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## Wing, Leicestershire

### Archaeological Watching Brief

ARCUS report 1282.2(1)

July 2009

Client: Severn Trent Water

Archaeological Watching Brief



# Wing, Rutland

Grid Reference: 488200, 303900 to 489800, 302800 (SK 882 039 to SK 898 028)

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 1282.2(1)

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Project manager: Richard O'Neill

Project supervisor: Chris Harrison

Illustrations: Marcus Abbot

Client: Severn Trent Water

Client address: Leicester Water Centre, Anstey Lane, Leicester LE7 7GU

Location of archive: Rutland County Museum, Oakham, Rutland.

OAKRM:2009.3

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## OASIS SUMMARY FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
OASIS identifier	Arcus2_60705	
Project title	Water Main Renewal, Wing, Rutland	
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief monitoring the excavation of geotechnical trial pits on an existing water mains was required as the pipeline crossed fields containing medieval ridge and furrow earthworks close to the historic settlement core of Wing. In addition a probable prehistoric site lies near the northwest end of the pipeline route. The scope of works consisted of the excavation of 7 trial pits along a water main pipeline to the north of Wing to determine it's condition using non-destructive testing. The trial pits were designed to excavate down to the pipe and approximately 0.5m below. Trial Pits 1 and 3 were located on the verge of a road whilst 2, 4, 5 and 6 were excavated within open fields currently under pasture and 7 within a roadway. All of the excavated trial pits were located within the original construction cut of the water main except for pits 5 and 6, which were relocated due to the fragile nature of the pipe in the original location. No archaeological remains were identified	
Project dates	19-03-2009 to 03-04-2009	
Previous/future work	None	
Monument type and period	Ridge and furrow earthworks - medieval	
Significant finds (artefact type and period)	None	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County/Parish	Rutland/Wing	
Site address	Wing, Rutland LE 55	
Site co-ordinates	NGR SK 882 039 to SK 898 028	
Site area	27m <sup>2</sup>	
Height OD	108m to 70m AOD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	ARCUS	
Project brief originator	n/a	
Project design originator	ARCUS	
Project supervisor	Chris Harrison	
Project manager	Richard O'Neill	
Sponsor or funding body	Severn Trent Water	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
Archive Type	Location/Accession no.	Content (e.g. pottery, metalwork, etc)
Physical	n/a	none
Paper	Rutland County Museum	report, context sheets, trench sheets, watching brief sheets
Digital	Leicestershire HER	pdf copy of report
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Title	Archaeological Watching Brief, Water Main Renewal, Wing, Leicestershire	
Report no	1282.2(2)	
Author	Rob Barnett	
Date	June 2009	

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## **LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS AND PLATES**

### **Illustrations**

- 1 Site location map
- 2 Site plan showing pipeline route and location of Trial Pits 1 – 7

### **Plates**

- 1 Trial Pit 2 – looking north
- 2 Trial Pit 4 - looking south

## **NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

*In March 2009, ARCUS were commissioned by Atkins Limited, on behalf of Severn Trent Water, to undertake an archaeological watching brief monitoring the excavation of geotechnical trial pits on an existing water main in the village of Wing, Rutland (SK 882 039 to SK 898 028). The watching brief was required as a condition of planning consent, as the pipeline crossed fields containing medieval ridge and furrow earthworks close to the historic settlement core of Wing. In addition, a probable prehistoric site lies near the northwest end of the pipeline route. The scope of works consisted of the excavation of seven trial pits along a water main pipeline to the north of Wing, to determine its condition using non destructive testing. The trial pits were designed to excavate down to the pipe and approximately 0.5m below. Trial Pits 1 and 3 were located on the verge of a road whilst pits 2, 4, 5 and 6 were excavated within fields currently under pasture and pit 7 within a roadway. All of the excavated trial pits were located within the original construction cut of the water main except for pits 5 and 6, which were relocated due to the fragile nature of the pipe in the original location. No archaeological remains were identified.*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Scope of Report

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of geotechnical trial holes along the line of a water main pipe to the north of the village of Wing, Rutland. This was required by Leicestershire County Council's Senior Planning Archaeologist as a condition of planning consent. The watching brief was undertaken in line with the government's planning guidelines set down in PPG16 (1990). A project design was prepared for the work (Kozieradzka 2009). ARCUS were commissioned by Atkins Limited, on behalf of Severn Trent Water, to undertake the watching brief.

## 1.2 Site Location

The site is located between Wing Road (centred on NGR SK 882 039) to the north-west and Morcott Road (centred on NGR SK 898 028) to the south-east at between 70m and 101m AOD. The pipeline route runs northwest-southeast across pastoral land located to the north and east of the village of Wing, c.8km to the south-east of Oakham (**Illustration 1**).

The underlying geology consists of glacial boulder clay overlying magnesian limestone.

## 1.3 Archaeological Background

The pipeline route crosses fields containing medieval ridge and furrow earthworks, close to the historic settlement core of Wing (HER Ref. No. MLE8809). A probable prehistoric site (HER Ref. No. MLE5503) lies near the north-western end of the pipeline.

# 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

## 2.1 Aims and Objectives

The general aims of the archaeological watching brief were:

- to minimise disturbance to the archaeology in the area;
- to identify and record any archaeological remains disturbed by the works;
- to recover artefacts disturbed by the site works;
- to produce an accurate and comprehensive record and report on the archaeology disturbed by the site works.

Taking the location of the site in the vicinity of prehistoric and medieval archaeology into account, the areas crossed by a pipeline route were considered likely to have some archaeological potential (**Illustration 2**). The specific aims of the archaeological watching brief were as follows:

- to assess the extent of prehistoric and medieval settlement in the area and record any archaeology present;
- to record any archaeological deposits or structures exposed by site works;
- to retrieve any pre-20<sup>th</sup>-century artefacts disturbed by the site works;
- to produce a report detailing the recording and interpretation undertaken and setting that into local and historical context.

## **2.2 Evaluation Methodology**

All site work was carried out in accordance with the methodology outlined in the project design (Kozieradzka 2009). This was based on IfA guidelines (2008), health and safety regulations (SCAUM 2007) and current industry best practice. The trial pits were excavated with a mini digger fitted with a 0.6m width ditching bucket. Road surface deposits in Trial Pit 7 were removed using a stihl saw and jackhammer. Archaeological recording detailed the monitoring of the excavation of all trial holes. Each trial pit was given a unique number that identified its components and its position was geo-referenced using hand-held GPS. All exposed deposits were recorded using the standard ARCUS recording system. Depths of deposits are given below present ground surface level. Archaeological recording comprised a full written and digital photographic record.

## **2.3 Fieldwork Programme**

The project was managed by Richard O'Neil, ARCUS Project Manager. Fieldwork was undertaken between the 19<sup>th</sup> of March and 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 2009 by Chris Harrison, ARCUS Project Archaeologist.

## **3 RESULTS**

The deposits and features exposed are described below by trial pit number and context (all depth measurements represent the base of the deposits from ground level).

### **3.1 Trial Pit 1**

(2m x 2.5m x 1.75m)

(100) Turf to 0.10m depth

(101) Black silty clay to 0.3m depth

(102) Dark yellowish-brown silty clay loam to 0.6m depth

(103) Limestone fragments in a yellowish-brown clay matrix with bedrock becoming solid at 0.7m depth

[104] Linear straight sided cut measuring 0.6m wide with straight sides cutting (102) and (103) to the base of excavation at 1.75m depth. This contained [105], [106] and (107).

[105] Water main at 1.55m depth

[106] Ductile metal pipe running along the top of [105]

(107) Mid yellowish-brown clay redeposit natural within cut [104]

### **3.2 Trial Pit 2**

(2.5m x 2.5m x 2.5m)

(200) Turf to 0.05m depth

(201) Orange-brown sandy clay topsoil to 0.2m depth

(202) Reddish-brown sandy clay subsoil to 0.3m depth

(203) Mixed clay backfill of cut [208] to 1.7m depth

(204) Yellow clay substrate to 2.1m depth



(205) Blue clay substrate to 2.5m depth

[206] Water main at 1.7m depth

[207] Plastic pipe running along west side of [207]

[208] Linear straight sided cut measuring 1.50m width cutting (202), (204) and (205) containing (203), [207] and [206] to the base of excavation at 2.5m depth

### **3.3 Trial Pit 3**

(2m x 2m x 1.4m)

(300) Turf and (301) mid brown silty clay topsoil to 0.1m depth

(302) Mixed yellow and blue clay and (303) backfill of [312] to 0.30m.

(304) Yellow clay substrate to 1m depth

[305] Linear straight sided cut measuring 0.1m by 0.4m cutting (302) and containing (306) and [309] to 0.3m depth

(306) Grey gravel backfill of [305]

(307) Blue clay and gravel bedding layer for [308] to 1.3m depth

[308] Water main at 1m depth

[309] Earthing cable

(310) Blue clay substrate to 1.4m depth

[311] Ductile pipe running along south side of [308]

[312] Linear straight sided cut measuring 1.50m width cutting (304) and (310) containing (303) and [311] to the base of excavation at 1.4m depth

### **3.4 Trial Pit 4**

(2.5m x 2.5m x 1.9m)

(400) Turf and mid-brown silty clay loam topsoil to 0.15m depth

(401) Mid orange-brown silty clay loam subsoil to 0.40m depth

(402) Yellow clay substrate to 1.9m depth

[403] Ductile pipe running along south side of [404]

[404] Water main at 1.05m depth

[405] Linear straight sided cut 1.5m width cutting (401) and (402) containing [403], (404) and (406) to base of excavation at 1.9m depth

(406) Mixed yellow and blue clay, backfill of [405]

### **3.5 Trial Pit 5**

(1.2m x 0.5m x 1.1m)

(500) Turf and (501) yellowish-brown silty clay topsoil to 0.2m depth

(502) Yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil to 0.3m depth

(503) Yellow clay containing large rounded gravel and pebble inclusions to base of excavation at 1.1m depth

### **3.6 Trial pit 6**

(1.2m x 0.5m x 1.1m)

(600) Turf and (601) Mid reddish-brown silty clay topsoil to 0.2m depth

(602) Light reddish-brown silty clay subsoil to 0.5m depth

(603) Yellow clay substrate to base of excavation at 1.1m depth

### **3.7 Trial Pit 7**

(2m x 0.8m x 1.2m)

(700) and (701) tarmac road surfaces to 0.25m depth

(702) Granite chips – backfill of [705] to 0.9m depth

(703) Red sand backfill of [705] below (702) to 1.17m depth

[704] Water main visible at 1.2m depth

[705] Linear straight sided cut measuring 1.2m width by 1.2m depth cutting (710), (709), (708), (707) and (706), containing [704], (702) and (703)

(706) Yellow clay substrate to base of excavation at 1.2m depth

(707) Cement and brick made ground to 0.6m depth

(708) Black silty clay made ground above (707) to 0.5m depth

(709) Sandstone hardcore bedding for [710] to 0.3m depth

[710] Tarmac road surface cut by [705] to 0.2m depth

## **4.0 CONCLUSION**

All excavated trial pits contained the existing water main in a back-filled trench. No archaeological remains were identified.

### **4.1 Summary and Discussion**

The watching brief was undertaken in good conditions, and ground surface visibility was good. Access could not be gained to the base of all the excavated trial pits due to rising ground water and health and safety concerns, but no archaeological remains were visible in the removed spoil. The overall reliability of the watching brief is considered to be good.

### **4.2 Recommendations for Further Work**

The archaeological potential of the site is considered to be low, and therefore, no further archaeological work is recommended.

## **5 ARCHIVE**

The project archive will be deposited with Rutland County Museum under accession number OAKRM:2009.3. The archive will be prepared by ARCUS staff in accordance with the requirements specified in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (English Heritage 2006) and with UKIC guidelines (1990). In addition, copies of this report will be deposited with the Leicestershire HER, circulated to the client, and retained in the offices of ARCUS.

## 6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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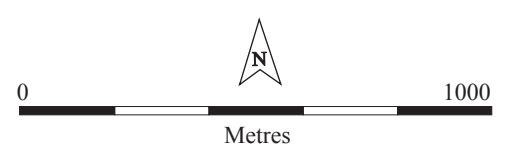
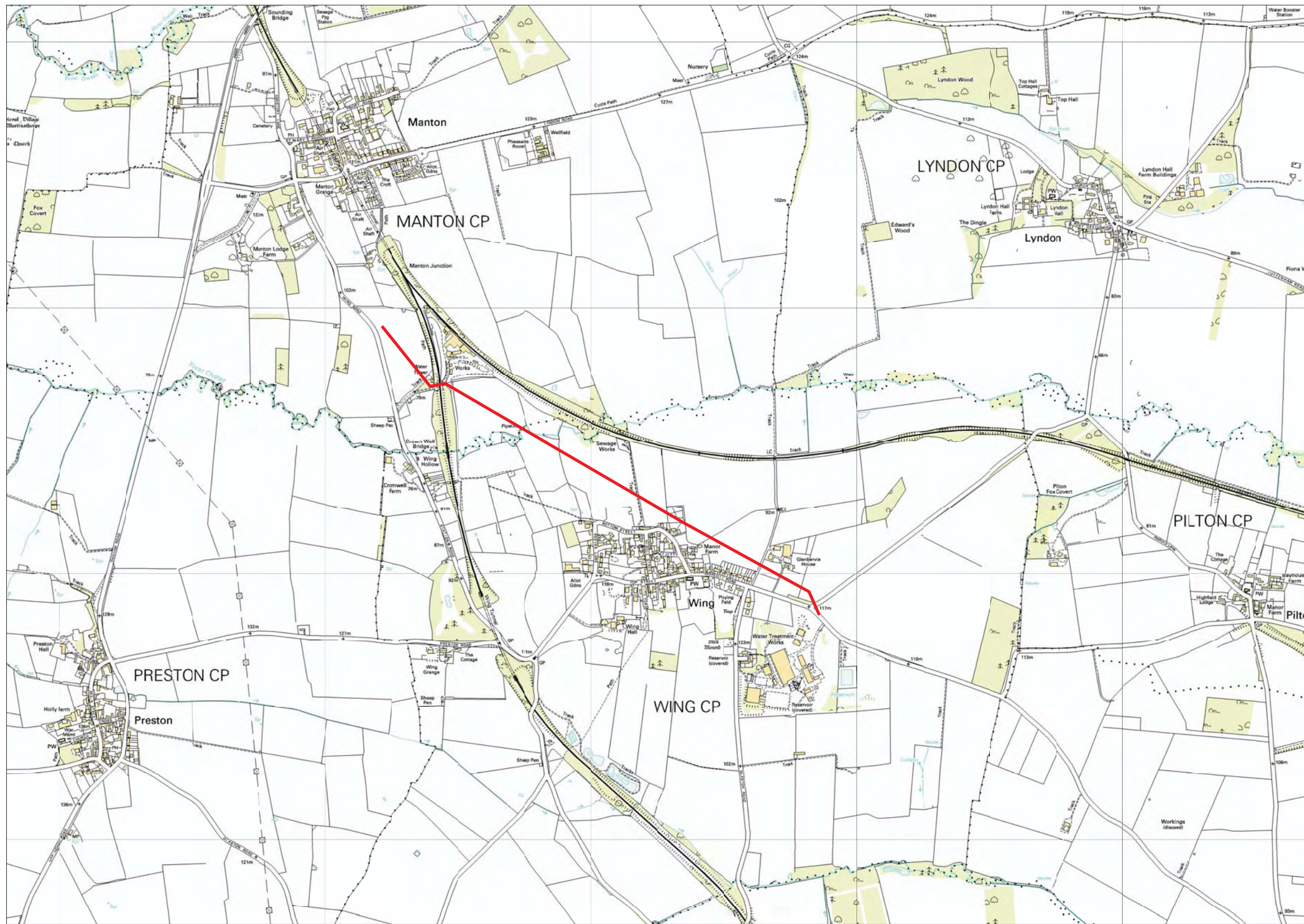
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**7 ILLUSTRATIONS AND PLATES**



— Pipeline Route

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Project:	Wing, Leicestershire Watermain Renewal
Title	Site location Map

Scale	As Shown	Date	June 2009
NGR	SK 882 039 to SK 898 028	Drawn	Marcus
Project No.	1282	Illustration No.	1



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	Title	Trial Pits location		NGR	SK 882 039 to SK 898 028	Drawn
				Project No.	1282	Illustration No.

## PLATES



Plate 1 – Trial Pit 2 – looking north



Plate 2 – Trial pit 4 – looking south

**8 APPENDICES**

Appendix 1	Archive Index
Appendix 2	List of Contexts



## APPENDIX 1: ARCHIVE CONTENTS

The archive will be deposited with Rutland County Museum, Oakham, Leicestershire. The accession number is to be determined.

Summary:

### Paper Archive

Description	Number of sheets
Photographic register	2
Context sheets	56
Context register	2
GPS record register	1
Trench record sheets	7
Watching Brief sheets	6
Copy report	1

### Photographic Archive

Description	Number of pictures
Digital photographs (1 CD)	60

## APPENDIX 2: LIST OF CONTEXTS

Site sub-division	Context No	Context type	Description
Trial Pit 1	100	Deposit	Turf
Trial Pit 1	101	Deposit	Topsoil laid for (100)
Trial Pit 1	102	Deposit	Subsoil
Trial Pit 1	103	Deposit	Bedrock
Trial Pit 1	104	Cut	Cut for [105]
Trial Pit 1	105	Structure	Water main
Trial Pit 1	106	Structure	Ductile pipe above water main
Trial Pit 1	107	Deposit	Fill of [104]
Trial Pit 2	200	Deposit	Turf
Trial Pit 2	201	Deposit	Topsoil
Trial Pit 2	202	Deposit	Subsoil
Trial Pit 2	203	Deposit	Fill of [208]
Trial Pit 2	204	Deposit	Clay substrate
Trial Pit 2	205	Deposit	Clay substrate
Trial Pit 2	206	Structure	Water main
Trial Pit 2	207	Structure	Ductile pipe alongside [206]
Trial Pit 2	208	Cut	Cut for [206]
Trial Pit 3	300	Deposit	Turf
Trial Pit 3	301	Deposit	Topsoil
Trial Pit 3	302	Deposit	Fill of [312]
Trial Pit 3	303	Deposit	Fill of [312]
Trial Pit 3	304	Deposit	Clay substrate
Trial Pit 3	305	Cut	Cut for [309]
Trial Pit 3	306	Deposit	Fill of [305]
Trial Pit 3	307	Deposit	Bedding layer for [308]
Trial Pit 3	308	Structure	Water main
Trial Pit 3	309	Structure	Earthing wire
Trial Pit 3	310	Deposit	Clay substrate
Trial Pit 3	311	Structure	Ductile pipe alongside [308]
Trial Pit 3	312	Cut	Cut for [308]
Trial Pit 4	400	Deposit	Turf and topsoil
Trial Pit 4	401	Deposit	Subsoil
Trial Pit 4	402	Deposit	Clay substrate
Trial Pit 4	403	Structure	Ductile pipe alongside [404]
Trial Pit 4	404	Structure	Water main
Trial Pit 4	405	Cut	Cut for [404]
Trial Pit 4	406	Deposit	Fill of [404]
Trial Pit 5	500	Deposit	Turf
Trial Pit 5	501	Deposit	Topsoil
Trial Pit 5	502	Deposit	Subsoil
Trial Pit 5	503	Deposit	Clay substrate
Trial Pit 6	600	Deposit	Turf
Trial Pit 6	601	Deposit	Topsoil
Trial Pit 6	602	Deposit	Subsoil
Trial Pit 6	603	Deposit	Clay substrate
Trial Pit 7	700	Structure	Tarmac surface
Trial Pit 7	701	Structure	Tarmac surface
Trial Pit 7	702	Deposit	Fill of [705]
Trial Pit 7	703	Deposit	Fill of [705]
Trial Pit 7	704	Structure	Water main
Trial Pit 7	705	Cut	Cut for [704]
Trial Pit 7	706	Deposit	Clay substrate
Trial Pit 7	707	Deposit	Made ground for [710]
Trial Pit 7	708	Deposit	Made ground for [710]
Trial Pit 7	709	Deposit	Hardcore for [710]
Trial Pit 7	710	structure	Tarmac surface

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Outreach and Community Projects

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