



**DORFORD BAPTIST CHURCH, BRIDPORT ROAD,
DORCHESTER, DORSET
Archaeological Evaluation**



Report No. 53141.1

December 2003

**Dorford Baptist Church, Bridport Road,
Dorchester, Dorset
Archaeological Evaluation, November 2003**

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Dorford Baptist Church, Bridport Road, Dorchester, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation, November 2003

SUMMARY

Terrain Archaeology carried out an evaluation on the site of Dorford Baptist Church, Bridport Road, Dorchester (NGR SY68889064) during November 2003, on behalf of the Church. This site lies close to the postulated position of the West Gate of the Roman town on the line of the Roman town defences. Three trenches were excavated, one to the north of the church, adjacent to Bridport Road, one on the south side of the church and a test pit in the southwest corner of the site. Part of a large ditch oriented roughly north–south was found to the south of the church. This is probably part of the ditched defences of the Roman town. In the other two trenches, the remains of a substantial clay and chalk bank were exposed. This is probably part of the counterscarp bank of the defences. The position of the ditch and bank suggest that the Roman approach road to the West Gate may have passed across the site underneath the present church.

INTRODUCTION

This project was commissioned by Dorford Baptist Church, through their agents, Allied Design Partnership, as part of the planning application for the redevelopment of Dorford Baptist Church, Bridport Road, Dorchester, Dorset (Application No. 1/E/2003/1237).

An archaeological evaluation was requested by West Dorset District Council, the Local Planning Authority, following advice from Steven Wallis, Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council. This is in line with Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (Archaeology and Planning).

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 is situated on the junction of Bridport Road and Albert Road in Dorchester, at Ordnance Survey NGR SY68889064 (Figure 1), at a height of about 78.4 m above OD. The underlying geology is Upper Chalk.

The proposed development comprises significant alterations to the existing church and includes new extensions to the north and south of the present buildings and the construction of a new car park in the southeast part of the site.

The fieldwork was carried out between 10th–13th November 2002 by Rod Brook and Steven Tatler.

Terrain Archaeology would like to acknowledge Dorford Baptist Church, David Cole of Allied Design Partnership, and Steven Wallis, Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council, Jo and Christopher Chaplin, and Bill Putnam for their help and cooperation during this project.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site lies immediately outside the walls on the western side of the Roman town of *Durnovaria*, close to the presumed location of the west gate, within the area of the Roman town defences

(Figure 8). The defences on the west side of *Durnovaria* have been investigated piecemeal in a number of locations (RCHME 1970, Startin *et al.* 1972) which have shown that the defences comprise an earthen bank, later surmounted by a stone wall with a series of V-shaped ditches and a counterscarp bank outside. On the south side of the town the ditches are of triple-V section (RCHME 1970, 548) but elsewhere the full width of the ditch system has not been exposed. A short length of the stone wall still survives on the east side of Albert Road adjacent to the site (Figure 1). The possible edge of the inner ditch was seen immediately to the west of this wall during investigations in 1951 (Farrar 1953, fig. 1). Parts of two ditches were observed on the northern side of the Top o' Town in 1955 (Farrar 1962). The outer two ditches and the counterscarp bank were investigated on The Grove to the north of the site (Startin *et al.* 1972). The counterscarp bank was about 15 m wide and was constructed of clay and chalk (Bill Putnam pers comm.). The edge of the outer ditch was about 27 m west of The Grove (about fifty metres west of the postulated line of the Roman stone wall).

The precise location of the West Gate of the Roman town is not known. A gravel layer overlying chalk observed under the western end of High West Street was thought to be part of a causeway across the Roman defences (Farrar 1966 and 1967). This seems unlikely as Roman building remains have been found under High West Street about forty metres east of the line of the defences (RCHME 1970, 567), indicating that the line of the main Roman street between the east and west gates does not run along the line of the present road. The line of the Roman road probably lies to the south of High West Street. Unfortunately the likely location of the West Gate cannot be determined by projecting the line of the Roman road from Exeter in to the town as the course of the road as it approaches the town is not known. This Roman road can be traced with some certainty up to a point about 1 km west of the Roman town, as the road runs along the line of the present Bridport Road and traces of the Roman road gravels have been found below the road to confirm this (Bellamy 2003). The last kilometre of the road as it approaches the Roman town changes direction and no traces of this part of the road has yet been found and its course cannot be determined from the historic maps.

A number of Roman burials have been found close to the site. Many Roman inhumations and perhaps some cremation burials were found in the Borough Gardens and under Albert Road to the north of the gardens during the 19th and 20th centuries (RCHME 1970). The burials extended up to within twenty metres of the southwest corner of the site in the gardens of 8 Albert Road and 43 Cornwall Road (Stacey 1986a and b) and are probably part of an extensive cemetery outside the Roman town defences to the south of the Roman road to Exeter. Another Roman cemetery has been found to the north of the site on the west side of The Grove (RCHME 1970, 582).

During the medieval and post-medieval period the site was part of the open fields of Fordington. It was probably pasture in the 19th century. The 1841 Tithe map shows that the site was at the end of a strip running roughly north-south and by 1877, it was in the northwest corner of a long triangular field called Townsend furlong (1877 altered Tithe map). In the mid-19th century it was used for the 5th November bonfire and was called Gunpowder Field or Guy Fawkes Field.

The site was purchased by the Church of England in 1895 for a new church (St Mary's) for the rapidly expanding suburbs of Dorchester. The church, opened in 1897, was known as the 'Tin Tabernacle' or 'Tin Temple' because it was a temporary building with a corrugated iron roof (Figure 6). It was demolished in c. 1913 after the construction of the present St Mary's Church in Victoria Park, further out in the suburbs.

The site was purchased by the Baptists in 1912, and the Baptist chapel constructed on almost exactly the same site as the earlier church (Figure 7). The foundation stone was laid just before the World War 1 and the building was simplified from the original plans because of war difficulties.

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.

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 varied from the specification 3141.1 prepared by Terrain Archaeology in October 2003, in the number and size of the trenches excavated. This variation was agreed with Steven Wallis.

The evaluation comprised intrusive investigation in the form of two machine-excavated trial trenches (Trench 1 and 2), and one hand-dug test pit (Trench 3). Trench 1 was located to the north of the church, adjacent to Bridport Road and was oriented roughly ENE–WSW (Figure 2). It measured 8.6 m by 1.1 m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.4 m. This trench was roughly twice the length originally specified, in order to more fully investigate the archaeology revealed by this trench. Trench 2 lay to the south of the church and was aligned roughly north–south (Figure 2). It was 4.8 m by 1.1 m across and dug to a maximum depth of 1.25 m. Trench 3 was a 1 m square test pit dug to a maximum depth of 1.6 m in the southwest corner of the site. A second test pit originally specified for this area was not excavated as the results from Trench 3 indicated that it was unlikely to reveal any further useful information on the stratigraphy of this area.

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

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 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, Dorset County Museum.

RESULTS

Trench 1

Natural deposits

The decayed top of the natural chalk (104) was encountered at a depth of 1.40 m below ground level (76.6 m above OD).

Roman features and deposits

Immediately overlying the chalk was a 0.15 m thick layer of reddish-brown silty clay loam (103) with sparse natural flint fragments and occasional small chalk lumps. The lower part of this layer contained frequent flint nodules (105). A small quantity of finds was recovered from this layer including struck flint, Roman tile and a fragment of iron. This layer is probably the remains of the old ground surface prior to the construction of the Roman town defences. This layer was traced along almost the whole length of the trench, except for the easternmost 1.8 m.

The old ground surface survived only where it was protected beneath a layer of chalky reddish-brown clay loam (102). This clay layer had many thin tip lines and lenses of chalk within it and a few isolated charcoal flecks. It survived 0.6 m thick to the west but tapered out about 1.8 m from the eastern end of the trench (Figure 3, Plate 3). The character of this deposit, together with its position, suggests that it is the remains of the counterscarp bank of the Roman town defences.

Overlying the natural chalk in the eastern end of the trench was a hard-packed surface of flint nodules (108) about 0.1 m thick (Plates 4 and 5). The western edge of this cobbled layer was along the edge of the counterscarp bank 108. It continued beyond the edges of the excavated area to the north, south and east. Some worked flint, some small scraps of Roman pottery and tile and an iron nail were found within this layer. Its character suggests that it was a cobbled surface but too little was exposed to be certain whether it was just an isolated small patch or was part of a much more extensive surface.

Post-medieval deposits

The cobbled surface 108 was overlain by a layer of dark grey silty loam (107) up to 0.4 m thick with a thin layer of chalk pieces in a grey clay matrix (106) above. This was sealed beneath a layer of dark grey brown silty clay loam (101) up to 0.8 m thick which sealed the remains of the bank 102 also. It contained occasional post-medieval finds (which were not collected). It was sealed beneath the present very dark brown silty clay loam topsoil and turf horizon (100), approximately 0.2 m thick.

A modern drain (110) cut through layer 101 in the eastern part of the trench.

Trench 2

Natural deposits

The natural chalk (210) was only encountered in a deeper sondage at the southern end of the trench (Plate 7). Here, it was steeply sloping down to the east at a depth of between 1.8–2.4 m below present ground level.

Roman features and deposits

In the southern end of the trench, part of a large feature (209) was exposed. The only evidence for this was the shape of the natural chalk which sloped down at an angle of about 27° to the east (Figure 4). Neither the upper lip nor the base of this feature was uncovered. The shape of this cut suggested that it was linear and was broadly aligned north–south. It was filled with a dark grey silty loam (208) with occasional flint nodules, which was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.6 m. Some Roman pottery and tile was recovered from this fill.

Without a larger part of this feature exposed, its interpretation must remain uncertain. However, its location and probable orientation, together with its large size suggest that it is part of one of the defensive ditches of the Roman town.

Post-medieval deposits

The fill of ditch 209 was sealed by a light grey-brown silt (207) with chalk flecks, about 0.4 m thick. The date of this deposit is not known and it is not clear whether it was part of the fill of ditch 209. The fact that this layer does not follow the slope of the underlying ditch suggests that it may be a later soil accumulation, rather than a ditch fill. On balance, it is likely to represent a build-up of medieval and post-medieval agricultural soils.

Layer 211 was sealed by a layer of dark brown loam (211) with frequent roots, which appears to be the remains of a buried soil of relatively recent date. Overlying this soil layer at the northern end of the trench was a 0.05 m thick layer of compact dark brown sand (205), with a 0.06 m thick layer of orange sand and gravel (203), one metre wide, on top. The northern side of this gravel layer was overlain by a 0.05 m thick hard-packed layer of reddish-brown sand and crushed brick and tile (204). These three layers appear to be the remains of a path. The 1902 Ordnance Survey map shows a path in this location around the earlier church (Figure 5). This suggests that the buried soil 211 is likely to be the late nineteenth and early twentieth century topsoil

Overlying buried soil 211 in the southern end of the trench was a layer of fine light grey silt (206) with patches of sand within it. This layer and the path in the northern end of the trench were sealed beneath a 0.6 m thick mixed layer of dark brown humic loam (202), with frequent angular chalk rubble and considerable quantities of modern brick. This is probably a landscaping layer associated with the present church.

Overlying layer 202 was a compact layer of chalk lumps in a grey silty loam matrix (201), with rare inclusions of brick and tile, up to about 0.5 m thick. This layer was covered by the modern topsoil (200), a dark brown silty clay loam with chalk lumps, modern pottery and slate. The chalky layer 201 may be associated with the construction of the church hall extension to the west.

Trench 3

Natural deposits

At about 1.1 m below present ground level (77.1 m above OD) was a layer of chalk pieces in a pale grey silty clay matrix (303). Initially it was unclear whether this was a natural or an anthropogenic layer, so a small sondage was dug up to 0.6 m into this layer. This revealed that it became chalkier with depth and was, in fact, the decayed upper part of the natural chalk (Plate 9).

Roman features and deposits

Immediately overlying the natural chalk was a 0.25 m thick layer of reddish-grey silty clay loam with frequent chalk fragments (Figure 5). It was overlain by a 0.15 m thick layer of grey silty clay loam with very frequent chalk rubble (301). Very few finds were recovered from these layers. These comprised mainly worked flint, together with a few scraps of Roman pottery and a piece of shale from context 301. Both these layers were distinguished by the large quantity of chalk rubble and both appeared to be dumped deposits. They have been interpreted as part of the counterscarp bank of the Roman town defences.

Post-medieval deposits

Overlying the remains of the Roman bank was a 0.7 m thick layer of loose dark brown garden soil (300), with brick and concrete fragments. It contained a number of finds including some Roman pottery. In the southwestern corner, this layer was disturbed and very loose and appeared to be filling a near vertically-sided cut down on to the top of layer 301. This may be the edge of a trench excavated by a local amateur archaeologist in the early 1970s, which produced quantities of Roman finds.

Finds

Only a small quantity of finds was retained from the evaluation trenches (Table 1). These were all prehistoric or Roman in date. A relatively small quantity of post-medieval finds was noted in the upper layers of the trenches, but was not collected.

Trench	Context	Context description	Iron	Pottery		Ceramic Building material		Stone Building Material		Shale		Worked flint
			No.	No	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No
1	103		1			6	232					6
1	108		1	1	2	3	9					5
2	208			2	19	11	941	1	37			
3	300			6	62							1
3	301											3
3	302			4	7					1	34	6
<i>total</i>			2	13	90	20	1182	1	37	1	34	21

Table 1: All finds by context

Iron

Only two fragments of badly corroded iron were recovered: a nail shank from context 108 and a small flat fragment from context 103.

Pottery

Jo Draper (with Samian identifications by J. M. Mills)

90 g (13 sherds) of pottery was recovered from the evaluation. All the pottery is of Roman date, predominantly coarsewares, with 32 g of Samian. The sample is too small to consider any analysis and the assemblage is summarised below by context.

Context 108: 2 g Black-burnished ware. Roman.

Context 208: 19 g black-burnished ware, including a rim sherd of a plain, straight-sided dish, as Greyhound Yard Type 20 (Seager Smith and Davies 1993), not closely datable but possibly not occurring until the later 1st century AD.

Context 300: 32 g Samian; Curle 15 rim of 2nd century AD date (and predominantly pre-AD140); body sherd from Central Gaulish bowl, 2nd century (Antonine?). Coarseware: four sherds (30 g) of Black-burnished ware, one incomplete profile from a cook-pot; one flat base. The coarsewares are not really datable but are most likely mid-Roman.

Context 302: 4 g of Black-burnished ware, tiny body sherds. Roman.

Ceramic and Stone Building Materials

Twenty pieces (1182 g) of Roman brick and tile were recovered. The majority of this was small abraded unidentified pieces. The identifiable pieces are all tegula fragments.

One limestone cube 30 mm across was recovered from context 208. This is rather eroded but may be a tessera.

Shale

One flat featureless fragment of shale was recovered from context 302.

Worked flint

Twenty-one pieces of worked flint were recovered. Almost all were heavily patinated and in a rolled condition. The assemblage included three cores and sixteen flakes of Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age date and one blade of Early Neolithic character (from context 300). The only tool was a retouched flake from context 301. All of this flint was residual.

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 evaluation has demonstrated that significant archaeological deposits of Roman date survive across the site at a depth of about 0.6 m below present ground levels. These are associated with the defences of the Roman town. The remains of the western side of a substantial ditch oriented roughly north–south were found in the southern part of the site in Trench 2. The remains of the counterscarp bank have been found to the west and to the north of this in Trenches 1 and 3. These remains confirm the survival of the defences in this area but add little to our detailed knowledge of the layout of the defences on the west side of the town due to the very small areas exposed.

The location of the bank and ditch in relation to the known course of the Roman defences does repay closer examination. The orientation of the defences on the west side of the Roman town is slightly different on either side of the West Gate (Figure 8). If the line of the ditch in Trench 2 (the western edge of which can be projected to lie about 0.6–1.0 m west of the trench) is continued to the north on the orientation suggested by the surviving length of Roman wall and by the earthworks of West Walks along the side of the Borough Gardens, then it would cross the middle of Trench 1. If the projected alignment is altered to run to the east of Trench 1, then this ditch would have to be on a different orientation to the rest of the defences in this area. One explanation for this discrepancy may be that the bank in Trench 1 and the ditch in Trench 2 were on opposite sides of the Roman road running out of the West Gate and hence on slightly different alignments (Figure 9). If this were the case, then the Roman approach road from the west would cross the site right underneath the church. The flint cobbled surface found in Trench 1 may be part of a hard-standing or path adjacent to the Roman road.

This site is an important one for potentially understanding the nature of the defences in this area and determining the possible location of the West Gate of the Roman town.

PROJECT ARCHIVE

The archive (Terrain Archaeology Project No. 53141) will be deposited with Dorset County Museum, 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

(Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Superplan Data Drawing No. 00005367, © Crown copyright 2003. All Rights reserved)

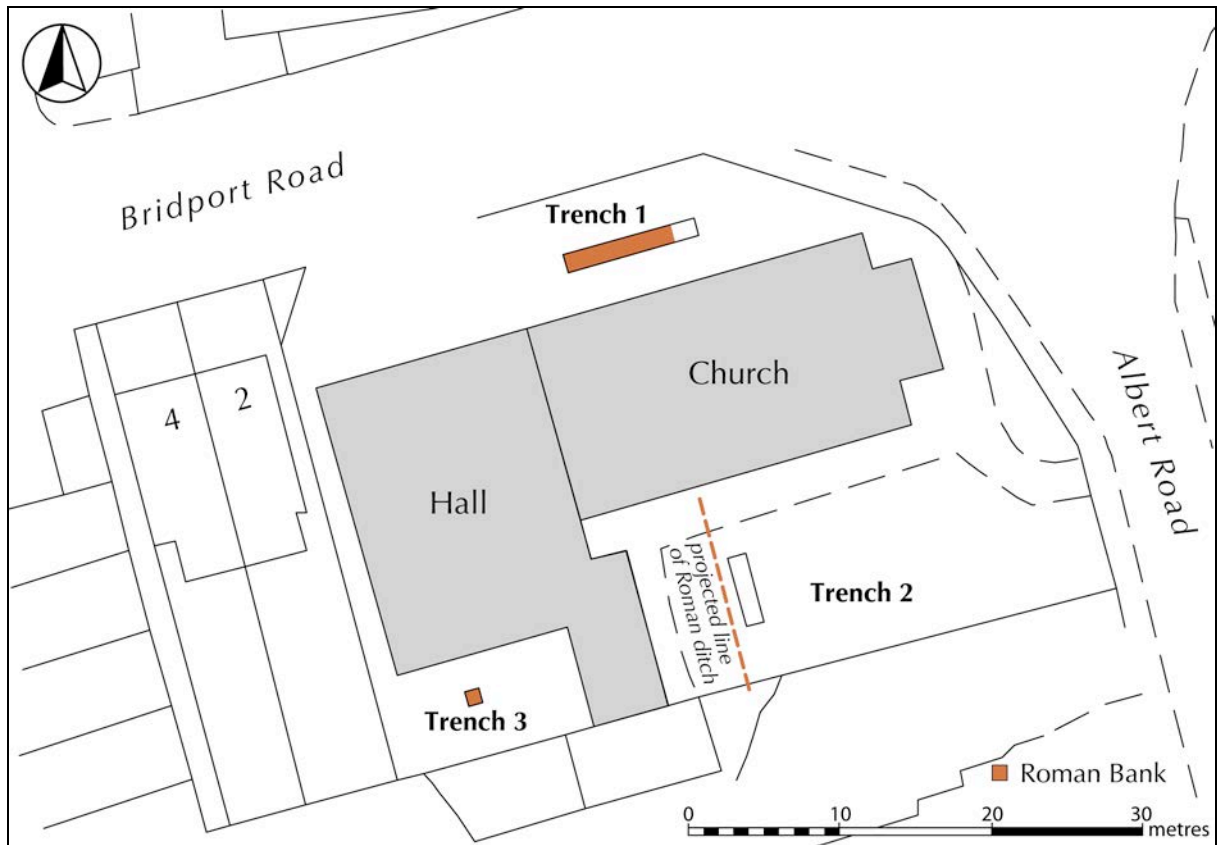


Figure 2: Trench location plan

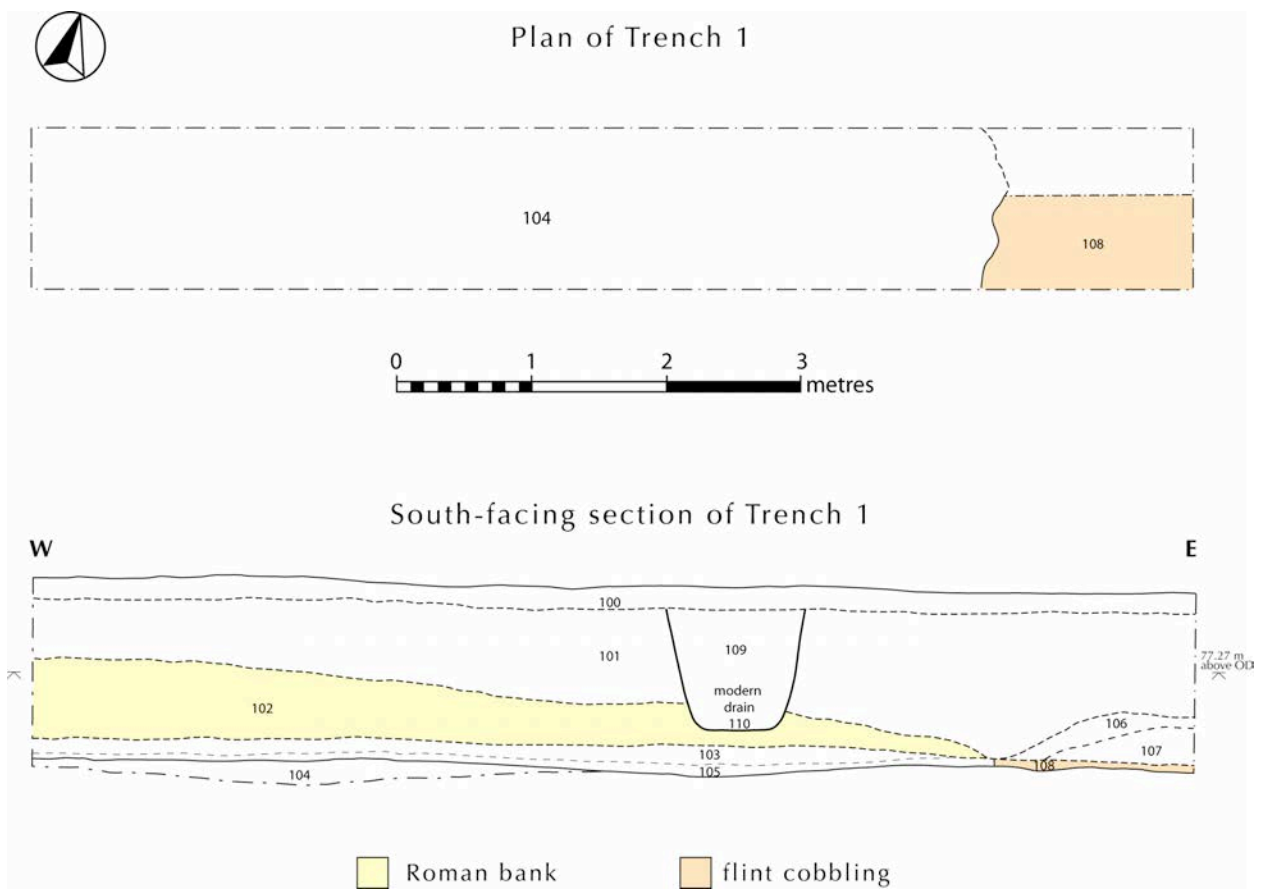
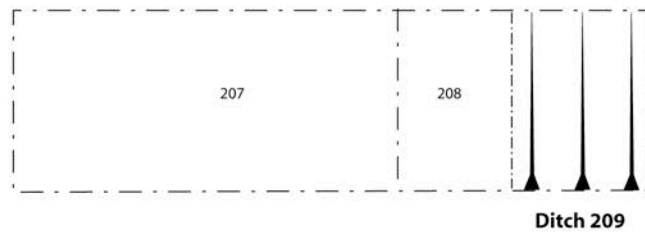


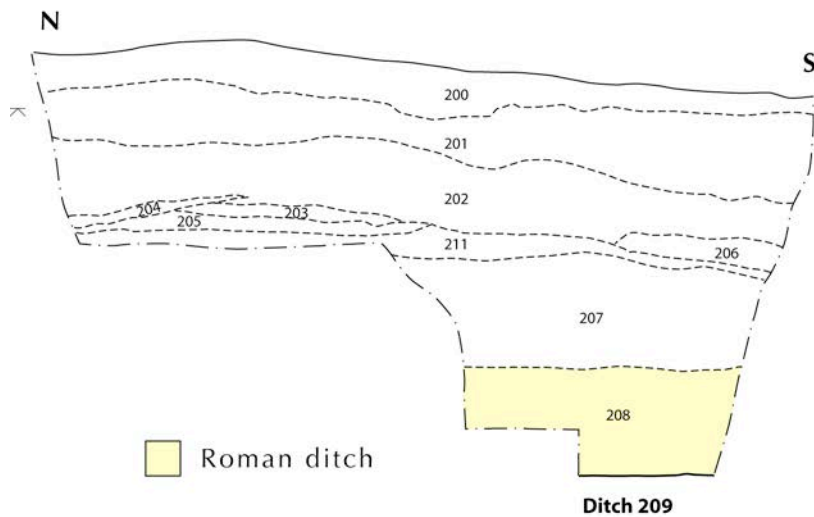
Figure 3: Plan and section of Trench 1



Plan of base of Trench 2



West-facing section of Trench 2



North-facing section

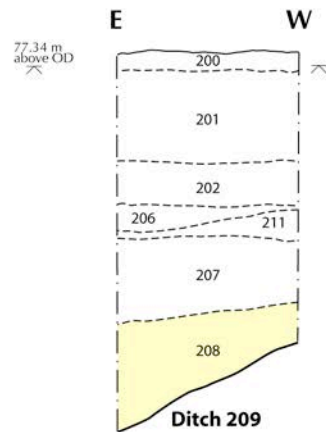
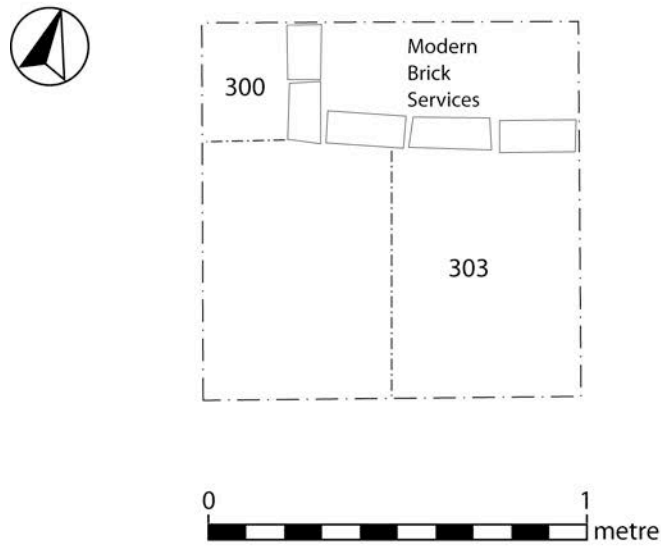


Figure 4: Plan and sections of Trench 2

Plan of Trench 3



East-facing Section of Trench 3

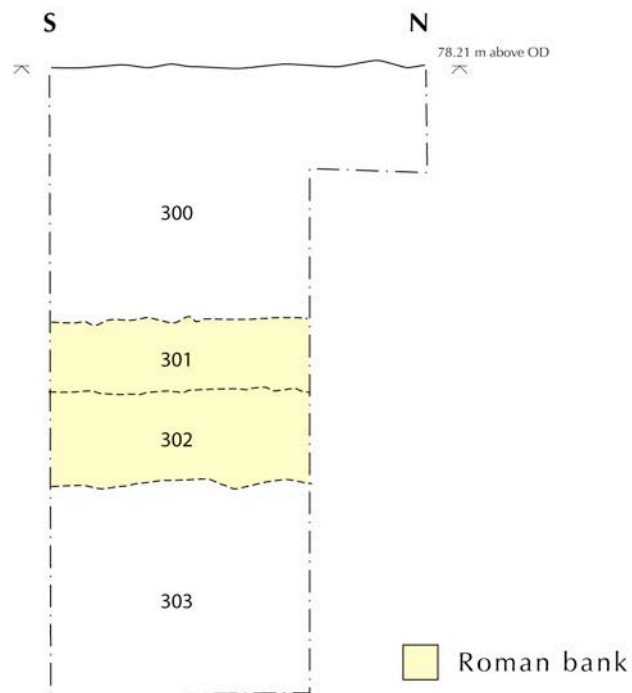


Figure 5: Plan and section of Trench 3

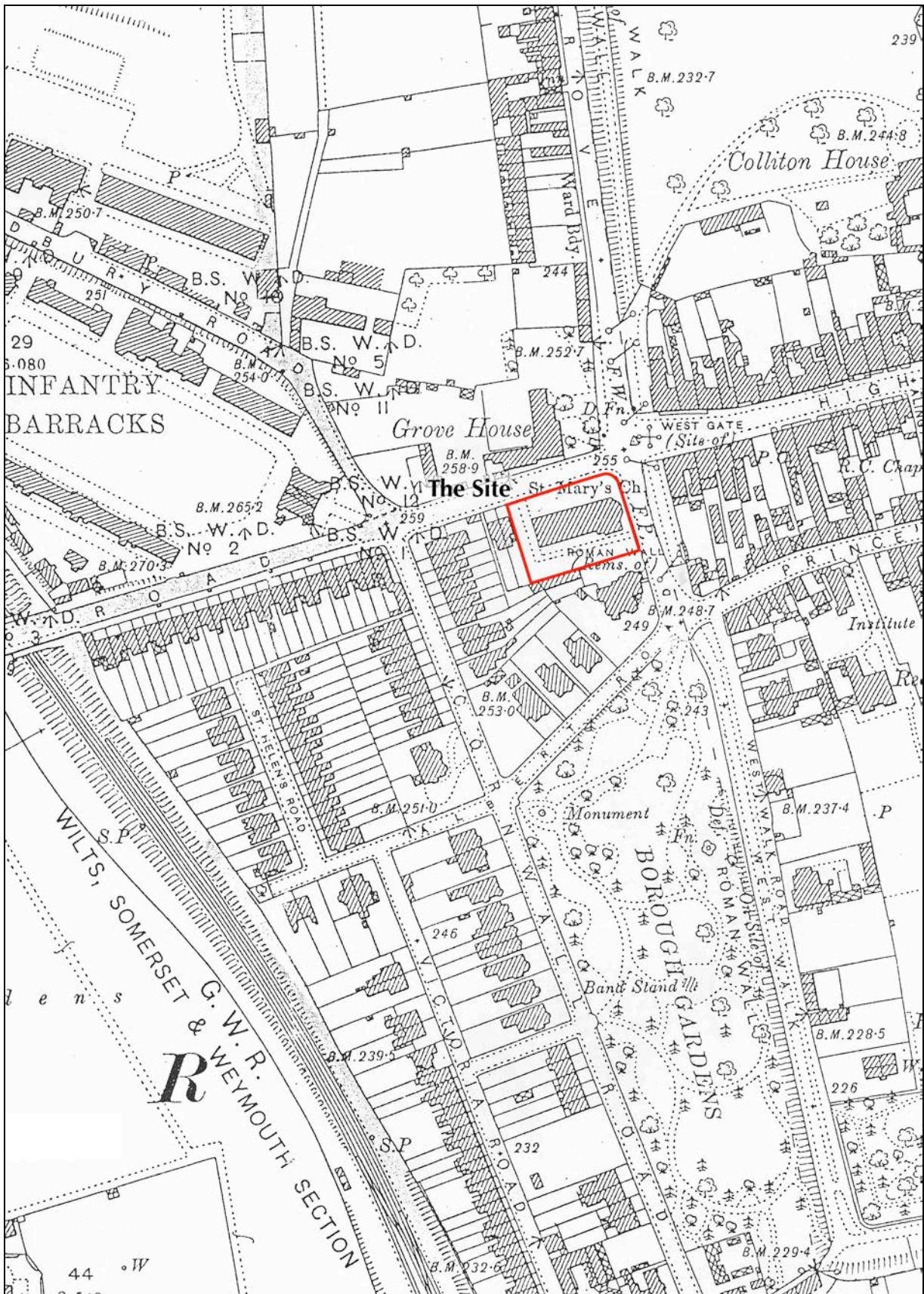


Figure 6: Extract from 1902 Ordnance Survey 25-inch map (© Crown Copyright reserved)

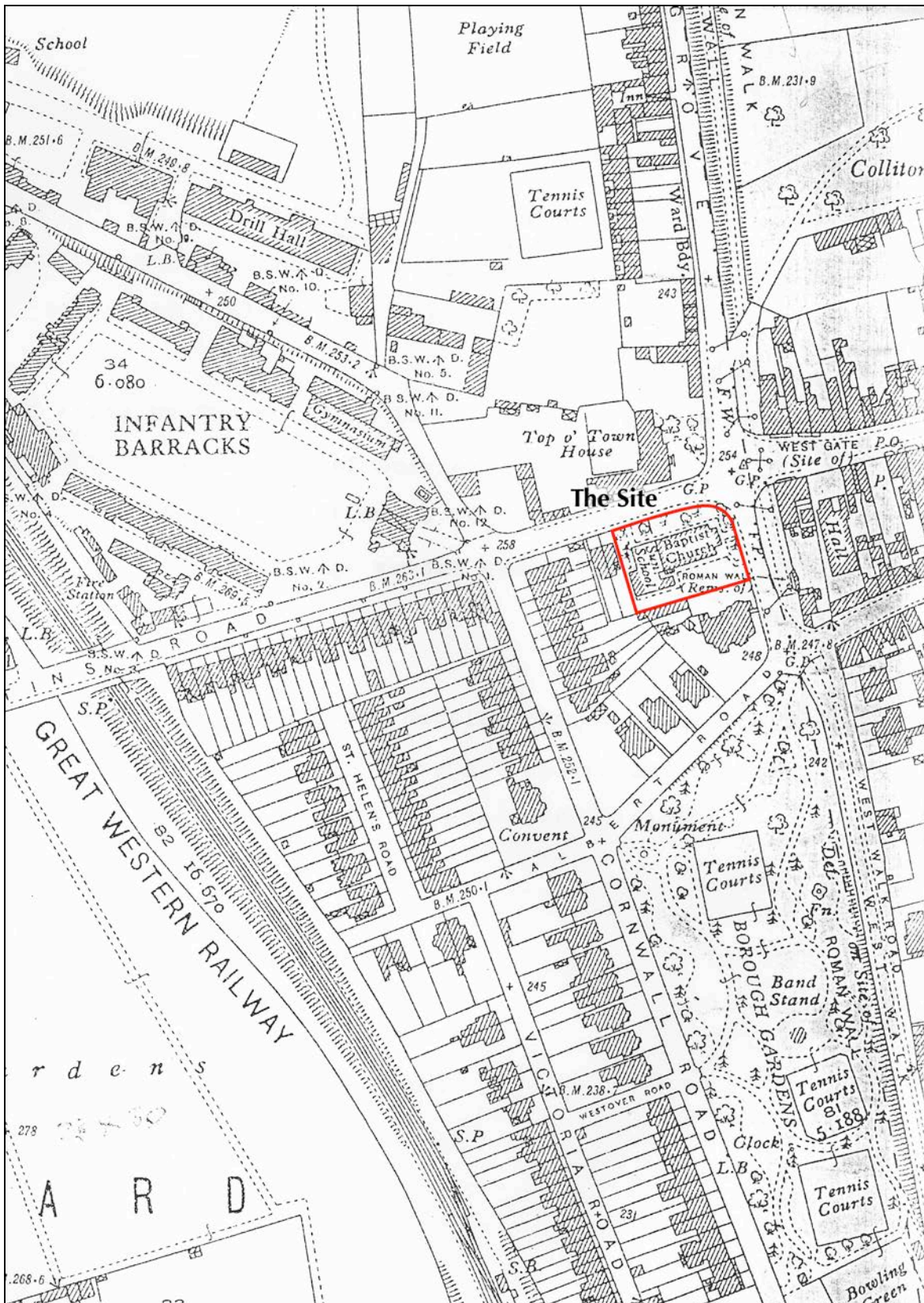


Figure 7: Extract from 1929 Ordnance Survey 25-inch map (© Crown Copyright reserved)

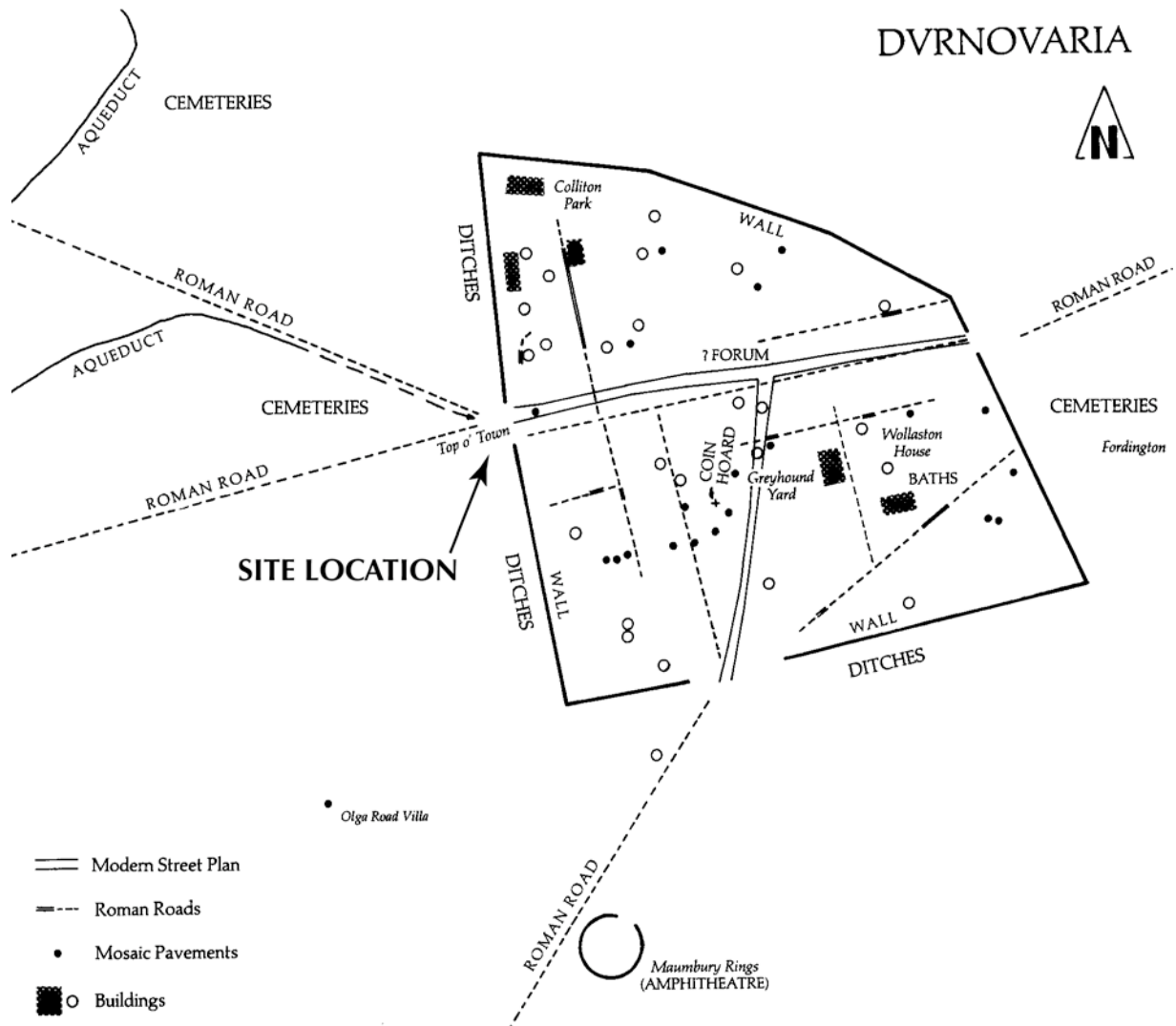


Figure 8: Reconstruction of the Roman town of Dorchester (after Draper 2001)

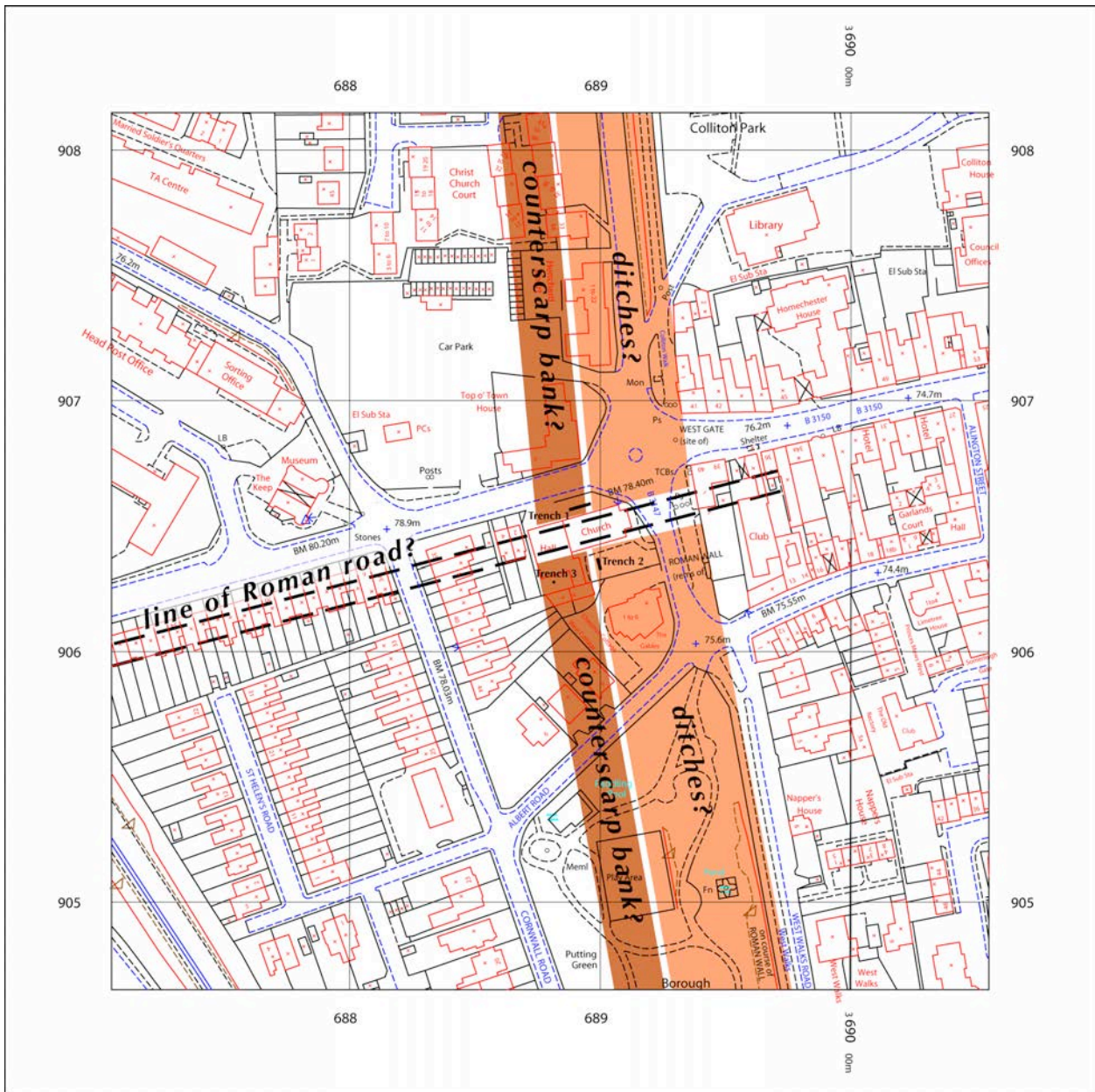


Figure 9: Suggested reconstruction of Roman town defences in vicinity of the site.



Plate 1: General view of location of Trench 1, viewed from west.



Plate 2: General view of location of Trench 2, from east.



Plate 3: Trench 1 viewed from west.



Plate 5: Detail of flint cobbled surface 108 in east end of Trench 1, after excavation.



Plate 6: General view of Trench 2 from southeast.



Plate 7: South end of Trench 2 showing ditch 209.



Plate 8: General view of location of Trench 3 from northwest.



Plate 9: Trench 3 viewed from west.

APPENDIX 1: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION



DORFORD BAPTIST CHURCH, DORCHESTER, DORSET
Written Scheme of Investigation

Prepared for:

Allied Design Partnership
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YEOVIL
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Ref. No. 3141.1

October 2003

DORFORD BAPTIST CHURCH, DORCHESTER, DORSET

Proposal for an Archaeological Evaluation

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Terrain Archaeology has been invited by Allied Design Partnership, to submit a proposal for an archaeological evaluation of the site of Dorford Baptist Church, Top 'o Town, Dorchester.
- 1.2. The site lies on the corner of Bridport Road and Albert Road, Dorchester at Ordnance Survey NGR SY68889064. The site is presently occupied by the Dorford Baptist Church.
- 1.3. The site lies on the line of the defences of the Roman town of *Durnovaria*, close to the presumed position of the West Gate, and the line of the Roman road to Exeter. Roman burials have been found in the immediate vicinity of the site.
- 1.4. The proposed redevelopment of the Dorford Baptist Church includes new extensions to the north and south of the present buildings and the construction of a new car park in the southeast part of the site.
- 1.5. 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.
- 1.6. There is no written brief for the works, but this document has been prepared in consultation with Steven Wallis, Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council.
- 1.7. 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. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1. 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.
- 2.2. The evaluation will comprise a series of trial trenches located and excavated commensurate with the aims of the evaluation.
- 2.3. 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.
- 2.4. The evaluation will assess the nature, extent, state of preservation and importance of the archaeological remains and present the results in a report.

- 2.5. 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.

3. Method Statement

- 3.1. The work will be carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (1994, rev. 1999). Terrain Archaeology will undertake to adhere to the principles of the IFA's Code of Conduct.
- 3.2. Upon receiving written notice of commission, Terrain Archaeology will inform the Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council, of the intended start date and duration of site works and access to the site and archaeological works will be given to the Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council.
- 3.3. The receiving museum (in this case, Dorset County Museum) 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.
- 3.4. 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.
- 3.5. The evaluation will comprise intrusive investigation in the form of trial trenching and test pitting. It is proposed to excavate two (2 No.) machine trenches measuring a nominal 5 m by 1.5 m across, in the areas of the proposed extensions. One trench will be excavated to the north of the church in an area presently grassed and one trenches to the south of the church in an area presently under grass. The suggested disposition of these trenches is shown in Figure 1. In addition, it is proposed to dig two (2 No.) hand-dug test pits in the southwest corner of the site, where access for a machine is limited.
- 3.6. The trenches and test pits will be cleared of recent overburden either by hand or 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.
- 3.7. All archaeological deposits and features exposed during the works will be cleaned 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.
- 3.8. If burials are encountered during the fieldwork, these will not be excavated and recording will be limited to obvious detail such as position of the grave cut, alignment, burial position, and stratigraphic relationships.

- 3.9. 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.
- 3.10. 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.
- 3.11. All trenches will be back-filled with the excavated material and compacted, but will not be otherwise reinstated, unless instructed otherwise by the client.
- 3.12. 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.
- 3.13. Transfer of Title of all archaeological materials recovered to Poole Museums Service will be sought from the Landowner.
- 3.14. 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.
- 3.15. The archive, together with one copy of the microfilm, will be deposited with the appropriate receiving museum, at the earliest opportunity after report submission.

4. Report Preparation

- 4.1. 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.
- 4.2. 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.
- 4.3. A summary of the results shall be published in the next issue of the *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeology Society*.
- 4.4. 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 Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council, for eventual inclusion in 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.

5. Timetable

- 5.1. Terrain Archaeology require two weeks written notice of commission, prior to the commencement of fieldwork.
- 5.2. The fieldwork is estimated to be ** days in duration.
- 5.3. The finished report will normally be submitted within one calendar month after the start of the project.

6. Personnel

- 6.1. The project will be managed by Peter Bellamy BSc. (Hons) MIFA.
- 6.2. The site investigations will be supervised by Steven Tatler, on a subcontract to Terrain Archaeology.
- 6.3. The report will be compiled by Peter Bellamy and Steven Tatler. All finds and environmental materials will be assessed by suitably qualified specialists sub-contracted by Terrain Archaeology.
- 6.4. The project will be managed and coordinated by Peter Bellamy BSc. (Hons) MIFA.
- 6.5. The data gathering, research, and report writing will be carried out by Peter Bellamy BSc. (Hons) MIFA, the principal archaeologist of Terrain Archaeology.

7. Monitoring

- 7.1. Terrain Archaeology will inform the Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council of the intended start date and duration of project and access will be given to enable all required monitoring to take place.

8. Variation

- 8.1. 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 Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council. Terrain Archaeology will then produce a revised written scheme of investigation detailing all changes.
- 8.2. The value of any variation from this written statement of investigation shall be added to, or deducted from the quoted price.

9. Health and Safety

- 9.1. 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.

- 9.2. 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.
- 9.3. Terrain Archaeology would abide by the Health and Safety policies of The Employer.

10. Confidentiality

- 10.1. 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.
- 10.2. 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)
- 10.3. 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.
- 10.4. 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.

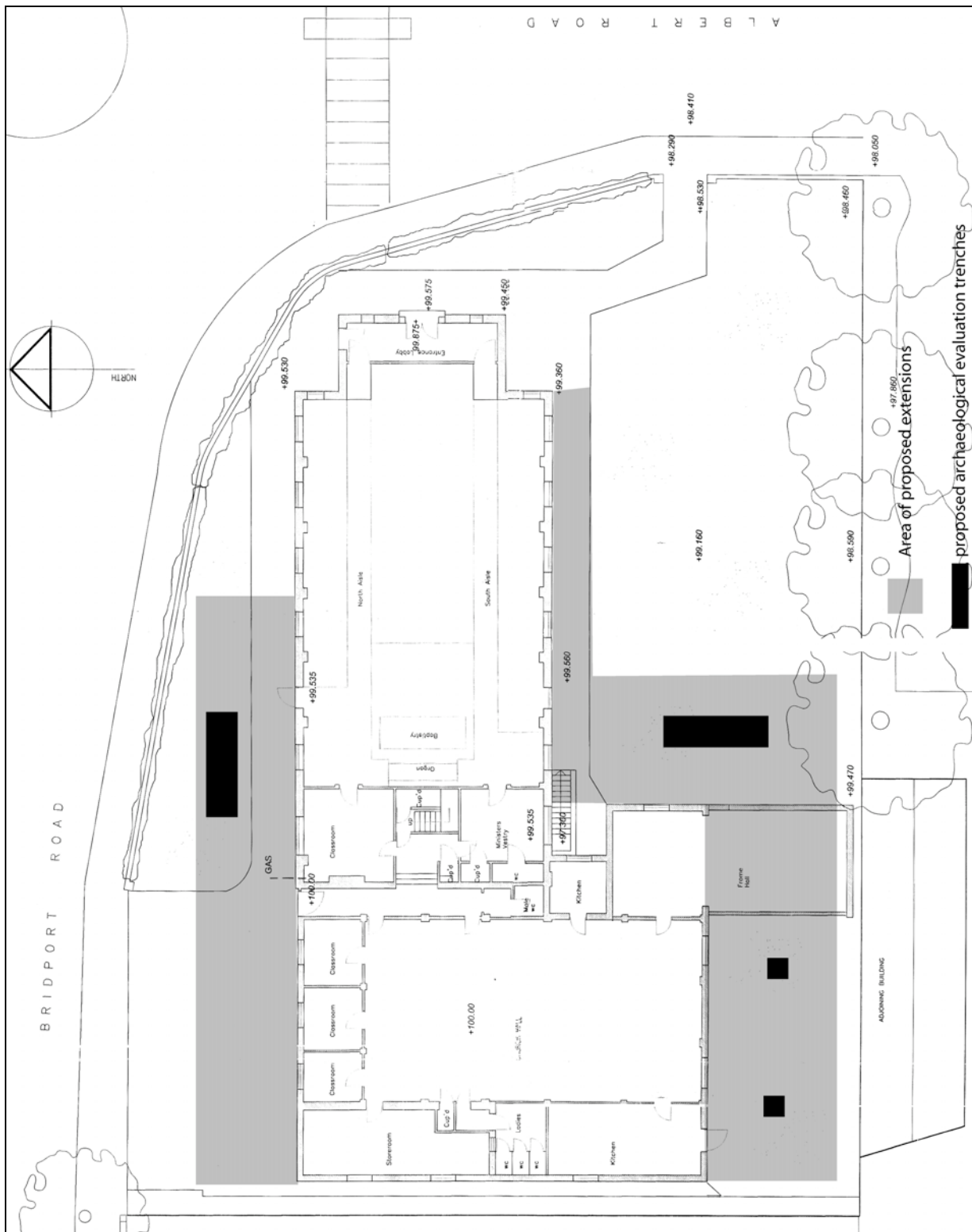


Figure 1: Proposed locations for evaluation trenches