

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Land at Froyle House, Colthouse Lane,
Upper Froyle, Hampshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

by Kyle Beaverstock

Site Code: FHC15/298

(SU 7539 4271)

Land at Froyle House, Colthouse Lane, Upper Froyle, Hampshire

An Archaeological Watching Brief

For Chalk Development Ltd

by Kyle Beaverstock

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code FHC 15/298

June 2016

Summary

Site name: Land at Froyle House, Colthouse Lane, Upper Froyle, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 7539 4271

Site activity: Watching Brief

Date and duration of project: 22nd–27th October 2015

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Kyle Beaverstock, Danielle Milbank and James McNicoll-Norbury

Site code: FHC 15/298

Area of site: c. 215 sq m observed in an overall plot of 0.1ha

Summary of results: No deposits or finds of any archaeological significance were observed.

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

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

Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 21.06.16 Steve Preston ✓ 21.06.16

Land at Froyle House, Colthouse Lane, Upper Froyle, Hampshire An Archaeological Watching Brief

by Kyle Beaverstock

Report 15/298

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out on land at Froyle House, Colthouse Lane, Upper Froyle, Hampshire (SU 7539 4271) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Graham Powell of Imageon Designs Ltd, 1934 La Cannerie, Morainville Jouveaux, Normandie, France, 27260 on behalf of Chalk Developments Ltd, 33 Crondall Lane, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7BG.

Planning consent (20107/077) has been granted by East Hampshire District Council to build two detached dwellings on the site. The consent is subject to a condition (16) relating to archaeology which requires 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 District's policies on archaeology. The investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Neil Adam, Senior Archaeologist with Hampshire County Council, advisers to the District on matters relating to archaeology. The fieldwork was undertaken by Kyle Beaverstock, Danielle Milbank and James McNicoll-Norbury between 22nd and 27th October 2015 and the site code is FHC 15/244.

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

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the northern side of Upper Froyle, which lies c.3km to the north-east of Alton (Fig. 1) on the north slope of the valley of the river Wey. It is on the west side of the village's main street, Colthouse Lane, and had had an outbuilding demolished with an area of hard standing (Fig. 2). The underlying geology was mapped as Lower Chalk (BGS 1981), although clayey gravel was actually observed on site. It lies at a height of c.124m above Ordnance datum.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site stems from its location in the grounds of Froyle House, which is a listed building dating from the early 19th century and is set within a park of similar date. In general there are a wide

range of sites and finds within Froyle parish with Bronze Age round barrows and Roman settlements recorded in the Hampshire Archaeology and Historic Building Record. Froyle itself is recorded in Domesday Book and has late Saxon origins (Williams and Martin 2002) though Upper Froyle lies some distance from the parish church.

Objectives and methodology

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

Results

Foundation trenches were observed for two house plots. These were dug using a 360° type machine fitted with a toothed bucket. Spoilheaps were monitored for finds.

The foundation trenches observed for Plots 1 and 2 (Fig. 3) measured 0.80m wide and were dug to a depth of between 1.20m (Plot 2) and 1.32m (Plot 1). Plot 1 covered a maximum of 12.5m by 12m and Plot 2 was 9m by 7m. The stratigraphy observed in Plot 1 comprised 0.20m of demolition rubble made ground overlying 0.35m of a dark brown made ground consisting of silty clayey gravel with soil, modern glass, china and tile fragments. This overlay 0.35m of mid-brown subsoil overlying orange clayey gravel natural geology. The footing trench was dug deeper (1.70m) to the west (into the slope) (Pls 1 and 2).

In Plot 2, the stratigraphy comprised Tarmac above 0.6m of modern made ground above 0.24m of buried topsoil above 0.3m of buried subsoil above natural pale yellow-brown slightly silty clay with flint nodules natural geology (Fig. 4).

Finds

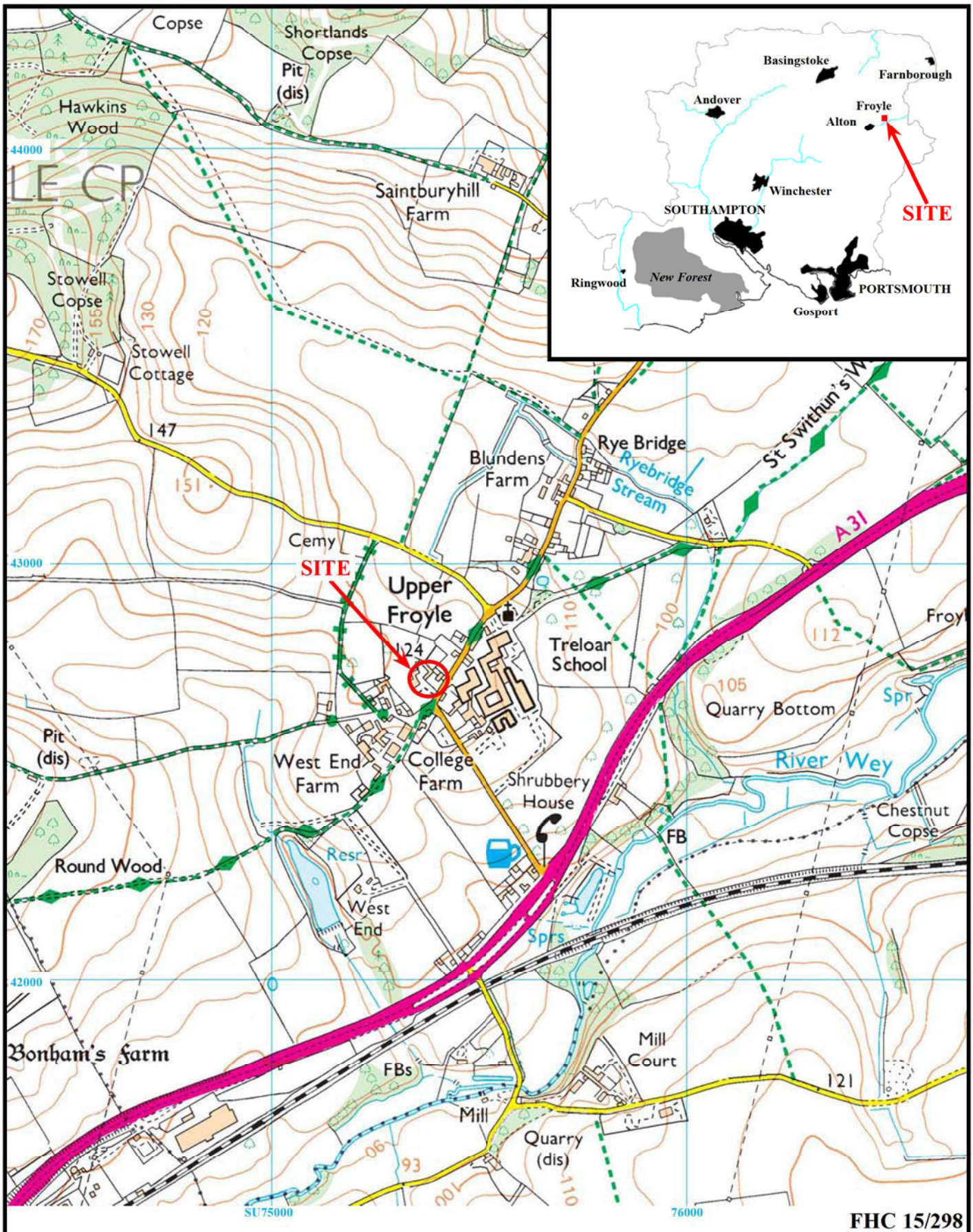
No finds of any archaeological significance were recovered during the watching brief.

Conclusion

Despite the potential for archaeological remains to be present on the site, no deposits or finds of any archaeological interest were observed.

References

BGS, 1981, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 284, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
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



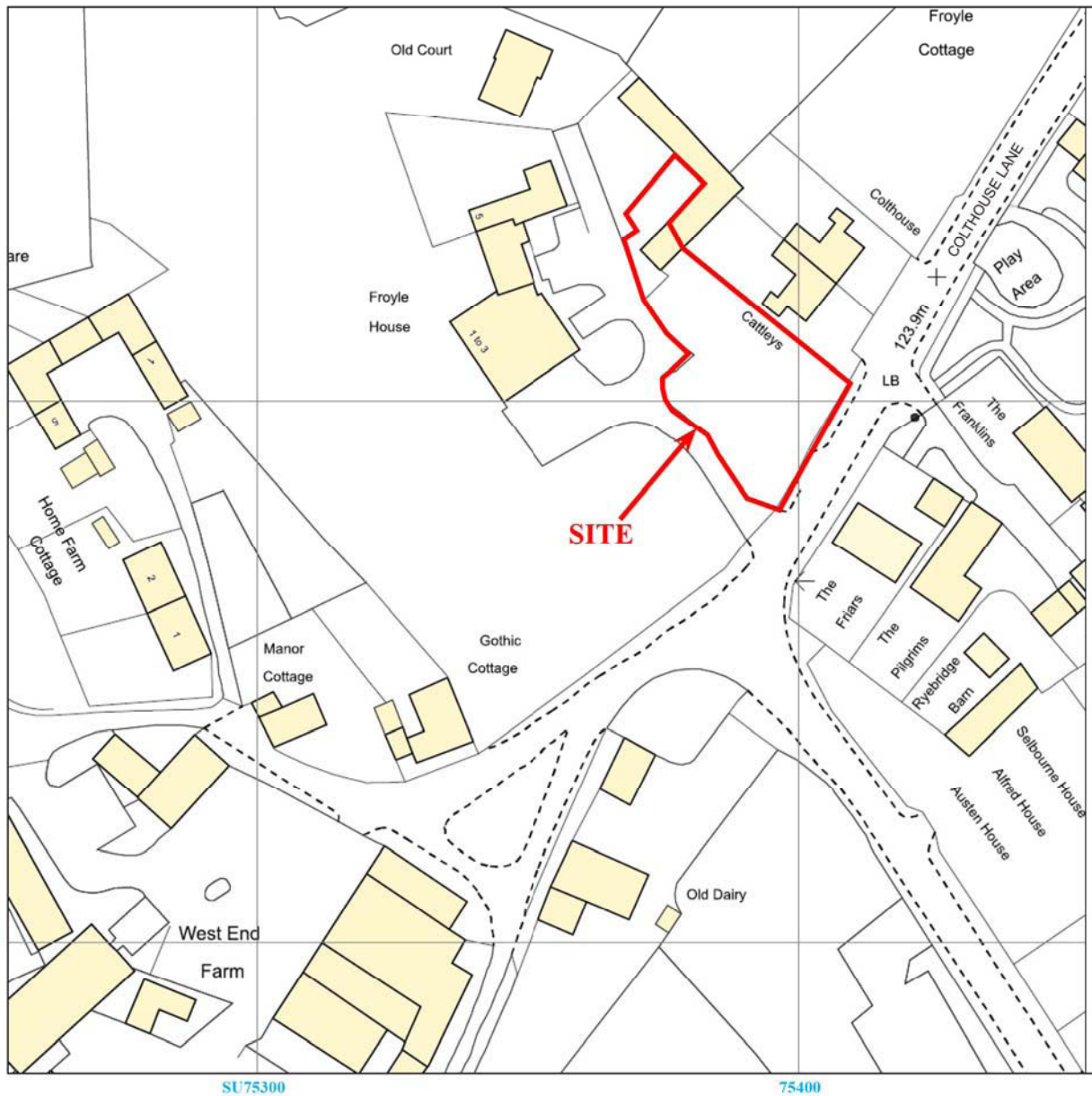
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Figure 1. Location of site within Upper Froyle and Hampshire.

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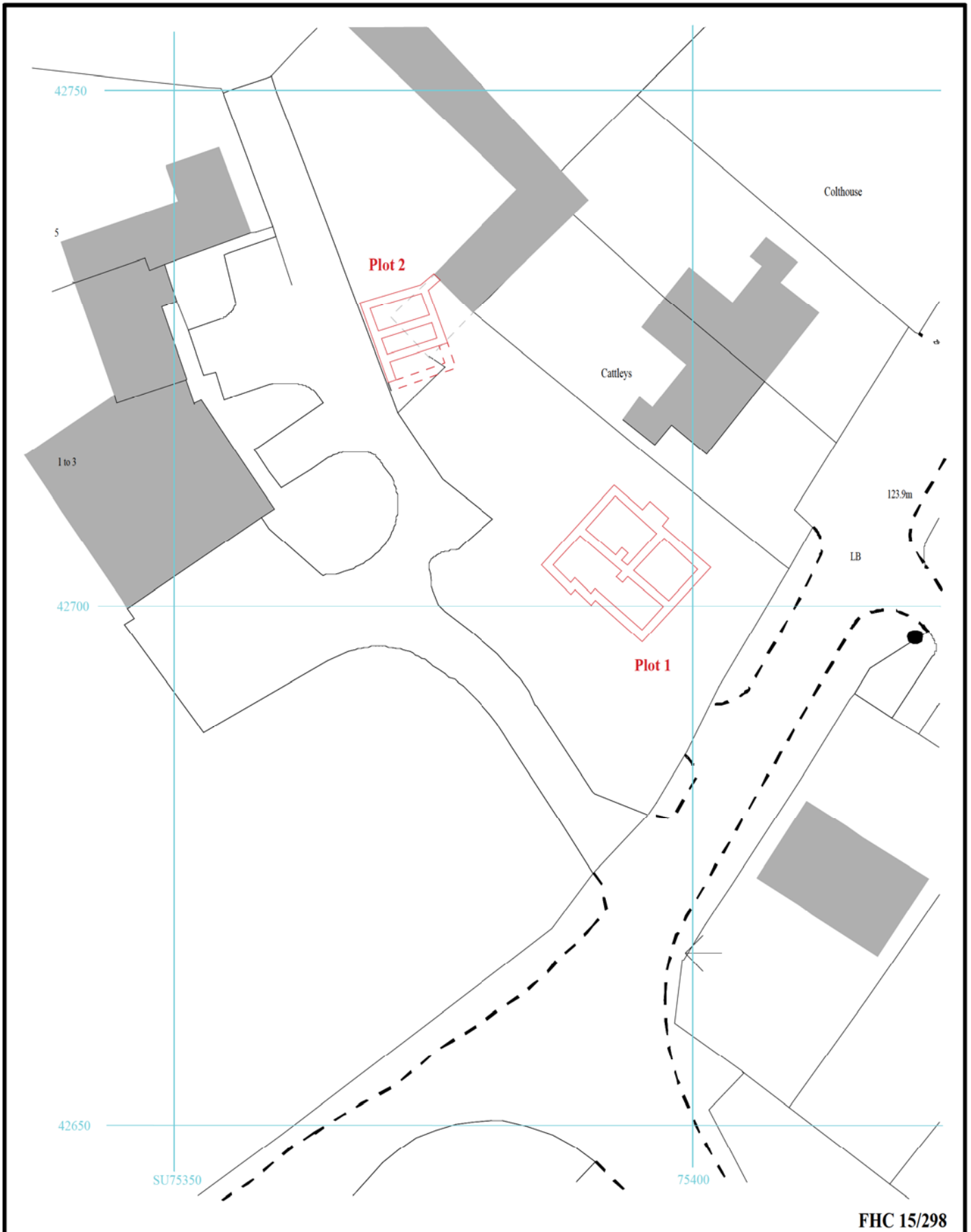
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Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Colthouse Lane.

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Figure 3. Location of observed areas.



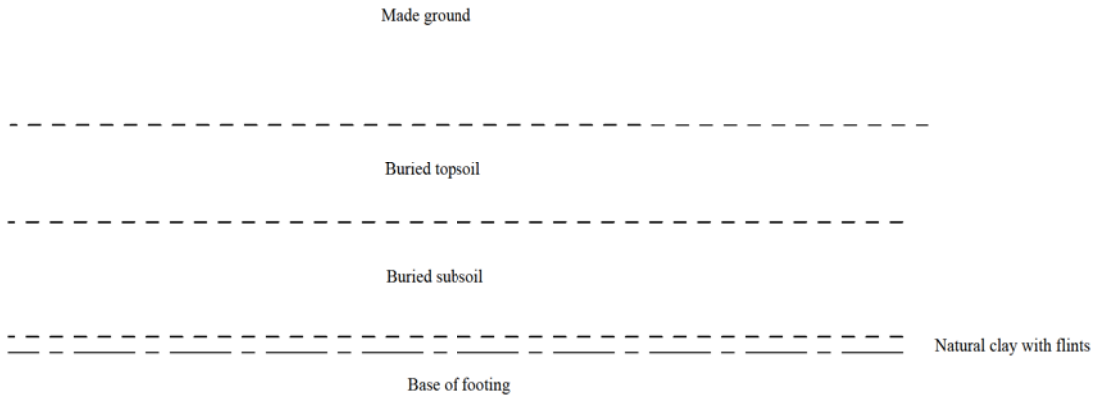
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Plot 2

SW

NE

124.77maOD



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Figure 4. Section.



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Plate 1. Plot 1 under excavation, looking south east, Scale: 2m.



Plate 2. Plot 1 representative section, looking south east, Scale: 2m.

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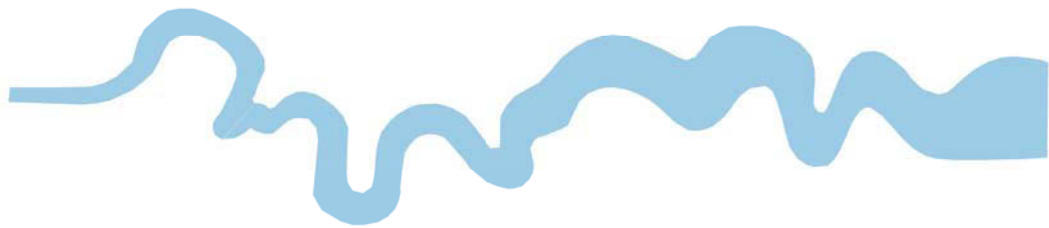
Plates 1 - 2.

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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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