

T H A M E S V A L L E Y
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
S E R V I C E S

**The Coach House, Macrae Road,
Yateley, Hampshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Andrew Taylor

Site Code: HYH11/50

(SU 8143 6085)

The Coach House, Macrae Road, Yateley, Hampshire

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Westbuild Homes**

by Andy Taylor
ThamesValleyArchaeologicalServices
Ltd

SiteCodeHYH11/50

June 2011

Summary

Site name: The Coach House, Macrae Road, Yateley, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 8143 6085

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 8th June 2011

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Andy Taylor

Site code: HYH 11/50

Area of site: c.0.19 hectares

Summary of results: No deposits or finds of an archaeological nature were identified

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Hampshire Museum Service in due course.

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www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.*

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford ✓ 09.06.11
	Steve Preston ✓ 07.06.11

The Coach House, Macrae Road, Yateley, Hampshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by Andy Taylor

Report 11/50

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at The Coach House, Macrae Road, Yateley, Hampshire (SU 8143 6085) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Matthew Brook of Westbuild Homes Limited, Hunters Lodge, Rectory Road, Padworth Common, Reading, RG7 4JB.

Planning permission (10/2283FUL) has been gained from Hart District Council for residential development of the site following demolition of the former structure. This consent contains a condition relating to archaeology. Based on the results of a field evaluation, a further phase of fieldwork may have been required if significant archaeological deposits are revealed.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's Planning Policy Statement, *Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5 2010), and the District Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Dr Hannah Fluck, Senior Archaeologist with Hampshire County Council, advisers to the District on matters relating to archaeology. The fieldwork was undertaken by Andy Taylor and Steve Crabb on 8th June 2011 and the site code is HYH 11/50. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Hampshire Museum Service in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on an irregular parcel of land bounded by Macrae Road to the south and east, Old School Lane to the west and a footpath to the north (Fig. 2). It currently consists of scrubland since the demolition of the former Coach House. The centre of Yateley lies to the north-east of the site. The underlying geology consists of Bracklesham Beds (BGS 1976), which comprised gravels and sand and was observed in all trenches. The site lies at a height of 64m above Ordnance Datum.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site stems from its location in the Blackwater Valley and on a part of the historic Yateley Green. Various listed buildings of 17th- and 18th-century dates stand in the vicinity of the site and the site itself was previously occupied by a large early 19th-century structure (Fig. 3), which may have replaced earlier (medieval) buildings. The archaeology of the Blackwater Valley is not well known, although a large Middle Bronze Age site was recorded to the west (Piggott 1928). This identified a large urnfield (cremation cemetery) as well as contemporary occupation in the vicinity. On the north side of the river recent observations have located Iron Age iron production and Saxon charcoal production sites (CA in prep).

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of development. Specific research aims of the project were:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on the site;
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- to determine if archaeological deposits or finds representing prehistoric occupation are present on the site; and
- to determine if archaeological deposits or finds representing late medieval/early post medieval occupation reflecting use of the margins of the historic green, are present on the site.

Four trenches were to be dug targeting the footprints of the proposed new structures. These were to measure 10m in length and 1.60m wide. These were to be dug using a JCB-type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. All spoilheaps were to be monitored for finds.

Results

Four trenches were dug as intended, though their locations had to be altered due to on site constraints. The trenches measured between 9.80m and 11.20m in length and between 0.40m and 0.80m deep (Fig. 4). A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

Trench 1

This trench measured 11.20m in length and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil overlying 0.15m of subsoil overlying a gravelly sand natural geology. Modern truncation, containing concrete and plastic was evident between 2m and 8m from the southern end of the trench. No archaeological features were present.

Trench 2 (Fig. 5; Pl. 1)

This trench measured 10.30m in length and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy of 0.2m of topsoil overlying 0.15m of subsoil overlying gravelly sand natural geology.

Trench 3 (Fig. 5; Pl. 2)

This trench measured 9.80m in length and 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.2m of topsoil overlying 0.55m of demolition rubble made ground. This overlay clayey sand natural geology. Modern truncation, from services and demolition was evident in the middle of this trench.

Trench 4

This trench measured 10.80m in length and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil overlying 0.15m of subsoil overlying clayey sand natural geology.

Finds

No finds of an archaeological nature were recovered during the evaluation.

Conclusion

Despite the potential for archaeology being present on the site no deposits or finds of an archaeological nature were observed during the evaluation. The site showed evidence of truncation from services as well as the demolition of the former property, although the likelihood that this had removed any archaeology seems low. On the basis of these results, the site is considered to have no archaeological potential.

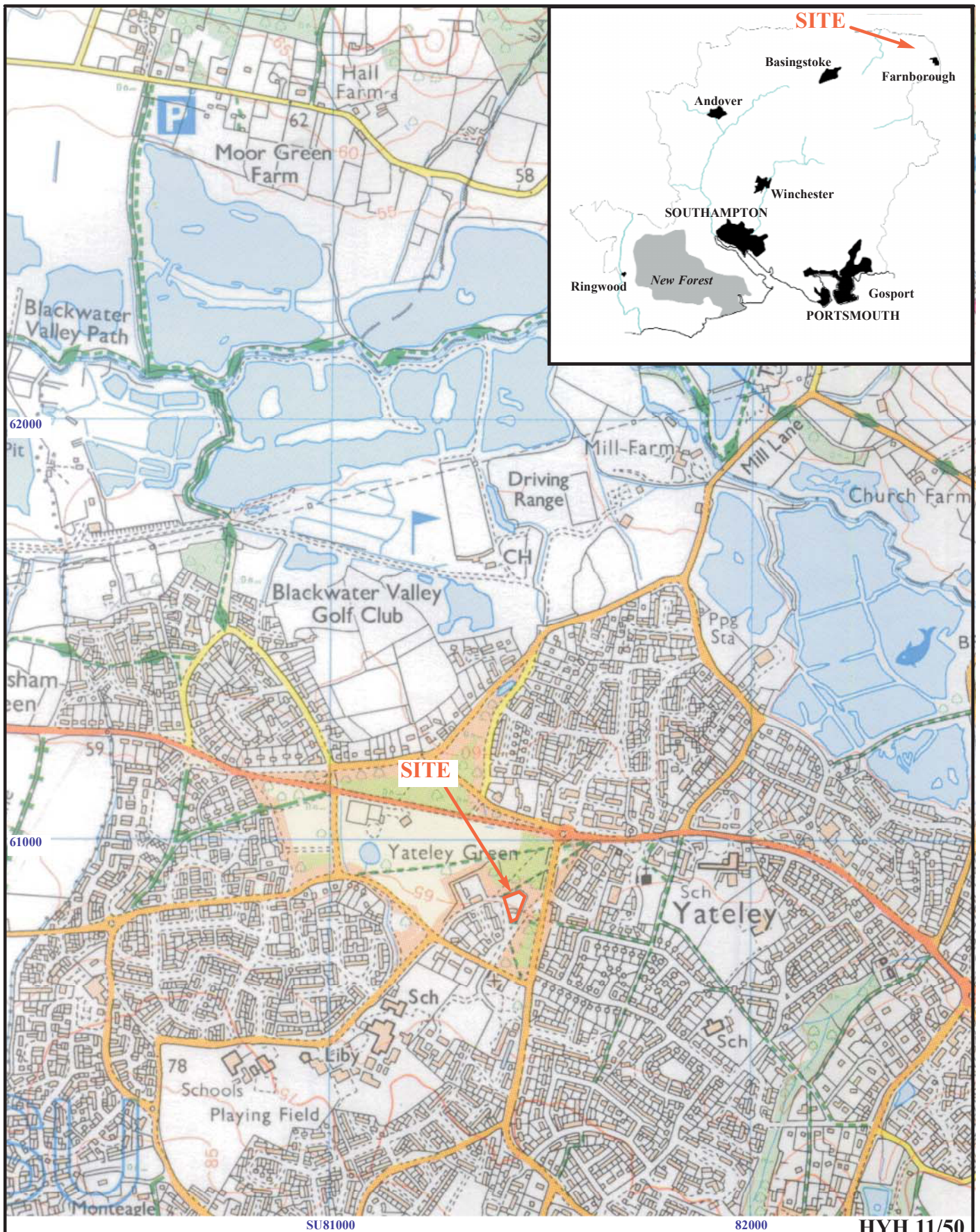
References

- BGS, 1976, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 285, Drift Edition, Keyworth
Piggott, S, 1928, 'Finds from Moor Place Farm, Yateley', *Berkshire, Buckinghamshire Oxfordshire Archaeol J* **32**, 69–73
PPS5, 2010, *Planning for the Historic Environment*, Dept Communities Local Government Planning Policy Statement 5, London

APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S or W end

Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
1	11.20	1.60	0.50	0.00m-0.30m topsoil; 0.30m-0.45m subsoil; 0.45m-0.50m+ gravelly sand natural geology.
2	10.30	1.60	0.40	0.00m-0.20m topsoil; 0.20m-0.35m subsoil; 0.35m-0.40m+ gravelly sand natural geology. [Plate 1]
3	9.80	1.60	0.80	0.00m-0.20m topsoil; 0.20m-0.75m demolition rubble made ground; 0.75m-0.80m+ clayey sand natural geology. [Plate 2]
4	10.80	1.60	0.50	0.00m-0.30m topsoil; 0.30m-0.45m subsoil; 0.45m-0.50m+ clayey sand natural geology.

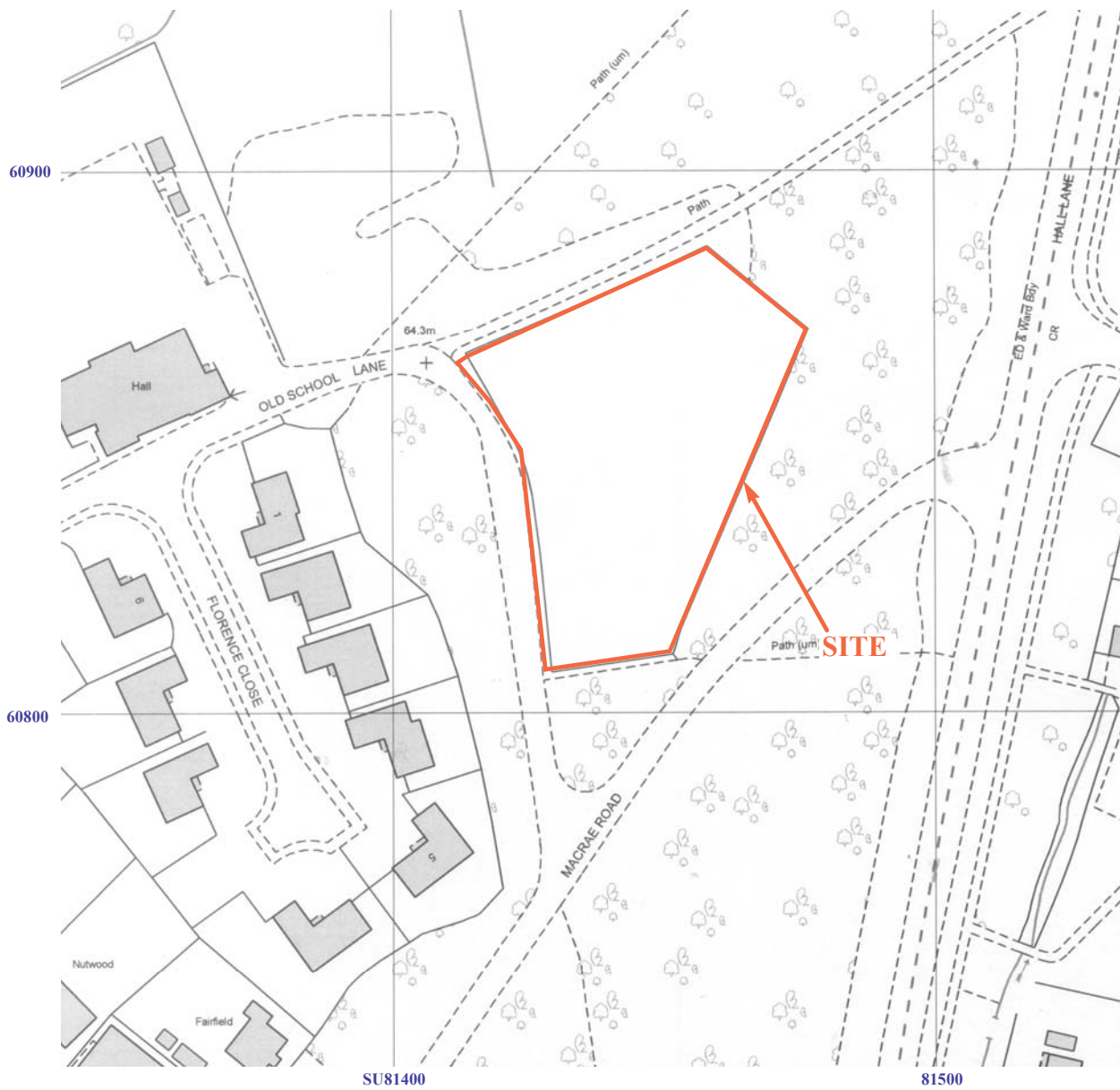


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Figure 1. Location of site within Yateley and Hampshire.

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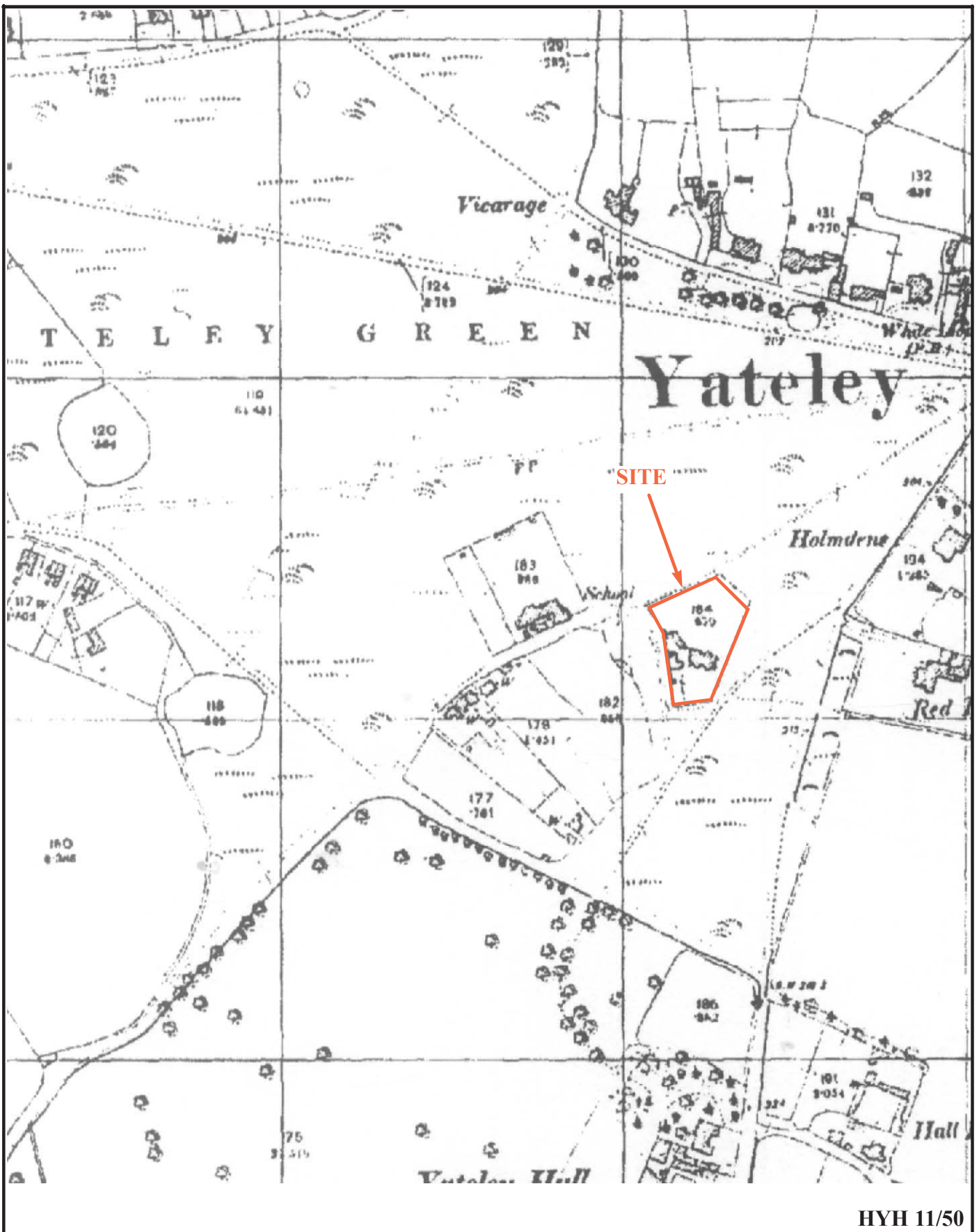


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Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Macrae Road.

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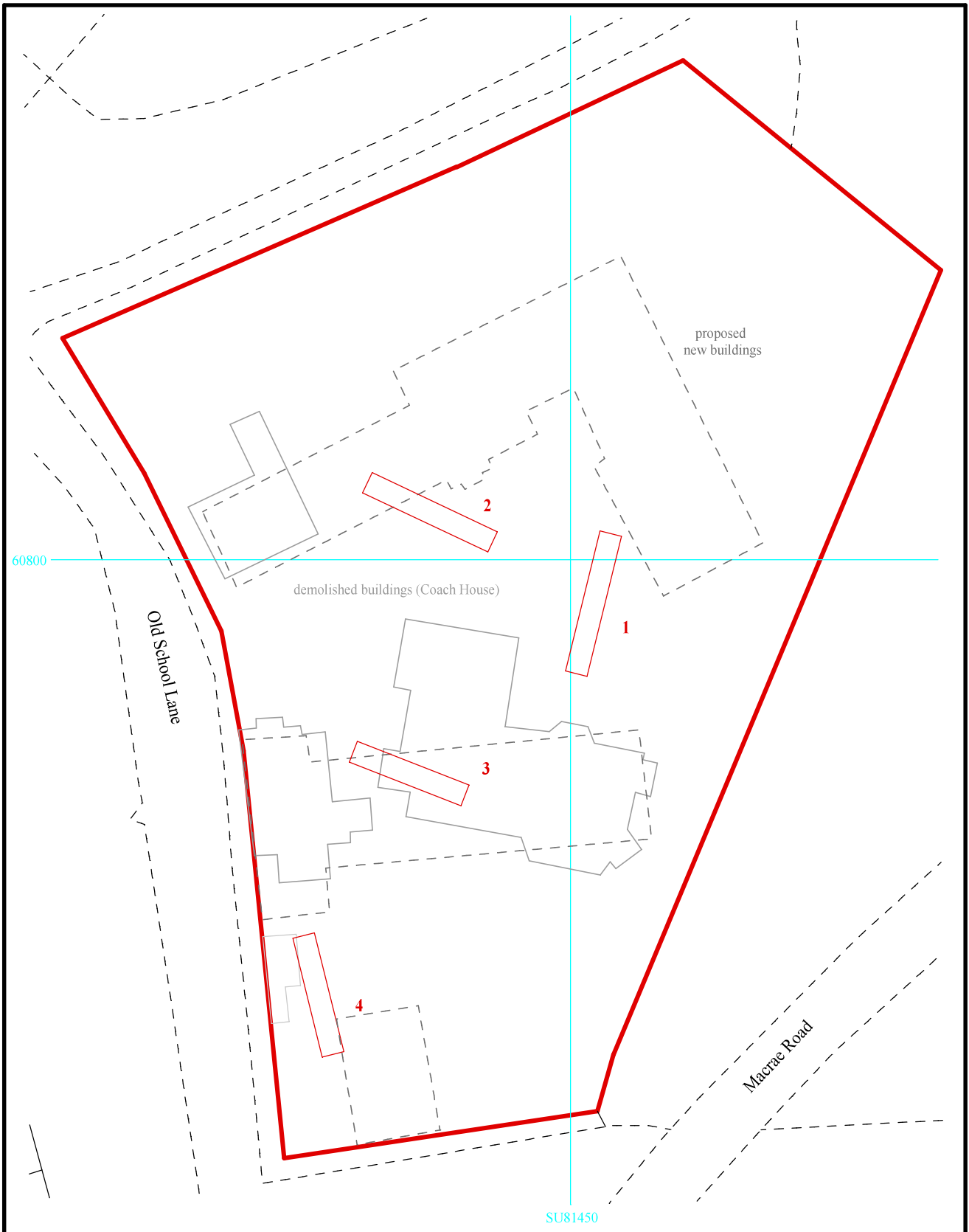


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Figure 3. Ordnance Survey, 1896

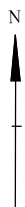
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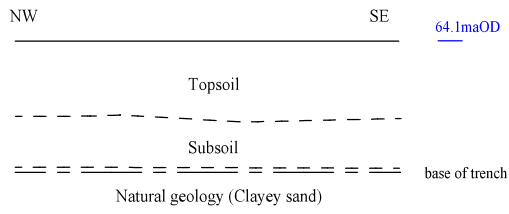
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Figure 4. Location of trenches.

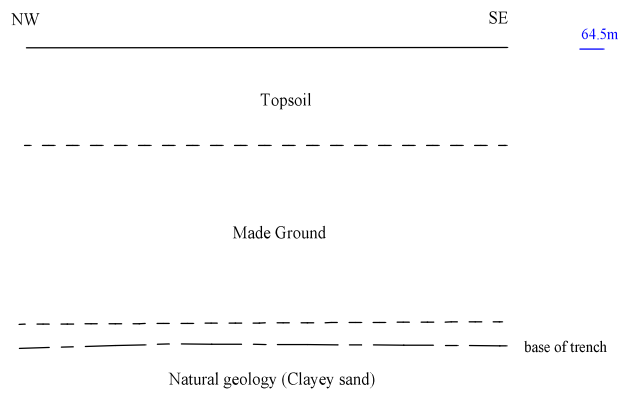


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Trench 2



Trench 3



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Figure 5. Representative sections.





Plate 1. Trench 2, looking south-east, horizontal scales 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 3, looking south-east, horizontal scales 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

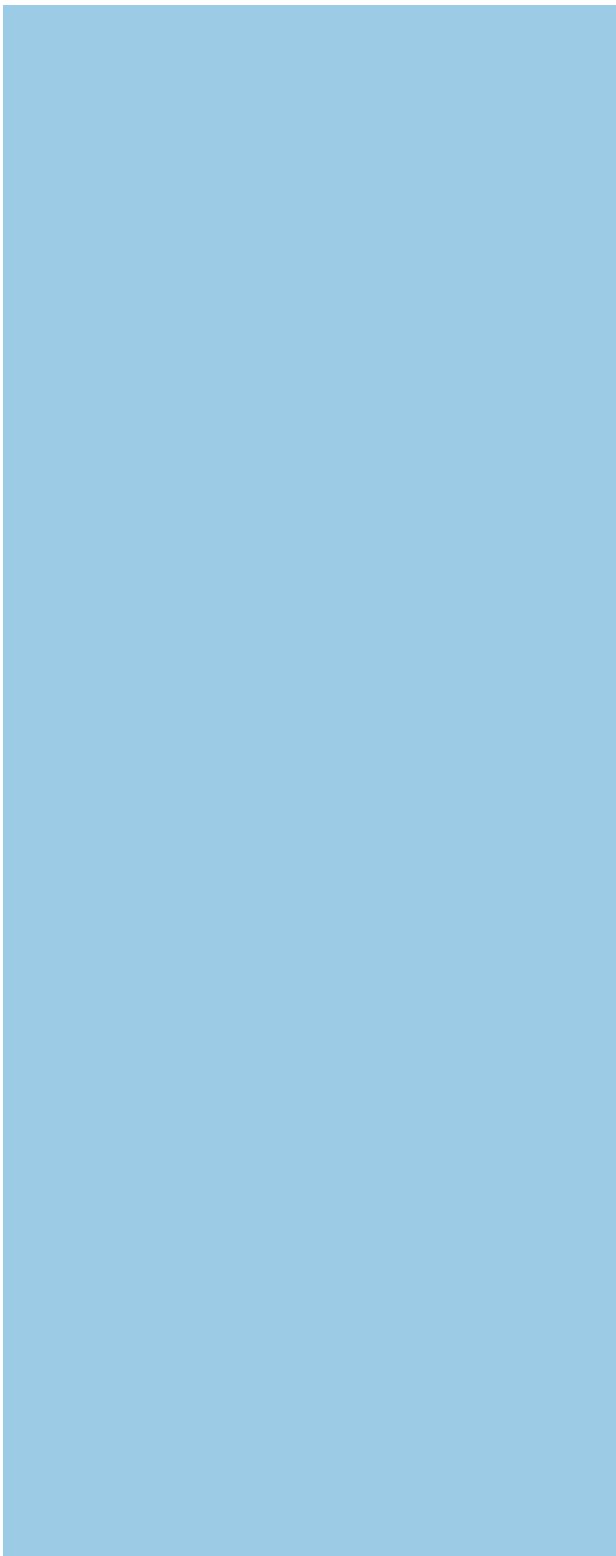
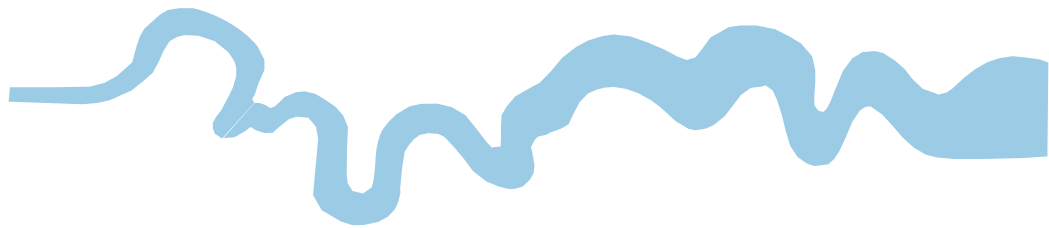
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Plates 1 and 2

TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
Iron Age _____	BC/AD 750 BC
Bronze Age: Late _____	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle _____	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early _____	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC
↓	↓



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