



# Dorset County Museum, High West Street, Dorchester

## Archaeological Field Evaluation



Report No. 53408/2/1

June 2016



# Dorset County Museum, High West Street, Dorchester, Dorset

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June 2016

**Client:** Dorset County Museum, High West Street, Dorchester, DT1 1XH

**Agent:** Peter Gunning & Partners, Asquith House, Stowey Street, Dorchester, DT1 3WD

**Report Author:** Peter Bellamy BSc (Hons) MCIfA

**Illustrations:** Peter Bellamy

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## Project Report Summary Page

Project Details			
OASIS Reference	terraina1-255776		
Project Title	Dorset County Museum Extension Evaluation		
Short Description of Project	<p>Terrain Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of the site of the proposed Dorset County Museum Extension. Eight c. 1m<sup>2</sup> testpits were excavated, investigating a sample of approximately 1.06% of the site.</p> <p>The evaluation demonstrated that Roman stratigraphy survived across most of the site except in two courtyard areas where it had been terraced away. Along the west side of the site is the remains of what may be the principal N-S street of the Roman town of <i>Durnovaria</i>, which survived beneath thick deposits of post-medieval garden soil. To the east of the street, a series of early Roman soil layers and a cobbled surface were discovered, relating to roadside activity.</p> <p>A series of medieval and post-medieval pits were also found together with remnants of eighteenth and nineteenth century buildings.</p> <p>Overall, the Roman remains within the site have been assessed against nationally recognised criteria as being of <b>medium</b> (or <b>Regional</b>) significance and the medieval and post-medieval remains as <b>Low</b> (or <b>Local</b>) significance.</p>		
Project Dates	Start: 01-03-2016	End: 02-04-2016	
Previous/Future Work	Yes/Yes		
Project Code	53408		
Monument Type and Period	Road (Roman), pit, (Roman), pit (medieval), pit (post-medieval), building (post-medieval)		
Significant Finds	Pot (Roman), Roof tile (Roman), quern (Roman), bone pin (Roman)		
Project Location			
County/District/Parish	Dorset/ West Dorset/ Dorchester		
Site Address	Former Colliton Antiques Centre, Colliton Street, Dorchester, DT1 1XH		
Site Coordinates	SY 6914 9077		
Site Area	795 m <sup>2</sup>		
Height OD	67.9 – 70.5 m		
Project Creators			
Organisation	Terrain Archaeology		
Project Brief Originator	None		
Project Design Originator	Terrain Archaeology		
Project Supervisor	Mike Trevarthen		
Project Manager	Peter Bellamy		
Sponsor or Funding Body	Dorset County Museum		
Project Archive			
Archive Type	Physical	Digital	Paper
Location/Accession No	Terrain Archaeology offices, pending deposition with Dorset County Museum.	Terrain Archaeology offices, pending deposition with Dorset County Museum.	Terrain Archaeology offices, pending deposition with Dorset County Museum.
Contents	Ceramics, flint, worked bone, animal bone	Digital photography	context sheets, diary, photographs, plans, report





# Dorset County Museum, High West Street, Dorchester, Dorset

## Archaeological Evaluation, March 2016

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Project introduction

Terrain Archaeology was commissioned by Dorset County Museum to undertake an Archaeological Field Evaluation of the area of the proposed Museum Extension development. This follows on from a Heritage Assessment for the site prepared by Terrain Archaeology in June 2014 (Terrain Archaeology 2014), which identified that there was potentially Roman archaeological remains of Medium or Regional significance on the site, including a Roman street and Roman buildings on the street frontage based on previous archaeological discoveries. The Archaeological Field Evaluation is designed to test this hypothesis and to evaluate the survival of archaeological stratigraphy across the site.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) definition of Archaeological Field Evaluation is "a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate." (CIfA 2014a).

The purpose of Archaeological Field Evaluation as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists is as follows:

*"The purpose of field evaluation is to gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including its presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the appropriate context, leading to one or more of the following:*

- *The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource*
- *The formulation of a strategy to mitigate a threat to the archaeological resource*
- *The formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research).*" (CIfA 2014a).

The fieldwork was carried out between the 1st March to 2nd April 2016 by Peter Bellamy and Mike Trevarthen.

Terrain Archaeology wishes to acknowledge the assistance and cooperation of the staff of Dorset County Museum, and Nick Masters of Peter Gunning and Partners LLP.

### 1.2 Brief

No written brief for the scheme of works was issued by, or on behalf of West Dorset District Council.

### 1.3 Site Location and Topography

The Dorset County Museum lies in the centre of Dorchester on the north side of High West Street, adjacent to St Peter's Church, centred on SY 6914 9077, at a height of about 66 m aOD (Figure 1). The topography slopes down the east. The museum site can be divided into the museum site and the extension site. The Main Museum comprises the main Crickmay museum building and Victorian Gallery, the adjacent Williams' building, also formerly known as Handel House (65 High West Street), the modern Brawn Extension to the rear and an 18th century stable building attached to the Brawn extension. There is a rear passageway behind the main museum giving access on to Colliton Street and the St Peter's Institute that lies on the Colliton Street frontage east of this passage. The Extension Site lies to the rear of 64 High West Street and fronts on to Colliton Street. It comprises John White's Rectory and Nos. 4-5

Colliton Street on the frontage with a vehicular entrance between leading into a small courtyard with a range of late nineteenth century warehouses, workshops and sheds (former Craft Market and Skyrme's Workshop).

## 1.4 Geology

The bedrock geology is mapped as Portsdown Chalk Formation (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>). No superficial geology is recorded.

## 1.5 Archaeological and Historical Background

The detailed history of the site has previously been presented in a desk-based heritage assessment (Terrain Archaeology 2014) and the results are summarised here.

### 1.5.1 Prehistoric

Prehistoric activity within the area of Dorchester is poorly understood and only fragmentary evidence has been obtained to date. The most significant monument is the Neolithic timber monument first identified at Greyhound Yard (Woodward *et al.* 1993). The museum site lies outside the likely circuit of this monument. Evidence from a number of sites including Greyhound Yard, Merchant's Garage and County Hall have produced evidence for Bronze Age fields (Bellamy 1992; Smith 1993; Woodward *et al.* 1993), which may have covered the whole area of Dorchester. A large pre-Roman ditch that may also possibly be part of this late prehistoric land division was found at Boots, South Street (Sparey Green 1986). An extensive pre-urban soil layer has been found on many of the sites investigated in Dorchester, which appears to have formed as a result of this late prehistoric agricultural activity. Traces of this soil have been recorded to the rear of the main museum buildings (Woodward 1994), other than this no prehistoric features have been recorded on the museum site.

### 1.5.2 Roman

The Site lies within the Roman town of *Durnovaria*, founded about AD65. The earliest element of the town appears to be the street pattern, which was laid out on top of the pre-Roman agricultural soil. The full street pattern is not known, but the alignment of a number of streets can be determined. The main N-S street ran from a point somewhat to the east of the junction of South Street and South Walks and passed through the western part of the Museum Site, where a section of the road was discovered during the construction of Skyrme's Workshop in 1937 (RCHME 1970, 552) and further north in Bennett's Court Car Park on Colliton Street (Terrain Archaeology 2015). A further part of this road was found to the south behind Boots, South Street (RCHME 1970, 552). The main E-W street probably ran from a point just north of the east end of Durngate Street at the East Gate of the town (Woodward and Ashford 1997) to a junction with the main N-S street approximately to the rear of 53 South Street. Part of this street was excavated on the Methodist Chapel site, South Street (Woodward *et al.* 1993). Another street runs parallel to this one further north and part of this road was found at St Peter's Church (Sparey Green 1981) and at Greenings Court. This road is projected to cross the southern part of the main museum complex. The forum lay south and east of the museum, its northern and western sides formed by the two streets that cross the museum site, and spreads of gravel have been found at Cornhill, which may be part of the forum surface (RCHME 1970, 564-6). None of the associated public buildings around the forum have yet been found.

In the early Roman period, the town appears to have had a relatively low density of buildings and the street frontages were developed with small timber buildings set within relatively large enclosures with further enclosures behind the street frontages. Towards the end of the second century AD many of the timber buildings were replaced by buildings with stone footings that are extended and developed by the late 3rd and into the 4th century and include large courtyard town houses and aisled buildings including possible urban farms, which continued to be built up until the end of the 4th century.

### 1.5.3 Medieval

The early medieval history of Dorchester is not well documented, but archaeology has produced evidence for layers of dark soil accumulation over the remains of the Roman structures. This soil development may date to the post-Roman and early medieval period and at Greyhound Yard appears to be associated with the development of strip fields and timber structures (Woodward *et al.* 1993, 376). Documentary evidence suggests that there was a royal

residence at Dorchester in the 9th century and the settlement became a borough with a mint in the 10th century (Penn 1980, 60). *Dorecestre* was recorded as a royal borough in the Domesday survey.

The medieval street pattern does not follow the Roman street alignment and the principal streets of High West, High East and South Streets together with back lanes are likely to have been established by the end of the 10th century. The three parishes of St Peter's, All Saints and Holy Trinity, with their parish churches, are all late Saxon in origin. Dorchester Castle was built soon after the Norman Conquest in the northern part of the town on the site now occupied by the Prison. The details of Dorchester's development during the medieval period are uncertain, but there appears to have been some organised trading activity from at least the late 12th century and was probably an important trading centre in the 13th century, though in the 14th century Dorchester was not the largest nor most wealthy town in Dorset (Draper 1992; Draper 2001; Penn 1980, 61-2). By the late medieval period it had become a cloth-making town of some local importance and was about the same size as Bridport, Sherborne, and Shaftesbury.

The Dorchester Domesday (1395-1500) recorded land transactions in the town and has been used to reconstruct the tenement pattern of late medieval Dorchester (Draper and King 1995). The museum site was recorded as the New Inn from 1400 and was purchased by the Borough in 1548. Colliton Street was clearly a back street at this time and was known as Pease Lane (or less commonly Ulnenlane/Inlane). The frontage on both sides of the street appears to have been almost continuous in the fifteenth century. The building known as John White's rectory is recorded as a tenement belonging to Holy Trinity Church, with a series of burgages and tenements recorded to the east and west.

#### **1.5.4 Post-medieval and Modern**

The town continued as a successful cloth-making town into the 17th century, and by the middle of the century, it appeared to be the largest town in the county, though the cloth industry was in decline. In 1724 Defoe described the town as "populous, though not large, the streets broad, but the buildings old, and low" (Penn 1980, 63).

There were a number of major and minor fires in the town during the 17th and 18th centuries. The most disastrous fire happened on 6 August 1613 when 300 houses and churches of Holy Trinity and All Saints were burnt, with only St Peter's church and a few houses near it escaping the conflagration (Hutchins 1863, 340). These fires have likely contributed to the predominantly 18th century and later character of the town. The late 18th and 19th century saw significant expansion and many improvements in the town.

By the beginning of the 19th century, the New Inn had become the George Inn and was still owned by the Borough. The George Inn survived until it was demolished to make way for the new museum in 1881-3. The Dorset County Museum was founded in 1845 and was originally in 6 High West Street before moving to 3 Trinity Street in 1851. A new purpose-built museum building, designed by G. R. Crickmay & Son, was built on the site of the George Inn and opened in 1883 under the curatorship of H. J. Moule. The museum was extended in 1973.

## **1.6 Previous Archaeological fieldwork**

### **1.6.1 Archaeological investigations within the Museum Site**

Seven archaeological interventions and building recording investigations are recorded on the Dorset County Council Historic Environment Record within the Museum Site. The archaeological investigations comprise: (1) observations during the construction of the museum building in 1880 when an underground 'passageway' was revealed (RCHME 1970, 589); (2) evaluation excavation on the site of the proposed museum extension in 1964 (Aitken 1965); (3) observations during the construction of the museum extension in 1969-70; (4) observations during the erection of a new fire escape to the rear of the museum in 1993 (Woodward 1994); and (5) excavation of a section of a Roman road at Skyrme's Workshop to the rear of 64 High West Street in 1937 (RCHME 1970, 552). The two episodes of building recording are (6) the recording of the Museum cellar as part of a cellar survey by Val Dicker and David Ashford in 2002 and (7) the recording of St Peter's Institute by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in 1984.

### 1.6.2 Archaeological investigations immediately adjacent to the Proposed Development Area

Nine archaeological interventions have been recorded immediately adjacent to the proposed museum extension site. A small trench in the back garden of 3 Colliton Street, dug in 1974, revealed the floor of a Roman building. Observations during the renewal of boundary walls of the Colliton Street car park immediately west of 5 Colliton Street in 1997 and 2000 revealed Roman and later stratigraphy (Smith 1997; Bellamy 2000). Also an evaluation trench was dug in this same car park in 2011 (Tabor 2011). In 2015 Terrain Archaeology carried out an excavation prior to redevelopment of the car park, which revealed the east edge of the same Roman road as found in Skyrme's Workshop, together with a series of pits and other features on the roadside. Two urned cremation burials were found when laying a sewer in Colliton in 1856 (RCHME 1970, 573); and to the east of the Museum work during the construction of a new church room in 1981 and the demolition of buildings to the north of the churchyard in North Square in 1960 have revealed Roman stratigraphy including the remains of an E-W Roman street and traces of Roman buildings to the south of it (Sparey Green 1981).

## 1.7 Aims and Objectives

The aims of the field evaluation were:

- To understand, record and make available information on the archaeological resource existing on the site.
- To place the archaeological results within the local, regional and national context, as appropriate, and advance understanding of the archaeology of the site and its surroundings.

Its objectives were:

- To investigate and record all *in situ* archaeological deposits and features revealed to an appropriate professional standard.
- To provide sufficient data to assess the significance of the heritage assets and potential heritage assets on the site.
- To provide sufficient data to enable an informed planning decision to be taken on the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the heritage assets on the site
- To present the results in a report to the appropriate standard.

## 1.8 Proposed Development

The details of the proposed new Collections Centre are still under development. In outline, the proposed development would be focussed on the former Craft Market site, Skyrme's Workshop, the courtyard behind John White's Rectory and the Brawn extension to the museum. It is proposed to demolish the Craft Market buildings and the new extension would cover virtually the whole of this area and would incorporate a large basement.

## 1.9 Methods

The methodology, scope, aims and objectives of the works was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by Terrain Archaeology in February 2016 (Terrain Archaeology document no. 3408/0/2). All archaeological works were carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014a).

The evaluation comprised intrusive investigation in the form of test pitting. Eight trenches (Trenches 1–8, Figure 2), each measuring approximately 1 m by 1 m, were excavated by hand. The trenches were located to sample the main elements of the site. Trenches 1 and 2 were in the garden area behind 64 High West Street, Trenches 3 and 7 in the garden behind 4 and 5 Colliton Street, Trenches 4 and 5 in the former Craft Market building, Trench 6 in the courtyard behind John White's Rectory, and Trench 8 in the Stable courtyard behind the Brawn Extension (Figure 2). The trenches sampled approximately 1.06% of the application area.

Where possible, the trenches were excavated down to the natural chalk. This was only exposed in Trenches 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8. In Trenches 2 and 7, excavation was halted at the top surface of the Roman Street. In Trench 1, excavation was ceased while still in post-medieval deposits at a depth of 1.5 m for safety reasons. All archaeological deposits and features exposed during the works were recorded and excavation of archaeological deposits and features was limited to resolving questions relating to their date, nature, extent and condition. All deposits revealed, irrespective of

their apparent archaeological significance, were recorded using components of the Terrain Archaeology recording system of complementary written, drawn and photographic records. These have been compiled in a stable, cross-referenced and fully indexed archive in accordance with current guidelines (Brown 2011) and the requirements of the receiving museum. A photographic record of the work was maintained in digital format, and includes aspects of its setting, conduct and technical detail.

## 1.10 Archive and Dissemination

The project archive, comprising artefacts, written, graphic and photographic records, and appropriate background documentation, is currently stored by Terrain Archaeology under the project code 53408.

A copy of this report will be lodged with Dorset County Council's Historic Environment Record (HER). The HER is a publicly funded and accessible resource, and deposition of the report will place it, and the project results, in the public domain.

A digital summary of the archive will be placed with the OASIS project ([www.oasis.ac.uk](http://www.oasis.ac.uk)) under the reference code *terrains1-255776*. A digital copy of this report will be uploaded for inclusion in the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) online 'grey literature' library.

A brief summary report of the project will be published by Terrain Archaeology in the *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society*.

## 2. Results

### 2.1 Introduction

The eight evaluation trenches were positioned to investigate the character of the differing areas of the site (Figure 2), in particular the remaining open areas of the site, i.e., the garden areas behind 64 High West Street and 4–5 Colliton Street, the courtyard behind John White's Rectory and the Stable courtyard. In addition two trenches were dug within the former Craft Market building to assess the potential for the survival of archaeology below this building.

This section summarises the results of the evaluation trenching by chronological period. The features and deposits revealed in the trenches are described in detail in Appendix 1. Selected photographs are illustrated in Plates 1-9.

### 2.2 Distribution of the Revealed Archaeological Resource

The evaluation trench results indicate there is good survival of Roman stratigraphy across most areas of the site, except in the Stable courtyard, where there appears to have been significant truncation of the top of the natural chalk and in the courtyard behind John White's Rectory. In the western part of the site in the gardens behind 4-5 Colliton Street and 64 High West Street, the evidence from Trenches 2, 3 and 7 indicates that the Roman street survives beneath the post-medieval and modern garden soils. Roman stratigraphy also survives beneath the former Craft Market in Trenches 4 and 5.

### 2.3 Natural Deposits

The chalk bedrock was exposed in Trenches 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 (Table 1). In Trench 8 it had been clearly heavily truncated and the original upper surface of the natural chalk did not survive. In Trench 6, the top of the natural chalk is slightly weathered; suggesting that although it had been disturbed by later activity, it hadn't it hadn't been significantly truncated, perhaps by 0.15–0.25 m (Figure 7).

Trench	Context	Height of chalk bedrock
3	313	68.81 m aOD
4	413	68.20 m aOD
5	509	68.14 m aOD
6	612	67.91 m aOD
8	804	67.65 m aOD

Table 1: Height of exposed natural chalk

## 2.4 Pre-Roman Features and Deposits

Immediately above the natural chalk in Trenches 3, 4 and 5, was a layer of reddish-brown clay (312, 412, 508) between 0.08–0.15 m thick. It was sealed by the Roman street in Trench 3 and by Roman soil layers in Trenches 4 and 5. This layer has been identified as the remnants of the pre-urban agricultural soil. This soil has been noted on many of the previous archaeological investigations in Dorchester and has been recorded beneath the Roman town streets at the Greyhound Yard/Old Methodist Chapel site (Woodward *et al.* 1993, 34).

No certain prehistoric features were identified in the evaluation trenches. However, it must be noted that in Trenches 2, and 7 excavation ceased at the top of the Roman deposits, so prehistoric features may be present at greater depth.

## 2.5 Roman Features and Deposits

Roman stratigraphy was exposed in Trenches 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. In Trench 6, it is likely that all Roman deposits above the level of the natural chalk had been removed by later activity. In Trenches 2, 4 and 5 it is likely that the upper levels of Roman stratigraphy had been truncated.

### 2.5.1 Roman Street

The remains of a Roman street running broadly NNW–SSE were exposed in Trenches 2, 3, and 7, although the surviving thickness of the road deposits was only exposed in Trench 3, where the road was cut through by a later pit (308) (Figure 4, Plates 1-2). The full width of the street was not determined during the evaluation, but the section recorded under Skyrme's Workshop in 1937 indicates it was over 6.4 m wide (RCHME 1970, 552). The exposures of the street observed during the evaluation are best understood in relation to the 1937 description and recent excavations by Terrain Archaeology in Bennetts Court immediately adjacent to the west of the site, where a larger part of the road was recorded. The 1937 exposure showed that the street was constructed directly on top of the pre-urban soil, where an initial thin layer of chalk rubble was laid down, over which was a steeply cambered layer of flint nodules about 0.6 m at its thickest. This was sealed by three thin layers of chalk, sand and gravel, which were interpreted as the remains of original metalling. Further irregular deposits of gravel, sand and mixed debris, thickest at the sides, were found and were interpreted as later repairs levelling the camber (RCHME 1970, 552). At Bennetts Court, the western part of the road was exposed and a very similar structure was noted, with a basal thin layer of chalk overlain by a cambered layer of flint nodules topped by a thin layer of chalky clay and small stone, a thin layer of firm light yellowish-brown sandy clay loam beneath an upper very hard yellowish-brown sandy loam and fine flint gravel metalled surface. The road was flanked by a roadside ditch. This was sealed by layers of compact yellowish-brown clay and gravel, which may represent a widening of the road and levelling of the camber. A second roadside ditch was then cut further out. The projected course of the road and the edge of the roadside ditches is shown on Figure 2.

The basal chalk layer (311) was found immediately overlying the pre-urban soil 312 in Trench 3 (Figure 4; Plates 1-2). This was sealed by a layer of flint nodules (310) up to 0.5 m thick. The upper part of the street make-up had been removed by later activity in Trench 3, but was intact in Trench 7 where the flint nodule layer 710 was overlain by a 0.08 m thick layer of compact pale grey redeposited chalk with occasional nodular flint (709) and a 0.15 m thick layer of compact flint gravel and flint nodules in a mid-light greyish-brown silty loam matrix (711) with a worn surface (Figure 4; Plate 3). These upper two layers probably represent the original road metalling. Over road metalling 711 was a 0.17 m thick layer of loose light buff silt with scarce small stones (708), which may represent part of the later deposits widening the road and reducing the camber seen at Skyrme's Workshop and at Bennetts Court.

The road metalling (205) exposed in Trench 2 (Figure 3; Plate 4) is probably analogous to context 711 in Trench 7.

No dating evidence was recovered directly associated with the street.

### 2.5.2 Surfaces and soils

Immediately over the pre-urban soil in Trench 4 was a 0.22 m thick series of Roman soils and deposits (411, 410, 407) (Figure 5; Plate 6). The lower part was a chalky reddish-brown soil (411) containing a range of Roman finds

(Table 2). Contained within a slight linear hollow in the top of 411 was a deposit (410) containing a large amount of plaster debris, including some fragments of white-painted and unpainted plaster. Both 411 and 410 were sealed beneath a layer of greyish-brown soil (407), which contains quantities of domestic refuse and fragments of building material. These soils contained only early Roman finds and the samian pottery indicates a date range in the later 1st century AD.

Soil layer 407 was sealed beneath a rough flint cobbled surface (402) with a chalky surface (401) over it (Figure 5; Plate 5).

In Trench 5, immediately above the pre-urban soil 508 was a 0.15 m thick layer of chalky mid yellowish-brown silty loam (511), which has been interpreted as a Roman soil layer, probably analogous to layer 411 in Trench 4. It was only present in the north east corner of the trench and was not fully investigated.

### 2.5.3 Pits and Postholes

**Post hole 403.** An oval post hole (403), 0.27 m by 0.23 m across and 0.5 m deep was cut through the soil layers 407, 410 and 411 down into the natural chalk. Contained within this post hole was a sub-rectangular post-pipe 0.18 m by 0.17 m across, which was visible in flint cobbled surface 402. The post hole appears to have been dug before surface 402, which was then laid around the post. The function of this post cannot be determined in such a limited exposed area. It may form part of a building or a fence.

**Feature 405.** Post hole 403 appears to have been cut through the northern end of a shallow ovoid scoop 405 of unknown function. It was filled with flint nodules, a limestone block and part of a lava rotary quern upper stone.

**Feature 409.** A shallow flat-bottomed feature (409) cut through cobbling 402 was partially exposed in the south east corner of Trench 4. It was filled with soils and flint cobbles and may represent a repair of the cobbled surface.

**Pit 609.** Cut into the natural chalk in the base of Trench 6 was part of a circular or ovoid pit with steep near vertical sides (609). It was not fully excavated. The upper part of the pit was filled with mid to dark greyish brown soil (610) with chalk and charcoal flecks, beneath an upper compact chalky layer (611) (Figure 6). The excavated pit fill contained a small quantity of exclusively Roman finds.

## 2.6 Medieval Features and Deposits

Only two possible medieval features were revealed during the evaluation, both pits, in Trenches 5 and 7.

### 2.6.1 Pit 504

Part of a large pit (504) was exposed in Trench 5 (Figure 5; Plate 7). This pit was cut through the Roman soil 511 and the pre-urban soil 508 and natural chalk 509. It was only partially exposed and investigated. It appears to have been a probably circular or ovoid vertically-sided pit with a distinct weathering cone in the upper part. It was filled with mixed mid and dark greyish-brown and buff silty loam with small flint and limestone pieces, chalk lumps and charcoal flecks (510, 512), capped by a thin layer of mid yellowish-brown silty loam with frequent small chalk rubble, flint and oyster shell (507). The weathering cone above was filled with mixed layers of soil (505, 506). This pit is not securely dated but the only finds recovered were medieval in date. The fill of this pit only contained medieval finds, which suggests it may have been a medieval pit.

### 2.6.2 Pit 704

Part of a small ovoid pit (704) with irregular steeply sloping sides and flat base about 0.3 m deep was found in the south west corner of Trench 7. It cut through the top of the Roman deposits and was filled with mixed dark greyish-brown soil (705).

## 2.7 Post-medieval and Modern Features and Deposits

### 2.7.1 Building Remains

A mortared rubble stone wall (302), 0.5 m wide and running roughly E-W, was exposed in the northern part of Trench 3 in the garden of 4-5 Colliton Street. The base of this wall was at 1.0 m below present ground level and appears to

have been founded directly on top of the Roman street gravels 310 (Figure 4; Plate 2). This wall lines up with a scar in the west wall of the Craft Market building, which has incorporated the remains of an earlier stone walled building at this point. This building can be identified as a stable belonging to Matthew Baker on the 1810 plan of Dorchester (DHC D1/OE1). This building may also be depicted on Hutchins' 1774 map of Dorchester. Inside this building no intact floor levels were found, but the ground levels had been raised to the current garden level by a mixed layer of loose dark and mid greyish-brown sandy clay loam with pockets of orange sand, with frequent brick, limestone and slate rubble (306). An articulated horse burial was found within this layer.

The structure of the former Craft Market building was not investigated as part of this evaluation, but Trenches 4 and 5 indicated the character of the floor. This consisted of a layer of flint nodules and other stone rubble (501) laid down directly on top of the surviving Roman stratigraphy and which formed the base for a concrete floor 0.25 m thick (400, 500) (Figure 5; Plates 4-7).

In Trench 6 in the courtyard behind John White's Rectory, several elements of brick and stone structures (602, 603, 604) were found (Figure 6; Plate 8). These remains appear to indicate several phases of construction but it is not possible to sort out the complexities of these phases from such a small exposure. They probably belong to a building shown on the 1888 Ordnance Survey map.

### 2.7.2 Pits

**Pit 308.** A pit, perhaps subrectangular in plan, with steeply sloping sides was cut below the level of building 302, through the remains of the Roman street and into the natural chalk below (Figure 4; Plates 1-2). This pit was not fully exposed or excavated. It was filled with loose mixed soil with flint, limestone, brick and slate rubble (309). It may be associated with the demolition of building 302.

**Pit 502.** A small subrectangular pit (502) with vertical sides and flat bottom about 0.5 m wide and 0.5 m deep was found in the north west part of Trench 5, cut through the upper weathering fills of medieval pit 504. It was filled with chalk rubble (503).

**Pit 706.** Part of a probably sub-circular pit (706) with steeply sloping sides and an irregular rounded base was found cut into the top of the Roman street metalling in the south east corner of Trench 7. It was filled with mixed dark greyish-brown soil (707). This may represent gardening activity behind 4-5 Colliton Street.

### 2.7.3 Other Features

Part of a service trench 802 was exposed in Trench 8, running in a NW-SE direction (Figure 6). It contained two metal pipes (Figure 6; Plate 9).

### 2.7.4 Garden Soils

The garden behind 64 High West Street contained several layers of post-medieval and modern garden soils. In Trench 2 these soils (201, 202, 203, 204) were 0.8 m thick and contained a number of eighteenth and nineteenth century finds and fragments of building rubble. They lay directly on top of the surface of the Roman street. In Trench 1, the post-medieval garden soils (100, 101, 102, 103, 104) were over 1.5 m thick. This suggests that there had been some disturbance of the Roman levels, which had been infilled with later garden soils.

In the garden of 4-5 Colliton Street, similar deposits of post-medieval and modern garden soils were found in Trenches 3 and 7. These were 0.4 m thick in Trench 3 (300, 301) and lay over the backfilled remains of an eighteenth century building (306). The garden soils in Trench 7 (700, 701, 712) were 0.5 m thick and lay immediately on top of the Roman street (Figure 4).

In the courtyard behind John White's Rectory post-medieval garden soils 0.5 m thick (605, 606, 607) were found in Trench 6. They lay directly on top of the natural chalk (Figure 6).



### 3. Finds

#### 3.1 Finds Assemblage

The finds recovered from the evaluation are presented below in Table 2. For the purposes of this assessment, the finds have not been analysed in detail: only a summary of the composition of the finds assemblage by material type is included.

Context	Cu Alloy	Iron	Roman pot	Medieval pot	Post-med pot	Clay pipe	CBM	Stone	plaster	Stone objects	Flint	glass	Worked bone	Animal bone	Marine shell
102	--	--	1/5	9/107	--	--	4/148	1/63	--	--	--	--	--	6/25	--
103	--	--	7/82	8/65	5/28	1/4	5/414	2/9	--	--	1/39	--	--	3/71	1/14
104	--	--	3/9	3/15	--	--	5/150	--	--	--	2/163	--	--	--	--
203	--	2/128	--	--	8/33	4/22	1/184	3/37	--	--	--	4/132	--	1/7	1/5
204	--	--	1/11	--	6/156	1/4	5/1766	2/1568	--	--	--	--	--	--	2/51
300	--	--	--	--	10/327	--	4/559	2/92	--	--	--	1/2	--	1/2	--
306	1/1	4/323	--	--	11/166	1/1	11/1393	5/614	4/365	--	2/5	3/91	--	136/1946	5/48
309	--	2/200	--	--	32/864	2/6	3/1638	6/244	--	--	--	2/103	--	6/1211	8/250
401	--	2/23	67/595	--	--	--	45/3988	6/1132	1/155	--	--	3/2	--	16/55	12/116
404	--	2/11	26/257	--	--	--	1/782	1/411	--	--	--	--	--	6/17	--
406	--	2/7	24/175	--	--	--	--	1/3000	--	1/2478	2/6	--	--	11/38	3/23
407	--	10/66	100/1086	--	--	--	6/1134	5/452	--	--	7/117	2/7	--	69/403	9/137
409	--	--	5/21	--	--	--	2/141	--	5/595	--	--	--	--	¼	2/19
410	--	--	1/3	--	--	--	1/228	1/404	--	--	--	--	--	7/13	--
411	--	3/19	14/123	--	--	--	--	1/46	1/10	--	6/261	--	1/1	14/55	1/6
505	--	--	10/143	--	--	--	9/740	1/33	1/17	--	--	--	--	4/27	--
506	--	1/4	32/325	14/125	--	--	13/618	4/348	--	--	--	--	--	32/257	7/69
507	--	--	2/45	2/15	--	--	8/662	1/94	2/56	--	--	--	--	4/55	1/15
510	--	--	23/135	--	--	--	17/640	1/40	1/100	--	--	--	--	8/52	2/149
601	--	--	--	--	1/93	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
605	--	--	1/11	--	16/114	2/3	--	2/9	--	--	--	1/1	--	86/110	1/25
606	--	--	--	--	10/101	--	8/792	3/62	1/31	--	1/6	--	--	8/54	1/18
607	--	--	2/51	--	3/52	--	6/1728	10/129	--	--	1/70	--	--	2/15	3/27
608	--	--	3/44	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1/7	--
610	--	--	4/51	--	--	--	1/30	--	--	--	--	--	--	2/13	--
700	--	--	1/8	--	4/42	2/3	9/321	2/13	--	--	1/124	2/86	--	--	--
701	--	1/9	1/40	2/16	5/60	--	9/603	4/162	1/5	--	4/118	1/8	--	3/81	4/81
705	--	--	3/40	4/47	--	--	17/1198	1/6	4/310	--	--	--	--	4/41	8/205
707	--	--	2/15	--	--	--	6/234	--	3/19	--	--	--	--	1/15	--
711	--	--	--	--	--	--	9/495	--	--	--	--	--	--	1/17	4/43
801	--	--	--	--	3/48	--	2/177	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
803	--	--	5/53	--	3/37	--	1/27	12/216	1/20	--	--	4/30	--	1/5	2/37
<b>Total</b>	<b>1/ 1g</b>	<b>29/ 790g</b>	<b>337/ 3315g</b>	<b>46/ 417g</b>	<b>117/ 2112g</b>	<b>13/ 43g</b>	<b>208/ 20790g</b>	<b>77/ 9184g</b>	<b>25/ 1683g</b>	<b>1/2478g</b>	<b>27/ 909g</b>	<b>23/ 462g</b>	<b>1/ 1g</b>	<b>434/ 3506g</b>	<b>77/ 1338g</b>

Table 2: Quantification of finds by context (count/weight in grams)

#### 3.2 Metal Objects

##### 3.2.1 Copper Alloy

A single copper alloy object was recovered: a button from context 306. This was a plain button, 16 mm in diameter, with a shank cast into the back (broken).

##### 3.2.2 Iron

Twenty-nine iron objects were recovered. This assemblage included 25 nails, one bar (from context 203), one oval fitting (from context 309) and a horseshoe (from context 306). None of the ironwork has been x-rayed to date, so

identification is based on visual inspection of the corroded objects. The nails are all wrought or cut. Nineteen nails were recovered from Roman contexts. Thirteen of these nails were of a similar size between 42–46 mm in length with hammered heads about 13 mm across. Three nails (from contexts 401 and 411) were larger measuring 52 – 67 mm long.

The horseshoe (from context 306) was found in association with an articulated animal burial. It measured approximately 100 mm by 90 mm and had the remnants of four horseshoe nails corroded into the shoe.

### 3.3 Pottery

*Lorraine Mephram (Wessex Archaeology)*

The pottery assemblage recovered amounts to 500 sherds, weighing 5844g, and ranges in date from Romano-British to modern. Condition varies from fair to poor; the assemblage is relatively fragmentary, and sherd size is generally small. Mean sherd weight overall is 11.7g, but varies over time; for Romano-British sherds it is 9.8g, for medieval sherds 9.1g, and for post-medieval sherds (skewed by the presence of thick-walled earthenwares), 18.1g. The assemblage has been quantified within each context by ware type (e.g. samian, Poole Harbour whiteware, Westerwald stoneware, etc). The full list by context is in Appendix 2 and total quantities by ware type in Table 3.

Date Range	Ware Type	No. sherds	weight (g)
Romano-British			
	Amphora	3	60
	BB1	296	2861
	New Forest colour coat	4	19
	New Forest parchment ware	2	22
	Greyware	1	24
	Misc. oxidised wares	13	170
	Whitewares	2	11
	Samian	16	148
	<i>Sub-total Romano-British</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>3315</i>
Medieval			
	Medieval coarseware	7	69
	Medieval sandy ware	1	3
	Poole Harbour whiteware	5	51
	SE Wilts/E Dorset coarseware	4	27
	W Dorset sandy ware	29	267
	<i>Sub-total medieval</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>417</i>
Post-medieval			
	Bone china	1	2
	Creamware	14	113
	East Holme earthenware	1	9
	English stoneware (modern)	2	124
	Frechen stoneware	1	14
	Notts-type stoneware	1	1
	Pearlware	8	23
	Porcelain	5	19
	Post-med redware	46	1102
	Raeren stoneware	1	6
	Refined whiteware	4	35
	Staffs-type slipware	1	14
	Tinglazed earthenware	6	63
	Verwood	15	463
	Westerwald stoneware	2	43
	White salt glaze	7	67
	White earthenware	2	14
	<i>Sub-total post-medieval</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>2112</i>
	<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>5844</b>

Table 3: Pottery totals by ware type

### 3.3.1 Romano-British

Roughly two-thirds of the total assemblage by sherd count falls within this chronological period. The breakdown of ware types is entirely as expected for the area – an overwhelming predominance of south-east Dorset Black Burnished ware (BB1), to the almost total exclusion of other coarseware types (a few sherds of oxidised and greywares), augmented by a small proportion of imported and regional finewares (samian, New Forest colour coated wares, amphorae).

With the exception of a single sherd, which is either Central or East Gaulish (pit 704), all of the samian is good quality South Gaulish. Most of these sherds (13) came from Trench 4, from seven different contexts, but there is a possibility that there are some same-vessel links between contexts (e.g. soil layers 407 and 410). Diagnostic sherds belong to one form 18 platter, and at least one (maybe two) form 29 decorated bowl(s). All of the amphora sherds belong to Spanish Dressel 20 types.

British finewares are represented by just four sherds of New Forest colour coated wares, probably all from beakers, and two sherds of New Forest parchment ware.

Black Burnished ware makes up 88% of the Romano-British total by sherd count (86% by sherd weight). The range of vessel forms is relatively limited, and there appears to be an emphasis on forms belonging to the early Romano-British period (later 1st and 2nd centuries AD): everted rim jars, one with a countersunk handle (Seager Smith and Davies, types 1 and 5), and small bead rim jars (*ibid.*, type 8). Later forms comprise one jar with a flanged rim (type 11), one flanged bowl (type 22), and five dropped flange bowls (type 25), but the straight-sided 'dog dishes' (type 20) which are an extremely common feature of most sites in the area from the 2nd century onwards are absent here. There is a discernible spatial distinction between the early and later vessel forms, which is discussed further below.

Other coarsewares are sparsely represented, and include one sherd of greyware, as well as a few miscellaneous oxidised and white wares. There are no diagnostic sherds amongst these wares.

### 3.3.2 Medieval

Medieval wares make up only a small proportion of this assemblage (46 sherds). Three known ware types were identified, as well as a small group of coarsewares presumed to be of relatively local manufacture, and a sandy ware of unknown source.

Most common here are relatively fine-grained sandy wares, sometimes containing rare flint and/or chalk inclusions. These are comparable to products of the 13th century kiln at Hermitage, but similar wares are found across west Dorset from the 13th to 15th centuries (Spoerry 1990, ware S1); they are defined here as 'West Dorset sandy wares', and occur in jar and jug forms, plain but occasionally glazed.

Four sherds in coarse sandy wares fall into a regional ceramic tradition of such coarsewares extending from the Salisbury area to Poole Harbour, with a currency from at least the 11th century through the medieval period, and defined here as 'South-east Wiltshire/East Dorset coarsewares'. One source is known at Laverstock, just outside Salisbury, but another source(s) in the Poole Harbour/Purbeck area has been suggested (Hinton and Hodges 1977, 63; Spoerry 1990, 14). One sherd is glazed, but there are no diagnostic sherds.

The seven remaining coarseware sherds are in fabrics containing flint and occasional calcareous (chalk) inclusions. These have been recorded previously in Dorchester (e.g. Draper 1993a), and are assumed to have a local origin somewhere in south-east Dorset. Only jar forms are seen here. Their date range is assumed to run from the 12th to 14th centuries, although one sherd, from pit 504, is in a particularly crudely made flint-tempered fabric; a group of sherds in comparable flint-tempered wares have been recorded from Greyhound Yard and dated as late 11th/early 12th century (*ibid.*, 290–2).

Finewares were apparently supplied solely from the Poole Harbour area; five sherds of Poole Harbour whiteware were found, all glazed, and all likely to belong to jugs. There is also one glazed sherd in a fine sandy ware of uncertain source. Both types date to the 13th or 14th century.

### 3.3.3 Post-Medieval

Roughly half of the post-medieval assemblage consists of coarse earthenwares, including both redwares, which are assumed to originate from sources to the west and/or north-west (e.g. Donyatt, Holnest), and pale-firing wares from the Verwood industry of east Dorset. Both were supplying kitchen and other utilitarian forms (jars and bowls, one small lid). Two redware sherds are slip-decorated, the first a trailed slipware, possibly a cup or porringer (garden soil 203), and the second a sgraffito ware (garden soil 103). There is a single sherd of the white-firing earthenware made at East Holme in Purbeck in the 17th to early 18th century (Terry 1987); two other whiteware sherds with iron-flecked yellow glaze are of uncertain source although could also be East Holme products. The earthenwares potentially span the post-medieval period, although the slipwares have a more restricted date range (17th/18th century), and the Verwood wares are likely to be of mid-18th century date or later, the point at which they start to dominate the earthenware market across Wessex.

Associated wares provide closer dating. There are a few German stonewares (single sherds of Raeren and Frechen stonewares, and two sherds of Westerwald); all belong to drinking wares (jugs or mugs). Raeren stonewares are dated c. 1480–1610, Frechen c. 1550–1700, and Westerwald c. 1590–1800. One sherd of Staffordshire-type feathered slipware comes from the rim of a platter with scalloped edge (levelling/demolition deposit 306), dating to the late 17th or 18th century. From the same period are sherds of Nottingham-type stoneware (garden soil 605), and Chinese porcelain tea bowls (garden soils 103 and 605, pit 308).

From the second quarter of the 18th century, factory-produced wares appear, first white salt glaze (c. 1720–80), then creamware, pearlware and finally bone china and refined whiteware. All these were supplying tea-/coffee-drinking and tablewares. Some of these were clearly of high quality, such as the decorative openwork creamware vessel found in pit 308. A range of comparable fine tablewares was found in one of the pit groups from Greyhound Yard, dated to the late 18th century (Draper 1993b, fig. 165).

Tinglazed wares provided both display vessels (the foot from a late 17th century decorative vessel of unknown form from pit 308) and monochrome sanitary wares (chamber pots, dating from the late 18th to 19th century).

### 3.3.4 Distribution and Chronology

Pottery derived from a number of contexts across the Site (Table 4). Roughly 25% by sherd count (126 sherds) came from garden soil, levelling/demolition layers and other modern disturbance (e.g. service trenches). A further 188 sherds came from stratified layers, and 189 sherds from cut features.

Context type	Pottery date			Total
	Roman	Medieval	Post-medieval	
Cut features	130	24	32	186
Garden soils	16	20	62	98
Other layers	185		3	188
Modern disturbance	6	2	20	28
<i>Total</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>500</i>

Table 4: Pottery totals (sherd count) by context type

Levels of residuality were of medium significance (Table 5). Just over one quarter of the Romano-British total by sherd count occurred residually in medieval and later contexts, and the proportion of residual medieval sherds was slightly less (around 22% by sherd count). This is consistent with the evidence of sherd size and condition (see above), with a relatively low sherd size in Romano-British and medieval wares.

Pottery date	Context date			Total
	Roman	Medieval	Post-medieval	
Romano-British	246	73	18	337
Medieval		36	10	46
Post-medieval			117	117
<i>Total</i>	<i>246</i>	<i>109</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>500</i>

Table 5: Pottery totals (sherd count) by dated context

The breakdown of pottery by trench is given in Table 6. By far the highest total came from Trench 4, and this Trench produced only Romano-British pottery. Moreover, the chronological emphasis in this trench is on the early Romano-British period, as exemplified by the presence of South Gaulish decorated bowls and small bead rim jars in Black Burnished ware. The samian indicates a date range in the later 1st century AD. There is only one obviously later vessel form from this trench – a flange-rim jar from chalky layer 401, with a date range of 3rd–4th century AD – but this is a stratigraphically late layer. Apart from Trench 4, only Trench 5 yielded a significant total of Romano-British sherds, and all came from one feature (pit 504), which also contained medieval sherds. The Romano-British sherds included dropped flange bowls and later everted rim jar types, as well as New Forest colour coated ware, giving a date range of mid-3rd century AD or later. Dropped flange bowls were also found amongst the smaller groups from Trenches 1 (garden soil 103) and 7 (disturbed layer 701).

Trench	Romano-British	Medieval	Post-medieval	Total
1	11/96	20/187	5/28	36/311
2	1/11	--	14/179	15/190
3	--	--	53/1357	53/1357
4	237/2257	--	--	237/2257
5	66/638	20/167	--	86/805
6	10/157	--	30/360	40/517
7	7/103	6/63	9/103	22/269
8	5/53	--	6/85	11/138
Total	337/3315	36/417	117/2112	500/5844

Table 6: Pottery breakdown by trench (number / weight in grammes)

Medieval sherds were mostly divided between Trenches 1 and 5, with a few sherds from Trench 7. A similar range of wares was found in each trench. Medieval sherds serve to date pits 504 and 704 (the only two features that can be assigned to this period), and also constitute the latest material from garden soils 102 and 104.

Post-medieval sherds were found in most trenches (but not in Trenches 4 and 5). The largest group came from Trench 3, which contained the only cut feature that can be assigned to this phase (pit 308). On the basis of the ware types represented, this feature dates to the early-mid 18th century. The levelling/demolition deposit (306) and garden soil (300) from the same trench both date to the 19th or 20th century. In other trenches sherds came from garden soils or other obviously modern contexts (e.g. make-up for courtyard, service trenches).

### 3.4 Clay Tobacco Pipe

Thirteen pieces (43g) of clay tobacco pipe were recovered: one bowl from context 203 and the remainder were stem fragments. The bowl was an eighteenth century spur type. No maker's marks were present.

### 3.5 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

A total of 208 pieces of brick and tile (20790g) were recovered from Trenches 1–8 (Table 2). This comprised 87 pieces of Roman date, 46 pieces of medieval and post-medieval date and 67 small undated fragments. The Roman tile consisted of 75 roof tile (60 tegula and 25 imbrex) fragments, seven Roman brick, two flue tile and three tesserae. The roof tile was recovered from Trenches 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. No stamps were present but three tegulae had fragmentary tile signatures: all are semi-circular marks. The Roman brick was all from Trench 4. The two flue tile fragments were probably the same tile and both were from context 401. The three tesserae (from contexts 506, 507 and 705) measured 23–28 mm across and all had mortar adhering.

The only certain medieval tile were three fragments of green glazed ridge tiles (from contexts 204, 306 and 606). Two had fragmentary remains of crests – that from context 606 has a fragmentary knife-cut crest decorated with at least three vertical stab marks at the base of the crest and the fragment from 306 has a very dark green glaze and with low rounded crests. These tiles are not closely dated but are probably late thirteenth century or later. The example from 306 may be early post-medieval.

The post-medieval brick consisted of broken fragments of handmade bricks without frogs of probably eighteenth and nineteenth century date. One fragment of brown glazed brick was recovered from context 306. A range of different fabrics is present. The post-medieval ceramic roof tile consisted of flat fragments without distinguishing characteristics, probably from plain peg tile of eighteenth to nineteenth century date.

### 3.6 Stone Building Material

Seventy-seven pieces (9184g) of stone building material were recovered from Trenches 1–8. The majority were fragments of Welsh slate, probably from roof slates of post-medieval date. These were recovered from contexts 103, 203, 204, 300, 306, 309, 605, 606, 607, 701, 705, 803). A single fragment of Purbeck stone roof tile was found in context 204. Nine fragments of flat limestone pieces about 30 mm thick were found in contexts 102, 306, 404, 410, 510, 607 and 701. These may be from flooring materials, but most did not have a worn surface. Eighteen other limestone fragments were also found but their original form could not be determined. Three limestone tesserae, measuring about 25 mm across, were found in contexts 505, 506 and 606.

### 3.7 Plaster

Twenty-five fragments of plaster (1683g) were recovered from twelve contexts. The plaster broadly fell into two types; a pale grey hard fine sandy matrix and a coarse yellowish-brown fabric with small chalk or lime fragments. The pale grey plaster was recovered from contexts 306 and 606. The plaster from context 306 had reed impressions on the rear and was painted white. This is likely to be post-medieval in date. The yellowish-brown plaster is probably Roman in date and includes four red-painted and three white-painted fragments (from contexts 410, 507, 705 and 707). Four pieces with flat unpainted surfaces were recovered from contexts 409, 410, and 803. Two fragments from contexts 409 and 705 had stone impressions on the rear. Ten fragments of fine sandy yellowish-brown plaster were found in contexts 410 and 411.

### 3.8 Stone Objects

A fragment of a lava rotary quern upper stone of Roman form with a raised lip around the edge of the upper surface, from context 406. This is in very poor condition.

### 3.9 Worked Flint

Twenty-seven pieces (909g) of struck flint were recovered. Ten pieces (from contexts 103, 104, 306, 607, 700 and 701) were irregular thick flakes and fragments probably derived from flint wall knapping. The remainder of the assemblage comprised a mixture of unpatinated to heavily patinated pieces, primarily secondary flakes, of broadly Early Bronze Age character. A single multidirectional flake core was recovered from 411 and is likely to be of a similar date. No tools or retouched pieces were identified.

### 3.10 Glass

Twenty-three sherds (462g) of glass were recovered. This included bottle, vessel and window glass of Roman and post-medieval date.

The Roman glass consists of six sherds from contexts 401, 407, and 803. This included one sherd of pale blue/green cast window glass from context 407, a blue-green pillar-moulded bowl from context 803 and a colourless body sherd from a globular jar or jug with a vertical narrow rib also from 803. The remaining sherds were of pale green glass from unidentified vessel forms.

Eleven sherds of bottle glass were identified, consisting of eight sherds of eighteenth/nineteenth century brown wine bottle from contexts 203, 306, 309, 700 and 701 and three clear bottles from 205 and 306. The only complete bottle was a small clear medicinal bottle from 205.

There were five sherds of colourless window glass of post-medieval date from contexts 300, 605 and 803. One sherd from 605 had a rounded edge, but otherwise they are featureless.

### 3.11 Worked Bone

A single shaft of a bone pin of Roman date was recovered from context 411.

### 3.12 Faunal remains

#### 3.12.1 Animal bone

A total of 434 pieces (3506g) of animal bone (319g) were recovered. Many of the pieces were fragmentary. This has not been assessed in detail, but includes common domestic species (cow/sheep/pig/domestic fowl). An articulated small horse skeleton was found in context 306 and an articulated cat burial in context 510.

Two cattle ribs from contexts 507 and 707 had butchery knife cuts from defleshing the bones.

#### 3.12.2 Marine Shell

Seventy-seven marine shells were recovered. These were all oyster, apart from seven scallop (from contexts 203, 306, and 309) and one cockle from context 309.

## 4. Assessment

### 4.1 Sample

A total area of 8.5 m<sup>2</sup> was excavated in the eight trenches which sampled approximately 1.06% of the extension site. This sample size is much smaller than would normally be applied to a site of this type to obtain an evaluation of the archaeological remains with an appropriate degree of confidence (cf. Hey and Lacey 2001). However, the results of the heritage assessment of the site (Terrain Archaeology 2014) and the results of the previous archaeological investigations on or immediately adjacent to the site have provided a broad overview of the likely character of the archaeological resource.

The evaluation was designed to provide data on the depth and level of survival of the archaeological stratigraphy as much as to demonstrate the range of heritage assets present on the site. To this end the test pits sampled all accessible areas within the projected footprint of the new development, namely the two garden areas behind 64 High West Street and 4-5 Colliton Street where the archaeological stratigraphy may be expected to survive most intact, beneath the existing Craft Market buildings to determine how much stratigraphy may survive beneath the buildings and in the courtyard areas behind John White's Rectory and between the Stable and the Brawn Extension.

Overall, given that two trenches were excavated in most of the above areas other than the courtyards and the trenches in each area generally demonstrated a similar stratigraphic sequence, the results of the evaluation can be taken as representative of the broad archaeological resource across the site with a relatively high degree of confidence. However, because of the small area actually excavated, the evaluation results cannot be used to determine the full range and complexity of archaeological features across the site.

### 4.2 Survival of Heritage Assets

In broad terms, the evaluation has demonstrated medium to good survival of significant archaeological stratigraphy across the site. Examining the levels of residuality of the pottery assemblage (Table 5) indicates just over 25% of Roman pottery and 22% of medieval pottery was found in later features, which gives a broad measure of the amount of disturbance of Roman and medieval stratigraphy.

In the garden of 4-5 Colliton Street, Roman stratigraphy was found intact below a layer of post-medieval and modern garden soils up to 0.5 m deep. Trench 7 indicated that there is likely to be relatively little truncation of the Roman deposits, though the former stable in the south end of the garden may have truncated the upper part of the Roman sequence, but that the core of the Roman street is likely to survive intact in this area, except where cut by later pits. It is not possible to determine from the evaluation how many later pits have been dug in this area. In the garden behind 64 High West Street, Roman stratigraphy was found below a 0.8 m thickness of post-medieval and modern garden soils in the east part of the garden. Trench 2 indicates that the upper part of the Roman sequence may have been

truncated down on to the top of the Roman street. Trench 1 indicates that there is likely to be some later disturbance to the Roman stratigraphy, though it is not possible on current evidence to determine how much disturbance. It is clear that the construction of Skyrme's Workshop and the formation of the terrace immediately behind 64 High West Street has removed all stratigraphy above the level of the chalk bedrock (Figure 7).

Trenches 4 and 5 beneath the floor of the former Craft Market building have both demonstrated that intact Roman stratigraphy survives immediately beneath the concrete floor of the building. There has been some truncation of the upper part of the Roman sequence, but the earliest Roman levels survive (Figure 7).

In the courtyard behind John White's Rectory, the top of the natural chalk appears to have been truncated by about 0.15–0.25 m along the eastern side. No data is available for the west side of the courtyard, but it is likely that the ground has been terraced in this area by as much as 0.6 m to form the level courtyard surface (Figure 7). Although Trench 6 has shown that potential Roman features survive cut into the natural chalk, there is unlikely to be any Roman stratigraphy above the chalk. Along the west side of the courtyard, there is likely to be severe truncation or complete removal of features cut into the chalk. In addition, the number of manholes and drain covers indicates there are a large number of services within this courtyard, which will also have disturbed any surviving archaeology.

In the courtyard between the Stable and the Brawn Extension, severe truncation of the natural chalk and disturbance from drains and other services indicates that there is likely to be poor survival of any significant archaeological stratigraphy. Previous investigation before the construction of the Brawn Extension demonstrated that early post-medieval buildings might have disturbed the area and little in the way of Roman archaeology was discovered (Aitken 1965).

In conclusion, there appears to be good survival of Roman stratigraphy in the garden areas on the west side of the site, with some truncation of the upper levels of the Roman deposits beneath the Craft Market. The courtyard areas behind John White's Rectory and the Stable appear to have poor survival of archaeological remains as a result of terracing and later service trenches.

### 4.3 Interpretation of Heritage Assets

No prehistoric features have been found during the evaluation, but a relatively small quantity of prehistoric flintwork was recovered from across the site. The survival of the pre-urban soil in three of the trenches and its probable survival beneath Roman road deposits in two other trenches indicates that there is a potential for prehistoric archaeology on the site. It is difficult to determine the likelihood of significant prehistoric remains to be present on the site from the currently available data.

The site is part of the Roman town of *Durnovaria*. The Roman street that runs across the western part of the site is thought to be part of the main North-South street of the town (RCHME 1970, 552). The projected line of the street is shown on Figure 2. The evidence from Bennetts Court indicates that the original roadside ditch silted up and the road was subsequently widened and new roadside ditches dug. The line of the roadside ditches on the west side of the street shown on Figure 2 is projected from the exposure of the outermost roadside ditch at Bennetts Court. The line of the ditch on the east side has been projected to match those on the west. The results of the evaluation excavation has shown that the Roman street survives in good condition in several places and that the structure is similar to that recorded previously (RCHME 1970, 552). There is some evidence for repair of the road from Trench 2.

Trench 5 lies immediately adjacent to the edge of the projected roadside ditches. Unfortunately most of this trench had been disturbed by a later, medieval, pit, so there is little detail of the character of the activity immediately alongside the street. The Roman stratigraphy that survived here consisted of a layer of soil (511). Similar soils, interspersed with layers of chalk rubble were recorded beside the streets at Greyhound Yard, in the earliest phase of the Roman town development (Woodward *et al.* 1993, 38). No dating evidence was found for the intact Roman stratigraphy in this trench, but stratigraphically it is early in the Roman sequence. A quantity of mid-3rd century or later pottery was found residually in the medieval pit 504 indicating the former presence of later Roman activity also.



Trench 4 lay about four metres back from the edge of the roadside ditches. This area had evidence for soil development immediately over the pre-urban soil (407, 410, 411), dated to the later 1st century AD. These soils contained evidence for the disposal of building demolition material such as wall and ceiling plaster and structural nails as well as fragments of building stone and ceramic roof tiles. It is unclear on current evidence where these soil layers lie in relation to any buildings on the frontage. It is possible that they represent the area between early timber buildings spaced along the street, which was not fully built up at this time. The soils were sealed beneath a cobbled surface (402) incorporating timber posts. It is unclear whether this represents a yard area with fence lines or is part of the internal arrangement of a building. The chalky layer over the cobbled surface contained a single sherd of 3rd-4th century pottery, but otherwise only contained later 1st and 2nd century pottery. Later Roman activity is notable by its absence and it is likely that this has been removed by the construction of the former Craft Market.

Little can be said about the medieval archaeology of the site. Medieval pottery made up less than 10% of the total pottery assemblage and was mainly found in Trenches 1 and 5, with a few sherds from Trench 7 (Table 6). Only two features appear to be medieval in date. These were a large pit (504), only partially excavated, in Trench 5 and a small feature (704) cut into the top of the Roman road in Trench 7. The remainder of the medieval material came from garden soils. In Trench 1, the lowest excavated level (104) contained exclusively medieval material, but it is unclear whether this provides a reliable date for this layer as context 102 also contained only medieval pottery, but this lay above soil layer 103 which contained post-medieval material. It seems most likely that the medieval pottery is residual in these contexts.

The post-medieval archaeology included the remains of eighteenth and/or nineteenth century buildings in Trenches 3 and 6 and a small number of pits in Trenches 3 and 7. There was deep garden soil development in the gardens of 64 High West Street and 4-5 Colliton Street and also beneath the courtyard behind John White's Rectory.

#### 4.4 Heritage Asset Value and Significance

The heritage value and the significance of the heritage assets on the site were set out in the Heritage Assessment (Terrain Archaeology 2014). The results of the evaluation have not added any significant data to change this assessment. The details of the assessment criteria for heritage value and significance are set out in the Heritage Assessment and are not repeated here.

The primary heritage value of the Roman archaeology is evidential. Evidential Value derives from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity (English Heritage 2008). Many details of the Roman town of *Durnovaria* are very poorly understood, from its origins, street pattern, economy, development of the *insulae*, to changes in the Late Roman period, despite numerous archaeological discoveries and excavations. A significant proportion of the archaeological excavations in Dorchester have been close to the margins of the Roman town and most of the published archaeological investigations in the centre of the town have been very small in scale, the notable exception being Greyhound Yard. The location of the site near the centre of the Roman town, including part of a street and street frontage, means that the Roman archaeology on the site has a high potential to contribute important new data to our understanding of the Roman town and which fits easily into the South West Archaeological Research Framework, specifically Research Aim 34: *Improve our understanding of early Roman urban settlement* (Webster 2008). The heritage value of the Roman archaeology is judged to be of **Medium (or Regional)** significance.

The early medieval and medieval town is arguably even less well known from archaeological evidence than the Roman town. The heritage value of the medieval archaeology on the site is also largely evidential. However, the evidence from the evaluation suggests that there is poor survival of potential early medieval and medieval stratigraphy, which has either been removed by later activity or reworked into later garden soils. It is likely that the medieval archaeology will comprise a series of pits rather than structural evidence of former buildings. This could potentially provide evidence on the economy, craft activity and diet of the medieval town and provide a contribution towards the South West Archaeological Research Framework, specifically Research Aim 36: *Improve our understanding of Medieval and later urbanism* (Webster 2008). However, the impression gained from previous archaeological discoveries on or adjacent to the site and from the evaluation excavation is that the medieval and later

archaeology on the Site is sparser and less coherent than the Roman archaeology. The heritage value of the medieval archaeology is judged to be of **Low** (or **Local**) significance.

#### 4.5 Potential impact of the proposed development

The policy on the impact of development on the significance heritage assets is set out in paragraphs 132 and 133 of the *National Planning Policy Framework*. The Planning Practice Guidance to the NPPF makes it clear that it is the degree of harm to the asset's significance rather than the scale of the development that should be assessed.

Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. The NPPF Practice Guidance describes the degree of harm to the significance of heritage assets in terms of 'substantial harm', 'less than substantial harm' and 'no harm'.

##### 4.5.1 Direct Impacts on the Heritage Assets

The evaluation has indicated the potential for significant archaeological remains being present within the proposed development area. It has demonstrated that these remains exist directly below post-medieval and modern topsoil at depths ranging from 0.5 m to 0.8 m below ground level in the garden areas and directly below the floor of the former Craft Market building.

There is the potential for the archaeological remains to be directly adversely impacted by the demolition of the former Craft Market and other buildings on the site, given the location of Roman stratigraphy immediately below the floor of the Craft Market building.

Although the full details of the proposed development are not available at the time of writing, the incorporation of a large basement within the new building means that all the archaeological stratigraphy within the basement area will be destroyed. Therefore, the development will have a direct impact on the significance of the archaeological resource within the area of the basement. Any areas within the proposed building footprint and outside the basement area will also be directly impacted by the construction of footings and ground reduction. Even if areas of archaeological stratigraphy survive intact beneath the new building footprint, these will be adversely impacted by reducing their completeness and legibility.

##### 4.5.2 Scale of Impact of the Development Proposals on the Heritage Assets

Assuming that development of the site will follow the outline proposals available to date, then the scale of impact of the development on the buried heritage assets is assessed as causing **significant harm**.

#### 4.6 Suggested mitigation of the proposed development impacts

The archaeology found on the site is not of sufficient significance to warrant mitigation measures to preserve it *in situ*. It is, however, fragile and vulnerable to harm, unique and irreplaceable. It will be vulnerable to significant harm both during the proposed demolition of the existing buildings on the site and during the construction of the new building.

The presence of intact Roman stratigraphy immediately beneath the floor of the former Craft Market building has implications for the methods of demolition of this building. The floor and wall footings should be removed with care to minimise the risk of damage to the archaeology. Once the floor level has been removed, the exposed surface beneath should not be tracked across by any machinery to avoid damaging the archaeology. Any clearance of soils and other overburden in other areas of the site will need to be monitored carefully to prevent the accidental removal of intact archaeological stratigraphy.

After the demolition of the standing buildings on the site and any other necessary clearance works, it is suggested that the whole area be cleared down on to the top of the significant archaeological levels under archaeological supervision. Then it is recommended that the whole area be archaeologically excavated prior to any groundworks for the new building commencing.

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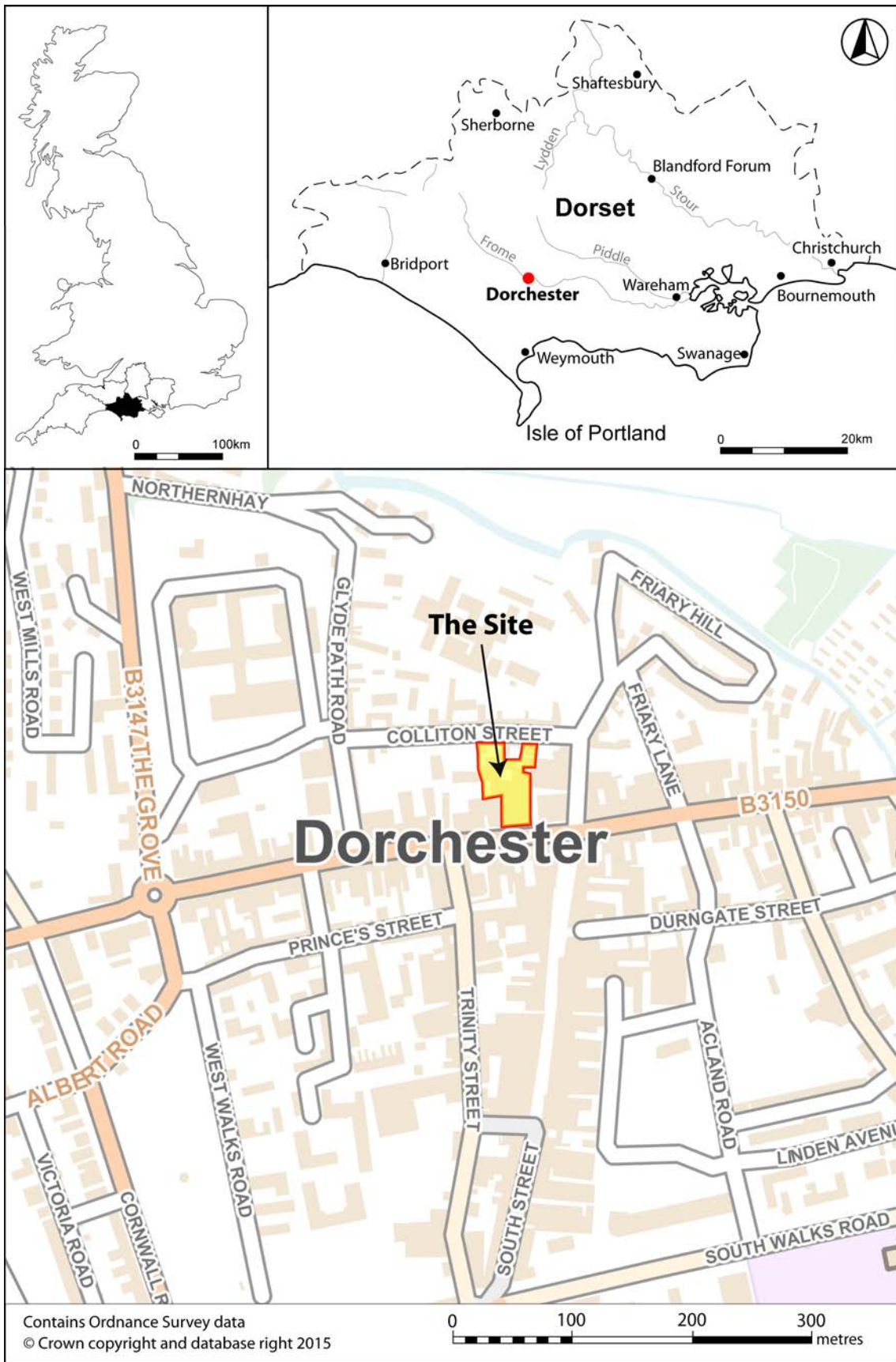


Figure 1: Site Location.

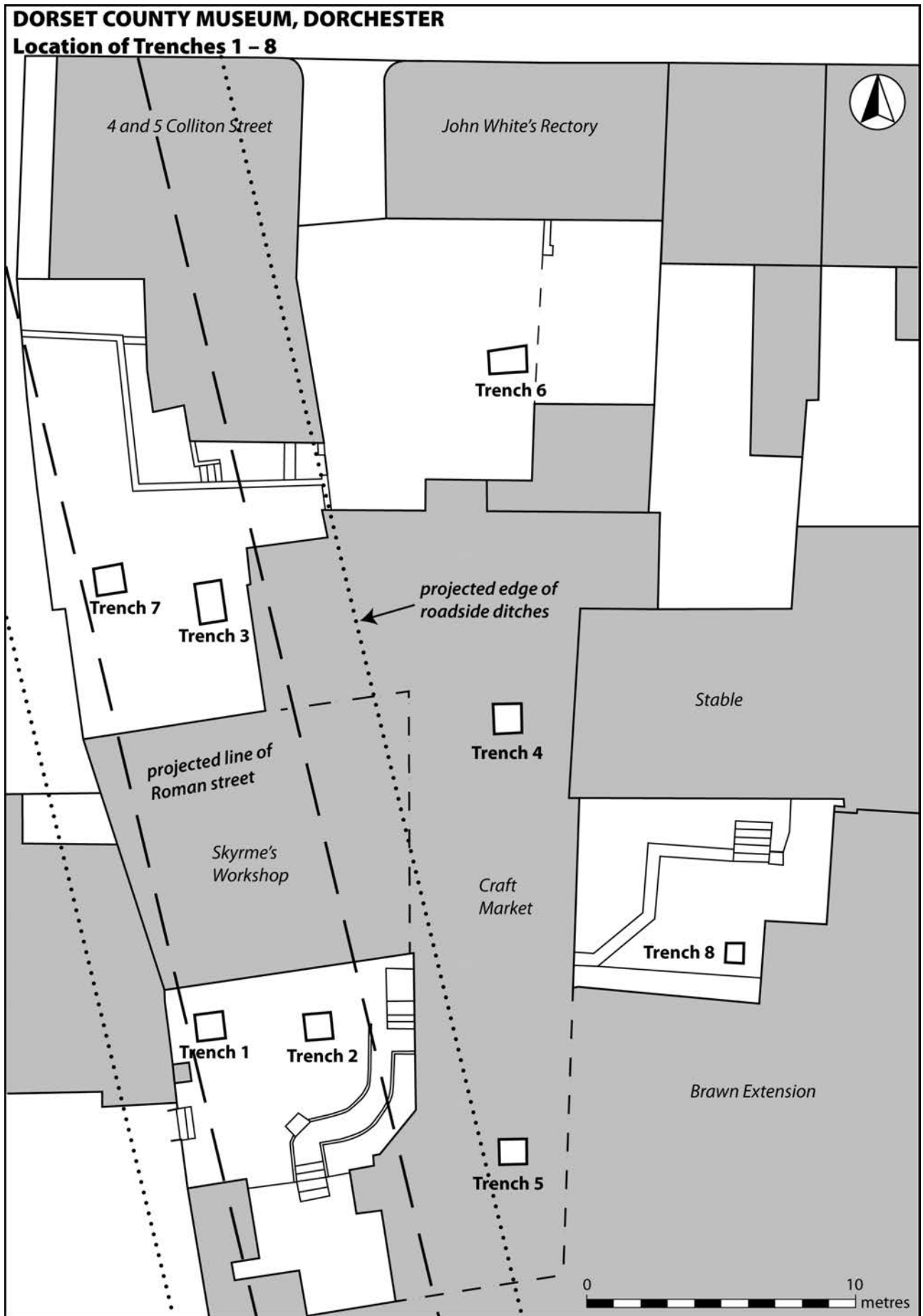


Figure 2: Trench Location Plan.

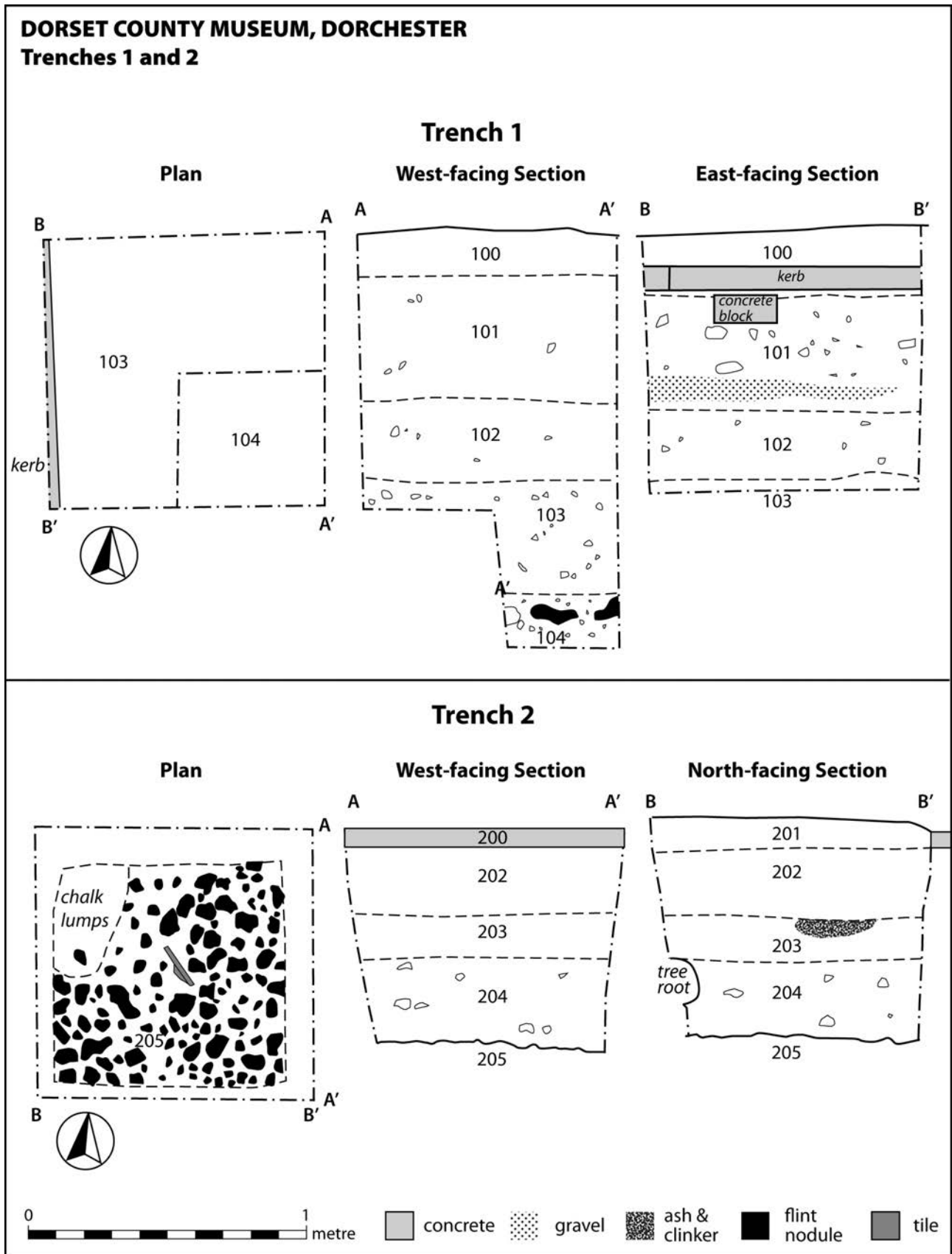


Figure 3: Plans and sections of Trenches 1 and 2 in Garden behind 64 High West Street.

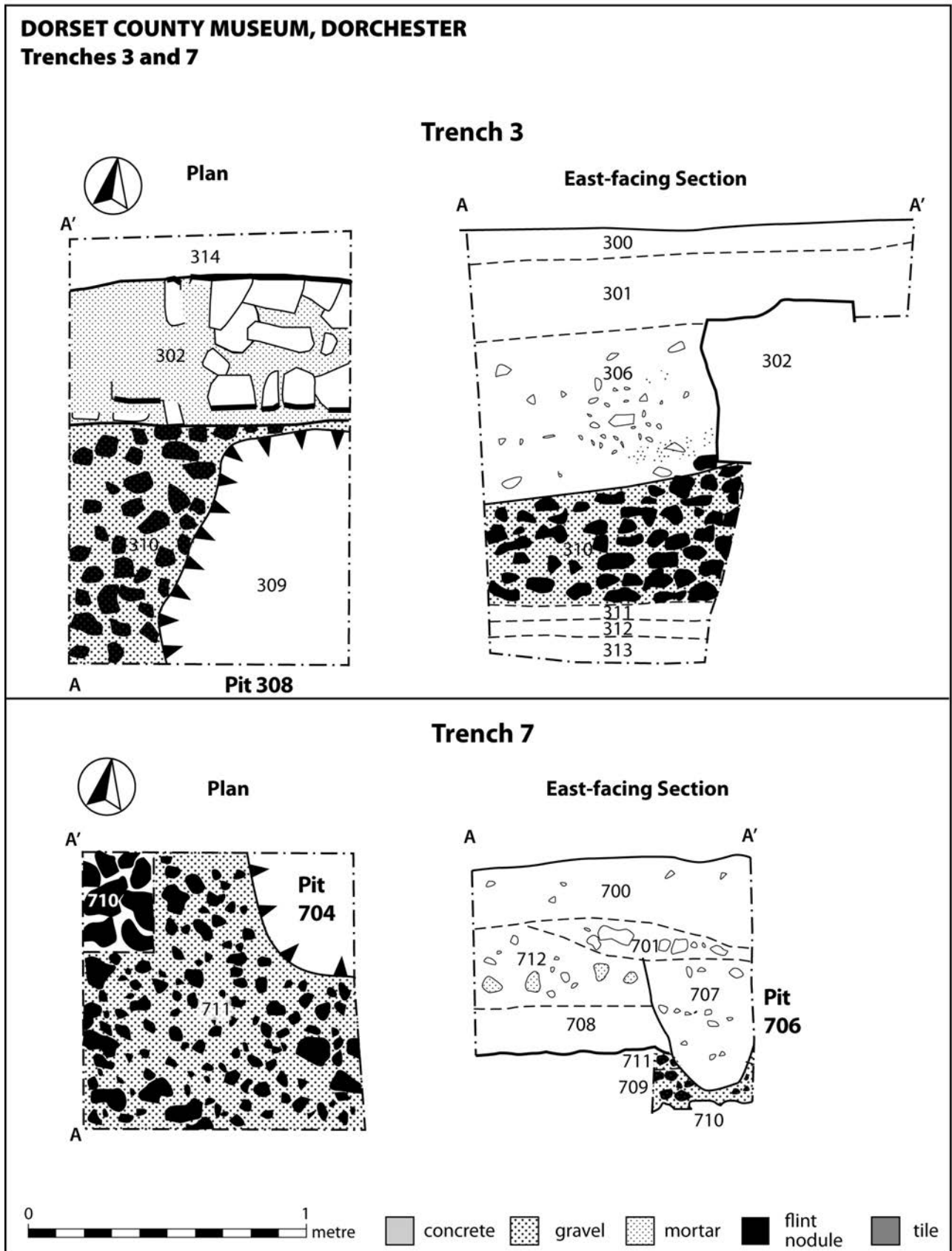


Figure 4: Plans and sections of Trenches 3 and 7 in garden of 4-5 Colliton Street.



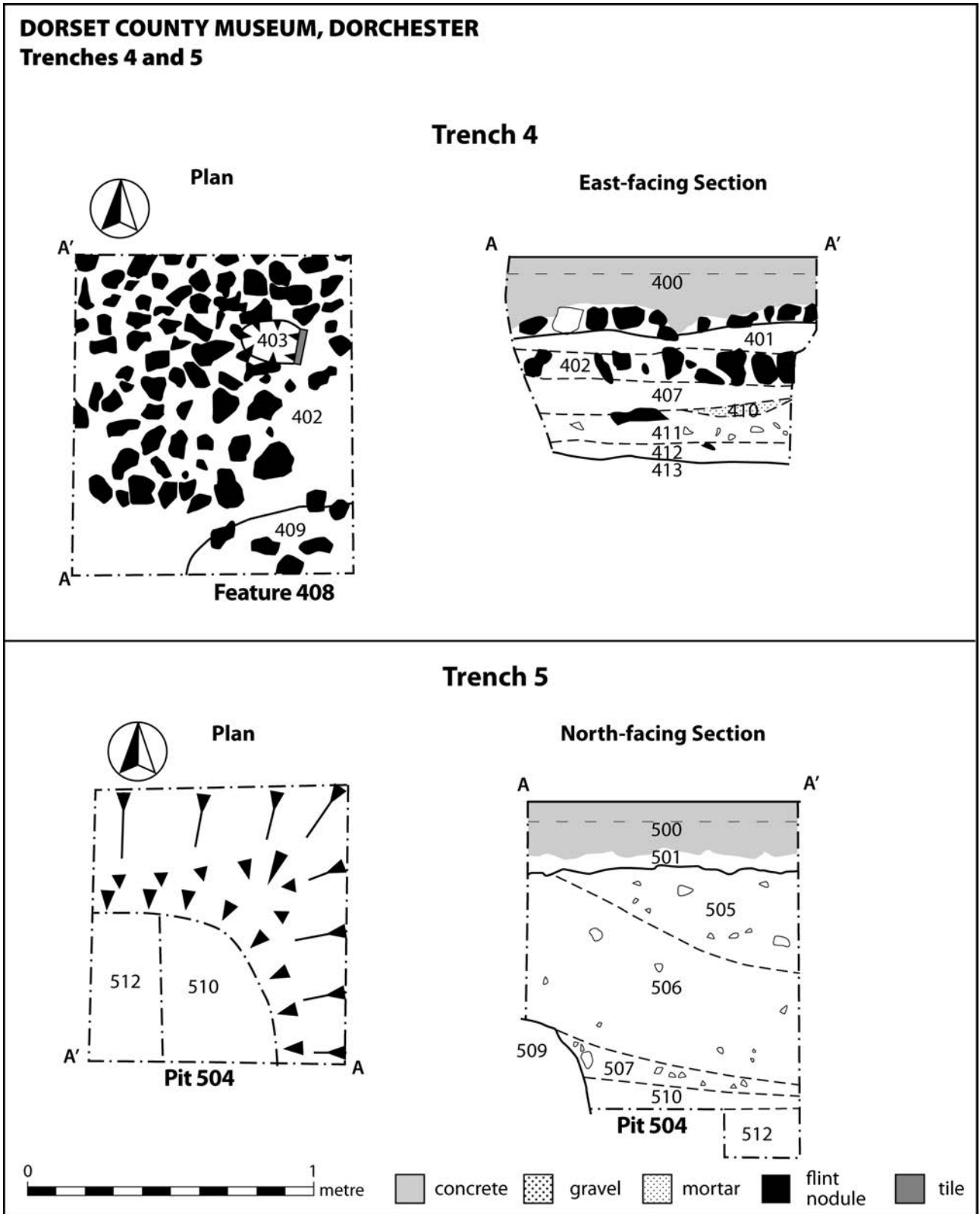


Figure 5: Plans and sections of Trenches 4 and 5 in former Craft Market.

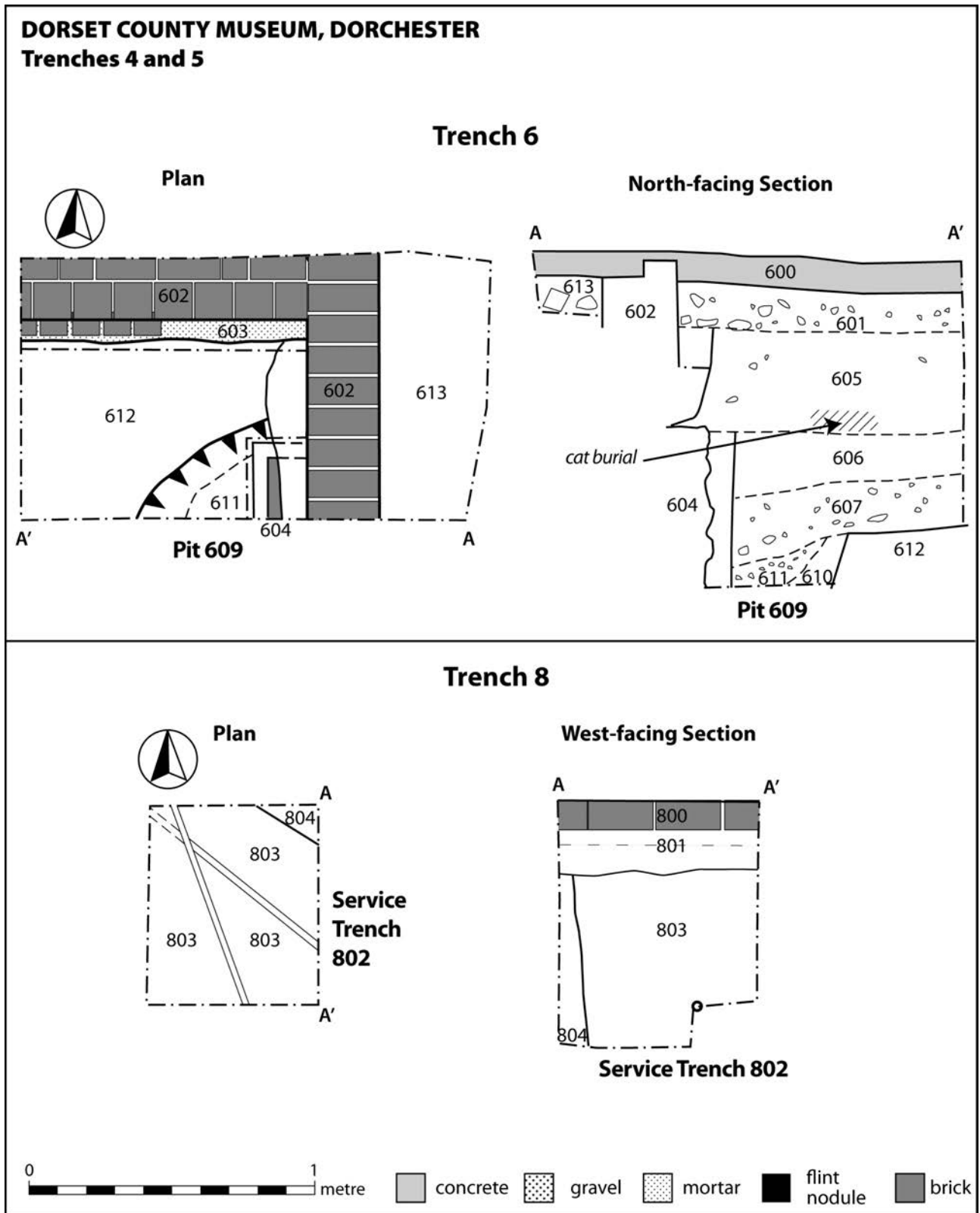


Figure 6: Plans and sections of Trenches 6 and 8.

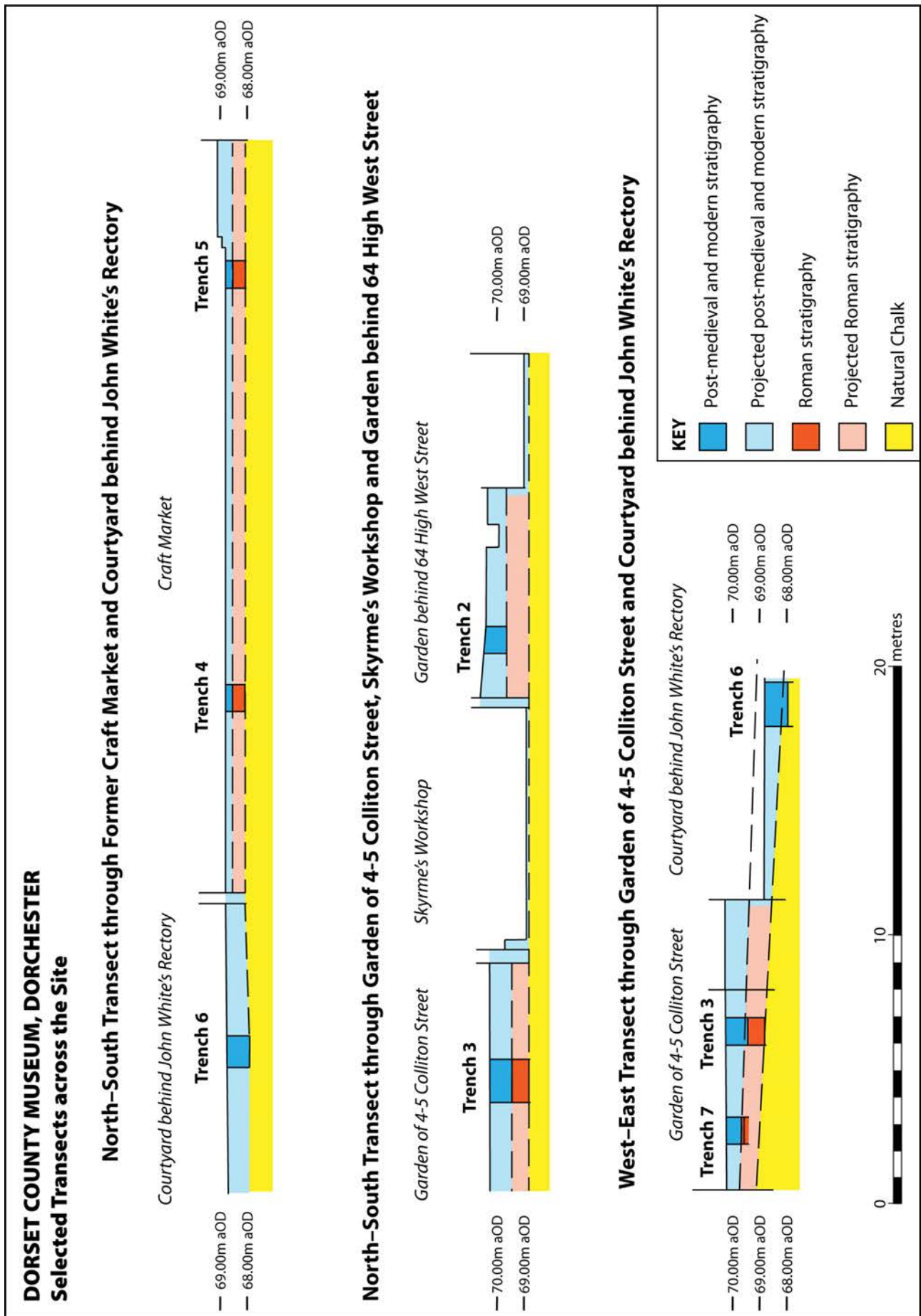


Figure 7: Selected Transects across the Site.



*Plate 1: Trench 3 looking west, showing Roman street deposits at the base of the trench and Wall 502 to right. 1m and 2m scales.*



*Plate 2: Trench 3 looking north, showing Roman street deposits below Wall 502. 1m and 2m scales.*



*Plate 3: Trench 7, looking east, showing Roman street deposits. 1m scale*



Plate 4: Trench 2, looking east, with Roman road metalling 205 below garden soils. 1m scale.



Plate 5: Trench 4 looking east, showing cobbles 402 and post pipe 403. 1m scale.



Plate 6: Trench 4 after excavation showing top of natural chalk and depth of Roman soils overlying it. 1m scale.



*Plate 7: Trench 5, looking east, with pit 504 in lower right and remnant of pre-urban soil 508 in upper left of trench. 1m scale*



*Plate 8: Trench 6, looking east, showing brick and stone structures 602 and 603 and pit 609 to right. 1m scale*



*Plate 9: Trench 8, looking east, with service trench 802 and natural chalk in upper left corner. 1m scale*

## Appendix 1: Trench Summary

### Trench 1

Length: 1.0 m; Width 1.0 m; maximum depth 0.8 m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
100	<b>Modern Garden Soil:</b> Friable very dark greyish-brown humic silty clay with occasional stone and frequent roots. Contains modern finds.	0.00 – 0.15m
101	<b>Disturbed Garden Soils/Levelling Layers:</b> Mixed deposit of dark humic soil with patches of redeposited building rubble.	0.15 – 0.50m
102	<b>Post-medieval Garden Soil:</b> Moderately firm dark greyish-brown clay loam with occasional small stones and sparse chalk fragments.	0.50 – 0.80m
103	<b>Garden Soil:</b> Moderately firm dark greyish-brown clay loam with moderate chalk flecks and fragments, moderate gravel and occasional limestone and flint. Below 102.	0.80 – 1.10m
104	<b>Garden Soil?:</b> Moderately firm dark greyish-brown clay loam with frequent flint nodules, with limestone pieces and patches of mid yellowish-brown gritty clay.	1.10m+

### Trench 2

Length: 1.0 m; Width 1.0 m; maximum depth 1.5 m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
200	<b>Modern Garden Courtyard Paving:</b> Concrete paving slabs laid directly on top of layer 202. Butted by garden soil 201.	0.00 – 0.05m
201	<b>Modern Garden Soil:</b> Soft dark greyish-brown humic silty clay with sparse flint gravel, leaf mould and frequent roots.	0.00 – 0.10m
202	<b>Garden Soil:</b> Friable humic dark greyish-brown soil with very frequent roots and sparse flint gravel. Below paving slabs 200.	0.05 – 0.30m
203	<b>Garden Soil:</b> Friable humic dark greyish-brown soil with some root disturbance and a lens of ash and clinker. Contains nineteenth century material. Below 202.	0.30 – 0.56m
204	<b>Garden Soil:</b> Friable humic dark greyish-brown soil with sparse/moderate stone and flint rubble and small chalk pieces. Below 203.	0.56 – 0.83m
205	<b>Roman Street:</b> Hard-packed flint nodules (40–120mm across) in a light greyish-brown clayey sand matrix with a patch of small chalk rubble in NW corner of trench. Not excavated.	0.83m+

### Trench 3

Length: 1.55 m; Width 1.0 m; maximum depth 1.53 m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
300	<b>Modern Garden Soil:</b> Friable dark greyish-brown humic clay loam with occasional flint and limestone pieces and patches of gravel.	0.00 – 0.20m
301	<b>Levelling Layer:</b> Mixed dark and mid greyish-brown clay loam with patches of light brown silty clay and with moderate flint and limestone pieces, occasional mortar fragments and small chalk lumps. Levelling layer over demolished building remains.	0.20 – 0.40m
302	<b>Wall:</b> 0.5m wide limestone rubble wall with occasional flint, bonded with lime mortar. Runs E-W across north side of trench. Remains of demolished eighteenth or nineteenth century building.	0.15 – 1.0m
303	<b>Construction Cut for Wall 302:</b> Number given to ground reduction associated with the construction of the building associated with Wall 302.	0.15 – 1.0m
304	<b>Pit:</b> Sub-circular or ovoid cut with steep sides and concave base cut into 306, against south face of wall 302, and filled with 305.	0.45 – 0.68m
305	<b>Fill of Pit 304:</b> Loose dark greyish-brown clay loam with occasional flint and limestone pieces. Contains post-medieval building debris.	0.45 – 0.68m
306	<b>Levelling/Demolition Layer within Building:</b> Loose mixed dark and mid greyish-brown sandy clay loam with pockets of orange sand, with frequent brick, limestone and	0.35 – 1.17m

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
	slate rubble. Contains horse burial.	
307	<b>Demolition and Removal of interior of Building:</b> Number given to the removal of the floor levels and internal features of the building represented by Wall 302.	0 – 1.0m
308	<b>Pit:</b> Cut of large ?subrectangular pit within Building. Dug through the remains of the Roman Street 310. Not fully excavated.	1.0m+
309	<b>Fill of Pit 308:</b> Loose mixed dark greyish-brown sandy loam and clay loam with moderate flint and limestone rubble. Contains brick and slate rubble. Not fully excavated.	1.0m+
310	<b>Roman Street Metalling:</b> Hard-packed flint nodules in a light yellowish-grey clayey sand matrix. Not excavated.	0.85 – 1.35m
311	<b>Chalk Rubble Base of Roman Street:</b> Compacted small chalk rubble and chalk paste with rare flint fragments. Immediately above pre-urban soil 312 and below road metalling 310. Not excavated.	1.35 – 1.42m
312	<b>Pre-urban Soil:</b> Firm mid/dark yellowish-brown and reddish-brown silty clay with rare flint, rare charcoal flecks and occasional degraded chalk fragments. Not excavated.	1.42 – 1.49m
313	<b>Natural Chalk:</b> Weathered and degraded natural chalk below soil layer 312.	1.49m+
314	<b>Deposits North of Wall 302:</b> Moderately firm mid greyish-brown clay loam with occasional small chalk and flint pieces and sparse mortar flecks. Lies to north of wall 302. Not excavated.	0.35m+

## Trench 4

Length: 1.0 m; Width 1.0 m; maximum depth 0.75 m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
400	<b>Concrete Floor:</b> Coarse concrete floor on flint rubble base, with finer screed, 0.06m thick on top. Red Lino Floor tiles.	0.00 – 0.25m
401	<b>Chalk Surface:</b> Hard-packed mid greyish-brown silty clay with very frequent chalk rubble and occasional small flint nodules and charcoal flecks. A hard-packed chalky surface over flint cobbling 402.	0.25 – 0.35m
402	<b>Cobbled Surface:</b> Hard-packed flint cobble layer of interlocking flint nodules (100-300mm across) with occasional limestone and tile fragments in a mid greyish-brown silty clay matrix.	0.35 – 0.47m
403	<b>Post Pipe:</b> Oval post hole about 0.22m across, cut into cobble surface 402. Filled with 404.	0.35 – 0.85m
404	<b>Fill of Post Pipe 403:</b> Very soft mid greyish-brown silty clay with sparse chalk flecks and occasional stones set vertically suggesting post packing.	0.35 – 0.85m
405	<b>Post Hole: Ovoid scoop-like</b> cut into layer 407 incorporating post pipe 403 at its north end. 0.62 x 0.38 x 0.24 m.	0.35 – 0.60m
406	<b>Fill of Post Hole 405:</b> Fairly soft mid greyish-brown silty clay with frequent flint nodules, limestone and tile pieces, with sparse chalk and charcoal flecks. Filled with 407.	0.35 – 0.60m
407	<b>Soil or Occupation Layer:</b> Moderately firm mid greyish-brown silty clay with moderate small chalk lumps, occasional large chalk lumps and flint nodules and occasional charcoal flecks. Contains Roman material.	0.43 – 0.58m
408	<b>Feature:</b> Cut with steep sides cut through cobbling 402 in SE part of the trench. Only a small part of this feature exposed. Of unknown function. Filled with 409	0.34 – 0.48m
409	<b>Fill of Feature 408:</b> Fairly firm mid brownish-grey silty clay with frequent flint nodules and moderated charcoal flecks.	0.34 – 0.48m
410	<b>Layer in north part of trench:</b> Fairly firm mid greyish-brown silty clay with occasional flint nodules and chalk flecks and frequent degraded wall plaster. It sits in a slight linear hollow in the top of layer 411.	0.55 – 0.62m
411	<b>Roman Soil:</b> Fairly firm mid reddish-brown silty clay with moderate small chalk lumps and flint nodules.	0.55 – 0.67m
412	<b>Pre-urban Soil:</b> firm reddish-brown clay with occasional flint nodules.	0.67 – 0.75m
413	<b>Natural Chalk:</b> Degraded top of natural chalk.	0.75m+
414	<b>Solution Feature:</b> Ovoid feature in top of natural chalk.	0.75 – 0.9m
415	<b>Solution Feature 415 Fill:</b> Firm dark reddish-brown clay with occasional nodular flint.	0.75 – 0.9m



## Trench 5

Length: 1.0 m; Width 1.0 m; maximum depth 1.25 m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
500	<b>Concrete Floor:</b> Coarse concrete floor on flint rubble base, with finer screed, 0.06m thick on top. Red Lino Floor tiles.	0.00 – 0.18m
501	<b>Concrete Floor Sub-base:</b> Loose limestone rubble, with broken brick and flint nodules.	0.18 – 0.25m
502	<b>Modern Feature:</b> Sub-rectangular feature with vertical sides and flattish base in NW corner of trench. Not fully exposed.	0.25 – 0.70m
503	<b>Fill of Feature 502:</b> Loose chalk rubble with occasional flint and limestone, and sparse roof slate.	0.25 – 0.70m
504	<b>Pit:</b> Ovoid or sub-rectangular pit with weathered upper part of cut. Not fully excavated. Filled with 505, 506, 507, 510.	0.25 – 1.25m+
505	<b>Upper Fill of Pit 504:</b> firm dark yellowish-brown clay loam with moderate small limestone, flint, chalk and occasional charcoal flecks.	0.25 – 0.60m
506	<b>Upper Fill of Pit 504:</b> Friable dark greyish-brown silty loam with sparse small stones and chalk flecks with sparse larger flints.	0.65 – 1.0m
507	<b>Fill of Pit 504:</b> Loose mid yellowish-brown silty loam with frequent small chalk rubble, flint and oyster shell.	0.80 – 1.05m
508	<b>Pre-urban Soil:</b> Firm mid yellowish-brown silty clay loam with moderate flint. Only seen in NE corner of trench.	0.60 – 0.75m
509	<b>Natural Chalk:</b> Degraded top of natural chalk.	0.75m+
510	<b>Fill of Pit 504:</b> Mixed mid-dark greyish-brown and buff silty loam with small flint and limestone pieces, chalk lumps and charcoal flecks.	0.98 – 1.08m
511	<b>Roman soil horizon:</b> mid/light yellowish-brown silty loam with occasional small limestone and flint and moderate small chalk flecks.	0.26 – 0.40m
512	<b>Part of Pit Fill 510:</b> Number given to sondage into layer 510 in pit 504 at the base of the trench.	1.08m+

## Trench 6

Length: 1.65 m; Width 0.9 m; maximum depth 1.2 m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
600	<b>Modern Concrete Yard Surface:</b> Reinforced concrete surface.	0.00 – 0.10m
601	<b>Sub-base for Concrete Surface:</b> Loose brick, flint, limestone rubble in a matrix of plate greyish-yellow crushed lime mortar.	0.10 – 0.25m
602	<b>Brick Structure:</b> L-shaped brick wall set on mortared brick footings set in a construction trench. The N-S footings butt against earlier footings 603.	0.05 – 0.60m
603	<b>Brick Wall Base:</b> Foundations of E-W aligned wall. Upper part of wall had been demolished and reused as a footing for wall 602.	0.30 – 0.80m
604	<b>Brick and Stone Wall Footing:</b> L-shaped mortared brick and stone footing in SW part of trench, aligned N-S/E-W. Demolished building remains reused as a footing for brick wall 602.	0.62 – 1.17m+
605	<b>Post-medieval garden soil:</b> Friable dark brown silty clay loam with occasional stone and brick rubble, mortar fragments, clinker, oyster shell, etc. Cut by footing for wall 602.	0.25 – 0.60m
606	<b>Post-medieval soil:</b> Friable mid-dark greyish-brown clay loam, with sparse stone, flint limestone, slate, etc. Cut by footing 604.	0.60 – 0.85m
607	<b>Post-medieval soil:</b> loose, mid-dark greyish-brown clay loam with common chalk fragments, moderate limestone, flint and charcoal. Below soil layer 606.	0.85 – 1.10m
608	<b>Soil Layer in top of Pit 609.</b> Mid-dark greyish-brown silty clay loam with occasional chalk and limestone. Lies in the top of pit 609, but unclear whether it is a pit fill or the silting up of the top of the pit as the contents settled.	0.95 – 1.1m
609	<b>Pit:</b> Circular or sub-circular pit with steep sides in SE corner of trench. Cuts natural chalk 612. Disturbed by wall footing 603. Not fully excavated.	0.95 – 1.2m+
610	<b>Fill of Pit 609:</b> moderately firm mid greyish-brown silty clay loam with occasional small chalk lumps. Upper fill of Pit 609. Not fully excavated.	0.97 – 1.2m+
611	<b>Fill of Pit 609:</b> Firm pale grey calcareous silty clay with frequent chalk lumps. Not fully	0.97 – 1.2m+

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
	excavated.	
612	<b>Natural Chalk:</b> Slightly truncated by later activity.	0.9m+
613	<b>Sub-base for Concrete Surface:</b> Loose brick, flint, limestone rubble in a matrix of plate greyish-yellow crushed lime mortar to east of Wall 602. Not excavated. Same as 601?	0.10m+

## Trench 7

Length: 1.0 m; Width 1.0 m; maximum depth 0.9 m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
700	<b>Modern Garden Soil:</b> Friable dark greyish-brown humic silty loam with occasional flint and limestone pieces and patches of gravel.	0.00 – 0.30m
701	<b>Disturbed Garden Soil:</b> Layer of mixed dark greyish-brown soil and chalk. Contains ceramic drain so may be part of drain trench fill, though no cut was identified.	0.25 – 0.40m
702	<b>Modern Pit:</b> Pit cut with vertical sides and flattish base in west part of Trench. Cuts through modern garden soil.	0.00 – 0.60m
703	<b>Fill of Pit 702:</b> Loose mixed soil containing discarded museum faunal specimens.	0.00 – 0.60m
704	<b>Pit:</b> Possibly circular with irregular steeply sloping sides and flat base in NW corner of trench. Cuts layer 708.	0.50 – 0.80m
705	<b>Fill of Pit 704:</b> Loose mixed dark and mid greyish-brown silty clay loam with moderate flint and occasional chalk flecks.	0.50 – 0.80m
706	<b>Pit or Posthole:</b> Subcircular pit with steeply sloping sides and irregular narrow rounded base in SW corner of trench.	0.40 – 0.80m
707	<b>Fill of Pit 706:</b> Loose mixed mid-dark greyish-brown silty loam with occasional flint and small chalk lumps.	0.40 – 0.80m
708	<b>Silty Layer over Roman Street:</b> loose light buff silt with scarce small stones.	0.51 – 0.68m
709	<b>Roman Street Make-up:</b> Compact pale grey redeposited chalk with occasional nodular flint.	0.80 – 0.88m
710	<b>Roman Street Metalling:</b> Compact flint nodules in a mid grey sandy clay matrix.	0.88m+
711	<b>Upper Metalling of Roman Street:</b> compact flint gravel and flint nodules with chalk flecks and roof tile in a mid-light greyish-brown silty loam matrix. Worn surface.	0.65 – 0.80m
712	<b>Post-medieval Garden Soil:</b> Friable dark greyish-brown humic silty loam with occasional flint and limestone pieces and mortar debris.	0.20 – 0.52m

## Trench 8

Length: 0.7 m; Width 0.6 m; maximum depth 0.87 m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
800	<b>Modern brick Courtyard surface:</b> Brick paviments forming Brawn Courtyard surface.	0.00 – 0.11m
801	<b>Bedding for Brick Courtyard Surface:</b> fine pale yellow sand over a thin skim of compact redeposited greyish-brown soil with frequent chalk fragments.	0.11 – 0.24m
802	<b>Service trench Cut:</b> Vertically-sided cut into natural chalk.	0.24m+
803	<b>Fill of Service Trench 802:</b> Loose mixed mid grey silty clay with frequent chalk	0.24m+
804	<b>Natural Chalk:</b> Truncated chalk bedrock only seen in NE corner of trench.	0.25m+

## Appendix 2: Pottery list by context

Context	Ware type	No	Wt (g)	Comments	Pot date
102	BB1	1	5		RB
102	SE Wilts/E Dorset coarse	1	10	Glazed	C12-C14
102	W Dorset sandy ware	8	97	1 thumbled jug base, 1 glazed	C13+
103	BB1	7	82	ERJ (type 2/3), dropped flange bowls (x2)	C3/C4
103	Medieval coarseware	1	9		Medieval
103	Medieval sandy ware	1	3		Medieval
103	Poole Harbour whiteware	1	17	jug base, glazed	C13/C14
103	Porcelain	1	1	tea bowl	C18
103	Post-med redware	3	23	1 manganese glazed	Post-med
103	Post-med redware	1	4	sgraffito dec	C17/C18
103	W Dorset sandy ware	5	36		C13+
104	BB1	2	7		RB
104	Medieval coarseware	2	4		Medieval
104	New Forest colour coat	1	2		late C3/C4
104	W Dorset sandy ware	1	11		C13+
203	Creamware	4	20		C18
203	Pearlware	1	2		C19
203	Post-med redware	2	9	1 slipware cup/porringer	C17/C18
203	Refined whiteware	1	2	transfer printed	C19/C20
204	BB1	1	11		RB
204	Creamware	1	5		C18
204	Frechen stoneware	1	14		Late C16/C17
204	Pearlware	1	6		C19
204	Post-med redware	3	121	1 jar with applied thumbled strip below rim	C16/C17
300	English stoneware	1	31	feldspathic glaze	C19/C20
300	Post-med redware	5	195	Flowerpots	C19/C20
300	Refined whiteware	1	28	transfer printed	C19/C20
300	Verwood	2	54		Post-med
300	White salt glaze	1	19		C18
306	Creamware	2	12	plate; cup/bowl	C18
306	Pearlware	1	3		C19
306	Post-med redware	1	6	black glaze (small handle)	Post-med
306	Staffs-type slipware	1	14	platter rim	Late C17/C18
306	Verwood	4	119	1 small lid with knob; 1 jar	Post-med
306	White salt glaze	2	12		C18
309	Creamware	5	29	1 mug handle; 1 decorative openwork vessel; 1 small bowl/cup	C18
309	Porcelain	3	17		C18
309	Post-med redware	8	462	2 jars; 2 bowls	Post-med
309	Tinglazed earthenware	5	54	1 monochrome (chamber pot rims &	Late

Context	Ware type	No	Wt (g)	Comments	Pot date
				handle); 1 blue & white dec (foot from decorative vessel)	C17/C18
309	Verwood	7	266	2 jars; 2 bowls	Post-med
309	White salt glaze	4	36	1 plate, 1 straight-sided mug	C18
401	Amphora	1	5	Dr 20	C1–C3
401	BB1	60	545	Flanged bowl, BRJs (x2; type 8), BRB, ERJs (x3); jar with flanged rim (type 11)	C2–C4
401	RB oxidised	5	30	smooth, fine-textured ware	RB
401	Samian	1	15	S Gaulish, decorated	Late C1
404	BB1	23	223	4 conjoining sherds from small BRJ (type 8); acute lattice dec	Late C1/C2
404	RB oxidised	1	22	smooth, fine-textured ware	RB
404	RB oxidised	1	9	chalk inclusions	RB
404	Samian	1	3	S Gaulish	Late C1
406	BB1	18	104	BRJ (type 8); acute lattice dec	Late C1/C2
406	NF parchment ware	1	14		Late C3/C4
406	RB oxidised	3	40	smooth, fine-textured ware	RB
406	Samian	3	17	S Gaulish, form 18 platter; 1 dec	Late C1/C2
407	Amphora	2	55	Dr 20	C1–C3
407	BB1	89	930	jar with countersunk handles; 6 ERJs; upright rim jar; BRJ (type 8)	Late C1/C2
407	RB greyware	1	24		RB
407	RB oxidised	1	19	white-slipped	RB
407	RB whiteware	2	11		RB
407	Samian	5	47	S Gaulish, all dec (form 29)	Late C1
409	BB1	3	17		RB
409	Samian	1	1	S Gaulish	Late C1
410	Samian	1	3	S Gaulish, dec bowl (form 29)	Late C1
411	BB1	11	59		RB
411	NF parchment ware	1	8		Late C3/C4
411	RB oxidised	1	47	chalk inclusions	RB
411	Samian	1	9	S Gaulish, dec	Late C1
505	BB1	8	128		RB
505	New Forest colour coat	1	5		Late C3/C4
505	W Dorset sandy ware	1	10		C13+
506	BB1	29	311	Dropped flange bowls (x2); ERJs (x2, type 2/3); obtuse lattice; mid C3 AD+	Late C3/C4
506	Medieval coarseware	1	16	jar rim	Medieval
506	Medieval coarseware	1	21	Coarse flint inclusions: Saxo-Norman?	?C11/C12
506	New Forest colour coat	2	12		Late C3/C4
506	Poole Harbour whiteware	3	17	Glazed	C13/C14
506	Samian	1	2	S Gaulish	Late C1
506	SE Wilts/E Dorset coarse	1	2	Glazed	C12–C14
506	W Dorset sandy ware	11	86	1 ?pulled lip; 1 jar rim	C13+
507	BB1	2	45	base very abraded underside	RB

Context	Ware type	No	Wt (g)	Comments	Pot date
507	SE Wilts/E Dorset coarse	2	15	1 jar (poss Laverstock type 4)	C13+
510	BB1	22	132	ERJs	RB
510	RB oxidised	1	3	smooth, fine-textured ware	RB
601	English stoneware	1	93	feldspathic glaze; flagon shoulder	C19/C20
605	BB1	1	11		RB
605	Bone china	1	2	Cup	C19/C20
605	Notts-type stoneware	1	1		C18+
605	Pearlware	3	10	1 banded dec; 1 transfer printed; 1 sponged dec	C19
605	Porcelain	1	1		C18
605	Post-med redware	6	79	1 ?white-slipped	Post-med
605	Refined whiteware	2	5		C19/C20
605	Tinglazed earthenware	1	9	monochrome	Late C17/C18
605	Westerwald stoneware	1	7		Late C17/C18
606	Post-med redware	8	87		PM
606	Raeren stoneware	1	6	part of frilled foot	Late C15/C16
606	whiteware	1	8	fine whiteware, flecked yellow glaze	Post-med
607	BB1	2	51	ERJ; obtuse lattice	Late C3/C4
607	Post-med redware	3	52	1 jar	Post-med
608	BB1	2	13		RB
608	Samian	1	31	S Gaulish, footring base	Late C1
610	BB1	4	51	BRB, ERJ (type 1)	Late C1/C2
700	BB1	1	8		RB
700	Pearlware	1	1	transfer printed	C19
700	Post-med redware	1	18		Post-med
700	Verwood	2	24		Post-med
701	BB1	1	40	Dropped flange bowl	Late C3/C4
701	Medieval coarseware	1	8		Medieval
701	Post-med redware	4	24	2 glazed; 1 Sankey flowerpot	Post-med
701	W Dorset sandy ware	1	8		C13+
701	Westerwald stoneware	1	36	Tankard	Late C17/C18
705	BB1	2	20		RB
705	Medieval coarseware	1	11		Medieval
705	Poole Harbour whiteware	1	17	Glazed	C13/C14
705	Samian	1	20	Central or E Gaulish	C2/early C3
705	W Dorset sandy ware	2	19		C13+
707	BB1	2	15		RB
801	Creamware	2	47	jug handle	C18
801	Pearlware	1	1	transfer printed	C19
803	BB1	5	53		RB
803	East Holme earthenware	1	9		C17/C18

Context	Ware type	No	Wt (g)	Comments	Pot date
803	Post-med redware	1	22		Post-med
803	whiteware	1	6	fine whiteware, flecked yellow glaze	Post-med