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GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ARCHAEOLOGY

For the purposes of this project, archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains, from prehistoric times to the modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

CAT

Cotswold Archaeological Trust

NATURAL

Defined in archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site, eg. Lower Lias clay, river terrace gravels etc.

NGR

National Grid Reference given from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

OD

Ordnance Datum; used to express a given height above mean sea level.

ROMANO-BRITISH

The period from the Roman invasion of AD 43 to a date generally agreed to be AD 410 by which time there was a fusion of indigenous late Iron Age traditions with Roman culture.

SUMMARY

Cotswold Archaeological Trust (CAT) was commissioned by W.M. Wasborough to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land off Denchworth Road, Wantage prior to the determination of planning permission.

The evaluation indicates that archaeological deposits, comprising linear ditches and small pits, survive across the study area. The initial phase of activity is dated to the late 1st/early 2nd century, which correlates closely with the preliminary findings from the nearby Mill Street excavation. The majority of the remaining features are broadly dated from the 2nd to early 3rd century. Artefactual material from deposit (103), which seals all archaeological features within Trench 1, indicates that the land boundaries were redundant by the late 3rd/early 4th century.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 In January 1996 Cotswold Archaeological Trust (CAT) was commissioned by W.M. Wasborough to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land off Denchworth Road, Wantage prior to the determination of planning permission. The archaeological evaluation was required in accordance with Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16) and the Vale of White Horse District Local Plan.

1.1.2 The work was carried out in accordance with the brief prepared by Mr H. Coddington, Deputy County Archaeological Officer, Oxfordshire County Council; and in compliance with the '*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*' issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).

1.2 The Study Area

1.2.1 The site of the proposed development is located 30m west of Denchworth Road, to the south of the junction of Stockham Way and St. Mary's Way, and is centred on NGR SU 39458837 (Fig.1). It comprises 0.32 hectares of rough grassland at approximately 97m OD.

1.2.2 The underlying geology of the study area is Upper Greensand of the Cretaceous geological period.

1.2.3 The study area previously comprised allotment plots.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.3.1 Wantage is a well known historic market town, although its development is relatively poorly documented. Although sporadic Bronze Age and Iron Age finds have been recorded from the town, the first major settlement occurs in the Romano-British period. An archaeological excavation off Mill Street, 350m east of the study area, revealed that this settlement was centred on the Belmont area. It appears to have been founded in the late 1st or early 2nd century and continued through to the end of the 4th century. The nature of this settlement, at this stage, is unclear but it may either form part of a villa estate or be part of a small town (Thomas and Holbrook 1994).

1.3.2 A significant number of archaeological features have been identified in the proximity of the study area, including a series of inhumations and two probable wells of Romano-British origin. This scatter of archaeological features around Denchurch Road supports the evidence from the excavation that the focus of the settlement was located on the higher ground overlooking the Letcombe Brook.

1.3.3 Wantage is the reputed birthplace of King Alfred around AD 849. The location of a royal residence and the Anglo-Saxon settlement have been the subject of considerable speculation. Ditches of possible Anglo-Saxon date, along with several loomweights and sherds of grass-tempered pottery were revealed during the Mill Street excavation, and suggest the Anglo-Saxon settlement was concentrated in the same area as the Roman settlement (Thomas and Holbrook 1994).

1.3.4 The medieval core of Wantage lies 700m to the east of the proposed development.

1.4 Archaeological Specification and Methods

1.4.1 A project design, issued by Cotswold Archaeological Trust, to evaluate the archaeological potential of the study area, was approved by Mr. H. Coddington, Deputy

County Archaeological Officer, Oxfordshire County Council.

1.4.2 The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation was to 'establish the presence/absence, extent, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits' within the proposed development area.

1.4.3 The evaluation comprised the excavation of two 30m long by 1.5m wide trenches (fig.2). Both trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was carried out under archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological deposits or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first.

1.4.4 Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were sampled by hand to meet the aims stated within the brief, and in accordance with the *CAT Field Recording Manual*.

1.4.5 All artefacts recovered were catalogued and analysed in accordance with the *CAT Finds Recording Manual*. Particular emphasis was given to potentially dateable artefacts such as pottery. A full written, drawn and photographic record was kept of each trench.

1.4.6 The finds and site archive will, subject to agreement with the legal landowner, be deposited with the County Museums Service (Oxfordshire Museums) under accession number OXCMS:1996.1.

2. EVALUATION RESULTS

2.1 General

2.1.1 Descriptions of all features recorded within the evaluation trenches are contained

within Appendix A. Brief descriptions of all significant features are presented within this

section from the earliest deposits encountered to the latest

2.1.2 The trenches were located according to the plan Fig. 2.

2.1.3 A uniform and deeply cultivated grey-brown silty clay topsoil was encountered across the study area. The natural Greensand substrate was revealed throughout the proposed development area between 86.7m OD and 86.88m OD.

2.2 Trench 1 (Fig.3)

2.2.1 Trench 1 was orientated north to south and was 30m in length. Its location coincided with the slightly raised area of ground within the southern half of the study area. A series of north-east to south-west orientated ditches and intercutting pits were encountered within the southern half of the trench.

2.2.2 The earliest feature encountered was ditch [104], which cut natural substrate (142) at the southern end of the trench. The ditch measured at least 2m in width and was fully excavated to a depth of 0.5m. It contained two silty-clay fills, (105) and (106), from which an assemblage of late 1st to early 2nd century pottery was retrieved. It had been cut along its northern edge by a series of intercutting pits.

2.2.3 The earliest pit identified was feature [117], which was at least 1m in diameter and 0.6m in depth. Two distinct silty-clay fills were revealed containing 2nd century pottery. Pit [132] cut the southern limit of pit [117], and was in turn cut by pit [108] from which large fragments from a 2nd century storage jar were retrieved.

2.2.4 Ditch [112] was revealed 12m from the southern end of the trench. It measured 3.4m in width and was fully excavated to a depth of 0.65m. It contained two clay fills from which no datable material was recovered. The feature had been recut by ditch [111].

This feature measured 1.2 m in width and 0.65m in depth and contained a homogenous clay fill (110) from which a small assemblage of 2nd century pottery was retrieved.

2.2.5 Ditch [120] was noted cutting the northern extent of pit [117]. It measured at least 1m in width and 0.3m in depth and contained two silty-clay fills, (121) and (122), from which late 2nd to early 3rd century pottery was retrieved. The feature had been recut by ditch [123] from which similarly dated pottery was recovered.

2.2.6 A possible recut [107] was revealed within ditch [104], although no indication of its overall width was obtained due to the confines of the trench. The feature was 0.8m in depth and contained a uniform silty-clay fill (141) from which late 2nd to early 3rd century pottery was retrieved.

2.2.7 Two subcircular postholes, [115] and [128], were noted 0.5m north of ditch [107]. The postholes measured 0.2m in diameter and 0.45m in depth and contained silty grey fills (116) and (129) respectively. One sherd of 2nd to 3rd century pottery was retrieved from posthole [128].

2.2.8 A dark silty-clay deposit (103) extended the full length of Trench 1, sealing all archaeological features. The deposit measured 0.6m in depth at the southern extent of the trench, narrowing to 0.35m at the northern end. Pottery, ranging in date from the late 2nd to the early 4th century, and a quantity of butchered animal bones were retrieved from throughout the deposit.

2.3 Trench 2 (Fig.4)

2.3.1 Trench 2 was 30m in length and orientated north-west to south-east. Two pits and three linear ditches were revealed within the trench.

2.3.2 The earliest features revealed were two subcircular pits [204] and [210] at the south-east end of the trench. Both features were approximately 1m in diameter and

contained single

clay fills, (205) and (211) respectively. Pottery retrieved from the pits dated to the 2nd century.

2.3.3 Ditch [208] was orientated approximately east-west and measured 0.65m in width and 0.40m in depth. The uniform clay fill (209) contained late 2nd century pottery.

2.3.4 Ditch [212] was revealed 6m south-east of feature [208], orientated east-west. Little of the feature remained due to its subsequent recutting by feature [214]. Recut [214] was 2m in width and at least 1m in depth. Pottery retrieved from clay fill (215) was dated to the 2nd to 3rd century.

2.3.5 Ditch [206] was revealed 3m from the northern limit of Trench 2, and was orientated east-west. The feature was 1.6m in width and 0.25m in depth and contained a single clay fill (207). Two sherds of pottery dating to after AD 240 were retrieved from the feature.

2.3.6 All features were sealed by cultivated topsoil (201).

3. ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS

3.1 Date and Interpretation of the Archaeological Deposits

3.1.1 The evaluation indicates that the study area lies within an area of complex Romano-British stratigraphy, comprising linear ditches and small pits. Broad comparisons may be sought with the findings from the excavation at Mill Street, where a series of linear ditches of Romano-British origin were also revealed. Most of those ditches have been provisionally interpreted as stock enclosures associated with the villa estate or small town. Given this evidence, it is perhaps likely that the ditches revealed during the evaluation have a similar function. However, other functions such as drainage cannot

be ruled out.

3.1.2 The study area lies within close vicinity to the extrapolated line of the Roman road from Alchester (Oxon) to Mildenhill (Wilts). Indeed Roman road metalling (PRN 7541 and 7941) has been identified 200m north-east of the study area. The ditches identified during the evaluation could represent land boundaries associated with the backlands of domestic structures fronting this road. The unabraded nature of the pottery found within pits [108] and [117] and the assemblage of butchered bone fragments from deposit (103), further suggest that the study area was close to areas of domestic occupation, although the main focus of settlement may have lain further to the south-east. The identification of Roman graves (PRN 7537, 7540, 7940 and 11513) 150m north-east of the study area, further suggests that the proposed development lies on the periphery of the settlement.

3.1.3 The initial phase of activity, represented by ditch [104], is dated to the late 1st/early 2nd century, which correlates closely with the preliminary findings from the Mill Street excavation. The majority of the remaining features are broadly dated from the 2nd to early 3rd century. Artefactual material from deposit (103), which seals all archaeological features within Trench 1, indicates that the land boundaries were redundant by the late 3rd/early 4th century.

3.2 Survival and Extent of Archaeological Deposits

3.2.1 It is clear from the evaluation that archaeological deposits survive across the study area. The remains are more extensive within the southern half of Trench 1, where they are sealed by deposit (103), and lie approximately 1m below the existing ground surface. Within Trench 2, the archaeological deposits are overlain by the highly cultivated topsoil (201), which may have removed any upstanding stratigraphy.

3.2.2 The survival of environmental remains (see Appendix 3) appears more extensive within the negative features of Trench 2.

3.3 Effectiveness of Evaluation Strategy

3.3.1 The evaluation has identified that significant archaeological deposits of Romano-British origin survive across the study area. The full nature and extent of the archaeological resource can only become clear with further archaeological works. However, the fact that archaeological remains have been found in both evaluation trenches indicates that the methodologies employed have been successful.

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cotswold Archaeological Trust would like to thank Mr. H. Coddington, Deputy County Archaeologist, Oxfordshire County Council, and Dr. J. Timby for their assistance in the course of this project.

The fieldwork was carried out by Cliff Bateman, Jon Matthews, Alan Thomas and Nick Turner. The illustrations were drawn by Rick Morton

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APPENDIX 1

Trench Descriptions

Note: Stratigraphic descriptions are given from the earliest to the latest deposits. Cut features are designated by square brackets thus; [000], all other deposits/layers are in round brackets; (000). All stated depths are given from the present ground level. Heights are based on the bench mark located at 16 Denchworth Road. The level was taken to be 96.35m OD.

Trench 1

Natural Greensands (142) were encountered at a depth of 0.8m below present ground level.

Deposit (103): ?Midden deposit, full length of trench 1, depth at S end 0.6m, at N end 0.35m.

Ditch [104]: Linear cut at least 1m in width and 0.6m in depth, steep sided with rounded base. Contains primary fill of weathered greensand (106) and mid grey silty-clay (105).

Ditch [107]: Recut of [104], at least 0.6m in width and 0.8m in depth; steep sided with flat base. Contains fill (141) light to mid grey silty-clay.

Pit [108]: Subcircular, 0.50m in diameter, steep sided with flat base. Contains fill (109), light to mid silty-clay.

Ditch [111]: Recut of [112], 1.2m in width and 0.6m in depth, steep sided with flat base. Contains fill (110), grey brown silty-clay.

Ditch [112]: Linear cut, 3.5m in width and 0.6m, steep sided with flat base. Contains fills (113) and (114) mottled yellow grey clay.

Posthole [115]: Subcircular, 0.23m in diameter. Contains fill (116), mid grey silty-clay.

Pit [117]: Subcircular, 1m in diameter, sides and base gently sloping. Contains two fills, primary fill (118) mid brown silty clay and (119) mid brown silty-clay.

Ditch [120]: Linear ditch, at least 0.9m in width and 0.3m in depth; gently sloping sides and base. Contains two fills, primary fill (121) mid brown silty-clay and (122) yellow-grey silty-clay.

Ditch [123]: Recut of [120], 2.5m in width and 0.7m in depth, steep sided with flat base. Contains two fills,

primary fill (124) mid brown silty-clay and (125) mid to dark brown silty-clay.

Posthole [128]: Subcircular, 0.22m in diameter and 0.39m in depth. Contains (129) mid grey silty-clay and (139) dirty natural greensand.

Pit [130]: Contains fill (131) a mid brown silty-clay.

Pit [132]: Subcircular feature, 0.6m in diameter and 0.35m in depth. Contains fill (133) mid brown silty-clay.

Pit [134]: At least 0.5m in width/diameter and 0.4m in depth. Contains three fills, primary fill (136) dirty natural greensand, (135) mid brown silty-clay and (138) yellow brown silty clay.

Pit [140]: At least 1m in width/diameter and 0.4m in depth. Contains fill (143) a mid brown silty-clay

Trench 2

Natural Greensands (216) were encountered at a depth of 0.5m below present ground level.

Deposit (203): ?Midden deposit, only visible at southern extent of trench to depth of 0.2m.

Pit [204]: Subcircular, at least 1m in diameter and 0.5m in depth, sides undercut but probably originally vertical, base flat. Contains (205) grey brown clay

Ditch [206]: Linear ditch, 1.6m in width and 0.25m in depth, gently sloping sides, base flat. Contains (207) dark grey black clay

Ditch [208]: Linear ditch, 0.8m in width and 0.3m in depth, steep sided with flay base. Contains fill (209) grey black clay.

Pit [210]: Subcircular, 0.8m in diameter and 0.35m in depth, bowl profile with near vertical sides. Contains fill (211) grey brown clay

Ditch [212]: Linear ditch, not fully excavated, steep sided. Contains fill (213) grey brown clay.

Ditch [214]: Recut of ditch [212], 2m in width and at least 1m in depth, steep sided. Contains fill (215) grey brown clay.

APPENDIX 2

Pottery Assessment by *Jane Timby*

Summary

The evaluation produced a small assemblage of 178 sherds of pottery dating to the Roman period. Generally speaking the material was in good condition with several large well preserved sherds. In a number of cases several sherds derived from single vessels.

The material was assessed to provide spot dates for the excavated contexts. Most of the assemblage appears to date to the 2nd century A.D., but the large proportion of locally made, long-lived fabrics may mask a slightly more extended chronology. The presence of storage jars in the Midlands grog tempered fabric (Gloucester TF 241) along with Oxfordshire colour-coats indicates occupation after AD 270. The absence of shelly wares might suggest activity had ceased by the mid-late 4th century. One possible Iron Age sherd was present in (106), but the smallness of the piece in question and the lack of other material of comparable date may suggest this identification is incorrect.

Catalogue

Trench 1

(103) 46 Sherds of pot.

Date: Late 2nd Century - late 3rd / early 4th century.

Mostly local wares including Oxfordshire Whiteware and colour-coat mortaria, Oxfordshire colour-coat (Young 1977 forms C43, C18 and C51) and various grey wares. Non local wares include a Dorset black burnished (BB1) conical flanged bowl and 2 Samian sherds one of which has been roughly fashioned into a disc.

(105) 30 Sherds of pot and 1 piece of fired clay with organic impressions.

Date: Late 1st Century+

Mainly local wares including grog tempered storage jar, grey and black sandy wares and 7 sherds from an orange sandy butt beaker. This is a locally made vessel from the Abingdon area, dating to the pre-Flavian period. One sherd joins with one in (106).

- (106) 8 Sherds of pot.
Date: ? 2nd Century+

N.B. Amongst these sherds is one very small piece of organic and sand tempered ware which superficially resembles Iron Age wares from the locality. If correct it is presumably residual.

- (109) 21 Sherds of pot.
Date: 2nd Century

Particularly well preserved sherds from this context, including a fine grey carinated bowl and a large grog-tempered storage jar with lattice decoration.

- (110) 17 Sherds of pot.
Date: 2nd Century

All local grey or black sand and grog-tempered wares.

- (118) 3 Sherds of pot and 1 piece of fired clay (glaucanitic clay).
Date: 2nd Century

Includes one fine local grey ware with so-called London style decoration with compass inscribed arches.

- (119) 5 Sherds of pot.
Date: ? 2nd / 3rd Century

No featured sherds.

- (121) 1 Sherd of pot and 1 piece of fired clay (glaucanitic clay).
Date: ? 2nd / 3rd Century

Identical to sherds in (124)

- (124) 12 Sherds of pot and 1 piece of fired clay.
Date ? 2nd / 3rd Century

All local wares, only one featured sherd.

(129) 2=1 Sherd of pot.
Date: 2nd/ 3rd Century

(141) 9 Sherds of pot.
Date: Late 2nd / early 3rd Century

Imports include 2 sherds of Samian and 1 sherd from a Rhenish beaker.

Trench 2

(205) 7 Sherds of pot.
Date: 2nd Century

All local wares including one with rough-cast decoration.

(207) 2 Sherds of pot.
Date: AD 240 - 400

Includes 1 sherd of Oxfordshire colour-coated beaker.

(209) 8 Sherds of pot.
Date: Late 2nd Century+

Includes 1 sherd of Samian and 1 sherd of Nene Valley colour-coat, plus local wares.

(211) 2 Sherds of pot.
Date: 2nd Century

(220) 5 Sherds of pot.
Date: ? 2nd / 3rd Century

No featured sherds.

APPENDIX 3

Environmental Analysis by Keith Wilkinson

A3.1 Introduction

A3.1.1 A total of 5 bulk samples were taken from the site during the evaluation (Table 1), according to the guidelines laid out in Cotswold Archaeological Trust Technical Manual 2 (*The taking of samples for palaeoeconomic / palaeoenvironmental analysis from archaeological sites*). All were from fills of negative features (ditches and pits) and consisted of 10 litres of sediment.

A3.1.2 The aim of taking the samples was three fold; firstly to determine the degree of preservation of biological material, secondly to see if this information suggested a function for the sampled features and thirdly to assess the overall importance of the assemblages.

A3.2 Methodology

A3.2.1 Prior to processing the samples were diluted with water and small quantities of Hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) were added. This chemical breaks down organic material in the sampled sediment, including the bonding between individual sedimentary particles and therefore aids sieving. The samples were then left over night.

A3.2.2 Processing was carried out using the flotation technique with meshes of 0.5 mm both for the residue (material with a bulk density higher than water) and the flot (material with a bulk density lower than water). Both fractions were then dried prior to sorting.

A3.2.3 Sorting was carried out using a low power binocular microscope, all identifiable biological remains of antiquity being noted. All fractions of the flot greater than 0.5 mm and residue larger than 1 mm were examined.

A3.2.4 For the purposes of this report the biological remains have been placed in generalised categories (Table 1) with in most cases approximations as to the actual quantities of each recovered.

A3.3 Results

A3.3.1 Preservation of biological material is moderate in all samples, although material of two categories appears to be present in rather larger quantities, namely charred plant remains and small mammal bones.

A3.3.2 The assemblages of charred plant macro remains appear similar in all the samples and include remains from the cereal and legume edible crop families. The remaining seeds appear to be mainly weeds of arable crops and includes *Chenopodium* sp. and *Rubus* sp. The fact that fragments of cereal rachis' were found

suggests that the charred remains may be partly derived from threshing waste. The charred plant assemblages from the pit fill (205) and ditch fill (207) appear rather more extensive than from elsewhere suggesting either better survival or a higher quantity of charred remains originally deposited. Although it is tempting to interpret the pit as being used for storage the quantities of remains are too small to suggest storage of grain. Therefore it is likely that all the charred remains were deposited into the features as rubbish.

A3.3.3 Mollusc remains are found sparsely in most samples and generally preservation appears to be poor. This situation is quite unlike other sites investigated in Wantage where it has been possible to construct detailed molluscan sequences (Thomas and Holbrook in prep.), and is probably caused by the absence of base rich solifluction deposits on the present site.

A3.3.4 Bones survive in moderate quantities in many of the samples. Those of large mammals are dealt with elsewhere in this report (Appendix 4). However, the small mammal assemblages recovered from three of the ditch fills are of potential interest in indicating the local environment contemporary with deposition (small mammals respond rapidly to environmental change).

A3.4 Conclusions and recommendations

A3.4.1 The study of the Romano-British agricultural economy through the analysis of charred plant macro remains has been a feature of many sites excavated in the Thames valley. However, comparatively little work has been undertaken on sites on the valley sides such as the present one, and thus it is not certain at present whether agricultural practices were the same in both locations. Therefore the remains recovered from Denchworth Road should be seen to be of some importance, despite their small number and should be studied in greater detail as part of any further excavation. This could be achieved through sampling primary fills of ditches or pits in order to recover charred plant macro remains. However, because of the relative sparsity of remains of this type sample sizes would need to be large, i.e. 50 litres or more. The residues could be sorted to recover small mammal remains in order to provide data with which to reconstruct the local environment at the time of deposition.

A3.4.2 The quantities of remains in other classes are too few to consider for further study during a future project on the site, which in the case of the mollusc shells is unfortunate as a detailed sequence has been provided for deposits of the same date on the Mill Street site (*ibid.* in prep.).

A3.4.3 One further area where environmental archaeological techniques could usefully be applied if further work were to be undertaken is in the micromorphological study of the "dumped" context (103) / (203). The mode of formation of this deposit is at present poorly understood and yet the context appears superficially similar to the "artefact rich subsoil" at Mill Street. Here the density of artefacts was similar and micromorphological and sedimentological work is currently being carried out to see if the "dump" theory is correct or whether the deposit accumulated as an agricultural / garden soil in the same way as the "Dark earth" found in many Roman towns.

Sample -	1	2	3	4	5
Context -	124	105a	110	205	207
Context type -	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Pit fill	Ditch fill
Age (centuries AD) -	Late 1st to 2nd	Late 2nd to 3rd	2nd	2nd	Mid 3rd to 5th
Charred Plant Remains					
Cereal grains	4	4	8	10	10
Cereal rachis		1		1	8
Legume seeds	2	1	1	2	
Other seeds	2	9	8	12	37
Charcoal fragments	200+	100+	150+	100+	100+
Molluscs					
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.				1	
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	2	1	1	5	
<i>Aegopinella</i> sp.				1	
Limacidae				1	
<i>Trichia</i> sp.				6	
<i>Cepaea</i> sp.				1	
Marine mollusc shell fragments			1		
Vertebrate remains					
Mouse (<i>Apodemus</i>) teeth	2	2			2
Vole teeth	1				1
Other small mammal bones	20+	10+	10+	2+	20+
Other bone fragments	20+	10+	30+	10+	11+
Egg shell fragments			6	1	

Table 1. Biological remains identified from the flots (>0.5 mm) and residues (>1 mm)

APPENDIX 4

Bone Assessment by Alistair Barber

A small assemblage of animal bone and shell was recovered during the evaluation, totalling 161 fragments. The material was retrieved from eight separate contexts, representing the fills of linear ditches and pits dating from the 2nd to the early 3rd Centuries A.D. The majority of the assemblage was recovered from midden deposit (103).

The animal bone group, though in fragmentary condition, was otherwise well preserved; and reflects the husbandry, or at least the dietary importance, of a range of domestic species. The assemblage is dominated by cattle bones and the abundance of jaw, skull, vertebrae and metapodial bones present with knife marks suggests the disposal of butchery waste. A varied diet is alluded to by the presence of sheep, pig and deer bone, along with oyster shell, amongst the assemblage. Several equus bones were also recovered, reflecting the importance of horses. The absence of small, non-domestic, mammal bones is likely to reflect both recovery conditions and their poorer preservation rates; though a jaw of a canis or lupus breed was recovered from (110).

APPENDIX 5

Small finds Catalogue

A number of small finds were retrieved from Trench 1

Context	Type and Quantity
(103)	1 x Fe ?equine bit
(103)	1 x Fe tip
(103)	1 x Fe nail

In addition , 11 fragments of Roman roof tile (imbrex and tegula) were retrieved from (103). A limestone floor tile was also retrieved from the same context

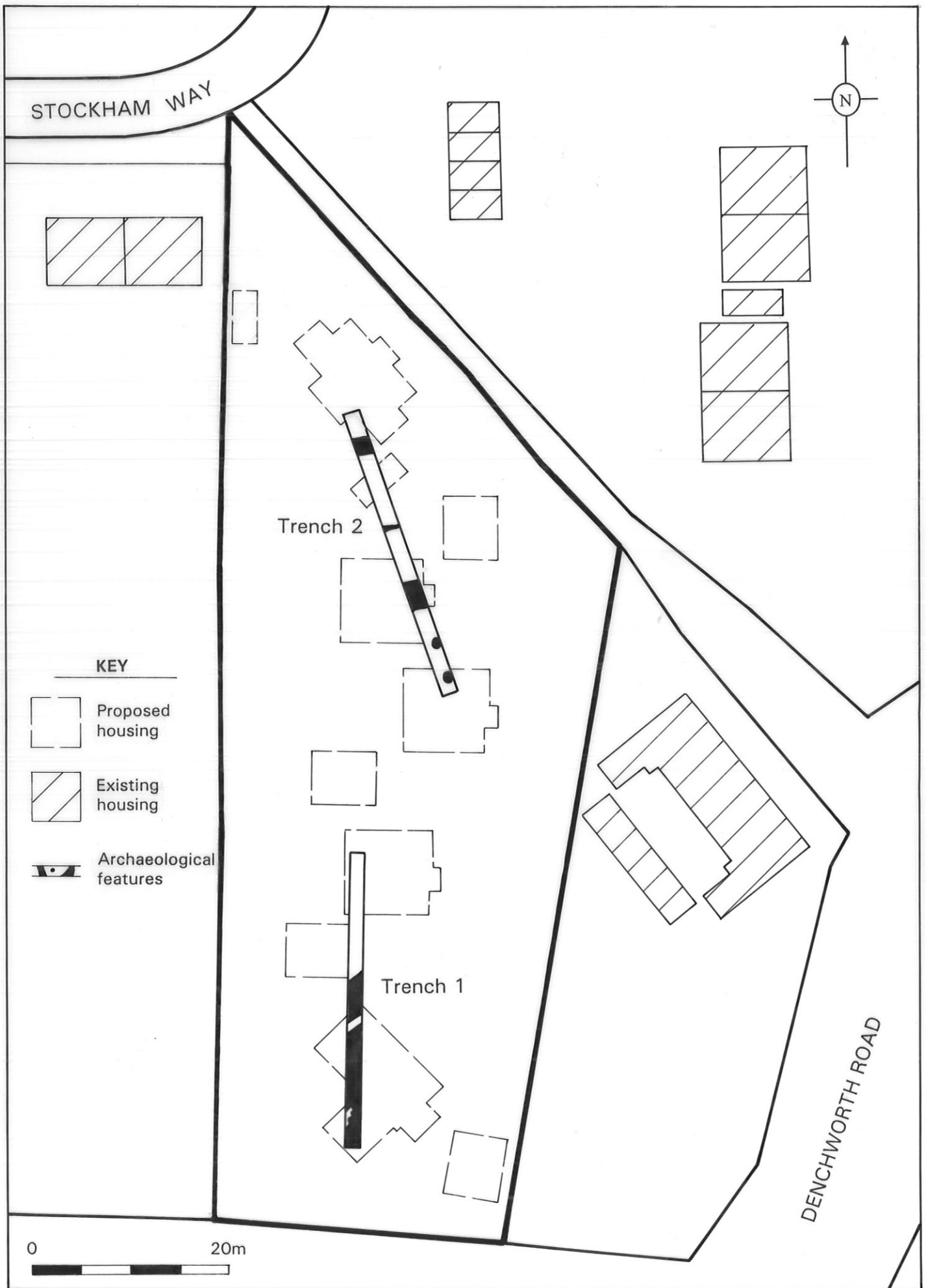


Fig. 2 Location of trenches

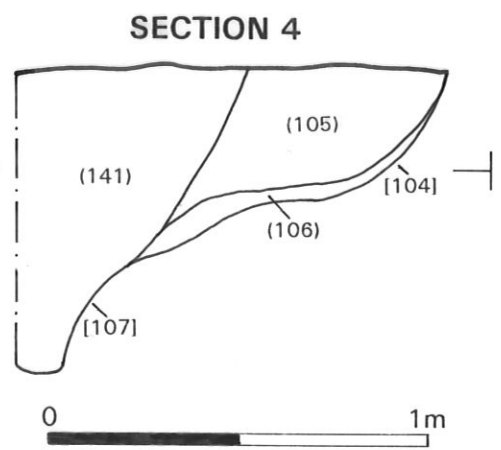
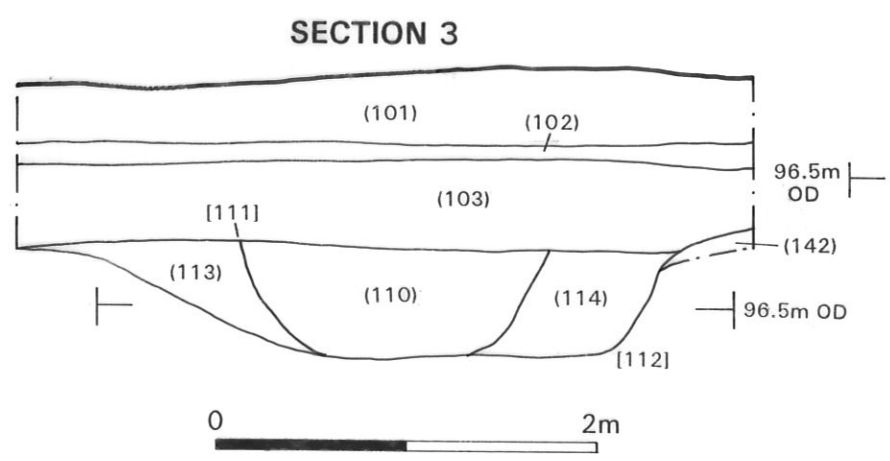
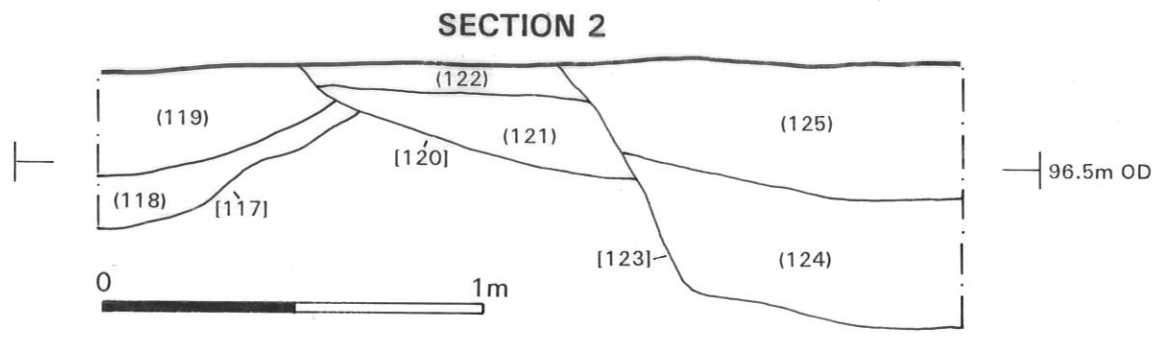
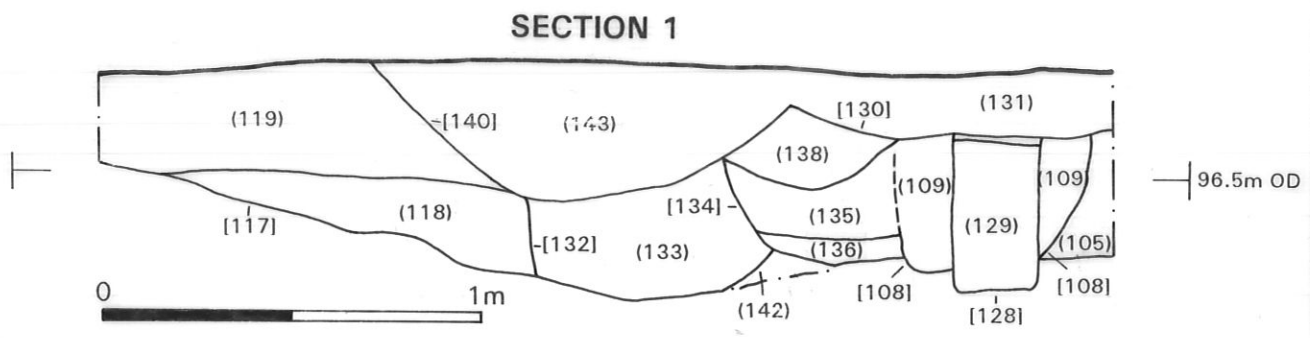
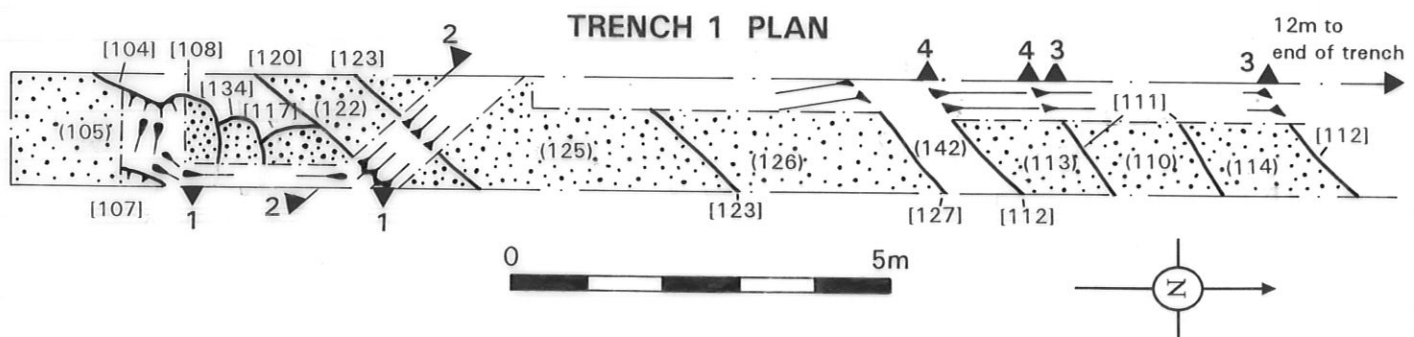


Fig. 3 Trench 1 - plan & sections

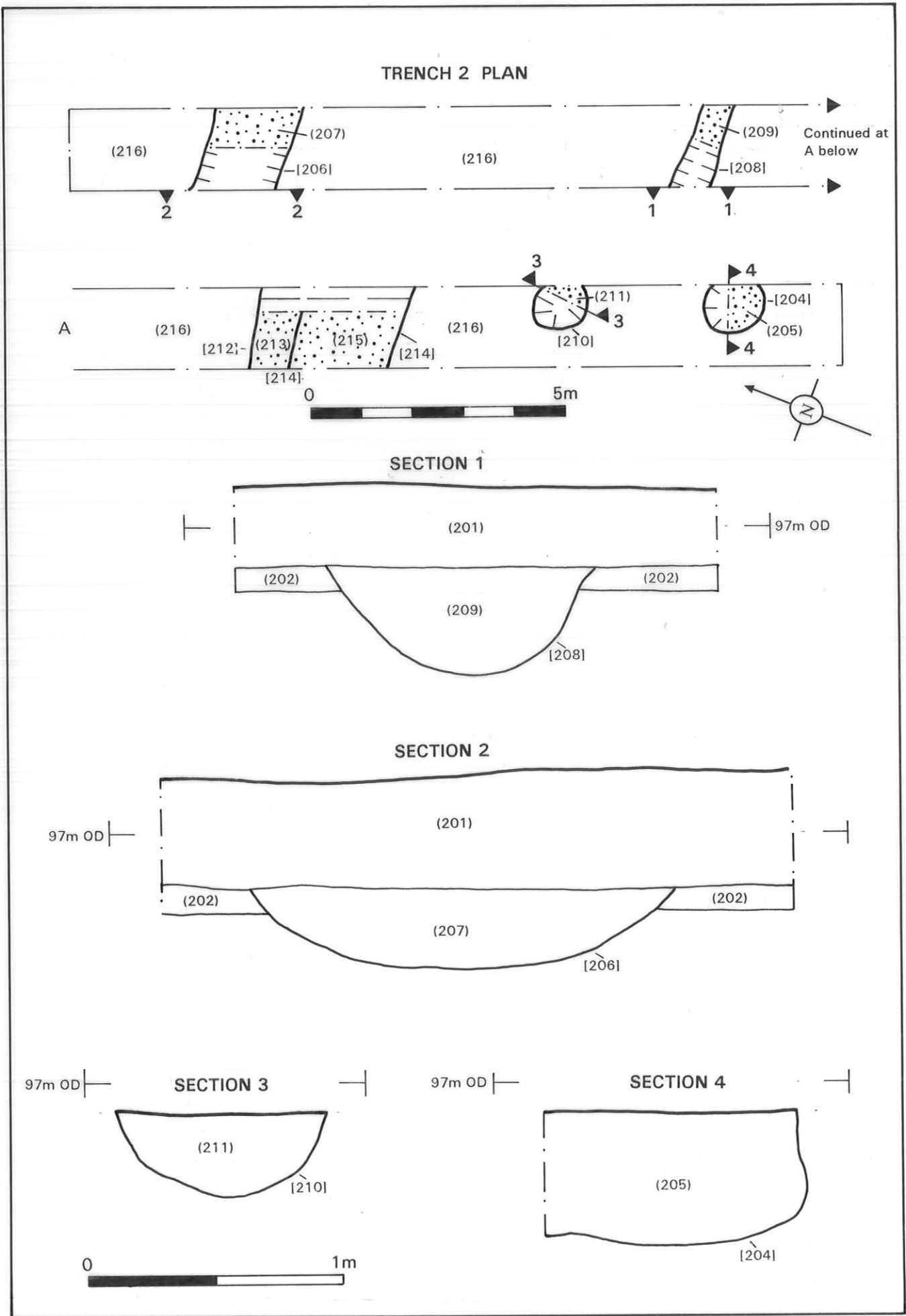


Fig. 4 Trench 2 - plan & sections