

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT BUS RAPID TRANSIT SCHEME, PHASE 1A
FAREHAM TO GOSPORT
HAMPSHIRE**

NGR SU 631 040

Hampshire County Council Scheme: 227552/HS

**Project No: 4061
Site Code: GBS10**

**ASE Report No: 2011215
OASIS id: archaeol6-108872**

**By Gary Webster
With a contribution from Sarah Porteus**

September 2011

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by BAM Nuttall Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring during groundworks associated with the Fareham to Gosport rapid bus transit scheme, Hampshire hereafter referred to as 'the site.'

The majority of the site was observed as having been previously disturbed either by modern services or road surfaces. Where this was not the case, virgin topsoil, subsoil and natural clay were observed.

No archaeological features were recorded. A very small quantity of 17th-19th century peg-tile was recovered from within a land drain at Redlands Lane and from topsoil at Hoeford.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South East (ASE), a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA) of University College London (UCL) was commissioned by BAM Nuttall Ltd to carry out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for the Fareham to Gosport Bus Rapid Transit Scheme.

1.1.2 The scheme will includes work to convert a disused railway line into a Rapid Transit bus route running between Gosport and Fareham and the installation of bus stations and stops along the route.

1.1.3 Three separate areas, henceforth referred to as 'the site', were monitored in the watching brief, there are centred on National Grid Reference SU631040 and are shown in Figure 1:

- Redlands Lane
- Hoeford
- Tichbourne Way

1.1.4 All three of the sites are near to a disused railway line– which is being altered to form the main roadway for the Bus Rapid Transit Scheme. This can be seen in more detail on Figure 2. East of the sites is the A32, and Portsmouth Harbour.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 British Geological Survey website suggests that:

- The Redlands Lane area overlays the London Clay Formation. It was previously open grassland and scrubland near some light urban housing
- The Hoeford area also overlays a London Clay Formation, sandy and silty clay. It was previously occupied by small trees and undergrowth
- The Tichborne Way area comprises of the Wittering Formation, greyish brown clay interlaced with sand. The Tichborne Way area was previously occupied by some railway sidings.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Hampshire County Council (HCC) Archaeological Officers required that, due to the archaeological potential of the area, groundworks associated with the scheme should be archaeologically monitored in an archaeological watching brief. Accordingly, ASE produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI, ASE 2010) for the watching brief for the approval of HCC.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The aims and objectives of the watching brief were listed in the mitigation strategy document (Mott Gifford 2009) as:

- “• To record comprehensively any archaeological remains that may be impacted by the excavation of geotechnical trial pits, re-routing of services, and topsoil/subsoil stripping

- To survey the location of any archaeological features recorded during these works

- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present and to establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features”

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report details the findings of the archaeological watching brief undertaken by Nick Garland, Lianne Pyre, Giles Dawkes, Greg Bell, Sam Whitehead and Gary Webster between the dates of 29/09/10 – 09/08/11.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Mott Gifford produced a Cultural Heritage Screening report in August 2008 which is referenced in their Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (*ibid*). This looked at cultural heritage information within a 500m radius of the scheme.

2.2 Based on current knowledge, the mitigation document (*ibid*) concluded that the site held some potential for archaeological findings of the following date:

- Palaeolithic
- Mesolithic
- Bronze Age
- Roman
- Medieval
- Post-medieval

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY (Figure 2)

3.1 As per the mitigation strategy (*ibid*) an archaeological watching brief was conducted during the following groundworks associated with the scheme in the three specific areas:

- Redlands Lane: Relocation of services and ground reduction
- Hoeford: Ground reduction
- Tichbourne Way: Manhole and trenching

3.2 All fieldwork was carried out using standard ASE *pro-forma* sheets and in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2010) and the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (IFA 2008).

3.3 Where practicable, excavations and reduction were mechanically excavated using a flat-bladed bucket. Monitored groundworks were observed by an archaeologist until it became clear beyond reasonable doubt that no archaeological remains were present (e.g. once excavation reached undisturbed natural geology, below which there could no archaeological remains present).

3.4 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited with Hampshire Museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	10
No. of files/paper record	1 File
Plan and sections sheets	0
Bulk Samples	0
Photographs	58
Bulk finds	1
Registered finds	0
Environmental flots/residue	0

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS (Figure 2 and photographs)

4.1 Redlands Lane: Relocation of services and ground reduction

4.1.1 Initially, an area was excavated to identify the location of an existing service which was rerouted. Accordingly, a trench approximately 20m in length and 0.8m wide was excavated for this purpose. The area was found to have been disturbed by previous services. Secondly, ground reduction for the new access on to the railway embankment was monitored (Plate 1). No archaeological features were recorded.

4.1.2 The following sequence was observed in both areas:

- c. 0.2m thickness of topsoil [006]
- c. 0.2m thickness of subsoil [007]
- Natural clay [008] and archaeological horizon. A post-medieval field drain through the natural [008] was noted; this contained some peg-tile.

4.2 Hoeford: Ground reduction

4.2.1 Initially, during construction for the access ramp, an area measuring 19m x 10.55m was monitored (Plate 2). Secondly, an area for retaining wall foundations was monitored. No archaeological features were recorded.

4.2.2 The following sequence was observed in both areas:

- c. 0.2m of topsoil [001]. A piece of peg-tile was recovered
- c. 0.15m subsoil [002]
- Natural clay [003]. A natural tree hole [004] was investigated by half-section (Plate 3). No finds were identified.

4.3 Tichborne Way: Trenching and manhole

4.3.1 An area of 25m x 10m was excavated, of which 2.5m x 1.8m was monitored. The area was excavated to a depth of 1.2m with the exception of an area of 3m x 3m, which was excavated to a depth of 2m, for a manhole (Plate 4).

4.3.2 A trench (Plate 5) was dug from the manhole along the length of the road toward the North East, which was 60m in length. After 16m had been excavated to a depth of 1.7m and width of 0.75m, HCC was contacted and ASE was advised that the remainder of the trench would not require archaeological monitoring due to the modern truncation encountered.

4.3.3 No archaeological finds or features were recorded.

4.3.4 The following sequence was recorded:

- 0.35m – 0.45m of made ground [009]
- Natural clay [010]

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Deposit Thickness
001	Layer	Top soil	19m	10.55m	0.2m
002	Layer	Sub Soil	19m	10.55m	0.15m
003	Layer	Natural	19m	10.55m	-
004	Cut	Cut of Tree hole	0.6m	0.6m	-
005	Fill	Fill of [004]	0.6m	0.6m	0.1m
006	Layer	Top Soil	Redlands Lane area	Redlands Lane area	0.2m
007	Layer	Sub Soil	Redlands Lane area	Redlands Lane area	0.2m
008	Layer	Natural	Redlands Lane area	Redlands Lane area	-
009	Layer	Made Ground	25m	10m	0.45m
010	Layer	Natural	25m	10m	-

Table 2: List of recorded contexts

5.0 THE FINDS By Sarah Porteus

- 5.1 Peg-tile was recovered from a field-drain in the natural clay [008] at Redlands Lane. This is 17th to 19th century in date.
- 5.2 A similar piece of tile which was recovered from the topsoil at the Hoeford Compound dates from the 17th to the 18th century.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 No archaeological deposits or features of were found in any of the areas monitored.
- 6.2 The area of Redlands lane had been partially disturbed by services.
- 6.3 The Hoeford area did not appear to have been disturbed, except through bioturbation.
- 6.4 The Tichborne Way area had been completely truncated into the natural clay by previous works.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeology South-East would like to thank BAM Nuttall Ltd for commissioning the work and Hannah Fluck of HCC for her guidance throughout the project, and Gerald Heath for his assistance during the fieldwork.

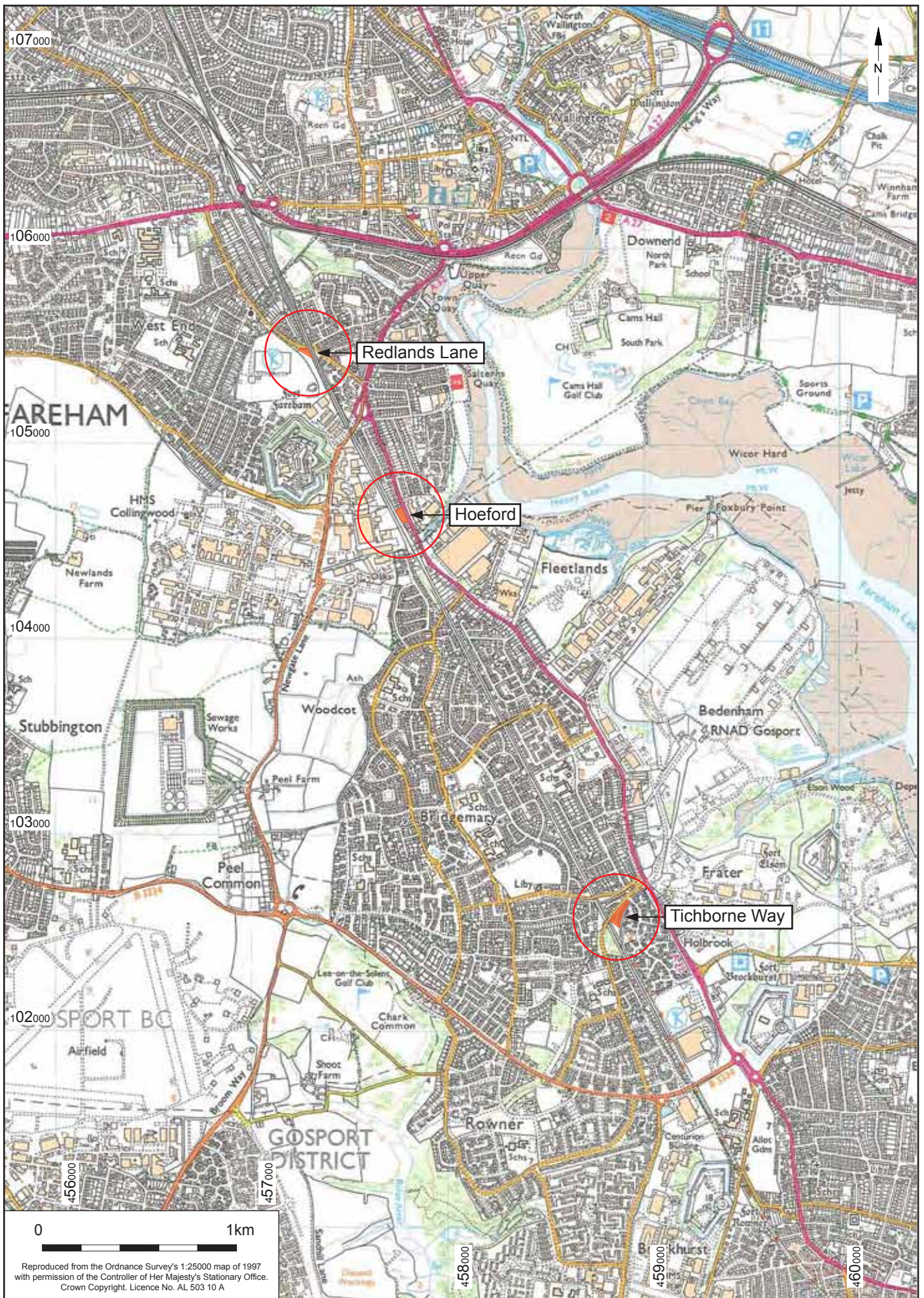
HER Summary Form

Site Code	GBS 10					
Identification Name and Address	Bus Rapid Transit Scheme, Phase 1A, Fareham to Gosport, Hampshire					
County, District &/or Borough	Hampshire					
OS Grid Refs.	SU631040					
Geology	London Clay and Wittering Formation					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4061					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief X	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field X	Shallow Urban X	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork 29/09/10 – 09/08/11	Eval.	Excav.	WB. x	Other		
Sponsor/Client	BAM Nuttall Ltd					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Gary Webster					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		
<p>100 Word Summary</p> <p>Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by BAM Nuttall Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring during groundworks associated with the Fareham to Gosport rapid bus transit scheme, Hampshire hereafter referred to as 'the site.'</p> <p>The majority of the site was observed as having been previously disturbed either by modern services or road surfaces. Where this was not the case, virgin topsoil, subsoil and natural clay were observed.</p> <p>No archaeological features were recorded. A very small quantity of 17th-19th century peg-tile was recovered from within a land drain at Redlands Lane and from topsoil at Hoeford.</p>						

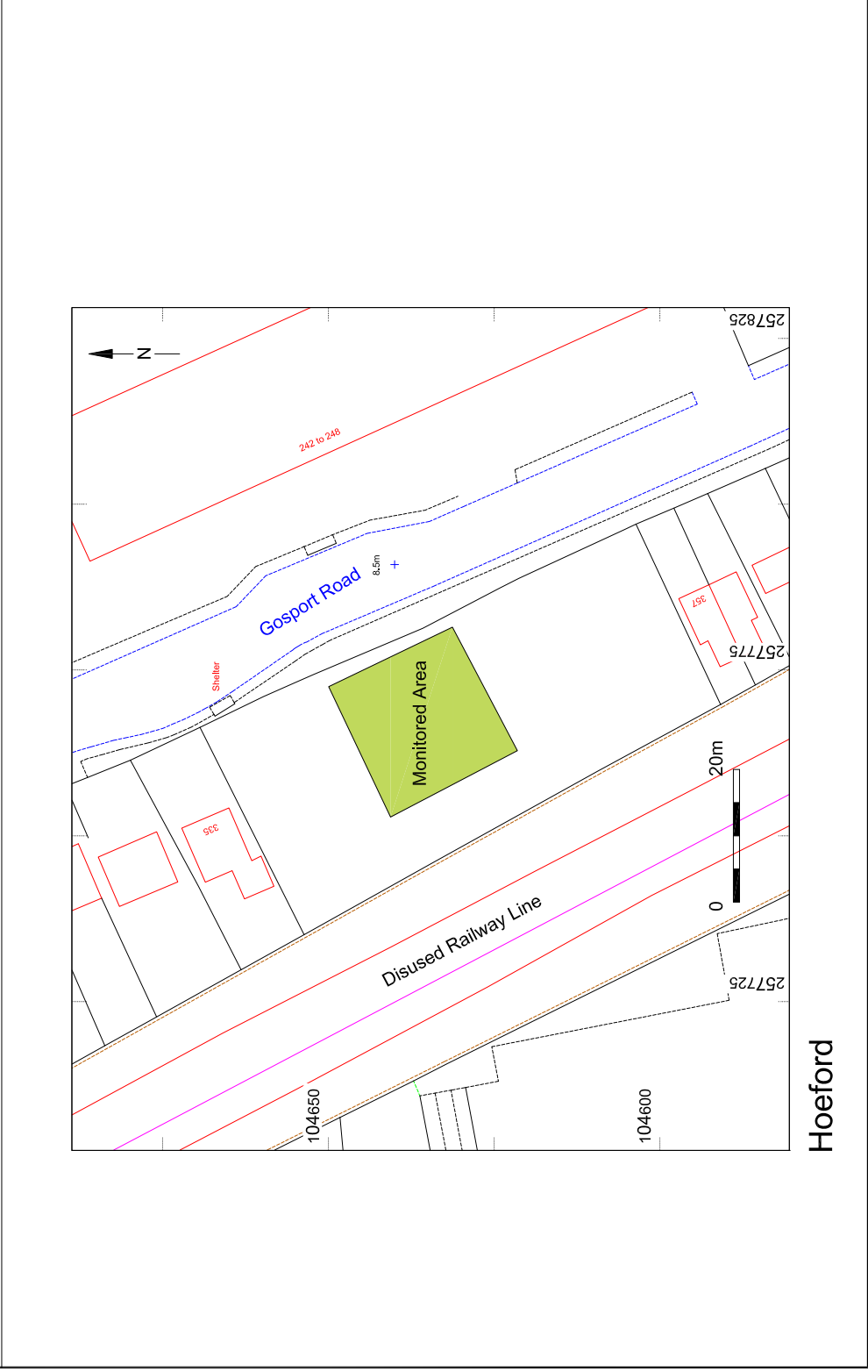
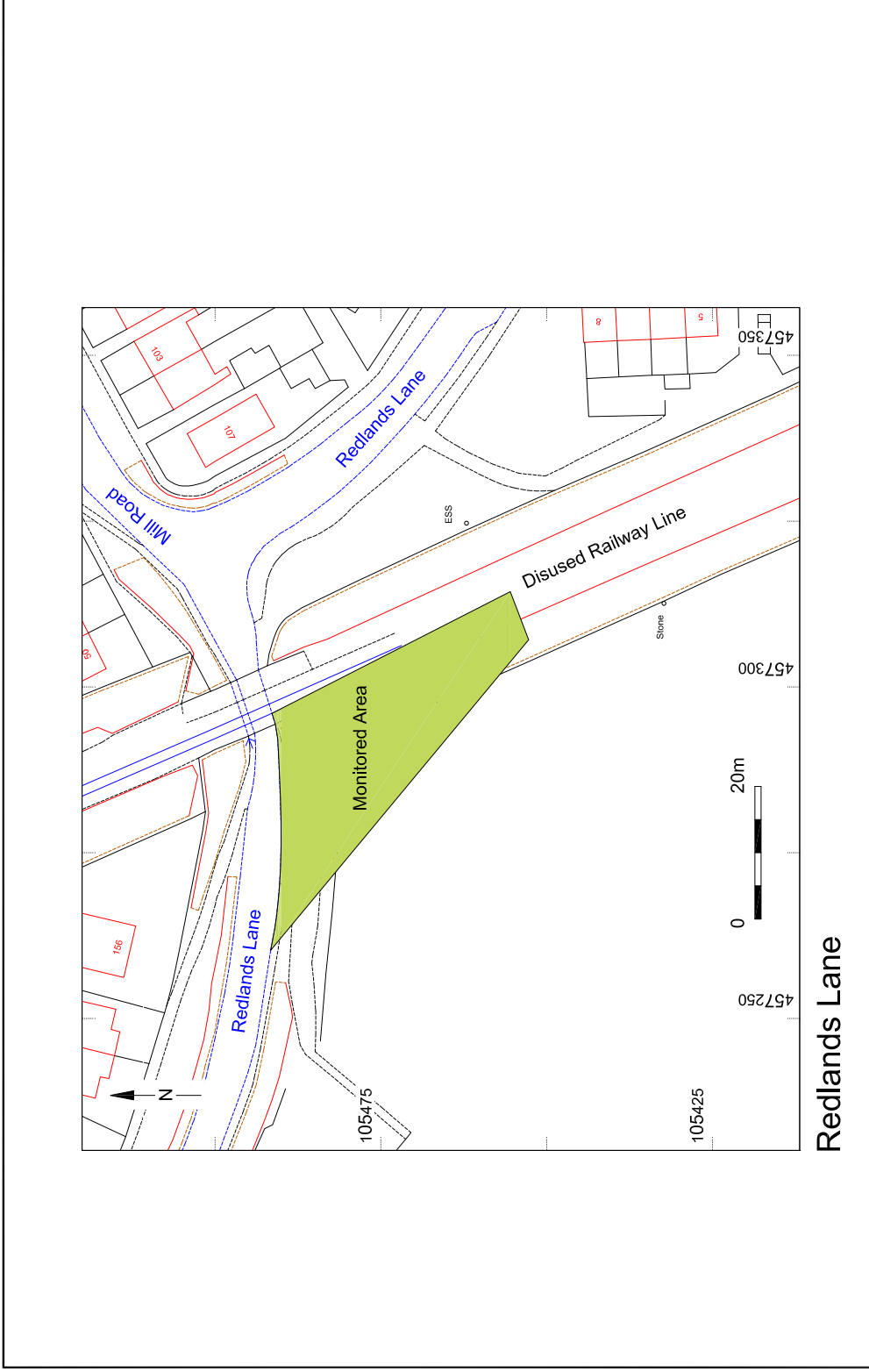
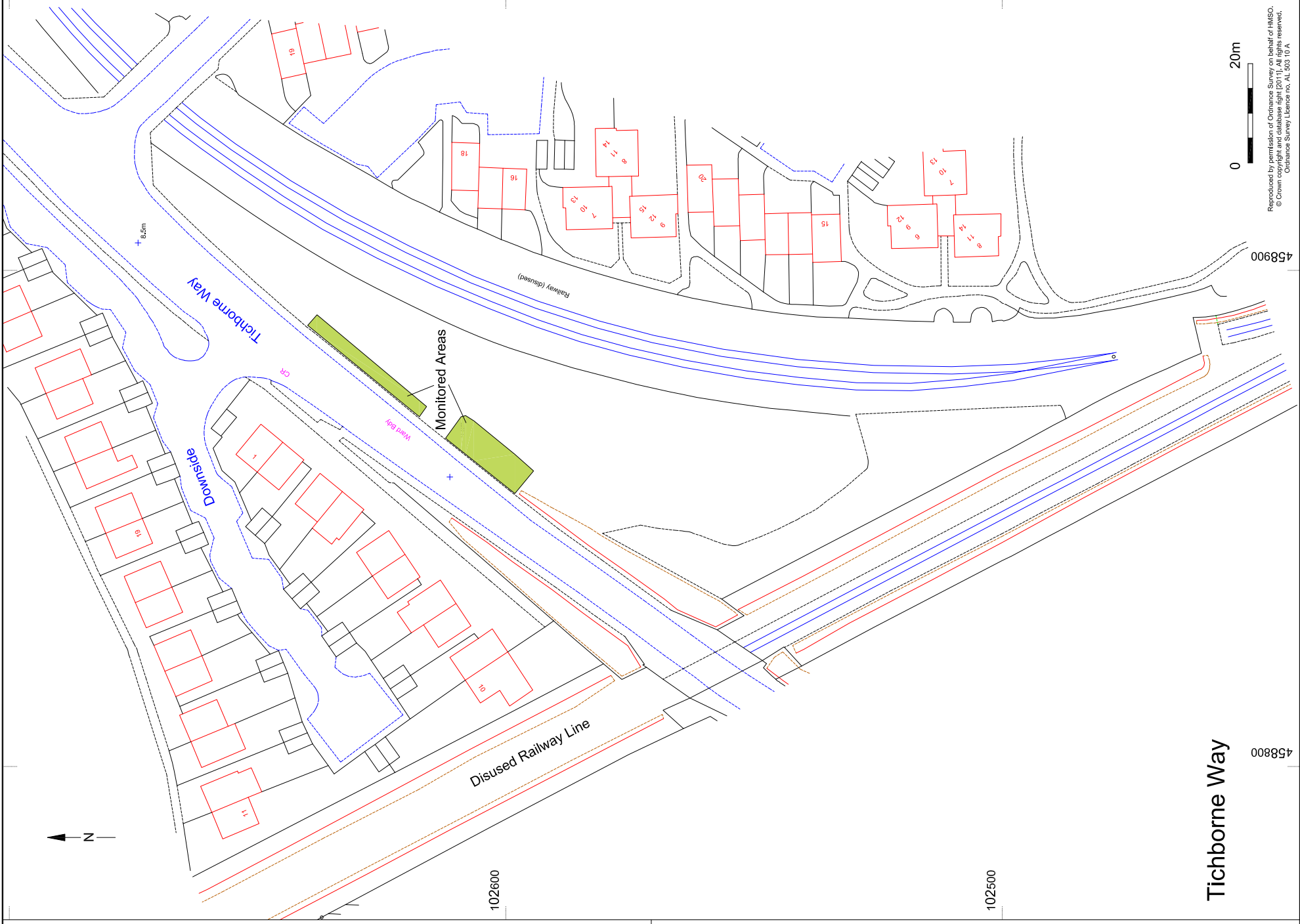
OASIS Form

Project name	Bus Rapid Transit Scheme, Phase 1A, Fareham to Gosport, Hampshire
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by BAM Nuttall Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring during groundworks associated with the Fareham to Gosport rapid bus transit scheme, Hampshire hereafter referred to as 'the site.' The majority of the site was observed as having been previously disturbed either by modern services or road surfaces. Where this was not the case, virgin topsoil, subsoil and natural clay were observed. No archaeological features were recorded. A very small quantity of 17th-19th century peg-tile was recovered from within a land drain at Redlands Lane and from topsoil at Hoeford.
Project dates	Start: 29-09-2010 End: 09-08-2011
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	GBS 10 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Site location	HAMPSHIRE GOSPORT GOSPORT Bus Rapid Transit Scheme, Phase 1A, Fareham to Gosport, Hampshire
Postcode	PO13 0
Study area	470.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	NGR - SU 631 040 LL - 50.8315291870 -1.1038977320 (decimal) LL - 50 49 53 N 001 06 14 W (degrees) Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0m Max: 0m
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	BAM Nuttall Ltd
Project design originator	Mott Gifford

Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Gary Webster
Type of sponsor/funding body	private client
Name of sponsor/funding body	BAM Nuttall Ltd
Title	Bus Rapid Transit Scheme, Phase 1A, Fareham to Gosport
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Mott Gifford
Date	2009



© Archaeology South-East		Bus Rapid Transit Scheme, Phase 1A, Fareham to Gosport, Gosport		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4061	September 2011	Site locations		
Report Ref: 2011215	Drawn by: DJH			



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Project Ref: 4061	Aug 2011	Plan of monitored works	
Report Ref: 2011215	Drawn by: JLR	Fig. 2	



Plate 1: Redlands Lane ground reduction viewed from the north-east



Plate 2: Hoeford ground reduction viewed from the east



Plate 3: Natural tree hole [004] at Hoeford, half-sectioned, viewed from the north-west



Plate 4: Manhole at Tichborne Way, viewed from the east



Plate 5: Tichborne Way trenching viewed from the south

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