

An architectural rendering of a large, modern building with a dark, gabled roof and a long, low profile. The building features a series of vertical slats or panels along its side. In the foreground, there is a grassy field with some trees and a few people walking. The sky is a light, hazy blue with several birds flying in a V-formation. The overall tone is muted and professional.

BM_ARC

BRITISH MUSEUM ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COLLECTION

SECOND ENTRANCE PLANNING APPLICATION - DESIGN STATEMENT

10/01/25

JOHN McASLAN + PARTNERS | ALAN BAXTER ASSOCIATES | ECOLOGICAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH LTD

INTRODUCTION

BM_ARC_SECOND ENTRANCE

The British Museum proposes the development of a second entrance at the northern boundary of its Archaeological Research Centre. This addition is designed to enhance operational flexibility while being sensitively integrated into the surrounding landscape.

Context and Background

This proposal is made possible by a recent land swap between the British Museum and the University of Reading. This mutually beneficial arrangement has facilitated the alignment of the proposed Cut Bush Lane access road, planned by the University of Reading, while also enabling the Museum to establish the new entrance. The collaboration optimizes site functionality for both institutions, ensuring an improved and cohesive infrastructure.

Landscape Integration

The landscape proposals are designed to integrate the new entrance and access road into the existing context, minimizing visual and environmental impact. Key components include:

1. Realignment of the security fence: Adjustments to the fence will accommodate the new entrance and road alignment, and reflect the recent land swap
2. Installation of a new access gate: A secure and functional gate will mark the new entrance.
3. Construction of the access road: Designed by Alan Baxter Associates, the road will align seamlessly with the northern boundary and proposed Cut Bush Lane access road.

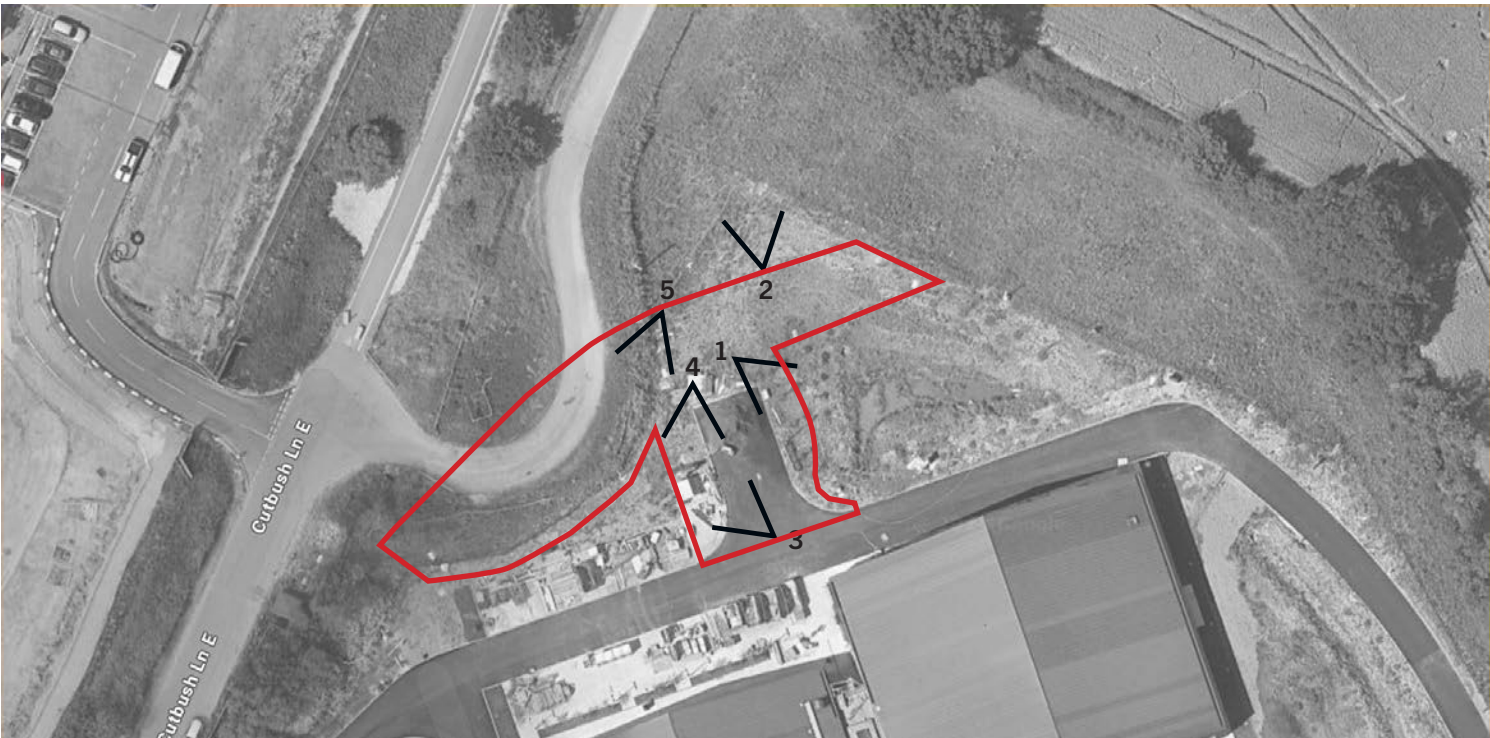
4. Regrading of adjacent landscapes: Grading adjustments will ensure the road integrates naturally with the terrain and facilitates stormwater drainage.
5. Adjustment of paving and kerbs: Localised changes will address new grading requirements while maintaining accessibility.
6. Re-setting of the smoking shelter: The shelter will be repositioned to accommodate minor regrading in its vicinity.

Ecological Enhancements

As part of this project, the Museum will create new areas of meadow and tree planting, capitalising on the opportunities presented by the land swap. Previously hard-surfaced areas that were outside the Museum’s boundary will be excavated, re-soiled, and transformed with native planting to enhance biodiversity and ecological value.

The landscape proposals illustrated in this document indicate the thoughtful integration of the proposed second entrance and access road into the existing environment, ensuring minimal disruption while delivering operational and ecological benefits. The accompanying pages illustrate these proposals in detail.

SITE PHOTOS
BM_ARC_SECOND ENTRANCE



Views of site area within planning application boundary

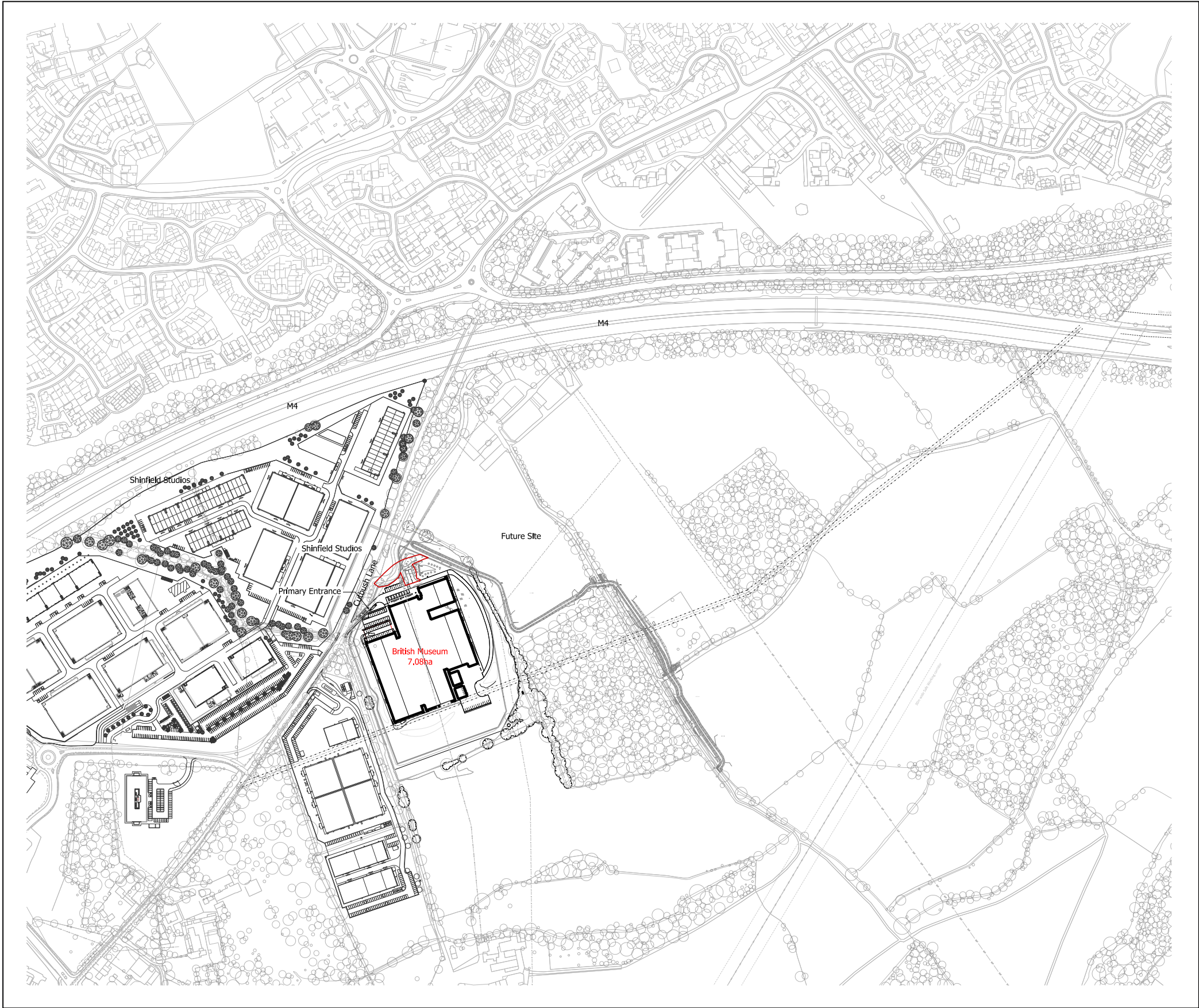
DRAWING LIST

BM_ARC_SECOND ENTRANCE

01	LOCATION PLAN / 1:2500	05
02	LOCATION PLAN - WITH PROPOSED CUTBUSH ACCESS ROAD / 1:2500	06
03	EXISTING SITE PLAN / 1:500	07
04	DEMOLITION PLAN / 1:200	08
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06	SECTION & ELEVATION - FENCE & GATE	10

LOCATION PLAN 1:2500@A1

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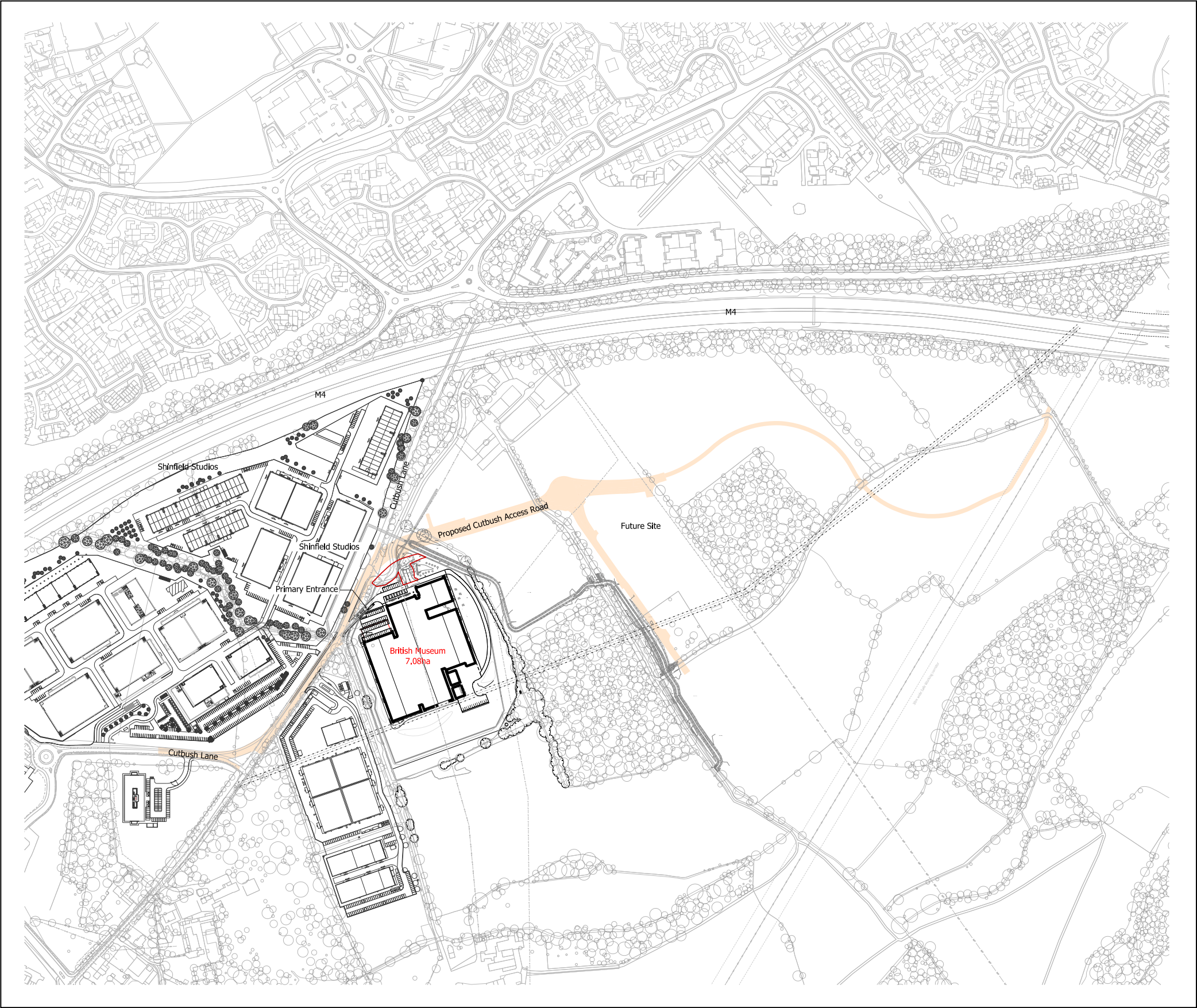


KEY	
PATTERN / SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
	PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY

LOCATION PLAN - WITH PROPOSED CUTBUSH ACCESS ROAD 1:2500@A1

BM_ARC_SECOND ENTRANCE

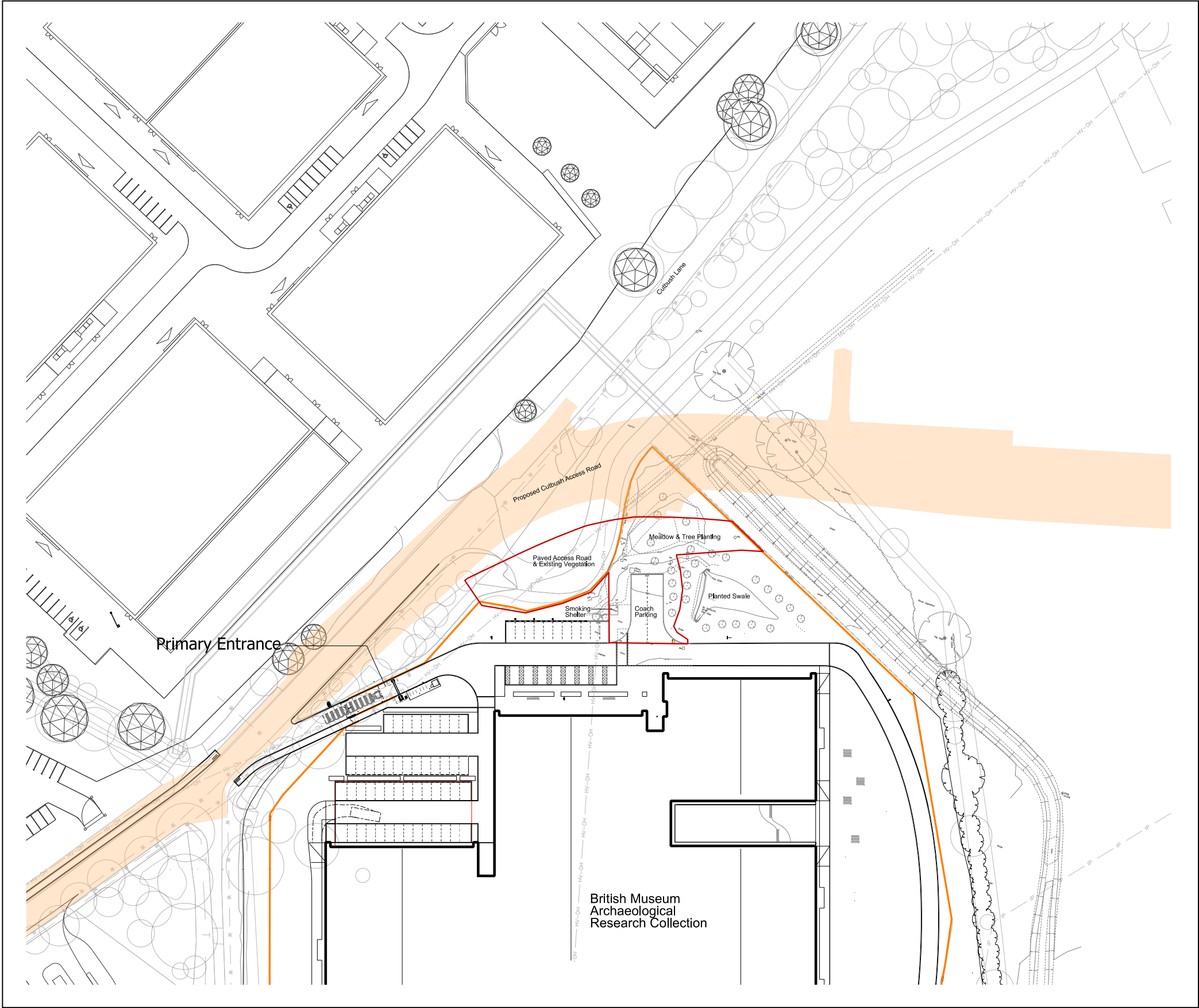
KEY	
PATTERN / SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
	PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY
	APPROVED CUTBUSH ACCESS ROAD (Part of separate application reference 232995)



EXISTING SITE PLAN 1:500@A1

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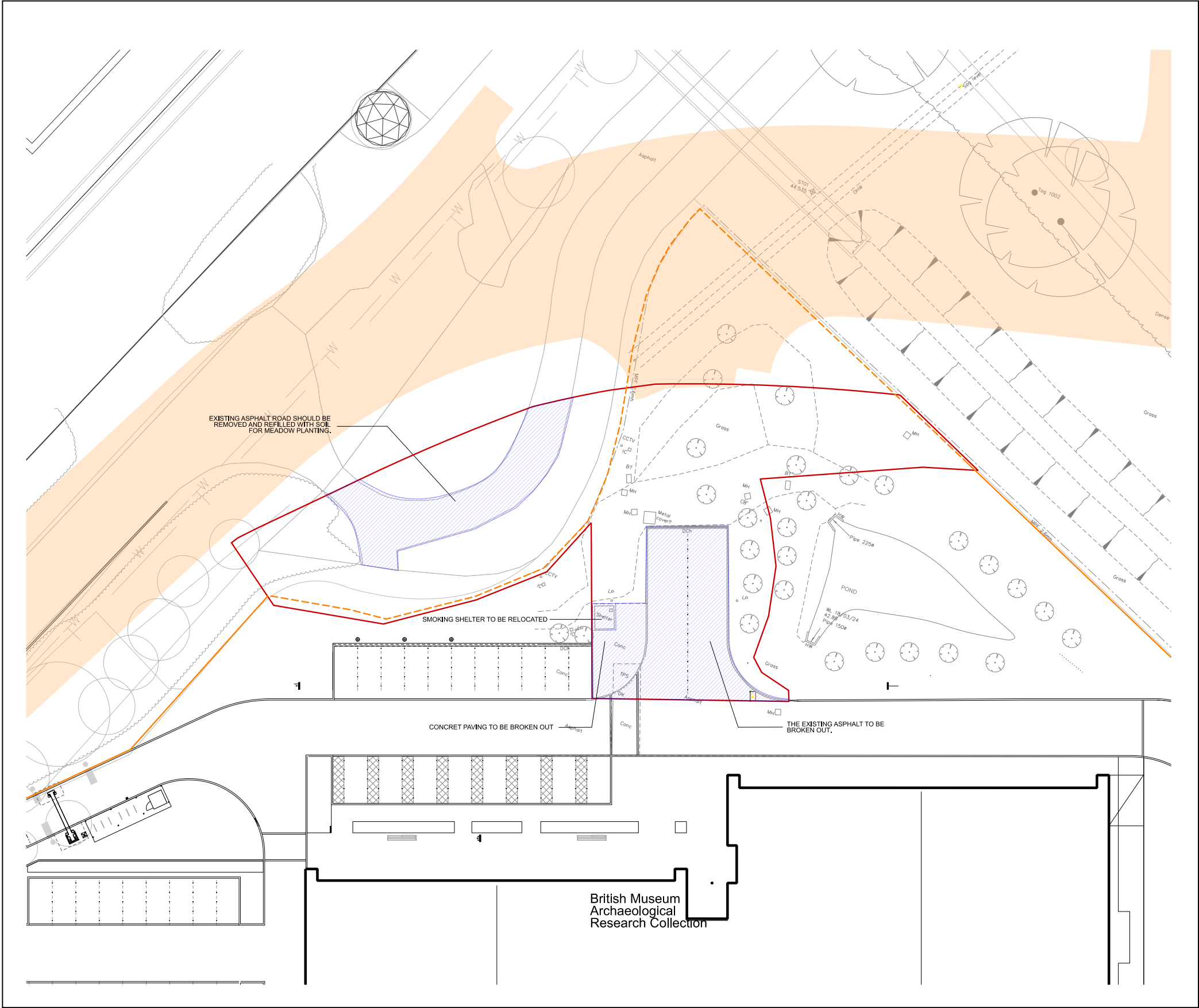
KEY	
PATTERN / SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
	PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY
	EXISTING SECURITY FENCE
	APPROVED CUTBUSH ACCESS ROAD (Part of separate application reference 232995)



DEMOLITION PLAN 1:200@A1

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KEY	
PATTERN / SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
	PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY
	EXISTING SECURITY FENCE - TO BE RETAINED
	EXISTING SECURITY FENCE - TO BE REALIGNED
	EXISTING HARDSCAPE - TO BE DEMOLISHED
	APPROVED CUTBUSH ACCESS ROAD (Part of separate application reference 232995)



GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN 1:200@A1

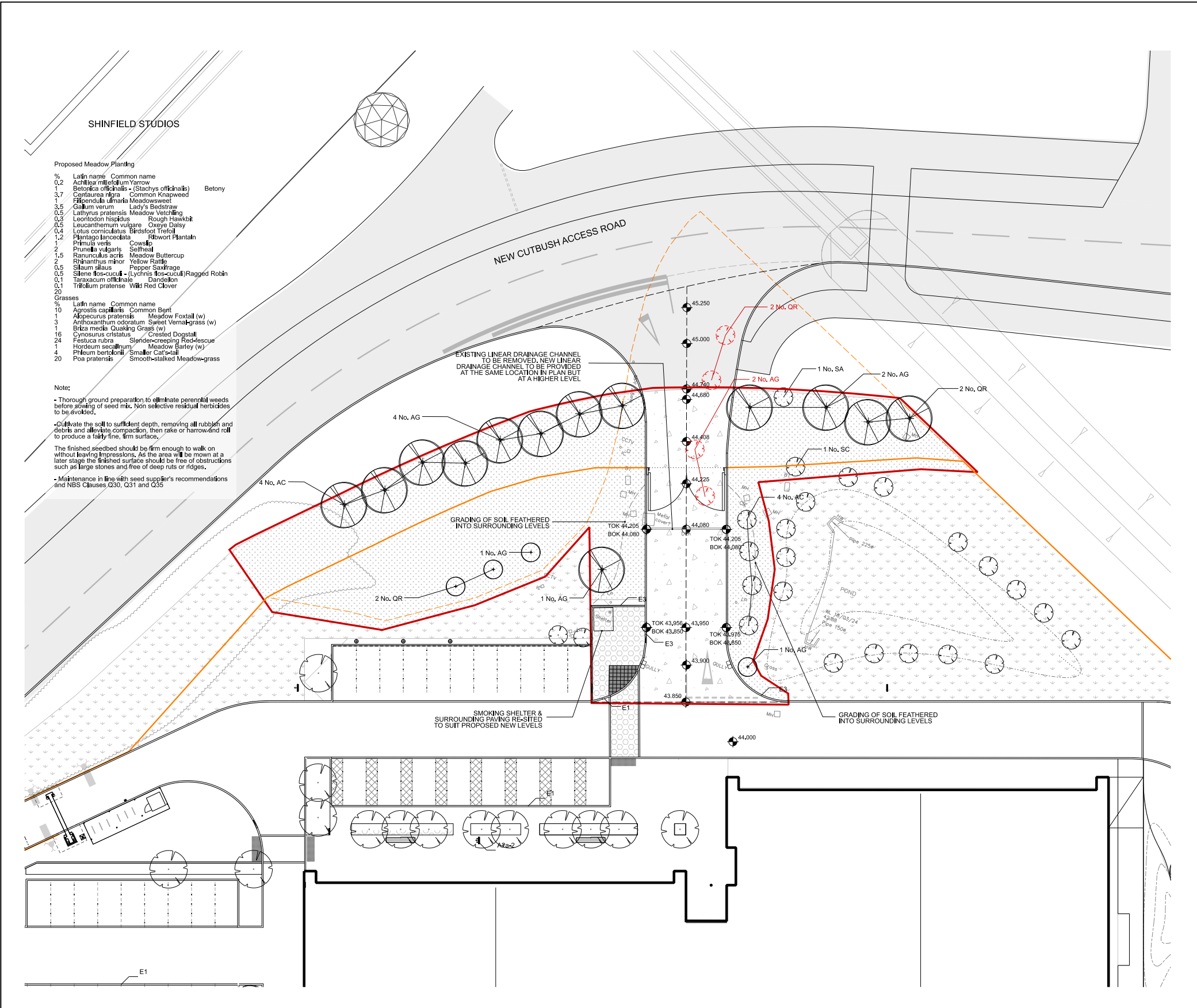
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TREE SCHEDULE

SYMBOL	LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	HEIGHT (MM)	FORM	C/STEM HEIGHT	QTY.
AC	Acer campestre	Field Maple	MIN. 3500	Standard (extra-heavy)	MIN. 2000	8
AG	Alnus glutinosa	Alder	MIN. 4500	Standard (extra-heavy)	MIN. 2000	9
SA	Salix alba	White Willow	MIN. 4500	Standard (extra-heavy)	MIN. 2000	1
SC	Salix chireia	Grey Willow	MIN. 2500	Standard (light)	MIN. 1000	1
QR	Quercus robur	Oak	MIN. 2500	Standard (light)	MIN. 1000	4

KEY

PATTERN / SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
	PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY
	NEW REALIGNED SECURITY FENCE LOCATION
	EXISTING FENCE TO BE REALIGNED
	P1: SHARED SURFACE Cast in-situ concrete brushed finish
	P4: VEHICULAR SURFACE Asphalt
	E1: KERB PCC flush kerb
	E3: UPSTAND KERB PCC upstand kerb
	PROPOSED GATE
	PROPOSED MEADOW PLANTING Wildflower meadow seed mixture
	EXISTING MEADOW PLANTING Wildflower meadow seed mixture
	EXISTING TREES TO BE RETAINED
	EXISTING TREE TO BE RELOCATED (Young trees)
	RELOCATED TREE
	PROPOSED TREE
	EXISTING PLANTING TO BE RETAINED



SECTION & ELEVATION - FENCE & GATE

BM_ARC_SECOND ENTRANCE

