

TWYFORD RISING MAIN, ASHBY ROAD, TWYFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE

**SCHEME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING
AND RECORDING**

NGR:	SK 72863 10201
Planning ref.:	N/A
PCAS Job No.:	1693
Site code:	ARTM16
Accession No:	X.A113.2020

Report prepared for
NMCN/Severn Trent Water

by

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Summary

Archaeological monitoring and recording took place during a small section of rising main pipeline replacement, extending north west from Twyford Pumping Station, across Main Road towards surrounding fields, and alongside the Gaddesby Brook, in the village of Twyford, Leicestershire.

The pipeline development was situated within the historic core of the medieval settlement of Twyford. There is a well-preserved agricultural landscape in surrounding pastoral fields, incorporating ridge and furrow earthworks that are most visible on aerial images. Within close proximity to the Twyford Pumping Station is the Grade II Listed Lewin's Bridge, an 18th century crossing over the Gaddesby Brook.

Two features were recorded during the monitoring programme: a red brick wall foundation and a potentially substantial brick-built structure on a bonded red sandstone footing. Both features are likely to date from the late 18th century or later.

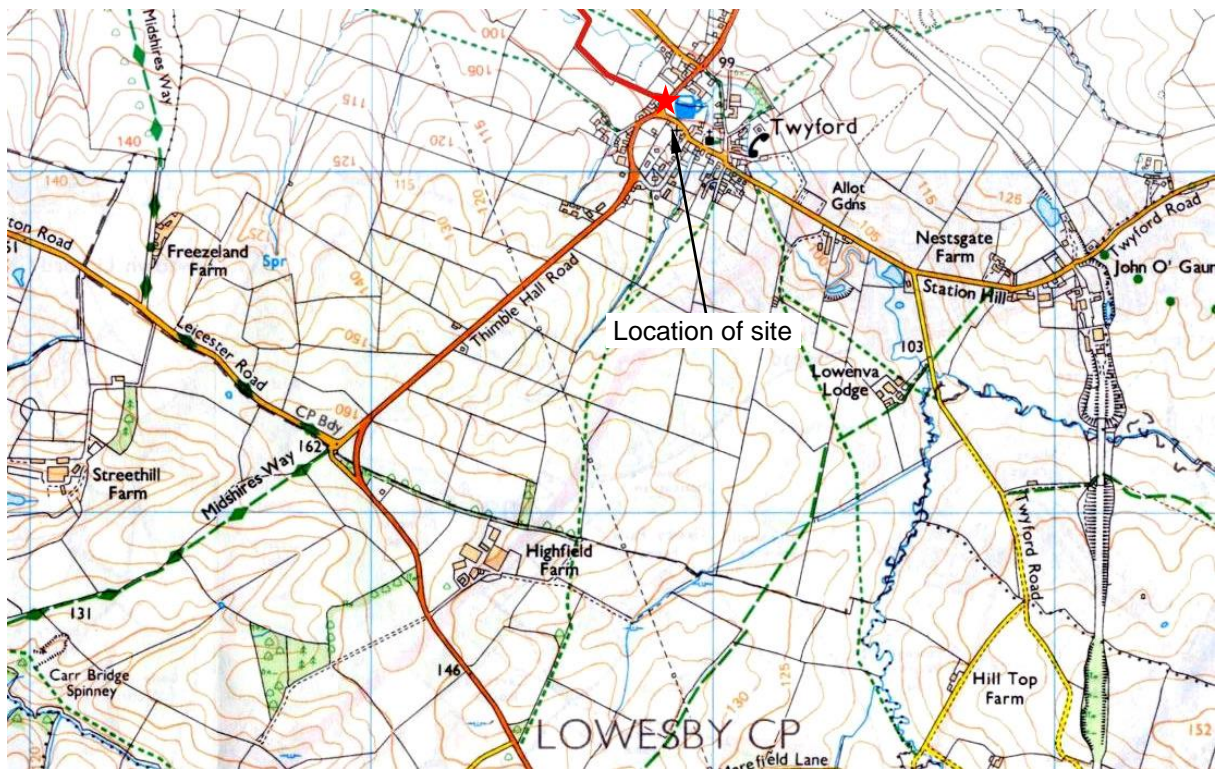


Figure 1: Site location map at scale 1:25,000. Site location is shown in red (OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278).

1.0 Introduction

PCAS Archaeology Ltd. (PCAS) was commissioned by NMCN on behalf of Severn Trent Water to carry out a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording during a small section of rising main replacement starting at Twyford pumping station, heading northeast to the sewage treatment works in the village of Twyford in the Melton district of Leicestershire.

As the pipeline development lay within an area identified as a Medieval agricultural landscape, it was recommended that a programme of archaeological mitigation, consisting of observation and recording, was carried out during the replacement of a rising main pipeline.

The programme of archaeological work was carried in accordance with current best practice and appropriate national guidance including:

- NPPF, National Planning Policy Framework, 2019;
- CIFA Code of Conduct (2019 as revised);
- CIFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (2014)
- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE ver. 1.2, 2015)

2.0 Site Location and Description (fig. 1)

Twyford is a village in the civil parish of Twyford and Thorpe in the Melton Borough district of Leicestershire. The village lies predominantly on the east side of the B6047 which links Market Harborough (c.23km south) with Melton Mowbray (c.8.5km north). The city of Leicester lies c.14km to the southwest of Twyford. The village of Thorpe Satchville, from which, in combination with Twyford, the parish name is derived, lies approximately 1.5km north along the B6047, and the hamlet of John O' Gaunt lies slightly to the southeast of Twyford.

The replacement rising main connects with existing services at the pumping station on Main Road (SK 72874 10187), close to the junction with Main Street. Crossing the road, the pipeline leaves the village and crosses agricultural land to the northwest, traversing the Gaddesby Brook twice (SK 72638 10427; SK 72752 10836) before curving back to the northeast and connecting with the Twyford sewage works (SK 72980 10865), located between Twyford and Thorpe Satchville.

3.0 Topography and Geology

The development is within a landscape that is relatively flat and open but is enclosed to the north and west by topography and woodland. The land generally falls from east to west, with field boundaries predominantly formed of substantial mature clipped hedgerows. The development itself is on a south to south-east-facing slope, and lies at approximately 105m AOD.

The British Geological Survey records no drift geology in the vicinity. The exposed solid geology of the area is Nottingham Castle Sandstone Formation (BGS online).

The pipeline crosses the natural valley of the Gaddesby Brook, in the rolling landscape of the High Leicestershire Natural England Natural Character Area. A cutmark on the southeast parapet of Lenin's Bridge, just metres from the pumping station, records at 98.886m OD (0.3m above EGL).

The geology close to Twyford Pumping Station is recorded as Charmouth Mudstone formation- mudstone. The Charmouth bedrock is described as being dark grey laminated shales and dark, pale and bluish grey mudstones with locally concretionary and tabular limestone beds. As a natural river valley, the overlying superficial deposits are complex. They include alluvium and colluvium around the main channel and the historic tributary channels and river terrace deposits of sand and gravel, while areas away from the waterways are dominated by Oadby Member diamicton glacial till (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

4.0 Planning Background

The scheme of pipeline installation falls under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order of 2015. Therefore no planning application required submission to the local planning authority to obtain permission, although in some cases the permitted development right is subject to “prior approval” from the local planning authority in relation to certain specified matters.

5.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

An archaeological desk-based assessment was prepared by PCAS Archaeology Ltd in 2015 (Lane, A & Savage, R 2015). A summary is presented below:

There is a small amount of evidence to suggest early prehistoric occupation and activity around Twyford and Thorpe - a small number of flint tools were recovered from the parish and surrounding area, and the upper stone of a late Iron Age to early Roman beehive quern was found in a garden in central Twyford, approximately 150m to the south east of the site.

Approximately 650m northwest of the site, a handful of Roman pottery sherds were found in a pit by an agricultural contraction in the late 1970s. A concentration of pottery and metal artefacts dating from the Roman period was recovered during fieldwalking and metal detecting. Furthermore, a possible Roman road lying to the southeast of Twyford, thought to extend northwards from Gartree Road at Shangton. Gartree Road is identified as the former *Via Devena* from the original Roman capital at Colchester to Roman Chester in the northwest, cutting cleanly through the Leicestershire landscape some 12km south of Twyford.

The place name Twyford derives from the Old English *twi* and *ford*, meaning *double ford*. This may suggest two crossings of the headwaters of the Gaddesby Brook, one in the historic core of the village and one to the southeast along what is now Burrough Road. However, it could also refer to crossings of the named course of the Gaddesby Brook and an unnamed tributary which crosses the road mid-way between Twyford and Thorpe Satchville. In the early medieval period, it is simply Torp or Thorp, derived from the Old Scandinavian *Torp* meaning *outlying farmstead or hamlet*. It is only in the mid-13th century that variations on the suffix Satchville is added (Secheville, 1262; Segefild(e), 1535 & 1550), derived from the name Radulfus de Secheville, a medieval lord who held the manor in the early 13th century. Thorpe is also referred to as *Thorp(e) iuxta* (near; close to) *Twyford* in documents dating from the 14th and 16th centuries (<http://placenames.org.uk/id/placename/81/015497>).

Twyford remained a small town throughout the medieval period. Its importance was probably derived from its position at the ford of the Gaddesby Brook, a tributary of the River Wreake, which would have made this a key location on the trade routes between the larger market towns of Melton Mowbray to the north and the rural, agricultural lands to the southeast of Leicester. The proposed route of the rising main passes through large tracts of ridge and furrow earthworks, observed on aerial mapping. Ridge and furrow earthworks are indicative

of the arable agriculture that was undertaken within a medieval village and integral to the medieval landscape.

Numerous extant buildings in both villages date from the post-medieval period, including the 17th century Manor Farm in Twyford and its 17th to 19th century outbuildings and the Grade II listed 18th century Lewin's bridge (Listing Entry No 1061250) over the Gaddesby Brook near the south-east end of the rising main route and the former National School and Methodist Chapel in Twyford, both dated to 1845.

6.0 Methodology (figs. 2-5)

A small section of the 1.1km rising main pipeline replacement was monitored, approximately 110m in total, including a borehole, two test pits and a single trench. Within a pasture field, 110m northwest of Twyford Pumping Station, a 0.3m x 0.3m borehole was excavated by hand to the depth of 1.2m. On a farm track linked to the pasture field by a gate, two test pits were machine excavated using a JCB mini digger fitted with a 0.30m wide toothless bucket. Test pit 1 was 1.8m long, 0.30m wide and 1m deep, whilst test pit 2 was slightly longer at 2.2m, 0.30m wide and 1.1m deep. Finally, a 9.2m long, 0.30m wide and 1.7m deep trench was machine excavated across Main Road, the pavement, and grass verges either side. This trench was located within a ramp leading up to Lenin's Bridge and exposed a complex of modern services.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded on standard PCAS context recording sheets, and the progress of the groundworks were noted on standard site diary sheets. Features, where exposed, were drawn in plan and section, and representative sections were also prepared at 1:20, and plotted on a 1:50 trench plan, with base plans of borehole, test pit and trench excavations plotted in a variety of scales; 1:500 and 1:100. A digital photographic record was maintained throughout the monitored groundworks, a selection from which is reproduced in the Results section of this report (Section 7).

Sample bricks from the exposed structural features were retrieved during the monitoring programme, and were washed at PCAS premises, and dispatched for specialist comment.

The archaeological monitoring commenced on 20th May 2016 and completed on 1st June 2016. Monitoring was carried out by M. Rowe.

7.0 Results (figs. 2-5)

7.1 Borehole (fig. 2)

At the base of the excavated borehole was a natural mid-yellow-brown sand layer 004, at the depth of 1.1m. Above this was layer 003, similar to subsoil 002 with more medium stone inclusions, only 0.10m thick. The subsoil layer 002 was a mid-red-brown clayey silt with occasional stone fragments and cobbles, 0.60m thick. The sealing deposit was topsoil 001, a mid-red brown slightly sandy silty loam, thought to be redeposited over an artificial platform, 0.40m thick.



PI. 1: Borehole, looking N

7.2. Test pit 1 (figs. 3,5)

With the test pits being located on a farm track, the construction consisted of a subsoil layer 101, a slightly sandy mid-red-brown clayey silt, 0.80m thick, overlaid with a hardcore of brick rubble with frequent stones and brick inclusions, 0.20m thick.



PI. 2: Working shot, Test Pit 2, looking W

7.3 Test pit 2 (figs. 3,5)

At the base of Test Pit 2 was a mid-grey-brown silt layer 203, at 0.45m deep. Above this was a hardcore layer 202 (same as 100), with brick rubble inclusions, covered by a redeposited soil and shale mix 201. These deposits were sealed by a hardcore layer 200, incorporating imported materials of crushed stone hardcore, 0.20m thick.



PI. 3: Post excavation of Test Pit 2, looking W

7.4 Trench 3 (figs. 4,5)

As this trench crossed the Main Road within Twyford village, it exposed a variety of road and pavement surfaces, as well as two late 18th to early 20th century red brick structures.



PI. 4: (left)
Working shot of
Trench 3,
looking SE



PI. 5: (right)
Working shot of
Trench 3,
looking SE

At the base of the south eastern trench end was a likely natural layer of mid-red sandstone 306, reached at the depth of 1.50m. Above this was a mid-brown natural alluvial silt 301, likely to be the same as alluvial silt layer 308 seen at the north western end of the trench. Related to layer 308 was a slightly clayey alluvial silt layer 309, which contained frequent small stone inclusions and was 0.50m thick. Both were covered by a former topsoil layer 307

at the northwest end of the trench. Cut into alluvial silt 301 was a north east to southwest aligned red brick wall structure **303** (see PI.6), running parallel to the road and pavement. Just four courses of brick survived, a single brick wide and bonded with a light grey lime mortar. This structure was truncated by the pavement surface 302 and had also been disturbed by modern services to the northwest: only a 0.30m long, 0.20m wide and 0.55m deep section of the wall survived. A possible brick floor to the southeast was observed, suggesting that the walled structure **303** was possibly a small building, likely to be domestic as the bricks were handmade and made of local materials. The bricks used were similar to the adjacent 18th century Grade II listed Lewin's Bridge, possibly confirmed by the sample bricks taken from **303** being dated to a similar period, 19th century to early 20th century (*Appendix 2*). Slightly above and to the southeast of **303** was a 0.20m thick mid-brown silty sand demolition layer 304 which incorporated frequent brick fragments and modern bottle glass. At the southeast end of the trench, directly above layer 304 was redeposited landscaped soil 305, 0.35m thick.



PI. 6: Structure **303**, looking NE



PI. 7: Structure **310**, looking NE

Towards the north western end of the trench was a red brick structure **310**, of four surviving courses (see PI.7). This was east north east to west south west aligned, diverging from the north east to southwest alignment of the road. This large brick wall was bonded with a yellow brown sandy mortar and was built on natural sandstone blocks. The dimensions of the wall were 0.60m wide and 0.40m high, with the footing being 0.10m wide and 0.50m deep. Sample bricks taken from this structure possibly date between the late 18th to the 19th century (*Appendix 2*). The site archaeologist suggested that **310** was possibly associated with a bridge predating the existing one. Alternatively, it could be that **310** has associations with the existing bridge – difficult to prove or disprove given the very narrow exposure.

8.0 Conclusion

Both of the brick structures exposed within Trench 3 were of late 18th to 20th century date, so are either contemporary with or built just after the construction of the adjacent Grade II listed Lenin's bridge. As only very small sections of these structures were exposed, it is difficult to fully conclude. Possibly structure **303** was part of a small building with a brick floor. It is considered unlikely this was associated with the bridge itself (eg a small tollhouse), and its use was probably more likely to have been of a domestic nature, possibly a dwelling.

Structure **310** was very different. This could have been associated with the original ramping leading to Lenin's bridge, adding additional support. As both structures have been truncated during the construction of the modern road, a full conclusion is not possible.

No archaeological features were identified within the borehole, Test pits 1 or 2. These areas exposed natural alluvial layers, covered by a hardcore farm track.



PI. 8: Grade II listed Lenin's Bridge, looking NE

9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

The methodology employed during this project was effective in identifying and preserving by record archaeological features, while causing the minimum of disruption to the construction process.

10.0 Acknowledgements

PCAS Ltd. would like to thank NMCN and Severn Trent Water for this commission.

11.0 Site Archive

The site archive, consisting of the site recording and a printed and bound copy of this report, will be deposited with a suitable museum of record (Leicestershire Museums Archaeology Collections, Leicestershire) following the acceptance of the report, under the accession number X.A113.2020

12.0 Bibliography

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<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/leics/vol5/pp61-68>

Fig. 2: Plan of Borehole within Pasture Field, scale 1:500

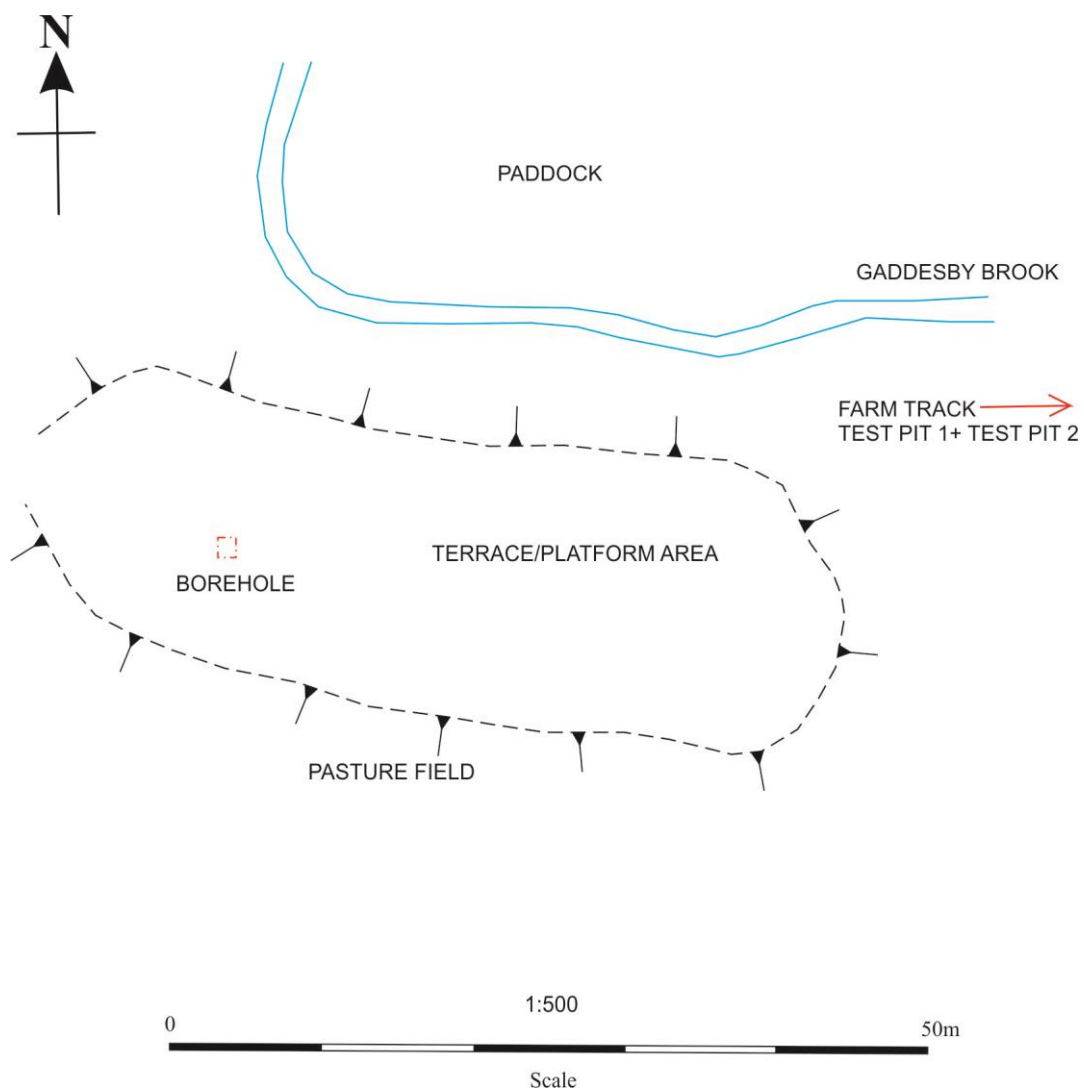


Fig. 3: Plan of Test Pit 1, Test Pit 2 and Trench 3, scale 1:100

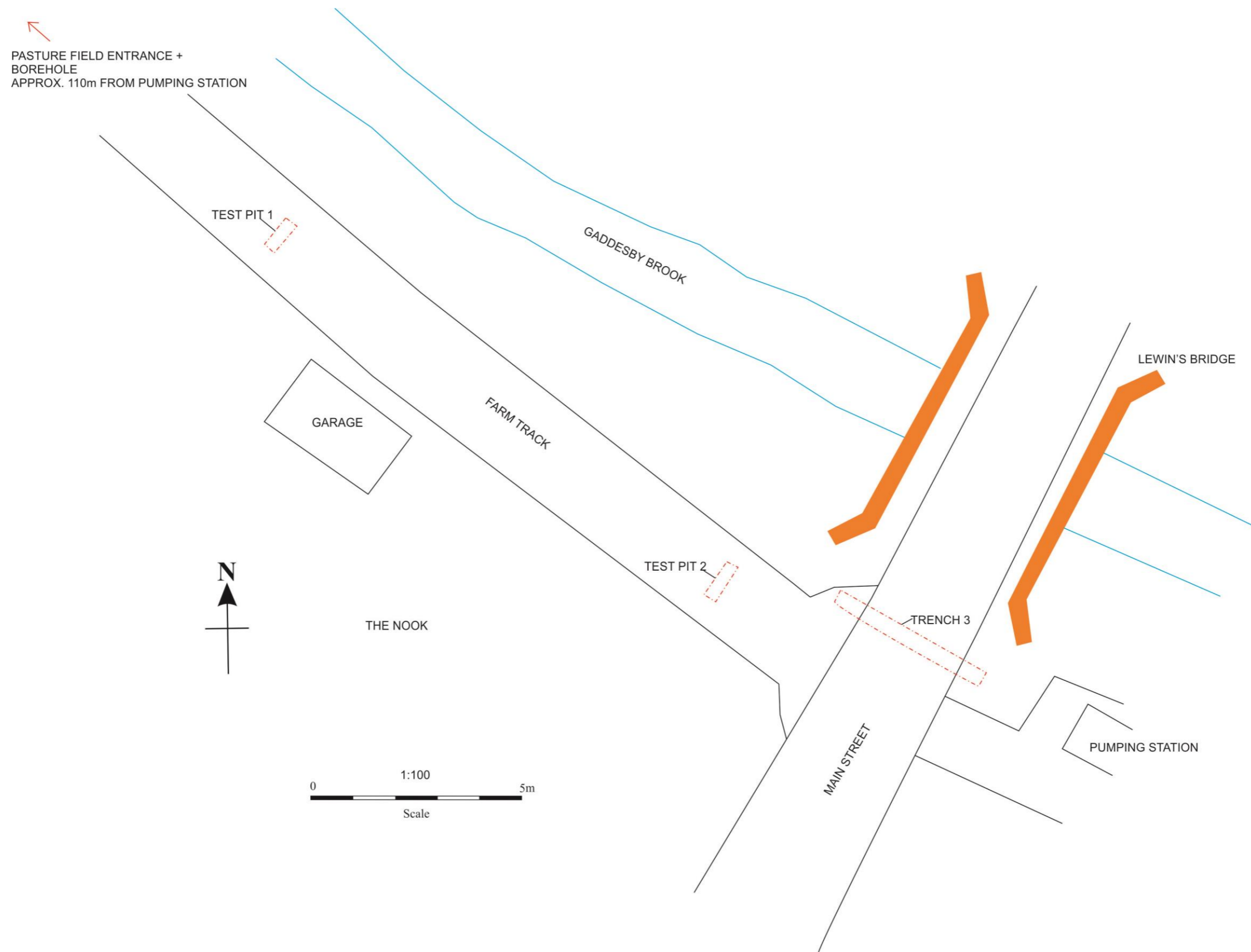


Fig. 4: Plan of Trench 3, scale 1:50

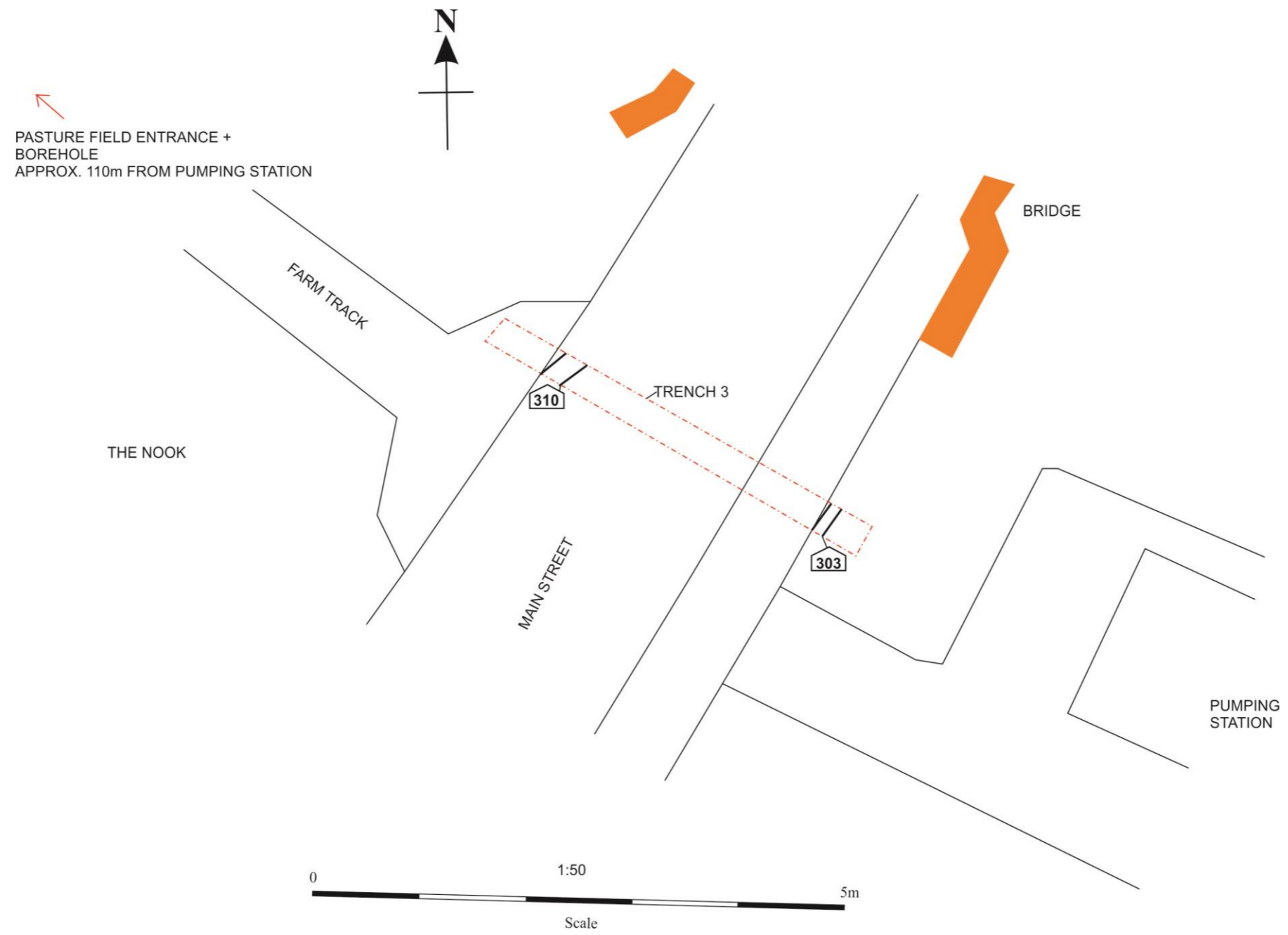
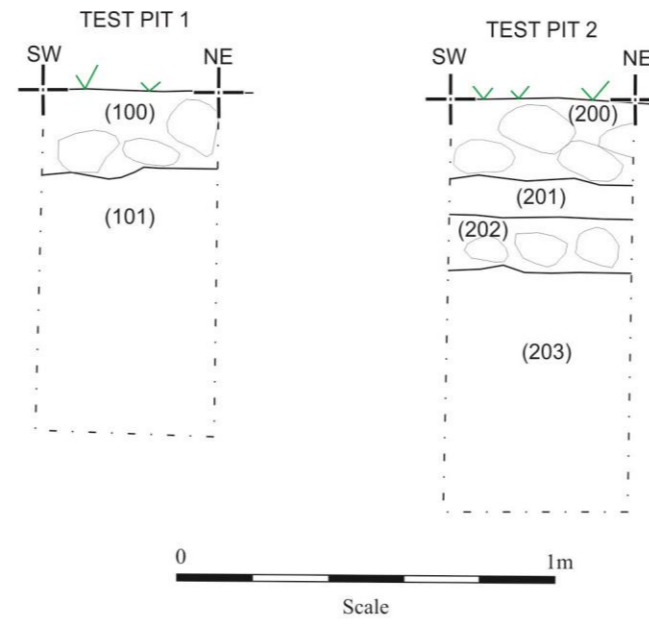


Fig. 5: Representative Sections of Test Pit 1 + Test Pit 2, scale 1:20



TRENCH 3- ROAD CROSSING TRENCH

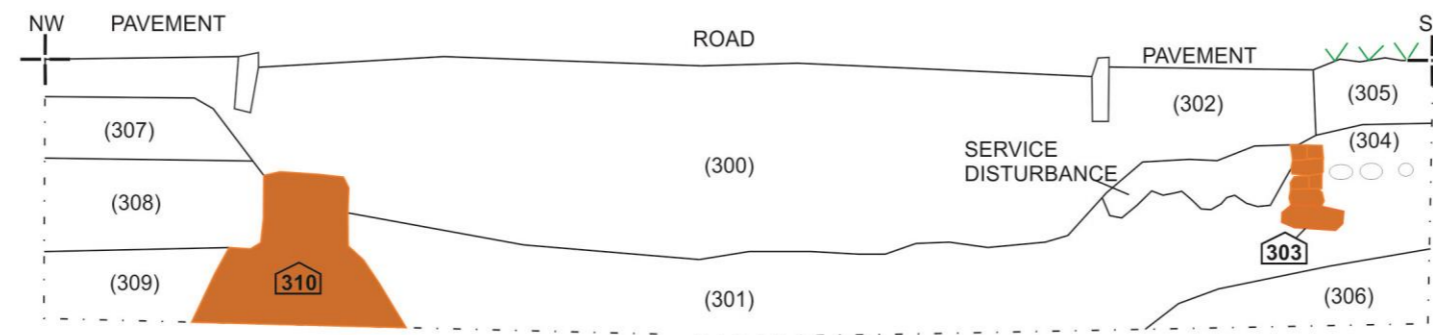
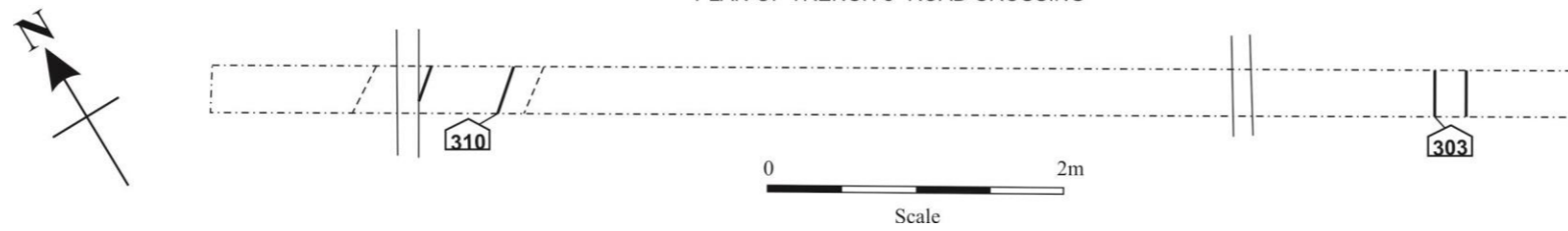


Fig. 6: Section drawing of Trench 3 showing Structures **303 + 310**, and Plan of Trench 3, scale 1:50

PLAN OF TRENCH 3- ROAD CROSSING



Appendix 1: **Context Register ARTM16**

Borehole:

Context No	Context Type	Description	Finds
001	Topsoil	Topsoil: Mid red brown slight sandy silty loam. Redeposited over artificial platform. 0.40m thick	None
002	Subsoil	Subsoil: Mid red brown clayey silt with occasional stone fragments and cobbles. 0.60m thick	None
003	Layer	Similar to 002, with more medium stone inclusions. 0.10m thick	None
004	Layer	Mid yellow brown sand. Reached at 1.1m	None

Test Pit 1:

Context No	Context Type	Description	Finds
100	Layer	Hardcore: Brick rubble for farm track access. Frequent stone + brick inclusions. 0.20m thick	None
101	Layer	Subsoil: Mid red brown clayey silt, slightly sandy in this area. 0.80m thick	None

Test Pit 2:

Context No	Context Type	Description	Finds
200	Layer	Hardcore + grass layer: all imported materials with crushed stone hardcore. 0.20m thick	None
201	Layer	Soil and shale mix, redeposited material. 0.10m thick	None
202	Layer	Hardcore: Brick rubble for farm track access. Frequent stone + brick inclusions. 0.15m thick. Same as 100	None
203	Layer	Mid grey red brown silt, becoming cleaner at depth. Reached at 0.45m	None

Trench 3 on Road Crossing:

Context No	Context Type	Description	Finds
300	Layer	Road surface + hardcore. 1.2m thick	None
301	Layer	Natural/alluvial silt. Mid brown silt. Directly below road surface 300 + pavement surface 302. Reached at 1.2m	None
302	Layer	Pavement surface + hardcore. 0.40m thick	None
303	Structure	Red brick wall. NE-SW aligned, parallel to road/pavement. 4 courses have survived, a single brick wide. Constructed on large sandstone block. Bonded with a light grey lime mortar. Truncated/capped by pavement surface 302, + disturbed by modern services to the NW. Similar to adjacent late 18 th to 19 th	Brick sample taken

		bridge, possibly related to said structure. Possible brick floor to the SE. L 0.30m W 0.20m H 0.55m	
304	Layer	Demolition layer, SE of 303 . Mid brown silty sand with frequent brick fragments. 0.20m thick 0.30m wide	Modern bottle glass
305	Deposit	Redeposited landscaped soil. 0.35m thick	None
306	Layer	Possible natural layer: Mid red sandstone. Visible at NE end of trench. Reached at 1.50m	None
307	Layer	Former topsoil: Dark brown sandy loam. 0.40m thick	None
308	Layer	Same as 301, alluvial silt. 0.70m thick	None
309	Layer	Layer related to 308, with frequent small stone fragments + became more clayey at depth. 0.50m thick	None
310	Structure	Large brick built wall on a bonded red sandstone footing. Aligned ENE to WSW (diverging from the NE-SW alignment of the road/pavement). W 0.60m, 2 courses of brick wide, + 4 courses survive, bonded with yellow brown sandy mortar. Foundation made of bonded red sandstone natural blocks. Wall 0.60m W 0.40m H. Footing 0.10m W 0.50m D	Brick sample taken

An Assessment of the Ceramic Building Material from Twyford, Leicestershire. Site code: ARTM16

Zoe Tomlinson. BSc. MSc.

Introduction

Two complete bricks and two partial bricks weighing a total of 9375 grams were presented for examination. The fragments were examined both visually and at x 20 binocular magnification. The resulting archive was then recorded using standard codenames in an Access database and complies with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski, *et al.* (2001) and the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (2001). All the bricks appear handmade and are likely to date between the late 18th century and early 20th century.

Condition

The material is in a variable but stable condition with one brick showing some abrasion. The brick from (303) is in a poor condition. Mortar is present on all surfaces and one piece has mortar or a white coloured deposit over the broken edge.

Overview of the Material

A limited range of material was recovered consisting of two complete bricks and two partial bricks.

Codename	Full name	Total fragments	Total weight (grams)
BRK	Bricks	4	9375
Total		4	9375

Table 1: Ceramic material codenames and total quantities by fragment count and weight

Results

Trench 3

Recovered from wall (303) was an abraded complete handmade brick in a coarse sandy poorly mixed fabric with common iron rich grains and some calcareous material. The brick has mortar on all faces, uneven arrises and is possibly slop moulded. Also recovered was approximately half a brick in the same fabric. It also has mortar on all faces and uneven

arrises. The header is burnt, possibly intentionally, to a deep purple colour. They are likely to be typical local products. They possibly date between the 19th and early 20th century. Their poor condition precludes any closer dating.

A complete brick and a partial brick were recovered from wall (310). The complete brick has mortar on all faces, is sand bedded, sand moulded, has uneven arrises and a stacking scar. It is a light orange relatively fine sandy oxidised fabric with a moderate amount of iron rich grains and occasional voids. It appears to date between the late 18th century and 19th century. A partial brick also recovered from this structure is a pale brown sandy fabric with occasional iron rich grains, occasional mudrock, occasional red clay pellets and relatively common voids. It is similar to the complete brick but not exactly the same size or fabric. It also possibly dates from the late 18th to the 19th century.

Summary and Recommendations

All the material appears to be relatively modern in date and offers little to site interpretation other than to offer some tentative dating. These handmade bricks have no particularly distinguishing features. The bricks from (303) are likely to be local products. I recommend all the brick is discarded.

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Slowikowski, A. Nenck, B. and Pearce, J. 2001. *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*. Medieval Pottery Research Group, Occasional Paper 2.

site code	trench	contxt	cname	fabric	frags	weight	action	description	date
artm 16	3	303	BRK	course sandy; poorly mixed; common iron + calc	1	1837	discard	handmade; approx. half brick; 110mm W x 68mm Th; burnt header; mortar on all faces; uneven arrises; slop moulded?	C19 - E C20
artm 16	3	303	BRK	course sandy; poorly mixed; common iron + calc	1	2805	discard	handmade; complete brick; 225mm L x 110mm W x 70mm Th; abraded; mortar on all faces; uneven arrises; slop moulded?	C19 - E C20
artm 16	3	310	BRK	pale sandy + occ fe + occ mudrock + red clay + voids	1	1701	discard	handmade; approx. half brick; 118mm W x 60-64mm Th; mortar on all faces; mortar/white deposit over broken edge; sand bedded; sand moulded; uneven arrises	late C18 - C19?
artm 16	3	310	BRK	sandy oxidised + moderate iron	1	3032	discard	handmade; complete brick; 240mm L x 120mm W x 60mm Th; mortar on all faces; sand bedded; sand moulded; uneven arrises; stacking scar	late C18 - C19?
					4	9375			

Appendix 3: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: preconst3-417077

Project details

Project name Twyford Rising Main, Twyford

Short description of the project A scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out during a small section of rising main pipeline replacement, heading north west from Twyford Pumping Station across Main Road towards surrounding fields, alongside the Gaddesby Brook, in the village of Twyford, Leicestershire. Two features were recorded during the monitoring programme: a red brick wall and a large brick-built wall on a bonded red sandstone footing. Both features are likely to be dated from the late 18th century to the early 20th century.

Project dates Start: 20-05-2016 End: 01-06-2016

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes ARTM16 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes X.A113.2020 - Museum accession ID

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Residential 1 - General Residential

Monument type WALL STRUCTURE Post Medieval

Significant Finds NONE None

Investigation type "Watching Brief"

Prompt Planning agreement (Section 106 or 52)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LEICESTERSHIRE MELTON TWYFORD AND THORPE Twyford Rising Main, Ashby Road, Twyford, Leicestershire
Postcode	LE14 2HL
Study area	0.1 Kilometres
Site coordinates	SK 7276 1024 52.68462 -0.92354 52 41 04 N 000 55 24 W Point

Project creators

Name of PCAS Archaeology Ltd.
Organisation

Project brief PCAS Archaeology Ltd.
originator

Project design N/A
originator

Project Will Munford
director/manager

Project supervisor M. Rowe

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive Leicestershire County Council Museums
recipient

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media "Images raster / digital photography"
available

Paper Archive Leicestershire County Council Museums

recipient

Paper Contents "none"

Paper available **Media** "Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Plan","Report"

Project bibliography 1

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Author(s)/Editor(s) R. S. Dennis

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