

# 13 CHURCH STREET, RIBCHESTER, LANCASHIRE

## Archaeological Watching Brief



Client: Patricia Dunn  
NGR: SD 65011 35171  
Planning App Ref.: 3/04/0553P

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Greenlane Archaeology Ltd,  
2 Albrights Yard, Theatre Street,  
Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 7AQ

Tel: 01229 588 500  
Email: [info@greenlancearchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@greenlancearchaeology.co.uk)  
Web: [www.greenlancearchaeology.co.uk](http://www.greenlancearchaeology.co.uk)

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## Non - Technical Summary

Following a planning application for the construction of a kitchen extension at 13 Church Street, Ribchester, a programme of archaeological monitoring was requested by Ribble Valley Borough Council, on the advice of Lancashire Archaeology Service. This was to comprise a watching brief, which was intended to preserve by a brief record any archaeological deposits disturbed or uncovered during construction works.

The watching brief was carried out by Chris Fern of Fern Archaeology on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June 2006 and 6<sup>th</sup> July 2006, involving the monitoring of three conjoined hand-excavated wall-foundation trenches. The resultant ground disturbances revealed evidence for a cambered cobbled road of Roman date, which was preserved *in situ*.

The post-excavation work, which was managed by Greenlane Archaeology, revealed that the assemblage of Romano-British pottery could be dated to the late 1<sup>st</sup> /early 2<sup>nd</sup> to the mid 3<sup>rd</sup>-mid 4<sup>th</sup> century. Context **1002**, which directly overlay the Roman road, also contained a short length of copper alloy chain and a green glass pin head, both of which were not closely dateable. This context was only partially sealed by a deposit of Romano-British date, and in most places lay directly beneath the topsoil. A single fragment of medieval pottery, dated to the late 12<sup>th</sup> to early 13<sup>th</sup> century, was recovered from the topsoil, together with larger quantities of post-medieval and Romano-British finds.

The results of the watching brief are consistent with the location of the site relative to other known remains of Roman date within Ribchester, not least the fort.

## Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Patricia Dunn for commissioning and supporting the project, and Paul Evert, the builder, for his cooperation throughout. Thanks are also due to Peter Iles and Doug Moir of Lancashire Archaeology Service, and Patrick Tostevin of Ribchester Roman Museum, for their comments and advice.

The watching brief was carried out by Chris Fern of Fern Archaeology, who also compiled the archive report, including all the figures, on which part of the present report is based. The Romano-British pottery was examined by Ruth Leary, the medieval pottery by Ian Miller of Oxford Archaeology North, and the remaining finds by Jo Dawson and Craig Appley of Greenlane Archaeology. The project was managed by Jo Dawson, who compiled and edited this report, assisted by Craig Appley.

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Circumstances of the project

1.1.1 A planning application (3/04/0553P) was made by Patricia Dunn, hereafter 'the client', to construct a kitchen extension at 13 Church Street, Ribchester, Lancashire (NGR SD 65011 35171). After a recommendation by Lancashire Archaeology Service (LAS), Ribble Valley Borough Council placed a condition on the planning consent requiring an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken. Greenlane Archaeology was engaged by the client to undertake the archaeological works, and a sample brief was issued by Doug Moir of LAS. In response to this Greenlane Archaeology agreed to abide by the terms of the brief.

## 1.2 Location, geology and topography

1.2.1 The site is located to the rear of 13 Church Street, Ribchester, Lancashire (Figs 1 and 2). This property is situated near the village's southern limit, being some 130m north-west of the River Ribble. This locality is in close proximity to the entrance of the Roman fort of *Bremetanacum* and therefore lying within the initial *vicus* portion of the Roman civilian settlement. It is also sited 300m south of the visible remains of the Roman bathhouse. The solid geology of the general area is dominated by Sabden shales of the Millstone Grit Group (Buxton and Howard-Davies 2000, 3). This is overlain by thick boulder clay deposits, typically comprising a reddish-brown sandy clay with grey mottling and beds of laminated clay, sand, gravel and fragments of stone (*ibid*). Ribchester itself is situated on the northern edge of the flood plain of the River Ribble and in the foothills of the central Pennines, a short distance upstream of Preston and at a height of approximately 60m OD (*op cit*, 1).

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The foundation works for the new kitchen required three lengths of conjoined trench, 0.7-0.8m in width, forming an open rectangle adjoining the house and garden wall and replacing the existing, smaller kitchen (Fig 2). The new kitchen structure was to measure 7.25m x 3.5m in plan. The depth of the wall-foundation trench was originally planned to be 0.8m, but this was subsequently reduced in some sections, in view of the archaeological discoveries.

2.1.2 The watching brief took place over three days on the 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> June, and 6<sup>th</sup> July, with a break of a month due to planning complications. The weather in this period was hot and sunny, with sporadic heavy rain showers.

### 2.2 Archaeological watching brief

2.2.1 The development required the excavation of three conjoined trenches as described above (Fig 2). The necessary ground disturbances were monitored for an initial two day period by the archaeologist on site. By the end of the first day approximately one-third of the trench had been opened. At a depth of approximately 0.5m in the western portion of trench a compacted cobbled surface was encountered immediately below the topsoil. This surface and its associated archaeological deposits were then cleaned and recorded by the on site archaeologist.

2.2.2 In light of this discovery an alternative design strategy was devised in consultation with the builder, Ribble Valley Borough Council's building inspectorate and Peter Iles, Lancashire County Council's Specialist Adviser in Archaeology (who made a site visit on 7<sup>th</sup> June). It was decided that the archaeological surface offered a sufficient foundation for the new kitchen, and that the archaeology was to be preserved and left *in situ* under the concrete foundation, protected beneath a layer of woven polythene, blinding sand and tamped hardcore.

2.2.3 However, following further planning complications the development works were halted after the second day, pending a decision as to whether to continue. At the end of the second day no further archaeological deposits or features had been observed. At this stage only one-third of the trench had been excavated. After an interval of four weeks, building work was resumed and the fieldwork record completed on a third day, on 6<sup>th</sup> July.

2.2.4 The archaeological layers encountered were sampled by hand excavation to define their character and date. All finds were hand collected and full records made using a single context recording system and the Munsell Soil classification. Sections were recorded on waterproof drafting film at 1:10 scale, while a full plan of the cobbled surface was made using rectified vertical digital photography. This allowed a photographic montage to be assembled from which a digitized plan was created (Fig 3). This measure was taken, instead of a conventional hand-drawn 1:20 scale plan, on account of the unscheduled postponement of site works, which initially cut-short the period available for recording. The trench location was planned and ordnance datum heights taken using a Leica Total Station. No cut features were encountered and so no environmental samples were taken. The context descriptions for these excavations were recorded on context sheets. A full photographic record of the findings was made using colour digital photography (at 6 megapixel resolution) and monochrome 35mm film. All of the recorded plans and sections have been reproduced here in a digitised format, using Paintshop Pro 8 (Figs 2-4).

## 2.3 Finds

2.3.1 **Processing:** all of the artefacts were washed, with the exception of metal and glass, which were dry-brushed. They were then naturally air-dried and packaged appropriately in self-seal bags with white write-on panels.

2.3.2 **Assessment and recording:** the finds were assessed and identified by appropriate specialists (see *Acknowledgements*). Those finds that were assessed by Greenlane Archaeology were recorded on *pro forma* record sheets, and those that were assessed by external specialists were recorded in Word documents or through records made of verbal communications. Further details of the methodology used to assess and record the Romano-British pottery are given below. A catalogue of the finds was produced (*Appendix 1*).

2.3.3 *Romano-British pottery:* the pottery was examined in context groups and catalogued according to the Guidelines of the Study Group for Romano-British Pottery for basic archiving (Darling 2004). The fabrics were recorded in broad groups and source suggested where appropriate. Reference was made to the National Fabric Collection where appropriate (Tomber and Dore 1998). Details of fabric variations were recorded where appropriate and forms were described. The fabric of the pottery was first examined by eye and sorted into ware groups on the basis of colour, hardness, feel, fracture, inclusions and manufacturing technique. If the sherds could not be adequately grouped by eye then they were examined under an x30 binocular microscope and compared with sherds from known sources.

## 3. Historical Background

### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The background to the site is intended to place the results of the watching brief in their local context. It is derived from secondary sources.

### 3.2 Site history

3.2.1 The Ribble Valley has produced evidence for human habitation from the Mesolithic onwards, though detected prehistoric activity in the vicinity of Ribchester has been limited. An exception is the Bronze Age find from Parsonage Avenue, 150m to the northwest of the current site. This comprised five cremation burials in collared urns buried within a circular enclosure (Olivier and Turner 1987). In addition, to the south of the village is the late Bronze Age hillfort of Portfield Camp, near Blackburn, which continued in use into the Iron Age (Beswick and Cooks 1986).

3.2.2 The Roman heritage of Ribchester, the fort of *Bremetanacum*, is well documented and has occasioned several large excavations and important finds, including the 2<sup>nd</sup> century Ribchester parade helmet. The site of the current village is known to approximate generally with that of the extramural Roman town, and hence the archaeological potential is high in regard of any ground disturbances below topsoil within this area. Past excavations have demonstrated the well-preserved nature of the Roman archaeology, which encompasses a complete sequence from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> centuries AD (Buxton and Howard-Davis 2000). Most recently, small-scale excavations along Church Street have produced Roman archaeology, at numbers 12, 16-17 and 20 (McCrone 2004).

3.2.3 The history of the fort and town are also relatively well known. Inscriptions and documentary evidence demonstrate that the VI and XX Legions, the *Ala Secundae Asturum* (a Spanish cavalry unit), and Sarmatian auxiliary cavalry units were stationed there (Buxton and Howard-Davis 2000). It is unclear whether occupation continued in and around Ribchester into the post-Roman period, though some artefacts from the early medieval period suggest the possibility. A wooden church dedicated to St. Wilfrid is alleged to have been built within the remains of the standing fort in the late 6<sup>th</sup> century, which was supposedly replaced by a stone structure in the 7<sup>th</sup> century (Baines 1870).

3.2.4 *Ribelcastre* is recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086, at which time it is described as desolate and with few inhabitants, perhaps because of the Norman harrying of 1069-70 (Hinde 1985). The medieval settlement of Ribchester probably changed little until the industrialization of the late post-medieval era. By the early 19<sup>th</sup> century much of the village's population was involved in the weaving industry, with a number of textile mills within its environs. In 1821 Ribchester comprised 300 houses and a population of 1760 (Corry 1825).



## 4. Archaeological Evaluation

### 4.1 Topsoil

4.1.1 Following the removal of a concrete and hardcore surface, which was 0.2m thick, topsoil was encountered. This comprised a dark brown loam, **1000**, varying from 0.4m to 0.65m thick across the whole trench area, sloping slightly from north to south (Fig 5). This meant that in the southern length of the trench the development was able to avoid intrusion into archaeological deposits by restricting the depth to 0.65m. A separate context (**1001**) was allocated to the horizon at which the archaeologist took over from the builder. All finds from the topsoil layer were collected. These comprised mainly post-medieval pottery fragments, together with ceramic building material.

### 4.2 Romano-British deposits

4.2.1 Following the supervised removal of the topsoil, **1000** and **1001**, archaeological layers were immediately encountered (Figs 3-4). Across the northern and western wall-foundation trench sections a compacted cobbled surface, **1004**, was met with approximately 0.5m from the existing ground surface (28.47m above ordnance datum). Heights for the cobbled surface are given in Figure 4. Within the western trench section this cobbled surface appeared to dip in height at its southern limit, forming a hollow gully, at which point it was sealed by two overlying layers, **1002** and **1003**. The first of these was a deposit of orangey-brown re-deposited clay, **1002**, flecked with charcoal and containing Roman pottery, ceramic building material and a length of chain made up of small copper-alloy open links. This last find occurred at the interface of the cobbles and clay. The layer varied in thickness from 0.05m to 0.15m. Stratigraphically overlying this layer was a grey-brown silty clay, **1003**, which contained flecks of charcoal, sherds of Roman pottery and ceramic building material, and that was a maximum depth of 0.3m. The cobbled surface itself contained a variety of sized cobbles to a maximum width of 0.4m. It was very noticeable that the quality and evenness of the metalled surface improved at the southern extent of western trench section within the hollow gully, comprising smaller and more compacted cobbles. It is likely that originally the whole of the surface would have been similarly finished, but has been damaged in the past as a result of its proximity to the present ground surface. Given the profile of the cobbled surface, illustrated in the east facing Section A (Fig 4), it would seem likely that this feature is a cambered road, with the side-hollow representing the remains of one of the drainage gullies that probably ran either side of the thoroughfare. Mixed with the cobble matrix were occasional abraded sherds of Roman ceramic building material, mortaria, and samian ware. In the southern section of trench the decision was taken to leave the gully *in situ* below layers **1002** and **1003**.

### 4.3 Natural

4.3.1 The natural subsoil was not encountered during the excavation.

## 5. Finds

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 In total, 155 fragments of artefacts and ecofacts were hand-retrieved during the watching brief, just over 75% of which was pottery. The remainder comprised ceramic building material, clay tobacco pipe, glass, copper alloy, and animal bone (see Table 1, below). The bulk of the finds were recovered from the topsoil (59%), with significant quantities also retrieved from the deposits overlying the road (22%) and from the road itself (19%).

5.1.2 The type of finds found in each of the contexts is summarised in Table 1, below, and the full finds catalogue is presented in *Appendix 2*. All the artefacts appeared to fall into a date range of Romano-British, medieval, and post-medieval. Details of the Romano-British pottery are set out below, followed by a brief record of the other finds of Romano-British date, the single fragment of medieval pottery, and all the other finds.

	Topsoil <b>1000</b>	Topsoil <b>1001</b>	Layer <b>1002</b>	Layer <b>1003</b>	Roman road <b>1004</b>	Total
Romano-British pottery	4		18	4	22	48
Romano-British ceramic building material	2			3	5	10
Copper alloy chain			3			3
Glass pinhead			1			1
Medieval pottery		1				1
Post-medieval pottery	63	6	2			71
Post-medieval ceramic building material	4					4
Bottle or vessel glass	3					3
Clay tobacco pipe	2	1				3
Animal bone			1		2	3
Ceramic building material and other ceramic, not closely dateable		3	5			8
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>155</b>

Table 1: Types of finds by context

### 5.2 Romano-British pottery

5.2.1 **Quantity and provenance:** there were 48 sherds of Romano-British pottery (696g). The quantities of pottery sherds recovered from the excavated contexts are shown in Appendix 1, with further details in the specialist report within the project archive.

5.2.2 **Wares:** the types of wares present are summarised in Table 2, below, and it can be seen that the assemblage was predominantly made up of the sandy oxidised ware common in this region (Webster 1991, Hird 2000, 191). Hird noted that this declined during the second century being overtaken in quantity by local reduced wares (2000, 191). Only two grey ware sherds were identified and this may indicate that the activity with a dating emphasis in the late 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century. Samian and amphora wares are well represented with at least three different sources of amphora identified, Dressel 20, Dressel 2-4 and Gaulish amphorae, bringing olive oil and wine to the site from Spain, the western Mediterranean and southern France respectively (Peacock and Williams 1986, types 10, 25 and 27). Mortaria were represented by three sherds of Mancetter-Hartshill ware in fabrics dating to after AD130/40 and

including a painted, multi-reeded hammerhead mortarium of the mid 3<sup>rd</sup>-mid 4<sup>th</sup> century.

Ware	Count	Weight (g)
BB1	1	28.8
Dressel 2-4 amphora	3	191.3
Dressel 20 amphora	2	237
Dressel 20 amphora?	2	13.6
Gaulish amphora	2	2.8
Grey ware	2	11.6
Mancetter-Hartshill mortarium	3	69
Nene Valley colour-coated ware	1	1.1
Oxidised ware	23	125.3
Samian	8	13.1
White ware	1	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>695.7</b>

Table 2: Quantities of Romano-British pottery wares

5.2.3 **Chronology:** the forms include vessels spanning the late 1<sup>st</sup> /early 2<sup>nd</sup> to the mid 3<sup>rd</sup>-mid 4<sup>th</sup> century. Early vessels include a flat-rim bowl and a very abraded sherd possibly from a bossed beaker of late 1<sup>st</sup>-early 2<sup>nd</sup> century date. The BB1 sherd can be confidently dated after AD120 and the surviving profile is suggestive of vessels of 2<sup>nd</sup> century date. The Nene Valley scroll beaker sherd is dated from the second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century declining by the mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century and the bifid rim jar in local oxidised ware is of 3<sup>rd</sup> century type.

5.2.4 The latest sherd from group from context **1004**, a multi-reeded hammerhead mortarium with painted decoration indicates a date in the late 3<sup>rd</sup> or, more probably the early 4<sup>th</sup> century and came from the Mancetter-Hartshill kilns near Coventry. Earlier pottery in the form of small abraded scraps of samian, very abraded amphora sherds and a small bifid rim scrap from a jar of 3<sup>rd</sup> century type were also present. The group from context **1003** lacked the late sherds and, although the material was very abraded, could all be dated within the 2<sup>nd</sup> century. The jar from which the BB1 sherd came, a fresh and unabraded sherd, was probably of Hadrianic or Antonine date, although the lack of surviving lattice details or rim precludes certainty. The pottery from context **1002** was very abraded and comprised small scraps. A flat rim bowl is of late 1<sup>st</sup>-early 2<sup>nd</sup> century type and this had been damaged and abraded. The Nene Valley beaker sherd is somewhat later in the second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> to mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century. Post-medieval sherds came from this context. Context **1000** contained abraded sherds which could not be precisely dated within the Roman period.

5.2.6 **Function and site status:** the relatively large quantity of amphora and samian is consistent with the site's status as a settlement outside a fort. The group is too small for further analysis.

5.2.7 **Taphonomy:** the pottery sherds were extremely abraded and frequently very small. The presence of later material in contexts **1000**, **1001** and **1002** indicate that these groups are residual and/or disturbed. Only groups **1003** and **1004** were exclusively of Roman date and even in these contexts, apart from robust sherds such as the amphora, mortaria and BB1 vessels, most of the sherds were small and abraded. This is consistent with the function of the road and roadside gully.

## 5.3 Romano-British ceramic building material

5.3.1 The ceramic building material of probable Romano-British date was present in the form of small abraded lumps with no diagnostic features, and could essentially only be dated by association with the pottery.

## 5.4 Other possible Romano-British artefacts

5.4.1 A possible green glass pin-head and a length of copper alloy chain were recovered from layer **1002**, which contained many fragments of Romano-British pottery, but also two fragments of possible post-medieval date. This context, which directly overlay the Roman road, was only partially sealed by a deposit of Romano-British date (**1003**), and in most places lay directly beneath topsoil **1001**. Given the possible post-medieval contamination from layer **1002**, it is not possible to date the pin head and chain by association. The pin head appears to contain traces of a white shaft, which may indicate that it is steel, and therefore of late post-medieval date, as Romano-British pins can be expected to have copper alloy shafts. The copper alloy chain is made up of links that are flat rather than circular in cross-section, which may suggest that they were punched out of a sheet rather than forged. The latter technique would be more usual for the Romano-British period. These two artefacts therefore remain essentially undated, but may benefit from further examination or analysis.

## 5.5 Medieval pottery

5.5.1 A single fragment of over-fired gritty ware was recovered from topsoil **1001** and was dated to the late 12<sup>th</sup> to early 13<sup>th</sup> century. This adds to the assemblage of medieval pottery already known from Ribchester, for example that found at 7A Greenside (OA North 2004).

## 5.6 Other finds

5.6.1 **Post-medieval pottery:** the assemblage included red earthenware coarseware vessels such as crocks and pancheons, and fineware such as tableware and tea or breakfastware. The fineware was more subject to changing fashions and therefore could be more closely dated than any of the coarseware vessel fragments, and the earliest closely dateable pieces present were dated to the late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

5.6.2 **Post-medieval ceramic building material:** several abraded fragments of red earthenware were recovered that were not closely dateable. Four ceramic building material fragments were of definite late post-medieval date, all of which were recovered from the topsoil. These included a wall tile and a cast fragment of an exterior architrave.

5.6.3 **Clay tobacco pipe:** four fragments were recovered from the topsoil, none of which could be very closely dated due to the lack of diagnostic features.

5.6.4 **Bottle and vessel glass:** three fragments were recovered from topsoil **1000**. Only one fragment included diagnostic features – a colourless bottle base with punt mark 'M / S', with the 'S' in the shape used by the Standard Bottle Co, New Southgate, London, from 1836 onwards (Toulouse 1971, 452).

5.6.5 **Animal bone:** three fragments were recovered, all of which came from deposits containing mainly finds of Romano-British date. They were interpreted as food waste, and due to the very small size of the assemblage they do not merit further study.

## 6. Discussion

6.1 The makeup, structure and section profile of the cambered cobbled surface suggests a Roman road, analogous to other excavated examples in the region, such as that at Coppull, south of Wigan, recorded by the *Chorley and District Historical and Archaeological Society* (<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/historichighways/roman.asp>). This would appear to be confirmed by the overlying layers **1002** and **1003**, which contained Romano-British pottery, and by the fragments of pottery found within the cobble matrix itself. The orientation of the road, as suggested by the drainage gully, would suggest a NE-SW alignment. Given its location, in relation to the known Ribchester fort and the junction with Water Lane, it is possible that it represents a segment of the main Roman road that lead up the line of Water Lane and Ribblesdale Road to Burrow.

## 7. Bibliography

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## 8. Illustrations

### 8.1 List of figures

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Trench location

Figure 3: Plan view of context **1004**

Figure 4: Trench sections

### 8.2 List of plates

Plate 1: Section through gulley showing contexts **1002** and **1003**

Plate 2: North-facing section showing the garden wall and underlying deposits

Plate 3: Copper alloy chain and green glass pin head from layer **1002**, with scale

Plate 4: Close-up of part of copper alloy chain shown in Plate 1

Plate 5: Close-up of pin head shown in Plate 1

## Appendix 1: Context list

Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation
<b>1000</b>	Deposit	Dark brown loam soil	Topsoil
<b>1001</b>	Deposit	Dark brown loam soil	Topsoil
<b>1002</b>	Deposit	Orangey-brown redeposited clay	Roman layer
<b>1003</b>	Deposit	Grey-brown silty clay	Roman layer
<b>1004</b>	Structure	Structured and compacted surface of small to large cobbles	Roman road



## Appendix 2: Finds Summary

O.R. Number	Context	Quantity	Material	Description	Date range
100	1000	22	Pottery	Black-glazed red earthenware, mainly coarseware, including base and five rims	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> - early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	8	Pottery	Brown-glazed red earthenware, mainly coarseware, some decorated with white slip-trailed stripes, including five rims	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> - early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	3	Pottery	Factory-produced brown-glazed red earthenware with blue and white slip decoration	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	2	Pottery	Factory-produced brown-glazed red earthenware refitting tea/coffee pot lid	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	7	Pottery	Brown-glazed grey stoneware with rouletted decoration, including one rim	Mid 18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	1	Pottery	White earthenware with traces of blue decoration	19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	1	Pottery	White stoneware ridged jam/marmalade jar base	18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	1	Pottery	Buff-coloured stoneware ridged jam/marmalade jar fragment	Mid 19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	1	Pottery	Olive green- glazed grey stoneware	Mid 18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	4	Pottery	White earthenware including saucer base	19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	2	Pottery	Creamware	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	1	Pottery	Self-glazed buff-coloured earthenware	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	1	Pottery	Red earthenware coarseware	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> - early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	1	Pottery	Blue transfer-printed pearlware tea cup (?) rim	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - early 19 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	1	Pottery	Relief-moulded and blue-painted shell edge plate rim fragment	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - early 19 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	1	Pottery	Transfer-printed bone china	19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	3	Pottery	White-earthenware with factory-produced slip decoration, including two from carinated bowls	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
100	1000	2	Pottery	'Willow' transfer-printed white earthenware	19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
101	1000	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Medium thickness, medium bore, stem fragment	18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> century

O.R. Number	Context	Quantity	Material	Description	Date range
101	1000	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Elongated, medium-width bowl fragment	17 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> century
102	1000	1	Ceramic building material	Brown/green-glazed red earthenware	17 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
102	1000	1	Ceramic building material	Plastered red earthenware	17 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
102	1000	1	Ceramic building material	Decorated wall tile	19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
102	1000	1	Ceramic building material	White-painted, lime-mortared, cast material (concrete or dense plaster??) Exterior architrave.	18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
103	1000	1	Glass	White-painted, colourless curved glass	Late 19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
103	1000	1	Glass	Light turquoise-blue rim of a small vessel	19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
103	1000	1	Glass	Colourless bottle base with punt mark 'M / S', with the 'S' in the shape used by the Standard Bottle Co, New Southgate, London (Toulouse 1971, 452)	1836 - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
104	1000	1	Pottery	Fine quartz-tempered oxidised ware, orange. Very hard.	Post-medieval?
105	1000	2	Pottery	Medium sandy orange ware. Body and neck of narrow-necked vessel	Probably late 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> century
105	1000	1	Pottery	Fine quartz-tempered buff ware with grey core. Closed vessel with two cordons formed by double grooves.	1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> century, probably late 1 <sup>st</sup> - early 2 <sup>nd</sup> century
105	1000	1	Pottery	Medium quartz-tempered orange ware. Undiagnostic sherd	Late 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> century +
106	1000	2	Ceramic building material	Abraded fragments of red earthenware	Romano-British
107	1001	3	Pottery	Fine black-glazed red earthenware	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> - early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
107	1001	1	Pottery	Fine brown-glazed red earthenware	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> - early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
107	1001	1	Pottery	Pearlware tea cup base	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - early 19 <sup>th</sup> century
107	1001	1	Pottery	Creamware hollow-ware fragment	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century

O.R. Number	Context	Quantity	Material	Description	Date range
108	1001	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Thin, medium-bore stem fragment	18 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> century
109	1001	3	Ceramic building material	Abraded fragments of red earthenware	Not closely datable
110	1001	1	Pottery	Over-fired gritty ware	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> – early 13 <sup>th</sup> century
111	1002	1	Pottery	Dressel 2-4 amphora.	Late 1 <sup>st</sup> - mid 2 <sup>nd</sup> century
112	1002	1	Pottery	Very hard fine orange with brown surfaces. Not a Romano-British form?	Post-medieval?
112	1002	2	Pottery	Samian, one decorated	1 <sup>st</sup> - mid 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
112	1002	1	Pottery	Nene Valley colour coated ware Tomber and Dore 1998 LNV CC. Beaker with curving linear decoration en barbotine underslip	Mid-late 2 <sup>nd</sup> - early 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
112	1002	1	Pottery	Very fine pinkish oxidised ware. Undiagnostic sherd	Late 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> century+
112	1002	2	Pottery	Fine oxidised ware, orange. Undiagnostic sherd	Late 1st-2nd+
112	1002	6	Pottery	Sandy oxidised ware, orange. Undiagnostic sherd	Late 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> century +
112	1002	1	Pottery	Sandy oxidised ware, orange. Flat rim bowl	Late 1 <sup>st</sup> - early 2 <sup>nd</sup> century
112	1002	1	Pottery	Medium sandy white ware. Undiagnostic sherd	Late 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> century
112	1002	1	Pottery	Gritty grey ware. Undiagnostic sherd	Romano-British
112	1002	1	Pottery	Medium sandy grey ware. Undiagnostic sherd	Romano-British
112	1002	1	Pottery	Medium sandy buff ware. Undiagnostic sherd	Romano-British
113	1002	1	Pottery	Very hard fine orange with reddish surfaces. Flower pot	Post-medieval?
114	1002	5	Ceramic	Abraded, amorphous fragments of red earthenware. Could be building material or large vessel fragments.	Not closely datable
115	1002	1	Glass	Green pin head?	Post-medieval or Romano-British?
116	1002	1	Tooth	Tooth of a large/medium domestic mammal- very low amount of enamel wear.	Not closely datable
117	1003	1	Pottery	Dressel 20 Tomber and Dore 1998 BAT AM. Amphora	1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> century

O.R. Number	Context	Quantity	Material	Description	Date range
118	1003	1	Pottery	BB1 Tomber and Dore 1998 DOR BB1. Sherd from shoulder of jar, burnished, no lattice extant	AD 120+, angle of extant neck suggests Hadrianic-early Antonine
119	1003	2	Pottery	Fine sandy orange ware. One sherd vestiges of a curving groove beside a horizontal groove	Early 2 <sup>nd</sup> century?
120	1003	3	Ceramic building material	High-fired reduced ceramic	Romano-British
121	1004	2	Pottery	Mancetter-Hartshill Tomber and Dore 1998 MAH WH. Mortaria bodysherds	AD 130/40+
121	1004	1	Pottery	Mancetter-Hartshill Tomber and Dore 1998 MAH WH. Incomplete rim of hammerhead mortarium with seven or eight faint reeds and traces of orange/brown paint	Mid 3 <sup>rd</sup> - mid 4 <sup>th</sup> century, probably first half of 4 <sup>th</sup> century
121	1004	1	Pottery	Gritty grey ware. Undiagnostic sherd	Romano-British
121	1004	1	Pottery	Dressel 20?, Tomber and Dore 1998 BAT AM. Amphora sherd, very abraded	1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
121	1004	3	Pottery	Medium sandy orange ware. Undiagnostic sherd	Late 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> century +
121	1004	1	Pottery	Medium sandy orange ware. Bifid rim from jar	3 <sup>rd</sup> century
121	1004	1	Pottery	Buff-orange sherd, possibly amphora Dressel 20, Tomber and Dore 1998 BAT AM. Amphora?	1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
121	1004	2	Pottery	Dressel 2-4. Dressel 2-4 wine amphora	Late 1 <sup>st</sup> - mid 2 <sup>nd</sup> century
121	1004	2	Pottery	Buff sandy, one large sherd with greyish core possibly Dressel 20 amphora, Tomber and Dore 1998 BAT AM. Probably Dressel 20 amphora	1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
121	1004	2	Pottery	Fine buff with very micaceous surfaces Probably a wine Gaulish amphora, Tomber and Dore 1998 GAL AM. Probably Gaulish wine amphora	Mid 1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
122	1004	6	Pottery	Samian	1 <sup>st</sup> - mid 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
123	1004	5	Ceramic building material	Abraded red earthenware	Romano-British

<b>O.R. Number</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date range</b>
124	1004	2	Bone	Fragments of bone from a medium to large sized mammal	Not closely datable
125	1002	3	Copper alloy	Chain	Romano-British?

### Appendix 3: Archive index

<b>Project name:</b>	13 Church Street, Ribchester		
<b>Project Code:</b>	G1025	<b>Site Code:</b>	RIB 06
<b>Description</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Letter	Paper	A4	2 sheets, single-sided
Project brief	Paper	A4	4 sheets, single-sided
Sampling strategy	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Client drawing index	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Client drawings	Paper	A3	2 sheets, single-sided, folded to A4 size
Context index, with notes on levels and bench mark	Paper	A4	2 sheet, double-sided
Context record sheets	Paper	A4	5 sheets, double-sided
Typed context record sheets	Paper	A4	5 sheets, single-sided
Drawing index	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Drawings	Permatrace	A3	2 sheets, single-sided
Printed and annotated drawings	Paper	A4	1 sheet, double-sided
Film index	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Photo record indices	Paper	A4	1 sheet, double-sided
Photographs	Photographic gloss prints	4 inches x 6 inches	36 prints
Negatives	Negative film	6 inches x 1 inch (approx)	9 strips
Slides	Mounted positives	1 inch by 1 inch (approx)	10 slides
Object record index	Paper	A4	1 sheet
Object record sheets	Paper	A4	3 sheets, double-sided
Specialist finds report	Paper	A4	3 sheets, double-sided
Digital archive index	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Digital archive	CD	-	1

## Appendix 4: General project brief

### 3. General Considerations

3.1 Prior to the commencement of *any work*, the archaeological contractor should confirm in writing adherence to this specification, or state (with reasons) any proposals to vary the specification. Should the contractor wish to vary the specification, then written confirmation of the agreement of LCAS to any variations is required prior to work commencing. The archaeologist carrying out the watching brief should be appropriately qualified and experienced. Any technical queries arising from the specification detailed below should be addressed to LCAS *without delay*.

### 4. Fieldwork Methodology

3.1 An archaeologist should be present on site during the excavation of any area below a depth of 0.15m. (approximately six inches) in the area of development, whether this is for foundation trenches, service trenches or landscaping. The archaeologist should view the area as it is being dug and any trench sections after excavation has been completed. Where archaeology is judged to be present, the excavated area should be rapidly cleaned and the need for further work assessed. Where appropriate, any features and finds should then be quickly hand excavated, sampled and recorded, within the confines of the excavated trench.

4.2 Excavated soil should be searched as practicable for finds. The presence and nature of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century material should be noted (quantified and summarily described) but finds of this date need not be retained for processing. Finds judged to be 18<sup>th</sup>-century in date or earlier should be retained.

4.3 The actual areas of ground disturbance, and any features of possible archaeological concern noted within these areas, should be accurately located on a site plan and recorded by photographs (35mm black and white print and colour slide), scale drawings (i.e. plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, both including height above O.D.) and written description sufficient to permit the preparation of a report on the site.

4.4 The intention of the archaeological watching brief is not to unduly delay the work of other contractors on site. This work should not, therefore prejudice the progress of the main or subsidiary contractor's work, except by prior agreement and on-site co-operation.

4.5 The archaeologist on site will naturally operate with due regard for Health and Safety regulations. In this case, where archaeological work is carried out at the same time as the work of other contractors, regard should also be taken of any reasonable additional constraints that these contractors may impose. This work may require the preparation of a Risk Assessment of the site, in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Regulations. LCAS and its officers cannot be held responsible for any accidents that may occur to outside contractors engaged to undertake this survey while attempting to conform to this specification.

### 5. Unexpectedly Significant or Complex Discoveries

5.1 Should there be, in the professional judgement of the archaeologist on site, unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries made that warrant more detailed recording than possible within the terms of this specification, then the archaeological contractor is to urgently contact LCAS with the relevant information to enable the matter to be resolved with the developer.

5.2 Any human remains that are discovered must initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. If removal is necessary, this must comply with the relevant legislation, any Home Office and local environmental health regulations and English Heritage's and The Church of England's *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (2005) where relevant.

5.3 The terms of the Treasure Act, 1996 must be followed with regard to any finds, which might fall within its purview. Any such finds must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner as required by the procedures laid down in the "Code of Practice". Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures must be taken to protect the finds from theft.

## 6. Monitoring

6.1 The recording exercise will be monitored as necessary and practicable by LCAS Advisory Service in its role as 'curator' of the county's archaeology. LCAS should receive as much notice as possible in writing (and certainly not less than one week) of the intention to start the watching brief.

## 7. Post-Excavation/Post-Recording Work and Report Preparation

7.1 On completion of the fieldwork, any samples shall be processed and all finds shall be cleaned, identified, assessed, dated (if possible), marked (if appropriate) and properly packed and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines. A fully indexed field archive shall be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, and fully labelled photographs. Labelling should be in indelible ink on the *back* of the print and should include film and frame number; date recorded and photographer's name; name and address of site; national grid reference. Photographic prints should be mounted in appropriate archivally-stable sleeves. A quantified index to the field archive should form an appendix to the report. The original archive is to accompany the deposition of any finds, providing the landowner agrees to the deposition of finds in a publicly accessible archive (see Section 8.1 below).

7.2 A report should be produced to provide background information, a summary of the works carried out, a description and separate interpretation of any features and finds identified. Details of the report's style and format are to be determined by the archaeological contractor, but it should include a full bibliography, a quantified index to the site archive and as an appendix, a copy of this specification. The report illustrations should include, as a minimum, a location map at 1:10000, trench location plan at 1:500 or 1:1000 plus any drawings (at least one a plan and one section per trench) and photographs, which for the purpose of the report may be supplied as high quality jpegs.

7.3 If nothing of archaeological interest is identified during the course of the watching brief, then a summary report will be adequate, as long as sufficient details are supplied for SMR purposes. Illustrations would not be required, although it would be anticipated that black and white prints would form part of the archival record. A summary record should include: (1) details of the commissioning body; (2) the nature of the development and resultant ground disturbance; (3) the position of any ground disturbance viewed with relation to adjacent existing fixed points (i.e. site location plan at 1:10000, and trench location plan showing location of trenches observed at 1:1000); (4) the date(s) of fieldwork; (5) name(s) of fieldworker(s); (6) written observations on the nature and depth of deposits observed (this may include annotated sketch sections); (7) the conditions under which they were observed (for example, details of weather conditions, ease of access and views, attitude of other organisations *etc.*); (8) a quantified index to the field archive; (9) details of the archives present location and intended deposition and (10) a copy of this specification.

7.4 The report should be produced within three weeks of completion of the fieldwork, unless otherwise agreed with LCAS. Copies of the report should be supplied to the client, and to the Lancashire SMR as an Adobe Acrobat 'pdf' on CD-ROM. The report will become publicly accessible once deposited with the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record.

7.5 Provision and agreement will be made for the appropriate academic publication of any results that are not to form part of any further work. A brief summary report of fieldwork, to appear in the Council for British Archaeology North West *Archaeology North West* should be produced, even when an excavation encountered no archaeological deposits. This should be sent to the editor of *Archaeology North West* in time for it to appear within a calendar year of the completion of fieldwork.

## 8. Deposition of Archive

8.1 Before commencing any fieldwork, the archaeological contractor must contact the relevant District museum archaeological curator in writing (copied to LCAS) to determine the museum's requirements for the deposition of an excavation archive. In this case the contact is either Patrick Tostevin, Curator, Ribchester Museum, Riverside, Ribchester, PR3 3XS, tel: 01254 878261 or Edmund Southworth, Director, Lancashire Museum Services, Stanley Street, Preston, PR1 4YP; telephone 01772 534075, fax: 01772 534079.



8.2 It is the policy of the Lancashire Museums Service to accept complete excavation archives, including primary site records and research archives and finds, from all excavations carried out in the County, which it serves. Ribchester Museum's collection area is limited to Ribchester only.

8.3 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to endeavour to obtain consent of the landowner, in writing, to the deposition of finds with the relevant Museum.

8.4 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to meet the relevant Museum's requirements with regard to the preparation of fieldwork archives for deposition.

8.5 The museums officer named in 8.1 above should be notified in writing of the commencement of fieldwork at the same time as the Lancashire County Archaeology Service.

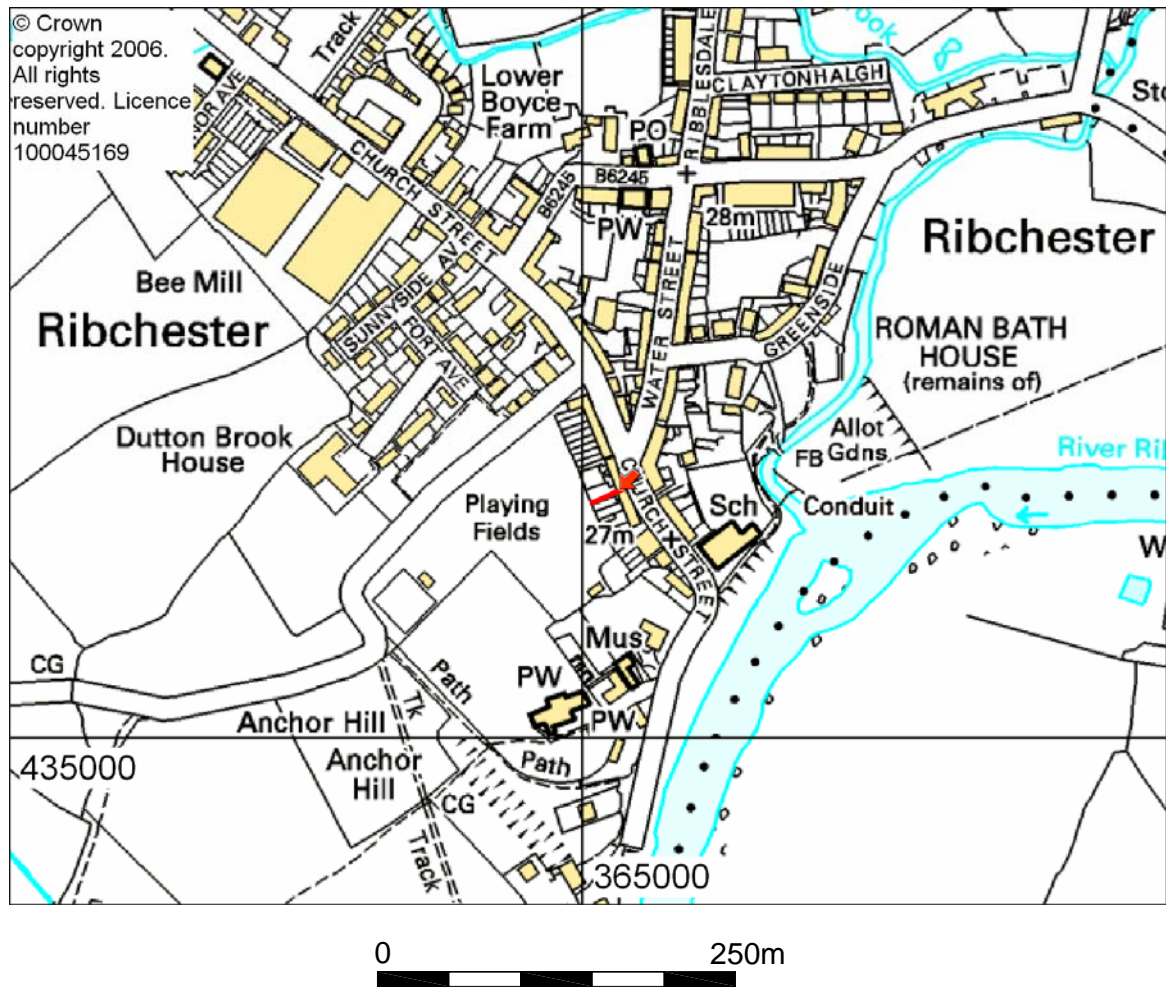


Figure 1: Site location

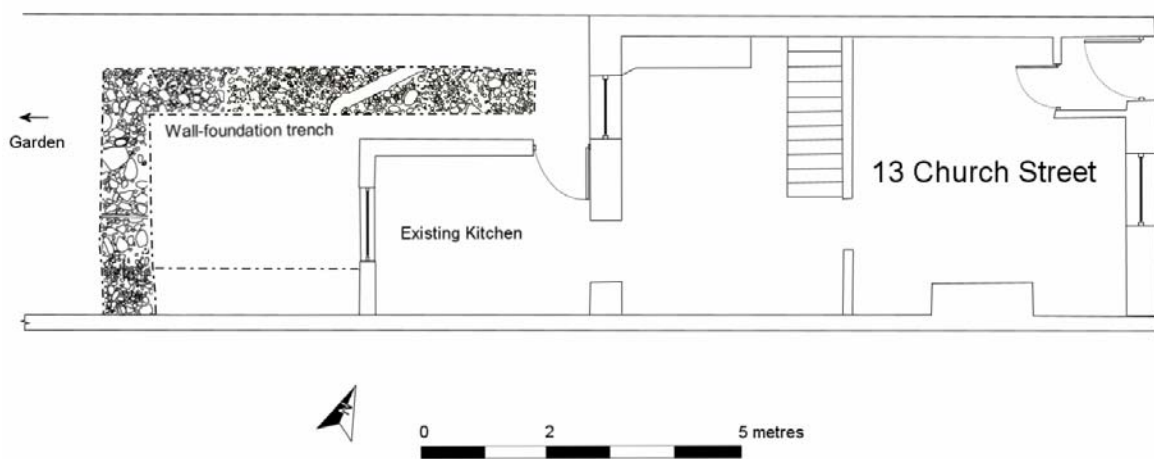


Figure 2: Trench location

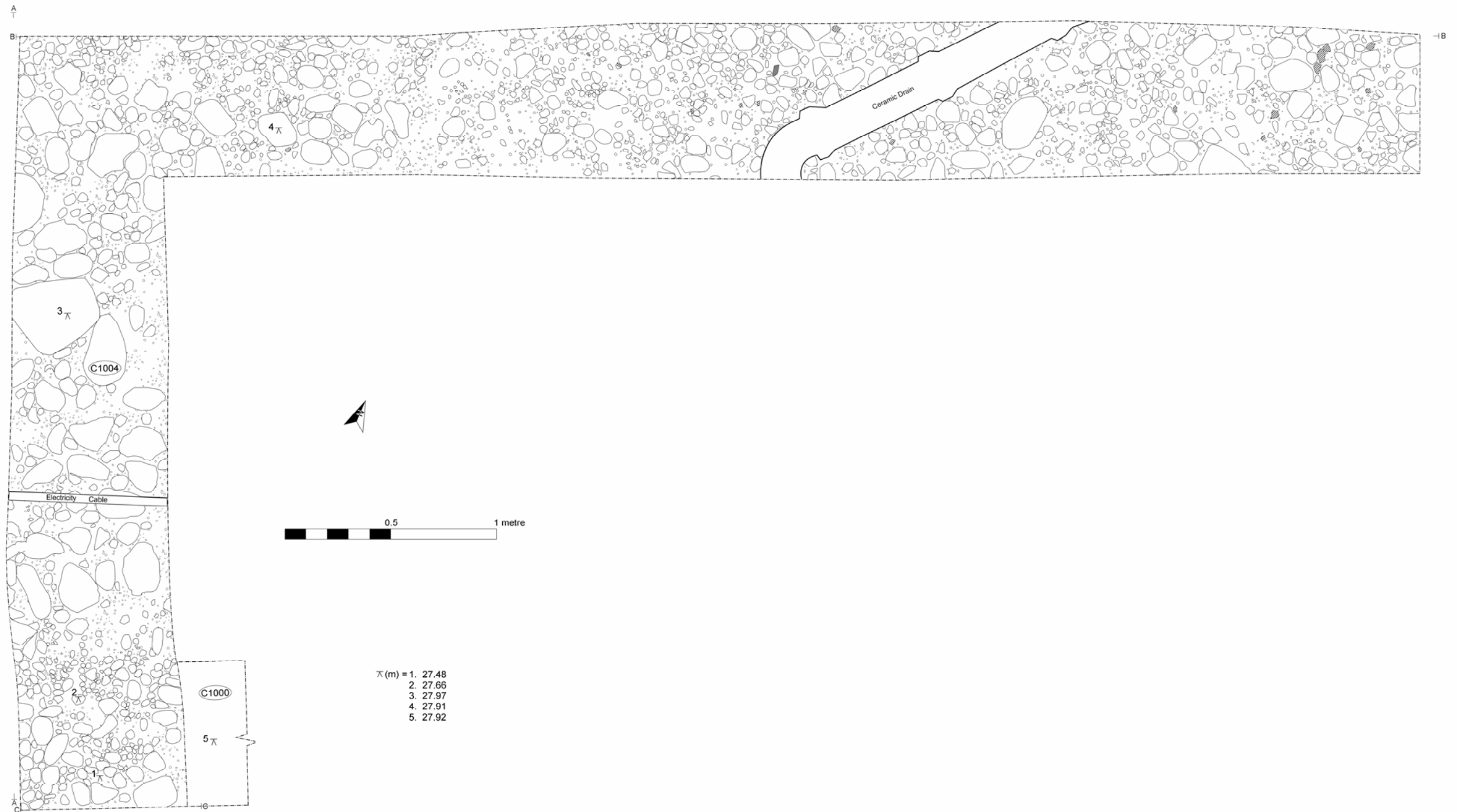


Figure 3: Plan view of context **1004**

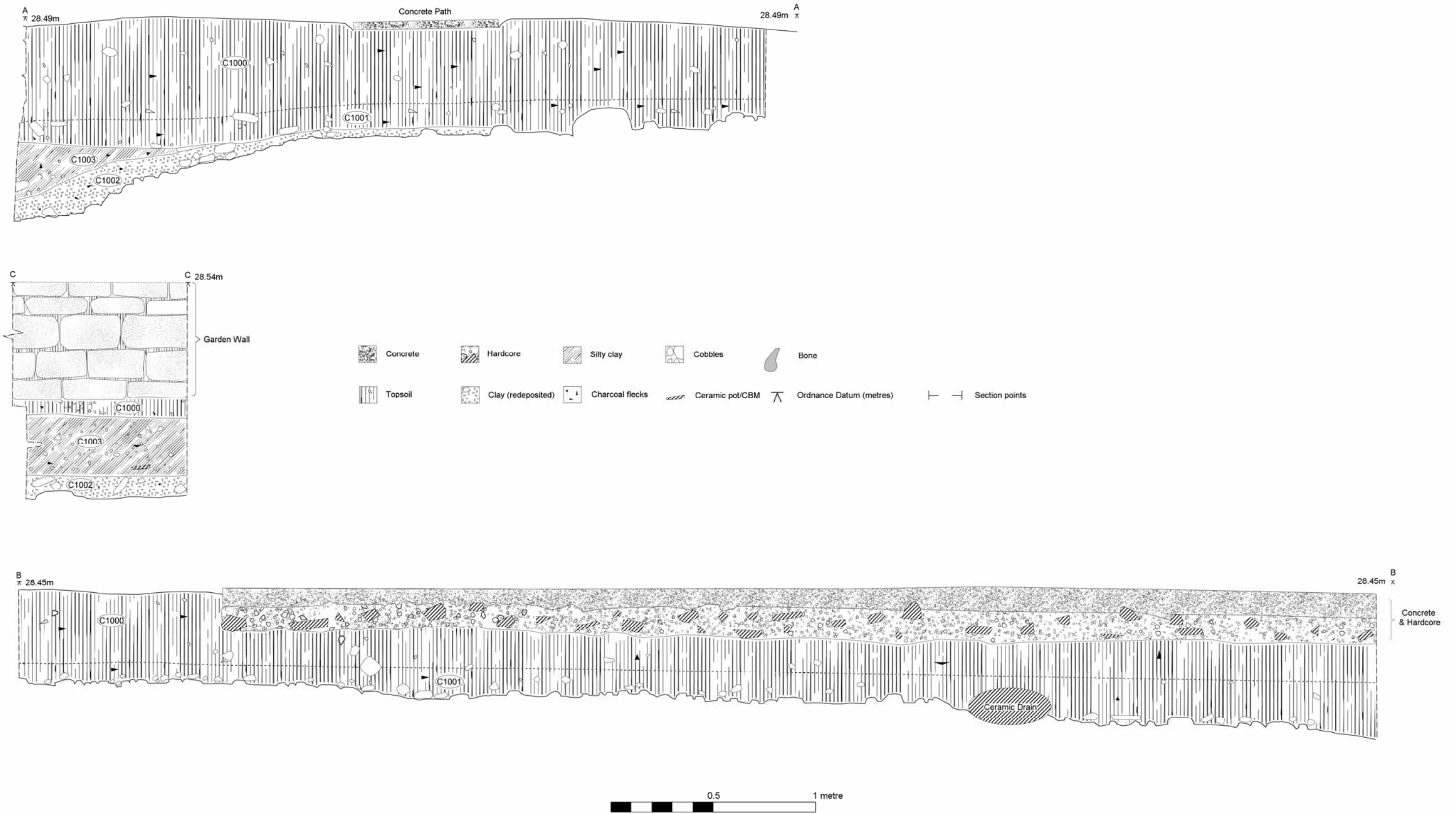


Figure 4: Trench sections



Plate 1: Section through gully showing contexts **1002** and **1003**



Plate 2: North-facing section showing the garden wall and underlying deposits



Plate 3: Copper alloy chain and green glass pin head from layer **1002**, with scale



Plate 4: Close-up of part of copper alloy chain shown in Plate 1



Plate 5: Close-up of pin head shown in Plate 1