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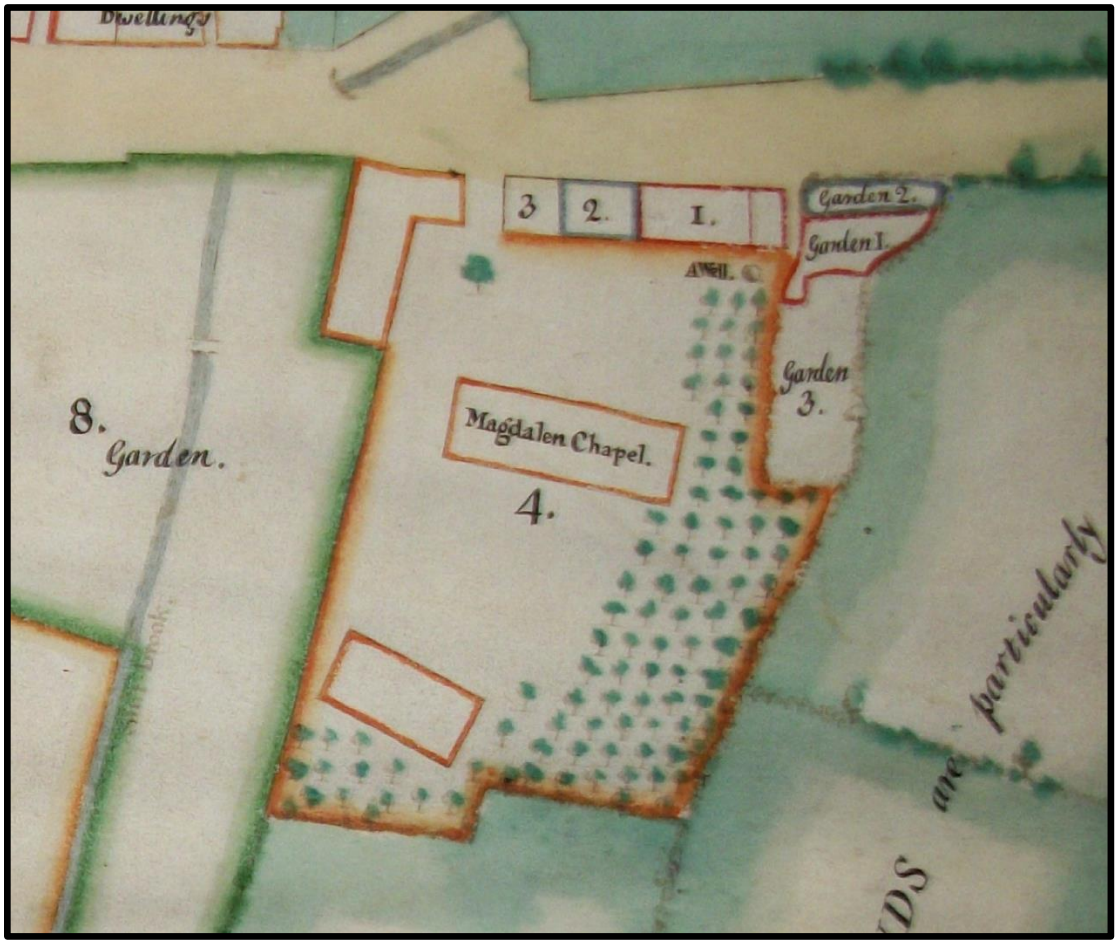
Archaeological evaluation of land at Hurst Almshouses, Fairpark Road, Exeter



behalf of
Exeter Homes Trust Ltd

Report No. 21-28

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OAKFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeological Groundworks and Historic Buildings

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Oakford Archaeology in June 2021 on land at Hurst Almshouses, Fairpark Road, Exeter (SX 9250 9229). The work comprised the machine-excavation of 7 trenches totalling 33.62m in length, with each trench 1m wide. These were targeted on the buildings and the suspected line of the precinct wall shown on the historic mapping and provided a spatial sample of the site.

At the northern end of the site the remains of a robber trench were tentatively identified in Trench 7. This is perhaps the remains of the building shown on the 18th century map fronting onto Magdalene Road.

In the centre of the site Trenches 2 and 3 exposed human remains. These were recorded in situ by a specialist osteoarchaeologist with regards to gender, age and pathologies (disease and cause of death). No bodies were removed and the remains were reinterred on completion of the archaeological work. The human remains consisted of a total of 12 individuals, including ten adults, one neonate (new-born) and one young infant (3-4yrs old), and although none exhibited skeletal changes due to leprosy all had evidence for extensive infections throughout their lives. Based on limited archaeological information available from other leper hospital sites in England we know that about 60% of the skeletons excavated exhibited changes compatible with leprosy. The pathologies present in the small sample from Fairpark Road may have been caused by a wide variety of infectious diseases, whether the result of leprosy, tuberculosis or other chronic diseases, and it is unclear whether the remains are associated with the medieval leper hospital or the later poor house. The hospital was not dissolved at the Reformation and continued to exist, catering for the upkeep of some of the city's poor until the late 19th century.

No structural remains of the chapel shown on 16th-19th century mapping were identified during the course of the works. To the south of the graveyard the remains of a heavily truncated medieval leat were identified in Trench 4. This would have provided clean water from further up the Shutebrook valley for the hospital, the kitchen and the latrines. Mortar floor surfaces both pre-dating and contemporary with the leat suggest the presence of at least one multi-phase buildings in this area.

The deposits identified in Trench 5 are consistent with made ground deposits of mid to late 19th century date, while at the southern end of the site the site the ground was levelled in the late 19th century prior to the construction of a nearby row of terraced houses.

A small finds assemblage, consisting largely of pottery sherds dating to the 16th-19th centuries was recovered from the excavations, although a single Roman tegula or roof tile fragment and 18 medieval ridge- and floor-tile fragments were also uncovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

Oakford Archaeology (OA) were commissioned by Kendall Kingscott Ltd on behalf of the Exeter Homes Trust Ltd to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land at Hurst Almshouses, Fairpark Road, Exeter (SX 9250 9229). The work was required by the local planning authority Exeter City Council (ECC), as advised by the Principal Project Manager Heritage (PPMH), in line with the approach set out in para 128 of the government's national planning policy framework (NPPF), to provide information in support of a forthcoming planning application for the construction of residential flats for charity licensees and associated works.

1.1 **The site**

The site (Fig. 1) lies 400m to the east of the historic core of Exeter and covers an area of approximately 0.24 hectares. It lies at a height of between 22 and 27m AOD on a west facing sloping piece of land overlooking Bull Meadow Park on the edge of the now culverted Shutebrook. The underlying solid geology consists largely of Alphington breccia and the earlier Whipton Formation, overlain by blanket head and regolith, along with deposits of the Fifth River Terrace. [1]

1.2 **Historical and archaeological background**

The historical and archaeological background of the site has been presented in detail in the Archaeological desk-based assessment prepared by OA. [2] In summary, the work lies to the east of the historic core of Exeter, in an area where evidence for prehistoric and Romano-British activity has been previously identified, in particular underneath the site of the Magistrates Court and Southernhay east car park located to the north-west of the site

Throughout the medieval period the site was part of the endowment of the Magdalen Leper Hospital, established outside the South Gate on the further bank of the Shutebrook valley under the patronage of the Bishops of Exeter sometime in the early 12th century. It is first mentioned in a document by Bishop Bartholomew in 1177, confirming it in possession of properties in and around the city. [3] The hospital, in line with other foundations, is likely to have consisted of a quadrangle with a chapel on one side and small buildings to house the inmates on the other three. In 1184 Bishop Bartholomew issued further regulations for the 13 leper brethren accommodated within the hospital. The hospital is mentioned again in an undated grant by Bishop Bartholomew of rents from his gavel of Morchard Bishop and the bark of the wood of Chudleigh. Both were confirmed by Pope Celestine III in May 1192. [4] The hospital was transferred to the control of the City Chamber in 1244, although the Dean and Chapter continued to pay £2 12s annually. The mayor and chamber subsequently appointed a lay warden to administer the hospital's affairs. [5]

Although leprosy started to decline in the later Middle Ages there were still lepers in the hospital in 1391 when John Nymet made them a bequest. [6] The disease is documented as late as 1458 when Richard Orenge, a former mayor of Exeter, was buried in the chancel of the chapel, having retired to the hospital after having contracted the disease. [7] By the early 15th

[1] http://www.bgs.ac.uk.
[2] Steinmetzer 2017.
[3] Orme 2014.
[4] 'The city of Exeter: Deeds', in *Report On the Records of the City of Exeter* (London, 1916), pp. 263-279.
[5] Orme 2014.
[6] ECA, ED/M/527.
[7] Orme 2014.

century the inmates were also described as 'infirm' which suggests that as the fear or incidence of leprosy declined the hospital became an almshouse for the poor. [8] The hospital was not dissolved at the Reformation and continued to exist until the early 19th century. [9]

The hospital is depicted for the first time on Hooker's map of 1587 (Fig. 2a) and Hooker's c. 1590 plans of the eastern part of the city (Fig. 2b) and of St Sidwell's Fee outside the city. These clearly show a range of buildings, including a gatehouse, fronting onto Magdalene Road. At the rear of the plot the chapel with a bell turret is shown occupying the eastern side of a courtyard, with building ranges to the south and west.

The area is next shown on the 1746 Exeter Chamber Map (Fig. 3) which depicts the gatehouse and a further three houses along the street frontage to the north. The latter are by that time in lay occupancy. At the western end of the gatehouse a short wing, perhaps a remnant of the late medieval ranges shown on the earlier maps, projects south at a right angle. The chapel is located in the centre of the plot, roughly parallel with the street frontage. A small rectangular building is depicted to the south of the chapel. Much of the eastern and southern part of the precinct is covered in orchards.

By the early 19th century (Fig. 4), the hospital was housing poor families and the destitute. The site consisted of a building containing eight rooms, occupied by as many poor persons, and a further building containing six rooms. This was divided into three houses and occupied by three poor people and their families. The almspeople were selected from the poor of Exeter, men or women, married or single. The chapel is described in 1806 by Jenkins as being " *kept in a filthy condition, no glass being in the windows; it still has one bell, and some mutilated grave-stones, with broken inscriptions.*" By this period the chapel was an oblong building measuring about 18.6m long and 5.5m wide, with a three-light window at the east end and a two-light window at the west end. It had two entrances on the south side and must have once functioned a separate chancel and nave divided by a screen. [10] The 1835 Municipal Corporations Act saw the running of the hospital transferred from the Corporation to the Exeter Municipal General Charities.

Due to the expanding building of middle-class housing in Exeter in the first half of the 19th century, most notably in Southernhay and St Leonards, it was decided to build a viaduct on the line of Magdalene Road across the Shutebrook valley and construction was completed in 1839 (Fig. 5). It is unclear from existing historic mapping whether the buildings on the street frontage were affected by the works. The chapel was demolished in 1851, [11] and the remaining buildings were demolished in 1863. [12]

The area was mapped by the Ordnance Survey in 1877 (Fig. 6). Three small buildings are shown at the southern end of the plot, although there is no indication of their function. The site was completely cleared by the late 19th century (Fig. 7a) and the current almshouses were built in 1928 (Fig. 7b).

[8] Orme 2014.
[9] Orme and Webster 1995, 226-31.
[10] Orme 2014.
[11] HER ref. ECC11048.
[12] Jenkins 1806 History of the City of Exeter.

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 the footprint of the proposed development. The results of the evaluation 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

The work was undertaken in accordance with a project design prepared by Oakford Archaeology (2021), submitted to and approved by the PPMH prior to commencement on site. This document is included as Appendix 1.

The work comprised the excavation of 7 trenches totalling 33.62m in length, with each trench 1m wide. They were positioned to target the buildings and the suspected line of the precinct wall shown on the historic mapping and provided a spatial sample of the site. The positions of trenches as excavated are shown on Fig.8.

Machine excavation was undertaken under archaeological control using a 360º mechanical excavator fitted with a 1m 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 Oakford Archaeology recording system was employed. Stratigraphic information was recorded on *pro-forma* context record sheets, and individual 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. RESULTS

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

4.1 **The trenches**

Trench 1 (Plates 5-6)
This trench measured 6m x 1m, was orientated approximately N-S and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.5m. The recorded layer sequence is set out in Table 1, Appendix 2. The work exposed the top of natural subsoil (109) at a depth of 1.15m (21.49mAOD) below current ground level. This was in turn overlain by a 0.15m thick mid reddish brown silty clay (108), interpreted as a colluvial subsoil. The top of this deposit was truncated along the entire length of the trench by modern activity (110) to a depth of 1m. The 0.25m thick basal deposit (107) consisted of mid grey sand with frequent inclusions of tarmac rubble and aggregate. This was

overlain by a 0.55m thick layer of mid brownish grey silty clay (106) containing rare fragments of cbm and tarmac, and rare charcoal flecks, which was in turn sealed underneath a 0.1m thick layer of red sand (105). The next fill consisted of a 0.1m thick layer of light yellowish sand and pea grit (104), which was overlain by a 0.15m thick mid brown red silty clay (103). This was in turn overlain by a 0.1m thick mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt (102) with rare inclusions of cbm fragments and aggregate. The uppermost fill (101) consisted of a 0.1m thick mid reddish brown silty clay with rare inclusions of charcoal flecks and gravel. This was sealed underneath a dark brown silty clay topsoil (100).

Trench 2 (Figs. 9-10, Plates 7-10)
The trench measured 4.7m x 2.4m, was orientated approximately NW-SE. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.8m (22.02mAOD). Context descriptions for this trench are set out in Table 2, Appendix 2. Excavation exposed human remains at a height of 22.49mAOD. Limited excavation suggests that the uppermost layer consisted of two group burials (205 and 207) containing at least seven individuals (Sk212-217) and two individual inhumations (209 and 211) with Sk218-219 (see 6 below and Appendix 3). Excavation of two sondages exposed further articulated human remains at a depth of 22.02mAOD. The remains were contained within a mid reddish brown silty clay (203). This was at least 0.9m thick and has been interpreted as a charnel soil. This was sealed underneath a 0.2m thick dark brown clayey silt (202) buried topsoil. This was overlain by a 0.2m thick mid reddish brown silty clay (201), interpreted as upcast from the excavation of the foundations of the current buildings, and in turn sealed underneath a 0.5m thick dark brown silty clay (200) modern topsoil.

Trench 3 (Figs. 9-10, Plates 11-15)
This trench measured 4.5m x 1m, was orientated approximately NW-SE and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.1m. Context descriptions for this trench are set out in Table 3, Appendix 2. Excavation uncovered human remains at a height of 21.46mAOD. Limited excavation exposed the remains of three individual inhumations (304, 306 and 308) with Sk305, 307 and 309. (see 6 below and Appendix 3). The remains were contained within a mid reddish brown silty clay (303). This was at least 0.75m thick and has been interpreted as a charnel soil. This was sealed underneath a 0.16m thick dark brown clayey silt (202) buried topsoil with rare flecks of charcoal and slate. This was overlain by a 0.04m thick mid reddish brown silty clay (301) with rare cbm fragments, interpreted as upcast from the excavation of the foundations of the current buildings, and in turn sealed underneath a 0.18m thick dark brown silty clay (300) modern topsoil.

Trench 4 (Fig. 11, Plates 16-24)
This trench measured 4.4m x 1m, was orientated approximately NW-SE and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.7m. The recorded layer sequence is set out in Table 4, Appendix 2. The earliest deposit consisted of a light yellow white lime mortar (416) above a mid reddish brown silty clay (408) colluvial subsoil. Interpreted as a mortar sub-floor this was truncated along its northern edge by the construction cut of the leat (426). The walls (411/412) of the leat consisted of roughly squared volcanic trap rubble and Heavitree stone bonded with a light pink lime mortar. Immediately above 416 was a 0.18m thick layer of mid reddish brown silty clay (422) containing frequent fragments of slate and waterworn pebbles. Interpreted as a made ground this was in turn overlain by a 0.05m thick layer of yellowish white lime mortar (415). From the limited exposure within the trench the top of this deposit is level with the top of the leat, suggesting the two may be contemporary.

The sub-floor was in turn overlain by a 0.02m thick layer of mid reddish brown silty clay (427) and white lime mortar with occasional fragments of slate. This was overlain by a 0.03m thick layer of mid reddish brown silty clay (421), which was in turn overlain by a mid reddish brown silty clay (420) and white lime mortar. This was sealed underneath a mid reddish brown silty clay (419) with frequent white lime mortar fragments. These deposits, interpreted as abandonment deposits, are likely on balance to post-date the infilling of the leat. The basal deposit (428) consisted of mid reddish brown silty clay with rare inclusions of slate fragments and white lime mortar flecks. In addition, a large quantity of disarticulated human bone was exposed. This was overlain by a 0.55m thick homogeneous mid reddish brown deposit (413). The abandonment deposits (419-421 and 427) were truncated by the robbing (425) of the leat walls (411/412). The lower fill consisted of a dark reddish brown silty clay (410) with frequent inclusions of slate, volcanic trap rubble and white lime mortar flecks. This was overlain by a 0.36m thick layer of mid reddish brown silty clay (402) with occasional fragments of cbm, slate and white lime mortar. This was overlain at the eastern end of the trench by a layer of slate fragments, which was in turn sealed underneath a mid reddish brown silty clay (417) deposit.

These deposits were truncated in turn by the renewed robbing (429) of the building. The basal deposit consisted of a 0.3m thick layer of yellowish brown silty clay (407) with abundant light yellowish white lime mortar fragments, slate and volcanic trap rubble. This was overlain by a mid reddish brown silty clay (406) with rare slate fragments and flecks of light yellowish white lime mortar. This was underneath a mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional fragments of slate and white lime mortar. These deposits were sealed underneath (404), a 0.4m thick layer of dark reddish brown silty clay with frequent slate and white lime mortar inclusions. This was under a mid reddish brown silty clay (403) with frequent cbm, slate and white lime mortar fragments, which was located in turn underneath a mid reddish brown silty clay (401) with rare slate, charcoal and white lime mortar flecks. This was sealed underneath a dark brown silty clay topsoil (400).

Trench 5 (Plate 25)
This trench measured 2.2m x 1m, was orientated approximately NW-SE and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.8m. Context descriptions for this trench are set out in Table 5, Appendix 2. The work exposed a clean mid reddish brown silty clay (505) at a depth of 1.48m below current ground level (20.67mAOD). Interpreted as a colluvial subsoil this was overlain by a succession of made ground deposits (501-504). The topsoil had been removed and 505 was overlain by a 0.08m thick layer of dark reddish brown silty clay (504). This was sealed underneath a 0.25m thick layer of mid reddish brown silty clay (503) containing rare slate fragments and white lime mortar flecks. This was in turn overlain by a 0.15m thick layer of light to mid reddish brown silty clay (502) containing rare flecks of slate, cbm and mortar flecks, and a mid reddish brown silty clay (501) containing frequent fragments of slate, cbm fragments and white lime mortar flecks. This was sealed underneath a 0.75m thick layer of dark brown silty clay topsoil (500).

Trench 6 (Plates 26-27)
The trench measured 7m x 1m, was orientated approximately NE-SW. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 2m. Context descriptions for this trench are set out in Table 6, Appendix 2. The work exposed the top of a mid reddish brown silty clay colluvial subsoil (609) at a depth of 1.2m (20.72mAOD) below current ground level. The top of this deposit was overlain by late 19th or early 20th century made ground deposits. The topsoil had been removed along the entire length of the trench (608) to a depth of 1.2m. The basal deposit (607) consisted of mid red silty

clay with frequent slate and cbm fragments. This was overlain by a layer of light red silty clay (606), which was in turn sealed underneath layer of dark brown silty clay with frequent cbm and slate fragments (605). The next fill consisted of a 0.2m thick layer of mid red silty clay (604) with occasional fragments of slate and cbm, which was overlain by a 0.2m thick mid brown silty clay (603) with occasional fragments of cbm and slate. This was in turn overlain by a 0.1m thick mid red silty clay (602) with occasional slate fragment inclusions. The uppermost fill (601) consisted of a 0.5m thick mid reddish brown silty clay with frequent cbm and slate inclusions. This was sealed underneath a dark brown silty clay topsoil (600).

Trench 7 (Figs. 12-13, Plates 28-30)
This trench measured 7m x 1 m, was orientated approximately E-W and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.8m. Context descriptions for this trench are set out in Table 7, Appendix 2. The work exposed the top of natural subsoil (714) at a depth of 1.7m (22.84mAOD) below current ground level. This was overlain by a 0.6m thick layer of mid reddish brown silty clay (713) and interpreted as a colluvial subsoil. This was truncated by the possible remains of foundation trench 712 containing the remains of a wall 709/710. The latter consisted of volcanic trap rubble bonded with mid reddish clay. The wall had been extensively robbed 711 and the trench deliberately backfilled. The basal deposit consisted of a mid reddish brown silty clay (708) with rare slate fragments. The uppermost fill (707) consisted of a light to mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional fragments of white lime mortar and rare fragments of light pink lime mortar with lime wash and charcoal flecks. These deposits were sealed underneath a mid reddish brown silty clay with rare flecks of white lime mortar and slate, which was in turn sealed underneath a 0.14m thick layer of mid yellow ochre silty clay (705) with rare slate fragments and flecks of white lime mortar. This was overlain by a 0.29m thick layer of mid reddish brown silty clay (704) containing rare flecks of white lime mortar, cbm fragments and charcoal flecks, which was in turn overlain by a dark brown silty clay (703) containing occasional waterworn pebbles, cbm fragments and rare charcoal flecks. These deposits were truncated (701) along their western edge, the single fill (702) consisting of mid to dark reddish brown silty clay with occasional cbm fragments and charcoal flecks. This was in turn sealed underneath a dark brown silty clay (700) topsoil.

5. THE FINDS
By John Allan

5.1 **Introduction**
This is a relatively small assemblage from a relatively unknown medieval leper hospital site and post-medieval poor house on the edge of Exeter. The assemblage is mainly composed of late medieval and post-medieval finds with some imports. The sherds are largely in a good condition, although some of the material is abraded. Most of the pottery comes from unsealed contexts with evidence of truncation through late post-medieval activity. The finds are briefly described below and itemised in Appendix 4.

5.2 **Lithics**
The lithic assemblage consists of a single burnt flint. This dates from the late Neolithic to early Bronze Age periods and was residual in the rom the charnel soil (203) in Trench 2.

5.3 **Romano-British**
A single fragment of Roman *tegula* was recovered from the charnel soil (203) in Trench 2.

5.4 **Medieval pottery**
The medieval assemblage comprises 18 sherds and largely dates from the late medieval period. The condition of the assemblage is variable with sherd sizes ranging from large with reasonably fresh breaks to small and somewhat abraded. A number of diagnostic forms are recognisable. Where applicable, fabrics are given their unique code as designated by Allan (1984).

Floor-tiles
The floor-tiles are of great interest because they provide one of the few opportunities which has arisen so far to examine the range of tiles which might be employed in a leper hospital in Devon. There is a surprising variety of sources: from the Exeter area, France and the Low Countries. Tiles from the last area are by far the most common, illustrating the way in which locally made tiles were superseded after about 1400 by plain tiles, mainly imports. Three groups are represented:

(1) Three plain (?local) late medieval tiles of the 15th-16th century, one with slip and two with nail holes.

(2) A single fragment of Normandy tile of the late 15th- early 16th century, with traces of the distinctive brilliant copper-green glaze and red clay fabric.

(3) Six late medieval Low Countries fragments from Trenches 4 and 6. These were of variable thickness (24-32mm). Four fragments had traces of slip and yellow glaze, while two contained traces of dark green glaze.

Ridge tile
Seven residual fragments of late 14th-16th century gravel tempered glazed ridge tile were recovered from Trenches 2, 3 and 5, including one fragment with stabbing (late 14th-15th century) and one ridge-tile with a moulded crest dated to the 15th-16th century.

5.5 **Post-medieval pottery**
The post-medieval pottery assemblage comprises 256 sherds and ranges in date from the 16th-19th century. A number of diagnostic vessel forms are recognisable. Where applicable, fabrics are given their unique code as designated by Allan (1984).

Stonewares
A single sherd of Frechen stoneware with mottled glaze dating to the 16th-17th century was recovered from the topsoil (500) in Trench 5, while one residual sherd of salt-glazed Westerwald was recovered from the 19th century made ground deposit 502 in Trench 5. By the end of the 15th century Rhenish stonewares were imported to Exeter in large quantities from Raeren and Frechen, and at a later date Westerwald material. They were common imports to the city, representing nearly half of the cities imports throughout this period. [13]

In addition, six sherds of 18th-19th century English stoneware, including a tankard, were recovered from the topsoil in Trenches 1 and 3, and the 19th century made ground deposit 502 in Trench 5.

[13] Allan 1984, 115.

Tin-glazed wares
Originally regarded as high-quality decorative items, the three sherds from small 18th century bowls or cups recovered from the topsoil (100) in Trench 1 and the 19th century demolition deposit 409 in Trench 4, correspond with the adoption of tea-drinking and increasing imports of cheap porcelain after *c*.1720. [14]

Two sherds of tin-glazed pottery and a single wall tile fragment were recovered from the 19th century made ground deposits (410 and 502) and the topsoil (100) in Trenches 1, 4 and 5. The sherd with blue painted decoration recovered from Trench 4 was probably made in London in the early 18th century, while the sherd from Trench 5 is delftware attributed to the Netherlands and dating to the period 1700-1760.

By the beginning of the 16th century the Dutch produced tiles and pottery using a new manufacturing technique, Delftware, the term describing earthenware with a lead glaze to which tin oxide has been added. The first Delftware factory in England was established in Norwich in 1567 although production soon moved to London. The earliest Dutch potters settled in Aldgate and Southwark, but by the mid-1600s a flourishing industry developed in Southwark and Lambeth. This industry thrived throughout the 17th-18th century, although it began to decline by *c*.1760, when it was overtaken by cream-ware, cream coloured earthenware, produced in Staffordshire and across England.

English wares
Two sherds of 18th century Bristol-Staffordshire press-moulded bowl and a single sherd from a treacle-brown glazed tankard were recovered from the 19th century made ground deposits (502 and 503) in Trench 5. Press-moulded dishes and bowls were increasingly exported to Exeter from the 1740s onwards before going out of use by the early 19th century, while the treacle-brown glazed tankards were in use in the period *c*.1720-40 with few examples after this period. [15]

By far the largest proportion of pottery was composed of industrial wares, represented by 121 sherds of late 18th-19th century Staffordshire transfer decorated white earthenware, including cream ware and lustre ware.

Other English wares recovered from the topsoil in Trench 5 and the 19th century demolition deposits (409 and 410) in Trench 4, include three sherds of Jackfield ware with its distinctive lustrous black glaze dating to the period 1740-1770.

Coarsewares
The coarseware sherds consist mostly of small body sherds and display few diagnostic features. The majority of the post-medieval coarseware assemblage is dominated by North Devon and South Somerset fabrics. The recognisable local fabrics include 66 sherds of South Somerset red ware (or derivatives of) including a single Donyatt sgraffito dish, three sherds with copper green slip decoration and a single sherd from a slipware dish dating to the period 1690-1740; while North Devon gravel tempered and gravel free wares account for a further 47 sherds, including a large jar. Two sherds North Devon sgraffito were also recovered. These all span the period 16th-19th century.

[14] Ibid. 108.
[15] Ibid. 128.

Finally, a single sherd of possible coarse sandy ware dating to the 16th century was recovered from the upper fill (413) of the leat in Trench 4. These are thought to originate at a kiln or production centre close to the city after c.1500, although similar coarse sandy pottery was produced at Donyatt in South Somerset. Coarse sandy ware is common in early 16th century pit groups before rapidly disappearing in the years around 1650. None of the forms are closely dateable. [16]

Ridge tile
Seven fragments of 17th-18th century plain red earthenware tiles were recovered from the topsoil (400) in Trench 4, the upper fill (413) of the leat in Trench 4, and the 19th century made ground deposits (502 and 503) in Trench 5.

5.6 **Glass**
Four fragments of late 17th-18th century English green bottle glass were recovered from the topsoil (100) in Trench 1, and the 19th century made ground deposit (503) in Trench 5. In addition, there were fragments from at least one 19th century pharmaceutical bottle, nine fragments of late 19th century aerated water bottle and four early 20th century City Brewery and Aerated Water Company bottles.

5.7 **Clay pipe**
There are two early bowls dating to c.1660-1700 and 1690-1720, with a further 71 clay pipe stems dating to the late 18th-19th century. The remaining two bowls date to the 18th and 19th century, including a single bowl with reeded decoration.

5.8 **Conclusion**
With few exceptions the assemblage echoes trends identified in other Exeter extra-mural sites of this period. Unsurprisingly considering the limited nature of the works to date no late Saxo-Norman fabrics have been recovered and the majority of the medieval assemblage is dominated by floor- and ridgetiles. The presence of late medieval Normandy and Low Countries floor-tiles suggests an episode of re-flooring, perhaps necessitated by burials within the chapel and alterations to ancillary buildings.

The post-medieval assemblage is dominated by South Somerset fabrics and North Devon material, as well as later industrial creamwares, at a time when the site continued to function as an almshouse for the poor. What is notable is the small number of fine wares and imports present within the assemblage during this period. Perhaps unsurprisingly considering the history of the site only a small number of Rhenish stonewares, Chinese imported porcelain, Dutch or London tin-glaze wares and a limited number of English wares have been recovered.

6. HUMAN REMAINS
By Charlotte Coles

6.1 **Introduction**
A total of 11 articulated skeletons were uncovered during the excavation of Trenches 2 and 3 on the site of the former Magdalene leper hospital and poor house. In addition, disarticulated human remains were also found in these trenches, as well as the basal deposit of the leat in Trench 4. All of the remains were studied *in situ* and most of the skeletons were not fully

[16] Ibid. 136.

exposed, with some of the individual's remains extending outside the limit of the trenches or being covered by another individual. The remains include males and females, and a range of ages, including a single disarticulated bone from a neonate and an articulated skeleton of a child. None of the individuals exhibited the pathologies associated with leprosy although a range of pathologies typical to the medieval and post-medieval period were recorded.

6.2 **Methodology**

As the remains were studied *in situ* only a limited amount of information could be collected from the remains. An inventory of bones present was taken. Age, sex and any visible pathology changes were noted. Age analysis was based on bone fusion, pubic symphysis [17] and tooth eruption for adults and bone fusion for the infant burial. [18] Sex calculation was ascertained by skull and pelvis morphology based on Buikstra and Ubelaker. [19] Stature could not be calculated for any of the individuals due to lack of whole bones being exposed and the inability to lift the remains. For the disarticulated remains overall age, sex and pathology was noted.

6.3 **The articulated remains**

Burial position and orientation

Seven of the individuals in Trench 2 (SK212-SK217) were grouped closely together and some were buried on top of each other, most likely buried in two mass graves. The other two individuals from this trench were further to the east, SK219 is just represented by a skull and the relationship to SK218 which is represented by the skull and upper body is unknown. The three skeletons from Trench 3 include a child (SK309) partially covering the lower legs of an adult (SK307). The third individual in this trench was buried further to the east (SK305). The remains were all buried roughly east-west, most had their head to the west with the exception of SK212, SK218 and SK219 which had their heads to the east. It is possible these were buried in shrouds and the burial the other way had been a mistake.

Age

The burial of an infant aged between 6 months and 2 years, based on bone fusion, was found in Trench 3. No other children's remains were found apart from the single piece of neonate bone which is disarticulated. The age of the adult individuals is based on bone fusion, tooth eruption and pubic symphysis. For the adults seven of these are of unknown age at death. One was in their late teens to early 20s (SK212), one was in their early 20s (SK213) and one was aged 35-45 years old (SK307).

Sex

There is a mixture of both male and female individuals buried within the cemetery. It is not possible to ascertain the sex of the infant, but for the adults five are female, three are male and two are unknown.

Pathology

Infectious pathology

The remains are thought to belong to a leper cemetery. The osteoarchaeological changes from leprosy include extreme bone changes to the face, including absorption of the maxilla and nose, there are also changes seen to the hand and foot phalanges, ankle bones and also widespread

[17] Suchey and Brooks 1990.
[18] Scheuer and Black 2004.
[19] Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994.

infection to the lower legs. [20] None of these changes were noted in the individuals exposed. However it is worth noting that the individuals could have being suffering with leprosy but it had not become advanced enough to have made changes to the bone. Leprosy is known to make the sufferer more prone to other infections [21] and these may have been cause of death instead of the leprosy itself.

Periostitis

Six individuals had periostitis present on the bones. Periostitis is a non-specific infection affecting the surface of the bone, this manifests itself as fine pitting and plaque like new bone on the original cortical surface, it is thought to be caused by infection, trauma, ulceration or varicose veins. [22] The individuals with periostitis are SK212 which had this sign of infection present on both tibial shafts, SK215 which had it on both femoral shafts, SK217 which had periostitis on the left femur shaft and both tibial shafts, SK305 which had it on both tibial shafts and the shaft of the right fibula, SK307 had it on the right ulna and right radius shafts, the left ulna shaft and both femoral shafts and SK309 which had extremely widespread periostitis on the frontal eye sockets, and the linea aspera of both the femurs.

Schmorl's nodes

A single individual; a young adult female (SK212), had schmorl's nodes. Schmorl's nodes is where the discs put pressure on vertebral surfaces causing a dent in the middle of the vertebral body joint surface, the cause of this is unknown but it is often linked to trauma or osteoporosis. [23] The individual had several schmorl's nodes present on the thoracic vertebrae, only a few of the vertebrae could be examined due to the skeleton remaining *in situ*.

Dental pathology

Out of the six individuals whose maxilla, mandible or teeth were visible for analysis five have dental pathologies. The vast majority of these is the loss of teeth in life also known as ante mortem tooth loss. SK307 had lost all the teeth from the mandible in life, the maxilla was missing. SK213 had lost six teeth, SK218 had lost two teeth and SK214 and SK215 had lost one tooth each. In all cases the alveolar sockets had completely or very nearly reabsorbed. Ante mortem tooth loss can be caused by periodontal disease, which is an inflammation of the soft tissues which transfers to the bone, causing the teeth to become loose and finally lost completely. [24]

SK215 also had an abscess in the maxilla above one of the upper right incisors and one of the other teeth only survived as the root. A dental abscess can be caused by accumulation of plaque between the soft tissue of the gum and the teeth, inflammation begins and pus builds up and eventually a hole forms for the pus to drain. [25]

The only other dental pathology present was SK213 which had large caries or cavities in two of the teeth.

[20] Ortner 2008, 198.
[21] ibid. 206.
[22] Roberts and Manchester 2010, 172.
[23] ibid. 141.
[24] ibid. 73.
[25] ibid. 70.

6.4 **The disarticulated remains**

Disarticulated remains were found in Trenches 2, 3 and 4. These include the minimum number of individuals of at least five. The remains of males and females were found within the disarticulated material, the remains were all from adult or adolescents with the exception of a single neonate femur. The disarticulated remains included all parts of the body and the pathologies noted were joint changes to several vertebrae, periostitis on long bones and ante mortem tooth loss.

6.5 **Conclusions**

The assemblage shows that the burial ground was used for a range of ages, from neonate to adult, and both male and female individuals were present. The orientation of the burials, with some facing west and others facing east, is of interest and may indicate shroud burials or hurried inhumations. Although no signs of leprosy were present on the skeletons, pathologies such as non-specific infection, joint changes and dental pathologies were noted. These are typical of the Middle Ages and the post-medieval period.

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 **Quality of results**

Understanding of the deposits encountered is hampered by the limited size of the trenches, the extent of 19th and 20th century truncation and by the small amount of secure dating evidence. Nevertheless, a general interpretation, based on an understanding of the broad history of the site can be offered. The distribution and interpretation of archaeological deposits identified during the evaluation is shown on Fig. 14.

7.2 **Prehistoric and Roman**

Despite the proximity of the site to known Mid to Late Iron Age settlement activity, no features or deposits dating to the prehistoric or Roman period were exposed by the work. Instead, a single piece of residual flint and a flange fragment from a *tegula* were recovered from the charnel soil.

7.3 **Medieval and post-medieval activity**

The work revealed the remains of 12 individuals as well as extensive charnel soils in Trenches 2 and 3. The remains in the former were relatively shallow, while the sequence exposed in Trench 2 was partly sealed underneath the early 20th century building platform. Although dating evidence was limited the graveyard is likely to have been in use from the foundation of the hospital in the 12th century to the demolition of the poor house in the mid-19th century. The hospital in Exeter was originally founded for the upkeep of 13 leper brethren. Evidence from the excavation of the Hospital of St James and St Mary Magdalene in Chichester shows that until the 15th century the burials within the graveyard were almost exclusively male and are likely to represent the inmates, their carers and perhaps occasional benefactors, [26] although a few women, servants, wives of inmates or benefactresses, were also buried in the cemetery. [27] By the early 15th century, the inmates in Exeter were also described as 'infirm' which suggests that as the fear or incidence of leprosy declined the hospital progressively became an almshouse for the poor. [28] Documentary evidence from Chichester suggests that women were gradually admitted in ever larger numbers from this period onwards, their remains increasingly

[26] Magilton 2008, 263.
[27] Ibid. 263.
[28] Orme 2014.

represented in the graveyard. At least five of the 12 individuals uncovered by the work were female. None exhibited skeletal changes due to leprosy, although all suffered from poor health which could have been brought on by a wide variety of infectious diseases, whether the result of leprosy, tuberculosis or other chronic diseases. It is possible therefore that the remains exposed by the works form part of the later phase of activity at the site, at a time when it functioned as an almshouse.

No structural remains of the hospital chapel shown in detail for the first time on the 1746 Exeter Chamber Map and described in 1806 by Jenkins as being " *kept in a filthy condition, no glass being in the windows; it still has one bell, and some mutilated grave-stones, with broken inscriptions,*" were identified during the course of the works. By the early 19th century the chapel was an oblong building measuring about 18.6m long and 5.5m wide, with a three-light window at the east end and a two-light window at the west end. It had two entrances on the south side and must have once functioned a separate chancel and nave divided by a screen. [29] The chapel was demolished in 1851 [30] and its remains are likely to be located underneath the northernmost 1920s building.

To the south of the graveyard the remains of a leat or conduit were identified in Trench 4. This consisted of two mortared stone rubble walls with no evidence for a formal floor. Although no dating evidence was recovered this structure is likely to be medieval in date, providing clean water from further up the Shutebrook valley for the hospital, the kitchen and the latrines. Heavily truncated at the southwestern end the basal fill of the leat contained large quantity of disarticulated human remains. This is clearly the result of grave clearance although the exact context for this is currently unclear.

Immediately to the east of this two phases of mortar bedding for a tiled or paved floor were identified. The earliest deposit pre-dated the construction of the leat or conduit, while the upper layer was contemporary with it, suggesting the presence of at least two phases of building in Trench 4. Extensive later disturbance in this area has destroyed much of the evidence, making it very difficult to ascertain the extent of these buildings and the nature of the activities taking place within them. The *c*.1590 Map of Exeter depicts the hospital as a courtyard with buildings on two sides, a gatehouse and further building range fronting Magdalen Street to the north and a small chapel with a bell turret on the east side. It is possible therefore that the fragmentary building identified forms part of the southern range. From the limited information available the later floor is contemporary with the leat, its position towards the western end of the southern range perhaps suggesting that the building may have functioned as a latrine.

At the northern end of the site the remains of a possible robbed building were uncovered in Trench 7. No traces of *in situ* masonry survived within the robber trench, although a very small amount of clay-bonded stone rubble survived in parts. While we have only an incomplete picture of the building it seems possible that this is one of the buildings fronting onto Magdalene Road to the north and shown in detail on the 1746 Exeter Chamber Map and John Coleridge's 1819 Map of Exeter. The 1852 Map of Exeter by Featherstone & Co. suggests that the original course of Magdalen Street, surviving today on the western bank of the Shutebrook, continued to run at the base of the viaduct as far as the former hospital site until the demolition of the latter in 1863. The area was inaccessible during the works and the suspected course of

[29] Orme 2014.
[30] HER ref. ECC11048.

the road could not be investigated, it is possible therefore that this survives underneath late 19th century landscaping.

The period around the late 18th and early 19th century was, according to contemporary descriptions, one of continued decline for the site. The development of middle-class housing in St Leonards and the construction of the new viaduct in 1838-9 meant that the site was increasingly isolated. This was further compounded by the construction of Fairpark Road in the late 1840s. The chapel was dismantled in 1851 and the remaining buildings were demolished in 1863. Evidence from Trench 4 indicates extensive robbing of the former southern building range and the leat, the materials perhaps reused in the construction of nearby houses and boundary walls. Other demolition deposits were used to level the ground to the south of the buildings. The Shutebrook valley originally feel relatively steeply towards the River Exe to the south and the deposits exposed in Trench 5 are characterised by deep deposits of made ground, likely the result of the demolition of the remaining buildings in 1863 and the landscaping of the site.

Following the demolition of the poor house, the southern end of the site was occupied by three terraced houses, shown on the 1877 Ordnance Survey Town plan of Exeter. A context for the deep late 19th century made ground deposits identified in Trench 6 is the demolition of these buildings in the late 1880s.

The area remained in use as a garden and orchard until the 1920s when the current buildings were partly terraced into the eastern slope.

8. CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation has established important new evidence associated with the medieval Magdalene leper hospital and later poor house in the northern and central part of the site. The exact size and shape of the precinct and the buildings within is not known, although it is likely to extend beyond the limits of the excavations to the north and east. Based on present evidence it seems probable that in most areas, despite 19th and 20th century truncation, preservation is good with archaeological features and deposits preserved underneath the extensive landscaping that has taken place across the site. In the northern half of the site, the remains of a possible robbed building were identified, while in the central part medieval and/or post-medieval graves, as well as the heavily truncated remains of a building associated with a leat or conduit were identified.

Based on discussions with the ECC Principal Project Manager Heritage and as a condition of full planning consent a staged programme of archaeological work will be required. If the proposed work goes ahead an initial second stage trial trenching should help confirm the extent, significance and quality of archaeological survival to inform the nature and extent of further archaeological mitigation required under the planning permission. The second stage of trial trenching will be required to:

- Establish further the presence and extent of the graveyard identified in Trenches 2-3 on its north and east sides, as well as confirming whether the foundations of the current buildings have truncated the burial horizon;
- Establish whether remains associated with the former chapel are present or absent within the site;

- Further examine the area around Trench 4 in order to establish the extent of the building and its survival, to determine the course and extent of survival of the leat on its northeast side; and to determine the extent of the later truncation of the leat and building;
- Confirm the nature of the extensive landscaping and soil sequence in Trenches 5-6 and establish whether they have removed all but the deeper features;
- Determine if the possible robber trench identified in Trench 7 is part of the building range shown on historic mapping, and if additional features associated with the front ranges are present in this area.

Depending on the final scheme design and depth and location of the development groundworks, the ECC PPMH has set-out the required staged mitigation strategy as follows:

1. Full excavation of all currently available areas impacted by and in advance of any development, including demolition;
2. Level 3 building recording of the existing buildings prior to and during controlled demolition;
3. Full excavation of all areas under the buildings where deposits survive;
4. Post-excavation analysis, publication of the results and deposition of the archive with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) and the RAM Museum, Exeter.

9. PROJECT ARCHIVE

The site records have been compiled into a fully integrated site archive which is currently held at Oakford Archaeology's offices under project number 1588, pending deposition with the Cathedral Library and Archives. Details of the evaluation, including a pdf copy of the final report will be submitted to the on-line archaeological database OASIS (oakforda1-432134).

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Lease D&C 60610/14/4

Photographs of John Coldridge's map of Exeter 1819

UAD Exeter City Council Urban Archaeological Database

[Description by Margery Ravenhill & Mary Rowe [31]] "Title not given: map probably removed from Hooker's History (ECA Book 52) possibly between pages 2 & 3" Surveyor – John Hooker, c.1590
Civitas Exoniae (vulgo Exester) Vrbs Primaria in Comitatv Devonia by Georg Braun (1618) SWHT OM/B/EXE/1618/BRA
Map 5 from the Exeter Chamber Map Book: Lands from St Mary Magdalen's Chapel to South-gate, including a Tenement on Holloway, in the Parish of Holy Trinity surveyed by John Richards (1746). Portion 4 on the map is described as "The Chapel, Chapel-yard and Hospital of St Mary Magdalen." (1746) SWHT ECA Book 58
Plan of the city and suburbs of Exeter surveyed by Charles Tozer [St Mary Magdelene's Chapel marked with an S] (1792) SWHT OM B/EXE/1793/TOZ
A Map of the City of Exeter including part of the County of the same City … made from actual measurement in the years 1818 and 1819 by I Coldridge, Surveyor [John Coldridge SWHT ECA/G12
Greenwood's Map of Devon (1827)
Tithe Map for the parish of Holy Trinity, Exeter (1841) [Fairpark situated near the edge of the parish boundary with St Leonards]
Map of the City of Exeter embracing all the Alterations and Improvements to the present period, drawn, printed and published by Featherstone & Co, Lithographers and Printers, 246 High Street, Exeter (1852) PM B/EXE/1852/FEA

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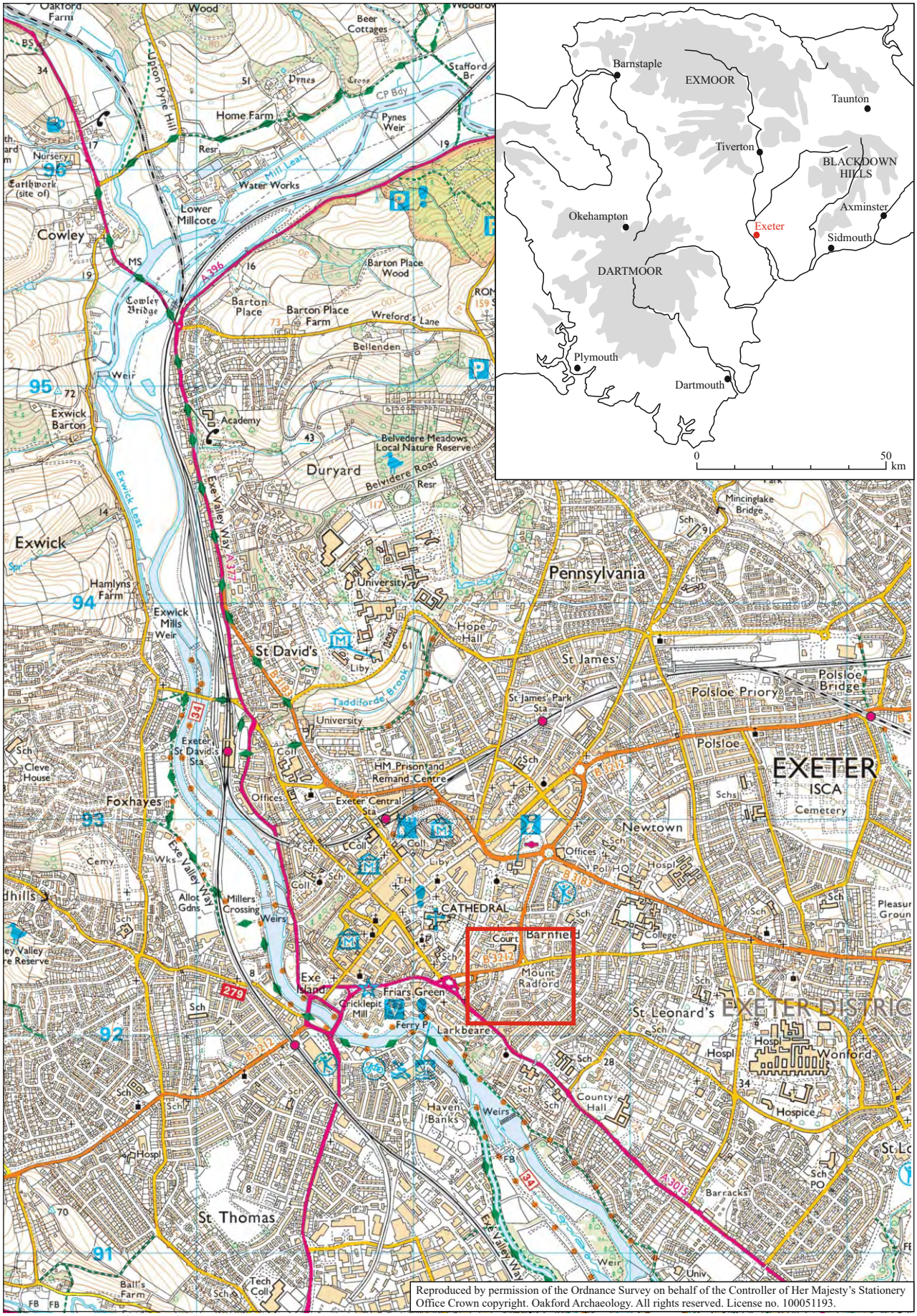


Fig. 1 Location of site.

Fig. 2 (a) Detail from *c*.1587 map in Hooker's History. (b) Detail from *c*.1590 map of Exeter and its eastern approaches.

Fig. 3 Detail from the 1746 Exeter Chamber map book showing the site before the construction of the new viaduct in the early 19th century.

Fig. 4 Detail from John Coleridge's 1819 map of Exeter.

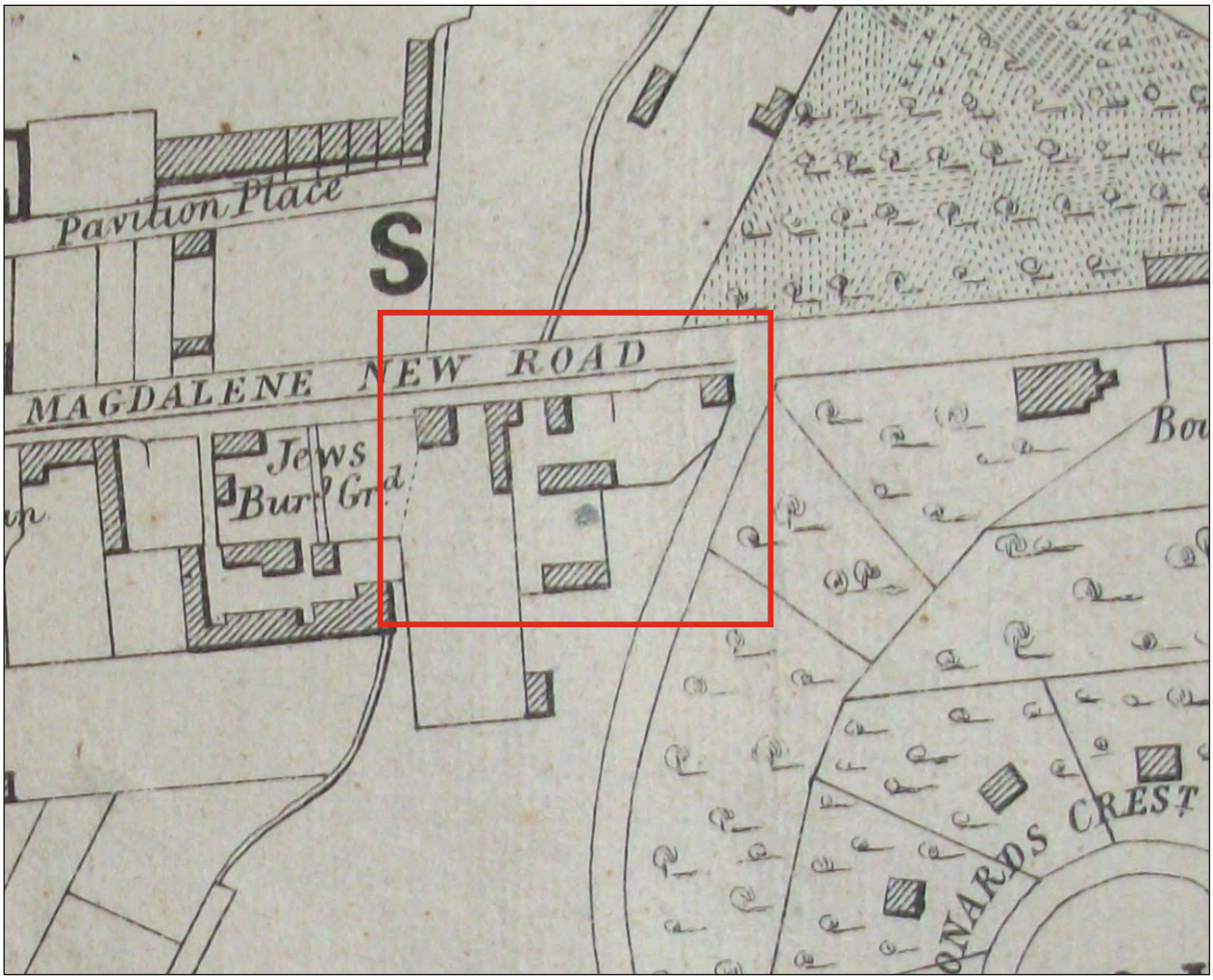


Fig. 5 Detail from the 1852 map of Exeter by Featherstone & Co. showing the original course of Magdalen Street surviving at the base of the new viaduct.

Fig. 6 Detail from the 1877 Ordnance Survey Town plan of Exeter Sheet LXXX.6.23. following the construction of the new viaduct in 1838, the demolition of the chapel in 1851 and the remaining buildings in 1863.

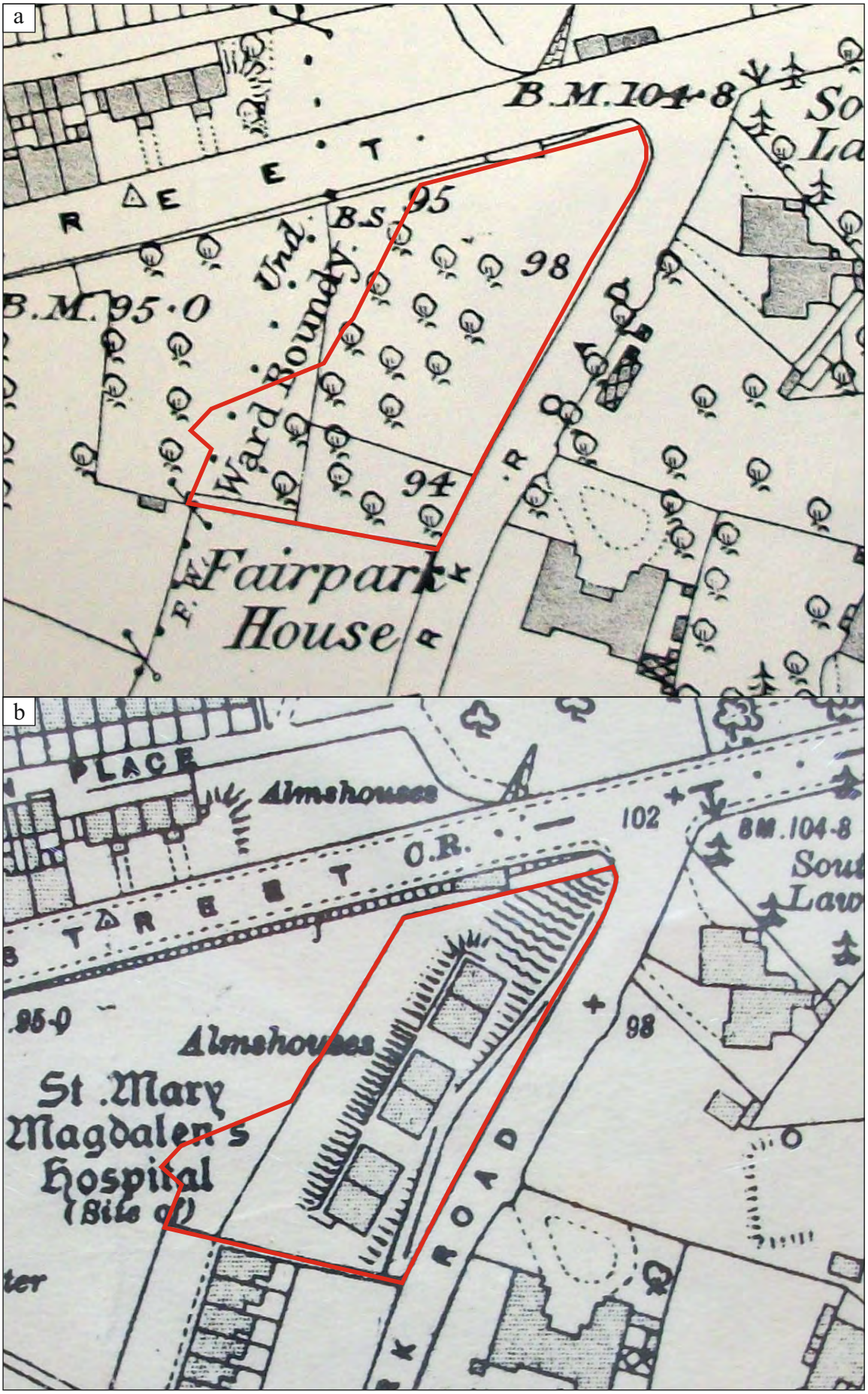


Fig. 7 (a) Detail from the 1890 1st edition Ordnance Survey County Sheet LXXX.6. (b) Detail from the 1939 Ordnance Survey map.

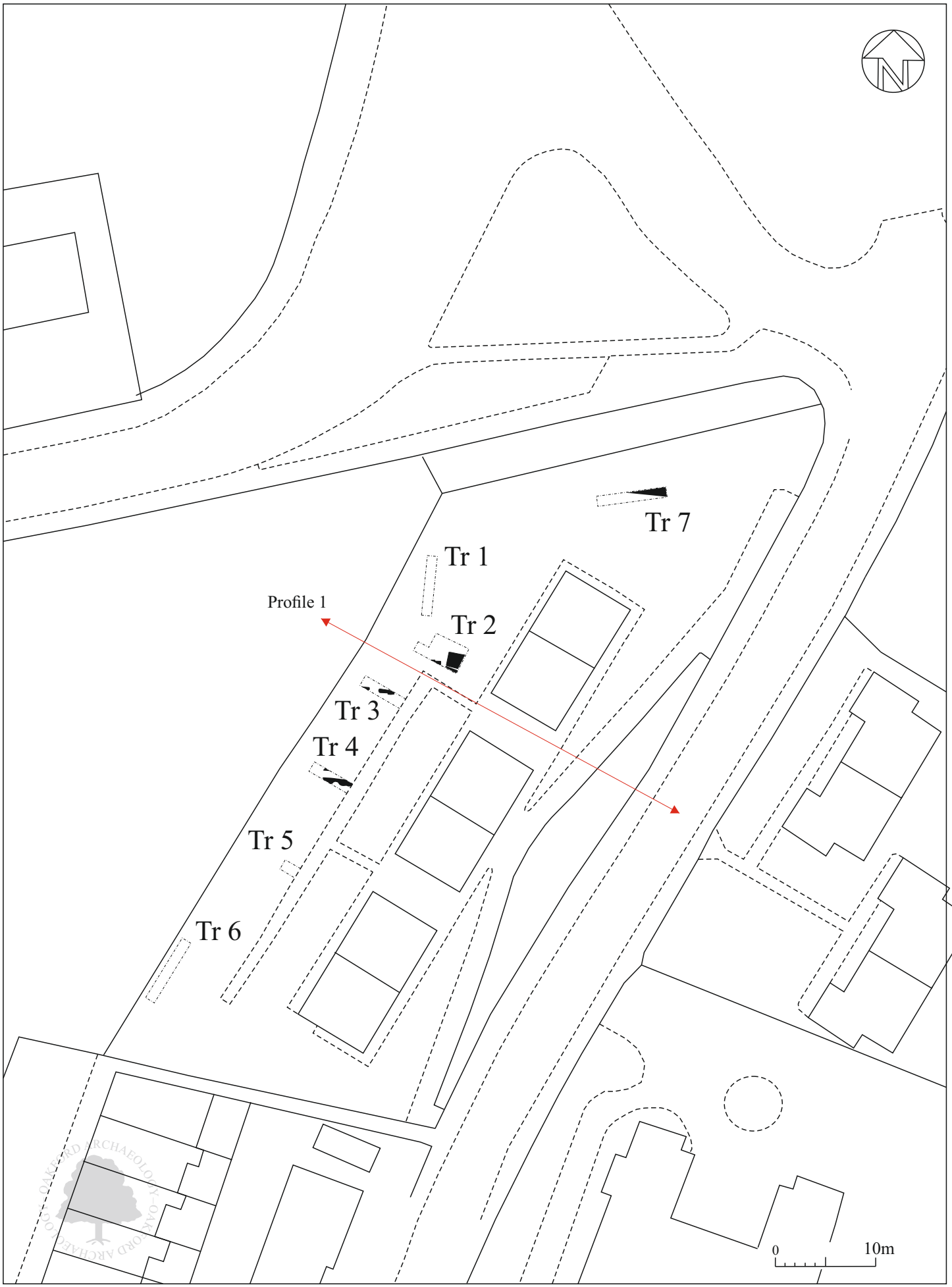
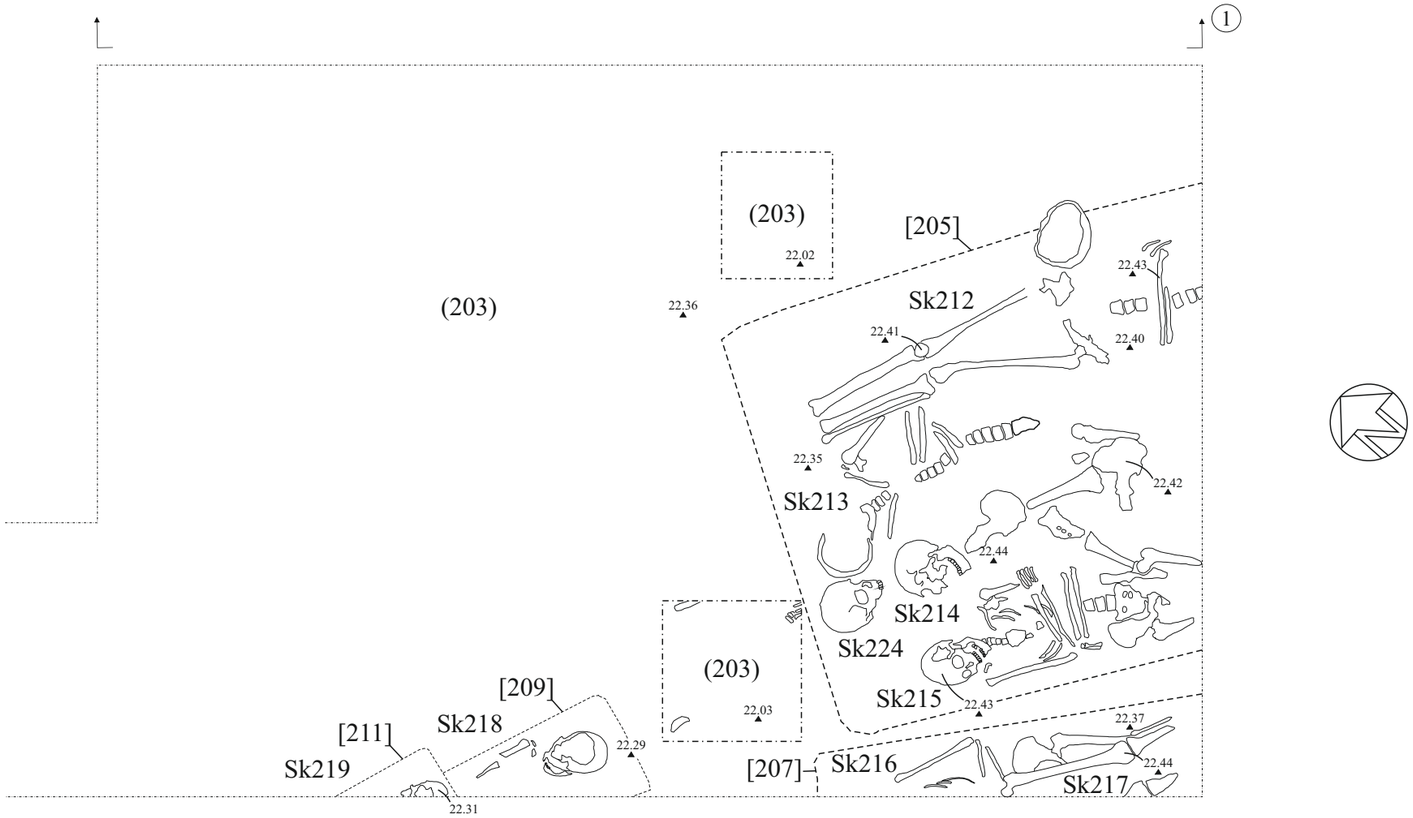


Fig. 8 Plan of trenches showing location of observations.

Trench 2



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Trench 3

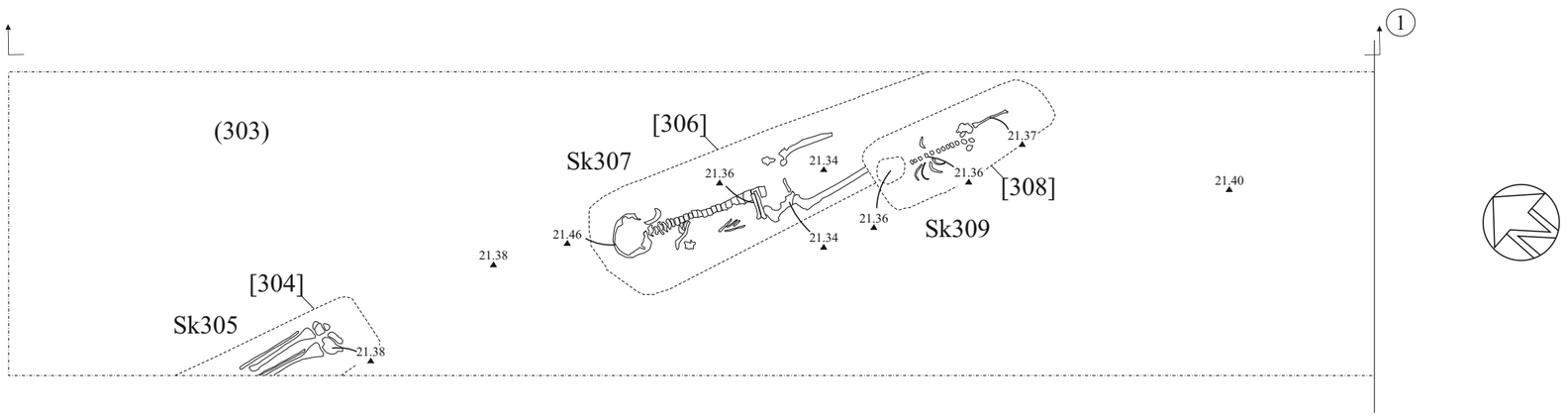


Fig. 9 Trenches 2 and 3: plans.

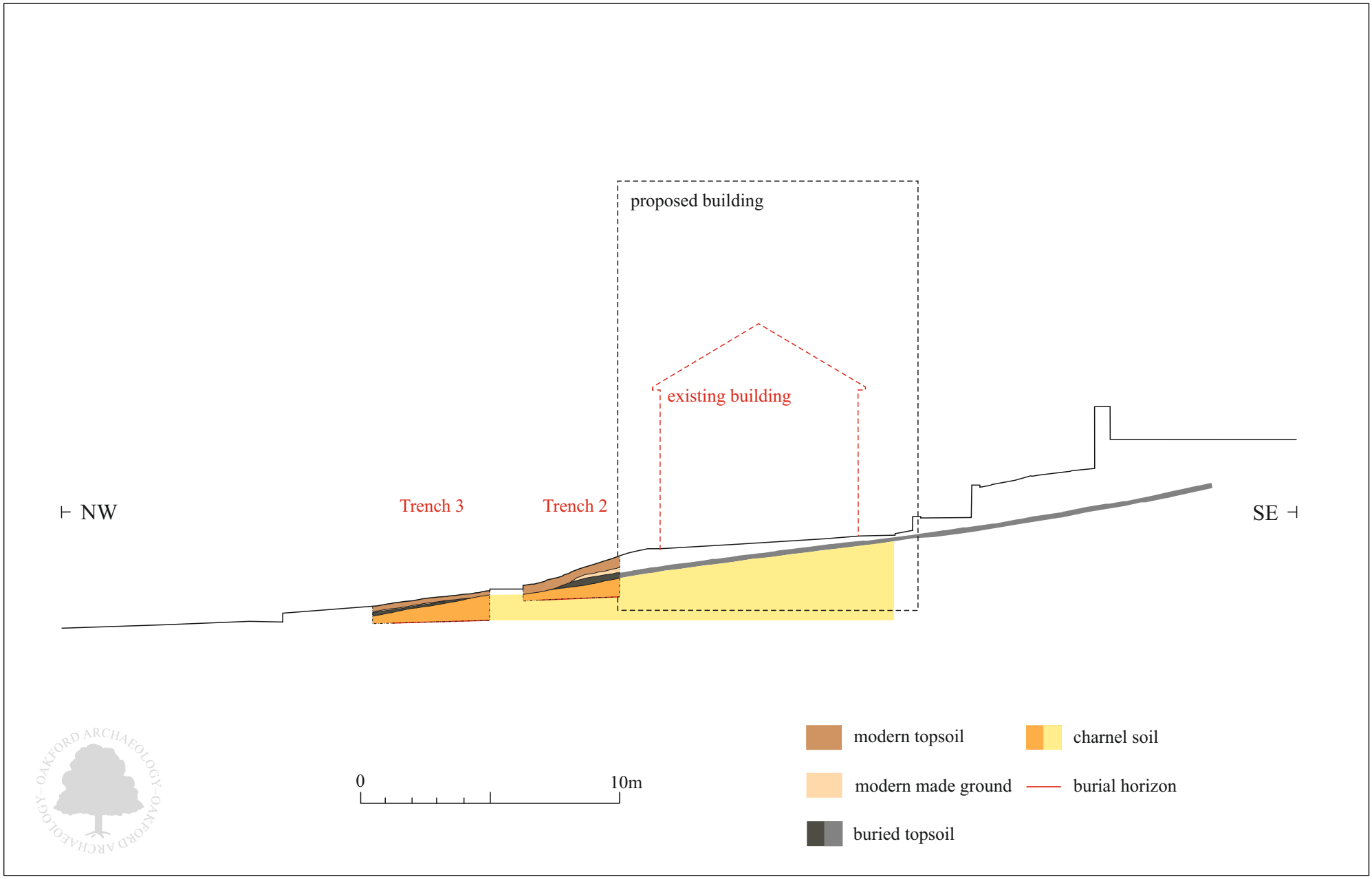
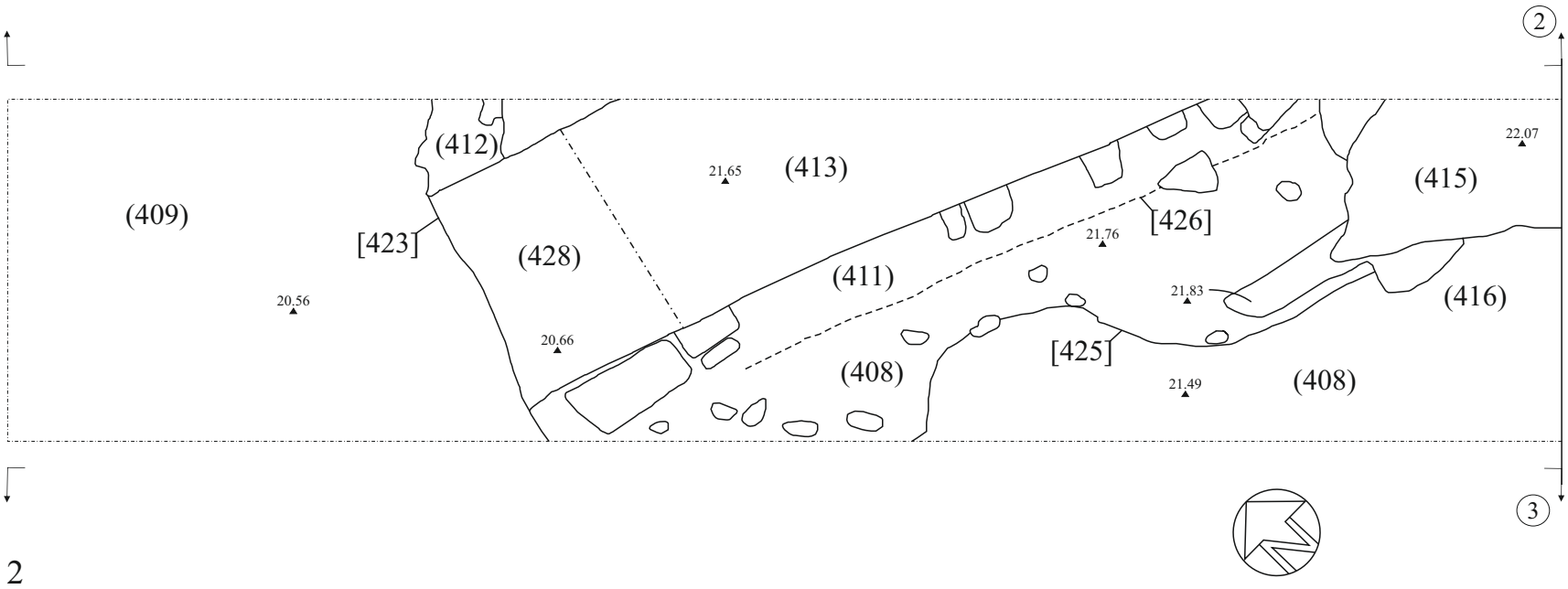


Fig. 10 Burial horizon profile through Fairpark Road.

Trench 4



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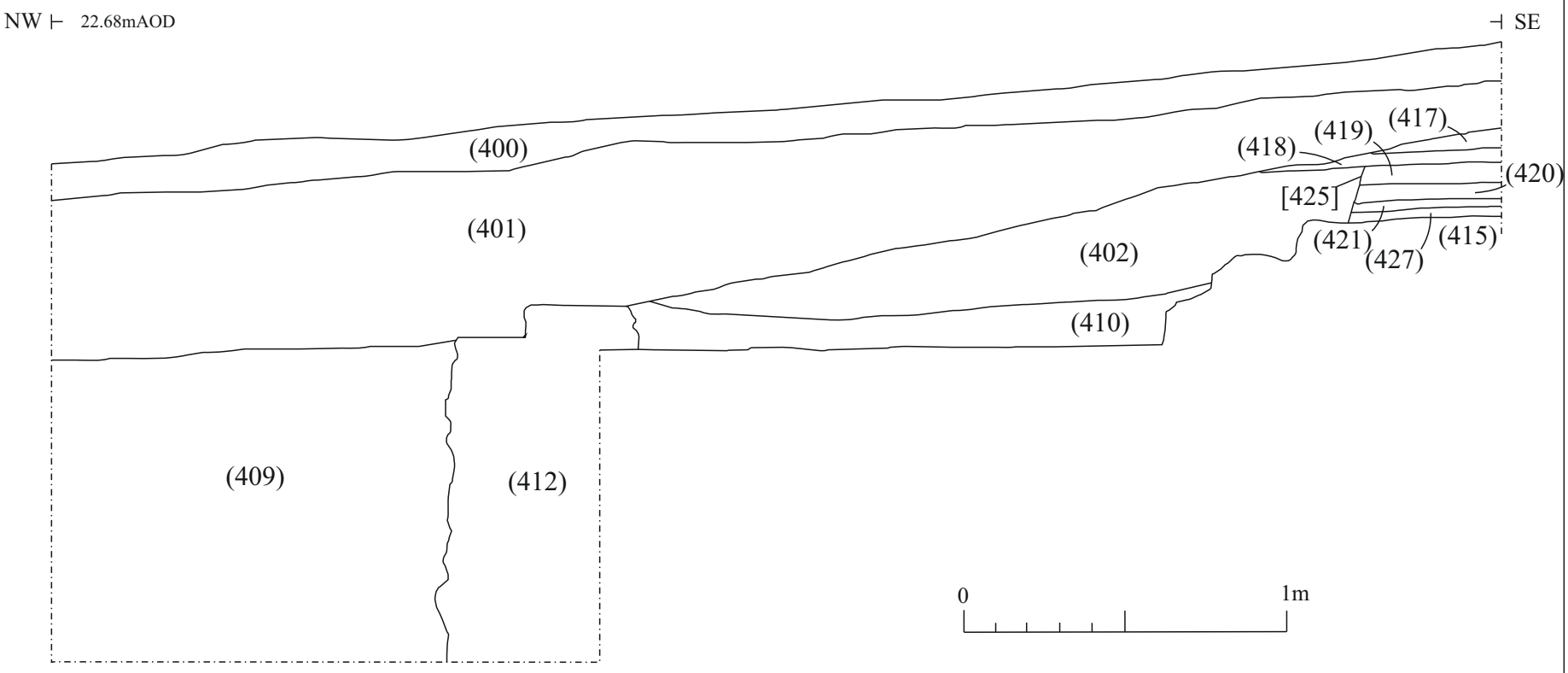

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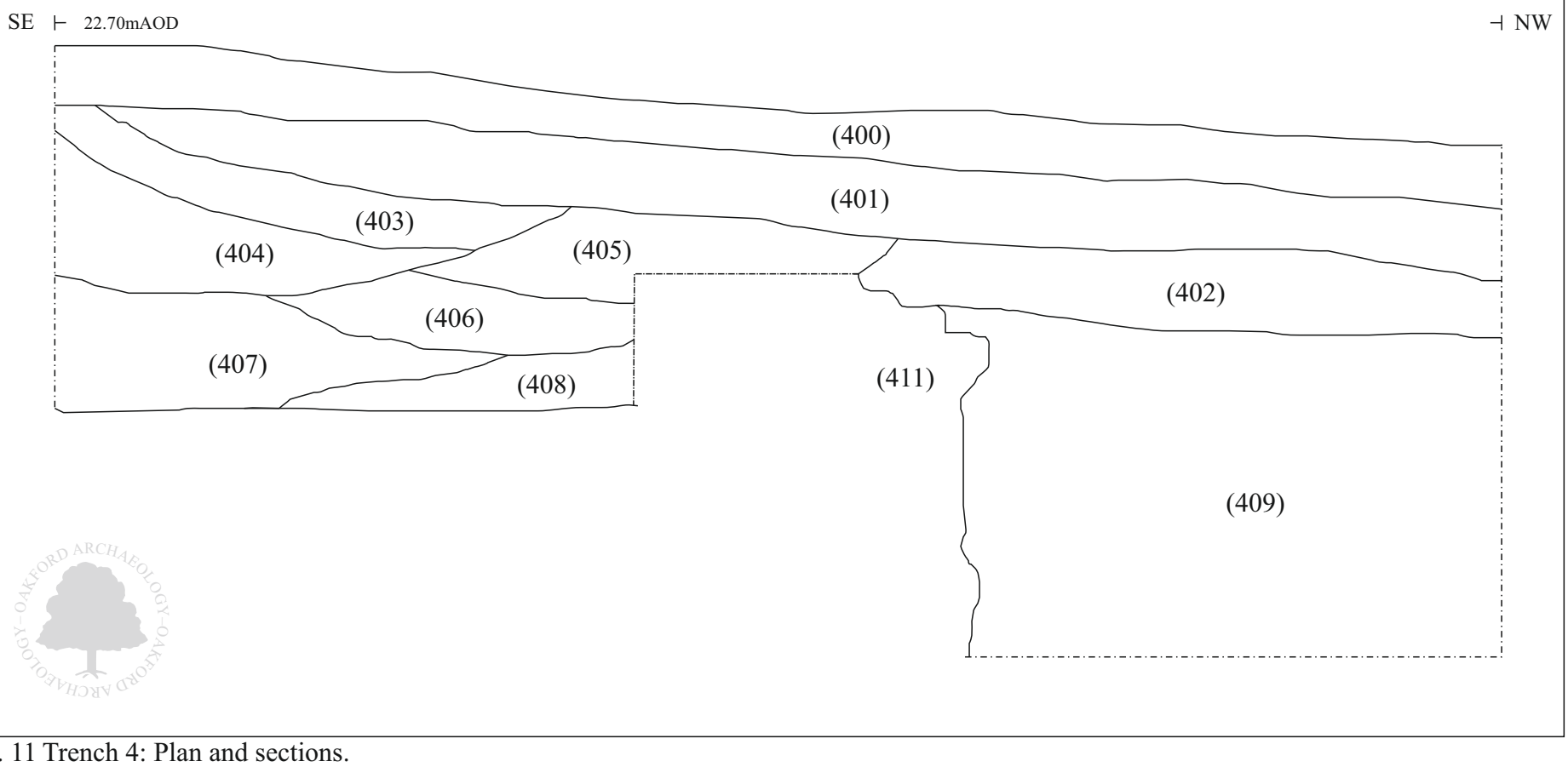

Fig. 11 Trench 4: Plan and sections.

Trench 7

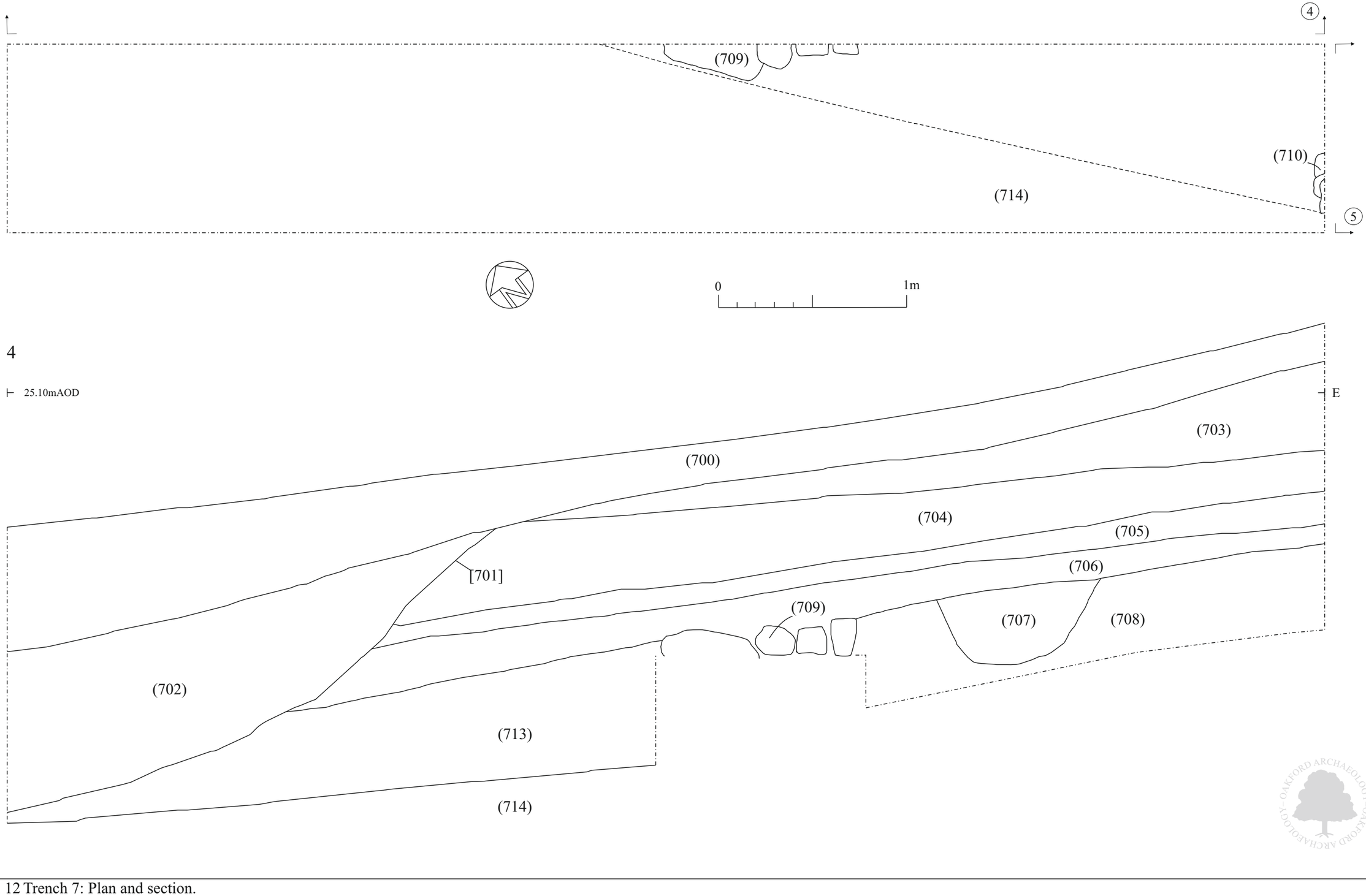

Fig. 12 Trench 7: Plan and section.

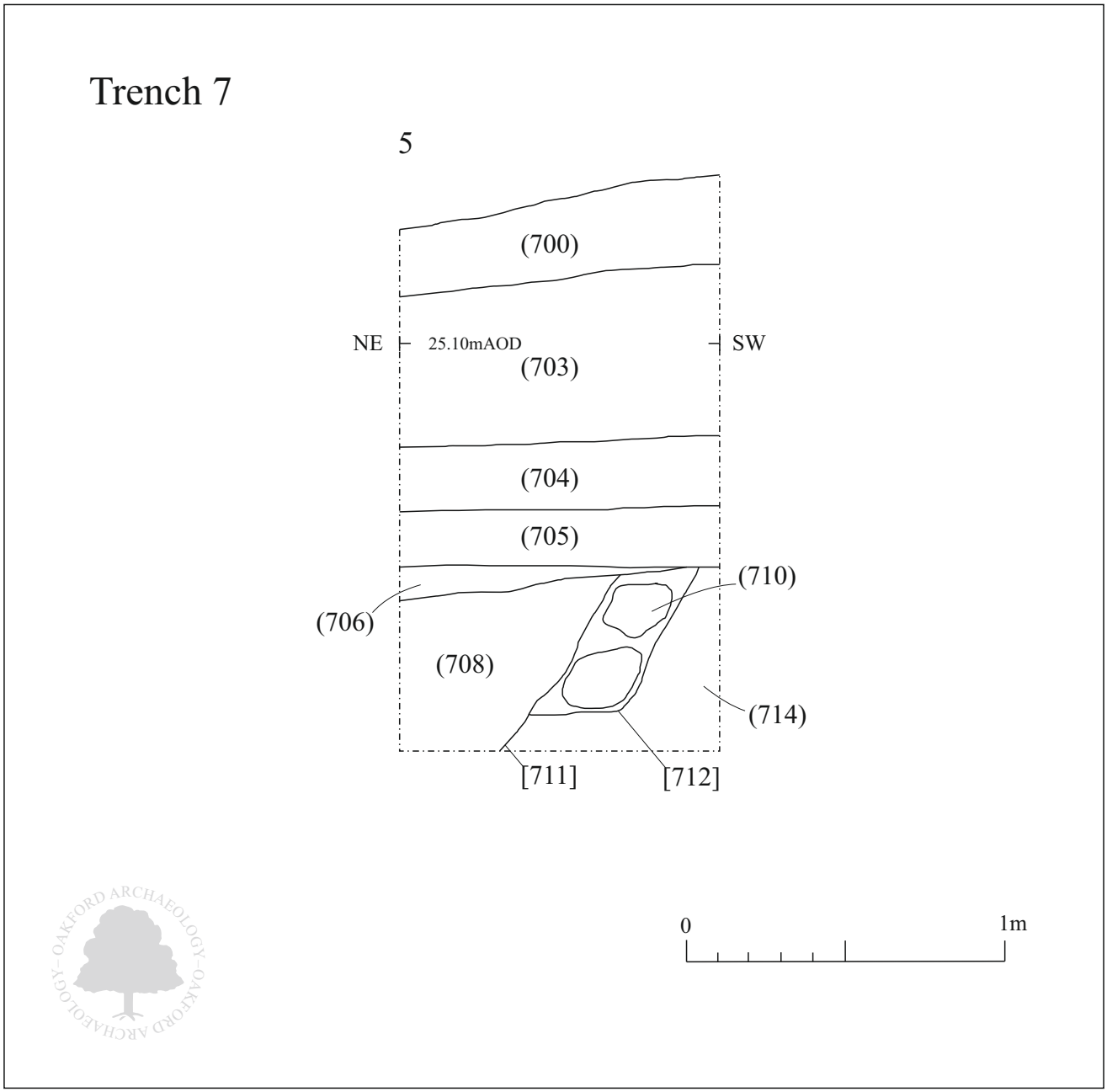

Fig. 13 Trench 7: section.

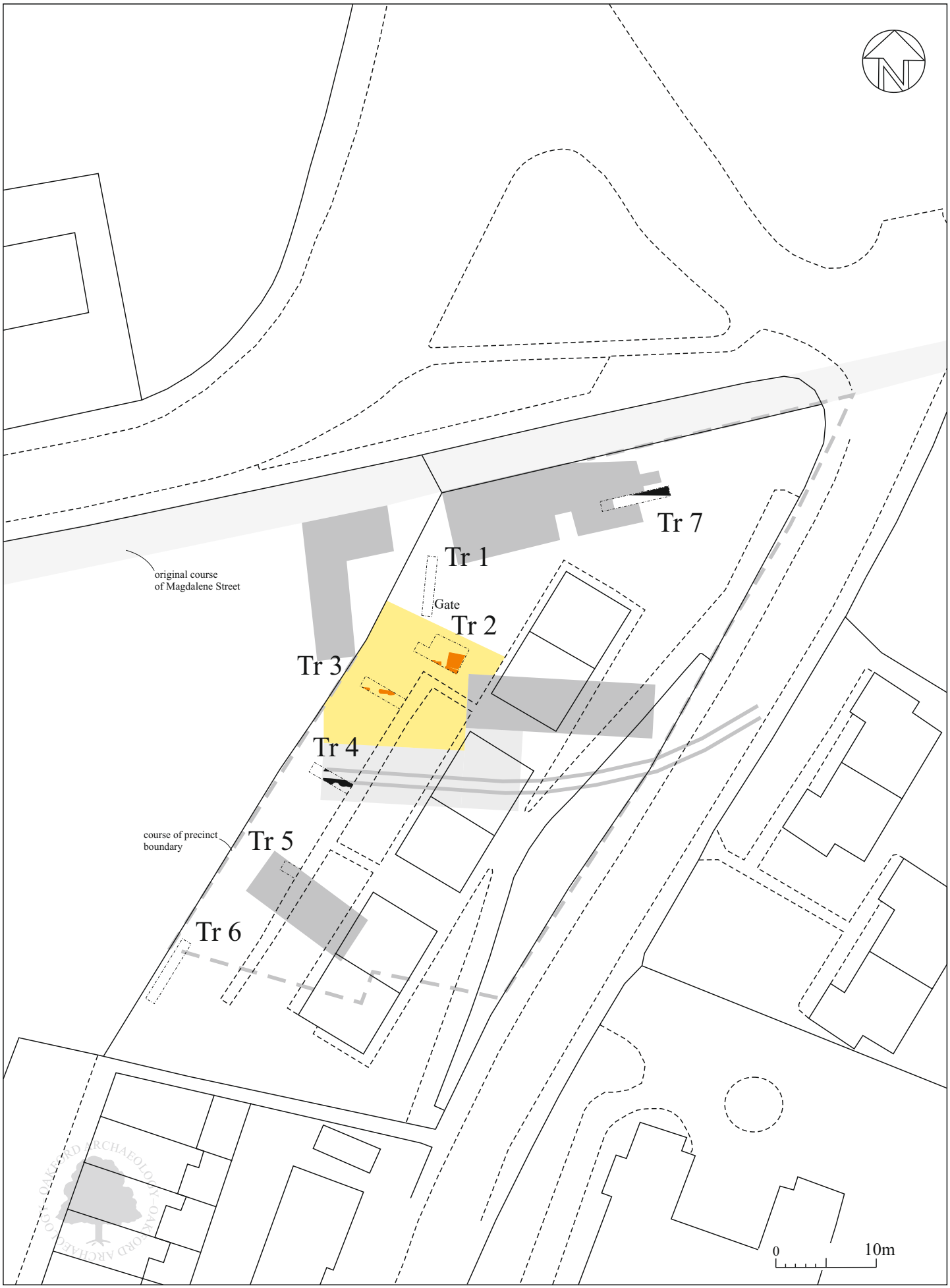

Fig. 14 Trench plan showing principal features identified and proposed reconstruction of the hospital and poor house.

Pl. 1 General view of site showing Trenches 1 and 2. Looking south.

Pl. 2 General view of Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5. Looking southwest.

Pl. 3 General view of Trenches 5, 4 and 3. Looking northeast.

Pl. 4 General view of Trench 7. Looking east.

Pl. 5 General view of Trench 1. 2m scale. Looking south.

Pl. 6 Section through Trench 1 showing deposit sequence. 1m scale. Looking east.

Pl. 7 General view of Trench 2 showing depth of early 20th century made ground above original topsoil and top of Burial Group 205 and 207. Looking southeast.

Pl. 8 General view of Burial Group 207 and 205 with skeletons 222 and 223 at the top. 1m scales. Looking northwest.

Pl. 9 Close up of skeleton 215. 0.5m scale. Looking west.

Pl. 10 Close-up of skeletons 222 and 223. 0.5m scale. Looking east.

Pl. 11 General view of Trench 3. 2m scale. Looking southeast.

Pl. 12 Section through Trench 2 showing depth of modern made ground above original topsoil and depth of skeletons 307 and 309. 2m scale. Looking northeast.

Pl. 13 Close-up of skeleton 305. 0.25m scale. Looking south.

Pl. 15 Close-up of skeleton 309. 0.25m scale. Looking north.

Pl. 16 General view of Trench 4 showing leat 411/412. 2m scale. Looking southeast.

Pl. 17 General view of Trench 4 showing truncation of unknown date. 2m scale. Looking southeast.

Pl. 18 General view of Trench 4 showing truncation of unknown date at northern end. 1m scale. Looking southwest.

Pl. 19 General view of Trench 4 showing truncation of unknown date at northern end. 1m scale. Looking southeast.

Pl. 20 Close-up of mortar floor make-up 415 and 416. 0.25m scale. Looking southeast.

Pl. 21 General view of Trench 4 showing truncation of unknown date. 2m scale. Looking northwest.

Pl. 22 General view of Trench 4 showing leat 411/412 with disarticulated human remains in basal fill 414. 2m scale. Looking east.

Pl. 23 General view of Trench 4 showing leat 411/412 with disarticulated human remains in basal fill 414. 0.5m and 2m scales. Looking east.

Pl. 24 General view of Trench 4 showing leat 411/412 and extent of truncation of unknown date. 2m scale. Looking northwest.

Pl. 25 General view of Trench 5 showing successive historic made ground deposits 501-505. 2m scale. Looking northeast.

Pl. 26 General view of Trench 6 showing late 19th century made ground 601-604. 2m scale. Looking northwest.

Pl. 27 General view of Trench 6 showing late 19th century made ground 605-608. 2m scale. Looking northwest.

Pl. 28 General view of Trench 7. 2m scale. Looking east.

Pl. 29 General view of Trench 7 possible remains of robber trench 711. 2m scale. Looking north.

Pl. 30 Close-up of Trench 7 showing possible remains of robber trench 711. 2m scale. Looking east.

Appendix 1:

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological works

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document has been prepared by Oakford Archaeology (OA) for Kendall Kingscott Ltd on behalf of the Exeter Homes Trust Ltd and sets out the methodology to be employed during an archaeological evaluation on land at Hurst Almshouses, Fairpark Road, Exeter (SX 9250 9229). This document represents the 'Written Scheme of Investigation' required under an upcoming planning application for the construction of residential flats for charity licensees and associated works. The work is required by the local planning authority Exeter City Council (ECC), as advised by the Principal Project Manager Heritage (PPMH).

1.2 The proposed work lies in an area of high archaeological potential on the southeastern edge of the historic city of Exeter, in an area where evidence for prehistoric, Romano-British and later medieval activity has been previously identified.

1.3 Investigations to the northwest of the site at the Magistrates Court and Southernhay east car park has identified by Exeter Archaeology has identified features, deposits and finds relating to Iron Age settlement and agricultural activity. Features recorded include ring ditches, postholes, enclosures and linear ditches associated with field systems in the area. The pottery assemblage recovered from the site consisted entirely of South-West Decorated Ware, also known as Glastonbury Ware, which was in use in Devon from the 3rd or possibly 4th century BC until at least the 1st century AD.

1.4 The proposed development lies on the southern edge of Magdalen Street, which probably lies on the approximate route of the Roman Road from London. It is likely that the route existed by the late Saxon period, when Exeter was refounded and laid out as a planned defended town or *burh*. Generally, although the nearby excavations in 1974 at Keble House and the Acorn roundabout in 1988-89 produced medieval and later material, showing that development gradually extended along the street, evidence for extramural activity before the 13th century is limited to a number of rubbish and cess pits, several ditches and a possible structure. [1] In addition, Exeter grants and deeds from the same period usually refer only to 'pieces of land' in this area, with the term 'tenements' becoming more common by the end of the century. Over the 14th and 15th centuries, the properties along Magdalen Street are referred to as 'messuages', 'houses' and 'cottages'. [2] However, these were very often associated with gardens, and it seems unlikely that the area was heavily built up.

1.5 Throughout the medieval period the proposed development site was part of the endowment of the Magdalen Leper Hospital. This was established in the 12th century and the hospital consisted of a quadrangle with a chapel on one side and small buildings to house the inmates on the other three. The hospital was transferred to the control of the City Chamber in 1244, and the mayor and

[1] Steinmetzer 2017.
[2] ibid.

chamber subsequently appointed a lay warden to administer the hospital's affairs. The hospital is depicted as a courtyard with buildings on three-and-a-half sides with a gatehouse fronting Magdalen Street and a small chapel with a bell turret on the 16th century plan of St Sidwell's Fee, while the 1746 Chamber map clearly depicts the gatehouse and three houses along the street frontage to the east. The latter are by that time in lay occupancy, while a wing projects south at right angles to the gatehouse. The chapel is located in the middle of the enclosure, and a further building is depicted to the south of it. Much of the eastern and southern part of the enclosure is covered in orchards.

1.6 By the early 19th century the hospital was housing poor families and the destitute and the running of the hospital was transferred from the Corporation to the Exeter Municipal General Charities by the 1835 Municipal Corporations Act. The main chapel was demolished in 1851 and by the early 1860s new middle-class housing was encroaching on the eastern and southeastern edges of the site, while Fairpark Road had been built by across the former eastern edge of the precinct. The remaining buildings were demolished in 1863. The current almshouses were built in 1928.

It is possible therefore that the proposed groundworks have the potential to expose and destroy archaeological and artefactual deposits associated with prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval activity in the area.

2. AIMS

2.1 The aim of the evaluation is to identify, excavate and record any *in situ* archaeological remains affected by the development, by excavating trial trenches and, if necessary, excavate the archaeological remains prior to the start of construction, and to report on the results of the project, as appropriate.

3. METHOD

3.1 The first phase will comprise the excavation of eight trenches totalling 90m in length, with each trench 1.6 m wide (Fig. 1). Localised site constraints (eg. buried services, tree canopies etc.) may result in minor modifications to the trench layout.

Phase 1 - trial trenching, to identify whether any remains are present on the site, and if so where.

This will inform the level of mitigation needed before proceeding with the development:

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 PPMH 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 PPMH 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 1 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 1 trenching work. Should options 2 or 3 be required, then the generic methods and provisions set out in sections 3.3 - 3.10 and 4 - 5 below will apply, and a plan showing proposed areas of excavation and/or monitoring will be submitted to the PPMH for approval prior to such works starting.

3.2 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.

General project methods

3.3 The area subject to option 2 or 3 will be agreed with the PPMH in advance of fieldwork and shown on a plan. Topsoil or overburden across the area(s) to be investigated will be removed using a tracked or wheeled machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket under the direct control of the site archaeologist to the depth of formation, the surface of in situ subsoil/weathered natural, archaeological or significant palaeoenvironmental deposits whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence, at which point machining will cease and investigation will continue by hand to clean the exposed surface.

All archaeological deposits and features will be stratigraphically excavated by hand down to natural subsoil in the following manner, unless agreed otherwise with the PPMH:

- 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 PPMH,
- 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,
- If excavations reveal a substantial number of repetitive discrete features, such as stake-holes, the PPMH 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 PPMH and then carried out,
- Spoil will also be examined and scanned with a metal detector for the recovery of artefacts.

3.4 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 for radiocarbon dating. If deposits potential survives, these would be processed by Allen Environmental Archaeology (AEA) using the HE Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology (HE CfA Guidelines 2002/1) and 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 (AEA) organised to undertake further assessment and analysis as appropriate.

3.5 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 CI*f*A 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.

3.6 Should artefacts be exposed that fall within the scope of the Treasure Act 1996, then these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Act. 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.

3.7 Should any articulated human remains be exposed; these will initially be left *in situ*. If removal at either this or a later stage in the archaeological works is

deemed necessary, these will then 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 CI*f*A 'Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains' (Megan Brickley and Jacqueline I McKinley, 2004) and the CI*f*A Standards for Recording Human Remains (Piers D Mitchell and Megan Brickley, CIfA 2017). Where appropriate bulk samples will be collected.

3.8 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.

3.9 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.

3.10 The PPMH will be informed of the start of the project and will monitor progress throughout. A date of completion of all archaeological site work will be confirmed with the PPMH 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 reporting requirements will be confirmed with the PPMH on completion of the site work. If little or no significant archaeology is exposed then reporting will consist of a completed City HER entry, including a plan showing location of groundworks and of any significant features found. The text entry and plan will be produced in an appropriate electronic format suitable for easy incorporation into the HER and sent to the client and the PPMH within 3 months of the date of completion of all archaeological fieldwork.

5.2 Should significant deposits be exposed, further work (options 2 or 3 above) will be required either prior to and/or during construction groundworks. If the main contractor's programme requires that such archaeological work carries straight on from the trench evaluation, the results of all phases of archaeological work will be presented within one summary report within six months of the date of completion of all archaeological fieldwork. However, if there is a significant delay (more than six months) between the end of the trench evaluation and the start of subsequent groundworks, an interim summary report will be produced of the results of the phase 1 work. This report, if required, will be prepared within three months of the completion of the phase 1 trenching. Any summary report will contain the following elements as appropriate:

:

- location plan and overall site plans showing the positions of the trenches, excavated areas and the distribution of archaeological features within them, as well as copies of any relevant historic maps;
- 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 showing the exact location and character of significant archaeological deposits;
- a selection of photographs illustrating the principal features and deposits found;
- specialist assessments and reports as appropriate, including if necessary (see 5.6 below) an outline of, and timetable for the completion of, any further work required to bring the most important results to wider publication.

5.3 A pdf version of the summary report will be produced and distributed to the Client and the PPMH on completion of sitework within the timescale above. A copy of the report and.pdf version will also be deposited with the site archive.

5.4 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared with reference to *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991 2nd edition) 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 (2015).

The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) with the permission of the landowner within 6 months of the completion of site work, while the artefactual element will be deposited with the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (ref. number pending). Any artefacts not taken by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum will be offered to the landowner before being discarded. The hardcopy of the archive will be offered to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and if not required will be disposed of by OA.

OA will notify the PPMH upon the deposition of the digital archive with the ADS, and the deposition of any material (finds) archive with the Royal Albert Memorial Museum.

Should no artefacts be recovered or should the Royal Albert Memorial Museum not wish to retain any that are, then, with the agreement of the PPMH, 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.

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, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance. If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements – including (para 141 of the NPPF) any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with the PPMH, 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 the PPMH. A final draft publication text and figures will be produced within 12 months of the completion of all phases of archaeological site work unless otherwise agreed in writing.

5.8 Any amendments to the method or timescale set out above will be agreed in writing with the PPMH before implementation.

6. COPYRIGHT

6.1 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.

7. PROJECT ORGANISATION

7.1 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*). The project

will be managed by Marc Steinmetzer. Oakford Archaeology is managed by a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

Health & Safety

7.2 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*).

Bibliography

Steinmetzer, MFR 2017 *Archaeological desk-based assessment of land at Hurst Almshouses, Fairpark Road, Exeter*. Oakford Archaeology Report No. 17-07

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);
Others: Wessex Archaeology Specialist Services Team

Appendix 2:

Context descriptions by Trench

Table 1: Trench 1

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
100	0-0.1m	Dark brown silty clay	Topsoil
101	0.1-0.2m	Mid reddish brown silty clay charcoal flecks (2-3%), gravel (1%)	Modern made ground
102	0.2-0.3m	Mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt aggregate (1%), cbm fragments (1%)	Modern made ground
103	0.3-0.45m	Mid brown red silty clay	Modern made ground
104	0.45-0.55m	Light yellowish brown sand and pea grit	Modern made ground
105	0.55-0.65m	Mid red clay	Modern made ground
106	0.25-0.8m	Mid greyish brown silty clay cbm fragments (2-3%), charcoal flecks (1-2%), tarmac fragments (1%)	Modern made ground
107	0.75-1m	Mid grey sand tarmac fragments (5%), aggregate (2-3%)	Modern made ground
108	1-1.15m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Colluvial subsoil
109	1.15m+	Mid purple red clay	Natural subsoil
110	1m	Modern truncation	Modern truncation

Table 2: Trench 2

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
200	0-0.5m	Dark brown silty clay	Topsoil
201	0.5-0.7m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Early 20th century made ground
202	0.7-0.9m	Dark brown silty clay	Buried topsoil
203	0.9m+	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Charnel soil
204	1.2m+	Light to mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of grave [205]
205	1.2m+	E-W aligned linear feature	Grave
206	1.2m+	Light to mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of grave [207]
207	1.2m+	E-W aligned linear feature	Grave
208	1.2m+	Light to mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of grave [209]
209	0.5m+	E-W aligned linear feature	Grave
210	0.5m+	Light to mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of grave [211]
211	0.5m+	E-W aligned linear feature	Grave
212	1.2m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton
213	1.2m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton
214	1.2m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton
215	1.2m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton
216	1.2m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton
217	1.2m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton
218	0.5m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton
219	0.5m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton

Table 3: Trench 3

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
300	0-0.18m	Dark brown silty clay	Topsoil
301	0.2-0.24m	Mid reddish brown silty clay cbm fragments (2-3%)	Early 20th century made ground
302	0.18-0.34m	Dark brown silty clay charcoal flecks (1%), slate flecks (1%)	Buried topsoil
303	0.34m+	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Charnel soil
304	0.8m+	E-W aligned linear feature	Grave
305	0.8m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton
306	1m+	E-W aligned linear feature	Grave
307	1m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton
308	0.85m+	E-W aligned linear feature	Grave
309	0.85m+	articulated Skeleton	Skeleton

Table 4: Trench 4

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
400	0-0.2m	Dark brown silty clay	Topsoil
401	0.2-0.5m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Made ground/demolition deposit
402	0.2-0.7m	Mid reddish brown sandy silt	Made ground/demolition deposit
403	0.5-0.7m	Mid reddish brown sandy silt	Made ground/demolition deposit
404	0.5-0.7m	Dark reddish brown sandy silt	Made ground/demolition deposit
405	0.4-0.6m	Mid reddish brown sandy silt	Made ground/demolition deposit
406	0.7-0.9m	Mid red clay	Made ground/demolition deposit
407	0.8-1.15m	Mid yellowish brown clayey silt	Made ground/demolition deposit
408	0.86-1.05m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Colluvial subsoil
409	0.6-1.65m	Light yellowish brown clayey silt	Made ground/demolition deposit
410	0.7m+	Dark reddish brown clayey silt	Made ground/demolition deposit
411	0.6m+	E-W aligned stone wall	South wall of leat [426]
412	0.55m+	E-W aligned stone wall	South wall of leat [426]
413	0.73-1.4m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of leat
414	1.4-1.55m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of leat
415	0.52-58m	Light yellow lime mortar	Floor bedding
416	0.82-0.86m	Light yellow lime mortar	Floor bedding
417	0.26-0.3m	Mid reddish brown clayey silt	demolition deposit
418	0.3-0.36	Slate fragments	demolition deposit
419	0.36-0.43m	Mid reddish brown clayey silt	demolition deposit
420	0.43-0.49m	Light reddish brown clayey silt	demolition deposit
421	0.49-0.52m	Mid reddish clay	demolition deposit
422	0.63-0.76m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	demolition deposit
423	0.6-1.65m	Cut of pit	Pit
424	0.58-0.82m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Made ground
425	0.58m+	Robbing	Demolition and robbing of building
426	0.55-1.55m	E-W aligned linear	Cut of leat
427	0.52-0.56m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	demolition deposit

Table 5: Trench 5

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
500	0-0.75m	Dark brown silty clay	Topsoil
501	0.75-1.1m	Mid reddish brown silty clay slate fragments (1%), cbm fragments (1-2%), lime mortar flecks (1%)	Made ground/landscaping deposit
502	1.1-1.25m	Mid greyish brown silty clay	Made ground/landscaping deposit
503	1.25-1.5m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Made ground/landscaping deposit
504	1.5-1.58m	Mid to dark reddish brown silty clay	Made ground/landscaping deposit
505	0.75-1.58m	Mid reddish brown silty clay slate fragments (1%)	Colluvial subsoil
506	1.58m+	Truncation of former topsoil	landscaping

Table 6: Trench 6

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
600	0-0.2m	Dark brown silty clay	Topsoil
601	0.2-0.7m	Dark brown silty clay slate fragments (10-15%), brick fragments (15-20%)	Late 19th-early 20th century made ground/landscaping deposit
602	0.7-0.8m	Mid red silty clay slate fragments (5%)	Late 19th-early 20th century made ground/landscaping deposit
603	0.8-1m	Mid brown silty clay slate fragments (2-3%), cbm fragments (2-3%), gravel (10-15%)	Late 19th-early 20th century made ground/landscaping deposit
604	1-1.2m	Mid red silty clay slate fragments (2-3%), cbm fragments (1-2%)	Late 19th-early 20th century made ground/landscaping deposit
605	0.2-1.2m	Dark brown silty clay slate fragments (10-15%), brick fragments (15-20%)	Late 19th-early 20th century made ground/landscaping deposit
606	0.2-1.2m	Light reddish brown silty clay	Late 19th-early 20th century made ground/landscaping deposit
607	0.4-1.2m	Mid red silty clay slate fragments (5-10%), cbm fragments (10-15%)	Late 19th-early 20th century made ground/landscaping deposit
608	0.2-1.2m	Truncation of former topsoil	landscaping
609	1.2m+	Mid reddish brown silty clay slate fragments (1%)	Colluvial subsoil

Table 7: Trench 7

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
700	0-0.66m	Dark brown silty clay aggregate (2-3%), cbm fragments (1%)	Topsoil
701	0.34-1.54m		
702	0.34-1.54m	Id to dark reddish brown silty clay cbm fragments (2-3%), charcoal flecks (1-2%)	Mid-late 19th century made ground/landscaping deposit
703	0.2-0.68m	Dark brown black silty clay river pebbles (5%), charcoal flecks (1-2%), cbm fragments (1%), white lime mortar flecks (1%)	Mid-late 19th century made ground/landscaping deposit
704	0.37-0.76m	Mid reddish brown silty clay white lime mortar flecks (1%), charcoal flecks (1%), cbm fragments (1%)	Mid-late 19th century made ground/landscaping deposit
705	0.94-1.08m	Mid yellow ochre silty clay white lime mortar flecks (1%), slate fragments (1%)	Mid-late 19th century made ground/landscaping deposit
706	1.08-1.2m	Mid reddish brown silty clay slate fragments (1%), white lime mortar fragments (1%)	Mid-late 19th century made ground/landscaping deposit
707	1.08-1.52m	Light to mid reddish brown silty clay white lime mortar flecks (5%), light pink render with lime, charcoal and slate flecks and limewash (1%)	Fill of robber trench [711]
708	1.17m+	Mid reddish brown silty clay slate fragments (1%)	Fill of robber trench [711]
709	1.04m+	Volcanic trap rubble clay bonded	Wall foundation
710	1.3m+	Volcanic trap rubble clay bonded	Wall foundation
711	1.28m+	E-W aligned linear	Robbing
712	1.26-1.72m	E-W aligned linear	Foundation trench
713	1.1-1.7m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Colluvial subsoil
714	1.7m+	Mid purple decayed bedrock	Natural subsoil

Appendix 3:
Skeletal catalogue

Sk number	Notes
212	Elements: Lower vertebrae, pelvis, left ulna and radius, some metacarpals and hand phalanges. Upper body including skull and rib cage under the baulk. Orientation: East to west. Head to the west. Position: Supine, extended. Left arm across the stomach. Age = Young adult = late teens/early 20s Pubic symphysis = late teens/early 20s. Sacrum doesn't survive for fusion information. Sex = female based on sciatic notch Pathology = schmorl's nodes on thoracic vertebrae. Periostitis on both tibia shafts. Right tibia has some swelling. Dental pathology = n/a Cu Alloy ring present.
213	Elements: skull, left and right clavicle, sternum, left and right ribs, left humerus, left and right ulna and radius, vertebrae, pelvis, right femur. Orientation: East to west, head to the east. Position: supine, extended Age: Overall age = Young adult, possibly early 20s Pubic symphysis = 20-35 years old, Segments of sacrum unfused = <20 years Sex: male based on skull and pelvis Pathology: Extensive pitting on the palatine Dental pathology: maxilla - AMTL all six molars, caries on right premolar mandibular and left canine maxillary
214	Elements: skull only, remaining under the other skeletons Orientation: east to west, head to the east Position: unknown Age: Adult - all molars erupted Sex: male based on supra-orbital margins/ridges and mastoid process Pathology: none Dental pathology: maxilla right M1 AMTL

Sk number	Notes
215	Elements: skull, left and right clavicle, left and right scapula, manubrium, left and right ribs, left and right humerus, left and right radius and ulna, parts of left and right hands, vertebrae, pelvis, proximal left and right femur, rest of lower body under the baulk. Orientation: east to west, head to the east Position: arms folded over stomach. supine, extended Age: sacrum fully fused, clavicle fused. Sutures are still open. Pubic symphysis missing. Adult, not young adult. Sex: female based on pelvis and skull Pathology: small amount of periostitis on both femur shafts Dental pathology: upper right incisor abscess. Left mandible M3 AMTL. Left second premolar only root survives.
216	Elements: Left humerus, left scapula, left and right ulna and radius, left ribs, vertebrae, left ilium, left femur. The rest of the remains under the baulk. Orientation: East to west. Head to the east. Position: Supine, extended. Under SK217. Age: Adult, age unknown Sex: Female, based on pelvis Pathology: none Dental pathology: n/a
217	Elements: left ilium, left femur, right distal femur, left fibula, right patella. Rest is under baulk. Orientation: East to west. Head to the east Position: supine, extended. Age: adult Sex: unknown Pathology: periostitis on left femur shaft, left and right tibia shafts Dental pathology: n/a
218	Elements: skull, right clavicle, right scapula, right humerus, all other bones under the baulk. Orientation: east to west, head to the west Position: supine, extended Age: adult, age unknown Sex: female, based on skull Pathology: none Dental pathology: two teeth lost ante mortem

Sk number	Notes
219	Elements: skull only. Rest in the baulk Orientation: unknown Position: unknown Age: unknown Sex: male, based on skull Pathology: none Dental pathology: none
305	Elements: Left and right tibia, left fibula, left and right calcaneus, left and right talus Orientation: Position: supine, extended Age: adult Sex: unknown Pathology: periostitis on shafts on both tibia and right fibula. Slight swelling on the left tibia and fibula lateral side Dental pathology: n/a
307	Elements: skull, left and right clavicle, right scapula, sternum, pieces of ulna and radius, ribs, vertebrae, ilium, pubis, left and right femur. Lower legs not exposed. These are under SK309. Orientation: Position: supine, extended Age: Mature adult = clavicle and sacrum fused. Pubic symphysis = 35-45 years old Sex: female based on pelvis Pathology: periostitis on right ulna and radius shaft, left ulna shaft and both femur shafts Dental pathology: maxilla missing, mandible full ante mortem tooth loss on all teeth, left and right canine and one premolar only just lost pre death, alveolar not completely reabsorbed. All others reabsorbed.
309	Elements: parts of skull, ribs, some vertebrae, one sternum section, both femurs Orientation: unknown, greatly disturbed Position: unknown, greatly disturbed Age: infant XX years old, based on bone fusion Sex: unknown Pathology: pitting and new bone across frontal, pitting cribra orbitalia in the eye socket. Pitting and new bone growth on linea aspera on both femora.

Appendix 4:
Finds quantification

Context	Feature	Spot date	Quantity	weight	Notes
100			100		2 sherd Chinese porcelain (early 18th century); 2 sherds English stoneware (18th-19th century); 51 sherds Staffordshire-type industrial whiteware including transfer-print ware (after 1780); 1 sherd Delftware wall tile (18th century); 24 clay pipe stems (18th-19th century) and 1 pipe bowl (1690-1720), 3 fragments English Green Bottle Glass (18th century); 1 fragment Victorian wall tile.
203			12		1 piece burnt flint (undated); 1 fragment Roman *tegula* (1st-4th century); 5 fragments medieval gravel tempered ridgetile including 1 fragment with stabbing (late 14th-15th century); 4 sherds South Somerset coarseware (17th-18th century); 1 sherd Staffordshire White Stoneware (1730-1770).
300			15		1 fragment medieval gravel tempered ridgetile (late 14th-15th century); 3 sherds South Somerset coarseware (18th century); 4 sherds Staffordshire-type industrial whiteware including transfer-print ware (after 1780); 1 sherd English Stoneware (18th-19th century); 2 sherds flower pot (19th century); 4 clay pipe stems (18th-19th century).
303			6		5 sherds North Devon gravel tempered (16th-18th century); 1 sherd South Somerset coarseware with pierced base (18th-19th century).
400			40		1 fragment plain (local?) late Medieval floor tile with slip (15th-16th century); 27 sherds North Devon gravel tempered (16th-18th century); 1 sherd North Devon Sgraffito (late 17th-early 18th century); 1 sherd Creamware (after 1770); 1 fragment plain redware ridge tile (17th-18th century); 9 clay pipe stems (18th-19th century).
409			18		3 fragments of Low Country floor tiles with slip and yellow glaze (late 14th - early 16th century); 2 fragments of Low Country floor tiles with plain dark green glaze floor tile (late 14th - early 16th century); 2 unidentified fragments of medieval floor tile with nail holes; 2 sherds North Devon gravel tempered including a type 7 chamber pot (16th-18th century); 1 sherd North Devon Sgraffito dish (late 17th century); 1 sherd Chinese porcelain (late 17th-early 18th century); 3 sherds South Somerset coarseware including chamber pot (18th century); 1 sherd Jackfield ware with black glaze (1740-1790); 1 clay pipe bowl (1660-1700).

Context	Feature	Spot date	Quantity	weight	Notes
410			36		1 sherd North Devon gravel free (15th-early 17th century); 5 sherds North Devon gravel tempered (16th-18th century); 5 sherds South Somerset coarseware (17th-18th century); 1 sherd English Delftware (early-mid 18th century); 1 sherd Jackfield type with black glaze (1740-1790); 5 sherds Staffordshire-type industrial whiteware including transfer-print, white and creamwares (19th century) and lustreware (19th century); 8 sherds South Somerset redware (19th-20th century); 2 sherds miscellaneous redware (19th-20th century); 1 pan tile (19th century); 5 clay pipe stems and 1 decorated bowl (19th century).
413			3		1 fragment Normandy floor tile with rich copper green glaze and red clay fabric (early 16th century); 1 sherd possible coarse sandy coarseware (16th century); 1 redware tile fragment (17th-18th century).
500		Late 19th century	30		1 sherd Frechen stoneware (16th-17th century); 1 sherd Jackfield type with black glaze (1740-1790); 8 sherds Staffordshire-type industrial whiteware including transfer-print (after 1780); 1 sherd flower pot (19th century); 7 clay pipe stems (18th-19th century).
502			89		2 sherds North Devon gravel free (15th-early 17th century); 3 sherds North Devon gravel tempered (16th-18th century); 25 sherds South Somerset coarseware including 3 sherds with copper green slip (18th century) and 1 slipware dish (1690-1740); 2 sherds redware ridgetile (17th-18th century); 2 sherds Bristol-Staffordshire pressed bowl (18th century); 1 sherd Westerwald Jug (18th century); 3 sherds South Somerset-type ridge tile; 1 sherd handpainted Delftware (18th century); 3 sherds English Stoneware including tankard (early 18th century); 20 sherds Staffordshire-type industrial whiteware including transfer-print and lustreware (19th century); 3 sherds flower pot (19th century); 1 fragment English wine bottle (late 17th-early 18th century); 1 medicine bottle and 9 fragments aerated water bottle (late 19th century); 11 clay pipe stems (18th-19th century) and 1 spurred clay pipe bowl heel (18th century).
503			15		1 piece coarseware ridge tile with moulded crest (15th-16th century); 7 sherds South Somerset redware (17th-18th century) including 1 Donyatt sgraffito dish; 1 sherd Bristol-Staffordshire treacle brown glaze tankard (early 18th century); 3 sherds flower pot (19th century); 3 clay pipe stems (18th-19th century).
600		Late 19th-early 20th century	24		1 fragment of Low Country floor tiles with slip and yellow glaze (late 14th - early 16th century); 19 sherds pottery (late 19th- early 20th century); 4 glass bottles City Brewery and Aerated Water Company (early 20th century).
700			22		12 sherds Staffordshire-type industrial whiteware including transfer-print (19th century); 2sherds flower pot (19th century); 8 clay pipe stems (18th-19th century).