

# Land North of Walworth Road Picket Piece Andover Hampshire

## *Archaeological Evaluation*



for  
CgMs Heritage

CA Project: 770716  
CA Report: 18718

December 2018



Land North of Walworth Road  
Picket Piece  
Andover  
Hampshire

Archaeological Evaluation

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Land North of Walworth Road
<b>Location:</b>	Picket Piece, Andover
<b>NGR:</b>	43899 147149
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	19 – 21 November 2018
<b>Planning Reference:</b>	15/03150/OUTN
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	Hampshire Cultural Trust
<b>Site Code:</b>	WALA 18

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2018 on land North of Walworth Road, Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire. Nine trenches were excavated.

A single shallow gully containing fragmented prehistoric pottery was located in Trench 5 additionally a small assemblage of worked and burnt flint was collected from the topsoil and sub-soils in five other trenches.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In November 2018 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for CgMs Heritage on Land North of Walworth Road, Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire centred on National Grid Reference (NGR): 438899 1471489 (see Figures 1 and 2).
- 1.2 The evaluation was requested by Test Valley Borough Council as a planning condition (ref: 15/03150/OUTN) for the development of up to 56 residential dwellings with associated access, parking, open space and associated landscaping.
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2018) and approved by David Hopkins. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014).

### ***The site***

- 1.4 The proposed development area is approximately 2.08 ha, and comprises agricultural land bordered by the Salisbury to Basingstoke railway line to the north, pasture to the east and west, and by Picket Piece village to the south along Walworth Road. The site is sub-rectangular, and is formed of two fields, the smaller of which lies to the west and the larger to the east. The site slopes gently down from the north to the south.
- 1.5 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Seaford Chalk Formation with superficial head deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel.

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological background given below is a succinct summary of the results of a Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment by ASE (2015), as well as archaeological evaluations by Cotswold Archaeology to the south of the site (CA 2013, 2015).

### *Prehistoric*

- 2.2 The area to the southeast of the site surrounding Tinker's Hill appears to have been a focus of prehistoric activity: aerial photography has identified several large prehistoric enclosures. An extensive series of Late Bronze Age bank and ditches known as the Devil's Ditch runs on a north-south alignment to the east of the site, towards Tinker's Hill and the nearby prehistoric settlement enclosures (CA 2015). Recent excavations to the south west of the site at Picket Twenty have revealed evidence of an extensive prehistoric funerary landscape, including barrows, with evidence of its reuse up until the late Roman period (CA 2018)

### *Medieval*

- 2.3 The town of Andover was founded by the mid-10th century AD although the focus of activity appears to have been in the south and west of the modern town and there is no evidence of Saxon or early medieval settlement in the area of Picket Piece. During the medieval and post-medieval periods, Picket Piece was part of the historic hundred of Andover and comprised agricultural lands outside the main areas of settlement. Cartographic evidence from the later 18th and 19th centuries shows the site as being arable farmland.

### *Post-Medieval*

- 2.4 Picket Piece was established in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, with the settlement characterised by ribbon development along the line of the Walworth Road, though recent housing development has greatly expanded the size of the hamlet.
- 2.5 Prior to recent developments the most substantial development on the site is the former London and South Western Railways line opened in 1854 that connects Andover with Basingstoke and London.

### *Recent works*

- 2.6 Two phases (Phase 1 and 2) of evaluation immediately to the south of the site (CA 2013, 2015) found limited datable activity. At the eastern end of the Phase 1 area, square pits within Trenches 1 to 8 suggested relatively modern activity. A series of boundary features were recorded on a differing alignment to the modern field patterns, implying a greater age. A single continuous ditch was observed in (Phase 2) although no dating was recovered the ditch is on the same alignment as the post-medieval/modern field boundaries.

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. In accordance with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to the archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable David Hopkins, County Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council, archaeological advisor to Test Valley Borough Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

### 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of nine trenches: trenches ranged from 22m to 38m in length by 2m wide) in the locations shown on the attached plan (see Figure 2). Each of the excavated trenches had to be repositioned on site to accommodate a range of above ground obstructions and as a result six further trenches could not be excavated. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.
- 4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket and was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision down to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance 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* and as a result no deposits were identified that

required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

- 4.4 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Andover. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts and archive will be deposited with Hampshire Cultural Trust along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 5. RESULTS (FIGURES 2-3)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are to be found in Appendix A. Natural undisturbed geology was exposed in all trenches and consisted of degraded periglacial chalk in **Trenches 1, 2 and 7** and clay with flints and occasional deposits of degraded chalk in the remaining trenches. Clay/sand subsoil with a maximum depth of up to 0.30m was recorded within all the trenches. A single archaeological feature was recorded within **Trench 5**. The remaining trenches were devoid of archaeological features (see Appendix A) although a small assemblage of worked flint was recovered from the topsoil/subsoil in several of the trenches.

### ***Trench 5 (Figures 2 & 3)***

- 5.2 Natural bedrock in **Trench 5** consisted of sand/clay with patches of degraded chalk sealed by topsoil and subsoil to a combined depth of 0.33m. It contained a truncated gully, **503**, which appeared to terminate within the trench, it measured 0.40m wide, 0.06m deep and was filled with yellow/brown clay sand (**504**) and which contained several degraded fragments of prehistoric pottery. The feature extended north out from the trench and was not identified within **Trench 6** to the north.

## 6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Artefactual material was hand-recovered from six deposits (a ditch fill, subsoil and topsoil). The recovered material dates to the prehistoric period. Quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric and the fabric code has been devised for the purpose of this report.



### *Pottery*

- 6.2 Ditch **503** (fill **504**) produced 17 unfeatured, heavily fragmented bodysherds (22g). These present in a friable fabric tempered with common rounded quartz and sparse fine flint (QZFL). In the absence of indications of vessel form or decoration, only broad prehistoric dating is possible.

### *Lithics*

- 6.3 Eight flint flakes (157g) were retrieved from five subsoil and topsoil deposits spread across the site. The flakes in the freshest condition (i.e. with minimal edge damage and/or rolling) are those from **Trenches 2, 6 and 10**. It can be tentatively suggested that these are unlikely to have moved far from where they were originally deposited. One flake from subsoil deposit **601** is burnt. A flake from topsoil deposit **900** displays evidence of preparation of the striking platform on the core from which it was removed. This methodology was in use during the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic periods. The remaining flakes are chronologically undiagnostic and broadly prehistoric in date.

## **7. DISCUSSION**

- 7.1 Due to active construction work taking place on the site at the same time as the evaluation, six of the proposed trenches remain unexcavated.
- 7.2 Despite the archaeological potential within the wider vicinity of the site, only the one feature was found during the course of the evaluation. A single heavily truncated prehistoric ditch which is of probable agricultural origin was located in **Trench 5**. A small number of worked and burnt flints were also recovered from the top and subsoils of several trenches and which indicates broader prehistoric activity within the immediate locality.

## **8. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Joe Whelan, assisted by Francesco Catanzaro and Jon Dobbie. The report was written by Joe Whelan. The finds evidence report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero.

The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Richard Paxford.  
The project was managed for CA by Oliver Good.



## 9. REFERENCES

Archaeology South East (ASE), 2015, *Land North of Walworth Road, Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire*, Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment, Report No. 2015279

Cotswold Archaeology (CA), 2013, *Land at Picket Piece: Phase 1, Andover, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation*. Report no. 13081

CA, 2015, *Land at Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation*. CA typescript report 15792.

CA, 2018, *Land North of Walworth Road, Picket Piece, Andover: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

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



## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Tr	Cxt	Type	Description	Depth [m]
1	100	Layer	Mid brown clayey sand topsoil	0-0.2
	101	Layer	Mid red brown clayey sand subsoil	0.2-0.5
	102	Layer	Natural: degraded periglacial chalk with red brown clayey sand	0.5+
2	200	Layer	Mid brown clayey sand topsoil	0-0.25
	201	Layer	Mid red brown clayey sand subsoil	0.25-0.5
	202	Layer	Natural: degraded periglacial chalk with red brown clayey sand	0.5+
3	300	Layer	Mid brown clayey sand topsoil	0 - 0.19
	301	Layer	Mid red brown clayey sand subsoil	0.19 – 0.32
	302	Layer	Natural: Red brown silty clay with common flint inclusions	0.32 +
5	500	Layer	Mid brown clayey sand topsoil	0 – 0.15
5	501	Layer	Mid red brown clayey sand subsoil	0.15 – 0.33
5	502	Layer	Natural: Red brown silty clay with common flint inclusions	0.33+
5	503	Cut	Truncated north- south orientated linear ditch	0.06
5	504	Fill	Ditch fill: Yellow brown clay sandy silt with occasional flint inclusions	0.06
6	600	Layer	Grey brown clayey sand topsoil	0 - 0.10
6	601	Layer	Mid red brown clayey sand subsoil	0.10 – 0.41
6	602	Layer	Natural: Red brown silty clay with common flint inclusions	0.41+
7	700	Layer	Mid brown clayey sand topsoil	0 - 0.17
7	701	Layer	Mid red brown clayey sand subsoil	0.17 – 0.40
7	702	Layer	Natural: Red brown silty clay with common flint inclusions	0.40+
9	900	Layer	Mid brown clayey sand topsoil	0 – 0.19
9	901	Layer	Mid red brown clayey sand subsoil	0.19 – 0.35
9	902	Layer	Natural: Red brown silty clay with degraded chalk patches and common flint inclusions	0.35+
10	1000	Layer	Mid brown clayey sand topsoil	0 - 0.21
10	1001	Layer	Mid red brown clayey sand subsoil	0.21 – 0.34
10	1002	Layer	Natural: Red brown silty clay with common flint inclusions	0.34+
13	1300	Layer	Mid brown clayey sand topsoil	0 - 0.10
13	1301	Layer	Mid red brown clayey sand subsoil	0.10 – 0.30
13	1302	Layer	Natural: Red brown silty clay with degraded chalk patches and common flint inclusions	0.30+

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

### Finds by Jacky Sommerville

6.1 Artefactual material was hand-recovered from six deposits (a ditch fill, subsoil and topsoil). The recovered material dates to the prehistoric period. Quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric and the fabric code has been devised for the purpose of this report.

#### *Pottery*

6.2 Ditch 503 (fill 504) produced 17 unfeatured, heavily fragmented bodysherds (22g). These present in a friable fabric tempered with common rounded quartz and sparse fine flint (QZFL). In the absence of indications of vessel form or decoration, only broad prehistoric dating is possible.

#### *Lithics*

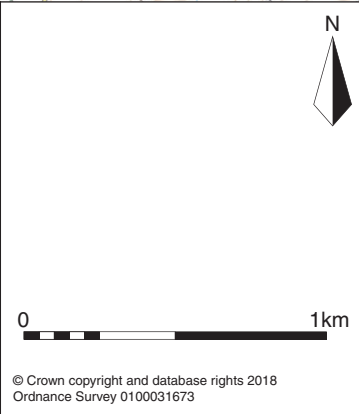
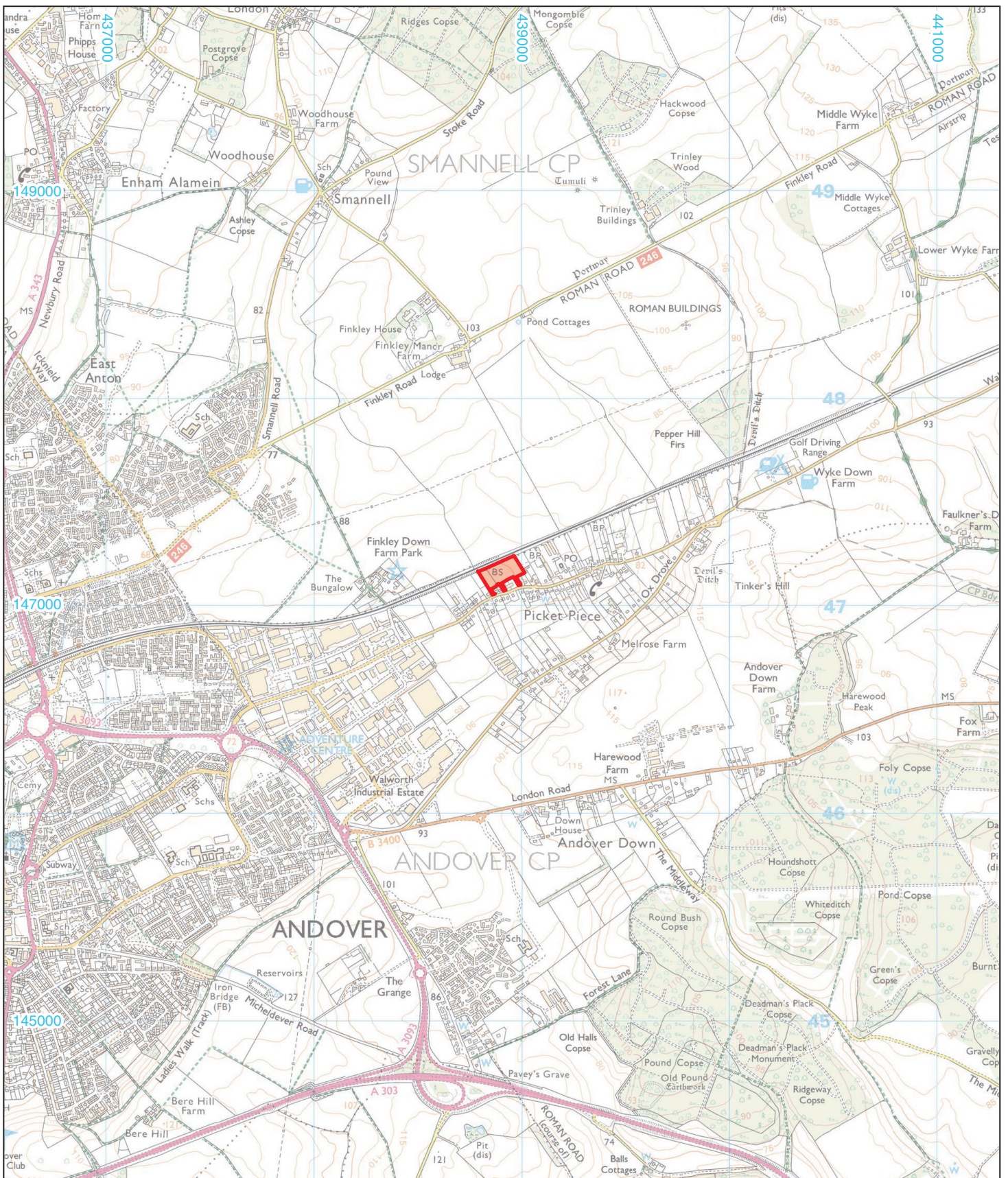
6.3 Eight flint flakes (157g) were retrieved from five subsoil and topsoil deposits spread across the site. The flakes in the freshest condition (i.e. with minimal edge damage and/or rolling) are those from Trenches 2, 6 and 10. It can be tentatively suggested that these are unlikely to have moved far from where they were originally deposited. One flake from subsoil deposit 601 is burnt. A flake from topsoil deposit 900 displays evidence of preparation of the striking platform on the core from which it was removed. This methodology was in use during the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic periods. The remaining flakes are chronologically undiagnostic and broadly prehistoric in date.

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
201	Flint	Flake		2	70	-
504	Prehistoric pottery	Quartz-and-flint tempered	QZFL	17	22	Prehistoric
601	Flint	Flake		2	16	-
900	Flint	Flake		2	15	-
1001	Flint	Flake		1	19	-
1301	Flint	Flake		1	37	-

**APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Land North of Walworth Road, Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2018 on land North of Walworth Road, Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire. Nine trenches were excavated.</p> <p>A single shallow prehistoric gully containing fragmented prehistoric pottery was located in Trench 5, additionally a small assemblage of worked and burnt flint was collected from the top and sub-soil in five other trenches.</p>	
Project dates	19 – 21 November 2018	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	none	
Future work	none	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Land North of Walworth Road, Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	2.08 ha	
Site co-ordinates	43899 147149	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Test Valley Borough Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Oliver Good	
Project Supervisor	Joe Whelan	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	none	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	none	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Hampshire Cultural Trust	Flint and pottery
Paper	Hampshire Cultural Trust	Context sheets, registers
Digital	Hampshire Cultural Trust	Database, digital photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018 <i>Land North of Walworth Road, Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report <b>18718</b></p>		




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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land North of Walworth Road,  
 Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

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DRAWN BY **EE** PROJECT NO. **770716** FIGURE NO.  
 CHECKED BY **DJB** DATE **27/11/2018**  
 APPROVED BY **OG** SCALE **1:25,000** **1**

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-  Site boundary
-  Evaluation trench
-  Archaeological feature (excavated, unexcavated)
-  Section location



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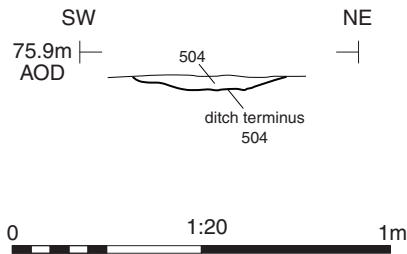
**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land North of Walworth Road,  
 Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan

<b>DRAWN BY</b>	EE	<b>PROJECT NO.</b>	770716	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b>	DJB	<b>DATE</b>	27/11/2018	<b>2</b>
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Section AA



Ditch terminus 503, looking north-west (0.2m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 5, section and photograph**

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CHECKED BY DJB DATE 27/11/2018  
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FIGURE NO.

**3**

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