

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Land adjacent to Clevedge House, Hook Road,
North Warnborough, Hampshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

by David Sanchez

Site Code: CHN15/255

(SU 7315 5163)

Land adjacent to Clevedge House, Hook Road North Warnborough, Hampshire

An Archaeological Watching Brief

For R J S Builders Ltd

by David Sanchez

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code CHN15/255

May 2016

Summary

Site name: Land adjacent to Clevedge House, Hook Road, North Warnborough, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 7315 5163

Site activity: Watching Brief

Date and duration of project: 14th-15th March 2016

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: David Sanchez

Site code: CHN15/255

Summary of results: Monitoring of the groundworks for the two semi-detached dwellings recorded the presence of three archaeological features, consisting of three small pits of medieval date. Several modern pits and truncations were also observed.

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

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

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford ✓ 31.05.16
	Steve Preston ✓ 31.05.16

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by David Sanchez

Report 15/255

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out on land adjacent to Clevedge House, Hook Road, North Warnborough, Hampshire (SU 7315 5163) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Reg Sears of RJS Builders Ltd, 30 Park Lane, Old Basing, Hampshire, RG24 7HQ.

Planning consent (14/03023/FUL) has been granted by Hart District Council to build two semi-detached dwellings with associated access, car-parking and a detached car port. The consent is subject to a condition (6) relating to archaeology which requires a watching brief to be carried out during the groundworks.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and Hart District'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 David Sanchez on 14th-15th March 2016 and the site code is CHN 15/255.

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

Location, topography and geology

The site is located at Hook Road, which stands at the north-west end of the small village of North Warnborough, located less than 3km south of the town of Hook, in north-east Hampshire (Fig. 1). It is located in a small plot of land previously occupied by a tennis court and it lies to the west of Hook Road and to the north of Clevedge House with open areas and gardens to the west (Fig. 2), at a height of c.81m above Ordnance Datum. The underlying geology is recorded as Reading Beds (BGS 1981).

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site stems from its location within the medieval and post-medieval settlement of North Warnborough. The local landscape is rich in archaeological sites and historic buildings, with a Roman villa to the north-east, Odiham with its Saxon origins to the south-east and the medieval Odiham Castle to the north-west. North Warnborough is not mentioned specifically in Domesday Book of AD1086, although South

Warnbrough is. North Warnborough was part of Odiham at this time. The site itself is adjacent to the grade II listed Clevedge House which dates from the 17th-19th centuries and includes a grade II listed barn to the south built in 1600. A watching brief at the Thatched Cottage to the north, however, found no archaeological deposits or finds (Taylor 2013).

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the watching brief was to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the works. This involved the archaeological monitoring of all areas of intrusive groundworks, in particular any ground reduction, the digging of foundation and service trenches, and soakaways, etc.

These groundworks consisted of the topsoil stripping and ground reduction of an area of 14.30m long and 12.50m wide to a maximum depth of 0.70m. All possible archaeological features and deposits were hand-cleaned and investigated to clarify their nature and all certain archaeological features were fully excavated and recorded on pro-forma context recording sheets, photographed and planned at a scale of 1:20. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Spoil heaps were monitored for finds.

Results

The area affected by the groundworks measured 14.30m long x 12.50m wide (Fig. 3). This was stripped using a toothless grading bucket to a maximum depth of 0.70m. The stratigraphy observed consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.40m of light brown silty subsoil with moderate small size ceramic building material and chalk fragments, overlying natural geology of light yellowish brown clay. On the west half of the area the topsoil had been covered by a 0.10m deep layer of modern gravel. The archaeological features excavated are summarized in Appendix 1.

Two modern pits, oval in plan, were observed below the topsoil, cutting the subsoil and natural geology. One was in the north corner of the area and one in the south corner. The first modern pit was filled with light blue grey silt with occasional brick and chalk flecks inclusions and two sherds of mass produced transfer printed 'china' pottery were recovered. The second modern pit was filled with 0.10m of light yellow brown gravel with occasional small size flint inclusions in which one fragment of 'china' pottery was recovered, and 0.05m of chalk on the bottom. In the south corner a third modern pit was observed cutting the subsoil and natural geology, with square shape and filled with light grey silt and moderate modern brick and chalk flecks.

In addition two possible features were investigated next to the west edge of the area stripped and shown to be tree-throw holes. In this sector the natural geology was frequently truncated by roots from several trees on the edge of the site.

Three archaeological features were recorded in the south-west sector of the area stripped, consisting of three small pits which were half-section excavated (Fig. 3). The first feature was small pit (1), 0.70m long, 0.46m wide and 0.28m deep, with oval shape, flat base and sides nearly vertical, filled with two different deposits (Fig. 4; Pl. 1). Its primary fill (53) consisted of light yellow brown clay with occasional small size chalk inclusions; nine sherds of medieval pottery were recovered. Its secondary fill (52) consisted of dark grey sandy silt with moderate small size chalk inclusions and 21 sherds of medieval pottery.

The second pit (3) had nearly circular shape, with 0.85m of diameter and only 0.11m deep (Fig. 4; Pl. 2). Its fill (55) consisted of light yellow brown clay and occasional small size flints and chalk; two fragments of medieval pottery were recovered. This fill was truncated by a later small pit (2) with circular shape and only 0.40m of diameter and 0.08m deep, filled with dark brown silt with occasional small size chalk inclusions (54). Because the absence of finds and its shallowness a natural origin can not be excluded for pit 2, especially considering the frequent presence of roots disruptions observed in the natural geology.

Finds

Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 32 sherds with a total weight of 700g. It was all medieval. The following fabric types were noted:

AHS: Sandy Wares, ?12th–14th century. Alice Holt type (Barton and Brears 1976). Moderate to dense quartz up to 1mm. Includes globular, scratch-marked vessels. 23 sherds, 368g.

CFW: Calcite and Flint. ?12th–14th century. Sparse, fairly fine calcitic material, rare angular flint up to 2m. Bentley type? (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 313). 7 sherds, 325g.

FSG: Fine Sandy Glazed Ware, late 12th–13th century. Fine sandy fabric, grey with a brown outer surface, some burnt organic material. Dull, patchy green glaze. Very similar to Surrey fabric Q2 (grey/brown sandy ware; Jones 1998, 218). 2 sherds, 7g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Appendix 2. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region. It also suggests that activity at the site was fairly short-lived and restricted to the 12th–early 13th centuries, with common mid 13th–16th century fabrics such as Surrey Whiteware (Pearce and Vince 1988) entirely absent.

The assemblage from Pit 1 (52) included a number of re-fitting sherds from a globular, scratched-marked jar in fabric AHS. The sherd of CFW from the same context was from a shallow bowl, and survived to a full

profile. The sherds of CFW from context 53 also re-fitted, and are from the base of a large, heavy jar. The overall condition of the assemblage indicates that it is a primary deposit, and that there was medieval occupation within the immediate vicinity of these excavations.

Conclusion

The ground reduction for the construction of two semi-detached dwellings was monitored and revealed two possibly three small pits of medieval date along with several modern features and areas of tree root disturbance. No other features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed.

References

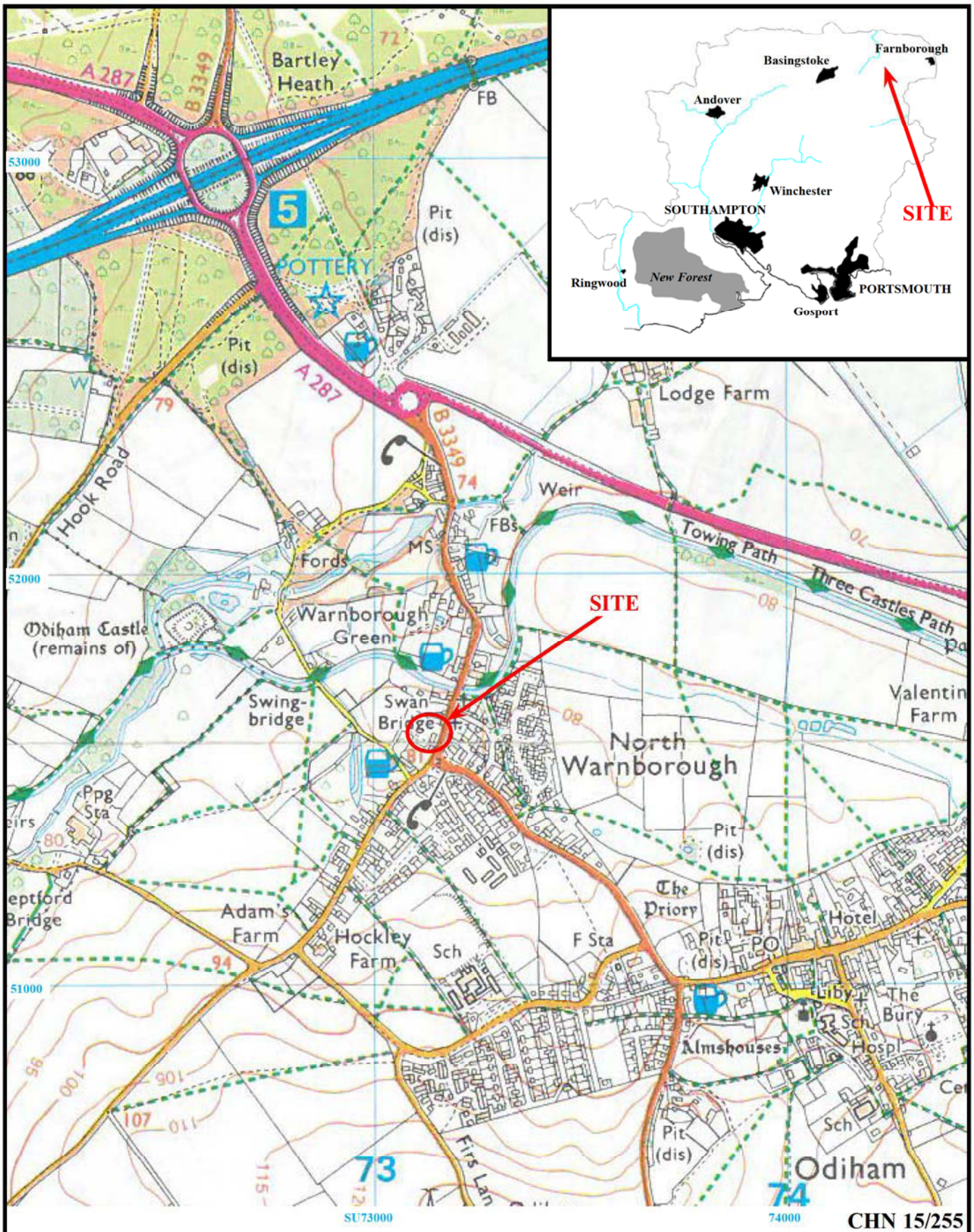
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- Pearce, J and Vince, A, 1988, *A Dated Type-Series of London Medieval Pottery. Part 4: Surrey Whitewares* LAMAS Special Paper **10**, London
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APPENDIX 1: Feature details

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
1	52/53	Pit	Medieval 12 th C	Pottery
2	54	Possible pit	Medieval or later	Stratigraphy
3	55	Pit	Medieval 12 th C	Pottery

APPENDIX 2: Catalogue of Pottery by sherd count and weight (in g)

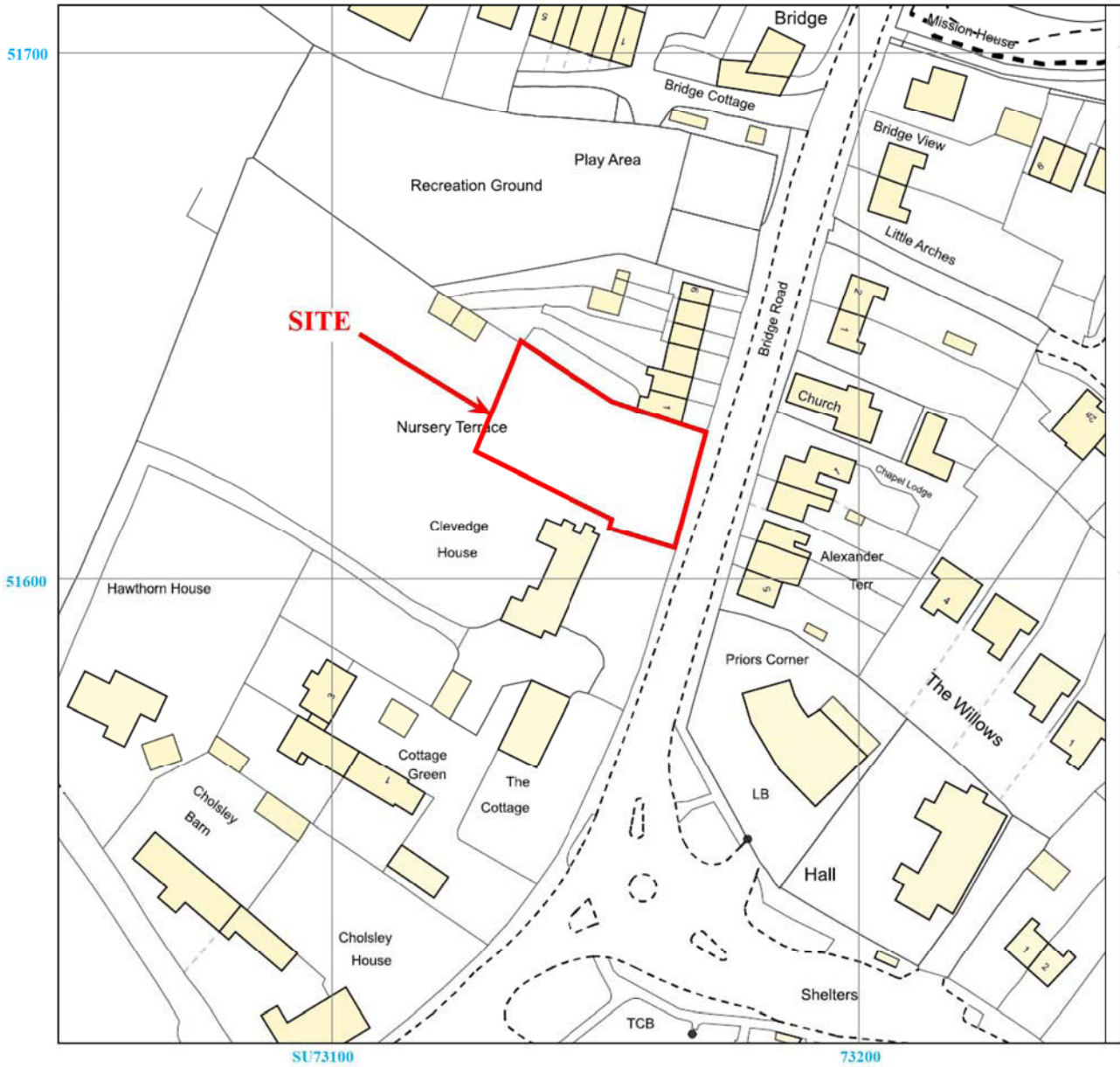
<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	AHS		CFW		FSG	
		<i>No</i>	<i>Wt</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt</i>
1	52	20	347	1	51		
1	53	3	21	6	274		
3	55					2	7
	Total	23	368	7	325	2	7



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Figure 1. Location of site within North Warnborough and Hampshire.

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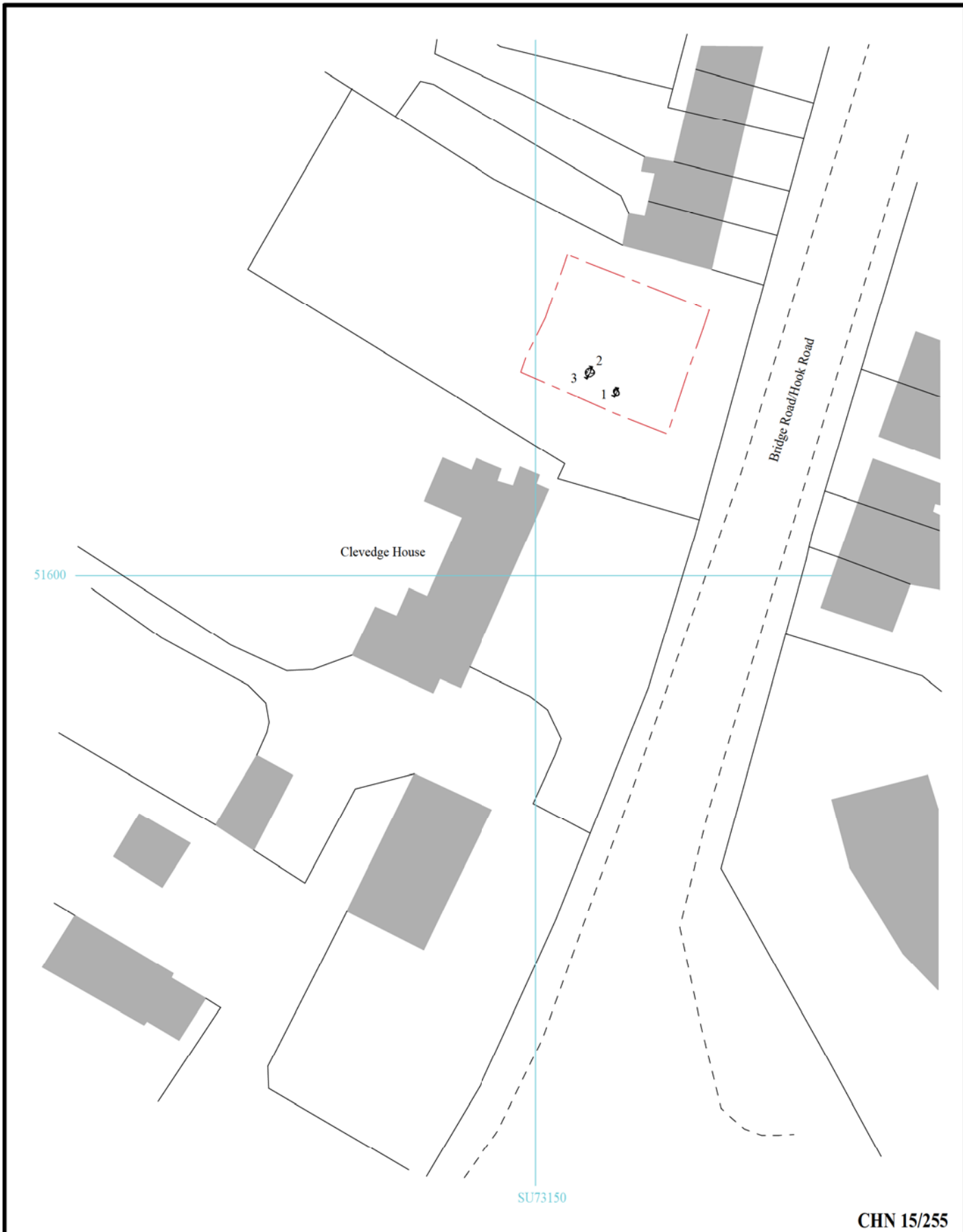


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Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Hook Road.

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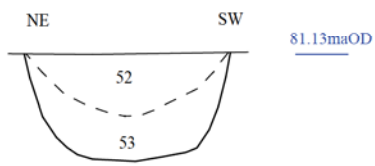
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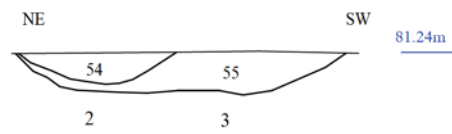
Figure 3. Location of observed areas.



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Figure 4. Sections.



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Plate 1. Pit 1, looking south east, Scales: 0.5m and 0.3m.



Plate 2. Pit 2 and 3, looking south east, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

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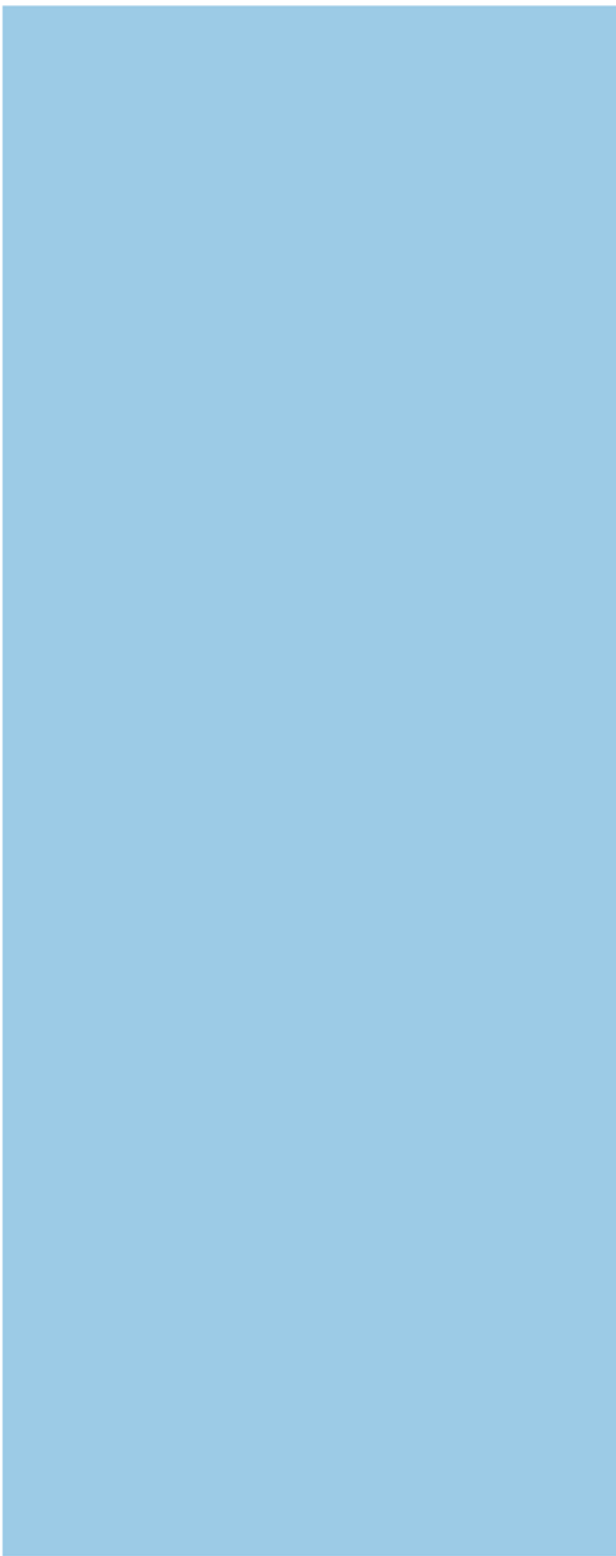
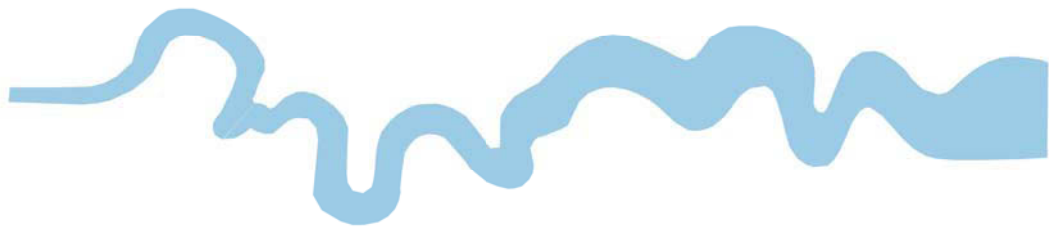
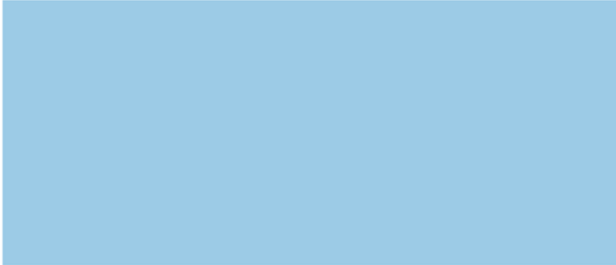
Plates 1 - 2.

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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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