

**WEST MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL SITE,
TWICKENHAM ROAD, ISLEWORTH,
LONDON BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NGR: TQ 1640 7645

PLANNING REF.: 01137/E/P52

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National Grid Reference: TQ 1640 7645

Site Code: WMX 07

On behalf of: Inspace Partnership
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1 ABSTRACT

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group between the 10th and 21st of December 2007 at West Middlesex Hospital Site, Twickenham Road, Isleworth (NGR: TQ 1640 7645). The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of the proposed development of the site on any surviving archaeological remains.

The evaluation consisted of twelve trenches. The evaluation revealed a series of wall foundations related to the construction and later redevelopment of the 1895-1902 Infirmary. Several walls were revealed that did not correspond to structures on the OS map sequence and may represent previously unknown short-lived structures not standing when the OS maps were produced.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document is a report on an archaeological evaluation at West Middlesex Hospital Site, Twickenham Road, Isleworth, London Borough of Hounslow (Figure 1). The work was undertaken on behalf of Inspace Partnership.

Site Location

- 2.2 The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 1640 7645, and is located on the southeast side of Twickenham Road, near the junction with Park Road, which flanks the eastern side of the site, along with a cemetery. A still functioning portion of the hospital bounds the site to the south. The site is approximately rectangular, covering an area of approximately 2 hectares (20,661m²) (Figure 2).
- 2.3 The site was occupied by disused hospital buildings, both wards and ancillary structures remained following its closure in 2004. These were subject to a programme of Historic Building Recording (AOC Archaeology 2007a).

Planning Background

- 2.4 The local planning authority is the London Borough of Hounslow. Archaeological advice to the Borough is provided by Kim Stabler of the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS), which is part of English Heritage.
- 2.5 The development proposal required the demolition of the existing buildings and structures on the site to make way for residential housing. There is also the provision for open space, landscaping, 197 car parking spaces, alterations to existing highway arrangements and new cycle and pedestrian routes and associated works. None of the proposed structures contain basements.
- 2.6 The site does not fall within a designated area of archaeological importance or within a Conservation Area, but it does lie directly adjacent to Synon Park Archaeological Priority Zone.
- 2.7 The first stage in the Archaeological Investigation was the production of a Desk Based Assessment (AOC 2006). Further to the results of the Desk Based Assessment it was recommended that a programme of Historic Building Recording and an archaeological evaluation be undertaken. Accordingly, a Historic Building Record was made of the surviving built heritage present on site. (AOC 2007a).
- 2.8 The third stage was an archaeological evaluation consisting of twelve trenches, with the overall aim of enabling the Archaeological Advisor to the London Borough of Hounslow to make an informed decision on the requirement for any further mitigation works. The evaluation was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation, prepared by AOC Archaeology and approved by GLAAS, (AOC 2007b).

3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey map (BGS Sheet 270) indicates that the superficial geology underlying the application site is River Brickearth over River Terrace Deposits. The underlying geological stratum is London Clay.
- 3.2 The site lies on level ground, within the flood plain of the River Thames.
- 3.3 Geotechnical investigations were carried out by RSA Geotechnics Ltd in 2004, undertaken by means of boreholes and window samples. The data recovered demonstrates that between 0.45m and 2m of made ground deposits were present lying above River Brickearths across the area of the site (RSA Geotechnics 2004).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The following background information is drawn from the Desk Based Assessment (AOC 2006). This examined historical information, the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for archaeological features or chance finds within a 1km radius of the site, and cartographic information. No previous archaeological investigations have been undertaken on the site itself.

Prehistoric (before c.AD 43)

- 4.2 Archaeological evidence from early prehistoric periods encompasses a range of finds across a number of periods, and has been recovered from the Thames foreshore and from sites around Isleworth. The earliest finds in the area date to the Mesolithic, and were excavated at 308-322 London Road. An evaluation undertaken in 1996 by Oxford Archaeology Unit (OAU) noted the edge of a prehistoric palaeochannel off Snowy Fielder Way which could not be closely dated, but is likely to be of ancient date.
- 4.3 More recent prehistoric evidence includes struck flints and fragments of burnt flint dating from the Neolithic to late Bronze Age, and undated scatter of finds upon the surface of the brickearth was found by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) in 2000 at another of the West Middlesex Hospital sites. A confirmed late Bronze Age find in the vicinity is represented by a fragment of a baked clay slab, possibly a plaque, and was found during excavations at Busch Corner. Iron Age finds include evidence of a settlement at Syon Park, a ditch or gully containing pottery and other finds; possibly a ring gully for a built structure, and a soil horizon and probably boundary, suggesting an agricultural landscape. The earliest archaeological find is a torc of Iron Age date, found in 1467 from the bank of the Thames.

Roman (c. AD 43 - 450)

- 4.4 There are four known records dating securely to the Roman period. The first is of unstratified potsherds at Syon Lodge, with further abraded potsherds are recorded

from the post-Medieval ploughsoil at 308-322 London Road and again at Syon Lodge. A gully containing 15 sherds of pottery was recovered during further archaeological evaluation at Syon Lodge.

Anglo-Saxon (c.451-1065)

- 4.5 Finds and features from this period comprise a findspot of seven Saxon coins recovered near Church Street in 1989 and two fishtraps noted during the Thames foreshore survey. Isleworth is a corruption of the Saxon place name ‘*Gristelsworde*’, and is first recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086.

Medieval (c.1066 - 1485)

- 4.6 The manor of Isleworth was given in 1227 to Richard, Duke of Cornwall, who built a new manor house and a chapel. However, the centre of medieval Isleworth is presumed to be far to the south of the site, at old Isleworth. Syon Monastery moved to the present location of Syon House in 1431, so there is clearly some medieval activity in the vicinity. Archaeological finds in the immediate area are represented by two heavily truncated parallel west-east ditches containing pottery at one of the former West Middlesex Hospital sites. There has also been a coin of Henry I recovered using a metal detector in 1989 and a timber structure, possibly a fishtrap, was noted during the Thames foreshore survey in 1996.

Post-Medieval (c.1485 - modern)

- 4.7 By 1635, most of the houses of Isleworth village lay round the two squares, North and South Streets, Church Street, and part of Twickenham Road. There were few buildings north of the Duke's River except the church, Rectory, Vicarage, and Dairyhouse. A number of post-medieval remains have been recorded within the area of the site and include:
- An area of “deep disturbance” dated to the 15th – 16th centuries;
 - A horizon of ploughsoil at 308-322 London road;
 - A rubbish pit cutting the ploughsoil noted above
 - The site of a market garden at a former West Middlesex Hospital site;
 - The large cemetery off park road, Isleworth;
 - A brick stair with stone steps noted during the Thames foreshore survey;
 - A scatter of worked stone noted during the Thames foreshore survey;
 - A cast iron handrail on a concrete river defence noted during the Thames foreshore survey;
 - A pit containing clay pipe at 181 London Road;
 - A horizon of rubble/made ground at the West Middlesex Hospital site.
- 4.8 23 listed buildings are recorded as being within the vicinity of the site. The earliest of these is Church of All saints at Church Street, Isleworth, which is thought to date back to the 15th century. The majority of the remaining structures represent the 17th and 18th century development of the town.

- 4.9 The history of the West Middlesex Hospital site, and in its former incarnation as the Brentford Union Workhouse, is well recorded. The first hospital-type building on the site is recorded in 1665; a cottage used as a pest house. The land on which the cottage stood was sold to allow for the construction of Brentford workhouse.
- 4.10 The original workhouse buildings were erected in 1839. They were designed by Lewis Vulliamy who was also the architect of workhouses for the Epping and Sturminster Unions. His design for Brentford was based on the model cruciform layout published by the Poor Law Commissioners. In 1895-1902, the workhouse was totally rebuilt with an infirmary being erected on the site of the previous workhouse, and the new much larger workhouse placed to the south-east on land adjoining Brentford District School.

5 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 5.1 The aims of the Evaluation were defined in the WSI (AOC 2007b) as being:
- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
 - To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
 - To determine the extent of previous truncation of the archaeological deposits.
 - To enable GLAAS to make an informed decision on the status of the planning condition, and any possible further work required in order to satisfy that condition.
 - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation in order to inform the mitigation strategy as part of the planning process.
- 5.3 The specific objectives of the Evaluation were to:
- Determine the presence of any remains of prehistoric date on the site.
 - Determine the presence of any remains of Roman date on the site.
 - Determine if the medieval activity, known from investigations adjacent to the site, extends into the development site itself.
 - Assess the degree and extent of truncation of earlier deposits by the phases of late post-medieval on the site, while determining if any of these post-medieval remains belong to the original Brentford workhouse.
- 5.4 The final aim was to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

6 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The field Evaluation comprised of the machine excavation of twelve trenches. These comprised 5 trenches measuring 20m x 2m at base, 4 trenches measuring 25m x 2m at base, 2 trenches measuring 5m x 5m at base and 1 trench measuring 2m x 2m at base. Trench 1 was moved southeast to avoid nearby trees and lampposts. The evaluation trenches were situated as shown in Figure 2.
- 6.2 All machining was carried out using a 360° tracked excavator with a smooth bladed ditching bucket, under the constant supervision of the Archaeological Project Supervisor. Undifferentiated topsoil or overburden of recent origin was removed in successive level spits down to the natural geology, as significant archaeological horizons were not encountered above this.
- 6.3 The site code **WMX07** was obtained for the project, and used for all fieldwork.
- 6.4 All trenches were accurately located to the National Grid. A temporary benchmark with a value of 7.48mOD was established on the site (Figure 2).
- 6.5 All recording was in accordance with the standards and requirements of the Museum of London's *Archaeological Field Manual* (MoL 3rd edition 1994).
- 6.6 A continuous unique numbering system was employed. For each trench, a block of numbers in a continuous sequence was allocated.
- 6.7 Written descriptions, comprising both factual data and interpretative elements, were recorded on standardised sheets.

7 RESULTS

7.1 The archaeology on site was present in 5 phases. These were:

Phase 1	Geological
Phase 2	1895-1902 Infirmary.
Phase 3	Redevelopment of Infirmary
Phase 4	Drainage Works
Phase 5	Abandonment

Trench 1 (Figure 3)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
7.01m	0.05m	1/001	Tarmac. Hard standing.
6.96m	0.35m	1/002	Compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. Hardcore
6.61m	0.90m	1/003	Firm, mid brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
5.71m	1.00m	1/004	Firm yellow / orange brown sandy clay. Natural.
4.71m	NFE	1/005	Compact yellow grey gravel. Natural.

7.2 Trench 1 measured 5m x 5m at base. It was moved southwards to avoid nearby trees and lampposts, and was located towards the north of the site. It contained no archaeological finds or features. After discussions with the Archaeological Advisor a sondage was excavated to reveal the level of the natural gravels (1/005) under the naturally deposited river clays (1/004).

Phase 1

7.3 The earliest deposit identified was a layer (1/005) of river terrace gravels at a maximum level of 4.71m OD. This comprised compact yellow grey gravel. Overlying this was a layer of river brickearth (1/004), 1.00m thick consisting of firm yellow orange sandy clay.

Phase 5

7.4 These natural deposits were sealed by the subsoil (1/003), firm mid brown silty sand with occasional CBM inclusions measuring 0.90m thick. Over the subsoil a layer of hardstanding (1/002), consisting of compacted rubble and CBM in a matrix of grey sand 0.35m thick formed the base of hardstanding (1/001), formed of tarmac and measuring 0.05m thick.

Trench 2 (Figure 4)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
6.89m	0.10m	2/001	Tarmac. Hard standing.
6.79m	0.35m	2/002	Compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. Hardcore.
6.44m	0.74m	2/003	Firm, dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
5.71m	NFE	2/004	Firm yellow-brown sandy clay. Natural river clays.

- 7.5 Trench 2 measured 25m x 2m and was located at the northwest of site, aligned northeast – southwest. Trench 2 contained a modern manhole, concrete footings and 2 brick walls.

Phase 1

- 7.6 The earliest deposit was naturally deposited firm yellow brown sandy clay (2/004) at a height of 5.71m OD.

Phase 2

- 7.7 Cut into the natural clay (2/004) were two walls (2/006 and 2/009) and concrete footings (2/005 and 2/008).
- 7.8 Wall (2/006) consisted of courses of red stock bricks with occasional yellow bricks laid in a stretcher bonding pattern on top of a concrete base. It measured 4.50m long, 1.10m wide and 1.20m deep, was semi-hexagonal in shape and faced west. It was interpreted as a foundation for a bay window for the 1895-1902 infirmary (Figure 3).
- 7.9 Wall (2/009) also consisted of courses of brick in a stretcher bonding pattern on top of a concrete base. It measured 11.50m long, 1.70m wide and 1.20m deep, was also semi-hexagonal in shape and faced westwards (Figure 3). It appears to have been the footing for a bay window for the 1895-1902 infirmary. These walls were originally a single length of wall but were truncated by later activity on site. The bay windows can be first seen on the 1961 OS map (Figure 16) but were likely part of the original build of the infirmary. While the wall without the windows appears on the 1915 OS map (Figure 15), the 1961 OS map contains more details than earlier OS maps.

Phase 3

- 7.10 Concrete Footing (2/005) was present at the northeast of Trench 2 and measured 2.60m+ long, 0.50m+ wide and 0.70m deep. It extended beyond the northeast and southern limits of the trench. A single course of red and yellow stock bricks was present on top of the concrete.

- 7.11 Concrete Footing (2/008) was present in the middle of the trench and measured 3.00m+ long, 0.50m+ wide and 1.15m deep. It extended beyond the southern limits of the trench. Footing (2/008) cut Wall (2/009) and would appear to represent a secondary phase of building work, relating to redevelopment of the infirmary.

Phase 5

- 7.12 These walls and footings were overlain by a subsoil deposit (2/003); dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM, measuring 0.74m thick. Cut through the subsoil was a manhole (2/007), which consisted of red, frogged brick and measured 1.50m long, 0.65m wide and 1.20m deep.
- 7.13 The manhole and subsoil were sealed by a layer of hardcore (2/002) 0.35m thick, consisting of compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. This provided the base for the tarmac hardstanding (1/001) which was 0.05m deep.

Trench 3 (*Figure 5*)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
7.01m	0.10m	3/001	Tarmac. Hard standing.
6.91m	0.15m	3/002	Compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. Hardcore.
6.76m	1.00m	3/003	Firm, dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
5.76m	NFE	3/004	Firm yellow-brown sandy clay. Re-deposited Natural.

- 7.14 Trench 3 measured 25m x 2m, was aligned southeast – northwest and contained five walls and two drains.

Phase 1

- 7.15 Trench 3 revealed a layer of river brickearth (3/004) at a height of 5.76m OD consisting of firm yellow brown sandy clay.

Phase 2

- 7.16 Wall (3/005) consisted of yellow bricks laid in a Flemish bond on top of concrete foundations. It was aligned southeast – northwest, parallel to Wall (3/006), turning westwards towards the northwest. It measured 13.00m+ long, 0.50m+ wide and 1.00m deep, extending beyond the southeastern and eastern limits of the trench. Wall (3/005) was truncated by later activity to the northwest. The brick used in the wall suggests a late Victorian date, probably from the 1885-1902 infirmary.

- 7.17 Wall (3/006) was of the same construction as, and ran parallel to, Wall (3/005). It measured 14.00m+ long, 0.50m+ wide and 1.00m deep and extended beyond the southeastern and western limits of the trench. Wall (3/006) was truncated by later activity to the northwest. The construction of the wall suggests a late Victorian date.
- 7.18 Wall (3/009) consisted of yellow stock bricks in a Flemish bond on a concrete base, was aligned northwest-southeast and measured 1.00m long, 0.20m wide and 0.30m thick. It was a continuation of a late Victorian wall (3/006) from the southeast and this was truncated by later activity to the northwest.
- 7.19 Wall (3/010) consisted of yellow bricks and measured 0.40m+ long, 0.90m wide and 0.35m deep. It cut Wall (3/009) and was cut by Drain (3/011), although this wall appears to have been rebuilt over the drain, similar to the rebuilt wall and drain to the southeast (3/005 and 3/007). This wall may be part of the eastern exterior wall of the infirmary as seen on the 1961 OS map (Figure 16).

Phase 3

- 7.20 Wall (3/012) was on the same alignment as Wall (3/009) but was not of the same construction. It consisted of red and yellow bricks and measured 1.50m long, 0.30m wide and 0.32m deep and dated to the 20th century, indicating a second phase of construction. The wall was truncated by later activity to the southeast.
- 7.21 Wall (3/013) was located at the northwest end of Trench 3. It comprised red and purple frogged bricks, aligned roughly north-south and measured 3.5m+ long, 0.35m+ wide and 0.20m thick. Its construction suggests that it belongs to a phase of redevelopment.

Phase 4

- 7.22 Drain (3/007) was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 2.70m+ long, 1.50m wide and 0.50m deep, with a spur to the northwest. It consisted of red stock bricks on a thin concrete foundation surrounding metal pipework. The drain cut Walls (3/005) and (3/006), although Wall (3/005) was reconstructed over the drain. Concrete slabs (3/008) measuring 0.50m x 0.20m x 0.03m thick were placed over the drain as a cover. The construction of the drain suggests a 20th century date.
- 7.23 Drain (3/011) was aligned northeast-southwest, measuring 2.50m+ long, 0.55m wide and 0.30m deep. It was identical in construction and alignment to Drain (3/007). Drain (3/011) cut Walls (3/009), (3/010) and (3/012).

Phase 5

- 7.24 Sealing these features was a layer 1.00m thick of firm, dark brown silty sand subsoil, with occasional CBM inclusions. Over the subsoil a layer of hardcore

(2/002), 0.15m thick was laid, consisting of compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. This comprised the base for a tarmac hardstanding (2/001), 0.10m thick.

Trench 4 (Figure 6)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
7.51m	0.10m	4/001	Tarmac. Hard standing.
7.41m	0.30m	4/002	Compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. Hardcore.
7.11m	0.40m	4/003	Firm dark yellow sandy clay. Redeposited Natural.
6.71m	0.50m	4/004	Firm dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
6.21m	NFE	4/005	Firm yellow brown sandy clay. Natural.

7.25 Trench 4 measured 25m x 2m and was located towards the northwest of site, aligned northwest – southeast. It contained brick walls, concrete footings and concrete surfaces.

Phase 1

7.26 At the base of the deposit sequence was a layer of river brickearth (4/004), firm yellow brown sandy clay at a height of 6.21m OD.

Phase 2

7.27 Concrete Footing (4/006) was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 2.00m+ long, 0.50m wide and 1.00m deep, presumably the foundation footing for a brick wall, now truncated.

7.28 Wall (4/007) consisted of yellow and red stock bricks, was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 1.80m+ long, 0.30m wide and 0.55m thick. Wall (4/009) was located to the south and was of an identical construction, alignment and size, although it survived to a greater height (1.46m). Between these walls a concrete slab was poured (4/008), measuring 1.00m long by 1.80m wide. These walls and floor probably represent a short-lived structure within the grounds that was never mapped.

7.29 Wall (4/011) consisted of late Victorian red and yellow stock bricks on top of a concrete footing. It was aligned southeast-northwest with three northeast-southwest spurs projecting to the northeast. It measured 5.50m long, 1.80m+ wide and 1.00m deep, while the spurs were 1.80m+ long, extending beyond the eastern limits of the trench. This wall is within the area of the western wing of the infirmary building (Figure 16).

Phase 3

- 7.30 Wall (4/013) consisted of red and purple bricks, was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 1.90m long, 0.30m wide and 0.25m deep. It is similar in construction to Wall (3/013) and appears to relate to a later phase of construction.
- 7.31 Concrete Slab (4/012) was laid between Walls (4/013) and (4/011) and measured 3.20m long by 1.90m wide. It is higher than Slab (4/008) at a height of 6.34m OD and thus represents a floor level surface as opposed to a basement. As Wall (4/013) is of a later phase of construction than Wall (4/011), this may represent some form of interior redesign, reusing wall (4/011) (Figure 16).

Phase 4

- 7.32 A 20th century manhole (4/010) measuring 0.70m x 0.70m and made up of red brick was also located in Trench 4.

Phase 5

- 7.33 These features were all sealed by dark brown silty sand subsoil (4/004) 0.50m thick with occasional CBM inclusions. This in turn was overlain by a layer of redeposited dark yellow sandy natural clay (4/003), 0.40m thick. This was sealed by a layer of hardcore (4/002), 0.30m thick, consisting of compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. This comprised the base for tarmac hardstanding (4/001), 0.10m thick.

Trench 5 (Figure 7)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
7.00m	0.10m	5/001	Tarmac. Hard standing.
6.90m	0.15m	5/002	Compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. Hardcore.
6.75m	0.70m	5/003	Firm, dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
6.05m	NFE	5/004	Firm yellow-brown sandy clay. Natural.

- 7.34 Trench 5 measured 25m x 2m, was located to the east of site and aligned northwest – southeast. It contained two walls and a pipe trench.

Phase 1

- 7.35 The trench revealed at a height of 6.05m OD naturally deposited mid brown sandy clay (5/004).

Phase 2

- 7.36 Wall (5/005) consisted of yellow stock bricks on a concrete footing. It was aligned northwest-southeast and measured 25.00m long, 0.40m+ wide and 1.00m deep. It ran along the western edge of the trench partly beyond the trench limit.
- 7.37 Wall (5/006) also consisted of yellow stock bricks on a concrete footing. It was aligned northwest-southeast, measuring 25.00m long, 0.40m+ wide and 1.00m deep. It ran along the eastern edge of the trench partly beyond the trench limit, parallel to Wall (5/005). These walls represent foundations for the Victorian infirmary, and can be seen within the southern spur of the eastern wing (Figure 16).
- 7.38 A concrete covered pipe (5/007) aligned east west and measuring 2.00m long and 0.40m wide ran under Wall (5/005). This was interpreted as a sewage pipe.

Phase 5

- 7.39 These features were overlain by dark brown silty sand subsoil (5/003) 0.70m thick containing occasional CBM inclusions and Victorian pottery. This was sealed by a layer of hardcore (5/002), 0.15m thick, consisting of compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. This comprised the base for tarmac hardstanding (5/001), 0.10m thick.

Trench 6 (Figure 8)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
7.11m	0.30m	6/001	Tarmac over compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. Hardstanding.
6.81m	0.50m	6/002	Firm, dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
6.31m	NFE	6/003	Firm yellow-brown sandy clay. Natural.

- 7.40 Trench 6 measured 20m x 2m, was aligned east – west and was located towards the east of site.

Phase 1

- 7.41 At the bottom of the deposit sequence at a height of 7.31m OD, was naturally deposited firm orange brown sandy clay (6/003).

Phase 3

- 7.42 Wall (6/009) was aligned north-south, measuring 3.00m long and 0.30m wide. A spur was present to the east and measured 2.60m long and 0.630m wide; both measured 0.75m deep. It was constructed from purple and red bricks on top of a concrete base. To its south was a concrete slab (6/007) and to the north was a possible chimney feature (6/008).

- 7.43 Wall (6/008) abutted the north of Wall (6/009). It was aligned north-south with a 90° turn at the north to the east. It measured 0.95m x 0.95m in the trench. It was constructed from red and purple bricks. The squarish space between (6/008) and (6/009) was filled with ash and burnt soil, suggesting that Wall (6/008) was a chimney feature.
- 7.44 Concrete Slab (6/007) abutted Wall (6/009) on its southern side and measured 1.05m by 0.70m. It is likely to have been the base of a domestic fireplace as a small hole was present at the base of Wall (6/009) that led through to chimney feature (6/008) to the north of Wall (6/009).
- 7.45 Wall (6/005) was aligned north-south, with a 90° turn to the east at the south. It consisted of purple and red bricks on a concrete foundation and measured 2.60m long, 0.35m wide and 0.70m deep. This is a wall relating to the redevelopment of the infirmary. These walls and features do not seem to correspond to any buildings marked on the sequence of OS maps and would suggest a previously unknown building on the site. The building may have been temporary and not have been standing when the OS maps were being produced.

Phase 4

- 7.46 Drain (6/006) measured 2.50m long, 0.30m wide and was aligned north-south, with the sides and top constructed from red bricks. It cut through Wall (6/009) and is dated to the 20th century.
- 7.47 Drain (6/004) was also made of red bricks and aligned north-south. It measured 2.50m long by 0.50m wide and is probably of 20th century date. It was located at the eastern end of Trench 6.

Phase 5

- 7.48 These features were sealed by the subsoil (6/002), a firm mid brown silty sand with occasional CBM inclusions measuring 0.50m thick. Over the subsoil a layer of hardcore consisting of compacted rubble and CBM in a matrix of grey sand formed the base of a hardstanding (6/001), formed of tarmac and measuring 0.30m thick.

Trench 7 (Figure 9)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
6.76	0.10m	7/001	Tarmac. Car park surface.
6.66	0.30m	7/002	Layers of yellow concrete, tar and brick rubble. Hardcore.
6.36	0.55m	7/003	Firm dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
5.81	NFE	7/004	Orange brown sandy clay. Natural.

7.49 Trench 7 measured 2m x 2m and contained a pipe trench.

Phase 1

7.50 At the bottom of the deposit sequence at a height of 6.81m OD was a layer of river brickearth (7/004), consisting of a firm yellow orange sandy clay.

Phase 5

7.51 This was sealed by a subsoil deposit (7/003), a firm mid brown silty sand with occasional CBM inclusions measuring 0.55m thick. Overlying the subsoil a layer of hardcore (7/002) consisting of compacted rubble and CBM in a matrix of grey sand 0.35m thick formed the base of a hardstanding (7/001), formed of tarmac and measuring 0.10m thick.

Trench 8 (Figure 10)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
6.83m	0.05m	8/001	Tarmacdam. Car park surface.
6.78m	0.35m	8/002	Layers of yellow rubble, tar and brick rubble. Hardcore.
6.43m	0.35m	8/003	Orange brown silty clay. Natural.
6.08m	NFE	8/010	Light grey yellow gravel and sand. Natural.

7.52 Trench 8 measured 5m x 5m and contained a wall and two brick culverts.

Phase 1

7.53 The natural grey yellow sandy gravels were revealed at a height of 6.08m OD after a sondage was excavated following discussions with the Archaeological Advisor. Overlying this was a layer of naturally deposited orange brown silty clay (8/003), 0.35m thick.

Phase 2

7.54 A linear cut (8/004) was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 4.20m long, 0.50m+ wide and was not fully excavated. This was the foundation cut for Wall (8/005), which was on the same alignment and measured 1.10m long, 0.30m+ wide and 0.20m thick. It was constructed from red stock brick.

Phase 4

7.55 Culvert (8/007) was aligned north-south and measured 2.20m long, 0.70m wide and 0.33m deep. It was constructed from red brick and capped with concrete slabs. The culvert had silted up with firm dark black silty clay with frequent CBM and rubble inclusions (8/006).

- 7.56 This was truncated to the north by Culvert (8/009) which was aligned east-west and measured 4.80m long, 0.70m wide and 0.46m deep. It was constructed from red brick with a concrete base. This covered a metal pipe (8/008) on a slightly different east-west alignment.

Phase 5

- 7.57 Sealing these features was a compact layer of made ground (8/002), made up of yellow concrete and crushed brick, tar and rubble 0.35m thick. This was capped by a layer of tarmac (8/001), which was 0.05m thick.

Trench 9 (*Figure 11*)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
6.67m	0.10m	9/001	Tarmac.
6.57m	0.30m	9/002	Compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. Hardcore.
6.27m	0.50m	9/003	Firm dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
5.77m	1.10m	9/008	Orange brown silty clay. Natural.
5.67m	NFE	9/009	Firm yellow grey sand and gravel. Natural.

- 7.58 Trench 9 measured 20m x 2m, was aligned northeast-southwest and contained a wall, a land drain and a pit.

Phase 1

- 7.59 After discussion with the Archaeological Advisor a sondage was excavated to reveal the natural yellow grey sandy gravel (9/009) at a height of 5.67m OD. Overlying this was a layer of naturally deposited orange brown silty clay (9/008), 1.10m thick.

Phase 2

- 7.60 Wall (9/010) was made of concrete, aligned northwest-southeast and measured 2.90m long, 0.70m wide and 1.20m deep.
- 7.61 Pit (9/005) was irregular in plan and measured 3.65m long and 0.65m wide. It was interpreted as a rubbish pit.

Phase 4

- 7.62 Drain (9/007) was linear in plan, aligned northwest-southeast and measured 2.00m long and was 0.20m wide. It was not fully excavated as it was interpreted as a 20th century land drain.

Phase 5

- 7.63 Sealing these features was a 0.50m thick layer of dark brown silty sand subsoil. Overlying this was a layer of hardcore (9/002), 0.30m thick and composed of crushed brick and gravel in a grey sandy matrix. At the top of the deposit sequence was a tarmac surface (9/001) 0.10m thick.

Trench 10 (*Figure 12*)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
7.19m	0.15m	10/001	Tarmacdam. Car park surface.
7.04m	0.35m	10/002	Layers of yellow rubble, tar and brick rubble. Hardcore.
6.69m	0.35m	10/003	Firm dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
6.34m	0.80m	10/004	Orange brown sandy clay. Natural.
5.54m	NFE	10/005	Grey yellow sand and gravel. Natural.

- 7.64 Trench 10 contained no archaeological finds or features.

Phase 1

- 7.65 Following discussions with the Archaeological Advisor, a sondage was excavated in the base of Trench 10 to reveal the natural river terrace gravels (10/005) at a maximum level of 5.54m OD. This was 0.80m below a layer of naturally deposited orange brown silty clay (10/004).

Phase 5

- 7.66 Overlying the natural deposits was a firm dark brown silty sand subsoil (10/003) 0.35m thick. This was sealed by a layer of hardcore (10/002), consisting of yellow brick rubble, tar and brick 0.35m thick. This provided a solid base for a tarmac surface (10/001), 0.15m thick.

Trench 11 (*Figure 13*)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
6.64m	0.10m	11/001	Tarmac.
6.54m	0.35m	11/002	Compacted rubble and CBM in a grey sandy matrix. Hardcore.
6.19m	0.50m	11/003	Firm dark brown silty sand with occasional CBM. Subsoil.
5.69m	0.90m	11/004	Orange brown sandy clay. Natural.
4.79m	NFE	11/005	Grey yellow sand and gravel. Natural.

- 7.67 Trench 11 contained no archaeological finds or features.

Phase 1

- 7.68 Following discussions with the Archaeological Advisor, a sondage was excavated in the base of Trench 11 to reveal the natural river terrace gravels (11/005) at a height of 4.79m OD. This was 0.90m below a layer of naturally deposited orange brown silty clay (11/004).

Phase 5

- 7.69 Overlying the natural deposits was firm dark brown silty sand subsoil (11/003) 0.50m thick. This was sealed by a layer of hardcore (11/002), consisting of rubble and brick in a grey sand matrix 0.35m thick. This provided a solid base for a tarmac surface (11/001), 0.10m thick.

Trench 12 (*Figure 14*)

OD Height	Thickness	Context	Description
7.11m	0.20m	12/001	Dark brown sand. Topsoil.
6.91m	0.60m	12/002	Mid brown silty sand. Subsoil.
6.31m	0.50m	12/003	Firm orange brown silty clay. Natural.
5.81m	NFE	12/004	Light grey yellow sandy gravel. Natural.

- 7.70 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 12.

Phase 1

- 7.71 Following discussions with the Archaeological Advisor, a sondage was excavated in the base of Trench 12 to reveal the natural river terrace gravels (12/004) at a height of 5.81mm OD. This was 0.50m below a layer of naturally deposited orange brown silty clay (12/003).

Phase 5

- 7.72 Overlying these natural deposits was firm dark brown silty sand subsoil (12/002) 0.60m thick. This was sealed by a layer of topsoil (12/001) 0.20m thick and consisting of a dark brown sandy silt.

8 FINDS

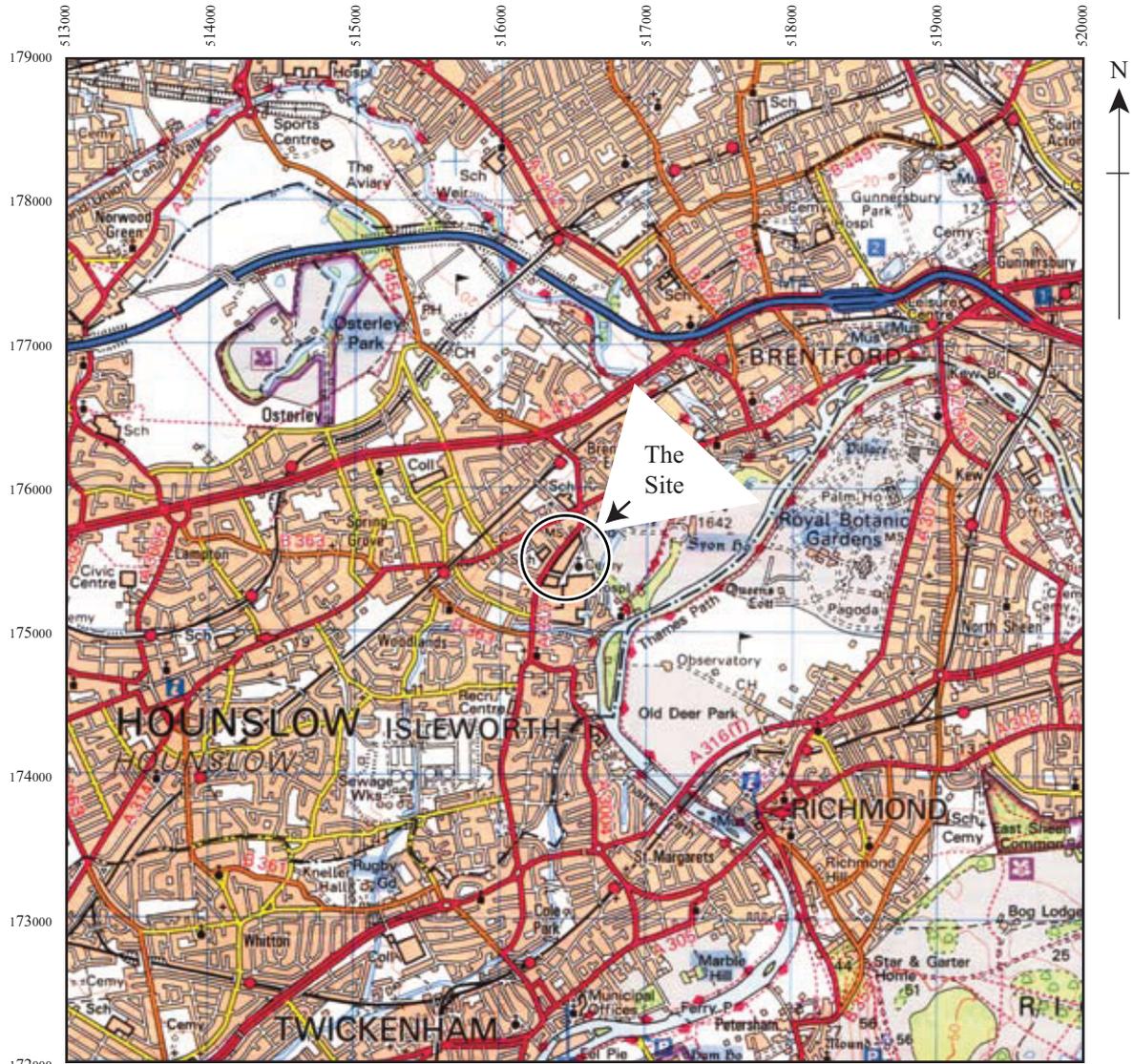
- 8.1 Victorian pottery was observed in the subsoil (5/003) in Trench 5 but not retained.

9 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The evaluation revealed a series of wall foundations, which by their construction were dated to the late Victorian period. These walls represent the 1895-1902 Infirmary rather than the earlier workhouse as some of the walls could be seen on the 1915 OS map. Although the bay windows in Trench 2 do not appear until the 1961 OS map, this map is more detailed than previous OS maps.
- 9.2 At least two phases of construction associated with the infirmary were recorded on site within its original footprint, constructed in red and yellow brick over concrete footings. The later phase of redevelopment was represented by red and purple brick walls.
- 9.3 A series of walls were revealed that do not appear to correspond to buildings recorded on the sequence of OS maps. In particular, a series of walls and a possible chimney feature in Trench 6 to the south may represent a previously unknown building on the site. It is possible that this structure and other walls on site were part of short-lived structures that were not standing when the OS maps were produced.
- 9.4 The specific aims of the evaluation were to identify any evidence of prehistoric, Roman or Medieval activity on site, or their truncation thereof. No archaeological remains dating to these periods were identified. Across much of the site any such remains would have been truncated by the foundations for the infirmary building. In the south part of the site, where a natural sequence of deposition was identified in Trenches 10, 11 and 12 with subsoil overlying natural clay at approximately 0.80m below ground level, no archaeological remains were identified. This would suggest that earlier remains are unlikely to have existed on the site. Another aim was to find any evidence of the 1839 workhouse, but any remains have also been truncated by the 1895-1902 Infirmary. The earliest foundations recorded on site were for bay windows which are not likely to have been associated with a workhouse.
- 9.5 Further investigation on the site could reveal a greater part of the 1895-1902 Infirmary, but such work is unlikely to enhance our understanding of this building. It is therefore recommended that no further work is required on this site to satisfy the condition on the planning application. However, the final decision will rest with the London Borough of Hounslow and its archaeology advisor, Kim Stabler of GLAAS.
- 9.6 Publication of the results will be through the ADS OASIS form (Appendix B) with a short summary submitted to the *London Archaeologist* archaeological roundup 2008.

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Figure 1: Site Location



Based on the Plans by P.J.Dunphy Construction Services Ltd.

Figure 2: Detailed Site/Trench Location Plan



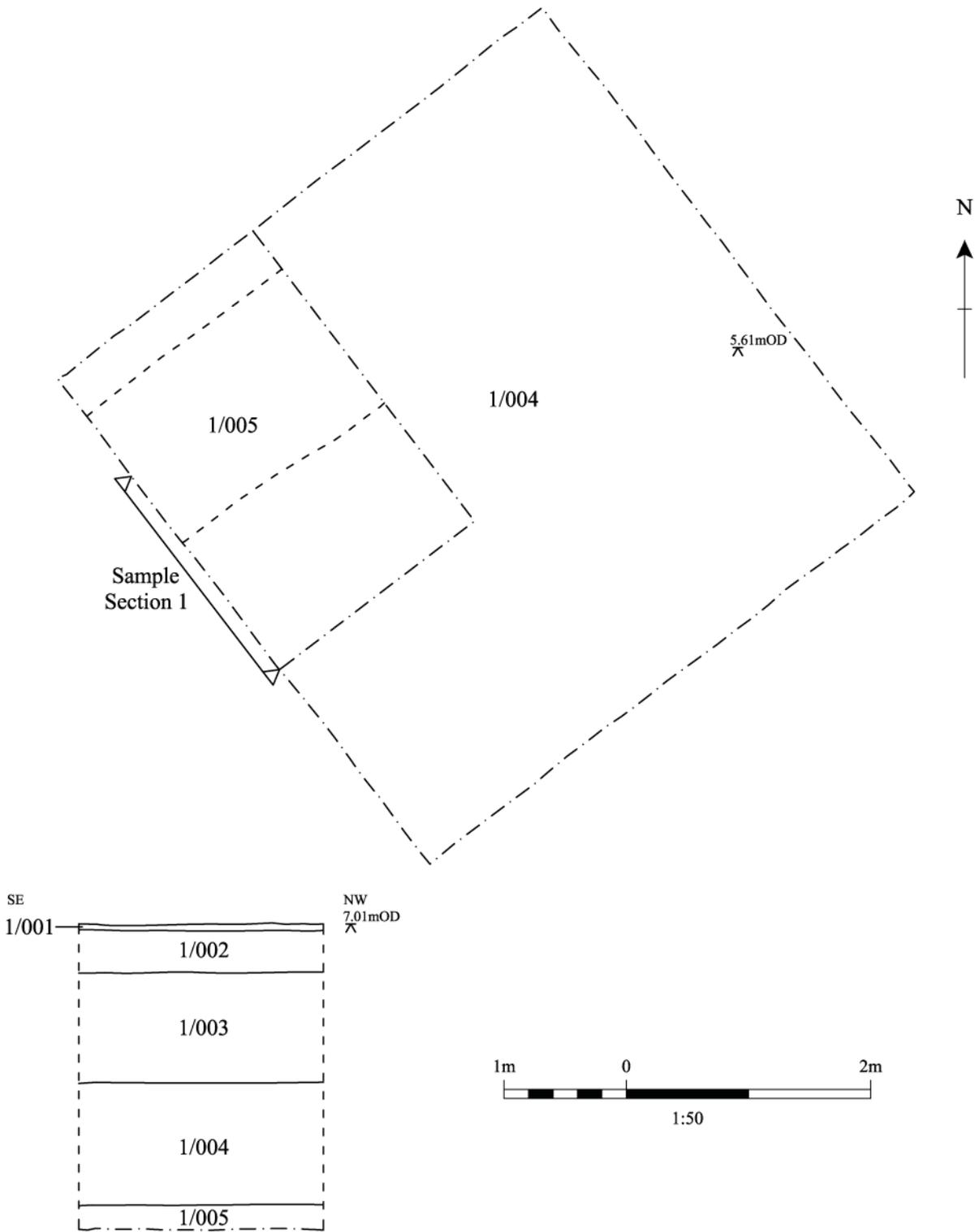


Figure 3: Trench 1: Plan (1:50) & Section (1:50)

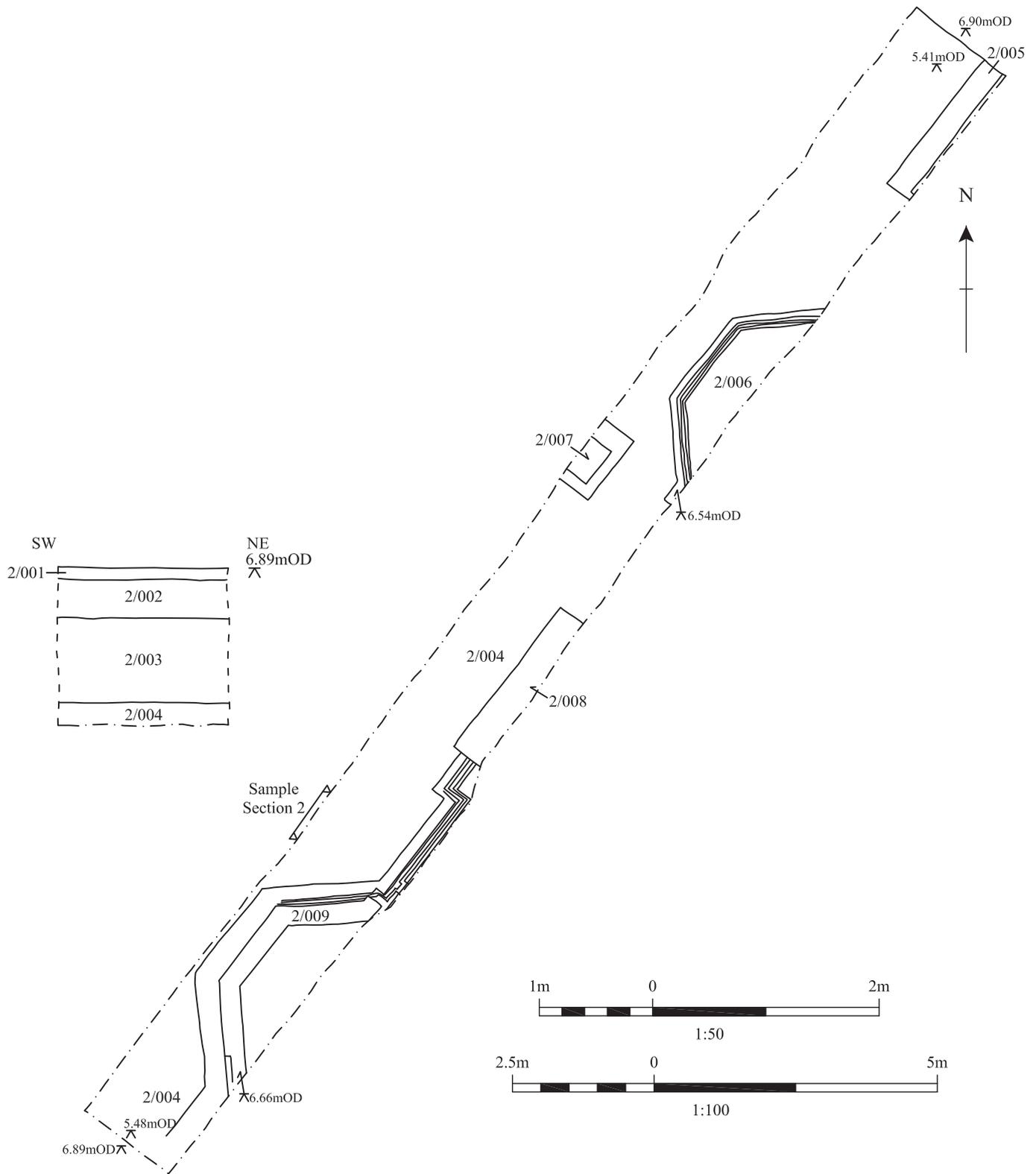


Figure 4: Trench 2: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:50)

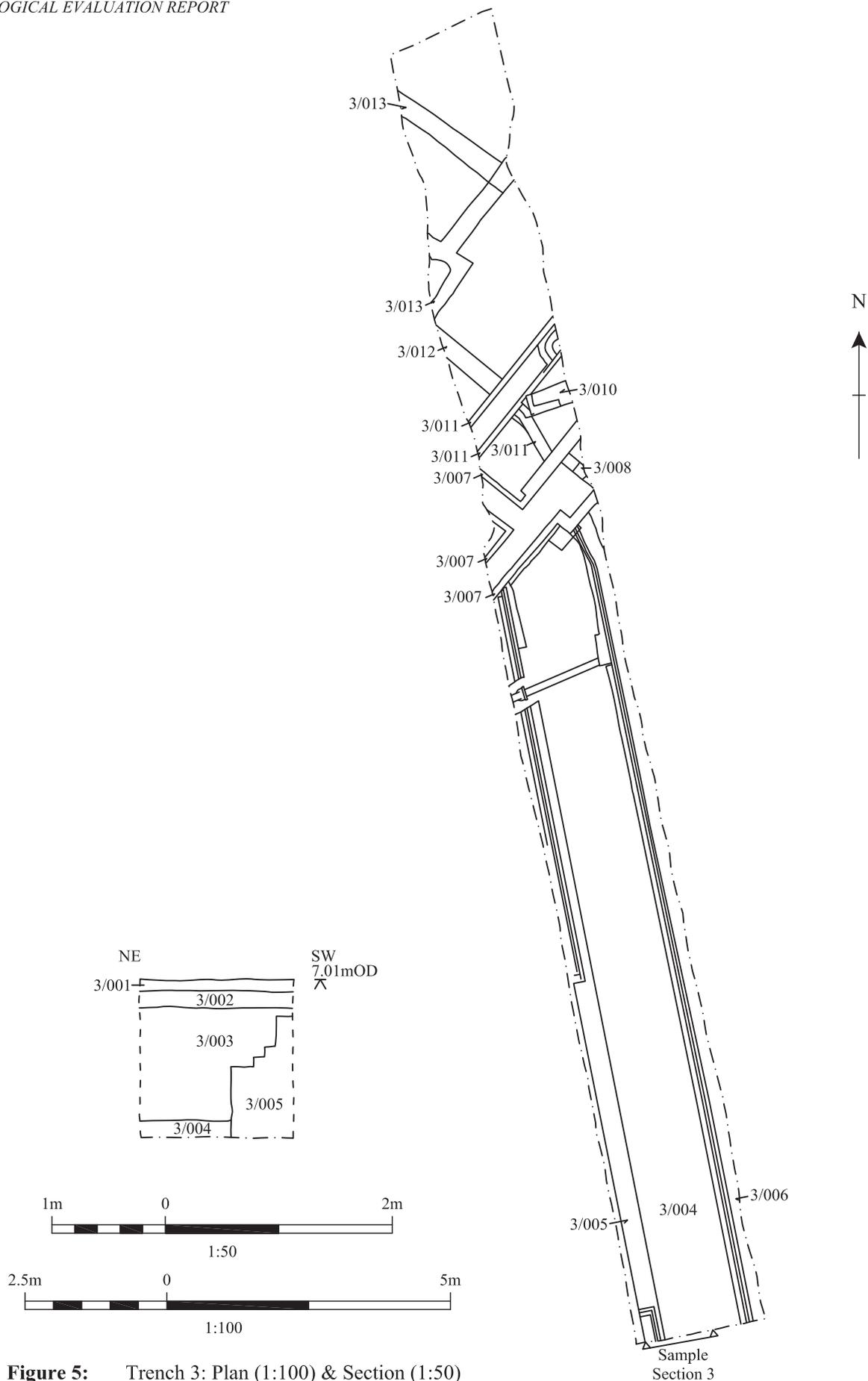


Figure 5: Trench 3: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:50)

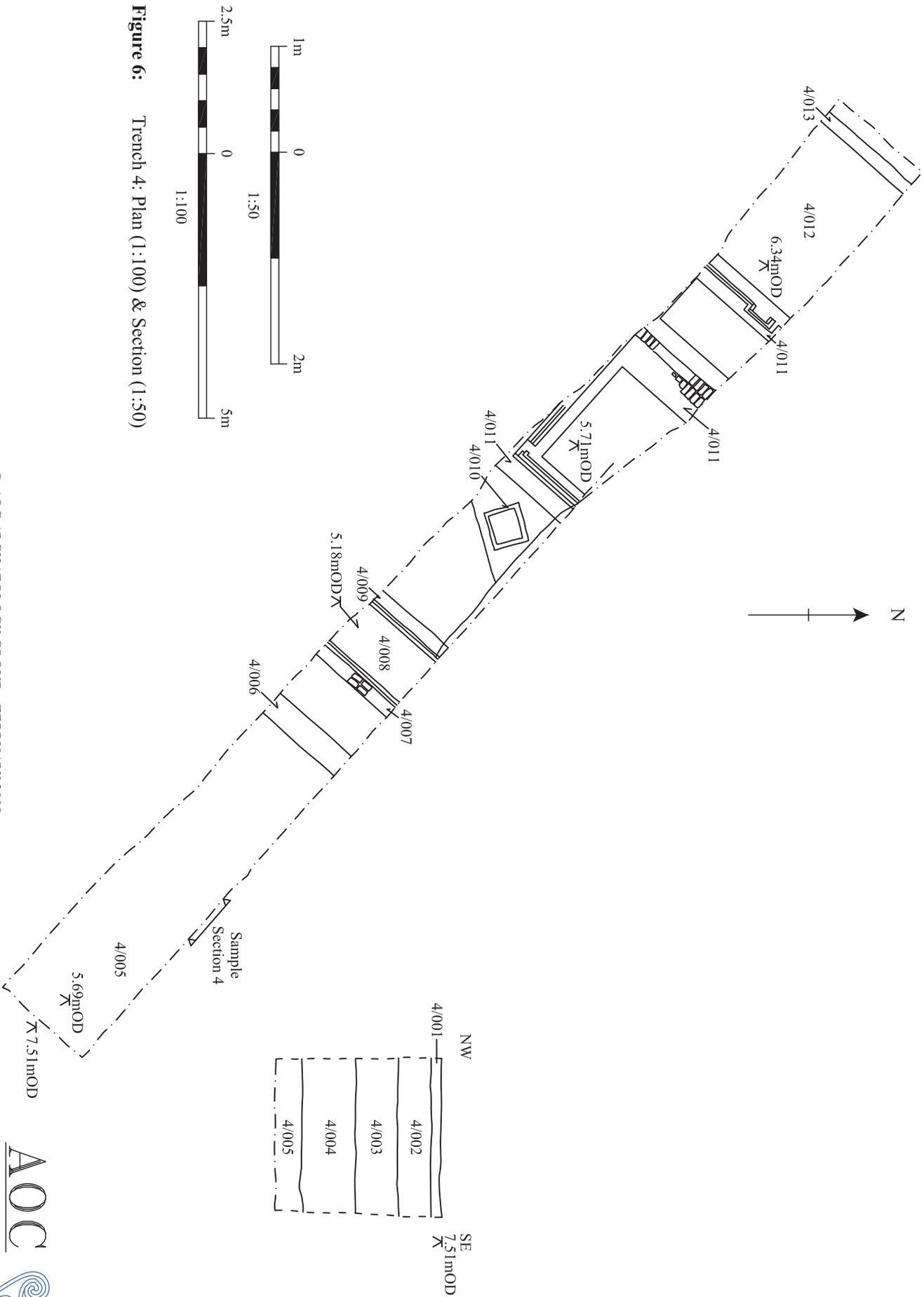


Figure 6: Trench 4: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:50)

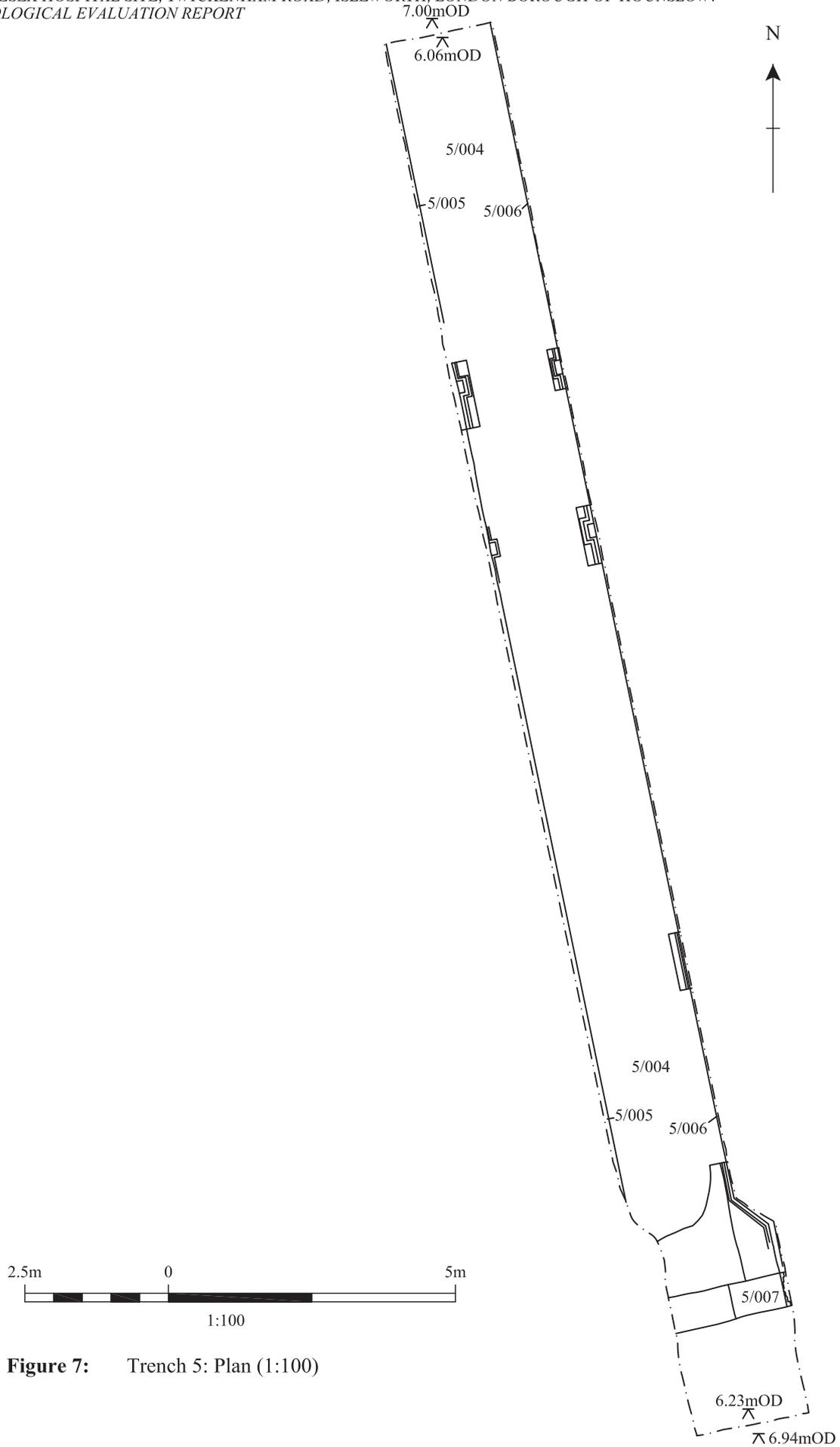


Figure 7: Trench 5: Plan (1:100)



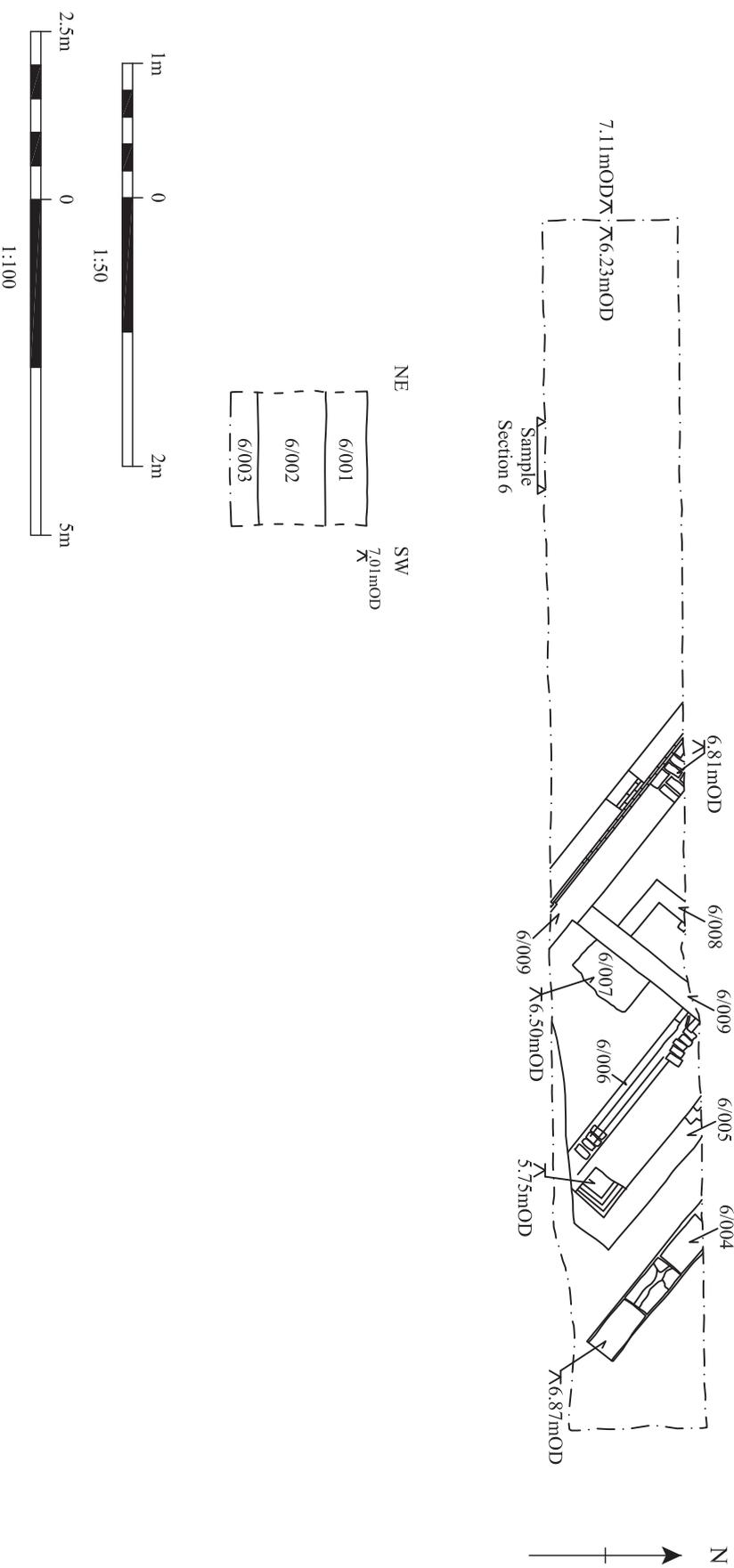


Figure 8: Trench 6: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:50)

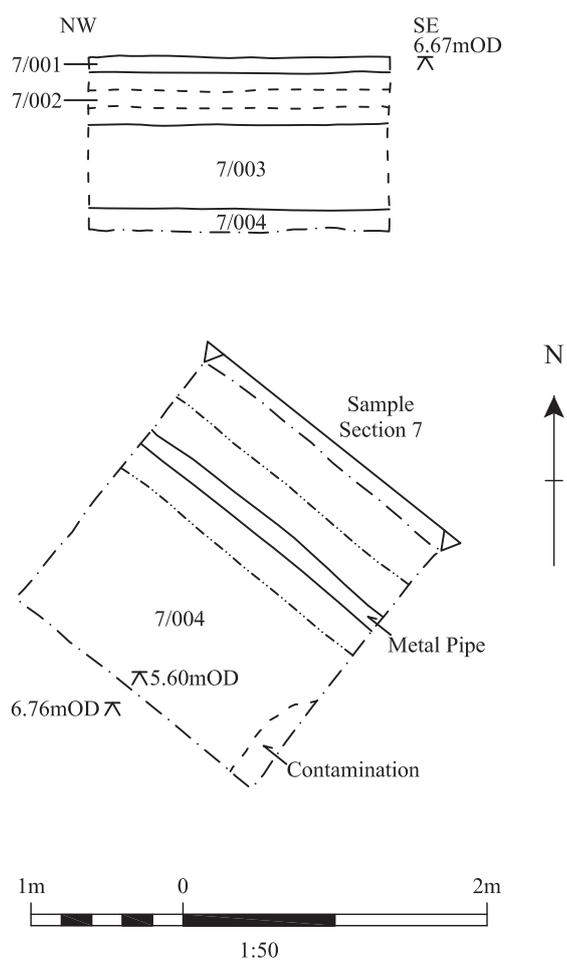


Figure 9: Trench 7: Plan (1:50) & Section (1:50)

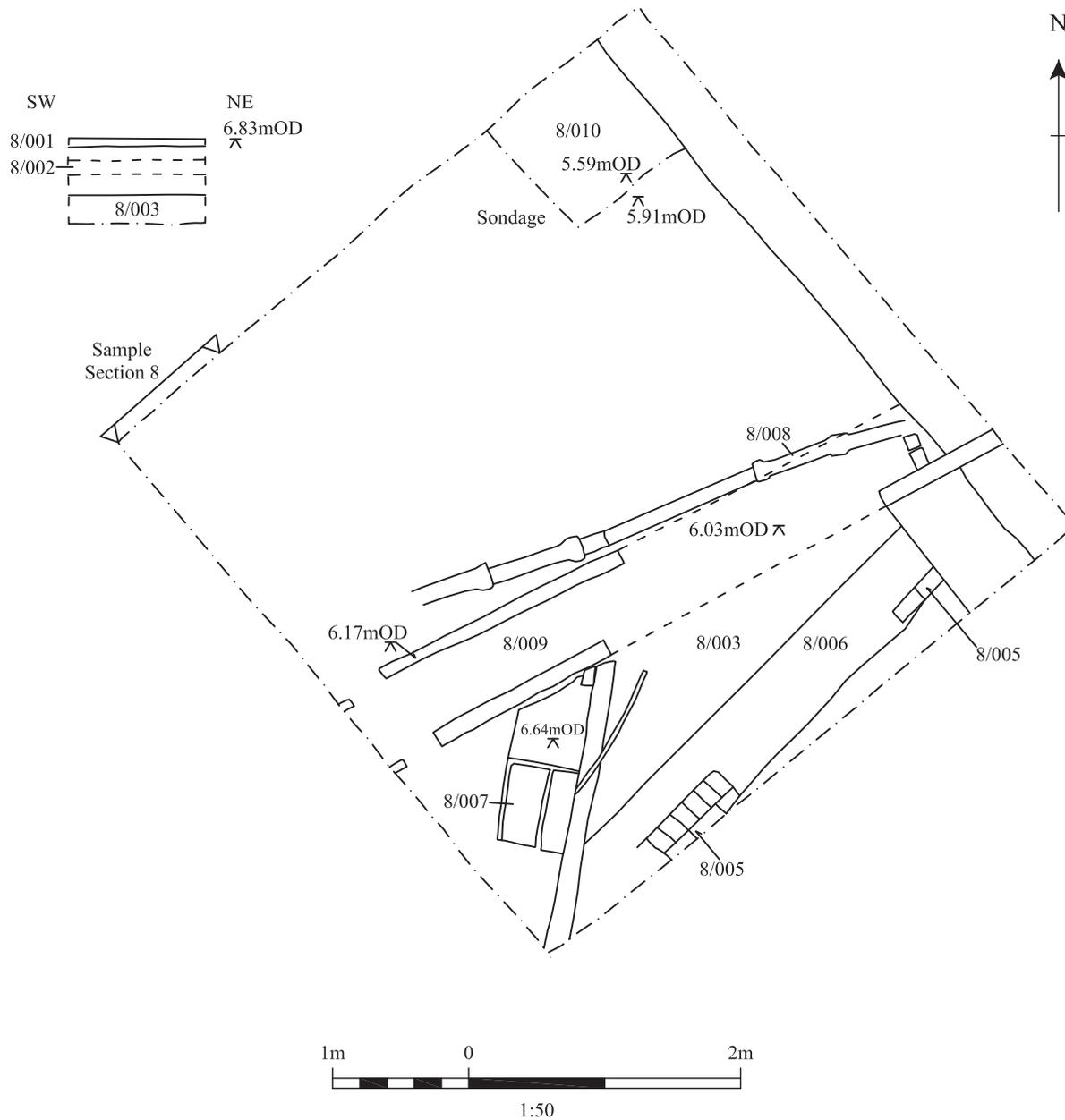


Figure 10: Trench 8: Plan (1:50) & Section (1:50)

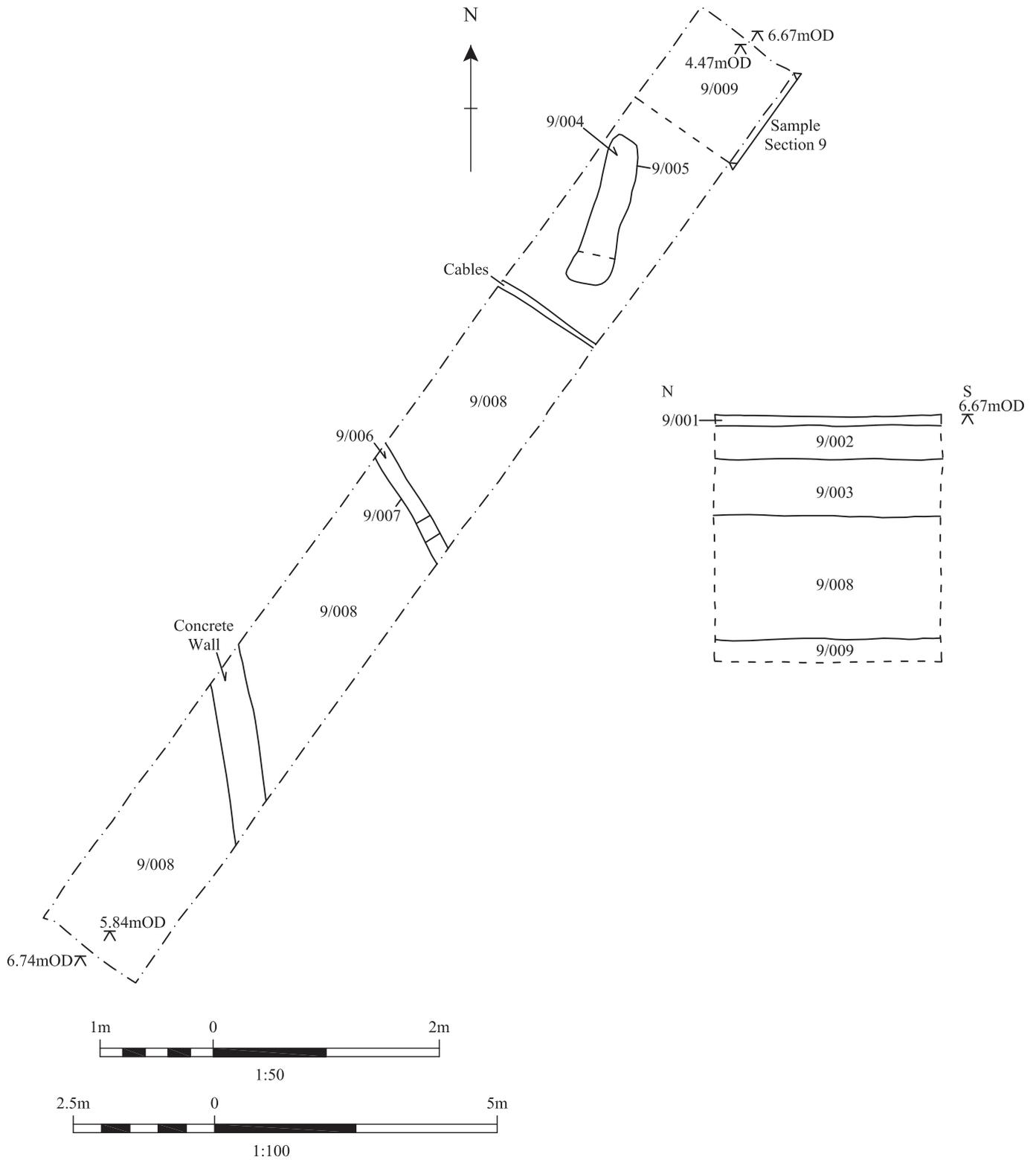


Figure 11: Trench 9: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:50)

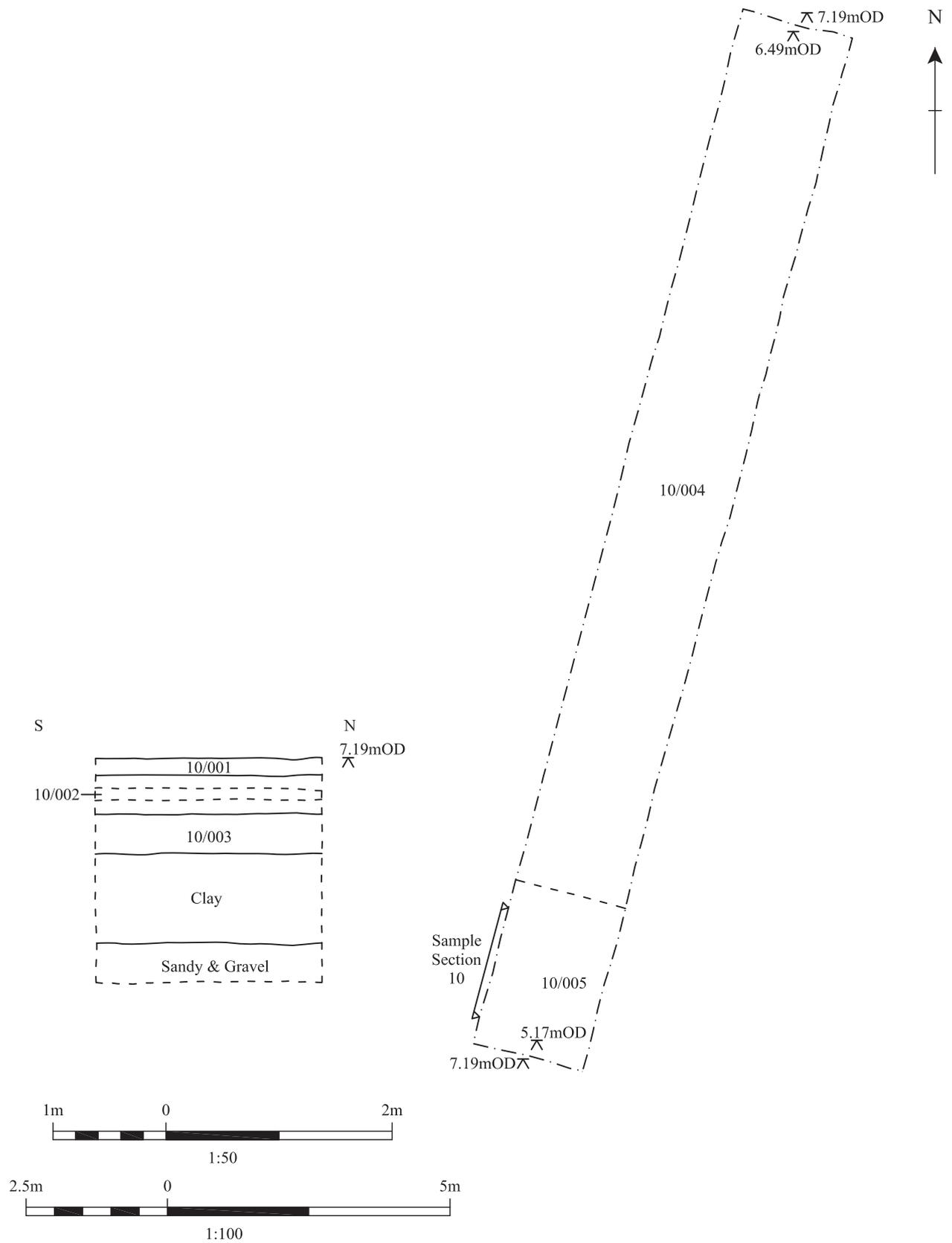


Figure 12: Trench 10: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:50)

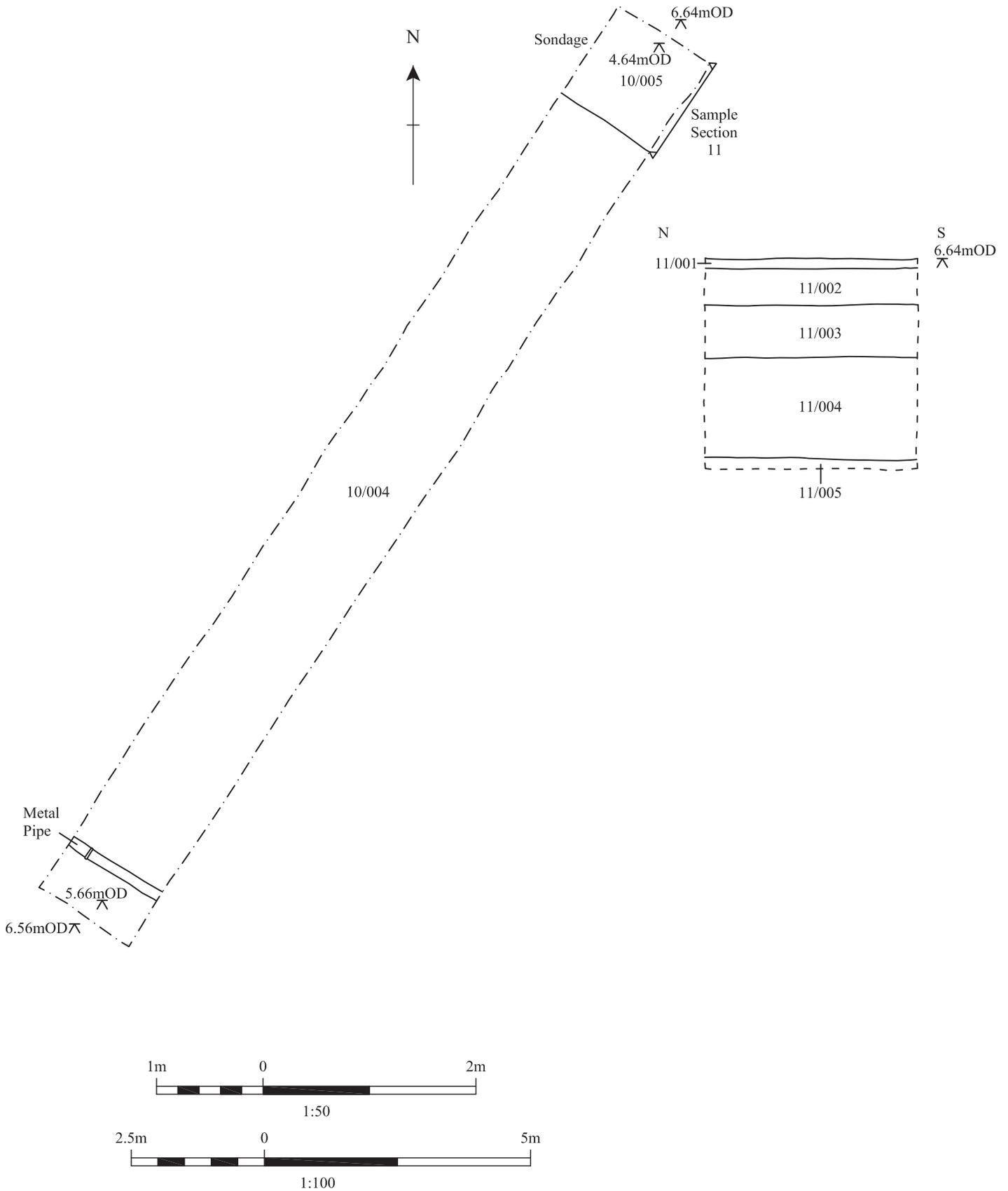


Figure 13: Trench 11: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:50)

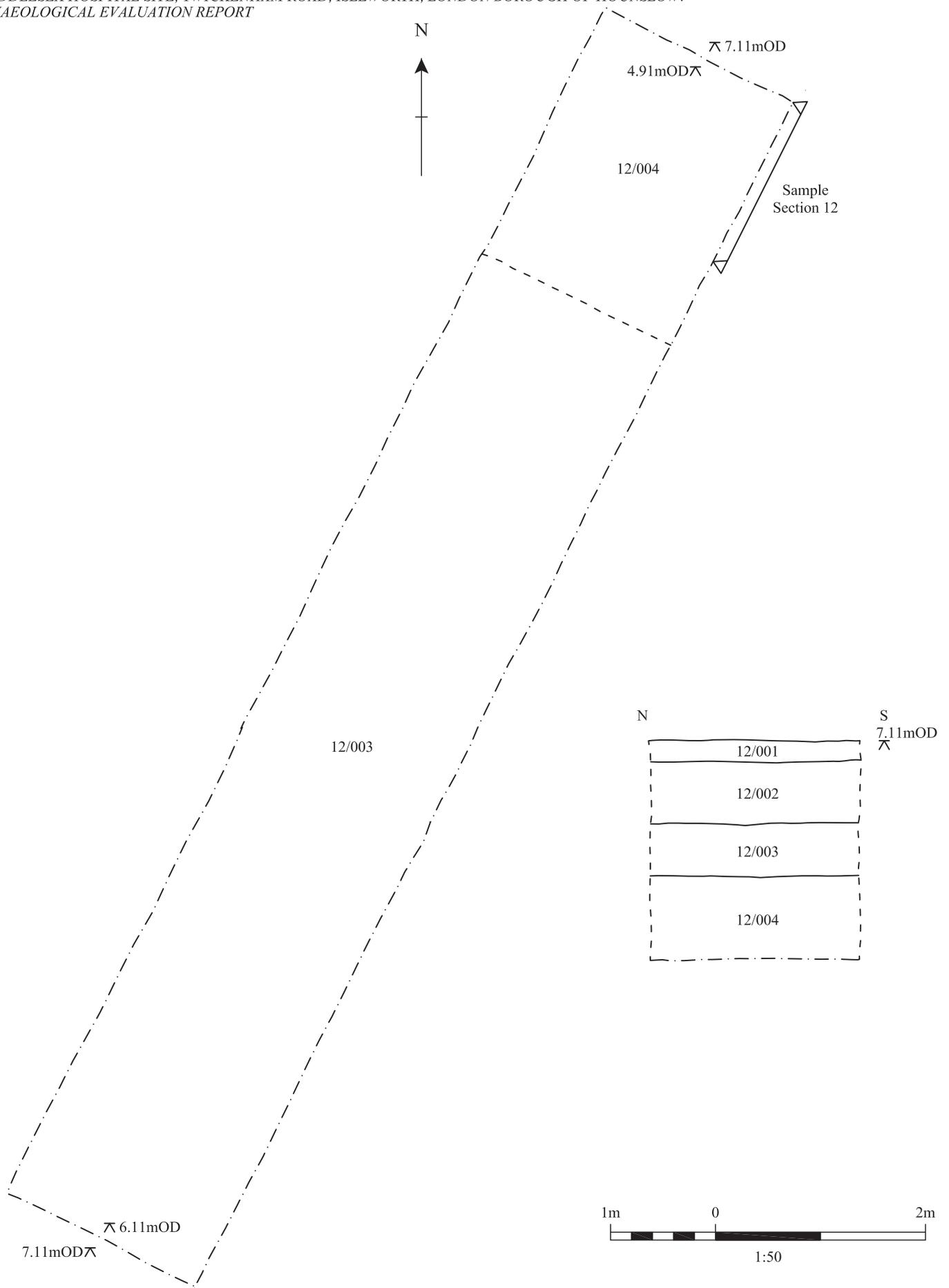
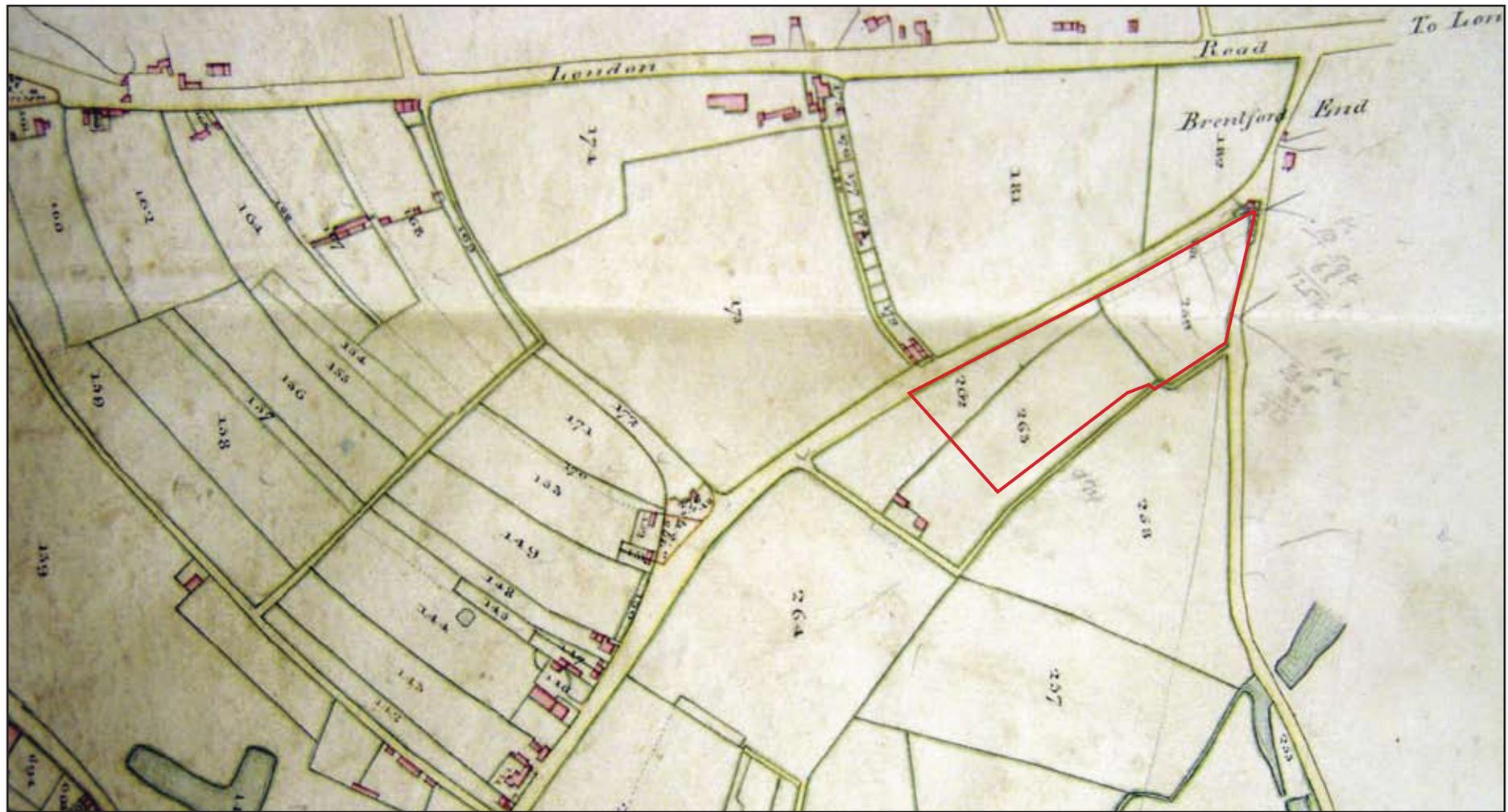


Figure 14: Trench 12: Plan (1:50) & Section (1:50)



Not to Scale

Figure 15: Inclosure Map (Plan C) 1813 (Approximate Site Location Only)

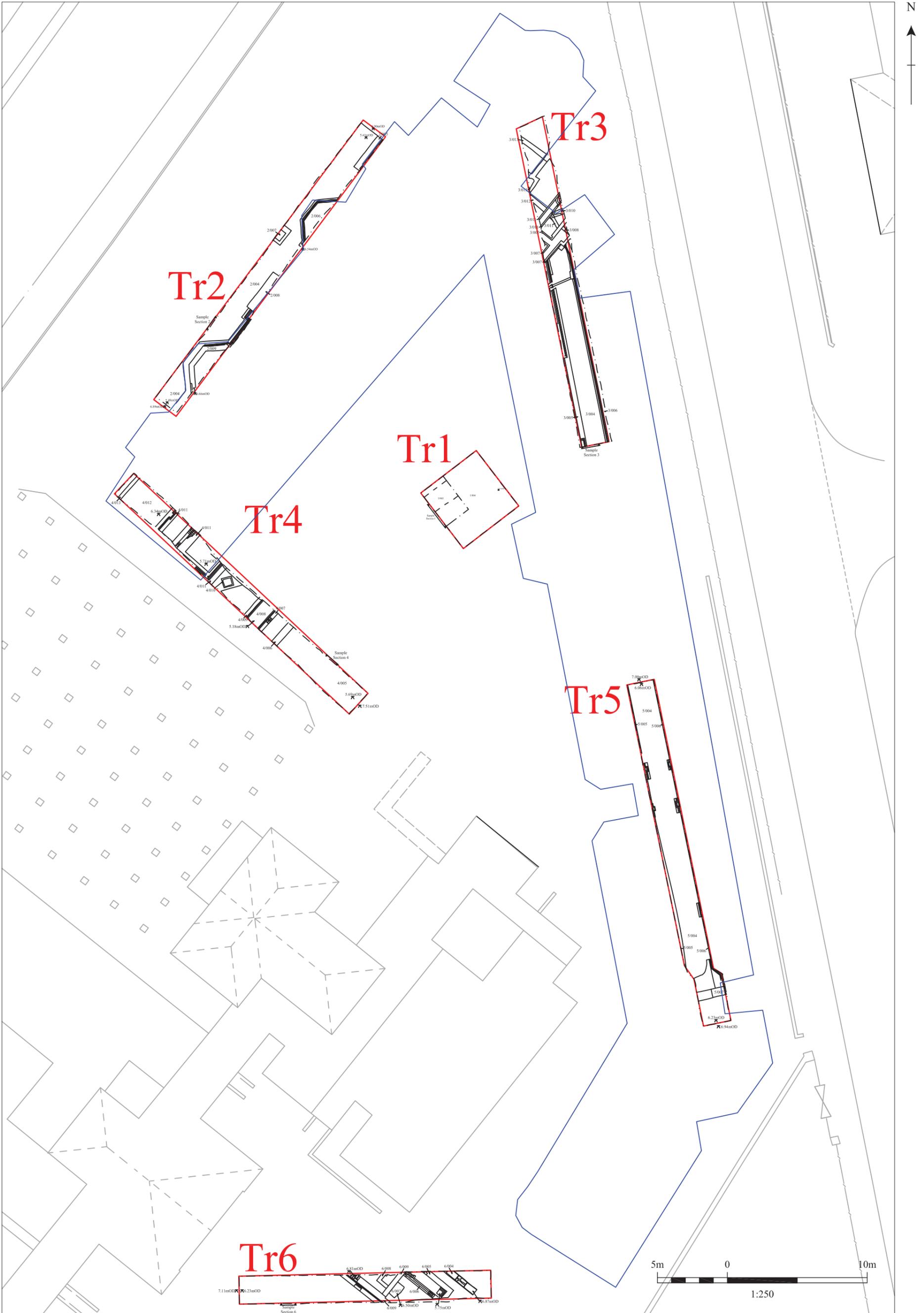


Figure 16: Trench Plans Over Building from the 1961 OS Map

□ Evaluation Trench
 □ Building from the 1961 OS Map

APPENDIX A – Context Register

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
1/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.05m
1/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.35m
1/003	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.90m
1/004	Natural river clay	Trench	Trench	1.00m
1/005	Natural river terrace gravels	Sondage	Sondage	NFE
2/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.10m
2/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.35m
2/003	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.75m
2/004	Re-deposited natural river clays	Trench	Trench	NFE
2/005	Concrete Footing	2.60m	0.50m	0.70m
2/006	Bay Window Foundation	4.50m	1.10m	1.20m
2/007	Manhole	1.50m	0.65m	1.20m
2/008	Concrete Footing	3.00m	0.50m	1.15m
2/009	Bay Window Foundation	11.50m	1.20m	1.20m
3/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.10m
3/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.15m
3/003	Subsoil	15.00m	1.50m	1.00m
3/004	Natural river clay	15.00m	1.50m	NFE
3/005	Brick Wall	13.00m	0.50m	1.00m
3/006	Brick Wall	14.00m	0.50m	1.00m
3/007	Brick Drain	2.70m	1.50m	0.50m
3/008	Concrete Drain Cover	0.50m	0.20m	0.03m
3/009	Yellow Brick Wall	1.00m	0.20m	0.30m
3/010	Brick Wall	0.90m	0.40m	0.35m
3/011	Brick Drain	2.50m	0.55m	0.30m
3/012	Brick Wall	1.50m	0.30m	0.32m
3/013	Brick Wall	3.50m	0.35m	0.20m
4/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.10m
4/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.30m
4/003	Redeposited natural clay	5.00m	Trench	0.40m
4/004	Subsoil	20.00m	Trench	0.50m
4/005	Natural clays	Trench	Trench	NFE
4/006	Concrete Footing	2.00m	0.50m	1.00m
4/007	Brick Wall	1.80m	0.30m	0.55m
4/008	Concrete Slab	1.80m	1.00m	NFE
4/009	Brick Wall	18.00m	0.30m	1.46m
4/010	Manhole	0.70m	0.70m	NFE
4/011	Brick Wall	5.50m	1.80m	1.00m
4/012	Concrete Slab	3.20m	1.90m	NFE
4/013	Brick Wall	1.90m	0.30m	0.25m
5/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.10m
5/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.15m
5/003	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.70m
5/004	Natural river clay	Trench	Trench	NFE
5/005	Brick Wall	Trench	0.50m	1.00m
5/006	Brick Wall	Trench	0.50m	1.00m

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
5/007	Sewage Pipe	2.00m	0.40m	NFE
6/001	Tarmac hardstanding over hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.30m
6/002	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.50m
6/003	Natural river clays	Trench	Trench	NFE
6/004	Brick Drain	2.50m	0.50m	NFE
6/005	Brick Wall	2.60m	0.35m	0.70m
6/006	Brick Drain	2.50m	0.30m	NFE
6/007	Concrete Slab	1.05m	0.70m	NFE
6/008	Chimney	0.95m	0.95m	0.30m
6/009	Brick Wall	3.00m	0.30m	0.75m
7/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.10m
7/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.35m
7/003	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.55m
7/004	Natural river clay	2.00m	1.40m	NFE
7/005	Metal Pipe	2.00m	0.40m	NFE
8/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.05m
8/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.35m
8/003	Natural river clay	Trench	Trench	0.35m
8/004	Foundation cut	4.20m	0.50m	NFE
8/005	Brick Wall	1.10m	0.50m	0.20m
8/006	Fill of Culvert 8/007	3.60m	0.55m	NFE
8/007	Brick Culvert	2.20m	0.70m	0.33m
8/008	Metal Pipe	4.00m	0.20m	NFE
8/009	Brick Culvert	4.80m	0.60m	0.46m
8/010	Natural River terrace gravels	Sondage	Sondage	NFE
9/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.10m
9/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.30m
9/003	Subsoil.	Trench	Trench	0.50m
9/004	Fill of Pit 9/005	2.70m	0.70m	NFE
9/005	Damp Pit	2.70m	0.70m	NFE
9/006	Fill of Drain 9/007	2.20m	0.30m	NFE
9/007	Land Drain	2.20m	0.30m	NFE
9/008	Natural river clay	Trench	Trench	1.10m
9/009	Natural River terrace gravels	Sondage	Sondage	NFE
9/010	Concrete Wall	2.90m	0.70m	1.20m
10/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.15m
10/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.35m
10/003	Subsoil.	Trench	Trench	0.35m
10/004	Natural river clay	Trench	Trench	0.80m
10/005	Natural River terrace gravels	Sondage	Sondage	NFE
11/001	Tarmac hard standing	Trench	Trench	0.10m
11/002	Rubble hardcore layer	Trench	Trench	0.35m
11/003	Subsoil.	Trench	Trench	0.50m
11/004	Natural river clay	Trench	Trench	0.90m
11/005	Natural River terrace gravels	Sondage	Sondage	NFE

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
12/001	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.20m
12/002	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.60m
12/003	Natural river clays	Trench	Trench	0.50m
12/004	Natural river gravels	Sondage	Sondage	NFE

NFE = No Further Excavation

APPENDIX B – Oasis Form

Project details

Project name West Middlesex Hospital

Short description of the project *An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group during December 2007 at West Middlesex Hospital Site, Twickenham Road, Isleworth. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of the proposed development of the site on any surviving archaeological remains.*

The evaluation consisted of twelve trenches. The evaluation revealed a series of wall foundations related to the construction and later redevelopment of the 1895-1902 Infirmary. Several walls were revealed that did not correspond to structures on the OS map sequence and may represent previously unknown short-lived structures not standing when the OS maps were produced.

Project dates Start: 18th December 2007 End: 21st December 2007

Previous/future work No / Yes

Any associated project codes WMX07 - Sitecode reference

Type of project Archaeological Evaluation

Site status Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)

Current Land use Other 3 - Built over

Monument type CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL Modern

Methods & Trial Trenching

techniques

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON HOUNSLOW BRENTFORD Former West Middlesex Hospital

Postcode TW7

Study area 20661.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 1640 7645 51.4745262231 -0.323793610831 51 28 28 N 000 19 25 W Point

Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology Group
Organisation

Project originator brief English Heritage

Project originator design AOC Archaeology Group

Project director/manager Andy Leonard

Project supervisor Paolo Guarino

Type of Developer
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive Museum of London

recipient

Digital Archive ID WMX07

Digital Media Yes
available

Digital Archive notes held at AOC until transfer

Paper Archive Museum of London
recipient

Paper Archive ID WMX07

Paper Media Yes
available

Paper Archive notes held at AOC until transfer

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title WEST MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL SITE,

Author(s)/Editor(s) Pole, C

Date 2008

Issuer or publisher AOC Archaeology

Description 26 pages, 13 figures, A4

Entered by Chris Pole (Chris.Pole@aocarchaeology.com)

Entered on 07/02/2008
