

**T V A S**



**SOUTH**

**Static PET CT Site, William Harvey Hospital, Kennington  
Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent**

**Archaeological Evaluation**

**by Teresa Vieira**

**Site Code: WHA16/87**

**(TR 0382 4196)**

**Static PET CT Site, William Harvey Hospital,  
Kennington Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent**

**An Archaeological Evaluation  
for Alliance Medical Limited**

by Teresa Vieira  
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code  
WHA 16/87

**April 2017**

## Summary

**Site name:** Static PET CT Site, William Harvey Hospital, Kennington Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent

**Grid reference:** TR 0382 4196

**Site activity:** Evaluation

**Date and duration of project:** 24th April 2017

**Project manager:** Steve Ford

**Site supervisor:** Teresa Vieira

**Site code:** WHA 16/87

**Area of site:** 605 sq m

**Summary of results:** The archaeological evaluation at William Harvey Hospital successfully investigated those parts of the site which will be most affected by the construction of a new building. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in the evaluation trenches. The complete lack of any surviving subsoil horizon, along with the presence of made ground in one of the trenches, suggests that the area has been heavily disturbed in the past, possibly when the nearby hospital buildings were built.

**Monuments identified:** None

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

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Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 02.05.17 Steve Preston ✓ 02.05.17
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# Static PET CT Site, William Harvey Hospital, Kennington Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent

by Teresa Vieira

**Report 16/87b**

## **Introduction**

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out on land at William Harvey Hospital, Kennington Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent (NGR: TR 0382 4196) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr David Curzon, of Lee Wakemans Management, 8 Neptune Court, Vanguard Way, Cardiff, CF24 5PJ on behalf of Alliance Medical Limited.

Planning permission (16/01010/AS) had been gained from Ashford Borough Council to construct a new building at William Harvey Hospital, Kennington Road, Willesborough. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits on the site which may be damaged or destroyed by the development it was proposed to carry out a field evaluation as detailed in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology, to determine the archaeological potential of the site and to provide information to formulate a mitigation strategy as necessary.

The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which had been approved by the Kent County Council's Senior Archaeological Officer (Mrs Wendy Rogers), who advises the Borough Council on archaeological matters.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Teresa Vieira and Virginia Fuentes-Mateos, on 24th April 2017, and the site code is WHA 16/87. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading, and will be deposited with an approved local museum in due course.

## **Location, topography and geology**

The site is located to the south of the main access road into William Harvey Hospital, approximately 3km east of the historic core of Ashford, Kent (Figs 1 and 2). The evaluation targeted the area where the new building would be constructed, which was covered with grass. This part of the site is relatively flat, and lies at a height of approximately 55m above Ordnance Datum. According to the British Geological Survey the underlying geology consists of sandstone from the Folkestone Formation (BGS 1982). However, the geology encountered during the evaluation generally consisted of mid orange brown sand, which overlay further clayey sand or silty sand deposits.

## **Archaeological background**

The archaeological potential of the site had been considered in a recent desk-based assessment (Baljkas 2016). In summary, there are no known heritage assets recorded for the site, and relatively few in the surrounding area which pre-date the early post-medieval period. A single Neolithic arrowhead was found to the west of the site, but most of the entries in the Kent Historic Environment Record for the vicinity are for Listed Buildings dating from the 17th to 19th centuries.

## **Objectives and methodology**

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological or palaeoenvironmental deposits within the area of development. This work was to be carried out in a manner which would not compromise the integrity of archaeological features or deposits which may warrant preservation *in-situ* and to comply with the Kent County Council requirements for archaeological evaluations (KCC 2013).

Specific aims of the project were:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site;
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present; and
- to determine whether any evidence of medieval or early post-medieval occupation was present;

Two trenches were to be dug, each measuring 10m long and 1.60m-2.00m wide, to target the footprint of the new building. The trenches were to be dug using a 360° type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. All spoilheaps were to be monitored for finds. Where archaeological features were certainly or probably present, the stripped areas were to be cleaned using appropriate hand tools, and excavated to an agreed sampling fraction dependent on feature type.

## **Results**

The two trenches were excavated as planned, although they had to be shifted slightly to avoid known services. The trenches were 1.80m wide, and respectively 11.50m and 10.0m in length, and between 0.70m and 1.28m in depth. A complete list of the trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

#### Trench 1 (Pl. 1, 3 and 4) (Fig. 4)

This trench was orientated approximately N-S, and was 11.50m long and up to 0.97m deep. At the southern end of the trench the natural sand geology was observed beneath 0.10m of topsoil (50) and 0.46m of modern made ground (52). The made ground layer was not as thick (0.20m) at the northern end of the trench, where a possible buried soil horizon (51) was recorded immediately above the natural sand geology. Test pits were dug at either end of the trench to a maximum depth of 1.28m, which revealed different bands of the underlying natural geology. The western side of the trench had been heavily truncated during recent groundworks required to locate services. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in this trench.

#### Trench 2 (Pl. 2) (Fig. 4)

Trench 2 was orientated approximately N-S, and was 10.00m long and up to 0.70m deep. The natural sand geology was recorded beneath 0.50m of turf and topsoil (50). A test pit was dug at the southern end of the trench to a depth of 1.10m to confirm the character of the natural geology. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in the trench.

### **Finds**

No archaeological finds were recovered during the evaluation.

### **Conclusion**

The archaeological evaluation at William Harvey Hospital successfully investigated those parts of the site which will be most affected by the construction of the new building. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in the evaluation trenches. The lack of any surviving subsoil horizon, along with the presence of made ground in one of the trenches, suggests that the area has been disturbed in the past, possibly when the nearby hospital buildings were built.

### **References**

- Balijkas, G, 2016, 'Static PET CT Site, William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, Kent an archaeological desk-based assessment', Thames Valley Archaeological Services report **16/87**, Brighton
- BGS, 1982, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 289, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth.
- KCC, 2013, 'Kent County Council Manual of Specifications Part B: Evaluation Trial Trenching Requirements', Kent County Council Heritage Conservation Group, Maidstone.
- NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept of Communities and Local Government, London

**APPENDIX 1: Trench details**

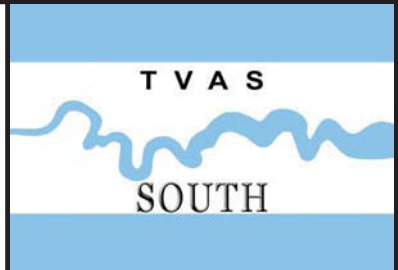
<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	11.50	1.80	0.97 (S)  1.28 (N)	0-0.10m topsoil (50); 0.10-0.56m made ground (52); 0.56-0.76m natural geology (mid orange brown sand); 0.76-0.84m natural geology (light yellow silty sand); 0.84-97m+ natural geology (mid greyish brown clayey sand). 0-0.10m topsoil (50); 0.10-0.30m made ground (52); 0.30-0.42m buried soil (51); 0.42-0.51m natural geology (mid orange brown sand); 0.51-0.84m natural geology (mid greyish brown silty sand); 0.84-1.28m+ natural geology (light greyish brown clayey sand). <b>[Pls 1, 3 4]</b>
2	10.00	1.80	0.70	0-0.50m topsoil (50); 0.50-0.70m+ natural geology (mid orange brown sand). <b>[Pl. 2]</b>



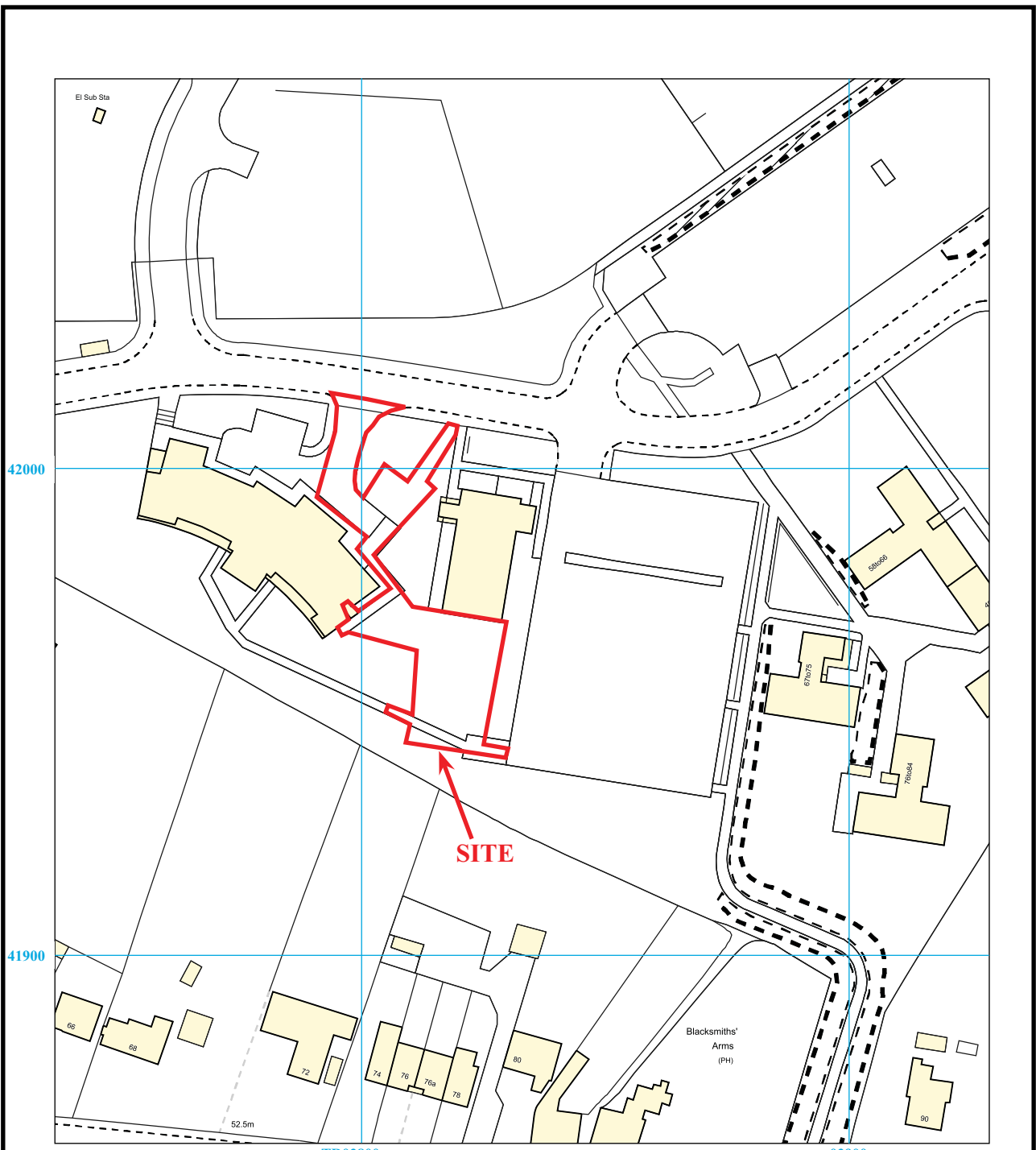
**Static PET CT Site, William Harvey Hospital,  
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Figure 1. Location of site within Ashford and Kent.

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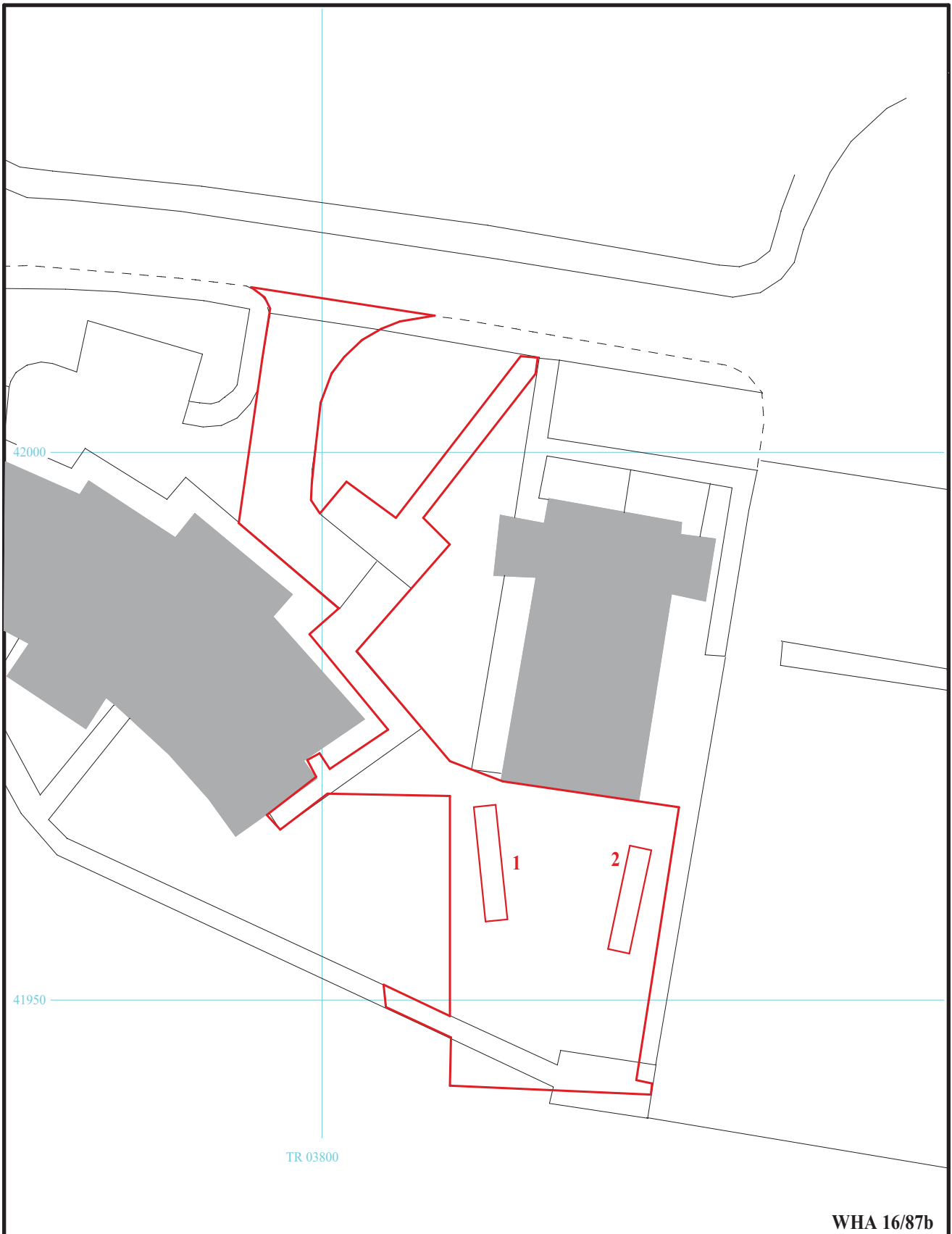


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Figure 2. Detailed location of site.

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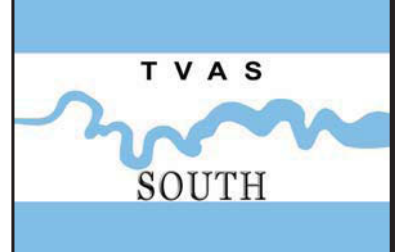


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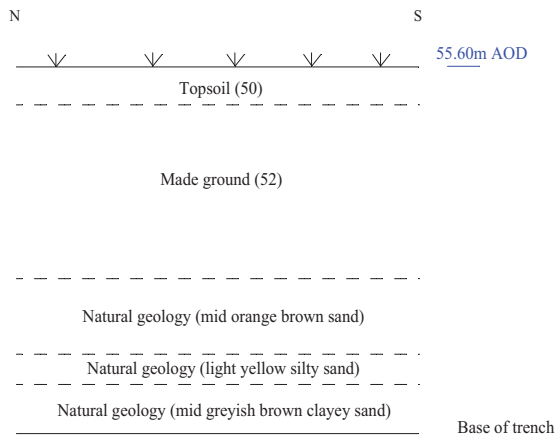
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Figure 3. Location of trenches.



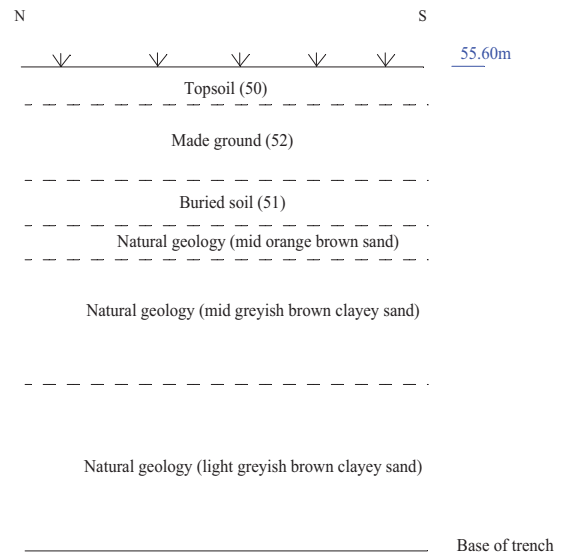
### Trench 1

General stratigraphy at the south end of the trench

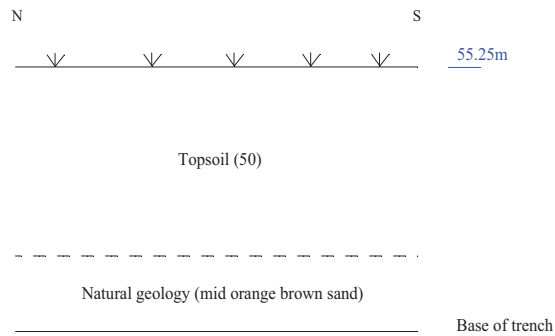


### Trench 1

General stratigraphy at the north end of the trench (test pit)



### Trench 2



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Figure 4. Representative sections.





Plate 1. Trench 1, looking North.  
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 2, looking North.  
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 3. Test pit at northern end of trench 1, looking East.  
Scale: 1m.



Plate 4. Test pit at southern end of trench 1, looking East.  
Scales: 2m and 1m.

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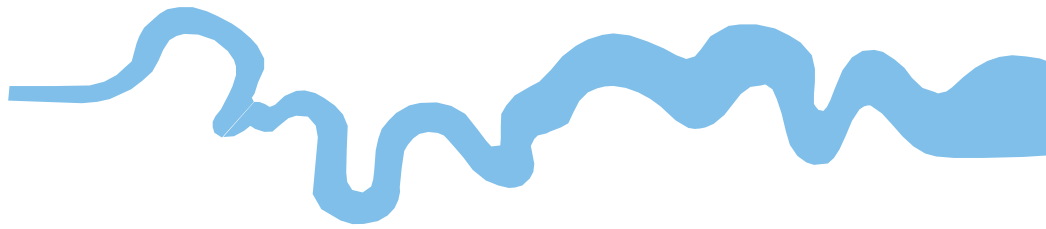
Plates 1 - 4.



## TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43 AD 0 BC
Iron Age _____	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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