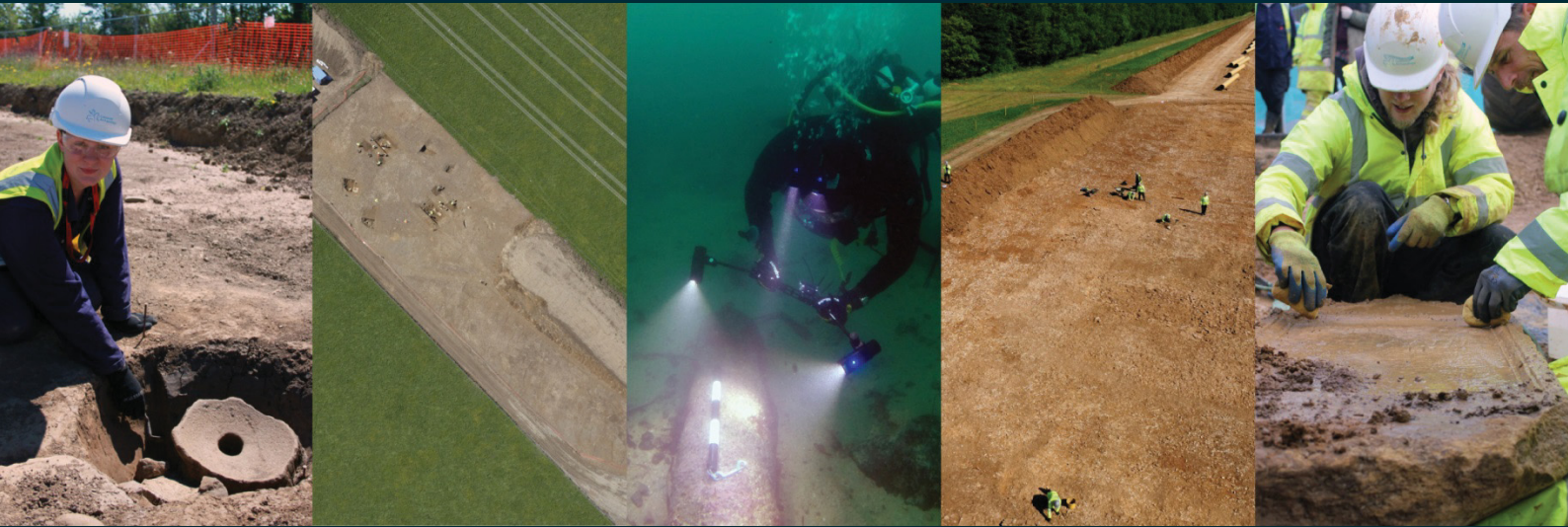


Sewage Treatment Works Moreton-in-Marsh Gloucestershire

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
SMB JV

CA Project: 6381
CA Report: 17569

October 2017



SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS MORETON-IN-MARSH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief

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A	13/10/17	Peter Searle	Richard Young	Draft		Laurie Coleman
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SUMMARY

Project Name: Sewage Treatment Works
Location: Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire
NGR: 421703 231997
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 12-15 September 2017
Location of Archive: Corinium Museum
Site Code: MOIM 17

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in September 2017 by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the installation of new below ground cabling from an existing control room to new brush aerators at the Sewage Treatment Works, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material was recovered.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In September 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for SMB JV at the Sewage Treatment Works, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire (centred at NGR: 421703 23199, Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the installation of new below ground cabling and was undertaken in accordance with Thames Water's Code of Practice on Conservation, Access and Recreation.
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by Charles Parry, Archaeologist, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014).

The site

- 1.3 The development area was approximately 400m², and comprised a sewage treatment works bounded by fields on all sides with an industrial estate to the north-west. The site lies at approximately 130m AOD.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as the Jurassic Charmouth Mudstone Formation overlain by superficial deposits of the Wolford Heath Member (Sand and Gravel) dating to the Quaternary Period, deposited during ice age conditions as glacial till, and as the result of seasonal meltwaters (BGS 2017).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Gloucestershire Historic Environmental Record (HER) records crop marks immediately to the south-east of the sewage works that appear to represent rectilinear enclosures and field boundaries of Iron Age to Roman date (Glos HER 12656). Within the wider vicinity further crop marks to the west of the sewage works (Glos HER 12655) appear to represent two small curvilinear enclosures of unknown date.
- 2.2 Excavation undertaken 500m to the north of the development area at the Fire Service College by CA (forthcoming) uncovered features radiocarbon dated to the

Middle Bronze Age. These included at least one cremation grave, a possible pond or barrow, troughs with fire-cracked stones and numerous small pits. Middle Bronze Age roundhouse settlements were also observed immediately to the west of the Fire Service College during excavations at Blenheim Farm (Hart and Alexander 2007) and Todenham Road (Hart, forthcoming).

2.3 Known Roman remains include the Roman small town (Scheduled Monument List Entry No. 1018451) which lies to the north-west of the site at Dorn (Timby 1998, 518-529). The Fosse Way Roman road also lies to the west, passing through the centre of Moreton-in-Marsh. Roman field systems were also recorded at Blenheim Farm and Todenham Road.

2.4 Medieval settlement is known within Moreton-in-Marsh to the west, the settlement having Anglo-Saxon origins.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
- at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2017). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising the excavation of service trenches and draw pits (Fig. 2).

4.2 Written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

- 4.3 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. The site archive will be deposited with the Corinium Museum. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 5.1 The natural geological substrate 102 consisting of mid orange sand and gravel was revealed throughout Trench 1 at an average depth of 0.7m below present ground level. This was overlain at the southern end of the trench by a modern dumped levelling deposit 106, and modern levelling deposit 101 throughout the rest of the trench. These deposits were sealed by topsoil/turf 100. Various modern intrusions related to the sewage treatment works were also encountered.
- 5.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material was recovered.

6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the site (see archaeological background above), the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The sharp interface between the natural substrate and the overlying modern deposits indicates a degree of truncation probably sufficient to remove any archaeological features or deposits that may have been present. This truncation most likely occurred during the construction of the sewage works.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Monica Fombelida. The report was written by Peter Searle. The illustrations were prepared by Aleks Osinska. The archive has been compiled by Peter Searle, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.



8. REFERENCES

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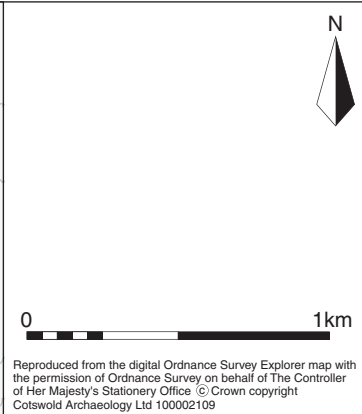
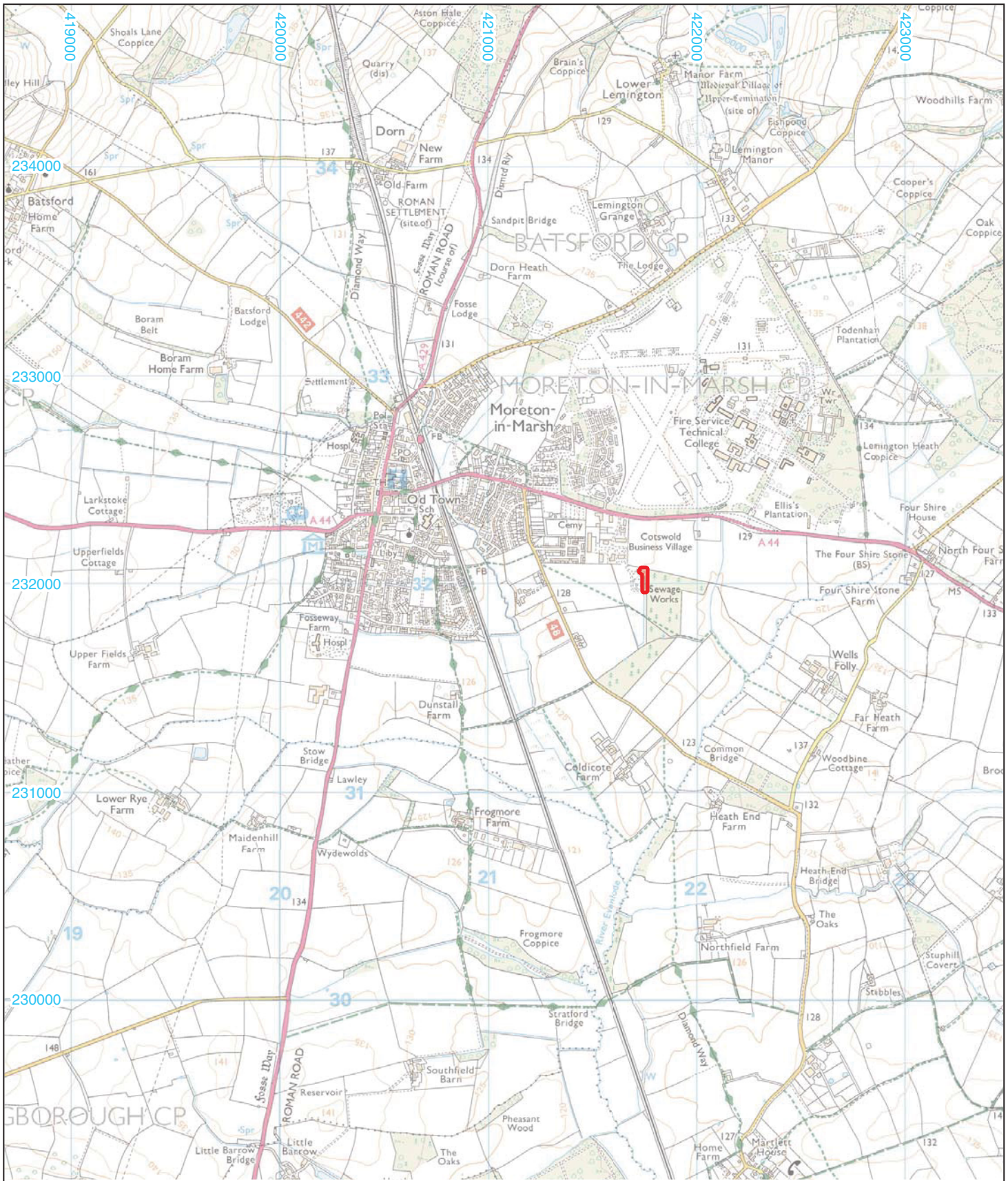


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
1	100	Layer	Turf/topsoil	Mid brown silt			0.3
1	101	Layer	Levelling deposit	Light grey yellow silt gravel			0.3
1	102	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid orange sand/gravel			
1	103	Cut	Construction cut	Cut for tank		>1	>1.4
1	104	Fill	Backfill of 103	Mid brown red clay			
1	105	Deposit	Make-up deposit	Mid yellow brown silt sand and stones			
1	106	Deposit	Make-up deposit	Mixed modern dumped material			0.5

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Sewage Treatment Works	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in September 2017 by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the installation of new below ground cabling from an existing control room to new brush aerators at the Sewage Treatment Works, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.</p>	
Project dates	12-15 September 2017	
Project type	Archaeological Watching Brief	
Previous work	Unknown	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	400m ²	
Site co-ordinates	Centred at NGR: 421703 231997	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	N/A	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Monica Fombelida	
MONUMENT TYPE		
	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive:	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc):
Physical	Corinium Museum	N/A
Paper	Corinium Museum	Trench Sheet, photograph register.
Digital	Corinium Museum	Database, photographs, digital mapping.
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>Sewage Works, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i>. CA typescript report 17569</p>		





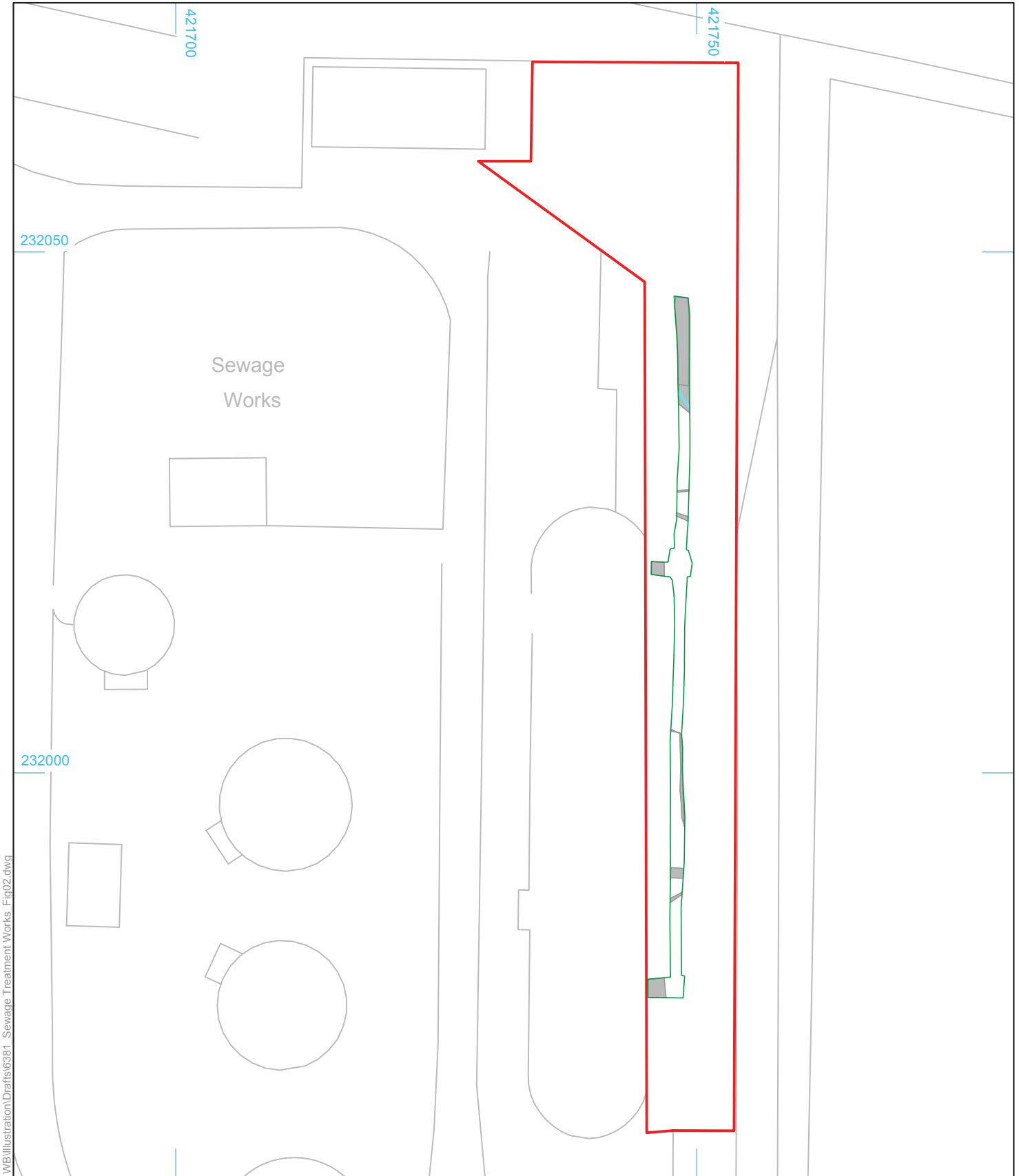
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PROJECT TITLE
 Sewage Treatment Works,
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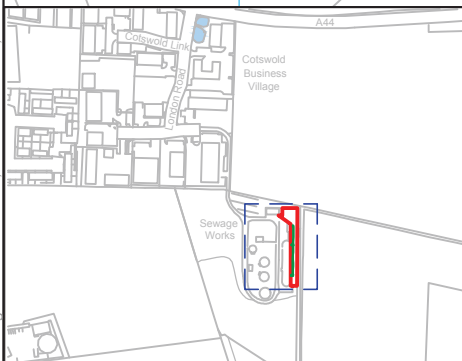
FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	6381	FIGURE NO.	1
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	27/08/2017		
APPROVED BY	REY	SCALE@A4	1:25,000		

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- site boundary
- area of observed groundworks
- modern
- field drain



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PROJECT TITLE
 Sewage Treatment Works,
 Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 The site, showing location of observed groundworks

DRAWN BY AO	PROJECT NO. 6381	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY DJB	DATE 27/09/2017	2
APPROVED BY REY	SCALE@A3 1:500	



Representative photograph of made ground within Trench 1 (scale 1m)



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PROJECT TITLE
**Sewage Treatment Works,
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FIGURE TITLE
Photograph

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	27/09/2017	3
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