

**LAND AT THE JUNCTION OF NAAS LANE AND  
NEWHAVEN ROAD,  
QUEDGELEY,  
GLOUCESTER.**

**NGR: 381089.213286 (Area 1 centred)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND SAMPLE**

June 2017  
Report No. 1198



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY, MANAGEMENT & FIELD SERVICES**

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**Quality Assurance**

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Author: A. Hood BSc MCIfA

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Approved: R. King BA MCIfA

QA Checked: T. Michaels BSc ACIfA

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## **SUMMARY**

Between 22<sup>nd</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 Foundations Archaeology undertook an archaeological strip, map and sample on land at the junction of Naas Lane and Newhaven Road, Quedgeley, Gloucester (NGR: 381089.213286, Area 1 centred) in advance of the construction of a new public house and restaurant. The project was commissioned by Greene King PLC.

Two stripped areas were situated at the location of the proposed public house (Area 1) and an area previously containing a tree (Area 2), which had not been excavated during a previous archaeological excavation, to the east of the public house.

The archaeological works identified the presence of three ditches within the investigated areas. Two of the ditches were possibly related to a Roman ditch system, which had been identified in the previous excavation. The remaining ditch was part of a known Post-medieval field boundary. No other archaeological features or deposits were present within the investigated areas.

## 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 *circa* 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.

### *Prehistoric*

The period prior to the Roman invasion of AD 43. Traditionally sub divided into; *Palaeolithic* – *circa* 500,000 BC to *circa* 12,000 BC; *Mesolithic* – *circa* 12,000 BC to *circa* 4,500 BC; *Neolithic* – *circa* 4,500 BC to *circa* 2,000 BC; *Bronze Age* – *circa* 2,000 BC to *circa* 800 BC; *Iron Age* – *circa* 800 BC to AD 43.

### *Roman*

The period traditionally dated between AD 43 and *circa* AD 410.

### *Saxon*

The period between AD 410 and AD 1066.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between 22<sup>nd</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 Foundations Archaeology undertook an archaeological strip, map and sample on land at the junction of Naas Lane and Newhaven Road, Quedgeley, Gloucester (NGR: 381089.213286, Area 1 centred) in advance of the construction of a new public house. The project was commissioned by Greene King PLC.
- 1.2 The project was conducted in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), produced by Foundations Archaeology (2017). The archaeological works adhered to the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*, issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) and were undertaken in line with the general principles of National Planning Policy Framework 2012 (NPPF12).
- 1.3 This document presents the findings of the archaeological works.

## 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission (**16/01331/FUL**) has been granted for the erection of a part single/part two-storey restaurant/public house (Class A3/A4) with ancillary residential accommodation at the first floor, along with means of access, car parking, landscaping and ancillary works.
- 2.2 The site was previously the HQ site for RAF Quedgeley, but was more recently developed as Quedgeley Enterprise Park, with the current study area located within an area of former car park. The site is bounded to the south by Naas Lane, to the west by Newhaven Road and to the north and east by the rest of the land associated by the former Quedgeley Enterprise Park.
- 2.3 The underlying geology comprises *Blue Lias Formation* and *Charmouth Mudstone Formation* (undifferentiated) - mudstone, with superficial deposits of *Cheltenham Sand and Gravel* - sand and gravel (BGS; Geology of Britain On-line Viewer).
- 2.4 The site is located approximately 500m to the southwest of a Medieval moated site at Manor Farm. There are also two Grade II listed buildings to the north and northwest of the study area, both of early 17<sup>th</sup> century date.
- 2.5 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken across the land of the former Quedgeley Enterprise Park by Worcestershire Archaeology in 2016. This work revealed two distinct phases of activity; a number of possible enclosure type features in the western part of the site, which yielded a moderate quantity of Roman pottery and, within the eastern and central part of the site, a series of Post-medieval agricultural/boundary ditches.

- 2.6 Subsequent to the evaluation, an archaeological excavation was undertaken by Worcestershire Archaeology (2017), on land immediately to the east of the proposed public house. This work identified and recorded a number of Iron Age to early Roman ditches and two ‘watering hole’ pits, which contained well preserved organic remains, along with middle to late Iron Age pottery. The site also contained evidence for Roman activity, in the form of ditches, some of which may have been part of a droveway. A single Post-medieval agricultural/boundary ditch was also present.
- 2.7 The current development groundworks therefore had the potential to adversely impact upon significant archaeological deposits, predominately dating to the Iron Age and Roman periods. This did not prejudice the archaeological works against evidence related to other periods.
- 2.8 In light of the archaeological potential for the site, the City Archaeologist required a strip, map and sample within the footprint of the proposed public house, as well as an area previously containing a tree, which had not been excavated during the previous archaeological excavation.

### **3 AIMS**

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological strip, map and sample were to gather high quality data from the direct observation and recording of archaeological deposits in order to provide sufficient information to establish the nature, extent, preservation and potential of any surviving archaeological remains; as well as to make recommendations for the management of the resource, or preservation *in-situ*, if necessary.
- 3.2 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following objectives:
  - i) to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;
  - ii) to attempt to characterise the nature and preservation of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning and extent 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 to recover coherent artefact, ecofact 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 The area of the proposed public house (Area 1) and the area previously containing a tree (Area 2) were stripped, as shown in Figures 2, 3 and 4.
- 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 direction. Thereafter, all cleaning and excavation was conducted manually, by suitably qualified archaeologists.
- 4.3 All archaeological excavation and recording was undertaken in accordance with the requirements set out in the WSI.

## 5 RESULTS

- 5.1 A full description of all contexts identified during the course of the works is given in Appendix 1.
- 5.2 Natural sand and clay substrates were exposed at an average depth of 0.80m (22.02m OD) below the Modern ground. These were sealed by a firm clay sand subsoil (1003)/(2002), between 0.08m and 0.59m thick, which was present across both excavation areas. The subsoil was subsequently overlaid by Modern layers (1002/1010/1011/1012/1013) and topsoil (1001) in Area 1 and topsoil (2001) in Area 2. A total of three ditches were present within the investigated areas.
- 5.3 **Ditch [1004/6/8]** and **ditch [2003]** were cut into the top of the natural substrates and their fills were sealed beneath the subsoil. The ditches remained undated; however, their location beneath the subsoil indicated that they were likely to be of some antiquity. They were both very shallow, between 0.09m to 0.16m in depth, which suggested that they most likely had been subject to plough truncation at some point in the past.
- 5.4 **Ditch [2005]** was cut through the subsoil and contained Modern bricks and a milk bottle and, as such, almost certainly represented the in-filled remains of a Post-medieval agricultural boundary.
- 5.5 Two concrete structures and numerous services present within Area 1 indicated that the site had been subjected to localised Modern disturbance, which had penetrated to the level of the top of natural deposits or below. Also present in the



north west corner of Area 1 were two Modern tree throws. A Modern cut present in the northern part of Area 2 represented the edge of the previous archaeological excavation.

## **6 DISCUSSION**

- 6.1 The depths of the excavation and the encountered natural deposits correlated well with the results of the previous archaeological investigations.
- 6.2 Ditches [1004/6/8] and [2003] were likely to be of some antiquity and were possibly related to the Roman ditches identified in the previous excavation; although, an earlier or later date could not be entirely ruled out. Ditch [2003] was not present within the previous excavation area; however, it was very shallow and may only have survived within the locale of Area 2.
- 6.3 Ditch [2005] represented a continuation of the Post-medieval field boundary, identified in the previous excavation works as ‘Ditch 9’.
- 6.4 ‘Ditch 8’, which was recorded as a possible middle Iron Age to early Roman ditch in the previous excavation, was not present within Area 2; however, this feature was recorded as a shallow ditch, up to 0.20m in depth, and, as such, it was unclear if it terminated or dissipated to the east of Area 2.
- 6.5 No features equivalent to possible Roman driveway Ditches 1 and 3 were present in Area 1. Although, they were recorded as shallow ditches, between 0.16m and 0.20m in depth, and, therefore, the Modern disturbance present within the southeastern part of Area 1 is likely to have removed any trace of these features.

## **7 CONCLUSION**

- 7.1 The archaeological works have identified the presence of three ditches within the investigated areas. Two of the ditches were possibly related to a Roman ditch system, which had been identified in a previous archaeological excavation. The remaining ditch was part of a known Post-medieval field boundary.
- 7.2 The previous and current archaeological works have indicated that archaeological deposits are likely to have been subject to plough truncation at some point in the past, as well as localised Modern disturbance. This has resulted in areas of relatively low archaeological coherence, especially in relation to shallower features.
- 7.3 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology, but will be deposited within 12 months with Gloucester City Museum.

- 7.4 A note relating to the archaeological works will be submitted for inclusion in *Glevensis* and an OASIS form will also be submitted to ADS.

## **8 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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### APPENDIX 1: The Stratigraphic Data

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/LATER THAN	CUT BY/EARLIER THAN
				<b>AREA 1</b> ; 35m by 24m. Natural = bright orange clay sand with occasional patches of grey plastic clay and occasional patches of beige sand and limestone grit.		
1001	n/a	n/a	0.3	Topsoil; dark brown clay sand, which contained frequent small roots. Present at the western half of the excavation area.	1002	n/a
1002	n/a	n/a	0.09	Layer of variable crushed stone and loose tarmac. Modern dump layer intermittently present at the western half of the excavation area.	1003	1001
1003	n/a	n/a	0.59	Subsoil; khaki brown firm clay sand, which contained occasional small limestone fragments, as well as a fragment of bottle glass and two animal bone fragments.	natural	1002
<b>[1004]</b>	2.5	1.3	0.16	Northeast - southwest aligned ditch base with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1005. Equivalent to features [1006] and [1008].	natural	1005
1005	2.5	1.3	0.16	Fill of possible ditch [1004]; light brown clay sand.	[1004]	1003, Modern cut, Modern tree throw hole
<b>[1006]</b>	6.8	1	0.15	Northeast - southwest aligned ditch base with a shallow, flat profile. Dissipated at the southwest. Contained fill 1007. Equivalent to features [1004] and [1008].	natural	1007
1007	6.8	1	0.16	Fill of possible ditch [1006]; light brown clay sand. Similar to fill 1005.	[1006]	1003, Modern cut
<b>[1008]</b>	3	0.9	0.09	Northeast - southwest aligned ditch base with a shallow, uneven profile. Dissipated at the northeast. Contained fill 1009. Equivalent to features [1004] and [1006].	natural	1009
1009	3	0.9	0.09	Fill of possible ditch [1008]; light brown clay sand. Similar to fill 1005.	[1008]	1003
1010	n/a	n/a	0.12	Tarmac surface. Present at the eastern half of the excavation area.	1011	n/a
1011	n/a	n/a	0.15	Layer of light pink crushed stone.	1012	1010
1012	n/a	n/a	0.15	Layer of loose grey stone.	1013	1011
1013	n/a	n/a	0.22	Layer of dark grey plastic clay, which contained frequent Modern artefacts. Made ground.	1003	1012

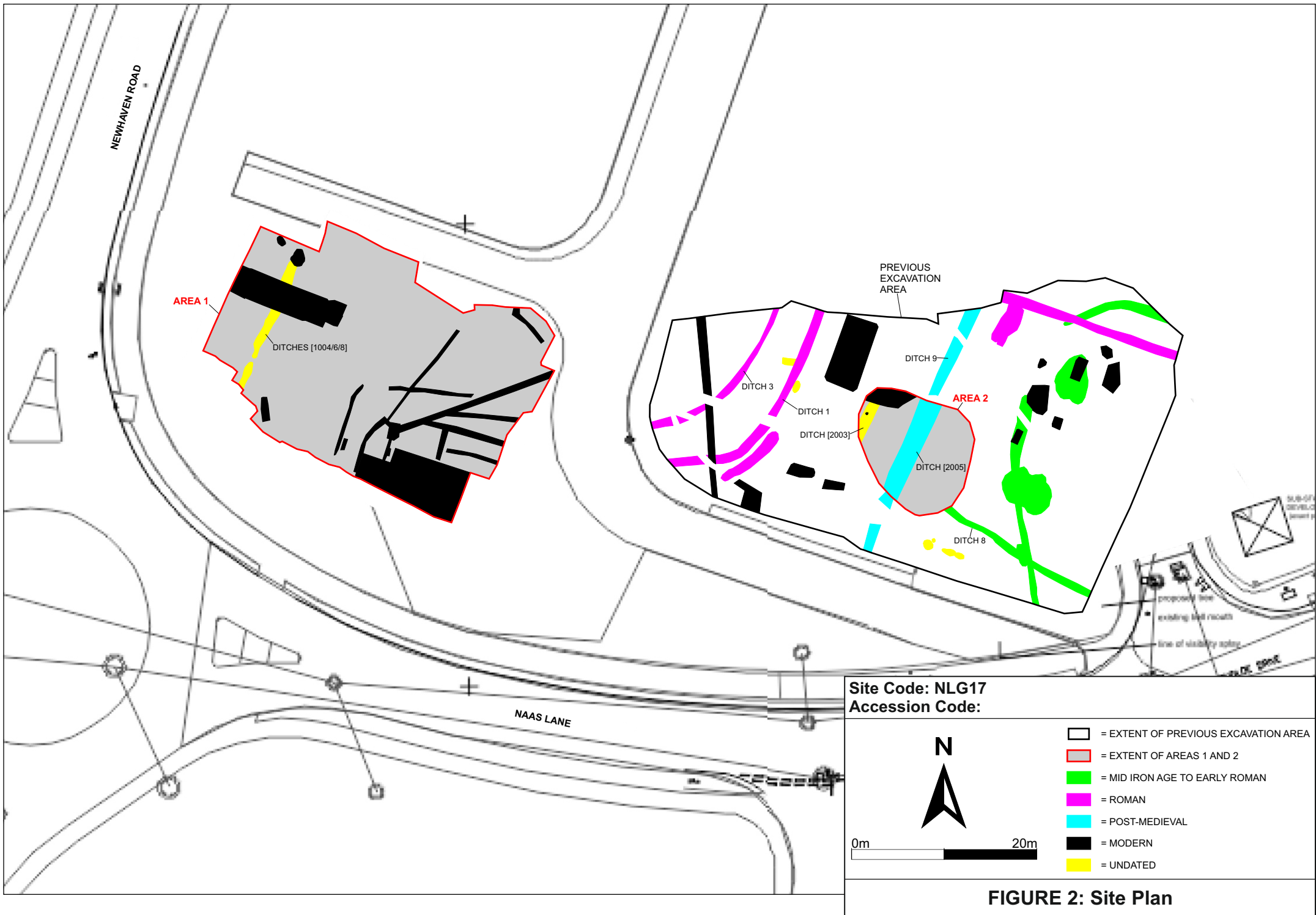
Land at the Junction of Naas Lane and Newhaven Road, Quedgeley, Gloucester: Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample

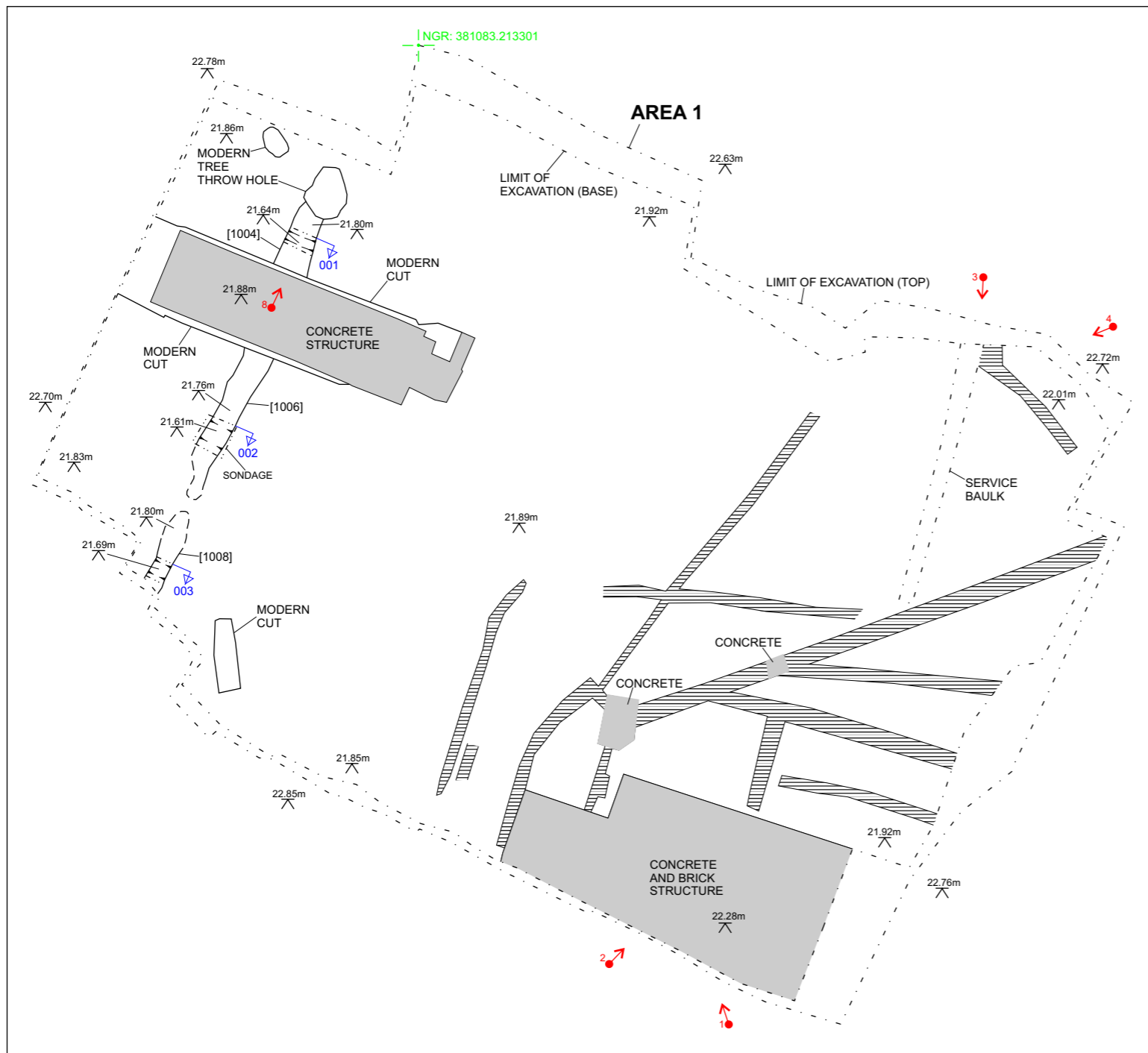
CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/LATER THAN	CUT BY/EARLIER THAN
				<b>AREA 2;</b> 13m by 12m. Natural = bright orange clay sand with occasional patches of grey plastic clay and occasional patches of beige sand and limestone grit.		
2001	n/a	n/a	0.36	Topsoil; dark brown clay sand, which contained frequent roots.	2002	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a	0.34	Subsoil; khaki brown firm clay sand, which contained occasional small limestone fragments.	natural	2001
<b>[2003]</b>	4.6	1.17	0.12	Northeast - southwest aligned ditch base with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 2004.	natural	2004
2004	4.6	1.17	0.12	Fill of ditch [2003]; light brown clay sand.	[2003]	2002
<b>[2005]</b>	11.6	2.1	?	Northeast - southwest aligned ditch. Recorded in plan only. Contained fills 2006 and 2007.	2002	2006/2007
2006	11.6	0.7	?	Fill of ditch [2005]; brown clay sand, which contained Modern brick fragments.	[2005]	2001
2007	11.6	1.7	?	Fill of ditch [2005]; dark brown clay sand, which contained a milk bottle.	[2005]	2001



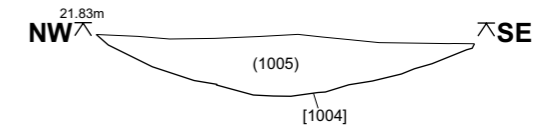
© Crown Copyright and Database Right 2017.  
Ordnance Survey Licence 100015722  
**Site Code: NLG17**  
**Accession Code:**

**FIGURE 1: Site Location**

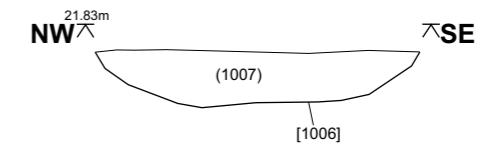




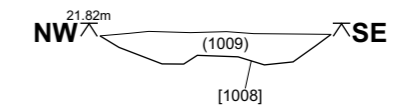
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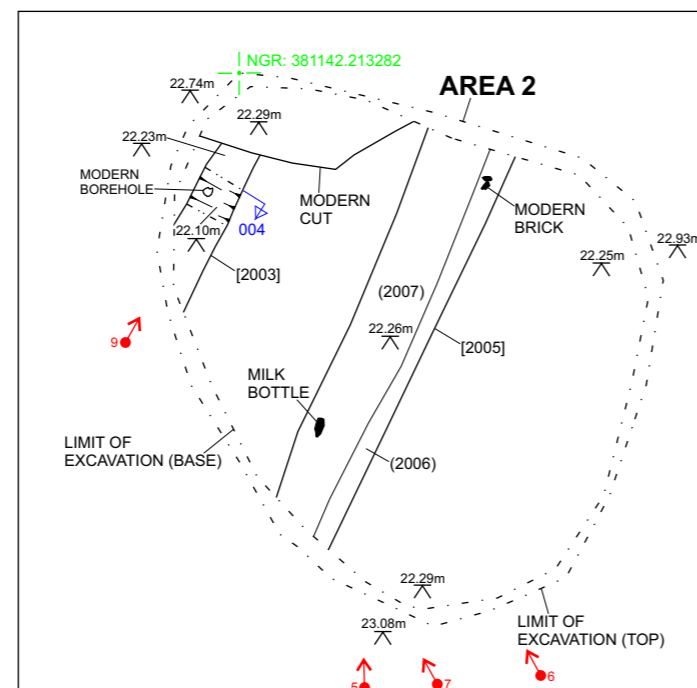
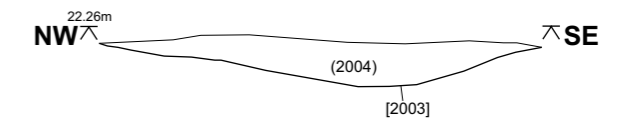
**SEC 002: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1006]**



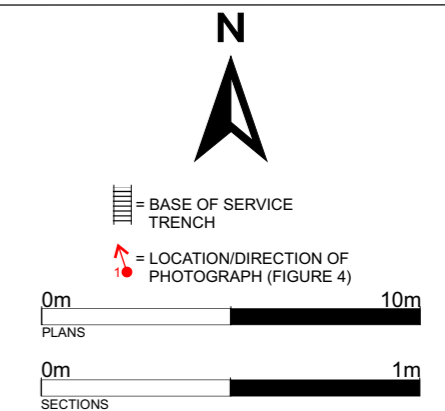
**SEC 003: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1008]**



**SEC 004: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [2003]**



Site Code: NLG17  
Accession Code:



**FIGURE 3: Plans and Sections**



PHOTOGRAPH 1: AREA 1 LOOKING NORTHWEST



PHOTOGRAPH 2: AREA 1 LOOKING NORTHEAST



PHOTOGRAPH 3: AREA 1 LOOKING SOUTH



PHOTOGRAPH 4: AREA 1 LOOKING SOUTHWEST



PHOTOGRAPH 5: AREA 2 LOOKING NORTH



PHOTOGRAPH 6: AREA 2 LOOKING NORTHWEST



PHOTOGRAPH 7: AREA 2 LOOKING NORTHWEST



PHOTOGRAPH 8: SECTION 001, DITCH [1004]



PHOTOGRAPH 9: SECTION 004, DITCH [2003]

Site Code: NLG17  
Accession Code:  
**FIGURE 4: Photographs**