

**An Archaeological Evaluation
at the Hoval Boilers Site,
Trent Lane, Newark,
Nottinghamshire
(centre SK 8022 5492)**

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	<i>Summary</i>	1
1.	Introduction	2
2.	Methodology	2
3.	Results	3
	3.1 Trench 1	3
	3.2 Trench 2	3
	3.3 Trench 3	4
	3.4 Trench 4	6
	3.5 Trench 5	6
	3.6 Trench 6	7
4.	Conclusion	8
	Acknowledgements	9
	References	9
	Appendix The pottery and miscellaneous finds.	12
	Nick Cooper	

Figures

- Figure 1** Site Location Plan
- Figure 2** Trench Location Plan
- Figure 3** Section 1 through Trench 1
- Figure 4** Plan of Trench 3
- Figure 5** Section 2 through Trench 3
- Figure 6** Plan of Trench 5 and Section 3
- Figure 7** Plan of Trench 6 and Section 4

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Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by JWA Architects/Caunton Management and Hoval Boilers to undertake a preliminary stage of archaeological evaluation of the Hoval Boiler works on Trent Lane, Newark. Previous archaeological investigations and a desk-based assessment had identified the site as being very likely to contain significant archaeological deposits; there is evidence of a Romano-British settlement to the south; evidence for a medieval hospital to the east; and the remains of the large Civil War earthwork, the King's Sconce is centred within the proposed development area.

The evaluation was undertaken at an early stage of the development proposals, whilst the Hoval Boiler works was still in operation. The available locations in which evaluation trenches could be placed were limited, and in total six trenches were evaluated dispersed across the available parts of the proposed development area, giving a sample of approximately 0.01%.

The location of the King's Sconce was located within Trench 3, although lack of safe working space prevented further detailed investigation. The trench appeared to demonstrate the survival of probable remnant bank material from the Sconce, below which was sealed a Romano-British linear feature. Further evidence for the extension of the known Romano-British settlement into the proposed development area was also located within the southernmost trenches (5 & 6). In trenches 3, 5 and 6 early – mid Saxon pottery was recovered. In all three trenches the majority of this material came from a dark layer that sealed cut features below (possibly of early Saxon or late Roman date). The layer may represent a build of occupation deposits or derive from cultivation of the land during this period.

Trenches 1 and 2 in the northern part of the proposed development area, and trench 4 to the west indicated a substantial build up of imported material, deposited in the later nineteenth/earlier twentieth century, presumably levelling the general area to prepare for industrial expansion. This material could potentially archaeological remains that may have been present at the original ground surface, although none were recorded within these three trenches

This initial phase of evaluation across the proposed development area has confirmed that archaeological remains of considerable archaeological significance survive on the site. Further archaeological evaluation of the site should be undertaken to gain more information on the extent and character of these deposits.

1. Introduction

1.1 University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by JWA Architects/Caunton Management and Hoval Boilers to undertake a preliminary stage of archaeological evaluation of the Hoval Boiler works on Trent Lane, Northgate, Newark, Nottinghamshire. The site lies to the west of the Northgate road, which follows the original route of the Roman Fosse way. Following advice from Nottinghamshire County Council Heritage Services an Archaeological Impact Assessment is being prepared in advance of the submission of a planning application. A desk-based assessment also completed by ULAS (ULAS Report Number 2004-087) identified the site as being of significant archaeological interest.

1.2 The desk-based assessment suggested the likely presence of a wide variety of archaeological remains within the proposed development area. Previous archaeological excavations to the south have demonstrated the presence of a fairly extensive Roman settlement, which was thought likely to continue northwards into the development area. Limited evidence for Roman cemetery activity has also been indicated. The lost medieval village of Osmundthorpe is also located within the vicinity of the development area, but is thought more likely to be concentrated on the Northgate street frontage to the east.

1.3 Newark also played an important role during the first English Civil War (1642-46) and a number of important remains are still recognisable. The southern part of the development area lies over the former site of the large Royalist outwork, the King's Sconce, a raised earthwork used as a cannon emplacement guarding the northern approaches to the town. The sconce was slighted immediately after the war, however some of the earthworks remained well into the latter part of the nineteenth century and were only levelled during the construction of the Farrar Boiler works in 1887, part of which still occupies the site.

1.4 The location of the medieval manor of Exeter House, first mentioned as part of St Leonard's Hospital in 1546, also lies within the proposed development area. The house changed hands on a number of occasions during the Civil War sieges of Newark; Parliamentary forces captured the house early February 1645 who then made use of the building as an offensive position; upon its recapture the house was razed to the ground and the King's Sconce constructed, before the third and final siege Thoroton remarked, "there was not one Stone left unthrown down" (Throsby's Thoroton 1, 390-391). It is possible therefore, that the buried remains of Exeter House may also be located within the proposed development area.

1.5 The underlying geology consists of a clay island of Mercian mudstone with Holme Pierrepont sand and gravel to the north, south, and east. The western edge of the site is bounded by the River Trent, Newark branch, which has alluvial deposits of silty or sandy clay with sand and gravel lenses on the western bank (British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, England and Wales, Sheet No's 113 and 126).

2. Methodology

2.1 The entire proposed development area extends to approximately 3.06ha, which is covered almost entirely by the Hoval Boiler works. Due to site constraints and on-going production at the boiler works, an initial stage of a limited programme of trial trenching was proposed to give a preliminary indication of the likely archaeological remains that may survive at the site, prior to the cessation of works at the site and

demolition of existing buildings. The proposed trench location plan totalled approximately 0.01% of the area, using a total of six trial trenches. Two trenches were located within the northern part of the development area, one adjacent to the eastern boundary of the development area, two on open ground in the southern extremity of the development area and finally a test pit on the western edge of the development area, adjacent to the river Trent.

2.2 The trenches of varying lengths and depths. All trenches were machine excavated with a ditching bucket under continuous archaeological supervision. The evaluation was carried out between July 22nd 2004 and August 6th 2004.

3. Results

3.1 Trench 1

Length	27m
Width	3 – 3.5m
Ground Level	13.56m aOD – 13.67m a OD
Top of buried topsoil	12.26m aOD – 12.49m aOD
Top of subsoil	11.93m aOD – 12.21m aOD
Base of Trench	11.74m aOD – 12.07m aOD

3.1.1 Trench 1 was located in the northeastern corner of the site (Figure 2) on an area of open ground. A trench approximately 27 metres long and aligned north-northeast, south-southwest parallel with the site boundary was excavated using a 360 degree wheeled excavator with toothless ditching bucket.

3.1.2 Due to the depth of modern overburden, the trench was widened and the sides of the trench stepped to allow safe access.

3.1.3 Approximately 1500mm of rubble build up, probably twentieth century in date was excavated before a layer of buried topsoil was exposed; this was approximately 300mm deep with approximately 140mm of subsoil overlaying undisturbed sands and gravel at 12.07mOD.

3.1.4 No finds were recovered and no features of archaeological significance were observed. The trench was recorded and backfilled.

3.2 Trench 2

Length	30m
Width	3 – 3.5m
Ground Level	13.31m aOD – 13.51m a OD
Top of buried soil	<10.98m aOD – 11.85m a OD
Top of subsoil	<10.98m aOD – 11.57m aOD
Base of Trench	10.98m aOD – 11.57m aOD

3.2.1 Trench 2 was located approximately 5 metres north-west of trench 1 aligned west-south-west to east-south-east, perpendicular to trench 1 (Figure 2 and 3 – Section 1). The trench was approximately 30 metres long, excavated using a 360 degree wheeled excavator with toothless ditching bucket.

3.2.2. The location of the trench was moved slightly to the southwest to avoid disturbing a clump of Japanese Knotweed. The trench was again widened and stepped due to the depth of modern overburden to allow safe access.

3.2.3 The easternmost part of the trench had the same stratigraphy as trench 1; a similar depth of rubble build up concealing buried topsoil and subsoil, and of similar depths to those seen in trench 1, overlaying undisturbed sands and gravel.

3.2.4 As excavation proceeded westwards, the depth of the rubble build up increased dramatically to over 2000mm (10.98mOD), with no sign of undisturbed sands and gravels. This material was not removed to undisturbed natural ground for safety reasons.

3.2.5 An examination of the exposed section of the trench revealed clear east to west tip lines containing probable twentieth century material, including a significant amount of Warwick and Richardson Brewery bottle glass and a penny of 1928. The very substantial build up of this material suggests that this part of the development area had been subjected to substantial earthmoving in the recent past, probably in an attempt to raise the ground level of the site to alleviate the threat of flooding and allow construction of industrial works. The ground is likely to have originally dropped sharply towards the west and the river in this area.

3.2.6 No significant archaeological finds or deposits were revealed within this trench, although interesting information regarding the landscaping of the ground level during the twentieth century was recorded. It is possible that earlier archaeologically significant layers may be present sealed below this build up, although none were recorded in either trench 1 or 2. Further investigation of this area was not possible due to health and safety reasons.

3.3 Trench 3

Length	19m
Width	2.5m
Ground Level	14.01m aOD – 14.07m aOD
Top of archaeology	13.38m aOD
Top of natural	12.75m aOD

3.3.1 Trench 3 was located within the main Hoval site on an area of hard standing northeast of Number One workshop (Figures 2, 4 and 5 – Section 2). The trench was excavated using a JCB with toothless ditching bucket.

3.3.2 Recent archaeological excavations at the adjacent Homebase site by Birmingham Archaeology revealed the ditch that surrounded the south-eastern bastion of the King's Sconce. By projecting the likely shape of the Sconce from these results it was surmised that the north easternmost bastion and ditch of the King's Sconce might be present within this area, and thus revealed within this trench.

3.3.3 The size and location of the trench was limited by existing operations and surface features, such that it was only possible to excavate a 19 metre long by 2500mm wide trench. Excavation was halted at the north easternmost end of the trench by an apparently substantial subterranean brick-built structure, which was discovered when a railway sleeper was moved revealing a void beneath. The trench was not extended further for health and safety reasons.

3.3.4 Approximately 400mm of late twentieth century rubble build up was excavated before a horizon of well mixed, apparently re-deposited Mercian mudstone (309) was uncovered at 13.24m OD. At the north-easternmost end of the trench, the modern material sealed a much darker redeposited clay soil that retained more moisture.

3.3.5 A 600mm wide trench through the redeposited clay and darker material was then excavated to ascertain their character. The darker material (301) appeared to be the fill of a substantial ditch, with an approximately 2.5m depth of the re-deposited mudstone being excavated without encountering undisturbed natural. At this depth the trench became extremely unstable and was backfilled. Two fragments of roof tile and an iron object, possibly a fragment of shrapnel ball were recovered from this material. The cut for the ditch was later exposed approximately 4m south-west of the north-eastern edge of the trench, which had been apparently cut through the undisturbed Mercian mudstone. Despite the very limited area exposed, the ditch appeared to be on an east west alignment, from this point onwards the trench was only excavated to a depth of approximately 600mm, 12.52m OD. The ditch is very likely the remains of that surrounding the King's Sconce.

3.3.6 An examination of the exposed section indicated that the re-deposited mudstone in the southern end of the trench appeared to be only 150mm to 200mm in depth and sealed a buried dark soil layer (304), approximately 550/600mm deep which contained fragments of Roman pottery and a sherd of possible Saxon pot. This redeposited clay layer may represent the remains of the earthwork of the King's Sconce.

3.3.5 Beneath the buried layer (304) was a single north-west to south-east aligned linear feature cut into the natural mudstone. Excavation of the feature recovered a number of Romano-British pottery fragments, some of the fragments were relatively large and un-abraded, there was no clear distinction or cut visible through the buried layer (304).

3.3.6 The presence of apparently later Roman and Saxon levels within the development area suggests that the Romano-British settlement partially excavated during the re-development of the adjacent Northgate retail park may continue further to the northwest than was originally presumed. The indication is also that Saxon archaeological remains may also be present sealing these Roman remains, which was not originally anticipated.

3.4 Trench 4

Length	13m
Width	2.5m
Ground Level	c. 14.30m a OD
Base of trench	10.41m aOD

3.4.1 Trench 4 was located on the western edge of the development area (Figure 2), immediately adjacent to the riverbank; there was clearly a substantial build up overburden within this area and expectations were not high. Excavation revealed approximately 4000mm of extremely loose and unstable debris, consisting almost exclusively of iron slag, probably imported onto the site to build up the area to prevent flooding/consolidate the riverbank. Apparently undisturbed sands and gravel was observed in the base of the trench at c. 10.41mOD, but obviously not investigated further, the trench was photographed and backfilled.

3.4.2 As with trench 2, this part of the site has been substantially built up, probably in the quite recent past. The sands and gravel in the base of the trench indicates the original ground level and provide an idea of the possible depth of material not excavated from within trench 2. Once again there maybe archaeological remains preserved below this modern build up.

3.5 Trench 5

Length	17m
Width	1.6m
Ground Level	13.18m aOD – 13.57m a OD
Top of archaeology	13.03m aOD
Top of natural	12.71m aOD

3.5.1 Trench 5 was located in the southern part of the proposed development (Figures 2 and 6 – Section 3) on an area of waste ground between the rear of Northgate Retail Park and the River Trent. The trench was located with the aim of locating the south westernmost bastion of the King’s Sconce, as projected from recent excavations in the area.

3.5.2 Approximately 700mm of modern overburden, including make up for the abandoned Joint Curve railway link was excavated using a JCB with toothless ditching bucket, revealing a horizon of weathered, but apparently undisturbed marl bedrock at 12.78mOD.

3.5.3 Despite crossing the assumed location of the Sconce ditch, no evidence of it was observed, however, a number of possible east west linear features (501 and 504) of dark reddish brown silty clay, some including fragments of stone, were observed clearly cutting into the natural clay. Saxon pottery was also recovered from feature (501).

3.5.4 A third feature, 500, which contained stone and Roman roof tile was recorded cutting 504. Excavation of this feature recovered a number of fragments of Romano-British pottery and confirmed the tile also as Roman in origin. Because of its proximity to the edge of the trench it was difficult to establish the exact nature of the feature, however, it was square in shape, approximately 500mm by 300mm in size and only approximately 50mm deep and filled with stones and fragments of Roman brick and tile.

3.5.5 The other features, 501 and 504 were also excavated and both contained Romano-British pottery fragments, including Saxon pottery from 501. The stone observed on the surface of 501 had no discernable structure and appeared re-deposited. The feature appeared to be a shallow east - west linear feature cutting into the weathered marl bedrock. The second feature, 504 also appeared to be an east west linear feature and again excavation recovered Romano-British pottery fragments and fragments of Roman brick and tile; the stone also appeared re-deposited and was also relatively shallow.

3.5.6 Excavation indicated that 504 post-dated 501 as it appeared to cut the southern edge and then, at a later date, the possible post pad, 500 was cut into 504. As (501) contained Saxon pottery it would be assumed that it is of at least Saxon date, thus (504) and (500) are later features. It is likely from the similarity of their fills that they indicate phases of activity within a similar period, ie. Saxon.

3.5.7 The excavations on the adjacent Northgate Retail Park uncovered evidence of Roman stone buildings, all the features excavated in trench 5 contained re-deposited Romano-British building material in the form of stone, brick and tile. The suggestion is that the trench demonstrates a continuation of settlement in this area from the later Roman into the Saxon period.

3.5.8 Unfortunately, no remnants of the sence ditch were revealed in this trench, which would suggest it lies further to the north.

3.6 Trench 6

Length	17m
Width	1.6m
Ground Level	13.00m OD – 13.28m a OD
Top of archaeology	12.80m aOD
Top of natural	11.95m aOD

3.6.1 Trench 6 was located approximately 10 metres south of Trench 5, adjacent to the southernmost boundary of the development area (Figure 2 and 7 – Section 4). Between 400 & 600mm of modern overburden sealed a layer of disturbed reddish brown silty clay subsoil (606) at 12.80mOD, which contained Romano-British and Saxon material. Machine excavation stopped at this level.

3.6.2 There were no visible archaeological features and it was decided to hand excavate a section through the remainder of this material to ascertain its nature. The deposit varied in depth from between 200mm to 600mm and a number of Romano-British and Saxon finds were recovered.

3.6.2 There appeared to be a buried topsoil layer (604) comprising a greyish brown silty clay, and this too was hand excavated down to undisturbed clay. This layer ranged in depth from between 400mm to 600mm with the deepest deposits occurring at the northern edge. A vast quantity of Romano-British artefacts and Saxon finds were recovered from 604, including a range of pottery types, iron objects, brick and tile fragments, fragment of millstone grit quern stone and a carved bone pin. This volume of artefacts suggests that 604 and 606 may be occupation/activity layers of Saxon date, containing redeposited Romano-British material.

3.6.3 Excavation uncovered two features sealed by 604, both of which were clearly cut into the weathered clay natural; the first was a narrow gully, 611, approximately 400mm wide and 120mm deep. No dating evidence was recovered, however, the feature was clearly sealed by the Saxon layers and a Romano-British date is likely. The second feature was a post-hole, approximately 100mm in diameter, approximately 500mm deep with near vertical sides and flat bottom; again no dating evidence was recovered, but may again suggest Roman activity sealed by the later Saxon layers.

3.6.4 The trench would appear to confirm that Roman settlement activity extends into the proposed development area, and that continuation of activity in the area continues into the Saxon period.

3.6.5 The comparatively shallow depth of modern overburden encountered within both trench 5 and 6 sealing Romano-British features suggests that the ground level has not been greatly altered in recent times. It has always been assumed that the ground level has raised as a result modern activity and possible flood prevention. However, the results from trenches 5 and 6 would appear to contradict this assumption; even in the Roman period the ground level was some metres above the floodplain and therefore, not prone to flooding. It is possible therefore that the Roman settlement and later Saxon activity was located here to exploit this higher ground. The clay bedrock would also be more suitable for building on than the sands and gravel to the north and south.

4. Conclusion

4.1 Due to constraints of excavating within an occupied and working factory, this initial phase of evaluation covered only a very limited portion of the proposed development area, approximately 0.01% of 3.06ha. Nevertheless, the results appear to suggest that there is a substantial distribution of earth-fast archaeological remains within the central and southern part of the proposed development.

4.2 Initial results appear to suggest that the known Romano-British settlement continues further to the northwest than was previously thought, extending into the areas of trenches 3, 5 and 6. Also recorded in these three trenches was a dark soil layer, originally thought to represent a buried topsoil sealed beneath modern overburden, or in the case of trench 3 possibly remnants of the embankment material of the King's Sconce. Further analysis of the finds from these layers show Saxon pottery is present. Potentially the layer represents either a Saxon occupation/activity deposit or remnants of cultivation from this period, sealing Romano-British features and potentially Saxon features also.

4.3 The results from trench 3 suggest good preservation of archaeological deposits within the Hoval site itself, including both the King's Sconce and earlier Romano-

British and Saxon remains preserved beneath. Romano-British activity has been recorded before in this area, including a pottery kiln uncovered during the building of the Farrar Boiler Works in 1887, and there has been speculation that an industrial area of this date was located to the northwest of the Romano-British settlement (Meek 2004, ULAS Report No 2004-087). The evidence confirms the continuation of the settlement north-westwards. The presence of Saxon activity had not however been anticipated.

4.4 The results from trenches 1, 2 and 4 indicate substantial depths of imported modern overburden in the northern and western parts of the site, and it is possible that this material is sealing buried archaeological remains, and these remains may also be well preserved as a direct result of this build up of material. Evidence from Hoval employees also suggests a lack of any substantial cellarage within the site; this too contributes towards potentially high archaeological preservation within the development area.

4.5 From the limited excavations it appears that the underlying geology played a major role in the location of the Romano-British settlement, Saxon activity and the King's Sconce. The results from trenches 5 and 6 suggest that the ground level has remained largely unaltered since the late Roman/Saxon period, and it is likely therefore, that this location was chosen for settlement as it lies on a raised outcrop of Mercian mudstone, surrounded by softer sands and gravels in the floodplain of the River Trent. This outcrop of mudstone would have been less prone to flooding than the surrounding land.

4.6 It appears that this natural outcrop of mudstone was again utilised during the construction of the medieval Exeter House. Documentary evidence describes that during the early stages of the English Civil War the Parliamentary forces had derived considerable advantage from occupying Exeter House, suggesting that the House had the advantage of height. Upon its re-capture the Royalist forces razed the house and constructed the King's Sconce on this higher ground, giving themselves a commanding aspect across the northern approaches to the town. Despite a number of sieges the Royalist stronghold of Newark never fell to the Parliamentarians, the garrison only surrendering the day after the King surrendered in May 1646.

Acknowledgments

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References

Meek, J., 2004 *An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment for land at Northgate, Newark on Trent, Nottinghamshire (centre SK 8022 5492)*, ULAS Report 2004-087

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Finds from Evaluation at Hoval Northgate Newark,(HNN04)

Nicholas J. Cooper

The Pottery

The predominantly residual late Roman assemblage, stratified with Anglo-Saxon and other potentially post-Roman handmade fabrics is catalogued below.

Fabric Analysis

Of the 164 sherds retrieved weighing 2535g, 10 sherds were Anglo-Saxon in date and a further 29 sherds were in a granular (quartz-tempered reduced) handmade fabric of uncertain date within the post-Roman period but possibly of mid-late Saxon (would be classified as locally made medieval reduced sandy wares in Leicestershire, Deborah Sawday pers comm.). The remainder of the assemblage is of generally late Roman date including the fourth century repertoire of the Lower Nene Valley Colour-coated ware industry (NVCC) and characteristic late Roman grey wares vessels (GW) of the East Midlands Burnished ware industry produced in the Trent Valley (BB-Black Burnished). Small sherds of samian of second century date are also present. (CG calcite gritted OW- Oxidised Ware).

Stratigraphic Analysis

- It is likely that all of the contexts examined are post-Roman (even when they only contain Roman material but this needs to be checked stratigraphically).
- Context 304, 501, 507, 604, 606, 613 and 614 are clearly at least of 5-6th century date due to the presence of early Anglo-Saxon pottery and/or the granular handmade fabric.
- Amongst the Early Anglo-Saxon material are two globular vessels with upright rims and two sherds with incised decoration. More precise dating of the granular handmade fabric would be of benefit but the assertion is that the site has potential for preservation of Early Anglo-Saxon features, which presumably seal late Roman deposits.
- The lack of diagnostic medieval fabrics within the assemblage would suggest that the deposits predate the Norman Conquest, although the find of a bone needle or bodkin in (604) requires consideration.

Hoval Boilers Site, Northgate, Newark, Nottinghamshire; Roman and Post-Roman Pottery									R – Roman; S – Saxon; S? – possibly Saxon
Trench	Cut	Context	Fabric	Form	Type	Sherds	Weight	Date	
3	305	304	BB1/GW1	Bowl	B and Fl	1	8	AD250 – AD350 R	
3	305	304	GW	jar	necked	2	62	East Midlands Burnished Ware Early 4th AD? R	
3	305	304	GW	bowl	beadrim	1	6	R	
3	305	304	GW	misc		4	16	R	
3	305	304	OW	misc		1	6	R	
3	305	304	Handmade			1	4	Granular fabric Post Roman? S?	
3		306	GW	jar	necked	5	94	East Midlands Burnished Ware Early 4th AD? R	
5	502	500	GW	jar		1	12	3rd - 4th AD R	
5	503	501	Saxon			1	4	5th-6th+ AD S	
5	503	501	Handmade			24	180	Granular fabric Post Roman? S?	
5	503	501	BB1/GW1			2	8	R	
5	503	501	GW			6	76	Late Roman R	
5		504	NVCC			1	18	4th AD R	
5		504	GW			1	2	indented beaker? R	
5		506	CG			1	22	SF no1, 1st+ AD R	
5		507	GW	jar		7	632	East Midlands Burnished ware Early 4th century AD? R	
5		507	Handmade			1	38	S?	
6		604	Saxon			7	84	5th-6th+ AD S	
6		604	Handmade	lug handle		1	152	Post Roman? Fabref S?	
6		604	Samian		Dr 33	3	8	2nd century AD R	
6		604	NVCC	flagon		2	26	4th century AD R	
6		604	WW			5	24	R	
6		604	GW			52	658	Late Roman R	
6		604	CG			4	62	R	
6		604	GW			5	120	R	
6		606	GW			8	66	R	
6		606	GW	jar	lidseat	1	24	R	
6		606	Handmade			1	12	Post Roman? Fabref S?	
6		609	Samian			1	1	R	
6		609	GW			2	10	R	
6		609	Handmade			1	6	Granular Fabric Post Roman? S?	
6		610	GW			2	30	coarse joining R	
6		613	Saxon	jar	Plain rim	1	24	5th-6th AD, Fresh sherd S	
6		613	Samian			1	4	2nd century AD R	
6		613	NVCC			1	2	4th century AD R	
6		613	GW	lid?		1	4	2nd+ AD R	
6		614	Saxon		incised decoration	1	4	5th-6th AD S	
6		614	NVCC	bowl	Dr31 copy	1	10	4th century AD R	
6		614	GW			3	16	Late Roman R	
Total						164	2535		

Roman Tile

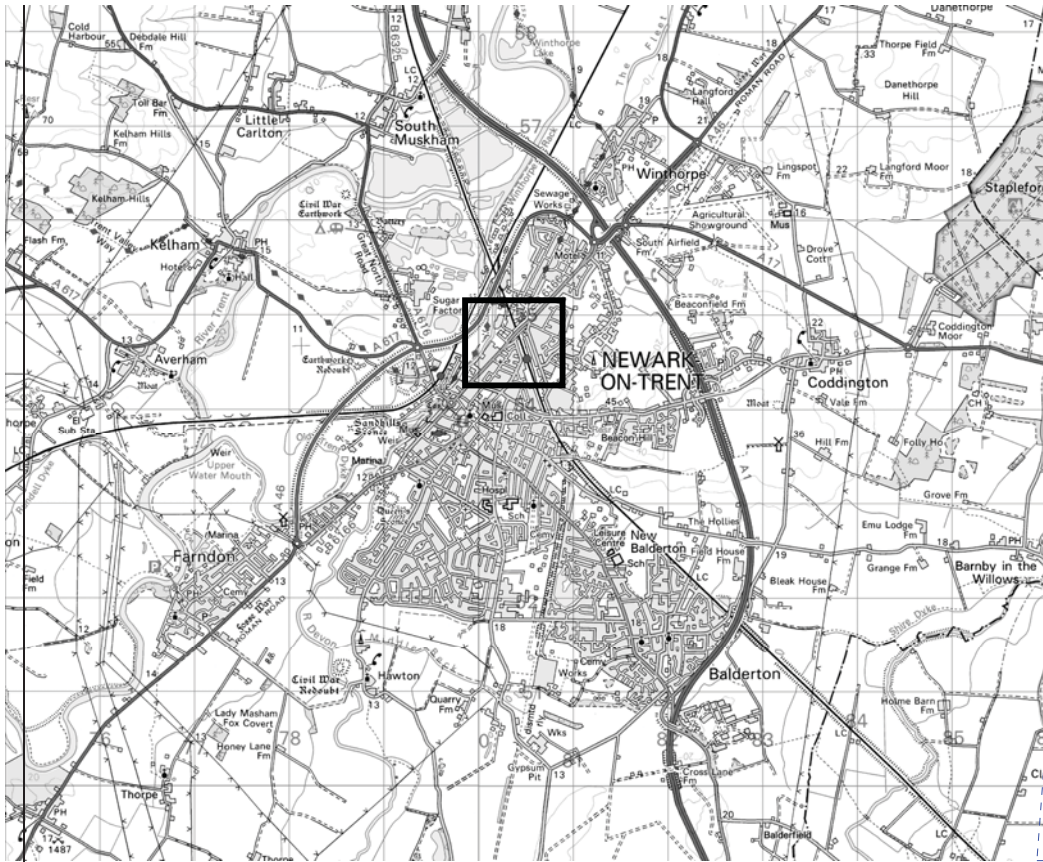
Hoval Northgate Newark Roman Tile					
Trench	Cut	Context	Type	Frag	Weight
3		304	Imbrex	1	94
5	502	500	tegula	2	444
5	503	501	wall	2	858
5		504	wall	1	790
6		604	tegula	1	292
6		604	misc	3	72
Total				10	2550

A very small assemblage of Roman tile was retrieved, indicating stone-founded buildings with tiled roofs in the vicinity of the site. As with the pottery it is likely that most of this material is residual in post-Roman deposits.

Small Finds

Twenty four objects are catalogued below, mainly of iron and most probably late Roman, given the proportion of Roman pottery. Of interest is the quern fragment, probably Roman and the lump of iron smelting tap slag. However, the most diagnostic find is the bone needle or bodkin with a flat triangular, perforated head. This is likely to be of medieval date with examples known from Southampton in deposits dating to the twelfth and thirteenth century, although an earlier date cannot be ruled out, and is certainly suggested by the pottery.

Hoval Northgate Newark Small Finds					
Trench	Cut	Context	Material	Description	
3	300	301	Fe	part of spherical hollow casing Diam.100mm, thickness 10mm; Possibly shrapnel?	
5	503	501	Fe	thirteen nail fragments	
5	503	501	Vitreous	Fuel Ash	
6		604	Fe	Small knife blade fragment. L.45mm Ht.15mm	
6		604	Fe	Nail near complete L. 88mm	
6		604	Fe	Nail fragment	
6		604	Bone	Bodkin or needle: triangular head, tapered shaft.L83mm	
6		604	Stone	Quern: edge fragment in millstone grit. Diam 400mm, thickness 45mm	
6		609	Fe	Two nail frags	
6		614	Fe	Tapslag: 66g	
6		614	Wood	Charcoal fragment	



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Figure 1: [Site location](#)

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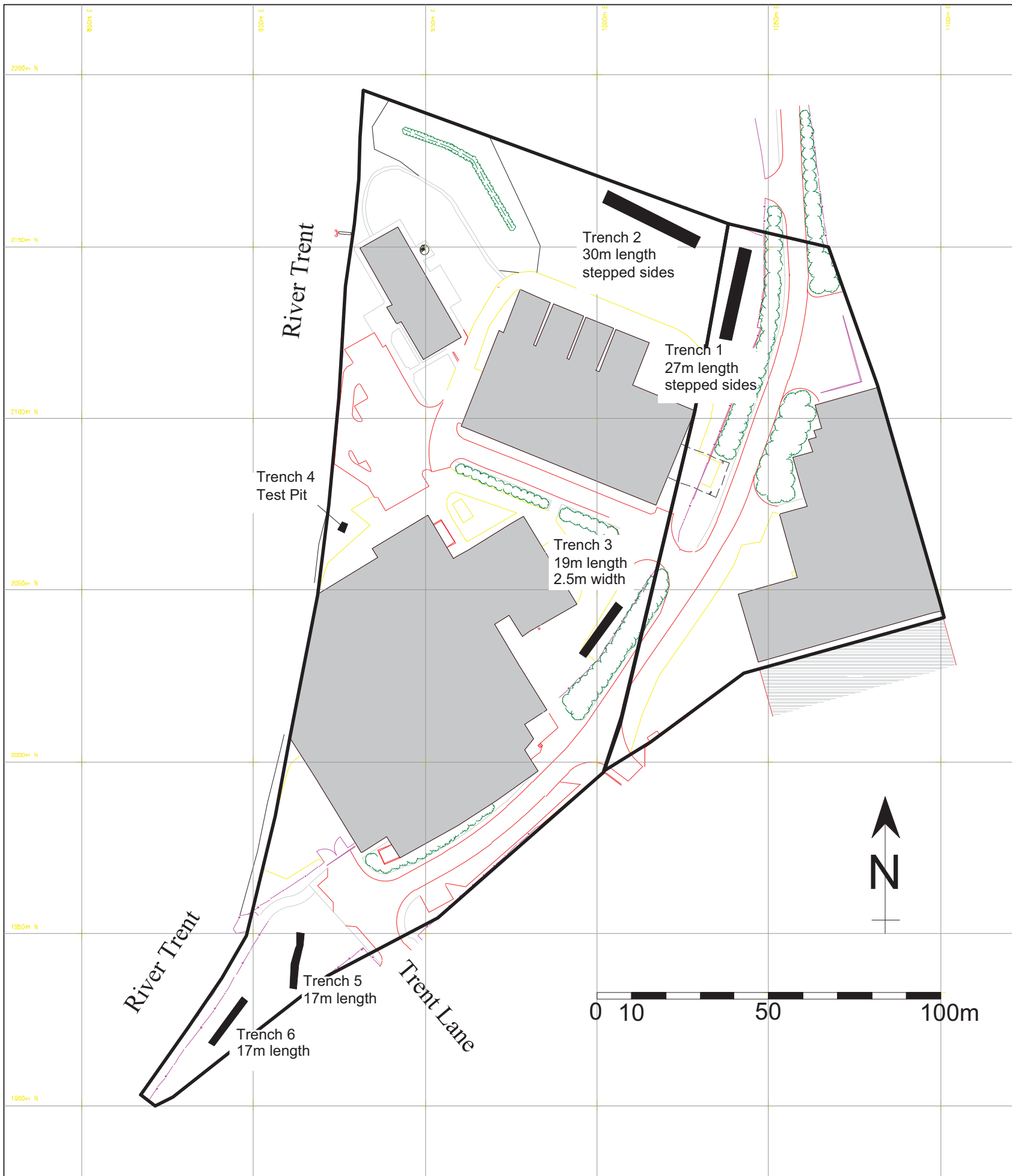


Figure 2: Trench location plan showing proposed development area (Based on plan from JWA Architects)

Section 1, trench 2

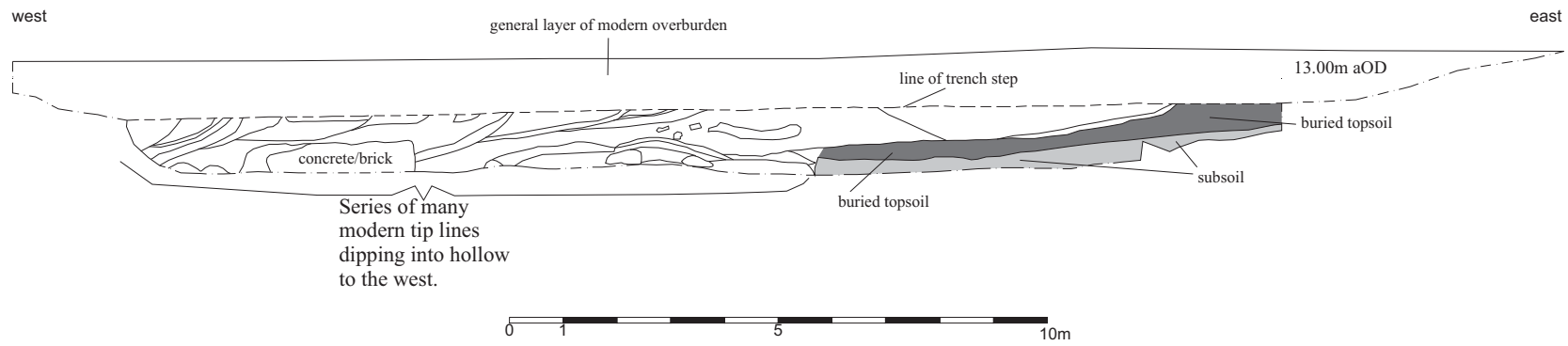


Figure 3: Section 1 through Trench 2

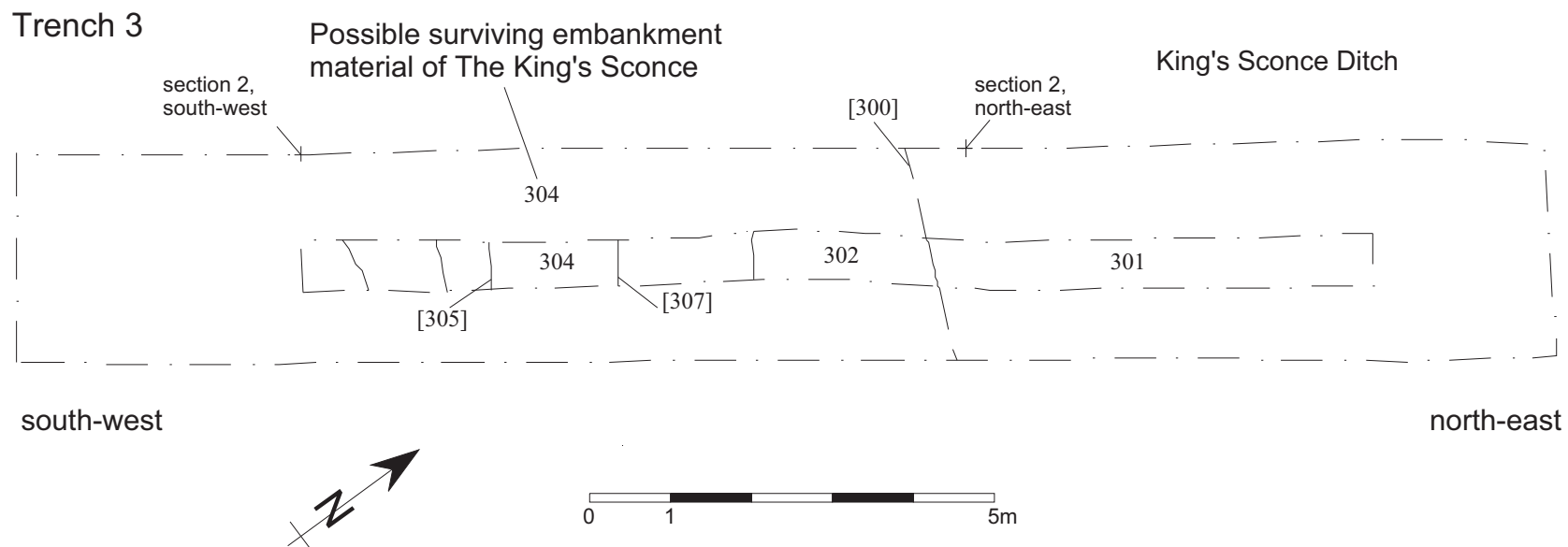


Figure 4: Plan of Trench 3

Section 2, trench 3

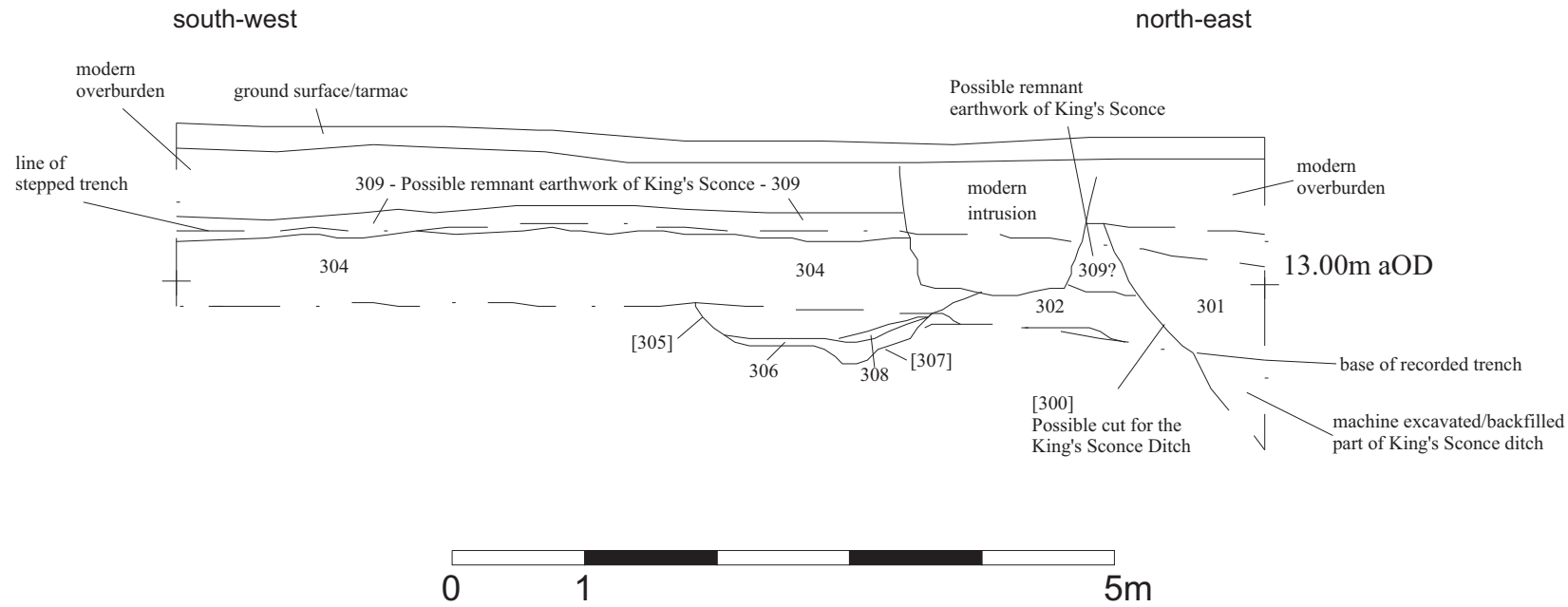


Figure 5: Section 2, trench 3

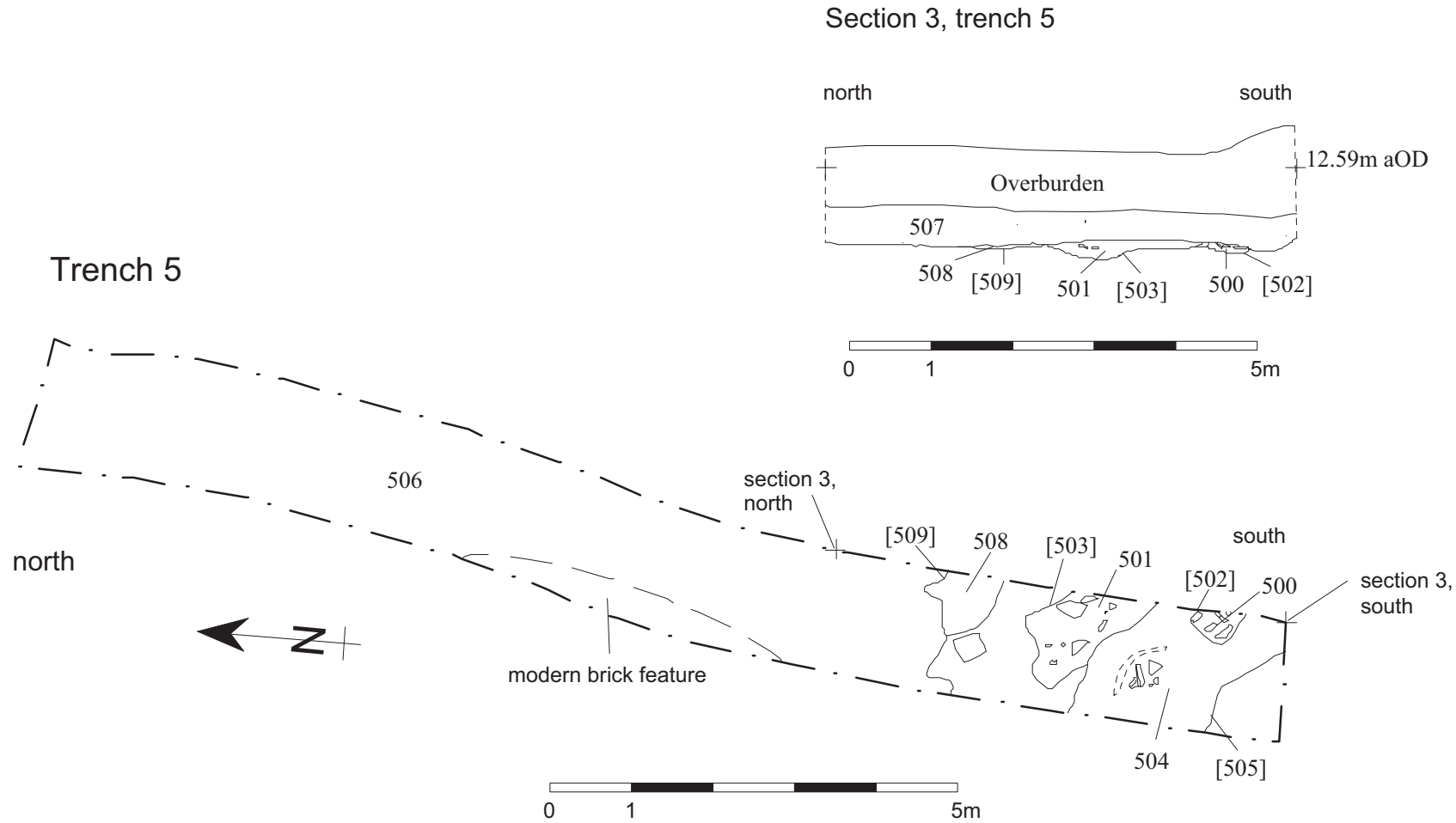
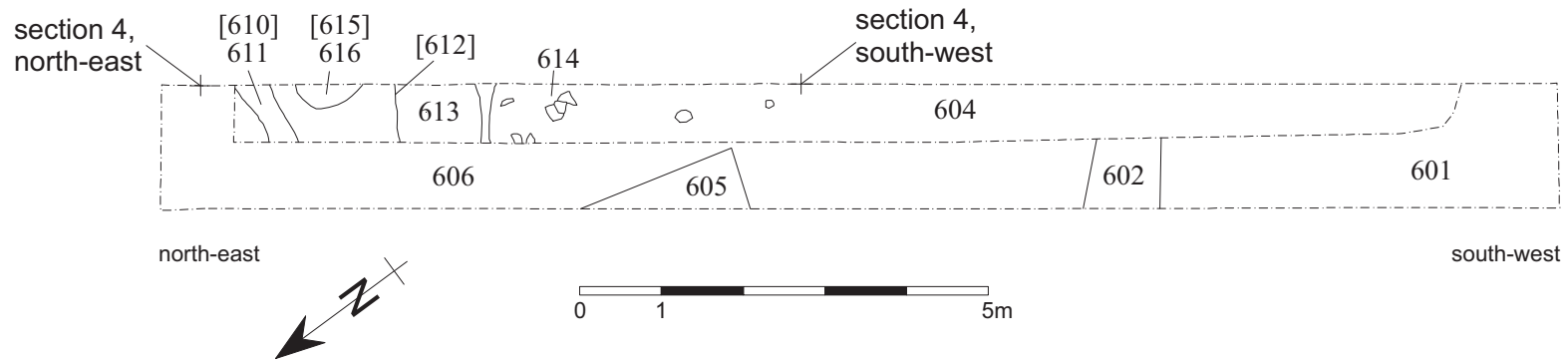


Figure 6: Plan of Trench 5 and Section 3 through southern end of trench

Trench 6



Section 4, trench 6

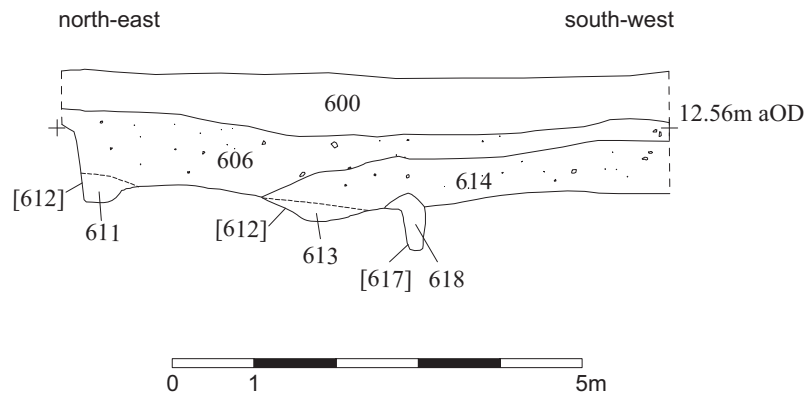


Figure 7: Plan of Trench 6 and Section 4 through north-eastern end