

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
DURHAM UNIVERSITY

on behalf of
Enterprise Inns

White Swan Inn
Hunmanby
North Yorkshire

archaeological evaluation

report 3217
July 2013

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1. Summary

The project

- 1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation conducted in advance of a proposed development at the White Swan Inn, Hunmanby. The works comprised the excavation of two trenches in the car park to the rear of the inn.
- 1.2 The works were commissioned by Enterprise Inns and were conducted by Archaeological Services Durham University.

Results

- 1.3 In Trench 1, a sequence of deposits and remnant structural elements of buildings and surfaces were identified. The features and deposits are likely to be surviving fragments relating to buildings recorded on the site on 19th-century maps. A large modern drain cut was also present.
- 1.4 In Trench 2, a north-south oriented ditch [F204] was identified at the west end of the trench. The ditch cut through the subsoil [201] at a depth of 0.55m below ground level (BGL) and contained a small assemblage of animal bone and plant macrofossils, and a post-medieval glass bead. The feature may be a post-medieval boundary ditch. No other archaeological features were identified.

Recommendations

- 1.5 No archaeological resource was identified which requires preservation *in situ*. No further works are recommended predetermination.
- 1.6 A programme of archaeological monitoring during initial groundworks associated with the development is recommended, in order to record any archaeological resource that is uncovered.

2. Project background

Location (Figure 1)

- 2.1 The site is located at the White Swan Inn, 1 Church Hill, Hunmanby, North Yorkshire (NGR centre: TA 0954 7741). To the west are the grounds of Hunmanby Hall School while to the east are Church Hill road and then the graveyard of All Saints' Church. To the north are Church View Cottages while to the south Church Hill opens out into the small market square of Cross Hill. The proposed development covers an area of around 0.2 ha.

Development proposal

- 2.2 It is proposed to remove some parts of the rear of the White Swan and convert the remainder of the standing buildings to residential use, and to construct additional units on part of the car park to the rear.

Objective

- 2.3 The objective of the scheme of works was to assess the nature, extent and potential significance of any archaeological resource within the proposed development area, so that an informed decision may be made regarding the nature and scope of any further scheme of archaeological works that may be required in relation to the development.

Specification

- 2.4 The works have been undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation provided by Archaeological Services Durham University (reference DS13.257).

Dates

- 2.5 Fieldwork was undertaken between 23rd and 24th July 2013. This report was prepared for 31st July 2013.

Personnel

- 2.6 Fieldwork was conducted by Dr David Webster and Nathan Thomas (supervisor). This report was prepared by Nathan Thomas, with illustrations by David Graham. Specialist reporting was conducted by Jennifer Jones (finds) and Dr Carrie Drew (palaeoenvironmental). Sample processing was undertaken by Nathan Thomas. The Project Manager was Peter Carne.

Archive/OASIS

- 2.7 The site code is **HWS13**, for **Hunmanby White Swan 2013**. The archive is currently held by Archaeological Services Durham University and will be transferred to the Scarborough Museum and Gallery in due course. Archaeological Services Durham University is registered with the **Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS project (OASIS)**. The OASIS ID number for this project is **archaeol3-155679**.

3. Landuse, topography and geology

Landuse

- 3.1 At the time of the works, the proposed development area comprised a public house and its car park, and a disused building to the south, formerly a hairdressing salon.

Topography

- 3.2 Castle Hill rises towards the north, winding its way around the natural mound upon which the motte and bailey castle sits. The proposed development area lies on the south east side of this hill at a mean elevation of around 60m OD. The car park of the inn rises westwards from the road, with Hunmanby Hall on terraces at a still higher level beyond.

Geology

- 3.3 The bedrock geology of the area comprises the Cretaceous Welton Chalk Formation; this is overlain by superficial deposits of Devensian diamicton till.

4. Historical and archaeological background

Previous archaeological works

- 4.1 A desk-based assessment (Archaeological Services 2012) has been undertaken as part of the archaeological works. A summary of the results of this assessment are given below.
- 4.2 There is no direct evidence for prehistoric activity within the proposed development area, but there is evidence for such activity in the vicinity, and an as yet unidentified resource has the potential to exist, although this may have been removed by later activity.
- 4.3 The village of Hunmanby has medieval origins. Since the proposed development area lies in the centre of the settlement, close to the parish church, market square and motte and bailey castle, it is likely to have been occupied fairly continually since then. There is a potential for archaeological remains of medieval and post-medieval date to survive.

5. The evaluation trenches

Introduction

- 5.1 Two trenches were machine excavated within the car park to the rear of the inn. The trenches were located within the area of the proposed new houses at the western end of the car park.

Trench 1 (Figures 3-6)

- 5.2 This trench was 12m by 2m, aligned north-east to south-west and was located in the south-west corner of the car park. The natural geology, an orangish red compact gritty sand [101], was identified at a depth of between 1.2m to 1.4m. Above the natural was a mid greyish brown silty clay layer [106, 0.6m deep]. Layer [106] yielded two fragments of pantile and a piece of soft-fired brick. All three fragments are post-medieval. Above layer [106] was a compact yellowish white stone and mortar layer [105, 0.22m], interpreted as a former surface level.
- 5.3 Contemporary with [105] was a brick floor layer [F104] revealed at the south-west end of the trench (Figure 6). A number of buildings are depicted in the historic mapping around the perimeter of the inn's yard and it is likely that Floor [F104] represents a remnant structural element from one of these buildings. Most of the buildings on the western side of the yard are known to have been demolished by

1971 (Archaeological Services 2012). Overlying part of [F104] at the south-west extent of the trench was a concrete floor layer [103, 0.06m deep], also interpreted as a relating to the former buildings within this area.

- 5.4 Cutting through [105] at the north-east end of the trench was a large drain [107]. The ceramic drain was left *in-situ* at the base of the trench. The drain cut had disturbed a large area at the north-east end of the trench. Filling the drain cut [107] was deposit [108], a mixed rubble backfill that yielded a single redeposited sherd of medieval pottery. Overlying [108] and extending across the length of the trench was a dark greyish black silt [102]. Deposit [102, <0.4m deep] contained fragments of 19th-century glass, a complete glass bottle and animal bone and was interpreted as a modern build-up of detritus associated with the use of the inn's yard. Above [102] was a modern deposit of hardcore material sealed with a layer of tarmac [100, 0.25m].

Trench 2 (Figures 3 and 7-8)

- 5.5 This trench was 10m by 2m, aligned east to west and was located in the north-west corner of the car park. The natural geology, an orangish red compact gritty sand [203], was identified at a depth of between 1m to 1.1m. Over the natural was a mid orangish red loose silty sand [202, 0.4m]. Layer [202] was interpreted as a subsoil layer. Cutting [202] at the western end of the trench was ditch [F204, 0.87m wide and 0.45m deep]. Ditch [F204] was aligned north to south and was filled with a mid-greyish brown sandy silt [205]. Deposit [205] contained large fragments of animal bones. Palaeoenvironmental evidence from [205] also included a variety of charred cereal grains indicative of domestic activity of medieval / post-medieval date. A single post-medieval glass bead was also recovered. Above [205] was a mid brown sandy silt [201, 0.4m deep] interpreted as a former garden soil layer. Overlying [201] and sealing the trench was a modern deposit of hardcore material capped with a layer of tarmac [200, 0.15m deep].

6. The artefacts

Pottery assessment

Results

- 6.1 A single large base sherd (163g) from a flat-bottomed, hollow ware reduced greenware type vessel came from context [108]. The sandy fabric is oxidised outside with a reduced core and green glaze inside. It dates to the 14th/15th century.

Recommendation

- 6.2 No further work is recommended.

Animal bone assessment

Results

- 6.3 The assemblage comprised both hand-recovered material and an additional small amount of bone recovered from a bulk soil sample taken from context [205]. The bone assemblage from context [102] comprises a single horse tibia, deriving from the right hind limb. The bone is mostly complete, containing a fused distal end. Whilst modern damage to the proximal end precludes definitive determination of fusion, from the small amount of articulation present this also appears fully fused, suggesting an individual of over 3.5 years old (Silver 1969). The bone is in good condition, with only small areas of damage along the shaft.

- 6.4 A small well-preserved bone assemblage from context [205] was also recovered. This comprises a small number of bone fragments, with no complete elements present. A number of the fragments were identifiable to species, including a horse third phalanx (coffin bone). Two bone fragments derive from the proximal and distal portions of the right humerus of a mature horse. These fragments are likely to originate from the same bone although modern damage around the centre of the shaft no longer allows them to refit. Both the proximal and distal ends of the bone are fused, indicative of an animal over a year and a half in age (Myers & Emmerson 1966). The fused distal articulation of a right cattle humerus was also identified, indicating an individual of over a year in age (Silver 1969). A small number of indeterminate fragments were also noted in the hand-recovered assemblage, and include a large mammal (horse or cattle-sized) shaft fragment and a bone fragment probably deriving from the ilium of a large mammal, although the bone is too fragmentary to allow positive identification to either element or species. Six vertebrae fragments of a size to derive from horse or cattle were also noted.
- 6.5 A small number of tiny indeterminate bone fragments were recovered from a bulk soil sample taken from context [205]. Three of the indeterminate fragments had undergone heating, appearing charred or calcined. A single rib fragment from a small rodent was also noted.

Discussion

- 6.6 The recovery of bone, particularly in such good condition, demonstrates the potential for further bone to be recovered from the site. Many of the breaks on the fragments appear modern and few measurements could be taken due to the fragmentary nature of the pieces recovered. Much of the assemblage may conceivably derive from horse, although a number of the fragments were not diagnostic to species, and are noted as being of large mammal size. With both identified cattle and horse present, it is possible that these fragments may be associated with either. While cattle and horse remains dominated the assemblage, their economic significance is difficult to determine because of the taphonomic bias towards the preservation of more durable fragments and hence the probable over-emphasis of larger species and larger elements.
- 6.7 The deposition of low quantities of animal bone does suggest that the assemblage derives from the deposition of refuse. No marks of working are visible, with no indication of butchery or consumption of the horse. Such working might be expected if the assemblage were derived from the consumption of horse meat by humans or dogs, and its absence may possibly indicate that the assemblage derives from the disposal of a mature animal used for other purposes such as traction or as a pack or riding animal. While the assemblage is small, and likely to have been influenced by variable preservation, the range of skeletal elements present also provides little evidence of bias towards meat-rich areas of the body most commonly associated with consumption.
- 6.8 The characteristic spiral fragmentation of the shaft of the cattle humerus may indicate deliberate breakage for marrow extraction of this element and may tentatively suggest some deposition of refuse from domestic consumption in the assemblage.

Recommendation

- 6.9 Due to the small size and fragmentary nature of the bone assemblage, no further work is recommended. The bones should be retained to be incorporated in any future work on the site.

Glass assessment

Results

- 6.10 Context [108] had a complete, small clear glass bottle 114mm high. The body is 43mm diameter and the neck (33mm high) is 18.5mm diam. The bottle is mould made and the rim hand finished with a flat top. It can be dated to the late 19th century, and its shape suggests it probably once held medicine.
- 6.11 Two kick-ups from wine bottles in mid to dark green thick (9 & 10mm) glass also came from context [108]. One of these shows weathering. The kick-ups are not deep and do not show pontil scars. They are probably 19th century.
- 6.12 A tiny (2.5mm diam) five-sided and faceted black glass bead came from sample <1> from [205]. This is post-medieval.

Recommendation

- 6.13 No further work is recommended.

Building materials assessment

Results

- 6.14 [106] had two pieces of pantile, each with one sanded face. These are post-medieval. Also, a piece of soft-fired brick in a dark red sandy fabric with white grit and crushed ?ironstone inclusions, thickness 50+mm. The brick is probably hand made, and may be of 18th/early 19th century date. Sample <1> from [205] had undateable tiny flakes (<1g wt) of brick/tile.

Recommendation

- 6.15 No further work is recommended.

Copper alloy object assessment

Results

- 6.16 Sample <1> from [205] produced three very small fragments of highly corroded copper alloy. These cannot be identified or dated.

Recommendation

- 6.17 No further work is recommended.

7. The palaeoenvironmental evidence

Methods

- 7.1 A palaeoenvironmental assessment was carried out on a bulk sample from context [205], taken from a ditch fill of possible post-medieval origin. The sample was manually floated and sieved through a 500µm mesh. The residue was examined for shells, fruitstones, nutshells, charcoal, small bones, pottery, flint, glass and industrial residues, and was scanned using a magnet for ferrous fragments. The flot was examined at up to x60 magnification using a Leica MZ6 stereomicroscope for waterlogged and charred botanical remains. Identification of these was undertaken

by comparison with modern reference material held in the Environmental Laboratory at Archaeological Services Durham University. Plant nomenclature follows Stace (1997). Habitat classifications follow Preston *et al.* (2002).

- 7.2 Selected charcoal fragments were identified, in order to provide material suitable for radiocarbon dating. The transverse, radial and tangential sections were examined at up to x600 magnification using a Leica DMLM microscope. Identifications were assisted by the descriptions of Schweingruber (1990) and Hather (2000), and modern reference material held in the Environmental Laboratory at Archaeological Services Durham University.
- 7.3 The works were undertaken in accordance with the palaeoenvironmental research aims and objectives outlined in regional resource assessments (Huntley 2010; Hall & Huntley 2007; Petts & Gerrard 2006).

Results

- 7.4 The sample comprised small fragments of unburnt bone, charcoal, clinker/cinder, glacially-fractured flint and a single tiny glass bead. Traces of fired clay/ CBM and small quantities of charred heather twigs were also present. Charred botanical remains included fragments of hazel nutshell, pea and members of the grass and vetch families. The charred plant remains were dominated by an assemblage of cereal grains. The majority of these were unable to be determined to species, with many in extremely poor condition, appearing fragmentary with pitted surfaces. In order of abundance the identifiable cereal grains comprised barley, wheat and oats, with a number of rye grains also present. Small fragments of oak charcoal were also noted. The results are presented in Table 1.2. Material suitable for radiocarbon dating is present.

Discussion

- 7.5 The presence of bone, clinker/cinder and a moderate assemblage of charred plant macrofossils indicates the remains of domestic waste. The absence of diagnostic chaff prevents definite species identification of the cereal crops, however some of the barley grains had the appearance of hulled barley grains, and many of the wheat grains had the characteristic shape of *Triticum aestivo-compactum* (cf. bread wheat). The large size of many of the oat grains may indicate that these were the remains of the cultivated oat (*Avena sativa*), although the occurrence of wild oat (*Avena fatua*) cannot be ruled out. The combined presence of these cereal crops together with rye is typical of medieval and post-medieval contexts in England (Hall & Huntley 2007; Greig 1991). Charred fragments of hazel nutshell suggest some wild-gathered foods were also utilised at the site. The few charred weed seeds may have been brought in as weeds of the cereal crop or derive from the local environs.
- 7.6 The cereal grain assemblage comprised generally of grains in poor condition, with many of them exhibiting degradation due to pitting and puffing. This may either be a result of intense heat (Boardman & Jones 1990), exposure to heat on more than one occasion or rapid burning. In many instances the condition of the grains was poor enough to prevent identification to species.

Recommendations

- 7.7 No further work is required for the palaeoenvironmental remains as the flot was scanned in its entirety and no additional information would be provided from an

analysis. If additional work is undertaken at the site, the results of this assessment should be added to any further palaeoenvironmental data produced.

8. The archaeological resource

- 8.1 In Trench 1, a sequence of deposits and remnant structural elements of buildings and surfaces were identified. The features and deposits are likely to be surviving fragments relating to buildings recorded on the site on 19th-century maps. A large modern drain cut was also present.
- 8.2 In Trench 2, a north-south oriented ditch [F204] was identified at the west end of the trench. The ditch cut through the subsoil [201] at a depth of 0.55m below ground level (BGL) and contained a small assemblage of animal bone and plant macrofossils, and a post-medieval glass bead. The feature may be a post-medieval boundary ditch. No other archaeological features were identified.

9. Impact assessment

- 9.1 Groundworks associated with the development have the potential to impact on archaeological remains, including a possible post-medieval boundary ditch.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1 No archaeological resource was identified which requires preservation *in situ*. No further works are recommended predetermination.
- 10.2 A programme of archaeological monitoring during initial groundworks associated with the development is recommended, in order to record any archaeological resource that is uncovered.

11. Sources

- Archaeological Services 2012 *White Swan Inn, Hunmanby, North Yorkshire desk-based assessment*. Unpublished report **2905**, Archaeological Services Durham University
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- Preston, C D, Pearman, D A, & Dines, T D, 2002 *New Atlas of the British and Irish Flora*. Oxford
- Schweingruber, F H, 1990 *Microscopic wood anatomy*. Birmensdorf
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Appendix 1: Data tables

Table 1.1: Context data

The • symbols in the columns at the right indicate the presence of artefacts of the following types: P pottery, B bone, M metals, F flint, I industrial residues, G glass, C ceramic building material, O other materials.

No	Area	Description	P	B	M	F	I	G	C	O
100	Tr1	Tarmac/hardcore layer								
101	Tr1	Natural								
102	Tr1	Deposit		•				•		
103	Tr1	Concrete floor								
F104	Tr1	Brick floor								
105	Tr1	Rubble/Mortar surface								
106	Tr1	Deposit							•	
F107	Tr1	Cut of drain								
108	Tr1	Fill of drain	•							
200	Tr2	Tarmac/hardcore layer								
201	Tr2	Garden soil								
202	Tr2	Subsoil								
203	Tr2	Natural								
F204	Tr2	Cut of ditch								
205	Tr2	Fill of ditch		•						

Table 1.2: Macrofossil results

Sample		1
Context		205
Material available for radiocarbon dating		✓
Volume processed (l)		16
Volume of flot (ml)		65
<i>Residue contents</i>		
Bone (calcined)	indet. frags	(+)
Bone (unburnt)		+
Copper alloy	frags	(+)
Fired clay / CBM		+
Glacially fractured flint		+++
Glass bead (number of fragments)		1
<i>Flot matrix</i>		
Bone (unburnt)	indet. frags	(+)
Charcoal		+
Clinker / cinder		(+)
Coal / coal shale		(+)
Heather twigs (charred)		++
Moss		+
Roots (modern)		(+)
Uncharred seeds		(+)
<i>Charred remains (abundance)</i>		
(a) <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> (Wild Radish)	pod	1
(c) <i>Avena</i> sp (Oat species)	grain	3
(c) Cerealia indeterminate	grain	5
(c) <i>Hordeum</i> sp (Barley species)	grain	4
(c) <i>Secale cereale</i> (Rye)	grain	2
(c) <i>Triticum</i> sp (Wheat species)	grain	3
(w) <i>Carex</i> sp (Sedges)	trigonous nutlet	1
(x) Fabaceae undiff. (Pea family)	seed	2
(x) Poaceae undiff. >1mm (Grass family)	caryopsis	2
(x) <i>Vicia</i> sp (Vetches)	seed	1

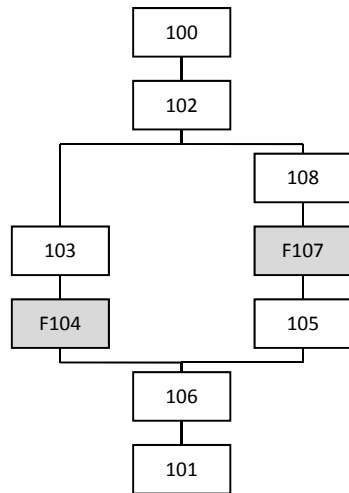
[a-arable; c-cultivated; h-heathland; t-tree/shrub; x-wide niche. (+): trace; +: rare; ++: occasional; +++: common; ++++: abundant

Waterlogged remains are scored from 1-5 where 1: 1-2; 2: 3-10; 3: 11-40; 4: 41-200; 5: >200

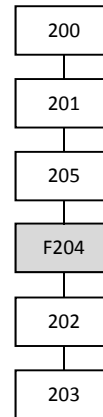
(✓) there may be insufficient weight of carbon available for radiocarbon dating]

Appendix 2: Stratigraphic matrices

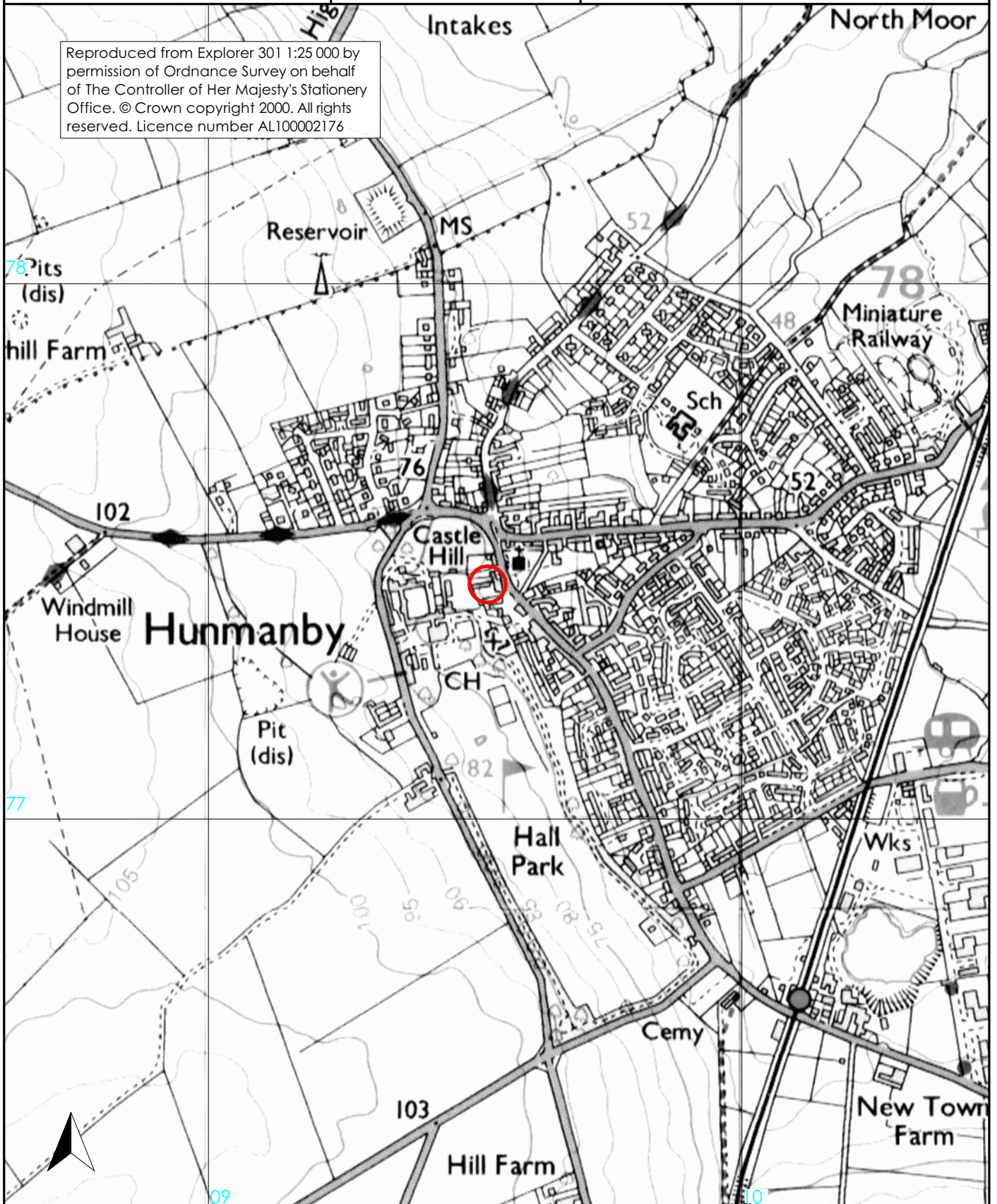
Trench 1




Trench 2

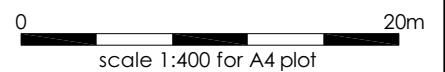
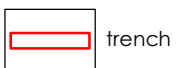
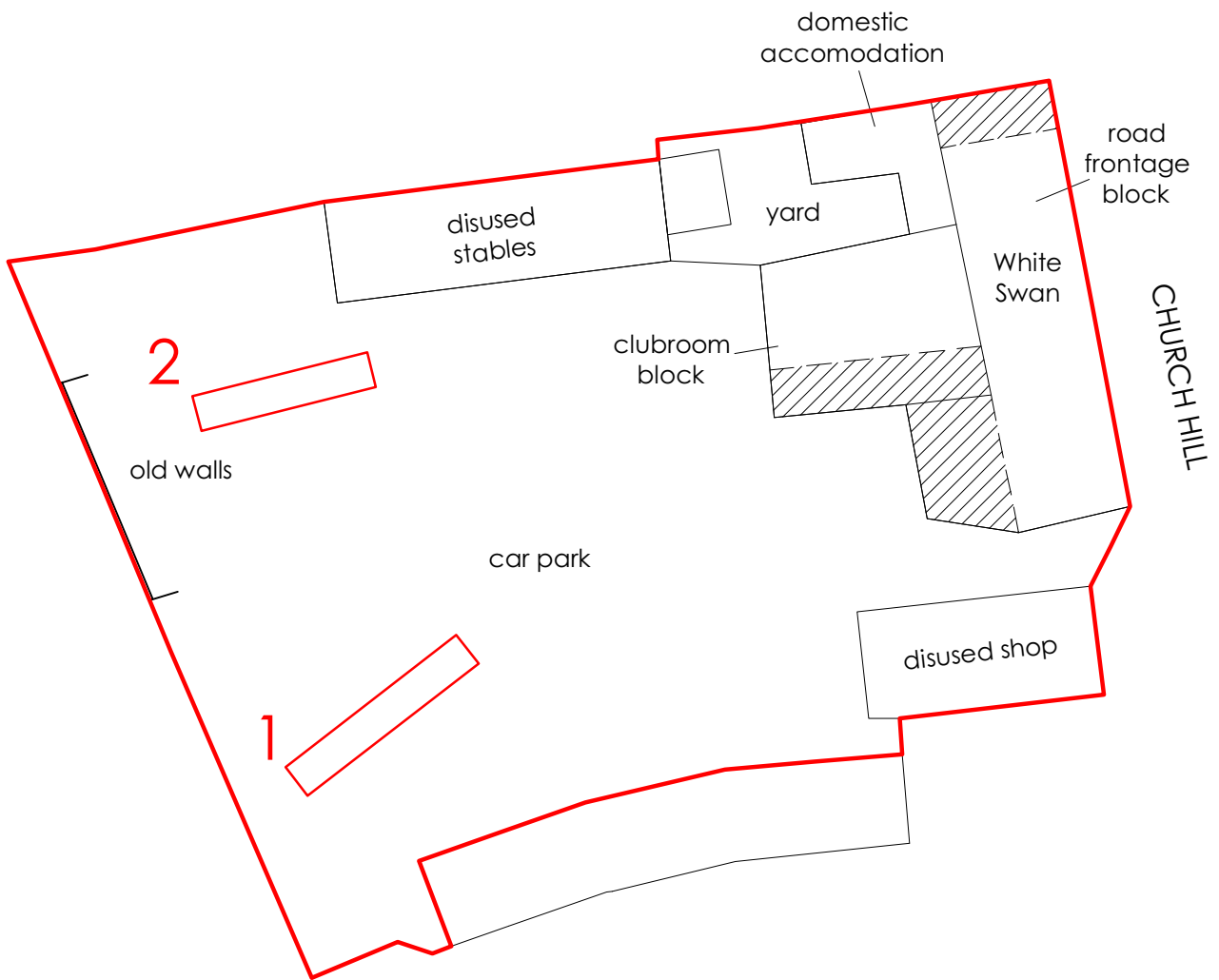


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 site location

0 500m
scale 1:10 000 for A4 plot

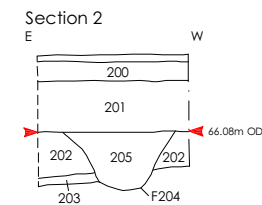
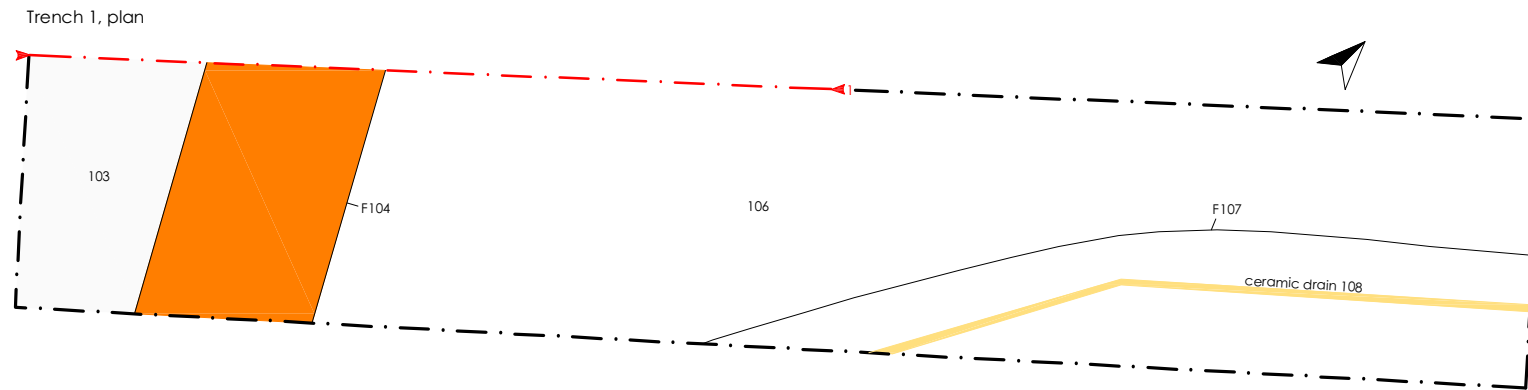
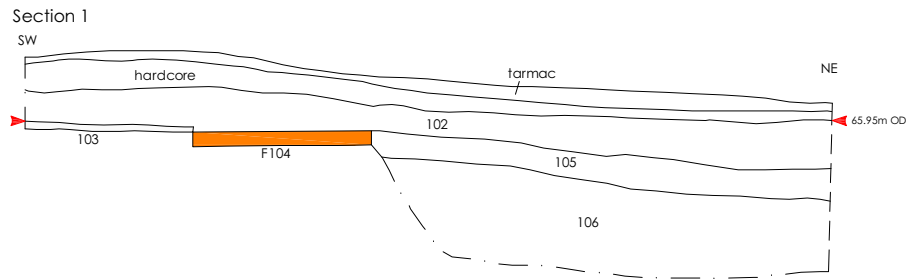
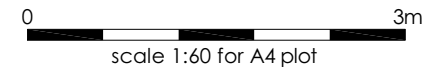


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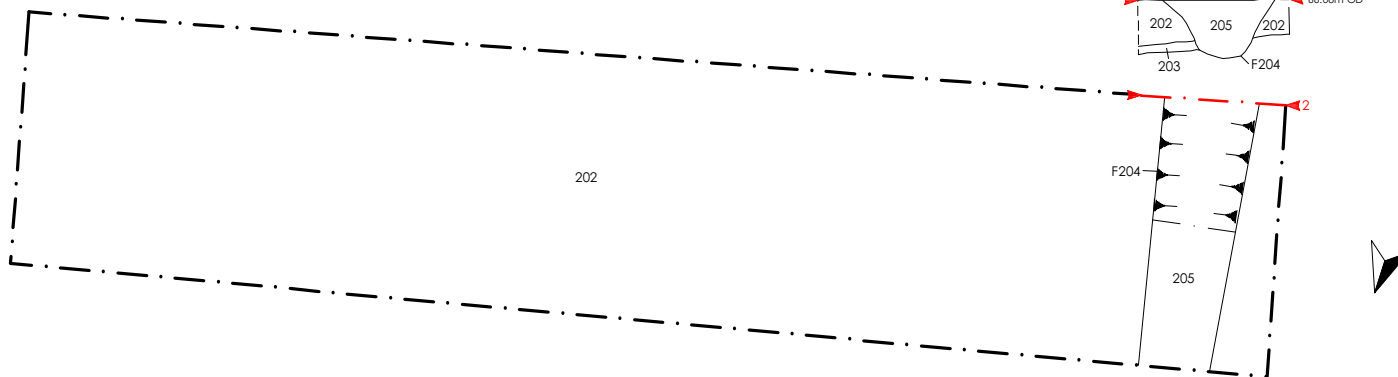
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Figure 3: Trench plans and sections



Trench 2, plan







-  extent of excavation
-  section
-  brick
-  concrete



Figure 4: Trench 1, looking south-west



Figure 5: South-east facing section of Trench 1



Figure 6: Brick floor [F104] with concrete surface [103], looking south-east



Figure 7: Trench 2, looking west



Figure 8: Ditch [F204], looking south