

# TEN WARDS LANE, BREASTON DERBYSHIRE.

## Report of an Archaeological Watching Brief

2013

Project Code - TWL

TPA Report No. 101/2013



*Ground works at Ten Ward Lane, Breaston.*

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<b>Status</b>	Final Report

## Summary

- Trent & Peak Archaeology was contracted to conduct a watching brief on the site of a proposed development at 10 Wards Lane, Breaston Derbyshire centred on SK 4600,3372.
- The site lies within the historic core of the village of Breaston and was adjudged to have an archaeological potential.
- Prior to the start of the watching brief a barn that stood at the western extent of the site had been demolished.
- Intrusive groundwork comprised the excavation of foundation trenches, on average 1m deep and between 1m and 0.5 in width.
- Over much of the site a thin layer of top soil overlay the natural sand and gravel without any intervening layer of sub soil.
- A brick culvert was recorded which is interpreted as a drain associated with the demolished barn. This culvert was connected at both ends to salt glazed pipes of the type used in the late 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- No other archaeological remains or finds were present on the site.
- The site had been part of the grounds of the property immediately to the east. Anecdotal evidence suggests that at one time this part of the grounds had been laid out as tennis courts.
- Levelling associated with the laying out of a tennis court may account for the absence of finds and other archaeological deposits and also explain why there are no intervening layers between the top soil and the natural sands and gravels.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Trent & Peak Archaeology was contracted by Alan McGowan Architects Ltd to carry out an archaeological watching brief on intrusive ground work associate with a residential development at 10 Wards Lane, Breaston, Derbyshire, SK4600,3372.

## 2. PROJECT BACKGROUND

2.1 The site is located within the historic core of Breaston on the western edge of Long Eaton. The development comprises the construction of a new residential property.

2.2 Geology. **Bedrock:** Edwalton member mudstone; **Superficial:** Beeston sand and gravel. (BGS)

## 3. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Breaston was recorded in the Domesday Book, (1086) and the Church of St Michael has fabric which dates to the 11<sup>th</sup> century with extensive renovations and alterations taking place in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, 14<sup>th</sup> century, 15<sup>th</sup> century and the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

3.2 Two finds of potential significance for the area are a 'pot-quern' and a 'green stone battleaxe'. The quern, monument number 315583, was recorded in the Notts and Derbys Notes and Queries in 1894 and presented to the Nottingham Castle Museum. The museum has no record of the donation and the quern cannot now be found. (Pastscape)

3.3 A green stone 'battle axe' was published in the Journal of the Derbyshire Archaeological and Natural History Society in 1956. The finder, a Mr Posnansky, kept the artefact in his private collection and has since moved to Africa and his collection cannot be traced.

3.4 The village was enclosed in 1757 and the 19<sup>th</sup> century saw the development of light industry. An 1857 gazetter records that there were 20 lace machines, 40 hosiery frames and 4 boot and shoe makers in the village. (breastonderbyshire.co.uk/history).

3.5 Prior to the development a barn had stood at the western extent of the site. This had been demolished before the groundworks started. The barn does not appear on any of the 19<sup>th</sup> century or early 20<sup>th</sup> century OS and was presumably built in the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Photographic evidence supplied by the client makes it probable that the barn was constructed from older material reused from demolished buildings in the vicinity. There is currently no way of identifying the location or nature of these buildings.

## 4. OBJECTIVES

4.1 To preserve by record any significant archaeological remains or deposits that are revealed as a result of the intrusive groundwork and to present the findings to the client and the Development Control Archaeologist for Derbyshire County Council.

## 5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 All intrusive ground work was carried out under archaeological supervision. Excavation was carried out by a wheeled excavator with a back actor using a bladed ditching bucket.

5.2 All contexts, features and identifiable stratigraphic layers, were given an individual number e.g. 0001. All finds were given a unique finds code, e.g. AAA, and their location marked on the relevant section drawing or sit plan.

5.3 Sections were hand drawn at a scale of 1:20 and plans at a scale of 1:50. Sections and features were photographed using Digital Images and 35mm Black and White photography.

## 6. RESULTS

6.1 Fourteen foundation trenches were monitored and recorded. each foundation trench was given a separate area number, e.g. Area 01. (Figure 2)

6.1 Area 01, (Figure 3a), Area 02, (Figure 3b) Area 03, (Figure 3c), Area 04, (Figure 3d), Area 06, (figure 4b) Area 07, (Figure 4c) Area 09, (figure 4f) Area 10, (Figure 4g) Area 11, Area 12 (Plate 6) and Area 14 revealed the same stratigraphy but with varying depth of top soil, (0001). In area 03 and Area 04 a rubble layer, 0005, was interposed between the top soil, 0001, and the natural sand and gravel, 0002. The rubble layer, 0005, comprised broken bricks and lumps of stone mixed with gravel. This layer may be associated with ground levelling.

6.2 The recorded stratigraphy in these areas was as follows:-

<b>Context</b>	<b>Thickness</b>	<b>Description</b>
0001	100mm, min, 200mm max	Dark brown silty loam
0002	400mm average	Gravel in yellow/orange sand matrix.
0003	500mm average (observed)	Gravel in brown sand matrix.
0005 (Area 03, Area 04)	180mm max.	Rubble

6.3 Area 08, Area 13. The trenching in these areas revealed a brick culvert, (0006), that ran across the front of the demolished barn.(Figure 4d, Figure 4e, Plate 3, Plate 4, Plate 5).The culvert connected to a salt glazed pipe with threaded ends, a type common in the late 19<sup>th</sup> early 20<sup>th</sup> century, (Lee Elliott, pers.com.). A similar arrangement was observed at the southern end of the culvert.

6.4 The culvert has been interpreted as part of the barn structure and may have functioned as a means of effectively disposing of detritus built up inside the barn whilst in use. The drain system appears to connect with drains in Wards Lane immediately beyond the property's southern boundary.

6.5 The bricks that the culvert was constructed from appear to be much older than the structure itself. Measuring 9½" (23.5cms) x 4¾" (11.5cms) x 2¾" (7cms) they are of a type that are usually found in buildings dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century or early 18<sup>th</sup> century (Richard Sheppard, pers.com). The barn itself is not present on historic OS mapping and it is reasonable to conclude that its construction occurred sometime in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The bricks used to build the culvert have almost certainly been obtained from a nearby demolished structure and then re used.

6.6 In all the areas there were no finds. It is usual that on sites within the historic settlement core that there are scatters of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century pot along with earlier remains. None were present on the site.

## 7. DISCUSSION

7.1 The topsoil across the site sits directly above the natural sands and gravels with no intervening sub soil layers. This suggests that there has been an element of landscaping over the site prior to the present development.

7.2 Anecdotal evidence from the contractors on site suggests that there had been tennis courts on the site. These were probably associated with the property immediately to the east. This property, with an Art Deco frontage, was probably built in the 1930s. Such landscaping

would account for the fact that the top soil lies directly above the natural sands and gravels and could also explain the absence of any finds.

7.3 The barn, demolished prior to the start of the watching brief was probably built in the late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century but has incorporated within its fabric, particularly the brick culvert, older material. There is no definite evidence which would indicate where this material originated. It is known that a map of Breaston from 1722 indicates the possibility of two cottages on the site and material from the demolition of these may have found its way into the barn during its construction. Equally the older material may have originated from demolished building anywhere within the vicinity of the site.

## 8. CONCLUSIONS

8.1 The watching brief monitored the excavation of all the foundation trenches for the new dwelling and two of the foundation trenches, (50%) of the proposed garage.

8.2 A brick culvert, part of a drainage system that included the use of salt glazed pipes, was recorded. This culvert has been interpreted as drainage associated with a barn that had stood on the site and was demolished prior to the watching brief commencing.

8.3 Although relatively recent some of the material incorporated into the fabric of the barn, particularly the culvert appears to originate from older structures that may have stood on the site or in the near vicinity.

8.4 The absence of any finds, recent or otherwise, may be accounted for by landscaping of the grounds to create a tennis court probably in the inter war years. The same process may also account for the fact that the top soil lies directly above the natural sands and gravels without any intervening sub soil layers.

### Appendix 1. Summary Context List

Context	Area	Description
0001	All	Dark brown silty loam – topsoil
0002	All	Yellow/orange sand matrix with gravel
0003	All	Brown sand matrix with gravel
0004	02	Light grey sand and gravel, tree root disturbance
0005	03, 04	Brick and stone rubble. possible demolition layer or deposit associated with levelling the ground for the tennis court
0006	08,13	Brick culvert, part of drainage system
0007	08, 13	Disturbed layer comprising elements of 0002 and 0003. Backfill of trench for drainage system.

## APPENDIX 2. Index of Archive and Arrangements for Deposition

<i>Field Records</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>
Watching brief record sheets	Record of visit and work carried out	2
Drawing record sheets	List of drawings made on site	1
Photographic record sheets	List of photographs taken on site	1
Context records sheets	Record of contexts recorded on site	0
Site drawings on perma traces sheets	Site plan @1:200	0
	Section drawings @1:20 on A3 permatrace	2
	@1:20 on A4 permatrace	0
Photographs:- Digital B&W (with negatives)	All views	31
	Recorded sections	17
Finds	Brick, 17 <sup>th</sup> /18 <sup>th</sup> century.	1
<i>Documents</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>
Written scheme of investigation	Statement of the aims, objectives and methodology for the project.	1
Report to client	Report of findings of the watching brief.	1

### Archive Deposition.

The archive is currently held in the offices of Trent & Peak Archaeology, Unit 1 Holly Lane, Chilwell, Nottingham. It will be deposited at the Derby Museum and Art Gallery, TPA project code TWL, accession number DBYMU 2013-87. The archive will be deposited by the end of Dec. 2013



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## Printable version

**OASIS ID: trentpea1-159624**

### Project details

Project name	Ten Wards Lane, Breaston, Derbyshire
Short description of the project	Watching brief on groundworks associated with residential development
Project dates	Start: 16-09-2013 End: 17-09-2013
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	DBYMU 2013 -87 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	TWL - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	DERBYSHIRE EREWASH BREASTON Ten wards Lane, Breaston
Postcode	DE72 3AY
Study area	211.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 4600 3372 52 -1 52 53 55 N 001 18 57 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 22.00m Max: 23.00m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Trent and Peak Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Planning Archaeologist
Project design originator	Dr. David Strange-Walker

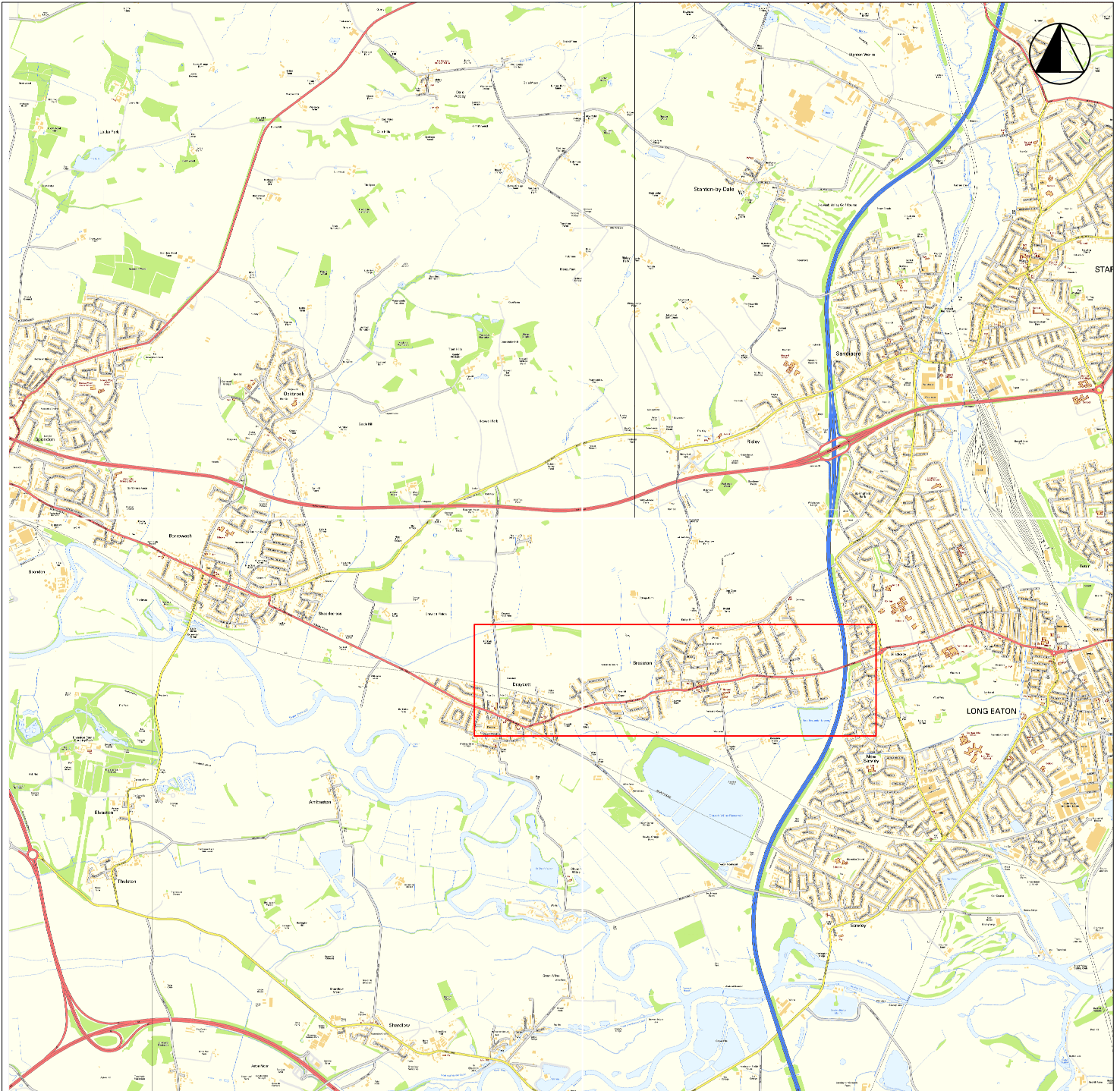
Project director/manager	Dr. David Strange-Walker
Project supervisor	Laurence Platt
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

### Project archives

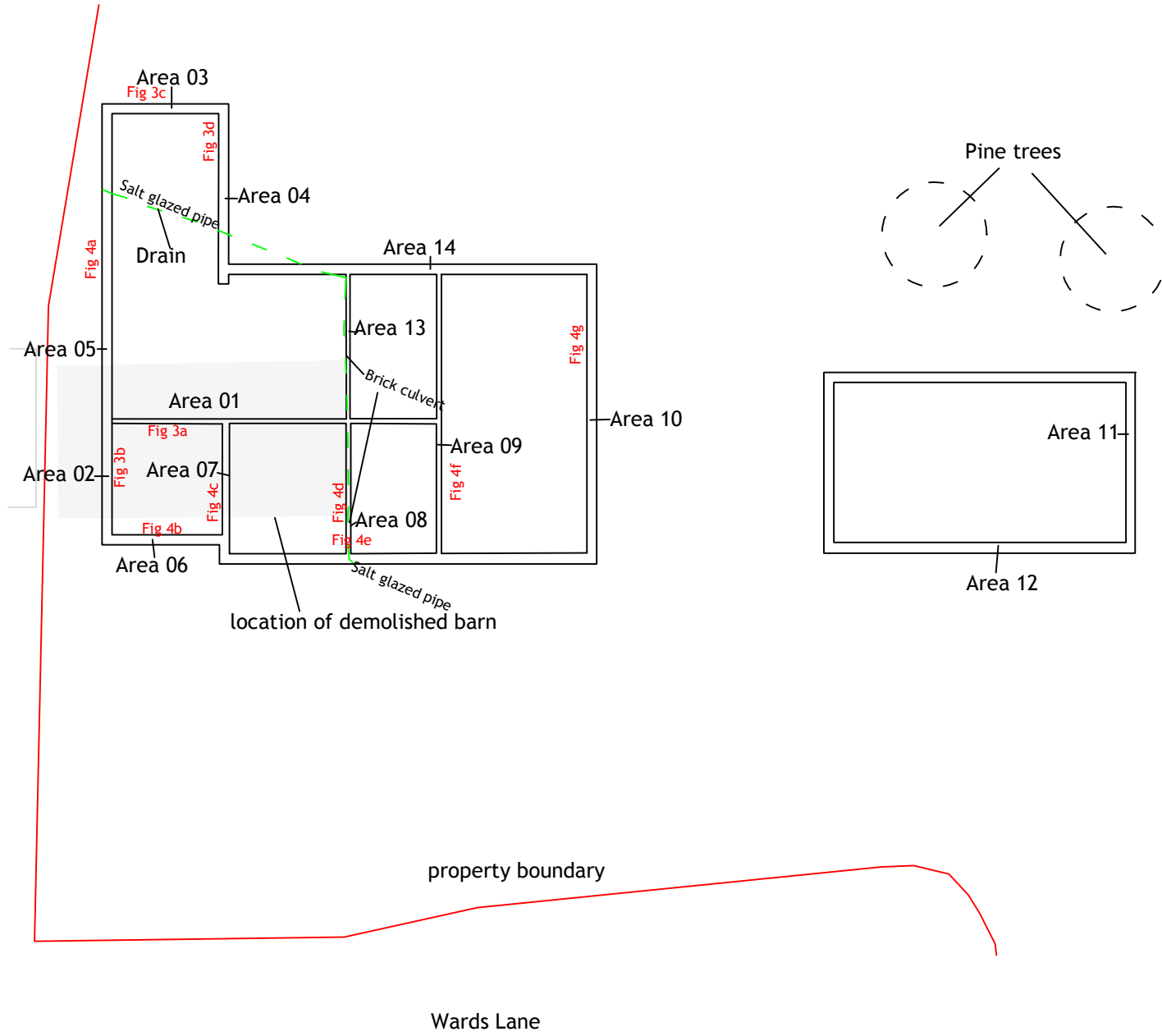
Physical Archive recipient	Derby Museum and Art Gallery
Physical Archive ID	DBYMU 2013-87
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Derby Museum
Digital Contents	"none"
Paper Archive recipient	Derby Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Plan", "Report", "Section"

Entered by	L.Platt (lplatt@yorkat.co.uk)
Entered on	19 September 2013

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tp TWL. Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:50,000@A4. Inset, Scale 1:20,000@A4.



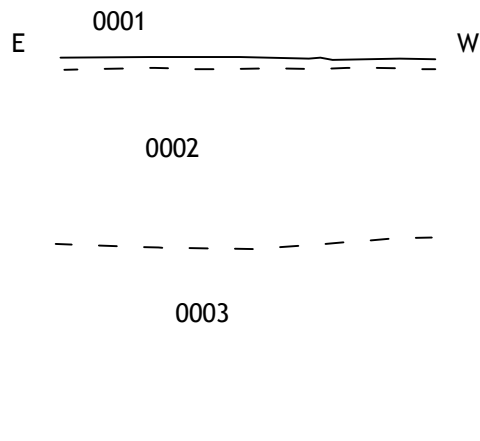


Fig 3a North facing section of Area 01.

0001 Dark brown silty loam - top soil  
 0002 Yellow/orange sand and gravel  
 0003 Brown sand and gravel.

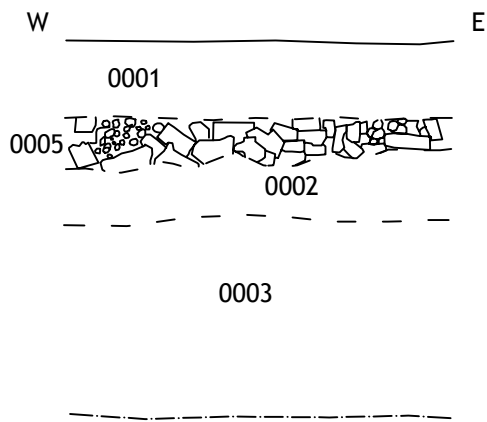


Fig 3 c South facing section of Area 03.

0001 Dark brown silty loam - top soil  
 0002 Yellow/orange sand and gravel  
 0003 Brown sand and gravel.  
 0005 Brick and stone rubble with patches of gravel

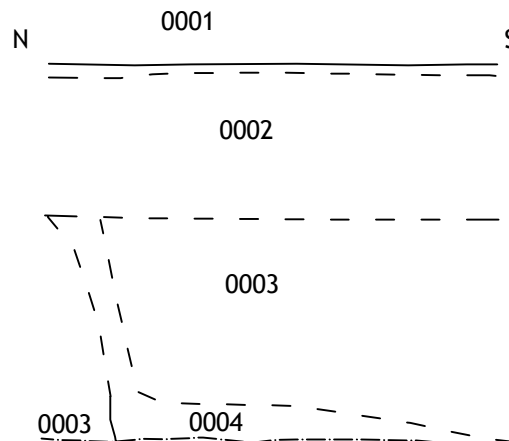


Fig 3b West facing section of Area 02.

0001 Dark brown silty loam - top soil  
 0002 Yellow/orange sand and gravel  
 0003 Brown sand and gravel  
 0004 Light yellow/grey sand with gravel

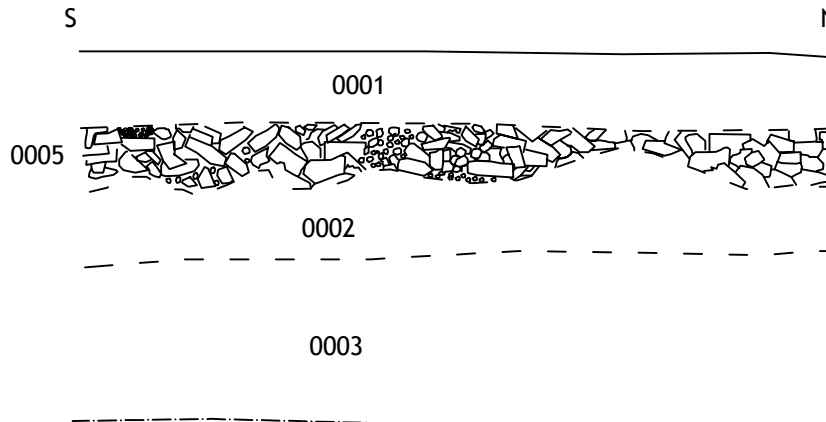


Fig 3 d West facing section of Area 04.

0001 Dark brown silty loam - top soil  
 0002 Yellow/orange sand and gravel  
 0003 Brown sand and gravel.  
 0005 Brick and stone rubble with patches of gravel

S 0001 N

0002

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0003

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Fig 4a East facing section of Area 05

0001 Dark brown silty loam - top soil  
0002 Yellow/orange sand and gravel  
0003 Brown sand and gravel

W 0001 E

0002

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0003

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Fig 4b South facing section of Area 06

0001 Dark brown silty loam - top soil  
0002 Yellow/orange sand and gravel  
0003 Brown sand and gravel

S 0001 N

0002

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0003

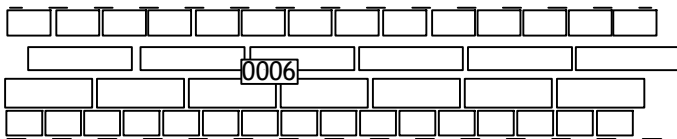
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Fig 4c East facing section of Area 07

0001 Dark brown silty loam - top soil  
0002 Yellow/orange sand and gravel  
0003 Brown sand and gravel

N S

0007



0003

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Fig 4 d West facing section of Area 08

0003 Brown sand and gravel  
0006 Brick culvert  
0007 Disturbed layer, elements of 0002 and 0003

N 0001 S

0002

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0003

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Fig 4 f West facing section of Area 09

0001 Dark brown silty loam - top soil  
0002 Yellow/orange sand and gravel  
0003 Brown sand and gravel

N S

0001

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0002

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0003

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Fig 4 g West facing section of Area 10

0001 Dark brown silty loam - top soil  
0002 Yellow/orange sand and gravel  
0003 Brown sand and gravel

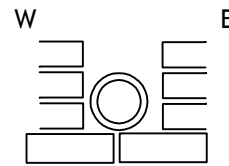


Figure 4e  
South facing section  
of 0006, brick culvert  
with salt glazed pipe



Plate 1. Trenching on site. Looking north east.



Plate 2. West facing section of Area 02. Looking east.



Plate 3. Brick culvert, 0006, Area 08. Looking east.



Plate 4. Brick culvert, 0006, with salt glazed pipe in situ in Area 13. Looking north east.





Plate 5. South facing section of brick culvert, 0006, at the junction of Area 01 and Area 13. Looking north.



Plate 6. South facing section of Area 12 with top soil, 0001, lying directly over the natural sand and gravel, 0002 and 0003. Looking north west.