408-430 CHISWICK HIGH ROAD, CHISWICK, LONDON BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW, W4 5TF

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
LONDON BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW

PCA REPORT NO: R12124

SITE CODE: CWK15

JUNE 2015

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

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408-430 Chiswick High Road, Chiswick, London Borough of Hounslow, W4 5TF;

An Archaeological Evaluation

Local Planning Authority:	**London Borough of Hounslow**
Planning Application Number:	**00248/408-430/P1**
Site Code:	**CWK15**
Central National Grid Reference:	**TQ 20442 78578**
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June 2015

PCA Report No: R12124

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1 ABSTRACT

1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd within two car parks on Acton Lane and Essex Place to the rear of 408-430 Chiswick High Road, Chiswick, London Borough of Hounslow, W4 5TF in advance of redevelopment. The investigation took place between 18th May and 28th May 2015. The work was commissioned by Lend Lease Construction Limited and monitored by Gillian King, the Historic England Archaeology Advisor to the London Borough of Hounslow.

1.2 Two trenches were excavated on the car park at Acton Lane while three were opened on the Essex Place car park; they varied between 5-20m in length and were 1.80m wide. Trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and extended to a depth at which archaeologically sterile geological deposits were observed.

1.3 The results of the archaeological evaluation indicated that the natural topography of the site, as represented by the heights of naturally deposited brickearth found in all five trenches, had been significantly impacted by late post-medieval and modern activity.

1.4 The late post-medieval and modern activity at the site was represented by wall foundations, a soakaway and rectangular postholes found in two of the trenches located within the Essex Place car park.

1.5 A layer of modern concreted made ground was found in all trenches immediately below the tarmac surface and sand and gravel bedding layer of the current car park. The substantial thickness of this layer, particularly in the Acton Lane car park, indicated that it may have been prepared as a foundation or a surface for a building or buildings, although cartographic evidence suggests these may not have been constructed.

1.6 No archaeological activity or deposits that pre-dated the later post-medieval period were recorded during the archaeological evaluation.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted between 18th- 28th May by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) within two car parks on Acton Lane and Essex Place to the rear of 408-430 Chiswick High Road, Chiswick, London Borough of Hounslow, W4 5TF in advance of redevelopment. The site is centred at TQ 20442 78578.

2.2 The evaluation was commissioned by Lend Lease Construction Limited and was monitored by the Historic England Archaeological Advisor to the London Borough of Hounslow, Gillian King. The field investigation was supervised by James Langthorne and project managed by Tim Bradley. All work was undertaken following the appropriate English Heritage (1991, 2008) / Historic England (2015) guidelines.

2.3 The areas of site under investigation were the Acton Lane car park and the Essex Place car park. The Acton Lane car park was situated to the north-west of 408-430 Chiswick High Road; its boundaries were defined by 8-15 Chiswick High Road to the south, Acton Lane to the west, the junction of Acton Lane and Essex Place to the north and Essex Place to the east. The Essex place car park was located to the north of 408-430 Chiswick High Road; the boundaries of the site comprised Essex Place to the west and south, a Sainsbury's superstore to the east and a service bay for the same superstore to the north.

2.4 The site has previously been the subject of an archaeological desk-based assessment (Langthorne 2014) that suggested a modest potential for the prehistoric and post-medieval periods.

2.5 The archaeological evaluation consisted of two trenches excavated on the car park at Acton Lane and three trenches on the Essex Place car park; they varied between 5-20m in length and were 1.80m wide. All trenches were investigated and recorded.

2.6 The evaluation aimed to address the primary objectives as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Bradley 2015). These were as follows:

- To determine the natural topography of the site;
- To establish the nature, date and survival of activity relating to any archaeological periods at the site;
- To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.

2.7 The complete archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefactual material will be deposited at LAARC under the site code CWK15.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 The evaluation at Chiswick High Road was set up under the planning regulations that were current in 2014, specifically the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and those criteria required by the London Borough of Hounslow. These have been detailed in the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (Langthorne 2014).

3.2 The study site lies within the Turnham Green Conservation Area defined by Hounslow Council. Furthermore the site is within close proximity to the Archaeological Priority Area that extends along Chiswick High Road, as identified by Hounslow Council, though it does not fall within it.

3.3 The following planning condition was attached to the granting of consent (LB Hounslow planning reference: 00248/408-430/P1):

A) No development shall take place until the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological evaluation in accordance with a written scheme which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority in writing and a report on that evaluation has been submitted to the local planning authority.

3.4 In accordance with the condition a Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared for the fieldwork by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (Bradley 2015) and approved by Historic England.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 The solid geology of the site is shown on the British Geological Survey Geological Map (Sheet 270, South London, Solid and Drift Edition) as London Clay deposits. Overlying the London Clay are Kempton Park Gravels, defined as 'Post Diversionary Thames River Terrace Deposits: gravel, sandy and clayey in part' (Langthorne 2014).

4.2 A small scale ground investigation was undertaken in 2014 (Barr 2014) which generally agreed with the anticipated deposits previously described appearing at a depth of approximately 1m below ground level.

4.3 The site is generally flat with a slight gradient from east to west. Levels across the site range from approximately 6.00-6.50m OD

4.4 A meander of the River Thames is approximately 710m south-east of the site and the nearest bodies of water are ponds at Chiswick Park around 550m to the north-west.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 The following is summarized from the Desk Based Assessment (Langthorne 2014):

5.2 There have been a number of finds of prehistoric origin, including a possible settlement dating to the late Bronze Age, in the vicinity of the Chiswick High Road site. As a result the archaeological potential for the site was considered to be moderate.

5.3 The Roman period was not well represented in the vicinity of Chiswick High Road site. The southern edge of Chiswick High Road does run along the putative course of a major Roman road but no findspots or deposits have been found in the area of the site itself. Therefore it was thought that the site had a low to moderate potential.

5.4 As with the Roman period little definite evidence of medieval activity had been encountered within the vicinity of the Chiswick High Road site. However it was considered that the focus of the medieval settlement of Turnham Green would have been the communication route currently known as Chiswick High Road and the medieval hamlet of Little Sutton was also relatively close. The potential for archaeological remains dating to the medieval period was therefore low-moderate.

5.5 The site has been occupied by a variety of residential and commercial properties, including the Chiswick Empire theatre, since at least the 18th century and has undergone several alterations daring the 19th and 20th centuries. The archaeological potential for post-medieval activity, particularly regarding the foundations of earlier structures, was considered to be moderate-high as a result.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a methodology set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Bradley 2015).

6.2 Five trenches were excavated across the site (Figure 2).The dimensions and orientation of each of the trenches are detailed in the following table:

Trench	Car Park Location	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Max. Depth (m)
1	Acton Lane	NW-SE	15.00	1.80	1.82
2	Acton Lane	N-S	5.00	1.80	1.70
3	Essex Place	NW-SE	10.00	1.80	1.51
4	Essex Place	E-W	20.00	1.80	1.64
5	Essex Place	NW-SE	8.85	1.80	1.05

6.3 Trench 5, the eastern-most trench located in the Essex Place car park, was shortened due to a significant electrical response identified at the south eastern end of the trench during the CAT scanning of the trench. There was no scope to extend the trench elsewhere due to additional service constraints.

6.4 Previous geotechnical works suggested that between approximately 0.8-1.0m of made ground deposits existed above natural horizons across the site (Barr 2014).

6.5 A JCB fitted with a breaker and flat bladed grading bucket was used under constant archaeological supervision to remove overburden down to the highest archaeological or natural horizon. The features and deposits identified within the trenches were then cleaned and investigated by hand. Investigation was limited to identifying the extent and nature of the deposits and to recover dating evidence. The archaeological deposits were assigned individual context numbers and recorded onto pro-forma sheets and recorded in plan and section as appropriate using the Museum of London single context recording system. Upon completion of the trench excavations, 1:50 scale plan drawings were made as well as 1:10 or 1:20 scale section drawings. Heights of deposits in relation to Ordnance Datum were also recorded. A digital photographic record was made.

6.6 In order to test the authenticity of natural levels, it was sometimes necessary to excavate deeper test sondages through the brickearth horizons that were presumed to be natural.

6.7 Trench locations were recorded by triangulation from map detail. A temporary benchmark of 6.95m OD was established on the Essex Place car park having been extrapolated from a spot height of 6.50m OD located on Acton Lane immediately to the west of the Acton Lane car park.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Trench 1

7.1.1 Trench 1 was located in the Acton Lane car park (Figs. 2, 3, 6). It was projected to be 15m long by 1.80m wide, however services were identified by CAT scan in the central part of the trench and so only the northern and southern parts of the trench were available to be excavated. Additionally during excavation of the northern part of the trench further live services were encountered within the modern concreted made ground [39]; as a result excavation of this portion of the trench had to be curtailed.

Plate 1: Trench 1, looking north-west

Phase 1

7.1.2 The earliest deposit recorded in the base of Trench 1 was a layer of naturally deposited fairly loose mid grey brown gravel and sand [42]. It was encountered at levels between 4.83-4.95m OD within a sondage in the southern part of the trench. This layer was cleaned and examined for any potential prehistoric or later activity with no such evidence being observed.

7.1.3 Sealing natural gravel [42] was a 0.34m thick layer of naturally deposited firm mid reddish brown brickearth [41] which was observed at a maximum height of 5.34m OD.

Phase 2

7.1.4 Overlying natural brickearth [40] was a 0.15m thick layer of firm, mid reddish brown brickearth with very occasional charcoal, concrete and brick flecks and fragments [40]. No finds or features were encountered within this redeposited brickearth layer which reached a maximum height of 5.51m OD.

Phase 4

7.1.5 Sealing redeposited brickearth deposit [40] in the southern part of the trench and the earliest deposit seen in the northern part of the trench was a 0.89m thick layer of firm-concreted whitish grey cement and rubble with occasional rebar. The live services encountered in the northern part of the trench were embedded within this concreted modern made ground. It was encountered at a maximum height of 6.31m OD

7.1.6 Ultimately all deposits in the trench were capped by the tarmac and associated sand and gravel bedding layer of the current car park [+].

7.2 Trench 2

7.2.1 Trench 2 was situated to the west of Trench 1 in the Acton Lane car park (Fig. 2, 4 & 6). It was 5m long by 1.80m wide.

Plate 2: Trench 2, looking north (1m scale)

Phase 1

7.2.2 The earliest deposit encountered in the sondage at the base of Trench 2 comprised fairly firm but friable mid reddish brown brickearth [23] at heights that varied between 5.12-5.18m OD. This layer was cleaned and examined for any potential prehistoric or later activity with no such evidence being observed.

Phase 2

7.2.3 Overlying natural brickearth [23] was a 0.28m thick layer of compact-firm mid orange-brown slightly silty clay with moderate brick and charcoal flecks and fragments and occasional concrete flecks [22]. This layer of redeposited natural was recorded at a maximum height of 5.52m OD.

Phase 4

7.2.4 Sealing redeposited natural [22] was a layer of concreted made ground composed of cement and demolition rubble with occasional rebar [21]. This layer was encountered at a maximum height of 6.30m OD and was 0.88m thick.

7.2.5 All deposits were ultimately sealed by the tarmac and sand and gravel bedding layer of the current car park [+].

7.3 Trench 3

7.3.1 Trench 3 was the western trench in the Essex Place car park (Figs. 2 & 5). It measured 10m in length and was 1.80m wide.

Plate 3: Trench 3, looking north-west (1m scale)

Phase 1

7.3.2 Natural brickearth [38] was recorded in Trench 3 at a height of 5.46m OD. It was characterised as being firm reddish brown brickearth. This layer was examined for any potential prehistoric or later activity with no such evidence observed.

Phase 2

7.3.3 Measuring a maximum of 0.44m thick, a layer of firm reddish brown silty clay with frequent small-medium sized sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles and CBM flecks and fragments [37] overlay natural deposit [38]. This redeposited natural was recorded at a height of 6.10m OD.

Phase 3

7.3.4 Truncating the redeposited brickearth [37] were a number of features that dated to the late 19th century; specifically posthole [36] and soakaway [29].

7.3.5 Rectangular posthole [36] measured 0.29m north-south by 0.23m east-west by 0.23 deep and was encountered at a height of 5.82m OD. It was filled with fairly loose dark blackish brown slightly peaty clay silt with occasional angular, sub-rounded and rounded pebbles, CBM flecks and root activity [35]. A fragment of corroded metal was recovered from fill [35].

7.3.6 Soakaway [29] was a partially seen circular feature constructed of unfrogged red brick [29] which measured 1.60m east-west by 0.62m (north-south) that was encountered at a height of 6.05m OD.

Plate 4: Soakaway [29], looking north-east (1m scale)

7.3.7 The soakaway lay within construction cut [31] which had been backfilled by firm grey brown silty clay with small sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles [30]. Soakaway [29] itself was backfilled with firm greyish brown silty clay with frequent small CBM fragments and occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles [28].

7.3.8 Posthole [36] was subsequently sealed by a 0.15m thick layer of firm grey brown clay silt with occasional CBM and pot fragments [27]. This thin layer of made ground [27] and soakaway fill [28] and backfill [30] were in turn overlain by a 0.36m thick dumped deposit of firm grey brown silt [26] which contained frequent small-medium sized sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles and CBM fragments as well as occasional, pot, glass, mortar, charcoal and oyster shell fragments. This deposit was encountered at a maximum height of 6.39m OD. Made ground [26] was sealed in turn by a 0.32m thick layer of firm blackish grey and yellow brown gritty sand with occasional mortar, charcoal and glass flecks and fragments [25].

7.3.9 Made ground [27] was also truncated at the northern end of the trench by wall foundation [32]. This structure was constructed of frogged red brick and sandy lime mortar with very occasional CBM, pea grit and coal flecks in a header bond. Wall foundation [32] was orientated south-east to north-west and was 4.35m long by 0.36m wide and 0.54m deep. It reached a maximum height of 6.38m OD and lay within construction cut [34] which had also been backfilled with fairly firm mid brown grey slightly silty clay with occasional CBM, coal and small sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles [33].

Phase 4

7.3.10 Sealing dumped deposit [25] and wall foundation [32] was a layer of concreted whitish grey cement and demolition rubble that varied between 0.04-0.51m thick. It was recorded at a maximum height of 6.60m OD.

7.3.11 All features and deposits were finally capped by a sand and gravel bedding layer and the tarmac of the current car park [+].

7.4 Trench 4

7.4.1 Trench 4 was the central trench in the Essex Place car park (Figs. 2 & 5). It measured 20m in length and was 1.80m wide.

Plate 5: Trench 4, looking west (1m scale)

Phase 1

7.4.2 Firm reddish brown naturally deposited brickearth was recorded as layer [18] in Trench 4 and seen at a height of 6.28m OD.

Phase 3

7.4.3 Truncating natural brickearth [18] was a north-south aligned linear cut [20] of dimensions 1.80m north-south by 0.25m east-west by 0.27m deep. It was encountered at a maximum height of 6.37m OD and was filled by firm dark brown silty clay with frequent CBM fragments and occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles [19]. This feature was considered to be the remnants of a drain. Drain cut [20] was subsequently sealed by a 0.05-0.19m thick layer of firm dark brown gritty sand with frequent small-medium sized sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles and CBM flecks [17]. This layer varied between 6.30-6.43m OD in height.

Phase 4

7.4.4 Made ground [17] was in turn sealed by a 0.42m thick layer of concreted whitish grey cement and made ground [16]. This layer was recorded at a maximum height of 6.58m OD and was finally overlain by the bedding layer and tarmac surface of the current car park [+].

7.5 Trench 5

7.5.1 This trench measured 8.85m in length and was 1.80m wide. It was positioned towards the eastern side of the Essex Place car park (Figs. 2 & 5).

Plate 6: Trench 5, looking south-east (1m scale)

Phase 1

7.5.2 Natural firm reddish brown brickearth, [15], was seen within the sondage at a height of 4.90m OD. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were seen directly associated with this layer.

Phase 2

7.5.3 Overlying natural layer [15] was firm greyish brown silty clay with occasional CBM flecks and fragments and small sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles and very occasional glass and clay tobacco pipe fragments [7]. This redeposited natural was 0.54m thick and was recorded at a height of 5.66m OD.

Phase 3

7.5.4 Two wall foundations [8] and [9] were situated on top of the redeposited natural [7]. Both were constructed of unfrogged red brick and yellowish grey mortar with shell and pea grit inclusions. The dimensions of both of these structures are detailed in the following table.

Context	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Maximum Height (m OD)
8	E-W	2.11	0.34	0.52	5.90
9	N-S	0.88	0.32	Unseen	5.86

7.5.5 Overlying both wall foundations were a series of made ground and backfill deposits including rubble backfills [11] and [12]; blackish grey silt sands [4] and [5] and soft bluish grey sand [3].

7.5.6 Associated with wall foundations [8] and [9] and sealing sandy made ground [3] was concrete floor surface [10]. This floor measured 3.10m north-west to south-east by 1.80m north-east to south-south-west and was up to 0.08m thick and seen at a maximum height of 6.10m OD.

7.5.7 Concrete floor [10] was overlain by a 0.17m thick layer of firm bluish grey and yellow brown silty sand [2].

7.5.8 A further feature, drain cut [14], was also seen truncating made ground [5] in the north-west corner of the trench. This east-west orientated linear cut was recorded at 5.93m OD and measured 0.62m by 0.27m. Due to the presence of a potentially active ceramic drain pipe within the fill [13] of the cut it could not be excavated and therefore a maximum depth could not be established.

Phase 4

7.5.9 Sealing all deposits and structures in Trench 1 was a 0.31m thick layer of concreted whitish grey cement and made ground [1] which was encountered at a maximum height at 6.60m OD.

7.5.10 All features and deposits were finally capped by a sand and gravel bedding layer and the tarmac of the current car park [+].

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 The natural deposits found during the Chiswick High Street investigation comprised firm, mid reddish brown brickearth in all trenches at heights that varied across the site, particularly within the Essex Place car park which varied in height between 6.28m OD in Trench 4 and 4.90m OD in Trench 5. The conclusion was that the variation in natural geology was the result of later post-medieval and modern impacts on the site.

8.2 Sealing natural deposits in Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 were layers of redeposited brickearth. No deposits or features relating to any period pre-dating the late post-medieval period were encountered within any of the trenches.

8.3 Brick structures dating from the late 19th to middle of the 20th century including wall foundations, [8], [9] and [32], a concrete floor, [10] and a soakaway, [32], were recorded within Trenches 3 and 5. Additionally in Trench 3 a small rectangular posthole, [35], containing a fragment of metal within its fill was considered to have dated to the late post-medieval period at the earliest. The brick structures in are likely to relate predominantly to the 20th century development of the site, most likely structures associated with the bottling store, which this area of the site sits at the southern end of.

8.4 The most ubiquitous deposit other than natural brickearth was the concreted made ground found in all five trenches: [1], [16], [21], [24] and [39]. This modern deposit, varying in thickness between 0.04-0.51m in the Essex Place car park trenches and 0.88-0.89m in the Acton Lane car park trenches. The thickness of the concrete in the Acton Lane car park area suggested that potentially this area had been prepared as a building surface or a foundation for buildings, although cartographic evidence suggests that these were never constructed on the site with the current car park serving as a substitute.

8.5 Other past post-depositional impacts to potentially surviving archaeological levels include the cutting of modern service runs for drainage or electricity, as seen in Trenches 1, 4 and 5. The services encountered within the trenches were not illustrated on the service plan provided prior to the archaeological evaluation.

8.6 The absence of any archaeological finds, features or deposits that pre-date the late post-medieval period is likely to have been a result of truncation and removal by modern construction of building foundations and associated deposits.

8.7 Once the project is deemed complete, the completed archive comprising all site records from the fieldwork will eventually be deposited with LAARC under site code CWK15.

9 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Lend Lease for commissioning the works, and Gillian King of Historic England for monitoring the project. We would also like to thank Dave Shutt of Lend Lease for facilitating the site work and O'Connells for plant hire.

9.2 The author would like to thank Mick Steel and Patric Kavanagh for their assistance on the project, Ray Murphy for the figures and Tim Bradley for project management and editing this report.

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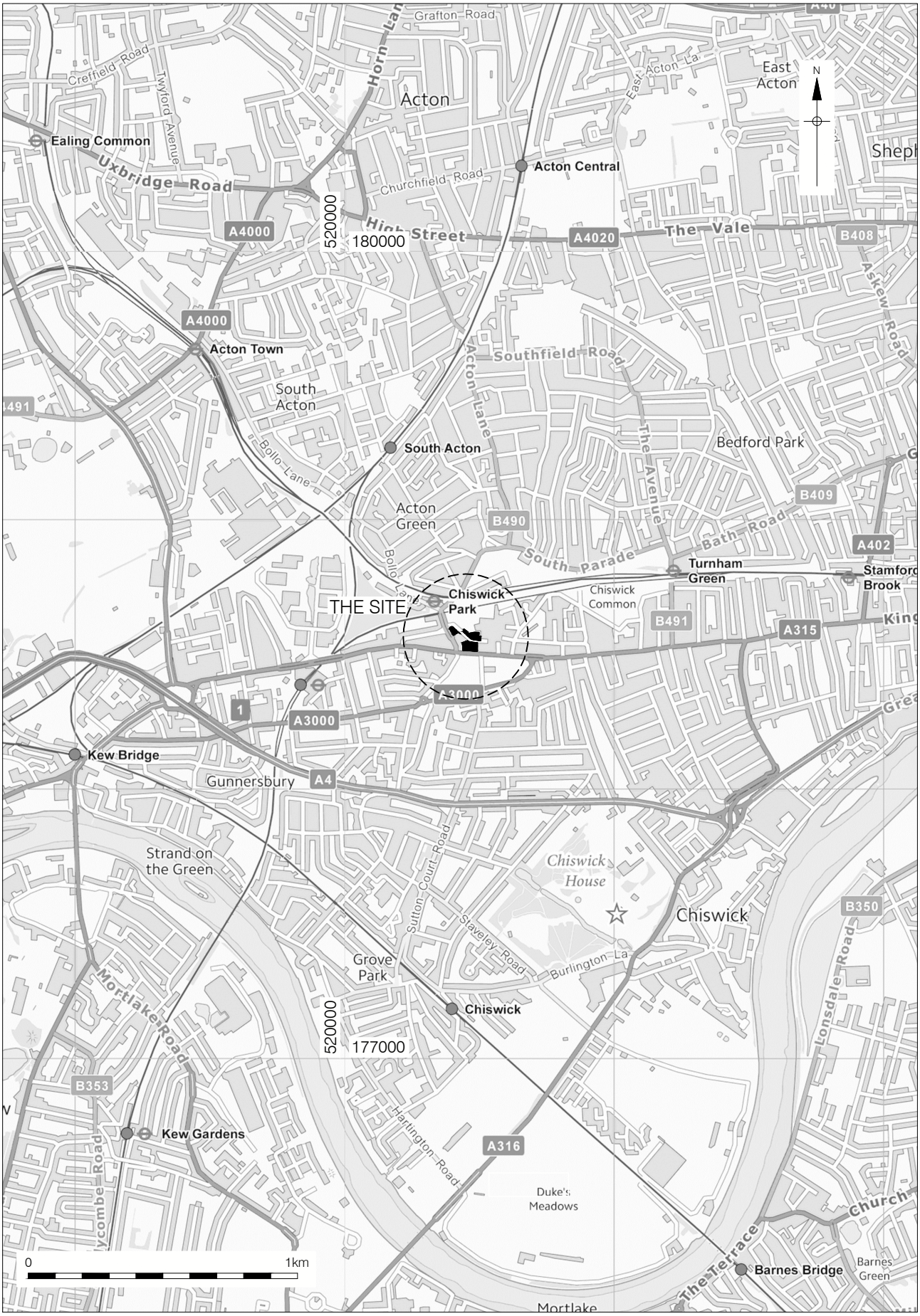
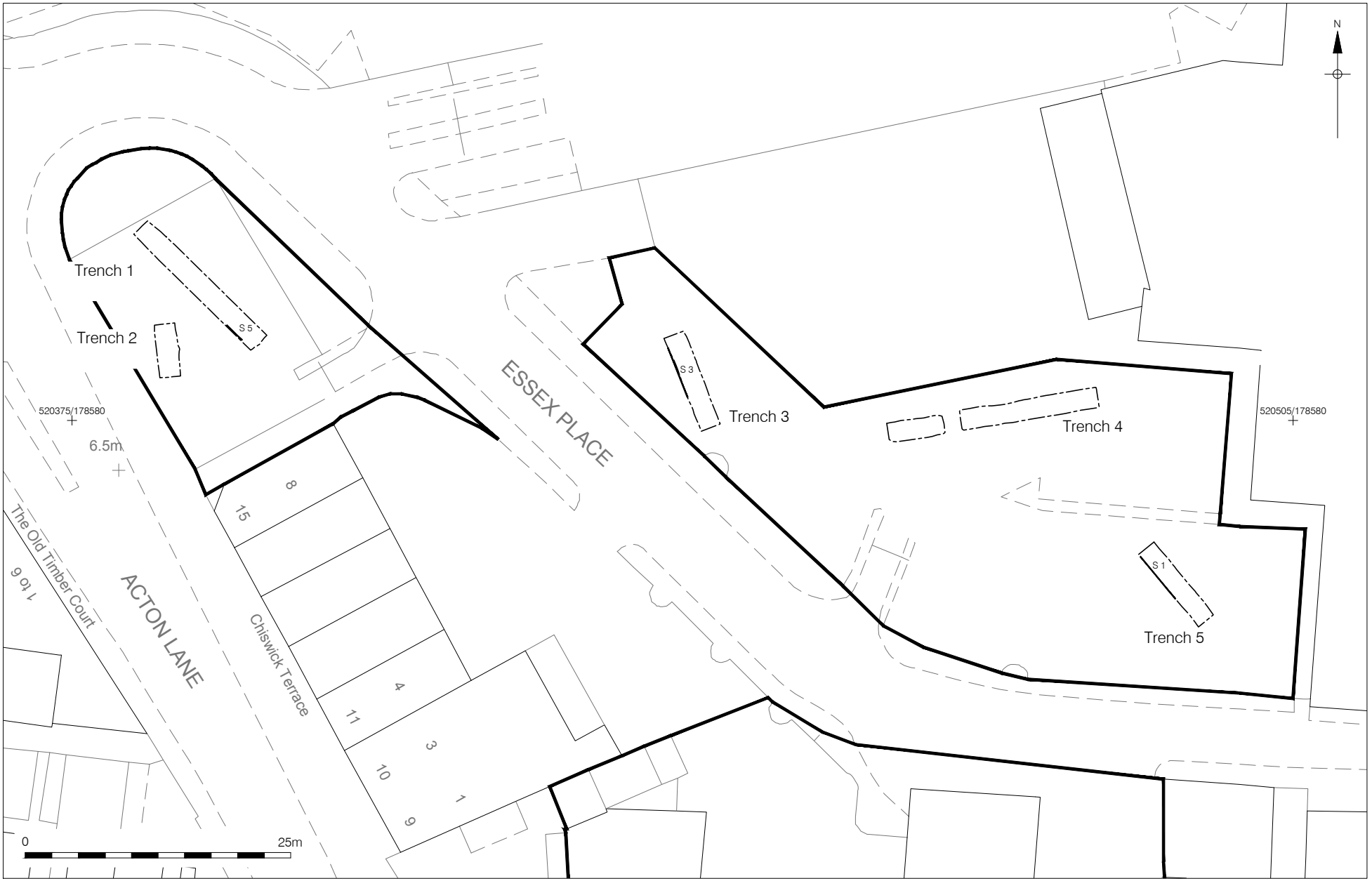


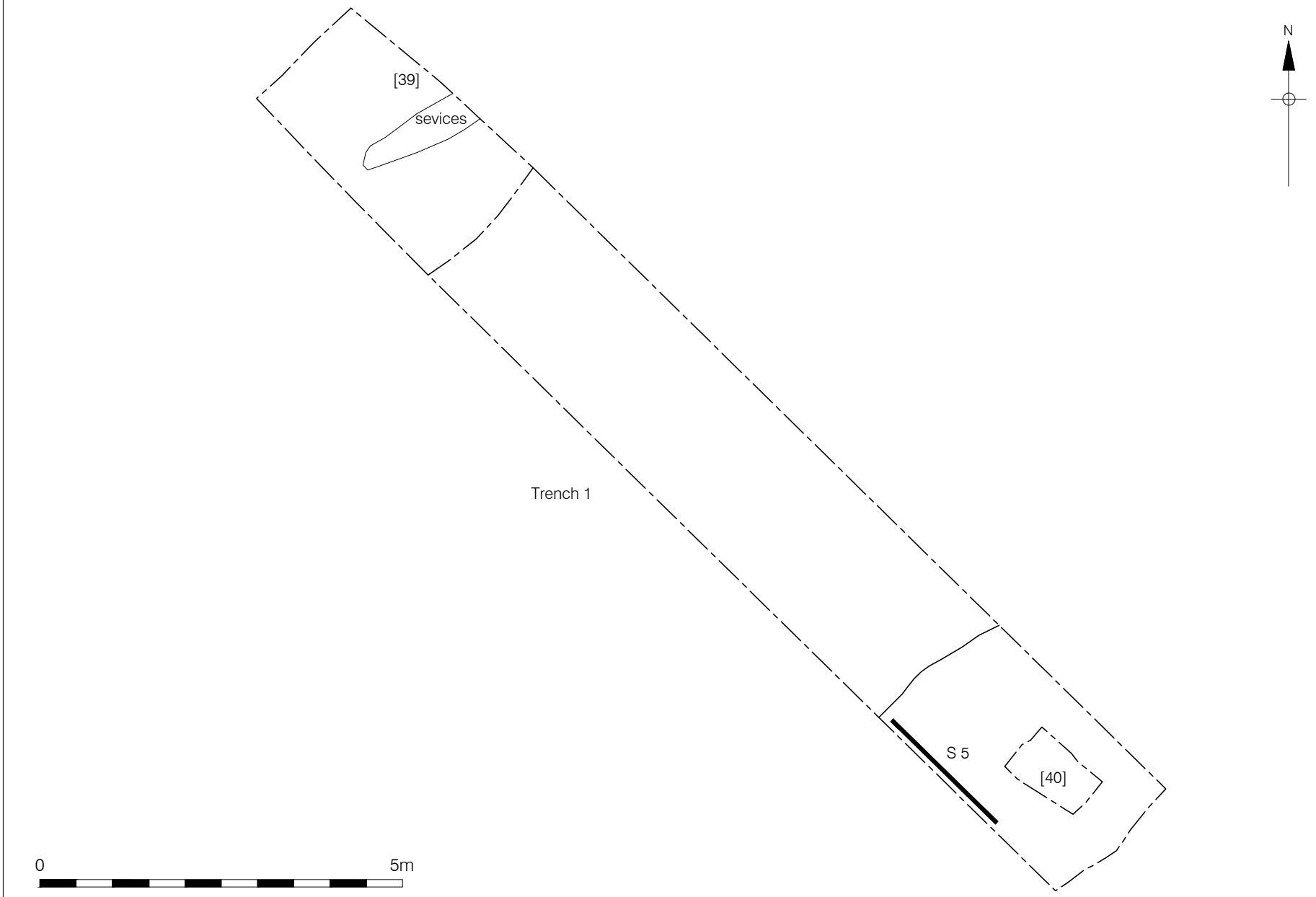
03/06/15 RM

Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4



02/06/15 RM

Figure 1
Trench Locations
1:500 at A4



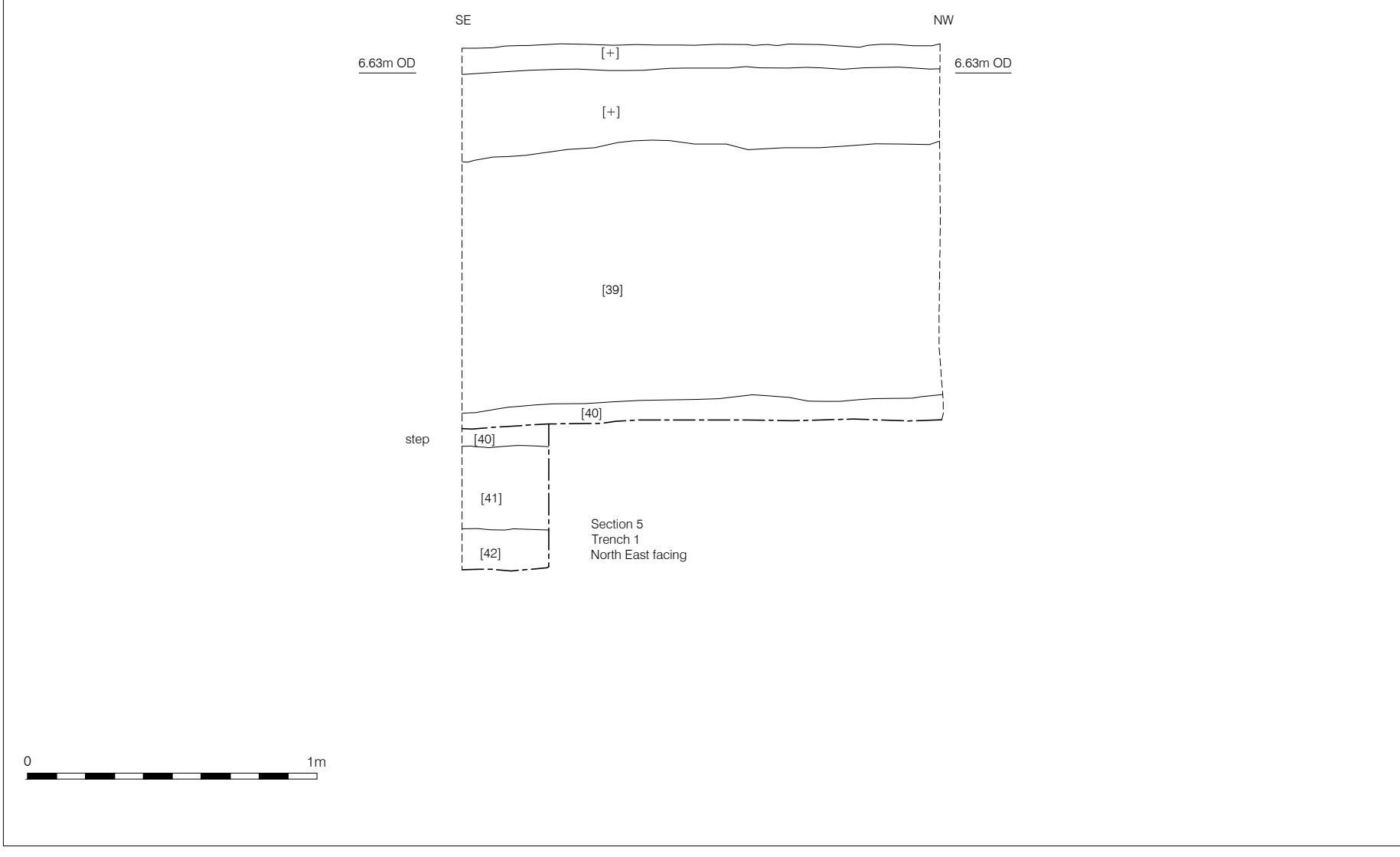


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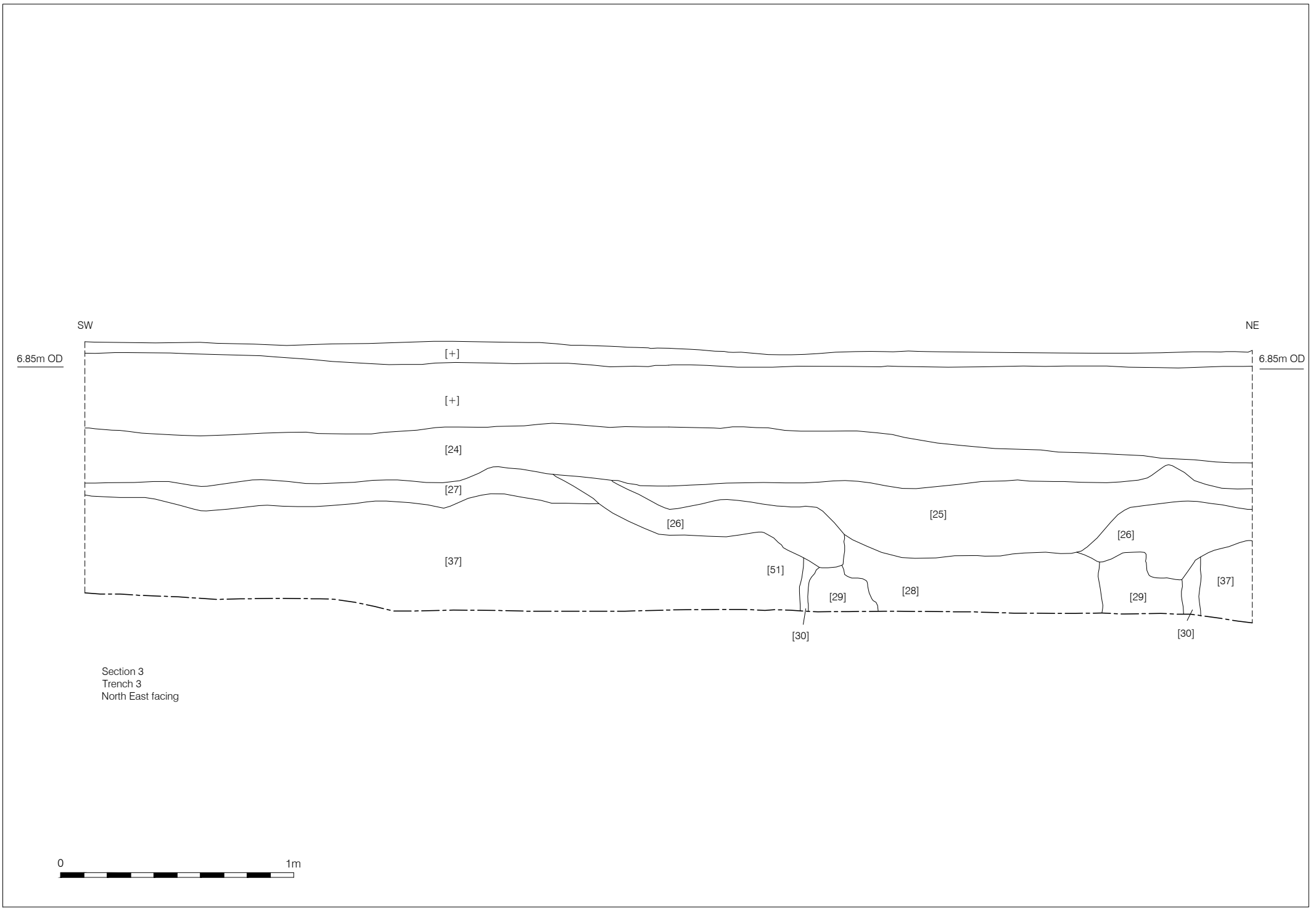
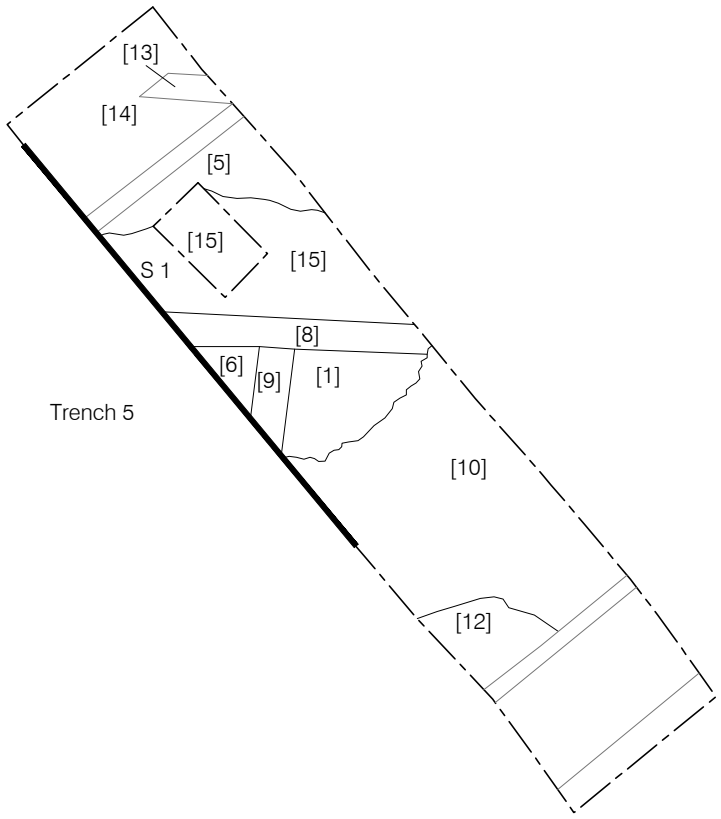
Figure 3
Plan and Section of Trench 1
1:75 and 1:20 at A3



Section 3
Trench 3
North East facing

02/06/15 RM

Figure 4
Plan and Section of Trench 3
1:75 and 1:20 at A3



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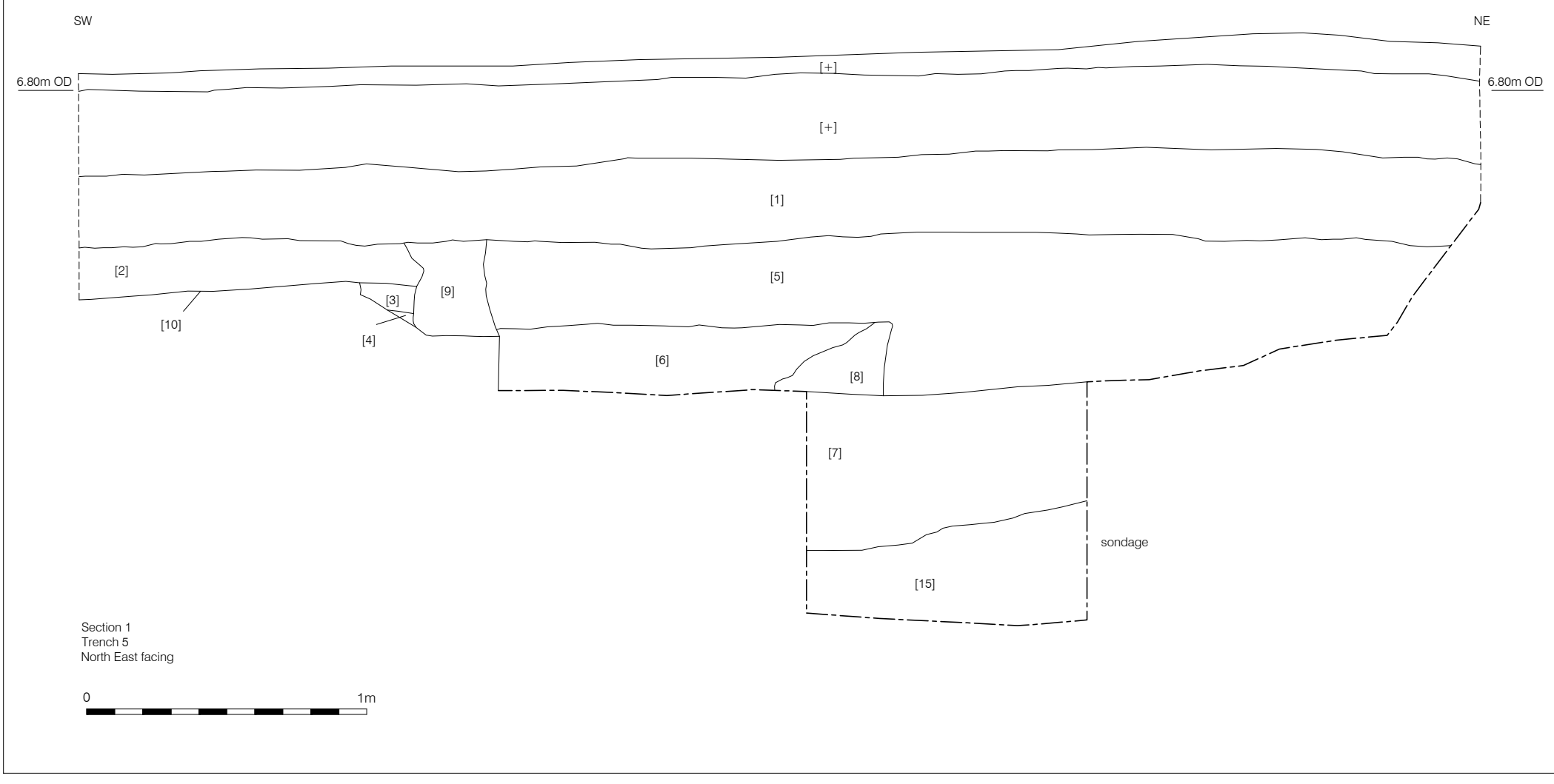


Section 1
Trench 5
North East facing

0 1m

02/06/15 RM

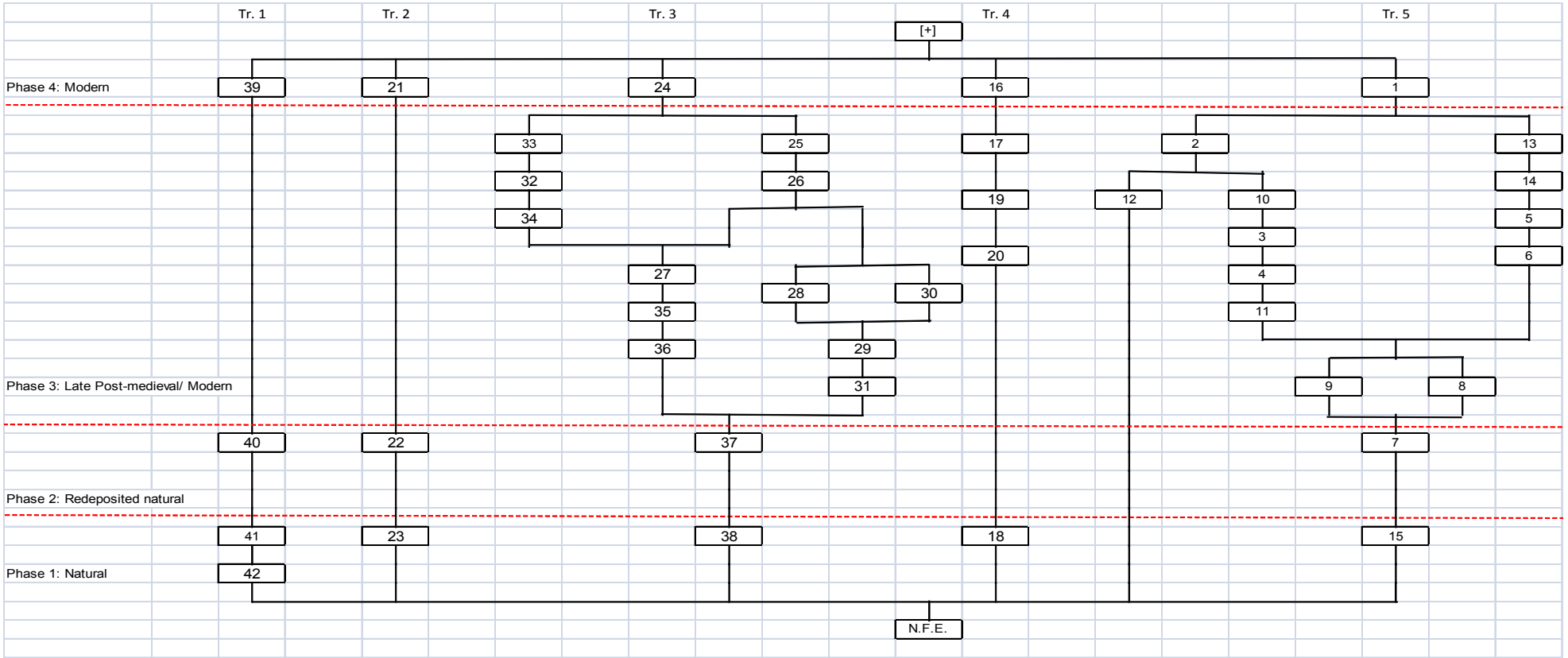
Figure 5
Plan and Section of Trench 5
1:75 and 1:20 at A4

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Type	Trench	Comments	Phase
1	Layer	5	Concreted Made Ground	4
2	Layer	5	Made Ground	3
3	Layer	5	Sandy backfill	3
4	Layer	5	Silty backfill	3
5	Layer	5	Made Ground	3
6	Layer	5	Rubble backfill	3
7	Layer	5	Redeposited natural	2
8	Masonry	5	Wall foundation	3
9	Masonry	5	Wall foundation	3
10	Deposit	5	Concrete floor	3
11	Layer	5	Rubble/demolition deposit	3
12	Layer	5	Rubble/demolition deposit	3
13	Fill	5	Fill of [14]	3
14	Cut	5	Construction cut for drainpipe	3
15	Layer	5	Brickearth natural	1
16	Layer	4	Concreted Made Ground	4
17	Layer	4	Made Ground	3
18	Layer	4	Brickearth natural	1
19	Fill	4	Fill of [20]	3
20	Cut	4	Cut for drain	3
21	Layer	2	Concreted made ground	4
22	Layer	2	Redeposited natural	2
23	Layer	2	Brickearth natural	1
24	Layer	3	Concreted Made Ground	4
25	Layer	3	Made ground	3
26	Layer	3	Made ground	3
27	Layer	3	Made ground	3
28	Fill	3	Fill of soakaway [29]	3
29	Masonry	3	Soakaway	3
30	Fill	3	Backfill in construction cut [31]	3
31	Cut	3	Construction cut for soakaway [29]	3
32	Masonry	3	Wall foundation	3
33	Fill	3	Backfill in construction cut [34]	3
34	Cut	3	Construction cut for wall foundation [32]	3
35	Fill	3	Fill of [36]	3
36	Cut	3	Posthole	3
37	Layer	3	Redeposited natural	2
38	Layer	3	Brickearth natural	1
39	Layer	1	Concreted Made Ground	4

40	Layer	1	Redeposited natural	2
41	Layer	1	Brickearth natural	1
42	Layer	1	Gravel natural	1

APPENDIX 2: STRATIGRAPHIC MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: OASIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-212798

Project details

Project name	408-430 Chiswick High Road, Chiswick, London Borough of Hounslow W4 5TF
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation consisting of 5 trenches in 2 car parks to the north of 408- 430 Chiswick High Road. Trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and extended to a depth at which archaeologically sterile geological deposits were observed. The results of the archaeological evaluation indicated that the natural topography of the site, as represented by the heights of naturally deposited brickearth found in all 5 trenches, had been significantly impacted by modern and, potentially, late post-medieval activity. The late post-medieval and modern activity at the site was represented by wall foundations, a soakaway and a single rectangular posthole found in 2 of the trenches located within the Essex Place car park. A layer of modern concreted made ground was found in all trenches immediately below the tarmac surface and sand and gravel bedding layer of the current car park. The substantial thickness of this layer, particularly in the Acton Lane car park, indicated that it may have formed a foundation or a surface for a building or buildings that were never constructed. No archaeological activity or deposits that pre-dated the post-medieval period were recorded during the archaeological evaluation.
Project dates	Start: 18-05-2015 End: 28-05-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	CWK15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 2 - Other transport infrastructure
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATIONS Modern
Monument type	POSTHOLE Modern
Monument type	SOAKAWAY Modern

Monument type	MADE GROUND Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	METAL OBJECT Modern
Significant Finds	BRICK SAMPLES Modern
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HOUNSLOW CHISWICK 408-430 Chiswick High Road
Postcode	W4 5TF
Study area	0.61 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 20442 78578 51.4928059414 -0.264889418321 51 29 34 N 000 15 53 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 4.90m Max: 6.28m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	PCA
Project design originator	Tim Bradley
Project director/manager	Tim Bradley

Project supervisor	James Young Langthorne
Type of sponsor/funding body	Lend Lease

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	CWK15
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Glass","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	CWK15
Digital Contents	'other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	CWK15
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Matrices","Plan","Section","Survey ","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	408-430 Chiswick High Road, Chiswick, London Borough of Hounslow, W4 5TF
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Langthorne, J.
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.

Place of issue or publication	London
Description	A4 softcover grey literature report.
Entered by	archivist (archive@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	3 June 2015

APPENDIX 4: POTTERY

Chris Jarrett

INTRODUCTION

A small sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site (one box). The pottery dates only to the post-medieval period. One of the sherds only shows evidence for abrasion and therefore may have been redeposited, whilst the rest was probably deposited fairly rapidly after breakage. The fragmentation of the pottery consists of only sherd material and only one vessel could be assigned to a shape. The pottery was quantified using sherd counts, estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight measured in grams.
Pottery was recovered from two contexts and individual deposits produced only small groups (fewer than 30 sherds.
All the pottery (four sherds/3 ENV/43g, of which none are unstratified) was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and entered on to a database, by fabric, form and decoration. The classification of the pottery types follows the standard of the Museum of London Archaeology (2013). The pottery is discussed as a spot dating index.

SPOT DATING INDEX

Context [19], spot date: 1805-1900

Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805–1900, two sherds, 1 ENV, 4g, form: unidentified, fluted decoration. Abraded.

Context [26], spot date: 1600-1700

Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with brown glaze (BORDB), 1600–1700, two sherds, 2 ENV, 39g, form: bowl or dish

SIGNIFICANCE, POTENTIAL AND RECCOMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

The pottery has no significance at a local level and occurs as types frequently found in the London area. The pottery has only the potential to date the contexts it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on the material.

REFERENCE

Museum of London 2013, Medieval and post-medieval pottery codes. http://www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk/Publications/Online-Resources/MOLA-ceramic-codes.htm

APPENDIX5: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

Kevin Hayward

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
8	3032nr3035 3101	Unfrogged Transitional post great fire yellow brick poorly made T1 mortar brown shelly gravel mortar	2	1664	1900	1664	1900	1750-1850	1750-1850
10	3035	Machined Estuarine Yellow Brick Frogged well made	1	1780	1940	1780	940	1850-1940	No mortar
26	3046	Well made unfrogged local red bricks	2	1450	1900	1450	1900	1750-1900	No mortar
29	3065	Well made unfrogged local red bricks	2	1450	1900	1450	1900	1750-1900	No mortar
32	3032 3035nr3033; 3101	Well made frogged post great fire and Estuarine Bricks Hard brown Roman type cement	2	1664	1940	1780	1940	1850-1940	1825-1950

Review

This small building material assemblage consisting of whole brick samples (9 examples 22.1kg) from Chiswick High Street is dominated by very late 18th century to 20th century fabrics and forms. Although red 3046 and 3065 are manufactured between 1450 and 1700 within the confines of the City and Southwark, in the suburbs brickfield clay continues to be extracted for use in to the 18th and 19th century.

The latest bricks are from [10] and [32] and date between 1850 and 1940. Some such as the red bricks from [29] cannot date to before 1780 as their narrow width conforms to regulations brought in by the brick tax.

The earliest brick is probably from [8].

1776	Brick size regulation Act: took effect July 1777, first blanket national legislation. Min. size of bricks at 8 ½ x 4 x 2 ½ ''. Last legislation on sizes until the 20th century, remained in force until the 19th century	**216 x 101.5 x 63.5**	Parliament (Act)

Recommendations

The building material assemblage recovered from CWK 15 very much reflects the 19TH century expansion and development of the High Street at Chiswick. There is no further work necessary.

APPENDIX 6: GLASS ASSESSMENT (CWK15)

Chris Jarrett

A single fragment of glass is recorded in the assemblage and it was recovered from context [26]. The fragment, weighing 8g, consists of a sherd of olive green high-lime low-alkali glass and it is a wall fragment from a probable English wine bottle, broadly dated *c*.1640-1900. The glass has no significance and no potential, except to date the context it was found in. There are no recommendations for further work on the material.

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