

**Summary Report on the Results of an  
Archaeological / Geoarchaeological Watching Brief  
at Lower Street, Fittleworth, West Sussex.**

**NGR 501165 118353**

**CHICHESTER:Fittleworth**

**Project No. 2516**

**by  
C. A. Pine.**

**August 2006**

### **Summary**

*An archaeological watching brief was maintained between the 12<sup>th</sup> June and 14<sup>th</sup> July 2006 during the installation of a new rising main and new pumping station and c. 370m length of 150mm diameter service conduit / pipe at Lower Street, Fittleworth, West Sussex (centred NGR 501165 118353). Approximately 0.6m of made ground overlying alluvial silts was recorded at four locations, with between 1.50m-2.50m of made ground being recorded at two locations. The sharp contact to alluvial silts and the presence of modern fill debris comprising of CBM and ferrous inclusions in the upper c. 0.30-0.50 metres of alluvial silts would tend to suggest silts have been truncated, probably during installation of the existing service road. No archaeological features were observed or recorded at any surveyed location.*

## **Archaeology South-East**

*Archaeology South-East is a division of University College London Field Archaeology Unit. The Institute of Archaeology at UCL is one of the largest groupings of academic archaeologists in the country. Consequently, Archaeology South-East has access to the conservation, computing and environmental backup of the college, as well as a range of other archaeological services.*

*UCL Field Archaeology Unit and South Eastern Archaeological Services (which became Archaeology South-East in 1996) were established in 1974 and 1991 respectively. Although field projects have been conducted world-wide, Archaeology South-East retains a special interest in south-east England with the majority of our contract and consultancy work concentrated in Sussex, Kent, Greater London and Essex.*

*Drawing on experience of the countryside and towns of the south east of England, Archaeology South-East can give advice and carry out surveys at an early stage in the planning process. By working closely with developers and planning authorities it is possible to incorporate archaeological work into developments with little inconvenience.*

*Archaeology South-East, as part of UCL Field Archaeology Unit, is a registered organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists and, as such, is required to meet IFA standards.*

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### **SMR Summary Sheet**

**Figure 1:** Site Location Plan

**Figure 2:** Site plan showing site location (pipeline route) and locations of recorded access pit / recorded section locations

**Tables: 1-4** Stratigraphy recorded at Areas 2-5

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

**1.1** Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Field Archaeology Unit (UCLFAU), was commissioned by CgMs Consulting at the instruction of Holleran Mouchel Parkman Joint Venture on behalf of Southern Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the installation of a new rising main and new pumping station and c. 370m length of 150mm diameter service conduit / pipe at Lower Street, Fittleworth, West Sussex, centred NGR 501165 118353 (Figure 1).

**1.2** It is understood that works were not subject of planning permission nor regulated through planning conditions. Works were covered by obligations stipulated in General Development Order and under the Water Act 1991, specifically:

*'3 [2] [B] A requirement to have regard to the desirability of protecting and conserving buildings, sites and other objects of archaeological architectural or historic interest;'*

**1.3** The west of the site comprises the line of and service accesses to an existing 150mm diameter foul water drainage run passing under part of B2138 (Lower Street Fittleworth). A new 250mm conduit was to be installed between Lower Street Fittleworth WPS connecting to Fittleworth Waste Water Treatment works, approximately 370m to the east of the junction of the WTW access road and the B2183 (See Figures 1 and 2).

**1.4** The work was guided by a 'Specification' for Archaeological Watching Brief' prepared by John Lord of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Southern Water.

**1.5** All monitoring was undertaken by Chris Pine working on behalf of Archaeology South East (IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation for the year 2006). With attendances taking place between 12<sup>th</sup> June to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2006. The project was managed by Darryl Palmer (Senior Project Manager) Neil Griffin (Project Manager).

## **2.0 GEOLOGICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUMMARY**

- 2.1** The underlying geology within the area surrounding the site / pipeline route comprises Lower Chalk overlain by Head deposits (BGS Sheet 317 Chichester). The site lies on the northern edge of a sharply incised valley, cutting through 2nd river terrace deposits of the western Rother. Head deposits in this area may however overlie 1st river terrace deposits of the western Rother.
- 2.2** The site area lies approximately 55m north of the Fittleworth Bridge Scheduled Monument (WSC No. 137).

## **3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SURVEY**

- 3.1** The general aims of the field work were to record archaeological and palaeoenvironmental remains that were revealed and/or were at threat of impact during engineering works.
- 3.2** The archaeological watching brief was intended to ensure that any archaeological and palaeoenvironmental features/deposits exposed during ground works associated with the development were identified, recorded and interpreted to an acceptable standard.
- 3.3** The specific aims of the fieldwork will be to establish whether any archaeological and palaeoenvironmental remains are present and to record them so that they may be related to other archaeological remains within the area.
- 3.4** The primary objectives of the archaeological and geoarchaeological evaluation were:
- To establish the distribution and depth across the site of alluvial deposits within the site area.
  - To assess the nature and significance of alluvial deposits at the site that may be under threat of impact from proposed development works.
  - Determine the presence of, or potential for, undisturbed primary context archaeological remains or artefacts in the sediments encountered.
  - To assess the archaeological and Palaeoenvironmental significance of deposits

## **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1** The work was guided by a 'Specification' for Archaeological Watching Brief' prepared by John Lord of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Southern Water.
- 4.2** The pipeline route as shown at Figure 1 of the submitted Brief and Specification (drwg. JL5727) was amended, with actual pipe installation being placed under the line of the existing access road to Fittleworth WTW. The line of pipe is shown at Figure 2 of this report.
- 4.3** The additional modifications to predicted pipeline installation were that instead of an open cutting / trench excavation being undertaken along the full length of the route to install the pipeline, access trenches were cut at points along the pipeline route to facilitate percussive or vibration driven 'moling' of the pipeline.
- 4.4** Due to the engineering works schedule a phased approach to monitoring and recording was undertaken with the sequence being:
- Areas 1.1 , 1.2 (1.1: re-placement of existing 150mm foul sewer and manholes; 1.2: Installation of replacement access chambers to pumping station) (For area locations see Figure 2)
  - Area 2. Excavation of access hole to introduce pipeline for pipe installation (for location see Figure 1). Excavation involved cutting, by machine, of an aperture c. 6m by 1.00m wide to a depth of 1.50m below ground level.
  - Area 3. As area 2.
  - Area 4. As area 2 and 3.
  - Area 5. Machine excavation of junction 'box' to lead into existing WTW installation with additional c. 10m trench excavation c. 1.00m wide to maximum 1.20m depth.
- 4.5** At all locations the main contractor afforded the monitoring archaeologist sufficient opportunity to access trenches in order prepare (by hand trowel) and record representative sections.
- 4.6** All recording was undertaken using standard sedimentological terminology with colours being recorded using a Munsell colour chart.
- 4.7** The results of the survey are presented below:

## 5.0 RESULTS (For survey area locations refer to Figure 2)

### 5.1 Area 1.1 and 1.2.

**5.1.1** Ground Level at approximately. + 6.10 metres Ordnance Datum, henceforth mOD. (All heights given below are from the ground surface)

**5.1.2** In this area (existing 150mm diameter foul sewer / pumping station installations) all excavations to variable depths between 1.50-2.50m below ground level were within previously excavated made / disturbed ground. No significant stratigraphic or archaeological features were exposed / recorded.

### 5.2 Area / TP 2

**5.2.1** Ground Level at + 6.00mOD (All heights given below are from the ground surface)

DEPTH	DESCRIPTION
0.00 – 0.26	10YR 6/3 pale brown clast supported gravels and silt. Clasts are sub-angular/angular flint / granite gravels [< 10mm in length with occasional pockets of 10YR 5/2 greyish brown silt. Matrix is moderately firm and compact. <b>[Made ground type 1 [imported] service road substrate]</b>  _____Sharp horizontal contact_____
0.26 – 0.48	10YR 5/2 greyish brown coarse silt with matrix supporting frequent sub angular to angular flint clasts to max. 4cm diameter with occasional modern brick and slate fragments. Matrix is firm and compact. <b>[Made ground ‘hogging substrate’ to access road]</b>  _____Sharp horizontal contact_____
0.48 – 0.72	10YR 5/2 greyish brown clay silt. Matrix supports occasional sub angular flint clasts to 4cm max. Diameter and sparse brick [modern] fragments. Clasts exhibit no preferred orientation. Matrix supports occasional wood fragments that have strong bitumen odour [modern] <b>[Make up adulterated upper alluvial silts]</b>  -----Moderately sharp horizontal contact-----
0.72–1.00	10YR 6/2 light grayish brown silt to clay silt. Matrix is moderately firm and compact. The unit exhibits weak discontinuous laminations < 2mm thick comprising of fine to very fine 10YR 5/3 brown sand. In parts the matrix exhibits a weak block structure. <b>[Weathered upper alluvial silts]</b>  -----Moderately sharp horizontal contact-----
1.00-1. 50	10YR 5/2 greyish brown clay silt. Unit is weakly mottled / flecked with 10YR 3/1 very dark grey manganese. No visible structure. Matrix is moist and moderately firm and compact [water seepage through matrix at 1.20m bgl. <b>[Alluvial silt]</b>
1.50	Base of section

**Table 1**

### 5.3 Area / TP 3

#### 5.3.1 Ground Level at + 6.11mOD (All heights given below are from the ground surface)

DEPTH	DESCRIPTION
0.00 – 0.20	10YR 6/3 pale brown to 10YR 5/2 greyish brown clay silt with clast supported sub-angular/angular flint / granite gravels with clasts < 10mm in length. Frequent bitumen/tarmac clasts [re-deposited]. Matrix is moderately firm and compact though with pockets that are loose and friable. <b>[Made ground type 1 [imported] service road substrate]</b>  _____Sharp horizontal contact_____
0.20 – 0.70	10YR 5/4 yellowish brown coarse silt with matrix supporting frequent sub angular to angular flint clasts to max. 4cm diameter with occasional modern brick fragments. Matrix is firm and compact. <b>[Made ground 'hogging substrate' to access road]</b>  _____Sharp horizontal contact _____
0.70 – 80	10YR 5/2 greyish brown clay silt. Matrix supports frequent sub angular flint clasts to 5cm max. diameter and sparse ash fragments. Clasts exhibit no preferred orientation. <b>[Make up adulterated upper alluvial silts]</b>  -----Moderately sharp horizontal contact -----
0.80-1.50	10YR 6/2 light grayish brown silt to clay silt with pockets of 10YR 6/6 brownish yellow granular silt. Matrix is moderately firm and compact. In parts the matrix exhibits a weak block structure. <b>[Weathered upper alluvial silts]</b>
1.50	Base of section

**Table 2**

## 5.4 Area / TP 4

### 5.4.1 Ground Level at + 6.28mOD (All heights given below are from the ground surface)

DEPTH	DESCRIPTION
0.00 – 0.28	10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown to 10YR 5/2 greyish brown clay silt with clast supported sub-angular/angular flint / granite gravels < 20mm in length .Matrix is moderately firm and compact though with pockets that are loose and friable. <b>[Made ground type 1 [imported] service road substrate]</b>  _____Sharp horizontal contact_____
0.28 – 0.60	10YR 5/4 yellowish brown coarse silt with matrix supporting frequent sub angular to angular flint clasts to max. 4cm diameter with occasional modern CBM fragments. Matrix is firm and compact. <b>[Made ground 'hogging substrate' to access road]</b>  _____Sharp horizontal contact _____
0.60 – 1.20	10YR 5/2 greyish brown clay silt. Matrix supports frequent sub angular flint clasts to 5cm max. diameter. Clasts exhibit no preferred orientation. In north facing section a single vertically orientated steel angle iron was seen in association with sparse ash fragments <b>[Make up adulterated upper alluvial silts]</b>  -----Moderately sharp horizontal contact -----
1.20-1.50	10YR 6/2 light grayish brown silt to clay silt with pockets of 10YR 6/6 brownish yellow granular silt. Matrix is moderately firm and compact. In parts the matrix exhibits a weak block structure. <b>[Weathered upper alluvial silts]</b>
1.50	Base of section

**Table 3**

## 5.5 Area / TP 5

### 5.5.1 Ground Level at + 6.18 to 6.40 mOD(All heights given below are from the ground surface)

DEPTH	DESCRIPTION
0.00 – 0.60	10YR 5/3 brown to 10YR 5/2 greyish brown clay silt. Matrix supports frequent sub angular flint clasts < 20 mm in length with rare brick and modern CBM fragments. There are occasional pockets of 10YR 4/1 dark grey silt. Matrix is moderately firm and compact. <b>[Made ground]</b>  _____ Moderately sharp horizontal contact _____
0.60-1.00	10YR 5/4 greyish brown coarse silt with matrix supporting frequent sub angular to angular flint clasts to max. 4cm diameter with occasional brick / modern / and slate fragments. Matrix is firm and compact. <b>[Weathered upper alluvial silts]</b>  _____ Diffuse horizontal contact _____
1.00-1.25	10YR 5/2 greyish brown silt to clay silt. Matrix is exhibits weak discontinuous laminations ,1mm deep of fine very fine 10YR 5/4 yellowish brown sand. Matrix is moderately dense firm and compact. <b>[Upper alluvial silt]</b>
1.25	Base of section

**Table 4**

## 6.0 Discussion:

**6.1** At locations 1.1 and 1.2 all excavations to variable depths between 1.50-2.50m below ground level were within previously excavated made or disturbed ground. No significant stratigraphic or archaeological features were exposed or recorded.

**6.2** At locations 2, 3, 4 and 5 the recorded stratigraphic sequence appears similar to made ground recorded to c. 0.50m below ground surface at all locations. It appears that considerable imported material has been laid down as substrate to the access road to the waste treatment works resulting in a thin strip of 'terracing' comprising wholly of imported material being present along the access route line. Contact to adulterated alluvial silts occurs at c. 0.60 metres below ground at all recorded locations. The sharp contact to alluvial silts and the presence of modern fill debris comprising of CBM and ferrous inclusions in the upper c. 0.30-0.50 metres of alluvial silts would tend to suggest silts have been truncated, probably during installation of the existing service road.

- 6.3** At depths of c. 0.70-1.00 metres below ground level upper alluvial silts exhibit weak block structure which would tend to suggest periodic desiccation. As a result the potential for organic preservation of organic remains within upper alluvial silts should be considered to be low.
- 6.4** The only exposure of moderately disturbed or desiccated alluvial silts was recorded at the extreme east of the monitored area of pipeline installation at area 2. At this location, at an elevation of approximately +4.50-5.00m OD mottling and manganese flecking would indicate periods of desiccation that would compromise the potential for organic preservation at this location.
- 6.5** No archaeological features were observed or recorded at any surveyed location.
- 6.6** It is considered that the monitored engineering works have not impacted upon archaeological or significant palaeoenvironmental sequences.

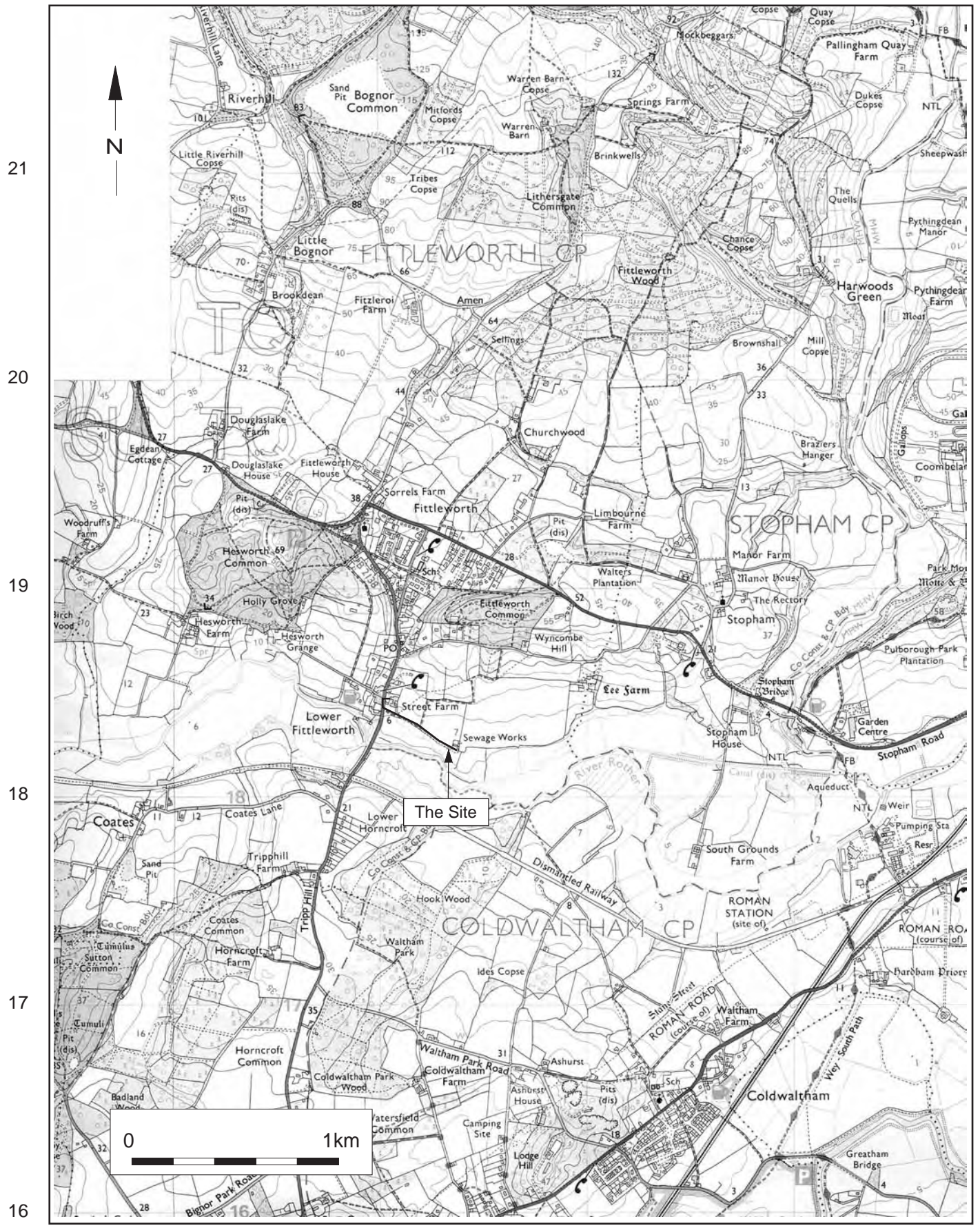
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**SMR Summary Sheet**

Site Code	LSF 06					
Identification Name and Address	Lower Street, Fittleworth, West Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	Chichester District Council					
Ordnance Survey Grid Reference	NGR 501165 118353					
Archaeology South-East Proj. No.	2516					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief ✓	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 12/06/06 to 14/07/06	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting					
Project Manager	Darryl Palmer/Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Chris Pine					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other ✓		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was maintained on the 12<sup>th</sup> June and 14<sup>th</sup> July 2006 during the installation of a new rising main and new pumping station and c. 370m length of 150mm diameter service conduit / pipe at Lower Street, Fittleworth, West Sussex (centred NGR 501165 118353). Approximately 0.6m of made ground overlying alluvial silts was recorded at four locations, with between 1.50m-2.50m of made ground being recorded at two locations. The sharp contact to alluvial silts and the presence of modern fill debris comprising of CBM and ferrous inclusions in the upper c. 0.30-0.50 metres of alluvial silts would tend to suggest silts have been truncated, probably during installation of the existing service road. No archaeological features were observed recorded at any surveyed location.</p>						



© Archaeology South-East			Lower Street, Fittleworth	Fig. 1
Ref: 2516	Aug 2006	Drawn by: JLR	Site Location Plan	

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