

NGR: SK 0575 0085

**A report on a programme  
of archaeological works**

# ***Marches Archaeology***

**Bromyard Leisure Centre  
Cruxwell Street  
Bromyard  
Herefordshire**

**Report on an archaeological watching brief**

November 2003

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*Archaeological Consultants and Contractors*

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**A report on a programme  
of archaeological works**



**This report is produced by**

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**Bromyard Leisure Centre  
Cruxwell Street  
Bromyard  
Herefordshire**

**NGR: SO 6536 5477**

**Report on an archaeological watching brief (SMR No. 34725)**

**Report by Nick Tavener**

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*MAS 312*

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**SMR No. 34725**

**Report on an archaeological watching brief**

*Summary*

*A watching brief was carried out on areas to the immediate north and south of the Leisure Centre. This was built c. 1991 and occupies most of the site. Documentary sources indicate that the frontage was probably built up before 1285. The last standing buildings, which were demolished in 1973, may have dated to the early post-medieval period.*

*Roughly half of the area on the north side of the Leisure Centre was covered by a deep soil profile including the relict medieval topsoil but there were no medieval cut features. This area may have lain right at the back of the medieval plots or possibly slightly beyond them. Four late post-medieval features are consistent with low intensity activity typical of a 'back-plot'. Documentary sources indicate that these features may not have been associated with the occupancy of the street frontage.*

*All deposits above the subsoil had been removed between the Leisure Centre and the street frontage by ground works in 1973 and 1991 which had removed most, if not all, evidence for medieval occupation. An early feature remains undated but was cut by one of two early post-medieval wells. These, along with a pit, may have been associated with the early occupancy of the last standing building on the site, Angel House. Evidence recovered during the watching brief indicates that there is very little likelihood of survival of features below the Leisure Centre unless they were originally at least 0.4m deep.*

**1. Introduction**

The local authority granted planning permission to erect an extension to the Leisure Centre in Bromyard (ref. NC2002/2385/F). The site lies within the historic core of medieval Bromyard and as such is a site of archaeological interest. The Local Planning Authority's Archaeology Advisor advised that an archaeological watching brief should be carried out during ground works associated with the development in order that the archaeological resource be adequately protected.

The Local Planning Authority's Archaeology Advisor produced a "Brief for a programme of archaeological work". C J Bayliss (the client) commissioned Marches Archaeology to provide the archaeological services detailed in the Brief.

**2. Archaeological and historical background**

Flint tools and other artefacts have been found at Keephill probably indicating occupation in the area in the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods. There is no reason to believe that the area occupied by the modern town was settled in the later prehistoric or Roman periods (Williams, 1987 ; Dalwood, 1996).

Bromyard lay within the old Saxon Hundred of *Plegeliate*. A charter of c. 840 AD describes a *monasterium* or minster at *Bromgeard*. The Saxon name means ‘broom or thorn enclosure’ and the wording of the charter indicates that the manor had been given to Hereford Cathedral (founded c. 676) at an unknown date before 840. The manor of Bromyard was subsequently held by the successive bishops of Hereford as tenants-in-chief from the king through into the medieval period. The entry for Bromyard in the Domesday Survey of 1086 states ‘value of the whole manor before 1066, later and now £45.10s’, a large and prosperous manor indeed. A minster existed in Saxon times and the area had been divided by the middle ages into various land holdings largely connected to the minster.

The original minster was a mother church with a fixed community of priests but as peripheral churches were founded the priests were given new holdings and the central ‘community’ at the mother church at Bromyard became less important and achieved the status of ‘portionary’ church by the medieval period. The priests for the three outlying churches were granted a portion of both lands and tithe from the holdings of the mother church and were called ‘portioners’. The portioners had few duties in Bromyard and were free to lease their lands and live elsewhere. In 1589 extensive areas of the old minster lands were still in the hands of the three portioners. The minster church eventually became a simple parish church in the care of a vicar.

In 1086, the town was probably a settlement in the vicinity of the Minster which lay near the site of the existing church (built c. 1160) some 200m to the east of the Leisure Centre (SMR No. 19649). In the medieval period the early settlement was expanded or replaced with a new planned town with streets lined with burgage plots set at right angles to the streets. The presence of the ancient ‘portioners’ land holdings appears to have influenced the development of the medieval town by blocking development to the north and east of the minster church (see Williams, 1987, maps 3 and 5). The new town development is believed to have been the work of Richard de Capella who was Bishop of Hereford from 1121 to 1127. As a result of, or following this, the great manor of Bromyard was separated into two parts, a densely populated borough covering about 40 acres in which there was only freehold tenure, and ‘Bromyard foreign’ which was the extensive agricultural hinterland in which various holdings, mainly customary (i.e. unfree) existed. Part of the new town expansion was into the large area of common strip fields to the west of the church known as Pleggenyate otherwise Croxewall (i.e. cross wall) Field (Williams, 1987, p 29 and map 4 and also SMR No. 19618 and also parts of 19617, 11502 and 15267). Croxewall Field was an extensive area of common strip fields with origins in the Saxon period which lay to the west of the Tenbury road and north of Cruxwell Street, i.e. approached to within 100m of the Leisure Centre. It seems most likely that Cruxwell Street was so named because it led to the Croxewall Field. At the east end, Cruxwell Street was connected to the old minster by a street called Schallenge or ‘corpse way’ (Fig. 1) so Cruxwell Street may have been a Saxon routeway. Schallenge was probably moved southwards c. 1800 (Williams, 1987, 14).

The Red Book of Hereford, a survey of the Bishop’s lands, was made c. 1285 AD. The survey indicates that the prosperity of the new town had led to it overflowing into the

‘foreign’ land so that a mixture of freeholders from original burgages and customary tenants from the old ‘foreign’ area both paid their annual rents in money by that date. The survey lists 54 burgage holdings in Cruxwell Street and names the owners. Many were half burgages. None can be tied to a specific location. Nonetheless, the number of holdings in relation to the length of the street means that the Leisure Centre site was almost certainly occupied by 1285. A survey dated 1575 noted 33½ burgages. The street had a sheep market from early times to the 19th century, indeed the west end is Sheep Street.

The County Sites and Monuments Record holds records for several medieval sites 100 metres or more to the east (Dalwood, 1996 : County SMR) but these are of little relevance given the results of the watching brief. SMR Record No. 26817 refers to work undertaken at NGR SO 6536 5480 in 1998 (Fig. 1). The stated grid reference lies within the northern part of the Leisure Centre property. There are no further pertinent details and the number may have been allocated to a fieldwork project that never took place (Rebecca Roseff, pers comm.).

In more recent times, the area occupied by the Leisure Centre was a well known local landmark known as Angel House (Plate 1). This was demolished in 1973 for a car park and redeveloped around 1991 as the Leisure Centre. The only easily traceable record is the anecdotal evidence of a previous occupant who recalled as a child in the early 1900s:-

“Angel House was heavily timbered similar to the Falcon [*a well known timber-framed building in the town*] and Tower House [*built 1630*]; inside there were three rooms downstairs, one of which was my father’s shop and the only one visible from Cruxwell Street or ‘Top of the Town’ as it was very often called. The house had three bedrooms and an attic, also two flights of stairs... .. Mrs Maddy’s house was also of old oak timber, but much larger than ours because it had two bedrooms over the archway [*see Plate 1*] which led to the blacksmith’s house, shop and pentice, and garden plots for each house at the back, but the blacksmith’s premises were not part of Angel House..... In front of each house was a small flower bed and lawn with railings round them, and in front of Mrs. Maddy’s house was a well with a stone trough and pump of which I have photographs [*probably given to the Bromyard and District Local History Society as part of the John Sanders Collection*]. Possibly the street name of Cruxwell may have originated from this well for I do not think that there was another one in the street.” (pp 7-8 in Waller [Ed], 1991).

Old photographs show Angel House having a late Georgian frontage (see Plate 1 and ground plan partly shown on Fig. 2) but Mr. Sanders’ reminiscences are useful because they indicate that a much older building lay behind, possibly a survivor from the late 16th of 17th centuries. The oldest surviving house in Bromyard, Nos. 55-59 High Street, dates to c. 1500. There are numerous examples elsewhere in the town of houses dating to c. 1580-1650 (Williams, 1987), i.e. to the ‘Great Rebuilding’ and it seems likely that Angel House was one of these. A common feature in Bromyard was the timber framed front with stone walls at the rear. Many houses were constructed parallel to the street with additional stone gables to the rear. Many featured cellars cut into the bedrock and wells were sometimes in the cellar and sometimes in the garden and shared with other households (Williams, 1987).

### **3. Scope and aims of the project**

The scope of the project was defined in the Brief as:

- a short documentary study
- archaeological observation and recording of all ground works forming part of the development, except where it could be proven in advance that the ground works would only affect deposits or features of manifestly modern date
- full processing of archaeological materials recovered
- the production of an appropriate report

{The following provisos were set out in the brief:-

{1) If significant archaeological remains were encountered during the ground works and if these remains would be destroyed or severely damaged by continuation of the ground works, then the archaeological contractor was to have unobstructed and uninterrupted access to the site for a suitable period to investigate and record.

{2) If there was good reason for believing that significant archaeological remains were present, the archaeological contractor should consult Herefordshire Archaeology and the developer and/or the developer's agents without delay to decide whether the contingency should be activated. If a consensus could not be achieved by such consultation then Herefordshire Archaeology would itself decide if the archaeological deposits and / or features were "significant".

The purpose of an archaeological watching brief is defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists as:-

'to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works'

and:

'to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support a treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard'.

#### **4. Methodology**

##### *Documentary research*

The following sources were consulted:

Ordnance Survey maps, tithe maps and other historical maps  
Previous published and unpublished archaeological reports and archive work

## *Fieldwork*

The primary record includes written, drawn and photographic data. Context numbers were allocated and the primary written record was compiled on *pro forma* trench record sheets. The results did not warrant the maintenance of a running stratigraphic matrix. Plans (normally 1:20) were made of significant data and sections (normally 1:10) were drawn of significant deposits and features. The photographic record was made using black and white negative and colour transparency film.

Apart from the pottery, no artefacts required specialist examination. None of the finds required conservation. No deposits considered to have environmental, technological or scientific dating potential were found so no samples were taken.

The written, drawn and photographic data has been catalogued and cross-referenced and the site archive has been prepared. This report constitutes a summary of the results. The artefactual data has been processed, catalogued and cross-referenced and summaries produced.

## **5. The watching brief**

The groundworks were undertaken in two separate areas, one along the northern margin of the site and the other on the street frontage. These are treated below as areas 1 and 2 respectively (Figs. 1 and 2). The area between was occupied by the Leisure Centre which was built c. 1991. The evidence found during the watching brief for the scale of the ground works for that building strongly suggests that there is very little likelihood of features surviving anywhere below the footprint of the existing building except features that were originally at least 0.4m deep.

### *Area 1*

The existing tarmac path along the rear of the building (Fig. 2) was removed revealing that it sat directly on subsoil [2]. The ground sloped upwards from the north side of the path to the fenceline some 3m to the north which marks the northern boundary of the property. This slope was removed by machine all along the rear of the standing building except for the area occupied by the access ramp at the west end. This operation left most of the area to the north of the existing building as a level platform along the top of the subsoil at c. 124.4m O.D. A footing trench 0.6m wide was dug to 0.5m below this level along the northern edge of the area exposing the top of the bedrock and creating a vertical section c. 1.8m high at the fenceline. The top of this section was level with the car park surface on the south side of the public toilets some 5m to the north. The natural soil profile was revealed along this section line for most of its length. This was almost certainly the only area left within the entire site where the soil profile had survived the groundworks for the creation of the car park c. 1973 and the subsequent groundworks for the construction of the Leisure Centre c. 1991. The sections of features in this section were drawn along with representative parts of the 'natural' soil profile (see Fig. 3).

The following soil profile existed all along the northern periphery of the area except where cut by archaeological features or recent services. As the top of the section was level with the

car park, then the soil profile (or at least the lower parts of it) almost certainly extends northwards under the car park.

The mudstone bedrock [1] was overlain by a thin layer of mudstone brash in yellow clay [2] which was overlain by a clean pastel brownish red clayey loam [3]. This merged gradually upwards into a floury brownish red clayey silt loam [4]. Soils [3] and [4] were very similar, the main difference being that soil [4] was slightly browner (i.e. more humic) and less compacted than soil [3]. Four sherds from a Malvernian ware cooking pot (in fabric B1), including a large body sherd, were recovered from the base of soil [4] and indicate disturbance of that soil horizon in the mid to late 13th century AD. The pottery was not associated with archaeological features, indeed there were no medieval features in area 1.

Soil [4] merged rapidly upwards into a topsoil layer of mid grey brown clayey silt loam [5]. Pottery recovered from this layer indicates that it was widely disturbed in the period between the late 17th to mid 18th centuries. Soil [5] merged upwards into a very dark grey brown gritty silty loam [6]. This contained a variety of glazed pottery dating to the 19th and possibly early 20th centuries. The overlying soil [7] contained much demolition debris and plastic and was probably deposited as landscaping material in either 1973 or 1991.

Two soakaway pits, pits [8] and [10] were found towards the east end of the area cutting soil [4] and partially obscured by soil [5]. Pit [8] was partially investigated where it was affected by the excavation of a footing deeper than the surrounding dig level (see section on Fig 3). The remainder of the pit remains *in situ* below the new building. Pit [8] was filled with tightly packed heavy stone rubble [19]. This had probably originally been voided rubble but the spaces between the stones had silted up [9] which almost certainly explains the presence of medieval pottery in a pit dated by other pottery recovered from the lower fills to the mid 18th to early 19th centuries.

Pit [10] was largely unaffected by the groundworks so excavation was limited to cleaning the feature and a small test excavation c. 0.2m square through an upper loamy fill [11] which exposed the top of heavy stone rubble [25] which was similar to rubble [19] in pit [8]. Fill [11] contained pottery of mid 18th to early 19th century date as well as relict material from the period between the mid 14th to 16th centuries. The feature was probably another soakaway pit of post-medieval date and remains *in situ* below the new building.

A large deep pit [20] to the north extended out of the site (see section on Fig. 3). This pit also cut soil [5] and contained pottery of similar date 18th or early 19th century date. The function of this pit remains unclear but it may have been a rubbish pit.

A large deep cesspit [12] lay near the north-west corner of the area where it was neatly half sectioned by the edge of the ground works (Figs 2 and 3). The northern half of the feature was left *in situ*. The pit was almost square and the lower part was cut through solid bedrock. The lower fills [15] were waterlogged and consisted of dark organic silts interspersed with lighter grey bands. The height of the standing section in soft wet soils precluded any hand excavation but a creamware mug base dating to the latter 18th century was recovered from the lower fill during machining in conjunction with pieces of leather forming parts of ladies fashion shoes of similar date and offcuts of thin metal sheet. The upper eastern edge of the cesspit had been recut [14] in the early 19th century and a low wall [13] constructed on the southern and eastern sides. The pit had continued to function as an outdoor privy filling with loamy material [16] until a thick dump of clay was thrown in to seal the pit. The relationship

of this clay to soil [7] indicates that this was done c. 1973, probably during the demolition and creation of the car park.

## *Area 2*

The whole area had been stripped in 1991, covered in c. 0.4m depth of scalpings and machine rolled. This operation had removed everything above the natural clay marl or bedrock and had possibly penetrated for some distance into the natural. The lower part of the layer of scalpings laid in 1991 was left untouched in the areas between the new ground works so it is not known what other features lie between the new footings (Fig. 2).

A service trench along the west side of the area found a stone drain or culvert [212] and a short length of masonry wall [205]. Both would appear to have been late post-medieval in date.

A stone well [230] was found near the south-east corner of the area where it cut the east side of an earlier feature [232] (Figs 2 and 4). The west edge of [232] was utterly vertical and apparently linear. The portion of feature [232] exposed within the footing trench would appear to be merely the upper part of a much larger deeper feature. The depth of the feature remains unknown as does its extent to both the north and south of the footings trench. The fill [231] was a sandy brashy clay largely based on mixed natural materials from nearby and no finds were recovered. This may have been an old cellar or possibly a well predating [230] that was deliberately filled in.

Well [230] featured a carefully constructed circular masonry lining set within a sub-rectangular cut [226] (Fig. 4, E-F). Several sherds of pottery were recovered from the deliberate loamy backfill [229] between the masonry lining [220] and the cut [226]. The pottery includes material from the 12th/13th centuries up to the 16th/17th centuries (Appendix 1). There is always a possibility with wells that a masonry lining such as [220] represents a later rebuild within an older shaft. The uppermost backfill [228] within the shaft of well [230] contained a few pieces of laminated glass c. 1m below existing ground level. The laminated glass was the type used for car windscreens and this almost certainly indicates that the well was filled in around 1973 when the car park was created.

A steep sided pit [222] to the west of [232] contained mixed loam and stone fills [221] and [223] and appears to have been a rubbish pit that was deliberately backfilled. Pottery recovered from the lower fill [223] indicates that this took place in the 16th century.

A second well [220] was found near the north-west corner of the area (Figs. 2 and 4). The well featured a carefully constructed circular masonry lining set within a near square cut [216] (Fig. 4, A-B) and this well was similar to well [230] in most respects. Several sherds of pottery were recovered from the deliberate loamy backfill [219] between the masonry lining [220] and the cut [216]. The pottery includes material from the 12th/13th centuries up to the 18th centuries (Appendix 1), but the later material was found near the existing ground surface and may have been intrusive. The latest material found lower down dated to the 16th/17th centuries and it seems more likely that this reflects the true age of the well, or at least, the upper part of lining [220]. The uppermost backfill [227] within the shaft of well [220] was a mixture of loam and wall plaster, whilst the lower fill was air voided brick rubble, the bricks being predominantly of late Victorian type and obviously demolition materials. It seems likely that this well was open until the demolition of Angel House in 1973.

A very small area of almost waterlogged 'soil' [215] was seen c. 1.1m below the existing ground surface in the bottom corner of a column base / footing trench to the east of well [220]. The layer was a dark grey brown silty loam and was overlain by a flimsy cobbled surface of rounded platy stones [233] set vertically. Soil [215] may have been part feature fill but it would seem odd for a feature fill to be overlain by a cobbled surface. Alternatively, both may have been part of more widespread layers, but neither feature was present in any of the adjacent footings trenches. The northern part of both contexts had been removed by extensive (and very deep) groundworks in 1991. The new groundworks only just touched this layer and no more than c. 10 litres of soil [215] was removed. Limited hand excavation produced no finds.

## 6. Discussion

Medieval activity is demonstrated in area 1 by the recovery of large sherds of pottery from soil [4] but there were no medieval cut features. All of the cut features were post-medieval and two were probably soakaways for nearby buildings. Anecdotal evidence indicates that this area was part of a garden in c. 1910 and that a blacksmiths shop in that garden was not part of Angel House. It is therefore possible that Area 1 was not related to the Cruxwell Street frontage when the cut features were created. In all likelihood, stone privy [15] may have been in use until c. 1973 when the clay deposit [17] was dumped in to seal it off.

The number of householders in Cruxwell Street listed in the Red Book of Hereford indicates that the street must have been built up by 1285. There were no features of such antiquity on the site and it seems that most, if not all, of the evidence for medieval occupation was removed by demolition and ground works c. 1973 and also during further groundworks c. 1991. Following the latter groundworks, the whole of area 2 had been covered in scalplings and rolled. This material was largely left *in situ* so it is not known what other cut features lie between the new footings.

The earliest surviving feature would seem to have been a deep cut [232]. This produced no dating evidence but predated the 16th or 17th century well [230] and may have been medieval, this remains unknown.

The remaining features all date to the 16th or 17th centuries and this may reflect a building campaign, possibly the creation of Angel House itself. This remains unknown but wall [205] was probably associated with that building.

The upper part of the masonry linings of each of the two wells may be early post-medieval replacements within earlier well shafts; this remains unknown. The presence of an early post-medieval well [230] less than 5m from the frontage does seem rather odd but this was almost certainly the well described by John Sanders as having existed in c. 1910. The presence of laminated glass within the uppermost backfill of well [230] indicates that the backfill probably occurred in 1973 when Angel House was demolished to make way for the car park. The distance from well [220] to the street frontage probably means that it lay behind a building. This well appears to have been unknown to Mr. Sanders. The demolition fills used to backfill well [220] indicate that the operation probably happened in the late 19th or early 20th centuries. If the two wells pre-dated Angel House then that might indicate that there were previously at least 2 burgage plots.

The upper portions of both wells (down to the bottom illustrated on Fig. 4) had to be removed for the new concrete footings, but a bridging arrangement was devised for the lower portions of both wells and these remain *in situ*.

## **7. Conclusions**

Roughly half of area 1 was covered by a deep soil profile including the relict medieval topsoil. There were no medieval features in area 1 and it may have lain right at the back of the medieval plots or possibly slightly beyond them. The post-medieval features in area 1 would be consistent with low intensity activity typical of a 'back-plot'. Documentary sources indicate that these features may not be associated with the occupancy of the street frontage.

Documentary sources indicate that the street must have been built up by 1285. There were no features of such antiquity on the site and it seems that most of, if not all of, of the evidence for medieval occupation was removed by demolition and ground works in 1973 and also further groundworks in 1991.

## **8. References**

Ordnance Survey, 1:2500,1904

Tithe map, 1838

Dalwood, H, 1996. *Archaeological assessment of Bromyard, Hereford and Worcester*. The Central Marches Historic Towns Survey. (County Archaeological Service report 304).

Waller, D (Ed.), 1979. *Bromyard the day before yesterday*. A book of photographs. Hereford (for Bromyard and District Local History Society).

Williams, P, 1987, *Bromyard. Minster, Manor and Town*. Leominster

Waller, D (Ed), 1991, *Bromyard round and about*. Leominster (for Bromyard and District Local History Society).

## **9. Contents of the archive**

12 drawings on 7 drawing sheets

1 A4 sheet, drawing list

1 A4 sheet, levels for plans and sections

5 trench record sheets for the contexts in the two areas.

15 context sheets

4 black and white films, each with a film record sheets

3 colour slide films, each with a film record sheet

Finds from 10 contexts

10 Context / assemblage summary sheet for the finds

A paper copy of this report and a digital copy.

### **Appendix 1. Spot dates for the pottery from the earlier contexts** by *Stephanie Ratkai*

*Context (4)* mid-late 13th c

4 x Malvernian cooking pot sherds (fabric B1) mid-late 13th c

*Context (5)* late 17th-mid 18th c

1 x slipware (buff fabric, sparse voids, moderate Fe inclusions generally <0.25mm) late 17th-mid 18th c

1 x brown glazed redware (fine red fabric with very fine sand <0.01mm) 16th-18th c

*Context (6)* 19th-?20th c

mixed 19th and possibly 20th century glazed sherds.

*Context (9)* mid 18th-?early 19th c

1 x Worcester type ware handle (fabric C2) 13th c

1 x slipware dish (clean streaky buff fabric) broad white slip bands on dark brown ground. mid 18th-?early 19th c

*Context (11)* mid 18th-?early 19th c

2 x slipware dish sherds (streaky orange fabric), broad white slip bands on dark brown ground. mid 18th-early 19th c

3 x oxidised wheel-thrown Malvernian ware (fabric B4) mid 14th-16th c

*Context (15)* later 18th c

1 x creamware mug base, later 18th c

*Context (219)* 18th c

1 x Malvernian cooking pot (fabric B1) 12th-13th c

1 x Worcester glazed jug sherd (fabric C2) 13th c

1 x oxidised, wheel-thrown Malvernian ware (fabric B4) mid 14th-16th c

1 x blackware, mid 16th-17th c

1 x brown stoneware, 18th c

*Context (223)* 16th c

3 x blackware, 16th c

1 x oxidised, wheel-thrown Malvernian ware (fabric B4) mid 14th-16th c

*Context (228)* 18th or 19th c

1 x fine unglazed red coarseware jar (or possibly large flower pot) 18th-19th c

*Context (229) / (230) mid 16th-17th c*

1 x Malvernian cooking pot (fabric B1) 12th-13th c

1 x Hereford red ware (fabric A7b) mid 13th-15th c

5 x oxidised, wheel-thrown Malvernian ware (fabric B4) mid 14th-16th c

1 x Midlands Purple ware jar sherd with abraded base 16th- ?17th c

8 x blackware, mid 16th-17th c

1 x Malvernian tile fragment, ?late medieval-?early post-medieval

### *Comment*

The pottery from the accumulated “soils” in area 1 indicates occupation from the mid-late 13th century through to the modern period. The two stone lined pits (9) and (11) appear to have post-medieval fills although both contain residual medieval pottery. The two wells contained fill material which was predominantly late medieval or early post-medieval suggesting that the wells and pit (223) had a *terminus ante quem* of 16th century.

## **Appendix 2. List of contexts**

### *Area 1*

[1] lowest ‘subsoil’ weathered / fractured solid mudstone bedrock

[2] natural - grey & yellow heavy gritty clay marl with frequent mudstone brash

[3] heavy yellow slightly silty clay

[4] floury red gritty clay ‘soil’ - probably natural ‘B’ horizon

[5] light / mid grey brown soil

[6] relict soil horizon - same texture as [5] but darker brown / more humic

[7] soil horizon - recent topsoil with frequent building debris - very dark grey/black brown silty loam

[8] cut - large soakaway pit at east end of area

[9] fill of [8] - soil component / matrix of [19]

[10] cut - soakaway pit to west of [8]

[11] fill of [10] - soil matrix over and within [25]

[12] cut - large cesspit / garderobe at north-west corner of area

[13] masonry - wall forming east side of garderobe [12]

[14] cut - construction trench on east side of [12] for wall [13]

[15] lower waterlogged fills of cesspit [12]

[16] mid and upper drier fills of cesspit [12] - probable usage of cesspit in later 19th century

[17] deposit - deliberate dump capping fills [16] in top of cesspit [12] almost certainly contemporary with the creation of the car park c. 1973.

[18] layers - soil / ash layers over [5] on east side of (and later than) [13]

[19] fill of [8] - large stones

[20] cut - large pit at north east end of area

[21] lower fill of pit [20]

[22] charcoal flecked soil lenses in [20]

[23] upper fill of pit [20]

[24] concrete fence posts for property boundary fence along north edge of area

[25] fill of [10] - large, tightly packed stone rubble

[26] silt between uppermost layer of rubble [25] - mid grey-red brown clayey silt

[27] silt ‘below’ [19]

[28] peaty deposits interspersed within fill [15]

## *Area 2*

- [200] the cut of the groundworks for the Leisure Centre c. 1990 - filled with scalplings / rolled stone used to level area and fill footings trenches of the Leisure Centre
- [201] recent paved surface - removed over whole area prior to beginning of groundworks
- [202] make-up for paving [201]
- [203] very hard reddish brown clay marl with pieces / layers of grey / light green sandstone - in north end of service trench. Natural fill of peri-glacial channel cutting deep into bedrock
- [204] natural - sandstone in compact clayey silt
- [205] masonry wall
- [206] fill over wall [205]
- [207] foundation trench for wall [205]
- [208] fill of [210]
- [209] ?lining of [210]
- [210] cut - ditch or ?pit
- [211] fill around [212]
- [212] stone drain crossing service trench. 18th century
- [213] construction cut for drain [212]
- [214] made up ground near wall [205]
- [216] cut for well lining [220]
- [217] upper backfill within [220]
- [218] lower (investigated) backfill within [220]
- [219] fill of construction cut [216] behind stone lining [220]
- [220] well lining within cut [216]
- [221] upper fill of pit [222]. Clayey loam with fewer stones than [223].
- [222] cut - medieval pit c. 2m to west of well [230]
- [223] lower fill of pit [222]. Loam and masonry rubble in tiplines. Probably deliberate backfill
- [224] medieval soil type deposit at base of trench 9
- [225] vertically set cobbles over [224]
- [226] cut for medieval well
- [227] upper fill within well lining [230]
- [228] lower investigated fill within well lining [230]
- [229] fill of cut [226] between the cut and well lining [230]
- [230] masonry lining in well cut [226]
- [231] mixed natural materials - deliberate back fill of feature [232]
- [232] large cut - ?cellar or old well between pit [222] and well [230]. Cut by construction cut [226] for well [230]
- [233] cobbled surface over [215] - small rounded platy stones set on edge and packed tightly

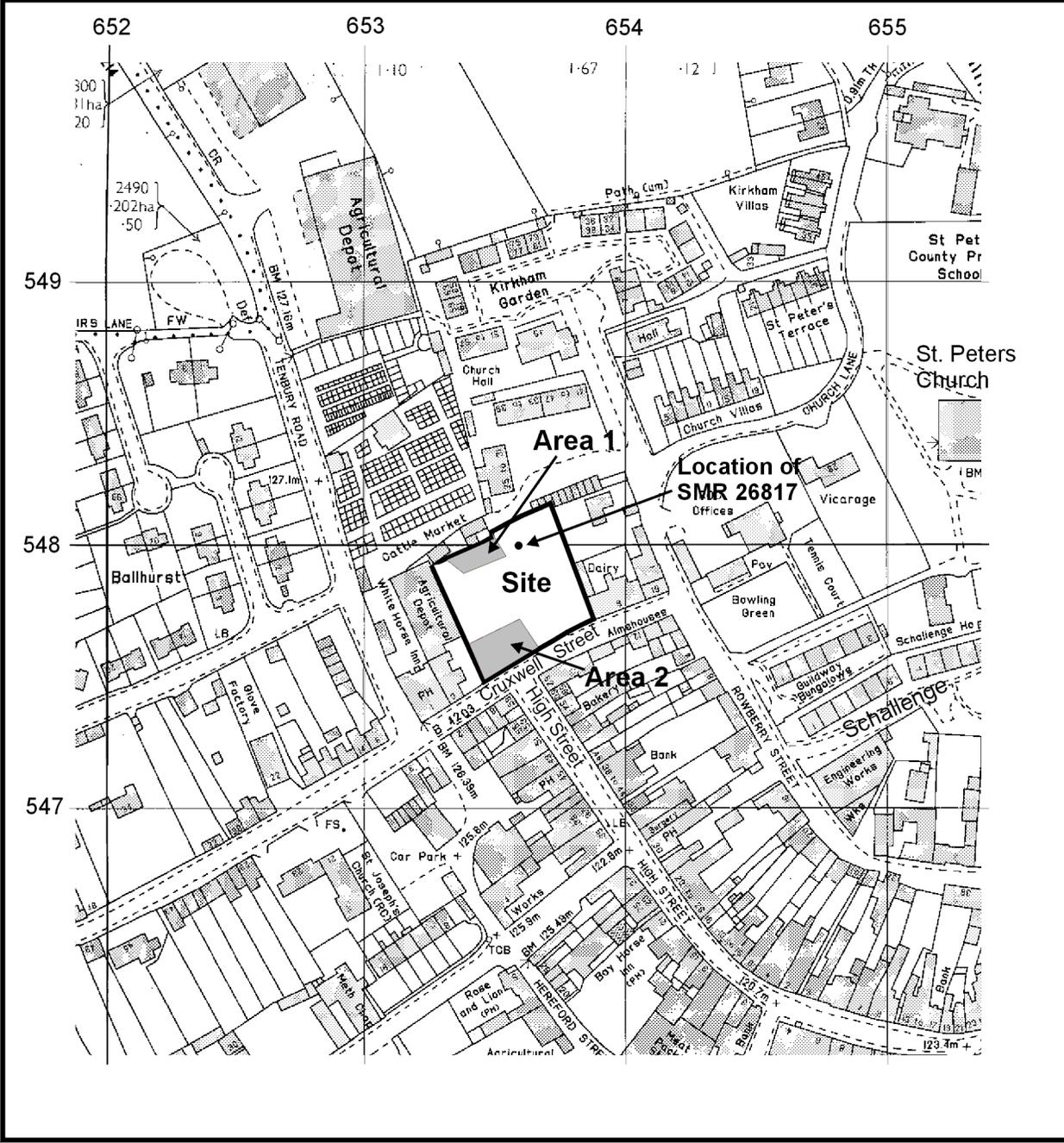
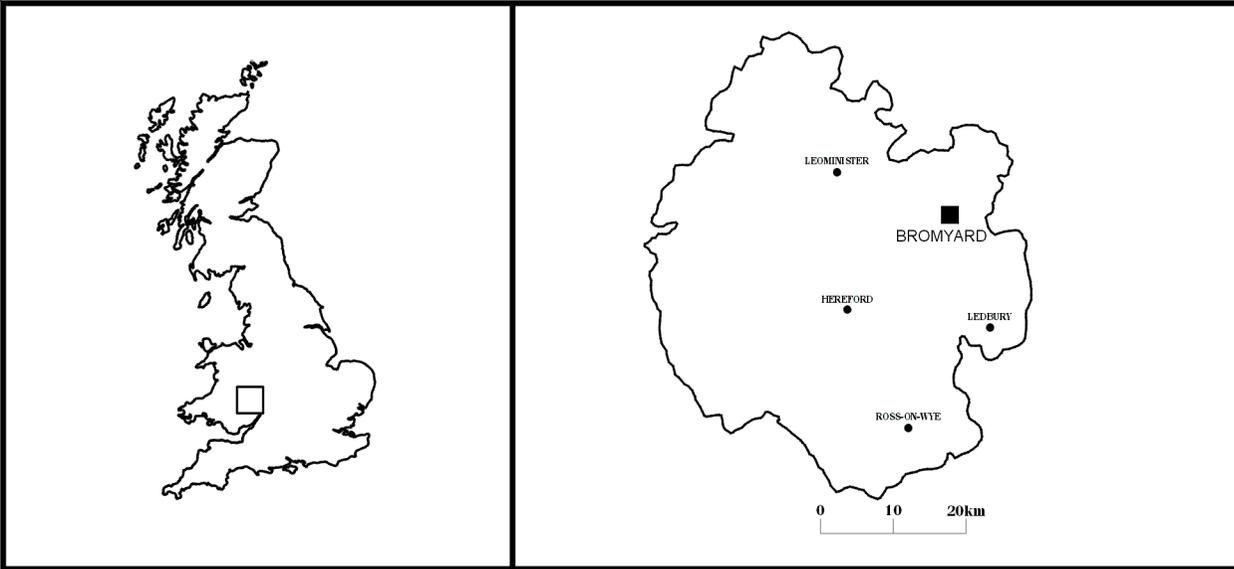
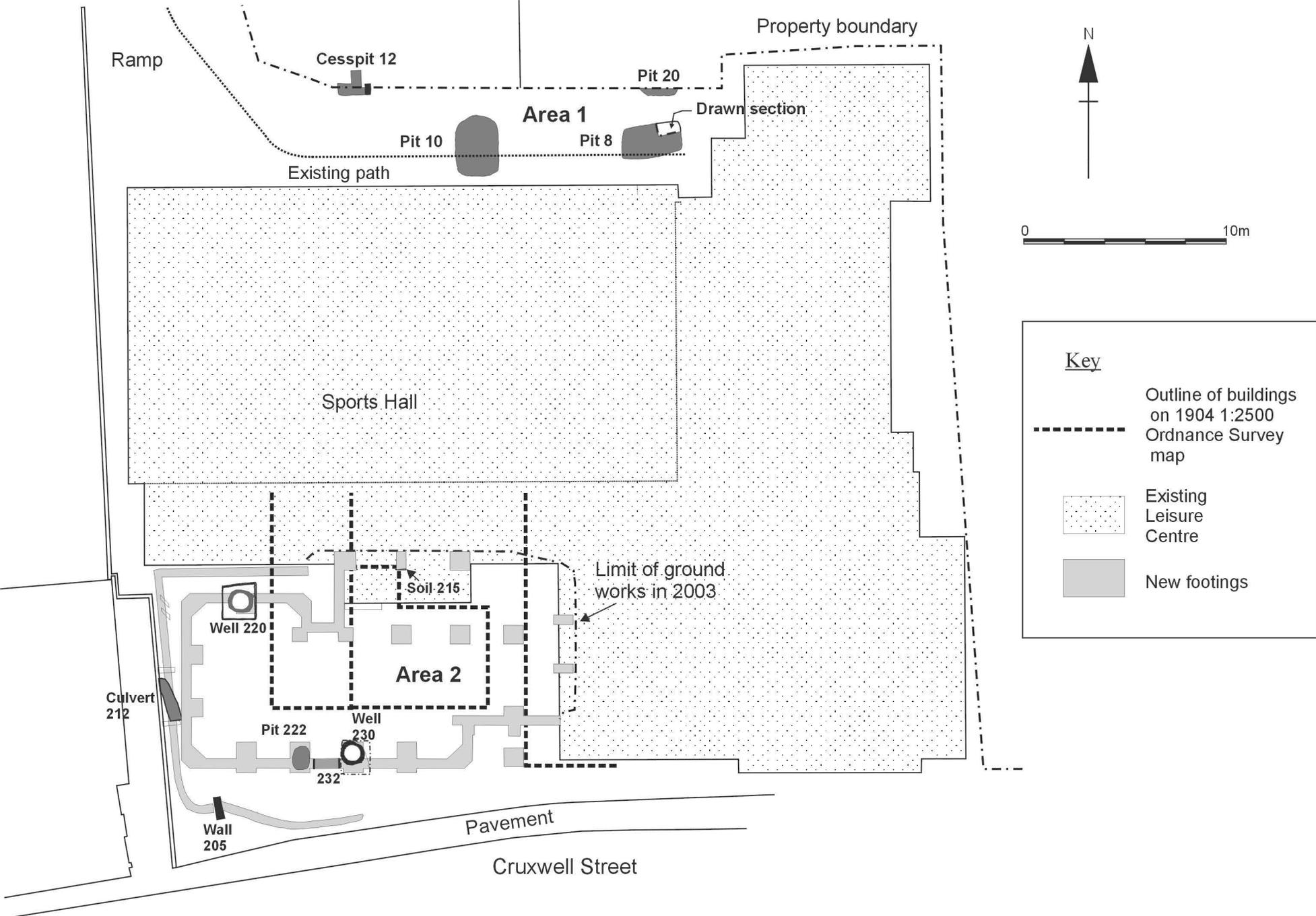


Fig. 1 Location of the site



**Fig. 2 Location of the groundworks and features**

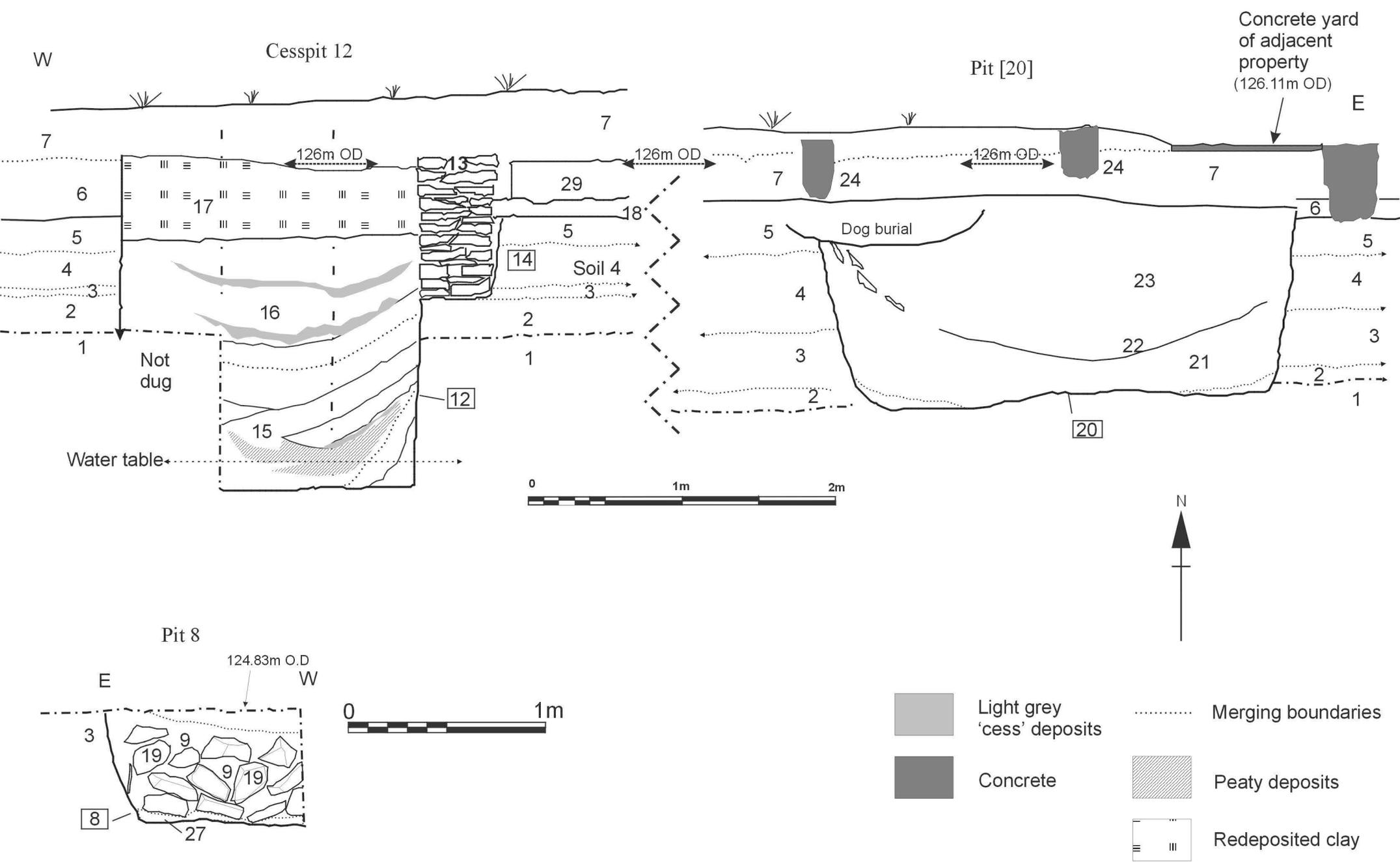


Fig. 3 Sections of features in area 1



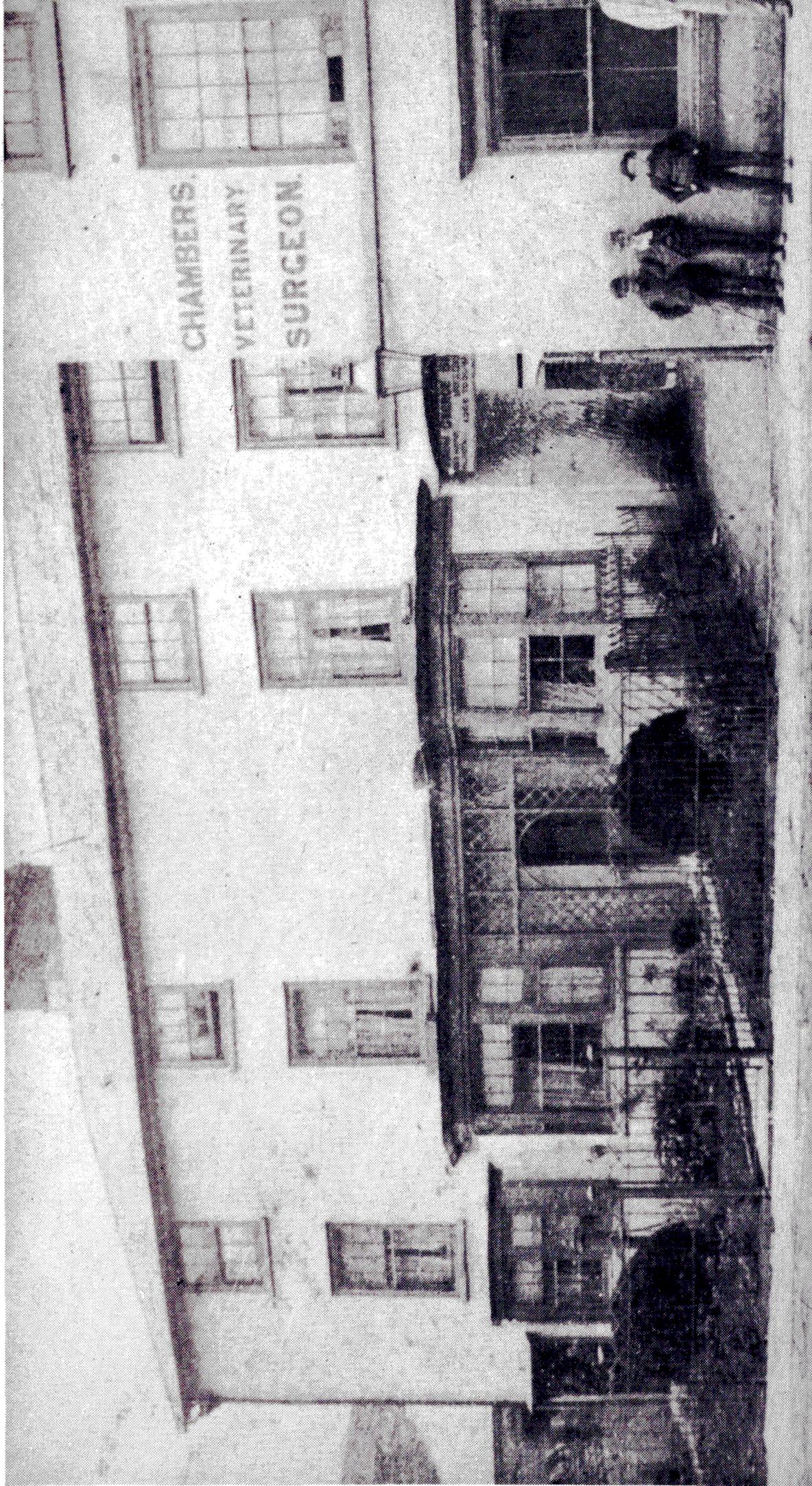


Plate 1. Angel house c. 1910