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## Archaeological Walkover Survey

For

south east water

Concerning

**Sharnden Borehole to  
Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works  
Coggins Mill, Mayfield  
East Sussex**

March 2018



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*Cover: View looking E towards Sharnden Borehole and electricity sub-station at SE end of pipeline route*

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## Contents:

|    |                            |    |
|----|----------------------------|----|
| 1  | Non-Technical Summary..... | 1  |
| 2  | Introduction.....          | 2  |
|    | 2.1 Soils and Geology..... | 2  |
| 3  | Methodology .....          | 3  |
| 4  | Walkover Narrative .....   | 4  |
| 5  | Walkover Database.....     | 7  |
| 6  | Conclusion .....           | 9  |
| 7  | Copyright .....            | 10 |
| 8  | Bibliography.....          | 10 |
| 9  | Cartography .....          | 11 |
| 10 | Photographic Survey.....   | 12 |

## 1 Non-Technical Summary

*This Report details the results of an Archaeological Walkover Survey undertaken by Border Archaeology Ltd on behalf of South East Water of the route of a water mains scheme extending from Sharnden Borehole to Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works at Coggins Mill, Mayfield (East Sussex).*

*The proposed scheme consists of approximately 1.37km of pipeline connecting the Sharnden Borehole (NGR TQ 60552 27431) with the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works at Mayfield, East Sussex (NGR TQ 59637 27819).*

*A small number of features of archaeological interest were noted along the proposed pipeline route, which may be summarised (from east to west as follows:*

*1/ At NGR TQ 60450 27451, the pipeline route crosses a tree-lined boundary ditch which appears to be a long-established feature, denoting the boundary between the estates of Coggins Mill and Sharnden, the historic division between the hundreds of Loxfield Pelham and Hawksborough and the 'rapes' (administrative units) of Hastings and Pevensey.*

*2/ The pipeline route follows a roughly metalled footpath running from Mill House Farm to the Coggins Mill stream, which appears to be a long-established feature dating back at least to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, based on cartographic evidence. Evidence of blackened soil (possibly cinder) was noted along the section of the trackway that runs closest to the stream bank (NGR TQ 59998 27695).*

*3/ Evidence of a possible bloomery site was noted about 30m northwest of the pipeline route, where it crosses the Coggins Mill stream to reach the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works, represented by a raised spur of land above the stream-bed that appeared to have been deliberately cleared of trees (NGR TQ 59661 27913). Below this spur of land, evidence of iron slag and cinder was noted in the stream-bed and the adjacent bank (NGR TQ 59653 27917). This spur of land is located immediately southeast of a field recorded as 'Little Forge Field' on the 1844 Mayfield tithe map and about 350m southeast of the Scheduled site of the Mayfield Furnace.*

*4/ Both the main route option and the alternative route extend through the hamlet of Coggins Mill, a settlement of medieval origin designated as an Archaeological Notification Area and a Conservation Area. Several Grade II listed buildings of 17<sup>th</sup> century date are located adjacent to the alternative route option, which extends along Coggins Mill Road; however, these will not be directly affected by the pipeline groundworks.*

***Conclusion: Although relatively few features of archaeological interest were identified along the route, there remains potential for encountering evidence of 1/ features relating to the medieval mill site and associated settlement at Coggins Mill hamlet, designated as an Archaeological Notification Area and Conservation Area, and 2/ features and deposits associated with ironworking activity of Romano-British or early post-medieval date along the Coggins Mill stream.***

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## 2 Introduction

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A non-intrusive Archaeological Walkover Survey was undertaken by Border Archaeology Ltd (BA) in response to an Instruction from South East Water (SEW) regarding the proposed route of the SEW Sharnden Borehole to Coggins Mill WTW Scheme, near Mayfield (East Sussex) (*fig. 1*).

The main route option extends NW from Sharnden Borehole for approximately 700m through meadows to the N of the Coggins Mill stream, reaching the hamlet of Coggins Mill about 20m NE of Coggins Mill Bridge at NGR TQ 59970 27756. From this point, the route continues NW, crossing Coggins Mill Road and Pennybridge Lane and then entering a large pasture field to the W of Coggins Mill Farm. The pipeline route continues along the S edge of this pasture field for approximately 290m, parallel and to the NE of the Coggins Mill stream. At NGR TQ 59687 27886, the route turns sharply SW and crosses the stream, reaching its terminus at the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works compound (NGR TQ 59637 27819).

An alternative pipeline route (approximately 450m in length) branches off from the main route at NGR TQ 59970 27756, turning SW to cross the stream at Coggins Mill Bridge. The alternative route then continues W along Coggins Mill Road before turning NW at NGR TQ 59772 27712 and following an unclassified lane to reach its terminus at the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works.

The aim of the survey (undertaken on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017) was to characterize, quantify and locate known and unknown heritage assets likely to be affected by the engineering groundworks and associated vehicular movements and thus to identify areas of archaeological mitigation. This Report represents part of a two-volume submission comprising an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Volume 1) and Archaeological Walkover Survey (Volume 2).

### 2.1 Soils and Geology

The local soils present in the landscape crossed by the scheme are recorded by the Soil Survey of England and Wales as being stagnogleyic argillic brown earths of the CURTISDEN Series (572i). These are characterized as silty soils overlying Cretaceous and Jurassic siltstone with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging. Some similar well-drained soils and some well-drained coarse loamy soils over sandstone are also present. However, in the immediate vicinity of the Coggins Mill stream, the predominant soil type consists of alluvial clay, silt, sand and gravel (BGS, 2017).



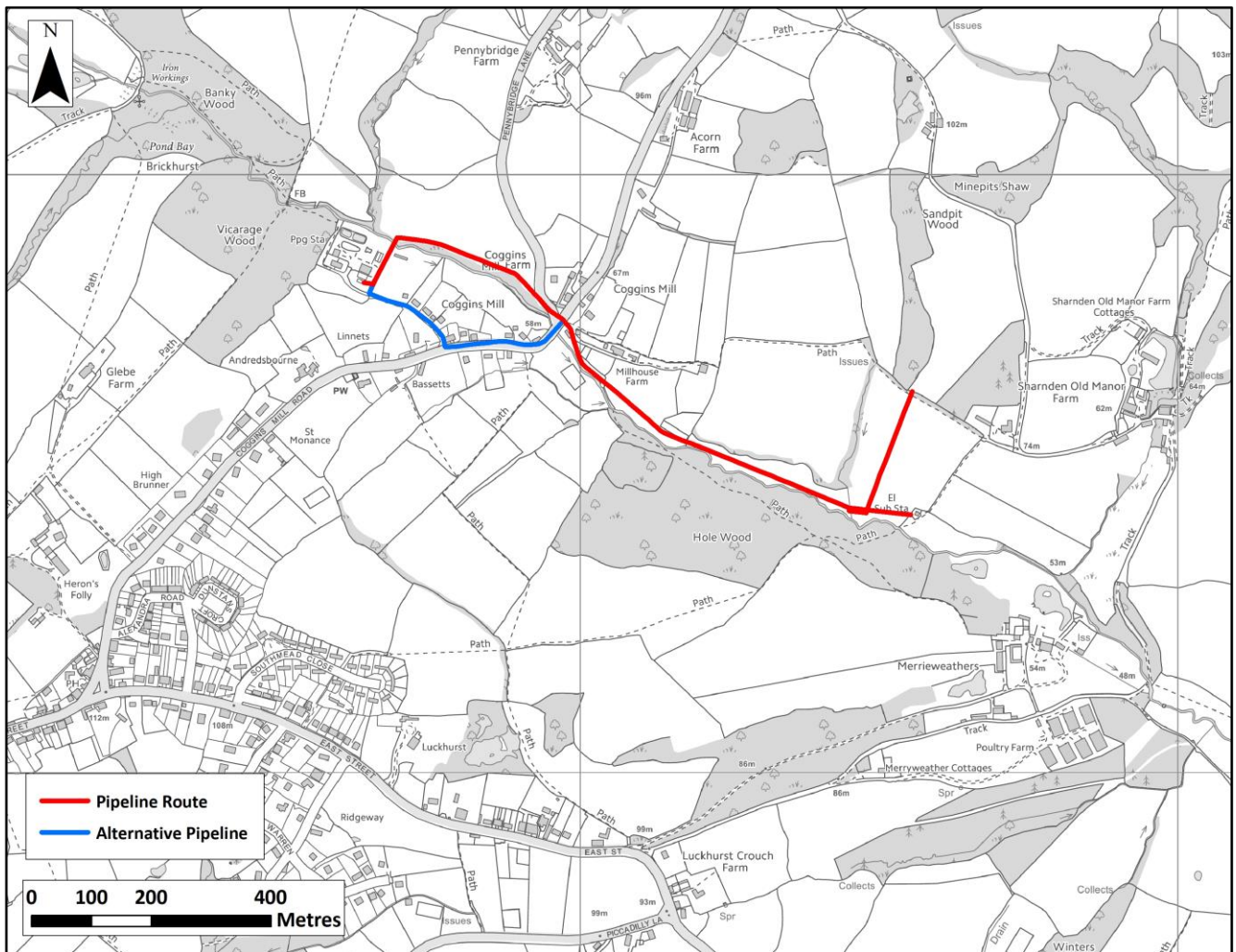


Fig. 1: General site location plan (based on information supplied by SEW)  
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### 3 Methodology

BA obtained copies of revised engineering plans from SEW that show the pipeline route overlaid onto Ordnance Survey map data (fig. 1). Designated access points were identified prior to the commencement of the survey, as indicated on the supplied maps, and only these points were used to gain access onto the pipeline easement.

The easement was walked systematically in a single 20m transect by two senior BA staff members. Access between adjacent fields was via established field-openings, such as stiles and gateways; where no such access was possible, the next designated access point was sought via public roads and footpaths.

A standard dataset describing each feature identified was captured in the field. This included the recording of data using a handheld GPS system with an accuracy of 1-3m. A detailed photographic record of all fields entered was

created using a high-resolution digital camera (20 MPX) and a photographic register compiled detailing subject, direction of view and National Grid Reference (NGR) of the viewpoint (VP). Results are presented in tabulated format listing field number and description, NGR, description of feature and photographic reference. Locations of photographs taken during the walkover survey are indicated on Ordnance Survey mapping (*fig. 2*).

## 4 Walkover Narrative

The pipeline scheme which forms the subject of this Archaeological Walkover Survey (AWS) comprises two separate route options. The main route option extends for approximately 1.37km from the Sharnden Borehole (NGR TQ 60552 27431) to the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works (NGR TQ 59637 27819).

For reasons of clarity, the main route option has been described proceeding from E to W, starting at the existing borehole at Sharnden, situated adjacent to a modern brick-built electricity substation (VP 1; NGR TQ 60552 27431). The route runs due W of the borehole across a large expanse of low-lying water-meadow adjacent to the N bank of the Coggins Mill stream, to the S of which is an extensive tract of woodland ('Hole Wood'). An irregular oval-shaped depression, indicated by a discrete area of boggy ground, was noted in this area, lying below and to the S of a tree-lined terrace that formerly appears to have denoted the N extent of this meadow, marked as 'Seven Acres Brook' on the 1844 tithe map (VP 2; TQ 60498 27451).

A spur of the pipeline route has been proposed extending steeply upslope to a new borehole location for about 210m NNE of the main route, from NGR TQ 60479 27439 to TQ 60555 27637. No features of archaeological interest were observed along this section of the route, which is currently under pasture (it was formerly an arable field called 'West Field', as recorded on the Mayfield tithe map of 1844).

The main route option continues roughly W across this water-meadow, crossing a NW-SE aligned, heavily tree-lined field boundary and ditch at NGR TQ 60450 27451 (VP 3). This boundary ditch, which appears to have once been a tributary of the Coggins Mill stream, may be considered a long-established feature as it is marked on the OS surveyor's drawing of 1789 and the Mayfield tithe map of 1844. It appears to have denoted the boundary between the estates of Coggins Mill (to the W) and Sharnden (to the E) and also denoted the historic division between the hundreds of Loxfield Pelham and Hawksborough and the 'rapes' (administrative units) of Hastings and Pevensey, as marked on Gardiner's 1795 map of Sussex.

The pipeline crosses this field boundary and continues WNW across another low-lying water-meadow close to the N bank of the Coggins Mill stream, the N extent of which is defined by a meandering tree-lined boundary, which is again marked on the OS drawing of 1789 and the 1844 tithe map (VP 4; NGR TQ 60420 27472). The pipeline continues across this meadow for about 295m before reaching a heavily overgrown tree-lined hedge boundary and ditch, oriented NE-SW, at NGR TQ 60180 27554 (VP 5). This field boundary appears to be late 19<sup>th</sup> century in date, as it is not shown on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map of 1875 but is depicted on the OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map of 1898.

Having crossed this field boundary, the pipeline continues on a NW alignment through another tract of meadow, running parallel to the stream. A sinuous rough trackway was noted extending through the field leading towards



a rectangular hedged enclosure that appears to be of relatively modern date, as it is first shown on an aerial photograph dated 2004 (VP 6; NGR TQ 60131 27579), but no other features of interest were noted; this area appears to have been under orcharding (probably hops) in the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, based on cartographic evidence.

At NGR TQ 60040 27652, the pipeline route crosses another hedge boundary and ditch oriented roughly N-S (VP 7), which denotes the SE extent of a narrow strip of land leading NW towards Mill House Farm. This narrow corridor is marked on the Mayfield tithe map of 1844, indicating that it represents a reasonably long-established feature. A roughly metalled footpath runs along this narrow strip of land adjoining the stream bank extending SE from Mill House Farm to a footbridge which crosses the Coggins Mill stream (there originally appears to have been a ford at this point) and then enters Hole Wood, heading towards Merrieweathers Farm. This footpath is first marked on a 1757 plan of the Merrieweathers Farm estate and must therefore represent a long-established feature. Patches of blackened earth (possibly cinder deposits) were noted along the section of the trackway which runs closest to the stream bank (VP 8; TQ 59998 27695).

The pipeline route follows this trackway for about 125m, passing to the N of Mill House Farm (VP 9; TQ 59981 27741). The existing single-storey house and outbuildings on the site appear to be of early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century date and occupy the former site of a yard and outbuildings to the N of the stream, which are first marked on the OS surveyor's drawing of 1789. At the time of the 1844 tithe survey, this complex of outbuildings belonged to Coggins Mill Farm, located further to the N; it is unclear whether they represented the remains of the former mill or whether they were (more likely) a complex of outbuildings representing an 'outfarm' attached to the main landholding at Coggins Mill Farm. The main route option then runs NW, crossing Coggins Mill Lane and running for a short distance up Pennybridge Lane, about 70m SW of Coggins Mill Farm, a substantial Grade II listed farmhouse of 18<sup>th</sup> century date.

At NGR TQ 59945 27768, the pipeline route branches off to the NW of Pennybridge Lane, utilising an existing field entrance (VP 10), and continues NW upslope along the S boundary of a large pasture field immediately NE and parallel to the Coggins Mill stream for about 290m. This field was marked as 'Ponts Head' on the tithe map of 1844 and was formerly under arable cultivation. A shallow NE-SW-aligned bank was observed at NGR TQ 59918 27788, towards the SE end of the field (VP 11), which may represent an enclosure boundary marked on the 1844 tithe map and the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map of 1875 and which had been removed by c.1900. The S boundary of the field, adjoining the stream, is marked by a thin belt of dense tree cover and foliage; at NGR TQ 59687 27886 (VP 12) the pipeline route turns sharply SW, crossing this boundary and the stream to reach the Water Treatment Works, built in 1955 (VP 15; TQ 59637 27819).

Approximately 30m WNW of the location, where the pipeline route crosses the stream, a roughly triangular spur of land was noted, close to the point where a watercourse branches off from the Coggins Mill stream and heads roughly northwards in the direction of Pennybridge Farm (VP 13; TQ 59661 27913). This spur of land, raised well above the stream bed, appears to have been deliberately cleared of trees compared to the surrounding area, which is heavily wooded. Below this spur of land, evidence of iron slag and cinder was noted in the stream bed and the adjacent bank (VP 14; NGR TQ 59653 27917).

Documentary evidence shows that the field on the opposite (NW) side of the stream was referred to as 'Little Forge Field' in the Mayfield tithes award of 1844 and the presence of iron slag and cinder deposits suggests the presence of a bloomery site in this location. The date of the bloomery is uncertain: it could be of early post-medieval date and associated with the significant focus of 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century ironworking activity further to the NW at Mayfield Furnace. While the pipeline route will not cross the stream at this location, the possibility remains that further evidence of deposits associated with ironworking (including iron slag, cinder etc.) may be encountered where the pipeline route crosses the Coggins Mill stream to reach the Water Treatment Works.

An alternative route option, about 450m in length, branches off from the main route at TQ 59970 27756, at the crossroads with Coggins Mill Road and Pennybridge Lane, and heads SW along Coggins Mill Road. At NGR TQ 59956 27744, the pipeline crosses Coggins Mill Bridge (VP 16). A bridge is first documented in this location in 1647, although the existing single-span arched bridge with brick abutments appears to be of late 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

The alternative route continues along Coggins Mill Road and through the hamlet of Coggins Mill (designated as an Archaeological Notification Area and Conservation Area), passing close to several Grade II listed buildings, the closest being Bridge Cottage, a two-storey building (originally two cottages) of 17<sup>th</sup> century date (VP 17; TQ 59925 27719) comprising a whitewashed brick lower storey and a weatherboarded upper storey, and Coggins Mill Cottage (VP 18; NGR TQ 59880 27727), a timber-framed house of 17<sup>th</sup> century date refaced in brick and weatherboarding. At NGR TQ 59772 27712, the pipeline route turns sharply NW adjacent to a gabled and tile-hung house of 19<sup>th</sup> century date called 'Latchetts' (VP 19) and then follows a small unclassified lane for about 160m until it reaches the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works.

## 5 Walkover Database

| Viewpoint (VP) No. | NGR            | Description   | Features  | Photo Ref.  |
|--------------------|----------------|---|---|-------------|
| 1                  | TQ 60552 27431 | Electricity sub-station (c.1970).   | Sub-station (Modern)                                      | DSCO0753-54 |
| 2                  | TQ 60498 27451 | Irregular oval depression noted in field 30m W of Sharnden Borehole.                            | Possible relict pond feature (post-medieval?)             | DSCO0755-56 |
| 3                  | TQ 60450 27451 | Tree-lined field boundary and ditch 100m W of Sharnden Borehole.                                | Field boundary (medieval)                                 | DSCO0757-58 |
| 4                  | TQ 60420 27472 | Tree-lined hedge boundary marking N edge of meadow.   | Field boundary (medieval/post-medieval)                   | DSCO0759-60 |
| 5                  | TQ 60180 27554 | Tree-lined hedge boundary and ditch, oriented NE-SW, first recorded on OS map of 1898.          | Field boundary (post-medieval)                            | DSCO0748-49 |
| 6                  | TQ 60131 27579 | Hedged enclosure about 200m SE of Millhouse Farm first recorded on 2004 aerial photograph (AP). | Enclosure (modern)  | DSCO0746-47 |
| 7                  | TQ 60040 27652 | Hedge boundary and ditch c.95m SE of Millhouse Farm first recorded on 1844 tithe map.           | Field boundary (post-medieval)                            | DSCO0744-45 |
| 8                  | TQ 59998 27695 | Metalled trackway to SE of Millhouse Farm first recorded on plan of 1757.                       | Trackway (early post-medieval)                            | DSCO0743    |
| 9                  | TQ 59981 27741 | Millhouse Farm: C20 house and outbuildings on site of earlier outfarm (C18-C19).                | Farm outbuildings (modern)                                | DSCO0742    |
| 10                 | TQ 59945 27768 | Field boundary at SE end of large field NW of Pennybridge Lane.                                 | Field boundary (post-medieval)                            | DSCO0741    |
| 11                 | TQ 59918 27788 | Faint NE-SW-aligned bank towards SE end of pasture field to NW of Pennybridge Lane.             | Relict field boundary (post-medieval)                     | DSCO0734-35 |
| 12                 | TQ 59687 27886 | NW-SE-aligned, tree-lined boundary at S end of field, close to stream-crossing.                 | Field boundary (post-medieval)                            | DSCO0736    |
| 13                 | TQ 59661 27913 | Raised spur of land c. 20m N of Water Treatment Works.  | Feature (associated with early post-medieval ironworking) | DSCO0737-38 |
| 14                 | TQ 59653 27917 | Deposits of slag and cinder noted in stream bank c. 20m NNW of Water Treatment Works.           | Iron slag and cinder (post-medieval?)                     | DSCO0739-40 |
| 15                 | TQ 59637 27819 | Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works, built 1955.   | Water treatment works (modern)                            | DSCO0770    |
| 16                 | TQ 59956 27744 | Coggins Mill Bridge: Single-span brick bridge of late C19-early C20 date.                       | Bridge (post-medieval)                                    | DSCO0766    |
| 17                 | TQ 59925 27719 | Bridge Cottage: C17 brick and weatherboarded cottage (Grade II).                                | House (early post-medieval)                               | DSCO0767    |
| 18                 | TQ 59880 27727 | Coggins Mill Cottage: C17 timber-framed house (Grade II).                                       | House (early post-medieval)                               | DSCO0768    |
| 19                 | TQ 59772 27712 | Latchetts: Late C19 house at corner of Coggins Mill Road and unclassified lane.                 | House (post-medieval)                                     | DSCO0769    |



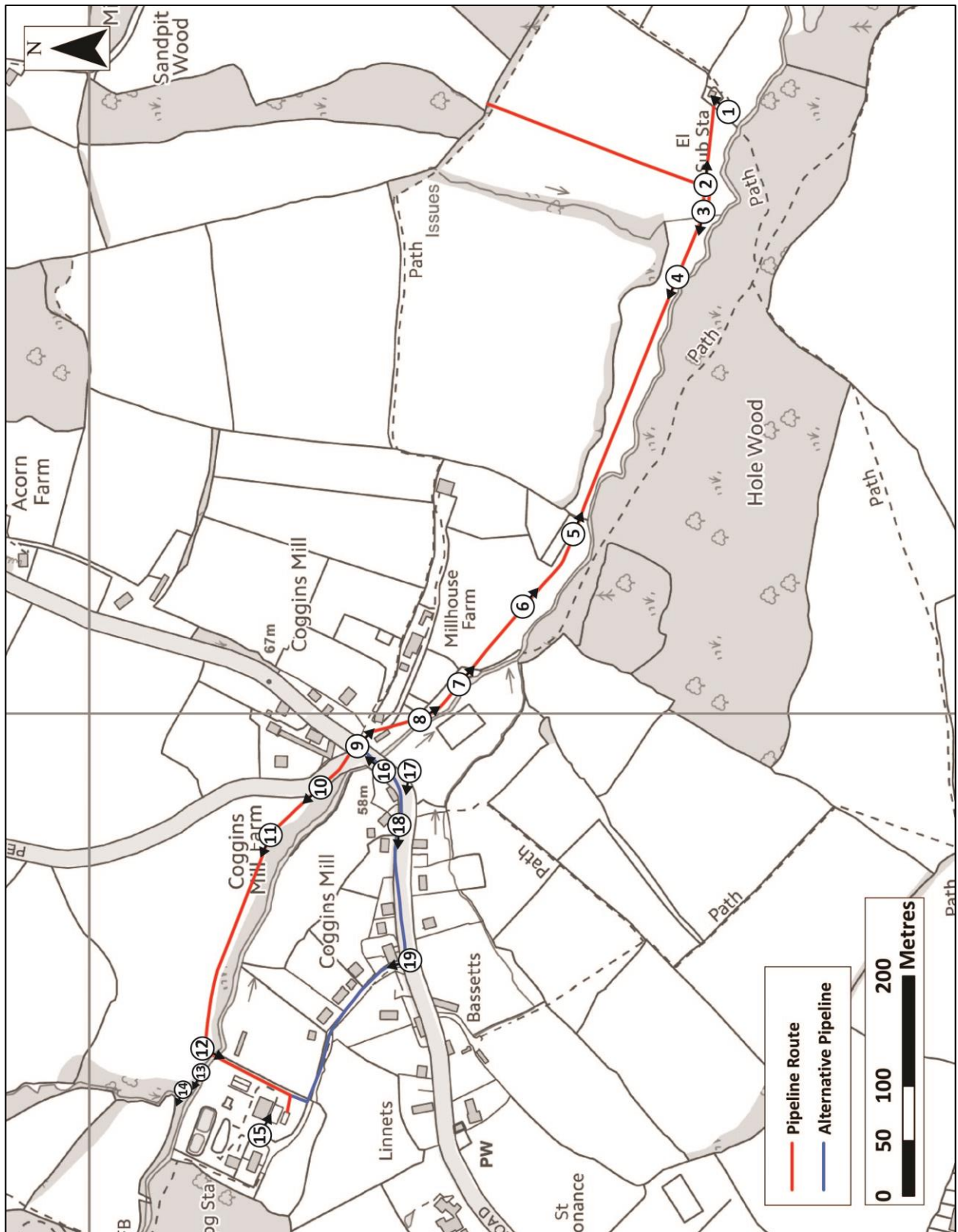


Fig. 2: Plan showing location of viewpoints recorded during walkover survey of pipeline route  
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## 6 Conclusion

*A small number of features of archaeological interest were noted during the walkover of the proposed pipeline route from Sharnden Borehole to the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works, which may be briefly described (from E to W) as follows:*

*1/ At NGR TQ 60450 27451, the pipeline route crosses a tree-lined boundary ditch that appears to be a long-established feature, marking the boundary between the estates of Coggins Mill and Sharnden and representing the historic division between the hundreds of Loxfield Pelham and Hawksborough and the 'rapes' (administrative units) of Hastings and Pevensey.*

*2/ The pipeline route follows a roughly metalled footpath running from Mill House Farm to the Coggins Mill stream, which appears to be a long-established feature dating back at least to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, based on cartographic evidence. Evidence of blackened earth (possibly cinder) was noted along the section of the trackway which runs closest to the stream bank (NGR TQ 59998 27695).*

*3/ Evidence of a possible bloomery site was noted about 30m NW of the pipeline route, where it crosses the Coggins Mill stream to reach the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works, represented by a raised spur of land above the stream bed, which appears to have been deliberately cleared of trees (NGR TQ 59661 27913). Below this spur of land, evidence of iron slag and cinder was noted in the stream bed and the adjacent bank (NGR TQ 59653 27917). This spur of land lay immediately SE of a field recorded as 'Little Forge Field' on the 1844 Mayfield tithe map and about 350m SE of the Scheduled site of the Mayfield Furnace.*

*4/ Both the main route option and the alternative route extend through the hamlet of Coggins Mill, a settlement of medieval origin designated as an Archaeological Notification Area and Conservation Area. Several Grade II listed buildings of 17<sup>th</sup> century date are located adjacent to the alternate route option, which extends along Coggins Mill Road; however, these will not be directly affected by the pipeline groundworks.*

***Conclusion: Although relatively few features of archaeological interest were identified along the route, there remains potential for encountering evidence of 1/ features relating to the medieval mill site and associated settlement at Coggins Mill hamlet, designated as an Archaeological Notification Area, and 2/ features and deposits associated with ironworking activity of Romano-British or early post-medieval date along the Coggins Mill stream.***

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## 9 Cartography

(All maps were obtained from the East Sussex Record Office unless otherwise stated).

1724 Richard Budgen's Map of Sussex.

1757 Plan of an estate at Merrieweathers Farm.

1789 Ordnance Survey Drawing of Mayfield and district by Thomas Budgen.

1795 Map of Sussex (1 inch to 1 mile) by W. Gardiner and T. Gream.

1825 Map of Sussex (1 inch to 1 mile) by C & J. Greenwood.

1844 Mayfield Tithe Map and Apportionment

1879 Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 6-Inch Map of Sussex.

1899 Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 6-Inch Map of Sussex.

1910 Ordnance Survey 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition 6-Inch Map of Sussex.

1932 Ordnance Survey 4<sup>th</sup> Edition 6-Inch Map of Sussex.

1961 Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 National Survey.

Oblique and vertical photographs of the study area were consulted at the East Sussex Record Office and the Historic England Archive, Swindon. LiDAR Imagery of the study area (DTM and DSM) was consulted using datasets held by the Environment Agency.

10 Photographic Survey



*Viewpoint 1: View NE towards electricity sub-station adjacent to Sharnden Borehole, at SE terminus of route*



*Viewpoint 2: View looking E towards ovoid depression to W of electricity sub-station at SE end of pipeline route*





*Viewpoint 3: View looking W towards NW-SE aligned field boundary and ditch about 100m W of Sharnden Borehole*



*Viewpoint 4: View looking WNW along water meadow to N of Coggins Mill stream (to left of picture) with sinuous tree-lined field boundary to right of picture*





*Viewpoint 5: View looking SE showing tree-lined boundary and ditch oriented NE-SW, marking NW extent of meadow*



*Viewpoint 6: View looking SE along line of trackway leading towards rectangular hedged enclosure of late 20<sup>th</sup> century origin*





*Viewpoint 7: View looking SE showing tree-lined hedge boundary and gate adjacent to N bank of Coggins Mill stream*



*Viewpoint 8: View looking SE along roughly metalled trackway leading SE from Millhouse Farm with evidence of blackened soil adjacent to N bank of Coggins Mill stream*





*Viewpoint 9: View looking SE from junction of Coggins Mill Road and Pennybridge Lane towards Millhouse Farm*



*Viewpoint 10: View looking NW towards hedge boundary and field gate leading into pasture field to NW of Pennybridge Lane*





*Viewpoint 11: View looking NW towards shallow bank oriented NE-SW towards SE end of large pasture field (Ponts Mead) NW of Pennybridge Lane*



*Viewpoint 12: View looking S showing substantial tree-lined boundary along S edge of large pasture field near to the crossing point of the Coggins Mill stream*





*Viewpoint 13: View looking WNW towards raised spur of land above the stream to NW of the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works*



*Viewpoint 14: View looking WNW showing stream bank and bed with evidence of cinder and iron slag, probably associated with a bloomery site located to the NW of the Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works*





*Viewpoint 15: View looking E towards entrance to Coggins Mill Water Treatment Works*



*Viewpoint 16: View looking NE along Coggins Mill Road towards Coggins Mill Bridge, of late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> century date*





*Viewpoint 17: View looking W along Coggins Mill Road towards Bridge Cottage, a Grade II listed house of 17<sup>th</sup> century date*



*Viewpoint 18: View looking W along Coggins Mill Road towards Coggins Mill Cottage (to right of picture), a Grade II listed house of 17<sup>th</sup> century date*





*Viewpoint 19: View looking NW at junction of Coggins Mill Road and unclassified lane to Water Treatment Works, with Latchetts, a late 19<sup>th</sup> century gabled and tile hung house, to right of picture*

| Report Title   |                             | Report Ref |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|
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