**	**1005**	**1006**	**1013**	**1018**	**Ct.**	**Wt. (g)**
F1				6	17	2	1	**26**	**174**
F2				2	1			**3**	**12**
F3			1	4	2			**7**	**34**
F4				1				**1**	**9**
Q1					3			**3**	**5**
Q2				1	1			**2**	**5**
GW1		1	3					**4**	**24**
GW2		1						**1**	**5**
BUF1			1					**1**	**2**
PMGRE	2							**2**	**28**
Total	**2**	**2**	**5**	**14**	**24**	**2**	**1**	**50**	**298**

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	The ñSecrets of the High WoodsòProject, East Dean Woods	
Short description	A community archaeological excavation was supported by Cotswold Archaeology in June 2016 at East Dean Woods, West Sussex. The excavation area was located across a north/south orientated trackway and an associated relict field boundary, one of many such earthwork features serving within East Dean Woods. The excavation identified seven phases of activity between the Mesolithic and modern periods. The artefact assemblages from the excavation were mostly residual in nature. The earliest activity on site was a Mesolithic/Early Neolithic element with the finds assemblage and a sequence of relict plough soils and clearance cairns were identified spanning the Bronze Age/Iron Age to post-medieval period. The trackway had been cut through relict plough soils along the line of a north/south orientated lynchet boundary and may be as late as the post-medieval period.	
Project dates	6 June to 18 June 2016	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	Field survey and Lidar by Secrets of the High WoodsòProject 2014 to present	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	East Dean Woods, West Sussex	
Study area (M^2/ha)		
Site co-ordinates	SU 91623 15705	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	South Downs National Park Authority	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Damian De Rosa	
Project Supervisor	Peter Busby	
MONUMENT TYPE	Field system	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content
Physical	The Novium Museum, Chichester	Flints Ceramics, iron
Paper	The Novium Museum, Chichester	Context and trench sheets, matrice
Digital	The Novium Museum, Chichester	Digital photos and drawings
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 *The "Secrets of the High Woods" Project, East Dean Woods, West Sussex: Archaeological Excavation.* CA typescript report **16372**		



N

- Site location
- Roman building
- Lamb's Lea Scheduled Monument

0 1km

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

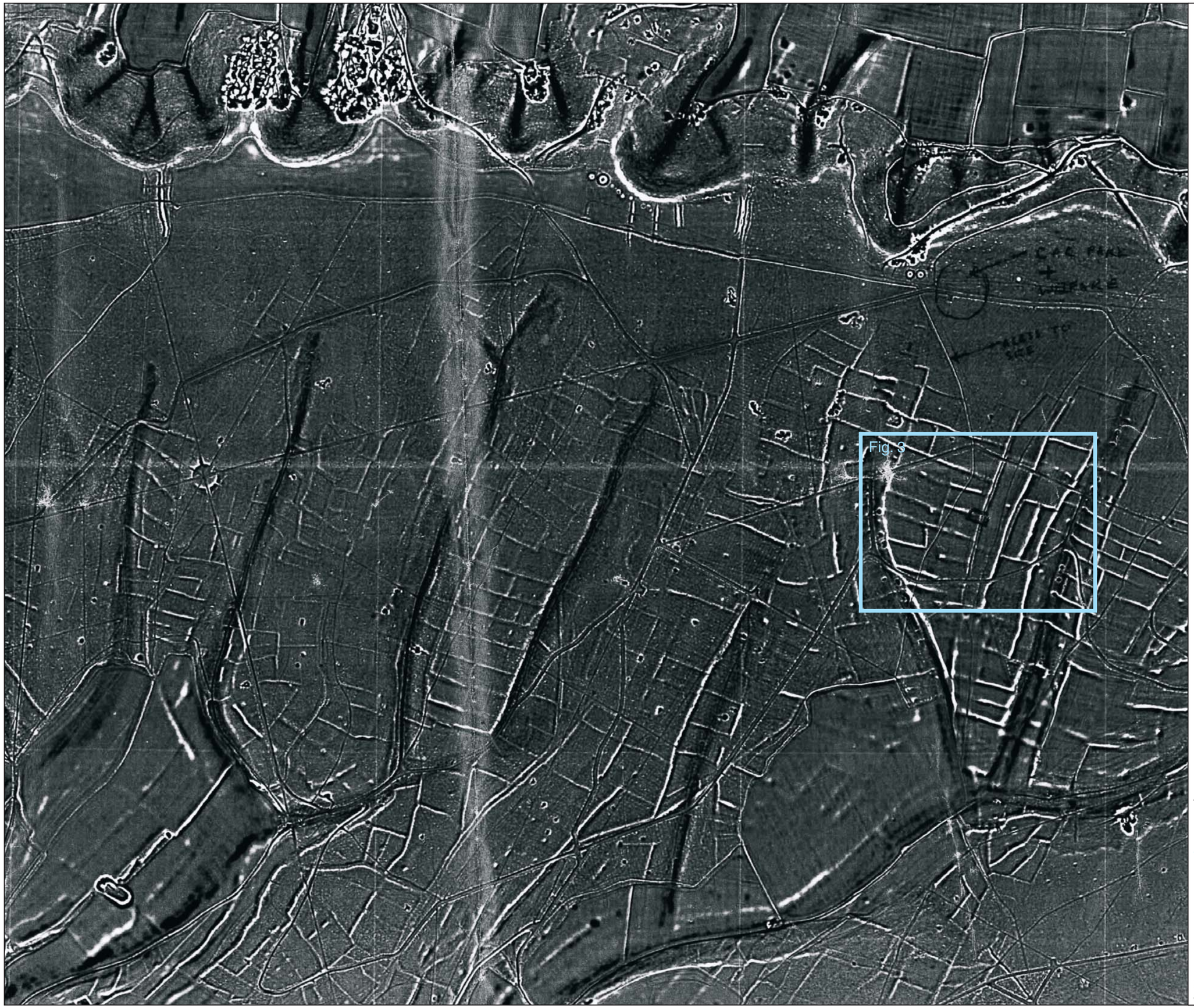
PROJECT TITLE

The "Secrets of the High Woods" Project, East Dean Woods, West Sussex

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	**SO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770374**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**LM**	*DATE*	**13 07 2016**	**1**
APPROVED BY	**RWM**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:25,000**	



N

0 500m

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Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

The “Secrets of the High Woods” Project, East Dean Woods, West Sussex

FIGURE TITLE

LiDAR model of East Dean Woods

DRAWN BY	**SO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770374**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**LM**	*DATE*	**13 07 2016**	**2**
APPROVED BY	**RWM**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:10,000 (approx)**	

914
916
918
158
156
154
SU

Upper
West Field

Lower
West Field

N

excavation area

archaeological feature

0 100m

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Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

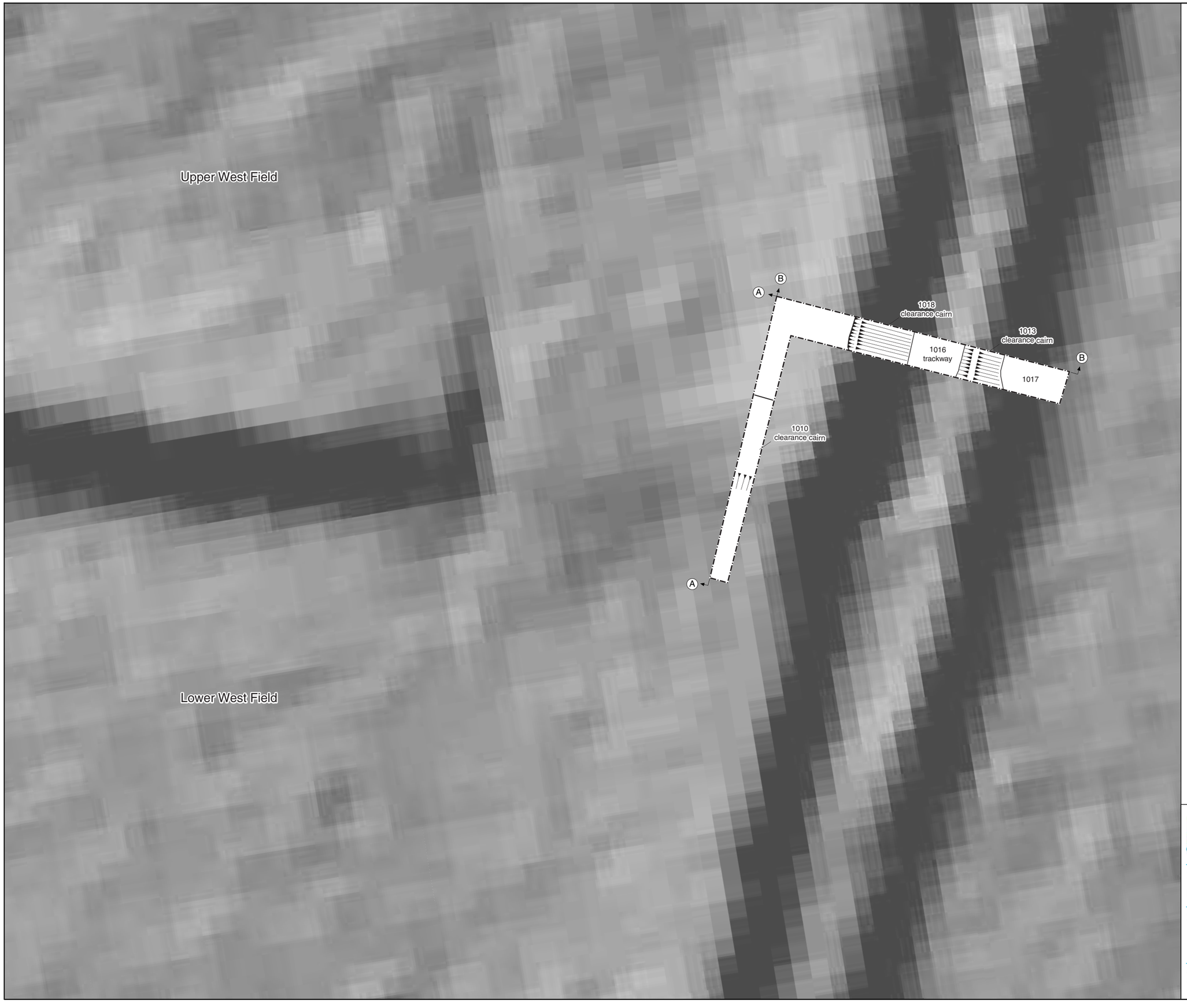
The “Secrets of the High Woods” Project,
East Dean Woods, West Sussex

FIGURE TITLE

Trench plan and detail of LiDAR model

DRAWN BY	**SO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770374**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**LM**	*DATE*	**13 07 2016**	**3**
APPROVED BY	**RWM**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:2,000**	

P:\770374 East Dean Woods West Sussex SDNP S&R\Illustration\Drafts\770374 figure 3.dwg



N

excavation area

archaeological feature

section location

0 10m

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Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

The “Secrets of the High Woods” Project, East Dean Woods, West Sussex

FIGURE TITLE

Trench plan and detail of LiDAR model

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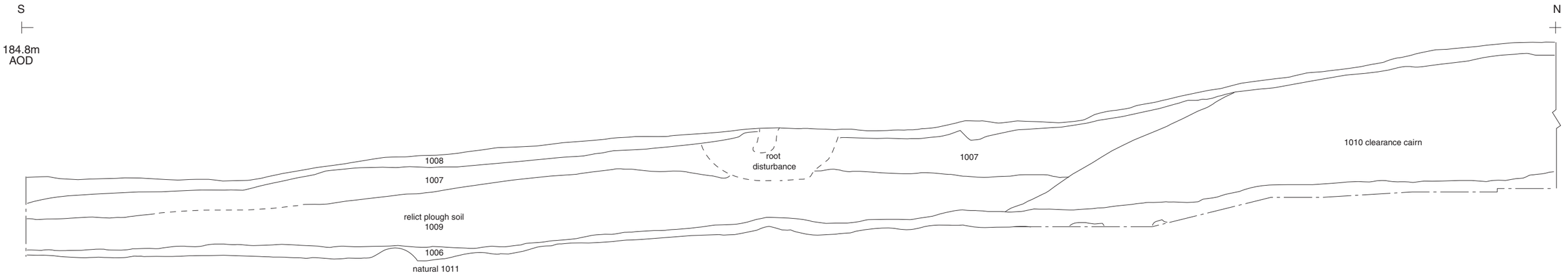
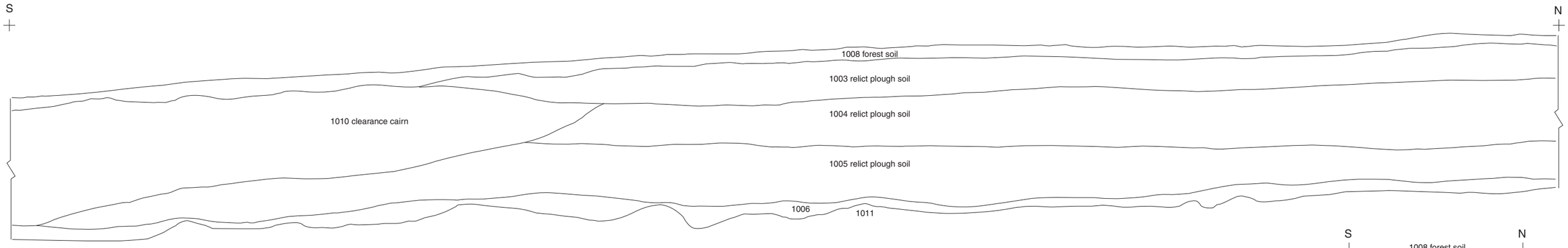
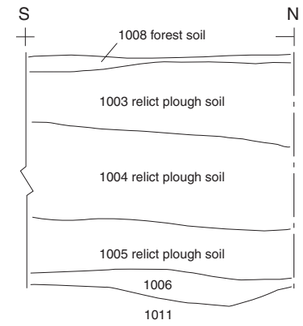
CHECKED BY	**LM**	*DATE*	**23 08 2016**	**3A**
APPROVED BY	**RWM**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:200**	

Section AA





East facing section of trench 1, facing north-west (scale 1m)



Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

East facing trench section and photograph

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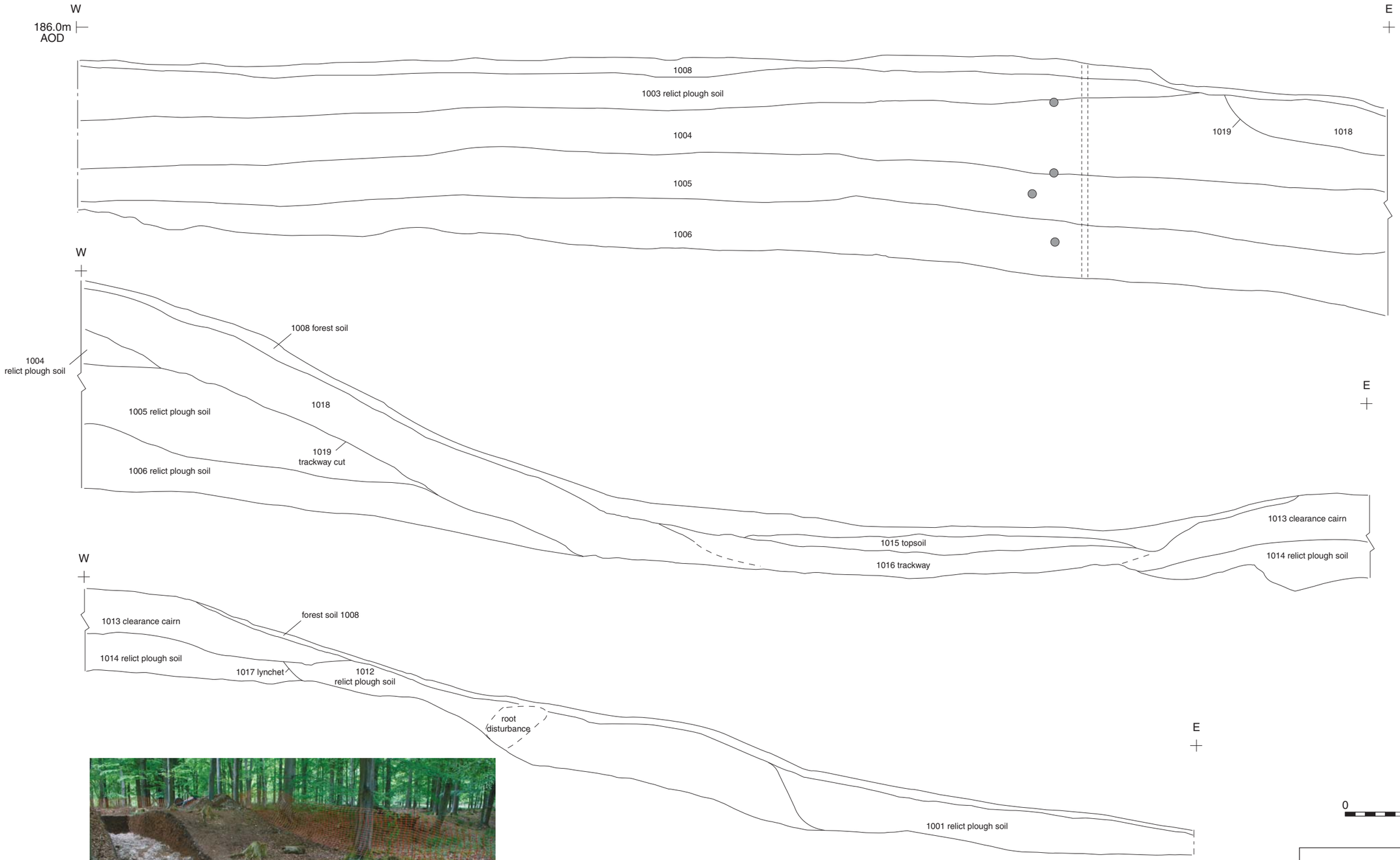
Section BB



South facing section of trench 1, facing north-west (scale 1m)

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

The “Secrets of the High Woods” Project, East Dean Woods, West Sussex

FIGURE TITLE

South facing trench section and photograph

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CHECKED BY	**LM**	*DATE*	**13 07 2016**	**5**
APPROVED BY	**RWM**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

A

B

C

A Removing topsoil from trackway, facing west

B Cleaning the trackway surface, facing south east

C Cleaning up trackway for final photograph, facing north west

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

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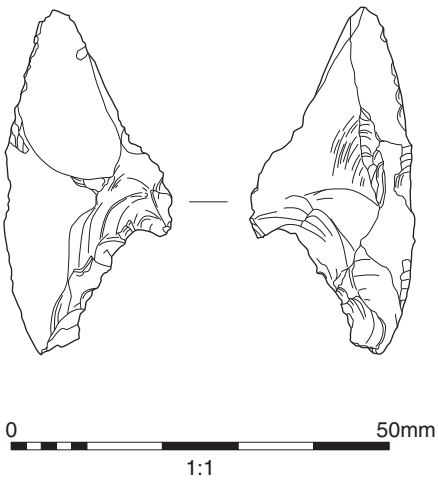
FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

DRAWN BY	**SO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770374**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**LM**	*DATE*	**13 07 2016**	**6**
APPROVED BY	**RWM**	*SCALE@A4*	**N A**	



Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Late Neolithic obli ue arrowhead from relict ploughsoil 1005 (1:1)

DRAWN BY	**AO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770374**	*FIGURE NO.*
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APPROVED BY	**RWM**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:1**	

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 53
Basepoint Business Centre
Yeoford Way
Marsh Barton Trading Estate
Exeter
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

Milton Keynes Office

41 Burners Lane South
Kiln Farm
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK11 3HA

t: 01908 564660

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk