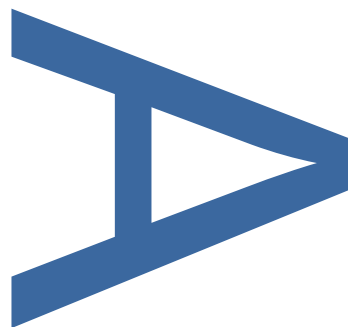
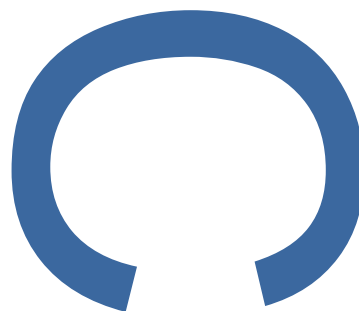


**WICK HILL CAMPUS
SANDY LANE
BRACKNELL
BERKSHIRE**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION**

PCA REPORT NO: 13132

JANUARY 2018



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

WICK HILL CAMPUS, SANDY LANE, BRACKNELL, BERKSHIRE: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Site Code: SLBB17

Central NGR: 487061 169943

Local Planning Authority: Bracknell Forest Council

Commissioning Client: CgMs Consulting

Written/Researched by: Ryan Wolfe (MSc)

Project Manager: Paul McCulloch (MCIfA)

Contractor: Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (Winchester)
5 Red Deer Court
Elm Road
Winchester
Hampshire SO22 5LX

Tel: 01962 849 549
E-mail: pmcculloch@pre-construct.com
Web: www.pre-construct.com

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January 2018

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DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

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Type of project: Evaluation

Report: R13132

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Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K5346
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
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Graphics Prepared by:			02/01/2018
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1 ABSTRACT

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd was appointed by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Cala Homes (Thames) Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Wick Hill Campus, Sandy Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire. The Site is the subject of a proposed residential development. This report sets out the results of the evaluation, which was carried out in December 2017.

The evaluation comprised the mechanical excavation of two trenches on open ground west of the former Wick Hill campus. The trenches revealed no archaeological deposits, features or finds. The deposit profile in both trenches appeared to confirm that the Site had been subject to landscaping, which had removed the natural slope on the site, to form level ground and a stepped terrace along the Site's western boundary. It is concluded that the Site retains no archaeological potential.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Background

- 2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Cala Homes (Thames) Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Wick Hill Campus, Sandy Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire, (**Figure 1**), hereafter 'the Site' (centred at NGR 487061 169943). The Site is the subject of a proposed residential development.
- 2.1.2 The evaluation has formed part of a staged approach to understanding the archaeological implications of the proposed development and was informed by the results of a Desk-based Assessment prepared by AOC in March 2017 (AOC 2017).
- 2.1.3 This report provides the results of the evaluation, which was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2017) in December 2017. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014) and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England, 2015).

2.2 Location, Topography and Geology

- 2.2.1 The Site, irregular in plan and measuring approximately 1.43ha is formed by Sandy Lane to the north, an area of car parking to the west, and Clement House along with new road layout and sports pitch to the south and east. The Site appears to have been terraced, as indicated by a step running north-south inside the western Site boundary.
- 2.2.2 The Site lies below the former Wick Hill campus and has south and south-west facing views. Existing buildings within the Site were built for educational purposes date from the mid-20th century.
- 2.2.3 The British Geological Survey (BGS 2016) indicates the Site is underlain by London Clay Formation consisting of clay, silt and sand. This sedimentary bedrock was formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago during the Palaeogene Period and indicates a local environment previously dominated by deep seas. There is no recorded superficial geology.

3 AIM

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 nature, extent, date, condition and significance, taking account of their potential to contain biological and palaeo-environmental remains.
- 3.1.2 This report on the results of the evaluation aims to provide sufficient information so that the future treatment of any archaeological remains that have been found can be determined, in respect of the proposed development, in consultation with the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This report provides a summary of the results of the evaluation fieldwork and is based on the Site archive, which comprises a Site diary, trench recording sheets, drawings and digital photographs; a context index is provided in Appendix 1 and digital photographs in Appendix 2. The archive is held at PCA's Winchester office under the site code **SLBB17**.

4.2 Methodology

4.2.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised two 30m X 2 m trenches, as set out in the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2017).

4.2.2 The trenches were recorded on PCA *pro forma* Trench Recording Sheets. A representative section from each trench was cleaned by hand and drawn at 1:10 on drafting film. All trenches and sections were digitally photographed.

4.3 Summary of Deposition Sequence

4.3.1 Trench 1 (**Figure 2 & 3**) was excavated to a depth of 1m below ground level, revealing at that depth natural orange-brown clay beneath a subsoil of dark greyish brown sandy-clay.

4.3.2 Trench 2 (**Figure 2 & 3**) was excavated to a greater depth and included a section across the step running north-south within the western Site boundary (**Plates 1 & 2**). This revealed a deposit profile, across the step, as follows:

- Topsoil – 0 to 0.17m below ground level
- Re-deposited natural – 0.17 to 0.49m
- Buried topsoil – 0.49-0.64m
- Natural – 0.64m +

4.3.3 Trench 2 revealed a profile consistent with the formation of the stepped, or terraced, profile of the Site, including redeposited natural laid over a pre-existing topsoil. It would appear that the Site was previously the subject landscaping to remove a natural slope and replace it with a stepped profile.

4.3.4 No archaeological deposits, features or finds were identified within either Trench 1 or Trench 2.

4.4 Conclusion

The evaluation revealed no archaeological features, deposits or finds. The Site has previously been landscaped to create a stepped open space and, further west, a car park. It is concluded that the Site retains no archaeological potential.

5 ARCHIVE PREPARATION AND 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' (CIfA 2014). On completion of the project PCA will arrange for the archive to be deposited, if required, with the relevant archive repository.

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. The relevant museum, 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.
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- 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 Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the evaluation and to Roland Smith of Berkshire Archaeology for his advice.

The evaluation was supervised by Ryan Wolfe, assisted by Bartłomiej Grden.

This report was prepared by Ryan Wolfe with Illustrations prepared by Hayley Baxter. The project was managed for PCA by Paul McCulloch.

7 REFERENCES

AOC, 2017, *Land at Wick Hill Campus, Bracknell, Berkshire, Desk-Based Assessment*, AOC Project No. 33154

PCA, 2017, *Land at Wick Hill Campus, Bracknell, Berkshire, Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*.

Appendix 1: Trench Index

Context Number	Trench Number	Section	Type	Description	Thickness
101	1	1A	Layer	Top soil, dark brownish grey clayey sand	0.08m
102	1	1A	Layer	Sub soil, dark brownish grey clayey sand	0.16m
103	1	1A	Layer	Natural, mid-orangish brown clay	<0.16m
201	2	1B	Layer	Top soil, dark greyish brown clayey sand	0.18m
202	2	1B	Layer	Re-deposited natural, mid-orangish brown clay	0.33m
203	2	1B	Layer	Buried top soil, dark greyish brown clayey sand	0.15m
204	2	1B	Layer	Natural, mid-orangish brown clay	<0.24m

Appendix 2: Photographs (Plates 1-2)



Plate 1: Trench 2, view to south east. 1m scale.



Plate 2: Section 1B in Trench 2. 1m scale

Appendix 3: OASIS Record

OASIS ID: preconst1-304420

Project details

Project name Wick Hill Campus, Sandy Lane, Bracknell

Short description of the project The excavation of two 30m X 2m trenches to evaluate the potential of archaeological resources on the site.

Project dates Start: 11-12-2017 End: 13-12-2017

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project reference codes SLBB17 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Current Land use Other 14 - Recreational usage

Monument type NONE None

Significant Finds NONE None

Project location

Country England

Site location BERKSHIRE BRACKNELL FOREST BRACKNELL Wick Hill Campus, Sandy Lane, Bracknell

Postcode RG42 2LB

Study area 1.43 Hectares

Site coordinates SU 87076 69944 51.421315950143 -0.747545624197 51 25 16 N 000 44 51 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Project brief originator CgMs Consultants Ltd

Project director/manager Paul McCulloch

Project supervisor Ryan Wolfe

Type of sponsor/funding body Private Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body Cala Homes (Thames) Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Local Museum

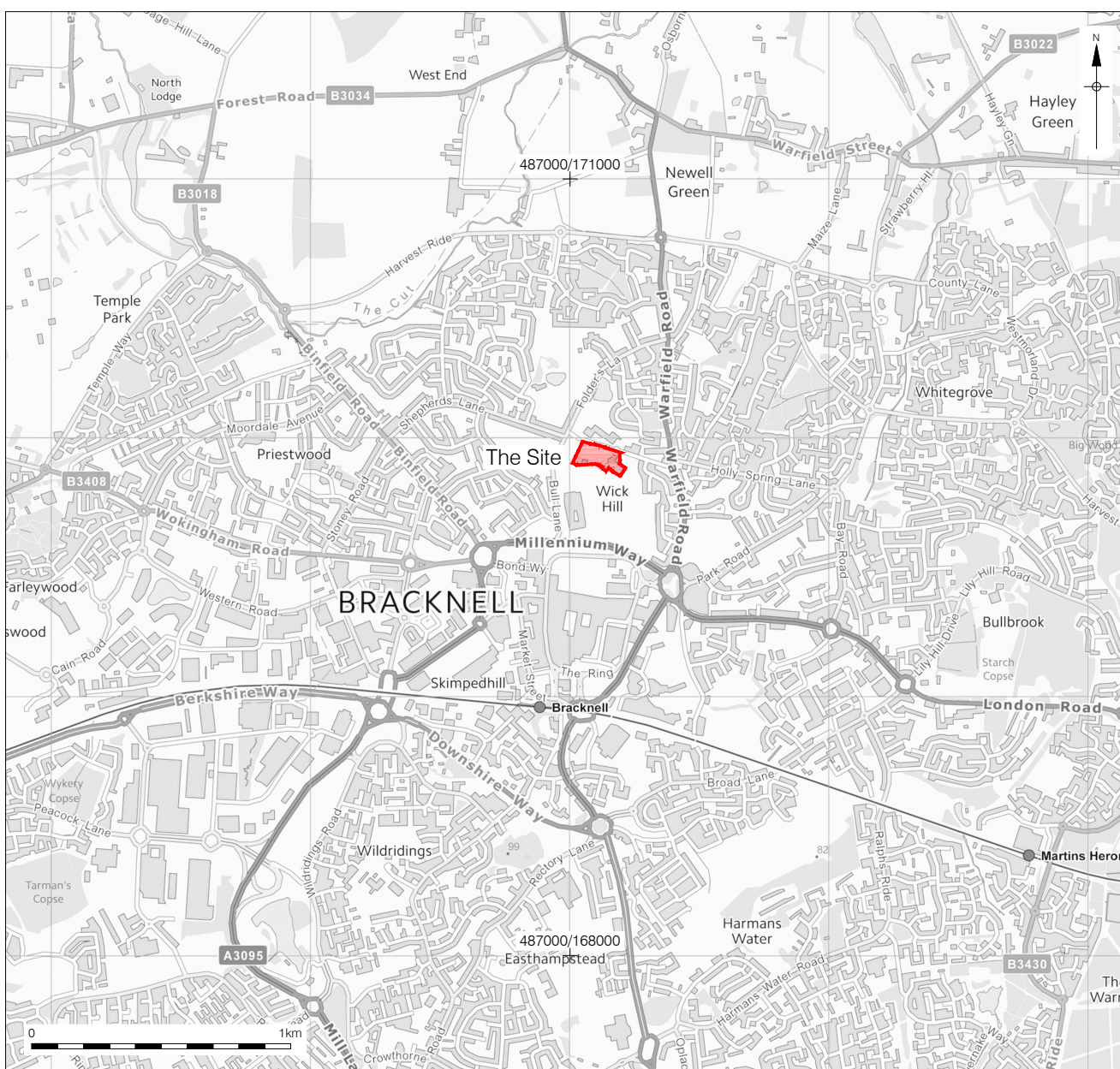
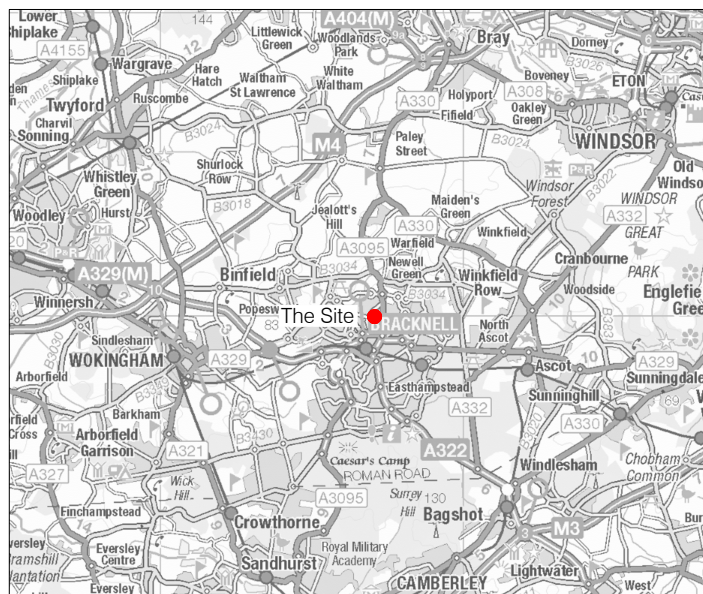
Digital Media available "Database","GIS","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Local Museum

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Photograph","Report","Section","Survey "

Entered by Ryan Wolfe (ryanlwolfe@hotmail.co.uk)

Entered on 19 December 2017

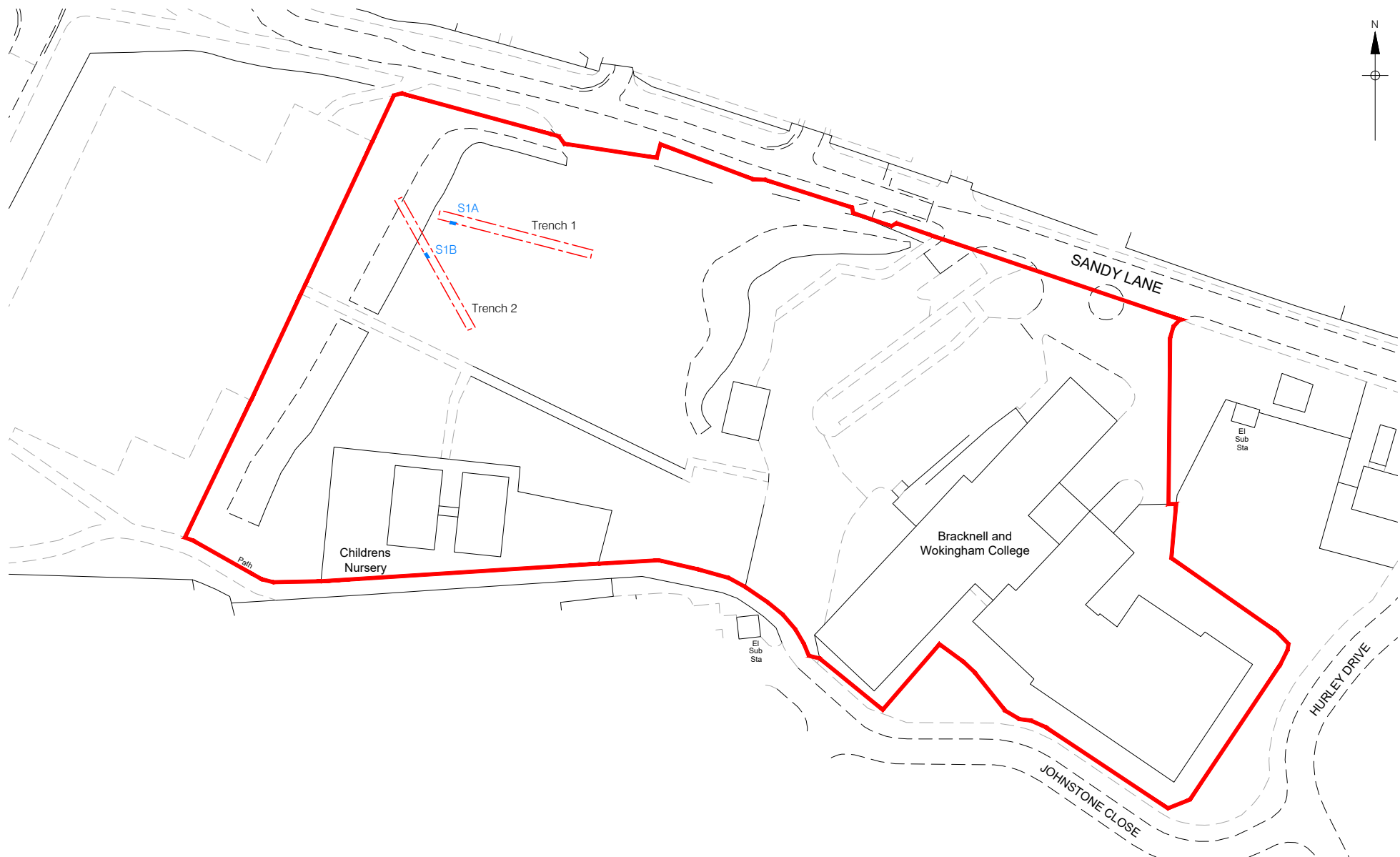


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Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000; 250,000 & 25,000 at A4



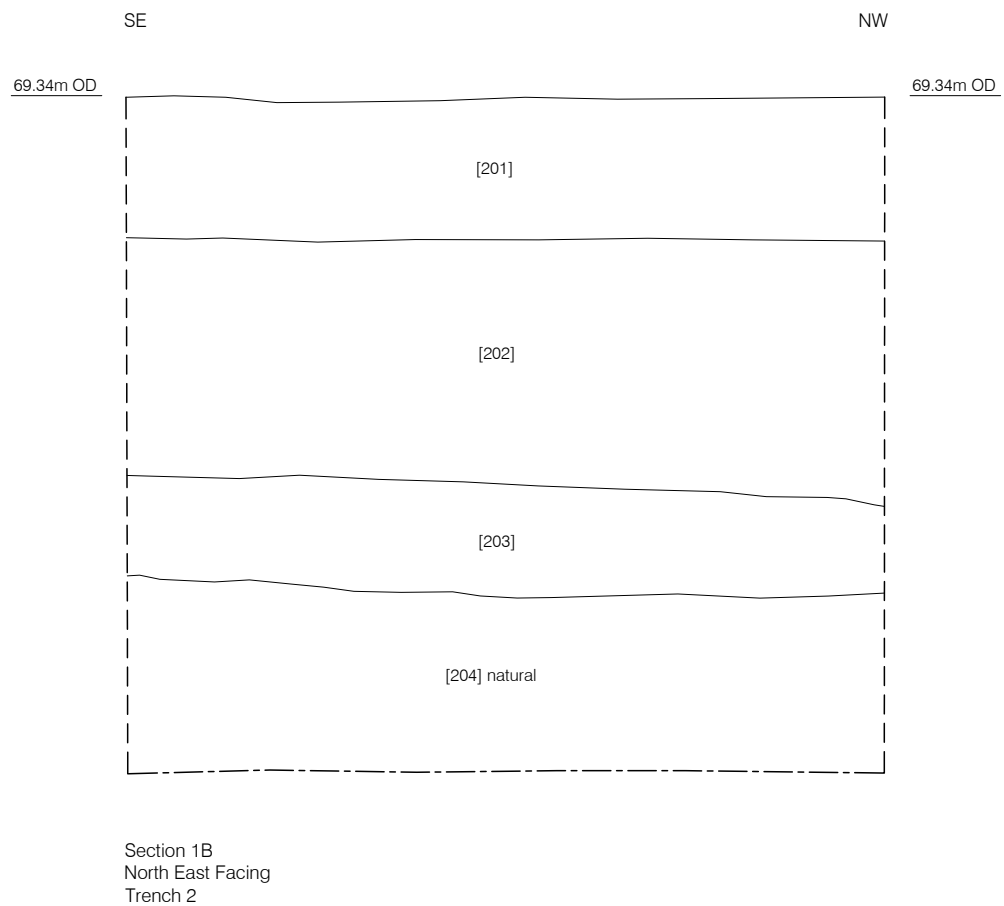
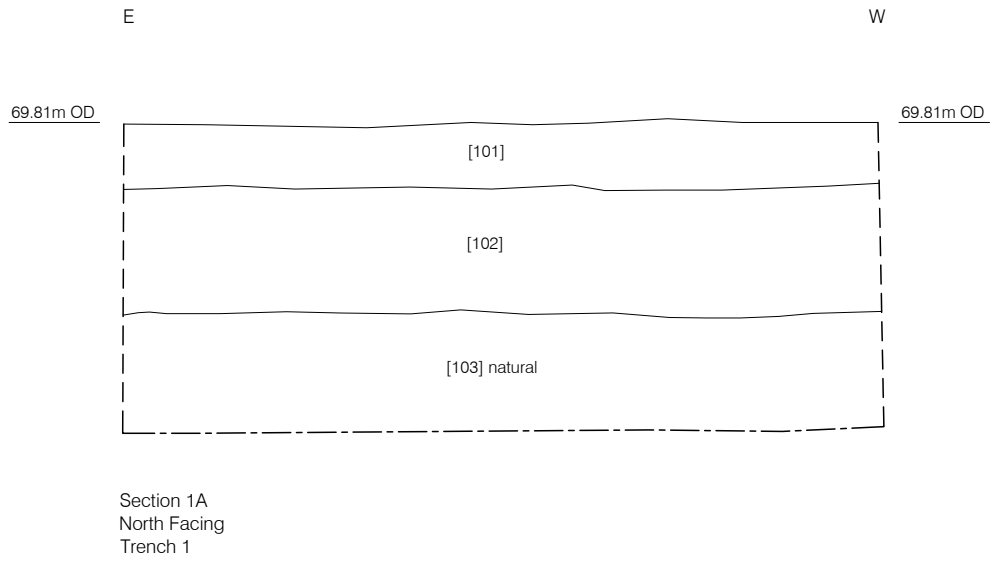
0 50m

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Figure 2
Trench Locations
1:1,000 at A4



PCA

PCA CAMBRIDGE

THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM
BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN
t: 01223 845 522
e: cambridge@pre-construct.com

PCA DURHAM

UNIT 19A, TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK
TURSDALE
DURHAM DH6 5PG
t: 0191 377 1111
e: durham@pre-construct.com

PCA LONDON

UNIT 54, BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE
96 ENDWELL ROAD, BROCKLEY
LONDON SE4 2PD
t: 020 7732 3925
e: london@pre-construct.com

PCA NEWARK

OFFICE 8, ROEWOOD COURTYARD
WINKBURN, NEWARK
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NG22 8PG
t: 01636 370410
e: newark@pre-construct.com

PCA NORWICH

QUARRY WORKS, DEREHAM ROAD
HONINGHAM
NORWICH NR9 5AP
T: 01223 845522
e: cambridge@pre-construct.com

PCA WARWICK

UNIT 9, THE MILL, MILL LANE
LITTLE SHREWLEY, WARWICK
WARWICKSHIRE CV35 7HN
t: 01926 485490
e: warwick@pre-construct.com

PCA WINCHESTER

5 RED DEER COURT, ELM ROAD
WINCHESTER
HAMPSHIRE SO22 5LX
t: 01962 849 549
e: winchester@pre-construct.com

