



# Mottisfont Biomass Project Mottisfont, Hampshire

Archaeological Watching Brief Report



Planning Ref: 16/00330/FULLS  
Ref: 113660.02  
January 2017



**Mottisfont Biomass Project  
Mottisfont, Hampshire**

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

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## Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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# **Mottisfont Biomass Project Mottisfont, Hampshire**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

### **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the National Trust to maintain an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the installation of a biomass boiler at Mottisfont Abbey, Mottisfont, Hampshire (NGR 432662 126960). The monitoring focused on the excavation of a pipeline trench from an existing 19th century unlisted cart shed at Abbey Farm in the west of the site (the subject of an earlier historic building survey by Allen Archaeology Ltd), across some 250 m of the historic landscaped gardens, to the grade I listed Mottisfont Abbey House, with a connection to the grade II\* listed stable block. The project has been allocated the National Trust event reference ENA.

The archaeological watching brief was necessary in order to discharge conditions attached to a planning application (no. 16/00330/FULLS), granted (subject to conditions) by Test Valley Borough Council in May 2016. The watching brief was carried out in separate phases corresponding to trench numbers, between the 3 October and 3 November 2016.

A number of structural features containing handmade unfrosted bricks were uncovered during the watching brief, and are of post-medieval or modern date. Yet the position of many of these walls and surfaces in the archaeological sequence revealed in the trenches indicates that most of these date to the 19th or early 20th century. It can be stated with confidence that the majority of these are likely to relate to designed features within the landscaped gardens, located in the area to the north-west of Mottisfont Abbey House and to the south-east of the stable block.

An east–west orientated brick wall uncovered in trench 1, with an internal mortar bedding layer for a floor, could be part of a large rectangular building located between the house and the stable block first indicated on the 1839 tithe map. Nearer the stable block in trench 4, two other brick walls were proven to be late 19th /early 20th century in date. Another composite wall of stone and brick in this trench is of post-medieval date or later. Some small structures and a curving boundary are depicted in this locality on the 1871–74 OS map. A herringbone brick surface and a north–south aligned brick wall in trench 5 to the south-east of the stable block are perhaps also likely to be of late 19th/early 20th century date.

To the south-west of the stable block in trench 6, a foundation course of brick, flint and stone may be associated with a dressed masonry block that could have acted as a post-pad. This provides possible evidence of a timber structure, and it is tentatively suggested that this may have been associated with craftsmen working on the estate, given evidence for the working of flint for walling in this locality.

A brick culvert/drain of probable late 18th/19th century date was located in trench 3 just to the rear of the house.

No medieval features or deposits were uncovered that could be associated with the medieval Augustinian priory, though a small number of residual finds, mainly tile fragments including a glazed decorative example, were found re-deposited in later contexts.



# **Mottisfont Biomass Project Mottisfont, Hampshire**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

### **Acknowledgements**

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the National Trust for commissioning the project and in particular Gary Marshall (National Trust Archaeologist, London and South East) and Tom Cullen (National Trust Project Manager) for their help and assistance during the course of the work.

Dave Murdie carried out the watching brief on behalf of Wessex Archaeology. Gail Wakeham compiled this report, with finds assessment by Lorraine Mephram. Nancy Dixon prepared the report graphics. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Ruth Panes.





# Mottisfont Biomass Project Mottisfont, Hampshire

## Archaeological Watching Brief Report

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by the National Trust to maintain an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the installation and laying of associated pipework for a biomass boiler at the National Trust's property of Mottisfont Abbey, Mottisfont, Hampshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 432662 126960, hereafter 'the Site' (**Figure 1**). The project has been allocated the National Trust event reference ENA8267.

1.1.2 Planning permission (application no.16/00330/FULLS), subject to conditions, was granted on the 13th May 2016 by Test Valley Borough Council for the proposed development, comprising: installation of a biomass boiler in the existing cart shed building, new brickwork wall to cart shed and the laying of a pipeline to connect the biomass boiler with the Stable Block and Mottisfont Abbey.

1.1.3 A desk-based assessment (DBA) to evaluate the archaeological potential of the Site and a historic building survey of the affected cart shed building were prepared by Allen Archaeology Limited (AAL) in support of the planning application for the proposed biomass boiler (AAL 2016a and 2016b). The results of both are detailed in section 2.

1.1.4 Conditions 7 and 8 attached to the granted planning permission related to archaeology:

*7. No development shall take place (including site clearance or removal of building fabric) within the application area indicated red, until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological recording in accordance with a written brief and specification, for a scheme of investigation, which has been submitted by the developer and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

*Reason: The site is potentially of archaeological significance in accordance with Test Valley Borough Revised Local Plan (2016) Policy E9.*

*8. No development shall take place (including site clearance or removal of building fabric) within the application area indicated red, until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme to disseminate any associated archaeological findings, which has been submitted by the developer and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

*Reason: The site is potentially of archaeological significance in accordance with Test Valley Borough Revised Local Plan (2016) Policy E9.*

1.1.5 In accordance with the above and following advice from the Senior Archaeologist Hampshire County Council (HCC) – archaeological advisor to the LPA, Wessex Archaeology were commissioned to produce a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) outlining the aims and objectives of the watching brief and the methodologies to be

employed (WA 2016). This WSI was approved by the Senior Archaeologist HCC before fieldwork commenced.

## **1.2 Scope of document**

- 1.2.1 This report presents the full results of the archaeological watching brief that was undertaken between the 3 October and 3 November 2016.
- 1.2.2 In format and content this document conforms with current best practice and to the guidance outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE; Historic England 2015) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014a).

## **1.3 Site location, topography and geology**

- 1.3.1 The National Trust's property of Mottisfont lies within the village of Mottisfont in the Test Valley district of Hampshire. The village lies some 6 km to the north of Romsey and approximately 10 km to the south of Stockbridge.
- 1.3.2 The Mottisfont estate occupies some 18 ha, comprising roughly 12 ha of formal and informal gardens and 6.5 ha of parkland on the western lower slopes and floor of the River Test valley (Historic England website).
- 1.3.3 The Site is located within the gardens themselves, and the pipeline trench extends from a cart shed at Abbey Farm within the western part of the gardens, close to Mottisfont Lane, eastwards to the stable block and further east to the main house with an overall approximate length of 250 m (**Figure 1**).
- 1.3.4 The River Test is the closest watercourse, a canalised channel of the Test flows south through the grounds of Mottisfont estate, approximately 40 m east of the main house. The River Test joins with the River Dun approximately 800 m to the south of the Site.
- 1.3.5 Existing ground levels within the Site are variable due to the historic landscaping that has occurred within the gardens of this property. However, generally the level of the existing ground surface falls from west to east towards the Test: 33 m above Ordnance Datum (OD) in the west near the cart shed to 25 m OD on the back lawn near to the north-east corner of the house, where the pipeline ends.
- 1.3.6 The underlying geology is mapped as White Chalk Subgroup – sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 66 to 100 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. Superficial deposits in the locality are recorded as River Terrace Deposits (undifferentiated) – Sand and Gravel formed in the Quaternary Period up to 3 million years ago (British Geological Survey on-line viewer).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 There are a number of nationally important designated assets within the Mottisfont Estate; only the most pertinent to the proposed works are described below.
- 2.1.2 Numerous archaeological investigations have been carried out within Mottisfont Abbey since the results of recording in the early 1900s was published with a sketched plan of the monastic church (VCH 1907, 503-510). Only the most relevant archaeological events are outlined below.

- 2.1.3 The known archaeological background of the Site is then summarised by period, with information taken from the DBA (AAL 2016a), supplemented by other referenced sources.

## **2.2 Nationally designated assets**

- 2.2.1 The most significant designated asset is the grade I listed Mottisfont Abbey House (list entry no.1093730), Originally, an Augustine priory founded in 1201, which at the dissolution in 1536 went to Lord Sandys, Lord Chamberlain to the King and owner of the Vyne estate near Basingstoke. He converted the nave and domestic buildings of the priory into a Tudor house in 1538-40, centred on two courtyards and known from a plan of 1724. This was remodelled to nearly its present form by Sir Richard Mill from c.1740, the south front being almost entirely his construction. The present north front, apart from its 16th and 18th century fenestration, survives as the north wall of the nave of the original 13th century priory church, inside which Lord Sandys formed his main living accommodation (Historic England website).
- 2.2.2 Mottisfont Abbey House is constructed partly in ashlar stone and partly in brick with stone dressings and a plain tiled roof, the three storey front is U-shaped in plan, with pedimented brick built central section and projecting stone wings with canted bays at either end. The projecting wings incorporate beneath them the south transept (below the west wing) and the chapter house and cellarium of the former medieval priory – below and immediately south of the south wing; the cellarium is grade II listed (*ibid*).
- 2.2.3 The garden of Mottisfont Abbey is on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens (list entry no. 1000864 – grade II listed) described as a largely mid to late 20th century garden, although with 18th century origins and 19th additions, with formal features designed by Geoffery Jellicoe and Norah Lindsay.
- 2.2.4 The Stable Block to the immediate north-west of Mottisfont Abbey House is grade II\* listed (list entry no. 1093729), built in 1836 (as indicated by a date plaque) in red brick with stone dressings (*ibid*).

## **2.3 Previous archaeological investigations**

- 2.3.1 As discussed above, a DBA and historic building survey were prepared in support of the planning application for the proposed biomass boiler (AAL 2016a and 2016b). The survey of the cart shed concluded it was a typical cart shed from a Victorian farm. The red brick building, first depicted on the 1871-74 Ordnance Survey (OS) map, has been re-roofed with corrugated iron over earlier wooden supports. It has some historic value from associated assets that form part of Abbey Farm complex and it is considered likely that it abuts an earlier cartshed to the south. Historic graffiti was recorded on the south and west walls and it was thought that the inscribed marks are partly likely related to part of a gaming board, whilst others are apotropaic marks, or 'witch marks' (AAL 2016b).
- 2.3.2 In 2015, monitoring works associated with the new visitor centre to the south of the main house recorded elements of the medieval priory including 'a submerged archway' (AAL 2016a).
- 2.3.3 In 2011, Wessex Archaeology carried out a watching brief during groundworks associated with the excavation of a new data cable trench on the eastern side of the stable block at Mottisfont (WA 2012), in the same locality as part of the Biomass pipeline. A brick drain was recorded internally in the north-eastern part of the stable building, but no archaeological features were recorded in the trench to the east of the stable block. However, there was evidence of made ground, and finds recovered from these layers suggest that the

disturbance is probably related to the historic landscaping and construction works undertaken in the 18th century (*ibid*).

- 2.3.4 A detailed geophysical resistivity and gradiometer survey of 1.2 ha of ground surrounding the abbey was completed in 2008 (Stratascan 2008). This survey identified a series of high resistance linear anomalies, likely associated with the masonry foundations of the former priory, concentrated around the eastern section of the house, with further similar anomalies to the south of the house on the lawn. Anomalies to the north of the house possibly relate to the layout of a formal garden and a fountain known from an 1874 map and some other positive anomalies from the gradiometer survey are possible cut archaeological features, though there is also negative anomalies of high amplitudes which may reflect some form of localised industrial or burning activity (*ibid*, 9).
- 2.3.5 In 2002, an archaeological watching brief carried out by Wessex Archaeology in the grounds of Mottisfont Abbey House to monitor groundwork associated with the installation of a new water pipe and alarm cable. A large number of archaeological remains were uncovered during the works. The most significant of these were a large cut feature that was unexcavated but was considered to be of Late Saxon/early medieval date because of a pottery sherd recovered from its surface; and several flint rubble walls thought to relate to the monastic buildings to the north and north-east of the present house, that were probably demolished in the Tudor period when the priory was converted to a house (WA 2002).
- 2.3.6 The line of the cable trench monitored in 2002 broadly followed the line of the proposed trench for approximately 8 m where it enters the main house. In this section of trenching the watching brief uncovered two late 18th to early 19th century brick culverts, one of which was unbroken and therefore preserved *in situ* (WA 2002).
- 2.3.7 Another watching brief carried out in 2002 in the grounds of Dairy Cottage, located nearly 100 m west of the Site, uncovered the remains of a 19th century structure (WA 2003).
- 2.3.8 In 1994-95, Test Valley Archaeological Trust (TVAT) undertook excavation prior to, and a watching brief during, major renovation works at Mottisfont Abbey House (TVAT 1997). During the archaeological work, seven prehistoric flint flakes and some late Saxon material, including pottery and animal bones, was found. Seventeen graves or possible graves were located within the nave of the former monastic church, and an *in situ* medieval tiled pavement was uncovered. Pottery of 13th-14th century date was recovered from a medieval pit outside the main building. Evidence for a Tudor conversion of the priory was recorded; work had included the insertion of a first floor into the nave of the church and the adding of partition walls. Two moulded Tudor door cases were also revealed. 19th century panelling and a 'butler's safe' were observed, whilst 19th century drains and the footings of a building shown on 19th century maps were recorded (BIAB website). Wessex Archaeology prepared a human bone specialist report for TVAT that is included as an appendix in the TVAT 1997 report (WA 1995).
- 2.3.9 In 1990, TVAT recorded part of the external elevation of the west cellarium wall exposed during building work. It was during this examination that evidence for the now demolished Tudor buildings to the west of the cellarium were uncovered (TVAT 1997, 7).

## 2.4 Chronological summary

### *Prehistory*

- 2.4.1 A number of Palaeolithic tools, including three flint axes near to the Site within Mottisfont gardens, and Neolithic flint finds are known within the DBA's 1 km study area, as well as flint finds assigned a general prehistoric date near the Abbey House (AAL 2016a). In the

wider locality, Quaternary gravels with numerous Palaeolithic flint axes are well known from the gravel quarry pits at Kimbridge and Dunbridge to the south-east.

- 2.4.2 A Mesolithic flint scatter was recorded approximately 1 km to the west of Hatt Farm, and Neolithic and Bronze Age worked flint was recorded to the north of Bitterne Grove during a walkover survey (Currie 1999, 13). To the south-east of the Site between the two courses of the Test, evidence of dated prehistoric peat formation has been identified, and during a recent watching brief peat and alluvial deposits were uncovered and though undated, the peat was tentatively considered to be later (AAL 2016a).

#### *Iron Age and Romano-British*

- 2.4.3 There is some evidence of Iron Age and Romano-British activity towards the peripheries of the DBA's study area. Within the wider area, enclosed settlement and field systems of this date are well known in the northern part of the Test valley (the Danebury Environs project: Cunliffe & Poole 2000 and 2008); and to the south-west at Lockerley a double-ditched enclosure of Late Iron Age/early Romano-British date was recently excavated (De'Athe, R *et al* 2013).

#### *Saxon*

- 2.4.4 The name Mottisfont translates as 'meeting place spring' and is likely related to the spring situated within the grounds to the south-west of the present house. The only recorded assets of this period from the DBA related to finds of pottery, animal bone and slag (AAL 2016a). These were found during the excavation of a service trench inside the building in 1994 and came from a dark soil layer that was cut by the south wall of the former nave (TVAT 1997, 11). Further probable evidence of a cut feature of Late Saxon/early medieval date was found in a service trench just outside the north-western corner of the house and though the large feature was unexcavated, it potentially pre-dates the priory (WA 2002).

#### *Medieval*

- 2.4.5 The Augustinian priory at Mottisfont was founded c. 1201. Following the dissolution, it was granted to Lord Sandys and he proceeded to convert the priory into a double courtyard Tudor country house in 1538-40. Its northern range, which stands today as Mottisfont Abbey House, was formed from the nave and crossing of the former church, while the north transept, presbytery and eastern chapels were destroyed (detailed above in designated assets section).
- 2.4.6 A number of medieval structural remains relating to the priory are recorded within Mottisfont Abbey House and its grounds, as known from parchmarks and geophysical survey, as well as those uncovered via excavation (detailed in para 2.3.2-2.3.5 above). It is likely that the priory had a number of auxiliary buildings, elements of which survive beneath the ground including the chapter house to the south-west of the present house.
- 2.4.7 Some properties in Mottisfont village date from this period, including the grade II listed Abbey Farm Cottages, a former hall house of late 15th /16th century date with post-medieval brick encasing of the timber frame located just west of the Site. On the western side of Oakley Road is the 14th century timber-framed Daisy cottage (also grade II listed) and the site of the Mottisfont Treasury manor house. The grade I listed parish church of St Andrew was also constructed in the 12th century.

#### *Post-medieval and modern*

- 2.4.8 During the 18th century, extensive renovations were carried out to Mottisfont Abbey House and the gardens were landscaped. All but the north range was demolished in c. 1740 and a Georgian brick front was added to the south side of the surviving range. This

transformation of the Tudor house into an 18th century dwelling resulted in the house appearing much as it does today.

2.4.9 The tithe map of 1839 shows the first buildings of Abbey Farm to the immediate south-west of the Site, though the historic building survey concludes that the cart shed where the biomass boiler is sited is first depicted on the 1871-74 OS map (AAL 2016b).

2.4.10 In 1957, the property passed to the National Trust.

### **3 WATCHING BRIEF AIMS**

3.1.1 With due regard to the ClfA's *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014a), the aims of the watching brief were to:

- *Ensure the preservation by record of any archaeological remains to the highest possible standard;*
- *Confirm the approximate date or date ranges of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;*
- *Determine the approximate extent of any remains;*
- *Determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains;*
- *Determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present; and*
- *To prepare a report to disseminate the results of the watching brief.*

### **4 METHODOLOGY**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

4.1.1 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the WSI (WA 2016) and in general compliance with ClfA's *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014a).

#### **4.2 Watching brief methodology**

4.2.1 All groundwork excavation was undertaken under the constant supervision of Wessex Archaeology experienced archaeologists. Excavation undertaken by the Client's contractors proceeded to the required levels or the top of archaeological levels, whichever was the higher. Where practicable and without causing unreasonable delay to the groundwork programme, excavations were halted whilst investigations were carried out by Wessex Archaeology staff.

4.2.2 Excavated spoil was visually scanned for artefacts.

4.2.3 Wessex Archaeology staff investigated any archaeological deposits and features by hand. Where practical, and towards meeting the aims of the watching brief, excavation included sampling of features and deposits in order to determine stratigraphic relationships and to recover artefacts, ecofacts and dating evidence.

4.2.4 The watching brief was maintained throughout intrusive groundworks and was concluded when it was clear that the potential for archaeological remains to be exposed had been exhausted.

### 4.3 Recording

- 4.3.1 All exposed deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system, which included both written and drawn records, as conditions allowed.
- 4.3.2 A digital photographic record was maintained during the watching brief. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and the general context of uncovered deposits as well as the Site as a whole. Digital images have been subject to a managed quality control and curation process that has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and ensures the long term accessibility of the image set.
- 4.3.3 A unique Wessex Archaeology project code (113660) was allocated to all archive elements.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The fieldwork consisted of the monitoring of the excavation of the pipe trench beneath the present ground surface between the existing cart shed and the stable block and eastwards to Mottisfont Abbey House (**Figure 1**). The groundwork was undertaken in phases, corresponding to the assigned trench numbers monitored between the 3 October and 3 November 2016.
- 5.1.2 The pipeline trenches were largely contiguous and predominantly excavated by hand by the groundwork contractors; the main break was between trench 1 and trench 2 where directional drilling was employed (**Figure 1**). This necessitated trenches 1 and 2 to be larger (a maximum of 2.0 m by 1.6 m and 1.6 m deep) whereas the other trenches were only 0.3 m wide and 0.75–0.85 m deep. A mini digger with a toothless bucket was also utilised by the contractors, as well as power tools to break through obstructions.
- 5.1.3 The archaeological results are presented below, by trench number. The soil sequence varied along the length of the pipeline trench and therefore the soil sequence is described by trench. Natural fluvial gravels were reached in some of the trenches, including trenches 1, 6 and 7, and other trenches revealed redeposited /disturbed river gravels.
- 5.1.4 A summary list of contexts is provided in **Appendix 1**, with further details available within the paper archive.

### 5.2 Trenches 1 and 2

- 5.2.1 Both trenches 1 and 2 measured 2.0 m by 1.6 m, and were excavated to a depth of 1.8 m and 1.7 m respectively below ground level (bgl) at approximately 27.7 m OD and 25.5 m OD. Trenches 1 and 2 were situated at either end of the section of the pipeline to be directionally drilled to the north-west of the house (**Figure 2**).
- 5.2.2 Trench 1 contained a number of archaeological deposits relating to the garden and evidence of a brick structure, possibly that depicted on the 1839 tithe map, whereas trench 2 contained no archaeological deposits, just a probable natural alluvial deposit of sand, silts, clays and gravel (**201**; **Plate 1**) underlying the present grassed sandy loam topsoil (**200**; 0.22 m thick).
- 5.2.3 Underlying the surface topsoil (**100**) in trench 1 was made ground (**101**) consisting of sandy clay with brick, tile, and mortar at 0.25–0.80 m bgl (**Plate 2**). Below the made ground, an east–west aligned brick wall **103** was uncovered near the northern edge of the trench (**Figure 2**) at 0.8–1.0 m bgl. The wall was constructed of unfrogged red bricks measuring 22 x 10.5 x 6.5 cm, bonded with a light grey sandy lime mortar, considered consistent with

a probable 19th century date. Also underlying the made ground was a very dark greyish brown silty clay (**102**) interpreted as a buried topsoil as it was only found externally to north of brick wall **103** at 0.80–0.88+ m bgl (**Plate 2**). South of the wall, internal to the structure and underlying the made ground, a mortar foundation layer for a floor (**104**) was exposed (0.85–0.95 m bgl). The construction cut for wall **103** was identified only in the north-east corner of the trench below mortar layer **104** though is considered to have been stratigraphically cut through the buried topsoil **102**.

- 5.2.4 Predating the built structure, underlying mortar layer **104** at 0.95–1.23 m bgl a very dark grey humic buried soil (**105**) was encountered and is interpreted as an improved garden soil (the very dark layer is clear in **Plate 2**). Some finds were recovered from this layer including a post-medieval brick and two bases of wine bottles dating from 1735–1830. At the base of the deposit sequence was made ground (**106**) consisting of a light greyish sandy silt containing much stone and flint and some dressed masonry blocks therefore considered to be a demolition/levelling deposit at 1.23–1.80+ m bgl.

### 5.3 Trench 3

- 5.3.1 Trench 3 extended south from trench 2 for some 12 m to the northern side of the Mottisfont Abbey House (**Figure 2**). It measured some 12.3 m long and was 0.3 m wide and had a surface height of 25 m OD.
- 5.3.2 Beneath the surface grassed topsoil (**300**), was a layer of sandy loam garden soil with some rubble (**301**) forming the lower part of an existing flower bed at 0.3–0.6 m bgl. A brick built culvert/drain (**302**; **Plate 3**) orientated east–west was revealed at 0.3 m bgl and its construction cut (**305**) was visible on the southern side only where it was cut into layer **301**, and extended to the maximum depth of the trench at 0.76 m bgl (section, **Figure 2**). To the north of brick culvert **302** and stratigraphically later than it, was a mixed layer of modern rubble and service trench backfill with common limestone, brick and tile fragments (**303**) at 0.2–0.76 m bgl (section, **Figure 2**). Part of a human femur bone and an architectural piece of limestone were retrieved from this layer, though the former was presumably originally from a burial associated with the priory, both were most definitely redeposited in this modern context.
- 5.3.3 At the far northern end of the trench 3, a deposit of reworked natural river gravels (**304**), was recorded below the modern rubble backfill deposit (**302**) at 0.2–0.6 m bgl (section, **Figure 2**).

### 5.4 Trench 4

- 5.4.1 The main part of trench 4 extended north-west towards the eastern side of the stable block for approximately 23 m from near trench 1, with another short 3 m section immediately west of trench 1, joining the western end of trench 5 (**Figure 3**). The existing ground level was at a height of 27.4 m OD at the south-east end, rising to 28.6 m OD at the north-west end of trench 4.
- 5.4.2 Beneath the developed garden soil comprising topsoil (**400**) and a subsoil (**401**), a dumped layer of brick, tile and mortar in a yellowish brown sandy silt (**402**) was recorded at 0.4–0.5 m bgl, with another underlying dumped deposit containing cinders and charcoal (**403**) at 0.5–0.8 m bgl (**Plate 4**). A number of finds were recovered from dumped layer **403** including a number of complete glass bottles of 19th/20th century date and pottery of modern date.
- 5.4.3 A foundation trench (**404**) for a red brick wall (**405**) was cut into layer **403** at 0.6–0.7+ m bgl. Wall **405** was orientated south-west to north-east and terminated 0.1 m short of the western



edge of the limits of excavated pipe trench (**Plate 4**). The wall was recorded for two courses, though continued down beyond the limit of excavation. The unfrogged bricks, each measuring 22 x 10.5 x 6.5 cm (consistent with a date from the 16th century onwards) were bonded with a light grey sandy lime mortar. The wall is of probable late 19th /early 20th century date as it was cut into layer **403**, which was dated by finds to this period.

- 5.4.4 Another more substantial wall (**407**) was recorded at a higher level (just 0.1 m bgl) further north-west in trench 4 (section, **Figure 3; Plate 5**). Wall **407** was orientated north-west to south-east, extending at an oblique angle across the excavated trench. It was two bricks wide (0.35 m wide) and was exposed for a height of seven courses, though it continued down below the limit of excavation (0.7 m+ bgl). A layer of yellowish brown sandy mortar (**408**) against the lower east face of the wall at 0.5–0.8 m+ is interpreted as a probable wall footing. The construction cut (**406**) for wall **407** was clearly visible to both sides cutting into two layers: **402** to the south and **410** to the north (**410** being another dumped /levelling layer of pinkish brown sandy clay with abundant sub-angular chalk fragments). Construction cut **406** was ultimately backfilled with deposit **409**, a mid greyish brown sandy silt with common rounded small flint gravels, which did not contain any artefacts. However, given the high level of the wall and the established stratigraphic relationships in trench 4, it is clear that wall **407** is of late 19th /early 20th century date.
- 5.4.5 A third wall (**411**) was uncovered in trench 4 closer to the stable block, at 0.2–0.7 m + bgl. Wall **411** contained a variety of building materials: it had a core of stone and brick rubble and was faced with worked greensand stone, light grey fine sandstone and occasional fragments of ironstone (section, **Figure 3; Plate 6**). The stone facing of the wall suggests that the faces were originally exposed: dumped/levelling layers immediately to the east and west (**410** and **413** respectively) of wall **411** seem to lap up against the wall faces. No construction cut was identified at this level suggesting that the construction cut for wall **411** may lie below the base of the excavated pipe trench. The date of this wall is uncertain, though the reuse of materials suggest it is of either post-medieval or modern period.

## 5.5 Trench 5

- 5.5.1 From the short segment of trench 4, trench 5 extended west/south-west for approximately 25 m to the eastern side of the access track to the stable block (**Figure 4**). The existing ground level was at a height of 27.4 m OD at the north-east end, rising to 28.5 m OD at south-west end of trench 5.
- 5.5.2 Beneath the developed garden soil comprising topsoil (**500**) and subsoil (**501**), a deposit of redeposited river gravels (**502**) was found at 0.35–0.50 m bgl, with an underlying 0.05 m thick band of crushed chalk (**503**) – both are likely to represent levelling layers associated with landscaping. A layer of dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small flint gravels and rare brick and tile fragments (**504**) physically underlay layer **503** at 0.55–0.70+ m bgl, although it actually predated the structural remains described below, and could represent a buried garden soil.
- 5.5.3 Construction cut **505** for a red brick wall (**506**) cut through chalk layer **503**, and like the wall continued below the limit of excavation at 0.50–0.70+ m bgl. Wall **506** was orientated north–south and was 0.5 m wide and was exposed for a height of three courses (**Plate 7**) and was overlain by subsoil **501**. It was built with unfrogged red bricks (each measuring 22 x 20 x 6.5 cm) bonded with a light grey sandy lime mortar. It is notable that though there was a slight pinkish tinge to the mortar in section, it is understood that this derived from the brick powder produced when a section of the wall was removed by the groundworks contractor's hammer drill, rather than being an indication of a Tudor date. On the east side of wall **506** were two thin layers at 0.65–0.74 m bgl: one a light grey mortar layer (**507**) could represent

a bedding layer for a previously existing floor, and an underlying dark sandy silt with abundant small chalk fragments and gravels (**508**) may be a floor surface, or alternatively both could just be dumped material.

- 5.5.4 Approximately 1.5 m further to the south-west of wall **506**, a single course of red bricks laid in a probable herringbone pattern (**510**) is thought to be the remains of a bricked floor or yard surface that followed a north-west to south-east orientation. The red unfrogged bricks measured 21 x 10 x 5 cm, thinner than others revealed in walls within the Site but consistent with paver bricks used for floors, and were bedded in 0.02 m thick bedding layer of light yellowish brown sandy mortar (**511**) at 0.60–0.67 m bgl (**Plate 8**). An undiagnostic partial floor tile was recovered from the surface of the mortar layer overlying the bricks suggesting that the surface may have originally be paved. The brick surface was found on the south side of the pipe trench but did not extend into the north section and therefore ended within the confines of the excavated pipe trench. The construction cut for the brick surface **510** was just discernible cutting layer **504** and physically overlay the surface of a cindery dump deposit (**512**) which lay at 0.67–0.74 m bgl and contained no artefacts. However, deposit **512** is considered to be the same as layer **403** in trench 4, where finds were retrieved indicating a 19/20th century date.

## 5.6 Trench 6

- 5.6.1 Trench 6 crossed the access track to the stable block and then continued to the south-west across the lawn before curving to the north-west and then continuing south-west to meet trench 7 by the access track to the cart shed (**Figure 1**). The existing ground level was at a height of 28.8 m OD at the north-east end, rising to 33.5 m OD at south-west end of trench 6.
- 5.6.2 In the far east of trench 6, a sequence of three layers of gravel were recorded in a sandy silt matrix (**601–603**) at 0–0.67 m bgl, where the pipe trench crossed the existing access track to the stable block (**Plate 9**). Both lower contexts (**602** and **603**) had occasional brick/tile fragments >0.06m, one tile fragment recovered is of medieval date, and the former also contained rare mortar flecks. The slightly bioturbated upper surface of probable natural gravels (**604**) was observed underlying the above described sequence at 0.67–0.8+ m.
- 5.6.3 Elsewhere within trench 6, there was a developed soil sequence (**Plate 10**) with a mid greyish brown sandy silt loam topsoil (**600**) and underlying light–mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoils with common small flint gravels (**605** and **606**) overlying slightly bioturbated natural gravels (**604**) at approximately 0.67 m bgl.
- 5.6.4 Near the northernmost part of trench 6, an east-west aligned foundation (**609**; **Figure 5**; **Plate 11**) comprising post-medieval brick, flint nodules and a limestone block, bonded with a golden brown sandy mortar, only one course high, lay within construction cut **608** which was 0.4 m wide and 0.18 m deep, and cut in to natural gravels **604**. It is uncertain whether these remains, which lay at 0.20–0.30 m bgl, represent a linear foundation for a sleeper wall of a timber structure (since removed) or the base of a garden wall. A piece of medieval roof tile was also recovered from **609**.
- 5.6.5 A dump deposit **607** also revealed in this area of trench 6, which partly overlay foundation **609** and extended roughly 4–5m to the north-west, may be associated with the latter. Deposit **607** consisted of worked and unworked flint nodules (the former for use in walling), small brick and tile fragments in a mid greyish brown sandy silt matrix with occasional small gravels (**Plate 12**). A large greensand masonry block sat on the base of the layer and it is suggested that this may possibly have been used as a post pad in a structure, together with foundation **609**.

- 5.6.6 Pit **611** was identified in the pipe trench section only; it was 0.7 m wide and 0.4 m deep with steep concave sides and a concave base (**Plate 13**; section **Figure 5**). It contained a single topsoil-derived fill with some small tile fragments; one recovered was of medieval date, though this does not securely date the feature as it may be residual. Four other medieval tile fragments were recovered from other dumped/levelling deposits in the locality, to the east (**612** and **614** in section, **Figure 5**) and approximately 5 m to the west (**616** and **617**).

## 5.7 Trench 7

- 5.7.1 Trench 7 (**Figure 1**) extended from the end of trench 6 southwards across the access track to the cart shed (existing ground level at 33.5 m OD), then curved to the south-west and back to the south-east before ending by the eastern side of the cart shed building (existing ground level at 33.0 m OD).
- 5.7.2 The soil sequence at the northern end of the trench under the existing access track, was a dark greyish brown sandy silt soil at 0.10–0.60 m bgl with occasional brick/tile fragments (**701**), overlying natural river gravels (**702**) at 0.60 m + bgl. Post-medieval brick and a fragment of medieval roof tile were both recovered from soil **701**. Approximately 20 m to the south-east within trench 7 the deposit sequence changed to a modern made ground (**703**) at 0–0.85 m + bgl that contained brick/tile fragments, plastics and modern glass bottles and modern ceramic. This made ground deposit extended along trench 7 to the cart shed, where it had become shallower (0.4 m thick) and was overlain by a gravelled yard surface (**704**) and underlain by natural river gravels at 0.6 m bgl (**Plate 14**).
- 5.7.3 No archaeological features were revealed within trench 7.

## 5.8 Building recording of the cart shed

- 5.8.1 Following comment from the Test Valley Borough Council's Building Preservation and Conservation Officer, the implemented WSI (WA 2016) included a section on provision for historic building recording should the groundworks affect the fabric of the cart shed building.
- 5.8.2 During subsequent discussions with the National Trust, it was established that there was negligible physical impact to the cart shed building with only the floor having to be slightly levelled prior to the laying of a concrete slab. The National Trust therefore informed Wessex Archaeology that attendance would not be needed for monitoring of these works in the building, but that the existing floor would be recorded by their own project manager Tom Cullen. The levelling work was then commenced with the proviso that should any remains be found during the floor levelling, then the contractors would halt work to allow for further investigation. No further investigations were necessary.
- 5.8.3 The results of the photographic survey of the floor undertaken by the National Trust on 21 September 2016 is presented in **Appendix 2**, along with an annotated plan showing the location and direction of each photograph taken.
- 5.8.4 The National Trust photographs show the existing floor is beaten earth. This fact was recorded previously in the historic building survey of the cart shed, where it was also stated that the floor had "concrete and brick foundations apparent in places" (AAL 2016b, 4). The National Trust mapped an east–west aligned layer of bricks in the south of the building and a small area of brick floor externally by the eastern open side of the cart shed (see plan, **Appendix 2**). The measurements of the individual bricks were taken and recorded as 9" x 4" x 2" and they were bedded on sand directly over the beaten earth floor (see plates showing detail of bricks in **Appendix 2**). The lack of mortar and thinness of the bricks would therefore suggest that they are floor bricks and are the remnants of a brick floor, rather than a foundation for an internal division.

## 6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

6.1.1 A small quantity of material was recovered during the watching brief, ranging in date from medieval to modern. All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)**

Context	CBM	Glass	Pottery	Other Finds
101		2/2	6/633	1 shell
103	1/3180			
105	1/801	3/1066		
106				2 stone
112			1/874	
303				1 human bone; 1 stone
402		2/53		
403		4/665	3/364	1 metal
509	1/1144			
510	1/2084			
600	1/233			1 metal
603	3/146			
605	4/211			
606	2/33			1 flint
607	3/470			1 flint
609	2/1274			
610	3/171			
612	2/207			
614	3/119			
616	5/660			
617	3/1336			
701	2/894			
703		1/188	2/21	1 metal
<b>Total</b>	<b>37/12963</b>	<b>12/1974</b>	<b>12/1892</b>	

### 6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 All 12 sherds of pottery recovered were of post-medieval/modern date, but all could be accommodated within a 19th/20th century date range. They included Verwood-type earthenware from the east Dorset/Hampshire border (utilitarian kitchen/dairy wares); refined whitewares (tea- and tablewares); and stonewares (household containers). The stoneware sherds include one flagon handle, and the shoulder of the same, or a second vessel, stamped [...]LLOWAY (one possibility is Herbert Holloway, proprietor of the New Inn in Winchester, listed in Kelly's Directory of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, 1911); and a complete polish or blacking bottle stamped DOULTON LAMBETH (the bottle manufacturer). This Doulton mark was used c. 1858–c. 1910 (Eyles 2002, 324).

### 6.3 Ceramic and Stone Building Material

#### *Ceramic*

- 6.3.1 The majority of the ceramic building material (CBM) consisted of fragments of medieval roof tile (28 fragments). These tiles were typically handmade in poorly-wedged clays. These tiles were almost certainly made locally; one source is documented at Mottisfont in the mid-15th century (Hare 1991, 89, 92), but tiles such as these are widespread across Hampshire and south Wiltshire from the early 13th century.
- 6.3.2 There was one example of a partially glazed ridge tile with a knife-cut crest, from context **616 (Plate 15)**. These tiles were designed to provide a decorative (and visible) element along the roof-ridge, and are generally associated with substantial buildings of higher status. Ridge tiles also appear from around the 13th century in Wessex, and were made, for example, alongside pottery vessels at the Laverstock production centre near Salisbury (Musty *et al.* 1969, 140-1, fig. 25). This example was not in the Laverstock-type fabric, and the thick, even glaze suggests a date in the late medieval or early post-medieval period.
- 6.3.3 One floor tile was also present. This was an incomplete example of a decorated floor tile, from context **600 (Plate 16)**. It appears to show part of a scrolling, foliate design, but no parallel could be found. It is likely to date to the 13th or 14th century.
- 6.3.4 The rest of the CBM consisted of post-medieval brick. All these were handmade and unfrogged forms. Two survived complete; these and other fragments fall into a size range of 210–220 x 100–110 x 50–65 mm, which is compatible with a date range from the 16th century onwards. One brick, from context **609**, was badly overfired, with extensive surface vitrification. This may have been a waster and could suggest some on-site brick manufacture.

#### *Stone*

- 6.3.5 Stone building material was also present in the form of three architectural fragments and two pieces of walling flint. The latter comprised one waste flake in fresh condition (almost certainly from the preparation of walling flint), and a squared core block.
- 6.3.6 All three architectural fragments were in limestone, and comprised part of an acute-angled block; part of a string-course with a 'guttered' profile; and a larger piece, angled but so abraded as to have removed most of the original surfaces and to have obscured its original function. These architectural fragments could have belonged to the medieval priory, but are not closely datable.

### 6.4 Glass

- 6.4.1 The glass included both window and vessel glass; all was of post-medieval/modern date. The earliest pieces comprised two bottle bases and one bottle neck from context **105**. All were from green glass wine bottles. The bases were from free-blown cylindrical bottles (c. 1735–1830; Dumbrell 1983), and the neck was probably from a bottle of similar form.
- 6.4.2 Apart from two small fragments of modern window glass, the rest of the glass comprised modern bottles and jars, and included a group of complete and partial vessels from contexts **402** and **403**: a complete small, narrow bottle with a metal screw cap, a complete larger bottle with a flat lip (for cork closure), a rectangular, wide-mouthed bottle, and the base of a subrectangular chemist's bottle with graded 'Tablespoon' marks up the side. The other bottles could have contained either foodstuffs or other household goods.

## 6.5 Human Bone

- 6.5.1 Part of an adult femur shaft was found redeposited in context **303**. This had almost certainly been disturbed from an inhumation grave associated with the medieval priory.

## 6.6 Other Finds

- 6.6.1 Other finds comprised one oyster shell, and three metal objects: a button, a garden tag, and a probable fitting.
- 6.6.2 The garden tag, with a wire fastening, was stamped SARCOCOCCA RUSCIFOLIA (an evergreen shrub of the Buxaceae family).
- 6.6.3 The button, of copper alloy with traces of surface gilding, carried a heraldic crest with the motto PER ORBEM (Throughout the World) (**Plate 17**). The shield bore the arms of the Clay (or Cley, Cly) family, but had a superimposed element which could not be discerned; its precise derivation is unknown. The button was of 19th or 20th century date.
- 6.6.4 The third object consisted of a rectangular copper plate with a semi-circular cut-out on one side and multiple rivet holes; its function is uncertain.

## 7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1.1 No well-dated or sealed archaeological deposits suitable for environmental sampling were present.

## 8 DISCUSSION

- 8.1.1 The archaeological watching brief monitoring the excavation of a pipeline trench connecting the new biomass boiler situated in the cart shed with Mottisfont Abbey House, via the stable block, has successfully achieved its stated aims. Primarily by ensuring a preservation by record (to the highest possible standard) of archaeological remains encountered during the works and obtaining the maximum information possible as to their nature, extent, condition, and date.
- 8.1.2 All of the structural features uncovered during the works are of post-medieval or modern date. Yet the position of many of these walls and surfaces in the archaeological sequence revealed in the trenches indicates that most of these date to the 19th or early 20th century. It can be stated with confidence that the majority of these are likely to relate to designed features within the landscaped gardens, located in the area to the north-west of Mottisfont Abbey House and to the south-east of the stable block.
- 8.1.3 An east–west orientated brick wall uncovered within trench 1, with evidence of an internal mortar bedding layer for a floor, could be part of a large rectangular building located between the house and the stable block first indicated on the 1839 tithe map (AAL 2016a, Figure 7). A humic garden soil predating this building contained post-medieval finds including a bottle glass dating to 1730–1830.
- 8.1.4 Nearer the stable block in trench 4, a substantial brick wall and the butt end of another brick wall were both proven to be late 19th /early 20th century in date. Another composite wall of stone and brick could not be closely dated but is of post-medieval date or later. Some small structures and a curving boundary are depicted in this locality on the 1871–74 OS map (AAL 2016a, Figure 9). A herringbone brick surface and a north–south aligned brick wall in trench 5 to the south-east of the stable block are perhaps also likely to be of late 19th /early 20th century date.

- 8.1.5 In the northernmost part of trench 6, to the south-west of the stable block, a foundation course of brick, flint and stone cut into the natural gravels was revealed. This may represent a footing for a timber sleeper wall (since removed), and may have been associated with a dressed masonry block that could have acted as a post-pad for an upright timber. At the base was a dumped deposit containing worked flint nodules and waste flakes indicating the working of this material for walling. A small undated pit was also found in this locality. It is tentatively suggested that these remains could be associated with a structural shelter or work area for the craftsmen involved in the post-medieval re-design of Mottisfont.
- 8.1.6 The probable late 18th/19th century brick culvert/drain located in trench 3 just to the rear of the house is the thought to be the same feature as one of two similar features revealed in a previous watching brief undertaken by Wessex Archaeology, when one was left *in situ* (WA 2002, 5).
- 8.1.7 No medieval features or deposits were uncovered that could be associated with the medieval Augustinian priory. However, a small number of residual finds were found re-deposited in later contexts. These consisted of tile fragments, including a glazed decorated partial floor tile and part of a ridge tile, and part of a human femur bone, which probably was originally part of an inhumation burial.
- 8.1.8 The deposit sequence varied along the length of the pipeline trench, and natural fluvial gravels were reached in some areas. A number of dump deposits were encountered and are indicative of the level of historical landscaping that has occurred within the grounds. There was evidence of considerable ground make-up in some areas, which extended to over 1 m in depth. Within Trench 1, a demolition/levelling deposit was observed at 1.8+ m bgl and continued beyond the limits of excavation.
- 8.1.9 The presented results of this watching brief, although limited in scale and not worthy of further analysis, do provide an interesting contribution to the later historic development of the landscape gardens. Reference could be made to these results if any publication on the historical development of the Mottisfont estate was to be undertaken in the future.

## **9 STORAGE AND CURATION**

### **9.1 Archive preparation**

- 9.1.1 The complete project archive, which will include paper records, photographic records and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Hampshire Museums Service, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 9.1.2 All archive elements will be marked with the accession number **A2016.62**, and a full index will be prepared.

### **9.2 Museum**

- 9.2.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with Hampshire Museums Service. The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.
- 9.2.2 Until deposition, the archive will be temporarily held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury under the project code 113660.

### 9.3 Discard policy

- 9.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In this instance, given the small quantity of material recovered, its nature and date range (commonly occurring, well documented types mostly of relatively recent date), the potential of the assemblage for further research is considered to be extremely limited, and retention for long-term curation is therefore not recommended.
- 9.3.2 All finds have been recorded to an appropriate level. A few items have been retained by the landowners (National Trust) as being of direct relevance to the Site (heraldic button, decorated floor tile, ceramic ridge tile; **Plates 15-17**); all other finds have been discarded. The selection policy will be fully documented in the project archive.

### 9.4 OASIS

- 9.4.1 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> has been initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form has been initiated for submission to the HER (**Appendix 3**). This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive).

### 9.5 Security copy

- 9.5.1 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.

### 9.6 Copyright

- 9.6.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003.



## 10 REFERENCES

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## 11 APPENDICES

### 11.1 Appendix 1: Context summary tables by trench

<b>TRENCH 1</b>		<b>Ground surface height: 27.7 m OD</b>	
<b>Context no.</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Interpretative category/description</b>	<b>Depth from ground surface (m)</b>
100	Layer	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown sandy loam	0–0.25
101	Layer	Made ground. Sandy clay with brick, tile, mortar etc	0.25–0.80
102	Layer	Buried topsoil. Dark greyish brown silty clay, only found externally to N of wall 103	0.80–0.88+
103	Wall	Brick wall aligned E–W against n edge of trench. 2 courses deep.	0.80–1.00
104	Layer	Mortar floor foundations within building, south of wall 103	0.85–0.95
105	Layer	Buried garden soil. Very dark grey rather peaty	0.95–1.23
106	Layer	Made ground. Light greyish sandy silt containing much stone and flint and some dressed masonry blocks	1.23–1.80+

<b>TRENCH 2</b>		<b>Ground surface height: 25.5 m OD</b>	
<b>Context no.</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Interpretative category/description</b>	<b>Depth from ground surface (m)</b>
200	Layer	Topsoil. Reddish brown sandy loam	0–0.22
201	Layer	Natural alluvial deposits. Yellowish brown sandy clay and gravels, with band of light yellowish brown alluvial silty clays	0.22–1.70+

<b>TRENCH 3</b>		<b>Ground surface height: 25.0 m OD</b>	
<b>Context no.</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Interpretative category/description</b>	<b>Depth from ground surface (m)</b>
300	Layer	Topsoil. Reddish brown sandy loam with occasional flint gravels > 0.03m	0–0.20
301	Layer	Garden soil and rubble forms flower bed. Light greyish brown slightly sandy loam	0.30–0.60
302	Structure	Brick culvert/drain, E–W orientated.	0.30–0.76
303	Layer	Modern made ground. Mixed modern rubble and service trench backfill, reddish brown sandy clay, common limestone ballast, brick and tile fragments.	0.20–0.76
304	Layer	Reddish brown re-worked natural river gravels	0.20–0.60
305	Cut	Cut of E–W construction trench for brick culvert/drain 302	0.3–0.76



<b>TRENCH 4</b>		<b>Ground surface height: 27.4 m OD (SE end) 28.6 m OD (NW end)</b>	
<b>Context no.</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Interpretative category/description</b>	<b>Depth from ground surface (m)</b>
400	Layer	Topsoil. Reddish brown sandy loam, worm sorted horizon of small stone at base of layer.	0–0.20
401	Layer	Subsoil. Light greyish brown sandy silt, common rounded flint gravels	0.20–0.40
402	Layer	Dump deposit of brick/tile and yellow sandy mortar, yellowish brown sandy silt	0.40–0.50
403	Layer	Dump deposit containing cinders and charcoal, glass, ceramics	0.50–0.80
404	Cut	Foundation trench for wall 405	0.60–0.70+
405	Wall	Red brick wall SW–NE	0.60–0.70+
406	Cut	Foundation trench for wall 407	0.10–0.80+
407	Wall	NW–SE red brick wall just below turf-line and continues beyond limit of excavation in base of trench.	0.10–0.80+
408	Wall footing	Yellowish brown sandy mortar at base and against east face of wall 407	0.50–0.80+
409	Fill	Fill of construction cut 407. Mid greyish brown sandy silt with common rounded small flint gravels	
410	Layer	Dumped /levelling layer of pinkish brown sandy clay with abundant sub-angular chalk fragments	0.16–0.48
411	Wall	Composite wall with core of stone and brick rubble and was faced with worked greensand stone, light grey fine sandstone and occasional fragments of ironstone	0.20–0.70+
412	Cut	Number allocated to construction cut for wall 411 but not observed within trench 4, likely below the limit of excavation at base of trench	-
413	Layer	Dumped /levelling layer of mid greyish brown sandy silt with common rounded flint gravels <0.03m, occasional brick/tile fragments<0.04 m. On west side of wall 411.	0.20–0.70+



<b>TRENCH 5</b>		<b>Ground surface height: 27.4 m OD (NE end) 28.5 m OD (SW end)</b>	
<b>Context no.</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Interpretative category/description</b>	<b>Depth from ground surface (m)</b>
500	Layer	Topsoil. Reddish brown sandy loam	0–0.20
501	Layer	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown sandy silt, common rounded flint gravels, occasional brick/tile frags, occasional mortar and chalk frags.	0.20–0.60
502	Layer	Reddish brown sandy clay abundant small flint gravels- redeposited fluvial gravels	0.35–0.50
503	Layer	Dumped band of white crushed chalk	0.50–0.55
504	Layer	Dark greyish brown sandy silt occasional flint gravels, rare brick/toile frags.	0.55–0.70+
505	Cut	Foundation trench for wall 506	0.50–0.70+
506	Wall	Red brick wall N–S aligned	0.50–0.70+
507	Layer	Light grey mortar band ; possible make up for floor within building	0.60–0.65
508	Layer	Very dark greyish brown sandy silt with abundant round chalk frags and gravel <0.03m: dump or floor	0.65–0.67
509	Layer	Dump. Light yellowish brown sandy mortar with occasional flint frags <0.10m and brick frags >0.03 m	0.55–0.67
510	Structure	Brick floor or yard surface. Single course of bricks laid in herringbone pattern	0.60–0.65
511	Layer	Mortar bedding layer for 510	0.65–0.67
512	Layer	Very dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional flint gravel>0.03m, charcoal flecking and common cinders	0.67–0.74
513	Cut	Construction cut for floor 510	0.60–0.65



<b>TRENCH 6</b>		<b>Ground surface height: 28.8 m OD (NE end) 33.5 m OD (SW end)</b>	
<b>Context no.</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Interpretative category/description</b>	<b>Depth from ground surface (m)</b>
600	Layer	Topsoil. Light reddish brown sandy silt loam	0–0.20
601	Layer	Made ground – gravels for existing drive to stable block.	0–0.20
602	Layer	Made ground. Light greyish brown sandy silt with frequent subrounded chalk frags and common mortar flecks very occasional tile frags	0.20–0.42
603	Layer	Made ground. Very dark grey sandy silt frequent flint gravels >0.03m, occasional tile/brick frags >0.06m	0.42–0.67
604	Layer	Slightly soily bioturbated upper surface of natural gravels. Mid greyish brown	0.67–0.80+
605	Layer	Subsoil. light greyish brown sandy silt with common flint gravels >0.04m, occasional tile frags >0.06m	0.15–0.25
606	Layer	Subsoil 2. Mid greyish brown sandy silt with common flint gravels >0.04m, occasional tile frags and flint including waste flakes from walling	0.25–0.52
607	Layer	Dump. Dressed flint and flint rubble and chalk bands with greensand masonry possible post pad at base of layer	0.10–0.20
608	Cut	Construction cut for foundation 609	0.20–0.30
609	Structure	E–W aligned single course thick comprising brick, flint nodules and a limestone block, bonded with a golden brown sandy mortar. Foundation for timber structure or wall	0.20–0.30
610	Fill	Fill of pit 611. Dark greyish brown sandy silt with common flint gravels >0.03m, rare tile frags.	0.18–0.60
611	Cut	Cut of pit, bowl-shaped profile. Contains fragments of peg tile so probably 19 <sup>th</sup> century.	0.18–0.60
612	Layer	Dump/levelling layer. Slightly reddish brown sandy silt common river gravels	0.16–0.50
613	Layer	Dump deposit. Band of crushed chalk and occasional flint gravels	0.50–0.54
614	Layer	Dump deposit. Very light greyish brown sandy silt common flint gravels >0.06m common tile frags.	0.54–0.60
615	Layer	Probably buried topsoil. Mid greyish brown sandy silt few inclusions and a well worm sorted horizon.	0.38–0.60
616	Layer	Very light greyish brown sandy silt common flint gravels >0.06m common tile frags. 1 x medieval roof tile	0.60–0.75+
617	layer	Dump/levelling deposit. Dark greyish brown sandy silt with common flint gravels >0.04m, occasional chalk frags >0.03m occasional brick and tile frags	0.18–0.70+

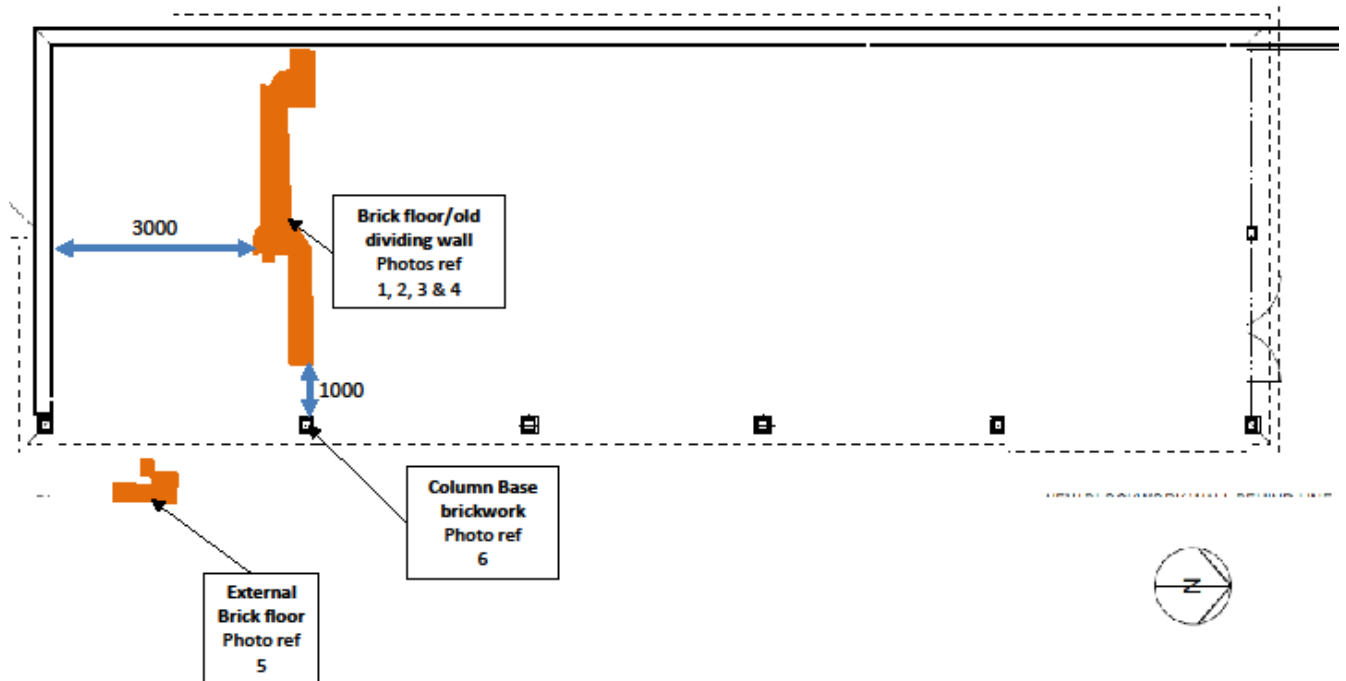


<b>TRENCH 7</b>		<b>Ground surface height: 33.5 m OD (N end) 33.0 m OD (S end)</b>	
<b>Context no.</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Interpretative category/description</b>	<b>Depth from ground surface (m)</b>
700	Layer	Existing gravelled drive	0–0.10
701	Layer	Developed soil. Dark greyish brown sandy silt very common flint gravels >0.06m, occasional brick/tile frags.	0.10–0.60
702	Layer	Natural river terrace gravels	0.60_0.75+
703	Layer	Modern made ground. Very dark grey sandy silt continues below base of trench frequent flint gravels, occasional tile /brick, plastics and modern glass bottles	0–0.85+
704	Layer	Existing yard surface by cart shed. Dark greyish brown sandy silt, abundant gravels >0.04m, occasional ceramic building material frags.0.02m	0–0.20



## 11.2 Appendix 2: National Trust recording of cart shed floor

### Mottisfont Farm Cart Shed Biomass Project



Cart Shed Plate 1



Cart Shed Plate 2



Cart Shed Plate 3



Cart Shed Plate 4



Cart Shed Plate 5



### 11.3 Appendix 3: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-270274

#### Project details

Project name	Mottisfont Biomass Project, Mottisfont, Hampshire
Short description of the project	<p>Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the National Trust to maintain an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the installation of a biomass boiler at Mottisfont Abbey, Mottisfont, Hampshire (NGR 432662 126960). The monitoring focused on the excavation of a pipeline trench from an existing 19th century unlisted cart shed at Abbey Farm in the west of the site (the subject of an earlier historic building survey by Allen Archaeology Ltd), across some 250 m of the historic landscaped gardens, to the grade I listed Mottisfont Abbey House, with a connection to the grade II* listed stable block. The archaeological watching brief was necessary in order to discharge conditions attached to a planning application (no. 16/00330/FULLS), granted (subject to conditions) by Test Valley Borough Council in May 2016. The watching brief was carried out in separate phases corresponding to trench numbers, between the 3 October and 3 November 2016. A number of structural features containing handmade unfrosted bricks were uncovered during the watching brief, and are of post-medieval or modern date. Yet the position of many of these walls and surfaces in the archaeological sequence revealed in the trenches indicates that most of these date to the 19th or early 20th century. It can be stated with confidence that the majority of these are likely to relate to designed features within the landscaped gardens, located in the area to the north-west of Mottisfont Abbey House and to the south-east of the stable block. No medieval features or deposits were uncovered that could be associated with the medieval Augustinian priory, though a small number of residual finds, mainly tile fragments including a glazed decorative example, were found re-deposited in later contexts.</p>
Project dates	Start: 03-10-2016 End: 03-11-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	113660 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	16/00330/FULLS - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	National Trust land
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE TEST VALLEY MOTTISFONT Mottisfont Biomass Project
Postcode	SO51 0LP



Study area	124.67 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 432662 126960 50.911555489656 -1.384513184966 50 54 41 N 001 23 04 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 25m Max: 33m

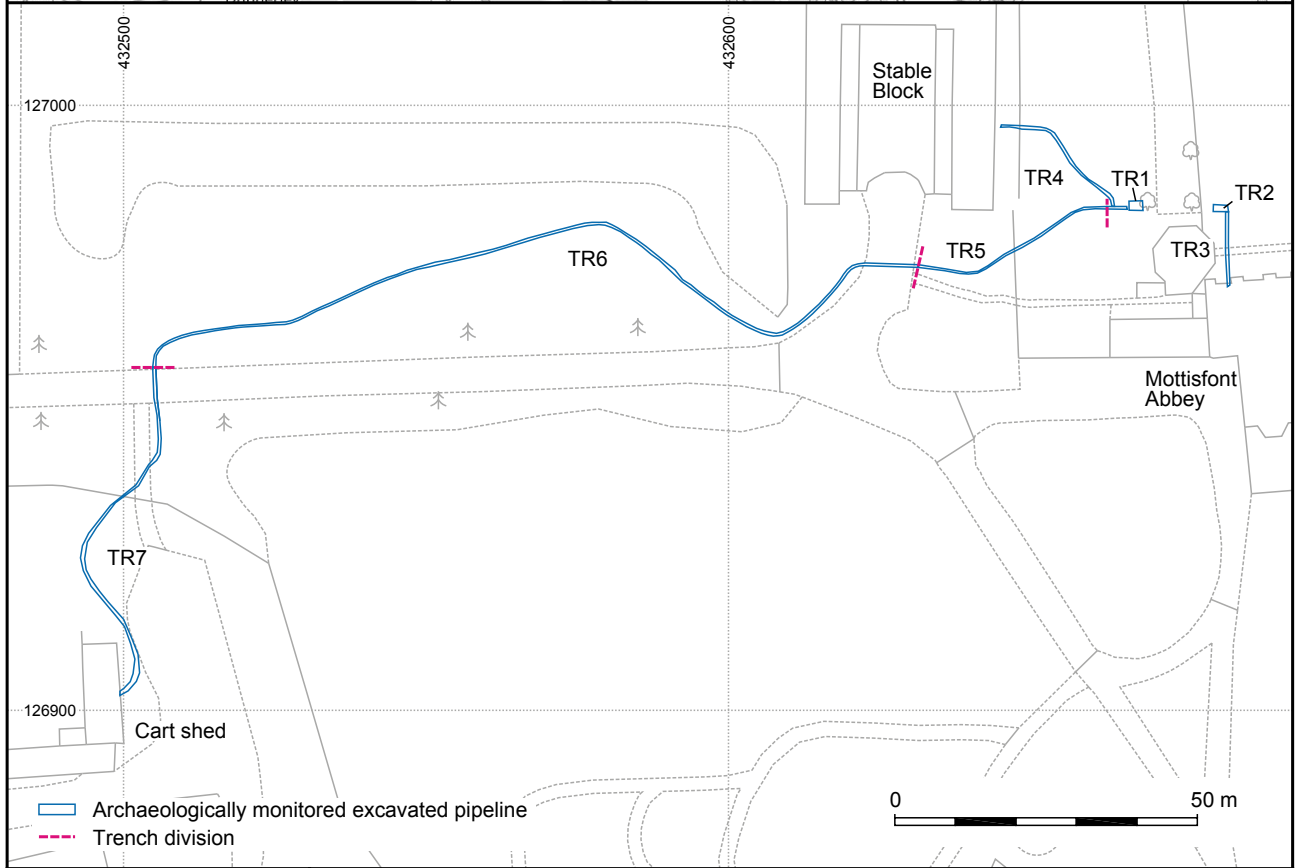
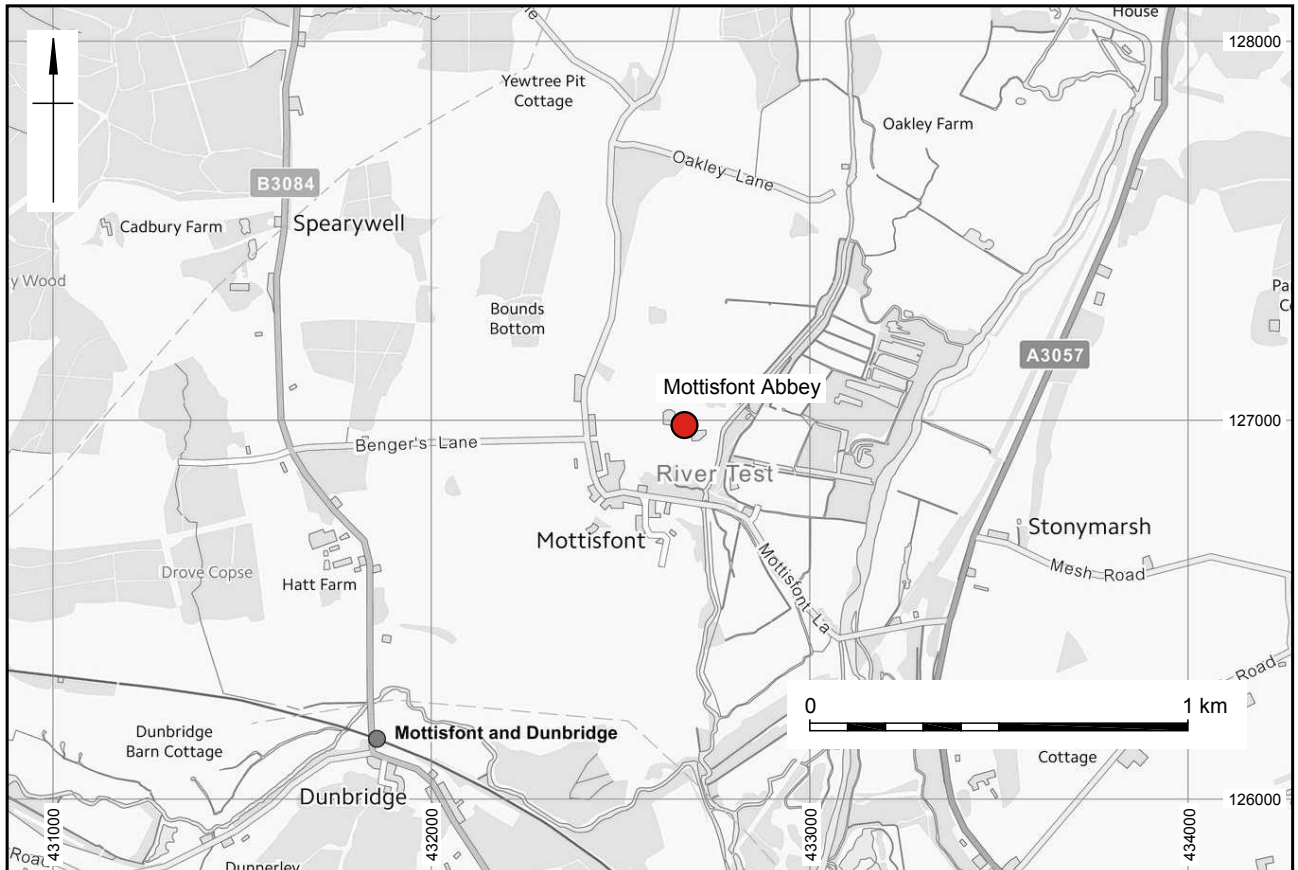
#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Ruth Panes
Type of sponsor/funding body	National Trust
Name of sponsor/funding body	The National Trust

#### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Hampshire County Museums Service
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Human Bones","Metal","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Archive recipient	Hampshire County Museums Service
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Hampshire County Museums Service
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Report","Unpublished Text"

Entered by	Rachel Williams (r.williams@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	2 December 2016



Coordinate system:  
OSGB36  
(OSTN15/OSGM15)



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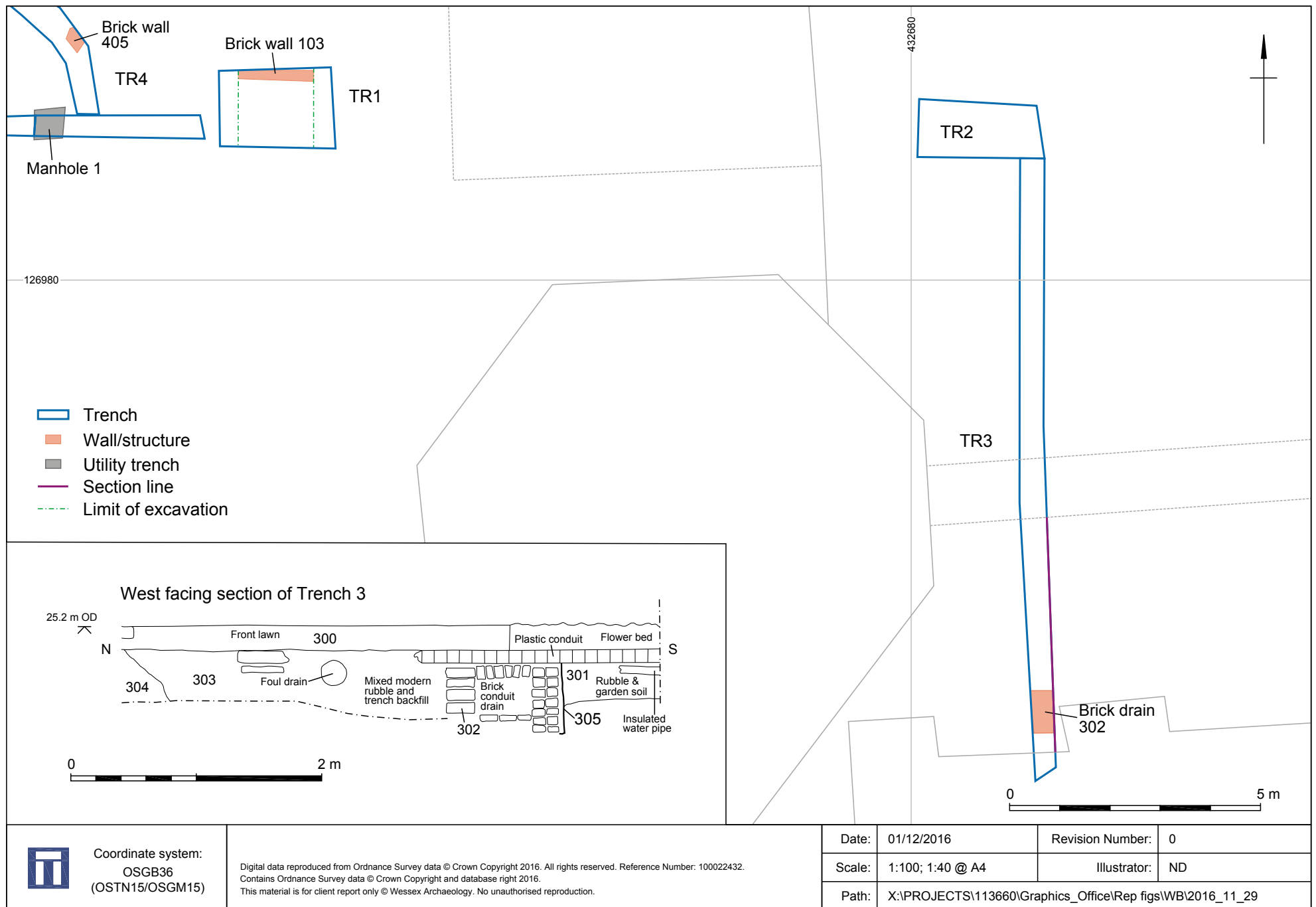
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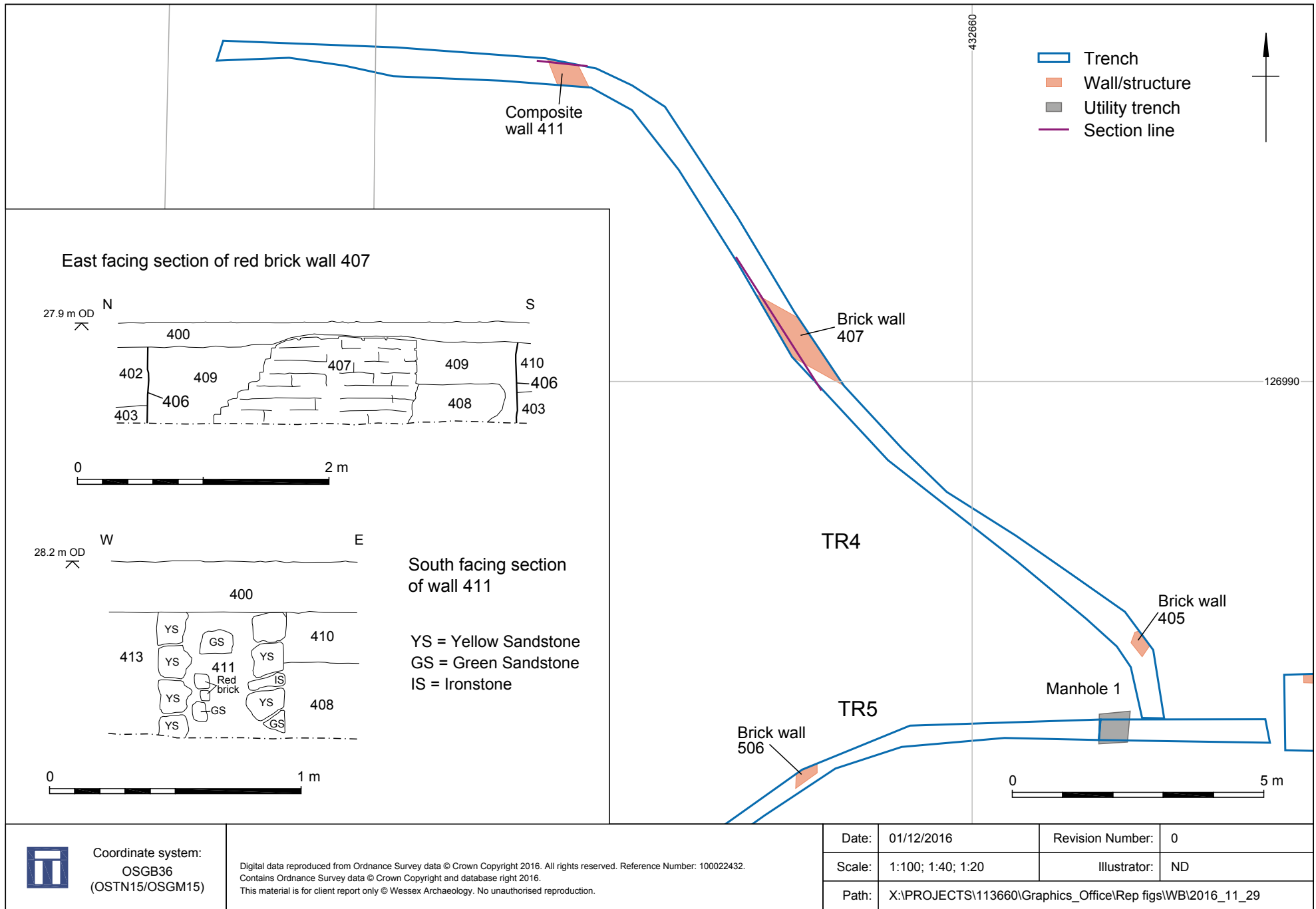
Site location and area monitored during watching brief

Figure 1



Detail of Trenches 1-3

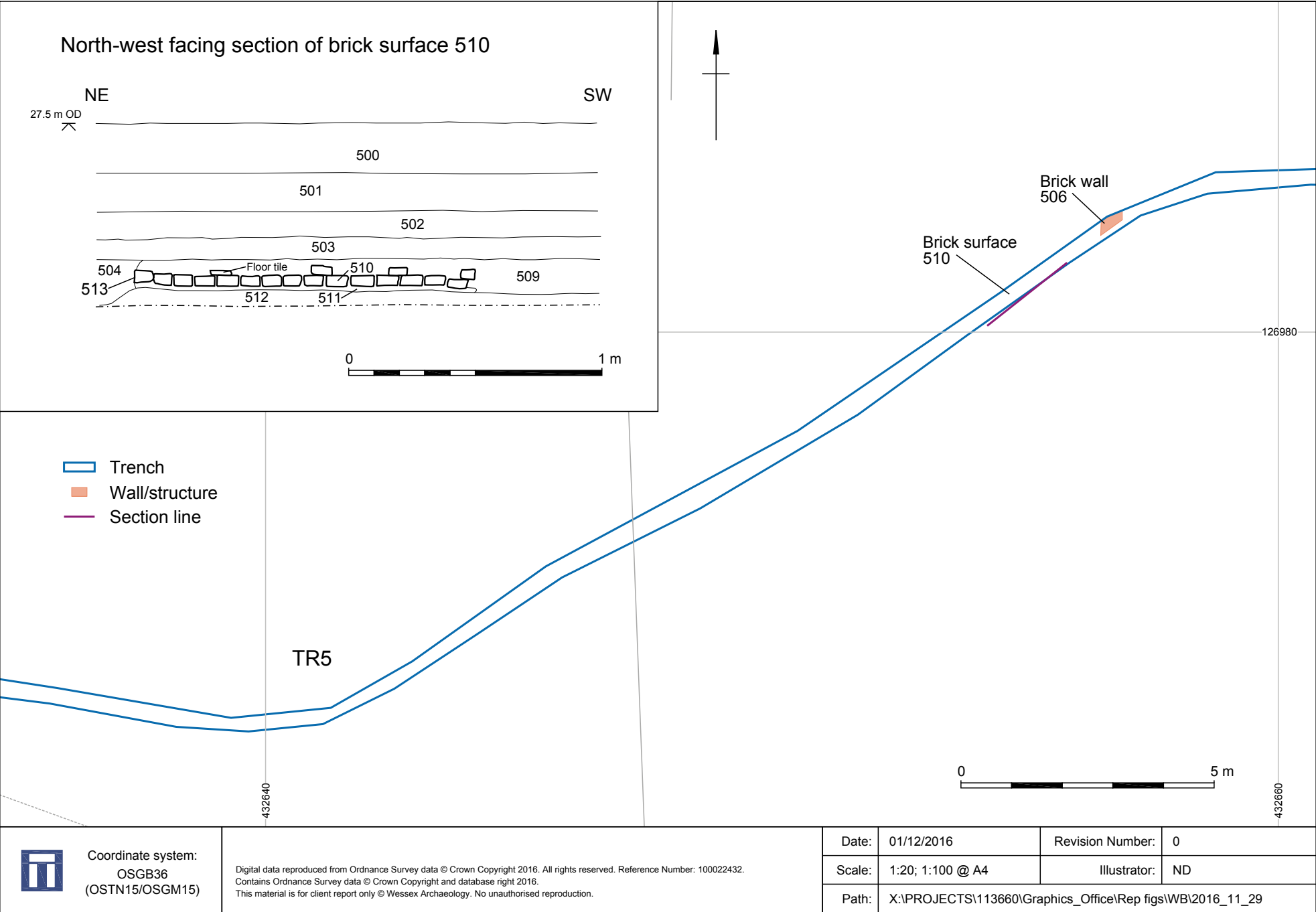
Figure 2



Detail of Trench 4

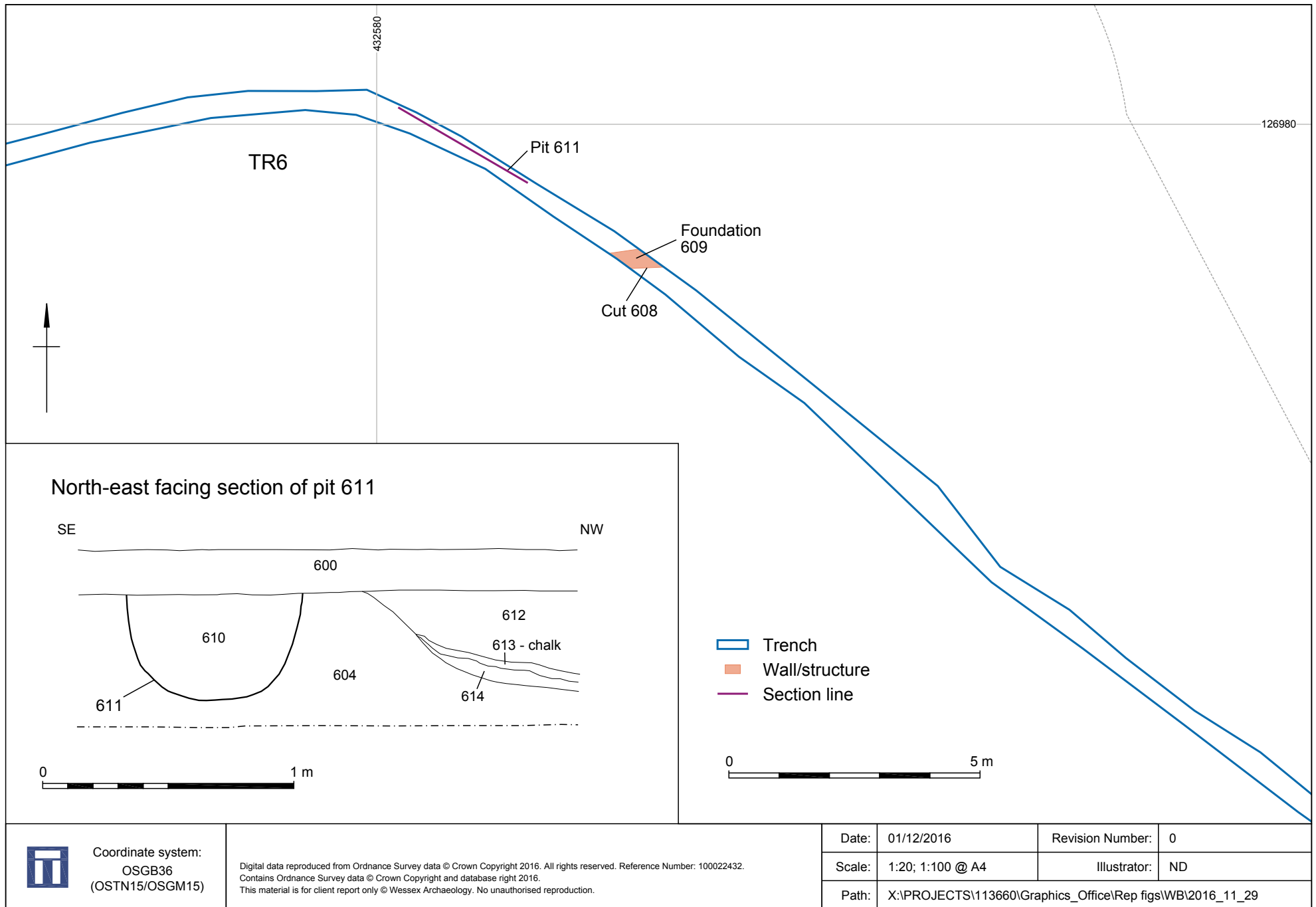
Figure 3





Detail of Trench 5

Figure 4



Detail of Trench 6

Figure 5



Plate 1: East facing section of trench 2 (1 m scale)



Plate 2: West facing section trench 1 (2 m scale)


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Plate 3: View from above of brick culvert drain 302 (0.2 m scale)



Plate 4: View from south-west of wall 405 overlain by contexts 400-402 (1 m scale)


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Plate 5: View from east of wall 407 in section (2 m scale)



Plate 6: View from west of composite wall 411 in section (1 m scale)


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Plate 7: Brick wall 506 in base of trench and section cut through chalk layer 103 with overlying soil sequence (1 m scale)



Plate 8: View from north of brick surface 510 in section (1 m scale)


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Plate 9: Gravel sequence across trackway to stable block in trench 6 (no scale)



Plate 10: Developed soil sequence trench 6 (1 m scale)


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Plate 11: View from above of possible wall or foundation 609 (0.2 m scale)



Plate 12: Dumped deposit 607 containing large greensand block (2 m scale)


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Plate 13: North facing section of pit 611 (1 m scale)



Plate 14: Soil sequence in trench 7 near cart shed (1 m scale)

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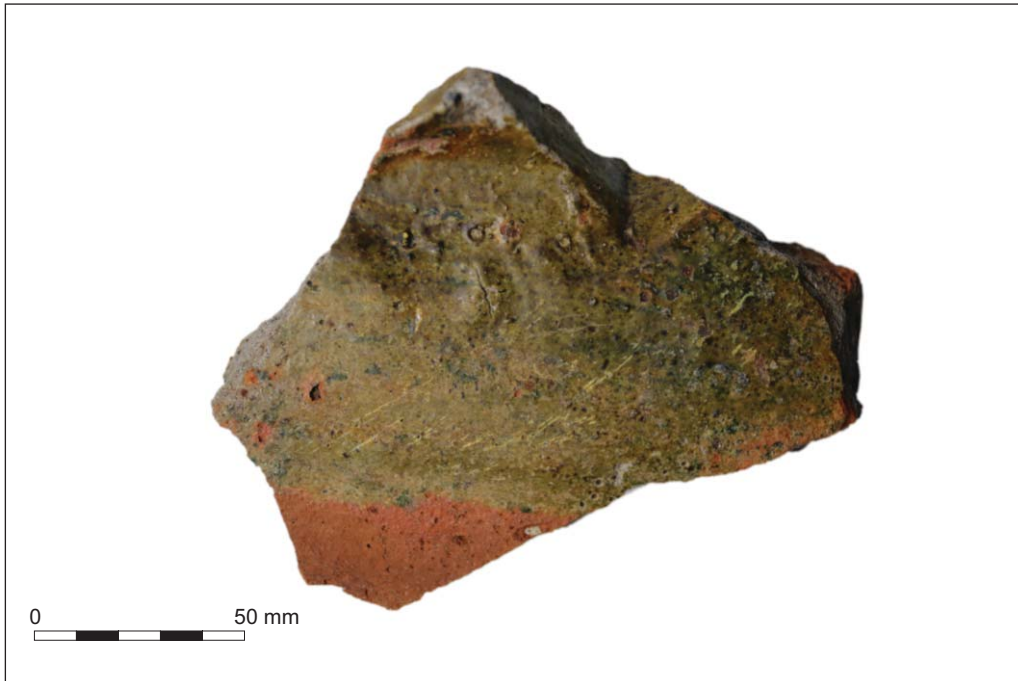


Plate 15: Detail of partially glazed late medieval/early post-medieval ridge tile (5 cm scale)

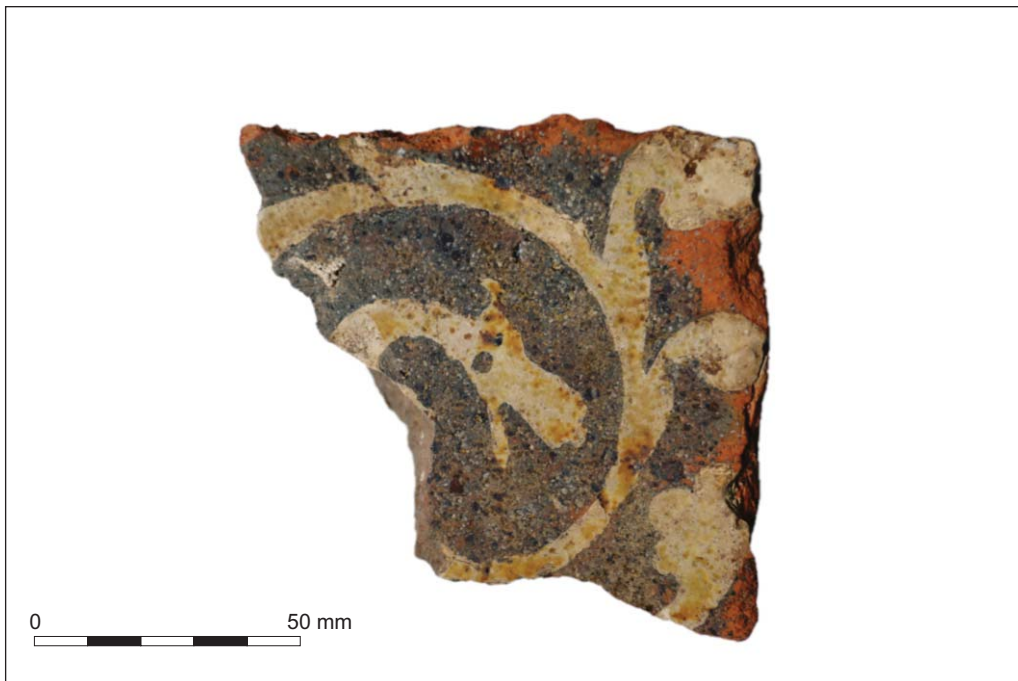


Plate 16: Detail of glazed medieval floor tile (5 cm scale)



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Plate 17: Detail of copper alloy button with heraldic coat of arms, 19th or 20th century date (5 cm scale)

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