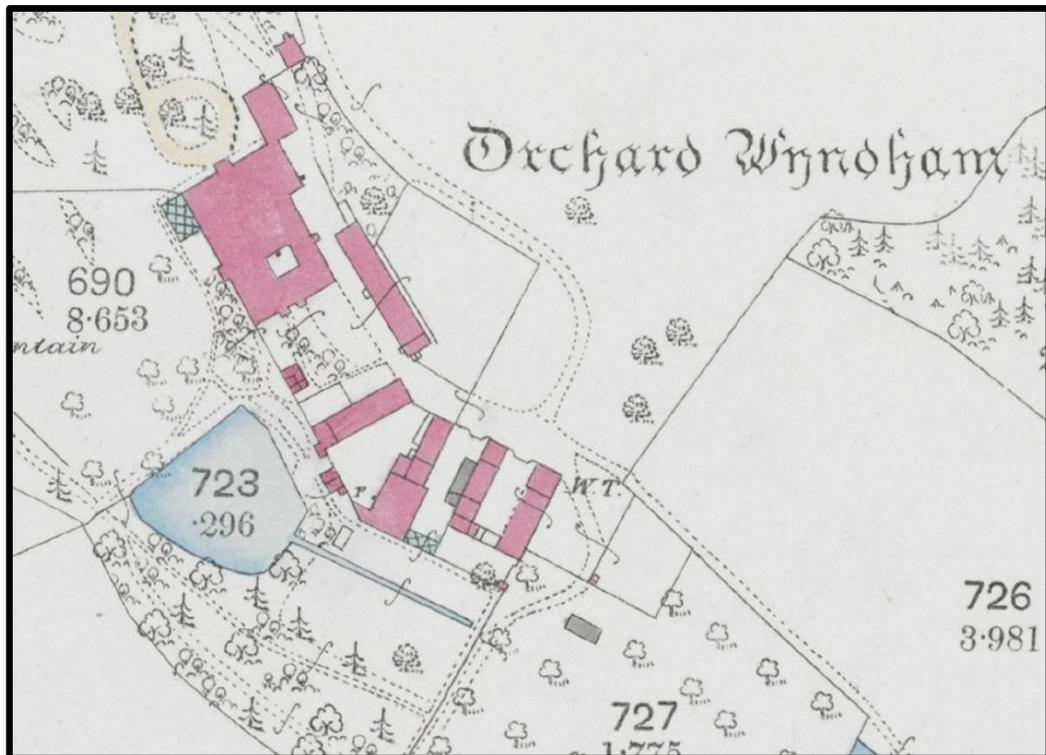




OAKFORD  
ARCHAEOLOGY

**Archaeological evaluation and historic  
building recording at Orchard Wyndham,  
Williton, Somerset**



*on behalf of  
the client*

**Report No. 23-02**

**Project No. 1967**

**January 2023**



# OAKFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

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## Summary

*An archaeological evaluation and historic building recording was carried out by Oakford Archaeology in October 2022 at Orchard Wyndham, Williton, Somerset (ST 0725 3987). The work comprised the machine-excavation of three trenches totalling 11.4m in length, with each trench 1.6m wide. These provided a spatial sample of the site.*

*The former lincay originally had a six-bay arrangement with the front of the building supported on cylindrical piers, with a loft extending across the two northernmost bays. The roof in this area may have been torched between the rafters to form a granary, with ventilation provided by a triangular window of slate and brick. Two bays at the southern end were subsequently walled off and a large opening created in the western elevation to provide access to the adjacent stable yard.*

*The evaluation exposed the remains of extensive landscaping and terracing of the sloping ground prior to the construction of the former lincay sometime in the late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The cylindrical piers of the formerly open-fronted building were provided with shallow foundations, while the remains of internal floors survived throughout the building. Running the length of the open-fronted stalls was a simple contemporary open brick drain, while the remains of an external cobbled yard surface were also exposed by the works. No finds were recovered from the topsoil or the underlying deposits.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared for Jonathan Rhind Architects on behalf of the client and sets out the results of an archaeological trench evaluation and historic building recording undertaken by Oakford Archaeology (OA) in October 2022 at Orchard Wyndham, Williton, Somerset (ST 0725 3987). The work was commissioned in support of an upcoming planning application being considered by Somerset West and Taunton Council (SWTC) for the rebuilding of the partially collapsed dovecote, the repair and conversion of the carriage house to an ancillary dwelling and associated works, and on the advice of the South West Heritage Trust (SWHT) in line with the approach set out in para 189 of the government's national planning policy framework (NPPF).

### 1.1 The site

The site (Fig. 1) lies on southwest facing gently sloping ground at a height of between c.52-54m AOD. The underlying solid geology belongs to the Chester Formation, a conglomerate sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 250 and 247.1 million years ago during the Triassic period and gives rise to clay soils.<sup>1</sup>

### 1.2 Historical and archaeological background

The site at Orchard Wyndham is recorded in for the first time in 1287 when Thomas de Horchard inherited the estate from his father Gilbert. Nothing much is known of the history and development of the site until 1420 when Orchard Wyndham passed to Joan, who had married Robert Popham. Their daughter Joan married John Sydenham of Combe in 1448 and following the death of her parents inherited the estate. Their son John subsequently inherited the house and lands, and the former was known as Orchard Sydenham at this period. The main house has a very complicated plan which is difficult to reconstruct. On the northeast side are the remains of an early, probably mid-15<sup>th</sup> century house with kitchens and hall.<sup>2 3</sup>

John Sydenham's daughter Elizabeth married John Wyndham of Felbrigg Hall in Norfolk in 1528 and the estate subsequently passed to the Wyndham family following John's death, the house and estate being renamed Orchard Wyndham. John Wyndham was knighted at Edward VI's coronation in 1547. He built the north frontage and wings of the house, enlarging the estate to include some of the lands of the former cistercian monastery at Cleeve. On his death in 1574 his estates, which also included the manors of Kentisbeare, Blackborough and Bondleigh in Devon, passed to his eldest grandson, Sir John Wyndham (1558-1645). His mother, Florence, was the sister and co-heiress of Nicholas Wadham (1531/2-1609) of Merryfield, Ilton, in Somerset and of Edge, Branscombe, in Devon. Nicholas and his wife, Dorothy, were the founders of Wadham College, Oxford. On Nicholas Wadham's death Sir John inherited substantial estates, including the manor of Ilton in Somerset, and the manors of Wadham, Silverton, Rewe, Pool Anthony, Newcott, Widdicombe, Lustleigh, South Tawton and Howton in Devon. The Wyndham's subsequently purchased other parts of the Wadham estates in Somerset, Devon and Dorset from the descendants of the sisters of Nicholas Wadham, including the manors of Chiselborough, Penselwood, Hardington Mandeville and South Bradon and the manors of Sturminster Marshall and Mappowder in Dorset.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [www.bgs.co.uk](http://www.bgs.co.uk).

<sup>2</sup> The Wyndham Estate. Heritage Management Plan 2012.

<sup>3</sup> Somerset Heritage Centre, Wyndham of Orchard Wyndham, mid-12<sup>th</sup> century-2003, DD/WY/1-20.

<sup>4</sup> *ibid.*

Extensive alterations were made in the Tudor style by Sir John Wyndham, including floors inserted across the hall, a new range of buildings to the southeast of the main range and an eastern range which completed the large rectangular plan of the building. At his death in 1645, Sir John Wyndham was succeeded by his second son John (d. 1649), and then by John's son William (cr. Baronet 1661, d. 1683). Sir William's son Edward (d. 1695) was followed by his son William (d. 1740). Sir William entered parliament in 1710 and served as MP for Somerset until 1740, he also held the post of Master of the Queen's Hart and Buckhounds and then Secretary at War, followed by Chancellor and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer. The garden to the house is 1.5 hectares in size and comprises a mixture of formal and informal elements. During 1715-1740 Sir William Wyndham landscaped the garden on a grand scale. He constructed the circular pond and fountain and laid out gardens 0.5 miles north of the house that were sheltered by a long brick wall that still survives. The tree avenue that leads to this garden has survived, while other structures also remain, including a conservatory and two greenhouses that date to 1830, an 18<sup>th</sup> century icehouse that was embellished in 1836 and a 19<sup>th</sup> century generator house that has since been re-purposed.<sup>5</sup>

Sir William was succeeded by his son Charles. A Tory, like his father, Charles was MP successively for Bridgwater, Appleby and Taunton until 1750 when he inherited from his uncle Algernon Seymour, Duke of Somerset (d. 1750), the earldom of Egremont, estates in six counties, and Petworth House in Sussex as his principal residence. Charles' son, George O'Brien Wyndham, 3rd Earl of Egremont, (1751-1837) of Petworth was a major patron of the arts, commissioning works from such artists as Turner, Constable, C. R. Leslie, George Romney, and the sculptor John Flaxman. In 1806 he re-purchased estates in Exton, Kentsford, Stogumber, and Huish juxta Highbridge that had been the property of another branch of the family until 1704. It is estimated that Wyndham had around 20 children, but the only legitimate child died in infancy. He bequeathed his unentailed estates, including Petworth House, Leconfield Castle in Yorkshire and Egremont Castle in Cumbria, to his eldest illegitimate son Colonel George Wyndham, 1st Baron Leconfield. However, the earldom of Egremont and his West Country estates passed to his nephew, Captain George Francis Wyndham RN, of Bramley House in Surrey, the son of the Hon. William Frederick Wyndham (1763-1828), a diplomat who served as British Ambassador to Tuscany between 1794 and 1814.<sup>6</sup>

The 4th Earl of Egremont purchased Coombsatchfield House at Silverton in Devon and set about transforming it into a palatial mansion, Silverton Park, to rival his cousin's at Petworth, filling the new residence with paintings by the likes of Poussin, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Titian, Van Dyck, Thomas Gainsborough, and Caravaggio. The Earl died without issue in 1845, leaving the estate entailed, first for the benefit of his widow and then for a distant cousin, William Wyndham of Dinton in Wiltshire. William inherited the Somerset and Devon estates on the death of Jane, widow of George Francis Wyndham, 4th Earl of Egremont, in 1876. His three eldest sons were William, Alward (who emigrated to the USA), and Captain John Wyndham. John had gained a commission to the British Army in 1900 and was promoted to Captain in 1908. He served in India from 1900-1906, South Africa from 1907-1909 and in the former German colony of Kamerun from February-July 1915, returning to home service in November 1916. Prior to his service in Cameroon, he was employed by the Colonial Office in Southern Nigeria as Assistant District Officer. He lived at Court Place, Bathealton.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> *ibid.*

William, who was responsible for re-founding Chard School, sold the Wiltshire estates in 1916, and made his home at Orchard Wyndham where he lived with his five unmarried sisters. He died without issue in 1949 and was succeeded by his brother John's son, George Colville Wyndham (d. 1982). George Wyndham abandoned a promising diplomatic career to become a devoted public servant in Somerset. He was a deputy lieutenant of the county and a member of Somerset County Council from 1949 to 1980, serving for two periods as vice chairman and as chairman (1969-1974). On George Colville Wyndham's death, the Orchard Wyndham estate passed to his son, William Wadham Wyndham, but was managed by his daughter Dr Katherine Stafford Heathcote Wyndham (1947-2004), an art historian and director of the Somerset Building Preservation Trust, who was responsible for the refurbishment and renovation of the house in 1996-2000.<sup>8</sup>

The range of vernacular buildings to the southeast of Orchard Wyndham House date from the later post-medieval stages of the development and enlargement of the estate. The 1841 St Decumans Tithe Map (Fig. 2) shows a large number of buildings to the east and southeast of the main house. A large yard immediately to the southeast of the house is lined by a long range along the northeastern side (the former Bailiff's House) and a narrow rectangular range along the southeastern edge (the former stables). Immediately at the rear of the stables is a squat L-shaped range, with a small rectangular building extending a short distance east of the former bailiff's house. Although the map is not detailed enough it is possible that the linhay forms part of this range, with a small rectangular yard immediately to the east. A large U-shaped set of buildings are located around additional yards to the south and east, and these buildings were probably accessed from the large yard to the north and northeast. This is lined along the southern edge by a narrow L-shaped buildings, with smaller structures occupying the eastern and northeastern edge. Three additional buildings are located to the north of the large yard, with access to the latter from a curving road extending in a roughly northwesterly direction.

The area was mapped by the Ordnance Survey in 1888, when the site was shown in the greatest detail thus far (Fig. 3). The area has drastically changed by this period. The buildings and yards which formerly occupied the areas to the northeast and southeast of the linhay have been demolished and in part replaced with new buildings. The stable yard to the west has been opened up with the demolition of the smaller outbuildings, while a large roughly square building, a carriage house, has been built to the south. On the eastern side of the linhay a large stock yard has been created, with a small rectangular lean-to on the eastern side and a greenhouse occupying the southern edge of the yard. To the east an agricultural stable and large barn are built around a central hay yard, while pigsties are located on the southern side of the yard.

No changes are shown on the 1904 Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. 4) and the site remained unaltered throughout the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. A large greenhouse had been built in the southwest corner of the former piggery by the early 1930s (Fig. 5). The site has remained relatively unchanged as domestic curtilage/garden until the present day.

## 2. AIMS

The principal aim of the evaluation was to establish the presence or absence, character, extent, depth, date and condition/state of survival of any archaeological features and deposits within

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<sup>8</sup> *ibid.*

the footprint of the proposed development, while the aims of the historic building recording were to provide a description of the fabric of the building, its layout, features, dating and development. The results of the evaluation and the historic building recording will inform the planning process - particularly whether there are any remains present of sufficient significance and state of preservation to affect the principle or layout of the proposed development and may also be used to formulate a programme of further archaeological work either prior to and/or during groundworks to mitigate the impact of the development on any remains present.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Historic building recording

The work was undertaken in October 2022 by a historic building specialist in accordance with specifications applicable to Level 2 in the English Heritage 2006 document *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practices*. The building recording consisted of:

- A detailed written description of the buildings and more general record of the main building.
- A detailed photographic record of the buildings in colour (digital) format, and a basic record of the main building.
- A limited drawn record of the buildings, consisting of annotation of, and additions to, the architect's 'as existing' plans and elevations, to show the locations of any fixtures and fittings, building breaks, blocked openings or architectural detail.

#### 3.2 Evaluation

The evaluation was undertaken in response to the SWHT consultation response and in accordance with a project design prepared by Oakford Archaeology (2022), submitted to and approved by the SWHT prior to commencement on site. This document is included as Appendix 1.

The work comprised the excavation of three trenches totalling 11.4m in length, with each trench 1m wide. They were positioned to provide a spatial sample of the site and their positions were agreed with the SWHT prior to commencement on site. The positions of trenches as excavated are shown on Fig. 6.

Machine excavation was undertaken under archaeological control using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless grading bucket. Topsoil and underlying deposits were removed to the level of either natural subsoil, or the top of archaeological deposits (whichever was higher). Areas of archaeological survival were then cleaned by hand, investigated and recorded.

The standard OA recording system was employed. Stratigraphic information was recorded on *pro-forma* context record sheets and individual trench recording forms, plans and sections for each trench were drawn at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate and a detailed digital photographic record was made. Registers were maintained for photographs, drawings and context sheets on *pro forma* sheets.

## 4. THE BUILDING SURVEY

The collection of early to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century farm buildings are arranged to form four courtyards terraced into the slope of the hill rising to westwards.

### 4.1 The buildings

At the eastern end of the complex the hay barn (Pls. 1-3) is aligned roughly NE-SW. This is a former bank barn with access to the first floor from a pair of large doors facing a probable stack yard to the east. The remains of the possible former rectangular bases haystacks or greenhouses are still visible as earthworks in this area. At the southern end of the barn, at a lower level, are a row of former pig sties, which are of a slightly later date than the main complex of farm buildings. These are lean-to structures depending on the earlier barn, stable and yard wall. The western elevation of the barn has a series of six openings with segmental brick heads to the lower level and two large double doors above. These are opposed to the identical door in the east elevation and would originally have opened on the threshing floors, creating a draught for winnowing. The barn roof is hipped, with the roof structure consisting of contemporary A-frames dividing the roof into six slightly irregular bays with a further two half bays at either end. The southern end of the barn retains its floor intact, with a removable threshing floor of substantial timbers opening on a two-bay void underneath. This would presumably have allowed the rapid and easy transfer of produce into carts in the lower storey. The two halves of the barn are separated by a full height stone wall, with the floor in the northern end having been partly removed. The barn doors have good strap hinges, some with expanded and some with square ends. It is likely therefore that the latter have been re-used. The floor structures are supported on massive unchamfered beams supporting planks joists with x-struts. The whole structure appears to date from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

The stable yard (Pls. 3-4) to the west of the bank barn retains its cobbles and in the south wall two doorways which appear to have provided access either to small rooms, perhaps a privy, or steps down to the former pig sties. On the opposite side of the yard is a long, two-storey building, formerly a stable. The eastern façade is of eight bays, with the southern bays containing a cross-mullioned window and a round-arched doorway which seems to have opened unto a large loose-box. Above the doorway is a small loading door to a loft, the floor of which has been partially removed. The central five bays may have served as a stable for farm horses, accessed by a central doorway flanked by two windows on each side. All of these openings have segmental heads of brick. Above the central doorway is a further loft hatch, retaining its original door, while the door and windows on the ground-floor have been removed. The northern end of the stable, which may have served as a tack room originally, has been extensively altered, the loft floor and much of the façade having been removed, while a former doorway in the internal partition has been blocked. The roof of this building has suffered greatly, with A-frames with applied collars and staggered purlins dividing the roof into seven bays, with a further two half bays at either end. The roof structure has been much reinforced by modern ties and straight wind braces to resist the continued deformation of the structure. The floor structures have been partially removed but consist of unchamfered beams supporting square joists with the floor boards being unusually lapped clinker-fashion. Mangers remains within the loose-box and a few tack hooks within the former tack room at the north end, but the stalls have been removed. All the stalls within the central part of the building have also been removed, and there appear to be no openings in the western elevation. The very large quoins in the north elevation do not rise the full height of the building, suggesting perhaps that at least the gable end of an earlier building is preserved, incorporated within the present mid-19<sup>th</sup> century structure.

To the west of the stable is a former stock yard (Pl. 5), entered like the stable yard by a gateway with stone walls curving inwards to form the gate piers. This yard formerly had a narrow rectangular building on its eastern side, leaning against the west wall of the stable. This may have been a wholly timber structure and only the sockets for the rafters remains. On the western side of the yard was a more substantial linhay (Pls. 5-14) of six bays, its front supported by cylindrical stone piers, two of which survive. The gable walls and west elevation are built of stone rubble, with a slight offset in the west elevation suggesting perhaps that the upper parts of the wall were originally built in cob. The lower stone elevation originally continued north, forming part of earlier buildings shown on the 1841 Tithe Map. In addition, part of the western wall contains vertical breaks which suggests that the central part of the building was rebuilt in stone to accommodate a large arched doorway opening on the more prestigious of the two stable yards to the west. This new passage was defined by contemporary mid-19<sup>th</sup> century timber partitions with brick nogging to the north and south. The soldier arched segmental lintel was subsequently removed and replaced with a wooden beam. The two open-fronted bays at the southern end were enclosed in stonework at an unknown date. The roof of the linhay consisted of five asymmetrical A-frames with collar beams and lapped and pegged apices, similar to the roof over the bank barn and stable. Two sets of staggered purlins on the east side and a single set on the western side of the roof supported up to 10 common rafters in each bay with thin slate battens. On the western side the roof originally rested on a timber plate forming the top of the rear elevation. On the eastern side the roof structure was supported on tie beams resting within the top of the cylindrical piers, while the rafters were supported on a 'continuous' timber plate resting within the top of the piers and the top front of each tie beam. Photographs of the building before its partial demolition show that the linhay was at least partially lofted across the two northern bays, where sockets for the loft beams are visible in the western elevation of the building. The limited evidence available suggests that the roof at the northern end may have been torched between the rafters to form a granary. This was lit and ventilated by a triangular window of slate and brick. Beyond the southern end of the building is a later garage or coach house, which appears to have been added against the southern wall of the former linhay, while the small brick building at the southern end of the stock yard is the probable later furnace house (Pls. 15-16) for the large greenhouse shown for the first time on the 1930 Ordnance Survey Map.

The main western stable yard is a large trapezoidal cobbled space (Pl. 17) terminating to the south at a garden wall. It is entered by a pair of very fine stone gate piers with possible 'pagoda' tops which may originally have been surmounted by large ball finials. On the western side of the yard the main stable block (Pl. 18) echoes the layout of the farm stable, with the loose-box at the southern end a seven-stall stable in the centre, and a tack room at the northern end. The façade of this building is curiously less formal than the farm stable and has fewer windows. The openings all have flat arched heads of stone voussoirs, apart from the central doorway, which has a round arched head with rudimentary Y-tracery. The mullioned windows, some of which retains their saddle bars, may be of early 19<sup>th</sup> century date., but they have been re-glazed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The interior has been heavily altered and the ceilings removed. Inspection of the roof shows that it is a late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century replacement in the form of a King-post roof. To the east of the yard is a ruined lean-to (Pl. 19), probably replacing an earlier and larger structure which depended on the west wall of the linhay. Two former roof lines are visible in the end wall of the coach house. This double pile structure (Pl. 20) is of late 19<sup>th</sup> century date and is constructed of snecked dressed blocks rather than the random rubble used in the other buildings. The interior is plastered and ceiled, with its roof valley latterly supported by a beam and a brick pier. The roof is a queen-post structure, approached by a loft hatch. To the south of the coach house is a large lean-to shed. This is approached by an

awkward triangular porch and is lit by two shuttered ventilator windows - a building of uncertain function but probably a work shop.

## 5. THE EVALUATION

Relevant detailed plans are included as Figs. 6-7 and context descriptions for the trenches are set out in Appendix 2.

A generally uniform overlying layer sequence of topsoil was encountered in all areas., with the depth of this deposit ranging from 0.06-0.1m.

### 5.1 The trenches

#### **Trench 1** (Fig. 7, Plates 23-26)

This trench measured 2.5m x 1m, was orientated approximately NE-SW and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.21m. The work exposed a mid reddish brown silty clay (107) at a depth of 0.15m below ground level. This contained frequent stone rubble, and rare inclusions of mid yellowish white lime mortar and cbm fragments. Interpreted as a historic made ground this deposit was in part built up around the pier foundation (105). This was approximately 0.14m high and consisted of stone rubble bonded with mid orange lime mortar. This was underneath the cylindrical stone rubble pier (106) bonded with an identical mid orange lime mortar. Overlying the made ground were the contemporary external cobbled yard (103), consisting of large worn stone and waterworn pebbles, the external open brick drain (102) and the internal cobbled floor (101), consisting of large worn stone and waterworn pebbles. These were sealed underneath a 0.07m thick mid to dark brown clayey silt (100) topsoil. No finds were recovered, and the recorded layer sequence is set out in Table 1, Appendix 2.

#### **Trench 2** (Fig. 7, Plates 27-30)

The trench measured 3.8m x 1m, was orientated approximately NW-SE and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.7m. A mid red silty clay (203) colluvial subsoil was exposed at a depth of 0.67m below current ground level. The overlying original soil sequence had been cut (202) and was sealed underneath a 0.52m thick mid reddish brown silty clay (201) with frequent stone rubble, and rare inclusions of mid yellowish white lime mortar and cbm fragments. Interpreted as a historic made ground identical to the one exposed in Trenches 1 and 3, this deposit was in part built up around the pier foundation (205). This was approximately 0.29m high and consisted of stone rubble bonded with mid orange lime mortar. The remains of the former cylindrical stone rubble pier (207) survived above, consisting of stone rubble bonded with an identical mid orange lime mortar. Overlying the made ground were the contemporary external cobbled yard (206), consisting of large worn stone and waterworn pebbles, and the external open brick drain (208). The original cobbled floor within bays 3 and 4 had been replaced with a thin concrete floor (209). No finds were recovered and the context descriptions for this trench are set out in Table 2, Appendix 2.

#### **Trench 3** (Fig. 7, Plates 30-34)

The trench measured 5.1m x 1m and was orientated approximately E-W. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.3m. The work exposed a mid red silty clay (304) was exposed at a depth of 0.7m below current ground level. Interpreted as a colluvial subsoil the original soil sequence had been cut by terracing associated with the levelling of the site prior to the construction of the buildings. This was in turn overlaid by a 0.5m thick mid reddish brown silty

clay (302) with frequent stone rubble, and rare inclusions of mid yellowish white lime mortar and cbm fragments. Laid into the top of this deposit was an internal cobbled floor (301), consisting of large worn stone with the occasional brick. The southern end of this surface had been truncated by modern activity, and both were in turn sealed underneath a 0.1m thick mid to dark brown clayey silt (300) topsoil. No finds were recovered and the context descriptions for this trench are set out in Table 3, Appendix 2.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

The trench evaluation constitutes a thorough examination of the site, with trenches positioned to provide a spatial sample of the proposed development area. A shallow topsoil deposit overlying the surviving archaeological deposits was revealed (up to 0.1m deep), with a sequence of historic made ground and colluvial subsoil exposed underneath the former linhay in Trenches 2 and 3. No evidence of activity pre-dating the construction of the building was found during the work. Evidence for terracing and a substantial layer of made ground were identified in Trenches 2 and 3 suggesting that the area was extensively prepared prior to the construction of the linhay, perhaps to provide both a relatively level area for the buildings but also to increase drainage. The present building is of a late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century date and was part of a large complex of buildings and yards of agricultural origins and design, with the building itself served as an open-fronted linhay. The northern end contained evidence of a former loft which probably served as a granary. Trenches 1 and 2 showed that the former yard surface with its rough worn stones survived, while an open brick drain was identified running the length of the building. The original cobbled floor of the linhay survived in Trenches 1 and 3, although it had been replaced with a concrete floor in Trench 2. By the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, large scale changes swept away most of the earlier structures and yards, and replaced them with the current layout and buildings, reminiscent of a small model farm. The layout of the linhay was probably changed at this time with the insertion of a large doorway in the west elevation, and the creation of new partitions to the north and south of this passage. Finally, the two open-fronted bays at the southern end were enclosed in stonework.

Should planning consent be granted, it is certain, given the presence of remains on the site, that archaeological mitigation within the site will be required and the nature and extent of such works will need to be agreed with the planning authority prior to work starting on site. Initial consultation with the SWHT indicates that on this site such work is likely to comprise an archaeological watching brief on those areas of the development site that will be the subject of ground works, including the footprint of the former linhay and any major services and landscaping.

## 7. PROJECT ARCHIVE

Due to the ongoing nature of the project a project archive will not be produced at this stage. Details of the investigations, including a copy of this report have been submitted to the on-line archaeological database OASIS (oakforda1-509274).

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This evaluation was commissioned by Jonathan Rhind Architects Ltd on behalf of the client. The project was managed for the client by Helen Bennett and Evangeline Barrow (both Jonathan Rhind Architects) and for Oakford Archaeology by Marc Steinmetzer. The historic building recording was undertaken by Marc Steinmetzer and Richard Parker, and the fieldwork was carried out by Marc Steinmetzer; the illustrations for the report were prepared by Marc Steinmetzer. Thanks are hereby recorded to Bob Croft (SWHT) who provided advice throughout the project.

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1841 St Decuman Tithe Map and Apportionment

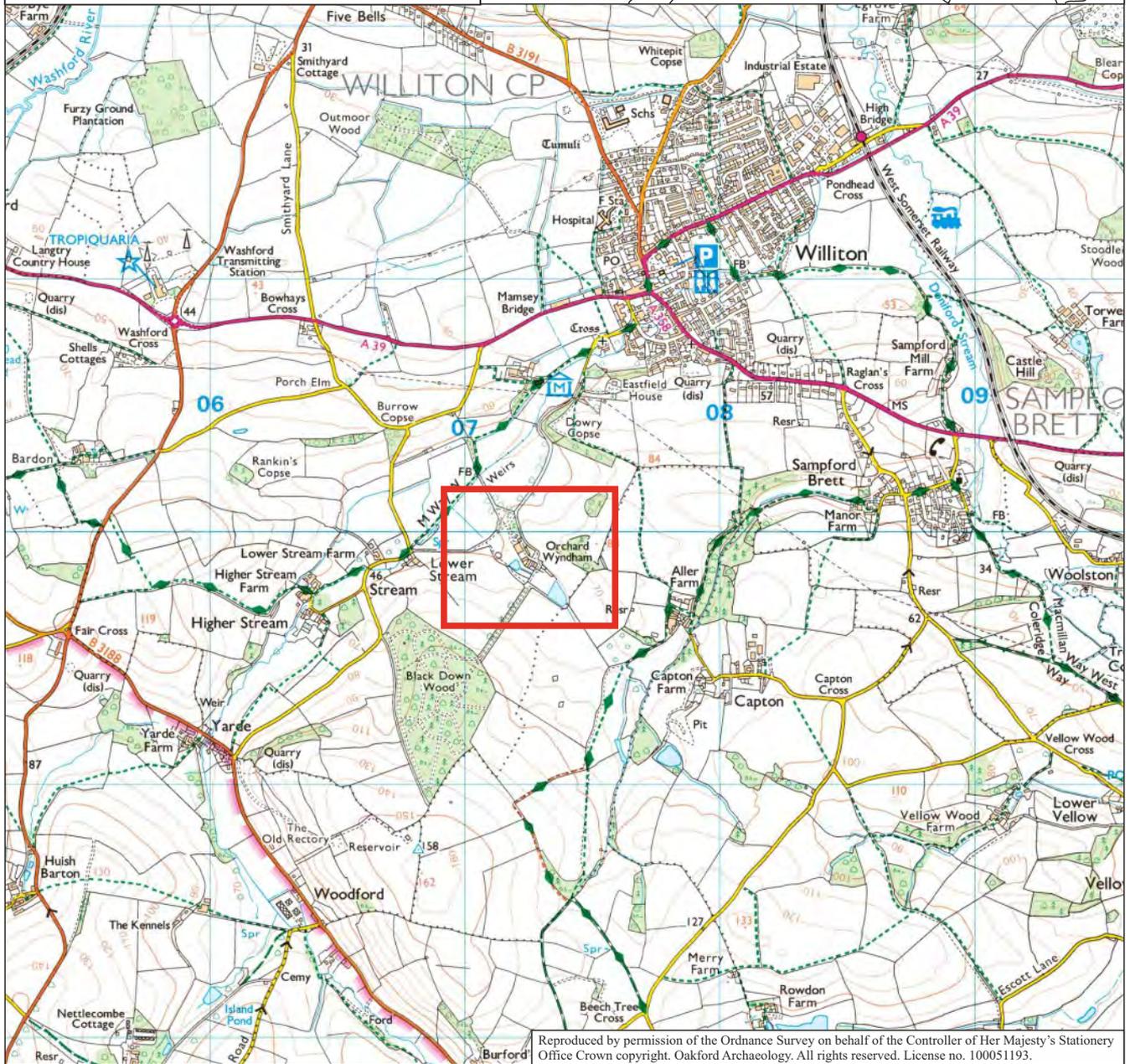
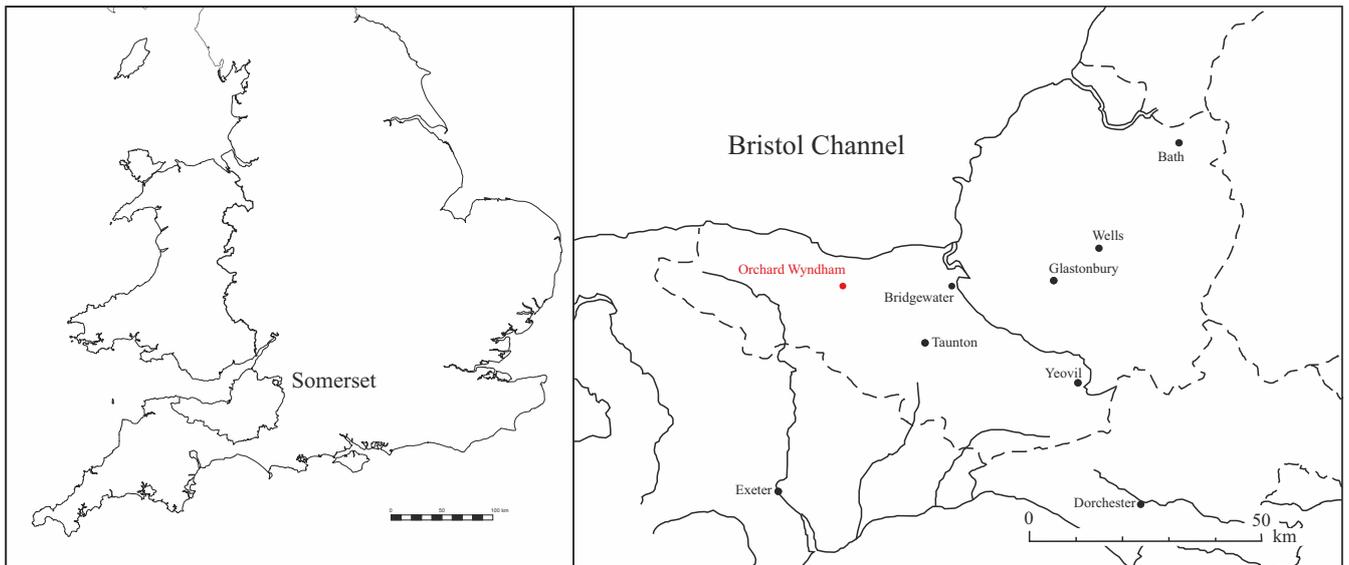
Ordnance Survey County Series 1st Edition Sheet XLVIII.5. (1888)

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Ordnance Survey County Series Sheet XLVIII.5. (1930)

Farm and Countryside Liaison Services 2012 *The Wyndham Estate Orchard Wyndham, Williton, Somerset: A Heritage Management Plan.*

Steinmetzer, MFR 2022. *A staged programme of archaeological work at Orchard Wyndham, Williton, Somerset.* Written Scheme of Investigation.



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Fig. 1 Location of site.



Fig. 2 Detail from the 1841 St Decuman Tithe Map.

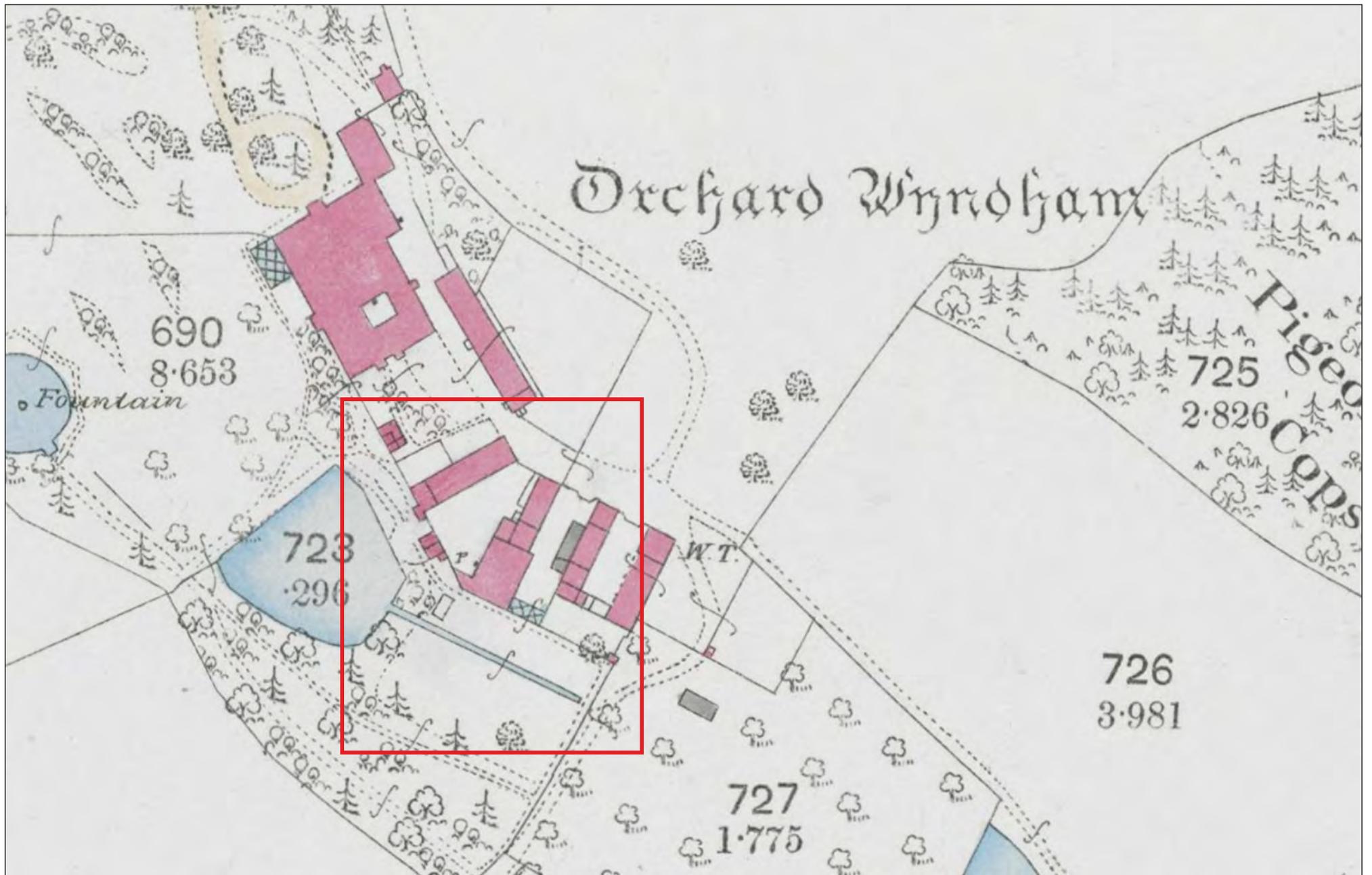


Fig. 3 Detail from the 1888 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map Somerset Sheet XLVIII.5.

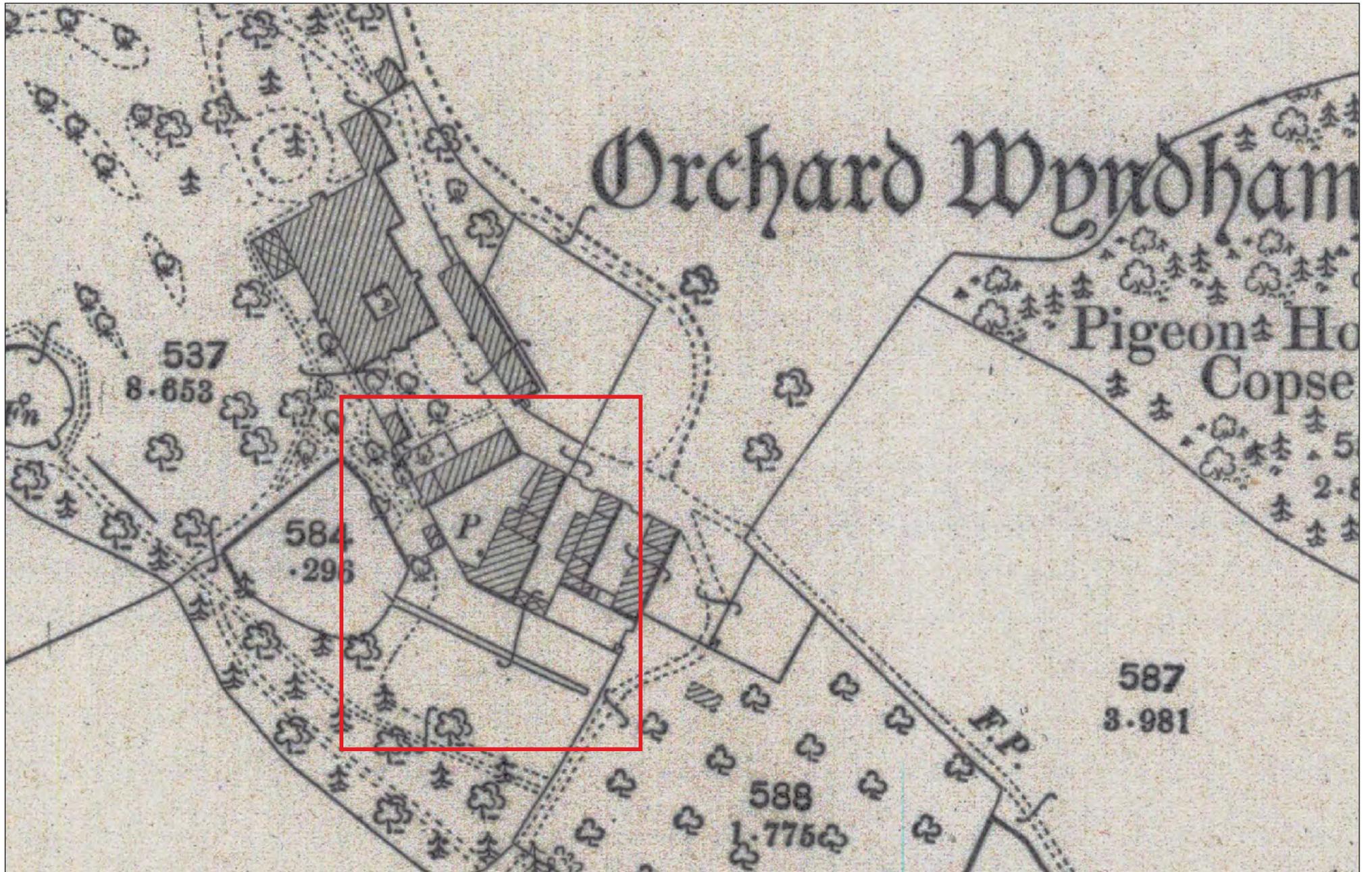


Fig. 4 Detail from the 1904 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map Somerset Sheet XLVIII.5.



Fig. 5 Detail from the 1930 Ordnance Survey Map Somerset Sheet XLVIII.5.

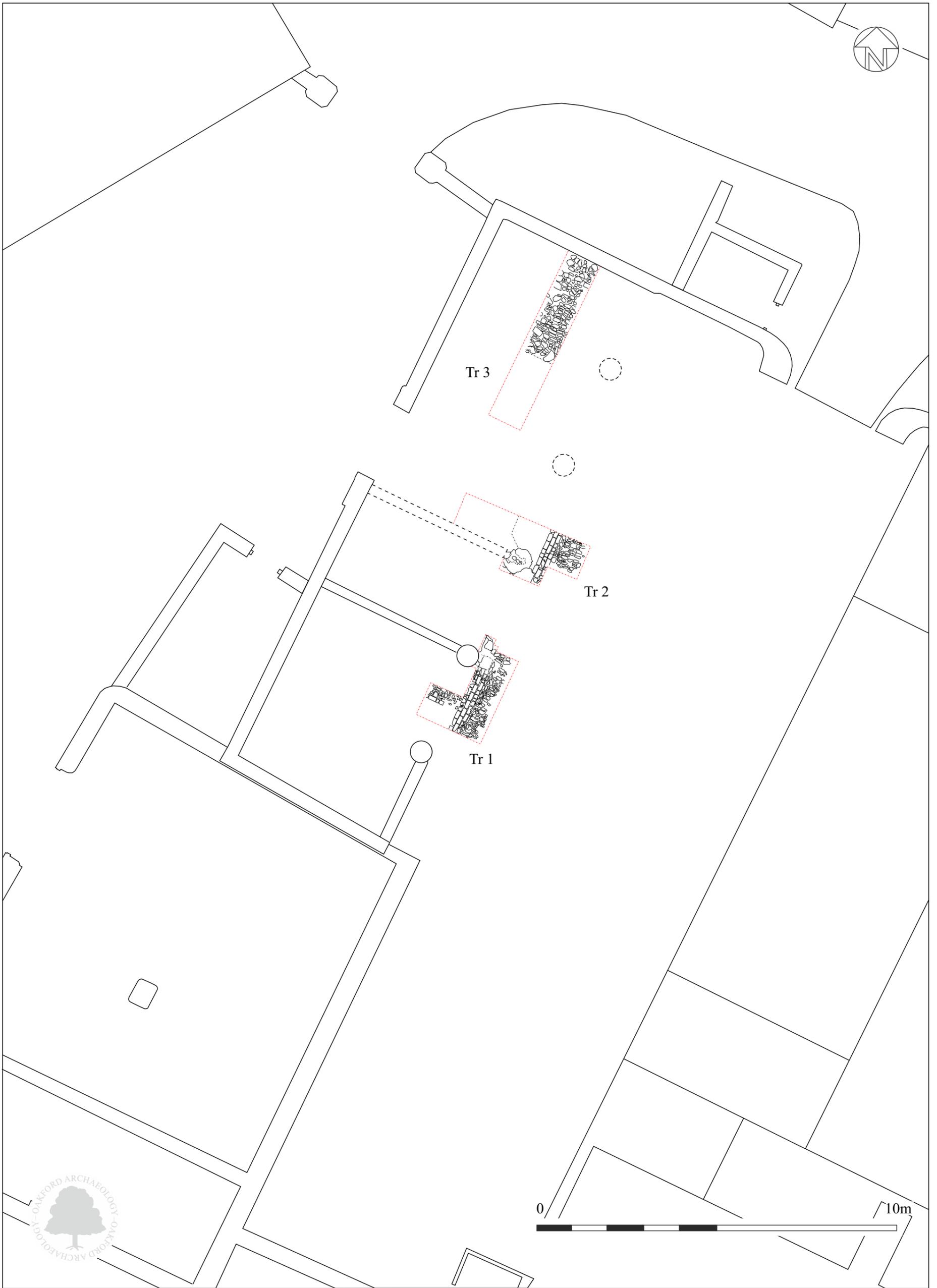
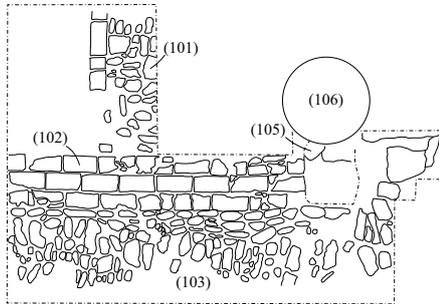
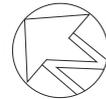
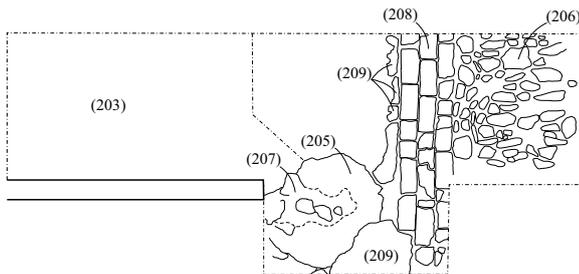


Fig. 6 Plan showing location of trenches and principal features identified.

## Trench 1



## Trench 2



## Trench 3

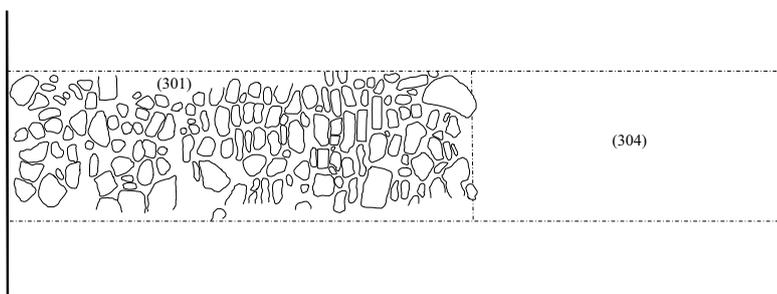


Fig. 7 Trenches 1-3, plans.



Pl. 1 General view of the bank barn, the former stables, linhay and formal stables. 2m scale. Looking southwest.



Pl. 2 General view of the bank barn and stables with the hay yard in the centre. 2m scales. Looking southwest.



Pl. 3 General view of the bank barn on the east side of the hay yard. 2m scale. Looking southeast.



Pl. 4 General view of the former stables on the western side of the hay yard. 2m scale. Looking northwest.



Pl. 5 General view of the stock yard with the linhay to the right. 2m scale. Looking southwest.



Pl. 6 General view of the linhay on the western edge of the stock yard. 2m scale. Looking west.



Pl. 7 General view of the linhay with the former coach house in the left background. 2m scale. Looking southwest.



Pl. 8 General view of the stock yard with the linhay in the background. 2m scale. Looking northwest.



Pl. 9 General view of the south end of the former linhay prior to demolition showing the cylindrical piers and roof structure. Looking southwest.



Pl. 10 General view of the former linhay prior to the demolition of the roof structure from the stable yard to the west. Looking northeast.



Pl. 11 General view of the north end of the former linhay prior to demolition showing the cylindrical piers and roof structure. Looking northwest.



Pl. 12 Close-up of cylindrical pier showing details of the roof construction and tie-beam. Looking northeast.



Pl. 13 General view of the roof structure showing possible evidence for torching between the rafters.



Pl. 14 General view of the roof structure at the southern end showing possible evidence for torching between the rafters. Looking northwest.



Pl. 15 General view of the stock yard showing the stables, the pig buildings (centre right) and the coach house (right). 2m scale. Looking southeast.



Pl. 16 General view of the stock yard showing the coach house (left), the pig buildings (right foreground), stable and bank barn (background). 2m scale. Looking northeast.



Pl. 17 General view of the stable yard showing the linhay (left), coach house (centre background) and stable (right). 2m scale. Looking southwest.



Pl. 18 General view of the stable with the fine cobbling of the yard visible in the foreground. 2m scale. Looking southwest.



Pl. 19 General view of the linhay and coach house. 2m scale. Looking southeast.



Pl. 20 General view of the linhay and coach house. 2m scale. Looking east.



Pl. 21 General view of Trenches 1-3. Looking northwest.



Pl. 22 General view of Trenches 1-3. Looking southwest.



Pl. 23 General view of Trench 1 showing cobbled yard surface (103), brick drain (102) and cobbled surface (101). 2m scale. Looking northwest.



Pl. 24 General view of Trench 1 showing cobbled yard surface (103), brick drain (102) and cobbled surface (101). 2m scale. Looking northeast.



Pl. 25 General view of Trench 1 showing cobbled yard surface (103), brick drain (102) and cobbled surface (101). 2m scale. Looking southwest.



Pl. 26 Close-up of Trench 1 showing pier foundation (106). 0.25m scale. Looking southwest.



Pl. 27 General view of Trench 2 showing cobbled yard surface (206), brick drain (208), pier foundation (205) and concrete floor (209). 2m scale. Looking northwest.



Pl. 28 General view of Trench 2 showing cobbled yard surface (206), brick drain (208), pier foundation (205) and concrete floor (209). 2m scale. Looking northeast.



Pl. 29 General view of Trench 2 showing made ground (201) above colluvial subsoil (203). 1m scale. Looking southwest.



Pl. 30 Close-up of made ground (201) butting-up to pier foundation (205). 0.25m scale. Looking southeast.



Pl. 31 General view of Trench 3 showing colluvial subsoil (304) in foreground and cobbled surface (301) in background. 2m scale. Looking northeast.



Pl. 32 Close-up of cobbled surface (301). 2m scale. Looking southeast.



Pl. 33 Close-up showing colluvial subsoil (304) and overlying made ground (302). 2m scale. Looking northwest.



Pl. 34 General view of Trench 3. 2m scale. Looking northwest.

Appendix 1:

Written Scheme of Investigation for  
Archaeological works

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This document has been produced by Oakford Archaeology (OA) for Jonathan Rhind Architects on behalf of the client and sets out the methodology to be used during a staged programme of archaeological work at Orchard Wyndham, Williton, Somerset (ST 0725 3987). This document represents the ‘Written Scheme of Investigation’ required under an upcoming planning application for the rebuilding of the partially collapsed dovecote, the repair and conversion of the carriage house to an ancillary dwelling and associated works. The work is required by the local planning authority Somerset West and Taunton Council (SWTC), as advised by the South West Heritage Trust (SWHT).
- 1.2 The site at Orchard Wyndham is recorded in for the first time in 1287 when Thomas de Horchard inherited the estate from his father Gilbert. Nothing much is known of the history and development of the site until 1420 when Orchard Wyndham passed to Joan, who had married Robert Popham. Their daughter Joan married John Sydenham of Combe in 1448 and following the death of her parents inherited the estate. Their son John subsequently inherited the house and lands, and the former was known as Orchard Sydenham at this period. The main house has a very complicated plan which is difficult to reconstruct. On the northeast side are the remains of an early, probably mid-15<sup>th</sup> century house with kitchens and hall.<sup>1 2</sup>
- 1.3 John Sydenham’s daughter Elizabeth married John Wyndham of Felbrigg Hall in Norfolk in 1528 and the estate subsequently passed to the Wyndham family following John’s death, the house and estate being renamed Orchard Wyndham. John Wyndham was knighted at Edward VI’s coronation in 1547. He built the north frontage and wings of the house, enlarging the estate to include some of the lands of the former cistercian monastery at Cleeve. On his death in 1574 his estates, which also included the manors of Kentisbeare, Blackborough and Bondleigh in Devon, passed to his eldest grandson, Sir John Wyndham (1558-1645). His mother, Florence, was the sister and co-heiress of Nicholas Wadham (1531/2-1609) of Merryfield, Ilton, in Somerset and of Edge, Branscombe, in Devon. Nicholas and his wife, Dorothy, were the founders of Wadham College, Oxford. On Nicholas Wadham's death Sir John inherited substantial estates, including the manor of Ilton in Somerset, and the manors of Wadham, Silverton, Rewe, Pool Anthony, Newcott, Widdicombe, Lustleigh, South Tawton and Howton in Devon. The Wyndham’s subsequently purchased other parts of the Wadham estates in Somerset, Devon and Dorset from the descendants of the sisters of Nicholas Wadham, including the manors of Chiselborough, Penselwood, Hardington Mandeville and South Bradon and the manors of Sturminster Marshall and Mappowder in Dorset.
- 1.4 Extensive alterations were made in the Tudor style by Sir John Wyndham, including floors inserted across the hall, a new range of buildings to the southeast of the main range and an eastern range which completed the large rectangular plan of the building. At his death in 1645, Sir John Wyndham was succeeded by his second son John (d. 1649), and then by John's son William (cr. Baronet 1661, d. 1683). Sir William's son Edward (d. 1695) was followed by his son William (d. 1740). Sir William entered parliament in 1710 and served as MP for Somerset until 1740, he also held the post of

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<sup>1</sup> The Wyndham Estate. Heritage Management Plan 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Somerset Heritage Centre, Wyndham of Orchard Wyndham, mid-12<sup>th</sup> century-2003, DD/WY/1-20.

Master of the Queen's Hart and Buckhounds and then Secretary at War, followed by Chancellor and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer. The garden to the house is 1.5 hectares in size and comprises a mixture of formal and informal elements. During 1715-1740 Sir William Wyndham landscaped the garden on a grand scale. He constructed the circular pond and fountain and laid out gardens 0.5 miles north of the house that were sheltered by a long brick wall that still survives. The tree avenue that leads to this garden has survived, while other structures also remain, including a conservatory and two greenhouses that date to 1830, an 18<sup>th</sup> century icehouse that was embellished in 1836 and a 19<sup>th</sup> century generator house that has since been re-purposed.

- 1.5 Sir William was succeeded by his son Charles. A Tory, like his father, Charles was MP successively for Bridgwater, Appleby and Taunton until 1750 when he inherited from his uncle Algernon Seymour, Duke of Somerset (d. 1750), the earldom of Egremont, estates in six counties, and Petworth House in Sussex as his principal residence. Charles' son, George O'Brien Wyndham, 3rd Earl of Egremont, (1751-1837) of Petworth was a major patron of the arts, commissioning works from such artists as Turner, Constable, C. R. Leslie, George Romney, and the sculptor John Flaxman. In 1806 he re-purchased estates in Exton, Kentsford, Stogumber, and Huish juxta Highbridge that had been the property of another branch of the family until 1704. It is estimated that Wyndham had around 20 children, but the only legitimate child died in infancy. He bequeathed his unentailed estates, including Petworth House, Leconfield Castle in Yorkshire and Egremont Castle in Cumbria, to his eldest illegitimate son Colonel George Wyndham, 1st Baron Leconfield. However, the earldom of Egremont and his West Country estates passed to his nephew, Captain George Francis Wyndham RN, of Bramley House in Surrey, the son of the Hon. William Frederick Wyndham (1763-1828), a diplomat who served as British Ambassador to Tuscany between 1794 and 1814.
- 1.6 The 4th Earl of Egremont purchased Coombsatchfield House at Silverton in Devon and set about transforming it into a palatial mansion, Silverton Park, to rival his cousin's at Petworth, filling the new residence with paintings by the likes of Poussin, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Titian, Van Dyck, Thomas Gainsborough, and Caravaggio. The Earl died without issue in 1845, leaving the estate entailed, first for the benefit of his widow and then for a distant cousin, William Wyndham of Dinton in Wiltshire. William inherited the Somerset and Devon estates on the death of Jane, widow of George Francis Wyndham, 4th Earl of Egremont, in 1876. His three eldest sons were William, Alward (who emigrated to the USA), and Captain John Wyndham. John had gained a commission to the British Army in 1900 and was promoted to Captain in 1908. He served in India from 1900-1906, South Africa from 1907-1909 and in the former German colony of Kamerun from February-July 1915, returning to home service in November 1916. Prior to his service in Cameroon, he was employed by the Colonial Office in Southern Nigeria as Assistant District Officer. He lived at Court Place, Bathelton.
- 1.6 William, who was responsible for re-founding Chard School, sold the Wiltshire estates in 1916, and made his home at Orchard Wyndham where he lived with his five unmarried sisters. He died without issue in 1949 and was succeeded by his brother John's son, George Colville Wyndham (d. 1982). George Wyndham abandoned a promising diplomatic career to become a devoted public servant in Somerset. He was a deputy lieutenant of the county and a member of Somerset County Council from

1949 to 1980, serving for two periods as vice chairman and as chairman (1969-1974). On George Colville Wyndham's death, the Orchard Wyndham estate passed to his son, William Wadham Wyndham, but was managed by his daughter Dr Katherine Stafford Heathcote Wyndham (1947-2004), an art historian and director of the Somerset Building Preservation Trust, who was responsible for the refurbishment and renovation of the house in 1996-2000.

- 1.7 The range of vernacular buildings to the southeast of Orchard Wyndham House, including the dovecote and carriage house, date from the later post-medieval stages of the development and enlargement of the estate. However, there is the potential for the development area to contain below-ground archaeological or artefactual deposits associated with the early settlement here, and, as such, any groundworks associated with the proposed conversion works have the potential to expose and destroy any such deposits. It is possible therefore that the proposed groundworks have the potential to expose and destroy archaeological and artefactual deposits associated with the medieval period and the post-medieval occupation of the historic house.

## 2. AIMS

- 2.1 The aim of the project is to ensure the adequate recording of any historic fabric, to establish the presence or absence, character, depth, extent and date of archaeological deposits within the site which may be removed and to excavate and record them as necessary prior to and during the development; and to report the results of the project as appropriate.

## 3. METHOD

Liaison will be established with the client and their contractors prior to works commencing in order to advise on OA requirements in relation to the works outlined below. If a good working relationship is established at the outset any delays caused by archaeological recording can be kept to a minimum. However, localised delays to site operations may be caused and time should be allowed within the main contractor's programme for the adequate investigation and recording of exposed historic building fabric.

### ***Building recording***

- 3.1 Preliminary historic building recording will be undertaken by a suitably qualified historic buildings specialist in order to understand the form, extent and function of the buildings, in particular the partially demolished dovecote. This will enable the accurate reconstruction and repair of the buildings. The work will be tailored to the level of recording required which in this instance is considered to be Level 2 Recording as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to recording practice* - English Heritage 2016. In addition, all recording will be carried out as per OA standard recording procedures and in accordance with the standards of the Institute for Archaeology (*Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*, 2014, revised 2019).

- 3.2 The following method for historic building recording will be utilised, tailored to the level of recording required once historic features have been identified.
- A photographic record using a high-quality digital camera for interpretative and reporting needs;
  - Production of floor and roof plans (based on architect's plans where appropriate), with sections, elevations and more detailed drawings of architectural features and details as appropriate. (These will also utilise architect's drawings where available.) These drawings will be prepared at scales of 1:100, 1:50 and 1:20 with smaller details drawn at larger scales as appropriate;
  - A written record outlining the evidence for historic fabric, an interpretation of this evidence, and an outline of the development of the buildings;
  - The archive will be either born digital or scanned to a suitable format for deposition in Archaeology Data Service (ADS).
- 3.3 If significant historic features that are worthy of retention are exposed during the visit the historic building's specialist will request the contractor that these features are not removed and inform the SWHT of their presence.

### *Evaluation*

- 3.4 Following the completion of the building assessment the next phase will comprise the excavation of exploratory trial trenches. The first aim of the investigation will be to establish the position, depth and state of preservation of the post-medieval dovecote foundations and drain runs, since the former will be used if practicable as the foundations of the new building. A further aim of the evaluation will be to establish whether medieval or early post-medieval deposits and/or structural remains survive within the footprint of the building. The location and extent of these trenches will be agreed following the completion of the preliminary building assessment. Localised site constraints (eg. buried services, tree canopies etc.) may result in minor modifications to the trench layout.
- 3.5 Trenches will be CAT scanned prior to excavation. Trenches will be opened using a tracked or wheeled machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket. Excavation will continue until either the top of significant archaeological levels or natural subsoil is reached (whichever is higher), at which point machining will cease and investigation will continue by hand. Where archaeological deposits are present the trench will be cleaned and deposits investigated, excavated and recorded.
- 3.6 All archaeological deposits and features will be stratigraphically excavated by hand down to natural subsoil in the following manner, unless agreed otherwise with the SWHT:
- all significant deposits will be excavated and recorded by hand,
  - some less significant and more bulky deposits may be carefully removed by machine with a toothless grading bucket, under direct archaeological supervision and with prior agreement of the SWHT,
  - fills of cut features will be excavated by hand as follows: -pits (50%), postholes (50 and then 100%), stakeholes (100%), linears (20%, targeted on intersections,

terminals or overlaps, etc). Surfaces will be completely excavated within the confines of the trenches or area excavation,

- the investigation of features at the edge of excavations will include hand cleaning of the trench sides either side of the feature, for a distance of at least 1m from the feature edge, for the identification and recording of remnant bank deposits or other associated deposits and to record and gain an understanding of the overlying stratigraphy,
- If excavations reveal a substantial number of repetitive discrete features, such as stake-holes, the SWHT would require that these should be adequately sampled by excavation to understand their character rather than the complete excavation of all such features,
- Should the above percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined, full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of environmental samples and the recovery of artefacts,
- Variations to these may be required, for example to fully recover important finds and material, or to obtain firmer dating evidence, and these will be agreed with the SWHT and then carried out,
- Spoil will also be examined and scanned with a metal detector for the recovery of artefacts.

3.7 The results of the evaluation will inform the level of mitigation required should planning consent be granted:

Option 1 – no mitigation required

Option 2 - monitoring and recording/limited excavation during construction groundworks, if necessary. Sufficient time will need to be allowed for the completion of any archaeological recording and limited excavation necessary within the construction groundworks. At times this may require a pause in the construction works, but the need for this will be kept to a minimum where possible. Where more substantial delays are envisaged, then a site meeting will be convened as necessary with the SWHT and the client to agree the way forward.

Option 3 - full archaeological excavation of certain areas prior to construction starting, if necessary

The need for, and extent of options 1, 2 & 3 will be reviewed and agreed at a site meeting with the SWHT once the trial trenches have been dug and the results are clear. If required, option 3 will then be carried out and completed before the commencement of construction works, and option 2 during the latter. Should significant archaeological deposits or remains be present in the phase 2 trial trenches, then these will be left *in situ* and excavated as part of a larger area excavation under option 3.

In addition, there will be a further phase of off-site analysis and reporting work.

The method outlined below applies primarily to the phase 2 trenching work. Should options 2 or 3 be required, then the generic methods and provisions set out in sections

3.8 - 3.14 and 4 - 5 below will apply, and a plan showing proposed areas of excavation and/or monitoring will be submitted to the SWHT for approval prior to such works starting.

### ***General project methods***

- 3.8 Environmental deposits will be assessed on site by a suitably qualified archaeologist, with advice as necessary from Allen Environmental Archaeology or the Historic England Regional Science Advisor, to determine the possible yield (if any) of environmental or microfaunal evidence, and its potential. The samples will be processed by Allen Environmental Archaeology (AEA) using *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods*, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (Historic England, second edition, August 2011), and outside specialists organised by AEA to undertake further assessment and analysis as appropriate. Assessment reports will refer to previous specialist data from the site.
- 3.9 Initial cleaning, conservation, packaging and any stabilisation or longer-term conservation measures will be undertaken in accordance with relevant professional guidance (specifically 'First Aid for Finds' Watkinson, D and Neal V, (London: Rescue/UKICAS 2001) and CIfA 2014 'Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials') and on advice provided by A Hopper-Bishop, Specialist Services Officer, RAM Museum, Exeter.
- 3.10 Should artefacts be exposed that fall within the scope of Treasure Act 1996 and The Treasure (Designation) Order 2002, then these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner, the Devon Finds Liaison Officer, and HE, according to the procedures relating to the legislation. The location of treasure items will be recorded with an EDM, and, where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 3.11 Should any articulated human remains be exposed; these will be fully excavated and removed from the site subject to the compliance with the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence, which will be obtained by OA on behalf of the client. Any remains will be excavated in accordance with the CIfA 'Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains' (Megan Brickley and Jacqueline I McKinley, 2004) and the CIfA Standards for Recording Human Remains (Piers D Mitchell and Megan Brickley, CIfA 2017). Where appropriate bulk samples will be collected.
- 3.12 The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve artefacts or report on other aspects of the investigations can be called upon (see below). The client will be fully briefed and consulted if there is a requirement to submit material for specialist research.
- 3.13 Health and Safety requirements will be observed at all times by archaeological staff working on site, particularly when machinery is operating nearby. Personal protective equipment (safety boots, helmets and high visibility vests) will be worn by staff when plant is operating on site. A risk assessment will be prepared prior to work commencing.

3.14 SWHT require two weeks' notice from the archaeological consultant, unless a shorter period is agreed. SWHT will be informed of the start of the project and will monitor progress throughout on behalf of the planning authority. A date of completion of all archaeological site work will be confirmed with SWHT, and the timescale of the completion of items under section 5 will run from that date.

#### 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

4.1 The standard OA recording system will be employed, consisting of:

- standardised single context record sheets; survey drawings, plans and sections at scales 1:10, 1:20, 1:50 as appropriate;
- colour digital photography;
- survey and location of finds, deposits or archaeological features, using EDM surveying equipment and software where appropriate;
- labelling and bagging of finds on site from all excavated levels, post-1800 unstratified pottery may be discarded on site with a small sample retained for dating evidence as required.

#### 5. REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

5.1 The preliminary historic building assessment will be presented within one summary report within four weeks of the date of completion of the building recording. The summary report will contain the following elements as appropriate:

- location plan;
- a written description of the exposed historic fabric and a discussion and interpretation of their character and significance in the context of any locally available historical evidence from any nearby sites and historic mapping;
- a site location plan at an appropriate scale, and a plan of the site showing the location of the recorded buildings;
- a selection of photographs illustrating the principal features of significant architectural interest;
- phased and annotated floor plans, along with copies of other drawn records (elevations, cross sections, etc) as appropriate to illustrate features of historic or architectural interest and/or the development of the building.

5.2 The results of all phases of archaeological work will be presented within one summary report within three months of the date of completion of all archaeological fieldwork. Any summary report will contain the following elements as appropriate:

- A summary of the project and its background;
- aims and methodology of the works undertaken;
- location plan;
- a written description of the exposed historic fabric and a discussion and interpretation of their character and significance in the context of any locally available historical evidence from any nearby sites and historic mapping;

- a site location plan at an appropriate scale, and a plan of the site showing the location of the recorded buildings;
- phased and annotated floor plans, along with copies of other drawn records (elevations, cross sections, etc) as appropriate to illustrate features of historic or architectural interest and/or the development of the building;
- location plan and overall site plans showing the positions of the groundworks and the distribution of archaeological features;
- a written description of the exposed features and deposits and a discussion and interpretation of their character and significance in the context of the known history of the site;
- plans and sections at appropriate scales of features of significant historic or architectural interest and showing the exact location and character of significant archaeological deposits and features;
- a selection of photographs illustrating the principal features and deposits found and of features of significant architectural interest;
- specialist assessments and reports as appropriate;
- if necessary, an assessment of what further work is necessary to analyse and publish any particularly significant finds and/or results.

5.3 A .pdf version of the report will be produced and distributed to the Client and SWHT on completion of sitework. A copy of the .pdf version will also be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).

5.4 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared with reference to *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (2015) upon completion of the project.

The archive will consist of two elements, the artefactual and digital - the latter comprising all born-digital (data images, survey data, digital correspondence, site data collected digitally etc.) and digital copies of the primary site records and images, compiled in accordance with the ADS Guidelines for Depositors (2020).

The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) within 6 months of the completion of site work, while the artefactual element will be deposited with Taunton Museum (*ref. number pending*). The hardcopy of the archive will be offered to Taunton Museum and if not required will be disposed of by OA.

OA will notify SWHT upon the deposition of the digital archive with the ADS, and the deposition of the material (finds) archive with Taunton Museum.

Should no artefacts be recovered or should Taunton Museum not wish to retain any that are, then, with the agreement of the SWHT, the report submitted to OASIS will form the sole archive for this project.

5.5 A .pdf copy of the updated summary report will be submitted, together with the site details, to the national OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological investigationS) database within three months of the completion of site work (oakforda1-509274).

- 5.6 A short report summarising the results of the project will be prepared for inclusion within the “round up” section of an appropriate national journal, if merited, within 12 months of the completion of site work.
- 5.7 Should particularly significant remains, finds and/or deposits be encountered, then these, owing to their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance. If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements – including any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with SWHT, in consultation with the Client. OA, on behalf of the Client, will then implement publication in accordance with a timescale agreed with the Client and SWHT. This will be within 12 months of the completion of all phases of archaeological site work unless otherwise agreed in writing.
6. CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORILY PROTECTED SPECIES
- 6.1 If topsoil stripping or groundworks are being undertaken under the direct control and supervision of the archaeological contractor then it is the archaeological contractor's responsibility - in consultation with the applicant or agent - to ensure that the required archaeological works do not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites etc.
7. COPYRIGHT
- 7.1 OA shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved, excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in this document.
8. PROJECT ORGANISATION
- 8.1 The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced archaeologists, in accordance with the Code of Conduct and relevant standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (*Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, 2014, revised 2020, the *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*, 2014, and the *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*, 2014, revised 2019). The project will be managed by Marc Steinmetzer. Oakford Archaeology is managed by a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

## ***Health & Safety***

- 8.2 All monitoring works within this scheme will be carried out in accordance with current *Safe Working Practices (The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974)*.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### *Specialists contributors and advisors*

The expertise of the following specialists can be called upon if required:

*Bone artefact analysis: Ian Riddler;*

*Bird remains: Matilda Holmes;*

*Dating techniques: Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre;*

*Charcoal identification: Dana Challinor;*

*Diatom analysis: Nigel Cameron (UCL);*

*Environmental data: AEA;*

*Faunal remains: Lorraine Higbee (Wessex);*

*Finds conservation: Alison Hopper-Bishop (Exeter Museums);*

*Fish remains: Hannah Russ, Sheila Hamilton-Dyer;*

*Human remains: Charlotte Coles, Mandy Kingdom;*

*Lithic analysis: Linda Hurcombe (Exeter University);*

*Medieval and post-medieval finds: John Allan;*

*Metallurgy: Gill Juleff (Exeter University);*

*Numismatics: Norman Shiel (Exeter);*

*Petrology/geology: Roger Taylor (RAM Museum), Imogen Morris;*

*Plant remains: Lisa Gray;*

*Prehistoric pottery: Henrietta Quinnell (Exeter);*

*Roman finds: Paul Bidwell & associates (Arbeia Roman Fort, South Shields);*

*Wood specialist: Michael Bamforth;*

*Others: Wessex Archaeology Specialist Services Team*

**MFR Steinmetzer**  
**8 September 2022**  
**WSI/OA1967/02**

## Appendix 2:

### Context descriptions by Trench

Table 1: Trench 1

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
100	0-0.07m	Mid to dark brown clayey silt	Topsoil
101	0.07m+	Cobbles	Cobbled floor
102	0.1m+	External brick surface drain	Drain
103	0.1m+	Cobbles	Cobbled yard
104	0.15-0.35m	Roughly circular cut	Foundation trench
105	0.21-0.35m	Stone rubble bonded with mid orange lime mortar	Pier foundation
106	0.07-0.21m	Stone rubble bonded with mid orange lime mortar	Pier
107	0.15m+	Mid reddish brown silty clay cbm fragments (1-2%), stone rubble (10-15%), mid yellowish white lime mortar (5%)	Made ground

Table 2: Trench 2

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
200	0-0.06m	Mid brown clayey silt	Topsoil
201	0.15-0.67m	Mid reddish brown silty clay cbm fragments (1-2%), stone rubble (10-15%), mid yellowish white lime mortar (5%)	Made ground
202	0.67m	Removal of former topsoil	Landscaping/terracing
203	0.67m+	Mid red silty clay	Colluvial subsoil
204	0.06-0.35m	Roughly circular cut	Foundation trench
205	0.12-0.35m	Stone rubble bonded with mid orange lime mortar	Pier foundation
206	0.16m+	Cobbles	Cobbled yard
207	0.04-0.12m	Stone rubble bonded with mid orange lime mortar	Pier
208	0.16m+	External brick surface drain	Drain
209	0.11m+	Concrete	Concrete floor

Table 3: Trench 3

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
300	0-0.1m	Mid to dark brown clayey silt	Topsoil
301	0.1-0.2m	Cobbles	Cobbled floor
302	0.2-0.7m	Mid reddish brown silty clay cbm fragments (1-2%), stone rubble (10-15%), mid yellowish white lime mortar (5%)	Made ground
303	0.7m	Removal of former topsoil	Landscaping/terracing
304	0.7m+	Mid red silty clay	Colluvial subsoil