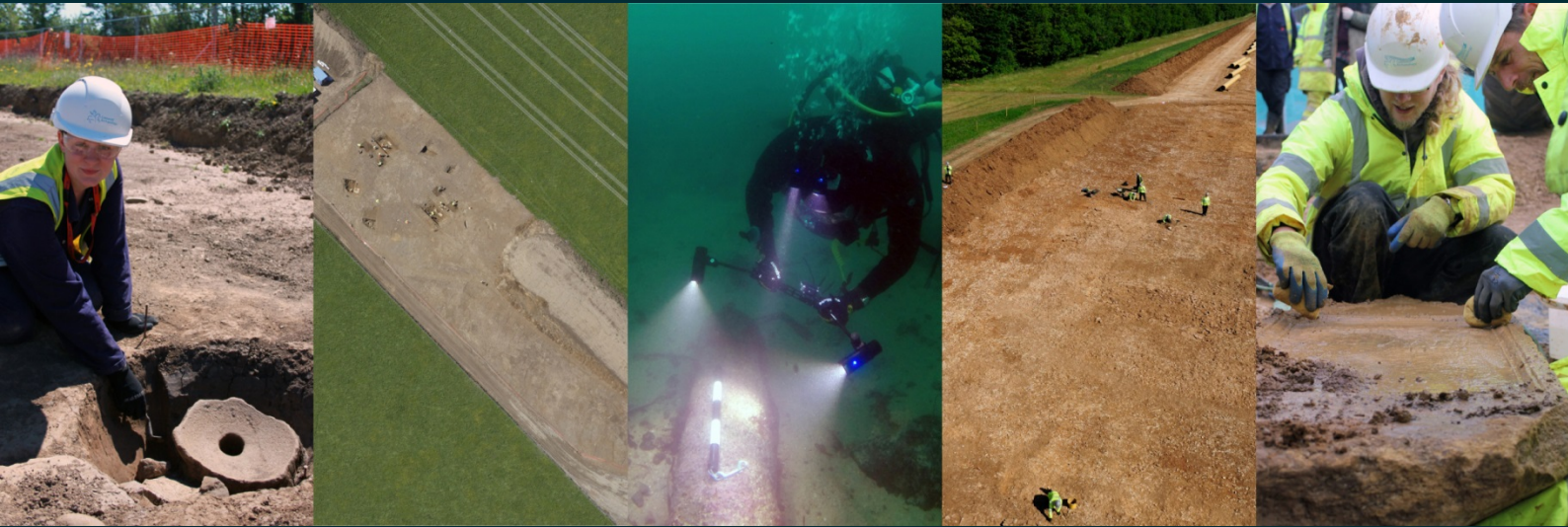




**Smart Systems Ltd
(Phase 5)
Arnolds Way
Yatton
North Somerset**

Archaeological Evaluation



for
S.J. Salisbury Designs

on behalf of
Smart Systems Ltd

CA Project: 880212
CA Report: 17297

July 2017



Smart Systems Ltd
 (Phase 5)
 Arnolds Way
 Yatton
 North Somerset

Archaeological Evaluation

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Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	25 July 2017	Christina Tapply	Derek Evans	Internal review	–	Derek Evans

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Smart Systems Ltd (Phase 5)
Location:	Arnolds Way, Yatton, North Somerset
NGR:	341397 166067
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	24 May 2017
Planning Reference:	17/P/0427/F
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with the Somerset Museum Service
Site Code:	SSY 17

In May 2017, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Smart Systems Ltd, Arnolds Way, Yatton, North Somerset. A total of four trenches was excavated within the site.

The entire evaluation site was found to have been machine-truncated. All topsoil and subsoil deposits had been removed and the underlying natural substrate had been truncated to a depth of 0.45m–0.6m below its original surface level. The base of a single undated pit was recorded. It was not clear if this was the heavily-truncated base of a very deep earlier feature, or if it was created during the truncation process. The extensive modern truncation will have removed any other archaeological features/deposits which may once have been present.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2017, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Smart Systems Ltd, Arnolds Way, Yatton, North Somerset (centred on NGR: 341397 166067; Fig. 1). The evaluation was commissioned by S. J. Salisbury Designs, on behalf of Smart Systems Ltd.
- 1.2 The evaluation results will inform a planning application which has been made to North Somerset Council for the erection of a new industrial building at the site, along with an associated service yard, parking spaces and drainage (planning ref: 17/P/0427/F). The scope of this evaluation was defined in consultation with Catherine Lodge, the North Somerset Council Archaeologist.
- 1.3 This evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by Catherine Lodge. The evaluation was also in line with *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England 2015).

The site

- 1.4 The proposed evaluation site lies outside of the south-western fringes of Yatton. It is to the rear (west) of the existing Smart Systems industrial/office buildings, which lie to the west of the southern end of Arnolds Way.
- 1.5 The evaluation site encloses approximately 1.16ha. At the time of the evaluation it comprised an area of hardstanding. It is surrounded by agricultural/pastoral fields to the north, south and west, with the existing Smart System buildings to the east.
- 1.6 The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped as mudstone and halite-stone of the Mercia Mudstone Group, which formed in the Triassic Period. This is overlain by Tidal Flat Deposits of clay and silt (BGS 2017).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The following text is summarised from Catherine Lodge's comments on the planning application, supplemented by an online search of the North Somerset Council Historic Environment Record (<http://map.n-somerset.gov.uk/HER.html>).
- 2.2 The area within which the proposed evaluation site lies is known as Wemberham Moor, and is considered to have significant archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential.
- 2.3 Horsecastle Farm, which lies some 0.4km north-east of the proposed evaluation site, occupies an 'island' of Keuper Marl amid the alluvium of the Northmarsh.
- 2.4 The remains of rectangular earthwork enclosures have been recorded c. 0.3km north of the proposed evaluation site.
- 2.5 Wemberham Roman Villa (which is a Scheduled Monument) lies approximately 1km south-west of the proposed evaluation site.
- 2.6 A previous archaeological trial trench evaluation some 800m north-east of the proposed evaluation site recorded Iron Age and Roman boundary ditches.
- 2.7 Horsecastle Farm Lane, which runs to the immediate north-east of the proposed evaluation site, may have originated as a medieval drovers' lane.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objective of the archaeological evaluation was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource at the proposed development site, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of four trenches (Fig. 2). All trenches were 30m long and 2.6m wide. The trenches were arranged to provide a

representative sample of the site. They were relocated from the positions specified in the WSI (CA 2017) in order to avoid overhead power lines.

- 4.2 All trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate. Investigation and recording was carried out in line with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. No samples were taken.
- 4.4 CA will make arrangements with Somerset Museum Service for the deposition of the project archive. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts can be found in Appendix A.
- 5.2 The natural substrate comprised blue-grey clay. It had been machine-truncated across the entire site to a depth of 0.45m–0.6m below its original surface level. The overlying topsoil and subsoil deposits had been entirely removed and the ground level had been made up with sandy/stony levelling deposits overlain with hardcore.
- 5.3 Sub circular pit 104 (Fig. 3) was identified at the north-western end of T1. This pit was cut into the natural substrate and sealed by a modern levelling layer. It contained a single undated fill (105).
- 5.4 T2–T4 contained no archaeological features.



6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The entire evaluation site has been machine-truncated. All topsoil and subsoil deposits have been removed and the underlying natural substrate has been truncated to a depth of 0.45m–0.6m below its original surface level. The Smart Systems groundworks team on site stated that this truncation took place in late summer/autumn 2016.
- 6.2 The base of a single undated pit was recorded in T1. It was not clear if this was the heavily-truncated base of a very deep earlier feature, or if was created during the truncation process. The extensive modern truncation will have removed any other archaeological features/deposits which may once have been present.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

7. Fieldwork was undertaken by Christina Tapply, assisted by Edoardo Vigo and Parris Stubbings. The report was written by Christina Tapply. The report illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Jessica Cook. The project was managed for CA by Derek Evans.

8. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2017 Geology of Britain Viewer
<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>
Accessed 16 May 2017

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 *Smart Systems Ltd (Phase 5), Arnolds Way, Yatton, North Somerset: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

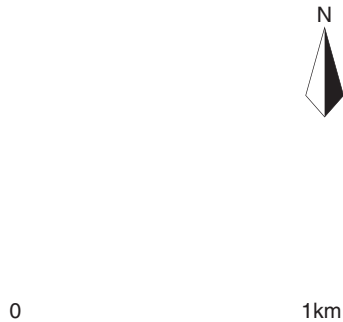
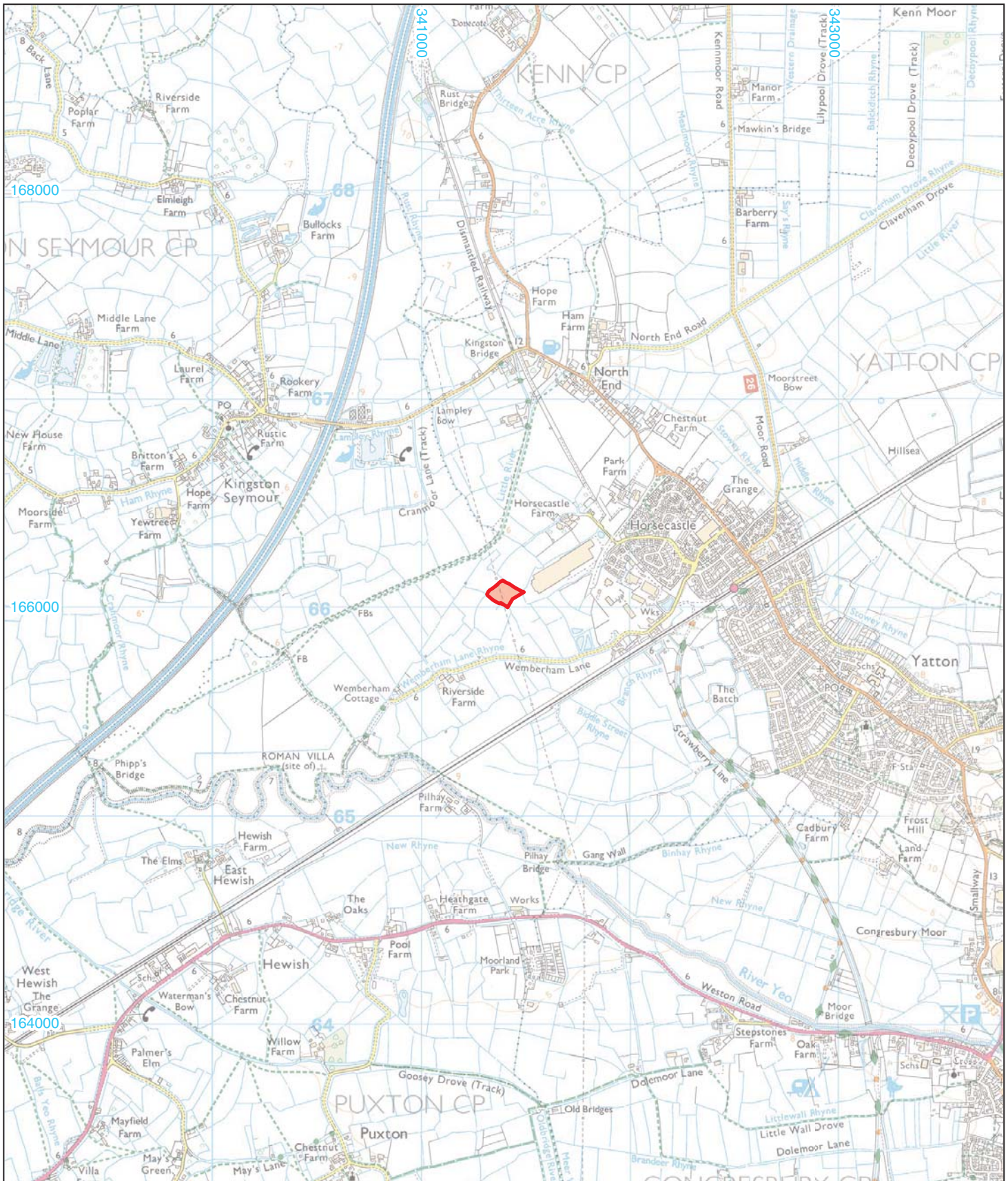


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1	100	Layer		Hardcore	Gravel			0.15
1	101	Layer		Made ground	Mid orange-brown silty sand with gravels			0.4
1	102	Layer		Made ground	Coarse mid brown sand with large stones			0.3
1	103	Layer		Natural	Mid blue-grey clay			0.53
1	104	Cut		Cut of pit	Moderate sloping edge, concave base	0.46	0.4	0.12
1	105	Fill	104	Fill of pit	Mid dark blue-grey/brown mottled clay	0.46	0.4	0.12
2	200	Layer		Hardcore	Gravel			0.12
2	201	Layer		Made ground	Dark brown silty sand with gravels			0.3
2	202	Layer		Made ground	Orange sand with stones			0.1
2	203	Layer		Natural	Mid blue-grey clay			0.4
3	300	Layer		Hardcore	Gravel			0.1
3	301	Layer		Made ground	Mid pink-brown silty sand with gravels			0.4
3	302	Layer		Natural	Mid blue-grey clay			0.5
4	400	Layer		Made ground	Mid pink-brown silty sand with gravels			0.3
4	401	Layer		Natural	Mid blue-grey clay			

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Smart Systems Ltd (Phase5) Arnold Way, Yatton, North Somerset	
Short description	<p>In May 2017, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Smart Systems Ltd, Arnolds Way, Yatton, North Somerset. A total of four trenches were excavated within the site.</p> <p>The entire evaluation site was found to have been machine-truncated. All topsoil and subsoil deposits had been removed and the underlying natural substrate had been truncated to a depth of 0.45m–0.6m below its original surface level. The base of a single undated pit was recorded. It was not clear if this was the heavily-truncated base of a very deep earlier feature, or if it was created during the truncation process. The extensive modern truncation will have removed any other archaeological features/deposits which may once have been present.</p>	
Project dates	24 May 2017	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	Smart Systems Ltd (Phase5) Arnold Way, Yatton, North Somerset	
Study area (m ² /ha)		
Site co-ordinates	341397 166067	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project brief originator	N/A	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Derek Evans	
Project Supervisor	Christina Tapply	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Contents
Physical	N/A	N/A
Paper	Somerset Museums Service	Site recording forms
Digital	Somerset Museums Service	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Cotswold Archaeology 2017 <i>Smart Systems Ltd (Phase 5), Arnolds Way, Yatton, North Somerset: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA typescript report 17297		



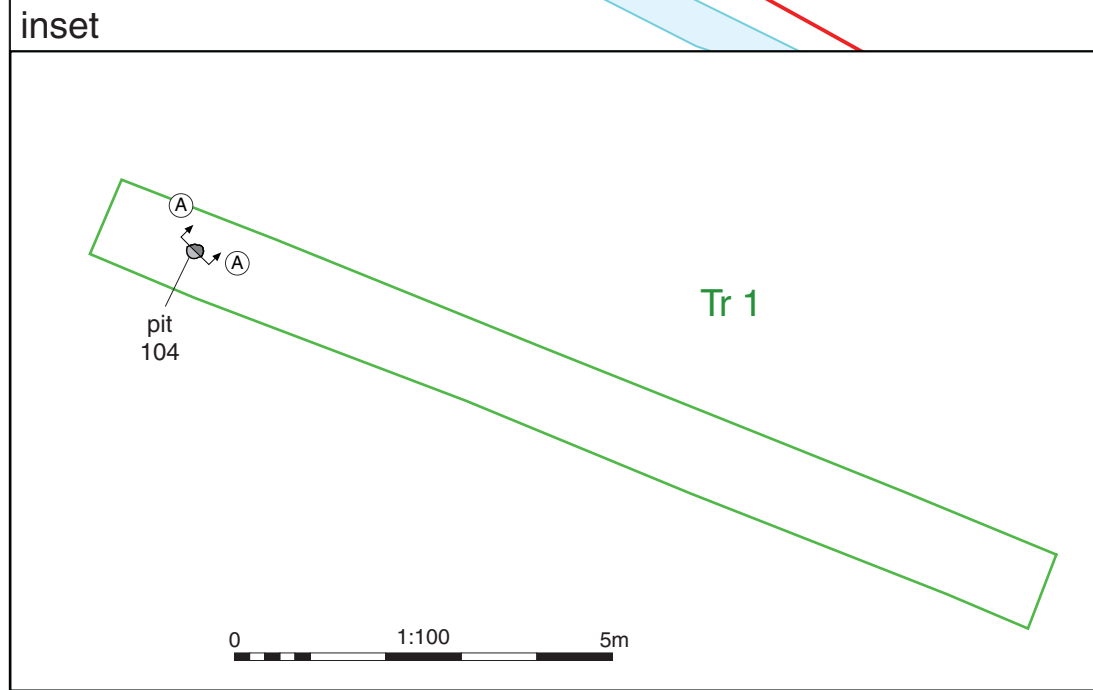
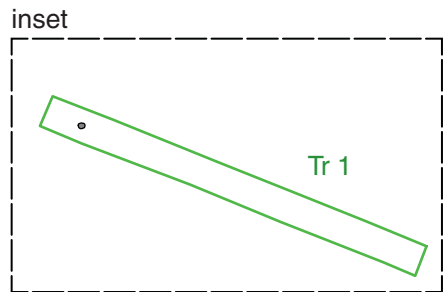
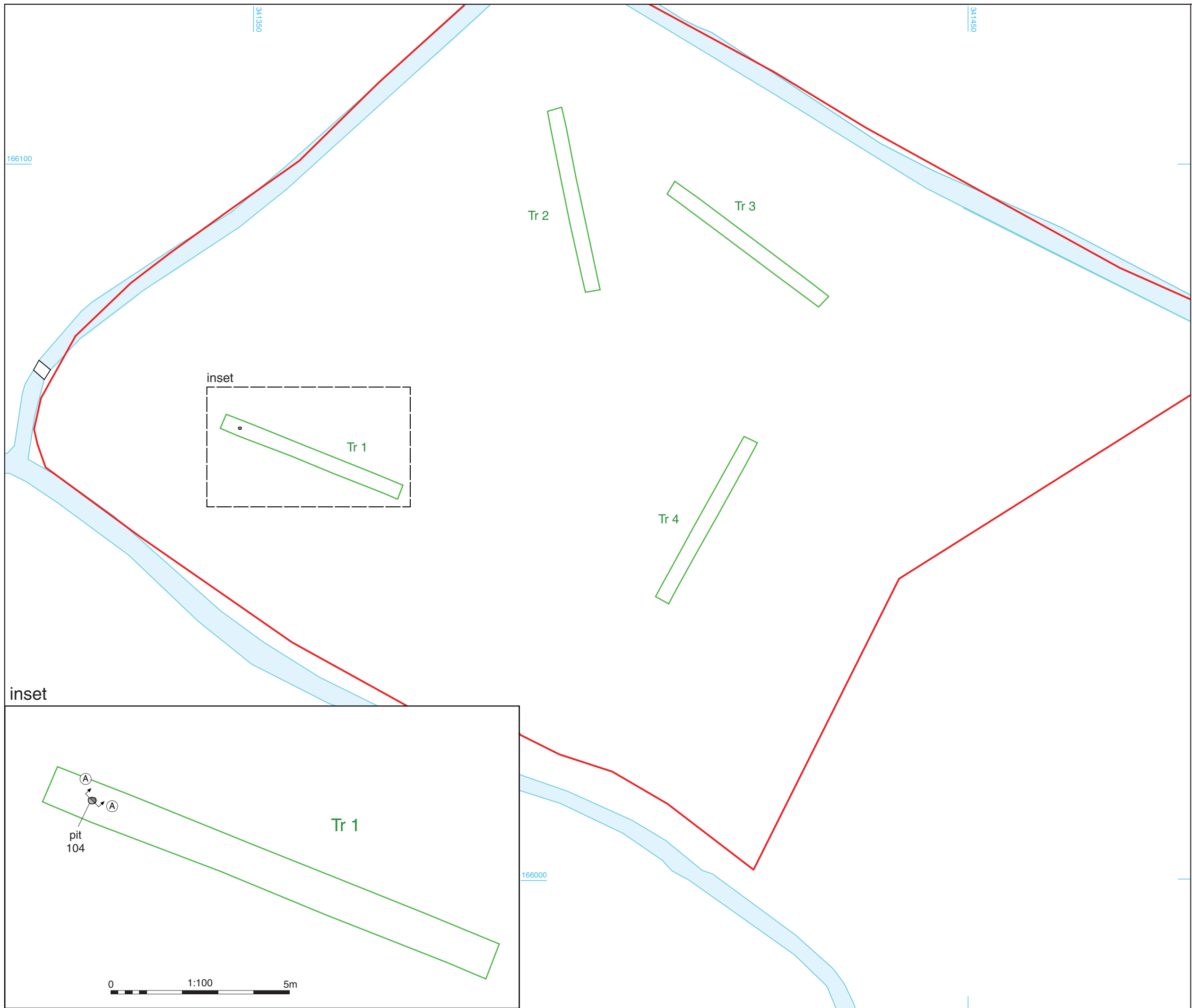
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
PROJECT TITLE
 Smart Systems Ltd (Phase 5), Arnolds Way,
 Yatton, North Somerset

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	880212	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	30/05/2017	1
APPROVED BY	DE	SCALE	@A4 1:25,000	

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-  Site boundary
-  Evaluation trench
-  Archaeological feature
-  Field drain
-  Section location



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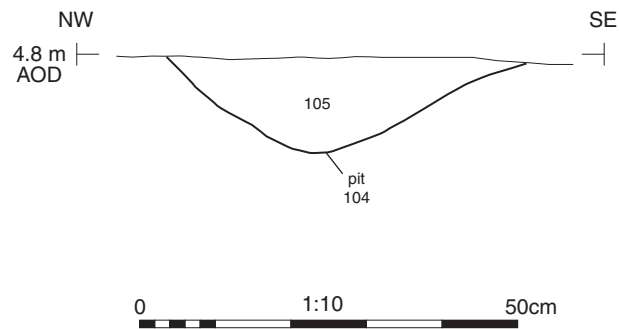
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PROJECT TITLE
 Smart Systems Ltd (Phase 5), Arnolds Way,
 Yatton, North Somerset

FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	880212	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	30/05/2017	2
APPROVED BY	DE	SCALE@A3	1:500	

Section AA



Pit 104, looking north-east (0.3m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Smart Systems Ltd (Phase 5), Arnolds Way,
Yatton, North Somerset

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 1: section and photograph

DRAWN BY EE/CP PROJECT NO. 880212
CHECKED BY DJB DATE 05/07/2017
APPROVED BY DE SCALE@A4 1:20

FIGURE NO.

3

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