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Archaeological Investigations at Tadcaster Swimming Pool

*Interim Report and Finds
Assessments*

January 1996



West Yorkshire
Archaeology Service

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Archaeological Investigations Tadcaster Swimming Pool

Contents

Part 1: Interim Report

Part 2: Finds Assessment Reports

Pottery
Small Finds
Human Bone
Animal Bone
Environmental Samples
Cost Summary

References

Part 3: Primary Archive Information

Archive Inventories
Appendix A: Context Information
Appendix B: Finds Catalogues
Appendix C: Specifications

Part 1:
Archaeological Investigations
Tadcaster Swimming Pool

Interim Report

Archaeological Investigations Tadcaster Swimming Pool

Interim Report

Contents

Summary

1. Introduction
2. Historical Background
3. The Development Site
4. Summary Evolution of Strategy and Methodology
5. Stage 1 Results
6. Stage 2 Results
7. Stage 3 Results
8. Westgate-Station Road Service Trench
9. Discussion
10. Conclusion

Acknowledgements

Plates

Archaeological Investigations at Tadcaster Swimming Pool

Interim Report

Summary

The West Yorkshire Archaeology Service was contracted by The Tadcaster Swimming Pool Trust to carry out a series of archaeological evaluations and investigations on the former site of Castle Hill Farm, immediately to the west of Tadcaster castle, prior to and during its redevelopment as a Swimming Pool complex. The investigations recovered evidence of both early and late Roman activity, in the form of a possible structure, a series of ditches and other features. A human burial may be late Roman or early post-Roman in date. The work involved the investigation and partial excavation of a substantial portion of the large medieval castle ditch. This proved to be up to 11m wide and 5m deep in places. Its lower fills were not waterlogged and contained few finds. The ditch appears to have been backfilled deliberately before the town was surveyed and planned in 1611.

1. Introduction (Fig. 1)

1.1 Between February 1993 and October 1994 the West Yorkshire Archaeology Service was contracted by The Tadcaster Swimming Pool Trust to carry out a series of archaeological trial trench evaluations and further site investigations on their development site (the former site of Castle Hill Farm) in Tadcaster, North Yorkshire. Initial investigations saw eight trial trenches (T12 - T20)¹ excavated, followed by a programme of further excavation and watching briefs, in advance of and during the construction process.

1.2 Tadcaster (SE485435) is situated on the A64 road, about 10 miles south-east of York. The town's origins are essentially based upon the exploitation of the immediately abundant natural resources, limestone and water, as well as it being a principal bridging point of the River Wharfe.

1.3 In addition to being a route centre, Tadcaster as a commercial centre has developed around its quarrying and brewing industries. The western part of the town lies upon deposits of Upper Magnesian Limestone, which has been quarried from several outcrops around the town, possibly since Roman times. The combination of limestone overlying Middle Permian marl clays has resulted in vast subterranean reservoirs of mineral rich water which, through artesian wells, has been brought to the surface to serve the brewing industry.

1.4 The nucleus of the town is situated on the west bank where the undulating limestone topography lies at about 30m OD, whereas the flatter boulder clay deposits around the eastern part of the town rarely rise above 15m OD. The limestone soils on the western side of the river tend to be brown calcareous earths, though elsewhere there are discrete areas of glacial sands and gravels associated with outcrops of Lower Red Sandstone, and alluvium in the low lying areas of the flood plain. On the lower eastern side of the river the geology comprises morrainic drift along the valley terraces and boulder clay. The resultant soils are silty clays, with poor drainage giving rise to some peat areas (Bartley 1962; Ordnance Survey 1974).

[Note¹: Trenches 1-11 relate to evaluation work in other parts of the town (Roberts and Staddon 1993a and 1993b; Roberts and Morris 1993).]

2. Historical Background

2.1 The history of Tadcaster has commanded considerable attention from travellers, antiquarians and local historians through the ages. Their observations, findings and resultant interpretations, up to the beginning of the twentieth century, have been compiled and published in some detail (Bogg 1904; Speight 1902 & 1905; and Page 1907-13). The town has been the subject of small scale research and investigation on an irregular basis over the last eight

decades. Nevertheless, despite the known documentary and archaeological evidence, the nature and extent of Tadcaster's early development remains obscure. The threat of urban redevelopment on a large scale prompted an assessment of the town's archaeological potential and needs in the 1970s (Tyler n.d.). This requirement is once more being considered in the light of more recent archaeological evidence.

2.2 The Prehistoric Period

2.2.1 A considerable quantity of prehistoric finds suggest early activity in the Tadcaster area. In view of the proximity of the Neolithic/Bronze Age henge at Newton Kyme, 2km up the Wharfe valley, such activity might be expected. A number of flint artefacts, axes, a palstave and a socketed celt, the majority of likely Bronze Age date, are attested to have been found in Tadcaster (Page 1907, 1912; NYCC). Whilst many of these artefacts have no provenance and are no longer extant, recent excavations at Chapel Street have provided some further evidence of prehistoric activity through flint scatters (Holbrey *et al* 1994).

2.3 The Roman Period

2.3.1 In Roman times Tadcaster was known as *Calcaria*, in reference to it as a source of limestone. Tadcaster was certainly an integral part of quite a complex Roman landscape in the hinterland of York (*Eboracum*). Roman villas are known at Dalton Parlours and Kirby Wharfe, and there was a Roman fort at Newton Kyme. The complexities of the Roman road network to the west of Tadcaster has been discussed by Ramm (1976). The river crossing point at Tadcaster was a focus for south-west to north-east routes leading to York, the principal routes being Margary's roads 28b and 72b, coming from Castleford and Ilkley respectively (Margary 1957).

2.3.2 The route of the Roman road through the modern town is far from certain. However, it is generally accepted (though the evidence is circumstantial) that it ran from Station Road between the church and castle to a ford at the river. The nature of the Roman presence in Tadcaster is not clear. The majority of the known provenanced finds, mainly pottery and coins, have come from the castle earthworks and the general vicinity to the north of Westgate. Excavations behind the 'Old Fleece' (Whyman, 1989) encountered deposits of broadly Roman date and some possible structures. It is likely that Roman activity was centred in this area, possibly protecting the river crossing, though as yet there is no firm evidence for a fort or fortlet.

2.4 The Saxon Period

2.4.1 There is a reasoned etymological argument for the continuation of settlement at Tadcaster into the immediate post-Roman period. The name *Kaelcacaestir* was used by Bede in the 7th century. It is thought to be directly derived from the Roman *Calcaria*, with a suffix *caestir*, providing the literal meaning 'limestone place and/or fortified town'. However, by the late Saxon period the *kaelca* element was replaced by the name *Tada* (Smith 1965). By the 11th century there was obviously a quite large settlement at Tadcaster. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle relates King Harold drew up his levies and moored his fleet here before marching to fight the battle of Stamford Bridge in 1066 (Garmonsway 1972), whilst in 1086 the Domesday Book alludes to a sizeable manor worth 40s before 1066 - twice as much as many of the surrounding settlements (Faull and Stinson 1986).

2.4.2 Tangible evidence of activity in this period is rare. Some possible Anglian pottery and potential *grubenhausers* (sunken floored houses) have been identified to the north of Westgate (Whyman 1989), though otherwise the evidence is restricted to a few 10th-century coins of King Olaf of Northumbria. Earthworks recorded in the last century (Ordnance Survey 1849) may feasibly represent the defences of Saxon or Danish burhs, though such a notion remains to be confirmed unequivocally through archaeological evidence.

2.5 The Medieval Period

2.5.1 The earliest settlement nucleus was probably focussed on the northern quarter of the present town, around the motte and bailey castle and the church. The castle, an early stronghold of the Percy family, may well have been superimposed upon an earlier Roman fortified site. Large amounts of Roman pottery and building materials have been recovered from the motte and peripheral earthwork banks (Ramm 1966). However, no formal investigations of the castle have been made and its form and date remain conjectural. On the face of it the present remains seem to conform to the classic model of a late 11th century motte and bailey castle. Today there is no extant evidence to confirm that the castle ever had a stone phase, though the possibility of a shell keep recorded by Clarke (1889), and the tradition that the medieval bridge was built using stone from the castle (Toulmin Smith 1964) alludes to something more than a mere earth and timber structure.

2.5.2 The church, immediately to the south-east of the castle, dates to the late 11th/early 12th century. It is documented as having being destroyed in the Scots raids of 1318 and the present remains are essentially 15th century. Due to flooding the church was totally dismantled in the late 19th century, when evidence of its early form came to light (Fowler 1875). The earliest vicar is recorded in 1290, commensurate with the earliest phases of the town's medieval vicarage, to the west of Kirkgate (Wrathmell 1989). In addition there was a 12th century hospital in the vicinity of the church, and a later chantry chapel on the eastern side of the river, believed to have been near the bridge.

2.5.3 Apart from the documentary record there is very little definite evidence for the topography of the medieval town. The town was obviously significant in its proximity to York and the Great North Road, for both road and river transport and trade. There are several references to transporting stone by river in the 13th and 14th centuries, implying the existence of substantial wharves and moorings. The town is known to have possessed a charter for a market and a fair and possessed three water mills by the 13th century and at least two breweries/inns by the 14th century.

2.5.4 With the present level of information the best hypothesis for the medieval town's development would see Kirkgate, a wide thoroughfare leading from the church and castle to the main road and bridge, as the principal 'market' street in the early medieval town. As Tadcaster's commercial existence came to rely more and more on its function as a bridging point and coaching station, rather than a seat of power for the Percy lords, so the focus of the town seems to have moved in the later medieval period, to High Street and Bridge Street on the western side of the river, and as ribbon development as Commercial Street on the eastern side. Such a model has not been contradicted by the recent excavations at High Street (Morris *et al* 1995). Whether the town possessed defences at any stage is unclear. Certainly the earthworks shown on early maps (see above) could equally have medieval origins as Saxo-Danish ones.

2.6 Post-Medieval Period to 1650

2.6.1 A map dated 1611, and a comprehensive survey and map dated 1613, held in the Petworth Collection (West Sussex Record Office), provide a detailed layout of the township in the early 17th century. The town itself is portrayed as an essentially linear settlement on the High Street-Commercial Street axis. The castle (or manor) has not existed for some time and the only important buildings shown on the map are the church and vicarage.

2.6.2 Tadcaster had strategic importance during the Civil War and thus played a significant part at times. The main incident occurred in 1642 when Fairfax's Parliamentarians defended the western part of the town against Newcastle's Royalists attacking from the east. A trench associated with this defence is purported to run parallel to the river bank from the bridge to the churchyard up until the mid 19th century (Bogg 1904); whilst certain earthwork anomalies on the castle site have been attributed to other defensive measures at this time (Ramm 1968).

3. The Development Site (Figs 1 and 2)

3.1 The site (SE48424352) lies on the northern edge of the modern town of Tadcaster, just off the junction between Westgate and Station Road, on the edge of the floodplain of the River Wharfe, some 200m to the north-east.

3.2 The development occupies the former site of Castle Hill Farm, and lies immediately to the west of the substantial earthworks that form the banks and bailey area of the medieval castle; itself almost certainly superimposed upon a site of Roman activity. The development site is, therefore, juxtaposed to a site of immense archaeological potential and importance (though only the eastern half of the castle is actually a Scheduled Ancient Monument; No. 1198).

3.3 Early maps reveal little about the development site. On the town plans of 1611 and 1613 the area is shown as demesne land, part of *Aplegarth*, with no reference to the supposed quarry workings, now to be seen in the field to the north of the castle. However, the area is described as 'quarry' in the Tithe Awards of 1844 (Borthwick Institute). However, by 1891 the Ordnance Survey has one of these 'quarry' mounds erroneously annotated 'Castle Hill', suggesting that the workings were not the result of recent or contemporaneous activity (though cartographic error cannot be discounted). In essence one cannot be certain about the date of these earthworks and mounds, which were probably the result of quarrying over several periods; possibly from Roman times, though perhaps more intensively from the medieval period.

3.4 The early history of the Castle Hill Farm site is equally unclear. It seems to have been well established at the time of the 1845 census, and consisted of 'yards, barns, cow houses, sheds' along with 'gardens, an orchard and 25 acres of pasture land' when it was sold at auction in 1873.

3.5 Initial visual inspection of the development site in 1993 revealed that it had most recently been utilised for garaging vehicles. The land had been made up and levelled to a considerable height above the flood plain to the north and surfaced with concrete, tarmac and hardcore. Fuel tanks remained extant and below ground. The former farm buildings were evident in the form of the large barn, then being utilised as a furniture showroom, and the foundations and partly demolished and dilapidated out buildings terraced into the western earthworks of the castle. Two more recent prefabricated ancillary buildings lay in the northern part of the site.

4. Summary Evolution of Strategy and Methodology

4.1 A staged approach of evaluation and investigation was undertaken by the West Yorkshire Archaeology Service (WYAS). This evolved as work progressed through continuous liaison with the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) of the North Yorkshire Planning Department Archaeology Section and the developers and their architects and contractors.

4.2 Stage 1

4.2.1 An initial pre-planning permission brief, outlining the objectives of the archaeological evaluation, was provided by the SMR and a trial trenching strategy devised and approved (see Appendix C.1). The evaluation involved the excavation of nine trenches concentrated mainly upon the areas of the pools, they being areas of proposed greatest disturbance.

4.2.2 A longer trench was proposed in the anticipated location of the castle moat and four small trenches were nominally designated for investigating the proposed car park (northern) area and the interior of the barn.

4.2.3 Ultimately the transverse trench across the line of the moat was extended to locate its western edge. An additional excavation was carried out during the removal of underground fuel tanks immediately to the north of the barns northern end.

4.3 Stage 2

4.3.1 The Stage 1 trenches established that there was at least 1m of modern make-up over most of the site. This overlay levels and features containing small amounts of Roman and medieval material. However, the greatest concerns arose over the rock cut castle ditch or moat in the eastern part of the site. Stage 1 had seen trial excavations had remove 2m of its fill and establish its width to be 11m. Borehole information suggested that its depth could be in excess of 5m. From both an archaeological and engineering viewpoint it was deemed essential to ascertain the depth of the ditch and the presence of any preserved waterlogged deposits in its primary fills.

4.3.2 Consultation with the North Yorkshire SMR resolved that the best strategy was to strip the whole eastern part of the site down to archaeology or natural to locate the ditch in plan. The ditch fill was then systematically removed in steps of decreasing size by machine in order to facilitate manual recording of the whole ditch and limited manual excavation of its primary fills (see Appendix C.2).

4.4 Stage 3

4.4.1 Following the satisfactory results of the Stage 2 exercise, which revealed that there were no sensitive archaeological deposits in the castle ditch, planning permission for the swimming pool development was obtained. An archaeological condition was attached to the permission. This allowed for specific archaeological investigations to be carried out the various stages of the swimming pool construction, as well as a general watching brief on all ground disturbances (see Appendix C.3).

4.4.2 The main stages of archaeological work in the final construction programme specifically involved watching briefs during: the excavations for the new surface water drain and the removal of the old pipe from through the site; the sub-floor excavations in the barn; the excavations of the fills of the castle ditch for the structural supports and plant room; and the removal of overburden and the excavation of three foundation trenches across the area of the main pool. The opportunity was also available to investigate the Westgate street frontage.

4.4.3 The work on the new drain was carried out by Robsons Civil Engineering and Construction; the remainder of the site work being undertaken by Norwest Holst Construction Limited.

5. Stage 1 Results (Fig. 2; Appendix C.1)

5.1 The initial stage of evaluation involved the excavation of nine trenches (T12 - T20; Fig. 3A). These were mechanically excavated down to the highest archaeological horizon, or bedrock, and then further excavated manually in order to sample the archaeological deposits to a maximum overall trench depth of 1.2m.

5.2 Trenches T12 and T13 were positioned in order to investigate the suspected castle ditch in the eastern part of the site, whilst the remaining trenches were distributed within the area of largest potential disturbance by the proposed pool. Two additional trenches, T16 and T18, investigated the area of the proposed car park. The removal of two underground fuel tanks to the north of the stone barn created trench T20 and the opportunity to investigate the deposits at the western end of the site.

5.3 The former functions of the site as a farm and more recently as a garage and fuelling depot had resulted in the site being covered in an accumulated build up relatively modern deposits up to one metre in depth, capped variously in different places by concrete, tarmac and hardcore. Additional complications were created by the presence of a 750mm surface water sewer pipe oriented north-south in the eastern half of the site.

5.4 Trench 12

This trench proved to be archaeologically unproductive. Below the 0.5m of modern material was a layer of sand, probably fluvial in origin. Beneath this was a natural layer of red clay, which in turn came down to the limestone bedrock at a depth of 0.85m.

5.5 Trench 13 (Fig. 10)

As expected the upper fills of the castle ditch were seen around the base of Castle Hill. Initial excavations (initially to a depth of 1.2m and then stepped to 2m) showed it to be about 11 metres wide and borehole data suggested that it might be up to 5m in depth. However, the excavations were impeded by the presence of the sewer pipe, which cut into the upper ditch fills adjacent to the western edge, and by the logistical problems created by the need to comply with the Health and Safety requirements for working in deep trenches.

5.6 Trench 14 (Fig. 4)

Beneath the modern surface and walling three main depositional layers were identified (1403-1406). Two cut features were also identified; a small pit or post-hole (F1408) and an earlier pit (F1409). Exclusively Roman pot sherds were recovered from the deposits and feature fills. Perhaps significantly the natural limestone was located in the bottom of a post-hole (F1409) at a depth of 2.1m.

5.7 Trench 15

This trench lay in an area already disturbed by the insertion of a subterranean brick chamber or cellar. Eight depositional layers were seen in section but all appeared modern in their nature. Some post-medieval pottery sherds were recovered from these deposits.

5.8 Trench 16

Little of archaeological significance was found in this trench. Beneath the modern make-up layers two humic horizons were seen, perhaps reflecting the earlier land use as part of orchards and pasture attached to Castle Hill Farm. A cow burial was partly excavated from context 1612, below the humic layers.

5.9 Trench 17 (Fig. 5)

One shallow, linear ditch-like feature (F1703) seemed to run the length of the trench, although only one side of it was visible in the section. No finds were recovered from within its fill.

5.10 Trench 18

Seven depositional layers were seen in section reflecting modern make-up layers and buried soil horizons. Nothing of archaeological significance was found.

5.11 'Trench' 19

Mechanical stripping to the west of the old surface drain sewer revealed what appeared to be the truncated silty fill of a feature. This deposit (1901) yielded several sherds of pottery, believed to be of possible Saxon date.

5.12 Trench 20 (Fig. 5a; Pl.I)

5.12.1 A ready made section was created by the removal of two large fuel storage tanks adjacent to the barn. After manual cleaning this revealed two (possibly three) intercutting features, probably ditches, in the east facing section. The earliest of these, F2013, appeared to be cut by F2016 to the north. The third possible ditch was immediately north of F2016. None of these ditches showed in the opposing section, though this was considerably disturbed.

5.12.2 The earliest, and largest, ditch (F2013) was rock cut to a total depth of 1.60m. Its apparent U-shaped profile and exposed width (the southern edge was not exposed) of 2.5m are slightly misleading as it appeared that the ditch, seemingly oriented NE-SW, was sectioned at an angle. It contained eight discrete fills. The lower deposits appeared to have been deposited from the northern edge of the ditch. Of particular note was deposit 2009 which contained a considerable amounts of charcoal and limestone rubble, including some large limestone blocks.

5.12.3 Ditch F2016 was somewhat shallower than F2013 (0.75m) and cut into the northern edge of its upper fills. Five sherds of pottery of likely Roman date were recovered from the fill of F2016.

5.12.4 The latest and most northerly feature in the sequence was F2019, a shallow 'feature' of 0.35m depth and unknown width, which seemed cut the upper fill of F2016. No finds were recovered from its fill.

6. Stage 2 Results (Fig. 3A; Appendix C.2)

6.1 Having established the width of the castle ditch to be 11m there remained outstanding questions regarding its depth and profile, the nature and archaeological sensitivity of its lower fills, there being a strong possibility of preserved organic remains. Additionally there was a requirement for this information from a civil engineering viewpoint for piling, the 11m width of the ditch precluding the original plan to span it.

6.2 For safety purposes, due to the expected depth of the ditch, a strategy of stepping the excavation at regular intervals, to an ever decreasing area, was adopted. This enabled the safe manual excavation of a sample of the primary fills of the ditch and recording of its profile and fills in section.

6.3 In order to provide machine access a 250m² area (approximately the eastern third of the site) was stripped under archaeological supervision. In order to reach the required depth an initial area of 170m² was established. This area was delineated by the eastern site boundary (essentially the castle earthworks), the northern edge of trench T13 to the south and encompassing the area of trench T15 to the north (Fig. 3A). At this stage the surface water sewer pipe was still *in situ* and, although it was not removed until the stage three work (see 7.3). The results in 6.5 will include the findings from that operation.

6.4 The excavations were then carried out to greater depth, stepping in seven tiers in a way that prevented collapse and ensured that each section was no deeper than the maximum Health and Safety unshored working depth of 1.2m. In this way the ditch was mechanically excavated to a depth of 4.7m. The remaining 0.5m was manually excavated so that the lower ditch fills could be assessed for the presence and degree of waterlogging and organic preservation.

6.5 The Castle Ditch (Figs 3A, 10 and 11; Pl.II; Appendix C.2)

6.5.1 The primary ditch (F1302) was cut out of the Magnesian Limestone bedrock and was found overall to be 5.2m deep and have a maximum width of 11.5m. Its profile was broadly V-shaped but with a flat bottom and sides that appeared to be stepped in places. In plan the ditch was seen to curve to the north-east as might be expected from the position of the extant castle earthworks.

6.5.2 Whilst the stepped trench enabled the fills to be investigated to the primary deposits, because of the surface water sewer pipe, it only allowed for a section record of the eastern two thirds of the ditch to be made. The western side of the ditch was rapidly recorded as two discrete watching briefs during the drain removal and plant room excavation in the Stage 3 works (7.3) in somewhat lesser detail than in the stepped trench. Health and safety precautions during the deeper excavations precluded a record of the bottom of the western side of the ditch profile and fills. As a consequence of the stepped and staggered nature of the recording, the composite section of the ditch and fills should be regarded as largely schematic.

6.5.3 A total of 51 context records were allocated to fills of the castle ditch. However, many of these were allocated on a tier basis and can be cross-matched with confidence from step to step. Such matching can not be done with the same degree of confidence between the fills recorded on the eastern and western side of the ditch, i.e. between the Stage 2 and Stage 3

records. This was mainly because they were recorded in different parts of the ditch and in different planes. The fills were nearly all brown clay or silt loams, differentiated in most cases by the varying concentrations of limestone inclusions. It was only with the base, side and uppermost fills that any radical differences could be seen in the fills.

6.5.4 The ditch fills contained very few finds. Indeed, apart from two joining sherds of a medieval 13th/14th century sandy ware in the primary fill (1341), only two other stratified pottery sherds were recovered from fill 1312. One of these was a large body sherd of Roman amphora; the other a base sherd of coarse red medieval gritty ware. Also recovered from 1312 were seven fragments of undiagnostic tile.

7. Stage 3 Results (Fig. 3B; Appendix C.3)

7.1 The third stage of archaeological works saw watching briefs carried out during the removal and re-routing of the surface water sewer around the northern and western perimeters of the site and the construction of the pool itself. This work specifically provided the opportunity to investigate the western half of the castle ditch profile (carried out as Trench 23), as well as further investigating the features located in trial trenches T14, T17 and T20. The archaeological work in the main pool area was conducted as an extension to Trench 20 and Trenches 21 and 22. In addition there was provision to inspect the deposits beneath the barn floor (Trenches 24 and 25) and those on the frontage of Westgate. The latter was partly carried out as part of the sewer diversion (Trench 26) and supplemented by work during the relaying of services on the junction with Station Road (see 8).

7.2 The Main Pool Excavations: Trenches 21 and 25 (Figs 5b and 6)

7.2.1 The final phase of ground works prior to construction involved the removal of modern overburden followed by the excavations for the main pool area with its associated structures. A watching brief with specific objectives to try and locate and record the east-west ditches and to establish their relationship with the castle ditch was carried out.

7.2.2 The enlargement of the Trench T20 area, formerly occupied by the petrol tanks as Trench 25 (Fig. 3B), presented an opportunity to further record the position and orientation of the east-west ditches (F2013 and F2016; additionally numbered F2507 and F2508 respectively). Unfortunately only partial profiles of the ditches were seen making it difficult to extrapolate the precise orientation of the ditches, especially given close proximity of the sections. The bottom of ditch F2507 was 0.2m wide at a depth of 2.1m below the ground surface. Although the eastern side of the ditch profile was not recorded (Fig. 5b), it seems likely that its lower profile was distinctly V-shaped, becoming wider higher up. The fills of F2507 (2502-2504) were brown clay silts, the primary fill (2504) producing two 3rd-4th century Roman pottery sherds and a small quantity of animal bone. The base of feature F2508 was located at a depth of 1.4m. The ditch had a broad open U-shaped profile, though its actual dimensions are somewhat indeterminate (possibly due to it having been cut into slope), though it might be said to have been at least 2m wide and 0.6m deep. No finds were recovered from its fills (2501 and 2506).

7.2.3 The central area of the main pool was investigated as Trench T21. Stripping of the subsoil (2129) above the limestone bedrock produced one sherd of medieval gritty ware. No evidence was seen for the continuation of features F2013=F2507 and F2016=F2508) into the area where the strip foundation trenches were excavated. However, three features (F2133, F2113 and F2116=2112) of differing size, nature and orientation were recorded (Fig. 6). The smallest of these, F2133, corresponds with the dimensions and orientation of F1703 (Trench 17), its fill (2104) yielded one sherd of probable Roman pottery.

7.2.4 To the north of F2133 the larger F2113, was recorded in section to be 7.5m wide south to north. Its extent was planned for a distance of 3.5m westwards, though its eastward extent was not established. The dimensions of the feature suggest that it may have been a large

deliberately created hollow that had later been infilled and levelled. Its upper fills (2105, 2107 and 2108), which may represent a later feature or recut, produced three sherds of Roman and one sherd of medieval pottery.

7.2.5 The original cut of feature F2113 appears to have truncated the fills of an earlier feature (F2112=F2116), observed cutting the limestone bedrock at the northern edge of trench T21. An abrupt change in its lower profile may actually be due to a fault or shelving off of the limestone. Significantly, of its eight recorded fills (2117-2124), all but the bottom three yielded pottery, perhaps suggesting that the bottom of 2121 actually represented the base of the feature, the remainder (2122-2124) being natural in origin (Fig. 8). Fills 2117-2121 (also numbered 2110 and 2111) produced eight sherds of Roman pottery, mainly of 3rd-4th century date.

7.2.6 Two smaller truncated features towards the southern side of Trench T21. Feature F2109 was an elliptically shaped pit. Its fill (2106) contained bands of charcoal and silt and produced one sherd of late Roman pottery. Feature F2103 was a shallow post-hole, seemingly occurring in isolation.

7.3 Removal of the Former Sewer Pipe and Plant Room and Pile Excavations: Trench 23 (Fig. 3B; Pl. III)

7.3.1 Removal of the old sewer pipe and the excavations to facilitate the plant room in the eastern part of the site enabled further archaeological observations to be made of the western third of the castle ditch, thus enhancing the records of its profile already made. Health and safety considerations due to the depth and instability of the excavations and the speed of mechanical extraction resulted in a less detailed record than had been achieved for the eastern part of the ditch. A residual greyware bodysherd of Roman pottery was recovered from context 2311, a deposit of probable post-medieval origin.

7.3.2 Excavations for the new plant room involved removing further fills from the castle ditch, in the area of the disturbance encountered in the earlier Trench 15 (5.7) and towards the north-eastern edge of the site. The depth of the operation, with unstable vertical section faces, precluded the creation of a drawn record of the ditch fills in section in this area. Nevertheless, there was further confirmation, from the tip lines in the later ditch fills, that the ditch had been infilled progressively from the town side. It was apparent that the castle ditch towards the northern end of the site had only been partially filled in antiquity and must have existed as a substantial earthwork ditch leading into the lower field to the north until relatively recently. It appeared from the modern nature of the upper fills that the northern end of the ditch had probably only been levelled up in order to create hard standing for parking of either modern farm or garage vehicles (Pl. III).

7.3.3 A watching brief during the excavations for the supporting piles cut into the castle ditch fills to the north of Trench 13 did not produce further meaningful data.

7.4 The Barn Floor: Trench 24 (Fig. 3B)

7.4.1 Internally the northern sub floor levels of the barn were investigated as Trench 24. This revealed two phases of modern concrete flooring (2401) and make-up to a depth of 2m. Below this a silty loam (2401) covered the cobbles/rubble (2403) set onto natural silt, representing the earliest floor of the barn proper.

7.4.2 The excavation of an external trench, to facilitate underpinning of the western wall of the barn, afforded a further opportunity to investigate this area. Below modern make-up this revealed the cut for a feature, of unknown date and orientation, at a depth of about 0.9m.

7.5 Re-routing of the Surface Water Sewer: Trench 26 (Figs 3B and 8)

7.5.1 No significant archaeological deposits were seen in the east-west orientated section of the pipe trench, although it was significant that the limestone bedrock lay at approximately 5m below the current ground surface at the eastern terminus (immediately north-west of the castle ditch), whereas it was at a depth of only 1m less than 10m further to the west. The bulk of the overlying material was a dark brown homogeneous deposit with few inclusions, interpreted as alluvium. The depth and instability of the trench precluded any detailed records or sampling.

7.5.2 Immediately west of the drain cover, where the trench turned south towards Westgate, a pit (F2605) about 0.75m deep and 1m wide was seen in section. Its profile was broadly V-shaped and its silty loam fills (2606 and 2607) yielded no finds.

7.5.3 Two small pits (F2612 and F2618) were located, cut into the limestone bedrock, in the section face of the north-south course of the new sewer pipe trench parallel to the northern end of the barn. Pit F2612 was originally thought to be cut into the fill of an earlier feature, which have since been recognised to be the natural loam and clays overlying the diving limestone bedrock. Both F2612 and F2618 have similar dimensions and a plastic clay primary fills (2616 and 2620 respectively) that suggest they were either a clay lining or had been subject to re-cutting. No find were recovered from any of fills of these features.

8. Westgate-Station Road Service Trench (Figs 3-10)

8.1 The search for modern services beneath the pavement on the north side of road, where Westgate meets Station Road, 9m to west of the southern gable-end of the barn, revealed further archaeological deposits. The area of archaeological investigation was restricted to an area of 1m by 1.5m due to the close of the existing service trenches.

8.2 The initial discovery, by the construction contractors, was of the top of a human skull. Subsequent archaeological investigation established that this belonged to an *in situ* human burial lying about 0.7m below the modern ground surface. The modern make-up was found to be about 0.5m thick and sealing a dark grey silty deposit containing burnt material (002=005), within which the skeleton lay.

8.3 The remaining bones of the skeleton were uncovered manually. The body was flexed (possibly twisted at the hip) and oriented east-west. The lower legs had been truncated by an earlier modern pipe trench, whilst subsequent intrusions prior to archaeological investigation had contrived to remove the remainder of the skull. There was no obvious grave cut in evidence, though the skeleton and its surrounding deposit did seem to occupy a shallow depression, though it was physically contained and defined on the northern side by the face of the stone wall (008).

8.4 The deposit around the skeleton contained 20 sherds of Roman pottery dating from between the 1st-4th centuries, though the majority of it is of 2nd-3rd century date. Consequently, it would appear that the body was interred in the fourth century or later, disturbing and mixing earlier deposits by way of a grave fill. Given the residual nature of the pottery, there is little likelihood of being able to classify a copper alloy 'clasp' (SF1), or any other small finds from the burial deposit (002), as grave goods (but see 9.2.5).

8.5 Following the exhumation of the skeletal remains, the removal of the disturbed upper course of the underlying wall (F008) was effected in order to clarify its form. The wall, oriented east-west, was at least 0.8m wide and survived in three courses to a height of up to 0.4m. It was constructed of limestone bonded by an orange sandy mortar (009) which yielded two sherds of Roman pottery, one dated to the 2nd century and the other to the 3rd/4th century (though the latter might be considered intrusive in view of the pottery from the surrounding deposits - see 8.7 below).

8.6 The structure of the wall (F008) did not appear to lie within any foundation trench; indeed the bottom of the archaeological deposits and the wall structure was not encountered in a small trial excavation up to a metre below the modern ground surface. It is, therefore, reasonable to speculate that F008 represents a surviving extant wall, rather than the structure's foundations.

8.7 Along the south-western edge of the excavation a small area of cobbles (004) and an associated make-up layer (007) appear to respect the line of the wall and were obviously lain up against it; as seemingly were the deposits (003=006) which lay below the 'grave fill' (002). A total of 29 sherds of pottery were recovered from the deposits abutting the wall (27 of them from layer 003=006). Their date was predominantly 1st/2nd century, with no obvious positive identifications of 3rd/4th century wares. Nineteen fragments of animal bone, over half the total recovered from the trench, also came from layer 003.

9. Discussion

9.1 The site having been investigated in piecemeal fashion over a period of months, the results are not conducive to drawing meaningful intra site conclusions. Nevertheless, the findings do undoubtedly have significance in terms of our understanding of the development of Tadcaster. The evidence falls into two broad phases; those of Roman and medieval periods.

9.2 The Roman Period

9.2.1 The pottery from the swimming pool site itself seems to imply only later Roman activity at what one may suppose to be northern extremity of a Roman 'settlement'. What form the Roman presence took is not clear from the limited number of truncated, and largely undiagnostic, features recorded. The similarities of profiles of the ditches seen in trenches T20 and T25 would suggest perhaps two (successive or contemporary) late Roman ditches oriented north-east to south-west. The lower fills of building materials and charcoal in ditch F2013 does allude to domestic activity in the close proximity.

9.2.2 The evidence from the service trench on Station Road certainly suggests domestic presence in the earlier Roman period, in a position which can not be too distant from the supposed line of the Roman road. Despite the small scale nature of this work, the degree of preservation of the structural remains and associated stratigraphy are perhaps some of the best yet found *in situ* to attest to the existence Roman *Calcaria* as a tangible settlement. Whilst this evidence on its own is unlikely to resolve the question of *Calcaria's* status (it is still not clear whether it was a fort, a fort with a *vicus*, a small town or all three at different periods), this and other recent work (Holbrey *et al* 1995; Morris *et al* 1995; Roberts and Staddon 1993a; Whyman 1989) does seem to confirm is that the Roman activity is largely confined to the northern quarter of the modern town on the west bank of the river Wharfe.

9.2.3 The upcast material forming the motte certainly contains Roman material (Ramm 1966) and the majority of the unprovenanced finds of Roman coins and pottery have come from this area of the town (e.g. Ramm 1976). Additionally the traditional line of the Roman road between the church and castle to ford at the river, supposedly recorded beneath Station Road in 1902 (Bogg 1904) and beneath Westgate in 1905 (Clark 1905), would seem to have an even firmer grounding.

9.2.4 The date of the burial cutting through the earlier Roman structure on Station Road is uncertain. While it could be late Roman it is equally possible that it could date to an even later post-Roman or Dark Age period. The flexed position of the body is not inconsistent with other dated post-Roman inhumations in the region, for example, at Dalton Parlours (Manchester 1990), and Pontefract (Wilmott 1987).

9.2.5 There is no guarantee that the copper alloy 'brooch' (SF1) found near the skeleton was associated with it. The form of the artefact looks diagnostic, it not being entirely dissimilar to an artefact found at an Anglian cemetery at Londesborough (Swanton 1964). Nevertheless, even if the object can be dated, its uncertain association with the skeleton would not be

satisfactory grounds to date the burial. This ultimately may have to be resolved by more precise scientific technique of radiocarbon dating.

9.2.6 The dating of the burial is additionally important in the light of the existing, albeit tentative, evidence for Anglian occupation found during excavations behind the Old Fleece at 2-10 Westgate (Whyman 1989).

9.3 The Medieval Period: The Castle Ditch (Figs 10 and 11; Pl.II)

9.3.1 A minimum of five sub-phases of activity can be inferred from the ditch section:

Sub-phase 1

This is represented by the primary cut of the ditch into the limestone bedrock. The eastern side of the ditch was partially hewn out in a stepped fashion, probably due to the structure of the bedrock and the ditch appears to have had a broad flat bottom, possibly approaching 4m in width. A symmetry of profile for the initial cut has been assumed although a rock cut profile was not recorded on the western side at lower levels. This could have been due to the shelving away of the limestone from north to south, as revealed by the depths of the limestone in trenches T12 and T14 and in the watching brief for the new surface water drain (7.5.1). In fact, the further one follows the ditch circuit, as it veers to the north-east into the flood plain, the less likely it is that the outer side of the ditch actually existed to the same degree as it was recorded further south (T13). Equally, the possibility of an earlier smaller ditch, subsequently removed by the rock-cut ditch, should also be considered. How far this ditch extended southwards beneath the present town is not known, although it can be traced as far as Westgate where its position is manifested by slumped courses in the garden wall of 30-30a Westgate.

Sub-phase 2

The use of the rock cut ditch is represented by the primary deposits of dark grey clay (1340 and 1341) on the flat bottom of the ditch and the bluish clay (1339).

Sub-phase 3

Although not recorded in the primary records (1339 was considered as a possible clay lining) it appears that the early ditch deposits were subsequently truncated by the re-cutting of the ditch to a wide V-shaped profile, apparently within the dimensions of the primary cut. It seems likely that it was this regular cut that was recorded during the Stage 3 recording.

Sub-phase 4

The use of recut ditch is seemingly represented by the grey-brown clays forming the primary fills (1344, 1338, 1337) and perhaps the pinkish clays on the ditch side (1335, 1336, 1338, 1343). One of the criteria for differentiating these fills from the later deliberate infilling (below) is the quantities of stone in the fills; the above fills having only small quantities of small sized limestone inclusions.

Sub-phase 5

The final discernible phase of activity seems to be the gradual and deliberate in filling of the ditch as it fell into disuse. While the initial fills involved (1333, 1334, 1342 and their equivalents in the western side of the ditch) do seem to vary slightly in their nature, they are generally characterised by higher concentrations of limestone inclusions, very often in the form of large to medium sized rubble. The upper fills are less stony and more various in their nature and would appear typical of habitual large scale dumping. Viewed in section longitudinally, the tip lines of the later fills (e.g. 1312, 1313, 1322, 1323 etc.) do appear to have been deposited into the ditch from the south, probably in order to create a flat building platform on the Westgate frontage. The act of infilling must have been completed some time before the beginning of the 17th century as the ditch is not portrayed on the town maps of 1611 and 1613 (Sussex Record Office). The lack of obvious late medieval material might even suggest that the castle ditch could have been infilled by the beginning of the 16th century.

10. Conclusion

10.1 The investigations seem to demonstrate that this site was on the periphery of more intensive activity in both the Roman and medieval periods.

10.2 Roman activity seems to have been focussed to the south-east, in the vicinity of the castle and church, though the possibility of a Roman building on Westgate-Station Road might indicate some westward ribbon development along the line of the Roman road.

10.3 The possible late Roman ditch(es) on the western side of the site might signify the westward extent of the Roman enclave at this time. Moreover, the apparent ditch orientation does not preclude the possibility that it did not influence the line of what are believed to be later town earthworks, formerly parallel to St Joseph Street; though this is perhaps a rather extravagant extrapolation of the evidence at this stage.

10.4 The likelihood of the human burial being accurately dated by 'associated' artefacts is remote. Ultimately, if the date of this inhumation is important, it would have to be achieved through the destructive analytical process of radiocarbon dating. The burial could represent further evidence for continuity from the Roman to medieval Tadcaster, which might be viewed as a high research priority given the lack of tangible evidence for Saxon occupation recovered to date, not withstanding the possible Saxon pottery from 1901.

10.5 Evidence of medieval activity on the site is essentially confined to the castle ditch. This would appear to have seen two major phases of use: the original rock-cut ditch and a later re-cut. The primary phase might correspond with the purported stone phases of the castle. Certainly the excessive size and nature of the first ditch would be consistent with stone quarrying for this purpose - whilst at the same time enhancing the defensive perimeter.

10.6 There is some scope for further study of the evidence recovered from the investigations on this site, especially with the benefit of further analysis of the pottery assemblages. Nevertheless, the results from this site on their own will only ever provide a narrow perspective. Ideally, the archaeological observations and finds should be analysed together with the results from other recent work in Tadcaster to provide an up dated review of the nature of the town's archaeological potential, a model for its layout and development through the ages and suggested research priorities for the future.

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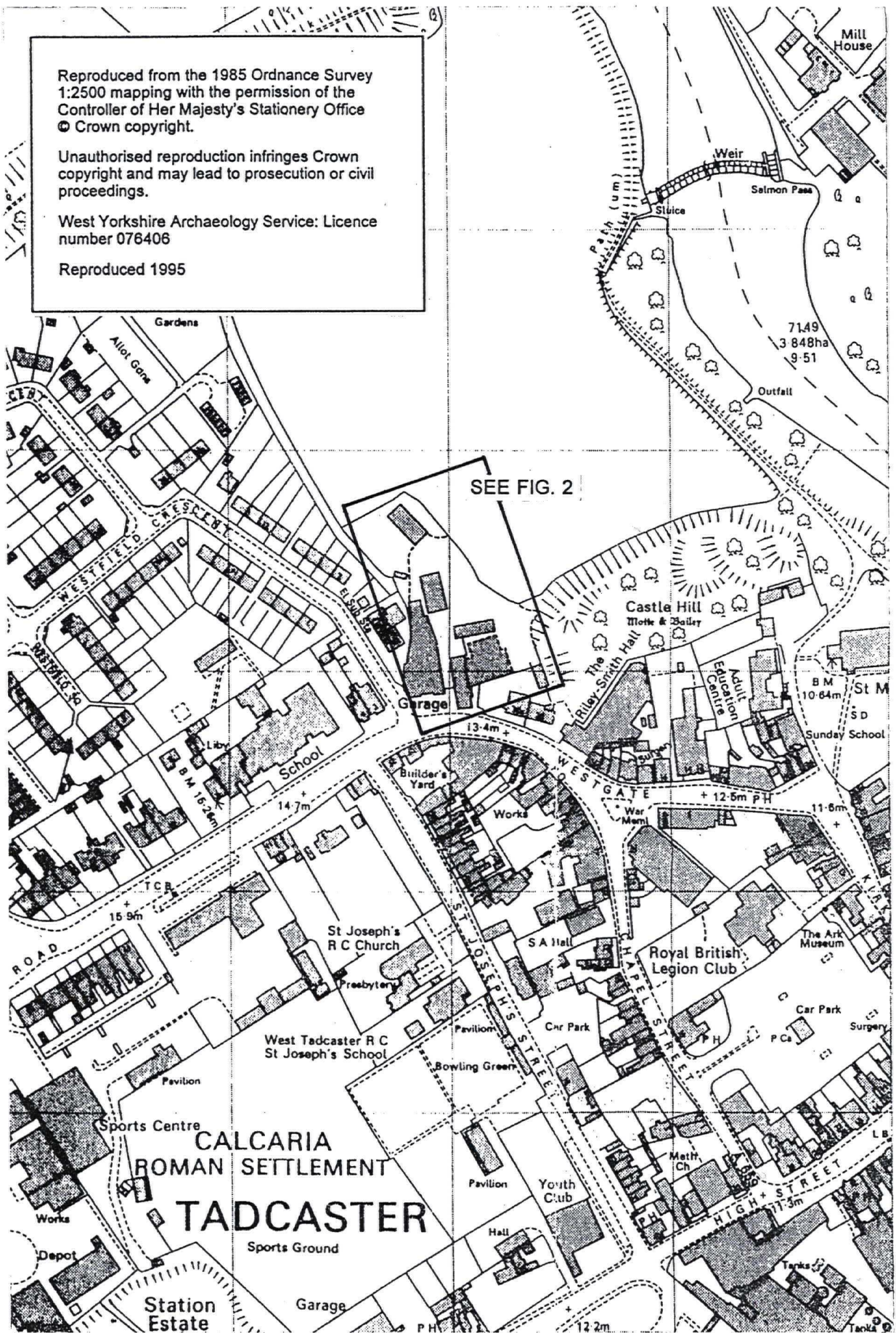


Fig. 1: Location plan

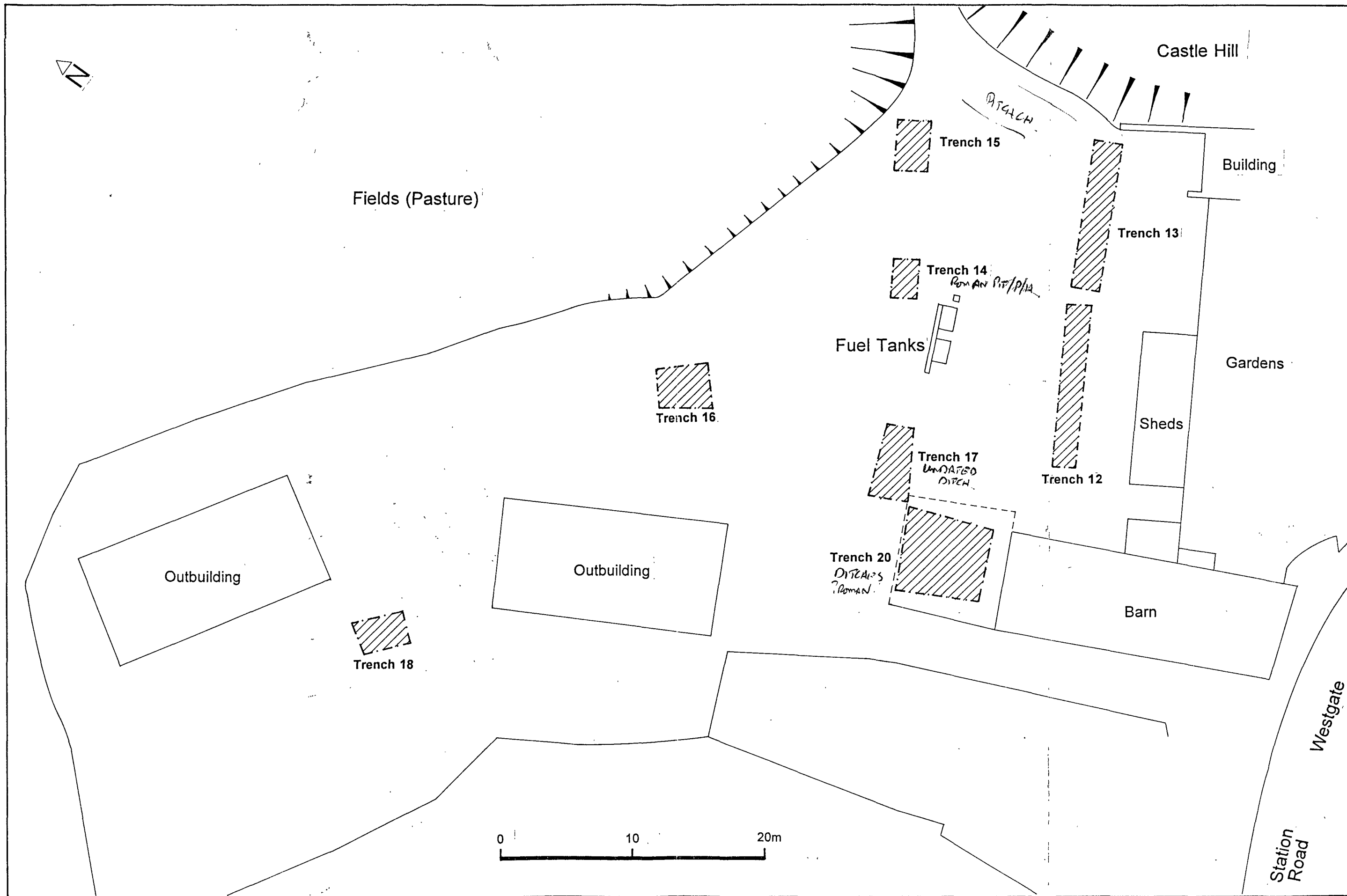


Fig. 2: Site prior to works commencing showing locations of initial archaeological evaluation trenches (see Appendix C1)

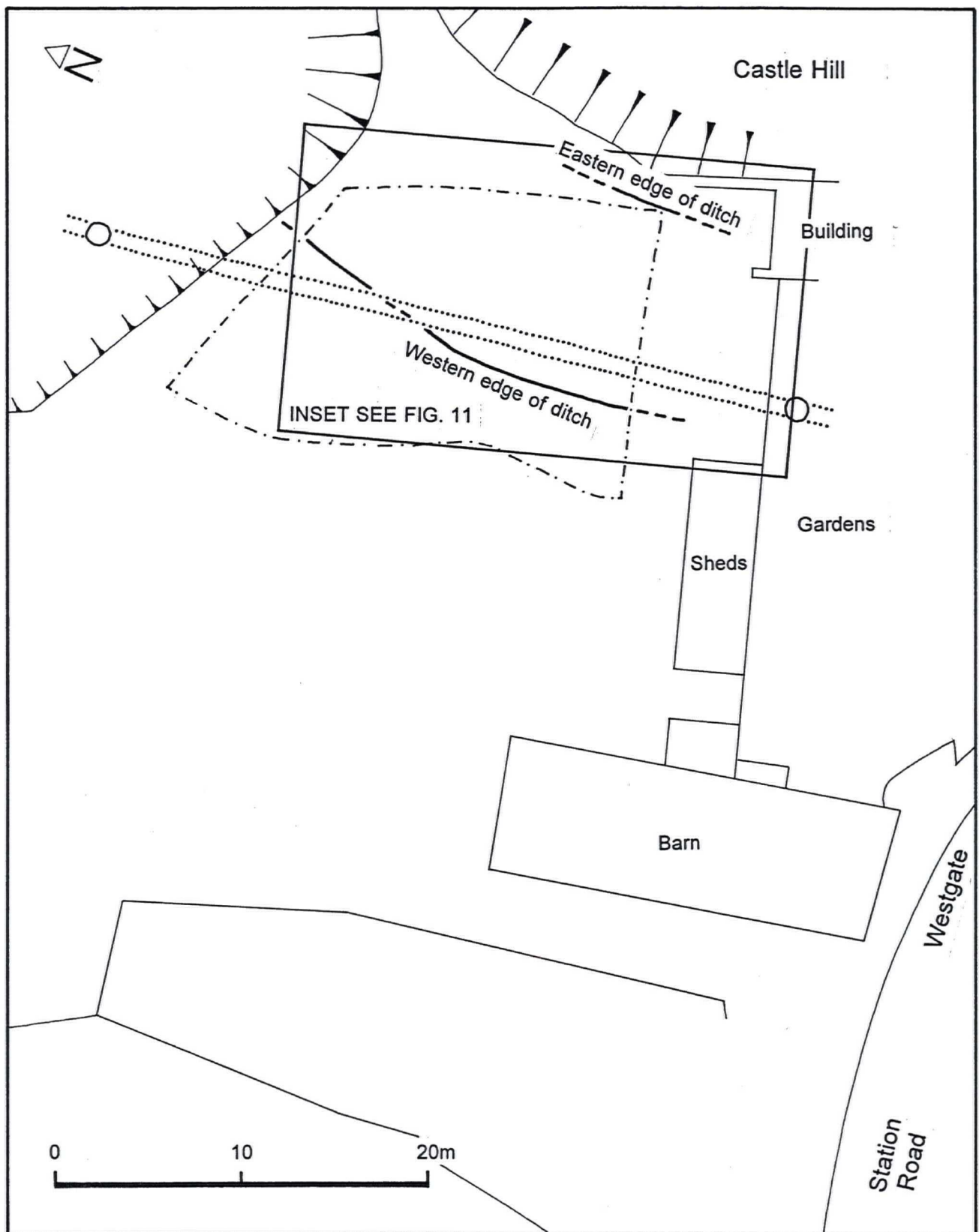


Fig. 3a: Area stripped and excavated in steps in order to establish the extent and depth of the castle ditch in Stage 2 (Appendix C.2)

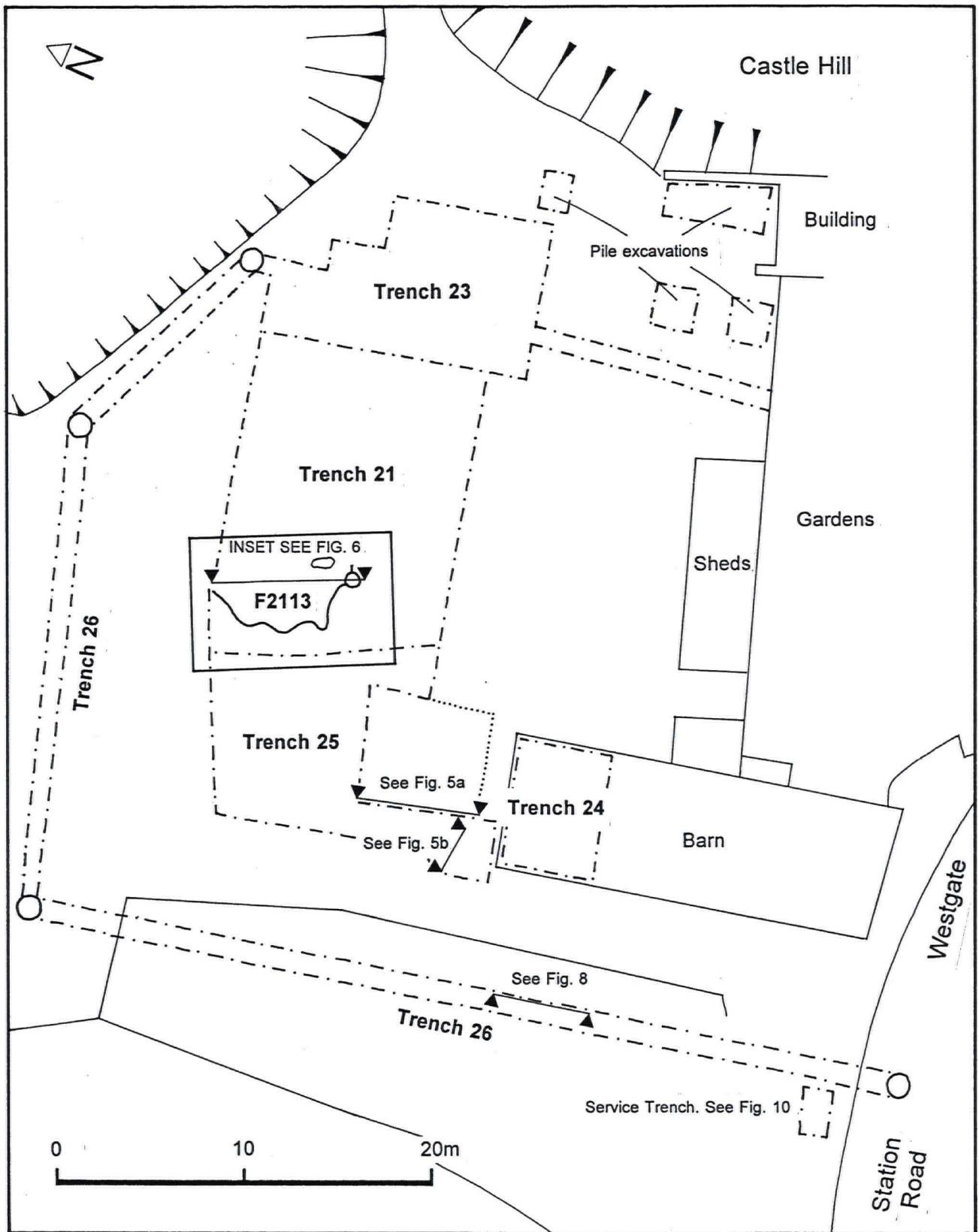


Fig. 3b: Areas investigated as Stage 3 of the archaeological works (Appendix C.3)

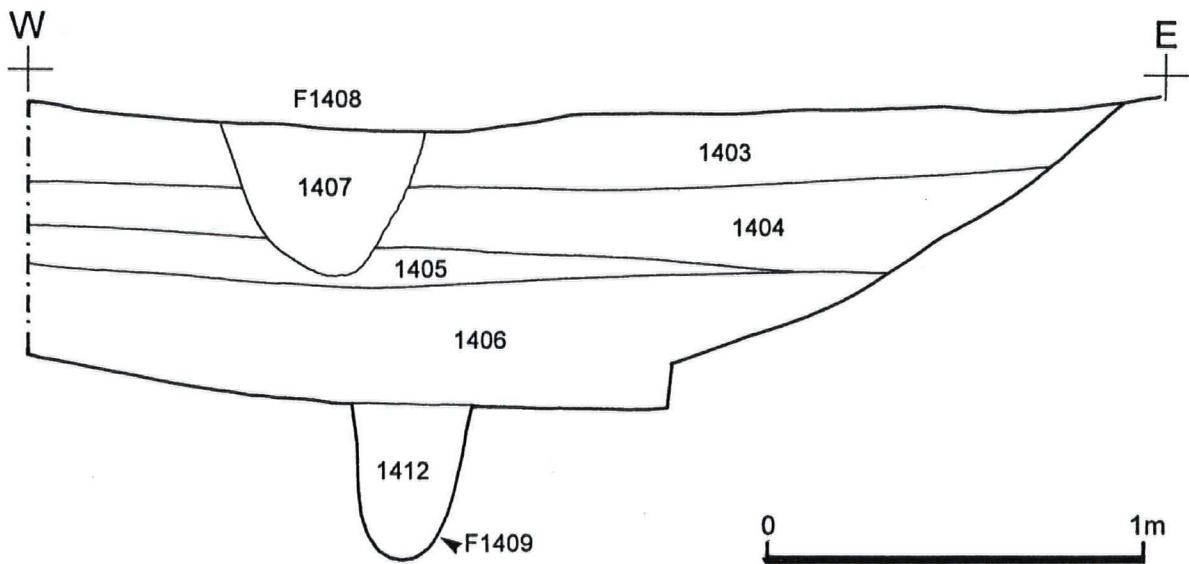
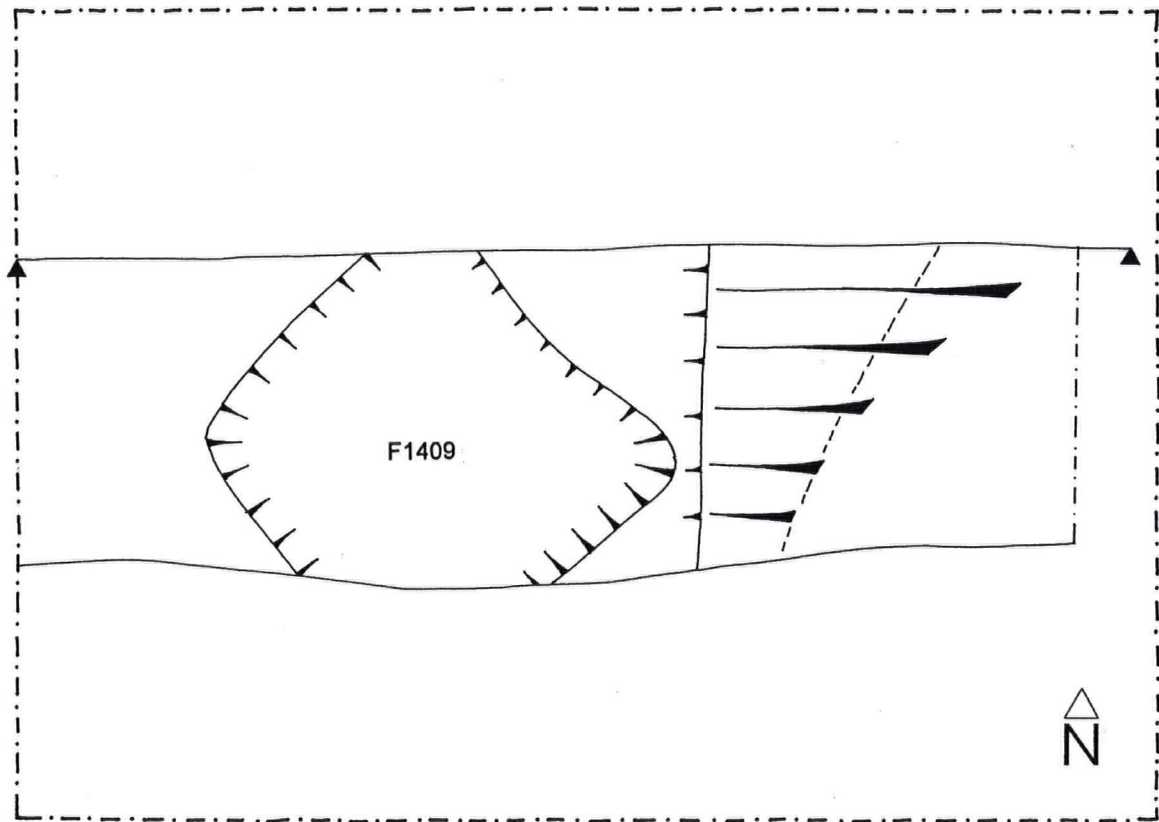


Fig. 4: Plan and section of Trench 14

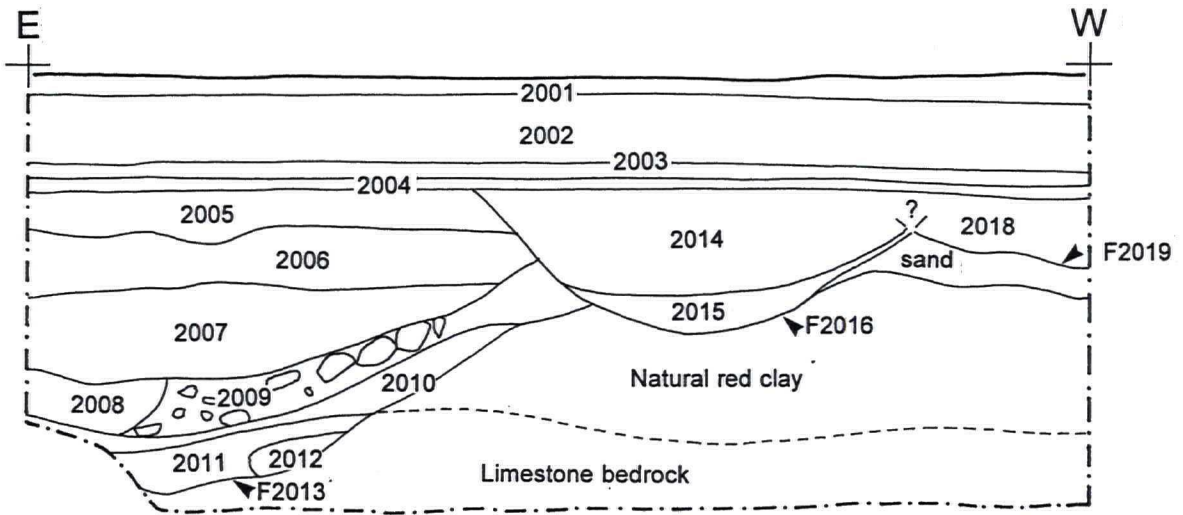


Fig. 5a: Section through features F2013, F2016 and F2019 in Trench 20

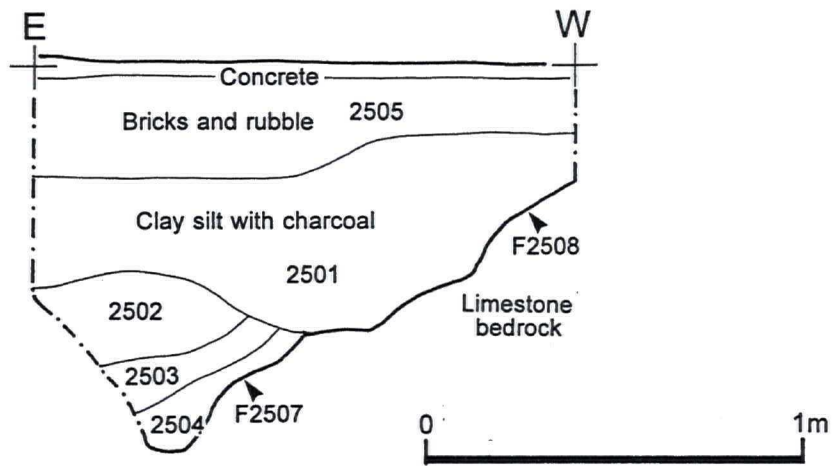


Fig. 5b: Section through features F2507 and F2508 in Trench 25

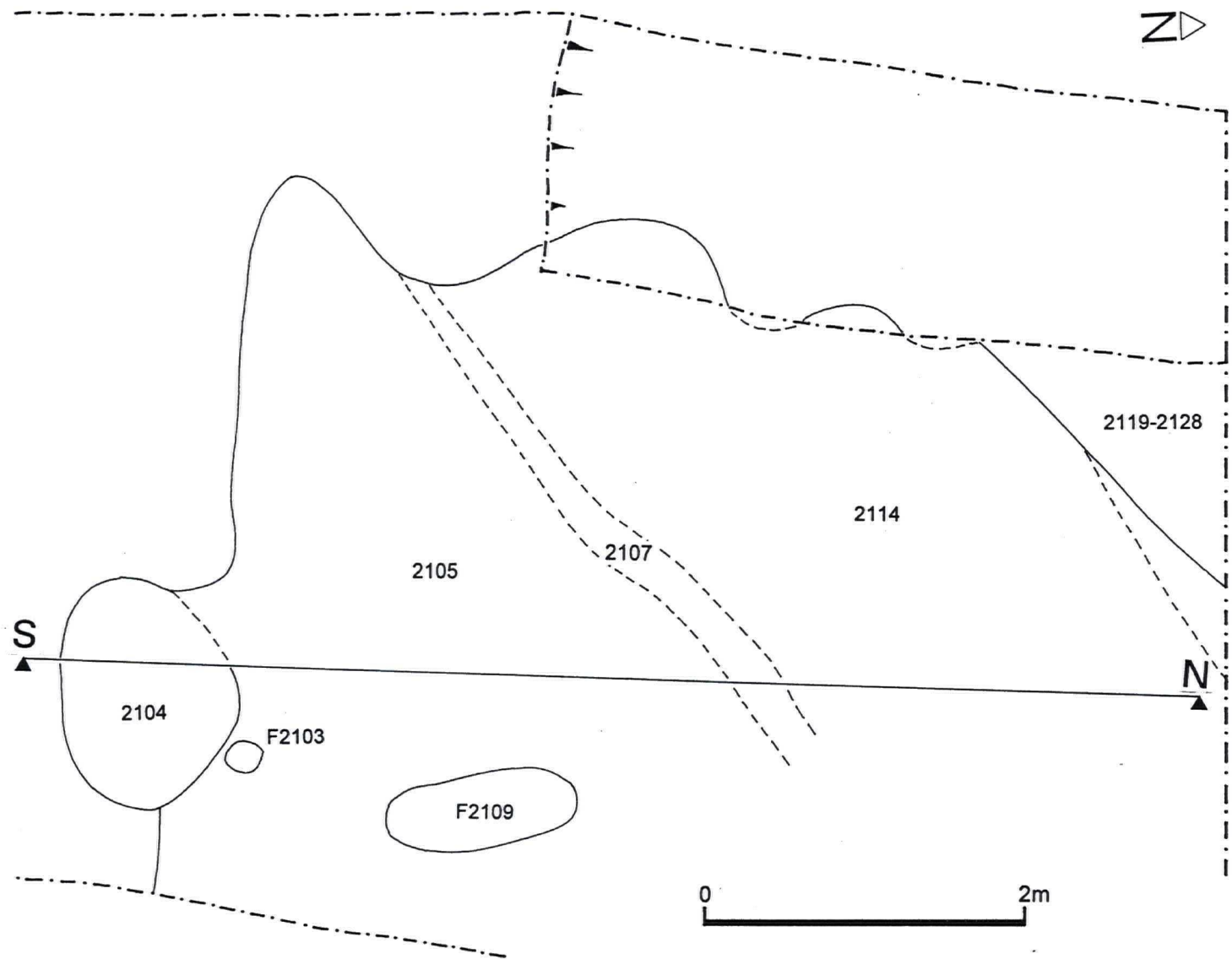


Fig. 6: Plan of feature F2113 in Trench 21

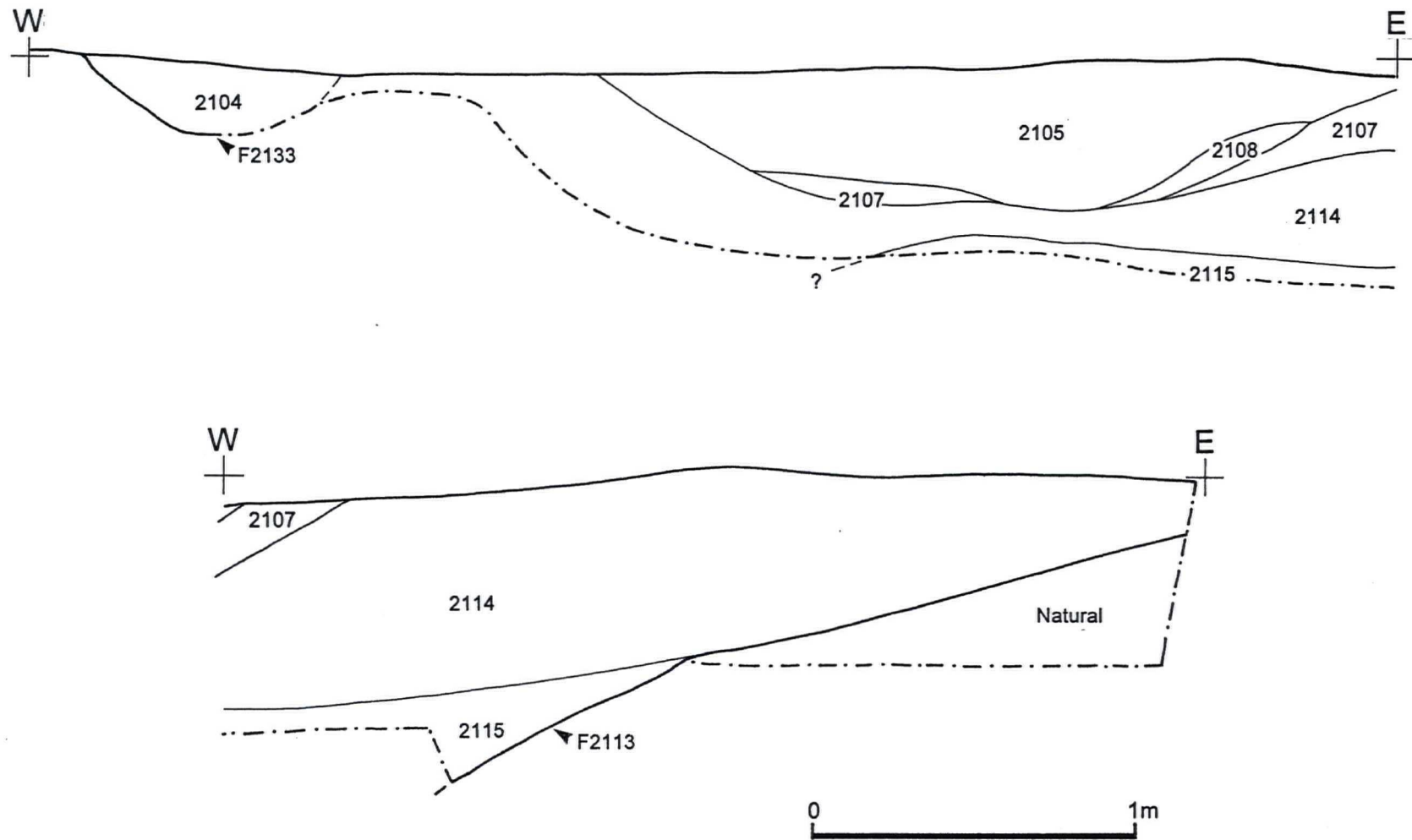


Fig. 7: Section through feature F2113

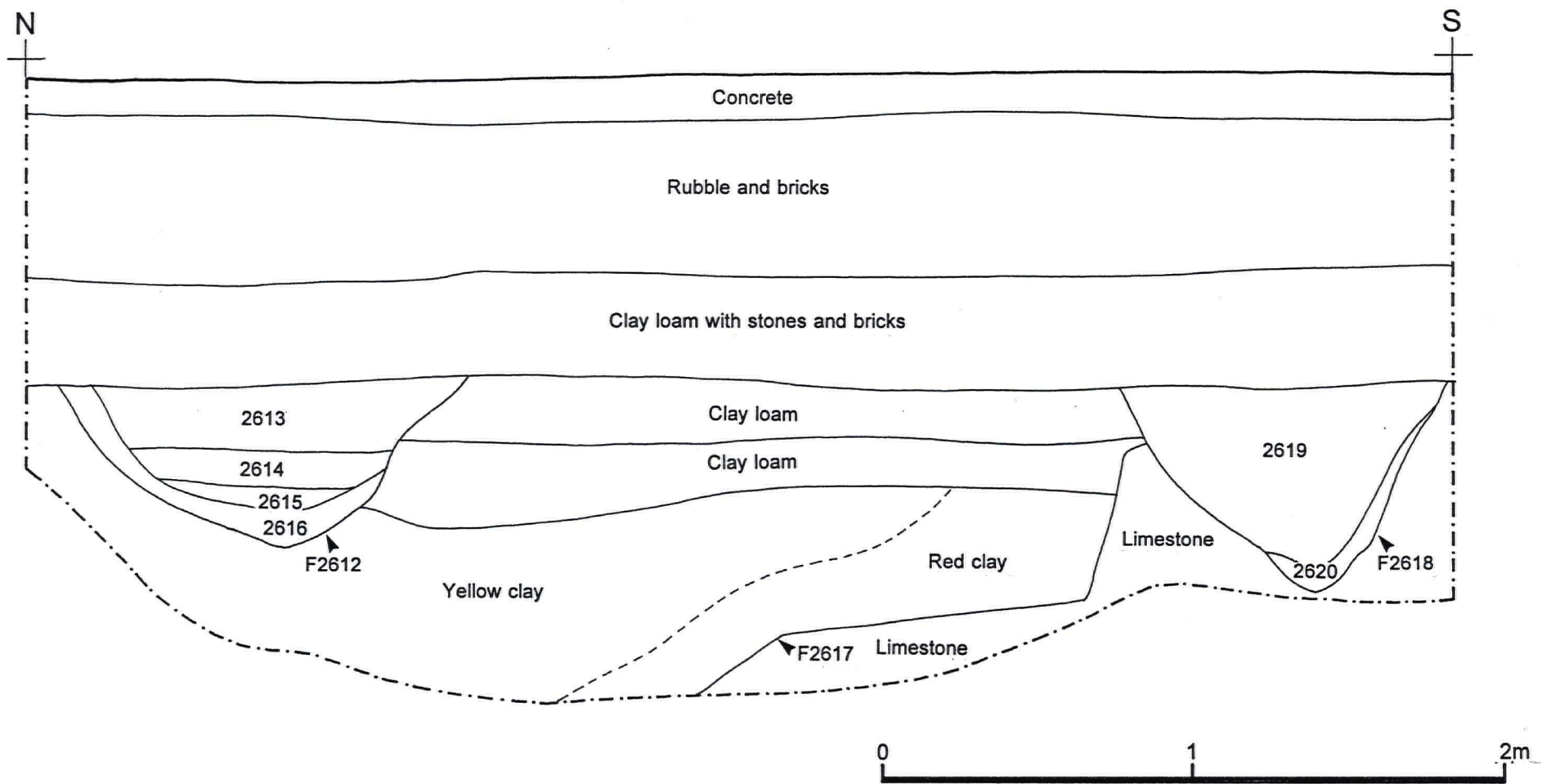


Fig. 8: Section through features F2612, F2617 and F2618 in Trench 26

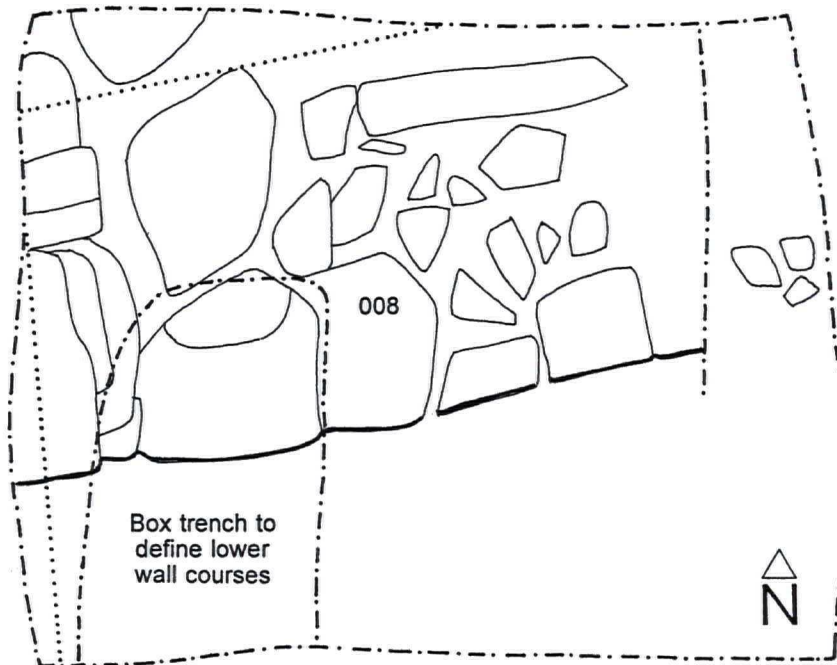
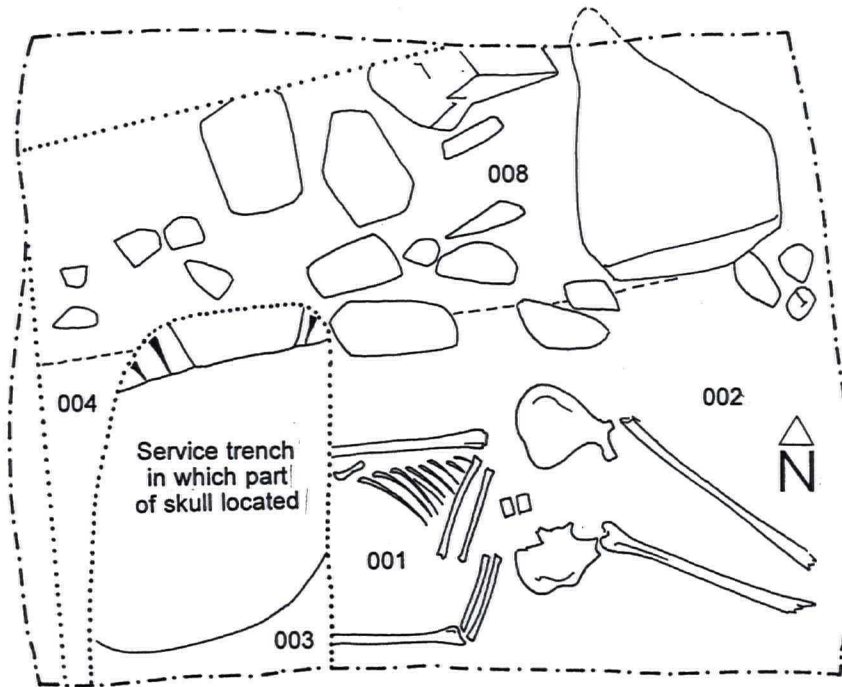


Fig. 9: Plan of the Station Road Trench showing the remains of the skeleton (above) and the possible Roman wall (below)

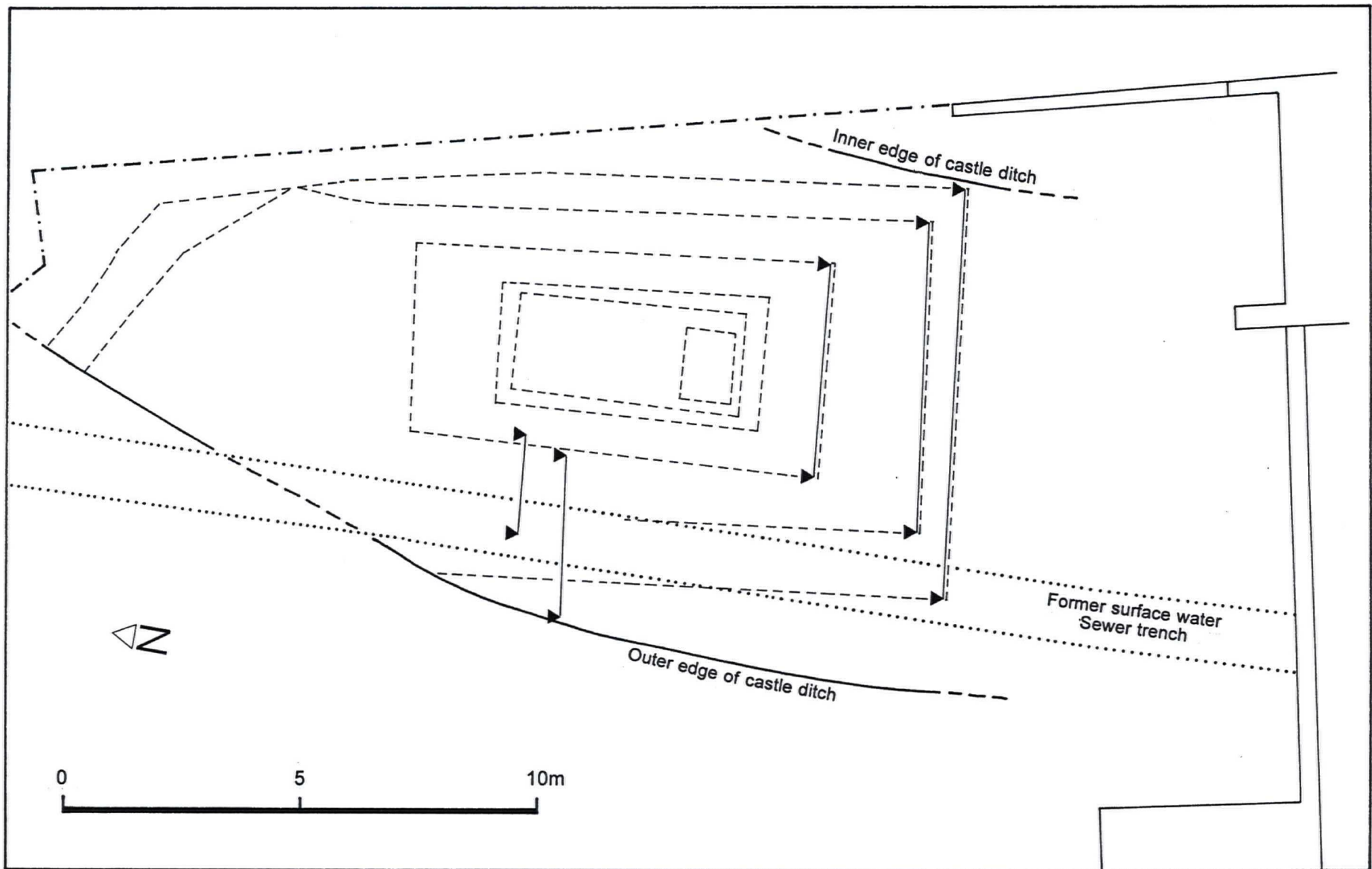


Fig. 10: Plan of castle ditch; dashed lines showing stepped excavation levels. Sections shown provided information for composite section (see Fig. 12)

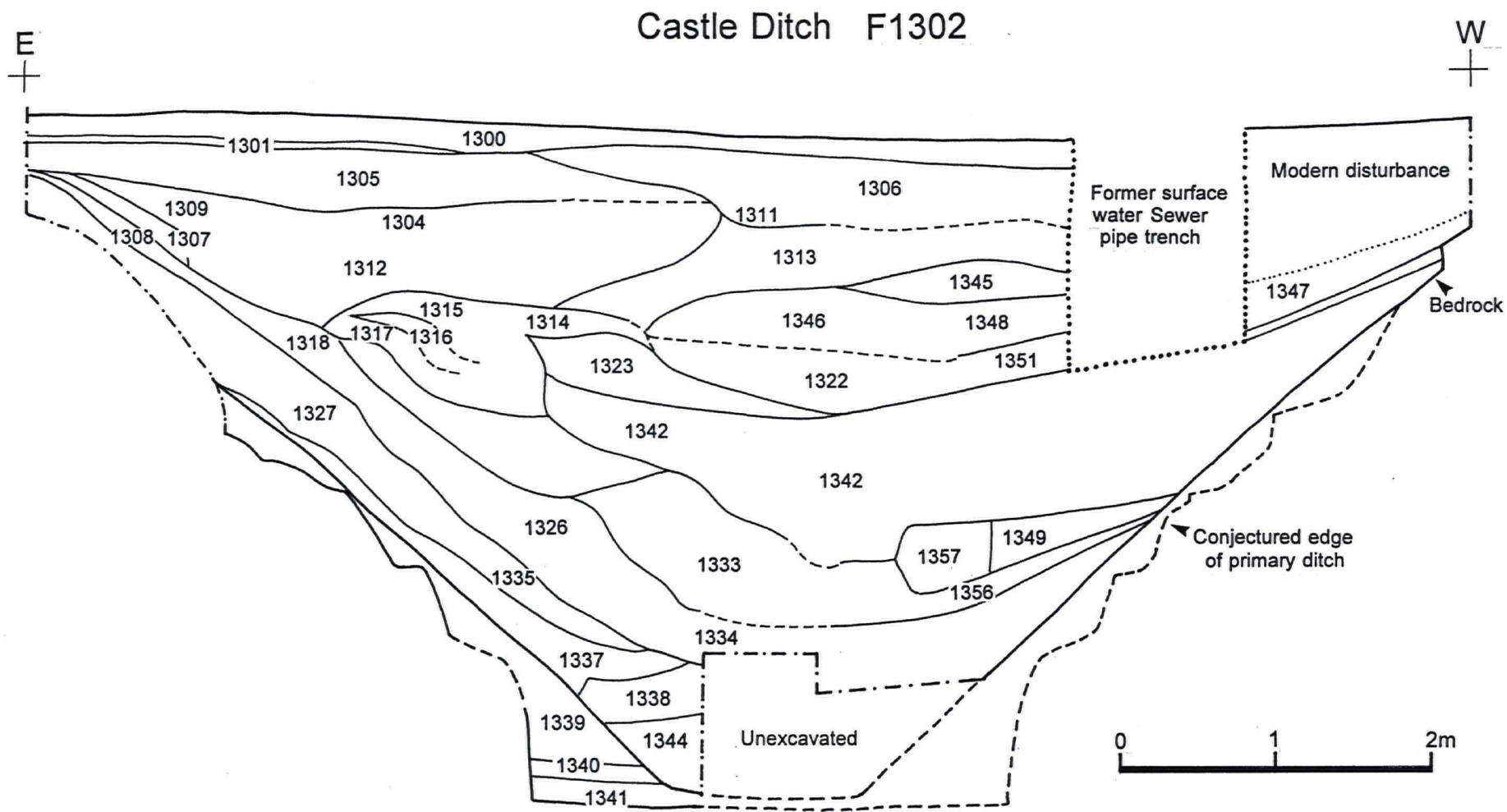


Fig. 11: Composite section through the castle ditch F1302 (some ditch fills have received two context numbers, due to them being recorded at two tiers of the stepped excavation)



Plate I : Section through ditches, F2013 and F2016 in Trench 20, looking west.



Plate II : Stepped section through the castle ditch, F1302, looking south.

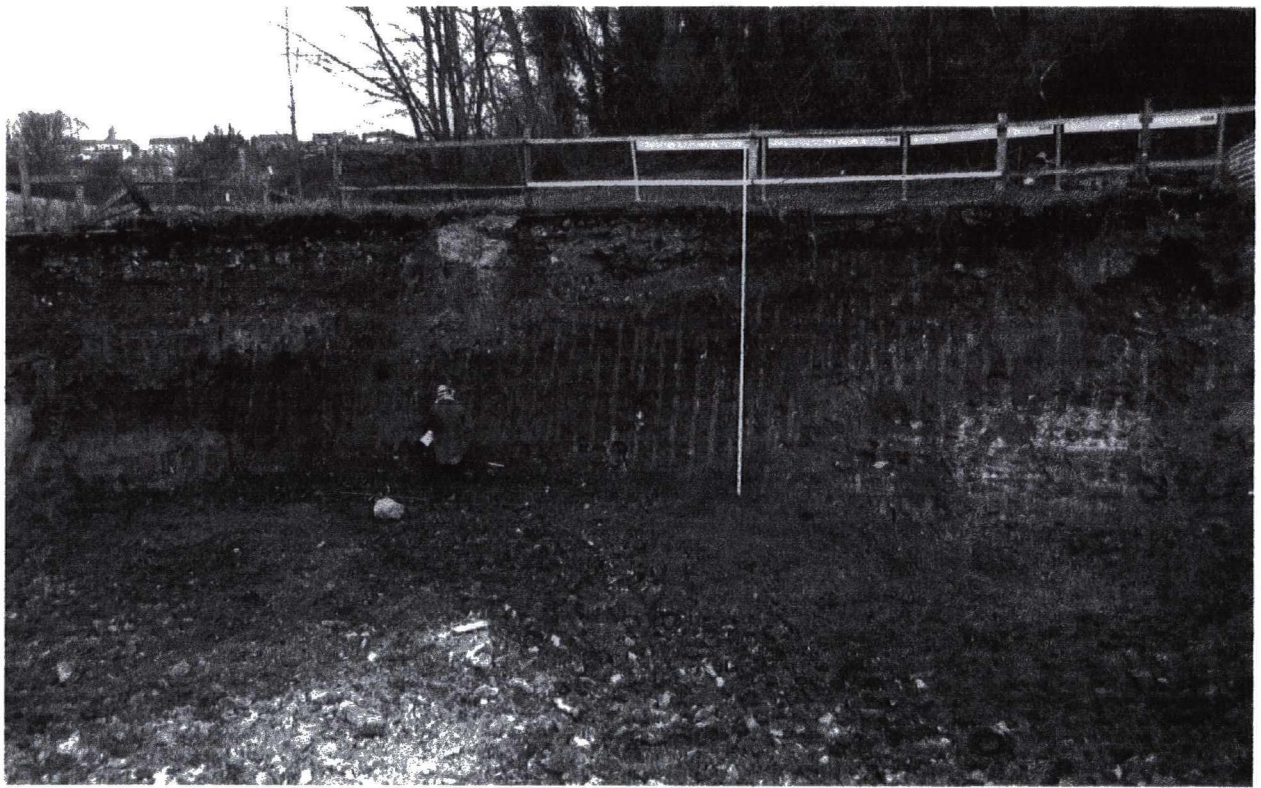


Plate III : Section through the castle ditch at the northern edge of the site in Trench 23.

Part 2:
Archaeological Investigations at
Tadcaster Swimming Pool
Finds Assessment Reports

Pottery Assessments

1. Roman Pottery from Trenches 13-19 by Dr P. Rush

The pottery assemblage contained a wide range of different wares and vessel types covering a date range from, probably, the 1st-4th centuries. More detailed examination of the samian sherds present will be necessary to confirm that the assemblage began in the later 1st century rather than the early 2nd century. The range of wares represented includes various oxidised, grey and calcite gritted fabrics in addition to those listed below. The list consists of the more precisely datable pieces and is arranged by context.

1312: Amphora sherd, probably from a south Spanish Dressel 20; late 1st to 2nd century.

U/S Trench 13: Base and side of a BB1 bowl with intersecting arc decoration; late 2nd century or later.

1404: BB1 dish base; post AD 120.

1406: Rim of a Nene Valley colour coated beaker; 3rd or 4th century.

1407: Base sherd from a Black Burnished Ware 1 (BB1) dish; post AD 120.

1610: Two amphora sherds in different fabrics but both probably southern Spanish and late 1st to 2nd century in date.

1611: Rim of Dales Ware jar; later 3rd to 4th century.

1701: Rim of a grey ware jar of probable 2nd century form.

1806: Dales Ware sherd; later 3rd to 4th century.

1901: A sherd of fine red colour coated ware, probably from the Oxford area potteries and probably 4th century.

Sherds from samian vessels of 1st or 2nd century date occurred in Trench 13 and contexts 1404, 1406, 1412 and 1901. In some of these contexts medieval pottery was also present.

2. Roman Pottery from Trenches 20-25 and Station Road by J. Evans

There are 44 Roman sherds from trenches 20-25 and 53 from the Station Road trench. Material from trenches 20-25 would all seem to be later Roman with a date range of 3rd to mid 4th century perhaps encompassing it all. The collection is too small to be certain but the lack of Huntcliffe type calcite gritted jar rims would seem to suggest a lack of 4th century activity, whilst the Crambeck ware and the S-bend calcite gritted jar rim attest to activity in the first half of the 4th century. There is no evidence of early material and nothing that need be second century.

The Station Road material offers a contrast however. Here there is no clearly 4th century material, although the Dales ware and Nene Valley beakers show activity in the later 3rd century. Second century material is clearly present and the rustic ware sherds may hint at Flavian-Trajanic activity.

Given the poor state of our knowledge of Roman Tadcaster, and the possibility these two collections suggest of being able to deduce something of the spatial patterning of Roman activity from residual material, it would potentially be of use to see these collections examined with other Roman material from the town.

A scanning of other assemblages in conjunction with these might also enable firmer deductions to be drawn about the nature of Roman occupation at Tadcaster. The present collection is too small to offer decisive evidence, but it is noticeable that Samian ware comprises 12% of the collection by sherd count, and the Nene Valley ware a further 9%. That fineware should account for so much of the assemblage certainly suggests an urban or military site, as does the presence of amphorae (Evans forthcoming). Some 20 rimsherds are represented in the collections, their functional breakdown being shown below:

Jars	30%
Wide mouthed jars	5%
Mortaria	5%
Beakers	5%
Bowls	35%
Dishes/bowls	5%
Amphorae	5%
Flagons	5%

The high proportion of dishes and bowls, 40%, relative to jars, 30%, is typical of urban and military sites and in strong contrast to the usual jar dominated picture on rural sites. Similarly the diversity of functions represented is high and beakers, flagons and amphorae are all present.

Trenches 20-25 Catalogue

Context	Description
2002	Three gritty whiteware medieval bodysherds.
2004	Very sandy carinated jar shoulder bodysherd.
2104	Wide-mouthed jar with a beaded undercut rim in a greyware. Fabric similar to South Yorkshire ware but no obvious parallels there.
2105	Medieval gritty whiteware bodysherd. Samian bodysherd, 18/31R or 31R, poss. E. Gaulish.

- 2106 Dales ware bodysherd, 3rd-mid 4th century.
- 2107 Grey jar base and a bodysherd from another vessel.
- 2108 Nene valley bodysherd, late Antonine or later.
- 2110 Calcite gritted ware bodysherd, 3rd-4th century.
CGS samian bodysherd, Hadrianic-Antonine.
- 2111 Lud Tb Rheinzabern bowl, late 2nd-early 3rd century (identified by B.R. Hartley).
A calcite gritted S-bend jar, early 4th century.
Grey bodysherd with a pale core, probably Crambeck, very late 3rd-4th century.
- 2128 Dressel 20 white-slipped amphora bodysherd.
Dales ware jar rim, 3rd-mid 4th century.
Nene Valley beaker(?) bodysherd.
- 2129 Gritty whiteware medieval cooking pot jar rim.
- 2311 Sandy greyware bodysherd.
- 2313 Joining Dr37 rim and ovolo decorated bodysherd with a circular rivet hole in rim (Rheinzabern?).
Two greyware bodysherds, little sand temper.
Gritty medieval bodysherd with pink interior and black exterior.
Two joining greyware bodysherds with a cordon on the shoulder.
- 2504 Two Dales ware bodysherds, 3rd-mid 4th century.
Crambeck? bowl base, burnt.
Crambeck flanged bowl, very late 3rd-4th century.
- U/S Trench 25 Gritty whiteware medieval jar base from castle moat fill.
- U/S Eight Dales ware bodysherds.
Dales ware jar rim, 3rd-mid 4th century.
Gritty medieval whiteware jar base.
Two Crambeck greyware bodysherds.
Crambeck greyware flanged bowl flange, very late 3rd-4th century.
Three sandy greyware bodysherds, possibly South Yorkshire ware.
Sandy greyware flanged bowl rim, possibly South Yorkshire ware, late 3rd-4th century.
Samian Curle 11 flange, probably 2nd century.
Samian dish or bowl rim.
Dressel 20 white slipped amphora rim.
An almost flanged, beaded sandy grey constricted-necked jar or flagon rim.

Station Road Catalogue

- 002 Samian bodysherd, ?CGS.
Samian rim fragment, possibly Dr45 and therefore late 2nd century or later.
White slipped oxidised flagon bodysherd, 1st-2nd century.
Three sherds from Dales ware jar rim and a Dales ware bodysherd, 3rd- mid 4th century.
An oxidised ?flanged bowl?, ?post-medieval.
Two oxidised bodysherds.
Grey gritty handmade bodysherd, cf Catterick fabric R7, perhaps 3rd century.
Two grey sandy bodysherds.
Grey BB copy jar rim, Hadrianic-Antonine.
Grey rustic ware bodysherd, late 1st-early 2nd century.
2 Nene Valley bodysherds, late Antonine or later.
Nene Valley beaker base.
2 Nene Valley indented beaker bodysherds with barbotine scale decoration, 3rd century.
Nene Valley funnel necked beaker rim, later 3rd century.
- 003 Samian Dr27 rim.
East Gaulish? dish/bowl base.
Nene Valley bodysherd.
Five white slipped oxidised flagon bodysherds, same fabric and possibly vessel as those in 002 and 006, 1st-2nd century.
Grey rustic ware bodysherd, later 1st-early 2nd century.
A sandy grey BB copy jar rim, Hadrianic-Antonine.
Eleven greyware bodysherds, probably early Roman.
Roughcast jar base with footring, second century.
Two joining sherds from a greyware jar base.
Greyware dish base.
Soft buff flange rim bowl? rimsherd, 1st or 2nd century. Grey bowl footring style base, probably 1st or 2nd century.
- 004 Samian base?. CSG. Hadrianic-Antonine.
- 006 Oxidised white slipped flagon bodysherd, the same fabric (and possibly vessel) as in 002.
- 007 A BB copy dish/bowl base, probably 2nd century.
- 009 Dalesware bodysherd, 3rd-mid 4th century.
Buff footring bowl base, probably from a Dr37 copy, 2nd century.

3. Medieval Pottery by Dr C.G. Cumberpatch

The medieval pottery from the excavations on the Tadcaster Swimming Pool site was examined by the author on the 23rd May 1995. The pottery included a range of material typical of medieval sites in northern England (utilitarian gritty wares and finer green glazed table wares) together with a smaller quantity of post-medieval pottery. The date range spanned the earlier 12th to 17th centuries.

The material is described on a trench-by-trench basis. The fabric types have been fully described in a number of recent reports, including Kirkstall Abbey (Moorhouse and Slowikowski 1987) and Pontefract (Slowikowski, unpublished; Cumberpatch unpublished). The emphasis in this section of the report is on the medieval pottery. Roman material has been noted and briefly described in order to demonstrate the nature and extent of residuality and disturbance.

Trench 13

The assemblage from Trench 13 consists of 26 sherds of pottery, 23 from unstratified contexts and 15 fragments of tile. Of the unstratified pottery 14 sherds are Roman, as is a sherd of amphora from context 1312. The medieval material can be assigned to a date range within the 13th and 14th centuries.

Trench 14

The assemblage from Trench 14 is dominated by Roman material. Only two sherds, from 1404 and 1412, might be medieval and given the context and their unfamiliar character these too may well be Roman in date.

Trench 15

The four unstratified sherds from Trench 15 are all of post-medieval date, probably no earlier than the 18th century.

Trench 16

The assemblage from Trench 16 consists of 67 sherds of Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery. The range of material is broadly similar to that from the trenches described above, although with the important addition of a number of sherds of Shell Tempered ware (contexts 1611 and 1612) which may be somewhat earlier.

Context 1610 includes medieval Gritty wares (13th to 15th century) together with late medieval sandy wares, post-medieval Brown Glazed Coarsewares and two sherds of Roman amphora, suggesting some degree of mixing of deposits.

The latest sherd from context 1611 is a body sherd from a Cistercian ware cup (probably dating to the first half of the 16th century). Medieval material is commoner, with fifteen sherds of Pimply type ware spanning the late 12th to 14th centuries. The various sherds of sandy wares may be placed within the same date range. A single small rim sherd in a shell tempered fabric appears to be the earliest medieval sherd from the context and resembles a type from Pontefract Castle dated to between the early and mid 11th century. The abraded nature of the sherd suggests that it may be residual, but its presence still implies the existence of earlier deposits in the vicinity. See also Note 1.

Context 1612 consists of 20 sherds, predominantly of Pimply and Gritty wares, including two sherds of Splash Glazed ware which probably pre-date the last quarter of the 12th century. A small body sherd of Shell Tempered ware, similar to that from 1611 may derived from a similar original deposit. A small Roman greyware sherd demonstrates the existence of residual material. The context also contains a sherd of ambiguous character, as described in Note 1.

The pottery from context 1613 consists of a single ambiguous sandy sherd, of the type described in Note 1.

Trench 17

The assemblage Trench 17 consists of eight sherds, seven of which are unstratified. These include the normal range of Gritty wares and a single sherd of sandy ware, dating to between the late 12th and 14th centuries. A single sherd of Roman greyware was the only stratified find, from context 1701.

Trench 18

Only one sherd was found in Trench 18 (context 1806). The vessel is hand made and the fabric contains a mixture of shell and fine quartz grit in a medium hard, reduced matrix. No precise parallels can be found for this sherd.

Trench 19

The assemblage from Trench 19 consists of nine sherds from context 1901. Four of these are clearly Roman and the remaining five cannot be positively identified, but may be a variant of the York ware defined by Brooks (1987) and Mainman (1990). A full description of the sherds is provided in the catalogue.

Trench 20

The assemblage from Trench 20 consists of nine sherds from two contexts. The sherds from context 2007 are of the same type and may be from the same vessel. The fabric is an unusual one, reduced and containing abundant angular and sub-angular fragments of quartzite, some of which are very large (up to 5mm along the long axis) in comparison to the thickness of the wall of the vessel (4-6mm). No precise parallel for this fabric is known. The possibility that it is Romano-British should be investigated.

The medieval sherds from context 2015 are of the normal 13th - 15th century variety, including Gritty wares and a sherd in an anonymous sandy textured fabric.

Summary

The examination of the pottery from trenches 13 to 20 indicates the existence of well preserved medieval deposits below the modern town. Trenches 13, 16, 17, 20 and probably 18 and 19 all appear to have cut deposits worthy of further investigation from the point of understanding the nature, extent and origin of medieval settlement in the town. Trenches 13, 14 and 19 produced significant groups of Roman pottery. Trench 15 does not appear to have cut medieval deposits.

The examination of the material from Tadcaster has raised a number of questions regarding the earlier medieval material, and it is of particular importance that excavations should take place in towns such as Tadcaster to provide a broader context within which to view the pottery recovered from nearby medieval towns such as York.

If tackled as a single group a full report would require about eight hours work, although if this was to be included as part of a larger project economies of scale would reduce this to about 6 hours. The cost at the time of writing would therefore range between £69 and £92 plus expenses.

Note 1

Three reduced sandy textured sherd from contexts 1611, 1612 and 1613 require further examination. They are most probably local Roman coarseware types, but should be examined by a Roman pottery specialist before this is stated as definite. It is possible that they are early medieval sandy wares of some type. The sherds have been bagged separately or together with the shell tempered ware sherds.

Medieval Pottery Catalogue from Tadcaster Swimming Pool

Trenches 12 - 20

Trench 13

Unstratified Roman Pottery

Four small flakes of Samian ware with deep striations on surviving surfaces.

One sherd of Roman greyware

Five sherds of Roman/Romano-British pottery, two joining and probably all from the same vessel, in a local fabric imitating Black Burnished ware. Abundant fine white inclusions, burnished linear decoration externally.

One sherd of Amphora

One sherd of Roman Greyware

One rim, one body sherd of local Roman greyware

One sherd in a fine textured, oxidised fabric with a pimply finish

Unstratified Medieval Pottery

Four sherds, joining, rim, neck and handle stump of a medieval pitcher, splash glazed. Handle is joined to the neck with a protruding stump, pushed through the wall of the vessel and smoothed off internally. The fabric, oxidised internally and externally with a grey core, contains moderate to abundant fine quartz grit.

One body sherd in a white fabric with abundant quartz grit and relatively sparse non-crystalline inclusions, resembles White Hillam ware.

One unidentified medieval sherd in a hard, dense, grey fabric.

Two sherds of fine medieval sandy ware, one with green-yellow glaze, one heavily abraded and flaked externally.

One unidentified fine gritty ware, oxidised, unglazed

Eight fragments of tile.

Context 1312

Large body sherd of Roman amphora, white slipped externally.

One base sherd of Coarse Red Gritty ware, oxidised with abundant angular quartz and sparse angular non-ferrous inclusions.

Seven fragments of tile.

Context 1341

Two body sherds, joining, in a (local) medieval sandy ware. Unglazed.

Trench 14

Context 1403

One body sherd, heavily abraded, in a sandy fabric showing some similarity to Humberware, but probably only of that general tradition. Green glazed internally and externally.

Context 1404

Five sherds of Roman pottery;

1) Ring foot base, Samian ware

2-4) Grey ware, flat base, two sherds joining, one body sherd in a different greyware fabric.

One body sherd in an unusual coarse quartz tempered gritty fabric, cf. also 1412.

One fragment of burnt clay
Four fragments of brick

Context 1406

Eight sherds of Roman pottery;

- 1) One body sherd, Samian ware
- 2) One simple rounded rim, colour coated ware
- 3) Five sherds of grey ware, including one rim and one body sherd with burnished decoration
- 4) One sherd in a fine, red, oxidised fabric

Three fragments of burnt clay

Context 1407

One body sherd of burnished Roman pottery.

Context 1412

Roman Pottery;

- 1) Four sherds, joining to form a flat, footed base.
- 2) Body sherd, probably from (1) with short incised lines covering whole body.
- 3) Rim in a bright orange fabric, open bowl decorated with short linear incisions below a plain band defined by grooves.
- 4) One greyware body sherd, abraded.

One unidentified body sherd, heavily tempered with large angular quartz grains.

?Object of fired clay, ?nozzle, ?perforated object.

Trench 15

Unstratified

Four sherds of post-medieval pottery;

- 1) Jug handle, blue on white floral pattern.
- 2) Jug handle, dark blue on pale blue and white random patchy decoration.
- 3) Blackware type everted rim, thin walled vessel.
- 4) Brown Glazed Coarseware, but a relatively finely finished variety with smooth thick glaze internally and an even roughened surface externally.

Trench 16

Context 1610

One rim sherd of a Brown Glazed Coarseware pancheon with dark, hard, shiny glaze internally and on the top of the rim. Unglazed externally.

Four sherds of late medieval sandy ware, two joining. All sherds are in a fine sandy fabric with abundant fine quartz and some sparse reddish inclusions.

One body sherd of fine gritty ware, oxidised fabric with abundant, poorly sorted, angular quartz grit.

Three anonymous fine oxidised sandy sherds, unglazed of general medieval type.

One sherd, everted rim, in a hard, dense, grey fabric with abundant fine quartz grit.

One body sherd in a buff fabric with abundant quartz grit, brownish slip internally and externally with possible fine mica on the surface.

Two sherds of Roman amphora

Twelve fragments of brick.

Context 1611

One Cistercian ware body sherd, probably from a cup or beaker, but the form is unidentifiable.

Fifteen sherds of Pimply type ware, twelve body sherds, two flat bases and one sharply everted rim. All show the normal range of variation in colour, density of inclusions etc.

Shell Tempered ware, rim of an open vessel, in the same fabric as the body sherd from 1612.

One body sherd of probable local Roman coarseware (verify with Roman specialist)

One heavily abraded fragment of base with a pinched foot. Oxidised sandy fabric of unidentified medieval type.

Eight sherds of various medieval wares;

- 1) One body sherd, green glazed in a gritty textured fabric with an impressed groove.
- 2) Sandy ware, glazed internally.
- 3) Coarse oxidised sandy ware, reduced internally, Humberware tradition.
- 4) Small rounded grey rim sherd ?Roman.
- 5) One greyware body sherd ?Roman.
- 6) Three unidentified sherds of medieval type, one fine gritty, two heavily flaked in a sandy textured fabric.

Three fragments of tile
Three lumps of fired clay
Three lumps of brick

Roman pottery;

- 1) Chip of samian ware
- 2) Three greyware body sherds
- 3) Double lobed handle in a red oxidised fabric with white slip, ?Roman

Context 1612

Thirteen sherds (twelve body sherds and one flat base) of Pimply ware type, showing the normal range of variation within the type.

One Shell Tempered ware body sherd. A hard fabric with moderately abundant shell well embedded in the matrix. Some sparse quartz grits. Cf rim sherd from context 1611.

One body sherd in a hard, black surfaced, sandy fabric with abundant, fine, rounded quartz grit. Probably local Roman type - check with Roman specialist.

One Orange Gritty ware body sherd, a hard dense fabric with abundant angular quartz grit.

Two sherds of Splash Glazed Gritty ware, one flat base, one body sherd. Both in slightly different, rather anonymous gritty fabrics, distinguished by patchy splash glaze internally, probably accidental splashes.

One unidentified oxidised sandy body sherd
One small Roman greyware sherd
One fragment of burnt clay

Context 1613

One body sherd of probable Roman type, reduced fabric with abundant fine quartz grit, black surface internally and externally.

Trench 17

Unstratified

Four sherds of Pimply ware type, three body sherds and one square sectioned rim.

One flat base in a hard, reduced fabric with abundant quartz temper, Northern Gritty ware.

One Orange Gritty ware body sherd, heavily abraded and burnt externally.

One sandy textured body sherd with fine quartz inclusions, green glazed externally with thick black deposits internally and externally.

Context 1701

One sherd of Roman greyware, everted rim.

Trench 18

Context 1806

One Shell Tempered ware body sherd. The fabric is relatively sparsely tempered with shell and also contains rounded quartz grit in a hard fabric.

Trench 19

Context 1901

Roman pottery:

- 1) Three sherds of Samian ware
- 2) One grey ware rim sherd
- 3) Bowl rim
- 4) Rim in a local grey coarseware

Medieval pottery:

Five sherds (two joining) in a hard, coarse gritty ware containing abundant angular quartz grit in a reduced matrix. The internal surface is black, with traces of a burnt deposit while the exterior surface and margins are a dull reddish brown. Assuming that all the sherds are from the same vessel, this surface is even in colour. Although the fabric should be distinctive it is not easy to find parallels for these sherds. Although it contains abundant quartz temper the character and finish are considerably different from the late 11th and 12th century types such as Hillam, Pimply and Gritty wares as defined by Moorhouse and Slowikowski (1987) and Mainman (1990:485). The middle Saxon handmade wares described by Mainman (1990:397-400) encompass a range of variation which could include the Tadcaster material, although the general impression is of softer fabrics showing signs of lower temperature firings. Perhaps the closest comparison which can be made (without recourse to the York Archaeological Trust reference collection) is to York ware as defined by Brooks (1987:148) and Mainman (1990:406-411). This type appears in the Coppergate assemblage between 850 and 900 and dominated the ceramic market until around 930. The subsequent periods are confused by problems of residuality, but the type appears to have declined in importance during the later 10th and 11th centuries. The question of the link between this type and the later Gritty types (which includes the Pimply and Hillam wares common in West Yorkshire) remains obscure.

It is interesting to note that a sherd of York ware was found at Tadcaster during excavations carried out by the Trust (Mainman 1990:411). It is also worth noting Mainman's comment that the adoption of the term 'York-type ware' for pottery with hard gritty fabrics may be misleading (1990:411), and that the type may be part of a wider regional tradition. Clearly an important element in the understanding of the problems surrounding this and other types of pottery is the excavation of sites in medieval towns such as Tadcaster, and the recovery of stratified groups of pottery.

Trench 20

Context 2007

Four body sherds and one rim sherd (probably from the same vessel) in a very distinctive coarse, quartz tempered fabric. Type unidentified.

Context 2015

One flat base in a bright orange gritty fabric with abundant quartz and large non-crystalline inclusions. Gritty ware variant.

Two body sherds in a fine oxidised gritty ware with quartz grit.

One body sherd in an anonymous sandy fabric.

One body sherd, possible Roman greyware.

Small Finds Assessment

Metalwork

Five metal objects (two copper alloy and 3 iron) were recovered from the Station Road trench. All objects were subjected to x-ray analysis, from which the following descriptions are made.

Ctx	Sf	Description
002	1	Copper alloy 'brooch' or fastening, 25mm long. Bow shaped or bent in profile. Trapezoidal terminal pierced in two places; circular terminal pierced in centre.
002	2	Copper alloy wire or 'pin', 35mm long, c. 1mm diameter.
002	3	Unidentifiable iron object, 15mm by 5mm.
002	4	Socketed iron object, 60mm by 13mm.

Of the above objects only Sf 1 warrants further analysis. Parallels for this item have yet to be found and some small amount of research will be necessary. A simple illustration and photographic record will suffice. The artefact may warrant conservation if it is to be kept in perpetuity for display purposes.

Estimated cost of further work: £57.00 + VAT

Flint

Six flint flakes were recovered during the works. Only one of them displays any evidence of retouch, and even this is doubtful. No further work is proposed on these items.

Glass

One small fragment of thin vessel glass was recovered. Its size and lack of diagnostic features dictates that no further work will be necessary.

I. Roberts
July 1995

Analysis of Human Remains

1. Introduction

This report considers the human skeleton from the Station Road (SRT 94) site in Tadcaster. The skeleton is poorly preserved and has been damaged during excavation. This has meant that less than the full range of criteria could be applied when attempting to determine the age and sex of the individual. The sex of the skeleton was assessed by examining cranial and pelvic morphology. Identification of sex is influenced by age, race and the completeness of the skeleton, although typically the most accurate results are obtained from the pelvis. The technique used to age the skeleton was based upon epiphyseal fusion data, itself based on modern population which may be less accurate when applied to archaeological material.

2. The Skeleton

The preservation of the remains is generally poor with the outer cortical surfaces being eroded. The skeleton is incomplete and very fragmentary, the legs have been truncated by a modern pipe trench. A full list of the bones recovered is provided in the catalogue.

2.1 Skull

The skull was represented by the superior portion of the neurocranium. This consisted of a frontal bone with the forehead area missing although it was sufficiently preserved to show a slight frontal boss on the right side. Both parietal bones were present and the superior part of the occipital bone was also present. The external surfaces of these bones are eroded and this exposes the diploic structure in the right parietal and occipital areas. The overall form of the skull is small and rounded, and this, combined with the frontal boss, may suggest that the skull is from a female individual. The sagittal, coronal and lambdoid sutures are all open with no evidence of synostosis; an age estimate could not be obtained using this method. A small fragment of the mandible is also present, this consists of the anterior inferior portion of the body (submandibular and digastric fossae). There are no maxillary or mandibular teeth present.

2.2 Vertebral Column and Thorax

A total of 18 vertebral fragments were recovered, mostly from lumbar vertebrae. Fragments of L1 and L3-5 were identified plus some fragments of lower thoracic neural arches. One lumbar fragment has an unusually concave inferior central facet and this may have been slightly wedge shaped although there is not enough of the vertebra to establish this with any certainty. The ribs were highly fragmentary, most having broken into several pieces and then into anterior and posterior segments of shaft. A total of 48 rib fragments were identified but none had costochondral surfaces or costo-vertebral joint surfaces.

2.3 Upper Limbs

The upper limbs were poorly preserved but most bones were intact. The scapulae were present, the right one consisted only of a fragment of the lateral border. The right clavicle is missing, the left one was intact but the bone surface was very eroded and the sternal and acromial articular surfaces are missing. Both humeri are present although the right one consists of the shaft only. The maximum length of the left humerus was 335mm which provided a (female) stature estimate of 1.71m (after Trotter 1970). Both ulnae were present although both proximal and distal articular surfaces were missing. The interosseous and pronator crests are well marked on the left ulna. The radii are present, and left radius is intact despite some mid-shaft surface erosion; the maximum length of the radius was 250mm which provided a (female) stature of 1.74m (after Trotter 1970). A small fragment of the right scaphoid is also present.

2.4 Lower Limbs

The os coxae were represented by a total of 11 fragments although there were no auricular surfaces or pubic symphyses for ageing purposes. The left os coxa has the ilium mostly intact with a wide greater sciatic notch. The posterior gluteal line is well marked. The posterior portion of the iliac crest epiphysis is not totally fused. Fusion of this epiphysis normally takes place between puberty and 25 years (McMinn and Hutchings 1988:290) although a more recent study suggests that fusion normally takes place between 20-22 years (Palastanga *et al*

1994:308). The right os coxa consists of a segment of poorly preserved ilium. The remora are present and are highly eroded. The left femur consists of the shaft, a small fragment of the lateral condyle, one of the intercondylar notch and a section of the femoral head. The right femur consists of the shaft only. Both femora had hypotrochanteric fossae; this is described as an epigenetic trait (Finnegan 1978) although it is quite likely to be an adaptive response by the gluteal muscle group.

2.5 Conclusions

SEX: ?female (cranial and pelvic morphology)

AGE: 20-25 years (epiphyseal fusion)

STATURE: 1.71-1.74m (Trotter 1970)

EPIGENETICS: bilateral hypotrochanteric fossae

PATHOLOGY: none evident

2.6 Extraneous Material

A fragment of sheep/goat skull was also recovered with the skeleton. This consisted of the right exoccipital, part of the basioccipital and supraoccipital. The fragment had been butchered (sagittally sectioned).

3. Catalogue

Head, Neck and Trunk

NEUROCRANIUM

Frontal bone

L/R parietal (S2 parietal arc: 129mm, S'2 parietal chord: 113.4mm)

Occipital

Mandibular fragment

VERTEBRAL COLUMN AND THORAX

18 vertebral fragments (*thoracic/lumbar*)

48 rib fragments

Upper Limbs

LEFT UPPER LIMB

Scapula (L. of glenoid cavity: 39.4mm, W. of glenoid cavity: 27.24mm)

Clavicle

Humerus

(HuL1: 335mm, max. mid-shaft D: 22.72mm, min. mid-shaft D: 16.57mm, vertical diameter of head: 43.80mm)

Radius

(RaL1: 250mm, distal breadth: 31.83mm)

Ulna

(Dorso-volar D: 12.42mm, trasverse diameter: 16.43mm)

RIGHT UPPER LIMB

Scapula

Humerus

Radius

Ulna

Metacarpals 2-5

Scaphoid

5 proximal phalanges (*not sided*)

4 intermediate phalages (*not sided*)

Lower Limbs

LEFT LOWER LIMB

Os coxa

Femur

RIGHT LOWER LIMB

Os Coxa

Femur

31 unidentified fragments

Measurements as defined by Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994) and Brotherwell (1981).

Brian Connell and Charlotte Roberts
Calvin Wells Laboratory
Department of Archaeological Sciences
University of Bradford
July 1995

Animal Bone Assessment

Introduction

A total of 452 animal bones were recovered from the Swimming Pool and Station Road sites. The majority of the bone (92%) derived from the work on the pool construction site, whilst the remainder was recovered during the excavation of human remains off Station Road.

Bone Recovery

A total of 398 bone fragments were recovered on site by handpicking, of which 268 were identified to species (Table 1). All major domestic species were represented: cattle, sheep/goat, pig, dog and horse. Trench 16 produced the largest amount of bone, numbering 256 fragments, although the majority of this material was derived from a partially excavated cow burial. Of the whole assemblage cattle was the predominate species (69%), sheep/goat represented 15%, pig 5.6% and horse 4.7%. Butchery was found on cattle bone (6.7%) and sheep/goat (0.8%), which indicates that the bone came from domestic food waste. Carnivore damage was noted on 3.9% of the bone suggesting that some of the bone waste formed surface accumulations prior to burial.

Laboratory wet sieving of soil samples through a 1mm mesh produced a further 54 bone fragments from trenches 14, 16 and 20. This material was mostly tiny unidentified fragments including some rodent and bird bones. No contexts contain major bone accumulations.

Phasing

Most of the animal bone came from 35 secure contexts. Spot dating based on pottery suggests that at least 81 fragments (18%) of bone could be Roman in date; whilst 279 fragments (62%), including the cow burial, were associated with both Roman and medieval pottery and are supposed to derive from medieval activity.

Assessment

The bones were examined closely to assess the potential of the assemblage for further analysis, taking into account the condition of the bone, the species and elements represented. Species identified included cattle, sheep/goat, pig, red deer and dog. The bone preservation was good and there was little evidence of bone erosion and the remains were light brown in colour. There are, however, many fresh breaks. There are an appreciable number of complete longbones, though very few jaws are present. The evidence of fusion and bone texture is indicative of a high number of young adult animals.

Potential for Analysis

From scanning the assemblage it is clear that the material is of interest. Apart from the cow skeleton the group is of particular interest because of the significant quantities of red deer and dog - unusual in such a small assemblage. Analysis of the bone would not in its self have statistical validity. However, it is potentially important in the context of other bone recovered from Tadcaster and analysis on this basis would produce a potentially useful archive that could be supplemented by future work in the town.

Animal Bone Archive

The breakdown of animal bone fragments by excavation area and by species is provided in Table 1. Contexts 0001-0004 derive from the excavations on Station Road.

Swimming Pool Site, Tadcaster

Trench	Context	n	Cattle	Sheep	Pig	Dog	Horse	Red deer	Bird	Identified	Unidentified
	00001	9		3						3	6
	00002	6	1	4						5	1
	00003	19		5	1				1	7	12
	00004	2	1	1						2	0
13	01312	1		1						1	0
13	01339	1	1							1	0
13	01341	7	3		1					4	3
14	01404	27	7	1	1	5		2		16	11
14	01406	3	1	2						3	0
14	01407	1								0	1
14	01412	4	1	1				1		3	1
16	01610	32	4	5	1	1	4			15	17
16	01611	20			1		1			2	18
16	01612	204	134	12	7	1	4	1		159	45
17	01701	1	1							1	0
19	01901	16	7		2					9	7
19	01909	2				1				1	1
20	02003	2								0	2
21	02105	6	5							5	1
21	02106	1	1							1	0
21	02107	2	2							2	0
21	02108	1	1							1	0
21	02110	1	1							1	0
21	02111	4	4							4	0
21	02128	2	1				1			2	0
21	02131	2					2			2	0
21	02134	4	2		1			1		4	0
23	02302	6	4	1			1			6	0
23	02303	2								0	2
23	02311	1	1							1	0
23	02313	4		2						2	2
24	02402	1		1						1	0
25	02504	4		1						1	3
14	f1412	5								0	5
16	f1612	9								0	9
20	f2015	40							3	3	37
TOTAL		452	183	40	15	8	13	5	4	268	184

Table 1. Total fragments by trench and context (f= flot sample)

Cost Break-down of Further Analysis

Identification and database input	£187.74
Analysis and report	£125.16
Tables and archive production	£62.58
Materials and associated costs	£37.55
Total (exclusive of VAT)	£413.03

J. Mulville and D. Berg
(Report updated and finalised August 1995)

Environmental Samples

Introduction

Thirty five contexts were sampled, none of which were waterlogged. The majority of these samples were from the fills of the principal features; the castle ditch (F1302) and the possible Roman ditches (F2013 and F2016). The largest sample of 23kg was taken from the primary fill of the original cut of F1302, though generally sample size ranged between 5kg and 1kg.

Sub-samples starting at about 0.5Kg, but never more than 50% of the original sample, were floated and wet sieved through 125-300 mesh sieves (63 mesh where necessary) in order to establish the presence of organic materials and macrofossil remains.

Small amounts of the flots and residues from the processed sub-samples were examined under X10 magnification. The contexts, their sample sizes and organics present are shown in Table 2.

Results

Very small amounts of organic material, including carbonised wood and cereal grains plus seeds, small fishbones and snails and other non-carbonised remains, was identified in about half of the contexts processed. It is considered that only the primary fills of the castle ditch (1337-8; 1340-1) and the Roman ditches (2015 and 2015), and possibly the pit fill (1412), will warrant limited further study.

It is considered that the remaining samples have limited potential in contributing to our understanding of the environment and life-style in Roman and medieval Tadcaster, not least because of the strong likelihood of contamination and residuality in many of the deposits sampled, particularly those from the upper levels of the castle ditch.

Further Analysis

The cost of further analysis of seven samples, to include examination for identification of charcoal; processing for the extraction of organic remains; preparation of a report and all related expenses, is estimated to be £340 + VAT.

WYAS October 1995

Table 2

Context	Description	Wt(Kg)	% proc	Organics present
1202	layer	10.0	10	
1312	ditch fill	3.5	35	charc., seeds
1325	ditch fill	5.0	50	charc., seeds
1328	ditch fill	3.5	35	snails
1329	ditch fill	1.0	50	
1330	ditch fill	1.0	50	
1331	ditch fill	1.0	50	
1333	ditch fill	2.5	50	
1335	ditch fill	2.5	40	
1336	ditch fill	1.5	50	
1337	ditch fill	4.0	50	charc., seeds, fish, snails
1338	ditch fill	5.0	50	seeds, fish, snails
1339	ditch fill	3.0	50	
1340	ditch fill	1.0	50	seeds
1341	ditch fill	2.3	50	
1343	ditch fill	1.0	50	
1344	ditch fill	1.5	50	fish
1410	pit fill	1.0	50	
1411	pit fill	5.0	50	
1412	pit fill	5.0	50	charc., seeds, fish
1607	layer	1.0	50	
1612	feature fill	1.0	50	charc., bone
1613	layer	1.0	50	
1806	layer	1.0	50	
1901	feature fill	5.0	50	fish, bone
2006	feature fill	1.0	50	
2007	feature fill	1.0	50	seeds
2008	feature fill	1.0	50	charc.
2009	feature fill	1.0	50	charc.
2010	feature fill	1.0	50	charc., seeds, fish, snails
2011	feature fill	1.0	50	
2012	feature fill	1.0	50	
2014	feature fill	1.0	50	
2015	feature fill	1.0	50	charc., seeds, fish, ?insect

Finds Assessments for Further Analysis
Cost Estimates Summary

Finds Category	Analysis	Illustration
Roman pottery	£350.00	£157.00
Medieval pottery	£120.00	£105.00
Small finds	£30.00	£27.00
Human bones	-	-
Animal bones	-	-
Environmental	£340.00	-
Total	£1,253.00	£289.00

Total estimated cost of further finds analysis: £1,542 + VAT

Subject to revision in accordance with inflation.

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Part 3:
Archaeological Investigations at
Tadcaster Swimming Pool
Primary Archive Information

Tadcaster Swimming Pool

Archive Inventory

Site Code: TAD 93 (TAD 94)

File Code: TSP 93-4

The following describes the contents of the archive resulting from the on-site archaeological operations carried out by the West Yorkshire Archaeological Service between March 1993 and February 1994.

The primary archive includes:

- 1) Context records (see Appendix A for summary):
1201-3; 1300-55; 1400-12; 1500-8; 1601-14; 1700-4; 1800-6; 1901-2; 2001-21; 2101-34;
2200; 2300-13; 2401-4; 2501-8; 2601-20.
- 2) Drawn records:
small plans and sections - 28 sheets;
large A1 plans and sections - 15 sheets.
- 3) Photographic records:
Black and white films 2235-7; 2239-40; 2242; 2244; 2277; 2356; 2532; 2539-40;
Colour films 2237; 2241-2; 2278; 2375; 2420-1; 2568.
- 4) Artefacts: A full finds catalogue by context is provided as Appendix B.
- 5) Site correspondence: specifications and briefs (see Appendix C).

Station Road, Tadcaster

Archive Inventory

Site Code: SRT 94

File Code: TSP 93-4

The following describes the contents of the archive resulting from the on-site archaeological operations carried out by the West Yorkshire Archaeological Service in October 1994.

The primary archive includes:

- 1) Context sheets 001-010
- 2) Drawn records: plans 1 and 2
- 3) Photographic records: colour film 2686
- 4) Artefacts: A full finds catalogue by context is provided as Appendix B.

Part 3: Appendix A
Context Information

**Tadcaster Swimming Pool
CONTEXT LIST**

Context	Type	Fill of	Below	Contemp.	Above	Same as	Plans	Sections	Matrix
1201	LAYER				1202				A
1202	LAYER		1201		1203				A
1203	LAYER		1202		BEDROCK				A
1300	LAYER				1301,1306=1311			13/1	B
1301	LAYER		1300		1303			13/1	B
1302	CUT		1341,1332					13/1/2/3/4/5/6/7	B
1303	FILL	1302	1301,1306=1311		1304=1312=1305			13/1	B
1304	FILL	1302	1303		1307,1313	1318?1312/1305		13/1	B
1305	FILL	1302	1303		1313,1307	1312,1304,1318?		13/1	B
1306	FILL	1302	1300		1303	1311		13/1	B
1307	FILL	1302	1304=1312=1305=1318?					13/1	B
1308	FILL	1302	1333=1325		1319	1318/1326/1334		13/1	B
1309	FILL	1302	1319		1310,1321	1320		13/1,13/2	B
1310	FILL	1302	1309=1320		1302??			13/1	B
1311	FILL		1300		1312=1303?	1306		13/2b	B
1312	FILL	1302	1311		1313	1305/1304/1318?		13/2a/2b	B
1313	FILL	1302	1312=1304=1305=1318?		1314,1345			13/2a,13/2b	B
1314	FILL	1302	1313		1315,1346			13/2a,13/2b	B
1315	FILL	1302	1314		1316			13/2a	B
1316	FILL	1302	1315		1317			13/2a	B
1317	FILL	1302	1316		1342=1324			13/2a	B
1318	FILL	1302	1333=1325		1319	1334/1326/1308?		13/2a	B
1319	FILL	1302	1318=1308,1326,1334		1320=1309			13/2a	B
1320	FILL	1302	1319		1310,1321	1309		13/2a	B
1321	FILL	1302	1320=1309		1335=1327			13/2a	B
1322	FILL	1302	1346		1323			13/3	B
1323	FILL	1302	1322		1324=1342			13/3	B
1324	FILL	1302	1323,1317		1333=1325	1342		13/3	B
1325	FILL	1302	1324=1342		1326=1334=1318=1308?	1333		13/3	B
1326	FILL	1302	1325=1333		1319	1334,1318,1308		13/3	B
1327	FILL	1302	1321		1343	1335		13/3	B
1328	FILL	1302	1343		1337	1336		13/3	B
1329	FILL	1302	1344		1330,1340	1339			B
1330	FILL	1302	1329=1339		1331			13/3	B
1331	FILL	1302	1330		1332			13/3	B
1332	FILL	1302	1331		F1302			13/3	B
1333	FILL	1302	1342=1324		1334=1326=1318=1308?	1325		13/4	B
1334	FILL	1302	1333=1325		1319	1326,1318,1308		13/4	B
1335	FILL	1302	1321		1343	1327		13/4	B
1336	FILL	1302	1343		1337	1328		13/4	B
1337	FILL	1302	1336=1328		1338			13/4	B
1338	FILL	1302	1337		1344			13/4	B
1339	FILL	1302	1344		1340,1330	1329		13/4	B
1340	FILL	1302	1339=1329		1341			13/4	B
1341	FILL	1302	1340		F1302			13/4	B
1342	FILL	1302	1317,1323		1333=1325	1324?		13/4	B
1343	FILL	1302	1335=1327		1336=1328			13/4	B
1344	FILL	1302	1338		1339=1329			13/4	B
1345	FILL	1302	1313		1346			13/2b	B
1346	FILL	1302	1345,1314		1322			13/2a,13/2b	B
1400	LAYER				1401			14/1	C
1401	WALL		1400		1402			14/1	C

**Tadcaster Swimming Pool
CONTEXT LIST**

Context	Type	Fill of	Below	Contemp.	Above	Same as	Plans	Sections	Matrix
1402	LAYER		1401		1407			14/1	C
1403	LAYER		1408		1404			14/1,14/3	C
1404	LAYER		1403		1410			14/1,14/3	C
1405	LAYER		1406		1406		14/4	14/1,14/3	C
1406	LAYER		1405		1410			14/1,14/3	C
1407	FILL	1408	1402		1408			14/3	C
1408	POST HOLE		1407		1403			14/3	C
1409	POST HOLE		1412		NATURAL		14/4	14/2,14/3	C
1410	FILL	1409	1406		1411			14/2	C
1411	FILL	1409	1410		1412			14/2	C
1412	FILL	1409	1411		1409			14/2,14/3	C
1500	LAYER				1501				D
1501	LAYER		1500		1502				D
1502	LAYER		1501		1503				D
1503	LAYER		1502		1504				D
1504	LAYER		1503		1505				D
1505	LAYER		1504		1506				D
1506	LAYER		1505		1507				D
1507	LAYER		1506		1508				D
1508	LAYER		1507						D
1601	LAYER				1602			16/1	E
1602	LAYER		1601		1603			16/1	E
1603	LAYER		1602		1604			16/1	E
1604	LAYER		1603		1605			16/1	E
1605	LAYER		1604		1610			16/1	E
1606	LAYER		1612		1607		16/2	16/1?	E
1607	FILL	1614	1606		F1614			16/1	E
1608	FILL	1609			1609				E
1609	CUT		1608						E
1610	LAYER		1605		1611				E
1611	LAYER		1610		1612			16/1	E
1612	FILL	1614	1611		1606	1611		16/1	E
1613	LAYER		1614		BEDROCK			16/1	E
1614	CUT		1607		1613			16/1	E
1700	LAYER				1701			17/2	F
1701	LAYER		1700		1704			17/2	F
1702	FILL	1703	1704		1703		17/1	17/2	F
1703	CUT		1702		NATURAL		17/1	17/2,17/3	F
1704	LAYER		1701		1702				F
1800	LAYER				1801			18/1	G
1801	LAYER		1800		1802			18/1	G
1802	LAYER		1801		1803			18/1	G
1803	LAYER		1802		1804			18/1	G
1804	LAYER		1803		1805			18/1	G
1805	LAYER		1804		1806			18/1	G
1806	LAYER		1805		UNEXC			18/1	G
1901	FILL								
2001	LAYER				2002			20/1	H
2002	LAYER		2001		2003			20/1	H
2003	LAYER		2002		2004			20/1	H
2004	LAYER		2003		2017			20/1	H
2005	LAYER?		2016		2006			20/1	H

**Tadcaster Swimming Pool
CONTEXT LIST**

Context	Type	Fill of	Below	Contemp.	Above	Same as	Plans	Sections	Matrix
2006	FILL	2013	2005		2007	2501		20/1	H
2007	FILL	2013	2006		2009,2008	2502		20/1	H
2008	FILL	2013	2007		2010	2009		20/1	H
2009	FILL	2013	2007		2010	2503		20/1	H
2010	FILL	2013	2009,2008		2011			20/1	H
2011	FILL	2013	2010		2013	2504		20/1	H
2012	FILL	2013		2011	2013			20/1	H
2013	CUT		2011					20/1	H
2014	FILL	2016	2019		2015			20/1	H
2015	FILL	2016	2014		2016			20/1	H
2016	CUT		2015		2005			20/1	H
2017	FILL	2019	2004		2018			20/1	H
2018	FILL	2019	2017		2019			20/1	H
2019	CUT		2018		2014			20/1	H
2101	NATURAL					2301	21/1,21/3	21/2	I
2102	FILL	2103			2103		21/1		I
2103	POSTHOLE		2102		2105		21/1		I
2104	FILL	2133			2133		21/1	21/5	I
2105	FILL	2113	2125		2107		21/1	21/5	I
2106	FILL	2109	MACHINING		2109			21/4	I
2107	FILL	2113	2105		2108			21/5	I
2108	FILL	2113	2107		2114		21/1	21/5	I
2109	PIT CUT		2106		2115		21/1	21/4	I
2110	FILL	2112	2113		2111=2120&2121	2117,2118		21/2	I
2111	FILL	2112	2110		2112	2120,2121		21/2	I
2112	PIT/DITCH		2124		2101	2116	21/3	21/2	I
2113	DITCH		2115		2110=2117		21/1	21/5	I
2114	FILL	2113	2108		2115		21/1	21/5	I
2115	FILL	2113	2114		2113			21/5	I
2116	PIT		2124		2101=NATURAL	2112	21/3	21/2	I
2117	FILL	2116	2113		2118	2110		21/2	I
2118	FILL	2116	2117		2119	2110		21/2	I
2119	FILL	2116	2118		2120			21/2	I
2120	FILL	2116	2119		2121	2111		21/2	I
2121	FILL	2116	2120		2122	2111		21/2	I
2122	FILL	2116	2121		2123			21/2	I
2123	FILL	2116	2122		2124			21/2	I
2124	FILL	2116	2123		2116			21/2	I
2125	PALEOSOL		2126		2105,2129				I
2126	COBBLING		2127		2125				I
2127	LAYER				2126				I
2128	DEPOSIT		2118?			2119?	21/1		I
2129	LAYER		2125		2130				I
2130	LAYER		2129						I
2131	DEPOSIT				NATURAL				I
2132	DEPOSIT				2303	2302			I
2133	CUT		2104					21/5	I
2301	NATURAL					2101,2507			J
2302	DEPOSIT				2303				J
2303	DEPOSIT		2302		2310				J
2304	DITCH		2308		2311				J
2305	FILL	2304			2306				J

**Tadcaster Swimming Pool
CONTEXT LIST**

Context	Type	Fill of	Below	Contemp.	Above	Same as	Plans	Sections	Matrix
2306	FILL	2304	2305		2309				J
2307	FILL	2304	2309		2308				J
2308	FILL	2304	2307		2304				J
2309	FILL	2304	2306		2307				J
2310	DEPOSIT		2303		NATURAL=2101				J
2311	LAYER		2304		2312				J
2312	LAYER		2311						J
2401	MODERN FLOORING				2402				K
2402	FLOOR MAKE-UP		2401		2403				K
2403	RUBBLE FLOOR		2402		2404				K
2404	NAT DEPOSIT		2403		NATURAL				K
2501	FILL	2508			2506	2006		25/1	L
2502	FILL	2507	2508		2503	2007		25/1	L
2503	FILL	2507	2502		2504	2009		25/1	L
2504	FILL	2507	2503			2011		25/1	L
2505	LAYER		CONCRETE		2507			25/1	L
2506	FILL	2508	2501		2508			25/1	L
2507	CUT		2504		NATURAL			25/1	L
2508	CUT		2506		2502			25/1	L
2600	NEW DRAIN								
2601	DEPOSIT	2600							
2602	DEPOSIT	2600				2601			
2603	DEPOSIT	2600				2601			
2604	DEPOSIT	2600				2601			
2605	CUT		2606					26/1	M
2606	FILL	2605	2607		2605			26/1	M
2607	FILL	2605	2608		2606	2608		26/1	M
2608	LAYER		MODERN		2607			26/1	M
2609	LAYER		2611		2610				M
2610	LAYER		2609						M
2611	MODERN WALL				2608-9				M
2612	CUT		2616					26/2	M
2613	FILL	2612	2609		2614			26/2	M
2614	FILL	2612	2613		2615			26/2	M
2615	FILL	2612	2614		2616			26/2	M
2616	FILL	2612	2615		2612			26/2	M
2617	CUT				NATURAL	?NATURAL		26/2	M
2618	CUT		2620		NATURAL			26/3	M
2619	FILL	2618	2609		2620			26/3	M
2620	FILL	2618	2619		2618			26/3	M

Part 3: Appendix B
Finds Catalogues

Tadcaster Swimming Pool Finds Catalogue (TAD93-4)

Context	SF No	n	Description
Animal bone			
	1312	1	Bone
	1339	1	Bone
	1341	7	Bone
	1404	27	Bone
	1406	3	Bone
	1407	4	Bone
	1412	6	Bone
	1610	32	Bone
	1611	20	Bone
	1612	213	Bone
	1701	1	Bone
	1901	16	Bone
	1909	2	Bone
	2003	2	Bone
	2015	40	Bone
	2105	6	Bone
	2106	1	Bone
	2107	2	Bone
	2108	1	Bone
	2110	1	Bone
	2111	4	Bone
	2128	2	Bone
	2131	2	Bone
	2134	4	Bone
	2302	6	Bone
	2303	2	Bone
	2311	1	Bone
	2313	4	Bone
	2402	1	Bone
	2504	4	Bone
Brick/baked clay			
	1404	5	Brick/clay frags
	1412	1	Ceramic object (perforated)
	1610	12	Brick/clay frags
	1611	6	Brick/clay frags
	1612	1	Burnt clay frag
	2134	1	Brick/tile fragment
Flint			
	1312	1	waste flake
	1612	4	waste flakes (1 poss. worked)
	2104	1	waste flake
Glass			
	1611	1	vessel glass frag
Pottery			
	U/S moat section	1	Medieval pot sherd
	U/S Trench 13	14	Roman pot sherds
	U/S Trench 13	9	Medieval pot sherds

1312	1	Roman pot sherd
1312	1	Medieval pot sherd
1341	2	Medieval pot sherds
1403	1	Medieval pot sherd
1404	5	Roman pot sherds
1404	1	Pot sherd
1406	8	Roman pot sherds
1407	1	Roman pot sherd
1412	8	Roman pot sherds
U/S Trench 15	4	Post-medieval sherds
1610	2	Roman pot sherds
1610	11	Medieval pot sherds
1611	6	Roman pot sherds
1611	26	Medieval pot sherds
1612	2	Roman pot sherds
1612	18	Medieval pot sherds
1613	1	Roman pot sherd
U/S Trench 17	7	Medieval pot sherds
1701	1	Roman pot sherd
1806	1	Roman pot sherd
1901	6	Roman pot sherds
1901	5	?Saxon pot sherds
2002	3	Medieval pot sherds
2004	1	Roman pot sherd
2007	4	Medieval pot sherds
2015	1	Roman pot sherd
2015	4	Medieval pot sherds
2104	1	Roman pot sherd
2105	1	Roman pot sherd
2105	1	Medieval pot sherd
2106	1	Roman pot sherd
2107	1	Roman pot sherd
2108	1	Roman pot sherd
2110	2	Roman pot sherds
2111	3	Roman pot sherds
2128	3	Roman pot sherds
2129	1	Medieval pot sherd
2134 (U/S)	21	Roman pot sherds
2311	1	Roman pot sherd
2313	7	Roman pot sherds
2504	4	Roman pot sherds
Tile		
U/S Trench 13	8	Tile frags
1312	7	Tile frags
1611	3	Tile frags

Westgate - Station Road Finds Catalogue (SRT94)

Context	SF No	n	Description
Animal bone			
0001	7	1	Bone frag
0001		9	Bone
0002		6	Bone
0003		19	Bone
0004		2	Bone
Burnt material/coal			
0002		152g	Charcoal and ash/cinder
0002		136g	Shale/coal
0003		42g	Coal
Copper alloy			
0002	1	1	Copper alloy brooch
0002	2	1	Copper alloy pin
Glass			
0003	6	1	Glass frag
Human bone			
0001	7	125	Human bones
Iron			
0002	3	1	Iron object
0002	4	1	Iron socketed object
0002	5	1	Iron object
Pottery			
U/S		1	Post-medieval pot sherd
0002		20	Roman pot sherds
0003		27	Roman pot sherds
0004		1	Roman pot sherd
0006		1	Roman pot sherd
0007		1	Roman pot sherd
0009		2	Roman pot sherds

Part 3: Appendix C
Specifications

TADCASTER SWIMMING POOL SITE

Specification for Archaeological Works

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of further archaeological works is to record archaeological features whose location and character could not be precisely determined in advance of development works, and to provide information about where and how much archaeology will remain on site after development has been completed.

2. Framework for Operations

2.1 The works to be carried out form part of a staged programme of archaeological investigations. Previous stages include a desk-top assessment and field evaluation. Further works will include a watching brief, post-excavation assessment and analysis, archive compilation, production of a summary report, and deposition of the archive in an appropriate museum. All works will follow, where applicable, the procedures and guidelines detailed in Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage 1991) and the relevant IFA Codes of Practice.

2.2 The archaeological watching brief will be of an extensive nature, and undertaken on selected stages of service and foundation trench excavation as indicated in Plans 1 to 8 attached.

2.3 There will be close liaison between the nominated archaeological contractor and the construction contractor(s) to establish the nature and scheduling of all excavation works.

2.4 The archaeological contractors shall be responsible for complying with statutory health and safety regulations throughout the duration of investigations on site.

2.5 All archaeological works shall be subject to monitoring by the County Archaeological Officer, who shall be given a minimum of 5 working days notice of the opportunity to inspect the works.

2.6 The developer, construction contractor(s) or archaeological contractor shall not allow any person access to the site for the purpose of using a metal detector, except as detailed in Paragraph 4.7.

3. Objectives

3.1 Fieldwork will have the following specific objectives:

- i) to record information about the form, orientation and stratigraphic relationships of archaeological features forming or associated with the town defenses;
- ii) to recover any finds or evidence relating to the date of construction of these features;
- iii) where appropriate, to record information and evidence relating to the infilling and stratigraphy of ditch features; and
- iv) to obtain plan and depth information in order to calculate the amount and location of archaeology deposits remaining on site after construction.

3.2 Upon completion of fieldwork, post-excavation works will have the objective of producing an excavation archive and summary report to Frere Report Level III.

4. General Procedures for Watching Brief

4.1 The construction contractor(s) shall afford safe access within the site to the nominated archaeological contractor at all reasonable times for the purposes of carrying out an archaeological watching brief.

4.2 The construction contractor(s) shall give the archaeological contractor a minimum of 10 working days notice of the commencement of works in general, and a minimum of 48 hours notice of specific operations and any variations to the nature or timing of works.

4.3 Machine excavation in the areas indicated shall be carried out under the direct supervision of an archaeologist. Where ground conditions and work schedules permit, machine excavation shall be carried out using a toothless bucket. Where archaeological remains are observed by construction contractors or machine operators, they shall immediately notify the archaeological contractors.

4.4 The archaeological contractors shall be provided with an adequate and agreed period of time to clean, assess, carry out sample excavations, and record features of archaeological interest subsequent to their exposure by machining.

4.5 Scientific excavation by hand will be limited to cleaning exposed surfaces, sampling, and obtaining representative detailed stratigraphic information.

4.6 Where archaeological features or deposits are uncovered which or of sufficient importance or fragility to require additional hand excavation and recording, i.e. human burials, the archaeological contractor shall inform the construction contractor and developer immediately, and an adequate, additional period of time for recording shall be agreed between the parties.

4.7 Excavated soil materials will be scanned for finds of archaeological interest. Metal detectors may only be used on site by the archaeological contractors for the retrieval of finds from excavated soil materials and with the prior agreement of the County Archaeological Officer.

4.8 The archaeological information will be recorded using professionally approved techniques, standard forms and conventions, and all graphics will be done to a high, reproduceable quality (computer graphics, for example, should be produced on high bond standard sized paper or stable plastic film).

5. Specified Fieldwork

5.1 A watching brief will be carried out to the procedures specified above on the new trench for the diverted drain (Plan 1), on the removal and blocking up of the old drain (Plan 2), and the removal of sub-floor material from within the old barn (Plan 3). Archaeological recording of exposed features shall be limited to a maximum of 2 days for the whole length of the new drainage trench and a maximum of 5 hours for each of the other areas.

5.2 For the areas of the mass concrete footings (Plan 4), information about the form, dimensions and deposits of the town ditch will be obtained through a less comprehensive watching brief. Deposits excavated by machine will be scanned for finds of archaeological interest, and profile or section information will be obtained by EDM, photographic, or other survey measurements.

5.3 Prior to the excavation of the plant room, a trench approximately 2 m by 15 m, as indicated in Plan 5, shall be machine excavated down to natural bedrock. Archaeological recording and survey measurements shall be carried out to determine the full depth of deposits in the town ditch, the form and orientation of its western face, as well as the stratigraphic relationship between any intersecting features. Recording shall be limited to a maximum of one working day.

5.4 Excavation of the remainder of the plant room area (Plan 6) shall be subject to a watching brief following the procedures specified above. Special regard shall be had for the intersection of other ditch features with the main town ditch and their stratigraphic relationship, likely to be visible along the western edge of this trench. The archaeological recording shall be limited to a maximum of one working day.

5.5 A watching brief following procedures specified above shall be carried out on three strip foundation trenches in the area of the main pool (Plan 7). The archaeological contractors shall be given the opportunity to hand excavate up to two ditch sections to obtain representative detailed stratigraphic information from ditch features thought to traverse this area. Recording will be limited to 3 working days to record the form, orientation, and stratigraphy of features exposed within the foundation trenches.

5.6 Overburden removal from the western half of the main pool area (Plan 8) shall be subject to a watching brief following procedures specified above. Archaeological recording will be limited to a maximum of 5 hours for each single feature or cluster of features exposed.

6. Specified Post-Excavation Works

6.1 Upon completion of fieldwork, all samples will be processed and all finds cleaned, identified, spot-dated, assessed for potential for further analysis, and properly packaged, labelled, and stored. All iron objects shall be X-rayed.

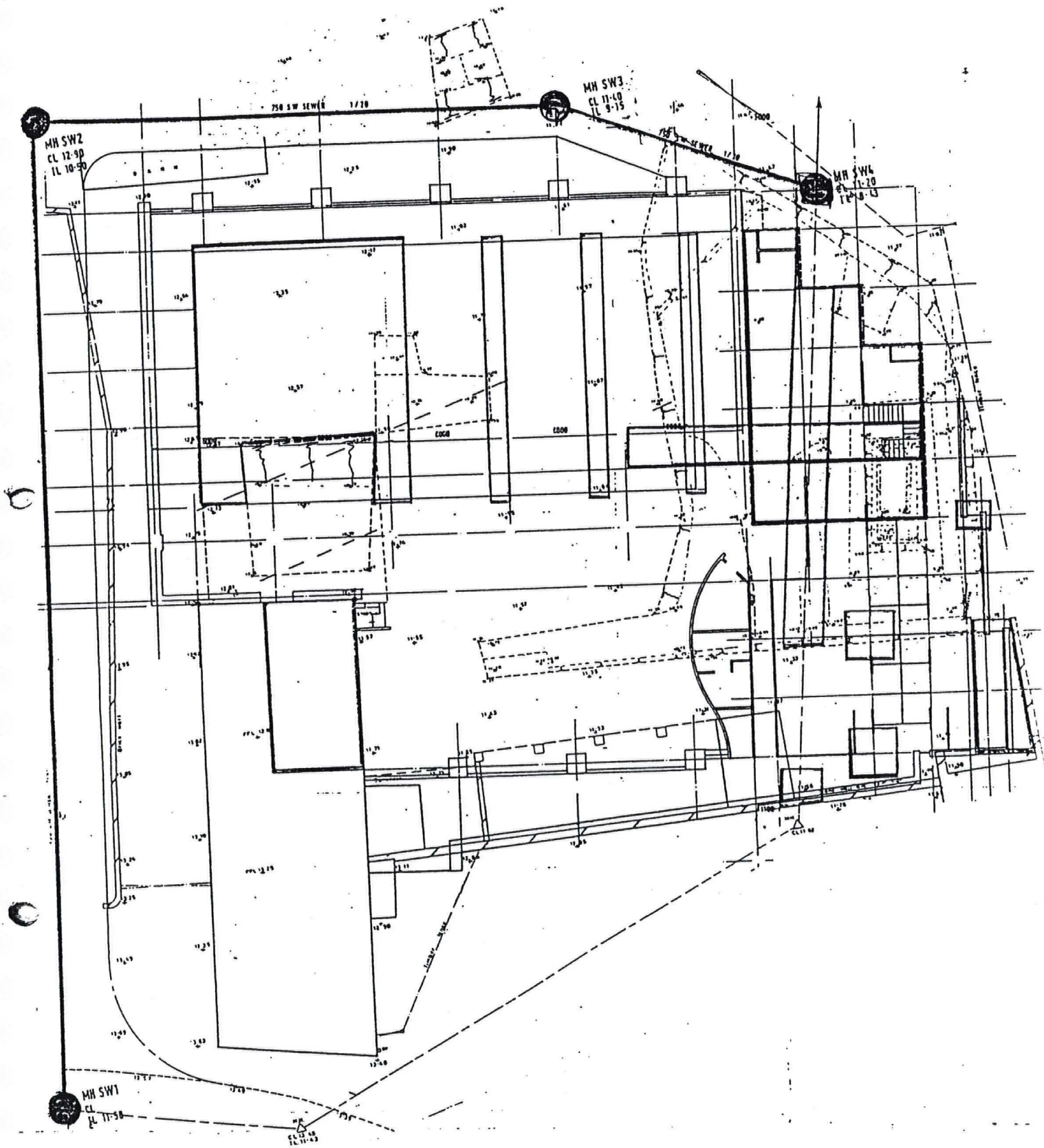
6.2 Three copies of a summary report will be produced combining the results of the watching brief with those of the previous archaeological field evaluation. The report will include:

- i) a summary of all archaeological works carried out;
- ii) description and interpretation of all findings;
- iii) measured plans, sections or profiles, including site location plan, plans of all trenches and features with respect to structures on site before and after development, a plan locating all drawn sections or profiles, and any interpretive diagrams;
- iv) a discussion of the findings in relation to their wider historical and geographical context;
- v) a discussion or plan indicating the location and quantity of archaeological deposits remaining on site after development;
- vi) a review of the effectiveness of the archaeological work on site; and
- vii) a full catalogue of all primary written records, photographs, plans, and sections, and an inventory of all finds and samples.

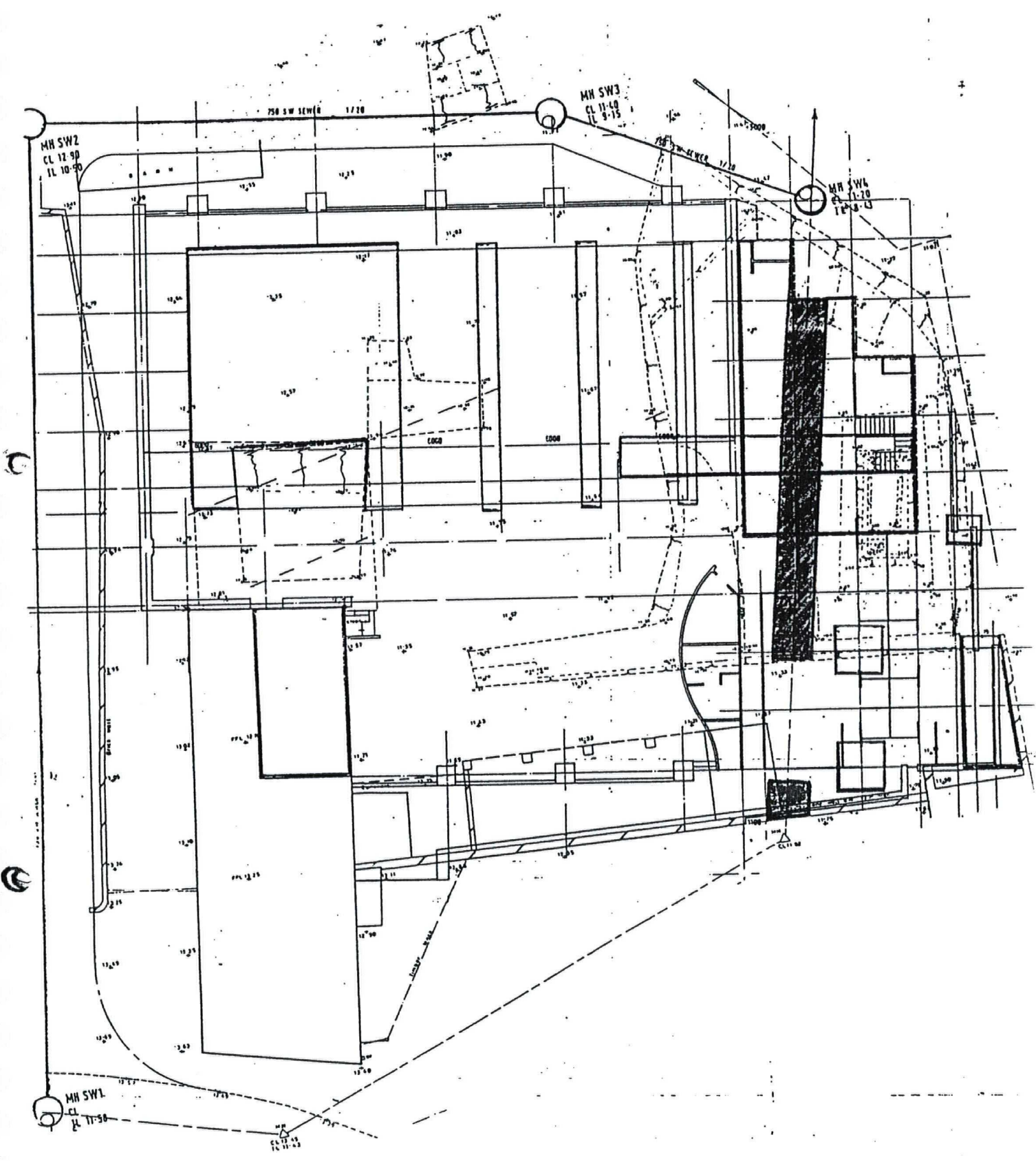
6.3 A field excavation archive shall be produced to include all primary written records, plans, sections, profiles, photographs, computer data storage disks, catalogues and indices, specialist reports, and summary report.

6.4 A microfilm copy of the archive shall be prepared for deposition with the National Archaeological Record.

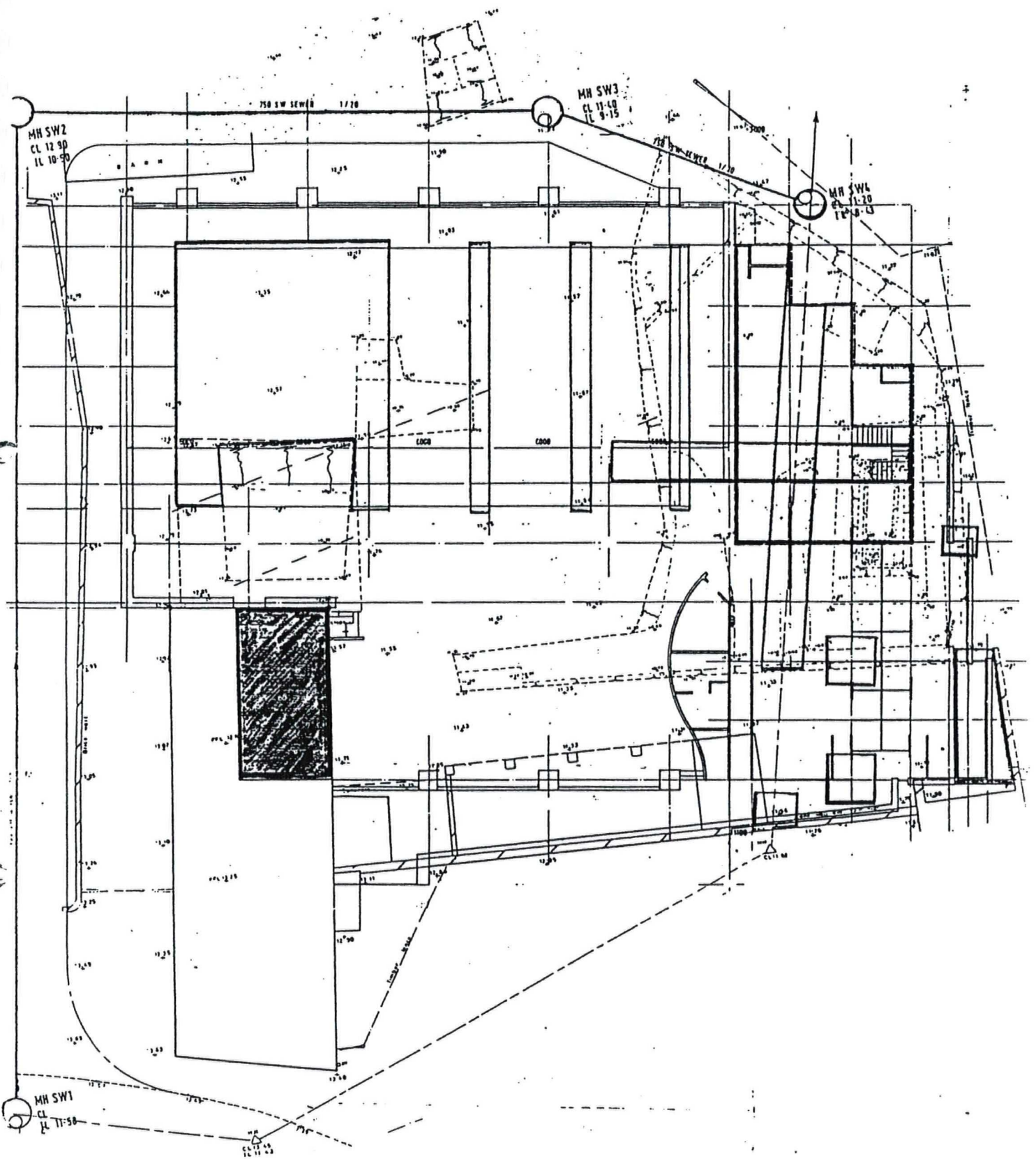
6.5 The material archive (artefacts, etc) and a copy of the written archive shall be prepared for deposition with an appropriate museum. The County Archaeological Officer shall be notified of the opportunity to inspect the archive prior to its final disposition.



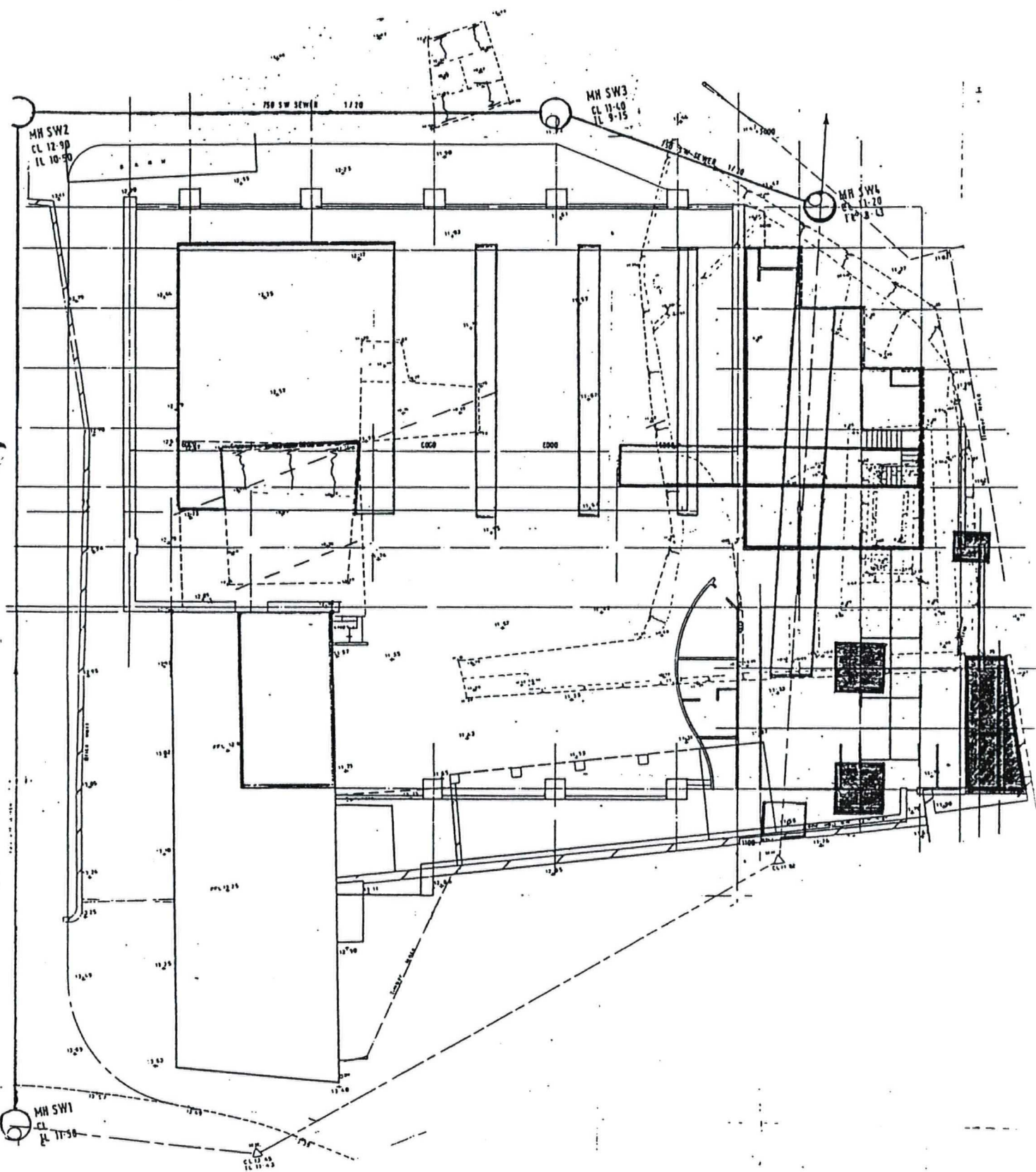
Plan 1



Plan 2

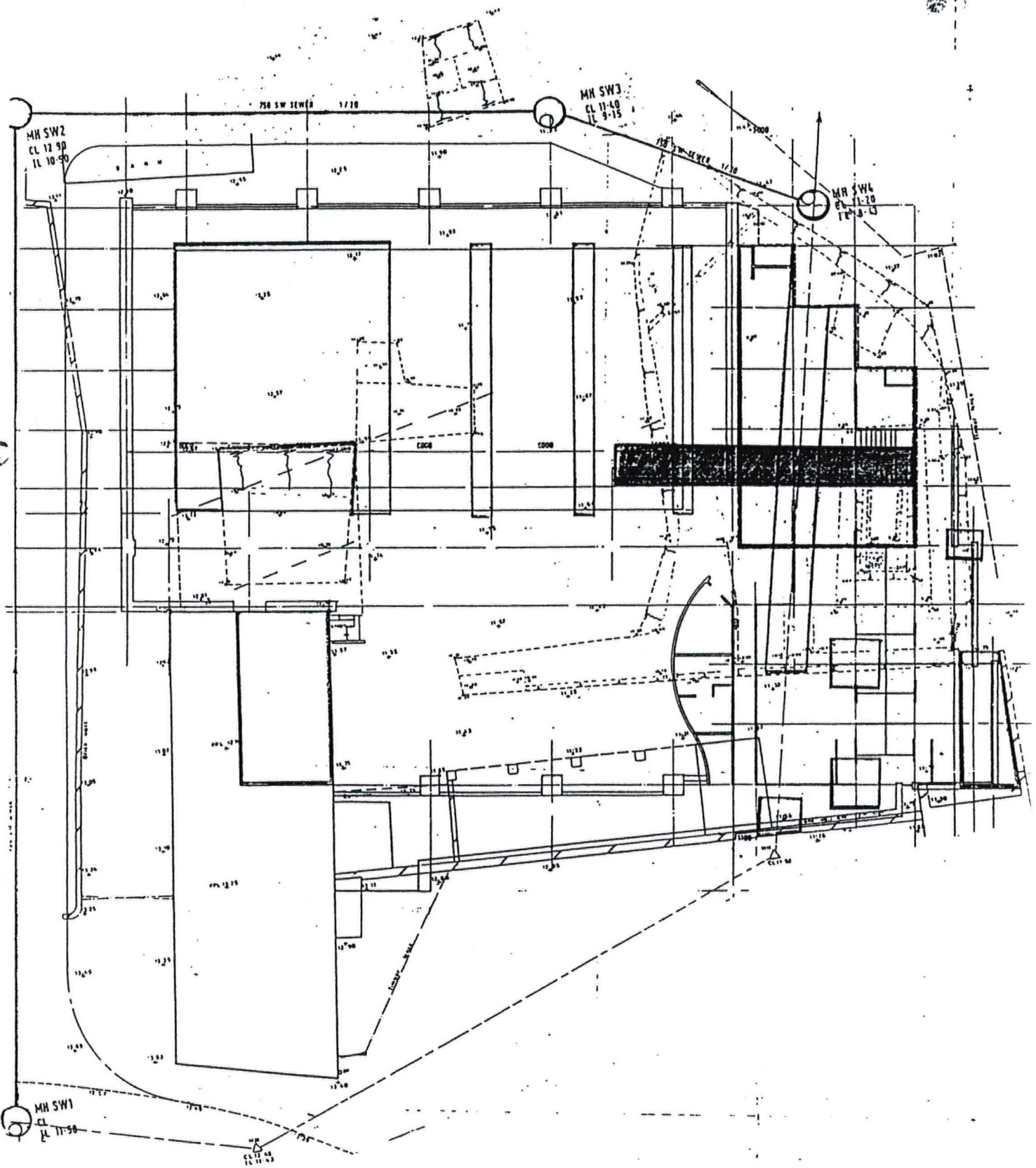


Plan 3

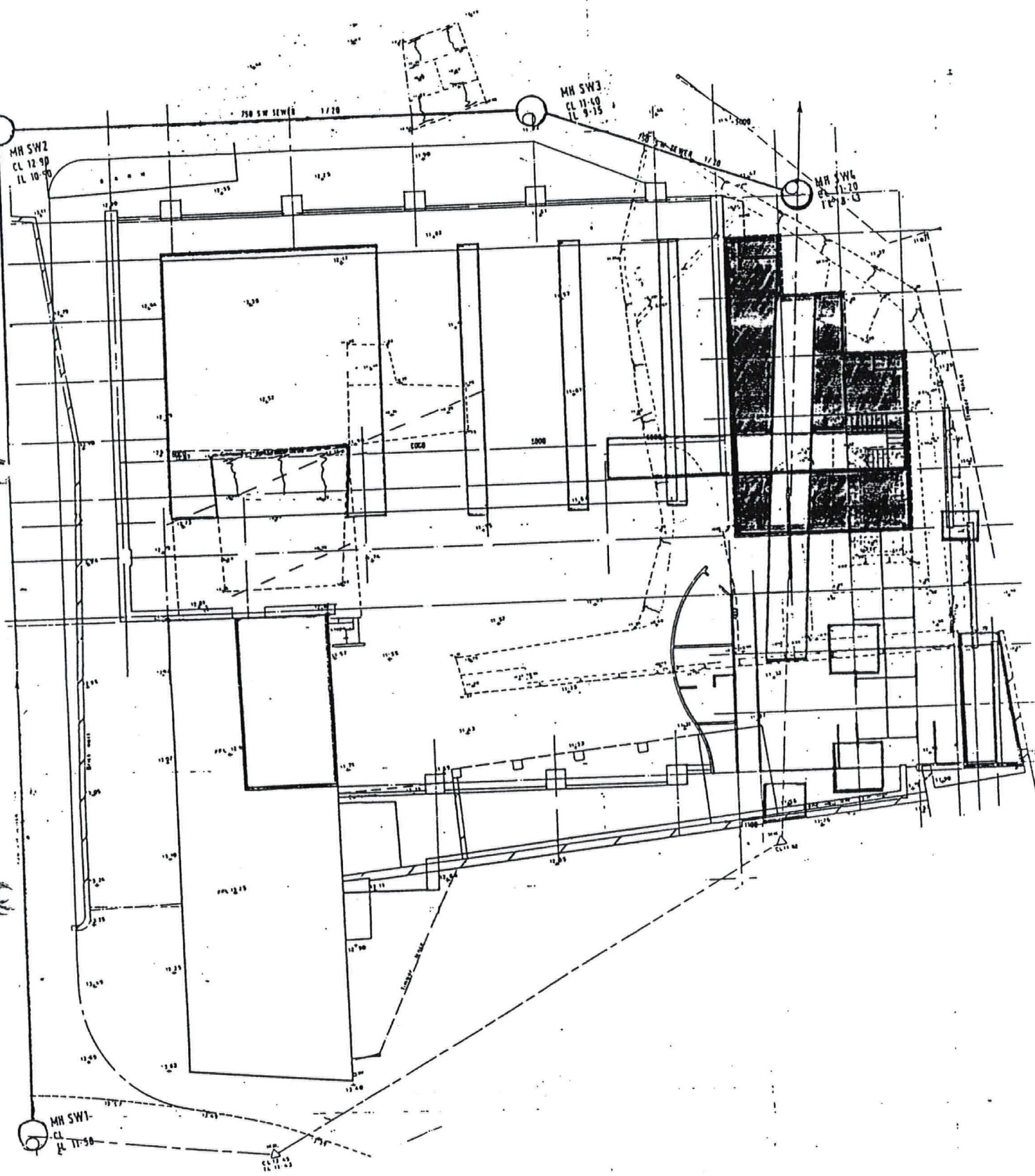


Plan 4

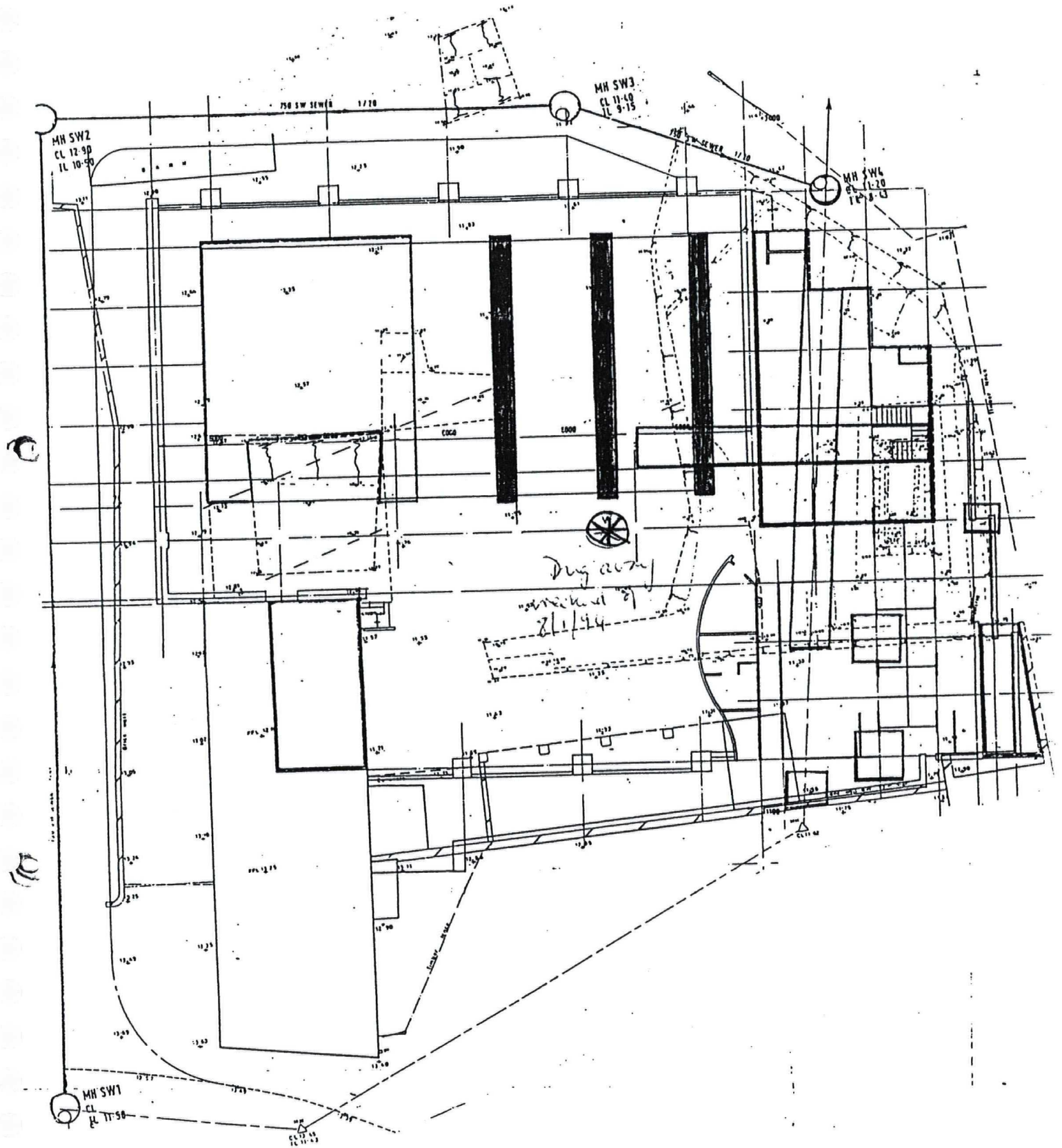
See Spec. 5.3



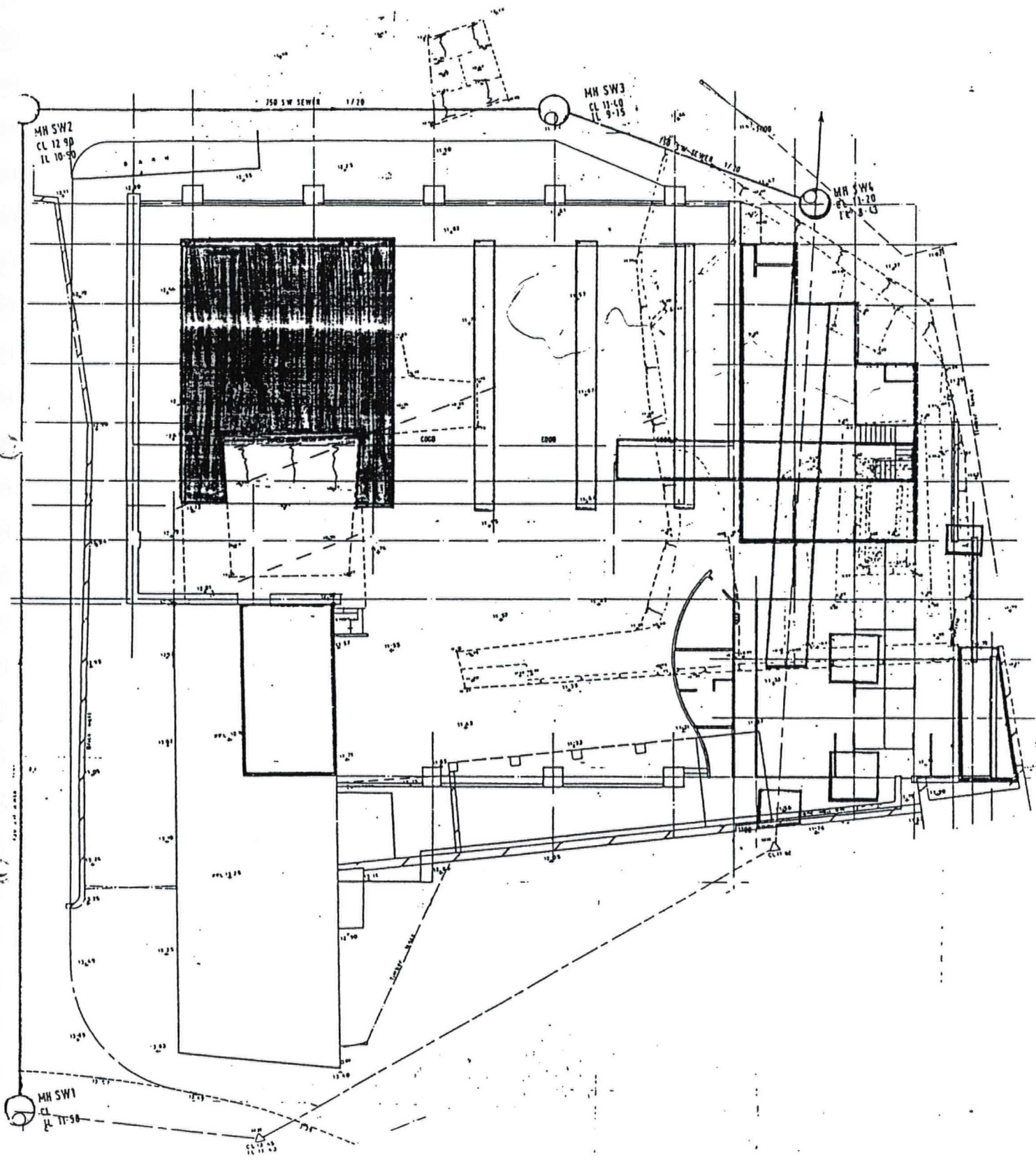
Plan 5



Plan 6



Plan 7



Plan 8

Fax: (0924) 296810

I Roberts

9.3.93

0924 296800

FO/NY/TAD/IR/AW

The Trustees
Tadcaster Swimming Pool Trust
c/o Mr Ian Rowe
Applegarth
Church Fenton Lane
ULLESKELF
North Yorkshire

Dear Sir

CASTLE HILL FARM SITE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

A meeting was held on site on Monday 8th March to discuss the various strategies for fulfilling the archaeological requirements, particularly in the light of the extremely large size of the ditch running along the eastern margins of the proposed development site.

In attendance were Mr C Hearn (Samuel Smiths), Mr Neil Campling (North Yorkshire County Council Planning Department's Sites and Monuments Record) and Mr A Webb and myself (West Yorkshire Archaeology Service).

The evaluation trenches excavated to date have shown that over most of the site there is at least a metre of modern make-up. This overlies deposits, and some features, which have yielded a small amount of Roman and possibly early medieval material. In addition, the nature and depth of the natural deposits and bedrock has been shown to be highly variable. However, the greatest concern surrounds the eastern part of the site. Here the excavations have revealed a rock cut ditch, about 11m wide, running around the base of the castle. The excavations so far have removed the ditch fill to a depth of 2m, though bore hole investigations suggest the total depth may be in excess of 5m. From an archaeological viewpoint it is desirable to know if any sensitive waterlogged deposits exist at a lower depth. From a civil engineering viewpoint the ditch is too wide to be spanned, and the fill too deep and too soft to be left *in situ*. It is felt, moreover, that planning consent is unlikely to be granted until the full archaeological implications of removing the ditch fill for building purposes are known.

In the light of this it was proposed that a series of further borehole profiles be made across the remaining fill of the ditch - in such a way that the soil cores could be retained and analysed archaeologically. However, the cost of this approach, between two and three thousand pounds, was felt to be unjustified as there was no guarantee that it would yield sufficient data to determine an appropriate mitigation strategy.

Therefore, it was agreed that the best strategy would be to strip the whole eastern part of the site (c. 300m²) down to the highest archaeological or natural deposits. This would involve the removal of the upper modern make-up deposits and determine the exact course of the ditch and archaeological survival across the eastern part of the site. The stripping could be carried out by a Hymac mechanical digger, supervised by one archaeologist, the spoil being removed from the site immediately by lorry. Once the course of the ditch had been revealed controlled mechanical excavation would take place to facilitate the safe manual investigation of the lowest fills within the ditch.

The advantage of this strategy is that it should satisfy both the archaeological and engineering requirements in determining a solution to the problem, and one that could be implemented within the scope of the original cost estimates for the archaeological evaluation (not including machining and soil removal costs).

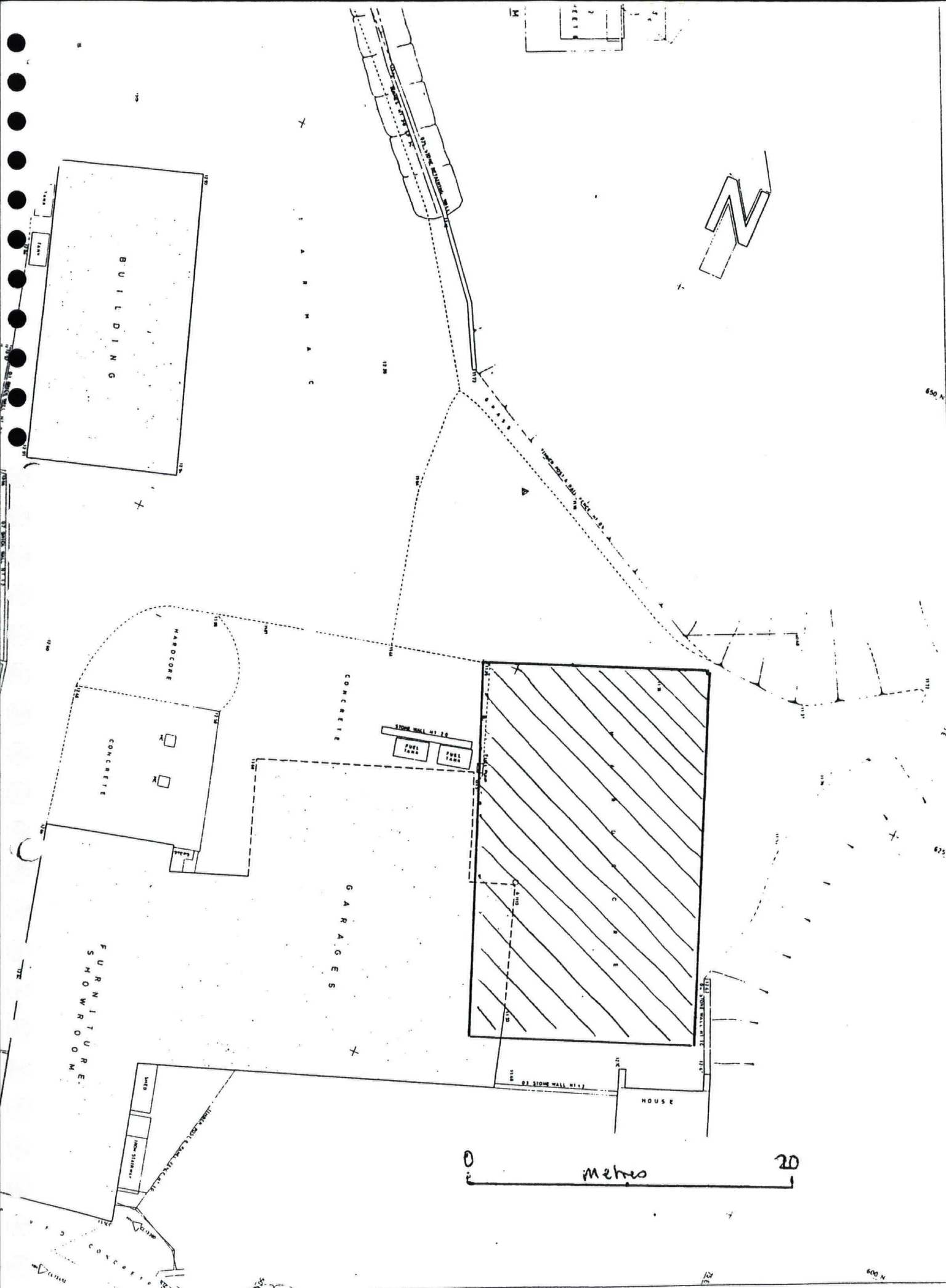
I enclose a plan showing the area proposed for large scale stripping in the first instance. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require clarification of the above proposals.

Yours faithfully



Ian Roberts
Senior Field Archaeologist

Enc



Castle Hill Farm (Site of), Tadcaster: Archaeological evaluation of proposed sunning pool site. WYAS 9/3/93. - Area proposed for mass shipping

Fax: (0924) 296810

I Roberts

17.2.93

0924 296800

NY/TAD/IR/AW

Mr Neil Campling
Planning Department
Archaeology Section
County Hall
NORTHALLERTON
DL7 8AQ

Dear Neil

**CASTLE HILL FARM, TADCASTER: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
OF PROPOSED SWIMMING POOL DEVELOPMENT**

Please find the accompanying plans showing our proposals for trial trenching at the above site. The trenches concentrate on the area of the proposed pools which will be excavated out to a depth of up to 2 metres during development.

Potentially, the greatest depth of deposit lies on the eastern side of the site where fills of the castle ditch might be encountered. The trenches in this area will be wide enough to step or batter their edges to facilitate safe excavation to a depth of 2 metres, should it prove necessary. The final positions of the trenches will obviously have to take into account the line of the existing sewer across this part of the site.

Apart from the proposed pool area, two small trenches are intended for the proposed car park area. This area is shown as orchards on all early maps. It is not going to be subject to major disturbance and is not anticipated to be an area of archaeological sensitivity.

Two further trench options are proposed within and without the existing barn - to be converted into a reception area. The proposed ground disturbance in this area is not yet known, though some modification to the existing ground profile may be expected.

It is assumed that the work would be carried out as per the briefs for the sites on Chapel Street and Shann House.

I should be grateful to receive any suggested modifications to this strategy as soon as possible.

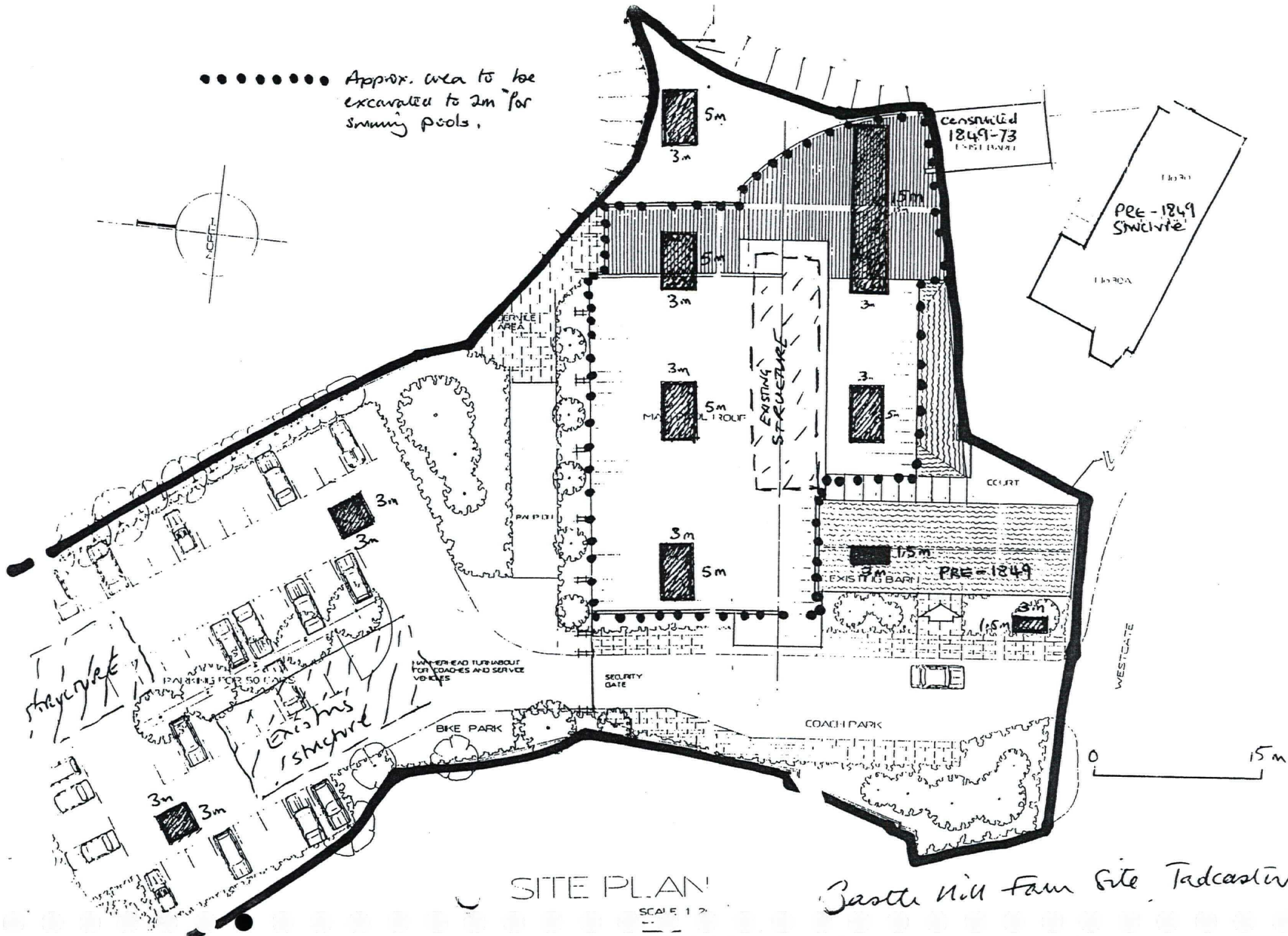
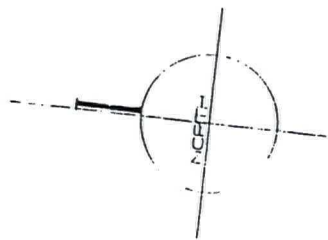
Yours sincerely



Ian Roberts
Senior Field Archaeologists

Enc

..... Approx. area to be excavated to 2m for swimming pools.



SITE PLAN

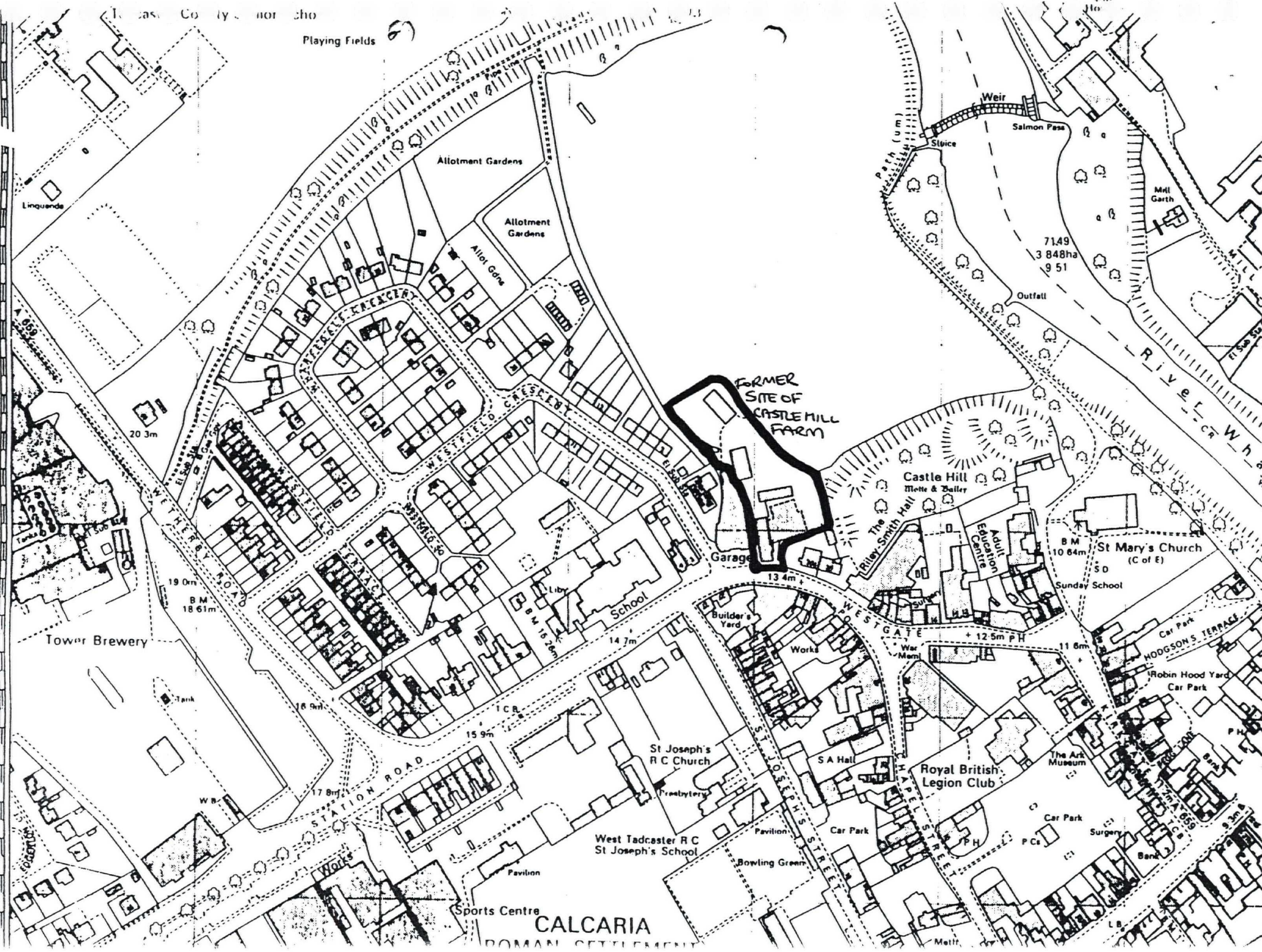
SCALE 1:2

Baste Hill Farm site Tadcaster

Playing Fields

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TADCASTER WEST WARD



SPORTS CENTRE
CALCARIA
ROMAN SETTLEMENT

FORMER
SITE OF
CASTLE MILL
FARM

Castle Hill
Motte & Bailey

St Mary's Church
(C of E)

St Joseph's
R C Church

Royal British
Legion Club

West Tadcaster R C
St Joseph's School

Tower Brewery

Weir

Salmon Fishery

71.49
3848ha
951

RIVER WHARFE

8 M
10.64m
50

Sunday School

Car Park
HODGSON'S TERRACE

Robin Hood Yard
Car Park

The Art
Museum

Car Park

Surgery

Bank

Car Park

Bowling Green

Pavilion

S A Hall

Works

Builder's
Yard

School

Lib.

Garage

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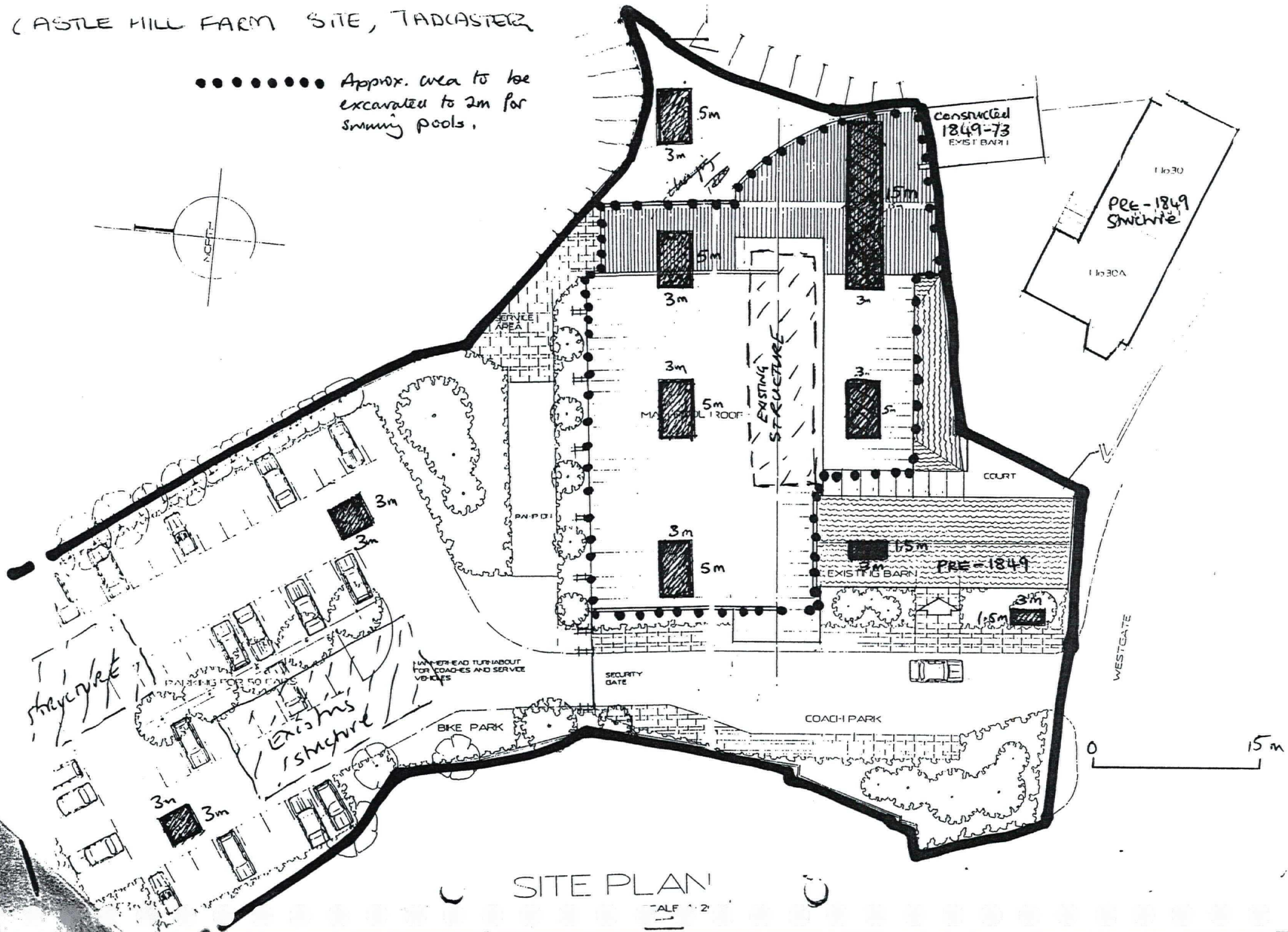
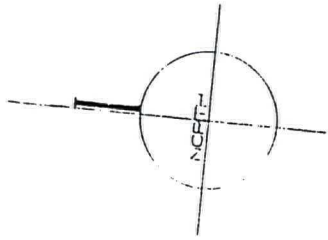
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CASTLE HILL FARM SITE, TADCASTER

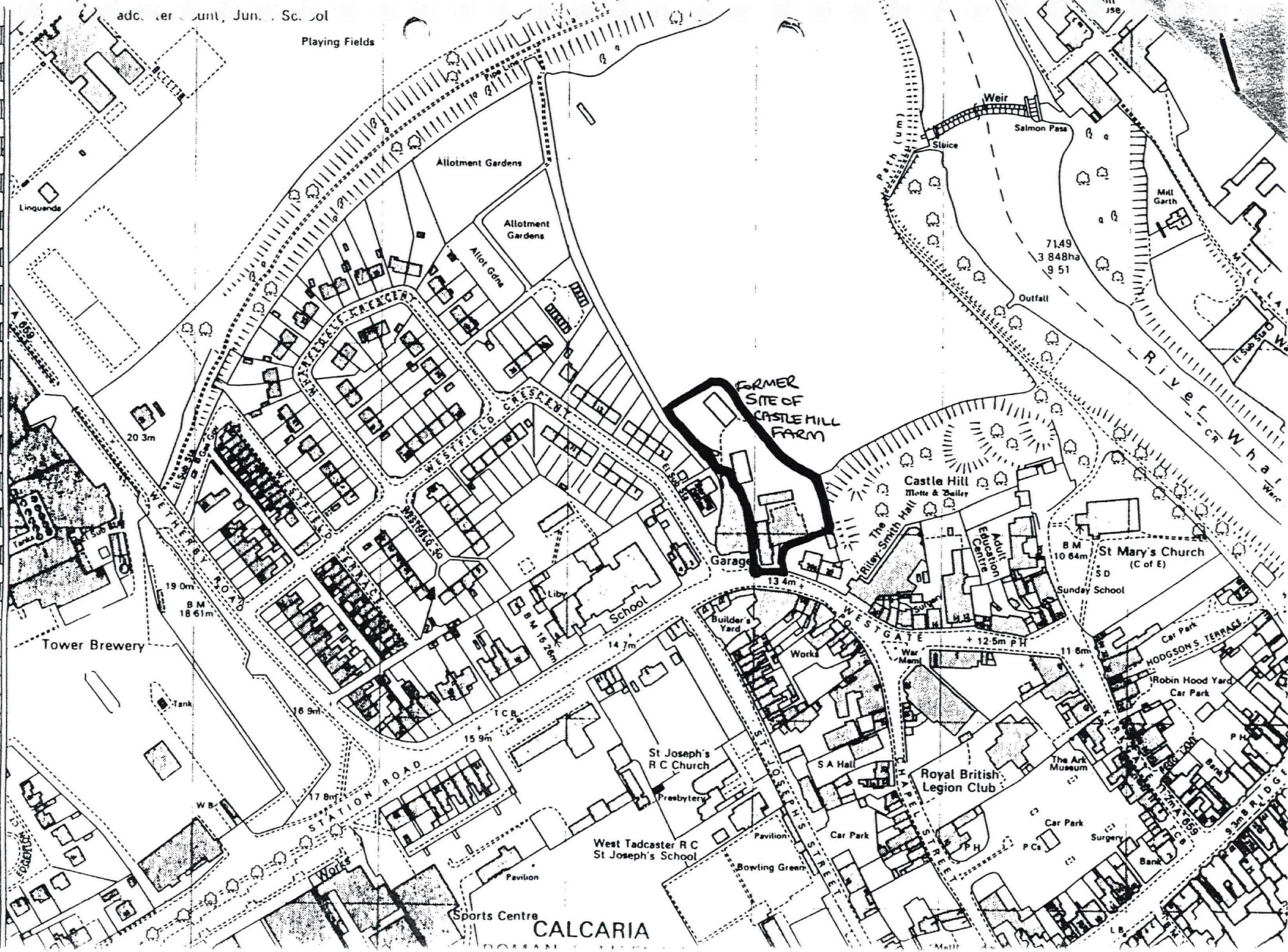
..... Approx. area to be excavated to 2m for swimming pools.



Playing Fields

TADCASTER WEST WARD

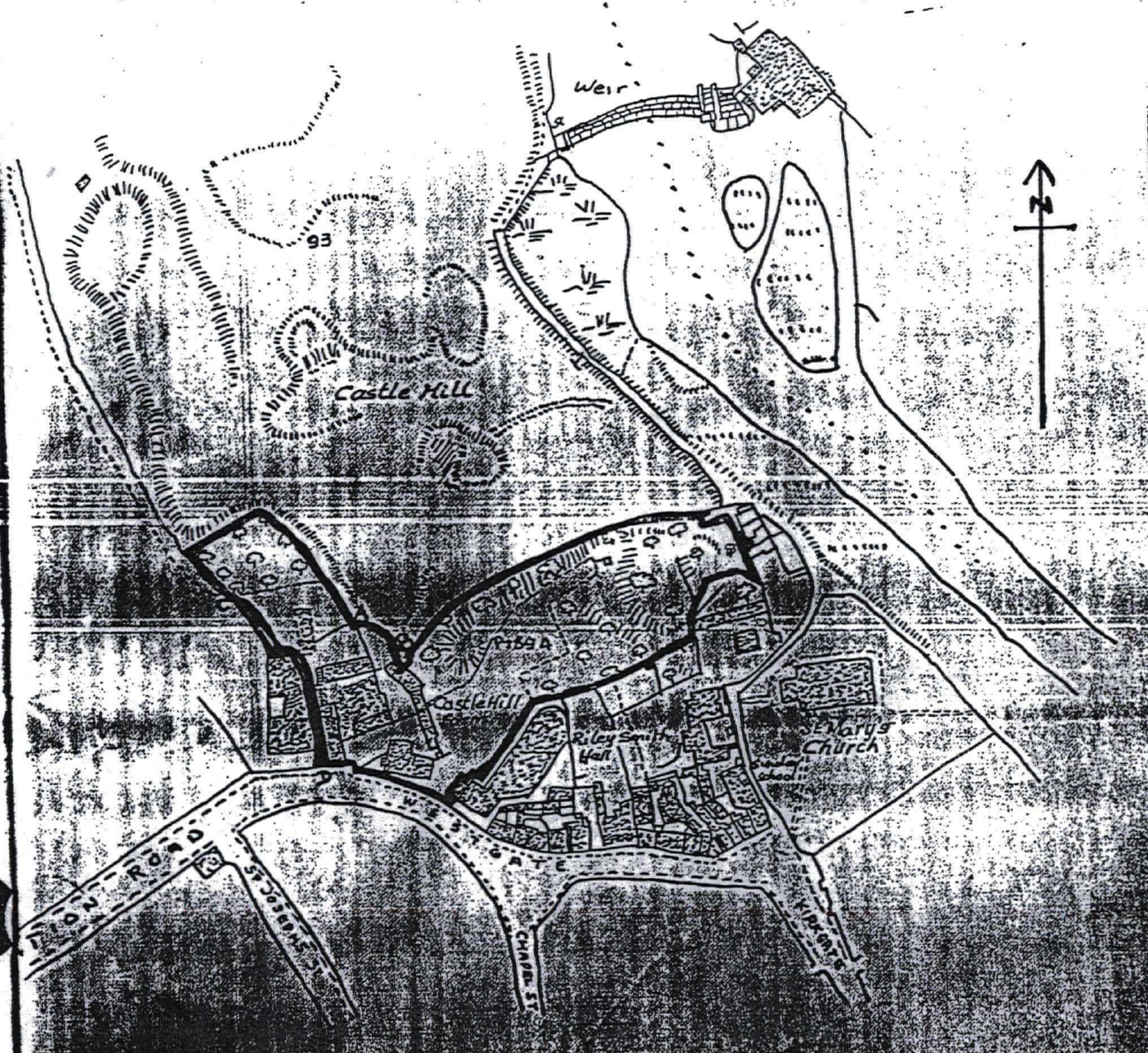
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CALCARIA

30th December 1957.

BY CONVEYANCE of this date made between the Garage (Tadcaster) Limited of the one part and the second part and Edward Walker of Castle Hill the third part ALL THAT piece or parcel of land at Tadcaster with the messuage *being the messuage* and the outbuildings erected thereon or on some part thereof conveyed to the said Edward Walker in fee simple with the right of way therein given for production of the water



SCALE 1/2500

and
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 Graham
 and
 and W.T.
 Barclays
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