

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at
Knighton WSW, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO35 0NT**

**SZ 56732 87063
NGR 456732 087063**

**Project No. 4516
Site Code: FDK 10**

**ASE Report No. 2010120
OASIS ID: archaeol6-81019**

Dylan Hopkinson MA

August 2010

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief was conducted at Knighton WSW, Sandown, Isle of Wight (NGR 456732 087063). The work was carried out on 10th August 2010 by Archaeology South-East on behalf of their client 4-Delivery prior to the construction of an improved water monitoring system. An area 17.5 metres square was excavated to create two draw pits and a connecting trench for ducted power lines; this work was monitored in order to record any remains that were likely to be disturbed by the development.

The natural geology was not encountered and the stratigraphy observed was made ground over 1.00 metres thick sealed by a layer of topsoil 0.15 metres thick.

No archaeological features or finds were identified.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site background

Archaeology South-East (ASE) (a division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) was commissioned by 4-Delivery to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Knighton WSW, Sandown, Isle of Wight (NGR 456732 087063) in advance of the redevelopment at the site (Figure 1).

1.2 Project background

- 1.2.1 As part of a project to upgrade the water management capabilities of the Isle of Wight a project brief was developed by 4-Delivery and their clients Southern Water, to install the highest industry standard of water monitoring facilities at Knighton WSW, Sandown.
- 1.2.2 The site lies within an archaeologically sensitive area for prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval remains but was exempt from usual planning regulations because it the scheme is classified as Permitted Development. However due to 4 Delivery's policy of best practice in heritage matters they requested that an archaeological watching brief be conducted during the groundworks.
- 1.2.3 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE; WSI 2010) was prepared by ASE prior to the commencement of works.
- 1.2.4 The watching brief was carried out on 10th August 2010. All work was carried out in accordance the WSI and the relevant Standards and Guidance of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).

1.3 Aims and objectives

- 1.3.1 The aim of the watching brief was to record the presence or absence of any archaeological features within the site.
- 1.3.2 To assess the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of all archaeological remains and deposits.

1.3 Scope of the report

- 1.3.1 This report covers the results of the archaeological watching brief on the site. The work was undertaken by Dylan Hopkinson (Archaeologist).
- 1.3.2 The fieldwork was managed by Andy Leonard (Project Manager) and the post-excavation analysis was managed by Jim Stevenson (Project Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and geology

- 2.1.1 According to the British Geological Survey 1:50,000 map (Sheet 344, 345, part 330, 331 Isle of Wight) the natural geology of the site comprised Lower Greensand, though it is close to outcrops of Gault Clay and Upper Greensand and Upper Chalk.
- 2.1.2 The site is located to the southeast of the existing buildings at Knighton WSW but is otherwise set in a rural landscape.

2.2 Archaeological and historical potential

- 2.1 The area's greatest archaeological potential is for remains of Bronze Age to medieval date though the likelihood of recovering ex situ worked flint tools of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic date is also high.
- 2.2 Bronze Age barrows are common to the area at such sites as Nunwell, Ryde and Brading. Additionally, a Bronze Age trackway is also known at Freshwater.
- 2.3 An Iron Age enclosure is known at Knighton itself and Iron Age or Romano-British field systems are known not far to the north of Knighton.
- 2.4 A deserted medieval village including a pottery kiln site are known at Knighton.
- 2.5 A medieval manor house and settlement are known at nearby Nunwell.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the WSI (ASE; WSI 2010) and the relevant Standards and Guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA).
- 3.1.2 The monitored works involved the excavation of two draw pits each 2.00 metres square and a connecting 15 metre long service trench 0.60 metres wide. The excavation was undertaken using a 0.60 metre wide ditching bucket and was recorded by an archaeologist to assess any surviving archaeological remains.
- 3.1.3 All deposits were recorded using ASE standard context sheets, with colours recorded by visual inspection. Sections were drawn at appropriate scales on plastic drafting film.
- 3.1.4 A full photographic record was made recording all features and contexts.
- 3.1.5 All features were drawn in plan at a scale of 1:20 on multi-context trench drawings and section drawings of the excavated profiles were drawn at a scale of 1:10, sample section drawings of the overlying deposits were also drawn at 1:10 scale.

3.2 Status of site archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at the local museum in due course. The contents of the archive including the evaluation phase are tabulated below (Table 1).
- 3.2.2 Table 1. Quantification of site archive

Number of Contexts	2
Context Register Sheets	1
No. of files/paper record	1
Photographs	6
Watching Brief Record Sheets	1

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Natural Geology and Overburden

- 4.1.1 The natural geology across the site was indicated to be Lower Greensand, though it is close to outcrops of Gault Clay and Upper Greensand and Upper Chalk. This was not encountered at the depth of the groundworks.
- 4.1.2 The earliest deposit encountered was compacted pale grey brown crushed chalk with sandy silt [002]. This contained occasional gravels and crushed rubble including brick pieces, iron rods, copper wire and plastic, that was interpreted as made ground. This context was observed to be at least 0.85 metres in thickness and continued below the limit of excavation.
- 4.1.3 Overlying the made ground was a thin layer of topsoil [001]. This was firm dark brown sandy silt with common sub angular gravels and was a maximum of 0.15 metres thick.
- 4.1.4 No archaeological features or deposits were identified. A single, 19th century brick (see 4.2) was retained.

4.2 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

- 4.2.1 A single brick weighing 2122g was recovered from context [2]. The brick measured 230 by 110 by 60mm and was in an orange sandy fabric with moderate fine quartz inclusions with moderate coarse chunky silt inclusions. The brick has a frog with the letters 'J W P' stamped in a triangular arrangement. It is possible the initials relate to a Jacob Kent who leased land for a brickyard on the White Popham Estate in 1869 (IWIAS 2009), though this is unconfirmed. The brick is of probable 19th century date and likely to be of local manufacture.

4.3 Discussion

- 4.3.1 The watching brief proved successful at assessing the nature of archaeological survival on the site. The groundworks were not deep enough to impact on any archaeological deposits.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASE; WSI 2010: *Knighton WSW, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO35 0NT: Archaeological Watching Brief: Written Scheme of Investigation*. Dan Swift ASE
July 2010

Website Consulted

IWIAS 2009, Isle of Wight Industrial Archaeology Society. <http://www.iwias.org.uk/> Consulted
23.8.10.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	FDK 10					
Identification Name and Address	Knighton WSW Sandown Isle of Wight PO35 0NT					
County, District &/or Borough	Isle of Wight					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR 456732 087063					
Geology	Lower Greensand near outcrops of Gault Clay, Lower Greensand, Upper Chalk					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4516					
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.	W.B. 10/08/10	Other		
Sponsor/Client	4 Delivery					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Dylan Hopkinson					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern ✓		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>An archaeological watching brief was conducted at Knighton WSW, Sandown, Isle of Wight (NGR 456732 087063). The work was carried out on 10th August 2010 by Archaeology South-East on behalf of the client 4 Delivery prior to the construction of an improved water monitoring system. An area 17.5 metres square was excavated to create two draw pits and a connecting trench for ducted power lines; this work was monitored in order to record any remains that were likely to be disturbed by the development.</i></p> <p><i>The natural geology was not encountered and the stratigraphy observed was made ground over 1.00 metres thick sealed by a layer of topsoil 0.15 metres thick.</i></p> <p><i>No archaeological features or finds were identified.</i></p>						

OASIS ID: archaeol6-81019

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Watching Brief at Knighton WSW, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO35 0NT
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was conducted at Knighton WSW, Sandown, Isle of Wight (NGR 456732 087063). The work was carried out on 10th August 2010 by Archaeology South-East on behalf of the client 4 Delivery prior to the construction of an improved water monitoring system. An area 17.5 metres square was excavated to create two draw pits and a connecting trench for ducted power lines; this work was monitored in order to record any remains that were likely to be disturbed by the development. The natural geology was not encountered and the stratigraphy observed was made ground over 1.00 metres thick sealed by a layer of topsoil 0.15 metres thick. No archaeological features or finds were identified.
Project dates	Start: 10-08-2010 End: 10-08-2010
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	FDK 10 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Site status	None
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial

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Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'Visual Inspection'
Development type	Industrial - Water treatment works
Development type	Pipelines/cables (e.g. gas, electric, telephone, TV cable, water, sewage, drainage etc.)
Prompt	Voluntary best practice of developer
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ISLE OF WIGHT ISLE OF WIGHT SANDOWN Knighton WSW, Sandown, Isle of Wight
Postcode	PO35 0NT
Study area	17.50 Square metres
Site coordinates	SZ 56732 87063 50.6798783566 -1.196932403580 50 40 47 N 001 11 48 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator 4 Delivery Ltd

Project design originator Archaeology South-East

Project director/manager Andy Leonard

Project supervisor Dylan Hopkinson

Type of sponsor/funding body 4D Ltd

Name of sponsor/funding body 4 Delivery Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient local museum

Physical Contents 'Ceramics'

Digital Archive recipient local museum

Digital Contents 'Stratigraphic'

Digital Media available 'Images raster / digital photography'

Paper Archive recipient local museum

Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet', 'Notebook - Excavation', 'Research', 'General Notes'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An Archaeological Watching Brief at Knighton WSW, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO35 0NT

Author(s)/Editor(s) Hopkinson, D.

Other bibliographic details ASE Report No. 2010120

Date 2010

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

Place of issue or publication Portslade, Brighton

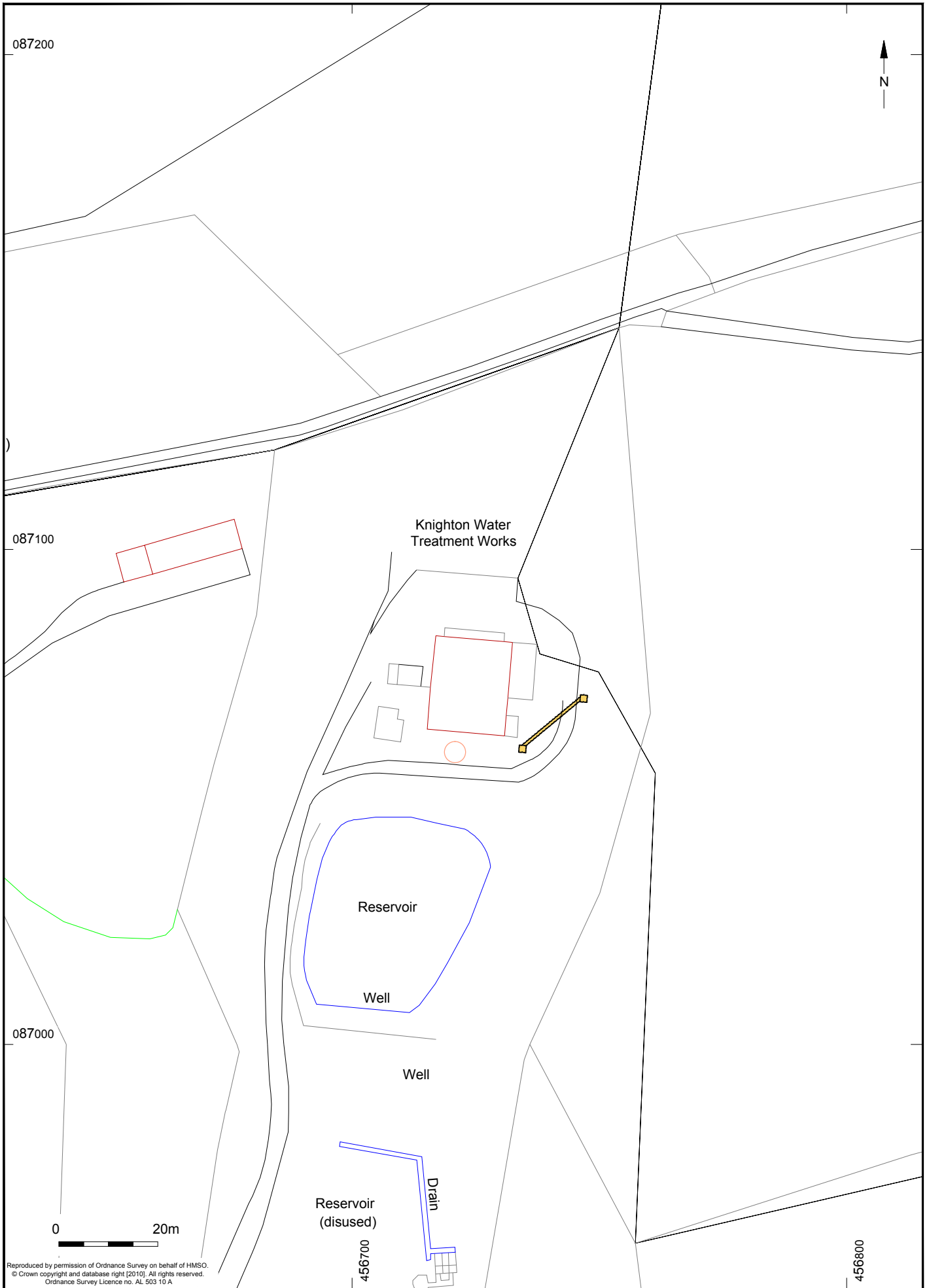
Description A4 bound - 13 pages - 3 Illustrations

Entered by Dylan Hopkinson (dylan.hopkinson@ucl.ac.uk)

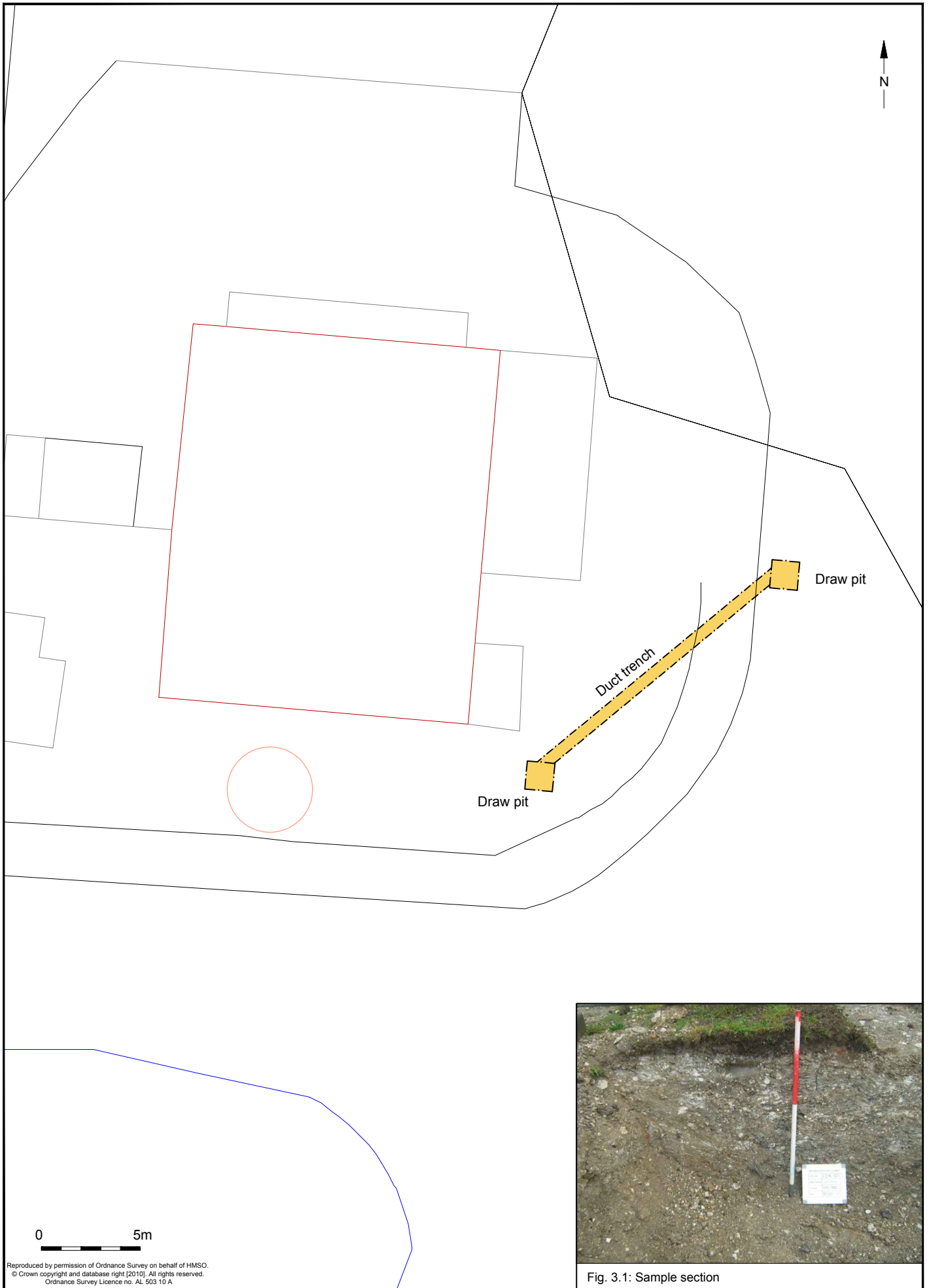
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Project Ref: 4516	Sept 2010	Site location	
Report Ref: 2010120	Drawn by: DJH	Fig. 1	



© Archaeology South-East		Knighton WSW, Isle of Wight		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4516	Sept 2010	Site plan		
Report Ref: 2010120	Drawn by: JLR			



© Archaeology South-East		Knighton WSW, Isle of Wight		Fig. 3
Project Ref: 4516	Sept 2010	Monitored areas and sample section		
Report Ref: 2010120	Drawn by: JLR			

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