

Archaeological Evaluation at Rosecroft Social Club

269 High Street, St Mary Cray

Orpington BR5 4AR

Site Centre: NGR: 547179 167339

SWAT Archaeology Site Code: RSC-EV-24

Museum of London Site Code: RSC23

Planning Application: DC/20/01947/FULL1



Report for;

Belldray Limited

23/02/2024

Document Reference: 34000.01

Version: v02

SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company

The Office, School Farm Oast, Graveney Road

Faversham, Kent ME13 8UP

Tel; 01795 532548 or 07885 700 112

info@swatarchaeology.co.uk www.swatarchaeology.co.uk

© SWAT Archaeology 2024 all rights reserved

Archaeological Evaluation at Rosecroft Social Club

269 High Street, St Mary Cray

Orpington BR5 4AR

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Project Background	1
1.2	Timetable	2
1.3	Site Description and Topography	2
1.4	Scope of Report	3
2	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	3
2.1	Introduction	3
2.2	Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Archaeology Collective 2020: 4.5-4.65).....	4
	<i>Prehistoric Periods</i>	4
	<i>Romano-British</i>	5
	<i>Anglo-Saxon</i>	5
	<i>Medieval</i>	6
	<i>Post medieval</i>	6
	<i>Overview</i>	7
3	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	7
3.1	Introduction	7
4	METHODOLOGY	7
4.1	Introduction	7
4.2	Fieldwork.....	8
4.3	Recording	8
5	RESULTS	9
5.1	Introduction	9
5.2	Stratigraphic Deposit Sequence	9

5.3	Archaeological Narrative.....	9
	<i>Trench 1 (Figure 4, Plates 3-7)</i>	9
	<i>Trench 2 (Figure 5, Plates 8-11)</i>	10
	<i>Trench 3 (Figure 6, Plates 12-16)</i>	10
6	FINDS	10
6.1	Overview	10
7	DISCUSSION	10
7.1	Introduction	10
7.2	Archaeological Narrative.....	10
7.3	Conclusions	11
8	ARCHIVE	11
8.1	General.....	11
9	ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	11
10	REFERENCES	12
11	APPENDIX 1 – TRENCH TABLES	13
12	APPENDIX 2 – OASIS FORM	14

Tables

Table 1	Timetable for the archaeological programme of works	2
---------	---	---

Plates

Plate 1	Panoramic shot of the site, viewed from the west	16
Plate 2	The western extent of the site, viewed from the southeast.....	16
Plate 3	The excavation of the eastern extent of Trench 1, viewed from the northeast	17
Plate 4	The excavation of Trench 1 with modern soakaway (107), viewed from the southeast	17
Plate 5	Trench 1, viewed from the southwest	18
Plate 6	Representative Section RS1/1, Trench 1 (with modern soakaway 105), viewed from the southwest.....	18
Plate 7	Representative Section RS1/2, Trench 1 (with modern soakaway 107), viewed from the southwest.....	19
Plate 8	Trench 2 following removal of concrete slab (201), viewed from the west	19
Plate 9	Trench 2, viewed from the west.....	20
Plate 10	Trench 2, viewed from the east.....	20

Plate 11 Representative Section RS2/1, Trench 2, viewed from the northeast.....	21
Plate 12 The location for Trench 3, pre-excavtion, viewed from the northwest.....	21
Plate 13 Trench 3, viewed from the north	22
Plate 14 Trench 3, viewed from the south	22
Plate 15 Representative Section RS3/1, Trench 3, viewed from the east.....	23
Plate 16 Representative Section RS3/2, Trench 3, viewed from the east.....	23

Figures

Figure 1	Site Location Plan
Figure 2	Site Plan
Figure 3	Trench Location Plan
Figure 4	Trench 1 Details
Figure 5	Trench 2 Details
Figure 6	Trench 3 Details

Summary

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned Mark Christian of Belldray Limited to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land at Rosecroft Social Club, 269 High Street, St Mary Cray, Orpington BR5 4AR. 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 Archaeology Advisor at the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service, on behalf of the local planning authority.

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in evaluating the proposed development site for the possibility of archaeological remains. Despite the archaeological potential of the surrounding area no archaeological finds or features were present within any of the three trenches excavated. This was primarily due to modern truncation associated with the construction of the existing buildings within the centre of the site, although areas of peripheral land did remain intact.

The archaeological evaluation has therefore been successful in fulfilling 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 Archaeology Advisor of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

Archaeological Evaluation at Rosecroft Social Club

269 High Street, St Mary Cray

Orpington BR5 4AR

Site Centre: NGR: 547179 167339

Site Code: RSC-EV-24

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Mark Christian of Belldray Limited to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land at Rosecroft Social Club, 269 High Street, St Mary Cray, Orpington BR5 4AR, hereafter 'The site' (Figure 1).

1.1.2 Development proposals comprise the restoration and conversion of original building to provide one two-bedroom and three one-bedroom flats incorporating demolition of existing extensions. The development also includes the erection of a pair of two storey semi-detached four-bedroom dwellings including accommodation in roof facing the High Street, and a pair of two storey semi-detached four-bedroom dwellings including accommodation in roof facing. In acknowledgement of the archaeological potential of the site, archaeological issues have been addressed as a condition attached to planning consent (Planning Application Number: DC/20/01947/FULL1) granted by Bromley Council subject to Condition 6 which states that;

No demolition or development shall take place until a stage 1 written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI, no demolition or development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI, and the programme and methodology of site evaluation and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works. If heritage assets of archaeological interest are identified by stage 1 then for those parts of the site which have archaeological interest a stage 2 WSI shall be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the stage 2 WSI, no demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed stage 2 WSI which shall include:

A. The statement of significance and research objectives, the programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works.

B. The programme for post-investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication & dissemination and deposition of resulting material. this part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the stage 2 WSI.

Reason: Required prior to commencement of any development because the site is of archaeological interest and detailed investigations should be undertaken to enable consideration to be given to preservation in situ and/or recording of items of interest in compliance with Policy 46 of the Bromley Local Plan.

(DC/20/01947/FULL1, Condition 6, dated 13/02/2023)

- 1.1.3 The archaeological evaluation, which comprised the excavation of three trenches measuring up to 20m in length and 1.8m in width, was carried out over the course of a single day in January 2024 (see Table 1 below). The evaluation follows the submission of a desk-based assessment produced by the Archaeology Collective in 2023. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with an archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by SWAT Archaeology (2023), 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
Desk-Based Assessment	2023	Archaeology Collective
Submission of the Written Scheme of Investigation	20 th December 2023	SWAT Archaeology
Archaeological Evaluation – Fieldwork	24 th January 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 547179 167339, southeast of central London within a residential urban area in the centre of St Mary Cray located in the London Borough of Bromley (Figure 1).

- 1.3.2 The proposed development area (Figure 2) measures approximately 0.25ha in area and is currently occupied by the former Rosecroft Social Club which was constructed in 1931. Small commercial buildings and residential properties surround the site to the east and north with Chelsfield Road to the immediate south and the High Street to the west. The site is relatively flat with levels at approximately 54m OD (Ordnance Datum).
- 1.3.3 According to the British Geological Society, the underlying solid geology across the site is recorded as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) – Chalk, a sedimentary bedrock formed in the Cretaceous Period, indicating a local environment previously dominated by warm chalk seas. The superficial geology comprises deposits of Taplow Gravel Member – Sand and Gravel formed in the Quaternary Period and indicating a local environment previously dominated by rivers.

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 Archaeology Advisor at Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) 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 within an Area of Archaeological Potential and a search of the archaeological and historic background shows that an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) was produced for the site in August 2020 (Archaeology Collective 2020) in support of the planning application. An extracted (for consistency) summary of the findings of the desk-based assessment is provided below, and considers sites and monuments recorded within a 500m radius of the proposed development.
- 2.1.2 The site is located within the Upper Cray Valley (DLO33106) Archaeological Priority Area (APA) as defined by the London Borough of Bromley and the Historic England Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS). The Upper Cray Valley APA has been identified as such in relation to the extensive area of prehistoric to post-medieval activity.

2.2 Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Archaeology Collective 2020: 4.5-4.65)

2.2.1 The assessment has confirmed that the application site does not contain any designated archaeological heritage assets of archaeological interest, such as World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments, registered parks and gardens or registered battlefields, where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in situ and against development.

2.2.2 There is one designated archaeological heritage asset within the study area. This comprises Romano-British masonry building and Saxon cemetery, Fordcroft, Orpington (1001973). The monument includes a Roman bathhouse and Anglo-Saxon cemetery surviving as upstanding and belowground remains. It is situated between Poverest Road and Fordcroft Road on an east-facing slope at the foot of a valley through which runs the River Cray.

Prehistoric Periods

2.2.3 The Palaeolithic period is considered as the earliest period of known human culture, although very little evidence of Palaeolithic activity survives beyond residual finds of flint artefacts, usually found along river terraces. A single flake (MLO583) dating to this period has been recovered from the study area c. 140m to the northwest of the Site.

2.2.4 Evidence of Mesolithic activity is also limited to similar finds and flint tools as the Palaeolithic period. Five lithic implements (MLO16334, MLO8040, MLO8050, MLO8182, MLO3157) all approximately 130m to the southwest of the site, and a scraper tool (MLO16334) c. 210 m to the southwest, have been recovered from the study area.

2.2.5 From around 4000 BC the mobile hunter-gathering economy of the Mesolithic gradually gave way to a more settled agriculture-based subsistence. The pace of woodland clearance to create arable and pasture-based agricultural land varied regionally and locally, depending on a wide variety of climatic, topographic, social, and other factors.

2.2.6 By the 1st millennium, i.e. 1000 BC, the landscape within the study area was probably a mix of extensive tracts of open farmland, punctuated by earthwork burial and ceremonial monuments, with settlements, ritual areas, and defended locations reflecting an increasingly hierarchical society.

2.2.7 The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods were characterised by the development of early farming communities and the introduction of large-scale burial monuments. Few excavations have produced any evidence of Neolithic activity. There are no assets of Neolithic date recorded within the study area.

2.2.8 There are three assets dating to this period comprising a Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age vessel (MLO5528) and a Late Iron Age vessel (MLO5528); as well as an urn dating to the Late Iron Age or possible to the Early Roman period (MLO19292). There are three remaining records date to the Prehistoric period more broadly comprising a flake (MLO76245) and two lithic implements (MLO8030 & MLO8031).

2.2.9 The study area lies within the Upper Cray Valley Archaeological Priority Area, which has been assigned because of the area's potential for prehistoric archaeology; in particular, early prehistoric activity across the Taplow gravel terraces.

Romano-British

2.2.10 Just on the border of the study area lies the Romano-British masonry building and Saxon cemetery, Fordcroft, Orpington (1001973), located c.490m to the north-west of the site. The monument includes a Roman bath house and is situated between Poverest Road and Fordcroft Road on an east-facing slope at the foot of a valley through which runs the River Cray. The Roman bathhouse is likely to have been part of a larger complex of buildings such as a minor Romano-British villa. There are three assets dating to this period in the immediate vicinity of the scheduled monument. These comprise traces of a Roman wall and quantity of pottery (MLO566); and three pots (MLO16818, MLO1327 & MLO1833).

2.2.11 There is further evidence of occupation through building remains within the study area, including wall plaster (MLO1334); mortarium (MLO1334); and building material (MLO8181). Further evidence of occupation features include ditches and post holes (MLO557, MLO106567); a pit (MLO3194); and a corn drying kiln (MLO1359). In the immediate vicinity of the site, an excavation at Wellington Road, indicated the presence of an occupation site approximately 100m to the west of the site with the presence of ditches, pits, postholes and a cobbled area (MLO559). There is evidence for Roman burial remains (MLO19732) c. 290m south of the site at Northfield Avenue. An archaeological evaluation opposite the site at 3-7 Kent Road recovered a Roman pot (MLO67546) during the fieldwork.

Anglo-Saxon

2.2.12 The GLHER holds the record for two records for heritage assets of Saxon/early medieval date within the study area. There are no records within the site.

2.2.13 Within the wider area settlement activity continued into the Saxon period, with an extensive scheduled Saxon cemetery (1001973) recorded c.490m to the north-west of the site. This cemetery comprises buried remains including approximately 85 inhumations and cremations.

The inhumations are primarily orientated east-west and the grave goods found in conjunction with the burials indicate that the remains date to approximately AD 450 and AD 550.

- 2.2.14 Later Saxon finds were recovered during an excavation c. 481m to the northeast of the site including a fragment of a penny of Cnut and a complete penny of Edward the Confessor (MLO25698).

Medieval

- 2.2.15 St. Mary Cray is mentioned in the Domesday Book, but as Seynte Crey and Sentlinge, referring to its former name of South Cray, as it was the southernmost of the parishes which take their name from the river Cray.
- 2.2.16 The placename St Mary Cray dates back as early as the reign of King Edward I, with the thirteenth century church dedicated to St Mary (MLO107425) located c. 1km to the north of the site, along the High Street.
- 2.2.17 The GLHER holds one record for an asset of medieval date within the study area, which comprises the findspot of a lead seal matrix found c. 340m to the north of the Site (MLO25561).

Post medieval

- 2.2.18 The GLHER holds records for five non-designated heritage assets of post-medieval or modern date within the study area, none of which are located within the site.
- 2.2.19 Post-medieval settlement activity is recorded to the north of the site at 263 High Street in the form of a pit containing pottery (MLO103531). Further evidence of post-medieval settlement activity in the area comprises unspecified evidence of occupation (MLO8039), while the remaining records date to the modern period and include finds of pottery (MLO103529, MLO77763 & MLO103530) and tiles (MLO103529, MLO77763).
- 2.2.20 Based on the information within the Greater London Historic Environment Record (Greater London HER), supplemented by historic mapping, the site was developed in the nineteenth century for residential use prior to its redevelopment into the Rosecroft Social Club now extant within the site.
- 2.2.21 Sub-surface archaeological remains present within the footprint of the buildings on site are likely to have been at least partially truncated during construction of the previous and current buildings across the site.

Overview

- 2.2.22 It was considered that the site is unlikely to contain any extensive archaeological deposits of high significance or value which would require preservation in situ. Below ground effects on potential archaeological remains may be anticipated because of the proposed development.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The principal aims of the archaeological work were to record the location, extent, date, nature, character, and significance of archaeological remains as may exist on the site and to report on the results of the archaeological work so that an informed decision on their subsequent treatment can be made in light of the impact of the proposed development.

- 3.1.2 The principle aims of the archaeological work were:

- to establish whether any archaeological remains are present within the site and to record and characterise them;
- to establish the archaeological impact caused by the existing development;

- 3.1.3 The general aims of the archaeological work were:

- to provide information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature, and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record all archaeological features revealed during the fieldwork;
- to establish a broad phased plan of the archaeology revealed during the fieldwork;
- to investigate the function of any structural remains and the activities taking place within, and close to, the site to identify, expose, plan, and investigate the archaeological resource within a framework of defined aims;
- to seek a better understanding of the said archaeological resource; and
- to determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence where development is proposed.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in the Specification (SWAT Archaeology 2023) and carried out in compliance with the standards outlined in the

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (CIfA 2014).

4.2 Fieldwork

- 4.2.1 A total of three evaluation trenches were excavated (Figure 3). Each trench was initially scanned by a metal detector for surface finds prior to excavation. 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 GLASS 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. 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 (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+).

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 All trenches were mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision. Trenches were positioned in order to cover as many areas of the site as possible as set out in the WSI. Relocation and re-orientation of the trenches was required when on-site obstacles were present.
- 5.1.2 The site is shown on Figures 1-2 with Figure 3 providing the trench layout. Figures 4-6 illustrate the results for each individual archaeological evaluation trench while Plates 1-16 consist of photographs of trenches that have been provided to supplement the text.
- 5.1.3 Appendix 1 provides the stratigraphic sequence and contextual information for all trenches, with the location of Representative Sections provided on each Trench plan (Figures 4 to 6).

5.2 Stratigraphic Deposit Sequence

- 5.2.1 A relatively consistent stratigraphic sequence was recorded across the majority of the site comprising topsoil sealing an intact subsoil, which overlay the natural geological drift deposits. Truncation of this sequence had occurred within all three trenches (see below) comprising modern drainage/services and moderate rooting.
- 5.2.2 The topsoil generally consisted of dark grey brown silt clay, moderate roots, and occasional small rounded stones, topped with grass/scrub, overlying the subsoil which consisted of dark red brown silt clay. Where hardstanding was present a concrete slab and hardcore formation levels had replaced the topsoil, but the subsoil remained relatively intact. Natural geology largely comprised compact sand silt gravels (Taplow Gravel Member).

5.3 Archaeological Narrative

Trench 1 (Figure 4, Plates 3-7)

- 5.3.1 Within the northern extent of the site (Figure 2), Trench 1 was excavated on an E-W alignment and measured approximately 12m in length, 1.8m in width with a maximum depth of 1.38m (Figure 4). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 53.06m OD and 54.44m OD. This trench was slightly relocated due to the presence of existing drainage trenches visible via inspection hole covers on the surface.
- 5.3.2 Present within the central area of this trench was a modern brick-built domed soakaway (107) surrounded by modern backfill (108). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 52.26m OD and 53.04m OD. No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 1.

Trench 2 (Figure 5, Plates 8-11)

5.3.3 Trench 2 was located within the southwestern area of the site (Figure 2) and was excavated on a NW-SE alignment within the former car parking/access area (201). This trench measured 20.12m in length, 1.8m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.75m (Figure 5). Natural geological deposits (203) were recorded at a level ranging between 53.27m OD and 53.50m OD, truncated by modern services and drainage.

5.3.4 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 2.

Trench 3 (Figure 6, Plates 12-16)

5.3.5 Located within the eastern extent of the site partially within the hardstanding area (304) and former garden (301) (Figure 2), Trench 3 measured 14.2m in length with a maximum depth of 0.79m. Natural geology (303) was recorded at a level of approximately 53.33m OD.

5.3.6 No archaeological finds were retrieved from Trench 3.

6 FINDS

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 No archaeological finds were retrieved during this evaluation.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The archaeological investigation at Rosecroft Social Club, 269 High Street, St Mary Cray, Orpington has investigated the extents of the proposed development area using three trenches, measuring up to 20.12m in length and 1.8m in width. The natural geology was encountered within all trenches at an average depth of approximately 0.92m below the existing ground surface, directly underlying subsoil and topsoil with areas of concrete and formation gravels. The natural geology had been truncated in all three trenches during the construction of services trenches and drainage, most likely associated with the construction of the existing building. With the exception of the modern truncation all trenches did show favourable preservation conditions with relatively deep relatively subsoil surviving below the topsoil.

7.2 Archaeological Narrative

7.2.1 A total area of the site available for evaluation measured 2,089sq.m within a site boundary measuring 2,590sq.m, with the unavailable (i.e. existing buildings) area measuring

approximately 501sq.m. The three trenches excavated covered an area of approximately 210sq.m giving an evaluation sample size of 4%.

- 7.2.2 Despite the archaeological potential of the site no archaeological finds or features were recorded within any of the trenches. The recording of an intact subsoil across the site suggested that preservation conditions are reasonably favourable beyond the extent of the existing buildings.

7.3 Conclusions

- 7.3.1 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 results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Archaeology Advisor at GLAAS 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 (Museum of London Site Code: RSC24). 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 an appropriate Museum.

9 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 9.1.1 SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Mark Christian and Leigh Chivers at Belldray Limited for commissioning the project and for the support of their groundworks team. Thanks are also extended to Mark Stevenson, Archaeology Advisor at GLAAS, for his advice and assistance.
- 9.1.2 David Britchfield BA (Hons) MCIfA carried out the archaeological fieldwork; 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.

ADS 2013. Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice, Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice

Archaeology Collective, 2020, *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment: Rosecroft Social Club, 269 High Street, St Mary Cray, Orpington BR5 4AR*. Report Reference 06127A

Brown, D.H., 2011. Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2009, Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives, Institute for Archaeologists

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and guidance: for field evaluation*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*.

Department of the Environment, 2010, *Planning for the Historic Environment*, Planning (PPS 5) HMSO.

English Heritage 2002. Environmental Archaeology; a guide to theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation, Swindon, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines

English Heritage, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE).

SMA 1993. *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections*, Society of Museum Archaeologists

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

SWAT Archaeology (2023) *Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation on Land at 269 High Street, St Mary Cray, Orpington BR5 4AR*. Report Reference RSC-EV-23 v03

11 APPENDIX 1 – TRENCH TABLES

Trench 1 (RS1/2)	Dimensions: 11.75m x 1.8m Average Depth: 1.38m Ground Level: 53.06m OD – 54.44m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(101)	Topsoil	Relatively loose dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional sub angular stone and moderate rooting	0.00-0.50
(102)	Subsoil	Firm red brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	0.58-0.80
(103)	Natural	Firm mid brown, orange sandy silt with frequent gravel	1.38+
(104)	Deposit	Concrete slab (modern)	0.28-0.41
(105)	Deposit	Crushed hardcore (modern)	0.41-0.58
[106]	Cut	Cut for modern soakaway	-
(107)	Masonry	Brick-built soakaway (modern)	-
(108)	Fill	Fill of [106] (modern)	-

Trench 2 (RS2/1)	Dimensions: 20.12m x 1.8m Average Depth: 0.75m Ground Level: 53.82m OD – 54.30m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(201)	Deposit	Concrete slab (modern)	0.00-0.04
(202)	Subsoil	Firm red brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	0.56-0.75
(203)	Natural	Firm mid brown, orange sandy silty with frequent gravel	0.75+
(204)	Deposit	Crushed brick hardcore (modern)	0.04-0.12
(205)	Deposit	Crush concrete hardcore (modern)	0.12-0.28
(206)	Layer	Crushed hardcore (modern)	0.28-0.56

Trench 3 (RS3/2)	Dimensions: 14.20m x 1.8m Average Depth: 0.86m Ground Level: 54.07m OD – 54.26m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(301)	Topsoil	Relatively loose dark grey, brown silty clay with occasional sub angular stone and moderate rooting	0.00-0.29
(302)	Subsoil	Firm red brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	0.72-0.86
(303)	Natural	Firm mid brown, orange sandy silty with frequent gravel	0.86+
(304)	Surface	Concrete slab (modern)	0.00-0.10
(305)	Layer	Crushed hardcore (modern)	0.10-0.40
(306)	Layers	Crushed brick (modern)	0.40-0.55
(307)	Layers	Contaminated Subsoil	0.55-71

12 APPENDIX 2 – OASIS FORM

OASIS ID (UID): swatarch2-523116

Project Name: Archaeological Intervention at Rosecroft Social Club Orpington

Activity type: Archaeological Intervention

Site code(s): RSC23

Project Identifier(s): Archaeological Evaluation at Rosecroft Social Club Orpington

Planning Id: DC/20/01947/FULL1

Reason for Investigation: Planning: Post determination

Organisation Responsible for work: SWAT Archaeology

Project Dates: 24-Jan-2024 - 24-Jan-2024

HER: Greater London HER

HER Identifiers: [no data]

Project Methodology: All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in the Specification (SWAT Archaeology 2023) and carried out in compliance with the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (CIfA 2014).

Project Results: The archaeological investigation at Rosecroft Social Club, 269 High Street, St Mary Cray, Orpington has investigated the extents of the proposed development area using three trenches, measuring up to 20.12m in length and 1.8m in width. The natural geology was encountered within all trenches at an average depth of approximately 0.92m below the existing ground surface, directly underlying subsoil and topsoil with areas of concrete and formation gravels. The natural geology had been truncated in all three trenches during the construction of services trenches and drainage, most likely associated with the construction of the existing building. With the exception of the modern truncation all trenches did show favourable preservation conditions with relatively deep relatively subsoil surviving below the topsoil.

Keywords:

Archive:

Reports in OASIS:

Britchfield, D., (2024). *Archaeological Intervention at Rosecroft Social Club Orpington*. Faversham, Kent: SWAT Archaeology

PLATES



Plate 1 Panoramic shot of the site, viewed from the west



Plate 2 The western extent of the site, viewed from the southeast



Plate 3 The excavation of the eastern extent of Trench 1, viewed from the northeast



Plate 4 The excavation of Trench 1 with modern soakaway (107), viewed from the southeast



Plate 5 Trench 1, viewed from the southwest



Plate 6 Representative Section RS1/1, Trench 1 (with modern soakaway 105), viewed from the southwest



Plate 7 Representative Section RS1/2, Trench 1 (with modern soakaway 107), viewed from the southwest



Plate 8 Trench 2 following removal of concrete slab (201), viewed from the west



Plate 9 Trench 2, viewed from the west



Plate 10 Trench 2, viewed from the east



Plate 11 Representative Section RS2/1, Trench 2, viewed from the northeast



Plate 12 The location for Trench 3, pre-excavation, viewed from the northwest



Plate 13 Trench 3, viewed from the north



Plate 14 Trench 3, viewed from the south



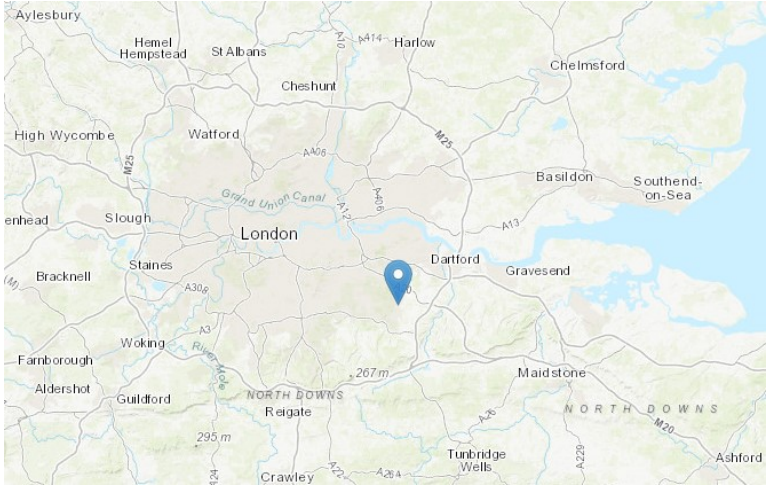
Plate 15 Representative Section RS3/1, Trench 3, viewed from the east



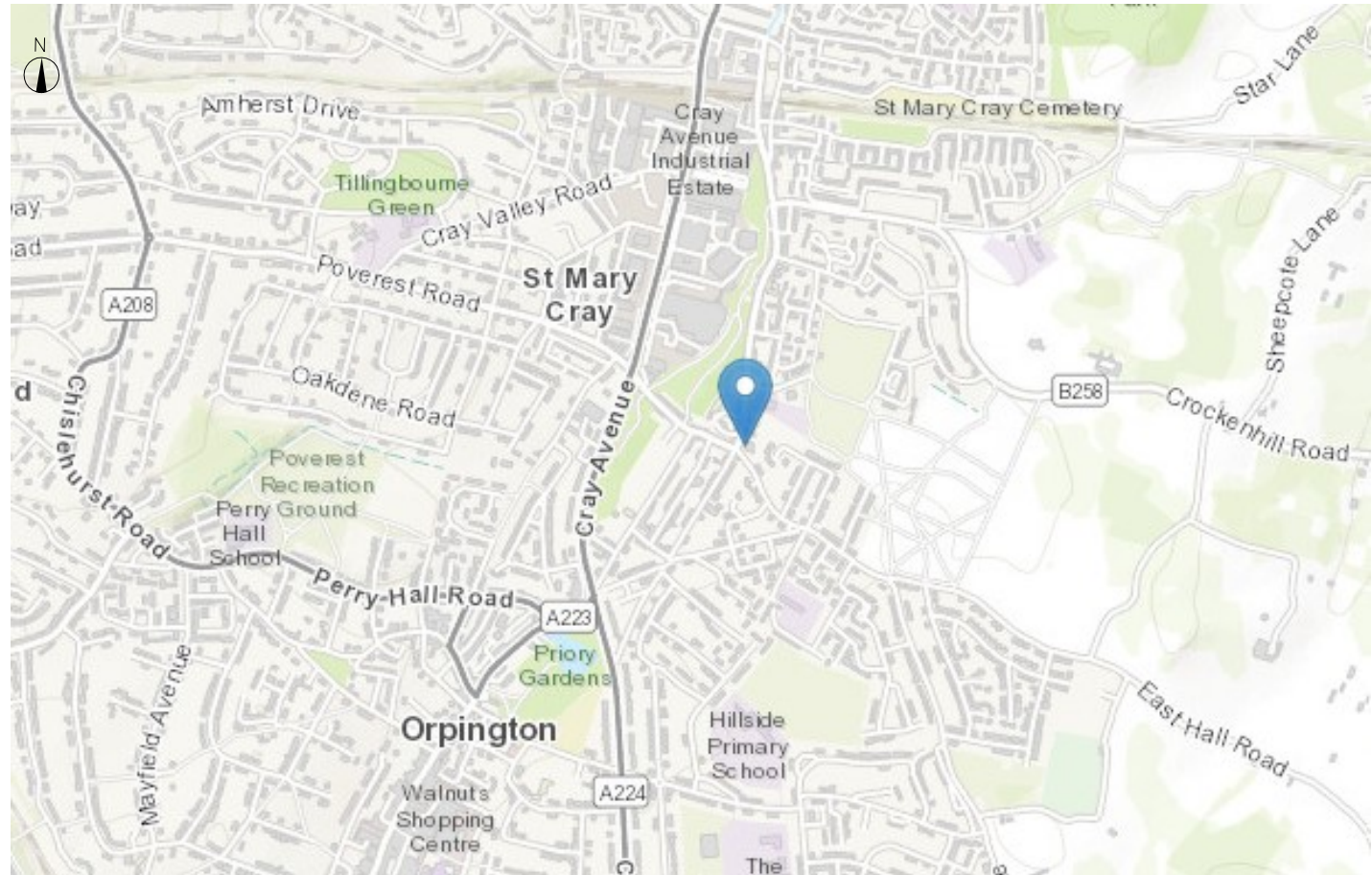
Plate 16 Representative Section RS3/2, Trench 3, viewed from the east



Map of UK (NTS)



Map of Outer London (NTS)



Courtesy of National Library of Scotland

Figure 1 Site Location Plan



167378

167328

167278

547132

547182

547232



Key



Site boundary

0m

50m

Figure 2 Site Plan

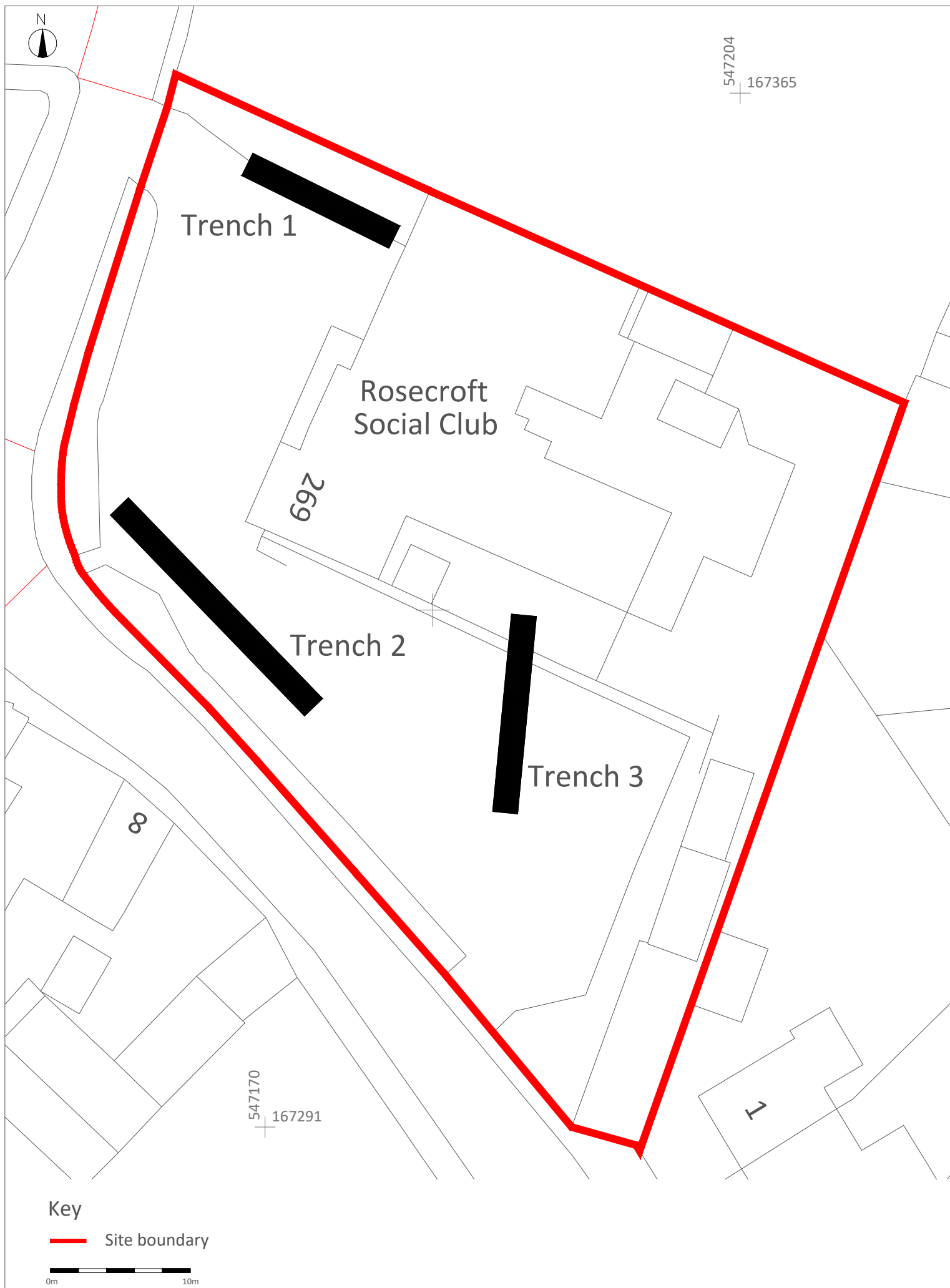
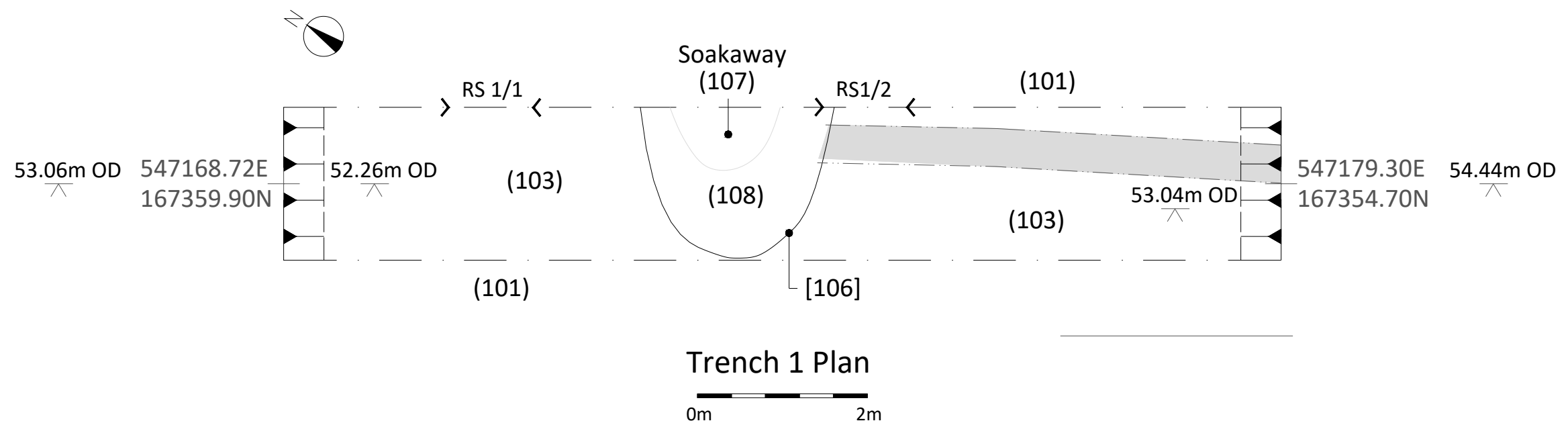
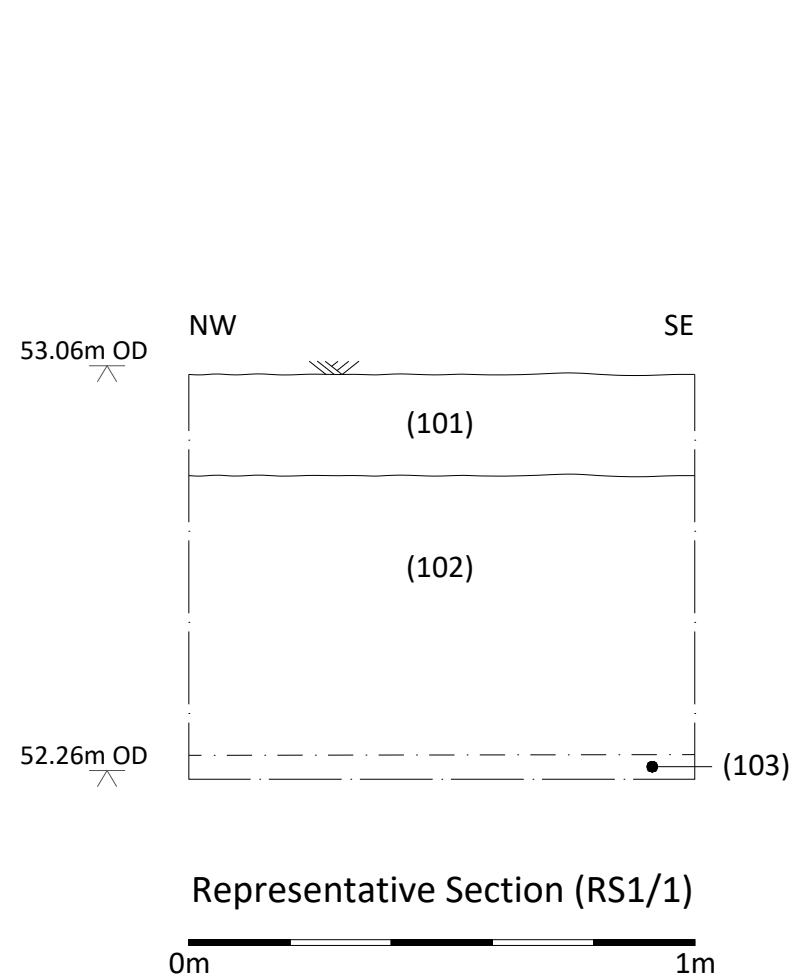


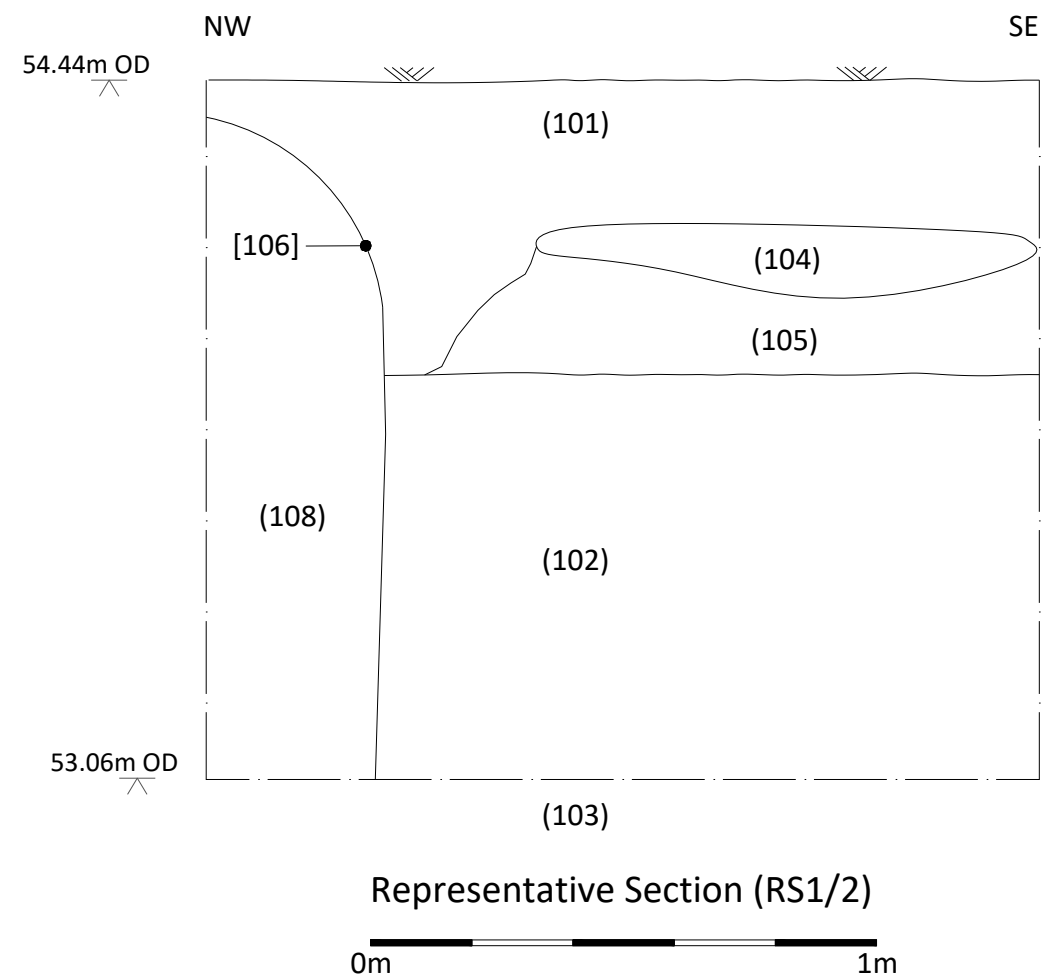
Figure 3 Trench location Plan



Trench 1 Plan



Representative Section (RS1/1)



Representative Section (RS1/2)

Key
Modern Disturbance

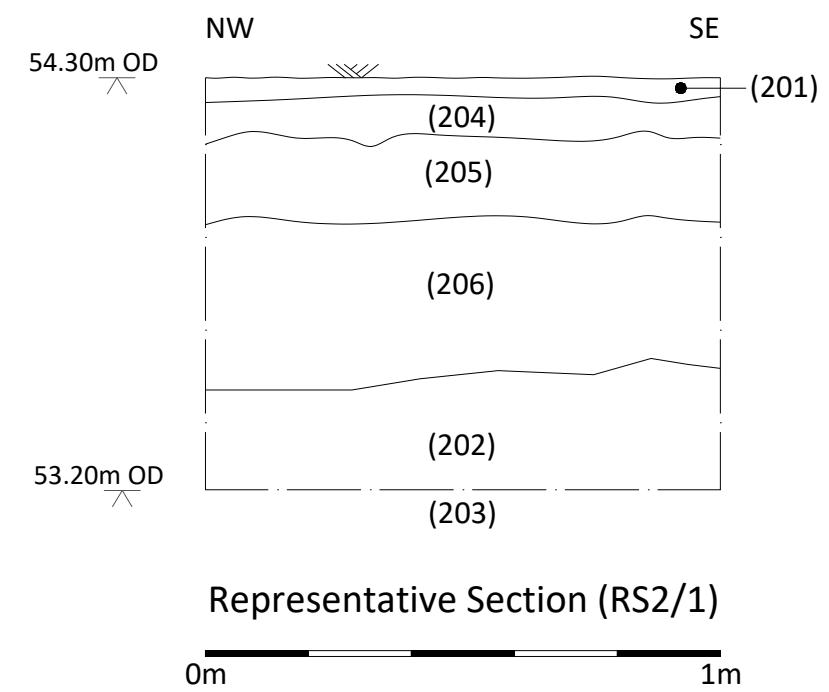
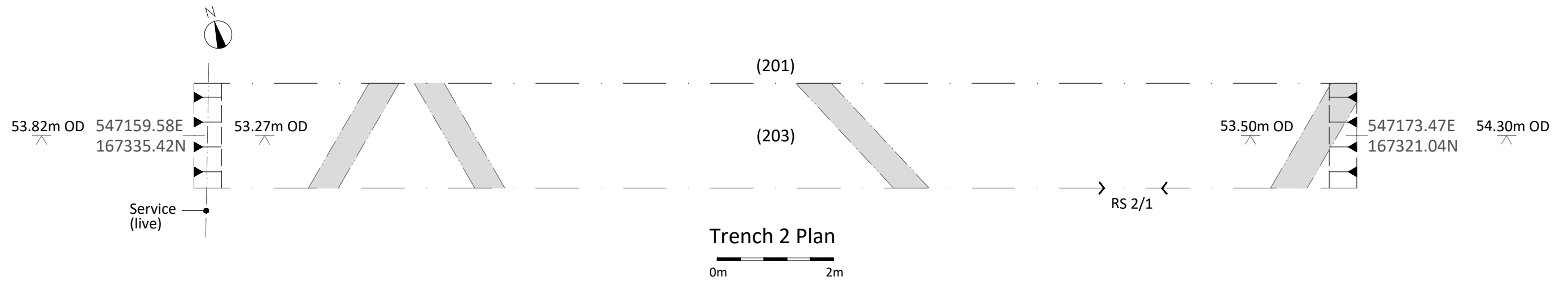


Figure 5 Trench 2 Details

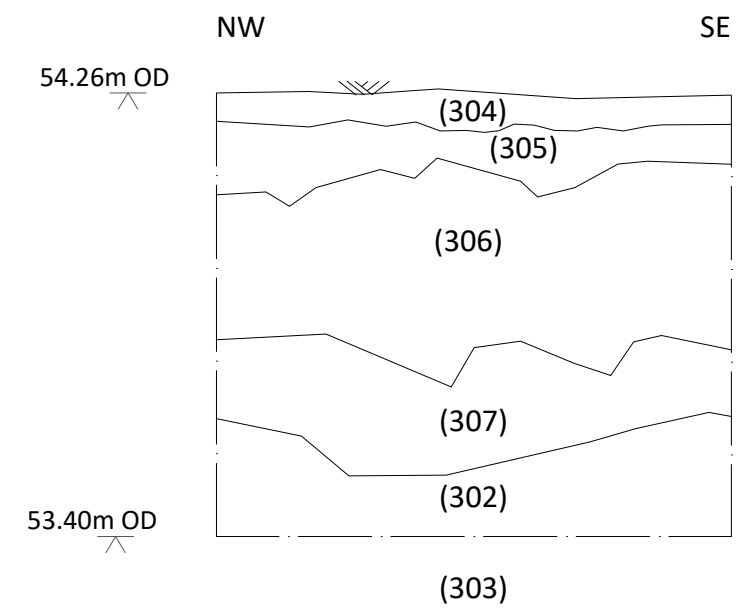
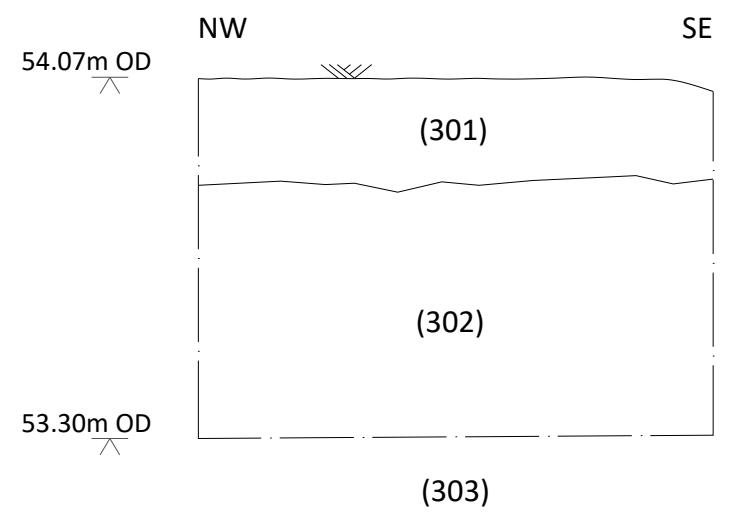
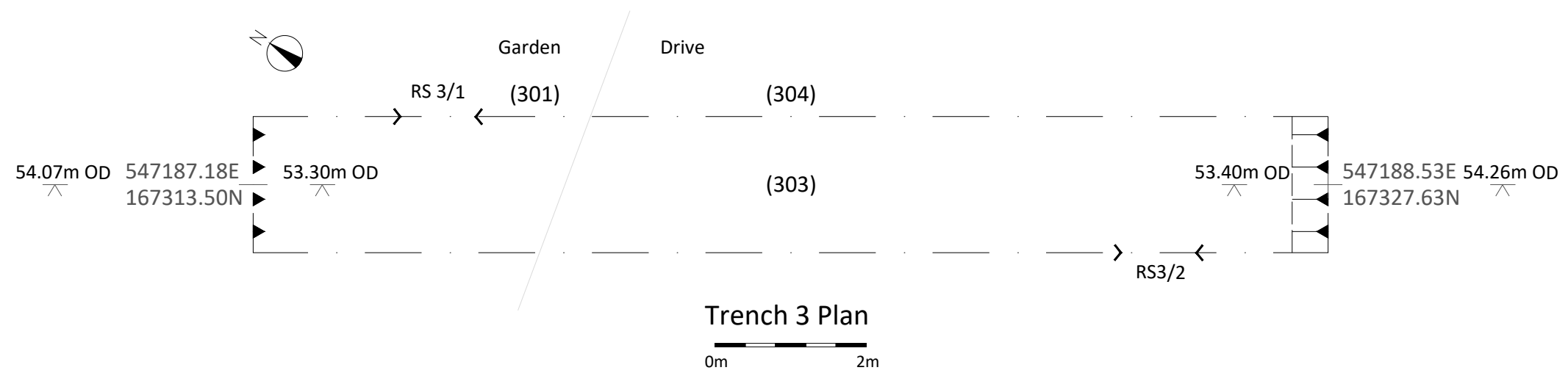


Figure 6 Trench 3 Details