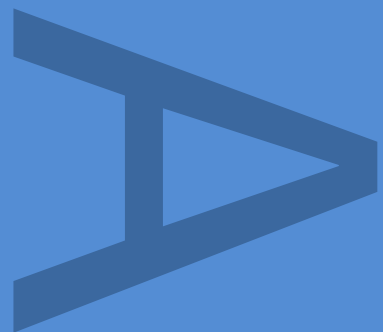


**GAS MAIN WORKS,
COLEBROOK STREET,
WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF REPORT**

REPORT NO: R12695

BCJ 9A 69F 2016



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

GAS MAIN WORKS, COLEBROOK STREET, WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Issue 1: For approval

Site Code: AY581

NGR: 448427 129212

Local Planning Authority: Winchester City Council

Commissioning Client: Southern Gas networks

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DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Gas Main Works, Colebrook Street Winchester, Hampshire

Watching Brief Report

Report Ref R12697

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K4142
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Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Trench Location Plan

Figure 3: Plan of Trenches 1 & 2

Figure 4: Sections

1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Southern Gas Networks to carry out an archaeological watching brief during works to replace a section of gas main and restore supply connections in Colebrook Street, Winchester, Hampshire. This report concerns the results of the archaeological watching brief, which comprised of 44 monitoring visits made between August 2015 and March 2016, during the excavation of 73 trenches formed as part of the gas main replacement and supply connection ground works.

The results of the watching brief indicate that, while the archaeological potential is high, due to the high level of disturbance from modern excavations and services little archaeology survived within the trenches that were opened. Two trenches opened in The Broadway revealed evidence of a Roman street surface, which is identified as the principle east-west street of the Roman town, along with evidence of a medieval masonry wall and a post-medieval pit.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Background

- 2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Southern Gas Networks to carry out an archaeological watching brief during works to replace a section of gas main and restore supply connections in Colebrook Street, Winchester, Hampshire. This report concerns the results of the archaeological watching brief, which comprised of 44 monitoring visits made between August 2015 and March 2016, during the excavation of 73 trench formed as part of the gas main replacement and supply connection ground work. The archaeological watching brief was recommended as necessary by Winchester City Council's Historic Environment Team Archaeologist Tracy Matthews following consultation by Southern Gas Networks.
- 2.1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (PCA, 2015), which provided a method statement for the watching brief.
- 2.1.3 This Report has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief (CIfA 2014) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England, 2015). PCA is a CIfA Registered Archaeological Organisation and is bound by its code of conduct

2.2 Location, Topography and Geology

- 2.2.1 Colebrook Street, NGR 448427 129212 (Figure 1), lies in the historic core of Winchester to the south of The Broadway and east of Winchester Cathedral.
- 2.2.2 The immediate urban topography comprises a mixture of office, residential and open space and includes a number of historic properties. Colebrook Street is situated in the eastern part of the City of Winchester, which lies on the floor of the River Itchen valley, and which is characterised by a number of extant and lost watercourses.
- 2.2.3 The geology of the site can be expected to comprise superficial deposits of gravel and alluvium over Chalk. These are likely to occur at depth beneath archaeological deposits of uncertain thickness.

2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.3.1 The site lies within the historic core of Winchester in an area of significant archaeological resources and monuments of Romano-British, Saxon and medieval date. Of principal relevance, Colebrook Street formed an element of the medieval urban street plan separating major ecclesiastical monuments including the precincts of the Nunnaminster (St Mary's Abbey), the Norman cathedral and Wolvesey Palace.
- 2.3.2 Archaeological resources near Colebrook Street are known to be deeply stratified and well-preserved and can occur at relatively shallow depth below ground. The resources may include early evidence of the street itself, in the form of metalled surfacing, and adjacent properties.

3 AIM

3.1 Archaeological Watching Brief

- 3.1.1 The aim of the archaeological watching brief was to monitor groundwork for the proposed gas main replacement and supply connections and investigate and record archaeological resources that are identified, taking account of the date, nature, extent, bio-archaeological and palaeo-environmental potential of the resources and the research aims and questions that have been identified.
- 3.1.2 This report aims to provide an account of the results of the watching brief suitable to demonstrate that the watching brief was carried out in accordance with the WSI.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The following summary is based on the site archive, which, comprises a written, drawn and photographic record. The archive is held at PCA's Winchester office under the WINCM site code AY581 and will in due course be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust.
- 4.1.2 The investigation was constrained by a combination of limiting factors including the extent of the trenches, the depth to which they were excavated which was determined by the depth of the Gas Main, and other modern obstacles, such as services, that were encountered.
- 4.1.3 A total of 73 interventions were monitored during the course of the project, the majority of which uncovered no archaeological resources (**Figure 1**). Two trenches (Trench 1 & Trench 2), which are discussed below, uncovered what are thought to be the remains of a Roman road, a possible Medieval wall and a large Post Medieval pit.

4.2 Methodology

- 4.2.1 The watching brief comprised of 44 monitoring visits, which observed the excavation 73 trenches formed as part of the gas main replacement and supply connection ground works.
- 4.2.2 A digital photographic archive was maintained throughout archaeological monitoring, providing a record of works and observed ground conditions. This was accompanied by drawings. This will form a permanent archive that will be collated and preserved.

4.3 General Sequence

- 4.3.1 All Trenches were broadly similar in form, fill and material; a layer of Tarmac (approx. 0.10m below ground level [BGL]), with a bedding layer for the Tarmac (Approx. 0.07m BGL). Below these deposits was a general modern backfill, which comprised a sandy silty layer with patches of garden soil. There were common inclusions of post-medieval Ceramic Building Material (CBM) and occasional animal bones (not retained). There were only limited stratified deposits within each pit or trench, with the exception of Trench 1 and 2, where there had been a considerable amount of modern disturbance from previous excavations from both gas and other services. The depth of the excavation varied widely from 0.5 to 1.4m, and was dependant on the depth of the required gas service.
- 4.3.2 Trench 1 and 2 were located at the wester end of the Broadway directly opposite the junction with Colebrook Street.

4.4 Trench 1

- 4.4.1 A metalled surface, (010), was seen at a height of 35.296m AOD at the north end of the trench, running roughly east-west, and is interpreted as the surface of a Roman street, probably the principal east-west street of Roman Winchester, now followed by the High Street. The surface fell away to the south, perhaps indicative of a camber (**Figure 4, Section 1**).

- 4.4.2 A wall, (006)/(007), was seen in the south east section of trench 1 and is thought to be medieval in date. The wall comprised two dressed stones, both showing tool marks and with evidence for mortar on the upper surface of (007). The wall sits directly above the Roman street (**Plate 2**).
- 4.4.3 Pit [004], cut against the south side of the wall was found to contain a large amount of post-medieval material, including pottery, oyster shell and ceramic building material (CBM). The shape of this deposit or pit is uncertain and no “cut” could be seen in the section. Two sherds of Roman amphora were recovered from within the fill, suggesting that the road surface may have been disturbed by the pit during its creation, but this was not seen in section. However, it was seen in section in Trench 2 directly to the south of the wall, giving an indication that the pit could have been relatively large, if the two observations represent the same feature. Within the fill there was a thin layer, (005), which was cemented with a rusty colour, but would crumble when scraped with a trowel.

4.5 Trench 2

- 4.5.1 A possible continuation of the street metalling observed in Trench 1 (**Figure 2**), was seen in the north-west section of Trench 2, (023), at a height of 35.24m AOD (**Figure 3**). The layer did not appear to extend throughout the trench, and was not seen in the opposing section (**Plate 3**). This suggests that the street ran on an east-west alignment, differing from the current alignment of the Broadway. The street surface was not seen in the eastern section owing to modern services and disturbance
- 4.5.2 A wall was seen in the south-west and north-east facing sections of Trench 2 (**Figure 3**). This was thought to be a continuation of wall (007) from Trench 1, This was heavily truncated by a gas main, which runs at right angles to the alignment of the wall. In section 3, the wall comprised just one large chalk block, with considerable damage to the top of the stone (probably owing to earlier interventions). There was a small amount of sandy yellowy mortar seen on the northern edge of the stone.
- 4.5.3 Section 5 (**Figure 3**) showed two stones which possibly formed part of the wall. Although the smaller of the stones was dressed, it did not appear to be *in-situ*. The larger stone could only be partially seen in the section as it extends into the trench edge to the South. There was no evidence of mortar.
- 4.5.4 The wall did not sit directly above the road layer, as it did in Trench 1, and is therefore probably on a different alignment to the Roman street, north-west to south-east.
- 4.5.5 Pit [026] was seen in Section 4, (Figure 3) but has been heavily disturbed by the previous gas services. It is similar in composition to [004] and similar post-medieval material was recovered. However, it was not possible to discern shape or total depth due to the disturbance.

4.6 Finds

4.6.1 Pottery

A total of 42 sherds of pottery were recovered from two contexts (31 sherds from pit fill (004) and 11 sherds from pit fill (026)). Two body sherds of Roman amphora were recovered from pit fill (024), although these sherds could be broadly dated to the Roman period they were too poorly preserved to provide a more specific date. The remaining 40 sherds of pottery are thought to be variations of pottery type known as 'Border Ware', which dates broadly to the Post Medieval period, and has a distinctive off-white fabric and yellow or "apple green" glaze (Mephram, 2015). The two sherds of Roman amphora do not appear to be in their original context and can be considered to be residual artefacts. Pit fills (004) and (026) are believed to be related to each other (possibly the same context); the similarity of the artefactual remains would go some way to support this possibility.

4.6.2 Building material

24 fragments of post-medieval CBM was recovered from pit fill (004), all of which were small fragments that were largely unidentifiable. Two un-stratified architectural stone fragments were recovered from the backfill of modern services. A worked chalk semi-circular block with a "flower" design and degraded section of an archway were found in an intervention to the west of 22 Colebrook Street.

4.6.3 Clay Tobacco Pipe

A section of clay tobacco pipe, with stamped initials, was recovered from the modern backfill excavated from a monitored intervention on the corner of Bridge Street and Colebrook Street. The initials, T.F or F.T, probably relate to an unknown pipe maker dating to the 18th/19th century (Oswald, 1975).

4.6.4 Iron

Three individual metal finds were recovered from three separate contexts; (004), (010) and (023). One iron nail was recovered from both (004) and (010); both of these nails were highly oxidised and, therefore, not dateable. A highly corroded copper alloy object was recovered from pit fill (026), possibly representing a buckle. It was likely to date to the post-medieval period.

4.6.5 Animal Bone

Ten highly fragmented specimens of Animal bone were recovered from three separate contexts; six from (004), one from (010) and three from (026). The specimens were not well

preserved and do not allow for specific identification, however it can be said that they represent the remains a variety medium to large mammals. 19 oyster shells were also recovered from pit fill (004).

4.7 Conclusion

- 4.7.1 The results of the watching brief indicate that there is a high archaeological potential for the general area, however, owing to the high level of disturbance from modern excavations and services little archaeology survives. The watching brief did extend on to the Broadway, which although still heavily disturbed, revealed the remains of a Roman street surface running on an east-west alignment, towards the River Itchen. Also uncovered in the Broadway was evidence of a possible medieval wall running north-west to south-east, with a possible post medieval pit abutting to the south. All are heavily disturbed and truncated by modern service excavations.

5 ARCHIVE PREPARATION & DEPOSITION

5.1 The Site Archive

- 5.1.1 The Site archive, to include all project records and cultural material produced by the project, will be prepared in accordance with 'Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage' (UKIC 1990) and the Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives' (IfA 2009). On completion of the project PCA will arrange for the archive to be deposited in accordance with the provisional arrangements made at the onset of the watching brief with Hampshire Cultural Trust or behalf of Winchester City Council. Any alternative arrangements will be agreed with the Historic Environment Officer and the Local Planning Authority.

5.2 Copyright

- 5.2.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. Winchester City Council, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003. Further distribution and uses of the report either in its entirety or part thereof in paper or electronic form is prohibited without the prior consent of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
- 5.2.2 The licence extends to the use of all documents arising from this project in all matters relating directly to the project, as well as for bona fide research purposes (Winchester UAD).
- 5.2.3 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the content of this report. However, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd cannot accept any liability in respect of, or resulting from, errors, inaccuracies or omissions this report contains.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pre-Construct Archaeology is grateful to Southern Gas Networks for commissioning the archaeological watching brief, and Kevin Heckford and Lee Ritchie of Amec Foster Wheeler for their assistance on site. Thanks also go to Winchester City Council Historic Environment Team Archaeologist, Tracy Matthews, for monitoring site works. The watching brief was carried out by Katherine Marshall. This report was prepared by Katherine Marshall with Illustrations prepared by Ray Murphy. The project was managed by Paul McCulloch.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Oswald, A. (1975). *Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist*. Oxford: British Archaeological Reports.

PCA. (2015). *Southern Gas Networks: Gas Main Works, Colebrook Street Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 7DT: Written Scheme Of Investigation For Archaeological Watching Brief*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.

Appendix 1: Context Index

Context	Type	Comments/Description	Date
Trench 1			
001	Layer	Tarmac	Modern
002	Layer	Concrete Below Tarmac - Road Foundation	Modern
003	Layer	Backfill/ Makeup Layer	Post Medieval/ Modern
004	Fill	Fill of Post Medieval Pit [024]	Post Medieval
005	Fill	Upper Fill Layer within Post Medieval Pit [024]	Post Medieval
006	Structure	Top Stone of Wall	Medieval?
007	Structure	Bottom Stone of Wall	Medieval?
008	Layer	Layer of "Rusty" Soil	Post Medieval/ Modern
009	Layer	Backfill/ Makeup Layer	Post Medieval/ Modern
010	Layer	Roman Road Metaling	Roman
011	Layer	"Overlayer" for Roman Road Surface	Roman
012	Layer	Tarmac	Modern
013	Layer	Concrete Below Tarmac - Road Foundation	Modern
014	Layer	Backfill/ Makeup Layer	Post Medieval/ Modern
015	Layer	"Overlayer" for Roman Road Surface	Roman
016	Layer	Roman Road Metaling	Roman
024	Cut	Cut of Post Medieval Pit, Filled by (004), (005)	Post Medieval
Trench 2			
017	Layer	Tarmac	Modern
018	Layer	Modern Red Gravel Backfill	Modern
019	Layer	Concrete Below Tarmac - Road Foundation	Modern
020	Structure	Stone from Wall?	Medieval?
021	Layer	Backfill/ Makeup Layer	Post Medieval/ Modern
022	Layer	"Overlayer" for Roman Road Surface	Roman
023	Layer	Roman Road Metaling	Roman
025	Cut	Cut of Post Medieval Pit, Filled by (026)	Post Medieval
026	Fill	Fill of Post Medieval Pit [025]	Post Medieval
027	Structure	Stone from Wall?	Medieval?
028	Structure	Stone from Wall?	Medieval?
029	Layer	"Overlayer" for Roman Road Surface	Roman

Appendix 2: Site Photographs



Plate 1 - East facing shot, showing the general sequence seen



Plate 2 - South East facing view of section 1, showing Roman road, wall and Post Medieval pit



Plate 3 Oblique south facing shot of Section 3, with road visible to the bottom right

Appendix 3: Oasis Form

OASIS ID: preconst1-251952

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Watching Brief Report: Southern Gas Networks: Gas Main Works, Colebrook Street Winchester, Hampshire,
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief during works to replace a section of gas main and restore supply connections in Colebrook Street, Winchester, Hampshire. The watching brief, which comprised of 44 monitoring visits made between August 2015 and March 2016, during the excavation of 73 trenches formed as part of the gas main replacement and supply connection ground works The results of the watching Brief indicate, that while the archaeological potential is high, due to the high level of disturbance from modern excavations and services little archaeology survives. The watching brief which, extend onto the Broadway, revealed a Roman road surface, thought to be the Roman High Street through Winchester, evidence of a possible medieval wall and a possible Post Medieval pit abutting to the south.
Project dates	Start: 03-08-2015 End: 17-03-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	AY581 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	WINCM:AY581 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 1 - Highways and road transport
Monument type	ROAD Roman
Monument type	WALL Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	OYSTER SHELL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval

Significant Finds	ANIMAL REMAINS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	WINDOW Uncertain
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE WINCHESTER WINCHESTER Colebrook Street
Postcode	SO23 7DT
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 48427 29212 51.059667883429 -1.308901316456 51 03 34 N 001 18 32 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Southern Gas Networks
Project design originator	Paul McCulloch
Project director/manager	Paul McCulloch
Project supervisor	Katherine Marshall
Type of sponsor/funding body	Southern Gas Networks
Name of sponsor/funding body	Southern Gas Networks

Project archives

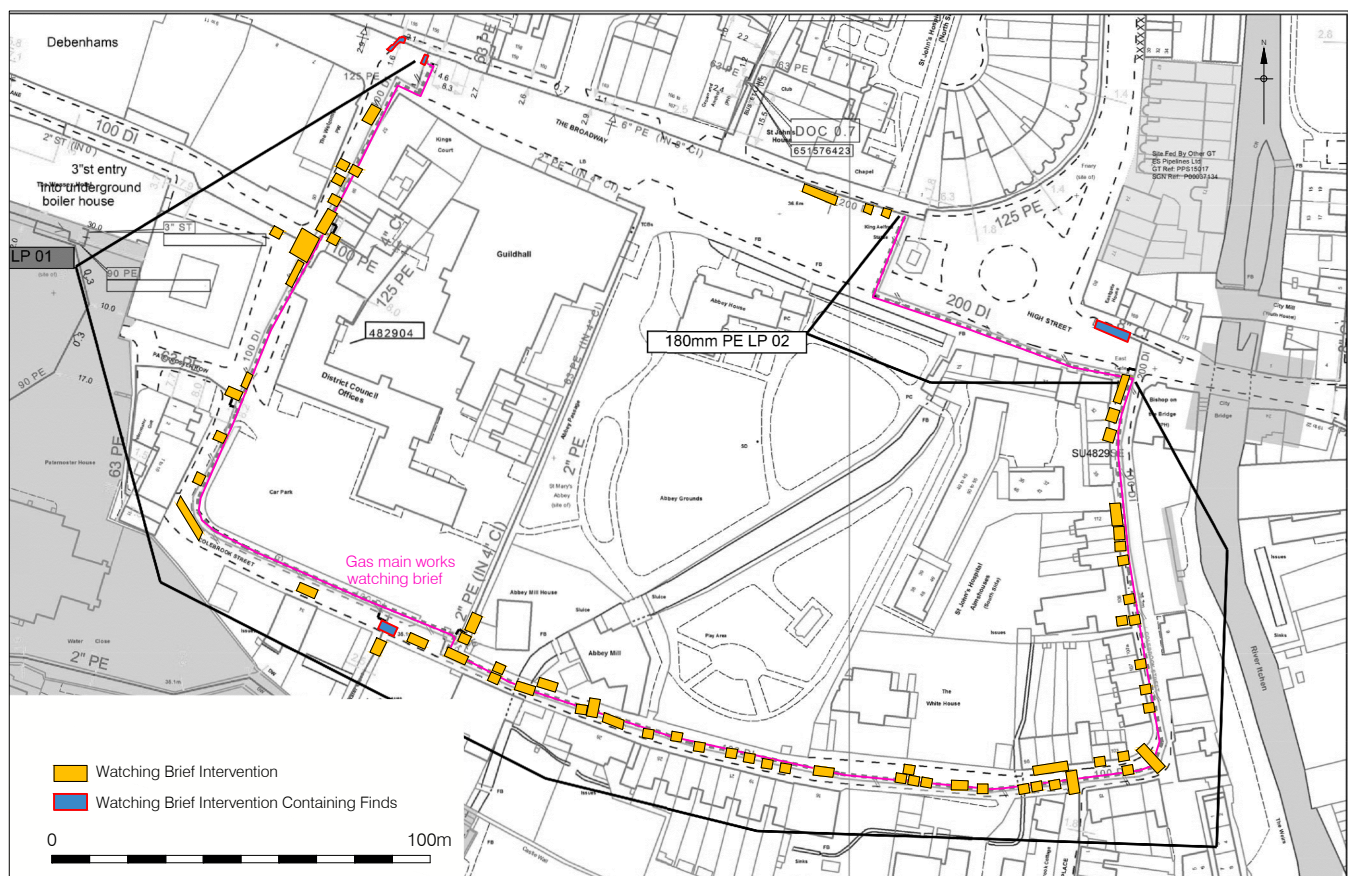
Physical Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Physical Archive ID	WINCM:AY581
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Digital Archive ID	WINCM:AY581
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Paper Archive ID	WINCM:AY581
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Plan", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Watching Brief Report: Southern Gas Networks: Gas Main Works, Colebrook Street Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 7DT
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Marshall, K.
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	PCA Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Winchester
Description	A4, text and illustrations, aprox 20 pages. Available in PDF

Entered by	Katherine Marshall (kmarshall@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	19 May 2016



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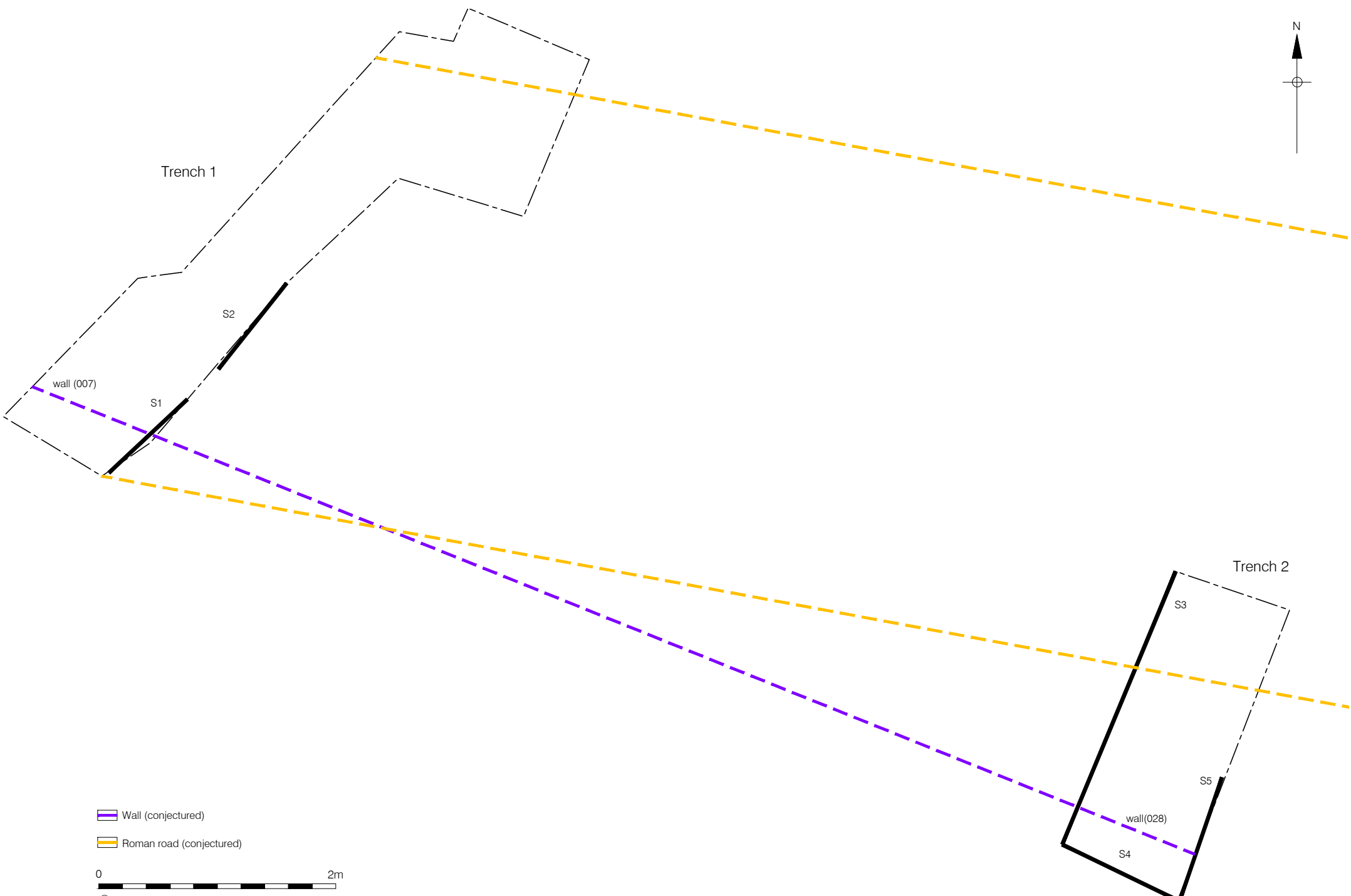
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19/05/16 RM

Figure 1
Site Location and Detailed Site Location showing route of proposed gas main works
1:20,000 and 1:500 at A4



Figure 2
Trench Location Plan
1:500 at A4

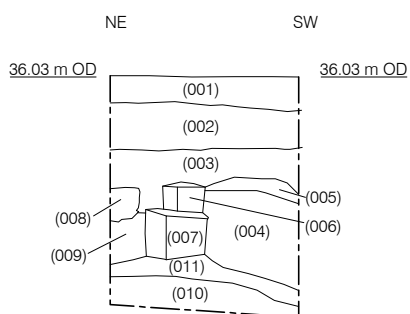


Wall (conjectured)
Roman road (conjectured)

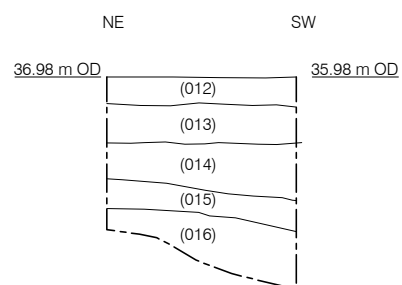
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18/05/16 RM

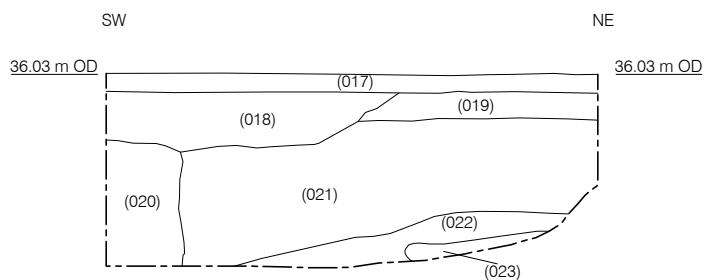
Figure 2
Plan of Trenches 1 and 2
1:50 at A4



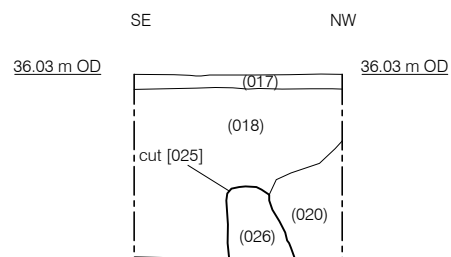
Section 1
Trench 1
Northwest Facing



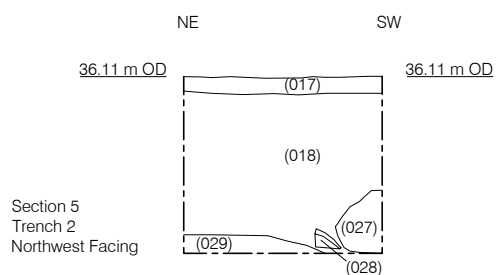
Section 2
Trench 1
Northwest Facing



Section 3
Trench 2
Southeast Facing



Section 4
Trench 2
Northeast Facing



Section 5
Trench 2
Northwest Facing



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