

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Village Hotel, Bournemouth Road,
Eastleigh, Hampshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Joshua Hargreaves

Site Code: BRE171/80

(SU 4283 1859)

**Village Hotel, Bournemouth Road,
Eastleigh, Hampshire**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for VUR Village Hotels and Leisure Ltd**

by Joshua Hargreaves

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code BRE 17/180

March 2019

Summary

Site name: Village Hotel, Bournemouth Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 4283 1859

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 11th to 14th March 2019

Project coordinator: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Joshua Hargreaves

Site code: BRE 17/180

Area of site: c. 1.89ha

Summary of results: The evaluation resulted in the recording of several features of recent agricultural origin. A possible earlier phase of field boundary was also observed as well as a gully of unknown origin. No dating evidence was recovered from these two features and the possibility of significant archaeological deposits being present on the area of proposed development appears to be low.

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 ✓ 20.03.19 Steve Preston ✓ 20.03.19

Village Hotel, Bournemouth Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by Joshua Hargreaves

Report 17/180c

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Village Hotel, Bournemouth Road, Eastleigh (SU 4283 1859) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Gary Menzies of Amicus property consultants 42 Brook Street, Mayfair, London, W1K 5DB on behalf of VUR Village Hotels & Leisure Ltd, 600 Lakeside Drive, Centre Park, Warrington, WA1 1RW.

Planning permission (F/18/82275) has been granted by Eastleigh Borough Council to construct a 6-storey hotel with parking and landscaping. The consent is subject to two conditions (14 and 15) relating to archaeology, in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits being present and liable to damage or destruction by the development, a programme of archaeological investigation was required. It was determined that this should take the form of a geophysical survey followed by a field evaluation by trial trenching. Dependent on the results of these investigations, further works might be required to mitigate the effects of development on archaeological remains. The geophysical survey has been reported separately (Beaverstock 2018); this report details the results of the trenching exercise.

The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Neil Adam, Senior Archaeologist at Hampshire County Council, the archaeological adviser to the Borough. The fieldwork was undertaken by Joshua Hargreaves and Luciano Cicu from 11th to 14th March 2019, and the site code is BRE 17/180. 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 a c.1.89ha area of grassland next to an ASDA superstore south of Chandlers Ford and west of Eastleigh (Fig. 1) (SU 4283 1859). The site has previously been used for agriculture, and most recently as a paddock for horses. The field slopes down to the north from 59m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 50m aOD. The field drops away steeply at the northern end where the car park of the ASDA superstore has been cut into

the natural slope. The underlying geology is mapped as Wittering Formation - Sand, Silt and Clay (BGS 1987), which matches what was observed in the trenches.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a desk-based assessment (Elliott 2017). In summary, very few archaeological sites are known within the immediate area, although this is interpreted as being at least partly due to a lack of opportunity for investigation rather than a genuine absence of past activity. The geophysical survey on the site revealed no clear anomalies of archaeological interest (Beaverstock 2018).

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. This work was to be carried out in a manner which would not compromise the integrity of archaeological features or deposits which might warrant preservation *in situ* or might better be investigated under the conditions pertaining to full excavation.

The specific research aims of this project are:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site;
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- to determine if geophysical anomalies are of archaeological origin; and
- to inform a strategy for mitigation if required

It was proposed to dig 20 trenches, each 25m long and 1.6 wide. Topsoil and any other overburden was to be removed by machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket to expose archaeologically sensitive levels, under constant archaeological supervision. Any archaeological features or deposits exposed were to be excavated and recorded using appropriate hand tools.

Results

All twenty trenches were excavated more or less as intended (Fig. 2). The trenches were between 23.2m and 26.6m long and 0.3m and 0.52m deep. The location of Trench 12 had to be deflected *c.*5m to the south-west to avoid a live electricity cable. All trenches showed signs of agricultural activity in the form of plough scarring and furrowing. All of the larger furrows were investigated and recorded with dating evidence being recovered from one, in the form of a post-medieval clay tobacco pipe. All trenches demonstrated the same stratigraphy of

topsoil over subsoil over orange-yellow silty clay, with clay and sand patches (natural geology) The topsoil depth ranged between 0.24m and 0.45m and the thickness of the subsoil ranged between 0.06m and 0.12m.

A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. The excavated features are summarized in Appendix 2.

Trench 1 (Fig. 2)

Trench 1 was aligned N-S and was 26.6m long and 0.43m deep. The trench revealed much plough scarring. These plough scars (here and throughout the site) were filled with a dark greyish black clayey silt with charcoal inclusions and plastics, and were clearly modern. No archaeological features were observed and no finds were recovered.

Trench 2 (Figs 2, 3 and 4; Pl. 1)

Trench 2 was aligned NE-SW and was 25.1m long and 0.52m deep. One potential feature (1) was investigated, 21.2m from the SW end. The feature was aligned N-S, 0.95m wide and 0.11m deep and filled with a mid blackish brown silty clay (52) and is considered to be a furrow. No finds were recovered.

Trench 3 (Fig. 2)

Trench 3 was aligned SE-NW and was 24.6m long and 0.48m deep. This trench again showed only modern plough scars. No finds were recovered.

Trench 4 (Fig. 2)

Trench 4 was aligned NE-SW and was 23.3m long and 0.47m deep. No finds were recovered nor features observed.

Trench 5 (Fig. 2)

Trench 1 was aligned close to E-W and was 24.7m long and 0.42m deep. This trench again showed modern plough scars. No finds were recovered.

Trench 6 (Fig. 2)

Trench 6 was aligned NNW-SSE and was 25.4m long and 0.38m deep. No finds were recovered.

Trench 7 (Figs 2, 3 and 4; Pls 2 and 4)

Trench 7 was aligned NE-SW and was 24.4m long and 0.36m deep. Three potential features were investigated. Furrow 9 was recorded 11.4m from the SW end. It was aligned N-S, was 1.3m wide and 0.18m deep and filled with a mid blackish brown silty clay (60). Furrow 9 cut through linear features 6 and 7 in plan. Linear feature 6

was recorded 13.5m from the SW end of trench, aligned NW–SE. It was 1m wide and 0.48m deep and filled with a mid orange yellow silty clay (57) probably redeposited natural. Upon investigation a brick land drain of post-medieval date was found along the base of feature 6.

The land drain truncated the fill of potential ditch 7. This was also aligned broadly NW–SE and was 2.1m wide and 0.45m deep and filled with and mid orange brown silty clay (58). The majority of this feature had been truncated away by land drain 6. From its orientation parallel to existing field boundaries it is probably an earlier phase of field boundary. Possible ditch 7 was fully excavated after recording in an attempt to recover dating evidence but no finds were recorded.

Trench 8 (Figs 2, 3 and 4; Pl. 3)

Trench 8 was aligned ESE-WNW and was 24.2m long and 0.42m deep. Two potential features were investigated, both aligned N–S. Linear 3 was located 7.5m from the W end. The feature was 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep and filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay (54) but was considered to be a furrow. Linear 4 was recorded 2.5m from the W end. The feature was 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep and filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay (55). This also was considered to be a furrow. No finds were recorded.

Trench 9 (Fig. 2)

Trench 9 was aligned NNE-SSW and was 24.1m long and 0.44m deep. This trench again showed more modern plough scars. No finds were recovered.

Trench 10 (Fig. 2)

Trench 10 was aligned close to NW-SE and was 25.5m long and 0.38m deep. This trench again showed more modern plough scars. No finds were recovered.

Trench 11 (Figs 2, 3 and 4)

Trench 11 was aligned close to N-S and was 24.8m long and 0.42m deep. One potential feature (2) was investigated, 22m from the S end of the trench. The feature was 0.9m wide and 0.39m deep and filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay (53). Another post-medieval brick land drain was found running along the base of the feature. It is probably a continuation of the land drain observed in Trench 7. No finds were recovered.

Trench 12 (Figs 2, 3 and 4)

Trench 12 was aligned close to E-W and was 23.2m long and 0.36m deep. Furrow 8 was recorded 1.6m from the W end. The feature was 2.4m wide and 0.07m deep and filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay (59). No finds were recovered.

Trench 13 (Figs 2, 3 and 4)

Trench 13 was aligned close to ESE-WNW and was 25.1m long and 0.34m deep. One potential feature was investigated. Gully 5 was recorded 7.75m from the NW end of trench. The feature was 0.5m wide and 0.27m deep with a NE-SW orientation. It was filled by a pale orange yellow sandy clay (56). A bulk soil sample was taken from this fill for sieving, and then the feature was fully excavated in order to recover dating evidence, but no finds were recovered.

Trench 14 (Fig. 2)

Trench 14 was aligned SE-NW and was 24.6m long and 0.44m deep. This trench again showed modern plough scars. No finds were recovered.

Trench 15 (Figs 2, 3 and 4)

Trench 15 was aligned close to N-S and was 23.5m long and 0.44m deep. One potential feature (11) was investigated, 5.1m from the SE end, aligned NE-SW. The feature was 2.45m wide and 0.28m deep and filled with a mid brownish red clayey sand with charcoal inclusions (62). Again, upon investigation it was considered to be a furrow, with plough scars found at the base of the feature. Feature 11 was sampled due to the high concentration of charcoal in the fill. Further plough scars parallel to Furrow 11 were observed down the length of the trench. No finds were recovered.

Trench 16 (Fig.2)

Trench 16 was aligned NE-SW and was 23.2m long and 0.37m deep. This trench again showed more modern plough scars. No finds were recovered.

Trench 17 (Fig. 2)

Trench 17 was aligned NE-SW and was 23.5m long and 0.36m deep. This trench again showed only modern plough scars. No finds were recovered.

Trench 18 (Figs 2, 3 and 4)

Trench 18 was aligned NW-SE and was 26.6m long and 0.34m deep. One potential feature was investigated. Linear feature 10 was aligned E-W, 2.2m from the NW end of the trench and was 1.6m wide and 0.1m deep and filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay (52). Upon investigation feature 10 was proved to be a furrow. A single fragment of clay tobacco pipe was recovered from its fill.

Trench 19 (Fig.2)

Trench 19 was aligned close to N-S and was 24.5m long and 0.36m deep. This trench showed more modern plough scars. No finds were recovered.

Trench 20 (Fig.2)

Trench 20 was aligned close to E-W and was 26m long and 0.30m deep. This trench again showed more modern plough scars. No finds were recovered.

Finds

Clay Tobacco Pipe by Danielle Milbank

Clay pipe fragments were recovered from two contexts in the evaluation.

Furrow 10 (61) contained a piece of stem weighing 1g, representing the tip of the pipe stem, with a bore diameter suggestive of a mid to late 18th century date (Oswald 1975). A sieved soil sample from furrow 11 (62) contained a second piece of pipe stem, with a bore diameter again suggestive of a mid to late 18th century date.

Macrobotanical plant material and charcoal by Jo Pine

Two bulk soil samples were wet sieved to 0.25mm and air dried. The flots were examined under a low-power binocular microscope at magnification of x10.

Three fragments of charcoal between 5mm and 10mm in size were recovered from sample 1 from undated gully 5 (56). The pieces are of sufficient size to enable identification at a later stage if required. Sample 2 from furrow 11 (62) contained a single charred indeterminate weed seed.

Conclusion

The evaluation was carried out successfully. Features of potential archaeological interest were revealed in two of the trenches, both of these features were fully dug but failed to produce any dating evidence. One of these features most likely represents an earlier phase of field boundary. Several other features were investigated but were considered to be of fairly modern agricultural origin and of no archaeological significance. Datable evidence was recovered from only two of these furrows, although multiple pieces of plastic were observed in the fills of associated plough scarring. Combining the evaluation results with the negative results from the geophysical survey (Beaverstock 2018) it is considered that the site has no archaeological potential.

References

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- NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Government, London.
- Elliott G, 2017, 'Village Hotel, Bournemouth Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment', Thames Valley Archaeological Services unpubl rep **17/180**, Reading.
- Beaverstock, K, 2018, 'Village Hotel, Bournemouth Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire: Geophysical Survey (Magnetic)', Thames Valley Archaeological Services unpubl rep **17/180b**, Reading.
- Oswald, A, 1975, *Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist*, Brit Archaeol Rep (Brit Ser) **14**, Oxford

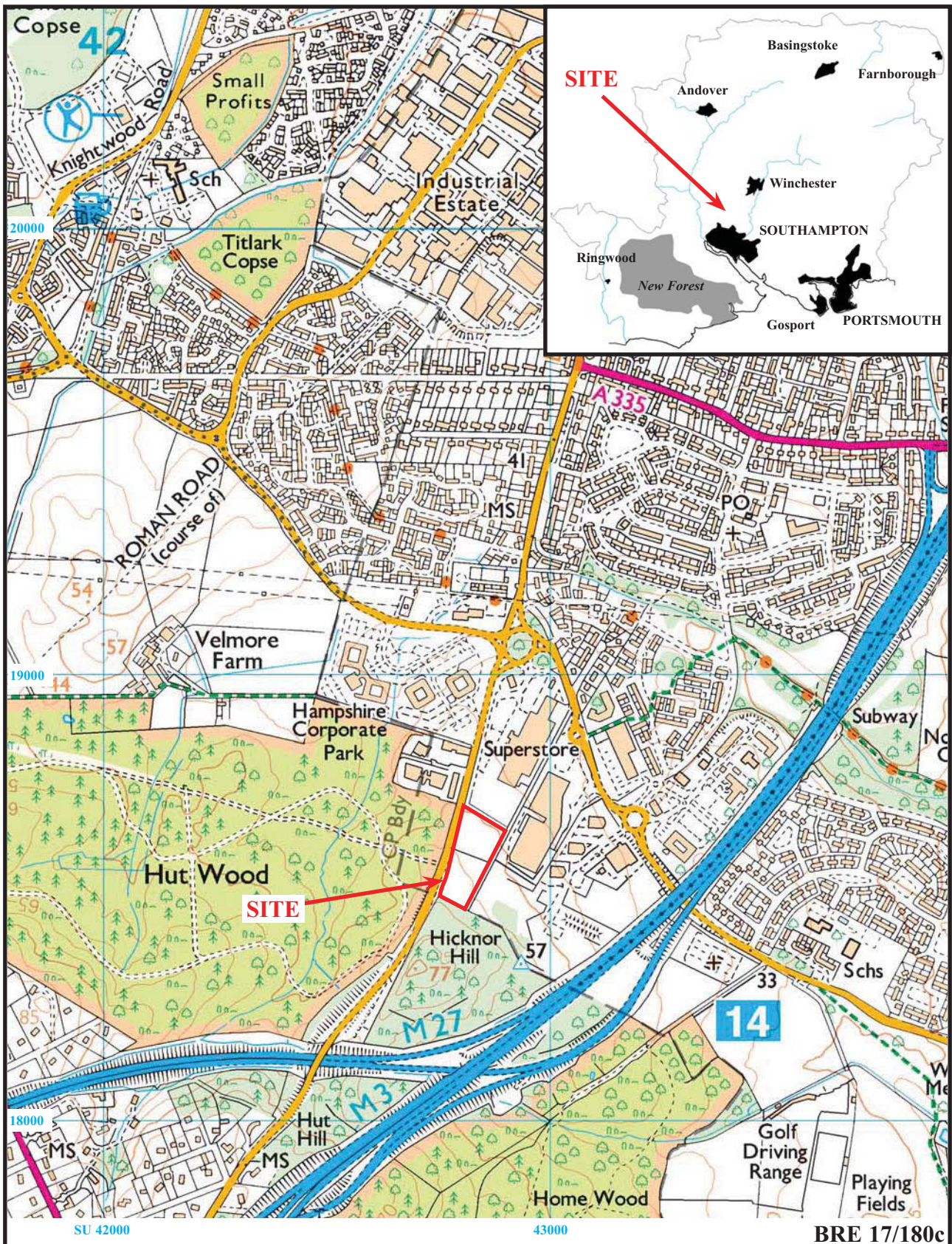
APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S and W end

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	26.6	1.6	0.43	0-0.37m topsoil (Mid brown clayey silt); 0.37-0.43m subsoil (mid reddish brown clayey silt, gravel 5-10%); 0.43m+natural geology (mid orange yellow silty clay, with clay and sand patches).
2	25.1	1.6	0.52	0-0.45m topsoil; 0.45-0.52m subsoil; 0.52m + natural geology. Furrow 1. [Pl. 1]
3	24.6	1.6	0.48	0-0.37m topsoil; 0.37-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m+ natural geology.
4	23.3	1.6	0.47	0-0.41m topsoil; 0.41-0.47m subsoil; 0.47m+ natural geology.
5	24.7	1.6	0.42	0-0.36m topsoil; 0.36-0.42m subsoil; 0.42m + natural geology.
6	25.4	1.6	0.38	0-0.31m topsoil; 0.31-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m + natural geology.
7	24.4	1.6	0.36	0-0.29m topsoil; 0.29-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m+ natural geology. Furrow 9, Land drain 6, potential ditch 7. [Pls 2 and 4]
8	24.2	1.6	0.42	0-0.36m topsoil; 0.36-0.42m subsoil; 0.42m+ natural geology. Furrows 3 & 4. [Pl. 3]
9	24.1	1.6	0.44	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.44m subsoil; 0.44m+ natural geology.
10	25.5	1.6	0.38	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m+ natural geology.
11	24.8	1.6	0.42	0-0.34m topsoil; 0.34-0.42m subsoil; 0.42m+ natural geology. Land drain 2.
12	23.2	1.6	0.36	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m+ natural geology. Furrow 8.
13	25.1	1.6	0.34	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24-0.34m subsoil; 0.34m+ natural geology. Gully 5.
14	24.6	1.6	0.44	0-0.36m topsoil; 0.36-0.44m subsoil; 0.44m+ natural geology.
15	23.5	1.6	0.44	0-0.32m topsoil; 0.32-0.44m subsoil; 0.44m+ natural geology. Furrow 11.
16	23.2	1.6	0.37	0-0.33m topsoil; 0.33-0.37m subsoil; 0.37m+ natural geology.
17	23.5	1.6	0.36	0-0.32m topsoil; 0.32-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m+ natural geology.
18	26.6	1.6	0.34	0-0.27m topsoil; 0.27-0.34m subsoil; 0.34m+ natural geology. Furrow 10.
19	24.5	1.6	0.36	0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m+ natural geology.
20	26	1.6	0.30	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24-0.3m subsoil; 0.3m+ natural geology.

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
2	1	52	Furrow		None
11	2	53	Land drain	Modern	None
8	3	54	Furrow		None
8	4	55	Furrow		None
13	5	56	Gully		None
7	6	57	Land drain	Modern	None
7	7	58	Ditch?		None
12	8	59	Furrow		None
7	9	60	Furrow		None
18	10	61	Furrow	Post-medieval	Clay pipe
15	11	62	Furrow	Post-medieval	Clay pipe



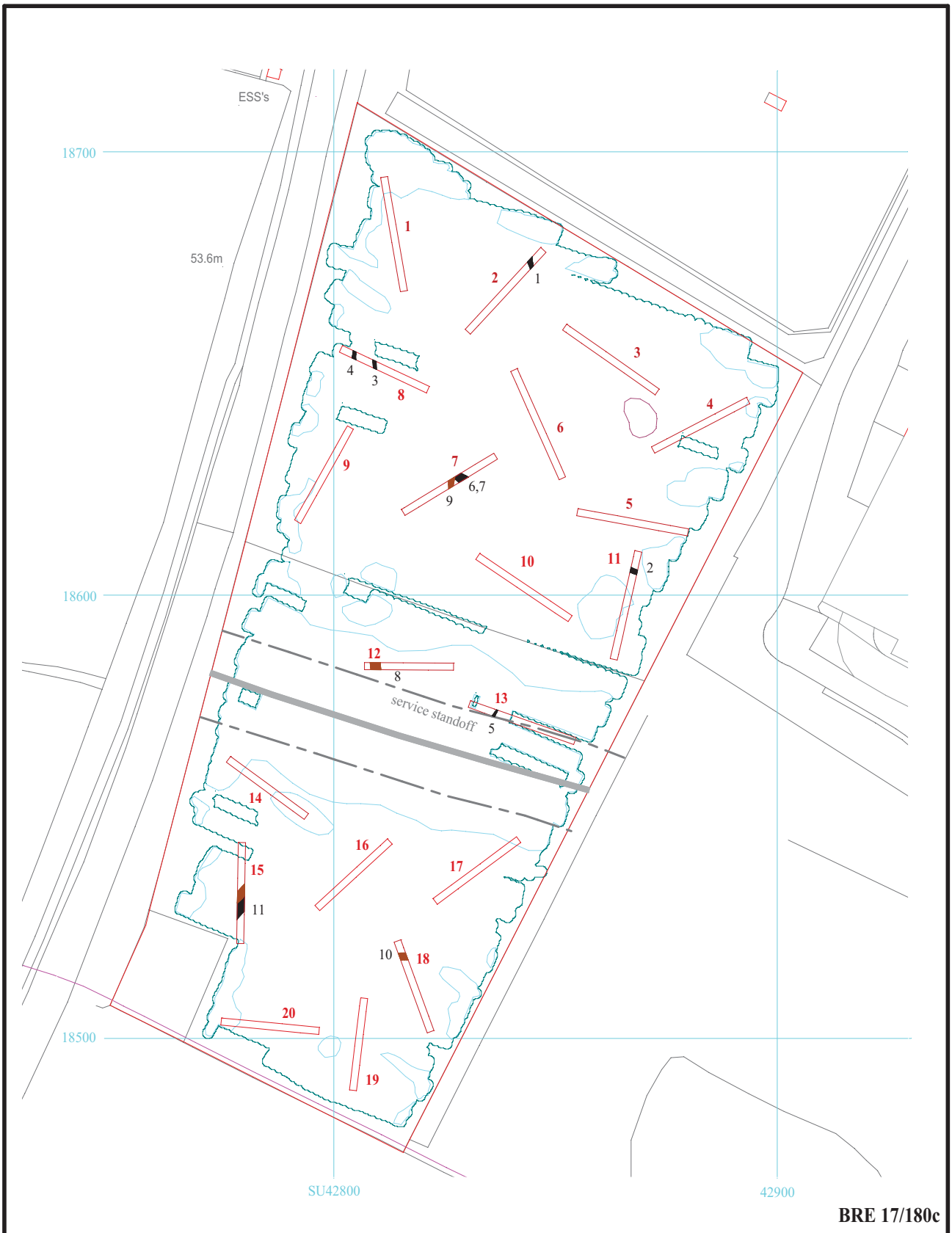
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Figure 1. Location of site within Eastleigh and Hampshire.

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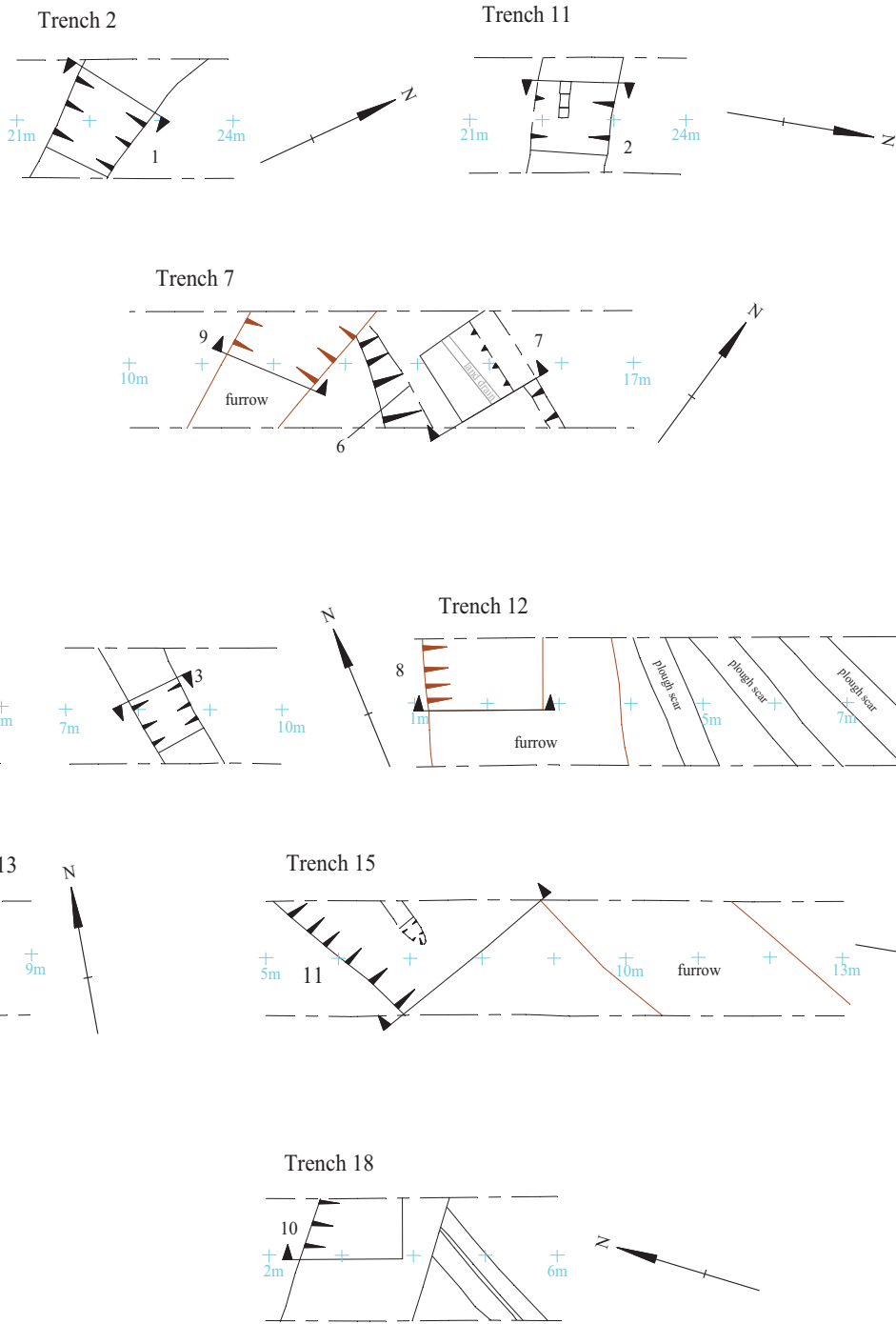
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Figure 2. Location of trenches.





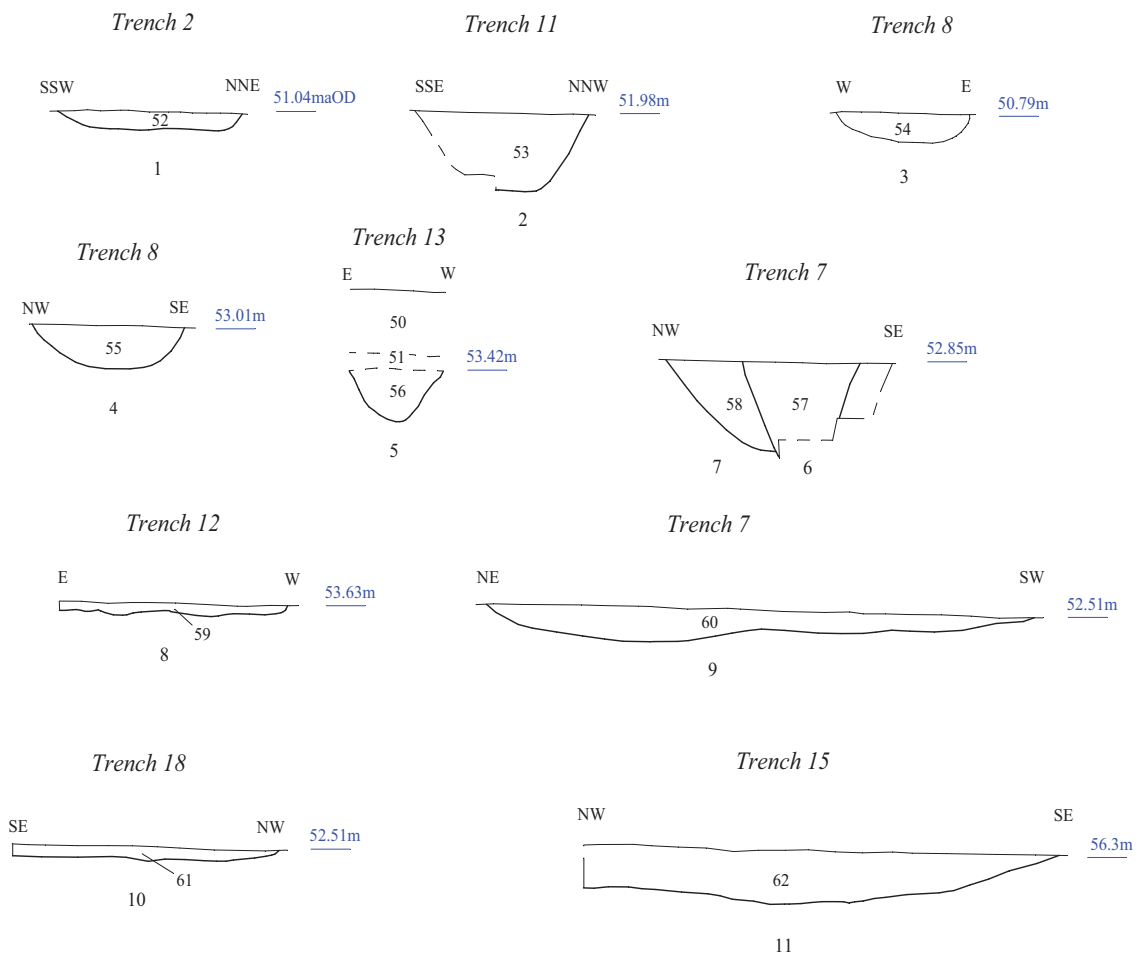
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Figure 3. Plan of trenches.



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Figure 4. Sections.



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



Plate2. Trench 7, looking east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

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**Village Hotel, Bournemouth Road,
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Plates 1 and 2.**

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Plate 3. Trench 8, furrow 3, looking south east, Scale: 0.5m.



Plate 4. Trench 7, ditch and drain (6 and 7), looking east south east, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

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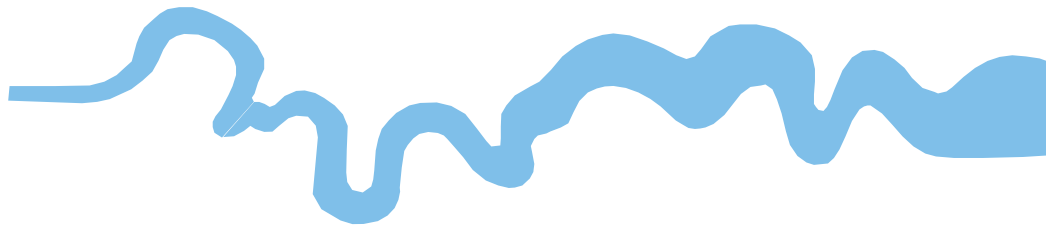
**Village Hotel, Bournemouth Road,
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Plates 3 and 4.**

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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 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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