# Archaeological Evaluation on Land atthe former Springfield Paper Mill, Sandling Road, Maidstone, Kent

Site Code: Mill -EV-18

NGR Site Centre 575595 156665

Planning Application Number: 17/5021432/FULL

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

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***Summary***

*Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at the former Springfield Paper Mill, Sandling Road, Maidstone in Kent. The archaeological works were monitored by the Kent County Council Senior Archaeological Officer.*

*The fieldwork was carried out in October 2018 in accordance with an archaeological specification (SWAT Archaeology 2018) submitted to the Local Planning Authority prior to commencement of works.*

*The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of 13 trenches, which encountered a relatively common stratigraphic sequence comprising concrete/tarmac/topsoil and modern levelling layers cut by modern trenching overlying natural geology.*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Springfield Paper Mills, Maidstone in Kent (**Figure 1**).The land has planning permission (17/5021432/FULL) for the demolition of existing buildings, except the Listed Rag Room, and development of 293 residential units (Class C) including 223 x 1-2 bed apartments and 70 x 2-4 bed houses with associated car parking, public realm and landscaping works.

1.1.2 In mitigation of the potential impact that the development may have on the buried archaeological resource Kent County Council Heritage & Conservation (KKCHC), who provide an advisory service to Maidstone Borough Council (MBC), requested that the programme of archaeological works comprising an archaeological evaluation

1.1.3 The archaeological evaluation was carried out in October 2018 in accordance with an archaeological specification prepared by SWAT Archaeology (2018), prior to commencement of works, and in discussion with Wendy Rogers Senior Archaeological Officer at KCCHC.

### 1.1 4 Site Description and Topography

The site is located immediately north of the urban boundary of Maidstone and approximately 500m north from Maidstone East Railway Station (Plate 1). The site is adjacent to the River Medway to the west and Royal Engineers Road to the east, the southern boundary is defined by Mill Lane, beyond which is a library and football stadium. The site is 6.5 hectares (16 acres) in size.

The site has highways access from James Whatman Way and Mill Lane from the south. This access is proposed to be retained within the development proposals. The northern half of the site is predominantly dominated by a wooded/ scrub area, and the southern half by the buildings associated with the Springfield Mill, including the Grade II listed Rag Room.

A large expanse of hard standing is located to the south of the buildings and this has previously been used as car parking. A number of the trees within the northern part of the site are protected by Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) and there are also two ponds within the site. The topography of the Site generally slopes east to west with the high point being Royal Engineers Road, with a relatively steep gradient. The NGR to the centre of the site is NGR 575595 156665 (Figure 1).

The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the Proposed Development Area (PDA) is part of the River Medway Terrace with the upper levels in the north east area of the PDA having a bedrock geology of Hythe Formation- Sandstone and [Subequal/Subordinate] Limestone interbedded. Superficial Deposits are not recorded.

Downslope the bedrock geology is Atherfield Clay Formation- Sandstone and Mudstone with no Superficial Deposits recorded.

Adjacent to the River Medway the bedrock geology is Weald Clay Formation- Mudstone.

The PDA has been extensively terraced during the development of the adjacent Springfield House and subsequent paper mill activities.

## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 Further details of previous discoveries and investigations within the immediate and wider area may be found in the Kent County Council Historic Environment Record and have been summarised in the Specification produced by SWAT Archaeology (2018).

## 3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

### 3.1 Specific Aims (SWAT 2018)

3.1.1 The specific aims of the archaeological fieldwork are set out in the Specification (SWAT 2018) were to:

3.1.2 *'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 adjacent Roman remains and later archaeological activity.*

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

(SWAT Archaeology 2018: 6)

### 3.2 General Aims

3.2.1 The general aims of the archaeological fieldwork were to;

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

## 4 METHODOLOGY

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in the Specification (SWAT 2018 and KCC Manual of Specifications 'B') and carried out in compliance with the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (CIfA 2017).

### 4.2 Fieldwork

4.2.1 A total of 13 evaluation trenches were excavated across the Site (Figures 2, 3).

4.2.2 Each trench was initially scanned for surface finds prior to excavation. Excavation was carried out using a 360º 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.

4.2.3 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.

### 4.3 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 aOD heights. These are retained in the site project archive.

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 site 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 [100]. Context numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes. Each number has been attributed to a specific trench with the primary number(s) relating to specific trenches (*i.e*. Trench 1, 101+, Trench 2, 201+, Trench 3, 301+ etc.).

## 5 RESULTS

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A total of 13 evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision.

### 5.2 Stratigraphic Deposit Sequence

5.2.1 A relatively consistent stratigraphic sequence was recorded across the majority of the Site comprising a mix of concrete/tarmac/topsoil sealing an intact subsoil of brown orange sandy clayey silt overlaying the natural Weald Clay or Sandstone deposits. Most trenches encountered modern services and drains.

5.2.2 Appendix 1 provides the stratigraphic sequence for all trenches. Figures 1-18 provide a site plan and trench location plan plus trench plans and sections while Plates 1-28 include selected site photographs.

### 5.3 Overview

5.3.1 The 13 trenches were located across the site to ensure full coverage of potential archaeological remains.

5.3.2 **Trench 1** was located in the south area of the site and aligned NNW-SSE (Figures 1, 2 2a, 3) and exposed known services runs (Figure 3) and some contamination [105]. Plates 2, 4.

5.3.3 **Trench 2** was located in the south area of the site and aligned N-S (Figures 1, 2 2a, 4) and exposed known services runs with pipes and some river terracing (Figure 4). Plates 5, 6, 7.

5.3.4 **Trench 3** was located in the south area of the site and aligned NNE-SSW (Figures 1, 2 2a, 5) and exposed levelling layers (Figure 5) and natural bedrock (305). Plate 8.

5.3.5 **Trench 4** was located in the south area of the site and aligned N-S (Figures 1, 2 2a, 6) and exposed known services runs (Figure 6) levelling layers and natural bedrock. Plates 9, 10.

5.3.6 **Trench 5** was located in the mid west area of the site and aligned NNW-SSE (Figures 1, 2 2a, 7) and exposed known services run trenches (Figure 7) and some levelling layers(505). Plates 11-17.

5.3.7 **Trench 6** was located in the mid area of the site and aligned ENE-WSW (Figures 1, 2 2a) and was abandoned because of the depth of concrete overburden. Plate 18.

5.3.8 **Trench 7** was located in the mid area of the site and aligned ENE-WSW (Figures 1, 2 2a, 8) and exposed levelling layers and natural bedrock (703). Plate 19.

5.3.9 **Trench 8** was located in the mid area of the site and aligned WSW-ENE (Figures 1, 2 2a, 8) and exposed levelling layers and modern service trenches (Figure 8). Plates 20, 21.

5.3.10 **Trench 9** was located in the south area of the site and aligned WNW-ESE (Figures 1, 2 2a, 9) and exposed levelling layers, modern trench and natural bedrock (Figure 9]. Plate 22.

5.3.11 **Trench 10** was located in the north area of the site and aligned NW-SE (Figures 1, 2 2a, 10) and exposed topsoil, levelling layers (Figure 10) and natural geology (1004). Plate 23.

5.3.12 **Trench 11** was located in the north area of the site and aligned NW-SE (Figures 1, 2 2a, 11) and exposed demolition layers and modern trenches (Figure 3) and natural silty clay [1104]. Plate 24.

5.3.13 **Trench 12** was located in the north area of the site and aligned NE-SW (Figures 1, 2 2a, 12) and exposed subsoil and natural bedrock (Figure 12) and natural. Plate 25.

5.3.14 **Trench 13** was located in the north area of the site and aligned NNW-SSE (Figures 1, 2 2a, 13) and exposed built up ground (1302, Figure 13) and natural soils (1304). Plate 26.

## 6 FINDS

6.1 No finds of any archaeological merit were recovered from the archaeological evaluation

## 7 Discussion

### 7.1 Archaeological Narrative

7.1.1 No archaeological features were recorded in any of the trenches.

### 7.2 Conclusions

7.2.1 The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. Development proposals are not likely to impact on archaeological remains.

7.2.2 This evaluation has, therefore, assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work show that the proposed development is not likely to impact on any archaeological remains.

## 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 & A4 graphics

## 9 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

9.1.1 SWAT would like to thank the developer for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Wendy Rogers, Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council, for her advice and assistance.

9.1.2 Bartek Cichy supervised the archaeological evaluation and illustrations were also produced by Bartek Cichy. Paul Wilkinson MCIfA produced the text for this report.

## 10 REFERENCES

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

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*.

Compiled by: SWAT Archaeology (PW). The Office, School Farm Oast, Faversham, Kent

Date: 01/11/2018

**Kent County Council HER Summary Form**

**Site Name:** Land at the former Springfield Paper Mill, Sandling Road, Maidstone, Kent

**SWAT Site Code:** MILL/EV/18

**Site Address:** As above

**Summary:**

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Evaluation on the development site above. The site has planning permission for residential development whereby Maidstone Borough Council requested that Archaeological works be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

The Archaeological Monitoring consisted of an Archaeological Evaluation which revealed no archaeology.

**District/Unitary:** Maidstone Borough Council

**Period(s):**

**NGR (centre of site to eight figures)** 575595 156665

**Type of Archaeological work:** Archaeological Evaluation

**Date of recording:** October 2018

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

**Geology:** Underlying geology is Bedrock Geology of Atherfield Clay Formation

**Title and author of accompanying report:** Wilkinson P. (2018) Archaeological Evaluation of Land atthe former Springfield Paper Mill, Sandling Road, Maidstone, Kent

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

No archaeology found

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

**Contact at Unit:** Paul Wilkinson

**Date:** 01/11/2018

| AA | Dimensions: 26m x 1.8m Depth: 1m Trench alignment: NNW-SSE<br>NNW-end Ground Level: 12.75m SSE-end Ground Level: 13.10m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 101 | Mid compaction, black, clayey silt with occ. tiny stones. Grass vegetation | Topsoil | 0.00-0.22 |
| 102 | Very firm, mid brown clayey silt with occ stones and modern inclusions: coal, coal clinker, tile, slate, oyster shell, glass, clay pipe small fragments, wire, plastic membrane. | Leveling layer | 0.22-0.9 |
| 103 | Firm compaction, mid brownish grey silty clay with freq tiny fresh water snail shells mostly fragmented | Natural-alluvium-swamp | 0.9+ |
| [104] | Brick-concrete wall, WNW-ESE aligned with brown ceramic pipe in the middle | Modern service | 0.22+ |
| [105] | Oval pit backfilled with chalk giving unpleasant smell similar to lizol. Chalk was sealed with hardcore mixed with earth. Feasture was approximately 2m in diameter. | Modern pit – chemical contamination | 0.22+ |
| [106] | WNW-ESE aligned small channel made of unbounded bricks placed tight together. Channel opening was 0.1m wide and 0.15m high. Feature runs toward man hole. | Modern service | 0.22+ |
| [107] | 0.75m wide modern trench backfilled with hardcore. | Modern trench | 0.22+ |
| [108] | NNW-SSE aligned brick and concrete wall. Feature was 0.35m wide and was running towards man hole | Modern service | 0.22+ |
| Notes: | All modern features were left in situ. | | |

| Trench 2 | Dimensions: 19m x 1.8m Depth: 0.6-1.8m Trench alignment: N-S<br>N-end Ground Level: 12.33m S-end Ground Level: 12.35m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 201 | Firm compaction, mid brown gritty silty clay with freq. tiny inclusions: stones, chalk, coal, tiles, concrete, glass, wire. Grass vegetation | Topsoil | 0.00-0.2 |
| 202 | Firm compaction, pale grey sandy concrete with freq gravel | Driveway surface - layer | 0.2-0.28 |
| 203 | Firm compaction, black with grey patches, clay with occ. modern inclusions: coal, coal clinker, tile, slate, oyster shell, glass, clay pipe small fragments, wire, plastic | Leveling layer | 0.28-0.44 |
| 204 | Sandstone boulders and cobbles with mid brown clay and occ. modern inclusions. | Leveling /stabilizing layer | 0.44-0.95 |
| 205 | Mid compaction, black, silty clay with occ. modern inclusions | Buried top soil | 0.95-1.05 |
| 206 | Mid compaction, white-ish/pale grey coarse sandy silt with moderate tiny fresh water snail | River terrace alluvial deposit | 1-1.25 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | shells, mostly fragmented | | |
| 207 | Firm, pale grey (darker from above) silty sand with occ. tiny fresh water snail shells mostly fragmented | River terrace alluvial deposit | 1.2-1.3 |
| 208 | Soft, white-ish clayey silt with occ. tiny fresh water snail shells, mostly fragmented | River terrace alluvial deposit | 1.3-1.4 |
| 209 | Soft, dark brown clayey silt with moderate tiny fresh water snail shells, mostly fragmented | River terrace alluvial deposit | 1.4-1.6 |
| 210 | Soft, white-ish coarse sandy silt with freq tiny fresh water snail shells, mostly fragmented | River terrace alluvial deposit | 1.6-1.65 |
| 211 | Soft, black, peat | River terrace alluvial deposit | 1.65+ |
| [212] | Concrete wall exposed alongside western edge of the trench at it south end.<br>To avoid this feature direction of evaluation trench has been altered. | Modern service | 0.44+ |
| [213] | WSW-ESE aligned, cast concrete wall terminus with wood posts. Metal pipe running in the edge of the wall and continues across the trench | Modern service | 0.95+ |
| [214] | Trench with metal pipe backfilled with clay | Modern service | 0.44+ |
| [215] | NNW-SSE aligned linear, 0.2m wide trench filled with cobbles | Modern service | 0.44+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services<br>Similar to (209) also exposed in Trench 1 as context (103) | | |

| Trench 3 | Dimensions: 8.5m x 1.8m Depth: 1m Trench alignment: NNE-SSW<br>NNE-end Ground Level: 15.14m SSW-end Ground Level: 14.88m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 301 | Mid compaction, black, clayey silt with occ. modern inclusions. Grass and weeds vegetation. | Topsoil | 0.00-0.2 |
| 302 | Firm, pale brown gravel with sand and occ. modern inclusions | Leveling layer | 0.2-0.32 |
| 303 | Firm compaction, black clayey silt with occ. modern inclusions | Buried top soil | 0.32-0.42 |
| 304 | Firm compaction, mid brown-mid orange brown clayey silt with moderate sandstone and occ. modern CBM | Leveling layer | 0.42-0.64 |
| 305 | Tabular sandstone with pale grey sandy silt | Natural - Bedrock | 0.64+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services | | |

| Trench 4 | Dimensions: 20m x 1.8m Depth: 0.95m Trench alignment: N-S<br>N-end Ground Level: 15.94m S-end Ground Level: 15.26m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 401 | Soft compaction, black, sandy clayey silt with occ. small pebble and modern inclusions. Grass vegetation. | Topsoil | 0.00-0.1 |
| 402 | Thin layer of compacted sub angular sandstone gravel | Leveling layer | 0.1-0.16 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 403 | Firm compaction, dark brown clayey silt with occ. tile fragment, concrete, coal clinker, coal and moderate roots | Leveling layer | 0.16-0.46 |
| 404 | Firm compaction, mid brown sandy silt with freq sandstone gravel and occ. modern inclusions: coal, coal clinker, concrete, tile fragments | Leveling layer | 0.46-0.86 |
| 405 | Mid brown silty clay with freq sub angular sandstone | Natural - Bedrock | 0.86+ |
| [406] | Row of bricks with electric inscription | Electric cable | 0.46-0.8+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing | | |

| Trench 5 | Dimensions: 8m x 2m Depth: 1.2m Trench alignment: NNW-SSE<br>NNW-end Ground Level: 6.51m SSE-end Ground Level: 6.6m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 501 | Tarmac – present driveway | Tarmac layer | 0.00-0.09 |
| 502 | Compacted gravel with dry concrete | Bed for 501-layer | 0.09-0.19 |
| 503 | Compact, black mix of hardcore, tarmac, concrete, with lenses of charred remains (coal, coal clinker) , metal pipes and glass | Leveling layer – After fire 1863? | 0.19-0.45 |
| 504 | Very firm, mid/dark brown clayey silt with occ. stones and modern inclusions: metal, glass, bricks, coal. | Leveling layer – After fire 1863? | 0.45-0.75 |
| 505 | Firm compaction, mix of dark brown clayey silt and pale brown and grey clay with occ. coal, tiles, clinker, glass and sandstone cobbles | Leveling layer | 0.75-1.08 |
| 506 | Firm compaction, mid/dark brown silty clay with occ. small shells, CBM fragments, burnt slate, coal and sandstone | Trample layer- | 0.94-1.1 |
| 507 | Bright orange-brown clay | Natural – colluvium | 1.05-1.3 |
| 508 | Firm compaction, mid bluish gray clay | Natural - alluvium | 1.25+ |
| 509 | WSW-ENE aligned trench with steep sides and flat base. Brick build channel (510) at the base of the trench was sealed with (511) | Cut of modern trench with brick drain | 1.05-1.5 |
| 510 | Un-bonded brick channel. Two courses high half brick wide, two parallel walls with half brick space between them. Brick across the walls for the floor and roof. Channel opening was 0.1m wide and 0.15m high. | Fill of [509] - Brick channel | 1.2-1.5 |
| 511 | Firm compaction, dark brown clayey silt with moderate stones and CBM fragments | Backfill of [509] | 1.05-1.5 |
| [512] | NE-SW aligned, 0.4m wide gully connected to perpendicularly aligned ditch [514]. Feature had moderate sides and slightly concave base | Cut of ditch | 1.05-1.2 |
| 513 | Firm compaction, mid grey mottled with orange brown silty clay with occ. sub angular flint and sandstone. | Secondary fill of [512] | 1.05-1.2 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| [514] | Northern edge of the ditch exposed. Feature was NW-SE aligned with steep stepped side. Exposed width was 1.2m. | Cut of ditch – | 1.08-1.58 |
| 515 | Firm compaction, mix of bluish grey clay and dark brown clayey silt with freq. sandstone | Primary fill of [515] | 1.43-1.58 |
| 516 | Soft compaction, pale brown silty sand with occ. animal bone, freq. sandstone and occ. tiny shells. | Secondary fill of [515] | 1.33-1.43 |
| 517 | Firm compaction, dark brownish grey sandy silty clay. | Tertiary fill of [515] | 1.08-1.33 |
| 518 | Soft, black humid silt – fill of brick channel | Secondary fill of [509] | 1.27-1.43 |
| [519] | NNW-SSE aligned concrete wall with dead metal water pipes | Modern wall | 0.2-0.5 |
| [520] | Edge of the feature exposed. Feature had vertical sides and flat base | Cut of modern trench | 0.2-1.2 |
| 521 | Pink gravel- lead plate at the base of [520] | Backfill of [520] | 0.2-1.2 |
| [522] | NE-SW aligned linear ditch with steep sides and concave base Feature was 0.85m wide. | Cut of ditch - | 1.12-1.56 |
| 523 | Firm compaction, dark grey with pale brown patches, silty clay with occ. stones | Primary fill of [522] | 1.38-1.56 |
| 524 | Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty clay with occ. sandstone and ironstone flecks. | Secondary fill of [522] | 1.22-1.38 |
| 525 | Firm compaction, dark bluish grey silty clay with freq. iron mottling and occ. stones | Tertiary fill of [512] | 1.12-1.22 |
| [526] | Yellow coated metal pipe in E-W aligned trench | Modern trench with gas pipe | 0.1-0.6 |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing | | |

| Trench 6 | Dimensions: 6.2m x 1.8m Depth: 0.35m Trench alignment: ENE-WSW<br>ENE-end Ground Level: 7.01m WSW-end Ground Level: 6.89m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 601 | Tarmac | Tarmac | 0-0.08 |
| 602 | Solid concrete | Concrete | 0.08-0.3+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing.<br>Excavation of the trench has been abandoned because we could not get through concrete | | |

| Trench 7 | Dimensions: 3m x 1.8m Depth: 0.44m Trench alignment: ENE-WSW<br>ENE-end Ground Level: 7.01m WSW-end Ground Level: 6.89m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 701 | Soft compaction, black loam. Grass vegetation | Top soil | 0-0.2 |
| 702 | Mixed deposit, gravel cobbles with mid brown clayey silt and sand with occ. modern inclusions | Leveling layer | 0.2-0.4 |
| 703 | Pale grey tabular sandstone bedrock with pale brown sand | Natural - bedrock | 0.4+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing. | | |

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|---|---|

| Trench 8 | Dimensions: 7.5m x 1.8m Depth: 0.84m Trench alignment: WSW-ENE<br>ENE-end Ground Level: 6.6m WSW-end Ground Level: 5.8m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 801 | Soft compaction, black loam with freq. roots of grass and nearby trees. | Top soil | 0-0.16 |
| 802 | Compacted, pale brownish grey hardcore | Leveling layer | 0.16-0.4 |
| 803 | Firm compaction, dark brown clayey silt with occ. modern inclusions | Buried modern top soil | 0.4-0.48 |
| 804 | Hardcore – bricks and lime mortar<br>Re deposited debris of 1806 buildings? | Leveling layer | 0.48-0.68 |
| 805 | Mid compaction, mid brown silty clay with occ. concentrations of manganese panning and freq. small roots | Garden soil | 0.68+ |
| 806 | N-S aligned modern trench was 0.4m wide and backfilled with mid brownish grey silty clay | Modern trench | 0.16-0.68+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing. | | |

| Trench 9 | Dimensions: 8m x 1.8m Depth: 0.44m Trench alignment: WNW-ESE<br>WNW-end Ground Level: 8.3m ESE-end Ground Level: 8.7m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 901 | Soft compaction, black loam with freq. small and medium roots | Top soil | 0-0.2 |
| 902 | Firm compaction, mid brown silty clay with lens of coal clinker, lime mortar and occ. modern inclusions | Leveling layer | 0.2-0.7 |
| 903 | Firm compaction, dark brown, clayey silt with freq. gravel and occ. modern inclusions | Leveling layer | 0.7-0.86 |
| 904 | Firm compaction, pale brown sandy silt with freq. gravel, occ. modern inclusions and freq. roots | Leveling layer | 0.86-1.14 |
| 905 | Firm compaction, dark brown clayey silt with freq. roots | Buried top soil | 0.9-1.14 |
| 906 | Firm compaction, pale brown sandy clay with freq. tabular sandstone | Natural - bedrock | 1.14+ |
| 907 | NE-SW aligned trench was 0.7m wide and backfilled with cobbles | Modern trench | 0.2+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing. | | |

| Trench 10 | Dimensions: 12m x 1.8m Depth: 1m Trench alignment: NW-SE<br>NW-end Ground Level: 9.2m SE-end Ground Level: 10.8m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 1001 | Organic material: sticks, leaves, moss | Forest floor | 0-0.14 |
| 1002 | Firm compaction, black silty clay with freq. roots, occ. stones and CBM | Top soil | 0.1-0.36 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1003 | Firm compaction, mid brown sandy clayey silt with occ. sandstone and moderate small modern inclusions: mortar, CBM, glass, coal, coal clinker | Leveling layer | 0.36-0.9 |
| 1004 | Mid brown sandy silty clay with freq. sub angular sandstone. | Natural | 0.9+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing.<br>Trench located in woodland area | | |

| Trench 11 | Dimensions: 18m x 1.8m Depth: 0.66m Trench alignment: NW-SE<br>NW-end Ground Level: 10.8m SE-end Ground Level: 11.5m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 1101 | Mid compaction, black loam with freq. roots, tarmac , CBM and concrete | Top soil | 0-0.18 |
| 1102 | Hardcore – debris from mill buildings | Driveway surface - layer | 0.18-0.4 |
| 1103 | Firm compaction, mid brown silty clay with freq. sandstone and occ. modern inclusions. | Leveling layer | 0.4-0.66 |
| 1104 | Mid brown, sandy silty clay with freq. sandstone | Natural | 0.66+ |
| [1105] | NE-SW aligned trench was 0.3m wide. | Modern trench – probably gas pipe | 0.18+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing.<br>Trench located in woodland area | | |

| Trench 12 | Dimensions: 11.5m x 1.8m Depth: 0.54m Trench alignment: NE-SW<br>NE-end Ground Level: 14.5m SW-end Ground Level: 11.9m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 1201 | Soft compaction, black clayey silt with freq roots and organic material | Top soil and woodland floor | 0-0.18 |
| 1202 | Firm compaction, mid brown clayey sandy silt with occ. modern inclusions: CBM, concrete, coal, coal clinker. | Sub soil - colluvium | 0.18-0.4 |
| 1203 | Pale grey tabular sandstone with clayey coarse sandy silt | Natural - bedrock | 0.4+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing.<br>Trench located in woodland area | | |

| Trench 13 | Dimensions: 5m x 1.8m Depth: 1.35m Trench alignment: NNW-SSE<br>NNW-end Ground Level: 11.03m SSE-end Ground Level: 11.12m | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Interpretation | Depth (m) |
| 1301 | Soft compaction, black clayey silt with freq roots and organic material | Top soil and woodland floor | 0-0.18 |
| 1302 | Firm compaction, mid brown clayey silt with lenses of lime mortar, occ. cobbles and modern inclusions: glass, CBM, coal, coal clinker. | Build up ground – modern layer | 0.18-0.66 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1303 | Firm compaction, mid brown silty clay with occ. modern inclusions | Build up ground – modern layer | 0.66-1.35 |
| 1304 | Firm compaction, mid brown silty clay | Natural - colluvium | 1.35+ |
| Notes: | Trench size determined to avoid surrounding modern services according to utility identification drawing.<br>Trench located in woodland area | | |


*Figure 1: Site location map, scale 1:5000.*

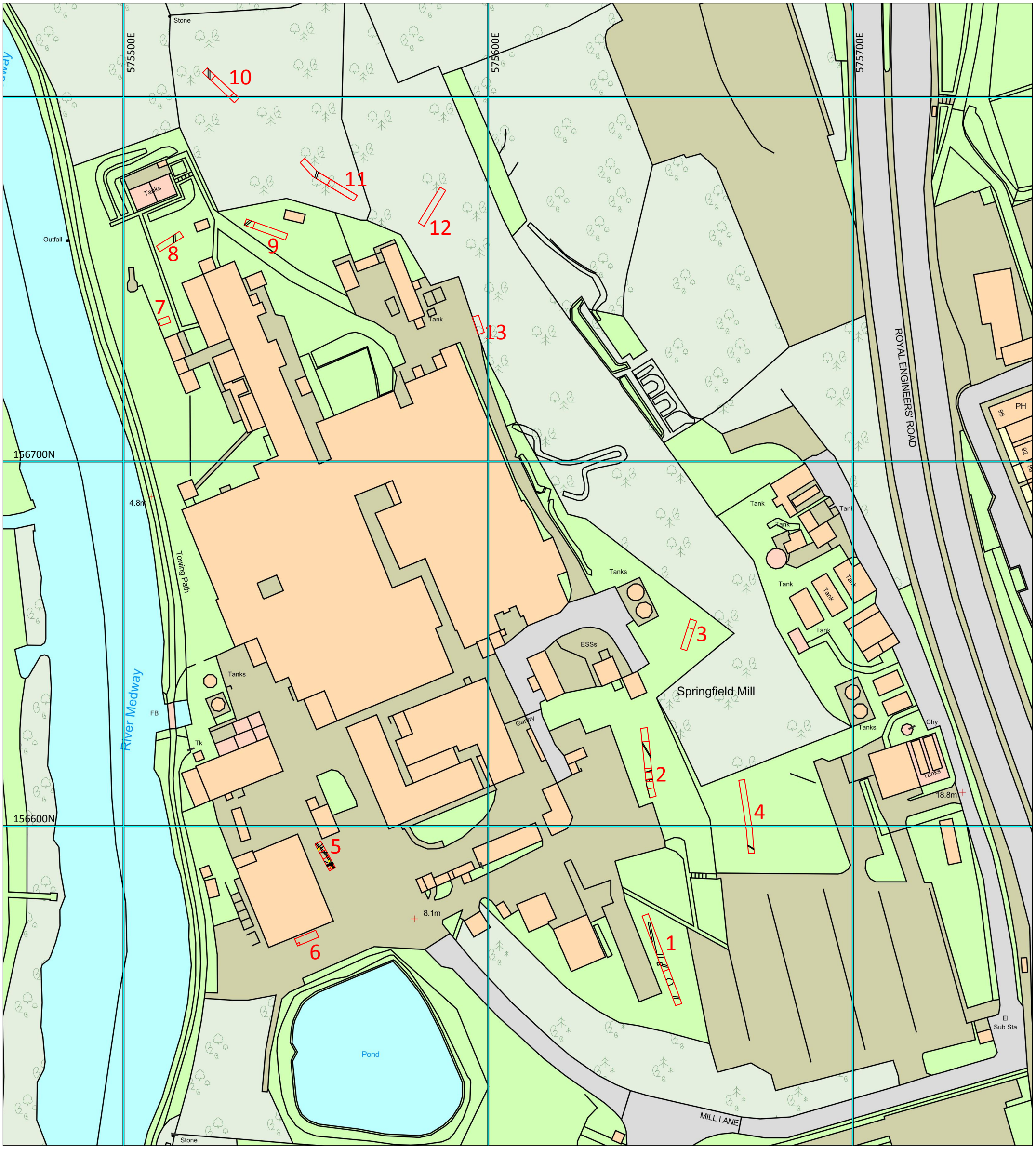



*Figure 2: Trench location in relation to OS plan*

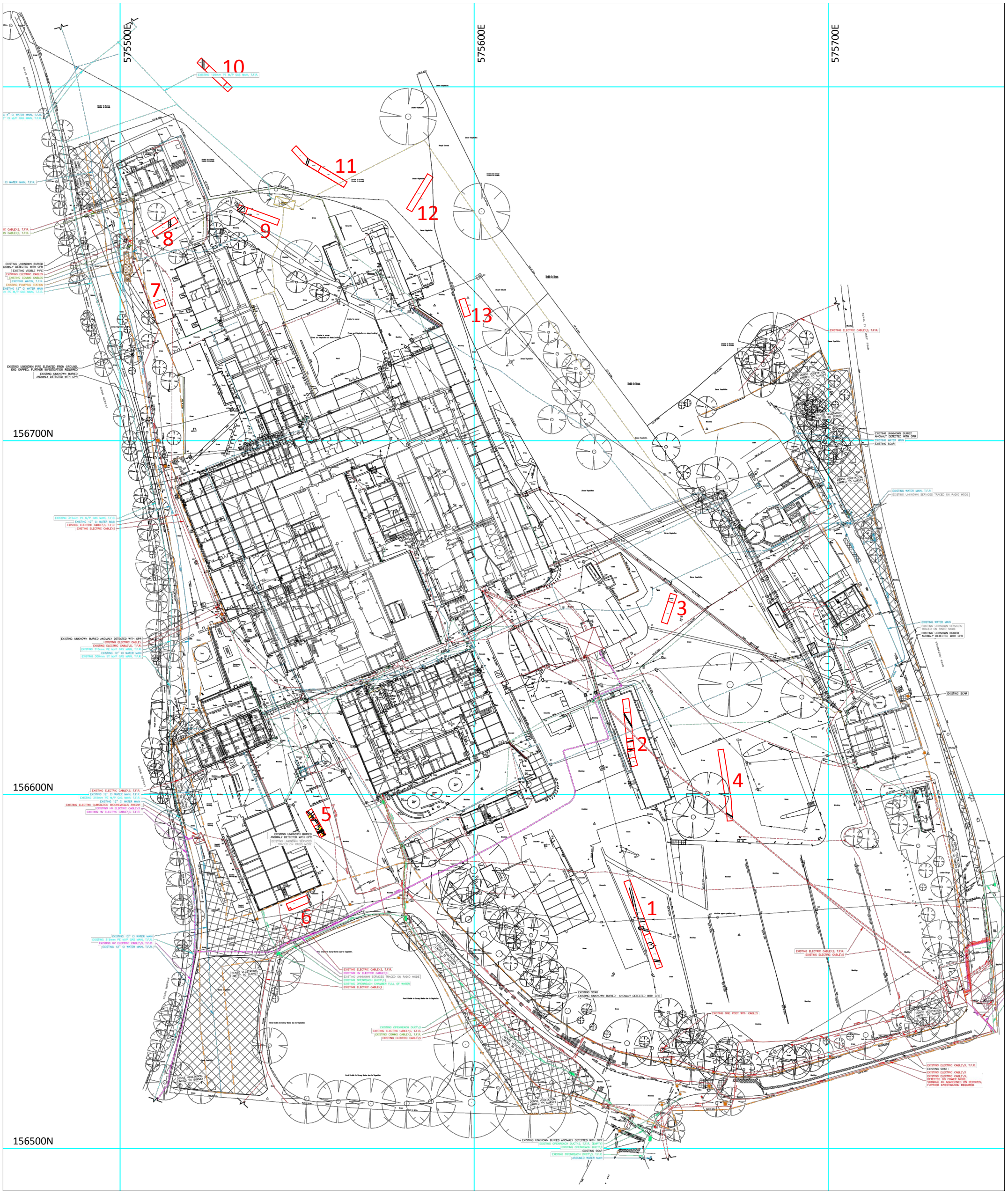



*Figure 2a: Trench location in relation to Utility identification drawing*

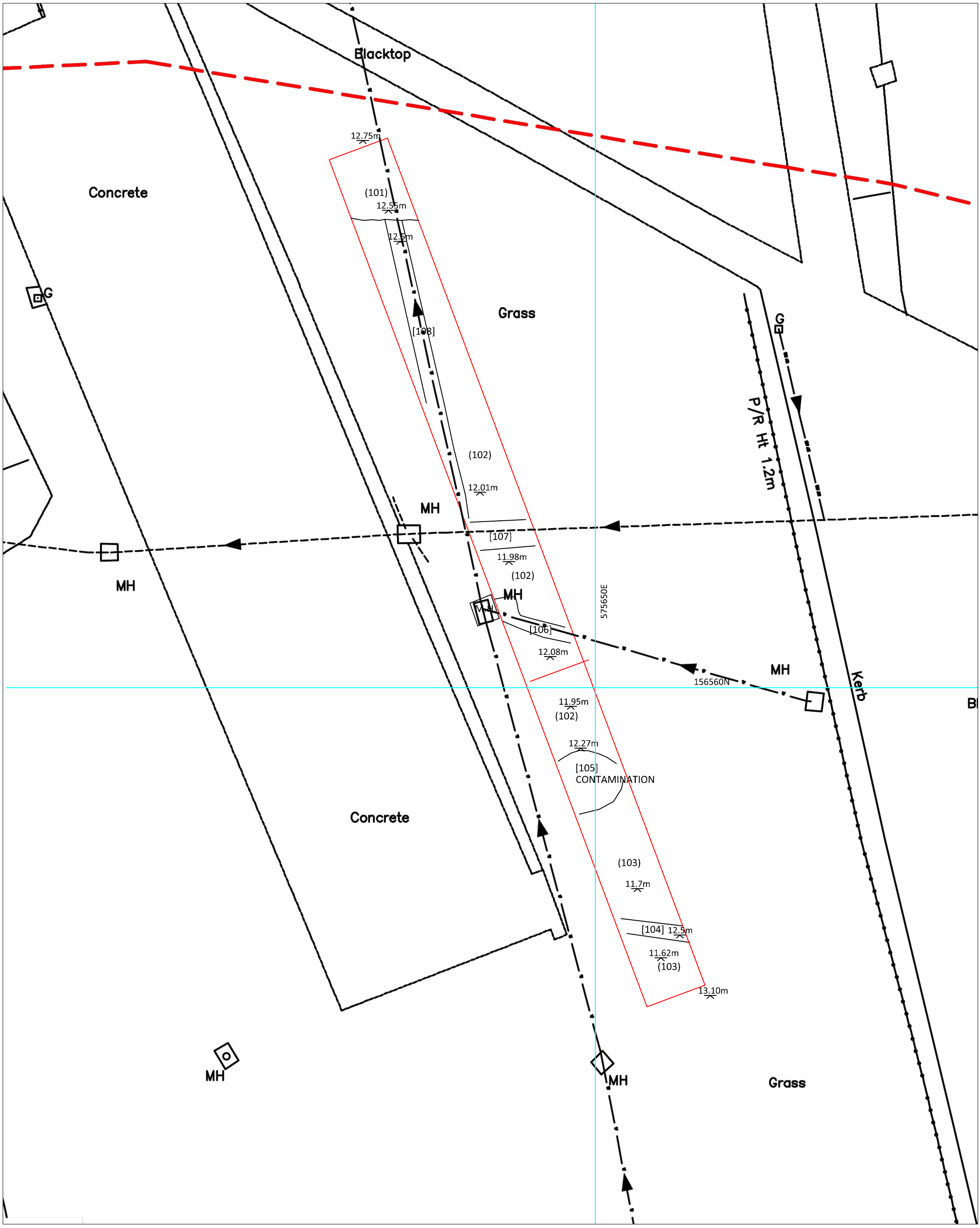



*Figure 3: Plan of Trench 1*

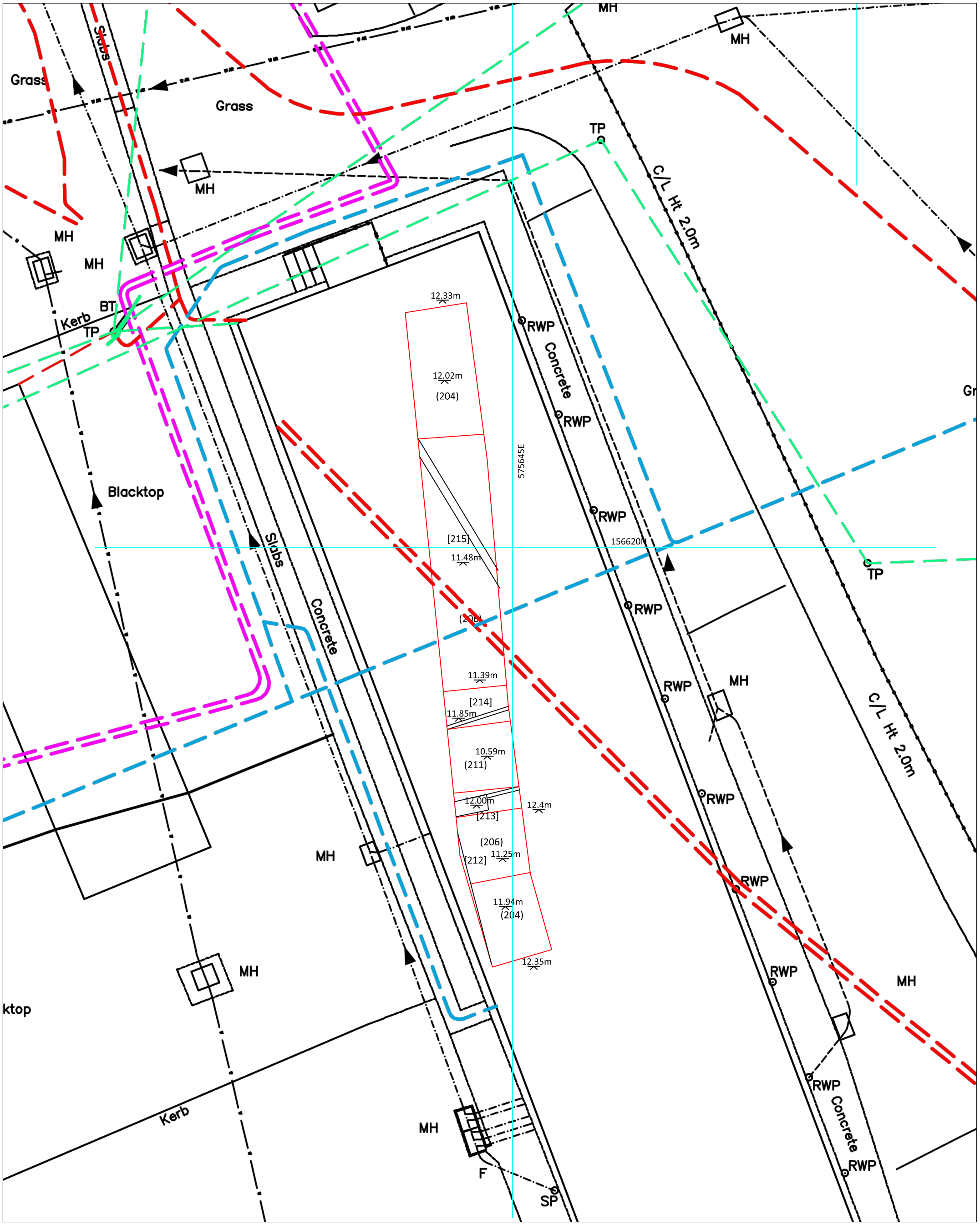



*Figure 4: Plan of Trench 2*

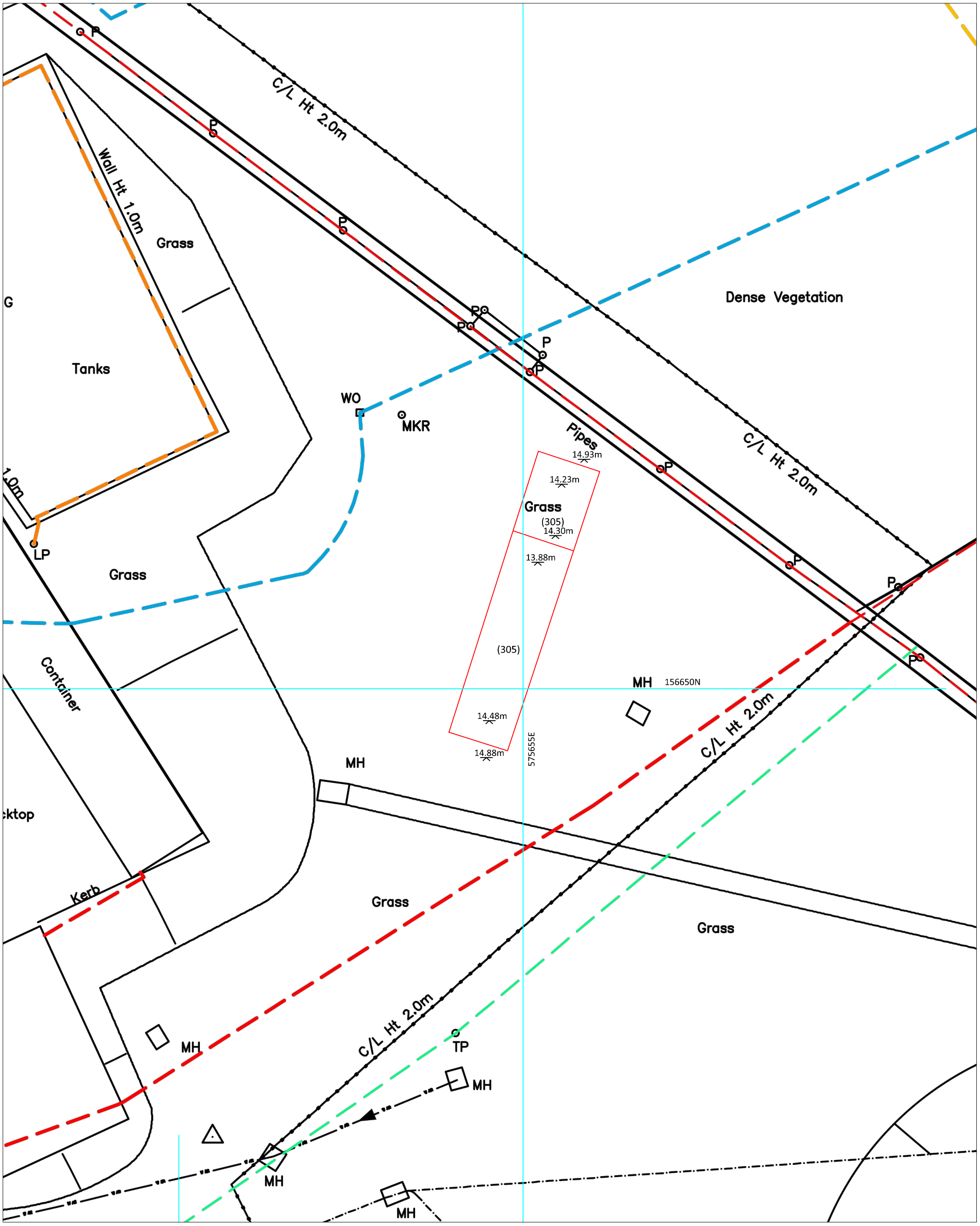



*Figure 5: Plan of Trench 3*

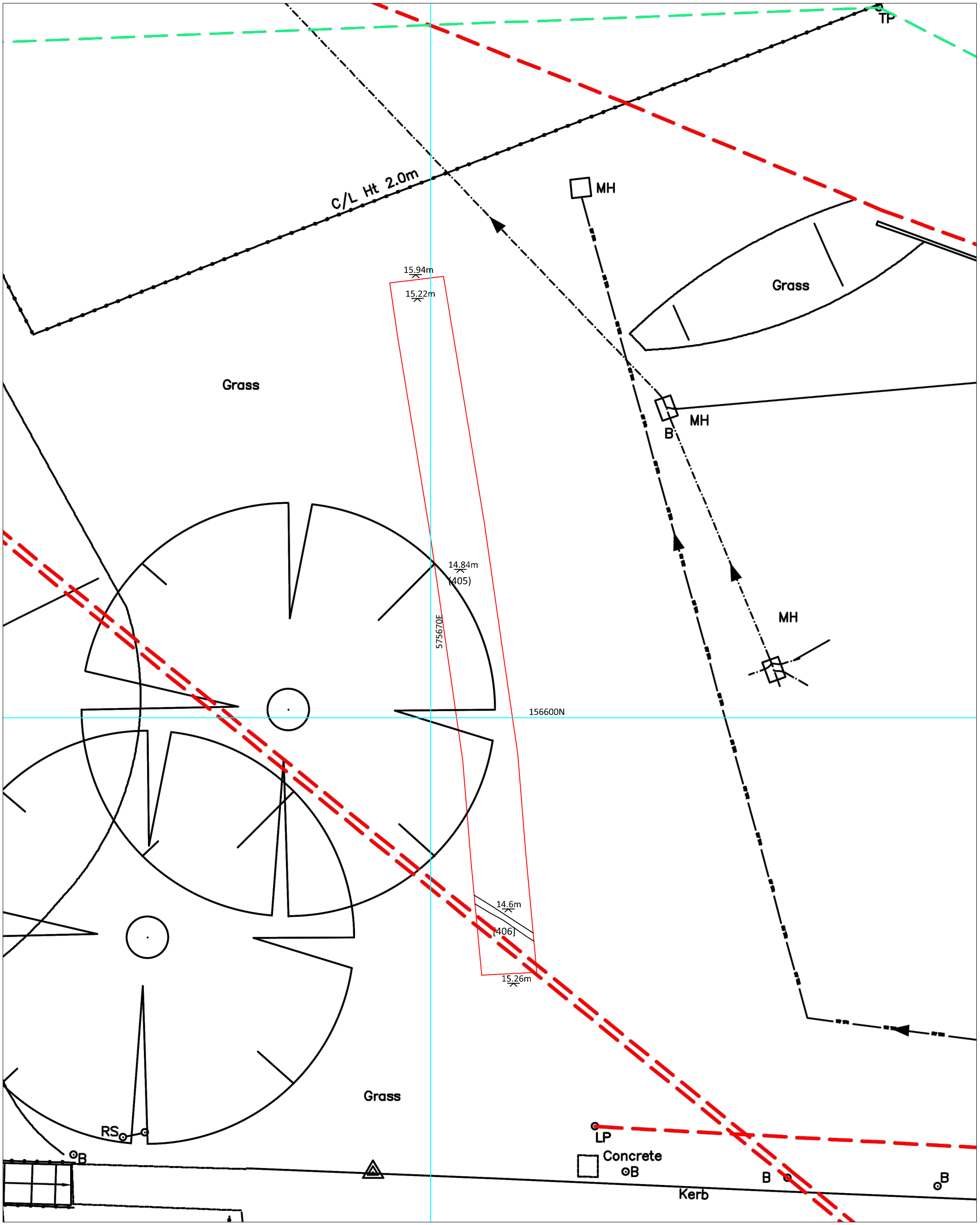



*Figure 6: Plan of Trench 4*

N

0 5m

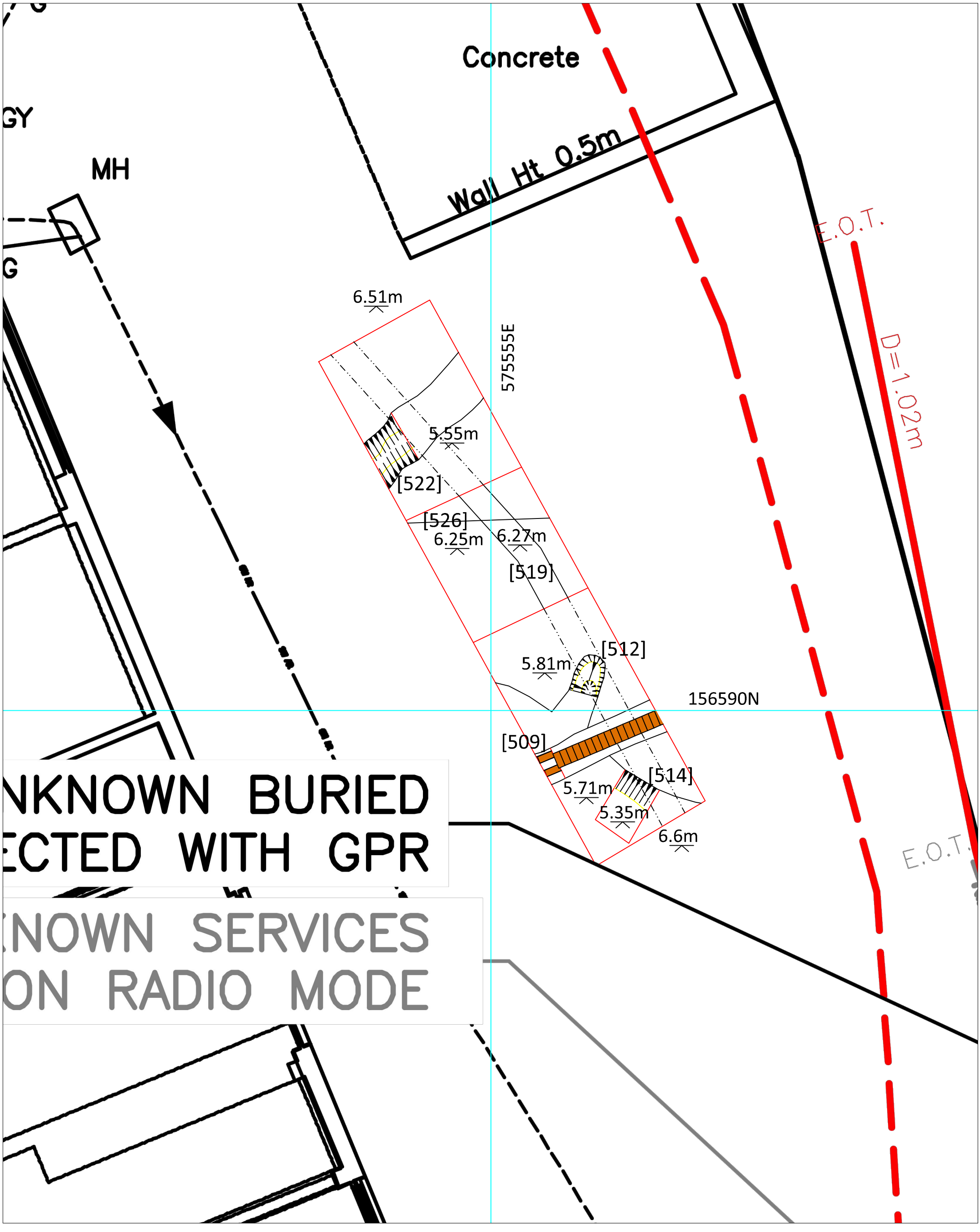



*Figure 7: Plan of Trench 5*

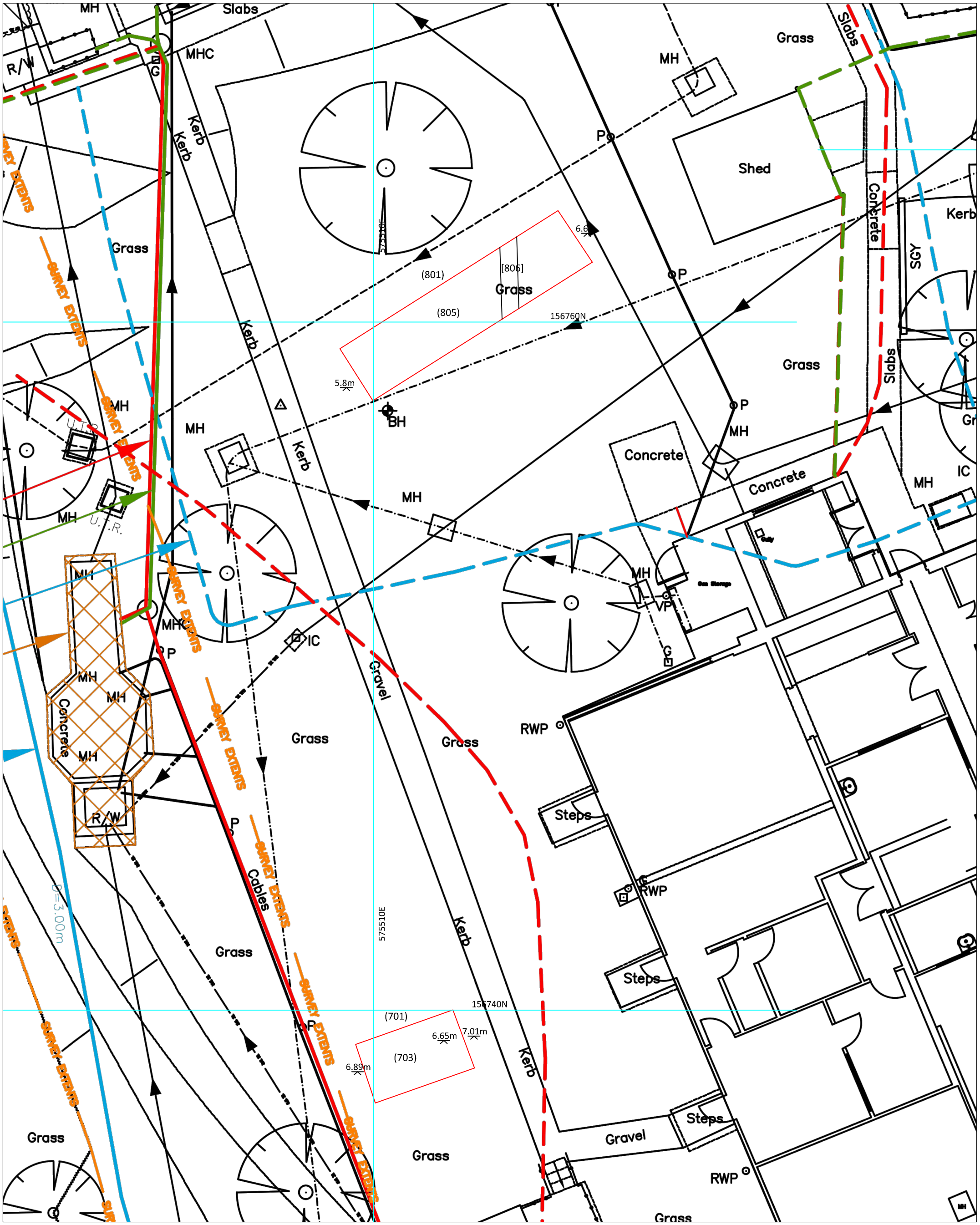



*Figure 8: Plan of Trench 7 and 8*

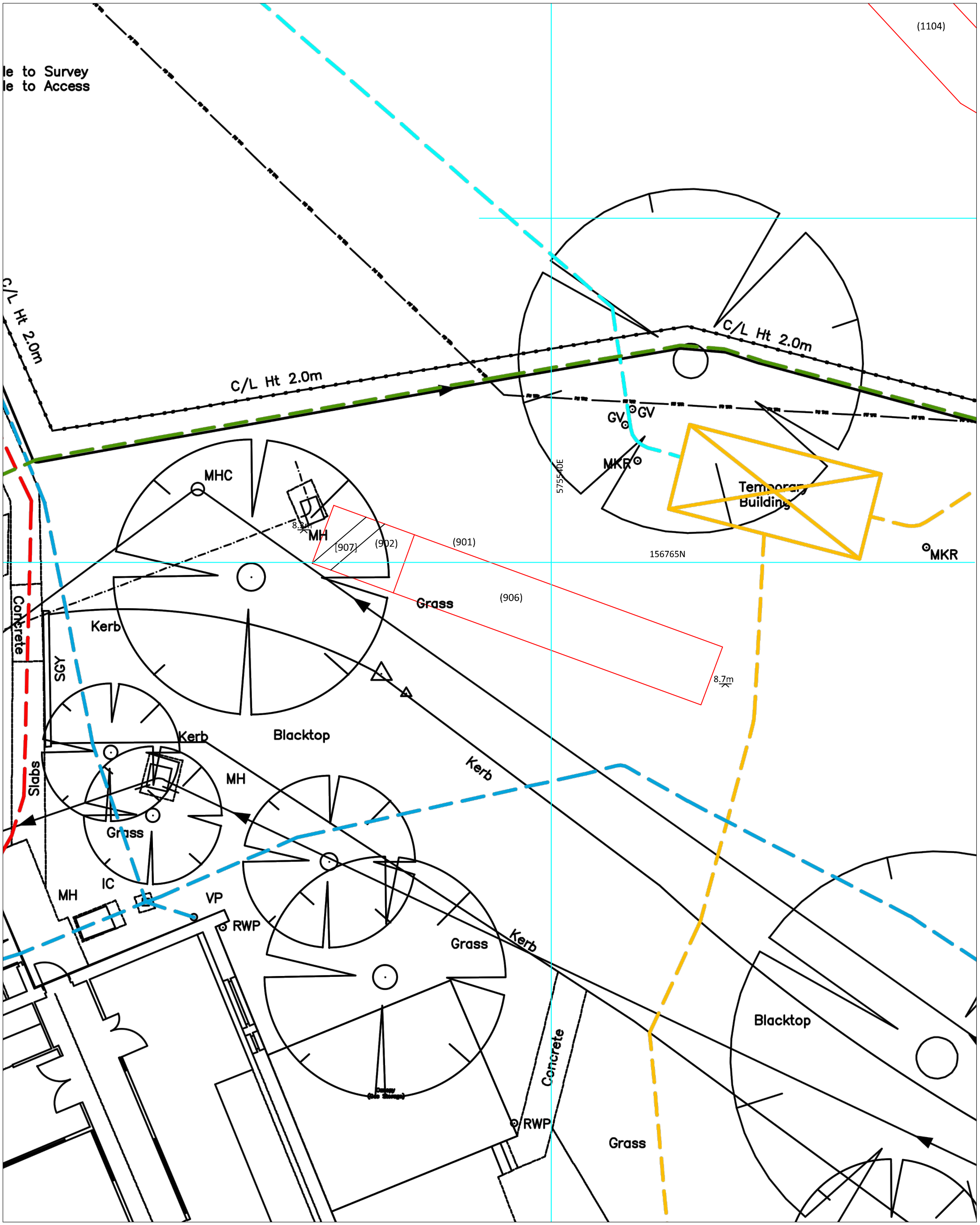



*Figure 9: Plan of Trench 9*

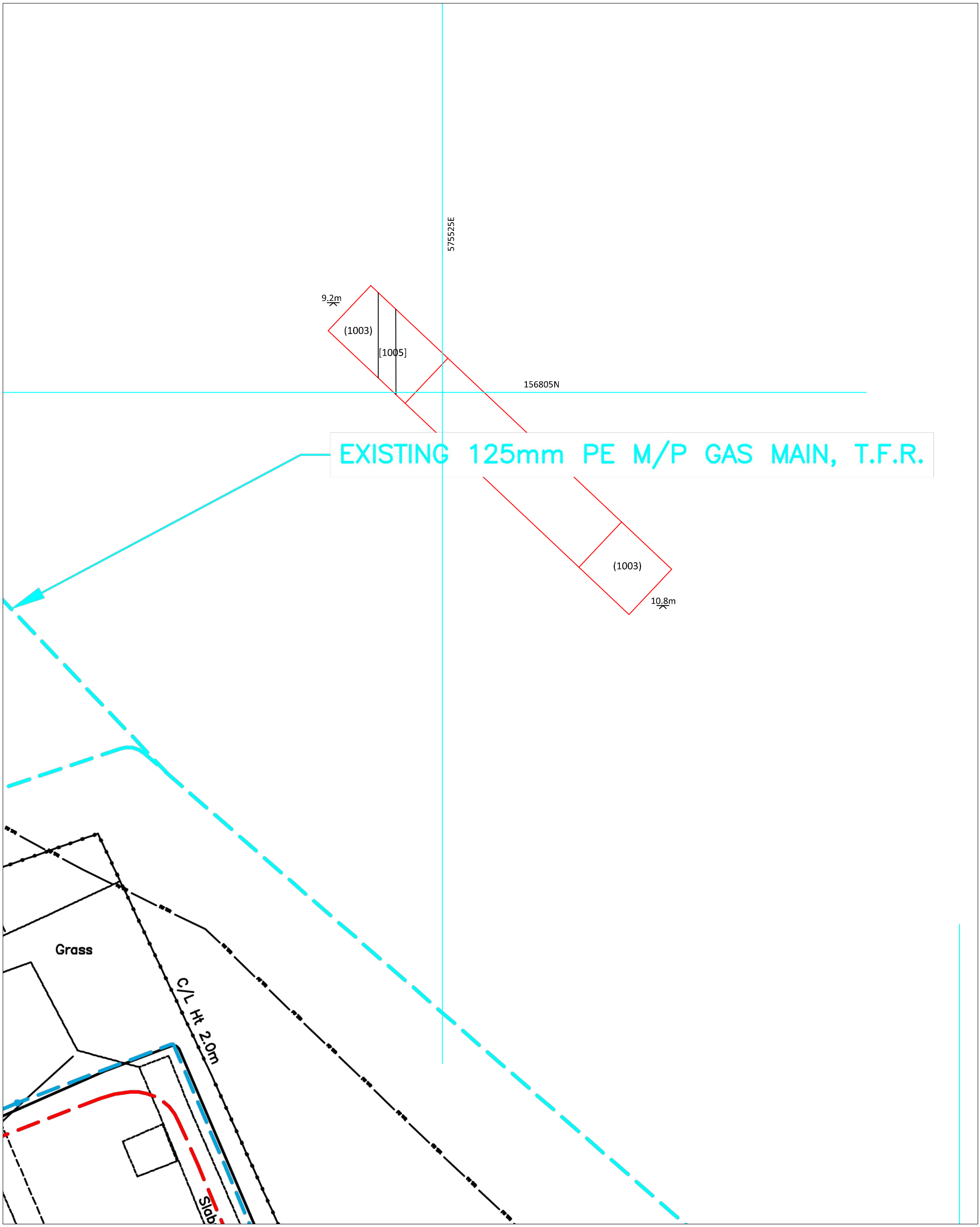



*Figure 10: Plan of Trench 10*

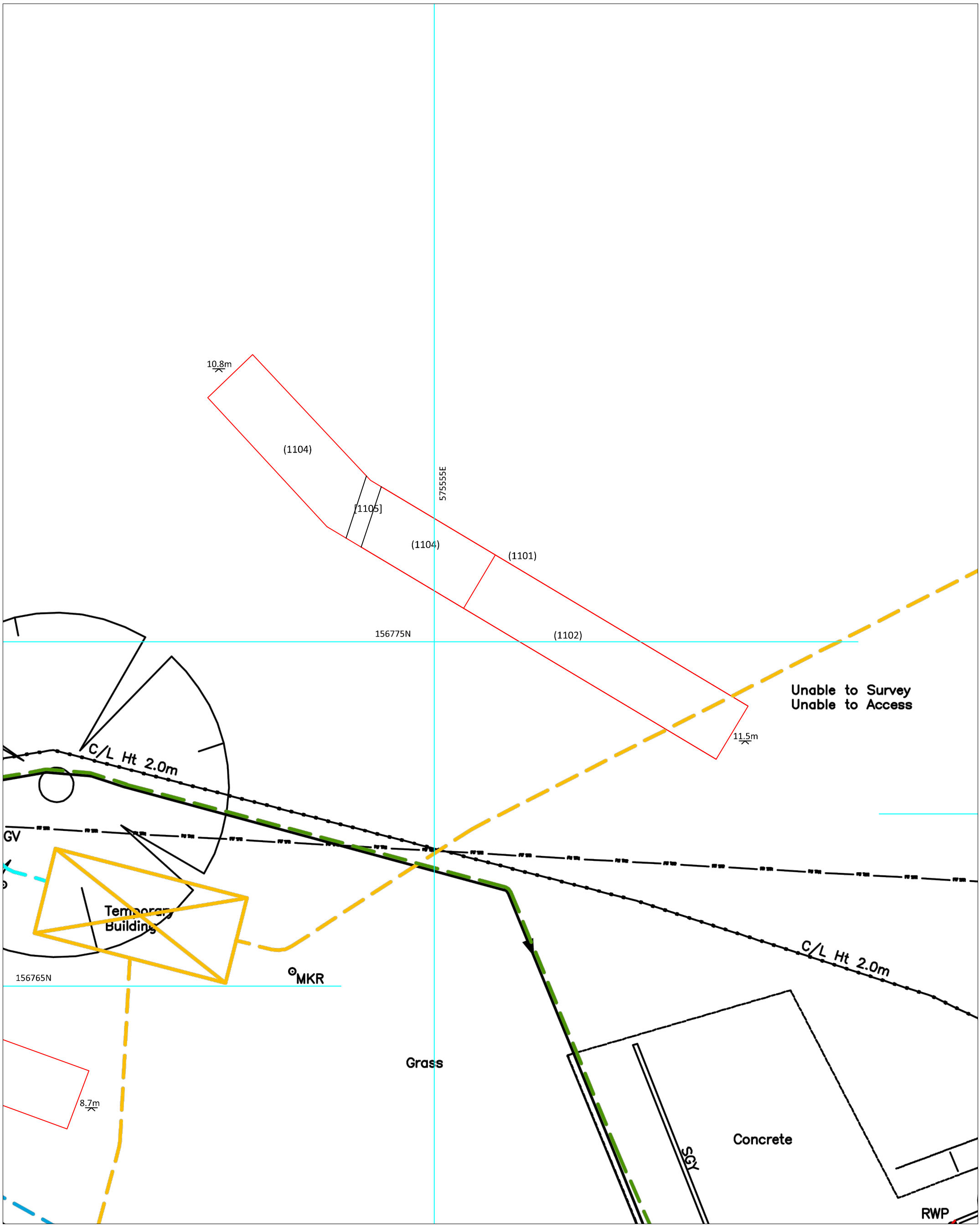



*Figure 11: Plan of Trench 11*

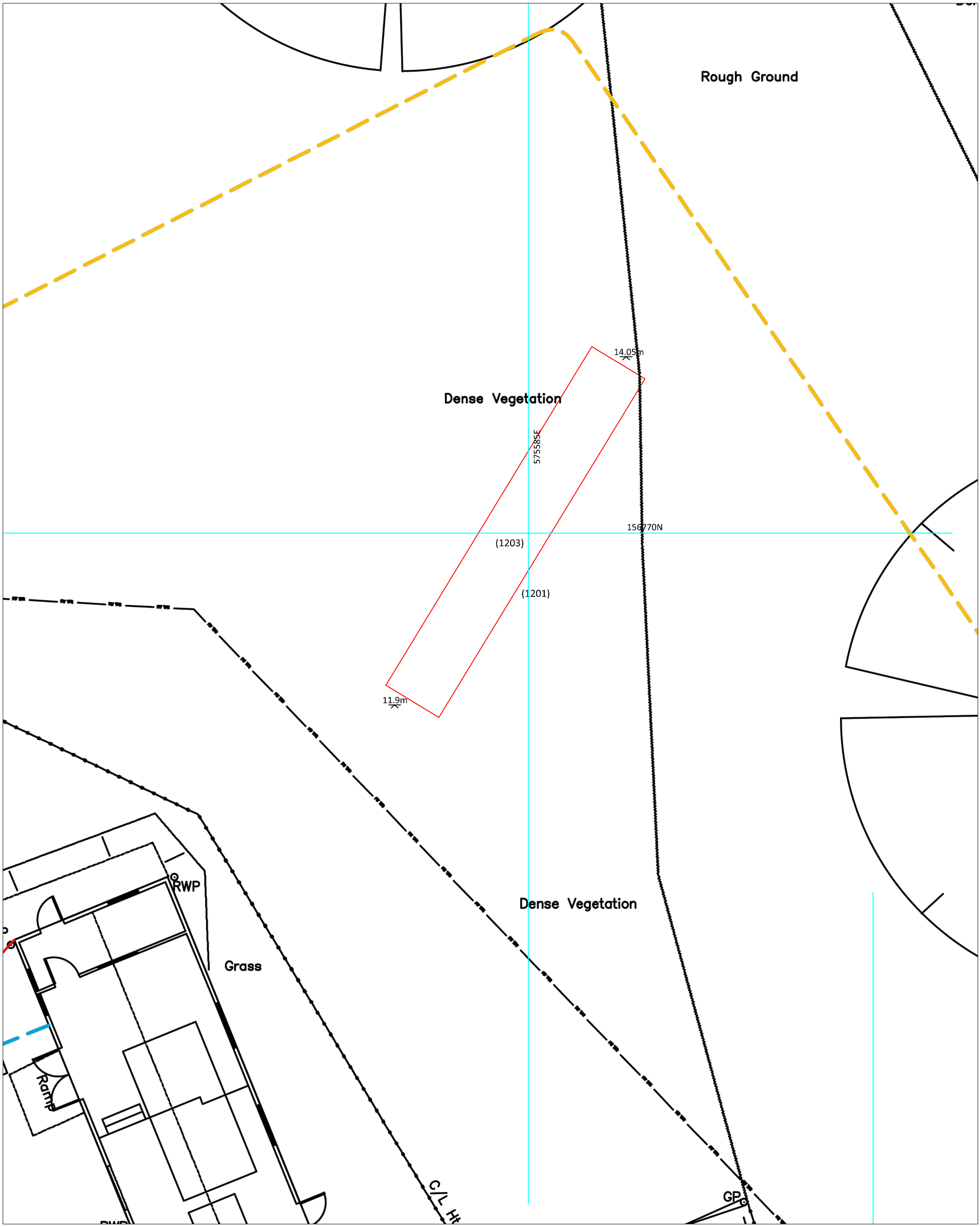



*Figure 12: Plan of Trench 12*

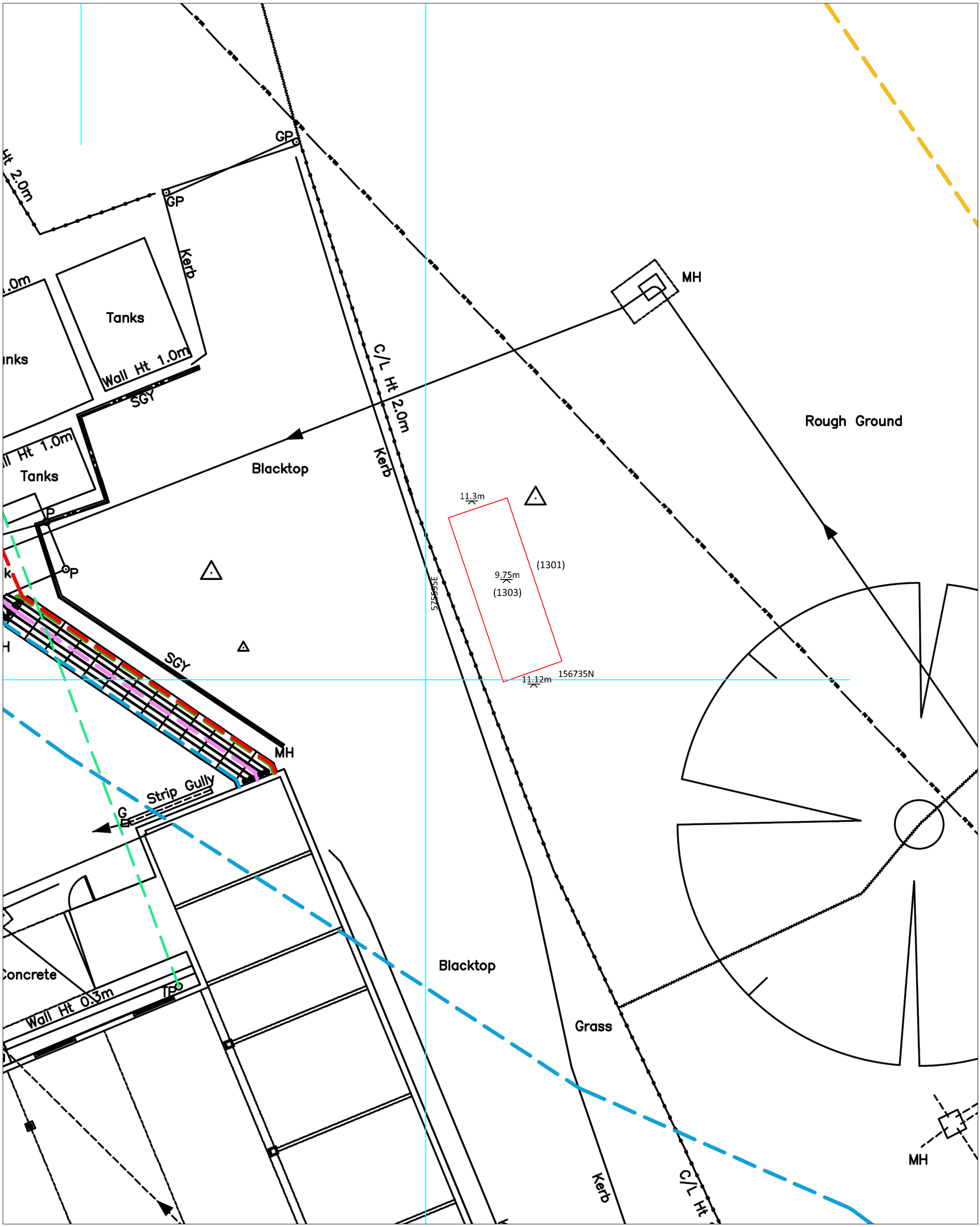



*Figure 13: Plan of Trench 13*

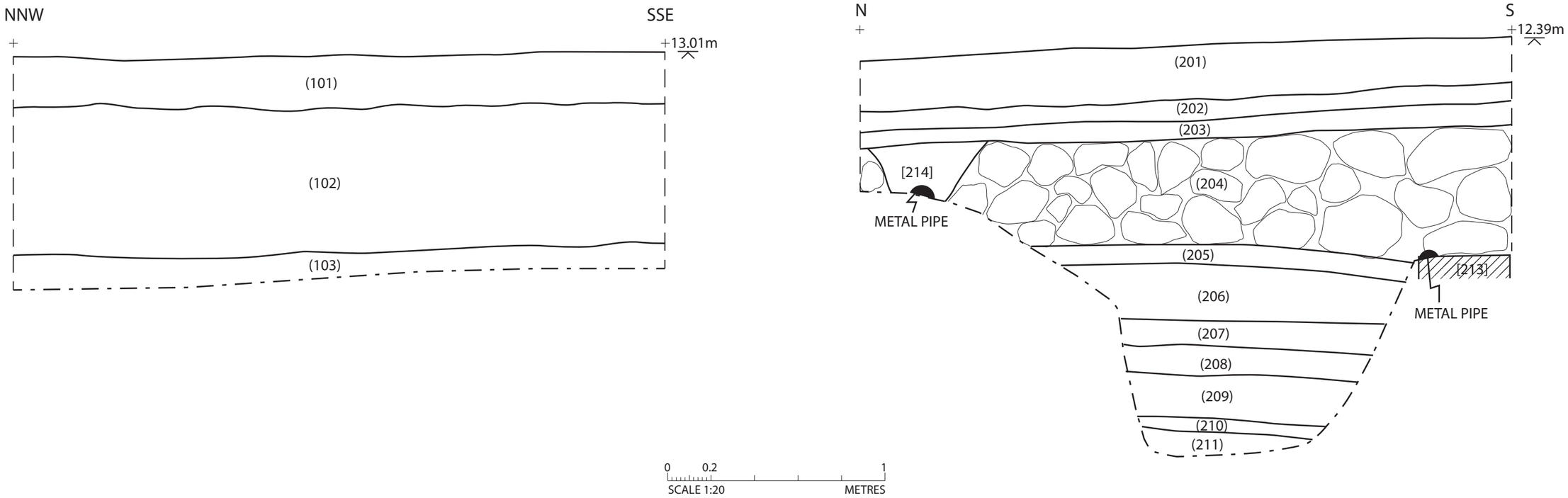
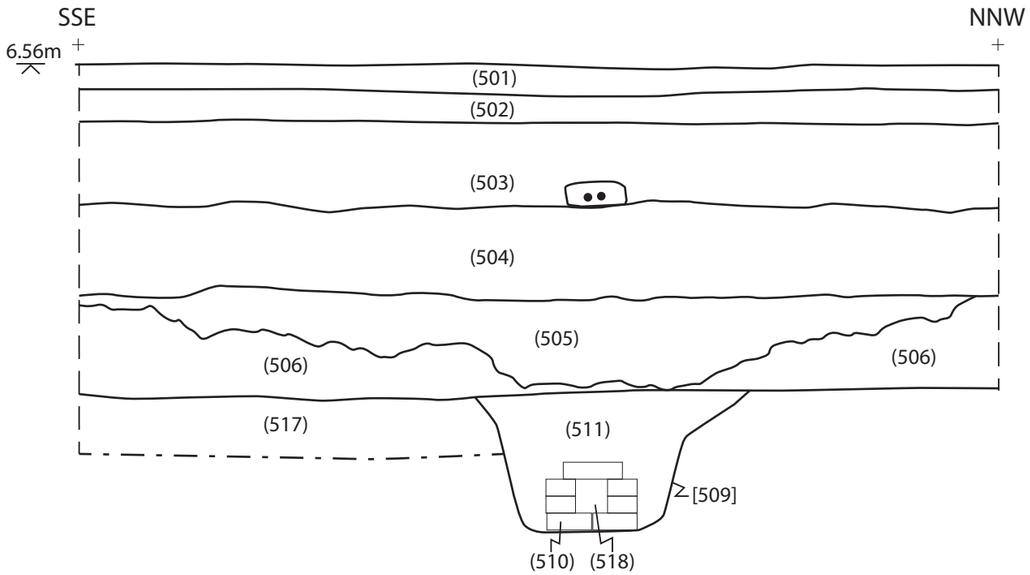
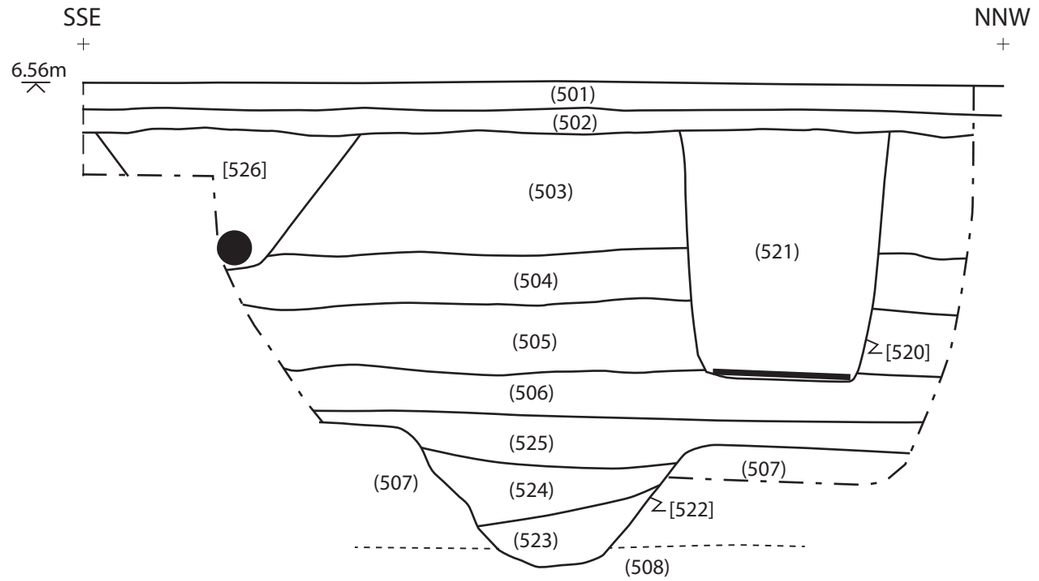
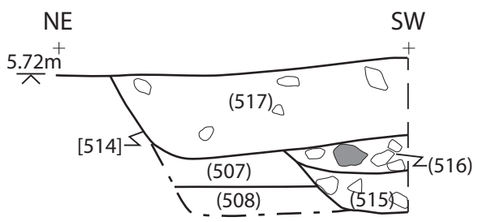
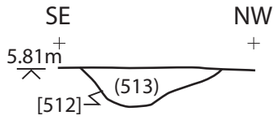


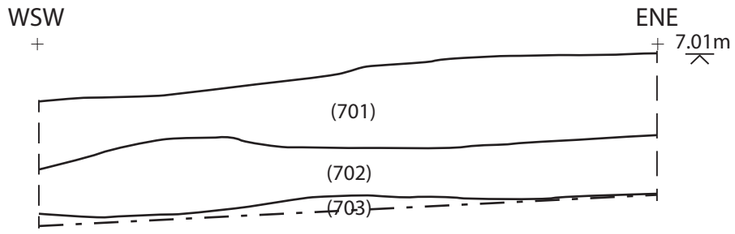

*Figure 14: Sections - Trenches 1-4*

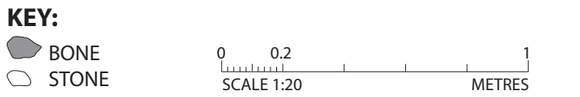


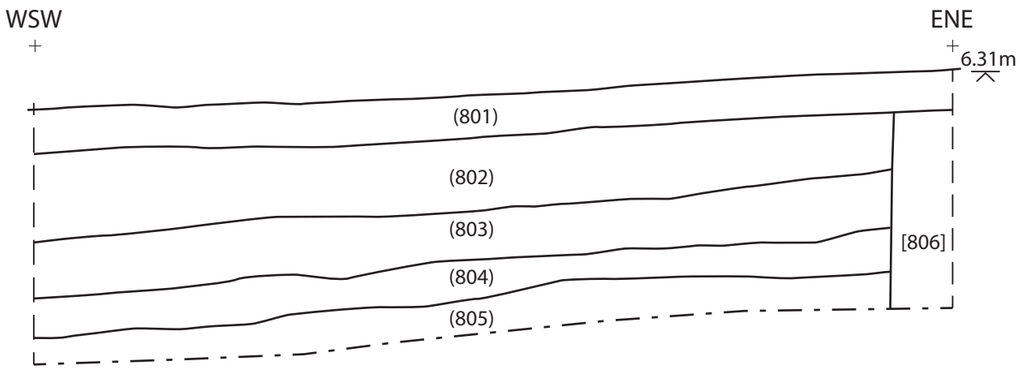



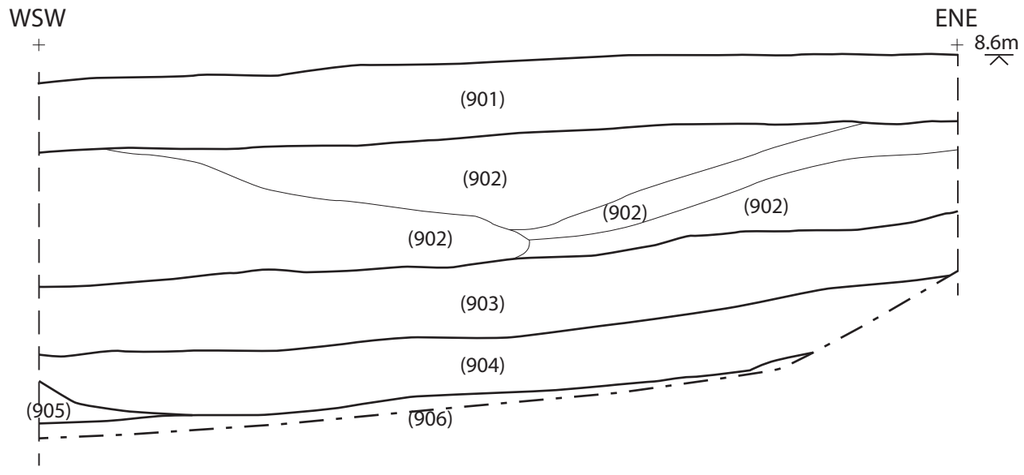
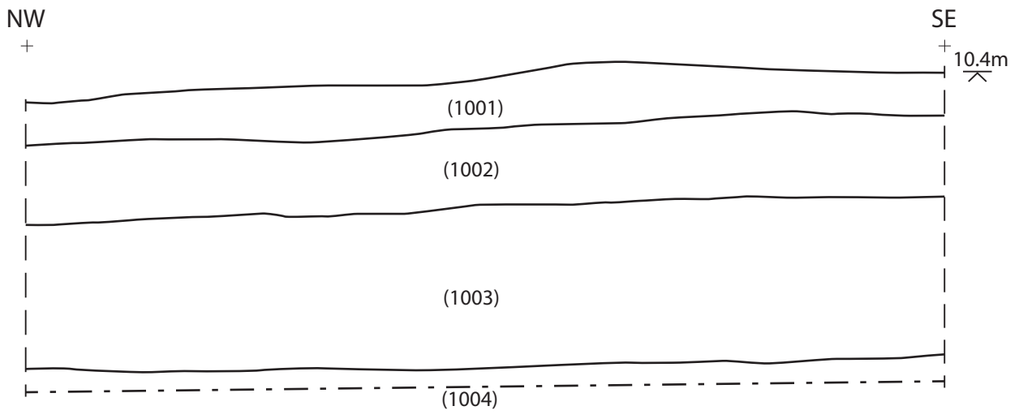
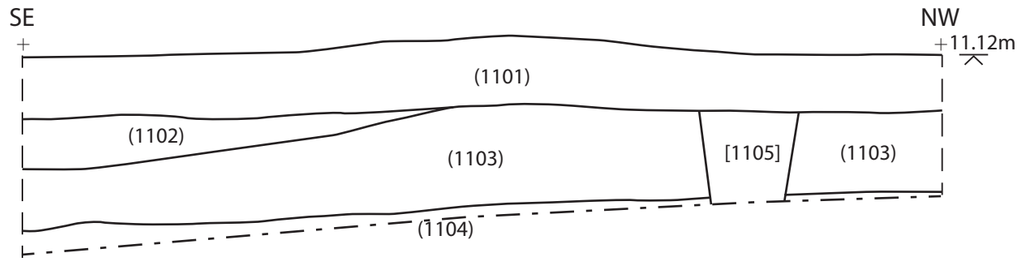
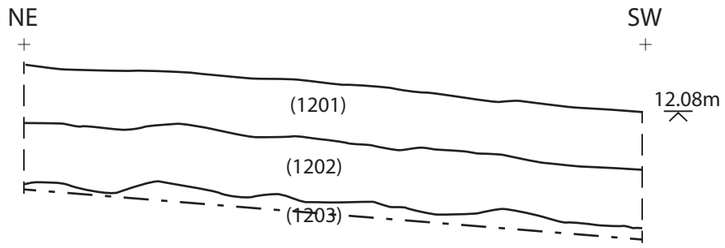




*Figure 15: Sections - Trenches 5-9*



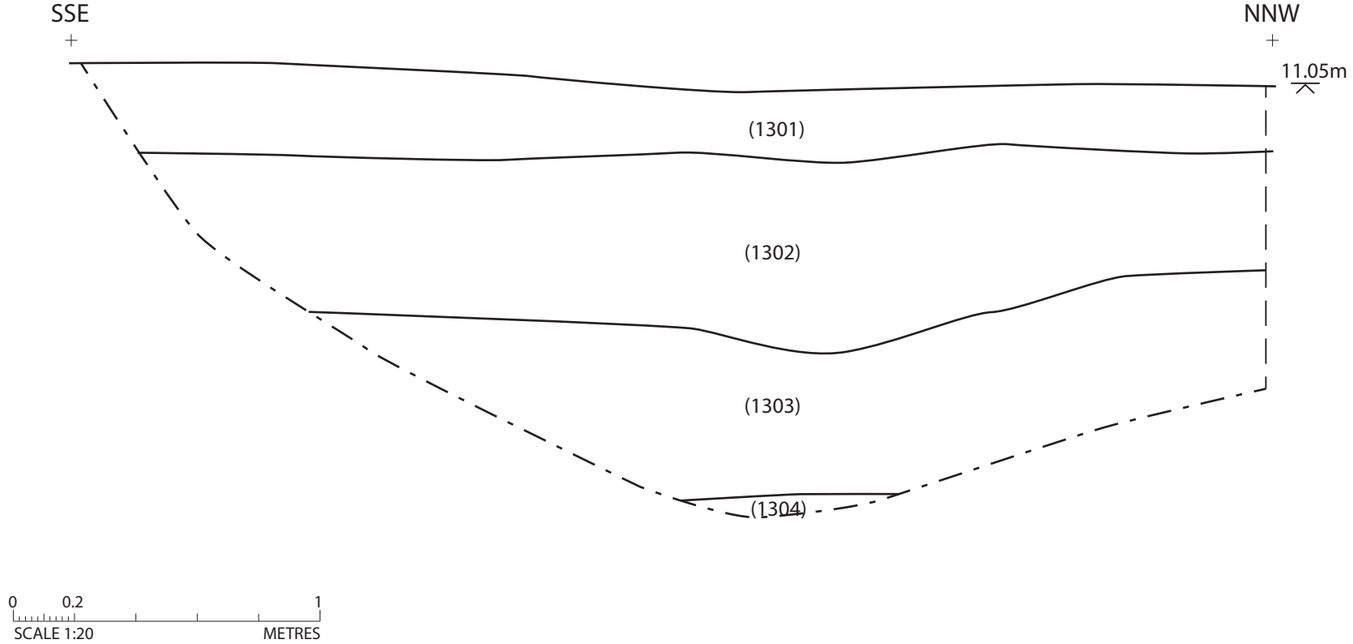




*Figure 16: Sections - Trenches 10-13*

## Plates

**Plate 1: Aerial photograph of the site**

**Plate 2: Looking north-west at the site from the car park. Trench 1 is visible on the left behind the barrier and Trench 2 in the background**

**Plate 3: Looking north-west at the site of Trench 5**

**Plate 4: Looking north at Trench 1; 5 metre scale.**

**Plate 5: Looking north east at Trench 2; two metre scale.**

**Plate 6: Looking east at section of Trench 2**

**Plate 7: Looking east at section of Trench 2**

**Plate 8: Looking south east at Trench 3; five metres scale.**


**Plate 9: Looking north at Trench 4, five metre scale.**

**Plate 10: Looking west at section of Trench 4**

**Plate 11: Looking north west at Trench 5; five metre scale.**

**Plate 12: Looking south west at section of Trench through modern deposits overlaying modern ditches**

**Plate 13: Looking south east at modern ditch with brick drain**


**Plate 14: Looking south east at section of ditch [514]**


**Plate 15: Looking south west at section of drain [509]**

**Plate 16: Looking south at section through gully terminus [512]**

**Plate 17: Looking south west at modern ditch with drain [522]**

**Plate 18: Looking west at attempt of excavation of Trench 6. Underneath tarmac layer concrete has been exposed.**

**Plate 19: Looking north at Trench 7**

**Plate 20: Looking south west at Trench 8**

**Plate 21: Looking east at Trench 9**

**Plate 22: Looking north east at section of Trench 9**

**Plate 23: Looking south east at Trench 10**

**Plate 24: Looking north west at Trench 11**

**Plate 25: Looking east at Trench 12**

**Plate 26: Looking south at Trench 13**

**Plate 27: Looking south east at the main gate**

**Plate 28: 0.45m high core sample extracted next to the main gate showing great depth of road layers**