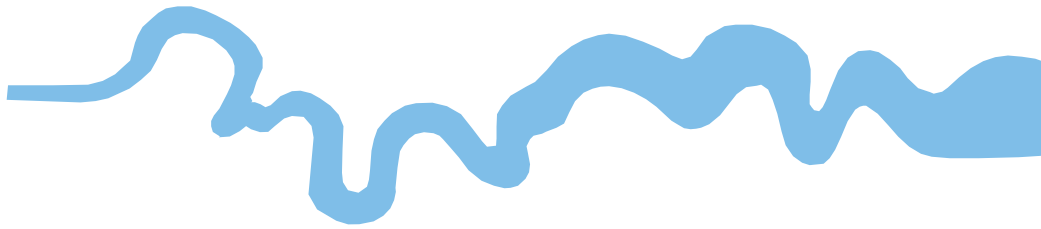


T V A S



SOUTH

**Land at Horndean Road,
Emsworth, Hampshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Andy Taylor

Site Code: HRE20/190

(SU 7450 0680)

Land at Horndean Road, Emsworth, Hampshire

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Imperial Homes Southern**

by Andy Taylor

TVAS South

Site Code HRE 20/190

May 2021

Summary

Site name: Land at Horndean Road, Emsworth, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 7450 0680

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 28th April 2021

Project coordinator: Tim Dawson

Site supervisor: Andy Taylor

Site code: HRE 20/190

Area of site: c.1 hectare

Summary of results: A single gully of Late Bronze Age date was identified, likely to indicate the presence of a small short-lived occupation site. As such, parts of the site are considered to have archaeological potential.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at TVAS Brighton and will be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course.

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Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford✓ 12.05.21
	Steve Preston✓ 12.05.21

Land at Horndean Road, Emsworth, Hampshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by Andy Taylor

Report 20/190

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out on land at Horndean Road, Emsworth, Hampshire (SU 7450 0680) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Richard Paine, of Imperial Homes, Calcot View, Paddock Mount Business Park, Calcot Lane, Curdridge, Southampton, SO32 2BN.

Planning permission (APP/19/00768) has been sought from Havant District Council to redevelop the site for residential use. It is likely that any consent granted will be subject to a planning condition relating to archaeology and the historic environment. This is in accordance with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2019), and the District Council's policies on archaeology. This evaluation will inform the planning process with regard to the proposal's potential archaeological implications. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr David Hopkins, County Archaeologist with Hampshire County Council, advisers to the District on matters relating to archaeology.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Andy Taylor and Mike Murray on 28th April 2021 and the site code is HRE 20/190. The archive is presently held at TVAS South, Brighton and will be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the northern margins of Emsworth and lies on the western side of Horndean Road (Fig. 1). It is a flat area of land and currently consists of scrub. It is bounded by residential properties to the north and east with fields to the west and south (Fig. 2). The underlying geology is mapped as Brickearth (BGS 1998), although more of a sandy clay and gravels were observed in the trenches and the site lies at a height of *c.* 10m above Ordnance Datum.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been obtained from the Hampshire Historic Environment Record, and largely stems from the fact that evidence of Roman activity has been found nearby. Recent archaeological investigations

to the north of the site revealed a number of Roman features, including two enclosures and a possible roundhouse. The site itself lies about 800m north of the historic core of Emsworth.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of development.

Specific aims of the project were;

- To determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site.
- To determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present.
- To determine if archaeological deposits dating from the Roman period are present.
- To inform a strategy for mitigation if required

It was proposed to dig six trenches, each measuring 1.60m wide and 26m long, targetting the footprints of the proposed new buildings. These were dug using a JCB-type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. All spoilheaps were monitored for finds. Sufficient of any identified archaeological deposits would be investigated by hand to address the aims outlined above, without compromising the integrity of any features that might warrant preservation *in situ* or might better be investigated under the conditions pertaining to full excavation. The fieldwork was to be guided by the relevant professional Standards (CiFA 2020)

Results

Six trenches were dug as close as possible to their intended locations (Fig. 3). These measured 1.80m wide and between 26m and 26.70 long and between 0.30m and 0.35m deep.

A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. The excavated feature, with dating evidence, is summarized in Appendix 2.

Trench 1 (Pl. 1)

This trench was aligned approximately NE-SW and measured 26m long and 0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.23m of topsoil overlying 0.07m of subsoil overlying silty clay natural geology.

Trench 2 (Pl. 2)

This trench was aligned approximately NW-SE and measured 26.70m long and 0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil overlying 0.10m of subsoil overlying silty clay with gravel patches natural geology.

Trench 3 (Pl. 3)

This trench was aligned NW-SE and measured 26.60m long and 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.13m of topsoil overlying 0.19m of subsoil overlying sandy clay natural geology.

Trench 4 (Pl. 4)

This trench was aligned NE-SW and measured 26.30m long and 0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.12m of topsoil overlying 0.28m of subsoil overlying sandy clay with gravel natural geology.

Trench 5 (Pl. 5)

This trench was aligned NW-SE and measured 26.30m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.23m of topsoil overlying 0.10m of subsoil overlying silty clay with gravel natural geology.

Trench 6 (Fig. 4; Pls 6 and 7)

This trench was aligned roughly N-S and measured 26.40m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil overlying 0.09m of subsoil overlying sandy clay with gravel natural geology. A gully was observed at 10m from the south end into which a slot [1] was dug measuring 0.60m wide and 0.29m deep. Its light yellow grey sandy silt fill (52) produced 42 sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery.

Finds

Pottery by Barbara McNee

A total of 42 pottery sherds weighing 290g, and with a mean sherd weight of 6.9g, was recovered from gully 1 (fill 52). The pottery was recorded using the methodology set out by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 1997).

The sherds all belong to the fragmented remains of a finely smoothed late Bronze Age shouldered jar, which has a medium length flaring rim, a rounded body and a rim diameter of 180mm. Similar forms have been found at Easton Down (Ross 1982, fig. 15: P22), Brighton Hill South (Morris 1992, fig. 6: 2) and slightly further afield in Selsey Bill, Sussex (Seager Thomas 1998, fig. 5: 6; Timby 2006, fig. 6: 11).

The vessel fabric consists of quite finely crushed flint temper and the clay itself is silty. The geology surrounding the site includes deposits of Brickearth, Head and Head Gravel. White chalk with flints (Tarrant Chalk Member) can be found to the north of Emsworth (BGS 1998). The flint temper was probably obtained from these local chalk deposits. Brickearth and Head mainly consists of fine sandy clay, and clays from Emsworth have been extensively used in the

manufacture of bricks and tiles (Osbourne-White 1913, 86). These deposits would have provided a source of good potting material, suggesting the pots were locally made.

This small pottery assemblage is important as an indicator of settlement or use within the Emsworth area during the later Bronze Age period. The pot does not appear to be decorated, and the fabric and fairly thin walls would suggest a date around 800 BC. The presence of forty-two sherds, belonging to the same vessel could suggest that the pot was originally carefully curated, and then certain portions of the pot were later deposited. Alternatively the pot itself may have been complete and then broken quite close to its excavated context.

Charred Plant Remains by Elspeth St John-Brooks

On Ae bulk soil sample was taken from gully 1 for the recovery of environmental remains. The sample was floated and wet sieved using a 0.25mm sieve and air dried and the flot retained to be examined under a hand lens and microscope at magnifications between x8 and x1000. The only plant remains present were micro-charcoal, too small for fracturing to complete species identification.

Conclusion

The evaluation was successfully carried out as intended and identified a single gully of Late Bronze Age date. It is considered that a part of the site in the vicinity of this gully has archaeological potential. Whilst few deposits appear to be present and such a feature is difficult to interpret, it is likely that this feature represents a single small short lived occupation site; such sites are routinely encountered when large area excavations take place but are difficult to locate or interpret during evaluation trenching exercises.

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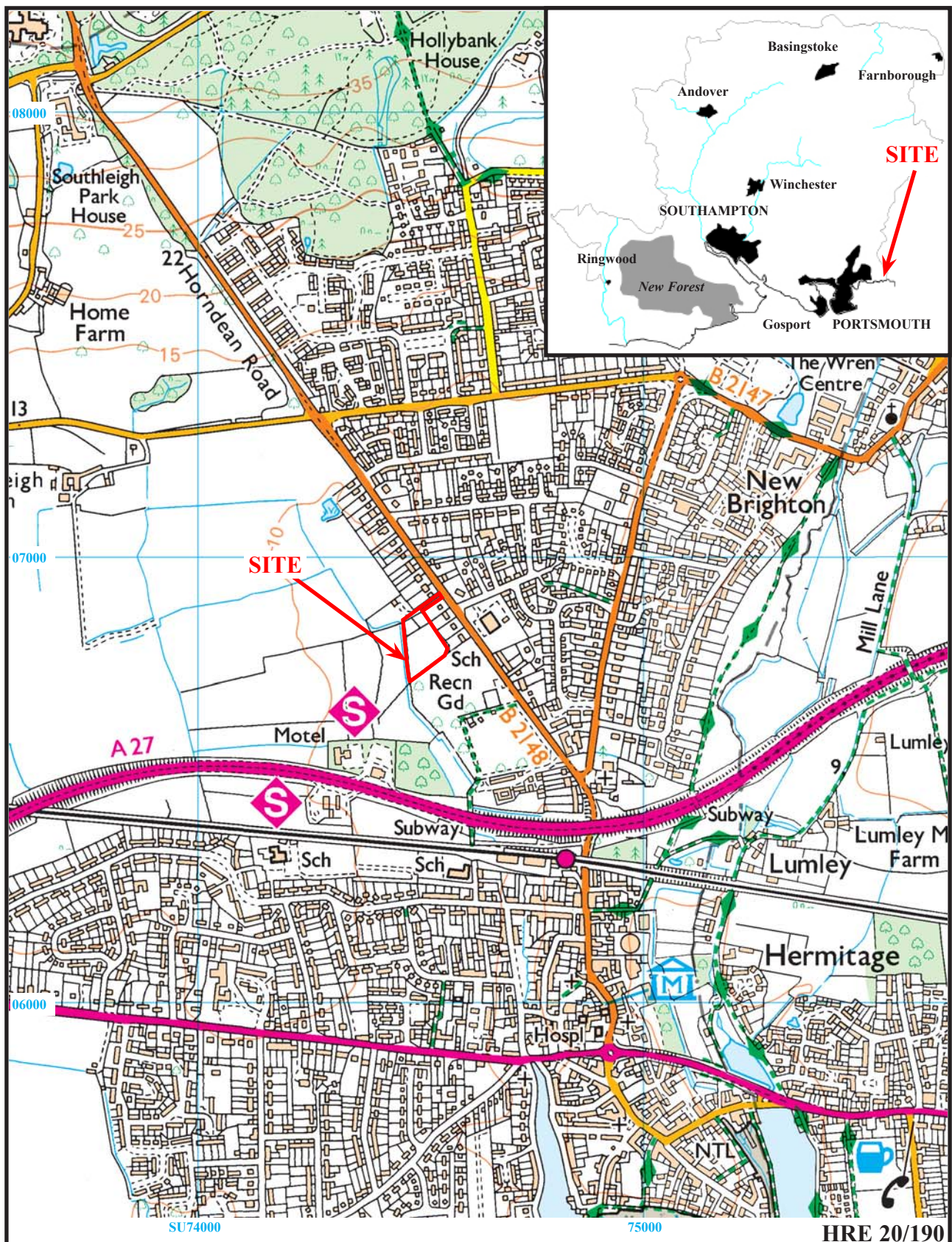
APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S or W end

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	26.0	1.8	0.30	0–0.23m topsoil 0.23–0.30m subsoil 0.30m+ silty clay natural geology [Pl. 1]
2	26.7	1.8	0.30	0–0.20m topsoil 0.20–0.30m subsoil 0.30m+ silty clay with gravel patches natural geology [Pl. 2]
3	26.6	1.8	0.32	0–0.13m topsoil 0.13–0.32m subsoil 0.32m+ sandy clay natural geology [Pl. 3]
4	26.3	1.8	0.30	0–0.12m topsoil 0.12–0.28m subsoil 0.28m+ sandy clay with gravel natural geology [Pl. 4]
5	26.3	1.8	0.33	0–0.23m topsoil 0.23–0.33m subsoil 0.33m+ silty clay with gravel natural geology [Pl. 5]
6	26.4	1.8	0.35	0–0.26m topsoil 0.26–0.35m subsoil 0.35m+ sandy clay with gravel natural geology. Gully 1 [Pls 6 and 7]

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
6	1	52	Gully	Late Bronze Age	Pottery

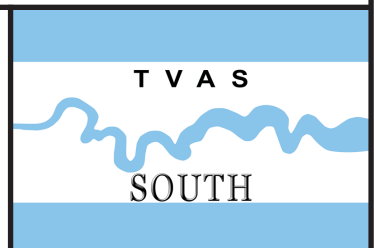


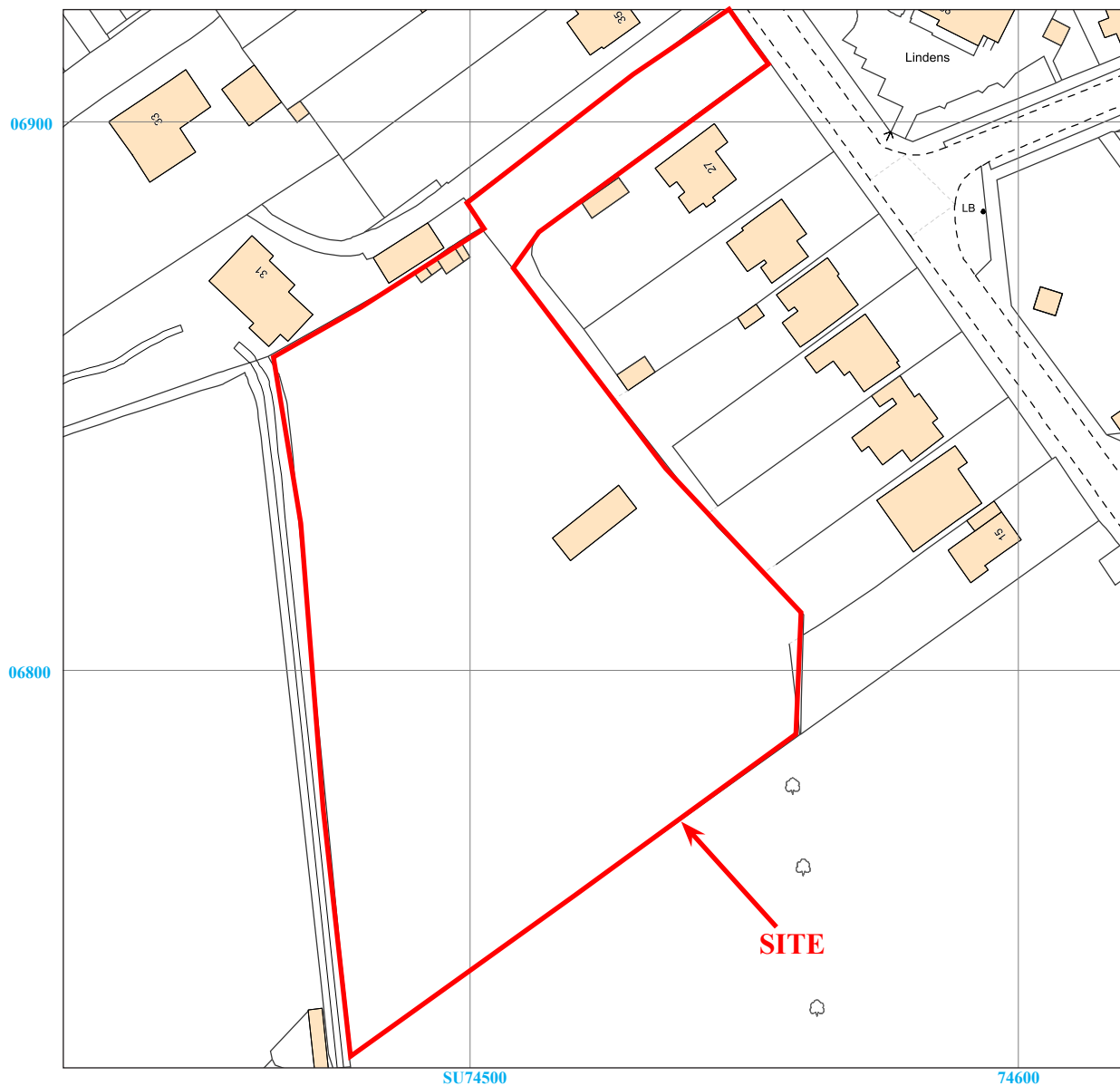
**Land at Horndean Road, Emsworth,
Hampshire, 2021**

Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 1. Location of site within Emsworth and Hampshire.

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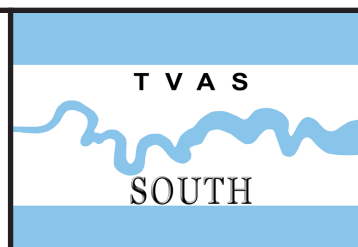


**Land at Horndean Road, Emsworth,
Hampshire, 2021**

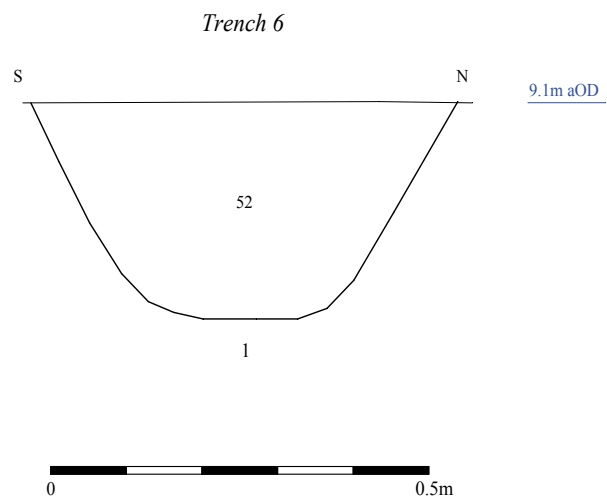
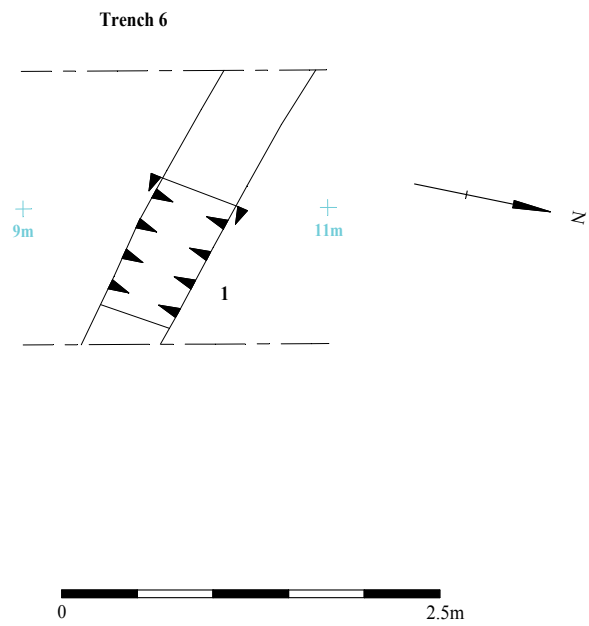
Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 2. Detailed location of site.

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N ench 6

**Land at Horndean Road,
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Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 3. Trench Plan and Section.





Plate 1. Trench 1, looking South East, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.1m.



Plate 2. Trench 2, looking South West, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m.

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**Land at Horndean Road,
Emsworth, Hampshire, 2021
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 1 and 2.**

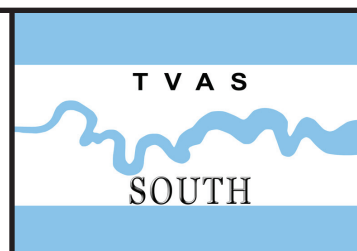




Plate 3. Trench 3, looking South East, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m.



Plate 4. Trench 4, looking North East, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m.

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**Land at Horndean Road,
Emsworth, Hampshire, 2021
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 3 and 4.**

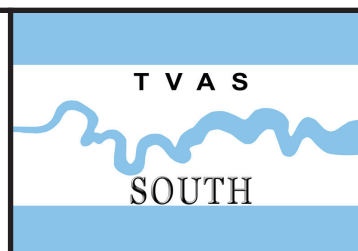




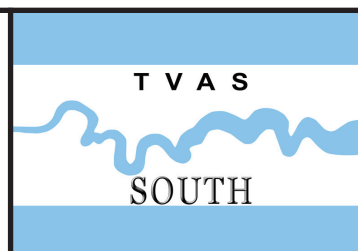
Plate 5. Trench 5, looking North West, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m.



Plate 6. Trench 6, looking North, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m.

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**Land at Horndean Road,
Emsworth, Hampshire, 2021
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 5 and 6.**



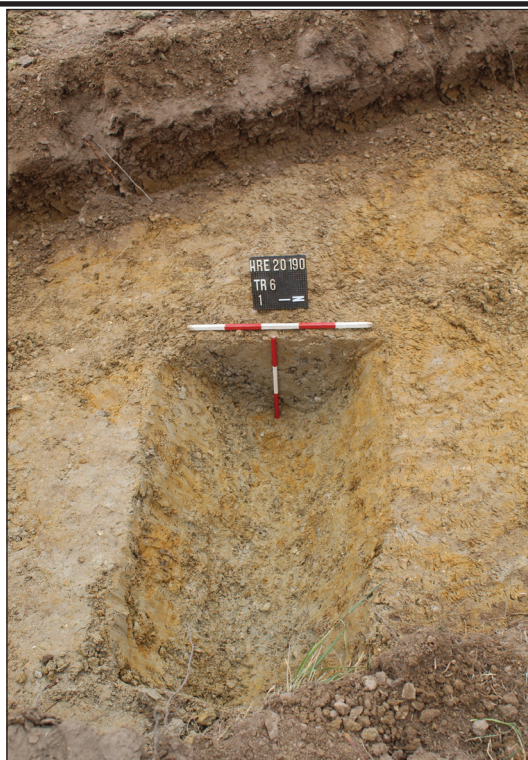
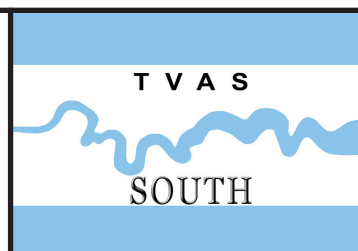


Plate 7. Trench 6, Gully 1, looking West, Scales: 0.5m and 0.3m.

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**Land at Horndean Road,
Emsworth, Hampshire, 2021
Archaeological Evaluation**
Plate 7.

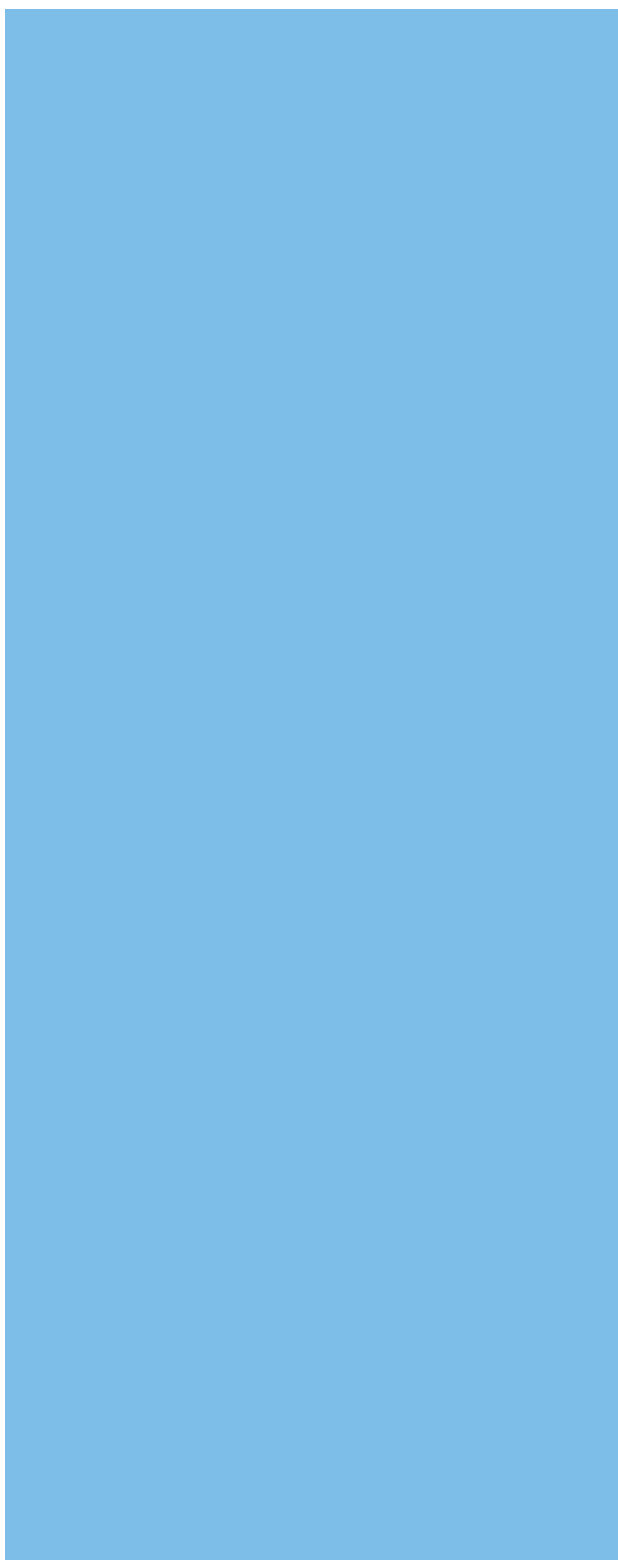
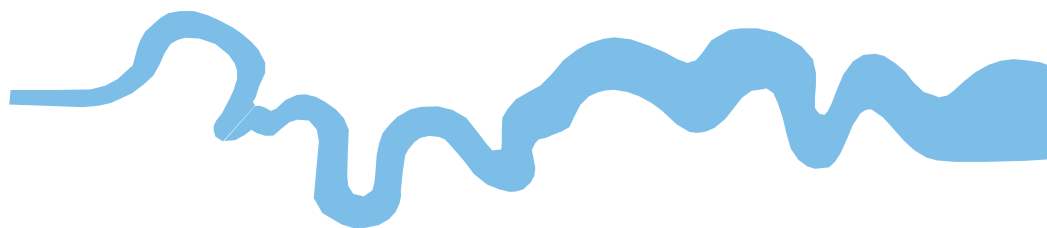


TIME CHART

Calendar Years

Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
	AD 0 BC
Iron Age _____	750 BC
Bronze Age: Late _____	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle _____	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early _____	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC





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