

**CHELSEA COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN,
MILLBANK**

WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

TQ 3025 7850

July 2004

National Grid Reference: TQ 3025 7850

Site Code: ATT 01

On behalf of: The London Institute
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Millbank
London SW1P 4RJ

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**Archaeological
Watching Brief
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**CHELSEA COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN,
MILLBANK, CITY OF WESTMINSTER, LONDON SW1**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
REPORT**

1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was conducted between October 2003 to January 2004 during refurbishment and redevelopment of the Royal Army Medical College, Millbank, City of Westminster, London for the Chelsea College of Art and Design. The existing college buildings are constructed over the remains of the 19th century Millbank Penitentiary. The objectives of the watching brief were to make a full record of any remains of the Penitentiary that were revealed and to investigate any underlying alluvial and peat deposits to ascertain whether or not there is evidence for prehistoric activity on the site.

During groundworks and piling parts of the prison's concrete raft and the moat which ran around the outside of the large prison walls were uncovered and recorded.

No evidence was found for any significant archaeological remains in the peat or alluvial deposits.

2 INTRODUCTION (See Figure 2)

- 2.1 The site of the former Royal Army Medical College occupies an area of approximately 1.28 hectares and is situated to the immediate north of the Conservation Area known as Millbank, on the north bank of the Thames, in the City of Westminster (NGR: TQ 3025 7850). To the north Atterbury Street separates the site from the Tate Gallery. The north-east of the site fronts on to the Thames Path. This overlooks the Thames to the south at a point between Vauxhall and Lambeth Bridges.

The site is currently occupied by a series of listed buildings which were part of the Royal Army Medical College. The main listed buildings consist of the Commandant's House and Officers' Mess, the Royal Army Medical College itself, Millbank Barracks (West), and Millbank Barracks (North), the former married quarters. An open courtyard is situated just to the west of the centre of the site. Various ancillary buildings have recently been demolished ahead of the redevelopment.

- 2.2 Lend Lease Real Estate Solutions are redeveloping the site to create a new campus for the Chelsea College of Art and Design. The development is being

undertaken in two phases. The first phase will involve the construction of a series of new buildings and alterations to and refurbishment of the listed structures. The second phase of work is still to be finalized, and will involve the redevelopment of the main courtyard area.

- 2.3 An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (AOC Archaeology, 2001) was produced before a planning application was made after which AOC Archaeology undertook a watching brief on geotechnical investigations across the site (AOC Archaeology, 2002).

This report combines the results from the various watching briefs that were carried out across the site by AOC Archaeology.

- 2.4 Planning permission (0109777FULL) and listed building consent (0109778LBC) for this development were granted on 18 April 2002 and 31 May 2002 respectively. Due to the archaeological potential for the site, the condition no. 15 was attached to the planning permission by the City of Westminster on the recommendation of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS):

Condition No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme for investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The archaeological work and subsequent development shall only take place in accordance with the written scheme approved pursuant to this condition.

Reason: Important archaeological remains may exist on this site. Accordingly the planning authority wishes to secure the provision of archaeological investigation and the subsequent recording of the remains prior to development, in accordance with the guidance and model condition set out in PPG16.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The following summary is based on information in the *Archaeological Desk Based Assessment* (AOC Archaeology, 2001).

Prehistoric (before c. AD 43)

The earliest prehistoric discoveries in the immediate area have been a flint axe and a Neolithic stone axe, both of which were recovered from the Thames. However, the majority of prehistoric objects recovered from the Thames are Bronze Age weapons, thought to have been deliberately deposited in the water as votive offerings. Two such weapons, a leaf-shaped sword and a rapier, have been

found in the river just off Millbank and one leaf-shaped sword was also found during the construction of the foundations for Millbank Prison. Whether this artefact represents a river offering or actual activity on the site of the prison is unclear.

During evaluation by AOC (Hulka 1998), subsequent watching brief investigation north of Atterbury Street and an open area excavation at the Tate Gallery, peat and alluvial deposits were revealed to exist as pockets or islands between foundations of both the prison and the Tate. When sampled and analysed these deposits revealed the presence of charcoal, which may be indicative of human activity in the vicinity of the site. Carbon 14 dating suggests that these date back to the Late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age periods.

Roman (c. AD 43 - 450)

The discovery of Roman date recorded nearest to the study area was a partially burned Antonine greyware vessel found between 1901 and 1910 “in Millbank Prison”. As the prison no longer existed at this time, it is more likely that it was recovered during the construction of the extensions to the Tate that were made at this time. A further possible indicator of Roman activity on the same site was an “orange-brown roof tile fragment” found in a layer of peat buried beneath 650mm of clay (Le Quesne 1997, 17).

Saxon (c. 450 - 1066)

Apart from an armlet found at Millbank and a coin found on the Thames foreshore, the only archaeological evidence for the Saxon period in the vicinity of the site comprises two swords, a brass Saxon example and an iron Viking specimen, found in the river off Vauxhall.

Medieval (c. 1066 - 1485)

Much of the area around the site, known as Tothill Fields until it was enclosed in the post-medieval period, remained damp and desolate waste-ground used for a range of fringe, and often illicit, activities. The excavations at 1-17 Elverton Street (just over 500m to the north-west of the site) illustrated this by their discovery of scores of animal burials, mostly horse but including a few dogs, dating to the 11th to 12th centuries (Miller 1994; Cowie 1996). The site would have remained within the Abbey’s extensive properties until the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII in the 16th century.

Post-Medieval (c. 1485 - modern)

Henry VIII’s reign was a period of great upheaval in Westminster. The Abbey’s property was all confiscated and found its way gradually into private hands. At the same time, Henry vacated Westminster Palace and moved north to Whitehall,

where he had confiscated Cardinal Wolsey's property, leaving the palace as the seat of government. These two changes quickly led to the transformation of the landscape of Westminster. By the 1640s Westminster had spread well south of Great Peter Street and Market Street, the future Horseferry Road, had been formed. William Stukeley recorded a star-fort approximately on site of the future Millbank Penitentiary. It should be pointed out that Stukeley is not always reliable in his observations and other maps do not show civil war defences there. No trace of it is visible in Rocque's map of 1746. His survey shows Millbank at an interesting stage of development, with those fields within 200-300m of the river drained and apparently in use either as water meadows or market gardens. It has been described as a lonely river road leading from Westminster to Chelsea through marshy ground and market gardens (Weinreb and Hibbert 1983, 534). The development of the Millbank area had started in the later 17th century with the construction of the mansion, which came to be known as Peterborough House halfway between the Tate and Horseferry Road. This and the land to the west and north of it came into the possession of Sir Thomas Grosvenor in 1732. The area of Millbank to the south of the Grosvenor estates, within which the site falls, was part of the estates of the Marquess of Salisbury. The only buildings within the Marquess' estate in 1746 were a group approximately in the position of the future Vauxhall Bridge, which seem to have formed the focus of a market garden, as well as a smallholding in the approximate location of the Millbank end of Ponsonby Place (possibly within the study area).

Horwood's map of 1799-1819 shows for the first time the new Millbank Prison. This massive building, which ultimately became a symbol of misery and despair, was born out of an ideological concern with reform and prisoners' welfare. The man responsible for the 'Panopticon' model upon which the prison was based was Jeremy Bentham. His concept was of a prison which would comprise 'a circular building, an iron cage, glazed, a glass lantern as large as Ranelagh, with the cells on the outer circumference', with a watching post in the middle, permitting all prisoners to be visible to their warders at all times. He even went so far as to invest £9,000 of his own money in the Millbank site in the 1790s. This initial scheme came to nothing but in 1811 a parliamentary committee picked up the idea once more, and construction began in 1812. The building was as huge as the idea was ambitious. The materials used were vast and will have left a substantial impact within the ground. A prison historian remarked that "hidden amongst its hundreds of cells, its length of corridor and passage, beneath its acres of roof, are, without exaggeration, miles of lead piping, hundreds of tons of iron, immense iron girders, gates in dozens, - some of wrought iron, some of cast, - flagstones without end, shiploads of timber, millions of bricks. If ever the old place comes to be pulled down, the anxious enquirer may perhaps understand why it was that it cost half a million of money" (Cieskowski, 1987: 39-40).

The original design for the Millbank prison was by William Williams in 1812. The design was adapted by Thomas Hardwick who began the construction of the prison, but resigned soon after. John Harvey took up the role, but was dismissed

in 1815, and Robert Smirke took over to complete the project. Smirke was the first British architect to use load-bearing foundations of lime concrete mixed in measured quantities, and he was certainly among the first to make consistent use of load-bearing cast-iron beams in domestic (as opposed to industrial) architecture (Crook and Phil 1965, 8).

Arthur Griffith's description of Millbank Prison (1875) gives a clear description of the prison's design:

"The Penitentiary; as it is still commonly called, looks on London maps like a six-pointed star fort. The central point is the chapel (circular building), with open space around it, covering more than half an acre. A narrow building, three storeys high, forming a hexagon, surrounds the chapel, with which it is connected at three points by covered passages. The chapel and the hexagon create the centre circle from which several bastions of the star-fort radiate. Each of these salients is a pentagon in shape, of which six lie at opposite sides of the hexagon. The Pentagons are the prisoners' cells, while the inner space in each is about two-thirds of an acre containing airing yards, grouped round a tall central watch-tower. The ends of the Pentagon join the hexagons at certain points called junctions. The whole space equals about seven acres and something more than that amount is included between them and the boundary wall, which takes shape of an octagon and beyond which was a moat is now filled up (Cieszkowski, 1986: 40).

The results of this arrangement were that a moderate degree of land within the prison boundaries remained undeveloped. , Part of Pentagon number five was constructed on the proposed development site, in the north-west corner, including approximately half of the central courtyard area for this pentagon. The octagonal boundary wall also runs across the site, and some remains of the moated area may be present. Further ancillary buildings, walls and yard areas are also likely to be present.

Archaeological evaluation, subsequent watching brief and excavation from 1997-2000 by AOC Archaeology was undertaken for the Centenary Development of the Tate Gallery. Details of the southern part of the hexagonally-shaped prison arrangement of the 19th century structural remains of Millbank Penitentiary were recorded. The foundation trenches and ground reduction related to the 1927 Tate Gallery extension had truncated these structures in places but significant structural remains were shown to exist across much of the site, extending between 3.33m OD and -1.71m OD. The remains took the form of brick walls and culverts set in trenches cut into the upper surface of expansive concrete foundation slabs. Internal partition walls, brick floors, and air conditioning were also recorded (AOC 1998).

The reforming aspirations of the prison were soon confounded by reality and in 1842 it became a transit point for prisoners being sent to the Antipodes. The

prison, having become an unhealthy environment and derelict, was abandoned in 1890. Its ultimate demolition was to make way for Henry Tate's National Gallery of Art in 1892.

The Royal Army Medical School, which was founded in 1860, was moved to the site in 1907. Its present Neo-Georgian premises were designed by Wood and Ainslie. It provided post-graduate training in military surgery, medicine, army pathology, military psychiatry, preventative medicine, general practice and dental sciences. The south-east corner of the Penitentiary formerly occupied the site, and the bollards can still be seen in the Mess courtyard, to which barges that brought convicts into the prison would have been tied (Weinreb & Hibbert, 1983: 683).

3.2 2002 Watching Brief Results

The conclusions from the watching brief on the geotechnical investigation are summarised below.

Archaeological observations made in November 2001 during geotechnical investigations, which included test pits and boreholes, revealed remains of the precinct wall of the Millbank Penitentiary. These remains took the form of red brick walls and floors supported on 'ring beam' type foundations of massed concrete. The structure survived from 0.75m below the current ground surface to a depth of 6.20m.

The remains comprised the foundations and below ground rooms or cells of Pentagon N^{os} 5 and 6 of the prison. The areas of greatest survival were shown to be the corner towers of which there were two in the central car park and one other on the western extreme of the site. The areas of poorest survival appear to be the long stretches of straight wall between these corner towers. In places these walls were entirely missing and only the foundation slab remained.

The foundation slab itself was shown by coring to be approximately 3.20m thick and, although the trenches did not extend sufficiently far to investigate the inside of the pentagons, it is thought that it measures approximately 14.0m wide. The foundation for Pentagon N^o 5 extends for a length of approximately 91.0m across the site whilst that for Pentagon N^o 6 extends for 69.0m. These prison foundations overlie Thames alluvial sequences.

4 AIMS OF INVESTIGATION

The aims of the watching were described in the Written Scheme of Investigation, (AOC Archaeology 2003) as:

- 4.1 To establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains within the development site.
- 4.2 To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological deposits and features and to establish the depositional sequence.
- 4.3 Specific aims will be:
 - To make a full record of the nature and location of any remains of the Millbank Penitentiary that are revealed;
 - To investigate any alluvial and peat upcast from the piling to ascertain whether or not there is evidence for prehistoric activity.
- 4.4 The final aim will be to make public the results of the archaeological work.”

5 WATCHING BRIEF STRATEGY

5.1 Research Design

A Written Scheme of Investigation was devised by AOC Archaeology (AOC 2003) on behalf of the client and approved by English Heritage on behalf of the London Borough of Westminster Planning Authority, which defined the procedures to be followed. This highlighted three separate construction elements and an area of ground reduction to be monitored under watching brief conditions.

Provision was made for a post-excavation assessment and proposals for analysis as detailed in Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991). Work was carried out to the standard specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1994) and Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork in London (English Heritage London Region 1998).

5.2 Methodology

The unique site code (ATT01) that was obtained from the Museum of London for the previous evaluation on site was reused for the watching brief.

The separate elements of the construction ran simultaneously between October 2003 and January 2004. There were also some extra areas of deep intrusional work, such as drainage and the reduction of basements. These, with consultation with Catherine Cavanagh of GLAAS, were also monitored under watching brief conditions.

Standard AOC Archaeology techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of written context records for each deposit, cut and structural element encountered, with scale plans and/or section drawings recorded where appropriate and a photographic record produced.

6 RESULTS (See Figure 2, 3+5)

• Circulation Space, Workshop and New Accommodation Building

The construction of the Circulation Space and Workshop Building involved a process of ground reduction, large scale piling to a depth of 30m metres through an imported piling mat and ground beams with trenching. The ground reduction for the piling mat did not impact on any archaeological horizons, uncovering only modern made ground.

The piling uprisings gave a better indication of the underlying stratigraphy. Due to the nature of the piling, no accurate depth measurements could be taken. The earliest deposit was a mid grey-brown alluvium with very frequent gravel inclusions (P/005). Above this was a very wet sand and gravel natural deposit, mid to light brown in colour (P/004). This was covered by a more mixed layer of green sand and grey clayey alluvium (P/003), followed by a very organic natural peat deposit, (P/002). No finds were recovered from the deposits. The highest deposit in the sequence was a layer of made ground where tiles and modern brick material were observed, (P/001). The stratigraphy remained the same across the whole area.

The third stage of works in the Circulation and Workshop area was ground reduction around the piles for the ground beams. This meant the excavation of 13 individual trench units, labelled A-M, to depths of 1m to 1.50m. These trenches revealed a large ditch running east-west across the site. The location of this ditch suggests that it is the remains of the Penitentiary moat. The ditch was seen in sections in ground beam trenches B, D, E, F, J, and K.

The ditch measured 3.50m width, and ran for approximately 90m. The total depth was not exposed and was only recorded to a depth of 0.75m. The ditch had been backfilled with various debris and 20th century soils. In section E the backfill was recorded as light grey silt, with frequent gravel inclusions and rubble. The only finds recovered from the ditch were some fragments of pottery and glass. The backfill of the ditch changes in the east. In section J it was recorded as a black ashy soil with a brown clay mix containing slag and tile. The ditch fill is again recorded as 3.50m wide and 0.80m deep.

Monitoring the peat deposits in this area was also required as part of the watching brief to check for any remaining archaeology or artefacts. No archaeology was uncovered in the peat deposits in any of the trenches.

- **College Building (Casket Building) (See Figure 2+5)**

The scheme of works in this area began with five small test pits looking for the old concrete foundations. All five were monitored and individually recorded.

CTP 1 (Casket Test Pit)

- 0.00 – 0.80m [001]. 19-20th century made ground/demolition rubble. Loose to moderately compact, Frequent inclusions of bricks, general building debris.
- 0.00 – 2.10m [002]. Hard-packed soiled concrete. Part of the previous building's foundations. Some brick work still attached.
- 0.80 – 1.20m [003]. Dark brown, woody organic silty peat deposit.
- 1.20 – 2.30m [004]. Bluey grey natural silt clay, occasional orange flecks and stone inclusions.

The concrete seen in testpit CTP1 does not belong to the prison but was part of the modern building that was previously on site. No finds were recovered from the peat.

CTP 2

- 0.00 – 0.06m [001]. Modern 20th century Brickwork. Only one course left remaining. Probably the kitchen floor.
- 0.06 – 1.90m [002]. A hard, solid concrete base. This base had wooden pile supports flush against it. The concrete continued below 1.90m, but the complete depth was not fully established.
- 1.90m+ [003]. Blueish grey silty clay, natural alluvium.

It is unclear as to whether the concrete in this test pit represents the concrete of the prison foundations as only one face was uncovered and not enough to given an accurate interpretation.

CTP 3

- 0.00 – 1.10m [001]. 19-20th century made ground/demolition rubble. Sandy clay, mid to dark brown with tile, brick and stone inclusions.
- 1.10 – 1.15m [002]. Dark brown, woody organic silty peat deposit.
- 1.20m+ Bluey grey natural silt clay, occasional orange flecks and stone inclusions.

The peat deposit in this test pit has been heavily truncated by 19th/20th century action. No finds were recovered.

CTP 4

- 0.00 – 1.10m [001]. 19-20th century made ground/demolition rubble. Loose to moderately compact, general building debris with frequent inclusions of bricks.
- 0.00 – 2.10m [002]. Hard packed soiled concrete. Part of the previous buildings foundations. Some brick work still attached.
- 0.80 – 1.20m [003]. Dark brown, woody organic silty peat deposit.
- 1.20 – 2.30m [004]. Blueish grey natural silt clay, occasional orange flecks and stone inclusions.

It is unclear as to whether the concrete in this testpit represents the concrete of the prison foundations as only one face was uncovered and not enough to give a conclusive interpretation.

CTP 5

- 0.00 – 1.40m [001]. 19-20th century made ground/demolition rubble. Loose to moderately compact, brown grey sandy silt with frequent inclusions of bricks, general building debris.
- 0.85 – 1.15m [002]. Remains of a red brick structure. The bricks form a truncated course of bricks attached to the concrete.
- 0.00 – 1.60m [003]. Hard-packed solid concrete. Seen in two sections and seems to contain separate phases of construction 0.33m deep each. This bulk of concrete sits over a second and much deeper deposit [007].
- 1.49 – 1.69m [004]. Dark brown, woody organic silty peat deposit. Redeposited natural peat.
- 1.69 – 2.30m [005]. Bluey grey natural silt clay, occasional orange flecks and stone inclusions.
- 2.30m+ [006]. Dark brown organic deposit, silty with wood inclusions.
- 1.49m+ [007]. A deep deposit of concrete. The complete depth was not observed.

It is unclear as to whether the concrete in this testpit represents the concrete of the prison foundations as only one face was uncovered and not enough to give an accurate interpretation.

The results of the previous geotechnical trenches and the work at the Tate Gallery indicate that the main complex of the prison lay to the north-west of where these testpits are located and so it is more likely that the concrete uncovered belongs to the current building onsite, perhaps extra ground support needed for the chimney directly west of the Casket Building areas.

As part of the continuing work in the Casket and College Building area there was a short phase of coring. This was used to cut back and remove some of the excess concrete. This provided column samples which showed the composition of the concrete was not the same as that recorded in both the geotechnical trenches and the Tate Gallery excavations.

No finds were recovered from the underlying peat.

- **Married Quarters** (See figure 2+4)

Four separate phases of construction work were carried out in this area.

Phase 1.

The first phase involved the digging of twenty 250mm diameter piles which were monitored and had their uprisings recorded.

The lowest deposit was mid greyish brown clay alluvium with gravel inclusions, (MQ/001). Above this was a very wet sand and gravel mix, light brown in colour, (MQ/002). This was covered by a green sandy natural deposit, (MQ/003) which in turn was covered by a brown silty organic deposit, (MQ004). The last deposit was modern brick and building rubble left as hardcore, (MQ005).

During the piling, concrete was discovered in four pile positions. The concrete was reached at depths of 2.50m and 3m below ground level. In two of the pile shafts the concrete was extracted showing its composition of large brick material, aggregate and flint nodules. The description of the concrete fits that which was recorded in the earlier excavations at Tate Britain, indicating that the remains may belong to the large concrete platform on which the penitentiary was built.

Phase 2.

The second phase of construction work took place within the Married Quarters basements. The redevelopment of the building and the new addition of the lift shaft required work to reinforce the original foundations. Ground reduction took place in three separate rooms in the basement (B1, B2 and B3). Basements B2 and B3 only revealed layers of redeposited dump material, containing post-medieval pottery, oyster shell, animal bone and tile fragments. This layer, B2/002, approximately 0.25m deep, overlay redeposited light sandy brown clay and the

natural silty peat deposit. The layers B3/002 and B3/003 were of similar composition and 0.70m and 0.35m deep respectively. These layers and those from basement B2 appear to be dump layers, possibly from either the demolition of the prison or the construction of the current building. Pottery, animal bone and tile was recovered from this deposit dating to the post medieval period..

In the B1 ground reductions, the earliest deposits were natural silty peat and sandy natural clay, B1/006 and B1/005. Above this a small wall was uncovered directly below the basement floor. The wall B1/003 was made of purple and red brick running from north-west to south-east, measuring 2.75m long, 0.70m wide and 0.60m deep. The wall had been truncated at both ends by the current building's foundations. This indicates that it predates the current structure. The wall sat on a bed of concrete, B1/004, slightly yellow in colour composed of gravel, and pebble aggregate in a soft lime mortar. The concrete seemed to be deliberate bedding for the wall and was again truncated by the current building's foundations.

This wall appears to be similar to two walls recorded in Trench 1 of the previous geophysical pits on site. One wall, (01/016) is recorded as being 2m below ground level, measuring 0.75m wide, and described as an external wall with a dump of concrete abutting and supporting the structure. There was also another type of wall uncovered only 1m below ground level and measuring 0.50m wide and 1.50m deep, (01/020). In this case instead of the concrete abutting the structure, the wall sits directly above it. This wall is thought to be part of a retaining wall erected during the demolition of the prison, and was constructed on a similar concrete dump to that described above. Due to the truncation and small extent of the remaining wall its date and purpose are unclear.

Layers similar to B2/002 and B3/003 were dumped and backfilled around the structure. These were recorded as a mottled deposit of mid-brown silt, with inclusions of clay and sand, (B1/002). Finds included pottery, gravel, chalk and oyster shell. The pottery has been dated to Basement 1 and Basement 3 to between, 1580-1750, which pre dates the prison construction and suggests that the stratigraphic remains in the basements are either pockets of ground previously part of the marshy landscape which occupied the area. Or that the layers are redeposited during the reclamation of that land in preparation for the construction of the prison.

Phase 3

The third phase of work took place adjacent to John Islip Street, running north-south along the west side of the Married Quarters building. A strip of drainage approximately 55m long was monitored, as the depths being excavated exceeded 2m. The line of the new drain followed that of a previous drain so that any archaeology would have been seen in section. This, however, revealed nothing more than post-medieval and modern made ground. The only feature observed was a small modern wall, truncated by the previous drain.

Phase 4.

The final phase of work in this area was the excavation of a 4.40m by 4.20m lift pit. This was highlighted during the initial Written Scheme of Investigation for monitoring, as it was to be approximately 4m deep when fully excavated and records showed that the prison extended in this area.

The earliest deposit within the pit was dark brown silty natural peat, with occasional clay patches, LP/004. Finds recovered included oyster shell and animal bone. This was truncated by a large slab of concrete recorded as starting 1.5m below ground level. The concrete LP/005 is the same piece of slab drilled through by the piles in the first phase of work. The extent of the concrete in the pit was recorded as 3m by 2.20m wide, disappearing into the baulk to the south and to the east. The concrete's total depth could not be ascertained as the contractors' dig level stopped at 3.80m and the concrete was still continuing down. The great depth and composition of the concrete suggests that this was part of the Penitentiary slab on to which walls and rooms were built. Any previously attached structures have been truncated away as none remain. The geotechnical excavations on the parade ground to the east indicated that Pentagon 5 is located under the married quarters and so it likely that the concrete uncovered in the lift belongs to part of that structure.

- **Parade Ground (See Figure 2)**

This area of work was not excavated in the current programme of works and will be completed as a separate phase at a later date.

- **Other work observed**

A number of small test holes and small scale trenching were also monitored across the site during the period of work. The works were monitored where appropriate but no archaeology was uncovered.

7 Conclusion

The original main purpose of the investigations on site was to locate and record any remains of the Millbank Penitentiary. The main evidence found for structural remains was the exposed portion of the concrete raft upon which the prison was built. This was uncovered during the excavation work for the new lift for the Married Quarters Building. Though we can identify the remains as being part of the Penitentiary it is not possible to ascertain which particular section was seen.

The largest piece of evidence of the prison is the remains of the large moat/ditch that was exposed during the ground beam excavations in the Circulation Space, Workshop and New Accommodation Block. The ditch ran east-west across the south section of the site, measuring approximately 90m long and 3.50m wide, see fig 3. The material contained within the fill is consistent with late 19th-20th century backfill.

The outline of the moat can still be seen to the west of John Islip Street behind the houses on Causton Road. The backyards of the houses slump towards the north, following the line of the moat uncovered in the trenches.

The other main purpose of the watching brief was to check for evidence of prehistoric activity in the underlying peaty deposits of which none was found

8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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AOC Archaeology Group,
30th June 2004



Figure 1: Site Location

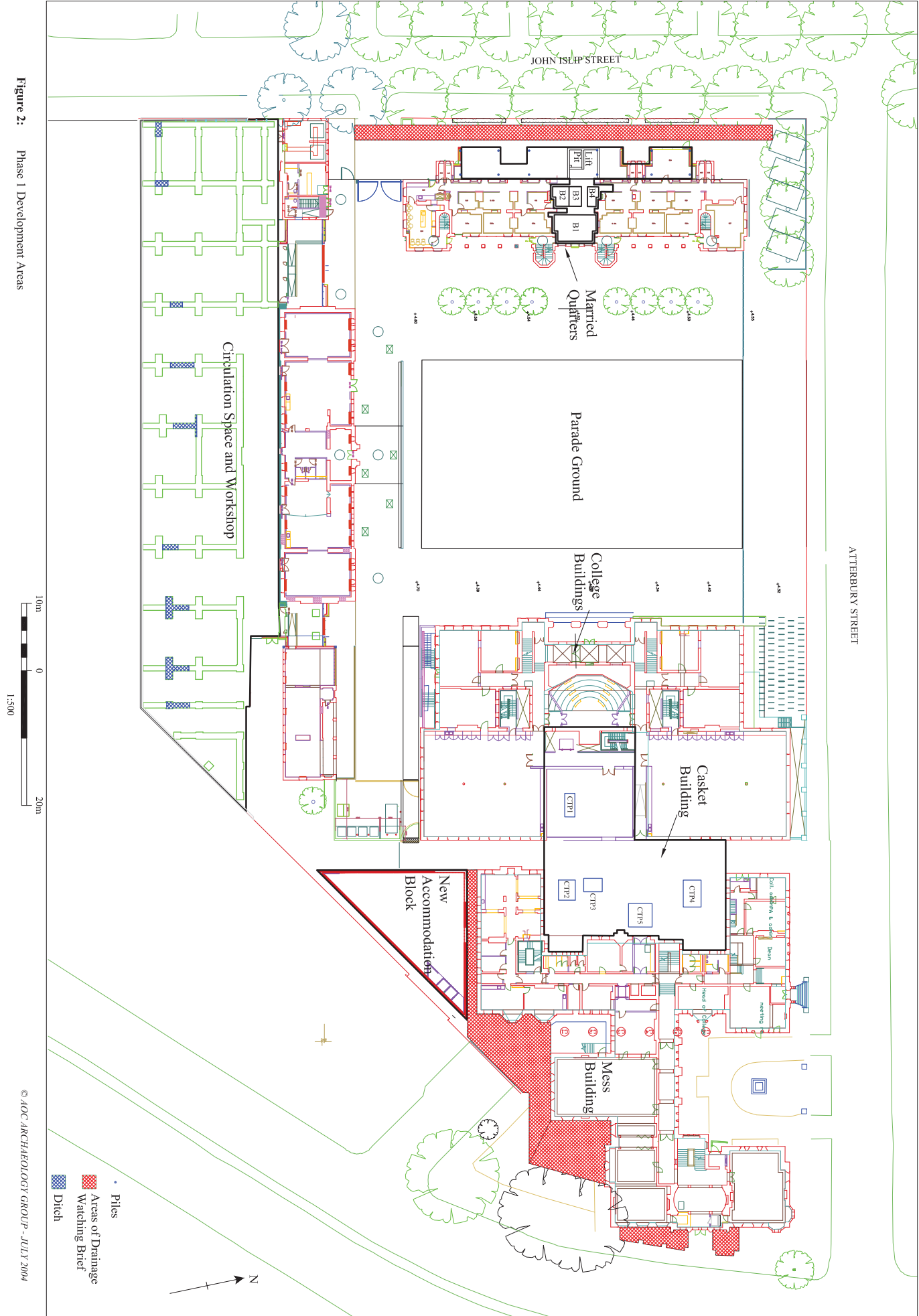


Figure 2: Phase I Development Areas

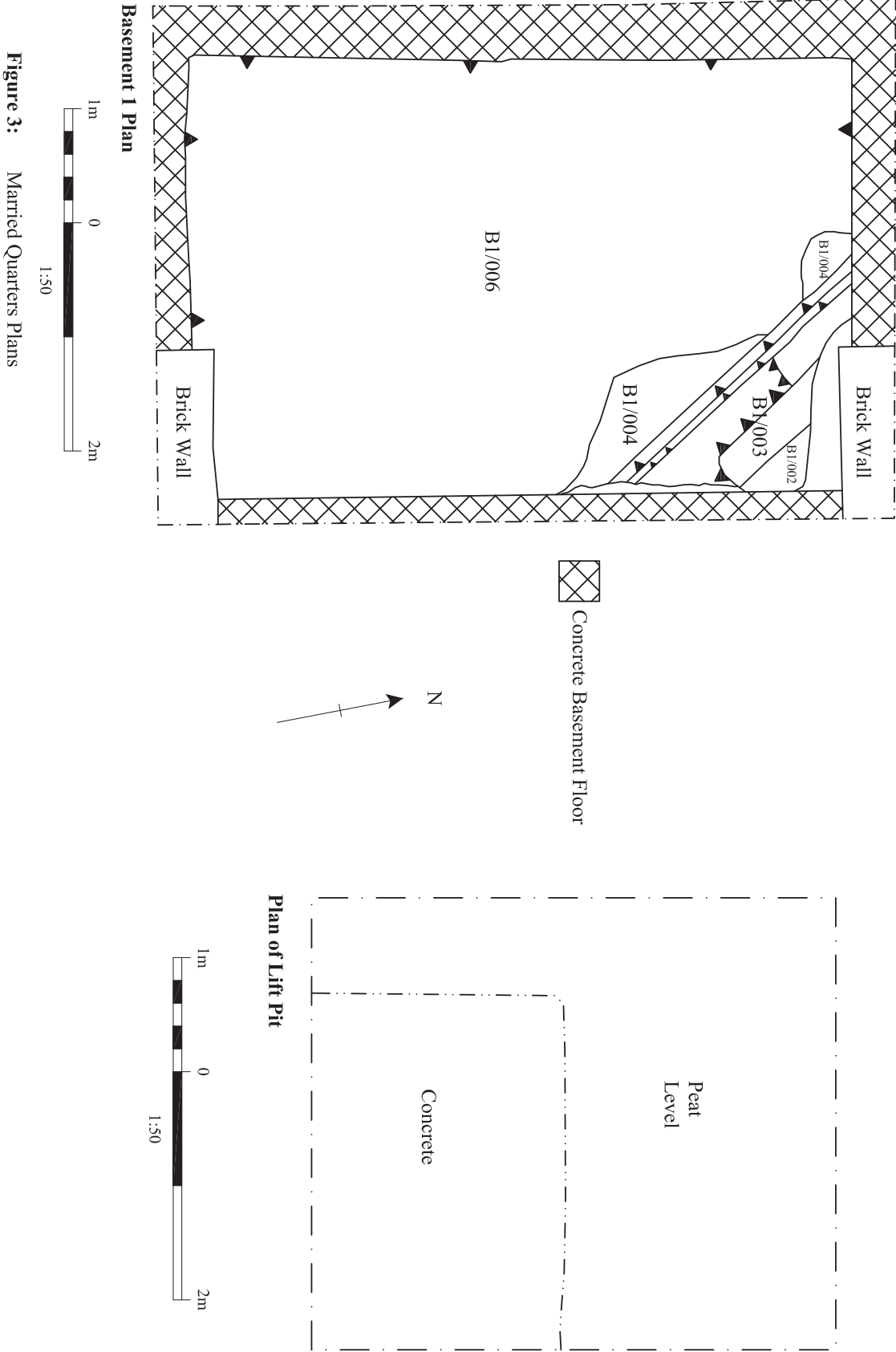


Figure 3: Married Quarters Plans

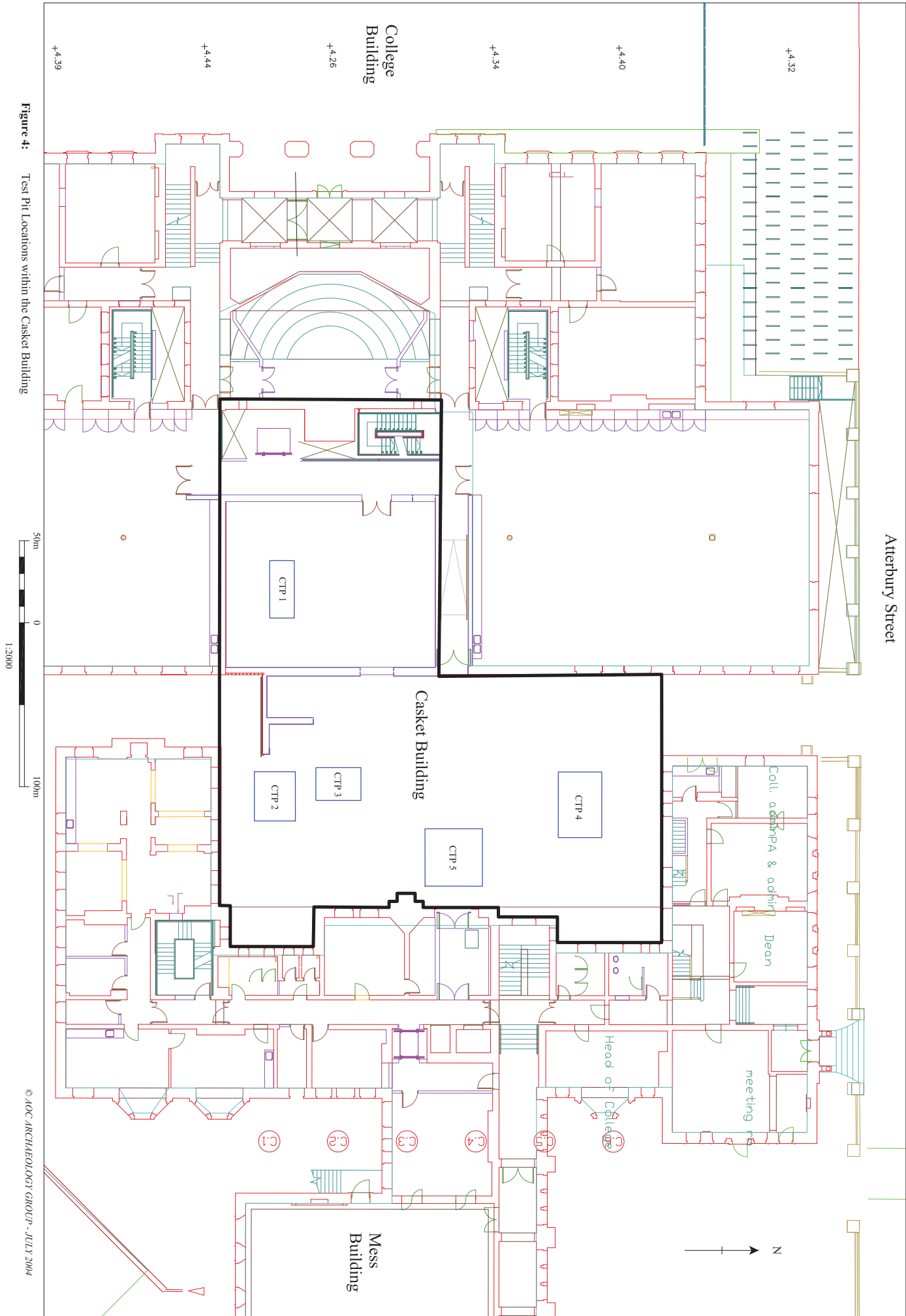
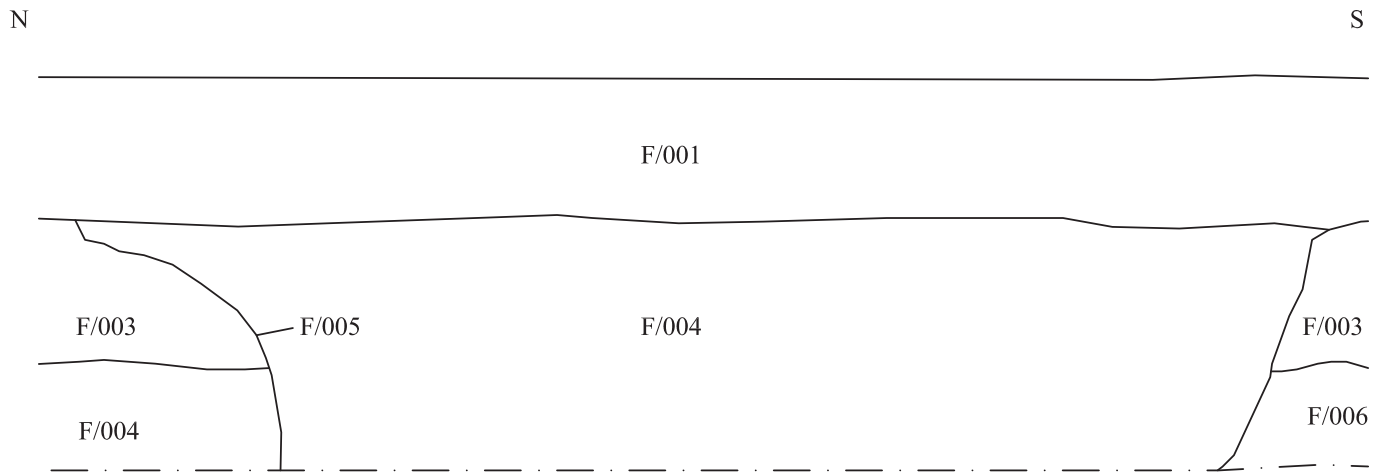
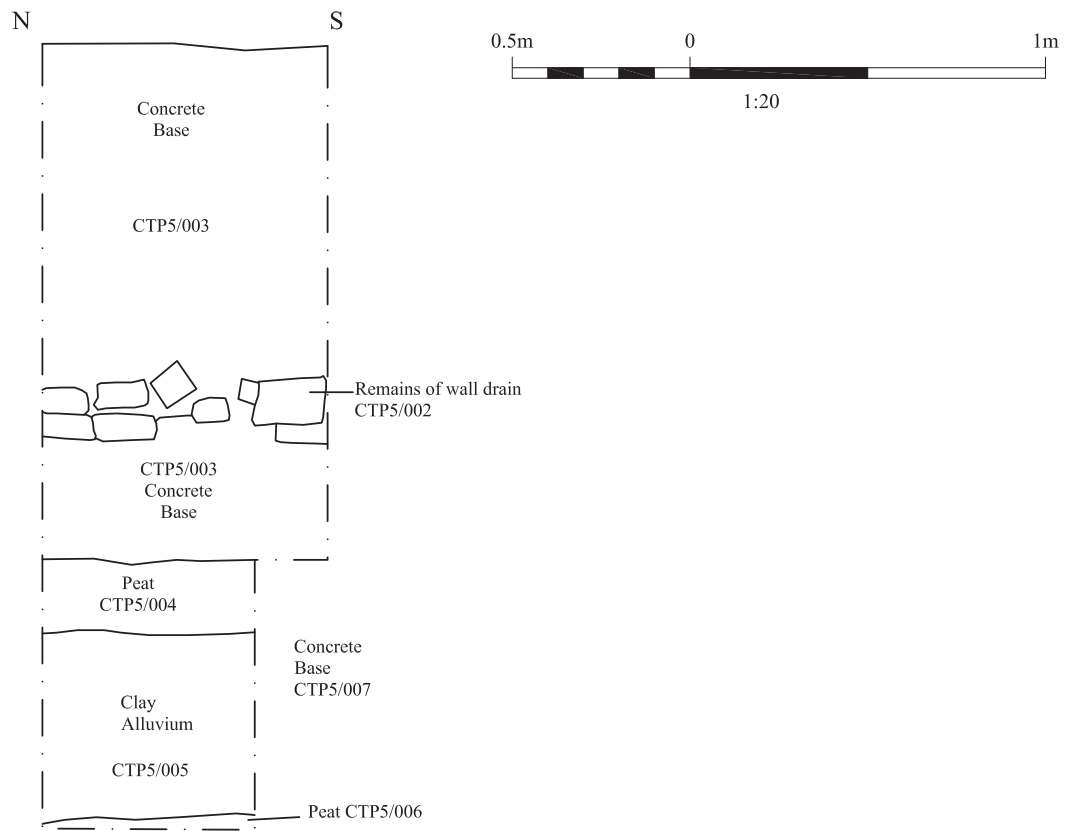


Figure 4: Test Pit Locations within the Casket Building



Section Through Penitentiary Ditch



Sample Section in Casket Building Test Pit 5

Figure 5: Sample Sections

APPENDIX A**CONTEXT REGISTER**

P/001	Modern made ground	n/a	n/a	n/a
P/002	Natural peat	n/a	n/a	n/a
P/003	Natural Alluvial Clay	n/a	n/a	n/a
P/004	Natural Gravel	n/a	n/a	n/a
P/005	Natural Sand and Gravel	n/a	n/a	n/a
B/001	Hardcore	Trench	Trench	0.80m
B/002	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.50m
B/003	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	0.30m
B/004	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	0.20m
B/005	Penitentiary Ditch Fill	Trench	3.0m	0.70m
B/007	Ditch Cut	Trench	3.0m	0.70m
C/001	Hardcore	Trench	Trench	0.80m
C/002	Redeposited Clay	Trench	Trench	0.30m
C/003	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.40m
C/004	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	0.10m
D/001	Hardcore	Trench	Trench	0.70m
D/002	Redeposited Clay	Trench	Trench	0.20m
D/003	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.80m
D/004	Penitentiary Ditch Fill	Trench	1.80m	0.70m
D/005	Ditch Cut	Trench	1.80m	0.70m
E/001	Hardcore	Trench	Trench	0.40m
E/002	Redeposited Clay	Trench	Trench	0.40m
E/003	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.30m
E/004	Penitentiary Ditch Fill	Trench	3.40m	0.70m
E/005	Ditch Cut	Trench	3.40m	0.70m
F/001	Hardcore	Trench	Trench	0.40m
F/002	Redepodited Clay	Trench	Trench	0.40m
F/003	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.30m
F/004	Penitentiary Ditch Fill	Trench	3.50m	0.70m
F/005	Ditch Cut	Trench	3.50m	0.70m

J/001	Hardcore	Trench	Trench	0.50m
J/002	Natural Clay	Trench	Trench	0.40m
J/003	Penitentiary Ditch Fill	Trench	3.4m	0.80m
J/004	Ditch Cut	Trench	3.4m	0.80m
J/005	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	n/a
H/001	Hardcore	Trench	Trench	0.60m
H/002	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	0.40m
H/003	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.50m
H/004	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	n/a
CTP1/001	Modern Madeground	Trench	Trench	0.80m
CTP1/002	Concrete Wall Footing	Trench	Trench	2.10m
CTP1/003	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.50m
CTP1/004	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	1.10m
CTP2/001	Brick Floor Surface	Trench	Trench	0.06m
CTP2/002	Concrete Base	Trench	Trench	1.90m
CTP2/003	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	NFE
CTP3/001	Modern Madeground	Trench	Trench	1.10m
CTP3/002	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.05m
CTP3/003	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	NFE
CTP4/001	Modern Madeground	Trench	Trench	1.10m
CTP4/002	Concrete Base	Trench	Trench	1.50m
CTP4/003	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.20m
CTP4/004	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	0.10m
CTP5/001	Modern Madeground	Trench	Trench	1.40m
CTP5/002	Remains of Brick Wall	Trench	Trench	0.30m
CTP5/003	Concrete Base	Trench	Trench	1.60m
CTP5/004	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	0.20m
CTP5/005	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	0.61m
CTP5/006	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	NFE
CTP5/007	Concrete Base	Trench	Trench	2.30m
LP/001	Modern Madeground	Trench	Trench	1.7m
LP/002	Redeposited Peat	Trench	Trench	0.50m
LP/003	Natural Gravel and Sand	Trench	Trench	0.25m

LP/004	Natural Peat	1.20m	2.10m	NFE
LP/005	Concrete Base	3.20m	2.10m	NFE
B1/001	Concrete	n/a	n/a	NFE
B1/002	Dump deposits / Madeground	Trench	Trench	1.10m
B1/003	Retaining Wall	2.75m	0.70m	0.60m
B1/004	Concrete Dump	NFE	0.70m	1.0m
B1/005	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	0.30m
B1/006	Natural Peat	Trench	Trench	NFE
B2/001	Concrete	Trench	Trench	0.20m
B2/002	Madeground	Trench	Trench	0.25m
B2/003	Dump deposits / Madeground	Trench	Trench	0.30m
B2/004	Natural Alluvial Clay	Trench	Trench	0.30m
B3/001	Concrete	Trench	Trench	0.10m
B3/002	Dump deposits / Madeground	Trench	Trench	0.70m
B3/003	Dump deposits / Madeground	Trench	Trench	0.35m

Appendix B

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-3112

Project details

Project name	Chelsea College of Art and Design, Millbank - Watching Brief Report
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was conducted between October 2003 and January 2004 during refurbishment and redevelopment of the Royal Army Medical College, Millbank, City Westminster, London, on behalf of the Chelsea College of Art and Design. The existing college buildings are constructed over the remains of the 19th century Millbank Penitentiary. the objectives of the watching brief were to make a full record of any remains of the Penitentiary that were revealed and to investigate any underlying alluvial and peat deposits for in good evidence of prehistoric activity. During groundworks and piling, parts of the prison moat and the concrete raft on which the prison was constructed were uncovered and recorded. No significant archaeological remains were found within the peat or alluvial deposits.
Project dates	Start: 07-10-2003 End: 16-02-2004
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS Post Medieval
Monument type	BRICK WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	BOUNDARY DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC POTTERY Post Medieval
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CITY OF WESTMINSTER CITY OF WESTMINSTER Chelsea College of Art and Design
Study area	1.28 Hectares
National grid reference	TQ 3025 7850 Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	AOC Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	AOC Archaeology
Project director/manager	Darryl Palmer
Project supervisor	Paul Fitz
Sponsor or funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Museum of London
Physical Contents	'Ceramics'
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London
Digital Contents	'Stratigraphic','Survey'
Digital Media available	'Spreadsheets','Text'

Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London
Paper Contents	'Stratigraphic','Survey'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Drawing','Map','Matrices','Microfilm','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey','Unpublished Text'
Paper Archive Exists?	No

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Watching Brief Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Edwards, C
Date	2004
Issuer or publisher	AOC ARCHAEOLOGY
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	Bounded grey literature with illustrations and location maps.

Entered by	Catherine Edwards (catherinedwards@aocarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	24 March 2005