

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Land at 4-5 Hillside Villas, Charlton,
Andover, Hampshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by David Sanchez

Site Code: CRC15/296

(SU 3531 4674)

**Land at 4-5 Hillside Villas, Charlton,
Andover, Hampshire**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Heatherdene Properties**

by David Sanchez

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code CRC 15/296

July 2016

Summary

Site name: Land at 4-5 Hillside Villas, Charlton, Andover, Hampshire.

Grid reference: SU 3531 4674

Site activity: Archaeological Evaluation.

Date and duration of project: 6th - 7th June 2016

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: David Sanchez

Site code: CRC 15/296

Area of site: 0.6ha

Summary of results: Despite the potential of the site no archaeological features or deposits were observed and no finds were recovered. The trenches dug showed extensive areas of modern dumping and a number of large modern truncations cutting the natural geology. The site is considered to have no archaeological potential.

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

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

Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford✓ 12.07.16 Steve Preston✓ 11.07.16

Land at 4-5 Hillside Villas, Charlton, Andover, Hampshire. An Archaeological Evaluation

by David Sanchez

Report 15/296

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at 4-5 Hillside Villas, Charlton, Andover, Hampshire (SU 3531 4674) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Mark Morris of Heatherdene Properties Limited, Office 5 1st Floor, Voluntary House 112-113 Commercial Street, Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan, CF34 9DL.

Planning permission (13/01758) has been gained from Test Valley Borough Council to develop the site for housing. The permission is subject to a condition (12) relating to archaeology, which require the implementation of a programme of archaeological work prior to the commencement of groundworks. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits on the site which may be damaged or destroyed by proposed re-development of the site, it was proposed to carry out a field evaluation. This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Neil Adam, Senior Archaeologist of Hampshire County Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by David Sanchez and Cosmo Bacon, 6th and 7th June 2016 and the site code is CRC 15/296. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on a small parcel of land on the southeast margins of the village of Charlton, northwest of Andover. (Fig. 1). It lies to the north of Churchill Way and to east of Charlton Road on a parcel of land (Fig. 2) previously covered with trees and scrubs at a height of *c.*65m over Ordnance Datum. The site is located in an area where the underlying geology is mapped as Upper Chalk with a strip of River and Valley Gravel with a small area of Alluvium (BGS 1993). During the field evaluation the natural geology observed consisted of chalk in the west end of the site turning to alluvial clay in the central area and gravel to the east.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site area has been highlighted in a briefing document issued by the Hampshire Archaeological officer which noted a wide range of sites and finds from nearby areas documented in the Hampshire Archaeology and Historic Building Record. Charlton is not mentioned in Domesday Book (Williams and Martin 2002) (unlike nearby Foxcote) and is first mentioned in the 12th century. However several excavations in the parish has revealed early Saxon remains with settlement sites recorded to the west and south. A number of listed buildings of post-medieval date are also recorded to the north.

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. The specific research aims of this project are;

- a) To determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site.
- b) To determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present.
- c) To determine if further Saxon occupation deposits are present as previously found to the south and west.
- d) To inform a strategy for mitigation if required.
- e) The potential and significance of any such deposits located was to be assessed according to the research priorities such as set out in *English Heritage Research Agenda* (English Heritage 2005) or any more local or thematic research priorities such as the Solent Thames Research Agenda (Hey and Hind 2014) as necessary.

Eleven trenches were to be dug, 15m long and 1.6m wide, located as close as possible to the areas affected by the proposed buildings. The trenches were positioned in a stratified random pattern. A contingency for the equivalent of an additional 15m length of trenching is included within the proposal should this be required to clarify any deposits found in the initial trenching. These trenches were dug using a 360° type machine fitted with toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

Where archaeological features were certainly or probably present, the stripped areas were to be cleaned using appropriate hand tools. Sufficient of the archaeological features and deposits exposed were to be excavated or samples by hand to satisfy the aims of the brief, a minimum of two pits were to be half-sectioned and one ditch sampled per trench, if present. All features and deposits revealed in the trenches were to be fully recorded.

Results

Nine trenches were dug as intended but the two trenches in the east end of the site (trenches 1 and 2) could not be dug as this area was excluded from the housing development and had not been cleared of trees and scrub. The trenches ranged in length from 12.50m to 16.90m and in depth from 0.90m to 2.10m and were 1.60m wide. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

Trench 3 (Figs 3 and 4, PL 1)

Trench 3 was aligned SW - NE and was 15.10m long with a maximum depth of 2.10m. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil and 0.75m of chalky made ground on top of 0.20m of a second layer of made ground consisted of dark brown silty clay with moderate modern brick and tile fragments overlying gravel natural geology. From 8m to the NE end of the trench a modern truncation was observed filled with 0.90m of mid yellowish brown silt and chalk patches, frequent small and medium size chalk inclusions and modern bricks, and 0.10m of dark brown silty clay. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed and no finds were recovered.

Trench 4 (Figs 3)

Trench 4 was aligned W - E and was 15.20m long and 1.20m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.19m of topsoil on top of a made ground consisted of 0.59m of chalk, 0.25m of dark brown silty clay and 0.18m of light brown silty clay overlying gravel natural geology. Modern brick and tile fragments were frequent in these three deposits. One modern truncation was observed from 0m to 1.50m, filled with dark brown silt and frequent small size chalk inclusions and brick fragments. A second modern truncation was observed from 10.10m to the east end of the trench being possibly the same truncation recorded in trench 3, and filled with mid yellowish brown silt and frequent small and medium size chalk inclusions and brick fragments. No archaeological features or deposits were observed and no finds were recovered.

Trench 5 (Figs 3)

Trench 5 was aligned NW - SE and was 12.50m long and 0.94m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil on top of a made ground consisted of 0.20m of chalk, getting thicker to the SE end, 0.25m of dark brown silty clay and 0.34m of light brown silty clay overlying gravel natural geology. Modern brick and tile fragments were frequent in these three deposits. A modern pit was observed at 2.50m from the NW end filled with mid brown silt and occasional concrete fragments, and a modern truncation was observed at 11m from the NW end

being possibly the same truncation recorded in trench 3, filled with mid yellowish brown silt and small size chalk fragments and bricks. No deposits or features of archaeological interest were observed and no finds were recovered.

Trench 6 (Figs 3, **PI. 2**)

Trench 6 was aligned SW - NE and was 16.50m long and 1.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil on top of a made ground consisted of 0.54m of chalk, 0.40m of mid brown silty clay and 0.50m of light brown silty clay overlying brown clay natural geology. Modern brick and tile fragments were frequent in these three deposits as well as Tarmac fragments, and a dump of concrete and steel pillars was observed on top of the natural geology at the NE end of the trench. No deposits or features of archaeological interest were observed and no finds were recovered.

Trench 7 (Figs 3)

Trench 7 was aligned NW - SE and was 15.30m long and 0.98m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil on top of a made ground consisted of 0.20m of chalk, 0.40m of mid brown silty clay, and 0.18m of light brown silty clay overlying gravel natural geology. Modern brick and tile fragments were frequent in these three deposits. One modern truncation was observed at the NW end of the trench filled with dark brown silt and brick and tarmac fragments, and a second truncation was observed from 9.30m to 13.30m from the NW end of the trench, filled with mid brown silt with frequent gravel and chalk inclusions. No archaeological deposits or features were observed and no finds were recovered.

Trench 8 (Figs 3)

Trench 8 was 14.90m long and 1.40m deep with the natural geology slopping down to the east. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil on top of a made ground consisted of 0.15m of chalk, 0.60m of mid brown silty clay, and 0.40m of light brown silty clay overlying brown clay natural geology. Modern brick and tile fragments were frequent in these three deposits. No deposits or features of archaeological interest were observed and no finds were recovered.

Trench 9 (Figs 3 and 4, **PI. 3**)

Trench 9 was aligned N - S and was 16.90m long and 1.00m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil on top of a made ground consisted of 0.25m of chalk, 0.40m of mid brown silty clay, and 0.20m of light brown silty clay overlying chalk and brown clay natural geology. Modern brick and tile fragments were frequent in these three deposits. No archaeological deposits or features were observed and no finds were recovered.

Trench 10 (Figs 3)

Trench 10 was aligned SW - NE and was 15.10m long and 1.92m deep with the natural geology slopping down to the east. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.13m of topsoil on top of a made ground consisted of 0.27m of chalk, 0.92m of mid brown silty clay, and 0.50m of light brown silty clay overlying chalk and brown clay natural geology. Modern brick and tile fragments were frequent in these three deposits. No archaeological deposits or features were observed and no finds were recovered.

Trench 11 (Figs 3, Pl. 4)

Trench 11 was aligned NW - SE and was 15.10m long and 0.90m deep with the natural geology slopping down to the east. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil and 0.20m of subsoil overlying chalk natural geology. From 11m to the SE end of the trench the ground level was made up with two deposits getting thicker to the SE and consisted of 0.30m of mid brown silty clay and 0.20m of light brown silty clay. Modern brick and tile fragments were frequent in these two deposits. Between 6m and 12m from the NW end of the trench a shallow depression in the natural geology was observed filled with sediment similar to the subsoil. No deposits or features of archaeological interest were observed and no finds were recovered.

Finds

No finds of archaeological interest were recovered during the field evaluation.

Conclusion

Nine trenches were completed on the site all showing that the ground has been significantly made up to counter the natural slope from both east and west to the central area of the site where this made ground has a maximum thickness of 1.4m. At least three substantial modern truncations were observed in the natural geology located in the north and east area of the site while the trenches dug on the west area showed the natural geology remaining untouched. Despite the potential of the site no archaeological features or deposits were observed and no finds were recovered and the site is considered to have no archaeological potential .

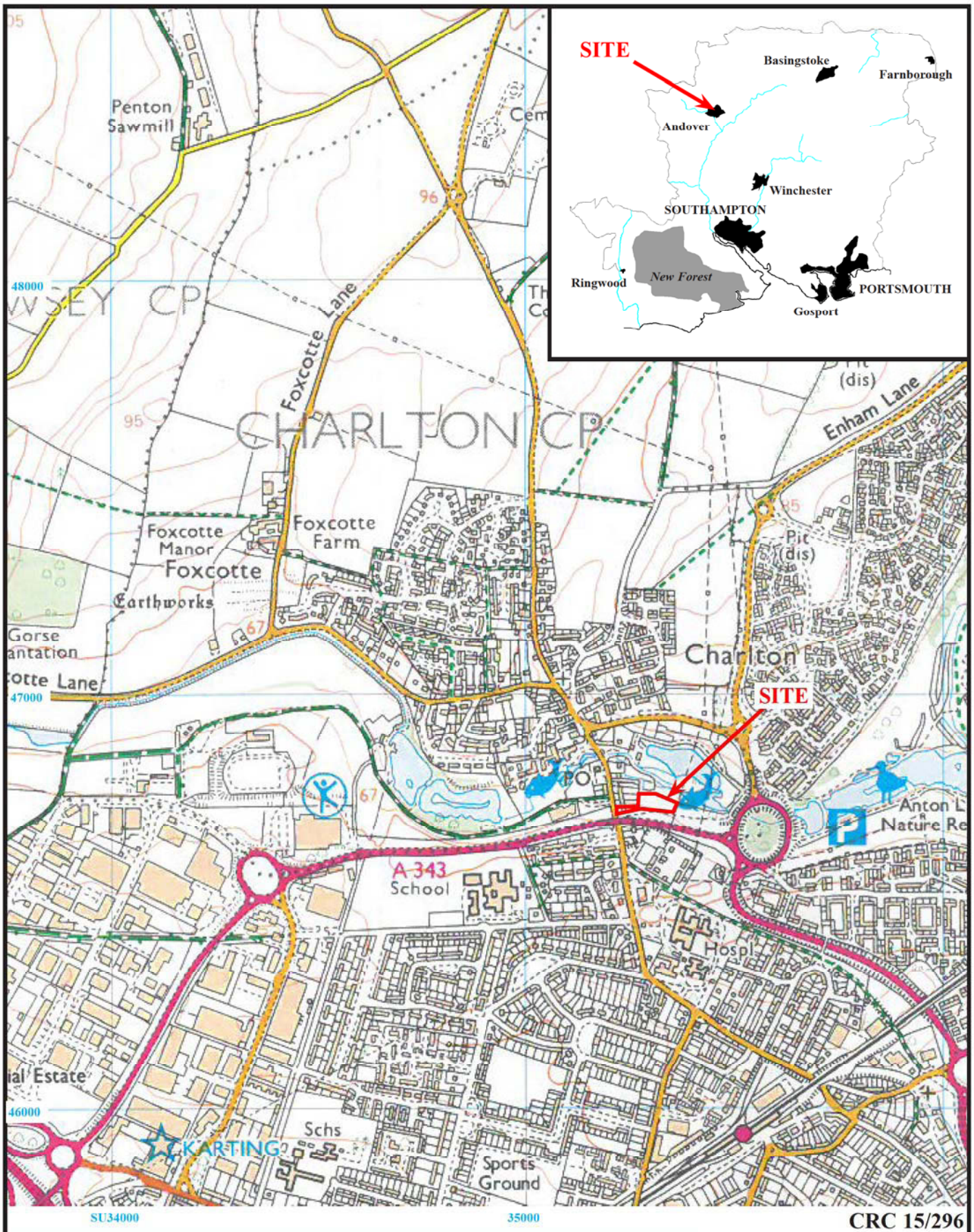
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APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at SE, SW, S end

Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
1				Not dug
2				Not dug
3	15.10	1.60	2.10	0-0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.90m Chalk made ground, 0.90-1.10m Dark brown silty clay made ground, 1.10m+ light brown gravel natural geology. 1.10-2.00m mid yellowish brown silty clay fill, 2.00-2.10m dark brown silty clay fill (modern truncation) [Pl. 1]
4	15.20	1.60	1.20	0-0.19m topsoil, 0.19-0.77m Chalk made ground, 0.77-1.02m Dark brown silty clay made ground, 1.02-1.20m light brown silty clay made ground, 1.20m+ light brown gravel natural geology.
5	12.50	1.60	0.94	0-0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.35m Chalk made ground, 0.35-0.60m Dark brown silty clay made ground, 0.60-0.94m light brown silty clay made ground, 0.94m+ light brown gravel natural geology.
6	16.50	1.60	1.60	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.70m Chalk made ground, 0.70-1.10m Mid brown silty clay made ground, 1.10-1.60m light brown silty clay made ground, 1.60m+ light brown clay natural geology [Pl. 2]
7	15.30	1.60	0.98	0-0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.40m Chalk made ground, 0.40-0.80m Mid brown silty clay made ground, 0.80-0.98m light brown silty clay made ground, 0.98m+ light brown gravel natural geology.
8	14.40	1.60	1.40	0-0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.40m Chalk made ground, 0.40-1.00m Mid brown silty clay made ground, 1.00-1.40m light brown silty clay made ground, 1.40m+ upper chalk and light brown clay natural geology.
9	16.90	1.60	1.00	0-0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.40m Chalk made ground, 0.40-0.80m Mid brown silty clay made ground, 0.80-1.00m light brown silty clay made ground, 1.00m+ chalk and light brown clay natural geology [Pl. 3]
10	15.10	1.60	1.92	0-0.13m topsoil, 0.13-0.50m Chalk made ground, 0.50-1.42m Mid brown silty clay made ground, 1.42-1.92m light brown silty clay made ground, 1.42m+ chalk and light brown clay natural geology.
11	15.10	1.60	0.90	0-0.20m topsoil, 0.20-0.40m Subsoil, 0.40-0.70m Mid brown silty clay made ground, 0.70-0.90m light brown silty clay made ground, 0.90m+ chalk and gravel natural geology [Pl. 4]



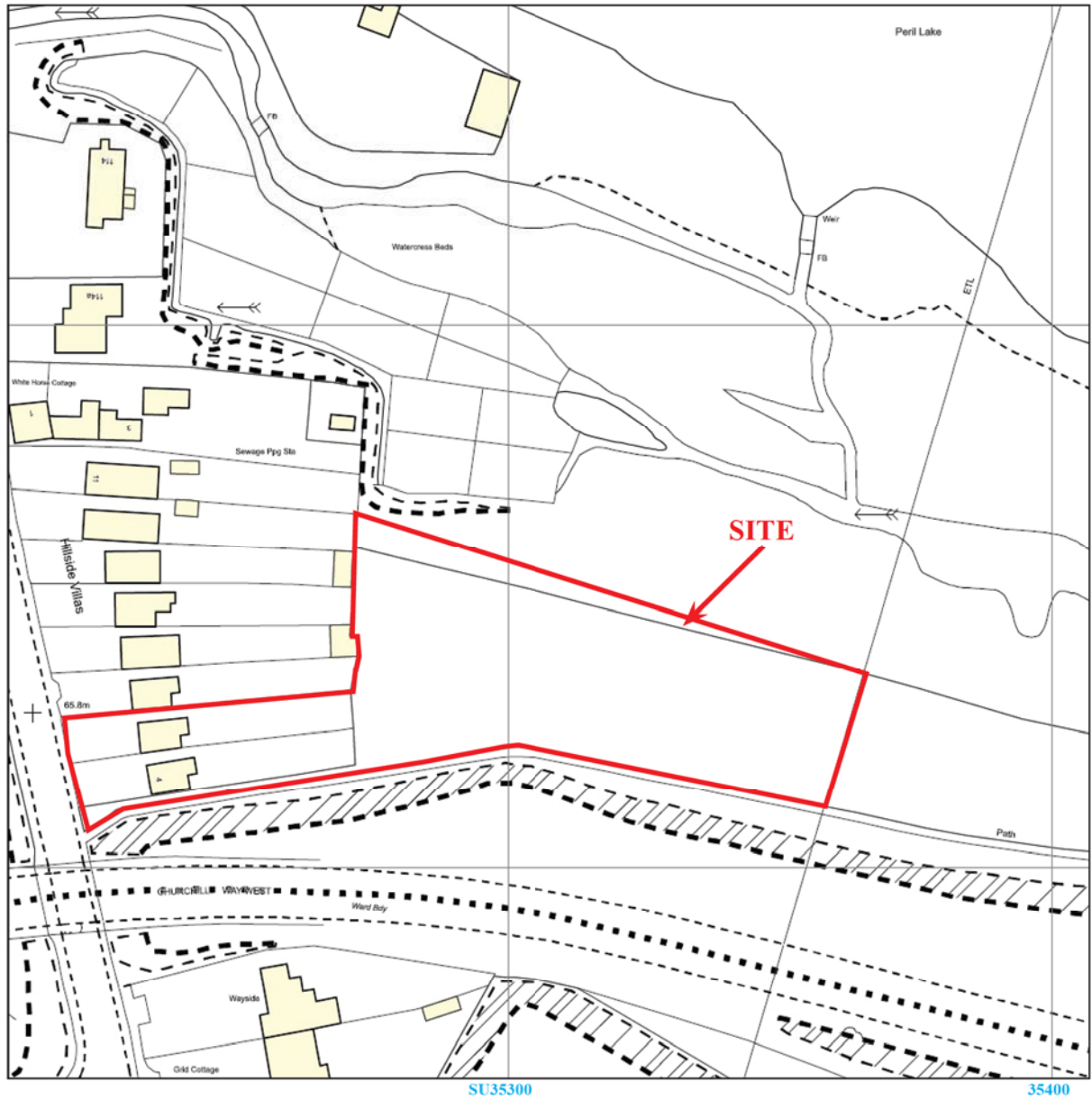
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Figure 1. Location of site within Charlton, Andover and Hampshire.

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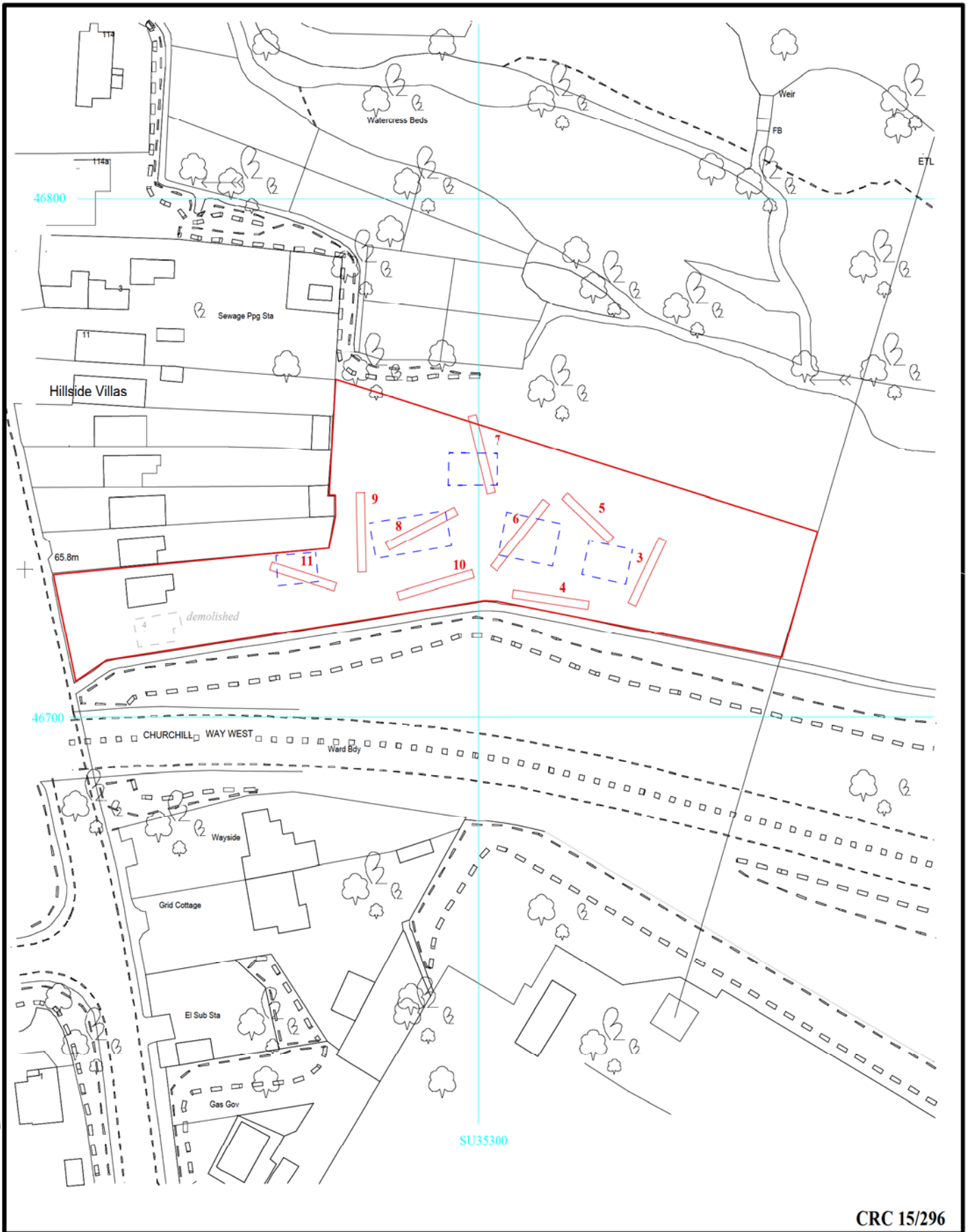
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Figure 2. Detailed location of site.

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Figure 3. Location of trenches.



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Trench 3

NE

SW 65.37m



Chalk (made ground)



Dark brown silty clay



Yellow silt with chalk



Gravel (Natural geology)



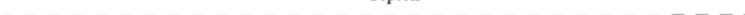
Trench 9

N

S 64.5m



Topsoil



Chalk (made ground)



Friable brown silty clay (made ground)



Friable light brown silty clay



Brown clay (Natural geology)

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Figure 4. Sections.



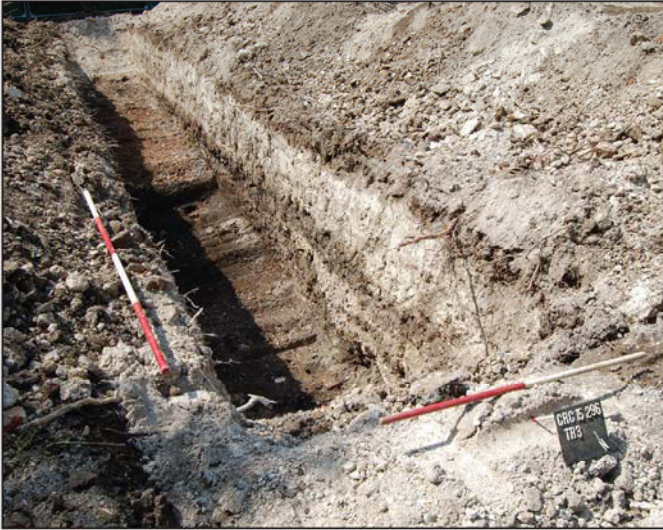


Plate 1. Trench 3, looking south west, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 2. Trench 6, looking north east, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 3. Trench 9, looking north west,
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 4. Trench 11, looking east,
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

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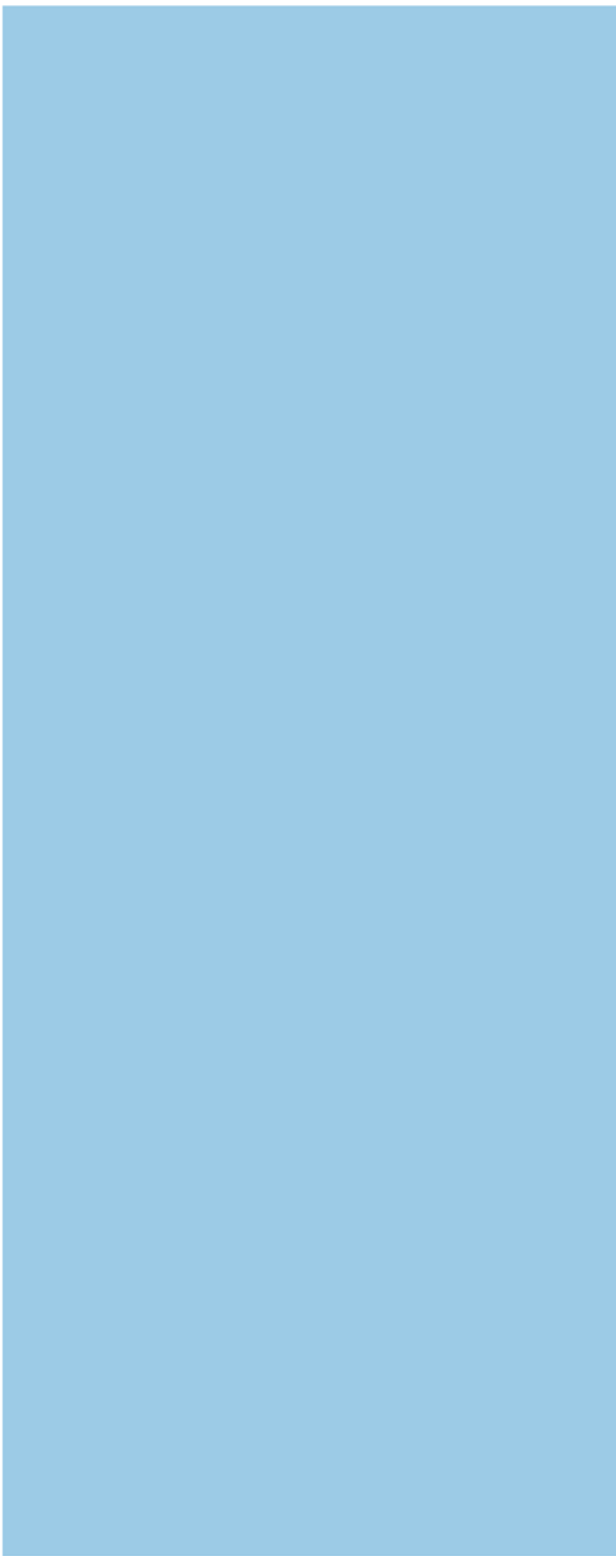
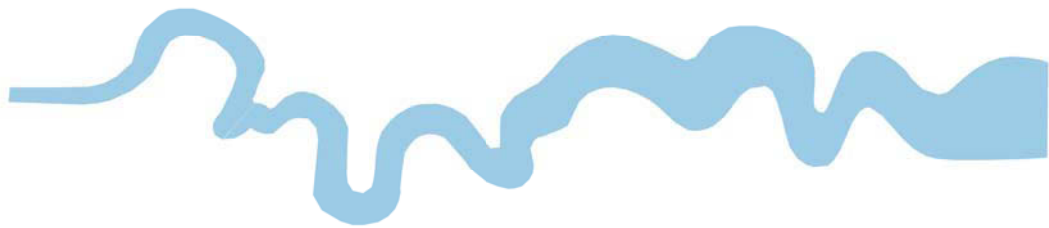
Land at 4-5 Hillside Villas, Charlton, Andover,
Hampshire, 2016
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 1 - 4.

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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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