



# Lytes Cary, Charlton Mackrell, Somerset

## Observations and Recording during Installation of New Sewage Tanks



Report No. 53489/3/1

February 2018



# Lytes Cary, Charlton Mackrell, Somerset

## Archaeological Observations and Recording during Installation of New Sewage Tanks, February 2018

Report No. 53489/3/1

February 2018

**Client:** The National Trust

**Agent:**

**Report Author:** Peter S Bellamy BSc (Hons) MCIfA

**Illustrations:** Peter S Bellamy BSc (Hons) MCIfA

### Version History

Version	Status	Prepared By	Approved By	Date
1	Final	P Bellamy		20/02/2018
2				
3				

#### DISCLAIMER

Terrain Archaeology and the individual authors of this report have made every effort during its preparation to provide as complete and accurate an assessment as possible within the terms of the Written Scheme of Investigation. All statements and opinions presented in this document are offered in good faith. Terrain Archaeology cannot accept responsibility or liability for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or accept liability for any future loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

#### COPYRIGHT

Terrain Archaeology retains full copyright of this report and its images, excepting any data held under third party copyright and presented under license, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that Terrain Archaeology grants exclusive license to the client for the use of the aforesaid report and images by the client in all matters directly relating to the project. License is also granted to the Client, their Agents and Somerset Historic Environment Record and the National Trust to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes, provided that Terrain Archaeology is duly acknowledged as its author. This license agreement excludes commercial use of the report, report images or archive by the client or any third party. The authors of any specialist contributions or images within the report or the archive shall retain intellectual copyright of their work, and may make use of said work for educational or research purposes for further publication.

# Table of Contents

## Part 1: Introduction

1.1	Project Introduction .....	1
1.2	Brief .....	1
1.3	Site Location and Topography .....	1
1.4	Geology .....	1
1.5	Archaeological and Historical Background .....	1
1.6	Aims and Objectives.....	2
1.7	Groundworks .....	2
1.8	Methods.....	2
1.9	Archive and Dissemination .....	2

## Part 2: Results

2.1	Introduction.....	3
2.2	Natural Deposits.....	3
2.3	Soakaway .....	3
2.4	Modern Soils .....	3

## Part 3: Finds

3.1	Finds Assemblage.....	3
-----	-----------------------	---

## Part 4: Discussion and Conclusions

4.1	Discussion .....	3
4.2	Conclusions .....	3

<b>Part 5: References</b> .....	4
---------------------------------	---

## Figures

1	Location Map .....	5
2	Plan of Observations .....	6

## Plates

1	General view of site from south .....	7
2	Trench 1 after topsoil stripping and during digging of first tank .....	7
3	Trench 2 showing soakaway 204 .....	7

<b>Appendix 1: Context Summary</b> .....	8
--	---

## Project Report Summary Page

Project Details			
<b>OASIS Reference</b>	terraina1-309795; terraina1-309796		
<b>Project Title</b>	New Sewage Tanks, Lytes Cary, Somerset		
<b>Short Description of Project</b>	Terrain Archaeology observed the excavation of two trenches associated with the installation of new sewage tanks at Lytes Cary, Charlton Mackrell, Somerset. No archaeology was revealed.		
<b>Project Dates</b>	Start: 15-02-2018	End: 15-02-2018	
<b>Previous/Future Work</b>	No/No		
<b>Project Code</b>	53489		
<b>Monument Type and Period</b>	None		
<b>Significant Finds</b>	None		
Project Location			
<b>County/District/Parish</b>	Somerset/South Somerset/Charlton Mackrell		
<b>Site Address</b>	Lytes Cary, Ilchester Road, Charlton Mackrell, Somerset TA11 7HU		
<b>Site Coordinates</b>	ST 5336 2638		
<b>Site Area</b>	40.5 m <sup>2</sup>		
<b>Height OD</b>			
Project Creators			
<b>Organisation</b>	Terrain Archaeology		
<b>Project Brief Originator</b>	Martin Papworth, National Trust Regional Archaeologist,		
<b>Project Design Originator</b>	Terrain Archaeology		
<b>Project Supervisor</b>	Peter Bellamy		
<b>Project Manager</b>	Peter Bellamy		
<b>Sponsor or Funding Body</b>	The National Trust		
Project Archive			
<b>Archive Type</b>	<b>Physical</b>	<b>Digital</b>	<b>Paper</b>
<b>Location/Accession No</b>	No Archive	Terrain Archaeology offices, pending deposition with the National Trust.	Terrain Archaeology offices, pending deposition with the National Trust.
<b>Contents</b>	None	Digital photography	Context sheet, plan, report

# Lytes Cary, Charlton Mackrell, Somerset

## Archaeological Observations and Recording during Installation of New Sewage Tanks, February 2018

### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Project introduction

Terrain Archaeology was commissioned by the National Trust, to undertake Archaeological Observations and Recording during the installation of new sewage tanks at Lytes Cary.

The fieldwork was carried out on the 6th February 2018 by Peter Bellamy.

Terrain Archaeology wishes to acknowledge the cooperation and assistance of Martin Papworth, Neil Johnson, Richard Hann, and the contractors on site.

#### 1.2 Brief

No written brief for the works was produced by or on behalf of the National Trust, but the scope of the works was determined by Martin Papworth, Regional Archaeologist, National Trust.

#### 1.3 Site Location and Topography

Lytes Cary lies on the eastern/northern side of the River Cary valley (Figure 1). The topography is fairly flat, dipping down towards the west and the south. It lies about 28 m above Ordnance Datum. The site lies to the south west of Lytes Cary Manor, just to the south of the former detached farmyard and May Tree Cottage at ST 5336 2638 (Figure 2).

#### 1.4 Geology

Bedrock geology is mapped as Jurassic and Triassic mudstone of the Langport Member blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation (undifferentiated), with no recorded superficial deposits (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

#### 1.5 Archaeological and Historical Background

Lytes Cary lies to the west of the Roman Fosse Way and Roman remains have been reported from the field to the north of Lytes Cary Cottages.

Lytes Cary is first mentioned in 1284–5 as 'Kari' and may possibly be identified as the larger of two manors of this name mentioned in Domesday (Dunning 1974, 100). The present form of the name is first mentioned in 1333 (*ibid.*). The smaller of the two Domesday settlements may be identified as Tuckers Cary or Little Cary, later known as Cooks Cary or Lower Lytes Cary. There are extensive earthworks of medieval closes and possible building platforms in the field to the west of Lytes Cary, which may be the remains of Tuckers Cary.

The manor house of Lytes Cary is probably of 14th century origin. The chapel was probably built shortly before 1343 and the original house is likely to be of similar date. The house was the home of the Lyte family from the 14th to the 18th century. The Great Hall was refurbished in the 1460s, but the house acquired its present character in the early 16th century when the Porch and Oriel were added to the Great Hall and the Parlour range was added to its south side. (Garnett 2001, SVBRG 2005).



After the Lytes gave up the estate in 1755, the house fell into decline. In the late 18th century, a farmhouse was erected in place of the original north range and the west range was demolished some time before 1810.

In 1907, Sir Walter Jenner acquired the property and restored it, building the present west range in 1907. The 1903 and 1930 Ordnance Survey maps show a number of changes to the farm buildings in the early 20th century and the present farm track behind the house was constructed at some time after 1930. Jenner bequeathed the property to the National Trust in 1948.

There has been little archaeological fieldwork at Lytes Cary. In 1999 Terrain Archaeology undertook a watching brief during the construction of a new drain and soakaway from the farm buildings on the north side of Lytes Cary (Bellamy 2000). The results of this were largely negative. Again, in 2004, Terrain Archaeology undertook another watching brief during the construction of a new water main supply to Lytes Cary. For most of the route of the pipeline, the archaeological results proved negative, but a small number of features were found close to the house itself (Bellamy 2004). Between August 2005 and April 2006, Terrain Archaeology carried out an intermittent program of observations and recording at during the installation of a new foul drain and other works close to and inside the house (Tatler and Bellamy 2006).

## 1.6 Aims and Objectives

The principle aim of the archaeological programme was to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on the site. The programme of works will also aim to place the archaeological results within the local, regional and national context, as appropriate, and advance understanding of the archaeology of the site and its surroundings.

Its objectives were:

- To investigate and record the all the *in situ* archaeological deposits and features revealed during the programme of works to an appropriate archaeological standard.
- To record recovered artefacts and other materials to an appropriate standard.
- To present the results in a report to the appropriate standard.

## 1.7 Groundworks

The groundworks comprised the excavation of a rectangular area 6.5 m by 5.5 m, dug to a depth of about 3.5 m for the installation of the new sewage tanks. Another area 4.0 m by 1.2 m by 0.7 m deep was dug to find the position of an existing soakaway.

## 1.8 Methods

All archaeological works were carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Regulations for professional conduct* and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (CIfA 2014a-b).

The upper part of the trenches dug for the new sewage tanks and the exploratory works was observed by a suitably qualified archaeologist. All features and deposits were recorded using components of Terrain Archaeology's system of complementary written, drawn and photographic records, regardless of their perceived date and archaeological significance. A photographic record of the works was maintained in digital format, which includes aspects of their setting, conduct and technical detail.

## 1.9 Archive and Dissemination

### 1.9.1 Paper Archive

The project archive, comprising written, graphic and photographic records, and appropriate background documentation, has been compiled in a stable, cross-referenced and fully indexed archive in accordance with current guidelines (Brown 2011; CIfA 2014c) and the requirements of the receiving museum. It is currently stored by Terrain Archaeology under the project code 53489. In due course, the archive will be accessioned for long-term curation and storage by the National Trust.



### 1.9.2 Report

A copy of this report will be lodged with the National Trust Sites and Monuments Record and with Somerset Historic Environment Record (HER). The HER is a publicly funded and accessible resource, and deposition of the report will place it, and the project results, in the public domain.

A digital summary of the archive will be placed with the OASIS project ([www.oasis.ac.uk](http://www.oasis.ac.uk)) under the reference code *terraina1-309795* and *terraina1-309796*. A digital copy of this report will be uploaded for inclusion in the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) online 'grey literature' library.

## 2. Results

### 2.1 Introduction

The area of the new sewage tanks was recorded as Trench 1 and the exploratory trench for the soakaway was recorded as Trench 2. Their positions are shown on Figure 2. Observation of Trench 1 ceased after the ploughsoil had been stripped and a single deeper slot was excavated down to a depth of 2.5 m (Plate 2). No archaeology was observed in either trench.

### 2.2 Natural Deposits

The natural deposits consisted of yellowish-brown clay (101, 201) encountered immediately below the ploughsoil. This clay was 1.0 m thick in Trench 1 and 0.45 m thick in Trench 2. This clay overlay a series of bands of limestone with dark grey clay between (102, 202).

### 2.3 Soakaway

The vertical edge cut into natural clay and stone (201, 202) was filled with mixed greyish-brown clay and frequent stone rubble (203) and contained a drain pipe encased in concrete (Plate 3).

### 2.4 Modern Soils

The existing ploughsoil consists of a 0.25 m thick layer of mid greyish-brown silty clay (100, 200). This overlay the natural clay (101, 102).

## 3. Finds

### 3.1 Finds Assemblage

No finds were recovered during the works.

## 4. Discussion and Conclusions

### 4.1 Discussion

The two trenches excavated did not expose any archaeological features or deposits. No artefacts were noted during the observations. The site of the new sewage tanks lies well beyond Lytes Cary Manor itself, in an area of farmland. No trace of any earthworks was visible within the field. The results of the observations indicate that the sewage tanks were not installed in an area within or immediately adjacent to any significant archaeology.

### 4.2 Conclusions

No archaeology was revealed during this project.

## 5. References

- |   |       |  |
|---|-------|--|
| Bellamy, P. S.,                                     | 2000  | Lytes Cary, Somerset: Archaeological Watching Brief, October 1999. Terrain Archaeology report 5051.1, January 2000. Unpublished client report for the National Trust.  |
| Bellamy, P. S.,                                     | 2004  | New Water Main, Lytes Cary, Charlton Mackrell, Somerset: Archaeological Observations and Recording. Terrain Archaeology Report 53153.1, July 2004. Unpublished client report for the National Trust.   |
| Brown, D. H.,                                       | 2011  | <i>Archaeological Archives. A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation.</i> Second Edition, September 2011. Archaeological Archives Forum.   |
| ClfA,   | 2014a | <i>Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief.</i> December 2014. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.  |
| ClfA,   | 2014b | <i>Regulations for professional conduct.</i> December 2014. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.  |
| ClfA,   | 2014c | <i>Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Preparation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives.</i> December 2014. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.   |
| Dunning, R. W., (ed),                               | 1974  | <i>A History of the County of Somerset</i> <b>3</b> . Victoria County History.   |
| Garnett, O.,  | 2001  | <i>Lytes Cary.</i> The National Trust Guidebook  |
| SVBRG [Somerset Vernacular Building Research Group] | 2005  | Lytes Cary Manor House, Charlton Mackrell: Survey April 2005. Unpublished report by the Somerset Vernacular Building Research Group.   |
| Tatler, S. and Bellamy, P. S.,                      | 2006  | New Foul Drain and Other Works, Lytes Cary, Charlton Mackrell, Somerset: Archaeological Observations and Recording, August 2005 – April 2006. Terrain Archaeology Report 53204.1, June 2006. Unpublished client report for the National Trust. |

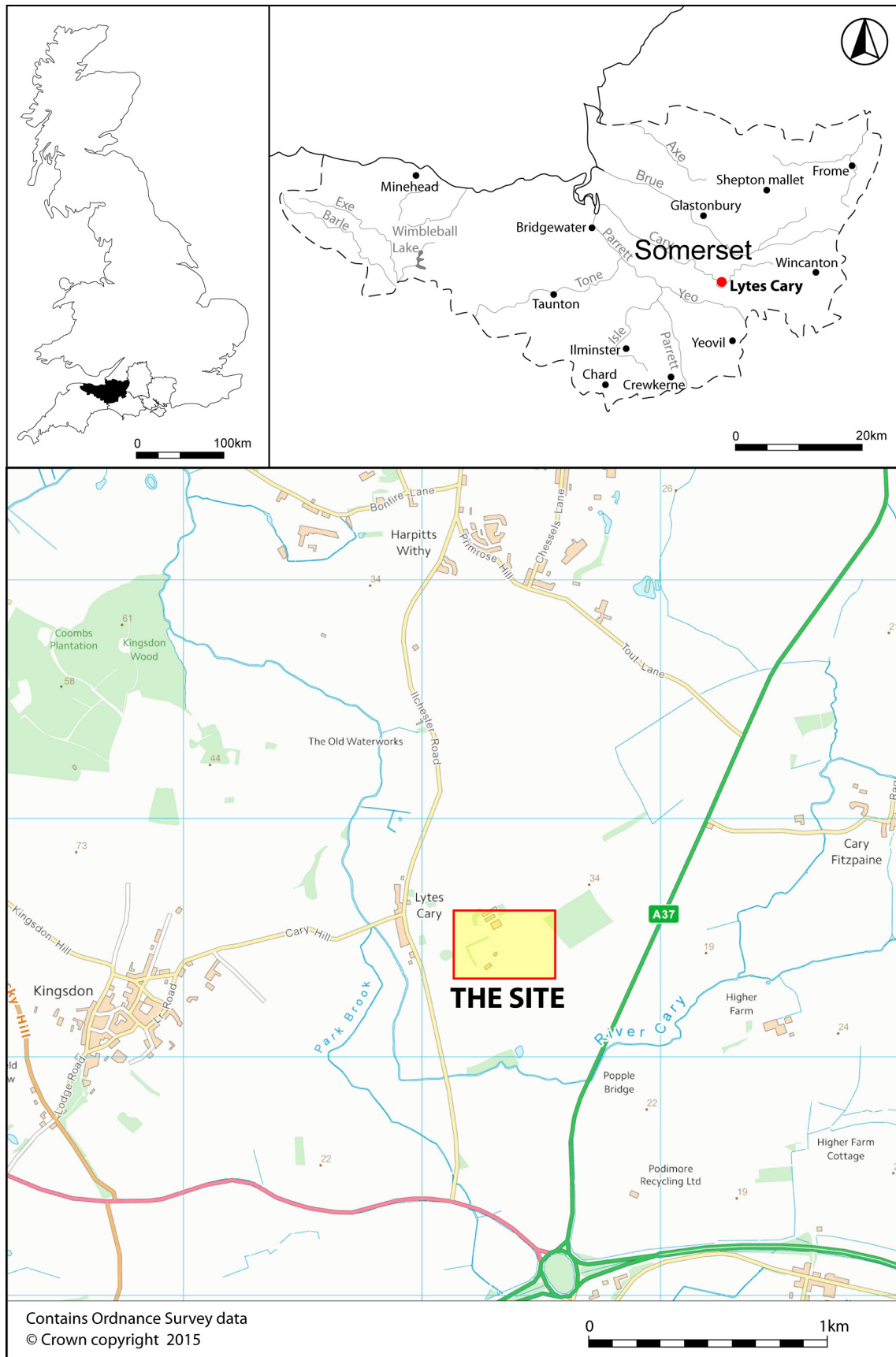


Figure 1 Location map.

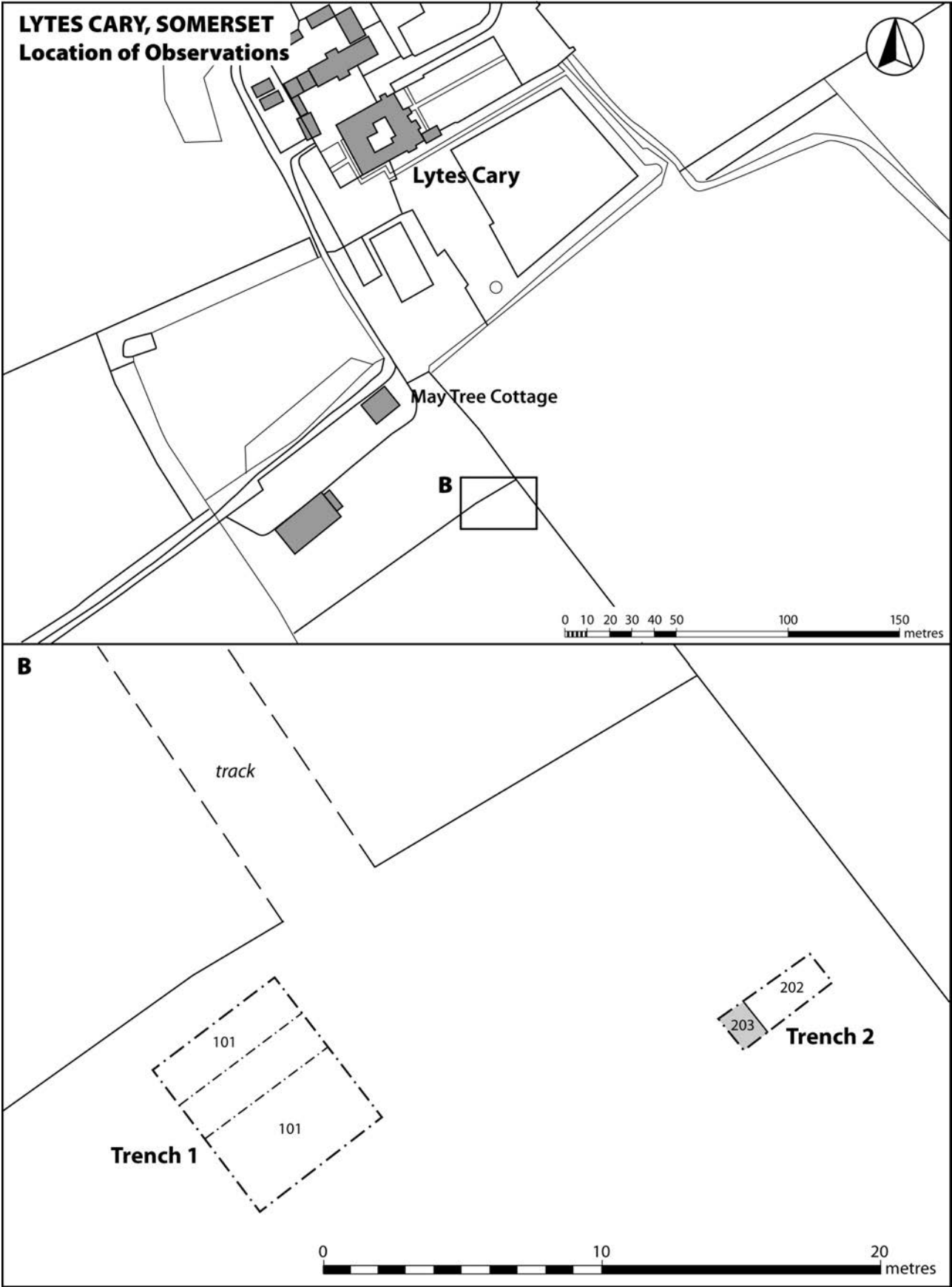


Figure 2: Plan of Observations





*Plate 1: General view of site from south.*



*Plate 2: Trench 1 after topsoil stripping and during digging of first tank. Viewed from SW.*



*Plate 3: Trench 2 showing soakaway 204. Trench partially backfilled. Viewed from south.*

## Appendix 1: Context Summary

### Trench 1

Length: 6.5 m; Width 5.5 m; maximum depth 2.5 m+.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
100	<b>Ploughsoil:</b> Mid greyish-brown silty clay with frequent roots.	0.00 – 0.25m
101	<b>Natural Clay:</b> Yellowish-brown clay.	0.25 – 1.25m
102	<b>Natural Clay and Rock:</b> Bands of limestone in dark grey clay.	1.25m +

### Trench 2

Length: 4.0 m; Width 1.2 m; maximum depth 0.7m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
200	<b>Ploughsoil:</b> Mid greyish-brown silty clay.	0.00 – 0.25m
201	<b>Natural Clay:</b> Yellowish-brown clay.	0.25 – 0.7m
202	<b>Natural Rock:</b> Limestone bedrock.	0.7m+
203	<b>Soakaway:</b> Mixed greyish-brown clay with frequent stone.	0.25m+