Archaeological Evaluation of Land between The Glenmore Centre and Tyreweb, Crowbridge Road, Willesborough, Kent

Site Code: CRA-EV-24

NGR Site Centre: 602740 140817

Planning Application Number: 2023/1423

Report for;

Kent Structures

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Summary

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Mr Daniel Calnan of Kent Structures to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land between the Glenmore Centre and Tyreweb, Crowbridge Road, Wellesborough in Ashford, Kent. The works have been carried out as part of a planning condition which required an archaeological evaluation in order to further characterise the potential archaeological impact from any proposed development. The archaeological programme was monitored by the Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in evaluating the proposed development site for the possibility of archaeological remains. Despite the archaeological potential of the site no early archaeological finds or features were recorded within any of the trenches. The presence of modern finds within stratigraphical sealed features has suggested that the site has been subject to extensive landscaping, most likely when the surrounding industrial estate was constructed. It is suggested that the natural clay has been previously exposed, and possibly reduced, followed by the relaying of imported landscaping material when the site was raised to current levels.

The archaeological evaluation has therefore fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the Specification and has assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Senior Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

Archaeological Evaluation of Land between The Glenmore Centre and Tyreweb, Crowbridge Road, Willesborough, Kent

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Mr Daniel Calnan of Kent Structures to undertake an Archaeological Evaluation of land between the Glenmore centre and Tyreweb, Crowbridge Road, Wellesborough in Ashford, Kent (Figure 1).

1.1.2 A planning application (PAN: 2023/1423) for the redevelopment of the site to include new storage and distribution unit (Class B8) with vehicle parking and turning area has been submitted to Ashford Borough Council (ABC). Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), who provide an advisory service to ABC, requested that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken on a previous application for the site, in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

1.1.3 A Condition of archaeological works was attached to the Planning Decision Notice, as follows:

No development shall take place 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.

Reason: *To ensure appropriate assessment of the archaeological implications of any development proposals and the subsequent mitigation of adverse impacts through preservation in situ or by record.*

1.1.4 The archaeological evaluation, which initially comprised the excavation of six trenches measuring up to 25m in length and 1.8m in width, was carried out over the course of three days in August 2024 (See Table 1 below). The evaluation was carried out in accordance with an

archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by SWAT Archaeology (2024), prior to commencement of works.

1.2 Timetable

1.2.1 A timetable for the archaeological programme of works, to date, is provided below;

Task	*Dates*	*Personnel/Company*
Submission of the Written Scheme of Investigation	14th February 2024	SWAT Archaeology
Archaeological Evaluation – Fieldwork	19th August 2024 to 20th August 2024	SWAT Archaeology
Archaeological Evaluation Report	This document	SWAT Archaeology

Table 1 Timetable for the archaeological programme of works

1.3 Site Description and Topography

1.3.1 The site is centred on NGR 602740 140817 in the vicinity of Sevington and just north of the A2070 highway with Aylesford Green to the north and New Town to the west. To the north is the main rail link to London. To the east is the site of Boys Hall with medieval moat (Figure 1).

1.3.2 The proposed site is broadly L-shaped in plan encompassing an area of approximately 4,971sq.m with ground levels reasonably horizontal at a height of approximately 39.5m Ordnance Datum (OD). The area available for evaluation trenching was around an existing industrial unit, currently in use (Plate 1), within former open space. The site had recently undergone an ecology destructive survey and so was relatively uneven and there was a large, raised earth bund around the northern extent of the site (Figure 2).

1.3.3 The Geological Survey of Great Britain (BGS) shows that the site is located on Weald Clay Formation - Mudstone, sedimentary bedrock formed between 133.9 and 126.3 million years ago during the Cretaceous period. No superficial deposits are recorded for the site (BGS, accessed 08/09/2024).

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report has been produced to provide initial information regarding the results of the archaeological evaluation. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Senior Archaeological Officer (KCC) of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The proposed development area is located close to a number of archaeological sites which are identified on the KCCHER database. The archaeological WSI prepared by SWAT Archaeology (2024) provides a summary of the historical and archaeological background, provided herewith;

2.1.2 The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is located close to several archaeological sites which are identified on the KCCHER database. These include about 60m west of the PDA medieval pits and ditches west of Boys Hall (TR 04 SW 376). To the north at about 110m Iron Age ditches and pits have been identified (TR 04 SW 561). About 115m northeast and on land adjacent to Boys Hall moat Late Bronze Age to Iron Age features have been identified (TR 04 SW 138) and at about 250m east of the PDA is the moat and site of Boys Hall.

2.1.3 There are also several investigated archaeological sites located in the vicinity of the site and include an archaeological evaluation carried out in March 1990 by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit which identified six discreet areas with one Late Iron-Age (Site 1), two Belgic/early Romano-British (Sites 2, 3), one Romano-British (Site 4) and two medieval (Sites 5, 6). One of the proposed archaeological trenches will impact on Site 6 which is recorded as having five ditches, one deep pit, four shallow pits containing 'much charcoal and medieval pottery' (Figure 4).

2.1.4 The National Heritage List for England reports on that the site of Boys Hall east of the PDA includes that:

The monument includes a rectangular medieval moated site and associated garden earthworks situated on low lying ground on the northern side of the broad valley of the River East Stour. The moated site is an NNW-SSE orientated island of 1.6ha 4 *surrounded by a water-filled moat between 6m and 15m wide. On the outer side of the northwestern and southeastern arms of the moat are earthworks indicating the original causeways, which provided access onto the island. Although no upstanding buildings survive, fragments of roof and floor tiles, building mortar and medieval pottery sherds, indicating the former presence of a known manorial residence, were found on the island during a recent archaeological survey of the site. Traces of the buildings can be expected to survive as buried features beneath the present ground surface. Surrounding the moat are the remains of an elaborate formal garden believed to have been laid out in the late 16th or early 17th centuries, sometime after the original construction of the moat, but before the abandonment of the site as a residence by the 1630's* (KCCHER TR 04 SW 2).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The specific objectives of the archaeological fieldwork were set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (SWAT Archaeology 2024: 6.1) as stated below:

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 archaeological activity and in particular the earlier prehistoric, Roman, Early medieval and later archaeological activity.

3.2 General Aims

3.2.1 The general aims (or purpose) of the evaluation, in compliance with the CIfA *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2023), were:

- To determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or remains;
- To record the character, date, location, and preservation of any archaeological remains on Site; and
- To record the nature and extent of any previous damage to archaeological deposits or remain on site.

3.3 Specific Aims

3.3.1 The specific aims of the investigation were:

- To excavate six trenches within the site to expose the surface of any underlying archaeological horizon or the natural ground;
- To clean the base and representative sections of the trench and record it in both plan and representative section;
- To partially excavate any identified archaeological features so as to ascertain their extent, form, function and, where possible, date;
- To inform the need (or otherwise) for any future archaeological works on the site by means of an illustrated report.

3.4 General Objectives

3.4.1 The objectives of the investigation were:

- To undertake the archaeological evaluation to provide further information prior to the construction of the proposed development;
- To undertake work in accordance with national and local best practices and guidelines;
- To archaeologically record any deposits, features or structures of significance);
- To analyse any remains with reference to the existing documentary evidence for historical development and land use;
- To produce a written account to include summary, site description, deposit descriptions, deposit levels (relative to Ordnance Datum) and conclusions;
- To disseminate the findings of the work in an illustrated report, integrating the findings of the archaeological evaluation to produce as comprehensive a record as possible; and
- Provide an ordered archive.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in the Specification (SWAT Archaeology 2024) and carried out in compliance with the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (CIfA 2023).

4.2 Fieldwork

4.2.1 A total of five evaluation trenches were excavated, as shown on Figure 2, and Plate 2, out of the six proposed. Excavation was carried out using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, removing the overburden to the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon, under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

4.2.2 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 CIfA

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.

4.2.3 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.

4.3 Recording

4.3.1 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 OD heights.

4.3.2 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 and drone photography. A photographic register of all photographs taken is contained within the project archive.

4.3.3 A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. A full list is presented in Appendix 1. Layers and fills are identified in this report thus (101), whilst the cut of the feature is shown as [101]. 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.).

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 All trenches were mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision. Trenches were positioned to cover as many areas of the site as possible as set out in the WSI (Plate 2). The site, as shown on Figure 2 provides the trench layout with Figures 3-7 illustrating the results for each individual archaeological evaluation trench; Plates 1-16 consist of photographs of features and selected trenches that have been provided to supplement the text. Appendix 1 provides the stratigraphic sequence and contextual information for all trenches, with the location of Representative Sections provided on each Trench plan.

5.2 Stratigraphic Deposit Sequence

5.2.1 A relatively consistent stratigraphic sequence was recorded across the site comprising two distinct layers of topsoil overlying clean sandy silt which sealed natural clay. The upper topsoil layer was assigned a separate number from the lower in order to highlight the minimal impact caused during the ecological destructive survey.

5.2.2 A variation to this sequence was recoded within Trench 1 where redeposited clay had been used to raise ground levels (see below). The natural geology consisted of mid orange, yellow and brown stiff clay.

5.3 Archaeological Narrative

Trenches 1-5 (Figures 3-7, Plates 3-16)

5.3.1 The mechanical excavation of all trenches was carried out over the course of two days in August 2024. Once trenches had been fully excavated features of potential archaeological interest were surveyed and then investigated by hand. The majority of 'features' were examined until feature (505) within Trench 5 was found to contain the remains of a polystyrene cup secure within the lower fill of the feature (Plate 15 and Plate 16).

5.3.2 At this point careful re-examination of the soils sequence was carried out, with particular attention given to Trench 5, when it was confirmed that the overlying brown sandy silt recorded in Trenches 2-5 (203, 303, 403 and 503) sealed all potential features. The presence of modern deposits directly below that layer confirmed that the site has been previously excavated exposing natural clay and that the 'features' present were most likely modern impacts. Nevertheless, excavated features were still recorded (as deposits), surveyed and have been plotted on Figures included within this report. Individual trench descriptions are provided below.

5.3.3 Trench 1 was located within the southern extent of the site, within a narrow corridor east of the existing factory and west of a shallow drain. This trench was excavated on a NE-SW alignment and measured 24.8m in length (Figure 3) with a maximum depth of 1.35m (Plates 4-6). Natural geological horizons (104) were recorded at a level of approximately 38.51m OD, sealed below a layer of modern redeposited clay (103). No archaeological finds or features were recorded within this trench.

5.3.4 Trench 2 was located within the eastern extent of the site, north of Trench 1. This trench was excavated on a NW-SE alignment and measured 21.5m in length (Figure 4) with a maximum depth of 0.81m (Plates 7-8). Natural geological horizons (204) were recorded at a level of approximately 38.7m OD, sealed below modern redeposited sandy silt (203). Two possible

feature (205) and 206) were investigation within this trench, both with mottled grey and brown fill and no finds. No archaeological features of interest were recorded.

5.3.5 Within the central area of the site adjacent to the western boundary, Trench 3 was excavated on an NE-SW alignment and measured approximately 17.5m in length, 1.8m in width with a maximum depth of 0.62m (Figure 5, Plates 9-10). Three possible linears features and a single oval feature were examined within this trench, all of which contained the same mottled dark grey, brown silty clay (304, 305, 306, and 307) and which were sealed by layer (303). No archaeological finds were recorded.

5.3.6 Within the central western extent of the site (Figure 2), Trench 4 was excavated on a E-W alignment and measured approximately 17.8m in length, 1.8m in width with a maximum depth of 0.78m (Figure 6). Natural geological deposits (403) were recorded at a level of approximately 38.85m OD (Plates 11-12). Five possible features were recorded within this trench, including two linear features (405 and 406) and three circular features (407, 408, and 409). All features were less than 0.05m in depth, all contained similar fills with no dateable finds.

5.3.7 Within the central northern extent of the site (Figure 2), Trench 5 was excavated on an N-S alignment and measured approximately 19m in length, 1.8m in width with a maximum depth of 0.48m (Figure 7, Plates 13-14). Natural geological deposits (503) were recorded at a level of approximately 38.95m OD.

5.3.8 Potential archaeological features within this trench included a possible ring ditch (505), a large linear (506), a pit (507) and a cleaning cut intervention, possibly archaeological (Figure 7). No dateable finds were recorded within feature (507) which consisted of a shallow undulation approximately 0.03m in depth. Directly to the north the first of two interventions was visible, the second being further to the north. Examination of the second larger intervention show the feature to be no more than 0.08m in depth (506); a shallow sunken undulation, rather than a substantial feature as was originally expected.

5.3.9 Within the northern extent of the trench the investigation of the possible ring ditch recorded the presence of a modern polystyrene cup on the base of the feature which measured approximately 0.12m in depth. The discovery of this find within a secure feature allowed for a reassessment of the site stratigraphy after which it was concluded that the overlying ground had clearly been redeposited during modern times.

5.3.10 At this stage, recording of all investigated features was completed, no further archaeological works were carried out on the site.

5.3.11 Trench 6 was located within an area occupied by a large artificial earth bund (Plate 17). Access and safe working conditions were of concern for this location and so it was decided that this trench would be left out of the current evaluation. The KCC Senior Officer was notified of this decision during the fieldwork.

6 FINDS

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 No finds of archaeological significance were present within the evaluation trenches.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Archaeological Narrative

7.1.1 The archaeological investigation on land between the Glenmore centre and Tyreweb, Crowbridge Road, Wellesborough in Ashford, Kent has investigated the extents of the proposed development area using five trenches, measuring between 17.5m and 24.8m in length and 1.8m in width. The natural geology was encountered within all trenches at an average depth of approximately 0.6m below a layer of deposited sandy silt, which contained moderate modern building waste, that sealed potential features containing modern glass and a polystyrene cup.

7.1.2 The nature of the redeposited layer above natural clay was certainly not expected, in fact it was initially assumed that this layer represented a well-preserved layer of intact subsoil. However, further examination of the soils sequence and investigation of 'features' below it confirmed the likelihood that the site had been reduced in the past, possibly during the construction of the surrounding industrial estate. Features of interest were examined, but no archaeological finds were present. It is possible that features that contained no modern material may be of archaeological interest, but the fact that the natural clay had been exposed, trampled and possibly reduced, would suggest otherwise.

7.1.3 It is worthy of note that two areas of disturbance within Trench 5 appeared to represent cleanly cut rectangular interventions, as would be expected from an archaeological investigation. Investigations were carried out by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit prior to the construction of adjacent factories, but unfortunately it would appear that nothing has been published and only scant information can be traced (see WSI, SWAT Archaeology 2024). It is of course possible that the site was reduced as part of those investigations.

7.1.4 Despite the archaeological potential of the site no early archaeological finds or features were recorded within any of the trenches. The recording of a disturbed natural clay directly below

modern redeposited landscaping deposits, coupled with the presence of modern disturbance, would certainly suggest that preservation conditions are reasonably poor, particularly for earlier archaeological periods.

7.2 Conclusions

7.2.1 The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification and has assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The area evaluated measured 4,971sq.m giving and evaluation sample size of approximately 4%.

7.2.2 The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Senior Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

8 ARCHIVE

8.1 General

8.1.1 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).

8.1.2 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 and A4 graphics. The Site Archive will be retained at SWAT Archaeology offices until such time it can be transferred to a Kent Museum.

9 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

9.1.1 SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Mr Daniel Calnan of Kent Structures for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Wendy Rogers, Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council, for her advice and assistance.

9.1.2 David Britchfield BA (Hons) MCIfA carried out the archaeological fieldwork assisted by Peter Cichy and Bartek Cichy; illustrations were produced by Ravelin Archaeological Services. David Britchfield produced the draft text for this report. The Project Manager for the project was Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA, FRSA of SWAT Archaeology.

10 REFERENCES

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SMA 1995. *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive*, Society of Museum Archaeologists

SWAT Archaeology (2023) *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation on land between the Glenmore centre and Tyreweb, Crowbridge Road, Wellesborough in Ashford, Kent*

Websites

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: https://www.archaeologists.net/

British Geological Society (BGS): https://www.bgs.ac.uk/

Kent County Council Historic Environment Record: https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/

11 APPENDIX 1 – TRENCH TABLES

Table 2 Stratigraphic Sequence Trench 1

Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS1/1*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(101)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.15
(102)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.15-0.33
Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS1/2*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(101)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.27
(102)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.27-0.46
(103)	Buff yellow stiff clay - redeposited	Made ground	0.46-0.81
(104)	Mid grey, brown stiff clay, sterile	Natural	0.81-0.87+
Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS1/3*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(101)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.14
(102)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.14-0.68
(103)	Buff yellow stiff clay - redeposited	Made ground	0.68-1.17
(104)	Mid grey, brown stiff clay, sterile	Natural	1.17-1.35+

Table 3 Stratigraphic Sequence Trench 2

Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS2/1*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(201)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.26
(202)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.26-0.63
(203)	Mide grey, brown sandy silt	Made ground	0.63-0.81
(204)	Mid grey, brown stiff clay, sterile	Natural	0.81+
Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS2/2*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(201)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.13

Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS2/1*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(202)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.13-0.21
(203)	Mid grey, brown sandy silt	Made ground	0.21-0.91
(204)	Mid grey, brown stiff clay, sterile	Natural	0.91-0.98+
(205)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-
(206)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-

Table 4 Stratigraphic Sequence Trench 3

Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS3/1*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(301)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.10
(302)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.10-0.36
(303)	Mid grey, brown sandy silt	Made ground	0.36-0.81
(304)	Mid grey, brown stiff clay, sterile	Natural	0.81-0.95+
Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS3/2*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(301)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.17
(302)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.17-0.46
(303)	Mide grey, brown sandy silt	Made ground	0.46-0.87
(304)	Mid grey, brown stiff clay, sterile	Natural	0.87-0.99+
(305)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-
(306)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay, with fragments of modern glass	Possible feature	-
(307)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-
(308)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-

Table 5 Stratigraphic Sequence Trench 4

Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS4/1*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(401)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.22

Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS4/1*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(402)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.22-0.38
(403)	Mide grey, brown sandy silt	Made ground	0.38-0.62
(404)	Mid grey, brown stiff clay, sterile	Natural	0.62-0.78+
Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS4/2*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(401)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.00-0.22
(402)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.22-0.35
(403)	Mide grey, brown sandy silt	Made ground	0.35-0.48
(404)	Mid grey, brown stiff clay, sterile	Natural	0.48-0.78+
(405)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-
(406)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-
(407)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-
(408)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-

Table 6 Stratigraphic Sequence Trench 5

Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS5/1*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(501)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.17
(502)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.17-0.35
(503)	Mid grey, brown sandy silt	Made ground	0.35-0.67
(504)	Mid orange, brown stiff clay	Natural	0.67-0.72+
Context Number	***Description*** *Representative Section RS5/2*	***Interpretation***	***Depths (m)***
(501)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone and shredded vegetation/roots	Topsoil (ecological)	0.00-0.28
(502)	Mid to dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone	Topsoil (landscaping)	0.14-0.28
(503)	Mide grey, brown sandy silt	Made ground	0.28-0.37
(504)	Mid orange, brown stiff clay	Natural	0.37-0.48+
(505)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-
(507)	Mottled grey and brown silt clay	Possible feature	-

12 APPENDIX 2 – HER FORM

Site Name: Land between the Glenmore centre and Tyreweb, Crowbridge Road, Wellesborough in Ashford, Kent

SWAT Site Code: CRA-EV-24

Site Address: As above

Summary. *Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Mr Daniel Calnan of Kent Structures to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land between the Glenmore Centre and Tyreweb, Crowbridge Road, Wellesborough in Ashford, Kent. The works have been carried out as part of a planning condition which required an archaeological evaluation in order to further characterise the potential archaeological impact from any proposed development.*

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in evaluating the proposed development site for the possibility of archaeological remains. Despite the archaeological potential of the site no early archaeological finds or features were recorded within any of the trenches. The presence of modern finds within stratigraphical sealed features has suggested that the site has been subject to extensive landscaping, most likely when the surrounding industrial estate was constructed. It is suggested that the natural clay has been previously exposed, and possibly reduced, followed by the relaying of imported landscaping material when the site was raised to current levels. The archaeological evaluation has therefore fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the Specification and has assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Senior Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

District/Unitary: Ashford Borough Council & Kent County Council

Period(s): Modern

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) NGR 602740 140817

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: August 2024

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

Geology: Weald Clay Formation - Mudstone

Title and author of accompanying report: D Britchfield (2024) Archaeological Evaluation of Land between the Glenmore centre and Tyreweb, Crowbridge Road, Wellesborough in Ashford, Kent. SWAT Archaeology Ref. CRA-EV-2024

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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Date: 08/09/2024

PLATES

Plate 1 The site, viewed from the west, prior to the start of the archaeological works

Plate 2 Aerial view of the site and excavated Trenches 1-5

Plate 3 The excavation of Trench 1, exposing redeposited clay (203)

Plate 4 Trench 1 on completion of excavation, exposing redeposited clay (203)

Plate 5 Trench 1, viewed from the southwest

Plate 6 Trench 1, redeposited clay (203) overlying natural clay (204)

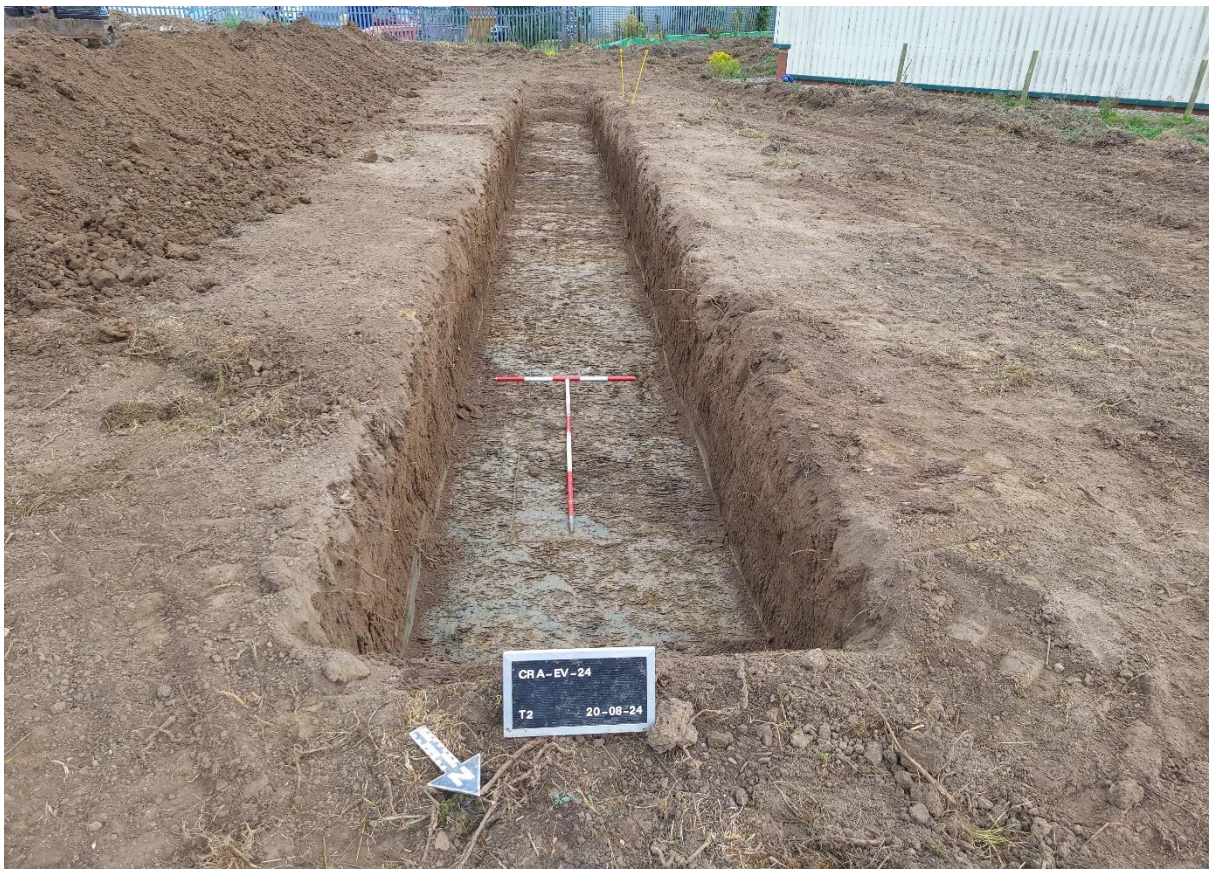


Plate 7 Trench 2, viewed from the northwest

Plate 8 Trench 2, viewed from the southeast

Plate 9 Trench 3, viewed from the southwest

Plate 10 Trench 3, viewed from the northeast

Plate 11 Trench 4, viewed from the east

Plate 12 Trench 4, viewed from the west

Plate 13 Trench 5, viewed from the north

Plate 14 Trench 5, viewed from the south

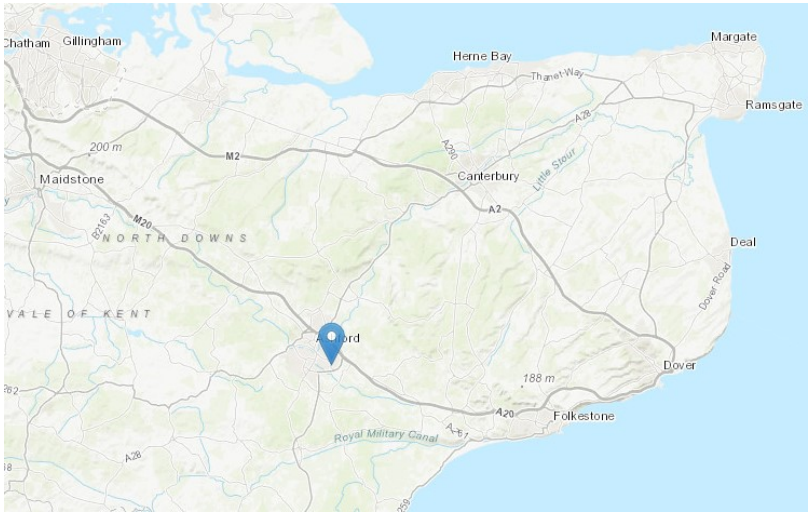
Plate 15 Investigation of feature (505) with polystyrene cup

Plate 16 Investigation of feature (505) with polystyrene cup (highlighted)

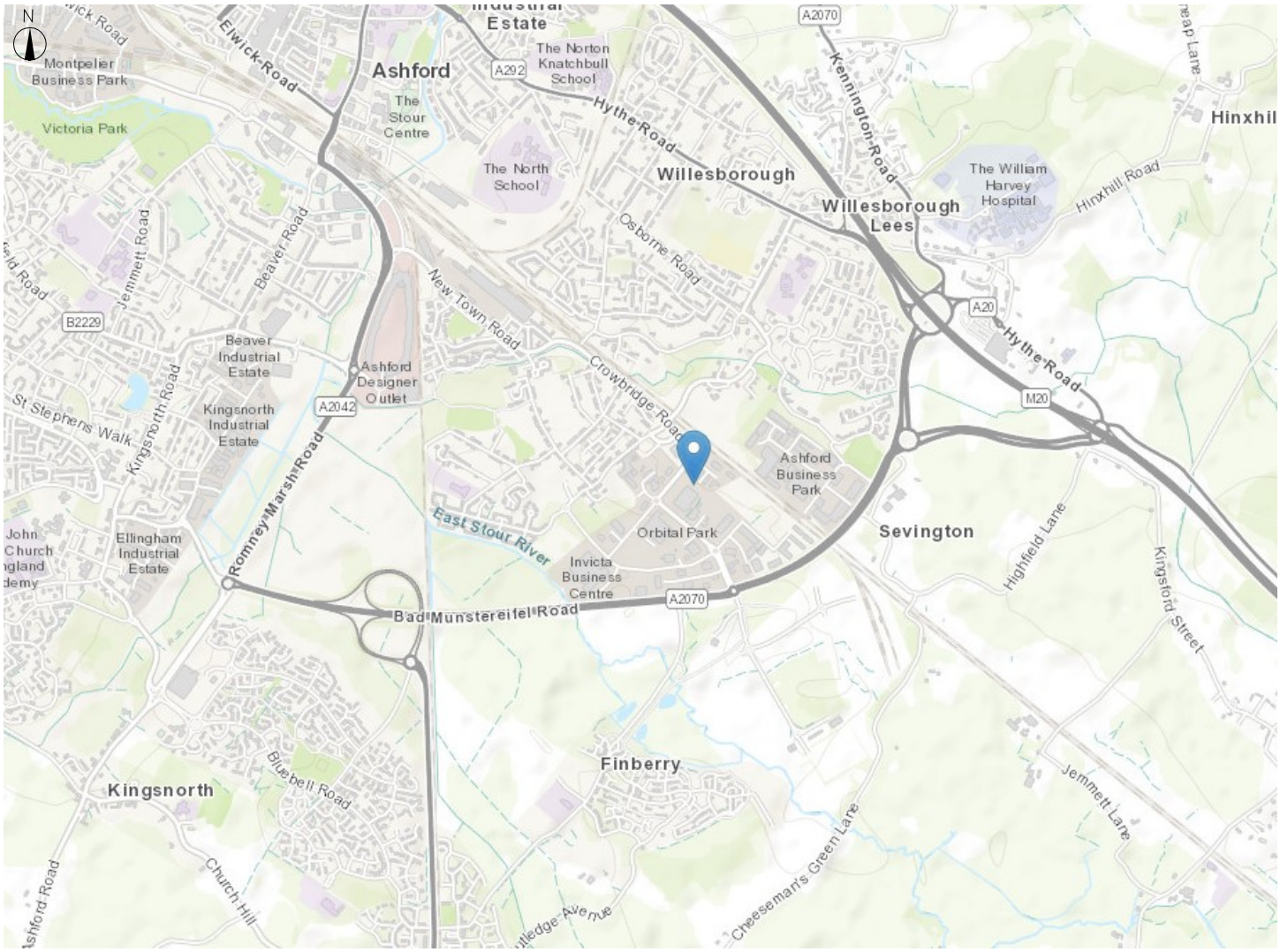
Plate 17 The proposed location for Trench 6

FIGURES

Map of UK (NTS)



Map of Kent (NTS)



Courtesy of National Library of Scotland

Figure 1 Site Location Plan

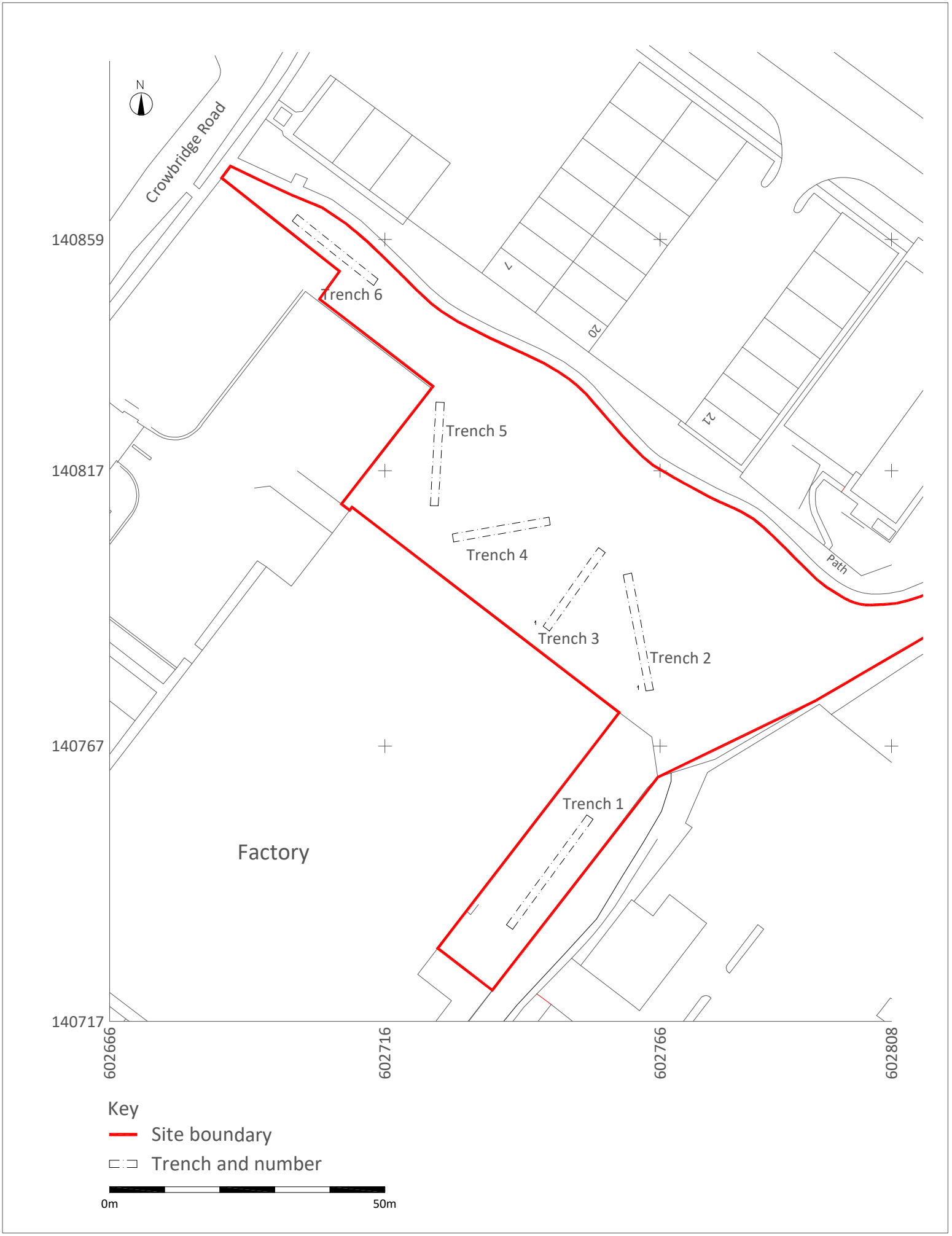
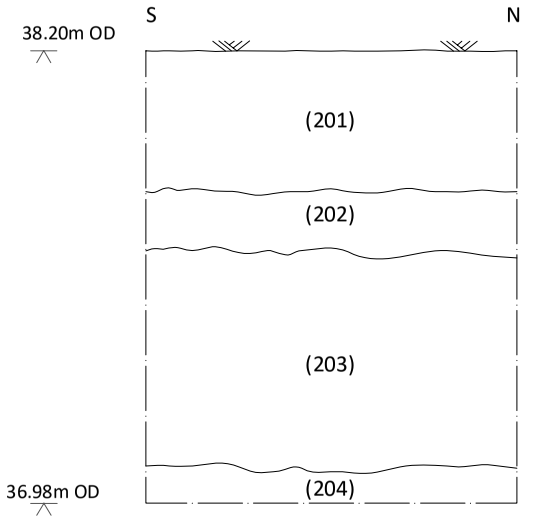
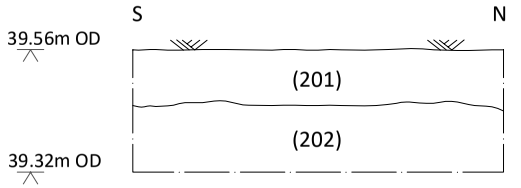


Figure 2 Site Plan



Representative Section (RS2/1)

0m 1m



Representative Section (RS2/2)

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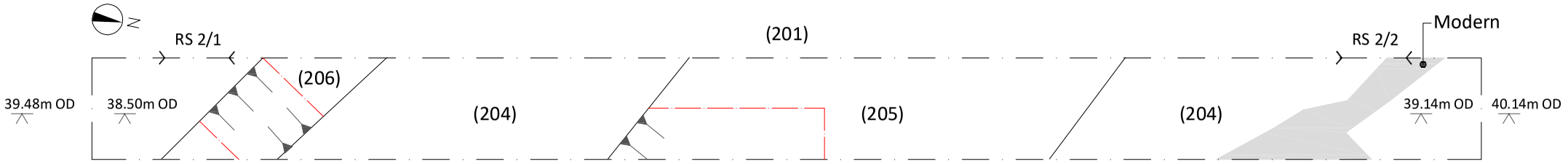


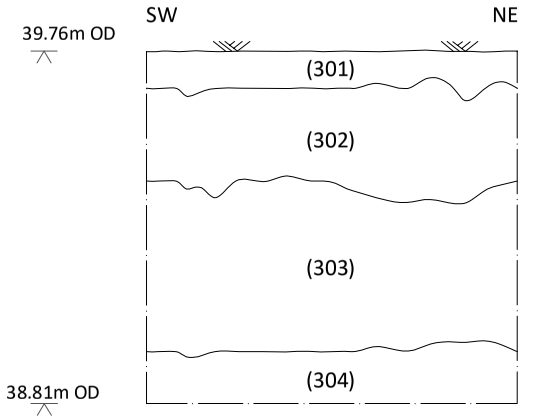
Trench 2 Plan

0m 2m

Trench 2 Plan

0m 2m

Figure 4 Trench 2 Details



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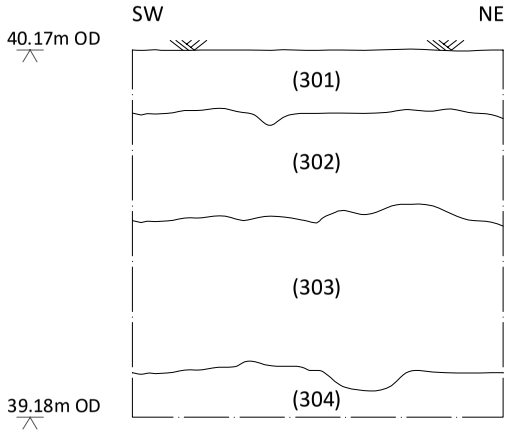

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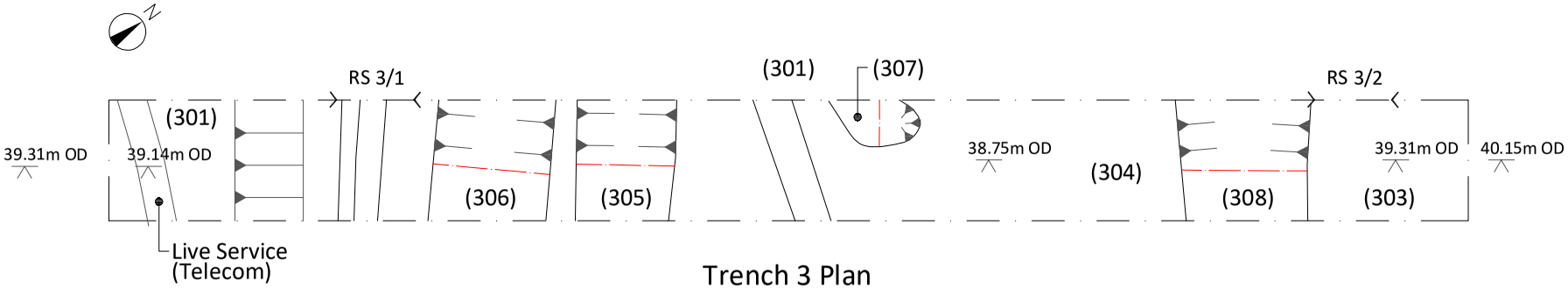


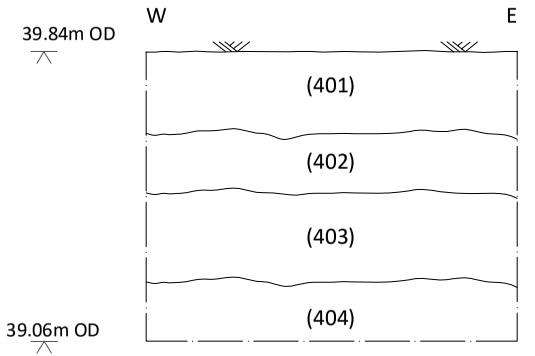
Trench 3 Plan

0m 2m

Trench 3 Plan

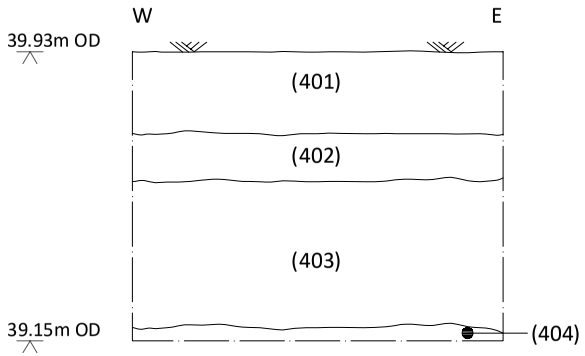
0m 2m

Figure 5 Trench 3 Details



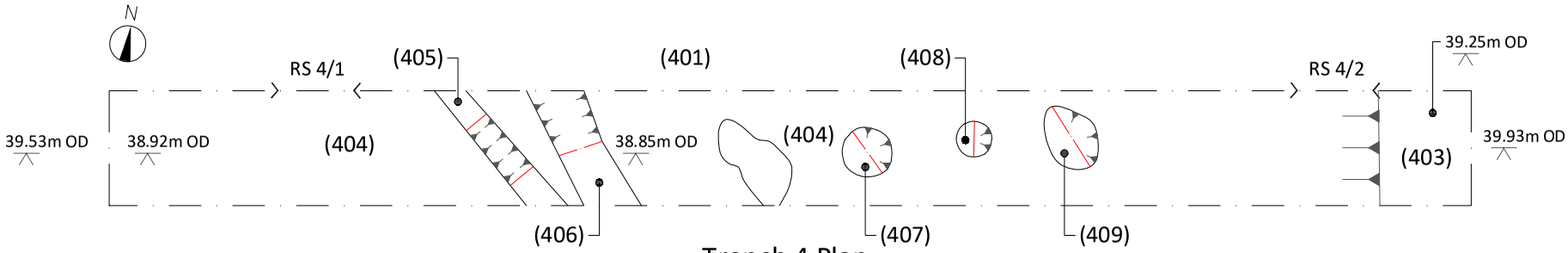
Representative Section (RS4/1)

0m 1m



Representative Section (RS4/2)

0m 1m



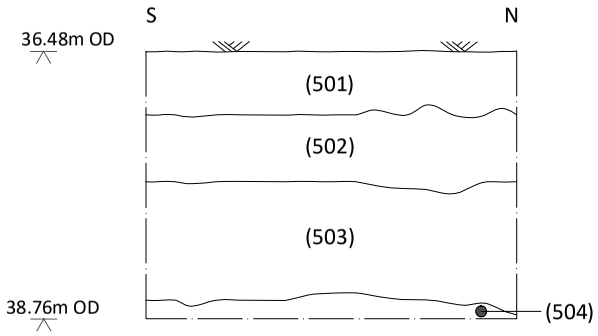
Trench 4 Plan

0m 2m

Trench 4 Plan

0m 2m

Figure 6 Trench 4 Details



Representative Section (RS5/1)

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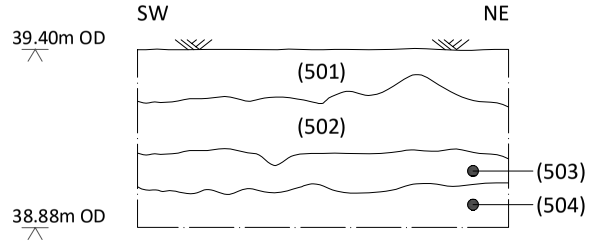

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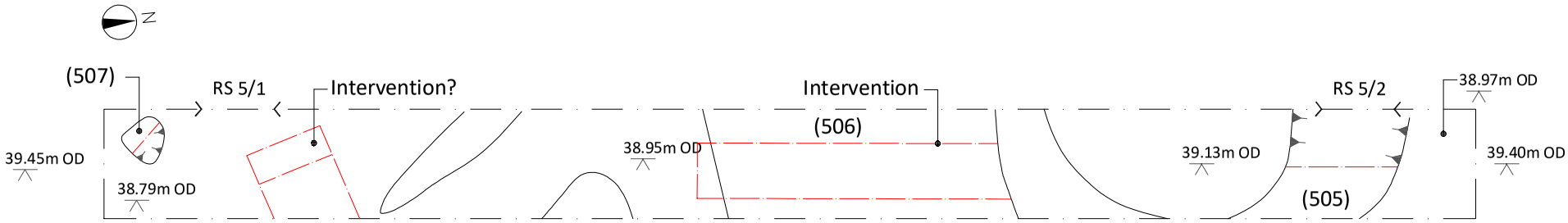

Trench 5 Plan

0m 2m

Trench 5 Plan

0m 2m

Figure 7 Trench 5 Details