

Archaeological Evaluation of Land east of 1 & 2 Woodnesborough Lane, Eastry, Kent



NGR: 630989.66E 155318.83N

Site Code: WOO /EV/17

(Planning Application: DOV/16/00521)

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1. Summary

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land east of 1 & 2 Woodnesborough Lane, Eastry, Kent on 1st June 2017. A Planning Application (DOV/16/00521) to develop this site for the erection of 12 dwellings with associated access road and car parking was sent to Dover District Council, whereby the Council requested that a Condition on the planning permission for an Archaeological Evaluation to be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT Specification A and KCC Manual Part B) and in discussion with the Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council. The results of the excavation of 5 evaluation trenches revealed no archaeological features (Figure 2). The natural geology of Silty Clay (Brickearth) was reached at an average depth of between 0.35m and 0.40m below ground level (BGL). Thus the Archaeological Evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Archaeological Specification.

2. Introduction

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by the land owners to carry out an archaeological evaluation at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT & KCC 2017) and in discussion with Ben Found Senior Archaeological Officer KCC. The evaluation was carried out on Thursday 1st June 2017.

3. Site Description and Topography

3.1 The site is situated in a rural area just to the south of Shemara Farm and to the east of Woodnesborough Lane and west of Little Walton and the Sandwich Road. The OD height is about 8.45m aOD.

3.2 On the basis of current information from BGS, the site the underlying geology at the site according to the British Geological Survey map is Bedrock geology of bedrock white chalk of the

Margate Chalk Member capped by Superficial Deposits of Head Deposits of Clay and Silt. The geology revealed on site was silty clay (brickearth) overlaid by topsoil.

4. Planning Background

4.1 The land has planning permission (DOV/16/00521) for the erection of 12 dwellings together with associated internal access road, parking, landscaping and alteration to existing vehicular access. On the basis of the present archaeological information, the Archaeological Officer for Dover District Council recommended that the site should be subject to a programme of archaeological work in order to clarify the historical and archaeological elements within the site. Condition 11 of the planning permission states:

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of archaeological work in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has previously been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded. These details are required prior to the commencement of the development as they form an intrinsic part of the proposal, the approval of which cannot be disaggregated from the carrying out of the rest of the development.

5. Archaeological and Historical Background

5.1 The Kent County Council Historic Environment Record (KCCHER) has provided details of any previous investigations and discoveries. The potential of this area has been assessed in relation to the proximity of known archaeological remains and some 200m to the south an Early Medieval ditch has been located (TR 35 SW 441) whilst just beyond an Early Medieval Cemetery (TR 35 SW 37). To the south-east a chalk mine (TR 35 NW 791) and to the west a WWII road block (TR 35 NW 204) whilst to the west is the main Roman road from Richborough to Dover.

6. Aims and Objectives

The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation is to establish or otherwise the presence of any potential archaeological features which may be impacted by the proposed development. The

aims of this investigation are to determine the potential for Roman activity and in particular the adjacent Roman road and also any other Prehistoric, Roman activity and Early Medieval activity.

The programme of archaeological work should be carried out in a phased approach and will commence with evaluation through trial trenching. This initial phase should determine whether any significant archaeological remains would be affected by the development and if so what mitigation measures are appropriate. Such measures may include further detailed archaeological excavation, or an archaeological watching brief during construction work or an engineering solution to any preservation in situ requirements.

7. Methodology

The evaluation comprised 5 machine excavated trenches (19-25m x 1.8m) in a layout suggested by the Senior Archaeologist KCC. The trenches were machine excavated down to the top of any significant archaeological horizon/level or to the top of 'natural' subsoil where no archaeological deposits have been found at a higher level.

8. Monitoring

Curatorial monitoring was not available during the course of the evaluation.

9. Results

The evaluation trenches located across the development site failed to expose any features of potential archaeological significance, and contained no cultural materials, or, indeed, anything indicative of associated and/or nearby human activity, such as charcoal or scorched daub flecking.

Trench 1

The plan is recorded in Figure 2 (see also Plate 4). The trench lay on an NS alignment and measured approximately 19m by 1.80m.

Undisturbed natural geology **(103)** was identified across the trench as light orange brown sandy silt (brickearth), at a depth of approximately 0.40m (8.74mOD) below the present ground surface at 9.14m OD at the N end of the trench.

The natural geology **(103)** was sealed by a layer of mid brown to orange silty sandy clay with occasional flint subsoil about 0.25m thick **(102)** topped by topsoil **(103)** 0.15m thick.

Trench 2

The plan is recorded in Figure 2 (see also Plate 5). The trench lay on an NS alignment and measured approximately 25m by 1.80m.

Undisturbed natural geology **(203)** was identified across the trench as light orange brown sandy silt (brickearth), at a depth of approximately 0.40m (8.25mOD) below the present ground surface at 8.69m OD at the N end of the trench.

The natural geology **(203)** was sealed by a layer of mid brown to orange silty sandy clay with occasional flint subsoil about 0.24m thick **(202)** topped by topsoil **(203)** 0.16m thick.

Trench 3

The plan is recorded in Figure 2 (see also Plate 6). The trench lay on an EW alignment and measured approximately 22m by 1.80m.

Undisturbed natural geology **(303)** was identified across the trench as light orange brown sandy silt (brickearth), at a depth of approximately 0.40m (8.74mOD) below the present ground surface at 9.14m OD at the W end of the trench.

The natural geology **(303)** was sealed by a layer of mid brown to orange silty sandy clay with occasional flint subsoil about 0.25m thick **(302)** topped by topsoil **(303)** 0.15m thick.

Trench 4

The plan is recorded in Figure 2 (see also Plate 7). The trench lay on an NS alignment and measured approximately 31m by 1.80m.

Undisturbed natural geology **(403)** was identified across the trench as light orange brown sandy silt (brickearth), at a depth of approximately 0.40m (7.63mOD) below the present ground surface at 8.04m OD at the N end of the trench.

The natural geology **(403)** was sealed by a layer of mid brown to orange silty sandy clay with occasional flint subsoil about 0.25m thick **(402)** topped by topsoil **(403)** 0.16m thick.

Trench 5

The plan is recorded in Figure 2 (see also Plates 8, 9). The trench lay on an NW alignment and measured approximately 28m by 1.80m.

Undisturbed natural geology **(103)** was identified across the trench as light orange brown sandy silt (brickearth), at a depth of approximately 0.40m (8.03mOD) below the present ground surface at 8.41m OD at the NW end of the trench.

The natural geology **(103)** was sealed by a layer of mid brown to orange silty sandy clay with occasional flint subsoil about 0.25m thick **(102)** topped by topsoil **(103)** 0.13m thick.

10. Discussion

No archaeological features were exposed in the trench. The proposed development can therefore be judged to pose no threat to any significant archaeological remains.

11. Finds

No finds were recovered.

12. Conclusion

The evaluation trenches at the proposed development site revealed no significant archaeological features or artefacts.

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprised of topsoil **(100)** sealing subsoil **(102)** which overlay the natural geology of silty clay (brickearth) **(103)**. Therefore, this evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the aims and objectives as set out in the planning condition and the Archaeological Specification.

13. Acknowledgements

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank the client for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Ben Found Senior Archaeological Officer KCC. Site survey and illustrations were produced by Bartek Cichy. The fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Cichy and the project was managed and report written by Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIFA.

Paul Wilkinson 11/07/201

14. References

Institute for Field Archaeologists (IfA), Rev (2014). *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*

KCC Specification Manual Part B

KCC and Historic England HER data 2017

SWAT Archaeology (2017) *Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation of land east of 1 & 2 Woodnesborough Lane, Eastry CT13 0DX*

KCC HER Summary Form

Site Name: Land east of 1 & 2 Woodnesborough Lane, Eastry, Kent

SWAT Site Code: WOO/EV/17

Site Address: As above

Summary:

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Evaluation on the development site above. The site has planning permission for residential development and parking whereby Dover District Council requested that Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The Archaeological Evaluation revealed no archaeology.

District/Unitary: Dover District Council

Period(s):

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) 63550 155350

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: June 2017

Unit undertaking recording: Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT. Archaeology)

Geology: Underlying geology is Sandy Silty Clay (Brickearth)

Title and author of accompanying report: Wilkinson P. (2017) *Archaeological Evaluation of Land east of 1 & 2 Woodnesborough Lane, Eastry, Kent*

Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate)

No archaeological features or finds were revealed

Location of archive/finds: SWAT. Archaeology. Graveney Rd, Faversham, Kent. ME13 8UP

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Date: 27/07/2017

Plate 1:

Looking direction: South east
Location: Eastry,
Woodnesboroug Lane
Notes: Access gate to
development area



Plate 2:

Looking direction: East
Location: Eastry, Land
adjusted to Woodnesboroug
Lane
Notes: Evaluated area, picture
taken from NW corner of the
site.



Plate 3:

Looking direction: North west
Location: Eastry, Land
adjusted to Woodnesboroug
Lane
Notes: Evaluated area, picture
taken from SE corner of the
site.



Plate 4:

Looking direction: South
Location: Eastry, Land adjusted
to Woodnesboroug Lane
Notes: Evaluation Trench 1



Plate 5:

Looking direction: South
Location: Eastry, Land adjusted
to Woodnesboroug Lane
Notes: Evaluation Trench 2



Plate 6:

Looking direction: East
Location: Eastry, Land adjusted
to Woodnesboroug Lane
Notes: Evaluation Trench 3



Plate 7:

Looking direction: North
Location: Eastry, Land adjusted
to Woodnesboroug Lane
Notes: Evaluation Trench 4



Plate 8:

Looking direction: South east
Location: Eastry, Land adjusted
to Woodnesboroug Lane
Notes: Evaluation Trench 5



Plate 9:

Looking direction: South west
Location: Eastry, Land adjusted
to Woodnesboroug Lane
Notes: Representative section
of evaluation Trench 5



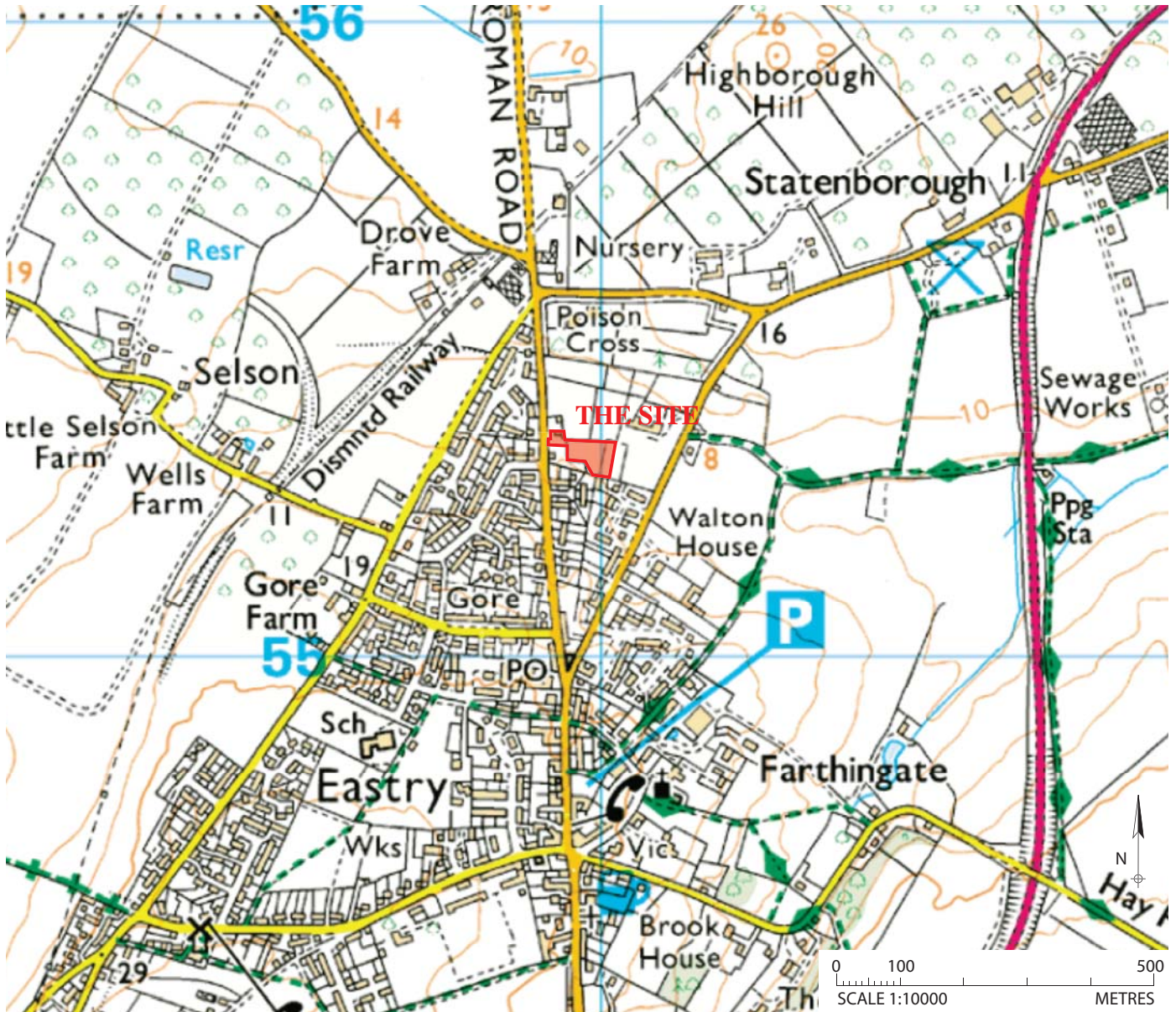
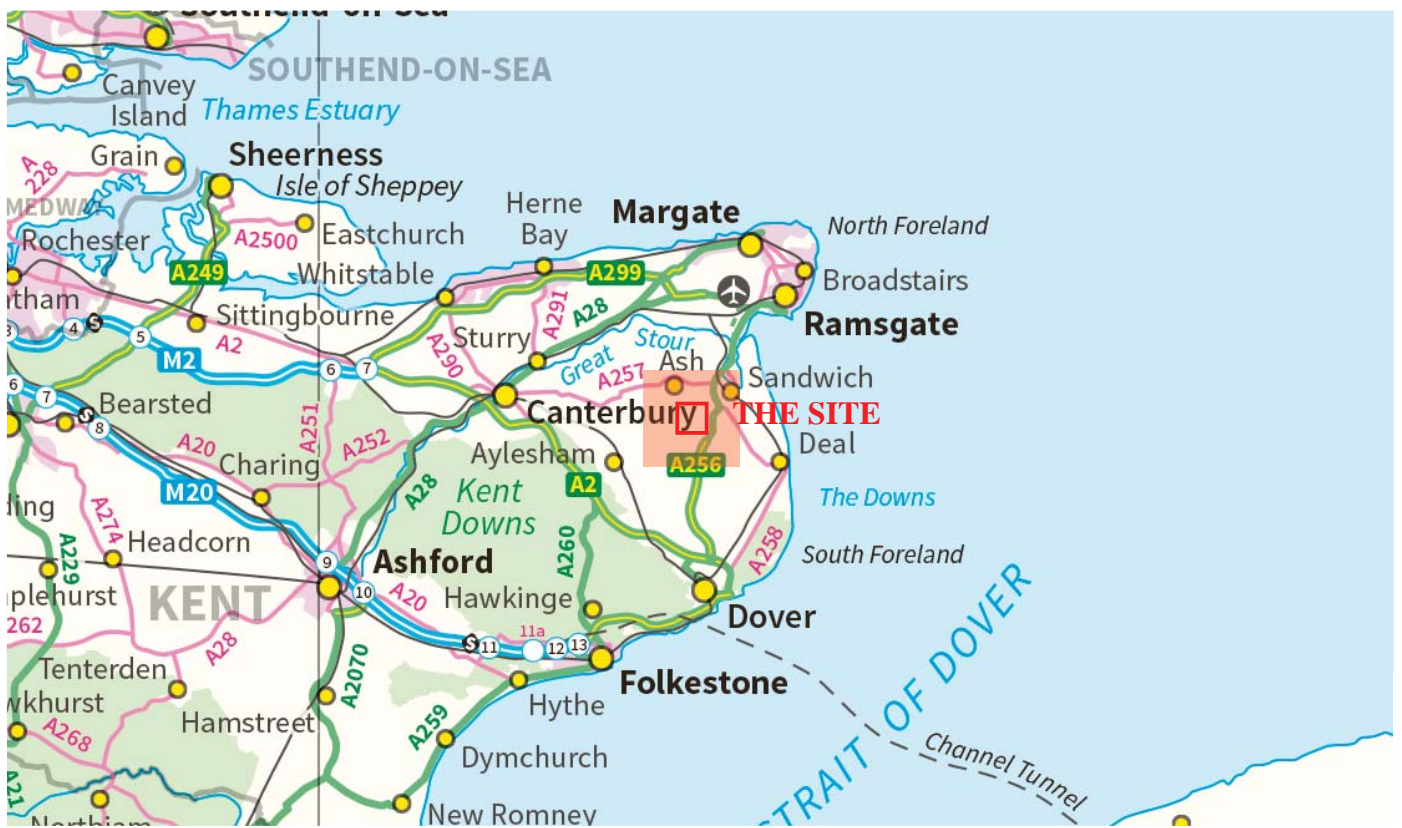


Figure 1: Site location map

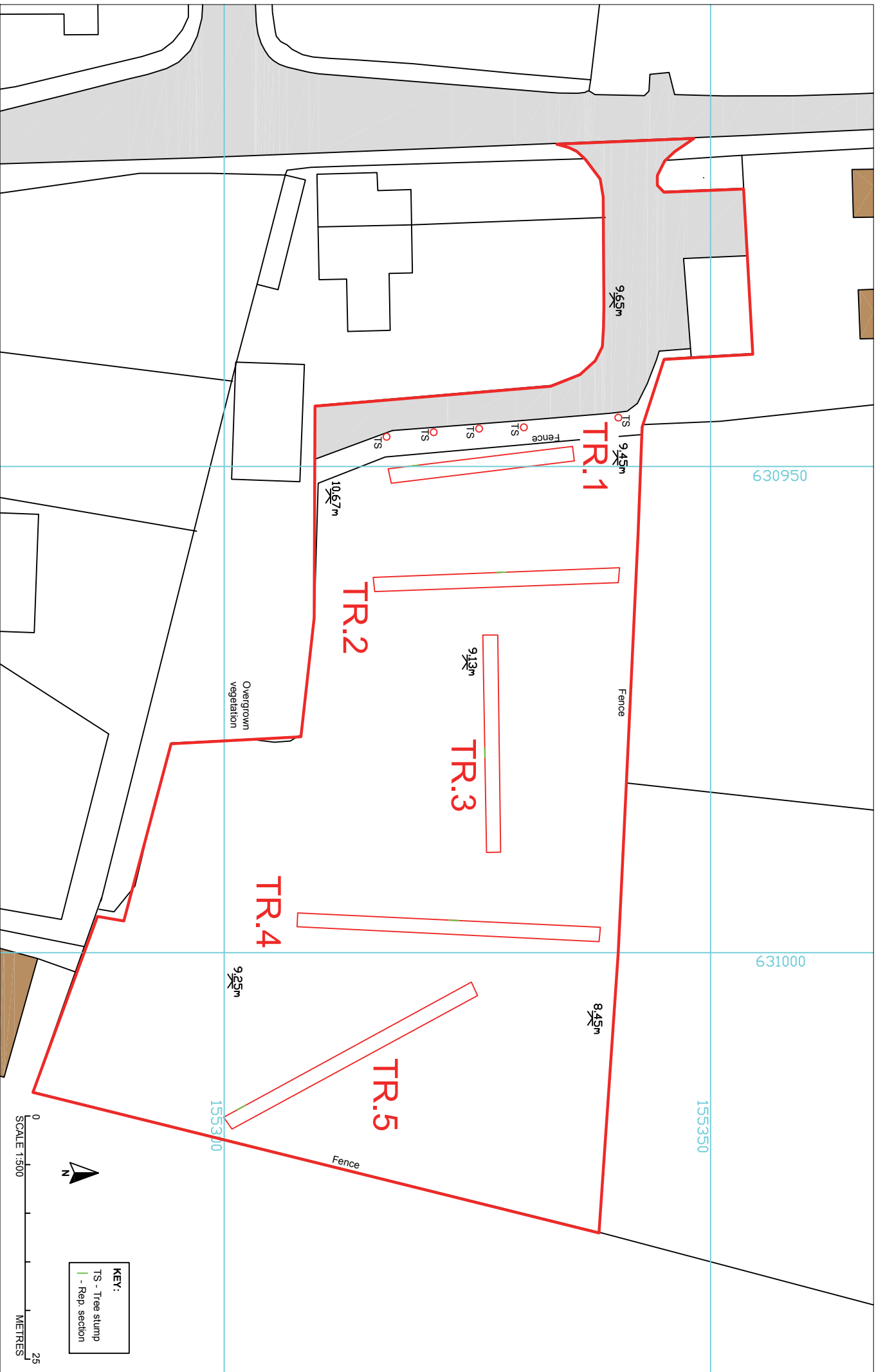
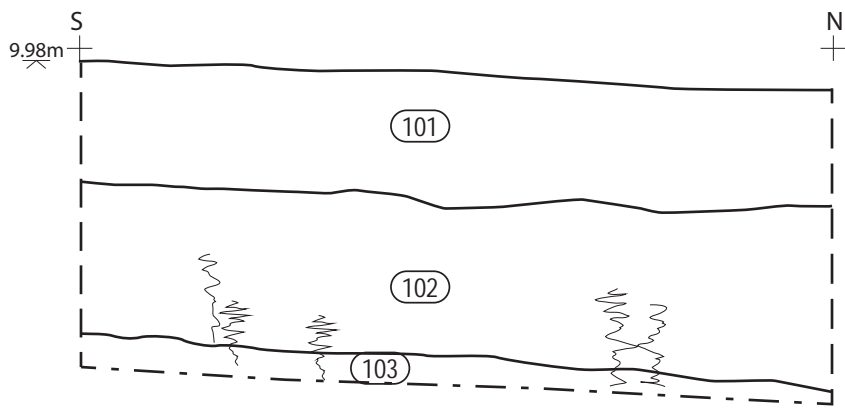
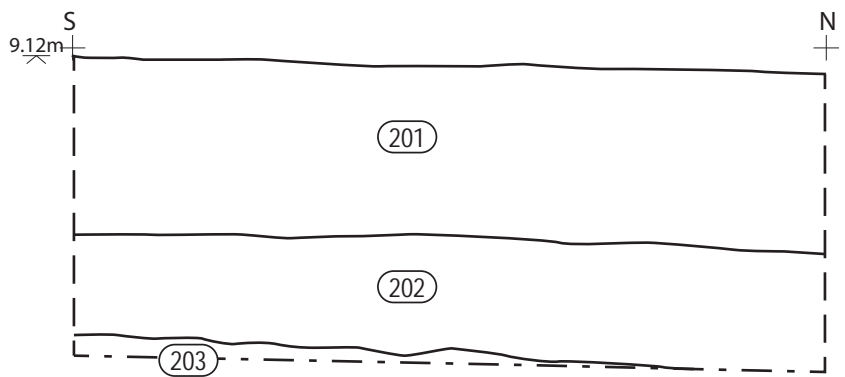


Figure 2: Trench location plan, scale 1:500

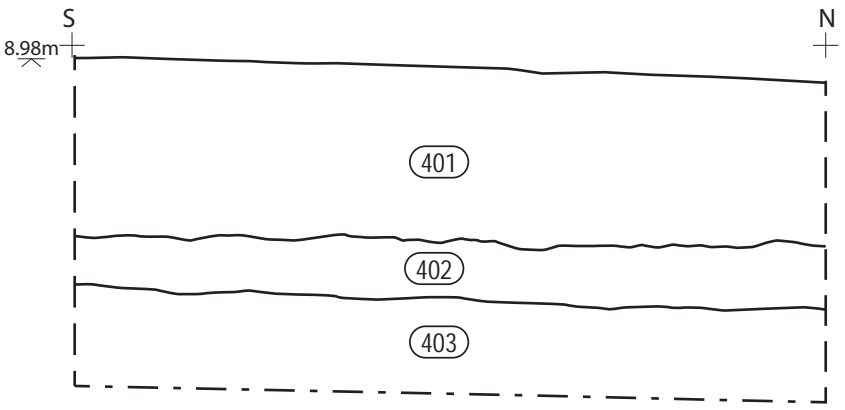


Section 1
Section of Trench 1, scale 1:10

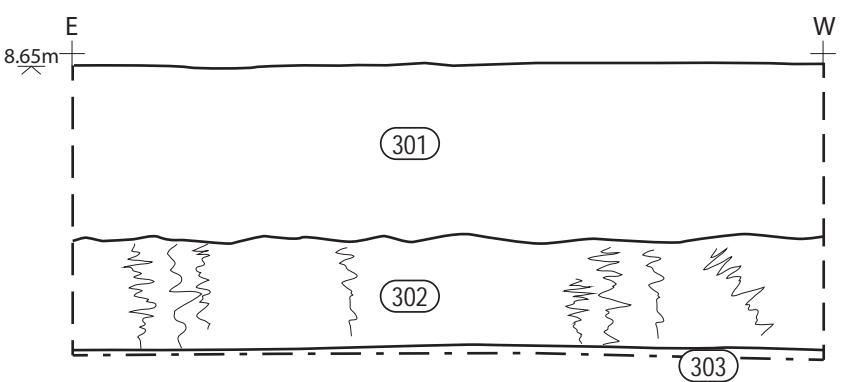
 - Roots




Section 2
Section of Trench 2, scale 1:10

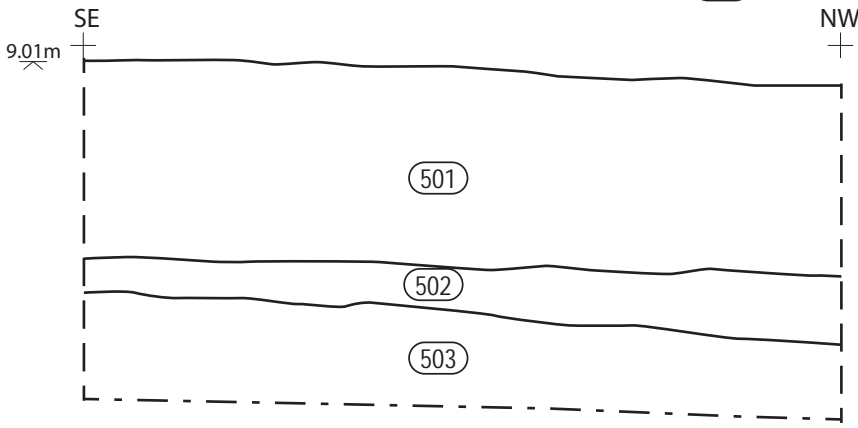


Section 3
Section of Trench 3, scale 1:10



Section 4
Section of Trench 4, scale 1:10

 - Roots



Section 5
Section of Trench 5, scale 1:10



Figure 3: Representative sections of Evaluation trenches