

**An Archaeological Evaluation (Phase 2) of Land at the Tonbridge Stock
and Cattle Market, Bank Street, Tonbridge, Kent**

Site Code: KBST 05

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 5900 4674

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results of the second phase of archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited of land at the former Tonbridge Stock and Cattle Market, Bank Street, Tonbridge, Kent in advance of a proposed redevelopment of the site by Crest Nicholson. The results of the Phase 1 evaluation (undertaken by Museum of London Archaeological Service) were characterised by the truncated remains of medieval and post-medieval pits, the majority of which were located some distance to the rear of historic street frontages.
- 1.2 The most significant archaeological remains from the Phase 2 evaluation were those from the medieval period. These consisted of cuts and deposits containing pottery dating from the 11th century through to the 15th century.
- 1.3 The earlier material (11th – 12th century) was recovered from cut features close to The Slade at the south side of the site and is likely to relate to properties fronting this street at the time. This part of the site is closest to Tonbridge Castle, which was founded in the 11th century.
- 1.4 The majority of the pottery dated from the 12-15th century was found from pits set back from Bank Street at the east of the site. Some of these pits also contained fragments of industrial waste that is likely to relate to the Wealden iron industry. Adjacent to the eastern limit of the site, along Bank Street, the truncated remains of a stone wall was unearthed. This has been interpreted as the dwarf walls upon which a timber-framed building would have been founded. This is likely to date to the 15th century and would have fronted onto the market, probably positioned on the east of Bank Street at that time.
- 1.5 A ditch containing 17th century pottery was discovered heading in a northwesterly direction away from Bank Street that also contained a high quantity of preserved saw dust and a fragment of timber towards its base. This ditch would have been emplaced to drain the land and remove waste away from the habited areas. A similarly dated ditch following a westerly direction was located behind the Corn Exchange- a Grade II Listed Building that lies on the eastern side of the site.
- 1.6 Located within trenches positioned away from The Slade and Bank Street, a few pits and postholes of post-medieval date were recorded. These are in keeping with the

results of the Phase 1 evaluation and most likely to have been situated in areas of gardens and orchards.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation (Phase 2) was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited of land at the former Tonbridge Stock and Cattle Market, Tonbridge (Figure 1) in advance of possible redevelopment.
- 2.2 The Phase 2 evaluation was conducted between the 2nd and 11th February 2005 and was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Crest Nicholson.
- 2.3 The evaluation consisted of eleven trenches measuring 6.35-11.75M in length, positioned across the site (Figure 2).
- 2.4 The National Grid Reference of the centre of the site is TQ 5900 4674
- 2.5 The site was assigned the unique code KBST 05.
- 2.6 The evaluation was supervised by Stuart Holden and assisted by Rik Archer, Denise Mulligan and Guy Seddon with surveying undertaken by Nathalie Barrett. The project was managed by Gary Brown for Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited. Duncan Hawkins, CgMs, represented Crest Nicholson and Wendy Rogers, Kent County Council, monitored the archaeological fieldwork on behalf of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.

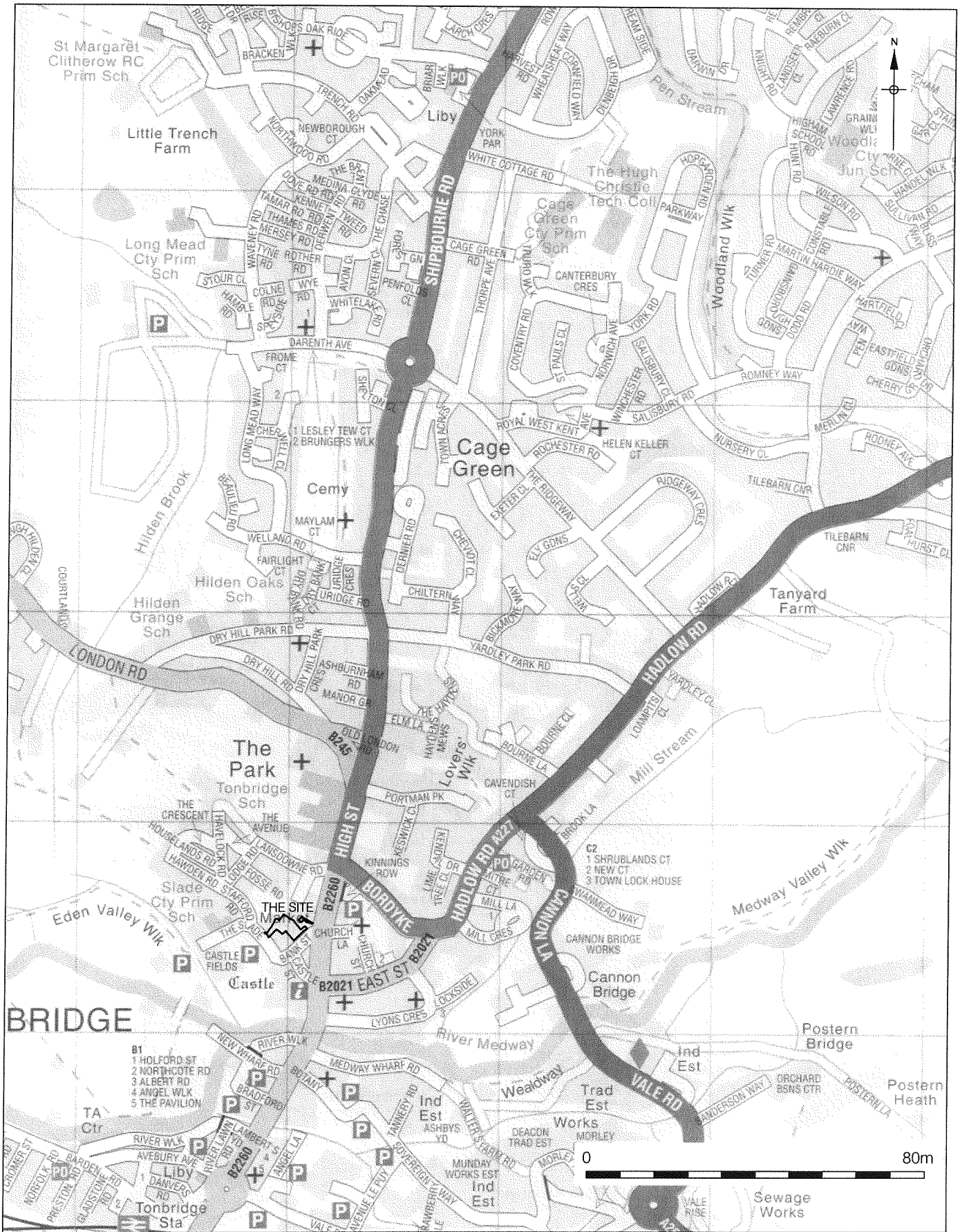


Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:12,500

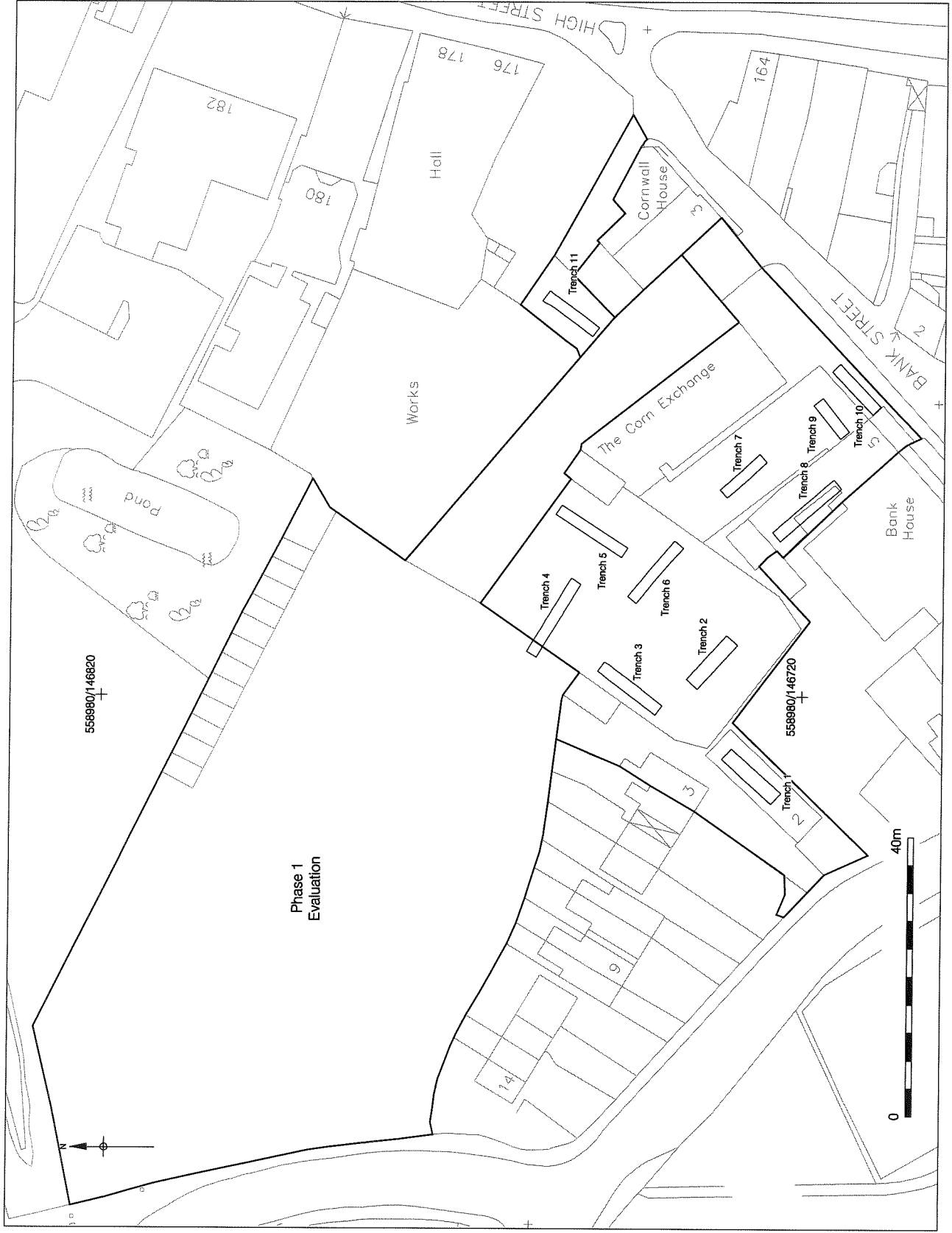


Figure 2
Trench location
1:800

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 Planning background

3.1.1 The study aims to satisfy the objectives of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which they are the custodians. The Council's deposited draft 'Tonbridge and Malling Borough Local Plan', adopted in December 1998, contains policy statements in respect of protecting the buried archaeological resource.

3.1.2 The proposed development is subject to the following:

4.2.8 Non-scheduled archaeological sites of regional or local importance demonstrate the evolution of human settlement in the locality and are a finite and non-renewable resource which should be valued. A number of 'Areas of Archaeological Potential' have been identified by Kent County Council in connection with its Sites and Monuments Records. These will be revised as new information becomes available. If development is proposed within these areas, specific consideration will need to be given to the archaeological implications of the proposal. As a matter of principle it is preferable, wherever possible, to avoid archaeological disturbance and to ensure that the potential impact of development is mitigated through, for example, suitable designs and foundations. Where the balance is in favour of granting permission for development which involves the destruction of the archaeological remains, a programme of archaeological investigation and recording will be secured before the development proceeds.

POLICY P4/3

Where development is proposed on a site of archaeological significance, there will be a preference for mitigation of adverse impact by modifying the proposal to secure physical preservation. Where the balance of other factors is in favour of granting permission for destructive development, arrangements must be made by the developer to ensure that time and resources are available to allow appropriate and satisfactory archaeological investigation and recording to take place by an approved archaeological body in advance of, or during development. The Borough Council may impose conditions on a planning permission or seek a Section 106 agreement to secure appropriate investigation, the details of which must be submitted to and approved by the Borough Council.

3.1.3 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments on site. The Corn Exchange is a Grade II Listed Buildings.

3.2 **Research Objectives**

3.2.1 The method statement highlights possible research topics cited in Exploring our Past (English Heritage 1991, Research Agenda – Draft (English Heritage 1997) and the Historic Towns Survey (KCC and English Heritage 2004). These include:

- Origins and development of the pre-medieval and medieval settlement.
- Transitions from medieval to post-medieval traditions
- Towns and their hinterlands
- The origins and development of the small town and rural market
- Industrial archaeology

3.2.2 The specific objectives of the evaluation as set out in the Specification were:

- to determine the character, date, depth below ground surface and depth of deposit of any archaeological remains on the site, particularly those associated with the medieval town walls, medieval castle, medieval occupation on the site, and;
- to determine the quality and extent of any remains on the site;
- to assess the quality and importance of any archaeological remains on the site using the Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling archaeological remains;
- to assess the likely impact of the proposed development on any important archaeological remains.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site is set out in the Phase 1 Evaluation report (Corcoran and Watson 2003). The following section offers a summary of the information gleaned from this document, followed by a synopsis of the results of the Phase 1 Evaluation.

4.2 The site is located in the northwest portion of the 13th century town defences in an area of naturally undulating topography. The original topography is uncertain due to extensive landscaping carried out during the creation of the Stock and Cattle Market during 1855-56.

4.3 Roman

4.3.1 There is no evidence that Tonbridge was ever a Roman site. Nevertheless, some residual Roman material has been found in the town

4.4 Saxon

4.4.1 The etymology of the name Tonbridge was thought to derive from the Saxon *tun*-town or enclosure and *burgh*- fort. However this is far from certain and if the name relates to *bridge*, then it must be of later origin. To date there is no evidence for any Saxon activity within the walled town.

4.5 Medieval

4.5.1 Documentary sources suggest that the town came into being just before or just after the Norman Conquest in 1066, The Domesday Book of 1086 records that the "Lowy of Tonbridge with its fortress" had been awarded to Richard de Fitzgilbert. The oldest portion of the standing fabric of the parish church of St Peter and St Paul, located to the east of the site is of 12th century date. It is known that houses near the castle were burnt down by order of William II because of some insubordination on the part of the Fitzgilbert family. It was not until 1241 that Tonbridge was first mentioned as a borough and *vil* by its own jury at the *eyre* (travelling royal court of justice), which confirms that until the mid-13th century Tonbridge was a relatively small settlement.

4.5.2 In 1229, Henry III granted a licence to enclose the town with a crenallated wall. This defence is still visibly represented by the fosse, part of which adjoins the site to the

north, but its course can be traced around the town which at the time was only on the north bank of the river. Archaeological evidence indicates that only a fosse or ditch and embankment was ever constructed, and not a crenellated wall.

- 4.5.3 In the same year, licence was also granted for a market to be held in the church grounds. It was moved in 1285 to the High Street, at its junction with Castle Street and East Lane to the south east of the site. A market cross and market building stood here, although stock such as cattle may have been corralled farther west closer to the site. Bank Street itself is probably of medieval origin and then known as Back Lane- a common designation for lanes or alleys behind the main 'high streets'.

4.6 **Post-Medieval**

- 4.6.1 During the Tudor period, Tonbridge increased in prosperity as one of the centres of the burgeoning Weald iron industry. However, the topography of the town itself appears to have remained largely unaltered. Study of the 17th century town has revealed that most of the buildings – other than the church and castle- were still of timber. Interestingly the main focus of activity was the high Street and there is no evidence that areas behind the high street were densely occupied. From at least this time it would seem that the 'shambles', or slaughterhouse, were situated on the south side of the site.
- 4.6.2 Major stimuli to the development of Tonbridge were the opening of the Medway to navigation in 1748 and the arrival of the railway in 1842. Nevertheless, it would seem that within the old core of the town, the area of the site remained largely as open ground behind the street frontages.
- 4.6.3 Although it is probable that buildings had existed along Bank Street since medieval times there is little secure evidence for occupation here until the late post-medieval period. The Town Cage existed on the southeastern part of Bank Street until the 19th century but its southwestern corner contained the shambles or slaughterhouse. The shambles owned paddocks in the open ground to the rear, where livestock was stored. The parish poorhouse or workhouse was built in 1723 and survives (much altered) as Bank House just to the south of the site. The building now known as the Corn Exchange was erected in 1791 as a Congregational Chapel, but was sold to the Cattle Market in 1875 and modified for its new role.
- 4.6.4 It is probable that on the northern side of the Corn Exchange was situated an Inn known as the 'Bear and Ragged Staff' which had orchards to the rear and, by the 18th

century, a skittle or nine-pin yard to the north. The former Capitol Cinema, forming the northern street side of the site, was built as a public hall in 1873.

- 4.6.5 The Tonbridge Stock and Cattle Market Company was formed in November 1855, after discussions amongst interested parties regarding the removal of the market from the High Street to a more convenient site. At first a site near the railway station was favoured by the cattle auctioneers, but at a meeting with townspeople it was felt that this might be injurious to trade in the town centre, although they also agreed that the market could not remain where it was. The present site was identified as being large enough to accommodate the salesmen's needs and address the inhabitants concerns. The new cattle market opened in June 1856 with regular markets held from that date onwards. The premises largely consisted of yards that occupied the former inn's orchards and slaughterhouse paddocks, and its entrance was through the former skittle alley. The market continued to operate until 1971. Since then the site has been used as a car park.

4.7 PHASE 1 EVALUATION SUMMARY: from Watson 2003

Thirteen evaluation trenches were excavated and excavation of two geotechnical test pits was monitored within the car park.

Evaluation revealed that the natural geology had been subjected to considerable erosion. A soil which had formed from deposits derived from Loess that overlay the bedrock appears to have developed across the site during the Holocene. The undulating natural landsurface was extensively levelled prior to the construction of the cattle market in 1855-56. Evidence of truncated medieval and post-medieval soil horizons was detected in trenches 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 14 confirming that the whole area had been extensively lowered and levelled during the construction of the cattle market. Evidence of the cattle market consisted of areas of brick paving, gravel or ash and cinders/clinker external surfaces. A barrel-lined soakaway found in trench 8 is probably of 19th century date, so is likely to be contemporary with the cattle market.

Evidence of medieval activity was only found in trenches 4 and 12. Undated pits and a gully were also located in trench 3. In trench 4 there was a large pit, probably a soil quarry, the backfill of which contained medieval roof tile and an iron bucket handle. In trench 12 there was a series of nine unlined, small, rubbish pits and one posthole. Pottery from these pits dates from 1050-1250, other finds from these contexts included metallic slag from iron smithing or smelting and fragments of ceramic roofing tile. The absence of medieval and post-medieval features from the other trenches suggests that the main focus of the settlement and other activities during this period was along the High Street to the east of the site. It was expected to locate post medieval buildings or features in trench 13 close to Bank Street but the only two features present (probably a quarry pit and a robbed out foundation) were sealed by a 19th soil dumping (containing pottery dating to 1830-80).

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 The Phase 2 Evaluation fieldwork was designed to assess the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains, which may require further investigation. The excavation of eleven trenches was agreed with the Kent County Council.
- 5.2 All works were undertaken in accordance with the guidelines set out by English Heritage and the Institute of Field Archaeology.
- 5.3 The presence of underground services was taken into consideration and the area scanned using a Cable Avoiding Tool prior to excavation.
- 5.4 Under archaeological supervision, a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat ditching bucket was used to remove unproductive soils down to the highest archaeological horizon at each trench location. The features 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.
- 5.5 All archaeological features (stratigraphical layers, cuts, fills, structures) were recorded in plan and where necessary in section using standard recording methods. A photographic record was also made as appropriate.
- 5.6 Two temporary benchmarks (values 28.20m and 27.81m OD) were traversed onto the site from the Ordnance Survey Benchmark, located on the western face of the plumbers merchants on Bank Street to the east of the site (value 28.49m OD).

6 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 6.1 The topography of Tonbridge is dominated by the River Medway and its four tributaries. In consequence the area of their confluence was largely low lying marshland, with rising ground to the north. It was on this ground that the town was founded.
- 6.2 The site lies at c.26-28mOD with the ground rising gently to the east.
- 6.3 The Phase 1 evaluation demonstrated that the local bedrock was Lower Cretaceous Tonbridge Wells Sands, although, at this location at least it had been subject to considerable erosion. A loessic type deposit sealed the bedrock.
- 6.4 The loessic deposit (brickearth) was observed throughout all the Phase 2 trenches, varying in level from 26.82mOD at the southwestern part of the site (Tr.1), 26.75mOD in the northwest (Tr.4), 27.95mOD at the northeast (Tr.11) and 27.62mOD at the southeast (Tr.10).

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Summary

7.1.1 The evaluation revealed cut features containing medieval pottery in areas set back from the street frontages of The Slade and Bank Street. This is likely to yield evidence of the types of activity undertaken in the area during that period. Some of the pottery is dated to AD1000-1150 and may give an insight into the formation of the town, which is believed to have been founded following the erection of the castle in the 11th century. Evidence of land management in the form of ditches probably to act as drainage and waste disposal, containing 17th century pottery was also revealed.

7.2 Trench 1 (Figures 3 and 5)

7.2.1 This trench measured 9.55m by 2.0m and was orientated northeast-southwest, excavated through up to 0.60m of overburden.

7.2.2 The natural was present in this trench between levels of 26.82mOD at the southwestern end and 26.93mOD at the northeastern end. All the features described below were cut from between these levels.

7.2.3 The earliest archaeological activity observed in this trench consisted of two narrow linear features cut into the natural. The smaller of the two [42] ran approximately northeast-southwest measuring 0.08m deep, 0.40m in width and 2.71m in length, continuing beyond the southern limit of excavation (LOE) and was truncated at its northerly end by pit [37]. The second [49] was truncated at its southerly end by pit [37] and proceeded in a north-south alignment for 2.95m and extending beyond the northerly LOE. It measured 0.40m in width and 0.25m deep. The fills of both features were light grey clayey sand with charcoal flecks and neither produced any dateable material. However, both pre-dated pit [37] that produced sherds of North or West Kent shell-filled ware (Fabric EM35) pottery dated to 1050-1225 from within the dark grey clayey sand fill. The feature was sub-oval in plan measuring 1.02m by 0.94m and 0.37m deep.

7.2.4 Truncating ditch [49], on its eastern side was a second pit, sub circular in plan and measuring 1.10m by 1.01m. This was 0.14m in depth and produced a sherd of a stabbed knife handle of a jug in North or West Kent sandy and shell-tempered ware (Fabric EM 36) dated 1100-1250.

- 7.2.5 Extending beyond the southern LOE a probable posthole was partially excavated. This measured 0.52m by 0.33m (as seen) and 0.12m in depth. From within the fill, a sherd of North or West Kent shell-filled ware.
- 7.2.6 Also cutting ditch [49] but on its western side, was a 19th century pit [47] containing English stoneware with a Bristol glaze dated to after 1835. This feature measured 0.93m by 0.68m with a sub oval shape in plan, orientated east-west and measuring 0.44m in depth.

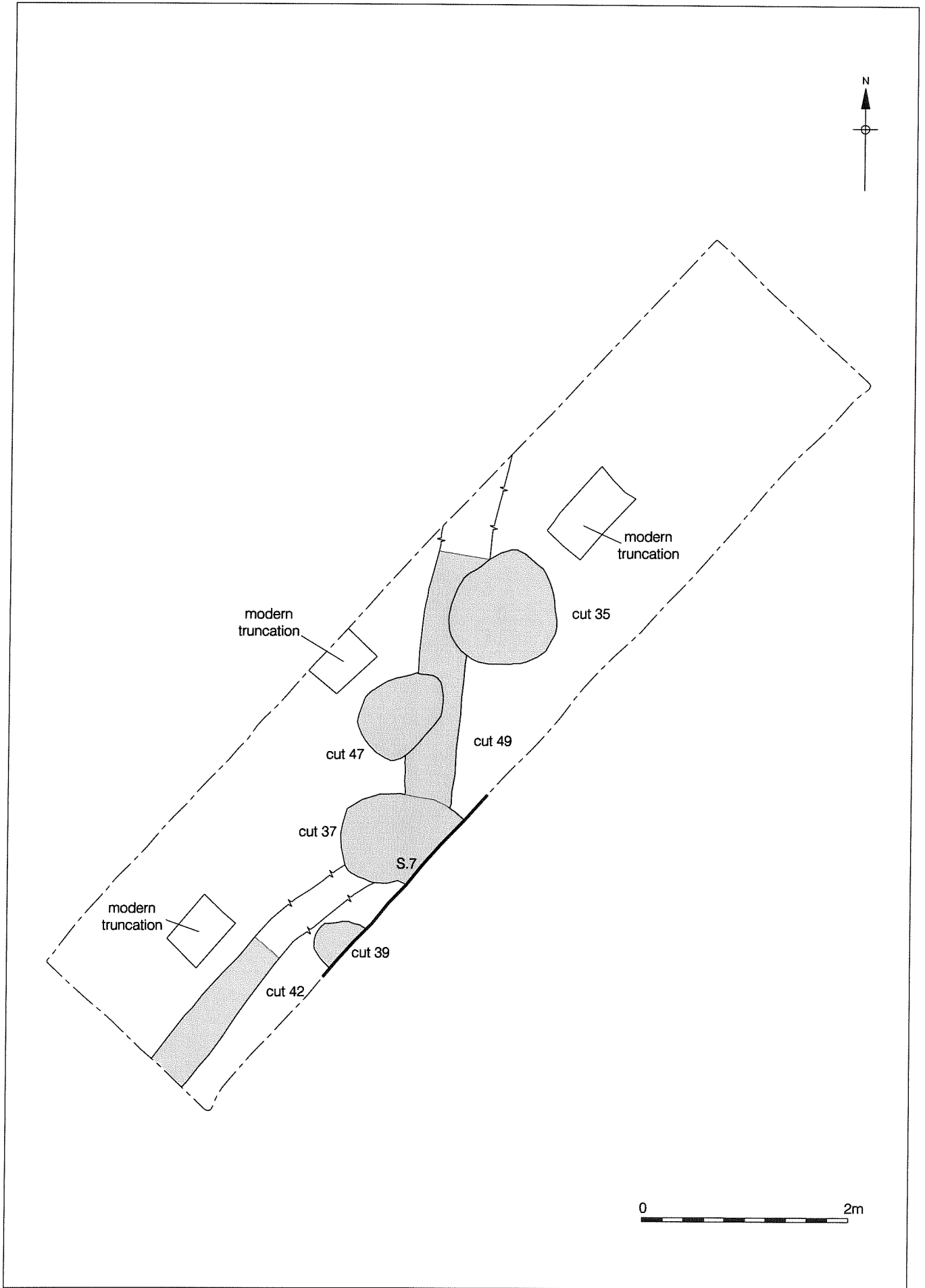


Figure 3
Trench 1
1:50

7.3 **Trench 2** (Figures 4 and 5)

7.3.1 This trench measured 8.5m by 2.0m and was orientated northwest-southeast and was excavated through between 0.30 and 0.33m of overburden.

7.3.2 The natural brickearth was exposed between 26.94mOD and 26.91mOD; the features described below were all cut from between these levels.

7.3.3 Towards the centre of the trench a posthole [28] was cut measuring 0.58m by 0.46m and 0.19m in depth. A single sherd of North or West Kent sandy ware (Fabric M38A) dated 1150-1400 was recovered from the fill.

7.3.4 A single sherd of post-medieval pottery dated 1580-1800 was recovered from a shallow, 0.05m deep, truncated feature measuring 0.38m by 0.35m and sub circular in plan.

7.3.5 At the extreme west of the trench a square cut posthole [32] measuring 0.50m by 0.50m and 0.24m in depth was recorded. This contained the decayed remains of a timber post set upon a course of roof tile.

7.3.6 The remaining features produced no finds of accurately dateable material. These consisted of: A sub rectangular pit [26] measuring 0.88m by 0.78m and 0.18m deep; a sub circular possible posthole measuring 0.40m by 0.32m and 0.18m in depth; a sub circular cut [45] extending beyond the southerly LOE, measuring 0.40m by 0.60m and 0.29m in depth.

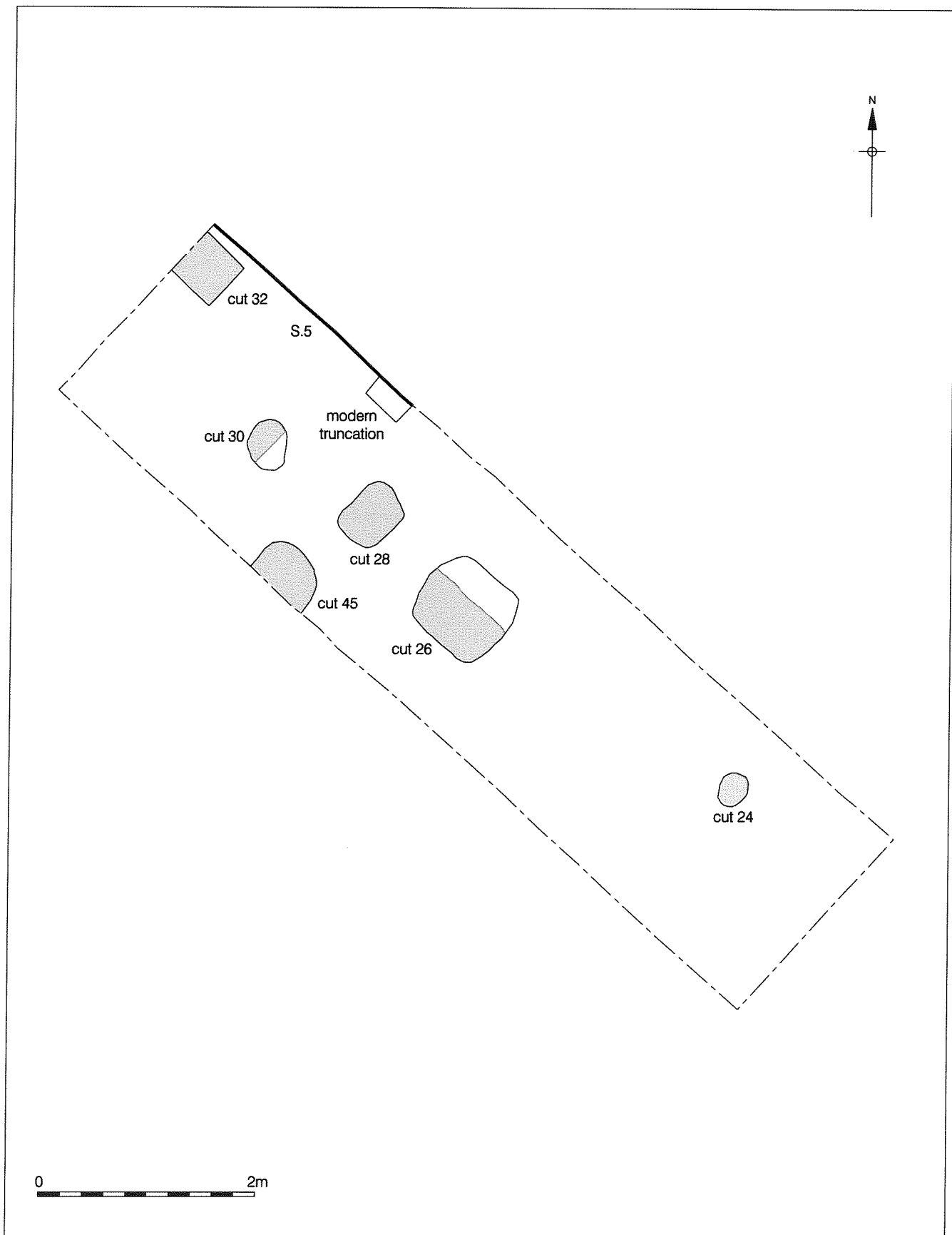
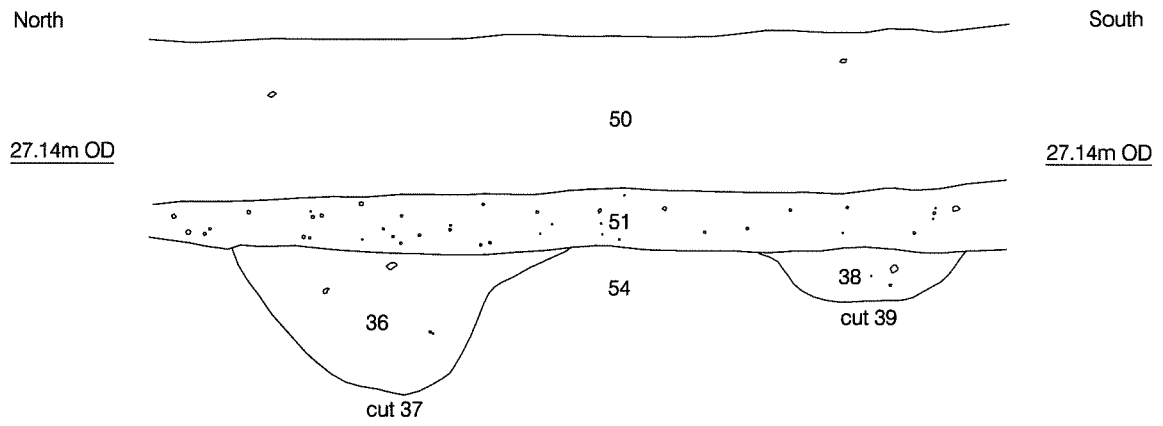
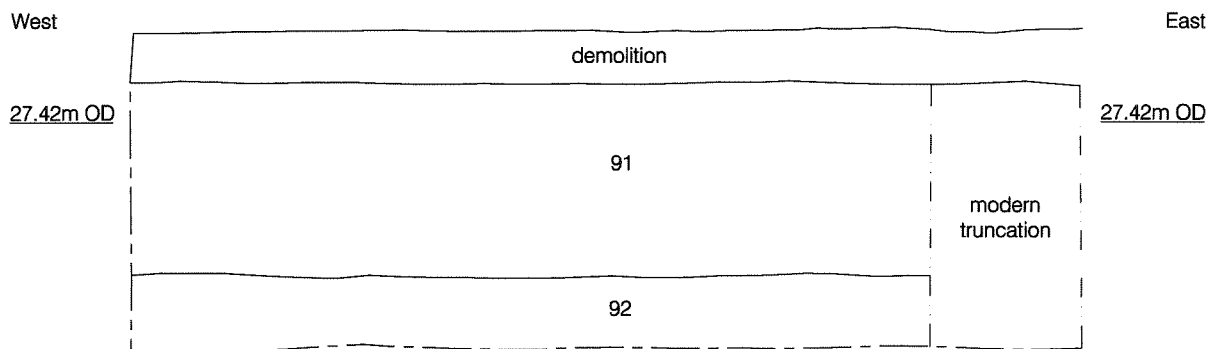


Figure 4
Trench 2
1:50



Section 7
A sample of the west facing section of Trench 1



Section 5
A sample of the south facing section of Trench 2

7.4 **Trench 3** (Figure 6)

- 7.4.1 This trench measured 10.35m by 1.6m and was orientated northeast-southwest.
- 7.4.2 The natural brickearth was exposed at a level varying from 26.70mOD at the southerly end to 26.88mOD at the northerly end beneath up to 0.80m of overburden.
- 7.4.3 Only one feature was revealed in this trench- a sub rounded clay-lined pit [76] extending beyond southwestern and southeastern LOE's. Fragments of roof tile were recovered from the fill [74] that was 0.40m in thickness. The lining [75] was removed to a depth of 0.56 but the feature could not be bottomed due to health and safety issues concerning the depth of unsupported excavations.

7.5 **Trench 4** (Figures 7 and 11)

- 7.5.1 This trench measured 11.75m by 1.6m and was orientated northwest-southeast. The natural was exposed at the westerly end of the trench at 26.68mOD and at the easterly end at 26.75mOD beneath up to 1.13m of overburden.
- 7.5.2 Running east-west obliquely across the trench a linear ditch [95] was observed. Due to the angle at which this feature traversed the trench it can only be estimated at c.3m in width. During machining, an intact Frechen stoneware (Fabric PM5) drinking jug dated to c.1650 was recovered from the fill [33]. Due to high soil contamination within this trench, minimal hand excavation was undertaken. A narrow slot was excavated at the westerly end of the feature that suggested the upper fill to be c0.20m deep and coming down onto a compact gravel [94] that may have accumulated by water lain deposition or been put down to form a lining. The pottery recovered from the excavation of the slot through fill [33] is dated to the late 19th century and included sherds of industrial finewares.

7.6 **Trench 5**

- 7.6.1 This trench measured 11.20m by 1.6m and was orientated northeast-southwest.
- 7.6.2 Following the excavation of this trench by machine, some probable features were observed cutting into the natural. However, the degree of contamination and subsequent water logging in this trench, probably caused by the cracking of a buried water main by the vibrations of demolition plant, prevented any further investigation by hand. It would appear that the alignment of the ditch recorded in Trench 4 could be extrapolated and that this is what was seen prior to flooding.

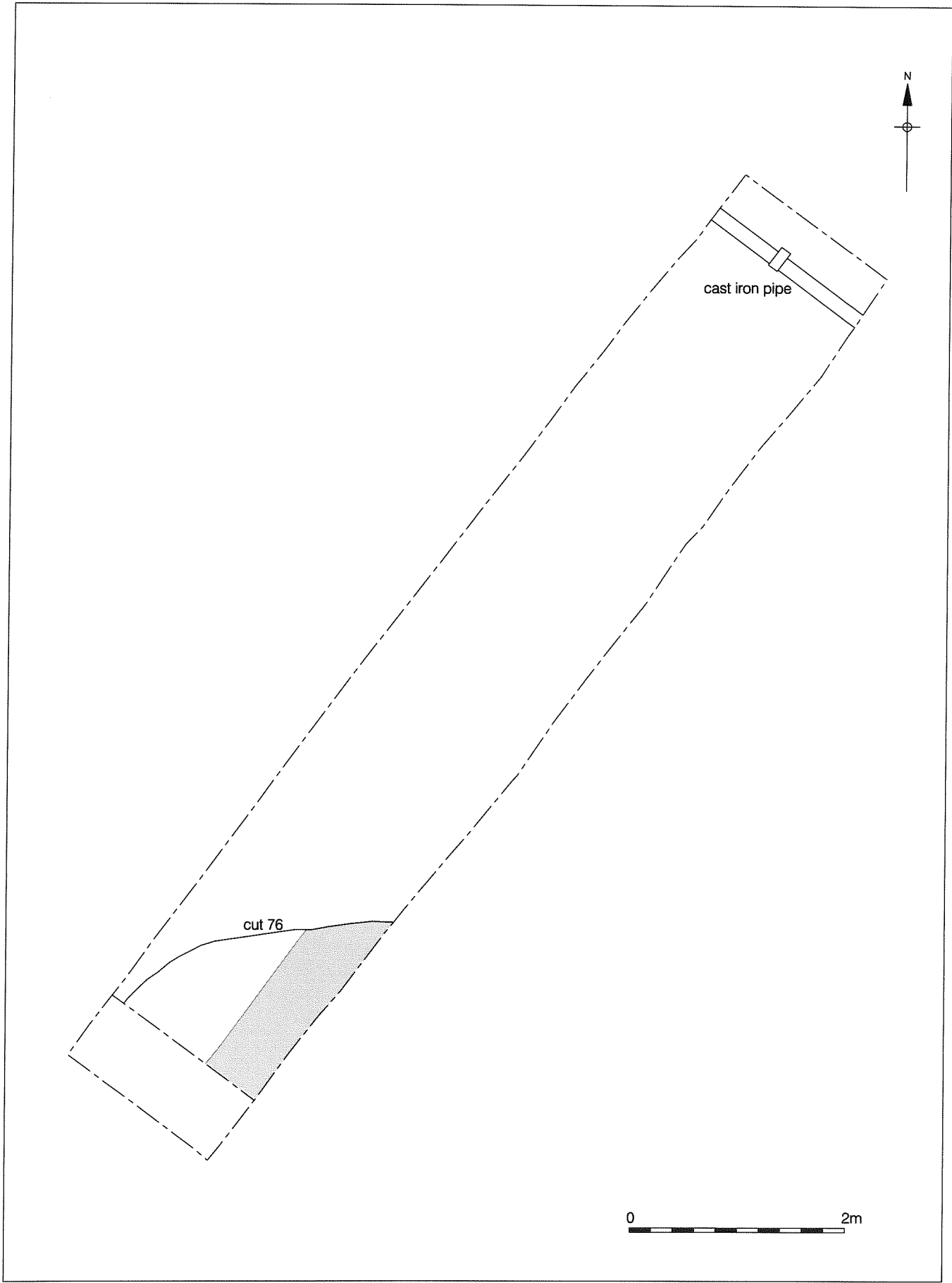


Figure 6
Trench 3
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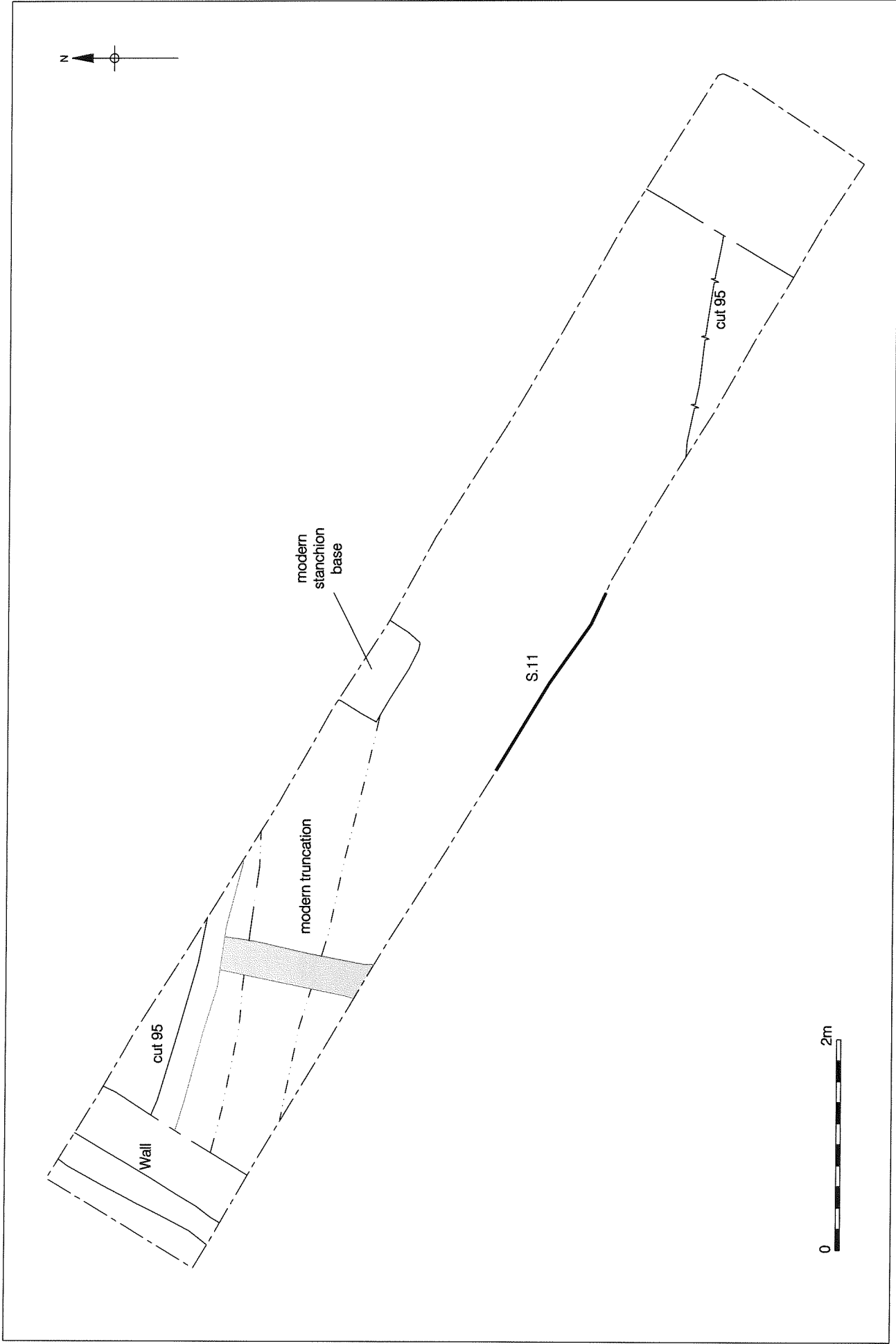


Figure 7
Trench 4
1:50

7.7 Trench 6

- 7.7.1 This trench measured 10.4m by 1.6m and was orientated northwest-southeast.
- 7.7.2 The natural was present between 27.13mOD and 26.85mOD and overlain by 0.70m of overburden.
- 7.7.3 No archaeological features were visibly present following the machining and the degree of contamination by heavy solvents (Southern Testing *pers comm*) in this trench prevented any cleaning by hand.

7.8 Trench 7 (Figure 8)

- 7.8.1 This trench measured 7.6m by 1.6m and was orientated northwest-southeast.
- 7.8.2 The natural was exposed at a level between 27.33mOD at the southeastern end of the trench and 27.12mOD at the northwestern end. The following features were cut from between these heights.
- 7.8.3 At the northwestern end a large sub circular pit [54] was exposed and half sectioned. This measured 1.88m east-west by 1.48m north-south continuing beyond the northerly LOE. The fill [22] within measured 0.30m in thickness and produced sherds of North or West Kent sandy and shell tempered ware (Fabric EM36) dated 1100-1250. Fragments of slag were also recovered from this fill. To the north side of this feature, it appeared that there was a relationship with another feature just visible from the LOE. The order of the relationship could not be ascertained given the minimal area exposed and the similarity of the fills. At its southeastern side, pit [54] appeared to cut another feature [100], probably a pit, which continued beyond the southerly LOE. The similarity of the fills obscured the relationship.
- 7.8.4 Towards the east of the aforementioned features, a sub-rounded pit with a linear spur [13] protruding towards the north was half sectioned. This measured 1.54m along its longest axis by 0.88m extending beyond the southerly LOE. This was 0.17m deep and from within the fill a sherd of pottery formed in an unidentified greyware fabric that is likely to date to 1050-1225 was recovered.
- 7.8.5 A linear cut [7], possibly a ditch, was observed running across the width of the southeastern end of the trench. The full extent of was not seen as the southwestern, southeastern and northeastern edges were all beyond the LOE's. On excavation it was found to have a vertical side at the northerly edge and possibly split into two

features. There were a number of fills within the cut (or cuts) yet the pattern in which these accumulated did not offer any clarification as to the nature of the feature. From within these fills, [4], [5] & [6], a range of pottery fabrics were retained giving an overall date range of 1050-1400.

7.8.6 A feature was observed extending into the trench from the northerly LOE but was not investigated due to the minimal extent that was shown.

7.8.7 Sealing these medieval cuts was a layer of possible agricultural soil [59] that contained pottery dating to 1800-1900 and overburden amounting to 0.74m thick.

7.9 **Trench 8** (Figure 9)

7.9.1 This trench measured 11.6m by 1.6m and was orientated northwest-southeast. The natural brickearth was exposed between 27.23mOD and 27.33mOD. There was up to 0.78m of unproductive layers above the natural.

7.9.2 Towards the northwestern end of the trench a foundation formed of carved masonry blocks [17] was exposed. The cut in which they were laid spanned the width of the trench and was 0.45m wide.

7.10 **Trench 9**

7.10.1 This trench measured 6.35m by 1.6m and was orientated northeast-southwest. The presence of possibly live services and modern truncations curtailed excavation of this trench. Beneath 0.50m of modern material, the natural brickearth was exposed at a level of 27.62mOD.

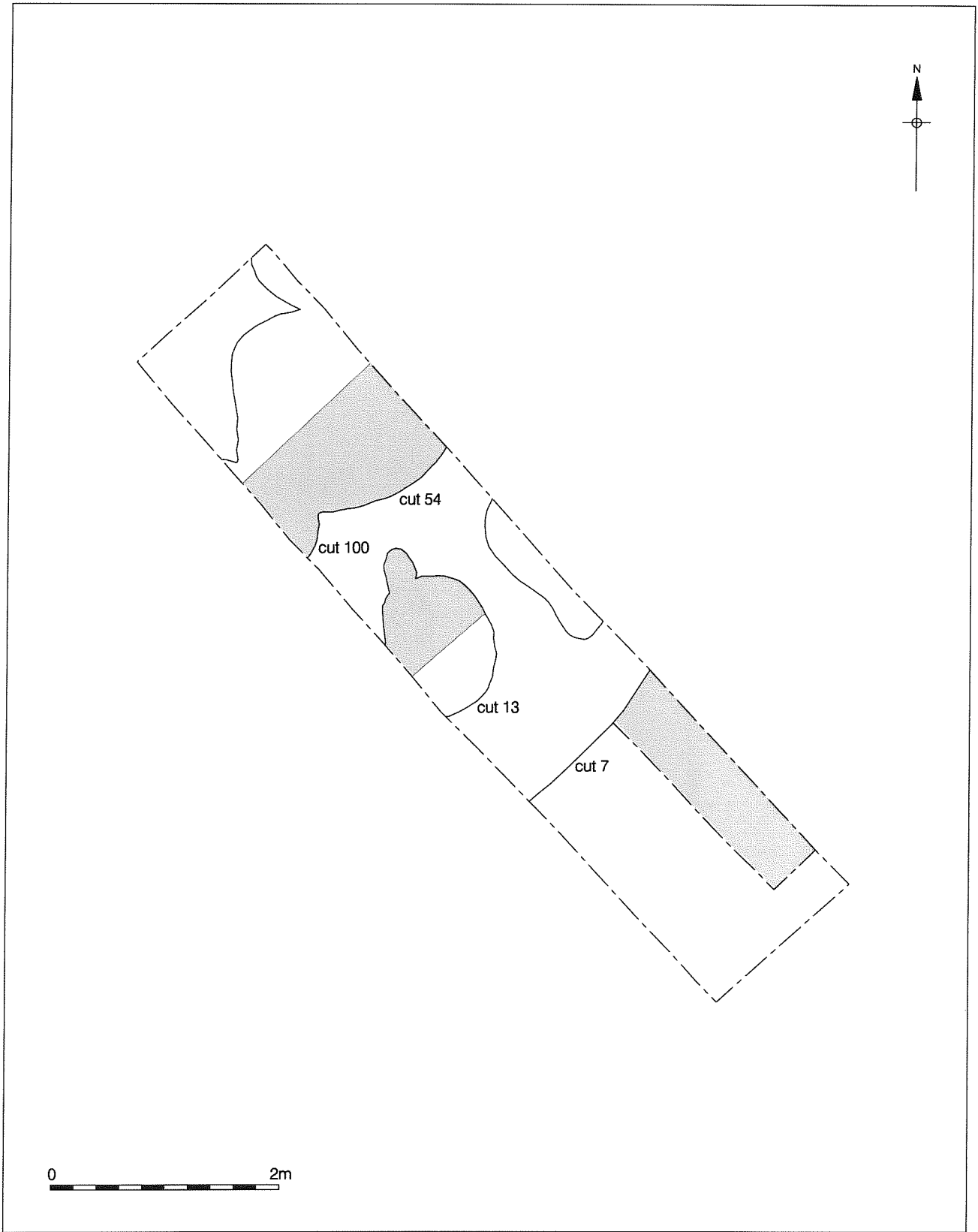


Figure 8
Trench 7
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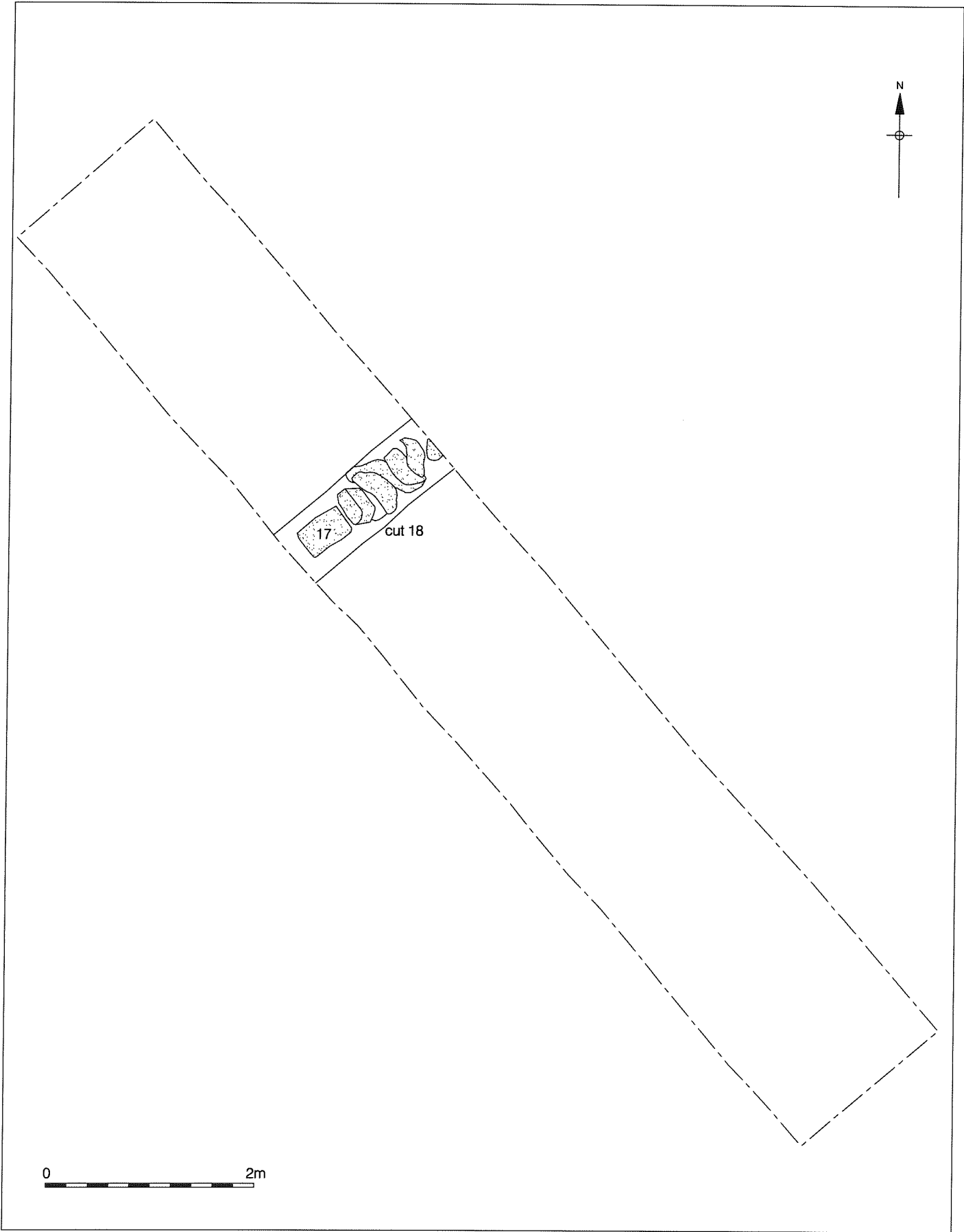


Figure 9
Trench 8
1:50

7.11 **Trench 10** (Figure 10 and 11)

7.11.1 This trench measured 8.5 m by 1.6m and was orientated northeast-southwest.

7.11.2 At the northeastern end of the trench a length of wall [9] was exposed that entered the trench from the southeastern LOE and continued for 1.05m with a width of 0.70m before turning to the northeast and continuing for 1.60m with a width of 0.36m. It was constructed of roughly squared blocks of Ragstone and Sandstone with fragments of roof tile inserted, probably as levelling. The top of the wall was present at a level between 27.99mOD and 28.00mOD and it survived to just a single course up to c.0.20m high. These appeared to lie within a construction cut [8].

7.11.3 A ditch [02] was observed running across the southwestern end of the trench. This measured 1.60m wide at the top and was cut from a height of 27.52mOD. The sides were steep at approximately 70° and the fill [01] was excavated to a depth of 0.80m where a second fill, probably basal, consisting of mainly sawdust was encountered. Within this a fragment of worked timber was exposed. From within the upper fill, fragments of post-medieval earthenwares (Fabric PM1) and Calcarous 'peppered' smooth ware (Fabric PM64) dated 1550-1750 were recovered, together with an AO16 clay tobacco pipe bowl dated to c.1660-1680.

7.11.4 Up to 0.60m of unproductive deposits sealed the archaeology present in this trench.

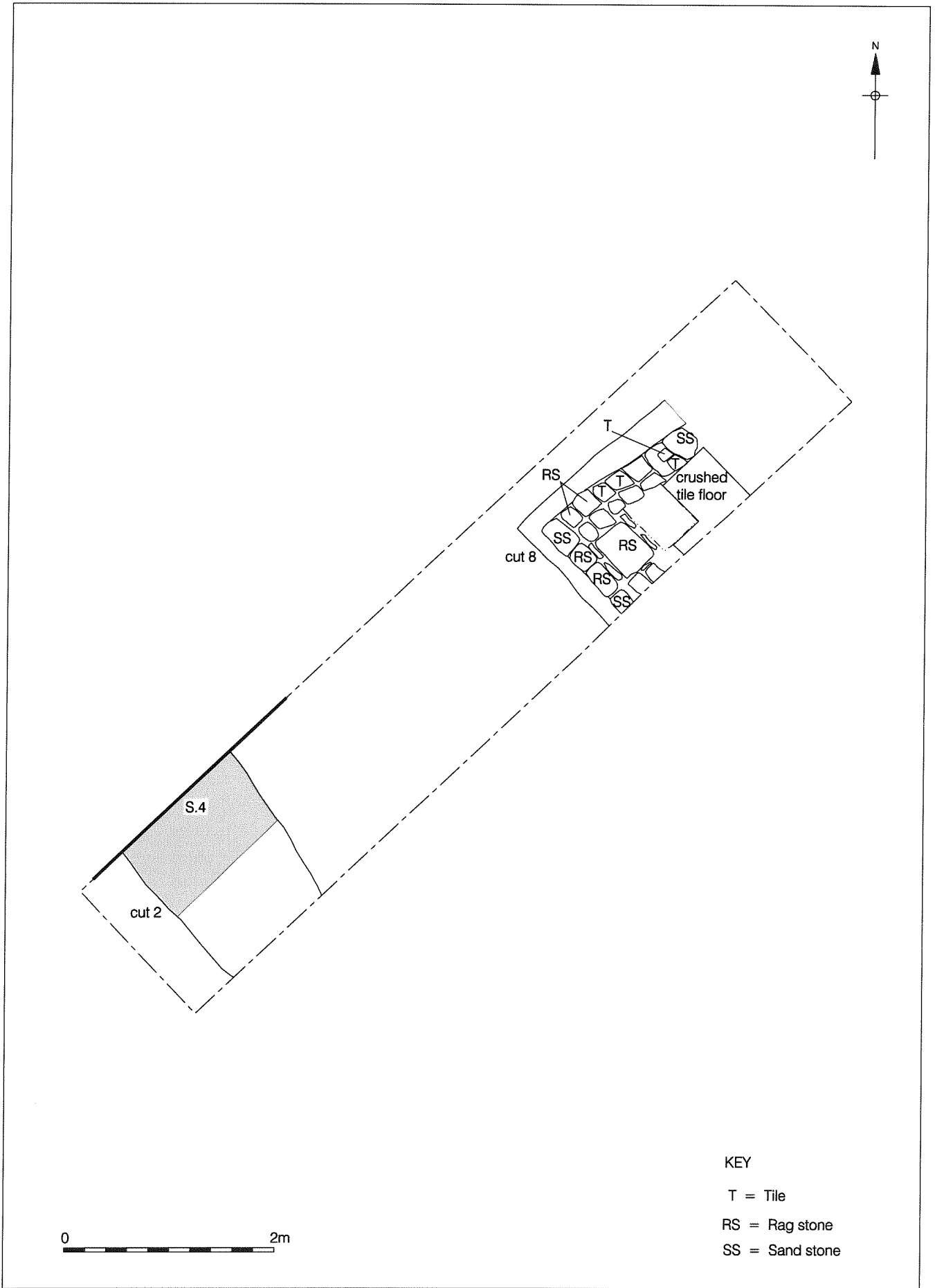
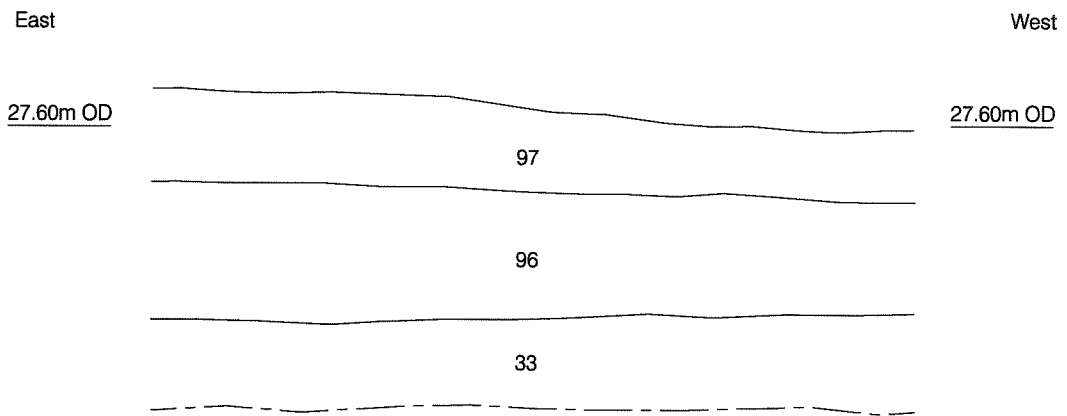
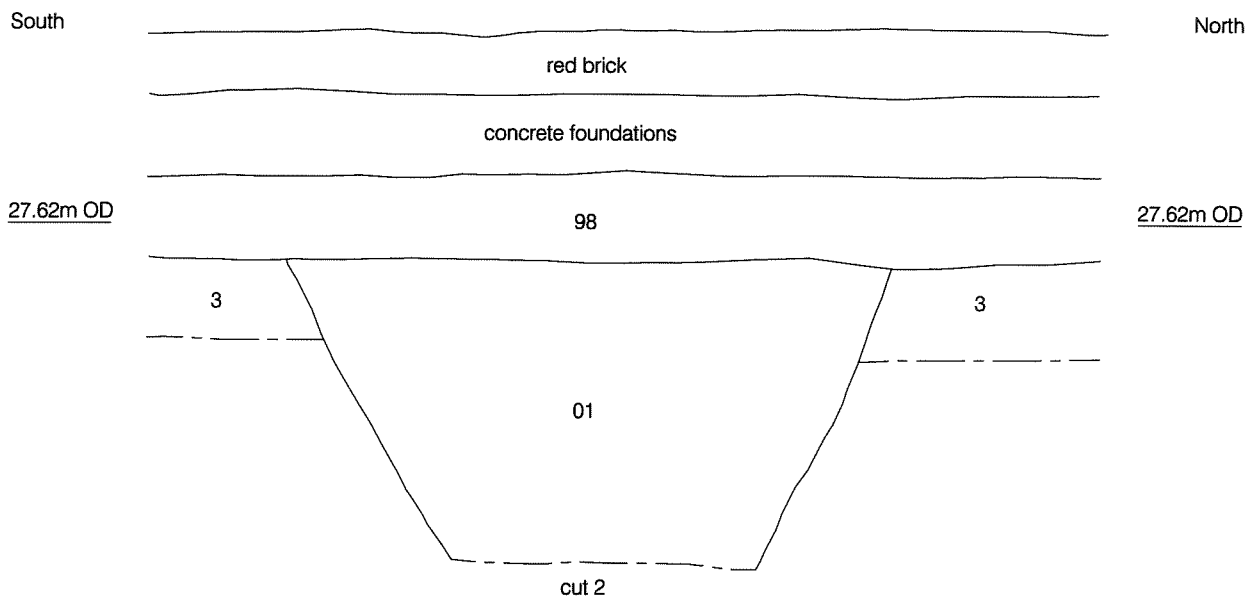


Figure 10
Trench 10
1:50



Section 11
A sample of the north facing section of Trench 4



Section 4
A sample of the east facing section of Trench 10

Figure 11
Sections 11 and 4
1:20

7.12 **Trench 11** (Figure 12)

7.12.1 This trench measured 8.8m by 1.6m and was orientated northeast-southwest.

7.12.2 At the north eastern end of the trench a series of pits and postholes were cut into the natural brickearth at a levels between 27.73mOD and 27.95mOD. Three pits [61], [63] and [65] varying in diameter from 0.50m to 0.70m and in depth from 0.29m to 0.40m contained in their similar fills pottery dated to 1050-1225. These cut a larger pit, 1.58m in diameter and sub circular in plan and 0.69m deep. From within the fill, pottery sherds from the rims of two jars dated 1150-1400 and North or West Kent sandy ware (Fabric M38A) were recovered.

7.12.3 Immediately to the northeast of these pits a stakehole [82] circular in plan and 0.10m in diameter, 0.26m deep was excavated. No finds were recovered from the fill.

7.12.4 A further pit was located to the north of [82]. This was sub-circular in plan and measured 0.44m by 0.42m and 0.27m deep. A single sherd of north or West Kent sandy and shell-tempered ware (Fabric EM36) was recovered from the fill. This feature continued slightly beyond the northerly LOE.

7.12.5 At the southwestern end of the trench a modern brick built soakaway was present [89]. This appeared to have associated pipe runs exiting to the northwest [86] and northeast turning into the southeastern LOE [88]. To the north of these intrusions a narrow linear [84] was exposed and is also likely to be related to the modern drainage system as on the eastern side a brick built drain is present at the side of the trench.

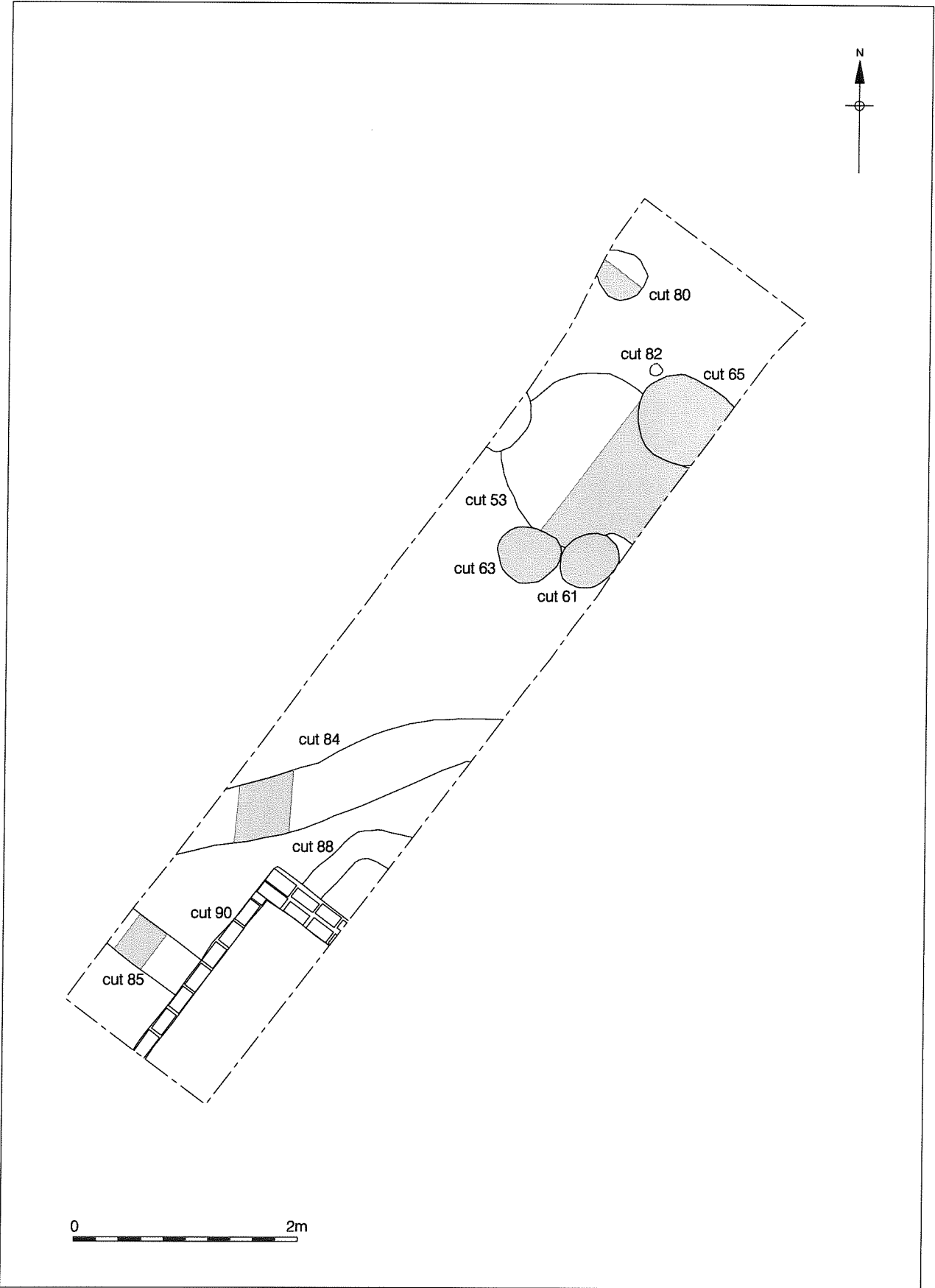


Figure 12
Trench 11
1:50

8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The evaluation proved the presence of archaeological cut features and deposits dating from the early medieval period through to modern times.
- 8.2 Following the Norman conquest of 1066 Richard Fitzgilbert founded the castle at Tonbridge and it is believed that the town came into existence in association with this. No evidence for earlier settlement has been recorded in the town although this may be due to the lack of excavation by modern methods, rather than a complete absence of surviving archaeological deposits.
- 8.3 The features containing the earliest pottery (dated AD1050-1225) were located towards the edges of the site, set back from the roads of Bank Street and The Glade. Wragg (forthcoming) suggests that the entrance to the castle was accessed via a road spurring off the High Street that deflected its course to the south and crossed the moat surrounding the northern side of the castle by bridge. This created an 'island' of land ideally situated in front of the castle and on the flank of the main road through the town, on which the market became established. On the western side of Bank Street, burgage plots extended back towards the northwest. To the northwest of the castle it is understood that an outer bailey existed although the exact course of the ditch of this is yet to be ascertained. The Glade certainly would seem to follow the course of the northeastern side of this feature. The area surrounding Trench 1 would lie at the extreme rear of the suggested plot bounded to the southwest by this ditch. As no evidence for such early activity was recorded as far back from Bank Street elsewhere on the site it is possible that further excavation in this area may clarify the use of the land and the extent and layout of the ditch of the outer bailey and/or the burgage plots.
- 8.4 A larger pottery assemblage dated to AD 1050-1400 was recovered from pits closer to Bank Street at the eastern side of the site. The town was becoming more established by the 13th century with Henry III granting a licence to enclose the town with a crenulated wall and the market charter both being awarded in 1229. The archaeological evidence may give an insight into the professions and services offered at the market supplementing the trading that would have occurred. The presence of industrial waste in the form of slag suggests that either smelting or metalworking was undertaken. It is known that the town was linked to the Wealden iron industry (ibid.) and the high iron content of the local geology would not rule smelting out however, it seems unlikely that this more environmentally unfriendly process would have been

conducted so close to habitation. Further analysis of this material will enable a more accurate deduction to be made.

- 8.5 The small section of surviving masonry adjacent to Bank Street may be remnant from a dwarf wall supporting a timber superstructure. This probably dates to the late medieval period and fronted onto the market on the other side of Bank Street. It is probable that the pitting present in Trench 7 was associated with a property predating this as it is in a direct line back from the street.
- 8.6 The 17th century ditch exposed adjacent to Bank Street and running perpendicularly from it may be indicative of a land division or of drainage. The width of the ditch located to the rear of the Corn Exchange building implies that in this case the latter is more likely. Further excavation of these features should clarify their extent and nature.
- 8.7 The carved masonry blocks found in Trench 9 were within a cut aligned with a modern wall adjacent to the trench and it is most likely that these were reused in the late 19th or early 20th century, having been purloined from the restoration or alteration of a nearby grand structure, perhaps the castle or church.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Duncan Hawkins, CgMs Consulting, for commissioning the work on behalf of Crest Nicholson. The author would like to thank the following: the field staff; the surveyor Nathalie Barrett; Adrian Nash for the illustrations; the finds specialist Chris Jarrett, post-Roman pottery and Gary Brown for his project management and editing.
- 9.2 PCA are also pleased to acknowledge the help and assistance provided by Maldon Demolition Ltd.

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

KBST 05 Bank Street, Tonbridge, Kent

Context	Type	Trench	Comments	Provisional date	Pot	Glass	CBM	CTP	Slag	Bone
1	Fill	10	Fill of ditch cut [02]	C17	X		X	X	X	
2	Cut	10	Cut of ditch	C17						
3	Natural	10	Nat clay							
4	Fill	7	Upper fill of [7]	Medieval	X				X	
5	Fill	7	Fill of [07]	Medieval	X					X
6	Fill	7	Fill of [07]	Medieval	X					X
7	Cut	7	Cut of ditch(es)	Medieval						
8	Cut	10	Construction cut							
9	Masonry	10	Stone wall footings	Late Medieval						
10	Fill	10	Backfill of				X			
11	Fill	10	Fill of [08]				X			
12	Fill	7	Fill of [13]	Medieval	X					X
13	Cut	7	Cut of pit	Medieval						
14	Layer	9	Greyish layer		x		x			
15	Natural	9	Nat brickearth							
16	Fill	8	Fill of [18]				x			
17	Masonry	8	North-south wall foundation	C19						
18	Cut	8	Construction cut							
19	Layer	8	Black layer		x		x			
20	Layer	8	Greyish layer							
21	Natural	8	Nat brickearth							
22	Fill	7	Fill of [55]	Medieval	X		X		X	X
23	Fill	2	Fill of [24]	Post medieval	X					
24	Cut	2	Cut of pit	Post medieval						
25	Fill	2	Fill of [26]	Post medieval					X	
26	Cut	2	Cut of pit	Post medieval						
27	Fill	2	Fill of [28]	Post medieval	X					
28	Cut	2	Cut of posthole	Post medieval						
29	Fill	2	Fill of [26]	Post medieval						
30	Cut	2	Cut of pit	Post medieval						
31	Fill	2	Fill of [26]	Post medieval			X			
32	Cut	2	Cut of pit	Post medieval						
33	Fill	4	Fill of ditch cut [95]	C18	X	X	X	X	X	X
34	Fill	1	Fill of [35]	Medieval	X					
35	Cut	1	Cut of pit	Medieval						
36	Fill	1	Fill of [37]	Medieval	X		X			
37	Cut	1	Cut of pit	Medieval						
38	Fill	1	Fill of [39]	Medieval	X					X
39	Cut	1	Cut of pit	Medieval						
40			Void							

41	Fill	1	Fill of [42]	Medieval						
42	Cut	1	Cut of gully (Beamslot)	Medieval						
43	Natural	2	Nat							
44	Fill	2	Fill of [45]	Medieval						
45	Cut	2	Cut of pit	Medieval						
46	Fill	1	Fill of [47]	Late C19	X	X		X		X
47	Cut	1	Cut of pit	Late C19						
48	Fill	1	Fill of [49]	Medieval					X	X
49	Cut	1	Cut of ditch	Medieval						
50	Layer	1	Topsoil	C19						
51	Layer	1	Subsoil							
52	Fill	11	Fill of [52]	Medieval	X					X
53	Cut	11	Cut of pit	Medieval						
54	Natural	1	Natural							
55	Cut	7	Cut of pit	Medieval						
56	Layer	7	Cinder surface	Late C19						
57	Layer	7	Levelling	Late C19						
58	Layer	7	Make up	Late C19						
59	Layer	7	Agricultural soil?	19th	X		X	X		
60	Fill	11	Fill of [61]	Medieval					X	X
61	Cut	11	Cut of pit	Medieval						
62	Fill	11	Fill of [63]	Medieval	X					
63	Cut	11	Cut of posthole	Medieval						
64	Fill	11	Fill of [65]	Medieval	X					
65	Cut	11	Cut of posthole	Medieval						
66	Fill	11	Fill of [53]	Medieval	X					
67	Natural	11	Nat brickearth							
68	Layer	6	Topsoil	19th						
69	Layer	6	Subsoil	19th						
70	Natural	6	Natural							
71	Layer	3	Cinder surface	Late C19						
72	Layer	3	Hardcore	Late C19						
73	Layer	3	Subsoil							
74	Fill	3	Fill of [76]	19th			X			X
75	Fill	3	Lining to [76]	19th						
76	Cut	3	Cut of pit	Post-med						
77	Natural	3	Natural							
78	Natural	7	Natural							
79	Fill	11	Fill of [80]	Medieval	X					
80	Cut	11	Cut of posthole	Medieval						
81	Fill	11	Fill of [82]	Medieval						
82	Cut	11	Cut of stakehole	Medieval						
83	Fill	11	Fill of [84]	Modern?						
84	Cut	11	Cut	Modern?						
85	Fill	11	Fill of [86]	Modern?						
86	Cut	11	Cut	Modern?						

87	Fill	11	Fill of [88]	Modern?	
88	Cut	11	Cut	Modern?	
89	Fill	11	Fill of [90]	Modern?	
90	Cut	11	Cut	Modern?	
91	Layer	2	Topsoil	19th	x
92	Layer	2	Subsoil	19th	
93	Layer	11	Topsoil	19th	
94	Fill	4	Gravel 'lining' to [95]	18th	
95	Cut	4	Ditch	18th	
96	Layer	4	Hardstanding	19th	
97	Layer	4	Demo material	Modern	
98	Layer	10	Topsoil	19th	
99	Fill	7	Fill of [100]	Medieval	
100	Cut	7	Cut of feature (prob pit)	Medieval	

APPENDIX 2: ASSESSMENT OF THE POST-ROMAN POTTERY

Chris Jarrett

Introduction

A small sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site (1 box). Most sherds show no evidence for abrasion indicating rapid deposition after breakage. There are very few complete profiles of vessels represented in the assemblage. All the individual contexts produced small groups of pottery (under 30 sherds). There is a single sherd of abraded Roman pottery, 30 sherds of a medieval date and 38 sherds of post-medieval wares. The medieval pottery mostly dates to between c.1050-1350 while 19th-century wares are the main component of the post-medieval assemblage. However, of note is a complete mid 17th-century German Frechen stoneware drinking jug, but this particular form is a rare import.

All the pottery (69 sherds of which 15 are unstratified) was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and recorded in an ACCESS 2000 database, by fabric, form, decoration, sherd count and estimated number of vessels, using standard Canterbury Archaeological Trust fabric codes and dating. The pottery is discussed by its distribution.

DISTRIBUTION

Table 1 shows the contexts containing pottery, what trench they were recorded in, the number of sherds and a spot date for the group.

Medieval

1050-1225 – contexts [5], [12], [36], [38] and [64]

As the only pottery type, sherds of North or West Kent shell-filled ware (fabric EM35) date these deposits to this period. A jar rim from context [36] is of a simple type and is more likely to be late 11th and early 12th-century in date. An unidentified greyware fabric with moderate quartz and abundant red iron ore inclusions has applied, pinched strip decoration and occurs in context [12] and almost certainly fits with this date range.

1100-1250 – contexts [6], [22], [34], [66] and [79].

Solely present in these deposits are sherds of North or West Kent sandy and shell-tempered ware (fabric EM36). The forms are uncertain in this pottery type, but jar-shaped vessels seem most likely, except for the knife stabbed handle of a jug from context [34].

1150-1225 – context [62]

The presence of North or West Kent shell-filled ware (fabric EM35) with North or West Kent sandy ware (fabric M38A), dated 1150-1400 suggests this deposition date.

1150-1400 – contexts [4], [27] and [52]

Only sherds of North or West Kent sandy ware (fabric M38A) were found in these deposits to date them, with a jug rim found in context [27] and two jar rims recovered from deposit [52].

Context	Trench	No. of sherds	Spot date
[1]	10	6	1550-1775
[4]	7	1	1150-1400
[5]	7	1	1050-1225
[6]	7	1	1150-1250
[12]	7	1	1050-1400
[22]	7	2	1100-1250
[23]	2	1	1580-1800
[27]	2	1	1150-1400
[33]	4	5	1800-1900
[34]	1	1	1100-1250
[36]	1	8	1050-1225
[38]	1	2	1050-1225
[46]	1	16	1835-1900
[52]	11	2	1150-1400
[59]	7	1	1800-1900
[62]	11	2	1150-1225
[64]	11	1	1050-1225
[66]	11	1	1100-1250
[79]	11	1	1100-1250

Table 1. KBST 05, distribution of pottery showing its trench location, the number of sherds and its deposition spot date.

Post-medieval

1550/80-1800 – contexts [1] and [23]

These two deposits are dated only by the presence of Post-medieval earthenwares (fabric PM1) and Calcareous 'peppered' smooth ware (fabric PM64), dated 1550-1750.

1800-1900 – contexts [33], [46] and [59]

The pottery recovered from these features largely contained 19th-century industrial finewares, such as china with transfer-printed ware (fabric LPM14). Deposit [33] produced the complete but residual Frechen stoneware (fabric PM5) drinking jug and deposit [46] contained a sherd of English stoneware with a Bristol glaze, dated to after 1835.

APPENDIX 3: CLAY TOBACCO PIPES

Chris Jarrett

INTRODUCTION

A small sized assemblage of clay tobacco pipes was recovered from the site (1 box). Most fragments are in a fairly good condition, indicating they had not been subject to much redeposition or were deposited soon after breakage. Clay tobacco pipes occur as small numbers in several contexts.

All the clay tobacco pipes (nine fragments, of which one is unstratified) were recorded in an ACCESS 2000 database and classified by Atkinson and Oswald's (1969) typology (AO) and 18th-century examples by Oswald's (1975) typology (OS). The pipes are further coded by decoration and quantified by fragment count. The tobacco pipes are discussed by their distribution.

DISTRIBUTION

See table 1 for contexts containing clay tobacco pipes from the evaluation.

Context	Trench	No. of Fragments	Spot date
1	10	2	1660-1680
33	4	1	1660-1680
46	1	4	19 th century
59	7	1	?late 17 th –18 th century

Table 1. KBST, contexts containing clay tobacco pipe fragments, the number of fragments and a spot date for the group.

1660 – 1680 – contexts [1] and [33].

The only two bowls present on the site both date to c.1660-1680. An AO16 bowl was recovered from deposit [1] and an AO15 bowl was found in context [33].

19th-century

Although stems were solely present in two other deposits, with a possible late 17th to 18th century example in context [59] and four stems of variable dates in context [46], the latter did produce an example with moulded leaves indicating a 19th-century date.

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Oswald, A. (1975). *Clay pipes for the Archaeologist*, British Archaeological Reports, British series, No.14.

APPENDIX 4: KENT SMR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

Site name: Bank Street, Tonbridge, Kent (KPFH 04)		
Site address: Stock and Cattle Market, Banks Street, Tonbridge, Maidstone, Kent.		
Summary: An evaluation consisting of eleven trenches produced evidence for medieval occupation of the site with pottery dated to 1000 to 1400 being found within the fills of pits and other cut features. Evidence of a probably late medieval structure and 17 th century land management (drainage ditches) was also present.		
District/Unitary: Tonbridge and Malling	Parish:	
NGR (centre of site: 8 figures): TQ 5900 4674 (NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)		
Type of archaeological work (delete)		
Evaluation	Watching Brief	Field Walking
Documentary Study	Building Recording	Earthwork Survey
Excavation	Geophysical Survey	Field Survey
Geoarchaeological Investigation		
Date of recording: 2 nd -13 th February 2005		
Unit undertaking recording: Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd		
Geology: Sandy silty clay brickearth		
Title and author of accompanying report: Bank Street, Tonbridge, Kent: Archaeological Evaluation. Stuart Holden		
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate):		
<p><u>Medieval</u></p> <p>Pits and narrow linear cuts (gulleys) set back from The Slade and Bank Street were found to contain pottery dated to 1000 to 1400. From some of these pits associated with Bank Street also contained industrial waste probably from metalworking.</p>		
<p><u>Post-medieval</u></p> <p>A ditch was recorded running perpendicularly from Bank Street with sawdust and a roughly worked timber in the basal fill. 17th century pottery was recovered. A similarly dated ditch was also recorded further west, behind the former Corn Exchange building.</p>		
Location of archive/finds: PCA Ltd		
Contact at Unit: Tim Bradley	Date: February 2005	

APPENDIX 5: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-6745

Project details

Project name	Tonbridge Stock and Cattle Market
Short description of the project	An evaluation comprising 11 trenches was undertaken at the former Tonbridge Stock and Cattle Market in Feb 2005. This produced evidence for medieval activity on the site from the 11th century. A 17th century ditch was also recorded adjacent to Bank Street.
Project dates	Start: 02-02-2005 End: 11-02-2005
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	KT-TBR03 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	PITS Medieval
Monument type	WALL Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT TONBRIDGE AND MALLING TONBRIDGE Tonbridge Cattle and Stock Market
Study area	6000 Square metres
National grid reference	TQ 5900 4674 Point
Height OD	Min: 26.75m Max: 27.95m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator	Duncan Hawkins
Project director/manager	Gary Brown
Project supervisor	Stuart Holden
Sponsor or funding body	Crest Nicholson
Entered by	Stuart Holden (sholden@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	21 February 2005