

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**East Horton Golf Club, Mortimers Lane,
Eastleigh, Hampshire**

Phase 1

Archaeological Evaluation

by Emily Gibson

Site Code: EHGC24/52

(SU 5062 1808)

**East Horton Golf Club, Mortimers Lane,
Eastleigh, Hampshire**

Phase 1

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Inert Recycling (UK) Ltd**

by Emily Gibson

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code EHGC 24/52

February 2026

Summary

Site name: Phase 1, East Horton Golf Club, Mortimers Lane, Eastleigh, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 5062 1808

Site activity: Archaeological Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 23rd – 24th February 2026

Project coordinator: David Sanchez

Site supervisor: Emily Gibson

Site code: EHGC 24/52

Area of site: c. 2.8 ha evlouted (overall site c.3.8ha)

Summary of results: All eighteen trenches were excavated as intended, with trench 4 being slightly relocated due to ground conditions. All trenches were devoid of archaeology, and no finds were recovered from the spoil heaps. On the basis of these results the site is considered to have no archaeological potential.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service in due course

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Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford✓ 25.02.26
	Steve Preston✓ 25.02.26

East Horton Golf Club Phase 1 Mortimers Lane, Eastleigh, Hampshire An Archaeological Evaluation

By Emily Gibson

Report 24/52b

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at East Horton Golf Club (Phase 1), Mortimer Lane, Eastleigh, Hampshire (SU 5062 1808) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Tracey Bull, of Exdell Ltd., Briarwood, Green Lane, Southampton, Hampshire on behalf of Inert Recycling (UK) Ltd. Highbridge Estates, Brambridge, Colden Common, Eastleigh.

Planning permission (F/25/99007) has been granted by Eastleigh Borough Council for the re-siting/alterations to 1st tee box, fairway and green, enlarging 18th green and creation of event space with associated re-profiling, landscaping, footpath and drainage works following closure of the existing driving range at East Horton Golf Club. The consent is subject to a condition (7) which requires an archaeological evaluation (in order to understand the archaeological potential of the site) and an archaeological mitigation strategy to be submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to any development commencing on site.

This is in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2024), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr David Hopkins, County Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council, the archaeological adviser to Eastleigh Borough Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Emily Gibson with assistance from Sudarshana Mudaleyar, on 23rd and 24th February 2026, and the site code is EHGC 24/52.

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service in due course

Location, topography and geology

The site is located to the east of Eastleigh, approximately 1.4km south-east of the village of Fair Oak. The site is accessed off of Mortimers Lane to the north, and Winchester Road to the north-east. A tributary of the River Hamble flows along the south-eastern extent of site (Fig. 1). The site currently consisted of a driving range, with the underlying geology mapped as London Clay Formation (clay, silt and sand) (BGS 1987). The geology observed in the trenches was a silty clay, gravelly in places. The site is on a gradual decline to the south-west from 43m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the northern extent, to 36m in the south-western corner.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a desk based assessment (Elliot and Murray 2024). In summary, no known heritage assets are on the site, however fieldwalking and excavations in advance of the extraction of sand from a large area adjacent to the western part of the area revealed Roman features. The prevalence of archaeology from all periods in the wider surrounding area suggests the potential for as yet unknown archaeology. Significant Mesolithic activity has been uncovered in multiple locations around the site, and a Bronze Age barrow was mentioned in Anglo-Saxon charters and a modern aerial survey to the east. The Roman finds and features to the west could potentially continue into East Horton Farm and the northernmost field of Phase 1 of the Golf Club development.

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. The specific aims of the project are:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site,
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present; and
- to inform a strategy for mitigation if required.

It was proposed to dig eighteen trenches, each 25m long and 1.80m wide. These were dug by a 360° type machine, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision. All spoilheaps were monitored for finds. Any identified archaeological deposits were to be investigated by hand or sufficiently sampled to satisfy the aims outlined above, without compromising the integrity of archaeological features or deposits which might warrant preservation *in situ*, or might better be excavated under conditions pertaining to full excavation. The evaluation was carried out according to Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' standards (CIfA 2023a and b). The potential and significance of any deposits located were to be assessed according to research priorities such as those set out in Historic England's *Research Agenda* (HE 2017), or any more local or thematic research priorities as necessary such as the *Solent-Thames Research Agenda* (Hey and Hind 2014).

Results

Almost all the trenches were dug as intended, with the only exception being trench 4, which had to be slightly relocated to the north-east due to logistical issues caused by ground conditions (Fig. 2; Pl. 6). The trenches ranged in length from 24.90m to 27.60m and from 0.15m to 0.42m in depth. All of the trenches were devoid of

archaeological features. No archaeological finds were recovered. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. A summary description of the trenches, grouped by geology observed is as follows.

Trenches 1, 6, 9, 14 - 17 (Figs 2 and 3; Pls 1 and 5)

The stratigraphy of these trenches consisted of between 0.06m – 0.15m of topsoil and between 0.15m – 0.27m of subsoil overlying a light yellow brown silty-clay natural geology. Trench 17 was notably shallower at the south-west measuring just 0.15m deep and consisted of just topsoil onto natural geology, with a subsoil eventually introduced after c. 15.00m.

Trenches 2, 5, 7, 8, 10 – 13, 18 (Figs 2 and 3; Pls 3 and 4)

The stratigraphy of these trenches consisted of between 0.05m – 0.11m of topsoil and between 0.20m – 0.30m of subsoil overlying a light yellow brown silty-clay natural geology with moderate inclusions of gravel.

Trenches 3 and 4 (Figs 2 and 3; Pl.2)

The stratigraphy of these trenches consisted of between 0.08m – 0.10m of topsoil and between 0.24m – 0.25m of subsoil overlying a light yellow brown sandy-clay natural geology.

Finds

No archaeological finds were recovered from the trenches or the spoil heaps.

Conclusion

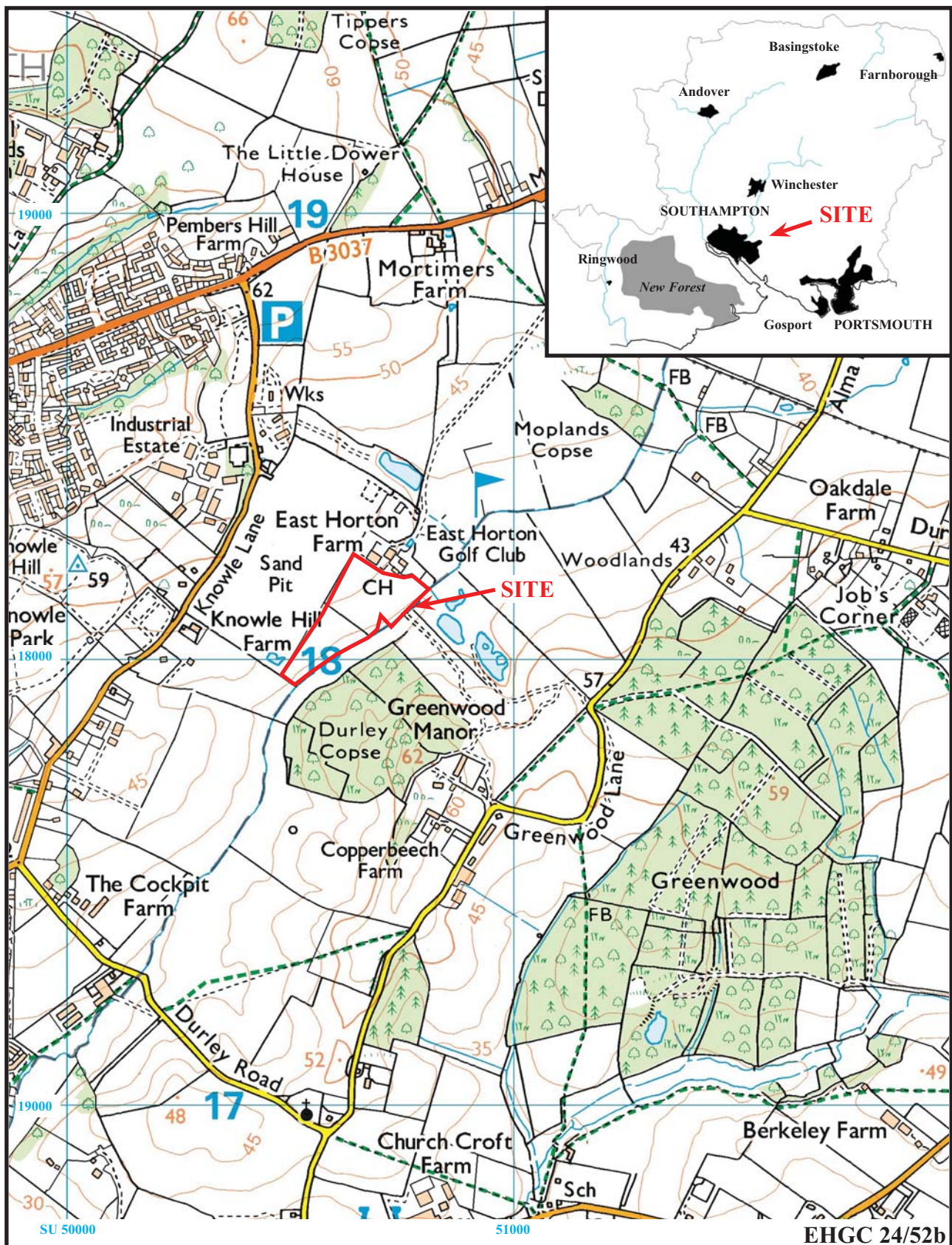
All eighteen trenches were successfully excavated, with only a slight relocation of trench 4. All trenches were devoid of archaeological features, and no artefacts were recovered. It is deemed that the site at the focus of Phase 1 of the works at East Horton Golf Club has very low archaeological potential.

References

- BGS, 1987, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet **315**, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
- CIfA, 2023, *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- CIfA, 2023, *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- Elliott, G, and Murray, M, 2024, 'East Horton Golf Club, Mortimers Lane, Eastleigh, Hampshire' Archaeological Desk Based Assessment', TVAS unpubl rep **24/52**, Reading
- HE 2017, *Research Agenda*, Historic England, London
- Hey, G and Hind, J, 2014, *Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment: Resource Assessments and Research Agendas*, Oxford Wessex Monogr **6**, Oxford
- NPPF, 2024, *National Planning Policy Framework* (revised), Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, London

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	25.00	1.8	0.35	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.20m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.30m+ light yellow brown silty-clay. [Pl. 1] .
2	25.20	1.8	0.32	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.22m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.32m+ light yellow brown silty-clay with gravels.
3	25.50	1.8	0.32	0.08m topsoil; 0.24m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.32m+ light yellow brown sandy-clay. [Pl. 2] .
4	25.30	1.8	0.35	0.08m topsoil; 0.24m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.32m+ light yellow brown sandy-clay.
5	25.50	1.8	0.35	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.25m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.35m+ light yellow brown silty-clay with gravels.
6	25.20	1.8	0.35	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.20m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.30m+ light yellow brown silty-clay.
7	25.60	1.8	0.32	0-0.07m topsoil; 0.25m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.32m+ light yellow brown silty-clay with gravels. [Pl. 3] .
8	25.00	1.8	0.30	0-0.05m topsoil; 0.25m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.35m+ light yellow brown silty-clay with gravels.
9	25.30	1.8	0.42	0-0.12m topsoil; 0.25m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.37m+ light yellow brown silty-clay.
10	25.10	1.8	0.38	0-0.08m topsoil; 0.28m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.36m+ light yellow brown silty-clay with gravels.
11	27.60	1.8	0.38	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.23m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.33m+ light yellow brown silty-clay with gravels. [Pl. 4] .
12	24.90	1.8	0.30	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.20m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.30m+ light yellow brown silty-clay with gravels.
13	25.50	1.8	0.35	0-0.10m topsoil; 0.21m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.31m+ light yellow brown silty-clay with gravels.
14	25.70	1.8	0.36	0-0.06m topsoil; 0.24m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.30m+ light yellow brown silty-clay.
15	25.00	1.8	0.36	0-0.06m topsoil; 0.25m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.31m+ light yellow brown silty-clay.
16	25.10	1.8	0.35	0-0.14 topsoil; 0.20m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.34m+ light yellow brown silty-clay.
17	25.50	1.8	0.15 (SW) – 0.30 (NE)	0-0.10 topsoil; 0.15m+ light yellow brown silty-clay (SW end); 0-0.10 topsoil; 0.20m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.30m+ light yellow brown silty-clay (NE end). [Pl. 5] .
18	25.20	1.8	0.34	0-0.11m topsoil; 0.20m light greyish brown silty-clay subsoil; 0.31m+ light yellow brown silty-clay with gravels.

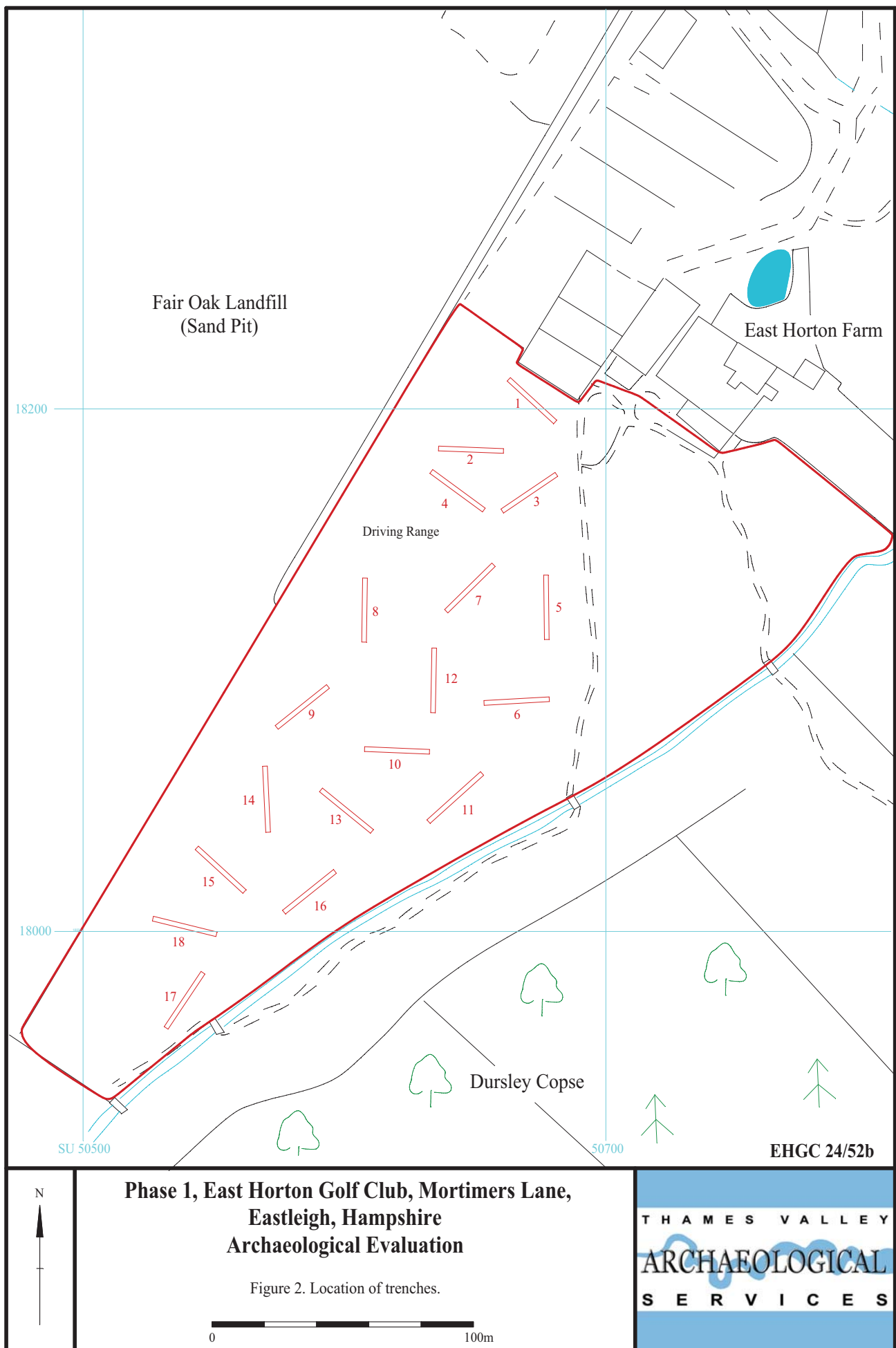


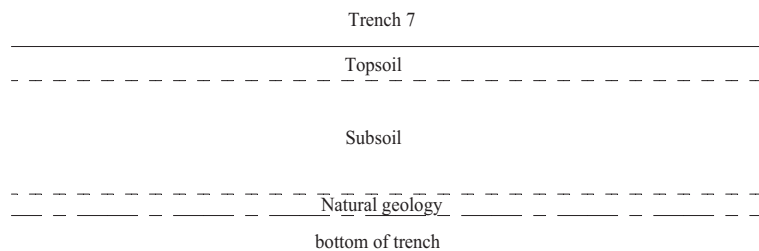
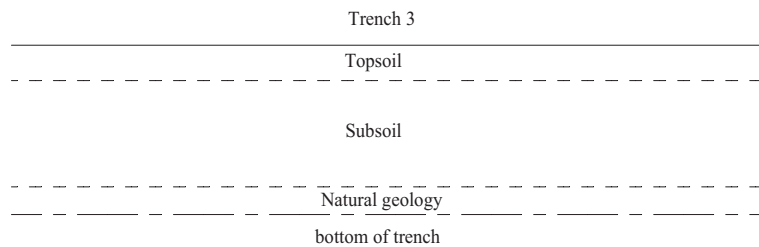
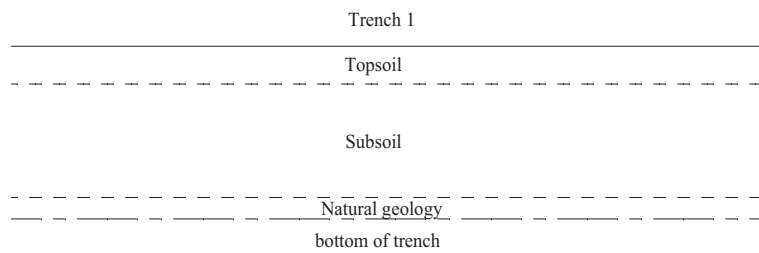
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Figure 1. Location of site within Eastleigh and Hampshire.

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Figure 3. Representative Trench Sections.



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



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



Plate 3. Trench 7, looking North-East,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m.



Plate 4. Trench 11, looking North-East,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m.



Plate 5. Trench 17, looking North-East,
Scales: 1.0m, 2.0m and 0.1m.



Plate 6. Site, looking South.

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Plates 1-6.**

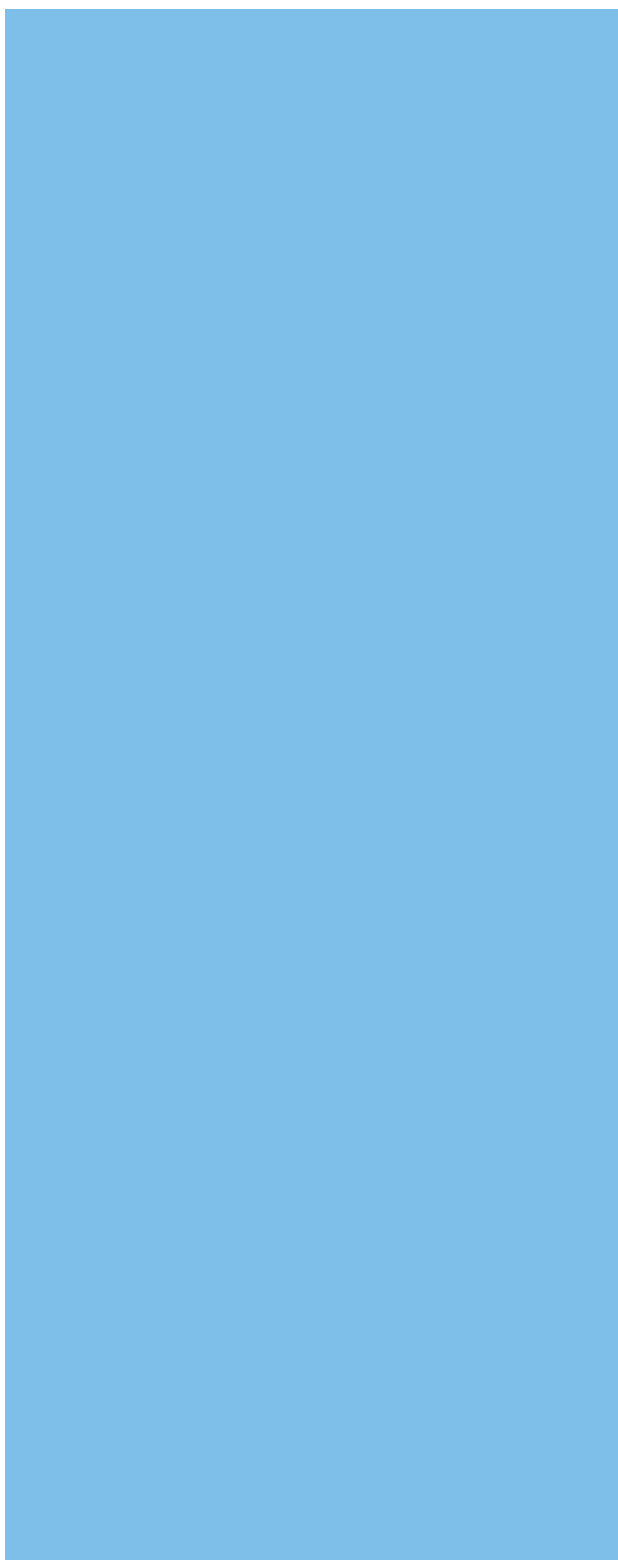
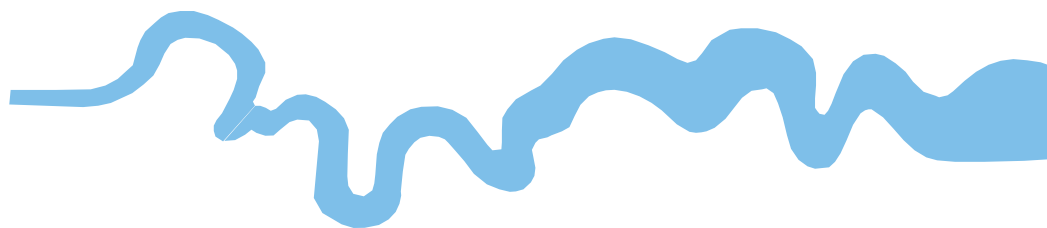
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TIME CHART

Calendar Years

Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
	AD 1/1 BC
Iron Age: Late	100 BC
Iron Age: Middle	400 BC
Iron Age: Early	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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