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LAG 30/402

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JUN

2001

AN  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION  
AT  
LEFEVRE WALK PHASE 3  
LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

PRE-CONSTRUCT  
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD.

**An Archaeological Evaluation at Lefevre Walk Phase 3, London Borough  
of Tower Hamlets**

**Central National Grid Reference: TQ 3702 8369**

**Site Code: LFW01**

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June 2001**

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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. at Lefevre Walk Phase 3, London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The evaluation was conducted between 4th and 14th June 2001, in advance of the redevelopment of the site for residential accommodation. The work was commissioned by Circle 33 Housing Trust / The Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust.
- 1.2 The evaluation consisted of six trenches which revealed evidence of Post-Medieval land-use, Romano-British settlement activity, and the natural geological landscape. One of these trenches was abandoned because of live services, and a lack of space prohibited resiting.
- 1.3 The evaluation demonstrated that no archaeological strata has survived at the lower levels at the east of the site. Archaeological features can be anticipated to survive at untruncated levels, including beneath existing car park and road structures.



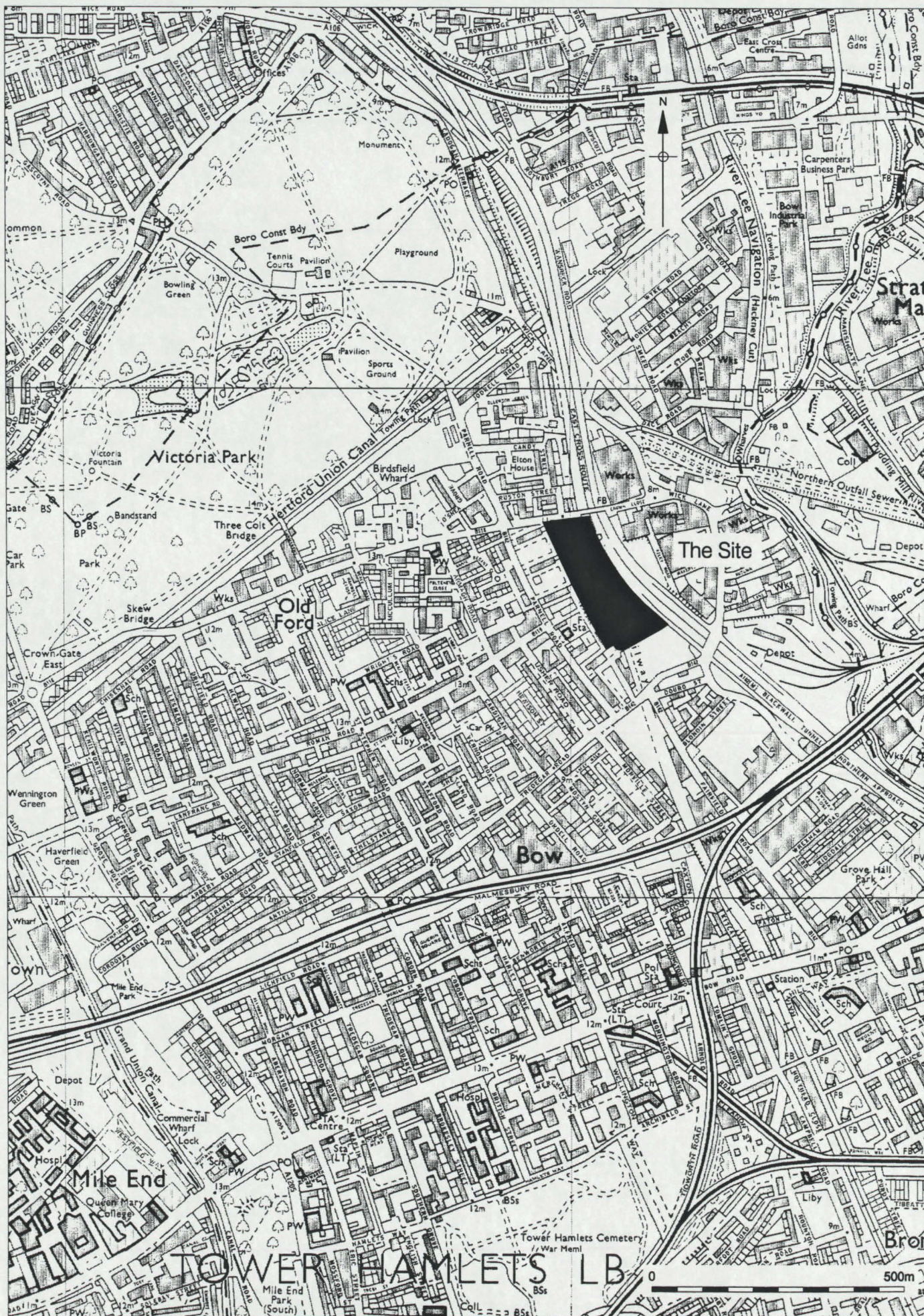
## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd at Lefevre Walk Phase 3, London Borough of Tower Hamlets (see location map, Fig. 1). The evaluation was commissioned by Circle 33 Housing Trust / The Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust in advance of the redevelopment of the site for residential accommodation.
- 2.2 The site is located in the floodplain of the River Lea, close to the edge of the gravel terrace, in an area where extensive archaeological work has shown continued activity from the neolithic to the modern periods.
- 2.3 The estate redevelopment has been divided into several phases of work; this present archaeological evaluation covers Phase 3 of the project, which is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 3702 8369. Phase 3 consisted of a wasteground known as Yallop's Yard (Trenches 4 and 5), the tarmac surface of a car park (Trench 6) and an area of made ground used as a temporary site car park (Trenches 1, 2 and 3). The Phase 3 evaluation covered an area of approximately ???; it was bounded by the A102 (M) to the east, Old Ford Road to the north, Lefevre Walk to the west and an area of Yallop's Yard to the south.
- 2.4 The archaeological evaluation involved the excavation and recording of six trenches in the Phase 3 area (see trench location map, Fig. 2). However work on Trench 1, in the northwest corner of the Phase 3 area, had to be stopped due to live services traversing the trench. It was not possible to relocate the trench. A watching brief at this location in 1994 indicated the presence of *in situ* Roman features.
- 2.5 The evaluation was conducted between 4th and 14th June 2001 and followed a method statement<sup>1</sup> prepared by Gary Brown of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. All aspects of the method statement were discussed with Nick Truckle of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS). The fieldwork was supervised by the author, Chris Mayo, under the Project Management of Gary Brown.
- 2.6 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefacts will be deposited at the Museum of London Archaeological Resource Centre.
- 2.7 The site was allocated the site code LFW01.

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<sup>1</sup> Brown, G, 2001





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Figure 1  
Site Location  
Scale: 1:10,000



### 3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The site is in an area classified as an 'Area of Particular Archaeological Importance' in the Tower Hamlets Unitary Development Plan.
- 3.2 The development plans outline the construction of housing on an area of wasteground currently known as Yallop's Yard. Also to be included in the development is an area of ground to the north (currently a site car park), and a stretch of Lefevre Walk, a road at the higher level of the estate buildings above Yallop's Yard.
- 3.3 This redevelopment is part of long term project of housing regeneration of three estates including the Lefevre Walk Estate. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. have undertaken several phases of archaeological investigation previously on behalf of Circle 33 Housing Trust and Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust.
- 3.3.1 Phase 1 of the investigations were carried out on behalf of Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust to the west of Parnell Road between the 24<sup>th</sup> August and the 9<sup>th</sup> October 1995 at 91-93 Parnell Road (site code PRB95)<sup>2</sup>. Investigations also proceeded at Lefevre Walk (site code LEK95)<sup>3</sup>, between the 20<sup>th</sup> November 1995 and the 12<sup>th</sup> July 1996 (not a continuous period).
- 3.3.2 Phase 2 of the archaeological investigations was undertaken between 16<sup>th</sup> September 1998 and 18<sup>th</sup> December 1998 (not a continuous period) at Lefevre Walk Estate, Parnell Road, E3 (site code PNL 98)<sup>4</sup>.
- 3.3 As a consequence of the Phase 3 site being in an area of archaeological importance and because of the significant archaeological remains found during the Phase 1 and 2 investigations, an archaeological evaluation was required to be carried out in advance of redevelopment and was undertaken in accordance with PPG 16 and GLAAS.

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<sup>2</sup> Taylor-Wilson, R, 1995

<sup>3</sup> Taylor-Wilson, R, 1996

<sup>4</sup> Douglas, A, 1999

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Have previously undertaken two phases of work on the Lefevre Walk Estate. Phase 1 was conducted at F-Block and adjacent land, Lefevre Walk (LEK95) and at 91-93 Parnell Road (PRB95). Phase 2 was an excavation at Lefevre Walk Estate, Parnell Road, E3 (PNL 98). The results of these sites have been reported in detail elsewhere<sup>5 6 7</sup>. Earlier archaeological investigations had been carried out on the Parnell Road site in 1990 and 1995<sup>8</sup>, and within the boundaries of Lefevre Walk Phase I during 1970 – 71<sup>9</sup>, 1980<sup>10</sup>, and 1995<sup>11</sup>. Excavations had also taken place at Lefevre Road in 1969<sup>12</sup>.

### 4.2 Prehistoric

4.2.1 The site, located on higher ground overlooking the River Lea and the Hackney Marshes was a prime location for habitation. The local geology was well suited to the type of agriculture practised by Prehistoric communities.

4.2.2 Evidence for prehistoric landuse in Bow was uncovered at LEK95 and PRB95. Lithics, mainly recorded from residual locations indicated Palaeolithic, possible Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic, Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and Middle to Late Bronze Age activity in the vicinity.

4.2.3 Work at PNL98 revealed evidence of Neolithic and Middle to Late Bronze Age pits and possible field boundaries, and possible Middle to Late Bronze Age votive offerings. At PRB95 conclusive evidence was unearthed for occupation of the site during the Late Bronze Age.

4.2.4 Ceramics recovered from PRB95 indicated occupation during the Late Iron Age c. 50BC – AD50. At LEK95 'Belgic' style pottery was recovered and excavated archaeological features were suggestive of a post-built round-house that may have

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<sup>5</sup> Taylor-Wilson, R, 1995

<sup>6</sup> Taylor-Wilson, R, 1996

<sup>7</sup> Douglas, A, 1999

<sup>8</sup> Pitt, K, 1990 and Pitt, K, 1995a

<sup>9</sup> Sheldon, H, 1972

<sup>10</sup> Mills, P S, 1984

<sup>11</sup> Pitt, K, 1995b

<sup>12</sup> Sheldon, H, 1971



been placed centrally within an enclosure. PNL99 revealed evidence for ritual activity and features suggesting settlement activity nearby. Field boundaries from the Late Iron Age were also seen.

#### **4.3 Roman**

4.3.1 The site is located just to the north of the Roman London (*Londinium*) to Colchester (*Camulodunum*) road as it approached the strategically important crossing of the River Lea. A 65m stretch of this main Roman road incorporating the southern and northern margins of the road zone were revealed at LEK95. Pottery dating evidence broadly confirmed a date of construction to the mid 1<sup>st</sup> century. At PRB95 a further stretch of the northern road zone was investigated. The roadside areas had been utilised, for a variety of purposes, throughout the Roman period. Numerous boundary ditches, predominantly at right angles to the line of the road were recorded, the majority dating to the last century of Roman occupation. Evidence of iron smithing activity, apparently dating to between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> century, was recorded at both sites. Fragmentary remains of roadside clay and timber buildings of mid – late 3<sup>rd</sup> century date and a small inhumation cemetery of 4<sup>th</sup> century date, were recorded at LEK95.

4.3.2 The site at PNL98 showed evidence for clay and timber buildings, bounded by property ditches. Field boundary ditches and fence lines were also seen. Evidence for deep pitting and a sump was recorded, as were pits and deposits which may have been connected to the roadside settlement seen at LEK95 and PRB95.

#### **4.4 Medieval**

4.4.1 There is some evidence for occupation in the vicinity of the site for this period. A handful of Medieval pot sherds recovered from both LEK95 and PRB95, are thought to have been introduced by manuring. It is possible that the sparsity of evidence for the Medieval period could be because during this time the crossing point for the River Lea was moved south towards Bow, as the Old Ford crossing had become too treacherous.

4.4.2 At PNL98, the evidence for the Medieval period was increased with the excavation of what may have been the rear of properties which had fronted onto Old Ford Road.

Possible brickearth quarrying and field drainage was observed, as was a hearth. A layer of plough soil covered an area of PNL98.

4.4.3 A Medieval ditch was recorded at Ruston Street to the north

4.4.4 Despite the decline in use of the Old Ford crossing across the River Lea, a fulling mill was built in the area in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, as was a large dye house circa 1500<sup>13</sup>.

#### 4.5 **Post-Medieval**

4.5.1 At the start of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, farming and market gardening is thought to have predominated in the surrounding area. This is corroborated by excavations at PNL98 which revealed evidence for field boundaries (deep ditches, fences and possibly hedgerows) and probable agricultural soils.

4.5.2 By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the area had been transformed into an industrial suburb of London, with poor housing and much poverty. Work at PNL98 revealed a Victorian sewer associated with this housing, as were rubbish pits and garden features.

4.5.3 The 20<sup>th</sup> century was represented at PNL98 by the discovery of an Anderson shelter.

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<sup>13</sup> Weinreb, B and Hibbert, C, 1988, 559

## 5 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The solid geology of the area is London Clay, a strata of the Lambeth Group not encountered on site. The drift geology is composed of deposits of Kempton Park and Taplow gravels, both of which are part of the River Thames Terrace sequence. These gravels were capped with natural brickearth. Brickearth can be described as a firm light yellowish or orange brown sandy clay.
- 5.2 At PRB95 the brickearth was encountered at between 11.20m OD and 11.30m OD and was approximately 1.5m thick. In the northern part of LEK95 brickearth was recorded at between 10.95m OD and 11.30m OD, while in the southern part it attained a maximum height of 11.65m OD, where it was only 0.25m thick. At PNL98, the brickearth was observed between heights of 9.54m OD and 8.42m OD, with a maximum thickness of 0.62m.
- 5.3 The site of the Phase 3 evaluation, with its west edge on high ground in the Lefevre Walk Estate and its east edge on much lower ground, is less than 1km to the west of the River Lea. The change in height from west to east is due to several reasons: modern construction and subsequent removal; a disused railway cutting northeast – southwest through Yallop's Yard; the natural break of slope on the edge of the River Lea floodplain. The River Lea has its source in Bedfordshire, flows through Hertfordshire and joins the Thames approximately 3 miles south of Old Ford.
- 5.4 The River Lea has long been used as for water-borne transport and in Roman times (and earlier) may have been navigable as far as Ware, and thence up its tributary the Rib, to Braughing<sup>14</sup>.

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<sup>14</sup> Peddie, J, 1998, 98



## 6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Five trenches (1– 5) were machine excavated with a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket. One trench (6) was machine excavated with a JCB fitted with a breaker and a flat-bladed ditching bucket. All machine excavation was conducted under archaeological supervision. Archaeologically sensitive deposits were hand cleaned and recorded as single contexts in plan and section, and were photographed as appropriate. The general site methodology following the method statement<sup>15</sup> in accordance with Guidance Paper No. 5 *Evaluations*, issued by the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service in June 1998.

6.2 The dimensions of the trenches in the Phase 3 evaluation are shown in Table 1. Trench 5 was opened first. It was required to incorporate a dog-leg into this trench to avoid some Japanese Knotweed. Trench 4 was next, followed by Trenches 2 and 3. It was not possible to excavate the full area of Trench 3 desired in the method statement (15 x 2m) because of the presence of building materials around the top of the trench. This made safety in the trench and spoil storage difficult.

Trench 1 was begun in the corner between Old Ford Road and Lefevre Walk, but unfortunately a power cable was encountered running diagonally across the trench. The confined area and need for support for the cable prevented excavation in the immediate vicinity.

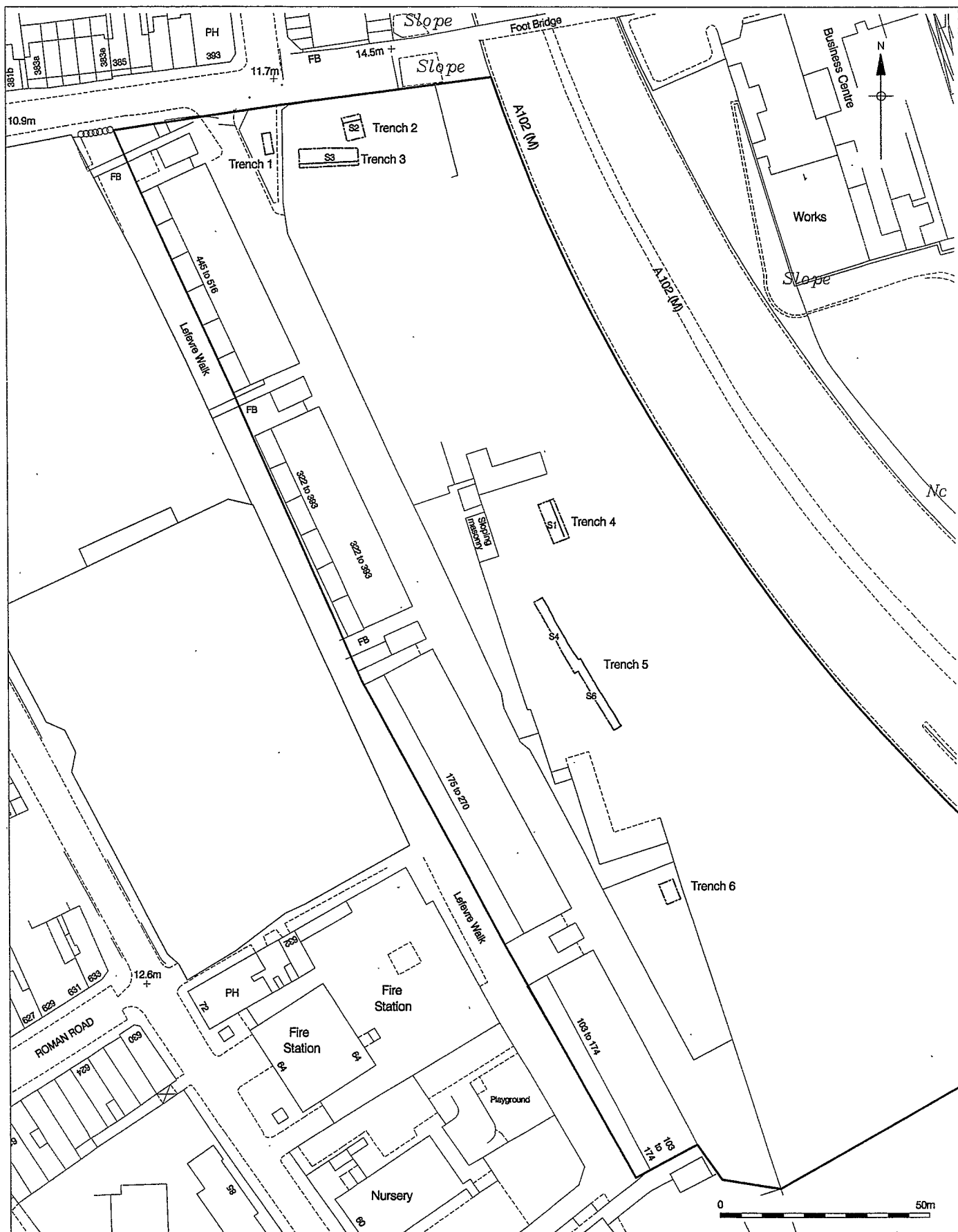
Trench 6 was excavated with the JCB in an area of residential car parking on Lefevre Walk. This trench had been moved from its intended location in Yallop's Yard because the risk of truncation was less at the higher ground level. Rather than the 15 x 2m specified in the method statement, the trench was reduced in size to approximately 5.4m x 3.6m to limit the amount of concrete that needed to be broken out. However, at the level upon which archaeological remains were found, the trench could not be stepped safely. Therefore this trench was recorded in plan and with a measured sketch section only.

Trench No	Dimensions (m)	Working area (m)	Max depth (m)
1	5.0 x 2.0	not excavated	not excavated
2	5.6 x 4.4	3.2 x 3.0	2.9
3	14.0 x 4.5	10.0 x 2.0	3.4
4	10.0 x 4.0	9.25 x 2.0	3.5
5	35.5 x 3.0	35.5 x 3.0	1.5
6	5.4 x 3.6	not excavated	3.25

**Table 1: Trench dimensions**

<sup>15</sup> Brown, G, 2001

- 6.3 A Temporary Bench Mark (TBM) was established from an OSBM on the corner of Ranwell Close. OSBM value: 13.42m OD.



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Figure 2  
Trench Location  
1:1250



## **7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE**

See Figs. 3 - 9

### **7.1 PHASE 1: NATURAL GRAVEL DEPOSITS**

**Contexts:** [49] [81] [85] [86]

7.1.1 River terrace gravel was recorded in Trenches 3, 4, 5 and 6. This natural deposit was generally a brownish orange, sandy gravel.

7.1.2 The gravel was encountered at levels between 8.97m OD in Trench 6 and 7.78m OD in Trench 5.

### **7.2 PHASE 2: SANDY DEPOSITS**

**Contexts:** [50] [84]

7.2.1 A sandy deposit, alluvial in origin, was recorded overlying the gravel in Trenches 4 and 5. This deposit was generally composed of a light brownish yellow, medium to coarse sand. The sand was present at levels between 8.14m OD in Trench 4 and 8.30m OD in Trench 5.

### **7.3 PHASE 3: BRICKEARTH**

**Contexts:** [30] [47]

7.3.1 This brickearth deposit was recorded in Trenches 2 and 3. It consisted of a layer of light yellowish brown clayey-sandy-silt. The deposit was exposed between levels of 9.27m OD in Trench 2 and 9.60m OD in Trench 3.

7.3.2 In Trench 2, only the top of the brickearth was exposed. However in Trench 3 [30], it was excavated by machine. This revealed it to be approximately 1.2m thick.

### **7.4 PHASE 4: EARLY – MID ROMAN FEATURES / DEPOSITS**

#### **7.4.1 PHASE 4i: EARLY – MID ROMAN FEATURES / DEPOSITS**

**Contexts:** [43] [63] [65] [67] [69] [68]

7.4.1.1 All of the early – mid Roman features forming Phase 4i were seen in Trench 2.

7.4.1.2 Two postholes [65] [67] (see Table 1) were cut into the Phase 3 brickearth deposit [47]. The sandy-silty-clay fills ( [64] [66] respectively) of both postholes were devoid of artefacts. These features had been sealed by a small layer of sandy silt [63] which contained a few sherds of pottery with a date range of 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. It measured 0.5m x 0.5m, with a thickness of 50mm thick, and was heavily truncated.

7.4.1.3 Three other features were seen cut into the Phase 3 brickearth [47]. A cut of uncertain function [43] was excavated, but due to truncation its shape was indeterminate. It had a steeply sloping side with a flat base, and measurements of 1.40m x 0.54m with a depth of 0.21m. The sandy silt fill [42] contained no dating evidence. Another cut [68] was sub-circular in plan, and measured 0.86m x 0.46m. It was filled with clayey-silt. Cut [69] was ovoid in shape and measured 0.50m x 0.60m; it was filled with a sandy-silt. Both of these cuts [68] [69] were unexcavated.

#### **7.4.2 PHASE 4ii: MID ROMAN FEATURES / DEPOSITS**

**Contexts:** [4] [48] [2] [6] [8] [10] [16] [56] [60] [62] [71] [39] [41] [58] [74]

7.4.2.1 All of the early – mid Roman features forming Phase 4ii were recorded in Trench 2.

7.4.2.2 Phase 4ii contained a series of postholes of which nine were excavated [4] [48] [10] [56] [60] [62] [58] [41] [39] (See Table 2); eight of these were paired into double postholes. These postholes followed a line from the western edge of Trench 2, heading southeast. The presence of another double posthole at the south edge of Trench 2 may suggest that the line of posts returned to the southwest. The sandy-silt fill [3] of posthole [4] contained pottery ranging in date from AD 50 to AD 150.

7.4.2.3 Trench 2 also contained 2 postpits [6] [71] (see Table 2). The complete excavation of [6] revealed a clear circular postpipe, 0.38m x 0.37m with a depth of 0.28m. The sandy-silt fill [5] of this postpit yielded pottery dating between the Late Iron Age and AD 150. The other postpit [71], continuing under the northern edge of Trench 2, was not fully excavated; however the feint outline of a postpipe could be seen in the sandy-silt fill.

Context	Shape	Sides	Base	Dimensions (m)	Depth	Height (m OD)	Phase
4	Linear	Steep	Conc	0.50 x 0.26	0.12	9.31	4ii
6	Sub-circ	Vert	Conc	0.65 x 0.57	0.50	9.29	4ii
10	Sub-circ	Sloping	Flat	0.36 x 0.34	0.06	9.33	4ii
39	Circ	Near vert	Flat	0.34 x 0.32	0.14	9.27	4ii
41	Circ	Near vert	Flat	0.32 x 0.26	0.13	9.27	4ii
48	Sub-circ	Vert	Flat	0.56 x 0.28	0.07	9.03	4ii
56	Circ	Steep	Conc	0.16 x 0.20	0.20	8.52	4ii
58	Circ	Vert	Conc	0.20 x 0.24	0.15	8.44	4ii
60	Square	Vert	Flat	0.20 x 0.14	0.10	8.53	4ii
62	Circ	Vert	Flat	0.20 x 0.10	0.30	8.53	4ii
65	Circ	Steep	Conc	0.20 x 0.25	0.30	8.41	4i
67	Circ	Steep	Conc	0.14 x 0.16	0.30	8.59	4i
71	unclear	gentle	not ex	0.78 x 0.94	0.11	8.97	4ii

**Table 2: Summary of postholes / postpits in Phases 4i / 4ii, Trench 2.**

7.4.2.4 In the northwest corner of Trench 2 an area of sandy-silty-clay [15] was exposed, measuring 0.4m x 0.3m and 0.12m deep. This filled a linear cut [16], running northsouth into the north edge of the trench. It was truncated on the south edge. The firm compaction of the sandy-silty-clayfill suggested that this may have been a wall, or the base of a wall. This was further suggested by the presence of a layer of trampled sandy-silty-clay [74] on the west side of [15], measuring 0.30m x 0.10m, which could have been an occupation layer or surface inside the wall. This layer was not excavated. The deposit [15] in cut [16] produced a piece of CBM which dates from between AD 50 / 60 and AD 140 / 200.

7.4.2.5 There were two other features in Trench 2 which have been grouped as Phase 4ii. In the south of the trench was a rectangular cut [8] with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 0.32m x 0.48m, with a depth of 90mm. The sandy-silt fill [7] revealed no datable material, and the function of this feature was not ascertainable. In the southwest corner of the trench a linear cut [2] with irregular sides and an uneven base, sloping from west to east, may be interpreted as a gully. The butt-end of the cut was seen at the east end; in the other direction the feature continued into the west side of the trench. The feature was 0.34m x 0.74m, and 0.10m deep. It was filled with a sandy-silt material [1], and included pottery with a date range of AD 50 to AD 150.



### **7.4.3 PHASE 4iii: MID ROMAN FEATURES**

**Contexts:** [73][46]

7.4.3.1 All of the mid Roman features forming Phase 4iii were seen in Trench 2.

7.4.3.2 A pit [73] was excavated which truncated two of the features from Phase 4ii. It was approximately square in plan, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 0.40m x 0.38m, and was 0.23m deep. The pit had a sandy-silt fill which yielded no datable material.

7.4.3.3 In the northwest corner of Trench 2 a ditch [46] was excavated. It was curvilinear in plan, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. The eastern end of the ditch had a butt-end, and it ran eastwest into the western edge of the trench. The ditch measured 0.80m x 1.90m, and was 0.80m deep. The ditch truncated several of the features in Phases 4i and 4ii. The fill [45] of this cut was sandy-silt, and included pottery dating from between AD 120 and AD 150.

### **7.5 PHASE 5: MEDIEVAL**

**Contexts:** [12] [14]

7.5.1 A pit [12] in Trench 2 was filled with sandy-clayey-silt [11]; this fill contained several fragments of pottery with a date range of AD 1480 to AD 1550, with a piece of residual Roman pottery. The pit itself was ovoid in plan, with steeply sloping / vertical sides and an uneven base. It measured 1.10m x 0.80m, with a depth of 0.45m

7.5.2 A second pit [14] in Trench 2 contained sandy-silt fill [13], and pottery with a date range of AD 1270 to AD 1350. The pit cut was ovoid in shape, with steeply sloping / vertical sides and a flat base. Its dimensions were 0.90m x 0.75m, and 0.70m deep.

### **7.6 PHASE 6: MEDIEVAL – POST MEDIEVAL REDEPOSITED BRICKEARTH**

**Context:** [36]

7.6.1 Sealing the pits in Trench 2 which formed Phase 5 (7.5) was a layer [36] of redeposited brickearth. It produced no datable evidence therefore it can only be said to have been deposited between Phases 5 and 7 (medieval to post-medieval). This layer was a sandy-silt, and was seen covering an area measuring 4.30m x 3.77m. It had a maximum thickness of 0.80m.

## **7.7 PHASE 7: 18th-19th CENTURY FEATURES**

**Contexts: [24] [26] [28] [34] [37] [78] [80]**

- 7.7.1 In Trench 2, a series of linear cuts were recorded in section running northsouth through the trench. One of these [24] was vertical on the west side, but uneven on the east side. The base was generally even. The feature was seen in opposite northsouth sections of the trench and therefore was at least 3.30m in this direction. It measured 0.39m eastwest and was 0.41m high. It was filled with a silty-sand [23] which produced no datable material.
- 7.7.2 Another linear cut [26] also appeared in north and south sections of Trench 2 and therefore was at least 3.30m northsouth by 0.62m eastwest. It was 0.42m high. It had almost vertical east and west sides, and a flat base. It was filled with a silty-sand material [25], also bereft of dating material.
- 7.7.3 In Trench 2 feature [26] was truncated by north-south linear cut [28]. It had an uneven west side and a vertical east side; the base was flat. It was at least 3.30m x 1.21m, with a height of 0.62m. The fill [27] was a mix of coarse sand and gravel; it had no dating evidence.
- 7.7.4 Linear feature [34] traversed Trench 2 from north to south. Its west side was uneven, the east vertical, with a flat base. It measured at least 3.30m x 0.61m and was 0.39m high. It was filled with a mix of coarse sand and sandy-silt [29], and produced no datable material.
- 7.7.5 Truncated by feature [34] was another linear cut [37] running northsouth through Trench 2. This had uneven sides and a concave base, measuring at least 3.30m x 0.49m, and was 0.43m high. The fill [35] was a mix of coarse sand and sandy-silt; it contained no dating evidence.
- 7.7.6 The above features (7.7.1 – 7.7.5) were all very similar: running northsouth through Trench 2, and with similar dimensions. Their fills were notable for all having inclusions of rubble and mortar.
- 7.7.7 In Trench 6, two pits were seen in the west section of the trench. The later pit [78] had sloping sides and a concave base; its shape could not be ascertained. It was approximately 1.00m high. It was filled with a sandy-silt [77] containing no datable material. Pit [78] truncated an earlier pit [80] which had gently sloping irregular sides and an uneven base. Its shape could not be ascertained. It was approximately 0.65m

high. It was filled with a mix of sub-angular gravel and coarse sandy-silt [79]. This fill produced a few sherds of 18th to 19th century pottery.

## **7.8 PHASE 8: POST MEDIEVAL COLLUVIUM**

**Contexts: [22] [31] [32] [76]**

- 7.8.1 Covering all of Trench 2 was a layer of sandy-silt [22] which appeared to be water deposited and was thought to have been colluvial. It had a maximum thickness of 0.40m. No datable material was found within this layer.
- 7.8.2 In Trench 3 layer [31] was also thought to have been colluvial. Seen in section, it consisted of sandy-silt and measured 3.60m eastwest, with a thickness of 0.25m thick. This was overlain by another layer of sandy-silt colluvial material [32], which measured 7.90m eastwest and was 0.8m thick. These two layers produced no datable material.
- 7.8.3 A layer in Trench 6 [76] consisted of a sandy-silt, measuring 3.00m x 1.50m and a thickness of 0.15m. It produced no datable material.
- 7.8.4 Layer [36] in Trench 2, layer [32] in Trench 3 and layer [76] in Trench 6 were almost identical in terms of composition, colour, compaction and the level at which they occurred (10.08m OD to 9.80m OD in Trenches 2 and 3; 9.37m OD to 9.34m OD in Trench 6).

## **7.9 PHASE 9: MODERN PITS**

**Contexts: [19] [21]**

- 7.9.1 Trench 2 contained 2 pits which have been phased as modern, despite not producing any dating evidence in their fills. Cut [21] was seen in section with a truncated east side and a vertical west side. The base sloped from west to east. The cut measured 0.97m east west and was 0.46m high. It was filled with a silty-sand [20] containing no datable material. The east side of this pit was truncated by another cut [19]. This had steeply sloping sides and a deeply concave base. It measured 2.07m eastwest and was 0.71m high. The fill [18] of this pit was a sandy silt with no dating evidence.



## **7.10 PHASE 10: MODERN LAYERS**

**Contexts: [17] [33] [75] [82]**

- 7.10.1 A layer of silty-sand with a noticeably pungent aroma was thought to have been a deposit left by standing water. It was seen in Trench 2 [17], Trench 3 [33] and Trench 6 [75]. Its thickness ranged from 0.30m [33] to 0.22m [17]. The layer occurred at similar heights: 10.31m OD in Trench 2; 10.22m OD in Trench 3; 9.57m OD in Trench 6. No datable material was recovered from any of the contexts.
- 7.10.2 Overlying layer [33] in Trench 3 was another layer [82] of sandy-silt. Seen in section, this measured approximately 10.00m eastwest and was 0.50m thick. No datable material was recovered from this layer.
- 7.10.3 All of the trenches had a thick layer of modern makeup, which were not recorded archaeologically. These layers varied in thickness from 0.73m in Trench 2, to 2.13m in Trench 4 but were typically about 1.50m thick.

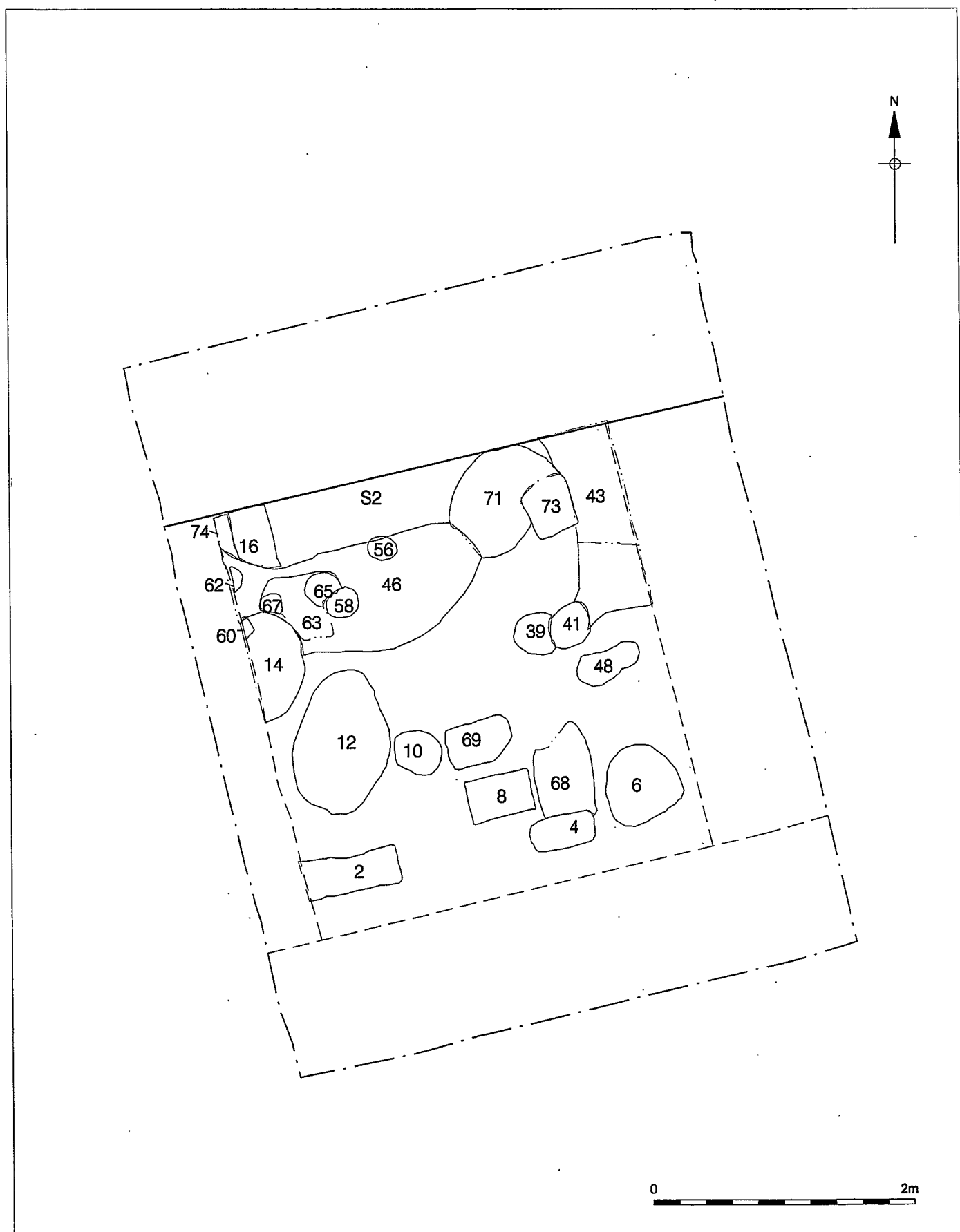


Figure 3  
Plan of Trench 2  
1:40

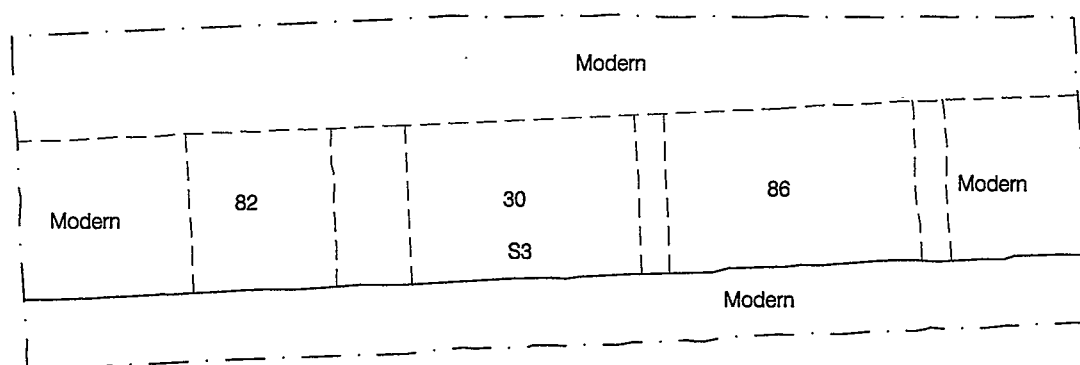


Figure 4  
Plan of Trench 3  
1:100

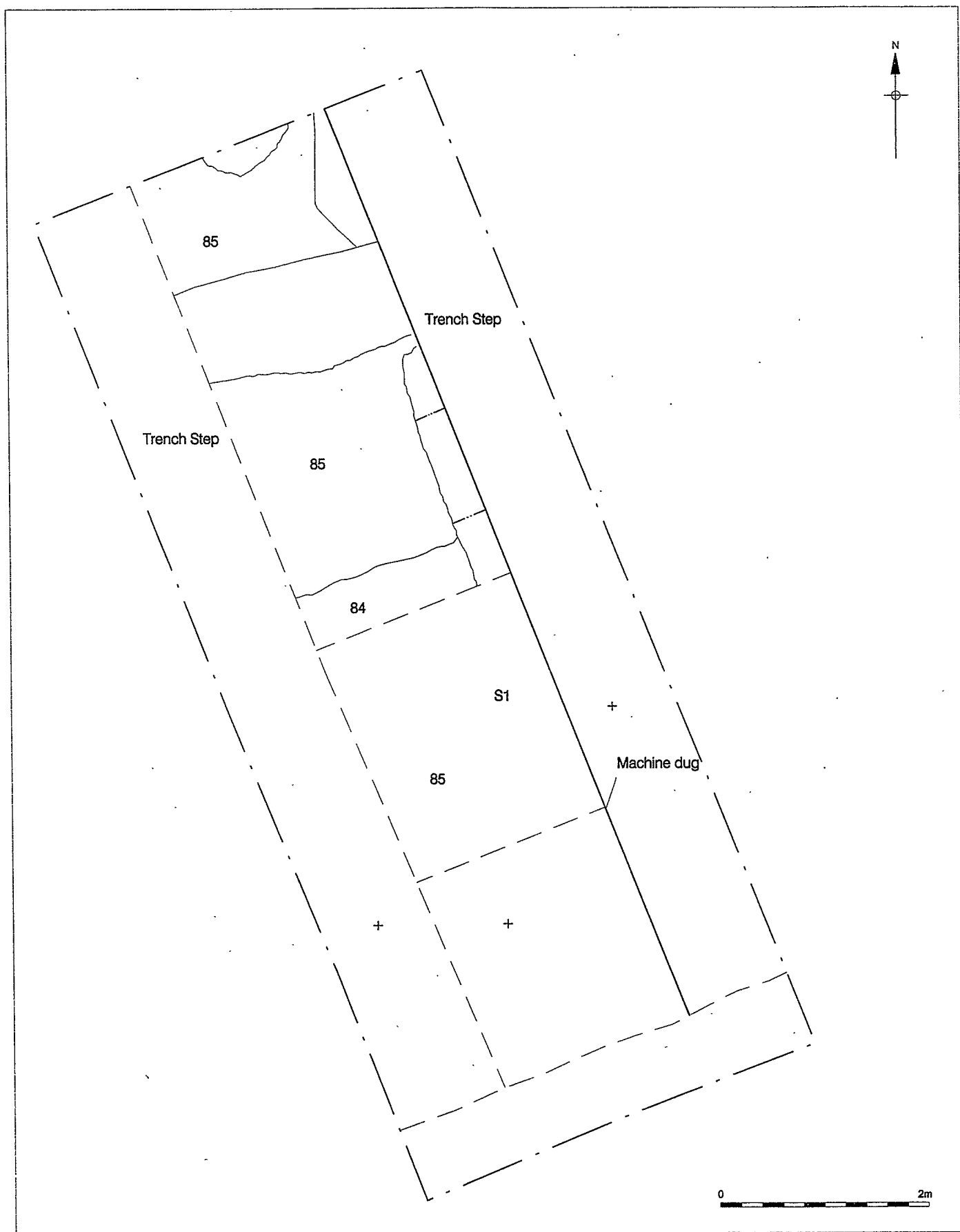


Figure 5  
Plan of Trench 4  
1:50





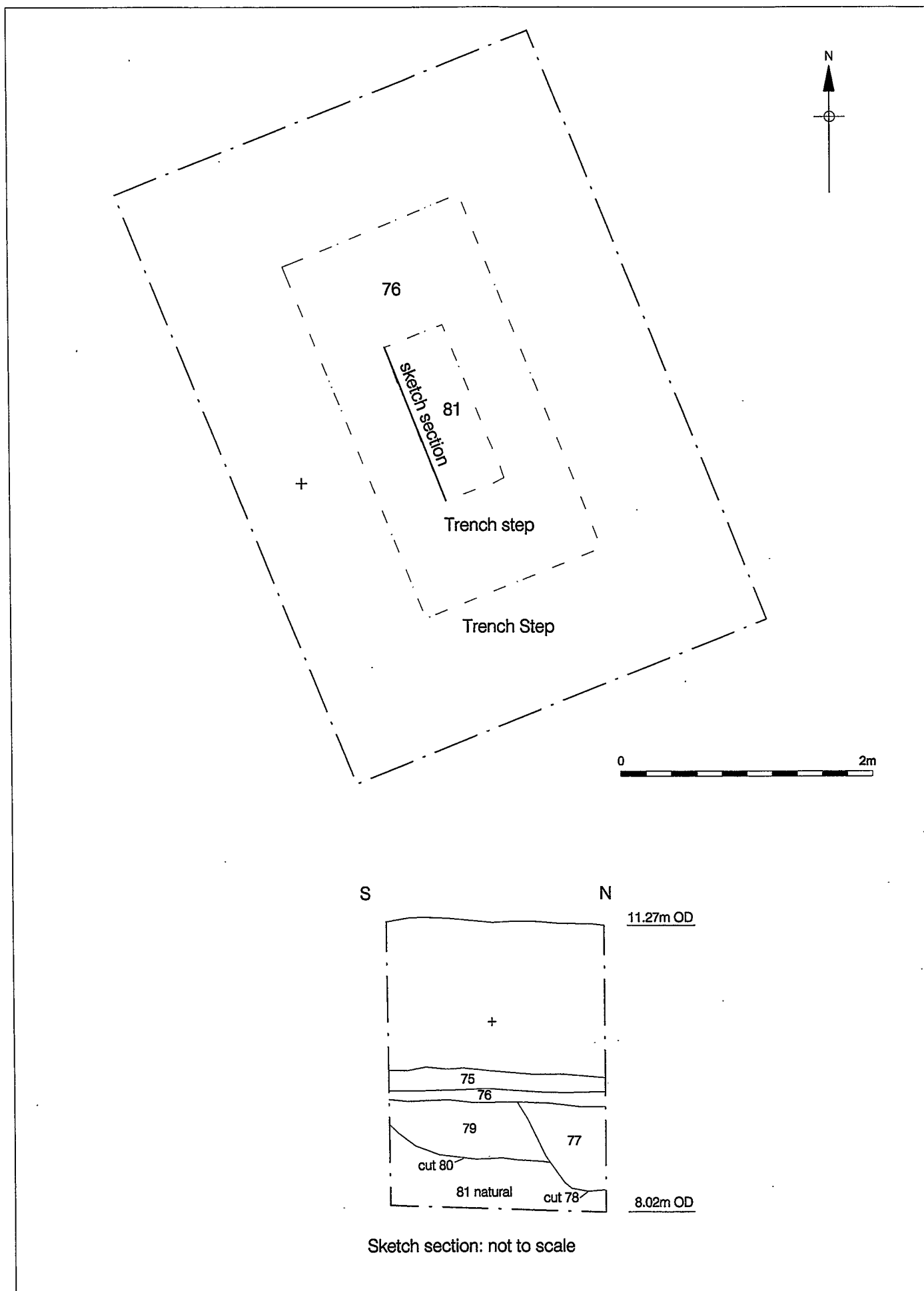


Figure 7  
Plan of Trench 6  
1:40

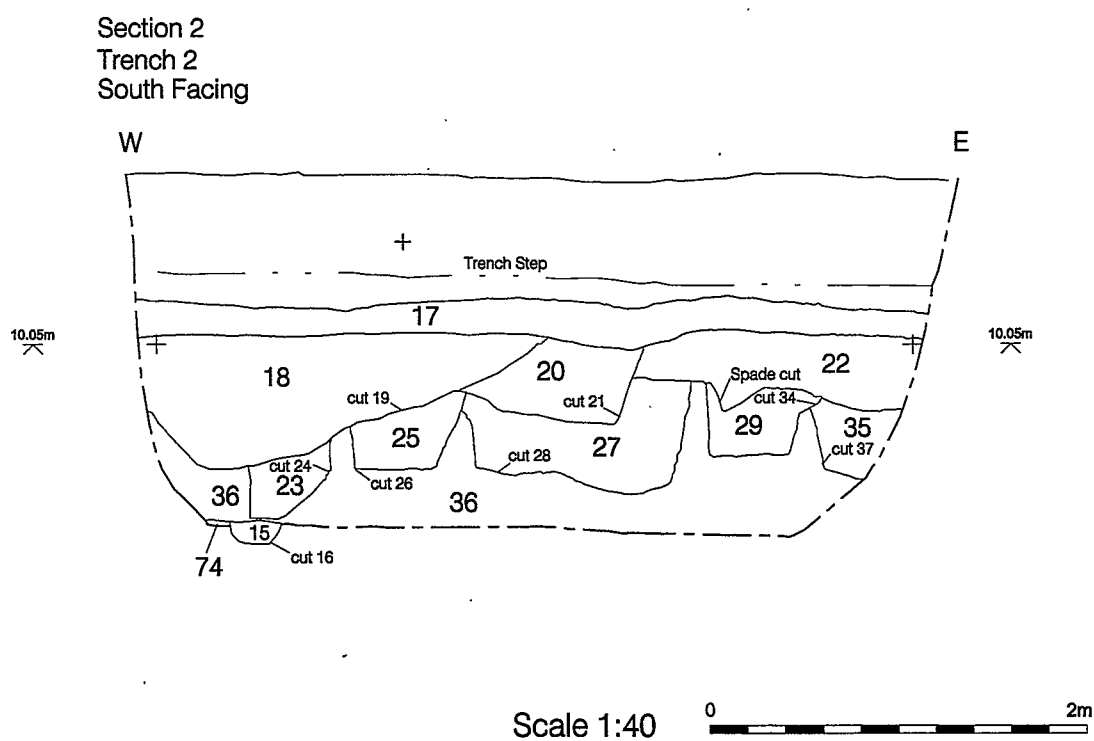
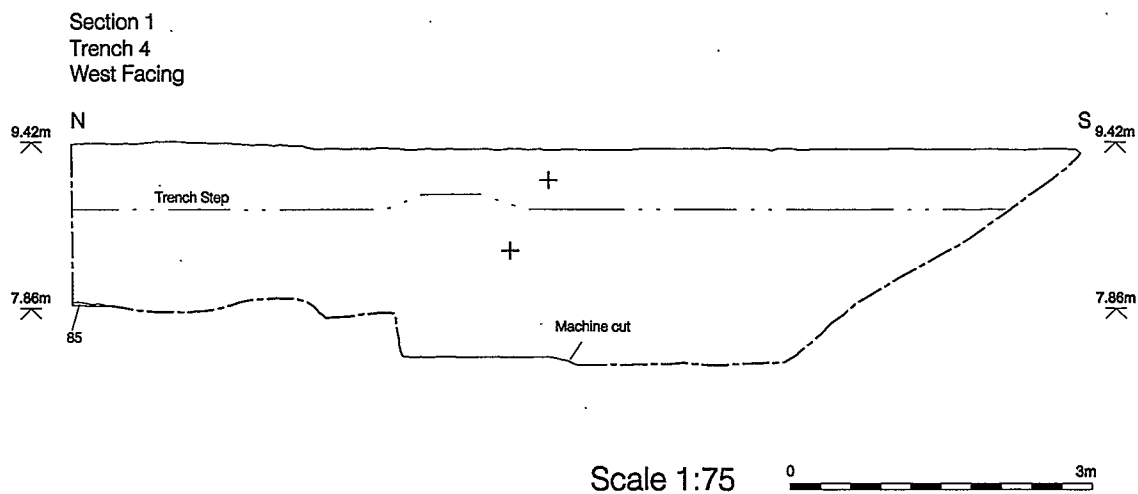
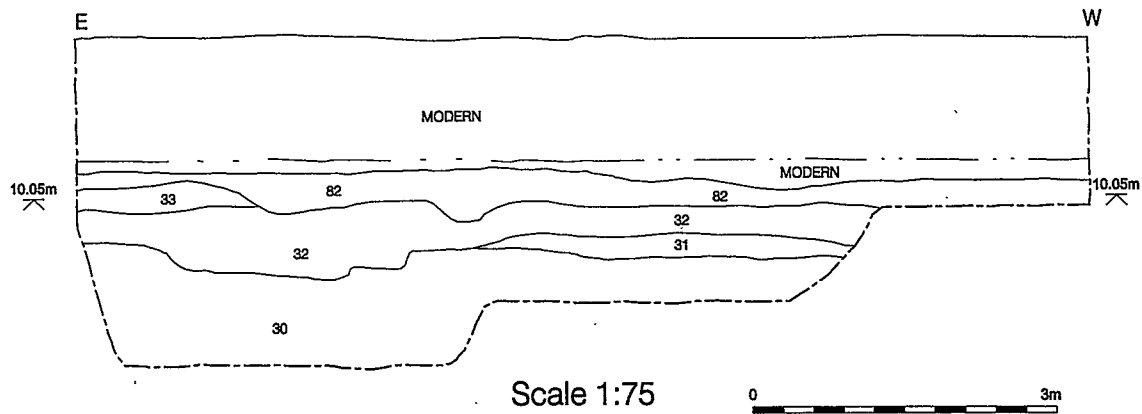
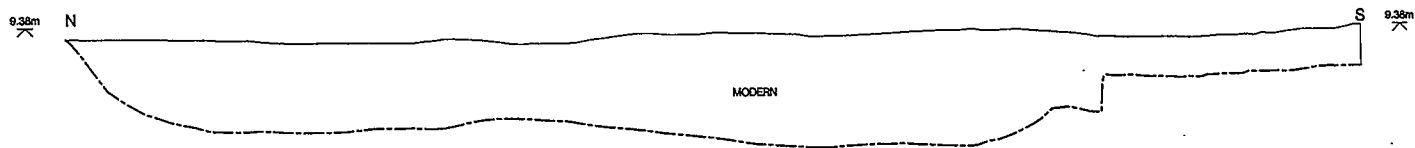


Figure 8  
Sections 1 & 2

Section 3  
Trench 3  
North Facing



Section 4  
Trench 5  
West Facing



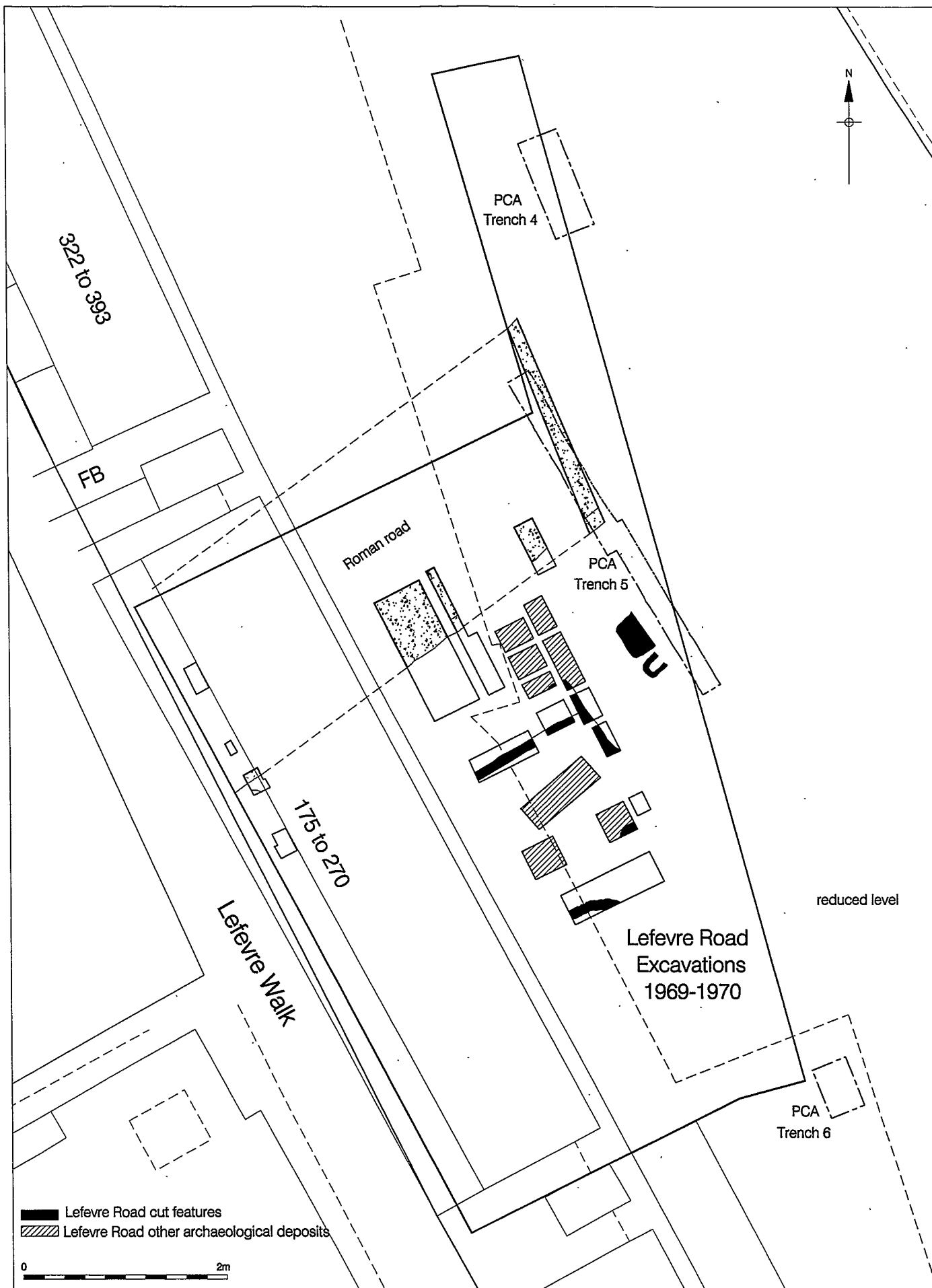
Section 6  
Trench 5  
West Facing



Figure 9  
Sections 3 - 6

## 8 TRENCH SUMMARY

- 8.1 **Trench 1:** No investigation was possible in this trench because live services were encountered. There was not room to reposition the trench or support the services. However archaeological strata was revealed in engineering test pits at this location in 1994 and are anticipated across the area.
- 8.2 **Trench 2:** A brickearth deposit was recorded at the base of this trench, into which were cut Romano-British features. These included postholes, pits, a possible gully, a ditch and what may have been a clay wall. Truncating these features were two Medieval pits. All of these features were sealed by a layer of redeposited brickearth, which in turn was cut by five Post-Medieval linear channels running north-south. These were sealed by a layer of colluvium, into which were cut some modern pits. Over this was a layer of water deposited silt, covered by modern make-up.
- 8.3 **Trench 3:** Natural gravels were seen at the base of this trench, overlain with brickearth. Sealing this was a layer of late Post-Medieval colluvium, followed by a silt layer deposited by standing water. Modern makeup layers completed the stratigraphy in this trench.
- 8.4 **Trench 4:** Revealed in this trench were natural gravels overlain by sands. Heavy disturbance in this area meant that modern makeup layers and intrusions sealed the natural sands.
- 8.5 **Trench 5:** This trench revealed the same sequence of natural and modern deposition as Trench 4. No evidence of the Roman London to Colchester Road were revealed.
- 8.6 **Trench 6:** Natural gravels were seen at the base of this trench. These were cut by two intercutting pits, from which pottery in the fill suggested a Post-Medieval date. Sealing this was a layer of late Post-Medieval colluvium, followed by a silt layer deposited by standing water. This was sealed by modern make-up layers. It should be noted that excavations immediately to the north of this trench recorded Roman features cutting into the natural strata (see fig 10).



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Figure 10  
Trench 6 in relation to  
1969 Lefevre Road excavations  
1:500



## 9 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 9.1 DISCUSSION

- 9.1.1 The evaluation at Lefevre Walk Phase 3 revealed evidence for a geological sequence comparable with those elsewhere in Old Ford and indeed in the floodplain of the River Lea.
- 9.1.2 The natural gravel deposits were encountered at levels between 8.97m OD and 7.78m OD. These heights represented a drop in height from south to north across the Phase 3 area. There was also a fall from west to east, perhaps due to the modern truncations through Yallop's Yard or the natural bank of the River Lea floodplain. The natural sand deposits were encountered at levels between 8.30m OD and 8.05m OD
- 9.1.3 Brickearth overlying the natural sands and gravels was seen at levels between 9.60m OD and 8.11m OD.
- 9.1.4 Archaeological features were excavated cutting into this brickearth layer. They consisted of an early phase of postholes and pits with no obvious function.
- 9.1.5 The next phase of features included a number of double postholes possibly on a linear alignment. These ran from the northwest edge of Trench 2 in a southeastern direction. Another double posthole on the southern edge of Trench 2 suggested that the line of postholes may have returned in a southwesterly direction. On the eastern edge of Trench 2 were two post pits which may have been related to a deposit of clay in the northwest corner of the trench, which appeared to be a wall. An occupation layer was investigated on the west side of this deposit. The presence of nine postholes, two postpits, a possible clay wall and surface in a relatively small area would suggest the presence of a structure. The line of postholes may have been a boundary to the structure; however a later truncation makes a relationship between these features impossible to establish. Artefacts recovered from several of these features suggest a similar date range of between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD.
- 9.1.6 In the northwest corner of Trench 2 a ditch containing 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD pottery truncated the wall, several postholes and a postpit (see 9.1.5). This ditch may have defined another property boundary or perhaps redefined the edge shown by some of the earlier postholes.
- 9.1.7 The Phase 3 evaluation revealed no evidence for survival of the Roman London (*Londinium*) to Colchester (*Camulodunum*) road which had been excavated during

Phase I of the development, to the west of Lefevre Walk (LEK95)<sup>16</sup> In the Phase 3 evaluation, Trench 5 had been located to expose any of this road that may survive as it dropped down into the River Lea floodplain. However, investigation in Yallop's Yard showed that modern truncation had removed any trace of human activity from Trenches 4 and 5.

- 9.1.8 Cut into the same brickearth layer as the Phase 4 features (see 9.1.4-6) were two Medieval pits, although these were probably cut from higher up and subsequently truncated by Post-Medieval features.
- 9.1.9 The Medieval features were sealed by a layer of redeposited brickearth, occurring between levels of 9.85m OD and 9.70m OD.
- 9.1.10 A series of 18th to 19th century linear cuts and pits were seen in two trenches. The linear cuts in Trench 2 may represent a series of drainage gullies or channels associated with the contemporary agricultural land-use in this area as recorded during the Phase 2 investigations<sup>17</sup>
- 9.1.11 Three trenches revealed a layer of possible colluvium sealing the linear features (see 9.1.9). This layer was seen between heights of 10.08m OD and 9.34m OD.
- 9.1.12 Modern pits were seen cutting into the colluvium, which were then sealed by a layer deposited by standing water. This layer occurred between levels of 10.31m OD and 9.52m OD.

## 9.2 CONCLUSIONS

- 9.2.1 The evaluation has confirmed that no archaeological strata survives within the former Yallop's Yard. These areas have been reduced over the last 150 years. However, where the ground has remained untruncated it is reasonable to assume that archaeological strata and features will survive. This is certainly the case in Trenches 1 to 3 at the north of the site, and may be so in the vicinity of Trench 6. Sheldon<sup>18</sup> recorded a variety of features immediately to the north of Trench 6 in 1969 and similar features may be anticipated.
- 9.2.2 The Lefevre Walk Phase 3 evaluation has given further confirmation to the natural / alluvial sequence in the River Lea floodplain. Despite the prevalence of Prehistoric

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<sup>16</sup> Taylor-Wilson, R, 1996

<sup>17</sup> Douglas, A, 1999

activity locally, there has been no evidence for such land-use in this area, although modern truncation might explain its absence.

- 9.2.3 The evaluation has produced evidence of human activity in the early - mid Roman period, when there was possibly a structure and property boundary in the northern area of the study. Evidence was also produced for Medieval pitting and possible Post-Medieval drainage channels, thereby corroborating the excavation work completed on the nearby Lefevre Walk Estate Phase II Excavations (PNL 98).
- 9.2.4 The lack of any trace of the Roman London (*Londinium*) to Colchester (*Camulodunum*) road would suggest that modern activity has completely removed its presence at the lower level in Yallop's Yard. Therefore no further work would be recommended at this lower level.
- 9.2.5 The area at the north of the Phase 3 evaluation has shown a concentration of features of Romano-British, Medieval and Post-Medieval dates. Therefore this area would seem worthy of further investigation.

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<sup>18</sup> Sheldon, H, 1971

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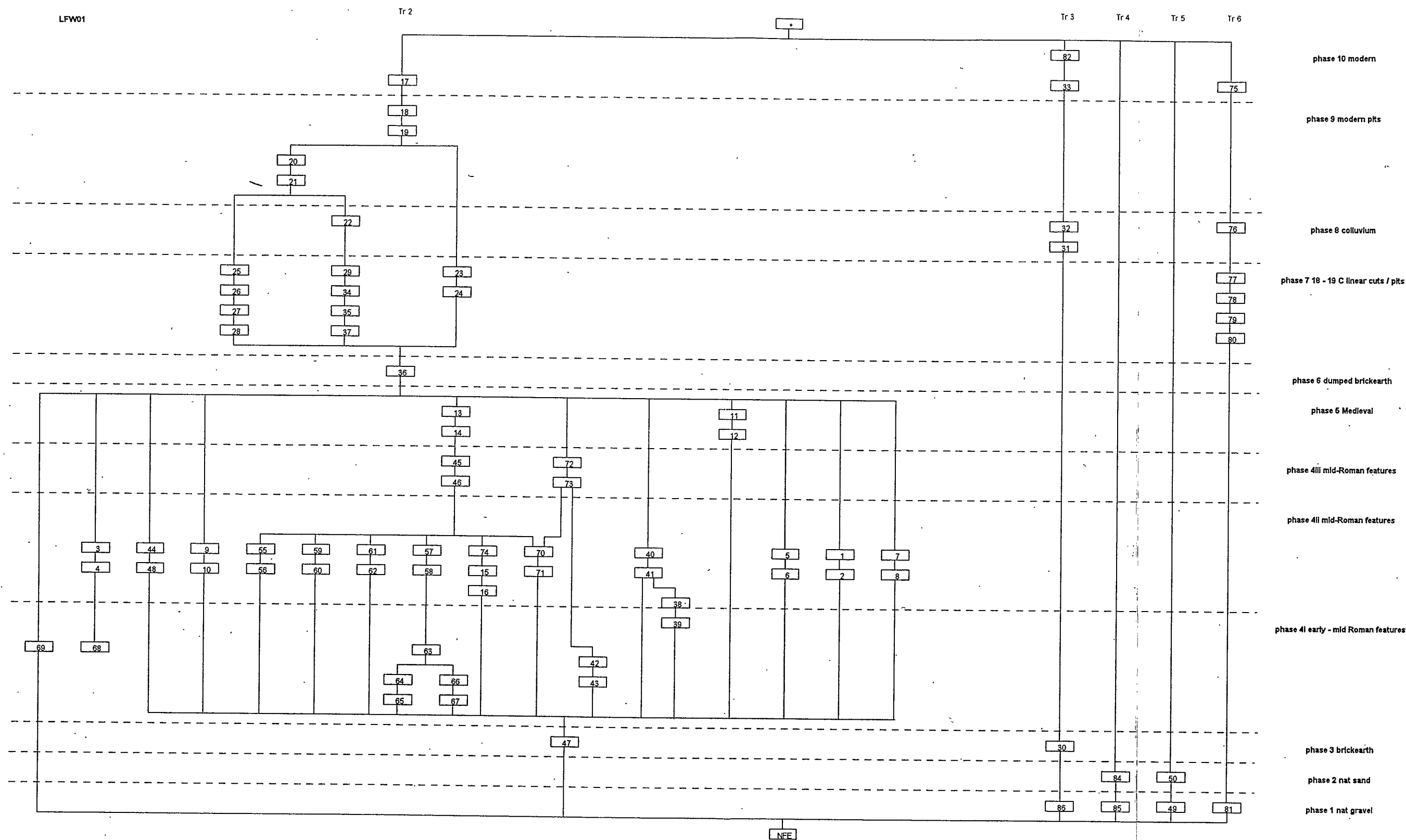
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## **11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 11.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Luke Riley of Circle 33 Housing Trust for kindly funding the work. Thanks also to Gursh Panesar of Willmott Dixon and to Nick Truckle of English Heritage.
- 11.2 The author would like to thank Gary Brown who was the Project Manager; Dave Dobson for the logistics; Richard Young for the photography; Max Houseago for the illustrations; Malcolm Lyne and Chris Jarrett for dating the pottery. Thanks are also due to the site staff: Becky Lythe, Ashley Pooley, Chris Rees, Jo Taylor and Ken Yandall.



LFW01



SPOT-DATING OF THE POTTERY FROM LEFEVRE WALK (LFW 01)

by

Malcolm Lyne

Catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	Date-range	No of sherds	Weight in gm
Tr.2 + Cleaning layer					
	SAND			1	2
	SESH	Closed	c.50-150	1	8
	Earthenware				
		Flowerpot	19th/20th c.	1	4
	Total			3	14 gm.
Tr.4 +					
	OXRC	Open	c.240-400	1	.2 gm.
Tr.5 +					
	AHFA	Closed	c.270-400+	1	12
	ERMS	Jar	c.50-80.	1	16
	SAND	Jar		1	6
	?SAXO-NORMAN		c.900-1150	1	14
	Coarse Border Ware		c.1200-1350	1	10
	Total			5	58 gm.
Tr.6 +					
	Earthenware		18th-19th c.	6	96 gm.
1.					
	HWB	Closed	c.40-100	1	6
	HWC	Closed	c.70-180	1	2
	SAND	Closed		1	2
	SESH		c.50-150	1	6
	Total			4	16 gm.
Date. c.AD.50-150					
3					
	SAND	Jar		1	2
	SESH	Closed	c.50-150	1	4
	Total			2	6 gm.
5.					
	GROG	Closed	c.L.I.A.-50	3	48
	SESH	Jar	c.50-150	1	2
	Total			4	50 gm.
Date. c.Late Iron Age - AD.50					
45.					
	AHSU	Cl.1A	c.50-140	1	20
	HWC	Closed	c.70-180	1	4
	SAMLZ	DR18/31	c.120-150	1	2
	Total			3	26 gm.

Date. c.AD.120-150

63

HWC	Beaker	c.70-180	1	2
SAND	Jar	1st-2nd c.	1	6
VRW	Closed	c.50-200	2	18
Total			4	26 gm.

## LFW 01 - POTTERY ASSESSMENT

### Quantity

Total quantity of boxes:

Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery: 1

### Methodology

The Museum of London Archaeology Specialist Services pottery type codes has been used to classify the ceramics. Pottery was quantified for each context, by fabric and vessel shape using sherd counts (with fresh breaks discounted), and the information entered onto a database, Dbase V.

Table 1 lists the contexts containing pottery, with the date range specifying the earliest and latest date of manufacture for the post-Roman pottery-types present in each context. The latest dated fabric refers to the most recently produced pottery type present in the context.

A data base report as part of the archive provides a pottery spot dating list with descriptions of the forms in the pottery fabrics present, ordered by context.

Context	Date range	Latest dated fabric	Suggested date of Deposition
[11]	1270-1550	1480-1550	late 15th early 16th century
[13]	1050-1400	1270-1400	late 13th – early 14th century

Table 1. Contexts with date range of Post-Roman present and the latest dated fabric to occur in the context.

**Condition of pottery:** The Post-Roman pottery occurred as small to large sherds with no complete vessels present and was not abraded.

**General characteristics/comments:** The pottery dated from the early medieval period to the late 15th-early 16th century. There were a total of 12 fragments of pottery from 2 contexts.

Deposit [13] produced two sherds of Essex early iron-rich ware (EXIR) dated 1050-1150, a sherd of Kingston ware (KING), dated 1270-1350, a glazed sherd of a jug in Colchester ware (COLW), dated 1250-1400, and a sherd of a Mill Green jug, dated 1270-1350 and its coarse version (MG COAR), dated 1270-1400, possibly from a bowl. The pottery in this deposit would indicate a deposition date of c.1270-1350.

Deposit [11] produced a single sherd of a Coarse Border ware vessel, dated 1270-1500 and the bases of two large rounded jugs, present as Late London slipware (LLSL), dated 1400-1500, Cheam redware, dated 1480-1550, the latter indicating the deposition date for the context. A sherd of residual Roman pottery was also present in deposit [13].

### Potential and Recommendations for further work:

The pottery from the archaeological evaluation at LFW 01 was a small assemblage, with the potential to help date the stratigraphic sequence of the site. Although late 13th to early 14th century dated pottery is present on the site in deposit [13], it is the late 15th-early 16th century pottery present in deposit [11], which is of interest as pottery of this date is relatively rare. At present, this pottery assemblage is small and not useful for further analysis. However, should a subsequent excavation on the site produce 15th and early 16th century pottery it would be of interest to compare this pottery to other assemblages from North East London, to that of London assemblages to the west, Colchester to the east and the Harlow products from the north. At present the late medieval redwares present in North East London, appear to be different from those in the city of London and Colchester. It may be worth while doing chemical analysis of fabrics for these pottery types in order to try and pin point where pottery was being produced at this time, such as Harlow or perhaps the areas of Essex where Mill Green was being produced.

## APPENDIX 3

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

CONTEXT [1] INTERPRETATION	dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.1m thick fill of cut [2]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [2] INTERPRETATION	E-W linear cut, 0.34m x 0.74m, 0.1m deep gully cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [3] INTERPRETATION	dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.12m thick fill of posthole [4]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [4] INTERPRETATION	sub-rectangular cut, 0.5m x 0.26m, 0.12m deep double posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [5] INTERPRETATION	dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.5m thick fill of cut [6]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [6] INTERPRETATION	sub-circular cut, 0.65m x 0.57m, 0.5m deep postpit cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [7] INTERPRETATION	dark orange brown sandy silt, 0.09m thick fill of [8]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [8] INTERPRETATION	rectangular cut, 0.32m x 0.48m, 0.09m deep cut of uncertain function	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [9] INTERPRETATION	dark brown sandy silt, 0.06m thick fill of [10]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [10] INTERPRETATION	sub-circular cut, 0.36m x 0.34m, 0.06m deep posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [11] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey sandy clayey silt, 0.45m thick fill of [12]	Trench 2	Phase 5
CONTEXT [12] INTERPRETATION	ovoid cut, 1.1m x 0.8m, 0.45m deep pitcut	Trench 2	Phase 5
CONTEXT [13] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey sandy silt, 0.7m thick fill of [14]	Trench 2	Phase 5
CONTEXT [14] INTERPRETATION	ovoid cut, 0.9m x 0.75m, 0.7m deep pitcut	Trench 2	Phase 5
CONTEXT [15] INTERPRETATION	light brownish yellow sandy silty clay, 0.12m thick fill of [16]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [16] INTERPRETATION	rectilinear cut, 0.3 x 0.4m, 0.5m deep linear cut, wall construction cut?	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [17] INTERPRETATION	dark grey black silty sand, 0.22m thick standing water layer	Trench 2	Phase 10
CONTEXT [18] INTERPRETATION	light greyish brown silty sand, 0.71m thick fill of [19]	Trench 2	Phase 9
CONTEXT [19] INTERPRETATION	cut seen in section, 2.07m x 0.71m deep pitcut	Trench 2	Phase 9
CONTEXT [20] INTERPRETATION	light greyish brown sandy silt, 0.46m thick fill of [21]	Trench 2	Phase 9
CONTEXT [21] INTERPRETATION	cut seen in section, 0.97m x 0.46m deep pit cut	Trench 2	Phase 9
CONTEXT [22] INTERPRETATION	light greyish brown sandy silt, 0.40m thick colluvial layer	Trench 2	Phase 8
CONTEXT [23] INTERPRETATION	light greyish brown sandy silt, 0.41m thick fill of [24]	Trench 2	Phase 7

CONTEXT [24] INTERPRETATION	cut seen in section (linear), 0.39m x 0.41m deep channel cut	Trench 2	Phase 7
CONTEXT [25] INTERPRETATION	light greyish brown sandy silt, 0.42m thick fill of [26]	Trench 2	Phase 7
CONTEXT [26] INTERPRETATION	cut seen in section (linear), 0.62m x 0.42m deep channel cut	Trench 2	Phase 7
CONTEXT [27] INTERPRETATION	light brownish grey coarse sand gravel, 0.62m thick fill of [28]	Trench 2	Phase 7
CONTEXT [28] INTERPRETATION	cut seen in section (linear), 1.21m x 0.62m deep channel cut	Trench 2	Phase 7
CONTEXT [29] INTERPRETATION	light greyish brown coarse sand / sandy silt fill of [34]	Trench 2	Phase 7
CONTEXT [30] INTERPRETATION	mid orange silty sand, 1.2m thick brickearth	Trench 3	Phase 3
CONTEXT [31] INTERPRETATION	light brown sandy silt, 0.25m thick colluvial layer	Trench 3	Phase 8
CONTEXT [32] INTERPRETATION	mid brown sandy silt, 0.8m thick colluvial layer	Trench 3	Phase 8
CONTEXT [33] INTERPRETATION	dark grey black sandy silt, 0.3m thick standing water deposit	Trench 3	Phase 10
CONTEXT [34] INTERPRETATION	cut seen in section (linear), 0.61m x 0.39m deep channel cut	Trench 2	Phase 7
CONTEXT [35] INTERPRETATION	light greyish brown coarse sand / sandy silt fill of [37]	Trench 2	Phase 7
CONTEXT [36] INTERPRETATION	mid greyish brown sandy silt, 0.8m thick redeposited brickearth	Trench 2	Phase 6
CONTEXT [37] INTERPRETATION	cut seen in section (linear), 0.49m x 0.43m deep channel cut	Trench 2	Phase 7
CONTEXT [38] INTERPRETATION	dark orange brown sandy silt, 0.14m thick fill of [39]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [39] INTERPRETATION	circular cut, 0.34m x 0.32m, 0.14m deep post hole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [40] INTERPRETATION	dark orange brown sandy silt, 0.13m thick fill of [41]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [41] INTERPRETATION	circular cut, 0.32m x 0.26m, 0.13m deep posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [42] INTERPRETATION	dark orange brown sandy silt, 0.21m thick fill of [43]	Trench 2	Phase 4i
CONTEXT [43] INTERPRETATION	indeterminate shape, 1.4m x 0.54m, 0.21m deep cut of unknown function	Trench 2	Phase 4i
CONTEXT [44] INTERPRETATION	blackish dark brown sandy silt, 0.07m thick fill of [48]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [45] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey sandy silt, 0.8m thick fill of [46]	Trench 2	Phase 4iii
CONTEXT [46] INTERPRETATION	linear cut, 0.8m x 1.9m, 0.8m deep ditch cut	Trench 2	Phase 4iii
CONTEXT [47] INTERPRETATION	light yellowish brown clayey sandy silt, 1.16m thick as seen brickearth	Trench 2	Phase 3
CONTEXT [48] INTERPRETATION	sub-ovular cut, 0.56m x 0.28m, 0.07m deep double posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii



CONTEXT [49] INTERPRETATION	orange mid brown gravel, not excavated natural gravel	Trench 5	Phase 1
CONTEXT [50] INTERPRETATION	light yellow sand, not excavated natural sand	Trench 5	Phase 2
CONTEXT [51] INTERPRETATION	void void	Trench	Phase
CONTEXT [52] INTERPRETATION	void void	Trench	Phase
CONTEXT [53] INTERPRETATION	void void	Trench	Phase
CONTEXT [54] INTERPRETATION	void void	Trench	Phase
CONTEXT [55] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey sandy clayey silt, 0.2m thick fill of [56]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [56] INTERPRETATION	circular cut, 0.16m x 0.2m, 0.2m deep posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [57] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey sandy clayey silt, 0.15m thick fill of [58]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [58] INTERPRETATION	circular cut, 0.2m x 0.24m, 0.15m deep posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [59] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey clayey silt, 0.1m thick fill of [60]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [60] INTERPRETATION	square cut, 0.2m x 0.14m, 0.1m deep posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [61] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey silty clay, 0.3m thick fill of [62]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [62] INTERPRETATION	circular cut, 0.2m x 0.1m, 0.3m deep posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [63] INTERPRETATION	mid greyish brown sandy silt, 0.05m thick layer	Trench 2	Phase 4i
CONTEXT [64] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey sandy silty clay, 0.3m thick fill of [65]	Trench 2	Phase 4i
CONTEXT [65] INTERPRETATION	circular cut, 0.2m x 0.25m, 0.3m deep posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4i
CONTEXT [66] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey sandy clayey silt, 0.3m thick fill of [67]	Trench 2	Phase 4i
CONTEXT [67] INTERPRETATION	circular cut, 0.14m x 0.16m, 0.3m deep posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4i
CONTEXT [68] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey clayey silt, not excavated unexcavated pitcut?	Trench 2	Phase 4i
CONTEXT [69] INTERPRETATION	mid greyish brown sandy silt, not excavated unexcavated pitcut	Trench 2	Phase 4i
CONTEXT [70] INTERPRETATION	mid greyish brown sandy silt, 0.11m thick fill of [71]	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [71] INTERPRETATION	ovoid cut, 0.78m x 0.94m, 0.11m deep posthole cut	Trench 2	Phase 4ii
CONTEXT [72] INTERPRETATION	mid brownish grey sandy silt, 0.23m thick fill of [73]	Trench 2	Phase 4iii
CONTEXT [73] INTERPRETATION	square cut, 0.4m x 0.38m, 0.23m deep pitcut	Trench 2	Phase 4iii

<b>CONTEXT [74] INTERPRETATION</b>	mid red brown sandy silty clay, not excavated occupation layer	<b>Trench 2</b>	<b>Phase 4ii</b>
<b>CONTEXT [75] INTERPRETATION</b>	blackish dark grey sandy silt, 0.25m thick standing water deposit	<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Phase 10</b>
<b>CONTEXT [76] INTERPRETATION</b>	dark brown sandy silt, 0.15m thick colluvial layer	<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Phase 8</b>
<b>CONTEXT [77] INTERPRETATION</b>	dark brown sandy silt, 1m thick fill of [78]	<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Phase 7</b>
<b>CONTEXT [78] INTERPRETATION</b>	cut seen in section, 1m deep pitcut	<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Phase 7</b>
<b>CONTEXT [79] INTERPRETATION</b>	yellowish brown sandy gravel, 0.65m thick fill of [80]	<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Phase 7</b>
<b>CONTEXT [80] INTERPRETATION</b>	cut seen in section, 0.65m deep pitcut	<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Phase 7</b>
<b>CONTEXT [81] INTERPRETATION</b>	red brownish yellow gravel coarse sand, 0.95m thick natural gravel	<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Phase 1</b>
<b>CONTEXT [82] INTERPRETATION</b>	dark brown grey sandy silt, 0.5m thick dump layer	<b>Trench 3</b>	<b>Phase 10</b>
<b>CONTEXT [83] INTERPRETATION</b>	void void	<b>Trench</b>	<b>Phase</b>
<b>CONTEXT [84] INTERPRETATION</b>	light yellowish brown coarse sand, 0.4m thick natural sand	<b>Trench 4</b>	<b>Phase 2</b>
<b>CONTEXT [85] INTERPRETATION</b>	yellowish red brown coarse flint, coarse sand, pebbles, 0.55m thick natural gravels	<b>Trench 4</b>	<b>Phase 1</b>
<b>CONTEXT [86] INTERPRETATION</b>	brownish yellow gravel coarse sand, not excavated natural gravel, sand	<b>Trench 3</b>	<b>Phase 1</b>

## APPENDIX 4

### RCHME SMR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

#### 1. TYPE OF RECORDING

Evaluation✓

Excavation

Watching brief

Other (please specify)

#### 2. LOCATION

Borough: London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Site address: Lefevre Walk Estate Phase 3, Parnell Road, Bow, London E3

Site name: Lefevre Walk Phase 3

Site code: LFW01

Nat. Grid Refs.:

Centre of site: TQ 3702 8369

Limits of site: a)A102 (M)

b)Old Ford Road

c)Lefevre Walk

d)Tredegar Road / Yallop's Yard

#### 3. ORGANISATION

Name of archaeological unit/ company/ society: Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.

Address: Unit 54, Brockley Cross Business Centre, 96, Endwell Road, Brockley, SE4 2PD.

Site director/ supervisor: Mark Bagwell.

Project manager: Gary Brown

Funded by: Circle 33 Housing Trust / The Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust

#### **4. DURATION**

Date fieldwork started: 4.6.2001

Date finished: 14.6.2001

Field work previously notified?

YES / NO

Fieldwork will continue?

YES/ NO/ NOT KNOWN

#### **5. PERIODS REPRESENTED**

Palaeolithic

Roman ≤

Mesolithic

Saxon (pre-AD 1066)

Neolithic

Medieval (AD 1066 –1485) ≤

Bronze Age

Post-Medieval ≤

Prehistoric (Iron Age)

Unknown

**6. PERIOD SUMMARIES.** Use headings for each period (Roman; Medieval; etc.), and continue on additional sheets as necessary.

##### **Roman**

In the north side of the site a range of postholes, possibly on a linear alignment, and the remains of a possible clay wall and occupation layer were recorded. This activity has been dated to the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD from the artefacts recovered.

##### **Medieval**

Two pits containing Medieval pottery were recorded in the north of the site. A layer of redeposited brickearth sealed these features.

##### **Post-Medieval**

A series of linear channels, possibly associated with agriculture, were recorded in the north of the site.

Two pits from the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century were recorded in the west of the site.

These features were sealed by a layer of colluvium, which was recorded in the north and west of the site.

Possible 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century features cut into the colluvium in the north and west of the site.  
These were sealed by a layer of silt which was deposited by standing water.

Modern layers were recorded across the whole area of the evaluation.

**7. NATURAL.** (state if not observed; please DO NOT LEAVE BLANK)

Type: Brickearth overlying sand and gravel

Height above Ordnance Datum: between 9.27m OD and 9.60m OD

**8. LOCATION OF ARCHIVES.**

a) Please indicate those categories still in your possession:

Notes ✓

Plans ✓

Photos ✓

Negatives ✓

Slides ✓

Correspondence ✓

Manuscripts (unpub. reports etc.) ✓

b) All/~~some records have been~~/ will be deposited in the following museum/ records office etc.  
: Museum of London

c) Approximate year of transfer: 2001

d) Location of any copies:

e) Has a security copy of the archive been made?      ~~YES~~/ NO

If not, do you wish RCHME to consider microfilming?      ~~YES~~/NO

**9. LOCATION OF FINDS.**

a) In your possession? ✓

b) All / ~~some finds have been~~/ will be deposited with the following museum / ~~other body~~:  
Museum of London

c) Approximate year of transfer: 2001

**10. BIBLIOGRAPHY.**

Mayo, Chris, 2001, An Archaeological Evaluation at Lefevre Walk Phase III, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Unpublished Report, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited.

**SIGNED:**

**DATE: 28/6/2001**

**NAME** (Block capitals):CHRIS MAYO

Please return completed form to The Greater London Sites and Monuments Record, English Heritage London Region, 23 Savile Row, London W1X 1AB.  
Tel. 0171 973 3779 (direct dial)