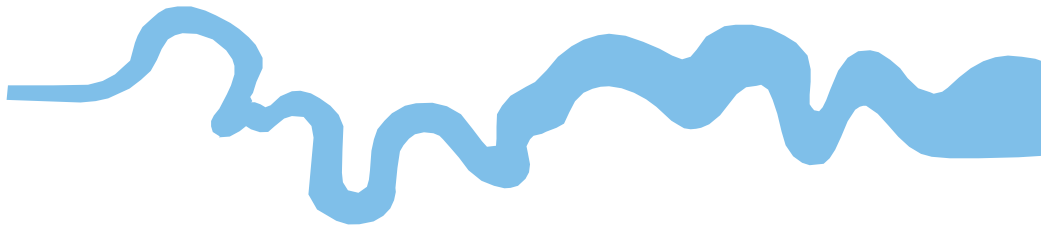


T V A S



SOUTH

**22 Upper Hamilton Road,
Brighton, East Sussex**

Archaeological Watching Brief

by Odile Rouard

Site Code: UHB17/217

(TQ 3048 0561)

**22 Upper Hamilton Road,
Brighton, East Sussex**

An Archaeological Watching Brief

For Mr Jaimie Blomqvist

by Odile Rouard

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code UHB 17/217

January 2018

Summary

Site name: 22 Upper Hamilton Road, Brighton, East Sussex

Grid reference: TQ 3048 0561

Planning reference: BH2017/02321

Site activity: Watching Brief

Date and duration of project: 8th - 12th December 2017

Project manager: Sean Wallis

Site supervisor: Odile Rouard

Site code: UHB 17/217

Summary of results: The watching brief successfully investigated those parts of the site which were to be most affected by the construction of a new extension to the existing house. The area had been significantly disturbed in the past, probably by the footings of the existing house and later modern services. As a consequence, no archaeological features were recorded.

Location and reference of archive: The preferred depository for the site archive is Brighton Museum. Unfortunately the museum is not accepting new material, so the archive will be held at TVAS South in Brighton until a suitable repository can be found.

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Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 04.01.18 Steve Preston ✓ 04.01.18

22 Upper Hamilton Road, Brighton, East Sussex An Archaeological Watching Brief

by Odile Rouard

Report 17/217

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at 22 Upper Hamilton Road, Brighton, East Sussex (TQ 3048 0561) (Fig. 1). The project was commissioned Mr Jaimie Blomqvist of Krona Design, 50 Grand Parade, Brighton, BN2 9QA, on behalf of the property's owners.

Planning permission (BH2017/02321) has been gained from Brighton and Hove City Council to construct a new rear extension to the existing property. The permission is subject to a standard planning condition (3) relating to archaeology, as guided by the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF, 2012) and the City Council's policies on archaeology and the historic environment. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits on site which may be damaged or destroyed by the building work, a watching brief was required to satisfy the condition. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation approved by the East Sussex County Council Archaeological Officer (Mr Greg Chuter), who advises the City Council on archaeological matters. Where appropriate and relevant, the recommendations in *Sussex Archaeological Standards* (ESCC 2015) were to be followed.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Odile Rouard between 8th and 12th December 2017, and the site code is UHB 17/217. The archive is currently held at TVAS South in Brighton and will be deposited with a suitable depository in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located north of the historic core of Brighton, East Sussex, about 1km to the south of Preston Manor (Fig. 1). The new extension was built to the rear of the existing house, in an area which, up until recently, had been part of the walled back garden (Fig. 2). The general topography slopes down to the south and east but the site itself was relatively flat, and lies at a height of approximately 64.5m above Ordnance Datum. According to the British Geological Survey the underlying geology consists of Upper and Middle Chalk undifferentiated (BGS 1984) which more modern mapping refines to Tarrant Formation chalk (BGS 2017) and chalk was indeed observed within all of the footing trenches.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been gleaned from the East Sussex Historic Environment Record. In summary, the site lies close to an Archaeological Notification Area associated with an extensive Saxon cemetery which was first discovered in Stafford Road during the 19th century. Further burials have been recorded since, including one in Exeter Street, which was found during building work in the early 1990s. Several HER entries relate to stray finds in the surrounding area, dating from the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Roman periods. A number of probable Bronze Age barrows are thought to have been sited close to St Nicholas' Church, to the south of the present site, and a Roman villa was discovered to the east at Springfield Road. The area around the present site was substantially developed from the 1840s onwards, and many HER entries relate to buildings and features dating from the Victorian period and the 20th century. Numerous archaeological fieldwork projects have been carried out in the area in the last 30 years or so, but very little of note has been found, which perhaps reflects the extent to which the original ground surface has been affected by landscaping and the construction of buildings and the nearby railway line. According to historic mapping the immediate area was first developed in the late 1870s.

Objectives and methodology

The aims of the watching brief were to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the proposed groundworks. This was to involve the examination of all areas of intrusive groundworks, including any significant ground reduction and the digging of foundation trenches for the new extension. Where archaeological deposits which may warrant preservation *in-situ* were encountered, their treatment was to be discussed in consultation with the client and the East Sussex County Council Archaeological Officer. Where it was not possible or practicable to preserve archaeological remains *in-situ* the features were to be excavated by hand and fully recorded, to ensure their preservation by record. The watching brief was to be carried out in accordance with the relevant sections of *Sussex Archaeological Standards* (ESCC 2015).

Results

The footings were dug by hand, under constant archaeological supervision. The footing trenches were about 0.60m wide, and 1.1m deep (Figs 3 and 4; Pls 1–4).

The stratigraphy recorded in the footings for the rear extension generally consisted of a 0.06m concrete slab (50) overlying about 0.64m of made ground (51). This deposit contained modern finds of glass, brick and tile

(not retained). The made ground was recorded immediately above the natural geology, indicating that the area had been significantly disturbed in the past, probably when the present house was built in the late 19th or early 20th century.

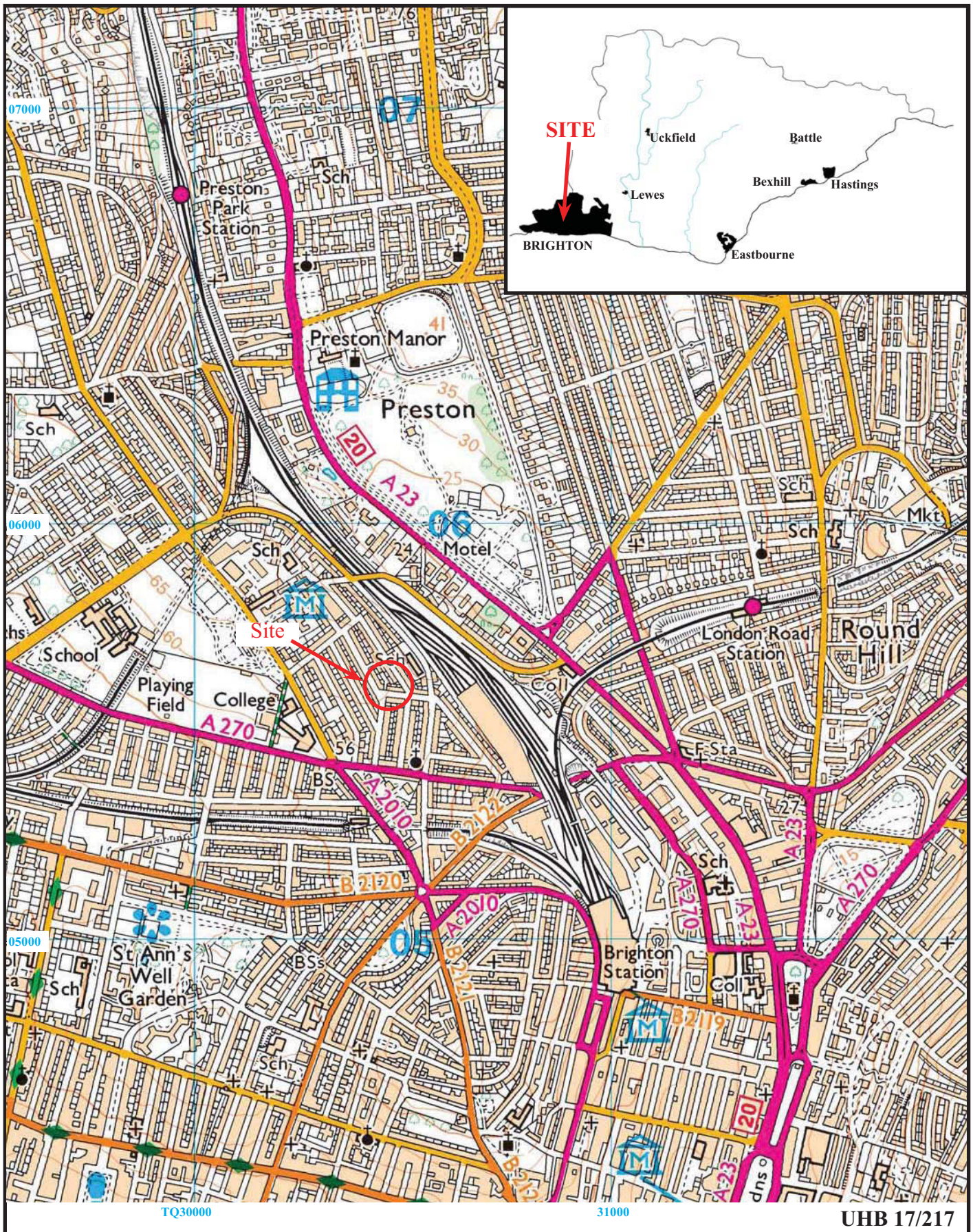
No archaeological features were recorded during the watching brief nor finds recovered.

Conclusion

The watching brief investigated those parts of the site which were to be most affected by the construction of the new extension to the existing house. The area had clearly been significantly disturbed in the past, possibly when the present house was built. As a result, modern made ground was recorded directly above the natural geology within the site. No archaeological features were recorded.

References

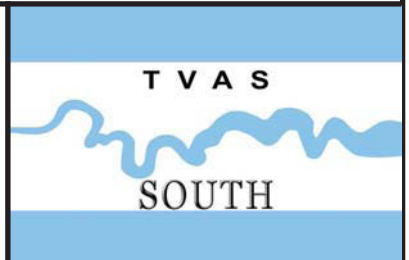
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- BGS, 2017, <http://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html> (consulted December 2017)
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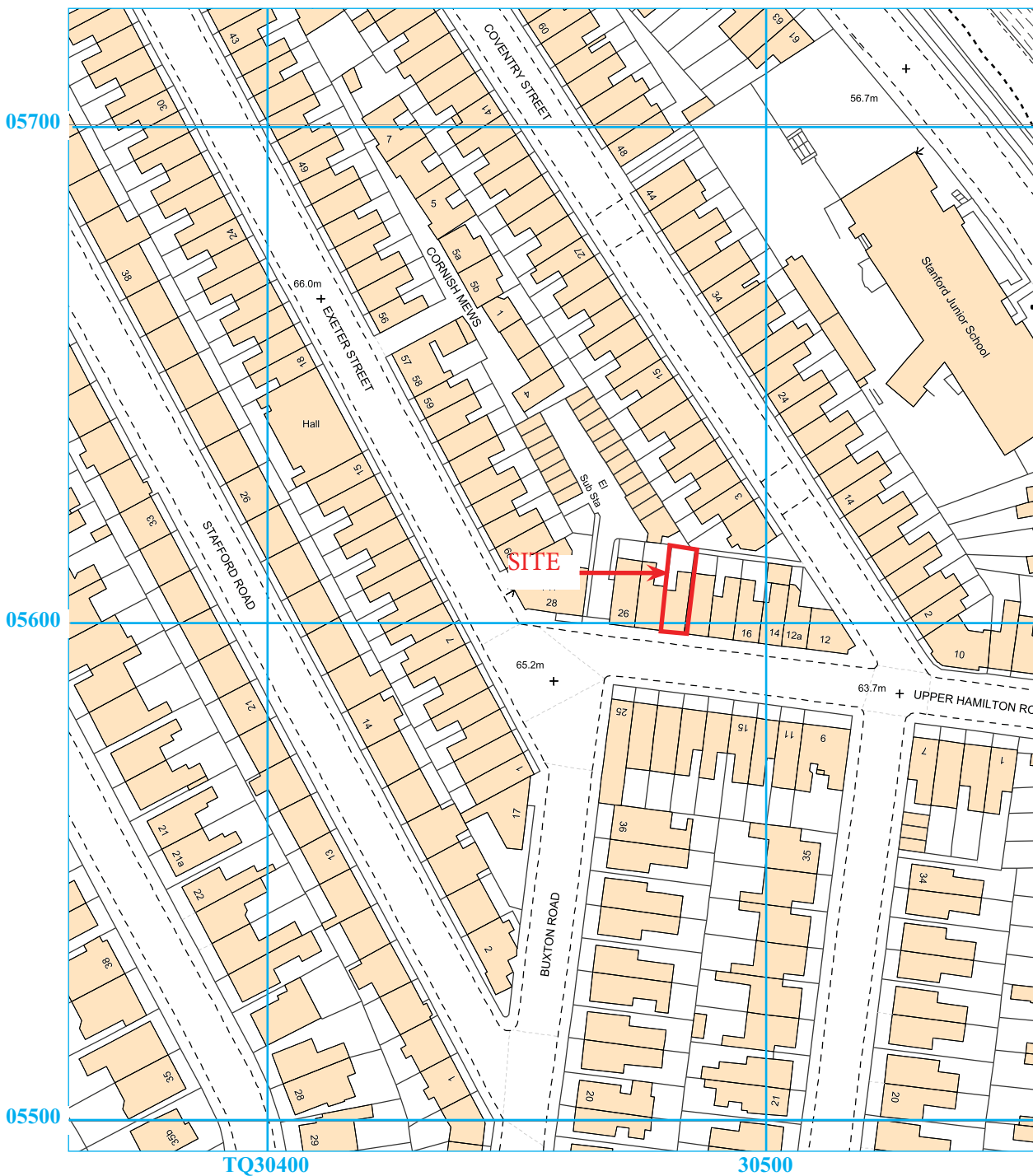


**22 Upper Hamilton Road, Brighton,
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Figure 1. Location of site within Brighton and East Sussex.

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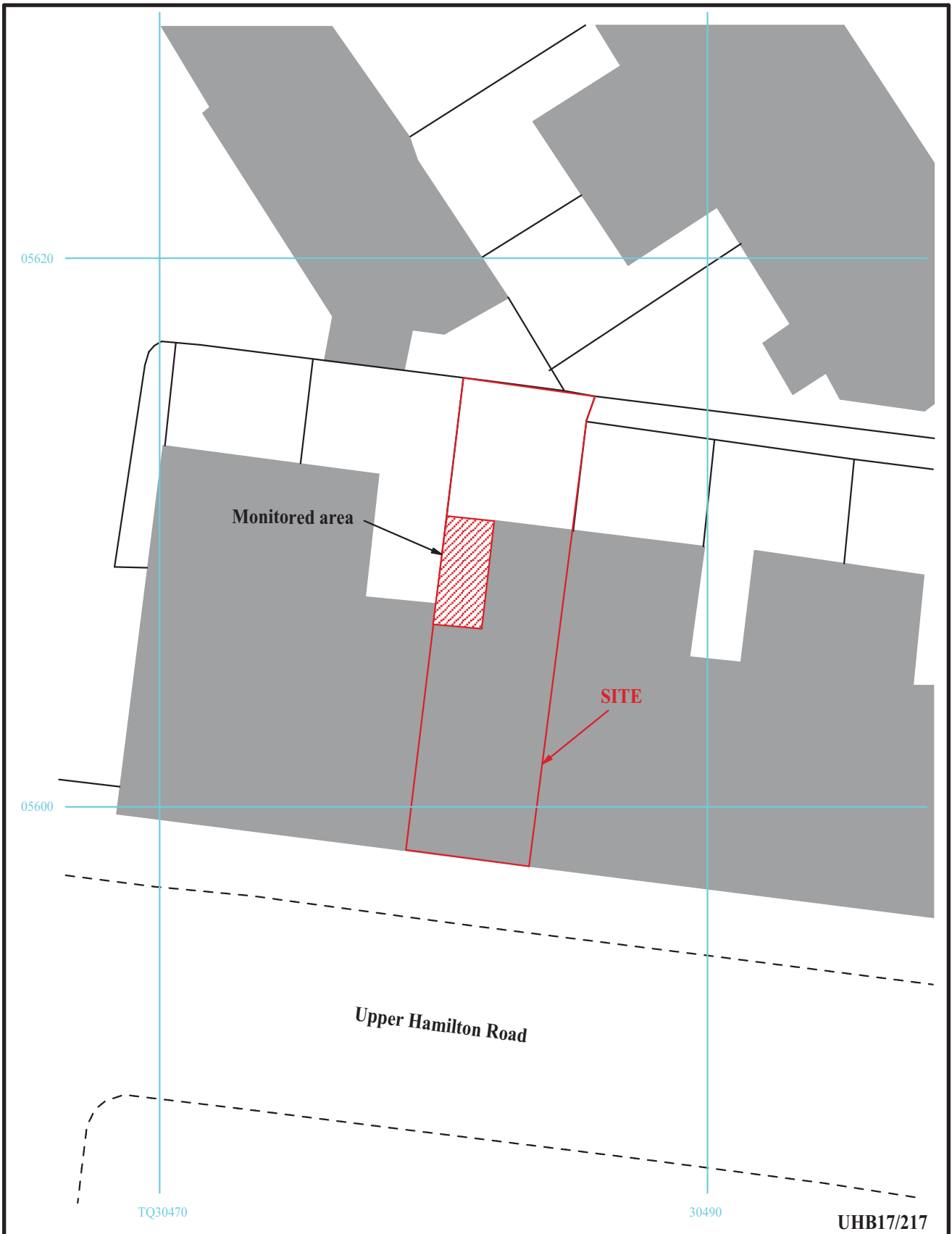
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Figure 2. Detailed location of site**

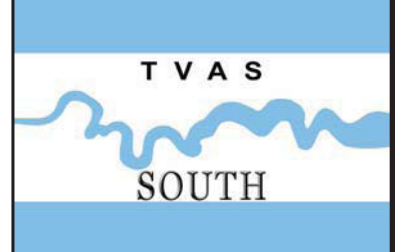
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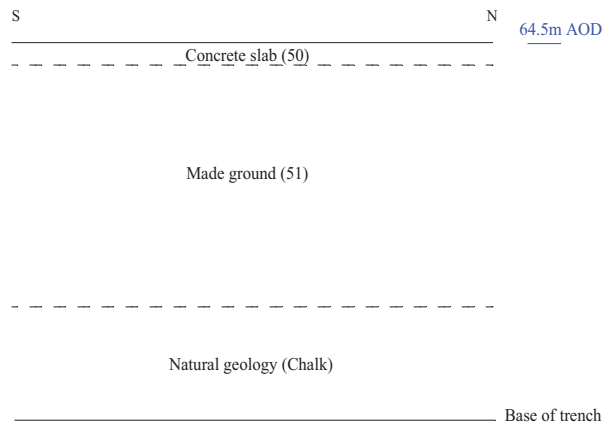
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Figure 3. Site plan showing monitored area.



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Footing trench



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Figure 4. Representative section.

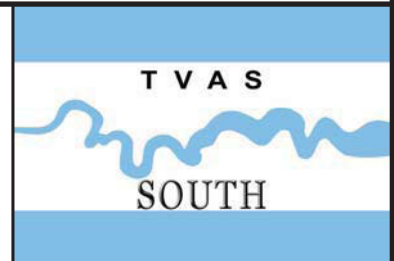




Plate 1. Western footing, looking South-west.
Scale: 1m and 0.50m.



Plate 2. Northern footing, looking North-east.
Scales: 1m and 0.40m.



Plate 3. Western footing, looking South-west.
Scale: 1m and 0.50m.



Plate 4. General shot, looking South-west.
Scale: 1m and 0.50m.

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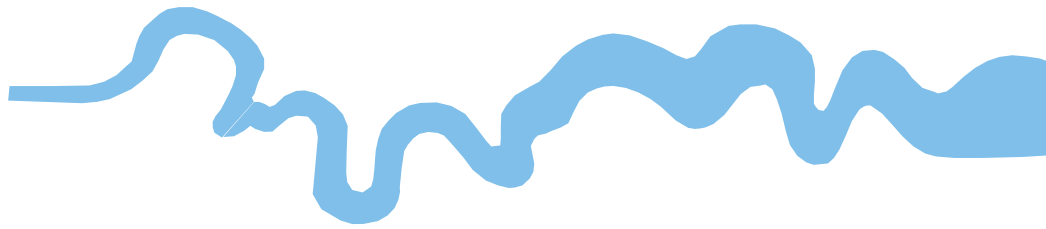
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Plates 1 - 4.

T V A S
SOUTH

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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