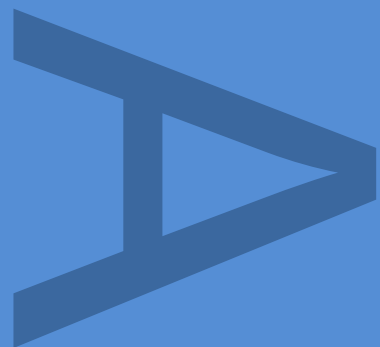


**UNIVERSITY OF READING**  
**BRIDGES HALL**  
**WHITEKNIGHTS ROAD**  
**EARLEY READING**  
**BERKSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL**  
**EVALUATION REPORT**

**SITE CODE: BHR12**  
**REPORT NO: R11299**

**SEPTEMBER 2012**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**

**University of Reading, Bridges Hall, Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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**Local Planning Authority:** Wokingham District Council

**Planning reference:** F/2011/2595

**National Grid Reference:** 474015 172040

**Prepared for:** Brookfield Multiplex

**On behalf of the Client:** UPP Projects Ltd

**By:** Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (West)

**Site Code:** BHR12

**PCA Report No.:** R11299

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## DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

**University of Reading, Bridges Hall**  
**Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire**  
**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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### Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			BHR12
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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Brookfield Multiplex on behalf of UPP Projects Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological work at The University of Reading Bridges Hall, Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading Berkshire, (hereafter 'the site') centred at National Grid Reference **474015 172040 (Figure 1)**.
- 1.1.2 The site is the subject of a development, for which planning permission has been granted by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Wokingham District Council (planning reference F/20011/2595), comprising the replacement of the existing Bridges Hall complex (Figure 2) with a new complex of buildings to provide new Halls of Residence (Figure 3).
- 1.1.3 The need for an initial stage of archaeological evaluation was informed by a Desk-based Assessment (PCA, 2011) and followed consultation with Mary Neale, of Berkshire Archaeology, the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
- 1.1.4 This report details the results and working methods of the archaeological evaluation comprising the excavation of 14 no trenches and 2 no lift pits within the footprint of the proposed new development (**Figure 3**).
- 1.1.5 Deeper excavation to a maximum depth of 1.80m was undertaken within the proposed location of two lift pits (**Figures 2 and 3; Sections 1 and 2**) in order to investigate the potential for any geoarchaeological and/or Palaeolithic remains or deposits that may survive at this maximum depth of proposed development impact. A separate report detailing the results of this investigation has been prepared by QUEST of the University of Reading (QUEST, 2012).
- 1.1.6 No significant archaeological features and/or deposits were identified in any of the evaluation trenches excavated. The results of the evaluation demonstrate that the new development will not impact on archaeological resources.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Project Background

2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Brookfield Multiplex on behalf of UPP Projects Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological work at The University of Reading Bridges Hall, Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading Berkshire, (hereafter 'the site') centred at National Grid Reference **474015 172040 (Figure 1)**.

2.1.2 The site is the subject of a development, for which planning permission has been granted by Wokingham District Council (planning reference F/20011/2595), comprising the replacement of the existing Bridges Hall complex with a new complex of buildings to provide new Halls of Residence. Planning permission for the development is subject to a condition, No. 20, which states:

*'No development will shall take place within the site, including any works of demolition or ground preparation, until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work (which may comprise more than one phase of work) in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall only take place in accordance with the detailed scheme approved pursuant to this condition.'*

2.1.3 The need for an initial stage of archaeological evaluation was informed by a Desk-based Assessment (PCA, 2011) and followed consultation with Mary Neale, of Berkshire Archaeology, the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

2.1.4 A written scheme of investigation (PCA, 2012) detailing the method by which the evaluation would be undertaken was submitted to and approved by the archaeological advisor at Berkshire Archaeology acting on behalf of the LPA prior to the commencement of the fieldwork.

2.1.5 The aim of the evaluation was to identify and record any surviving archaeological remains and/or deposits that may be impacted upon by the groundworks of the proposed new development, so that a suitable archaeological mitigation strategy if required during the course of the development could be established.

2.1.6 Constraints existed within the site that restricted the scope of the evaluation and included the existing Bridges Hall complex, the footprint of which equates to approximately 75% of the area of the proposed development, existing below-ground services and trees, many of which are intended to be retained and had been fenced off in tree protection areas.

2.1.7 This report details the results and working methods of the archaeological evaluation comprising the excavation of 14 no trenches and 2 no lift pits within the footprint of the proposed new development (**Figure 2**).

2.1.8 Deeper excavation to a maximum depth of 1.80m was undertaken within the proposed

location of two lift pits (**Figure 2**) in order to investigate the potential for any geoarchaeological and/or Palaeolithic remains or deposits that may survive at this maximum depth of proposed development impact. A separate report detailing the results of this investigation has been prepared by QUEST, University of Reading (QUEST, 2012).

2.1.9 The evaluation was undertaken from 20 to 31 August 2012.

## **2.2 Location, topography and geology**

2.2.1 The site is located towards the north-east of the University of Reading, Whiteknights Campus. It is bound to the north-east by Whiteknights Road and to the east, south and west by open land within the campus. In contrast, the north-west of the site is significantly more urbanised, with the northern frontage of Whiteknights Road being developed with residential semi-detached properties (**Figure 1**).

2.2.2 The site is currently occupied by a quadrangle-type building with additional structures extending from its eastern edge, which are collectively in use as a hall of residence of the University of Reading. The buildings were constructed in the 1960s and 1970s and in use from that time onwards. In addition, surrounding the central Halls of Residence to the north, west and south is an expansive area of open grassland containing numerous trees and a tennis court, with areas of car-parking and out-buildings focused in the north-west.

2.2.3 The Halls of Residence have been vacant since 2011.

2.2.4 The underlying geology comprises Palaeocene Reading Beds, overlain by Eocene London Clay, above which lies Boyn Hill and Lynch Hill gravels of quaternary Pleistocene age.

2.2.5 The site is generally flat. Ground level occurs at or around 65m to 66m above Ordnance Datum.

## **2.3 Proposed development**

2.3.1 The proposed development comprises the demolition of the existing halls of residence buildings and their replacement with a series of accommodation blocks of varying design, along with associated service buildings, underground services and a landscaped pond.

2.3.2 In addition to the main structural and pond developments there will also be excavations for associated service runs and it is also proposed to re-position an electrical sub-station to a position close to the cafe at the southern end of the site.

2.3.3 The proposed new blocks are to be built on strip foundations to be formed at a depth of 1.1m below existing ground level. Proposed lift pits within Block A and Block D, are to be located as shown on Figure 3, and will be formed at 1.6m below existing ground level.

## **2.4 Archaeological Background**

2.4.1 The archaeological and historical background has been set out in a desk-based assessment (PCA, 2011) and is not repeated here. The assessment concluded that the archaeological potential for the site was generally low although there appeared to be high

potential for remains of 19<sup>th</sup> century date related to the evolution of the Whiteknights Estate through the construction of Earley House and its associated landscaped gardens and outbuildings.

### **3 AIMS**

#### **3.1 Archaeological Evaluation**

- 3.1.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the site and, where present, determine their character, extent, date, condition and significance, taking account of their potential to contain biological and palaeo-environmental remains.
- 3.1.2 While the Desk-based Assessment identified the site as having low potential for archaeological resources of all periods except of 19th century date, the evaluation aimed to identify resources of all periods as may survive, including Palaeolithic resources.
- 3.1.3 This report on the results of the evaluation aims to provide sufficient information so that the future treatment of any archaeological resources identified within the site, in respect of the proposed development of the Site, may be determined in consultation with Berkshire Archaeology for Wokingham District Council.

## 4 METHODOLOGY

### 4.1 Fieldwork

4.1.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of fourteen evaluation trenches and two proposed lift pits as detailed in **Table 1** and as shown on **Figure 2** and **3**. The locations of the trenches were placed within the currently accessible open areas of the proposed development footprint (**Figure 3**), which did not lie within the existing footprint of the existing Bridges Hall (**Figure 2** and **3**), and were intended to target the proposed development impacts as detailed in **Table 1**.

<b>Trench No</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Dimensions:</b>
1.	Proposed landscaping and access	23m X 1.8m
2.	Proposed landscaping and access	25m X 1.8m
3.	Block D	30m X 1.8m
	Lift pit	4.75m x 1.8m
4.	Block D	16m X 1.8m
5.	Proposed landscaping and access	30m X 1.8m
6.	Block A	12m X 1.8m
7.	Block A	12m X 1.8m
8.	Proposed swale, soak-away and basin	Not excavated
9.	Block E	17.5m X 1.8m
10.	Block E	20m X 1.8m
11.	Proposed swale, soak-away and basin	17m X 1.8m
12.	Proposed swale, soak-away and basin	20m X 1.8m
13.	Existing tennis court – to be removed	20m X 1.8m
14.	Continental café/bar	20m X 1.8m
15.	New sub-station	8m X 1.8m
16.	Block A – lift pit	3m X 2.6m

**Table 1: Trench numbers, targets and excavated dimensions**

- 4.1.2 The trench locations were set out by GPS with reference to the plan presented in the WSI (PCA 2012). Trench locations had to be partly adjusted in regard of location, orientation and length due to on-site constraints relating to below ground services, tree protection areas, maintaining site access points and buildings. It was not possible to excavate Trench 8 as this lay wholly within a tree protection area. The excavation of Trench 9 had to be curtailed due to the presence of suspected asbestos within modern building rubble.
- 4.1.3 The trenches and lift pits were excavated using a 180° wheeled mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket under the constant supervision of the attending archaeologists.
- 4.1.4 Topsoil and subsoil were stored separately a minimum of 1m from the edge of the excavated trench edge.
- 4.1.5 Prior to the excavation of all trenches service plans were consulted to identify any potential buried utilities and a CAT and Genni scan was undertaken. Identified service runs were then marked out on the ground surface by means of spray paint.
- 4.1.6 Machine excavation proceeded in spits of no more than 100mm thickness in order to ensure that archaeological deposits and features were not over-excavated. Excavation was undertaken to the top of the first identified archaeological horizon and/or the natural geology, whichever was encountered first.
- 4.1.7 Machine-excavated spoil and the exposed surfaces were regularly scanned for the presence and collection of artefacts.
- 4.1.8 During the course of the investigation on health and safety grounds all trenches were fenced off by means of nettlon fencing and road pins (**Plate 1**) and for Trenches 2, 5 (**Plate 2**), 14 and 15 with Heras security fencing.
- 4.1.9 Recording was undertaken using Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited's recording system. This has been developed using the Site Manual of the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS 1994) and is fully compatible with the recording system most widely used elsewhere in the County of Hampshire.
- 4.1.10 Section drawings at a scale of 1:10 and plans at 1:20 were drawn where appropriate.
- 4.1.11 A colour slide, black and white and digital photographic record of the evaluation was maintained.
- 4.1.12 On the completion of all site work the trenches and lift pits were backfilled with arisings.
- 4.1.13 All works were undertaken in accordance with the guidelines set out by English Heritage and the Institute for Field Archaeologists.



## 5 RESULTS

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 No archaeological features and/or deposits were identified within any of the trenches or lift pits. The results presented below therefore provide an overview of the soil profile revealed across the site and an indication within specific trenches of where modern services or features were identified.

5.1.2 Due to the presence of modern services, tree protection areas, trees and shrubs, buildings and to maintain site access the majority of the trenches had to have their original locations and lengths altered from that specified in the WSI. Trench 1 (**Plate 3**) was extended to 23m; Trench 3 (**Plate 4**) was moved to the south west due to trees; Trench 4 (**Plate 5**) was shortened and a proposed lift pit was not excavated at its north west end due to the presence of below ground services comprising fibre optic cables, a storm drain and the closeness to the existing building. Trench 6 (**Plate 6**) had its orientation slightly altered and Trench 7 (**Plate 7**) was swung through 90° due to the presence of trees and shrubs. Both trenches were still both located within the footprint of the proposed new building of Block A. Trench 8 was not excavated as it lay wholly within a tree protection area; Trench 9 (**Plate 8**) was shortened to 17.50m in length due to the discovery of buried asbestos; Trench 11 (**Plate 9**) was shortened as its north west end as it lay across a site access route; Trench 12 (**Plate 10**) was relocated to the north due to its original location lying almost wholly within a tree protection area; Trench 14 (**Plate 11**) was excavated to its full length, but as a T-Shape so that it did not encroach into a tree protection area; Trench 15 (**Plate 12**) was swung through 90°, but still lay within the proposed footprint of a new sub-station as its original location lay within an existing bike shed.

5.1.3 Trench 2 (**Plate 13**), Trench 5 (**Plate 14**) and Trench 13 (**Plate 15**) were excavated in their proposed locations.

5.1.4 Trench summary tables are presented in **Appendix 1**.

### 5.2 Soil profile

5.2.1 The general soil profile revealed across the site showed a natural geology of a moderate to firmly compacted reddish – brown sand and gravel. This was overlain by a subsoil of up to 0.25m in depth comprised of a moderate to firmly compacted mid- grey brown sandy silt with occasional small to large pebbles. The subsoil was overlain by a topsoil and turfline up to 0.25m deep and comprised of a moderately compacted mid grey brown sandy silty loam (**Plates 16 and 17**).

5.2.2 The only exception to the general soil profile was in Trench 13, which was located within a former tennis court. The soil profile within Trench 13 comprised of a natural mid-grey sand (**1305**) overlain by the natural sand and gravel (**1304**), which underlay up to 0.40m of made ground comprised of a dark brown grey silty sand (**1303**), which acted as a base for a

0.10m thick layer of sand and gravel hardcore (**1302**) on which had been lain the 0.10m thick asphalt surface (**1301**) of the tennis court (**Plate 18**).

### **5.3 Trench 3: Lift Pit - Block D**

5.3.1 A 4.75m by 1.80m by 1.80m deep test pit was excavated in the proposed location of a lift pit within Trench 3. The excavated depth of 1.80m represented the maximum depth of impact of the proposed lift pit.

5.3.2 The section revealed within the lift pit (**Plate 19** and **Section 1**) was excavated to the top of a firmly compacted mid reddish brown sand and gravel (**305**) at a height of 64.28m aOD. This was overlain by an up to 0.32m thick layer of a moderately compacted light blue grey to mid reddish brown mottled sand natural (**304**). Overlying layer **304** was up to 1.05m of a firmly compacted mid reddish brown sand and gravel (**303**) that along with the subsoil (**302**) and topsoil (**301**) was observed in all of the excavated trenches.

### **5.4 Trench 16: Lift Pit - Block A**

5.4.1 Excavation to depth of 1.70m (63.98m aOD) was undertaken within Trench 16 and represented the maximum depth of impact of a proposed lift pit measuring 3.0m by 2.6m in size.

5.4.2 The excavated section (**Plate 20** and **Section 2**) revealed up to 1m of firmly compacted reddish – brown sand and gravel natural (**1603**) although the deposit appeared to show some signs of disturbance and being well sorted (QUEST *pers. comm.*). The sand and gravel was overlain by up to 0.35m of mid-brown sandy silt subsoil (**1602**), which underlay the 0.35m deep topsoil (**1601**) that had been disturbed by tree and shrub roots.

### **5.5 Modern services and features**

5.5.1 Modern services and features were identified within Trenches 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 11. The modern services revealed comprised of plastic ducting containing fibre optic cables, ceramic pipes either for water or electric cables and a former water monitoring well within Trench 1 (**Plate 3**).

5.5.2 At the north-west end of Trench 3 a square piece of concrete was revealed (**Plate 4**) that is likely to be part of a crane base that was used at the time of the construction of Bridges Hall in the 1960s.

5.5.3 Within Trench 9 a substantial amount of building rubble was revealed from the construction of Bridges Hall (**Plate 8**) that was shown to contain fragments of asbestos resulting in the curtailment of the excavation of this trench.

## **5.6 Finds**

- 5.6.1 No archaeological finds were identified during the course of the evaluation and no finds were retained.

## **5.7 Environmental**

- 5.7.1 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified during the course of the evaluation.

## **5.8 Archive**

- 5.8.1 The Site archive, including all project records, will be prepared in accordance with Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC 1990). On completion of the project Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd will arrange for the archive to be deposited in a designated museum or repository (to be decided by the Local Planning Authority). Any alternative arrangements will be agreed with the archaeological advisor and the Local Planning Authority.

## **6 DISCUSSION**

- 6.1.1 The aim of the evaluation was to identify and record any surviving archaeological remains and/or deposits that may be impacted upon by the groundworks of the proposed new development, so that a suitable archaeological mitigation strategy if required during the course of the development could be established.
- 6.1.2 No archaeological features and/or deposits were identified in any of the evaluation trenches excavated. Excavation revealed a maximum depth of 0.50m of top and subsoil to be overlying the natural sand and gravel geology. Further to the lack of any archaeological features and/or deposits, within the top and subsoil no archaeological finds of any nature or period were present indicating the very low archaeological potential of the site. The evaluation would appear to have confirmed the site had very low archaeological resource potential, in keeping with the conclusions of the desk-based assessment. No evidence of any features relating to landscaping or outbuildings in association with the construction of Earley House in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century could be identified.
- 6.1.3 The coverage provided by the evaluation trenches and the lack of any significant archaeological features and or deposits within them demonstrates that the new development will not impact archaeological resources.
- 6.1.4 Deeper excavation to a depth of 1.70m was undertaken within the proposed location of two lift pits in order to investigate the potential for any significant geoarchaeological and/or Palaeolithic remains and deposits that may survive. A separate report detailing the results of this investigation has been prepared by QUEST of the University of Reading (Quest, 2012). However, initial investigation of the deposits, comprising sands and gravels, indicates that they have no or very low geo-archaeological and/or Palaeolithic resource potential.

## **7 REFERENCES**

PCA 2011, Bridges Hall, University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading, Berkshire. An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, unpublished Client document. Report No. R11041

PCA 2012, University of Reading, Bridges Hall, Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire: WSI for an Archaeological Evaluation. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, unpublished Client document. Report No. R11246

QUEST 2012, Bridges Hall, Whiteknights Campus, University of Reading: Geoarchaeological fieldwork report, Unpublished Report Sept 2012, Project Ref 132/12

## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Brookfield Multiplex on behalf of UPP Projects Ltd for commissioning the work and in particular Rob Evans the site manager and Bulent Ozil the site surveyor. The help, advice and site visit of Mary Neale of Berkshire Archaeology is also gratefully acknowledged. Thanks are also extended to Quest of the University of Reading for undertaking the geoarchaeological investigation and forthcoming report of the two lift pits and in particular Rob Hosfield and Dan Stuart Young who visited the site. The author would like to thank Steve and Chris Crab for their on-site work and assistance, Natalie Barrat for surveying, Paul McCulloch for project managing the site and editing the report and Mark Roughley for preparing the illustrations. The author would like to further thank the groundwork contractors Ready Power and Harry Harris for their help and cooperation during the course of the evaluation

## APPENDIX 1: PLATES



**Plate 1: Trench 9 - looking east showing trench secured with nettlon fencing**



**Plate 2: Trench 5 - View looking south east showing trench secured with Heras fencing**



**Plate 3: Trench 1: view looking south**





**Plate 4: Trench 3 – view looking south west**



**Plate 5: Trench 4 – view looking north west**



**Plate 6: Trench 6 – view looking north east**



**Plate 7: Trench 7 – view looking west**





**Plate 8: Trench 9 – view looking north east**



**Plate 9: Trench 11 – view looking south west**



**Plate 10: Trench 12 – view looking west**



**Plate 11: Trench 14 – view looking north**





**Plate 12: Trench 15 – view looking east**



**Plate 13: Trench 2 – view looking north east**



**Plate 14: Trench 5 – view looking south east**



**Plate 15: Trench 13 – view looking south**





**Plate 16: Trench 4 – view looking south west of representative section**



**Plate 17: Trench 2 – view looking south east of representative section**



**Plate 18: Trench 13 – view looking east of representative section**



**Plate 19: Trench 3: view looking north west of section in lift pit – Block D**





**Plate 20: Trench 16 – view looking north west of section in lift pit – Block A**

**APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY TRENCH CONTEXT TABLES**

<b>Trench 1</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>23m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.80m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
101	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.20m
102	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, silty sand with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.20m - 0.45m
103	Natural: - firm, friable, mid reddish brown sand and gravel – rounded flint with moderate iron panning/staining			0.45m+

<b>Trench 2</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>25m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.88m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
201	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.20m
202	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.20m - 0.45m
203	Natural: - firm, friable, mid reddish brown sand with occasional flint and light brown sand and gravel			0.45m+

<b>Trench 3 Lift Pit Block D</b>	<b>Dimension s</b>	<b>Trench 30m X 1.8m Lift pit:1.60m SW -NE x 3.50m NW – SE x 1.80m deep</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>66.08m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
301	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.25m
302	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.25m - 0.52m
303	Natural: - firm, friable, mid reddish brown sand and gravel – rounded flint.			0.52m – 1.42m to 1.57m
304	Natural: moderate, friable, light blue-grey and mid reddish brown mottled sand			1.42m – 1.80m
305	Natural: compact, friable, mid reddish brown gravel with frequent sand.			1.80m +

<b>Trench 4</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>16m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.85m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
401	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.20m
402	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid yellow grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.20m - 0.35m
403	Natural: - firm, friable, mottled mid reddish brown sand and gravel and light brown grey sand and gravel– rounded flint.			0.35m+

<b>Trench 5</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>30m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.98m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
501	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.15m
502	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.15m - 0.25m
503	Natural: - firm, friable, mid reddish brown sand and gravel.			0.25m+

<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>12m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.73m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
601	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.25m
602	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.25m - 0.50m
603	Natural: - firm, friable, mid grey reddish brown sand and gravel with occasional manganese & iron panning			0.50m+

<b>Trench 7</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>12m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.60m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
701	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.20m
702	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid reddish - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.20m - 0.40m
703	Natural: - firm, friable, mid reddish brown sand and gravel – rounded flint.			0.40m+

<b>Trench 8</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>Not Excavated</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
	Not excavated due to lying in Tree Protection Area			

<b>Trench 9</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>17.5m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.90m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
901	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.20m
902	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.20m - 0.40m
903	Natural: - firm, friable, mid reddish brown sand and gravel – rounded flint.			0.40m+

<b>Trench 10</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>20m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.79m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
1002	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.25m
1002	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.25m - 0.40m
1003	Natural: - firm, mid reddish brown sand with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.40m+
<b>Trench 11</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>17m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.90m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
1101	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.20m
1102	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid yellow grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.20m - 0.40m
1103	Natural: - firm, friable, mid reddish brown sand and gravel – rounded flint.			0.40m+

<b>Trench 12</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>20m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.88m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
1201	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.20m
1202	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.20m - 0.45m
1203	Natural: - firm, friable, mid reddish brown sand and gravel – rounded flint.			0.45m+

<b>Trench 13</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>20m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.98m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
1301	Tarmac – asphalt surface of tennis court			0m - 0.10m
1302	Moderate friable dark grey/black sand and gravel bedding course for tarmac			0.10m - 0.20m
1303	Dark brown grey silty sand with occasional small gravel. Made ground/bedding for tennis court			0.20m – 0.60m
1304	Natural: mid reddish – brown sand and gravel			0.60m - 0.80m
1305	Natural: Mid reddish brown silty sand			0.80m+
1306	Natural: mid blue green silty sand			0.80m+

<b>Trench 14</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>20m X 1.8m T-Shaped</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>66.13m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
1401	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.20m
1402	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate small and medium rounded flint gravel & occasional large flint pebble			0.20m - 0.50m
1403	Natural: - moderate to firm, mid reddish brown o light to mid brown sand and gravel with patches of 100% large pebble/gravel.			0.50m+



<b>Trench 15</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>8m X 1.8m</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>66.13m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
1501	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with occasional rounded flint gravel.			0m - 0.20m
1502	Subsoil: - moderate compaction, mid grey - brown, sandy silt with moderate rounded flint gravel.			0.20m - 0.40m
1503	Natural: - firm, friable, mid reddish brown sand and gravel – rounded flint with patches of brickearth			0.40m+

<b>Trench 16 Lift pit Block A</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>2.60m SW to NE x 3.00m NW to SE x 1.60m deep</b>	<b>maOD:</b>	<b>65.56m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth BGL(m)</b>
1601	Topsoil: - moderate, friable, mid brown - grey sandy silt with moderate flint gravel. Heavily rooted			0m - 0.40m
1602	Subsoil: - moderate, mid orange brown, silty sandy with moderate sub-rounded gravel.			0.40m - 0.65m to 0.75m
1603	Natural: - heavy, sticky compaction, light to dark grey / brown clay			0.65m to 0.75m +

## APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

**OASIS ID: preconst1-134327**

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### Project details

Project name	University of Reading, Bridges Hall Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Brookfield Multiplex on behalf of UPP Projects Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological work at The University of Reading Bridges Hall, Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading Berkshire. The proposed development comprises the demolition of the existing halls of residence buildings and their replacement with a series of accommodation blocks of varying design. The archaeological evaluation comprised the excavation of 14 no trenches and 2 no lift pits within the footprint of the proposed new development. No archaeological features and/or deposits were identified in any of the evaluation trenches excavated. The coverage provided by the evaluation trenches is enough to indicate that the proposed new development is very unlikely to have any impact on the archaeological resource
Project dates	Start: 20-08-2012 End: 31-08-2012
Previous/future work	No/Unknown
Any associated project reference codes	BHR12 – Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	
Current Land use	
Monument type	None
Significant Finds	None
Methods & techniques	
Development type	PPS
Prompt	Planning Condition

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### Project location

Country	BERKSHIRE, WOKINGHAM, EARLEY
Site location	University of Reading, Bridges Hall

	Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire
Postcode	RG6 6BG
Study area	3.3 Ha
Site coordinates	NGR - SU 740 720 LL - 51.4416614327 -0.935156148288 (decimal) LL - 51 26 29 N 000 56 06 W (degrees) Point
Height OD / Depth (Natural)	Min: 64.96m Max: 65.72m

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#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Mary Neale, Berkshire Archaeology
Project design originator	PCA Ltd – Paul McCulloch
Project director/manager	Paul McCulloch
Project supervisor	Damian De Rosa
Type of sponsor/funding body	Brookfield Multiplex on behalf of UPP Projects Ltd
Name of sponsor/funding body	Brookfield Multiplex on behalf of UPP Projects Ltd

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#### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	None
Physical Contents	None
Digital Archive recipient	To be designated by the Local Planning Authority
Digital Contents Digital Media available	Images raster / digital photography, 'Text', survey
Paper Archive recipient	To be designated by the Local Planning Authority
Paper Contents	

Paper Media available	Context sheet', 'Diary', 'Drawing', - Notebook Excavation, Research, General Notes', 'Photograph', 'Report', 'Section', 'Survey', 'Unpublished Text'
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## **Project**

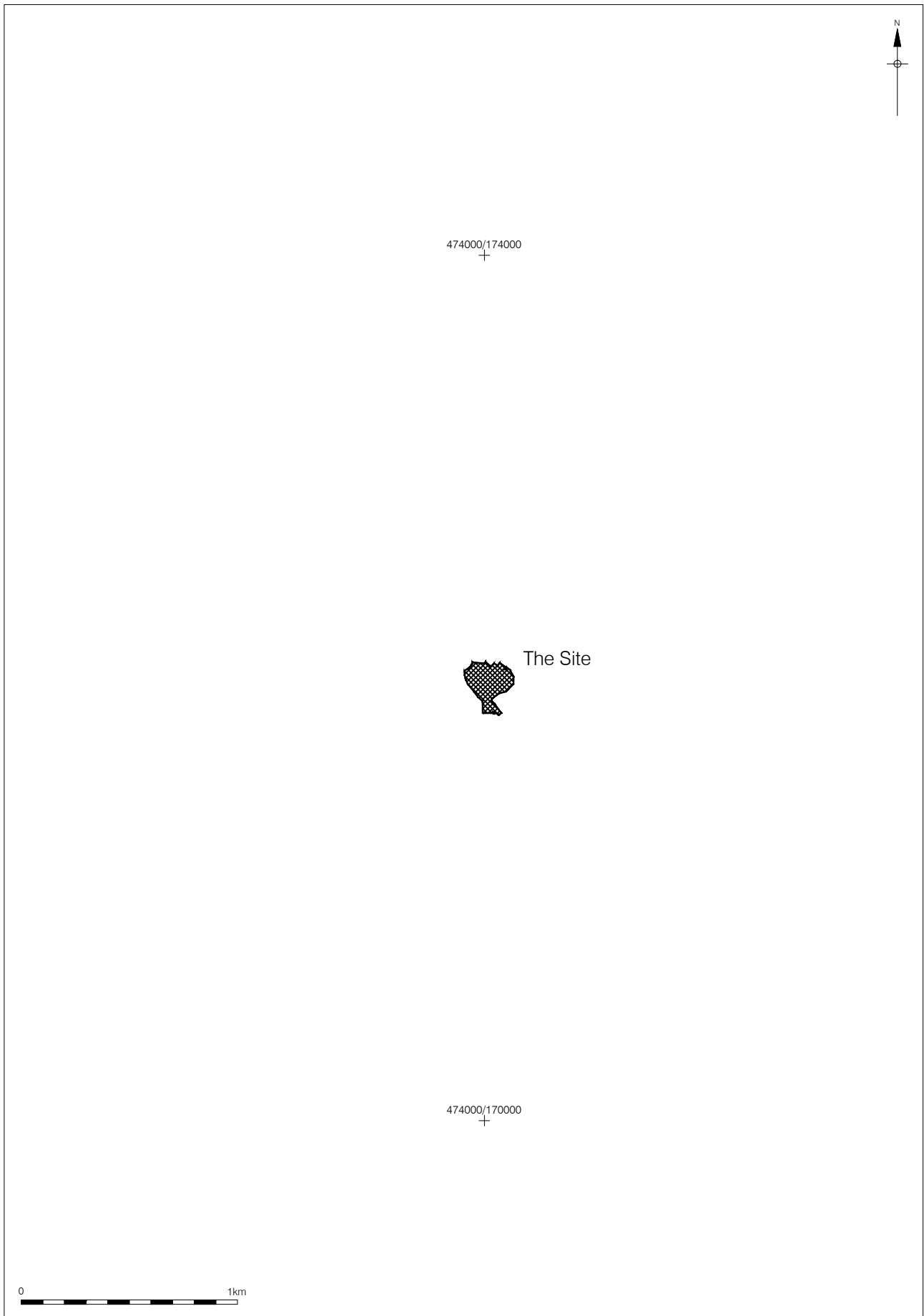
### **bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	University of Reading, Bridges Hall, Whiteknights Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	De Rosa, D. / McCulloch, P
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	unpublished
Description	Evaluation report in A4 format, with 2 no A4 figure drawings and 12 plates. PCA Ltd blue front and back cover

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Entered by	Damian De Rosa (damianedr@yahoo.co.uk)
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Entered on	25 September 2012
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Figure 1  
Site Location  
1:25,000 at A4

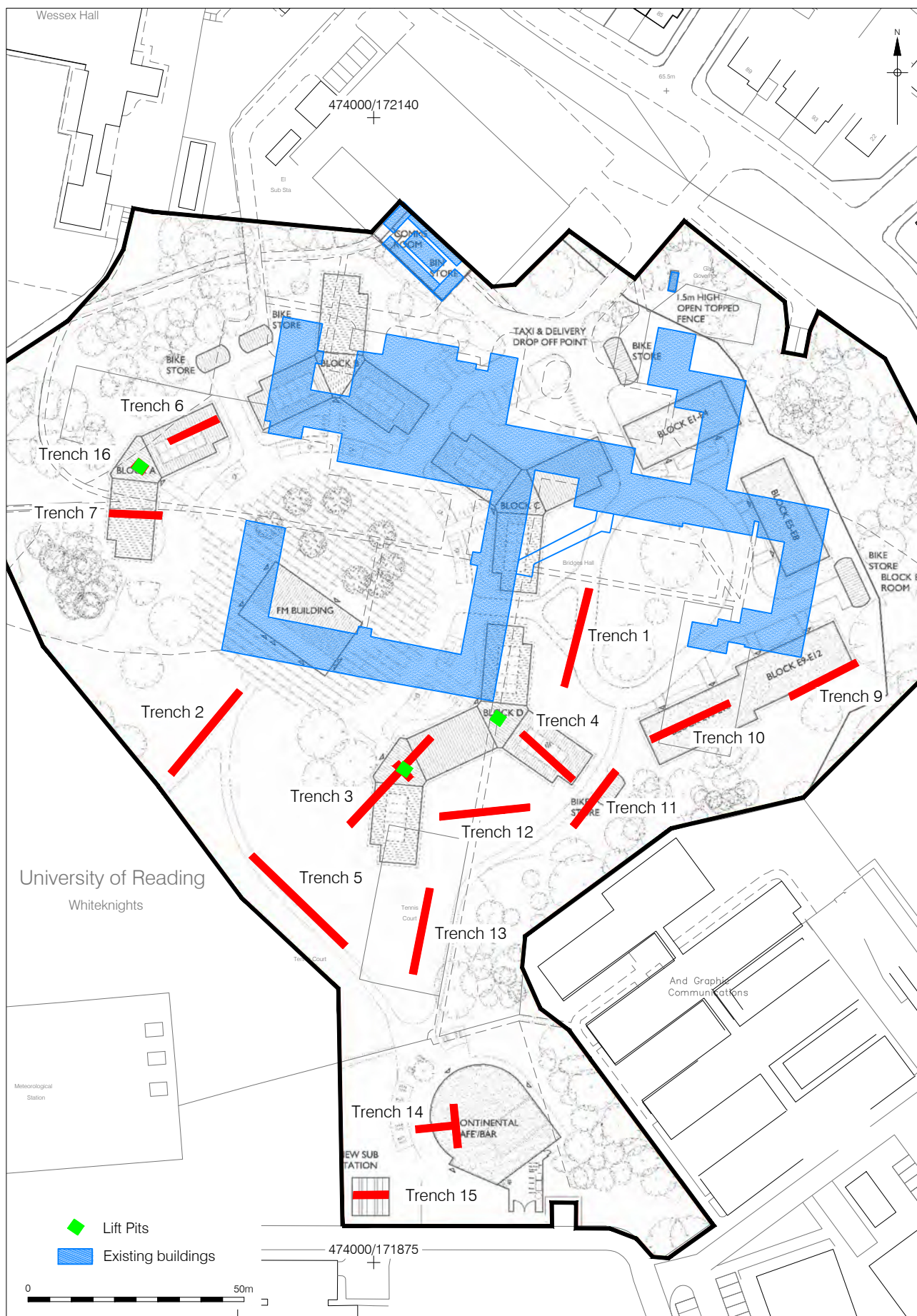


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Figure 2  
Detailed Site and Trench Location  
1:1,250 at A4

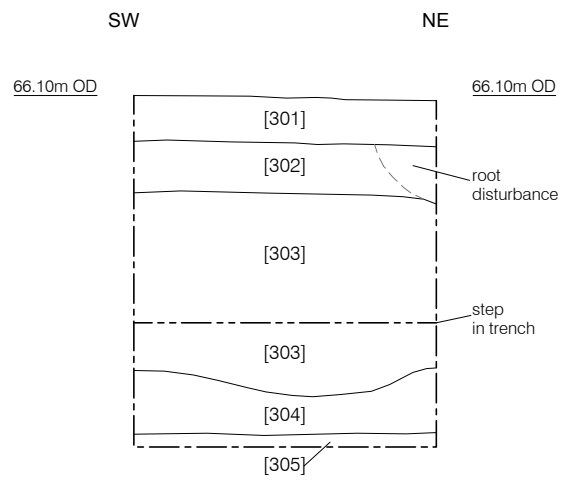


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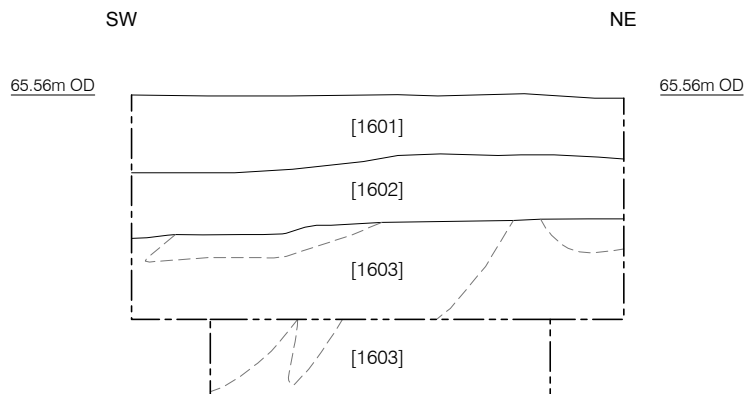
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Figure 3  
Trench Locations overlain on Proposed Development showing Lift Pits and Existing Buildings  
1:1,250 at A4



Section 1  
Trench 3  
Southeast Facing



Section 2  
Trench 16  
Southeast Facing





# PCA

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