



Catkins, Camp End Road, Weybridge, Surrey

Archaeological Evaluation Report





**CATKINS, CAMP END ROAD,
WEYBRIDGE, SURREY**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Prepared for:
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QUALITY ASSURANCE

SITE CODE	86620	ACCESSION CODE		CLIENT CODE	
PLANNING APPLICATION REF.	2012/1823	NGR	NGR 508383 161813		

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* I= Internal Draft E= External Draft F= Final

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Stonehaven Homes to carry out an archaeological evaluation in advance of development at Catkins, Camp End Road, Weybridge, Surrey, centred on NGR 508383, 161813.

Planning consent (2012/1823) has been granted by Elmbridge Borough Council for the demolition of the existing 'Catkins' property and the construction of a new 6 bedroom house with a basement and garage on condition that an archaeological evaluation is undertaken on land not previously disturbed by the existing house.

The site lies in the north-west corner of a Scheduled Monument comprising a large multivallate hillfort on St George's Hill. In order to inform the application for Schedule Monument Consent, a field evaluation comprising a single trench positioned within the footprint of the proposed new house was requested by the Inspector of Ancient Monuments at English Heritage.

A single 15m long trench was excavated to the south- west of the existing house and revealed two modern features associated with the house. No archaeological features or finds of significance were identified during the course of the evaluation that would be impacted upon by the proposed development.

The work was undertaken on 6th September 2012.

Catkins, Camp End Road, Weybridge, Surrey

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Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Kevin Boyle of Stonehaven Homes for commissioning the project. The advice and support of Richard Massey from English Heritage is also gratefully acknowledged.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Darryl Freer. This report was prepared by Steve Thompson with report illustrations Rob Goller.

The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Sue Farr.

**Catkins, Camp End Road,
Weybridge, Surrey****Archaeological Evaluation Report****1 INTRODUCTION****1.1 Project Background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) were commissioned by Stonehaven Homes (the Client) to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development at Catkins, Camp End Road, Weybridge, Surrey (hereafter the Site, see **Figure 1**), centred on NGR 508383, 161813.
- 1.1.2 Planning consent (2012/1823) has been granted by Elmbridge Borough Council for the demolition of the existing 'Catkins' property and the construction of a new 6 bedroom house with a basement and garage on condition that an archaeological evaluation is undertaken on land not previously disturbed by the existing house.
- 1.1.3 The Site lies in the north-west corner of a Scheduled Monument comprising a large multivallate hillfort on St George's Hill and in order to inform the application for Schedule Monument Consent, a field evaluation comprising a single trench positioned within the footprint of the proposed new house was requested by the Inspector of Ancient Monuments at English Heritage. The field evaluation was permitted under a Class 7 Consent.
- 1.1.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) setting out the methodology to be employed, was prepared by Wessex Archaeology (WA 2012) and approved by the Inspector of Ancient Monuments at English Heritage and the County Archaeological Officer at Surrey County Council (SCC). In format and content the WSI conformed with current best practice and to the guidance outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006) and the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008).

1.2 Site location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The Site lies to the south-east of Weybridge at St Georges Hill, within St Georges Hill Estate. It is bounded to the north and east by Horseshoe Ridge, to the south by Camp End Road and to the west by existing residential properties. The Site lies at approximately 82m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).
- 1.2.2 The British Geological Survey identifies the geology of the Site and the surrounding area as Plateau Gravel (BGS 1974, sheet 269 Windsor).
- 1.2.3 The Site contains an existing two storey house with an integral garage, patio area and private garden to the rear and sides of the property.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological background to the Site was included within the WSI (WA 2012) and is summarised here.
- 2.1.2 The Site falls within a Scheduled Monument, comprising a large multivallate hillfort on St George's Hill (SM23001).

2.2 St George's Hill

- 2.2.1 The hillfort recorded at St George's Hill comprises the earthwork ramparts which enclose an area of the hilltop measuring c. 5.5ha. The ramparts follow the 75m contour and take the form of an inner bank with an external ditch and outer counterscarp bank. To the west the ramparts are more complex and constructed with three banks and two ditches suggesting this area was more vulnerable to attack.
- 2.2.2 Although the Scheduled Monument (SM 23001) was previously considered to be a Roman camp, investigations undertaken in 1911 confirmed the site to be an Iron Age defended enclosure. Residential development undertaken soon after this discovery recorded Iron Age pottery and iron slag during the excavations.
- 2.2.3 A small area of the defences was excavated in 1981 and revealed two phases of construction. The first phase related to the original construction of the main enclosure, with the second possibly occurring at the same time as the construction of a D-shaped rampart to the north-east which also acted as an additional defence into the main enclosure.

2.3 Prehistoric and Romano-British

- 2.3.1 A number of isolated find spots have been recorded within the hillfort and include a Neolithic flint scraper to the immediate west of the Site and Iron Age and Romano British pottery sherds to the east. The pottery was found in the early 20th century. A number of Mesolithic flint implements including blades, scraper and microburins are recorded to the east of the Site on the Surrey Historic Environment Record although the record notes they are near the River Thames which is some distance from their recorded location.

2.4 Previous Investigations

- 2.4.1 A number of recent archaeological investigations have been undertaken in the vicinity of the Site including an evaluation at Brindle Crest (TVAS, 2002) to the east of the Site and 'Atlantis', East Road to the north (SCAU, 2000). Although the trenches were positioned within the hillfort only modern disturbance was recorded. Similarly at 'Hevesta' and 'Huf Haus' (SCAU, 2002) to the north of the Site an archaeological watching brief revealed modern disturbance.

3 AIMS

3.1 General

3.1.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to:

- Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be impacted by development.
- Identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the Site.
- Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits.
- Produce a report which will present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential and the application for Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC).

4 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The detailed methodology for the evaluation was laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WA 2012).

4.1.2 All works were conducted in compliance with the standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2008), except where superseded by the WSI.

4.2 Health and Safety

4.2.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety regulations 1999 and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation and regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.

4.2.2 Prior to and during excavation, the trench was scanned to verify the absence of any underground services using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT).

4.3 Evaluation Fieldwork

4.3.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of a single 15m long by 1.6m wide trench. The evaluation trench was excavated using a back-hoe mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket under constant archaeological supervision. Excavation ceased at the level where archaeological features and deposits were first encountered and as was agreed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WA 2012) these remains were cleaned by hand and fully planned and recorded for characterisation. No further excavation took place.

4.3.2 All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated archaeological features and deposits was compiled and included both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Ordnance Datum (OD)

4.3.3 The trench was marked out on the ground using a a Leica GNSS GS08 Netrover prior to the commencement of work.

4.3.4 A photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images will be subject to managed quality control and curation processes which will embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following sections provide a summary of the information held in the Site archive. Details of individually excavated contexts and features are retained in the Site archive and a detailed tabulated version of these can be found in **Appendix 1**.

5.1.2 The following Results Section should be read in conjunction with **Appendix 1**.

5.2 Trench 1

5.2.1 Following the removal of 0.15m of overlying topsoil and turf (**101**), a 0.51m thick layer comprising a series of landscaping deposits and made ground, recorded as **102**, was revealed sealing two modern features which were cut into the natural geology **103**. The natural geology was revealed at c. 0.66m below the current ground surface at a height of 76.60m aOD.

5.2.2 At the north-western end of Trench 1, a sub-circular modern feature (**104**) was recorded and measured c. 1.30m in diameter and was infilled with **105**, a mixed and mottled mid yellow brown sandy silt. Feature **104** was interpreted as a soak-away associated with the current building.

5.2.3 At the south-eastern end of the trench a circular feature (**106**) measuring c. 1m in diameter was recorded and was filled by **107** consisting of mixed and mottled mid grey sandy silt with frequent brick rubble. The feature was interpreted as either a second soak-away or possibly an ornamental well.

5.2.4 No archaeological features or finds of significance were revealed within Trench 1.

6 FINDS

6.1.1 All features, deposits and machine excavated spoil were visually scanned for artefacts. Examples of modern frogged brick were present. These artefacts were noted but not retained.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL

7.1.1 No features or deposits suitable for environmental processing were recorded during the fieldwork.

8 DISCUSSION

- 8.1.1 Although the Site is situated within the boundaries of St Georges hillfort, no archaeological features or deposits were observed during the fieldwork.
- 8.1.2 The archaeological evaluation revealed shallow topsoil overlying a series of landscaping deposits comprising made ground sealing the remains of two modern features associated with the current house.
- 8.1.3 The area has clearly been subject to recent modern disturbance, presumably during the construction of the 'Catkins' property in the 1980s.

9 STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

- 9.1.1 The archive is currently stored at Wessex Archaeology's office in Salisbury under the project code 86620. The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with the relevant standards set out in 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (MoRPHE), English Heritage (2006), Wessex Archaeology's Guidelines for Archive Preparation and in accordance with *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990)*.
- 9.1.2 All archive elements are marked with the Site code (86620), and a full index will be prepared. On completion the archive will be deposited with Elmbridge Museum, Weybridge, Surrey.

9.2 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988

- 9.2.1 Wessex Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. Excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the report by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the specification. Any document produced to meet planning requirements may be copied for planning purposes by the Local Planning Authority.
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9.3 Security copy

- 9.3.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The master jackets and one diazo copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the National Archaeological Record (English Heritage), a second diazo copy will be

deposited with the paper records, and a third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

10 REFERENCES

10.1 Bibliography

- British Geological Survey, 1974, sheet 269 Windsor
- Institute for Archaeologists, 2008. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*.
- Institute for Archaeologists, *Code of Practice and the Code of Approved Practice for the regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*
- SCAU, 2000 A Preliminary Archaeological Assessment of the Proposed development at 'Atlantis', East Road, St George's Hill, Weybridge
- SCAU, 2002, Hevesta and Huf Haus, Camp End Road, St George's Hill, Surrey: Archaeological Watching Brief
- TVAS, 2002, Brindle Crest, Camp End Road, St George's Hill, Weybridge: An Archaeological Evaluation
- UKIC, 1990. *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage*
- Wessex Archaeology, 2012. Catkins, Camp End Road, Weybridge, Surrey. *Written Scheme of Investigation: Method Statement for an Archaeological Evaluation*. Ref.:86620.01.

10.2 Online Resources

- Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974
(<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1974/37>)
- Management of Health and Safety and Work Regulations 1999
(<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1999/3242/contents/made>)

11 APPENDIX 1: TRENCH TABLES

Trench 1	Dimensions :	15m by 1.6m by 1.10m (max)	Ground surface level:	77.44m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	508378.29, 161817.59 508389.55, 161809.04		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
101	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of an area of garden lawn, mid grey brown sandy silt clay with c.1% sub angular and sub rounded flints<0.04m, loose compaction and abundant bioturbation.	0-0.15m	
102	Layer	Made ground layer, repeated layers of dumped material creating distinct layers, including CBM rubble rich sand, with bands of flinty gravel and organic material.	0.15-0.66m	
103	Natural	Pale yellow brown sandy gravel natural geology. The natural was cut by two modern features; a soak-away at the northern end of the trench and a possible second soak-away or ornamental well at the southern end. No archaeological features or finds of significance were recovered.	0.66m+	
104	Cut	Cut of roughly circular feature, recorded as c.1.30m in diameter and in-filled with 106. Probable soak-away.	-	
105	Fill	Single recorded fill of 104 , mixed and mottled mid yellow brown sandy silt with fragments of modern brick.	-	
106	Cut	Cut of roughly circular feature recorded as c.1m in diameter and over 0.50m deep(feature not fully excavated due to depth of trench) steep straight sides. Possible soak-away or perhaps ornamental well.	0.50m+ deep	
107	Fill	Single recorded fill of 106 , mixed and mottled mid grey sandy silt with common brick rubble.	0.50m+ thick	

12 APPENDIX 2: OASIS RECORD FORM
12.1 Catkins, Weybridge, Surrey - Wessex Archaeology
OASIS ID - wessexar1-134086
Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	S Farr	s.farr@wessexarch.co.uk	19 September 2012

Completed sections in current version

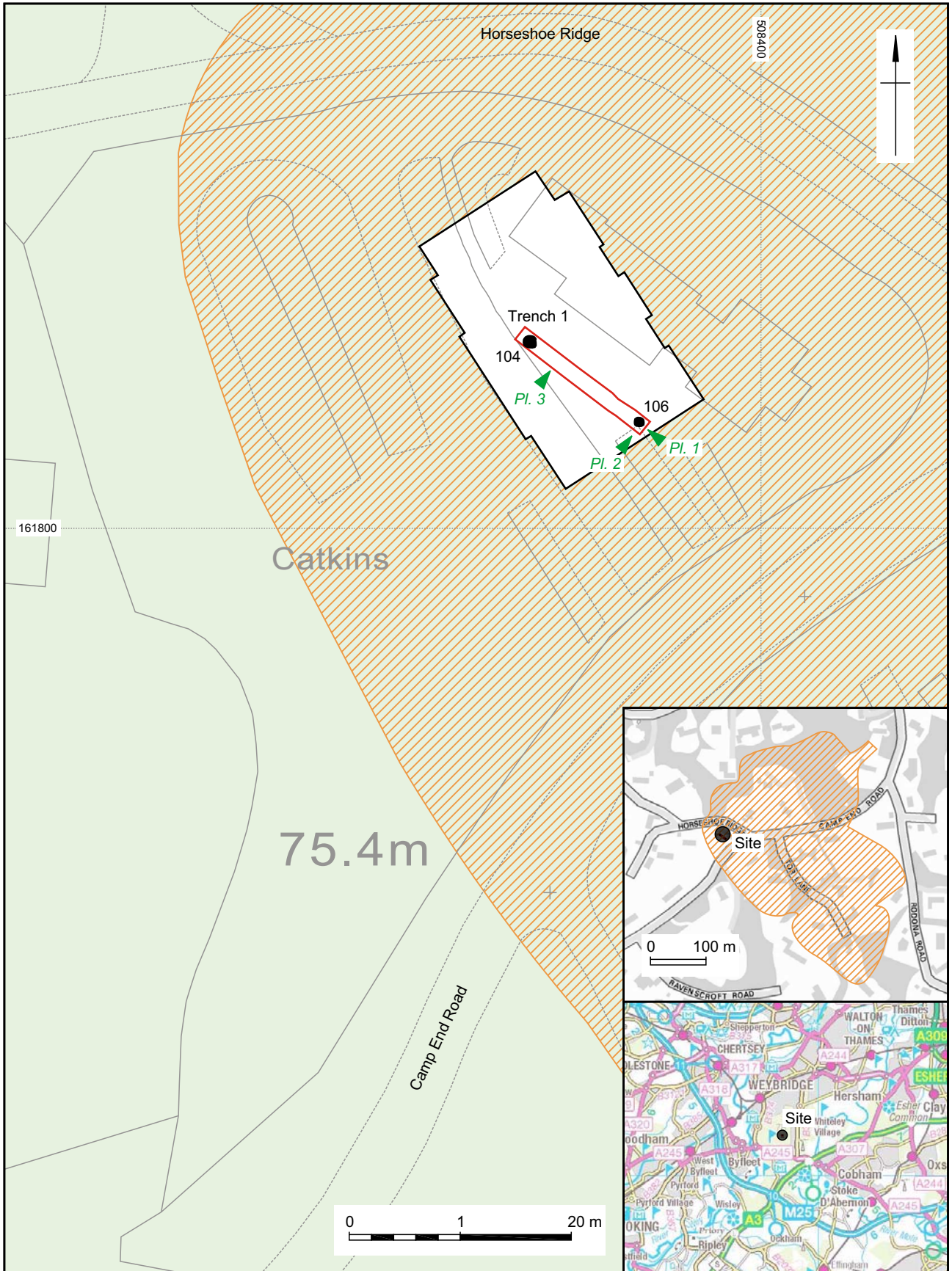
Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1/1

Validated sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1

File submission and form progress

Grey literature report submitted?	No	Grey literature report filename/s
Images submitted?	No	Image filename/s
Boundary file submitted?	No	Boundary filename
HER signed off?		NMR signed off?



- Proposed building
- Scheduled Monument
- WA evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature



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Site and trench location


Figure 1



Plate 1: Trench 1 from the south east (scale 2 m, 0.5 m)



Plate 2: Possible well 106 from the south west

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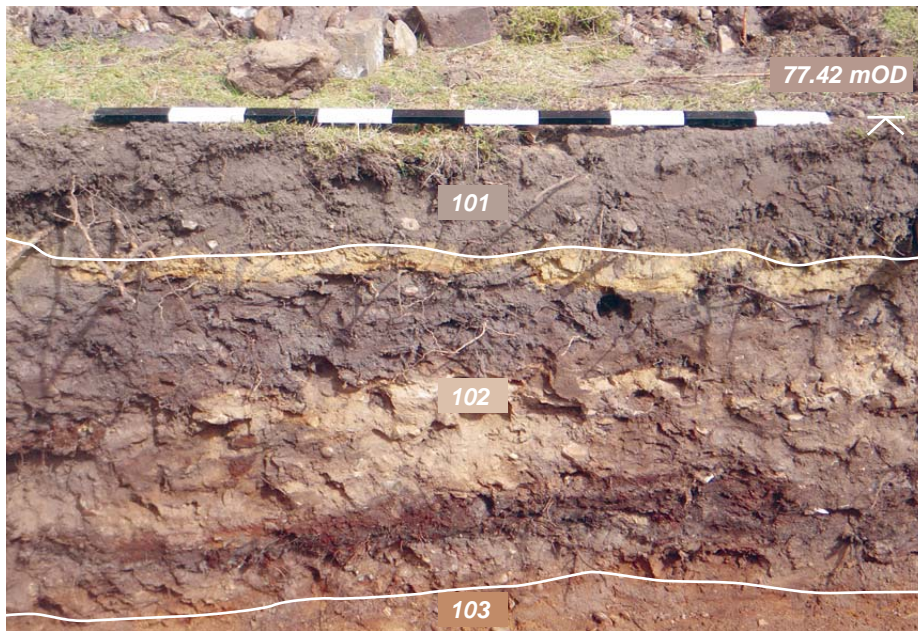



Plate 3: South west facing representative section of Trench 1 (scale 1 m)

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