

**LAND AT THE FORMER JET AND WHITTLE PUB,  
SHAKESPEARE AVENUE,  
GLOUCESTER.**

**NGR: SO 8201 1550 (Centred)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

Report No. 915  
October 2013



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**Quality Assurance**

This Document has been compiled and authorised in accordance with  
AMS's Quality Procedures (BS EN ISO 9001: 2008)

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## SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2013 by Foundations Archaeology at the former Jet and Whittle Pub in Gloucester (NGR: SO 8201 1550, centred). The work was commissioned by Tidestone, GreenSquare Group.

The evaluation involved the excavation of two 1.8m by 30m trenches within the study area to enable an assessment of the archaeological potential prior to a development planning application. However, on-site constraints resulted in minor adjustments of the trench locations (See figure 2).

The archaeological evaluation revealed no archaeologically significant deposits or artefactual evidence. However, both trenches showed that the area had previously been stripped down to the natural substrates and no intact top or subsoils were identified. This would have the potential to remove any archaeology present, with the exception of deep, negative features. However, there is potential for pockets of undisturbed soils to still be present within the site, therefore, the negative result of these works are not necessarily a reflection of the archaeological potential of the area as a whole.

## GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

### *Archaeology*

For the purpose of this project archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from prehistoric times to the modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

### *CBM*

Ceramic building material.

### *Medieval*

The period between the Norman Conquest (AD 1066) and *c.* AD 1500.

### *Natural*

In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site.

### *NGR*

National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

### *OD*

Ordnance datum; used to express a given height above sea-level.

### *OS*

Ordnance Survey

### *Post-medieval*

The period from *c.* AD 1500 onwards

### *Romano-British*

Term used to define the fusion of indigenous Iron Age traditions with invasive Roman culture. Traditionally dated AD 43 to *c.* AD 410.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 On the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2013 Foundations Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation on land at the former Jet and Whittle Pub, Shakespeare Avenue, Gloucester (NGR: SO 8201 1550 centred) (Figure 1).
- 1.2 Foundations Archaeology is certified to BS/EN/ISO 9001: 2008 for quality assurance in the provision of archaeological services. The company is a Registered Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists and subscribes to that organisation's Code of Conduct. All relevant IfA Codes of Practice will be adhered to throughout the course of the project.
- 1.3 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2013). The WSI was prepared in accordance with the standard brief issued by Gloucester City Council, the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (2011) and Archaeological Guidance Paper 4: *Archaeological Evaluation: (guidelines)* issued by English Heritage (London Region).
- 1.4 This document presents the findings of the archaeological evaluation and conforms to the specification set out in MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006).

## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission (13/00246/FUL) has been granted for the erection of 18 residential dwellings plus associated access and parking facilities on land formerly used as a public house.
- 2.2 The brief notes that “the archaeological potential of this site is unclear, primarily due to the lack of any sizable previous archaeological investigations in the surrounding area. However, the site is situated within the hinterland of Roman Gloucester and c.250m east of the route of a known Roman road. The site is also located immediately adjacent to Tuffley Lane which is of Medieval date. The rural landscape to the south of Roman Gloucester is known to have contained numerous farmsteads and small agricultural settlements, several of which have been discovered during investigations prompted by development”.
- 2.3 The site therefore, contained the potential for the preservation of archaeological remains, of most likely Roman or Medieval date. This did not prejudice the works against the recovery of finds or features relating to other periods.

## 3 AIMS

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological recording were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits in order to provide sufficient information to establish the nature, extent, preservation and potential of any

surviving archaeological remains. This will allow reasonable planning decisions to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the areas affected by the proposed development.

3.2 These aims were to be achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives.

i) to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;

ii) to attempt to characterize the nature and preservation of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning of features present on the site;

iii) to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence which will attempt to determine the complexity of the horizontal and vertical stratigraphy present, and recover coherent artefactual, ecofactual and environmental samples;

iv) to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present;

## 4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Two 30m by 1.8m trenches were excavated within the proposed development area, as shown in Figure 2 and 3. Due to on-site constraints in the form of existing cables and manholes there were some minor adjustments to the trench locations. The adjustments were agreed with the Gloucester City Archaeologist.

4.2 All non-significant overburden was removed to the top of the archaeological deposits or natural, whichever was encountered first. This was achieved through use of a 360° mechanical excavator, equipped with a toothless grading bucket, whilst under constant archaeological supervision. Thereafter cleaning and excavation of the features were conducted by hand and spoil heaps were visually scanned for artefacts.

4.3 Decisions about the relative value of archaeological deposits and features were made in consultation with the Gloucester City Archaeologist.

4.4 All artefactual and ecofactual remains, whether stratified or not, were collected, bagged and labelled. Artefacts were subject to preliminary study on site in order to help date archaeological features and contexts. All artefactual and ecofactual evidence were treated in accordance with *First Aid for Finds*. All finds were treated in a manner to prevent deterioration.

4.5 Each context was excavated in such a way as to produce at least one representative cross-section of the deposit.

- 4.6 All excavation and recording work was undertaken in accordance with the WSI and the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual.

## 5 RESULTS

### Trench 1

- 5.1 The natural deposits in Trench 1 consisted of solid, blue grey clay with occasional inclusions of small, fossilised shells and was encountered at a depth of up to 1.25m from the Modern ground level (13.19m OD). The natural deposits were sealed by (102), a grey-brown, loose late Post-medieval/Modern demolition layer, up to 1.05m thick with frequent inclusions of brick, small stones and charcoal. This was partly sealed by (103), a light brown layer of loose gravel up to 0.10m thick. At the northeast end of the trench, layers (102) and (103) had been removed by a Modern cut [104], up to 0.80m in depth, which contained three layers of dumped Modern hardcore (105), (106) and (107). This and the rest of (102) and (103) were then sealed by a layer of tarmac (101), up to 0.10m thick. The trench contained no archaeological finds or features.

### Trench 2

- 5.2 The natural deposits in Trench 2 consisted of solid, blue grey clay and was encountered at a depth of up to 1.02m from the Modern ground level (12.87m OD). The natural deposits were sealed by a yellow brown hardcore layer (202), up to 0.95m thick. Possibly abutting/slightly overlying this layer and sealing the natural at the south west end of the trench was a plastic, grey brown demolition layer up to 0.80m thick, with frequent inclusions of brick, small stones and charcoal. A small assemblage of finds were recovered from this layer, which included Modern glass, slate and a piece of clay pipe. Layer (202) was then sealed by a layer of tarmac (201), up to 0.13m thick. The trench contained no archaeological features.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 No top or subsoils were present within either of the evaluated trenches, which would suggest that the site had previously been stripped down to the natural substrates, possibly prior to the construction of the pub. This reduction would most likely have removed any potential underlying archaeological deposits, with the exception of deep, negative features. However, there is potential for pockets of undisturbed soils to still be present within the site, therefore, the negative result of these works are not necessarily a reflection of the archaeological potential of the area as a whole.
- 6.2 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology, but will be deposited within 12 months with the appropriate museum under an accession number to be confirmed. A short note will also be submitted for



publication in the relevant local archaeological journal and an OASIS form will also be submitted to ADS.

## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Foundations Archaeology, 2013. *The former Jet & Whittle Pub, Shakespeare Avenue, Gloucester: Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Evaluation and Recording*. Unpublished.

Institute for Archaeologists. 2011. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*. Unpublished.

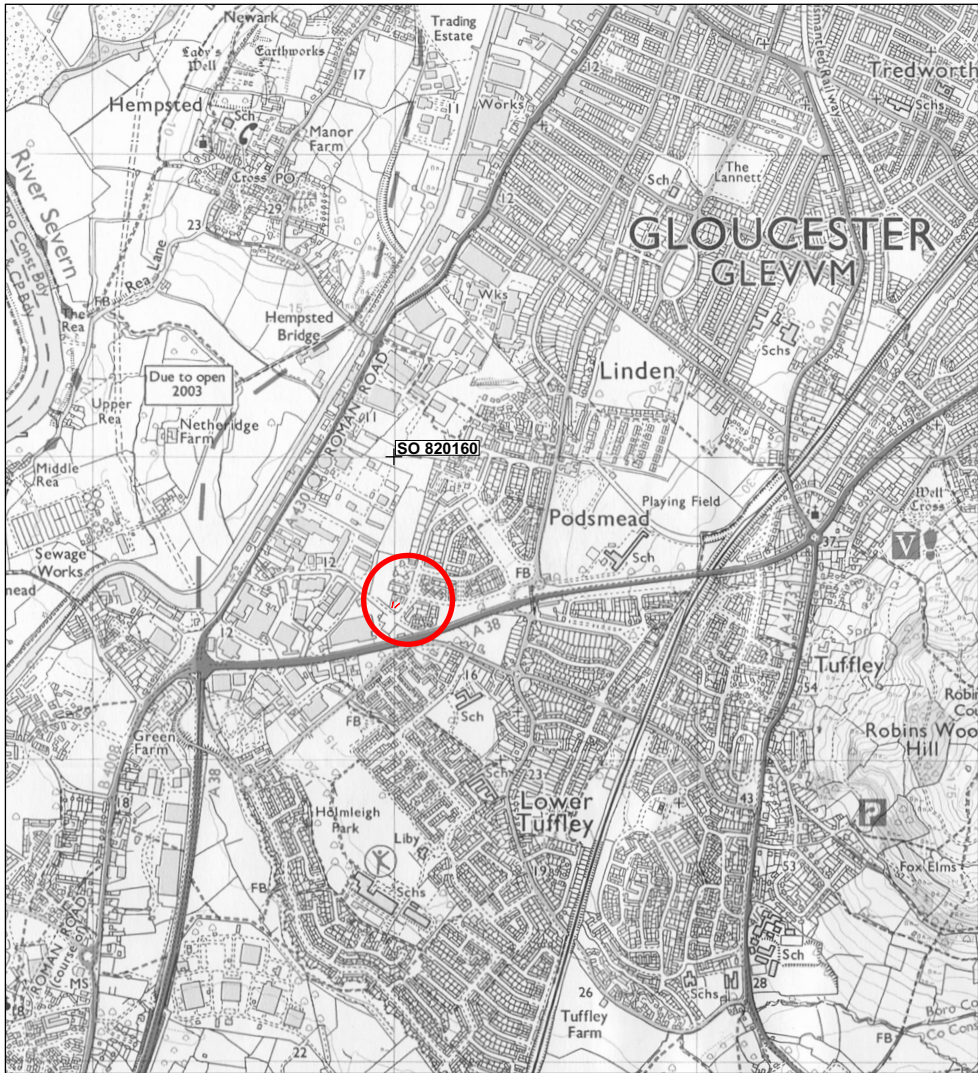
English Heritage (London Region). Archaeological Guidance paper 4: *Archaeological Evaluation: (guidelines)*.

## 8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Kevin Meek at Tidestone (GreenSquare Group) and the Gloucester City Archaeologist Andrew Armstrong for their assistance during the course of this project.

## APPENDIX 1: Stratigraphic Data

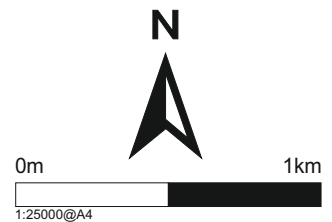
CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/ OVERLIES	CUT BY/ OVERLAID BY
				<b>Trench 1: 31m long, 1.8m wide. Excavated onto natural substrate up to</b>		
				<b>1.25m (13.19m OD) from the Modern ground surface</b>		
(101)			0.10	Black, solid tarmac	(102) (103) (107)	-
(102)			1.05	Grey brown, loose demolition layer with frequent inclusions of brick, small stones and charcoal	Nat	(101) (103) [104]
(103)			0.10	Light brown, loose gravel	(102)	(101) [104]
[104]			0.80	Modern cut which contained (105) (106) and (107)	(102) (103) Nat	(105)
(105)			0.56	Yellow, loose gravel/hardcore	[104] Nat	(106) (107)
(106)			0.05	Black, loose gravel/hardcore	(105)	(107)
(107)			0.19	Yellow, loose gravel/hardcore	(105) (106)	(101)
Nat			-	Blue grey, solid clay with occasional inclusions of small fossilised shells	-	(102) (105) [104]
				<b>Trench 2: 30.5m long, 1.8m wide. Excavated onto natural substrate up to</b>		
				<b>1.02m (12.87m OD) from the Modern ground surface.</b>		
(201)			0.13	Black, solid tarmac	(202)	-
(202)			0.95	Yellow brown, loose bedding layer of gravel	Nat	(201)
(203)			0.80	Grey brown, plastic demolition layer with frequent inclusions of brick, small stones and charcoal	Nat	-
Nat			-	Blue grey, solid clay	-	(202) (203)



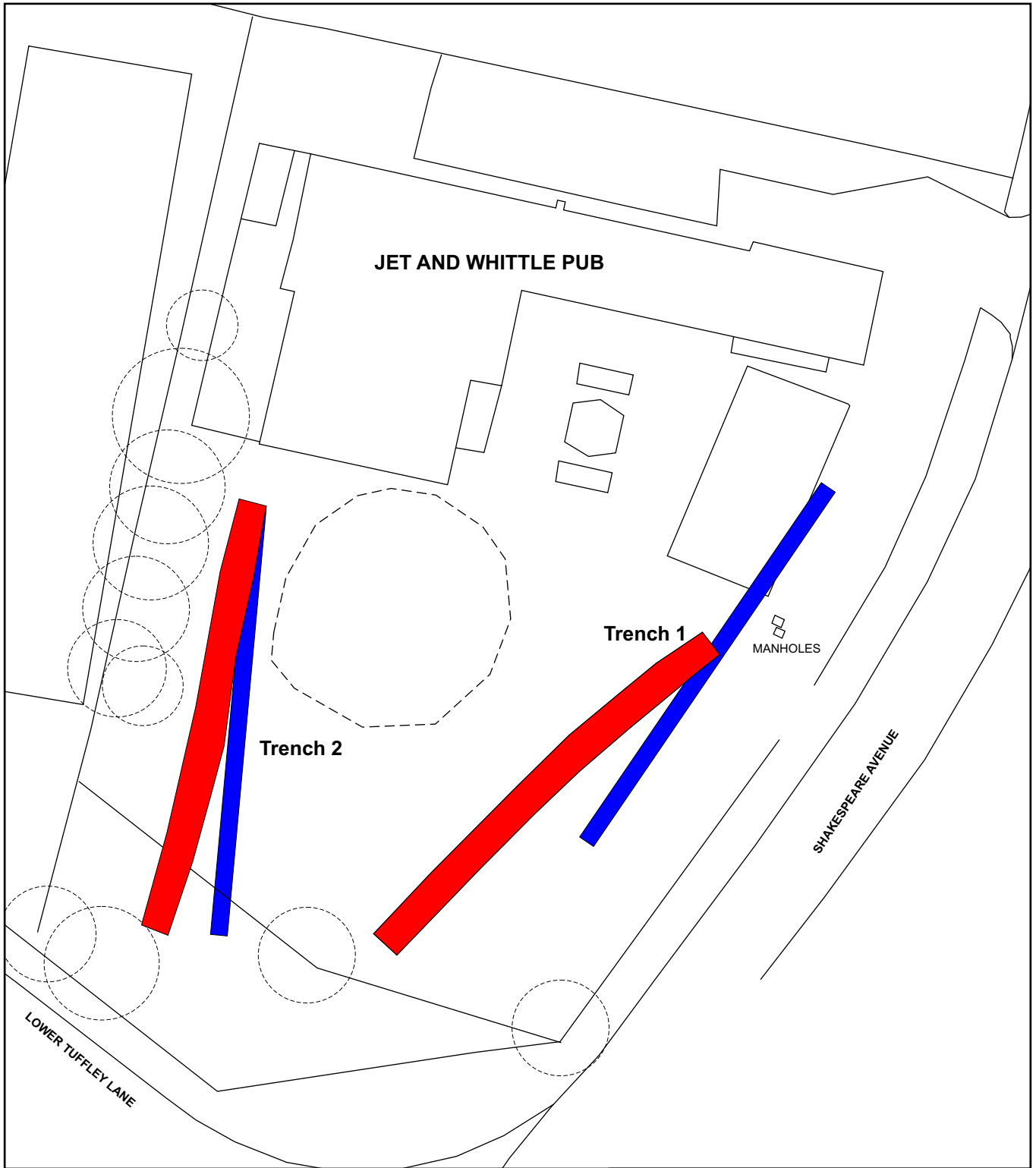
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Reproduced under licence 100015722

**Site Code: JWG13**

**Accession Code:**



**FIGURE 1: Site Location**



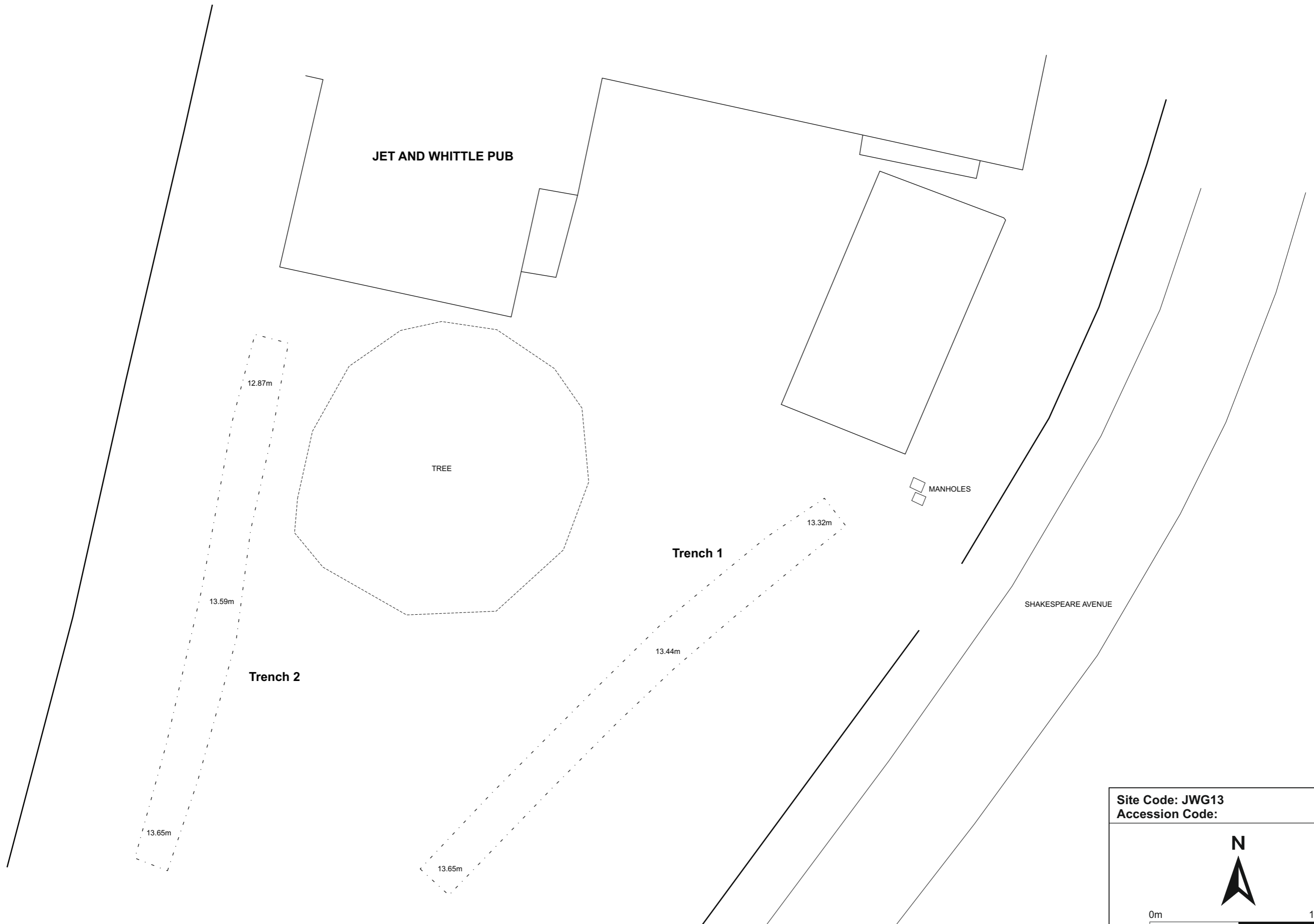
Site Code: JWG13  
 Accession Code:





- Original Trench Locations
- Final Trench Locations



**FIGURE 2: Trench Locations**



<b>Site Code: JWG13</b> <b>Accession Code:</b>
<b>N</b> 
0m <span style="float: right;">10m</span>  1:200@A3
<b>FIGURE 3: Trench Plans</b>