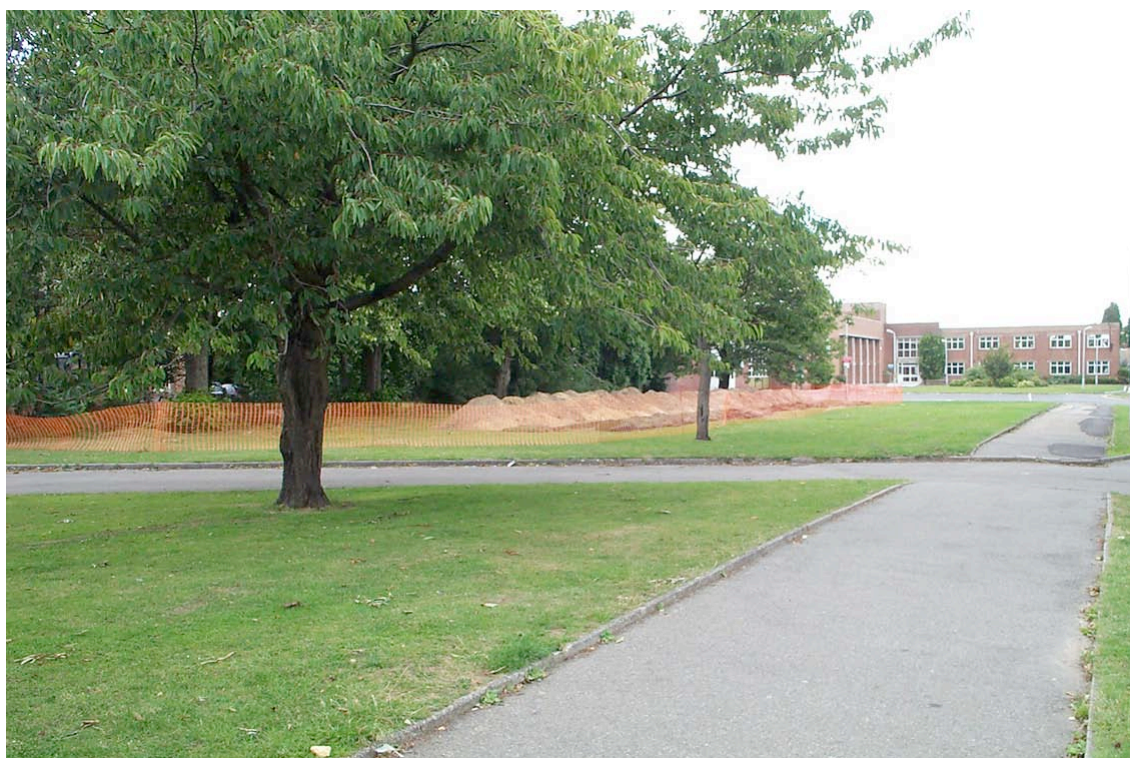




**THE OLD RECTORY, HAMWORTHY, POOLE**  
**Archaeological Evaluation**



**Report No. 53144.3**

**July 2004**

# The Old Rectory, Blandford Close, Hamworthy, Poole

## Archaeological Evaluation, July 2004

### CONTENTS

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Summary.....                                  | 1 |
| Introduction .....                            | 1 |
| Archaeological and Historical background..... | 2 |
| Aims and Objectives.....                      | 2 |
| Methods .....                                 | 3 |
| Results.....                                  | 3 |
| <i>Trench 1</i> .....                         | 3 |
| <i>Trench 2</i> .....                         | 5 |
| <i>Trench 3</i> .....                         | 6 |
| <i>Finds</i> .....                            | 7 |
| Conclusions .....                             | 8 |
| Project Archive .....                         | 9 |
| References.....                               | 9 |

#### Appendix 1: Written Scheme of Investigation

#### Figures

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| 1 | Location map .....  | 10 |
| 2 | Plan of Trench 1 .....  | 11 |
| 3 | Trench 1 sections.....  | 12 |
| 4 | Plan and section of Trench 2 .....  | 13 |
| 5 | Plan and section of Trench 3 .....  | 14 |
| 6 | Extract from 1902 Ordnance Survey 25-inch map.....  | 15 |
| 7 | Map showing relationship between the postulated course of the Roman road and the Roman 'fort' ..... | 16 |

#### Plates

|   |  |    |
|---|--|----|
| 1 | General view of location of Trench 1, viewed from west. ....                       | 17 |
| 2 | General view of location of Trench 2, from east.....                               | 17 |
| 3 | Trench 1 viewed from west.....   | 17 |
| 4 | Detail of flint cobbled surface 108 in east end of Trench 1 .....                  | 18 |
| 5 | Detail of flint cobbled surface 108 in east end of Trench 1, after excavation..... | 18 |
| 6 | General view of Trench 2 from southeast .....                                      | 18 |
| 7 | South end of Trench 2, showing ditch 209. ....                                     | 19 |
| 8 | General view of location of Trench 3 from northwest .....                          | 19 |

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# **The Old Rectory, Blandford Close, Hamworthy, Poole**

## **Archaeological Evaluation, July 2004**

### **SUMMARY**

*In July 2004, Terrain Archaeology carried out an evaluation on the site a proposed new housing development adjacent to the Old Rectory, Hamworthy (NGR SY68889064). This site lies on the projected alignment of the Roman road from Hamworthy to Lake. Three trenches were excavated, one across the projected line of the Roman road, one to the south and one in the garden of the Old Rectory. No trace of the Roman road was identified and it is considered that the projected alignment of the road as marked on the Ordnance Survey maps is probably incorrect. Two phases of features were discovered in Trench 1, the earlier features are undated but the later features are all of early 19<sup>th</sup> century date. The features were mainly small gullies or ditches and pits and the lack of finds makes it difficult to interpret their function. None are considered to be of great archaeological significance. Overall, the small number of features and the general lack of artefacts suggest that this area was not a focus of activity in the past.*

*Part of the former drive to the Old Rectory was discovered in Trench 2 in the southern end of the site.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

This project was commissioned by Mr and Mrs Luck, through their agents, Morgan Carey Architects, as part of the planning application for the proposed construction of eight new dwellings in the grounds of The Old Rectory and on adjoining land at Blandford Close, Hamworthy, Poole (Figure 1).

This evaluation is part of a programme of archaeological works requested by the local planning authority following advice from Keith Jarvis, Poole Museums Service, in line with Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (Archaeology and Planning). The first stage of the works comprised an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site, carried out by Terrain Archaeology in March 2004 (Terrain Archaeology 2004). Based on the results of this assessment, an evaluation was requested in order to provide further information on the potential archaeological resource of the site.

An archaeological evaluation is a limited programme of intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. 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.

The site lies off Blandford Close to the north of Blandford Road on the Hamworthy peninsula (centred on Ordnance Survey NGR SY99839059). The topography is flat and lies about 3.4 m above OD, with the site occupying the higher ground on a slight ridge that runs along the middle of the peninsula. The northern part of the site is occupied by the Old Rectory and associated outbuildings and grounds; the southern part of the site, fronting onto Blandford Road, is occupied by an overflow car park on the former tennis courts, with Hamworthy Public Library and a youth club in the southwest corner. The site is surrounded by residential development to the south, west and east; to the north lies Carter Sports and Community College and beyond that the mudflats and saltmarsh on the edge of Holes Bay.

The underlying geology is mapped as Poole Formation deposits of the Bracklesham Group overlain by drift deposits (British Geological Survey 1:50000 Sheet 329 *Bournemouth* (1991)). The site probably lies on Second level River Terrace deposits of flint gravel, often very sandy, with Oakdale clay and sand deposits underneath.

The fieldwork was carried out between 9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> July 2004 by Peter Bellamy, Rod Brook and Rebecca Montague.

Terrain Archaeology would like to acknowledge Peter and Cheryl Luck, Brian Simpson of Morgan Carey Architects, Keith Jarvis of Poole Museums Service, Sally Tomlinson of Property Services, Borough of Poole, the staff of Carter School and Jo Draper for their help and cooperation during this project.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

A detailed account of the archaeological and historical background of the site is presented in the archaeological desk-based assessment report (Terrain Archaeology 2004) and only a summary of the archaeological and historical background is presented here.

The Roman road from Hamworthy to the legionary fortress at Lake Farm near Wimborne (Smith 1930) is projected to cross the northern edge of the site (Figure 1). The course of the road was clearly visible to the north of Hamworthy but its route along the peninsula is less clear. The projected route was plotted following observations and limited excavations in the 1930s (Smith 1948). Smith identified the course of the road across the northern part of the grounds of the Old Rectory, stating “the road is clearly marked by a bank and hedge which take the line of the left ditch” (Smith 1932). In 1947, Corporation workmen laying a new water main in this area encountered a 0.3 m thickness of compact gravel, which was thought to be the remains of the Roman road (Smith 1948, 84). In 1989, observations at Hamworthy Lodge, seventy-five metres to the east of the present site, revealed two parallel ditches 1.5 m wide and 0.3 m deep, set eight metres apart. These ditches were undated and were tentatively identified as the ditches of the Roman road (Collins 1989).

This projected course of the road has been called into question by recent work in Hamworthy, which has revealed parts of a possible supply base or fort of the early Roman period (Terrain Archaeology 2001a & b; Terrain Archaeology 2003a). This Roman military structure is on a different alignment to the road and the projected course of the road would enter it at or just off the corner of the defences, which seems highly unlikely.

Observations immediately to the north of the present site during the construction of a new Sports Hall in Carter School revealed no archaeological features (Terrain Archaeology 2003b).

The Old Rectory was formerly the Manor House, and it is likely that it stands on the same site as the medieval manor house. Certainly, the few medieval finds recorded in Hamworthy come from close to this site. The Old Rectory is a Grade II\* listed building, built in the 17th century. (RCHME 1970, 238). It is of two storeys and attics with brick walls and a tiled roof. It is notable for the use of carved brickwork on the southeast front (*ibid.*).

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The objective of the archaeological works was to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site, that is, to appraise the nature, extent, level of preservation, and importance of any archaeological deposits.

The evaluation aimed to record all the *in situ* archaeological deposits and features revealed during the works in order to provide sufficient data to assess the archaeological significance of the site.

In particular, the evaluation aimed to test the presence or absence of the Roman road across the northern part of the site.

## **METHODS**

The archaeological works were undertaken in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*. The evaluation as carried out in the field did not vary in any major respect from the specification 3144.2 prepared by Terrain Archaeology in May 2004.

The evaluation comprised intrusive investigation in the form of three machine-excavated trial trenches (Trenches 1, 2 and 3). Trench 1 was located to the east of the Old Rectory, on the grass verge by the access road to the overflow car park, and was oriented roughly NNE–SSW (Figure \*\*). It measured 31.1 m by 1.3 m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.25 m. Trench 2 lay to the south east of the Old Rectory, on the grass verge to the east of the car park/former tennis court. It was aligned roughly NNE–SSW (Figure 1). It measured 12.9 m by 1.3 m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.0 m. Trench 3 lay within the front garden of the Old Rectory and measured 4.7 m by 1.3 m and was dug to a maximum depth of 0.95 m (Figure 1).

The trenches were cleared down on to the top of the natural deposit by a small tracked excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket.

All archaeological deposits and features exposed during the works were cleaned by hand, then planned and recorded. 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.

All trenches were back-filled with the excavated material and compacted using the machine. The turf was replaced by hand and the trenches reinstated to an acceptable standard.

The records have been compiled in a stable, cross-referenced and fully indexed archive in accordance with current UKIC guidelines and the requirements of the receiving museum, Poole Museums Service.

## **RESULTS**

### **Trench 1**

Trench 1 was sited to cross the projected line of the Roman road (Figure 1). A number of features were found but no definite trace of the road was identified. The majority of features contained no datable finds. However, two broad phases of activity could be identified based on the stratigraphic position of the features and the character of their fills.

#### *Natural deposits*

The top of the natural, a variable orange-brown sand with occasional lenses of greyish gravels and a lighter buff-orange coloured looser gravelly sand (104) was encountered at a depth of between 0.62 m and 0.96 m below ground level (the ground level sloped very slightly down towards the north); at between 2.45 m and 2.95 m above OD. The upper surface of the layer was very uneven and perturbed.

### *Earlier archaeological features*

None of the archaeological features described below produced any dating evidence. They have been grouped together as they all appear to be sealed beneath layer 103 and their fills are very similar in character to this layer.

At the southern end of the trench was a linear feature (105) oriented roughly NW–SE. It was initially visible as a band of soil, 1.75 m wide (Plate 1). Upon excavation, this feature proved to have a rather irregular profile, possibly due to root disturbance, with a 0.9 m wide ditch with sloping sides and dished base cut 0.3 m into the natural sand 104 on the southern side and a slightly shallower flatter cut on the northern side (Figures 2–3; Plate 3), perhaps indicating a recut ditch. It was filled with light greyish-brown loamy sand (106) with occasional small gravel fragments. No finds were recovered.

In the central part of the trench were two linear features (109 and 111) aligned roughly NW–SE, about 4.5 m apart (Figure 2). The northern ditch (111) was 0.8 m wide and 0.25 m deep, with concave sloping sides and a slightly dished base. It was filled with light greyish-brown loose loamy sand (112) with moderate small flint gravels concentrated near the base of the feature. The southern ditch (109) was about 0.6 m wide and 0.2 m deep, with concave sloping sides and a dished base. It was filled with light greyish-brown medium compact loamy sand (110) with very few inclusions. The fills of both of these ditches were very similar to the soil 103 above and there was no trace of a cut visible within layer 103. No finds were recovered from these two ditches.

Ditch 109 was cut by a rectangular feature (107), which was only partially within the trench. The excavated part of this feature was 1.25 m by 0.65 m across and 0.12 m deep, with vertical sides and a flat bottom. It was filled with medium brown loamy sand (108) that was only distinguishable from fill 110 when the layers were newly excavated and still damp. It was not possible to discern from what level this feature was cut. It did not contain any artefacts.

At the northern end of the trench was another feature (127), which may belong to this phase. This feature was only partially within the trench and it had been cut by two later features (117 and 130), making it difficult to discern its true character. It appeared to be linear in plan, aligned roughly NW–SE, with gently sloping sides and a slightly dished base (Figures 2–3). It was about 1.5 m wide and about 0.4 m deep. It was filled with greyish-brown loamy sand (121) with occasional small flint gravels and occasional patches of redeposited natural orange sand. The fill was difficult to distinguish from the overlying layer 103, though the redeposited natural was sealed beneath this layer, suggesting that the feature only survived where it was cut into the natural sand (Figure 3).

Immediately to the north of 127 was another feature (128). Very little of this feature was exposed, as it continued beyond the excavated area to the east and its southern end had been cut away by later features 130 and 125 (Figure 2). It was about 1.4 m long and the west side sloped steeply down to a flattish base 0.4 m deep. It was filled with light greyish-brown stone-free loamy sand (128). No artefacts were recovered from it.

### *Later archaeological features*

The features described below are distinguished by the much greyer colour of their fills, the occurrence of modern finds and the fact that they were cut from a much higher level than the features described above. They are all located in the northern half of the trench.

The most southerly of these features was a sub-rectangular pit (113), which was only partially exposed within the excavation trench (Figure 2). The exposed part of the pit was sub-rectangular in plan, with vertical sides and an uneven base that sloped down towards the north. It cut through layer 103 and was sealed beneath layer 126. It measured 1.0 m long, 1.1 m wide and 0.7 m deep, and was filled with dark brownish-grey loose gravelly sand (112). No artefacts were recovered.

In the northeastern end of the trench was a sub-circular pit (130), which continued under the eastern baulk. It had near-vertical sides and an uneven base, sloping down towards the north and cut through layers 103 and 126, and also cut the northern edge of ditch 127 and the southern end of feature 128. It was approximately 0.9 m in diameter and 0.7 m deep. It was filled with loose dark brownish-grey loamy sand (131) with occasional flint gravels. It contained some 19<sup>th</sup> century finds including a sherd of an 1820–1830s chamber pot, brick fragments and limestone pieces.

This pit was cut by gully 125, which was aligned WNW-ESE and was exposed for a length of 1.35 m (Figure 2). It had a rounded terminal at the western end and continued beyond the trench to the east. It was 0.45 m wide and 0.26 m deep. It was filled with very dark greyish-brown loamy sand (122) containing 19<sup>th</sup> century artefacts including pottery, glass, brick and roof tile fragments.

Just to the south of pit 130 and gully 125 was a very large feature (117), aligned approximately WSW–ENE (Figures 2–3). It appears to be linear and continued beyond the excavated area to the east and west. It was about 2.65 m wide with sloping sides and a flat base, 1.1 m wide and 1.0 m deep. It cut through gully 119 and ditch 127 as well as layers 103 and 126. It was filled with dark brownish-grey loamy sand (118), which contained a large quantity of brick rubble and some early 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery.

At the extreme northern end of the trench was a small linear feature, oriented NE–SW, with a rounded terminal to the south. It was filled with dark brownish-grey sandy loam (124). This feature was not excavated but is included with the others in this section as it has a very similar fill to gully 125 and pit 130.

The remaining feature, gully 119, is slightly anomalous. It was a narrow linear feature aligned roughly NW–SE, 0.28 m wide and cut 0.15 m into the natural sand 104, and was filled with greyish-brown loamy sand (120) with frequent flint gravels. It was cut by feature 117. The fill was similar in colour to layer 103. It did not appear to cut through layer 103 and, therefore, would seem to belong with the earlier features described in the previous section. However, it contained a sherd of 1830s pearlware, suggesting that it belongs with the later group of features. It is possible that the pottery is intrusive and the feature is earlier in date.

### *Agricultural Soils*

Two distinct soil layers overlying the natural sands were identified in this trench (Figure 3). The lower layer (103) directly overlay the natural sand (104). It was a 0.66 m thick greyish-brown medium compact loamy sand with occasional small flint gravels. It contained a large gravel flint core, a possible residual prehistoric artefact. The boundary with the underlying natural sand was rather undulating and irregular. Two possible features (116, 132) proved upon excavation to be the remnants of layer 103 infilling undulations in the surface of the natural sands. A number of these irregularities appear to have been the result of root action.

The upper soil layer (126) was a virtually stone-free loose greyish-brown loamy sand, up to 0.4 m thick. The boundary between the upper and lower subsoil layers was marked in places by a very thin band of small flint gravels.

### *Upper layers*

Overlying layer 126 and intermittent across the trench was a thin layer of clinker (102) about 0.06 m thick. This was sealed by a 0.1 m thick layer of turf and topsoil (101).

## **Trench 2**

This trench lay to the south of Trench 1 adjacent to the tennis courts. It was excavated to investigate the nature of the surviving stratigraphy in the southern part of the site. No ancient features were found. No finds were recovered from this trench.

### *Natural deposits*

The natural in this trench was loose pale yellow-orange sand, with flint gravels (205). It was encountered at a depth of between 0.65 m and 0.9 m below present ground level, that is, at between 2.93 m and 2.60 m above OD. The upper surface of the natural was uneven.

### *Agricultural soils*

The natural sands and gravels were sealed beneath a 0.6 m thick layer of friable greyish-brown loamy sand (204) with moderate flint gravels. The boundary between this layer and the underlying natural was irregular. This layer is thought to be the remains of the former agricultural soil. It was well mixed and contained no artefacts.

### *Driveway*

Overlying layer 204 in the central part of the trench was a hard-packed layer of broken brick fragments in a clay matrix (203) about 0.07 m thick and 3.5 m wide (Figure \*\*). Overlying this was a thin layer of loose pale yellow flint gravel (202), 0.08 m thick. It overlapped layer 203 by 0.4 m to the south, but to the north it continued for at least another 4.65 m. These layers have been interpreted as the remains of a driveway, with layer 203 being the hardcore base and 202 being the spread gravel surface. The former drive to the Old Rectory is shown on the 1902 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 6) as crossing the line of Trench 2. This drive probably went out of use when the school was built in the 1940s.

### *Field drains*

Two modern field drains were discovered in this trench. One drain (207) ran across the middle of the trench in a WNW–ESE direction. It had vertical sides and was 0.4 m wide and over 1.0 m deep. It cut through the possible driveway 202/203. This feature was not bottomed, but a ceramic field drain was exposed at a depth of 0.92 m below ground level. It was backfilled with loose grey ash and clinker (206) with a large quantity of vitrified and burnt brick rubble.

At the southern end of the trench, was another field drain (209), which cut through layer 204 and just into the top of the natural sand 205. This was aligned NE–SW and had vertical sides and flat bottom. It measured 0.35 m wide and 0.55 m deep and contained a ceramic field drain. The drain trench was filled with loose grey ash and clinker (208). Both of these drains may have been associated with the adjacent tennis courts.

### *Upper layers*

All the features and deposits described above were sealed beneath a loose dark brown humic loamy sand (201) about 0.2 m in deep.

## **Trench 3**

This trench was dug in the southern edge of the present lawn in the front garden of the Old Rectory (Figure 1), in order to examine the stratigraphy in an area where several new dwellings are proposed to be built. A telephone cable was encountered just below ground level in the western end of the trench, running in a NW–SE direction. In order not to disturb this, only a small part of this trench was dug down on to the top of the natural sands (Plate 8).

### *Natural deposits*

The loose yellow and orange sand and flint gravel natural (303) was encountered at about 1.0 m below ground level.



### *Agricultural soils*

Overlying natural 303 was a greyish-brown friable loamy sand (302) with moderate flint gravel. This layer was 0.65 m thick and represents former agricultural soils.

### *Upper layers*

Layer 302 was sealed beneath a 0.25 m thick layer of dark brown humic sand with frequent stone rubble and modern roof tile fragments (301), which formed the present garden soil and lawn.

## **Finds**

Only a small quantity of finds was retained (Table 1). All finds were recovered from Trench 1. These were all 19<sup>th</sup> century in date apart from a possible prehistoric flint core from context 103.

| Trench       | Context      | Context description | Pottery |        | Brick and tile |        | Stone |        | Shale |        | Glass | A. bone | Flint |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------|--------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|---------|-------|
|              |              |                     | No.     | Wt (g) | No.            | Wt (g) | No.   | Wt (g) | No.   | Wt (g) |       |         |       |
| 1            | 103          | Agricultural soil   |         |        |                |        |       |        |       |        |       |         | 1     |
| 1            | 118          | Fill of feature 117 | 14      | 450    |                |        | 4     | 70     |       |        |       |         |       |
| 1            | 120          | Fill of gully 119   | 1       | 1      |                |        |       |        |       |        |       |         |       |
| 1            | 122          | Fill of gully 125   | 1       | 2      | 27             | 944    | 2     | 3      | 10    | 355    | 1     | 1       |       |
| 1            | 131          | Fill of pit 130     | 1       | 44     | 1              | 227    | 1     | 167    |       |        |       |         |       |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>Total</i> |                     | 17      | 497    | 28             | 1171   | 7     | 240    | 10    | 355    | 1     | 1       | 1     |

Table 1: All finds by context

### *Pottery*

A total of 17 sherds of pottery were retained from the site and these have been identified by Jo Draper. The whole pottery assemblage dates to the 1820s–1830s and includes both local earthenwares and industrial whitewares. Two small fragments from two blue and white pearlware vessels and another plain white pearlware sherd were recovered from contexts 118 and 120. Seven sherds from a plain pearlware chamber pot were recovered from contexts 118, 122, and 131. Seven sherds of local Verwood pottery were all recovered from context 118 and included part of a large dish. At least two of the vessels were ‘seconds’.

### *Brick and Tile*

Only a very small quantity of the brick and tile encountered on site was retained. The brick fragments were distinctive in that many were overfired or burnt and the larger brick fragment from context 131 was vitrified. In addition to the retained sample, a large quantity of brick rubble was found in the upper part of feature 117 and in field drain 207. The bricks from both these features were vitrified and burnt. Similar material has been found built into the walls surrounding the former Carter’s tileworks behind Shapwick Road in Hamworthy. It is likely that this material is also wasters and debris derived from these tileworks.

A small quantity of roof tile was found in the fill of pit 130 and in the topsoil (301) of Trench 3. These are all of post-medieval date and probably debris from a re-roofing of the Old Rectory. Similar tiles can be seen on the present roof.

### *Shale*

Ten pieces of shale were recovered from context 122. These were all flat unworked fragments.

### *Worked flint*

A single large gravel flint nodule with several broad flake removals from both ends was recovered from the base of layer 103. The character of the removals suggests a later Bronze Age date.

### *Other finds*

Very few other finds were encountered on site. The only finds retained were a single small eroded sherd of green bottle glass from context 122 and a small fragment of animal bone from the same context.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The evaluation trenches have sampled most of the area of the proposed development. Therefore, the results of the evaluation can reasonably be taken as being representative of the whole of the proposed development site.

The results of the evaluation have shown that there is no evidence for significant activity of Roman and medieval date. The complete lack of Roman and medieval finds suggests that this area was not a focus for occupation during these periods.

The small number of undated features may be of Roman or medieval date, but this cannot be demonstrated. The size and character of these features suggests that they are not of great importance or significance and may be related to agricultural or horticultural activity in the area. None of the features is on a similar alignment to the Roman features found slightly further south and east of the site at Hamworthy First School (Terrain Archaeology 2003c) and Shapwick Road (Terrain Archaeology 2001a), suggesting that they are not Roman in date.

There is a group of features containing material dating from the 1820–30s. The occurrence of sherds from the same vessel in feature 117, pit 130 and gully 125, suggests that they were all filled in at the same time. These features are grouped together and lie in the corner of a field (Figure 1 and 6). Although the precise function of each of these features is difficult to determine, they are all likely to relate to the field boundaries and to the disposal of debris in the corner of the field.

No trace of the Roman road was found. As no other demonstrably Roman features were found, it is unclear whether the road did cross the site and had been subsequently destroyed along with any other Roman features, or whether it never existed in this location. The only possible feature that may belong to the road is Ditch 127, which is in the right position to be the north flanking ditch, assuming that the road followed the course postulated by Smith (1932). This ditch is different in size and shape to that excavated on Hamworthy Common in 1930 (Smith 1948, fig. 45). No accompanying ditch marking the other side of the road was discovered and no trace of any road gravels or of any compacted or protected area of the natural sands that might indicate the former presence of the road was observed. On balance, it is considered that the Roman road did not cross the site along the line projected by Smith, as marked on the Ordnance Survey maps. The location and orientation of the possible Roman military supply base or fort discovered beneath Rigler Road and Shapwick Road (Terrain Archaeology 2001a and b) suggests that the likely course of the road must lie elsewhere, most likely to the north of the present site. (Figure 7) The road is likely to have entered the 'fort' approximately midway along one side and perpendicular to the defences. The present postulated course would cross the defences very close to the southwest corner of the 'fort'. The hard-packed gravels encountered during the laying of a water main in 1947 close to the northern edge of the site (1948, 84) are probably not part of the Roman road, particularly as they were found in association with blocks of Purbeck stone. It is more likely that the gravels are a yard surface associated with the farmyard, which formerly lay immediately to the northwest of the Old Rectory.

No trace of any structure that could be interpreted as the medieval manor house or associated farm was found. The cartographic evidence for the area (Terrain Archaeology 2004a) shows that the area has always been either farmland or gardens. The deep soils that have built up at the site, and their well-mixed nature, is consistent with long-term agricultural and horticultural land-use.

In conclusion, the archaeology revealed by the evaluation, can be considered to be of local significance only.

## PROJECT ARCHIVE

The archive (Terrain Archaeology Project No. 53144) will be deposited with Poole Museums Service, which has agreed in principle to accept the archive, subject to fulfilment of the Museum's requirements of the preparation of archaeological archives. A copy of the microfilmed archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record.

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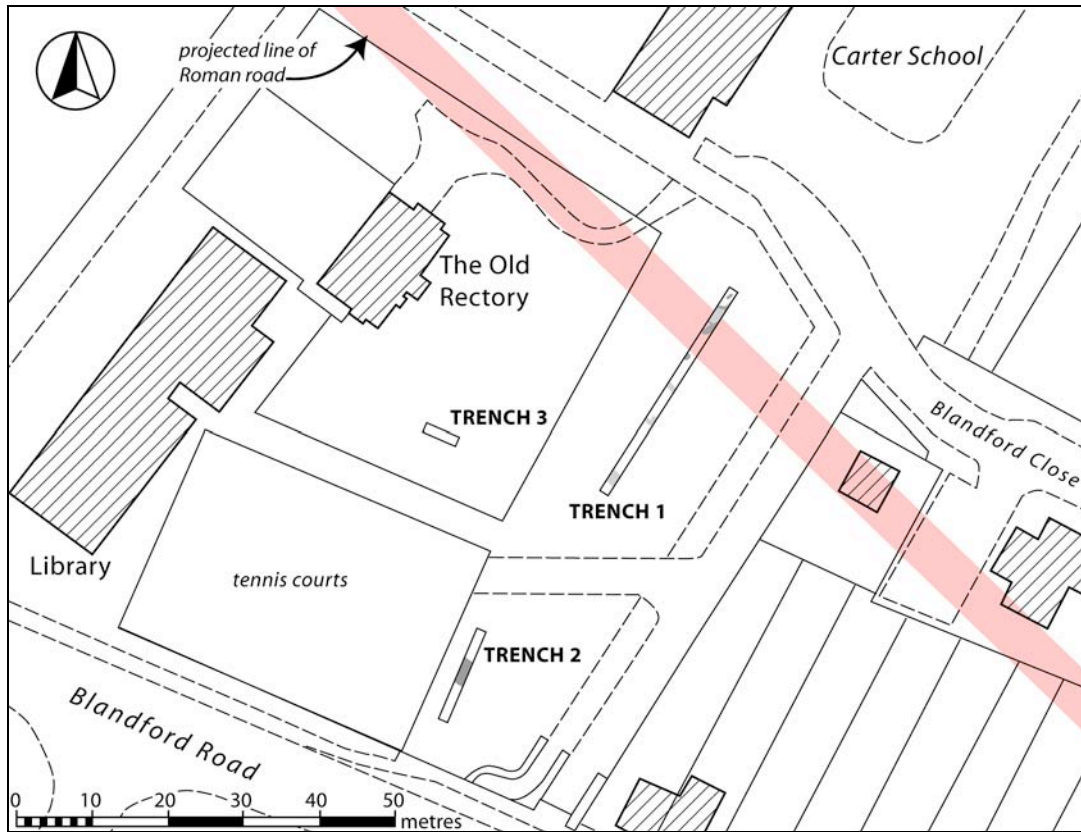


Figure 1: Location Map

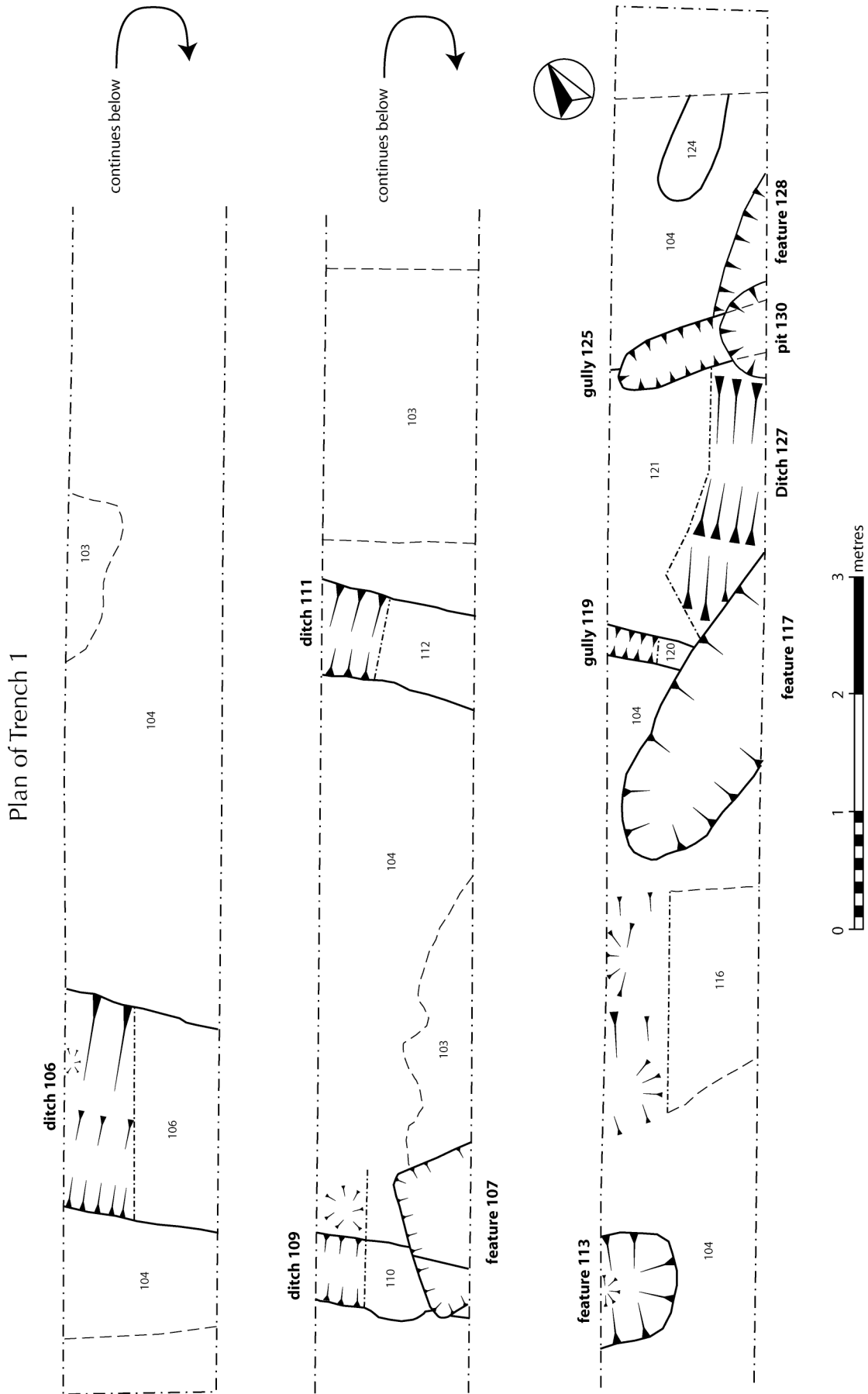
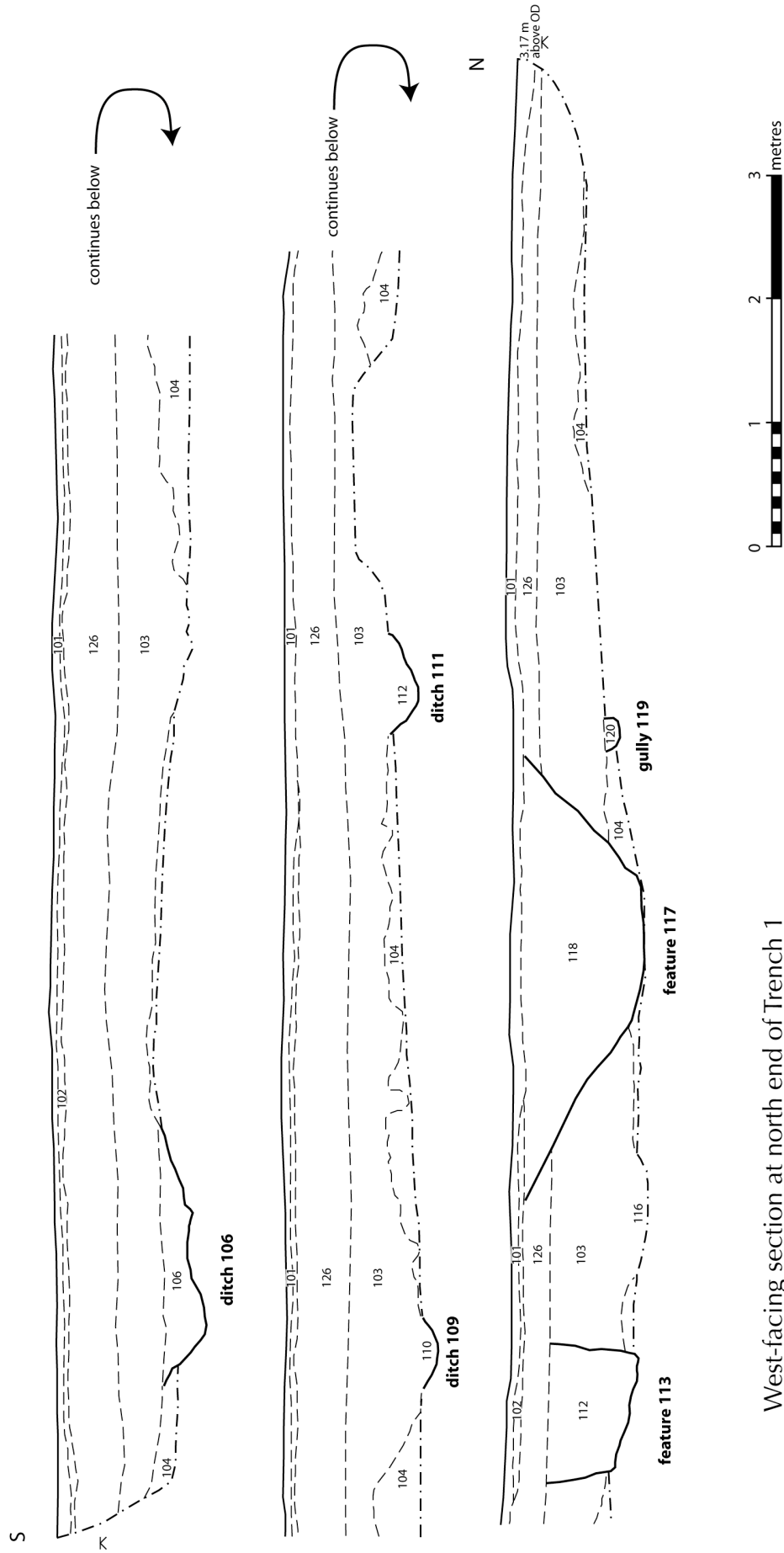


Figure 2: Plan of Trench 1

East-facing section of Trench 1



West-facing section at north end of Trench 1

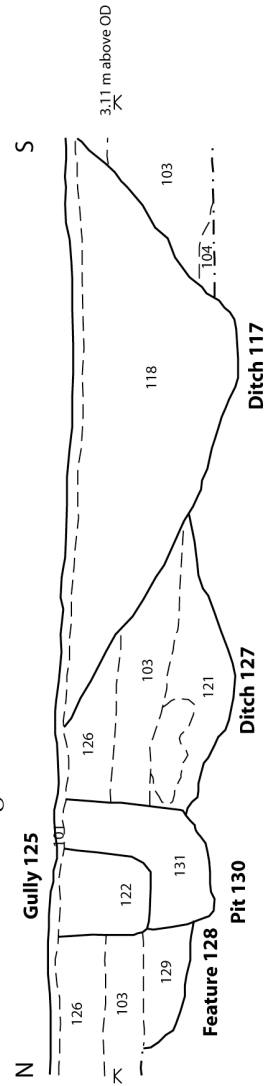


Figure 3: Trench 1 sections

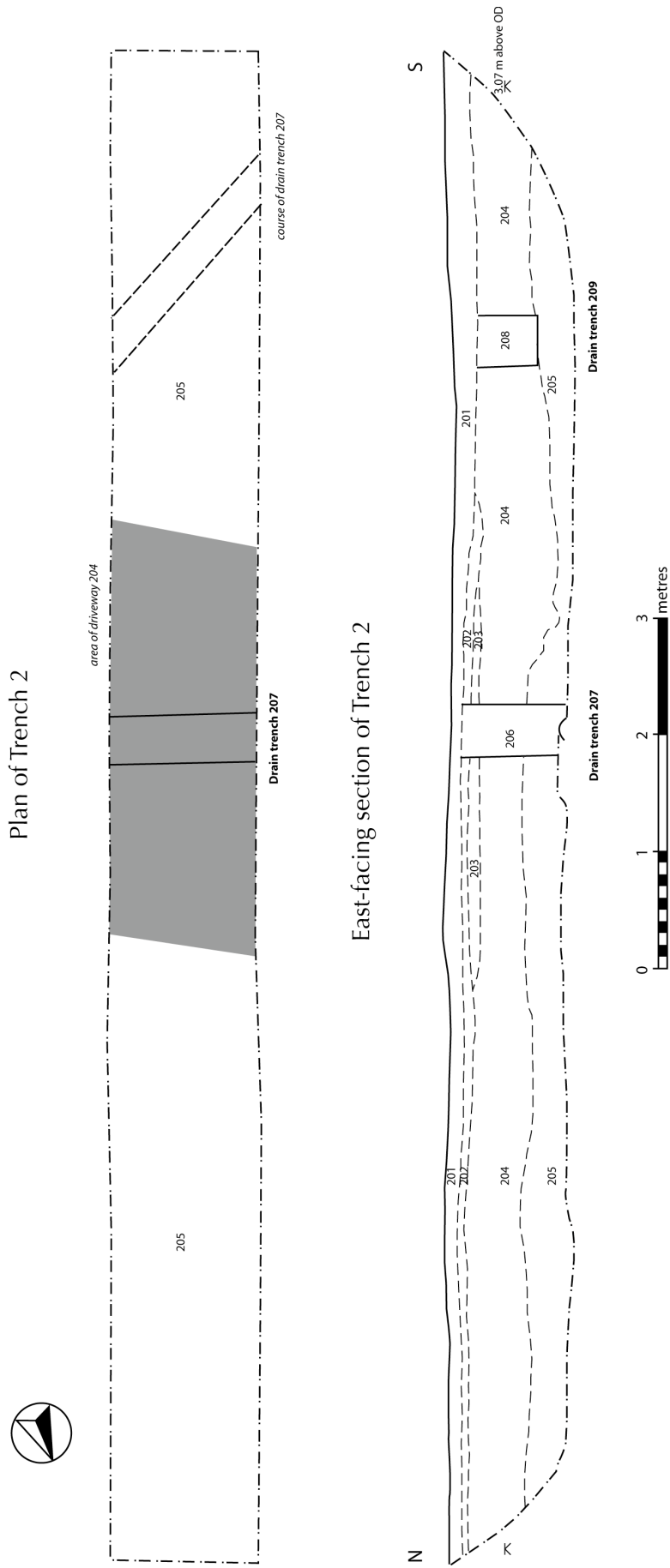
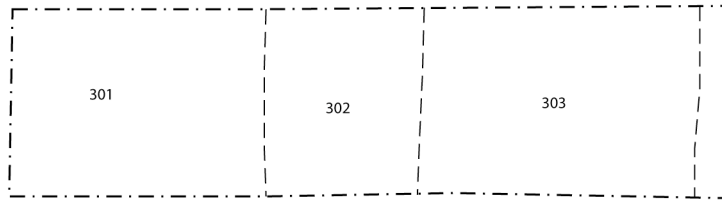


Figure 4: Plan and section of Trench 2



Plan of Trench 3



South-facing section of Trench 3

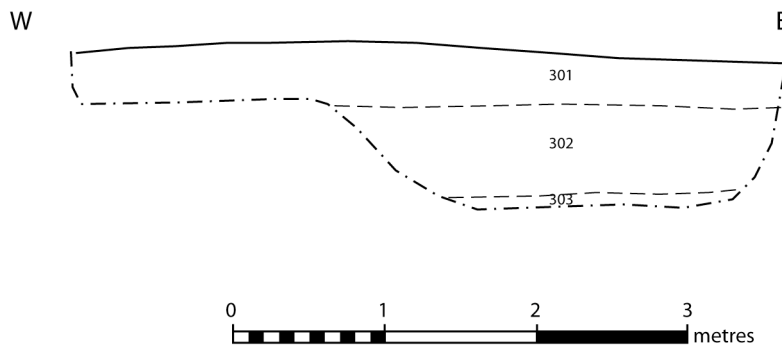


Figure 5: Plan and section of Trench 3



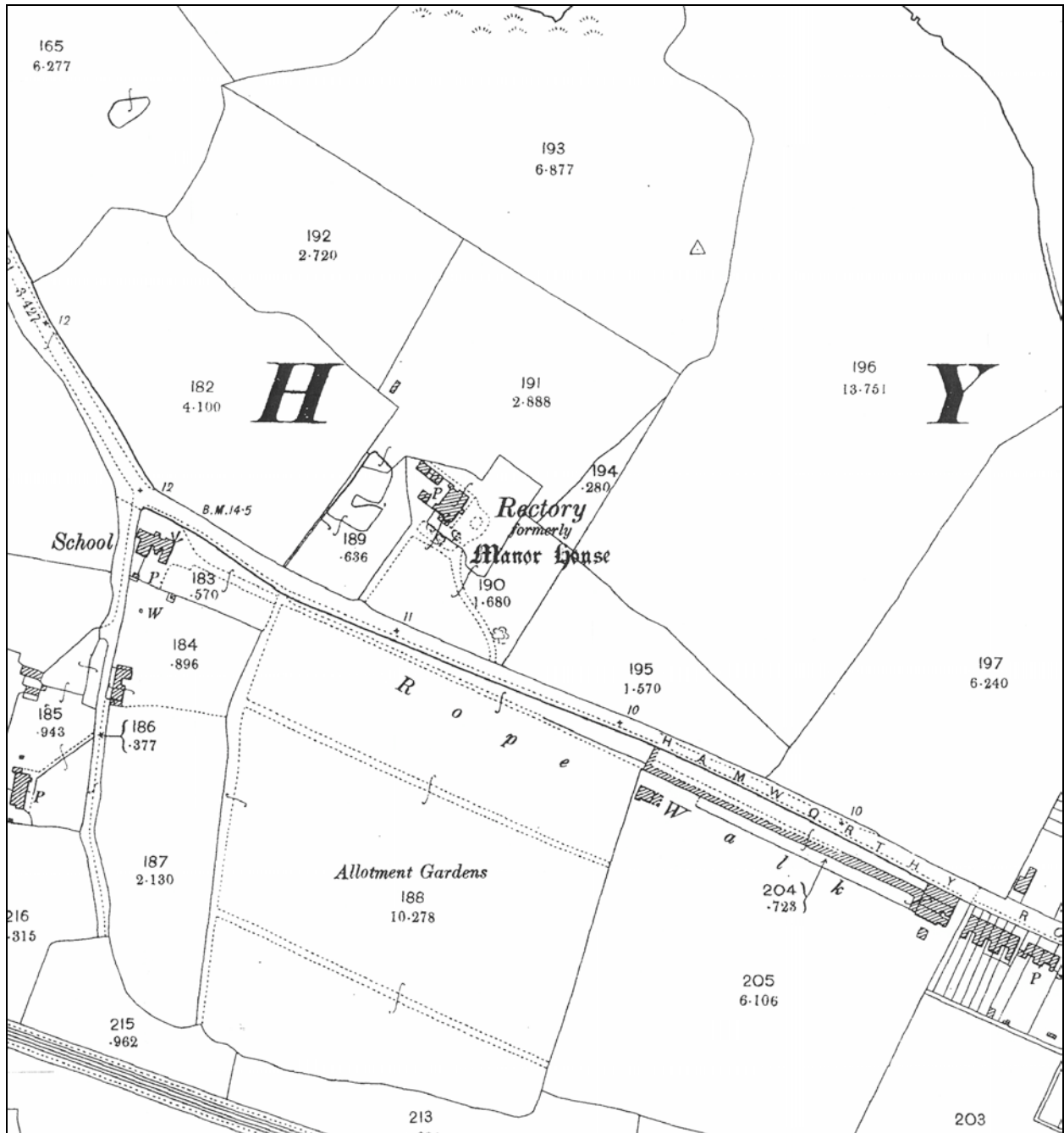


Figure 6: Extract from 1902 Ordnance Survey 25-inch map (© Crown Copyright reserved).

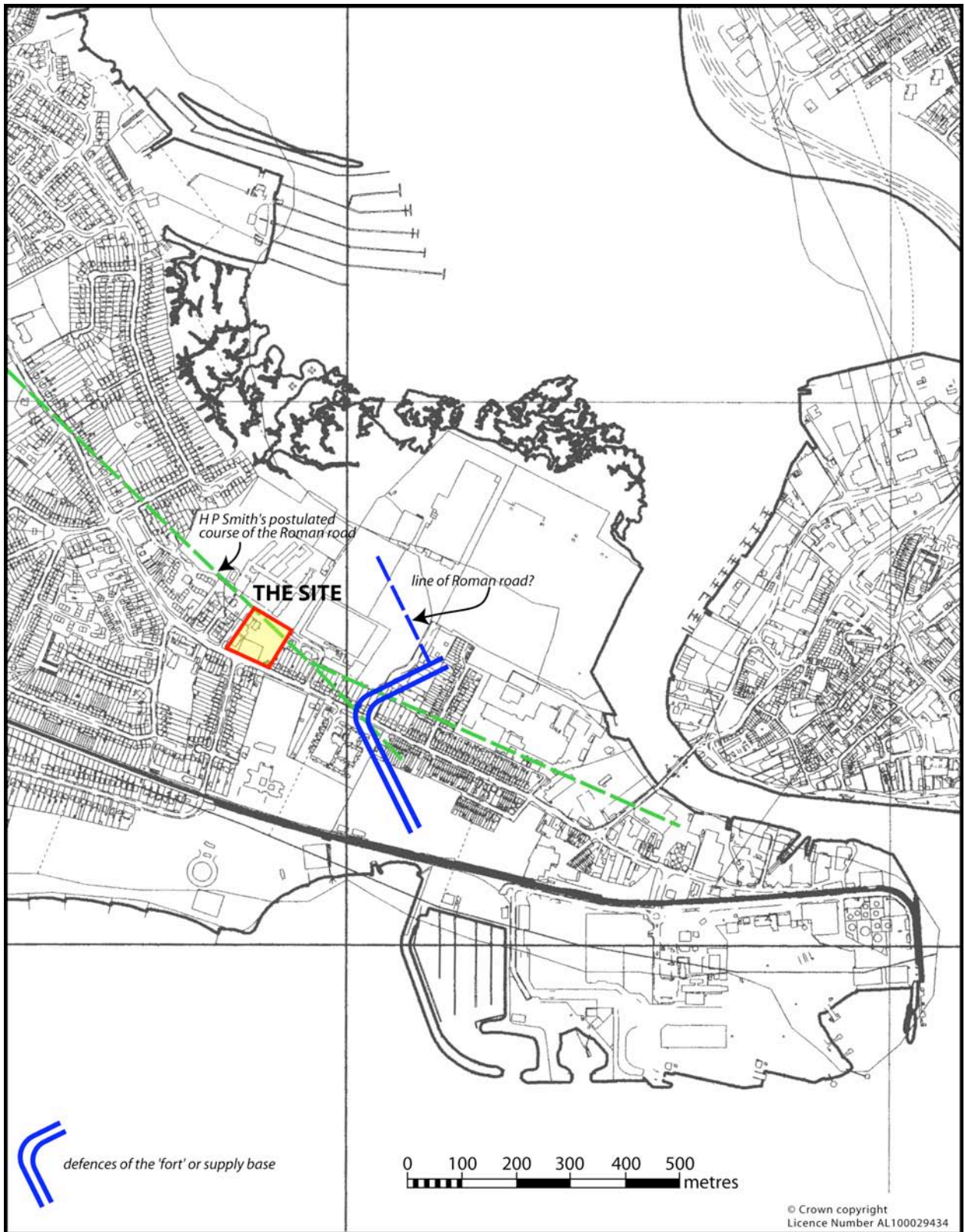


Figure 7: Map showing relationship between the postulated course of the Roman road and the Roman 'fort'.





Plate 1: Trench 1, viewed from south, with ditch 105 in foreground.



Plate 2: Trench 1 viewed from north.



Plate 3: Ditch 105, viewed from east.





*Plate 4: Ditch 109  
viewed from east.*



*Plate 5: Ditch 111  
viewed from east.*



*Plate 6: Features in north  
end of Trench 1, viewed  
from southeast, with  
features 117 in foreground.*





*Plate 7: Trench 2, viewed from south.*



*Plate 8: Trench 3 viewed from west.*

## **APPENDIX 1: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**



**PROPOSED NEW DEVELOPMENT, THE OLD RECTORY,  
BLANDFORD CLOSE, HAMWORTHY, POOLE  
Written Scheme of Investigation**

**Prepared for:**

Mr and Mrs P Luck  
The Old Rectory  
Blandford Close  
Hamworthy  
POOLE  
BH15 4BG

**Ref. No. 3144.2**

**May 2004**

# PROPOSED NEW DEVELOPMENT, THE OLD RECTORY, BLANDFORD CLOSE, HAMWORTHY, POOLE

## Proposal for an Archaeological Evaluation

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Terrain Archaeology has been invited by Mr and Mrs P Luck, to submit a proposal for an archaeological evaluation of the site of a proposed new development at The Old Rectory, Blandford Close, Hamworthy, Poole.
- 1.2. The site has been the subject of an archaeological desk-based assessment undertaken by Terrain Archaeology in March 2004 (Terrain Archaeology Report No. 53144.1), which determined that the site has a moderate to high potential for surviving archaeological remains.
- 1.3. On the basis of this assessment, a programme of archaeological evaluation, comprising trial trenching has been requested by Poole Borough Council, the local planning authority, acting upon the advice of Keith Jarvis, planning archaeologist, Poole Borough Council. This is in line with Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (Archaeology and Planning).
- 1.4. An archaeological evaluation is a limited programme of intrusive fieldwork, which determines the presence, or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. 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.
- 1.5. Poole Borough Council has not issued a specification for the works, but this document has been prepared in consultation with Keith Jarvis, Poole Museums Service.
- 1.6. This document outlines the archaeological evaluation of this site. Further stages of archaeological fieldwork may be required, dependent on the results produced from this evaluation.

### 2. The Site

- 2.1. The site lies off Blandford Close to the north of Blandford Road on the Hamworthy peninsula (centred on Ordnance Survey NGR SY99839059). The topography is flat and lies about 3.4 m above OD, with the site occupying the higher ground on a slight ridge that runs along the middle of the peninsula. The northern part of the site is occupied by the Old Rectory and associated outbuildings and grounds; the southern part of the site, fronting onto Blandford Road, is occupied by tennis courts, now disused, with Hamworthy Public Library and a youth club in the southwest corner. The site is surrounded by residential development to the south, west and east; to the north is Carter Sports and Community College. The underlying geology is mapped as Poole Formation deposits of the Bracklesham Group overlain by drift deposits. The Site probably lies on Second level River Terrace deposits of flint gravel, often very sandy, with Oakdale clay and sand deposits underneath.



- 2.2. The archaeological background of the site has been presented in the desk-based assessment (Terrain Archaeology Report No. 3144.1) and will not be repeated here. Significant finds of Roman archaeology have been found in the vicinity of the site.

### **3. Aims and Objectives**

- 3.1. The objective of the archaeological works is to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site, that is, to appraise the nature, extent, level of preservation, and importance of any archaeological deposits.
- 3.2. The evaluation will comprise a series of trial trenches located and excavated commensurate with the aims of the evaluation.
- 3.3. The evaluation will aim to record all the in situ archaeological deposits and features revealed during the works in order to provide sufficient data to assess the archaeological significance of the site.
- 3.4. The evaluation will assess the nature, extent, state of preservation and importance of the archaeological remains and present the results in a report.
- 3.5. The results of the evaluation may be used to formulate a strategy for the preservation or management of any archaeological remains; and/or formulate an appropriate response or mitigation strategy to planning applications or other proposals which may affect adversely any such archaeological remains, or enhance them; and/or formulate a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research.

### **4. Method Statement**

- 4.1. The work will be carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*. Terrain Archaeology will undertake to adhere to the principles of the IFA's Code of Conduct.
- 4.2. Upon receiving written notice of commission, Terrain Archaeology will inform the Planning Control Archaeologist, Poole Museums Service, of the intended start date and duration of site works and access to the site and archaeological works will be given to the Poole Museums Service Archaeologist.
- 4.3. The receiving museum (in this case, Poole Museums Service) would be informed of the start date and duration of the site works prior to commencement, and a priori acceptance, in principle, of the project archive would be sought. Terrain Archaeology will conform to the conditions of acceptance of the archive as stipulated by the receiving museum.
- 4.4. The Client will provide Terrain Archaeology with map coverage of the Site based on Ordnance Survey sheets so that trenches could be set out accurately with respect to the OS national grid and with accurate plans showing all known live and dead services. Any trench located less than the safe working distance of live services would be relocated.
- 4.5. The evaluation will comprise intrusive investigation in the form of trial trenching. It is proposed to excavate one (1 No.) trench measuring a nominal 30 m by 1.5 m across in the northeastern part of the site across the projected line of the Roman road, one trench (1 No.) measuring a nominal 15 m by 1.5 m across in the southeast part of the site and one trench

(1 No.) trench measuring a nominal 5 m by 1.5 m across the middle of the site on the southern end of the present garden of The Old Rectory. The suggested disposition of the trenches is shown in Figure 2.

- 4.6. The trenches will be cleared of recent overburden by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket, down on to the top of any in situ archaeological deposits, or the natural subsoil, whichever is encountered first. No excavation will be taken deeper than 1.2 m below present ground surface. All machine operation would be supervised at all times by an experienced field archaeologist.
- 4.7. All archaeological deposits and features exposed during the works will be cleared by hand, then planned and recorded. Excavation of archaeological deposits and features will be limited to resolving questions relating to their date, nature, extent and condition. Sufficient excavation will be undertaken to enable these questions to be answered.
- 4.8. All deposits revealed, irrespective of their apparent archaeological significance, would be recorded using components of the Terrain Archaeology recording system of complementary written, drawn and photographic records.
- 4.9. Representative samples of artefacts, ecofacts and palaeoenvironmental materials of the investigated deposits will be recovered, either by simple manual recovery or by sieved/flotation extraction of soil samples. All materials thus recovered would be processed and curated temporarily, in accordance with current UKIC guidelines, prior to dispatch to analytical specialists.
- 4.10. All trenches will be back-filled with the excavated material and compacted, but will not be otherwise reinstated, unless instructed otherwise by the client.
- 4.11. The records, and any materials recovered, will be compiled in a stable, cross-referenced and fully indexed archive in accordance with current UKIC guidelines and the requirements of the receiving museum.
- 4.12. Transfer of Title of all archaeological materials recovered to Poole Museums Service will be sought from the Landowner.
- 4.13. Upon completion of the project, the archive will be microfilmed to preservation microfilming standards as set out in Handley, M., 1999, *Microfilming archaeological archives*, IFA Paper No. 2. The master will be lodged with the National Monuments Record Centre.
- 4.14. The archive, together with one copy of the microfilm, will be deposited with the appropriate receiving museum, at the earliest opportunity after report submission.

## **5. Report Preparation**

- 5.1. On completion of the fieldwork, a report will be prepared detailing the archaeological works carried out and the results of these works. The recorded deposits will be presented and described in sufficient detail to enable a judgment of the archaeological value of the site can be made. All recovered finds and environmental materials will not be analysed in detail, except where necessary to meet the aims of the evaluation, but reporting will be limited to an assessment of their date range, condition, and assemblage significance. In addition to the text, all results will be presented in tabulated form by trench so no recourse

to the archive for further information will be necessary. The report will assess the nature and significance of the results of the archaeological works and place them in their wider local and regional setting, where appropriate.

- 5.2. The report will contain a trench location plan at an appropriate scale. The report will plan all archaeological features and deposits, and sections of features excavated, at an appropriate scale.
- 5.3. A summary of the results shall be published in the next issue of the *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeology Society*.
- 5.4. Two bound copies will be sent to the client. The report will also be provided in digital format, if requested. One bound copy will be sent to the Borough of Poole's Planning Archaeologist, and one copy will be submitted to the Dorset County Council Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). It should be noted that with deposition in the SMR, the report would thereby become a public document.

## **6. Timetable**

- 6.1. The fieldwork is programmed to be undertaken at the earliest possible opportunity during May 2004.
- 6.2. The finished report will normally be submitted within ten working days after the start of the project.

## **7. Personnel**

- 7.1. The project will be managed by Peter Bellamy BSc. (Hons) MIFA.
- 7.2. The site investigations will be supervised by R M Montague, on a subcontract to Terrain Archaeology.
- 7.3. The report will be compiled by Peter Bellamy and Rebecca Montague. All finds and environmental materials will be assessed by suitably qualified specialists sub-contracted by Terrain Archaeology.

## **8. Monitoring**

- 8.1. Terrain Archaeology will inform the Borough of Poole's Planning Archaeologist of the intended start date and duration of project and access will be given to enable all required monitoring to take place.

## **9. Variation**

- 9.1. Should the scope of the study change from that detailed in this Written Scheme of Investigation, then any variation must be communicated in writing to Terrain Archaeology and be agreed by the Borough of Poole's Planning Archaeologist. Terrain Archaeology will then produce a revised written scheme of investigation detailing all changes.

- 9.2. The value of any variation from this written statement of investigation shall be added to, or deducted from the quoted price.

## **10. Health and Safety**

- 10.1. Terrain Archaeology would be responsible for ensuring that all works were carried out in accordance with The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, The Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996, and The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992.
- 10.2. Copies of Terrain Archaeology's General statement of Health and Safety Policy and site-specific Risk Assessment would be displayed at the Site and would be communicated verbally to all affected persons prior to commencement of site works.
- 10.3. Terrain Archaeology would abide by the Health and Safety policies of The Employer.

## **11. Confidentiality**

- 11.1. Terrain Archaeology will respect the requirements of the client concerning confidentiality. All documents intended for limited circulation and use will only be used for their specified purpose.
- 11.2. Terrain Archaeology has a professional obligation to make the results of the archaeological work available to the wider archaeological community within a reasonable time (normally six months)
- 11.3. No member of staff or person subcontracted by Terrain Archaeology will speak to the press or produce any form of publicity without the prior consent of the client.
- 11.4. It must be noted that after report completion, a copy will be sent to the Dorset Sites and Monuments Record. Once the report is lodged in the SMR, it will become a publicly accessible document.

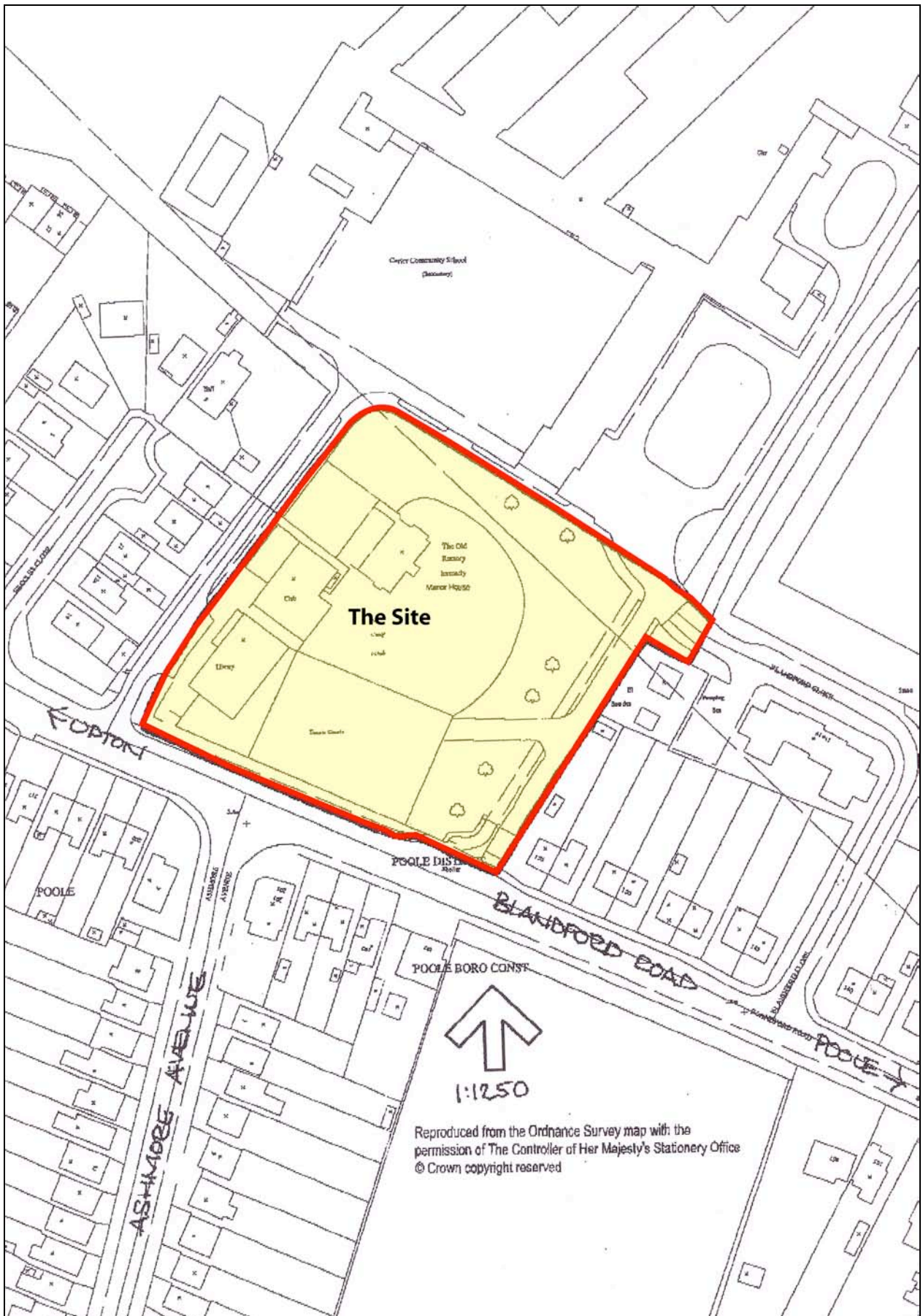


Figure 1: Location of site



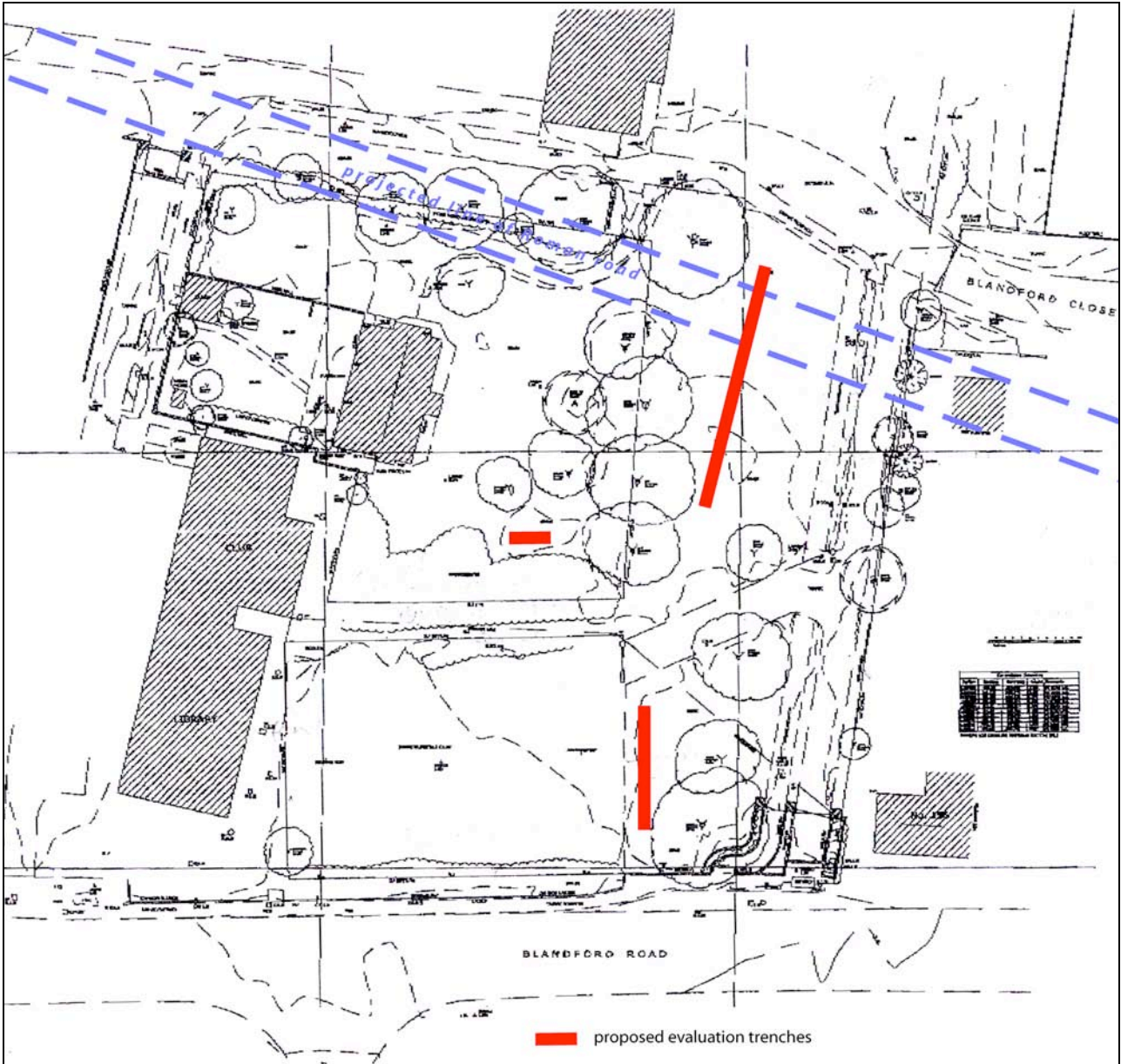


Figure 2: Proposed locations for evaluation trenches