



122-128 NEWMARKET ROAD, CAMBRIDGE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



Report Number: 1205

August 2018



122-128 NEWMARKET ROAD, CAMBRIDGE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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Abstract

On the 16th July to the 1st August 2018, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation (TL 4633 5892) at 122 - 128 Newmarket Road, Cambridge, on behalf of Ninja Theory Ltd and Learig (Cambridge) Ltd, as a condition of a planning application. The evaluation was undertaken in response to a design brief issued by Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET) (Thomas, A. 2018) requiring an archaeological evaluation to adequately sample the threatened available area. Due to onsite constraints this took the form of four 3.00m x 3.00m and a single 4.00m x 4.00m test pits.

The archaeological background suggested that the site had a moderate to high potential for features and finds relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods.

The evaluation was successful in revealing 3 phases of archaeology. The first phase relates to medieval activity. A pit likely representing domestic waste activity was encountered in the eastern portion of the site. It would not be unreasonable to assume that further associated features would be present close to this feature and in a comparable state of preservation.

The second phase of activity is associated with a former subsoil. This phase, broadly dating to the post medieval period represents the change in the use of the site for minor agriculture before its eventual development in the final phase.

The final phase of activity relates to the mostly modern build-up of the site to its current level. Successive phases of in filling were evidenced through made ground layers 1002 and 1003. These layers also formed the foundation for the current yard surface which serviced the former public house and shop to the north of the site.

Overall the evaluation was successful in assessing the survival of archaeological remains at the site. The project has identified clear medieval occupation of the site as well as the full extent of modern truncation.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

On the 16th July to the 1st August 2018, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation (TL 4633 5892) at 122 - 128 Newmarket Road, Cambridge, on behalf of Ninja Theory Ltd and Learig (Cambridge) Ltd, as a condition of a planning application, in advance of the erection of an office building, studio, and public house with associated parking and infrastructure. (Fig. 1).

The evaluation was undertaken in response to a design brief issued by Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET) (Thomas, A. 2018) requiring an archaeological evaluation to adequately sample the threatened available area. Due to onsite constraints this took the form of four 3.00m x 3.00m and a single 4.00m x 4.00m test pits.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION (Fig. 1)

The site is located in the Abbey ward of the historic City of Cambridge, opposite the Abbey Church of St Andrew-the-Less dating from the early 13th century (HER 05001) and the precinct of Barnwell Priory, dating from the early 12th century to dissolution in 1538 (HER MCB23337).

The natural bedrock geology is described as West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation. This is a Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 94 to 101 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. The local environment was previously dominated by warm chalk seas (BGS, 2018).

The superficial geology is described as River Terrace Deposits, 3 - Sand And Gravel. These Superficial Deposits formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was previously dominated by rivers (U). (BGS, 2018).

3.0 PLANNING POLICIES

The archaeological investigation is to be carried out on the recommendation of the local planning authority, following guidance laid down by the *National Planning and Policy Framework* (NPPF, DCLD 2012). The relevant local planning policy is *Cambridge City Council Local Plan (to be adopted 2018)*.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2 & 3)

The following archaeological background draws on the Cambridge Historic Environment Record (CHER) (1km search centred on the site), English Heritage PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) (Fig. 2, 3 & 4).

Significant Records



Several excavations have taken place directly adjacent to the site on three sides. Excavation ECB4268, on the east side of the site, identified three main phases of activity dating to the medieval period, post medieval period and the modern period indicating a clear continuity of activity on site. Evidence of possible Medieval agricultural activity was found in the form of ditches and the remains of several Medieval structures were also identified. 1 building was represented by a group of post-holes and possible hearth, the 2nd was represented by a clunch wall, with a possible latrine, fragmentary clay floors and a hearth. In addition a number of layers, pits and post holes were also attributed to the medieval period. The second phase of activity dated to the post medieval period and took the form of two well-made clunch walls, and a possible post hole structure towards the centre of the plot. Traces of previous modern terrace houses, a public house, and a bakers/grocers were also identified.

Two evaluations took place adjacent to the south side of the site. Evaluation ECB3812 uncovered no archaeological features, however post medieval layers were found with inclusions of pottery, CBM and animal bone. Evaluation ECB3986 identified several pits of probable medieval date. Finds recovered from the pits comprised of 12th-14th century pottery and a single sherd of residual Roman pottery.

Further excavations have been undertaken along the south side of Newmarket Road continuing east from the site and reveal an extensive Medieval settlement. Evidence of medieval plots fronting onto Newmarket Road was found c.100m east of the site (ECB3941). Buildings were represented by groups of post holes, clay floors, and remnants of stone walls. Evidence of ovens/kilns and wells were also found and an assemblage of stone architectural fragments interpreted as pieces of Barnwell Priory. Further evidence of medieval activity was found c.200m east of the site indicating agricultural land use until the 1200s and settlement from the 13th century which rapidly grew until its decline in the 15th century was found (ECB3733). Features dating the medieval period were also found a further 30m east on Newmarket Road, and a 16th century clunch wall was identified running parallel to Coldhams Lane (ECB3873).

Other notable entries returned by the CHER are those relating to Barnwell Priory, the precinct of which is located opposite and north of the site (MCB23337, ECB5134, ECB784, ECB2961). The priory was founded in 1092 in its original location near Cambridge Castle and later moved to the present site in 1112. By the end of the 13th century the priory was well established and had all the components of a large religious establishment. It was surrendered in the 1538 dissolution and much of the stone was used in Corpus Christi College. Substantial remains appeared to exist until the early 19th century when the site was subjected to gravel quarrying. Excavation in 1985 revealed traces of foundations most likely from the priory but it was reckoned that considerable portions of the structures had been quarried away, potentially over 50%. The only surviving structure from the priory is a Cellarer's Chequer, a single vaulted chamber of mid-13th century date, on the corner of Priory Road and Beche Road (DCB7290). Additionally stone coffins are noted on 1st edition OS maps as having been found in an area of gravel pits east of the priory (MCB19332).

Also opposite and north of the site is the Abbey Church of St Andrew-the-less (05001, DCB7330). It was originally built by the adjacent Barnwell Priory and was a simple early



13th century building of a nave and chancel under one roof. The rest of the church is 19th century and modern.

Prehistoric

The prehistoric activity is represented by 4 entries in the CHER. A Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age crouched burial of an adult male was found c.100m east of the site as well as traces of a possible prehistoric field system and struck flints (ECB3941). A mid to late Iron Age ditch with 3 re-cuts was found c.390m to the east of the site (ECB3873). Further evidence of prehistoric activity was found c.350m northwest of the site represented by a group of early Neolithic pits with 200 flint working debitage pieces, and residual Mesolithic, Neolithic, and Early Bronze Age flints (ECB3402). In addition alluvial deposits with redeposited prehistoric artefactual material were found c.900m north of the site (ECB1208).

Roman

Romano-British activity is sparsely represented by the CHER search results. A fragment of residual Roman pottery was found in a quarry pit of probable medieval date adjacent to the south side of the site (ECB3986). A plough tip of possible late Iron Age or Roman date was found during an excavation c.350m from the site indicating agricultural use (ECB3402).

Saxon and Medieval

The Saxon and medieval periods are represented extensively in the immediate area of the site by the previously mentioned adjacent sites, Barnwell Priory, and Abbey Church of St Andrew-the-less. In addition evidence of medieval settlement was found c.350m northeast of the site (ECB4585). A medieval occupation soil with a mix of 12th-13th century rubbish was found near the river c.230m northwest of the site and is thought to be from middens associated with Barnwell Priory (ECB3333).

Post-Medieval

During the post-medieval period the 1km area around the site was quarried evidence of which has been found during excavations and evaluations (ECB4585, ECB4347, ECB4479, ECB4717, ECB3402, ECB3067, ECB3233). The medieval settlement c.100m east of the site continued in use into the 17th century in the form of a fire-damaged brick cellar, evidence of 12 buildings, and a probable manor house (ECB3941). The plots were represented by boundary ditches, pits, wells, ovens, floor surfaces, and dog burials. Further evidence of post-medieval structures evidenced by wall footings and other remains of buildings have been found within the search area (ECB3873, ECB4347, ECB3357, ECB4183, ECB3233).

Modern

Some evidence of WWII activity is present within the search area in the form of a Nissen hut 300m west of the site (ECB3392) and an air raid shelter 230m northwest of the site (ECB3333).



Listed Buildings

A number of listed buildings were returned from the CHER search. The most significant is the previously discussed Abbey Church of St Andrew-the-less across the road from the site (DCB7330). Additionally two extant structures relating to Barnwell Priory were found 110-120m north of the site. DCB7290 refers to the Cellarer's Chequer (discussed above) and DCB7112 refers to a medieval stone wall which was part of the precinct wall of the priory.

Given the above records the site had a low potential for features and finds relating to the prehistoric and Romano-British period, and a moderate to high potential for features and finds relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods.

5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The CHET brief states that the evaluation should aim to determine, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened should be studied (Thomas, A. Brief, Section 3.1).

Both the WSI, fieldwork and resulting report/archiving will be undertaken in accordance with CIFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, 2014.

6.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Research objectives for the project are in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24 (Medlycott, 2011).

Particular study of the following should occur:

- presence/absence of palaeosols and old land surface soils/deposits,
- the character of deposits and their contents within negative features
- palaeochannels
- site formation processes generally.

An assessment of the environmental potential of the site through examination of suitable deposits must also be arranged with a suitably qualified specialist. Attention should be paid:

- to the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features, and to soil pollen analysis;
- to the retrieval of plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits located.



- provision for the absolute dating of critical contacts should be made: eg the basal contacts of peats over former dryland surfaces; distinct landuse or landmark change in urban contexts

The evaluation should also carefully consider the retrieval, characterisation and dating (including absolute dating) of artefact, burial or economic evidence to assist in the characterisation of the site's evidence and in the development of future mitigation strategies.

7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The CHET brief required a programme of linear trial trenching in advance of the construction of an office building, studio, and public house with associated parking and infrastructure. However, through discussion with CHET it is considered that this was best achieved with five 3.00m x 3.00m test pits excavated across the site. The restricted size of the evaluation area is due to on site constraints which include proximity of standing buildings, the proximity of Newmarket road, and known services on site. Due to the presence of a live gas service, Test Pit 2 had to be moved 3.00m west of its intended location. The construction methodology for the new structures will consist of piling.

A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was used to machine down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation work was undertaken by hand (Fig. 4).

The archaeology was recorded using pro-forma record sheets, drawn plans and section drawings and appropriate photographs were also taken.

8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figs. 4 - 7)

Five test pits were excavated across the site. For full deposit logs please refer to appendix 1.

A metal detector was used to scan the site post excavation in the trenches and along with the spoil heaps but did not produce any finds other than demonstrable modern material which was not retained.

8.1 Test Pit 1

Test Pit 1 was located in the south east of the site and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.45m. The trench contained no archaeological features or finds.



8.2 Test Pit 2

Test Pit 2 was located in the eastern portion of the site and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.06m. The Test Pit location had to be adjusted slightly due to the presence of a live gas pipe. The Test Pit contained a single archaeological feature, Pit **1006**.

Pit **1006** was sub circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It was on a broad east – west orientation and contained two fills. Primary Fill **1007** consisted of light grey brown, compact, silty clay, with occasional sub rounded flint inclusions. The fill contained no finds however the author noted the presence of large lumps of degraded chalk within the deposit. Secondary Fill **1008**, consisted of dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt, occasional sub rounded flint inclusions. The layer contained 45 sherds of pottery which have been dated to the mid-12th – 14th centuries. The sherds exhibit very little in terms of abrasion and the diagnostic components of the assemblage are in good condition, (Fawcett, 2018). Of particular note in the assemblage are fourteen sherds of the fabric category MCW dated from the mid-12th to 15th century, although it was at its most popular up to the 14th century. These all belong to a bowl which = has a piercing just below the rim for the purpose of hanging. Overall the pottery can be described as domestic in nature. A single 10L sample was taken from Secondary Fill 1008 for environmental processing, however only a small assemblage of data was recovered giving a limited insight into the economy of the site, (Law, 2018). Interestingly the sample contained no contamination from modern roots demonstrating that the feature was securely sealed by Redeposited Natural 1009. The feature also contained 13 fragments of animal bone, consisting mainly of secondary butchering and meat waste from sheep/goat and cattle and birds. The range in ages of the sheep/goat would suggests a variety of uses, with sheep in the Medieval period being in demand for fleeces to supply the wool trade as well as milk, breeding, skins, meat and other by-products, (Curl, 2018). An additional fragment of work bone was also recovered from the consisting of a piece of split and trimmed rib, roughly smoothed. It contained a small rounded piecing, which has been irregularly cut in centre area of the strip. It seems most likely that this is an unfinished and unused worked bone strip, either for a decorative strip, handle or as part of a composite comb, (Curl, 2018).

8.3 Test Pit 3

Test Pit 3 was located in the centre of the southern portion of the site and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.98m. The test pit contained no archaeological features or finds.

8.4 Test Pit 4

Test Pit 4 was located in the south west of the site and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.95m. The test pit contained no archaeological features or finds.

8.5 Test Pit 5

Test Pit 5 was located in the north west of the site adjacent to Newmarket Road of the site and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.76m. Excavation of the test pit ceased when an extant service was encountered running on a north – south alignment (DP20) through the centre of the excavated area. The service was not identified at the time of the

excavation however the outer pipe was constructed from asbestos. For safety reasons and with the agreement of the CCC HET archaeologist, no further excavation was taken. Due to the service being unidentified, the author could not enter the excavations to complete a sample section. Only a depth measurement could be taken from the top of the section. The service was later identified as a leg from a water pipe now redundant. The test pit contained no archaeological features or finds to the level where excavation ceased. A large amount of truncation from former footings and service runs was noted in addition to the extant service still in place.



DP20; Test Pit 5 – Service pipe showing service run and level that excavation ceased.

9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Fig. 4 - 7)

The deposit model was consistent in the excavated area.

At the top of the stratigraphic sequence was the surface for the plots Yard Surface **1000**. This comprised a dark grey black, compact, tarmac present to a maximum depth of 0.11m in sample section 3.

Below Levelling Layer 1000 was Bedding Layer **1001** which comprised light yellow brown, loose silt sand, present to a depth of 0.20m in sample section 3. This layer is associated with the laying of Yard Surface 1000.



The next layer in the stratigraphic sequence was Made Ground Layer **1002** which comprised a light grey brown, compact, sandy clay with frequent rubble inclusions. This layer was only present in Test pit 1 located in the south eastern portion of the site. This layer is consistent with the modern redevelopment of the site. The layer was present to a depth of 0.42m where present.

Below Made Ground Layer **1002** was Made Ground Layer **1003** which comprised dark grey brown, compact, sandy clay present to a depth of 0.81m in sample section 4. This layer is associated with further with the development of the site in the modern period.

The next layer in the stratigraphic sequence was Former Subsoil **1004**. This layer was only present in Test Pit 1 and was present to as depth of 1.35m. It comprised a light orange brown, silty clay and represents a former agricultural subsoil present on the site before its later redevelopment. Given its position in the stratigraphic sequence its origin is most likely medieval.

Present across the rest of the test pits below Made Ground Layer 1002 was Redeposited Natural **1009**. This layer comprised a mid-orange yellow, loose sand gravel with infrequent rubble inclusions. This layer represents another phase of redevelopment at the site. The re deposition is most likely part of the preparation for levelling the site. This layer sealed the cut feature found in Test Pit 2. This layer was present to a depth of 0.95m in Sample Section 4.

The base of the stratigraphic sequence was Natural Geology **1005**, comprised of a light orange yellow sand gravel.

10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The archaeological background suggested that the site had a moderate to high potential for features and finds relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods.

The evaluation was successful in revealing 3 phases of archaeology. The first phase relates to medieval activity at the site possibly associated with the wider area around Barnwell Priory before its dissolution in 1548. Pit 1006 likely represents domestic waste activity which given the sites location is not unexpected. Pits similar to this were found at the adjacent site (ECB 3941) and the finds dated to a similar period. Evidence of medieval plots fronting onto Newmarket Road were also encountered at the adjacent site reinforcing the interpretation that this feature represents activity associated with medieval domestic occupation. It would not be unreasonable to assume that further associated features would be present close to Pit 1006 and in a comparable state of preservation.

The second phase of activity is associated with the Former Subsoil 1004. This phase broadly dating to the post medieval period represents the change in the use of the site for minor agriculture before its eventual development in the final phase.

The final phase of activity relates to the mostly modern build-up of the site to its current level. Successive phases of in filling were evidenced through made ground layers 1002



and 1003. These layers also formed the foundation for the current yard surface which serviced the former public house and shop to the north of the site.

Overall the evaluation was successful in assessing the survival of archaeological remains at the site. The project has identified clear medieval occupation of the site as well as the full extent of modern truncation.

11.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The final archive will be deposited with the Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (CHET) at their Deepstore facility. The digital archive will be stored with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

12.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Britannia Archaeology would like to thank Ninja Theory Ltd and Learig (Cambridge) for commissioning and funding the project.

We would also like to thank Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team for his advice and assistance on the project.

The site was excavated by Martin Brook of Britannia Archaeology Ltd.



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Websites:

The British Geological Survey (Natural Environment Research Council) – Geology of Britain Viewer - www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience/home.html?Accordion2=1#maps

Historic England PastScape www.pastscape.org.uk



122 - 128 Newmarket, Newmarket Road, Cambridge
Archaeological Evaluation

Archaeological Data Service (ADS) www.ads.ahds.ac.uk

Historic England National List for England

<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list>

DEFRA Magic <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/website/magic>



APPENDIX 1 – DEPOSIT TABLES

TEST PIT 1

Test Pit No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
1	n/a	12.27m	DP1
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1	Centre, E side	West	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.10m	Yard Surface; Dark Grey Black, Compact, Tarmac.	
1001	0.10 – 0.16m	Bedding layer; Light Yellow Brown, Loose, Silty Sand.	
1002	0.16 – 0.42m	Made Ground; Light Grey Brown, Compact, Sandy Clay with Frequent Rubble Inclusions.	
1003	0.42 – 1.02m	Made Ground; Dark Grey Brown, Compact, Sandy Clay.	
1004	1.02 – 1.35m +	Former Subsoil; Light Orange Brown, Silty Clay.	
1005	1.35m +	Natural Geology; Light Orange Yellow, Sand Gravel.	

TEST PIT 2

Test Pit No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
2	n/a	12.35m	DP5
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2	Centre, N side	South	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.10m	Yard Surface; Dark Grey Black, Compact, Tarmac.	
1001	0.10 – 0.18m	Bedding layer; Light Yellow Brown, Loose, Silty Sand.	
1003	0.18 – 0.53m	Made Ground; Dark Grey Brown, Compact, Sandy Clay.	
1009	0.53 – 0.98m	Redeposited Natural; Mid Orange Yellow, Sand Gravel with Infrequent Rubble Inclusions	
1005	0.98m +	Natural Geology; Light Orange Yellow, Sand Gravel.	

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date
1006	Pit (E-W 1.40m x 0.90m x 0.55m) Sub Circular in plan, moderate sloping sides, concave base.	1007	Primary Fill: Light grey brown, compact, silty clay, occasional sub rounded flint inclusions & degraded chalk.	M/L12th-14th
		1008	Secondary Fill: Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt, occasional sub rounded flint inclusions.	M/L12th-14th



TEST PIT 3

Test Pit No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
3	n/a	12.31m	DP6
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3	Centre, E side	West	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 - 0.11m	Yard Surface; Dark Grey Black, Compact, Tarmac.	
1001	0.11 - 0.20m	Bedding layer; Light Yellow Brown, Loose, Silty Sand.	
1003	0.20 - 0.53m	Made Ground; Dark Grey Brown, Compact, Sandy Clay.	
1009	0.53 - 0.61m	Redeposited Natural; Mid Orange Yellow, Sand Gravel with Infrequent Rubble Inclusions	
1005	0.61m +	Natural Geology; Light Orange Yellow, Sand Gravel.	

TEST PIT 4

Test Pit No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
4	n/a	12.34m	DP9
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1	Centre, N side	South	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1001	0.00 - 0.09m	Bedding layer; Light Yellow Brown, Loose, Silty Sand.	
1003	0.09 - 0.81m	Made Ground; Dark Grey Brown, Compact, Sandy Clay.	
1009	0.81 - 0.95m	Redeposited Natural; Mid Orange Yellow, Sand Gravel with Infrequent Rubble Inclusions	
1005	0.95m +	Natural Geology; Light Orange Yellow, Sand Gravel.	



APPENDIX 2 – CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

SITE NAME: 122-128 Newmarket Road, Cambridge
SITE CODE: ECB 5355
P. NUMBER: P 1234



FEATURE CONTEXT	LAYER/FILL CONTEXT	Type	Trial Trench	SPOT DATE	Pot No	Wgt/g	Animal No	Bone Wgt/g	Shell No	Wgt/g	Other
1006	1007	Pit	2	M/L12th-14th	45 45	1265 1265	14 14	80 80	4 4	28 28	Worked Bone (1) 3g



APPENDIX 3 – SPECIALIST REPORTS

The medieval pottery from 122-128 Newmarket Road, Cambridge (ECB 5355): An assessment report

Andy Fawcett

Introduction

A total of forty-five sherds of pottery (1265g) were recovered from the trial trenching at Newmarket Road, Cambridge. All of the sherds were retrieved from a single pit fill (1007) in Trial Trench 2.

This report firstly sets out the methodology employed to record the pottery and then goes on to describe and discuss the assemblage as a whole. This is then followed by a general conclusion and any recommendations that might be required for future work on the group.

Methodology

The pottery has been recorded by fragment count and weight. The principle fabrics within the assemblage have been rapidly scanned at x20 vision. Fabric codes have been assigned using simple letter combinations based upon codes developed by Suffolk/Norfolk County Council Archaeological Services which have been subsequently adapted and used within East Anglia as a whole.

Where present, pottery form types have been allocated plain form descriptions such as jug, cooking pot or dish and so on.

A full breakdown of fabric reference and abrasion codes can be observed in Appendix 1.

Pit fill 1007

The pottery assemblage from this pit fill contains some large fragments, as the average sherd weight of the group indicates (28g) and as a whole the sherds exhibit very little in terms of abrasion. One other positive aspect of this assemblage is



that its diagnostic component (rims) is also good. The fabrics/vessels shall now be described in more detail.

A total of seven body sherds all belong to the remains of a Hedingham (HEDI) pear shaped jug (234g). Several of the sherds join, however no rim or base fragments survive. The fabric is pink and micaceous and displays a copper glaze on its exterior, it is dated from the mid 12th to mid 14th.

Another two glazed body sherds (12g) in a very similar fabric were noted, although this has been listed as unsourced (UPG). This version has much less mica present, and black iron ore is prominent alongside a much coarser quartz mix. It is probable that this is another Hedingham fabric and therefore attracts the same date range as the previous vessels.

Six possible sherds of Lyveden A ware (LYVA) have been identified (148g) a fabric dated from the AD1150 to 1400. Two of the sherds belong to the rim of a cooking pot however, the group as a whole is unified by orange surfaces, a light grey core and the presence of common to abundant calcitic lime, which can clearly be seen on their surfaces; in some respects aspects of this fabric are very similar to Sperry's Huntingdon calcitic fabric (2016, 159).

A small number of body sherds (4@52g) are all from Ely (MEL) and dated from the mid 12th to mid 14th century. The sherds all display a buff/brown surface and have the typical thick black core associated with this industry, as well as abundant ill-sorted calcite/lime; one of the coarser sherds has a green glaze.

The remaining sherds (although separated) are within the fabric category MCW dated from the mid 12th to 15th century, although it was at its most popular up to the 14th century. Fourteen of these (463g) all belong to a bowl with a squared off rim, which also has a piercing just below the rim for the purpose of hanging. It has brown/grey sooted surfaces and contains ill-sorted, but fairly fine quartz and common small grog.

A further eight (181g) sherds, which includes a cooking pot base, are simply grey with abundant quartz, some of which have sooted surfaces and two have a form of 'rilling' on their external surfaces. Two cooking pot rims in this quartz based fabric were also noted (60g).



Finally, an unusual small potential pot fragment was recorded (9g). The fragment is black and friable but also appears burnt, it has one uneven intact surface, whilst the other is degraded. Its contents are very coarse with 'rock' like fragments, some ferrous/slag/magnetic material as well as mica (which can clearly be observed on the surviving surface). Another inclusion which is sparse but consistent, has a light greenish hue. This fragment may represent the remains of a crucible for perhaps copper smelting; the very flat surface is what one may expect to find on vessels of this type which were large and shallow.

Conclusion

The various pottery fabrics and forms from Pit fill 1007 indicate a date from the mid 12th to mid 14th century.

As a whole the assemblage may be described as cohesive and in a good state of preservation (all be it broken) that displays little abrasion and is in its original place of deposition. The group adds important new information about medieval activity in this area of Newmarket Road, which is undoubtedly of a domestic nature, although the presence of a small but potential crucible fragment may hint at some of form low grade industrial activity in the immediate area too.

Pits with domestic waste, relating to medieval plots fronting the road and dated to a similar period as this group, were noted 60m away from this site (ECB 3941). However, at the site opposite (161 Newmarket Road) only late medieval/early medieval activity was recorded in the buried soil layer (Fawcett 2018).

Recommendations for further work

The pottery assemblage from 122-128 Newmarket Road has been fully recorded therefore no further work on these ceramics will be required.

Bibliography

Fawcett, A. R., 2018, 'The pottery and CBM' in Brook, M., *An archaeological investigation at 161 Newmarket Road, Cambridge* (ECB 5380), Britannia Report No xx



Spoerry, P., 2016, *The production and distribution of medieval pottery in Cambridgeshire*, Oxford Archaeology East, East Anglian Report No 159

Appendix 1. Fabric and form codes

Fabrics

MEL	Ely medieval wares
HEDI	Hedingham fineware
LYVA	Lyveden A type shelly ware
MCW	Un sourced medieval sandy reduced wares
UPG	Unprovenanced medieval glazed ware

Abrasion

Abr = abraded, Sli = slightly abraded, gd = good



Sample Assessment

NEWMARKET ROAD CAMBRIDGE

On behalf of Britannia Archaeology

By Matt Law PhD ACIfA FHEA

Sample Assessment NEWMARKET ROAD CAMBRIDGE

Author: M Law

Doc Ref: LP2255E-EAR-v17.0

Site Code: ECB5355

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Table of tables

1. Introduction
2. Methodology
3. Results and Discussion
4. Statement of Potential and Recommendations

1. Introduction

1.1.

This report presents an assessment of a sample from the fill of a 12th- 14 th century pit at Newmarket Road in Cambridge, as well as a statement of potential and recommendations for further work.



2. Methodology

2.1. The sample was washed through a 250µm mesh sieve by Matt Law at

L - P: Archaeology's East of England office.

2.2. The resulting retent was then air dried and fractionated using a nest of sieves.

2.3. The ensuing fractions were scanned under a low power binocular microscope.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Estimated abundance of materials in samples are presented in TABLE 1.

3.2. The sample did not contain modern root material.

3.3. Low quantities of charcoal were present in the sample. The charcoal was in small fragments, the largest being about 5cms in its largest dimension.

3.4. Low quantities of animal bone, including two fragments of fish bone, were present in the sample.

3.5. Three pot sherds were also present in the sample.

3.6. No indicators of past environmental conditions were recovered from the sample.

Context Number	1008
Sample Number	1
Context	
Description	Pit fill
Provisional Date	AD C12th-14th
Weight after processing (g)	1230
% modern roots	0
CHARCOAL	18 (3g)
BONE	8 (12g)
POT	3 (8g)

Table 1 – Items within samples from Newmarket Road, Cambridge

4. Statement of Potential and Recommendations

4.1. The samples give a limited insight into the economy of the site. There is no reliable indication of the site environment.



4.2. Due to the small nature of the assemblage, no further work is judged necessary on the material from the samples, although it should be retained with the site archive.

ECB 5355

122-128 Newmarket Road, Cambridge, Cambs. The FAUNAL REMAINS and SHELL analysis and catalogues & WORKED BONE analysis and catalogue

by Julie Curl –Sylvanus – Archaeological, Natural History & Illustration
Services for Britannia Archaeology. August 2018

A single piece of worked bone was found in the Animal bone bag and this is reported on after the bone and molluscs and included in the appendix. This reduces the count and weight for the animal bone which was provided by Britannia.

ANIMAL BONE

Appendix 1.

Methodology

This summary assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992). All of the bone was scanned to determine range of species and elements present. A note was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights taken and additional counts were made for each species identified, Counts were also taken of bone classed as 'countable' (Davis, 1992) remains. Very few measureable bones were seen and retrieval of metrical data on such a small assemblage was considered not worthwhile. As this is a small assemblage, information was recorded directly into a table for the appendix.

The faunal assemblage

Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 80g of bone, consisting of thirteen pieces, was recovered from a single pit fill in Trench 2, with quantification in Table 1. The bone was found in the same fill as other finds including ceramics of a 12th – 14th century date range.

Ctxt	Trench	Feature	Feature Type	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)
1007	T2	1006	Pit	13	80

Table 1. Quantification of the assemblage by feature, weights and counts.

The bone is in good condition, although fragmented from butchering and wear. No gnawing from dogs or rodents or burning was observed on any of the bone.

Species range and modifications and other observations

At least three species are present in this assemblage, which are quantified in Table 2.

Ctxt	Trench	Feature	Feature Type	Species	NISP
------	--------	---------	--------------	---------	------



1007	T2	1006	Pit	Cattle	1
1007	T2	1006	Pit	Sheep/goat	5
1007	T2	1006	Pit	Bird - Lapwing	2
1007	T2	1006	Pit	Bird - ?Duck sp.	1
1007	T2	1006	Pit	Mammal	4

Table 2. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by species, NISP and feature.

Sheep/goat remains are the most frequent, with at least two individuals, an adult and a juvenile, represented. The remains consisted of the lower and mid leg bones (metapodials and radii) and a pelvic fragment, suggesting a range of meats. The metapodial also bears a cut mark that is consistent with the skinning process.

A single cattle rib, which had been chopped and cut was found, which may have been trimmed into short pieces for inclusion in the cooking of soups and stews to provide the marrow.

Birds were represented by three bones. two wing bones (a coracoid and radius) were identified as a juvenile Lapwing. One humerus shaft compares well with a larger ducks.

Discussion

The bulk of the bone assemblage consists secondary butchering and meat waste from sheep/goat and cattle and birds. The range in ages of the sheep/goat would suggest a variety of uses, with sheep in the Medieval period being in demand for fleeces to supply the wool trade as well as milk, breeding, skins, meat and other by-products.

The birds in the assemblage suggest some wetland close by or birds caught and available at market. Birds such as plovers are often considered a higher status meat as they could be expensive to buy.

The assemblage is unremarkable and broadly similar to other small assemblages of a medieval date range.

Recommendations for further work

This is a small assemblage with limited potential. The assemblage has been recorded fully and no further work is recommended.

MOLLUSC REMAINS

Appendix 2.

Methodology

The molluscs were identified to species using a variety of reference material. Shells were catalogued by species and where appropriate, counts were made of the number of individual species present (NISP), counts of top and base shells and an estimate of the minimum number of individuals (MNI). Bivalve shells are known to be used as painter's palettes and the remains are examined for any traces of pigments. Shells are also examined for any cut marks that would confirm their use for food from the prising



apart of the shells or removal of meat with a knife and examined for parasites and other information following Winder (2011).

The assemblage and discussion

A total of 4 pieces of shell, weighing 28g was recovered from a single pit fill; the remains were discovered with ceramics of a 12th – 14th century date. Quantification of the assemblage appears in Table 3.

Context	Other	Type	Feature	Date	Ctxt Qty	Weight	Species
1007	T2	Pit	1006	12 th – 14 th	4	28	Oyster

Table 3. Quantification of the molluscs by species, NISP and feature type.

All of the bone was from the marine species the Common Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), which is the most common species of edible shell to appear on most archaeological sites. A cut mark in one of the shells attests to the use of the molluscs for their flesh, with the knife cut occurring when the bivalve is prised open to remove the flesh.

A minimum number of three individuals were present. Potentially interesting is that all shells are flat base shells, which might mean that the concave top shells were kept for serving the oysters and discarded elsewhere or perhaps kept for use as painter's palettes.

The Common Oyster is found all around British coasts and especially abundant around East Anglian and southern coasts. While Cambridge is some distance from the coast, oysters travel well in jars or vessels of water for a few days.

Recommendations for further work

This is a small assemblage with limited potential. The assemblage has been recorded fully and no further work is recommended.

WORKED BONE

Appendix 3.

A single fragment of a piece of split and trimmed rib, underside of split rib only roughly smoothed; the strip is broken at both ends with the greatest length measuring 37mm. A small rounded piecing, which has been irregularly cut (not drilled) in centre area of the strip. Piercing measures 4mm in diameter, it is roughly rounded, but with some straight sections that suggest cutting and trimming with a knife. There is no wear or damage around the pierced hole that might suggest it has been used.



Context	Feature	Weight	Length Max	Length Min	Width	Thickness	Description
1007	Pit	3g	37mm	20mm	18.8mm	3.1	Single fragment of worked bone strip with cut hole.

Table 4. Summary of the worked bone strip.

It is most likely that this is an unfinished and unused worked bone strip, either for a decorative strip, handle or as part of a composite comb (such as those seen in Macgregor, 1985). These strips may be left plain or decorated with ring and dot decorations or other carvings.

The piece from this site appears undecorated and may have broken during the working process and was then discarded with other waste.

Recommendations for further work

If other worked bone has been found in the area then this pieces can be considered with other worked remains. Otherwise, no further work is recommended.

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Hillson, S. 1992. *Mammal bones and teeth*. The Institute of Archaeology, University College, London.

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Winder, J.M. 2011. *Oyster shells from archaeological sites*. A brief illustrated guide to basic processing.



Appendixes 1 (Animal bone), 2 (Molluscs) and 3 (Worked bone)

Appendix 1. Summary catalogue of the faunal remains recovered from ECB5355.

Key:

NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present

Ch = chopped

C = Cut

Context	Trench	Feature	Type	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Ad	Juv	Neo	MNI	Element range	Butchering	Ch	C	Comments
1007	T2	1006	Pit	13	80	Cattle	1					rib	chopped/cut	1	1	
1007	T2	1006	Pit			Sheep/goat	5	2	3		2	radii, MT, pelvis	chopped, cut	5	2	adult and juv radius, skinned MT
1007	T2	1006	Pit			Bird - Lapwing	2		2			coracoid and radius				
1007	T2	1006	Pit			Bird - No sp. ID						humerus				?duck species
1007	T2	1006	Pit			Mammal						fragments				Fragment of worked bone removed - see faunal artefacts

Appendix 2. Catalogue of the mollusc remains from ECB5355



Context	Other	Type	Feature	Date	Ctxt Qty	Weight	Freshwater	Marine	Land	Species	NISP	Top	Base	MNI	Apex	Frag	Distort	Worms	Sponge	Barnacles	Attached	Cuts	Burnt	Gnaw	Condition	Pigment?	Comments
1007	T2	Pit	1006	12 th – 14 th	4	28		4		Oyster	4		3	3	3	1	1					1			good/frag		

Appendix 3. Catalogue of the worked bone from ECB5355

Context	Feature	Spotdate	Material	Weight	Length Max	Length Min	Width	Thickness	Description	Est. Date	Origin	Comments
1007	Pit	Medieval	Animal bone	3g	37mm	20mm	18.8mm	3.1	Strip of split and trimmed large mammal (cattle/equid) rib, underside of split rib only roughly smoothed. Small rounded piecing, irregularly cut (not drilled) in centre of strip. Piercing measures 4mm in diameter.	Medieval	Local	12th - 14th century pot date. Partly worked strip, perhaps broken and discarded while working. Presumably for comb,



APPENDIX 4 – OASIS SHEET

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: britanni1-311602

Project details

Project name	122-128 Newmarket Road, Cambridge
Short description of the project	<p>On the 16th July to the 1st August 2018, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation (TL 4633 5892) at 122 - 128 Newmarket Road, Cambridge, on behalf of Ninja Theory Ltd and Learig (Cambridge) Ltd. Due to onsite constraints this took the form of four 3.00m x 3.00m and a single 4.00m x 4.00m test pits. The evaluation was successful in revealing 3 phases of archaeology. The first phase relates to medieval activity. A pit likely representing domestic waste activity was encountered in the eastern portion of the site. It would not be unreasonable to assume that further associated features would be present close to this feature and in a comparable state of preservation. The second phase of activity is associated with a former subsoil. This phase, broadly dating to the post medieval period represents the change in the use of the site for minor agriculture before its eventual development in the final phase. The final phase of activity relates to the mostly modern build-up of the site to its current level. Successive phases of infilling were evidenced through made ground layers 1002 and 1003. These layers also formed the foundation for the current yard surface which serviced the former public house and shop to the north of the site. Overall the evaluation was successful in assessing the survival of archaeological remains at the site. The project has identified clear medieval occupation of the site as well as the full extent of modern truncation.</p>
Project dates	Start: 16-07-2018 End: 01-08-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB 5355 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Monument type	PITS Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)



Development type
Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England
Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE 122-128 newmarket road, cambridge
Postcode CB5 8HE
Study area 0 Hectares
Site coordinates TL 4626 5884 52.207919234544 0.14076228265 52 12 28 N 000 08 26 E Point
Height OD / Depth Min: 0m Max: 0m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator Dan McConnell
Project director/manager Martin Brook
Project supervisor Martin Brook
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body Ninja Theory Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER
Physical Archive ID ECB 5355
Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental"
Digital Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER
Digital Archive ID ECB 5355
Digital Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental"
Digital Media available "Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient Cambridgeshire HER
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Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental"
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

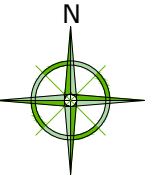
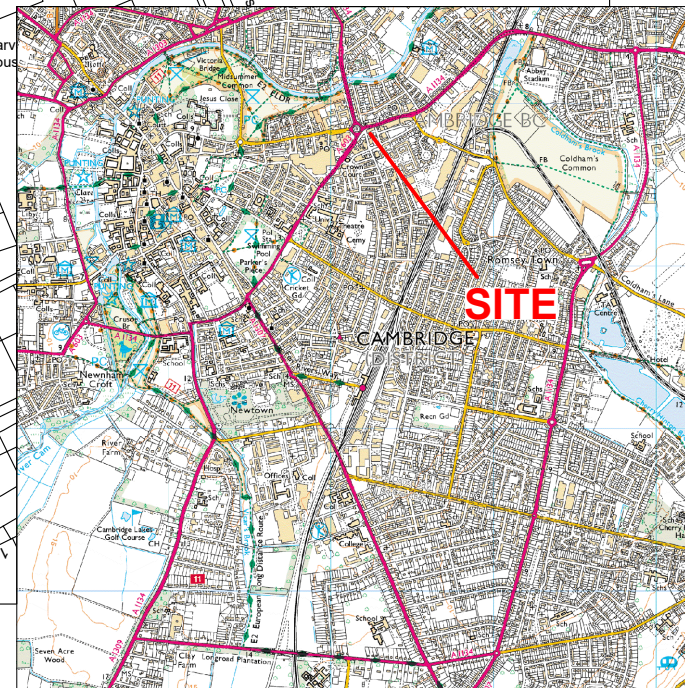
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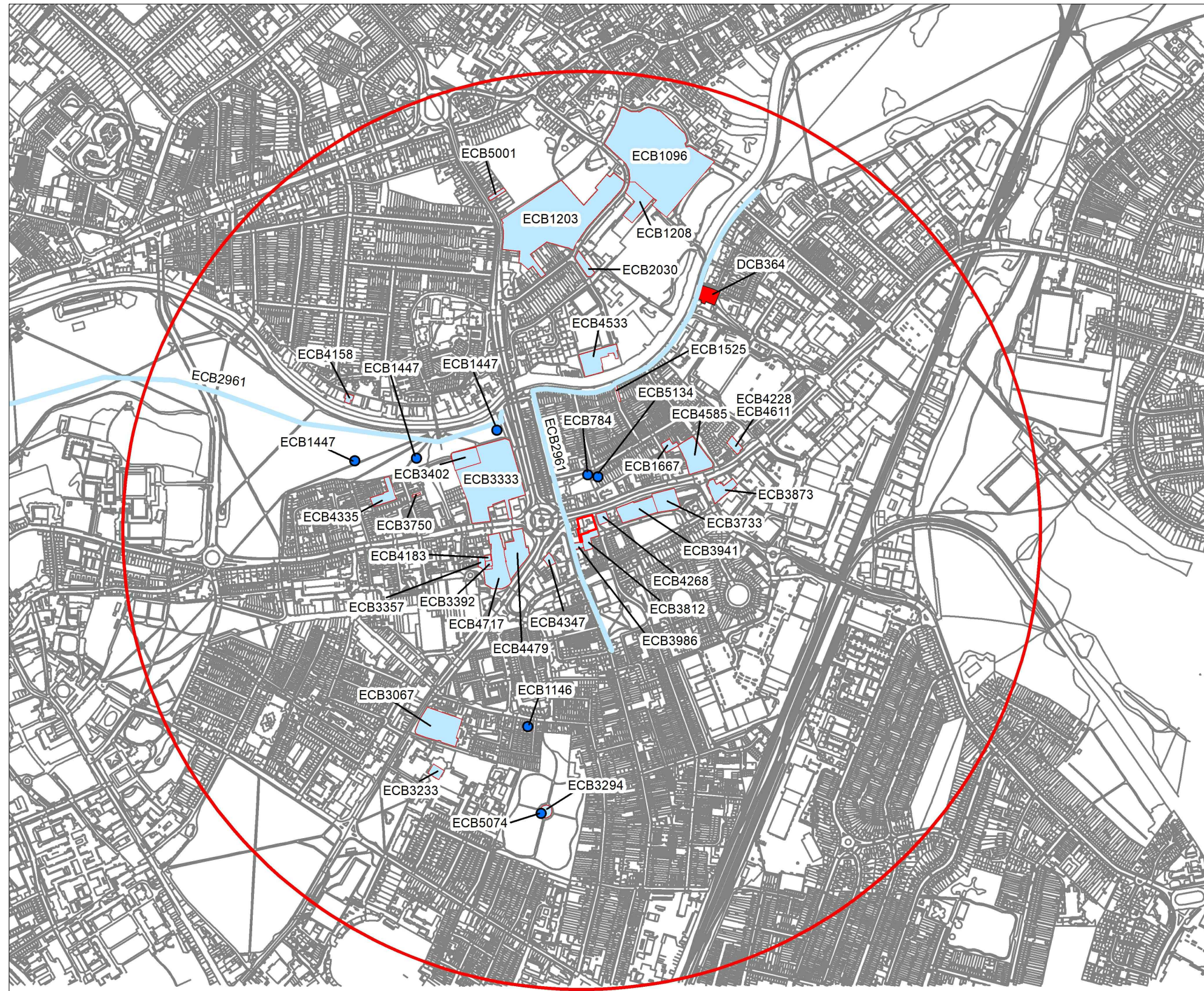
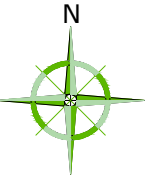


Site Boundary





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VERSION:	2	AUTHOR:	DPM
APPROVED:	MB	FIGURE:	1



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-  Site Boundary

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DESCRIPTION:
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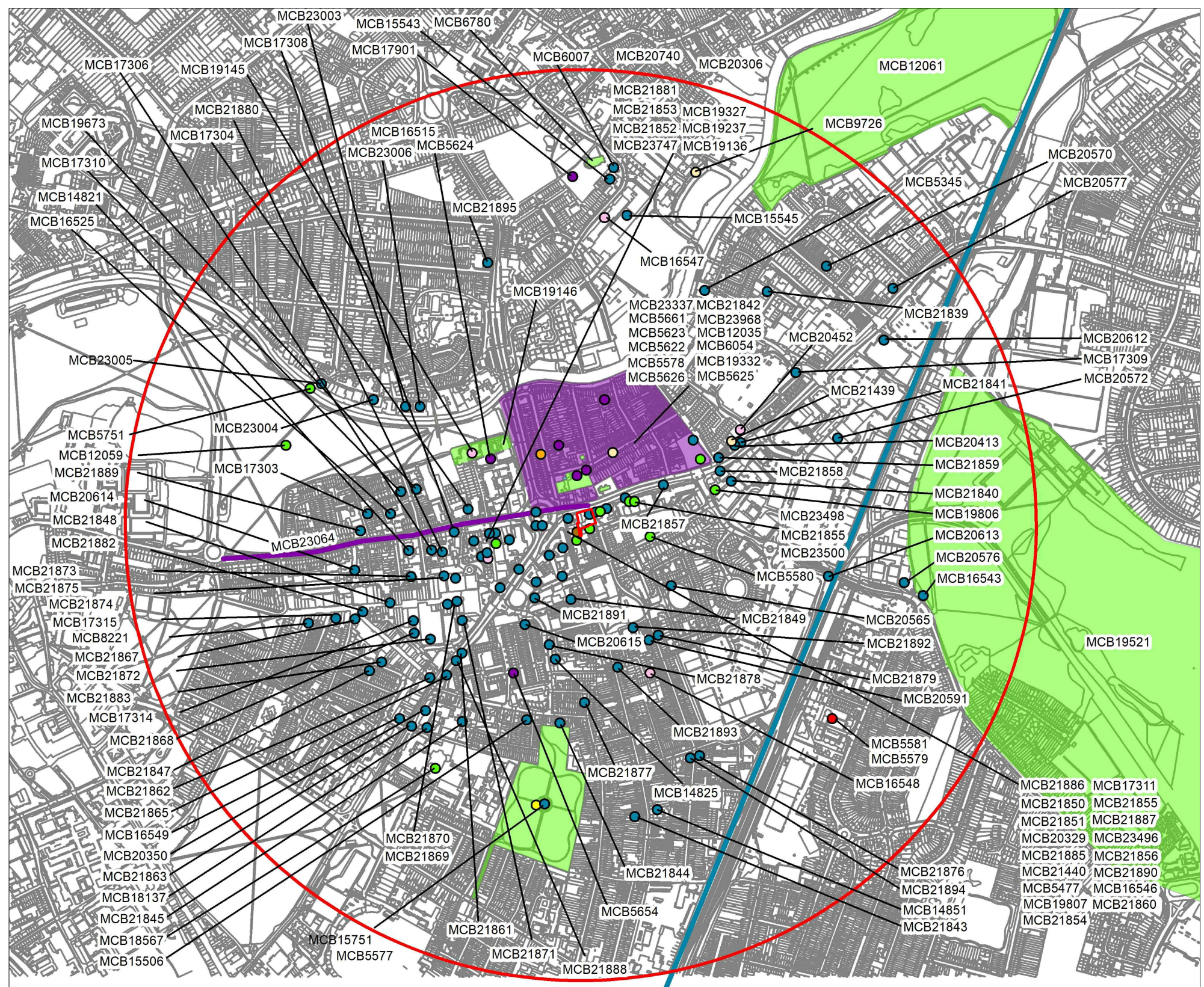
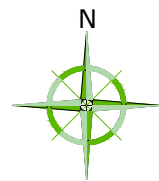
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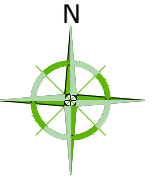
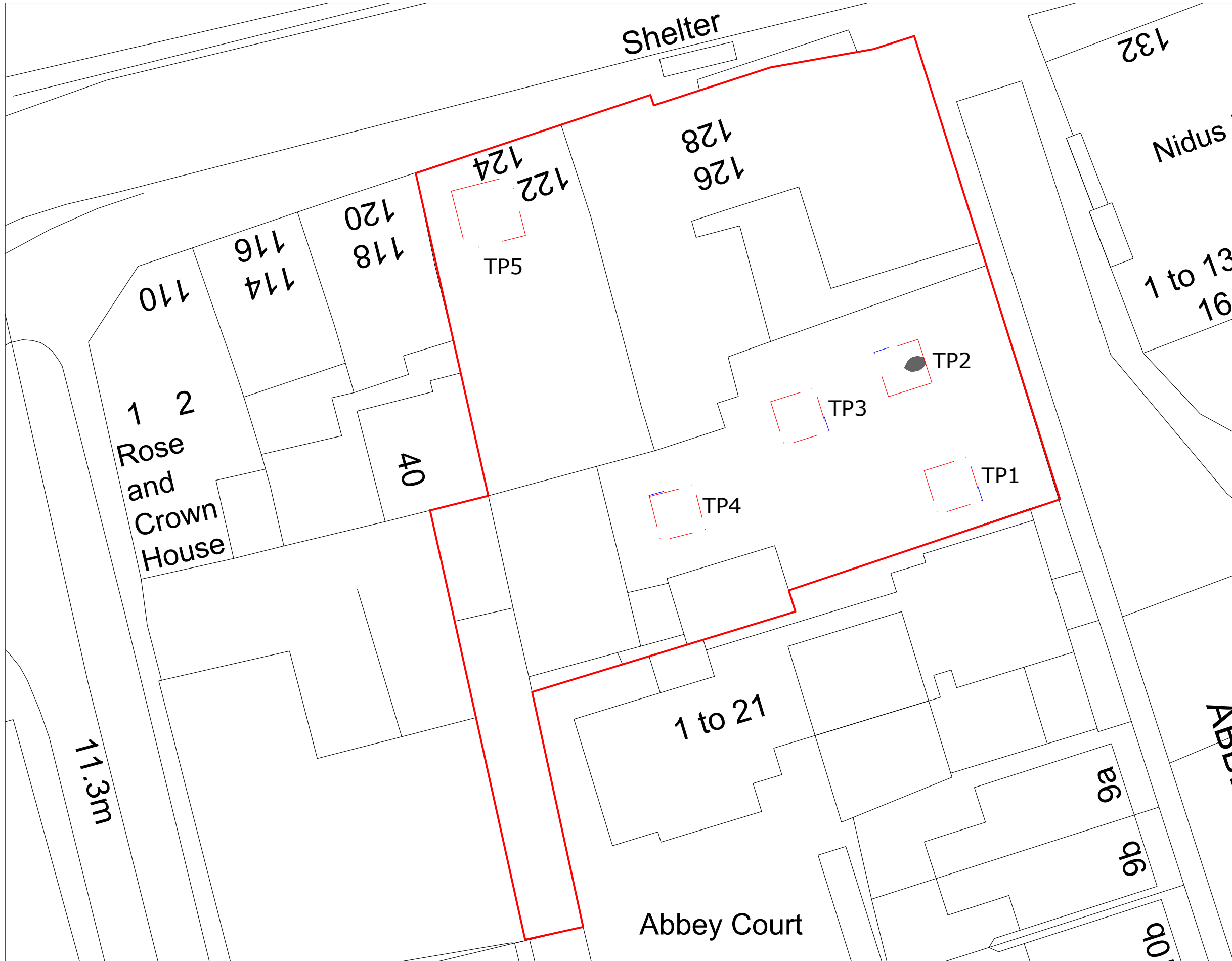
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- Modern Record
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- Bronze Age Record
- Neolithic Record
- Mesolithic Record
- Palaeolithic Record
- HER Search Area
- Site Boundary

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-  Sample Section
-  Excavated Feature
-  Test Pit
-  Site Boundary

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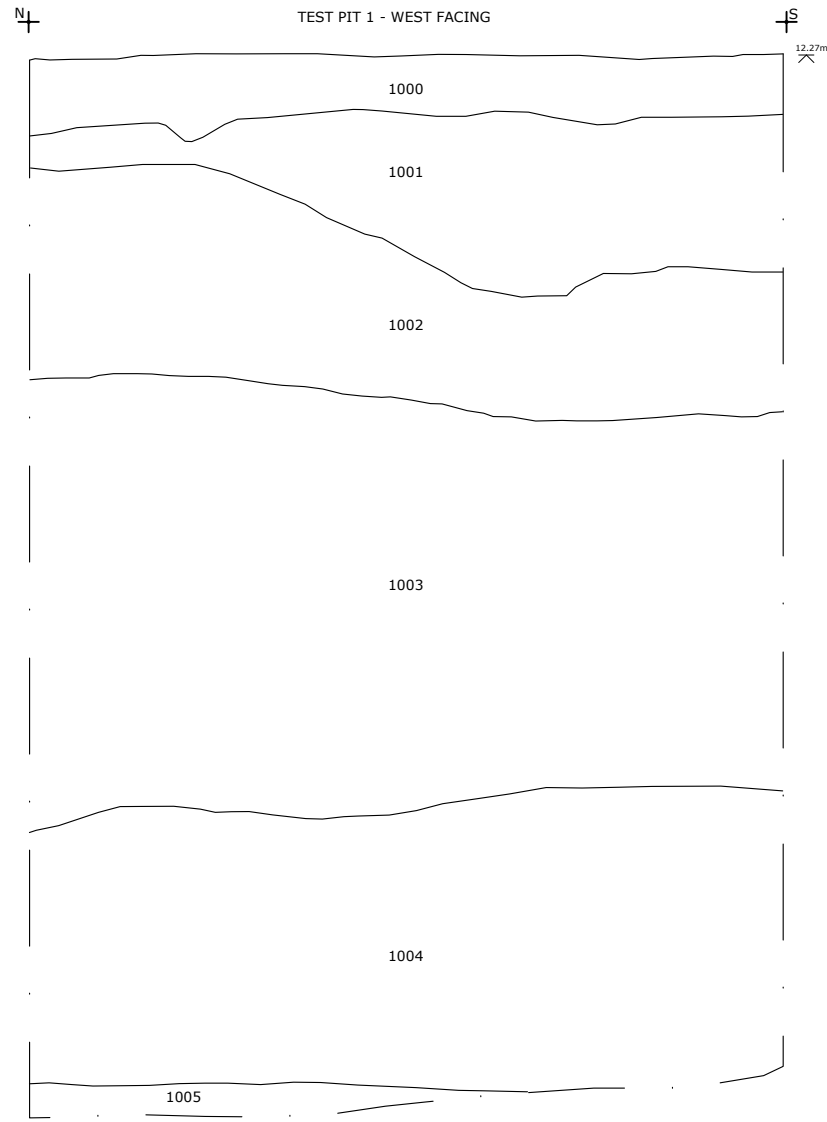
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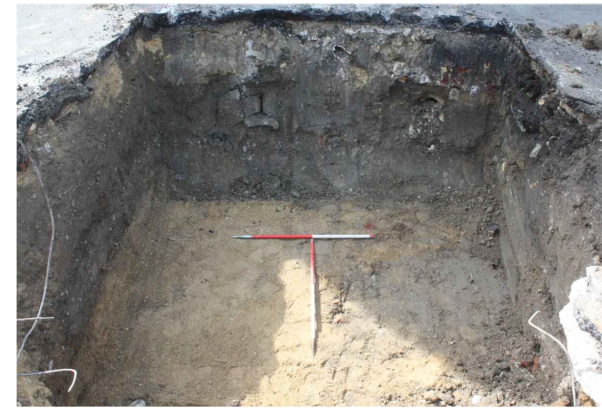
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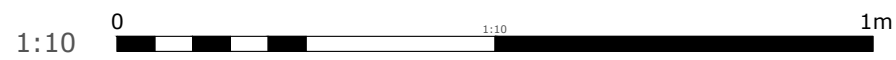
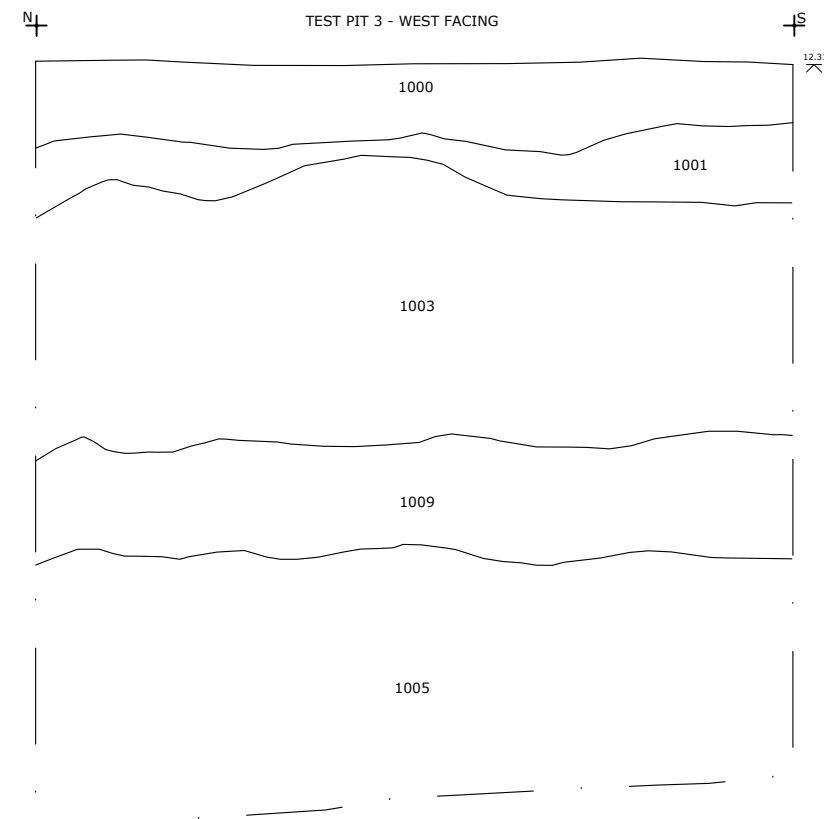
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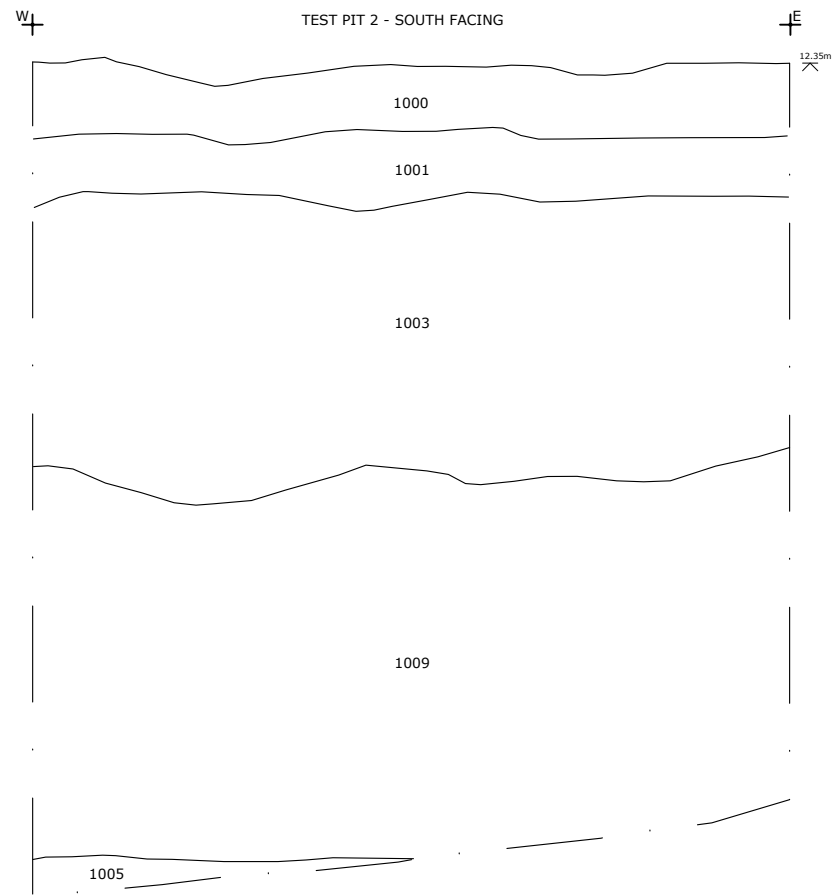
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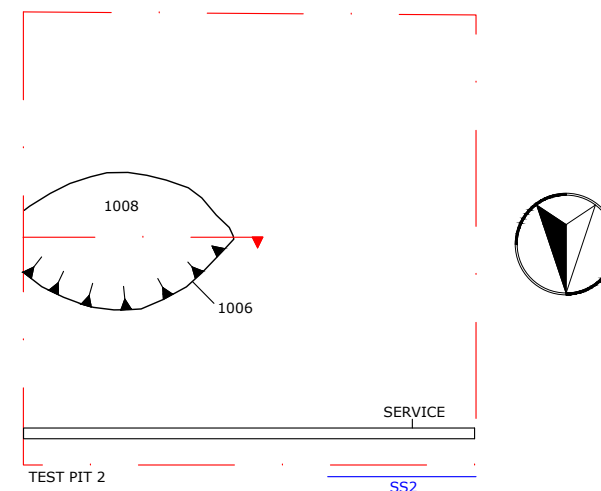
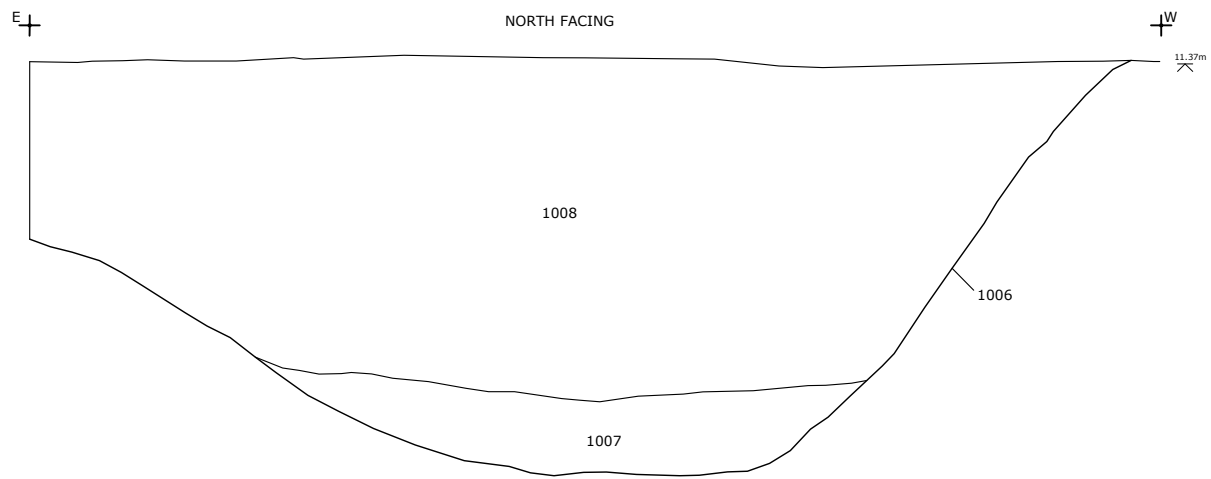
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APPROVED:	MB	FIGURE:	5



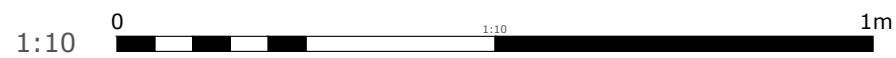
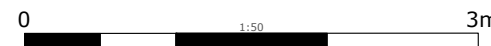
DP 5 - SAMPLE SECTION 2, TEST PIT 2



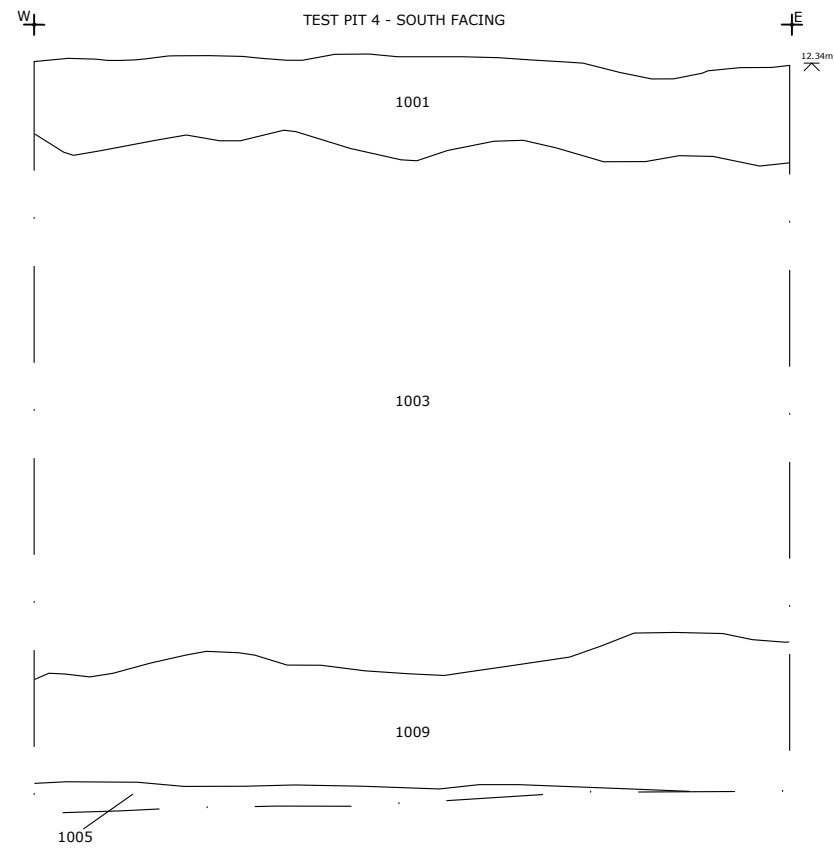
DP 4 - TEST PIT 2



1:50



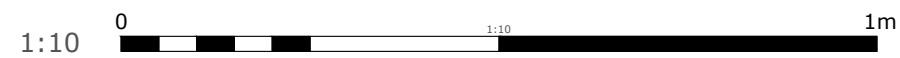
NGR:	546257 258838	REF:	P1234
PROJECT:	122-128 NEWMARKET ROAD, CAMBRIDGE, CAMBS		
DESCRIPTION:	TEST PIT 2 SAMPLE SECTION, PLAN & PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT:	LEARIG		
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AUTHOR:	MJB	VERSION:	1
APPROVED:	MB	FIGURE:	6



DP 9 - SAMPLE SECTION 4, TEST PIT 4



DP 8 - TEST PIT 4



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DESCRIPTION:	TEST PIT 4 SAMPLE SECTION & PHOTOGRAPHS		
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DATE:	SEPT 2018	PLOT:	A3
AUTHOR:	MJB	VERSION:	1
APPROVED:	MB	FIGURE:	7