

Archaeological Evaluation of land at the former Wye College Buildings, High Street, Wye, Ashford, Kent TN25 4AH

EVALUATION REPORT V1.1

NGR Site Centre: **605530E 146892N**

Planning Application Number: **APP/E2205/W20/3259450**
and Listed Building Consent **17/00568/AS**



Report for: *Telereal Property Developments 1 Limited*

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Ashford, Kent TN25 4AH**

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Abstract

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned by Telereal Property Developments 1 Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at the corner of the High Street and Olantigh Road, Wye in Kent. The archaeological programme was monitored by the Senior Archaeological Officer Wendy Rogers at Kent County Council. The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of 12 trenches, which recorded a relatively common stratigraphic sequence comprising truncated modern made ground overlying natural geology.

The archaeological evaluation has recorded the presence of Late post medieval/modern ditch and it's re-cut and numerous modern services and structures.

Regarding negative outcome of archaeological evaluation it has therefore been suggested that the proposed development won't have an impact on buried archaeological resource and there is no need for further work regard this matter.

Archaeological Evaluation of land at the former Wye College Buildings, High Street, Wye, Ashford, Kent TN25 4AH

Evaluation Report

NGR Site Centre: 605530E 146892N

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 SWAT archaeology was commissioned by the client to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land at the former Wye College Buildings, High Street, Wye, Ashford, Kent TN25 4AH.

1.1.2 This phase of archaeological works has confirmed the absence of archaeological remains on this proposed development area.

1.2 Project background

1.2.1 This report presents the results of archaeological evaluation of land at the corner of the High Street and Olantigh Road, Wye in Kent (Figure 1-4). The land has planning permission from the Appeal Decision APP/E2205/W20/3259450 and Listed Building Consent 17/00568/AS for the conversion of former College buildings to provide 38 dwellings with internal and external alterations to include new openings, new partitions, closure of existing openings, removal of doors and partitions, new staircases and opening up of intermediate floor and demolition of existing extensions.

1.2.2 Prior to evaluation archaeological WSI was prepared by SWAT. This archaeological evaluation is clarifying the presence/absence of archaeological remains on the Proposed Development Area (PDA) and guide the need for any additional detailed mitigation.

1.3 Planning background

1.3.1 On the basis of the present archaeological information KCCHC recommended to Ashford Borough Council that the proposed development should be subject to a programme of archaeological works in order to clarify the archaeological elements within the site.

1.3.2 A planning application was granted by Ashford Borough Council on the 24th June 2019 (Appeal Decision APP/E2205/W20/3259450 and Listed Building Consent 17/00568/AS) for the for the conversion of former College buildings to provide 38 dwellings with internal and external alterations to include new openings, new partitions, closure of existing openings, removal of doors and partitions, new staircases and opening up of intermediate floor, demolition of existing extensions. A Condition of archaeological works was attached to the Planning Decision Notice APP/E2205/W20/3259450 and it was:

(11) No development shall take place, other than internal works/strip out and demolition to slab level, until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has previously been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority and following on from the evaluation has secured the implementation of any safeguarding measures, identified in the evaluation as necessary, to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation in accordance with a 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.*

1.3.3 On the basis of the present archaeological information. KCCHC advising Ashford Borough Council recommended that the proposed development should be subject to a programme of archaeological works in order to clarify the archaeological elements within the site.

1.3.4 The methodology of the archaeological evaluation phase of investigation is identified within approved SWAT specification which is based on KCC site specific specifications and in the KCC Evaluation Manual Part B.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1.1 The application site is located Kent in the village of Wye. The village is located on the south east side of the valley of the river Stour, to the south of the Kent downs and about five km to the north east from Ashford.

- 2.1.2 The PDA (NGR: 605530E 146892N) is located within north eastern quarter of the village, and on the corner of the High Street and Olantigh Road (Figures 1 & 2). Church and graveyard with open fields to the north east meet the northwest boundary and a residential housing estate envelopes the north eastern boundary. Whole PDA area was previously developed in circa 1940 and 1970. The PDA sits at an average height of 47m AOD.
- 2.1.3 The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the site is set on bedrock geology of west Melby Marly Chalk Formation- Chalk. Superficial Deposits are not recorded. The NGR to centre of site is NGR 605530 146892 and the OD height is about 47m in the centre of the site. Head - Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel. Superficial Deposits formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by subaerial slopes (U).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Introduction

Archaeological and historical background contains records from Kent County Council Historic Environmental Record (KCCHER) and results of map regression.

3.2 KCCHER records

3.2.1 The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is located close to a number of archaeological sites which are identified on the KCCHER database. In addition the KCCHER lists the location of a probable fake barrow to the south of the PDA (TR 04 NE 29). A large number of historic College buildings to the south of the PDA are listed and include The Wheel House (TR 04 NE 139, Wye College Cloister Quadrangle (TR 04 NE 139), Wye College Entrance and Hall Quadrangle (TR 04 NE 105).

3.2.2 To the south of PDA within Wye village there is a vast number of listed buildings.

3.2.3 The fake barrow (TR 04 NE 29) location according to KCCHER was targeted by evaluation trench 3 that was negative.

3.3 Map regression (Figure 9a-9g)

3.3.1 Results of map regression provide two possibilities of origin of the ditch. Less likely scenario is that the ditch was excavated between 1931 and backfilled before 1940 where its route was overlaid by the new building visible on aerial photograph (fig. 9g). Larger building appear first and for that purpose the fairly new drain ditch set

alongside the footpath was backfilled together with electric cable laid alongside, set for the purpose of the building. New drain ditch in the same alignment was excavated slightly off to the south but it appears to be backfilled soon after.

- 3.3.2 Second scenario is that the ditch was excavated sometime during nineteenth century and it was placed on the north side of footpath visible on figure 9d. In 1906 new buildings appear on map (figure 9e) around the location of the ditch. The house visible on 1897 map was replaced with terrace houses which resulted in house expansion to the south hence providing the reason to backfill existing ditch and dig the new one slightly off to the south that would bypass the new terrace house. In this case the ditch is a part of potential enclosure around big field with Allotment gardens.
- 3.3.3 Present day OS map overlaid with projected ditch discovered during the evaluation shows that ditch would run alongside line limiting the burial ground and on its north side.
- 3.3.4 Burial ground was expanded to the north and current boundary shown on map as a line indicates a hedge and an active drain ditch. Very likely the previous burial ground boundary was also a ditch that would be well aligned with discovered linear.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 General Aims

The general aims of the archaeological fieldwork were therefore to;

- establish the presence or absence of any elements of the archaeological resource, both artefacts and ecofacts of archaeological interest across the area of the development;
- ascertain the extent, depth below ground surface, depth of deposit if possible, character, date and quality of any such archaeological remains by limited sample excavation;
- determine the state of preservation and importance of the archaeological resource, if present, and to assess the past impacts on the site and pay particular attention to the character, height/depth below ground level, condition, date and significance of any archaeological deposits.

4.2 **Project Specific Objectives**

- 4.2.1 The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation was to establish or otherwise the presence of any potential archaeological features which may be impacted by the proposed development. The aims of this investigation were to determine the potential for archaeological activity and in particular the earlier Prehistoric and also any Roman, Early Medieval and later archaeological activity.
- 4.2.2 The programme of archaeological work is carried out in a phased approach and commenced with evaluation through trial trenching. This initial phase has determined that archaeological remains will be affected by the development and that further mitigation measures are required including detailed archaeological excavation, or an archaeological watching brief during construction works or an engineering solution to any preservation in situ requirements.

5 **METHODOLOGY**

- 5.1.1 The initial evaluation consisted of 7 machine excavated trenches (c.15m x 1.8m) in a layout agreed with the County Archaeologist (Figure 2). The area of investigation is the proposed development area.
- 5.1.2 Contingency trenching was activated resulting in excavation of extension to the trench 4 and additional trench 8
- 5.1.3 Excavation of additional trenches was requested by county archaeologist in order to achieve a better coverage of the area and further sampling of revealed ditch that could be potentially related to the medieval Collegiate. Additional trenches are 9 to 12.
- 5.1.4 Each trench was machine excavated under constant archaeological supervision using machine equipped with toothless grading bucket down to the first recognizable archaeological horizon or natural geology. Prior to excavation the ground was scanned with CAT scanner.
- 5.1.5 A soil sampling programme was not implemented as no archaeological deposits were encountered.

- 5.1.6 Where appropriate, trenches, or specific areas of trenches, were subsequently hand-cleaned to reveal features in plan and carefully selected cross-sections through the features were excavated to enable sufficient information about form, development date and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded without prejudice to more extensive investigations, should these prove to be necessary. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with KCC and ClfA standards and guidance. A complete photographic record was maintained on site that included working shots; during mechanical excavation, following archaeological investigations and during back filling.
- 5.1.7 On completion, the trenches were made safe and left open in order to provide the opportunity for a curatorial monitoring visit. Backfilling was carried out once all recording, survey and monitoring had been completed.

6 RECORDING

- 6.1.1 A complete drawn record of the evaluation trenches comprising both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections) was undertaken. The plans and sections were annotated with coordinates and aOD heights. Additionally large sections that would not fit on single A3 page were drawn digitally in 1:10.
- 6.1.2 Photographs were taken as appropriate providing a record of excavated features and deposits, along with images of the overall trench to illustrate their location and context. The record also includes images of the Site overall. The photographic record comprises digital photography. A photographic register of all photographs taken is contained within the project archive.
- 6.1.3 A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. A full list is presented in Appendix. Layers and fills are identified in this report thus (100), whilst the cut of the feature is shown as [100]. Context numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes. Each number has been attributed to a specific trench with the primary number(s) relating to specific trenches (i.e. Trench 1, 101+, Trench 2, 201+, Trench 3, 301+ etc.).
- 6.1.4 A site plan to indicate the location of the boundaries of the proposed development site and the position of evaluation trenches drawn at a scale of 1:100 is shown on Figures 2 and 3. Plans to indicate the locations of archaeological features are drawn

to a scale of 1:50. Detailed plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. All detailed plans and sections are related to the site plans.

- 6.1.5 All plans and sections were drawn on polyester based drawing film, and each plan and/or section was clearly labelled. A GPS site grid was established where necessary across the areas subjected to evaluation. All field surveying were preceded by a site visit to clarify the site specific surveying methodology, determine lines of sight and locate appropriate survey points. All recording points were accurately surveyed with a GPS/GNSS RTK survey kit in 1cm/1ppm accuracy and located to the National Grid.

7 RESULTS

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 Archaeological evaluation at land at the corner of the High Street and Olantigh Road, Wye in Kent has recorded the absence of any earlier archaeological features, deposits or artefacts. Twelve evaluation trenches have been excavated (Fig. 3).
- 7.1.2 An early Modern ditch was exposed with a recut along its course in evaluation Trenches 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11 and was fully excavated and recorded in 4 exploratory slots.
- 7.1.3 Natural water channel was exposed in Trench 1.

7.2 Exposed geology and stratigraphy

- 7.2.1 Stratigraphic sequence exposed across the site comprised made ground (context xx01) and/or topsoil (context xx01) and subsoil (context xx02) overlying natural geology (xx03).

7.3 Archaeological Trench Narrative

- 7.3.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 5 and 7) was placed in east-west alignment in south-east corner of the site with its top at altitude of 47.07metres O.D. (Ordnance Datum). It measured 15metres in length, 1.8metres in width and was excavated to the depth of 0.8m. Overburden material comprised of 0.15m thick layer of tarmac 101 with associated underlying bedding material 102 made of hardcore that was on average 0.45metres deep with max depth of 0.7metres. Overburden had sharp contact with underlying natural Head deposit 103 and fills of natural water channel [104]. Head 103 exposed at the base of the trench was patchy and comprised patches of reddish brown clay with abundant flint, concentrations of flint gravel, patches of pale brown chalky silty clay and patches of outcropping chalk gravel. The trench was cut down about 0.2metres into natural. The removed natural material was reddish brown clay with occasional flint. Western edge of natural paleo water channel was exposed at east end of the trench. Feature had stepped side consisting of shallow 0.5metres deep

terrace with moderate side and deep channel with near vertical side. The terrace step was 2.7metres wide. The deeper channel was excavated down to its base, to the depth of 1.3metres below the base of the terrace. Natural exposed at the base of the channel was chalk marl and outcropping chalk. Feature was filled by a sequence of five deposits listed from the earliest one: 105, 106, 107, 108, and 109. Layer 105 was bluish grey clayey loam with chalk flecks. Next context 106 was a slump deposit built up alongside feature's side and its thickness was decreasing towards the centre of the feature. It comprised patchy material, the same as natural 103 that was derived from erosion of the latter. Context 107 was dark reddish brown gravelly clay with rare patches of pale brown chalky silty clay. The gravel was flint and chalk. This material was derived mainly from erosion of top natural reddish brown clay. Next accumulated context was 108 which comprised patchy material similar to described natural 103 but dominated by fine chalk gravel. Top fill 109 was reddish brown gravelly clay where material was derived from erosion of the top part of the natural that was reddish brown clay. Only the basal fill 105 was water laid. Second fill 106 derived from side erosion/collapse. All three remaining upper fills seem to contain large amount of gravel. Such gravel can be naturally created by fallen tree which would lift up natural material on its roots, fine material would be washed away and stones will be falling down creating gravelly layer. The feature is most likely the old river, perhaps old meander of Stour River.

- 7.3.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 5) was placed in south-east, north-west alignment within north east extent of the site with its top at altitude of 47.32metres O.D. It measured 10.5metres in length, 1.8metres in width and was excavated to the depth of 0.8m. In heist place a natural 203 appeared on depth of 0.2m, However it was severely truncated by modern cuts. Overburden 202 comprised hardcore material forming levelling layer for the concrete floor. The depth of overburden was deepest at SE end of the trench. At the base of the trench two modern features were exposed: SE-NW aligned trench and deep pit backfilled with bricks. At north-west end of the trench deeper remains of demolished modern building were present; these comprised hardcore material placed among foundation walls and metal pipe.
- 7.3.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 5) was placed in north-east, south-west alignment within central northern extent of the site with its top at altitude of 47.01metres O.D. It measured 20metres in length, 1.8metres in width and was excavated to the depth of 0.65m. At the base of the trench exposed natural 303 was reddish brown silty clay with occasional chalk and flint. Natural was overlaid by subsoil 302 comprising dark brown clayey silt and topsoil 301 comprising blackish clayey silt. Revealed natural surface was severely disturbed by small and mid-size roots and later modern cuts. Within north east half of the trench there was a brick-build channel placed in NW-SE alignment that was also exposed in trench 12. The internal width of the channel was 0.93metres and the walls were half brick wide. The channel was backfilled with hardcore. About 1meter to the north-east from the channel and parallel to it an electric cable was revealed.
- 7.3.4 Trench 4 (Fig. 5 and 8) was placed in north-east, south-west alignment within central south western extent of the site with its top at altitude of 47.52m O.D. It measured 15.7metres in length, 1.8metres in width and was excavated to the depth of 0.5m.

Trench revealed south-east, north-west aligned ditch 404 and its re-cut 406 running diagonally across the trench. Additional extension of the trench was excavated on its north side. The extension was 4.6metres long and it was perpendicularly aligned to the edge of exposed features. Natural 403 revealed at the base of the trench was a Head formation that comprised reddish brown clay with flints. Natural horizon was overlaid by topsoil 401 comprising blackish clayey silt with concentrations of hardcore and rubbish. Within north east end of the main trench there was a foundation wall placed at the same alignment as the ditch. The wall is a remnant of now demolished building, build circa 1950. Alongside the north east edge of the ditch 404 a high voltage electric cables were exposed. The cable was laid alongside the feature and was buried with the same material that was filling the ditch which was cutting into natural 403. Its profile was V-shaped with width of 3.1metres and depth of 1.6metres. Feature was filled with context 405 of firm compaction, mid reddish brown clayey silt including occasional stones and modern finds. South west side of the ditch was truncated by similar, slightly smaller ditch 406, also with V shaped profile measuring 3.55metres in width and 1.3metres in depth. Feature was filled with context 407 of firm compaction, mid reddish brown clayey silt including occasional stones and modern finds. Continuations of both ditches were also exposed in trenches: 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11.

- 7.3.5 Trench 5 (Fig. 6) was placed in north-west, south-east alignment within south western extent of the site with its top at altitude of 47.42m O.D. It measured 11.85metres in length, 1.8metres in width and was excavated to the depth of 0.8m. Trench revealed south west edge of south-east, north-west aligned ditch cut into natural Head deposit 503 that was overlaid by 0.3metres thick top soil layer 501. Exposed feature wasn't excavated and it was exposed in other trenches. In the middle of the trench on its northern wall an elevation of a brick wall was exposed. Structure had 6 courses and was three bricks wide with its top located 0.1metres below ground level. Visa vie the wall there was a high voltage electric cable running diagonally across the trench approximately in east-west alignment. All revealed structures and services were modern.
- 7.3.6 Trench 6 (Fig. 6) was placed in north-east, south-west alignment within south western extent of the site with its top at altitude of 46.21m O.D. It measured 16metres in length, 1.8metres in width and was excavated to the depth of 0.5m. The overburden was a sequence of topsoil 601 that was blackish clayey silt and subsoil 602 that was dark brown clayey silt. Natural exposed at the base of the trench was Head clay 603 of mid reddish brown colour with frequent small roots poking out of the surface. At southern end of the trench a ditch was exposed. Feature that was also exposed in other trenches was dated to be modern and was left unexcavated. Later feature was targeted by overlapping trench 11 that also targeted re cut of the ditch.
- 7.3.7 Trench 7 (Fig. 6) was placed in north-west, south-east alignment within northern corner of the site with its top at altitude of 46.7m O.D. It measured 14.6 metres in length, 1.8metres in width and was excavated to the depth of 0.6m. The overburden was a sequence truncated by modern features of topsoil 701 that was blackish clayey silt and subsoil 702 that was dark brown clayey silt. Natural exposed at the base of the trench was Head clay 703 of mid reddish brown colour with frequent small roots

poking out of the surface. At western end of the trench there was a north east corner of deeper pit filled with demolished modern bricks and concrete.

- 7.3.8 Trench 8 (Fig. 5) was placed in north-east, south-west alignment within central south western extent of the site with its top at altitude of 46.82m O.D. It measured 9.7metres in length, 1.8metres in width and was excavated to the depth of 0.5m. Trench revealed south-east, north-west aligned ditch 804 and its re-cut 806 running diagonally across the trench. Additional extension of the trench was excavated on its north side. The extension was 4.6metres long and it was perpendicularly aligned to the edge of exposed features. Extended trench had V shape in plan. Natural 803 revealed at the base of the trench was a Head formation that comprised reddish brown clay with flints. Natural and features were overlaid by topsoil 801a comprising blackish clayey silt with concentrations of hardcore and rubbish. Within north end of the trench instead of top soil there was a hardcore 801b. Within north east end of the main trench there was a foundation wall placed at the same alignment as the ditch. Alongside the north east edge of the ditch 804 there were laid high voltage electric cables. The cable seemed to be laid alongside the ditch and was buried with the same material that was filling the ditch. The ditch 804 was cut into natural 803. Its profile was V-shaped with width of 3.1metres and depth of 1.6metres. Feature was filled with context 805 of firm compaction, mid reddish brown clayey silt including occasional stones and modern finds. South west side of the ditch was truncated by similar, slightly smaller ditch 806, also with V shaped profile measuring 3.55metres in width and 1.3metres in depth. Feature was filled with context 807 of firm compaction, mid reddish brown clayey silt including occasional stones and modern finds. Continuations of both ditches were also exposed in trenches: 4, 5, 6, 10 and 11. Later new trench 12 was excavated from NE end of this trench
- 7.3.9 Trench 9 (Fig. 5) was placed within central extent of the site near southern boundary, with its top at altitude of 46.81m O.D. It measured 1metres in length, 1 metre in width. Underneath the thin layer of tarmac there were reinforced concrete slabs, 0.1metres thick, covering service tunnel containing large pipes. The structure was in NE-SW alignment and measured 1.1metres in width and 1metre in depth. The walls were built of concrete blocks with two courses of brick at the top. To the NW and on opposite side of the trench there were manholes hence further excavations in the area were abandoned.
- 7.3.10 Trench 10 (Fig. 5 and 8) was placed near the south easterner boundary of the site, with its top at altitude of 47.09m O.D. It measured 8metres in length, 3.9 metre in width and was excavated to depth of 1metre. At the base of the trench there was Natural 1003 Head reddish brown clay cut by north-west aligned ditch 1004 and its re-cut 1006 running across the trench. Continuations of both features were exposed in other trenches. The ditch 1004 was cut into natural 1003. Its profile had moderate sides and 0.7metres wide flat base. Its width was 4.6metres and depth of 1.5metres. The basal fill was 1005a of firm compaction, dark brown clayey silt including frequent patches of natural clay, occasional stones and modern finds. Top fill was re-deposited Head clay. South west side of the ditch was truncated by similar, slightly smaller ditch 1006 with depth of 1meter. Only one moderately sloping side was exposed. Feature was filled with context 1007 of firm compaction, dark greyish brown clayey

silt including occasional stones and modern finds. Natural and features were overlaid by layer 1001 comprising loose tarmac beads over topsoil mixed with infrequent hardcore and general rubbish. The overburden was also truncated by multiple modern cuts reaching the depth of 1m.

7.3.11 Trench 11 (Fig. 5 and 8) was placed in south west corner of the site on the south west end of previously excavated trench 6, with its top at altitude of 46.21m O.D. It measured 8.4 metres in length, 3.85 metre in width and was excavated to depth of 1metre. At the base of the trench there was Natural 1103 Head deposit of reddish brown clay cut by north-west aligned ditch 1104 and its re-cut 1106 running across the trench. Continuations of both features were exposed in other trenches to the south east. The ditch 1104 was cut into natural 1103. Its profile had moderate sides and narrow flat base. Its width was 3.7metres and depth of 1.5metres. The fill 1105 was of firm compaction, dark brown clayey silt including frequent patches of natural clay, occasional stones and modern finds. South west side of the ditch was truncated by similar, slightly smaller ditch 1106 with width of 3.32metres and depth of 1meter. Its north east side was steep; opposite side was moderate and was breaking into flat base and measured 0.8metres in width. Feature was filled with context 1107 of firm compaction, dark greyish brown clayey silt including occasional stones and modern finds. Natural and features were overlaid by layer 1101 of topsoil mixed with infrequent hardcore and rubbish. The overburden was also truncated by multiple modern cuts reaching the depth of 0.9m.

7.3.12 Trench 12 (Fig. 5) was placed in the centre of the site, with its top at altitude of 46.98m O.D. It measured 25 metres in length, 1.8 metre in width and was excavated to a depth of 1metre. At the base of the trench there was Natural Head deposit 1203 of reddish brown clay with flints. At southern end there were foundation walls of demolished building with two ceramic pipes on the south side buried among the rubble surrounding foundations that consisted thick outer wall and brick wide internal walls enclosing cellar like structure, most likely manhole. On the opposite end of the trench there was a small service tunnel filled with hardcore which continuation was also exposed in trench 3 located to the west. Natural and features were overlaid by layer 1201 of topsoil mixed with some hardcore and rubbish. The overburden was also truncated by multiple modern cuts reaching the depth of 0.9m.

8 FINDS

8.1 Introduction and summary

8.2 All building material encountered during the evaluation was from late XIX and XX century and comprised roof tiles, bricks, concrete (slabs, blocks, reinforced concrete), glass, brown ceramic pipes, metal pipes, electric cables. Finds recovered from the ditch and its re cut were taken for further analyses and dated to 19/20th century. It should be mentioned that late XIX century roof tiles recovered from ditch infill are matching the ones that are still on the roofs of College buildings.

9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

9.1 Introduction

No soil samples for off-site processing were acquired during the course of evaluation.

10 DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Archaeological evaluation of land at the corner of the High Street and Olantigh Road, Wye in Kent has successively fulfilled aims and objectives of the specification. No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts have been exposed. Evaluation revealed a common stratigraphic sequence comprising truncated made ground sealing natural geology and numerous modern features.
- 10.2 Evaluation recorded the presence of modern ditch and it's re-cut. The hypothesis that the ditch was related and/or enclosing medieval Collegiate was tested and the results of evaluation dismissed it. Three sections of the ditches were excavated providing sufficient dating material to clearly date them to first half of XX century.
- 10.3 The site was vastly developed throughout the XX century which resulted in severely truncated ground. Prior to development the site was stripped of topsoil and levelled. Even though there was topsoil revealed in few trenches this material was also largely re deposited which was indicated by admixture of modern building material. Most of building material encountered during the evaluation was from XX century.
- 10.4 The results of this work has shown that development proposals won't be having any impact on buried archaeological remains therefore no further work is recommended to take place on this site.
- 10.5 The ultimate decision about the necessity of further work will be undertaken by Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The Site archive, which will include; paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CifA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

11.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site/accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises 1 file/document case of paper records & A4 graphics. The Site Archive will be retained at SWAT Archaeology offices until such time it can be transferred to a designated Kent Museum.

12 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

12.1 SWAT Archaeology would like to thank *Telereal Property Developments 1 Limited* for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Wendy Rogers, Senior Archaeological Officer from Kent County Council for her advice and assistance. Peter Cichy managed the archaeological fieldwork. Site survey, illustrations and report were produced by Bartek Cichy. On behalf of the client project was directed by Dr Paul Wilkinson, PhD, MCIFA.

12.2 On completion of the project, the archaeological contractor is to arrange for the transfer, subject to the landowners consent, of the documentary, photographic and material archive to SWAT Archaeology, and to ensure that the appropriate level of resources for cataloguing, boxing and long term storage are provided for a set fee until such times that designated museum in Kent can accept the archive.

12.3 The archaeological contractor is to allow the site records to be inspected and examined at any reasonable time, during or after the evaluation, by the developer, and the Kent County Council Archaeological Officer.

12.4 Copies of all reports compiled as a result of the excavation and post-excavation archaeological works will be submitted to the developer as CD containing a .pdfA version. In addition a CD containing a .pdfA version of the report and a selection of site photos in jpeg format to be sent to the KCC Archaeological Officer and once approved sent to the KCC HER for inclusion in HER Records.

- 12.5 The work the archaeological contractor is to abide by the Code of conduct and the Codes of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The report was written by: SWAT Archaeology (B Cichy) The Office, School Farm Oast, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8UP Date: 09/06/2022.

13 REFERENCES

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Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation of land at the corner of the High Street and Olantigh Road, Wye in Kent (SWAT 2021)

APPENDIX 1

Core Personnel Structure

Project Management - Fieldwork	Role
Dr Paul Wilkinson, MCIfA, FSA	Director
Peter Cichy	Project Manager
Bartek Cichy	Project Officer
Django Rayner	Surveyor
Finds	Specialist
Flint	Paul Hart
Early Prehistoric Pottery	Paul Hart
Later prehistoric and Roman pottery	Dr Malcolm Lyne
Saxon, Medieval and Post Medieval pottery	Paul Hart
Metal finds, glass and oyster	Ges Moody
Conservation support and x-ray photography	Dana Goodburn-Brown, MSc
Samples and human remains	Specialist
Environmental soil processing	QUEST
Faunal, floral micro and macro remains	Dr Mike Allen
Animal Remains (Bones)	Carol White
Palaeomagnetism	Peter Cichy
Human Remains	Dr Chris Dieter
Micro-excavation (cremation burials)	Dana Goodburn-Brown
Post-Excavation and publication	Role
Bartek Cichy	Author
Bartek Cichy	Illustrations

APPENDIX 2 – HER FORM

Site Name: Archaeological Evaluation of land at the former Wye College Buildings, High Street, Wye, Ashford, Kent TN25 4AH.

SWAT Site Code: WCW-EV-22

Site Address: As above

Summary: *Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned by Telereal Property Developments 1 Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at the corner of the High Street and Olantigh Road, Wye in Kent. The archaeological programme was monitored by the Senior Archaeological Officer Wendy Rogers at Kent County Council. The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of 12 trenches, which recorded a relatively common stratigraphic sequence comprising truncated modern made ground overlying natural geology.*

The archaeological evaluation has recorded the presence of Late post medieval/modern ditch and it's re-cut and numerous modern services and structures.

Regarding negative outcome of archaeological evaluation it has therefore been suggested that the proposed development won't be having any impact on buried archaeological resource therefore no further work is recommended to take place on this site.

No further work is recommended

District/Unitary: Ashford Borough Council

Period(s): XIX/XX c.

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) NGR 605530E 146892N

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: March and June 2022

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

Geology: Bedrock Geology of west Melby Marly Chalk Formation- Chalk. Superficial deposit is Head - Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel.

Title and author of accompanying report: SWAT Archaeology (B Cichy 2022) Archaeological Evaluation of land at the former Wye College Buildings, High Street, Wye, Ashford, Kent TN25 4AH.

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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Plates



Plate 1: Looking south west at the site from north east corner



Plate 2: Looking south at section of natural feature 104 exposed in trench 1



Plate 3: Looking south east at section of ditch and recut ditch exposed in trench 10



Plate 4: Looking south at section of ditch and its recut exposed in trench 11



Plate 5: Looking south west at trench 9



Plate 6: Finds produced by ditch revealed in Trench 10

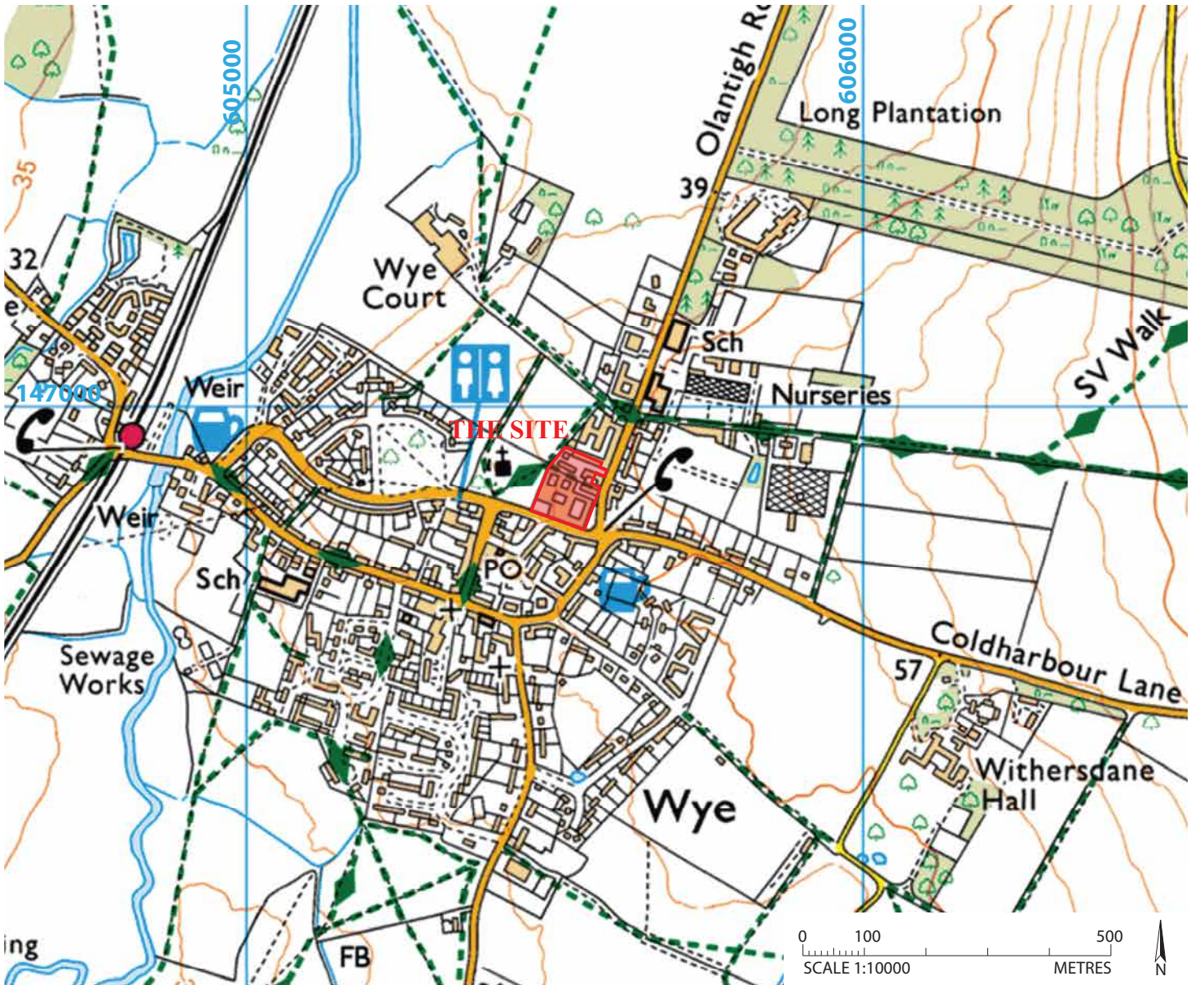
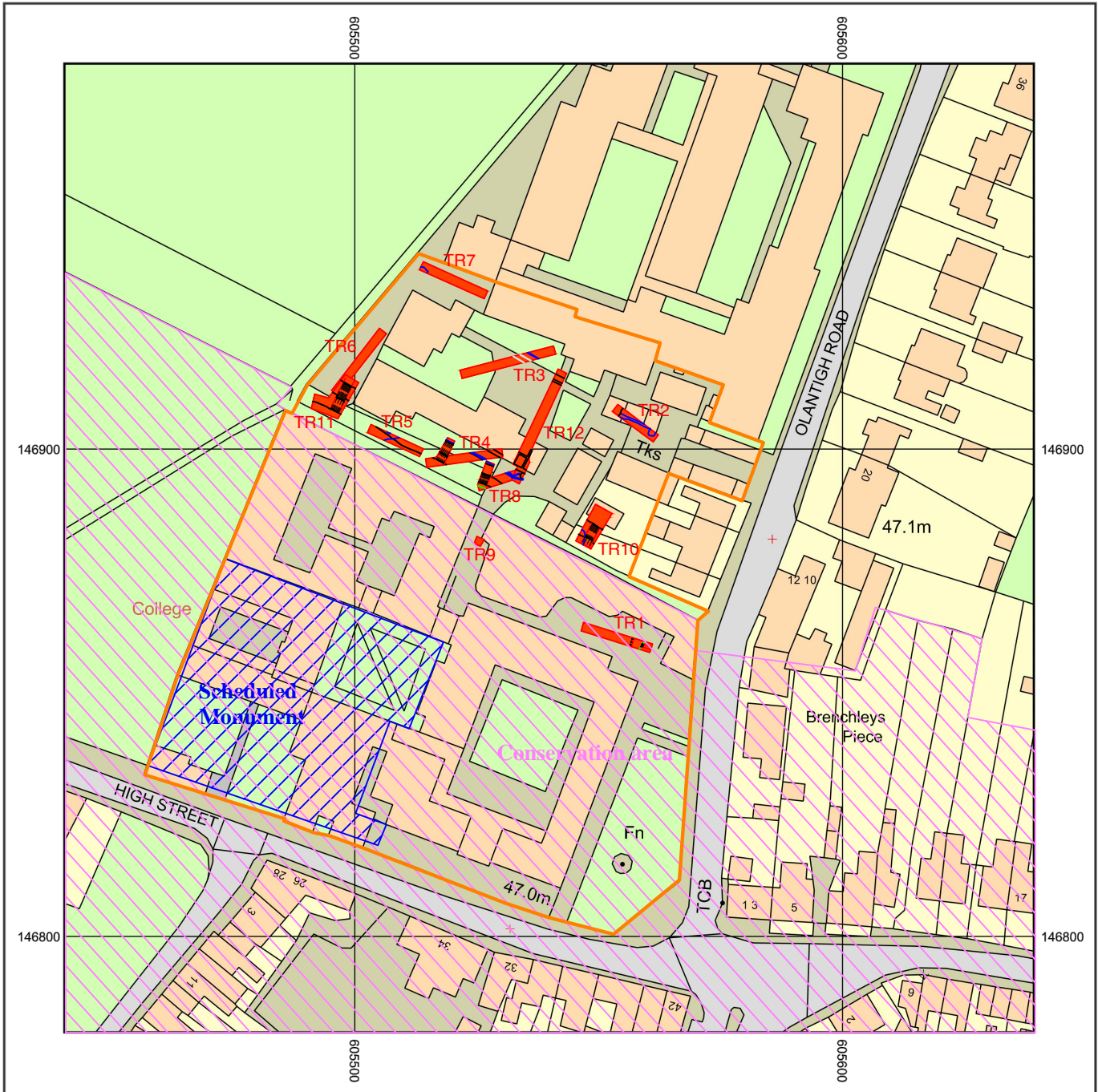
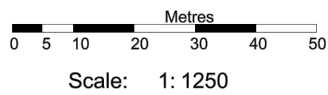


Figure 1: Site location map, scale 1:10000.

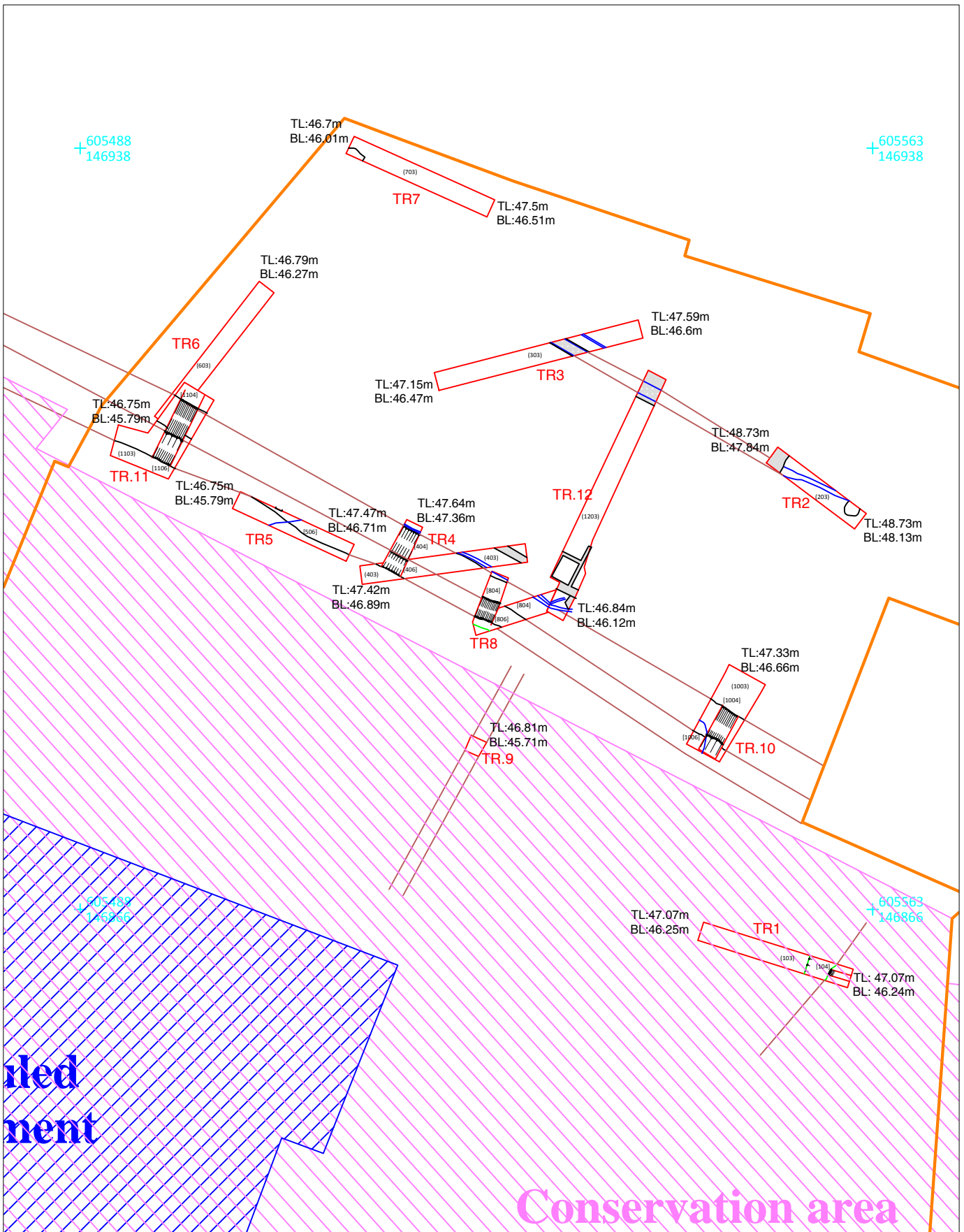


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KEY:
 Site boundary

Figure 2: Plan of Trenches superimposed on OS map



KEY:	
	Trench
	Modern services
	Concrete
	Geology
	Extrapolated feature
	Scheduled monument
	Conservation area

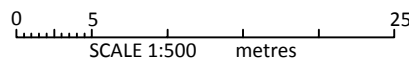


Figure 3: Plan of Trenches

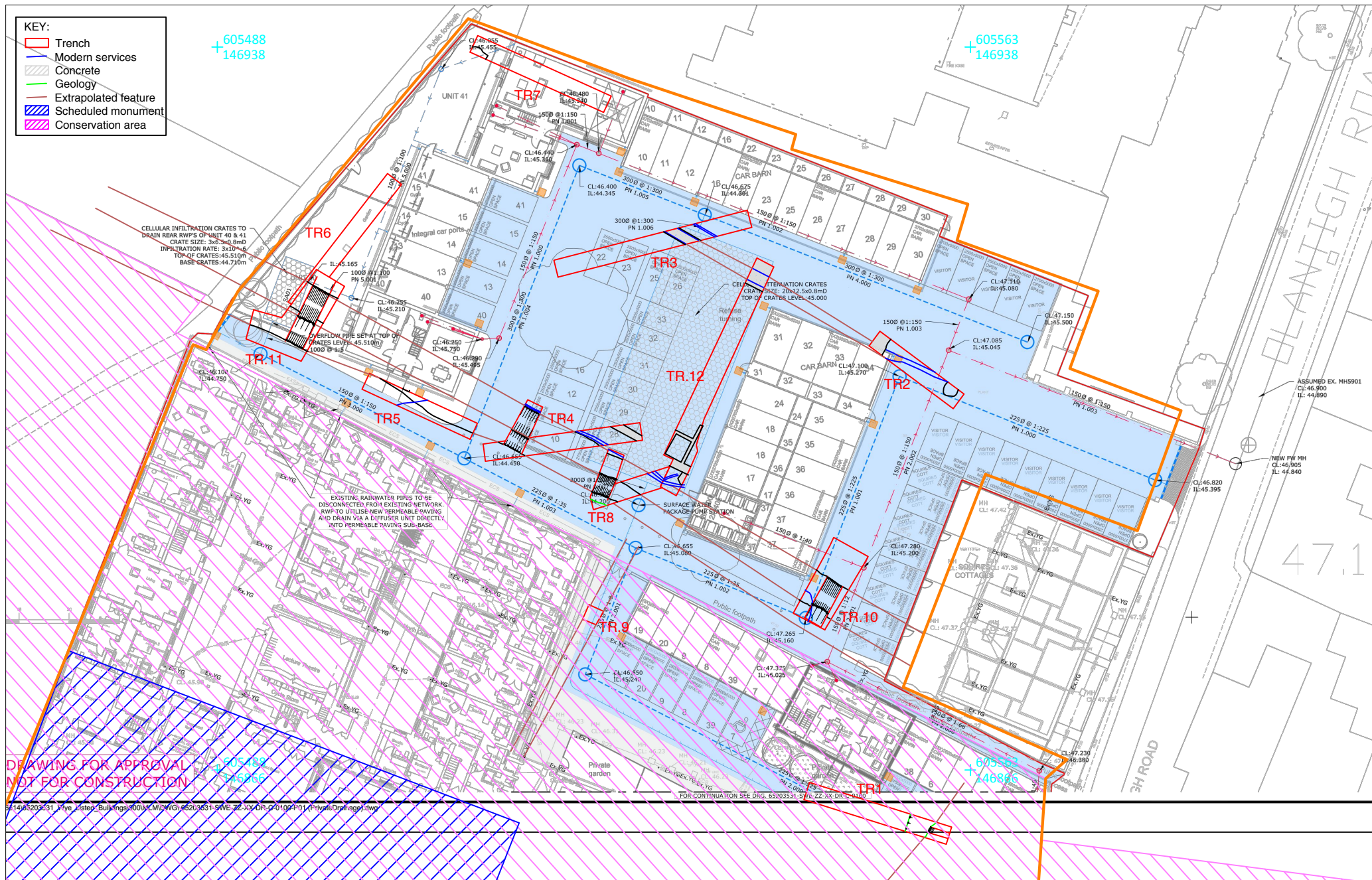


Figure 4: Trenches superimposed on development (drainage) plan

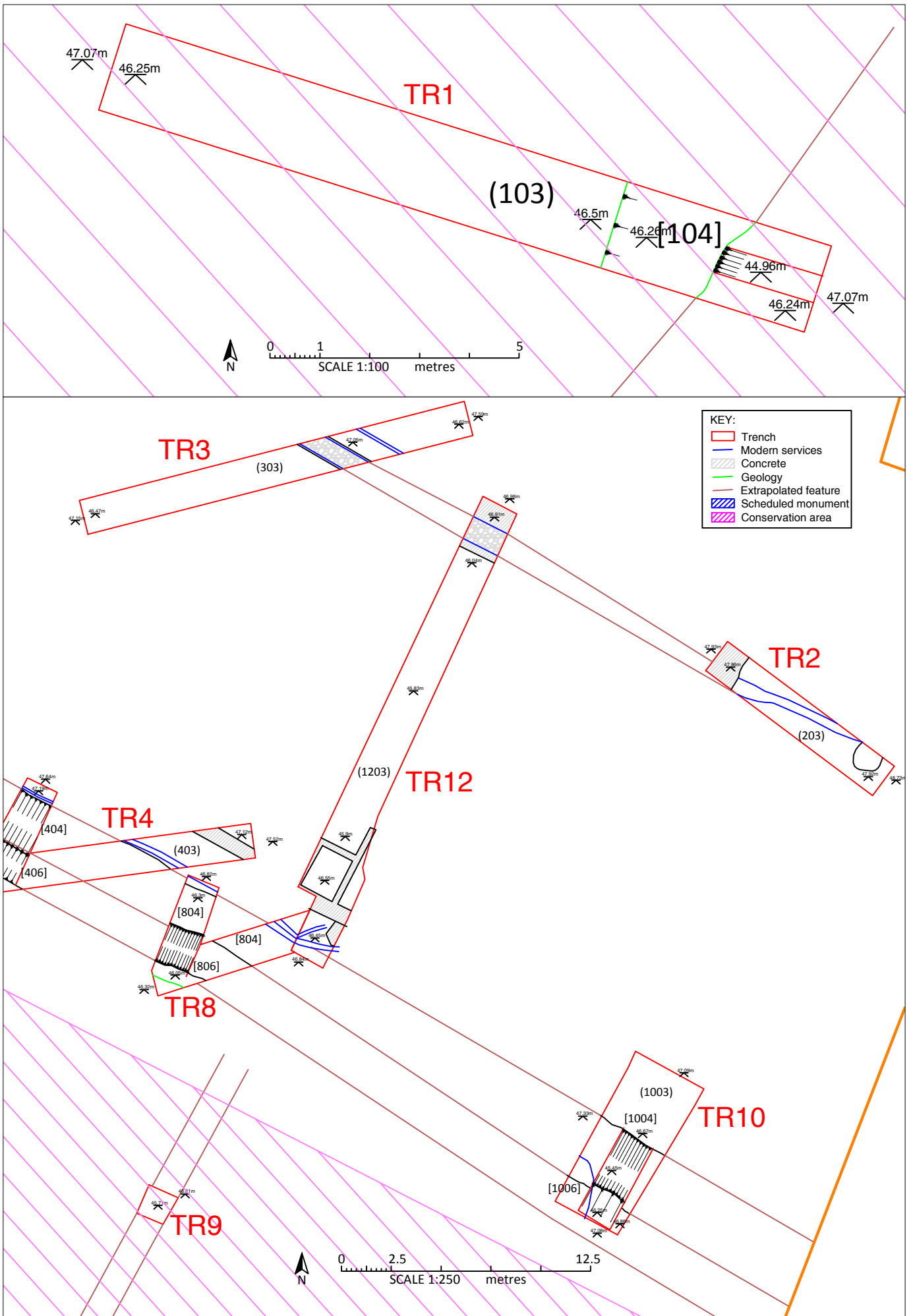


Figure 5: Plan of Trench 1, 2 and 3.

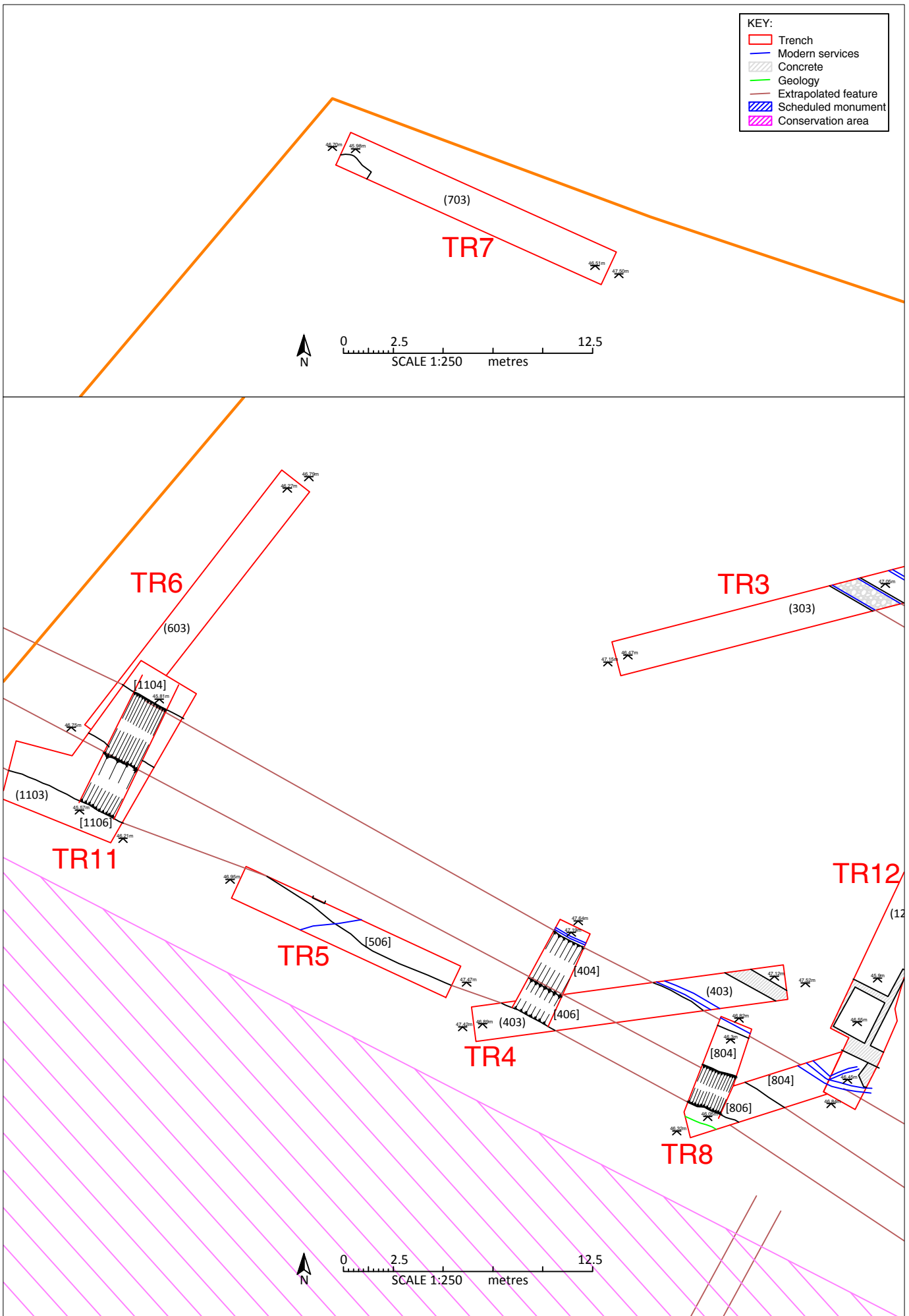


Figure 6: Plan of Trench 1, 2 and 3.

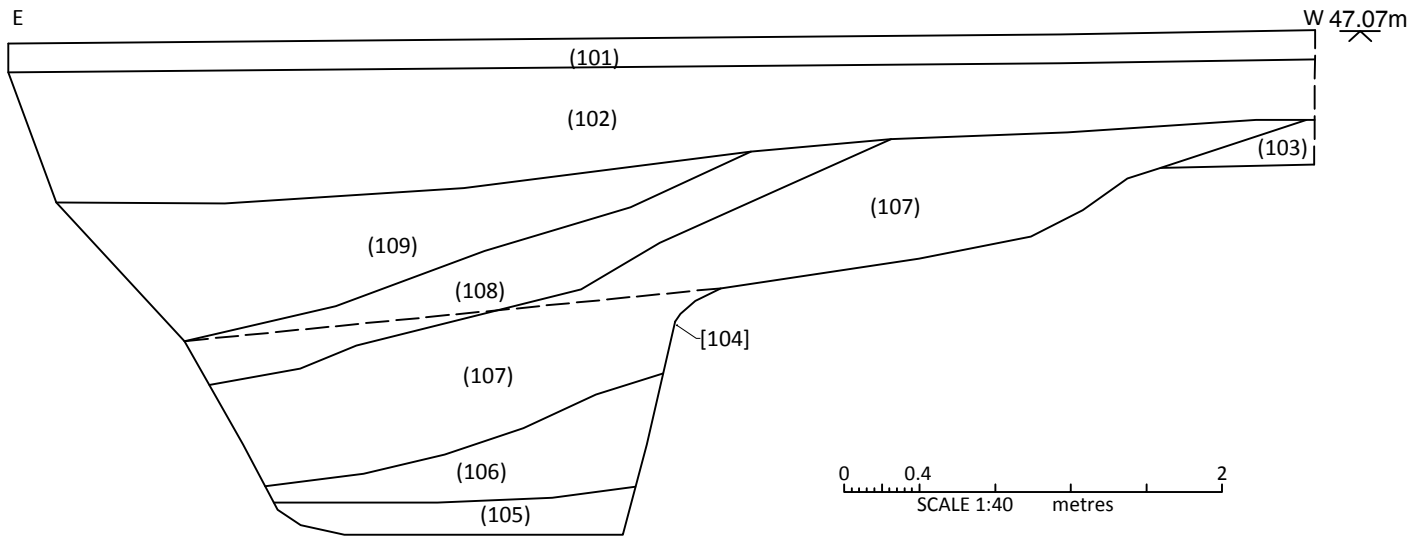


Figure 7: Section of paleo water channel

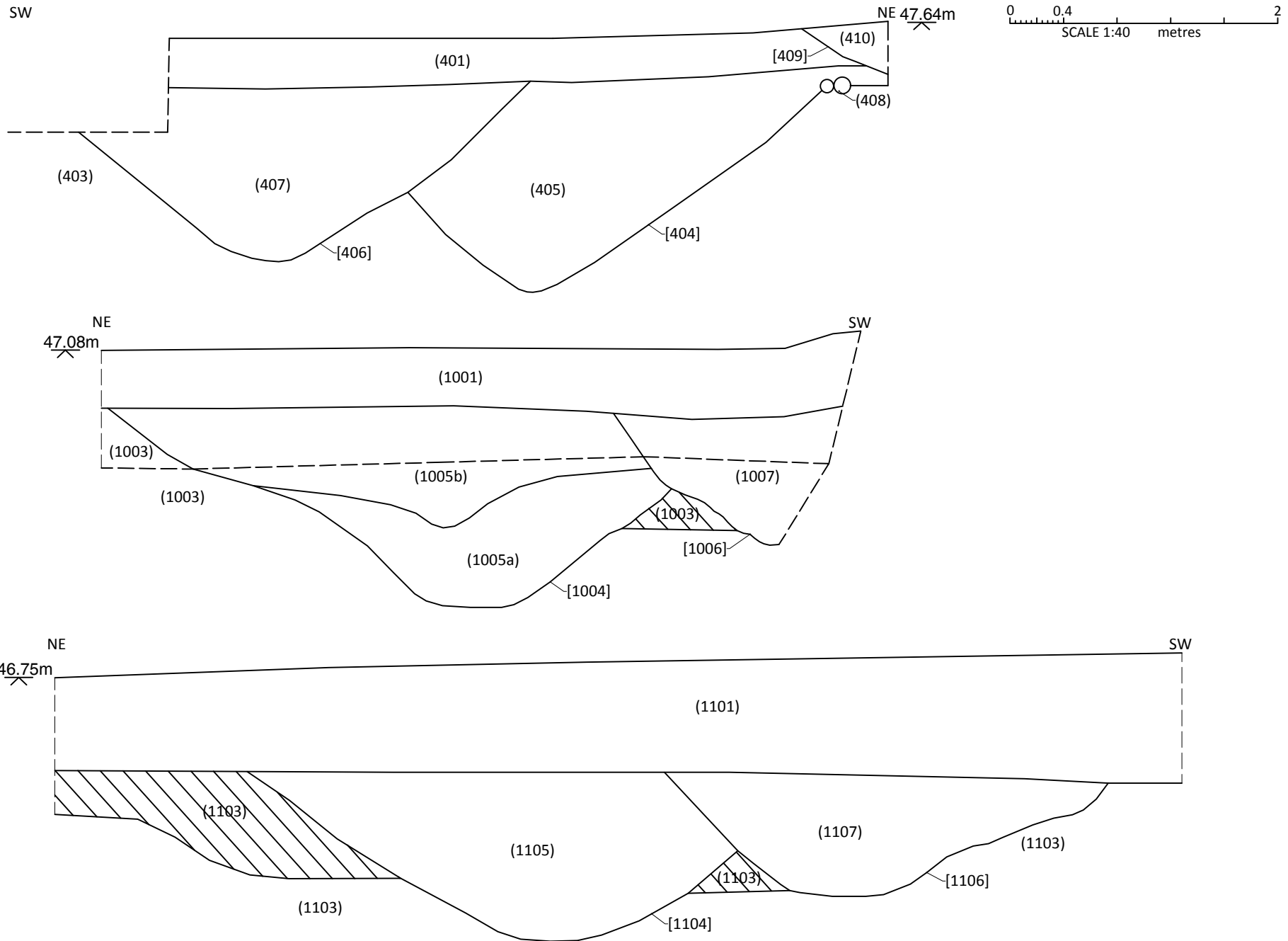


Figure 8: Sections of ditch and its recut exposed in of Trench 4, 10 and 11.

Wye College, Wye - Map regression



Figure 9a: Map 1769 (W. Herbert, A. Dury). Arrow indicates the location of discovered ditch. Map shows buildings within PDA area. Collegiate suppose to be shown between the church and buildings (below the arrow).



Figure 9b: Map from 1789. Arrow indicates the location of discovered ditch and map clearly shows empty field. To the left of number 1 there is a house and potential ditch directed towards the collegiate (2) but the alignment doesn't match with ditch discovered during evaluation.



Figure 9c: OS map (six inch) from 1872. Arrow indicates location and alignment of discovered ditch. The new field boundary matches the alignment of discovered ditch but is slightly out of place to the south.



Figure 9d: OS map from 1896. Arrow indicates location and alignment of discovered ditch. Potentially there could be a ditch on the north side of the footpath.



Figure 9e: OS map from 1906. New buildings appear alongside the footpath and house was replaced with row of terrace houses potentially providing the reason to alter the course of the ditch.

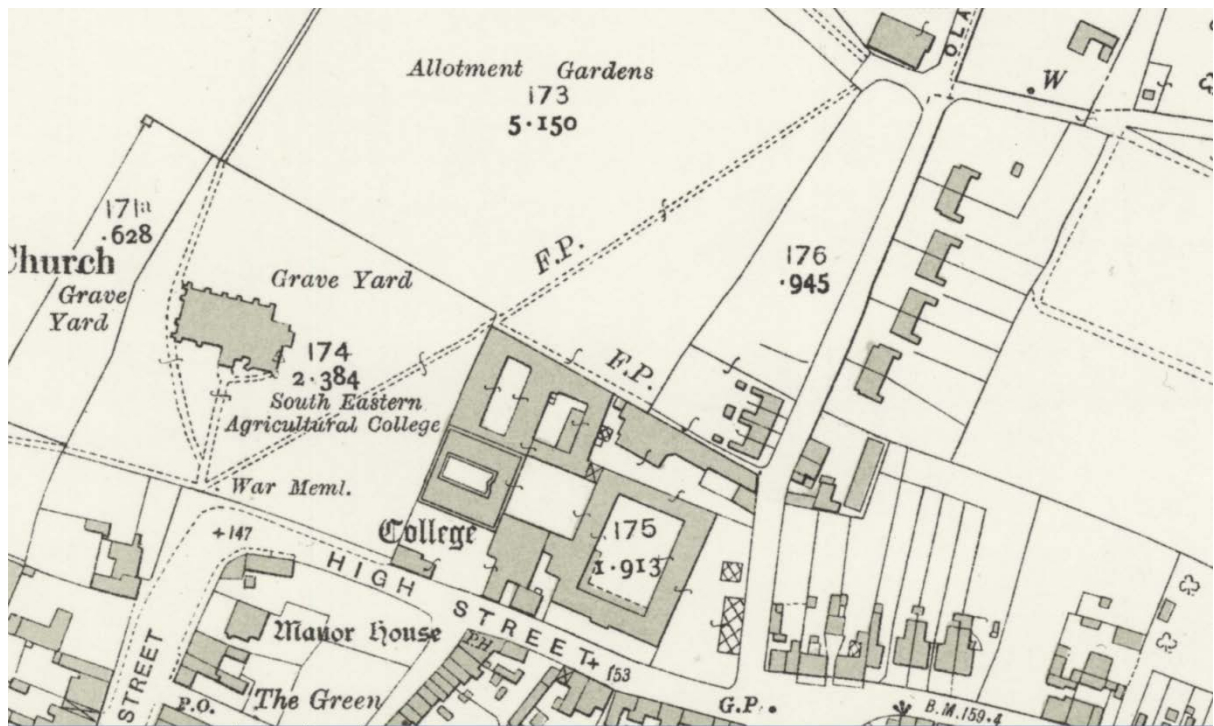


Figure 9f: OS map from 1931. Nothing changed regarding the ditch



Figure 9g: 1940 aerial photograph (Google). New building appears to the north of footpath. The new building is on the course of first ditch but is bypassed by the recut ditch placed slightly off to the south

Plates



Plate 1: Looking south west at the site from north east corner



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Plate 5: Looking south west at trench 9



Plate 6: Finds produced by ditch revealed in Trench 10