

**Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the  
west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A)  
Avonmouth  
Bristol**

*Archaeological Evaluation*

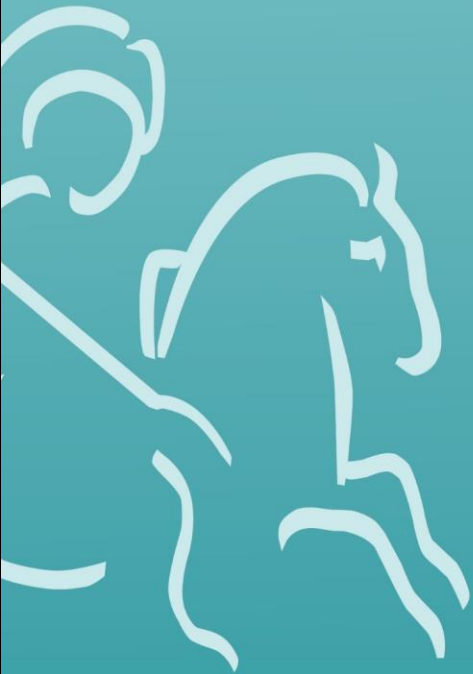


*for:*  
KAM Project Consultants Ltd

*on behalf of:*  
St Modwen

CA Project: CR1064  
CA Report: CR1064 \_1  
OASIS ID: cotswold2-506485

June 2022



# Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A) Avonmouth Bristol

## *Archaeological Evaluation*

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## CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	3
1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	5
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	7
4. METHODOLOGY.....	7
5. RESULTS.....	8
6. GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT.....	9
7. PALAEOENVIROMENTAL ASSESSMENT.....	13
8. DISCUSSION.....	14
9. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	15
10. REFERENCES.....	15
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS.....	18
APPENDIX B: FINDS CONCORDANCE.....	19
APPENDIX C: GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT.....	20
APPENDIX D: PALAEOENVIROMENTAL ASSESSMENT.....	24
APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	25

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## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Site location plan showing geophysical results (1:4000)
- Fig. 3 Trench 1: plan (1:200), section (1:20) and photographs
- Fig. 4 Trench 7: plan (1:200), section (1:20) and photograph
- Fig. 5 Photographs

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project name:</b>	Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5, Plot A
<b>Location:</b>	Avonmouth, Bristol
<b>NGR:</b>	353115 179320
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	06–09 June 2022
<b>Planning reference:</b>	20/02903/P
<b>OASIS ID:</b>	cotswold2-506485
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Bristol City Museum, Galleries and Archives and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
<b>Site Code:</b>	PLOA22

In June 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol. A total of 10 trenches were excavated.

The evaluation recorded a series of geological deposits, described as estuarine sediments and alluvial deposits, with a potential soil horizon predating the Upper Wentlooge Formation that began to form around 1500-500 cal BC also being identified.

A single sherd of pottery of broad Roman date was recovered from the upper alluvial deposit identified in a trench excavated in the central part of the site and is probably residual by virtue of its abraded nature.

A single undated ditch, correlated closely to a field boundary depicted on the in 1840s Tithe map was identified in a trench excavated in the central part of the site.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In June 2022, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol (centred at NGR: 353115 179320; Fig. 1). This evaluation was undertaken for KAM Project Consultants Ltd, who were acting on behalf of St Modwen.
- 1.2. Bristol City Council has granted outline planning permission (BCC, planning ref: 20/02903/P) for development of the site, comprising distribution-related industrial uses together with potential ancillary uses, including hotel/restaurant and associated road accesses and car parking. Condition 16 of this planning permission requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with an approved WSI. The site is divided into a number of different developments plots (Plots A to G) and this report relates specifically to the development area known as Plot A (see Figs. 1 and 2).
- 1.3. The scope of this evaluation was defined by Mr Peter Insole, Principal Historic Environment Officer, BCC. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) prepared by CA (2022) and approved by Peter Insole.
- 1.4. The evaluation was also in line with *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020), *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: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

### The site

- 1.5. Plot A is approximately 4.25ha in extent and is located on the eastern side of Kings Western Lane, c. 1km to the north-east of Avonmouth. It currently comprises a rectangular area of scrubland bounded to the west by a sewage works and the Mere Bank (Scheduled Monument ref.1020664), to the east by Kings Weston Lane, and to the north and south by unnamed lanes and further fields. The site lies at approximately 6m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) and is broadly level.
- 1.6. The underlying bedrock geology of Plot A is mapped as Mercia Mudstone and Halite-stone, which formed in the Triassic period. This is overlain by Tidal Flat Deposits (TFD) of clay and silt, sedimentary superficial deposits formed during the Quaternary

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period (BGS 2022). The natural substrate encountered by boreholes excavated within the site consisted of estuarine alluvial clay deposits and peats, with the lowest peat deposit located between 4m and 5m below present ground level (bpgl), immediately overlying bed rock (RLRE 2020 and Brownfield Solutions 2018; borehole CP9)

- 1.7. TFD, described as firm to stiff grey mottled brown silty clay, were encountered at depths between 0.02m and 0.55m bpgl, during Ground Investigation of the site (RLL 2021), which was not fully excavated to the top of the natural Mercia Mudstone. This was overlain by reworked TFD/made ground in four pits and directly by Topsoil in the rest of the pits.

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The overall site has been subject desk-based assessment (DBA; CA 2021) and geophysical survey (Sumo 2019). The following is a summary of the results of these assessments.

### Prehistoric

- 2.2. During the earlier prehistoric period the site is thought to have been in an area of freshwater peatlands (Rippon, 1997). Peat deposits and several alluvium deposits were identified at a depth of 4.85m AOD, dated to the Mesolithic period, during archaeological excavation and geotechnical works at the Avonmouth Sewage Works, located c.460m to the north-east of the site (Allen *et al.*, 1998). Analysis of the deposits suggested that the area was probably semi-terrestrial land surface with reed-like vegetation. There was also evidence that the vegetation had been burnt, possibly by human activity. The upper surfaces, dated to the Bronze Age, were recorded at depths between 5.07 - 5.28m AOD, and contained pottery fragments, imported stone fragments (mainly sandstone), five worked flints and animal bone. This was interpreted as being representative of a seasonal activity on the saltmarsh (hunting, grazing or salt-making) although conclusive interpretation was not possible from the available evidence (*ibid.*).

### Roman

- 2.3. Much of the land surrounding the Severn Estuary was reclaimed during the Roman period (Rippon, 2006). Natural barriers were incorporated into a man-made

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embankment or sea defence to reclaim the Avonmouth Levels, some 15km in length (Rippon, 1997).

- 2.4. Kingsweston Roman villa (Scheduled Monument ref.198239), located c.1.5km to the south of the site, was established on the edge of the Avonmouth levels around the 3rd-century (Boon, 1950), with continuous occupation evidenced into the late 4th-century. The villa is one of many sites and finds spots, forming an almost continuous ribbon of settlements extending along the base of a ridge, overlooking the site and the Severn Levels.
- 2.5. The existence of ditched field systems suggests that the wider area of the site, including the area immediately to the north of Avonmouth Sewage Works, was reclaimed during the late Roman period, with a system of sea banks and floodgates constructed to prevent marine intrusions (Masser *et al*, 2005).

### Medieval

- 2.6. Following widespread marine flooding of the Severn Levels after the Roman period, much of the land was reclaimed in the 11th century, with the construction of new sea walls. The medieval sea walls appear to have been located below the modern sea walls, c.800m to the north/north-west and c.1.2km south-west of the site. The general environs of the site during the Medieval period may have comprised scattered farmsteads and associated drained field systems within this reclaimed landscape.
- 2.7. The Mere Bank (Scheduled Monument ref.1020664), located towards the eastern boundary of the site, is a linear flood defence bank that may have Roman origins, although the present itinerary may date to the Medieval period (Rippon 1997). The north-west/south-east orientated earthwork comprises two ditches with a low bank in between.
- 2.8. Several programs of archaeological investigation, undertaken to the north and east of the site, have also revealed evidence of possible medieval field systems (Allen *et al.*, 1998, CA 2004 and Good 2011).

### Post-medieval/modern

- 2.9. 1840s Tithe map depicts the site as a series of narrow elongated fields, with the Mere Bank at the north-west. The First Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) Map of 1844-1888



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depicts the site as being separated into two fields and this field layout is maintained until the present times.

### **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1. The general objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable BCC to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposal, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2021). A further objective of the project is to compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive (see Section 7).
- 3.2. The specific objective of the evaluation was to investigate and confirm the natural origins of the geophysical anomalies recorded by the preceding geophysical survey (Sumo 2019), and to identify and date any archaeological activity within the upper 1m of the depositional sequence on site.

### **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of 10 trenches (see Fig. 2 for locations and extent) measuring 40m in length and 1.8m in width.
- 4.2. The trenches were located to test geophysical anomalies and to provide a representative sample of the remainder of the site.
- 4.3. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the trenches by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. The machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the stiff TFD and to a max. depth of 1m. Sondages were excavated at the end of two trenches, Trench 1 and 7, to investigate the sequence of TFD further.
- 4.4. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

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- 4.5. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and with the previously agreed strategy of the WSI (CA 2022). A total of four monolith samples and four bulk environmental samples were retained and are discussed in Sections 7 and 8 below.
- 4.6. CA will make arrangements with Bristol City Museum, Galleries and Archives for the deposition of the project archive. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 4.7. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix C, 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 are given in Appendix A. Details of the Finds, Geoarchaeological Assessment and Palaeoenvironmental Assessment are given in Section 6, 7 & 8, and Appendix B, D and C respectively.
- 5.2. The stratigraphic sequence recorded during the evaluation was broadly uniform. Alluvial clays, forming up to three deposits and extending to a depth of c. 2.1m bpgl, were recorded in all of the excavated trenches (Figs. 3 and 4). These were typically overlain by between 0.16m and 0.46m of silty clay alluvial deposits, which were in turn sealed by 0.04m and 0.29m of topsoil.
- 5.3. A single ditch was recorded in Trench 7. No further archaeological features were identified in the remaining trenches. Environmental sampling was undertaken in Trenches 1 and 7 (see Section 7 and 8 below and Figs. 3 and 4).

### Trench 7 (Fig. 4)

- 5.4. Ditch 706 was identified at the north-eastern end of Trench 1, on a north-east/ south-west alignment. It measured at least 9.2m in length, 0.65m in width and 0.15m in depth and contained a single undated fill, 707.

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## 6. THE FINDS

- 6.1. Artefactual material, comprising pottery, was recovered by hand from one deposit. The material is listed by context in Appendix B and further described below. The artefact has been recorded by deposit and sherd count, weight, and morphological characteristics. The recording undertaken is in accordance with the ClfA finds Toolkit (ClfA 2022).

### Pottery

- 6.2. A single sherd of pottery weighing 2g was recovered from subsoil layer 101 in Trench 1. The sandy oxidized fabric (SOX) is broadly datable to the Roman period.

## 7. GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT.

- 7.1. Four monolith samples were recovered from an alluvial sequence encountered in Trench 1 (monolith 3 and 4, Fig. 3) and Trench 7 (monolith 1 and 2, Fig. 4). The alluvial sequence is part of the Wentlooge Formation and has a high palaeoenvironmental potential to understand changes in the local environment and its relationship with human activity. The alluvium recorded in the evaluation trenches may represent the Upper Wentlooge Formation, and/or transition between the Middle and Upper Wentlooge Formation, which can be dated from 2200 cal BC to the Romano-British period.
- 7.2. The monoliths were cleaned and fully recorded with the intention of describing and interpreting the sediments in order to characterise the depositional processes and provide recommendations for potential future work.

### Geological background

- 7.3. The underlying bedrock geology of Plot A is mapped as Mercia Mudstone and Halite stone, which formed in the Triassic period. This is overlain by Tidal Flat Deposits (TFD) of clay and silt, sedimentary superficial deposits formed during the Quaternary period (BGS 2022).
- 7.4. The TFD formed in Holocene period and is composed of soft estuarine mineral sediments and peats. The site lies within the Avonmouth Levels that extend from the river Avon as far upstream as the bedrock islands at Aust and Ingst. A series of steep-side ridges fringe the Levels on their landward side (Rippon 1997, 35-36). The stratigraphic sequence for the Severn has been divided into three lithological units:

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- Lower Wentlooge - thin gravels and marine sands, organic-rich silty sands and 'peats' grading into bluish grey-greenish grey sand to clayey silts. These were deposited during the early Holocene.
  - Middle Wentlooge - occurs at about -1 to +3–4m OD and is comprised alternating peat with greenish grey sandy to clayey silts. The deposition of alluvium and formation of peat is related to relative sea-level changes and rivers flooding. This is dated to c. 5500–250 cal BC to (6500–2200 BP).
  - Upper Wentlooge - thick greenish grey sandy to clayey silts which grade into green-brown mottled silts which are unlaminated and poorly stratified. This is dated to c. 1500-500 cal BC and ended in the Roman and post-Roman periods (Allen and Scaife 2010, 5-6; Champness 2010).

### Methodology

- 7.5. A total of four monolith samples were retained in steel tins measuring 100 x 100 x 500mm and 100 x 100 x 250mm and were then wrapped and labelled following standard sampling procedures (CA 2017). The monoliths were unwrapped, and the deposits cleaned, photographed and recorded. The lithostratigraphy of the samples was described according to standard geological criteria provided by Jones et al. (1999), Munsell Color (2018) and Tucker (2011).
- 7.6. The lithological descriptions of the monolith samples are presented in Tables 1 to 4 (Appendix B). In the tables, the units/contexts are described in stratigraphic order with the earliest unit first.

### Results

- 7.7. The lowermost Unit 7, contexts 103 and 705, consisted of a firm (GLEY 1 5G 6/1) greenish grey silt/clay with common (5YR 6/3) light brown iron oxides and dark manganese staining. Occasional dark grey silty pockets and fresh rooting were recorded throughout. This Unit was up to 0.50m thick and represents estuarine silt and clays.
- 7.8. Unit 7 graded into Unit 6, context 704/703, that consisted of a firm (GLEY 1 5G 6/1) greenish grey silt/clay with frequent (5YR 6/3) light brown iron oxides and common fresh rooting and fine channels. This Unit was c. 0.25m thick and was only recorded in Trench 7. Unit 6 represents estuarine clays which are more oxidized than those of Unit 7.

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- 7.9. A sharp contact boundary separated Unit 5, contexts 102 and 702, and the underlying units. Unit 5 was c. 0.02m thick and consisted of a firm (10YR 4/1) dark grey silt/clay. This darker colour is indicative of a decayed organic content. It could be suggested that this unit represents an episode of hiatus in alluvial accretion and a soil development.
- 7.10. Unit 4, contexts 102 and 701, were separated by a sharp contact boundary from Unit 5. Unit 4 consisted of a firm (10YR 6/1) grey silt/clay with common (5YR 5/3) reddish brown iron oxides mottling. The sharp contact indicates an erosion of the lower context and a change in the depositional environment from a stasis to the floodplain accretion.
- 7.11. Unit 4 grades into Unit 3, context 101 and 701, which was a firm (10YR 5/1) grey silt/clay with rare (5YR 6/3) light brown iron oxides along root channels. This unit was deposited by alluvial processes. The post-depositional and pedological processes related to leaching of minerals, humification and plant growth and bioturbation lead to the development of soil profile in the top of the alluvial sequence. Unit 2, context 101 and 700, represents the modern turf.
- 7.12. In Trench 1, the modern soil profile was covered by Unit 1, context 100 that consisted of a friable (10YR 5/1) silt/clay with (5YR 6/3) light brown iron oxides along root channels and a turf at the top but absent in the monolith sample.

### Discussion

- 7.13. The lower inorganic silts and clay recorded in Units 7 and 6 represent estuarine sediment that accumulated on the floodplain. A possible hiatus in alluvial deposition and the presence of more stable conditions enabled a soil development - Unit 5. The upper boundary of the possible soil was sharp, and this can be indicative of the truncation of the soil by the later estuarine flooding.
- 7.14. An Iron Age occupation surface that consisted of 0.20m of a dark grey to grey clay was recorded at Hallen Marsh at c. 5.77m OD. Hallen is located c. 1.3m miles north-east of the site. The occupation surface at Hallen was thick and associated with an Iron Age settlement and this, in turn, was covered over by the Upper Wentlooge Formation. The palaeoenvironmental assessment suggested that the occupation at Hallen was situated on an alluvial plain with a possible drying out saltmarsh transitioning into pasture (Allen and Scaife 2010, 66).

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- 7.15. The organic Unit 5 at the site is thin, and no archaeological finds or features, with the exception of a ditch corresponding with a field boundary shown on historic mapping identified in Trench 1, were recorded on the site. Thus, there is not enough evidence to directly link the potential soil horizon here with the Iron Age occupation horizon at Hallen. It should be also noted that, Unit 5 is not clearly seen in Figs. 3 and 4, and this can support the assumption about truncation and only partial preservation.
- 7.16. Later inundation of estuarine waters resulted in the accumulation of alluvial silts and clays – Units 4 and 3. These units were homogeneous and oxidized with pockets of grey organic clays that may have derived from the incorporation of soil from the underlying layer. The oxidized nature of the sequence is a result of a lack of constant waterlogged conditions and fluctuations in the level of the water table. A modern soil profile accumulated in the top of the sequence, Units 2 and 1.
- 7.17. The top of the sequences at the site is recorded at 6.23m OD and the base at c. 5.20m OD which broadly correspond with the levels of the Upper Wentlooge Formation that began to form around 1500-500 cal BC. In general, the assessed alluvial sequence consists of oxidized, greenish to grey estuarine silts and clays and this is comparable with the Upper Formation recorded at other sites within the Avonmouth Levels, such as Vimpenny's Lane, Western Approaches Distribution Park, Hallen Marsh and Redwick (Allen and Scaife 2010; Champness 2010; Rippon 1997).
- 7.18. The uppermost alluvial sequence – Unit 4, 3 and 1 could be post-Roman in date. In the medieval period the area was used as pasture and there is a possibility that Unit 5 represents a stable medieval surface.

### **Recommendations**

- 7.19. The similarity in elevation levels of the potential soil horizon at this site and occupation surface at Hallen may suggest similar dates. If both layers are contemporary, then Unit 5 may be dated to Iron Age. The lower units would be then associated with the transitional Middle Wentlooge/Upper Wentlooge and the upper units would represent the Upper Wentlooge Formation, which can be dated from the Iron Age to post-Roman period. However, the poor preservation of Unit 5 and the lack of archaeological dating prevents a direct correlation of both layers.

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7.20. The palaeoenvironmental research from the site located at Avonmouth Levels suggested that during the Iron Age occupation the landscape, dominated by marsh, developed into a drier and possibly rough pasture type of landscape. The environmental model proposed by Allen and Scaife (2010, 98) indicates that a stasis in alluvium development was terminated by a final (Iron Age–Romano-British) positive tendency which saw progressive waterlogging, sediment accretion, and a return to estuarine salt-marsh and mudflat conditions.

## 8. PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

8.1. A series of four environmental samples (eight litres of soil in total) were processed from an alluvial sequence recovered from Trench 1. This was undertaken to evaluate the alluvial deposits and to ascertain whether these deposits are part of the Wentlooge Formation (see section 7 above). The Wentlooge Formation often has a high palaeoenvironmental potential to aid the understanding of changes in the local environment. The samples were processed by wet sieving (250 micron mesh size) (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

8.2. Preliminary identification of plant remains are noted in Table 1, following nomenclature of Stace 1997.

### Trench 1

8.3. The four samples from Trench 1 (Fig. 3) were recovered in a sequence alongside two monolith samples. This was undertaken to provide lithological descriptions of the monoliths (see section 7) and to see whether the environmental plant remains supported that geoarchaeological interpretation. This report has been written in a similar format to the geoarchaeological assessment to remain consistent.

8.4. Unit 7 (context 103, sample 8) is the lowermost layer recorded from Trench 1. This layer contained minimal amounts of plant remains with rush (*Juncus* sp.) being the only seed present. A similar assemblage is seen in Unit 4 (context 102, sample 7) where again, the only seeds present were those of rush. In both assemblages, wood and charcoal were absent. The environmental remains from sample 7 and sample 8 are both indicative of those typically found in alluvial deposits.

8.5. Context 101 (sample 6) was recovered from Unit 3, which represent alluvial deposits. Here there is a dramatic increase in the number and diversity of plant remains present in the assemblage. The plant remains recovered suggest a damp wetland

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environment, which is indicated by the presence of such species as goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), oraches (*Atriplex* sp.), blinks (*Monita* sp.), pale persicaria (*Persicaria lapathifolia*), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), woundwort (*Stachys* sp.), and rush. A very small number of charred culm node fragments were noted within the assemblage alongside low levels of charcoal.

- 8.6. Unit 1 (context 100, sample 5) is also described in the geoarchaeological report as 'modern turf' and contains a lower volume of plant remains than that of sample 6. This includes such species as oraches, woundwort and rush. Again, this suggests a wetland type environment similar to sample 6. A very small number of culm node fragments were recorded from sample 5, alongside a small amount of charcoal.

### Summary

- 8.7. The environmental remains recovered from samples 7 and 8 (Units 4 and 7) are typical of those recovered from alluvial deposits.
- 8.8. Samples 5 and 6 (Units 1 and 3) contain uncharred plant remains that are indicative of a wetland type environment with some areas of possible arable land. Some of these plant remains suggest that there were fluctuations in the water table which is compatible with the geoarchaeological interpretation of the deposits. The charred plant remains are likely to be indicative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material and do not aid in dating these layers.
- 8.9. There is no evidence from these samples for any domestic settlement activity in the vicinity

## 9. DISCUSSION

- 9.1. Despite the archaeological potential of the site, the evaluation identified only a single undated ditch. A single sherd of pottery, of broad Roman date, was recovered from Alluvial deposit 101 and is considered to be of a residual nature.
- 9.2. Undated ditch 706, identified in Trench 7 and excavated in the central part of the site, appears to correlate with a boundary depicted on the in 1840s Tithe map, suggesting it is most likely to be post-medieval in date. Although an earlier (or later) date cannot be conclusively ruled out.



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9.3. The Geoarchaeological Assessment and the Palaeoenvironmental Assessment describe the stratigraphy of the site as a series of alluvial deposits with interfaces in between. The lower deposits represent estuarine sediment that accumulated on the floodplain. A possible hiatus in alluvial deposition and the presence of more stable conditions enabled the formation a soil horizon, which may have been truncated by later geological processes (see section 7).

9.4. Later inundation of estuarine waters, resulted in the accumulation of alluvial silts and clays, and the development of a wetland landscape. These deposits are recorded at the same levels of the Upper Wentlooge Formation that began to form 1500-500 cal BC.

## 10. CA PROJECT TEAM

10.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Josh Nowlan, assisted by Sophie Pinto, Jason White and Jay Morgan. This report was written by Christian Day. The finds report was written by Claire Collier. The Geoarchaeological and Palaeoenvironmental Assessment reports were written by Agata Kowalska and Emma Aitken respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled by Josh Nowlan and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Monica Fombellida.

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Blackwell

## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Tr	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.12
1	101	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.26
1	102	Layer		Alluvial	Mid greenish brown silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	0.36
1	103	Layer		Alluvial	Mid bluish brown silty clay alluvium, compact,	>40	>1.8	>0.21
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.14
2	201	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.25
2	202	Layer		Alluvial	Mid greenish brown silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	-
3	300	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.16
3	301	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.46
3	302	Layer		Alluvial	Mid bluish grey silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	-
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.05
4	401	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.25
4	402	Layer		Alluvial	Mid greenish brown silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	-
4	403	Layer		Soil horizon	Dark greyish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.10
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.04
5	501	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.16
5	502	Layer		Alluvial	Mid bluish grey silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	-
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.09
6	601	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.20
6	602	Layer		Alluvial	Mid greenish brown silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	-
6	603	Layer		Soil horizon	Dark greyish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.05
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.29
7	701	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.16
7	702	Layer		Soil horizon	Dark greyish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.15
7	703	Layer		Alluvial	Mid bluish grey silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	0.25
7	704	Layer		Alluvial	Mid purplish grey silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	0.21
7	705	Layer		Alluvial	Dark purplish grey silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	>0.68
7	706	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned linear with moderate concave sides and rounded base	>9.2	0.65	0.15
7	707	Fill		Fill of ditch	Mid bluish grey silty clay, compact	>1.8	0.65	0.15
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.18
8	801	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.33

8	802	Layer		Alluvial	Mid greenish brown silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	-
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.12
9	901	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.20
9	902	Layer		Alluvial	Mid greenish brown silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	-
10	900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay, friable	>40	>1.8	0.16
10	901	Layer		Alluvial	Dark greenish brown silty clay, compact	>40	>1.8	0.28
10	902	Layer		Alluvial	Mid greenish brown silty clay alluvium, compact	>40	>1.8	-

## APPENDIX B: FINDS CONCORDANCE

Context	Material	Description	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Spot-date
101	Roman pottery	Sandy oxidized (SOX)	1	2	RB

## APPENDIX C: GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Table 1 Monolith 1, Trench 7. 6.23m OD


Monolith	Depth [m]	Unit	Context	Description
	0-0.06	2	700	10YR 3/1 very dark grey humic silt. Soft and stoneless. Sharp to
	0.06-0.17	3	701	10YR 4/1 dark grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Frequent (<25%) rooting. Clear to:
	0.17-0.24	4	701	10YR 6/1 grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Common (<20%) 5YR 5/3 reddish brown iron oxides mottling. Sharp to:
	0.24-0.26	5	702	10YR 4/1 dark grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Clear to:
	0.26-0.50	6	703	GLE Y 1 5G 6/1 greenish grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Frequent (<35%) 5YR 6/3 light brown iron oxides. Occasional dark grey silty pockets (organic). Common fresh rooting.

Table 2 Monolith 2, Trench 7. 5.73m OD


Monolith	Depth [m]	Unit	Context	Description
	0-0.07	6	703/704	<p>GLEY 1 5G 6/1 greenish grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Frequent (&lt;35%) 5YR 6/3 light brown iron oxides. Occasional dark grey silty pockets (organic). Common fresh rooting and fine channels. Diffuse to:</p>
	0.07-0.50	7	705	<p>GLEY 1 5G 6/1 greenish grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Frequent (&lt;25%) 5YR 6/3 light brown iron oxides. Rare (&lt;3%) dark manganese staining. Common (&lt;15%) fine channels after rooting.</p>

Table 3 Monolith 3. Trench 1. 6.05m OD


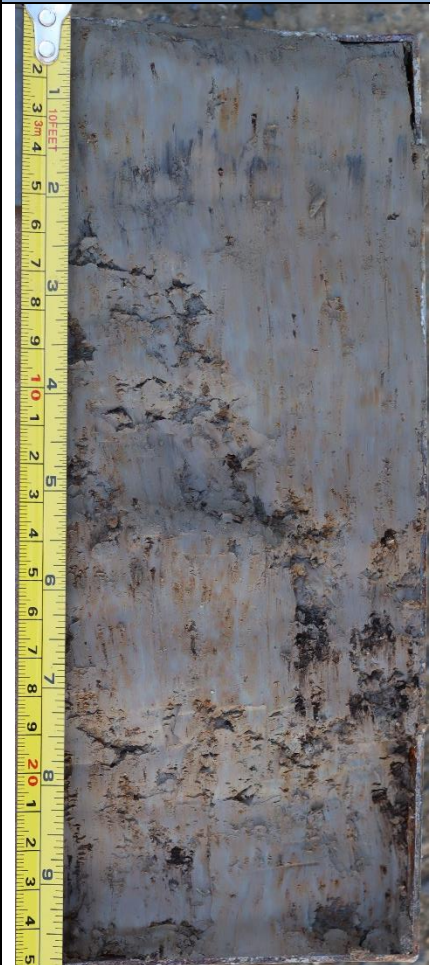
Monolith	Depth [m]	Unit	Context	Description
	0-0.10	1	100	10YR 5/1 silt/clay. Friable and stoneless. 5YR 6/3 light brown iron oxides along root channels. Sharp to:
	0.10-0.12	2	101?	10YR 3/1 very dark grey humic silt. Soft and stoneless. Sharp to:
	0.12-0.20	3	101?	10YR 5/1 gray silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Rare (<5%) 5YR 6/3 light brown iron oxides along root channels. Fresh root present. Diffuse to:
	0.20-0.42	4	102	10YR 6/1 grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Common (<20%) 5YR 5/3 reddish brown iron oxides mottling. Sharp to:
	0.42-0.43	5	102	10YR 4/1 dark grey silt/clay. Firm and toneless. Sharp to:
	0.43-0.50	7	102	GLEY 2 5G 6/1 greenish grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Common (<10%) 5YR 6/3 light brown iron oxides. Occasional dark grey silty pockets (organic). Common fresh rooting.



Table 4 Monolith 4. Trench 1. 5.67mOD

Monolith	Depth [m]	Unit	Context	Description
	0-0.04	4	102	0.12m overlap with monolith 3. 10YR 6/1 grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Common (<20%) 5YR 5/3 reddish brown iron oxides mottling. Sharp to:
	0.04-0.05	5	102	10YR 4/1 dark grey silt/clay. Firm and toneless. Sharp to:
	0.05-0.25	7	103	GLEY 1 5G 6/1 greenish grey silt/clay. Firm and stoneless. Common (<10%) 5YR 6/3 light brown iron oxides. Occasional dark grey silty pockets (organic). Common fresh rooting

## APPENDIX D: PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Table 1 Assessment of environmental remains

Site		Access 18, Avonmouth			
Area		Trench 1			
Unit		1	3	4	7
Context		100	101	102	103
Sample		5	6	7	8
Processed vol (L)		2	2	2	2
Assessed percentage (%)		25%	100% of 1mm: 25% of 0.25mm	100%	100%
<b>Waterlogged material</b>					
<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	goosefoot	-	++	-	-
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.	oraches	+	++	-	-
<i>Monita</i> sp.	blinks	-	+	-	-
<i>Persicaria lapathifolia</i>	pale persicaria	-	+	-	-
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	black bindweed	-	+	-	-
<i>Stachys</i> sp. L	woundwort	+	++	-	-
<i>Juncus</i> sp.	rush	+++	+	+	+
<i>Poa/Phleum</i> sp.	meadow grass/cat's-tails	+++	-	-	-
Woody stems/twigs frags > 4mm		+	-	-	-
Woody stems/twigs frags > 2mm		+	-	-	-
Leaf/root frags		++++	++++	+++	++
Bud		-	++	-	-
<b>Charred material</b>					
indet. Culm node		+	+	-	-
Charcoal 4/2mm		-/+	+/+	-	-
<b>Other</b>					
Insect remains		++	++	-	-

Key: + = 1–49 items; ++ = 50–100 items; +++ = >100 items

## APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project name	Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol	
Short description	<p>In June 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol. A total of 10 trenches were excavated.</p> <p>The evaluation recorded a series of geological deposits, described as estuarine sediments and alluvial deposits, with a potential soil horizon predating the Upper Wentlooge Formation that began to form around 1500-500 cal BC also being identified.</p> <p>A single sherd of pottery of broad Roman date was recovered from the upper alluvial deposit identified in a trench excavated in the central part of the site and is probably residual by virtue of its abraded nature.</p> <p>A single undated ditch, corelated closely to a field boundary depicted on the in 1840s Tithe map was identified in a trench excavated in the central part of the site.</p>	
Project dates	06–09 June 2022	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical survey (Sumo 2019) Desk-based assessment (CA 2021)	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site location	Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol	
Study area (m <sup>2</sup> /ha)	4.25ha	
Site co-ordinates	353115 179320	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project brief originator	N/A	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Monica Fombellida	
Project Supervisor	Josh Nowlan	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>	<b>Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)</b>	<b>Content:</b>
Physical	Bristol City Museum, Galleries and Archives	None
Paper	Bristol City Museum, Galleries and Archives	Context sheets, trench recording forms, permatrace drawings, photographic register
Digital	Bristol City Museum, Galleries and Archives	Digital photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
Cotswold Archaeology 2022 <i>Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol</i> CA typescript report <b>CR1064_1</b>		

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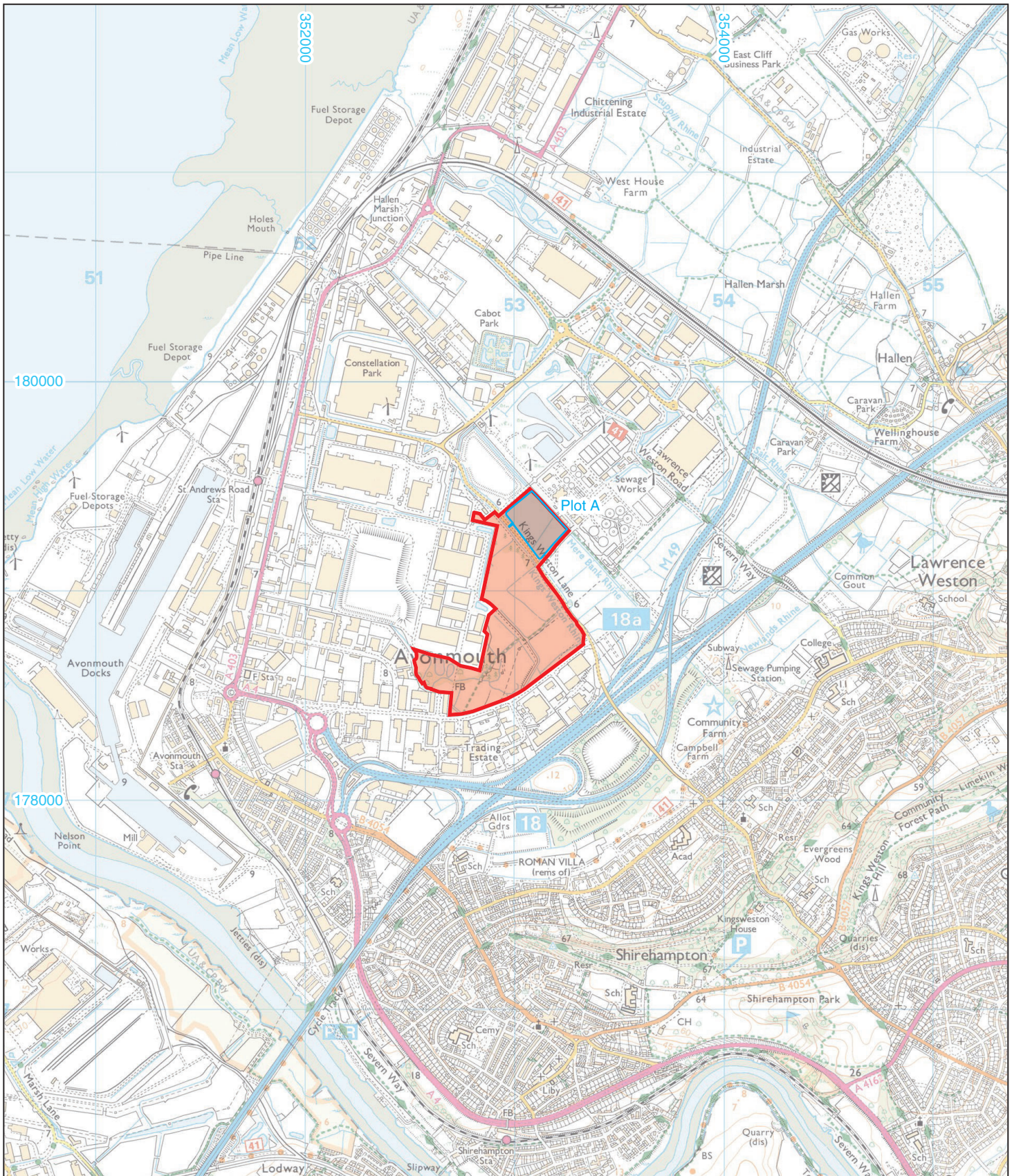
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 Site boundary



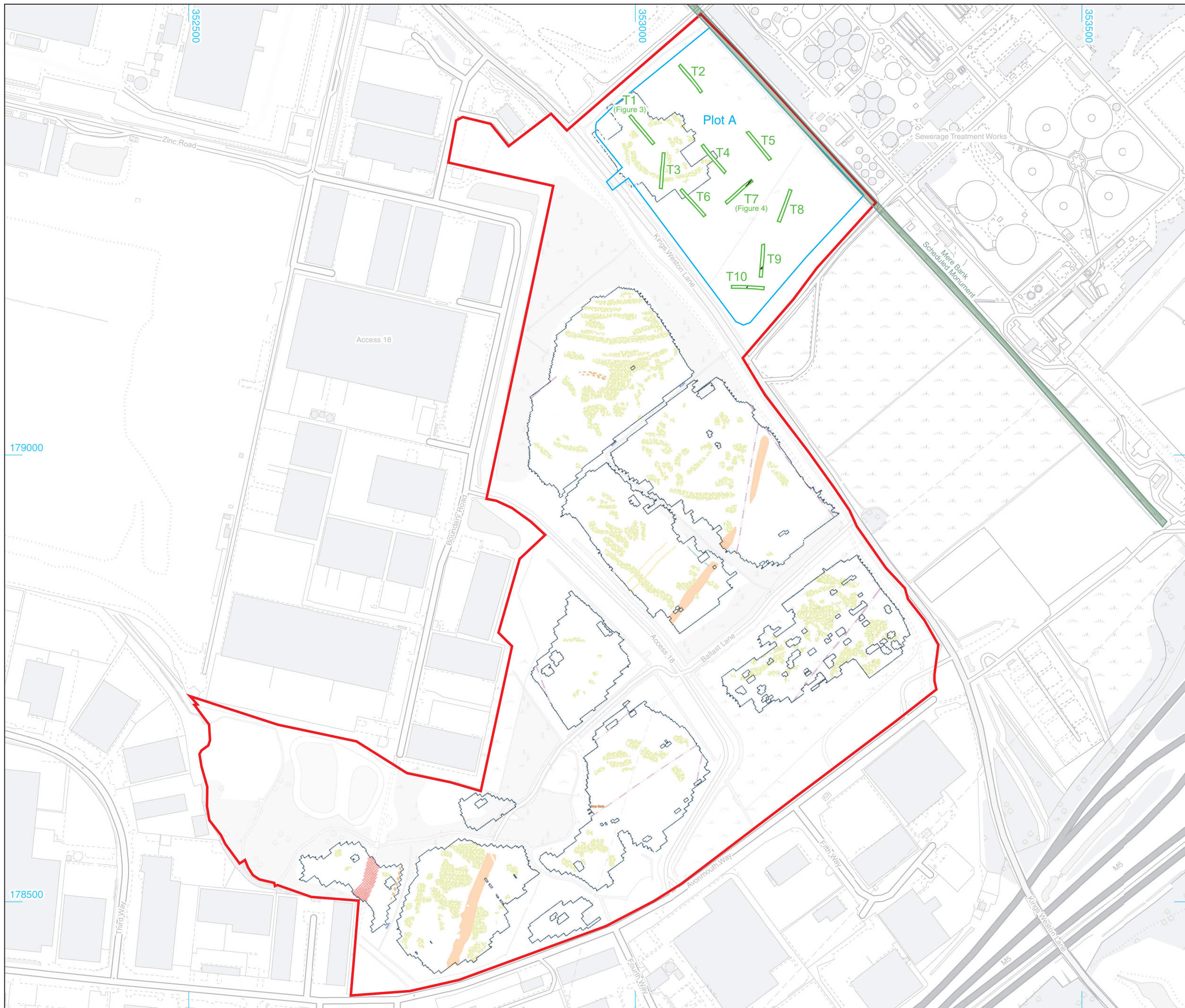
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

<b>DRAWN BY</b>	<b>RW</b>	<b>PROJECT NO.</b>	<b>CR1064</b>	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b>	<b>DJB</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>21/06/2022</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>APPROVED BY</b>	<b>MF</b>	<b>SCALE@A4</b>	<b>1:25,000</b>	

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- Site boundary
- Scheduled Monument
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature

*Geophysical survey results (SUMO, 2019)*

- Survey boundary
- Uncertain origin
- Former field boundary
- Possible former rhine
- Modern track
- Service
- Natural
- Magnetic disturbance
- Ferrous



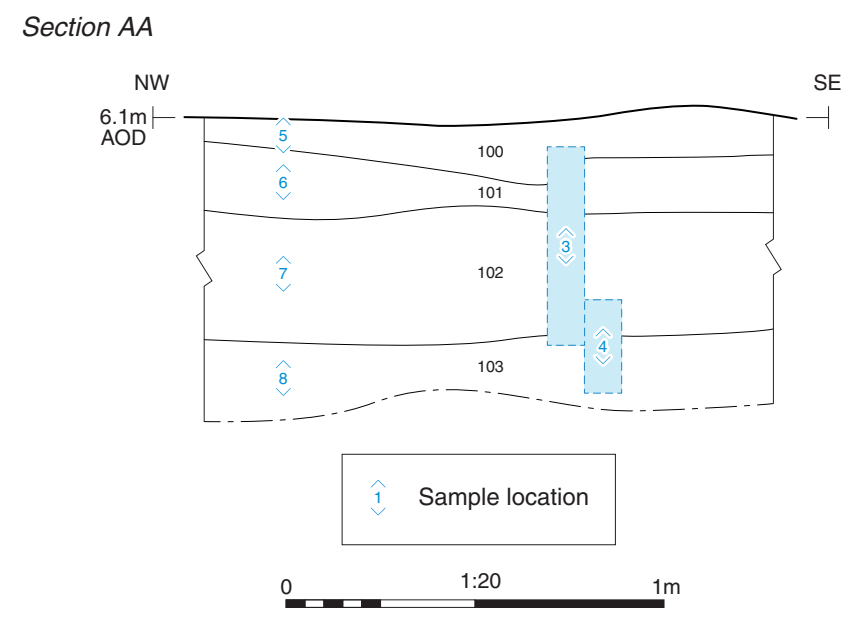
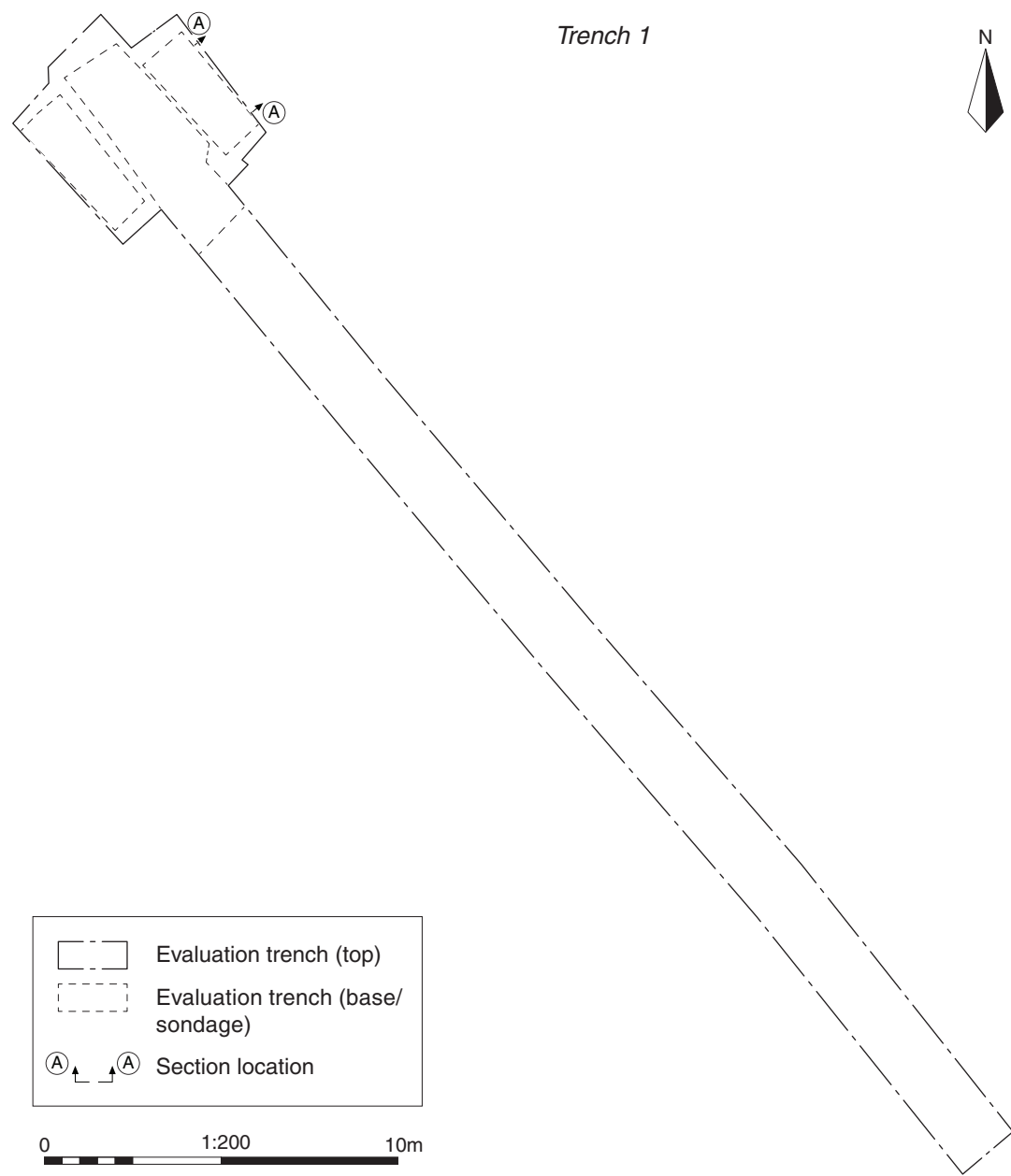
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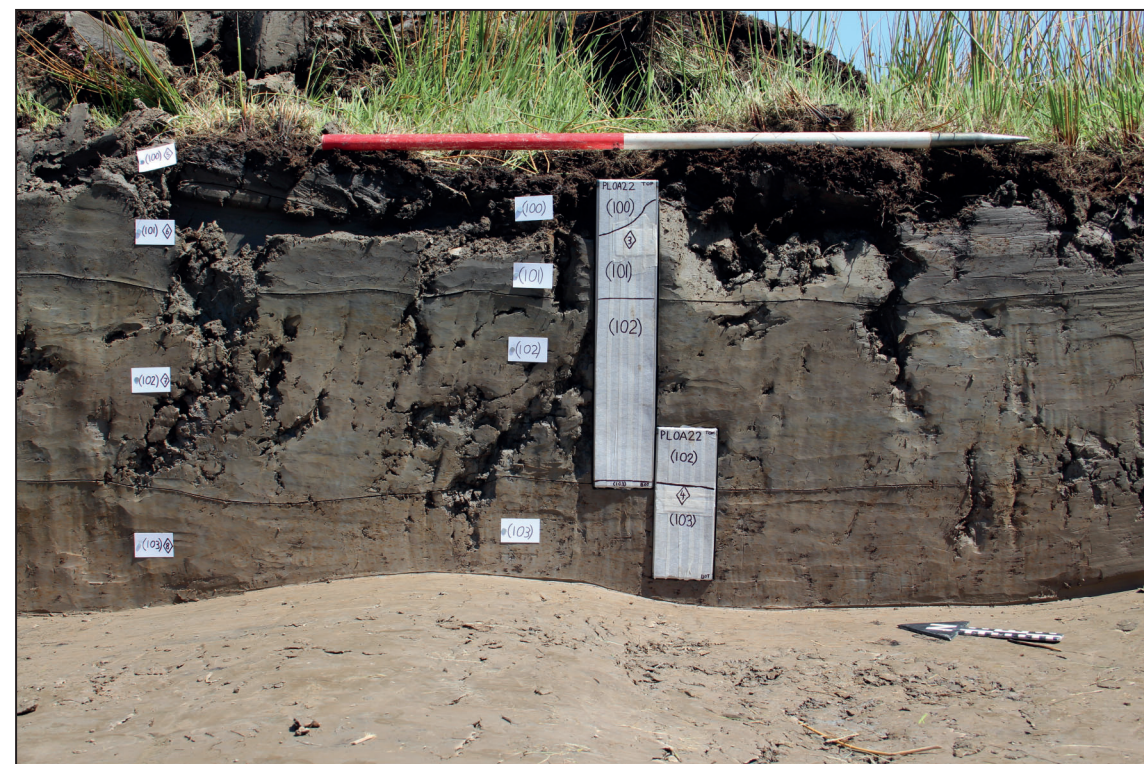
**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan showing geophysical results

DRAWN BY CHECKED BY APPROVED BY	RW DJB MF	PROJECT NO. DATE SCALE@A3	CR1064 21/06/2022 1:4000	<b>FIGURE NO.</b> <b>2</b>
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Trench 1, looking south-east (1m scales)



Monolith sample section, looking north-east (1m scale)

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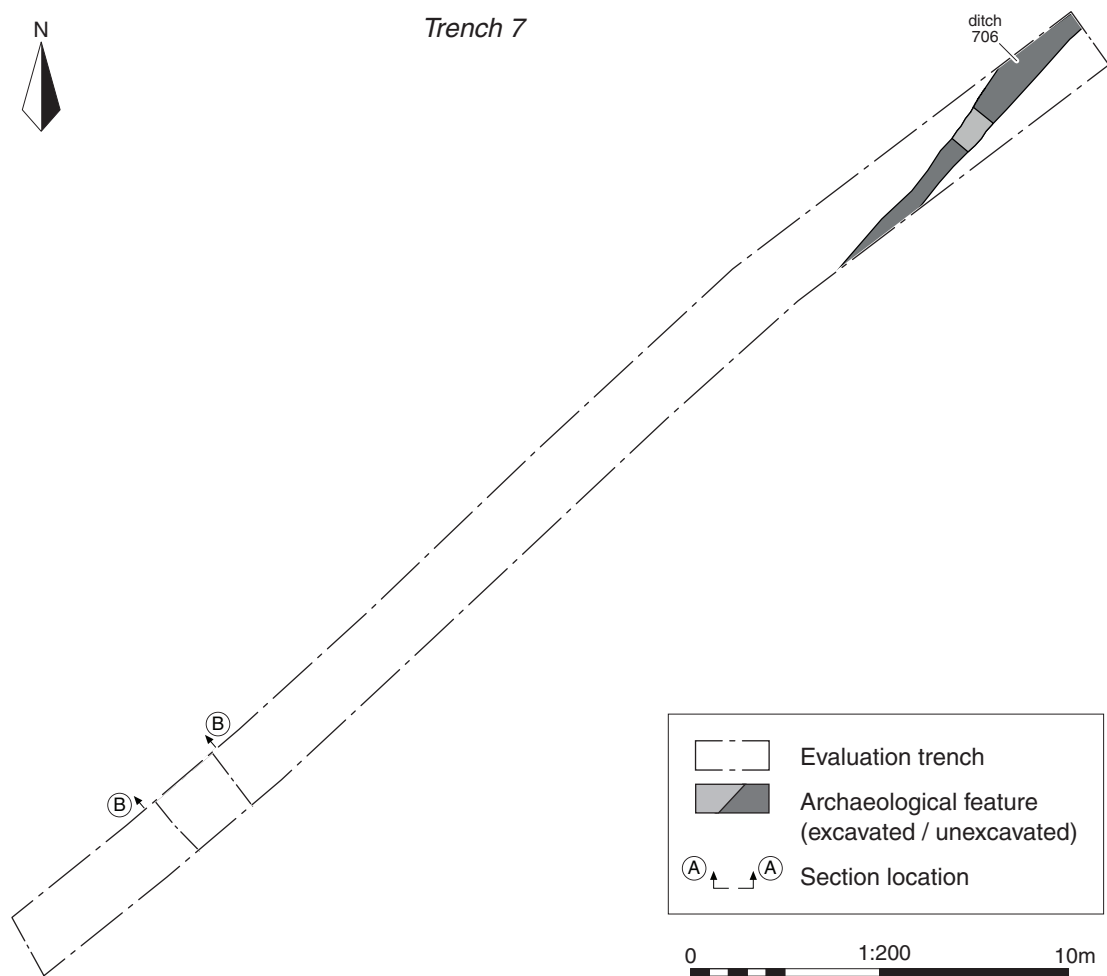
**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench 1: plan, section and photographs

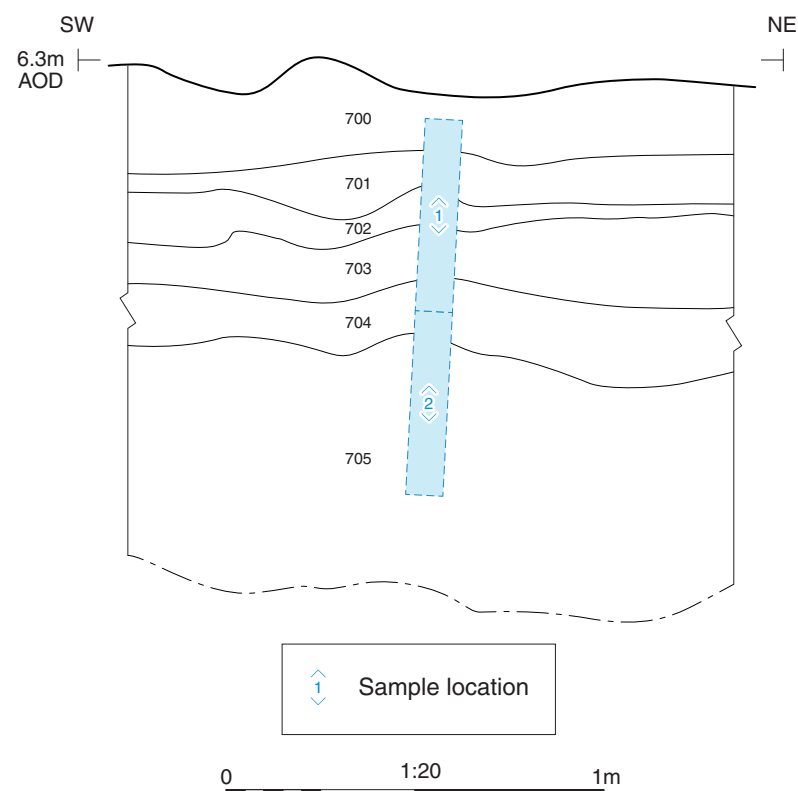
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**CHECKED BY** DJB **DATE** 21/06/2022 **3**  
**APPROVED BY** MF **SCALE@A3** 1:200, 1:20



Trench 7



Section BB



Monolith sample section, looking north-west (1m scale)


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PROJECT TITLE  
 Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 7: plan, section and photograph**

DRAWN BY **RW** PROJECT NO. **CR1064** FIGURE NO.  
 CHECKED BY **DJB** DATE **21/06/2022**  
 APPROVED BY **MF** SCALE@A3 **1:200, 1:20** **4**





Trench 2, looking north-west (1m scales)



Trench 8, looking north-east (1m scales)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Kings Weston Lane and to the west of  
 Access 18, M5 (Plot A), Avonmouth, Bristol

FIGURE TITLE

**Photographs**

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FIGURE NO.

**5**