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UGOH 74001, Shepherds Lodge Petworth, West Sussex

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Accession No: CHCDM:2015.1
Ref: 103000.03
May 2015



**UGOH 74001, Shepherds Lodge
Petworth, West Sussex**

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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Quality Assurance

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Planning Application Ref.	N/A	Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	496429 123882		

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the installation of an underground cable trench within Pheasant Copse, Petworth Park, West Sussex (National Grid Reference 496429 123882).

The 500m long cable trench follows the southern edge of Pheasant Copse, a landscape feature of the 17th century Petworth Park, a registered Historic Park and Garden (list entry no. 1000162) associated with Petworth House. The historic parish boundary between Tillington and Petworth crosses the cable route, whilst the remains of a former southern boundary wall associated with the Copse is thought to lie close to the works.

No structural remains, features or deposits of historical or archaeological interest were observed during the watching brief that took place between the 12th of January to the 12th of February 2015.



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Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by Scottish and Southern Power Distribution and Wessex Archaeology are grateful to Greg Moore and Kimberly Jones in that respect. Sincere thanks are extended to James Kenny, Archaeology Officer at Chichester District Council, for his advice and support. Wessex Archaeology would also like to acknowledge the assistance provided by Tom Dommett (National Trust), and by Anne Bone, Andy Beattie and Bruce Middleton of the National Park Authority.

The watching brief was managed by Simon Cleggett and maintained in the field by Mike Dinwiddy and Lee Newton. This report was written by Kirsten Egging Dinwiddy. Nancy Dixon produced the illustrations.



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Archaeological Watching Brief Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution (the Client), to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the installation of an underground cable as part of permitted works within Pheasant Copse, Petworth Park, West Sussex, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 496429 123882 (hereafter 'the Site'; **Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The groundworks comprised the replacement of the existing overhead line with an approximately 500m long 11kV underground cable.
- 1.1.3 The West Sussex Historic Environment Record (WSHER) for the Site records a 17th century hunting park associated with Petworth House, of which Pheasant Copse was a landscape feature. The Chichester District Council (CDC) Archaeology Officer determined that there was the potential for buried remains of historical and archaeological interest pertaining to an historic parish boundary, and to landscape features of the historic deer park (see below). An archaeological watching brief was requested as a result.
- 1.1.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; WA 2014) was compiled in order to set out the project aims, and detail the methodologies to be employed and standards to be achieved by WA during the watching brief. This was approved by the relevant parties prior to the commencement of the operations.
- 1.1.5 The watching brief was conducted between the 12th of January and the 12th of February 2015.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 Petworth Park is a 700 acre 17th century deer park associated with Petworth House, set within the undulating chalk downland of the South Downs National Park. It is situated between the A283 Godalming road and the A272 Midhurst road, immediately to the north-west of the small town of Petworth.
- 1.2.2 The Site is in the north-eastern corner of the park, within a woodland glade on the southern edge of Pheasant Copse, and between the Adelaide and Shepherds Lodges (**Figure 1**). It lies at an elevation of 75m to 77m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), and the underlying geology is listed as Weald Clay Formation – mudstone (British Geological Survey online viewer).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 The archaeological background was outlined by the CDC Archaeology Officer in his comments on the proposal to the Client. These are summarised below.



- 2.1.2 The Site is located within Pheasant Copse, a landscape feature on the northern edge of Petworth Park. Pheasant Copse is a hunting park associated with Petworth House, a 17th century mansion set within a 283 hectare deer park landscaped by 'Capability' Brown. The Park is registered under the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act (1953) as a Historic Park and Garden (list entry no. 1000162).
- 2.1.3 The WSHER makes reference to a former wall, demarcating the southern boundary of the copse, which appears to lie in close proximity to the proposed cable trench.
- 2.1.4 The historic parish boundary between Tillington and Petworth crosses the cable trench route. Parish boundaries often originate in the Saxon period and are largely entrenched by the medieval period, frequently appropriating both natural geographical features and pre-existing boundary features to demarcate their limits, e.g. prehistoric and later remains evident within the landscape.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1.1 The aim of the watching brief was to:
- *record the presence/absence, date, nature and extent of any buried archaeological remains revealed during the operations; and*
 - *prevent damage to any remains pertaining to the former boundary wall, should they be encountered.*

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Fieldwork methodology

- 4.1.1 All archaeological works were undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out within the WSI (WA 2014) and in compliance with the standards outlined in the ClfA's *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Watching Brief* (ClfA 2014a), excepting where they are superseded by statements made below.
- 4.1.2 All work carried out by WA was done so in accordance with all relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.
- 4.1.3 All trenching works were archaeologically monitored. The trench was inspected for the presence or absence of archaeological features and deposits, and all deposits including the spoil heaps were visually scanned for artefacts.
- 4.1.4 All areas under archaeological observation were digitally surveyed using a Leica total station (TST) and GPS within the OS NGR system, and including heights above Ordnance Datum (Newlyn). The electronic survey record will be retained within the site archive.
- 4.1.1 All recording was undertaken using WA's *pro forma* recording sheets and recording system. Details are available on request. Representative sections were recorded in six locations along the route (selection on **Figure 1**).
- 4.1.2 A full photographic record was maintained 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.



4.2 Monitoring

- 4.2.1 The CDC Archaeology Officer was kept informed of progress, and was notified once the possibility for discovering buried archaeological remains during the works had been exhausted.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Natural soil sequence

- 5.1.1 The underlying geology (observed between 0.40m and 0.60m below ground level (bgl)) comprised of stiff light grey clay with mid to dark orange-brown mottling. An approximately 0.20m thick mid orange/brown clay subsoil with light grey mottling and occasional flat sandstone fragments was present along much of the route. A soft, friable mid grey-brown silty clay topsoil was recorded across the Site. Depths varied from 0.20m to 0.50m bgl, the deepest coinciding with the more heavily wooded landscape.

5.2 Archaeological sequence

- 5.2.1 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed.

6 ARTEFACTUAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 No artefacts, features or deposits of archaeological or other interest were encountered.

7 DISCUSSION

- 7.1.1 The cable trench did not expose any structural remains, features or deposits of historical or archaeological interest.
- 7.1.2 No evidence pertaining to the boundary wall, or to the historic parish boundary, were found.

8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the watching brief be deposited with Chichester Museum under the accession number **CHCDM: 2015.1**. The museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project. The archive is currently held at WA's Salisbury office under the Site Code **103000**.

8.2 Archive

- 8.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance by Chichester Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code and accession number and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises of;
- 1 file of paper records



8.3 Copyright

- 8.3.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by WA Ltd under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The Heritage Centre, however, will be granted exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profit making, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.

8.4 Security Copy

- 8.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

8.5 OASIS

- 8.5.1 An OASIS online record (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/wessexar1-208314>) has been initiated for the work, and key fields in regard of the excavation have been completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All other appropriate parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the West Sussex Historic Environment Record. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive). A summary is provided in **Appendix 2**.

9 REFERENCES

9.1 Bibliography

- ADS 2013. *Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice*, Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice
- British Geological Survey: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>
- Brown, D.H., 2011. *Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014a. *Standard and guidance: Archaeological Watching Brief*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014b. *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
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10 APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1: OASIS summary

OASIS ID: wessexar1-208314

Project details

Project name	UGOH 74001, Shepherds Lodge, Petworth, West Sussex
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the installation of an underground cable trench within Pheasant Copse, Petworth Park, West Sussex (National Grid Reference 496429 123882). The cable trench extends for approximately 500m along the southern edge of Pheasant Copse, a landscape feature of the 17th century Petworth Park, a registered Historic Park and Garden (list entry no. 1000162) associated with Petworth House. The historic parish boundary between Tillington and Petworth crosses the cable route, whilst a southern boundary wall associated with the Copse is thought to lie close to the works. No structural remains, features or deposits or historical or archaeological interest were observed.
Project dates	Start: 12-01-2015 End: 12-02-2015
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	103000 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	1000162 - SM No.
Any associated project reference codes	CHCDM 2015.1 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	English Heritage List of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Current Land use	Woodland 6 - Parkland
Monument type	NONE None



Significant Finds NONE None

Investigation type ""Watching Brief""

Project location

Country England

Site location WEST SUSSEX CHICHESTER PETWORTH Shepherds Lodge UGOH74001

Study area 500.00 Square metres

Site coordinates SU 9642 2388 51.0056710594 -0.625573682691 51 00 20 N 000 37 32 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 75.00m Max: 77.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Wessex Archaeology

Project brief originator Scottish and Southern Energy power Distribution

Project design originator Wessex Archaeology

Project director/manager Simon Cleggett

Project supervisor Lee Newton

Project supervisor Mike Dinwiddy

Type of sponsor/funding body Electricity Authority/Company

Name of sponsor/funding body Scottish and Southern Powre Distribution



Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	Chichester Museum
Digital Archive recipient	Chichester Museum
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Chichester Museum
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Diary", "Report", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	UGOH 74001, Shepherds Lodge, Petworth, West Sussex: archaeological watching brief report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Egging Dinwiddy, K.
Other bibliographic details	103000.03
Date	2015
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Description	A3/4 Standard client report; text, plates and figures; colour



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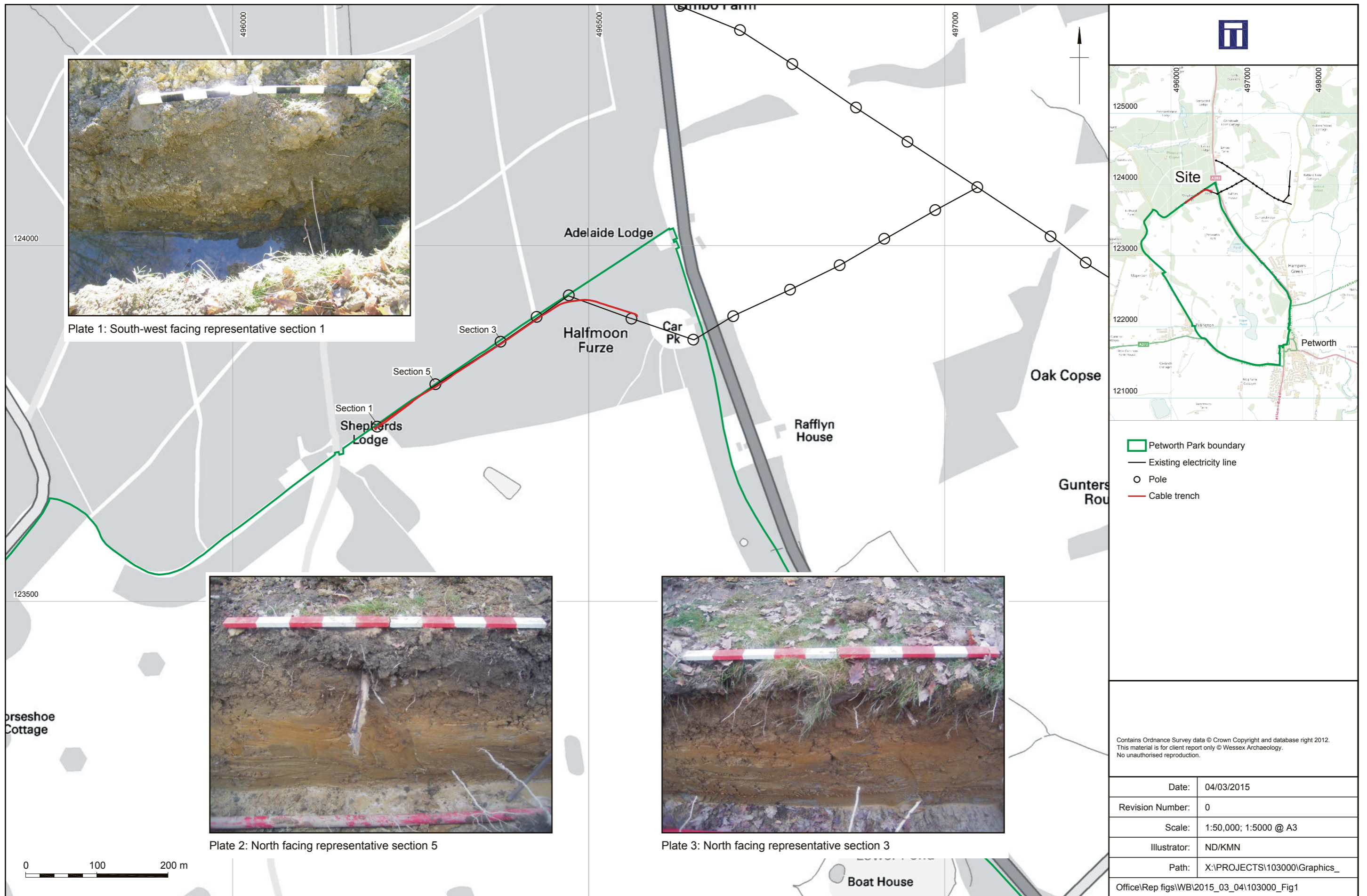


Plate 1: South-west facing representative section 1



Plate 2: North facing representative section 5

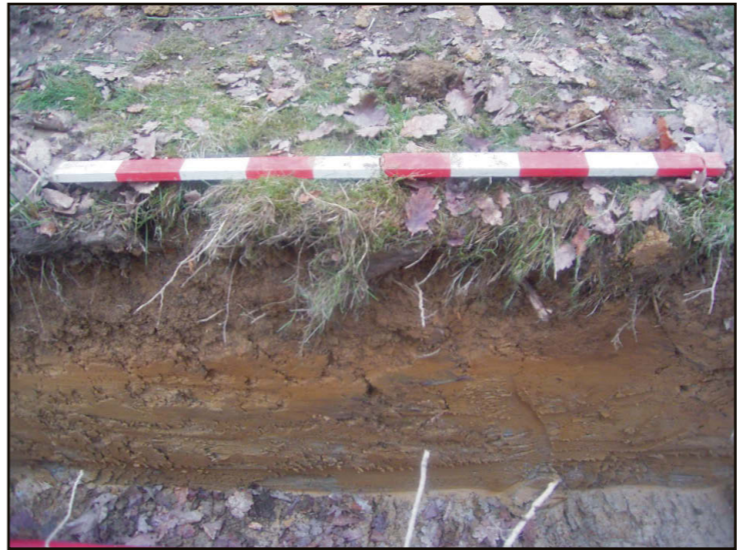
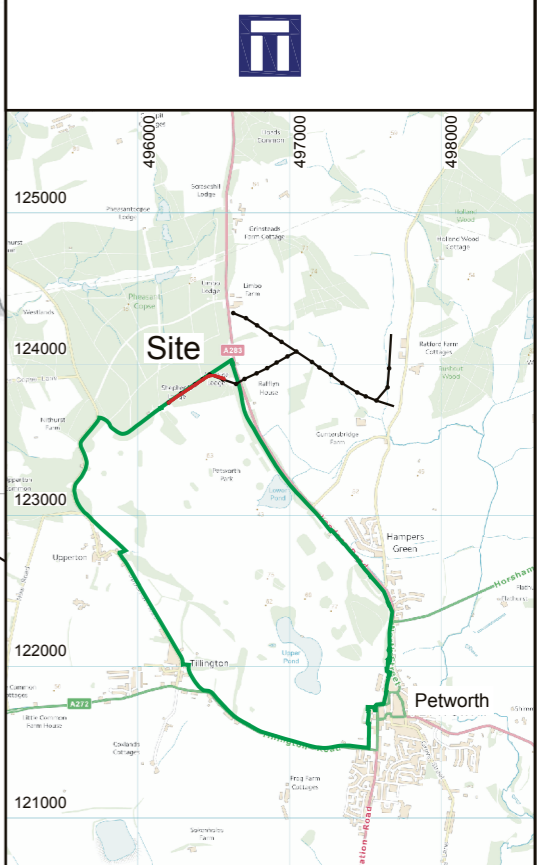


Plate 3: North facing representative section 3



- Petworth Park boundary
- Existing electricity line
- Pole
- Cable trench

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Plate 4: Working shot from the east



Plate 5: Cable trench from the east



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Plate 6: Working shot illustrating wet conditions



Plate 7: Working shot showing site setting

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