

**T H A M E S      V A L L E Y**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL**

**S E R V I C E S**

**Stag and Hounds, 302 St Leonards Road,  
Windsor, Berkshire**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**by Andy Taylor and Daniel Bray**

**Site Code: SAH14/259**

**(SU 9565 7565)**

**Stag and Hounds, 302 St Leonards Road,  
Windsor, Berkshire**

**An Archaeological Watching Brief**

**For Mr J Gale**

by Andy Taylor and Daniel Bray

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code SAH 14/259

**April 2015**



## Summary

**Site name:** Stag and Hounds, 302 St Leonards Road, Windsor, Berkshire

**Grid reference:** SU 9565 7565

**Site activity:** Watching Brief

**Date and duration of project:** 2nd April 2015

**Project manager:** Steve Ford

**Site supervisor:** Daniel Bray

**Site code:** SAH 14/224

**Area of site:**

**Summary of results:** No deposits of an archaeological nature were observed during the watching brief.

**Location and reference of archive:** The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with a local museum willing to accept archive material in due course.

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Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 30.04.15 Steve Preston ✓ 30.04.15
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# **Stag and Hounds, 302 St Leonards Road, Windsor, Berkshire An Archaeological Watching Brief**

by Andy Taylor and Daniel Bray

**Report 14/259b**

## **Introduction**

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at the Stag and Hounds, 302 St Leonards Road, Windsor, Berkshire (SU 9565 7565) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Julian Gale of Corner Cottage, Oakley Green Road, Windsor SL4 4PZ.

Planning permission (App. No. 12/00566) has been gained from the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, along with Listed Building consent (App. No. 12/00568) for the conversion of the Stag and Hounds into two dwellings. This consent is subject to a condition (2) relating to archaeology which required a watching brief to be carried out during 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 Roland Smith, Archaeology Officer with Berkshire Archaeology, advisers to the Borough on matters relating to archaeology. The fieldwork was undertaken by Daniel Bray on the 2nd April 2015 and the site code is SAH 14/259.

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at a local museum willing to accept archive material in due course.

## **Location, topography and geology**

The site is located on the north side of St Leonards Road, a main route into Windsor from the south (Fig. 1). The building stands on a roughly rectangular plot, aligned ENE-WSW. The cottage lies at the west, with the Stag and Hounds public house at the east (Fig. 2). To the south is the footpath and road, with Tarmac car parking occupying the plot at the east and north. Beyond the plot boundary to the east is a 20th-century building, housing a day nursery, and to the west are houses and apartments of fairly recent construction. The underlying geology is mapped as London Clay (BGS 1981), which was observed in the foundation trenches observed and the site lies at a height of *c.*30m above Ordnance Datum.

## **Archaeological background**

The archaeological potential of the site stems from its location in the general vicinity of the site of the medieval leper hospital of St Peter (Astill 1977). The exact location of the hospital is unclear with recent documentary research suggesting it may lie in the vicinity of the proposal site, and there remains a possibility that it lies within the proposal site itself. However, an evaluation carried out *c.*500m to the east of the site revealed no deposits or features of archaeological interest (Dawson 2011 and 2012; McNicoll-Norbury 2011). The existing building, which has 15th-17th century origins has been subject to recording (Milbank 2015).

## **Objectives and methodology**

The purpose of the watching brief was to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the groundworks. This would involve examination of intrusive groundworks such as overburden stripping prior to ground reduction, the digging of foundation trenches and service runs and deeply invasive landscaping as necessary.

## **Results**

The only groundworks on the site comprised the digging of a single L-shaped foundation trench (Fig. 3; Pls 1 and 2). The trench observed measured 0.60m wide and were dug to a depth of 1.30m. The stratigraphy observed consisted of 0.40m of topsoil directly overlying yellow brown clay natural geology. A modern pit was observed in the western element of the foundation trench containing china fragments that were retained on site.

## **Finds**

No finds of an archaeological nature were recovered during the watching brief.

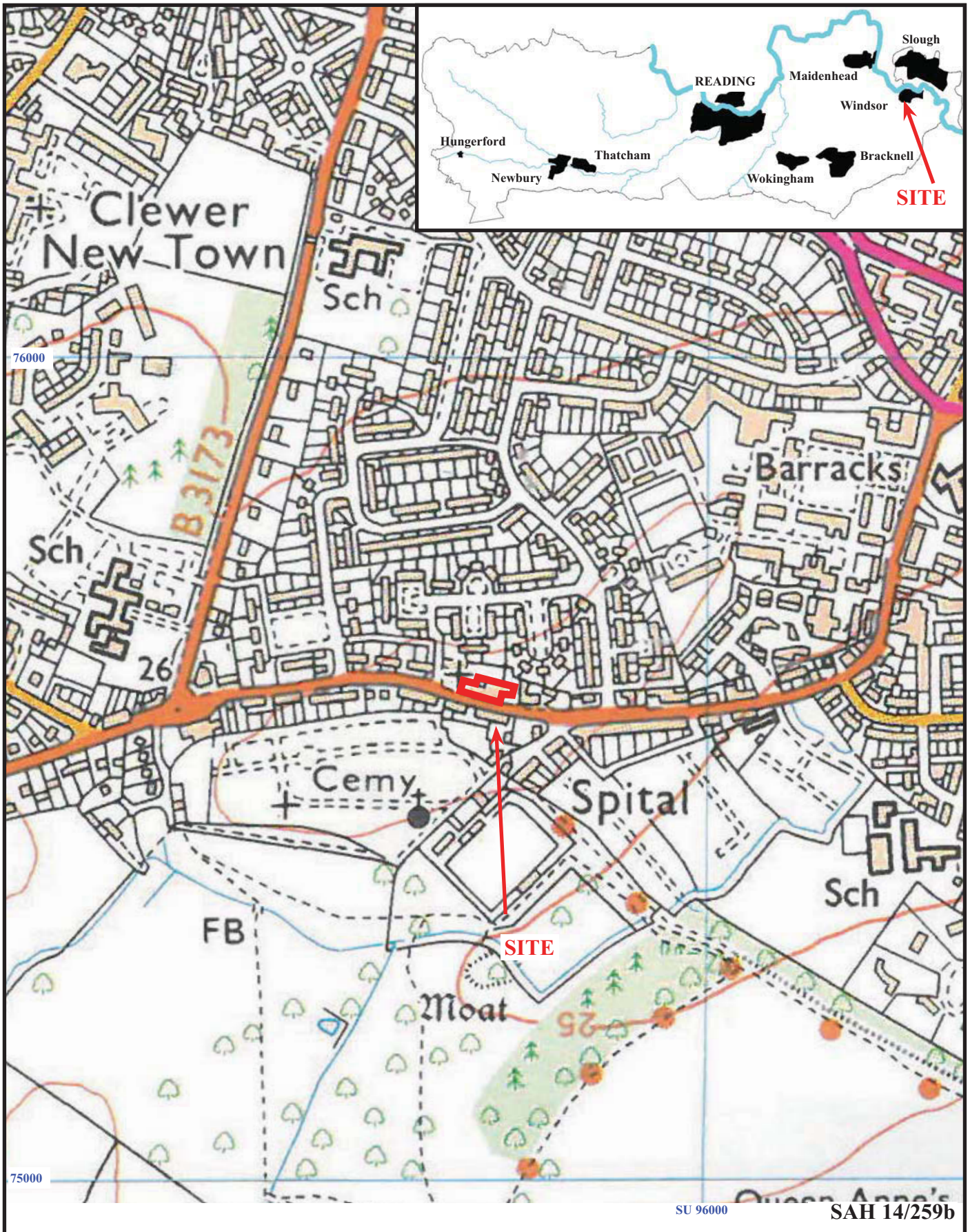
## **Conclusion**

Despite the potential for archaeological deposits to be present on the site no finds or features were observed.

## References

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- McNicoll-Norbury, J, 2011, 127-139 St Leonards Road, Windsor, Berkshire, an archaeological evaluation, Thames Valley Archaeological Services report 10/94c, Reading
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- NPPF 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London



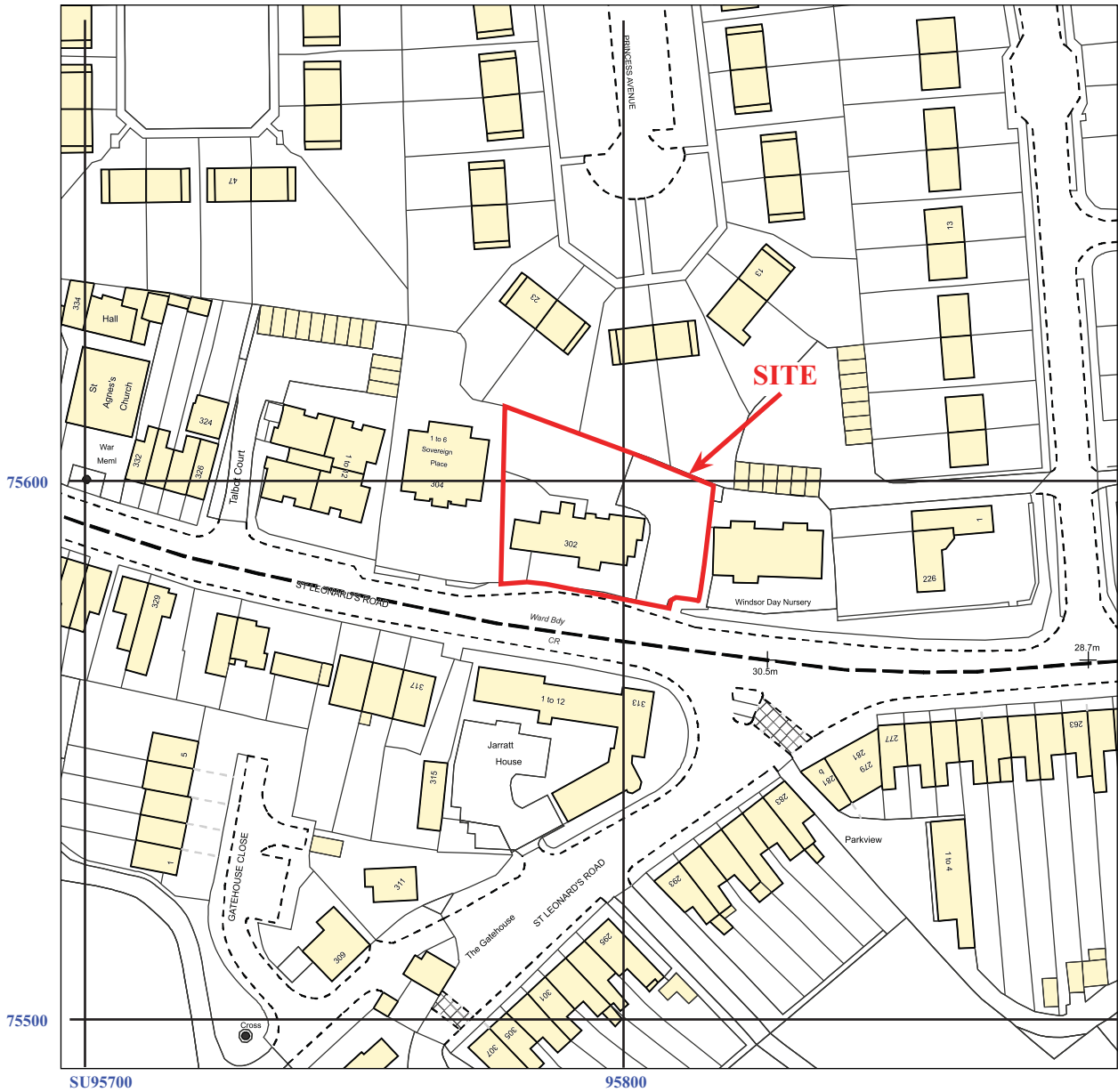


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Figure 1. Location of site within Windsor and Berkshire.

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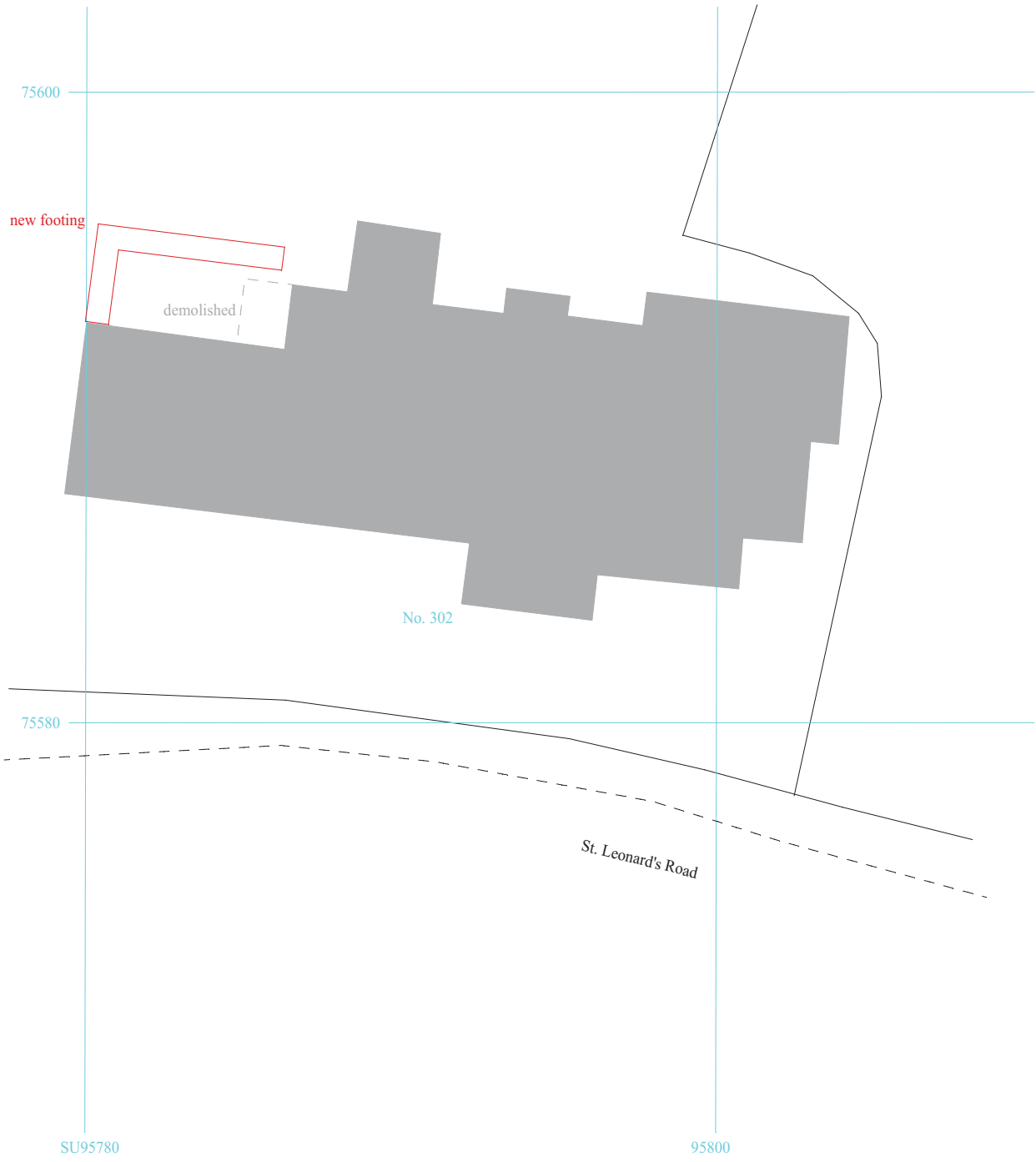
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Figure 2. Detailed location of the site off St Leonards Road

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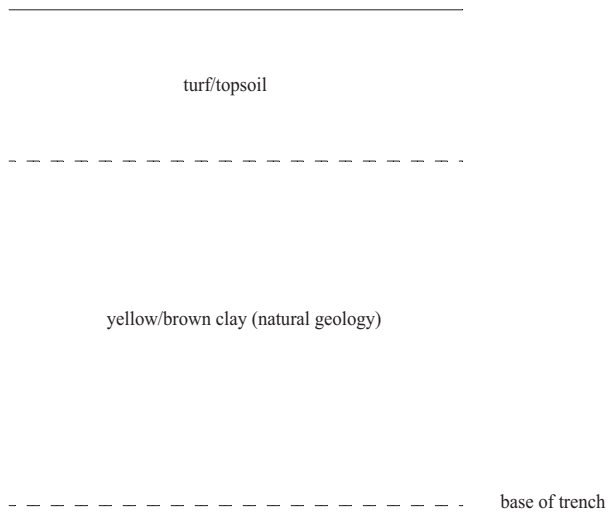
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Figure 3. Location of observed trench.



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**Foundation trench**



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Figure 4. Representative section.



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Plate 1. New footing trench, looking north east, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 2. Representative section, looking west, Scales: 2m and 1m.

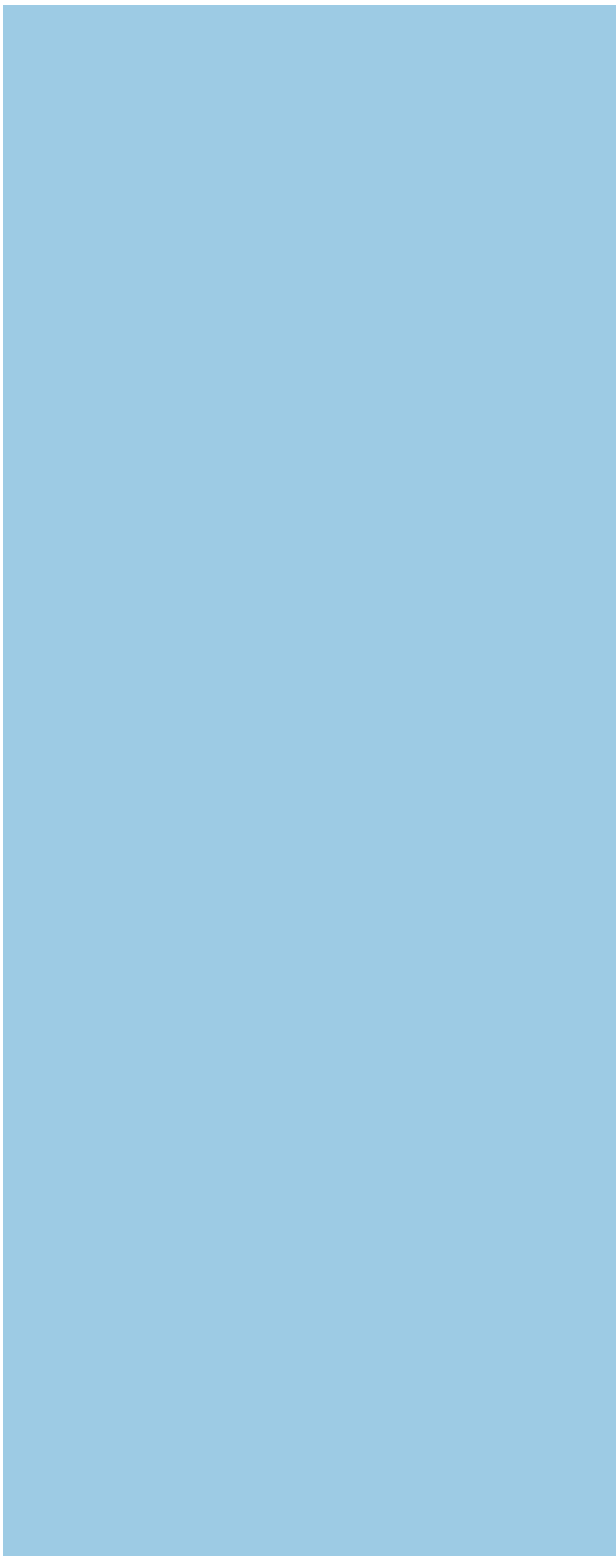
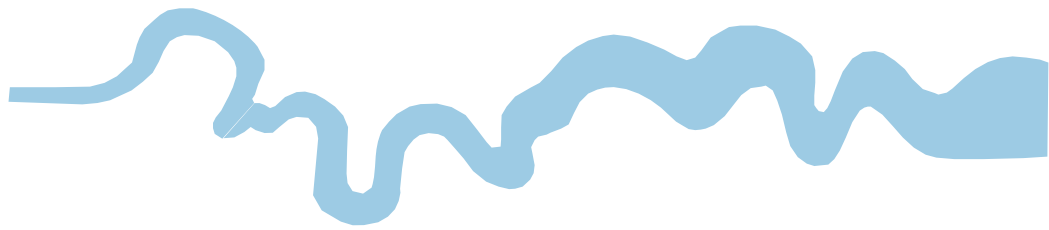
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Plates 1 - 2.

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## 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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