

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at Newmarket 1B WSW,  
south of A27, near Kingston, Lewes, East Sussex,**

**NGR 537483 109081  
(TQ 37483 09081)**

**Project No: 4396  
Site Code: NWT 10**

**ASE Report No: 2010167  
OASIS id: archaeol6-83526**

**By Nick Garland MA  
Illustrations by Dylan Hopkinson**

**September 2010**

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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at University College London, was commissioned by 4Delivery Ltd to undertake a archaeological watching brief at the Newmarket 1b WSW, south of the A27 trunk road, near Kingston, Lewes, East Sussex. The work was undertaken between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August 2010.*

*Excavations included the removal of topsoil across two areas measuring approximately 2922 m<sup>2</sup> and the excavation of approximately 23.5 metres of pipe trenching. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were uncovered during these works.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at University College London, was commissioned by 4Delivery Ltd (4D) to undertake a watching brief on land at the Newmarket 1b WSW, south of the A27 trunk road, near Kingston, Lewes, East Sussex, (NGR TQ 37483 09081; Fig. 1) hereafter referred to as 'the site'.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The site is located just to the south of the A27 between Kingston and Falmer, between the road and the railway line to the south. The site is located on pasture fields immediately to the west of the existing water works. The site lies on a steep gradient and slopes downwards from the south towards the A27. Green fields lie to the north and south beyond the road and railway line.

1.2.2 The British Geological Survey (sheet 318/333 Brighton and Worthing) indicates that the underlying superficial and bedrock deposits comprise head deposits overlying chalk.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 Following consultation between 4D, ASE and East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Archaeological Officers, following an initial programme of geotechnical site investigations and analysing the potential for archaeological remains, it was decided that an archaeological watching brief should be conducted on all intrusive groundworks falling outside of (i.e. west of) the existing facilities.

1.3.2 The proposed groundworks comprised:

- The creation of a contractors' compound
- The excavations for a chlorine sample chamber sampling kiosk, contact main, drain down chamber and associated drainage pipe work

1.3.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the watching brief was prepared by ASE and approved by Greg Chuter in advance of groundworks taking place.

### **1.4 Scope of Report**

1.4.1 This report details the findings of the watching brief which was undertaken by Simon Stevens, Nick Garland and Liane Peyre between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August 2010. The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager, Fieldwork) and Jim Stevenson (Project Manager, Post-Excavation).

## 2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 An archaeological background of the site was prepared using data from an HER search of monuments within a 1km radius of the site. Eleven sites and findspots of archaeological interest are recorded in the HER (table 1) along with 118 separate isolated findspots about which little is known.

### 2.2 Prehistoric 450 000 BC – AD42

2.2.1 Prehistoric activity in the area is recorded through findspots of a probable paleolithic tool (MES1374) and a bowl barrow (MES2011). Bronze Age activity in the area has also been identified through find spots of pottery at Housedean Farm (MES1385) and a find of a bronze ring believed to be of Bronze Age date. Iron Age pottery has also been recovered from Housedean Farm.

### 2.3 Roman 43 – 409AD

2.3.1 Roman activity within the immediate area of the site has been identified through finds of pottery and Housedean farm and an isolated find spot of a coin of Roman date (MES2004).

### 2.4 Medieval 410 -1539AD

2.4.1 Medieval occupation of the area is represented by field systems, trackways and boundary ditches thought to be of medieval date (MES1372, MES1383, MES1562, MES7255).

### 2.5 Post-medieval 1540-1900AD

2.5.1 No significant finds of sites of post-medieval date are recorded within the area.

HER Number	Grid Reference	Site name	Site summary/description	Monument Type
MES1372	TQ 375 096	Field System	Field System	FIELD SYSTEM, FIELD SYSTEM, SITE, FIELD SYSTEM, FIELD SYSTEM, SITE
MES1374	TQ 3637 0873	paleo tool	Palaeolithic implement found prior to 1930. Pear shaped implements, probably of Palaeolithic date, have been recorded on a hill north of Loose Bottom. The two finds might be referring to the same objects.	SITE, FINDSPOT
MES1380	TQ 3723 0832	site of building	Cold Coombes - site of building	SITE, BUILDING
MES1381	TQ 3711 0853	trackway	Near Cold Coombes - parallel trackways	SITE, TRACKWAY
MES1383	TQ 3735 0875	boundary ditch	Boundary ditch near New Barn	SITE, BOUNDARY DITCH

MES1385	TQ 367 101	BA/IA/RB/Med pottery scatter	Pottery finds at Housedean Farm	SITE, FINDSPOT, FINDSPOT
MES1562	TQ 373 081	field system	Cultivation terraces on Cold Coombe	SITE, CULTIVATION TERRACE
MES2004	TQ 376 088	Rom coin	Ro coin (2nd c.)	FINDSPOT
MES2008	TQ 38 09	Bronze ring	Bronze ring possibly Bronze Age	FINDSPOT
MES2011	TQ 3744 0883	Bowl barrow	Bowl barrow site of	BOWL BARROW
MES7255	TQ 3681 0868	field systems	A series of fields and trackways showing as cropmarks on aerial photographs	FIELD SYSTEM, TRACKWAY

**Table 1: Summary of HER data from within a 1km radius of site (excluding unspecified findspots)**

### 3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 The aims and objectives of the evaluation were laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2010):

3.1.2 The general objective of the archaeological work was to monitor the ground works specified below in order to ensure that any deposits and features, artefacts and ecofacts of archaeological interest, were recorded and interpreted to appropriate standards.

#### 3.2 Methodology

3.2.1 For the complete adopted methodology, the reader is referred to the WSI (ASE 2010); what is listed here is précis of the detail contained within that report.

3.2.2 Excavations were monitored at all times by an archaeologist until it became clear beyond reasonable doubt that no archaeological remains are present (e.g. once excavation reached undisturbed natural subsoils, below which there will be no archaeological remains present). The works monitored included the topsoil strip of the compound and excavation area and the excavation of the pipe trench.

Number of Contexts	3 contexts
No. of files/paper record	1 folder
Photographs	5 Colour slide, 5 B+W, 28 Digital

Table 2: Quantification of site archive

### 4.0 RESULTS (Figures 3 and 4)

4.1 The works monitored associated with the development were the topsoil strip of the compound and excavation area and the excavation of approximately 5 metres of the pipe trench. After monitoring these works and through consultation with Greg Chuter, ESCC Archaeological Officer, it was deemed unnecessary to continue monitoring any further works.

<b>Number</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Max. Length</b>	<b>Max. Width</b>	<b>Deposit Thickness</b>	<b>Height m.AOD</b>
001	Deposit	Topsoil	As Ex.	As Ex.	0.2 m	38.86 to 44.20
002	Deposit	Head Deposit	As Ex.	As Ex.	0.7 m	38.66 to 44.00
003	Deposit	Chalk	As Ex.	As Ex.	N/A	37.96

Table 3: Stratigraphy across site

## **4.2 Topsoil Strip**

4.2.1 Two areas of the site, for the constructor's compound and for the construction area surrounding the pipe trench, were monitored during topsoil stripping. The area of the constructors compound measured 36 metres in length and 22.5 metres in width while the construction area measured 64 metres in length and 33 metres in width. In both areas the topsoil [001] was excavated to an approximate depth of 0.2 metres revealing a mid orangish brown silty clay head deposit [002] underneath. Modern glass and metal was observed within the topsoil but not retained. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed.

## **4.3 Pipe trench excavation**

4.3.1 A pipe trench excavation measuring 23.5 metres in length, 4 metres in width and 2.7 metres in depth was also monitored. While the topsoil had previously been removed through topsoil stripping, the excavations revealed that the head deposit [002] continued to a depth of 1 metre before natural chalk [003] was encountered. The chalk continued to the base of the excavation. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed.



## **5.0 DISCUSSION**

- 5.1** No archaeological deposits, remains or features were encountered during the excavations monitored at the Newmarket 1b WSW.
- 5.2** The topsoil stripping and later excavation revealed that this area had not been significantly disturbed despite the construction of the A27 and railway line in close proximity.
- 5.3** The natural chalk was only encountered during excavations for the pipe trench and no archaeological features or artefacts were observed from this level. It should be noted that this excavation only revealed a small percentage of natural chalk in the surrounding area and that potential for archaeology at this level is still unknown.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

ASE, 2010. *Newmarket 1B WSW, south of A27, near Kingston, Lewes, East Sussex, Archaeological Watching Brief: Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished grey literature

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Archaeology South-East would like to thank Will Rogers of 4D for commissioning the work and Greg Chuter of East Sussex County Council for his guidance throughout the project.

**SMR Summary Form**

Site Code	NWT 10					
Identification Name and Address	Newmarket 1B WSW, South of A27, near Kingston, Lewes, East Sussex,					
County, District &/or Borough	Lewes, East Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	537483 109081					
Geology	Head Deposit overlying Chalk					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4396					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief <b>X</b>	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field <b>X</b>	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 16/8/10 to 24/8/10	Other		
Sponsor/Client	4Delivery					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Nick Garland					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other None		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at University College London, was commissioned by 4D to undertake a archaeological watching brief at the Newmarket 1b WSW, south of the A27 trunk road, near Kingston, Lewes, East Sussex. The work was undertaken between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August 2010.</i></p> <p><i>Excavations included the removal of topsoil across two areas measuring approximately 2922 m<sup>2</sup> and the excavation of approximately 23.5 metres of pipe trenching. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were uncovered during these works.</i></p>						

## OASIS Form

### OASIS ID: archaeol6-83526

#### Project details

Project name           Newmarket

Short description of the project           Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at University College London, was commissioned by 4D to undertake a archaeological watching brief at the Newmarket 1b WSW, south of the A27 trunk road, near Kingston, Lewes, East Sussex. The work was undertaken between the 16th and 24th August 2010. Excavations included the removal of topsoil across two areas measuring approximately 2922 m<sup>2</sup> and the excavation of approximately 23.5 metres of pipe trenching. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were uncovered during these works.

Project dates           Start: 16-08-2010 End: 24-08-2010

Previous/future work           No / No

Any associated project reference codes           NWT10 - Sitecode

Type of project           Recording project

Site status           None

Current Land use           Grassland Heathland 2 - Undisturbed Grassland

Monument type           NONE None

Significant Finds           NONE None

Investigation type           'Watching Brief'

Prompt           Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice

#### Project location

Country           England

Site location           EAST SUSSEX LEWES KINGSTON NEAR LEWES  
Newmarket

Postcode           BN7 3

Study area           2922.00 Square metres

Site coordinates           TQ 37483 09081 50.8642939847 -0.04613223003510 50 51  
51 N 000 02 46 W Point

Height OD / Depth           Min: 37.96m Max: 37.96m

#### Project creators

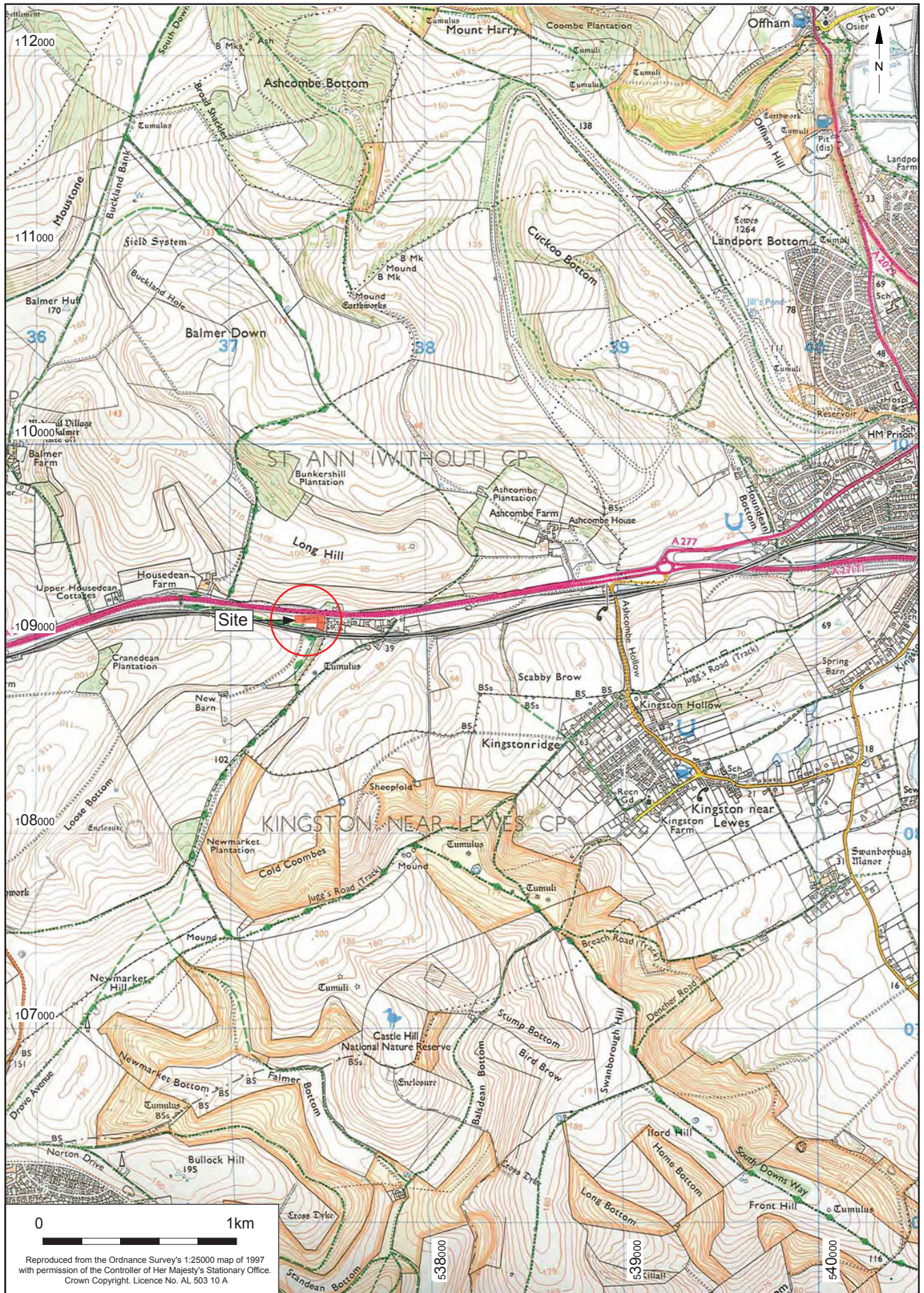
Name of Organisation           Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator           East Sussex County Council

Project design originator           Archaeology South-East

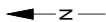
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	Nick Garland
Type of sponsor/funding body	4D Ltd
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Contents	'none'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Report'
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Watching Brief at Newmarket 1B WSW, south of A27, near Kingston, Lewes, East Sussex,
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Garland, N
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Entered by	Nick Garland (n.garland@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	30 September 2010





© Archaeology South-East		Newmarket 1B WSW		Fig. 1
Project Ref. 4396	October 2010	Site location		
Report Ref. 2010167	Drawn by: DJH			





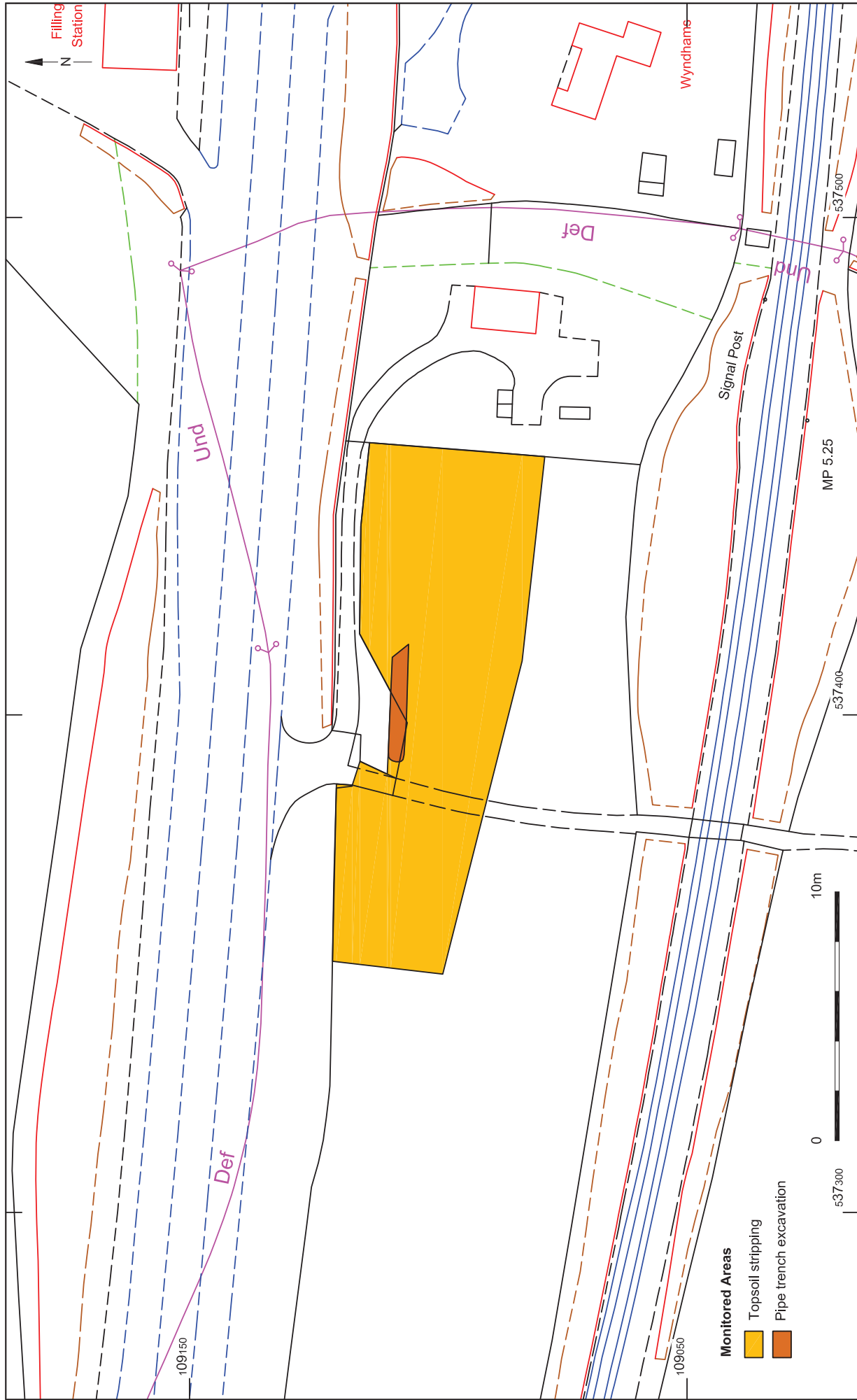
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 Drawn by: DJH

Newmarket 1B WSW

Site plan of proposed works

Fig. 2



© Archaeology South-East		Newmarket 1B WSW	
Project Ref: 4396	October 2010	Plan of monitored works	
Report Ref: 2010167	Drawn by: DJH		

Fig. 3



Pipe trench excavation, facing northeast.



Topsoil stripping of excavation area, facing northeast

© Archaeology South-East		Kingsmead Road, Canterbury	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 3916	August 2009		
Report Ref: 2009110	Drawn by: DJH		



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