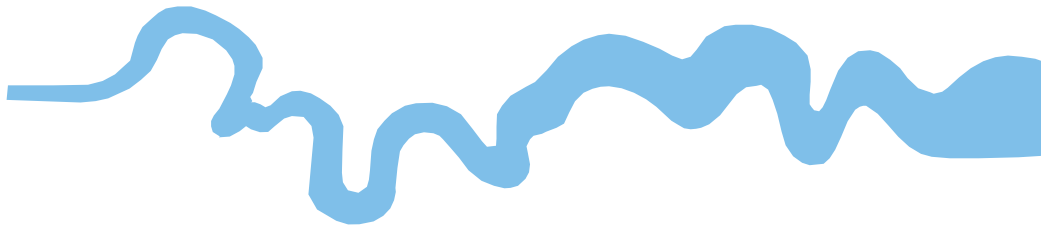


T V A S



SOUTH WEST

**Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst,
Gloucester, Gloucestershire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Nicholas Dawson

Site Code:MSG17/54

(SO 8276 2330)

**Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst,
Gloucester, Gloucestershire**

**Archaeological Evaluation
for Armour Heritage**

by Nicholas Dawson

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code MSG 17/254

December 2017

Summary

Site name: Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst, Gloucester, Gloucestershire

Grid reference: SO 8276 2330

Site activity: Test Pitting (Evaluation)

Date and duration of project: 1st and 4th December 2017

Project manager: Agata Socha-Paszkwicz

Site supervisor: Nicholas Dawson

Site code: MSG 17/254

Area of site: 0.08ha

Summary of results: The test pits revealed no features or finds of archaeological interest.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at TVAS South West, Taunton and will be deposited with Gloucestershire Museum Service in due course.

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

Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford✓ 13.12.17 Steve Preston✓ 13.12.17

Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst, Gloucester, Gloucestershire Archaeological Evaluation

by Nicholas Dawson

Report 17/254

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst, Gloucester, Gloucestershire (SO 8276 2330) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Sue Farr of Armour Heritage, Foghamshire Timber Yard, Foghamshire Lane, Trudoxhill, Frome, Somerset, BA11 5DG on behalf of Mr David Eggleton, Margarets Cottage, Sandhurst, Gloucestershire.

Planning permission (17/01114/FUL) has been sought from Tewkesbury Borough Council for the erection of a single dwelling within the garden adjoining Margaret's Cottage. Given the site's archaeologically sensitive location (being adjacent to Sandhurst's medieval parish church) an archaeological evaluation in the form of two 2m x 2m test pits to be dug by hand has been requested in order to inform the planning process.

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 (Farr 2017) approved by Mr Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer for Gloucestershire County Council, advising the Borough. The fieldwork was undertaken by Nicholas Dawson and Andrew Weale on the 1st and 4th December 2017 and the site code is MSG 17/254. The archive is presently held at TVAS (South West), Taunton and will be deposited with Gloucestershire Museum Services.

Location, topography and geology

Sandhurst lies approximately 5km north of the city of Gloucester and 12.5km south-west of Tewkesbury. The site is located within the garden of Margaret's Cottage, on the west side of Sandhurst Lane. To its north is the Village Hall with Sandhurst cricket club and ground. To the east on the opposite site of Sandhurst Lane is the medieval church of St. Lawrence. To the south are further residential properties and to the west lie agricultural fields. The surrounding area is generally flat being on the edge of the River Severn's flood plain with the river itself running 1.15km to the east of Sandhurst. The elevation of the site is 14m above Ordnance Datum with underlying geology of Rugby Limestone Member – a mudstone and limestone interbedded sedimentary bedrock with superficial deposits of Cheltenham Sand and Gravel (BGS 1975).

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site stems from its proximity to the Grade II* St Lawrence's Church and potential associated medieval settlement. Founded in the 14th century and largely rebuilt in 1858, the church and its associated graveyard are situated just east on the opposite side of Sandhurst land to Margaret's Cottage. Archaeological monitoring of groundworks within the churchyard recorded two post-medieval tombs and part of an earlier structure. A second watching brief in land just north of the church revealed no significant archaeological activity. Analysis of 1946 RAF aerial photographs identified earthworks at the church and Pennell's Farm but later site visits could not identify them (Farr 2017).

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the test pitting was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of development.

Specific aims of the project are:

- to clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the site that may be impacted by development;

- to identify, within the constraints of the test pitting, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the site;

- to assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits; and

- to produce a report which will present the results of the fieldwork in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential

Two test pits of 2m by 2m were proposed. These were to be dug by hand due to constraints on vehicular access. All spoilheaps were to be monitored for finds. Where archaeological features were certainly or probably present within the area of the test pit they were to be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims outlined above.

Results

Both 2m by 2m test pits were opened as planned (Fig. 2), both with similar depths. A list of test pits giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. The only features

identified within both test pits were modern in date, only one of which was excavated. The excavated feature, with dating evidence, is summarized in Appendix 2.

Test Pit 1 (Figs 2, 3 and 4; Pls 1 and 2)

Test Pit 1 was located closest to Sandhurst Lane and the church. It was 0.44m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.44m of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology. Finds from the topsoil consisted of a number of post-medieval to modern ceramic sherds, clay pipes, glass fragments, a button and an aluminium toothpaste tube. Two fragments of unidentifiable mammal bone were also recovered. All finds were noted but not retained. The edge of a modern soakaway was found and investigated on the north-east side of the test pit. Consisting of 0.48m of clay overlying loose gravel it was not bottomed. Finds consisted of two fragments of white china, a stem of a clay pipe, 4 fragments of modern building material and the backing of an Elastoplast plaster. All were observed but not retained.

Test Pit 2 (Figs 2, 3 and 4; Pl. 3)

Test pit 2 was 0.4m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.4m of topsoil overlying natural geology. From the topsoil a range of post-medieval to modern ceramic fragments were again observed but not retained, along with fragments of glass and fragments of clay pipe. A utility pipe trench running north-west to south-east, across the test pit connecting the cottage with the 1960s cesspit was identified but not sampled.

Conclusion

The evaluation has successfully investigated the site as intended. Despite the archaeological potential of the site, no features of archaeological interest were revealed. Within the constraints of the test pitting, this suggests the site has very low archaeological potential.

References

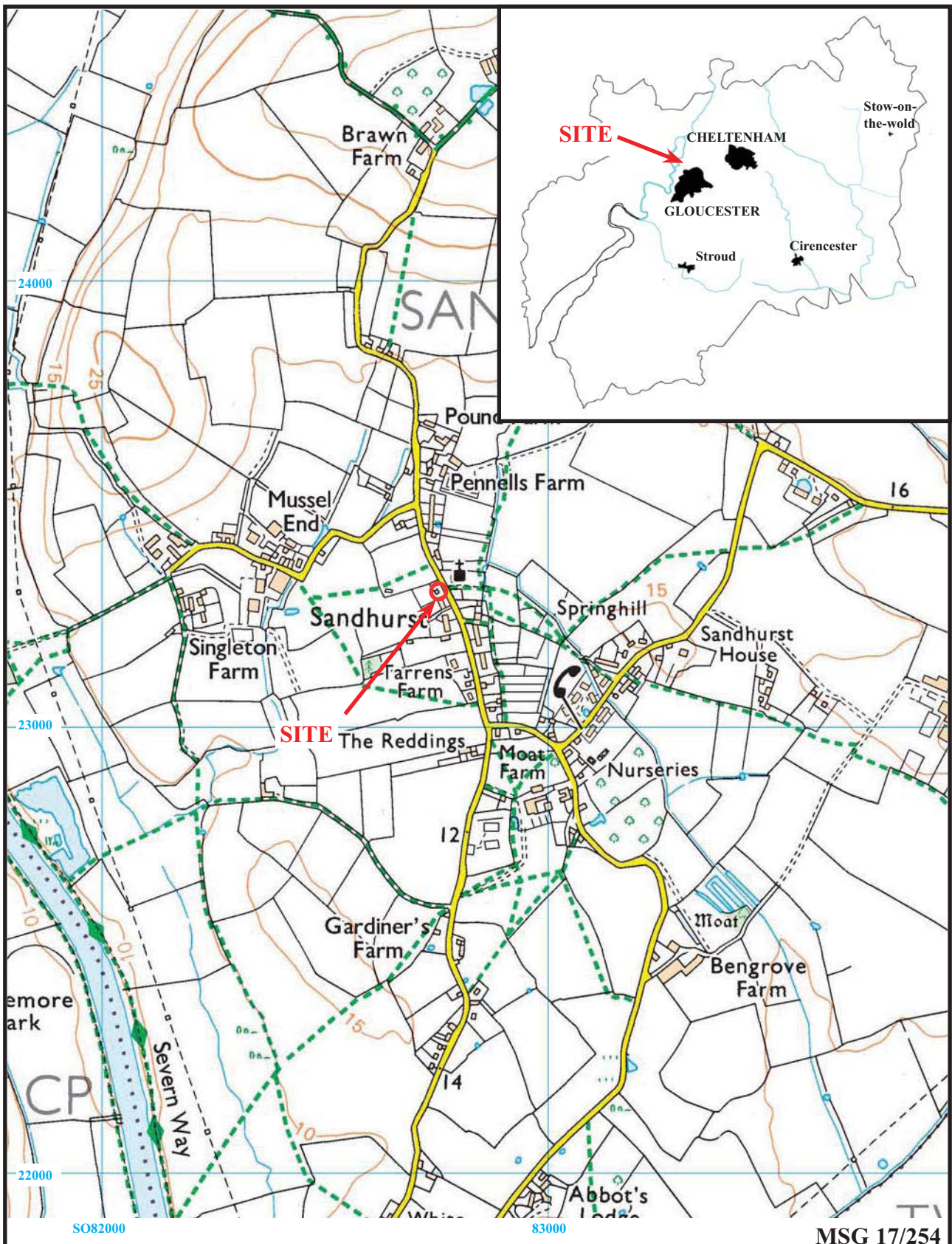
BGS, 1975, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet 234, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
Farr, S, 2017, 'Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation, Archaeological Test Pitting', report AH583, Trudoxhill
NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London

APPENDIX 1: Test Pit details

<i>Test Pit</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	2	2	0.44	0–0.44m dark grey clay silt garden soil/topsoil, pale brown sandy clay silt natural geology. Edge of modern soak away (1). [Pls 1 and 2]
2	2	2	0.4	0-0.4m dark grey clay silt garden soil/topsoil, pale brown sandy clay silt natural geology. Modern utilities trench connecting cottage with cess pit. [Pl. 3]

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

<i>Test Pit</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
1	1	52, 53	Soak away	Modern	Pottery, clay pipe, brick, Elastoplast backing

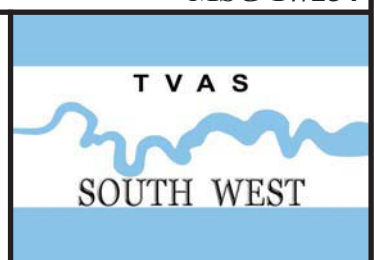


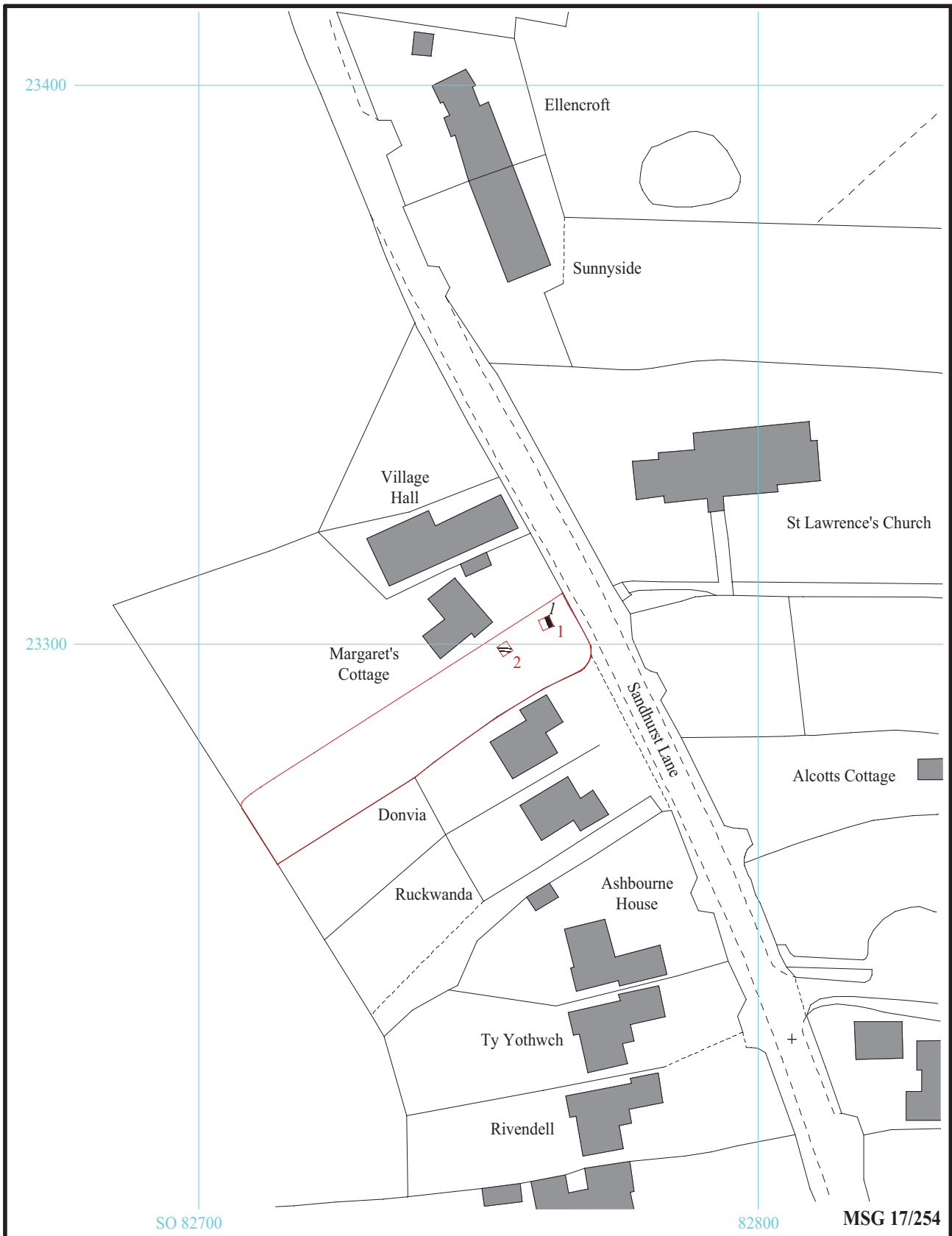
**Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst,
Gloucester, Gloucestershire, 2017**

Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 1. Location of site within Sandhurst and Gloucestershire.

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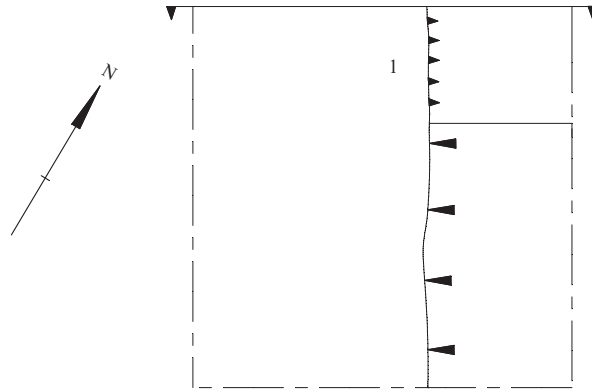
**Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst,
Gloucester, Gloucestershire, 2017
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 2. Location of test pits and features.

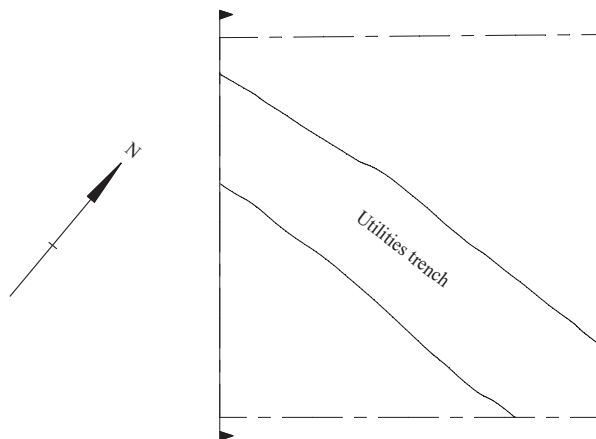


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Test Pit 1



Test Pit 2



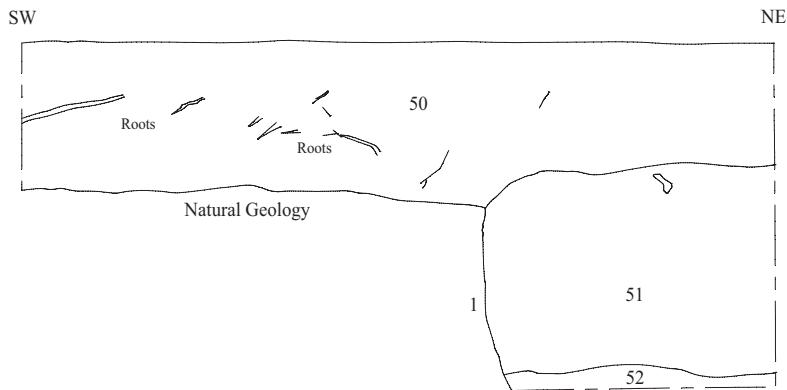
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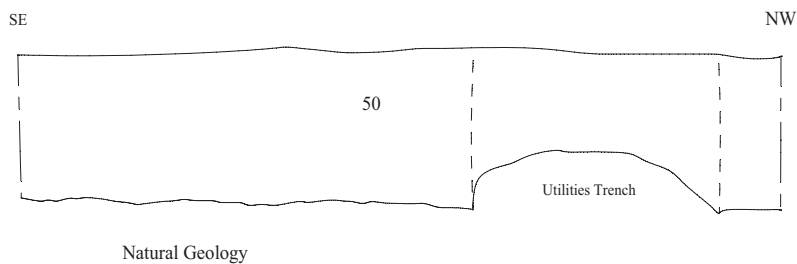
Figure 3. Test pit details.



Test Pit 1



Test Pit 2



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**Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst,
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Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 4. Sections.

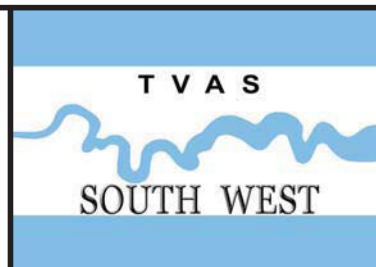




Plate 1. Test pit 1, looking northwest, Scales: 2m and 0.3m.



Plate 2. Test pit 1, soak away 1, looking northeast, Scales: 1m, 1m and 0.3m.

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**Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst,
Gloucester, Gloucestershire, 2017**
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 1 and 2.

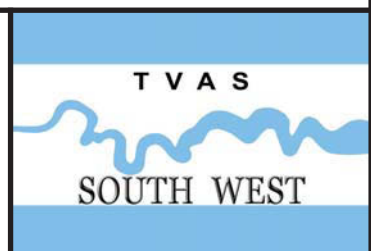




Plate 3. Test Pit 2, looking northeast, Scales: 2m and 0.3m.

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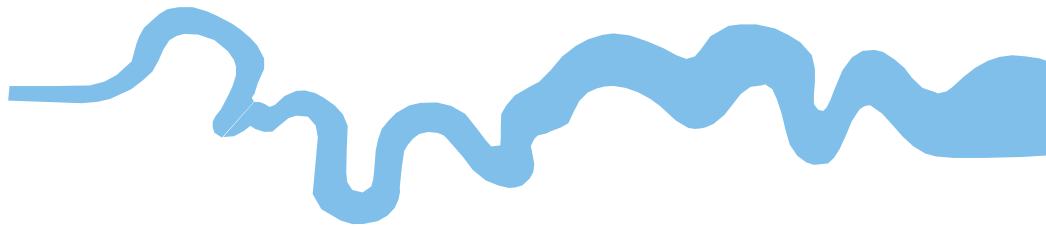
**Margaret's Cottage, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst,
Gloucester, Gloucestershire, 2017
Archaeological Evaluation
Plate 3.**



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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