

**LAND NORTH OF WESTHAMPNETT
ROAD, CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX**

**REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION**

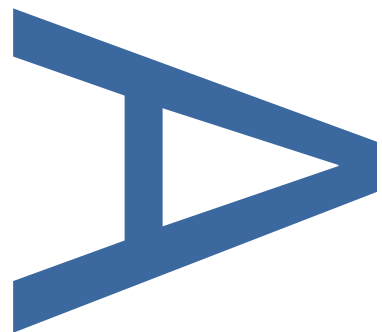
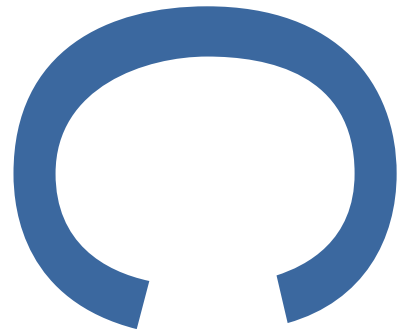
**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
CHICHESTER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBERS:
13/03775/OUT**

PCA REPORT NO: R13634

SITE CODE: WSWH19

APRIL 2019



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

**LAND NORTH OF WESTHAMPNETT ROAD, CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX:
REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

Site Code: WSWH 19

Central NGR: 487403 105558

Local Planning Authority: Chichester District Council

Planning Reference: 13/03775/OUT

Commissioning Client: Archaeology Collective

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DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Site Name: Land North of Westhampnett Road, Chichester, West Sussex

Type of project: Archaeological Evaluation

Report: R13634

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited	Project Code	K5674	
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	G Howland		03/04/2019
Graphics Prepared By:	R Murphy		03/04/2019
Graphics Checked By:	M Roughley		
Project Manager Sign-off:	P McCulloch	PMC	25/04/2019

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Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Trench Location

Figure 3: Sections

1 ABSTRACT

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Archaeology Collective, on behalf of Brookhouse Group Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land North of Westhampnett, West Sussex centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) 487403 105558. The Site is the subject of a proposed retail development and associated works.

The evaluation formed part of a staged approach to understanding the archaeological implications of the proposed development. This document provides a report on the evaluation, which comprised two trenches; one 25m x 1.8m and one 21m x 1.8m. The evaluation was undertaken between 28th -29th March 2019. The evaluation was completed as planned in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation.

The evaluation demonstrated that the Site contains no significant archaeological remains. Any previously in situ archaeology was likely damaged and completely removed during the site's time as a landfill.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Background

2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Archaeology Collective, on behalf of Brookhouse Group Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land North of Westhampnett, West Sussex, (**Figure 1**), hereafter ‘the site’ (centred at NGR: 487403 105558). The Site is the subject of a proposed retail development and associated works.

2.1.2 The evaluation formed part of a staged approach to understanding the archaeological implications of the proposed development.

2.1.3 This document provides a report on the evaluation, which comprised two trenches; one 25m x 1.8m and one 21m x 1.8m. The evaluation was undertaken between 28th -29th March 2019.

2.1.4 This document provides a report on the results of the evaluation and has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 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, an area of approximately 0.2ha, is located on the North side of Westhampnett road, on the eastern outskirts of Chichester, southwest of the Crematorium. It is bounded to the northeast and southwest by the River Lavant and by the Former landfill site to the northwest, a boundary signified by the gas venting trench.

2.2.2 The Site was previously overgrown with scrubby vegetation and trees, but this had been stripped prior to the commencement of the evaluation. The Site lies at 16m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at its highest point.

2.2.3 The bedrock geology of site is London Clay Formation - Clay, Silt And Sand. With superficial deposits of Alluvial Fan Deposits - Gravel, Sand, Silt And Clay. (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>)

2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.3.1 The WSI (Archaeology Collective 2018) provided a brief summary of the archaeological and historical background to the Site:

‘Westhampnett Road follows the line of a major Roman road, known as Stane Street, linking the Roman city of London (Londinium) with the early Roman legionary fortress and later town of Chichester (Noviomagus). It is probable that the river channel which flows alongside the northern edge of the present road has been diverted along the northern side ditch of the Roman road.

There is potential for encountering archaeological deposits relating to the Roman road and any roadside settlement existing alongside it.

The majority of the development site has been quarried and the site used as landfill during the last century. The history of the evaluation site is unknown.'

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, particularly with regard to possible features associated with the Roman road, 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 The following presents a summary of the evaluation results based upon the Site archive, which comprises a Site diary, trench recording sheets, drawings and digital photographs. A summary of recorded contexts is provided in a Trench Index in Appendix 1 and photographs of the trenches in Appendix 2. The archive is held at PCA's Winchester office under the site code WSWH 19 and will in due course be deposited with the Novium Museum, Chichester.

4.2 Methodology

4.2.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken following the methodology that was detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Archaeology Collective 2018), which was approved by the Local Planning Authority in advance of the commencement of works and on the advice of their archaeological advisor James Kenny, Archaeology Officer, Chichester District Council.

4.2.2 The evaluation comprised two trenches; one 25m x 1.8m and one 21m x 1.8m (**Figure 2**). The WSI provided approximate locations for the trenches and planned for two trenches up to 30m in length. Both trenches were excavated southeast to northwest, starting at the edge of the area and terminating when they met the gas venting trench. The evaluation was undertaken between 28th -29th March 2019.

4.2.3 Prior to the commencement of the evaluation, excavation for a culvert within the area of the site had begun, the trench was aligned northeast -southwest (**Figure 2, Plate 1**).

4.3 Summary of Deposition Sequence

4.3.1 The deposit sequence shown varied across the site (**Figure 3**). The trenches demonstrated a varied depth of cover above the natural. The natural comprised gravel on the southeast edge of the site and clay across the rest, seen at depths between 0.55m-1.02m below ground level (BGL).

4.3.2 The natural was sealed by a layer of subsoil and topsoil, seen up to depths of 0.15m - 0.63m BGL, with a much deeper layer of soil on the southeast edge of the site, adjacent to the River Lavant. This layer was seen up to depth of at least 0.94m BGL.

4.3.3 Underlying the top and subsoil was a variety of deposits relating to the use of the site as a land fill. These deposits were seen up to depths of 0.85m -1.02m BGL (**Figure 3, Plate 2**).

4.3.4 The deposition sequence revealed by the culvert trench was largely consistent with that of the evaluation, except in northeast corner of the trench. Unstructured chalk was encountered at a depth of 0.34m BGL (**Figure 3, Plate 3**). The natural chalk curves round to the southwest, following the mapped edge of the former landfill area.

4.4 Archaeological Features

4.4.1 No significant archaeological remains were uncovered, with most of the site adversely affected by activities relating to the use of the area as a land fill.

4.4.2 Within the deeper layer of soil on the southeast edge of the site, adjacent to the River Lavant, a single fragment of medieval ridge tile and a single oyster shell was recovered. Neither of these artefacts were believed to be in-situ and likely relate to material brought up from the river.

4.5 Conclusion

4.5.1 The evaluation has demonstrated that the Site retains no significant archaeological remains. Any potentially *in situ* archaeology was likely damaged and completely removed during the site's time as a landfill.

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' (ClfA 2014). On completion of the project PCA will arrange for the archive to be deposited with the Novium Museum, Chichester.

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 Novium 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 (which includes the Chichester HER).

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 Ltd is grateful to Archaeology Collective for commissioning the evaluation and to James Kenny, Chichester District Council Archaeology Officer, for his advice. The assistance on site of Soldi Ltd and David Cooper of coopergeomatics is also duly acknowledged. The evaluation was supervised by Gareth Howland, assisted by Poppy Howland. This report was prepared by Gareth Howland with illustrations prepared by Ray Murphy. The project was managed for PCA by Paul McCulloch.

7 REFERENCES

Archaeology Collective, 2018, '*Written Scheme of Investigation: Land north of Westhampnett Road, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 7UH*'.

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH INDEX

Trench No.	Context	Type	Description	Depth of surface (m) BGL	Depth of base (m) BGL
1	101	Topsoil	dark greyish brown, sandy silt with frequent gravel	0	0.19 - 0.52
	102	Subsoil	mid greyish brown, silty clay with frequent gravel	0.19	0.55
	103	Natural	mid orangey-brown, silty clay with gravel towards S-end	0.34-1.02	0.4-1.2+
	104	Layer	mid greyish-brown, silty clay. (Land fill)	0.15	0.34
	105	Layer	mid greyish brown, clay (Land fill)	0.32	0.7
	106	Layer	dark blackish-brown, silty clay (Land fill)	0.7	0.93
	107	Layer	dark greyish -brown, silty clay (Land fill)	0.93	1.02
	108	Layer	mid greyish brown, silty clay with occasional gravel	0.3	0.9+
2	201	Topsoil	dark greyish brown, sandy silt with occasional gravel	0	0.43
	202	Subsoil	mid greyish brown, silty clay with frequent gravel	0.43	0.63
	203	Natural	mid orangey-brown, silty clay with gravel	0.63	0.82
	204	Layer	mid greyish-brown, silty clay. (Land fill)	0	0.33

	205	Layer	dark blackish-brown, silty clay (Land fill)	0.33	0.54
	206	Layer	mid greyish -brown, silty clay (Land fill)	0.54	0.85
	207	Layer	mid greyish brown, silty clay with occasional gravel	-	-

APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHS



Plate 1. Shot of site facing northeast.



Plate 2. Shot of northeast facing section of trench 1



Plate 3. Shot of southeast facing section of culvert trench

APPENDIX 3: OASIS RECORD

OASIS ID: preconst1-347659

Project details

Project name	Land North of Westhampnett
Short description of the project	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Archaeology Collective, on behalf of Brookhouse Group Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land North of Westhampnett, West Sussex centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) 487403 105558. The Site is the subject of a proposed retail development and associated works. The evaluation forms part of a staged approach to understanding the archaeological implications of the proposed development. This document provides a report on the evaluation, which comprised two trenches; one 25m x 1.8m and one 21m x 1.8m. The evaluation was undertaken between 28th - 29th March 2019. The evaluation was completed as planned in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation. The evaluation demonstrated that the Site contains no significant archaeological remains.
Project dates	Start: 28-03-2019 End: 29-03-2019
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WSWH 19 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	13/03775/OUT - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Vacant Land 3 - Despoiled land (contaminated derelict and ?brownfield? sites)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX CHICHESTER CHICHESTER Land West of Westhampnett Road
Postcode	PO19 7UH
Study area	0.2 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 87403 05558 50.842375482151 -0.758466172249 50 50 32 N 000 45 30 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA Winchester
Project brief originator	Archaeology Collective
Project design originator	Archaeology Collective
Project director/manager	Paul McCulloch
Project supervisor	Gareth Howland

Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Brookhouse Group Ltd

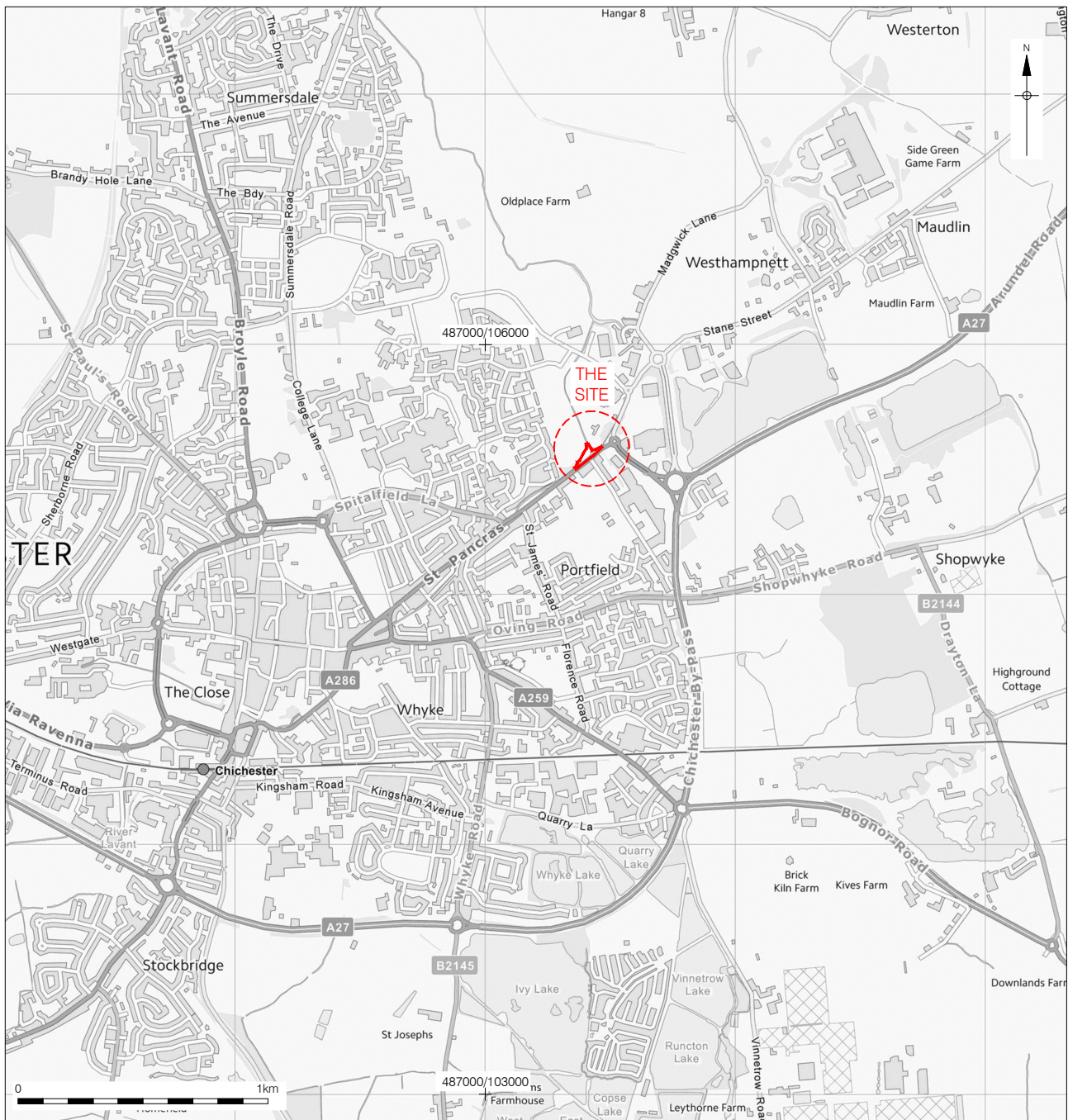
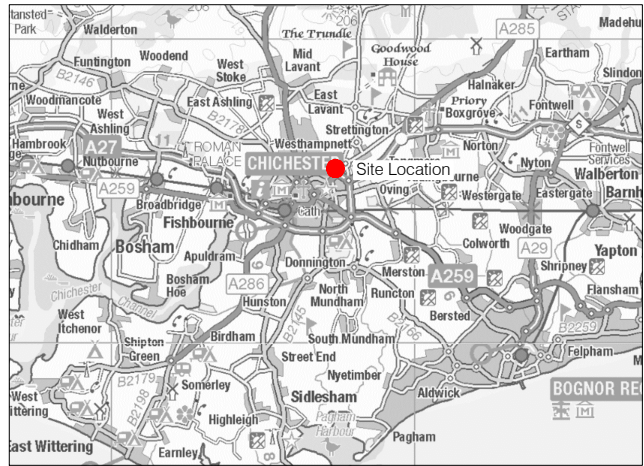
Project archives

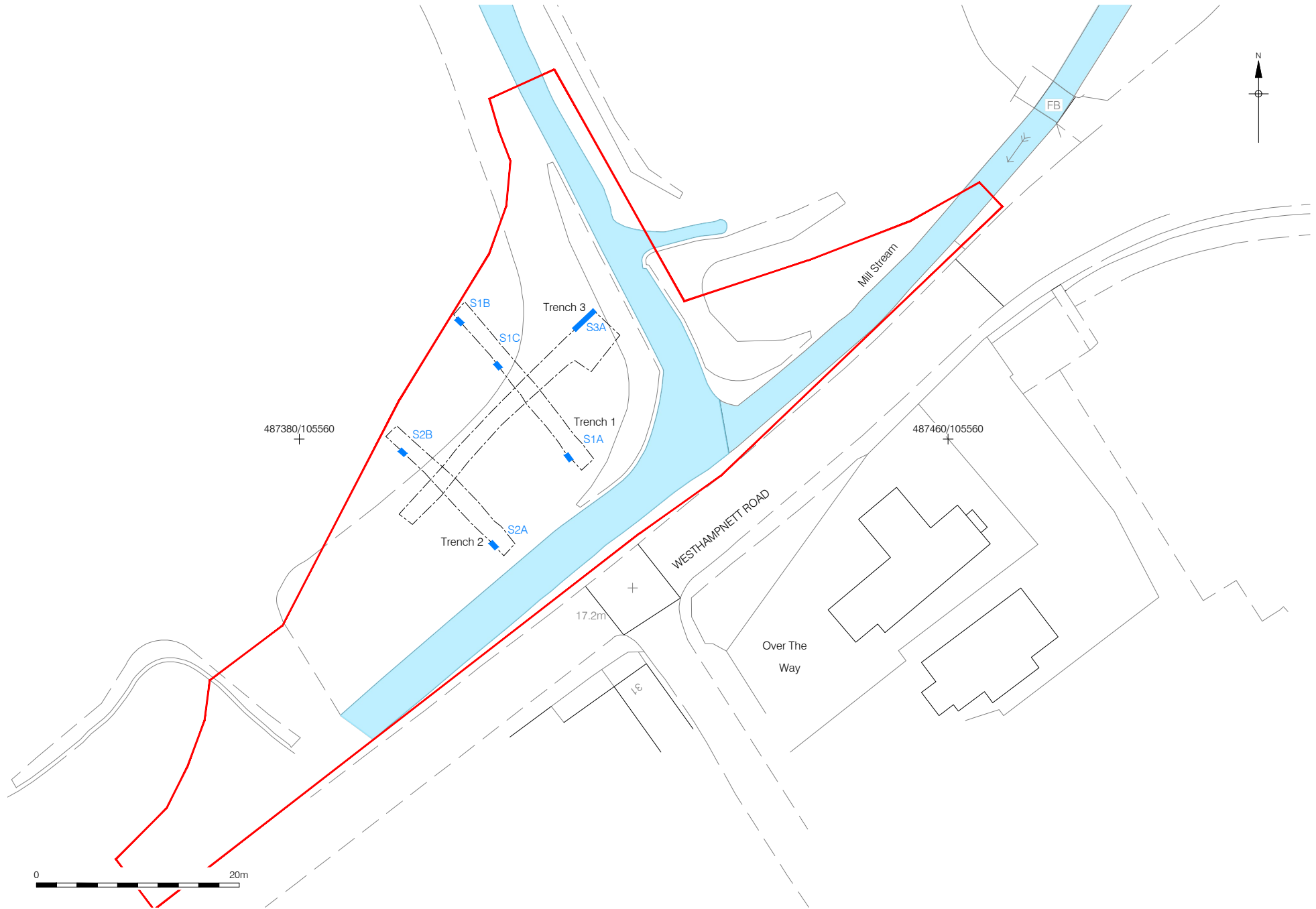
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	The Novium
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	The Novium
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey"

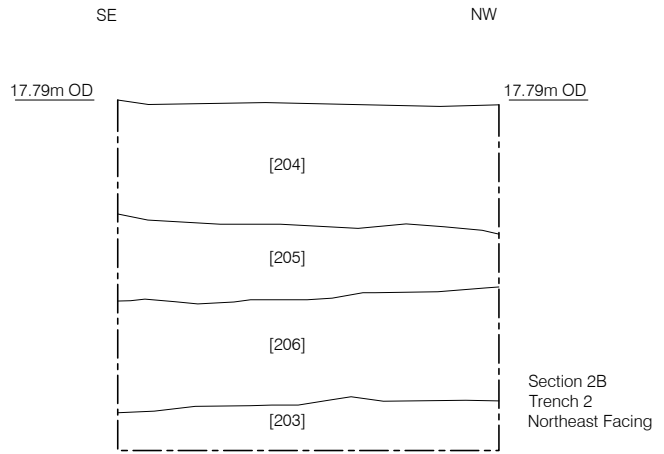
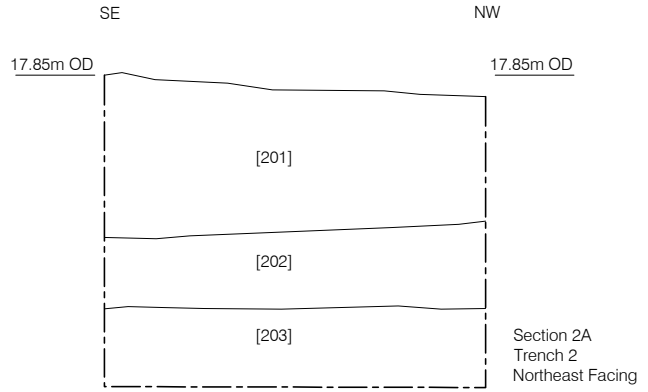
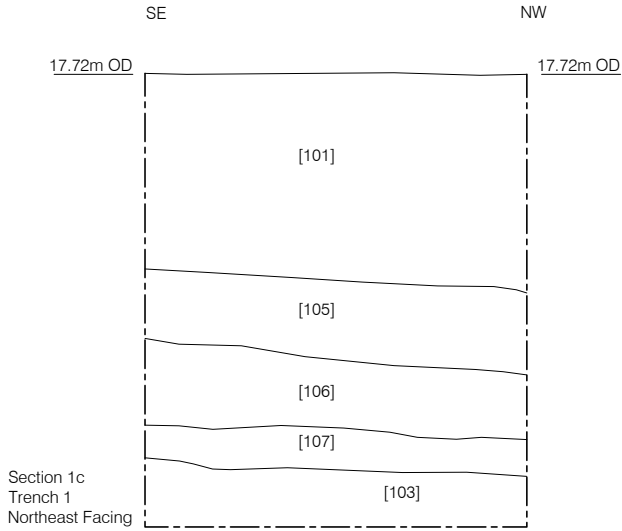
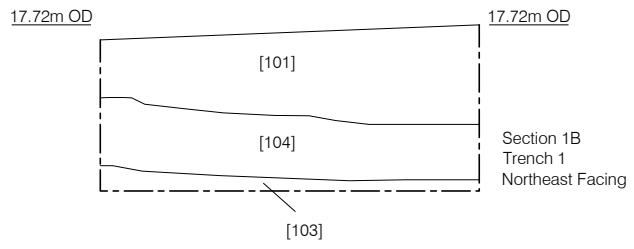
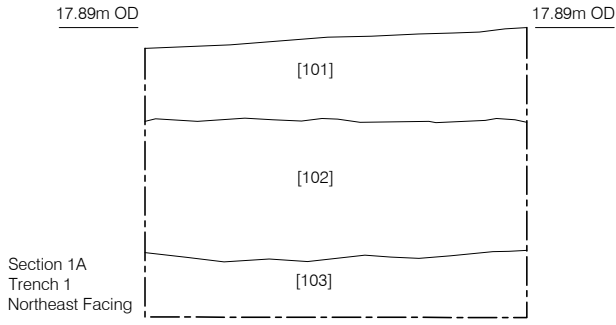
Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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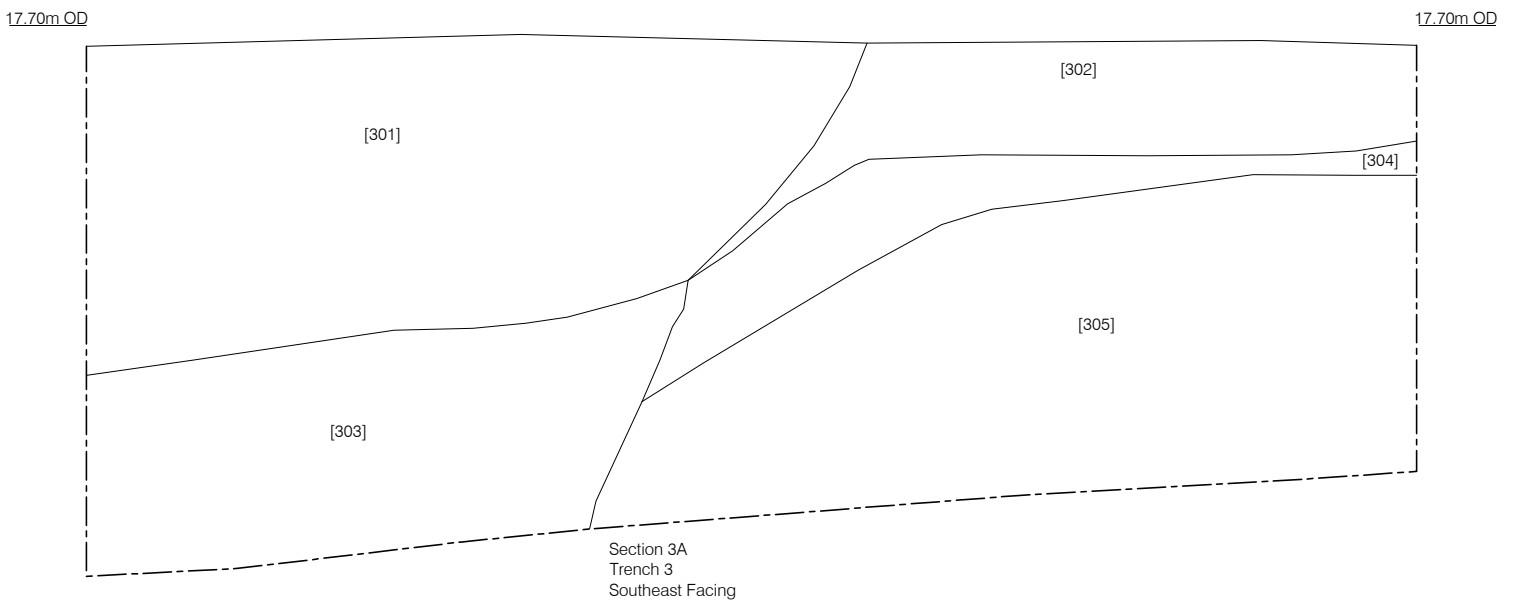


Figure 3
Sections
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