Archaeology South-East

ASE

Archaeological Evaluation and Waching Brief Report Station Hill and Friars Walk (Plots B & D) Friar Street, Reading Berkshire

NGR: 47136 17375
(SU 7136 7375)

ASE Project No: 8505
Site Code: SHR15
ASE Report No: 2016009
OASIS id: archaeol6-234107

By Paulo Clemente

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation and watching brief carried out by Archaeology South-East at Station Hill and Friars Walk (Plots B & D), Reading, on 6th and 7th January 2016. The fieldwork was commissioned by Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Ltd in advance of the redevelopment of the site to include retail and residential units, associated infrastructure and ancillary development.

The evaluation has established that the site had been extensively raised in height during the previous development of the site with modern made ground sealing organic layers found to the base of trench. The made ground layers as a whole have a thickness of 1.24-1.64m below existing ground surface.

Beneath the made ground a sequence of undated alluvial deposits overlaying natural gravel were recorded with a whole depth of 3.44m BGL. At the southern end of the trench these deposits exceeded this and were unable to be fully excavated due to water ingress.

At the north end of the trench the alluvial sequence was truncated by an undated linear feature. This feature and the alluvial deposits may relate to water management features recorded on Coates map of Reading 1802 which may relate to a possible moated site or to water courses for a Friary constructed to the west of the site in AD 1233.

CONTENTS

TABLES

FIGURES

1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.2 Site Background

1.2.1 Archaeology South-East, the contracting division of UCL's Institute of Archaeology Centre for Applied Archaeology was commissioned by Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Ltd in January 2016 to undertake an archaeological evaluation and watching brief at Station Hill and Friars Walk (Plots B & D), Friar Street, Reading, Berkshire (NGR 47136 17375, Figure 1).

1.3 Geology and Topography

1.3.1 According to the British Geological Survey, the underlying geology of the study site consists of Upper Chalk with overlying Taplow Gravel Formation within the south of the site and alluvium to the north of Garrard Street. The site lies at approximately 45m OD. The site is also located 1km west of the confluence of the River Thames and the River Kennet.

1.3.2 The site is an irregular shape, covering an area of approximately 2.56ha. The site is bound by Reading Mainline Railway Station and Station Approach to the north and a multi-storey car park and Thames Tower to the south. The eastern boundary is formed by an elevated pedestrian walkway and Station Road. To the west of the site lies a disused bus station.

1.4 Planning Background

1.4.1 A planning application (130436/OUT) was granted by Reading Borough Council for the redevelopment of the site to include retail and residential units, associated infrastructure and ancillary development. As part of the planning consultation, the Archaeology Officer has recommended the following condition be attached, should permission be granted:

Condition 26:

No development (including any works of demolition) shall take place until a site wide archaeological Written Archaeological Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, the development shall only take place in accordance with the approved Scheme.

Reason: as only partial information is available regarding the value of the site in archaeological terms and a fuller investigation is required before commencement of development and in order to ensure that sufficient opportunity is afforded to examine archaeological material and evidence of significance during this development and in the interests of protecting the archaeological heritage of the Borough. Policies: CS33

1.4.2 Accordingly, a Written Archaeological Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2015) was submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of archaeological fieldwork.

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation and watching brief carried out in January 2016 at Station Hill and Friars Walk in advance of redevelopment. The fieldwork was carried out by Paulo Clemente with assistance from Kristina Krawiec and Tom Rugg. The project was managed in the field by Andrew Leonard and in post-excavation by Dan Swift.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The following information is drawn from a desk-based assessment for the site (Foundations Archaeology 2015). What follows is a brief summary of the information contained therein.

2.2 The DBA suggests that the Station Hill area lies outside the Saxon, medieval and early post-medieval town and has a generally low potential for prehistoric and Roman features. It is possible that fortifications of Viking age date are present in the vicinity. Any such remains would be considered to be of high archaeological significance.

2.3 The Friars Walk area of the site also probably lies outside the extent of the Saxon town. Archaeological excavations between 2003 and 2005 at 25-26 Friar Street and Shoesmiths Court, now the site of the Novotel Hotel, identified both medieval and post-medieval finds and features, including the likely remains of the 17th century Civil War defences. These results indicated that the greater part of the area between Friar Street and Garrard Street is included within the medieval and post-medieval town limits, although the exact northern extent of these limits remains unknown. The terracing of the natural hillside to create basements for the existing Friars Walk shopping centre will have had a significant impact on any archaeological deposits, with the best preservation on the Friars Street frontage and on the southern side of Garrard Street.

2.4 The site, therefore, is situated within an area of known archaeology and contains the potential for the preservation of archaeological deposits. In particular the site may contain information relating to Viking, medieval and post-medieval settlement and the 17th century Civil War defences.

2.5 Previous evaluation on the site revealed terrace gravels interleaved with alluvial clays in two of the four trenches, at a minimum depth of 1.2m from the modern ground surface. The remaining trenches revealed deep deposits of modern made ground above a natural clay deposit (Foundations Archaeology, 2009).

2.6 Project Aims and Objectives

2.6.1 The aims of the archaeological investigation were as follows:

- To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered
- To enable Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Ltd and the County Archaeologist to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work required in order to satisfy the archaeology condition

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

3.1.1 A Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) was prepared prior to commencement of the work.

3.1.2 A site code was allocated for the project (SHR 15) and was as the unique site identifier for all records.

3.1.3 A watching brief within two areas (Figure 2) monitored mechanical excavations to a depth of at least 1.2m below ground level.

3.1.4 One evaluation trench (Trench 5) measuring 20m x 2m at base was excavated as shown on Figures 2 and 3. The trench was stepped to ensure safe access, although the deposits exceeded 2m below ground level and therefore two sondages were excavated at the north and south end of the trench. Minor changes to the trench location were needed to avoid services. Any such variation was reviewed and agreed by Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Ltd and the Archaeological Officer.

3.1.5 The area of the trench was scanned using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) by an accredited archaeologist prior to excavation.

3.1.6 The trench was excavated using a suitable back-acting mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket under archaeological supervision.

3.1.7 The trench was excavated through modern made ground in spits of no more than 0.25m until archaeological deposits were encountered; two sondages were also excavated to the top of the underlying natural sediments. Care was taken that any potential archaeological deposits were not damaged due to over machining.

3.1.8 The spoil was stored at least 0.50m away from the trench edge towards the east. The spoil heap was scanned by eye for artefacts.

3.1.9 All deposits were recorded from outside the trench due to unsafe conditions.

3.1.10 The trenches were accurately located using RTK GPS to tie the trench to the Ordnance Datum.

3.1.11 Backfilling and compaction was undertaken by the machine on completion of the work, but there was no reinstatement to existing condition.

3.2 Excavation and Recording Techniques

3.2.1 Excavation and recording was undertaken in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2015).

3.2.2 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using the standard context record sheets used by Archaeology South-East. The alluvial sequence was also recorded using the Troels-Smith system of sediment classification (1955). The scheme breaks down a sediment sample into four main components and allows the inclusion of extra components that are also present, but that are not dominant. Key physical properties of the sediment layers are darkness (Da), stratification (St), elasticity (El), dryness of the sediment (Sicc) and the sharpness of the upper sediment boundary (UB). A summary of the sedimentary and physical properties classified by Troels-Smith (1955) and a stratigraphic breakdown of the deposits are provided in Appendix 1.

3.2.3 All deposits were recorded using standard ASE pro-forma paperwork and planned in relation to National Grid references.

3.2.4 A digital photographic record was maintained throughout the fieldwork.

3.2.5 No bulk soil samples were collected.

3.4 The Site Archive

3.4.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be offered to a suitable museum or repository in due course.

Context sheets	14
Section sheets	0
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	32
Context register	1
Drawing register	0
Watching brief forms	1
Trench Record forms	1

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	1 box
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	0
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Watching Brief

4.1.1 A watching brief during mechanical excavation of two areas (Figure 2) recorded modern demolition material to a depth of at least 1.2m below ground level, most probably the result of the construction of the 1960's buildings.

4.2 Evaluation Trench 5

4.2.1 The archaeological evaluation consisted of the excavation of a single 20 x 2m trench at its base with stepped sides to a maximum depth of 2.4m with the excavation of two sondages at both ends of the trench to reach the natural geology.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
[5/001]	Layer	Tarmac	Full ext.	Full ext.	0.03-0.04	38.14-38.60
[5/002]	Layer	Reinforced concrete	Full ext.	Full ext.	0.19-0.34	
[5/003]	Layer	Made ground-Hardcore	South third	Full ext.	0.27	
[5/004]	Layer	Made ground	Full ext.	Full ext.	0.86-1.21	
[5/005]	Layer	Disturbed organic silt	Full ext.	Full ext.	+0.19-0.98	
[5/006]	Layer	Organic silt	Central and south thirds	Full ext.	+0.27-1.19	
[5/007]	Layer	Made ground	Central and north thirds	Full ext.	0.23-0.43	
[5/008]	Layer	Made ground-chalk	Central third	Full ext.	0.23-0.43	
[5/009]	Masonry	Brick wall	>4	0,6	0,83	
[5/010]	Cut	Construction cut	>4	0,6	0,83	
[5/011]	Layer	Alluvium	Sondages 1,2	Full ext.	+0.3-1.02	34.34-36.18
[5/012]	Geology	Gravels	Sondage2	Full ext.	N/A	35.16
[5/013]	Fill	Backfill	Sondage2	>1.20	1.02	
[5/014]	Cut	Linear	Sondage2	>1.20	1.02	

Table 3: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

4.2.2 Two sondages were excavated at each end of the trench in order to reach the underlying sands and gravels (Figure 3). This was recorded at 35.16m OD in sondage 2 and comprised light bluish-grey sand and gravel [5/012]. This was overlain by alluvium consisting of a light bluish grey clay silt [5/011] that was up to 1.02m thick at the north end of the trench and sloped considerably from north, 36.18m OD, to south, with a maximum depth of 34.34m OD at the west side. The difference in depth observed may be due to topographic variation in the underlying gravel surface.

Sondage 1

4.2.3 The lowest deposit encountered within the sondage was a dark brown poorly humified organic silt [5/006]. This was extremely rich in wood fragments,

twigs, roots, plant remains and molluscs. The upper surface also contained the remains of a tree root bole and trunk. This was overlain by a heavily disturbed grey-blue alluvial silt clay [5/005]. This also contained woody fragments but the organic component was well humified. These deposits contained frequent brick debris and 19th century pottery. Also recovered were possible fragments of earlier medieval CBM which contained some signs of reuse.

4.2.4 The underlying gravel was not exposed within this sondage and therefore the full suite of deposits is of an unknown depth. The sequence described here is likely to represent floodplain and channel edge sediments which have the potential to provide palaeoenvironmental evidence for landscape change over time. The post-medieval material truncating the upper alluvial silt clay indicate that this area was probably marshy until relatively late in the site's history. The pottery recovered does not provide an age for the accumulation of this material as the soft nature of the deposits would have allowed younger material to be pushed into older sediments.

Sondage 2

4.2.5 This sondage was excavated at the north end of the trench and recorded an alluvial deposit [5/011] equivalent to that recorded in Sondage 1 [5/005]. In Sondage 2 the deposit was 1.02m thick, sealing the natural gravels [5/012] that were found at 3.44m BGL.

4.2.6 A linear feature [5/014] NNW-SSE orientated was found cutting through the alluvium to the gravel level. Only its east edge was uncovered and this was straight and regular with the steep and straight side gradually breaking towards its base. The ditch was backfilled with dark grey black clay, in which fragments of CBM and occasional iron pins were visible (not collected as depth made ingress into the trench impossible).

4.2.7 The cartographic evidence suggests that this linear and the alluvial deposits are located in an area of managed watercourse surrounding Friary Mead (1802 Coate's Map of Reading, Figure 4). This watercourse was then presumably infilled by 1879 as the feature has disappeared from the historic mapping by this point.

4.2.8 The overlying deposits comprised various layers of made ground. Layer [5/008] consisted of chalk and was only recorded at the centre of the trench, being 0.15m thick. Sealing this in the centre and north of the trench was a layer [5/007] of orangey brown and compact silty fine sand that reached the 0.43m thick at the north end and only occasionally showed fragments of modern CBM. This was overlain by layer [5/004] that extended for the whole trench and varied in thickness between 0.86 and 1.21m comprising brownish grey silt clay with frequent crushed rubble.

4.2.9 This deposit was truncated by an east to west brick wall [5/009], 0.60m wide, that was laid on a concrete foundation. Associated with this wall as a hardcode made ground layer, thick 0.27m, indicating preparation for a floor surface to the south of the wall. Finally, the whole trench was sealed by reinforced concrete [5/002] 0.19-0.34m thick and overlain by tarmac.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered and washed, and dried, or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 4). All finds have been packed and stored following CIfA guidelines (2014). No further conservation is required.

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)
5/005	2	10	2	716
5/006	3	92	6	1488
Total	**5**	**102**	**8**	**2204**

Table 4: Finds quantification

5.2 **The Pottery** by Elena Baldi

5.2.1 A small quantity of pottery was recovered from two contexts: [5/005] and [5/006]. The first has one rim fragment of brown (external) and white (internal) glazed ware and two fragments of white and blue china from the rim and bowl; these two sherds conjoin. Context [5/006] also records two fragments of the same white and blue ware, one of which conjoins with the two from context [5/005].

5.2.2 This ware dates to the 19th century.

5.3 **The ceramic building material** by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.3.1 Eight fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing a total of 2204g were recovered from two evaluation contexts. Context [5/005] produced two unfrogged brick pieces made from the same fabric B1 although with slightly different forms; one was clearly thicker than the other although the broken base prevented measurements from being taken. The more intact fragment was 45mm thick and appears to have had a base edge intentionally removed, possibly to accommodate piping that ran parallel to the wall. Although the dimension of this fragment in particular are indicative of an early post-medieval date, the present of cement traces on both brick pieces from [5/005] suggest later re-use, c.19th-20th century.

5.3.2 A more diverse selection of CBM was recovered from context [5/006]. This included two intentionally wedge-shaped or chamfered brick pieces, both with one densely sooted surface, and a chipped obverse surface. The intact faces showed slight creasing, indicating that these were hand-crafted bricks, although their form does not enable any specific dating. Also taken from [5/006] were three highly fragmented pieces of either brick or floor tile, all in B2 (see Table 4), and a vitrified fragment of peg tile with a round peg hole of diameter 13mm. This peg tile is indicative of an approximate late-medieval to early-post medieval date, and it is likely that the chamfered brick pieces also date to this time.

5.3.3 All the material was quantified by form, weight and fabric and recorded on standard recording forms and then entered into a digital Excel database. Samples of fabrics and forms have been retained.

Fabric Code	Description
B1	Evenly fired orange fabric with moderate unsorted quartz up to 0.5mm and moderate reddish iron-rich inclusion and deposits up to 4mm
B2	Reddish fabric with abundant 'sugary' quartz up to 0.5mm

Table 5: CBM fabric descriptions

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

6.1.1 The archaeological investigations have shown that modern disturbance has occurred across the site, with thick layers of made ground covering the development area. These layers have a thickness of 1.24-1.64m below the existing reinforced concrete and tarmac ground surface. Beneath the made ground layers a sequence of moderately organic alluvial deposits was recorded. These were unable to be fully excavated due to water ingress.

6.1.2 It is unclear as to the function of an undated linear feature recorded in a sondage dug towards the north end of the trench although the infilling deposits visible from the top of the trench suggest it was backfilled within medieval or post-medieval times. The alluvial deposits and this feature are located in an area of managed watercourse shown on Coates map of 1802 and may relate to these features (Figure 4).

6.1.3 Towards the south end of the trench a second sondage revealed a thick layer of dark grey, very organic silt with occasional fragments of late medieval-early post-medieval brick. This deposit was unable to be fully excavated due to water ingress and may be of some depth. The artefacts recovered may be intrusive and as such a firm date for these deposits could not be established.

6.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

6.2.1 The evaluation has demonstrated that the site has a high level of post-medieval and modern truncation. The organic deposits recorded in the southern end of the trench were unable to be fully excavated due to water ingress and as such still have the potential to preserve earlier remains. These highly organic and waterlogged sediments have the potential to preserve palaeoenvironmental information as well as more deeply buried organic archaeological remains.

6.2.2 The upper part of the deposits recorded demonstrated post medieval disturbance probably representing the starting point in developing the area from the late 19th century. Further episodes of made ground deposition in the 20th century raised the ground level and are associated with the modern building foundations recorded in the trench.

6.2.3 The constrained nature of the trenching prevented full investigation of the deposits and the relationship between the undated cut linear feature and the alluvial sequence was unclear.

6.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

6.3.1 The alluvial sequence recorded at the site would require scientific dating to determine its age and any potential significance. The pottery recovered is probably intrusive due to the soft nature of the sediments. The visible macrofossil remains indicate that the sediments have the potential to preserve palaeoenvironmental information relating to the landscape development of the area.

6.3.2 The site lies between the Thames and Kennet rivers and has a complex fluvial history. The Ordnance Survey mapping demonstrates the area was also subject to watercourse management which may have its origins in the medieval period. It is unclear whether the undated linear feature partially uncovered in the north sondage relates to the square watercourse feature illustrated on Coates 1802 map of Reading (Friary Mead, Figure 4). The geological mapping demonstrates a clear linear east west strip of alluvium which suggests that a small channel may have existed in the area, perhaps a small tributary of the Thames. The square feature enclosing Friary Mead is a diversion of this stream and its square planform is reminiscent of a moated site.

6.3.3 It is thought *possible* that this square feature is represented by the undated linear feature recorded within the sondage. The field-name evidence recorded on Coate's map also makes reference to a stronghold in the form of the word 'vastern' which may derive from the Old English '*faestern*' (Foundations Archaeology 2015). A moated site would conform to the definition of a stronghold. Alternatively the deposits recorded may relate to water management features associated with the Friary which was constructed at the western end of Friars Street in AD 1233.

6.3.4 The evaluation identified extensive depths of made ground which has caused disturbance to the upper part of the organic deposits recorded in the trench. It is likely that the consolidation of the area began in the 19th century and continued into the modern period with the formation of the car park.

6.4 Potential impact on archaeological remains

6.4.1 The evaluation has demonstrated that any archaeological remains at the site are buried beneath a significant amount of made ground.

6.5 Consideration of research aims

6.5.1 The evaluation could only partially address the research aims listed in section 2.6 due to the overall paucity of recovered dating evidence.

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HER Summary

Site code	SHR15					
Project code	8505					
Planning reference	130436/OUT					
Site address	Land at Station Hill and Friars Walk (Plots B & D)					
District/Borough	Reading					
NGR (12 figures)	SU 71339 73710					
Geology	River Terrace Gravels over Upper Chalk with deposits of alluvium within the Thames floodplain					
Fieldwork type	Eval					
Date of fieldwork	6/7-01-2016					
Sponsor/client	Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Ltd					
Project manager	Andrew Leonard					
Project supervisor	Paulo Clemente					
Period summary						
				Post-Medieval	Modern	
Project summary **(100 word max)**	The archaeological investigations have shown that modern disturbance has occurred across the site, with thick layers of made ground covering the development area. This layers as a have a depth of 1.24-1.64m below the existing ground surface formed by reinforced concrete and tarmac. Underneath the made ground layers a disturbed layer of moderately organic grey alluvial silt containing Victorian artefacts was recorded. A sondage excavated at the northern end of the trench identified a cut feature of unknown date or function, but that may be related to a managed watercourse shown on Coate's map of Reading.					

Finds summary

Find type	Material	Period	Quantity
Pot	Ceramic	19th century	5 sherds
CBM	Ceramic	19th-20th century; late medieval-early post-medieval	8 fragments

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-234107

Project details

Project name	Archaeological watching brief and evaluation
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief and evaluation was conducted by ASE at Land at Station Hill and Friars Walk (Plots B and D), Friar Street, Reading, Berkshire. The site had been extensively disturbed or raised in height during the previous development of the site with modern made ground. An alluvial sequence that was not fully excavated due to water ingress and a linear feature were recorded. These were of unknown date but may relate to water management features that may have their origin in the medieval period.
Project dates	Start: 12-10-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	8505 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	SHR15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 2 - Other transport infrastructure
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 4 - Storage and warehousing
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Documentary Search"","Sample Trenches""
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition

Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	BERKSHIRE READING READING Land at Station Hill and Friars Walk (Plots B and D), Friar Street, Reading, Berkshire
Postcode	RG1 1NB
Study area	2.6 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 713 737 51.457292988222 -0.973659063926 51 27 26 N 000 58 25 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 42m Max: 47m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Ltd
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Andrew Leonard
Project supervisor	Paulo Clemente

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	n/a
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	n/a
Digital Contents	"Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	n/a
Paper Contents	"Environmental","Stratigraphic"

Paper Media available	"Diary","Plan","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An arcaheological evlauation at Station Hill and Friars Walk, Friar Street, Reading, Berkshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Paulo Clemete
Other bibliographic details	2016009
Date	2016

Appendix 1: Sediment Logs

Sondage 1

0-1.25m made ground

1.25-2.30m

DA	ST	EL	SICC	UB
¾	0	0	3	4

Ag1 As2 Sh1 Gmin+ Gmaj++ Tl Ptm
Grey blue mixed alluvium, well humified organics, woody fragments, occasional molluscs, occ gravel

2.30-2.42m

DA	ST	EL	SICC	UB
4	0	0	3	4

Ag2 Sh1 Dh1 Tl++ ptm
Dark brown poorly humified organic silt, frequent wood, plant remains, twigs, molluscs

Darkness	
nig.4	black
nig.3	
nig.2	
nig.1	
nig.0	white

Degree of Stratification	
strf.4	well stratified
strf.3	
strf.2	
strf.1	
strf.0	no stratification

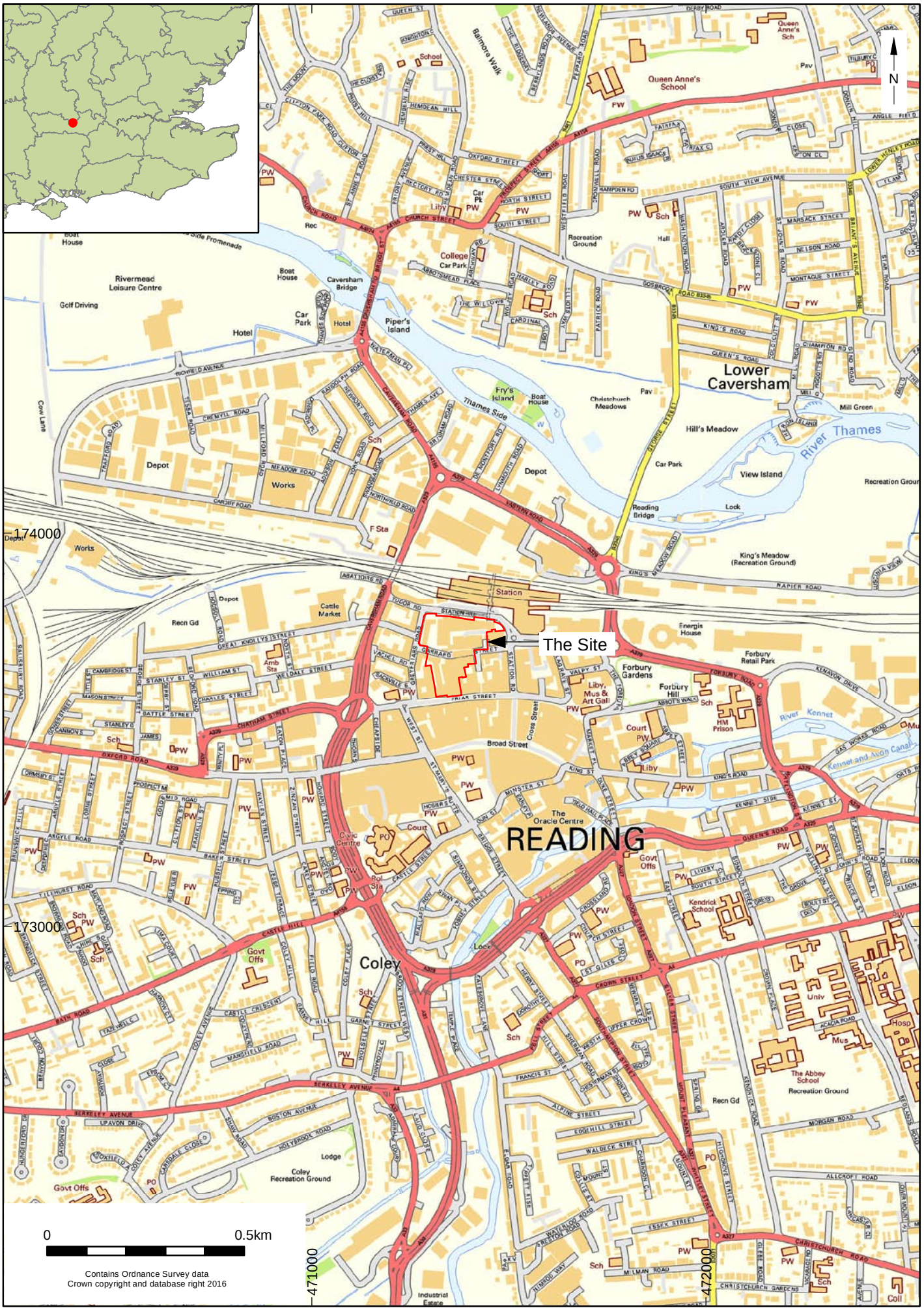
Degree of Elasticity	
elas.4	very elastic
elas.3	
elas.2	
elas.1	
elas.0	no elasticity

Degree of Dryness	
sicc.4	very dry
sicc.3	
sicc.2	
sicc.1	
sicc.0	water

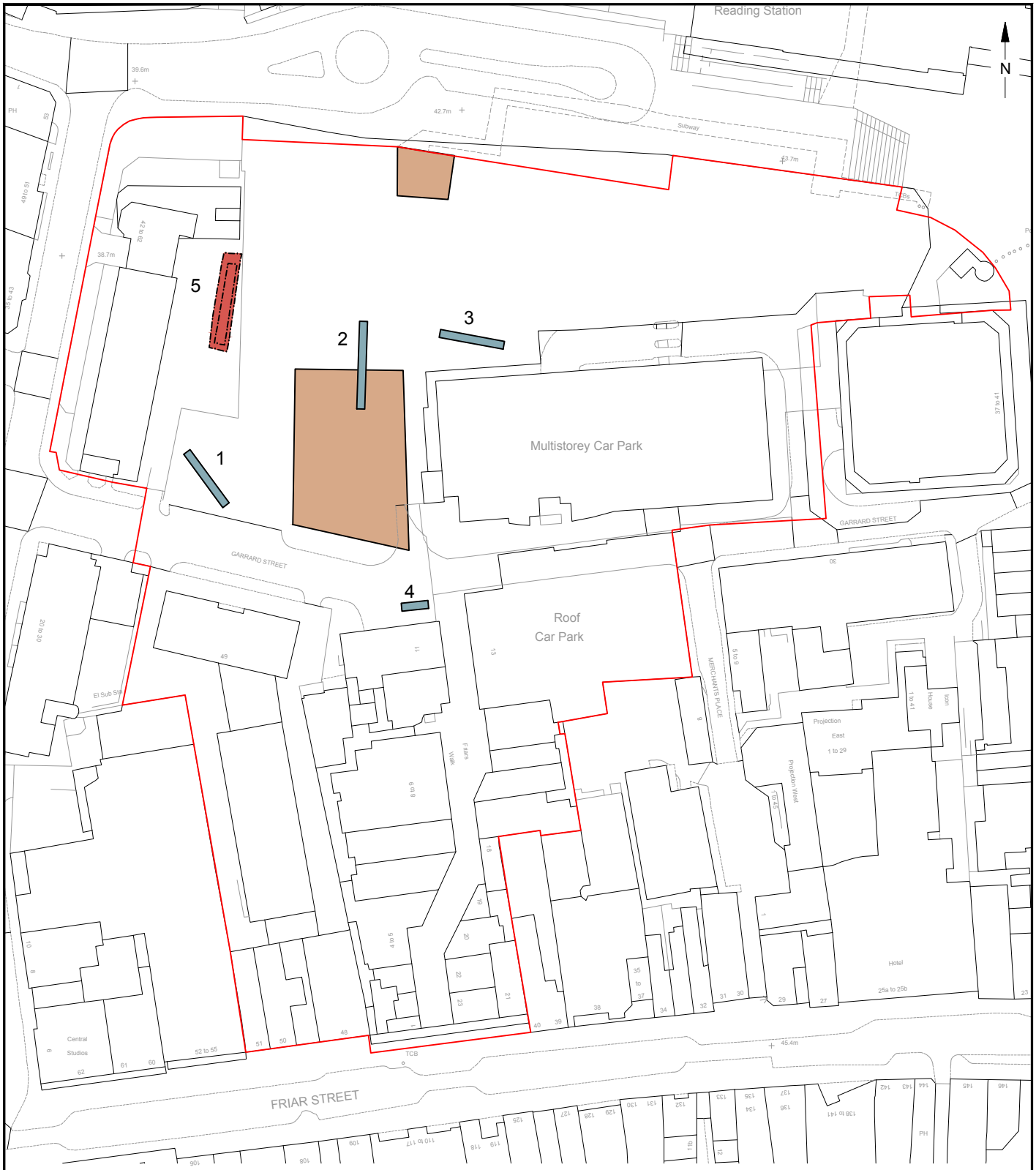
	Sharpness of Upper Boundary
lim.4	< 0.5mm
lim.3	< 1.0 & > 0.5mm
lim.2	< 2.0 & > 1.0mm
lim.1	< 10.0 & > 2.0mm
lim.0	> 10.0mm

	Sh	*Substantia humosa*	Humous substance, homogeneous microscopic structure
I Turfa	*Tb*	*T. bryophytica*	Mosses +/- humous substance
	Tl	*T. lignosa*	Stumps, roots, intertwined rootlets, of ligneous plants
	Th	*T. herbacea*	Roots, intertwined rootlets, rhizomes of herbaceous plants
II Detritus	*Dl*	*D. lignosus*	Fragments of ligneous plants >2mm
	Dh	*D. herbosus*	Fragments of herbaceous plants >2mm
	Dg	*D. granosus*	Fragments of ligneous and herbaceous plants <2mm >0.1mm
III Limus	*Lf*	*L. ferrugineus*	Rust, non-hardened. Particles <0.1mm
IV Argilla	*As*	*A.steatodes*	Particles of clay
	Ag	*A. granosa*	Particles of silt
V Grana	*Ga*	*G. arenosa*	Mineral particles 0.6 to 0.2mm
	Gs	*G. saburralia*	Mineral particles 2.0 to 0.6mm
	Gg(min)	*G. glareosa minora*	Mineral particles 6.0 to 2.0mm
	Gg(maj)	*G. glareosa majora*	Mineral particles 20.0 to 6.0mm
	Ptm	*Particulae testae molloscorum*	Fragments of calcareous shells

Physical and sedimentary properties of deposits according to Troels-Smith (1955)



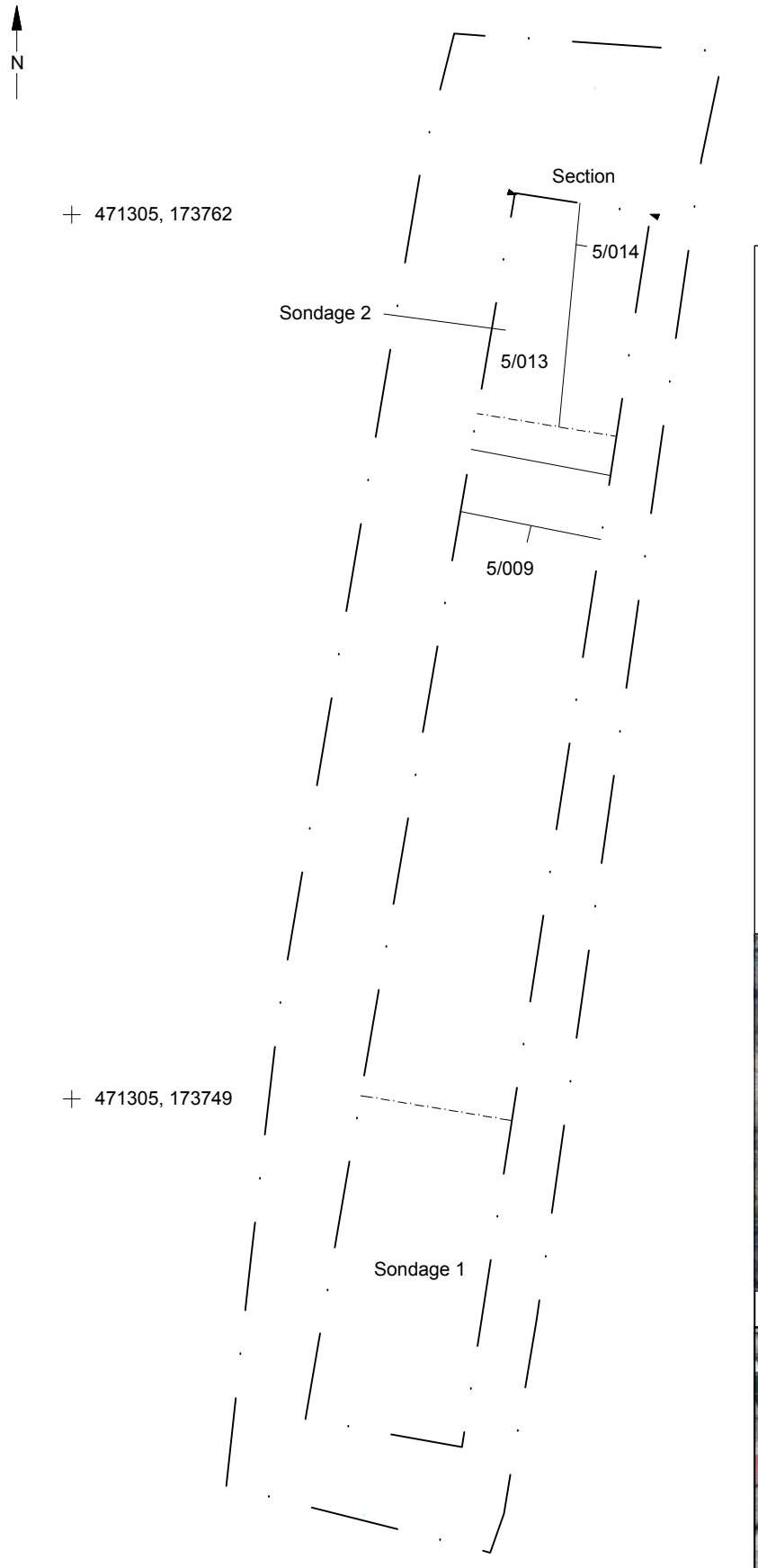
© Archaeology South-East		Station Hill, Reading	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 8505	Feb 2016	Site location	
Report Ref: 2016009	Drawn by: JLR		

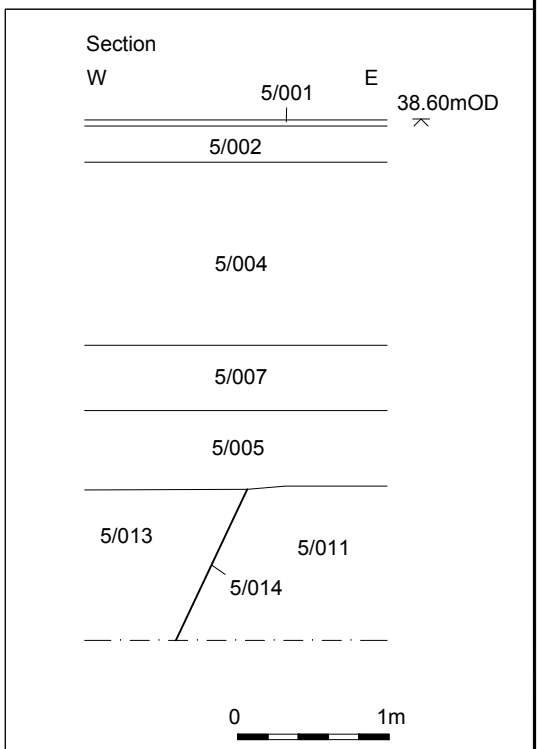


Previously evaluated trenches
Current trench
Watching brief areas

0 20m

© Archaeology South-East		Station Hill, Reading	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 8505	Feb 2016	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2016009	Drawn by: JLR		

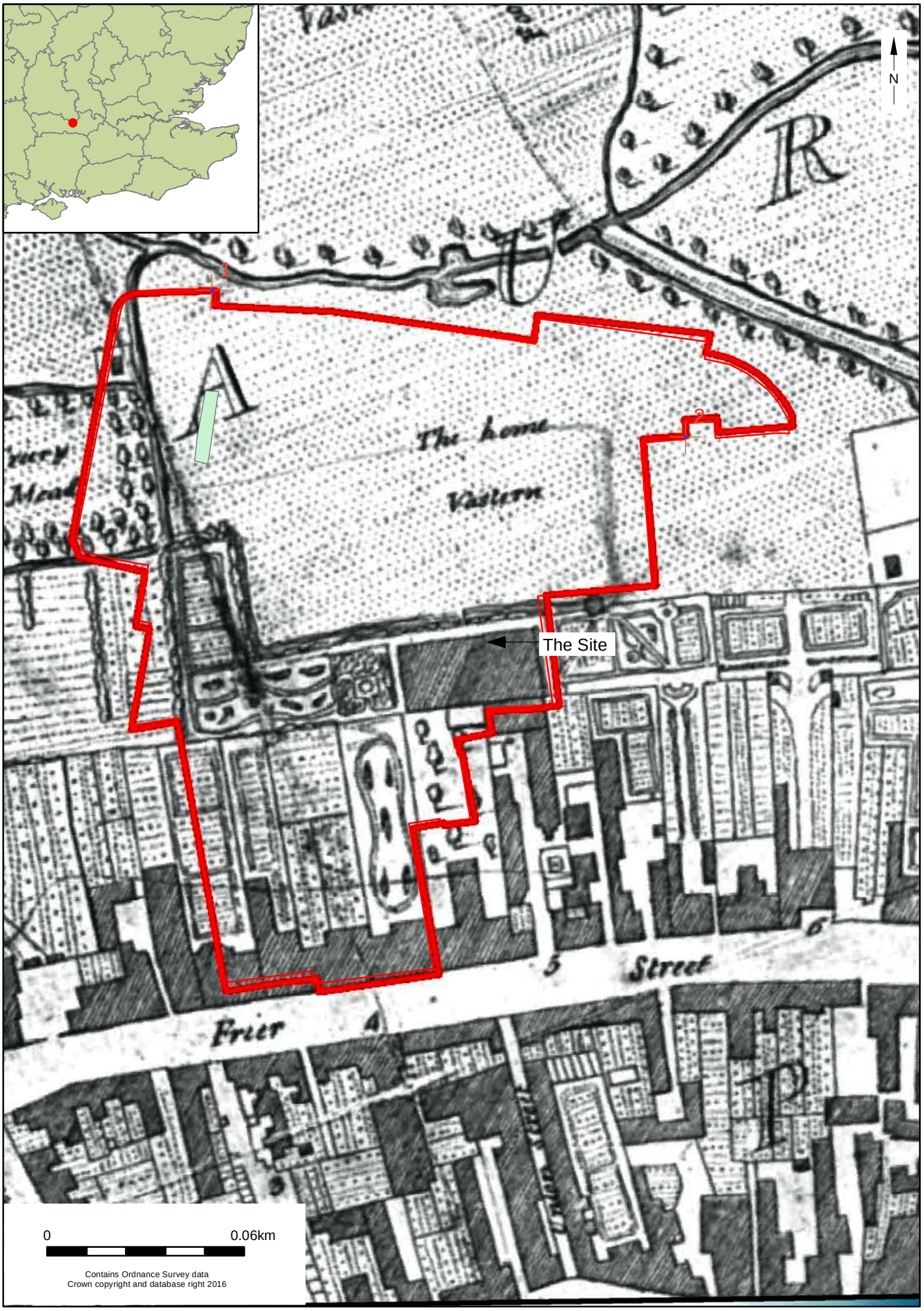




Sondage 2 looking north

Trench 5 looking north

© Archaeology South-East		Station Hill, Reading	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 8505	Feb 2016	Trench 5: plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016009	Drawn by: JLR		



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Project Ref: 8505	Feb 2016	Trench 5 overlaping plan from 1802	
Report Ref: 2016009	Drawn by: NG		

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