



# Wokingham Major Highways Winnersh Relief Road Phase 2

Archaeological Evaluation



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## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Balfour Beatty to undertake an evaluation at Longdon Road, Winnersh RG41 5X (NGR 487590 170130). The works were undertaken ahead of construction of the Phase 2 Winnersh Relief Road, which its self is part of the Wokingham Major Highways Project. The scheme comprises construction of a two-lane single east-west carriageway immediately north of the M4 motorway, linking the B3030 King Street Lane junction in the west with the A329 Reading Road at the existing M4 overbridge in the east. This would include the introduction of two new junctions in the form of un-signalised roundabouts. The archaeological work was required in order to help fulfil an archaeological planning condition (Application 180760, Condition 11 dated 17/10/2018). The fieldwork was undertaken from the 11 to 14 March 2019.

The evaluation consisted of four trial trenches, measuring between 50 m and 20 m in length (1.8 m wide). In addition, a further three contingency trenches were excavated within a recently cleared wooded area (10m in length). Four of the seven trenches contained modern disturbance, most likely related to the development surrounding the site. This modern disturbance consisted of modern cut pits containing building debris, including ceramic building material, plastics and other general refuse. One trench located on a site previously used as a car park had evidence of modern truncation, and thick deposits of made ground above buried soils. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the evaluation.

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The fieldwork was directed by Peter Capps, with the assistance of Rachael Capps, Rachel Williams and Steve Legg. This report was written by Peter Capps and edited by Gareth Chaffey. The project was managed by Gareth Chaffey on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.



# Wokingham Major Highways Programme - Winnersh Relief Road Phase 2

## Archaeological Evaluation

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Balfour Beatty, on behalf of Wokingham Borough Council, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land located in Longdon Road, Winnersh RG41 5XL (**Fig. 1**). The evaluation was centred on (NGR 487590 170130).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological works were required in advance of the development of the Phase 2 Winnersh Relief Road, a two-lane single east-west carriageway immediately north of the M4 motorway, linking the B3030 King Street Lane junction in the west with the A329 Reading Road at the existing M4 overbridge in the east. This would include the introduction of two new junctions in the form of un-signalised roundabouts. For most of the site the existing ground level is to be raised.
- 1.1.3 A planning application (Application 180760) submitted to Wokingham Borough Council, was granted, subject to conditions, one of which relate to archaeological investigation (Application 180760, Condition 11, dated 17/10/2018)
- 1.1.4 All works were undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed in order to undertake the evaluation (WSP 2019). The archaeological advisor for Berkshire Archaeology approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 1.1.5 The evaluation comprising seven trial trenches was undertaken from the 11 March to 14 March 2019.

#### 1.2 Scope of the report

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.
- 1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the proposed development and facilitate an informed decision with regard to the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

#### 1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The site comprises a total area of 6.77 ha and is separated into two areas by the M4 (**Fig. 1**). The western area (north of the M4) is located at Longdon Road, Winnersh and is bounded to the south by a previously wooded embankment which defines the edge of the M4 and to the north by a residential housing estate. The eastern area (south of the M4) is bounded to the east by allotments. The site falls within the historic parish of Hurst, and lay within the historical county of Berkshire, prior to being absorbed into the administration of Wokingham Borough Council.



1.3.2 Much of the western part of the site had dense tree cover prior to the evaluation. The eastern part of the site is covered by allotments.

1.3.3 Existing ground levels across site lie at between 50.2m OD and 55.1m OD. The underlying geology is mapped as London Clay and superficial River Terrace deposits of Sand and Gravel. The western and eastern ends of the site are shown as lying partially on two superficial Gravel Outcrops (islands). (British Geological Survey online viewer).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 A detailed archaeological and historical background to the site has been presented previously (WSP 2019). As such, a summary is provided below.

### **2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development**

#### *Geotechnical Monitoring (2018)*

2.2.1 The only archaeological investigation to undertaken within the site itself was the monitoring of geotechnical test pits. These revealed negative archaeological evidence, although the investigation was limited in nature.

### **2.3 Archaeological and historical context**

#### *Prehistoric (AD 970,000 BC – 43)*

2.3.1 Natural gravel islands close to two rivers, the Loddon and Emm Brook, would have provided a range of resources, making the site a good location for early habitation. There have been limited finds from the Lower Palaeolithic to Bronze Age periods in the study area. However, 820 m to the south of the site, archaeological investigations have revealed Iron Age gullies, post holes and pits, and the remains of a furnace and slag, and a small quantity of pottery was recovered 330 m to the north-west. The significance of any Iron Age remains, if present on site, would depend on the nature of the remains and the extent of survival; but enclosures/industrial remains would potentially be of medium to high significance, based on their evidential value (WSP 2019)

#### *Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)*

2.3.2 The site has low to moderate potential to contain Roman remains. As in the prehistoric, the site's location would have been favourable for occupation. Archaeological remains, associated with Roman agricultural and settlement activity has been found within the study area in close vicinity of the site. The most significant of which are Romano-British period enclosure with ditches, pits and a possible rectilinear structure, 615 m to the north-west of the site. If present, remains of this period would potentially be of medium to high significance, depending on their nature and extent (WSP 2019).

#### *Medieval (AD 410 – 1500)*

2.3.3 The site has low potential to contain early medieval (Anglo-Saxon) remains. There is only one find recorded in the study area and none within the wider vicinity. The site was possibly at a distance from the conjectured areas of settlement during the latter part of this period. Likely the site at this time was within woodland or rough scrub as it was later within the limits of the Royal Windsor Forest (WSP 2019).

2.3.4 The site has low potential to contain later medieval remains. The site was located away from the centres of medieval settlement. During the period the site would have lain within the boundary of the Royal Windsor forest. There was likely a small settlement at



Sindlesham, 700 m to the south-west, and possibly along King Street, 200 m to the north, but it is probable the site was within woodland or open fields (WSP 2019).

*Post Medieval (AD 1500-1800)*

- 2.3.5 The site has low potential to contain post-medieval remains. Historic maps have shown limited building development within the site boundary during this period. Cartographic evidence from the mid-18th century shows some building development along King Street and there was a later hunting lodge or farmstead on the site, as shown on historic Ordnance Survey Maps. The site was under arable cultivation during the latter part of this period; as such remains would be restricted to agricultural or landscape features (i.e. evidence of ridge and furrow/drainage ditches) (WSP 2019).

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 General aims**

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (WSP 2019) and in compliance with the ClfA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), were:

- To provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
- To inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

#### **3.2 General objectives**

- 3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were:

- To determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- To establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- To place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- To make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

#### **3.3 Site-specific objectives**

- 3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework (REF.), site-specific objectives defined in the WSI (WSP 2019) were to:

- Identify evidence for prehistoric, particularly Iron Age – Romano British, activity. If present, identify the nature, extent and significance.
- Identify the nature and levels of natural deposits, and the presence of modern disturbance.



## 4 METHODS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (WSP 2019) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

### 4.2 Fieldwork methods

#### *General*

4.2.1 Trench numbers for the evaluation were altered from the proposed numbering system in the WSI (WSP 2019) (**Table 1**) in order to maintain a unique context archive in relation to the Wokingham Major Highways Programme as a whole. This decision was made with the wider publication of results once the archaeological programme is completed.

4.2.2 As such the trench numbers were altered as follows:

**Table 1** Trench numbers

Original trench number	New trench number
1	1000
2	1100
3	1600
4	1200
Contingency trench 1	1500
Contingency trench 2	1400
Contingency trench 3	1300

4.2.3 The trench locations were set out using GPS, in the approximate positions as those proposed in the WSI, though trenches **1200, 1300, 1400** and **1500** had to be moved slightly from their original positions due to tree cover and ecological constraints. Trench **1600** was shortened slightly due to underground services (**Fig. 1**). All trench locations were scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) prior to any excavation to confirm that no previously unidentified electrical cables are present.

4.2.4 The four proposed trial trenches (2 No. 50 m, 1 No. 20m, 1 No. 14 m, all 1.8 m wide) and three contingency trenches (3 No. 10 m x 1.8 m) were excavated in level spits using a 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.5 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits identified was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.

4.2.6 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.



- 4.2.7 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and Berkshire Archaeology were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

#### *People Vehicle Plant interfaces*

- 4.2.8 People and plant interfaces were adhered to during the course of the works. The mechanical excavator was constantly monitored by an archaeologist banksman. Two-way radios were used for communication between the banksman and the operator. The work area of the plant was cordoned off with pedestrian barriers creating an exclusion zone. The banksman also had a barrier separating themselves from any operating plant. Both the machine operator and the banksman were briefed on safe working zones around plant.

#### *Recording*

- 4.2.9 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system via digital tablets. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections), and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.
- 4.2.10 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.11 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

### **4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies**

- 4.3.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (WSP, 2019). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

### **4.4 Monitoring**

- 4.4.1 The archaeological advisor to Berkshire Archaeology, on behalf of the LPA, monitored the watching brief. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with both the client and Berkshire Archaeological Officer.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 None of the excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features or deposits, indicating a low potential for archaeology across the site. Modern disturbance was recorded across site and most likely relates to the construction of either the M4 which bordered the site to the south or the modern housing development to the north (**Fig. 2**).

5.1.2 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (**Appendix 1**).

## 5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

5.2.1 Across much of the site the overburden comprised of a dark brown loam topsoil of between 0.2-0.35m thick with a mid-greyish brown silty clay subsoil beneath it of between 0.1 - 0.2 m thick (**Plates 1 to 6**). The overburden deposits overlaid a reddish mid to light brown clay with patches of gravel. Both the overburden and the natural were heavily rooted due to the site previously being covered by scrub and woodland.

5.2.2 The only exception to these sequences was in Trench **1600**. Here a series of made grounds consisting of gravels, crushed concrete and building debris was discovered to a depth of 0.65m below ground level. Beneath this a 0.35 m thick buried soil of dark brownish grey silt loam overlay the clay and gravel natural which appeared at 1 m below ground level (**Plates 7 and 8**).

## 5.3 Results

5.3.1 No archaeological features or deposits were present in any of the excavated trenches.

5.3.2 However, Trenches **1000**, **1400**, and **1500** all contained areas of modern disturbance, consisting of cut pits containing modern building debris, such as ceramic building material and plastics (**Fig. 2**). A number of land drains running broadly north-south were also encountered in Trenches **1100** and **1200**.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

### Summary

6.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits were discovered during the evaluation. However, a number of modern cut features were revealed and interpreted as being related to modern development which borders the site. A small quantity of north south aligned land drains were also found across two trenches in the centre of the site.

## 7 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

### 7.1 Museum

7.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. There is currently no museum or store able to receive archaeological archives from sites within Wokingham Borough (WSP 2019).

### 7.2 Preparation of the archive

7.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

7.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the **site code 209222**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 1 files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics;



### **7.3 Selection policy**

7.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, and any specific guidance prepared by the museum, a process of selection and retention will be followed so that only those artefacts or ecofacts that are considered to have potential for future study will be retained. The selection policy will be agreed with the museum, and is fully documented in the project archive.

### **7.4 Security copy**

7.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

### **7.5 OASIS**

7.5.1 An OASIS online record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated (**Appendix 2**), with key fields and a .pdf version of the final report submitted. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service ArchSearch catalogue.

## **8 COPYRIGHT**

### **8.1 Archive and report copyright**

8.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

8.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

### **8.2 Third party data copyright**

8.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.



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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 - Trench summaries

NGR coordinates and OD heights taken at centre of each trench; depth bgl = below ground level

Trench No 1000		Length 50m		Width 1.80m		Depth 0.60m	
Easting 478350.33			Northing 170129.39			MaOD 54.26	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
1001	-	Topsoil	Top soil. dark brown loam. heavy rooting due to numerous trees. sub round gravel 20-60mm 3%. clear horizon with sub soil. possibly imported garden soil to landscape area between housing estate and M4. Very loose compaction			0-0.35	
1002	-	Subsoil	Sub soil. mid grey silty clay. round gravel 20-60mm 20-50%. moderate fine rooting. clear horizons with top soil and natural. Loose compaction. Manganese towards interface between sub and natural			0.35-0.55	
1003	-	Natural	Mid yellow clay round flint gravel 20-60mm 70% at West end. Mid yellow sandy clay in centre third of trench. Mid greyish yellow clay with sub round gravel 20-60mm 60% at east end of trench. Manganese towards interface between sub and natural. clear horizon with sub soil.			0.55-0.6+	

Trench No 1100		Length 50m		Width 1.80m		Depth 0.45m	
Easting 478470.85			Northing 170143.95			MaOD 54.62	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
1101	-	Topsoil	Top soil. dark brown loam. sub round gravel 20-60mm 3%. heavy rooting due to numerous trees. clear horizon with sub soil. possibly imported garden soil to landscape area between housing estate and M4. Very loose compaction			0-0.22	
1102	-	Subsoil	Sub soil. mid greyish brown silty clay. round gravel 20-60mm 20-50%. moderate fine rooting. clear horizons with top soil and natural. Loose compaction			0.22-0.35	
1103	-	Natural	Yellow sandy clay. sub round gravel 20-60mm 30% at East end. Greyish yellow sandy clay with gravel 20-60mm 60% at West end.			0.35-0.45+	





Trench No 1200		Length 20m	Width 1.80m	Depth 0.52m
Easting 478473.32		Northing 1700137.13		MaOD 54.66
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1201	-	Topsoil	Top soil. dark brown loam. sub round gravel 20-60mm 3%. heavy rooting due to numerous trees. diffuse horizon with sub soil. possibly imported garden soil to landscape area between housing estate and M4. Very loose compaction	0-0.33
1202	-	Subsoil	Sub soil. mid greyish brown silty clay, round gravel 20-60mm 10%. moderate fine rooting diffuse horizon with top soil clear horizon with natural. Loose compaction	0.33-0.43
1203	-	Natural	Yellow sandy clay with sub round gravel 20-60mm 30%. clear horizon with sub soil.	0.42-0.52+

Trench No 1300		Length 9.50m	Width 1.80m	Depth 0.50m
Easting 478601.79		Northing 170173.94		MaOD 54.44
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1301	-	Topsoil	Top soil. dark brown loam. very heavy rooting due to numerous trees which have just been felled. Clear horizon with sub soil horizon possibly imported garden soil to landscape area between housing estate and M4. Very loose compaction	0-0.35
1302	-	Subsoil	Sub soil. mid greyish brown silty clay. heavy rooting round gravel 20-60mm <1%. clear horizon with top soil and natural. Loose compaction. very thin due to heavy rooting and disturbance	0.35-0.4
1303	-	Natural	Brownish yellow sand with some element of clay and patches of gravel 20-60mm 10% within sand. Heavily disturbed by tree roots	0.4-0.5





Trench No 1400		Length 11.75m	Width 1.80m	Depth 0.44m
Easting 478583.42		Northing 170174.53		MaOD 54.56
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1401	-	Topsoil	Top soil. dark brown loam. very heavy rooting due to numerous trees which have just been felled. Clear horizon with sub soil horizon. possibly imported garden soil to landscape area between housing estate and M4. Very loose compaction	0-0.24
1402	-	Subsoil	Sub soil. mid greyish brown silty clay. round gravel 20-60mm <1%. heavy rooting. clear horizon with top soil and natural. Loose compaction very thin due to heavy rooting and disturbance.	0.24-0.34
1403	-	Natural	Brownish yellow sand with some element of clay and patches of gravel 20-60mm 10% within sand. Heavily disturbed by tree roots.	0.34-0.44

Trench No 1500		Length 10m	Width 1.80m	Depth 0.60m
Easting 478532.67		Northing 170154.15		MaOD 54.93
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1501	-	Topsoil	Top soil. dark brown loam. very heavy rooting due to numerous trees which have just been felled. Clear horizon with sub soil horizon. possibly imported garden soil to landscape area between housing estate and M4. Very loose compaction	0-0.3
1502	-	Subsoil	Sub soil. mid greyish brown silty clay. round gravel 20-60mm <1%. heavy rooting. clear horizon with top soil natural. Loose compaction	0.3-0.45
1503	-	Natural	Brownish yellow sandy clay at east end and gravel 20-60mm 80% with sandy clay towards middle and at West end. Heavily disturbed by tree roots. Manganese at interface with sub soil clear horizon with sub	0.45-0.6+



Trench No 1600		Length 14m	Width 1.80m	Depth 1.15m
Easting 478827.99		Northing 170099.18		MaOD 56.85
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1601	-	Made ground	Layer of round yellow gravel 10-20mm to create a hard standing / car park. clear horizon	0-0.07
1602	-	Made ground	Concrete with sub round gravel inclusions to create hard standing at north west end of trench (not in repsec sketch) clear horizons	0.07-0.17
1603	-	Made ground	Comprising of what looks like modern building material, red brick, poured concrete, concrete blocks, rebar, plastic, wooden posts, red sand with gravel. very loose compaction. clear horizons	0.07-0.45
1604	-	Made ground	Layer of dark soil with brick tile and some charcoal and moderate rooting. clear horizons	0.45-0.5
1605	-	Made ground	Layer of sub round yellow gravel 20-60mm clear horizons	0.5-0.65
1606	-	Buried soil	Comprising of top soil sub soil. dark brownish grey silty loam. sub round gravel 20-60mm 10%. moderate fine rooting. clear horizon with natural. patches of mid brownish sandy clay seems to cut buried soil caused by modern disturbance	0.65-1
1607	-	Natural	Mid orange sandy clay with patches of round gravel 20% at north west end. yellow clay with patches of natural blue grey clay at south east end.	1-1.15+



## Appendix 2 - OASIS form

**OASIS ID: wessexar1-349200**

### Project details

Project name	Wokingham Major Highways, Winnersh Relief Road Phase 2
Short description of the project	<p>Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Balfour Beatty to undertake an evaluation at Longdon Road, Winnersh RG41 5X (NGR 487440 170130). The works were undertaken ahead of construction of the Phase 2 Winnersh Relief Road, which its self is part of the Wokingham Major Highways Project. The scheme comprises construction of a two-lane single east-west carriageway immediately north of the M4 motorway, linking the B3030 King Street Lane junction in the west with the A329 Reading Road at the existing M4 overbridge in the east. This would include the introduction of two new junctions in the form of un-signalised roundabouts. The archaeological work was required in order to help fulfil an archaeological planning condition (Application 180760, Condition 11 dated 17/10/2018). The fieldwork was undertaken from the 11 to 14 March 2019. The evaluation consisted of four trial trenches, measuring between 50 m and 20 m in length (1.8 m wide). In addition, a further three contingency trenches were excavated within a recently cleared wooded area (10m in length). Four of the seven trenches contained modern disturbance, most likely related to the development surrounding the site. This modern disturbance consisted of modern cut pits containing building debris, including ceramic building material, plastics and other general refuse. One trench located on a site previously used as a car park had evidence of modern truncation, and thick deposits of made ground above buried soils. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the evaluation.</p>
Project dates	Start: 11-03-2019 End: 14-03-2019
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	209222 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	180760 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Woodland 8 - Other
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Road scheme (new and widening)
Prompt	Planning condition



Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

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### Project location

Country	England
Site location	BERKSHIRE WOKINGHAM WINNERSH Winnersh Relief Road Phase 2
Postcode	RG41 5XL
Study area	6.77 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 487590 170130 50.950022089495 -1.318849011277 50 57 00 N 001 19 07 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 50m Max: 55m

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### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	WSP UK Ltd
Project design originator	Harry Clarke
Project director/manager	Gareth Chaffey
Project supervisor	Peter Capps
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Balfour Beatty

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### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Wessex Archaeology
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Wessex Archaeology



Paper Contents "none"  
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Plan", "Section"

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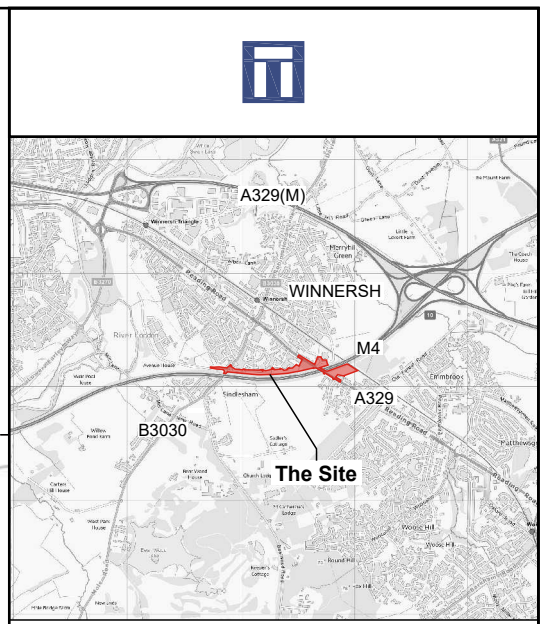
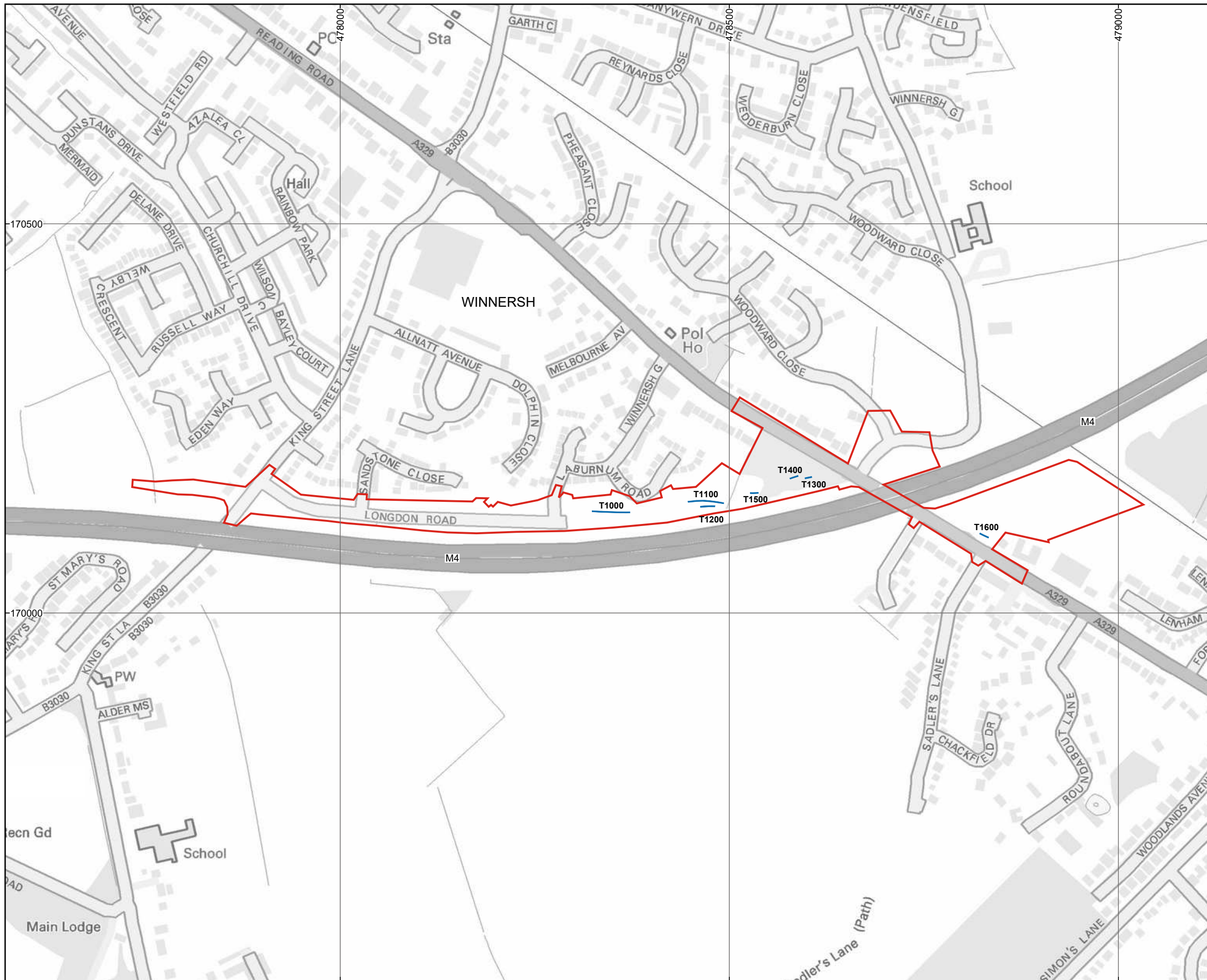
**Project  
bibliography 1**


Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
Title Wokingham Major Highways, Winnersh Relief Road Phase 2  
Author(s)/Editor(s) Capps, P  
Other bibliographic details 209222.2  
Date 2019  
Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology  
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Entered by Gareth Chaffey (g.chaffey@wessexarch.co.uk)  
Entered on 16 April 2019







 Evaluation area  
 Excavated trenches

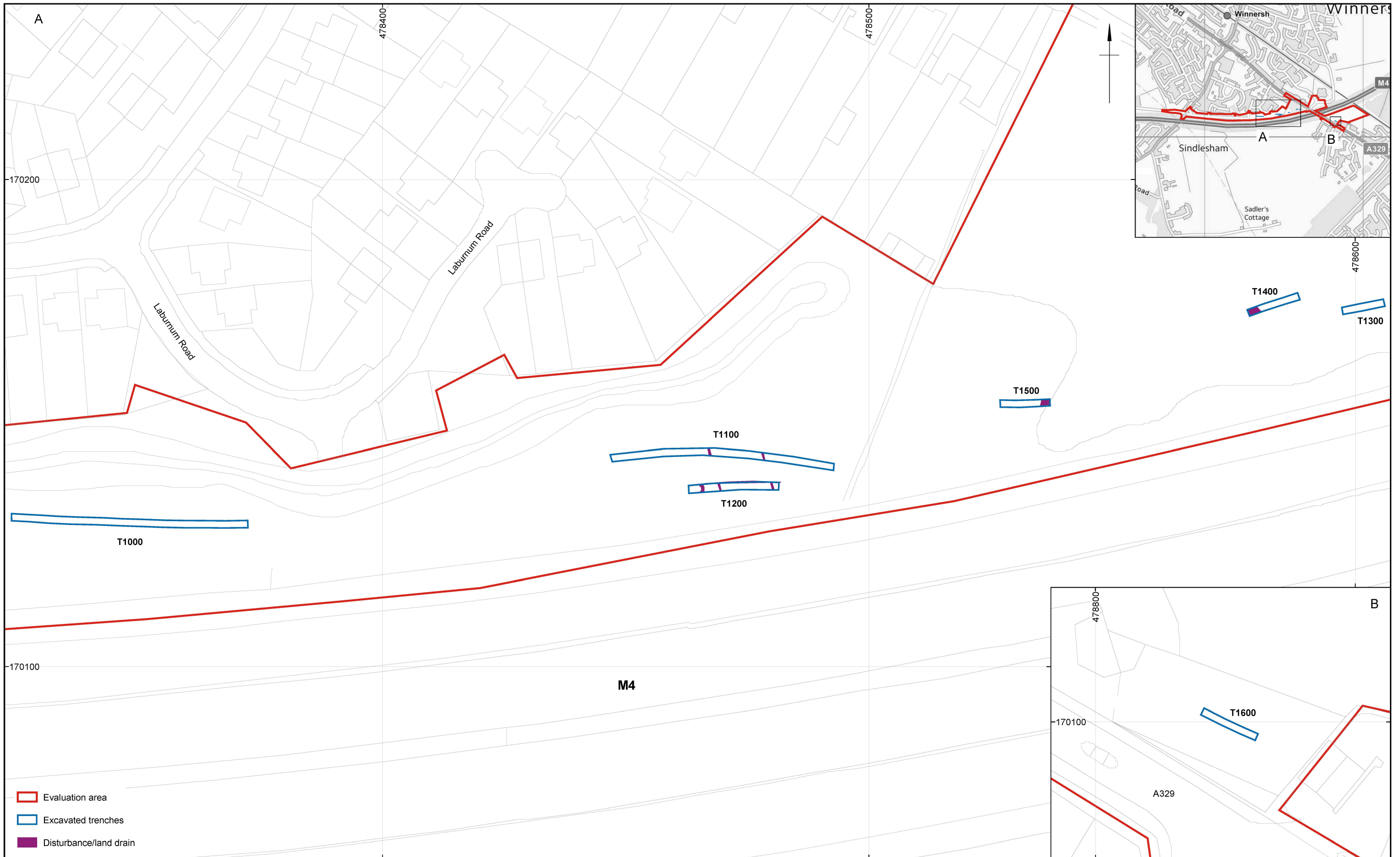


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Site and trench location

Figure 1



- Evaluation area
- Excavated trenches
- Disturbance/land drain



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Trench plan

Figure 2





Plate 1: Trench 1000 – viewed from the east



Plate 2: Representative section of trench 1000 – viewed from the east


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Plate 3: Trench 1100 – viewed from the east



Plate 4: Representative section of trench 1100 – viewed from the east


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Plate 5: Trench 1300 – Viewed from the west



Plate 6: Representative section of Trench 1300


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Plate 7: Trench 1600 – viewed from the north-east



Plate 8: Representative section of Trench 1600

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