

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**2 Swan Street, Kingsclere,
Hampshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

by Steve Crabb

Site Code: SSK14/144

(SU 5252 5863)

**2 Swan Street, Kingsclere,
Hampshire**

An Archaeological Watching Brief

For Mr and Mrs Castelli

by Steven Crabb

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code SSK 14/144

August 2014

Summary

Site name: 2 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 5252 5863

Site activity: Watching Brief

Date and duration of project: 12th August 2014

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Steven Crabb

Site code: SSK14/144

Area of site: 64 sq m

Summary of results: No archaeological deposits nor artefacts of archaeological interest were revealed by the groundworks for this extension.

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

*This report may be copied for bona fide research or planning purposes without the explicit permission of the copyright holder. All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website:
www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.*

Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 29.08.14 Steve Preston ✓ 29.08.14

2 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Hampshire An Archaeological Watching Brief

by Steven Crabb

Report 14/144

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at 2 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Hampshire (NGR SU 5252 5863) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Paul Woodward of Digey Ltd, 58 Park Road, Hampton Wick, Richmond upon Thames, KT1 4AY, on behalf of Mr and Mrs Castelli, Twist Hair Salon, at the above address.

Planning consent (13/019799/FUL) has been granted by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to construct a new extension to the rear of 2 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Hampshire. The consent is subject to a condition (3) which requires the implementation of a watching brief during the groundworks.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and the Borough's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr David Hopkins, Hampshire County Archaeologist. The fieldwork was undertaken by Steven Crabb on the 12th August 2014 and the site code is SSK 14/144.

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Hampshire Museums Service in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located in the centre of Kingsclere, in the north of Hampshire, to the south of the Church of St Mary and on the west side of Swan Street (Fig. 2). The land is currently in use as a back garden for the property of 2 Swan Street. The land slopes down from east to west and is stepped on the northern edge to the level of the churchyard. The site is located approximately 99m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The natural geology of the site is Upper Chalk (BGS 1975) which was observed in the deeper portions of the footing trenches.

Archaeological background

The site archaeological potential derives from its location within the medieval core of the town of Kingsclere (HCC 2002). The site lies within one of the areas of burgage plots marking the layout of the medieval town, an

area that has been designated as of high archaeological importance. Nearby buildings have medieval origins and medieval remains have been found during archaeological observations in the local area. The parish church of St Mary's stands just to the north of the site. The church has origins in the 12th century and is possibly located on the site of a 9th century Saxon minster. The town appears to have late Saxon origins with 9th century pottery having been found from Swan Street itself. Kingsclere was a large settlement with a total population of over 100 households (forming four estates) at the time of Domesday Book (Williams and Martin, 2002) with the suggestion of the presence of an earlier market before being formally made so in 1154.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the watching brief was to excavate and record any archaeological deposits disturbed by the works. This was to involve the observation of any groundworks and in particular any foundations or service runs.

Foundation trenches were primarily excavated by a small 360° type machine with small stretches excavated by hand to avoid damage to existing services.

The extension extends from the western side of the existing structure westward. The northern wall replaces the existing brick boundary wall separating the garden from the churchyard and measures 8.5m long from the north-western corner of the standing structure. The end of the building is parallel to the rear wall of the existing structure and measures 4m long returning to the rear of the building. There is an additional length of foundation parallel to the rear of the structure measuring 4m long at a distance of 1.1m from the building (Fig. 3)

Results

The foundation trenches were dug to a depth of 1.2m to 1.3m deep from the existing ground surface (Fig. 3). The northern wall was dug to a depth of 1.3m from the ground surface of the churchyard. This revealed a stratigraphy of 0.1m of pea gravel from a former pathway, over 0.3m of topsoil which overlaid 0.5m of mid grey/brown clayey silt subsoil, below this was natural chalk geology. At approximately 3m west of the structure was a brick walled soakaway which was filled with loose topsoil and bricks.

The remaining footings were cut from the ground surface level of the garden which was approximately 0.3m higher than the churchyard. The foundations in this area showed this to be made ground sitting on top of buried topsoil, the stratigraphy of the remaining foundations is therefore the same as the northern wall except with 0.3m – 0.4m of made ground sitting on top of the buried soil rather than the 0.1m of pea gravel (Fig.4; Pls 1

and 2). The western foundation was excavated through a substantial modern truncation which was at least as deep as the foundation trench. It contained modern building debris which was retained on site and consisted of redeposited topsoil mixed with subsoil.

No archaeological deposits were revealed.

Finds

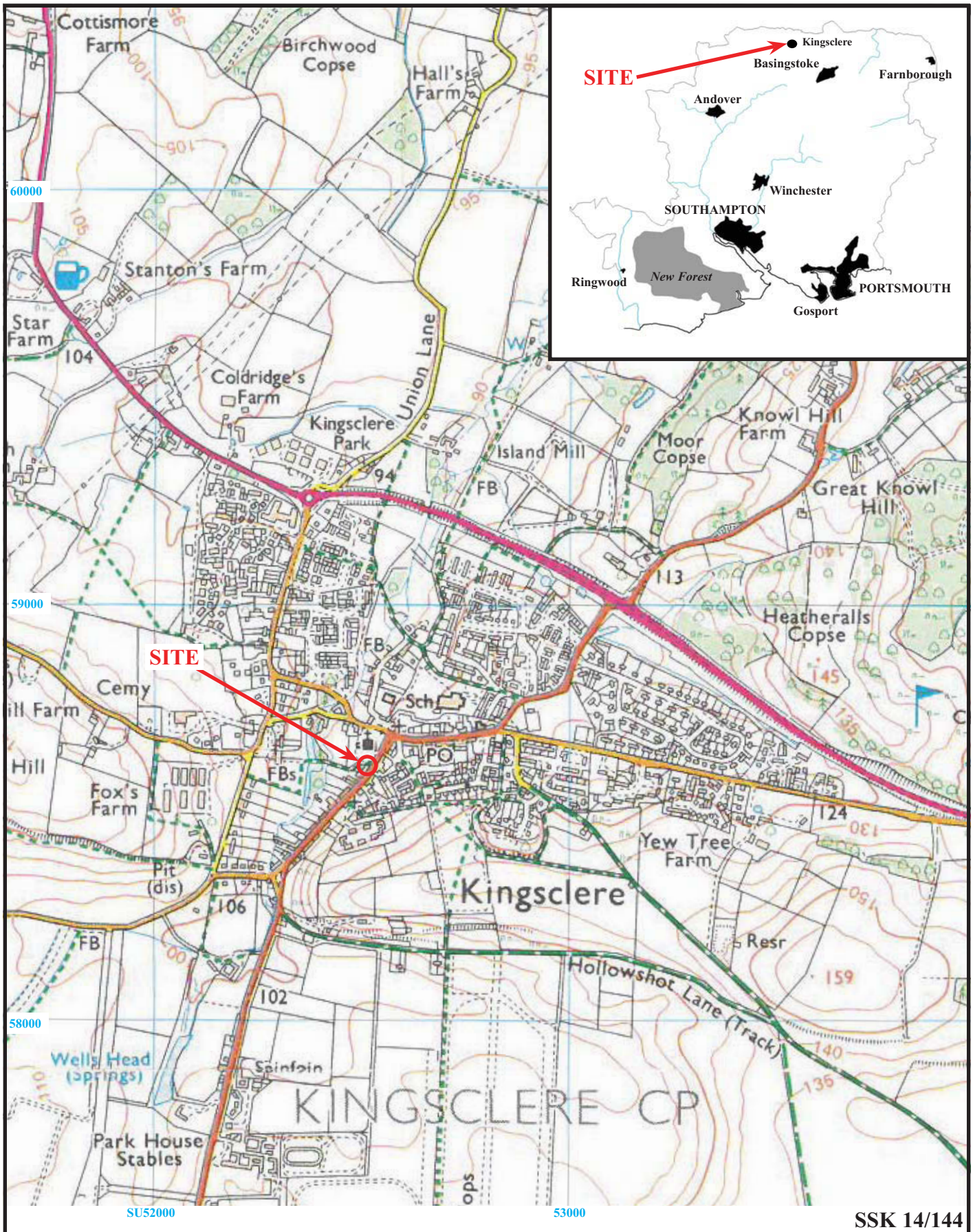
Modern building material such as machine made bricks and cinder blocks, window glass and plastic were observed through the made ground deposited in the garden area. This type of material was also recovered from the truncation observed in the western foundation trench. Also present in this truncation were fragments of 20th century pottery. These finds were retained on site.

Conclusion

The area of the site has been landscaped in the recent past leading to the garden level being raised relative to the adjoining churchyard. There have been substantial modern truncations in the garden area including a soakaway which is no longer in use. No archaeological remains nor finds observed during these works.

References

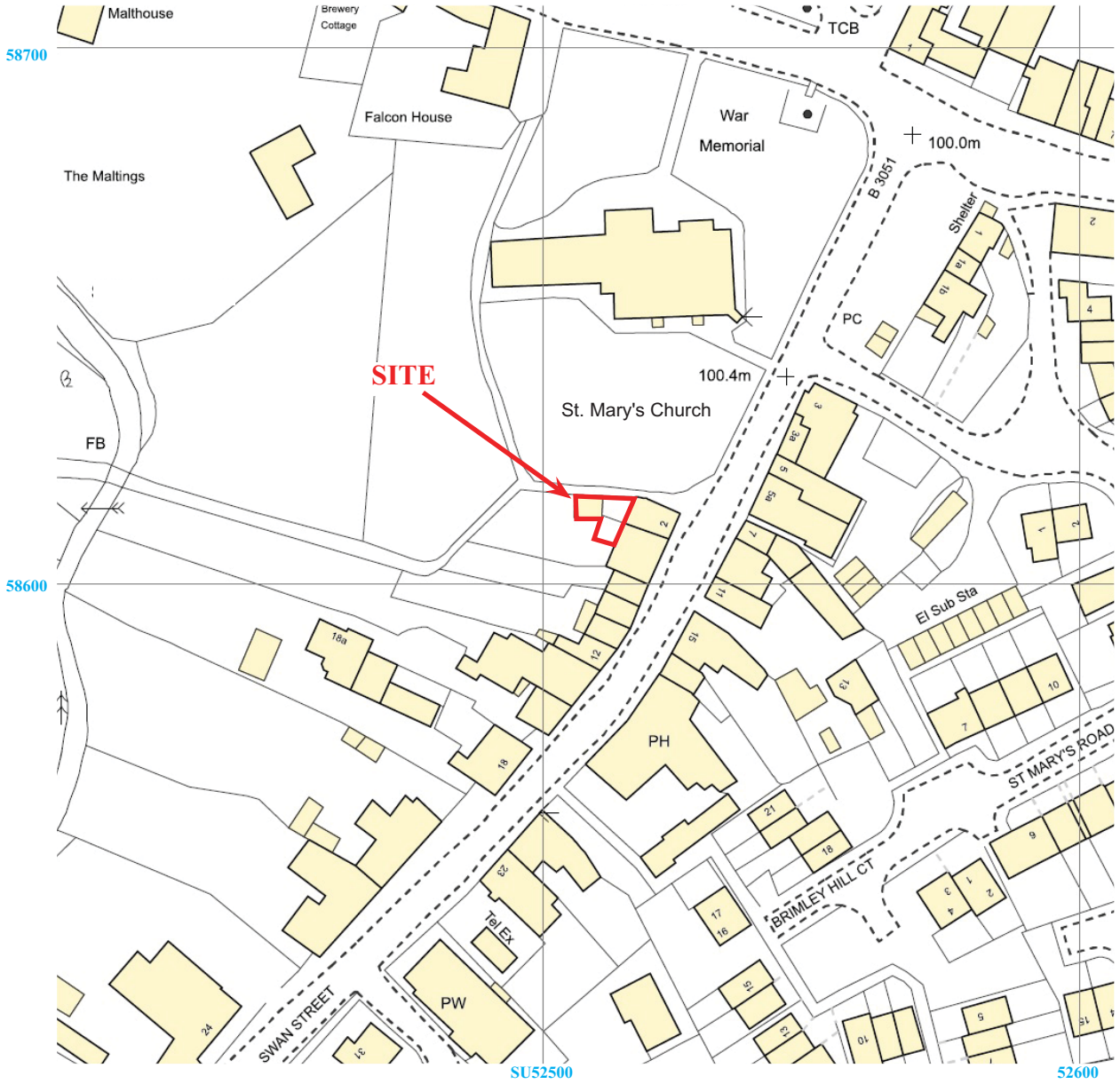
- BGS, 1975, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet 283, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
HCC 2002, '*An extensive urban survey of Hampshire's and the Isle of Wight's Historic Towns: Kingsclere*'
Hampshire County Council, Winchester
NPPF 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London
Williams, A and Martin, G H, 2002, *Domesday Book, A complete Translation*, London



**2 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Figure 1. Location of site within Kingsclere and Hampshire.

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Explorer 144 and 158 at 1:12500
Ordnance Survey Licence 100025880



SSK 14/144

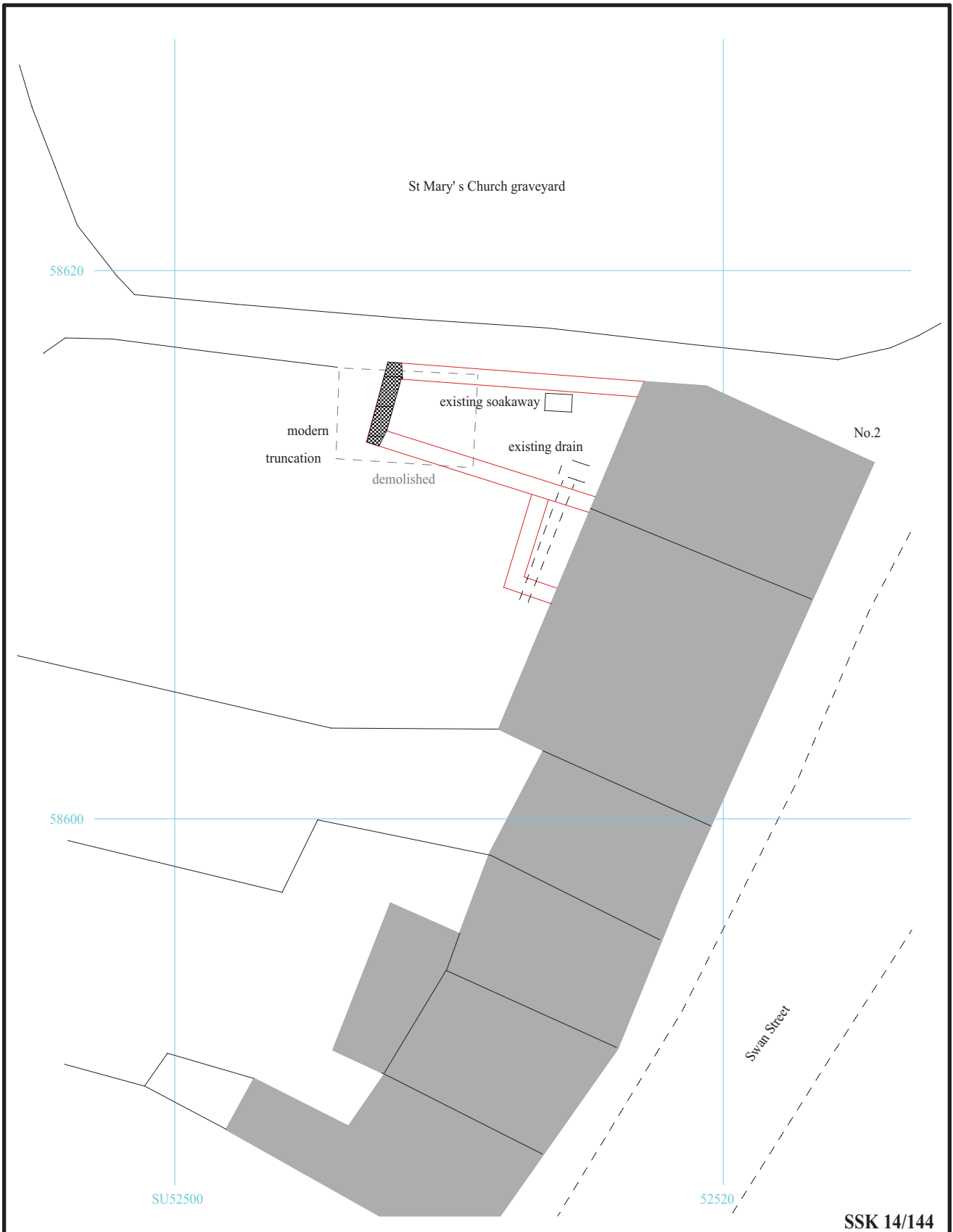


**2 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Swan Street.

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Digital Mapping under licence.
Crown copyright reserved. Scale 1:1250





SSK 14/144



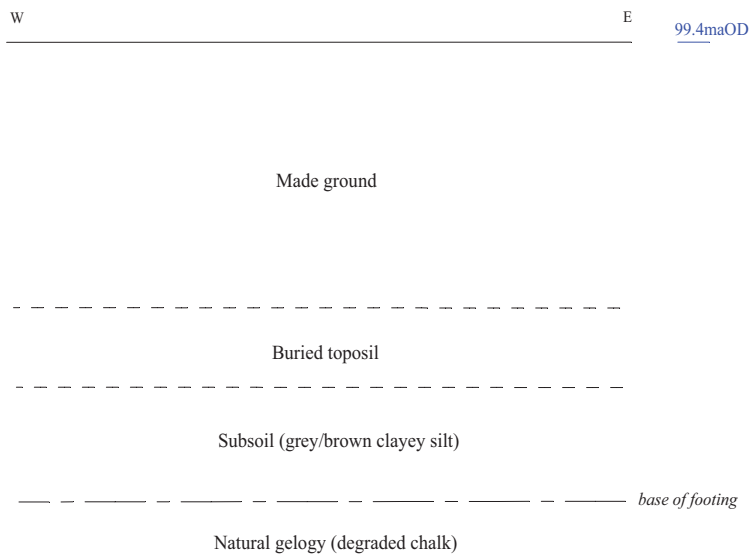
**2 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Figure 3. Location of observed area.



THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

South facing section of southern section



SSK 14/144

2 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Watching Brief

Figure 4. Representative section.



THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 1. East facing section of smaller footing, looking west, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 2. South facing section, looking north, Scales: 2m and 1m.

SSK 14/144

2 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Watching Brief

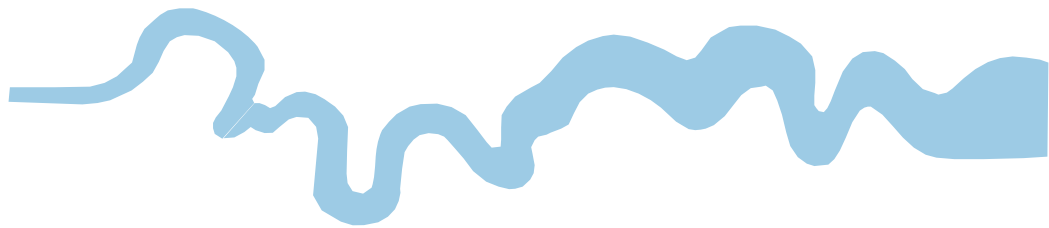
Plates 1 - 2.

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

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





**Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd,
47-49 De Beauvoir Road, Reading,
Berkshire, RG1 5NR**

**Tel: 0118 9260552
Fax: 0118 9260553
Email: tvas@tvas.co.uk
Web: www.tvas.co.uk**