



Yarnton – Kidlington Cable Routes (HVUG11018 and HVUG11035) Yarnton Lane, Yarnton, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Watching Brief Report



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**YARNTON – KIDLINGTON CABLE ROUTES (HVUG11018 AND
HVUG11035), YARNTON LANE, YARNTON, OXFORDSHIRE**

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Prepared for:
Scottish and Southern Energy plc
Operations Production Group
PO Box 38
Totton
Southampton
SO43 7PJ

by
Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

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YARNTON – KIDLINGTON CABLE ROUTES (HVUG11018 AND HVUG11035), YARNTON LANE, YARNTON, OXFORDSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Scottish and Southern Energy plc (Operations Production Group) to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the replacement of an overhead high voltage electricity line. The proposed works comprise two new underground cable routes (HVUG11018 and HVUG11035) within land between Yarnton and Kidlington, Oxfordshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 448810 212550 (**Figure 1**).

A series of 14 small machine dug trenches or entrance pits for the horizontal drilling machine were recorded. The remaining cabling works were undertaken below ground using a horizontal drilling machine

Two archaeological features – a small circular posthole and a small curving gully – both undated, were recorded, along with three features thought likely to be natural in origin. No archaeological finds were recovered. In the light of this, it is recommended that no further work be undertaken on this project.

YARNTON – KIDLINGTON CABLE ROUTES (HVUG11018 AND HVUG11035), YARNTON LANE, YARNTON, OXFORDSHIRE

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The watching brief was undertaken by Ben Urmston, Jonathon Martin and Kevin Stratford.

The report was researched and compiled by Nicholas Cooke and the drawings prepared by Kenneth Lymer. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andrew Manning.

YARNTON – KIDLINGTON CABLE ROUTES (HVUG11018 AND HVUG11035), YARNTON LANE, YARNTON, OXFORDSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Scottish and Southern Energy plc (Operations Production Group) to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the replacement of an overhead high voltage electricity line. The proposed works comprise two new underground cable routes (HVUG11018 and HVUG11035) within land between Yarnton and Kidlington, Oxfordshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 448810 212550 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 These works entailed the removal of the existing overhead electricity line and the laying of two underground replacement lines using a combination of horizontal directional drilling (HDD) and machine-excavated cable trenches. The HDD required the excavation of large entrance pits and was used to cross the railway cutting, large drainage ditches and the Oxford Canal.
- 1.1.3 The first route (HVUG11018) comprised two short sections adjacent to the southern and northern ends of Yarnton Lane. The southern section (approximately 350m in length) crossed the A44 Yarnton to Woodstock road and ran northeast, before crossing eastwards under the railway line and turning northwards along the lane before terminating close to the access road to the former sewage works. The northern section (approximately 120m in length) began at the junction of Sandy lane and Yarnton Lane and ran northeast across the Oxford Canal, before terminating close to the football ground.
- 1.1.4 The second route (HVUG11035) ran northeast from the eastern edge of the railway cutting across farmland before turning eastwards across the Oxford Canal and then turning north before terminating at an existing sub-station on Lock Crescent, a total distance of approximately 880m.
- 1.1.5 Both routes lay at a height of approximately 61m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) and were cut through natural alluvium deposits within the floodplain of the River Thames (BGS 1982).
- 1.1.6 The programme of works lay outside of normal planning procedures. However, consultations between agents acting for Scottish and Southern Energy and Oxfordshire County Council identified a number of known archaeological sites close to the proposed works. Accordingly, Oxfordshire County Council Archaeological Services advised that an archaeological watching brief should be carried out during the groundworks in order to confirm to best practise.
- 1.1.7 A project design was prepared for the watching brief (Wessex Archaeology 2010) outlining the proposed methodology to be used for the archaeological watching brief and the reporting of the final results. The project design was submitted to, and approved by, Oxfordshire County Council Archaeological

Services before the commencement of the fieldwork, which took place in August and September 2010.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological background

2.1.1 The routes of the proposed cable trenches lie within an area which has been previously shown to contain archaeological potential for prehistoric remains.

2.1.2 In particular, Oxfordshire County Council Archaeological Services hold information regarding three sites which have been shown by cropmarks, geophysical survey and archaeological investigation to be in close proximity to the proposed works (Wessex Archaeology 2010, WSI **Figure 1**).

2.1.3 These sites include:

- A series of field systems (**PRN 15098**) identified through aerial photography in the fields adjacent to the Oxford Canal. The field systems cover an extensive area and almost certainly are present within the area of the cable route HVUG11035. A geophysical survey has been conducted on the site of these cropmarks which recorded further details of the field system and located two dense areas of prehistoric settlement along the line of the canal.
- Mesolithic and Bronze Age features (**PRN 15811**) have been recorded close to the eastern end of the cable route HVUG11035.
- A Bronze Age pit (**PRN 17405**) was recorded during a small evaluation on the site of the cricket pavilion on the north side of Yarnton Lane, immediately to the west of both cable routes.

3 METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 Methodology

3.1.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the methodology set out in the project design and with the standards laid down by the Institute for Archaeologists in *Standards and guidance: for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA, 2008)

3.1.2 Removal of topsoil and overburden was undertaken using a 360° mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. All overburden was removed to the top of the natural alluvial geology or the top of the archaeological deposits, whichever was encountered first.

3.1.3 Where archaeological features are identified, all remains were hand cleaned where necessary, and then surveyed to ensure a pre-excavation plan has been prepared.

3.1.4 All potential archaeological features and deposits were excavated by hand in accordance with the guidance laid out in the project design.

- 3.1.5 All features and deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's standard methods and *pro forma* recording system, with all features and deposits being assigned a unique number. A full graphic record was also maintained. Plans and sections of all features were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and 1:10, where appropriate. All drawings were made in pencil on permanent drafting film.
- 3.1.6 The spot height of all principal features and levels was calculated in metres relative to Ordnance Datum, correct to two decimal places. Plans, sections and elevations were annotated with spot heights as appropriate.
- 3.1.7 Digital photographs were taken as necessary to produce a photographic record. The photographic record comprises both working shots and record shots of deposits and features recorded during the watching brief.
- 3.1.8 The location of features was accurately surveyed by GPS and tied into the OS National Grid.
- 3.1.9 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in the document *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections; Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* (Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA) 1993) with regard to the retention of artefacts and samples. This allows for the discard of selected artefact categories and sample products which are not considered to warrant further analysis.

3.2 Health and Safety

- 3.2.1 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 1992 and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation and regulations and codes of practice in force at the time (SCAUM 1996).
- 3.2.2 Prior to the commencement of the fieldwork, site-specific Risk Assessments were produced. All site staff involved in works signed and complied with this document.

3.3 Copyright

- 3.3.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The watching brief was undertaken intermittently between 4th August and 17th September 2010.

4.1.2 A series of 14 small machine dug trenches or entrance pits for the horizontal drilling machine were recorded. The remaining cabling works were undertaken below ground using a horizontal drilling machine. A small number of potential archaeological deposits were recorded. Detailed trench summaries for these trenches can be found in **Appendix 1**

4.2 Trench 1

4.2.1 Excavation of Trench 1, a launch pit for the horizontal drilling machine to the southwest of the Oxford Canal, revealed a relatively shallow sequence of modern and natural deposits. The only archaeological feature of note was a small undated circular posthole (**104**) containing two fills (**Figures 2 and 3**). No finds were recovered from these fills. A small quantity of modern brick recovered from the modern topsoil was not retained.

4.3 Trench 2

4.3.1 Excavation of Trench 2, a receiver pit for the horizontal drilling machine to the northeast of the Oxford Canal revealed a sequence of natural deposits beneath a layer of modern topsoil. No archaeological deposits or features were noted.

4.4 Trench 3

4.4.1 Trench 3 was dug as a launch pit for the horizontal drilling machine to the west of the Oxford Canal (see **Figures 2 and 3**). Excavation of this trench revealed two features cut into the natural geology. The earliest of these (**313**) appears to be a large irregular natural feature, possibly a tree throw or hollow. This was cut by a curving linear feature, probably a gully or ditch (**312**). No dated finds were recovered from either of these features.

4.5 Trench 4

4.5.1 Trench 4 was dug as a receiver pit for the horizontal drilling machine to the east of the Oxford Canal (see **Figure 2**). Excavation of this trench revealed an undisturbed sequence of natural deposits sealed by a modern dumped layer containing much construction debris, probably originating from the construction of the nearby housing estate, which in turn lay below modern topsoil. Quantities of modern finds from these deposits were not retained.

4.6 Trench 5

4.6.1 Trench 5 was dug as a launch pit for the horizontal drilling machine some 85m to the southwest of Trench 3 (see **Figures 2 and 3**). Excavation of this trench revealed two intercutting features cut into the natural geology. The earliest of these (**508**) appears to be a large natural feature or possibly a shallow pit. This contained a sequence of three fills, apparently slowly accumulated deposits. The upper fill of this feature, layer **503**, apparently a deposit of redeposited natural, was cut by a smaller natural feature (**504**, not shown in plan). No anthropogenic material was recovered from the fills of either feature, and their function and date remain uncertain.

4.7 Trench 6

4.7.1 Trench 6 lay some 100m to the southwest of Trench 5 (see **Figure 2**) and was dug as a receiver pit for the horizontal drilling machine. Machine excavation revealed an undisturbed sequence of natural deposits, with the

modern ploughsoil and subsoil sealing deposits of sands and gravels. No finds were recovered from this trench.

4.8 Trench 7

4.8.1 Trench 7 was a long cable trench dug to the east of the Oxford Canal. Some 30m long, and aligned approximately north to south, starting at Trench 4 and continuing northwards towards the electricity sub-station at the end of Croxford Gardens. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the machining of this trench. The deposits encountered comprised modern topsoil sealing a moderately thick layer of modern material comprising much construction debris, probably relating to the construction of Croxford Gardens. This in turn sealed natural deposits. No finds were recovered from this trench.

4.9 Trench 8

4.9.1 Trench 8 lay to the southwest of Trench 6, close to the southern edge of the same field. It was dug as a launch pit for the horizontal drilling rig. An undisturbed sequence was revealed, comprising ploughsoil, subsoil and deposits of sands and gravels. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were identified.

4.10 Trench 9

4.10.1 Trench 9 was the corresponding receiver pit for Trench 8, and lay some 40m to the southwest, on the other side of the field boundary. A similar undisturbed sequence was identified, with modern topsoil and subsoil sealing deposits of sand and gravel. No archaeological deposits or features were encountered.

4.11 Trench 10

4.11.1 Trench 10 was dug as a launch pit for the horizontal drilling rig, some 12m to the west of Trench 3. A modern intrusion, associated with the *in-situ* cable, was identified within the trench. Otherwise, the sedimentary sequence encountered comprised ploughsoil and subsoil deposits sealing sands and gravels.

4.12 Trench 11

4.12.1 Trench 11 was a short stretch of cable trench some 20m to the east of the railway line. This contained an undisturbed sequence with modern topsoil sealing a subsoil which in turn sealed natural sands and gravels. No archaeological finds or deposits were encountered.

4.13 Trench 12

4.13.1 Trench 12 was a large launch pit dug some 20m to the southeast of Trench 11. The removal of the topsoil and subsoil revealed a deep sequence of sand and gravel deposits interspersed with occasional lenses of compact gravels and organic material. No archaeological deposits or features were identified within the trench.

4.14 Trench 13

- 4.14.1 Trench 13 was the corresponding receiver pit for Trench 12, and lay some 70m to the west on the other side of the railway line. This too was a sizeable pit. Modern topsoil and subsoil deposits sealed deep deposits of natural sands and gravels, No archaeological finds or features were identified.

4.15 Trench 14

- 4.15.1 Trench 14 was a narrow cable trench excavated alongside Yarnton Lane a short distance to the northeast of the railway crossing. This trench ran in a southwest to northeast direction. An undisturbed sequence was recorded, with topsoil and subsoil sealing natural sands and gravels.

5 FINDS

- 5.1.1 A small quantity of modern finds (predominantly fragments of brick, concrete, plastic and polystyrene) were recorded during the course of the watching brief. Because of their modern date, none of these was retained for further work.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 No archaeological deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified during the watching brief. Consequently, no environmental samples were taken.

7 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1.1 The watching brief undertaken on cable-laying operations between Yarnton and Kidlington identified no significant archaeological deposits or features. In total, five features were identified during the watching brief on the excavation of a series of pits (dug as launch pits or receiver pits for a horizontal drilling machine) and three short stretches of narrow trenching. Only one of these features is likely to be archaeological in origin.
- 7.1.2 The first of the five features, **103**, a posthole recorded in Trench 1, is likely to be man made. Excavation of this posthole revealed two fills, neither of which contained any finds or other anthropogenic material. The second, **312**, comprises a shallow curving gully. An intervention through this gully revealed a series of fills, none of which contained any finds.
- 7.1.3 The remaining three features – **313** in Trench 3 and **504** and **508** in Trench 5 are all likely to be natural features, probably tree throws. Once again, no finds were recovered from any of these features.
- 7.1.4 By and large, the stratigraphic sequence encountered comprised modern topsoil and subsoil deposits sealing the natural geology – predominantly sands and gravels. Modern deposits containing significant quantities of construction debris, encountered to the east of the Oxford Canal, probably derive from construction works in the area. None of the modern material encountered during the course of the watching brief was recovered.
- 7.1.5 Given that only a very small number of undated archaeological features were encountered during the watching brief, along with a number of features

likely to be natural in origin, it is recommended that no further work be undertaken on this project.

8 THE ARCHIVE

- 8.1.1 The site archive will be prepared for long-term storage in accordance with the documents Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (Walker 1990), Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992) and Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections; Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993).
- 8.1.2 The project archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology at Old Sarum, Salisbury, Wiltshire under the Project Code 75300. In due course the archive will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum store under the Oxfordshire County Museum Accession Number **OXCMS: 2010.40**.
- 8.1.3 All records will be copied to microfilm. This will comply with the requirements presented in the document *Microfilming for Archaeological Archives* (RCHM). Wessex Archaeology will contact the National Monuments Record to check their requirements. The microfilm and one diazo duplicate will be submitted to the recipient museum, and one diazo duplicate submitted to the National Monument Record, Swindon.

9 REFERENCES

- BGS, 1982, *Witney*, Sheet 236, 1:50,000
- Brown, D.H., 2007, *Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum
- IfA, 2008, *Standards and guidance: for an archaeological watching brief*
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- Wessex Archaeology, 2010, *Yarnton – Kidlington cable routes (HVUG11018 and HVUG11035)*, Yarnton lane, Yarnton, Oxfordshire, *Project Design for Archaeological Watching Brief*. Unpublished client report

APPENDIX 1. TRENCH SUMMARIES

Trial Trench No.	1	NGR	NE	448925, 213294		SW	448921, 213292	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
2.6m	2.2m		NE	61.49	SW	61.55	0.76m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
101	Light greyish brown sandy loam with occ gravel and charcoal flicks. Occ brick frags.							0 – 0.50m
102	Mid greyish brown sandy clay loam with occ brick frags, gravel and charcoal frags							0.50 – 0.60m
103	Mid orangey brown sandy clay with occ large charcoal flecks and sub angular gravel. Occ oyster shell frags.							0.60m+
104	Small circular posthole in NE corner of trench. Steep sided with concave base. Contained 105 and 106.							0.60 – 0.76m
105	Mid greyish brown silty clay with occ charcoal flecks . Lower fill of posthole 104.							0.66 – 0.76m
106	Dark brownish grey sandy clay with occasional gravel and charcoal flecks. 0.06m thick. Upper fill of posthole 104							0.60 – 0.66m

Trial Trench No.	2	NGR	NE	448960, 213363		SW	448957, 213361	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
2.7m	1.95m		NE	61.18	SW	61.13	1.30m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
201	Topsoil. Mid greyish brown sandy silt loam with occ small angular and sub angular stones with modern brick frags							0 – 0.12m
202	Mid orangey brown slay loam with occ charcoal flecks and small angular stone fragments							0.12 – 0.33m
203	Mid orangey brown clay loam, frequent small manganese nodules, with occ small angular and sub rounded pebbles and stones							0.33 – 0.75m
204	Light orangey brown sand, with frequent sub angular to rounded pebbles and stones, occasional belemnite and ammonite fragments, occ cleaner lenses of light orangey brown sand and lens of mid bluish grey clay close to the base of the trench.							0.75m+

Trial Trench No.	3	NGR	NE	449122, 212685		SW	449119, 212683	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
2.65m	2.40m		NE	60.42	SW	60.45	0.95	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
301	Topsoil. Mid greyish brown clay loam. Occ small angular flints, occ large angular stones, occ small sub rounded pebbles							0 – 0.28m
302	Subsoil. Dark greyish brown sandy clay with rare small rounded pebbles and stones.							0.28 – 0.42m
303	Mid orangey brown sandy clay with occ charcoal. Fill of 313							0.42 – 0.63m
304	Mid orangey brown sandy clay, containing frequent small rounded and sub rounded pebbles and occ charcoal flecks. Fill of 312.							0.42 – 0.95m
305	Light orangey brown silt sand containing rare rounded small pebbles. Fill of 313.							0.42 – 0.95m
306	Mid brown grey sandy clay containing sub angular stones, with occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of 312.							0.42 – 0.67m
307	Light blue grey sandy clay containing rare stone flecks. Fill of 313							0.67 – 0.85m
308	Mid orangey brown clay sand, occasional small sub rounded stones							0.63 – 0.95
309	Mid orangey brown sandy clay with mid blue grey sandy clay mottles, and occ small rounded stones. Fill of 312.							0.85 – 0.95
310	Light orangey brown sandy clay, with frequent small sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles. Fill of 313.							0.50 – 0.90
311	Light orangey brown silty sand, with frequent sub-rounded pebbles.							0.42m+
312	Moderate irregular concave cut roughly linear. Probably a natural feature.							0.42 – 0.95m
313	Curving linear ditch/gully with concave sides and flat bottom. Probably a field boundary/drainage ditch							0.42 – 0.95m

Trial Trench No.	4	NGR	NE	449198, 212678		SW	449196, 212675	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
3.00m	2.75m		NE	60.37	SW	60.34	0.85m +	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
401	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey loam, freq small sub angular pebbles, occ small sub angular pebbles and occ modern debris.							0 – 0.10m
402	Construction layer. Mid greyish brown clay loam, frequent inclusions of clack concrete slab, plastic, polystyrene etc.							0.10 – 0.25m
403	Subsoil. Mid orangey brown clay sand with moderate manganese flecks, occasional small sub-rounded pebbles.							0.25 – 0.70m
404	Mid brownish orange silt sand with light grey brown mottles.							0.70 – 0.85m
405	Light grey brown silt sand, with frequent small sub angular to rounded pebbles, occasional well sorted small sub angular to rounded stones							0.85m+

Trial Trench No.	5	NGR	NE	449043, 212650		SW	449042, 212646	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
3.20	2.00		NE	60.31	SW	60.34	0.95m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
501	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown loam with occ angular gravel.							0 – 0.23m
502	Mid greyish brown clay with occ sub angular and rounded gravel							0.23 – 0.43m
503	Light greyish orange clayey sand with frequent sub angular and rounded gravel. Rare light bluish grey clay lenses. Redeposited natural.							0.43 – 0.75m
504	Shallow concave cut with slightly undulating base – probably a natural feature such as a small three throw							0.43 – 0.58m
505	Dark greyish brown sandy loam with occasional small rounded gravel with orange brown mottles. Fill of 504.							0.43 – 0.58m
506	Mid orange brown sandy clay with occ small rounded gravel similar to 503. Probably redeposited natural.							0.23 – 0.64m
507	Natural. Light orange brown clay sand with freq light brownish grey mottling. Very clean.							0.50 – 0.70m
508	Shallow natural feature in western corner of the trench. Shallow concave sides with a flat base. Either a shallow pit or natural feature.							0.50 – 0.85m
509	Dark brownish grey silty loam – very humic with sparse wood fragments. The primary fill of 508.							0.69 – 0.85m
510	Very compact light blue/grey clay sand with abundant gravel.							0.70 – 0.90m
511	Clean mid blue grey clay sand with occ dark mottles							0.90m+

Trial Trench No.	6	NGR	NE	448958, 212595		SW	448956, 212591	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
3.20m	2.40m		NE	60.37	SW	60.39	1.22m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
601	Ploughsoil. Mid yellowish brown sandy loam with sparse sub angular gravel <20mm							0 – 0.30m
602	Subsoil. Pale yellowish brown silty sand with frequent flecks of mineral staining and sparse sub angular gravel <20mm							0.30 – 0.60m
603	Very pale yellowish brown sand with patches of pale grey sand. Contains rare sub angular gravels <20mm							0.60 – 0.70m
604	Very pale greyish brown sand with patches of pale yellowish brown sand and rare sub angular gravel.							0.70 – 1.00m
605	Yellowish brown coarse sand with abundant sub angular gravel							1.00m+

Trial Trench No.	7	NGR	NE	449196, 212671		SW	449197, 212709	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
32.00m	0.30m		NE	60.32	SW	60.43	0.80m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
701	Topsoil. Mid yellowish brown sandy loam with common rounded and sub angular gravel.							0 – 0.10m
702	Yellowish brown sandy loam with frequent building debris and common rounded and sub angular gravel							0.10 – 0.35m
703	Yellow sandy clay with flecks of mineral staining. Very compact and stone free.							0.35m+

Trial Trench No.	8	NGR	NE	448732, 212447		SW	448731, 212444	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
2.60m	2.60m		NE	60.25	SW	60.22	1.28m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
801	Ploughsoil. Mid yellowish brown sandy loam with sparse sub angular gravel <20mm							0 – 0.30m
802	Subsoil. Pale yellowish brown silty sand with common flecks of mineral staining and rare sub angular and rounded gravels<20mm							0.30 – 0.60m
803	Mixed sand deposit of orange and grey coarse sand with rare flecks of mineral staining and very rare rounded gravel <10mm							0.60 – 0.90m
804	Very loose coarse pale brown sand with abundant small gravel <10mm. contains lenses of manganese stained gravel and pockets of clean very pale brown sand							0.90m+

Trial Trench No.	9	NGR	NE	448696, 212428		SW	448695, 212425	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
2.70m	2.40m		NE	60.22	SW	60.24	1.30m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
901	Topsoil. Mid yellowish brown sandy loam with sparse sub angular gravel <20mm							0 – 0.10m
902	Subsoil. Pale yellowish brown silty sand with sparse sub angular gravel <20mm							0.10 – 0.25m
903	Bright orange sand, very compact, with common angular and subangular gravel, common mineral staining.							0.25 – 0.65m
904	Very loose mixed grey and orange coarse sand with small lenses of rounded gravel.							0.65 – 0.85m
905	Very loose, very coarse sand and small angular and subangular gravel. Gravel appears concentrated in bands throughout the deposit							0.85m+

Trial Trench No.	10	NGR	NE	449110, 212686		SW	449106, 212684	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
3.1m	1.6m		NE	60.26	SW	60.24	1.60m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
1001	Dark grey brown clay loam with occ small subangular pebbles							0 – 0.35m
1002	Mid orange brown sandy clay, with occ small subangular pebbles							0.35 – 0.80m
1003	Light orange brown sands and gravels, bands of mid orange brown and light brown grey sands.							0.80m+

Trial Trench No.	11	NGR	NE	448532, 212330		SW	448520, 212332	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
10m	5m		NE	60.18	SW	60.10	0.80m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
1101	Dark greyish brown loam, occ sub angular pebbles and small stones.							0 – 0.25m
1102	Mid orange brown clay sand, occ moderate subangular flint pebbles, pebbles and small stones							0.25 – 0.60m
1103	Natural sands and gravels. Light greyish brown sand containing v high proportion small and medium rounded to angular gravels.							0.60m+

Trial Trench No.	12	NGR	NE	448546, 212319		SW	448544, 212315	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
4.19m	275m		NE	60.20	SW	60.19	1.34m	
Context No.	Soil Description							Depth (m) (B.G.L)
1201	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown loam, containing occ subangular pebbles and small stones							0 – 0.22m
1202	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay with rare small sub rounded pebbles, more frequent at the interface with 1203							0.22 – 0.66m
1203	Mid yellowish orange silty sand, with moderate small subangular stones and pebbles, occasional lenses of light brown grey silt sand and bands of gravel							0.66 – 0.86m
1204	Light brown grey silt sand containing frequent small and medium sub rounded stones and pebbles. Better sorted closer to the interface with 1203							0.86 – 1.20m
1205	Lens of compact small sub rounded pebbles and grit, almost black, with a possible silty organic matrix in between.							1.20m+
1206	Mid orange brown silt sand with frequent small subangular stones, pebbles and grit, occasional lenses of material similar to 1205							1.20m+

Trial Trench No.	13	NGR	NE	448475, 212318		SW	448471, 212314	
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
4.05m	3.11m		NE	60.18	SW	60.09	1.34m	
Context No.	Soil Description						Depth (m) (B.G.L)	
1301	Topsoil. Dark grey brown loam, containing occasional small sub angular stones. Frequent roots						0 – 0.30m	
1302	Subsoil. Mid yellow brown sandy clay, with occ sub-angular pebbles, rare chalk fragments, moderate roots						0.30 – 0.86m	
1303	Lens of mid yellow brown silt sand and gravel.						0.86 – 0.90m	
1304	Mid orange brown clay sand containing moderate sub angular and sub rounded pebbles						0.66 – 0.82m	
1305	Light reddish grey sand with frequent small angular stones and sorted gravel pebbles and grit at the interface with 1304						0.82 – 1.02m	
1306	Mid orange brown silt sand with light blue grey clay mottling, occasional small and medium sub angular stones.						1.02 – 1.20m	
1307	Mid orange brown clay sand, with occasional small sub-rounded pebbles						0.90 – 1.26m	
1308	Light grey brown coarse sand, frequent small angular and sub angular stones and gravel pebbles.						0.94m+	

Trial Trench No.	14	NGR	NE			SW		
Length (m)	Width (m)		Height Above Ordnance Datum (m) (At Ground Level)				Max. Depth (m) (Below Ground Level)	
			NE			SW	1.10m	
Context No.	Soil Description						Depth (m) (B.G.L)	
1401	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown loam containing v occ sub angular pebbles and small stones						0 – 0.30m	
1402	Orange brow clay silt sand containing moderate sub angular flint pebbles						0.30 – 0.90m	
1403	Natural sands and gravels.						0.90m+	

APPENDIX 2. OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: wessexar1-87137

Project details

Project name	Yarnton-Kidlington pipeline
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Scottish and Southern Energy plc (Operations Production Group) to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the replacement of an overhead high voltage electricity line. The proposed works comprise two new underground cable routes (HVUG11018 and HVUG11035) within land between Yarnton and Kidlington, Oxfordshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 448810 212550. A series of 14 small machine dug trenches or entrance pits for the horizontal drilling machine were recorded. The remaining cabling works were undertaken below ground using a horizontal drilling machine Two archaeological features - a small circular posthole and a small curving gully - both undated, were recorded, along with three features thought likely to be natural in origin. No archaeological finds were recovered.
Project dates	Start: 01-08-2010 End: 19-11-2010
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	POSTHOLE Uncertain
Monument type	GULLY Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'Visual Inspection'
Development type	Pipelines/cables (e.g. gas, electric, telephone, TV cable, water, sewage, drainage etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	OXFORDSHIRE CHERWELL KIDLINGTON Yarnton
Postcode	OX5 1HF
Study area	6.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	SP 48810 12550 51.8090050476 -1.291944615680 51 48 32 N 001 17 31 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 60.12m Max: 61.55m

Project creators

Name of Wessex Archaeology
Organisation

Project brief City/Nat. Park/District/Borough archaeologist
originator

Project design Wessex Archaeology
originator

Project director/manager A Manning

Project supervisor Ben Urmston

Type of Developer
sponsor/funding
body

Name of Scottish and Southern Energy plc
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive Oxfordshire County Museum Store
recipient

Digital Archive ID OXCMS: 2010.40

Digital Media 'Database','Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'
available

Paper Archive No
Exists?

Paper Archive Oxfordshire County Museum Store
recipient

Paper Archive ID OXCMS: 2010.40

Paper Media 'Context sheet','Correspondence','Diary','Drawing','Notebook -
available Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Report'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title YARNTON - KIDLINGTON CABLE ROUTES (HVUG11018 AND
HVUG11035), YARNTON LANE, YARNTON, OXFORDSHIRE

Author(s)/Editor(s) Nick Cooke

Other bibliographic details Wessex Archaeology Reference: 75300.02; Oxfordshire County
Museum Accession Number OXCMS: 2010.40

Date 2010

Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology

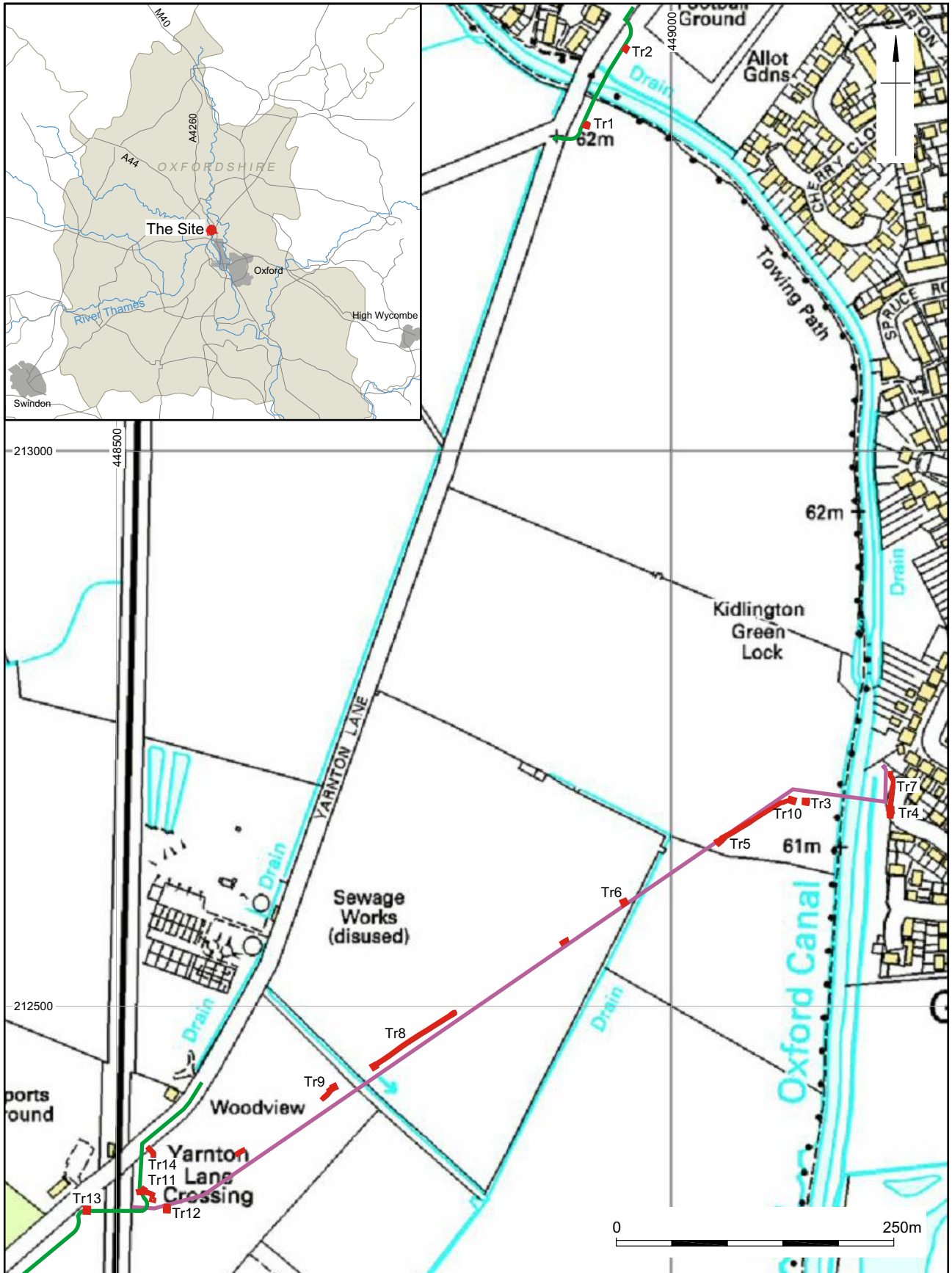
Place of issue or Salisbury

publication

Description Standard client report for WB, bound hard copy and pdf version.

Entered by Andrew Manning (a.manning@wessexarch.co.uk)

Entered on 19 November 2010



- HVUG11018
- HVUG11035
- Areas monitored during watching brief

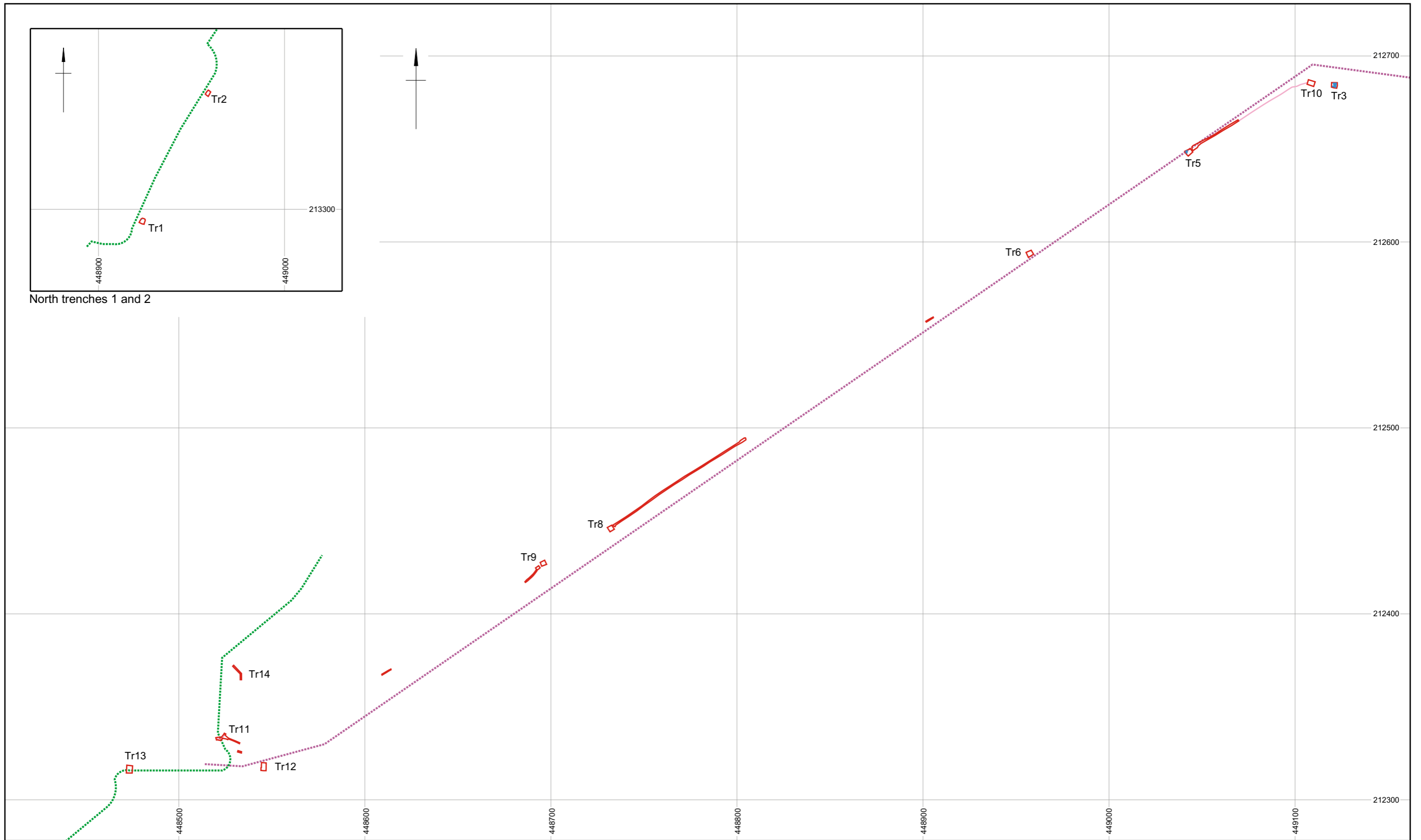


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Site location plan

Figure 1



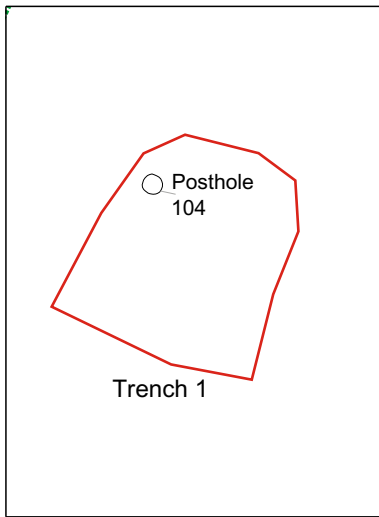
- ▬ Trench
- Archaeology
- ▬ Utility trench
- ⋯ HVUG11018
- ⋯ HVUG11035

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Trenches 1 to 14

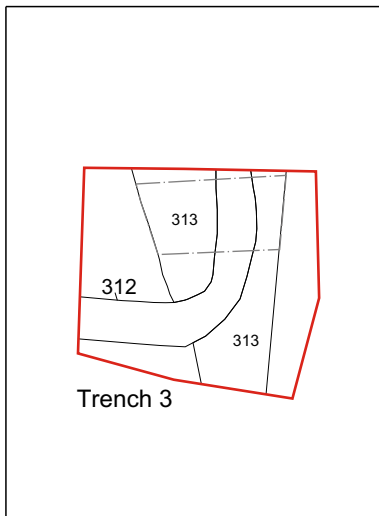
Figure 2



Trench 1



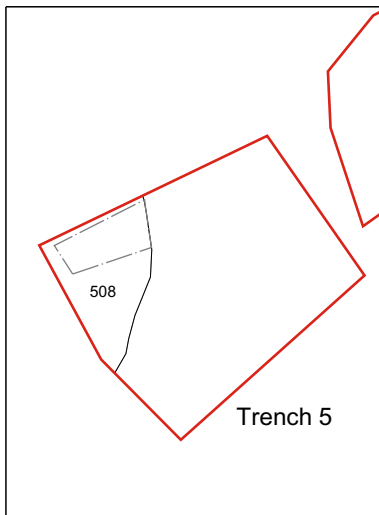
Plate 1: Posthole 104



Trench 3



Plate 2: Gully 312 cutting ?natural feature 313



Trench 5



Plate 3: Natural feature 508

- Trench
- Archaeology
- Slot intervention



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WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED.

Registered Head Office: Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.

Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk

With regional offices in **Edinburgh, Maidstone and Sheffield**

For more information visit www.wessexarch.co.uk

