

**GAS MAIN REPLACEMENT  
LAMBOURN  
BERKSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

*For*

**MORRISON UTILITY SERVICES**

CA PROJECT: 2769  
CA REPORT: 09089


JUNE 2009



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LAMBOURN  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

CA PROJECT: 2769  
CA REPORT: 09089

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date	19 June 2009
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date	24 June 2009
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signed	
date	25 June 2009
issue	01

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## CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	4
1. INTRODUCTION .....	5
2. RESULTS .....	6
3. DISCUSSION.....	6
4. CA PROJECT TEAM .....	6
5. REFERENCES .....	7
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS .....	8
APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	11

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan (1:2000)

## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** Gas Main Replacement  
**Location:** Lambourn, Berkshire  
**NGR:** SU 3255 7877  
**Type:** Watching Brief  
**Date:** 21 January-27 February 2009  
**Location of Archive:** To be deposited with West Berkshire Museum  
**Accession Number:** NEBYM: 2009.30  
**Site Code:** LGM 09

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated the replacement of a gas main at Hungerford Hill and High Street, Lambourn, Berkshire.

No undisturbed deposits or features were observed during the groundworks as the works were restricted to the line of the existing service trench.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In January and February 2009 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Morrison Utility Services at Hungerford Hill and the High Street, Lambourn, Berkshire (centred on NGR: SU 32371 78797; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken at the request of West Berkshire Council Archaeology Service (WBCAS) during the 'permitted development' of a gas main replacement.

1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2008) and which was guided in its composition by correspondence between Ms Sarah Orr, Historic Environment Record Officer, WBCAS and Wales and West Utilities. The WSI was approved by Ms Orr. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (2008) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006).

### ***The site***

1.3 The development area follows the line of an existing gas main that runs for approximately 350m along Hungerford Hill and High Street, Lambourn, Berkshire. The site is situated at 128m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD).

1.4 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Middle Chalk of the Upper Cretaceous era (BGS 1947). The undisturbed substrate was not reached during groundworks.

### ***Archaeological background***

1.5 Interest in the site arises from its location within the historic core of Lambourn. The settlement is known to have Saxon origins, being a probable royal residence in the 9th century AD and is first documented in King Alfred's will c. 888 AD. Recent archaeological work in the centre of Lambourn has found evidence of early Saxon occupation dating back to the 5th century AD. Excavations at Bourne House Stables (150m to the east) have uncovered important Saxon structures (WBCAS 2007).

### **Methodology**

- 1.10 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2008). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising the excavation of access pits along the route of the existing gas main to replace the pipe (Fig. 2).
- 1.11 Written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.12 The archive from the evaluation is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with West Berkshire 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.

## **2. RESULTS**

- 2.1 No archaeological features or deposits were observed during groundworks. A broadly similar stratigraphy was observed in all trenches comprising clay and limestone backfill of the existing service trench sealed by a layer of hardcore make-up and the tarmac road surface. Undisturbed natural substrate was not encountered in any of the trenches.

## **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 No archaeological deposits or features were observed during groundworks. This is due to the fact that groundworks were entirely restricted to the existing service trench and as a result no undisturbed deposits were encountered.

## **4. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by David Cudlip, Jonathan Hart, Sian Reynish and Kelly Saunders. The report was written by Philippa Mitcheson who also compiled the archive which was prepared for deposition by Victoria Taylor. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray and the project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

## 5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 1947 *Geological survey of Great Britain, Solid and Drift Edition, Cirencester, Sheet 267*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 *Gas Main Replacement, Lambourn, Berkshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

WBCAS (West Berkshire Council Archaeology Service) 2007 *Memorandum; Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 2 no.1 bedroom and 7 no.2 bedroom flats with car parking and associated works. Mildenhall Court, 11 Oxford Street, Lambourn (App No. 07/02442/FULD)*

**APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**

Trench measurements shown as length x width x depth

**Trench 1: 3m x 1.1m x 1m**

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
100	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
101	Deposit	Chalk road make-up			>0.9

**Trench 2: 1m x 1m x 0.8m**

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
200	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
201	Deposit	Chalk road make-up			>0.7

**Trench 3: 1.2m x 1.2m x 0.9m**

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
300	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
301	Deposit	Chalk road make-up			>0.8

**Trench 4: 2m x 1.2m x 0.9m**

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
400	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
401	Deposit	Chalk road make-up			>0.8

**Trench 5: 1.5m x 1.3m x 0.9m**

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
500	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
501	Deposit	Old tarmac surface			>0.8

**Trench 6: 8m x 1m x 1m**

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
600	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
601	Deposit	Chalk road make-up			0.1
602	Deposit	Chalk, flint and clinker make-up			>0.8

**Trench 7: 20m x 0.45m x 0.95m**

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
700	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.11
701	Deposit	Loose tarmac bedding layer			0.07
702	Deposit	Chalk road make-up			>0.77



**Trench 8:** 15m x 0.45m x 0.8m

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
800	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.11
801	Deposit	Loose tarmac bedding layer			0.1
802	Deposit	Chalk road make-up			>0.69

**Trench 9:** 1.15m x 1.35m x 0.83m

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
900	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.11
901	Deposit	Loose tarmac bedding layer			0.1
902	Fill	Gravel containing large concrete inclusions and gas pipe. Fill of 903			>0.62
903	Cut	Construction cut for subsidiary pipe			>0.62
904	Deposit	Chalk make-up			>0.62

**Trench 10:** 1m x 0.5m x 0.75m

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1000	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.11
1001	Deposit	Loose tarmac bedding layer			0.47
1002	Cut	Construction cut for subsidiary pipe			>0.64
1003	Fill	Mid grey yellow sand. Fill of 1002			>0.64

**Trench 11:** 1.37m x 0.4m x 0.8m

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1100	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
1101	Deposit	Gravel bedding layer			>0.7
1102	Deposit	Gravel and chalk make-up			>0.7

**Trench 12:** 1.1m x 0.6m x 0.7m

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1200	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
1201	Deposit	Loose tarmac bedding layer			0.7
1202	Deposit	Gravel and chalk make-up			>0.52

**Trench 13:** 1m x 0.64m x 0.7m

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1300	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
1301	Deposit	Loose tarmac bedding layer			0.08
1302	Deposit	Gravel and chalk make-up			>0.52

**Trench 14:** 1.2m x 0.92m x 0.86m

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1400	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
1401	Deposit	Loose tarmac bedding layer			0.09
1402	Deposit	Gravel and chalk make-up			>0.57

**Trench 15:** 1.30m x 1.10m x 0.8m

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1500	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
1501	Deposit	Loose tarmac bedding layer			0.06
1502	Deposit	Chalk road make-up			>0.76
1503	Cut	Construction cut for subsidiary pipe			>0.76
1504	Fill	Mid grey yellow sand. Fill of 1503			>0.76

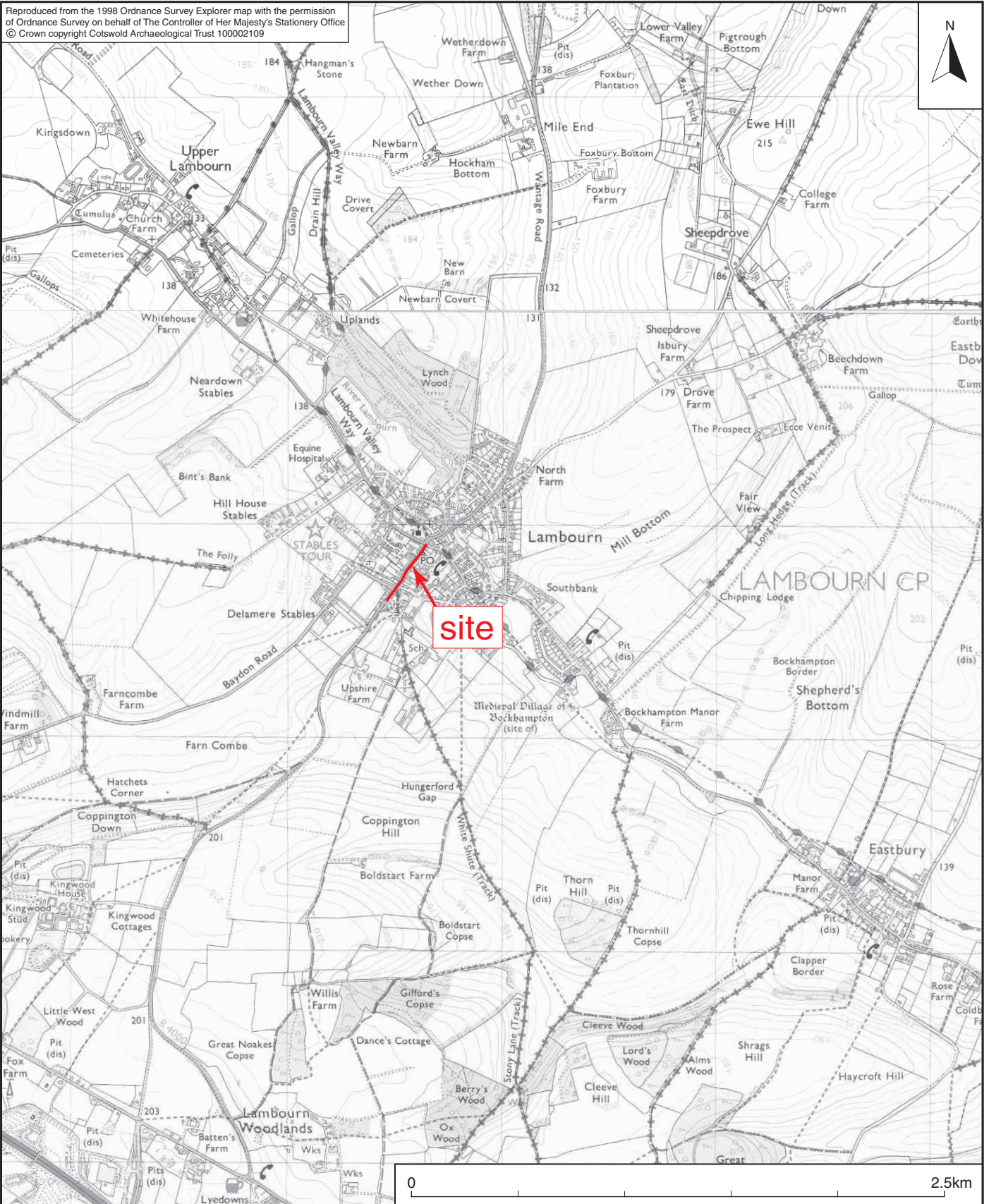
**Trench 16:**

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1600	Deposit	Tarmac road surface			0.1
1601	Deposit	Loose tarmac bedding layer			0.08
1602	Deposit	Chalk road make-up			>0.52

**APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Gas Main Replacement, Lambourn, Berkshire	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated the replacement of a gas main at Hungerford Hill and High Street, Lambourn, Berkshire. No undisturbed deposits or features were observed during the groundworks as the works were restricted to the line of the existing service trench.	
Project dates	21 January-27 February 2009	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Lambourn, Berkshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	350m <sup>2</sup>	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 3255 7877	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	West Berkshire Council Archaeology Service	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Sian Reynish, David Cudlip, Jonathan Hart, Kelly Saunders	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	West Berkshire Museum	N/A
Paper	West Berkshire Museum	WSI, pro forma registers black and white negatives and colour slides
Digital	West Berkshire Museum	Digital photographs.
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 <i>Gas Main Replacement, Lambourn, Berkshire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . CA typescript report <b>09089</b>		

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**COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY**

PROJECT TITLE

**Gas Main Replacement, Lambourn  
West Berkshire**

FIGURE TITLE

**Site location plan**

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SCALE

1:25,000@A4

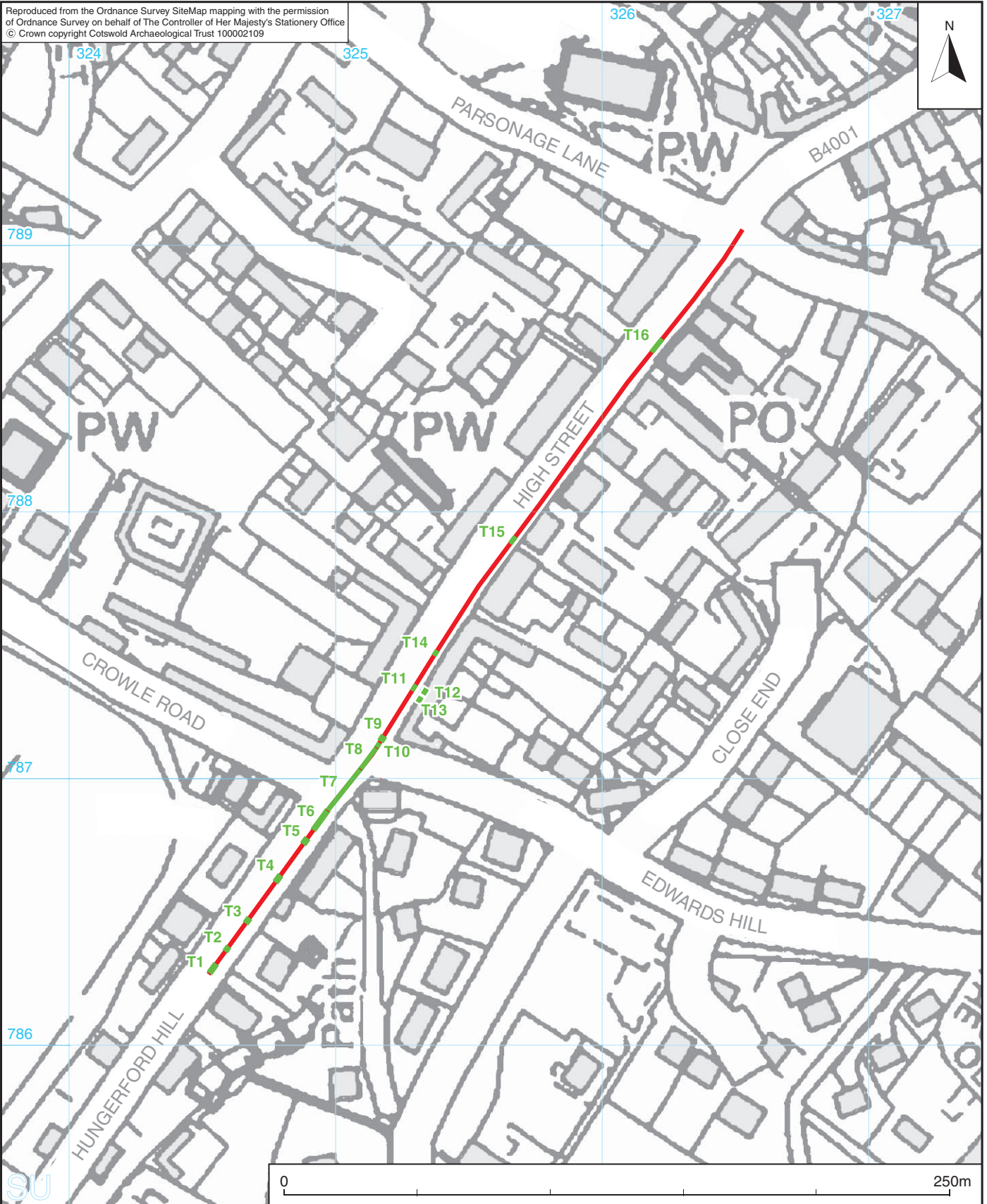
PROJECT NO.

2769

FIGURE NO.

**1**





- route of pipeline
- observed trench



**COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY**

PROJECT TITLE

**Gas Main Replacement, Lambourn  
West Berkshire**

FIGURE TITLE

**Trench location plan**

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SCALE

1:2000@A4

PROJECT NO.

2769

FIGURE NO.

**2**