Archaeology South-East

ASE

Archaeological Investigations during the Construction of a New Pipeline between Bray Water Treatment Works and the Surrey Hill and Crowthorne Reservoirs

NGR 491359 178417 to
NGR 488733 163924 and NGR 487166 164638

Project No. 3140
Site Code: BRP 08

ASE Report No. 2009100
OASIS ID: archaeol6-60929

By
Simon Stevens BA MIFA

With contributions by

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Abstract

A watching brief was maintained during groundworks associated with the construction of a new water pipeline linking the water treatment works at Bray and two Reservoirs near Crowthorne (Surrey Hill Reservoir and Crowthorne Reservoir), Berkshire during 2008. The mechanical stripping of an easement measuring between 20m and 30m wide was observed, followed by the excavation of the pipe-trench.

The heavily plough-truncated remains of a medieval ?farmstead were revealed towards the northern end of the scheme. A small-scale open area excavation resulted in the recovery of a significant assemblage of closely-datable medieval pottery, suggesting sustained activity at the site in the 12th and 13th centuries.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology (UCLCAA) was commissioned by Holleran Mouchel Parkman to undertake a programme of archaeological work associated with the construction of a new pipeline to link the Bray Water Treatment Works, with the Surrey Hill Reservoir and the Crowthorne Reservoir, Berkshire (Fig. 1)

1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The route of the 1200mm diameter main pipeline ran from south to north across the county of Berkshire (Fig. 1). The southernmost point was the Surrey Hills Reservoir near Bagshot (NGR 488733 163924), and the northernmost point was the Bray Water Treatment Works (NGR 541279 110026). In addition, a 300mm diameter branch main ran south-westwards from the pipeline to the Crowthorne Reservoir (NGR 487166 164638), the most westerly point of the scheme.

1.2.2 The southern part of the route (including the branch main) ran within woodland, following the alignment of a forest 'ride', before crossing under the A322 and the main Waterloo to Reading railway line, and following the alignment of the B430 Swinley Road to another crossing below the A329. The route continued along the B340 (now Priory Road), passing between the conurbations of Bracknell and Ascot. It then crossed undulating open country to the east of Chavey Down, Winkfield Row, Maiden's Green and Foliejohn Park, crossing below the B3034, A330 and Winkfield Lane.

1.2.3 The route then traversed the boundary between the local authorities of Bracknell Forest and the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead before passing under Drift Road and continuing in open country northwards towards Banham Farm and a further crossing under Forest Green Road. It continued to the west of the village of Fifield before turning sharply eastwards for a short stretch before realigning northwards to run parallel to Fifield Road, crossed below the A308 and finish at Bray Water Treatment Works. In addition to the main pipeline and branch main, groundworks for the construction of ten compounds were also part of the scheme.

1.2.4 In terms of topography, the nature of the route was varied. The highest points on the route were the Surrey Hill and Crowthorne Reservoirs, which both lie at *c.*130mAOD. There was a steady drop through the forest, broken by the occasional rise, leaving a level of *c.*91mAOD at the A322 crossing. The land between the conurbations of Bracknell and Scot was gently undulating, and the land was between *c.*90mAOD and *c.*70mAOD, except for an isolated rise in Priory Road to a height of *c.*98mAOD.

1.2.5 The land dropped to *c.*60mAOD to the north of Forest Road and remained relatively level to the A330 crossing and northwards to Foliejohn Park, with undulations between *c.*59mAOD and *c.*65mAOD. The ground surface

dropped to *c.*35mAOD to the north of Drift Road, and gently dropped to a level of *c.*23mAOD at the Bray Water Treatment Works.

1.2.6 The underlying geological deposits are relatively straightforward in distribution. According to the British Geological Survey 1: 50 000 map of the area, the southern most part of the scheme lies on Barton, Bracklesham and Bagshot Beds. To the north of Chavey Down, the underlying geology is London Clay, with River Terrace Gravels, Alluvium and Oldhaven, Blackheath, Woolwich, Reading and Thanet Beds close to the course of the River Thames.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The pipeline and all groundworks associated with it fall within the definition of Permitted Development under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 and therefore would not normally require local authority planning consent. However, owing to the potential environmental sensitivity of the scheme, it was decided at an early stage (by Pick Everard, on behalf of Southern Water) that the relevant local authorities would be given the opportunity to have an informed input in the planning process.

1.3.2 The route of the pipeline crossed the boundary between two administrative authorities. The majority of the pipeline (*c.*12.5km) ran through Bracknell Forest District (Planning Reference 07/00570), while *c.*2km was located within the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (Planning Reference 07/01584).

1.3.3 Following consultation between the two local planning authorities and Berkshire Archaeology, (both authorities' adviser on archaeological issues) it was recommended that a programme of archaeological work be implemented both before and during groundworks associated with the scheme.

1.3.4 In September 2007, a separate *Written Scheme of Investigation* was supplied to each of the planning authorities by ASE outlining the scope of archaeological work to be undertaking to meet the planning conditions (ASE 2007a, ASE 2007b). These documents outlined a range of archaeological techniques to be applied on the route of the pipeline as a whole, with more intensive work to be concentrated in areas of potential archaeological interest highlighted in a Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) carried out in advance of the scheme (Network Archaeology 2007).

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The specific objective of the archaeological watching brief as outlined in both of the WSIs was

> *'to contribute to heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of the archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the groundworks.'*

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 The current report provides the results of the archaeological monitoring of groundworks associated with the installation of the new pipework.

1.5.2 The watching brief and subsequent excavation was undertaken during the period from January to September 2008 by a team comprised of Rob Cole, Tom Collie, Rob Davis, David Fallon, Nicky Garland, Teresa Hawtin, Andy Margetts, Louise Munns, Sarah Porteus, Tomos Proffitt, Cameron Ross, Caroline Russell, Simon Stevens and Jeremy Webster. The project was managed by Neil Griffin, Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift. The site code was BRP 08.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The Desk Based Assessment

2.1.1 Full details of the archaeological background of the site are given in a Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) carried out in advance of the scheme (Network Archaeology 2007). The DBA provided an assessment of published archaeological information in the public domain, lying within 500m (the Study Area) of the proposed pipeline route. This identified 362 sites of archaeological importance within the 1km wide Study Area along the entire pipeline route, although the vast majority of these lay outside of the pipeline corridor.

2.2.2 The DBA did highlight the presence of a number of potential archaeological sites that might be disturbed during groundworks associated with the installation of the pipeline, and/or the creation of the ten compounds. These are listed in Table 1.

ASE No.	Fig. No.	Type of Site	Details
Potentially Significant Site			
1	3	Roman Road	Alignment of Roman Road
2	11	Foliejohn Park	Medieval Parkscape
3	3	Windsor Forest	Medieval Parkscape
4	5	Swinley Park	Post-Medieval Parkscape
5	3	Surrey/Berkshire Boundary	Marked on Inclosure Map of 1817
6	12	Bray/Winkfield Parish Boundary	Marked on Inclosure Map of 1817
7	11	Relief Airfield	Dating from the Second World War
8	10	Possible Enclosure and Trackways	Noted on aerial photograph
9	3	Roadway/Track and ditches	Noted on aerial photograph
10	14	Possible Enclosure	Noted on aerial photograph
Other Possible Sites			
11	11	Mound	

12	14	Possible Enclosure (?separate from ASE 10)	
13	14	Possible Enclosure	
14	8	Possible Settlement	Precise location unknown
15	3	Possible Settlement	
16	13	Trackway	
17	4	Trackway	
18	12	Ditch	
19	5	Brick Foundations	
20	14	Possible Ridge and Furrow	
21	14	Possible Ridge and Furrow	

Table 1: Potential archaeological sites

2.2 Potential mitigation strategies and previous work

2.2.1 The DBA identified the following field survey options to clarify the identifiable extent of these remains :

- Field walking survey within arable areas– aimed at recovery of finds and artefacts within the working width of the pipeline route

- Field reconnaissance survey – to record extant earthworks, vegetative anomalies, soil discolouration, structure, find concentrations, land use, visible geology, topographic variation and health and safety issues.

- Recorded magnetometer survey and magnetic susceptibility survey within areas to be agreed with the County Archaeologist.

- Topographical survey within areas identified by field reconnaissance survey – to record extant settlement and ridge and furrow earthworks

2.2.2 In addition to the walk-over survey carried out by Network Archaeology

Ltd., a second walk-over survey incorporating a survey of historic boundaries was commissioned by Holleran Mouchel Parkman prior to the commencement of groundwork on the scheme (ASE 2007c). This sought to identify historic field boundaries to be recorded during subsequent archaeological work on the scheme.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 It was envisaged in the original staged approach laid out in the DBA that a phase of targeted archaeological evaluation by trial trenching and test-pitting would follow these field surveys, with the possibility of open area excavation based on the results (Network Archaeology 2007, 62). However, owing to the timetable for the implementation and completion of the scheme, it proved impossible to undertake any systematic field-walking, geophysical survey, trial trenching (apart from 3.4, below), test-pitting (apart from 3.4, below) or open area excavation before the groundworks for the scheme were due to begin.

3.2 Hence an archaeological watching brief was maintained during the majority of the groundworks undertaken for the laying of the pipeline and for the creation of the ten compounds on the line of the scheme. The archaeological monitoring at the site began in January 2008 and finished in August 2008.

3.3 Mechanical excavations for the laying of the new pipework, and for the construction of compound areas were archaeologically monitored. All areas of the revealed natural substrate were examined for the presence of archaeological features, available sections were inspected and accessible spoil was scanned for the presence of archaeological artefacts.

3.4 In addition, it proved possible to excavate a small number of evaluation trenches and test-pits at the southern end of the scheme. The evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated under the constant supervision of staff from ASE, and the test-pits were manually excavated by ASE personnel.

3.5 Following the identification of a group of archaeological features north of Forest Green Road, an area was mechanically stripped under archaeological direction. All identified features were then cleaned, digitally planned and manually excavated.

3.6 During each phase of work, all encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded to accepted professional standards using standard Archaeology South-East context record forms.

3.7 Where possible plans and section drawings at an appropriate scale were produced, for instance all features in the excavation area were fully recorded in plan and section. However given the problems of safe access to some areas of the site, other features could only be recorded in sketch form. All drawings are included in the archive.

3.8 A full photographic record of the work was kept and will form part of the site archive. The site archive is currently held by Archaeology South-East at the offices in Portslade, and will be offered to a suitable local museum in due course. The archive consists of the following material:

Number of Contexts	217
No. of files/paper record	4
Plan and sections sheets	5
Bulk Samples	6
Photographs	Approximately 250 digital images 3 black & white films 4 colour slide films
Bulk finds	3 boxes
Registered finds	4
Environmental flots/residue	5/5

Table 2: Quantification of Site Archive

4.0 RESULTS: Trial Trenching and Test-Pitting in Swinley Forest
(Figs. 2 and 3)

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Groundworks for the laying of the first pipes on the scheme began in January 2008 in Swinley Forest at the southern end of the new pipeline. Despite the absence of a 'window' of time to undertake a full evaluation of the route by the excavation of trial trenches, it proved possible to do some limited investigations during the groundworks in the forest.

4.2 The Trial Trenches and Test Pits

4.2.1 The first trial trench was excavated on the line of the branch main towards Crowthorne Reservoir to investigate a possible bank and associated ditches not recorded in the DBA (Network Archaeology 2007) but noted during the additional ASE walkover survey (ASE 2007c). A trial trench (Fig. 2, Trench T1) was mechanically excavated to a length of 34m and to a maximum depth of 200mm to the north of the 'ride'. There was no trace of any surviving earthworks within the trench, which showed only the local humic silty clay topsoil/forest mulch, context [01] and the mixed topsoil, and crushed brick make-up of the Ride, context [02], both of which directly overlay the 'natural' yellow clayey sand, context [03].

4.2.2 It also proved possible to excavate two hand-dug 1m by 1m test-pits and a 20m long mechanically excavated trial trench across the presumed alignment of the Roman Road from Silchester to London (locally known as the *Devil's Highway*) where it crossed the pipeline to the north of Surrey Hills Reservoir (Table 1 and Fig. 3, Trench T1 and Test-Pits 1 and 2). Parts of the known alignment of this road are scheduled, and earthworks appear to survive immediately to the east and west of the pipeline (Network Archaeology 2007; ASE 2007a).

4.2.2 No archaeological deposits were encountered in either of the test-pits or in the evaluation trench, which showed straightforward stratigraphy of topsoil/forest mulch (previously recorded as context [01]), which directly overlay the 'natural' yellow clayey sand (previously recorded as context [03]). It could be argued that groundworks in association with the creation of the adjacent 'ride' might have removed any road surface, but there was no evidence of the expected roadside ditches. There was also no physical evidence for an adjacent trackway noted in the DBA (Table 1 and Fig. 3, ASE No. 9), which was also visible as an earthwork to the west.

5.0 RESULTS: The Watching Brief (Figs. 2 to 15)

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 An archaeological watching brief was maintained during various earthmoving operations associated with the laying of the new pipeline(s). Much of the work involved the removal of topsoil and subsoil by 360° excavator and bulldozer to form a 20m to 30m wide easement for the laying of the pipework, for the movement of plant and for the creation of ten separate compounds at various locations along the route. In addition, the subsequent mechanical excavation of the pipe trenches was monitored. Excavations for the pipe varied in width between 300mm for the spur line to a minimum of 1.5m for the main 1200mm diameter main.

5.1.2 There were a number of factors that had a direct influence on the potential visibility of archaeological remains. The stripping of the easement was sometimes not deep enough to reveal a 'clean' surface of 'natural' deposits and hence the identification of archaeological features was impossible. The methodology of using both a 360° excavator and bulldozer at the same time also limited safe access to newly stripped areas. Similarly the stripping of topsoil in poor weather limited visibility as stripped areas regularly flooded shortly after exposure. However, the identification of a site close to the northern end of the scheme during the initial stripping does suggest that despite these factors, the monitoring exercise offered the potential for the identification of buried archaeological remains.

5.1.3 The observation of the excavation of the pipe trench along the route also proved problematic. The size of the plant involved in the work (often excavators heavier than 30 tonnes were in operation in the narrow easement) led to issues with the Health and Safety of ASE personnel. Similarly, it was often not possible to directly observe the excavation, or safely examine the sections for features owing to danger of section collapse. Rapid flooding of the trench was also a problem, especially in Swinley Forest.

5.1.4 Some aspects of the groundworks were not monitored. The drilling of tunnels underneath the roads, minor watercourses and railway could not be physically observed, although spoil from these excavations was examined where possible. Some parts of the pipeline trench were also excavated in road carriageways (most notably at Swinley Road/Priory Road). Following some monitoring of these excavations it became clear that the construction of the road, and the laying of services had destroyed any potential archaeological deposits, and following discussions with Fiona Macdonald of Berkshire Archaeology, it was decided that monitoring of the 'road' trenches was unnecessary.

5.2 Swinley Forest

5.2.1 Monitoring of the excavation of the main pipe trench and the branch main to Crowthorne Reservoir began in January 2008. The watching brief was maintained until the middle of March 2008, when groundworks in the woodland were suspended owing to the presence of nesting birds in trees adjacent to the easement. Work in the forest resumed in early September 2008 and all excavation was completed by the end of that month.

5.2.2 Stripping of topsoil along the easement for the main route of the pipe by 30 tonne 360° excavator revealed a straightforward sequence of topsoil, context [01], and topsoil and brick, context [02], directly overlying the 'natural, context [03) (see Paragraph 4.2.1). Deeper excavations for the laying of the pipework proved problematic owing to repeated section collapse of the soft sand. In places this led to the creation of a trench more than 10m in width and in some areas more than 3m deep with accompanying problems with flooding.

5.2.3 The excavation of the pipe trench for the spur to Crowthorne Reservoir was undertaken with a *Mastenbroek Trencher* machine, which automatically laid the pipework and allowed the trench to be immediately backfilled. This machine negated the need to create an easement. This methodology limited the 'window' available for archaeological recording, although it was possible to ascertain that the stratigraphic sequence on the spur line was identical to that on the main line. After consultation with Fiona Macdonald of Berkshire Archaeology it was decided (on 1st February 2008) that monitoring of the spur line excavations was unnecessary.

5.2.4 Given the possible removal of archaeological deposits by the Forest Rides along which the main route ran (see Paragraph 4.2.2 above). It was perhaps not surprising that there were problems in observing features which apparently crossed the easement (Network Archaeology 2007, ASE 2007c). However, the ditch element of a bank and ditch arrangement identified during the walkover survey (ASE 2007c, Feature 156) was encountered, excavated and recorded as cut [07] within the easement (Fig. 4).

5.2.5 Cut [07] was a shallow gully which ran from south-west to north-east across the easement c.90m to the south of the junction between the 1200mm main and the 300mm spur to Crowthorne Reservoir. It was 820mm wide and 220mm deep with gently sloping concave sides and base. There were four distinct fills. The earliest, basal fill was Context [08], a 40mm thick deposit of dark brown decayed leaf litter. It was overlain by Context [09], a 40mm deep deposit of mid-greyish brown silty sand, which was in turn overlain by Context [10] a 30mm deep deposit of leaf litter. The upper fill was Context [11], a 110mm deep deposit of mid-greyish brown silty sand. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature.

5.2.6 The continued monitoring of the easement and compound strips, and the excavations for the installation of the 1200mm main in the rest of the Forest, during both stages of work did not result in the recording of any further archaeological deposits or features. There was no physical

evidence of the county boundary, which crossed the site of Surrey Hill Reservoir (Table 1 and Fig. 3, ASE No. 5), of the possible settlement, (Table 1 and Fig. 3, ASE No. 15) or trackway (Table 1 and Fig. 4, ASE No.17). It appears that the boundary of Windsor Forest (Table 1 and Fig. 3, ASE No. 3) lies outside of the pipeline corridor.

5.3 Compound 7 (Red Lodge) to Swinley Road

5.3.1 Monitoring of excavations in the stretch of the scheme to the north of the A322 crossing was undertaken during March and April 2008. Much of the area was low-lying open fields. Tunnelling below the railway line was not observed.

5.3.2 In keeping with the system introduced for recording during the watching brief away from the forested area, the three context numbers were issued for the area, context [04] for the 150mm mid-brown humic topsoil, context [05] for the 200mm thick mid-greyish brown silty clay subsoil and context [06] for the greyish yellow silty sand 'natural' deposits.

5.3.3 No archaeological deposits or features were recorded during the monitoring of the easement strip and the excavation of the pipe trench, which was again beset with problems of flooding and section collapse, owing to the depth (>3m) and instability of the 'natural' sand. Few landscape features had been noted during the DBA or walkover survey (Network Archaeology 2007, ASE 2007c) and none were visible in the easement during stripping or pipe trench excavation. The remains of a brick building noted in the DBA (Table 1 and Fig. 5, ASE No. 19) lay outside of the easement, and there was no evidence of features associated with former Swinley Park (Table 1 and Fig. 6, ASE No. 4). No significant artefacts were recovered from available spoil.

5.3.4 The pipeline was then excavated within the carriageway of Swinley Road and Priory Road for *c.*600m. This section was not archaeologically monitored (see Paragraph 5.1.4 above). After the junction of Swinley Road and Sandy Lane, the route of the pipe crossed a golf course and archaeological monitoring was resumed.

5.4 Sandy Lane to Forest Road

5.4.1 Monitoring of groundwork between these two points was carried out between February and April 2008. The tunnelling below Locks Ride was not monitored. Much of the easement was within a golf course to the south of Locks Ride, and in open pasture fields to the north of the road.

5.4.2 The system of using contexts [04], [05] and [06] was also employed in this section, where the topsoil was notably thicker, (often *c.*250mm) and more humic. Again there were problems with access owing to section collapse, as the underlying geology was sandy and loose in character.

5.4.3 Again, there were comparatively few landscape features noted before the commencement of work (*ibid.*) and none were impacted upon by the groundworks. There was no physical evidence for the presence of a settlement (Fig. 8, ASE No. 14) No archaeological deposits, features or finds were noted during monitoring in this area.

5.5 Forest Road to Church Road

5.5.1 Groundworks in this stretch of the scheme were monitored between February and June 2008. The area consisted of pasture fields and was crossed by a watercourse (*'The Cut',* Fig. 10). Excavations associated with the crossing of this feature were not monitored, although the initial topsoil strip in the area, (in which the easement was widened to 50m) were observed.

5.5.2 The usual recording system was used in the area (contexts [04], [05] and [06], although it was noted that the 'natural' in the area had a higher clay content that the geological deposits encountered further to the south, and was described as 'stickier'. This 'natural' was also greyer in colour than elsewhere. It was also noted that during the initial stripping that the 'natural' was a dark orangey grey close to *'The Cut'* suggesting the presence of alluvium deposits in the shallow stream valley.

5.5.3 Close to Church Road it was recorded that there was a change in the nature of the encountered deposits. The topsoil, context [17] was 200mm thick, and had a higher content of brick and tile than elsewhere (presumably from adjacent standing buildings). The subsoil was context [20], a 200mm thick yellowish brown silty sand, which directly overlay the 'natural' yellowish orange clay, context [26].

5.5.4 Given better weather conditions and a more stable geology, it was possible to record a landscape feature that crossed the pipe trench and was visible in section, where it could be recorded from a safe distance. Cut [15] was a ditch that ran east to west across the pipe trench (Fig. 9), and was the surviving below-ground element of a bank and ditch field boundary recorded in the DBA (Network Archaeology 2007, *FSU053*), *c.*200m to the north of Forest Road.

5.5.5 The feature had concave sides and a rounded base and was 2.17m wide and 670mm deep, and appeared to have been recut at some stage. The recorded fill was context [16], a blackish brown silty clay. It was not possible to excavate the feature in safety, so no datable artefacts were recovered.

5.5.6 A number of features were recorded in the vicinity of *'The Cut'* (Fig. 10). A ditch, cut [18] was recorded running east to west across the pipe trench *c.*12m to the north of the watercourse. It had a 'v'-shaped profile, with a width of 1.6m and a depth of 600mm. The single fill, context [19] was an orangey brown clayey silt. Analysis of an environmental sample showed that it contained uncharred remains (presumed to be the result of recent disturbance/truncation) and was therefore of limited value.

5.5.7 The other feature, Cut [36] was the below-ground element of an historic feature (*ibid. FSU 045*). The ditch had a 'u'-shaped profile and was 1.9m wide and 750mm deep. The single fill was context [37], a blackish grey silty clay. There was no physical evidence of the adjacent enclosure noted in the DBA (Table 1 and Fig. 10, ASE No. 8)

5.5.8 To the south of the *'The Cut'*, a palaeochannel/palaeochannels was identified during the excavation of the pipe trench. The feature(s) ran parallel to the current watercourse, *c.*50m from the current position. The feature appeared to be made up of a series of channels, but close examination was impossible on grounds of Health and Safety.

5.5.9 The channels were a total of 10m in width and 2m deep, with concave sides and a rounded base, forming a rounded 'w' shape, cut [21]. There were four distinct fills. The basal fills were Context [22] a 500mm thick orangey brown sandy silt, and Context [24], a 100mm thick, dark brown gravely silt. They were overlain by Context [23], a *c.*1m thick, orangey brown deposit of gravel. The upper fill was context [25], a stiff yellow clay.

5.5.10 A landscape feature was also encountered and recorded in the vicinity. Cut [27] was a shallow gully, the below-ground element of a bank and ditch field boundary, which ran east to west across the pipe trench (Network Archaeology 2007, *FSU 51*). It was 2m wide and 500mm deep, with a 'u'-shaped profile. The single fill was context [28], a dark brown silt.

5.5.11 No other significant archaeological features or deposits were recorded in the area, and no artefacts were recovered from the available spoil.

5.6 Church Road to Forest Green Road

5.6.1 This lengthy section ran through undulating arable and pasture fields, with tunnels below Winkfield Lane and Drift Road (which were not monitored). Part of the length was adjacent to the historic Foliejohn Park, and another crossed the site of a Second World War relief airfield (both identified as areas of potential survival of archaeological deposits: Table 1).

5.6.2 The 'natural' in this area was again different to that encountered to the south; it was a an orangey brown stiff clay, context [33] which was overlain by 100mm thick subsoil and the 200mm thick topsoil. Monitoring of the easement strip and pipe trench excavation took place here between April and June 2008.

5.6.3 One feature was identified and recorded close to Foliejohn Park. Again the deposits only came to light when the pipe trench was excavated. The feature was identified in section and recorded from a safe distance. Cut [34] was a steep-sided, flat-bottomed ditch identified during walkover survey (ASE 2007C, *066*). It was 2.5m wide and 550mm deep. The single fill was context [35], a dark brown silty clay. It was not possible to excavate the feature in safety, so no datable artefacts were recovered, and hence the feature remains undated.

5.6.4 No other features associated with the parkscape at Foliejohn (Table 1 and Fig. No. 11, ASE No. 2) were encountered. There was also no physical evidence for the presence of the former airfield (Table 1 and Fig 11, ASE No.7). A mound, (Table 1 and Fig.11, ASE No.11) was made up of apparently recently dumped brick rubble. No below-ground elements of the parish boundary between Bray and Winkfield (which also marks the boundary between the administrative districts of Bracknell Forest and Windsor and Maidenhead) were recorded in the easement or the pipe trench, despite close observation of the locale of the identified feature (Table 1 and Fig. 12, ASE No,6)). Similarly a nearby trackway and ditch (Table 1 and Figs. 12 ASE No. 18; Fig. 13, ASE No.16) could not be traced as negative features.

5.7 Forest Green Road to Bray WTW

5.7.1 This was the most northerly section of the pipeline route and included the only positively identified, excavated and recorded archaeological site identified during the archaeological work (see Section **6.0** below). Archaeological monitoring of the stripping of the easement and excavation of the pipe trench was undertaken between April and June 2008.

5.7.2 The stratigraphic sequence at the northern end of the site consisted of a 400mm thick, mid-brown silty clay humic topsoil, context [100]. It overlay a 100mm thick brownish orange silty clay subsoil, context [101]. This in turn over the 'natural', a deposit of orangey brown clay with occasional pockets of gravel, context [102].

5.7.3 The area traversed by the easement included both arable and pasture fields, and incorporated tunnels under Coningsby Lane, Fifield Road and the A308 Windsor Road, and included a short stretch of roadway at the extreme northern end close to the Bray WTW (none of which not monitored). Made ground consisting of a 20th century rubbish tip was also encountered between the A308 and the Bray WTW. This area was not archeologically monitored on grounds of Health and Safety.

5.7.4 With the exception of the identified archaeological site between Forest Green Road and Coningsby Lane, no archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were recovered on this stretch of the easement and pipe trench excavation. There was no physical evidence of two areas of potential ridge and furrow identified in the DBA (Table 1 and Fig. 14, ASE Nos. 20 and 21) or possible enclosures (Table 1 and Fig. 14, ASE No. 10, 12 and 13).

6.0 RESULTS – The Excavation Area (Figs 13 and 16)

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 During the archaeological watching brief on the topsoil strip to the north of Forest Green Road, significant quantities of medieval pottery were noted within an area of the topsoil, context [100], which was notably darker in colour than the topsoil encountered in the adjacent areas.

6.1.2 Following discussions between representatives of Holleran Mouchel Parkman, South East Water, Berkshire Archaeology and ASE, it was agreed that an area straddling an existing field boundary would be mechanically stripped under the supervision of staff from ASE and that all encountered archaeological features would be manually cleaned, planned, excavated and recorded.

6.1.3 Following further discussions between interested parties it was agreed that the archaeological features at the northern end of the stripped area would be excavated first to facilitate the continuation of pipe-laying which was proceeding from the direction of Fifield.

6.1.4 A total of 86 archaeological features were recorded and excavated despite poor weather and resultant flooding of the site, which hampered progress. However, the excavation was completed before the pipe trench reached the area, and hence there was no delay to the scheme. Descriptions of the features are tabulated in the Appendices, listed from north to south.

6.1.5 There were two distinct 'clusters' of features, one to the north of an existing field boundary and the other to the south; the northern group was more loosely arranged than the southern group, which was noticeably 'bunched', although the presence of a hedgeline immediately to the north, and areas of recent truncation to the south and east may have removed 'outlying' features.

6.1.6 In summary the archaeological features encountered appeared to be the heavily plough-truncated remains of a medieval ?farmstead, which survived as groups of post-holes, rubbish pits and other features. The recovery of a significant assemblage of closely-datable medieval pottery suggested sustained activity at the site in the 12th and 13th centuries, with sporadic activity during later periods after the abandonment of the farmstead. There were only a handful of small finds, and the bone assemblage was limited by the acidic nature of the local geology. A small collection of Romano-British tile hints at earlier activity in the vicinity.

6.2 Feature Descriptions and Groups

6.2.1 All features / deposits descriptions are tabulated in Appendix 1. Most contexts have been grouped together during post-excavation analysis. In this way, linear features, such as ditches which may have numerous individual slots and context numbers, are discussed as single entities, and other cut features such as pits and postholes are grouped together by structure, common date and/or type where possible.

6.2.2 A limited amount of features did not contain any datable material. However, it has been possible to assigned these features to a phase by their spatial relationship to dated features with which they are clearly interrelated or have similar morphology.

6.3 Phase 1: Romano-British

6.3.1 Although no features could be positively assigned to this phase, the presence of residual Romano-British tile (although only three pieces) in later medieval features is arguably indicative of the presence of a Romano-British building in the vicinity of the site.

6.4 Phase 2: Medieval: The Northern Area

6.4.1 The majority of dated features in this area were shallow, apparently plough-truncated medieval pits and postholes, with greyish brown silty clay fills containing occasional charcoal and small assemblages of pottery dating from the 12th to the early 14th centuries.

6.4.2 Given the level of truncation, detailed interpretation of the features has proved problematic, and even grouping them in any meaningful way was arguably impossible. However, based on their spatial distribution, and/or morphology, it has been possible to divide the southern features into loose groupings.

Group 1: rubbish pits

6.4.3 Group 1 consisted of six pits close to the north-eastern extent of the area. Pits [134], [165], [155] and [171], which all contained small quantities of medieval pottery, although pits [142] and [146] remained undated by any datable artefacts. There was little in the fills to aid in the understanding of the function of the features, which must be presumed to have been rubbish pits, apparently predominantly for the burial of perishable organic waste, or perhaps cesspits. This interpretation has been applied to the majority of the features encountered at the site.

Group 2: pits

6.4.4 This deficiency in evidence for function was notable in the other assigned pit groups in the northern area. Group 2 consisted of medieval pits [122], [173], [179], [136] and [126] (which both contained a significant assemblages of pottery), and to the west of ditch [148], medieval pits [124] and [181], which was partially truncated by ditch [148] (one of the few stratigraphic relationships in the area), showing the ditch was excavated at a later date than the pit, and hence arguably than the group as a whole. Pit

[173] contained a possible wall hook, adding weight to the argument that a building must have stood in the vicinity. It also contained animal bone, an unusual survival at the site, as did pit [126].

Group 3: pits

6.4.5 Group 3 consisted of three features close to the western baulk of the site which were noticeably more elongated than the other pits in the vicinity, but were equally shallow. Pits [167], [128] and [169] contained small assemblages of pottery, and nothing was recovered from them to suggest a different function than the other pits in the vicinity, although pits [167] and [169] were two of the few features to contain animal bone.

Group 4: pits

6.4.6 The features assigned to Group 4 provided some limited environmental evidence, which was sadly lacking from the site as a whole. The group consisted of a thin scatter of features close to (and often partially truncated by) the later cart track (medieval pits [163], [161], [175], [197] and undated hearth [189]. An environmental sample taken from pit [197] contained abundant charcoal and the only identifiable charred cereal from the site, a single grain of wheat. An environmental sample taken from pit [189] contained only a small quantity of charcoal, suggesting the feature was probably misinterpreted as a hearth in the field. There was an equally low level of charred cereal grain in the sample, too poorly preserved to be assigned to a species.

Group 5: post built fence?

6.4.7 Group 5 consisted of five features arranged in a broadly linear pattern suggesting the position of a fence. Medieval postholes [132], [130], [191] and [201] and undated posthole [187] provide limited, and perhaps questionable evidence of deliberate division of space in the area of the farmstead, perhaps representing the ephemeral remains of a stock enclosure of some kind. Arguably this is given weight by the presence of a further scatter of postholes, Group 6. Although undated on ceramic grounds, postholes [183], [185], [153], [151] and [149], might also be interpreted as the isolated remains of former fence lines.

Group 7: boundary ditch

6.4.8 Other evidence of land division was encountered in the northern area. Group 7 consisted of a recut medieval ditch, [148], which was somewhat irregular in plan, but uniformly flat-bottomed in profile. In addition, undated ditch [210] was included in this group, as it may have formed part of the same system of fields, and/or droveways associated with the medieval farmstead.

Group 8: isolated features

6.4.9 Group 8 was made up of two spatially isolated features, medieval pit [195], and undated pit [203], both presumably rubbish pits.

6.5 Phase 2: Medieval: The Southern Group

6.5.1 The characteristics and fills of the features encountered in the southern

area were similar to those further to the north. However the features were noticeably more concentrated, with more pits occupying a far smaller area. Arguably the presence of a former gate and subsequent furrowing and hence truncation had removed features immediately to the west, (the area was also flooded for much of the time available), and the presence of a well-defined hedgeline immediately to the north also resulted in the production of an artificially straight edges to the cluster of features.

Group 9: post-built building

6.5.2 Group 9 consisted of an 'L' shaped arrangement of postholes, all containing medieval pottery, perhaps representing the south-western corner of a post-built medieval building. Features [267], [269], [229], [237], [235], [227], [225], [109], [113], [111], [107], [213] and [103] were included into group. The density of features in this area is indicative of the presence of a building in the immediate vicinity, and this arrangement may represent the remains of part of such a structure, possibly a barn or other outbuilding. Unfortunately no artefacts indicative of any specific function or localised industrial activity were recovered in the vicinity.

6.5.3 An environmental sample taken from feature [103] contained abundant charcoal, mostly of oak, but including a range of hedgerow species. Poorly preserved charred cereal grains were also recovered from context [104]. Unfortunately the sample did not provide any evidence of a specific function for the putative structure, but id indicative of a scheme of widespread collection of locally available resources for fuel.

Group 10: pits

6.5.4 Group 10 consisted of a cluster of pits in the northern part of the area (medieval pits [105], [273], [275], 207], [211], [221], [223], [243], [245], [215], and undated pits [205], [217] and [219]). Given the problems of closely dating features, and issues with recognising clear stratigraphic relationships in the similar fills at the site, features both inside and outside of the possible building were grouped together, given there was no clear way of interpreting if such features pre- or post-dated the structure, or were contemporaneous (relationships between features in Group 9 and pit [275] were unclear). The presence of a medieval horse shoe in pit [215] confirms at least limited equestrian activity.

Group 11: rubbish pits

6.5.5 Group 11 was made up of a set of features to the south, mostly consisting of shallow rubbish pits, with only limited assemblages of pottery and no other artefacts, (medieval pits [233], [231], [239], [247], [251], [249], [255], which contained a sizeable assemblage of pottery and animal bone, [257], [259], [119] and [115], undated pits [261], [263] and [265], and posthole [241]).

6.5.6 Features in Groups 10 and 11 showed a markedly higher density than other features at the site and some intercutting, indicative of the repeated burial of domestic rubbish in the 12th and 13th centuries. Environmental samples taken from pits [255] and [261] contained charcoal from oak and a variety of hedgerow species consistent with the exploitation of a range of local sources for fuel. The sample from pit [261] also contained poorly

preserved charred cereal grains and pulses.

6.6 Phase 3: Transitional - Medieval / Post-medieval

Group 12: pits

6.6.1 Only two features (Group 12) of transitional medieval / post-medieval date were encountered and recorded, both in the northern part of the site. Pit [193] contained late C15th – mid 16th century material and elongated pit Cut [199] was not fully excavated owing to flooding. Material dating from the mid C16th – mid 17th century was recovered from the surface of the feature. These features were somewhat enigmatic, and may be associated with the use of the pond (see below).

6.7 Phase 4: Post-medieval

6.7.1 Three features encountered in the northern area were positively dated to the post-medieval (Group 13). Cuts [157] and [159] were parallel gullies, interpreted as the side ditches of a green lane/cart track. A residual medieval knife was recovered from gully [157]. The other post-medieval feature was an infilled pond, cut [253]. The feature was examined when the pipe trench was excavated through it. It was found to be more than 2m in depth. The only artefacts recovered were modern metalwork, including pots and pans (which were not retained). However, given the presence of transitional features in the area, it is possible that the pond was of some antiquity.

7.0 THE FINDS

7.1 **The Pottery** by Luke Barber

7.1.1 Introduction

7.1.1.1 The archaeological work produced 1,496 sherds of pottery, weighing just over 18.43 kg, from 69 individually numbered contexts. The pottery on the whole is in good condition with sherd sizes range from small to large (100mm across). Most pieces show little signs of wear, suggesting that they have not been subjected to significant reworking. Although the overall assemblage spans the mid/late 12th to 19th centuries the vast majority of the pottery is of the mid/late 12th to mid 13th centuries. The assemblage is characterised in Table 3. On the whole, context assemblages, primarily consisting of pit and ditch groups, are small to medium in size (up to 30 sherds) but some larger groups are present though these are often composed of fragmented but near complete vessels. Residuality and intrusiveness appears to be absent/low in most contexts though some cross-joins are apparent between deposits (e.g. an M8b cooking pot from contexts [256], [258] and [260]) suggesting contemporaneous infilling.

Period	No. sherds	Weight	Est. number of vessels	Number of fabrics
Medieval: mid C12th – mid 14th	1,472	18,042g	288	20
Transitional: mid C14th – mid 16th	7	58g	6	2 (inc. x1 imported)
Early post-medieval: mid C16th – mid 18th	14	286g	11	5
Late post-medieval: mid C18th – 19th	3	46g	3	2
Totals	1,496	18,432g	308	29

Table 3: Characterisation of Pottery Assemblage.

7.1.1.2 The pottery was divided into fabric groups based on a visual examination of tempering, inclusions and manufacturing technique and recorded (sherd count/weight/estimated number of vessels) by context on an excel table as part of the archive. The main aims of the analysis and current report were to help understand the chronology of the site and show the range of fabrics and forms present.

7.1.2 The Fabrics

7.1.2.1 Twenty nine different fabrics were identified from the site, the majority being of the medieval period. Brief descriptions are given below in approximate chronological order along with quantifications for that fabric in the overall site assemblage.

Medieval

Fabric M1: *Shell.* (68/587g ENV 18). Moderate to abundant shell/voids to 3mm, no/rare fine sand and occasional iron oxides to 2mm. Low/medium fired usually with grey cores and brown/orange surfaces. Only undecorated cooking pots noted. These normally have rounded club rims but thickened flaring examples, and later, hollowed squared club rims are also present. 11th to early 13th century.

Catalogue **No. 1** – Cooking pot with thickened club rim with slight internal bead. Dull orange brown throughout. Context [272].

Fabric M2: *Tufa.* (1/6g ENV 1). Moderate to abundant tufa/voids to 2mm and sparse fine/medium sand. Medium/well fired. A single cooking pot bodysherd was recovered from [121]. It has a dull orange core and grey brown surfaces. 11th to early/mid 12th century. A well known early ware in Surrey (Jones 1998a).

Fabric M3a: *Shell/chalk and sand*. (14/162g ENV 9). Sparse to moderate shell and chalk/voids to 1mm, sparse fine/medium sand and very rare white flint inclusions to 1mm. Low/medium fired usually with dark grey cores and brown/orange surfaces. Only undecorated cooking pots noted. Probably 12th century.

Fabric M3b: *Shell/chalk and sand*. (13/169g ENV 9). Rare to sparse shell and chalk/voids to 0.5mm, sparse medium sand and very rare white flint inclusions to 1mm. Low/medium fired usually with dark grey cores and brown/orange surfaces. Only undecorated cooking pots, some with wiped surfaces. The only rim, a squared club form, was recovered from context [123]. Probably 12th to early 13th century.

Fabric M4: *Medium sand and flint*. (9/190g ENV 8). Moderate to abundant fine/medium sand with sparse/common white, grey and black sub-angular flint and iron oxide inclusions to 2mm. Medium fired usually with grey cores and dull orange surfaces. Mainly undecorated cooking pots with beaded flaring rims noted but a few jug sherds with external white slip. Probably mid 12th to early 13th century.

Catalogue **No. 2** – Cooking pot with thickened rim. Dull orange throughout. (Context [120].

Fabric M5: *Abundant coarse sand*. (7/74g ENV 7). Moderate to abundant coarse sand, with occasional larger quartz grains to 1.5mm. Low/medium fired usually with grey-brown cores and patchy dull orange to dark grey surfaces. Only undecorated cooking pots noted, that from context [212] with a hollowed squared club rim. 12th to early 13th century.

Fabric M6: *Sparse coarse sand*. (3/17g ENV 3). Sparse medium/coarse sand with occasional larger rounded quartz grains to 2.5mm. Medium fired with either grey or dull orange cores and surfaces. Only undecorated cooking pots noted. Probably mid 12th to 13th century.

Fabric M7: *Medium/coarse sand with flint/shell*. (17/358g ENV 13). Moderate to abundant medium sand with occasional larger rounded quartz inclusions to 2.5mm and angular flint/shell to 1mm. Medium fired usually with grey cores and brown/orange or light to dark grey surfaces. Mainly undecorated cooking pots noted, usually with flaring squared rims (eg context [115], but at least one with an incised wavy line (context [200]) and some externally white slipped jugs too. Mid 12th to mid 13th century.

Catalogue **No. 3** – Cooking pot with flaring squared thickened rim with internal bead. Light – mid grey throughout. Context [115].

Fabric M8: *Medium sand.* This fabric group has been subdivided into five related fabrics probably representing both different firing conditions as well as chronological development at the same kiln/group of kilns.

Fabric M8a: Moderate/abundant medium sand with sparse to common sub-rounded light grey siltstone inclusions to 3mm. (295/3,861g ENV 35). Medium fired usually with light/mid grey cores and surfaces. Only undecorated cooking pots noted. Usually with flaring simple or beaded rims or slight variations of these basic forms, including a hammer-headed profile type with internal and external bead. Mid 12th to early 13th century. The largest context group,

consisting of 107 sherds (1,399g), derives from a single heavily fragmented cooking pot with external sooting (context [137]).
Catalogue **No. 4** – Cooking pot with flaring rim with slight internal hollowing. Light to dark grey throughout. Context [258].

Fabric M8b: Moderate/abundant medium sand with rare to sparse sub-rounded light grey siltstone inclusions to 2mm. (513/6,335g ENV 76). Medium fired usually with grey cores and dull orange to brown surfaces. A finer oxidised version of M8a. Only undecorated cooking pots noted, usually with flaring simple or beaded rims as noted for Fabric M8a. The largest context group, consisting of 156 sherds (2,000g), derives from a single heavily fragmented cooking pot with flaring squared rim (context [256]). Later 12th to mid/late 13th century.
Catalogue **No. 5** – Cooking pot with out-turned squared rim. Light grey core and inner surface with patchy light/dark grey and dull orange exterior surface. Context [260].

Fabric M8c: Moderate/abundant medium sand with no/rare sub-rounded light grey siltstone and flint inclusions to 1mm. (111/1,433g ENV 27). Medium fired usually with dark grey cores and surfaces. A finer reduced version possibly related to M8a. Virtually all undecorated cooking pots noted, usually with flaring simple or beaded rims as found in M8a, though at least one undecorated jug is present (unstratified). Mid 12th to mid 13th century.

Fabric M8d: Moderate/abundant medium sand with rare sub-rounded light grey siltstone inclusions to 2mm. (238/2,391g ENV 39). Well fired usually with light/mid grey cores and surfaces. A harder fired development of M8a. Mainly undecorated cooking pots noted, usually with flaring simple or beaded rims as M8a, but at least two jugs represented with patchy green glaze (context [176]). Late 12th to mid/late 13th century.

Fabric M8e: Moderate fine/medium sand with rare soot inclusions to 0.5mm. (137/1,943g ENV 12). Well fired usually with light/mid grey cores and light/mid grey to buff surfaces. A fine well made version of M8d. Only undecorated cooking pots noted, usually with upright hammer-headed rims. The largest context group, consisting of 94 sherds (1,420g), is from a single cooking pot with hammer-headed profile rim. Probably 13th century.
Catalogue **No. 6** – Cooking pot with hammer-headed profile rim. Light grey core with pale buff surfaces. Context [141].

Fabric M9: *Medium sand and iron oxides.* (7/79g ENV 4). Moderate fine/medium sand with sparse dull red iron oxides to 1mm and occasional sooty streaks. Medium fired usually with light/mid grey cores and dull orange brown surfaces. Only undecorated cooking pots noted. Late 12th to mid/late 13th century.

Fabric M10: *Sparse medium sand.* (1/16g ENV 1). Sparse fine/medium sand with occasional sooty streaks. Well fired with light/mid grey core and dull orange brown surfaces. Only a single sherd from an undecorated cooking pot noted. 13th to mid 14th century.

Fabric M11: *Sparse fine/medium sand.* (13/135g ENV 12). Sparse fine/medium sand. Medium/well fired usually with light/mid grey cores and dull orange brown surfaces. Simple glazed jugs mainly though some cooking pots too. Decoration on the jugs is limited but includes one with an external white slip below the glaze (context [127]) and one with combed decoration (context [276]). Mid/late 12th to 13th century.

Fabric M12: *Sparse fine sand.* (5/24g ENV 4). Sparse fine sand in a silty matrix. Medium fired usually buff to dull orange throughout. Only probable jugs noted. 13th to mid 14th century.

Fabric M13a: *Surrey whiteware.* (5/43g ENV 4). Moderate/abundant fine/medium rose quartz sand. Medium/well fired usually with off-white/buff/pink cores and surfaces. Cooking pots/bowls with green glazed internal bases only. Mid/late 13th to mid/late 14th century.

Fabric M13b: *Surrey whiteware.* (15/219g ENV 6). Sparse/moderate medium/coarse rose quartz sand. Medium/well fired usually with off-white/buff/pink cores and surfaces. Cooking pots/bowls with green glazed internal bases and often with 'hammer-headed' rims (eg context [170]) and patchily green glazed jugs with thumbed bases. Similar to Coarse Borderware (Pearce and Vince 1988). Late 13th to 14th century.

Transitional

Fabric T1: *Fine sand.* Sparse/moderate fine sand. (4/26g ENV 4). Well/hard fired usually with orange/red cores and deliberately reduced brown/grey surfaces. No recognised forms but spots of clear internal glaze. Mid/late 15th to mid/late 16th century.

Fabric T2: Raeren stoneware (Hurst *et. Al.* 1986). (3/32g ENV 2). Only mugs noted. Mid 15th to mid 16th century.

Post-Medieval

Fabric PME 1a: *Fine post-medieval redware.* (4/158g ENV 4). Rare/sparse fine sand tempered earthenware. Well fired with grey cores and dull orange surfaces. Usually internal dull green glaze with spots on the exterior on jars and dishes. Late 15th to 16th century.

Fabric PME 1b: *Sandy post-medieval redware.* (3/70g ENV 2). Moderate fine/medium sand tempered earthenware. Well fired with grey cores and dull orange surfaces. All jars with internal dull green glaze with spots on the exterior. Only recovered from context [200]. 16th to 17th century.

Fabric PME 2a: *Buff trailed slipware.* (1/5g ENV 1). Sparse fine sand tempered buff earthenware with moderate fine dull orange iron oxides. Medium/well fired. Red trailed slip under clear glaze (giving dull yellow body). A single plate fragment from [17]. Late 16th to 17th century.

Fabric PME 2b: *Buff earthenware.* (4/23g ENV 3). Fabric as PME 2a but without trailed slip decoration. The only form noted was a bowl with internal green slip (context [194]). Mid 16th to 17th century.

Fabric PME 3: *Borderware.*(2/30g ENV 1). (Pearce 1992). Mid 16th to 17th century. Only body sherds from context [200] were recovered.

Fabric PML 1: *Creamware.* (1/6g ENV 1). Later 18th to early 19th century.

Fabric PML 2 *Pearlware.* (2/40g ENV 2). Late 18th to mid 19th century.

7.1.3 The Assemblage

7.1.3.1 The earliest pottery in the assemblage consists of a scatter of sherds in fabrics M1-4. Although some of these could be from the first half of the 12th century they repeatedly appear in deposits containing the sand tempered vessels (eg M8). Some pieces may be residual but it is more likely most relate to activity from the mid 12th century. The exception to this is likely to be the M1 shell tempered fabric which appears alongside the sandy wares as unabraded sherds often with quite developed rims. Whatever the case, the main intense period of occupation at the site appears to fit within a mid/late 12th- to mid 13th- century time span.

7.1.3.2 The notable low numbers of glazed jugs, combined with the simple or beaded flaring cooking pot rims (Fig. 18) would be in keeping with this date. Such rims can be closely paralleled to other mid 12th- to mid 13th-century assemblages such as those from Sonning (Hayford 2003, Fig. 5) and Reading (Underwood 1997, Period 2) in Berkshire and indeed to the

south in Surrey at Chertsey (Jones 1998b, Groups IC & C, Fig. 2.17) and Laleham, near Staines (Jones 2008, Fig. 17). The main suite of fabrics at the current site can also be paralleled at most of these excavations. The dominant sand tempered wares (notably M8 and its variants) fall within the Surrey grey-brown quartz tempered ware tradition (Jones 1998a) and the sand tempered wares of Berkshire, most notably those of the Camley Gardens kilns at Maidenhead producing from at least the 13th century (Pike 1965).

7.1.3.3 The current assemblage does not contain notably large context groups but those that are present are totally dominated by the M8 sandy fabrics though admittedly this is emphasised by the presence of fragmentary remains of single large cooking pots in certain contexts. The five largest context groups are broken down in Tables 4 and 5. Residuality appears to be low or absent in these assemblages as often the M1 shell tempered wares appear to be fresh and quite well developed forms. Similarly intrusiveness is virtually absent – the only sherd being the T1 sherd in ditch [140].

Fabric	**Pit [126], Fill [127]**	**Pit [136] Fill [137]**	**Ditch [140] Fill [141]**	**Pit [255] Fill [256]**	**Pit [271] Fill [272]**
M1	7/37g	-	-	-	22/122g
M3a	-	-	-	8/81g	-
M3b	5/61g	-	-	-	-
M5	-	-	1/6g	-	-
M8a	-	107/1,399g	5/61g	23/388g	-
M8b	6/93g	2/17g	9/92g	156/2,000g	92/982g
M8c	21/249g	-	-	3/63g	1/7g
M8d	107/915g	-	-	1/9g	30/456g
M8e	9/82g	-	96/1,437g	-	1/7g
M11	3/26g	-	-	-	-
M12	-	-	1/4g	-	-
T1a	-	-	1/3g	-	-
Totals	**158/1,463g**	**109/1,416g**	**113/1,603g**	**191/2,541g**	**146/1,574g**
Dated	Late C12th – mid 13th	Early/mid C13th	Late C12th – mid 13th (intru 14th/15th)	Mid C12th – mid 13th	Mid C12th – mid 13th

Table 4 : Quantification of Pottery by Fabric from Largest Context Groups

Fabric	Pit [126], Fill [127]	Pit [136] Fill [137]	Ditch [140] Fill [141]	Pit [255] Fill [256]	Pit [271] Fill [272]
M1	CP x1	-	-	-	CP x1
M3a	-	-	-	CP x2	-
M3b	CP x1	-	-	-	-
M5	-	-	CP x1	-	-
M8a	-	CP x2	CP x1	CP x2	-
M8b	CP x1	CP x2	CP x3 J x1	CP x4	CP x3
M8c	CP x2	-	-	CP x2	CP x1
M8d	CP x3	-	-	CP x1	CP x2
M8e	CP x2	-	CP x2	-	J x1
M11	J x2	-	-	-	-
M12	-	-	J x1	-	-
T1a	-	-	CP x1	-	-
Totals	**CP x10; J x2**	**CP x4**	**CP x8; J x2**	**CP x11**	**CP x7; J x1**

Table 5 : Quantification of Pottery by form Largest Context Groups (ENV – Estimated number of vessels: CP – Cooking pot, J – Jug).

7.1.3.4 Cooking pots, often with external sooting, totally dominate these assemblages (Table 9). A range of rim forms are present but flaring and upright types dominate with either simple rounded, simple squared, beaded, clubbed or hammer-head profile ends. Decoration on these vessels is very rare but M8b and M8d cooking pots in pit [126] do have feint combing. The few jugs present are all patchily glazed but no rims or handles are present in the groups. All the pottery of this period is of local manufacture with no regional or foreign imports being present. This is in keeping with other sites in the area and cannot be used as an indicator of low status.

7.1.3.5 It would appear that activity on the site took a dramatic downturn around, or shortly after, the middle of the 13th century. Although only present in very low numbers the occurrence of early Surrey whitewares (M13) indicates at least some activity could be of the second half of the 13th or even the early 14th centuries. However, too few Surrey wares are present in the assemblage to allow a reliable dating and it is quite possible they all belong to the middle of the 13th century. Pit [175], fill [176], dated between the early 13th and early 14th centuries is typical of the small later ambiguous assemblages. It contained a single sherd of M13a Surrey cooking pot as well as M1 (4/23g probably a residual/old cooking pot), M8b (1/20g cooking pot), M8d (1/42g jug and 26/183g cooking pot) and M11 (1/14g) sherds. The internally glazed base on the M8d cooking pot would suggest a date later in the given range though too few sherds are present to assess the amount of residuality/intrusiveness that may be present.

7.1.3.6 The assemblage clearly shows low levels of post-medieval activity. The earliest of these groups, probably dating to the first half of the 16th century, is from Pit [193] (fill [194]). This contained residual sherds of M7 (1/39g jug) and M13b (1/12g cooking pot) but fragments of a PME1a jar (1/32g), three PME2b bowls (4/23g), two T1a jars (2/13g) and a T2 Raeren mug (2/13g).

This period is certainly the first to contain foreign imported material. Pit [199], fill [200], contained a high residual medieval element (5/100g) but contained sherds from a PME1b jar (3/70g) and a PME3 Borderware bowl (2/30g) suggesting a mid 16th- to mid 17th- century date. The latest context appears to be [17] which produced a PME2a slipware plate fragment together with sherds of PML1a creamware and PML2a pearlware plates, together suggesting a late 18th- to early 19th- century date. It is unfortunate that none of the post-medieval assemblages are large enough to reliably indicate the nature of the activity at this time.

7.2 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

7.2.1 The vast majority of the material recovered was post-medieval peg tile with some fragments of late medieval or early post-medieval date. A single piece of peg tile of certain medieval date was recovered from context [168] though this is likely to be residual. Brick of possible medieval date was recovered from contexts [158] and [194], in both cases the brick is abraded and possibly residual. Roman tile was recovered from three contexts, fragments of a single *tegula* (roof tile) were identified from context [216] with unidentified roman tile from contexts [212] and [232]. The Roman tile is made of a poorly fired, fine orange fabric with sparse fine quartz and 0.5mm sized red and black iron rich inclusions with sparse cream silt inclusions. A full record of the ceramic building material has been prepared and is kept with the archive.

7.3 The Registered Finds by Elke Raemen

7.3.1 Introduction

7.3.1.1 A small group of finds was recovered during the excavations and assigned a unique Registered Finds number (RF <00>). All finds have been X-radiographed, whereby RF <1> received additional treatment to stabilise the iron corrosion as well as clean the object. All X-radiography and conservation was undertaken by the Fishbourne Conservation Laboratory.

7.3.2 Catalogue

Domestic Equipment

RF <1> *Iron scale-tang knife* (Fig 19, No. 1)
Gully [157], fill [158]. Early to later 13th century.
Incomplete. Scale tang with ring-and-dot decorated bone scales partially surviving. Iron end cap. Three rivet holes (from X-ray) with in situ iron rivets. Broken blade.

RF <3> *Iron chain link*
Pit [273], fill [274]. Mid 12th to early 13th century.
Incomplete. Oval chain link fragment (from X-ray). 32 by 50+ mm.

RF <4> *Iron ?wall hook* (Fig 19, No. 2)
Pit [173], fill [174]. 13th century.
Complete. Possible wall hook with tapering shank and pierced head.

Horse Equipment

RF <2> *Iron horse shoe* (Fig 19, No.3)
Pit [215], fill [216]. Mid 12th to early 13th century.
Complete. Clark Type 2B horse shoe with countersunk rectangular nail holes (from X-ray), three on each branch. Both heels thickened (Clark calkin Type a). "Wavy" edge (Clark 1995, 86). 6mm thick.

7.3.3 Discussion

7.3.3.1 Objects were all recovered from contexts appearing to date to the main period of occupation, as indicated by the pottery. Of interest is the early example of a scale-tang knife (RF <1>), a type which was first introduced in the 13th century (Goodall 1993, 128). Although the site provides little evidence of the nature of activities in this period, the horseshoe indicates some equestrian activity whereas the three other objects provide additional support for nearby domestic activities.

7.4 The Animal Bone by Gemma Driver

7.4.1 Introduction

7.4.1.1 A small animal bone assemblage was recovered during excavation. The assemblage consists of 46 fragments of bone dated to the medieval and post-medieval period.. The bone was in a poor state of preservation with only a small amount of surface remaining.

7.4.2 The Assemblage

7.4.2.1 The bone was identified to species and the part and proportion of the bone was also recorded. The medieval assemblage consists of 42 fragments. Pig and sheep bones and loose teeth have been identified in contexts [170], [174], [258], [127] and [256]. A pig canine recovered from context [170] has been identified as female. Cattle-sized long bone fragments were recovered from contexts [127], [160] and [168]. Any further evidence of butchery, burning, gnawing and pathology has been lost due to the condition of the assemblage. The high number of teeth is likely to be a preservation factor rather than the result of selected animal husbandry practices.

7.4.2.2 The post-medieval assemblage contains three fragments recovered from context [200]. Two of these are sheep lower molars and the third fragment is unidentifiable.

7.4.2.3 A fragment of deer antler was recovered from the farmstead site but was unstratified. The antler displays signs of butchery with saw and knife marks on both ends.

8.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLE by Karine le Hegarat & Lucy Allott

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 Six bulk soil samples were taken during excavations at the site from a possible hearth, three shallow pits, a posthole and possible ditch fill. All of these features are thought to be of medieval date. Sampling aimed to retrieve environmental remains such as charred macrobotanicals, charcoal, bone and shell. This report characterises the charcoal and charred macrobotanical assemblages from these samples while also providing an overview of the sample contents.

8.2 Methodology

8.2.1 Samples were processed in a flotation tank, the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively and were air dried prior to sorting. The residues were passed through graded sieves and each fraction sorted. Flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at magnifications of x7-45 and their contents recorded.

8.2.2 Charred macrobotanical remains were extracted from the flots and have been identified through comparison with reference material held at UCL and reference texts (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006; NIAB 2004). Charcoal fragments from the richest samples were viewed under an incident light microscope at x50, 100, 200 and 400 magnifications and identified through comparison with modern reference material and reference atlases (Hather 2000; Schoch et al. 2004; Schweingruber 1990). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

8.3 Results

8.3.1 Uncharred vegetation including seeds were present in all of the samples however two samples, <1> and <1001> from contexts [19] and [190] respectively contained higher proportions of uncharred remains. All uncharred vegetation must be considered relatively modern and intrusive as no waterlogged or anaerobic conditions are evident at the site. These remains provide some evidence for post depositional disturbances.

8.3.2 Nevertheless the samples also produced a moderate assemblage of wood charcoal and charred macrobotanical remains (discussed below), a small quantity of land snail shells in samples <1>, <1001> and <1004> and faunal remains. Bone fragments present in the residues from samples <1003>, posthole fill [198] and <1004>, shallow pit fill [256] are included in the specialist bone report.

8.3.3 Charred Macrobotanical Remains
A small assemblage of charred macroplant remains was recovered from each of the samples. Charred crop seeds are present in samples <1001>, <1002>, <1003> and <1005> with cereal grains in all four and indeterminate pulses in sample <1005> only. Macroplant remains were generally poorly preserved and fragmented. The majority of cereals were classed as indeterminate although a single grain of wheat (*Triticum* sp.)

was noted in sample <1003>, [198] from the posthole fill. *Polygonum/Rumex* sp. (knotweed/dock) were also recorded in this sample.

8.3.4 Charcoal
Wood charcoal fragments are present in all samples but are particularly abundant in samples <1002>, <1004> and <1005> from the shallow pit features [104], [256] and [262]. It is interesting to note that although sample <1001>, [190] was taken from the fill of a possible hearth; it contained a surprisingly small quantity of charcoal. Overall the charcoal fragments were well preserved and fragments from the three richest samples were analysed providing the following identifications.

8.3.5 Fragments of *Quercus* sp. (deciduous oak) from mature specimens were common in each of the samples while *Fagus sylvatica* (beech) fragments, also from relatively large trees, were less abundant and were recorded in samples <1002> and <1005> only. *Prunus* sp. (wild cherry / sloe / bullace) and taxa within the Maloideae family (such as apple / pear / hawthorn / whitebeam) were moderately common while *Ligustrum* / *Lonicera* sp. (privet / honeysuckle) and *Corylus / Alnus* sp. (hazel / alder) were less abundant. Many of these are hedgerow trees that could have been exploited for their food resources as well as their timber.

8.4 Discussion

8.4.1 Sampling has confirmed the presence of a small quantity of environmental remains including wood charcoal fragments, charred macrobotanicals, some faunal remains and land mollusca. The macrobotanical assemblage provides a little evidence for agricultural crops and weeds commonly associated with arable or disturbed land however these remains are too scarce to provide conclusive evidence for crop husbandry or land use activities. The prominence of oak in the wood charcoal assemblage is not unexpected as this taxon was frequently used for fuel. It is not possible to determine whether the charcoal present is from timber used for structural purposes of for fuel however the small assemblage does indicate that a variety of taxa were collected from both woodland and hedgerows.

Sample Number	**Context**	***Quercus* sp.**	***Fagus sylvatica* L.**	***Prunus* sp.**	***Ligustrum/ Lonicera***	***Corylus/ Alnus* sp.**	**Maloideae**
1002	104	34	6	2	1		8
1004	256	24		2	1	2	2
1005	262	36	4	2			

Table 6 : Charcoal identifications and fragment frequency

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	sub-Sample Volume litres (processed)	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charred botanicals (other than	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1001	190	Fill of Hearth [189]	20	20	*	<1							
1002	104	Shallow Pit [103]	10	10	***	14	***	8					FCF */12g, Pot */6g, Burnt Clay **/56g
1003	198	Fill of Posthole [197]	20	20	*	<1	***	2			*	<1	Burnt Clay */<1g
1004	256	Shallow Pit [255]	10	10			***	2			*	4	Pot **/42g, CBM ***/82g, Flint */8g
1005	262	Shallow Pit [261]	20	20	***	16	****	10	*	<1			FCF **/236g, Pot ***/52g, Burnt Clay ***/224g
1	19	Fill of Ditch [18]	10	10	*	2							

Table 7: Residue Quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250)

Sample Number	Context	weight g	Flot volume ml	Uncharred %	sediment %	seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	LSS
1001	190	10	45	65	45	Y (2)		**	**	*	Cerealia indet	+				* (1)
1	19	6	55	95	3	*	* (2)	*	*							* (3)
1002	104	9	35	30	3	Y (2)	*	**	**	*	Cerealia indet	+				
1003	198	13	55	20	3	Y (1)	*	***	***	*	Cerealia indet, *Triticum* sp.	++	*	*Polygonum/ Rumex* sp.	++	
1004	256	7	25	30	5		*	***	***							* (1)
1005	262	45	125	15	15	Y (5)	**	***	****	*	cerealia indet & legume indet.	+/++				

Table 8: Flot Quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

9.0 DISCUSSION

9.1 The maintenance of a nine-month-long archaeological watching brief on the pipeline allowed the monitoring of groundworks in a *c.*15km long, 30m–40m wide corridor stretching across the county of Berkshire, from Crowthorne on the Surrey border to the River Thames at Bray. There were considerable variations in geology and topography, from sand to clay and from dense woodland to open rolling hills.

9.2 Clearly there were problems with the methodology used for much of the earthmoving associated with the laying of the new pipeline (see Section 5.1 above), which may have affected the identification of buried archaeological features. Similarly, the groundwork methodologies limited the scope for recording previously identified landscape features such as ditches and other boundaries.

9.3 It was unfortunate that an archaeological evaluation of the route proved to be impractical as the excavation of trial trenches, test-pitting, field-walking and/or a programme of geophysical and topographical survey might have resulted in the recognition of archaeological sites within the corridor prior to the commencement of the groundworks. However the identification of the hitherto unsuspected archaeological site to the north of Forest Green Road is proof that the monitoring of the topsoil stripping could result in the detection of the presence of buried archaeological features. However it cannot be stated with complete confidence that all/any isolated archaeological features which may have survived elsewhere within the corridor were identified during the monitoring process.

9.4 Even where limited trial trenching and test-pitting proved possible, there were problems. Identification of earthworks in Swinley Forest proved impossible and investigations on the presumed alignment of the *Devil's Highway* proved equally fruitless. It can only be presumed that all evidence for the presence of road was removed when the Rides were laid out in Swinley Forest. Given the presence of clear earthworks elsewhere in the forest, both to the east and west of the corridor, this is the only possible, if rather unsatisfactory conclusion. A recent watching brief undertaken adjacent to the known line of the road in Crowthorne produced similarly disappointing results (ASE 2005)

9.5 Clearly the identification of an archaeological site towards the northern end of the scheme allowed the investigation and recording of archaeological features which had proved so elusive elsewhere during the monitoring. Although somewhat enigmatic, the site to the north of Forest Green Road did allow the examination of an all-too-rare medieval rural site in that part of the county.

9.6 The recovery of a small quantity of residual Romano-British tile was intriguing. Unfortunately there was far too little of the material to draw firm conclusions, although the tentative suggestion that the tile came from a Romano-British building in the vicinity of the pipeline corridor cannot be discounted entirely.

9.7 Given the size of the assemblage of closely-datable pottery, the date of the main phase of activity at the site is clear in that the vast majority of the pottery can be dated to the 12th and 13th centuries. However, evidence for the function of the site as a whole was less forthcoming. Clearly the fact that the full extent of activity and/or buried features could not be gleaned from the available narrow corridor lessens the chances of encountering features and/or artefacts which might give clues to the historic use of the site.

9.8 However, some conclusions can be drawn. Clearly, despite the quantity of pottery encountered, the site was not used in the manufacture of this product, owing to the absence of wasters from the firing process in the encountered features (cf. the Camley Gardens site in nearby Maidenhead; Pike 1965). Similarly, there were no indications of any other sizeable industrial activities from surviving residues.

9.9 In the absence of any other evidence it must be presumed that the remains were those of some form of agricultural settlement, presumably a single farmstead, but that the main building(s) probably lay outside of the easement, and hence was not encountered. This situation was seen on a recently published site in Polegate, East Sussex (Stevens 2007). It could be argued that the distribution of the encountered features into two groups suggests a dual focus at the current site, or perhaps that the farmstead lay adjacent to (or even within) the southern area, with a lesser density of features further away from the building. However, this is far from proven, and it seems prudent to refer to the site as a whole.

9.10 Clearly the small assemblage of domestic items would fit with the equipment in use in a medieval farm complex in the 12th and 13th centuries, as could the pottery, which is mostly in locally produced fabrics. The environmental evidence provides clear evidence of the processing of cereals, as well as the collection of local wood for fuel. Unfortunately the charred cereal grains were too few in number and in quality of preservation to draw any firm conclusions regarding local crop regimes. Equally the poor preservation of the animal bone negates any conclusions concerning husbandry.

9.11 Based on the evidence of the pottery, the farmstead appears to have gone into a steady decline sometime after the middle of the 13th century. Only small quantities of domestic waste were deposited at the site during the late 13th and 14th centuries, and only a handful of sherds of 14th to 15th century material were recovered, suggesting perhaps a shift of focus of activity away from the immediate area. Rural depopulation in the 14th century has been recognised on a number of sites in Berkshire (Beresford & Hurst 1963).

9.12 It is perhaps more difficult to place the farmstead in a local context given difficulties with establishing the foundation dates of local farms. The Victoria County History entry for the parish makes scant mention of the Fifield area (Ditchfield and Page 1924), but clearly agriculture continued in this part of rural Berkshire, merely centred elsewhere.

9.13 This move away from the vicinity of the 'old' medieval farmstead is reflected in the virtual absence of post-medieval features. The only positively identified features of this date were the pond, and features probably associated with its use, including a cart track. By the time of the excavations in advance of the pipeline in 2008, the pond had been filled in, the cart-track had fallen out of use and the site was given over to grazing.

10.0 CONCLUSION

10.1 Clearly the implementation of an archaeological watching brief was a prudent measure, and resulted in the identification and recording of a hitherto unknown archaeological site.

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Appendix 1 : Medieval Features – The Northern Group

Context Number	Type	Description	Group	Diameter Length/Width	Depth	Pottery Date
134	Cut	Pit	1	1.6m	140mm	
135	Fill	Pit	1	1.6m	140mm	late C12th – mid 13th
148	Feature	Ditch	6	>20m/3m		Late C12th – mid 13th
138	Cut	Ditch	6	>20m/3m	270mm	
139	Fill	Ditch	6	>20m/3m	270mm	?Mid C12th - early 13th
140	Cut	Ditch	6	>20m/900mm	150mm	
141	Fill	Ditch	6	/900mm	150mm	Late C12th – mid 13th
144	Cut	Ditch	6	?/700mm	120mm	
145	Fill	Ditch	6	?/700mm	120mm	Mid C12th – early 13th
165	Cut	Pit	1	2.0m	70mm	
166	Fill	Pit	1	2.0m	70mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
171	Cut	Pit	1	1.6m	100mm	
172	Fill	Pit	1	1.6m	100mm	mid C13th – early 14th
155	Cut	Pit	1	1.6m	100mm	
156	Fill	Pit	1	1.6m	100mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
124	Cut	Pit	2	1.6m	90mm	
125	Fill	Pit	2	1.6m	90mm	early – mid C13th
122	Cut	Pit	2	>2m/>1m	80mm	
123	Fill	Pit	2	>2m/>1m	80mm	early – mid C13th
173	Cut	Pit	2	1.7m	100mm	
174	Fill	Pit	2	1.7m	100mm	C13th
179	Cut	Pit	2	2.3m	60mm	
180	Fill	Pit	2	2.3m	60mm	late C12th – mid 13th
167	Cut	Pit	3	4m/650mm	10mm	
168	Fill	Pit	3	4m/650mm	10mm	mid C13th - early 14th
126	Cut	Pit	2	1.6m	80mm	
127	Fill	Pit	2	1.6m	80mm	late C12th – mid 13th
128	Cut	Pit	3	3m/700mm	190mm	
129	Fill	Pit	3	3m/700mm	190mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
169	Cut	Pit	3	4m/1.6m	150mm	
170	Fill	Pit	3	4m/1.6m	150mm	mid C13th - early 14th
136	Cut	Pit/Posthole	2	0.64m	460mm	
137	Fill	Pit/Posthole	2	0.64m	460mm	early/mid C13th
181	Cut	Pit	2	1.0m	50mm	
182	Fill	Pit	2	1.0m	50mm	late C12th – mid 13th
161	Cut	Pit/Posthole	4	0.75m	120mm	
162	Fill	Pit/Posthole	4	0.75m	120mm	late C12th – mid 13th
197	Cut	Pit	4	1.23m	40mm	
198	Fill	Pit	4	1.23m	40mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
175	Cut	Pit/Posthole	4	0.68m	180mm	
176	Fill	Pit/Posthole	4	0.68m	180mm	early C13th – early 14th
163	Cut	Pit	4	2.0m	100mm	
164	Fill	Pit	4	2.0m	100mm	C13th
201	Cut	Pit/Posthole	5	0.80m	150mm	
202	Fill	Pit/Posthole	5	0.80m	150mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
130	Cut	Pit/Posthole	5	0.69m	60mm	
131	Fill	Pit/Posthole	5	0.69m	60mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
132	Cut	Pit/Posthole	5	0.66m	70mm	
133	Fill	Pit/Posthole	5	0.66m	70mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
191	Cut	Pit/Posthole	5	0.70m	40mm	
192	Fill	Pit/Posthole	5	0.70m	40mm	late C12th – 13th
195	Cut	Pit	9	2.4m	40mm	
196	Fill	Pit	9	2.4m	40mm	mid C12th – mid 13th

Appendix 2: Medieval Features – The Southern Group

Context Number	Type	Description	Group	Diameter	Depth	Pottery Date
273	Cut	Pit	10	4m	160mm	
274	Fill	Pit	10	4m	160mm	mid C12th - early 13th
275	Cut	Pit	10	0.50m	300mm	
276	Fill	Pit	10	0.50m	300mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
271	Cut	Pit	9	1.1m	110mm	
272	Fill	Pit	9	1.1m	110mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
269	Cut	Pit/Posthole	9	0.66m	60mm	
270	Fill	Pit/Posthole	9	0.66m	60mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
267	Cut	Posthole	9	0.46m	70mm	
268	Fill	Posthole	9	0.46m	70mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
237	Cut	Posthole	9	0.50m	160mm	
238	Fill	Posthole	9	0.50m	160mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
105	Cut	Pit/Posthole	10	0.81m	100mm	
106	Fill	Pit/Posthole	10	0.81m	100mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
207	Cut	Pit	10	1.55m	100mm	
208	Fill	Pit	10	1.55m	100mm	mid C12th – early 13th
227	Cut	Posthole	9	0.40m	50mm	
228	Fill	Posthole	9	0.40m	50mm	mid C12th - early 13th
229	Cut	Posthole	9	0.70m	70mm	
230	Fill	Posthole	9	0.70m	70mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
235	Cut	Posthole	9	0.40m	100mm	
236	Fill	Posthole	9	0.40m	100mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
225	Cut	Posthole	9	0.30m	20mm	
226	Fill	Posthole	9	0.30m	20mm	mid C12th - mid 13t
211	Cut	Pit	10	1.40m	230mm	
212	Fill	Pit	10	1.40m	230mm	mid C12th – early 13th
109	Cut	Pit/Posthole	9	0.61m	110mm	
110	Fill	Pit/Posthole	9	0.61m	110mm	mid C12th – early 13th
223	Cut	Pit	10	1.5m	60mm	
224	Fill	Pit	10	1.5m	60mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
221	Cut	Pit	10	1.6m	100mm	
222	Fill	Pit	10	1.6m	100mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
243	Cut	Pit/Posthole	10	0.70m	50mm	
244	Fill	Pit/Posthole	10	0.70m	50mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
113	Cut	Posthole	9	0.37m	50mm	
114	Fill	Posthole	9	0.37m	50mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
245	Cut	Pit	10	0.90m	80mm	
246	Fill	Pit	10	0.90m	80mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
215	Cut	Pit	10	2.25m	40mm	
216	Fill	Pit	10	2.25m	40mm	mid C12th – early 13th
111	Cut	Pit/Posthole	9	0.69m	70mm	
112	Fill	Pit/Posthole	9	0.69m	70mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
107	Cut	Pit/Posthole	9	0.48m	80mm	
108	Fill	Pit/Posthole	9	0.48m	80mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
213	Cut	Pit/Posthole	9	0.70m	100mm	
214	Fill	Pit/Posthole	9	0.70m	100mm	mid C12th – early 13th
233	Cut	Pit	11	2.40m	140mm	
234	Fill	Pit	11	2.40m	140mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
231	Cut	Pit	11	1.30m	140mm	
232	Fill	Pit	11	1.30m	140mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
103	Cut	Pit	9	0.90m	120mm	
104	Fill	Pit	9	0.90m	120mm	mid C12th – mid 13th
239	Cut	Pit	11	1.0m	110mm	
240	Fill	Pit	11	1.0m	110mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
241	Cut	Posthole	9	300mm	50mm	
242	Fill	Posthole	9	300mm	50mm	?mid C12th - mid 13th

247	Cut	Pit	11	1.52m	90mm	
248	Fill	Pit	11	1.52m	90mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
Context Number	**Type**	**Description**	**Group**	**Diameter**	**Depth**	**Pottery Date**
251	Cut	Pit/Posthole	11	0.75m	90mm	
252	Fill	Pit/Posthole	11	0.75m	90mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
249	Cut	Pit	11	0.95m	100mm	
250	Fill	Pit	11	0.95m	100mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
115	Cut	Pit/Posthole	11	0.70m	120mm	
116	Fill	Pit/Posthole	11	0.70m	120mm	C12th
255	Cut	Pit	11	4.25m	60mm	
256	Fill	Pit	11	4.25m	60mm	late C12th - mid 13th
259	Cut	Pit	11	0.95m	80mm	
260	Fill	Pit	11	0.95m	80mm	late C12th - mid 13th
257	Cut	Pit	11	1.2m	160mm	
258	Fill	Pit	11	1.2m	160mm	mid C12th - mid 13th
117	Cut	Post Pipe	11	0.1m	250mm	Within [115]
118	Fill	Post Pipe	11	0.1m	250mm	
119	Cut	Pit	11	1.66m	200mm	
120	Fill	Pit	11	1.66m	120mm	mid C12th - early 13th
121	Fill	Pit	11	1.66m	80mm	mid C12th - early 13th

Appendix 3: The Transitional Features

Context Number	Type	Description	Group	Diameter Length/Width	Depth
193	Cut	Pit	12	1.0m	40mm
194	Fill	Pit	12	1.0m	40mm
199	Cut	Pit	12	5m/1.5m	unknown
200	Fill	Pit	12	5m/1.5m	unknown

Appendix 4: The Post-Medieval Features

Context Number	Type	Description	Group	Diameter Length/Width	Depth
157	Gully	Cart Rut	13	15m/670mm	200mm
158	Gully	Cart Rut	13	15m/670mm	200mm
159	Gully	Cart Rut	13	15m/700mm	180mm
160	Gully	Cart Rut	13	15m/700mm	180mm
253	Pit	Pond	13	15m	2m
254	Pit	Pond	13	15m	2m

Appendix 5: The Undated Features

Context Number	Type	Description	Group	Diameter Length/Width	Depth
142	Cut	Pit	1	1.2m	100mm
143	Fill	Pit	1	1.2m	100mm
146	Cut	Pit	1	1.6m	90mm
147	Fill	Pit	1	1.6m	90mm
177	Cut	Posthole	2	0.30m	130mm
178	Fill	Posthole	2	0.30m	130mm
153	Cut	Posthole	4	0.49m	50mm
154	Fill	Posthole	4	0.49m	50mm
151	Cut	Posthole	4	0.47m	130mm
152	Fill	Posthole	4	0.47m	130mm
149	Cut	Posthole	4	0.20m	90mm
150	Fill	Posthole	4	0.20m	90mm
183	Cut	Posthole	3	0.38m	20mm
184	Fill	Posthole	3	0.38m	20mm
185	Cut	Posthole	3	0.36m	20mm
186	Fill	Posthole	3	0.36m	20mm
189	Cut	?Hearth	4	0.64m	180mm
190	Fill	?Hearth	4	0.64m	180mm
187	Cut	Posthole	5	0.80m	70mm
188	Fill	Posthole	5	0.80m	70mm
203	Cut	Pit	9	1.9m	40mm
204	Fill	Pit	9	1.9m	40mm
210	Cut	Ditch	6	>15m/2.6m	800mm
211	Fill	Ditch	6	>15m/2.6m	800mm
205	Cut	Pit	10	0.85m	60mm
206	Fill	Pit	10	0.85m	60mm
217	Cut	Pit	10	0.80m	50mm
218	Fill	Pit	10	0.80m	50mm
219	Cut	Pit/Posthole	12	0.60m	50mm
220	Fill	Pit/Posthole	12	0.60m	50mm
261	Cut	Pit	12	1.27m	160mm
262	Fill	Pit	12	1.27m	160mm
263	Cut	Pit/Posthole	12	0.58m	130mm
264	Fill	Pit/Posthole	12	0.58m	130mm
265	Cut	Pit/Posthole	12	0.66m	90mm
266	Fill	Pit/Posthole	12	0.66m	90mm

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	BRP 08					
Identification Name and Address	Pipeline linking Bray Water Treatment Works and the Surrey Hill and Crowthorne Reservoirs					
County, District &/or Borough	Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Bracknell Forest District					
OS Grid Refs.	541279 110026 to 488733 163924 and 487166 164638					
Geology	Various					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3140					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief ✓	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav. 02.07.08 - 20.07.08	WB. 21.01.08 - 26.09.08	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Holleran Mouchel Parkman					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin/Jim Stevenson/Dan Swift					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB ✓
	AS	MED ✓	PM ✓	Other		

100 Word Summary.

A watching brief was maintained during groundworks associated with the construction of a new water pipeline linking the water treatment works at Bray and two Reservoirs near Crowthorne (Surrey Hill Reservoir and Crowthorne Reservoir), Berkshire. The heavily plough-truncated remains of a medieval ?farmstead were revealed towards the northern end of the scheme. A small-scale open area excavation resulted in the recovery of a significant assemblage of closely-datable medieval pottery, suggesting sustained activity at the site in the 12th and 13th centuries.

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-60929

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Investigations during the Construction of a New Pipeline Between Bray and Crowthorne
Short description of the project	A watching brief was maintained during groundworks associated with the construction of a new water pipeline linking the water treatment works at Bray and two Reservoirs near Crowthorne, Berkshire. The heavily plough-truncated remains of a medieval ?farmstead were revealed towards the northern end of the scheme.
Project dates	Start: 21-01-2008 End: 26-09-2008
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	BRP 08 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	3140 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	N/A None
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Medieval
Investigation type	'Full excavation', 'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	BERKSHIRE BRACKNELL FOREST CROWTHORNE Bray to Crowthorne Pipeline
Postcode	RG 45
Study area	17.00 Kilometres
Site coordinates	TQ 491359 178417 50.9401330929 0.122938039533 50 56 24 N 000 07 22 E Line
Site coordinates	TQ 487166 164638 50.9278581953 0.116411314256 50 55 40 N 000 06 59 E Line
Height OD / Depth	Min: 20.00m Max: 129.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Archaeology South-East
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	Simon Stevens
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Holleran Mouchel Parkman

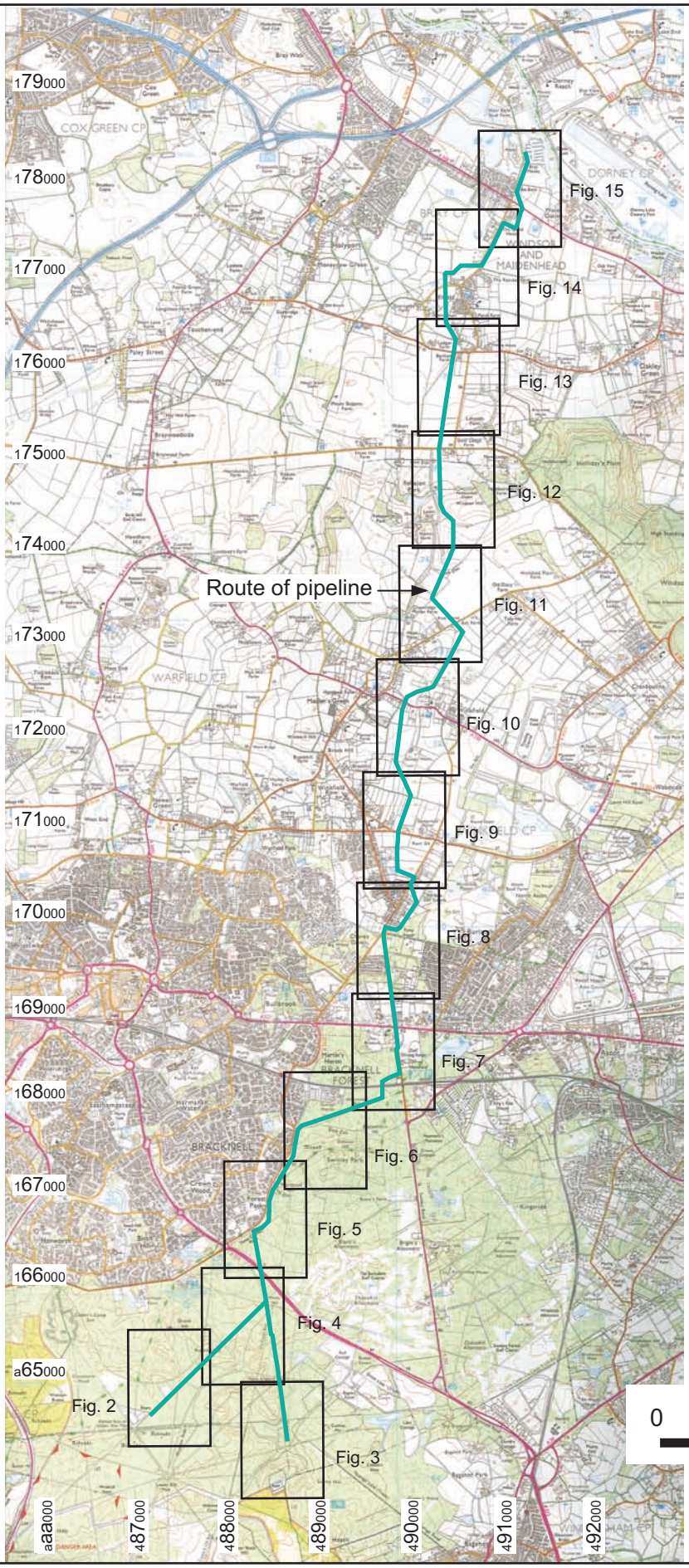
Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	local museum
Physical Contents	'Ceramics', 'Environmental', 'Metal'
Digital Archive recipient	local museum
Digital Contents	'other'
Digital Media available	'Database',' Images raster / digital photography',' Text', 'Spreadsheets', 'Survey'
Paper Archive recipient	local museum
Paper Contents	'other'
Paper Media available	'Aerial Photograph', 'Context sheet','Correspondence','Diary','Drawing','Map','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey ','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Investigations during the Construction of a New Pipeline Between Bray Water Treatment Works and the Surrey Hill and Crowthorne Reservoirs
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Stevens, S.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No. 2009100
Date	2009

Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade, East Sussex
Description	Standard ASE Client Report : A4-sized with cover logos



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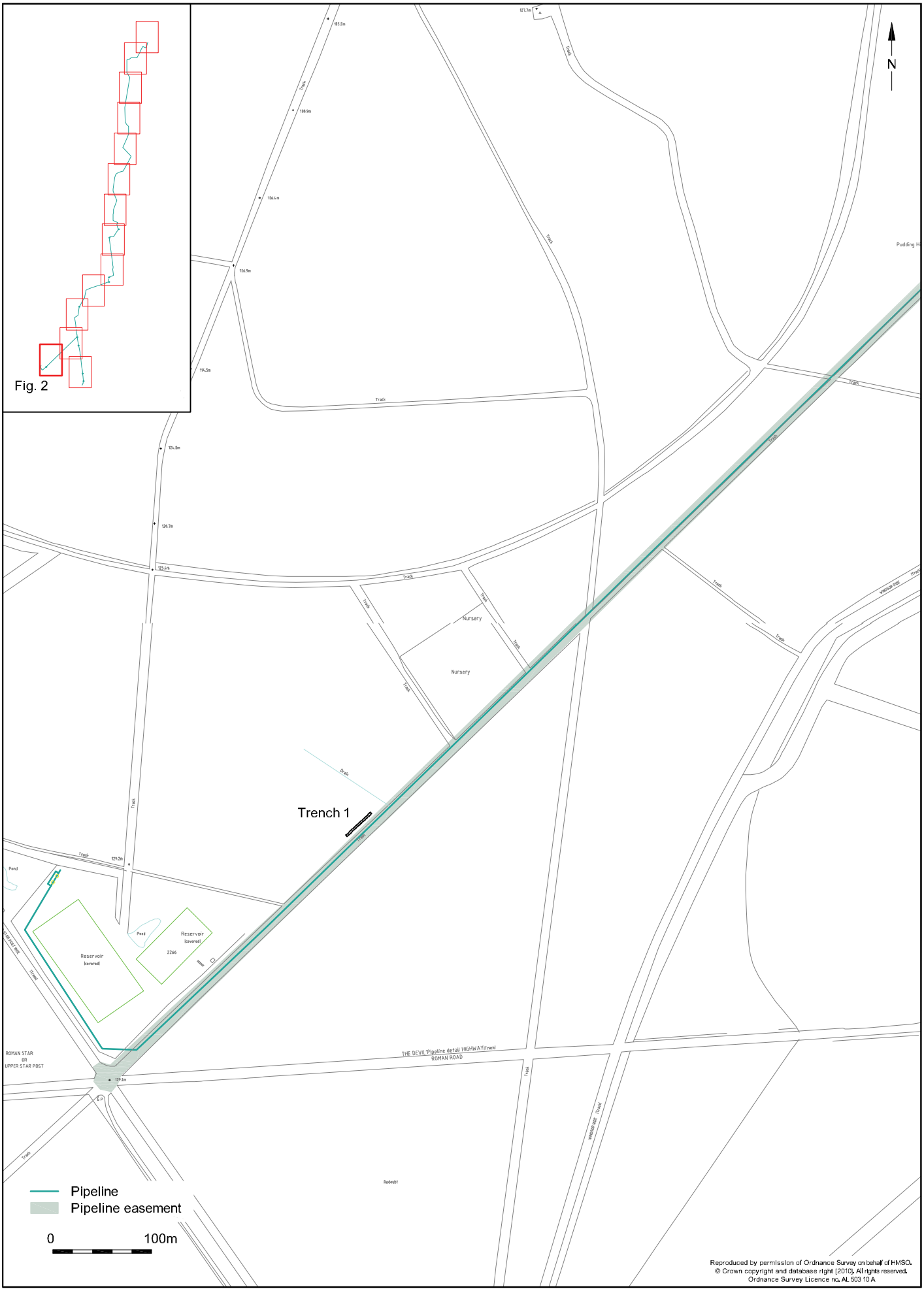
Project Ref: 3140	Feb 2010	Site location	
Report Re: 2009100	Drawn by: JLR		



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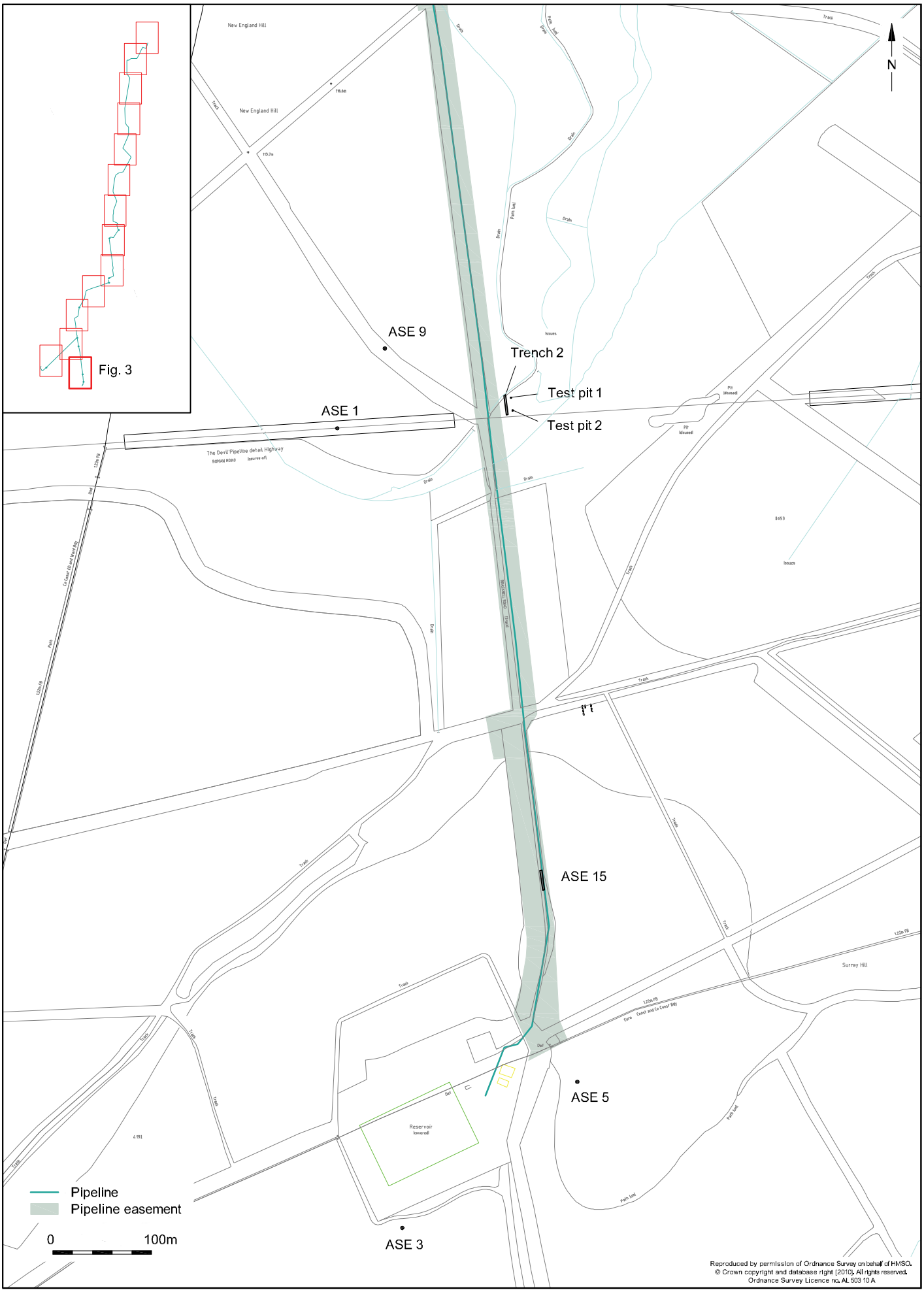
Project Ref: 3140	Feb 2010	Pipeline detail	
Report Ref: 2009100	Drawn by: JLR		



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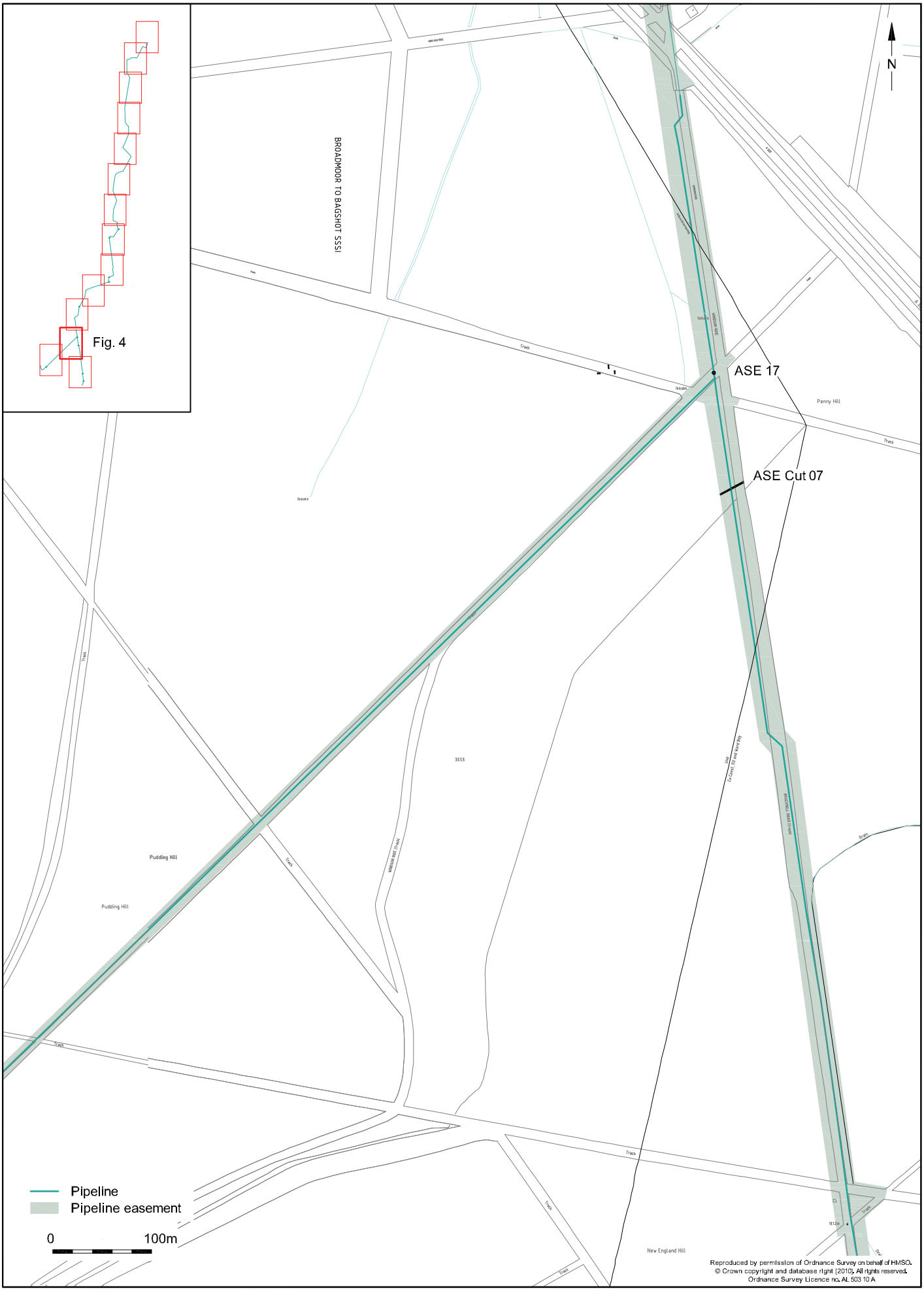
Project Ref: 3140	Feb 2010	Pipeline detail	
Report Ref: 2009100	Drawn by: JLR		



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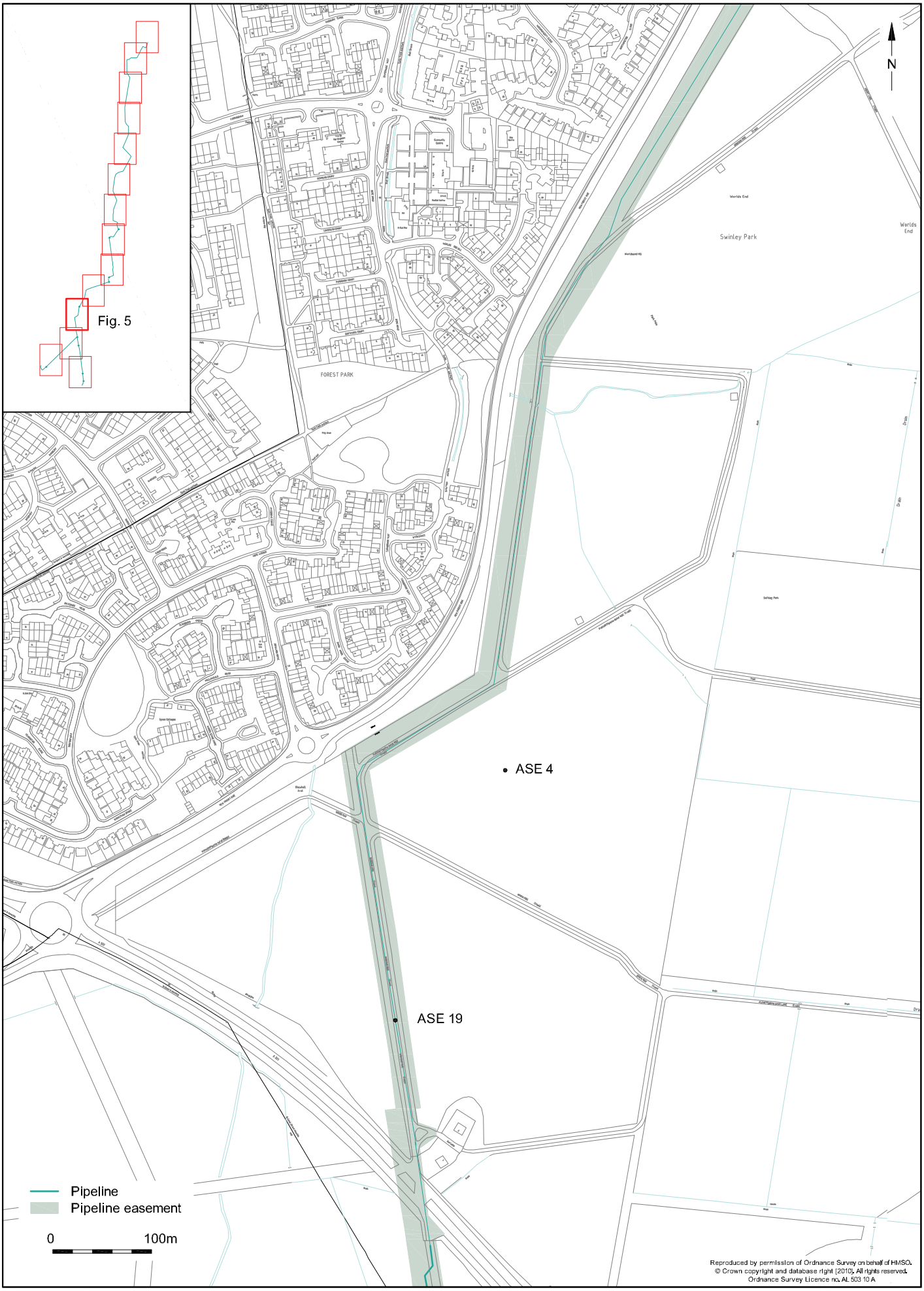
Project Ref: 3140	Feb 2010	Pipeline detail	
Report Ref: 2009100	Drawn by: JLR		



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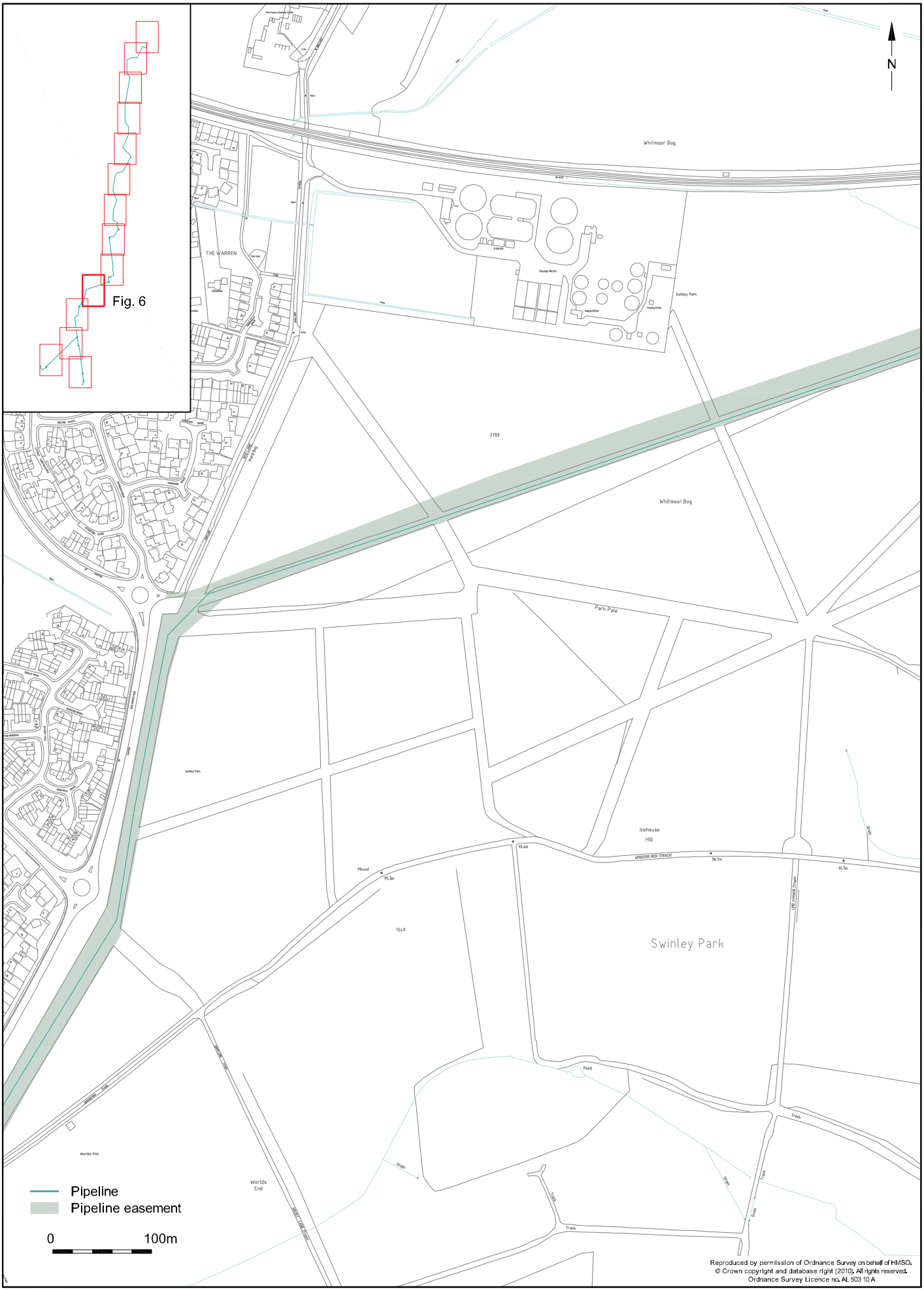
Project Ref: 3140	Feb 2010	Pipeline detail	
Report Ref: 2009100	Drawn by: JLR		



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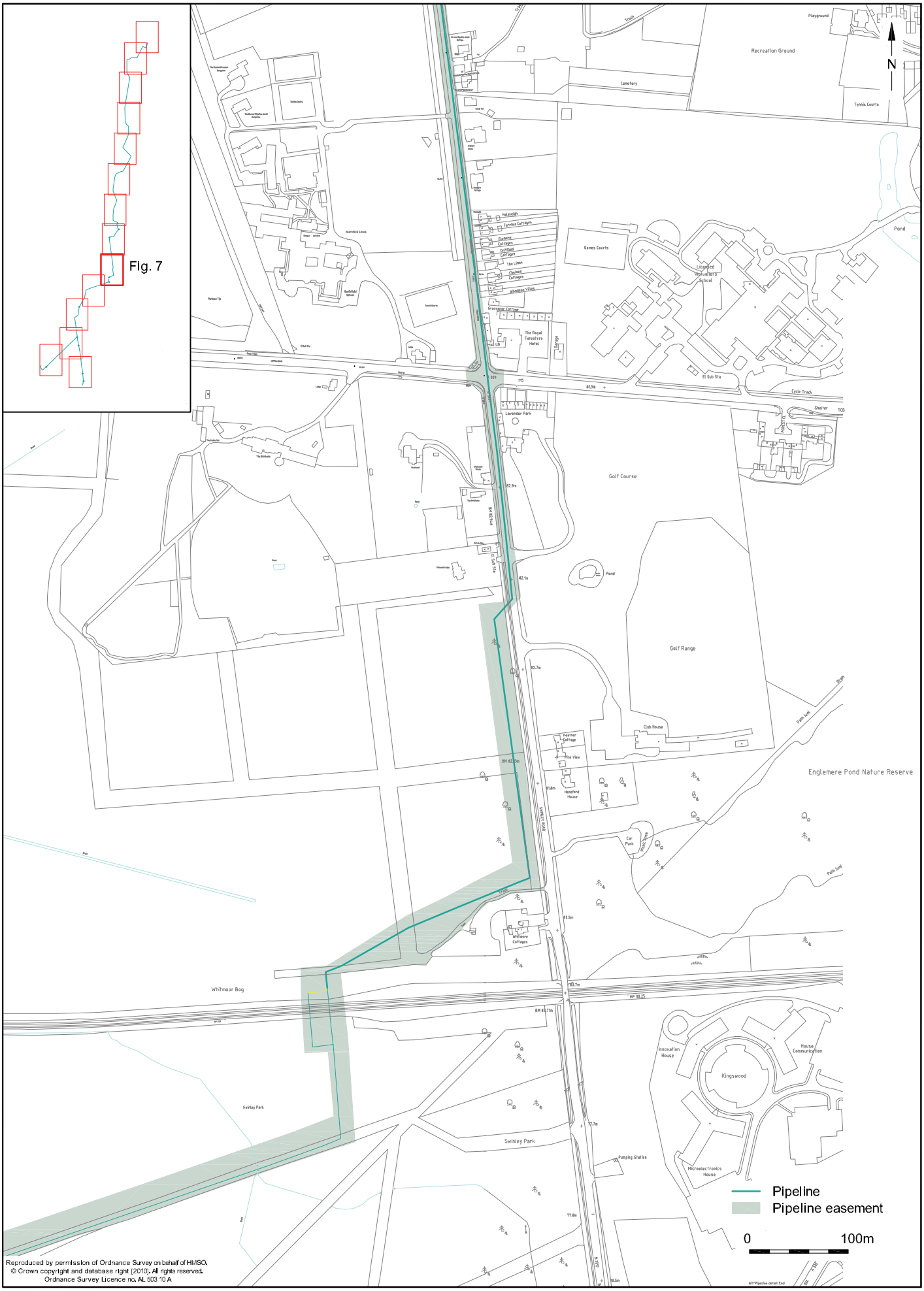

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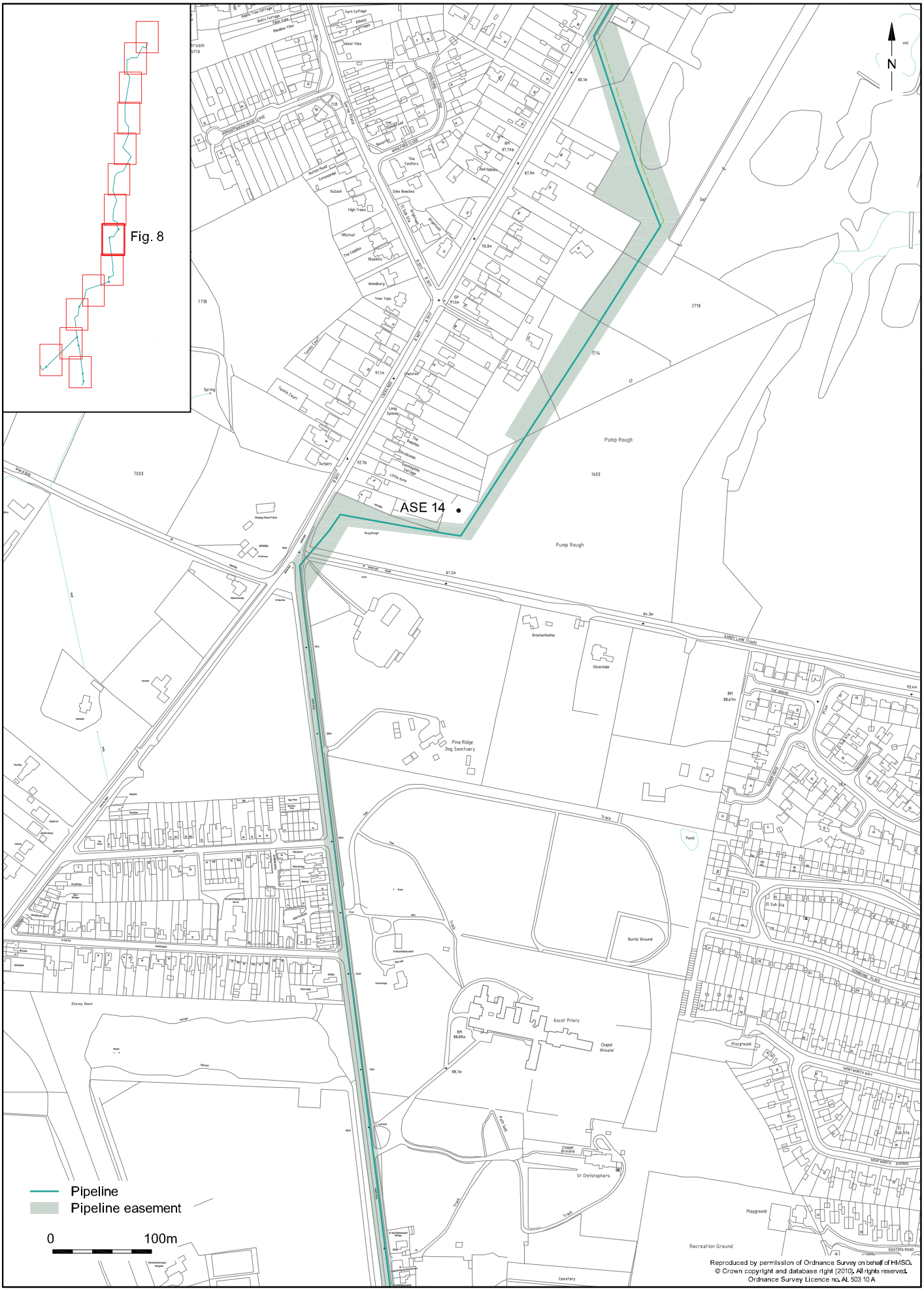

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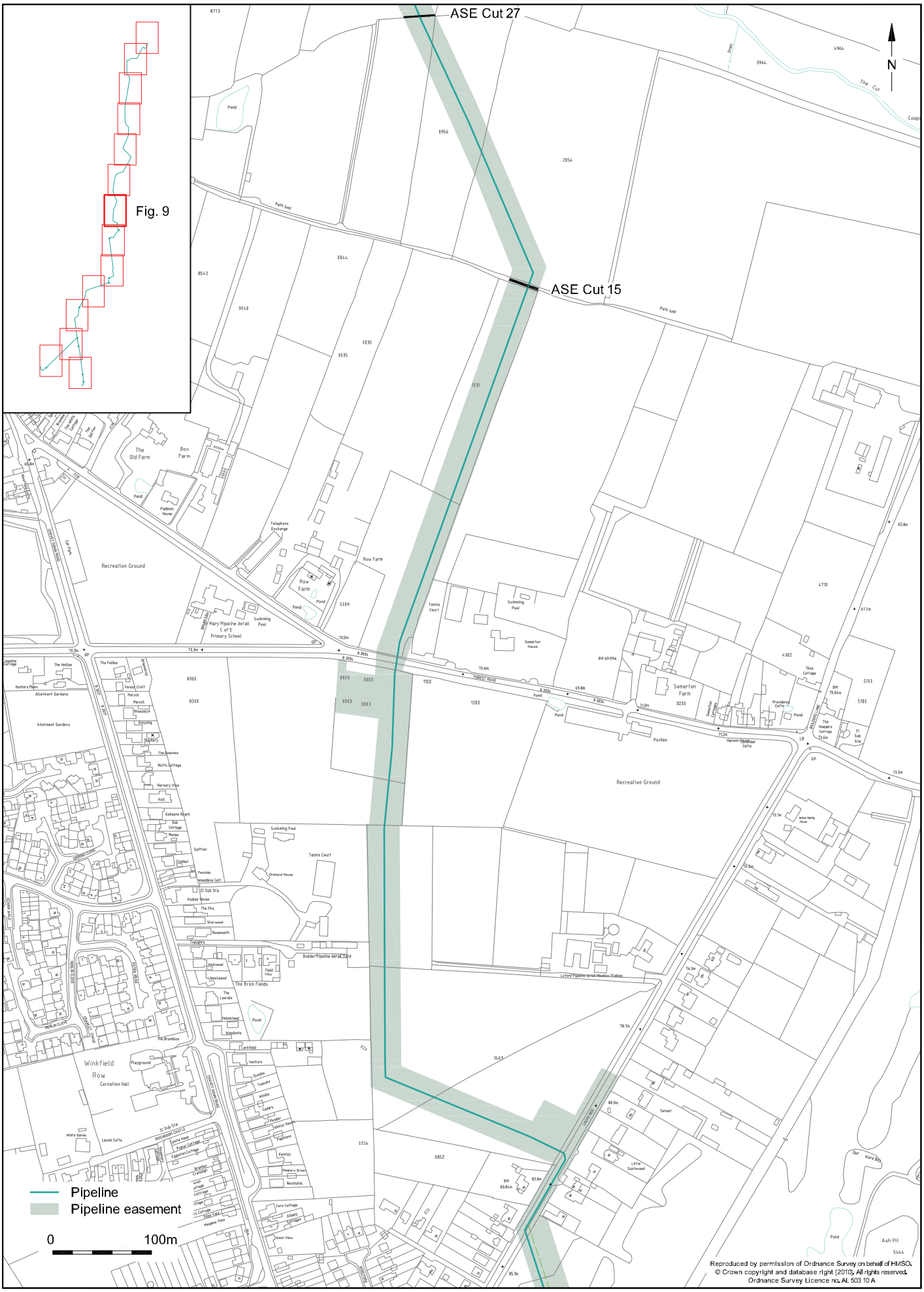

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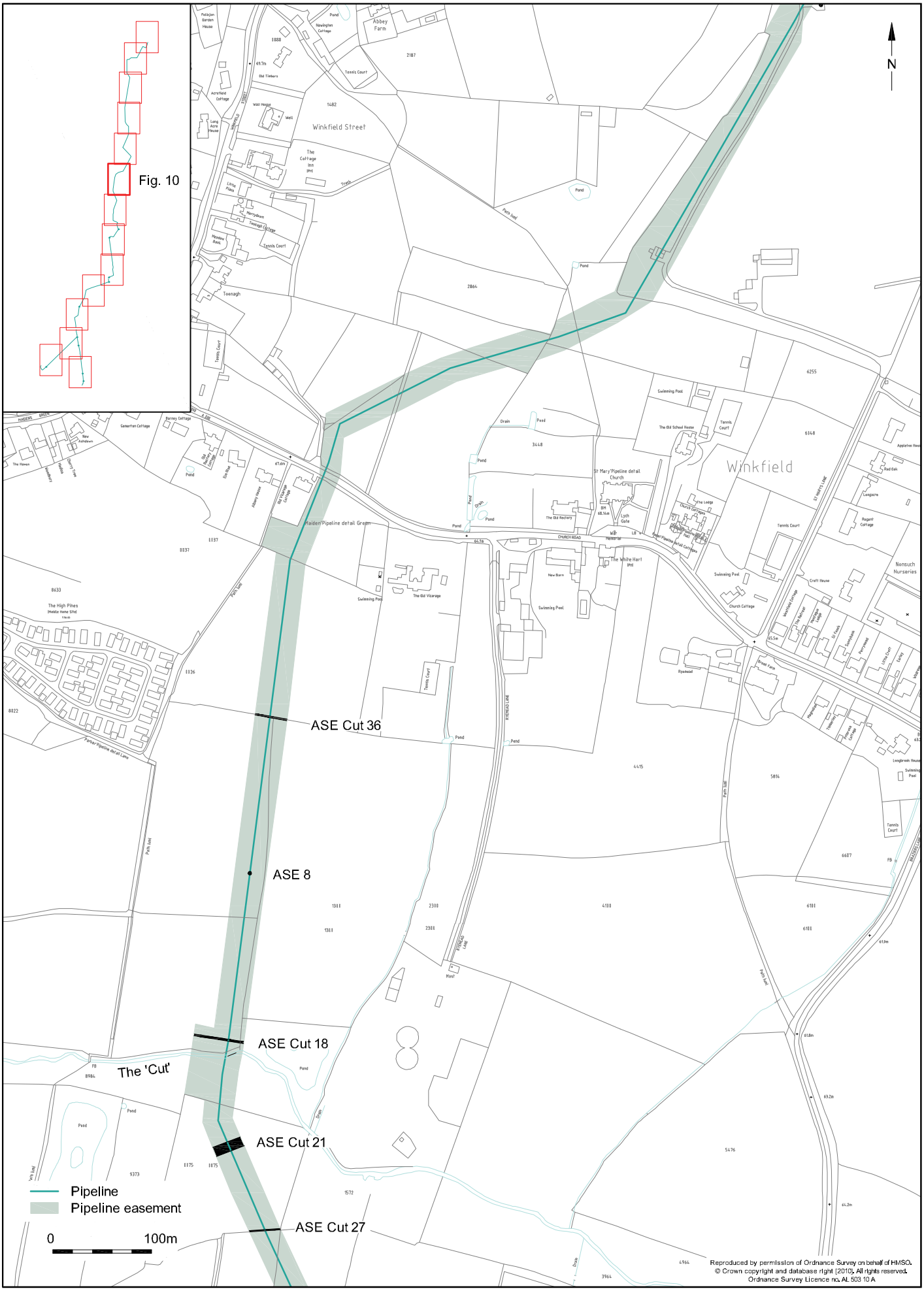

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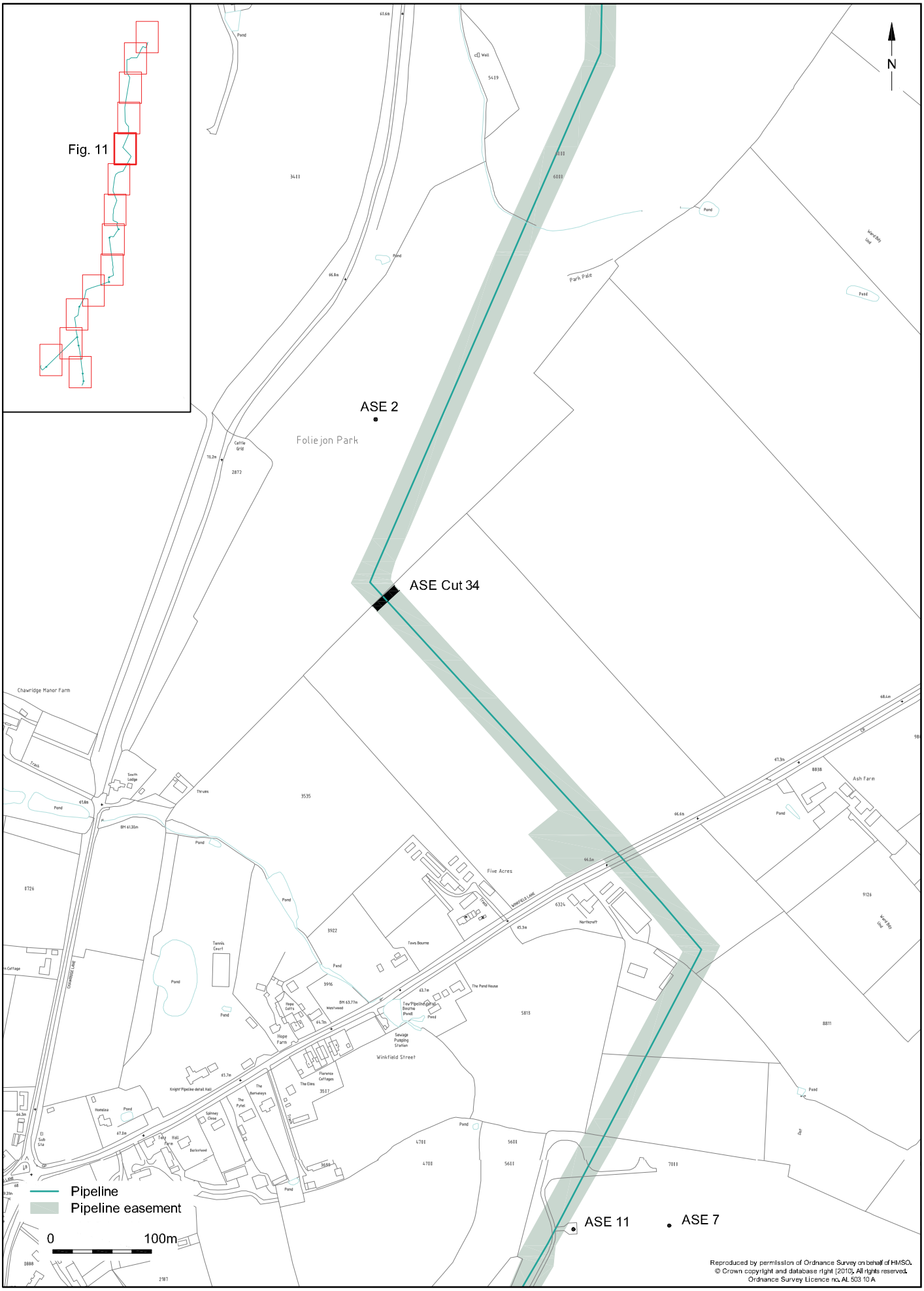

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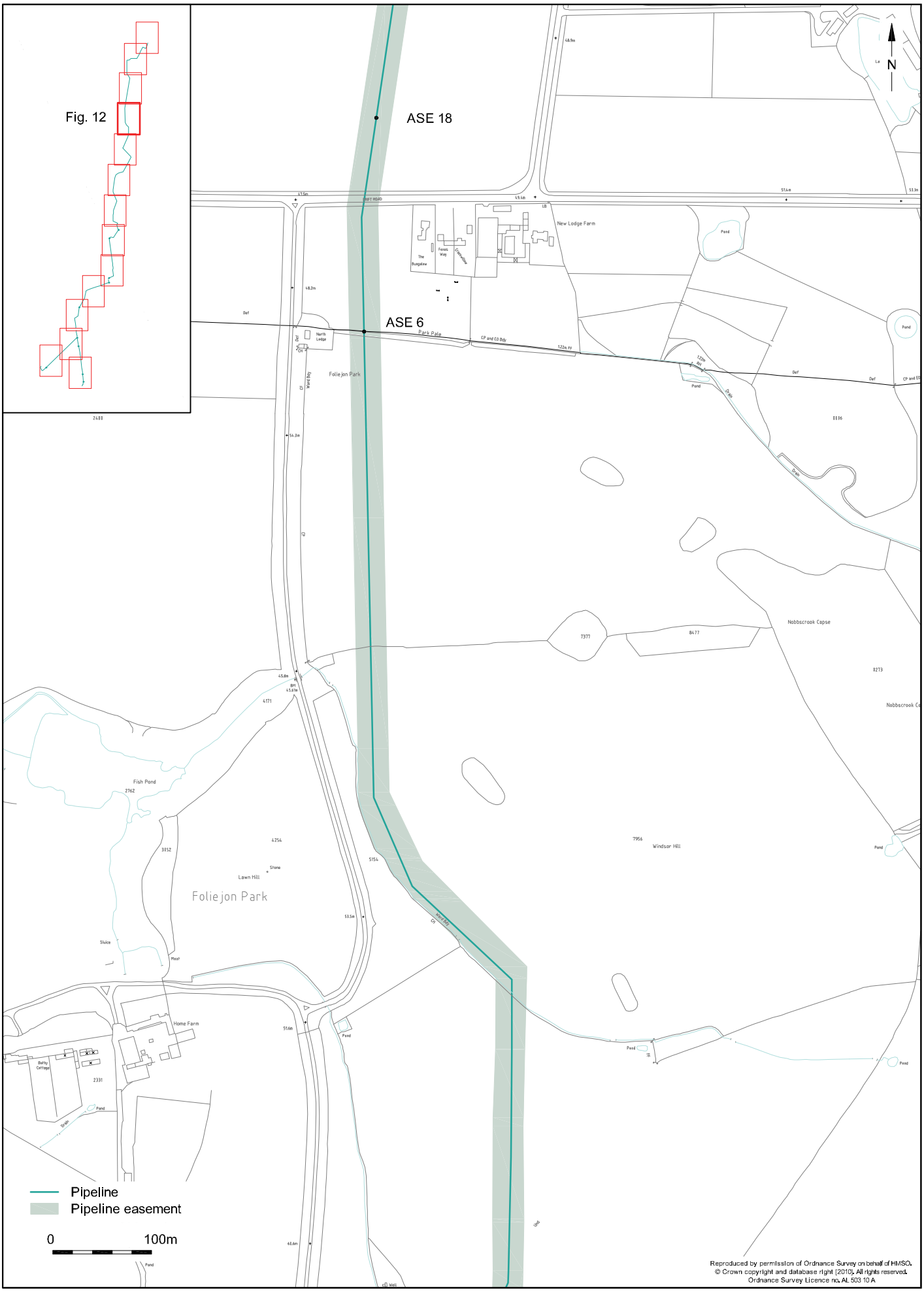

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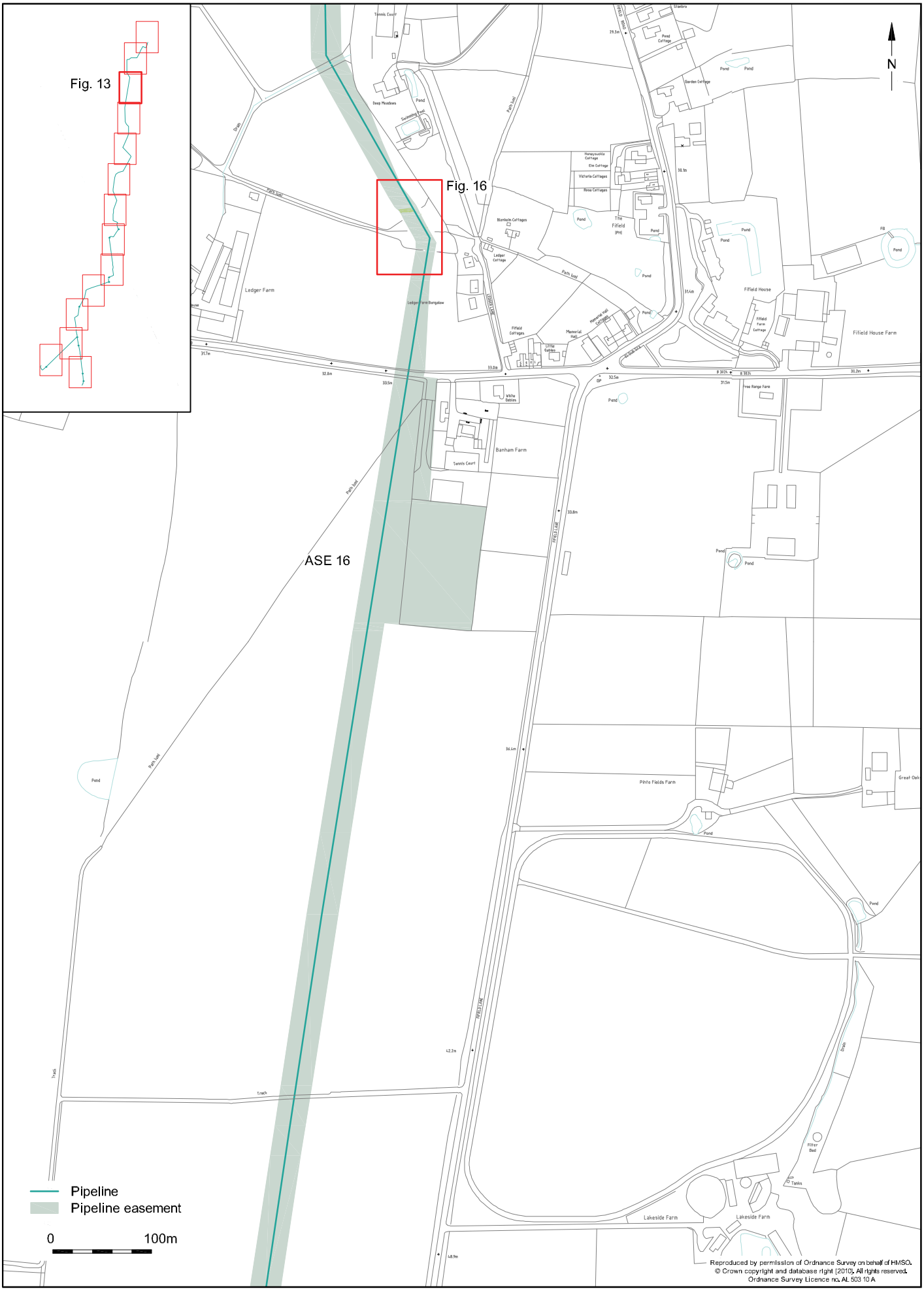

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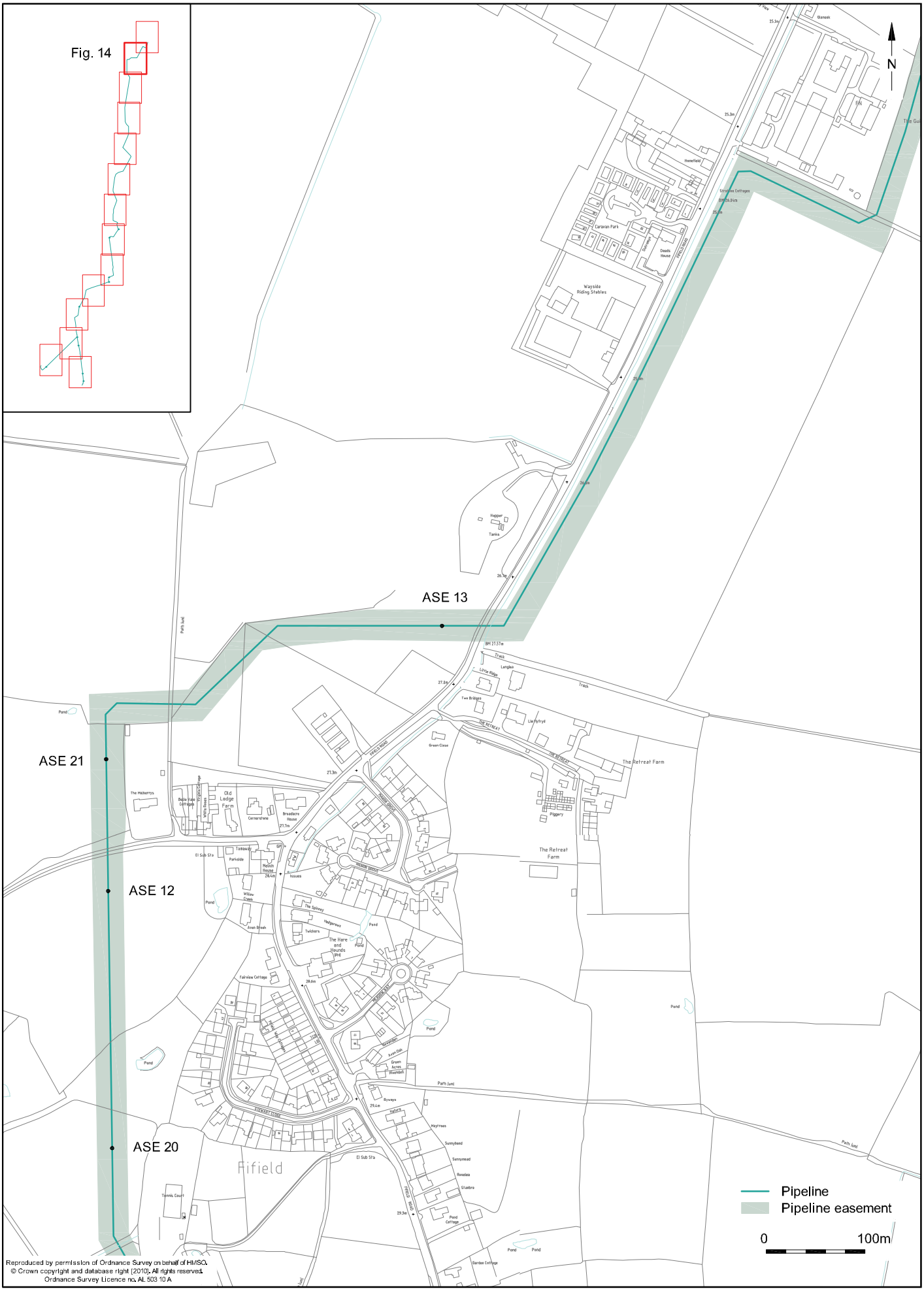

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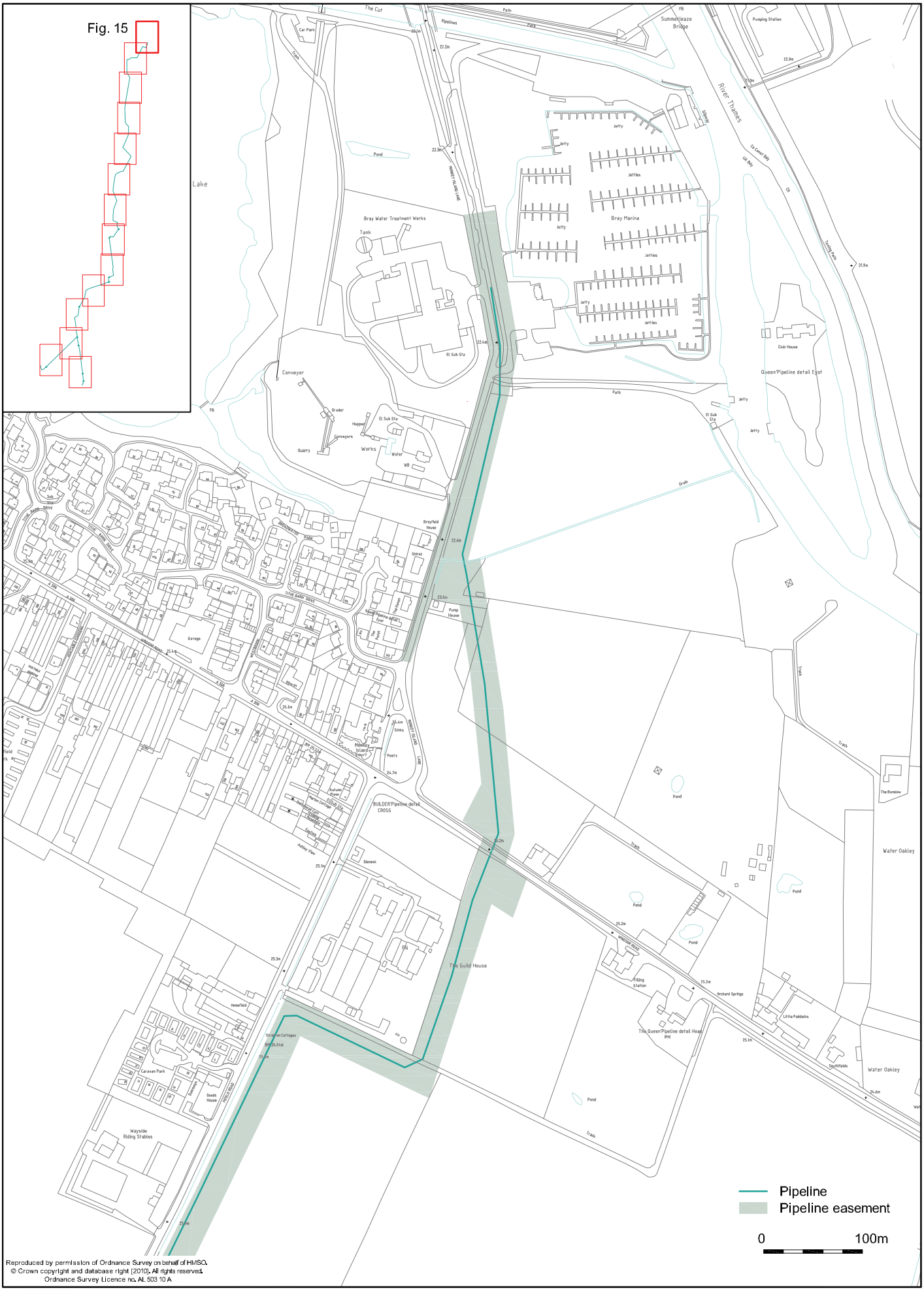

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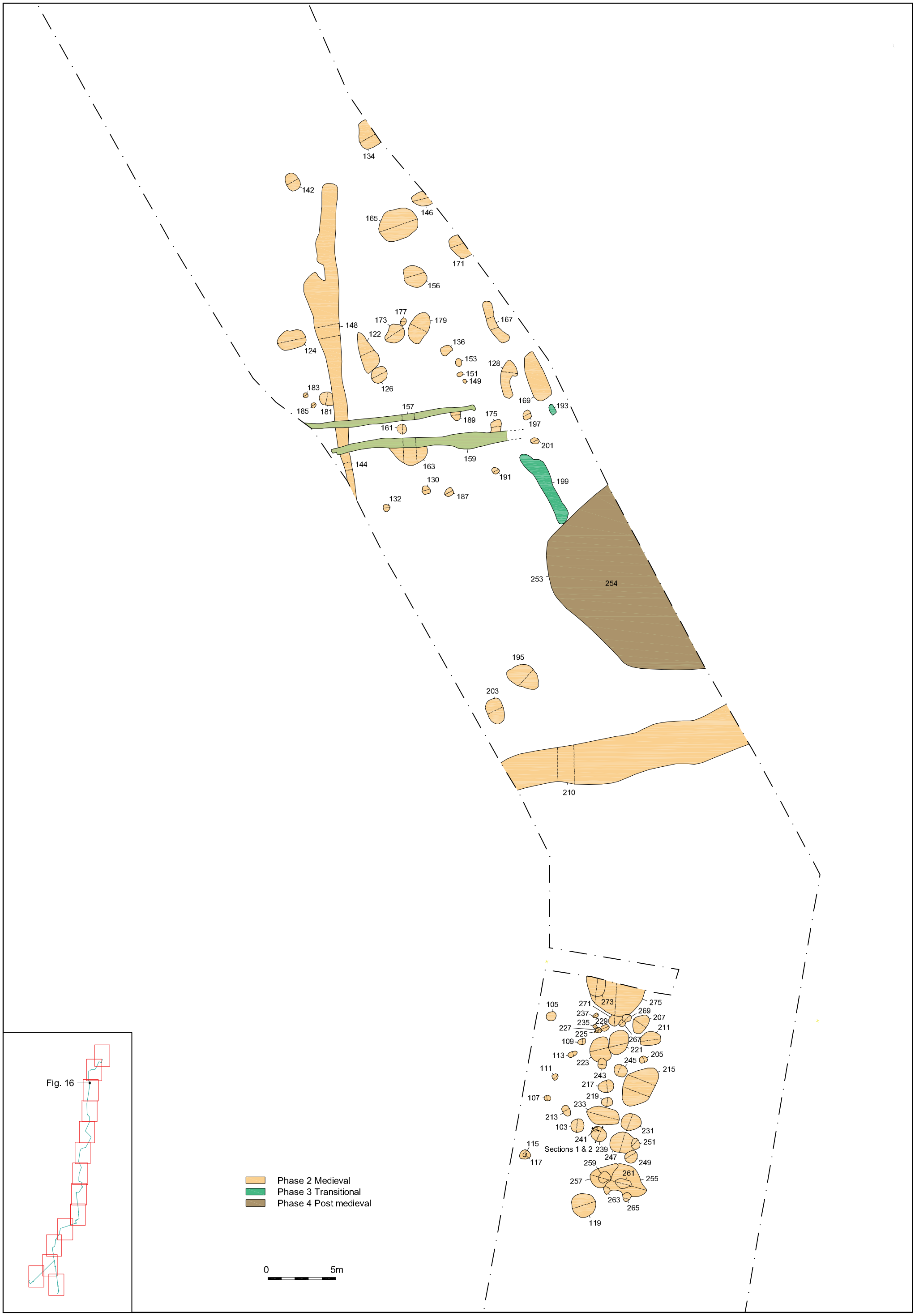

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Project Ref: 3140	Feb 2010	Phased plan	
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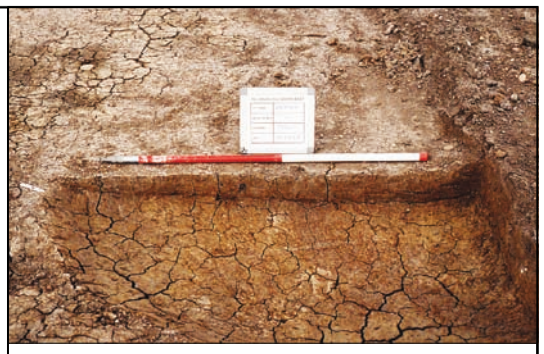
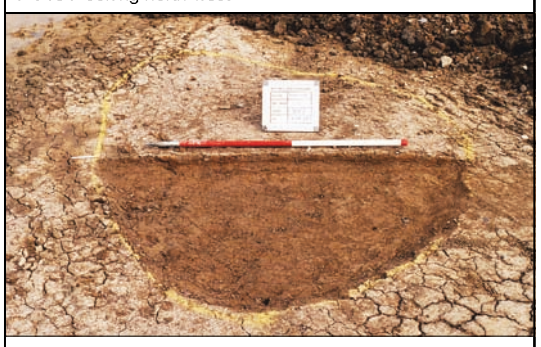
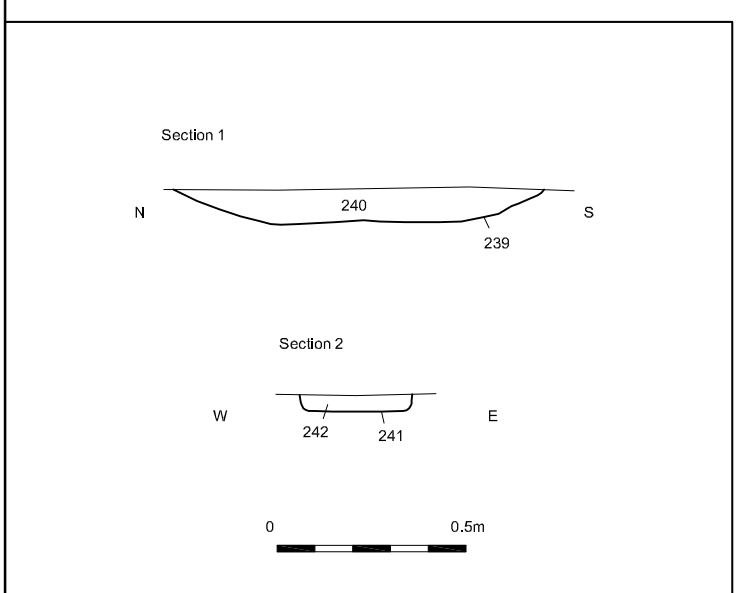


Pit 134 looking north-west

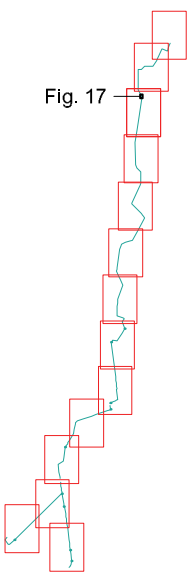


Pit 195 looking north-west

Pit 231 looking west



Pit 239 and posthole 241 looking south-east



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Project Ref: 3140	Feb 2010	Plan of excavation area	
Report Ref: 2009100	Drawn by: JLR		

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